

Muir Woods MOU Update

County of Marin & National Park Service

June 12, 2018



MOU History

- ❖ 2014 - ongoing discussions & community meetings
- ❖ Ad Hoc Committee with Congressman Huffman
- ❖ Early 2015 - Principles of Agreement, lead to MOU
- ❖ June 2015 - 2 BOS Meetings & MOU Approval
- ❖ Summer/Fall 2015 - NPS Environmental Review, County adopts parking restriction and raises parking fines
- ❖ Dec. 2015 - NPS Completes Environmental Review, Approves MOU, COM completes engineering drawings for bollards
- ❖ Jan./Feb. 2016 - NPS constructs bollards to restrict parking
- ❖ Early 2017 - begin reservation system procurement
- ❖ Sep. 2017 - concessioner selected
- ❖ Jan. 2018 - start of reservation system!

MOU Summary

- ❖ NPS creates reservation system for visitors arriving by motor vehicle
- ❖ NPS manages the reservation system to reduce peak visitation and associated traffic
- ❖ Parking Management Corridor is created by County for NPS parking permits
- ❖ Phased road parking reductions to only 30 spaces within 7 years
- ❖ Parking enforcement and controls are enhanced for all of Muir Woods Road, Sheriff retains authority, NPS adds staff
- ❖ Continue collaboration to improve Redwood Creek water quality and environmental conditions
- ❖ Improve public transit and public messaging

Reservation System Milestones

December 2017

- ❖ On-site parking management

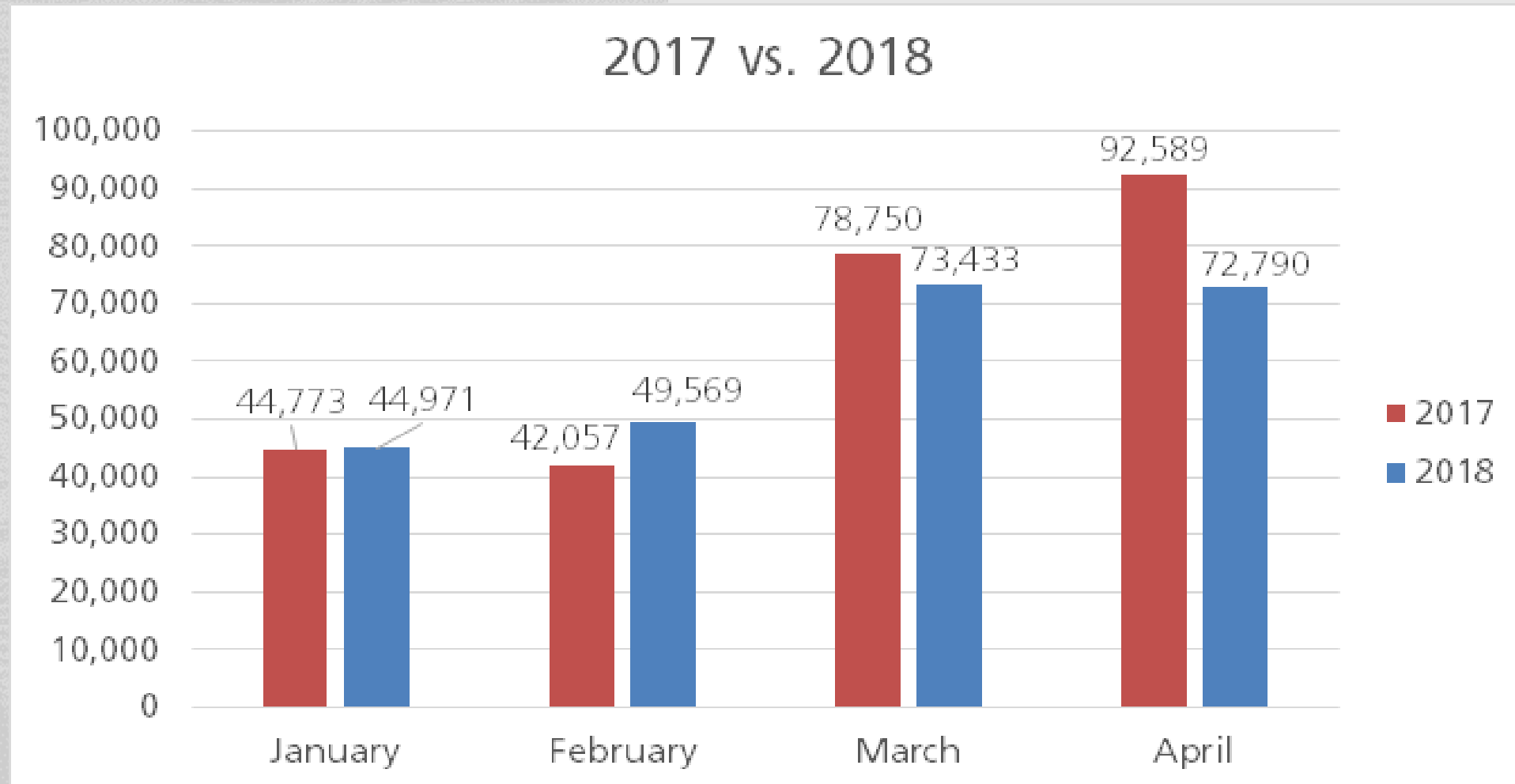
January 2018

- ❖ Privately owned vehicle (POV) and shuttle reservation system
- ❖ Expanded shuttle service (weekends and holidays year-round)

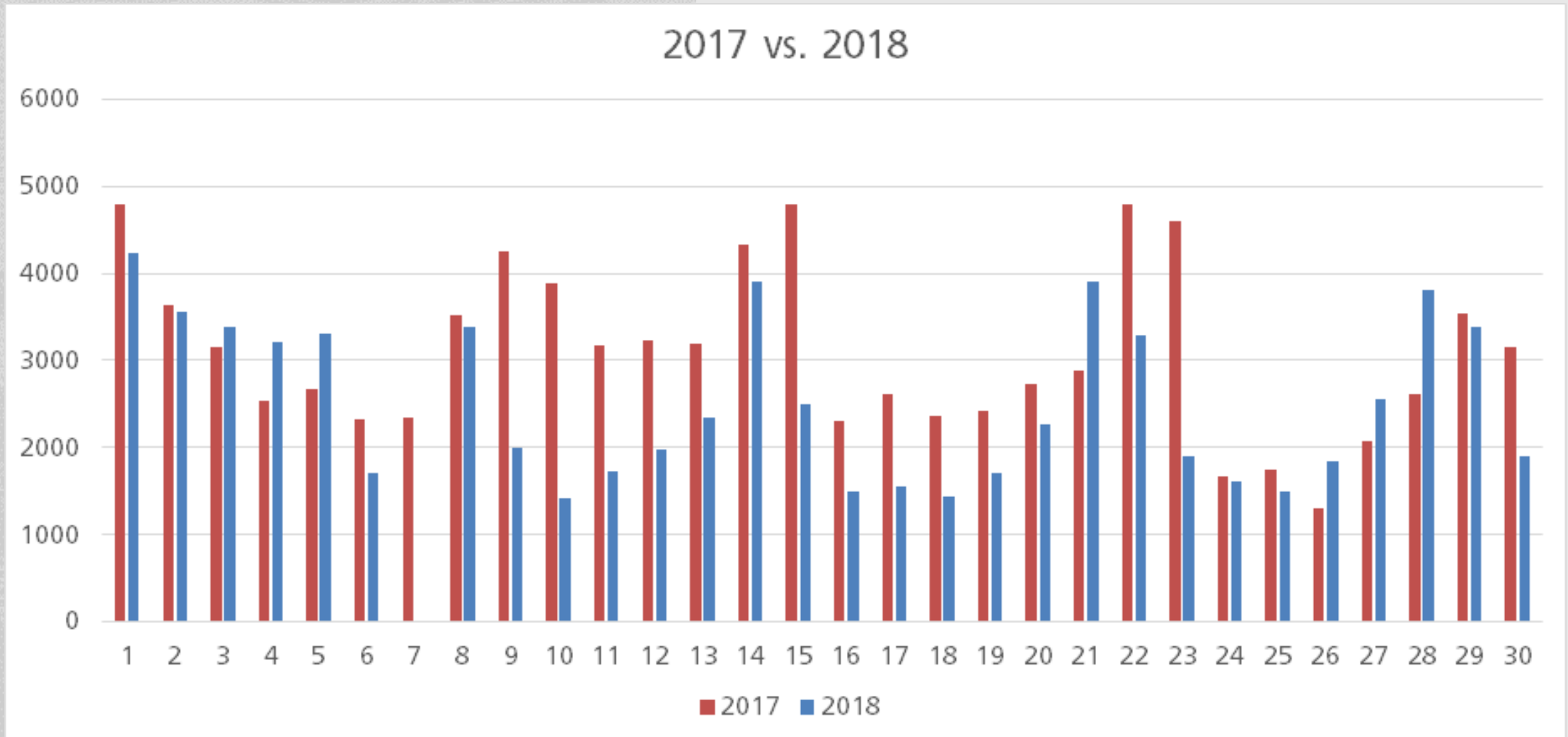
May 2018

- ❖ Commercial carrier reservation system managed by Recreation.gov
- ❖ Pre-purchased entrance fee collection

Monthly Visitation Comparison



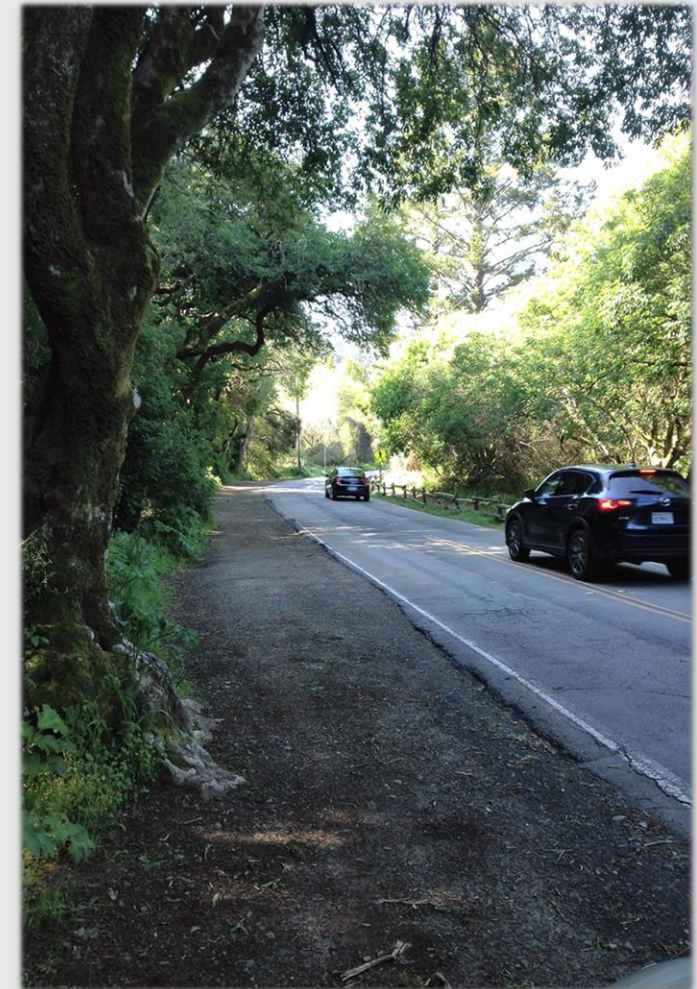
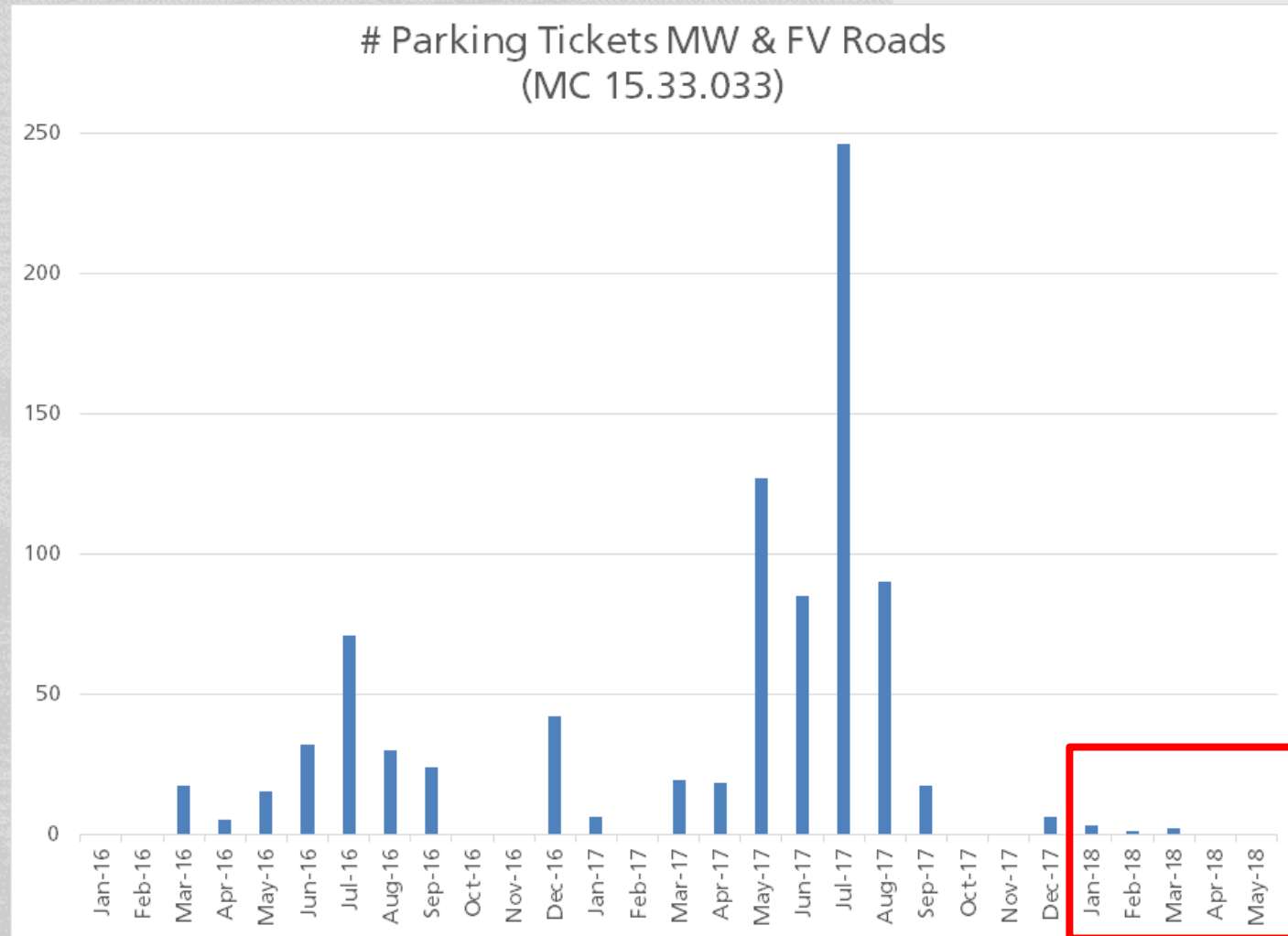
Daily Visitation Comparison: April



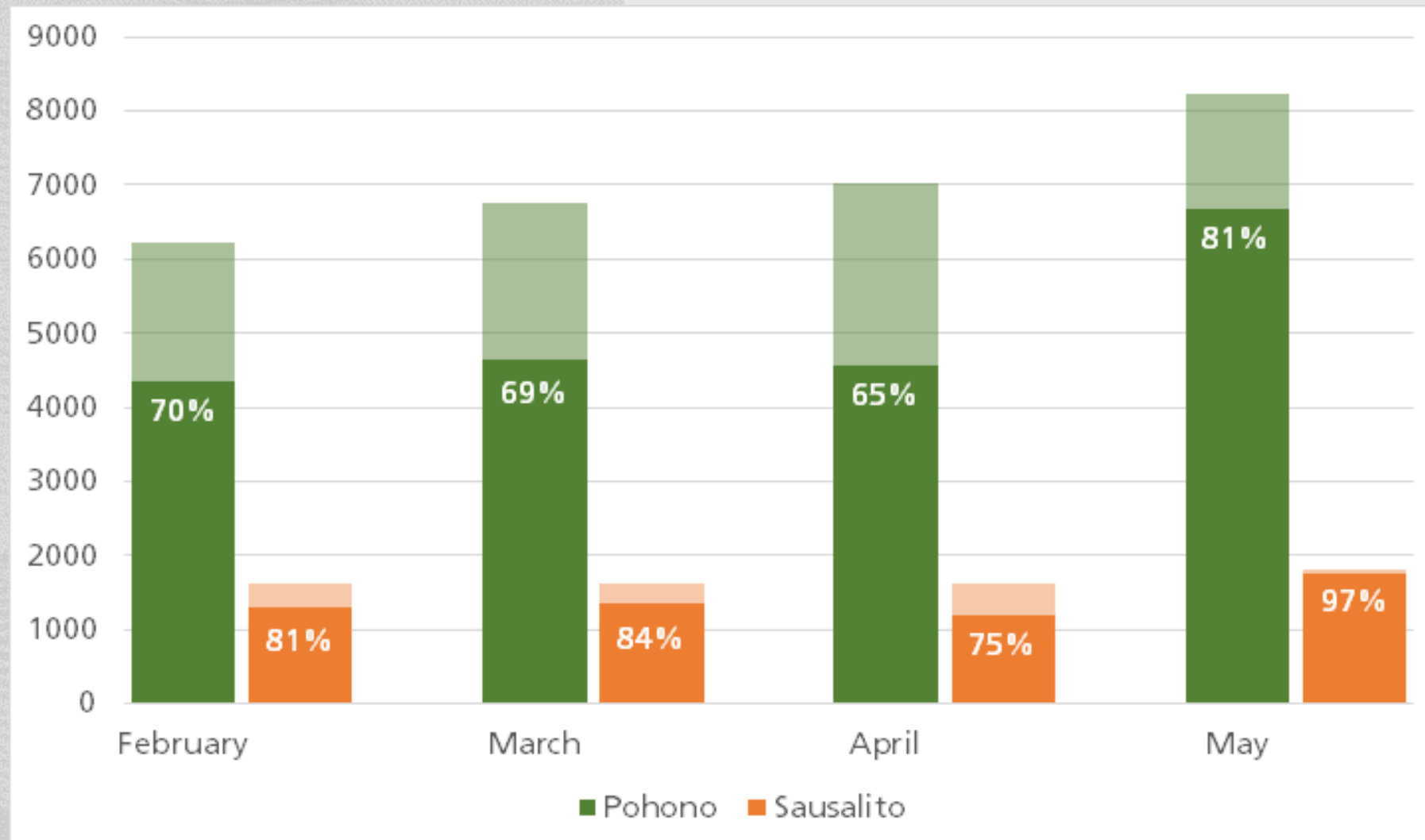
Private Vehicle Parking Reservations

- ❖ Utilization rate between 70 - 80%
 - Weekends, holidays, spring break 90 -100% utilization
 - Weekdays 35 - 75% utilization
- ❖ Weekend mornings sell out in advance
- ❖ 62% of reservations made within one day of visit
- ❖ 14% of reservations made more than one week in advance

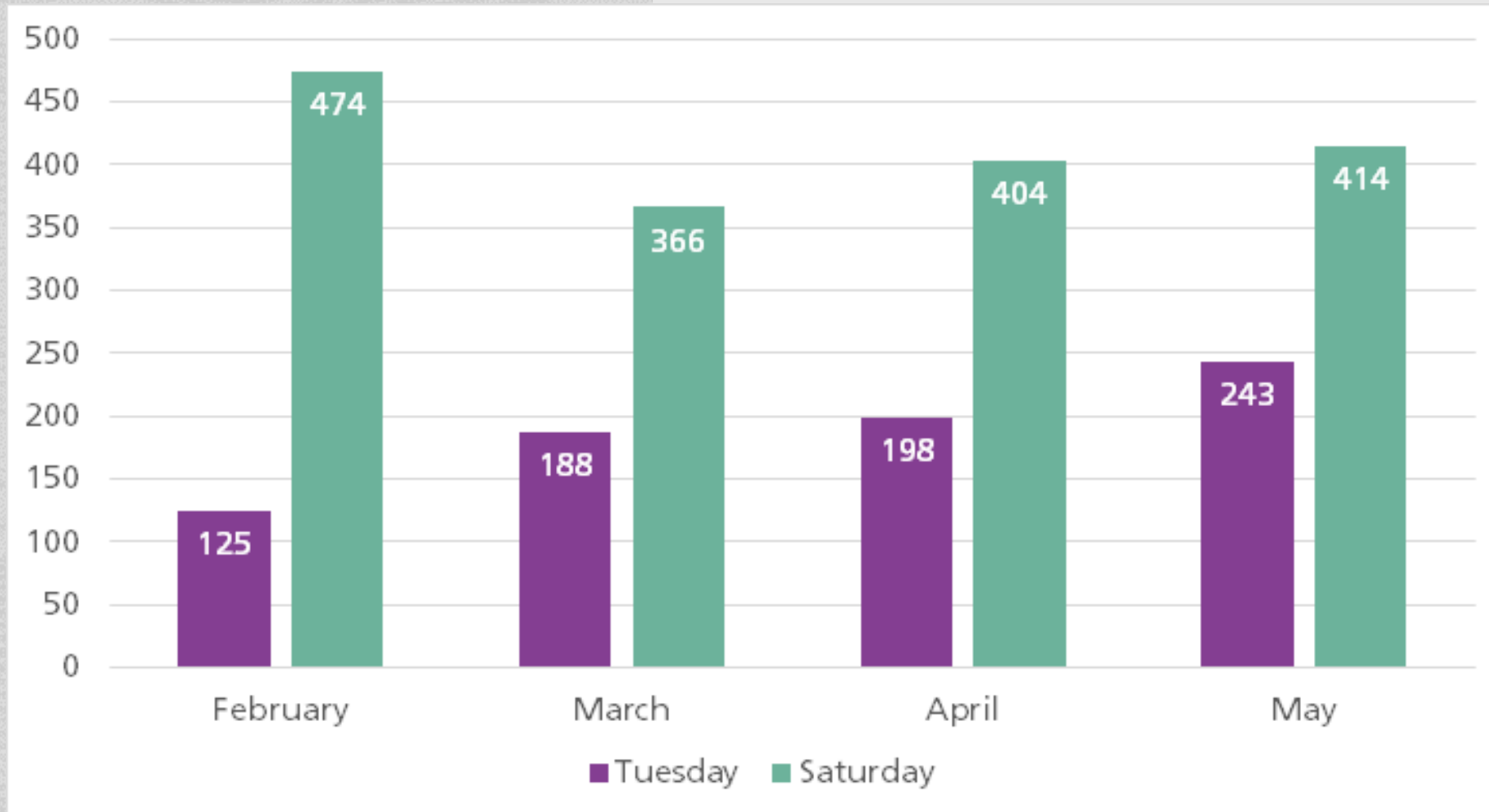
Reduced Parking Violations



Shuttle Ridership & Utilization



Vehicle Arrivals Without Reservations



Commercial Carrier Reservation System

- ❖ Effective May 15, 2018
- ❖ Managed through Recreation.gov
- ❖ Commercial Use Authorization (CUA) required for access
- ❖ Strong compliance thus far
- ❖ Limited confusion from infrequent users and limo companies
- ❖ Company feedback



Successes

- ❖ Positive visitor feedback - wonderful and quiet *in the woods*
- ❖ Reduced traffic and congestion
- ❖ Reduced parking on road
- ❖ Fewer incidents (vehicle break ins, visitor injuries, etc.)
- ❖ Streamlined visitor experience (advance-purchased fee collection)
- ❖ Opportunity for staff to return to intent of their position
- ❖ Provisions for school and outreach groups - systems aren't negatively impacting access for these target populations

Opportunities for Growth

Visitors continue to arrive without reservations

- ❖ Visitors often ignore signs on road
- ❖ Queuing on roads
- ❖ Visitors driving away to find cell service
- ❖ Parking ambassadors are “too friendly”
- ❖ Impacts at Four Corners and Muir Beach

Reservations in 3 Easy Steps
Reservation Can Be Made up to 90 Days in Advance.

**Step 1**
Log on to
GoMuirWoods.com
or call xxx-xxx-xxxx.

**Step 2**
Book a parking or
shuttle reservation for
your desired date
and time.

**Step 3**
Screen shot* or print your
parking or shuttle ticket
and present it at the park.
*There is no cell service in or
around the park.

**\$8** **To Park**
Per vehicle

**\$3** **To Ride the Shuttle**
Per person (Kids under 15 ride free)

Reservation System Goals

- ❖ Manage peak visitation periods
- ❖ Improve visitor experience
- ❖ Reduce safety hazards
- ❖ Reduce impact on natural resources
- ❖ Reduce impact on local community

