



DATE: 2/16/12
TO: Bidwell Park and Playground Commission members
FROM: Dan Efseaff, Park and Natural Resource Manager
SUBJECT: 2011 Annual Park Division Report

PARK DIVISION OVERVIEW

1. Division Description

The City of Chico's Parks, Open Spaces, Greenways, and Preserves Division (Park Division) is under the General Services Department. The Division's major responsibilities include maintaining and operating City Parks, open space, and recreational areas, including Bidwell Park (one of the largest municipally owned parks in the United States), Children's Playground, City Plaza, Lindo Channel, Little Chico Creek greenway, 1st and Verbena, Bidwell Ranch, Teichert Ponds, and other preserves. The City Street Trees Program, also under the Park Division, (Denice Britton supplied an annual report on that program), cares for and manages approximately 37,000 trees (urban forest) and many of the maintenance districts and public landscape areas within Chico. The City's Park Rangers, Park Maintenance Crew, and Management Analyst/Volunteer Coordinator all work within the Park Division.

We often hear that it is the quality of life that draws visitors and residents to Chico. This Division is proud to maintain assets that are integral to the livability of Chico. In addition, the Division is not immune to the impacts of a growing community that expects and deserves high quality service in a fair and economical fashion. The Division has grown over the years, both in size and complexity. Recently, the diminished budget has put a strain on our ability to keep up with these demands.

Table 1. Comparative Statistics for the City of Chico and State and National Numbers Regarding Parks.

Table with 3 columns: Factor, Amount, Source. Rows include Chico Area (33.2 square miles), Chico Population (86,187 City, 107,000 Urban Area), Ranking - City Size California (83rd largest), Bidwell Park (3,670 acres), Park, Recreation, and Open Space Area managed by Park Division (4,317 acres), Percentage of Parkland of Total City Area (8.1% Median US Cities, >20% Chico), and Area of Parkland per 1,000 Residents (12.4 Acres Median US Cities, 41 Acres Chico).

a Estimate includes city, county, metro, state, and federal acres within the city limits.

2. Resources

Most of the Operating Budget (Table 2) for the Park Division is derived from the General Fund (\$42,853,372 for FY 2011-2012), with key supplemental funding from grants and donations. The Parks/Open Spaces (682) budget supports staff time, contracts, maintenance and repair not only for Bidwell Park, but for greenways (Lindo Channel, Little Chico Creek, and Comanche Creek), Depot Park, City Plaza, Children's Playground, Teichert Ponds, and Preserves.

Table 2. Staff and Budget Summary

Park Division	FY 1988-1989	FY 2010-2011	FY 2011-2012
Operating Budget	\$594,148	\$1,927,755	\$1,876,903
Staff			
Park Division	14	13	12
Street Trees ^a	2	9	8
Total	16	22	20
Area Managed (Acres)	< 2,500	4,317	4,317

^a The Street Tree program was considered part of the Park Division in 1988. The lifeguard program is not part of this estimate but in 2010-11 and 2011-12 amounted to 3.75 FTE.

Interestingly, the 1989 Bidwell Park Master Management Plan projected that 31 employees would be needed by 1992-2000 based on estimated population growth. Population growth exceeded expectations and has grown nearly 40%, and the acreage managed by the Park Division has doubled. The Park Division has fewer employees than in 1988.

Park funds are complemented by donations and volunteer support. Lessees also take care of certain park facilities. Donations provide critical support for interns, habitat restoration work and materials, invasive plant removal, and benches. In calendar year 2011, generous citizens provided over \$12,784.00 in general park donations, plus an additional \$700 devoted to Caper Acres (Table 3). Although Park Division staff and funds support the volunteer program, these efforts leverage volunteer efforts that exceed hundreds of thousands of dollars (see Volunteer Program below). In addition, we also received some help with studies and monitoring. For example, student interns from Chico State, Butte College and Shasta College provided support on some GPS mapping projects, and data collection; and Chico High School students propagated native plants for the Park's restoration sites.

Table 3. Summary of Park Donations and In-Kind Service Donations (2011).

Donations	Project or Event	Value
<u>Cash Donations</u>		
General Park	Includes plaque donations and misc.	\$1,524
Chico Running Club	All-season water pump	\$5,000
Annie B's Fund Drive	Park intern, habitat restoration and park upkeep	\$5,884
Bricks	Caper Acres	\$700
Church group	Council Ring	\$375
Total Donations		\$13,483
<u>In-Kind Donations</u>		
CA Conservation Corps	Proposition 84 grant (\$136,076) Trails, Vegetation management (\$105,363)	\$241,439
Home Depot	Tools for Bidwell Park Earth Day	\$1,000
Lundberg Farms	Rice Chips for Earth Day	\$300
Starbucks	Coffee for Earth Day and Make a Difference Day	\$700
Recology	4 green waste dumpsters (volunteer project)	\$1,000
Waste Management	4 green waste dumpsters (volunteer project)	\$1,000
Total In-Kind Donations		\$245,439

3. Bidwell Park and Playground Commission 2011 – 2012 Work Plan

Staff and the BPPC developed an updated Work Plan (at the 5/31 and 6/27 meetings) to submit to the City Council. The City Council approved the BPPC 2011 – 2012 Work Plan at the 9/20/11 meeting. The workplan reflects the progress made on the previous workplan (three items completed, four with significant progress, and one with minimal progress). A progress report will be made on these items associated with the next fiscal year. The adopted work plan is as follows:

1. Develop and implement a priority list of projects and programs based on the Bidwell Park Master Management Plan (BPMMP) that will include adaptive management strategies. Specific projects include:
 - a. Develop a Trail Plan for the Park,
 - b. Update the Trails Manual,
 - c. Update of the Natural Resources Management Plan (including vegetation management plan, management units, and an Adaptive Management framework), and
 - d. Complete an inventory of Park Infrastructure.
2. Finalize the Wet Weather Plan
3. Continue development of the Park Division's Volunteer Program
 - a. More fully integrate into other Park programs,
 - b. Develop a team leadership program to train volunteer session leaders,
 - c. Develop a Trail Volunteer Program (including training component).
4. Begin development of an Urban Forest Management Plan
 - a. Establish goals that will be the foundation for an urban forest management plan that is consistent with both the new General Plan and the BPMMP,
 - b. Review landscaping policies with the goal of enhancing the appearance of the City's public properties and parks while alleviating the overall cost of maintenance,
 - c. Provide for the ongoing maintenance and upkeep of the urban forest, including both street trees and Bidwell park trees.
5. Assess needs and prioritize renovation projects for Caper Acres (developing funds and renovation plans for improved infrastructure and new play equipment).
6. Continue trail work priorities (Middle Trail work, Monkey Face, and Peregrine Point Trail connections).
7. Develop management plan concepts for
 - a. Greenways (including Lindo Channel)
 - b. Bidwell Ranch
 - c. Lost Park
 - d. Comanche Creek.

PROGRAMS

The Parks Division is organized into the following areas:

- Administrative Services
- Maintenance Crew
- Ranger/Lifeguard
- Volunteer Program
- Natural Resource Management (planning, monitoring, trails, and vegetation management).
- Outreach and Education

The categories above represent both organizational structure (where employees work, the first four items) and also functional priorities (the last two, outreach and natural resource duties) that are shared duties of all employees. We feel it is important to recognize priority functions of the division that will be often shared between programs. For example, in the past, much of the work on invasive plant removal was associated with the volunteer program. As we move forward, we are moving toward a model where vegetation management requires greater coordination and planning between the maintenance, ranger, and volunteer programs.

1. Administrative and Visitor Services

a. Program Description

Administrative functions of the Parks Division include reservations, permits, support and analysis for Bidwell Park and Playground Commission meetings, development and management of budgets, vendor payments and contracts, and

customer and visitor services. All Park Division staff (especially the Park and Natural Resource Manager and the Management Analyst) carry out some duties in this area, and shared administrative staff from the General Service Department (GSD) and other parts of the City support this function as well. Our efforts in customer and visitor services are an important part of providing citizens with a good experience in the park and community.

b. 2011 Highlights

Specific highlights include:

- i. Customer service remains a priority. Citizens are often surprised to find that when they phone GSD, their calls are often answered right away by a staff member and not routed into a voice mail system. Our front desk staff is courteous and often has answers to a wide variety of questions that span all of GSD.
- ii. Service Requests - Park Staff received approximately 89 service requests in 2011. The majority of requests were related to fallen trees, graffiti and general vandalism to park signs and infrastructure.
- iii. One Mile Restroom - The North One Mile Restroom was completed.
- iv. BPPC Support - Staff continued efforts to provide BPPC agendas and information packets in a timely fashion with the entire packet going out 5-6 days before the meeting (the legal requirement is that the agenda must be posted 72 hours before the meeting).
 - Staff continued the efforts to streamline reports and make BPPC practices more consistent with the City Council procedures.
 - Emails and letters directed to the BPPC are now forwarded within 24-48 hours of receipt to commissioners, rather than waiting for the agenda packets. Communication from citizens on particular agenda items received prior to noon on the Friday before a meeting, are provided as part of supplemental packets.
- v. Economic Contribution - The Park Division processed \$511,670 in payments to over 131 vendors that provided professional services, materials, and supplies for the management of the Park. Approximately, 87% of the vendors are local suppliers. However, the economic benefit is small relative to the contribution to quality of life and local economic well being that Parks provide in enhanced real estate values, sporting equipment sales, event sales, health benefits, and venues for supporting non-profits.
- vi. Research Tracking – Staff began to implement a more formal system for handling research or data collection requests in the Park. When fully implemented, we request copies of any data collected or publications, issue identification badges, and track the nature of research and number of projects.
- vii. New contracts – The City secured new contracts for Water Quality Monitoring of Big Chico Creek; Porta Potty and Cattle Grazing for Bidwell Ranch and Foothill Preserve. In the case of the Water Quality Contract, the scope of work was rewritten to better reflect the actual permit and may reduce the contract of greater than \$20,000 annually.

The City completed successful bid process on replacing the porta-potty contract in Bidwell Park. The contract specified natural colors to better blend in the park. The cost savings of the contract allowed the addition of a much needed new location at the Peterson entrance of Lower Park at a lower cost than the previous contract.

viii. Wildwood Transfer – Staff assisted with the transfer of Wildwood Park to the Chico Area Recreation District (CARD).

- ix. Park Permits - City of Chico parks provide many ideal venues for family picnics and community events, offering a safe, picturesque environment for thousands of people annually. Some salient features include:
 - o Staff began more tracking of the number of permits for public and private events (Figure 6) and the number of participants in public events (Figure 7). Private permits issued in 2010 were not tracked.
 - o There were a total of 585 permits (117 public and 468 private events) issued in 2011.
 - o Some of the most popular public events include annual runs in Lower Park, Thursday Night Market, Friday Night Concerts, and free speech events in the City Plaza. Rangers provide coordination during these events including pre-event conversations, on-site assistance and monitoring.

- Although public event permits issued decreased in 2011 in comparison to 2010, participation increased.
- The number of participants is based on estimates submitted by applicants. Due to the open nature of our parks and the fact that many of these events do not require admission, participant estimates for 2011 is a very conservative number that probably underestimates actual participation. For example, the estimates do not include spectators, which could increase the numbers significantly.
- The Park Division completes a post-event evaluation of public events, which helps in the planning of future events of similar character.
- Total revenue in 2011 (\$47,606) was down slightly from 2010 (\$49,937). While a number of factors influence the park permit fees, the transfer of one of the most popular reservation areas (Wildwood Park) to CARD in July 2011 may have had the most significant impact on revenue.

Figure 1. Monthly Total of Park Permits Issued (2010 and 2011)

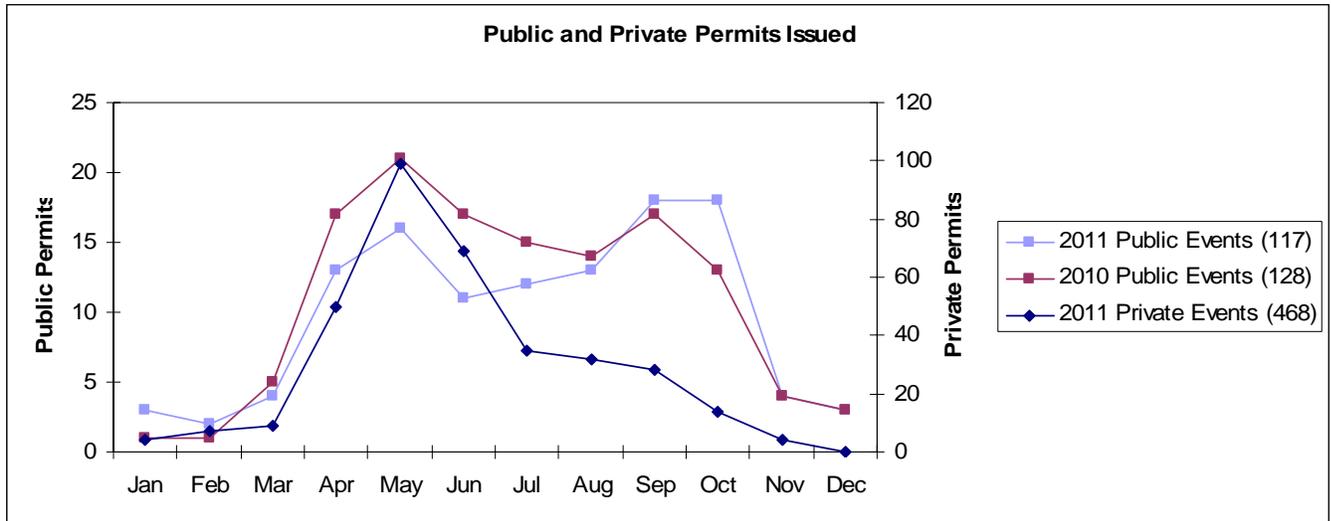
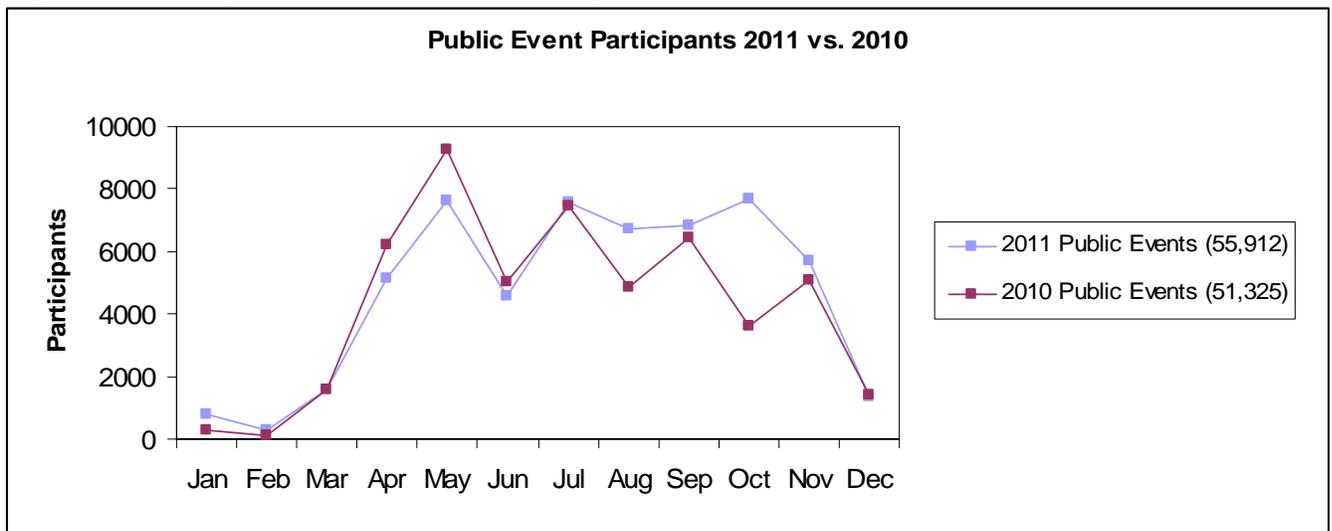


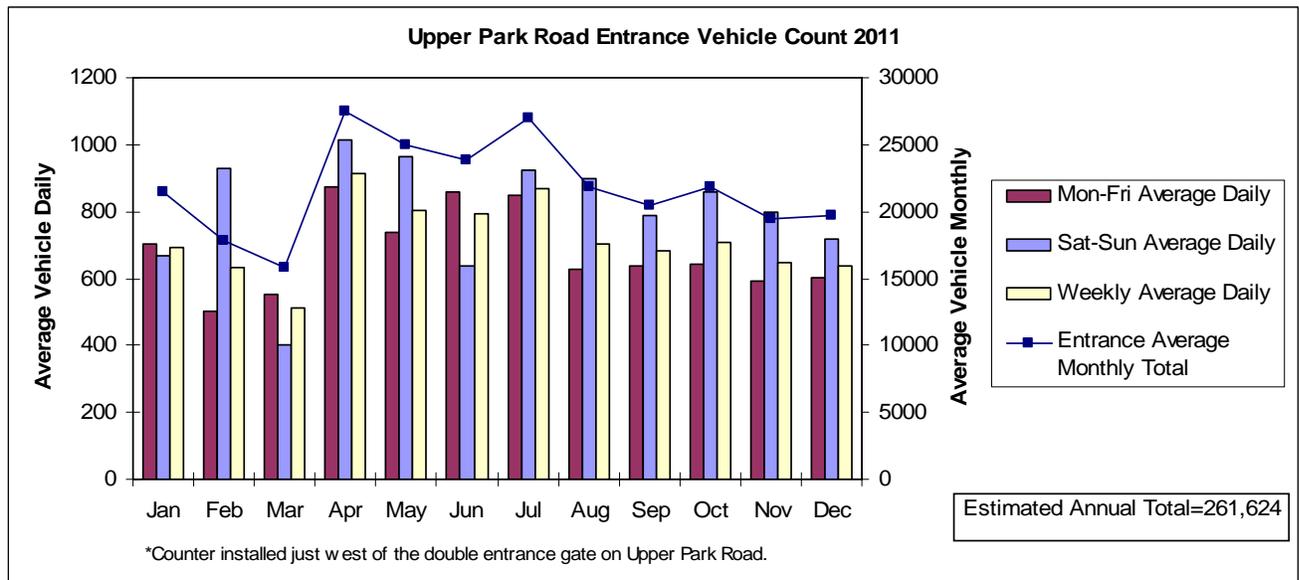
Figure 2. Monthly Total of Public Event Participation for 2010 and 2011



x. Wildwood Way and Upper Park Road Traffic Counts – During the 2011 calendar year, staff installed portable traffic counters at two locations (Station 1- near the double gate entrance and Station 2- near Horseshoe Lake) on Upper Park Road. The counters were installed for 1 week each month and tracked vehicles accessing the park as well as speed statistics. The data represents an underestimate because, on several occasions, the traffic counter just west of Horseshoe Lake was tampered with, or failed to collect data. The counter was installed at a new location (just west of the Upper Park gravel road) therefore resulting in an incomplete data set for the year. Still, the information provides some useful insights.

- April and July received the most vehicle traffic and March the lowest. Interestingly, February (a dry month last year) received considerable weekend usage. To estimate a monthly average, we averaged the daily counts and multiplied by the number of days for each month (Figure 8). The annual vehicle traffic count exceeds 250,000 vehicles annually. The annual estimate came from the sum of monthly averages.
- Most vehicles stayed in Middle Park, with approximately 1/3 of all vehicles parking at or continuing past the Horseshoe Lake parking lot.
- The average vehicle speed on Upper Park Road, near the double gate entrance was 32 mph (the speed limit is 25 mph). The average vehicle speed near Horseshoe Lake was 16 mph; the speed limit is 15 mph at the counter location.

Figure 3. Daily and Estimated Monthly Vehicle Counts Upper Park Road (2011).



xi. Visitation – The traffic counts and event estimates above provide ones means of quantifying visitors. Although the Bidwell Park Master Management Plan (EDAW 2008) included visitor surveys, routine estimates of Bidwell Park usage have not occurred. Accurate visitation data allows us to create adequate staffing plans for peak times, budget allocation, emergency planning, and provides a clearer picture to granting agencies. Use estimates are reported in “visits.” One person entering the park represents one visit.

In the next few years, staff will develop methods to provide visitation estimates and collecting better data to improve the certainty of the estimate. Staff will continue to develop methods for estimating visitor use, including the installation of traffic counters at additional locations, conducting site surveys, and exploring compiling sources of data that are already collected (for example, permit estimates, pool logs, disc golf log, CARD usage estimates, and so on) to construct a Bidwell Park estimate. We will explore options to arrive at usage estimates based on data.

We used conservative estimates. For example, we have good quality data on vehicle counts for Upper Park Road but converting this number to a number of visitors introduces uncertainty. Staff estimated a person-per-vehicle average (PPV) of 1.5 persons-per-vehicle. This translates to 392,436 visits (1.5 PPV x annual vehicle count of 261,624 vehicles). The measurements did not include users who accessed Middle and Upper Park from other than the Upper Park Road, as a pedestrian, via bike. In contrast, Lassen National Volcanic Park uses a multiplier of 3 PPV and estimated 384,570 (2010) visitors accessing the National Park. Using their multiplier would double our estimate to over 780,000 visits entering Wildwood Road/Upper Park Road.

Even in the absence of good data, a crude estimate at least provides a starting point that we can continue to refine over time. We caution that these estimates should be considered very preliminary and “best guess estimates” or “order of magnitude” estimates until more definitive numbers can be developed. With these caveats in mind, we estimate the number of visits to Bidwell Park annually to exceed 1,000,000 (Table 4).

Table 4. Bidwell Park Visitation Estimates (Note: preliminary order of magnitude estimates).

Location / Point of Entry (Transportation)		Estimated Daily Visits April-Sept.	Estimated Daily Visits Oct.-March	Estimated Annual Visits by Location	Quality of Data
Lower Park					
One Mile (non-auto)	^a	1,500	600	383,700	Very Poor
One Mile (auto)	^b	400	200	109,600	Poor
Lower Park Other (non-auto)	^c	500	200	127,900	Very Poor
Estimated Subtotal		2,400	1,000	621,200	Very Poor
Middle/Upper Park					
Upper Park Rd. Visits (Auto)	^d	1,193	957	392,493	Good
Hooker Oak and Five Mile (all)	^c	300	150	82,200	Very Poor
Highway 32/Peregrine Point (all)	^e	102	41	26,128	Poor
Middle/Upper Park (non-Auto)	^f	150	50	36,550	Very Poor
Estimated Subtotal		1,745	1,198	537,371	Poor
Estimated Total Daily Visits		4,145	2,198	6,343	
Estimated Total Annual Visits	^g	758,535	400,036	1,158,571	

^a) View estimates with caution. Not based on measurements and should be considered a best guess. However, recent walk through counts (fair weather days in February), pool usage, and estimates from events, suggest that these are conservative estimates that underestimate usage.

^b) Traffic counts in January 2012, indicate more than 100 cars/day enter South and North One Mile and into Petersen Drive.

^c) Not measured. Estimate

^d) Based on daily vehicle count (measured one week each month) and multiplied by an estimated 1.5 visitors/vehicle (conservative estimate). Better count of the number of occupants will likely increase this number.

^e) Assume 6 cars/hour at (based on Peregrine Point ranger log) multiplied by 1.5 people/car and 8 hours (peak) and 4 hours (non-peak); plus 30 visitors/day (peak) and 5 (non-peak) accessing the Park from other Hwy 32 access locations.

^f) Estimate an attempt to capture visitors that access the park not by car, and not parking in other areas of the park. This mostly includes bikers, but also includes hikers and equestrians.

^g) Estimated annual visits is based on 365 days; April-Sept =183 days and Oct-March=182 days.

c. Challenges Encountered

Staffing and work load continue to be of concern. In 2011 GSD lost two additional administrative staff members, which will translate to delays in processing reservations, permits, and service requests. Reducing vandalism and damage to the counters, resulting in missing or inaccurate data is a challenge that will need to be addressed. In response to the changes, we have moved up deadlines for BPPC meetings to allow for more time to put together packets and materials, the drawback is that last minute developments cannot always be carried forward to the meetings.

2. Maintenance Crew

a. Program Description

Park Maintenance Staff is responsible for the care and maintenance of Bidwell Park and other assigned parks and greenways. Landscaping contracts are in place for some City owned properties such as for City Plaza, and portions of the greenway along Little Chico Creek.

Many citizens are surprised at the scope required to maintain Park areas for safety and the satisfaction of park users. Park staff is on duty seven days a week performing cleaning, safety inspection, graffiti removal, and maintenance of park

grounds, facilities, and play areas in the five developed recreation areas in Bidwell Park. These areas encompass: 8 reservation areas, 36 individual picnic sites, 8 park buildings that house 32 restrooms stalls, shower facilities, lighting systems, 21.5 acres of irrigated lawn that is mowed and trimmed each week in the summer and leafed each week during the fall, and of course Sycamore Pool that is cleaned weekly from Memorial Day through Labor Day.

In addition to these daily tasks, Staff is engaged throughout the year on the repair of park buildings (plumbing, electrical, and lighting systems) and repairs, painting, manufacturing, and installation of park fixtures such as: signs, gates, fences, picnic tables, benches, barbecues, trash receptacles, irrigation, etc. In addition, staff prepares and posts reservation areas for over 400 private and public events each year.

Staff is also engaged in maintaining the natural beauty of the park. Staff prunes landscaped areas, elevates bike paths and roads, mows park trails and park road shoulders, and manages vegetation for park user safety and fire prevention. In recent years, vegetation management, wildland restoration, and trail maintenance have become a major focus and staff dedicates more time each year to these areas of concern incorporating related tasks and seasonal projects into Bidwell Park's maintenance program.

b. 2011 Highlights

This has been an exciting year with the positive push for more wild land management, the redesigning of multiple park entrances, change of leadership in the field with everyone working more closely and a new outlook on some old programs. The first of which is the trail program, working more closely with the Natural Resources Manager to implement the latest information and techniques to produce the best, fun, sustainable trails possible! The road maintenance program will be long term change on how the Upper Park road is laid out and graded to benefit the surrounding areas with proper water distribution and soil erosion mitigation to help bring the natural habitat back to these water starved meadows. This program is in its infancy and should provide some exciting changes and improvements in the up coming year. Park staff being reduced has led us to carefully examine what we do and how we perceive and complete the tasks at hand. We are finding that working in teams, when possible, utilizing the information and organizational tools from the past blended with the new allows the staff to be more proactive on a daily basis. This kind of mind set has allowed us to reduce our service request numbers. In many cases, staff had identified and corrected the concerning issue prior to the Park Division being notified. Park staff continues to take on new responsibilities that previously would not have been possible prior to these time saving procedures.

Some of the additional tasks staff was able to participate in and notable issues for the year include:

- i. Middle Trail Grant – Staff successfully planned and implemented the second phase of this project completing work on 3000 feet of trail tread on sections 6 and 1, implementing armored seasonal creek crossings, rolling dips and nicks, along with trail tread hardening. All of these elements add up to a trail that is and will continue to be sustainable for the future.
- ii. Departmental Support – Staff continues with the responsibilities of opening gates, wet weather trail assessments and support of volunteer programs.
- iii. Wild Land Restoration and Management – Staff has learned new skills and techniques over the past two years, they have been able to implement these into varied small projects while working closely with the Park Director. This year an additional 8 acres in Middle Park were added to 3 acres that we burned, sprayed and planted with native grasses over a two year period. Controlled burns, herbicide application and planting of native grasses have made a positive mark in Middle Park. Staff also planned and prepared several native planting sites in Lower Park notably the Centennial-Manzanita corners, the Madrone entrance and three sites at One Mile recreation area, for a total of over 400 plants set out in Lower Park.
- iv. Volunteer Support – Staff supported the 9TH and Hazel street neighborhood park group by designing, planning construction of an A.D.A. accessible path winding through out the park. This work was successfully completed in a timely manner with the help of the California Conservation Corps. Staff continues the on going clean up of brush piles generated by the different volunteer groups working in the park to remove the ever present invasives.
- v. Daily Maintenance – Staffs' approach to daily maintenance is in a constant state of evolution, our goal is to provide the best most efficient service possible. Each project we undertake is planned, the products we use are

evaluated for their value and life of service for each application, the end result whether it is cleaning restrooms or replacing a roof is high quality work and a sense of pride for the park. A detailed listing of tasks is attached as a Appendix titled, Park Maintenance Hours 2011.

c. Challenges Encountered

As Bidwell Park itself ages, maintenance of the existing facilities and grounds is an ever increasing challenge. Staff dedicated considerable time to the planning and implementing of projects over the last several years and was able to successfully restore and preserve much of the current infrastructure. However, some park infrastructure is beyond maintenance and in need of replacement. Restrooms, road ways, and bike paths require an ever increasing share of dwindling resources. For example, Caper Acres playground equipment, such as Bunker Hill requires continual work to keep it safe, or the Locksley Castle, which is in need of re-engineering the inside structure. Even the Nico project our newest piece, needs to be re-matted as the ground has settled. Staff started installing new Vita Course Stations in an as needed basis replacing the old ones as they failed for a total of six new ones, leaving seven to complete the balance of new equipment. We continue to remove the worn out stations as they become unsafe and or un-repairable in hopes that we will replace them in the near future. However with budget cuts this is no longer possible and donations are needed. The Five Mile septic system is starting to fail and will be in need of new leech lines in the near future, the water and irrigation systems at Five Mile are quite old and fragile and should soon be considered for replacement. We are facing an uphill battle with the increased pulls for support in all directions and the ever increasing uses of the Park's many facilities. Our goal has, is and will continue to be to provide the friendly, efficient, professional service for the betterment of Bidwell Park and its users.

3. Ranger Report

a. Program Description

The mission of the Park Rangers is to protect, promote and enhance the natural and cultural resources of Bidwell Park, community and neighborhood parks, greenways and open space for present and future generations. We achieve this mission by providing education to the public, professional customer service, as well as consistent and fair enforcement of the law.

Park Rangers maintain and protect park resources and educate the community. Rangers patrol the City parks, playgrounds and greenways to enforce rules, laws and regulations; respond to emergencies; provide visitor assistance; report damage and safety concerns; assist with event coordination; address illegal encampment issues; develop outreach materials; conduct educational and interpretive programs; implement various monitoring programs; assist with the natural resource management program; as well as open/close park gates and facilities. The rangers maintain high visibility during their patrols to help deter crime and work closely with Code Enforcement as well as the Police and Fire Departments. Two full-time and two permanent seasonal park rangers (0.75 FTE and 0.63 FTE) were on staff this past year. The rangers have performed well, despite limited financial and staff resources, and pride themselves in responding professionally and promptly to their varied responsibilities.

The Park Ranger program also oversees the Park Watch volunteers, which began in 1995 and is similar to a neighborhood watch program. Park Watch members are ambassadors of the park; they provide visitors with information, foster a safe environment, and advise park staff about damage, hazards, vandalism, or other concerns. As avid park users, the volunteers incorporate patrol into their regular walking, biking, running, or horseback riding. In 2011, Park Watch's 115 members donated 6,900 hours to patrolling Bidwell Park.

In addition, approximately 15 lifeguards (3.75 FTE) staff the Sycamore Pool from 11 am - 7 pm six days a week during the peak season. Lifeguards monitor pool and lawn activities, encourage safe behavior, perform rescues and provide first aid. The pool is much beloved and at any one time swimmers can exceed 100. This season, the number of rescues performed was higher than years previous, amounting to 12 total, 10 of which occurred during the month of June. Swift and cold water conditions most likely contributed to the increased numbers. The lifeguards also apply first aid and provide treatment for bee stings, falls, abrasions and cuts. Due to the diligence of staff and good fortune there were no major injuries this year at the pool.

b. 2011 Highlights

Rangers took on additional responsibilities and were involved in a number of efforts this past year. Among these responsibilities, community outreach and education played a large role. Intended to increase community interactions as

well as foster stewardship and appreciation of the parks and recreational resources, the rangers hosted the National Night Out event, initiated the "Park Minute," developed informational campaigns, contributed to the quarterly newsletter, lead bike tours, staffed several information booths, and participated in a number of interpretive programs at local elementary schools, including the 911 Safety Pals. These programs provided valuable information that enhanced park users' enjoyment and safety while also promoting the protection of our natural and cultural resources.

Rangers also took a more active role in management and monitoring projects. This past year, a visitation monitoring program was initiated for Bidwell Park through the use of traffic counters. They also managed the water quality monitoring contract for the Big Chico Creek and Sycamore Pool and revised the testing approach, saving the City thousands of dollars. Furthermore, steps to initiate a comprehensive sign plan for Bidwell Park were taken. Inventory of all park signs and the basic layout of the program are complete.

Additionally, they continued to streamline the park reservation system, finalized language and exhibit updates to Title 12 and 12R of the Chico Municipal Code, participated in vegetation management and monitoring projects, as well as provided input on implementing the Bidwell Park Master Management Plan. The combined enforcement and resource management efforts, coupled with a strong educational and outreach program have culminated in the rangers' ability to continue to effectively protect and promote the City of Chico's natural and cultural resources.

xii. City Accident/Damage/Theft Reports - are prepared for every instance of accident involving City property and/or damage/theft of City property (Table 5). Rangers are the first responders to many incidents in the park and in 2011 they assisted with several multi-agency medical responses and rescues. Notably, rangers were first on scene to the fall victim at the Peregrine Point Disc Golf Course and the hydraulic fluid spill into Big Chico Creek, assisted with rescues at Bear Hole, Salmon Hole, Monkey Face and on the Guardians Trail, and assisted in missing persons operations.

Table 5. Accident, Damage, and Theft Reports (2010 and 2011).

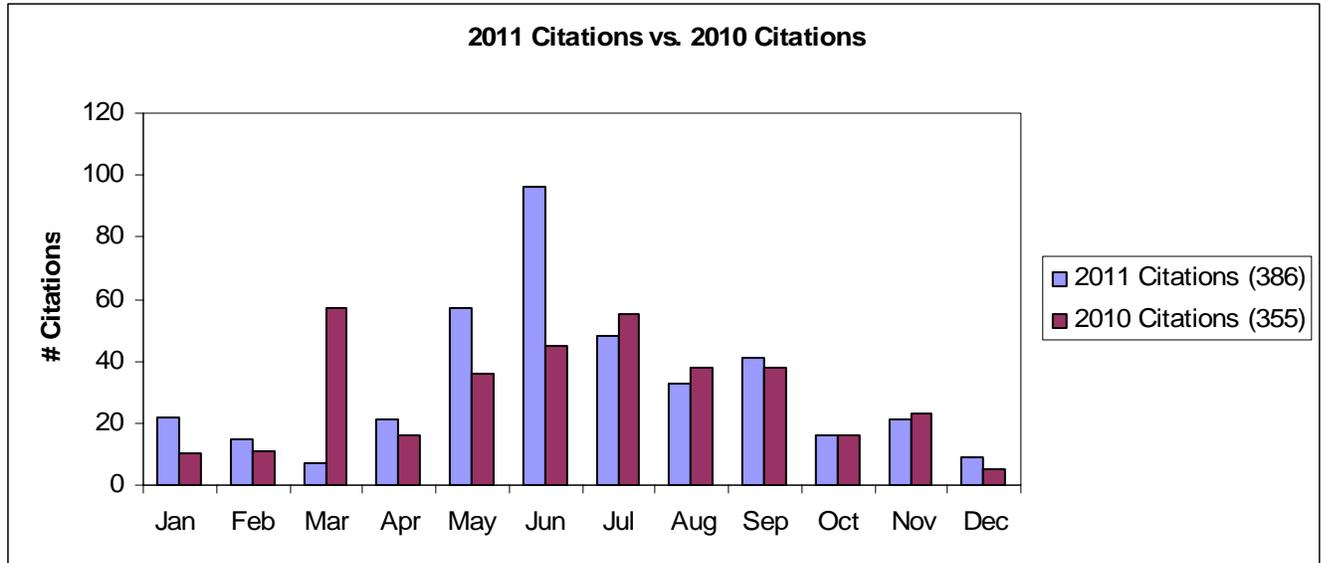
Report Type	2010 Reports	2011 Reports
Injury Accident/EMS	19	19
City Property Damage	5	7
Fire	3	6
Wildlife	1	2
Other	1	1
Total	29	35

xiii. Citations and Warnings – We use a voluntary compliance and education enforcement strategy; therefore rangers issue a large number of warnings (Table 6). Citations from animal control, code enforcement, or police officers are not included.

Table 6. Summary Citations and Warnings 2011

Violation	Total Citations	%	Rank	Total Warnings	%	Rank
Alcohol	97	25.13%	2	389	13.60%	3
Glass	48	12.44%	4	186	6.50%	5
Smoking	9	2.33%	7	184	6.43%	6
Illegal Camping	17	4.40%	6	143	5.00%	7
Animal Control Violations	54	13.99%	3	737	25.76%	1
Parking Violations	123	31.87%	1	94	3.29%	8
Bicycle Violation	4	1.04%	9	736	25.73%	2
Littering	3	0.78%	10	25	0.87%	9
Injury/Destruction City Property	1	0.26%	11	7	0.24%	10
Resist/Delay Park Ranger	5	1.30%	8	6	0.21%	11
Other Violations	25	6.48%	5	354	12.37%	4
Total	386	100.00%		2861	100.00%	

Figure 4. Monthly Citation Comparison (2010 and 2011).



xiv. Police Incident Reports and Calls for Service – The Police Department tracks incident reports and calls for service (Figure 5). The most frequent calls for service and incidents involved intoxicated subjects, outstanding warrants, thefts and illegal camping. This past year, police officers, fire personnel and rangers responded to 2221 calls (302 reports) in City parks, open spaces and greenways. While the overall total number were similar between years, assaults and thefts increased, while drunk in public arrests decreased. The most frequent incident reports involved intoxicated subjects, outstanding warrants, thefts and assaults. The “other” category is primarily comprised of found property and city property damage reports.

Notably, a number of calls occurred during the Occupy Chico demonstration at City Plaza. The occupation started during the second week of October and extended until December 2 (with daytime demonstrations after that). During the occupation, rangers and police responded to criminal activity and complaints at the Plaza numerous times.

Figure 5. Summary Police Incident Reports and Calls for Service 2010 and 2011

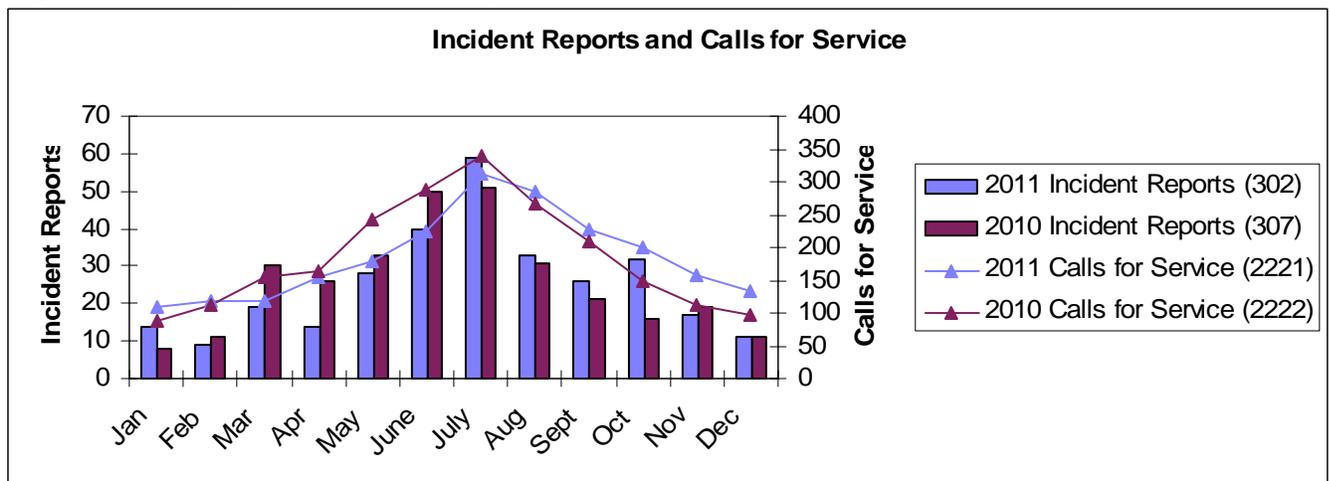


Table 7. Type of Police Incident Report (2010 and 2011).

Incident Report Type	2010 Reports	2011 Reports
Arson	0	2
Assault	13	23
Burglary	2	3
Drug Related	11	12
Drunk In Public	51	43
Larceny	31	47
Motor Vehicle Theft	1	2
Other	123	97
Parole/Prob. Violation	8	7
Rape	2	1
Resist/Obstruct/False Info	13	8
Robbery	3	7
Vandalism	3	3
Warrant	44	43
Weapons Violation	2	4
Total	307	302

xv. Homeless Encampments – Encampments, vandalism and graffiti are on going concerns in parks and greenways. Several measures have been implemented to decrease homeless camp activity, including opening up densely vegetated areas, consistent, regular survey, notice, and clean-up off active camps. Code enforcement officers, police officers, rangers, and GSD crews assist with the City-wide effort.

c. Challenges Encountered

- Maintaining a high level of visibility and customer service with limited staff resources due to budget restraints and the elimination of hourly staff. Rangers are continually balancing patrol responsibilities with administrative tasks. Hourly staff assisted with gate openings, event planning, and other tasks, which were eliminated or absorbed into the rangers' duties due to budget cuts.
- Scheduling time for coordination and collaboration among rangers has proved challenging due to limited staffing and schedules that span 7 days a week for up to 18 hours per day.
- Increased reporting responsibilities (BPPC, water quality, and wet weather) and limited time to complete them.
- Incidents and citizen complaints regarding illegal activity at City Plaza and Lost Park continued this past year. The rangers as well as the TARGET special enforcement team with the Police Department focused their patrols in these areas, but continued to face criminal activity including, animal control violations, illegal camping, assaults, disruptive behavior, drug and alcohol activity, vandalism, and other suspicious circumstances.
- CALTRANS/BCAG Highway 99 Auxiliary Lane Expansion – Beginning in mid-September, CALTRANS and the Butte County Association of Governments (BCAG) started construction on Highway 99 between Highway 32 and East First Avenue. This project, expected to last 3 years, is adding extra north and southbound lanes as well as a 14-foot outer sound wall. There have been challenges associated with the project and Park visitors. The City has been participating in weekly coordination meetings to share information with the proponents.

4. Volunteer Program

a. Program Description

The Bidwell Park Volunteer Program's objective is to *enlist the help of the local community in managing Park resources and expand volunteerism in as many aspects of enhancing Bidwell Park as possible* (BP Volunteer Manual, April 2007). Volunteers currently assist with various construction and painting projects, trail maintenance and repair, litter removal, control of invasive plants, and habitat restoration projects throughout the Park. In 2011, volunteers contributed 17,375 hours of work to Bidwell Park and other Chico Greenways. The Park Volunteer Program has incorporated vegetation

management for years as part of its weekly and annual work sessions, and over the year has integrated it to supplement and offset the Park's maintenance crew time.

b. 2011 Highlights

- i. Volunteer Hour overview - Overall volunteer hours were down from 2010 with the continuing trend of park work increasing relative to Park Watch (Table 8). Large annual park work days remain popular events that school students, families, individuals, CSUC and Butte College students, community service groups and church groups participate (Table 9). While the number of new groups continue to increase, we have a remarkable retention of volunteer efforts (Figure 6).

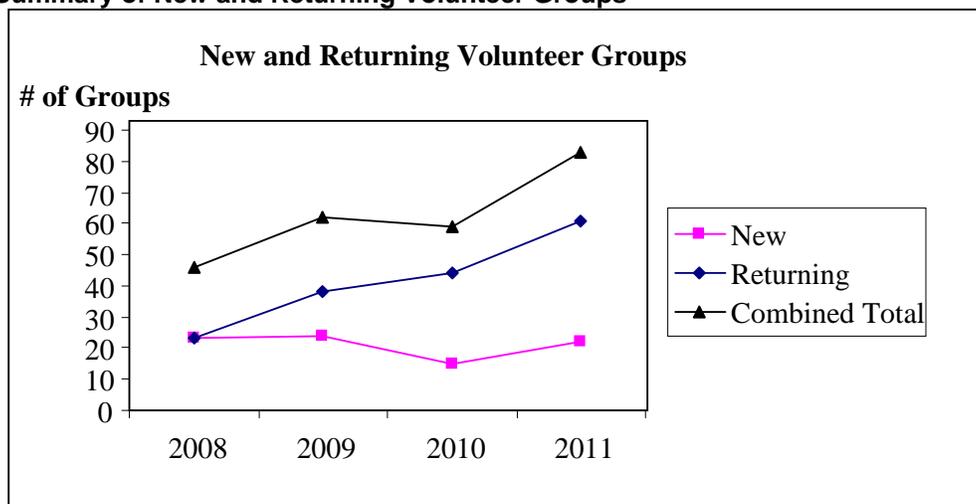
Table 8. Summary of Volunteer Program Hours.

Category	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Trend
Park Work	5,129	7,891	6,317	9,677	11,228	10,474	
Park Watch Patrol	11,913	10,866	10,455	10,061	8,788	6,901	
Total Hours	17,042	18,757	16,772	19,738	20,016	17,375	

Table 9. Summary of Volunteer Annual Event Hours.

Event	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Trend
Earth Day	88	371	515	705	448	638	
Make a Difference Day	124	389	302	495	409	1,154	
Weekly Volunteer Days	222	603	493	985	1,451	1,430	
Trail Work Days	216	471	581	353	18	146	
Total Hours	438	1,074	1,074	1,338	1,469	1,576	

Figure 6. Summary of New and Returning Volunteer Groups



ii. On-going partnership projects

- The Park Division and Chico High School **Native Plant Project** (4th year) has 7 students who have cultivated/cared for over 15 native plant species since August 2011 until the end of the school year. The class has two field days a year, in the fall to collect cuttings and in the winter to plant in the Park.
- The Park Division and CSU, Chico's **Community Action Volunteers in Education (CAVE)** have partnered through the Adopt-A-Park Program for its sixth year. In Spring 2011, 25 CAVE students and in the Fall 27 CAVE students worked in the Park.

- The Park Division and CSU Chico's Upward Bound (UB) high school program completed its 6th year with 12 high school students working in the Park 4 days a week for six weeks during the summer.

iii. Park Division's Volunteer Adopt-Park Site Highlights

- Sigma Chi Fraternity (2nd year) continues to work monthly at site 40 and recently received an Assoc. Students grant for \$550 for native plants and tools.
- Sierra View Elementary School (4th year) works twice a year at site 27.
- McCabe Family (7th year) continues work at sites 11 and 12.
- Rangel Family (2nd year) after a year sabbatical, the sisters continue to remove vinca at site 32.
- New adoptions: Blue Oak Elementary – site 6; and Olson Family – site 37.

- iv. Intern Program - In 2011, the Park Division had 7 students complete paid and non-paid internships to help support projects and lead volunteers. **CSUC**: Monique Silva Crossman (6/2010 – 6/2011) – session/UB leader; Chris Morris (1/2010 – 5/2010) – maintenance; Susan Beeler (6/2011 – 8/2011) – session/UB leader; Rick Helgerson (8/2011 – present) – session leader/project support; **Butte College**: Peter Phillips (6/2011 – 8/2011) project support; **Shasta College**: Heather Smith (6/2011 – 8/2011) – mapping restoration sites; and Va Lee (10/2010 – present) GIS Sign mapping project.

A paid Park Intern makes it possible to offer several weekly work sessions, which are in high demand as extra-curricular and mandated class community service components by Butte College and CSUC classes and organizations, including the Greek system.

- v. Lost Park - Seventy members of **Chico Rotary** volunteered to clear invasive weeds and trash from Lost Park on, October 22 Make a Difference Day, which prepared the area for restoration with native plants. Other volunteers worked at the One Mile Recreation Area.
- vi. Spanish Broom - With funds raised in 2010 from local groups, the removal project in the upper eastern reaches of Big Chico Creek continued in the spring. Staff from the Big Chico Creek Ecological Reserve led volunteer work sessions. BCCER staff logged over 48 hours independently on broom removal.
- vii. Trails Workshop - Renee Johnson, mountain bike enthusiast and Park Watch member, coordinated an **International Mt. Bicycle Association** Trail Building Workshop and Trail Day with the Park Division in November.
- viii. Training and Education – Staff initiated the formation of a Trail Volunteer Program and Team Leader Program were started and trainings will take place in March 2012. All weekly and special work sessions include Park history, and natural resource information.
- ix. Removal project – the **Friends of Bidwell Park** (FOBP), under the leadership of Susan Mason, continued their privet and bladder senna removal projects and guiding CSU students in park internships. Several intern GPS mapping projects were used by Park staff. Through FOBP efforts, thousands of privets have been removed in the Lower Park and the large trees remaining will be treated by the Park Division. FOBP have logged over 12,500 hours since 2003.

x. Economic Value of the Volunteer Program

With limited resources and a decrease in park staff, volunteers remain an important asset to the health and well-being of Bidwell Park and the City's greenways. The program also serves to guide community members who wish to contribute their part to the well being of Bidwell Park.

Traditionally, the financial worth of volunteer time has been estimated using a single dollar value for all types of volunteering. Updated annually and made available by the Independent Sector, the *Value of Volunteer Time* is currently \$23.42 per hour for the State of California (see <http://www.independentsector.org> [IS] according to the website the volunteer rate is from 2009 and is the most up to date available). Using this rate, the Park's volunteer hours of 17,375 is equivalent to \$406,923. According to the IS website, "*The value of volunteer time presented*

here is the average wage of non-management, non-agricultural workers. This is only a tool and only one way to show the immense value volunteers provide to an organization.” In addition to volunteer time, the Volunteer Coordinator also solicits support of in-kind contributions from area businesses to help supplement the Volunteer Program (see Table 3. Summary of Park Donations and In-Kind Service Donations (2011)).

c. Challenges Encountered:

The General Services Department reorganized in the summer of 2009, which placed the full-time tasks of administering the Volunteer Program under the Management Analyst position, which also staffs and supports the Park and Natural Resource Manager and the BPPC.

The Volunteer Program continues to provide opportunities for working in Bidwell Park; but the reduction in staff time to oversee and coordinate the program has and will continue to affect the capacity of the Park Division to increase work session offerings. The Volunteer Coordinator helps plan and oversees the work of paid and non-paid interns and spends a large amount of time responding to public interest in volunteering, cultivating and supporting on-going partnerships, and supporting outside groups work in the Park. All volunteer projects support the goals of the Park’s Master Management Plan.

The Volunteer Coordinator is implementing a Volunteer Team Leader Program in the Spring of 2012, with the goal of increasing leaders who can work independently with general volunteers in Bidwell Park with staff support and guidance.

5. Outreach and Education

a. Program Description

Community outreach and education is an important element of Park Division work to encourage appropriate use and appreciation of parks and resources. Although the Rangers typically take a key role in this function, the visible nature of our work means that all staff provides information to park users. With our focus on proactive enforcement of rules and protection of resources, it is important that our efforts in this area continue to improve:

b. 2011 Highlights

The following is a summary of the notable activities:

- The newsletter of the Park Division (started in 2010), the Bidwell Park Pulse continued quarterly publication, with positive feedback from citizens. The newsletter is predominately distributed electronically.
- Staff continued quarterly Park Talk opportunities for the public. Although turnout during some events were extremely small, we will examine subjects, venues, and notification ideas that may help.
- Rangers, along with other City staff participated in the 911 Safety Pals show, “Streets of Safety” again this year. Ten performances occurred at various schools in the area. The show has been well received by the students, teachers, and parents.
- The Parks Division and the Chico Police Department hosted a National Night Out event (08/02/11) at Caper Acres in the One Mile Recreation Area. The well-attended event drew over 200 people, plus members from support and sponsor groups like Target (well represented with over a dozen employees there), Park Watch and CARD. Chico Police Department participated with officers, motorcycles, K9, horses, and animal control in attendance. Park Intern Peter Phillips and Ranger Shane Romain worked with Chico Police Department in the coordination of the event. The Park Division would like to continue this event in the future, shifting the planning of the event to volunteers.
- The Volunteer Coordinator regularly conducts presentations about Bidwell Park and the Volunteer Program, some of those included: CSUC Parks and Recreation Community Involvement Class (2 classes); Community Action Volunteers in Education (2 groups); Butte College Connections Class; Butte College Habitat Restoration Class; Paradise High School ROP Class; Chico Green School, Chico High School Horticulture Class (ongoing partnership), Sierra View and Parkview Elementary classes.
- Rangers led two bike tours through Lower Park this past fall, focusing on history, natural resources and current management efforts. Additional themed tours will be coming up this year.
- Rangers recorded several 60 second radio public service announcements called the “Park Minute.” The Park Minute campaign presents topically relevant safety and educational information about Bidwell Park to the citizens of Chico. The Park Minute will play as public service announcement on local radio stations throughout the year. Currently, there are 13 different “minutes” recorded in English with the possibility of adding additional topics as needed. Recordings in Spanish will be completed in 2012.

- The “Be a Responsible Pet Owner” campaign was launched late October and included informational posters, a press release and an article in the newsletter. As part of the campaign, park rangers posted informational signs, educated dog owners on park rules and etiquette and ramped up enforcement of park rules. Staff noted that since the campaign launched compliance with leash rules and dogs in prohibited areas has increased.
- The “Share the Trail” campaign was fully implemented in 2011. Seasonally, rangers placed banners and kiosk signs up reminding visitors to “Approach Slowly, Announce Early and Pass Carefully.” The signs are intended to remind visitors to safely share the trail.
- A welcome to Bidwell Park letter was published in the Chico News and Review. Additionally, park materials were distributed to the campus newspapers.
- Approximately 35 news releases were released in 2011, providing valuable information to the public on upcoming management efforts and volunteer opportunities as well as education on park resources.

c. Challenges Encountered

Adjustments to staffing levels have posed some challenges in getting our news releases in a timely fashion. Education and compliance is a key cornerstone to our enforcement approach and we will explore new options to get messages out to the public. The use of social media for example, will take some time to implement and integrate them into our program.

6. Natural Resource Management

a. Program Description

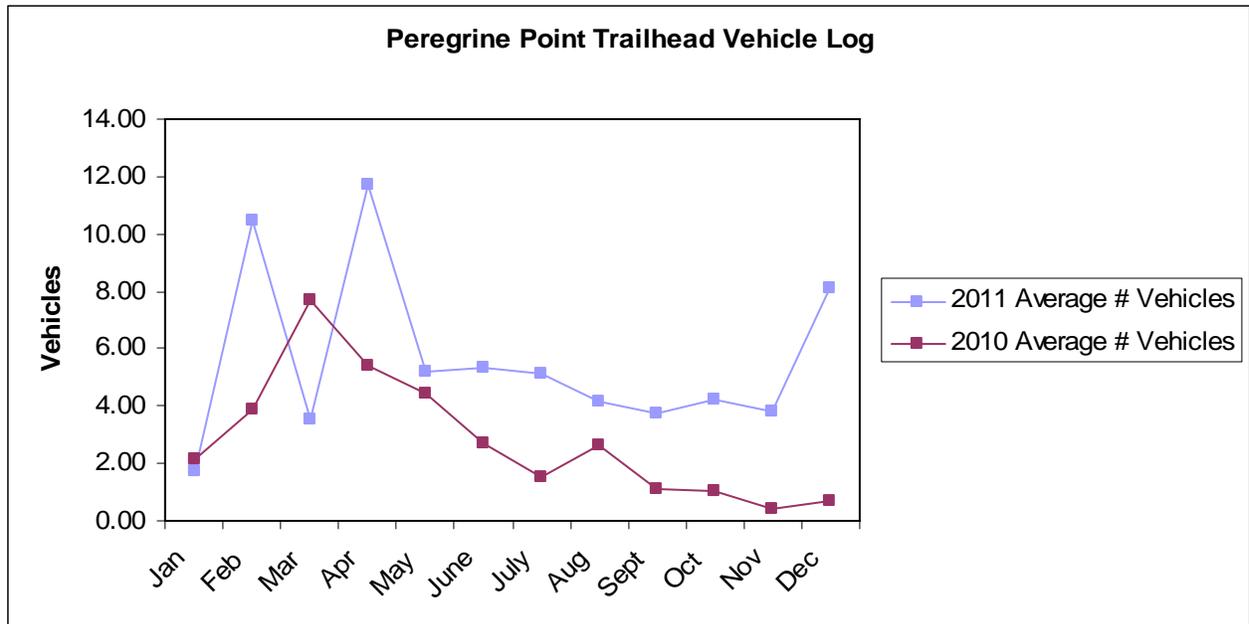
Although listing this as a program area is new, natural resource tasks have long been an important part of Park Division work. Trails, invasive weed control, plantings, tree work, even managing behaviors in the park have an important effect on Park health, and all parts of the Park Division have responsibilities in this area. However, at this point its important to have this listed as a priority area because of its importance and the fact that we are better integrating the Division to work more complementary on efforts than previously. For example, the recent burns in the park represent efforts from administrative staff (planning and public notice), to rangers (safety and securing permits), to maintenance (site prep and oversight of crews), to volunteers (Park Watch provided information during the event), and even beyond to other City Divisions (Fire) and other entities (CDF). We include in this program area, Park Division efforts with project and park planning, projects, and monitoring.

b. 2011 Highlights

- Wet weather – Staff continued collection of data related to wet weather and developed an extensive summary of the season. Staff will develop a revised wet weather plan in 2012.
- Trails – In addition to the trail work described above, staff worked on developing an inventory of all trails in Upper, Middle, and Lower Bidwell Park.
- Peregrine Point Disc Golf Course - 2011 was an eventful one for Peregrine Point. The Course was opened in February. Staff completed the Monitoring Plan for the Peregrine Point Disc Golf Course (Chico, 2011) that provides an adaptive management framework from which to monitor the course.

Rangers have been monitoring visitation at the Peregrine Point Disc Golf Course since 2009. During patrol of the area, rangers document number of vehicles, course condition, weather conditions and misc. observations. The average number of vehicles per observation increased in 2011 over 2010 (Figure 9), based on 317 ranger observations.

Figure 9. Peregrine Point Trailhead Vehicle Log (2010-2011).



- i. Prescribed Burn - The Park Division worked with the Chico Fire Department and CAL Fire to conduct a 60 acre prescribed burn in Middle Park (7/18/11) in the grassland area north of Upper Park Road between Parking Areas A and B and another prescribed burn was conducted on 10 acres in Middle Park to prepare for a native grass planting and to reduce woody fuels.
- ii. Lower Park Entrances: Staff and volunteers made good progress on removing invasive weeds, putting in native plants and updating and painting infrastructure of the park entrances.
- iii. CA Conservation Corps Proposition 84 Grant – The Park Division received the assistance of CA Conservation Corps (CCC) crew assistance for approximately 2 weeks per month during the spring and early summer to work on vegetation management and trail issues as part of a Proposition 84 grant awarded to the local CCC office.

c. Challenges Encountered

There's a tremendous backlog of natural resource needs in Bidwell Park and other City properties. Parks staff will continue working on several fronts and responding to needs as they arise. We will also articulate needs and performing triage on priorities through the Natural Resource Management Plan and Trails Plan for the Park.

7. Upcoming Issues

One thing that is clear from compiling the information related to this annual report is the remarkable breadth of tasks and long list of accomplishments that the Division completed last year. We identified some tasks throughout the document, highlighted issues include:

- Consider shifting the annual report to a fiscal year basis, which may more efficiently mesh with annual fiscal year reporting.
- Continue progress on the BPPC work plan. Revise and adopt the interim wet weather plan.
- Launch an online reservation system to be utilized for both public and private park use permits. This system will help customers to identify the location, content, availability and cost of reservations and to make a reservation from any computer at any time using the Internet. Staff is exploring options and additional fees for implementing an on-line reservation and permit system to adjust to a reduced staff and streamline the process.
- Staff will continue to make improvements to the BPPC packets and processes.

- Balancing Park priorities, projects, and BPPC support with staffing and resource challenges.
- Develop a training program for trail volunteers and team leaders. A core group of team leaders will enable the program to continue to grow and increase opportunities for people to be involved in Bidwell Park.
- Examine fundraising and donation ideas and initiate a funding campaign for Caper Acres.
- Maintain high visibility during patrols to provide visitor assistance and to help deter violations. Regularly utilize bicycle patrol. Continue to work closely with the Police and Fire Departments, exchanging pertinent information and addressing problem areas.
- Further develop the Park Watch program, with a focus on expanding membership and recruiting equestrian riders and mountain bikers.
- Implement ranger led interpretive programs and continue to develop a relationship with the Chico Creek Nature Center.
- Implement the "Park Minute" program in both English and Spanish.
- Continue visitation monitoring.
- Staff will be taking the leading role in the preparation of several key planning documents (Natural Resource Management Plan, Trails Plan, update of the Trails Manual, Management Plan Concepts for Greenways). In the past, much of the work associated with these types of projects would have been contracted with consultants. The effort will likely result in opportunity costs on other efforts, but will help guide future work in these areas.
- Deploy a sign plan for Bidwell Park in order to enhance public safety and enjoyment of the Park by effectively communicating location and destinations as well as encouraging positive and safe behavior.
- Develop recommendations for Bidwell Ranch.
- Training staff on restoration and new trail techniques.
- Addressing increased complaints of behavior at City Plaza.
- Coordination of Maintenance, Ranger, and Volunteer programs on restoration and outreach efforts.

Attachments:

- 1) Detailed Maintenance Tasks 2011.
- 2) Photographs Attachment.

2011 Park Hours

PARK MAINTENANCE HOURS 2011	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Trend	total	%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12			
1. Safety															
Camp Cleanup	7	2	8.5	13.5	6	10	1	5	3	2	4	6		68	
Gates	27	27	34	19	23	23	31.5	35.5	41.5	13	6	14		294.5	
Graffiti Removal	22	25.5	33	22.5	24.5	64.5	32	26.5	21.5	11.5	2.5	4		290	
trash pick up	227	216	265	281	247.5	275	240.5	271.5	341	200.5	194.5	193.5		2953	
Other	3	2.5	3	14	1.5	2	8	16.5	8.5		1	0.5		60.5	
Park Picnic Sites & Reservation Area Prep	7	6.5	12	16.5	23.5	33	59	62.5	45.5	7.5	5	53		331	
Playground Equipment Inspection	8	9	5	11.5	115	12	11	23	7	14	2	14		231.5	
Road Sweeping & Path Blowing	44	28	62.5	27.5	23	10	21	37	35.5	36.5	69	96		490	
Organization	3	19.5	19.5	8.5	3	6.5	3	16.5	7	36	8.5	1		132	
Sub Total	348	336	442.5	414	467	436	407	494	510.5	321	292.5	382		4850.5	35.67%
Percent	34.8%	34.2%	38.5%	34.8%	38.1%	28.8%	34.6%	35.5%	40.6%	38.9%	29.2%	43.2%			
2. Infrastructure Maintenance															
Barricade, Bollard, Gate, Fence: repairs, removal, install	25	62.5	14	15.5	12	15	24	16	13.5	27	4	21.5		250	
pressure wash,	70	99.5	16	55.5	2.5	22	41	9	29	15		16		375.5	
Irrigation Repair			1	4	20	11.5	32.5	11	53			2		135	
Manufacturing of Park Fixtures for Replacement	29.5	57	15	8	4	2	1	9.5	36.5	35.5	17.5	17.5		233	
Other	1	1	1	20		14	11	7	2	11.5	4	5		77.5	
Park Fixture Maintenance: installation, repair, paint	89	59.5	89.5	61	48.5	44.5	52	82.5	93	74	146.5	89.5		929.5	
Parking Lot Maintenance	4.5	6	2			2		91	14	3		45.5		168	
Pool Cleaning & Maintenance			1		62	194.5	64.5	83.5	23.5	13		3		445	
Projects: research, planning, staging	63.5	24	1.5	5		5		1		2	7.5			109.5	
Trail Maintenance	11	12	27	33	34.5	123.5	60	6	8	89	267	47		718	
parking lots, trash	2		1	15.5	21	17	24	15	9	9	10	11		134.5	
Sub Total	295.5	321.5	169	217.5	204.5	451	310	331.5	281.5	279	456.5	258		3575.5	26.29%
Percent	29.6%	32.7%	14.7%	18.3%	16.7%	29.8%	26.3%	23.8%	22.4%	33.8%	45.5%	29.2%			
3. Vegetation Maintenance															
Leaf Sweeping	19	1	2				1	2			27	11.5		63.5	
Other				8	13	18.5		25	10	3	2	3		82.5	
Projects: research, planning, staging	21	18		3	2	1		4	6		7.5			62.5	
Tree and Shrubs: pruning, elevations, down limb pick up	14	15.5	92.5	10.5	32	28	15	76	105	24	1	1		414.5	
cut,herbicide application	4	7.5	47.5	181	228	89.5	85.5	117.5	108	49	64	11.5		993	
Wildland Maintenance	4	0.5	6	16.5	31	5		8	15	6		1		93	
Wildland Restoration	22	73.5	43	1	3	134		5			17	5		303.5	
Sub Total	84	116	191	220	309	276	101.5	237.5	244	82	118.5	33		2012.5	14.80%
Percent	8.4%	11.8%	16.6%	18.5%	25.2%	18.2%	8.6%	17.1%	19.4%	9.9%	11.8%	3.7%			
4. Admin Time/Other															
Departmental Support	16.5	13	57			6			3	3				98.5	
Greenways & Satellite Parks: as assigned	22	3	11			1	3	28	2	29				99	
Other	20.5	32	12.5	4.5	24	187	192	182	92	10.5	10.5	5		772.5	
Time Off Work	176	100	213	289.5	178	138	144.5	97	91	59	94.5	186		1766.5	
Training & Safety Meetings	36.5	59	42	32.5	26	18	11.5	20	30	21	26.5	7		330	

2011 Park Hours

PARK MAINTENANCE HOURS 2011	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Trend	total	%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12			
Volunteer Program Support		3	10	12.5	17		8		4	21	3.5	14		93	
Sub Total	271.5	210	345.5	339	245	350	359	327	222	143.5	135	212		3159.5	23.24%
Percent	27.2%	21.4%	30.1%	28.5%	20.0%	23.1%	30.5%	23.5%	17.6%	17.4%	13.5%	24.0%			
Monthly Totals	999	983.5	1148	1190.5	1225.5	1513	1177.5	1390	1258	825.5	1002.5	885		13598	100.00%

ANNUAL REPORT: PHOTOS FROM THE FIELD 2011

Volunteers!



Chico High School Horticulture students collect cuttings for native plant project in their campus greenhouse.



Chico Jr. High School with Counselor Patty Haley clean up their adopted Annie's Glen



CSUC Phi Kappa Alpha Fraternity cleaned and applied sealant to the World of Trees viewing-sheds during Earth Day in Bidwell Park 2011.



Community Action in Education (CAVE) students cut up privet trees to pack dumpster at Lost Park.

Maintenance and More!



Park crew, CA Conservation Corps, and Chico Fire Dept conduct a prescribed burn in Middle Park to control for Medusa Head, Ripgut Brome and Starthistle.



Crew installs French drain to accommodate donated all-weather water fountain at parking lot E.



Parking Lot D – split rail installation to protect Blue Oaks.



Sr. Maintenance Staff Lloyd Johns leads CA Conservation Corps on Middle Trail Project 2011

Ranger Photos 2011



Rangers and Lifeguards help out at the Annual National Night Out event at 1-Mile.



Ranger Romain holding an injured barn owl at Caper Acres.



Rangers are spending more time on bike patrol, increasing visitor contacts and allowing for better coverage.



Rangers, along with other City staff participated in the 911 Safety Pals "Streets of Safety" show this past year.



Park Watching staffing a booth at the Snow Goose Festival.