

Resource Management Comments

The WVC team of four perfectly blended interns (Estefania Angeles, Kevin Kawamoto, George Sakkas & Danny Griffin) with many skills and talents. Almaden Lake Park Goose Management Program surely benefitted from their assets and I recognize each and every one of them for their unique contributions.

Danny's resource management project was primarily to assist in the Canada Goose egg addling at Lake Almaden - and Lake Cunningham Regional Park. This duty has usually been conducted by park ranger staff to manage the Canada goose population. For the 2017 breeding season Danny worked in a team with two other park management interns monitoring and managing 27 nests, addling well over 200 goose eggs at Lake Cunningham Regional Park alone. This included marking and mapping the nests, numbering the eggs, and covering the eggs with corn oil. We are very happy with the finished product and Danny and his team mates can be proud of the results. Further Danny also assisted with Lake Cunningham water quality monitoring by collecting weekly water samples for testing and lab analysis.

Danny was instrumental in creating an online tracking system that was created on Google drive and shared with all of the team members. This information was later transferred onto the final report format that tracked four visits to the Almaden Lake Island where the majority of the goose nests. Keeping a journal of the activities is essential in maintaining good records to the final reports that requires submission to the State of California Fish and Wildlife Permits Department. In addition, hhe was trained on boat safety operations and how to dock and unload the boat on the trailer. How to clean the boat after use and where to securely store it at the end of the day. The team's dedication, reliability and comradery made the entire training program not only a great success, but a true joy in having them at our agency.

Maintenance Benchmark

Danny's know how regarding tools and materials was of great use for several maintenance tasks related to the Lake Cunningham Marina and boat fleet maintenance, including storm damage clean up and repair.

Additional projects involved trail maintenance including erosion repair, cutting back shrubs and tree limbs for trail clearance and the installation of lake closure signs all along the Lake Cunningham lake shore.

Maintenance projects at Almaden Lake Park consisted of trail repair and pruning of trees & shrubs. After the storm season, many of the trails were impacted by overgrowth of vegetation that were impairing access to park vehicles. Danny was instrumental in helping prune low hanging tree limbs, as well as, shrubs with wide canopies that infiltrated the trail access for pedestrians and agency vehicles. The trails had multiple gullies and divots throughout the trails that created unstable ground surface.

Danny was very helpful in pruning several miles of trails along the Guadalupe Creek Trail, the Guadalupe Oak Grove and Los Alamitos Creek Trail. He worked countless hours under cool and extremely hot temperatures. He also helped gather river rocks and woodchips from the park to relocate them to the areas of the trail that need to be filled in.

General Performance Comments:

Danny is always friendly and willing to help both park visitors and staff members. We found him eager to contribute and take on major or minor assignments which he always finishes in a timely manner. Danny's internship hours with the City of San Jose Parks department were split up between Lake Almaden and Lake Cunningham Regional Park. Almost all project work was shared between Danny and two additional interns from the West Valley College Park Management program. Danny took on a lead role throughout the various assignments including managing radio traffic between the team and ranger staff, arranging, monitoring, and scheduling the teams work hours between the two parks and preparing for specific tasks. Danny has been consistently punctual and at times willing to accommodate additional shifts as needed. He has been consistent in wearing the West Valley College Park Management approved uniform as well as carrying and maintaining all required equipment. Danny has shown an ability to learn City of San Jose and park policies and procedures and has always represented himself as a member of the Lake Cunningham Park staff, fully adhering to City rules and policies.

I hope that Danny would consider applying for a Park Ranger position with the City of San Jose. He has shown that he is the type of talented individual that the City hopes to employ for the Park Ranger Program. It has been a pleasure to work with Danny.

Although there is much more work to be done, we at Almaden Lake Park appreciate the help that he and his team contributed in the short period of time that we were able to share together. The team dynamics along with their great personalities, they made working alongside with them an extreme pleasure. Thank you!!!

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