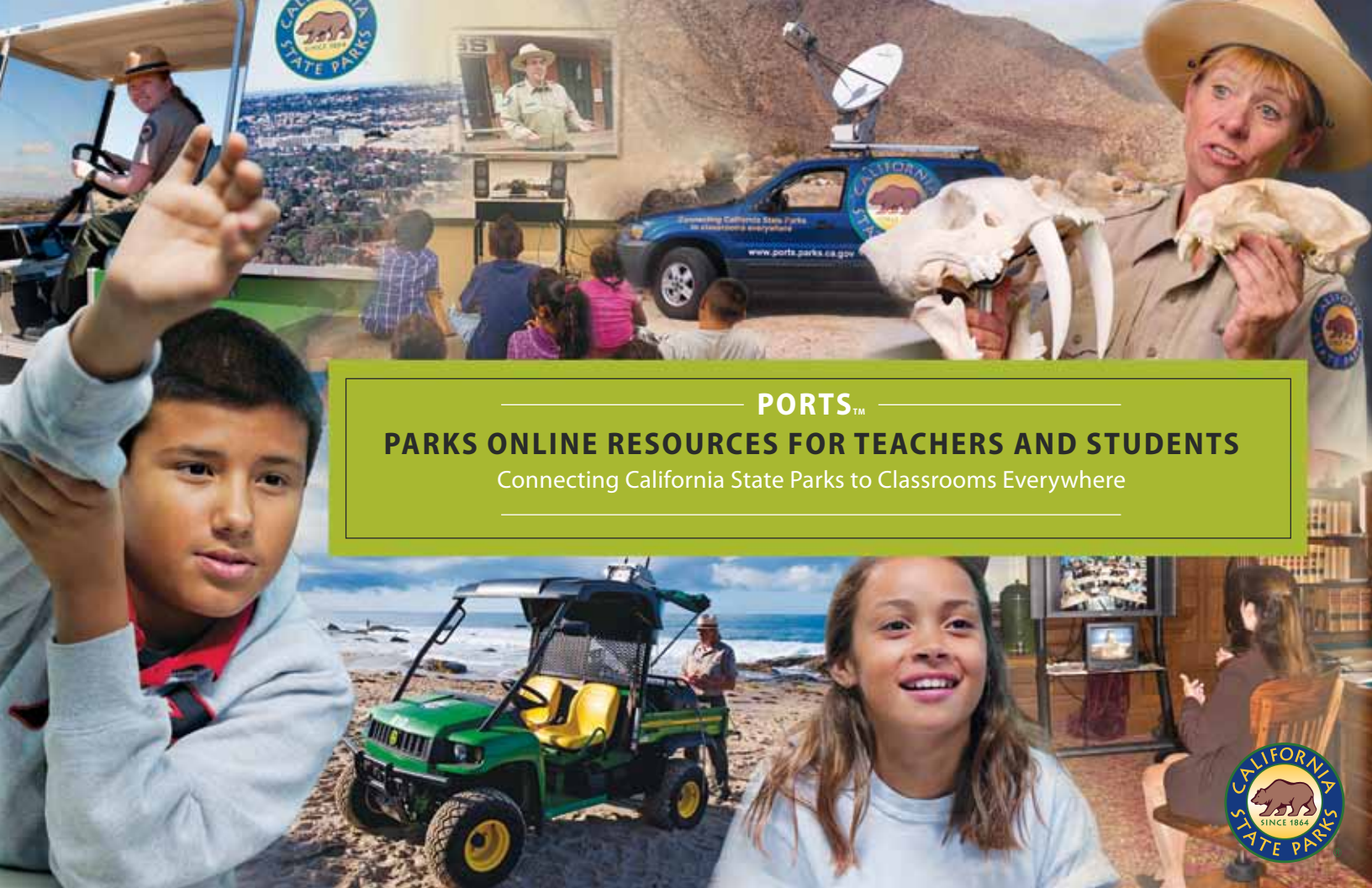

PORTS™
PARKS ONLINE RESOURCES FOR TEACHERS AND STUDENTS
Connecting California State Parks to Classrooms Everywhere
CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS
SINCE 1864

PORTS actively engages more than forty thousand K-12 students each year.

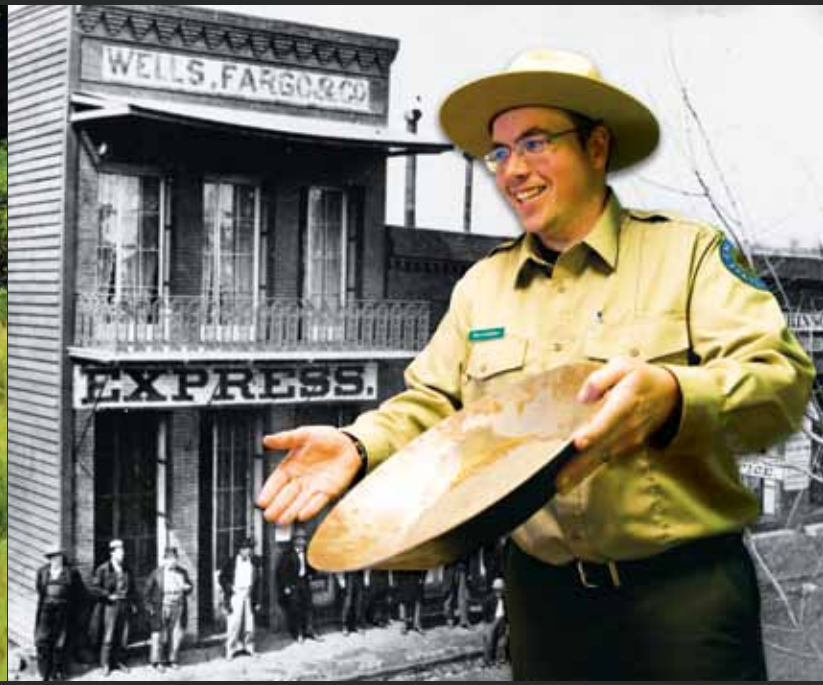
AN ESTABLISHED DISTANCE LEARNING PROGRAM

Parks Online Resources for Teachers and Students (PORTS™) brings California State Parks into the classroom via interactive videoconferencing. PORTS actively seeks support from the educational community, foundations, and private industry. Your support enables California State Parks to help increase student achievement as we promote park values and stewardship.

Videoconferencing from the tide pools at Crystal Cove State Park

THE NEXT GENERATION OF PARK EDUCATION

Providing educational programs has been a key element in protecting California State Parks since the Park System's inception in 1864. PORTS represents the next generation of California State Parks education programs. Distance learning programs are delivered from a varied sampling of state parks environments across California. Natural and cultural history topics—as diverse as the state itself—are presented during live, interactive videoconference sessions.


WELLS, FARGO & CO
EXPRESS.

*"Thanks for an **OUTSTANDING** program!*

Our teachers raved about how informative and relevant the content was and just how involved the students were. It's programs like these that excite our students and take learning to the next level."

Matthew Y.,
Technology Coordinator/Instructor,
Los Angeles Unified School District

BRINGING VALUE TO THE CLASSROOM

PORTS closely collaborates with the educational community to bring unique resources protected by California State Parks directly into K-12 classrooms. Park staff works in tandem with educators to develop curriculum and help to meet Common Core State Standards by providing access to content experts. PORTS ultimate goal: provide quality lessons with high academic value, taught in the context of California's state parks.

A PERSONALIZED EXPERIENCE

The magic of PORTS lies in the program's personal delivery, tailored to each class and teacher. Our State Park Interpreters fully engage students, using multiple modalities to accommodate all learning styles.

The enormous size of a Columbian Mammoth femur provokes awe, generating a new level of discussion and inquiry among students.

INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY IN ACTION

During a PORTS program, technology fades into the background; the interaction between the class and park takes the limelight. However, cutting-edge use of technology has always been at the forefront of PORTS. Whether presenting from custom-built chroma-key studios, the edge of the sea on a wireless network, miles deep into the desert badlands using satellite technology, or under the State Capitol dome talking directly with a state legislator, PORTS leads the way in innovative educational programs using videoconferencing.

From left to right: Crystal Cove wireless underwater camera, 1906 Governor's Office inside the State Capitol, Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook chroma-key studio.

Satellite truck in Anza-Borrego Badlands

BREAKING DOWN THE DIVIDE

- **PORTS presents an opportunity to engage K-12 students—many in traditionally underserved, diverse urban communities.**
- **PORTS' relationships with County Offices of Education, local school districts, and education's top professional organizations play a key role in this engagement.**
- **Urban and rural school administrators, educational technology leaders, and classroom teachers are PORTS' greatest advocates.**
- **PORTS bridges the socio-economic gap in California's educational system by providing meaningful interactions—regardless of race, economic status or location.**

PORTS BY THE NUMBERS

Every School Year Serving

40,000+ students

Delivering

1,500

Individualized Presentations

Impacting

100

School Districts

CALIFORNIA
STATE PARKS
PORTS

A SOLID FOUNDATION

PORTS has a proven track record with educational entities, nonprofits, and private industries committed to serving California's ever-changing population. School partners throughout the state integrate PORTS into their educational technology plans and utilize PORTS as part of ongoing professional development. Recent successful partnerships outside the educational community have helped PORTS thrive and expand its outreach efforts.

PORTS could not exist without the generous support of our partners.

HUMBOLDT COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION

EMPLOYEES COMMUNITY FUND OF BOEING CALIFORNIA

Polycom

K-12 HIGH SPEED NETWORK

C·U·E

TOYOTA USA FOUNDATION

CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS FOUNDATION

PARTNERING FOR THE FUTURE

The future of PORTS is far from ensured. In spite of educating more than 40,000 students annually, funding is inconsistent.

Therefore, California State Parks invites mutually beneficial partnerships with education, private industry and nonprofit foundations.

Opposite Page:
Anza-Borrego Desert State Park PORTS
chroma-key studio, built in 2004

ON AIR
Presentation in progress

AN ENTERPRISING OPPORTUNITY

With your support, the California State Parks PORTS Program can continue to create opportunities that enhance student achievement and promote park values by providing meaningful, lasting experiences.

www.ports.parks.ca.gov

PORTS
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