More funny money business with State Parks

By Jon Ortiz, Sacramento Bee

State investigators have found unreported cases of an illicit program that let state parks employees trade leave time for cash and, despite extreme media and government scrutiny, "still has not done enough to prevent such practices from occurring," according to an audit released Tuesday.

The 43-page report sampled operations at five park districts within the \$574 million Department of Parks and Recreation and found a budgeting system so disorganized that district administrators make an educated guess at how much money they'll receive when the fiscal year starts each July. They reset their budgets, sometimes several months later, when they find out how much money they have.

Expenditure tracking also is so poor that four of the five districts had their own systems for watching their expenses.

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