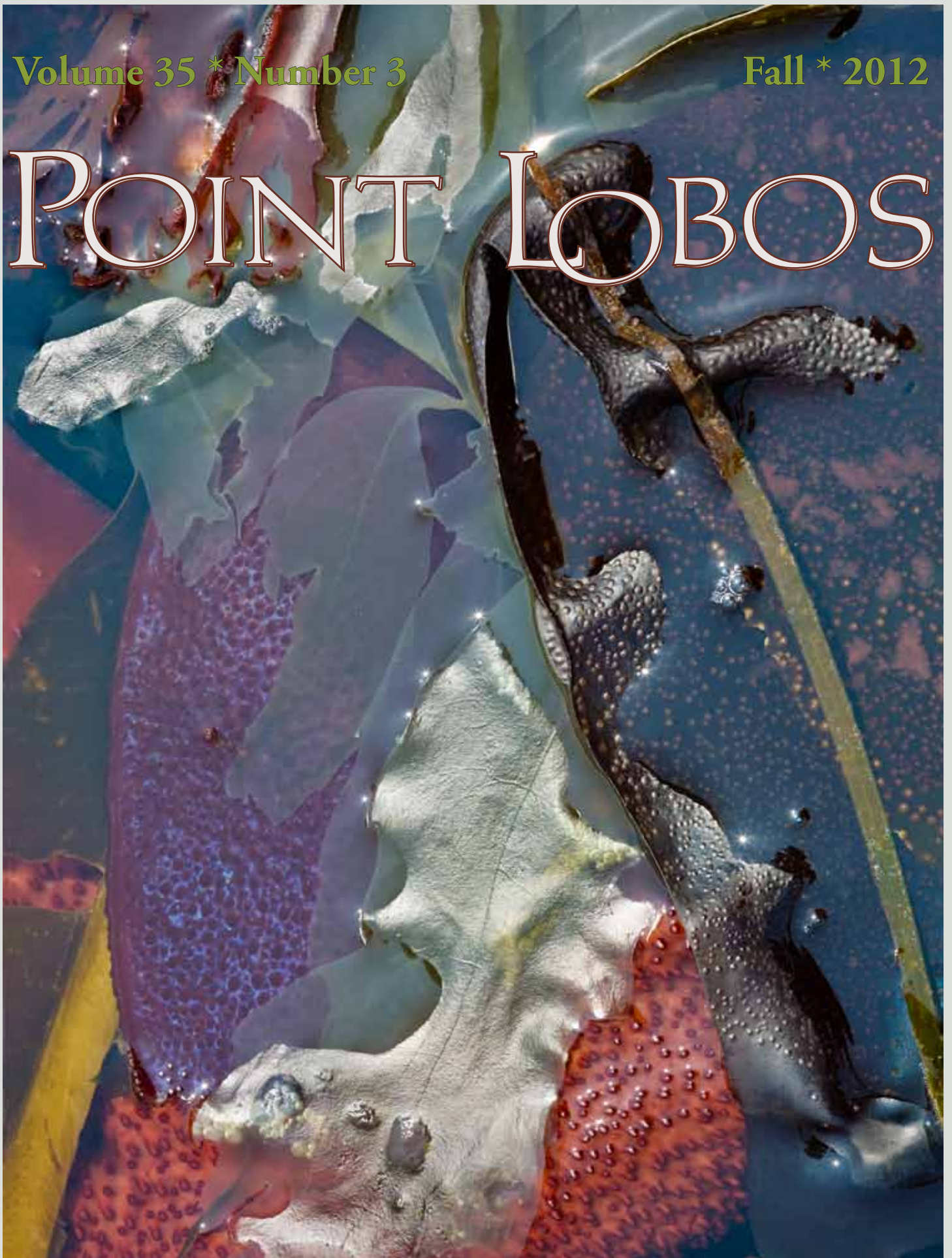


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# POINT LOBOS





# Point Lobos Foundation

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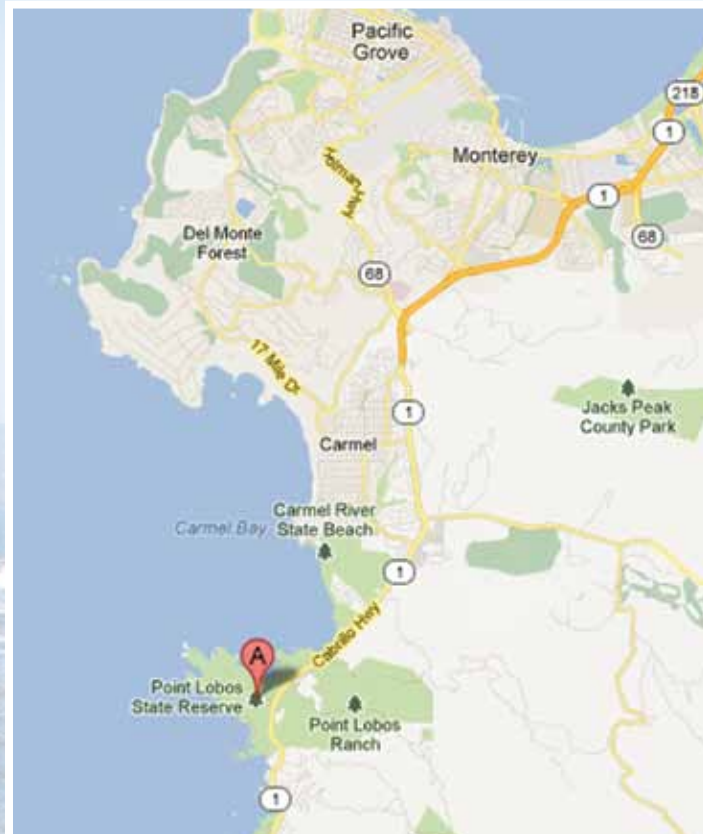
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The Mission Statement of the Point Lobos Foundation is to advance visitors' enjoyment and understanding of Point Lobos State Natural Reserve, to protect its natural environment for future generations, and to strengthen the Monterey County network of coastal California State Parks.

Use your smart phone to visit our website.



# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Sandy Hale

As summer draws to an end, we and the Monterey District of State Parks can point to some important accomplishments that will deepen visitors' experience of Point Lobos for years to come:

This summer both State Parks summer youth programs, Junior Lifeguards and Summer Adventures, were highly successful. Summer Adventures, which is less than five years young, has become so popular that this summer there was a long waiting list and a number of kids had to be turned away. (See "Under My Brim" for more details.) We thank the North Face Explore Fund and Monterey Bay Sanctuary Foundation for supporting Summer Adventures, and the Schulte Foundation for supporting the Junior Lifeguards program.

With PLF support, State Parks under the direction of District Maintenance Chief Larry Tierney completed design and construction of the new ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act)-compliant trail to Bird Island. I was out of town for the July ribbon-cutting, but the following week I took my 92-year-old mother in a wheelchair on the new trail, and she and I were thrilled. Congratulations to all the State Parks and CCC (California Conservation Corps) folks that worked to bring the trail—originally championed by former Reserve supervising ranger Glen McGowan more than ten years ago—to fruition. (The photo shows CSUMB Manager of Student Disability Resources Margaret Keith using the new trail.)

In addition, Point Lobos docents now offer Easy Access Days on the second Thursday and Saturday of each month.

At various points on ADA trails, docents with scopes offer viewing and interpretation experiences geared to visitors with accessibility issues. These days already have become very popular.

Right after Labor Day, the PLF and its contractors, working hand-in-hand with State Parks, will raise the decaying roof of the Whalers Cabin and replace it with a new roof. State Parks engineers and cultural and natural preservation experts have been involved at every step to ensure the integrity of the Cabin, listed on the U.S. National Register of Historic Places, and to protect the bats that reside in the cabin. We thank all of you who contributed to make this happen and the Monterey Peninsula Foundation for providing matching grant funding.



In December 2011, Eugene Kodani, grandson of pioneering abalone entrepreneur Genosuke Kodani, died. That same month, Roy Hattori, the dean of the Monterey abalone divers, also died. This year, two of A.M. Allan's grandchildren, Allan Hudson (a beloved Point Lobos docent) and Mary Whisler, died. The loss of members of this generation, with their direct links to Point Lobos pioneers of the early twentieth century, represents an incalculable loss of cultural history for us all. Fortunately, Mary wrote a detailed *Life and Times of A.M. Allan*. With the family's permission, we hope to include excerpts in future editions of this magazine.





# Observations

by Sparky Starkweather, State Park Squirrel

**H**ELP! My pine forest has been invaded. I was roaming around the other day near the entrance station, and lo-and-behold, scurrying across the ground and up onto the granite rock was what appeared to be a fox squirrel. I've heard tales and reports from Chuck, the now retired ranger, that these squirrels have been regularly seen in Carmel. Did they take the bus and arrive here because of the wonderful habitat?

The fox squirrel (or eastern fox squirrel is the largest species of tree squirrel native to North America. Despite the differences in size and coloration, they are sometimes mistaken for American red squirrels or Eastern gray squirrels in areas where both species co-exist.



One report from the *Southern California Western Grey Squirrel Research Project* by Julie King and Alan Muchlinski (2004) says that "Fox squirrels (*Sciurus niger*) were introduced to the Los Angeles area in about 1904. Civil war and Spanish American war veterans residing at the Sawtelle Veteran's Home on Sepulveda and Wilshire Boulevards brought fox squirrels to this site from their homes in the areas surrounding the Mississippi Valley (possibly Tennessee). Other introductions of fox squirrels to the Los Angeles area may have taken place during more recent times but detailed records are not available."

The fox squirrel is normally found throughout the eastern United States. They range into Canada and west as far as Colorado. Unfortunately they have been introduced into northern and southern California. Forest with a relatively open understory is the preferred habitat. In Carmel they like the same trees as the Western grey tree squirrel. You find them in many kinds of forests that produce winter-storable foods like nuts. We do have lots of pines and pine nuts.

Fox squirrels are strictly diurnal, non-territorial, and spend more of their time on the ground than most other tree squirrels. They are still, however, agile climbers. They construct two types of homes, called "dreys," depending on the season. Summer dreys are often little more than platforms of sticks high in the branches of trees, while winter dens are usually hollowed out of tree trunks by a succession of occupants over as many as 30 years. Cohabitation of these dens is not uncommon, particularly among breeding pairs.

I can't be everywhere so I'm depending on you for extra eyes and ears. If you spot one of these critters please report it to the entrance station. Take a picture if you can. We'll let the environmental scientists in the sector know of these invasive squirrels. We sure don't want my fellow grey tree squirrels displaced.





# UNSUNG HEROS of the RAMP

by Kevin Brady  
Monterey District/ Monterey Sector Lifeguard

If you've been a visitor to Point Lobos for some years, you may wonder what happened to the thick layer of algae that encrusted the diver access ramp at Whalers Cove. Beginning in 2007, the ramp has been power washed once a month



by volunteers who have stepped up to assist Point Lobos staff in making the ramp safer and more accessible for all users. If a person slips and falls on a slick surface with two heavy tanks on their back or while launching a kayak, it can really hurt! Rescuers who respond to such emergencies and other calls for duty in and around Whalers Cove also appreciate the cleaning of the ramp surface.

The power washer came to us through donations solicited by CenCal, a non-profit organization of local dive groups who often dive at Point Lobos. Some of the donations came in years ago for a proposed hand rail that divers could hold onto while entering or exiting the water. Although this idea was determined unfeasible, the idea of making the ramp safer to use remained a goal. In 2006, Scott Timms and Chuck Tribolet, both avid divers, came to me with the idea of using the donated funds to purchase a power washer that could be used to rid the ramp of the algae on a regular basis. After pursuing the appropriate channels, I received a "green light" by the department, and the beginning of a new era of algae removal at the Whalers Cove dive ramp began!

During the course of the next year, the logistics were worked out, which included the purchase of the washer, the schedule for cleaning, locating a convenient storage area for the washer, and draft-

ing a training course for future volunteers. Since the cleaning can only happen during a minus tide and preferably before the Reserve opens or at closing, there is a small window of time to work with.

After power washing the ramp several times, Scott noticed some pot holes, uneven surface, and the deteriorating condition of the ramp surface. We determined the ramp was in need of a face lift. I submitted a Project Evaluation Form (PEF) to our district office recommending a new surface layer of concrete to rehabilitate the ramp. The project got approved and the new surface layer of concrete was installed a few years ago. The resurfacing has made the ramp even safer by providing a surface with grooves to provide traction and reduce slippage. To my knowledge, we have not had an injury at the dive ramp since these improvements were made.

Blayne Bishop and Mike Peadon are our current volunteers who regularly power wash the ramp before the Reserve opens. These unsung heroes are both avid divers and wish to help preserve safe access for all who use the divers' ramp at Whalers Cove. Blayne is a facilities manager for Stanford University and is well acquainted with power washers. Both gentlemen enjoy the beauty of Whalers Cove at sunrise on a minus tide. They follow up the morning cleaning with a well earned dive at Point Lobos.

Talk to some divers sometime when you are down at Whalers Cove and they will tell you that Point Lobos is one of their favorite places to dive, or at least one of their most memorable. From checking in with the friendly entrance station staff, to absorbing the beauty of the area both above and below the surface, it is truly a unique experience. Thanks to the donations from members of the local dive community and a small group of dedicated volunteers, the dive experience is also a safer one at Whalers Cove.



Top: Scott Timms circa 2007. Photo by Kevin Brady.

Lower right: from left to right, Scott Timms, Blayne Bishop, Mike Peadon, and Kevin Brady. Photo by Erik Landry.

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# Under My Brim

by Eric Abma  
Monterey Sector Superintendent

**A** wise ranger once said, "Ignore the drama and smell the flowers." Yes, we miss retired Ranger Chuck, and recently there has been plenty of drama surrounding our parks, so we need more flowers. To that end I would like to highlight some of our local successes.

The Bird Island Trail officially reopened July 11, 2012 and looks great! The grand opening was well attended by the groups who made this project possible, as well as Assemblyman Bill Monning, and paralympic athlete Marilyn Hamilton. The easy access docent team did a great job interpreting to attendees at set points along the trail. Best of all, the trail is now accessible to people with mobility impairments. This successful project was a team effort between State Parks, California Conservation Corps, and the Point Lobos Foundation.

At the August docent meeting I was honored to present awards to Paul Mason for his leadership in the reemergence of the School Outreach Program, and Pat Sinclair for her outstanding work re-vamping the Docent Training Program. These two individuals have put incredible amounts of their time, expertise, and passion into service delivery at Point Lobos State Natural Reserve. I would like to thank them again, and recognize that without individual efforts like theirs the docent program would not be where it is today.

The Summer Adventures and Junior Lifeguard programs have just wrapped up another success-

ful summer bringing 317 children into our parks. In total these programs account for nearly 28,000 hours of healthy active kid time, away from screens and social media. State Parks is the second largest educator of children in the State of California!

The general planning process for Point Lobos, Carmel River State Beach, Hatton Canyon, and Point Lobos Ranch (aka A.M. Allan Ranch) is underway. This general plan will be a guiding document for the operation and development of these parks for the next 20 to 30 years. You can get involved, or follow the process by visiting: [www.parks.ca.gov/caspgp/](http://www.parks.ca.gov/caspgp/). Here you are able to see planning documents, sign up to be on the mailing list, or give input by taking an online survey. The general plan is currently in

the information-gathering phase, but by winter will be reaching the next phase where specific alternatives are developed and considered. This phase will include a series of meetings for agencies, stakeholder, and the public to give input on the different ideas. From this input the planning team will develop a preferred alternative,

which will then be presented to the same groups for feedback. Now is our chance to have a positive effect on these parks, so please get involved!

These programs and projects are examples of what make our parks so special, and are the types of successes we should be looking for as we move into the future. The flowers smell great.





# Point Lobos Marine Ecosystems and the Levels of Conservation

By Jason Adelaars, Megan Bassett,  
Nick Donlou, Corina Marks,  
and Beth Pardieck

We don't have to tell you that Point Lobos is a special place. If you've visited the park, even for an afternoon, you can understand its allure. While hiking on one of its trails, it doesn't take long to recognize there are many.

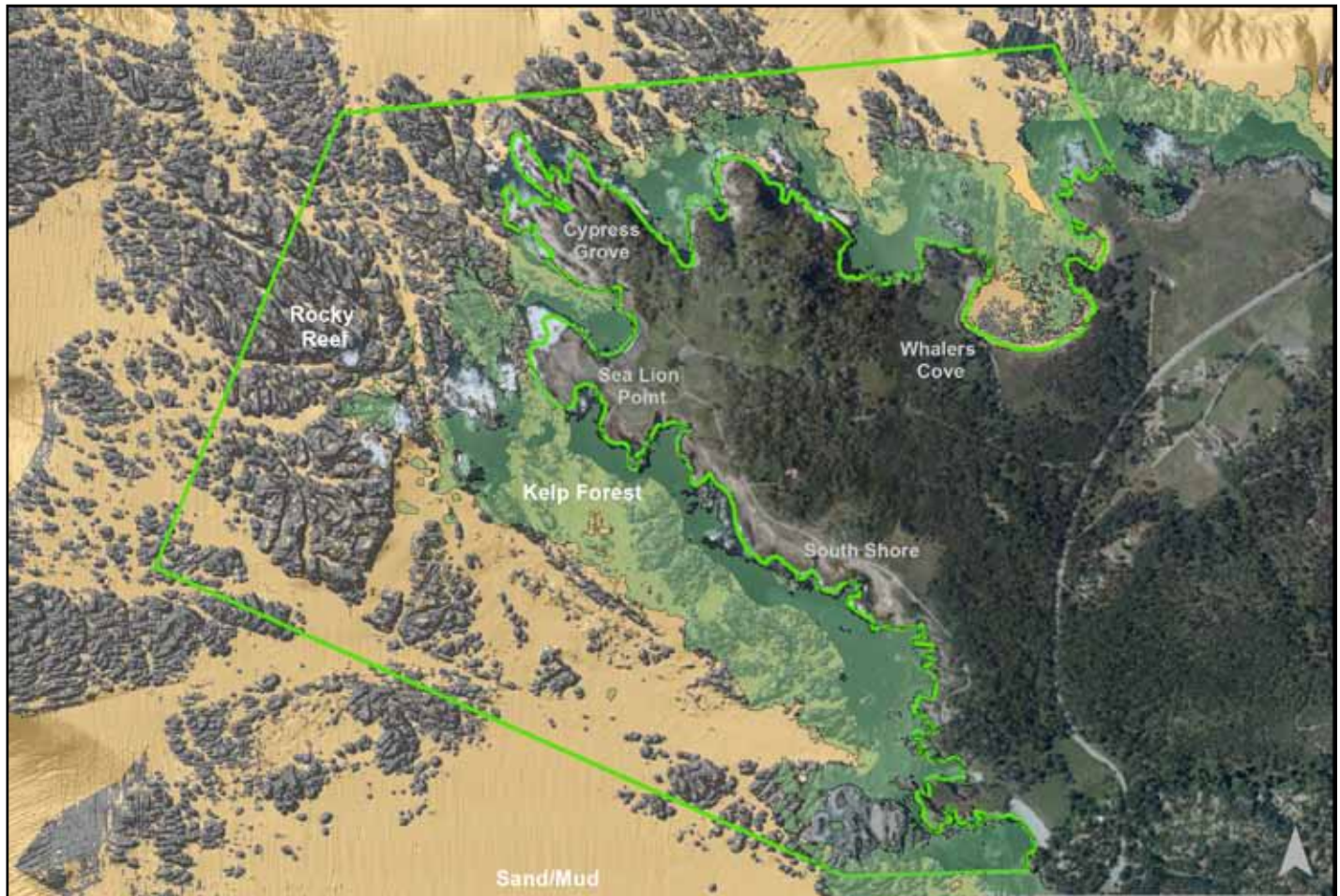
As the cliffs and boulders cede into the ocean, they provide a hard surface to support a vibrant living community of plants and animals. Every square-inch of rocky reef is covered with algae and invertebrates. This habitat creates a suitable home for many fish species, such as the vermillion rockfish, or mobile invertebrates like the leather star. Most noticeable from our viewpoint on land is the mat of giant kelp spread across the water surrounding Point Lobos. The visible kelp canopies are the "tree-tops" of an underwater forest reaching up to 80 feet deep. This 3-dimensional environment is not unlike the pine forest along Lace Lichen Trail. However, instead of squirrels and birds, over a dozen species of rockfishes populate this forest. Imagine small fishes, such as the snubnose sculpin and painted greenling, scurrying around the bushy algae in the same fashion and abundance as our terrestrial lizards or bees. More frequently than you'd see deer at Point Lobos, you'd come across the great predators lingcod or cabezon, stealthily camouflaged among the cobbles. The incredible amount of life living beneath the sea surface has certainly not been overlooked by our efforts to conserve natural resources.



Point Lobos Ecological Reserve (est. 1973) was one of the first marine reserves established in the United States. Since then, over 100 state and federally managed marine areas have been designated

along the California coast; each have different attributes, but all for the purpose of protecting marine resources and ecosystems. It's the result of many of these overlapping areas around Point Lobos that provide a comprehensive level of protection, higher than any other region along the California coast.

We—a group of marine ecology graduate students at California State University at Monterey Bay—recently published a paper in the National Marine Sanctuaries Conservation Series that evaluated the relative level of conservation provided by each marine management area within the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (the Sanctuary). The goal of the project was to better understand the conservation effects of the multitude of spatially managed areas off the central California coast. We scored each management area based on its ability to protect the natural resources within its boundaries. The scoring criterion was designed to highlight attributes that make management areas effective in conserving marine resources. The scores within each criterion were made to reflect the range of each attribute. For example, the size of the management area was one of the criterion. A management area's size is directly related to the amount of animals and habitat protected, and a larger management area can protect more resources. For this reason, larger management areas received a larger score in our study. Where these management areas overlapped we summed their individual conservation scores to produce an overall picture of relative conservation levels throughout the Sanctuary. For a more detailed explanation, you can read our report at <http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/science/conservation/adelaars.html>



The reef and kelp forests around Point Lobos (within green boundary) are protected by numerous state and federal agencies, giving this area high levels of protection. Credit: Jason Adelaars; map data provided by the Seafloor Mapping Lab at California State University of Monterey Bay, CDFG, and ESRI.

We determined that the marine environment surrounding Point Lobos received the highest overall conservation score from San Francisco to San Simeon. This means the synergistic effect of multiple overlapping marine management areas provide a very high level of ecosystem protection relative to the areas within the Sanctuary that do not contain multiple marine management areas. Management areas have some regulatory similarities; however overlapping federal and state initiatives with differing goals create a higher level of conservation for marine animals and their habitat. Some regulations are written to restrict oil and gas exploration and some are created to protect vulnerable fish species from overfishing. These different regulations have different goals and result in a variable amount of conservation for the marine resources within the boundaries of these regulatory areas.

Point Lobos comprises the following marine management areas:

**Point Lobos State Marine Reserve (SMR):** The former Point Lobos Ecological Reserve (est. 1973) was expanded into this current reserve in September 2007. The collection or take of anything (living or inanimate) from within this area is prohibited by the California Department of Fish and Game. That includes plantlife, rocks, shells, and cute baby harbor seals. Most importantly, this reserve restricts any kind of fishing.

**Point Lobos Ecological Reserve Area of Special Biological Significance (ASBS):** Just as important as a healthy fish population is the quality of the seawater where they swim. The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) established Point Lobos as an area that should have protection from urban pollution. Therefore, the discharge of





A vermilion rockfish (*Sebastes miniatus*) rests among coralline algae and sponge at Middle Reef in Whalers Cove. Credit: Nick Donlou.

wastewater is restricted. Additionally, the SWRCB routinely samples the seawater at Point Lobos and chemically analyzes it for contaminants.

**Low Overflight Restriction Area:** A birds-eye view of Point Lobos is probably spectacular; however it wouldn't be fair to the marine mammals who can be disturbed by the sound and proximity of combustion engines. This area extends from Point Lobos to San Simeon and prohibits the flight of aircraft lower than 10,000 feet.

**Essential Fish Habitat (EFH):** Managed by the National Marine Fisheries Service, EFH conserves the habitat of commercially important species, such as rockfish and flatfish. Therefore, commercial fishing gear that contacts and disturbs the seafloor is prohibited within an EFH. This EFH area covers the Monterey Canyon and Carmel Canyon, in addition to Point Lobos.

**Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (MBNMS):** Extending from north of San Francisco south to San Simeon is the largest national marine sanctuary on the west coast. The Sanctuary regulates human development through either the introduction or removal of material from the seafloor. Furthermore, the Sanctuary prohibits oil and gas

exploration and restricts personal watercraft use.

**Point Lobos State Nature Reserve (SNR):** Prohibits commercial and recreational fishing within its boundaries. The SNR also forbids the introduction of foreign species. Additionally, SCUBA diving is restricted to certain areas, like Whalers Cove.

**California State Waters:** Spanning the entire California coast and extending out three nautical miles, the Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) manages fishing and upholds the Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA). The MLPA man-

dated the creation of California's Marine Protected Area (MPA) network, including the Point Lobos SMR. Since the 1990s, the State has prohibited fishing with bottom-trawl gear within California waters.

The extent of the highly protected area around Point Lobos follows the same border as the SNR boundary, as indicated by the green line on the associated map (opposite page). In total, Point Lobos' protected ocean covers 760-acres and reaches 240 feet deep. The seafloor is dominated by granite boulder reefs, similar to the rock outcrops of Joshua Tree National Park, except covered with marine life. The protected ocean also includes 270 acres of towering kelp forests, slow dancing in the surge. The multiple marine management areas encompassed in Point Lobos are a result of multiple federal and state agencies attempting to protect the marine resources through their own jurisdiction. In some cases this results in regulatory redundancies, such as the restriction of fishing, attributed to the overlapping state and federal jurisdictions and perhaps, suggests the need for an alignment of government marine conservation goals and closer collaboration between marine stakeholders and agencies. Nonetheless, this level of protection should reinforce your consideration of Point Lobos as a very special place.

What this kind of conservation effort means to the diverse marine plant and animal community is there is a very low risk of our society disturbing



A leather star (*Dermasterias imbricata*) and coralline algae within Point Lobos SMR. Credit: Corina Marks.

their daily pursuit of life. Fish can meander around their reef without the danger of being caught; the likeliness of an oil spill contaminating the area is nil; and the habitat may never be altered or removed. Most importantly, the protected ocean ecosystem can maintain a natural equilibrium outside the impacts and pressures of humans. This allows animals to grow older and larger; and research has shown that older rockfishes produce more offspring. Conceptually, the flourishing population within this

protected ocean can spill into the surrounding habitat and replenish the areas humans have disturbed. The creation of conservation areas, such as the Point Lobos protected ocean, will protect our coastal ocean's ecosystems for future human generations to experience and enjoy. Point Lobos is a shining example of what sea life might have looked like before humans arrived and demonstrates our compassion for wanting to conserve it. And in doing so, we are all ensuring Point Lobos forever remains a special place.



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# QUOTES FROM THE DOCENT LOG

## A BIG CAT, SOME VERY BIG SEA LIONS, AND A REALLY BIG EVENT

May 6 – Terry Tellep

Sitting in the wooden chair at the desk in Whalers Cabin. What words shall I write to try to capture the beauty of this late spring day at Point Lobos? I glance over to the visitors' guest book on the other side of the room, lay down my pen, and walk over to peruse the comments left the past two weeks by visitors from around the world: Sweden, UK, Serbia, France, Venezuela, Ireland, Germany, Turkey, the Azores (from where many of the whalers at Point Lobos originated), Australia, the Netherlands, and from all corners of the U.S. I shall let the handwritten notes of children and adults speak.

"What a revelation!"

"Lovely! Beautiful!"

"Amazing!"

"Muhtesem: gorgeous" (Turkey)

"Scenically blessed!"

"Love the smell of the air"

"Bellissimo lugar: Beautiful place" (Portugal)

"Keep those sacred places sacred"

"Sublime!"

"It's alright" (child's handwriting)

"Sweet"

"Now, I have more respect for the whole of life!"

"A wonderful treasure to be protected"

"Maravilhoso!" (Azores, Portugal)

"It was great and beautiful. Oh yeah! Oh yeah!"

"What we three sisters needed!"

"So cool"

"Majestic"

"Thank you for looking after this place"

"Greatest spot ever!"

My shift over, I descend the granodiorite steps of the cabin, and imagine the spectacular and singular beauty of Point Lobos being car-

ried around the globe in the refreshed hearts of all who have come to visit; may they return soon.

May 13 – Fred Brown

They are delivered on the warm sandy beach, unsealed from their mother's womb into the broad daylight of this world. This is a yearly ritual performed without rehearsal for an appreciative audience at Whalers Cove. The drama unfolds with announcement flyers and public postings warning not to interfere. So I quietly watch.



May 16 – Connie Dallmann

Lovely walk from Whalers Cove to Moss Cove today. In addition to fledgling great blue herons flapping their wings in anticipation, there were numerous swallows, nesting cormorants and gulls, and pelicans and turkey vultures overhead. There was also a mallard that seemed out of place to me. There are still many mother-ba-

by pairs of harbor seals, and we spotted an otter napping in Moss Cove. Wild flowers galore, and the recent arrival of bird-footed lotus.

May 21 – Kevin Shabram

On Sunday at about 6:00 p.m. I decided that since I didn't have the proper equipment to view the eclipse, I would go to Point Lobos, and photograph the rocks or landscape instead. During the eclipse I thought that the reduced light level might be interesting. Well, the fog decided to come in just as the eclipse was at its maximum for this area. It was fortunate because the cloud was just thick enough to provide a filter to view and photograph the eclipse itself.

May 30 – Connie Dallmann

On a school walk the day after a rain. It was clear and the wildlife was abundant, but our favorite was a doe with three spotted fawns. Were they all hers, or had she adopted?



June 6 – Art Muto

One of my favorite wildflowers in Point Lobos is johnny nip (*Castilleja ambigua* ssp. *insalutata*). Last year, however, the johnny nip's took a vacation—actually, crowded out by the tall grasses due to our late rains. This year, there are a handful of plants blooming, although they are very, very small... about 2" high.



June 9 – Lyle Brumfield

A very conscientious Western gull momma was dutifully sitting atop her rather large nest located on the large rock clearly visible from Whalers Cabin as I reported for my afternoon cabin shift yesterday. Every fifteen minutes or so, over the next two hours, I checked on Momma Gull, but she had not budged. Then, just as I was preparing to close up for the evening, I took one last look: PAYDIRT!!! Momma gull was standing up, and in the nest were at least two distinct little balls of feathers.

June 12 – Dave Evans

Enjoyed lots of killdeer chicks along South Shore Trail and at the small cove beside Weston Beach this past weekend. Hard to believe they can survive a day with all the noise they make and the strange "wounded wing" display of the parents. At home I discovered that birds that hatch with their "running shoes on" are called precocial. The word comes from the Latin for "precocious" meaning "ripened beforehand." I guess that's how they're able to get a "running start" after hatching. No lying about the nest and getting waited on for them!

June 20 – Connie Dallmann

One of the best public walks I've ever led. We started at Whalers Cove with a brand-new baby otter being groomed by its mother just offshore. When she finished its tummy she picked it up and flipped it, and while she groomed its back, it start-





ed nursing. Then we were off to Granite Point to see the now empty herons' nests, and while we were admiring them, a young heron came back (hopefully?). Then to Moss Cove where the usual large group of basking seals were joined on their rock by two young oystercatchers. Meanwhile, a black-crowned night heron was posing for the photographers, half a dozen pelicans flew by at eye level, and there was a raft of otters. All this in addition to the profusion of wildflowers and perfect weather; our visitors were most impressed.

June 24 – Stan Dryden

Visitor comment today: "There are more 'wows' here per one hundred feet than in any other place."

June 29 – Paul Reps

I was able to see the very first people take advantage of the new trail, two using wheel chairs, and one person assisted with a cane; nothing but happy expressions of joy on their faces. I asked what the new ramp up to the trail was like, and the "pushers" said they could "feel it" but it was a pleasant exercise to do. Their smiles too were ear to ear.

June 30 – Rick Pettit

I eagerly set out on the revamped Bird Island Trail and gratefully took in a series of pleasures: the scent of the pine woods; the captivating beauty of China Cove—it was like seeing an old friend after a lengthy absence; the sweep of Gibson Beach, and the majestic view southwards; the delightful meander through the multitudes of brilliant flowers on the plateau; and, finally, the splendid wildlife spectacle of Pelican Point: cormorants, a mix of sleek adults and their almost full-grown, but still demanding, offspring; Western gull chicks with their comically polka-dotted noggins; and a black-crowned night heron, with its elegantly tailored looks, shooting the gap below the new viewing platform. One thinks of what the future holds: of all the varied folks who, thanks to this finely-crafted accessible trail, will be able to experience this beauty. The long wait was worth it.



June 21 – Celie Placzek

It was a quiet day on the trail over to Moss Cove. When I got to the beach, I sat a while to enjoy the lapping of waves upon the sand. That's when I noticed fresh paw prints. Hmm, I thought to myself... I wonder if these could be from a mountain lion? I was so intrigued how carefully they were placed that I took a photo of them before the tide washed them away. Not until the next day did I learn of two being sighted. Then I did feel a little squeamish.

June 22 – Celie Placzek

Early this morning during low tide at Weston Cove, I make my way between slimy rocks over to the wall covered in long purple tongues of iridescent seaweed. Some hang into the water, revealing mysterious blues and reds and greens swaying like dancers in slow motion. I feel mesmerized. I lose all sense of time and place. Soon I feel someone or something looking at me. I lift my gaze to see a tiny shore crab (*Hemigrapsus nudus*) poised at the edge of the rock staring at me with two tiny black beady eyes. I nod as if we've met before. Slowly raise my camera to make a photo of him. It doesn't move. Slowly I focus in hopes of making at least one good shot before it scuttles off but it stays and I stay too. I stay until my boots begin to fill with water. Then it's time to leave.



July 12 – Roger Knacke

As we inaugurated the magnificent new Bird Island Trail, I watched a sad drama at the cormorant nesting area on the island. One of the cor-

morant chicks had left the nesting area and was about fifteen feet away in the open space, where a gull attacked the hapless little bird in full view of the cormorant colony. The gull repeatedly pecked the chick, which was unable to defend itself; nor was there a mother bird to defend it. Was she foraging or in distress somewhere? The little bird rapidly declined under the incessant attacks. Adult cormorants did nothing to defend the chick. The gull gorged on the dead or dying chick, and, when apparently satiated, flew off.



July 21 – Rick Pettit

A quiet early morning, with swirls of summer fog drifting through the trees; the sea is calm, the tide is low. Feather boa kelp forms a trailing skirt on the rock in Sand Hill Cove. A band of pelicans silently appears, then, courses the air northwards, towards Sea Lion Point. As I later ascend the trail towards Whalers Knoll, a lone hiker appears from over the rise. "It's magical here," she says, and walks on into the mist.

July 28 – Fred Brown

The Sea Lion Point rocks have a couple of very large "visiting" Stellar sea lions hanging around with the local California sea lions. Stellar sea lions can roam as far as 250 miles looking for a tasty meal of rockfish, herring, shrimp, and squid. How large you ask? They are about 1,500 pounds and nine feet in length, dwarfing our local seal lions that are just 700 pounds. Guess who has the best rock positions?



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# MEMORIAL AND TRIBUTE GIFTS

May 15 through August 15th 2012



## MEMORIAL GIFTS

Memorial gifts provide a way for people to express their sympathy when words just don't seem adequate. Such gifts also play an important role in enhancing the programs at Point Lobos. Your contribution to The Point Lobos Foundation is sincerely appreciated.

- Andrea Schultz in memory of Nancy Swan
- Nicole and Bruce Johnson in memory of LeBaron "Lee" Beard
- GE Young in memory of Ruth R Young
- Jean Horan in memory of Mary Whisler
- Hayashi and Wayland in memory of Mary Whisler
- George and Ann Chapman in memory of Mary Whisler
- Anna Beck in memory of Mary Whisler
- Elaine Good-Masconi in memory of Mary Whisler
- Mr. and Mrs. Edwin R. Lowry in memory of Mary Whisler
- Carl and Susan Thompson in memory of Mary Whisler
- Pamela and Burt Harris in memory of Mary Whisler
- Jane Cobb in memory of Mary Whisler

## Point Lobos Foundation

### Park Guardian Program Supporters

Monthly Guardian supporters are a group of individuals who elect to give to the Point Lobos Foundation through monthly payments. These tax-deductible monthly gifts provide the Point Lobos Foundation with a consistent and reliable income stream, allowing us to focus more resources on our mission of maintaining the high standards the public expects at Point Lobos.

- Lisa and Eric Cook
- Robert Danziger
- John Dotson
- Gwen Gerety-Hays
- Fred Helms
- Gene Laskowski
- James Messer
- Charles Pasternack
- Kirk Pessner and Russ Miller
- J.B. Tostevin
- George Warfel Jr. and Lydia Degarrod
- Karin Stratton
- Nancy Green and Mary Ann Colacci
- Larry and Tamera Brown
- Joanne Ferretti

## SISTER ANNA VOSS MEMORIAL FUND

The Sister Anna Voss Fund was created by Carl and Carol Voss, and Caroline and David Appling to honor Sister Anna Voss, the first Director of Docent Training at Point Lobos. Sister Anna developed many of the materials that are still in use today at Point Lobos. Use of donations made to the Sister Anna Voss Memorial Fund, and the income generated by it, is restricted to the following purposes:

- (a) Point Lobos Docent Group education and direct support.
- (b) School education outreach programs relating to Point Lobos State Natural Reserve.

- Wayne Cipperly
- Joy B Osborne

### Donations:

- Anonymous for Trails and Restrooms

### Foundations:

- Pebble Beach Foundation for Transportation
- Monterey Bay Aquarium for Invasive Plant abatement

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# Point Lobos Foundation

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A beautiful male kelp greenling, *Hexagrammos decagrammus*, one of many species protected in the Marine Protected Areas of Point Lobos (see story, page 7). Photo by Linda Reisinger.