

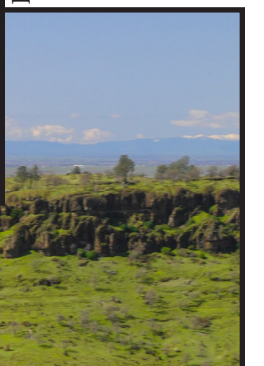
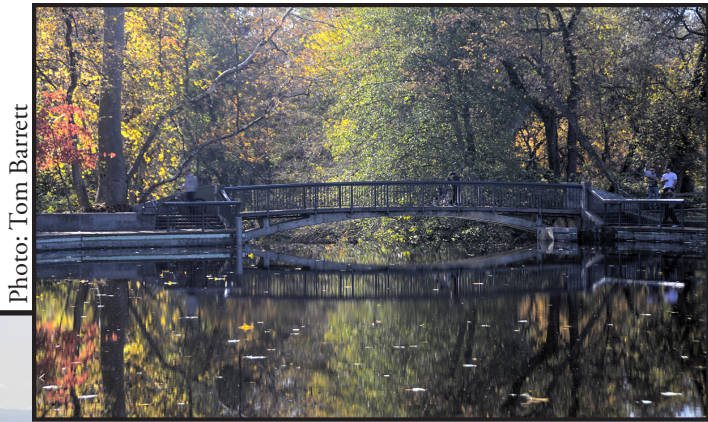
California Park & Recreation Society, District 2  
Recreation, Park and Leisure

# 2013 Hall of Honor

Regional Treasure Category

## BIDWELL PARK

City of Chico



### In Recognition of Chico's Magnificent Park

With 3,670 acres, Bidwell Park is the third largest municipally owned park in California and 14th largest in the country.

Bidwell Park is a historic artifact, a mini-grand canyon, a biologist's laboratory, a fitness gym and a place to explore, all in one.

It is a magnet that attracts over 1.1 million visitors annually. The park starts near the heart of downtown Chico on the Valley floor and stretches 11 miles along Big Chico Creek into the Cascade/Sierra Nevada Foothills. It is divided into three areas: Lower Park is comprised of flat terrain with a thick canopy of trees that includes valley oak and sycamore woodlands; Middle Park is dotted with wildflower fields, vernal pools, and blue oak woodland; Upper Park, the easternmost portion of the Park, is characterized by steep foothill terrain of the Cascade area and many geologic formations created by volcanic activity millions of years ago.

Bidwell Park offers a variety of educational and recreational opportunities. It is a place where one can walk a dog along Big Chico Creek, restore habitat as a volunteer, mountain-bike rugged trails, spot an endangered species, swim in scenic swimming holes, or hold a fundraiser to promote a cause. Bidwell Park promotes a high quality of life for our community and the region.



### Visionaries

John and Annie Bidwell

### Management/Jurisdictional Agency

City of Chico Parks Division

### Partners

**Bidwell Municipal Golf Course, Inc.** (BPCG) is one of Northern California's original municipal golf courses and was established in 1929.

**Big Chico Creek Ecological Reserve** is under the Institute for Sustainable Development at *California State University, Chico*. It works together with the Research Foundation's Ecological Reserve System to preserve critical habitat and to provide for environmental research and education.

**California Conservation Corps, Chico Satellite** (CCC) is a state agency that puts young people to work for the environment.

**Chico Community Observatory** is run by volunteer astronomers from the community and is maintained by the generosity of the *Pacific Center for Astronomical Research (PCAO)*.

**Chico Creek Nature Center** (CCNC) is Bidwell Park's Information Center.

**Chico Equestrian Arena and Event Center** is managed by the *Chico Equestrian Association (CEA)*. Its members are County residents who enjoy horses and horseback riding.

**Chico Rod and Gun Club** is a non-profit indoor range with emphasis on youth programs.

**Chico Area Recreation District (CARD)** leases and manages *Hooker Oak Recreation Area* and *Sycamore Baseball Field*, both located in Bidwell Park. Established in 1948, CARD offers a variety of community recreational programs in Bidwell Park.

**Outside Recreational Advocacy Inc. (ORAI)** provides for the upkeep and monitoring of the *Peregrine Point Disc Golf Course*, an 18-hole advanced disc golf course located in Upper Bidwell Park.

**The Dog House** leases and operates the *One Mile Concession Stand*, located in the One Mile Recreation Area across from shady lawn of the Sycamore Pool.