



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Steven Maviglio, 916-607-8340

## **AUBURN WILL BE SITE OF PARKS FORWARD INITIATIVE WORKSHOP ON FUTURE OF CALIFORNA'S STATE PARKS**

September 13, 2013 -- The Parks Forward Initiative and the California State Park and Recreation Commission will hold a workshop in Auburn to gather new ideas from Gold Country residents on how to improve efficiency, create financial sustainability, and better leverage partnerships within the California State Park System.

The workshop will be held on Thursday, October 3, from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Auburn, 120 Grass Valley Highway, Auburn. It will also be webcast live on [www.cal-span.org](http://www.cal-span.org).

The workshop is part of the Parks Forward Initiative, which is undertaking a thorough evaluation to improve and sustain California's underfunded State Park System. In June, California Secretary of Natural Resources John Laird and California State Parks Director Major General Anthony L. Jackson, USMC (Ret.) unveiled the Initiative. Earlier this month, the 12 members of the Parks Forward Commission were announced.

"These public workshops are intended to engage and interact with the public that California state parks serve," said Ken Wiseman, Executive Director of the Parks Forward Initiative. "We encourage people to participate, so that we can hear directly from every community. State parks are an important resource for Californians, and this effort is to ensure that everyone has a seat at the table as we search for ideas to improve the way parks serve the public."

Gold Country citizens who cannot attend the meeting are encouraged to submit comments via the Parks Forward website, [www.ParksForward.com](http://www.ParksForward.com), its Facebook Page, [www.Facebook.com/ParksForward](http://www.Facebook.com/ParksForward), and via Twitter @ParksForward.

# # #