



**CITY OF CHICO**  
**BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION (BPPC)**  
Regular Meeting Agenda  
January 28, 2013, 6:30 pm  
Municipal Center - 421 Main Street, Council Chamber

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*Materials related to an item on this Agenda are available for public inspection in the Park Division Office at 965 Fir Street during normal business hours or online at <http://www.chico.ca.us/>.*

**1. REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING**

- 1.1. Call to Order
- 1.2. Swearing-in of Commissioners - City Clerk Deborah Presson
- 1.3. Election of Chair and Vice Chair – Parks and Natural Resources Manager, Dan Efseaff
- 1.4. Roll Call

**2. CONSENT AGENDA**

All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are to be considered routine and enacted by one motion.

- 2.1. Approval of Meeting Minutes

**Action:** Approve minutes of BPPC held on 12/17/12.

- 2.2. Permit for Making Strides 5K Run.

The American Cancer Society requests a permit to host a walk in Lower Park on 10/19/13. The Commission is considering the application because the group is requesting the use of a park area for multiple days and for more than 10-hours. **Recommendation:** *Approval of permit with conditions.*

- 2.3. Permit for the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Pedal Powered Music Festival.

Applicant requests a permit to host a bicycle pedal powered music festival at Camellia Way Park on June 1, 2013. This application is being considered by the Commission because the group is requesting to host a public event in an area that is not designated as an intensive use area. **Recommendation:** *Approval of permit with conditions.*

**ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT** – if any

**3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS** - None

**4. REGULAR AGENDA**

- 4.1. Discussion of Committee Assignments and the 2013 Meeting Calendar.

BPPC members serve on the Policy Advisory, Natural Resources, Street Trees Committees and the City's ad hoc Bicycle Advisory Committee. The Committees allow more detailed consideration of issues. Findings or recommendations are then reported to the entire BPPC. Assignments are at the BPPC Chair's prerogative with staff recommendations. In addition, the Commission will consider the Committee and BPPC meeting schedules for 2013. **Recommendation:** Staff recommends that Commissioners email or mail their preference of Committee assignments to the Park Division for consideration by the Chair and review and approve 2013 calendar for Committee Meetings and BPPC Annual schedule.

- 4.2. Heritage Tree Application

A street tree located on 17<sup>th</sup> Street, at 1641 Mulberry, has been submitted for Heritage Tree status by the adjoining property owner. **Recommendation.** Approve the application and forward to the City Council for final approval.

## **5. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

Members of the public may address the Commission at this time on any matter not already listed on the agenda; comments are limited to three minutes. The Commission cannot take any action at this meeting on requests made under this section of the agenda.

## **6. REPORTS**

Items provided for the Commission's information and discussion. No action can be taken on any of the items unless the Commission agrees to include them to a subsequent posted agenda.

- 6.1. Policy Advisory Committee Report – Lisa Emmerich, Chair
- 6.2. Special Report: 2012 Street Trees and Urban Forest Annual Report – Denice Britton, Urban Forest Manager
- 6.3. Special Report: 2012 Park Division Annual Report – Dan Efseaff, Park and Natural Resource Manager
- 6.4. Urban Forest Manager's Report - Denice Britton, Urban Forest Manager
- 6.5. Park and Natural Resources Manager's Report - Dan Efseaff, Park and Natural Resource Manager.

## **7. ADJOURNMENT**

Adjourn to the next regular meeting on February 25, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber of the Chico Municipal Center building (421 Main Street, Chico, California).



Please contact the Park Division Office at (530) 896-7800 if you require an agenda in an alternative format or if you need to request a disability-related modification or accommodation. This request should be received at least three working days prior to the meeting.

**CITY OF CHICO**  
**BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION (BPPC)**  
Minutes of  
December 17, 2012 Regular Meeting

**1. REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING**

**1.1. Call to Order**

Chair Ober called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

**1.2. Roll Call**

**Commissioners present:**

Mary Brentwood  
Clay Craig  
Mark Herrera  
Jim Mikles  
Richard Ober

**Commissioners absent:** Lisa Emmerich and Jim Moravec

**Staff present:** Dan Efseaff (Park and Natural Resource Manager), Denice Britton (Urban Forest Manager), and Lise Smith-Peters (Park Services Coordinator)

**2. CONSENT AGENDA**

All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are to be considered routine and enacted by one motion.

**2.1. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

**Action:** Approve minutes of BPPC held on 11/26/12.

**2.2. Permit the Take a Hike and Trail Run.**

The Northern California Regional Land Trust requested a permit to host a hike and trail run in Middle and Upper Park on 06/01/13. The Commission considered the application because the group is requesting the use of trails in Bidwell Park that are not considered intensive use areas.

**MOTION:** Approve the Consent Agenda items as presented. **MADE BY:** Brentwood. **SECOND:** Craig. **AYES:** 5 (Brentwood, Craig, Herrera, Mikles and Ober). **NOES:** 0. **ABSTENTION:** 0 **ABSENT:** 2 (Emmerich and Moravec).

**ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT – NONE**

**3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS - NONE**

**4. REGULAR AGENDA**

**4.1. Permit the Sustain Chico Festival**

Sustainable Planet Productions requests a permit to host an Earth Day Festival at City Plaza on 04/20/13. The Commission is considering the application because the group is requesting the use of a park area for multiple days and for more than 10-hours. Commissioner Brentwood inquired about the plans for a beer and wine garden and asked whether the applicant understood that alcohol is prohibited from all City Parks. Kelly Munson with Sustain Chico stated that if that

component is included it will be located on private property outside of the Park. Parks and Natural Resources Manager stated that the application was routine but that it is a new event and will have the Plaza longer than 10 hours due to set up and take down and it will also involve street closures that the group is working with Engineering Department staff on. Ms. Munson also stated that the group could change its date so as not to conflict with other events that have been held annually on that weekend, like the Earth Day in Bidwell Park. The Commission can approve the permit and then the group can work on a schedule.

**MOTION:** Approve the Permit with conditions. **MADE BY:** Brentwood. **SECOND:** Herrera. **AYES:** 5 (Brentwood, Craig, Herrera, Mikles and Ober). **NOES:** 0. **ABSTENTION:** 0 **ABSENT:** 2 (Emmerich and Moravec).

#### **4.2. Consideration of a Comprehensive Smoking Ban.**

In August 2012, City Council tasked the BPPC to develop a recommendation to the Council on prohibiting smoking in all City parks, with the possible exception of the Bidwell Golf Course, and to establish clear rules on smoking in vehicles in the parks. The item was taken up by the Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) for discussion and public input. The PAC supported a comprehensive smoking ban for all City parks, greenways and open spaces.

At the December BPPC meeting, Commissioner Herrera stated that the ban should just apply to tobacco and not other smoking products. Commissioners Craig and Mikles expressed that an exception should be made for the golf course since people pay to play there (and a ban may send patrons to other courses); there is no threat of fire danger due to their irrigation schedule, litter is not an issue with many trash receptacles on the course and that health is not compromised by the public at large because of the nature of golf where small groups of people play together. There was also concern about the rights associated with private vehicles.

Parks and Natural Resources Manager stated that Rangers do patrol the golf course but it would be challenging and it would be up to the golf course ambassadors to enforce if golf course is included in the ban.

From the Public:

Elizabeth Newton from Kids Leading Against Nicotine (KLEAN) stated that the group has been working on the smoking ban issue for 2-3 years and there has been success with getting smoking banned from business entryways.

Christina Roberts from the American Lung Association stated that Chico Area Recreation District had banned smoking in their parks successfully and that many other cities have passed bans, which also included parking lots and roadways. There is plenty of language that the ALA could share from other cities' codes.

Francis Cung stated that a smoking ban would help promote healthy behavior and role modeling.

Kayla Bridges with KLEAN discussed the health issues with second hand smoke.

Taran Zilch with KLEAN stated that he had helped collect all of the cigarette butts from the Park and that smoking is a disease.

Bob Jones stated that he was against the smoking ban because there are so many other problem issues in the Park that staff needs to work on. "Is this just another feel good law that won't be enforced" like illegal trails, transients camping in the Park and meth labs?

**MOTION:** Forward to the Council a smoking ban in all City parks, greenways, and open spaces except inside vehicles and at the Bidwell Golf Course. **MADE BY:** Mikles. **SECOND:** Craig. **AYES:** 2 (Craig and

Mikles) **NOES:** 3. (Brentwood, Herrera and Ober) **ABSTENTION:** 0 **ABSENT:** 2 (Emmerich and Moravec).

The motion failed and a second motion was proposed:

**MOTION:** Forward to the Council a comprehensive smoking ban in all City parks, greenways, and open spaces. **MADE BY:** Brentwood. **SECOND:** Herrera. **AYES:** 3 (Brentwood, Herrera and Ober). **NOES:** 2 (Craig and Mikles). **ABSTENTION:** 0 **ABSENT:** 2 (Emmerich and Moravec).

#### **4.3. Consideration of Wet Weather Management Plan and Annual Report**

In December 2009, the BPPC adopted an Interim (Adaptive) Wet Weather Management Plan. Staff presented the 2011-2012 annual report and unveiled a draft update to the plan for BPPC and public input.

Park and Natural Resource Manager Efsaef gave a brief update on the Draft Wet Weather Management Plan, stating that a key point is that an indentation of .25 inch in the soil is cause for closing the trails. The use of information from the Chico weather station has also simplified the information gathering. The staff does field assessments to help open the trails faster too. Soil depth also plays a role in the assessments and that some consideration of changing the route of the assessment may be needed to provide more comprehensive readings.

At this time, the Upper Park road has sustained a large amount of damage due to a recent winter storm and the road will remain closed probably until the end of spring. Closures of the trails, disc golf and the Upper Park Road are posted on the website, on the park phone voice mail and through our social media.

From the Public:

Woody Elliott stated that putting a "closed" sign for the Disc Golf Course down at Bruce Road would help the public know that there is no reason to drive up to the course and that a chain across the first hole on the course would be a deterrent that no players could ignore.

The Commission requested that the Wet Weather Plan be reviewed at a Policy Advisory Committee meeting to provide more time for public input. Once revised, the plan will return to the BPPC for consideration.

#### **4.4. Review of Upper Road Closure Guidelines for Fire Danger.**

In early October, the Park Division closed Upper Park Road at the Diversion Dam Gate to vehicle traffic as a precautionary measure against potential fire hazard due to high temperatures and issued news releases prior to the closure. The Park had 10 fires this past summer and staff developed some preliminary guidelines on which to base a closure of the Upper Park Road and would like BPPC and public input. The guidelines are advisory in nature and help indicate the conditions in which a road closure is warranted.

### **5. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

Members of the public may address the Commission at this time on any matter not already listed on the agenda; comments are limited to three minutes. The Commission cannot take any action at this meeting on requests made under this section of the agenda.

Laura Beck introduced herself as the new Executive Director of the Chico Creek Nature Center and expressed her interest in working closely with the Commission and Park staff.

## 6. REPORTS

Items provided for the Commission's information and discussion. No action can be taken on any of the items unless the Commission agrees to include them to a subsequent posted agenda.

### 6.1. 2011- 2012 Work Plan Update – Dan Efseaff, Park and Natural Resources Manager

Staff gave an update on the 2011-2013 Workplan explained that finding a funding source is needed and is a barrier to implementing the full restoration plan of Comanche Creek. The trail projects are the Middle Trail, Monkey Face reroute and then Peregrine Point connector trails. Staff is applying for a Recreational Trail Grant to fund Phase II of the Middle Trail.

### 6.2. Urban Forest Manager's Report - Denice Britton, Urban Forest Manager

Urban Forest Manager stated that there is a lot of deferred maintenance with an aging urban forest and that the Tree Planting Program has had fewer applicants this year. She also gave an update on the discussion of the Fair St. and Park Ave trees with CBS Advertising. They have come to a compromise and the company will maintain the pruning and will pay the costs of keeping the trees in an agreed upon manner. While it is sad that they will be removing some trees, there will also be replanting of trees that will better size so as to not block the billboards that were there prior to the trees. Cal-Trans has been in contact with staff to let us know that they will need to take out some additional trees in the park as part of the project. They have been good about meeting with staff and informing us of progress or changes.

### 6.3. Park and Natural Resources Manager's Report - Dan Efseaff, Park and Natural Resource Manager.

Park and Natural Resources Manager said that the Park fees had been revised and would be reviewed at the Policy Advisory Committee meeting prior to coming to the full Commission and then on to the Council for adoption. It has been several years since they have been reviewed and the timing for the change in fees is good along with the online permit/reservation program for park users.

## 7. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 8:47 to the next regular meeting on January 28, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber of the Chico Municipal Center building (421 Main Street, Chico, California).

Date Approved:    /    /   .

Prepared By: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lise Smith-Peters, Park Services Coordinator

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Distribution: BPPC



DATE: 12/25/12  
TO: Bidwell Park and Playground Commission  
FROM: Jessica Erdahl, Senior Park Ranger  
SUBJECT: Permit Application for the Making Strides 5K Walk, October 19, 2013.

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### Recommendation

Staff recommends approval of the permit with conditions.

### Report in Brief

The American Cancer Society requests a permit to host the Making Strides 5k Walk at One Mile on October 19, 2013. The applicant has held similar events for the past 2 years and anticipates approximately 1700 participants. They will reserve Sycamore Field on Friday, October 18, 3:00 p.m. for setup and host the event at the One-Mile Recreation reservation area and Sycamore Field on October 19, from 6:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Additionally, they have requested to stage a security guard at the site overnight for security purposes.

This application requires BPPC consideration as the group is requesting to set-up for the event on October 18, 2013, therefore requesting the use of a park area for multiple days and for more than 10-hours.

Intensive use events in Lower Park are permissible under the Bidwell Park Master Management Plan (BPMMP). The plan also notes that the One-Mile Recreation Area should be managed as a multi-use community recreational resource (O.1M-1).

Staff recommends the following conditions:

- Continued adherence to all park rules.
- Applicant to obtain a permit from CARD to use Sycamore Field.
- Walk to begin by 8:30 a.m. to allow walkers to clear the roadway by the gate opening time of 9:00 a.m.
- Provide at least 1 ADA accessible and 3 standard portable restrooms at the event site.
- Remit \$31.50 early entrance fee to Park Division.
- Adequate monitors and signage must also be in place in order to ensure racers follow the established routes and also to notify other park users of the event.
- The applicant will need to do a final inspection of the race courses at the conclusion of the event and remove all signs and course markings as well as pick up any associated trash.

### Distribution:

Matthew A. Foor

### Attachments:

Application and permit for park use for the 2013 Annual American Cancer Society Walk



# City of Chico

## APPLICATION & PERMIT FOR PARK USE

General Services Department - Park Division  
965 Fir Street/P.O. Box 3420  
Chico, CA 95927-3420  
(530) 896-7800 Fax: (530) 895-4731

Type of Event:	
PUBLIC <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PRIVATE <input type="checkbox"/>

### SECTION 1 - APPLICANT INFORMATION

Must be 18 or older • No glass beverage containers • Application fee due upon submittal •

THIS RESERVATION IS NOT VALID UNTIL APPROVED BY THE PARK DIVISION.

PLEASE PRINT:

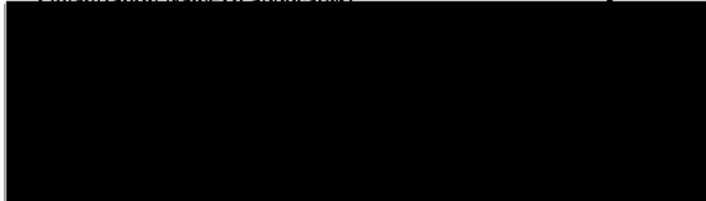
Matthew A. Ford  
Name of Applicant/Contact Person

Making Strides 5K Walk  
Description of Event: (family BBQ, walk/run, describe below if needed)  
Fri OCT 18, 2013 3PM - 6PM  
Sat OCT 19, 2013 6AM - 12 NOON  
Day and Date of Event:

American Cancer Society Inc.  
Organization Name (if applicable)

Friday 3PM - 6PM - 10.50  
Saturday 6AM To: 12 NOON 291.00  
From: Total Time Needed for Set-up, Event, and Clean-up

7:30AM To: 10:15AM 1,700  
From: Time of Event Only Number of people



Contact Phone # Alternate Phone #

E-mail address: [Redacted]

Note: Park gates will not remain closed beyond normal opening time for any event with less than 1,000 people. All races with less than 1,000 people at One Mile must start before 8:30 am. Street closure(s) subject to approval.

#### AREA REQUESTED: (Please check if requested)

- Bidwell Bowl Amphitheater
  - Electricity (15 amp)
- Note: Special conditions apply for amplified sound (12R.08.263 CMC)
- Cedar Grove Picnic Area  Meadow
  - Electricity (15 amp)  100 amp Electrical Service tables, restroom area (circle)  Water (public events only)
- Children's Playground
  - Electricity (15 amp)-Pick up key on: \_\_\_\_\_ between 8:00 AM-4:30 PM
  - Water (public events only)  100 amp Electrical Service
- City Plaza (Additional fees may apply)
  - Electricity (15 amp)  100 amp Electrical Service
  - Event Restrooms  Water (public events only)
  - Fountain - On  Fountain - Off
  - Meter Bags # \_\_\_\_\_  Sound Curtain

- Council Ring
  - Fire Permit
- Five Mile Picnic Area
- One Mile Picnic/Barbeque Area - Water available, no hose bib
  - Oak Grove A  Oak Grove B
  - Sycamore Way Parking Lot Closure-Public Events ONLY
  - Electricity (15 amp) tables, trees, parking area, restroom area
  - Band Stand (15 amp) (circle above)
  - BBQ-Pick up key on: \_\_\_\_\_ between 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM
- Depot Park
  - Electricity (15 amp)
- Lower Bidwell Park (public events only): \_\_\_\_\_
- Upper Bidwell Park (public events only): \_\_\_\_\_
- Other (specify) (public events only): \_\_\_\_\_
- Early Entrance Needed (public events only)  Yes  No

Additional Description of the Event: Making Strides Breast Cancer Walk  
fundraiser - Set up on Sycamore field not on Park Side  
FOR PARK RANGER ASSISTANCE during the event, CALL 530-897-4900 (Police Department Dispatch)

### SECTION 2 - PERMIT FEES

\* standard 5K course \* 1.805

Call Park Office at 896-7800 for availability of park areas and fee schedule 80.020

- Application Fee \$ 18.50 (Non-Refundable)
- Reservation Fee \$ 301.50 (\$10.50 minimum, please call for quote)
- Insurance Fee \$ 39.00 (\$39.00 to process outside insurance)
- Vendor Fee # \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (\$5.50 per vendor)
- Damage Deposit \$ 100.00 (\$100.00 refundable following acceptable clean-up after event)
- Early Entrance Fee \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (\$31.50/hr, public events only)
- Additional Park Use Fees \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (see fee schedule)

Additional fees for City Plaza use:	
Event Restrooms _____ x (\$92.00) = \$ _____	#days
100 amp Electrical _____ x (\$29.00) = \$ _____	(electrician required) #days

Total Fee Required: \$ 459.00

Fee due upon submittal of application \* Make Checks Payable to: City of Chico

City of Chico Cash Receipt No. CR 359065 Payment Method: CC 6995 Date: 11.14.12 Received By: TR

Office Distribution:	Permit File (original) Park Field Supervisor	Park Ranger 1 Park Ranger 2	Senior Park Ranger Landscape Inspector.	Applicant Risk Management (e-mail)	Email(various) 920 Fund
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# EVENT INFORMATION

Please answer the following questions by circling "Yes" or "No"

Is this an annual event? How many years have you been holding this event? <u>3 years</u>	Yes	No
Is there a patron admission, entry, or participant fee(s) required for your event?	Yes	No
Will there be amplified sound/music at event? (Please see 'Conditions For Park Use') Specify type (microphone, band, radio, PA system etc): <u>mic, Pa + CD player</u>	Yes	No
When will amplified sound/music be heard? Time from: <u>8am</u> until: <u>10:30</u> amps needed (15 or 100) <u>15</u> Note: 100 amp electrical service requires a certified electrician to operate.		
Will there be any entertainment apparatus? (Operator to provide proof of insurance) [ ] Bounce house [ ] Climbing wall [ ] Ropes Course [ ] Other: _____ Name of Operator: _____	Yes	No
Will there be any vendors at this event? (No glass or alcohol permitted) If "yes" please note the number of vendors anticipated: _____ (submit a, separate, complete list) Does your event include food concession and/or preparation areas? If yes, please describe how food will be served and/or prepared: _____	Yes	No
Will event require that any part of the Park remain closed beyond the normal time of opening? Note: Park gates will not remain closed beyond normal opening time for any event with less than 1,000 people. All races with less than 1,000 people at One Mile must start before 8:30am. (Subject to approval by the General Services Department Director and/or Senior Park Ranger.) If "yes" please state which gate(s): _____ Time of closure from: _____ until: _____	Yes	No
Will there be early entrance into the Park for setup? If "yes" when will monitors be at their position(s)? Time from: <u>6:30</u> until: <u>8:00</u> Note: Gate Monitors are required at the entrances and exits for early Park entrance. An additional fee may be charged for early entrance	Yes	No
Will event require over night camping for security purposes? (authorized for a maximum of two people, 12R.04.340 CMC) If "yes" how many security personnel will be required? <u>one</u>	Yes	No
<b>Portable Restrooms:</b> You are required to provide portable restroom for events with 200+ participants at your event, in the immediate area of the event site which will be available to the public during your event. Restroom Company <u>Ben Toilet Rentals</u> Phone Number <u>800-767-8276</u> Location of portable restrooms <u>Next to Handicapped parking space</u> Note: Restrooms shall be removed within 24 hrs after conclusion of event.	Yes	No
<b>Sanitation and Recycling:</b> As an event organizer, you must properly dispose of waste and garbage throughout the term of your event and immediately upon conclusion of the event the area must be returned to a clean condition. <i>For events with 200+ participants, additional trash and recycling cans are required.</i> Number of Trash Cans <u>8</u> Number of Recycling Containers <u>8</u> Sanitation Company <u>Recology</u> Phone Number <u>530 533 4783</u> Note: Sanitation containers shall be removed within 24 hrs after conclusion of event.	Yes	No
Will your event include the use of any signs, banners or decorations? (Please see 'Conditions For Park Use') If yes, please describe type and location: <u>Plastic sign stuck in ground w wires</u> Note: All signs and banners shall be free standing and not affixed to Park property.	Yes	No
Will water be needed during your event? Please provide your own hose and on/off switch. No hose bib is available at One Mile Recreation Area. Note: Please request a water coupler key for City Plaza, Children's Playground, and Cedar Grove.	Yes	No
Do you request irrigation to be turned off before and during your event?	Yes	No
<b>CITY PLAZA ONLY:</b> Vehicles are not allowed in City Plaza. Loading and unloading must occur from the streets. Meter bags for unloading and loading only may be obtained from the City by calling (530) 896-7800.		
Will vendors be placed on the perimeter sidewalks? If yes, a Vend, Peddle, Hawk permit must be obtained from the Engineering Division at 411 Main St, Chico, (530) 879-6900.	Yes	No
Will City street closure(s) be needed? A separate permit must be obtained from the Engineering Division at 411 Main Street, Chico, (530) 879-6900.	Yes	No

**SECTION 4 – INSURANCE**

(to be determined by Park Office)

**INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS ARE APPLICABLE TO:**

Insurance Required

Not Required

- (1) All Public Events per Title 12R.08.240, and/or
- (2) All Events Public or Private where:
  - (a) Amplified sound is used, or
  - (b) The number of people participating amount to 100 or more.

If insurance is required for your event, please contact the Risk Management office at 530-879-7910, by fax at 530-895-4733, or email at [riskmanagement@ci.chico.ca.us](mailto:riskmanagement@ci.chico.ca.us). Insurance may also be purchased through the City.

If insurance is required, Certificate of Insurance, meeting City standards must be received by: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization Named on Certificate of Insurance \_\_\_\_\_

Permittee shall supply, at least two (2) weeks in advance of the scheduled event, a Certificate of Insurance issued by a company licensed to do business in California with a Best's Insurance Guide rating of "B" or better ("A" rated if Company is unlicensed) which provides evidence of comprehensive and general liability coverage in the amount of \$1,000,000 combined single limit, with policy endorsements as follows:

- (1) Identification of permit applicant, identification of event, date of event.

**NOTE: NUMBERS 2 AND 3 MUST BE SEPARATE ENDORSEMENTS:**

- (2) The City of Chico, its officers, boards and commissions, and members thereof, its employees and agents are covered as additional insureds as respects to any liability arising out of the activities of the named insured.
- (3) The insurance coverages afforded by this policy shall be primary insurance as respects to the City of Chico, its officers, employees, or agents. Any insurance or self-insurance maintained by the City of Chico, its officers, employees, or agents shall be in excess of the insurance afforded to the named insured by this policy and shall not contribute to it.
- (4) An unqualified statement that "The insurer will provide the City at least ten (10) days prior notice of cancellation or material change in coverage", standard Certificate of Insurance cancellation language is not acceptable

**Please Note:** Your reservation may be cancelled if the insurance is not approved at least two weeks prior to the scheduled event

**SECTION 5 - ACCEPTANCE OF CONDITIONS**

In signing this Permit, I agree to indemnify and hold the City of Chico and/or the Bidwell Park and Playground Commission free and clear of all claims of damage for injury to persons or property occurring in, upon or about Bidwell Park, and arising from my use of the park as noted above, and to defend any action against the City of Chico resulting from any such claim, without cost to the City.

\*I certify that I have read this application thoroughly, followed any and all instructions, understand its contents, will comply with the attached "Conditions for Park Use", will adhere to any additional conditions set forth by this permit, and supplied true and correct information herein to the best of my knowledge and belief.

X M. Hussein  
Signature of Applicant

X 12/11/2012  
Date

**RETURN THIS FORM TO:**

City of Chico - Park Division  
965 Fir Street  
Chico, CA 95928

FAX 530-895-4731 or email to [Parkinfo@ci.chico.ca.us](mailto:Parkinfo@ci.chico.ca.us)

THIS RESERVATION IS NOT VALID UNTIL APPROVED BY THE PARK DIVISION.

A copy of the approved application will be returned to you.

**SECTION 6 – GENERAL SERVICES DIRECTOR AUTHORIZATION**

I certify that I have carefully reviewed this application pursuant to Title 12 and 12R of the Chico Municipal Code and hereby recommend that this permit be:

- Approved.
- Approved subject to listed additional condition(s) \_\_\_\_\_

- Denied by the General Services Director. Reason: \_\_\_\_\_
- Application fee waived (12R.08.100 CMC). Reason: \_\_\_\_\_
- Reservation fee waived (12R.08.250 CMC). Reason: \_\_\_\_\_
- Vendor fee waived (12R.08.250 CMC). Reason: \_\_\_\_\_
- Insurance fee waived (12R.08.240 CMC). Reason: \_\_\_\_\_
- Damage deposit fee waived (12R.08.260 CMC). Reason: \_\_\_\_\_
- Application approved by the Bidwell Park & Playground Commission. Date: \_\_\_\_\_
- Application denied by the Bidwell Park & Playground Commission. Reason: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of General Services Director

Date



DATE: 01/14/13  
TO: Bidwell Park and Playground Commission  
FROM: Jessica Erdahl, Senior Park Ranger  
SUBJECT: Permit Application for the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Pedal Powered Music Festival at Camelia Way Park

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**Recommendation**

Staff recommends approval of the permit with conditions.

**Report in Brief**

The Butte Environmental Council requests a permit to host a bicycle pedal powered music festival on June 1, 2013. This is the 5<sup>th</sup> year the music festival has occurred, taking place at Children’s Playground and Cedar Grove in the past, and the applicant expects approximately 300 attendees. The event will run from 11:00-3:45 p.m. The event is associated with “Bike Chico Week.”

The Chico Music Bicycle Festival is a free event intended to promote the use of bicycles as a mode of transportation. Event organizers and participants utilize bicycles and trailers to transport stage and musical equipment from location to location. Power generated by bicycles is utilized to provide electricity to the performers and sound equipment.

This application is being considered by the Commission because the group is requesting to host a public event in an area that is not designated as an intensive use area.

The Bidwell Park Master Management Plan (BPMMP) notes that non-intensive and intensive uses are permissible in Lower Park, specifically noting that Camellia Way can be utilized for low-intensity events. (3.6.1.1 Permissible Uses in Lower Park/ I. AG/CW-3).

Staff recommends the following conditions:

- Continued adherence to all park rules.
- Provide at least 1 ADA accessible and 1 standard portable restroom at the event site.
- Amplified sound needs to be at a reasonable level.
- Remit \$100 damage deposit to Park Division.

**Distribution:**

Samantha Zangrilli

**Attachments:**

Application and permit for park use for a music festival



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## SECTION 3

# CONDITIONS FOR PARK USE

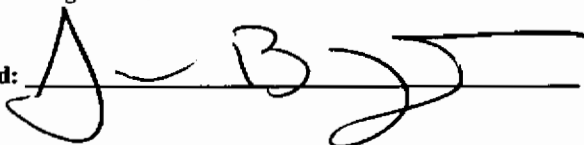
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**You Are Responsible for Knowing the Park Rules. Please Observe the Following:**

<b>Alcohol</b>	Alcohol is not permitted in any City Park or Playground.
<b>BBQ's</b>	Portable BBQ's may only be used next to existing BBQ's in Lower Bidwell Park and Five Mile Recreation Areas.
<b>Bicycles</b>	Must observe all California vehicular codes including one-way streets. Riders are expected to be courteous and yield to equestrian and pedestrian traffic. Helmets must be worn at all times in Upper Park, except when on pavement. Riders must stay on designated trails. Bicycle riding is not allowed in Caper Acres or on the Sycamore pool deck.
<b>Bounce Houses</b>	Bounce houses and other similar play equipment are only permitted with a reservation and upon approval by the Park Division. The operators of this equipment must provide proof of insurance. Bounce houses are not allowed in Caper Acres.
<b>Campfires</b>	No campfires allowed.
<b>Camping</b>	No overnight camping allowed. Bidwell Park is a "day use park" only.
<b>Clean up</b>	Permittee is required to completely clean up area at the conclusion of event. Additional garbage bags may be obtained from the General Services Department at time of reservation. (12R.04.180 CMC)
<b>Damages</b>	Any damage to City property as a result of this event will be repaired at permittee's expense.
<b>Dogs</b>	Dogs may be off leash from 5:30 AM until 8:30 AM in Lower Park -- All other times <b>dogs must be on a leash</b> . Along the north side of Upper Park Road, dogs may be "off leash" anytime. While "off leash," dogs must remain under control via master's voice. <b>Dogs are not allowed in Caper Acres, One-Mile or Five-Mile swimming areas, or designated swimming holes in Upper Park.</b>
<b>Electrical</b>	All power extension cords, sound amplification equipment, and staging to be supplied by permittee. Permittee shall provide "tripping" prevention devices over power cords crossing any pathway.
<b>Fishing</b>	<b>Big Chico Creek:</b> Check California Fish and Game Regulations, <a href="http://www.dfg.ca.gov/regulations/">http://www.dfg.ca.gov/regulations/</a> , Freshwater Sport Fishing, <u>Alphabetical List of Waters with Special Fishing Regulations, (20) Big Chico Creek.</u> <b>Horseshoe Lake:</b> <u>Age 14 and over</u> - license, catch and release; <u>Under 14</u> - no license, catch and keep.
<b>Gate Closures</b>	Upper Park gate at parking area E is closed on Sundays and Mondays and during wet periods. Gates can be closed for approved special events. See <a href="http://www.ci.chico.ca.us/general_services_department/park_division/gate_closing_hours.asp">www.ci.chico.ca.us/general_services_department/park_division/gate_closing_hours.asp</a>
<b>Glass</b>	No glass beverage containers allowed in any City Park or Playground.
<b>Horses</b>	Horses must stay on designated trails. Horses are not allowed in One-Mile or Five-Mile Recreation Areas. Horses must cross the creek at approved crossings. Safe and courteous riding is the Park standard.
<b>Noise</b>	No loud or unusual noises are allowed, including: radios and headsets that can be heard over 50' away. Music/Amplified Sound at One-Mile Recreation Area, please, face all speakers away from Woodland Ave.
<b>Park Closures</b>	Lower Park is closed from 12:00 am (midnight) until 5:00 am every day, unless directly and actively proceeding to a destination outside of the park. Upper Park is closed between the hours of 11:00 pm and 60 minutes before sunrise every day, unless posted otherwise.
<b>Signs/Defacing</b>	Defacing of trees, benches, tables, any park fixtures, open ground, or paved roads/paths with markings, staples, tacks, or signs is prohibited. No pinatas, or accessories shall be affixed to trees. Only barricades, cones, or self standing devices may be used for these purposes.
<b>Smoking</b>	No smoking in Upper Park from May 1st - November 1 <sup>st</sup> . No smoking in City Plaza or Caper Acres any time.
<b>Swimming</b>	While in the 1-Mile swim area compliance with lifeguards is required for public safety. Pool is open and lifeguards are on duty from Memorial Day through Labor Day.
<b>Vegetation</b>	No taking, cutting or injury of any vegetation in the Park is allowed.
<b>Vehicle Traffic</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• While gates are closed, limited use of vehicles to set up for event is permitted. Vehicles must be in compliance with the one-way designation of the roadway, must yield to all other activities (walking, jogging, bicycling, and horseback riding), must travel with flashers on and may not exceed ten (10) miles per hour.</li><li>• Permittee shall provide adequate signs and supervision to avoid conflicts between vehicles, bicycles, equestrians, and general public.</li><li>• Only emergency vehicles will be allowed access through the area of South Park Drive which has been closed to motor vehicles.</li><li>• No vehicles are permitted to travel or park on grass areas.</li></ul>

**\*I have read and agree to conform to the above rules and conditions:**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_



**SECTION 4 – INSURANCE**

(to be determined by Park Office)

**INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS ARE APPLICABLE TO:**

Insurance Required

Not Required

- (1) All Public Events per Title 12R.08.240, and/or
- (2) All Events Public or Private where:
  - (a) Amplified sound is used, or
  - (b) The number of people participating amount to 100 or more.

If insurance is required for your event, please contact the Risk Management office at 530-879-7910, by fax at 530-895-4733, or email at [riskmanagement@ci.chico.ca.us](mailto:riskmanagement@ci.chico.ca.us). Insurance may also be purchased through the City.

If insurance is required, Certificate of Insurance, meeting City standards must be received by: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization Named on Certificate of Insurance \_\_\_\_\_

Permittee shall supply, at least two (2) weeks in advance of the scheduled event, a Certificate of Insurance issued by a company licensed to do business in California with a Best's Insurance Guide rating of "B" or better ("A" rated if Company is unlicensed) which provides evidence of comprehensive and general liability coverage in the amount of \$1,000,000 combined single limit, with policy endorsements as follows:

- (1) Identification of permit applicant, identification of event, date of event.

**NOTE: NUMBERS 2 AND 3 MUST BE SEPARATE ENDORSEMENTS:**

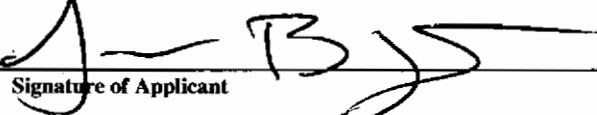
- (2) The City of Chico, its officers, boards and commissions, and members thereof, its employees and agents are covered as additional insureds as respects to any liability arising out of the activities of the named insured.
- (3) The insurance coverages afforded by this policy shall be primary insurance as respects to the City of Chico, its officers, employees, or agents. Any insurance or self-insurance maintained by the City of Chico, its officers, employees, or agents shall be in excess of the insurance afforded to the named insured by this policy and shall not contribute to it.
- (4) An unqualified statement that "The insurer will provide the City at least ten (10) days prior notice of cancellation or material change in coverage", standard Certificate of Insurance cancellation language is not acceptable

**Please Note:** Your reservation may be cancelled if the insurance is not approved at least two weeks prior to the scheduled event

**SECTION 5 - ACCEPTANCE OF CONDITIONS**

In signing this Permit, I agree to indemnify and hold the City of Chico and/or the Bidwell Park and Playground Commission free and clear of all claims of damage for injury to persons or property occurring in, upon or about Bidwell Park, and arising from my use of the park as noted above, and to defend any action against the City of Chico resulting from any such claim, without cost to the City.

\*I certify that I have read this application thoroughly, followed any and all instructions, understand its contents, will comply with the attached "Conditions for Park Use", will adhere to any additional conditions set forth by this permit, and supplied true and correct information herein to the best of my knowledge and belief.

X  \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant

X 1/10/13 \_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**RETURN THIS FORM TO:**

City of Chico - Park Division  
965 Fir Street  
Chico, CA 95928

FAX 530-895-4731 or email to [Parkinfo@ci.chico.ca.us](mailto:Parkinfo@ci.chico.ca.us)

**THIS RESERVATION IS NOT VALID UNTIL APPROVED BY THE PARK DIVISION.**

A copy of the approved application will be returned to you.

**SECTION 6 – GENERAL SERVICES DIRECTOR AUTHORIZATION**

I certify that I have carefully reviewed this application pursuant to Title 12 and 12R of the Chico Municipal Code and hereby recommend that this permit be:

- Approved.
- Approved subject to listed additional condition(s) \_\_\_\_\_

- Denied by the General Services Director. Reason: \_\_\_\_\_
- Application fee waived (12R.08.100 CMC). Reason: \_\_\_\_\_
- Reservation fee waived (12R.08.250 CMC). Reason: \_\_\_\_\_
- Vendor fee waived (12R.08.250 CMC). Reason: \_\_\_\_\_
- Insurance fee waived (12R.08.240 CMC). Reason: \_\_\_\_\_
- Damage deposit fee waived (12R.08.260 CMC). Reason: \_\_\_\_\_
- Application approved by the Bidwell Park & Playground Commission. Date: \_\_\_\_\_
- Application denied by the Bidwell Park & Playground Commission. Reason: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of General Services Director

Date

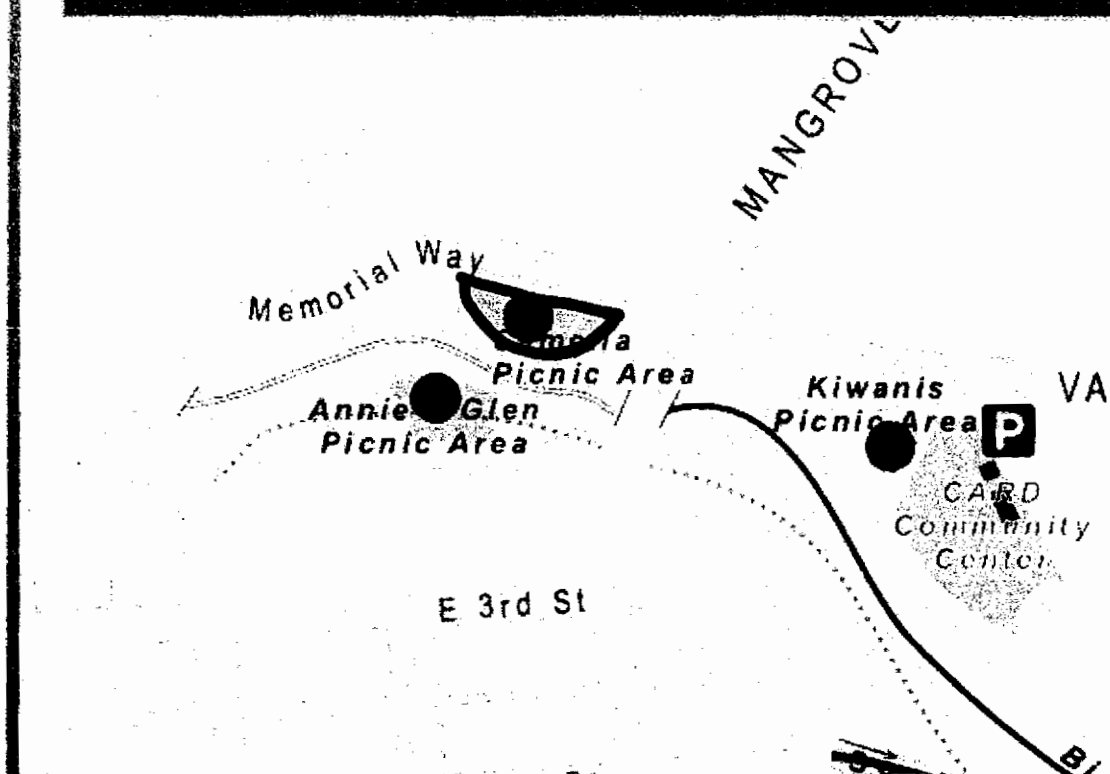
# EVENT INFORMATION

Please answer the following questions by circling "Yes" or "No"

Is this an annual event? How many years have you been holding this event? <u>5</u>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
Is there a patron admission, entry, or participant fee(s) required for your event?	<input type="radio"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No
Will there be amplified sound/music at event? (Please see 'Conditions For Park Use') Specify type (microphone, band, radio, PA system etc): <u>P.A. system w/ bands</u>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
When will amplified sound/music be heard? Time from: <u>12pm</u> until: <u>3pm</u> amps needed (15 or 100) <u>—</u> Note: 100 amp electrical service requires a certified electrician to operate.		
Will there be any entertainment apparatus? (Operator to provide proof of insurance) <input type="checkbox"/> Bounce house <input type="checkbox"/> Climbing wall <input type="checkbox"/> Ropes Course <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ Name of Operator: _____	<input type="radio"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No
Will there be any vendors at this event? (No glass or alcohol permitted) If "yes" please note the number of vendors anticipated: <u>1</u> (submit a, separate, complete list) Does your event include food concession and/or preparation areas? If yes, please describe how food will be served and/or prepared: _____	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
Will event require that any part of the Park remain closed beyond the normal time of opening? Note: Park gates will not remain closed beyond normal opening time for any event with less than 1,000 people. All races with less than 1,000 people at One Mile must start before 8:30am. (Subject to approval by the General Services Department Director and/or Senior Park Ranger.) If "yes" please state which gate(s): _____ Time of closure from: _____ until: _____	<input type="radio"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No
Will there be early entrance into the Park for setup? If "yes" when will monitors be at their position(s)? Time from: _____ until: _____ Note: Gate Monitors are required at the entrances and exits for early Park entrance. An additional fee may be charged for early entrance	<input type="radio"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No
Will event require over night camping for security purposes? (authorized for a maximum of two people, 12R.04.340 CMC) If "yes" how many security personnel will be required? _____	<input type="radio"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No
<b>Portable Restrooms:</b> You are required to provide portable restroom for events with 200+ participants at your event, in the immediate area of the event site which will be available to the public during your event. Restroom Company <u>Ben Toilets</u> Phone Number <u>846-4110</u> Location of portable restrooms <u>closer to Mangrove by Tables</u> Note: Restrooms shall be removed within 24 hrs after conclusion of event.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
<b>Sanitation and Recycling:</b> As an event organizer, you must properly dispose of waste and garbage throughout the term of your event and immediately upon conclusion of the event the area must be returned to a clean condition. <i>For events with 200+ participants, additional wash and recycling cans are required.</i> Number of Trash Cans <u>2</u> Number of Recycling Containers <u>2</u> Sanitation Company <u>Grub</u> Phone Number <u>(530) 345-5600</u> Note: Sanitation containers shall be removed within 24 hrs after conclusion of event.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
Will your event include the use of any signs, banners or decorations? (Please see 'Conditions For Park Use') If yes, please describe type and location: <u>Banner hanging from our easy ups.</u> Note: All signs and banners shall be free standing and not affixed to Park property.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
Will water be needed during your event? Please provide your own hose and on/off switch. No hose bib is available at One Mile Recreation Area. Note: Please request a water coupler key for City Plaza, Children's Playground, and Cedar Grove.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
Do you request irrigation to be turned off before and during your event?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
<b>CITY PLAZA ONLY:</b> Vehicles are not allowed in City Plaza. Loading and unloading must occur from the streets. Meter bags for unloading and loading <u>only</u> may be obtained from the City by calling (530) 896-7800.		
Will vendors be placed on the perimeter sidewalks? If yes, a Vend, Peddle, Hawk permit must be obtained from the Engineering Division at 411 Main St, Chico, (530) 879-6900.	<input type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
Will City street closure(s) be needed? A separate permit must be obtained from the Engineering Division at 411 Main Street, Chico, (530) 879-6900.	<input type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No



# Lower Bidwell Chico, California



— = Use by CBMF on Saturday June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013  
from 11am until 3:45pm



DATE: January 23, 2012  
TO: BPPC  
FROM: Lise Smith-Peters, Park Services Coordinator  
SUBJECT: Review BPPC 2013 Committee Assignments and Meeting Schedule

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Approval of the Revised 2013 calendar for BPPC Meetings and provide committee preferences to the Park staff for Chair consideration of assignments.

**BACKGROUND:**

Under Article X of the City Charter (Board and Commissions General Provisions, #3. Organization), the Commission shall select a chair and vice-chair at the first scheduled meeting of the year. According to AP&P 10-1 (IX), a Chair may serve no more than two consecutive years as presiding officer. Current Chair Rich Ober has served two years. The Chair also makes Committee assignments and designates committee chairs.

**COMMITTEE SELECTION AND BPPC ANNUAL CALENDAR**

Each year, Commissioners are appointed to serve on the Policy Advisory, Natural Resources, Street Trees and the City's ad hoc Bicycle Advisory Committee. The Committee structure allows for more detailed consideration of issues. Findings or recommendations are then reported to the entire Commission. Staff requests that BPPC members provide their committee preferences via email by 02/11/13. The selection of committee members and Chairs will be conducted at the next regularly scheduled Commission meeting on 02/25/13.

The 2012 Committee Schedule was:

- Tree Committee – 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month,
- Natural Resource Committee – 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday,
- Policy Advisory Committee – 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday,
- Bike Advisory Committee – as scheduled.

Staff recommends maintaining the current Committee schedule.

The BPPC meets on the last Monday of the month and so 2013 calendar presents two conflicts:

- The May meeting falls on the Memorial Day holiday (5/27/13).
- The December meeting falls on the day before New Year's Eve (12/30/13).

Staff recommends

- Scheduling BPPC meetings on the last Monday of the month, with the following exceptions:
  - Change the May meeting to the following day, Tuesday (5/28/13) at 6:30 pm; and
  - Change the December meeting to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday in December (12/16/13) at 6:30 pm.

Attachments: None



## BPPC Agenda Staff Report

Meeting Date: January 28, 2013

DATE: 1/22/13  
TO: BPPC  
FROM: Denice Britton, Urban Forest Manager  
SUBJECT: Heritage Tree Application – Item 4.2

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

*The Urban Forest Manager recommends the BPP C approve the application for Heritage Tree status of the Blue Atlas Cedar located on 17<sup>th</sup> St, along side the lot of 1641 Mulberry, and forward the application to City Council for final Approval.*

### **BACKGROUND**

In March 2010 the Chico Municipal Code was amended to establish a Voluntary Heritage Tree Program (CMC Section 16.68.010). As of this date, there are 9 Heritage trees within the City. Five (5) of the trees are located in parks or open space, 2 are located on streets and 2 are on private property.

The trees were chosen because of their stature, good condition and location. They are all easily accessible or visible to the public and will highlight the City's commitment to its heritage trees.

The benefits of designating Heritage Trees include enhancing their protected status, giving the program more public recognition and adding value to the parks and neighborhoods in which the trees are growing. Plaques are set at the base of the trees to commemorate their status.

Staff submitted the proposed sites for the Tree Committee's consideration and they approved bringing the item before the full Commission. Staff is submitting 5 applications for Heritage tree status. The individual applications are attached for your information.

CMC 16.68 requires the Property Owner's consent to the tree being declared a Heritage Tree, and that they be involved in the process. The attached application form has been submitted and signed by the adjacent property owner, and will need to be reviewed and approved by the City Council as the final part of the approval process.

Attachments: Photos of Proposed Heritage  
Tree Heritage Tree Application  
Map of current Heritage Trees

S:\Admin\BPPC\Urban Forester Reports\2013 Reports\2013\_1-28\HeritageTreeStaffReport13\_1-28\Item4.2.doc  
1/24/2013





**GENERAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

965 Fir Street  
P.O. Box 3420  
Chico, CA 95927-3420

(530) 896-7800  
Fax (530) 895-4731  
http://www.ci.chico.ca.us



**CITY OF CHICO**

**APPLICATION FOR HERITAGE TREE**

Property Owner: Julie Shaw Applicant (if different): \_\_\_\_\_

Owner's Name: Julie Shaw Applicant's Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Owner's Address: 1641 Mulberry Street, Chico, Ca. 95928

Owner's Phone Number: 530.343.4129 Applicant's Phone Number: 530.343.4129

**RECEIVED**

DEC 26 2012

CITY OF CHICO  
GENERAL SERVICES DEPT.

TREE INFORMATION

Location of tree(s): 1641 Mulberry Street,, on 17th Street  
(Address)

Diameter of tree(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Species of tree(s): \_\_\_\_\_

15'

CEDAR (Blue Atlas? possibly)

Tree Description and Reason for Request: (Enclose a map showing the exact location of the tree(s) and any proposed improvements along with any other documents which will help explain your request)

Very large, OLD, slow-growing and handsome specimen tree of an unusual variety of Cedar. It has three main branches, the middle branch has been struck by lightening and healed.

HAS THE TREE BEEN INSPECTED BY AN ARBORIST?

Tree Service or Arborist: David Betincourt, Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Assessment of Tree: Chico City arborist

Mr. Betincourt recommended that I apply to have this tree put on the list of "Heritage Trees". He recognized it's age and beauty.

12/12/12  
Date

Julie Shaw  
Signature of Property Owner

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant (If different from Owner)

\$150 Fee Enclosed?

X Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

CITY OF CHICO  
HERITAGE TREE APPLICATION

TO: General Services Department  
965 Fir Street  
Chico CA. 95927-3420

DATE:



Your application requesting Heritage Tree Status

at (location of tree) 1641 Mulberry St., Chico--on 17th Street, near Mulberry

has been inspected by the Urban Forest Manager and Found to be:

An Oak or Sycamore 36" or larger

An Outstanding Specimen of a Desirable Species in Good Health and Structure

Of Historical Interest

An Unusual Species, of distinctive form, part of a significant grove, or otherwise unique

Other Information:

*Approx. 100 YEARS old*

Approved and will be forwarded to the Bidwell Park and Playground Commission

on: 1.28.13

Denied for the following Reason(s):

1.8.13 *Denis F. Bill*  
(Date) Urban Forester or authorized City Representative

BPPC Finding  Approved  Denied

Deed Recorded on \_\_\_\_\_ Date

Distribution: (When fully executed)

GSD  BO  ADPW-ENGR  PL DIR  CM



# City of Chico Heritage Trees

Eaton Rd.  
78" Valley Oak



0 1,000 2,000 4,000 Feet

Upper Bidwell Park

Park Forest  
69" Bastonge Walnut

E. 8th St  
46" Valley Oak

Heritage Oak Dr.  
66" Valley Oak

Children's Playground  
52" Sweetgum  
(Liquidambar)

Lower Bidwell Park

Annie's Glen  
67" Valley Oak

Hillview Terrace  
53" Blue Oak

Card Community Park  
74" Black Walnut

Card Community Park  
62" Valley Oak





DATE: 1/22/2013  
TO: Bidwell Park and Playground Commission  
FROM: Policy Advisory Committee/Park Division Staff  
SUBJECT: Staff Report from PAC 1-17-13 Meeting

## 1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Emmerich called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.

**Attendees:** Commissioners present: Lisa Emmerich and Richard Ober. Commissioners absent: Mark Herrera. Staff present: Dan Efseaff, Lise Smith-Peters, and Jessica Erdahl. Public: None.

## 2. REGULAR AGENDA

### 2.1. Revision to the Park Division Fees – Fee Schedule 80.020.

The Park Division Fee Schedule contains park reservation permit fees and fees related to the use of Bidwell Park and other City parks. Except for minor adjustments, the fees have not been analyzed and revised to reflect actual reservation costs in several years.

The Committee discussed the additional costs in staff time and materials associated with cleanup and preparation for public and private events. Staff reported that they had researched into preparation and cleanup time, materials and staff evaluation costs associated with reserving the Park for events and that a change in classifying events was needed. The fee structure will no longer be based on the arbitrary “public event” and “private event” but will take into account the number of people and the facility reserved. Staff has also been looking at special use charges for research requests if staff time is needed for example to unlock gates or restrooms and reservations for atypical locations in the park.

Committee members noted that the reservation fees are inexpensive and that they should reflect City costs for the permit or reservation. The Committee requested staff to look into the history of the vendor fee and compare with other city entities that charge vendors. Additional fees such as applications, vendor fee, City Plaza restroom cleanup fee will also be considered for rounding up to pay for all costs incurred. Committee members also noted the low cost of the \$100 deposit fee and wondered if this was a sufficient deterrent or to remedy damages or clean-up. Staff noted that they would look into the history of the deposit and comparable fees with other entities. Committee members recommended adding language to both private and public events stating that if the costs of City staff time, equipment, machinery, or materials needed to cleanup or make repairs after an event exceed the deposit, then the additional costs will be billed to the applicant on a time and material basis. The Committee moved to forward the fee schedule with changes to the Commission for review and approval.

### 2.2. Consideration of Wet Weather Management Plan and Annual Report

In December 2009, the BPPC adopted an Interim (Adaptive) Wet Weather Management Plan. At the December 17, 2012 BPPC meeting, staff presented the 2011-2012 annual report and unveiled a draft update to the plan for BPPC and public input. The BPPC recommended that it be reviewed by the PAC and to allow more time for public input. Staff suggests that the wet weather assessment routes be reviewed and if needed, adapted to better represent the conditions of all trail types in Upper Park. In regard to assessing wet weather at the Disc Golf course, staff stated that the assessment route needed to be moved from the short course and put more of the long course holes on the assessment route. Currently after wet weather, there are some areas where there is standing water and the course may need to be altered to avoid increasing impacts in those areas. Staff noted that some changes to the draft would be forthcoming based on comments. To increase visibility and adherence to the closure of the Disc Golf Course, staff is considering a removable bollard with a closed sign. The Committee recommended that the draft “Adaptive Wet Weather Trail Management Plan” be forwarded to the Commission for adoption with changes as needed.

**3. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR -- NONE**

**4. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

**Attachments:** None

**Distribution:** BPPC



DATE: 1/23/13  
TO: Bidwell Park and Playground Commission  
FROM: Denice Britton, Urban Forest Manager  
SUBJECT: Street Tree Division 2012 Annual Report

## STREET TREES AND PUBLIC PLANTINGS DIVISION OVERVIEW

### 1. Division Description

The City of Chico's Street Trees and Public Plantings Division is under the General Services Department. The Division's major responsibilities include the City's Street trees and maintaining the City's public landscapes. These landscapes include City Parks outside of Bidwell Park: Children's Playground, City Plaza, Little Chico Creek Greenway Park, Humboldt Neighborhood Park, Nob Hill Husa Park, Westside Gardens Park and Emerson Park. Additional public plantings include all downtown city parking lots and medians, plus backup and entrance landscaping around various subdivisions. Landscapes around the City's public buildings include City Hall and Council Chambers, the Municipal Services Center and Police Station, plus the fire stations and the Airport landscaping. These areas are cared for by contract landscape services, under the direct supervision of the City's Landscape Inspector, Linda Sheppard. The Landscape Maintenance Services contract is the City's largest service contract. It includes 229 sites, supported by 118 funding sources. Most of these funding sources are Chico Maintenance Districts (CMDs), but other funds include city department budgets, such as Police and Fire, as well as the General Fund for Parks and Public plantings.

The Street Trees Program cares for and manages the City's urban forest of street and park trees. Chico's urban forest actually includes the Bidwell Park woodland, plus the privately planted trees throughout town. Within the City's responsibility are approximately 34,211 street tree sites, of which 30,667 contain street trees. There are approximately 3,544 open planting sites – or opportunities – at this time. The City's street tree population also has 1,439 trees that are scheduled for eventual replacement, due mostly to aging, structural problems, or lack of establishment of young trees.

The City of Chico has been a Tree City USA since 1984. This designation requires a City to have a tree ordinance, a tree board or Commission, a budget of at least \$2.00 per capita spending on tree care and an annual Arbor Day celebration. In 2012, the City spent \$9.54 per capita on tree care, totaling \$834,875. Citizens of Chico are proud of its tree cover and often identify the tree canopy as providing a distinct sense of place and character to the City. Trees not only provide aesthetic value to the town, they produce a huge benefit to the citizens in the form of energy reduction from shade, pollution absorption and carbon sequestration.



*California Arbor Day with Chico High School horticulture students planting trees at Lost Park.*

The Street Tree Division takes pride in maintaining the tree resource that we consider to be a major contributor to Chico's character and ambiance. However, annexations, population growth and demands for services have grown while the Division struggles with the loss of staff amid budget cuts. This forces us to respond to emergency work more often, thus reducing our time for routine work. Thus, the City has 10-15 years of deferred maintenance on its street trees. As the economy begins to recover, the Division's aim is to concentrate on routine pruning of the highest priority trees. This will require additional staffing and a pruning contract for the large old trees in most need of work. Much of our current focus is on formative, structural pruning of young trees. Our long term goal is to develop a forest of strong young trees to replace the current aging population.

## 2. Summary of Street Tree and Public Plantings Division 2011 Accomplishments

### Trees

1. Completed its 29<sup>th</sup> year as a Tree City USA. As part of that program, the City held an Arbor Day celebration on March 7 at Lost Park with the Chico High Horticultural Class Club planting 6 new trees. The tree crew planted a seedling from the Bidwell Mansion Southern Magnolia at the County offices at Memorial Way and Oleander.
2. Continued upgrading of the City's Street Tree Inventory as work is done on various trees.
3. Street tree crews concentrated on safety pruning around school zones, elevating tree limbs over streets and clearing for signs and signals. They also completed 671 high priority service requests, many of which resulted from having large dead limbs or long heavy limbs that had broken, creating potentially hazardous situations.
4. In winter months, the trees crew concentrates on formative pruning of young trees. This is our most proactive form of managing our growing population of street trees. Formative pruning reduces the amount of future pruning needs and improves the structure of trees so as to reduce limb breakage. In 2012, the crews pruned 1376 young street trees, compared to 847 trees in 2011. This increase is partly due to weather differences which allowed more time for young tree pruning in spring, 2012.
5. Continued the citizen tree planting program, inviting citizens to plant and care for their street trees that need to be replaced. A total of 53 trees were provided to citizens under permit, plus another 48 were planted in CMD landscapes and other vacant sites. Another 6 permits were provided to citizens to plant trees they purchased.
6. The tree removal contractor removed 125 dead and dangerous street trees. Older trees such as camphors and silver maples are declining rapidly in some accelerating the number of removals at this time. The tree crew removed another 45 trees, adding to our backlog of stumps with the Right of Way (ROW). As funding has decreased, these stumps are considered a lower priority for available resources, although they must be removed prior to replanting efforts.
7. Completed the Asian Woolly Hackberry Aphid control program with few complaints or citizen concerns, although few trees in the downtown area needed to be retreated in early August. Staff continues to replace the hackberries with more desirable and less problematic species as time and funds allow.

<u>Project Type</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>2011 Hours</u>	<u>Percent Time</u>	<u>2012 Hours</u>	<u>Percent Time</u>
Scheduled Maintenance	DCBA, traffic safety, School zones, young tree pruning	2553	26%	3059	32%
Service Requests	High Priority Requests	2333	24%	1952	20%
Emergency or Urgent Work	Storm Damage, down limbs, call out cleanup	1205	12%	1251	13%
Planting	Arbor Day, Planting Program Assist	31	0.3%	89	0.9%
Equipment and Yard Maintenance	Includes Required DOT inspections	1527	16%	1442	15%
Assisting other Departments	DPW, Fire, Parks, Unoccupied Camp Cleanup	486	5%	332	3%
Safety Meetings and Training	Electrical Hazards, Aerial Rescue, Climbing	468	5%	345	4%
Other	Sick, Vacations, Holidays, Leave	1219	12%	1097	11%
<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>9822</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>9567</b>	<b>100%</b>
FTE	2080 hours	4.72		4.60	
Formative pruning	Number of young trees pruned	847		1376	
Trees Removed	Number of trees	110		170	
Call outs	Number of call outs	47		48	
Damage Reports	Number of Reports	23		34	

### **Public Plantings**

8. Successfully completed the first year of the landscape contract under a new contract services provider.
9. A new landscape along Chamberlain way in the Creekside Subdivision of the Northwest Chico Specific Plan was planted and accepted into the contract.
10. Staff has initiated the pruning of trees within several landscapes that are part of the CMDs. Only locations where the tree are clearly an integral part of the landscape specified to be maintained can be pruned with these funds, but this funding source has proven a useful tool for accomplishing much needed pruning and removals in these locations. Projects included formative pruning of trees along DeGarmo Drive, removal and replacement of declining trees along California Park Drive, oaks in the 'Shastan at Forest Avenue' subdivision and pruning trees along West Eaton Road.
11. The contractor assisted with landscape improvements at 1500 Humboldt and the Animal Shelter.
12. Efforts to conserve water and reduce costs of irrigation are on-going, with some 2000 sprinklers being replaced via a rebate program with Cal Water. Additional heads were replaced in areas not covered by the rebate program. New central control systems are being tested in an effort to keep the program as up to date as possible, while implementing ET-based irrigation to the greatest extent possible.



### **Capital Projects**

13. The Division was asked to assist the Engineering Department in the Couplet Project by providing guidance for preserving and planting trees along Salem and W. 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Streets. Staff also assisted with tree root protection on several projects including Cal Water facilities and on new housing sites, such as E 8<sup>th</sup> Street and north Esplanade.
14. The Division assisted on the 99-Bikeway project, and will be working with the Highway 32 upgrade as well.

### **Outreach**

15. The Urban Forest Manager continues to work with local contractors to achieve full understanding of the importance of proper tree planting. These opportunities mostly arise as result of inspections for parking lot tree installations, as well as street tree installations on commercial sites. Continued challenges will be trees at single family residents planted by either landscapers or the new homeowners. Staff works with the Building division to achieve better compliance with City standard planting requirements. One change has been to stop the planting of lawns in the planting strip in an effort to reduce water usage as well as improve young tree survival.
16. Work on several projects with PG&E and its contractors to prune or remove street or park trees affecting high voltage lines, and to gain removal of guy wires and service drops on City Street trees.
17. Provided a regional seminar for arborists and landscapers on Tree Risk Assessment Techniques in the landscape.

### **Other Projects**

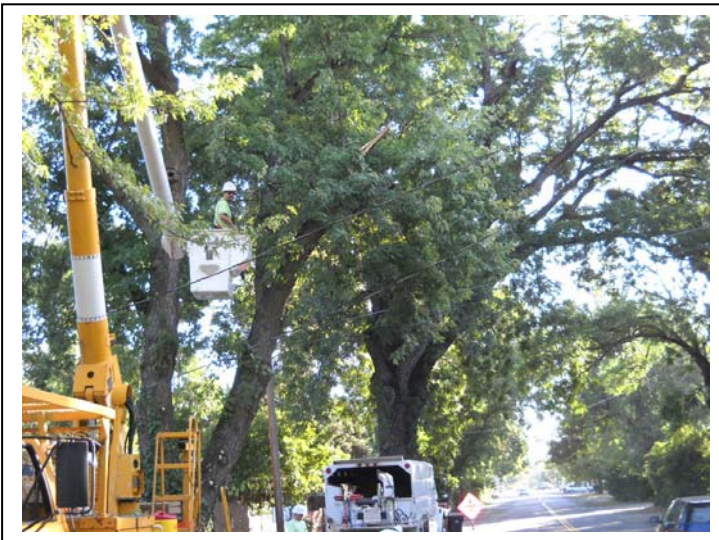
18. Assist with clean up and improvement at the Lost Park site.
19. Staff works closely with City planning and engineering staff to review new subdivision and site plans, providing recommendations for changes to insure adherence to City Codes for tree preservation and street tree planting. This includes review of landscape plans for new public areas, as well as inspections of the sites once they are built.

### **3. Bidwell Park and Playground Commission Workplan Priorities**

The City Council adopted the BPPC's Work Plan for 2011-2013 on September 20, 2011. That work plan identified the establishment of goals for an Urban Forest Management Plan as one of the priorities of the Commission. Specifically, the BPPC adopted the following in regard to the City's Urban Forest:

1. 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; and
  - c. Provide for the ongoing maintenance and upkeep of the urban forest, including both street trees and Bidwell park trees.

The BPPC Tree Committee met to develop goals for and write a draft Urban Forest Management Plan. The Committee and a number of citizens met monthly for most of 2012 to review and discuss proposed goals, concepts for management and wording for the plan. The final draft was presented to the California Urban Forests Council and the CalFire Urban Forestry Division in December. It is expected to be returned with any final revisions early in 2013. The Committee will begin to meet again beginning in March to complete the final draft and then begin the environmental review and approval process with the City Council.



*Removing a broken, hanging limb over the roadway.*

#### 4. Resources

The General Fund supports the Street Division's staff time, contracts, maintenance and repair, but Public Plantings are in large part supported by Chico Maintenance District (CMD) funds. The Street Trees and Public Landscaping (686) Budget for the City is divided into the following categories: Salaries & Employee Benefits, Materials & Supplies, Purchased Services, Other Expenses, Non-Recurring Operating, and Allocations. The 2011-2012 fiscal years' budget allocation was \$950,805, while the 2012-13 budget allocation is \$987,101. The allocations increased for salaries and benefits, water and fuel. The Division also received an additional \$10,000 for a special pruning project for the City's palm trees.

Purchased services include the City's Landscape Contract, which currently has an annual labor budget of \$622,248, or \$51,854 per month. This compares to \$628,157 for fiscal year 10-11. Additional costs that are over and above the contract amount include repairs to park and plaza facilities and irrigation systems.

Calendar year 2011 actual landscape contract costs were \$761,664, compared to the previous over \$1.1 million. The reduction is due to the transfer of Wildwood and Hancock Park to CARD. These transfers still come out of the City's budget, with the CMD paying for Hancock Park, and the Park Fund paying for Wildwood through agreements with CARD. The General Fund covers over half of these payments, while the remainder is funded through maintenance districts. For 2012, the total landscape contract costs were \$713,187.

#### 5. Upcoming Issues and Challenges

1. Chico has a large population of black walnut trees, many of which are declining. Current practice has been to provide the wood to the tree removal contractor in an effort to achieve a low bid on tree removals. This practice has been productive, but research indicates that a fair amount of value is not being recovered by the City. Staff is reviewing asset disposal and purchasing procedures to resolve any potential conflicts, so a test project can be completed in 2013.
2. Staff is reviewing landscapes to replace obsolete and non-functioning irrigation systems with new irrigation lines and heads as well as ET based controllers. Staff is also comparing new ET based controller systems to determine which one will be the most cost effective and least time consuming. This will help developers by reducing their costs, as well as improve the functioning of the controllers for future projects. Staff has also approved changing over to the 2-wire irrigation systems to improve our capacity to upgrade as well as to reduce construction costs for new systems. The Highway 32 project will be the first project to use this type of irrigation system.

3. Reduction of staff and other resources has been a continuing to challenge to project completion and to staff moral. Our main solution at this time is to focus on the work that provides the most efficient use of crew and staff time and that can be done with reduced staffing. An example of a shift in focus is the Tree Planting program, where citizens are now encouraged to plant their own trees. The shift was done to reduce work load on crews, while providing citizens with the opportunity to assist in our program. It has been a huge benefit to the Division in terms of public relations, even though the number of trees planted has not been as large as needed or desired. Future emphasis will continue to expand opportunities to involve citizens.

### City of Chico Street Tree Division Hours 2012

MONTH	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTALS
assistance, DPW	45	0	0	0	0	0	54	139	0	0	0	0	238
assistance, Police & Fire	0	0	0	0	0	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	16
brush chipping & clean up	0	0	12	2	6	4	3	4	0	2	15	0	48
call out clean up	5	0	18	12	0	26	33	5	12	2	0	27	140
camp clean up	9	9	0	0	0	0	8	8	0	0	0	0	34
Christmas tree & menorah	36	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	24	96	156
clearing, street light	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
DCBA pruning	0	0	0	0	0	32	56	16	0	0	0	0	104
down limbs and hangers	53	18	55	9	47	138	63	140	104	103	50	85	865
Downtown Plaza	56	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	56
elevating, DPW sweeper	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
elevating, leaf pick up	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
elevating, routine	134	98	0	0	108	22	0	6	0	0	0	0	368
equipment maintenance	50	48	66	45	47	46	30	45	42	37	32	24	512
grates and cages	0	0	8	18	0	0	4	0	0	10	2	0	42
irrigation	0	15	0	63	142	109	118	146	131	94	0	0	816
leave, time off	108	53	112	125	103	88	142	119	30	72	84	62	1097
planting	4	22	8	47	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	89
prep time & DOT inspection	73	85	87	86	88	82	78	73	83	84	54	57	930
pruning, ADA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
pruning, formative	6	281	394	182	0	0	0	0	0	0	56	35	953
pruning, Park	0	28	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	6	44
pruning, Traffic Safety	26	6	4	2	20	28	4	3	2	20	6	0	121
removals, priority	0	36	40	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	30	0	106
safety meetings	29	17	7	5	5	9	6	9	5	9	9	4	113
school zones	0	0	0	0	0	105	178	135	16	0	0	12	446
service requests	166	70	6	278	286	97	80	44	306	374	181	65	1952
storm damage clean up	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	92	92
training	0	32	44	16	30	15	0	19	34	16	27	0	232
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>817</b>	<b>861</b>	<b>889</b>	<b>881</b>	<b>816</b>	<b>856</b>	<b>909</b>	<b>763</b>	<b>823</b>	<b>587</b>	<b>565</b>	<b>9567</b>





DATE: 01/16/13  
TO: Bidwell Park and Playground Commission members  
FROM: Dan Efseaff, Park and Natural Resource Manager  
SUBJECT: 2012 Annual Park Division Report

## 2012 ANNUAL PARK DIVISION REPORT

### 1. 2012 Overview

*"National parks are the best idea we ever had. Absolutely American, absolutely democratic, they reflect us at our best rather than our worst."* Wallace Stegner, 1983.

In 1905, Annie Bidwell, on behalf of herself and her late husband, John Bidwell, gifted 1,903 acres to the City of Chico, "as a token of their love and affection and that the grand work of God may be preserved to his glory and the happiness and pleasure of the people of said City for all time (from the deed)."

Unlike State and National Parks, this was a gift from private individuals to their community. Unlike other developed city parks from that era, the deed required the "preservation and protection of the waters of Chico Creek" and to "sacredly guard" the trees, shrubs, and vines of the Park. These conservation concepts are certainly fitting of a couple that was close friends with John Muir, and a unique, extraordinarily generous gift for the early 1900's. Although a city park, Bidwell Park certainly fits in the "best idea" tradition, and continues to have a profound influence on the City and region.

Park visitors have long felt that Bidwell Park is their personal treasure. On February 22, 2013, the California Parks and Recreation Society (CPRS), District 2 will recognize Bidwell Park as a Regional Treasure. District 2 covers 19 California counties.

Bidwell Park seems well matched with the criteria for the award; Regional Treasures have great historical significance and tremendous multi-generational impact on the quality of life in the region. They contribute to the economic vitality of the region. On all counts, Bidwell Park is worthy of recognition. Another aspect of the award is to recognize significant organizations, partnerships, and individuals that support Park programs or facilities. We are lucky to have a community that feels passionate about the Park and contributes to a variety of recreational opportunities and volunteers time for its care.

The affinity that the community holds for Bidwell Park runs extremely deep and resides in our community's DNA. The City logo shows a depiction of the Hooker Oak-- one of the famous historical landmarks in the Park. Generations of people (and their kids) from the Northern Sacramento Valley have swam in the Park's cool waters, biked beneath majestic valley oaks, watched the antics of acorn woodpeckers, and frolicked at Caper Acres. And long before that, this landscape sustained the native Mechoopda people, as evidenced by tools, shelter caves, and acorn grinding holes found in the park.

The Park inspires artists and everyone else. Many people choose to live in the area because of the Park. It is safe to say that as long as there is a Chico, there will be a Bidwell Park.

Yet amidst this celebration of the Park and vision of the Bidwells, we also need to acknowledge the needs of the Park and to "sacredly guard" it. We call upon those that have helped the Park in the past, and we must also call upon everyone that steps into the Park to be good stewards: to pick up waste, to stay on trails, to tread lightly when it is wet, to leave the flowers for the bees, to keep the dog on a leash, to be courteous to others, to volunteer, to donate, to educate others, to build a culture that the Park is a delicate treasure. Ironically, few people realize that to "keep the Park the same" in the face of rising numbers of visitors, requires a lot of active management (for trails, vegetation, and infrastructure). We need to confront the fact that the attention given to the Park and other properties is inadequate and we need to either creatively increase the care needed, or face the real possibility of a Park in diminished health and closed or decommissioned facilities.

In the past year, we've continued the upkeep of the Park and have started a number of initiatives that lays the foundation to tackle problems in a comprehensive way. For example, we have been developing some basic information regarding infrastructure, trails, vegetation, and visitorship that will help us develop priorities.

We anticipate that many of these efforts (such as the Trails and Natural Resource Management Plan) will come to fruition in the next year or two. In 2013-2014, Parks staff intends to:

1. Complete draft Trails and Natural Resource Management Plans.
2. Accept reservations and permits on-line.
3. Initiate an ADA trail at Horseshoe Lake (and complete the first phase of the Middle Trail Grant).
4. Present a needs-assessment for Caper Acres and seek funding for urgent repairs.
5. Complete a draft inventory of infrastructure (and ADA needs) that will put into focus our aging infrastructure, engineered for a different time.
6. Bring attention to other City-owned properties (Bidwell Ranch, Lindo Channel, and Comanche Creek) with management needs.
7. Support progress on the work plan for the Bidwell Park and Playground Commission (BPPC).

As these plans and priorities come into focus, we call for help. We have all been given so much from our beautiful open spaces, we ask you to give something back. Celebration and stewardship need to go hand in hand. Enjoy the park, yes, but also give something back through your volunteerism, donation, or educating other visitors.

The Parks Division is pleased to share this annual report to the Bidwell Park and Playground Commission and the public. In the following pages, we will highlight our accomplishments, but also trace out a framework from which we need to address fundamental issues in the park. Expect us to continue to "sacredly guard" the Park, but also expect us to ask for help and donations to take care of it. We will continue to build partnerships every day. We look forward to working with the community toward solutions in 2013!

## **2. 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, 1<sup>st</sup> 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 Park Services 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.

The Parks Division is organized into the following programs:

- Administrative and Visitor Services
- Maintenance and Infrastructure
- Natural Resource Management (planning, monitoring, trails, and vegetation management).
- Outreach and Education
- Ranger and Lifeguard
- Volunteer and Donations

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. Readers will note that employees in the maintenance, ranger, and volunteer programs work in a more integrative fashion, completing tasks that meet a larger goal. For example, to meet vegetation management goals on a particular project we may utilize volunteers to help remove plants and provide visitor information during a prescribed burn, maintenance crew to oversee fuels thinning and complete a planting, and Rangers to coordinate a prescribed burn.

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

Factor	Amount	Source
Chico Area	33.2 square miles 21,248 Acres	Chico GIS Department
Chico Population		US Census 2010; California Department of Finance 2011 Data
– City	86,187	
– Urban Area	107,000	
Ranking – City Size California	84 <sup>th</sup> largest 14 <sup>th</sup> Largest Metropolitan Area	California Department of Finance, Table of January 2012 City Population Ranked by Size, Numeric and Percent Change; 2010 US Census.
Bidwell Park		
– Area	3,670 acres,	City of Chico; The Trust for Public Land, 2012 City Park Facts
– Ranking Municipal Parks	3rd in California and 14th in the US.	
Park, Recreation, and Open Space Area managed by Park Division	5,053 acres	City of Chico GIS Department Inventory, 2012
Percentage of Parkland of Total City Area		The Trust for Public Land, 2012 City Park Facts; City of Chico.
– Median US Cities <sup>a</sup>	7.9 %	
–Chico <sup>b</sup>	>24 %	
Area of Parkland per 1,000 Residents		The Trust for Public Land, 2012 City Park Facts; City of Chico.
–Median US Cities <sup>a</sup>	13.1 Acres	
–Chico <sup>b</sup>	59 Acres	

<sup>a</sup> Estimate includes city, county, metro, state, and federal acres within the city limits.

<sup>b</sup> Estimates include City of Chico Park Division managed property only.

### 3. 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 2007-2008	FY 2010-2011	FY 2011-2012	FY 2012-2013
Operating Budget	\$594,148	\$1,799,037	\$1,927,755	\$1,876,903	\$1,799,000
Staff <sup>a</sup>					
Park Division	14	13.5+	13	12	12
Street Trees	2	11	9	8	6
Area Managed (Acres)	< 2,500	5,053	5,053	5,053	5,053

<sup>a</sup> 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. Adjusted for inflation, the budget for FY 1988-1989 is \$1,153,109.

Interestingly, the 1989 Bidwell Park Master Management Plan projected that 31 employees would be needed by 1992-2000 based on estimated population growth. Our population growth has exceeded expectations at 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 2012, citizens provided over \$8,695 in park donations, including \$1,400 devoted to Caper Acres and in-kind donations valued at \$42,000. Monetary and In-kind donations are invaluable to helping take care of Bidwell Park and the City of Chico’s parks, open spaces and greenways (see Table 13 in Volunteer and Donations Section below).

#### 4. Bidwell Park and Playground Commission 2012 – 2013 Work Plan

Staff provided a detailed work plan update at the December 2012 BPPC meeting. Currently, many items on the work plan are in progress. An update on this progress will be reported before the end of the next fiscal year.

**Table 3. Current Status of 2012-2013 Work Plan**

Goal/Subgoal	Status	Comments
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:	In-Progress	
a) Develop a Trail Plan for the Park	In-Progress	The initial stages of developing the Park's trail plan are underway with input from the Natural Resources Committee meetings on 01/12/12; 03/08/12; and 09/13/12.
b) Update the Trails Manual	In-Progress	The Trail Manual has not been started and is contingent on finalizing the Trail Plan.
c) Update of the Natural Resources Management Plan (includes vegetation management plan, management units, and an adaptive management framework)	In-Progress	The initial stages of developing the Park's Resource Management Plan are underway with input from the Natural Resources Committee meetings on 01/12/12; 03/08/12; and 09/13/12.
2. Finalize the Wet Weather Plan	In-Progress	Staff will provide an analysis and update of the Wet Weather Plan in December 2012.
3. Continue development of the Park Division's Volunteer Program	In-Progress	
a) More fully integrate into other Park programs.	In-Progress	Park staff meet regularly and volunteers are assigned tasks that help support Park vegetation, trail and infrastructure needs.
b) Develop a team leadership program to train volunteer session leaders.	Completed and on-going	Park staff conducted the 1 <sup>st</sup> training (2 sessions each during Spring 2012) for Bidwell Park Crew Leaders. These volunteers have led volunteer sessions and helped with annual work days.
c) Develop a Trail Volunteer Program (including training component)	Completed and on-going	Park staff conducted the 1 <sup>st</sup> training (2 sessions each during Spring 2012) for Bidwell Park Crew Leaders.
4. Begin development of an Urban Forest Management Plan	In-Progress	
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.	In-Progress	Draft completed.
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.	Completed with the UFMP	
c) Provide for the ongoing maintenance and upkeep of the urban forest, including both street trees and Bidwell park trees.	On-going	
5. Assess needs and prioritize renovation projects for Caper Acres (developing funds and renovation plans for improved infrastructure and new play equipment).	In-Progress	Park staff has met with a consultant to review ideas and needs for renovating Caper Acres. Staff will also meet with potential stakeholders and will layout the components of a Capital Campaign for fundraising in the Spring of 2012.
6. Continue trail work priorities (Middle Trail work, Monkey Face, and Peregrine Point Trail connections).	In-Progress	The rehabilitation of the Middle Trail (Phase I, funded by the Recreational Trail grant) will be finished in 12/2012. Monkey Face Trail restoration has been vetted through Natural Resource Committee meetings and work has begun. The Peregrine Point Trail connections has not been started yet.
a. 7. Develop management plan concepts for		
a) Greenways (including Lindo Channel)	Not Started	
b) Lost Park	In-Progress	Work continues on the ground to address vegetation and

Goal/Subgoal	Status	Comments
		homeless issues.
c) Bidwell Ranch	In-Progress	Staff anticipates bringing information to Council in 2013 on the disposition of the property as a mitigation bank.
d) Comanche Creek.	In-Progress	The BPPC accepted (1/30/12) the Comanche Creek Greenway Management Plan, Comanche Creek Greenway Improvement Project, and Mitigated Negative Declaration.

## 5. 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 Park Services Coordinator) 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. 2012 Highlights

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. 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 86 service requests in 2012. The majority of requests were related to fallen trees, graffiti and general vandalism to park signs and infrastructure.

iii. 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 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.

iv. Economic Contribution - The Park Division processed \$524,146 in payments to over 118 vendors that provided professional services, materials, and supplies for the management of the Park. Approximately, 60% 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.

v. Research Tracking – Staff continues 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.

vi. Park Leases – Attached are annual reports from park lessees.

vii. New contracts – A contract has been signed with Active Network, an online reservation system provider, and will 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 in the process of updating the fee schedule and anticipates going live with the system in the spring of 2013.

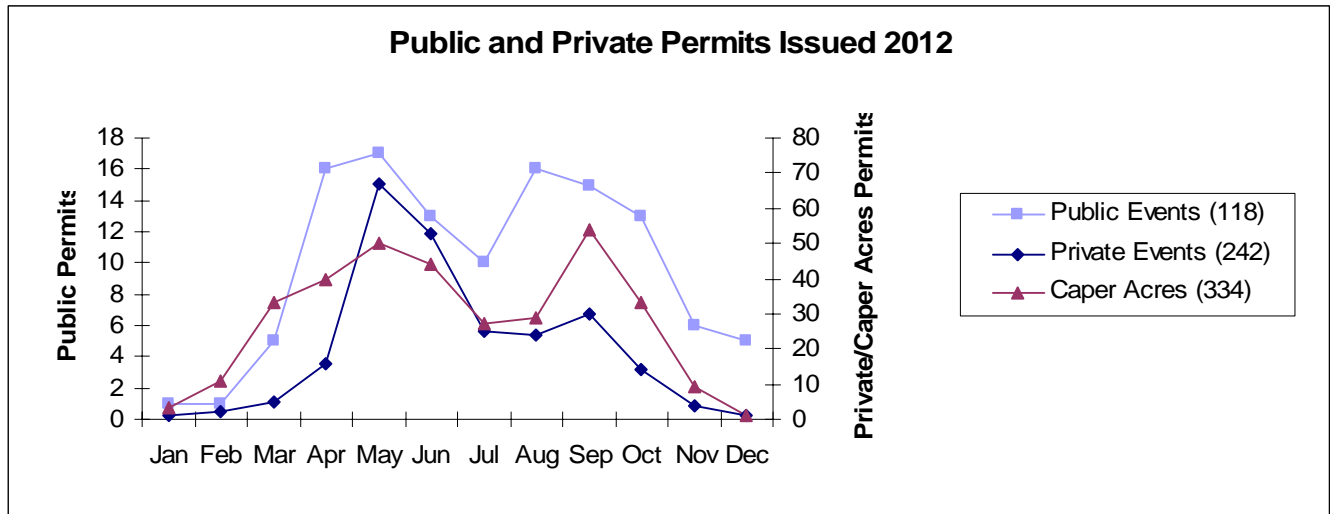
viii. Park Permits - City of Chico parks provide many ideal venues for family picnics and community events, offering a safe, picturesque environment for thousands of people annually. Some salient features include:

1. Staff tracked the number of permits and participants for both public and private events, including Caper Acres (Figures 1 and 2). Staff issued a total of 360 permits (118 public and 242 private events) and made 334

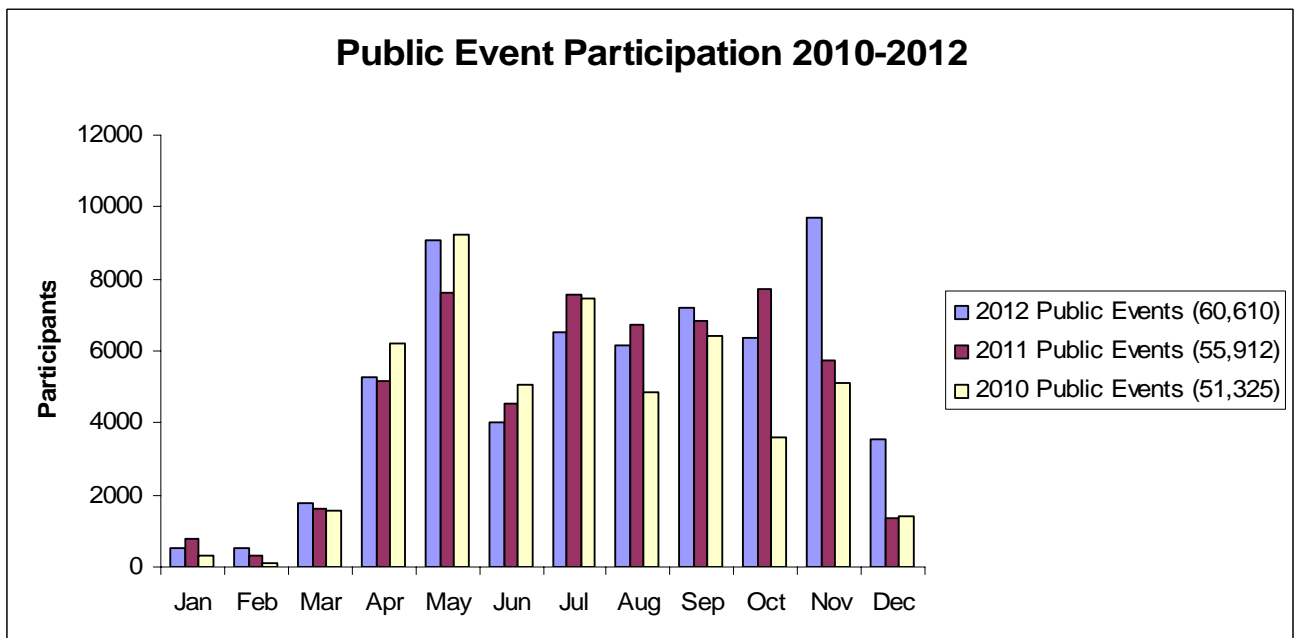
reservations at Caper Acres. Although private permits issued were down in 2012 (242 vs. 351), public event participation rose steadily over the past 3 years (Figure 2). Staff attributes the rise in public event participation to increased participation in existing events and the addition of new ones (including the Gnarly Neon 5k, Hmong Cultural Event, and the Great Debate).

2. Total revenue for private permits was down in comparison to 2011 (\$47,606). The transfer of one of the most popular reservation areas (Wildwood Park) to CARD in July 2011 may have had the most significant impact.
3. The total number of participants at public events (81,472) 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 2012 is a very conservative number that probably underestimates actual participation. The estimates do not include spectators, which could increase the numbers significantly.
4. Rangers provide coordination during these events including pre-event conversations, on-site assistance and monitoring. They also complete a post-event evaluation of public events, which helps in the planning of future events of similar character. In the past, a Park Attendant would complete many of these tasks. Funding for that position has been cut.

**Figure 1. Monthly Total of Park Permits Issued (2012)**



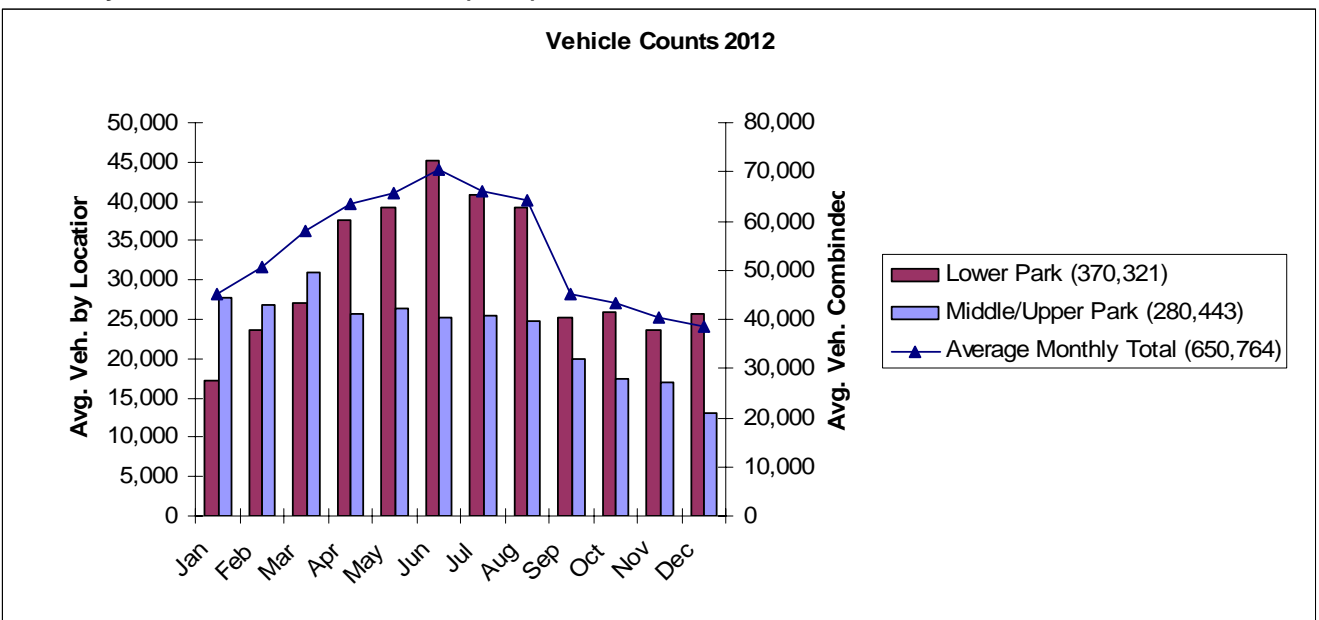
**Figure 2. Monthly Total of Public Event Participation (2010-2012)**



ix. Bidwell Park Traffic Counts – During the 2012 calendar year, staff installed portable traffic counters at locations in both Lower and Middle Park: N One Mile parking lot; (2) S One Mile; Cedar Grove; and Wildwood Way near the double gate entrance. The counters were installed for 1 week each month and tracked vehicles accessing the park as well as speed statistics. The estimates should be viewed as minimum estimates, because on several occasions, the traffic counters were tampered with, or failed to collect data. Still, the information provides some useful insights.

1. Lower Park vehicle counts tend to be higher than Middle/Upper Park year round.
2. Increased traffic on Wildwood Way in January-March in 2012 in comparison to 2011 may be attributed to warmer than average weather conditions.
3. To estimate a monthly average, we averaged the daily counts and multiplied by the number of days for each month (Figure 3). Summing up the monthly totals produces a vehicle traffic count exceeding 650,000 vehicles annually.
4. The average vehicle speed on South Park Drive at One Mile was 18 mph (speed limit: 20 mph); compared to an average vehicle speed of 32 mph on Upper Park Road near the double gate entrance (speed limit: 25 mph).

**Figure 3. Monthly Estimated Vehicle Counts (2012).**



x. Visitation – The traffic counts and event estimates above provide ones means of quantifying visitors. 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.

Although the Bidwell Park Master Management Plan (EDAW 2008) included visitor surveys, routine estimates of Bidwell Park usage did not occur until last year, in which staff estimated visits at just over 1.1 million using extremely conservative estimates. We anticipate that over the next few years, we will continue to develop methods to improve the certainty of visitation estimates and hope to derive a formula for using traffic counts to arrive at a surrogate for the number of visitors to the park that arrive via other means.

This past year, staff expanded use of the portable traffic counters to Lower Park, conducted a person-per-vehicle tally, collected information on park event participation and tracked pool usage during the swim season. We will collect vehicle counts at additional locations this next year, including south Five Mile and install permanent counters. Additionally, we intend to refine the person-per-vehicle estimates, as well develop methods to determine use not already tracked by other means.

We used conservative estimates. Although, we have good quality data on vehicle counts, converting vehicles to visitors introduces uncertainty. Based on observations (an intern conducting person counts per vehicle), we

estimated a person-per-vehicle average (PPV) of 1.5 persons-per-vehicle for Bidwell Park, excluding the Peregrine Point Trailhead (PPV 2.3). Using this formula we arrive at:

$$\text{Annual vehicle count} \times \text{person-per-vehicle average (PPV)} = \text{Estimated annual visits (auto)}$$

$$650,764 \text{ vehicles} \times 1.5 \text{ PPV} = 976,146 \text{ visits}$$

The measurements did not include users who accessed the Park as a pedestrian, via bike or through an area not tracked by the portable vehicle counters. In contrast, Lassen National Volcanic Park uses a multiplier of 3 PPV and estimated 351,269 (2011) visitors.

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 are even looking at other measures-the potential of toilet paper use (over 15,000 rolls) as a potential metric for park use). 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.

Last year's estimate was at least 1.1 million visits to Bidwell Park. With these caveats in mind, we estimate the number of visits to Bidwell Park annually to exceed 1.9 million visits (Table 5).

**Table 4. Bidwell Park Visitation Estimates (Note order of magnitude estimates for some values).**

Location / Point of Entry (Transportation)		Estimated Daily Visits April-Sept.	Estimated Daily Visits Oct.-March	Estimated Annual Visits by Location	Quality of Data
<b>Lower Park</b>					
One Mile (auto)	a	1432	896	425,128	Good
One Mile (non-auto)	b	1,450	900	429,150	Very Poor
One Mile (event participation average)	c	51	72	22,437	Good
Lower Park Other (auto)	a	433	285	131,109	Good
Lower Park Other (non-auto)	d	900	600	273,900	Very Poor
Estimated Subtotal		4,266	2,753	1,281,724	
<b>Middle/Upper Park</b>					
Upper Park Road (Auto)	a	1209	1096	420,719	Good
Hooker Oak and S Five Mile (all)	g	300	150	82,200	Very Poor
Middle/Upper Park (non-Auto)	f	350	300	118,650	Very Poor
Highway 32/Peregrine Point (Auto)	e	250	150	73,050	Poor
Estimated Subtotal		2,109	1,696	694,619	
<b>Estimated Total Daily Visits</b>		<b>6,375</b>	<b>4,449</b>		
<b>Estimated Total Annual Visits</b>	h	<b>1,166,625</b>	<b>809,718</b>	<b>1,976,343</b>	

**Notes:**

- a) Based on average daily vehicle count (measured one week each month) and multiplied by an estimated 1.5 visitors/vehicle (observation average).
- b) View estimates with caution. Based on a "best guess" approach assuming that the ratio between visitors that arrive by car and by other means is 1:1 (rounded to the nearest 50). We believe that actual surveys will reveal that the number of people accessing this area by foot or bike to be much greater.
- c) Based on applicant reported numbers for events at One Mile (does not count means of accessing the Park) and calculated as a daily average.
- d) View estimates with caution. Based on a "best guess" approach assuming that the ratio between visitors that arrive by car and by other means is 1:2 (rounded to the nearest 50). We believe that actual surveys will reveal that the number of people accessing this area by foot or bike to be greater as most people even with cars will park outside the park and access the area via numerous pedestrian access points.
- e) Assume 7.2 cars/hour (average from Peregrine Point ranger log) multiplied by 2.3 visitors/vehicle (observation average) and 12 hours/day (Apr-Sept) and 8 hours (Oct - Mar); plus 50 visitors/day (peak) and 5 (non-peak) accessing the Park from other Hwy 32 access locations. Rounded up to the nearest 50.
- f) Estimate an attempt to capture visitors that access the park not by car ( and not accessing from other areas of the park). This may include bikers, hikers, and equestrians. Assumes a Upper Park Road car to pedestrian ratio of 1:1/4 year round. Rounded up to the nearest 50.
- g) Not measured. Estimate.



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

## 6. Planning and Monitoring

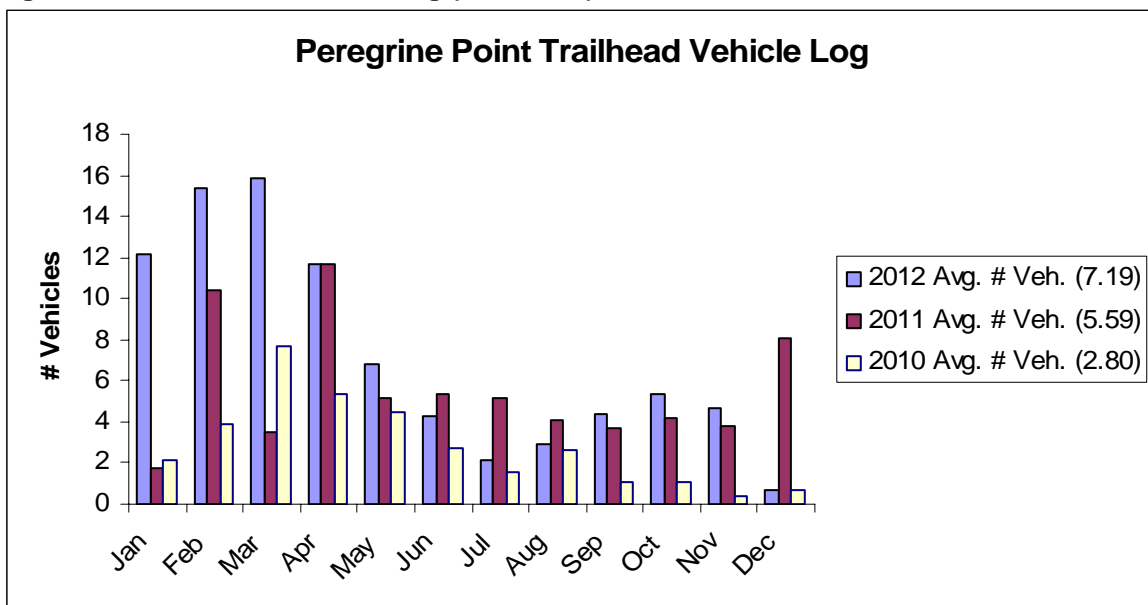
### a. Program Description

Many of the tasks associated with Planning and Monitoring are conducted by the Park and Natural Resource Manager with support from all other programs and even other departments and outside entities.

### b. 2012 Highlights

- i. Peregrine Point Monitoring Report – Staff issued the first annual monitoring report for the disc golf course in July 2012. The report provides documentation of first year data and makes recommendations as part of an adaptive management framework. 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 has steadily increased over the past 3 years (Figure 9). Average vehicle counts during closed days decreased from 2.73 to 1.03 from 2011 to 2012, suggesting better compliance with the closure policy.

Figure 9. Peregrine Point Trailhead Vehicle Log (2010-2012).



- ii. Trails Plan – Working with the Natural Resource Committee and the public, staff produced an initial inventory map of trails and estimate of trail totals (Table 6). In 2013-2014, we will identify priorities and develop a draft of the Trails Plan.

Table 5. Summary of Bidwell Park Trail Estimates based on Trails Inventory.

Area	Paved Roads (mi)	Unpaved Roads (mi)	Bike Paths (mi)	Designated Trails (mi)	Undesignated Trails (mi)	Total (mi)
Upper	1.6	5.92	-	34.74	10.55	52.8
Middle	2.6	0.54	1.84	10.35	12.2	27.5
Lower	5.67	0.15	3.43	6.45	7.39	23.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>9.89</b>	<b>6.61</b>	<b>5.27</b>	<b>51.54</b>	<b>30.14</b>	<b>103.4</b>

Notes: Based on 2009 Aerial Photography and with 2011 and 2012 Field Reconnaissance. Data are preliminary and will be refined with further analysis and verification (especially with undesignated trails in Upper Park).

- iii. Natural Resources Plan – This plan is also part of the Natural Resource Committee process. The most significant milestone on this task has been the development of Management Units in the Park. Breaking down the Park into Management Units will help communicate goals and track progress for the various areas of Bidwell Park. The units will aid with the description of threats, issues, and remedies, and also provide a more effective description of areas to park crew, volunteers and emergency responders. With a plant

inventory completed, we anticipate that the draft Natural Resource Management Plan will also be completed in 2013-2014.

- iv. Caper Acres – Staff is working on developing an estimate for the cost to develop an overall master plan for this beloved facility. The process will encourage public input. When complete, the plan will layout options and costs for improvements, which will allow for fundraising and capital campaigns.

## **7. Maintenance and Infrastructure**

### **a. Program Description**

Park maintenance staff is responsible for the care and maintenance of Bidwell Park and other assigned parks, viewsheds and green ways. The balance of city owned parks and greenways are contracted out to landscape contractors, examples would be City Plaza, Children's Playground or Humboldt Park.

Many citizens are surprised at the scope required to maintain city-owned areas for safety and the satisfaction of park visitors. Our staff works seven day a week (365 days a year) and is comprised of four maintenance workers, two senior maintenance workers, and a field supervisor. Park staff duties include cleaning, safety inspection, graffiti removal, and maintenance of park grounds, facilities, and play areas.

To provide a sense of the scope, the Parks staff duties in Bidwell Park alone include:

- 6 reservation areas,
- 36 individual picnic sites,
- 7 park buildings that house 25 restrooms stalls
- 8 porta pottie locations,
- 3 shower facilities,
- Numerous 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
- Over 10 miles of road ways and bike paths,
- Along with the seasonal cleaning and maintenance of Sycamore pool that runs on a weekly cleaning routine from Memorial Day to Labor Day.

In addition to these daily tasks, Staff is engaged throughout the year on the repair of the various parts of the park infrastructure from painting, plumbing and electrical to adding, replacing or fabricating equipment or fixtures such as signs, waste receptacles, benches, picnic tables and exercise equipment. In addition, staff prepares and posts reservation areas for over 300 private and public events each year. While Bidwell Park is the main focus of Staff, they also have duties on other City properties.

In the past couple of years, wildland and land management tasks have been incorporated into daily and seasonal tasks. Park staff maintains the natural beauty from Lost Park to the end of Ten Mile House road. This work ranges from pruning trees, applying herbicide, mowing road and trail edges, developing and planting native rehabilitation sites, prescribed burns, invasive plant removal, trail maintenance, and wildland restoration.

### **b. 2012 Highlights**

2012 has been an interesting and exciting year with the positive push to tackle some of the major use and infrastructure ageing issues that face Bidwell Park. While resources are limited, Staff carefully planned projects to get the best results that could be had with the resources available. For example, staff realigned the Observatory parking lot to make more efficient use of space, to slow traffic, and to position vehicle lights to point away from the viewing platforms. The lot was resurfaced before the new fencing went up and native plants were started around the outdoor amphitheater and in an area to screen the building from visitors on the North Rim Trail. Staff completed other more subtle projects, such as the removal of invasive trees and shrubs to open up the site line for pedestrians and vehicles changes on entrances off of Vallombrosa. Other notable tasks for the year include:

- i. Middle Trail Grant – Staff working with the California Conservation Corps continued their progress east from parking lot F or sections 5/6 up through section 3 these sections contain armored creek crossings, rolling dips with nicks, along with trail tread hardening and water shedding work on connecting trails both above and below the Middle Trail.

- ii. Departmental Support – Staff continues with the responsibilities of opening gates, wet weather trail assessments, support of the volunteer program and partnering with other departments in GSD to complete projects in and out of the park, such as Alamo Street clean up and illegal camp clean up through out the city.
- iii. Wildland Restoration and Management - Staff continues to learn new skills and techniques which they apply daily to this newer piece of our park maintenance regimen of removing invasive plants, controlled burn piles, herbicide application from lot E to Bear Hole, along with replanting sites at lot C, One Mile and Five Mile, drilling native grass seed at Hooker Oak and at lot one in middle park, and repairing creek banks from beaver damage at Centennial and Manzanita bike path.
- iv. Volunteer Support - Park staff supported Make a Difference day at One Mile with site preparation and pile removal. Staff regularly supports volunteer efforts with removal of invasive materials in Bidwell Park, Verbena Fields and Hazel Street Park.
- v. Daily Maintenance - Staffs approach to daily maintenance is to revisit the basics regularly so that we may deliver the best service possible period. Staff plans and evaluates each project for the best methods and materials to use for a quality job, the end result whether it's cleaning a restroom or replacing a fixture is something we all can be proud of. A detailed listing of tasks is attached as an appendix titled Park Maintenance Hours 2012.
- vi. Homeless Impacts and Vandalism – Staff have observed an increase in homeless issues impacting the Park. For example, encampments have been observed in all areas of the Park. Some facilities require additional cleaning as use has increased. The cleanup of graffiti and vandalism also is a daily task.
- vii. Infrastructure Inventory – Late in 2012, Staff began an inventory of Park facilities. We are aware of no similar previous effort. The inventory will provide us a rationale basis on which to prioritize and estimate costs for future repairs and replacements. It will also provide us with an estimate of unfunded obligations and budget needs. There are many signs of the park of infrastructure's overdue maintenance (for example, the gravel portion of Upper Park Road, paved bike paths, and restrooms).
- viii. Night Inspection - Park staff participated in the first night time safety inspection which surprisingly generated fewer issues than expected. Staff focused on safety and security issues and ideas to improve them (adequate reflectors, lighting in areas, signs, observation of users and numbers, overgrown vegetation, etc.). Improvements to these areas will be made before the next peak season.

## 8. Natural Resource Management

### a. Program Description

Although we began listing this as a program area in 2012, 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. 2012 Highlights

- i. Wet weather – In December 2012, Staff presented an annual summary of data related to the wet weather policy and developed a Draft Adaptive Wet Weather Trail Management Plan. Revisions will be made to this document based on public, staff, and Policy Advisory Committee input and we anticipate that this document will return for BPPC consideration in 2013.
- ii. Prescribed Burn - The Park Division working closely with the Chico Fire Department, the California Conservation Corps, and CAL Fire conducted several operations to reduce fuels, and prep and conduct prescribed burns in Middle Park. Burns occurred on (6/7/12, 7/19/12, and the week of 11/5/12) in the following areas 1) north of Upper Park Road between Parking Areas B and C 2) a 3 acre area south of Upper Park Road between Parking Areas A and B, and 3) in a variety of areas south and west of Parking lot A. The burn objectives were to 1) control for medusahead (*Taeniatherum caput-medusae*) and yellow star thistle (*Centaurea solstitialis*), and to a lesser extent other annual grasses such as hare (or foxtail) barley (*Hordeum marinum*) and 2) favor native plants during the next growing season, and 3) reduce woody fuel loads.

- iii. Native Plantings: Staff and volunteers made good progress on removing invasive weeds, putting in native plants and updating and painting infrastructure of the park entrances and volunteer restoration areas.
- iv. CA Conservation Corps (CCC) Proposition 84 Grant – The Park Division received additional assistance from the CCC crew as the Chico satellite office received grant money to work on vegetation management and trail issues as part of a Proposition 84 grant. However, the state suspended the grant after the new fiscal year. The CCC's indicate that another funding source may be available for fuels reduction in 2013.

## 9. 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. 2012 Highlights

The following is a summary of the notable activities:

1. The Bidwell Park Pulse continued quarterly publication, with positive feedback from citizens. The newsletter is predominately distributed electronically.
2. Staff continued quarterly *Park Talk* opportunities for the public.
3. The Parks Division initiated a Facebook page ([City of Chico—Parks Division](#)) and Twitter feed ([@ChicoParks](#)), as another way to connect with Park users. Trail closures, facility repairs, or park- related events will be updated.
4. Bidwell Park has been added to the California Watchable Wildlife project, which promotes wildlife viewing sites and educates the public about where and how to view native wildlife and habitats. Additional information can be found at [www.cawatchablewildlife.org](http://www.cawatchablewildlife.org).
5. Staff continued to develop a relationship with the Chico Creek Nature Center and plan to establish a satellite ranger office. Additionally, Park Watch volunteers continued to volunteer at the Nature Center acting as docents, giving visitors information and guidance about the park while staffing shifts at the Nature Center's Howard Tucker Hall.
6. Rangers, along with other City staff participated in the 911 Safety Pals show again this year. Seven performances, reaching 890 students occurred at various schools in the area. The show has been well received by the students, teachers, and parents.
7. This past year, the rangers were involved in numerous outreach efforts, including conducting a number of interpretive programs and staffing several information booths (e.g. Endangered Species Faire, Snow Goose Festival, Spring Safety Faire).
8. The Park Services Coordinator regularly conducts presentations about Bidwell Park and the Volunteer Program, some of those included: CA Native Plant Society, Mt. Lassen November Meeting; CSUC Parks and Recreation Community Involvement Class (2 classes); Butte College Connections Class; Butte College Habitat Restoration Class; and Sierra View and Parkview Elementary classes.
9. The Park Services Coordinator has provided on-going education and park information for school students through annual programs, such as Associated Students Community Action Volunteers in Education Adopt-A-Park Program (each semester); CSUC Upward Bound High School Summer Program (6 weeks); Chico High School Horticulture Class Native Plant Project (full school year) and the Adopt-A-Picnic Site program (through out the year).
10. The Parks Division hosted the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual National Night Out event (08/07/12) at Sycamore Pool in the One Mile Recreation Area. The well-attended event drew over 200 people, plus members from support and sponsor groups like Target (with over a dozen employees), Park Watch, Kids and Creeks and the Blaze Radio station. Park staff, lifeguards and Park Watch volunteers provided information about park safety and organized fun activities for kids, including a dunk tank, watermelon eating contest and water balloon toss. Fire and ambulance personnel gave tours of emergency medical vehicles and helpful tips on emergency situations.
11. Rangers led a bike tour through Middle Park this past fall, focusing on history, natural resources and current management efforts. Additional themed tours will be coming up this year.
12. In 2012, rangers completed phase I of the "Park Minute", a radio campaign designed to educate the community about park issues, safety and natural and cultural resources in the park. The positive feedback from the public has generated a request (from the radio stations) for additional "minutes" which will record and air in 2013. Some of the new topics include vegetation management strategies, red flag closures, dark and

the park, park smart and young wildlife. Currently, there are 13 different "minutes" recorded and being aired in English with the possibility of adding recordings in Spanish in upcoming years.

13. Approximately 40 news releases were released in 2012, providing valuable information to the public on upcoming management efforts and volunteer opportunities as well as education on park resources.

## **10. Ranger and Lifeguard**

### **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 provide visitor assistance 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) 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 2012, 15 new members were added to the program, bring the total membership to 126 who donated an estimated 8810 hours.

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 with twice the number of lawn patrons. Rescues performed were about average this season, amounting to 7 total, less than the 12 performed last season. 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. 2012 Highlights**

Community outreach and education played a larger role in Ranger duties than in the past. Intended to increase community interactions as well as foster stewardship and appreciation of the parks and recreational resources, the rangers hosted the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual National Night Out event, fully implemented the "Park Minute," 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 which reached 890 students. These programs provided valuable information that enhanced park users' enjoyment and safety while also promoting the protection of our natural and cultural resources.

Rangers continued to play a major role in management and monitoring projects. This past year, rangers expanded visitation monitoring to Lower Park and an intern conducted a per-per-vehicle survey. Staff continued to work with interns on developing a comprehensive sign plan for Bidwell Park; a draft document will be complete soon. Furthermore, rangers were involved in several prescribed burns and vegetation management projects.

Additionally, they continued to streamline the park reservation system, including researching and choosing an online reservation system provider. Language and exhibit updates to Title 12 and 12R of the Chico Municipal Code were finalized and approved by the Commission and an update to the fee schedule was drafted. A comprehensive inventory and associated maps of all property managed by the Park Division was developed and rangers assisted with creating management unit maps. 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.

- i. City Accident/Damage/Theft Reports - are prepared for every instance of accident involving City property and/or damage/theft of City property (Table 7). Rangers are the first responders to many incidents in the park and in 2012 they assisted with several multi-agency medical responses and rescues. Notably, rangers were first on scene and initiated CPR on an unresponsive park user, provided scene security and logistical support on a fire incident involving two deceased people, responded to a dozen wildfires, and assisted with numerous rescue and missing persons operations. There was a marked increase in damage to City property this past year. Accidents, vandalism and major graffiti incidents all increased.

**Table 6. Accident, Damage, and Theft Reports (2010, 2011 and 2012).**

Report Type	2010 Reports	2011 Reports	2012 Reports
Injury Accident/EMS	19	19	18
City Property Damage	5	7	26
Fire	3	6	13
Wildlife	1	2	1
Other	1	1	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>59</b>

- ii. Citations and Warnings – We use a voluntary compliance and education enforcement strategy; therefore rangers issue a large number of warnings (Table 8). Citations from animal control, code enforcement, or police officers are not included.

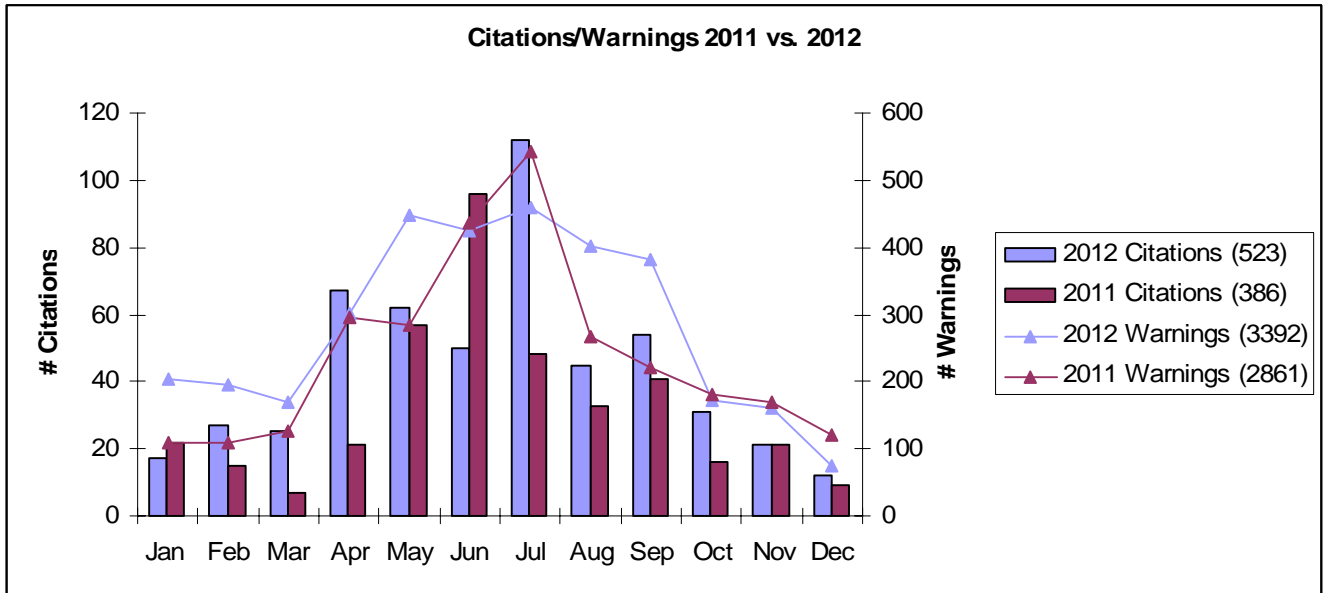
**Table 7. Summary Citations and Warnings by Violation 2012**

Violation	2012 Total Citations	%	Rank	2012 Total Warnings	%	Rank
Alcohol	129	25%	2	470	14%	3
Animal Control Violations	68	13%	3	846	25%	2
Bicycle Violation	2	0%	10	1091	32%	1
Glass	35	7%	4	153	5%	6
Illegal Camping	21	4%	7	147	4%	7
Injury/Destruction City Property	3	1%	8	7	0%	11
Littering	3	1%	8	18	1%	9
Other Violations	30	6%	5	259	8%	4
Parking Violations	210	40%	1	240	7%	5
Resist/Delay Park Ranger	0	0%	11	15	0%	10
Smoking	22	4%	6	146	4%	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>523</b>	<b>100%</b>		<b>3392</b>	<b>100%</b>	

**Table 8. Summary Citations and Warnings by Place 2012**

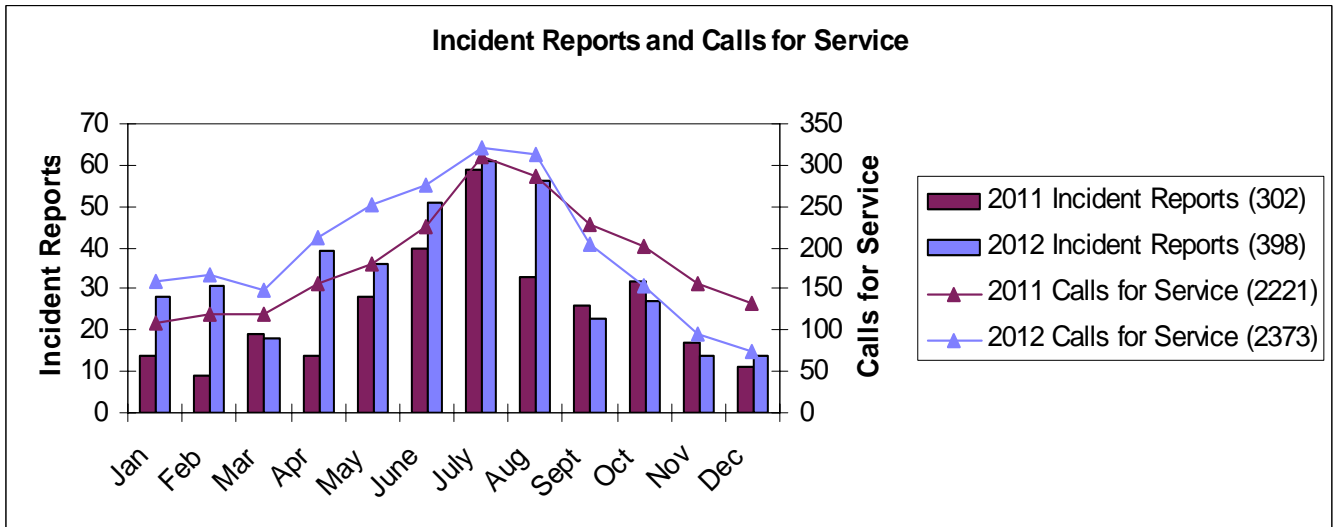
Location	Citations			Warnings		
	Total	%	Rank	Total	%	Rank
Lower Park	299	57%	1	2045	60.29%	1
Middle Park	58	11%	3	305	8.99%	3
Upper Park	128	24%	2	817	24.09%	2
Specialty Parks/Greenways	38	7%	4	225	6.63%	4
<b>Totals</b>	<b>523</b>	<b>100%</b>		<b>3392</b>	<b>100%</b>	

**Figure 4. Monthly Citation/Warning Comparison (2011 and 2012).**



iii. 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 2373 calls (398 reports) in City parks, open spaces and greenways. Both calls for service and incident reports were up this year, with alcohol and drug related incidents, weapons violations and warrant arrests seeing the most increase. The “other” category is primarily comprised of found property, city property damage reports and death reports (6 death reports in 2012 vs. 1 in 2011). The deaths were associated with a construction accident-fall (Highway 99), suicide, 2 by fire (at a homeless encampment), and a heart attack. The fire required a biohazard clean-up.

**Figure 5. Summary Police Incident Reports and Calls for Service 2011 and 2012**



**Table 9. Type of Police Incident Report (2010-2012).**

Incident Report Type	2010 Reports	2011 Reports	2012 Reports
Arson	0	2	0
Assault	13	23	13

<b>Incident Report Type</b>	<b>2010 Reports</b>	<b>2011 Reports</b>	<b>2012 Reports</b>
Burglary	2	3	4
Drug Related	11	12	32
Drunk In Public	51	43	65
Larceny	31	47	44
Motor Vehicle Theft	1	2	1
Other	123	97	138
Parole/Prob. Violation	8	7	15
Rape	2	1	1
Resist/Obstruct/False Info	13	8	13
Robbery	3	7	5
Vandalism	3	3	2
Warrant	44	43	55
Weapons Violation	2	4	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>307</b>	<b>302</b>	<b>398</b>

iv. Homeless Encampments – Issues associated with homeless activities continued to increase, specifically impacting City Plaza, Lower Park and certain greenways. Several measures have been implemented to address homeless camp activity, including opening up densely vegetated areas and consistent, regular identification and clean-up of active camps. Rangers took a lead role in the program this past year, assisted by police officers and GSD crews.

## 11. Volunteer and Donations

### a. Program Description

When citizens take the opportunity to give time and energy to Bidwell Park, as Chicoans do, their investment in and respect for our unique resource grows deeper. *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 the Park Division in trail maintenance and repair, painting, litter removal, Park office tasks, control of invasive weeds, native plant seed propagation and planting in volunteer habitat restoration areas throughout Bidwell Park.

In 2012, volunteers contributed 19,801 hours of work to Bidwell Park and other Chico Greenways. In addition to these tasks, the Park Services Coordinator and Park Intern also include educational components focusing on Park history, and ecology; implement photo monitoring measures for restoration sites so that improvements can be seen over time and assist with the natural resource management program through the donation of thousands of hours of weeding invasive species and planting native plant species. The incorporation of vegetation management for years as the major portion of weekly and annual work sessions has helped supplement and offset the Park's maintenance crew time.

### b. 2012 Highlights

- i. Volunteer Hour overview - Overall volunteer hours were up 1% from 2011 (Table 10). Volunteers donated a 19,801 hours and more hours were devoted to work in City greenways and open spaces in addition to Bidwell Park. 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 11). While the number of new groups continue to increase, we have a remarkable retention of volunteer efforts – with many groups making an annual commitment to have a team participate in one of the Park's annually-held workdays (there is nothing like working in unison with a few hundred folks...! (Figure 6).



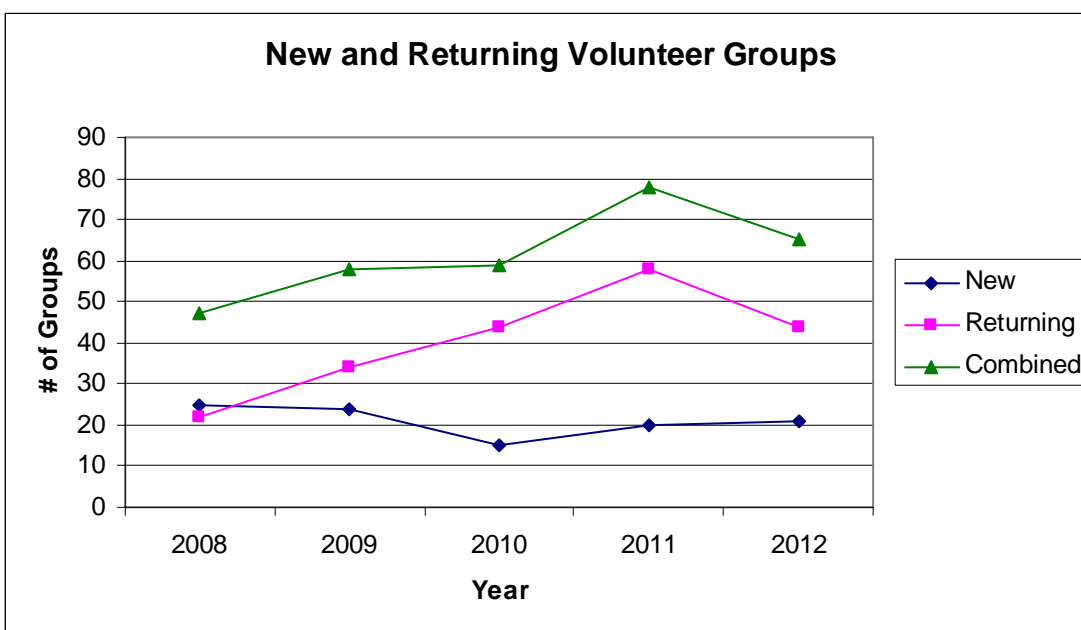
**Table 10. Summary of Volunteer Program Hours.**

Category	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	Trend
Park Work	5,129	7,891	6,317	9,677	11,228	10,474	10,991	
Park Watch Patrol	11,913	10,866	10,455	10,061	8,788	6,901	8,810	
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>17,042</b>	<b>18,757</b>	<b>16,772</b>	<b>19,738</b>	<b>20,016</b>	<b>17,375</b>	<b>19,801</b>	

**Table 11. Summary of Volunteer Annual Event Hours.**

Event	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	Trend
Earth Day	88	371	515	705	448	638	262	
Make a Difference	124	389	302	495	409	1,154	1,042	
Weekly Volunteer Days	222	603	493	985	1,451	1,430	1,169	
Upward Bound Work Day	473	536.5	0	370.5	347	503	446	
Trail Work Days	216	471	581	353	18	146	121	
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>1,123</b>	<b>2,371</b>	<b>1,891</b>	<b>2,909</b>	<b>2,673</b>	<b>5,447</b>	<b>3,040</b>	

**Figure 6. Summary of New and Returning Volunteer Groups**



ii. On-going Park Projects

1. The Park Division and **Chico High School Native Plant Project** (5th year) had 6 students who have cultivated/cared for over 10 native plant species since January 2012 through the end of the 2013 school year. Long time Park volunteer Michael Stauffer and CA Native Plant member Paula Shapiro (5<sup>th</sup> year!) are advisors and offer regular guidance on the project and work with students. Kyle Keanne (3<sup>rd</sup> year with the project) oversaw the care of the plants in the greenhouse during the summer. The class has two field days a year, in the fall to collect cuttings and in the winter to plant in the Park.

2. The Park Division and CSU, Chico's **Community Action Volunteers in Education (CAVE)** have partnered through the Adopt-A-Park Program for its seventh year. In Spring 2012, there were 20 CAVE students and in the Fall 17 CAVE students worked in Bidwell Park.

3. The Park Division and **CSU Chico's Upward Bound** (UB) high school program completed its 7<sup>th</sup> year with 10 high school students working in the Park 4 days a week for six weeks during the summer.
  4. The Park Division continues to provide weekly **Volunteer Workdays in the Park** throughout the year. This program provides important follow-up work and vegetation management in over 10 sites of the Park (Annie's Glen, Bear Hole, Caper Acres, Chico Creek Nature Center area, Cedar Grove, Five Mile Recreation, Lost Park, One Mile (north and south), Site 8, Site 24-25, and Sycamore Restoration Site. Funds raised through donations pay for an hourly Park Intern, who leads some of these sessions, which are in high demand as extra-curricular and mandated class community service components by Butte College and CSUC classes and organizations. Citizens unable to afford to pay their misdemeanor fines are able to work in the Park in place of paying.
- iii. Bidwell Park Volunteer Trainings - The Park Division launched its new Volunteer Training Program in the Spring of 2012. Over 50 people attended the combined Park training program orientation and then attended a 2<sup>nd</sup> specialized training for Crew Leaders, Park Watch and Trail Volunteers. The Crew Leader and Trail Volunteer trainings are brand new for the Park Division whereas Park Watch is the longest running volunteer program.
  - iv. Park Division's Volunteer Adopt-Park Site Program has been in existence formally since the Fall of 2008.
    1. Alpha Sigma Pi newly adopted Site 39 in the fall of 2012 and will start work this coming spring.
    2. Sigma Chi Fraternity marks its 3<sup>rd</sup> year of monthly work at site 40. The group planted native plants at their site (donation made possible through their applying for a CSUC sustainability grant) in the Spring of 2012 and watered the site throughout the summer.
    3. Sierra View Elementary School 4<sup>th</sup> grade classes (5<sup>th</sup> year) works twice a year at site 27 and have planted native plants there since 2010.
    4. McCabe Family (8<sup>th</sup> year) continues weeding at sites 11 and 12 and has helped water Santa Barbara sedge.
    5. Rangel Family (3<sup>rd</sup> year) continue to remove vinca at site 32 and will plant native plants in 2013.
    6. Blue Oak Elementary 8<sup>th</sup> (2<sup>nd</sup> year) grade class adopted site 6 and planted native plants.
    7. Olson family continues work at adopted site #37
  - v. Intern Program - In 2012, the Park Division had 4 students complete paid and non-paid internships to help support projects and lead volunteers. **CSUC**: Rick Helgerson (8/2011 – 8/2012) – lead volunteer weekly sessions and Upward Bound sessions; researched and put together a privet removal/restoration plan for the Bidwell Golf Course (paid for by the Friends); and worked on restoration plans for N. One Mile, including mapping; Heidi Ortiz (8/2012 – present) GPS mapped the Park Sign Inventory; led volunteer weekly sessions; and provided general support for the Volunteer Program. Chris Fisher provided conducted a user survey in Upper Bidwell Park; and provided support for the Sign Inventory. **Butte College**: Rachel Libby (6/2012 – 8/2012) researched native and invasive weed plant profiles; and provided other project support.
    - Throughout 2012, **Friends of Bidwell Park** (FOBP) volunteer sessions were planned and led by long time Park and greenway volunteer, Susan Mason. Invasive weed removal projects (olive trees, privet, bladder senna, pokeweed, yellow starthistle, puncturevine and much more) were conducted in Bidwell Park; Memorial Way; Comanche Creek and Verbena Fields. Susan and volunteers devoted many hours to starthistle removal in all of Lower Park and many areas of Middle Park. FOBP have logged over 14,906 hours since 2003. FOBP has also donated to Park Projects providing four 40 yard vegetation dumpsters; \$600.00 toward a Privet Removal and Restoration Plan for the Bidwell Golf Course;
    - **CA Native Plant Society, Mt. Lassen Chapter** has several on-going projects in Bidwell Park and greenways. A group of CNPS members have continued to remove starthistle, prune back poison oak and brush the Yahi Trail for its 5<sup>th</sup> year of adoption. Their volunteer trail crew is led by Steve Overlock. Adrienne Edwards has helped research, correct and provide more information for redoing the signs along the Yahi Trail. Susan Mason has been leading volunteer sessions for CNPS in the City's greenways and open spaces, starting in the spring of 2012 with glossy privet removal along Little Chico Creek at Humboldt Avenue; and in the fall of 2012 started privet and other invasive woody weed removal at Teichert Ponds. Susan has accumulated thousands of volunteer hours by leading several weeding sessions with committed volunteers each week with Friends of Bidwell Park and CNPS.
    - **Comanche Creek neighbors**, community volunteers, and Park Crew leaders held approximately one work session a month at their site removing invasive weeds – privets, starthistle and blackberry to name a few.

Janet Ellner and Elizabeth Stewart have helped coordinate and lead these sessions as well as starthistle removal along Upper Park trails last spring.

- **Kids and Creeks** continues to bring elementary students to Bidwell Park's Sycamore Restoration Area, 9<sup>th</sup> and Hazel and Verbena Fields for restoration and weeding sessions.
- **Stream Team** Coordinator Timmarie Hamill conducts monthly water quality monitoring sessions at Five Mile and she continues to partner with the Park Services Coordinator to work with Sierra View Elementary School at site 27; Parkview Elementary School at site 8; and the Upward Bound High School Summer program.

vi. Donations

Through the years, the community has contributed funds to memorial benches, plaques, vista course stations, Caper Acres bricks and toward equipment and facilities. In the fall of 2011, Park staff and the BPPC undertook a revision of the Park Donation Policy to clarify how our community could give back to the Park and to raise needed funds as directed by the Master Management Plan. The new policy will be finalized in Spring 2013 and will also be updated in a timely manner to reflect inflation. The policy will also include annual fund information, as well as a new Memorial Tree Giving Program. In addition, City staff has developed a separate fund for Park and Greenway donations that can be carefully tracked.

In calendar year 2012, citizens provided over \$8,695 in park donations, including \$1,400 devoted to Caper Acres (see Table 13). Donations, both cash and in-kind, have helped save the Park Division needed financial resources. In-kind donations valued at \$42,388 from area businesses and local organizations as well as in-kind labor provided by the CA Conservation Corps and community volunteers provided hundreds of thousands of dollars (see Table 13) in support of Park projects.

**Table 12. Summary of Park Donations and In-Kind Service Donations (2012).**

<b>Donations</b>	<b>Project or Event</b>	<b>Value</b>
<b><u>Cash Donations</u></b>		
General Park	Includes plaque donations and misc.	\$1,920
Annie B's Fund Drive	Park intern, habitat restoration, trails and park upkeep	\$4,930
Bricks	Caper Acres	\$1,400
Church group	Council Ring	\$445
<b>Total Donations</b>		<b>\$8,695</b>
<b><u>In-Kind Donations</u></b>		
CA Conservation Corps	Volunteer hours (647 hours)	\$16,188
	Prop 84 funded CCC labor	\$20,000
Costco	Breakfast foods for Earth Day and Make a Difference Day	\$400
Friends of Bidwell Park	4 vegetation dumpsters; herbicide treatments; and Bidwell Golf Course Privet Removal Project Plan	\$1,950
Home Depot	Tools for Bidwell Park Earth Day	\$1,000
Lundberg Farms	Rice Chips for Earth Day	\$100
Starbucks	Coffee for Earth Day and Make a Difference Day	\$300
Recology	4 green waste dumpsters (volunteer project)	\$1,000
Rotary of Chico	Native Plants for Caper Acres	\$300
Soroptimist	Native Plants for the Bidwell Park entrance	\$150
CSUC Sigma Chi Fraternity	Native Plants for Site #40	\$200
Waste Management	2 green waste dumpsters (volunteer project)	\$800
<b>Total In-Kind Donations</b>		<b>\$42,388</b>

Both cash and in-kind donations have helped support numerous vegetation management projects as well as annual volunteer workdays. Friends of Bidwell Park's has provided support for greenwaste dumpsters so that weed tree removal projects can be finished more quickly while not impacting Park staff's limited time and resources. The group has also helped paid for needed herbicide treatments for specific woody weed species as well as a privet removal plan for the Golf Course produced by a Park Intern. Chico Rotary, Soroptimist International of Chico and CSUC Fraternity Sigma Chi have donated native plants based on planting plans provided by the Park Division. City-wide volunteer annual workdays, like Earth Day in Bidwell Park & Greenways and Make a Difference Day, are made possible through the support of long-time business donors Home Depot, Recology, Starbucks and Waste Management.

We have also received some help with studies and monitoring. For example, student interns from Chico State and Butte College provided support on some GPS mapping projects, and data collection; and Chico High School students propagated native plants for a fourth year for the Park's restoration sites.

The Chico community has been generous and as we move into the future, the care and well-being of Bidwell Park and other city properties will depend on this generosity. Park staff is looking into a special event for 2013 and further donation and grant-writing opportunities.

#### vii. Economic Value of the Volunteer Program

With limited financial and staff resources, Park and office volunteers remain an important asset to the health and well-being of Bidwell Park and the City's greenways. In 2012, the Volunteer Program has helped oversee efforts in the City of Chico's greenways as well as Bidwell Park. This facet has helped guide more community members and greenway neighbors who wish to contribute their part to the well being of the City's natural resources.

Traditionally, the financial worth of volunteer time has been estimated using a single dollar value for all types of volunteering. The Independent Sector updates annually the *Value of Volunteer Time* on its website <http://www.independentsector.org>. The current rate is \$24.18 per hour for the State of California (the volunteer rate is from 2010 and is the most up to date available). Using this rate, the Park's volunteer hours of 19,801 is equivalent to \$478,788. 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.*" The Park Services Coordinator also solicits support of in-kind contributions from area businesses and organizations to help supplement the Volunteer Program and additional Park programs projects in the Park (see Table 3. Summary of Park Donations and In-Kind Service Donations (2012)).

## 12. Challenges Encountered

- a. Unless replaced, failing, aging infrastructure will continue to impact maintenance staff and costs. We are quickly approaching the point where costs, time invested, and potential liability may force facility closures. We have multiple recent examples, here are a couple:
  - i. At Caper Acres, vandals kicked out boards on part of the structure for Locksley Castle, the underlying structure was too rotted for a viable repair. The structure was removed and filled with fall material, allowing the structure to remain open, but diminishing play options. Staff spend up to 2 hours a day on safety checks and daily repairs (for example, screwing down boards) before Caper Acres opens. The condition of many Caper Acres features and the restroom make daily maintenance challenging.
  - ii. Bike paths and roads in Lower Park within the next few years may soon decay past the point where minor repairs can maintain a safe surface. A lack of modern road design and limited capacity culverts, contributed to the recent closure of the gravel portion of Upper Park Road. While we are looking at temporary repairs for Upper Park Road, the long term solution (a designed gravel road that better manages water and upgraded road base materials) will be cheaper to maintain, retain gravel, and better protect resources and visitor safety).
  - iii. Similar replacements, such as the recent closure of the Five Mile restrooms due to an old septic system will continue as facilities age and are used far beyond their original capacity (septic tank capacity: 1000 gallons vs. 3000 gallons).

- iv. We anticipate that within the next few years the Sycamore Pool and the surrounding deck area will need major repairs and a plan and design to anticipate this cost and provide a basis for seeking funds will be important.
- v. The Cedar Grove infrastructure is inadequate for current uses and requires a larger facility that would allow for current events, safety, and easier maintenance (better lighting, revised parking lot, irrigation for lawn area, etc).
- b. Increases in visitorship, places additional pressures on sensitive habitats and infrastructure in park and open spaces. Many resource issues in Upper (trail and road erosion, lack of trail design and signage, and potential damage to cultural and biological resources), Middle (invasive weeds and unauthorized trails), and Lower Park (invasive trees and infrastructure not up to modern standards)
- c. Balancing priorities, projects, and BPPC support with staffing and resource challenges. Staffing and work load continue to be of concern. In 2011 GSD lost two additional administrative staff members, which has translated to delays in processing reservations, permits, news releases, and service requests. The gap has been somewhat mitigated with the sharing of administrative staff, management staff filling in on the phones, and the use of interns, but comes with an opportunity cost. 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. We will use the volunteer program as an example of the opportunity costs. The volunteer program provides opportunities for working in Bidwell Park and greenways. The addition of more responsibilities and tasks for the Park Services Coordinator has meant a decrease in time devoted to the volunteer program. The Park Service Coordinator helps market the volunteer program, plan and coordinate work sessions, solicit donations, and cultivate and support new and on-going partnerships. This will affect the capacity of the Park Division to expand the Program. While we have created a new crew leader volunteer program to expand our capacity, the project needs adequate time to provide logistical support and planning.
- d. Over the past couple of years, Park Staff have devoted more time to wildland management. Essentially, there is a decades old backlog of natural resource needs in Bidwell Park and other City properties. For example, ill-concieved fire breaks made by dozers over 30 -40 years ago, continue to cause erosion and trail damage threatening Park resources. To maintain the long-term health of the Park, these need to be addressed. 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.
- e. Homeless encampment and other related issues, and vandalism and damage to park resources occupy a significant amount of staff time and must be addressed in a timely fashion, limiting our response to routine tasks. For example, 4 staff members were diverted from their regular duties for the better part of 2 days to address an explosion of vandalism and graffiti to make the Park presentable before the 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration.
- f. Scheduling time for coordination and collaboration among rangers and Park Division staff has proved challenging due to limited staffing and schedules that span 7 days a week for up to 18 hours per day. Maintaining a high level of visibility and customer service with limited staff resources. Rangers balance patrol responsibilities with outreach efforts, event coordination and monitoring responsibilities and administrative tasks. The recent cut of the Park Attendant means that Rangers support events, meaning less time to patrol the Park (and when an emergency arises, must leave the events unsupported).
- g. Safely and effectively address increased homeless encampments with limited police support. Decreased police support due to limited staffing and high priority call volumes. Many of the Police Department specialty units were disbanded, including TARGET, that provided essential support in proactively addressing illegal activity in specific areas. DTA parks and One Mile continued to face criminal activity including, animal control violations, illegal camping, assaults, disruptive behavior, drug and alcohol activity, vandalism, and other suspicious circumstances.
- h. 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.

### 13. 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:

- a. Revise and update the BPPC work plan for 2013-2014.
- b. 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.
- c. Revise and adopt the interim wet weather plan.
- d. Finalize and approve Title 12R CMC updates.
- e. Launch ActiveNet, 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.
- f. Continue to develop the ranger program, including: review and update job description, policy manual and mission statement; and seek out and attend training. 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.
- g. Continued development of the training program for Park Watch, 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.
- h. Refine the Park Watch program to reflect current roles.
- i. Develop a Master Plan and initiate a funding campaign for Caper Acres.
- j. Continue to build a relationship and collaborate with the Chico Creek Nature Center and other educational based organizations, including locating a ranger satellite office at the Center.
- k. Develop and record additional "Park Minutes."
- l. Develop additional campaigns that encourage sustainable habits (e.g. trail use during wet weather) and behavior at Monkey Face.
- m. Continue visitation monitoring, including the installation of permanent counters.
- n. Approve and deploy a sign plan, being developed by University of Cincinnati students, 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.
- o. Develop recommendations on improving the Bidwell Bowl Amphitheater.
- p. Develop recommendations for Bidwell Ranch.
- q. Training staff on restoration and new trail techniques.
- r. Address concerns associated with dogs and make recommendations on dog regulations.
- s. Address increased complaints of behavior at City Plaza and One Mile.
- t. Coordination of Maintenance, Ranger, and Volunteer programs on restoration and outreach efforts.

#### Attachments:

- 1) Detailed Maintenance Tasks 2012.
- 2) Photographs Attachment.
- 3) Annual reports from leasees.

2012 Park Hours

<b>PARK MAINTENANCE HOURS 2012</b>	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			
<b>1. Safety</b>															
Camp Cleanup	12	2	1			7		16	9	10	23.5	9		89.5	0.77%
Gates	11.5	3	22.5	3.5	7	4	1	7.5		5	4	2		71	0.61%
Graffiti Removal	8	8	16.5	10	13	12	47	24	23	10	4	5		180.5	1.56%
Housekeeping; bathroom cleaning, grounds safety inspection, trash pick up	213	201	204.5	192.5	290.5	244	145.5	229	195	217.5	227.5	169.5		2529.5	21.81%
Other	3	1.5	0.5	1.5		2		4	4	4.5		7.5		28.5	0.25%
Park Picnic Sites & Reservation Area Prep	10.5	9	5.5	12	48	38	47	46.5	47.5	23.5	19	5		311.5	2.69%
Playground Equipment Inspection	4	3.5	5		4	8	6	14	14	16	6	1		81.5	0.70%
Road Sweeping & Path Blowing	52	4	22.5	4	6	10	3.5	3.5	9	48	211	138.5		512	4.41%
Equipment Maintenance, Yard, & Vehicle Cleanup & Organization	16	37.5	68	12.5	25	6	18.5	9	9	16.5	21	8		247	2.13%
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>269.5</b>	<b>346</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>393.5</b>	<b>331</b>	<b>268.5</b>	<b>353.5</b>	<b>310.5</b>	<b>351</b>	<b>516</b>	<b>345.5</b>		<b>4051</b>	<b>34.9%</b>
<b>Percent</b>	<b>41.7%</b>	<b>31.6%</b>	<b>38.0%</b>	<b>30.6%</b>	<b>34.5%</b>	<b>36.2%</b>	<b>24.1%</b>	<b>31.7%</b>	<b>30.3%</b>	<b>35.4%</b>	<b>47.0%</b>	<b>39.6%</b>			

<b>2. Infrastructure Maintenance</b>															
Barricade, Bollard, Gate, Fence: repairs, removal, install	29	22	39.5	10	10.5	38	18.5	25	27.5	9.5	8	8		245.5	2.12%
Building Maintenance: plumbing, electrical, structural, paint, pressure wash,	46	12.5	91.5	30.5	19	31	30.5	23	23.5	23	4	4		338.5	2.92%
Irrigation Repair	3		5	16	26	17	43	65.5	44.5	18	5	2		245	2.11%
Manufacturing of Park Fixtures for Replacement	23	6	19.5		5	23	5	18	50	61	3	17		230.5	1.99%
Other	1	2	2	2		1	5	1	2	3		13		32	0.28%
Park Fixture Maintenance: installation, repair, paint	62.5	146	101	27	80	100	96	137.5	119.5	112.5	47.5	27		1056.5	9.11%
Parking Lot Maintenance	87		4			1	56	1	5					154	1.33%
Pool Cleaning & Maintenance	8				178	62	84.5	97	8	6				443.5	3.82%
Projects: research, planning, staging		9	4			3	7	6	6	9		12		56	0.48%
Trail Maintenance	26.5	7	19	78	99	21	4		22.5	67	218	145.5		707.5	6.10%
Upper Park Road; add culverts, grade, flows, waddles, parking lots, trash	5	1	5.5	5.5	7.5	11	9	13	13.5	42.5	21	8		142.5	1.23%
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>291</b>	<b>205.5</b>	<b>291</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>308</b>	<b>358.5</b>	<b>387</b>	<b>322</b>	<b>351.5</b>	<b>306.5</b>	<b>236.5</b>		<b>3651.5</b>	<b>31.5%</b>
<b>Percent</b>	<b>36.7%</b>	<b>24.1%</b>	<b>31.9%</b>	<b>21.9%</b>	<b>37.2%</b>	<b>33.7%</b>	<b>32.2%</b>	<b>34.7%</b>	<b>31.5%</b>	<b>35.5%</b>	<b>27.9%</b>	<b>27.1%</b>			

<b>3. Vegetation Maintenance</b>															
Leaf Sweeping		7									4	37		48	0.41%
Other			9		1		0.5			3	3	0		16.5	0.14%
Projects: research, planning, staging	3	13.5		6	5	1	2			9.5	6	1		47	0.41%
Tree and Shrubs: pruning, elevations, down limb pick up	24	90.5	21	9.5	14	51	46	57	81.5	33	75.5	21		524	4.52%
Turf Program:mow,string trim,fertilize,seed,aerate,vertical cut,herbicide application	14	21.5	22	132.5	144	88	109	88	114	88	35.5	37		893.5	7.70%
Wildland Maintenance		18.5	28	36	54.5	14	17		9.5	6.5	1.5	4		189.5	1.63%
Wildland Restoration		48.5	33	6.5				5	14	6.5		7		120.5	1.04%
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>199.5</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>190.5</b>	<b>218.5</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>174.5</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>219</b>	<b>146.5</b>	<b>125.5</b>	<b>107</b>		<b>1839</b>	<b>15.9%</b>
<b>Percent</b>	<b>5.2%</b>	<b>23.4%</b>	<b>12.4%</b>	<b>24.7%</b>	<b>19.1%</b>	<b>16.9%</b>	<b>15.7%</b>	<b>13.4%</b>	<b>21.4%</b>	<b>14.8%</b>	<b>11.4%</b>	<b>12.3%</b>			

<b>4. Admin Time/Other</b>															
Departmental Support				5		28	7	5	29	5	10	22		111	0.96%
Greenways & Satellite Parks: as assigned														0	0.00%
Other	40.5	17	12.5	31	13	10	6	11	5.5	30		24		200.5	1.73%
Time Off Work	85.5	98	122.5	116	52	65.5	166	168	90.5	48	127.5	108		1247.5	10.76%
Training & Safety Meetings	4	11.5	15.5	14	29	17	113	38.5	47	35.5	2.5	29		356.5	3.07%
Volunteer Program Support		53	11	8.5	11		20	3		24	10			140.5	1.21%
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>179.5</b>	<b>161.5</b>	<b>174.5</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>120.5</b>	<b>312</b>	<b>225.5</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>142.5</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>183</b>		<b>2056</b>	<b>17.7%</b>
<b>Percent</b>	<b>16.4%</b>	<b>21.0%</b>	<b>17.7%</b>	<b>22.7%</b>	<b>9.2%</b>	<b>13.2%</b>	<b>28.0%</b>	<b>20.2%</b>	<b>16.8%</b>	<b>14.4%</b>	<b>13.7%</b>	<b>21.0%</b>			

2012 Park Hours

<b>PARK MAINTENANCE HOURS 2012</b>	<b>Jan</b>	<b>Feb</b>	<b>Mar</b>	<b>Apr</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>Jun</b>	<b>Jul</b>	<b>Aug</b>	<b>Sep</b>	<b>Oct</b>	<b>Nov</b>	<b>Dec</b>	<b>Trend</b>	<b>total</b>	<b>%</b>
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12			
<b>Monthly Totals</b>	<b>792</b>	<b>854</b>	<b>911.5</b>	<b>770</b>	<b>1142</b>	<b>913.5</b>	<b>1113.5</b>	<b>1116</b>	<b>1023.5</b>	<b>991.5</b>	<b>1098</b>	<b>872</b>		<b>11597.5</b>	<b>100.0%</b>





DATE: 01/16/13  
TO: Bidwell Park and Playground Commission members  
FROM: Dan Efseaff, Park and Natural Resource Manager  
SUBJECT: 2012 Annual Park Division Report: Photos

## 2012 ANNUAL PARK DIVISION PHOTOS

### 1. Photos from the Field



*Rangers help local schools to learn about Park resources.*



*Rangers conduct wet weather trail assessments.*



*Lifeguards, staffed at Sycamore Pool during the summer months monitor pool and lawn activities, encourage safe behavior, perform rescues and provide first aid.*



*National Night Out provides a good outreach opportunity.*



*Park Watch volunteers support many park events and serve as ambassadors for the Park.*



*Ranger Barge and Linda Sheppard participate in the 911 Safety Pals again this year, reaching 890 students.*



*Many organizations supported the Park's National Night Out event in July.*



*Chico Soroptimists donated and planted native plants at the Fourth St. entrance for Make a Difference Day!*



*Associated Students' Community Volunteers in Education work each semester on habitat restoration*



*CSUC student volunteers paint over graffiti as part of our annual Make a Difference Day in Bidwell Park!*



*Chico High School Horticulture Students plant seeds and propagate native plants all year long for Park restoration sites. They have 2 field days a year!*



*Home Depot is an annual donor to Earth Day in Bidwell Park and their staff always has a fun team of volunteers.*



*Maintenance staff work with volunteers on a variety of Park projects.*



*Weeding is FUN with friends. Weekly volunteer sessions are offered year-round.*



*Park maintenance staff work hard to keep Bidwell Park and city greenways from of grafitti. Sycamore at One Mile was tagged – before and after cleaning photos.*



DATE: 01/15/13  
TO: Bidwell Park and Playground Commission  
FROM: Jessica Erdahl, Senior Park Ranger  
SUBJECT: Lessee Annual Reports

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## Report in Brief

As a condition of the lease agreements in Bidwell Park, an annual report must be submitted to the Bidwell Park and Playground Commission covering activities for the previous twelve months. Specifically, the reports are required to include the number of public and private activities (if any), estimated number of participants or members, any plans for improvement and how general operation of the facility went for the year. Each lease agreement outlines specific requirements to be reported on.

The following annual reports have been received and are attached:

- Chico Equestrian Association, Horse Arena Annual Report
- Chico Rod and Gun Club, In-door Shooting Range Annual Report
- Pacific Center for Astronomical Outreach, Chico Community Observatory Annual Report
- Bidwell Park Golf Course, Golf Course Annual Report
- Chico Area Recreation and Park District, Hooker Oak and Sycamore Field Annual Report
- The Dog House, One Mile Concession

Informational item, no action requested.



January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2013

To: City of Chico  
 General Services Department-Park Division  
 P.O. Box 3420  
 Chico, Ca. 95927

Attn: Jessica Erdahl  
 Sr. Park Ranger

From: Donna Mathis, President  
 Chico Equestrian Association

Per our lease agreement with City of Chico, Bidwell Park arena and Chico Equestrian Association, the following is a report of 2012 activities for members and public use.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
April 1 <sup>st</sup> .	Trail obstacle training. Arena. Members only	15
April 22	*CEA Buckle series (1 <sup>st</sup> of 3) open to public/members	26 /8 members
May 12	*CEA Buckle series open to public/members	28/8
June 10	*CEA Buckle series open to public/members	28/8
June 24	CEA Dressage open	20/4
Oct. 7	Desensitizing clinic open	21/4
Nov. 3	Gymkhana/playday open	18/4

\*\* The above buckle series was open to the public and was attended equally by members and non members. The number on the right of the / are those members who managed and helped with the event.

May 8<sup>th</sup> approximately 12 members helped to cut grass and weeds around the club house, bleachers and arena for safety. This was all volunteer work with personal equipment. Our concern for the coming year is to keep the grounds safe for all park users and equestrians. There are people walking dogs, hiking, or just hanging out in this area. We have had a few confrontations with rattlesnakes and would like to see a larger clearance if possible around the building and around the perimeter of the arena. Our bleacher sits in tall weeds and grass and close shrubbery that can and will harbor snakes. We know snakes are a part of the park, but with the number of people and horses walking around, we would like to insure their safety. If we can get any assistance from park maintenance in clearing these areas it would be great. If not, we would like to have some guidance and advice on how much we could clear.

The arena is available to the public on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.



# Chico Rod & Gun Club, Inc.

PO Box 701  
Chico, CA 95927

To: General Services Dept / Park Division  
City of Chico  
PO Box 3420  
Chico, CA 95927

10-Dec-2012

To Whom It May Concern:

Please find below the 2012 CR&GC Inc., 2012 Annual Report to the BPPC, per our lease agreement.

**Est. Use events:** 5,253 "and counting" (based on door counter reading taken 3-Dec-12) \*

\*Includes non-club activities like Boy Scouts, 4-H or Hooked On Fishing that use the building for events, and is based on 1/2 the actual reading of the counter to account for in and out. Does not include entrances through the none monitored doors which are sometimes open before events to bring in gear.

**Improvements:** General maintenance and continuing upgrades of facilities and equipment.

**Issues:** We were notified we would no longer be issued keys to accommodate the gate situation, as was the case last year. To remedy this, schedule changes have been made to the both the Jr. and Sr. Rifle programs, which resolves the gate closure issue. This did required the cooperation of the Buttes Rifle League (we are one of four clubs that, hold weekly competitions from December to March each year) in allowing us to shoot our home matches as postals, since we would be hard pressed to be done and out of the park before closing. While it isn't the best of all possible worlds, it will work. Other events that may be planned will also be "adjusted" to fall within Park hours, and you will be notified well in advance if any are planned, per communications with Ranger Erdahl.

**Fees:** Remains unchanged: Members: \$3.00 per event or \$35.00 per "league". Nonmembers: \$5.00 per event. (Regular club activities). Memberships are \$36.00 per year

**Expenditures for Improvements:** \$4658.44

**Promotional Activities:** The Club uses TV and radio spots, as well as new paper advertising to promote events and inform the public of our activities. We participate in events like the recent Children's Fair (sponsored by Deer Creek Broadcasting) and provide facilities for events like Hooked On Fishing. In addition we sponsor an annual Gun Show at the Elk's Lodge. Our Club webpage had approximately 2500 hits (and counting) in 2012. Previously reported numbers were in error due to confusion on logging methods. Corrected number for 2011 is approx 3800, no solid number exists for '10.

**Membership:** 285 [soft number, many of our memberships run Dec-Dec and are up for renewal]

**Gun Show Gate:** 3850

Please contact us if we may answer any further questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

**Blair Snyder**

Blair Snyder, President  
CR&GC, Inc.

1/1/13

To: Bidwell Parks and Playground Commission

From: Pacific Center for Astronomical Outreach  
Chico Community Observatory  
Kris Koenig  
Anita Ingraio

Subject: 2012 Annual Report

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### **PCAO – Chico Community Observatory Annual Report 2012**

Founded in 2001, with generous community support, the Chico Community Observatory has formed a non-profit organization, the Pacific Center for Astronomical Outreach. This non-profit organization operates the observatory, pursuing opportunities to grow and involve the community in astronomical education.

#### **2012 Highlights**

The Chico Community Observatory hosted over 17,000 visitors in 2012. 1,373 Volunteer hours were contributed to our community by 19 docents. This is an increase of 94 hours over 2011. The observatory was open for 141 nights for the public, and 20 non-public nights for school/youth/community groups. Total open for 161 nights. This is a decrease by 8 days from 2011.

#### **Notable Public Events**

On May 20<sup>th</sup>, Northern California witnessed an Annular Eclipse, and the Observatory invited everyone to see it through our solar telescopes. Solar glasses were made available through the observatory, and famed guest speaker Dr. Alex Filippenko spoke to our community at PV High School. It was a standing-room-only event. Dozens of amateur astronomers showed up to the observatory to share the view with their solar scopes as well. On June 5<sup>th</sup>, we were treated to the Great Venus Transit, a once-in-a-lifetime event; for both of these events we saw over 3,500 visitors, combined.

Docent Bill Koperwhats got married to Julie, at the observatory, June 5<sup>th</sup>.

Mid-July we stayed closed a few nights due to fires and smoke.

August 11 we stayed open until 3 am to see the Perseids Meteor Shower, this year was one of the best ever, with a great crowd, and lots of meteors. Another crowd came out on August 31<sup>st</sup> to see a “Blue Moon.” On Nov. 17, we celebrated our 11<sup>th</sup> year anniversary.

#### **Educational and School Events**

Chico State University continues to utilize the facility, as a “lab” for Geo-Science credits; observatory docents assisted hundreds of college students in 2012. Dozens of

Elementary, Home School and High School teachers brought out their classes for evenings of enjoyable astronomy education, as did many Scout Troop leaders.

Docent William Koperwhats and Kris Koenig continue to improve the technology on the telescopes and in the computer room. They are working on innovative ideas to bring real-time feeds directly from the telescopes online. They are collaborating with Digital Path to establish a more robust Internet connection for delivery of live events and astronomy-related media to the community.

### **Facility improvements**

The parking area was repaved and graded in January.

A new and improved astrophotography camera was installed on the Galaxy Scope.

Wireless scope control was installed, and we will soon be streaming live video to the public. The observatory also had consistent Internet installed.

We switched to Facebook and Twitter for social media and public information: Chico Community Observatory.

Arrangements were made to provide access to the observatory's storage room for Park's Department needs and mounting of a public service announcement board on the north wall.

### **2012 Donations**

The Chico Community Observatory brought in over \$2,500.00 in donations, much of it from the sale of solar glasses for our Annular Eclipse event. The North Valley Community Foundation manages the finances for the Pacific Center for Astronomical Outreach.



RECEIVED

JAN 15 2013

CITY OF CHICO  
GENERAL SERVICES DEPT.

January 8, 2013

City of Chico

Bidwell Park and Playground Commission

Bidwell Park Golf Course Annual Report:

Bidwell Park Golf Course is blessed with the natural beauty and setting of the park which surrounds it, and provides a respite and relaxing destination for those that use not only the golf course, but the park itself. As most are aware, 2012 was the year of a major transition at Bidwell Park Golf Course as the City of Chico engaged in a new long term lease with Bidwell Park Golf Club Inc. In turn, the Bidwell Park Golf Club Inc has brought in a new partner in Empire Golf Inc. to manage our new responsibilities and the day to day operations of Bidwell Park Golf Course.

Our Mission remains the same as it has been in the past to provide and promote broad-based opportunities for people of all ages and abilities, to increase and enhance equal access of recreational benefits, to heighten public awareness regarding the healthful rewards of participation in the game of golf, and to continue to serve as a valuable community asset for the residents of Chico.

Bidwell Park Golf Course started 2012 with some great weather and ended the year with 15 days of rain in December. In the storms for 2012 we only lost a handful of trees, of which only two were Oak trees. With that said, our rounds were up by 1,182 rounds to a total of 48,562 rounds for 2012. A very positive climb considering the economy. Other accomplishments for 2012 include the following:

- \*Renovation of the #2 Tee.
- \*Resodding of the 5<sup>th</sup> green.
- \*Privet Tree removal behind the 14<sup>th</sup> green along the creek.
- \*Continual improvements to the irrigation system.
- \*Continual improvement of paths around the course.
- \*New installation of the Kirby Marker Systems.
- \*Beginners Twilight League to help grow the game. (80 participants)

Bidwell Park Golf Course played host to more than 120 golf tournaments involving golfers from all over Northern California during 2012. As our rounds grew in 2012 so did our membership with 197

Annual Members for the year. With the support of the Annual Members, the Bidwell Park Golf Club Inc has started a capital improvement fund in which members will contribute \$100 each annually to go to specific capital improvements and equipment to improve the golf course and accompanying facilities. For the 2013 season a contribution of approximately \$20,000 will be made by our Annual Members into this fund.

As stated earlier, the Bidwell Park Golf Club Inc began a new lease with the City of Chico. During this transition the Bidwell Park Golf Club Inc has committed in 2012 to over \$350,000 in improvements in the following areas:

- \*New Yamaha Golf Cart Fleet
- \*Transition and substantial investment in Golf Shop Merchandise.
- \*New Golf Course Maintenance Vehicles
- \*New Point of Sale System and Computer Hardware
- \*New Automated Tee Sheet System
- \*Transition of Food and Beverage Inventory
- \*Purchase of numerous kitchen equipment and supplies
- \*New Pull Carts & Rental Clubs.

Empire Golf has implemented an aggressive agronomic plan for the golf course which will improve course conditions. This plan has already shown an improvement in the putting greens, with our golfers remarking that they are in the best condition they have seen for many years. Other facility upgrades include the revamped food and beverage operation, The Bidwell Grill, with a new menu featuring fresh food choices. The Golf Shop inventory selection has been increased dramatically and will continue to in 2013.

As we move forward we have high expectations for this year as we focus our sights on improved service, products and presentation of the facility. We are excited about the new practices and ideas brought to the table by our partner, Empire Golf.

We are proud of what we have accomplished, look forward to 2013, and remain committed to providing a better product to the golfing public within our community & beyond.

**Roger Clark**

**President, BPGC Inc.**



**Chico Area Recreation and Park District "Helping People Play"**

**DATE: January 15, 2013**

**TO: Bidwell Park and Playground Commission**

**FROM: Randy Will, Park Supervisor**

**SUBJECT: 2012 Hooker Oak Recreation Area and Sycamore Field Facility Report**

Over the past year, Hooker Oak Recreation Area has held numerous recreation activities at this site ranging from sport leagues, tournaments, special events and children's camps. CARD's Recreation Programs offered at Hooker Oak Park are fee based, and are planned recreation activities offered to citizens within the District's boundaries.

Camp Chi-Da-Ca, an outdoor nature camp, is CARD's longest running youth recreation program. It is estimated that this program began 36 years ago. Camp Chi-Da-Ca runs 10 weeks during the summer months serving approximately 50 children per week. Each week of camp is broken down into age appropriate segments. The first segment serves children ages 4-6, and the second segment serves children ages 7-12. Camp components include several short hikes, and one longer hike to Turtle Cove, as well as water play in Big Chico Creek, Arts, Crafts, and various games throughout the park.

CARD Adult Sports activities at Hooker Oak Recreation Area utilize two softball fields, and one baseball field. Varying levels of Men's, Women's, and Coed softball leagues are offered and use Hooker Oak and Rex Murphy field for three separate Spring, Summer and Fall Leagues. Play begins in March and ends in November. There are up to 500 participants each week of the season on each field for the various leagues.

CARD also offers Adult Baseball Leagues that play on Ron Doryland Field for the Spring, Summer and Fall seasons. Each week of the season averages approximately 180 participants on the field.

The Sherwood Forest Disc Golf Course was home of the third annual Awesome Blossom Tossem Children's Disc Golf Tournament. This program is a co-sponsored event with The Outsiders Disc Golf Association. The event was held in May, and served as an introduction to the sport of disc golf for children and families. Approximately 120 children participated in this event.

In addition to CARD Programs, the District offers facility rentals, and facility use predicated by an existing joint use agreement with the Chico Unified School District.

Doryland Field has multiple long standing users that reserve the field. The Pleasant Valley High School Baseball program uses Doryland Field for their home field games and practices February 15 through May 28. In addition, American Legion Baseball, which has three teams distinguished by age, use Doryland Field for a majority of their home games and practices. Their season runs from June through October. American Legion also hosts 4 tournaments per year bringing teams to the Chico area from all over the country. The Butte Sabers, a semi-pro baseball organization, uses the field for approximately 20 games per year. Doryland and Hooker Oak Field also host the annual Breakfast Lions All-Star Game for graduating senior baseball and softball players.

Hooker Oak Field is utilized by the Pleasant Valley High School Varsity Softball Team. The program is similar to their baseball program and runs from February 15 through May 28.

Now in its second year of facility rentals, is the option to reserve two designated picnic sites. The District booked 83 total rentals from March 1 through November 1 serving approximately 3,731 people with an average of 45 participants per rental.

Passive recreation use of Hooker Oak Recreation Area occurs on a daily basis. Use includes; playing horseshoes, basketball, walkers, visitors exercising their dogs, disc golf, cyclists, and joggers who park in the parking lot and use the trails in the park that connect to 5 Mile Recreation Area and Upper Bidwell Park. Additionally, seniors use Rex Murphy Field for batting practice on a regular basis. The playgrounds are used on a daily basis by parents and daycare providers. The new restroom facility is used by park users and passersby as it is convenient and kept clean.

In the spring of 2012, over 25 volunteers worked with the Chico Outsiders, performing maintenance duties at Sherwood Forest that include spreading shredded wood chips around rocky areas and tee pads, as well as moving rocks out of high traffic areas. The rocks were then laid around tees and disc targets to create pathways to encourage foot traffic in a desired direction. Other organizations use Hooker Oak Recreation Area as a staging ground for volunteer efforts in the park as a whole.

Park Division Employees manage and maintain a number of amenities at Hooker Oak Recreation Area. Both playgrounds are inspected daily, weekly and quarterly by District trained staff and Certified Playground Inspectors. Any needed repairs are documented and mitigated as quickly as possible. Fall material at the playgrounds is raked on a regular basis and is added annually to ensure compliance with national safety standards.

The District has developed an ornamental and sports turf management strategy to serve park users. Hooker Oak receives regular attention and application of fertilizers and select herbicides. Crabgrass Pre Emergent and fertilizer are applied in February. Typically in April, a post emergent is applied to discourage clover. In May, the Park is over seeded with a three way Perennial Rye Grass Seed variety. In June, a crab grass Pre Emergent and fertilizer is applied again. At the end of the summer, and leading into the fall, the park is once again over seeded with the same seed variety, and then fertilized with a general use balanced fertilizer. At key times during the year, the turf is also aerated.

The age of the irrigation system at Hooker Oak Recreation Area provides constant challenges to maintain. The antiquated system produces an inefficient water transfer system and costly breaks in the lines that take valuable staff time to repair. It also impacts the ability to maintain sports fields.

Dating back the early 1970's, the existing irrigation pump complex was constructed and installed for the dual purpose of irrigation at the site as well as a system to supply water to Big Chico Creek during drought events for the purpose of sustaining aquatic wildlife as well as supplying water to Sycamore Pool. An identical pump system was installed at the golf course at the same time.

CARD and City staff have been monitoring bank erosion impacts to the pump system for the last seven years. During the last two years, the bank on Big Chico Creek adjacent to the Hooker Oak Well Pump enclosure has eroded dramatically, endangering the system. The creek is now just a few feet away from the fenced enclosure. The City Parks Department and CARD have been in constant communication and plan to plant vegetation to slow down the erosion. CARD staff has also disassembled a park patron made rock dam slight upstream from the eroded bank area which appears to be diverting water in a different direction and alleviating some of the problem. If the erosion doesn't commence, more aggressive steps may need to be taken in order to save the well pump station.

This year a wild fire also touched the northern side of the park. The fire occurred on June 10<sup>th</sup> and started in the horse arena area of Upper Park. The fire mainly burnt underbrush along the levee side of the park. The fire which started in the afternoon was contained by early evening. Firefighters spent the evening on site monitoring the site for hot embers. A few Oak Trees were lost along with a few other small trees.

Over the past couple of years, there have been a number of capital projects including, the Manzanita Avenue Widening project, the new accessible restroom facility, service road repairs, and much needed improvements to the parking lot. This year the Chico Breakfast Lions donated their time and material for a power pedestal near Doryland Field. The pedestal is both attractive, functional and a nice addition to the park. In the month of December improvements will be made to the Hooker Oak Field Dugouts to be in compliance for Title Nine regulations. The dugouts will be altered and offer players a covered overhead to be consistent with amenities provided at Doryland Field. Other capital projects identified in the five year budget plan include, the Doryland Field PA booth and seating enhancements, Doryland Field backstop replacement, Hooker Oak and Rex Murphy field backstop and sports lighting replacement, group picnic shelter enhancements, service road and pathway lighting, Camp Chi-Da-Ca facility replacement, shop upgrades, and an entire park irrigation system upgrade. All of these items are funding dependant and prioritized in the scope of the overall needs of the District. At this time, fund raising efforts are proceeding as planned for the approved PA booth at Doryland Field. There is still no definitive timeline for construction.

CARD Recreation Programs at Sycamore Field are typically focused on Special Events. In April, CARD hosted the Spring Jamboree. This is an annual event and utilizes Caper Acres and Sycamore Field. This last year, there were approximately 1,500 people in attendance. Sycamore Field and Caper Acres is also the home of Movies in the Park. The event was held on June 16<sup>th</sup>, with an approximate attendance of 600 people. CARD also participates in

organizing the July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration. This is a co-sponsored event with Do-It Leisure, Chico Rotary, and the City of Chico, with an estimated attendance of 2,000 people.

Sycamore Field is home to the Chico Senior Softball Association. They have utilized this field for their softball program for the last 16 years. This private rental group offers softball for players 48 years and older. Their season starts at the end of February and runs through the end of October. There are approximately 140 players in this growing softball league.

By Randy Will  
Randy Will  
Park Supervisor



# THE DOG HOUSE

2 Locations ■ 1354 East Avenue, Suite U ■ 1008 W. Sacramento Avenue, Suite I  
Tel: (530) 894-2242 ■ 894-3641  
Email: cnachico@hotmail.com  
Chico California 95926

## 1 Mile Concession Year End Report, 2012 3rd Year (Actual 2<sup>nd</sup> Yr)

2012 completes the 2<sup>nd</sup> full year of the concession open at 1 Mile for a full peak season. This year we opened on the weekend of Cinco de Mayo (May 5<sup>th</sup>) and remained open seven days/week through Labor day weekend, rain days excluded. Following Labor Day, we remained open on weekends only thru the end of September -- NEW.

The decision to operate this way (open weekends only) in the post-peak season was due to a serious decrease in business experienced during midweek hours in the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> weeks of August. We believe this reduction in business was primarily due to a combination of the following events: Public school back in session early and the discovery of a deceased male in Sycamore Pool.

Overall we were mostly pleased with this year's operation. To prepare, new staff were hired back in February and began immediate training at Dog House East. By May, three (3) new employees and three (3) existing staff were ready to open the concession.

Best improvement this year: a restructuring of the menu and increased pricing on drinks and ice creams. Biggest challenge this year: vandalism! Cut screens and broken windows on all sides of the building on several occasions, two separate attempts at a break-in and the destruction of small equipment (cash register & air conditioner). Total cost including labor, repairs, and equipment replacement, approximately \$1500. Keeping up external lighting is key to deterrence.

Suggestions for improvements same as previous years (lower rent, more signage, picnic tables) – PLUS – more new menu developments including fresh made to order burritos and possibly grilling on the weekends if permitted.

So let's look at some comparison numbers:

	<u>2012</u>		<u>2011</u>
Peak Days Open	91	Peak Days Open	88
Off Peak Days	36	Off Peak Days	60
Total Days Open	127	Total Days Open	148
Gross Sales	49,709.33	Gross Sales	56,967.52
Gross Rent	7456.40	Gross Rent	6836.11
Average Sales/Mo (4.5 mo's)	11,046.51	Average Sales/Mo (5 mo's)	11,393.50
Average Rent/Mo (4.5 mo's)	1656.97	Average Rent/Mo (5 mo's)	1367.22
Average Rent/Sq Foot	6.47	Average Rent/Sq Foot	5.34



**DATE:** 1/17/13  
**TO:** BPPC  
**FROM:** Denice Britton, Urban Forest Manager  
**SUBJECT:** Urban Forest Manager's Report

Prepared for verbal presentation at the BPPC meeting.

**1. Updates**

- a. Field Supervisors Report – The field supervisor's report for December is attached. The tree crew focused on storm cleanup, down limbs and hangers and setting up the Christmas tree during the last month.
- b. Tree Topping – A Code Enforcement violation was issued to Holiday Inn for topping the street trees along Manzanita Court. The owners have been warned in the past regarding pruning of trees without a permit, so this was an unfortunate necessity.
- c. Tree Removal – Stumps that were left after the most recent tree removals are now being ground out and replaced with loam soil. Only emergency tree removal will be completed between now and the end of the fiscal year.
- d. Palm Tree Pruning – Staff received an excellent quote for cleaning the California fan palms in the Chico downtown area and work has begun on this project. As a result of the quote, most of the City's palms will be able to be pruned this winter.
- e. Tree Planting Workshops – Spring tree planting workshops are scheduled for March 9 and 23. Arbor Week will also take place at that time.
- f. Highway 99 Widening Project – A large tree fell across the CalTrans Right-of-Way (ROW) at the east end of Woodland Avenue, crushing the CalTrans fence. Staff is working with CalTrans to get the fence removed, so a remaining tree that is potentially hazardous can be taken down, and the fence replaced.
- g. Animal Shelter Landscape – The Animal shelter landscape has been completed.

**2. Service Requests and Tree Permits**

- a. Attached is the summary of street tree maintenance projects and the Log of Tree Maintenance Hours will continue to be included.
- b. Permits received and approved during the previous month:

Utility Tree Service	E 3 <sup>rd</sup> St and Chestnut	Remove declining silver maple for line realignment.
Mary Wittmeier	216 W Frances Willard	Remove dying Raywood ash that is falling over.
California Water Service	M & 5 <sup>th</sup> and Olive	Remove privets and other trees for new well and pump house location

**3. STREET TREE MAINTENANCE**

A. PROJECTS COMPLETED:

- 1. 30-SERVICE REQUEST- a detailed list is attached. (65 hours).
- 2. DOWN LIMBS AND HANGERS- 85 hours at numerous locations.
- 3. SAFETY MEETINGS- 4 hours.



4. PREP TIME AND DOT INSPECTIONS- 57 hours.
5. EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE- 24 hours
6. PARK PRUNING- 6 hours.
7. FORMATIVE PRUNING- 35 hours.
8. SCHOOL ZONE PRUNING- 12 hours.
9. CHRISTMAS TREE AND MENORAH- 96 hours.
10. CALL OUT CLEAN UP- 27 hours.
11. STORM DAMAGE CLEAN UP- 92 hours.

**B. CALL OUTS:**

1. There were 7 call outs for the month of December that required follow up tree pruning, and debris clean up.

**Attachments:**

Monthly Dailies Log of Tree Maintenance Hours, December 2012





DATE: 1/18/13  
TO: Bidwell Park and Playground Commission (BPPC)  
FROM: Dan Efseaff, Park and Natural Resource Manager  
SUBJECT: Park and Natural Resource Manager's Report

## NARRATIVE

### 1. Updates

- a. Monkey Face– Monkey Face Rehabilitation - In early 2012, Staff and the Bidwell Park and Playground Commission solicited public input on 1) options for a re-routed trail to the Monkey Face overlook. Staff had planned for an ambitious set of measures to begin in Fall 2012, but were hampered by early, abundant rainfall. However, with cooperation with the California Conservation Corps, the trail crew has begun some initial efforts (trail maintenance, soil stabilization, fencing of sensitive areas, signs, etc). A defined, trail with a sustainable alignment will be completed later this year, and the project will take several months. We will also begin an educational campaign to enlist the help of visitors to protect this area and raise awareness of its protection in the coming years.

### 2. Administrative and Visitor Services

- a. Earth Day Festival – At the December BPPC meeting the Commission approved a permit submitted by Sustainable Planet Productions for a Earth Day Festival at City Plaza on 04/20/13. The applicant has requested to change the date of the event and plans to host it sometime in the fall.
- b. Traffic Counter Trial – Staff is investigating the installation of a permanent traffic counter east of the Manzanita/East Avenues traffic circle. The traffic counter will help us gather Park use data in a less labor intensive way (although it may not have as rich a data set as the temporary counters that are now set up by hand. If favorable, future locations may include Cedar Grove, the entrance (and possibly exit) to Petersen Drive, and South One Mile Area.

### 3. Planning/Monitoring

- a. Peregrine Point – North State Resources has submitted the oak monitoring data for field season 2012. Staff will be preparing a 2012 Monitoring Summary Report for BPPC review. Staff is planning for new signage at the course that will be ready by June 2013.

### 4. Maintenance Program

- a. General - Staff continues daily cleaning and safety inspections of all recreation areas including grounds, playgrounds, picnic sites, roads and paths, coupled with daily cleaning and re-supplying of all park restrooms. Maintenance and repair of park fixtures, daily opening of gates, posting reservations, unauthorized camp clean up and the constant removal of graffiti from all park infrastructure. Crew's time has been split between storm damage clean up and tying up the loose ends in their areas before they rotate to a new section of the park.
- b. Lower Park –
  - i. Staff made a concerted effort keeping the paths and road ways clear for all the park user groups with extra effort on race day events.
  - ii. The removal of homeless encampment materials has become an all-too frequent Lower Park task, with citizens, staff, and rangers reporting new camps on a weekly basis.
- c. Middle Park –
  - i. Five-Mile Restrooms – As the septic system has deteriorated, the restrooms will remain closed until work can begin on a new septic system. Notice of Bid went out on 1/21/13 and will be followed by a

mid-February pre-bid meeting, and the bid opening occurring in early March.

- d. Upper Park - Staff continued work with the CCC on the Middle Trail grant. Trail season ended with the trail crew leader and his intern wrapping up the Middle Trail for the winter and starting the first steps to rehabilitate the Monkey face area (see above).
- e. **Upcoming Projects:** Preparation for the beginning stages of restoration work on the Monkey face area of Upper Park; removal of the last telephone pole barricades from Lower Park; planting designated native plant sites through out the park; facilities Asset Inventory for all of Bidwell Park.

## 5. Ranger and Lifeguard Programs

- a. Rangers continue to work on various projects and outreach items. Rangers are in the process of implementing the online reservation system, continue to monitor conditions during wet weather, oversee park reservations and are drafting the second batch of the "Park Minute."
- b. Seasonal Park Ranger Recruitment– A candidate has been chosen and is going through the hiring process. We hope to bring them on board and start training very soon.

## 6. Natural Resource Management

- a. Native grass planting – On December 12-13, staff planted about 1.5 acres of native grass seed in two locations: 1) the Hooker Oak overflow parking area and 2) behind parking lot A back along Lindo Channel. Staff will be hand sowing seed in areas throughout the park. CARD will be working with us to care for the planting in the overflow parking area at Hooker Oak to help reduce weeds and provide a more robust, permanent cover. Staff had anticipated planting a much greater area associated with wildfires and prescribed burns, but the early wet weather blocked that effort.
- b. Recreational Trail Grant – Park Staff submitted a grant proposal for \$219,640 to the CA Department of Parks and Recreation's Federal Recreational Trails Program (RTP). If awarded, the Project will: 1) rehabilitate approximately 10,000 feet of trail (including a portion of the Middle Trail, the Live Oak Trail, and connector trails) with sustainable design features and restore erosion damaged areas; 2) complete botanical and archaeological surveys along the trail/work corridors; and 3) provide for design, fabrication and installation of interpretive signs at Bear Hole and Salmon Hole and trail markers along the Middle Trail. Staff anticipates an award announcement in summer 2013.

## 7. Outreach and Education

- a. Press Releases for December – 1) storm and winter warning (11/29/12) and 2) the closure of Upper Park Road (12/25/12).

## 8. Volunteer and Donor Program

- a. Monthly Highlights
  - i. Park Watch and Volunteer Training - Staff is initiating plans for the 2013 training session on March 12 and will build on last year's successful training.
  - i. CA Native Plant Society, Mt. Lassen Chapter in mid-November started the removal of 3 varieties of privet (*Ligustrum japonicum*, *L. lucidum*, *L. ovalifolium*) and European olive (*Olea europaea*) trees from the city-owned 40-acre Teichert Ponds area. Volunteers are led by Susan Mason, who has also fundraised for the donation of greenwaste dumpsters for the project. This is a follow-up project building on the very successful Friends of Bidwell Park (FOBP) projects that eliminated privet trees from Lower Bidwell Park (Lost Park through Five Mile) and a similar FOBP privet removal project along Little Chico Creek across from Teichert Ponds. Teichert work sessions are listed on the City's volunteer calendar.
- b. Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities
  - i. Spring Volunteer Dates – Working with groups (Blue Oak Elementary, Boy Scout Pack 12, Sierra View Elementary Chico High School Horticulture Students, Chico High CA Scholarship Federation, CSUC Lacrosse Team, CSUC Field School students and Community Action Volunteers in Education) to schedule work sessions in the Park and greenways; Scheduling, planning and working with Crew Leaders on the spring work session schedule.

**9. Upcoming Issues/Miscellaneous**

- a. Biennial Workplan - The City Council approved the BPPC 2011 – 2012 Work Plan at the 9/20/11 meeting. Staff provided an update to the BPPC and Council in December 2012. Because of the late start to the current workplan (a 9 month delay), many of the items on the list are in progress and highly pertinent and staff will likely recommend moving forward with essentially the current priorities.
- b. Bidwell Park Recognized as a Regional Treasure - The City of Chico’s Bidwell Park will be inducted into the California Park and Recreation Society (CPRS), District 2, Hall of Honor on February 22, 2013. District 2 covers 19 California counties. The CPRS nomination noted that Bidwell Park promotes a high quality of life for Chico, and offers educational and recreational opportunities that draw visitors from throughout the region. The award recognizes the Park as a Regional Treasure and let’s us highlights its needs. The Hall of Honor was established by CPRS, District 2, in 2004 to honor professionals, programs, facilities, collaborative partnerships and foundations that have positively influenced the quality of life within the region. The Induction Ceremony will be held during the CPRS, District 2 Awards and Installation Banquet on Friday, February 22, 2013 at the Folsom Community Center, 52 Natoma Street, Folsom, CA 95630.

**MONTHLY SUMMARY TABLES**

**Table 1. Monthly Visitation**

Location	Estimated Daily	Estimated Monthly	Estimated YTD Total	Trend
<b>Lower Park</b>				
Petersen Dr	82	2,542	48,619	
N One Mile	287	8,897	116,226	
S One Mile	394	12,214	166,929	
Cedar Grove/S Park Dr	64	1,984	38,547	
Estimated Subtotal	827	25,637	370,321	
<b>Middle/Upper Park</b>				
Upper Park Rd	419	12,989	280,443	
<b>Estimated Total</b>	<b>1,246</b>	<b>38,626</b>	<b>650,764</b>	

**Table 2. Peregrine Point Visitation Log.**

Status	Total Obs.	Total # Veh.	Avg. # Veh.
Open	0	0	0
Closed	33	47	1.42
<b>Totals</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>1.42</b>

**Table 3. Monthly Public Permits**






Date	Location	Organization	Event	# Participant
12/7/2012	Children’s Playground	Child Abuse Prevention Council	Child Abuse Awareness	75
12/7/2012	City Plaza	DCBA	Christmas Tree Lighting	2000
12/8/2012	City Plaza	Butte County Hmong Assoc.	Hmong Cultural Event	1200

12/11/2012	City Plaza	Chebad Jewish Center	Menorah Lighting	75
12/16/2012	Lower/Middle Park	Fleet Feet	Jack Frost	200
<b>Totals</b>			<b>5</b>	<b>3550</b>

**Table 4. Monthly Private Permits**

Type	# Permits	# Participants
Private	1	15
Caper Acres	1	20
<b>Totals</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>35</b>

**Table 5. Monthly Maintenance Hours.**

Category	Staff Hours	% of Total	% Change from Last Month	2012 Trend
1. Safety	346	39.6%	67.0%	
2. Infrastructure Maintenance	237	27.1%	77.2%	
3. Vegetation Maintenance	107	12.3%	85.3%	
4. Admin Time/Other	183	21.0%	122.0%	
Monthly Totals	872	100%	79.4%	

**Table 6. Monthly Incidents**







Date	Location	Incident	Disposition
12/1/2012	City Plaza	Stabbing	Under Investigation
12/2/2012	Lower Park	Indecent Exposure	NFA
12/4/2012	Upper Park	Missing Person/Suicidal	Located
12/4/2012	City Plaza	Petty Theft	Report Filed
12/6/2012	Children's Playground	Property Damage	Report Filed
12/6/2012	Cedar Grove	Indecent Exposure	NFA
12/8/2012	Lower Park	Vehicle Burglary	Report Filed
12/13/2012	City Plaza	Drug Possession	Arrest
12/13/2012	City Plaza	Family Dispute	NFA
12/13/2012	One Mile	Drunk in Public	Arrest
12/13/2012	One Mile	Warrant	Arrest
12/14/2012	City Plaza	Petty Theft	NFA
12/15/2012	City Plaza	Fight	NFA
12/15/2012	Caper Acres	Vehicle Burglary	Report Filed
		Property Damage/Reckless	
12/23/2012	Middle Park	Veh.	Report Filed
12/27/2012	City Plaza	Drunk in Public	Arrest
12/31/2012	Lower Park	Property Damage	Report Filed

**Table 7. Monthly Citations and Warnings**

Violation	Monthly			Annual			2012 Trend
	Total Citations	%	Rank	Total Citations	%	Rank	
Alcohol	0	0%	7	129	25%	2	
Animal Control Violations	4	33%	1	68	13%	3	
Bicycle Violation	0	0%	7	2	0%	10	
Glass	0	0%	7	35	7%	4	
Illegal Camping	3	25%	2	21	4%	7	
Injury/Destruction City Property	1	8%	4	3	1%	8	
Littering	0	0%	7	3	1%	8	
Other Violations	1	8%	4	30	6%	5	
Parking Violations	2	17%	3	210	40%	1	
Resist/Delay Park Ranger	0	0%	7	0	0%	11	
Smoking	1	8%	4	22	4%	6	
<b>Totals</b>	12	100%		523	100%		

Violation	Monthly			Annual			2012 Trend
	Total Warnings	%	Rank	Total Warnings	%	Rank	
Alcohol	2	3%	6	470	14%	3	
Animal Control Violations	22	29%	2	846	25%	2	
Bicycle Violation	29	39%	1	1091	32%	1	
Glass	4	5%	5	153	5%	6	
Illegal Camping	0	0%	8	147	4%	7	
Injury/Destruction City Property	0	0%	8	7	0%	11	
Littering	0	0%	8	18	1%	9	
Other Violations	8	11%	4	259	8%	4	
Parking Violations	1	1%	7	240	7%	5	
Resist/Delay Park Ranger	0	0%	8	15	0%	10	
Smoking	9	12%	3	146	4%	8	
<b>Totals</b>	75	100%		3392	100%		

Location	Monthly		Annual			2012 Trend
	Total Citations	%	Total Citations	%	Rank	
Lower Park	4	33%	299	57%	1	
Middle Park	2	17%	58	11%	3	
Upper Park	2	17%	128	24%	2	
Specialty Parks/Greenways	4	33%	38	7%	4	

<b>Totals</b>	12	100%	523	100%		
Location	Monthly		Annual			2012 Trend
	Total Warnings	%	Total Warnings	%	Rank	
Lower Park	37	49%	2045	60%	1	
Middle Park	16	21%	305	9%	3	
Upper Park	11	15%	817	24%	2	
Specialty Parks/Greenways	11	15%	225	7%	4	
<b>Totals</b>	75	100%	3392	100%		

**Table 8. Monthly Volunteer Hours – December 2012**

Bidwell Park	Sessions/# volunteers	Hrs	Tasks
Middle Trail	4 sessions/6 vols	26.5	Middle Trail repair
Cedar Grove near CCNC	2 sessions/7 vols	21	Removed hackberry and small hawthorn trees for chipping.
N. One Mile Recreation Area -	1 session/3 vols/	9	Elevated native grape, removed hackberry and catalpa trees
Park office	Community Service/ 2 vols	30	Office - data entry and filing for Park Division
Chico High School	5 CHS students/Michael Stauffer & Paula Shapiro	37	Weed; transplant; and plant new seeds.
Bidwell Park	Park Watch	755	Patrolling the Park
Cedar Grove	Friends of Bidwell Park 3 sessions/4 volunteers	12	Removed bladder senna
Cedar Grove	Friends of Bidwell Park 6 sessions/11 volunteers	23	Removed olive trees
Bidwell Park Golf Course	Friends of Bidwell Park 2 sessions/3 volunteers	3.5	Removed pokeweed
	<b>Total Park hours</b>	917	
<b>City Owned Greenways</b>			
<i>Teichert Ponds</i>	Mount Lassen Chapter-CNPS 8 sessions/36 volunteers	106	Removed privet & olive trees and trash
<i>Memorial Way</i>	Mount Lassen Chapter-CNPS 1 session/4 volunteers	10	Picked up trash, swept leaves, pruned dead branches



<i>Comanche Creek</i>	Mount Lassen Chapter-CNPS 1 session/2 vols	1	ailanthus survey
<i>Little Chico Creek</i>	Liz Stewart	1.5	Removed pokeweed
	Total Greenway hours	118.5	

**Attachments:**

Peregrine Point Oak Monitoring Data.

## Technical Memorandum

**Date:** December 11, 2012

**To:** Mr. Dan Efseaff  
City of Chico  
Department of Parks and Natural Resources  
965 Fir Street  
Chico, CA 95928

**From:** Mr. Scott Gregory, Biologist  
North State Resources, Inc.  
500 Orient Street, Suite 150  
Chico, CA 95928

**Subject: DRAFT 2012 Peregrine Point Disc Golf Course Oak Tree Assessment and Monitoring Report (NSR Project No. 51425)**

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### I. INTRODUCTION

On behalf of the City of Chico (City) and Outdoor Recreation Advocacy, Inc. (ORAI), North State Resources, Inc. (NSR) conducted an arborist survey of the Peregrine Point Disc Golf Course, hereinafter referred to as the “study area”. This memorandum summarizes the findings of the 2012 arborist survey which is the second year of assessment and monitoring for three populations of native oak trees (*Quercus* spp.) in the study area.

### II. PROJECT LOCATION

The study area is approximately 70 acres in size, and is located on the west side of State Highway 32 in Butte County, California. The study area is located in the eastern portion of Upper Bidwell Park on the south rim of the ridge overlooking Big Chico Creek at an elevation range of 1,050 to 1,300 feet above mean sea level.

### III. PHYSICAL AND BIOLOGICAL SETTING

The study area is sited upon volcanic mudflow breccia that is part of the Tuscan Formation, with thin soils that are low in organic matter. The study area is frequently

used by disc golf enthusiasts, hikers, and cyclists. Footpaths and trails, eroded soils, trampled plants, and impacted trees are some examples of disturbances at the study area that reflect its current and historic use.

Vegetation within the study area is a mix of blue oak (*Quercus douglasii*) savannah with sparse, scattered tree cover and blue oak/foothill woodland with foothill pine (*Pinus sabiniana*) and interior live oak (*Quercus wislizenii*), interspersed with understory shrubs and vines, annual grasses and forbs, and exposed volcanic mudflow.

#### **IV. SURVEY METHODOLOGY**

Oak trees within the study area were surveyed on foot by Scott Gregory, International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) Certified Arborist WE-9041A on November 7, 2012.

##### Data Collection

Year 2 oak tree data were collected using a Trimble GeoXH GPS field computer using a data dictionary developed jointly by the City of Chico and Scott Gregory in 2011 prior to the Year 1 oak assessment field work. The boundaries of the study area and the location of the surveyed trees are illustrated on the map provided in Attachment A.

Each surveyed oak was measured and assessed for diameter at breast height (DBH), height class, tree condition class, proportion of the tree exhibiting impact marks, number of areas on the tree exhibiting deep wounding of the bark to the cork cambium depth, proportion of the canopy exhibiting dead wood, total number of broken branches in the canopy, tree species, growth form, and width of tree crown along the north-south bearing. Where surveyed oaks had multiple dominant stems originating below breast height, DBH was measured for each stem. All other attributes were assessed for the entire tree rather than stem-wise to maintain consistency with the 2011 project protocol.

##### Priority 1 Oaks

Oaks located in an area of influence of disc golf activity with a high potential for impacts by discs were identified by City of Chico Department of Parks and Natural Resources in 2011 as Priority 1 oaks. Priority 1 oaks were located in the field using existing Geographic Information Systems (GIS) coordinate data provided by the City of Chico. Identification number tags from Priority 1 oaks that fell off or were removed since initial tag installation during the initial oak assessment in 2011 were replaced near basal level where they would be less conspicuous.

##### Transect Oaks

Oak trees within each of the four interrupted belt transect quadrants (01-001, 1-002, 01-003, 01-004) established in 2011 between the course entrance and the Hole 5 tee box

were surveyed and assessed using the same parameters described above for Priority 1 oaks.

### Reference Oaks

A random sample of oaks within outer bounds of the disc golf course, but outside the field of play of individual fairway boundaries, was designated by City of Chico Department of Parks and Natural Resources in 2011 as a reference population for monitoring and comparison to Priority 1 and Transect oak data. Reference oaks were surveyed and assessed using the same parameters described above for Priority 1 and Transect oaks.

## **V. RESULTS**

### Priority 1 Oaks

The population of Priority 1 oaks consists of 32 blue oaks and one interior live oak, with a total of 39 stems. These trees were re-visited and assessed during the 2012 monitoring survey. Summary 2012 Priority 1 oak data are presented in Tables 1–7 in Attachment B.

### Transect Oaks

The population of Transect oaks consists of nine trees with a total of 10 stems. The first tree associated with each transect segment represents the starting point of that respective segment. Summary 2012 Transect oak data are presented in Tables 1–7 in Attachment B.

### Reference Oaks

The population of Reference oaks consists of 35 trees, of which 32 are blue oaks and three are interior live oaks, with a total of 52 stems. Summary 2012 Reference oak data are presented in Tables 1–7 in Attachment B.

## **VI. DISCUSSION**

This report presents results from the second annual assessment of 77 oak trees (101 stems) within the bounds of the study area. Three established populations of survey trees (Priority 1, Reference, and Transect oaks) will continue to be evaluated annually to monitor the possible effects of disc golf activities on oak trees in the study area.

Multiple dominant stems on a tree originating below breast height were treated as separate trees in calculating diameter (DBH) summary data. Summary data for all other attributes were assessed for the entire tree rather than stem-wise.

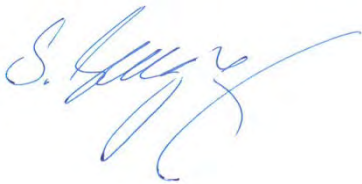
A calculation discrepancy was discovered in the 2011 data set, making direct comparison to 2012 data difficult. 2011 summary data appears to have been calculated based on an incorrect number of trees and/or stems. Despite the discrepancy, a rough comparison of

2011 and 2012 data indicates a direct increase in the number of impacted tree quadrants among Priority 1 trees. Re-calculation of 2011 data is required in order to make an accurate comparison to data collected in 2012.

Future surveys are required in order to gain a better long-term understanding of how recreational use of the Peregrine Point Disc Golf Course impacts the oak trees in the study area.

Thank you for providing NSR with the opportunity to assist the City of Chico with monitoring of its native oak trees in the Peregrine Point Disc Golf Course. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact NSR Biologist Scott Gregory by telephone at (530) 345-4552 ext. 209, or by e-mail at [gregory@nsrnet.com](mailto:gregory@nsrnet.com).

Sincerely,



Scott Gregory, Biologist  
Certified Arborist #WE-9041A, International Society of Arboriculture

Appendices:            Attachment A:            Tree Locations Map  
                                 Attachment B:            Summary Data

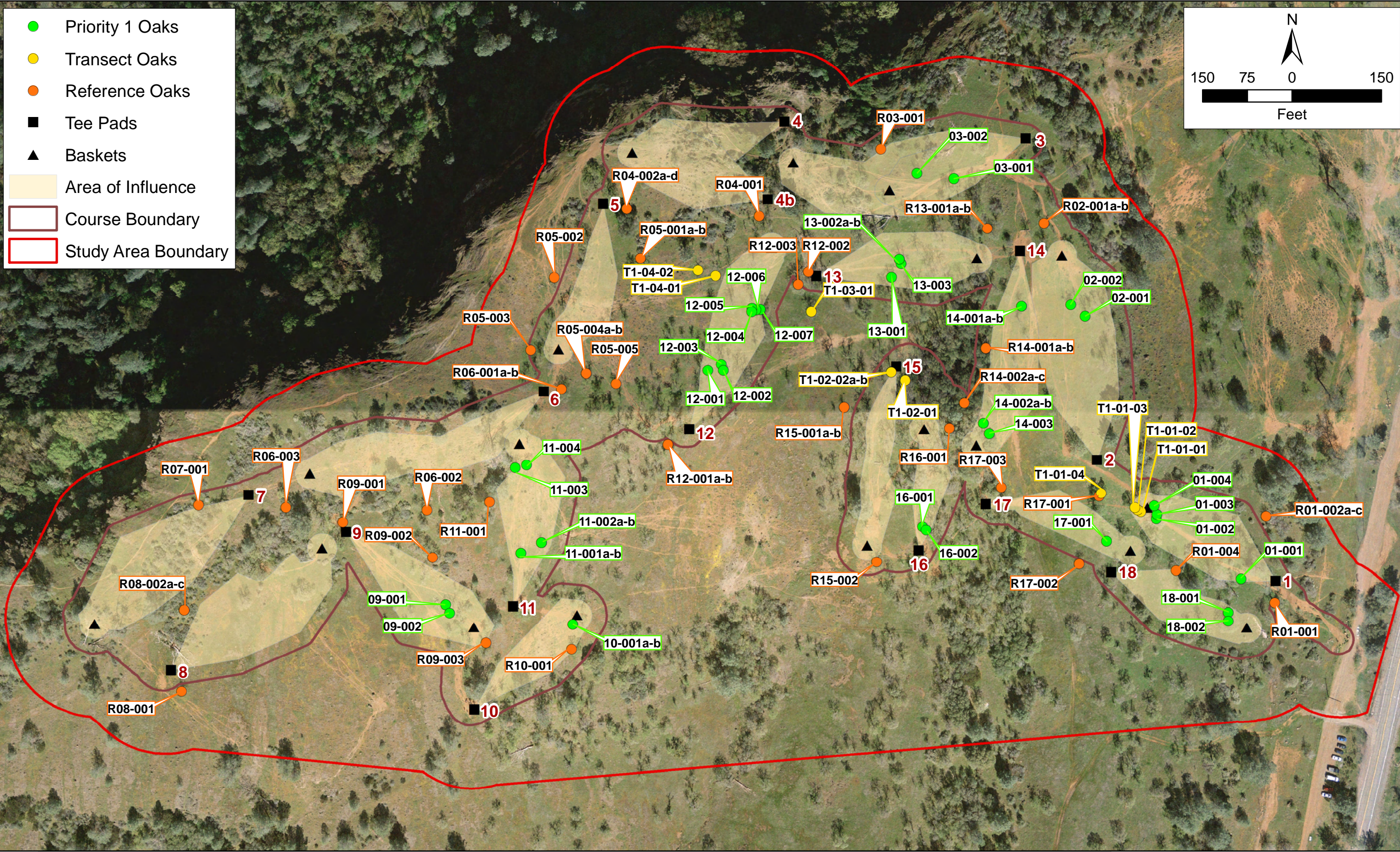
cc:                        Denice Britton, Urban Forest Manager, City of Chico  
                                 Lise Smith-Peters, Park Services Coordinator, City of Chico

DRAFT

**ATTACHMENT A**

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**Locations of Surveyed Oak Trees Map**



G:\Projects\51425 Peregrine Pt Oak Assessment\GIS\Working\_Mxds\Attachment\_A\_Oak\_Tree\_Locations.mxd Created: 2012-12-05 Gregory

DRAFT

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**ATTACHMENT B**

**Data Summary**



**Table 1 - Percent Composition of Diameter Classes**

DBH (inches)	Percent of Priority 1 Population (%)	Percent of Reference Population (%)	Percent of Transect Population (%)
0-6	7.7	9.6	10.0
6-12	66.7	63.5	50.0
12-18	12.8	15.4	20.0
18-24	7.7	9.6	10.0
24-30	2.6	1.9	10.0
>30	2.6	0.0	0.0

**Table 2 - Percent Composition of Height Classes**

Height (feet)	Percent of Priority 1 Population (%)	Percent of Reference Population (%)	Percent of Transect Population (%)
0-5	0.0	0.0	0.0
6-10	0.0	2.9	0.0
11-15	15.2	25.7	11.1
>15	84.8	71.4	88.9

**Table 3 - Percent Composition of Condition Classes**

Condition	Percent of Priority 1 Population (%)	Percent of Reference Population (%)	Percent of Transect Population (%)
Excellent	0.0	0.0	0.0
Good	24.2	11.4	0.0
Fair	42.4	60.0	66.7
Poor	33.3	28.6	33.3
Dead	0.0	0.0	0.0

**Table 4 - Percent Composition of Trunk Impacts Classes**

Percent Trunk Impacted	Percent of Priority 1 Population (%)	Percent of Reference Population (%)	Percent of Transect Population (%)
0	0.0	62.9	66.7
1-25	18.2	22.9	33.3
26-50	30.3	11.4	0.0
51-75	36.4	2.9	0.0
>75	15.2	0.0	0.0

**Table 5 - Percent Composition of Dead Canopy Classes**

Percent Dead Canopy	Percent of Priority 1 Population (%)	Percent of Reference Population (%)	Percent of Transect Population (%)
0	0.0	2.9	0.0
1-25	90.9	77.1	77.8
26-50	6.1	17.1	11.1
51-75	0.0	2.9	11.1
>75	3.0	0.0	0.0

**Table 6 - Percent Composition of Broken Branch Count**

Number of Broken Branches	Percent of Priority 1 Population (%)	Percent of Reference Population (%)	Percent of Transect Population (%)
0	3.0	25.7	11.1
1	9.1	5.7	22.2
2	15.2	14.3	11.1
3	9.1	11.4	44.4
4	6.1	11.4	11.1
5	21.2	11.4	0.0
6	0.0	2.9	0.0
7	12.1	0.0	0.0
8	21.2	2.9	0.0
9	3.0	2.9	0.0
≥10	0.0	11.4	0.0

**Table 7 - Percent Composition of Damaged Bark Patch Count**

Number of Damaged Bark Patches	Percent of Priority 1 Population (%)	Percent of Reference Population (%)	Percent of Transect Population (%)
0	45.5	82.9	66.7
1	45.5	11.4	0.0
2	6.1	0.0	11.1
3	0.0	0.0	11.1
4	0.0	0.0	11.1
5	0.0	2.9	0.0
6	0.0	2.9	0.0
7	0.0	0.0	0.0
8	0.0	0.0	0.0
9	0.0	0.0	0.0
≥10	0.0	0.0	0.0