



Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park

Interpretation Master Plan and Action Plan

January 2015



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Cover photo: The multi-colored cliffs of the Diggins Pit, 2013.

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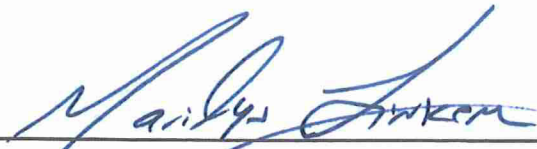
Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park

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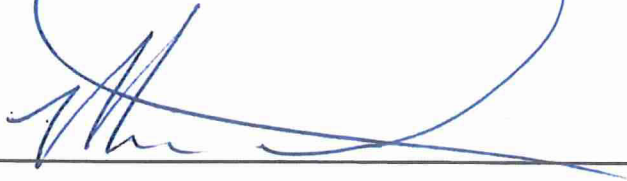
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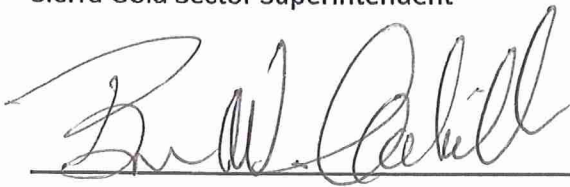
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January 2015

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Interpretation Master Plan (IMP) represents the collaborative vision of Parks staff, community members, and other stakeholders for the future of interpretation at Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park (Malakoff Diggins SHP or Park). Because no General Plan exists for the Park, this IMP is the first interpretive planning document that attempts to unify interpretation through an overarching theme and inclusive goals and objectives.

The IMP project team, guided and supervised by the Sierra District Interpretive Specialist, consisted of State Parks personnel and the Anthropological Studies Center (ASC) at Sonoma State University.

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The ASC Interpretive Plan Team includes:

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- Mark Selverston, Staff Archaeologist
- Lacey Klopp, Archaeological Assistant
- Lily Henry-Roberts, Archaeological Assistant

Project lead, Dana Shew, supervised and participated in research, conducting visitor surveys, holding stakeholder meetings, and compiling and analyzing the information used to assemble this plan.

The plan is constructed around the Park's natural, cultural, and recreational resources. The recommendations presented here are guided by newly developed interpretive mission and vision statements, interpretive themes, and by an analysis of existing conditions that include staffing, facilities, visitor needs and expectations, community support and awareness, and current interpretation.

Through the analysis of these factors a total of nine goals were identified to improve existing interpretation and develop new interpretation that will increase visitation and enhance appreciation of the Park's many resources. Each goal is supported by relevant objectives, strategies, and tasks which provide an outline towards the accomplishment of each goal.

The Interpretation Action Plan (IAP) presents each goal and specifies various components necessary to complete each associated task which include funding sources, involvement, duration, and priority. The IAP is intended to help structure and guide the implementation of improved interpretation for the next decade. The IAP and IMP should be updated within eight to ten years to reflect changing needs, budgets, and other factors influencing interpretive planning. Updates should also include progress made on the completion of any tasks.

This IMP and IAP hope to inform and shape future interpretation at Malakoff Diggins SHP in a way that practically and sustainably meets the interests and needs of the many different communities, organizations, and individuals that value the unique and special interpretive opportunities the Park has to offer.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Malakoff Diggins SHP possesses the great ability to inspire in its visitors and supporters a passionate, loyal connection to the Park. The stakeholders and Parks personnel that contributed to this plan are great examples of this loyalty and commitment. Throughout the project the individuals below shared their knowledge, expertise, interpretive vision, encouragement, and inspiration. The guidance and participation of the following State Parks personnel has been invaluable to the completion of this plan:

- Jonathan Burgasser, Malakoff Diggins SHP Peace Officer
- Natalie Davenport, Sierra District Museum Curator II
- Maiya Gralia, State Park Volunteer Archaeologist
- Ross Gralia, State Park Volunteer Archaeologist
- Matt Green, Sierra Gold Sector Superintendent
- Denise Jaffke, District Archaeologist, Sierra District
- Bill Lindemann, District Interpretive Specialist, Sierra District
- Debora Pfanner, Malakoff Diggins SHP Senior Park Aide
- Don Schmidt, Sierra Gold Sector Supervising Ranger (Retired)
- Gregg Sherr, Former Malakoff Diggins SHP Peace Officer
- Christy Sherr, Former Malakoff Diggins SHP Peace Officer
- Dan Youngren, Sierra Gold Sector Supervising Ranger



From left to right: Carol Nicholson, Ross Gralia, and Maiya Gralia at Humbug Day, 2013.

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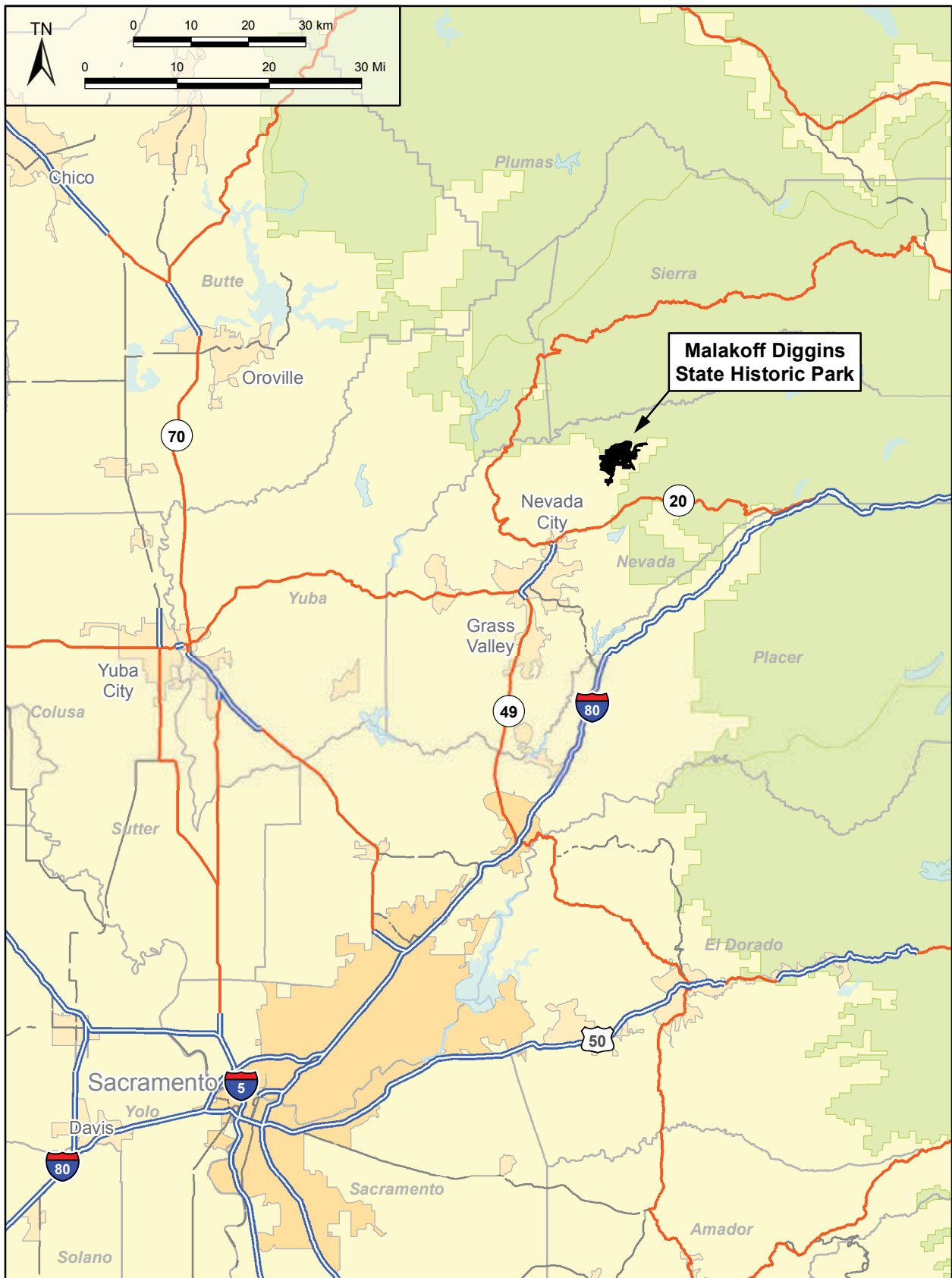


Figure 1. Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park location map.

INTRODUCTION

PARK OVERVIEW

Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park is located 26 miles northeast of Nevada City, nestled in the western foothills of the Sierra Nevada. Situated at an altitude of 3,248 feet (990 meters), summers are usually warm and dry, while winters are most often cold and wet. From October until April storms produce rain and snow, though thunderstorms may occur in summer. Within the Park's roughly 3,000 acres of forested hills, lakes, dramatic cliffs, and historic buildings lies the exciting and significant story of the nation's largest hydraulic gold mining operation and the nation's first environmental regulation.

Visitors are awed and humbled by the dramatic, multi-colored cliffs of the Park's main attraction—the remains of a hydraulic mine—a massive, man-made pit carved into the landscape by giant water cannons. This nearly 600 ft. deep, mile wide pit is the lasting legacy of the North Bloomfield Gravel Mining Company that operated the immense mining effort from the 1860s into the 1880s. Approximately one mile from the mine is the historic town of North Bloomfield, a once vibrant community that thrived during the heyday of the mine. The “ghost town” that exists today gives visitors a glimpse into daily life in an 1880s era gold mining community.

The Park was created in 1965 in order to preserve this important part of California's gold mining history. Today the Park is often characterized as a place of peace, quiet, and solitude, an ironically drastic shift from the destruction and devastation that created it. Quiet and serenity are valued characteristics of the Park that must be balanced and preserved as the Park strives for increased visitation and exposure.

PLAN PURPOSE

The purpose of this Interpretation Master Plan is to provide a blueprint for long-range interpretive planning and education at Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park. This IMP

also includes an Interpretation Action Plan that was developed during the IMP process. Because no General Plan exists for Malakoff Diggins SHP, this planning document establishes new goals and objectives that will guide and inform the development and execution of future interpretive projects, programs, services, and facilities. This IMP is intended to guide planning at the Park for 10 years. Although the IAP identifies some tasks with durations up to 20 years, all projects proposed in the plan can be initiated within a 10 year time frame. An update to this plan should be started within 7 or 8 years to ensure that new, revised, and adjusted goals and tasks are ready to be addressed when the IMP expires.

PLANNING PROCESS

The development of the IMP was a collaborative effort that involved the time and dedication of many individuals. The core planning team consisted of Anthropological Studies Center (ASC) staff and Parks staff that include those with previous or current experience working at Malakoff Diggins SHP.

The planning process began in May 2013 as ASC staff and Parks staff identified a planning team and created project objectives and timelines. The first large task executed was the visitor survey conducted at the Park by ASC staff, students, and volunteers from June through August 2013. See Appendix D for details about the visitor survey.

After the visitor surveys were completed several stakeholder meetings were held that included Parks staff and public stakeholders. Follow up meetings grew progressively smaller and focused on Parks staff with experience and expertise of Malakoff Diggins SHP. See Appendix G for lists of meeting attendees. A draft of the IMP was submitted to the public for a 30-day review period. The plans were completed in December 2014.

PLANNING DOCUMENTS

No General Plan exists for Malakoff Diggins SHP. A Resource Management Plan (RMP) was developed for the Park in March 1979 which was intended to serve as a tool for managing the Park until a General Plan was approved. The RMP also refers to a 1974 Interpretive Prospectus as the guiding document by which interpretation should be carried out. The RMP and the Interpretive Prospectus are over 35 years old and many of their contents are outdated and do not conform to current standards. This IMP updates many of these contents. The RMP and Interpretive Prospectus served as a basis for the development of new and updated interpretive themes, interpretive periods, goals, and objectives. Several other interpretive planning documents, mostly from the 1960s and 1970s, were also utilized as resources for this IMP. Previous interpretive planning documents include:

Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park, Kallenberger Barbershop Furnishing Report (Phillips, Kelly 2005).

Master Plan Narrative, Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park (DPR, Interpretive Services Section 1967).

Interpretive Prospectus and Interpretive Plan of the McKillican and Mobley Store, North Bloomfield, Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park (DPR 1969).

Interpretive Prospectus, Malakoff Diggins SHP (DPR, Operations Division 1974).

Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park Resource Management Plan (DPR, 1979).

PARK RESOURCES

Malakoff Diggins SHP commemorates the site of the nation's largest hydraulic mine. The Park also contains an impressive range of cultural, natural, and recreational resources that offer invaluable lessons in history, geology, nature, and the environmental impacts of human activity.

INTERPRETIVE SIGNIFICANCE

Hydraulic mining, a gold extraction technique using high pressure water to wash away gold-bearing gravel from mountainsides to sluices and flumes below, was developed in Nevada County, California in 1853. Much of the equipment used in this process is preserved at Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park.

Giant, multi-colored cliffs carved by the powerful water cannons used during the massive hydraulic mining efforts of the North Bloomfield Gravel Mining Company are the most significant resource at the Park. This mining landscape, known as the Pit, is the main draw for most Park visitors. Interpretation at the Park highlights its importance as the largest hydraulic mine in the country and the role it played in the development of our nation's first environmental law.

For interpretive contrast, the Park also contains the huge waste rock field and ruins of the Derbec Drift Mine, an example of a very different gold mining legacy. The Park's other main significant interpretive resource is the historic town of North Bloomfield, a once thriving community that developed to support the hydraulic mining activity in the Pit. The historic and reconstructed buildings of the town provide opportunities for interpreting a variety of topics associated with life in a gold mining community that include politics, commerce, education, religion, ethnic identity, and much more.

The Park's gold mining history has subsequently provided a canvas for exposing other significant areas worthy of interpretation that include its geology, and nature's evolving response to environmental degradation. The manipulated mining-modified landscape also provides a variety of recreational resources and holds value as a destination for hikers and other outdoor enthusiasts.

NATURAL RESOURCES

The devastation caused by decades of hydraulic mining at Malakoff Diggins SHP is evidenced by the dramatic landscape that



Figure 3. The multi-colored cliffs of the Diggins hydraulic pit, 2013.

exists today. The exposed walls of the hydraulic mine offer a glimpse into the Sierra foothills' geologic past. The complex regime of ditches, reservoirs, diggings, and tunnels highlights humankind's ability to seize control of the natural water systems to unlock the Sierra's riches. Despite years of destructive mining, nature is gradually reclaiming the landscape through ongoing natural sedimentation and revegetation that is once again attracting birds and other wildlife.

Geology

Malakoff Diggins SHP is located in the western foothills of the Sierra Nevada, 11 miles northeast of Nevada City, California, on the south slope of the San Juan Ridge, between the south and middle forks of the Yuba River. The Park is approximately 3,200 acres in size at an elevation ranging from 2,500 to 4,000 ft. It encompasses much of the Humbug Creek watershed, following it down from the ridge-line to the bank of the wild and scenic South Yuba River. The area looked very different 50 million years ago, when there was no towering Sierra Nevada mountain range. Instead a wide, slow-moving, meandering river known as the Ancestral or Tertiary Yuba drained the low upland plateaus to the east across

moderate hills. During the Tertiary Period (65 to 1.8 million years ago) ancestral rivers in this area were far wider and larger than they are today. At that time the Ancestral Yuba flowed down along what is now the San Juan Ridge, depositing thick beds of gold bearing gravel in its channels, a portion of which became the Diggins Hydraulic Pit.

During the late Pliocene and into the Quaternary Period (1.8 million years ago to present) the uplifting granite bedrock began tilting westward as the Sierra Nevada lifted steeply. Volcanic activity and lava flows in the high Sierra filled the ancestral waterways, capping them for millions of years, and new fast flowing rivers carved deep gorges and steep canyons. The gold-laden ancestral riverbeds were left buried high up on the ridgelines above the younger deeply incised rivers. Occasionally the younger tributaries cut through the older system and released Tertiary aged deposits, along with the gold hiding in them. It was the ancient buried gold that hydraulic miners labored to uncover, washing out the mile long, half mile wide Diggins Hydraulic Pit.

The Diggins Hydraulic Pit is the Park's most iconic feature and provides an invaluable look into the area's geologic history. Colorful layers of ancestral river deposits buried for 50

million years were exposed by hydraulic monitors that reshaped the landscape by carving away entire mountainsides. These exposed walls give scientists as well as visitors a glimpse of an ancient geologic landscape.

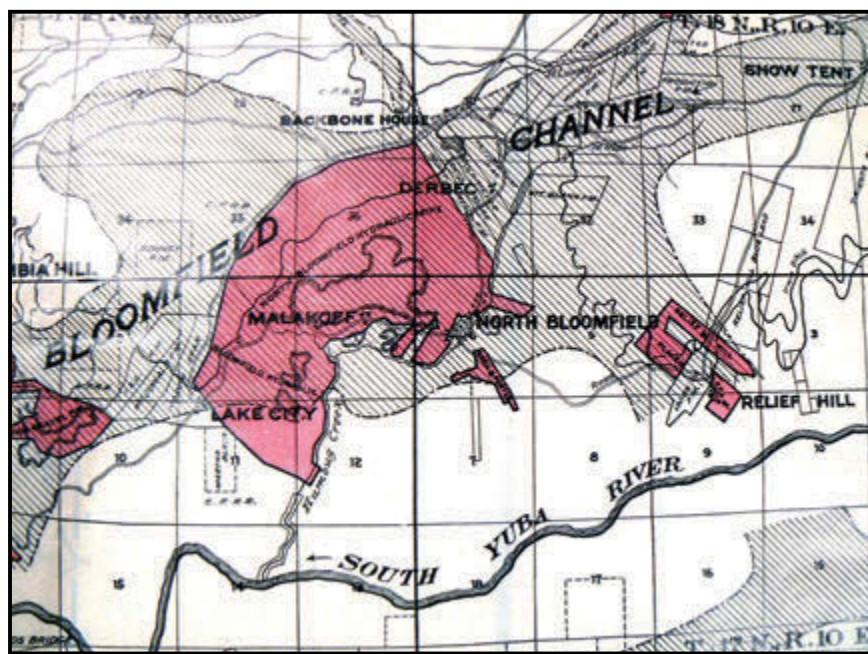


Figure 4. Map Showing Property of the River Mines Company and the Tertiary Gravel Channels of Nevada County, California, 1927, Edward C. Uren.

Hydrology

While the hydrology of Malakoff Diggins SHP has been largely shaped by human intervention and manipulation during the active mining period, the Humbug Creek watershed remains one of the Park's most valuable natural resources. Permanent water



Figure 5. Giant water monitors working in the Pit, Historic Slides, MDSHP Collection.

features from the mining era also include Blair Lake, Diggins Lake, Catfish Pond, and several ephemeral streams. The creation of extensive ditches and flumes at the Park has had a far reaching and lasting impact on local and regional ecosystems.

When the North Bloomfield Gravel Mining Company began its large scale hydraulic mining efforts at Malakoff Diggins in 1866, the Company bought local reservoirs, constructed dams, and built over 100 miles of canals and ditches to direct and redirect the area's natural water sources to serve its purposes. The giant water monitors used in the Pit went through 25 million gallons of water in a 24 hour period of continuous use. The water needed to operate the monitors was stored in 11 principal reservoirs that encompassed 11,600 acres. Overall, mine operations consumed over 100 million gallons of water per day.

The North Bloomfield Gravel Mining Company not only controlled the water coming into the mine but also as it left the mine. Ditches, flumes, and tunnels were constructed

to direct massive quantities of mining debris into the rivers and streams below. One of the earliest debris drainage tunnels, the 557 foot long Hiller Tunnel, was built between 1851 and 1856. It was used until it became too shallow to handle the huge volume of debris produced by the hydraulic mine. In 1872 a much longer and deeper tunnel was built below Hiller Tunnel. The 7,847 foot long North Bloomfield Tunnel drained tailings from the Pit into Humbug Creek.

The debris that flowed into Humbug Creek continued downstream into the Yuba and Sacramento rivers transporting toxins and silt that killed fish, impaired navigation, and flooded farms and valley towns. In this way, the mine impacted water systems as far away as the San Francisco Bay. After countless floods destroyed property and even took lives an effort to regulate mining operations began which eventually led to the passage of the nation's first environmental regulation. Known as the Sawyer Decision, this 1884 injunction imposed strict regulations on discharging

debris into the Yuba River and other rivers in the Sierra Nevada region. These restrictions greatly limited the production of mining companies like the North Bloomfield Gravel Mining Company and were essentially responsible for bringing to a close the era of large-scale hydraulic mining.

The water elements that remain serve as reminders of the crucial role water played in shaping and creating what is now Malakoff Diggins SHP. They are also important examples of water management and treatment problems that still exist today. These water components also support plant and wildlife resources and foster recreational opportunities.

Biology

The forested hillsides of Malakoff Diggins SHP are dominated by mixed conifers and oak tree species. Whiteleaf manzanita is the Park's most common shrub although deerbrush, buckbrush, and a variety of wildflowers also grow in abundance. There are many invasive plant species at the Park that act as continuous reminders of the effects that miners and other settlers had on the landscape. These species include Himalayan blackberry, cattails, yellow star-thistle, ivy, vinca, and periwinkle. Non-invasive orchard trees such as English walnut, chestnut, apple, pear, fig, and cherry, also introduced by settlers, continue to grow in various areas in the Park.

Wildlife at the Park includes large mammals such as black tail and mule deer, mountain lions, coyotes, bobcats, and black bears. Smaller animals such as cottontail rabbits, jackrabbits, grey and ground squirrels, and gray foxes also thrive within the Park. Bird species include the dark-eyed junco, California quail, Steller's jay, mountain chickadee, warbler, and mourning dove. Migratory bird species such as raptors, songbirds, and bats can also be found using Diggins Lake and other areas of the Park as a stopping point on their migration routes. Carpenter bees are abundant within the Park and act as important pollinators but also pose a maintenance problem when they nest in the structural timbers of old buildings. Malakoff Diggins SHP is also home to several sensitive species that include the foothill yellow-legged

frog, ring-tailed cat, Western pond turtle, and the willow flycatcher, yellow-breasted chat, yellow warbler, California spotted owl, and northern goshawk.

Change

Malakoff Diggins SHP is the site of dramatic change that has impacted its natural resources in obvious, subtle, and even unexpected ways. The destructive technologies of hydraulic mining clearly altered the landscape by leaving a massive gash in the earth. Yet this scar, the Pit itself, is still changing. Geologic processes continue to actively reshape the landscape through erosion and weathering. The floor of the Pit keeps growing as its walls succumb to the forces of gravity, wind, and rain.

The Pit is slowly transforming from a barren canyon to an increasingly forested landscape. Nature is slowly reclaiming its damaged land

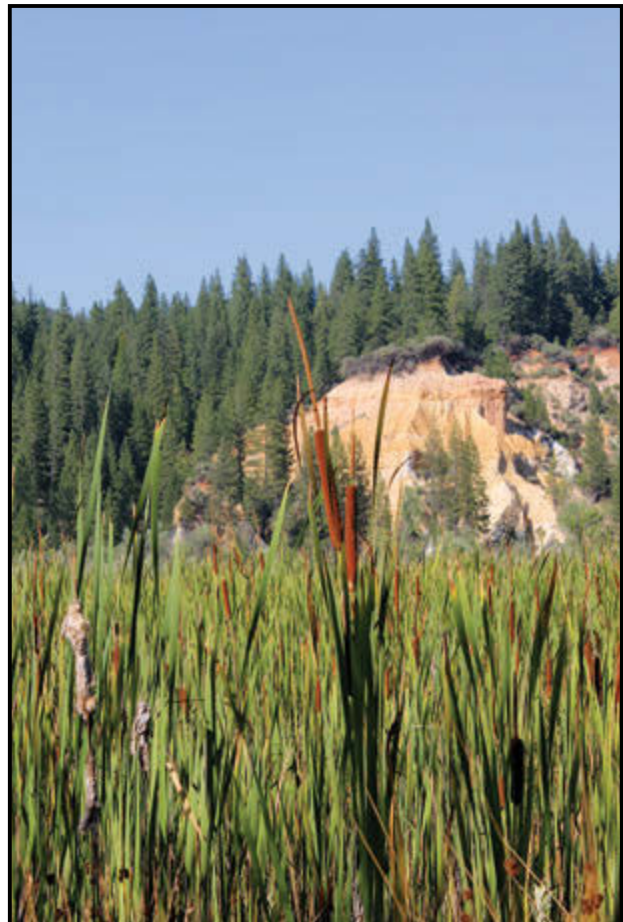


Figure 6. A view of the Diggins Pit cliffs from the marshes of the Diggins Pond, 2013.

through second growth pines, plentiful shrubs, and unique environs. The Pit's natural recovery has changed its aesthetic, creating new view-points and vistas while obscuring others.

The hydraulic forces that destroyed the hillsides of the Pit played an unforeseen role in the creation of a new and unique environment within the Park. Diggins Lake, a small pond at the lower west end of the Pit, supports a swamp-like environment rarely found in the Sierra. This distinctive ecosystem provides a rare habitat for waterfowl, migratory birds, and several sensitive lake-dependent species.

The changes that the Malakoff Diggins SHP area has experienced and continues to experience make inventorying its natural resources an ever evolving process. The Park's great ability to adapt, react, and recover from environmental change may be one of its most remarkable and important characteristics.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

The story of Malakoff Diggins SHP encompasses the experiences and voices of a variety of cultures from its first Native American inhabitants to its development and current use as a California State Park. Although the Park is primarily associated with its gold mining past it also has the potential to interpret its rich prehistory, contact history, and effects of gold mining on Native populations.

Native Americans

At the time of European contact, the Park was inhabited by the Nisenan, whose name is translated as "from among us" or "of our side." Their language is part of the larger Maidu language group. Self-described Nisenan traditional territory once encompassed a large area that included the Yuba and American river watersheds, extending to the Sacramento River to the west and the 10,000 ft. crest of the Sierra to the east.

Archaeological excavations at the Park demonstrate that Native people lived there for at least the last 3,000 years. While their possessions and lifestyle differed markedly from the Nisenan at the time of colonial contact, use

of the area as a seasonal base camp persisted. Earlier populations used atlatl spear throwing devices to hunt large game and grinding rocks to process seeds. Eventually the bow and arrow replaced atlatls and the mortar and pestle was adopted for processing acorns.

Nisenan lived in permanent multi-family communities during the winter and dispersed to smaller camps from spring to fall while they collected and hunted for food. Their favored staple food was black oak acorns which were supplemented by berries, seeds, and roots. Game such as fowl, fish, rabbit, deer, and even black bear was hunted as part of Nisenan subsistence.

Nisenan contact with Europeans did not occur until 1808 when Spanish General Gabriel Moraga traveled through Nisenan territory. The Nisenan appear to not have been largely influenced by the efforts of the Spanish and Mexican mission system but were greatly affected by the malaria epidemic of 1833. The disease claimed the lives of as much as 75% of the Nisenan living in the Sacramento Valley. The traditional culture and lifestyle of the Nisenan was further devastated by the California Gold Rush. In their hunt for gold, prospectors and miners invaded traditional Nisenan territory, bringing diseases, pushing them from their traditional homes, and making it nearly impossible to continue seasonal patterns of subsistence. The Nisenan were nearly obliterated and those who endured were forced to find new means of survival. Nisenan descendants still live in Nevada County and throughout California.

Evidence of Native American culture and tradition can be found within the boundaries of Malakoff SHP. There are numerous archaeological sites within the Park that can tell us more about this chapter of history, including some with bedrock milling and rock art. There are also sites reflecting the turbulent period following the Gold Rush. Additional and updated archaeological and ethnographic studies can provide detailed data to be used in effective and inclusive interpretation. See Appendix A for a discussion of research topics to be considered in future interpretation.



Figure 7. Miners pose in the Pit in front of a water monitor dubbed “The Editor”, ca. 1880s. Historic Slides, MDSHP Collection.

Finding Gold

The Gold Rush of 1849 brought streams of gold miners into the Sierra foothills. The area that is now Malakoff Diggins SHP did not see extensive placer mining until the 1850s. In 1851 a rich gold deposit was discovered in a nearby stream. Hopeful placer miners made their way to the area but did not find the riches they expected. Most left, calling the creek a “Humbug”. A few miners stayed and developed a nearby mining camp they called Humbug City.

The gold from Humbug Creek and other nearby creeks was quickly exhausted but miners discovered that gold-bearing gravel deposits ran through ancient riverbeds. These buried riverbeds could be found on the hill-sides and hilltops of the San Juan Ridge area. Releasing these deposits required a steady supply of water so miners constructed ditches

and reservoirs to transport and store the water necessary to work their claims.

In 1852 a canvas hose was used to direct water straight against the hillside gold deposits, washing dirt and gravel into sluices below. Water pressure was further increased by connecting a nozzle to the hose, marking the birth of hydraulic mining. Continued technological advances eventually led to the development of the water cannon, or monitor, which provided greater flexibility in water manipulation and extremely powerful, high-velocity water pressure.

This new technology brought an influx of miners and other businesses to the town of Humbug. By 1857 the town had expanded and changed its name to North Bloomfield. Many businesses catering to the needs of the miners quickly sprang up including a saw mill, saloons, a hotel, breweries, Chinese-farmed vegetable fields, and a post office. Three smaller towns

located within the Park—Lake City, Derbec, and Malakoff Village—also flourished during the second half of the 19th century.

By the early 1860s the intensive effort involved in hydraulic mining, combined with the relatively low return caused many discouraged miners to abandon their claims. In 1866 a group of entrepreneurs that included Julius Poquillion, a French immigrant, bought many of these abandoned claims and consolidated them into a single 1,535 acre property. Working with a group of San Francisco investors in 1869, the group formed the North Bloomfield Gravel Mining Company to work their massive claim.

The North Bloomfield Gravel Mining Company purchased and constructed dams, flumes, canals, and ditches to transport water for their extensive operation. The Company continued to expand its operations into the 1870s and by 1876 it was washing the gold from the hillsides night and day, using seven powerful water cannons called Craig monitors.

The town of North Bloomfield grew and expanded with the success of the North Bloomfield Gravel Mining Company. From the late 1860s to 1884 the town was a bustling community of nearly 1,500 residents and over 200 buildings that included five hotels, eight saloons, two livery stables, two dry goods stores, two breweries, three boot makers, three fraternal organizations, a school, a barber shop, a drug store, a butcher, a baker, a dairy, and two churches. In 1878, the first public long-distance telephone line in the world linked people of North Bloomfield with towns and mines along San Juan Ridge and to the rest of North America via Western Union Telegraph at North San Juan (California State Historical Landmark #247).

The town's heyday came to a rather abrupt end when the 1884 Sawyer Decision issued strict regulations on the disposal of hydraulic mining debris into rivers and streams. Under these new injunctions the North Bloomfield Gravel Mining Company could only operate at a fraction of its former scale. This downsizing drastically impacted the town of North Bloomfield. Many unemployed miners and their families left town to look for new work.

The dwindling population affected the town's businesses and other industries and many eventually closed. Burdened by heavy fines and litigation costs, combined with the lower regulated (fixed) price of gold, the North Bloomfield Gravel Mining Company could no longer operate profitably. It permanently shut down around 1910.

The historic and reconstructed buildings of North Bloomfield provide an excellent opportunity to share the stories of the town's history. Another visible element of the past associated with life in North Bloomfield and Lake City are the numerous historic fruit and nut trees that still bloom each spring and bear food each fall. The Felix Gillet Institute, a local preservation organization, has been working for nearly 30 years to catalog and maintain these historic orchards. Many of these trees are currently in critical condition and are in need of significant management to deal with various issues such as bears, encroachment of native and non-native plants, and snow load, that threaten their well-being.

Other introduced agricultural elements in the cultural landscape include roses, irises, black locusts, ornamental trees, pastures, the China Gardens vegetable fields, farming equipment, dairy, grain mill, and other agriculturally related structures, equipment, and modifications to the land.

The cultural resources at Malakoff Diggins SHP help tell the stories of the individuals who settled and lived in this area. They can be used to interpret town life, illuminating details about education, religious activities, fraternal orders, agriculture, as well as its ethnic populations, commerce, and supporting industries.

RECREATIONAL RESOURCES

Malakoff Diggins SHP offers visitors a variety of recreational opportunities. The most popular activities are hiking, mountain biking, camping, picnicking, and recreational gold panning. Two trailheads in the Park provide access to the South Yuba National Trail and the Wild & Scenic South Yuba River Recreational Area.

Hiking

There are over 20 miles of hiking trails within the Park. These range from less than one-quarter mile to over three miles in length and include elevation gains from 13 to over 1,000 feet. These trails let visitors meander through time past historic buildings such as the Catholic church, the school house, and cemetery, along historic mining ditches and abandoned tunnels, around the Martin Ranch Home site, through the China Gardens' orchards and growing fields, and provide access to pastures once used for grazing and dairy. They also lead visitors through scenic environments from forested hillsides, relic mining lakes, and unique marshlands. The three mile Diggins Loop trail offers close up views of the dramatic geological strata in the Pit. The most popular trail in the park is the Humbug Trail, a six mile roundtrip hike to the South Yuba River and back. A rustic group campsite located on BLM property at the bottom of the Humbug Trail, adjacent to the river, is popular with youth groups.

Camping

Chute Hill Campground, located one-half mile from the historic town of North Bloomfield, contains 30 peaceful campsites shaded by tall pine and cedar trees. Each site has a picnic table, bear-proof food locker, fire ring, nearby potable water, and close access to flush toilet restrooms. Special ranger led programs such as night hikes and evening campfire programs are also available to Chute Hill campers on holiday weekends. The Rim and Townsite trails can be accessed from the campground and one of the best views of the Pit can be experienced at a scenic overlook at the campground's southwestern edge.

Three rustic miner's cabins can also be reserved for overnight stays. These cabins are located within historic North Bloomfield. Each offers a wood burning stove, cold running water, a table and benches, two sets of wooden bunk beds, a fire pit and grill, a bear-proof locker, and are a short, easy walk to nearby restrooms.

Picnicking

Many visitors come to Malakoff Diggins SHP to spend the day at the Park and do not stay overnight. These sightseers often picnic at one of two main picnic sites within the Park: Blair Lake or the Skidmore House lawn in historic North Bloomfield.

Other Activities

Other recreational activities available at the Park include swimming and fishing in Blair Lake, biking, gold panning, trail running, photography, birding, and painting. Junior Ranger programs, the Environmental Living Program, and Litter Getter activities are also available to young visitors.

The Park's variety of recreational opportunities, combined with its beautiful and peaceful setting make Malakoff Diggins SHP appealing to a broad range of visitors. The Park's multi-faceted value as a recreational destination is an excellent asset in expanding its visitor base and targeting new audiences.

NON-PARK RESOURCES

Several resources that are not technically in the State Park System and are not owned or interpreted by the Park are located in or near the Park. These accessible resources include the Le Du hydraulic mine, the Historic North Bloomfield Forest Service Station, and the cemetery. Although these resources appear to be a part of the Park they are actually owned privately or by other agencies and often frequented by Park visitors because of their close proximity.

EXISTING INTERPRETATION

Current interpretation at Malakoff Diggins SHP is primarily concentrated in the historic town of North Bloomfield. Interpretive facilities, media, programs, and events are almost exclusively located within town boundaries. An inventory of these existing interpretive components presents a picture of the Park's current interpretive status, readiness, and potential.

FACILITIES AND MEDIA

(NON-PERSONAL INTERPRETIVE SERVICES)

Interpretive Facilities

Museum

The Malakoff Museum is the main interpretive facility at Malakoff Diggins SHP. It is located on North Bloomfield Road in the heart of historic North Bloomfield and also serves as Park headquarters. The Museum's historic



Figure 8. Exterior of the Malakoff Museum.

building was once Cummins Hall, a place where townspeople gathered to hear music, dance, and be entertained. Today the front of the building acts as a visitor's center, office, and headquarters where visitors pay day fees, obtain maps and brochures, find out about events and programs, and choose from a small variety of items for purchase such as books, pins, patches, and t-shirts. Several small exhibits highlighting the wildlife and ecology of the Park are also located in the front of the building that includes a taxidermy Grizzly bear and examples of different animal scat.

Visitors can learn about the Park's gold mining history at the rear of the building where the museum displays objects and items representative of the town's heyday that include historic machinery, small equipment, household and personal items of the town's residents, and a small model of hydraulic mining. Upon request a 20 minute video is shown that briefly explains the history of the North Bloomfield Mining and Gravel Company and the wide reaching effects of hydraulic mining at Malakoff that ultimately resulted in our nation's first environmental regulation.

Town Buildings

Several other buildings in North Bloomfield are also used as interpretive facilities. The Ostrom Livery and Stable is located next door to the Museum. Generally open the same hours as the Museum, the restored stable displays original wagons representing various modes of 1800s transportation, as well as a replica mid-1800s hay baler.

Visitors can view several "house museums" (furnished, non-operational town buildings) during guided town tours. At the reconstructed Kings Saloon, a wall of old glass and ceramic liquor bottles is displayed behind the long wooden bar, while a piano near the entrance and a card table opposite the bar help complete the picture of an 1870s saloon. At the end of the block sits the Smith-Knotwell Drug Store which was reconstructed in 1974 based on maps and exterior photographs. It

is impressively stocked with medicine bottles, jars, and canisters of all shapes and sizes that once held a variety of herbs, minerals, chemicals, tinctures, and other medications. These glass containers are neatly arranged on built-in shelves that line the walls of the store, nearly reaching the ceiling. The pharmacy counters, which essentially run the perimeter of the room, contain items such as an old typewriter and a mortar and pestle. Above the pharmacy is the Masonic Hall, currently in use by a local chapter.

The historic McKillican & Mobley General Store building, located across the street from the pharmacy, is also impressively stocked with a vast array of goods ranging from eyeglasses, cigars, and marbles to meat grinders, wash basins, Levi Strauss jeans, and saddles. Shelves line both sides of the store and are stacked to the ceiling with dish sets, men's vests, women's hat boxes, yarn, coffee tins, milk jugs, tobacco, and countless other goods. Past the pots, pans, saws, and hooks hanging from the ceiling at the back of the store is the sleeping quarters for the overnight watchman. Two small wall-papered rooms house a desk, small bed, and a case displaying a variety of ephemera.

On the same side of the street as the general store sits the Skidmore House. The house was built by prominent businessman Rush Dix Skidmore, who lived there from 1862 until his death in 1911. The house is furnished and decorated to accurately represent its original arrangement near the turn of the 19th century. A functioning blacksmith's shop located at the southern end of town is often



Figure 9. The well-stocked shelves of the McKillican and Mobley General Store, 2013.



Figure 10. A volunteer oversees the Drug Store on Humbug Day, 2013.

used for blacksmithing demonstrations during the Environmental Living Program (ELP) season and special events.

At the western boundary of the town are a restored church and schoolhouse. Tours do not allow access into these buildings but the restored interior of the church can be viewed from a raised platform just outside the windows.

The only interpretive facility located outside of the town is the campground amphitheater in Chute Hill Campground. This small outdoor stage accommodates up to 125 visitors and is used for ranger-lead evening campfire programs during summer months.

Non-Interpretive Facilities

Additional historic town buildings are used for non-interpretive functions such as storage, a volunteer/meeting room, seasonal worker

housing, and employee housing. Several other historic buildings are currently vacant.

The restroom facilities as well as the rustic rental cabins, which are named for prominent figures of Malakoff's mining heyday, are modern buildings with non-interpretive functions. A cook shack set up outside of the Skidmore House is a non-interpretive structure usually used to sell refreshments during special events.

Interpretive Media

Malakoff Diggins SHP currently incorporates the following media into its interpretive framework:

- California State Parks Map/Brochure
- Malakoff Diggins Park Association map
- Self-guided town tour map
- Malakoff Diggins Park Association website
- California State Parks website
- Video: "Hydraulic Gold Mining", produced by California State Parks and Arthur S. Hough and David D. Grieve, 1973.
- Engraved wood panels at the following locations include minimal interpretation: Blair Lake, North Bloomfield Tunnel, the Giant Monitor in North Bloomfield, and the West Point Overlook. Engraved wood panels in the following locations identify objects and places but do not include interpretation: LeDu hydraulic mine and sites of former businesses or residences in North Bloomfield.

Facilities and Media Gaps

As described above current non-personal interpretive services at the Park are largely concentrated within the historic town of North Bloomfield. Because of this and staffing limitations, interpretation in other areas of the park is greatly lacking. The engraved wooden

panels located at several sites throughout the Park deliver only minimal information, some providing only the name of a site. This represents a gap in Park-wide, updated, inclusive, and detailed interpretation.

There are also gaps in non-interpretive services. Although the Park does have some directional signage along its roads, overall there is a general need for more visible, frequent, and descriptive navigational signage within the Park. Most navigable roads that run through the Park are the property of Nevada County, which maintains and manages them. The Park's ability to erect new and improved signage along these roads is limited by the permitting processes and other regulations required by the County. Another gap in the non-personal interpretive services offered at the Park is the lack of digital or audio media. Modern technology that allows for self-guided tours using cell phones, tablets, or listening devices has not yet been utilized at Malakoff Diggins SHP, largely because of the current unavailability of wireless services.

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

(PERSONAL INTERPRETIVE SERVICES)

A variety of interpretive programs that address the interests of visitors young and old are offered at the Park during summer and fall. There are currently no personal interpretive services offered during winter months.



Figure 11. A volunteer begins a Town Tour in front of the Museum, 2013.

Interpretive Programs

Town Tours

During the summer season (usually June through Labor Day) Park Aide, docent, or Ranger-lead town tours are offered when the Museum is open. The tours usually last approximately an hour. After starting at the Museum and livery stable, the tours give visitors access to the restored interiors of the saloon, pharmacy, general store, and Skidmore House. Additional tours are sometimes added depending on demand and available staff.

Gold Panning

Visitors can try their hand at gold panning during one hour gold panning demonstrations that take place on Saturdays at 3:00pm during the summer season and in a designated area of Humbug Creek. Guests can register for this activity and gold pans are available at the Museum visitor's center.

Evening Campfire Programs

During the summer season campfire programs may be offered at the Chute Hill Campground Amphitheater. The campfire programs are family friendly events that often include songs, games, stories, and occasional musicians or wildlife guests.

Junior Ranger Program

Malakoff Diggins SHP is one of the many State parks that offer children ages 7-12 a chance to participate in the California State Parks Junior Ranger Program. Designed as a guided, interactive activity, a self-guided version of this program is offered at Malakoff Diggins SHP due to limitations in staffing. Young visitors the Park receive a Junior Ranger logbook and the *Junior Ranger Adventure Guide* activity book. A Junior Ranger patch, poster, or pin is awarded once the activity book is completed and reviewed by a Park Ranger.

Litter-Getter Program

This program encourages young visitors to take an active role in keeping the Park clean

and natural. Intended to be a supervised and guided program, a self-guided version is offered at Malakoff Diggins SHP due to limitations in staffing. Litter bags, gloves, and program instructions are available at Park headquarters. The program includes educational information about how recycling works in nature. Rewards can be earned for participation.

Day Program

Designed for up to 60 fourth grade students, the Scavenger Hunt School Program is a two hour activity available at various times throughout the day, Monday through Friday. The program allows students to explore the history of North Bloomfield and hydraulic mining by giving them access to six house museums that include the Ostrom Livery and Stable, Kings Saloon, Smith-Knotwell Drug Store, Skidmore House, McKillican & Mobley General Store, and Cummins Hall (Museum).



Figure 12. Visitors try their hand at gold panning, 2013.

Park staff provides each class a Park orientation, history of the Park, and reviews guidelines for visiting the house museums. Classes are divided into groups of 5-8 students. Each group receives a scavenger hunt packet containing question sheets that are completed by locating certain objects within the designated historic town buildings. The program requires 8-10 adult chaperones who are responsible for providing security and supervision at each house museum. Classroom teachers are expected to facilitate the activity with the assistance of Park staff.

Environmental Living Program (ELP)

The Environmental Living Program at Malakoff Diggins SHP is an overnight school program focused on teaching fourth grade students about daily life in the 1870s. The lessons and activities offered during the program meet several 4th grade California public school content standards such as the California Gold Rush and Native American culture. The program can accommodate up to 40 fourth grade students and 10-15 adult supervisors. Participants camp for one or two nights in tent-cabins located in North Bloomfield as they experience life in the 1870s. Students dress in miner's costumes and participate in activities such as candle dipping, gold panning, crocheting, cord making, tin-smithing, woodworking, rope making, slate writing, and Dutch oven cooking. The campsite includes a storage shed as well as a fire pit and classes are supplied with cooking supplies, utensils, firewood, and craft materials. Prior to the program teachers and chaperones participate in a training session where they learn how to make the crafts and lead program activities. There is a program fee per student, per night. Programs are scheduled from mid-April to the first or second week in June.

Field Guides

A private, Park-permitted, non-profit organization called the Field Guides runs an alternative environmental education program at the Chute Hill Campground. Naturalists guide students on nature explorations, gold panning, and a scavenger hunt. Malakoff Diggins SHP

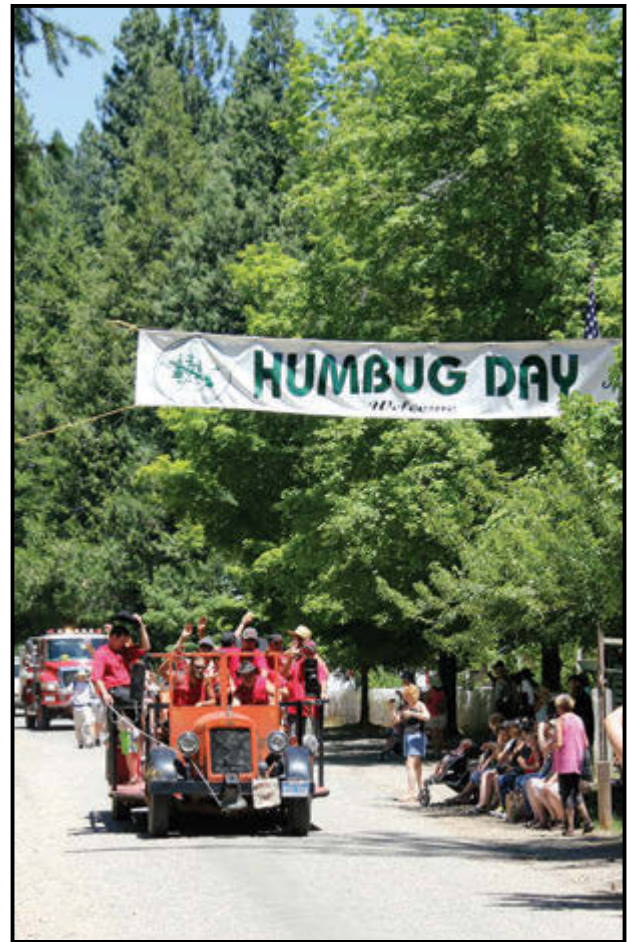


Figure 13. *The World's Smallest Parade makes its way down North Bloomfield Road during Humbug Day, 2013.*

staff provides the Field Guides access to the historic town buildings during scheduled events but is not involved in the development, organization, or execution of the Field Guides program. The organization is responsible for the cleaning and maintenance of the campground while they are there.

Interpretive Events

Fishing Derby

The Annual Kids Fishing Derby takes place in May and is open to 100 children under age 16. Non-profit organizations and volunteers provide fishing gear, fish cleaning, lunch, and a raffle to participants. The cook shack also sells lunches to parents and other spectators.

Humbug Day

The Humbug Day festival, held in cooperation with a non-profit organization, is held every June and offers activities and entertainment for the whole family that highlights and celebrates the heyday of historic North Bloomfield. Hay rides, games, gold panning, storytelling, candle making and other period crafts, gun fights, vendors, and a variety of tours including a historic food producing plant walk are some of the festival's usual activities. The "world's shortest parade" and the shooting of one of the hydraulic water cannons are highlights of the day. Costumed docents give tours of the historic buildings described above while the fraternal group E Clampus Vitus, sells food and beverages.

Programs and Events Gaps

The existing programs and events offered at Malakoff Diggins SHP are heavily focused on the Park's significant mining history. The Park's prehistory, geology, biology, and recreational resources are not adequately represented in existing formal and programmed personal interpretive services. Another gap in interpretive programming at the Park is the frequency of available activities. Due to a limited number of staff and reduced Park hours, the availability of personal programs can fluctuate significantly each season based on funding. During seasons with limited staffing, personal programs may only be offered during weekends or special events.

INFORMAL INTERPRETIVE SERVICES

Despite the existing gaps in interpretive programming and events, the rangers, aides, and docents at Malakoff Diggins SHP provide visitors with many informal interpretive services. Because Malakoff Diggins SHP is not a heavily visited Park, staff and volunteers engage in a high amount of contact time with individuals or visitor groups. Visitors, many with multi-faceted interests, are given one-on-one attention not often available at other parks as they ask questions about history, orientation, trails, etc. Park staff and volunteers most frequently answer questions and provide

information about the recreational resources and opportunities available at the Park.

COLLECTIONS

Artifact Collection Summary

The Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park artifact collection reflects the Park's main interpretive theme and time period of hydraulic gold mining in the 1870s to 1880s. The collection is mainly comprised of objects used to furnish its house museums that include Cummins Hall (Park Headquarters and Museum), King's Saloon, the McKillican and Mobley General Store, the North Bloomfield School, Ostrom Stables, Saint Columcille's Catholic Church, the Skidmore House, and the Smith-Knotwell Drug Store. As described above these house museums are staged with furniture and other objects representing life in North Bloomfield during its heyday.

Hydraulic gold mining machinery and equipment are other artifacts in the Park collection that can be found in the museum as well as in outdoor areas in the Park. The Hendy Giant Monitor is on display in the middle of town just off North Bloomfield Road while remnants of pipes and other machinery are visible along the Diggins Loop Trail. Artifacts representing local Native American communities as well as natural history specimens are also part of the Park collections and are displayed in the Museum.

Archival Collection

The Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park Collection consists of 33.5 cubic feet of documents and records of the North Bloomfield Gravel Mining Company, the North Bloomfield Post Office, the McKillican and Mobley General Store, and the personal materials of North Bloomfield resident, Mary Kallenberger. The collection is housed at the California State Archives in Sacramento. The collection is primarily textual and consists of correspondence, ledgers, invoices, newspaper clippings, pamphlets, receipts, shipping statements, and bound copies of The Union newspaper. Sheet

music and artwork are also included among the materials of Mary Kallenberger. The material in the collection was produced between 1867 and 1957 with the bulk of the material ranging from 1871-1920.

See Appendix B for additional information on the Malakoff Diggins SHP Collection.

EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

The ELP and Day Program offered at Malakoff Diggins SHP attract school groups from throughout the Bay Area. Local Nevada County elementary schools as well as school groups from as far as San Jose participate in ELP programs. On average, 15-20 school groups usually reserve ELP spots during the April-June season. The Day Program is currently offered in the spring and is usually attended by schools in local counties such as Nevada County and Sacramento County. The Day Program averages about 10-15 school groups per season. Both the ELP and Day Program are geared towards elementary school aged children, specifically fourth graders, as activities and curriculum highlight several fourth grade California public school content standards such as the California Gold Rush and Native American culture.

School groups that participate in the ELP or Day Program gain invaluable experiences that leave lasting impressions. Many former students return to the Park as adults, bringing their friends and families. Not only do students benefit from the educational programs but the Park also benefits by expanding its audience and creating repeat visitors.

The Park also serves as a great resource for university students and other scholars conducting research in a variety of disciplines. Sonoma State University, University of California, Berkeley, Stanford University, California State University, Chico, and California State University, Sacramento are just a few of the institutions and organizations that have conducted research in or about Malakoff Diggins SHP. Chico State currently has an ongoing permit with the Park for research conducted within the Park. Results of this research could enhance and inform public interpretation



Figure 14. Students explore the blacksmith's shop during an Environmental Living Program session, 2013.

about geology, archaeology, biology, and other underrepresented topics of interest.

INTERPRETIVE CONCESSIONS

There are currently no large-scale private concessions in Malakoff Diggins SHP.

Park Merchandising

A small number of items are for sale at the Museum (such as t-shirts, souvenirs, and maps) to benefit the Malakoff Diggins Park Association and their work in the Park. Also for sale are books, pins, posters, maps, bottles of water, a limited assortment of sports drinks, and firewood. No other food, drink, or other amenities are regularly available.

INTERPRETIVE READINESS

Staffing

Due to funding cutbacks current staffing levels at Malakoff Diggins SHP are limited and are only seasonal. The number of Park staff members directly involved with interpretation at the Park varies by availability. The Malakoff Diggins SHP Park Ranger, a Park Aide, and one docent/volunteer are regularly responsible for personal interpretation programs. The Park Aide and docent are responsible for town tours, gold panning demonstrations, providing

visitor guidance and directions, showing the Museum video, and collecting fees/running the cash register, and other headquarters duties. The Park Ranger and Park Aide are kept busy with operations, maintenance, and safety duties but also assist visitors by answering interpretive and logistical questions, sharing information on wildlife, history, and safety, and leading the Evening Campfire Program.

Training for interpretive roles involves learning about the history of the Park through documentary research, guidance from knowledgeable and experienced Park staff, and hands on practice. This involves learning by shadowing staff during tours and public interactions. Tour guides and gold panning demonstrators are evaluated during their first several performances.

Public Relations

Park programs and events are publicized outside the Park through several media and communications avenues. Special events such as Humbug Day are advertised locally through radio and newspaper ads, press releases, posters, and flyers. General information about the Park can be found in Nevada County tourist magazines and at the Chamber of Commerce, and Park brochures can be found in many Nevada City and Grass Valley hotels. The Park website is updated with details of upcoming events and general information such as Park hours.

Promotion of programs, events, and activities within the Park is mainly done at the Museum, particularly on the porch. A bulletin board on the Museum's exterior, next to the entrance, displays notices about current program offerings and special events. A wooden sandwich board placed near the street in front of the Museum advertises tour times and daily activities.

Effectiveness

According to visitor surveys conducted during the 2013 summer season, current publicity strategies outside Malakoff Diggins SHP are not attracting a significant number of visitors to the Park. Most visitors know about

the Park by word of mouth. They also heard about Malakoff Diggins SHP through maps, school programs, books, websites, brochures, other State parks, newspapers, television, and by accident. The internet was an often cited resource used to find out about Malakoff Diggins SHP but many visitors did not directly access the Park website and oftentimes were only led to information about Malakoff Diggins SHP during searches for other gold mining topics.

A surprising number of local visitors were not aware of the Park's annual events. Only four visitors surveyed on Humbug Day reported learning about the event from the newspaper, one from a flyer, and no visitors reported hearing about the event on the radio. The most effective publicity was the placement of brochures in area hotels and at other State parks.

Visitors had complaints about publicity within the Park. Many visitors were dissatisfied with the posting of tour times and activities on the sandwich board outside the Museum. Visitors often drove by without being able to read the board and complained that it was not clear that Park fees were to be paid in the Museum. Problems with navigational signage both in the Park and on the roads to the Park were also reported.

Research Resources

A range of Park-specific materials are available for cultural, natural, and recreational background research when planning interpretive programs for Malakoff Diggins SHP.

State Parks offices are excellent research resources. Management plans and reports on cultural resources, archaeology, and fuels reduction have been written about Malakoff Diggins SHP since the 1960s. A partial list of documents is included in Appendix C. These documents and others are available through the Department of Parks and Recreation's Archaeology, History and Museums Division. Other Park-specific resources such as photographs, archival documents, and artifacts can be accessed at the California State Parks Statewide Museum Collections Center at the

former McClellan Air Force Base. The following DPR offices/facilities are excellent resources for interpretation research:

- Archaeology, History, and Museums Division
- Interpretation and Education Division
- Planning Division
- State Parks Archives
- State Parks Photographic Archives
- Statewide Museum Collections Center
- Sierra District Archives
- Unit Data File in the California State Parks Digital Document Catalog

Other repositories with information about Malakoff Diggins SHP include:

- California Historical Society-California Ephemera Collection, Malakoff Diggins Park 1971-1984
- UC Davis Special Collections-Gary Snyder Papers, San Juan Ridge; The Mining Collection
- The Bancroft Library-California Gold Rush Mining Towns Photographed by Alma Lavenson
- University of the Pacific-E Clampus Vitus Archives 1935-
- California State Library, California History Room
- Searls Historical Library, Nevada City

Additional repositories and organizations should be explored and contacted for potential Park related resources. These repositories include but are not limited to:

- Antiques and Collectibles websites selling Malakoff ephemera (eBay, Etsy, etc.)
- California Digital Newspaper Collection
- California State Archives
- Doris Foley Library for Historical Research, Nevada County
- Native Sons of the Golden West, San Francisco

INTERPRETIVE CONSIDERATIONS

Interpretive planning must consider several aspects of the Park's operations and infrastructure. Understanding how the Park is organized, funded, and maintained will aid in the implementation of interpretive goals and strategies.

BUDGETS/REVENUE

The budgeting process at Malakoff Diggins SHP and other State Parks is currently transitioning to a new system of accountability and funding allocation. These changes have an impact on certain Park operations such as personnel and maintenance. Costs for these operations need to be considered during interpretive planning as their limitations may affect the feasibility and long term maintenance of interpretive projects.

While interpretation is considered a Core Program in California State Parks, it is

programmatically unfunded by the Parks annual budget. The primary and founding purpose of cooperating associations is to generate revenue to support interpretation at the park level.

At Malakoff Diggins SHP the Park provides most of the funding for interpretive staff, who develop, design, research, and provide interpretation, while its cooperating association, the Malakoff Diggins Park Association (MDPA), usually covers the costs of interpretive materials and equipment. The MDPA raises money at the museum gift shop, through membership dues, and through private donations in order to support interpretive projects and efforts throughout the Park. The MDPA works with the Park to develop strategic plans that create funding agendas for a five year period.

MAINTENANCE

The maintenance and repair required for interpretive services and programming are essential factors to consider in interpretive development and planning. At Malakoff Diggins SHP the maintenance staff is responsible for all structures, infrastructure, and all utilities other than telephone lines. Interpretation at Malakoff Diggins SHP exists within a system managed and monitored almost entirely by Park staff. The maintenance staff has a broad skill set that includes fixing and maintaining electrical systems, alarm systems, fencing, plumbing, HVAC systems, emergency forestry work, grounds upkeep, historic building restoration, and even maintaining the Park water system to required state health standards. The design, materials, locations, and quantity of interpretive displays or exhibits, such as panels and signs, should consider both the benefits and the costs of ongoing maintenance performed by Park staff.

STAFFING

The quantity, frequency, and responsibilities of maintenance staff are inconsistent and fluctuate each season based on funding. The



Figure 15. Fire Road near Blair Lake, 2013.

staffing descriptions provided below represent current staffing levels.

There is currently one full-time maintenance worker that lives at the Park and 1-2 seasonal maintenance aides that float between Malakoff Diggins SHP and the other Sierra Gold sector State parks.

The current staff at Malakoff Diggins SHP includes:

- 1 State Park Peace Officer/Supervising Ranger (responsible for entire Sierra Gold Sector)
- 1 State Park Peace Officer/Ranger (retired annuitant floats between parks when needed)
- 1 State Park Senior Aide
- 1 Park Maintenance Worker
- 1-2 Park Maintenance Assistants (float between parks)

Expansions and additions to the interpretive services offered at the Park must consider the capabilities of a limited number of staff members. Although no funding currently exists to support additional Park staff, large interpretive efforts may require one or more staff members dedicated to providing, coordinating, or supervising interpretive programming.

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

“The spirit of citizen initiative and self-reliance that has prevailed throughout the United States for over the past two centuries needs to be recognized and fostered whenever possible in meeting the basic human needs in the state”(Government Code 3112(b) as cited in DPR 2012:xi).

The California State Parks’ Volunteer in Parks Program provides system-wide policies that guide volunteer programs in all State parks. The Volunteer in Parks Program was developed in accordance with the California State Government Volunteers Act of 1978. Guiding principles of the Act as cited in the Volunteer in Parks Program are presented below.

Passage of the 1978 California State Government Volunteers Act (hereafter referred to as the Volunteers Act) granted state agencies the authority to use volunteers, with responsibility to provide adequate staff support, establish certain rules, and ensure that volunteers and staff understand their duties and responsibilities within this framework.

California State Parks’ Volunteers in Parks Program adheres to the spirit and the language (Government Code 3110-3119.5) of the Volunteers Act. This includes fostering a “spirit of citizen initiative and voluntary action among businesses, industries and individual citizens in the community,” as well as identifying “untapped human, technical, and material resources that can be mobilized for the public good through citizen initiative and voluntary action.” (GC 3117a, c) It involves the recruitment, acceptance, and training of volunteers who will “augment, but not replace, staff.” (GC 3116) [DPR 2012: xi].

Volunteers and docents are valuable assets at Malakoff Diggins SHP. There are currently 6-8 volunteers that provide support on a regular basis. These volunteers support the Park staff in a variety of ways including leading town tours and gold panning demonstrations, working the cash register at the museum gift shop, chopping firewood, maintaining trails, performing set up and clean up tasks, and many more helpful and essential jobs.

Volunteers are eligible to work at Malakoff Diggins SHP by completing a Volunteer Training Program offered yearly at Empire Mine SHP. This training allows volunteers to work at any of the three sector parks: Empire Mine SHP, Malakoff Diggins SHP, and South Yuba River SP. In the near future the Volunteer Training Program may expand by offering a second training session. Although there are currently almost 30 volunteers available to work at Malakoff Diggins SHP, only a handful are relied upon because the Park lacks the staff needed to supervise and manage an increased number of volunteers. The remoteness of the Park is also an obstacle that limits volunteer

involvement as many are unwilling or unable to travel the long distance to the Park on a regular basis.

The assistance of volunteers and docents should definitely be included in interpretive planning. But it is important to also calculate the cost and time necessary to adequately supervise, manage, and monitor volunteer staff.

BARRIERS/ACCESSIBILITY

It is the policy of California State Parks to “meet the recreational needs of all the people of California and to provide an accessible environment in which all visitors to the State Park system units are given the opportunity to understand, appreciate and participate in the State’s cultural, historical and natural heritage”.

At Malakoff Diggins SHP continuing efforts are being made to ensure that representative portions of the Park are accessible for all visitors to enjoy. The museum is currently between 70% and 80% accessible and the main restrooms are fully accessible. A 1/3 mile ADA accessible trail featuring an overlook of the Pit is now in the development stage.

Although the streets of North Bloomfield are accessible and the exteriors of the town’s buildings can be easily viewed, many interiors and entrances of the Park’s interpretive structures and facilities have inadequate or limited accessibility. Most of the historic buildings in North Bloomfield are not wheelchair accessible and are therefore inaccessible to visitors with physical disabilities during town tours and special events. The campground contains

several campsites on flat ground but none are paved or constructed to be fully accessible. The unpaved and uneven terrain in much of the Park causes limited or difficult access to certain attractions such as Blair Lake, the school house, and the Park’s network of hiking trails.

Many of the Park’s accessibility issues can be addressed by providing alternative methods of interpretation, especially those using modern technology. Virtual tours, wireless audio headsets, or digital devices can easily enhance access to many areas of the Park. These alternatives can also accommodate visitors with hearing and visual needs. Interpretation planning should consider supplementing and improving existing interpretation with these alternative options. All new interpretive construction and program development will abide by current standards outlined in the most current publication of *California State Parks Accessibility Guidelines*.



Figure 16. A Park Ranger removing a rattlesnake from beneath one of the rustic cabins, 2013.

PUBLIC SAFETY AND PARK SECURITY

Public safety concerns at Malakoff Diggins SHP vary by season. During certain parts of the year the adjacent lands of the BLM and the US Forest Service are used as legal hunting grounds for deer, bears, and even squirrels. Even though hunting is not allowed within the Park boundaries, the presence of hunters can become a safety issue when boundaries are ignored or violated.

During the summer, extreme heat conditions pose a threat to unprepared visitors. Hikers exploring areas of the Park with limited protection from the elements such as the Diggins Loop Trail are particularly vulnerable to dehydration and overheating. Wildlife at Malakoff Diggins SHP presents a general safety concern. Rattlesnakes and yellow jackets are the most common animals that threaten public safety. Most of the animals avoid human interaction and are not a public safety concern. However visitors and staff should be aware and ready to respond to wildlife emergencies.

The isolation and remote location of Malakoff Diggins SHP can also be considered a safety concern. Visitors have limited communication options since cellular phone service is limited or unavailable. A pay phone is located near the General Store and there are also phone lines inside the museum. Communication amongst Park staff is especially critical to ensure effective responses to public safety threats. The Supervising Ranger along with Park rangers in the Sierra Gold Sector often assist each other with emergency response. The Malakoff Diggins SHP Park Ranger will respond to situations outside of the Park boundaries such as car crashes, medical emergencies, or the illegal use of off highway vehicles. The Park's remote location makes collaboration with other State Parks rangers and neighboring jurisdictions a necessary and valuable system.

The main goal of security at the Park is to maintain the integrity of its cultural resources which includes artifacts, historic structures, and exterior facilities. Vandalism and theft began occurring more frequently after the full-time Ranger position was left vacant and the Park was not open year round. Break-in attempts have occurred at the museum and intruders have repeatedly broken windows to access the schoolhouse. Because of repeated vandalism the school house windows are currently boarded up and visitors can no longer view its interior. Limiting visibility and accessibility to the Park's historical buildings constitutes a great loss for the interpretive program since many of these structures essentially function as interpretive exhibits.



Figure 17. The eroding cliffs of Malakoff Diggins, 2013.

The Park is currently monitored by an alarm system that is installed at all its facilities. The alarm system notifies the Park Ranger and Supervising Ranger who either responds in person or calls local authorities for assistance. Because Malakoff Diggins SHP is situated in a remote location, security breach response time is usually slower than desirable. Although the permanent maintenance worker does not respond to after-hours alarms, this constant presence has already begun to dissuade vandalism and theft. The historic structures at the Park are in need of a secure window system that maintains historical integrity while allowing visitors visibility. One of the obstacles preventing the installation of a fully functional electronic security and surveillance system is its dependence on consistent electrical power, which is currently unavailable at the Park. Future interpretive projects that modify or add to existing facilities should keep these security challenges and limitations in mind.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS

The massive mining operations at Malakoff Diggins produced potentially toxic conditions that are presently under investigation. Although these substances are highly unlikely to affect visitors who use the Park at a typical level of intensity, studies and remediation of these hazards are ongoing. Future remediation efforts, especially those that alter the aesthetic of the Park, are potential interpretive topics and can provide effective educational models that deal with a variety of environmental themes.

Another major environmental concern at Malakoff Diggins SHP is erosion. The Pit is constantly being transformed as its hillsides continue sliding downward, widening its perimeter while filling its basin with dirt and gravel. This rapid erosion has already affected existing interpretation by nearly burying trail markers, bringing the path of the Rim Trail closer to the Pit's edge, and covering possible archaeological sites. Future interpretive efforts need to be concerned with the preservation and protection of existing interpretation as well as the installation of interpretive components that circumvent the effects of erosion.

The placement and types of interpretation at Malakoff Diggins SHP should be influenced by several environmental factors. Certain areas of the Park contain sensitive environs that support threatened plant and animal species that could be adversely affected by intrusive interpretive efforts. The climate at Malakoff Diggins SHP subjects all exterior exhibits to high summer temperatures as well as rain and winter snow. Addressing the above concerns is necessary in creating durable and effective exhibits.

INTERPRETIVE MEDIA STANDARDS

It is important to note that the development of new interpretive media must meet interpretive media standards established by California State Parks. Guidelines and policies outline standards regarding design, accessibility, fabrication, and intellectual property rights.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT & AWARENESS

PARTNERSHIPS & SUPPORT

Cooperating Association

Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park is fortunate to have the support of Malakoff Diggins Park Association (MDPA), a non-profit organization committed to funding and enhancing interpretive and educational programs at the Park. MDPA raises money through private donations, membership dues, special events, and the sale of interpretive items at the Malakoff Museum gift shop.

Although MDPA primarily achieves its goals of interpretation and conservation by providing much needed funding, the Association also helps promote the Park through its newsletter and special events. MDPA's annual events—Humbug Day and the Kids Fishing Derby—engage the community and allow the public to experience the history of North Bloomfield.

MDPA is integral to interpretation at Malakoff Diggins SHP. Its monetary support provided funding for most of the Park's existing interpretation. MDPA also recently helped the Park avoid closure by allocating a significant sum of money towards Park staff salaries. Frequent and open communication between the Park and MDPA is maintained by Malakoff Diggins SHP's Supervising Ranger who is designated as the Cooperating Association Liaison. Many MDPA officers and directors are also local residents that are valued as important stakeholders.

Other Important Partners

A local chapter of the fraternal organization, E Clampus Vitus, otherwise known as the Clampers, established a relationship with Malakoff Diggins SHP many years ago and was

especially active in Park interpretation during the 1970s and 1980s. The Clampers provided skilled labor and funding to reconstruct and refurbish many buildings in North Bloomfield. They are also responsible for many of the existing interpretive wood panels placed throughout the Park including one at Hiller Tunnel and one describing the Giant water monitor located in town. Clamper involvement was limited from the late 1990s until 2011 when members again became active in Park activities. They currently work on small projects approved and supervised by Park staff, and run a cook shack on Humbug Day, donating their proceeds to the Malakoff Diggins Park Association.

The South Yuba River Citizens League (SYRCL) is an advocacy group that strives to protect and restore the Yuba River and Greater Yuba Watershed. The Sierra Fund is an environmental organization that serves to protect the resources of the Sierra Nevada region of California. Communication and collaboration with these groups is ongoing as their environmental projects and programs have the potential to directly impact Malakoff Diggins SHP by influencing infrastructure, remediation, and interpretation.



Figure 18. The Clampers ride a historic fire truck during the Humbug Day parade, 2013.

Potential Partners

There are currently no formal partnerships between Malakoff Diggins SHP and any local colleges, universities, or other educational institutions. However, students from the Geological and Environmental Sciences Department at California State University, Chico and the Anthropology Department at Sonoma State University are currently working on a variety of Master's thesis topics dealing directly with Malakoff Diggins SHP. The potential for establishing and advancing formal relationships with these universities and others exists. In the past the Park had partnerships with several universities including the University of California, Berkeley and California State University, Sacramento. The research and educational opportunities available at Malakoff Diggins SHP make it an ideal partner for many educational institutions and the interpretation needs of the Park could greatly benefit from academic research and involvement.

Nevada County is also home to an abundance of non-profit organizations and associations that include a gem and mineral society, hiking clubs, biking clubs, running clubs, art clubs, service organizations, advocacy groups for disadvantaged teens, and many more. Partnerships with these organizations may further both the Park's interpretive missions and the goals of the non-profit groups. For example, the Gold Country Fly-Fishers has provided a great deal of support for the annual Fishing Derby, which acts to promote their organization while drawing visitors to the Park. Exploring unconventional relationships with groups that are not usually associated with historic State parks also has the potential to produce unforeseen successes and reach underserved or non-traditional audiences.



Figure 19. A local walking club participates in the Humbug Day parade, 2013.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Malakoff Diggins SHP is a secluded park, tucked away in the Sierra foothills, nearly an hour's drive on winding roads from Nevada City. This isolation is one of the Park's most cherished characteristics yet it is also a barrier to increased public awareness, participation, and visitation. Residents of Nevada City, Grass Valley, and surrounding areas are aware of Malakoff Diggins SHP, yet these local residents only made up 14% of visitors surveyed during the 2013 summer season.

Oftentimes North Bloomfield Road is used by locals to access other nearby recreation areas, especially those along the South Yuba River. Local residents who visit the Park, or are actively involved with the Park, recognize the recreational, cultural, and natural resource they have in their own backyards and, with great appreciation, take advantage of all the Park has to offer by hiking, swimming, visiting the Museum, etc. These local residents often show a vested interest in the preservation and interpretation of the Park through volunteering, conducting research, and serving on the MDP board.

Most local people only visit the Park in large numbers during special events, namely Humbug Day. In years past Humbug Day festivities would draw hundreds of people to the streets of North Bloomfield. Many locals likely feel that they already know the history of the Park and are therefore only inclined to visit during special occasions. The Park's challenge is to offer locals interpretation and activities that encourage visitation throughout the season.

Non-local visitors mostly come from other parts of Northern California that include the Bay Area and the Sacramento area. Many of these visitors are drawn to the Park because of interests in gold mining history. Awareness of the Park is particularly high amongst students, teachers, and parents involved in 4th grade California history.

Overall it appears that the local community generally values Malakoff Diggins SHP as a cultural resource but overlooks it as a recreational resource, preferring other nearby options instead. Non-local Northern Californians are initially drawn to the Park for its history but are often surprised by the recreational resources that are also available.

NEARBY INTERPRETATION PROVIDERS

As a California State Park, Malakoff Diggins SHP is part of a statewide network of facilities that often compliment and support each other. This network is organized into districts, and further consolidated into sectors. The Sierra Gold sector interprets California gold mining history by highlighting three different gold mining techniques, each represented by one park. The Sector is comprised of Malakoff Diggins SHP (hydraulic mining), Empire Mine State Historic Park (hard rock mining), and South Yuba River State Park (placer mining). The nearby Empire Mine and South Yuba River State parks are two of the most significant interpretation providers in the area. Also nearby are the Tahoe National Forest and the Wild and Scenic South Yuba River recreation area of the Bureau of Land Management.

Empire Mine State Historic Park

Located 34 miles from Malakoff Diggins SHP, Empire Mine SHP is the site of the oldest, largest, and richest hard rock gold mine in the state. Like Malakoff Diggins SHP, the main interpretation focus at Empire Mine SHP is gold mining history. The Park features a visitor center, house museums, a mine yard, gardens, hiking trails, living history activities, tours, and special events. It is located in the city of Grass Valley and attracts a large number of visitors every year. Brochures, flyers, and park rangers at Empire Mine SHP actively cross-promote other State parks, often introducing and guiding their visitors to Malakoff Diggins SHP. Although both parks are focused on gold mining they are each distinctly unique and have very different experiences to offer visitors.

South Yuba River State Park

South Yuba River State Park is made up of a series of non-contiguous sections of land that follow the South Yuba River for 20 miles, creating a disconnected, patchwork-like boundary. Within the Park's detached borders lie historic bridges, hiking trails, and access to its highlight attraction, the South Yuba River. The Park offers swimming, fishing, bird walks, gold panning, basket weaving, a history station, wildflower walks, nature hikes, and auto tours. The Park's headquarters is located at Bridgeport, site of the country's longest single-span wooden covered bridge. Park interpretation addresses Gold Rush history through the story of placer mining in the South Yuba River. The Park also explores its natural resources and Native American history. The Park's natural and recreational resources are utilized and highlighted in greater depth than at Malakoff Diggins SHP. It is a well-known outdoor recreation area that consistently draws a large number of visitors each season. Brochures and other cross-promotional materials about Malakoff Diggins SHP are available at South Yuba River State Park.

Tahoe National Forest

The expansive lands of the Tahoe National Forest surround the boundaries of Malakoff Diggins SHP. Forest lands offer visitors a variety of recreational activities that include hiking, camping, swimming, gold panning, and hunting. Interpretation of the Forest's natural and cultural resources includes self-guided interpretive trails, driving tours, and the Forest Headquarters.

There are many other interpretation and recreation providers within the area that include city parks and trails, Nevada City and Grass Valley historic markers, the Miners Foundry, the Underground Gold Miners Museum, the Nevada County Narrow Gauge Railroad and Transportation Museum, and Museums of the Nevada County Historical Society including the Firehouse Museum and the North Star Mining Museum.

Bureau of Land Management

The South Yuba Wild & Scenic River Recreation Area and National Trail, managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), is another significant interpretation provider within close proximity to Malakoff Diggins SHP. The BLM's South Yuba Campground offers hiking, camping, swimming, fishing, and gold panning. Local residents and visitors alike often choose the recreation offerings of the South Yuba Campground over those available at Malakoff Diggins SHP. The BLM website refers visitors to Malakoff Diggins SHP for more information about hydraulic gold mining.

VISITATION AND VISITOR USE

Understanding the demographics, habits, and motivations of current and potential Park visitors is a crucial factor in identifying and planning appropriate interpretation. Direct visitor surveys were conducted at the Park and regional demographic data was compiled to gain an understanding of current visitor populations as well as target and potential audiences.

VISITOR SURVEYS

Visitor surveys were verbally conducted over a total of 11 weekends (Saturdays and Sundays) between June 1, 2013 and August 25, 2013. Surveys were also conducted on June 08, 2013 during the Park's annual festival, Humbug Day. The questions asked during this event differed from the normal survey questions, therefore results from this survey were calculated separately. The Park's summer hours of operation and programming began on June 15, 2013 and lasted until September 29, 2013. During the summer schedule the museum was open from 11am-4pm on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays. On Saturdays and Sundays ranger-lead historic town tours were held at 1:30pm and gold panning demonstrations were held on Saturdays at 3:00pm. It is important to note that the campground was closed

during the 2013 season, drastically reducing the number of guests who visited the Park while the surveys were being conducted. Not including Humbug Day, a total of 181 surveys were completed, representing 570 visitors. See Appendix D for detailed survey data.

Visitor Profile

Visitor Origin:

Of the visitors surveyed 14.4% were local (defined as living in Nevada County), 70.9% were from parts of Northern California other than Nevada County, 4.9 % were from elsewhere in California, and 9.8% were from outside of CA, which included Nevada, Utah, Idaho, New York, Texas, Canada, France, and Germany.

Visit Frequency:

Surveys revealed that more than half of the visitors were visiting the Park for the first time. Entire groups of first time visitors equaled 53.9%. Overall 67.8% of visitor groups contained at least one 1st time visitor. Repeat visitors made up 32.2%. Overall 46.1% of visitor groups contained at least one repeat visitor. About a third of the visitors surveyed (32%) reported that they visit the Park once a year or less. This group included visitors that were returning to the Park after not visiting for many years as well as visitors that used to come annually when the campground was open. Only 2.2% of visitors come to the Park two times a year and 9.4% of visitors come to the Park three times a year or more. Very few visitors surveyed still maintain traditions of visiting once a year. At the time of the surveys Park rangers confirmed that this change had been evident since the campground had closed. When the campground was open many, if not the majority



Figure 20. An ASC staff member conducting a visitor survey with a group of Park guests, 2013.

of visitors were those that came on an annual or bi-annual basis.

Group Size:

Most visitors (91.6%) were traveling with, or meeting a group. Fifteen individuals, or 8.4% of visitors, were visiting the Park by themselves. Groups of two people were the most common sized visitor groups (39.1%). The next most common group size was four people at 20.1% and 19.6% of visitor groups consisted of three people. Groups consisting of five, and seven people each made up 3.4%, and six person groups 2.8%. Eight person groups and groups of ten or more people each accounted for 1.7%. There were no nine person groups recorded.

Group Composition:

Most visitors came to the Park with family members—61.1% of visitor groups were made up of family; 18.9% were friend groups; and 7.8% were a combination of family and friends.



Figure 21. During a Town Tour, a father and daughter examine the merchandise at the General Store, 2013.

Visitors who came as part of a group or organization made up 3.9%.

Analysis

Northern California residents from places outside of Nevada County were the most represented visitors at the Park. These semi-local visitors largely came from Sacramento and the greater Bay Area and were predominantly engaged in single day or partial day visits. Interpretation planning and services offered should consider the typical time constraints and needs of day trip visitors to meet the needs of this dominant visitor group.

Local visitors made up a surprisingly low percentage of visitors surveyed. The close proximity of this audience makes them an ideal visitor group to target for potential growth. Regional demographic data on age, income, education, and ethnicity of Nevada County can aid in the development of inclusive and effective programming and advertising. See Appendix E for Regional Demographic data from 2010 and 2012.

Visitors from other parts of California and outside of the state represented a very small percentage of visitors surveyed. To expand this audience, interpretation and services offered should reflect different needs than the local and semi-local visitors. Out of town visitors are more likely to be multiple day visitors that often have more hours to invest in visiting the Park. They also require different services than those only visiting for the day. These factors should be considered when constructing targeted interpretation and programming.

Although no data were collected during surveys on personal data such as age, ethnicity, and income, informal visual observations noted several underrepresented visitor groups. Visitors who were over age 50 appeared to be the most common while visitors in their 20s and 30s who were not travelling with parents or their own children seemed to be least common. Ethnic minorities were also greatly underrepresented. These two underrepresented audience groups present ideal opportunities to expand and diversify the Park's current visitorship.

Access, Orientation, and Circulation

Introduction to the Park:

The two main ways visitors found out about the Park are through word of mouth (36.5%) and from online sources (18%). Many of the visitors that gave “word of mouth” as an answer had heard about the Park from family members or had been coming to the Park with family members since they were young. These answers were very similar to those that fell into the category of “Previous Knowledge”. Visitors that answered that they had previous knowledge of the Park were generally referring to family knowledge of the Park that could not be pin pointed to a certain time or person. These people often had long histories of visiting the Park and could not remember a time when they did not know about the Park.

Trip Planning Resources:

Park visitors often used more than one resource when planning a trip. Online websites were the most popular resource used by 45% of visitors. The Malakoff Diggins SHP website was the most commonly used website, visited by 24% of visitors while other websites such as Google Maps and Trip Advisor were utilized by 21%.

Getting to the Park:

There are two main entry routes into the Park. One route involves traveling over approximately 11 miles of unpaved road. Visitors were asked whether they were easily able to find the Park. Most visitors (86.9%) reported that they were able to find the Park easily, however many of these visitors also said that they were not confident they were going the right way for a portion of the trip and/or they were caught off guard when the paved road ended. About 11% of visitors said they had difficulty finding the Park. Most of these visitors cited inadequate signage on the highway as well as misdirection by GPS units as main obstacles to easy navigation.



Figure 22. Trail markers along the Diggins Loop Trail, 2013.

Media Used:

Most visitors (68.3%) used some form of currently available media to find their way around the Park or learn about its history. Of those, 40.1% used the free DPR Malakoff Diggins SHP brochure while 4% used the brochure produced by the Malakoff Association or other paid map. Signs on the road or within the Park were used by 7.9% of visitors and 2.5% used other media such as magazine articles or the Park website. No maps, signs, brochures, or other media were used by 31.7% of visitors. Four and a half percent of visitors surveyed used a resource to help find their way around the Park but did not specify which.

Analysis

Visitor surveys helped identify several challenges to access, orientation, and circulation within the Park. One of the most significant challenges, with the greatest potential to adversely affect visitor experience, was difficulty in navigating to the Park. Visitors often found their drives to the Park to be confusing, misleading, and many reported that during at least one point in their journey they did not feel confident they were headed in the right direction. Addressing this challenge and making navigation to the Park easier can

potentially increase the number of casual visitors as well as encourage return trips.

Within the Park some of the most challenging issues include limited ADA accessibility and difficulty navigating to various attractions. Accessibility is an especially important issue to address in future planning as the Park's largest visitor group often includes elderly visitors with limited mobility. The Park brochure is very successful at aiding visitors in navigating to and from attractions within the Park. However without this resource, orientation in the Park becomes very difficult. The limited availability of Park rangers and hours of the museum should be considered in determining the necessity of navigational tools that can operate independently of these other resources.

Visitor Experiences and Expectations

Activities:

The top three activities that visitors participated in while at the Park were: a museum visit (26%), a self-guided or ranger-guided town tour (26%), and hiking (20%). An Interpretive Activity Report for 1 June 2013 to 30 June 2014 reflects these findings and also reveals visitor participation in other interpretive activities in the Park (See Appendix H). The next most popular activity, self-guided nature walks, was given as a response by only 7% of those



Figure 23. Blair Lake, 2013.

surveyed and picnicking by 6%. Other activities made up 15% of the responses and included swimming, fishing, gold panning, driving around, photography, napping, visiting the river, and other site specific visits such as to the cemetery.

Length of Stay:

Most visitors either stayed at the Park 1.5 to 2 hours (34%) or 2.5 to 4 hours (35%). Visitors who were touring the Park by car or only picnicking made up a large portion of visitors who stayed less than an hour (18%). Longer visits were less common as only 7% of visitors stayed longer than 4 hours and only 6% of visitors spent the night in the rustic cabins.

Additional Learning:

Visitors were asked if they would like to learn more about any areas of the Park. Their responses were organized into seven different categories. Almost one third of the visitors responded that they were satisfied with the information presented at the Park and did not have any areas they wanted to learn more about. The next most common category was Hydraulic/General Mining History (22.4%) which included topics such as the Diggins Hydraulic Pit, water and the monitors, politics of mining, history of the tailings, Blair Lake, and Hiller Tunnel. People were also interested in learning more about Town History (20.5%). This category included topics such as people of the Town, the Chinese Cemetery, Malakoff Village, and the histories of individual buildings. Visitors interested in Recreation (3.2%) were curious about hiking and camping. Questions about the geology of the Pit and about the Park's gold fell into the Nature/Geology (2.6%) category. Only 0.6% of visitors said they would like to learn more about Prehistory. The "Not Specified" category (20.5%) included responses

from visitors that wanted to learn more about “everything” or “all of it” and also those that had not seen enough of the Park to decide.

Revisiting:

Visitors overwhelmingly responded that they would return to the Park again (89%). Visitors who said they would not return again (5%), maybe they would return again (5%), and they weren’t sure (1%) were mostly out of town visitors. Their answers reflect the distance they would have to travel to return rather than their experience at the Park.

Analysis

Current interpretation at the Park meets the expectations of approximately one third of Park visitors. The remaining visitors predominantly indicated that they desired more information on two specific subjects: hydraulic

mining and the history of North Bloomfield. A great amount of information on these two subjects is currently available in the museum and is presented on guided town tours. Despite the availability of this information visitors still wanted more information, suggesting that the current forms of presentation are not optimally effective. Addressing this visitor need presents an opportunity for future planning to incorporate improved, updated, and alternate forms of interpretation. It is also important to note that the low interest in Native American topics may have been due to the question’s phrasing. Had specific questions about Native American history or local tribes been asked, responses would have likely been higher and may have more accurately reflected visitor interest. Native American history should remain a topic for further research and interpretation.

INTERPRETIVE DIRECTION

This section provides a foundation and direction for Malakoff Diggins SHP interpretation that conforms to the missions and visions of the statewide California State Parks system. This interpretive framework guides the development of interpretation at Malakoff Diggins SHP including printed and online media, exhibits, programs, and other interpretive services.

MISSION, PURPOSE, AND VISION STATEMENTS

California State Parks Mission Statement:

The mission of the California Department of Parks and Recreation is to provide for the health, inspiration, and education of the people of California by helping to preserve the state's extraordinary biological diversity, protecting its most valued natural and cultural resources, and creating opportunities for high-quality outdoor recreation.

California State Parks Mission Statement for Interpretation:

Interpretation is a special form of communication that helps people understand, appreciate, and emotionally connect with the rich natural and cultural heritage preserved in parks. It is the mission of interpretation in California State Parks to convey messages that initially will help visitors value their experience, and that ultimately will foster a conservation ethic and promote a dedicated park constituency.

California State Parks Mission Statement for Education:

The most powerful forms of education are meaningful, involve the student, promote critical thinking, and appeal to different learning styles. Our mission is to provide educational experiences both in California State Parks and in the classroom, assisting educators with curriculum needs and offering activities that



Figure 24. *The Diggins Loop Trail cuts through remnants of the hydraulic mine's water conveyance system, 2013.*



Figure 25. Miners in the Pit pose near pipes, hoses, and lights. MDSHP Historic Slide Collection.

enable students to investigate, research, and participate in interactive learning.

Several Declarations of Purpose for Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park exist from previous planning documents. Presented below is the proposed Declaration of Purpose from the 1967 Master Plan Narrative (See Appendix I for full text of the Master Plan Narrative). A 1979 Resource Management Plan (RMP) also developed a Malakoff Diggins SHP Declaration of Purpose that includes interpretive themes, time periods, and zones of cultural interest (See Appendix J).

Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park Declaration of Purpose (Proposed, 1967):

The purpose of Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park is to make available for the education and enjoyment of present and future generations this historic site of extensive hydraulic mining operations and to explain the

destructive effect its continued operation had on the agricultural and natural resources of the Sacramento Valley and Delta Region.

No General Plan exists for Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park therefore Vision and Mission statements have not been previously established. Mission for Interpretation and Vision for Interpretation statements for Malakoff Diggins SHP were created by planning team members and Park stakeholders during the planning process. The statements are presented below.

Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park Mission for Interpretation:

The mission of interpretation at Malakoff Diggins SHP is to enable and facilitate visitors' understanding, appreciation, and emotional connection with the park's gold mining history and all of its tangible natural, cultural, and recreational resources, thus fostering and promoting active park stewardship.

Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park Vision for Interpretation:

Malakoff Diggins SHP will offer visitors positive, enlivened engagement through effective outreach, collaboration, and programming that results in increased education, visitation, preservation, sustained volunteerism, and burgeoning support.

INTERPRETIVE GOALS AND GUIDELINES

Interpretive goals and guidelines are established during a State park's planning phase and are included in each park's General Plan. As stated previously, no General Plan for Malakoff Diggins SHP exists. Instead a Resource Management Plan was developed in 1979 as a planning guide in lieu of a General Plan. The RMP contains Statutory Objectives but does not contain goals and guidelines that conform to current State Parks standards. Current goals and guidelines for Malakoff Diggins SHP were developed by planning team members and are presented in the Recommendations section.

INTERPRETIVE THEMES AND PERIODS

Themes are crucial components of interpretive planning and development. They establish a point of view and guide the focus and purpose of interpretive efforts. Themes provide visitors with the Park's most significant ideas and concepts. The 1979 RMP presents specific interpretive themes for Malakoff Diggins SHP. Because the RMP is considerably outdated, the themes it contains are no longer considered conventional themes and are instead defined as interpretive topics. These topics helped guide the collaborative effort of project team members, State Parks staff, and stakeholders in the development of the following new and updated themes.

Unifying Theme:

Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park is a cultural, natural, and recreational destination made famous by a legendary hydraulic gold mining boom that caused massive environmental destruction, compelling the U.S. to begin regulating mining practices in 1884, thus changing the ways we manage conflicting needs for water, one of our most precious resources.

Primary Themes:

Primary Theme 1: Malakoff Diggins SHP is distinct from other gold mining districts because of its association with hydraulic mining.

Supporting theme 1a: Many resources at Malakoff Diggins SHP reveal the processes, techniques, and technology of hydraulic mining.

Supporting theme 1b: The control and manipulation of water is essential to the hydraulic mining method.

Supporting theme 1c: A trained and skilled work force was essential to the operation of hydraulic mining at Malakoff Diggins.



Figure 26. The Diggins Hydraulic Pit filled with water, n.d. MDSHP Historic Slide Collection.

Primary Theme 2: The massive hydraulic mining efforts at Malakoff Diggins drastically transformed the natural landscape, creating a new environment that continues to affect flora and fauna as it evolves and changes.

Supporting theme 2a: The cliffs of Malakoff Diggins Hydraulic Pit illustrate the impressive strength and power of water.

Supporting theme 2b: Malakoff Diggins Hydraulic Pit is remarkable in size and breadth.

Supporting theme 2c: Nature's ability to rehabilitate is illustrated by the vegetation in the Pit and its surroundings.

Supporting theme 2d: The powerful forces of erosion can be seen on the Pit's rapidly eroding rim.

Supporting theme 2e: Natural recovery from the traumatic effects of mining created unique environs and habitats.

Supporting theme 2f: Sensitive and rare species are found throughout the Park and especially in its unique environs.

Primary Theme 3: The destruction caused by hydraulic mining at Malakoff Diggins had far reaching effects environmentally, politically, and economically.

Supporting theme 3a: The mining activities at Malakoff Diggins affected the waterways locally and as far away as the San Francisco Bay.



Figure 27. A Giant Hendy water monitor on display in North Bloomfield, 2013.

Supporting theme 3b: Damage caused by hydraulic mining at Malakoff Diggins was the impetus for the Sawyer Decision, the nation's first environmental regulation.

Supporting theme 3c: The mining activities at Malakoff Diggins have left a lasting legacy on the landscape.

Supporting theme 3d: The hydraulic mining operation at Malakoff Diggins was part of a gold mining industry that had far reaching effects on local, regional, and statewide economics.

Primary Theme 4: Malakoff Diggins SHP contains the rich history of the settlements and communities that developed as a result of gold mining activities.

Supporting theme 4a: The town of North Bloomfield and other settlements in Malakoff Diggins SHP reveal information about daily life during Malakoff's gold mining heyday.

Supporting theme 4b: The town of North Bloomfield and other settlements in Malakoff Diggins SHP reveal information about commerce, production, transportation, and communication in gold mining communities.

Supporting theme 4c: The communities that developed around Malakoff Diggins included a diverse group of ethnicities that reveal information about migration, racial relationships, and the immigrant experience.

Secondary Themes:

Secondary Theme 1: Hydraulic mining at Malakoff Diggins had devastating effects on the lives of local Native Americans.

Supporting theme 1a: Native American groups used and lived on the land long before the arrival of mining activities in the area.

Supporting theme 1b: Contact with gold miners and prospectors drastically altered the traditional land use and subsistence activities of Native American groups in the area.

Secondary Theme 2: The Pit at Malakoff Diggins SHP provides a valuable glimpse into the area's complex and powerful geologic past.

Secondary Theme 3: Hydraulic mining at Malakoff Diggins made a tremendous impact on the economic history and development of the region and state.

Interpretive Periods

A Park's interpretive periods establish the historic framework in which interpretive themes, activities, and facilities are developed. The interpretive periods at Malakoff Diggins SHP are organized and prioritized based on the resources available at the Park.

Primary Interpretive Period: Hydraulic Mining 1852-1910

- 1852-1865: Introduction of hydraulic mining
- 1866-1884: North Bloomfield Gravel Mining Company heyday
- 1884-1910: Decline and end of mining by the North Bloomfield Gravel Mining Company

Secondary Interpretive Period: Post mining 1910-1965

- Gradual decline of the Town
- Great Depression repopulation
- Acquisition by State Parks/Development of Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park

EDUCATIONAL FRAMEWORK AND STANDARDS

Malakoff Diggins SHP provides an ideal educational setting for classes guided by the Content Standards for California Public Schools. The Park's rich gold mining history, Native American history, as well as its unique geology and hydrology make it an excellent learning tool for teaching History-Social Science and Science standards for grades K-6. The 4th grade History-Social Science standards that deal with the Gold Rush, Native Americans, and California migration, match especially well with the themes, interpretive periods, and resources at Malakoff Diggins

SHP. See Appendix F for the full text of relevant standards.

Malakoff Diggins SHP is also an excellent learning environment for implementing California Education and the Environment Initiative (EEI) Curriculum. EEI curriculum focuses on increasing environmental literacy for California students from Kindergarten through 12th grade by teaching science and history-social science standards within an environmental context. The environmental impacts and lessons inherent in the history of Malakoff Diggins SHP align with three of the five EEI principles:

Principle I: People Depend on Natural Systems

The continuation and health of individual human lives and of human communities and societies depend on the health of the natural systems that provide essential goods and ecosystem services.

Principle II: People Influence Natural Systems

The long-term functioning and health of terrestrial, freshwater, coastal and marine ecosystems are influenced by their relationships with human societies.

Principle V:

Decisions Affecting Resources and Natural Systems are Complex and Involve Many Factors.

Decisions affecting resources and natural systems are based on a wide range of considerations and decision-making processes.

These principles are applied to relevant standards and are used in several applicable EEI curriculum units which can be accessed at <http://www.californiaeei.org/curriculum/>.

Lessons relevant to Malakoff Diggins SHP include:

4.3.3 Witnessing the Gold Rush,
#5-Flattening Mountains, Filling Valleys

4.2.1 California Indian Peoples and
Management of Natural Resources

6.2.b The Dynamic Nature of Rivers

RECOMMENDATIONS

GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES

Goals are, “the big picture, the overall results that interpretation should achieve” (DPR 2013:35). Goals build on the vision and mission statements found in a Park’s General Plan. The vision and mission statements for Malakoff Diggins SHP were developed by IMP project team members and Parks staff.

Objectives are, “specific, realistic and measurable results that interpretation will achieve and that contribute to the accomplishment of a goal” (DPR 2013:35).

Strategies are, “the approaches used to accomplish one or more objectives. Strategies are specific and measurable” (DPR 2013:35).

The goals, objectives, and strategies outlined below build off of the mission and vision statements particular to interpretation at Malakoff Diggins SHP. The steps to implement the following recommendations are outlined in the Interpretation Action Plan.



Figure 28. Diggins Pond and the cliffs of the Pit, 2013.

GOAL 1: Enhance visitor appreciation and understanding of the Park's important historic, cultural, and natural resources.

Objective 1.1: Explain how Malakoff Diggins SHP is unique and why it is a significant part of California gold mining history.

Strategy 1.1.1: Develop and/or improve non-personal gold mining themed interpretation.

Task 1.1.1a: Design and install an interpretive panel with orientation map in the center of Town.

Task 1.1.1b: Design and install an interpretive panel at the Malakoff Village site.

Task 1.1.1c: Design and install an interpretive panel at the Hiller Tunnel.

Task 1.1.1d: Design and install an interpretive panel about hydraulic mining technology in the Pit.

Task 1.1.1e: Design and install an interpretive panel about water systems at Blair Lake, Chute Hill, or other accessible water related areas.

Task 1.1.1f: Design and install an interpretive panel interpreting modes of communication and the first long distance phone line at a the location of a telephone pole foundation.

Task 1.1.1g: Design and publish a self-guided walking tour of mining features and equipment in the Pit.

Task 1.1.1h: Reconstruct portions of mining equipment and place in historic locations in Pit with interpretive panels.

Strategy 1.1.2: Develop and/or improve personal gold mining themed interpretation throughout the Park.

Task 1.1.2a: Develop a guided tour of mining features and equipment throughout the Park.

Objective 1.2: Demonstrate the importance and significance of the Park's natural resources.

Strategy 1.2.1: Develop and/or improve non-personal interpretation that highlights Malakoff Diggins SHP's natural resources throughout the Park.

Task 1.2.1a: Design and install an interpretive panel about wildlife and the natural environment at the Diggins Pond and along Humbug Trail.

Task 1.2.1b: Design and install an interpretive panel about erosion processes, environmental impacts, and possible remediation at an appropriate location in the Park.

Task 1.2.1c: Develop and publish a self-guided walking tour highlighting geologic history along the Diggins Loop Trail.

Strategy 1.2.2: Develop and/or improve personal interpretation that highlights Malakoff Diggins SHP's natural resources throughout the Park.

Task 1.2.2a: Develop a guided tour of geologic features throughout the Pit.

Task 1.2.2b: Develop an astronomy focused night hike.

Task 1.2.2c: Encourage guided tours of the Pit by guest geologists or specialists from local institutions/organizations.

Objective 1.3: Expand interpretation of Native American resources and history

Strategy 1.3.1: Consult with descendants and Native American community regarding interpretation

Task 1.3.1a: Develop and strengthen relationships with Native American community groups and assemble a group to consult during interpretive projects relating to Native American topics.

Strategy 1.3.2: Develop and/or improve non-personal interpretation that explores Native American history.

Task 1.2.1a: Design and install an interpretive panel at the Rim Trail trailhead describing Native American occupation, use, and connections to Malakoff Diggins SHP.

GOAL 2: Encourage visitors to make meaningful and emotional, personal connections to the Park.

Objective 2.1: Highlight the human aspect of the Park's history by expanding interpretation of the Town of North Bloomfield (Town) and its people.

Strategy 2.1.1: Develop and/or improve non-personal interpretation that explores the Town of North Bloomfield and its residents.

Task 2.1.1a: Design and install interpretive panels/identification markers at the buildings in North Bloomfield in locations that do not degrade the Town's spirit of place.

Task 2.1.1b: Improve and update the self-guided walking tour guide map to work in conjunction with interpretive panels.

Task 2.1.1c: Design and install an interpretive panel at China Gardens.

Task 2.1.1d: Design and install an interpretive panel near the historic orchard.

Task 2.1.1e: Design and install interpretive panels at the rustic cabins which describe the people after whom they are named.

Strategy 2.1.2 : Develop and/or improve personal interpretation that explores the Town of North Bloomfield and its residents.

Task 2.1.2a: Offer Town tours every day of the week during the open season.

Task 2.1.2b: Develop an additional Town tour to include the schoolhouse, church, and cemetery.

Objective 2.2: Allow visitors to experience history.

Strategy 2.2.1: Expand the Park's living history programs.

Task 2.2.1a: Offer the school Day Program during the Fall.

Task 2.2.1b: Offer living history activities (blacksmithing, candle making, etc.) more frequently or on a regular basis.

Task 2.2.1c: Develop living history event/activity similar to the ELP program for the general public and adults.

Strategy 2.2.2: Bridge the gap between the present and the past by using technology to allow visitors to experience life in North Bloomfield.

Task 2.2.2a: Integrate technology into an interactive exhibit in the museum that allows visitors to experience the individual story and journey of various Town people.

Objective 2.3: Encourage exploration, inspiration, and the discovery of a sense of place.

Strategy 2.3.1: Update and expand self-guided tours and trails maps.

Task 2.3.1a: See self-guided tour tasks 1.1.1g, 1.2.1c, 2.1.1b.

Strategy 2.3.2: Protect Malakoff Diggins SHP's sense of remoteness, quiet, and serenity.

Task 2.3.2a: Develop guidelines that protect the Park from excessive interpretive development by establishing limits and/or designated non-interpreted areas, etc.

GOAL 3: Promote and foster active stewardship of the Park's resources.

Objective 3.1: Reinforce stewardship and resource protection by promoting stewardship in all interpretive services and programs

Strategy 3.1.1: Develop new programs and expand existing programs that support stewardship and resource protection messages.

Task 3.1.1a: Attract more participants in the Litter Getter and Junior Ranger programs by promoting them in the Museum.

Task 3.1.1b: Implement Park-wide recycling.

Task 3.1.1c: Develop and distribute pamphlets about protecting cultural and natural resources in the Park.

Task 3.1.1d: Develop and expand the volunteer program.

Task 3.1.1e: Fund and complete a Landscape Management Plan focusing on the protection and maintenance of a healthy environment that preserves historic view sheds and fosters appreciation for the natural environment.

Objective 3.2: Increase, facilitate, and encourage financial support and stewardship of the Park's resources, facilities, and programs.

Strategy 3.2.1: Inform visitors of required fees and adopt methods to consistently collect fees.

Task 3.2.1a: Install fee collection stations (Iron Rangers) at all parking areas throughout the Park.

Task 3.2.1b: Design and install more numerous and more visible day fee signage.

Strategy 3.2.2: Highlight monetary donations as valued forms of Park stewardship.

Task 3.2.2a: Design and install a new, highly visible donation box in the Museum.

Strategy 3.2.3: Increase awareness of the direct impact of fees and donations.

Task 3.2.3a: Design and install signage highlighting exhibits, objects, programs, facilities, etc. that have been made possible through donations.

GOAL 4: Encourage visitors to experience the Park's recreational resources.

Objective 4.1: Develop and/or expand interpretive programs that enhance/highlight recreational experiences.

Strategy 4.1.1: Develop and/or improve non-personal recreational interpretation throughout the Park.

Task 4.1.1a: Design and install integrated trail system map panels at trailheads throughout the Park (behind General Store, Blair Lake, Rim Trail, Humbug Trail, Diggins Loop, Malakoff Village site).

Task 4.1.1b: Fund and complete a Trail Plan addressing existing and proposed trails systems to establish guidelines for linking, removing, maintaining, improving, expanding, or adding interpretive trails.

Task 4.1.1c: Fund and complete Trail Plan implementation.

Strategy 4.1.2: Develop and/or improve formal personal recreational interpretation throughout the Park.

Task 4.1.2a: Offer guided or supervised recreational activities such as trail hikes, runs, or bike rides.

Task 4.1.2b: Encourage guided recreational activities by guest specialists from local institutions/organizations.

Objective 4.2: Promote the Park as a site for interpretive recreational events.

Strategy 4.2.1: Develop new special events related to interpretive recreational activities.

Task 4.2.1a: Work with local organizations and sponsors to host bike races or runs at the Park

Task 4.2.1b: Work with local organizations and sponsors to host contests such as art and photography.

Task 4.2.1c: Work with local organizations and sponsors to host an art exhibit/festival .

Strategy 4.2.2: Establish partnerships with recreational activity groups.

Task 4.2.2a: Establish partnerships/relationships with running groups.

Task 4.2.2b: Establish partnerships/relationships with biking organizations such as the Bicyclists of Nevada County (BONC).

Task 4.2.2c: Establish partnerships/relationships with hiking clubs.

Task 4.2.2d: Establish partnerships/relationships with photography clubs, classes, or schools.

Task 4.2.2e: Establish partnerships/relationships with art organizations, institutions, or galleries.

Task 4.2.2f: Establish partnerships/relationships with local agricultural clubs and organizations (FFA, 4H, garden clubs, etc.).

GOAL 5: Offer interpretation that is accessible to a diverse audience.

Objective 5.1: Improve Accessibility

Strategy 5.1.1: Assess and improve the Park's ADA accessibility compliance.

Task 5.1.1a: Complete ADA Accessible Overlook Trail.

Task 5.1.1b: Identify areas in the Park in need of accessibility improvements.

Task 5.1.1c: Fund and complete an ADA Accessibility Compliance plan.

Task 5.1.1d: Fund and complete ADA Accessibility projects as identified in the ADA Accessibility Compliance Plan.

Strategy 5.1.2: Provide accessible alternatives and improvements to existing interpretation.

Task 5.1.2a: Fund and develop a virtual Town tour as an alternative way of gaining access to the interiors of the Town's buildings.

Task 5.1.2b: Fund and develop an audio Town tour.

Task 5.1.2c: Provide captions for the mining video shown in the Museum.

Task 5.1.2d: Provide written transcript of the mining video shown in the Museum.

Objective 5.2: Make interpretation accessible to non-English speaking audiences.

Strategy 5.2.1: Provide interpretation in additional languages.

Task 5.2.1a: Fund and complete an alternative language media plan.

Task 5.2.1b: Fund and complete the translation and publication of specific printed Park media in the languages identified in the alternative language media plan.

Objective 5.3: Offer interpretive programs and services that are accessible to audiences of various socioeconomic classes.

Strategy 5.3.1: Offer free or low cost interpretive programs and services.

Task 5.3.1a: Ensure that existing free and low cost programs and services remain affordable.

Task 5.3.1b: Develop a plan that guides the affordability of future interpretive programs and services.

Task 5.3.1c: Fund and develop relationships with companies and organizations to act as sponsors for special events and activities.

GOAL 6: Promote interest in the Park and increase visitation.

Objective 6.1: Broaden Audiences

Strategy 6.1.1: *Expand and broaden locations, areas, and types of publicity.*

Task 6.1.1a: Extend the geographic radius for distributing promotional media.

Task 6.1.1b: Identify cities and communities not previously reached by Park publicity and target for future publicity.

Strategy 6.1.2: *Develop and utilize new types of publicity.*

Task 6.1.2a: Distribute promotional media in alternative languages (e.g., Spanish, French).

Task 6.1.2b: Develop and expand social media publicity (*See 6.2.2*).

Objective 6.2: Improve and update publicity and advertising strategies.

Strategy 6.2.1: *Evaluate effectiveness of current publicity and advertising strategies.*

Task 6.2.1a: Analyze data collected from Visitor Surveys and identify weaknesses to address.

Strategy 6.2.2: *Expand publicity in digital and social media.*

Task 6.2.2a: Consistently update Park Association and State Parks websites.

Task 6.2.2b: Create an online presence with an active, consistently updated Facebook profile.

Task 6.2.2c: Publicize images and Park events with an Instagram account.

Task 6.2.2d: Publicize activities, special events, and updates with a Twitter account.

Task 6.2.2e: Make an effort to get the Park website linked and events advertised on the websites of partnering organizations and other relevant websites such as those of gold mining history associations, recreational organizations, other nearby State parks, SYRCL, etc.

Task 6.2.2f: Design, create, and distribute a monthly e-mail bulletin containing updates about special events, hours, etc.

Task 6.2.2g: Collect e-mail addresses from visitors for an e-mail bulletin contact list.

Strategy 6.2.3: *Strengthen cross-advertising between Malakoff Diggins SHP and other State parks and related institutions.*

Task 6.2.3a: Distribute Park brochures to other relevant institutions for distribution to their visitors.

Task 6.2.3b: Inform staff from other Parks and institutions about special events, Park hours, and other important information that they can accurately share with their visitors (*See also 6.2.2f*).

Strategy 6.2.4: *Increase visibility.*

Task 6.2.4a: Work with Caltrans and Nevada County to improve directions and signage along highways and county roads.

Strategy 6.2.5: *Identify and implement other forms of publicity.*

Task 6.2.5a: Design and print paper media (postcards, flyers, etc.) offering discounts on Park merchandise or other paid product/activity for distribution at local tourist attractions, hotels, restaurants, etc.

Task 6.2.5b: Design and print single resource focused publicity materials for distribution at relevant establishments (e.g., create postcards publicizing the Park's bike paths for distribution at local cycle shops).

Task 6.2.5c: Publicize the Park in person (volunteers, Staff members) at local events by setting up kiosks and booths, passing out flyers, etc.

Task 6.2.5d: Explore feasibility of television and radio advertisements.

Objective 6.3: Utilize the appeal of special events and activities.

Strategy 6.3.1: *Increase promotion of existing special events.*

Task 6.3.1a: Expand and increase types of publicity strategies (*See 6.2*).

GOAL 6 (continued).

Strategy 6.3.2: *Increase number and type of special events.*

Task 6.3.2a: Plan, promote, and host a 4th of July event.

Task 6.3.2b: Plan, promote, and host events in the off season (e.g., Fall Harvest event, etc.)

Task 6.3.2c: Encourage various clubs and organizations to hold special events such as club meetings, reunions, concerts, workshops, etc. at the Park.

Task 6.3.2d: Publicize the Park as a venue for special events such as weddings.

Task 6.3.2e: Create a paid or voluntary event coordinator position to address the Tasks under Objective 6.3.

Objective 6.4: Increase educational opportunities and expand partnerships with educational institutions.

Strategy 6.4.1: *Strengthen and expand existing partnerships with schools and universities.*

Task 6.4.1a: Develop and implement a school outreach program that brings Malakoff Diggins SHP staff and volunteers into classrooms.

Task 6.4.1b: Maintain and continue existing educational programs.

Task 6.4.1c: Identify additional schools, universities, and educational institutions to establish as partners.

Task 6.4.1d: Create and produce promotional materials highlighting educational opportunities and programs at the Park for distribution to educational institutions identified in Task 6.4.1c.

Strategy 6.4.2: *Establish the Park as a reference and research resource.*

Task 6.4.2a: Update existing reference and research material guides and catalog.

Task 6.4.2b: Update accessibility of research and reference materials (digitize documents, photograph objects, create online database, etc.)

GOAL 7: Provide interesting, relevant, educational, entertaining, and effective interpretation that is continually improved.

Objective 7.1: Implement on-going oversight and evaluation.

Strategy 7.1.1: Develop evaluation structure and system.

Task 7.1.1a: Implement peer evaluations for staff and volunteers.

Task 7.1.1b: Create volunteer coordinator position (*See also 9.2.1a*).

Objective 7.2: Improve and expand volunteer training and evaluation.

Strategy 7.2.1: Provide formal training for all interpretive volunteers.

Task 7.2.1a: Develop activity/topic specific training modules.

Task 7.2.1b: Update the Docent Manual.

Objective 7.3: Adapt to changes in visitor needs and interests.

Strategy 7.3.1: Identify changing needs and interests of visitors.

Task 7.3.1a: Utilize data from 2013 Visitor Survey.

Task 7.3.1b: Provide a suggestion box in the Museum.

Task 7.3.1c: Create voluntary exit surveys for campsite and cabin guests.

Strategy 7.3.2: Address visitor comments.

Task 7.3.2a: Create and maintain visitor comment database.

Task 7.3.2b: Analyze visitor comments at regular intervals and when possible/necessary implement changes.

Objective 7.4: Adapt to new and changing technology.

Strategy 7.4.1: Make Park technology ready.

Task 7.4.1a: Explore possible avenues of connectivity (e.g., T-1 access).

Task 7.4.1b: Continue efforts towards alternate energy sources (solar).

Strategy 7.4.2: Incorporate new technologies in current and future interpretation.

Task 7.4.2a: Develop interactive online exhibits.

Task 7.4.2b: Add scanning codes (QR Codes) to existing panels and include on any new panels that link to additional information/online exhibits.

Task 7.4.2c: Develop driving/hiking tour app for mobile phones.

Objective 7.5: Offer interpretive programs and services throughout the year.

Strategy 7.5.1: Manage interpretive programs and services throughout the year.

Task 7.5.1a: Create, fund, and fill a full-time park interpreter position.

Strategy 7.5.2: Keep facilities open year round.

Task 7.5.2a: Keep the Museum open during weekends throughout the year.

Task 7.5.2b: Keep limited campsites open throughout the year.

Task 7.5.2c: Keep cabins open throughout the year.

Strategy 7.5.3: Offer programs and services year round.

Task 7.5.3a: Offer Town tours during open Museum hours throughout the year.

Task 7.5.3b: Offer living history such as gold panning throughout the year.

Task 7.5.3c: Offer activities in the winter and fall (snow shoe tours, etc.).

Objective 7.6: Explore new perspectives and topics for interpretation.

Strategy 7.6.1: Offer interpretation that reflects underrepresented stories.

Task 7.6.1a: Fund new research (archival, archaeological, oral history, etc.) on underrepresented topics and people such as women, children, and different ethnic communities.

Task 7.6.1b: Integrate new research into interpretive programming and services.

Task 7.6.1c: Involve underrepresented community groups/organizations in the development of new interpretation projects.

GOAL 8: Ensure that Park facilities will support present and future interpretation.

Objective 8.1: Maintain existing facilities.

Strategy 8.1.1: Keep existing facilities at usable, safe, attractive conditions.

Task 8.1.1a: Make repairs to facilities as needed.

Task 8.1.1b: Maintain aesthetic of Town (painting, landscaping, etc.)

Strategy 8.1.2: Manage the Park's landscape in a way that supports interpretation.

Task 8.1.2a: Fund and complete a Historic Landscape Management Plan addressing ways to treat historic areas, revive landscapes, etc.

Objective 8.2: Make improvements to existing interpretive facilities.

Strategy 8.2.1: Update and improve conditions of existing interpretive facilities.

Task 8.2.1a: Update and renovate the Visitor Center, Gift Shop, Exhibit Hall, restrooms, and Campfire Center.

Task 8.2.1b: Restore and allow access to the schoolhouse building.

Objective 8.3: Create new interpretive facilities.

Strategy 8.3.1: Develop and construct new interpretive facilities and areas.

Task 8.3.1a: Fund and complete a redevelopment plan for the Overlook area in Chute Hill.

Task 8.3.1b: Build an ADA accessible campsite in Chute Hill.

Objective 8.4: Protect existing and future interpretive facilities.

Strategy 8.4.1: Update/increase facilities security.

Task 8.4.1a: Install security systems on all facilities buildings.

Task 8.4.1b: Increase Park staff or volunteer presence after hours.

GOAL 9: Ensure that future interpretation is protected and supported through long-term planning.

Objective 9.1: Establish new partnerships and strengthen existing partnerships.

Strategy 9.1.1: Develop annual, repeating, or long-term programs, projects, and events with existing partners.

Task 9.1.1a: Explore long term research programs with universities or other organizations.

Task 9.1.1b: Develop a plan for receiving and collecting all research products from universities and other institutions to add to the Park's reference library.

Task 9.1.1c: Encourage guest lecturers, tour guides, or activities by specialists from partnering organizations (See 1.2.2c; 4.1.2b; 4.2.3a-c; 5.3.1c.)

Strategy 9.1.2: Develop new partnerships with organizations, institutions, and businesses.

Task 9.1.2a: Focus partnership outreach goals in three geographical categories: local and regional (e.g., Bicyclists of Nevada County), national (e.g., National Park Service), and international (e.g., French Consulate).

Objective 9.2: Invest in the volunteer/docent program.

Strategy 9.2.1: Expand and improve the volunteer/docent program (See also Obj. 7.2).

Task 9.2.1a: Create volunteer coordinator position (See also 7.1.1b) .

Task 9.2.1b: Increase volunteer scope of independent responsibilities.

Task 9.2.1c: Expand number of volunteer positions.

Objective 9.3: Develop new sources for additional interpretive funding.

Strategy 9.3.1: Utilize planning documents to prioritize need for funding.

Task 9.3.1a: Execute prioritized tasks from Interpretation Action Plan.

Strategy 9.3.2: Explore fundraising possibilities.

Task 9.3.2a: Create and sell annual gold mining themed calendars linking the Sierra Sector Parks.

Strategy 9.3.3: Explore concessions possibilities.

Task 9.3.3a: Fund and complete a Concessions Plan to allow a concessionaire to operate in North Bloomfield.

INTERPRETATION ACTION PLAN

The Malakoff Diggins SHP Interpretation Action Plan (IAP) provides a framework for executing and accomplishing the Goals, Objectives, Strategies, and Tasks described in the Recommendations section of the Malakoff Diggins SHP Interpretation Master Plan. The IAP is presented as a matrix that addresses various aspects of accomplishing each of the Park's nine (9) overarching Goals.

Each Goal is presented with its contributing Objectives, Strategies, and Tasks. The IAP addresses various considerations that are essential to the completion of individual Tasks. These elements include: Priority, Duration, Funding Costs, Funding Sources, and Involvement.

PRIORITY

Each Task has been assigned a priority rating ranging from 1-3. A designation of "1" indicates that the Task should be started within 1-3 years; a "2" indicates 3-5 years; a "3" represents 5-10 years, and "***" indicates that the priority is dependent on staffing levels and availability. These ranges represent how soon a project should be initiated and do not reflect how long it may take to complete a project, which is defined below as the project's duration.

PROJECT DURATION

The duration of a project indicates the time range in which a Task should be completed. While the priority ratings indicate how soon a project should begin, the duration rating signifies the total amount of time that it should take a Task to be fully executed. A duration rating of "1" indicates that a Task should be completed within 1-5 years; a "2" indicates 5-10 years; a "3" indicates 10-20 years; and a "*" indicates an ongoing project.

FUNDING

The funding necessary for a project is categorized as having either a one-time expense or an ongoing need for support. Dollar signs indicate the estimated monetary costs for each type of expense. Costs range from zero to over \$1million.

FUNDING SOURCE

A project may derive its funding from one or more of the following sources:

Sector/District:

Funding from the Sector/District involves redistribution of allocated funds.

Headquarters/Special Projects/ Bonds:

Funding from these sources involve special funding including bond money or program sources such as Interpretive Exhibit Program (IEP) funding or Volunteer Enhancement Program (VEP) funds as well as minor and major capital outlay projects.

Budget Change Proposal:

A Capital Outlay Budget Change Proposal (COBCP) allocates funds through a two year process with legislature approved one-time allocation of funds for a multi-year (often phased) capital outlay project (MYCOP) in excess of \$760,000.

Association:

The Malakoff Diggins Park Association raises funds to fully or partially support certain interpretive activities, programs and projects within the Park.

INVOLVEMENT

The involvement section indicates the possible people, departments, and organizations that may be involved in completing a Task. This includes planning, funding, research, installation, maintenance, participation, and execution. The categories of Rangers and Park Aides, and Docents/Volunteers refers to Malakoff Diggins SHP park unit employees. Maintenance refers to Park staff responsible for the execution of maintenance duties as described in Chapter 4. Their involvement in IAP tasks consists mostly of the installation and maintenance of interpretive facilities. Community Organizations include clubs, Native American groups, historical societies, recreational organizations, etc.

GOAL 1: Enhance visitor appreciation and understanding of the Park's important historic, cultural, and natural resources.

KEY: Priority: 1=1-3 yrs; 2=3-5 yrs; 3=5-10 yrs; **= dependent on staffing level and availability Duration: 1=1-5 yrs.; 2=5-10 yrs.; 3=10-20 yrs.; *=ongoing Funding: \$ = 0-\$25K; \$\$ = \$25K-\$100K; \$\$\$ = \$100K-\$1M; \$\$\$\$ = \$1M+	Priority	Project Duration	Funding		Funding Source				Involvement					
			One-time Expense	Ongoing Expense	Sector/District	HQ/Special Projects/Bonds	Budget Change Proposal	Association	Rangers and Park Aides	Docents/Volunteers	Community Organization	Maintenance	Sector/ District	Headquarters
Objective 1.1: Explain how Malakoff Diggins SHP is unique and why it is a significant part of California gold mining history.														
<i>Strategy 1.1.1: Develop and/or improve non-personal gold mining themed interpretation.</i>														
Task 1.1.1a: Design and install an interpretive panel with orientation map in the center of Town.	1		\$				x			x			x	
Task 1.1.1b: Design and install an interpretive panel at the Malakoff Village site.	1	1	\$				x			x			x	
Task 1.1.1c: Design and install an interpretive panel at the Hiller Tunnel.	1	1	\$				x			x			x	
Task 1.1.1d: Design and install an interpretive panel about hydraulic mining technology in the Pit.	1	1	\$				x			x			x	
Task 1.1.1e: Design and install an interpretive panel about water systems at Blair Lake, Chute Hill, or other accessible water related areas.	1	1	\$				x			x			x	
Task 1.1.1f: Design and install an interpretive panel interpreting modes of communication and the first long distance phone line at a the location of a telephone pole foundation.	1	1	\$				x			x			x	
Task 1.1.1g: Design and publish a self-guided walking tour of mining features and equipment in the Pit.	1	1	\$				x		x	x			x	
Task 1.1.1h: Reconstruct portions of mining equipment and place in historic locations in Pit with interpretive panels.	1	2	\$				x			x			x	x
<i>Strategy 1.1.2: Develop and/or improve personal gold mining themed interpretation throughout the Park.</i>														
Task 1.1.2a: Develop a guided tour of mining features and equipment throughout the Park.	1	*	\$							x	x			
Objective 1.2: Demonstrate the importance and significance of Malakoff Diggins SHP's natural resources.														
<i>Strategy 1.2.1: Develop and/or improve non-personal interpretation that highlights Malakoff Diggins SHP's natural resources throughout the Park.</i>														
Task 1.2.1a: Design and install an interpretive panel about wildlife and the natural environment at the Diggins Pond and along Humbug Trail.	1	1	\$				x			x			x	

GOAL 1 (continued).

KEY: <i>Priority:</i> 1=1-3 yrs; 2=3-5 yrs; 3=5-10 yrs; **= dependent on staffing level and availability <i>Duration:</i> 1=1-5 yrs.; 2=5-10 yrs.; 3=10-20 yrs.; *=ongoing <i>Funding:</i> \$ = 0-\$25K; \$\$ = \$25K-\$100K; \$\$\$ = \$100K-\$1M; \$\$\$\$ = \$1M+	Priority	Project Duration	Funding		Funding Source				Involvement						
			One-time Expense	Ongoing Expense	Sector/District	HQ/Special Projects/Bonds	Budget Change Proposal	Association	Rangers and Park Aides	Docents/Volunteers	Community Organization	Maintenance	Sector/ District	Headquarters	
Task 1.2.1b: Design and install an interpretive panel about erosion processes, environmental impacts, and possible remediation at an appropriate location in the Park.	1	1	\$				x							x	
Task 1.2.1c: Develop and publish a self-guided walking tour highlighting geologic history along the Diggins Loop Trail (See 1.1.1g).	1	1	\$				x		x	x				x	x
Strategy 1.2.2: Develop and/or improve personal interpretation that highlights the Park's natural resources.															
Task 1.2.2a: Develop a guided tour of geologic features throughout the Pit.	1	*	\$							x	x				
Task 1.2.2b: Develop an astronomy focused night hike.	1	*	\$							x	x	x			
Task 1.2.2c: Encourage guided tours of the Pit by guest geologists or specialists from local institutions/organizations (See 6.3.2c).	1	*	\$							x	x	x			
Objective 1.3: Expand interpretation of Native American resources and history.															
Strategy 1.3.1: Consult with descendants and Native American community regarding interpretation.															
Task 1.3.1a: Develop and strengthen relationships with Native American community groups and assemble a group to consult during interpretive projects relating to Native American topics.	1	*	\$											x	x
Strategy 1.3.2: Develop and/or improve non-personal interpretation that explores Native American history.															
Task 1.3.2a: Design and install an interpretive panel at the Rim Trail trailhead describing Native American occupation, use, and connections to Malakoff Diggins SHP.	1	1	\$				x			x					x

GOAL 2: Encourage visitors to make meaningful and emotional, personal connections to the Park.

KEY: <i>Priority:</i> 1=1-3 yrs; 2=3-5 yrs; 3=5-10 yrs; **= dependent on staffing level and availability <i>Duration:</i> 1=1-5 yrs.; 2=5-10 yrs.; 3=10-20 yrs.; *=ongoing <i>Funding:</i> \$ = 0-\$25K; \$\$ = \$25K-\$100K; \$\$\$ = \$100K-\$1M; \$\$\$\$ = \$1M+	Priority	Project Duration	Funding		Funding Source				Involvement								
			One-time Expense	Ongoing Expense	Sector/District	HQ/Special Projects/Bonds	Budget Change Proposal	Association	Rangers and Park Aides	Docents/Volunteers	Community Organization	Maintenance	Sector/ District	Headquarters			
Objective 2.1: Highlight the human aspect of the Park's history by expanding interpretation of the Town and its people.																	
<i>Strategy 2.1.1: Develop and/or improve non-personal interpretation that explores the Town of North Bloomfield and its residents.</i>																	
Task 2.1.1a: Design and install interpretive panels/identification markers at the buildings in North Bloomfield in locations that do not degrade the Town's spirit of place.	1	1	\$\$				x					x					
Task 2.1.1b: Improve and update the self-guided walking tour guide map to work in conjunction with interpretive panels.	1	1	\$				x		x						x	x	
Task 2.1.1c: Design and install an interpretive panel at China Gardens.	1	1	\$				x					x					
Task 2.1.1d: Design and install an interpretive panel near the historic orchard.	1	1	\$				x					x					
Task 2.1.1e: Design and install interpretive panels at the rustic cabins which describe the people after whom they are named.	1	1	\$				x					x					
<i>Strategy 2.1.2: Develop and/or improve personal interpretation that explores the Town of North Bloomfield and its residents.</i>																	
Task 2.1.2a: Offer Town tours every day of the week during the open season.	1	*	\$\$									x	x				
Task 2.1.2b: Develop an additional Town tour to include the schoolhouse, church, and cemetery.	1	1	\$\$									x	x				
Objective 2.2: Allow visitors to experience history.																	
<i>Strategy 2.2.1: Expand the Park's living history programs.</i>																	
Task 2.2.1a: Offer the school Day Program during the Fall.	2	*	\$									x	x				
Task 2.2.1b: Offer living history activities (blacksmithing, candle making, etc.) more frequently or on a regular basis.	1	*	\$									x	x	x			
Task 2.2.1c: Develop living history event/activity similar to the ELP program for the general public and adults.	2	2	\$				x					x	x	x			
<i>Strategy 2.2.2: Bridge the gap between the present and the past by using technology to allow visitors to experience life in North Bloomfield.</i>																	
Task 2.2.2a: Integrate technology into an interactive exhibit in the museum that allows visitors to experience the individual story and journey of various Town people.	3	2	\$\$					x							x	x	
Objective 2.3: Encourage exploration, inspiration, and the discovery of a sense of place.																	
<i>Strategy 2.3.1: Update and expand self-guided tours and trails maps.</i>																	
Task 2.3.1a: See self-guided tour tasks 1.1.1g, 1.2.1c, 2.2.1b.	1	1	\$										x				
<i>Strategy 2.3.2: Protect Malakoff Diggins SHP's sense of remoteness, quiet, and serenity.</i>																	
Task 2.3.2a: Develop guidelines that protect the Park from excessive interpretive development by establishing limits and/or designated non-interpreted areas, etc.	1	1	\$										x				x

GOAL 3: Promote and foster active stewardship of the Park's resources.

KEY: <i>Priority:</i> 1=1-3 yrs; 2=3-5 yrs; 3=5-10 yrs; **= dependent on staffing level and availability <i>Duration:</i> 1=1-5 yrs.; 2=5-10 yrs.; 3=10-20 yrs.; *=ongoing <i>Funding:</i> \$ = 0-\$25K; \$\$ = \$25K-\$100K; \$\$\$ = \$100K-\$1M; \$\$\$\$ = \$1M+	Priority	Project Duration	Funding		Funding Source				Involvement				
			One-time Expense	Ongoing Expense	Sector/District	HQ/Special Projects/Bonds	Budget Change Proposal	Association	Rangers and Park Aides	Docents/Volunteers	Community Organization	Maintenance	Sector/ District
Objective 3.1: Reinforce stewardship and resource protection by promoting stewardship in all interpretive services and programs.													
<i>Strategy 3.1.1: Develop new programs and expand existing programs that support stewardship and resource protection messages.</i>													
Task 3.1.1a: Attract more participants in the Litter Getter and Junior Ranger programs by promoting them in the Museum.	1	*	\$			x			x	x			x
Task 3.1.1b: Implement Park-wide recycling	2	2	\$	x					x			x	x
Task 3.1.1c: Develop and distribute pamphlets about protecting cultural and natural resources in the Park.	2	1	\$		x		x	x				x	x
Task 3.1.1d: Develop and expand the volunteer program.	1	*	\$	x	x		x	x	x		x	x	x
Task 3.1.1e: Fund and complete a Landscape Management Plan focusing on the protection and maintenance of a healthy environment that preserves historic view sheds and fosters appreciation for the natural environment.	2	1	\$\$			x			x		x	x	x
Objective 3.2: Increase, facilitate, and encourage financial support and stewardship of the Park's resources, facilities, and programs.													
<i>Strategy 3.2.1: Inform visitors of required fees and adopt methods to consistently collect fees.</i>													
Task 3.2.1a: Install fee collection stations (Iron Rangers) at all parking areas throughout the Park.	1	*	\$		x				x	x			x
Task 3.2.1b: Design and install more numerous and more visible day fee signage.	1	1	\$		x				x				x
<i>Strategy 3.2.2: Highlight monetary donations as valued forms of Park stewardship.</i>													
Task 3.2.2a: Design and install a new, highly visible donation box in the Museum.	1	1	\$		x				x	x	x		
<i>Strategy 3.2.3: Increase awareness of the direct impact of fees and donations.</i>													
Task 3.2.3a: Design and install signage highlighting exhibits, objects, programs, facilities, etc. that have been made possible through donations.	1	*	\$		x				x				x

GOAL 4: Encourage visitors to experience the Park's recreational resources.

KEY: Priority: 1=1-3 yrs; 2=3-5 yrs; 3=5-10 yrs; **= dependent on staffing level and availability Duration: 1=1-5 yrs.; 2=5-10 yrs.; 3=10-20 yrs.; *=ongoing Funding: \$ = 0-\$25K; \$\$ = \$25K-\$100K; \$\$\$ = \$100K-\$1M; \$\$\$\$ = \$1M+	Priority	Project Duration	Funding		Funding Source				Involvement					
			One-time Expense	Ongoing Expense	Sector/ District	HQ/ Special Projects/ Bonds	Budget Change Proposal	Association	Rangers and Park Aides	Docents/ Volunteers	Community Organization	Maintenance	Sector/ District	Headquarters
Objective 4.1: Develop and/or expand interpretive programs that enhance/highlight recreational experiences.														
<i>Strategy 4.1.1: Develop and/or improve non-personal recreational interpretation throughout the Park.</i>														
Task 4.1.1a: Design and install integrated trail system map panels at trailheads throughout the Park (behind General Store, Blair Lake, Rim Trail, Humbug Trail, Diggins Loop, Malakoff Village site, etc.).	1	1	\$			x					x			
Task 4.1.1b: Fund and complete a Trail Plan addressing existing and proposed trails systems to establish guidelines for linking, removing, maintaining, improving, expanding, or adding interpretive trails.	2	1	\$\$			x				x		x		x
Task 4.1.1c: Fund and complete Trail Plan implementation.	3	2	\$\$\$	\$						x	x		x	x
<i>Strategy 4.1.2: Develop and/or improve formal personal recreational interpretation throughout the Park.</i>														
Task 4.1.2a: Offer guided or supervised recreational activities such as trail hikes, runs, or bike rides.	2	*		\$						x	x			
Task 4.1.2b: Encourage guided recreational activities by guest specialists from local institutions/organizations	2	*		\$						x	x	x		
Objective 4.2: Promote the Park as a site for interpretive recreational events.														
<i>Strategy 4.2.1: Develop new special events related to interpretive recreational activities.</i>														
Task 4.2.1a: Work with local organizations and sponsors to host bike races or runs at the Park .	2	*		\$						x	x	x		
Task 4.2.1b: Work with local organizations and sponsors to host contests such as art and photography.	2	*		\$						x	x	x		
Task 4.2.1c: Work with local organizations and sponsors to host an art exhibit/festival .	2	*		\$						x	x	x		
<i>Strategy 4.2.2: Establish partnerships with recreational activity groups.</i>														
Task 4.2.2a: Establish partnerships/relationships with running groups.	2	*		\$						x	x	x		
Task 4.2.2b: Establish partnerships/relationships with biking organizations such as the Bicyclists of Nevada County (BONC).	2	*		\$						x	x	x		
Task 4.2.2c: Establish partnerships/relationships with hiking clubs.	2	*		\$						x	x	x		
Task 4.2.2d: Establish partnerships/relationships with photography clubs, classes, or schools.	2	*		\$						x	x	x		
Task 4.2.2e: Establish partnerships/relationships with art organizations, institutions, or galleries.	2	*		\$						x	x	x		
Task 4.2.2f: Establish partnerships/relationships with local agricultural and gardening clubs and organizations (FFA, 4H, garden clubs, etc.).	2	*		\$						x	x	x		

GOAL 5: Offer interpretation that is accessible to a diverse audience.

KEY: Priority: 1=1-3 yrs; 2=3-5 yrs; 3=5-10 yrs; **= dependent on staffing level and availability Duration: 1=1-5 yrs.; 2=5-10 yrs.; 3=10-20 yrs.; *=ongoing Funding: \$ = 0-\$25K; \$\$ = \$25K-\$100K; \$\$\$ = \$100K-\$1M; \$\$\$\$ = \$1M+	Priority	Project Duration	Funding		Funding Source				Involvement					
			One-time Expense	Ongoing Expense	Sector/District	HQ/Special Projects/Bonds	Budget Change Proposal	Association	Rangers and Park Aides	Docents/Volunteers	Community Organization	Maintenance	Sector/ District	Headquarters
Objective 5.1: Improve Accessibility.														
<i>Strategy 5.1.1: Assess and improve the Park's ADA accessibility compliance.</i>														
Task 5.1.1a: Complete ADA Accessible Overlook Trail.	3	1	\$\$			x							x	x
Task 5.1.1b: Identify areas in the Park in need of accessibility improvements.	2	1	\$			x							x	x
Task 5.1.1c: Fund and complete an ADA Accessibility Compliance plan.	3	1	\$\$			x							x	x
Task 5.1.1d: Fund and complete ADA Accessibility projects as identified in the ADA Accessibility Compliance Plan.	3	2	\$\$\$			x							x	x
<i>Strategy 5.1.2: Provide accessible alternatives and improvements to existing interpretation.</i>														
Task 5.1.2a: Fund and develop a virtual Town tour as an alternative way of gaining access to the interiors of the Town's buildings.	2	1	\$\$							x	x		x	x
Task 5.1.2b: Fund and develop an audio Town tour.	2	1	\$\$			x				x	x		x	x
Task 5.1.2c: Provide captions for the mining video shown in the Museum.	1	1	\$			x							x	x
Task 5.1.2d: Provide written transcript of the mining video shown in the Museum.	1	1	\$			x							x	x
Objective 5.2: Make interpretation accessible to non-English speaking audiences.														
<i>Strategy 5.2.1: Provide interpretation in additional languages.</i>														
Task 5.2.1a: Fund and complete an alternative language media plan.	2	1	\$\$			x							x	x
Task 5.2.1b: Fund and complete the translation and publication of specific printed Park media in the languages identified in the alternative language media plan.	3	1	\$\$			x		x	x	x	x		x	x
Objective 5.3: Offer interpretive programs and services that are accessible to audiences of various socioeconomic classes.														
<i>Strategy 5.3.1: Offer free or low cost interpretive programs and services.</i>														
Task 5.3.1a: Ensure that existing free and low cost programs and services remain affordable.	1	*	\$							x				
Task 5.3.1b: Develop a plan that guides the affordability of future interpretive programs and services.	2	1	\$\$							x				
Task 5.3.1c: Fund and develop relationships with companies and organizations to act as sponsors for special events and activities.	2	*	\$								x			x

GOAL 6: Promote interest in the Park and increase visitation.

KEY: Priority: 1=1-3 yrs; 2=3-5 yrs; 3=5-10 yrs; **= dependent on staffing level and availability Duration: 1=1-5 yrs.; 2=5-10 yrs.; 3=10-20 yrs.; *=ongoing Funding: \$ = 0-\$25K; \$\$ = \$25K-\$100K; \$\$\$ = \$100K-\$1M; \$\$\$\$ = \$1M+	Priority	Project Duration	Funding		Funding Source				Involvement					
			One-time Expense	Ongoing Expense	Sector/District	HQ/Special Projects/Bonds	Budget Change Proposal	Association	Rangers and Park Aides	Docents/Volunteers	Community Organization	Maintenance	Sector/District	Headquarters
Objective 6.1: Broaden Audiences.														
<i>Strategy 6.1.1: Expand and broaden locations, areas, and types of publicity.</i>														
Task 6.1.1a: Extend the geographic radius for distributing promotional media.	1	1	\$							x			x	x
Task 6.1.1b: Identify cities and communities not previously reached by Park publicity and target for future publicity.	1	1	\$							x			x	x
<i>Strategy 6.1.2: Develop and utilize new types of publicity.</i>														
Task 6.1.2a: Distribute promotional media in alternative languages (i.e., French, Spanish).	2	1	\$							x			x	x
Task 6.1.2b: Develop and expand social media publicity (See 6.2.2).	1	1	\$							x			x	x
Objective 6.2: Improve and update publicity and advertising strategies.														
<i>Strategy 6.2.1: Evaluate effectiveness of current publicity and advertising strategies.</i>														
Task 6.2.1a: Analyze data collected from Visitor Surveys and identify weaknesses to address.	1	1	\$										x	x
<i>Strategy 6.2.2: Expand publicity in digital and social media.</i>														
Task 6.2.2a: Update Parks Association and State Parks websites.	1	1	\$\$						x				x	x
Task 6.2.2b: Create an online presence with a Facebook profile.	1	*	\$							x	x		x	
Task 6.2.2c: Publicize images and Park events with an Instagram account.	1	*	\$							x	x		x	
Task 6.2.2d: Publicize activities, special events, and updates with a Twitter account.	1	*	\$							x	x		x	
Task 6.2.2e: Link the Park website and advertise events on the websites of partnering organizations and other relevant websites such as those of gold mining history associations, recreational organizations, other nearby State parks, SYRCL, etc.	1	1	\$							x			x	
Task 6.2.2f: Design, create, and distribute a monthly e-mail bulletin containing updates about special events, hours, etc.	2	1	\$						x	x	x	x		
Task 6.2.2g: Collect e-mail addresses from visitors for an e-mail bulletin contact list.	2	*	\$							x				
<i>Strategy 6.2.3: Strengthen cross-advertising between Malakoff Diggins SHP and other State parks and related institutions.</i>														
Task 6.2.3a: Distribute Park brochures to other relevant institutions for distribution to their visitors.	1	*	\$							x			x	
Task 6.2.3b: Inform staff from other Parks and institutions about special events, Park hours, and other important information that they can accurately share with their visitors (See also 6.2.2f).	1	*	\$							x	x	x	x	
<i>Strategy 6.2.4: Increase visibility.</i>														
Task 6.2.4a: Work with Caltrans and Nevada County to improve directions and signage along highways and county roads.	1	2	\$\$							x			x	
<i>Strategy 6.2.5: Identify and implement other forms of publicity.</i>														
Task 6.2.5a: Design and print paper media (postcards, flyers, etc.) offering discounts on Park merchandise or other paid product/activity for distribution at local tourist attractions, hotels, restaurants, etc.	1	1	\$						x	x			x	

GOAL 6 (continued).

KEY: Priority: 1=1-3 yrs; 2=3-5 yrs; 3=5-10 yrs; **= dependent on staffing level and availability Duration: 1=1-5 yrs.; 2=5-10 yrs.; 3=10-20 yrs.; *=ongoing Funding: \$ = 0-\$25K; \$\$ = \$25K-\$100K; \$\$\$ = \$100K-\$1M; \$\$\$\$ = \$1M+	Priority	Project Duration	Funding		Funding Source					Involvement						
			One-time Expense	Ongoing Expense	Sector/District	HC/Special Projects/Bonds	Budget Change Proposal	Association	Rangers and Park Aides	Docents/Volunteers	Community Organization	Maintenance	Sector/ District	Headquarters		
Task 6.2.5b: Design and print single resource focused publicity materials for distribution at relevant establishments (i.e., create postcards publicizing the Park's bike paths for distribution at local cycle shops).	1	*		\$					x	x					x	
Task 6.2.5c: Publicize the Park in person (volunteers, Staff members) at local events by setting up kiosks and booths, passing out flyers, etc.	1	*		\$					x	x	x					
Task 6.2.5d: Explore feasibility of television and radio advertisements.	3	1	\$						x	x					x	x
Objective 6.3: Take advantage of the appeal of special events and activities.																
<i>Strategy 6.3.1: Increase promotion of existing special events.</i>																
Task 6.3.1a: Expand and increase types of publicity strategies (See Obj. 6.2).	1	1	\$							x						x
<i>Strategy 6.3.2: Increase number and type of special events.</i>																
Task 6.3.2a: Plan, promote, and host a 4th of July event.	3	*		\$\$						x	x					
Task 6.3.2b: Plan, promote, and host events in the off season (i.e., Fall Harvest event, etc.)	3	*		\$\$						x	x					
Task 6.3.2c: Encourage various clubs and organizations to hold special events such as club meetings, reunions, concerts, workshops, etc. at the Park.	2	*		\$						x		x			x	
Task 6.3.2d: Publicize the Park as a venue for special events such as weddings.	1	*		\$						x						
Task 6.3.2e: Create a paid or voluntary event coordinator position to address the Tasks under Objective 6.3.	2	*		\$\$	x	x			x	x					x	x
Objective 6.4: Increase educational opportunities and expand partnerships with educational institutions.																
<i>Strategy 6.4.1: Strengthen and expand existing partnerships with schools and universities.</i>																
Task 6.4.1a: Develop and implement a school outreach program that brings Malakoff Diggins SHP staff and volunteers into classrooms.	**	1		\$						x	x	x				
Task 6.4.1b: Maintain and continue existing educational programs.	**	*		\$\$						x	x	x				
Task 6.4.1c: Identify additional schools, universities, and educational institutions to establish as partners.	**	1	\$							x	x	x				
Task 6.4.1d: Create and produce promotional materials highlighting educational opportunities and programs at the Park for distribution to educational institutions identified in Task 6.4.1c.	2	1	\$\$						x						x	
<i>Strategy 6.4.2: Establish the Park as a reference and research resource.</i>																
Task 6.4.2a: Update existing reference and research material guides and catalog.	**	1	\$\$													x
Task 6.4.2b: Update accessibility of research and reference materials (digitize documents, photograph objects, create online database, etc.).	**	2	\$\$													x

GOAL 7: Provide interesting, relevant, educational, entertaining, and effective interpretation that is continually improved.

KEY: Priority: 1=1-3 yrs; 2=3-5 yrs; 3=5-10 yrs; **= dependent on staffing level and availability Duration: 1=1-5 yrs.; 2=5-10 yrs.; 3=10-20 yrs.; *=ongoing Funding: \$ = 0-\$25K; \$\$ = \$25K-\$100K; \$\$\$ = \$100K-\$1M; \$\$\$\$ = \$1M+	Priority	Project Duration	Funding		Funding Source				Involvement						
			One-time Expense	Ongoing Expense	Sector/District	HQ/Special Projects/Bonds	Budget Change Proposal	Association	Rangers and Park Aides	Docents/Volunteers	Community Organization	Maintenance	Sector/District	Headquarters	
Objective 7.1: Implement on-going oversight and evaluation.															
<i>Strategy 7.1.1: Develop evaluation structure and system.</i>															
Task 7.1.1a: Implement peer evaluations for staff and volunteers.	1	*	\$							x					
Task 7.1.1b: Create volunteer coordinator position (See also 9.2.1a).	1	*	\$\$							x				x	
Objective 7.2: Improve and expand volunteer training and evaluation.															
<i>Strategy 7.2.1: Provide formal training for all interpretive volunteers.</i>															
Task 7.2.1a: Develop activity/topic specific training modules.	1	1	\$								x				
Task 7.2.1b: Update the Docent Manual.	1	1	\$							x					
Objective 7.3: Adapt to changes in visitor needs and interests.															
<i>Strategy 7.3.1: Identify changing needs and interests of visitors.</i>															
Task 7.3.1a: Analyze data from 2013 Visitor Survey.	1	1	\$							x				x	
Task 7.3.1b: Provide a suggestion box in the Museum.	1	*	\$							x					
Task 7.3.1c: Create voluntary exit surveys for campsite and cabin guests.	2	1	\$							x					
<i>Strategy 7.3.2: Address visitor comments.</i>															
Task 7.3.2a: Create and maintain visitor comment database.	1	*	\$							x					
Task 7.3.2b: Analyze visitor comments at regular intervals and when possible/necessary implement changes.	**	*	\$							x					
Objective 7.4: Adapt to new and changing technology.															
<i>Strategy 7.4.1: Make Park technology ready.</i>															
Task 7.4.1a: Explore possible avenues of connectivity (i.e., T-1 access).	2	1	\$											x	x
Task 7.4.1b: Continue efforts towards alternate energy sources (solar).	3	2	\$\$											x	x
<i>Strategy 7.4.2: Incorporate new technologies in current and future interpretation.</i>															
Task 7.4.2a: Develop interactive online exhibits.	2	1	\$\$\$						x	x				x	x
Task 7.4.2b: Add scanning codes (QR Codes) to existing panels and include on any new panels that link to additional information/online exhibits.	2	1	\$\$\$											x	x

GOAL 7 (continued).

KEY: <i>Priority:</i> 1=1-3 yrs; 2=3-5 yrs; 3=5-10 yrs; **= dependent on staffing level and availability <i>Duration:</i> 1=1-5 yrs.; 2=5-10 yrs.; 3=10-20 yrs.; *=ongoing <i>Funding:</i> \$ = 0-\$25K; \$\$ = \$25K-\$100K; \$\$\$ = \$100K-\$1M; \$\$\$\$ = \$1M+	Priority	Project Duration	Funding		Funding Source					Involvement					
			One-time Expense	Ongoing Expense	Sector/District	HQ/Special Projects/Bonds	Budget Change Proposal	Association	Rangers and Park Aides	Docents/Volunteers	Community Organization	Maintenance	Sector/District	Headquarters	
Task 7.4.2c: Develop driving/hiking tour app for mobile phones.	2	1	\$\$					x						x	
Objective 7.5: Offer interpretive programs and services throughout the year.															
<i>Strategy 7.5.1: Manage interpretive programs and services throughout the year.</i>															
Task 7.5.1a: Create, fund, and fill a full-time park interpreter position.	3	*		\$\$	x	x								x	x
<i>Strategy 7.5.2: Keep facilities open year round.</i>															
Task 7.5.2a: Keep the Museum open during weekends throughout the year.	1	*		\$\$\$	x									x	
Task 7.5.2b: Keep limited campsites open throughout the year.	3	*		\$\$	x									x	
Task 7.5.2c: Keep cabins open throughout the year.	3	*		\$\$	x									x	
<i>Strategy 7.5.3: Offer programs and services year round.</i>															
Task 7.5.3a: Offer Town tours during open Museum hours throughout the year.	3	*		\$	x					x	x				
Task 7.5.3b: Offer living history such as gold panning throughout the year.	2	*		\$	x					x	x				
Task 7.5.3c: Offer activities in the Winter and Fall (snow shoe tours, etc.).	2	*		\$	x					x	x				
Objective 7.6: Explore new perspectives and topics for interpretation.															
<i>Strategy 7.6.1: Offer interpretation that reflects underrepresented stories.</i>															
Task 7.6.1a: Fund new research (archival, archaeological, oral history, etc.) on underrepresented topics and people such as women, children, and different ethnic communities.	2	*		\$\$	x	x		x	x	x	x			x	
Task 7.6.1b: Integrate new research into interpretive programming and services.	2	*		\$	x			x	x	x				x	
Task 7.6.1c: Involve underrepresented community groups/organizations in the development of new interpretation projects.	2	*		\$	x			x	x	x	x				

GOAL 8: Ensure that Park facilities will support present and future interpretation.

KEY: Priority: 1=1-3 yrs; 2=3-5 yrs; 3=5-10 yrs; **= dependent on staffing level and availability Duration: 1=1-5 yrs.; 2=5-10 yrs.; 3=10-20 yrs.; *=ongoing Funding: \$ = 0-\$25K; \$\$ = \$25K-\$100K; \$\$\$ = \$100K-\$1M; \$\$\$\$ = \$1M+	Priority	Project Duration	Funding		Funding Source				Involvement				
			One-time Expense	Ongoing Expense	Sector/District	HQ/Special Projects/Bonds	Budget Change Proposal	Association	Rangers and Park Aides	Docents/Volunteers	Community Organization	Maintenance	Sector/District
Objective 8.1: Maintain existing facilities.													
<i>Strategy 8.1.1: Keep existing facilities at usable, safe, attractive conditions.</i>													
Task 8.1.1a: Make repairs to facilities as needed.	3	*		\$\$\$\$	x	x	x		x			x	x
Task 8.1.1b: Maintain aesthetic of Town (painting, landscaping, etc.)	3	*		\$\$\$	x	x			x			x	x
<i>Strategy 8.1.2: Manage the Park's landscape in a way that supports interpretation.</i>													
Task 8.1.2a: Fund and complete a Historic Landscape Management Plan addressing ways to treat historic areas, revive landscapes, etc.	1	1	\$\$		x	x	x		x			x	x
Objective 8.2: Make improvements to existing interpretive facilities.													
<i>Strategy 8.2.1: Update and improve conditions of existing interpretive facilities.</i>													
Task 8.2.1a: Update and renovate the Visitor Center, Gift Shop, Exhibit Hall, Restrooms, and Campfire Center.	3	3	\$\$\$\$			x	x		x			x	x
Task 8.2.1b: Restore and allow access to the schoolhouse building.	3	2	\$\$		x	x			x			x	x
Objective 8.3: Create new interpretive facilities.													
<i>Strategy 8.3.1: Develop and construct new interpretive facilities and areas.</i>													
Task 8.3.1a: Fund and complete a redevelopment plan for the Overlook area in Chute Hill.	3	1	\$\$		x	x			x			x	x
Task 8.3.1b: Build an ADA accessible campsite in Chute Hill.	3	2	\$\$\$		x	x			x			x	x
Objective 8.4: Protect existing and future interpretive facilities.													
<i>Strategy 8.4.1: Update/increase facilities security.</i>													
Task 8.4.1a: Install security systems on all facilities buildings.	2	1	\$\$\$		x				x			x	
Task 8.4.1b: Increase Park staff or volunteer presence after hours.	2	*	\$\$		x	x			x	x		x	

GOAL 9: Ensure that future interpretation is protected and supported through long-term planning.

KEY: Priority: 1=1-3 yrs; 2=3-5 yrs; 3=5-10 yrs; **= dependent on staffing level and availability Duration: 1=1-5 yrs.; 2=5-10 yrs.; 3=10-20 yrs.; *=ongoing Funding: \$ = 0-\$25K; \$\$ = \$25K-\$100K; \$\$\$ = \$100K-\$1M; \$\$\$\$ = \$1M+	Priority	Project Duration	Funding		Funding Source				Involvement					
			One-time Expense	Ongoing Expense	Sector/District	HQ/Special Projects/Bonds	Budget Change Proposal	Association	Rangers and Park Aides	Docents/Volunteers	Community Organization	Maintenance	Sector/District	Headquarters
Objective 9.1: Establish new partnerships and strengthen existing partnerships.														
<i>Strategy 9.1.1: Develop annual, repeating, or long-term programs, projects, and events with existing partners.</i>														
Task 9.1.1a: Explore long term research programs with universities or other organizations.	2	*		\$	x					x		x	x	x
Task 9.1.1b: Develop a plan for receiving and collecting all research products from universities and other institutions to add to the Park's reference library.	2	1	\$\$		x					x		x	x	x
Task 9.1.1c: Encourage guest lecturers, tour guides, or activities by specialists from partnering organizations (See 1.2.2c; 4.1.2b; 4.2.3a-c; 5.3.1c.).	1	*		\$	x					x		x		
<i>Strategy 9.1.2: Develop new partnerships with organizations, institutions, and businesses.</i>														
Task 9.1.2a: Focus partnership outreach goals in three geographical categories: local and regional (e.g., Bicyclists of Nevada County), national (e.g., National Park Service), and international (e.g., U.S. French Consulate).	2	*		\$	x					x		x	x	x
Objective 9.2: Invest in the volunteer/docent program.														
<i>Strategy 9.2.1: Expand and improve the volunteer/docent program (See also Obj. 7.2).</i>														
Task 9.2.1a: Create volunteer coordinator position (See also 7.1.1b).	2	*		\$\$	x	x				x			x	x
Task 9.2.1b: Increase volunteer scope of independent responsibilities.	3	*		\$	x					x			x	x
Task 9.2.1c: Expand number of volunteer positions.	3	*		\$	x					x			x	x
Objective 9.3: Develop new sources for additional interpretive funding.														
<i>Strategy 9.3.1: Utilize planning documents to prioritize need for funding.</i>														
Task 9.3.1a: Execute prioritized tasks from Interpretation Action Plan.	**	3	\$\$\$\$							x	x	x	x	x
<i>Strategy 9.3.2: Explore fundraising possibilities.</i>														
Task 9.3.2a: Create and sell annual gold mining themed calendars linking the Sierra Sector Parks.	2	1	\$					x			x		x	x
<i>Strategy 9.3.3: Explore concessions possibilities.</i>														
Task 9.3.3a: Fund and complete a Concessions Plan to allow a concessionaire to operate in North Bloomfield.	2	1	\$\$		x	x							x	x

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APPENDIX A

Research Topics for Future Interpretation

RESEARCH TOPICS FOR FUTURE INTERPRETATION

NATIVE AMERICAN RESEARCH TOPICS:

- Culture Chronology: an important foundation for interpreting prehistory.
- Ancestral Washoe on the western front: the transition/contraction of ancestral Washoe territory.
 - 1) How did populations from different groups use the summer range?
 - 2) Was there an obvious, persistent boundary through the area?
 - 3) Was it a joint-use area between the Washoe and the Maidu/Nisenan or were there shifting territories over time?
- Land Use and Subsistence: shifts in settlement indicated by site type, environmental influences, culture change, technology (cache behavior), resources.
- Trade and Exchange: distributions of stone tools and other resources.
- Adaptation and adjustment after the Gold Rush.

MALAKOFF VILLAGE, DERBEC, AND LAKE CITY SITES:

- Organization and layout of each site-location and purposes of buildings.
- Function of each site and relationship to North Bloomfield.
- Characteristics of each site: economy, ethnicity, and other demographics.
- Important people and events associated with each site.
- Evolution of each site- changes over time.
- Decline and end of each site.

FRENCH CONNECTIONS:

- Import of food plants and trees.
- Involvement in the development of hydraulic mining and water systems.
- Relations and integration with other ethnic groups.

OTHER MINES:

- Locations and descriptions of other mining sites along Humbug Creek.

APPENDIX B

Malakoff Diggins SHP Collections

MALAKOFF DIGGINS SHP COLLECTIONS

No formal Scope of Collections exists for Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park. As discussed in the Existing Interpretation section, the Park's cultural artifact collection consists of in situ, stored, collected, and displayed artifacts, including historic and contemporary photographs related to: Native Americans; hydraulic mining and mining operations in, around, and in support of the Diggins Pit; businesses such as the North Bloomfield Gravel Mining Company, the McKillican and Mobley General Store, the Kallenberger Barber Shop, and the Smith-Knotwell Drug Store; and domestic life in and around the towns of Humbug, North Bloomfield, China Town, and Lake City. •

For additional collections related information please refer to the following California Department of Parks and Recreation documents:

Guide to the Malakoff Diggins SHP Collection (DPR, Processed by History Associates, Inc., Sacramento, 2002).

Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park, California, North Bloomfield Cultural Landscapes Report (DPR, Prepared by Janet Gracyk, Terra Cognita Design and Consulting, Petaluma, California, 2011).

Please contact the California Department of Parks and Recreation, Sierra District Museum Curator II for further information on the collections policies related to Malakoff Diggins SHP.

APPENDIX C
Previous Reports

PREVIOUS REPORTS

Blanford, John

- 1989 *Report of Phase One Archaeological Investigations, North Bloomfield Chinatown Project, Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park.* Manuscript on file, California Department of Parks and Recreation, Cultural Resource Management Division, Sacramento.

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APPENDIX D
Visitor Survey Data

MALAKOFF DIGGINS SHP VISITOR SURVEY RESULTS

SURVEY OVERVIEW

- Surveys were conducted on 11 weekends (Saturday & Sunday) June 1-August 25, 2013 and on one special event day, Humbug Day on June 8 (special event data are not included in overall survey totals)
- Visitors were surveyed either as they entered or exited the Park Museum
- Surveys were conducted verbally by project team members and volunteers
- The survey questionnaire was developed by ASC and DPR project team members
- Surveys consisted of 26 questions
- 181 surveys were completed, representing 570 visitors

VISITOR PROFILE

Most visitors were from Northern California.

- 14.4% local (Nevada County)
- 70.9% Northern California counties other than Nevada County
- 4.9% elsewhere in CA
- 9.8% outside of CA (NV, UT, ID, NY, TX, Canada, France, and Germany)

Over half of the visitors were visiting the Park for the first time.

- 53.9% first time visitors
- 32.2% had visited before
- 13.9% had both 1st time visitors and repeat visitors in the group
- 46.1% had at least one repeat visitor in the group
- 67.8% had at least one 1st time visitor in the group

VISITOR GROUPS

Most visitors were traveling with or meeting a group

- 91.6% were with a group
- 8.4% traveled alone

Two, three, and four person groups were most common

- 2 person groups: 39.1%
- 3 person groups: 19.6%
- 4 person groups: 20.1%
- 5 and 7 person groups: 3.4%
- 6 person groups: 2.8%
- 8 and 10+ person groups: 1.7%
- 9 person groups: 0

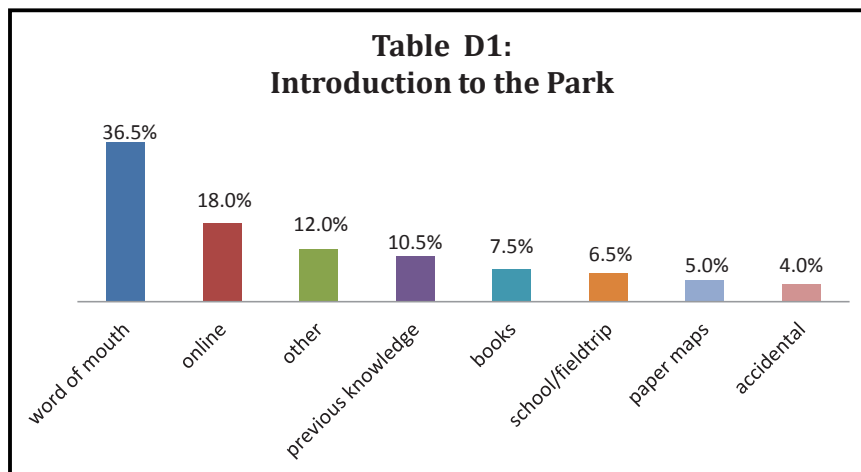
Family members made up most visitor groups.

- Family groups: 61.1%
- Friend groups: 18.9%
- Family and Friends: 7.8%
- Organizations: 3.9%

INTRODUCTION TO THE PARK

Question 7: *How did you first learn of the Park?*

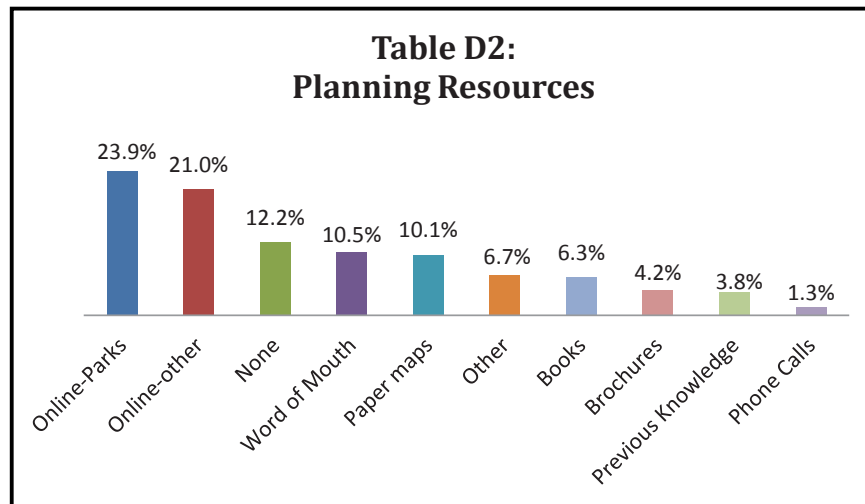
Slightly more than one-third of visitors learned about the Park through word-of-mouth. Another 6.1% had previous knowledge of the Park but could not remember the source. Online sources were the second most common way visitors learned of the Park. This included the Park website, State Parks website, camping and hiking websites, and Google searches for a variety of topics.



The “Other” category includes information found at other State parks and mines, accidental finds, brochures, Huell Howser, host of the television show *California’s Gold*, the Nevada County Fair, and newspaper articles.

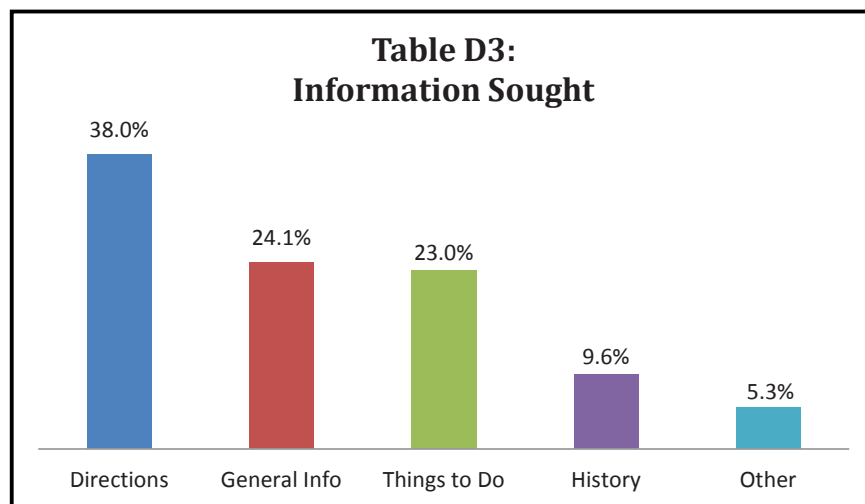
VISIT PLANNING

Question 8: What resources did you use to plan your trip?



Visitors typically used more than one resource when planning their trip to the Park. Online resources were the most common sources used for visit planning. The Park website was used by 23.9% of visitors and other sites such as Google, Google maps, and Trip Advisor were used by 21%. The resources represented in the “Other” category include the Nevada County Chamber of Commerce, GPS units, newspapers, signs, the State Parks Pass, and accidental wandering/driving.

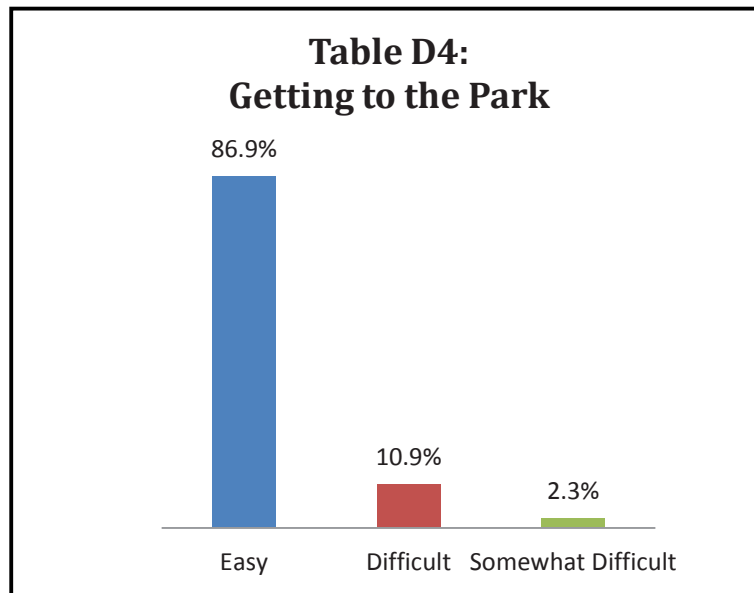
Question 9: What type of information were you trying to find?



The most common type of information guests looked for when consulting various planning resources were directions to the Park. General information, such as Park hours, admission, and parking, was second. Seeking information about things to do at the Park, such as gold panning, museum visits, swimming, hiking, etc., ranked third. The types of information included in the “Other” category include maps, road info, off-roading, cabin rentals, and camping.

NAVIGATION

Question 11: *Were you able to easily find the Park?*



Most visitors responded that they had no problems finding the Park. Approximately 11% of visitors did claim to have difficulty navigating their way to the Park and most blamed inadequate signage or GPS problems. The “Somewhat” category includes groups in which some of the visitors felt the trip was difficult while others did not as well as visitors that said it was somewhat difficult to navigate to the Park. Many visitors, both those responding yes and no, often mentioned that they were not prepared for North Bloomfield Road to become unpaved.

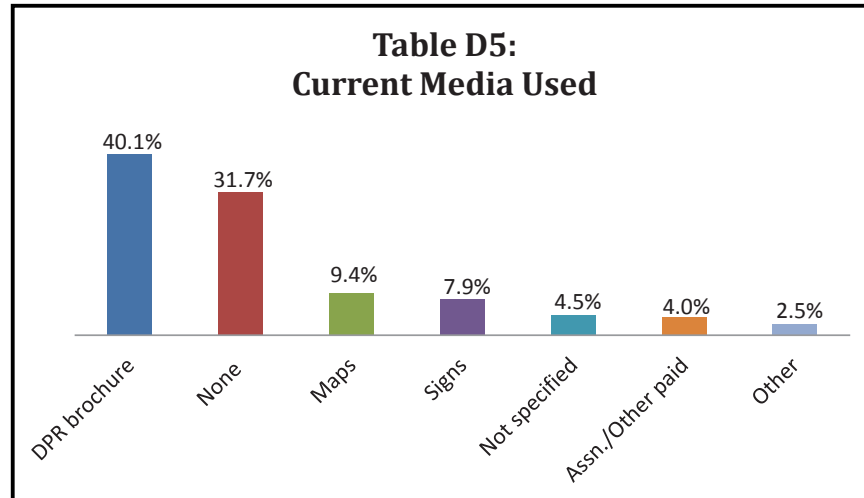
USE OF CURRENT MEDIA

Question 17: *Did you use any maps, signs, or brochures to find your way around the Park or learn about its history? Which ones?*

68% of visitors used a currently available medium to navigate the Park or learn about its history. The free DPR Malakoff Diggins SHP brochure was the most commonly used resource. The next most frequently used sources were maps (9.4%) and signs (7.9%). Approximately 32% of visitors reported that they did not use any forms of media during their visit.

Question 19: *What areas would benefit from additional maps, signs, brochures, or other media?*

This open ended question produced over 20 different responses (listed below). Although most responses were repeated between 2-6 times, one was repeated 22 times: add more signs on the roads leading to the Park. Even though most visitors said they were able to easily find the Park this suggestion implies that the drive to the Park could be improved. Half of visitors surveyed appeared satisfied with current signage and did not have any suggestions.



Visitor suggestions of locations for additional signs, maps, or other media:

- Park Entrance
- Along N. Bloomfield in Town
- Malakoff Village
- Historic houses/buildings
- General Store
- Blair Lake
- Diggins Loop Trail
- Campground
- Chinese sites
- Hiller Tunnel
- Diggins Hydraulic Pit
- Cabins
- Marten Ranch Trail
- Trails–general
- Museum
- Around Town
- Gold Panning location
- Bathrooms
- Overlooks
- Picnicking areas

Suggested topics that could benefit from additional media:

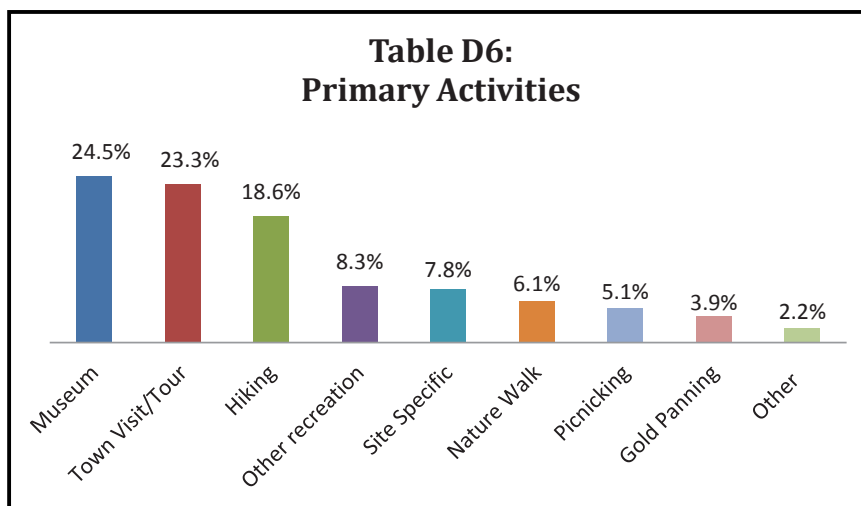
- French history
- Geology

Other suggestions:

- Advertise outside of the Park
- Have a walking tour with interpretive panels

PRIMARY ACTIVITIES

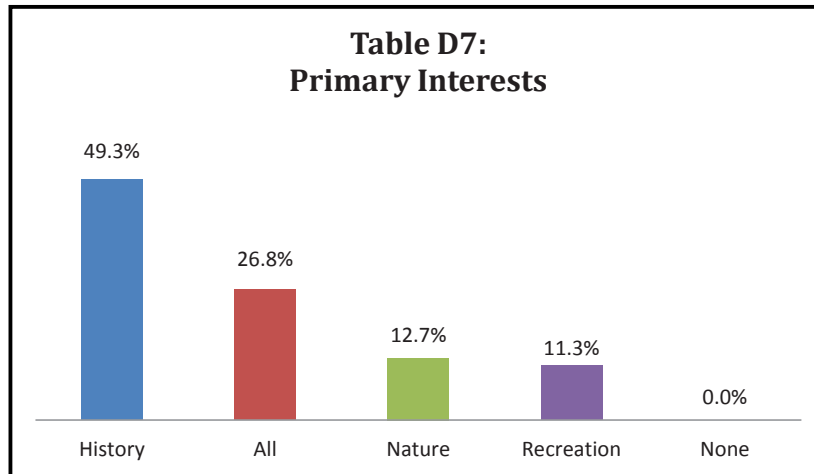
Question 13: *What are you planning to do/what did you do on your visit?*



Most visitors listed more than one activity they intended to do or had participated in. The top three most popular activities at the Park were Museum visits, Town tours (guided and self-guided), and hiking. Almost half of the Park’s visitors participated in history-based activities while 36% were interested in the Park’s recreational opportunities. The “Other Recreation” category includes activities such as biking, kayaking, swimming, photography, painting, relaxing, fishing, driving around, shopping, napping, and walking. The “Site Specific” category includes the Diggins Hydraulic Pit, Hiller Tunnel, Blair Lake, historic cemetery, Overlook, the church, the school, mineral ponds, and the river. The “Other” category includes archaeology, geology, a memorial service, checking out the Park for future visits, passing through, and metal detecting.

Question 20: *Are you more interested in the Park's history, nature, or recreation? Or all equally? Or none?*

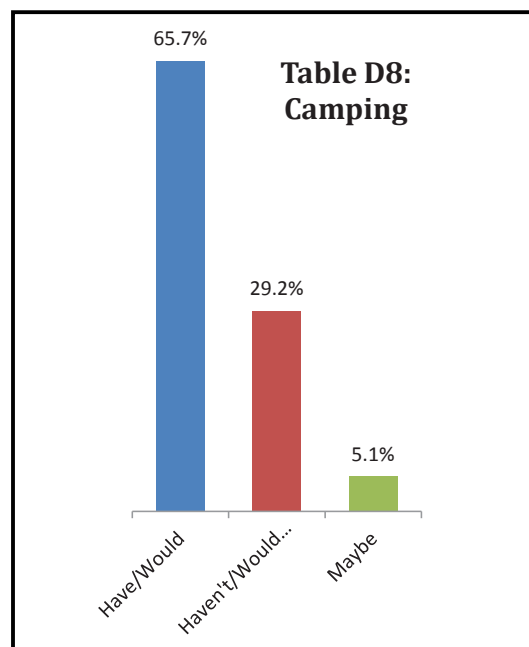
Almost half of visitors surveyed listed history as one of their primary interests. The next most popular answer was "all". Interest in nature and recreation were relatively similar at 12.7% and 11.3%, respectively.



CAMPING

Question 14: *Although no camping is currently offered, would you camp or have you ever camped at the Park?*

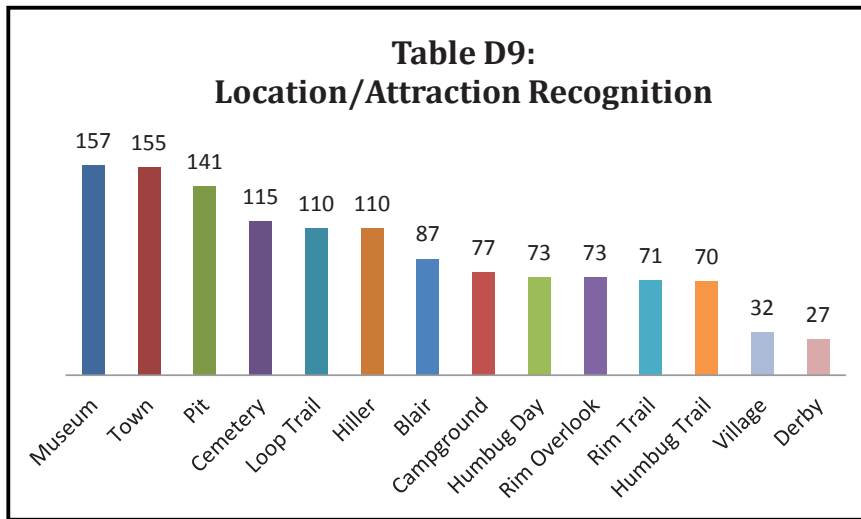
65.7% of visitors replied that they had either stayed at the campground or they would stay at the campground if it were open. 29.2% of visitors said they would not stay at the campground while 5.1% were unsure.



FAMILIAR LOCATIONS

Question 15: *Are you familiar with the following locations/attractions in the Park? (Blair Lake, Chute Hill Campground, Diggins Hydraulic Pit, Diggins Loop Trail, Fishing Derby, Hiller Tunnel, Historic Cemetery, Humbug Creek Trail, Humbug Day, Historic North Bloomfield, Malakoff Museum, Malakoff Village, Rim Trail, Rim Trail Overlook).*

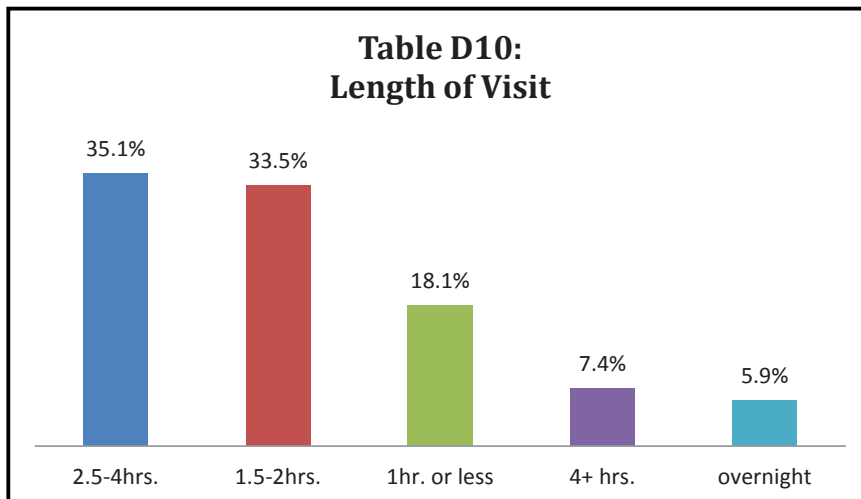
Since the surveys were being conducted outside of the Museum in historic N. Bloomfield it is not surprising that the two most recognizable locations within the Park were the Museum and the town of historic North Bloomfield. Also recognizable was the Diggins Hydraulic Pit, the Cemetery, Hiller Tunnel, and the Diggins Loop Trail. The other two trails, Humbug Creek and the Rim Trail, were recognized at about the same rate. The Fishing Derby and Malakoff Village were the locations/attractions that visitors recognized the least. The totals for Malakoff Village recognition may present a higher recognition rate than actual as some visitors confused it with historic N. Bloomfield.



LENGTH OF VISIT

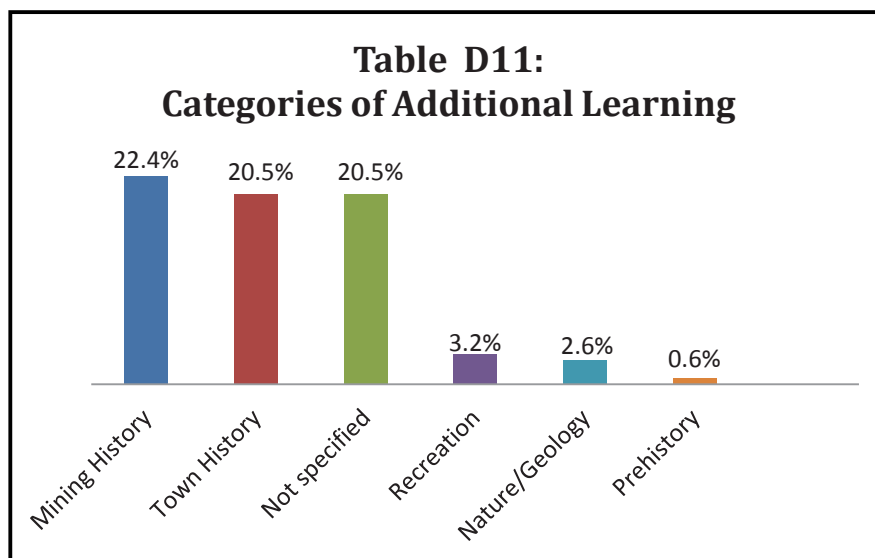
Question 12: *How many hours do you plan on being here/have you been here today?*

Most visitors either stay at the Park 1.5 to 2 hours or 2.5 hours to 4 hours.



LEARNING MORE

Question 24: *Were there any areas that you visited in the Park that you would like to learn more about?*

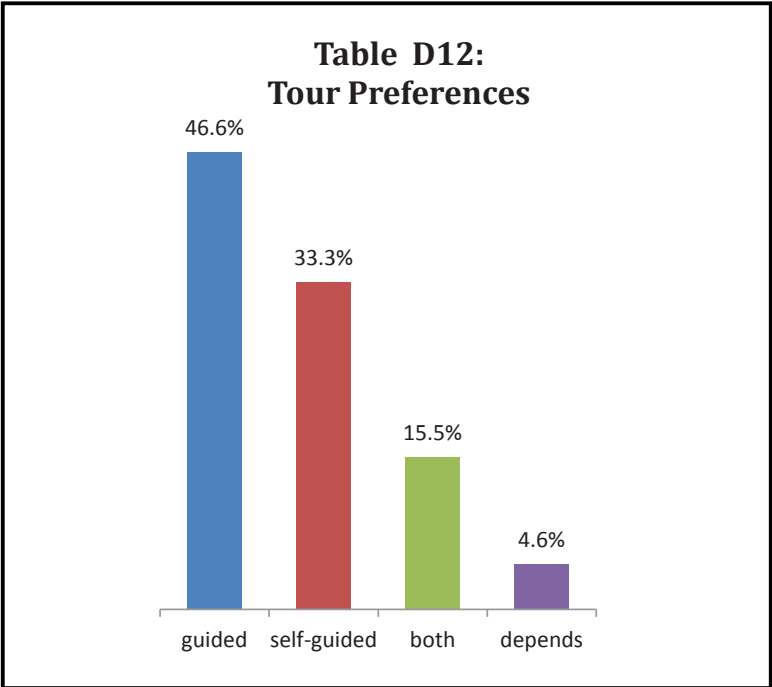


The open ended answers were organized into seven categories: Hydraulic/General Mining History, Town History, Prehistory, Recreation, Nature/Geology, Not Specified, and None. Almost one-third of the visitors responded that they were satisfied with the information presented at the Park and there were no areas they needed to learn more about. The Hydraulic/General Mining History category included responses such as the Diggins Hydraulic Pit, water and the monitors, politics of mining, history of the tailings, Blair Lake, and Hiller Tunnel. Town History encompassed topics such as people of the Town, Chinese Cemetery, Malakoff Village, and the histories of individual buildings. Recreation included activities such as hiking and camping. The Nature/Geology category covered topics relating to the geology of the Pit or about the Park's gold. The Not Specified category included responses from visitors that wanted to learn more about "everything" or "all of it" and also those that had not seen enough of the Park to decide.

TOUR PREFERENCES

Question 22: *Would you be more likely to take a guided tour with a Park Ranger or a self-guided tour using a map?*

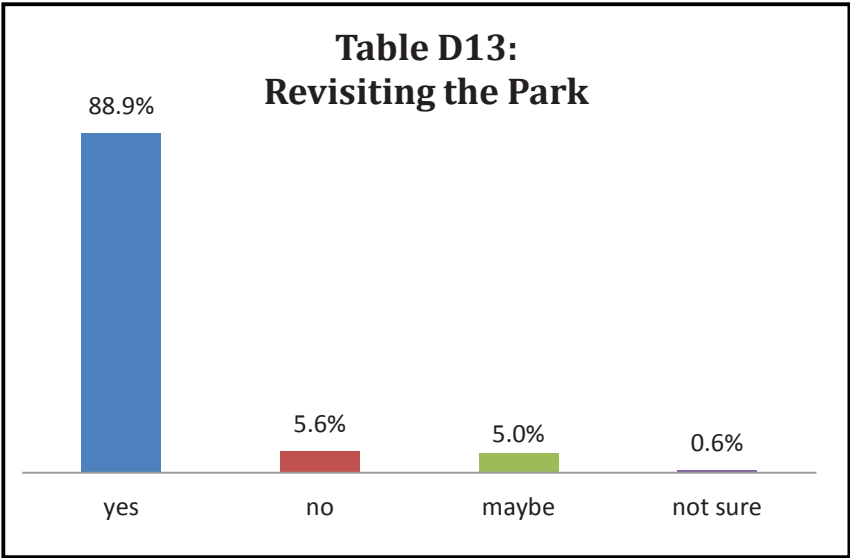
Close to half of the visitors prefer Park Ranger guided tours while a third would opt for a self-guided tour. 15% of visitors either did not have a preference of either or the consensus amongst the group was divided. 5% of guests said that their preference depended on several factors such as how much time they have and the particular Ranger giving the tour. Other factors that would influence visitors that answered "depends" were good signs and/or audio for a self-guided tour.



REVISITING

Question 25: Do you think you'll visit this park again?

Visitors overwhelmingly responded that they would return to the Park. Twenty visitors responded “maybe”, “not sure”, or “no”. Five of these responses were from people who lived out of town and whose responses were influenced by the distance they would have to travel rather than their experience at the Park. Four visitor groups gave reasons other than distance. These included the campground being closed, too many other things to do in California, already hiked all of the trails and ready to move on to the next park, and that the Park was good to visit once but not again. The rest of the “no”, “maybe”, and “not sure” responses did not give reasons for their answers.



SUGGESTIONS

Question 26: *Do you have any suggestions that would make a visit to this Park more enjoyable?*

The open-ended final question of the survey recorded visitor suggestions and comments on a variety of topics. Many visitors were satisfied with their experience and had no suggestions. Some visitors also used the opportunity to make positive comments about the Park. Those responses are included in the list below. One of the most popular suggestions, especially during high temperature weekends, was to have concessions available. Visitors often said their visit could be improved if ice cream, beer, soda, or other food and drinks were available. Opening the campground and paving N. Bloomfield Rd. were also very popular responses.

Orientation Suggestions

- Put in an entrance kiosk/visitor center
- Put a “You Are Here” map at the entrance of the Park or Town
- Improve/add road signage—place a sign at N. Bloomfield Rd. and Highway 49 that alerts drivers of the dirt road, add more signs along the road to let drivers know they are going the right way, add more directional signs coming in and out of the Park
- Do not put up too many signs, it can detract from the feel of the Park, especially if there are living history activities
- Add more directions/trail markers to Diggins Loop Trail
- Improve brochure—better directions, more accessible, include trail mileage, update information
- Add signs about parking instructions/information
- Need a sign for water faucet
- Get a larger sign for the Museum that lets people know that is where they pay the entrance fee, it is easy to drive past without realizing that is where you pay

Marketing/Advertising Suggestions

- Improve advertising/promotion— more promotion/marketing outside of Park; signs on the highway; put brochures in more places, hotels, etc.; cross-promote on other websites; run more ads in newspapers and magazines
- Improve website —add clearer information about renting cabins, hours, admission prices, directions, tour times; have links to surrounding parks like South Yuba; include information about the size of the bear lockers to help aid in planning a cabin stay; make it clearer on the website that there are no mattress pads in cabins; get website featured/linked to other websites
- Provide list of other activities in the area: wine tasting
- Improve communication/knowledge between parks and other organizations: information given to guest about Malakoff Museum while they were at Empire was incorrect; information about camping given at Grass Valley Chamber of Commerce was incorrect
- Tours—make the tour times more visible and/or flexible; publicize the schedule better to aid in visit planning; increase number of tours

Interpretation Suggestions

- Add more signs in town, especially at individual houses
- Provide more information about the environmental effects of hydraulic mining
- Add more interpretation and historical information
- Additional activities at the Museum
- Add a large sign at Blair Lake, include interpretive information
- Put an interpretive sign up at Malakoff Village
- Create a video of the history of the historic homes, showing the interiors, have it available at the Museum
- Add more about general Gold Rush history
- Provide more information about the river and geology
- Bring history of Malakoff Diggings SHP to the schools with videos, etc. so the impact of the Diggings can be taught
- Offer guided tour of the Pit focusing on ecology and/or geology

Operations/Management Suggestions

- Accept credit cards in the Museum
- Open campground
- Expand Museum hours
- Open historic buildings
- Utilize more volunteers
- Maintain the “ghost town” feel, make it look even more like a ghost town
- Increase the living history program
- Increase hours of operation
- Self-guided tours: allow access to buildings, use metal gates to protect the resources like they do at Bodie State Park
- Keep restrooms open during the week
- Allow dogs on trails
- Turn off the generator and light in maintenance shed at night for more peace and quiet
- Add a recycling program
- Organize group trips, photography walking tour
- Let people mine
- Make fees throughout State parks consistent

Suggestions for Improvements

- The cabins need better grills
- Add a light bulb in the cabin
- Build accessible path to the restrooms at the Museum
- Fix the Humbug Creek Trail bridge
- Add showers
- Place iron rangers at every parking area with more signs, enforce fees

Big Ideas

- Concessions:cold drinks, food, ice cream, beer; open the General Store and sell from there!
- Rent out historic homes
- Put horses in the livery stable
- Charge more rather than shut down
- Open a brewery
- Pave N. Bloomfield Rd.
- Allow individuals/organizations to sponsor buildings and help support maintenance and repair
- Let adventure groups use the Park

Comments

- Restrooms are very clean
- This is a great place to teach about the environmental impacts of the Sawyer Decision
- Signage is great
- The quiet and privacy at the cabins is great, it feels like an honor to stay there and also feels safe
- The Rangers are very knowledgeable, much more helpful than the brochure
- Having someone answer the phone to provide information was great, they would not have come if nobody had answered

SURVEY LIMITATIONS

- Although the Museum was open Friday-Sunday, surveys were only collected on Saturdays and Sundays. Therefore visitor usage data do not represent any weekday use. Surveys were also only collected on Sundays until 3:00 pm even though the Museum was open until 4:00 pm due to limitations of surveyor logistics.
- Surveyors attempted to interview visitors on their way out of the Museum or after they had visited some parts of the Park. This was not always possible and given the large number of first time visitors many were forced to answer, "I don't know yet" to questions dealing with activities in the Park.
- Because surveys were verbally conducted certain demographic data were not collected.

APPENDIX E

Regional Demographic Data

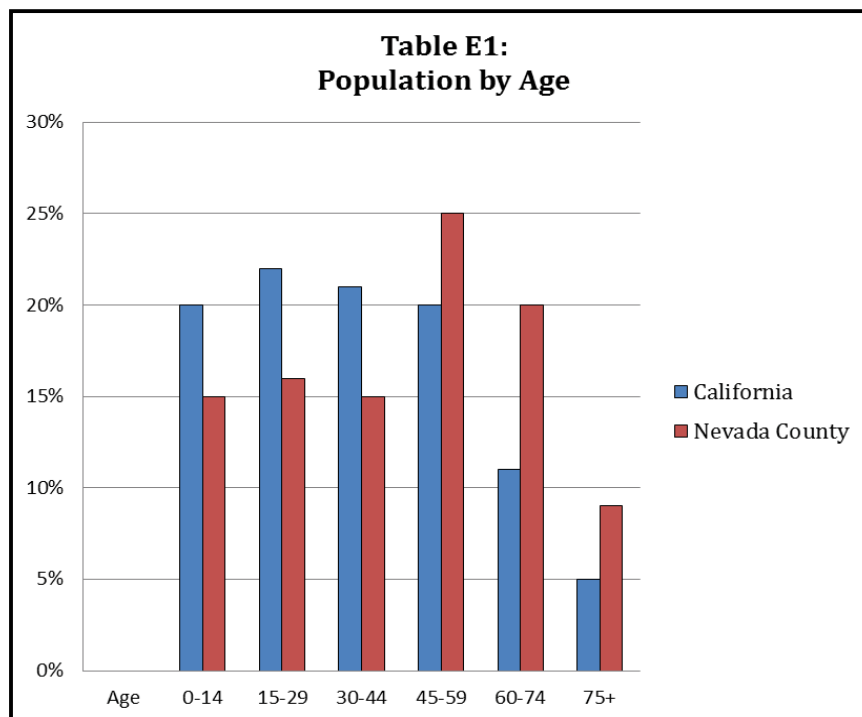
REGIONAL DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

Regional demographic data help us understand the make-up of the Park’s surrounding community and its local visitors, especially since a comprehensive visitor profile does not exist. Because the visitor surveys were collected verbally they did not collect personal data like that presented below.

Situated in a sparsely populated area on the western slope of the Sierra Nevadas in Nevada County, California, Malakoff Diggins SHP is a 40-50 minute drive from the center of the county seat, Nevada City. The Park’s other neighboring towns include Washington, Camptonville, Downieville, Lake Wildwood, Penn Valley, and Grass Valley.

Nevada County, ranking 36th most populous county out of 58 California counties had an estimated 2012 population of 98,292, a half percent decrease from its 2010 population of 98,764 (U.S. Census Bureau 2013). It is surrounded by the even less populated counties of Sierra and Yuba, and the more populous Placer County. Between 2000 and 2010 Nevada County saw a population growth of only 7% compared to the 40% growth in Placer County and the 20% growth in both Sutter and Yuba counties (Nevada County Executive Office (NCEO) 2013). This comparatively slow growth rate reflects the county’s continued struggle with weak economic conditions.

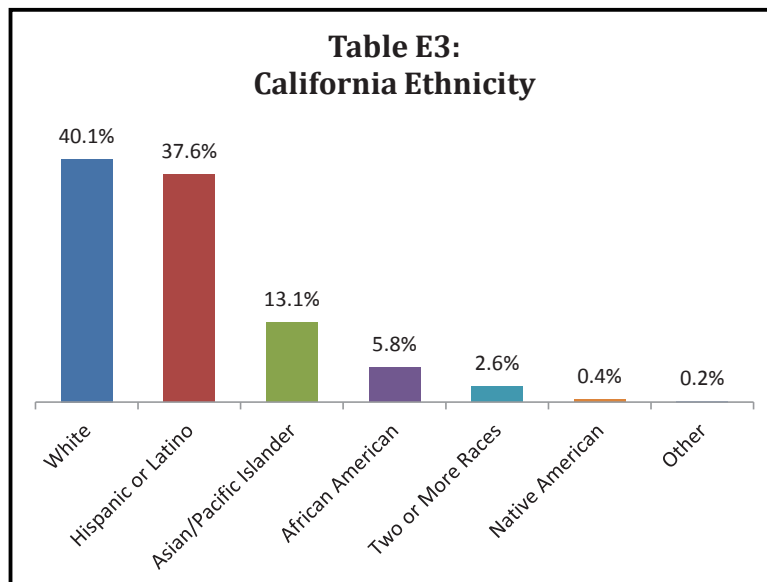
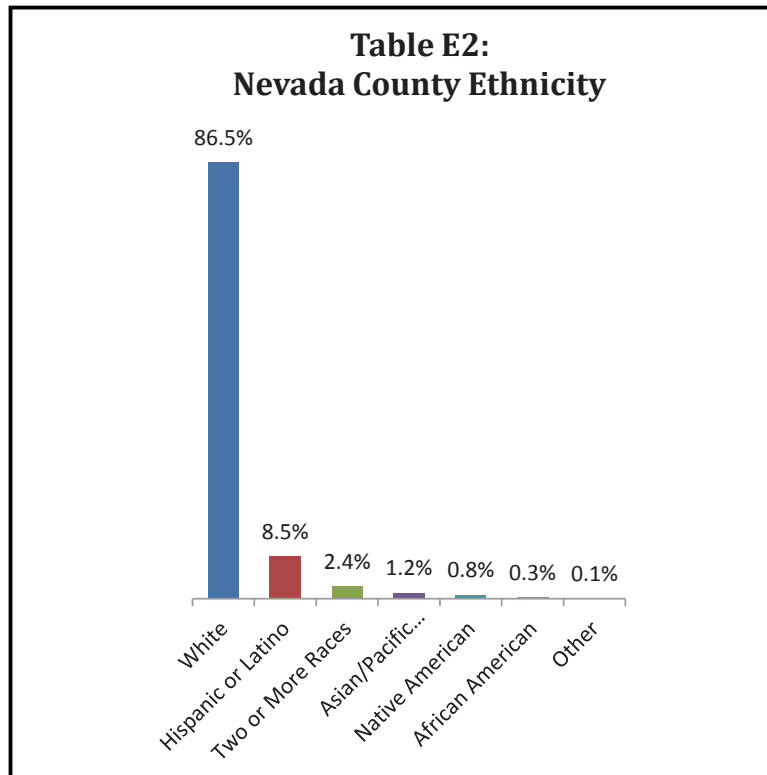
Nevada County is home to a large percentage of residents between the ages of 45-74. Residents between the ages of 45 and 59 comprised the county’s largest age group in 2010, representing 25% of the population (NCEO). The next largest age group was the 60-74 year old age range, representing 20% of the county’s population. In 2012 the overall percentage of people aged 65 and over living in Nevada County (21.5%) was much higher than the statewide percentage of 12.1% (U.S. Census Bureau 2013). Nevada County also differs greatly from the statewide totals in its percentage of young residents under the age of 30. In 2010 only 31% of Nevada County residents were under 30 years old, compared to the statewide percentage of 43% (NCEO 2013).



Like most of its nearby counties the ethnic make-up of Nevada County is predominantly Caucasian, representing 94% of its total population in 2012 (U.S. Census Bureau 2013). The next largest ethnic group is Hispanic at 8.9% followed by 1% each of Asian and Native American groups

and 0.5% African American (U.S. Census Bureau 2013). Only 6.6% of residents spoke a language other than English at home, a greatly lower percentage than the 2012 statewide total of 43.5% (U.S. Census Bureau 2013).

Overall Nevada County has comparatively higher education statistics than those of the state as a whole. In 2012, 95% of Nevada County residents older than 25 had a high school degree or higher compared to 84.2% statewide. Data from 2010 show that 72% of residents either attended some college or pursued or completed a higher education degree compared to 60% statewide (U.S. Census Bureau 2013; NCEO 2013).



The median household income in Nevada County between 2008 and 2012 was \$57,382 slightly lower than the statewide median of \$61,400 (U.S. Census Bureau 2013). People living below the poverty level in Nevada County between 2008 and 2012 made up 11.6% of the population, compared with the slightly higher statewide total of 15.3% (U.S. Census Bureau 2013).

The demographic data for Nevada County should be considered in future interpretive projects, especially those concerned with broadening audiences, expanding programs, advertising and publicity, and public events.

References

Nevada County Executive Office

2012 Nevada County Demographic and Statistical Profile, Fiscal Year 2012/2013. Prepared by Nevada County Executive Office. Accessed from the official County of Nevada website at <http://www.mynevadacounty.com/nc/ceo/docs/Demographic%20Final.pdf>

United States Census Bureau

2010 General Population Census for 2010. Available on the U.S. Department of Commerce, United States Census Bureau American Fact Finder website: http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/community_facts.xhtml

2013 Population Estimate for 2013. Available on the U.S. Department of Commerce, United States Census Bureau American Fact Finder website: http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/community_facts.xhtml

APPENDIX F

Educational Standards

CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION RELEVANT CONTENT STANDARDS

HISTORY-SOCIAL SCIENCE CONTENT STANDARDS

Grade 3:

3.2: Students describe the American Indian nations in their local region long ago and in the recent past

Grade 4:

4.3.3: Analyze the effects of the Gold Rush on settlements, daily life, politics, and the physical environment.

4.4.2: Explain how the Gold Rush transformed the economy of California, including the types of products produced and consumed, changes in towns (e.g., Sacramento, San Francisco), and economic conflicts between diverse groups of people.

4.4.3: Discuss immigration and migration to California between 1850 and 1900, including the diverse composition of those who came; the countries of origin and their relative locations; and conflicts and accords among the diverse groups.

4.4.7: Trace the evolution of California's water system into a network of dams, aqueducts, and reservoirs.

Grade 5:

5.1: Students describe the major pre-Columbian settlements, including the cliff dwellers and pueblo people of the desert Southwest, the American Indians of the Pacific Northwest, the nomadic nations of the Great Plains, and the woodland peoples east of the Mississippi River.

5.3: Students describe the cooperation and conflict that existed among the American Indians and between the Indian nations and the new settlers.

CALIFORNIA'S NEXT GENERATION SCIENCE STANDARDS FOR K-12 (ADOPTED 2013)

Grade 2:

2-ESS1-1. Use information from several sources to provide evidence that Earth events can occur quickly or slowly. [Clarification Statement: Examples of events and timescales could include volcanic explosions and earthquakes, which happen quickly and erosion of rocks, which occurs slowly.] [Assessment Boundary: Assessment does not include quantitative measurements of timescales.]

2-ESS2-1. Compare multiple solutions designed to slow or prevent wind or water from changing the shape of the land.* [Clarification Statement: Examples of solutions could include different designs of dikes and windbreaks to hold back wind and water, and different designs for using shrubs, grass, and trees to hold back the land.]

2-ESS2-2. Develop a model to represent the shapes and kinds of land and bodies of water in an area. [Assessment Boundary: Assessment does not include quantitative scaling in models.]

Grade 4:

4-ESS1-1. Identify evidence from patterns in rock formations and fossils in rock layers to support an explanation for changes in a landscape over time. [Clarification Statement: Examples of evidence from patterns could include rock layers with marine shell fossils above rock layers with plant fossils and no shells, indicating a change from land to water over time; and, a canyon with different rock layers in the walls and a river in the bottom, indicating that over time a river cut through the rock.] [Assessment Boundary: Assessment does not include specific knowledge of the mechanism of rock formation or memorization of specific rock formations and layers. Assessment is limited to relative time.]

4-ESS2-1. Make observations and/or measurements to provide evidence of the effects of weathering or the rate of erosion by water, ice, wind, or vegetation. [Clarification Statement: Examples of variables to test could include angle of slope in the downhill movement of water, amount of vegetation, speed of wind, relative rate of deposition, cycles of freezing and thawing of water, cycles of heating and cooling, and volume of water flow.] [Assessment Boundary: Assessment is limited to a single form of weathering or erosion.]

Grade 5:

5-ESS3-1. Obtain and combine information about ways individual communities use science ideas to protect the Earth's resources and environment.

Grade 6:

MS-ESS3-1. Construct a scientific explanation based on evidence for how the uneven distributions of Earth's mineral, energy, and groundwater resources are the result of past and current geoscience processes. [Clarification Statement: Emphasis is on how these resources are limited and typically non-renewable, and how their distributions are significantly changing as a result of removal by humans. Examples of uneven distributions of resources as a result of past processes include but are not limited to petroleum (locations of the burial of organic marine sediments and subsequent geologic traps), metal ores (locations of past volcanic and hydrothermal activity associated with subduction zones), and soil (locations of active weathering and/or deposition of rock).]

MS-ESS3-3. Apply scientific principles to design a method for monitoring and minimizing a human impact on the environment.* [Clarification Statement: Examples of the design process include examining human environmental impacts, assessing the kinds of

solutions that are feasible, and designing and evaluating solutions that could reduce that impact. Examples of human impacts can include water usage (such as the withdrawal of water from streams and aquifers or the construction of dams and levees), land usage (such as urban development, agriculture, or the removal of wetlands), and pollution (such as of the air, water, or land).]

Content standards accessible at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/be/st/ss/>

APPENDIX G
Stakeholder Meetings

Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park Stakeholders Meeting

Wednesday, 25 September 2013, 6:30-8:30pm

Meeting Summary

Introductions/Welcome

The meeting began at 6:40pm. The following people were present: Jonathan Burgasser, Bob Cantisano, Brian Cahill, Larry Clark, Natalie Davenport, Jim Dierberger, Matt Green, Denise Jaffke, Marilyn Linkem, Dan Lubin, Donna Pozzi, Carolyn Schimandle, Joel Tracy, Sue Tracy, Mark Selverston, Dana Shew, Adrian Praetzellis, Don Schmidt, Bill Lindemann.

Project Overview

Bill Lindemann introduced the project and introduced the project team. He also gave an explanation of the Interpretation Master Plan (IMP) and reviewed its purpose and objectives. He highlighted the need for interpretation to connect visitors to resources and empower invested stewards. The IMP was compared to a roadmap for the future, mapping out achievable plans. Dana Shew presented preliminary results of the visitor surveys conducted at the Park this summer. Between June 1 and August 25, 181 surveys were conducted representing 570 visitors. Analysis shows that most visitors are from parts of Northern California. Most visitors want to learn more about Mining and North Bloomfield History with only 1% of guests wanting more information on Native American history. The top three activities in the park are museum visits, town tours/visits, and hiking. Eighty nine percent of visitors would visit again.

Park Operations Status

Don Schmidt gave a report on Park Operations. The Park museum has been open Friday, Saturday, and Sunday since June and has been running interpretive programs mostly on Saturdays that include gold panning and town tours. John Burgasser has been working at the Park on Saturdays and Sundays and Senior Park Aide, Deborah Pfanner has been working Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays. Several different maintenance crew members work at the Park and workers from other parks fill in when necessary. The Park will be closed for the season beginning September 30. Patrols from nearby parks will include Malakoff on their routes during closure.

Meeting Format/Structure

Bill reviewed the purpose of the stakeholder meeting, emphasizing interpretation rather than budgets or closures. The meeting format was explained.

Interpretive Topic Identification

Attendees offered suggestions of interpretive topics which were recorded on large pieces of paper and hung on the walls to be referenced during breakout sessions. Four pages of ideas were generated. (see attached "List of Interpretive Topics" for details).

Breakout Sessions

The group was divided into four smaller discussion groups of 3 or 4 people each. These groups discussed topics at four topic stations manned by Bill, Don, Adrian, and Dana. Each group spent ten

minutes at each station. Ideas were collected and recorded. (see attached “Discussion Topics” for details).

Wrap Up/What’s Next

The discussion groups concluded at 8:30pm. There was not time to complete the remainder of the agenda activities. Attendees were informed that they would receive meeting summaries and would be invited to review the draft IMP during the review period.

Malakoff Diggins Stakeholder Meeting Attendance
Wednesday, 25 September 2013, 6:30pm
List of Attendees

Name	Title	Organization
Burgasser, Jonathan	Malakoff Park Ranger	California State Parks
Cahill, Brian	Acting Chief, Interp and Ed Division	California State Parks
Cantisano, Bob	Agriculturalist, Park Volunteer, Founder	Felix Gillet Institute
Clark, Larry	Park Association member	Malakoff Diggins Park Association
Davenport, Natalie	District Curator	California State Parks
Dierberger, Jim		
Green, Matt	Sierra Gold Sector Superintendent	California State Parks
Jaffke, Denise	District Archaeologist	California State Parks
Lindemann, Bill	Regional Interpretive Specialist	California State Parks
Linkem, Marilyn	Sierra District Superintendent	California State Parks
Lubin, Dan	Environmental Scientist Sierra Dist.	California State Parks
Pozzi, Donna	Chief of Interpretation and Education	California State Parks
Praetzellis, Adrian	ASC Director	Sonoma State University
Schimandle, Carolyn	Intepreter III	California State Parks
Schmidt, Don	Park Ranger	California State Parks
Selverston, Mark	ASC Staff	Sonoma State University
Shew, Dana	ASC Staff	Sonoma State University
Tracy, Joel	Park Volunteer	California State Parks
Tracy, Sue	Park Volunteer	California State Parks

Malakoff Diggins Interpretive Focus Group
Thursday, December 12, 2013, 10am-2pm
Empire Mine State Historic Park Docent Building
Meeting Summary

Introductions/Welcome

In attendance were Jonathan Burgasser, Ross and Maiya Gralia, Ken Huie, Denise Jaffke, Bill Lindemann, Debora Pfanner, Adrian Praetzellis, Don Schmidt, Mark Selverston, Greg Sherr, and Dana Shew.

Meeting Purpose

The purpose of the focus group meeting was discussed. The goal of the meeting was to identify interpretive zones, categorize and prioritize resources, and begin theme building.

Breakout Groups

The attendees were broken up into three groups that rotated through three different stations each representing a type of resource in the Park: Natural, Cultural, and Recreational. At each station groups shared ideas on appropriate interpretive topics and priorities.

Group Discussion

As a group the different interpretive zones in the Park were identified and interpretive resources grouped within each zone.

Breakout Groups

The attendees reassembled in groups and generated lists of prioritized interpretive topics by resource type and attendance type.

Group Discussion/Theme Building

A group discussion was held regarding the creation of an overarching universal theme for the Park. Bill discussed the characteristics of a theme and shared theme development worksheets. Several thematic ideas were generated. Time ran out so it was decided to finish the discussion via e-mail and attendees would send Dana their suggestions for themes. Suggestions shared at the meeting include:

Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park is...

- a World Heritage Site
- a significant link to California Gold Rush history
- the largest hydraulic gold mine in the world
- responsible for the passing of the first environmental law in the country
- the site of natural healing
- a geological wonder

-Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park, the site of the largest hydraulic gold mine in the world, created so much waste during its heyday that it devastated valley communities and caused the passage of the country's first environmental regulation.

-The story of Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park is one of dramatic changes ranging from its geology, to human history, to man's quest for gold, to its natural recovery.

**Malakoff Diggins Interpretive Focus Group
Thursday, December 12, 2013, 10am-2pm
Empire Mine State Historic Park Docent Building**

List of Attendees

Name	Title	Organization
Burgasser, Jonathan	Malakoff Ranger	California State Parks
Gralia, Maiya	Archaeologist	California State Parks
Gralia, Ross	Archaeologist	California State Parks
Huie, Ken	Former Malakoff Ranger	California State Parks
Jaffke, Denise	District Archaeologist	California State Parks
Lindemann, Bill	Regional Interpretive Specialist	California State Parks
Pfanner, Debora	Senior Park Aide	California State Parks
Praetzellis, Adrian	ASC	Sonoma State University
Scmidt, Don	Park Ranger	California State Parks
Selverston, Mark	ASC	Sonoma State University
Sherr, Greg	Former Malakoff Ranger	California State Parks
Shew, Dana	ASC	Sonoma State University

Malakoff Diggins IMP Draft Review Meeting
Friday, September 19, 2014, 10am-2pm
Empire Mine State Historic Park Docent Building
Meeting Summary

Introductions/Welcome

In attendance were Jonathan Burgasser, Bill Lindemann, Debora Pfanner, Mark Selverston, Dana Shew, and Dan Youngren.

Meeting Purpose

The purpose of the draft review meeting was discussed. The goal of the meeting was to solicit additional comments and suggestions on the IMP draft as written thus far and to move forward with ideas for the Interpretive Action Plan.

Group Discussion

Chapter Review:

As a group the IMP draft was reviewed, page by page, with all comments and notes recorded by Dana Shew, to be incorporated into revised drafts.

Interpretation Action Plan:

After the draft was reviewed attendees shared ideas and suggestions for interpretive projects at the Park to be incorporated into the Interpretive Action Plan. All ideas were recorded by Dana Shew to be incorporated into the objectives, strategies, and tasks of the Interpretive Action Plan.

Meeting Adjourned

This was the last group meeting before a draft IMP will be presented to the public for a 30-day review period. The attendees were encouraged to contact Dana Shew with any additional thoughts or suggestions before that time. Attendees will also be able to comment during the 30-day review period.

Malakoff Diggins IMP Draft Review Focus Group
Friday, September 19, 2014, 10am-2pm, Empire Mine State Historic Park Docent Building
List of Attendees

Name	Title	Organization
Burgasser, Jonathan	Malakoff Ranger	California State Parks
Lindemann, Bill	Regional Interpretive Specialist	California State Parks
Pfanner, Debora	Senior Park Aide	California State Parks
Youngren, Dan	Park Ranger	California State Parks
Selverston, Mark	ASC	Sonoma State University
Shew, Dana	ASC	Sonoma State University

APPENDIX H

Interpretive Activity Report



INTERPRETIVE ACTIVITY REPORT

356 - MALAKOFF DIGGINS STATE HISTORIC PARK
01-Jun-13 to 30-Jun-14

	Programs	Permanent Pres. Hrs	Seasonal Pres. Hrs	Volunteer Pres. Hrs	Total Pres. Hrs	Attendance	Average Program Length	Total Hrs Public Education
DPR INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATIONS/CONTACTS								
RECREATIONAL CLINICS	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	190	4.00	760.00
TOTAL:	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	190		760.00
DPR PRESENTED PROGRAMS								
HIKES, TOURS, TALKS, DEMOS & AUDIO-VISUAL PROGS	71.00	9.00	104.00	55.00	168.00	1123	1.50	1684.50
K-12 SCHOOL PROGRAMS - ENVIRONMENTAL LIVING	20.00	8.00	128.00	30.00	166.00	508	24.00	12192.00
K-12 SCHOOL PROGRAMS - ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES	3.00	0.00	18.00	12.00	30.00	108	24.00	2592.00
K-12 SCHOOL PROGRAMS - IN-PARK	22.00	0.00	58.00	6.00	64.00	1204	2.80	3371.20
LIVING HISTORY PROGRAMS	2.00	26.00	41.00	340.00	407.00	646	3.50	2261.00
TOTAL:	118.00	43.00	349.00	443.00	835.00	3589		22100.70
SELF-GUIDED INTERPRETIVE OPPORTUNITIES								
JUNIOR RANGERS (Self-Guided Activities)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	29	2.00	58.00
SELF-GUIDED TRAILS AND TOURS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1142	0.05	57.10
VISITOR CENTERS AND MUSEUM VISITS	0.00	120.00	239.00	163.00	522.00	3946	0.05	197.30
TOTAL:	0.00	120.00	239.00	163.00	522.00	5117		312.40
GRAND TOTAL:	119.00	163.00	588.00	606.00	1357.00	8896.00		23173.10

APPENDIX I

Master Plan Narrative

MASTER PLAN NARRATIVE

Malahoff Diggins State Historic Park

Prepared by

Interpretive Services Section

June 1967

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GOVERNING PRINCIPLES

INTRODUCTION:

Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park is located approximately 14 miles north-northeast of Nevada City, between San Juan Ridge and the south fork of the Yuba River. Its history centers on gold mining activities beginning in 1850 and continuing throughout the latter half of the 19th Century and into the 20th.

During this time the destruction caused by the hydraulic mines introducing silt and gravel into the rivers was felt in areas as far away as Sacramento and the Delta Region. This resulted in moral and legal indictment against the North Bloomfield Gravel Mining Company which ultimately closed hydraulic operations at Malakoff and other similar areas throughout California.

Today Malakoff Diggins and North Bloomfield are symbolic of a period in mining history that has all but ceased to exist. As a State Historic Park, it will identify and interpret the story of hydraulic mining in California and its impact upon the history of the state.

DECLARATION OF PURPOSE (PROPOSED)

The purpose of Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park is to make available for the education and enjoyment of present and future generations this historic site of extensive hydraulic mining operations and to explain the destructive effect its continued operation had on the agricultural and natural resources of the Sacramento Valley and Delta Region.

The function of the Division of Beaches and Parks at Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park is to manage the area so as to preserve the essential elements of the period from 1870-1910 by stabilizing and restoring those structures and facilities found suited in and around the community of North Bloomfield as they were then and to retain the Diggins area in its historic condition.

OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

UNIT RESOURCES AND VALUES

Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park is capable of projecting the story of the full impact made on California's history by hydraulic mining operations. Its significant resources consist of the escarpment and pit created by mining and the town of North Bloomfield, which served those living in the vicinity. These constitute only a part of over 5,000 acres that serve as the theme and purpose for establishment of the park and will provide the major attraction. The total project encompasses practically an entire valley, at the 3 to 4,000 foot elevation and offers outstanding opportunities for picnicking, camping, group activities, etc., in addition to interpretation of mining activities and other aspects relating to the historic period. Present facilities are 24 family campsites, a group area for 80 people, four small picnic areas, and several buildings within the town. Water resources of the area include springs that rise within the project boundaries; Humbug Creek, the south fork of the Yuba River, and Blair Pond which has been created by a diversion of Humbug Creek. Vegetative cover types include mixed conifer, black oak, and chaparral. Manzanita is the dominant cover. Wildlife includes such species as opossum, bear, bobcat, deer, racoon, squirrel, porcupine, ravens, jays, and other bird life. Fish are regularly planted in the major streams by the Department of Fish and Game.

Access to the area is primarily via county road from Nevada City, with another from the town of Washington via the Pelief Hill Road, and a third from North Columbia by way of Crusen and Back Bone County Road. A route paralleling the northern boundary is available via Snow Tent County

Road. This makes contact with both the Cruzon Grade and Graniteville County Roads. All are unimproved.

Proposed recreational facilities do not detract from the area's historic scene. The combination of vegetative cover and open meadows, and of ponds and streams suited for recreational use is a major factor in attracting people to the area.

SERVICE POLICIES AND GUIDELINES

The framework for land management, development, preservation of values, and interpretation must relate to specific proposals stated in the Declaration of Purpose. A study has been made of land and present boundaries. Boundaries should follow the ridge summit in all instances, and water resources should be enhanced by acquisition of the head of Humbug Creek.

It follows that water resources must be guarded and improved wherever practicable. Increased visitor use will tax this resource to the limit. Consideration must be given to development of additional water sources.

Fire and accelerated natural erosion are major threats to Malakoff. In order to guarantee an adequate water supply for fire preventative measures and drinking it will be necessary to acquire the head of Humbug Creek and the entire basin up to the ridge line. Roads must be constructed along ridge tops which will enable fire equipment to reach all areas of the park with ease within minimal time span.

Ecological and historical features of a fragile nature shall not be subjected to overuse or encroachment by incompatible elements. Recreational activity will be subordinate to historical and aesthetic (scenic) values. Historic resources are identified as the town of North

Bloomfield, Lake City, and the Malakoff and China Diggins sites. Scenic resources are the major escarpment at Malakoff Diggins, the Yuba River, Humbug Creek, and the lush vegetative cover of the area. This natural environ will be kept inviolate except where it becomes necessary to remove selected trees in order to enhance the scene, and/or achieve historical authenticity and/or where trails are required to bring the visitor to overlooks and historic mining equipment and signs used in depicting the area and its history.

Care will be exercised to provide scenic buffers between historical and natural environ and to insure that vehicular traffic will not intrude upon historic elements. In developing overnight use areas at least 200 feet shall be left between campsites and major park roads. The natural beauty of Derbec Meadows will be insured by setting campsites a sufficient distance to protect landscape characteristics.

Road relocation is necessary in the vicinity of Lake City in order to facilitate public use and access. Traffic in North Bloomfield will be diverted around this historic complex, leaving the street free of automotive vehicles. Visitors will walk from screened parking areas or ride by horse drawn or mine car transport.

North Bloomfield will ultimately become a concession area. Interim use by staff of present housing and service quarters will end with construction of adequate service and housing facilities outside the historical complex. Emphasis on historic restoration and reconstruction will center on North Bloomfield and will be governed by need and appropriateness to the historic scene. Businesses and buildings considered in keeping with the development program are a general merchandise store, a

drugstore, butcher shop, restaurant, hotel, church, laundry, shoe repair, dress shop, brewery, dance hall, livery stable, and fire house. Most of these activities do not now exist in the town. All such buildings will have facades in keeping with the period 1870-1910. Concessioning will be restricted to those activities listed and will be phased in accordance with need or built with private funds under specifications imposed by or enforced through the Department of Parks and Recreation. Concessions will be best handled through a master concessionaire, with primary effort being addressed to general store and livery stable activity. Public buildings (fire house, museum, etc.) will be maintained and operated by the State. The Museum shall be constructed on a site which complements the primary features of the park. Its function will include administrative direction and interpretation of historical and natural history assets covering Malakoff's early story, its development as a hydraulic mining area, its decline, and its general influence on the area, the region and the state as a whole.

LAND MANAGEMENT PRINCIPLES

Since Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park features a great historic display in an essentially natural setting, it is important that the basic elements of that natural setting be perpetuated and protected against deterioration. In effect, the land management must be similar to that of a natural park unit of comparable area.

Timber resources at Malakoff were undoubtedly utilized freely during the mining period; and the entire basin of Humbug Creek has been cut over in varying degrees of severity. In some places young forest growth has rapidly returned and produced dense tree cover, while elsewhere the trees have been replaced only by bush.

Because the principal objective here is historical in nature, it is not important that the vegetation be managed to achieve an early return to a natural or virgin condition. A partially modified appearance in the vegetation is more in keeping with the history and emphasis of this unit. Study of the area reveals certain locations where it is desirable to prevent, for historical reasons, a natural return to full forest cover; and likewise other places where reforestation should be hastened.

The importance of protection against hazards (fire and accelerated erosion) at Malakoff can hardly be over-emphasized. Since both climate and vegetation at Malakoff are conducive to extensive fire danger in the summer and early fall, planning and construction of basic fire protection facilities unhindered by property lines is essential.

Since the Malakoff Diggins themselves are a phenomenon of artificial erosion on a large scale, it is ironical that accelerated erosion must be recognized as a potential threat to natural values at Malakoff. More detailed study of the basin will reveal those areas where special measures should be taken to control or to prevent erosional damage.

At this time no localities of special ecological significance or unusual characteristics are known.

USE BRIEF

Visitor use areas at Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park offer historical, aesthetic, and recreational possibilities. Major emphasis will be placed on interpretation of historical resources; (1) the spectacular embankments which identify the hydraulic operation areas and (2) the town of North Bloomfield. In each place the visitor will enjoy a unique educational and inspirational experience. He will be shown and

be made aware of the tremendous impact made upon the natural environ and the economic history of the state by hydraulic mining operations. He will walk down a street bordered by buildings representing a passage of time totaling nearly 100 years. He will be invited to partake further of the experience by enjoying a meal in a typical restaurant or boarding house of the times, staying overnight in a period hotel, enjoying horse drawn transportation for a ride around the town, visiting a mining and pioneer museum, and in relaxing in an area of natural beauty.

Secondary emphasis will be placed upon recreational outlets of more commonplace type: camping, picnicking, fishing, hiking, swimming, and campfire programs. Facilities will consist of a trailer camp, picnic grounds, campfire centers, campgrounds (Class A & B), and several primitive camping areas. Planning will include consideration of group participation in church, sport, hiking, and equestrian activities.

UNIT ORGANIZATION BRIEF

Major operations objectives are (1) to provide protection for the park, (2) to interpret the history of the area, and (3) to provide for the recreational needs.

This will include duties outlined as patrol and maintenance functions, administration, hazard reduction work, public contact and visitor information, and liaison with other agencies, state and county.

Under "patrol functions", the staff will provide public patrol of boundaries, and campsites, enforce the public resources code, provide lifeguard service, and guard against vegetative, flood, erosion, and fire damage.

Maintenance functions will include winterizing of all buildings,

weed and insect abatement, minor repair to park roads, tables, benches, structures, equipment, as well as general upkeep of grounds, and public facilities.

Administration and operation will be maintained by a Ranger III, supported by one State Park Ranger II, four State Park Ranger I's, five State Park Attendants, two Historical Guides, one Intermediate Typist Clerk, and seasonal park aids and lifeguards as required. Direct liaison will be constantly maintained with master concessionaire as well as county and state.

Justification for these positions will be based upon increase in visitor attendance, need for staggered hours, increase in hazard, and augmentation of responsibility and function.

The administration center will be located in the museum building, with supplemental public contact areas being located in the town of North Bloomfield and at kiosks controlling major entrances to the unit.

All service quarters and park residences will be built outside the historic area and adequately screened from public view.

Liaison with individuals and/or other agencies shall include, but not be limited to, state and county fire departments, state and county sheriff's departments, educational and recreational organizations, county road departments, health departments, and historical societies.

We estimate the attendance at Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park for fiscal year 1967-68 to reach 16,000 people.

Estimated revenue for 1967-68 fiscal year should total approximately \$3,000.

Salaries, based upon present staffing totals \$22,400.

Optimum annual attendance foreseen for Malakoff Diggins State Historic

Park approximates 250,000 with an estimated revenue, based on current figures of \$100,000.

These figures are considerably below estimates submitted by unit and district analysis but are based upon our personal assessment of the unit's relative inaccessibility. Similarity of landscape precludes probability that local forces will make heavy use of the area. These conditions tend to negate early development of concessionaire facilities without which the public cannot be properly served.

Ending in a happier vein, we must reiterate that Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park serves a unique and valuable purpose in describing historic events and efforts engaged in by our early forebears, and in providing future recreational outlet for our teeming urban population.

APPENDIX J

Declaration of Purpose

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR MALAKOFF DIGGINS STATE HISTORIC PARK

DECLARATION OF PURPOSE

A. Public Use

The purpose of Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park is to preserve and interpret for the education, inspiration, and enjoyment of present and future generations, the site of this extensive hydraulic mining operation and the other associated cultural and natural values. Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park will provide an historic environment within an appropriate natural setting that is representative of the height of hydraulic mining in northern California. Interpretation will emphasize the primary themes for the unit and will be carried out in accordance with the proposals and policies outlined in the Unit's Interpretive Prospectus. Necessary services and compatible facilities will be provided for the safety, convenience, and enjoyment of visitors.

B. Primary Themes, Periods and Zone

The primary themes for this unit are the industrial and social histories of the growth and decline of hydraulic gold mining in northern California. These themes include the changing economic, social, and cultural conditions of life that accompanied this development, specifically as these themes are relevant to the Malakoff district. Secondary themes include the aboriginal history of the area; the status and role of the Chinese members of the North Bloomfield community; the changing economic status of the miner from entrepreneur to wage laborer; the character of existing floral, faunal, hydrologic, and geologic resources; the relationship of these natural resources to regional legal and economic development and the effect of these developments on the natural environment.

The themes outlined above encompass a flow of history extending from the earliest identifiable aboriginal occupation of the property possibly as early as 1000 B.C. through the 1930s, by which time hydraulic operations had ceased but limited placer mining operations were still being conducted. The complete flow of history must be considered, in order that human use of natural resources in this region can be adequately interpreted.

A prime period which encompasses the height of hydraulic mining activities will be emphasized. The prime period will be from 1866, the date of formation of the North Bloomfield Gravel Mining Company, until 1910, by which time the era of large scale hydraulic mining had ended.

Resource Management Directive 45 provides for the establishment of Zones of Primary Cultural Interest in units of the State Park System having significant cultural values. The Zone of Primary Cultural Interest at Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park has been defined to encompass the following sites and features: the North Bloomfield townsite; the ridge containing the slaughterhouse site, the pressure box site, and related hydraulic features; the Blair Reservoir; the Malakoff hydraulic pit; the Lake City townsite; aboriginal archeological site MD:1; and the aboriginal sites located along both sides of the North Bloomfield Road between the southwestern end of the Malakoff pit and the Lake City townsite. The boundaries of this zone are defined below and are indicated on the accompanying map. Within this zone, complete historical and archeological integrity and authenticity will be sought.

The area included with the Zone of Primary Cultural Interest is bounded on the east by Humbug Creek and on the southeast by the northern limit of the China/Haner-Brockmire Diggins to the south and west. The zone extends from the southwestern extreme of the Malakoff pit in the form of a corridor about 450 meters (1475 feet) wide. The North Bloomfield Road runs through the center of this corridor, which extends to the southwest to encompass the Lake City townsite.

Several other areas of the unit also contain highly sensitive cultural and natural values. Several of these areas are indicated on the accompanying map. Although these resources lie outside the Zone of Primary Cultural Interest, any development in these areas will be subject to the conditions outlined below under the Declaration of Management Policy. Because of the high intensity of historic activities in the Malakoff region, all areas of the unit are considered to be of at least moderate cultural resource sensitivity. Development in any area of the unit will be preceded by a review of the cultural and natural values present.