



Mounted Assistance Unit (MAU)

Wilderness Patrol Volunteer Duty Statement

Purpose

Volunteers patrol the backcountry to interpret natural resources, assess trail conditions, and provide information to park visitors.

Duties

- Volunteers work a minimum of 5 hours/month for one year. Saturdays, Sundays & holidays prioritized for shift coverage.
- Volunteers commit to a minimum of 6 rides within the year.
- Educate, assist and inform park visitors about trail conditions and park regulations.
- Interpret natural and cultural resources of State Parks.
- Report trail hazards and obstacles.
- Accurately complete written and online trail reports, log-sheets and incident reports.
- Assist park staff with park/visitor emergencies.
- Maintain Wilderness Patrol equipment, tack and trailer safety. Remove all manure from staging area.
- Report to State Park Supervising Ranger and/or Volunteer Coordinator.
- Act as goodwill ambassador for all horseback riders

Skills/Qualifications

- Wilderness Patrol Volunteers are over 18 years old, must be physically fit and capable of hiking at least 3-miles in a day over varied terrain.
- Friendly, courteous and possess good communication skills.
- Positive attitude and willingness to work as a team member with Park staff and visitors.
- Satisfy California State Parks application/training requirements including: *Live Scan fingerprinting*, communication skills, equipment/trail maintenance, interagency relations, orienteering and basic computer literacy.

Training

Attend mandatory Wilderness Patrol training days as well as enrichment opportunities when possible.

Horse and Rider

I certify that I and/or my patrol horse am/are:

Skill	initial
Comfortable at the walk, trot and canter (on patrol canter only in an emergency)	
Able to stay under control even when spooked	
Able to cross streams and bridges (OK if another horse has to lead)	

Comfortable on a multi-use trail with joggers, bikes, strollers, backpackers	
Able to pony and be ponied	
Comfortable leaving other horses or being left by other horses	
Horse will stand when tied or when engaging trail users quietly for extended periods of time	

Note: If you are not able to initial all of these boxes you cannot begin the checkout process. However, you can do ride alongs with MAU member pairs until you feel you are ready to initial all boxes.

Uniforms

Wilderness Patrol Volunteers will purchase and wear a distinctive park volunteer uniform which will display State Park volunteer emblem at all times.

Signature _____ Date _____

Phone _____ Email _____

State Parks Interested in Volunteering _____

Please write in order of preference (Big Basin Redwoods, Castle Rock, Henry Cowell, Nisene Marks, Portola Redwoods, Rancho del Oso, Wilder Ranch, other)

*Email signed Duty Statement to: jeremy.lin@parks.ca.gov