

GOLDEN GATE
NATIONAL
PARKS
CONSERVANCY

2026 REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY



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STANDING FOR NATIONAL PARKS THANKS TO YOU

People showed up for these national parks in 2025. Again and again. In moments of uncertainty and change, resilience took shape across the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA) through steady action and shared commitment. Because of you, this was a year when our work for parks did not pause. It accelerated.

The year brought real tests, including the longest government shutdown in history, which disrupted park operations nationwide. With your help, we were able to provide emergency funding to keep places like Alcatraz and Fort Point open and welcoming visitors.

On Alcatraz, we used our collective voices to reinforce the island's importance as a national park site and continued work that centers its full history, alongside Indigenous partners and the National Park Service (NPS). At Fort Point, we worked with FOR-SITE on a final weekend for the "Black Gold: Stories Untold" exhibit, welcoming visitors who showed up ready to engage with history and art.

After years of planning and partnership, we completed the transformation of Hawk Hill to restore trails, improve access, and renew habitat. Partnership helped advance vital work at Muir Woods and China Beach, and we celebrated the reopening of a redwood retreat in the One Tam footprint, at Roy's Redwoods. Those park sites are full of everyday wonder and clear examples of what progress looks like when people invest for the long term.

Across these parks, people kept showing up despite 2025's challenges. Volunteers restored critical habitat. Youth leaders utilized the parks as climate classrooms. Visitors walked the trails, explored historic sites, and engaged with stories that challenge, inspire, and stay with them long after they leave.

Thank you for being part of that momentum. With your support, these parks are full of promise. Let's keep standing with parks, every day.

Warmly,



Christine Lehnertz
CHRISTINE LEHNERTZ
President & CEO



Eric Alt
ERIC ALT
Chair, Board of Trustees



Benayshe-Ba-Equay Titus, Exhibit Advisor, on the opening day of the *Welcome to Indian Land* exhibit on Alcatraz.

RESILIENCE IN ACTION ACROSS THESE PARKS

This year showed how people and parks adapt together. Across the region, the Parks Conservancy and our community strengthened ecosystems, created welcoming spaces, and expanded access to stories and experiences. The pillars outlined in this report highlight how resilience takes shape:



Climate Resilience Through Parks and People

THE CHALLENGE:

Climate pressures are reshaping local ecosystems.

▼ ACTIONS:

Youth & community members advanced climate learning through **community science programs, native plant care, and critical habitat restoration and stewardship**



Parks as Everyday Spaces

THE CHALLENGES:

National parks face aging infrastructure and increasing visitation.

▼ ACTIONS:

Improvements at Hawk Hill, Lands End, and Alcatraz enhanced daily experiences and supported volunteers and visitors.



Stories Without Barriers

THE CHALLENGE:

Communities still face linguistic, cultural, and systemic barriers to park experiences.

▼ ACTIONS:

Programs such as bilingual birding events, cultural celebrations, and youth learning initiatives expanded access and fostered meaningful connections.



CLIMATE RESILIENCE THROUGH PARKS AND PEOPLE

PARKS AS CLASSROOMS FOR CLIMATE CONVERSATIONS

92%

of PARKS CONSERVANCY PROGRAMS weave climate and/or social justice into their curriculum, ensuring we're building momentum for climate resilient parks—together.



HIGHLIGHTS ACROSS THE PARKS

“Thank you for providing this space where we can smell the wet soil and feel connected with the natural world. It reminds me of where I came from. You are all doing such amazing work for humanity and the environment, showing people this place.”

— A participant from Latino Outdoors after an event at Muir Woods.



Restoring Pathways for Monarchs to Thrive:

Across Marin, monarch butterfly habitat restoration is showing signs of hope. In 2025, we spotted an egg at Joske Grove during breeding season, and saw strong numbers at San Carlos Way. It looks like community stewardship and native plantings are helping these iconic pollinators through a changing climate.

Preparing Parks for Climate Change:

We helped identify climate vulnerabilities and adaptation strategies for 21 key species and habitats in the Golden Gate Biosphere Climate Assessment. This helps guide stewardship and strengthens climate resilience across the region's parklands, reflecting our commitment to care for people, place, and future.

Community Science in Action:

We hosted several community-driven BioBlitzes that engaged the public in hands-on biodiversity discovery. As we log species in iNaturalist, we deepen connections between people and nature, build ecological understanding, and support future stewardship.



When LINC students arrived at San Francisco's Civic Center for the Heart of the City Farmer's Market, they looked around, wide-eyed. They practiced, but stepping up to strangers with questions like "What do you think about climate change?" or "Are we gonna drown?" felt different in the moment. By the end, they were getting doused by older people with water guns.

In 2025, Crissy Field Center youth programs broadened what "service" looks like in national parks. The Parks Conservancy connects people to nearby parks, builds climate resilience learning, and brings those lessons back to local communities. This year, youth stepped into the work in more visible and powerful ways.

The Heart of the City event capped a summer of learning for LINC (Linking Individuals to their Natural Communities) youth leaders. They restored habitat and visited park sites like Bothin Marsh, where

rising seas frequently flood trails. They researched environmental justice topics, built presentations, and prepared to engage the public.

Staff selected the farmer's market for its proximity to transit, bringing together people from across San Francisco. Youth devised a passport activity, a spin wheel with the "dousing" option, and other tools to spark conversations, drawing in more than 50 community members to learn about environmental justice and climate resilience.

"They were so proud of themselves," said Darryl Burton, Program Manager. *"When you have a moment like that, it makes you want to do more."*

This summer, LINC will build on that momentum. Youth in one cohort will work alongside park scientists to gather real data and contribute to projects with meaningful scientific outcomes. With your support, young people are deepening their connection to the outdoors, and shaping their own paths toward a climate-resilient future.



JOSIAH TOMANPOS, above, was one of the LINC leaders presenting at the Heart of the City event! Hear more on his experience in a special video at annualreport.parksconservancy.org.

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GAVILÁN DE COLA ROJA

PARKS AS EVERYDAY SPACES

HAWK HILL: WHERE WONDER IS CLOSE TO HOME

8,300

VOLUNTEERS participated in events across the parks in 2025—digging in the dirt and standing up for what they love. And it's not just planting: volunteers also help with education, lifeguarding, community science, and more.



HIGHLIGHTS ACROSS THE PARKS

A special SHOUT-OUT to the:

1,500

REGULAR VOLUNTEERS who come back again and again to boost parks!

Improving Everyday Park Spaces

Major concrete repairs at **Lands End** and an interim electric grid on **Alcatraz** have enhanced safety, access, and visitor experience across the parks. These improvements represent the behind-the-scenes work that keeps parks open, welcoming, and ready for every visitor.

Rediscovering a Redwood Retreat

We welcomed people back to **Roy's Redwoods** with member walks and self-guided hikes through a restored old-growth grove.

This free preserve offers a serene escape for visitors of all abilities, and connects us to the living history of the Bay's landscapes.



Reaching and Uniting People for Parks

Our **"Stand Up for National Parks"** toolkit inspired action at a critical moment, with thousands of clicks and forwards. We reached new communities through partnerships and events—including a Kaitlyn Bui collab reel that drew **1.5 million views and 47,100+ engagements**, our most-shared post ever.

From Hawk Hill, the world stretches out in every direction. The Pacific glimmers to the west. The Golden Gate Bridge appears below like a thread tying the region together. People often pause here, taking in a view that creates both awe and calm.

These moments are why parks matter in everyday life. They remind us that nature is close, accessible, and part of who we are. After 15 years of careful work over three phases with NPS, along with the support of donors, the California State Coastal Conservancy, and the California Wildlife Conservation Board, this beloved hilltop is more welcoming than ever. With your help, we've restored trails and revived habitat for the endangered Mission blue butterfly.

At the summit, you'll see accessible areas, new seating, and interpretive elements that highlight raptor migration and the site's layered military history.

After we cut the ribbon in December, visitors are embracing the new experience. Families stop for pictures and cyclists take a breather with the views. Golden Gate Raptor Observatory volunteers and park staff now have improved access for fall migration counts.

Hawk Hill shows how philanthropy and partnership can transform a place. It's a daily reminder of the power of nearby national parks, and the importance of creating new pathways so everyone can enjoy their stunning benefits.

"A few redtails worked their way to eye level, and as they hung close to the count area, it felt as if we were reuniting with good old friends."

— Golden Gate Raptor Observatory volunteer at the start of the 2025 season

134

GGRO COMMUNITY SCIENCE VOLUNTEERS counted & banded migrating birds of prey in 2025

BY THE NUMBERS: YOUR IMPACT FOR PARKS

Climate Resilience Through Parks & People

SCIENCE AND PEOPLE IN ACTION:

How we build climate-resilient parks through community science and conservation actions rooted in the places people care about.

2 RARE PLANT POPULATIONS

Beetle Spurge and bent-flowered fiddleneck, discovered on Mt. Tam by the One Tam Rare Plant Monitoring program, showing how landscape-scale monitoring informs stewardship for vulnerable species.

479,111 Wildlife Images Cataloged

by 27 Marin Wildlife Watch volunteers, tracking mammal activity and climate-driven changes across Mt. Tam's ecosystems.

212 Invasive Plant Patches Removed

thanks to Early Detection-Rapid Response efforts, strengthening the region's ability to adapt to climate-driven ecological change.

Parks As Everyday Spaces

BRINGING NATURE CLOSER TO HOME:

How we create easy, welcoming pathways for people to connect with parks.

5.2M PEOPLE REACHED IN 2025

through Parks Conservancy programs, or 31% of all visitors to the most-visited national park in the country. We built new connections through events at park sites, but also via local libraries and community centers, bringing parks to the people.

5,310 Visitors to Roving Ranger + Tam Van

up 20% from last year thanks to special initiatives bringing them to more locations. These "mobile trailheads" create friendly, accessible entry points to curiosity and care for the parks.

2.3M Park Store Items Sold

generating record revenue across seven Park Stores and online, as people supported the parks with every purchase.

Stories Without Barriers

WELCOME AND BELONGING:

How we build trust and belonging by reflecting community histories and voices throughout these national park sites.

88% of YOUTH & INTERNS

exited programs with a sense of welcome and belonging in the parks, a 34% increase from when they entered. We help young people see themselves in these parks and belonging becomes part of every visit.

84 Community Groups + 70,000 Visitors

to the "Black Gold: Stories Untold" exhibit at Fort Point. Through partnership with the FOR-SITE Foundation, 15 artists were invited to explore African American history in California.

16,747 People Engaged

through 677 community programs, including 10 new community and youth partnerships to help foster welcome and trust.

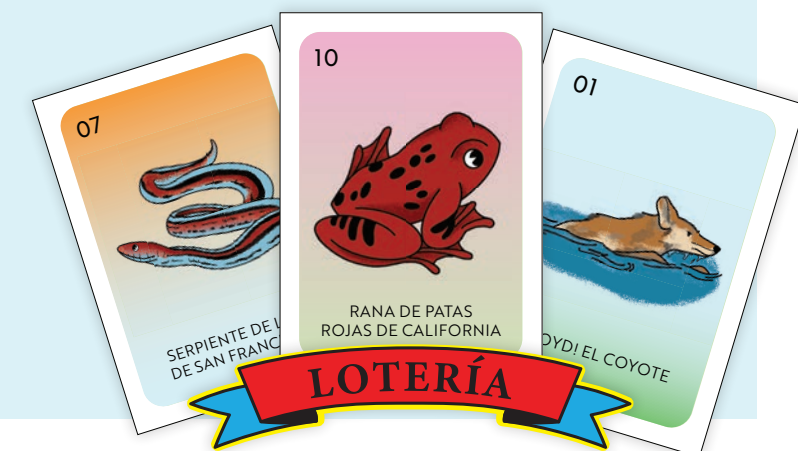
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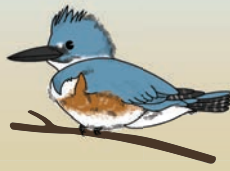
YOUR SUPPORT COMES TO LIFE IN OUR ONLINE REPORT

Wondering about all those colorful **LOTERÍA** cards throughout this Annual Report? Visit our interactive experience at annualreport.parksconservancy.org to play our lotería game and learn about GGNRA species, watch in-depth videos, dig into interactive stats, and more!



Check it out, and share with others who care about parks and community!





MARTÍN GIGANTE NORTEAMERICANO

BREAKING DOWN THE BIRDING LANGUAGE BARRIER

79%

of **YOUTH** in key programs face at least one socio-economic barrier to park access. We prioritize this group so **new generations** can become leaders for healthy communities and thriving parks.



HIGHLIGHTS ACROSS THE PARKS



Celebrating Community Light and Connection

We hosted a Diwali and Día de los Muertos celebration at Presidio Tunnel Tops with more than **1,000 people**, creating space for cultural pride and shared joy. Parks Conservancy and Presidio Trust staff demonstrated resilience to ensure this beloved community tradition despite the challenges of the government shutdown.

Truth Through Lived Experience

Alcatraz hosted the most expansive **Formerly Incarcerated Speaker Series** yet—15 events in 2025, up from nine the year prior. These conversations brought Alcatraz visitors into dialogue about justice, history, and healing, helping people connect the past to the present.

Learning Beyond Park Boundaries

The **Park Hop** program connected students to Alcatraz, Sutro Baths, and sites beyond the parks in Oakland and San Francisco's Mission District. Youth explored sites significant to **Black History in the Bay** and strengthened their sense of belonging.

It was a Big Day at Mountain Lake in the Presidio: Birders spotted Black-crowned Night Heron juveniles, a Belted Kingfisher diving into the lake for fish, and a group of Cedar Waxwings. For the folks attending from Latino Outdoors, there was next-level joy learning those species in Spanish: Martinete Común, Martín Gigante Norteamericano, y Ampelis Americano.

The Parks Conservancy and our partners work to ensure all communities have access to the benefits of nearby nature, and that means breaking down barriers to park experiences that might feel inaccessible, like birding. That's why we've hosted several Bilingual Birding events with partners like Latino Outdoors, the Golden Gate Bird Alliance, and Peninsula Open Space Trust.

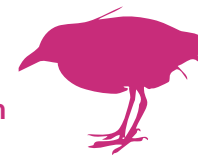
"People love it because it's not easy to learn and know bird names in Spanish, or even facilitators who have that knowledge," said Aurora Cortes of Latino Outdoors. *"And so we were there with the Parks Conservancy and*

the Presidio Trust and they were able to just share so much information."

At the Mountain Lake event in August, most who participated had never been birding before or even been to the lake. Facilitators provided binoculars and large pictures with species names in both languages to make them easy to spot.

The joy of spotting birds can only be topped by the joy of having somebody speak your language. That's the power of breaking down barriers: Ensuring these public lands are truly enjoyed by all.

Martinete Común
Black-crowned Night Heron



Martín Gigante Norteamericano
Belted Kingfisher

Ampelis Americano
Cedar Waxwing



"This program has honestly been life-changing because I feel like I've finally found my people—people who want to be outside, exploring, connecting with Mother Earth and each other."

— Participant, **Belonging in Nature** program, which has become a refuge for queer and trans folks and allies to care for the land and build strong community bonds.

PARTNERS HELPING SHAPE CRISSY FIELD'S FUTURE

Crissy Field's story is one we've built together.

25
YEARS

As we celebrate 25 years since its transformation, we're reflecting on the foundations that make this place special: strong partnerships and a shared commitment to public lands.

A special thanks to the Evelyn and Walter Haas, Jr. Foundation for their long-term commitment to Crissy Field, including a multi-year grant that supported essential planning and design work in 2025. We couldn't do this work without our partners, so thank you!



Libraries Spark Curiosity

Our partnership with the **San Francisco Public Library** turned 10 years old in 2025. We celebrated with Nature Stations, interactive art activities, and visits from the Roving Ranger and Tam Van, as this program has expanded to Marin and San Mateo county libraries!

10+
YEARS of S.F. Public Library partnership

Protecting Habitat Through Powerful Partnerships

We worked with seven partners—from the SF Zoo to USGS—to support habitat restoration for the endangered **SF garter snake**, one of the Bay Area's rarest species.

7
PARTNERS protecting SF garter snakes

Bringing Nature Into the Heart of the Tenderloin

We joined partners in the **Golden Gate Greenway pilot**, hosting six Roving Ranger activations that made park experiences feel welcoming and accessible in one of SF's most underserved neighborhoods.

6
ROVING RANGER Activations

"When I'm around redwoods, I feel an energy that I don't feel anywhere else. It's spiritual energy, ancestral presence energy... I feel I'm going to be carrying this with me for quite a while."

—
American Indian Cultural District (AICD) participant at a healing-focused visit to Muir Woods, expanding a partnership that includes community-led stewardship and gardening programs at **Black Point Historic Gardens**.

GROWING A FUTURE FOR REDWOOD FORESTS TOGETHER

Standing beneath the redwoods at Muir Woods, it's easy to feel the importance of long-term care.

The multi-year **Redwood Renewal** project has seen impressive gains in habitat for coho salmon, and we're ready for the next chapter. The National Park Foundation helped fund capacity for a feasibility study, providing the roadmap for a **\$22 million** campaign, launching this year. Elsewhere in Marin, the March Conservation Fund helped launch our One Tam forest health community engagement efforts.

Together, these investments are laying the groundwork for healthier, more resilient parks for future visitors.

\$1M RAISED at our **Trails Forever Dinner** at Lands End. Thanks to all who joined us to strengthen the base of support that makes these ambitious, multi-year projects possible.

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SALMÓN COHO

INVEST IN STAFF

INVESTING IN OUR PEOPLE TO STRENGTHEN OUR PARKS

A thriving team delivers strong outcomes for parks.

This year, our People and Culture team supported staff through expanded **People Manager Trainings**, a refreshed **Employee Handbook**, and a **redesigned orientation** that welcomed 100 employees, including many in their first 90 days.

We also launched our first Employee Engagement Survey, with 84% staff participation—insights that shape how we will grow, connect, and care for our team going forward.

"You guys are doing a fantastic job. Your program should be a model for the whole country!!!"

—
Parks Conservancy member,
Member Hiking & Event Series

43 YEARS OF STEWARDSHIP

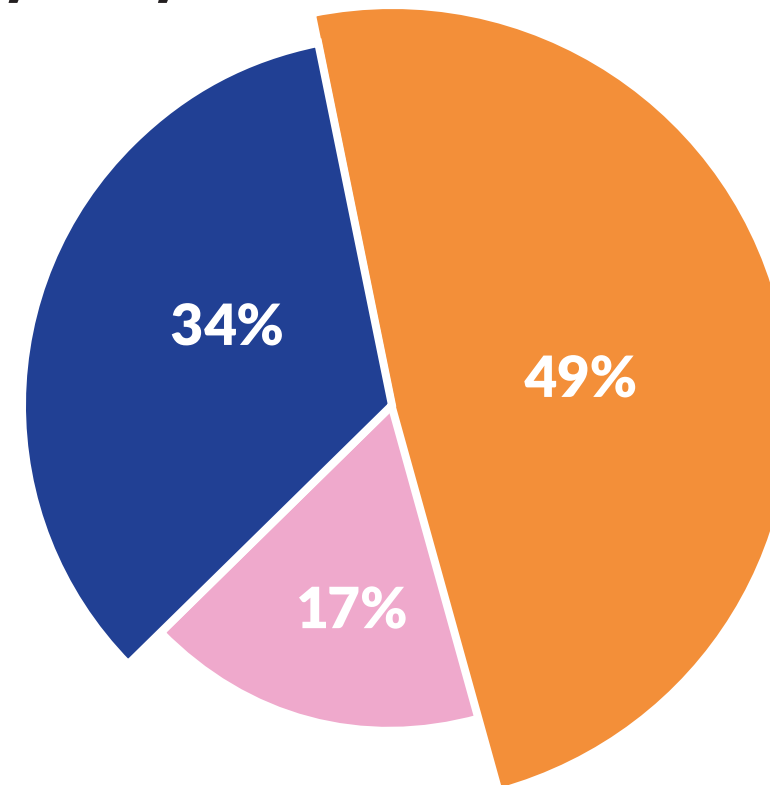
FINANCIALS



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TOTAL support 2025

\$36,070,147



Park Enhancements, Restoration, & Stewardship

\$12,387,047
(34%)

Park Interpretation & Visitor Services

\$17,565,766
(49%)

Youth & Community Programs

\$ 6,117,335
(17%)

\$861M TOTAL support to the parks 1982-2025

Download full financial statements online at annualreport.parksconservancy.org

OUR PUBLIC AGENCY PARTNERS



The National Park Service (NPS) is a federal agency within the U.S. Department of the Interior charged with managing the preservation and public use of America's most significant natural, scenic, historic, and cultural treasures.

Established in 1916, the NPS manages more than 430 sites across the United States, including the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. For more information, call (415) 561-4700 or visit nps.gov/goga.

DAVID SMITH
General Superintendent,
Golden Gate National Recreation Area

PRESIDIO TRUST

In partnership with the National Park Service and the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy, and at no cost to taxpayers, the

Presidio Trust brings alive the unique historic, natural, and recreational assets of the Presidio for the inspiration, education, health, and enjoyment of all people.

For information, call: (415) 561-5300 or visit presidio.gov.

JEAN S. FRASER
Chief Executive Officer

ONE TAM



In 2014, four public land agencies (the NPS, California State Parks, Marin County Parks, and Marin Water) partnered with the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy to form One Tam, which brings together their resources, talents, and philanthropic efforts to support the stewardship, conservation, and enjoyment of Mt. Tamalpais.

Together for Tam



Incorporated in 1928 as a special district of the State of California to design, construct, finance, and operate the Golden Gate Bridge, the District today continues to provide safe and reliable operation, maintenance, and enhancement of the Bridge and to provide transportation services, as resources allow, for customers within the U.S. Highway 101 Golden Gate Corridor.

ELBERT (BERT) HILL
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FIND YOUR PARK

Stretching across more than 82,000 acres, the Golden Gate national parks include the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, Muir Woods National Monument, and Fort Point National Historic Site. Together, they were the most-visited units in the National Park System in 2025.

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Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy

The Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy is the nonprofit membership organization created to preserve the Golden Gate national parks, enhance the experiences of park visitors, and build a community dedicated to conserving the parks for the future.

(415) 4R-PARKS parksconservancy.org

 @ParksConservancy

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