Guidelines for setting up a Cache to Eagle Series

What is Cache to Eagle? The first Cache to Eagle series began in Marin County, as a series of 12 public geocaches hidden at the sites of eagle projects. The public loves these, as it's a new set of geocaches to find, with a fun prize at the end. Each cache location has a clue in addition to the normal cache contents – each clue is a point of the Scout Law. When a person finds all 12, and sends in the clues (they are in random order) they can win a patch as a prize (see "how to get the patch"). My vision is to see 12 of these - or more - in every district of every council. This way, our Eagle service projects will be seen by thousands of geocaching members of the community. The Scouts get their work highlighted and can visit sites for ideas if they haven't done a project yet. And they also love geocaching. Everyone wins here!

How do I start?
I recommend that you begin by talking to your council, as not only will they be interested in the idea, but they can provide you with contacts and/or a list of past Eagle projects in your District. Feel free to share the document "Geoscouting Overview and Sample Cache to Eagle logs" with your Scout Exec! This is a good summary that shows the positive public response, so your SE can see what good PR this generates

What do I name the caches?
I prefer that you follow the format of "Council – District – Cache to Eagle #", as in Redwood Empire Council, Miwok District, Cache to Eagle #4. It's a bit long but has a lot of advantages to use a standard scheme. This way when people search on "Hide and Seek a Cache" on the geocaching.com website, they can use the search term "cache to eagle" and all of the series will display. By putting in the council and district information, it will be easy for Scouts to find caches in their own area. It will also allow up to easily keep statistical information on these.

What sorts of Eagle Projects qualify?
The projects need to show significant and long lasting improvements that benefit the community - the project also should be able to stand the test of time, as the public cache will be there for some time. For example, trail maintenance or clearing is a great idea for an eagle project but could overgrow quickly, and then the public just sees an overgrown trail. Trail BUILDING is different, if you see what I mean. There are usually LOTS to choose from.

Guidelines for setting up Cache to Eagle geocaches on the geocaching.com website:

- **ALL GUIDELINES FOR CACHE PLACEMENT MUST BE FOLLOWED**. *See geocaching.com for details* They must be safe and not on school or private property. You CAN, however, put the cache in a public location, like a sidewalk area, from which you can see the actual project.
- You may NOT ask for donations or do any direct recruiting in your web description but you can describe the project as well as highlight the amount of service that is done by your unit, district or council.
- Also, be sure to MAINTAIN the caches.
- Lastly – *please do not post the scout's name, especially on the internet!* It's OK to use the troop number.
- Have fun!

If you get nice logs, be sure to share them with your council.

Can we order patches too?
I have a patch that people get when they find all 12 – see the photo below or on the website. I don't mind if other councils use it - the more we order the cheaper they get. Email me at geoscouting@gmail.com

Good Luck, Have fun and Cache away! Remember – 12 caches per district in every council across the nation – just visualize THAT.