

## History of Department of Regional Parks

- 1959** Parks Acquisitions and Development Branch is established with an initial budget of \$18,355
- 1960** Parks and Recreation Commission created by ordinance 699
- 1960** The first park was acquired in the system, Ancil Hoffman Park
- 1960** Discovery Park acquired
- 1961** Save the American River Association (SARA) was organized to protect the river from future development; effort led by Effie Yeaw
- 1962** The American River Parkway Plan was adopted by Sacramento County and incorporated into the Recreation Element of the County General Plan
- 1962** The County purchases the Gibson Ranch property; subsequent purchases in 1974 and 1977 raise total to 325 acres
- 1962** Cliffhouse fishing access leased to Parks by CA Fish and Game, the first of four sites in the Delta to be owned and/or operated by Parks
- 1965** County General Plan designates the Dry Creek corridor as an exclusive agriculture and recreation reserve
- 1965** Ancil Hoffman Golf Course opens, the first of four County golf courses
- 1972** Voters approve \$12.6 million bond to expand Parkway operations, continue acquisitions and build a nature center, now the Effie Yeaw Nature Center
- 1972** The Park Ranger unit created, to enhance visitors' experience, provide education, and reduce crime and vandalism in the park system.
- 1974** US Department of the Interior designates the Jedediah Smith Trail as a National Recreation Trail
- 1975** Adaptive Leisure Services, now Therapeutic Recreation Services, established
- 1976** First version of American River Parkway Combining Zone Ordinance adopted
- 1981** The American River designated a Wild and Scenic River
- 1983** American River Parkway Foundation established to help acquire Parkway funds
- 1984** Rangers officially sworn in as Peace Officers and permitted to carry firearms
- 1985** Final segments of the Jedediah Smith Trail are acquired and trail is completed
- 1985** California legislature passes the Urban American River Parkway Preservation Act
- 1987** Cosumnes River Preserve established by The Nature Conservancy; Parks purchases and contributes 600 acres in 1993
- 1995** Parks leased 1,432 acres of property formerly the Mather Air Force Base
- 2003** Deer Creek Hills acquisition is complete partnering with Sacramento Valley Conservancy