Dear Park Supporter,

Whether you live in Santa Cruz County or enjoy visiting, it’s about quality of life – and our parks and beaches are at the center of it all. From the redwoods to the sea, state parks enable us to get out and enjoy the natural environment, explore cultural history and teach our children and grandchildren.

Santa Cruz County has more state parks and beaches that any other in California. Friends of Santa Cruz State Parks proudly supports operations at 32 state parks and beaches in Santa Cruz County and along the San Mateo County coast through “The Friends Model.” The Friends Model extends what California State Parks can do for visitors, funding education and interpretation programs as well as capital improvement projects.

The model works – among 86 similar nonprofits in California, Friends is #1 in contributing funds to support state parks and beaches. And it works for a very good reason: thanks to people like you.

The magic in the model is the community support provided by Friends memberships, direct donations, purchases in our six ParkStores, tributes to friends and loved ones, planned giving, and community partnerships.

We’re looking forward to an even better year in 2014, with several key milestones and projects just around the corner including the 40th anniversary of Wilder Ranch, the 150th anniversary of California State Parks, public opening of the Castro Adobe and more improvements at the Santa Cruz Mission Adobe.

Whether you hike, bike, swim, run, walk or just love local state parks and beaches, Friends is here to protect them. Thank you for your generosity and support – which are vital to our work to sustain the legacy of our state parks and beaches!

Sincerely,

Bonny Hawley, Executive Director

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2013 was a great year! Thanks to supporters like you, we:

- Funded all education and interpretive services provided by state employees
- Funded operations to keep Santa Cruz Mission State Historic Park open
- Provided more than 100 local jobs at peak season and funded the second largest state parks volunteer program in California
- Funded key projects on behalf of State Parks, such as restoration of the historic Castro Adobe and painting the Natural Bridges Visitor Center/ParkStore
- Helped fund construction of the new equal access boardwalk at Ano Nuevo State Park
- Served 8,334 students through the Friends-funded “PORTS” program, which provides ranger-led live-stream video to classrooms throughout California
- Received two awards for community event outreach, including the Mole & Mariachi Festival and the Kitayama Brothers Gerbera Festival
In 2013, our community came together for beloved state parks and beaches through an amazing array of local events and partnerships.

**Friends-Hosted Events**
- Mole & Mariachi Festival
- Summer Event Series @ the Mission Adobe
- Earth Day @ Nisene Marks
- 4th of July Feed the Force

**Friends-Funded State Park Events**
- Welcome Back Monarchs and Migration Festival @ Natural Bridges
- Spring Planting Day, Heritage Harvest Festival, Old-fashioned 4th of July and Holidays at the Ranch @ Wilder Ranch

**Friends Partner Events & Programs**
- Warriors Green Week
- New Leaf Envirotokens
- Whole Foods Community Day
- Hilltromper.com
- Erik’s Delicafe 40th Anniversary
- Discretion Brewing “Love Monday”
- Santa Cruz Mountains Brewing “Thank-You Thursday”
- Fleet Feet 5K Run
- SausageFest
- Think Local First Mixer @ the Mission
- Kitayama Brothers Gerbera Festival
- Girls Gone Wilder/Wilder Ranch
- Roots That Rock
- PaintOurParks.org
- National Geographic Santa Cruz Trails Map Launch

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Your support makes it all possible.

To help Friends continue to make a difference for our local state parks and beaches, please consider a contribution. As always, your donation will be tax-deductible and all donated funds stay local.

- Online at www.thatsmypark.com/donate/membership (donate $25 or more and become a member)
- Mail a donation to 144 School Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

In addition to a donation, there are several other ways you can support Friends!

- Shop at our ParkStores: Natural Bridges State Beach, Santa Cruz Mission State Historic Park, Seacliff State Beach, Wilder Ranch State Park and online
- Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Pinterest
- Volunteer with Friends
- Visit our parks (Please remember to pay your entrance fee!)
- Attend local events hosted by Friends

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