

In this edition of the Friends of China Camp Newsletter:

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Trails are open

But don't arrive by motorized vehicle!

California State 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.



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

Too many human handouts at China Camp and other parks spell big trouble for coyotes. Experts tell us why, plus easy ways to help.

With their haunting howl and yellow-eyed stare, coyotes capture the essence of wildness. But increasingly, some of these lean, lanky, and intelligent native canines have become alarmingly habituated to humans, putting the coyotes—as well as people and their pets—at risk.

[Learn more about these amazing canines and how you can help.](#)



Are you a wily coyote?

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

Volunteer of the Quarter

Joanne Giffra

by Sheila Cole

Accounting bookkeepers have been called many things such as Bean Counter, Master of the Books, Ledger Lover, Double Entry Diva, but Ghost Buster? Well that our bookkeeper, Joanne Giffra. Using her 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

Reflecting on Routines

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

During this uncertain time when many routines have been disrupted, I've found myself reflecting on the importance of the long-term monitoring that the National Estuarine Research Reserve conducts. Each fall, for example, we carefully check-in on a hundred 1-meter square plots at 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.

**UPCOMING EVENTS ARE ON
HOLD WHILE THE SHELTER IN
PLACE ORDER IS IN EFFECT.**



HOW YOU CAN HELP

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**Little Steps.
Big Impact.**