



## **STAFF REPORT**

By: Jason Jordan  
Date: April 8, 2023  
Item: **4.f**  
Subject: March 2024 State Park Report for Bothe- Napa Valley SP, Robert Louis Stevenson SP, and Bale Grist Mill SHP.

### PARK STATUS

**Bothe Napa Valley SP-** Re-opened for Day Use on March 9<sup>th</sup>, most trails. Re-Opened campground on May 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Bale Mill SHP-** Visitation continues to be low at the mill, compounded by wet weather on weekends. Incoming Mill Hosts cancelled last minute making for a scramble for replacements.

**Robert Louis Stevenson SP-** Visitation mostly low with wet weather, increasing with nicer weather.

### PARK UPDATES

- Bale Bridge Update: Wet weather has delayed this project. State Parks targeting June start date. No defined date set by Mike Nelson yet. Staff is shopping lumber bids for the project.
- Bothe re-opened for hiking with most all trails available on March 9<sup>th</sup>. The campground was opened on March 15<sup>th</sup> with portable toilets and hand wash stations. Water system repair finally held and opened with normal facilities on March 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- The Annual Enviro-Sports Trail run on March 23<sup>rd</sup> was rescheduled due to trail condition and campground closure.
- Environmental Education:
  - One field trip was held in March at the Bale Mill for 26 students and 10 adults.
  - One field trip was held in March at Bothe for 43 students and 8 adults.
- Staff continues to address other storm related clean up, trail repairs, and readying the park and campground for re-opening.
- The pool is leaking more than it did prior to the resurfacing so a leak detector has been hired to inspect to see what follow up actions will be.

- Staff is planning and coordinated for Earth Day event on April 20<sup>th</sup> as well as promoting for a volunteer recruitment event on April 27<sup>th</sup>.
- The third Saturday hike this month was on March 16<sup>th</sup> at Linda Falls, operated by the Land Trust. A wet February treated attendees to lots of water moving over the falls. Six participants attended the hike.
- NVSPA board members and staff met with State Parks interpretive specialist to learn more about process and gather information about upgrading interpretive displays in the visitor center.
- NVSPA board members and staff met with landscape architect to further flesh out ideas for visitor center exterior/landscape improvement.
- NVSPA reached out to the St Helena Star and Napa Register who wrote a nice article about the challenges at Bother due to storm damage. We also had a follow up meeting with the editorial board and ran an article urging community support to help offset revenue loss and cleanup expenses.
- Meetings have been held between all stakeholders of the Mnt St Helena fire road to discuss storm damage to road and look at both short- and long-term mitigation and road maintenance programs.
- Staff and volunteers cleared Oat Hill Mine trail and a section of Palisades Trail in RLS of down trees and continued degradation since the various fires. Volunteers from the SCENA Ultra Marathon group followed up with additional scouting and brushing effort on the Palisades Trail prior to their upcoming event.
- Staff has begun vegetation management efforts in the campground and day use areas in between wet weather.