SUMMARY ACTION MINUTES
(Action Items Displayed in Italics)
Thursday, October 1, 2026 — 6:00 p.m.

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Hanson.

II. ROLL CALL

Chair Warren, Vice Chair Jones, and Commissioners Bui, Diaz (arrived during Item V.A.), Hanson and Gabbard were present. Commissioner Shawver was absent.

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

At this time, members of the public may address the Commission on items of public interest that are within the jurisdiction of the Commission and are not contained in tonight's agenda.

No comments were received from the public.

IV. CONSENT CALENDAR (ITEM(S) A–B)

The following item(s) on the consent calendar will be approved by one motion unless a Commissioner requests to pull a specific item.

A. APPROVE COMMISSION MINUTES FOR THE AUGUST 6, 2026 MEETING

B. APPROVE COMMISSION MINUTES FOR THE SEPTEMBER 3, 2026 FIELD TRIP

Motion: Commissioner Gabbard
2nd: Commissioner Jones
Approved 5–0

V. DISCUSSION CALENDAR (ITEM(S) A–B)

A. OC PARKS TRAILS SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBER APPOINTMENT

The OC Parks Trails Subcommittee (Subcommittee) has one member whose term of membership will shortly expire and has reached her term limit. A new person will need to be appointed as a Subcommittee member to fill this vacancy. Staff therefore propose the appointment of Mr. David Wilson to serve a two-year term on the Subcommittee.

Pam Passow, OC Parks Director, introduced staff providing the update.

Jeaniene Casiello, OC Parks Planning and Design Manager, provided the update.

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):

Appoint David Wilson to serve as a member of the OC Parks Trails Subcommittee for a two-year term, expiring on September 30, 2028.

Motion: Vice Chair Jones
2nd: Commissioner Bui
Approved 6–0

B. FALL AND WINTER EVENTS PREVIEW PRESENTATION

Staff will present a preview of upcoming OC Parks fall and winter events.

Pam Passow, OC Parks Director, introduced staff presenting the item and answered the Commissioners' questions.

Kristi Quon, OC Parks Strategic Communications Manager, presented the item and answered the Commissioners' questions.

James Dinwiddie, OC Parks Deputy Director, answered the Commissioners' questions.

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):

Receive and file.

Motion: Commissioner Diaz
2nd: Commissioner Bui
Approved 6–0

VI. OC PARKS DIRECTOR'S REPORT (ITEM(S) A–B)

A. DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Pam Passow, OC Parks Director, provided updates and answered the Commissioners' questions.

B. UPCOMING OC PARKS EVENTS

Starr Party – Saturday, October 10, 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.

- Embark on a journey through the stars at our Starr Party! For more than 25 years, Caspers Wilderness Park has been a hub for stargazing, earning California's first "Star Park" designation in 2013.
- Join us outdoors for the Starr Party, where telescopes and expert guidance will help you explore the night sky until approximately 9:30 p.m. The program features interactive activities, perfect for families

and space enthusiasts of all ages. Equipment will be provided but feel free to bring binoculars, telescopes or cameras.

- Minors must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. All activities will take place at the nature center.

Escape the Oaks! – Friday, October 30, 4:30 – 9:30 p.m.

- For the past month, sightings of a large, hairy creature lurking in Santiago Oaks have sparked rumors of the legendary Bigfoot and now, lead investigating ranger Bryan Link has gone missing!
- Join OC Parks on an adventure through Santiago Oaks after dark for a new escape room style program! Participants will help track down our missing ranger and uncover the true culprit behind these mysterious sightings.
- This program is designed for teens to adults, but all are welcome. Minors must be accompanied by a parent or guardian during the program.
- Advance registration is required via email. Minimum of three participants, maximum of six participants per one-hour time slot. Time slots are available from 4:30 - 8:30 p.m. on a first-come, first-served basis.

Run Wild 5K – Saturday, November 7, 7:15 – 11:00 a.m.

- On Saturday, November 7, Irvine Regional Park will host Orange County Parks Foundation's Run Wild 5K.
- The race route will be within the park paths and trails around the OC Zoo.
- A 1K running/walking route will also be offered for children, making the event fun for people of all ages.
- Opening ceremony begins at 7:15 a.m. with the event concluding at 11 a.m.

VII. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND REPORT

At this time Commissioners may comment on agenda or non-agenda matters, provided that no action may be taken on off-agenda items unless authorized by law.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT 6*:44 p.m.*

SUMMARY ACTION MINUTES
(Action Items Displayed in Italics)
Thursday, October 1, 2026 — 6:45 p.m.

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Gabbard.

II. ROLL CALL

Chair Warren, Vice Chair Jones, and Commissioners Bui, Diaz, Hanson (left during Item III. A. due to schedule conflict) and Gabbard were present. Commissioner Shawver was absent.

III. DISCUSSION CALENDAR (ITEM(S) A)

A. OC PARKS FEE SCHEDULE UPDATE

OC Parks will be updating its fee schedule. Staff will provide an overview of the fee study process and present the proposed fee schedule for consideration.

Pam Passow, OC Parks Director, introduced staff presenting the item and answered the Commissioners' questions.

Jaimie Wu, OC Parks Business Administration Division Manager, presented the item and answered the Commissioners' questions.

James Dinwiddie, OC Parks Deputy Director, answered the Commissioners' questions.

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):

Recommend the Board of Supervisors adopt the proposed revised OC Parks Fee Schedule.

Motion to recommend the Board of Supervisors adopt the proposed revised OC Parks Fee Schedule with discussed revision.

Motion: Vice Chair Jones
2nd: Commissioner Diaz
Approved 5–0

IV. ADJOURNMENT *7:32 p.m.*



Park Ranger Program Recruitment and Training

Orange County Parks Commission – December 3, 2026

RECRUITMENT PROCESS









1. Application
2. Written Assessment
3. Selection Interviews
4. Background Investigation Process
5. Final Interview with OC Parks (Meet and Greet)
6. Conditional Job Offer
7. Start Date



2024–25 RECRUITMENT

- 786 Applications Received
- 10 Candidates Graduated Ranger Academy 10 on May 1, 2025

2025–26 RECRUITMENT

- 952 Applications Received
- 10 Candidates Graduated Ranger Academy 11 on November 19, 2026

RANGER ACADEMY 11

- **RA 11:**
  - Began: June 17, 2026
  - Graduated: Nov. 19, 2026
  - Over 800 hours of training
  - 3 days/week
  - 10 Recruits
- **Recruit Introductions:**
  - Sinclair Andruska
  - David Arevalo
  - Nicole Logan
  - Samuel Mendibles
  - Nicholas Miron
  - Stephanie Olivares
  - Trevor Parrington
  - Grace Peek
  - Javier Perez-Marcial
  - Daniel Thatcher



THANK YOU





El Niño Storm Preparations

OC Parks Commission | December 3, 2026

ANNUAL STORM SEASON CYCLE

- Pre-Storm Season (Summer–Fall):
  - OC Parks prepares for wet season, clears drains/V-ditches, trains staff, orders materials.
- Storm Season (Winter–Spring):
  - Focus on immediate forecasts and impact response to rain events.
- Post-Storm
  - Focus on recovery and documentation for potential reimbursement.



O'Neill Regional Park

STORM PREP BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

MANDATORY TRAININGS



Pre-Storm Season Preparations

- Best Management Practice (BMP) (gravel bags, straw waddles, silt fence, etc.) Deployment Training
  - Over 150 employees completed mandatory, hands-on refresher training for field staff, including park rangers, resource specialists, and maintenance workers across all OC Parks divisions.


Craig Regional Park


Mason Regional Park


Craig Regional Park

Pre-Storm Season Preparations



BEFORE

Loftus Standpipe Drain – Craig Regional Park

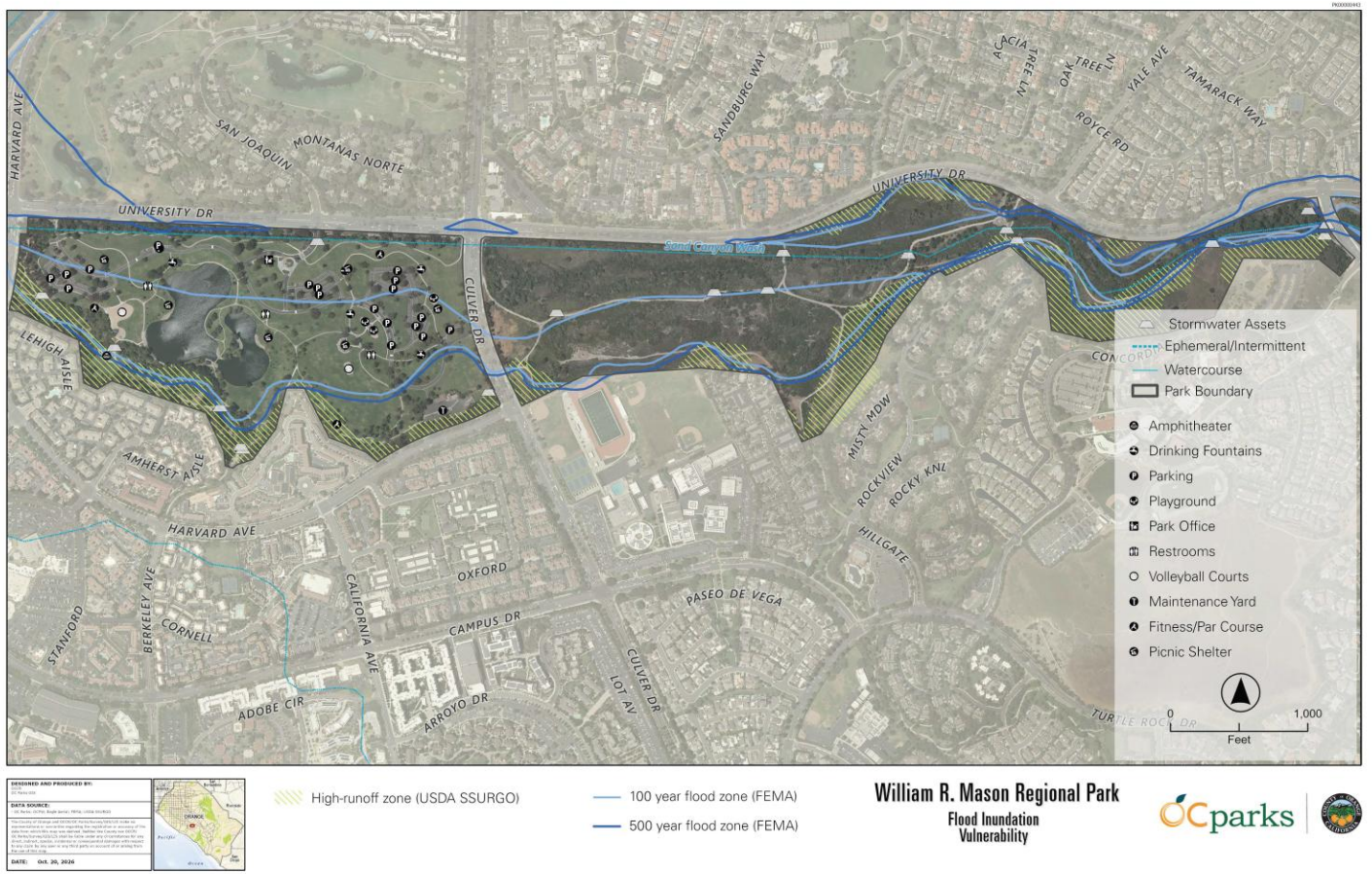


AFTER

Loftus Standpipe Drain – Craig Regional Park

Pre-Storm Season Preparations

- Flood Risk Maps
  - Completed maps of relevant facilities that shows overlay of available flood frequency and inundation information with facility assets and access routes.



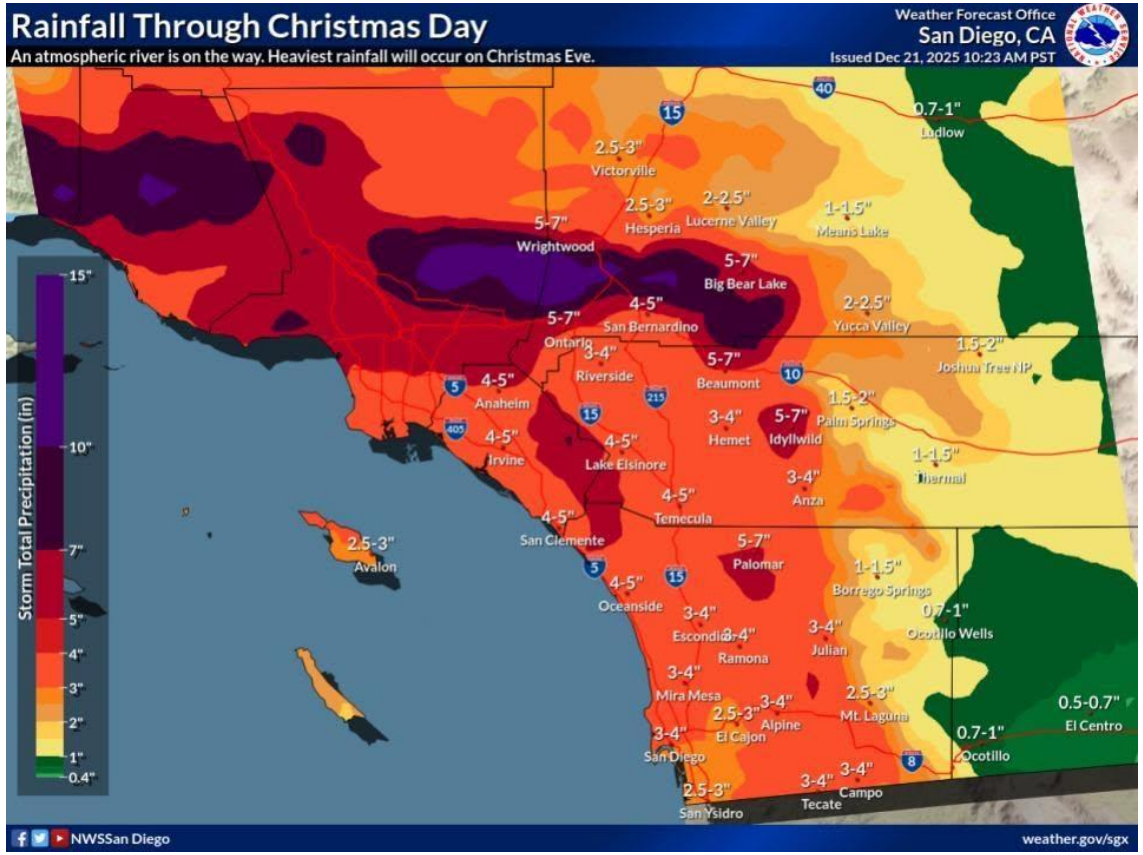
Pre-Storm Season Preparations

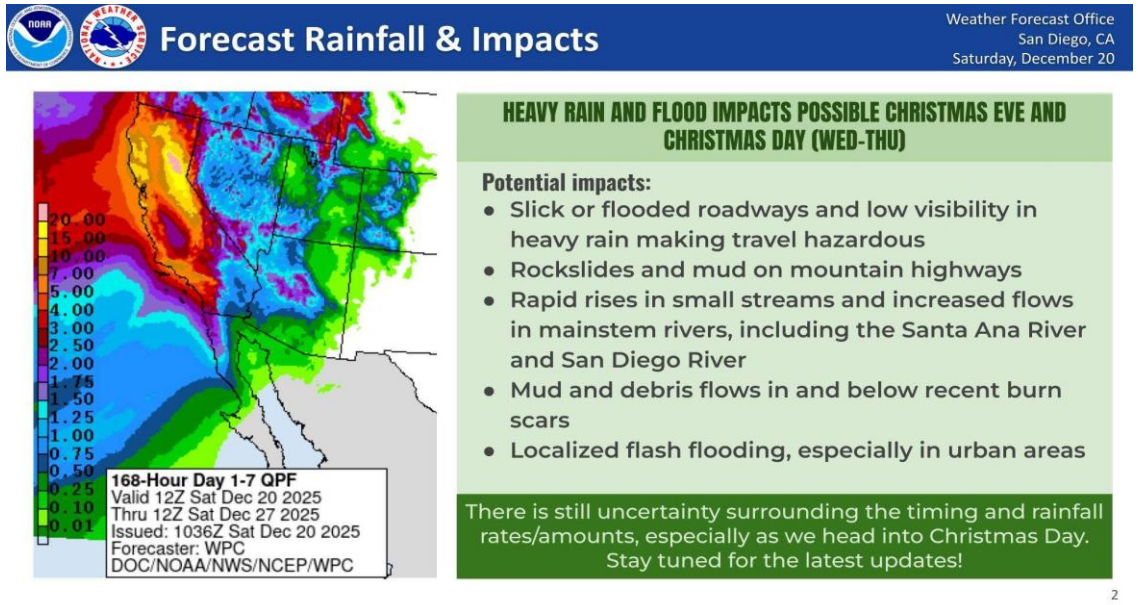
- Facility Storm Plans
  - Ensured existing storm evacuation and closure plans were up-to-date for each facility.
- Equipment & Materials Inventory Form
  - Identified quantity and type of BMPs, pumps, generators, heavy equipment, and related resources by facility.
- Centralized Hubs
  - Established storage and distribution points at OC Parks locations across the County.
  - Coordinated locations with defined stocking levels.



Storm Season Monitoring

Monitor National Weather Service Predictive Modeling to Gauge Potential Impacts to Park Facilities:





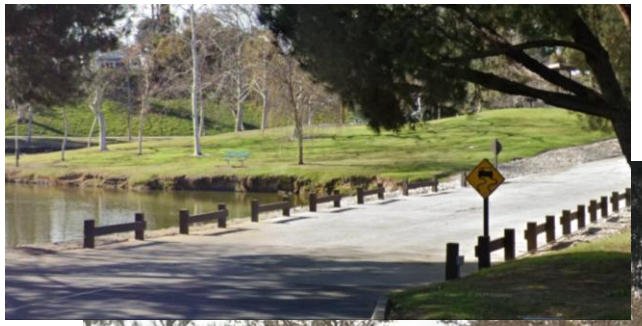
During the Storm

- Public Messaging
  - All park closures and impacts will be communicated on the Alerts Page of the OC Parks website.
  - OC Parks-specific messaging will also be shared through social media, on Facebook (@OrangeCountyParks), Instagram (@OCParks) and X (@OCParks).
  - The County has also launched an El Nino Preparedness website.

During the Storm – Flooding





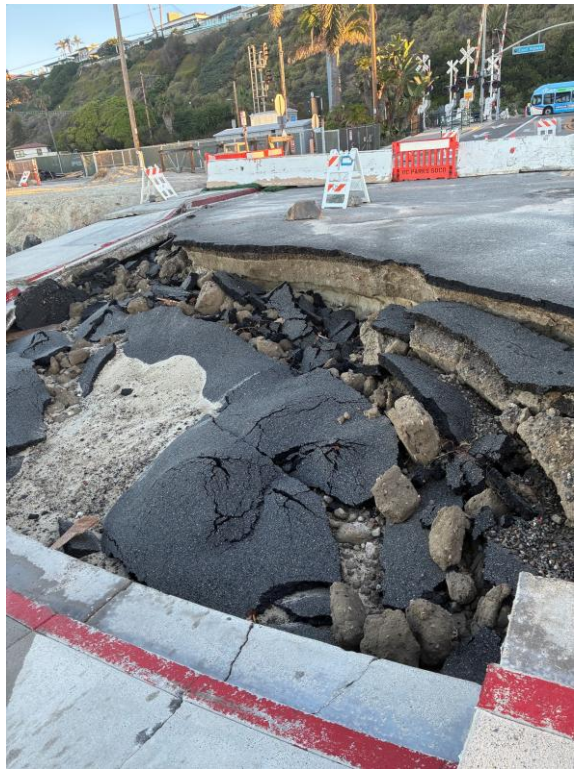




Coastal Storm Impacts







Capistrano Beach – Damage from Hurricane Rachel

Camping Park Impacts



O'Neill Regional Park



O'Neill Regional Park - Trabuco Creek

Regional Park Storm Impacts



Parking Lot A – Carbon Canyon Regional Park



Parking Lot A – Carbon Canyon Regional Park

THANK YOU



ORANGE COUNTY PARKS COMMISSION

STAFF REPORT

FROM: Pam Passow, Director, OC Parks **DATE:** December 3, 2026

SUBJECT: OC Parks Commission's Proposed 2027 Meeting and Field Trip Schedule

A proposed schedule of 2027 meeting and field trip dates is provided below for the Commission's review. Seasonal field trips provide the Commission with valuable onsite experiences at various County facilities.

January 7	Cancelled Meeting
February 4	Regular Meeting
March 4	Regular Meeting
April 1	Cancelled Meeting
April 2, 9:00 a.m.	Commission Field Trip — Arden: Helena Modjeska Historic House and Gardens
May 6	Regular Meeting
June 3	Regular Meeting
July 1	Cancelled Meeting
August 5	Regular Meeting
September 2	Regular Meeting
October 7	Cancelled Meeting
October 8, 9:00 a.m.	Commission Field Trip — Ralph B. Clark Regional Park Interpretive Center
November 4	Regular Meeting
December 2	Regular Meeting

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Approve the Commission's 2027 meeting and field trip schedule.

Pam Passow