

LASSEN PARK FOUNDATION

NEWS



LASSEN PARK
FOUNDATION

FALL 2021





DIXIE FIRE IMPACTS THE PARK

The Dixie Fire entered the southeast corner of Lassen Volcanic National Park near Juniper Lake on August 5. The park closed while the fire burned within its boundaries, and firefighters fought to contain the blaze east of the park highway. Nevertheless, the fire affected 73,067 acres or 68% of the park with mixed levels of intensity in different areas.

The National Park Service immediately began taking actions to repair damage caused by suppression activities, deal with safety issues such as road damage and trees that might fall, and "stabilize cultural and natural resources such as the Mt. Harkness Fire Lookout stone base and steep slopes at risk of erosion."

Before winter conditions closed the park highway to through traffic, it was open again to traffic from the southwest entrance to the Lassen Peak Trail parking lot and from the northwest entrance to Loomis Plaza.

During the winter season, park staff and partners will plan for recovery and restoration going forward. "This will include repairing or rebuilding facilities and other infrastructure such as trail bridges and boardwalks, and some natural resource management actions including invasive plant monitoring."

Although visitors will notice the altered views in the park and other impacts of the Dixie Fire on their experience, "fire is an integral part of the ecosystems in this resilient, volcanic landscape. A forest leveled by Lassen Peak eruptions more than 100 years ago and another affected by the 2012 Reading Fire tell the story of nature's continuous cycle of regeneration and renewal."

By the time you read this, the park will likely be under its full winter blanket, but keep in mind these cautions and advice from the Park Service during your visits: "Protect Your Park – Protect Yourself."

Park resources will need time to recover from the fire, so stay out of closed areas. Doing so will "limit further erosion, protect plants of concern, allow sensitive areas and species to recover, limit the introduction of invasive species."

In addition, areas burned by wildfire contain dangerous conditions, some of which are now concealed by snow. Hazards you will avoid by staying out of closed areas include "falling trees and limbs, hidden stump holes, loose or falling rock, unsafe water crossings, hot/smoldering ground."

"Stay OUT" of closed areas and "Stay SAFE."

Adapted from LVNP flier. Read in full at <https://www.nps.gov/lavo/planyourvisit/upload/2021-LAVO-Guide-Post-Fire-1Oct2021.pdf>

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR DIXIE FIRE UPDATE

My heart goes out to all our friends in the Lassen community who suffered because of the Dixie Fire. Many lost their homes and or businesses, more were evacuated and had their lives upended. I am incredibly grateful to all the men and women who fought this fire. I continue to be impressed by the professionalism and dedication shown by all of those involved. I had the privilege to sit in meetings where I could see first-hand how well various federal, state, and local agencies worked together toward the common goal of fighting the fire. Thank you to everybody who contributed.

The Lassen Park Foundation did what we could during the fire to provide support and assistance. Some of us opened our homes to displaced park staff. Many of us physically helped evacuate Park HQ. The Foundation also secured office space in Redding for park staff to set up a temporary HQ operation while the fire burned.

But the real work has just begun. Thankfully, Lassen Volcanic National Park is resilient. The ecosystem is resilient and adapted to fire. The community is resilient, and now we embark together on recovery. We have chosen Resilience as the theme for the efforts to raise funding for recovery. This campaign will emphasize the positive aspects of recovery. Resilience is strength, and we will focus on this positive narrative rather than dwell on the details of loss.

Now is the time for park lovers to step up and help in a time of real need.

Thank you for your support.


Pete Dailey, Chair
Lassen Park Foundation





LASSEN VOLCANIC NP PARTNERS LAUNCH LASSEN RESILIENCE CAMPAIGN

Lassen Association and Lassen Park Foundation are partnering with Lassen Volcanic National Park to nurture the park's resilience in the wake of the Dixie Fire.

The two nonprofit park partners and the park created the Lassen Resilience campaign to raise funds to support both immediate and long-term recovery efforts in the park.

The campaign kick-off features an original, limited edition print by Chico artist Jake Early. The four-color silkscreen print features Lassen Peak and a mosaic of Dixie Fire impacts within the park. The run of 500 signed prints and a small number of artist's proofs will be for sale on the Lassen Association website and at the Park Store inside the Kohm-yah-mah-nee Visitor Center beginning November 15. Proceeds from sales of the print will benefit park fire relief and education efforts.

For more information about the Lassen Resilience campaign, contact Lassen Association at (530) 360-0530, lassenassociation@yahoo.com. To reach Lassen Park Foundation, call (530) 768-1110.

Information about the Lassen Resilience print artist, Jake Early, is available at jakeearly.com and jakeearlyart.com.

For more information on Lassen Volcanic National Park, including winter season activities, visit the park website, nps.gov/lavo.

**LIMITED
EDITION PRINT**
by Chico artist Jake Early

The four-color silkscreen print features Lassen Peak and a mosaic of Dixie Fire impacts within the park.

Prints and a small number of artist's proofs will be for sale on the Lassen Association website and at the Park Store inside the Kohm-yah-mah-nee Visitor Center beginning November 15.

*Funds raised will assist the
park's recovery post-Dixie Fire*

RANGER-LED PROGRAMMING

Discover your park through a ranger-led program from Junior Ranger activities to evening talks. Programs are offered mid-June through early September. Program details will be posted outside the Loomis Museum and Kohm Yah-mah-nee Visitor Center on the day a program is offered. (Please note that ranger-led programming will not be posted online in 2021.)

WINTER HOURS

Kohm Yah-mah-nee V.C.
Wednesday-Sunday, 9am-5pm

Lassen Cafe & Gift
Open Daily, 11am-2pm

Lassen Crossroads
Closed for Winter

Manzanita Camper Store
Closed for Winter

Loomis Museum:
Closed for Winter

PLAN A VISIT! DECEMBER - MARCH

Winter is a season of snow and solitude but the adventures are endless!

Areas to Visit

The Manzanita Lake and Southwest Areas of the park are accessible throughout the winter season. Be prepared for winter driving by carrying tire chains and keeping a full tank of gas (the nearest station is 30 miles away).

Southwest Area

Located five miles north of the SR-36 and SR-89 junction. Steep slopes and sweeping vistas abound in the Southwest Area of the park. Beginning at 6,700 feet elevation, this area receives the most snow. The year-round visitor center here is an excellent first stop for new winter explorers.

Sulphur Works is the only hydrothermal area accessible in the winter season and is accessed via a two-mile, over-snow route from the Kohm Yah-mah-nee Visitor Center. The highway into Southwest Area may close temporarily due to severe weather/heavy snowfall.

Manzanita Lake Area

Located two miles south of the SR-44 and SR-89 junction in the northwest corner of the park. The Manzanita Lake Area (5,800 elevation) consists of gentle slopes and scenic lakes. It offers the easiest routes for snowshoeing and cross-country skiing in the park.

Activities

For those prepared for winter recreation, opportunities include sledding, snowplay, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, backcountry skiing/snowboarding, and joining a ranger-led snowshoe walk. Walks are offered on weekends January through March. Plan on leaving your pet at home or in your vehicle, as pets are not permitted on trails or snow-covered routes (including the park highway).

www.nps.gov/lavo/planyourvisit/index.htm



LEARNING FROM THE DIXIE FIRE

The fire's pace slowed to some extent after it entered the park. It stayed primarily to the east of the park road, meaning that many of the western features of the park – Brokeoff Mountain, Lassen Peak, Sulphur Works – were untouched by fire. The same is true around Manzanita Lake in the northwest territory of the park.

Even more comforting is the fact that in some parts of the park the fire did pass through, its intensity was low, so the damage is not uniform. According to Kevin Sweeney, Public Affairs Officer for the park and Chief of Interpretation, Education and & Volunteers, such places include Kings Creek Meadow, Bumpass Hell and Drakesbad Guest Ranch. Driving into Juniper Lake and Warner Valley requires passing miles of stark devastation. While the tremendous loss of the Harkness Fire Lookout and Juniper Lake inholder cabins weigh heavily, Juniper Lake and its campground show varied evidence of the fire's impact. In fact, "Juniper Lake campground is still a beautiful place. And all the campgrounds in the park survived the fire with little to no damage," said Sweeney.

In addition, although there is currently limited access to the burned areas of the park, Sweeney reports that in the rest of the park, there appears to be a somewhat normal amount of wildlife activity. During the fire, animals, especially deer, evacuated themselves from the east to the west. Sierra Nevada Red Fox, including a litter of 5 pups, also moved out of danger, and returned to other areas of the park when it was safe to do so.

The National Park Service began assessing the impacts of the Dixie Fire while it was still active in the park. Although fire science experts will continue to study and learn from the fire's behavior in the park, they already know that it burned more intensely in areas where fuel treatments have not occurred. In those areas of severe burn, the soil chemistry is altered, which can invite invasive species to move in. Efforts to reduce negative consequences of the next fire will require continued management of the forests for resource protection, including prescribed burns, some of which have already taken place since the fire. Lessons learned from the Dixie Fire may also suggest additional action aimed at helping the park to thrive.

The Dixie Fire was fueled by many factors, severe drought being one of the most impactful. While human-caused climate change will continue to present new challenges to all who live, work, and play at Lassen Volcanic, a snowy winter would be a welcomed sight following this fire. If the October storms that moved through the mountains bringing enough snow to close the park highway and cover the landscape in a wintry mantle were the first down payment on a sizable winter snowpack, "Next summer could provide one of the most beautiful wildflower displays any of us have experienced in the park," said Sweeney.

Remembering Bill Latham



William (Bill) Latham
Lincoln, CA

Bill Latham, a friend of national parks and a devoted Board Member and supporter of the Lassen Park Foundation, died on September 20th. As a native Californian, Bill developed an early love for the Sierra National Parks and the National Park Service. After a call from Uncle Sam, he spent nearly 25 years moving around the country before retiring from the United States Air Force as a Lieutenant Colonel. He took advantage of his numerous postings to visit nearly 250 national park sites. While in the Washington DC area, he had the good fortune to serve as a Volunteer Historian at Manassas National Battlefield Park. Upon his return to California, he planned a trip to Crater Lake. On the way, he stumbled upon Lassen Volcanic National Park and never made it to his destination.

After more than 20 years exploring Lassen's almost untouched wonders, in comparison to other much more visited California parks, he found himself caught between the two great contradictions of the National Park mandate and their impact on Lassen--How to maintain the pristine beauty and uniqueness of this special place while making sure it remains accessible for future generations? The opportunity to join the Lassen Park Foundation offered him a special way to support the wonder that is Lassen Volcanic National Park.

While living in Modesto, Bill was an active member of his community and a dedicated volunteer. A recent highlight he volunteered and was a membership in the Modesto Doctor's Medical Center Service League where he served as Chairperson. He retired from employment with the City of Modesto as a Management Analyst with responsibilities for the city's transportation program. Bill's commitment to the Lassen Park Foundation and his steadfast support will be missed.

At Lassen Park Foundation we connect children with nature. Through our policies and practices we offer opportunities for youth to experience and learn about their national park, regardless of race, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, socioeconomic status, location, citizenship status or religion.



LASSEN PARK FOUNDATION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ChairPete Dailey
Chief Financial Officer.....John Livernois
Corporate SecretaryBenjamin Webster

Vice-Chair, ITRobert Ono
Vice-Chair, DevelopmentDavid Trotter
Vice-Chair, CommunicationsDeborah Trotter
Executive OfficerJohn Koeberer
Executive OfficerSteve Williams
Executive OfficerKatie Harris

Zach Brunner, Honorary
 Patrick W. Carr
 Jeffrey Clary
 Paul Coots
 Jeff Finck
 Lizabeth Forsberg
 Jennifer Finnegan
 Jody Johnson
 Jean King
 Jon King
 Joe Kneer
 Kacey Koeberer
 Christy Link
 Alan Lockyear
 Mike Lynch
 Nancy Piret
 Pam Pitts
 Jack Potter Jr.
 Dave Shakes
 Emilyn Sheffield
 Janette Storer
 Randall L. Townsend
 Jim Weber
 Kenny Wilsey

AGENCY LIAISONS

*Superintendent Lassen
 Volcanic National Park*Jim Richardson

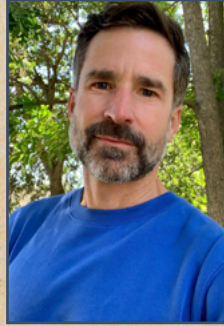
*Chief of Interpretation & Education Lassen
 Volcanic National Park*Kevin Sweeney

STAFF

Interim Executive Director Jean King
Program AssistantDaniel Peschard

MEET OUR BOARD MEMBERS

View our full list of Board Members online at LassenParkFoundation.org



Jeffrey Clary

Jeff Clary joined Lassen Park Foundation's Board of Directors in June 2021. He grew up in the Hill Country of central Texas, but has lived in Sacramento for the past 20 years. He has a biology degree from the University of Texas, and he completed his PhD in ecology at UC Davis, where he studied grasslands in Mediterranean-climate regions. Since 2007 he has worked for the UC Davis Natural Reserves, first as a field station manager and then as Administrative Director for all six UC Davis reserves. He is past president of the Davis Botanical Society and an avid gardener.



Jean King

Jean joined the Lassen Park Foundation Board of Directors in June 2021. She retired in 2019 after a career as Executive Director of several non-profit agencies including One Safe Place and the Shasta Library Foundation in Shasta County. She worked for the University of California for over 30 years in Alumni and Development at UCSB, UCSD, and the UC Office of the President in Oakland CA. Jean was born and raised in Anderson, CA where from her bedroom window she watched the sun rise and set over Mt. Lassen and was a frequent visitor to the park. She lives in Redding with her husband, Butch, and their three miniature schnauzers. Jean has been an active member of the Redding community having been a member of or served on the boards of PEO, AAUW, Redding Rotary, Haven Humane, The Women's Fund, Redding Chamber of Commerce, Dignity Health Advisory Board, and the California Highway Patrol Advisory Council.



Nancy Piret

Nancy Piret joined Lassen Park Foundation's Board of Directors in January 1997. Nancy currently serves on the Youth and Projects Committee of the Lassen Park Foundation and on the Board of Directors of "The Family Business Association of California". She retired from Gorrill Ranch after serving as Managing Partner for 25 years and continues on as a consultant. She graduated from the University of Oregon, served as President and Treasurer of Omega Nu (a local philanthropic organization), and was a member of the Chico Habitat Resource Conservation Plan steering committee. Her interests include hiking, paddling, golf and time at Lake Almanor. She learned to ski at Lassen Park.

Lassen Park Foundation is seeking new Board Members

If you have an interest in serving on our Board of Directors please contact our office via e-mail at info@lassenparkfoundation.org.

MAKE A CONTRIBUTION TO LASSEN PARK FOUNDATION FROM YOUR INDIVIDUAL RETIREMENT ACCOUNT

As much as you might like to, you can't keep your dollars in a retirement account forever. The IRS generally requires you to make withdrawals from your Individual Retirement Account (IRA) once you reach 70.5 years of age. The IRS has a formula to determine the Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) that you must withdraw from your retirement account each year. If you don't take your RMD, you could be subject to a hefty IRS excise tax penalty. (Due to changes made by the SECURE Act, if your 70th birthday is July 1, 2019, or later, you do not have to take withdrawals until you reach age 72).

The annual withdrawals from your IRA account are taxable as income. If you are in the fortunate position of not needing your RMD for living expenses, you can avoid this additional income tax by making use of the IRS qualified charitable distribution rules. These rules permit you to request your retirement account administrator to directly contribute all or a portion of your annual RMD income tax-free to the Lassen Park Foundation, a non-profit (501(c)(3)) organization. In 2021, the maximum tax-free RMD that can be directed to a non-profit organization is \$100,000 for a single taxpayer and \$200,000 for both taxpayer and spouse. Keep in mind there is presently an IRS restriction that prevents such retirement account donations from also serving as a charitable contribution tax deduction. If your RMD is first distributed to you, as an IRA owner, your IRA withdrawal does not qualify for income tax-free treatment under the IRS qualified charitable distribution rules.

An RMD also applies to individuals who inherit an IRA. As IRS rules are complex and subject to change, we encourage you to discuss the IRS qualified charitable distribution rules with your tax advisor and/or financial planner. Note that State tax rules may vary in respect to RMDs - another reason to seek expert guidance.

If you'd like to contribute to Lassen Park Foundation under the IRS qualified charitable distribution rules, please contact your IRA administrator.

Remember To Donate On North State Giving Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Once again this year Lassen Park Foundation is participating in North State Giving Tuesday. If you've never heard of it, basically it's an online event for Giving Tuesday (the Tuesday after Thanksgiving) put on by Community Foundation of the North State promoting over 180 nonprofits in the northern California region. All funds collected on Giving Tuesday on November 30, 2021, from 6am PST to 8pm PST, via NorthStateGives.org. Click on participating nonprofits and list the Lassen Park Foundation where it says All Categories!

All donations may be tax-deductible and irrevocable. All major credit cards and debit cards are accepted. Donors can create log-in, select donations to the charities of their choice, and pay one-time with their donation "shopping cart".

You can help support Lassen Park Foundation by becoming a 2021 North State Giving Tuesday donor.





LASSEN PARK FOUNDATION
PO Box 33
ANDERSON, CA 96007



@LassenParkFoundation



www.facebook.com/LassenParkFoundation



www.youtube.com/LassenNPS



www.twitter.com/LassenParkFound

SUPPORT RENEW APPRECIATE INSTILL WONDER DONATE

A contribution to the Lassen Park Foundation will be used towards supporting youth programs, enhanced interpretive and educational activities, trail restoration, wildlife research, park improvements and cultural resource development. Those who contribute to the Foundation support the Lassen Volcanic National Park and surrounding region, helping to preserve its unique beauty for generations to come, as well as enriching the experience of today's Lassen visitors.

Go to www.lassenparkfoundation.org or call us at **(530) 768-1110** to make a donation today.
Or you can fill out the form below and mail to: PO Box 33, Anderson, CA 96007. **You make our Foundation possible!**

YES! I would like to help support the Lassen Park Foundation by making a donation.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Method of Payment:

☐ Cash ☐ Check ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard

Name: _____

CC#: _____

Exp Date: _____

Signature: _____