

Professional Organizations

California State Parks is an active member of professional organizations composed of other recreation providers. Membership in these organizations provides the Department with opportunities to develop cooperative programs and projects. The following is a representative sampling of Professional Organizations and is not purported to be a complete list.

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California Association of Regional Park and Open Space Administrators



Projects and Programs

The California Association of Regional Park and Open Space Administrators (CARPOSA) participates in the formation, review and adoption of state and federal legislation, offering assistance, recommendations and comments to local, state and federal officials on pertinent issues. CARPOSA also presents growth and educational opportunities for professional staff members at different levels in all agencies' organizations, as well as organizing dynamic and interesting conferences for members.

Benefits to California State Parks

State Park staff attends and presents at CARPOSA conferences. Participation in these events and others encourages networking between agencies to promote professional development.

When

Year-round

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California Park and Recreation Society

Projects and Programs

The California Park and Recreation Society (CPRS) was established in 1945 to provide park, recreation, leisure and community service professionals, educators and interested citizens with the knowledge and resources to enhance their leadership in creating community through people, parks and programs. It is the largest state park and recreation professional organization in the country. It has members in 85% of the 535 park and recreation agencies in the state. CPRS hosts an annual regional conference of 5 western states; produces a quarterly magazine and a bi-monthly newsletter; creates and organizes technical assistance resources and materials; provides trends information; and monitors state and federal legislation important to parks and recreation.



Benefits to California State Parks

The California Park and Recreation Society serves as the unifying voice for all park and recreation providers in the state. CPRS promotes state park information and provides a vehicle to communicate to local park and recreation providers.

When

Year-round



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California Roundtable on Recreation, Parks and Tourism

Projects and Programs



**California Roundtable
on Recreation, Parks and Tourism**

The California Roundtable on Recreation, Parks and Tourism (CRRPT) was founded to encourage cooperation between public and private entities involved and interested in outdoor recreation, public lands and tourism in California. Members include recreation, parks and tourism leaders from local, state and federal governmental organizations; private enterprises, user groups, environmental groups, educational institutions and the public.

Programs have included symposiums, workshops, research publications, maps and a guide to outdoor recreation opportunities in California.



Benefits to California State Parks

California State Parks is a founding member of the CRRPT. Membership enables the department to keep abreast of innovative ideas, fosters cooperation with like-minded entities, and improves communication with the public.



When

Year-round

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California State Park Rangers Association

Projects and Programs

The California State Park Rangers Association (CSPRA) is a professional non-profit organization open to all state park employees, and includes rangers, trades and maintenance workers, resource ecologists, guides, district interpretive specialists, and office technicians among its members. Employees from all disciplines support CSPRA's advocacy for state parks and the park professionals who dedicate themselves to the care of state parks.

CSPRA has accomplished many tasks and achieved some important goals. CSPRA has been in the forefront of many environmental battles. Some of the many accomplishments include arguing for Pescadero Marsh reclassification from park to reserve status; successfully urging that the Off-Highway Vehicle units be included as part of the current state park system, rather than creating a separate OHV department; and supporting successful initiatives such as the California bottle bill and a ban against off-shore oil drilling. Since 1974, CSPRA has strongly lobbied in support of all Park Bond Acts and initiatives.

Together with the Park Rangers Association of California, CSPRA sponsors an Annual California Parks Conference, attracting park professionals from many agencies throughout the state. CSPRA publishes a bi-monthly newsletter as well as a web page, to keep members up-to-date on current issues and trends.

CSPRA also offers its members financial assistance through scholarships under the direction of the CSPRA Education and Training Committee. Up to \$200 per year is available to members for assistance in park related education. Details and application procedures can be found at www.cspra.com.

Benefits to California State Parks

CSPRA is concerned about the resources of the State Park System as well as the individual park professionals who serve them. Since 1967 CSPRA has been providing scholarships to its members to attend training and conferences, and has provided relief for its members in times of disaster or personal tragedy. Keeping the spirit of the park family alive is one of CSPRA's most important objectives

When Year-round

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