

# Fort Ross & Salt Point News



March 2017

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Starting April 1st Fort Ross will be open seven days a week.

Reef Campground will open as soon as storm damage has been addressed.

The Call House Museum is open first weekend of each month from 1 to 4 PM.

Windmill Turning - First Saturday of each month at 12 noon

Please visit our website for more information.

Fort Ross Conservancy  
501c3 / California  
Cooperating Association

[www.fortross.org](http://www.fortross.org)  
707-847-3437  
[info@fortross.org](mailto:info@fortross.org)

Environmental Living  
Program  
Marine Ecology Program  
Tours in English & Russian  
Information on special events  
Visitor Center Museum and  
Bookshop

Register or Update Your  
Email Address

## Contact Us

Fort Ross Conservancy  
19005 Coast Highway One  
Jenner, CA 95450

Dear friends,

It's nearly 7pm on a bright and sunny evening, and while I may still be stuck at my desk, all external signs point to the arrival of an abundantly lush and long-overdue Spring season. **Starting April 1st Fort Ross will be open seven days a week.** Reef Campground will open as soon as storm damage has been addressed. Thanks to our park maintenance crew and recent [Park Champions](#) volunteer workday, Salt Point's Woodside and Gerstle have been properly tidied and are ready for the rush of happy campers to descend. In a word, high season has arrived, and we invite you to venture north to Fort Ross and Salt Point where the wildflowers outnumber people and the lack of internet can bring a much-needed sense of peace and perspective. Please visit!

A few housekeeping items:

If you are a teacher and you attend our [Environmental Living Program](#), open enrollment for ELP starts April 1st. It's first come, first served, so make sure you contact Sondra Hunter, Director of Programs, at [sondrah@fortross.org](mailto:sondrah@fortross.org) to receive your ELP reservation form.

State Parks and FRC are tracking a lovely low-slung violet that is the host plant for the endangered Behren's Silverspot and Myrtle's Silverspot butterflies and we could use some attentive volunteers. Questions? Email Melisa McCarthy at [melissam@fortross.org](mailto:melissam@fortross.org). [Details on our Facebook page.](#)

And lastly: with the long days comes event planning: Spring Festival and our celebration of Robin Joy Wellman's long tenure at Fort Ross on April 22nd, Alaska Native Day on May 20th, and Fort Ross Festival (think balalaikas and beer!) on July 29th, to name but a few. See our [event calendar](#) for details.

Wishing you long days and warm nights,

- Sarah and the entire FRC staff

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**FORT ROSS CONSERVANCY  
Seeks New Board Directors**

[info@fortross.org](mailto:info@fortross.org)  
707-847-3437

[Fort Ross Website](#)



Interested in public lands? Love California history? Have an interest in marine ecology? Think dynamic education programs for our youth are essential? Want to participate in a viable and vital organization?

FRC's Board of Directors meets once a month on Saturdays in February, April, June, August, October, and December. The board meetings last approximately two hours. Your service on the board counts towards [State Parks Volunteer in Parks](#) program.

Let's meet for coffee and talk. Send us an email at [info@fortross.org](mailto:info@fortross.org).

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## ENVIRONMENTAL LIVING PROGRAM Open Enrollment - April 1st



Open Enrollment for [Environmental Living Program](#) starts April 1st! It's on a first come, first serve basis, so make sure you have been in contact with Director of Programs - Sondra Hunter [sondrah@fortross.org](mailto:sondrah@fortross.org) to receive your ELP reservation form.

We look forward to welcoming your students to Settlement Ross!

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## SALT POINT PARK Wildflower Walks in April



Join the talented Susanna Barlow for weekend wildflower walks at Salt Point State Park.

**Saturdays in April:**

10am every Saturday, except April 22nd. Please meet at Salt Point Visitor Center.

This Saturday, April 1st, and Saturday April 15th, there will be a bonus early morning tide pool exploration at 8am. It has to be that early to catch the low tides.

**Sundays in April:**

Each Sunday at 10am starting at Stump Beach Day Use parking area. On April 9th the walk is at 1pm instead of 10am.

Hard rain cancels. Questions? Email to [susannab@fortross.org](mailto:susannab@fortross.org).

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## 2017 EVENTS at FORT ROSS



**Spring Celebration - April 22nd**  
**Alaska Native Day - May 20th**  
**Fort Ross Festival - July 29th**  
**Harvest Festival - October 14th**

Visit our Events page at: <http://www.fortross.org/events.htm> for details.

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## ONGOING PROGRAMS at FORT ROSS

Fort Ross is blessed with talented and dedicated volunteers who run these programs. Please join us -- learn new things and meet great people!

### **Marine Mammal Monitoring**

#### **Harbor Seal Surveys:**

April 1, 9am; April 15, 8:30am; April 22, 2:30pm; April 29, 8am;  
May 6, 2:45pm; May 20, 1pm;  
June 3, 1:15pm; June 17, 11:15am;  
July 1, 11:30am; July 15, 9:45am; July 29, 10am.

**Steller Sea Lion Surveys:** Contact Hank Birnbaum at [hankb@fortross.org](mailto:hankb@fortross.org) for survey dates. Visit our <http://www.fortross.org/marine-mammals.htm> for details.

### **Call House Museum & Garden**

Volunteers maintain the historic garden and give guided house museum tours on the first weekend of each month from 1 to 4pm. Many of the furnishings belonged to the Call family. Learn how these hardy early American ranchers lived and worked at Fort Ross.

### **Windmill Turning**

Learn how this historic replica windmill was constructed and how it operates as we turn those blades into the wind for its monthly spin. To learn more visit our windmill page at: <http://www.fortross.org/windmill.htm>.

### **Bilingual Tours**

Book your private tour today with our Programs Manager Hank Birnbaum. Visit the Tours page at: <http://www.fortross.org/tours.htm>

### **Educational Opportunities**

Scouts, School Group Visits, Educational Tours. Please email [sondrah@fortross.org](mailto:sondrah@fortross.org) to schedule your group visit.

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## **Sign Up to Participate in FRC's Marine Ecology Program**



Fort Ross Conservancy's (FRC's) Marine Ecology Program (MEP) offers a wonderful opportunity for youth to learn about local marine ecology as they hike the coastline of Fort Ross State Historic Park, interact with and observe marine species, and enjoy optional camping on the beautiful



Sonoma Coast. Elementary, middle, and high school students spend one or two days immersed in the day-to-day tasks of a marine biologist.

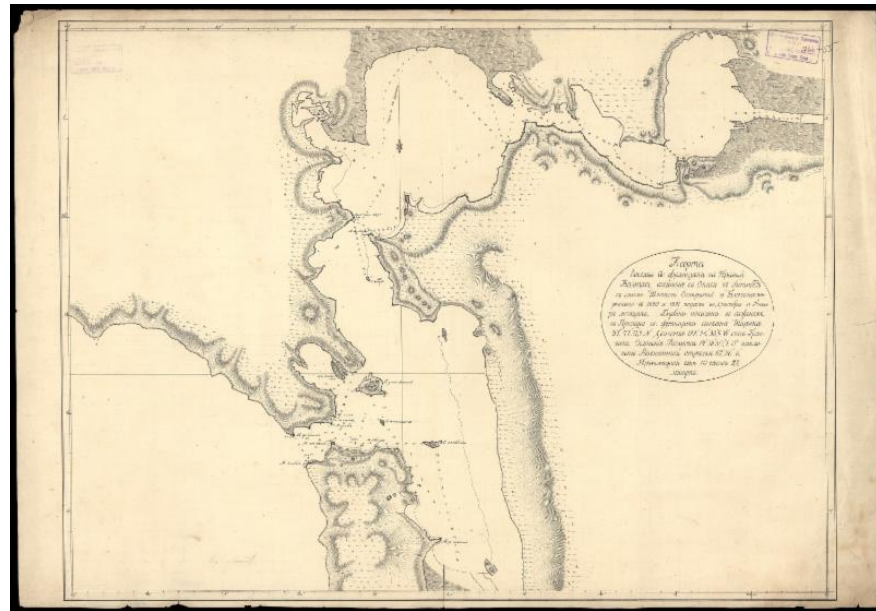
<http://www.fortross.org/marine-ecology.htm>

Our local Fort Ross School was the first MEP group of 2017. Such an incredible group of students. Inquisitive, enthusiastic, wildly bright and so sweet. We hope we have them back again!

To sign up your school please visit our [webpage](#) and contact [sondrah@fortross.org](mailto:sondrah@fortross.org) or call (707) 847-3437.

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## Chart of the Bay of San Francisco - 1820



RGAVMF f. 1331, op. 4, d. 189  
КАРТА ЗАЛИВА САН-ФРАНЦИСКО

**Inset Text:**

"Composed from notes made during the stay of the Sloops Otkrytie and Blagonamerenny in 1820 and 1821 in the months of December and January. Depths shown in sazhen. The Presidio of San Francisco was found to be at Latitude 37°47'51",9 N, Longitude 122°26'38",5 W from Greenwich. Declination of the compass 14°36'30",1 E, inclination [dip] of the magnetic needle 62°56'6". Applied time 10 hours 27 minutes."

In the early 19th century the Russian Navy made numerous voyages to the west coast of North America. These naval ships carried highly trained scientists and naturalists who created the earliest records of life in California. Many of the records and documents relating to voyages became the property of the Russian government, and are now stored in the Russian archives. In 2006, the National Endowment for the Humanities, working with the Fort Ross Interpretive Association, funded an interdisciplinary team to research, translate, and publish the untapped body of Russian information about early California and North America. This map is one such document.

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