

BIDWELL PARK

A One-Year Study. 1973-1974
Revision and update, 1977 Revision
and update. 1983-1984 Reviewed and
Clarified 1992 Revised and Updated,
2001-2002

The League of Women Voters of Butte County believes that the integrity of Bidwell Park must be preserved.

Objectives of this Position

1. Uses of the park, including development, upgrading or expansion of existing facilities, should be compatible with preserving the natural state of the park and its environs. The development of new trails, walkways, and facilities should always take into consideration the impact on the natural environment.
2. The park boundaries should be surveyed to identify park lands and adjacent private ownership, to assure that the original deed is being complied with, and to identify sensitive areas near the park to be preserved.
3. Restricted areas of the park relating to cars, off-road vehicles, equestrians, joggers, bicyclists, and other park users should be clearly identified, and as necessary, posted as an aid in their enforcement. Adequate patrol should be maintained to ensure that rules are followed.
4. Every effort should be made to protect and preserve the natural environment of the park including:
 - a) Funding an environmental assessment and implementing the results.
 - b) Revegetation of overused and burned areas with native plants.
 - c) Short and long term controlled burn programs that are supervised by professionals after consultation with wildlife biologists.
 - d) Alternative non-native management should be explored, such as the use of goats, prior to the use of herbicides.
 - e) Surrounding areas should have uses that are compatible with and enhance the natural state of the park.
 - f) When contemplating trails in Upper Park, consideration should be given to the impact on wild life, plant life, and geology. No new trails should be built in Upper Park until a plan is developed and funded for the improvement and maintenance of all trails. Professional consultation regarding trail design and location should be sought.
5. Water quality of Big Chico Creek should be monitored on an on-going basis and the results made public.
6. Programs and activities which benefit the Park, such as the Nature Center and clean-up days, should be adequately funded'.
7. The Park should continue to be managed by a commission that reflects an active interest in service to the Park.
8. Motorized vehicle use in the Park should be restricted to daylight hours unless there are approved nighttime events.
9. Park roads, trails, and crossings should be developed, upgraded or expanded with the safety of our community members in mind. City and county roads adjacent to the park should reflect speed limits which are appropriate for their proximity to the park.