



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of Interior

## **NPS Cosco Busan Recreational Use Program**

# **Replace Deteriorating Trash Bins in Coastal Areas Final Programmatic Report**

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May, 2019

Recipient Park Unit: Golden Gate National Recreation Area  
Project Location: Coastal Areas of Marin and San Francisco Counties  
Date Approved: January 8, 2013  
Project Period: June 2013 – July 2014  
Award Amount Total: \$55,600  
Total Expended: \$55,576  
    Award Amount Marin: \$19,000  
    Total Expended Marin: \$18,991  
    Award Amount SF: \$36,600  
    Total Expended SF: \$36,585  
Project Number: PXXGOGA0814 – Marin County  
                  PXXGOGA0823 – San Francisco County

### **1. Summary of Accomplishments**

This project replaced trash and recycling containers at six popular coastal destinations in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA) in Marin and San Francisco counties. Many of the previous trash containers had deteriorated, and were poorly designed and allowed rainwater and wildlife to get into the trash. Trash ended up scattered throughout public areas.

### **2. Project Activities & Outcomes**

The project replaced deteriorating trash bins with 21 paired BearSaver animal-proof trash and recycling bins at 5 locations including Stinson Beach and Muir Beach in Marin County, and Baker Beach, Fort Point and Crissy Field in San Francisco County. In addition the project purchased and installed 14 animal-proof Park Style BearSaver trash and recycling dumpsters at particularly high use areas in the park where trash and recycling bins are not adequate to serve the level of visitor use. Dumpsters were

installed at Stinson Beach and Kirby Cove Campground in Marin, and at Baker Beach, and Crissy Field in San Francisco. See Table 1 for details of paired trash/recycle bin and dumpster installations.

**Table 1. Location and Type of Trash Receptacles Installed**

<b>LOCATION</b>	<b># of BearSaver Trash/Recycle Bin Pairs</b>	<b># of Park Style BearSaver Trash/Recycle Dumpsters</b>
<b>MARIN COUNTY</b>		
Stinson Beach	1	2 trash dumpsters
Muir Beach	3	
Kirby Cove		4 trash dumpsters
<b>SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY</b>		
Baker Beach	4	1 trash dumpster 1 recycle dumpster
Fort Point	1	
Crissy Field	12	3 trash/recycle dumpster pairs

### **3. Benefits**

This project allowed GGNRA to substantially increase the park’s solid waste diversion rate with the increased emphasis on recycling, while also reducing the opportunity for wildlife to scavenge on trash, enhancing coastal habitat, and improving the visitor experience. The installation of trash and recycling dumpsters, rather than paired bins, at high use sites has significantly reduced the amount of trash left on-site or piled next to overflowing bins, and has increased the efficiency of trash and recycling collection. The project also enabled the park to expand conformance with GGNRA’s Site Furnishing Guidelines and standardize installations across the park.

### **4. Lessons Learned**

The original project proposal only called for replacement of existing trash containers with paired trash and recycling bins, but in planning for a more holistic park-wide approach, utilizing other funding for additional sites, it became evident that bins were insufficient to meet the demand at sites with high visitation, and would result in inefficient trash collection, necessitating many hours to manually pick up waste from overflowing trash bins. Strategic placement of animal-proof trash and recycling dumpsters, rather than bins, has greatly increased capacity and efficiency.

Initial coordination of the project was somewhat hampered by the park's waste diversion and recycling goals being addressed by the Environmental Management & Safety Division, while actual trash and recycling collection is managed by the Maintenance Division. In addition, the Cosco Busan funded project ended up being part of a larger project, resulting in some confusion about what sites were being funded by what fund source. The scope of the larger project also led to a backlog in installation by the Maintenance Division. Installation of the dumpsters also required coordination with finalization of the park's contract with Recology in order to ensure the dumpsters could be serviced on an on-call basis. All bins and dumpsters were installed by July, 2014.

## 5. Funding acknowledgement

Funding for this recreational use restoration project was provided by the Cosco Busan Trustee Council comprised of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, the California State Lands Commission, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the Department of the Interior through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Park Service.

## 6. Photos

Figures 1 and 2. Photos of deteriorated and ineffective trash containers



Figure 3. Photo of example of BearSaver paired trash and recycling bins



Figure 4. Photo of example of BearSaver paired trash and recycling bins



Figure 5. Photo of a Park Style BearSaver dumpster

