



**MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY**  
Franklin Canyon Park  
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## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** January 12, 2016  
**TO:** Katie Lozano, City of Rancho Palos Verdes  
**FROM:** Jewel Johnson, MRCA Supervising Ranger  
**RE:** RPV | MRCA Ranger Services Activity Report – Inv#1516.02

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### Palos Verdes Nature Preserve Activities

- October - December 2015
- 507 Patrol Hours
- 57 Interpretative Hours
- 8 Rangers patrolled the Preserves during this period

There has been an increase of activity in Filiorum, Three Sisters and Forrestal Reserves since the parking restrictions on Crenshaw Boulevard. The MRCA continues to stress the importance of properly posted trail markers to assist the new and regular users in navigating their way around the designated trails.

The enforcement priorities were unauthorized trail use in Portuguese Bend Reserve and Forrestal Reserve.

## PORTUGUESE BEND RESERVE

Enforcement Priorities - Monitored unauthorized trail use on Rim / Grapevine / Paintbrush trails.

- The Rim Trail Vehicle Intrusion was determined to be from fuel modification activity **(Pictures on file)**
- (2) Mountains Bikers observed on Rim Trail before exiting at location of fuel modification.
- Evidence of unauthorized trail use by horses and bikes off Grapevine Trail and Paintbrush Trail. Bikes not allowed on Grapevine and Paintbrush. Equestrians are going off Grapevine Trail **(Pictures on file)**
- Paintbrush trail marker from Ishibashi trail not visible.

Recommend researching trail options to slow down bike traffic at the beginning and end of Ishibashi Trail and Burma Trail Junction. **(Pictures on file)**

Mountain Bikers continue to access Portuguese Bend Reserve via Forrestal Reserve.

PVPLC, City, and MRCA staff conducted site visits to correct unclear signage at the trail junctions of Ishibashi Farm/Peppertree. The trail markers at Ishibashi Farm Trail are confusing. "No Bike" and "Bike allowed" trail markers are double stacked. **(Pictures on file)**

There was confusion regarding an unmarked official trail (North Sandbox – Hiker/Equestrian Only). This is a popular trail for mountain bikers. Recommend designation changes to multi-use.. **(Pictures on file)**

There is continued use of spur trails by Equestrians off Vanderlip trail to Gary Gulch trail in Filiorum Reserve. Location of bench and evidence of grazing found **(Pictures on file)**

## **CITATIONS ISSUED – 5**

- Dog off Leash (4)
- Unauthorized Trail Use (1)

## FORRESTAL RESERVE

There are issues with trail markers at the junction of Flying Mane, Mariposa and Basalt. Flying Mane traffic can assume they are still on Flying Mane because the trail marker is not visible. **(Pictures on file)** The double stacked trail marker is visible to traffic coming off Mariposa Trail. **(Pictures on file)** The other side of the trail marker is only visible if you are standing off trail in the brush. Trail marker is triple stacked and the bottom portion is partially buried. **(Pictures on file)** Three multi-use trails lead to the hiker only Quarry Trail and an Equestrian Turnaround. Mountain bikers turn right onto the Quarry Trail because a second trail marker is not visible to traffic coming off Basalt. **(Pictures on file)**

- City, PVPLC Staff and MRCA Rangers (11/20/15) site visit to correct unclear signage at the trail junctions of Basalt/Quarry and Flying Mane/Mariposa.  
**(No change as 1/9/16)**
- Enforcement Priorities – Monitor Vista trail for spur trail usage.
  - Found no evidence of recent spur trail usage
  - Trail markers continue to be unclear, confusing or not visible
- View from Purple Sage to Conqueror / Cactus Jct
  - No clear indication you are transitioning from Purple Sage to Conqueror.  
**(33.74016, -118.35343)**
- View from Dauntless shows trail marker with Canyon trail and Vista Point / Canyon View **(33.74143, -118.35459)**
  - Trail Name? Canyon or Canyon View?
  - Trail Name? Vista or Vista Point?
  - Wooden stack delineators at Vista **(33.74154, -118.35453)** are only six inches in ground and/or held up by rocks.
- Recommend posting distance to Portuguese Bend Reserve and Abalone Cove Reserve.

OCEAN TRAILS RESEVE (including Founders Park | RPV Beach)

Recommend "Area Closed" or "No Beach Access" across from the bench at West Portal Trail and behind the lifeguard stand on RPV Beach. Unauthorized take-off area for Paragliders. (Pictures on file)

SAN RAMON RESERVE

Monitor trails for new bike jumps. Hikers have created trail to access Reserve due to the steep grade and erosion at authorized trailhead. It appears to less activity during this quarter.

Rangers removed two bike jumps. (Pictures on file)

THREE SISTERS RESERVE

- McBride Trail and McCarrell Canyon Trail look the same. McBride is the primary entrance to Three Sisters.
- There is a McCarrell Canyon Trail marker at Ocean Terrace Dr (outside Reserve?).
- Barkentine | McCarrell Canyon trail markers double stacked. Recommended separating.
- Recommended "Stay on Trail" signs.
- Recommended moving "Filiorum Reserve" funding sign out of Three Sisters Reserve to Filiorum Reserve (Pacifica) as to provide clarification for users in the event of an emergency.

ALTA VICENTE RESERVE

Regular dog walkers requested directional signs to Rancho Caninos Dog Park from nearby residents. They were unaware of the dog park.

ABALONE COVE RESERVE

As directed by "City", The on-duty ranger monitored the activity in the coastal Reserves during the high surf advisory the weekend of December 13, 2015. Assisted Los Angeles County Lifeguards during high surf event on December 12, 2015.

**RANGER HOTLINE CALLS - 19**

**ABALONE COVE RESERVE**

- Dog bite (off leash)
- Distressed Pelican

**ALTA VICENTE RESERVE**

- Hours

**PORTUGUESE BEND RESERVE**

- Upcoming annual survey
- Lost on Barn Owl (parked up at Del Cerro Park)

**FORRESTAL RESERVE**

- People off trail below Cool Overlook
- Dogs off leash

**OCEAN TRAILS RESERVE**

- Dogs loose on beach almost every day (3)

**THREE SISTERS RESERVE**

- Trail information

**VICENTE BLUFFS RESERVE**

- Fisherman on unauthorized trail below Calle Entradero parking lot

**MISC**

- Dead Coyote on road
- Questions regarding taking lobster off Pier (DFW)
- Compost pile starting to smell
- Dog walker – off leash (unsure of Reserve)
- Dogs on Soccer field
- Filming information (CITY)
- Questions about Cliff Diving / Jumping (CITY)

## 7 - INTERPRETATIVE PROGRAMS

- Junior Ranger Program - Fall 2015
  - OCTOBER 10<sup>th</sup> - MOCK CAMP OUT  
FORRESTAL NATURE RESERVE  
Venture out with MRCA Rangers to find clues about the wildlife living in our hills and neighborhoods! Also, learn about camping and trail safety.
  - OCTOBER 24<sup>th</sup> - NATIVE AMERICANS  
POINT VICENTE INTERPRETIVE CENTER  
Hike with Rangers through the Vicente Bluffs Reserve, visit the native plant garden, and learn about the local Native Americans that once lived in Palos Verdes.
  - NOVEMBER 7<sup>th</sup> - FIRE ECOLOGY  
LADERA LINDA COMMUNITY CENTER  
MRCA firefighters and learn about wildfires. Participants can try on real fire gear and try out a fire hose.
  - NOVEMBER 21<sup>st</sup> - GEOLOGY AND PALOS VERDES LAND SLIDE HISTORY AND EXPLORATION  
PORTUGESE BEND RESERVE  
Learn about Portuguese Bend Reserve, including the landslide, as you hike along the trails in the Portuguese Bend Reserve.
  - DECEMBER 5<sup>th</sup> – JUNIOR RANGER GRADUATION/Cook Out  
ALTA VICENTE RESERVE.
- Ranger-led Full Moon Hikes
  - October 26<sup>th</sup> – Alta Vicente Reserve
    - 6 Participants
  - November 25<sup>th</sup> – Portuguese Bend Reserve
    - 23 Participants

## Administrative | Meetings

- PVPLC/CITY Preserve Management Monthly Team Meetings
- CITY/PVPLC/MRCA Site Visit
  - November 20, 2015
  - Trail Markers
  - Forrestal Reserve | Portuguese Bend Reserve