



## **Girl Scouts Love State Parks Weekend**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

#### **“Girl Scouts Love State Parks” Initiative Aims to Get Every Girl Outside July 13 and 14**

Girl Scouts of California's Central Coast encourages girls to have outdoor experiences along the Central Coast along with thousands of girls in hundreds of state parks across the United States.

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**Ventura, CA —** Today Girl Scouts of California's Central Coast and Girl Scouts of the USA (GSUSA) announced their first-ever Girl Scouts Love State Parks weekend July 13–14 for girls to experience the great outdoors, an integral part of the organization's all-girl leadership program. Join Girl Scouts of California's Central Coast and thousands of girls in hundreds of state parks across the United States to find adventure, explore nature, and learn what Girl Scouts is all about.

The legacy of Girl Scouts and the outdoors is profound. Studies show that [71 percent](#) of girl members ages 8–14 tried their first outdoor activity through the organization and half would not have had access to outdoor activities and programming if not for Girl Scouts. GSUSA's cutting-edge environmental conservation; camping; and outdoor science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) programming is rooted in a passion for adventure and healthy risk-taking combined with taking action to protect the environment for present and future generations. Girl Scouts wants to get even more girls outside through Girl Scouts Love State Parks.

In collaboration with the National Association of State Park Directors (NASPD), Girl Scouts of California's Central Coast will hold multiple events to get girls outdoors. On July 13<sup>th</sup> at the Hollister Hills State Vehicular Recreation Area, girls will participate in a badge program and guided hike. Additionally on the 13<sup>th</sup>, girls at Hearst San Simeon State Park will visit the Piedras Blancas Elephant Seal Sanctuary and Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Coastal Discovery Center, followed by a guided hike. From July 13<sup>th</sup> – July 14<sup>th</sup> at McGrath State Beach, troops will camp overnight, hear from Park Interpreters about local bird conservation efforts and Chumash history, and do a beach clean-up service project.

“We are so excited to celebrate the love Girl Scouts has for the outdoors”, said Tammie Helmuth, GSCCC CEO. “Girl Scouts of California's Central Coast offers amazing outdoor experiences for girls, including outdoor opportunities at our very own [Camp Arnaz Program Center](#). We are so happy to be able to expand girls' opportunities to explore the outdoors at our local state parks in the Central Coast.”



Participants can also purchase an exclusive Girl Scouts Love State Parks patch and other related merchandise from the [Girl Scout Shop](#).

"GSUSA has always been a leader in getting girls outdoors, and we are excited to open our state parks specifically to the organization this July," said Lewis Ledford, NASPD CEO. "Girls can flex their leadership and risk-taking skills while exploring the parks, learning something new, and, most of all, having fun."

Contact Girl Scouts of California's Central Coast at 800-822-2427, or email us at [info@girlscoutscoc.org](mailto:info@girlscoutscoc.org) to learn more about Girl Scouts Love State Parks events in the Central Coast.

### **About GSCCC**

Girl Scouts of California's Central Coast serves over 10,200 girls across six counties and is committed to making the Girl Scout Leadership Experience available to girls in ways that impact their lives both in the moment and into the future. Girls participate in troops, individual projects, council events, day camps, resident camps and more. A variety of leadership, outdoor skills, and Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) based programs and events provide girls with opportunities to learn and explore in fun and informative ways. To join or volunteer in Santa Cruz, San Benito, Monterey, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara or Ventura County, visit: <http://www.girlscoutscoc.org>.

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