

Newsletter

Spring 2020

In this edition of the Friends of China Camp Newsletter:

Trails are Open | Indian Warrior | Coyotes in Crisis | Volunteer Joanne Giffra | Vegetation Monitoring | Upcoming Events | How You Can Help

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Trails are open

But don't arrive by motorized vehicle!

California Sate Parks have restricted overnight and vehicle access at all State Parks until further notice. To view up-to-date information on restriction and closures, please visit the State parks Covid-19 Resource Center.

Additionally, the Health Officer of the County of Marin orders all parks to close motorized access. This includes parking along San Pedro Road to access the park. Exceptions are made for individuals with disabilities in vehicles that display a valid ADA placards or license.

While on the trails:

- Maintain social distancing of 6 feet or more.
- Comply with the trail etiquette, bikers yield to hikers and equestrians and hikers yield to equestrians. • Adhere to speed limits, 15 mph max, 5 mph on
- curves, 5 mph when passing. Have a trail pass with you. This can be your
- annual pass, a receipt from the pay machine, or the stub from the pay envelope.



cafe, and museum are closed until further notice. We welcome locals to enjoy the park and want to take this opportunity to thank you for your

Bathrooms and picnic areas remain open, but the parking lots, campground, visitor center,

support. During this time of park facility closures, we are losing 95% of our revenue. Your support through annual memberships, trail fees and donations make it possible for us to keep the China Camp State Park open. Your generosity is appreciated. To purchase an annual pass or make a donation go here.

Indian Warrior

Meet China Camp's Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde

by Harriot Manley

When someone says, "They're in a relationship," you probably imagine young lovers canoodling in spring. But when it comes to the plant world, a relationship can take on a whole new-even sinister —meaning.

Intrigued? Read on.



Coyotes in Crisis How you can help

by Harriot Manley

parks spell big trouble for coyotes. Experts tell us why, plus easy ways to help. With their haunting howl and yellow-eyed stare,

increasingly, some of these lean, lanky, and intelligent

coyotes capture the essence of wildness. But

Too many human handouts at China Camp and other

native canines have become alarmingly habituated to humans, putting the coyotes—as well as people and their pets—at risk.

Are you a wily coyote?

<u>Learn more about these amazing canines and how you can help.</u>

Take this 6 question true/false Quiz. Good luck.

Joanne Giffra by Sheila Cole

Volunteer of the Quarter

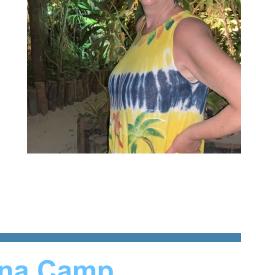
Accounting bookkeepers have been called many things such as Bean Counter, Master of the Books, Ledger Lover, Double Entry Diva, but Ghost Buster?

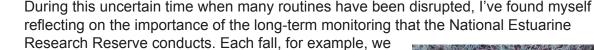
extraordinary skills of accounting, auditing and investigation, she is keeping our financial records in order. Learn more about this extraordinary volunteer. **Vegetation Research at China Camp**

Well that our bookkeeper, Joanne Giffra. Using her

by Sarah Ferner, Education Coordinator, San Francisco Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve

Reflecting on Routines





China Camp State Park and document the percent cover, height, and number of stems of plants that are growing within them. Through this effort, we can

document patterns that we may have otherwise missed, like that Alkali bulrush patches expand in wet years and shrink back in dry ones. Long-term monitoring also allows us to document the effects of unexpected events, like changes in visitation due to the current school closures, because we have data from before and after. Returning to the same plots each year also creates a sense of rhythm to my year. How many different plants do you see in the 1-meter square in the above photo? Monitoring vegetation changes isn't just for the experts! Get your kids involved and establish a similar long-term monitoring habit in your own yard or neighborhood. An easy way to do this is to register a tree or bush near your house on the Nature's Notebook website or app and collect data about it regularly.

carefully check-in on a hundred 1-meter square plots at



UPCOMING EVENTS ARE ON

PLACE ORDER IS IN EFFECT. **HOW YOU CAN HELP**

HOLD WHILE THE SHELTER IN

DONATE VOLUNTEER

BECOME A FRIEND

Little Steps.
Big Impact.

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