

## Sonoma-Mendocino Coast District

### Volunteer Duty Statement

#### Whale Watch

#### Sonoma Coast State Park

The purpose of this position is to interpret gray whales and their migration to the visiting public and to further the mission of California State Parks: “To provide for the health, inspiration, and education of the people of California by helping to preserve the state’s extraordinary biological diversity, protecting its most valued natural and cultural resources, and creating opportunities for high-quality outdoor recreation.”

#### Duties and Responsibilities:

- Greet park visitors and assist them in viewing the gray whale migration
- Share information at the overlook and information table about the gray whale life cycle and whale watching using gray whale artifacts, the “Whale Watching & Pacific Gray Whale Facts” rackcard, and other relevant information and photographs
- Sign up for shifts using the Teamup calendar on the [www.stewardscr.org](http://www.stewardscr.org) website
- Wear provided name badge and California State Parks Volunteer patch while volunteering
- Keep track of volunteer time

#### Skills and Qualifications:

- Good communication skills
- People skills
- Willingness to learn and share knowledge about gray whales

#### Time Commitment:

Minimum of four hours per month during the migration period (January to May)

#### Training:

Whale Watch Training before first Whale Watch volunteer shift (can watch video of recorded past training), Volunteer Orientation, and Bear in Mind EEO Training within 60 days of starting and subsequently every two years. A Whale Watch Coordinator is on duty each shift during the Whale Watch season and will notify scheduled volunteers if the shift is cancelled due to bad weather.

#### Reporting:

The supervisor for this program is Senior Park and Recreation Specialist, Bill Maslach. The lead for this program is the Stewards of the Coast and Redwoods Program Manager, Amelia Schall Tůmová is the Sonoma-Mendocino Coast District Volunteer Coordinator ([Amelia.Schall@parks.ca.gov](mailto:Amelia.Schall@parks.ca.gov)).

#### Benefits:

Learn about the natural history of gray whales and enjoy watching and helping visitors to Bodega Head watch them on their migration. As a volunteer with California State Parks, logging 48 hours of volunteer time earns a complimentary district pass, and 200 hours of volunteer time earns a complimentary VIPP statewide pass for the next year. Please contact Amelia Schall Tůmová about reporting volunteer hours and making a plan to receive your pass in a timely manner.

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Conclusion:

The relationship between a volunteer and California State Parks must be one of mutual benefit. The Volunteer Service Agreement may be terminated at any time without cause and without advance notice.

If you willingly agree to perform all duties, please sign below.

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State Park Volunteer

Date

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State Park Representative

Date