

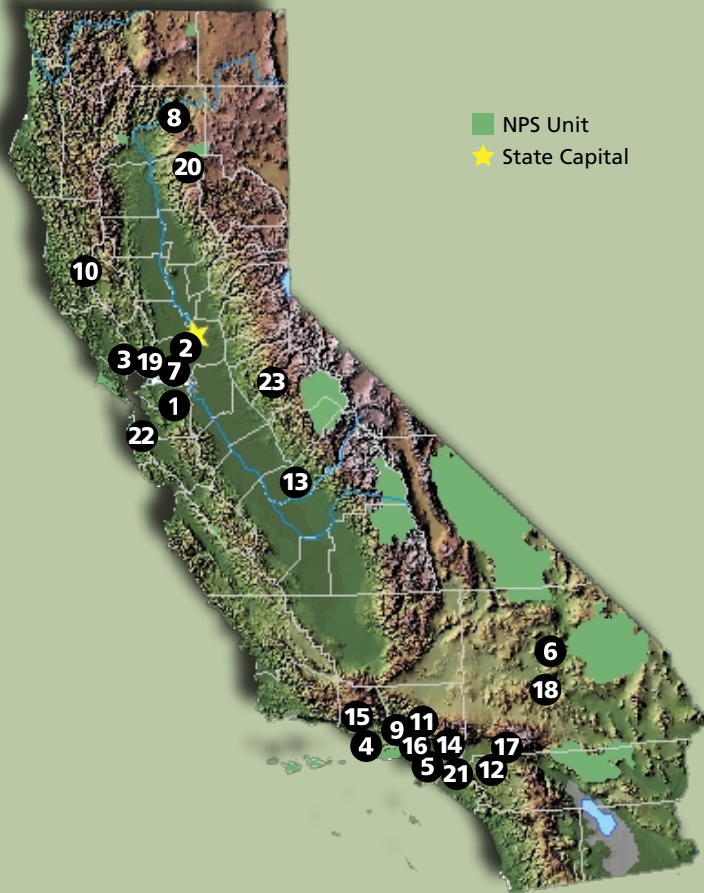


# California News



San Francisco Bay Trail Project Manager Laura Thompson on the Landfill Loop.  
Photo: Bruce Bayaert

## PROJECTS AND PARTNERS 2012



Find out more about each project starting on page 2.

## Recent Success

### Interpreting the San Francisco Bay Trail in Richmond

Under the committed, resourceful leadership of Trails for Richmond Action Committee (TRAC), and with foundational guidance and support from the Bay Trail Project, the City of Richmond, California is leading the way to completion of the 500-mile San Francisco Bay Trail. Today, Richmond has over 31 miles of Bay Trail - more than any of the other 46 communities working on this regional pedestrian and bike trail that is slowly but surely circling San Francisco Bay.

TRAC has also, over the last decade, been using its successful partnership approach to create and implement a comprehensive program of wayfinding and interpretive elements that enhance access and appreciation for both new and regular visitors to Richmond's Bay Trail.

In 2002 TRAC invited RTCA to help establish its Interpretive Subcommittee and to work with the group to initiate Richmond's Bay Trail interpretive program. Fortunately, Richmond's expansive 32-mile shoreline and richly documented history spanning native American Ohlone settlements, prominence in the early 20th century industrial boom, and emergence

#### ABOUT US

The Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) Program is the community assistance arm of the National Park Service. RTCA staff provides technical assistance to community groups and local, state, and federal government agencies working to protect natural areas and water resources and enhance close-to-home outdoor recreation opportunities. We help communities plan, organize partnerships, and achieve on-the-ground success on projects they initiate.

## We're Here For You.

Could your project benefit  
from RTCA Staff Assistance?  
Contact us to find out.

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## 2011 Nationwide Partnership Success

- 1,991 Miles of Trail Developed
- 1,925 Miles of River Conserved
- 33,230 Acres of Open Space and  
Parkland Protected
- 94% Percentage of Community  
Partners Satisfied

Find more information online  
at  
**www.nps.gov/rtca**



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## Recent Successes cont.

as a major shipbuilding center during World War II are fodder for many fascinating stories. The area's natural and cultural features, along with the community's renaissance as a recreational and heritage destination including the establishment of Rosie the Riveter World War II National Homefront Historical Park, provide a wealth of opportunities for meaningful and welcome interpretation along the Bay Trail.

For its first project with RTCA, the Interpretive Subcommittee created a series of wayfinding and interpretive panels for the Seacliff Drive, Ferry Point, and Brickyard Cove trail segments. These waysides focused on quarrying and brickmaking, the historic Kaiser shipyards, shorebirds, and shoreline transformation. Local designer Bette Tarr designed the graphics and Toll Brothers developers contributed funding for design, fabrication, and installation.

Soon after the signs went in, a Brickyard Landing resident wrote to TRAC, "Big Kudos for the terrific signage now erected along the trail in front of Brickyard Cove Road and Seacliff Drive. I think they are just terrific..and a marvelous addition to the neighborhood. Thanks!"

RTCA and the Subcommittee then partnered with Rosie the Riveter World War II National Homefront Historical Park, Richmond Sanitary Service, and local designer Jan Brown to develop and distribute an interpretive trail guide for the very popular Marina Bay section of the trail.

Ultimately, inspired and enabled by its interpretive work with RTCA, TRAC went on to partner with West County Wastewater District, East Bay Regional Park District, the

*"TRAC has built upon  
the skills RTCA taught  
and the confidence  
their staff instilled to  
prepare two more trail  
guides and many inter-  
pretive and orientation  
signs."*

-Bruce Bayaert, TRAC Chair

Port of Richmond and others to create and install a total of 22 interpretive exhibits and wayfinding signs on the Bay Trail and to produce two additional interpretive trail guides in the now-popular Richmond Bay Trail User Guide series.

A sampling of the Richmond Bay Trail Interpretive Program can be viewed at:

<http://www.pointrichmond.com/baytrail/signs.htm>

<http://www.pointrichmond.com/baytrail/map.htm>

