



NEWS RELEASE
City of Chico
www.ci.chico.ca.us

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (REVISED 3/21/11)

CONTACT: Dan Efsseff, Park and Natural Resource Manager
ORGANIZATION: Parks, Open Spaces, Greenways, and Preserves Division, GSD, City of Chico.
PHONE: 530-896-7801 **FAX:** 530-895-4731
EMAIL: defseaff@ci.chico.ca.us
WEB ADDRESS: www.chico.ca.us

Storm Damage Closes Portions of Bidwell Park

Chico, CA, March 22, 2011 Heavy winds and rain this past weekend have resulted in damage in various areas throughout Bidwell Park. Both South Park Drive and Petersen Memorial Way (road on the north side of Lower Park) and several of the parking lots will remain closed to vehicles until they are cleared of debris and park users are urged to use extreme caution when accessing the Park. Downed or hazardous trees on bike paths at the One-Mile Recreation Area, Five-Mile Recreation Area and the Yahi Trail have been identified.

After major storms, the City of Chico Park Division strongly encourages the public to refrain from entering the park until safety assessments and repairs can be undertaken. Downed trees, broken and hanging tree limbs, and downed electrical wires pose hazards to park users. Park crews assess and identify hazards, but with more stormy weather on the way, park conditions may change rapidly.

The General Services Department crews are busy clearing debris on streets and will start on repairs and cleanup in Bidwell Park toward the latter part of the week. The City of Chico will provide more updates as assessments are made and appreciate the public's patience as material is removed. For more information, please call (530)896-7800.

###

The Parks, Open Spaces, Greenways, and Preserves Division is within the General Services Department, and is responsible for maintaining and operating City parks, open space, and recreation areas including Bidwell Park, Children's Playground, Depot Park, City Plaza, Lindo Channel, Little Chico Creek Greenway, Teichert Ponds, and other preserves. Park Division programs include: Maintenance, Ranger, Lifeguard, and Volunteer Programs.