



Sea Grant Fellowship
California Department of Parks and Recreation

1. Host location and contact information

Natural Resources Division, California State Parks
1416 9th St, Room 923, Sacramento, CA 95814
Phone: 916-956-8939 (work mobile phone for Marina Cazorla)
Email: Marina.Cazorla@parks.ca.gov

2. Name of fellowship supervisor

Marina Cazorla, Coastal Program Manager, Natural Resources Division

3. Point of contact for California Sea Grant, prospective fellows, and finalists

Marina Cazorla, Coastal Program Manager, Natural Resources Division

4. Position Description

The California Department of Parks and Recreation (State Parks) manages 128 coastal park units, or nearly one quarter of the California coastline. As manager of these coastal lands, State Parks has the responsibility and opportunity to serve as a leader in coastal land management. State Parks' Natural Resources Division (NRD) provides policy direction and technical assistance for natural resource management in the State Park System. NRD also administers major funding programs for natural resources management and habitat restoration throughout the State Parks System, and coordinates with other State and federal agencies on policy issues of statewide significance. Within the NRD, the Coastal Programs team serves to coordinate these efforts as they relate to the coastal units of the State Park System. Further, with expected impacts from climate change along the California coast, identifying and addressing management priorities for coastal State Park units is becoming increasingly critical for the protection of coastal resources.

The Fellow will work with the Coastal Programs Team to inform and implement State Parks' coastal policies and programs, including application of innovative natural resource management solutions. Specific duties will be developed collaboratively at the start of the fellowship, however, project and programmatic opportunities that could be pursued include:

Further State Parks' Estuary Initiative

The Estuaries Initiative is developing a comprehensive statewide approach for the management and restoration of coastal lagoons and estuaries within the State Park System. The Fellow may assist with synthesizing emerging science on coastal lagoons and estuaries, engaging with stakeholders and State Parks resource managers, and developing and implementing a collaborative strategy for prioritizing restoration and management for building estuary resilience in State Parks in the face of climate change.

Implementing State Parks' Sea Level Rise Adaptation Strategy

State Parks developed a departmental [Sea Level Rise Adaptation Strategy](#), which is now being implemented in a phased approach. The Fellow may assist with implementing action items identified in the Strategy, such as developing support tools to assist project managers, and/or tracking the progress of the State Parks System towards implementation.

Coastal Management and Policy

Depending on the Fellow's background and interest, there are additional coastal management responsibilities within the Coastal Programs team that would allow the Fellow to: apply or strengthen their technical and data/GIS skills; perform policy analysis; apply communications skills; or all of the above. The Fellow could:

- Assist district staff with coastal permitting as well as support for NRD staff review of coastal restoration and adaptation projects.
- Work with NRD engineering geologists, agency partners, and district on issues related to coastal sediment management, including the identification of California shoreline erosion concern areas within the State Park System.
- Track work products of other State and federal agencies and NGOs regarding coastal issues, including State policy guidance documents, coastal adaptation strategies, and science reports. Disseminate applicable information to appropriate audiences, including State Parks HQ and district staff.
- Collaborate with program staff at partner agencies such as the Ocean Protection Council, California Coastal Conservancy, California Coastal Commission, and other State and federal agencies on a wide range of coastal management issues.
- Collaborate with State Parks' Interpretation and Education Division, OPC, and other agencies to develop targeted and effective communication strategies and messaging related to issues impacting coastal park units.