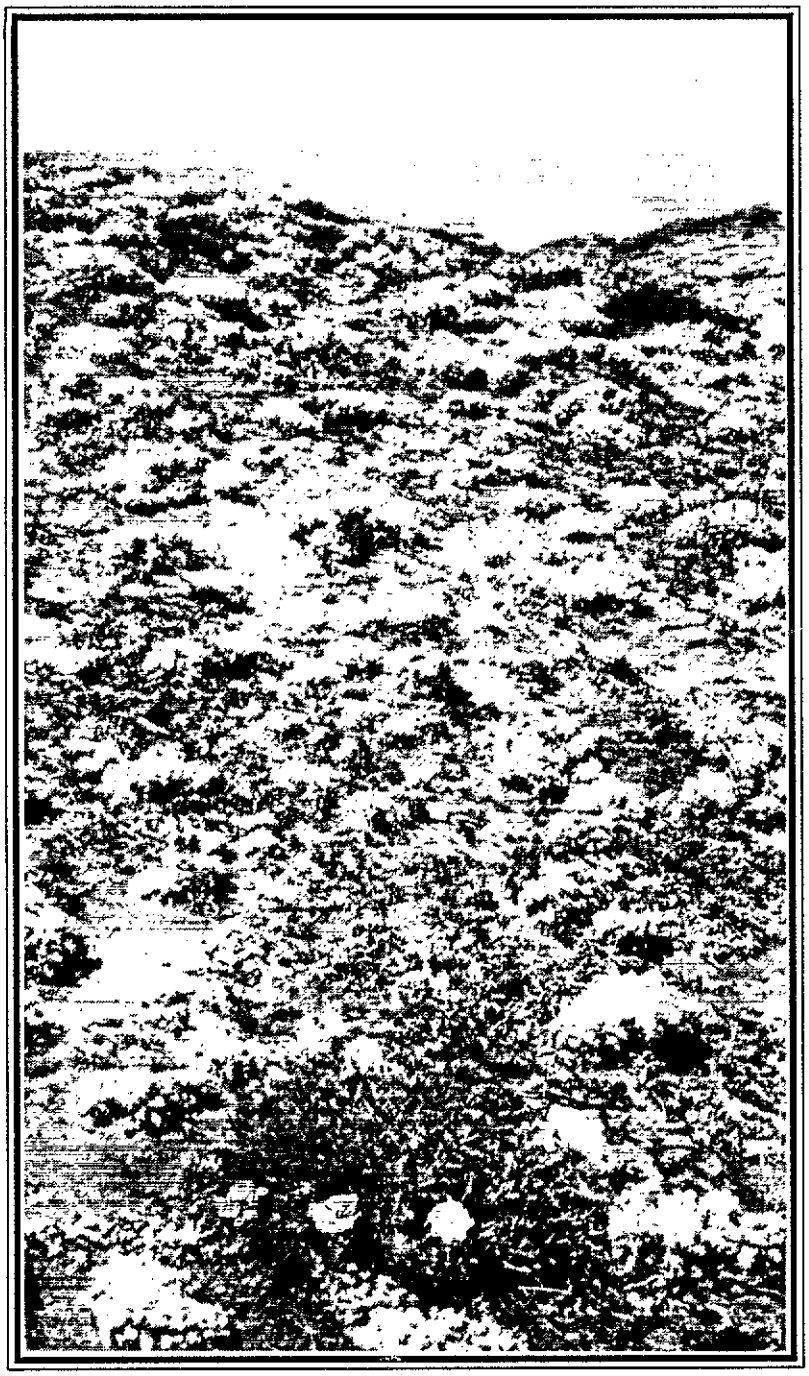
UNIT 147

MANCHESTER STATE PARK

GENERAL PLAN

December 1992



MANCHESTER STATE PARK

PRELIMINARY GENERAL PLAN

JULY 1992

State of California
The Resources Agency
Dept. of Parks and Recreation

Pete Wilson, Governor
Douglas P. Wheeler, Secretary
Donald W. Murphy, Director

MANCHESTER STATE PARK
PRELIMINARY GENERAL PLAN

JULY 1992

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
THE RESOURCES AGENCY
DEPT. OF PARKS AND RECREATION
P.O. BOX 942896
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 94296-0001

PETE WILSON, GOVERNOR
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SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS

This General Plan, prepared by the California Department of Parks and Recreation, states the department's management objectives for Manchester State Park. The plan deals with the unit's natural, cultural, esthetic, and recreational resources, interpretation of those resources, land use, facility development, general operation, and coordination with other public or private entities.

This summary provides a quick reference to plan proposals. The reader should refer to the separate sections of the plan for details of individual topics.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PROPOSALS

Natural Resources

A primary department goal is to manage natural resources and restore, protect, and maintain natural ecosystem processes and indigenous flora and fauna through a number of plans/programs and adherence to specific directives.

The General Plan proposes preparation and implementation of plans/programs for:

- Vegetation restoration
- Control of non-native plant species
- Prescribed fire
- Wildfire management
- Protection of sensitive plant and animal species
- Removal and control of feral and domestic animals
- A survey for the presence of Point Arena mountain beaver habitat
- Restoration of coho salmon and steelhead trout habitat in Brush and Alder Creeks
- Identification of red-legged frog subspecies and their distribution patterns and habitat
- Monitoring of sand loss, beach erosion, and seacliff retreat
- Ecological surveys of trends and patterns of dune development
- Surveying of snowy plover habitat

The General Plan proposes specific directives for protection of:

- The marine environment
- The coastline
- Wetland soils
- Paleontological resources
- Tidewater goby population and habitat in the Lake Davis complex
- Brush Creek wetlands water quality
- Water rights in Brush Creek
- The integrity and biotic diversity of coastal lagoon resources;

and prohibiting:

- Livestock grazing
- Geologic specimen collection
- Artificial flood control structures and shoreline protective devices

To recognize the significant scientific and special natural and scenic values of the unit, the Resource Element recommends that the park be officially adopted as a part of the Mendocino Coast State Seashore; and that portions of it be subclassified as natural preserves.

Cultural Resources

Following preparation of a thorough historic structure report, the Davis House will be preserved through continuing stabilization.

INTERPRETIVE PROPOSALS

Interpretation will explore how natural forces, plants, animals, and people are continually changing this fragile and dynamic coast. Interpretive panels in strategic locations will help orient visitors to the park's recreational opportunities, and help them to more fully appreciate and protect park resources. Interpretive activities will be presented on-site throughout the park to better involve visitors in the park's diverse resources. The extent of structured facilities and activities will be kept to a minimum. These may include such media as guided walks, self-guided trails, wayside exhibits, overlooks, campfire center improvements, audio-visual programs, and publications.

OPERATIONS PROPOSALS

Operations staff will carry out the recommendations of this General Plan to protect the public, assure proper protection and perpetuation of the park's resources, provide for management and maintenance of park facilities, and oversee volunteer and special events programs.

CONCESSION PROPOSALS

No commercial concession activities currently exist, and none are proposed.

FACILITY PROPOSALS

Almost all existing park facilities will be retained. Many of them will be enhanced and supplemented by addition of new facilities. Changes are proposed to:

- Make Highway 1 improvements for safety and ease of access to the park, and provide adequate park signing at all park access points from the highway.

- Enhance the appearance of the existing beach access area at Kinney Lane: relocate and screen the sanitary facilities; add handicapped trail access through the dunes to the beach; and provide trail signing and designated trails to reduce dune damage. Increase parking capacity from 50 to 75 vehicles.

- If available, acquire the existing privately-owned beach access parking area at the end of Stoneboro Road, or develop a new one east of the present site; in either case, provide sanitary facilities and trail signing to the beach.

- Request Mendocino County to relinquish/donate Alder Creek Road turnaround for park use. Improve paving; install perimeter fencing and gated emergency vehicle access to the beach; and eliminate erosion problems.

- Develop a 15- to 20-car parking area and a comfort station on the Alder Creek bluffs (at the site of the abandoned water tank) visually screened from Alder Creek Road and the highway.

- Remove the Alder Creek houses, and develop a day-use ocean overlook and 5-10-site picnic area. Provide trail connection from Alder Creek Road and the bluff parking area. Vehicular access will be provided to a five-car parking area for the handicapped by reservation, controlled by a gated access.

- Add 50 picnic sites in various areas throughout the park.

- Develop an interpretive trail and two handicapped-accessible overlooks in the Lagoon Lake wetland area. Provide up to 5 handicapped roadside parking spaces for trail access at the end of Bristol Road, and connect by trail to the Stoneboro parking area. Develop a 10-car parking area off Barnegat Way.

- Provide new public park access at the Davis House by improving the existing ranch road access, or by developing a new vehicular access road from the north. Relocate environmental camp parking to the Davis House, and develop a new 25-40-car parking area, trailhead, and comfort station.

- Enhance and enlarge the existing Kinney Lane primitive campground from 47 to no more than 60 units, including an additional two hike-in/bike-in sites, and retaining the rustic appearance and minimal amenities. Relocate any campsites negatively affecting mountain beaver habitat and distribution. Improve trail access to the beach from the campground.

- Construct a new park office closer to Kinney Lane and the campground. Replace the existing maintenance structure with a modern structure.

- Develop a new park entrance station off Kinney Lane, and route both park campers and beach visitors through it. Develop a contact station to serve the Davis House/Alder Creek area if a new access point from the highway is developed to both areas.

- Remove unnecessary paved roads and other intrusive facilities.

CONFORMANCE WITH LOCAL COASTAL PLAN ✔

The General Plan's recommendations are generally in conformance with the Mendocino County Coastal Element. However, the plan's proposal to remove the houses at Alder Creek conflicts with county policy addressing the park, which specifically calls for these houses to remain. Removal of the houses may require approval of an amendment to the Coastal Element.

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THE SPIRIT OF THIS PLACE

West and ahead of the Mendocino coast, the sturdy white column of the Point Arena lighthouse rises atop a great eroded peninsula of earth and rock, whose cliffs stand fifty, now eighty feet above the tides. Along the foot of this great horizontal plateau flow the waters of the Garcia River out to the sea, and a great ocean beach runs north unbroken, mile lengthening into mile. Beginning in a desert of dunes and sand plains of the wind and water's making, the shore curves inland toward the continent in a long arc, stretching north some four miles to the mouth of Alder Creek, where the earth cliff, rising again, is cut briefly by the narrow gorge of the creek, then standing as a rugged vertical wall across the face of the Mendocino coastline.

In this broad and shallow basin, north from the lighthouse and south of the Alder Creek bluffs, the land fronting the sea is a progress of long undulation, now level, then hollows and mounded hills here and there, revealing the barren moorland character of the country just above. Cliff and dune, the plain of the ocean and the far, bright horizon, meadowland and marsh and ancient moor, lagoon, lake, forest, grassland, beach, and stream: this is Manchester State Park. Sun and moon set in the sea, the arched sky has an ocean vastness, the fog appears over the ocean, now blankets the earth, the surf flings its spray against the sun. Journeying birds alight here and fly away again, all unseen; schools of great fish move beneath the waves, and deer graze in the quiet of the dusk. The flux and reflux of ocean, the soughing of wind, the pilgrimages of people to the sea — all these are part of its beauty and mystery.

The sea is the counterpoint to the land — both contrast and complement. The vast horizontality and seeming restlessness of the sea are in sharp contrast to the verticality and stolid bulwark of the cliffs and the Point Arena lighthouse — yet there is complement in the horizontal profile of the land, in the undulating waves of dune and grassland and the coursing of water in streams and through marsh. The meeting of land and sea and sky speaks of variations on a theme of generous open space: the spaciousness of undeveloped land, the endless sea disappearing into the horizon, the immense expanse of sky.

This vast and primitive landscape offers vital hope for the future. Here at the terrestrial fringe, the complexity and fragility of life are demonstrated forcefully. The beauty of the landscape and the magnetism of the sea, whether consciously felt or not, modify the objectives and response of all who come to the park seeking recreation. The resulting activities, though often dissimilar, derive their essential meaning from the inherent qualities of these resources. Today, annual visitation at Manchester State Park is exceeding 40,000, even though much of the land is unavailable for active recreation. Since it is one of the windiest and foggiest spots on the Mendocino coast, it is apparently something more than simply a place to play.

Manchester State Park can best be described as perhaps a relict of the aboriginal California coast, serving as a vital and convenient outlet to a people becoming more and more pressured by the urgency of today. To many, it represents a last frontier — so near to urban populations, yet remaining relatively unviolated by the symbols of contemporary life. The primitiveness of this vast horizontal landscape, inextricably connected to the sea, contains few reminders of the urgency of today, and in this condition, it serves the present as usefully as any piece of land could.

PARK SIGNIFICANCE

The State Park System represents "areas of outstanding scenic, recreational, and historic importance. . .held in trust as irreplaceable portions of California's natural and historic heritage."[1] Manchester State Park comprises one of California's largest and finest coastal parks, containing representative examples of sandy seashore, dunes, unique wetland habitats, expansive grasslands, productive anadromous fisheries, and an undisturbed marine environment of the North Pacific coast. Important scientific resources in the park range from several sensitive plants, through the uncommon forest communities of Hunter's Terrace, to the active trace of the San Andreas Fault at Alder Creek. The sensitive Point Arena mountain beaver, the red-legged frog, and the tidewater goby also live out their life cycles here. The California Interagency Natural Areas Coordinating Council has recognized Manchester State Park as a significant natural area because of its coastal sand dune and wetland habitats, which are threatened statewide.

The historic resources of the park present a chronicle of Mendocino's past involving the farming and dairying activities of early settlers during the mid-to late 19th century. The Davis House, an historic structure from this period, still stands in the unit.

There are two purposes for Manchester State Park. The first is preservation of the resources that contribute to Manchester's uniqueness and attractiveness. The second purpose is to make the varied resources of the park available to people for their individual enjoyment, education, and recreation, now and in the future.

[1] Preamble, California State Park and Recreation Commission Statements of Policy and Rules of Order.

THE PARK AND ITS SETTING

THE REGION

Manchester State Park lies along a part of California's rugged Mendocino coast. This region is one of California's rapidly diminishing frontiers, in fact and in spirit. This remote and vast country has been harsh to its settlers at times, but it has also allowed time to pursue an independent life close to nature. Here, the mountains meet the sea in a precipitous coastline, with but few harbors. The ocean is cold and often rough; the land deeply dissected and heavily forested. Steep canyons and narrow valleys carry runoff from the abundant winter rainfall to the sea. Summer fog sends fingers up the valley and spills over low ridges, providing needed moisture for tall redwoods. The few plains have been cleared for farms and ranches, and small towns located generally near rivers or harbors. Road building has been inhibited by the land — its rough terrain, its forests, and its rivers.

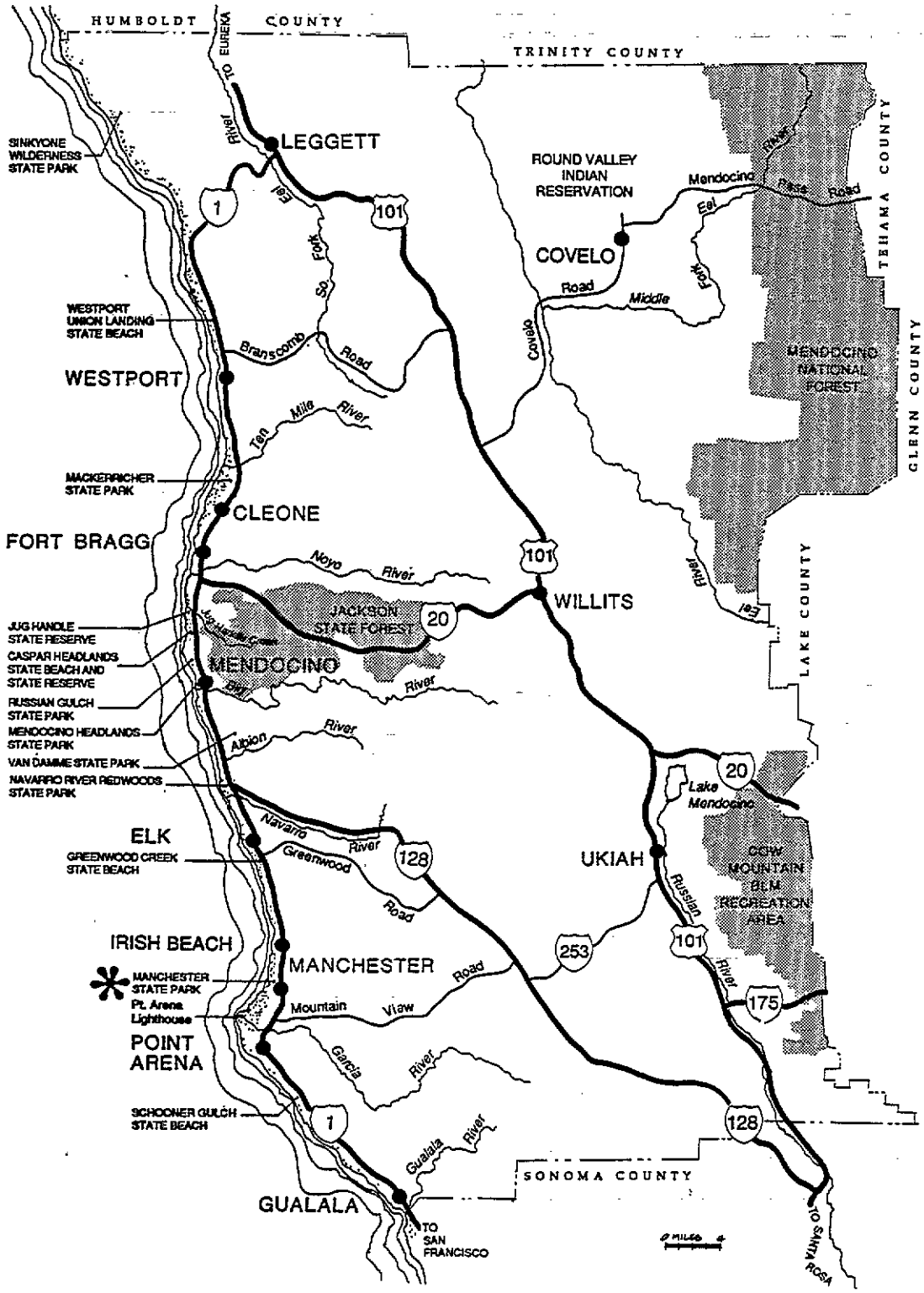
The forests are the basic resource, providing employment in logging and mills. Fishing, long second in the county's economy, has been superseded by wine grape production in the hot interior valleys. Both are finding strong competition from tourism. The region attracts visitors for fishing, hunting, and skin/scuba diving, but probably draws most people to the area between the Navarro and Ten Mile Rivers for the scenic beauty of the coastline, the fame of the coast redwoods, and the charm of Mendocino town.

Access to these attractions is provided by Highway 1 paralleling the coast, although most visitors to the region come west from Highway 101 across Highway 20 through the mountains to Fort Bragg, or on Highway 128 along the Navarro River and north to the Mendocino town/Fort Bragg area.

Thus, many visitors bypass the Mendocino coastline south of the Navarro River. The attractions of this section of coast include the rural village of Elk, large dairy farms, and the undeveloped pastoral landscape near Mallo Pass Creek and the town of Manchester, and the vast driftwood beach, dunes, and grasslands of Manchester State Park.

LOCATION

Located about seventeen miles south of the juncture of Highways 1 and 128 and the Navarro River mouth, Manchester State Park sits on an ancient alluvial plain formed by the waters of the Garcia River, one mile north of the town of Manchester, and five miles north of the town of Point Arena. Separated by the river from the high horizontal plateau of the Point Arena peninsula to the south, this broad and low-lying level land, tilting gently into the sea, marks an interruption in the narrow coastal shelf and high vertical bluffs typifying the coast north and south. Encompassing much of the coastal land in this basin, the park's boundaries extend to Alder Creek in the north, and to within a quarter-mile of the Garcia River to the south. East of the highway, the mountains of the Mendocino Range form the backdrop to the park, and are among the highest and longest in the Coast Range, with elevations around 2,000 feet.



THE REGION

MANCHESTER STATE PARK - MAP 1
GENERAL PLAN - INTRODUCTION
CALIFORNIA RESOURCES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
DRAWING NO. 26178

SIZE

The park consists of about 1,500 terrestrial acres, with 18,570 linear feet of ocean frontage and more than 200 acres of beach. In addition, approximately 3,700 acres of contiguous offshore submerged lands are leased from the State Lands Commission, significantly extending the unit, and adding important marine ecosystems. In the leased area, Arena Rock has been classified as a Marine Natural Preserve.

LANDSCAPE FEATURES

The terrestrial portion of Manchester State Park is comprised of a four-and-a-half-mile-long sandy beach which fronts the entire shoreline of the unit, low bluffs found adjacent to the shore in the northern section of the unit, large dune systems that occur from near Lake Davis south to the Garcia River, and extensive wetland complexes that separate low marine terraces west of State Highway 1.

The shoreline runs approximately north-south on a gentle curve, forming a sea debris catch basin ending at the Point Arena peninsula to the south, which accounts for the depositing of an unusual amount of driftwood and logs by the southerly currents. The same exposure builds the dunes and governs their trend to move in a southeasterly direction, although the western storms, to some degree, offset this movement in the winter.

Dunes and beach cover about half of the unit, almost 750 acres; the balance is scrub and grasslands, with some forest and riparian vegetation. The dunes are covered with a heavy growth of European dune grass; on some sections of the dunes, blue lupine and sagebrush are found. As the effects of previous years of grazing are overcome, coastal wildflowers have become more prevalent, and native grasses are returning. The few vertical accents in the landscape are tall trees; in some locations, lines of Monterey cypress or plantings of pines were established long before these lands were acquired as additions to the park.

Four creeks flow into the unit. Alder Creek, a year-round stream, marks the park's northern boundary. A seasonal, unnamed creek flows into Lake Davis, one of the park's wetland areas. Brush Creek flows through the center of the park unit, contributing to a large wetland complex as it nears the ocean. Lagoon Creek, after passing from Lagoon Lake, located on private lands just east of the park, flows into the Brush Creek wetlands complex from the south.

The undeveloped character of the extensive shoreline, dunes, coastal terraces, and wetlands of the unit provides natural surroundings and a highly scenic attraction for visitors. The low relief of the landscape makes notable panoramic views of the coastline possible. Distant views to the north, and views south to Point Arena and the lighthouse, are possible with clear weather conditions, the only enclosure of the scene being the distant beginnings of the Coast Range. The beach, with its clutter of driftwood, borders the coastal dunes abloom with wildflowers and flowering scrub, providing a popular scenic attraction on this part of the Mendocino coast.

VISITOR ACTIVITIES

Recreational activities at Manchester State Park are concentrated near the ocean, and include surfing, sport fishing, nature study, birdwatching, camping, picnicking, and whale watching. Manchester is considered one of the best driftwood beaches in California, and beach combing is an especially popular activity. Arena Rock provides opportunities for scuba diving.

PARK FACILITIES AND USE AREAS

The park has three primary use areas reached via county roads from Highway 1: the Kinney Area, the Stoneboro Area, and the Alder Creek Area. A fourth use area, the Davis Area, located off Highway 1, has no public vehicular access. Kinney Lane provides access to the major use area, the only one where formal facilities have been developed for visitor use. A primitive 46-unit campground is located at the dunes-grassland edge, and includes an entry station, campfire center, and trailer sanitation station. West of the campground is a 40-person group camp. At the end of Kinney Lane, an informal parking area for 50 cars provides access to the beach via a trail through the dunes. Pit toilets are provided. The park's maintenance area is also located off Kinney Lane, east of the campground. It consists of a maintenance building and paved service yard with employee parking, and two employee mobile home hook-ups.

South of Kinney Lane, Stoneboro Road provides access to the southern section of the park. The existing informal parking used by visitors to the area accommodates about 50 cars, and is located on privately-owned land adjacent to the park boundary. A trail through the park leads to the beach from the dunes. Other than the trail, no park facilities are provided for visitor use here.

At the park's northern boundary, Alder Creek Road ends in a turnaround, and a short spur road, unpaved, serves as a trail to the beach. The turnaround, part of the county road, accommodates about 3-4 cars parked around the perimeter, and another 3-4 cars can park along the spur road to the beach. The approach to the turnaround along Alder Creek Road is used for roadside parking. On the bluffs above Alder Creek Road, two vacation homes dating from the 1960s overlook the beach. Acquired when the land was added to the park, the houses have been heavily vandalized, and are continuing to deteriorate from exposure to the elements. Signs are posted to prohibit visitor access.

The Davis Area is located off Highway 1 between Kinney Lane and Alder Creek Road. It is connected to the Alder Creek Area by an unpaved park service road, a former ranch road, running south and east from Alder Creek Road to Highway 1. The park's most important historic feature, the Davis House, dating from the 1860s, is reached from the southern end of the park service road, where it intersects Highway 1. The house is boarded up to prevent further deterioration. The public has no access to the building itself, although visitors can reach the site on foot via the park service road. West of the Davis House, 10 environmental campsites are located behind the dunes, just north of Lake Davis, and south of the houses on the Alder Creek bluffs. The campsites are connected by a trail to the Kinney Lane campground, where parking is provided.

MANCHESTER STATE PARK AND ARENA ROCK MARINE NATURAL PRESERVE

GENERAL PLAN INTRODUCTION - MAP 2

CALIFORNIA RESOURCES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
DRAWING NO. 26179

KEY

STATE PARK BOUNDARY

LIMITS OF ARENA ROCK MARINE NATURAL PRESERVE

0 500 1000 2000 3000 FEET

THE GENERAL PLAN

PURPOSE AND NEED

Most areas of Manchester State Park are accessible by road or trail, and nearly every location offers something enjoyable to see or do. However, the many opportunities available are matched by an equal number of problems. Due to interruption of natural processes, neglect of historic features, a desire to serve new users, and the simple existence of opportunities to make some good things better, there is a need for change at this park. Collectively, these problems present a need for planned action.

General planning is the process by which necessary changes are determined, and the General Plan is the tool by which they are implemented. It will guide the future of the park for the next ten to twenty years. This document defines the significance of the park, and delineates the goals and objectives that must guide its future management and use. A large portion of the plan is devoted to analyzing the physical, economic, social, and political context in which the park exists in a way that is relevant to planning and management decisions. The plan also identifies and analyzes the value and relative importance of the park's many natural, cultural, scenic, and recreation resources, and provides guidelines as to how they should be preserved, used, or developed. Finally, the document portrays the pattern, characteristics, and intensities of desirable uses, and the nature and location of proposed development.

FORMAT AND CONTENT

The plan is made up of the following elements:

- **THE RESOURCE ELEMENT** evaluates the natural and cultural resources of the park, and sets management directives for protection, restoration, and use of these resources.
- **THE INTERPRETIVE ELEMENT** proposes programs and facilities for public information and interpretation of the park's natural and cultural resource values.
- **THE CONCESSIONS ELEMENT** summarizes opportunities to provide appropriate goods or services to the public through concession contracts.
- **THE OPERATIONS ELEMENT** describes specific operational and maintenance requirements and guidelines unique to the park.
- **THE LAND USE ELEMENT** describes current land uses and relevant planning parameters. Through the problem-solving process, it defines planning issues, and outlines land use objectives and concepts for solution of those problems,

consistent with the park's spirit of place. It determines land use intensities and classifications to establish directions for future park management and use that will best fulfill the purpose and objectives of the park.

- **THE FACILITIES ELEMENT** describes current facilities and proposed development to enhance public recreational experiences and enjoyment of the park resources and values. It establishes specific design criteria for carrying out development proposals to protect the park's esthetic values and spirit of place.

- **THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ELEMENT** provides the environmental impact assessment required by the California Environmental Quality Act. It assesses environmental effects, and proposes mitigation measures and alternatives. The entire General Plan constitutes the Environmental Impact Report, and references may be made in the element to other sections of the plan.

PARK AND PLANNING GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Through a careful consideration of the basic purposes of the State Park System, the established park purpose, codes of law, and park system policies, the following objectives were devised to guide the planning, future management, and visitor use of the park. Attainment of these key management objectives and resolution of planning and management problems will ensure that the purpose for which the park was established is fulfilled, and are the focus of this General Plan effort. The goals and objectives are:

Preservation and Restoration of Natural Resources

Goal: *To identify, protect, and perpetuate the diversity of existing ecosystems which are found at Manchester State Park, and are representative of the California seacoast.*

Objectives:

To identify and protect threatened and endangered plant and animal species, marine mammals, and other sensitive natural resources found in the park.

To maintain and restore natural processes through research and implementation programs relating to wildlife, prescribed burning techniques, exotic plant and animal reduction, regulation and control of resource use, and erosion and pollution control.

To retain natural preserve status for Arena Rock, and propose other suitable sites found necessary for resource protection.

Goal: *To minimize the impact on park resources resulting from human activity both inside and outside the park.*

Objectives:

To assess and minimize the impact on park resources of adjacent land use changes and continued livestock grazing through watershed research and water quality monitoring activities.

To develop basic resource information about the impact of human activity on sensitive mountain beaver habitat and distribution, and monitor activities outside the park on AT&T property in cooperation with that entity, to reduce adverse effects.

To cooperate with other government agencies and private interests in planning for management and use of resources adjacent to the park.

Cultural Resource Preservation

Goal: *To identify, protect, and preserve the significant prehistoric and historic resources of Manchester State Park.*

Objectives:

To identify features and events that have played a vital part in the recorded history of the Manchester area, such as earthquakes, shipwrecks, farming/ranching activities, and other land and water uses.

To retain and stabilize historic structures pending their historical evaluation, and restore as appropriate for public or adaptive use.

Interpretation

Goal: *To further an awareness and appreciation of the diversity, interdependence, and fragility of the Mendocino coast's natural, cultural, and recreational resources.*

Objectives:

To develop interpretive facilities that support and respect the scale and character of the park's landscape.

To offer visitor orientation and informational programs that will foster enthusiasm and visitor participation.

To stimulate learning about park resources even beyond the park experience and boundaries.

Park Operation

Goal: *To maintain a safe, functional, and orderly environment that provides compatible opportunities for resource preservation and enjoyment by visitors.*

Objectives:

To protect the rights, safety, and security of all visitors and employees.

To provide the facilities necessary for efficient and essential administration, maintenance, and management of the park.

To locate facilities to minimize exposure to and damage from natural hazards such as earthquakes, erosion, landslides, flooding, tsunami, and hazardous trees.

To provide facilities and utility systems that conserve energy and resources and comply with all applicable standards and codes.

Land Use and Development

Goal: *To maintain the primitive and undeveloped character of the parklands and protect the park's spirit of place.*

Objectives:

To permit only development and use that is both visually and ecologically compatible with preservation of the landscape and park resources.

To disperse development, and to direct development and use to environments least vulnerable to deterioration of the natural and scenic resources.

To minimize visibility of park developments so as to not significantly degrade visual quality and spirit of place.

To locate new development in areas previously disturbed by human activity whenever possible.

To encourage/work with regional and local planning agencies to ensure that adjacent lands maintain their pastoral character.

Goal: *To ensure that visitor services and facilities are consistent with park purposes and compatible with natural resource limitations and the special requirements imposed by the coastal environment.*

Objectives:

To provide only those types of accommodations and services whose purpose directly relates to enjoyment of the resource values for which the park was established.

To limit the level of visitor-serving facilities to the minimum necessary for visitor use.

Goal: *To ensure that park facilities are carefully designed to be compatible with the park's spirit of place.*

Objectives:

To establish design criteria to guide rehabilitation of existing park facilities and location and development of new use areas and facilities.

Goal: *To provide for and permit only those cultural, educational, and recreational activities which are compatible with an undeveloped coastline.*

Objectives:

To establish land use and management classifications for park lands, to ensure the achievement of all management objectives.

To retain opportunities for appropriate recreational activities.

Goal: *To provide for enhanced recreation opportunities and development in a manner that reflects a harmonious relationship between perpetuation of the resources and visitor use.*

Objectives:

To provide reasonable access and circulation routes for visitor use commensurate with adequate resource protection.

To remove barriers that interfere with use of developed facilities by the disabled and other special populations, and provide easy access for all visitors whenever feasible. (Special populations are considered to be any visitors who require particular types of facilities or aid to fully enjoy their experiences in the park. Such visitors include those with sensory impairment, ambulatory limitation, and mental retardation, and also foreign visitors, the elderly, and the very young.)

To increase opportunities for visitor exposure to the park resources through overnight experiences.

Goal: *To adjust park boundaries as required to preserve and provide for enjoyment of significant resources, to complete ecological units insofar as possible, and/or to provide for more effective park management.*

Consideration of Park Neighbors

Goal: *To balance the responsibility of meeting the needs of park visitors with the need to respect the interests of residents of adjacent properties and communities.*

Objectives:

To promote visitor services and overnight accommodations at sites more appropriate to preservation of park values and the public interest through encouragement of private enterprise outside the park.

To participate with government and private interests in planning for compatible management and use of scenic, natural, cultural, and recreation resources.

THE PLANNING PROCESS

In September 1989, the planning team was organized, met with the park staff, and formulated the planning and public involvement process for the three southernmost Mendocino coast State Park System units, including Manchester State Park. Over the next 12 months, members of the planning team conducted exhaustive field reviews, research, and interviews in compiling an information base of existing data on the park. This data covers the natural, cultural, scenic, and recreation resources; park, regional, and surrounding land uses; recreation demand and deficiencies, visitor use patterns, and socio-economic resources; and the desires and requirements of other planning and regulatory agencies. In short, the information base is the combined source of all pertinent facts known about the park related to planning its future and protecting its scenic, natural, cultural, and recreational values.

Beginning in May 1990 and continuing through the summer, a visitor survey was distributed to park visitors, and provided the planning team with detailed information about visitor demographics and preferences (see **APPENDIX A**).

In July 1990, a public meeting was held in Point Arena as the second step in the public involvement process. This step served to inform the public as to the nature of the park and the planning process, and to generate interest in their involvement in future meetings. In addition to building an informed constituency, the planning team listened to and systematically recorded many ideas and issues that would have to be resolved in the planning process (**APPENDIX D** contains newsletters summarizing public viewpoints that were heard during the general plan process).

All of the ideas gathered from the public meeting, letters, telephone calls, data from previous planning documents, and other ideas generated by park staff on the planning team were compiled into four categories of options based on different philosophies of what kind of place the park should be in the future. By choosing from the range of options, the planning team put together a preferred alternative plan. The preferred alternative was presented to the public in a variety of ways: through a newsletter that went to all those on our mailing list, at a public meeting held in December 1990, and through publication of the proposals in local newspapers. The responses we received from the public, through calls, letters, and at the meetings, enabled the planning team to develop a single plan for Manchester State Park. This plan is called the Preliminary General Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Report.

Following departmental review of the plan, notices of the plan's availability were sent to everyone on the mailing list, and copies of the plan were sent to the State Clearinghouse for distribution to numerous state agencies, libraries, and interested organizations and individuals. The mailing of the notice of availability essentially initiates the public review period required by law. Following the public review period, any amendments or changes will be incorporated into the plan as an appendix (**APPENDIX G: CEQA COMMENTS AND RESPONSES**) preparatory to the plan's approval by the State Park and Recreation Commission. The commission takes action on the plan at a public hearing. Interested groups and individuals are offered an opportunity to provide their views on the preliminary plan. Following commission approval, review comments and commission changes, if any, will be incorporated into the plan. The final document will be printed and again made available to the public.

THE PLANNING TEAM

General planning for Manchester State Park was conducted by an interdisciplinary team consisting of the Mendocino District Superintendent and selected headquarters staff and Northern Region personnel. Landscape architects with expertise in park planning and design served as project manager and team lead. Several resource ecologists, historians, archeologists, and a state park interpreter formed the core team. This core team was supplemented as necessary by personnel with expertise in fields such as historic architecture, energy conservation, concessions management, real estate and property acquisition, law, geology, and forestry. The department contracted with Humboldt State University to obtain important underwater resource information. An environmental review specialist ensured that the plan proposals have been reviewed in conformance with California Environmental Quality Act requirements.

CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION WITH OTHERS

The plans and policies of other public agencies in the Mendocino County and coastal region influence management and planning decisions for Manchester State Park. The Department of Parks and Recreation worked with several of the following agencies in development of this plan. The agencies that have been and continue to be most closely associated with the park planning are:

Park and Recreation Agencies

As the primary source of Mendocino County coastal recreational opportunities south of the Navarro River, Manchester State Park will be planned and managed as one element of a regional park system. Therefore, regional supply and demand factors must be considered. The California Outdoor Recreation Resources Plan was the major source of information in understanding the overall picture of types of recreation, facilities, and deficiencies in the Mendocino region. Park planners and managers in the region, including not only the Mendocino County Department of Parks and Recreation, but also the Bureau of Land Management, the U.S. Forest Service, the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, as well as the California Department of Parks and Recreation, all exert influence on the decision-making process through the recreational opportunities they provide. A summary of the regional recreation picture is included as part of **APPENDIX A: EXISTING LAND USE CONDITIONS AND TRENDS.**

Regional Planning Agencies

The California Coastal Commission has produced policies and guidelines for proper use and development of the shoreline. These policies will be regarded as important constraints that will help guide all future considerations affecting the coastline and the coastal lands within viewshed of Highway 1. Generally, policies of the commission support recreational use as a priority for shoreline areas, and do not appear to be in conflict with State Park System policies.

As this General Plan is implemented, additional consultation with the regional offices of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, and the California Department of Fish and Game may be necessary to ensure compliance with environmental quality regulations and laws.

Local Planning Agencies

The Mendocino County Planning Department is concerned with park use and development. The General Plan for Mendocino County is a basic guide for coordination. In particular, the Coastal Element of the County General Plan establishes policies for protection of public access and use of the coastline, guidelines for planning and development of facilities on the coast, and preservation of coastal resources. The policies will serve as constraints on coastal land use and development when the county assumes permit authority for development from the State Coastal Commission. Portions of the Coastal Element policies pertinent to planning for Manchester State Park are briefly summarized in **APPENDIX E.**

Recommendations made by this General Plan are generally in conformance with the County Coastal Element policies pertaining to the park. Prior to implementation of General Plan recommendations not consistent with county policies, an amendment of the County Coastal Element may need to be approved.

Transportation Agencies

Roads in and adjacent to the park are maintained by two agencies. Proposals affecting these roadways could require assistance from the State Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and the Mendocino County Department of Public Works.

The major Mendocino transit systems with park-serving potential are the Mendocino Transit Authority and the Mendocino Stage.

The Public

Numerous groups and individuals have shaped this plan. A workshop with the general public was held in June 1990 to identify planning issues and citizens' feelings as to what topics the plans should address. The meeting recorded the preferences and feelings of about 60 people. From Memorial Day weekend to Labor Day weekend, 1200 user surveys were distributed to park visitors at Mendocino coast State Park System units, including 200 at Manchester State Park. (A copy of the survey used and a summary of the results are included in **APPENDIX A.**) Forty-one respondents gave us pertinent information about visitor demographics, user satisfaction, and needs/preferences for change. All of the information gathered from the workshop and user surveys was considered in development of alternatives, and played a major role in the selection of a single plan, which was presented to the public in December 1990. Comments were gathered during the meetings and from letters received from people responding to our newsletter and other media reports.

The General Plan is the final result of a planning effort that has relied heavily on public response. All public comments received during the CEQA review period were considered, and incorporated where appropriate, and all letters and responses are included as an appendix to this document.

PUBLIC EXPECTATIONS

Since July 1990, the planning team has talked to several dozen people about the future of Manchester State Park. Conversations at public meetings and written comments have identified the public's feelings about what the Department of Parks and Recreation should accomplish as the park's managing agency. The following summary outlines the breadth as well as the emphasis of citizens' expectations, and identifies major topics the plan will address.

Resource Management

There was a public consensus that the park should remain "undeveloped," and that the plan should emphasize protection of all park resources. The area's scenic beauty, and, especially its relationship to the wetlands and coastline, was recognized as a dominant value to be preserved and enhanced. Many people expressed concern about environmentally fragile places such as the Davis Lake, Brush Creek, and Alder Creek wetland areas. Others wanted to know why historic structures on the Mendocino coast have been acquired but not made available for public use. People wanted assurances that any increased facilities and visitation would be carefully managed to protect sensitive areas, wildlife habitat, and general park character.

This General Plan addresses numerous resource management topics relating to park resource protection, including sensitive species, wetlands, historic structures, vegetation management, and erosion control. Additionally, measures to aid proper dispersal and concentration of visitors according to land suitability are addressed.

Current Visitors

People have known and used the lands at Manchester State Park for a long time. To these visitors, their consistent appreciation and use of the parkland is a way of saying "everything is fine, don't change it." This viewpoint has been respected when planning future uses, and this plan has carefully considered possible effects on current park visitors.

Use of Existing Park Facilities

"Before you consider new facilities, look at what you've got. Why build something new?" This is an attitude expressed by several meeting participants. They felt that adaptive use of the Davis House, better use of the environmental campsites, and use of the Alder Creek bluff houses should be considered before any construction of new facilities. Uses they suggested for the Davis House included hostel, ranger residence, park office, and interpretive center. Some local residents expressed their displeasure at the California Department of Parks and Recreation for allowing the Alder Creek houses to become vandalized and to deteriorate. Uses proposed in the past for the houses, such as ranger residences or a visitor center, did not surface at the public meetings. Proposals were received, however, for use of the houses as a hostel, or, if the houses were removed, use of the area as a parking and viewing overlook for the disabled.

The potential for locating proposed park activities and facilities in existing historic buildings has been considered during the general plan process. Whether this kind of adaptive use is appropriate and feasible depends on the condition of available structures, their historical merit, access, and the suitability of the site. The general plan assesses the use and capacity of other existing park facilities, and proposes methods for enhancing underused ones.

Interpretation

To many people, the most exciting potential of Manchester State Park is the opportunity to offer visitors an understanding of the many natural and cultural forces that shaped this land, from the underwater environment, salt marsh, dunes, and lagoons to grassland and forest, from prehistory to the dairy/ranching period.

Questionnaire respondents and workshop participants felt that education efforts should be an important part of the park's program base. Interpretive walks and self-guided tours were in high demand. Facilities to support educational functions were also suggested — a contact station, interpretive center, outdoor displays, nature trails, and special study areas — allowing more people to participate and expand their understanding of the park's resources. To many people, this function is critical: only through understanding of, and respect for, the land can increasing numbers of visitors enjoy the park and leave it untrammeled for future generations to enjoy.

Overnight Use

An overwhelming number of overnight visitors expressed their pleasure and gratitude for the "primitive" camping experience offered by the campground and environmental campsites. It afforded them a unique opportunity to camp near the beach without the crowding, noise, and accoutrements commonly found in more developed campgrounds. Many of them expressed their desire that flush toilets and showers not be developed, in the belief that lack of them discourages the type of camper looking for "all the comforts of home," and creates a more low-key, "closer to nature" park experience.

The question of recreation vehicle (RV) camping and hookups struck some controversy. Many campers were hesitant about provisions for this overnight use, citing the proximity of the KOA Kampground next to the park, and a desire to eliminate the noise from generators and TVs that often accompanies RV camping.

The park plan will continue to provide for a variety of camping opportunities to respond to visitor interest, and will attempt to maintain a level of development compatible with the adjacent KOA facility.

Improved Park Facilities and Use

Most visitors to the park today are outer city and suburban residents. These people either live close to the park, or can easily get there. Their recreational interests usually support the current park character — the natural areas of Manchester State Park are widely appreciated for their solitude, beauty, and opportunities for hiking, beach activities, and discovery.

Despite general agreement with the character of many park areas, these park visitors saw many ways to enhance the park's quality. Better park and trail signing and access were special concerns. People were concerned with maintaining existing scenic and natural views and wildlife habitat. Many suggested park facilities like wetlands trails/boardwalks, picnic areas, and interpretive facilities and programs. Major emphasis from Audubon Society members and other birdwatchers, however, was placed on the need to avoid the deleterious effects on birdlife of trails and viewing areas placed too close to wetland areas.

All planning alternatives have considered a system of trails for exploration of the park. Sensitive siting of trails will protect wetland features and wildlife habitat, and will provide for walkers with different stamina and expectations, including senior citizens and the handicapped.

Disabled Visitors

Like anyone else, handicapped people would enjoy an opportunity to visit Manchester State Park. However, access to the beach and water, indeed, most areas of the park, is not possible, owing to terrain or lack of facilities. One goal of the General Plan is to provide beach access for the disabled. In addition, their visits would be made more comfortable by incorporating special design features that contribute to their ease of access to the park. Although this General Plan will not present detailed design features for park areas, it is proposed that the needs of the handicapped be considered in future site design and recreational programming. Recommended features include accesses with ramps, specially surfaced trails, modified comfort stations, and close-in parking sites. Public transit vehicles which now or in the future serve the park should be designed to accommodate wheelchairs. Programs of interest to handicapped users should be encouraged.

RESOURCE ELEMENT

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INTRODUCTION

The RESOURCE ELEMENT for Manchester State Park identifies specific resources along with their values, sensitivities, and physical constraints. The RESOURCE ELEMENT also sets forth long-range management objectives for the natural, cultural, and scenic resources, and identifies specific actions or limitations required to achieve these objectives. Department guidelines for acceptable levels of use and development are then established with respect to these values. Through development of a Resource Element, the department complies with Division V, Chapter 1, Article 1, Section 5002.2 of the Public Resources Code, and Title XIV, Division 3, Chapter 1, Section 4332 of the California Code of Regulations.

RESOURCE SUMMARY AND EVALUATION

The following resource information is a summary and evaluation of more detailed data contained in the Resource Inventory for the unit, on file with the department in Sacramento. General descriptions on biological, cultural, and landscape resources, and the scenic and recreational opportunities they provide, are presented briefly in the General Plan **INTRODUCTION**. They provide a broad overview of the significant resources whose interrelationships and interacting array of conditions and features form both the common and unique ecosystems of Manchester State Park. These ecosystems have been divided into geographical areas called Ecological Units (EUs), which along with cultural resource information, are described in this **RESOURCE ELEMENT**.

Detailed evaluation of Ecololgical Unit resource values is derived, in part, from the broader view of the park and its regional surroundings. The special values and qualities associated with these resources are the essence of the park, and they need to be properly managed to maintain the expected level of quality found in the State Park System. An understanding of ecological units and cultural resource sensitivities is essential to the formulation of Resource Management Zones (RMZs). RMZs serve as working models for assessing the impacts of management actions inside and outside State Park System units. Regional and unit characteristics described below, and subsequent **RESOURCE ELEMENT** discussions set the stage for development of management strategies. These strategies are presented in the **RESOURCE ELEMENT** in the form of policies, or directives .

REGIONAL AND UNIT CHARACTERISTICS

Characteristic climatic features of the Mendocino coast are moderate temperatures with small daily and seasonal fluctuations, frequent dense fogs, and northwesterly winds. The average annual precipitation for the unit area is about 40 inches, half of which falls between December and February. Summer rain is uncommon, but summer fog drip is a significant source of moisture. A persistent moderate wind (15 to 30 mph) occurs during the summer months, and, in combination with the fog, provides a cool, damp relief from the hot, dry interior of California. Air quality for the Mendocino coast is high.

Characteristic geologic features in the region are sedimentary bedrock, and erosional material. The bedrock in Manchester State Park is predominantly comprised of 70-20-million-year-old Upper Cretaceous-Tertiary marine sedimentary rocks, primarily of shale, sandstone, conglomerate, and mudstone. These sedimentary rocks form a narrow belt of land along the west side of the San Andreas fault that extends from Alder Creek, on the northern boundary of the unit, 35 miles south along the coast to Fort Ross. Bedrock in places is overlain by stream and river channel deposits and marine terrace clay, sand, and gravel that mantle wave-cut bedrock surfaces adjacent to the sea cliffs and eastward. The youngest faults in the region trend northwest or north-northwest, parallel and subparallel to the general structural grain of the Coast Ranges and the San Andreas fault system. The most recently active trace of the San Andreas fault leaves the shore along the northern boundary of Manchester State Park at Alder Creek.

Uplift of marine sedimentary formations, sea level changes, a large complex of active faults, climatic changes, and differences in vegetative cover have resulted in localized differences in soil formation factors at Manchester State Park. The more common soils are prairie-like with dark color, high organic content, and low pH. Other soils range from blowing sand with a poor moisture holding capacity to Tropaquepts (wetland soils) that are saturated throughout most of the year. The topography varies from relatively flat coastal beach, undulating dunes, coastal bluffs, moderately sloped grassland terraces, to small but more steeply sloped canyons.

Soil type, topography, rainfall, exposure to wind and sun, and the duration of soil moisture all work together to influence which species of plants and animals will inhabit a particular area. Manchester State Park has a remarkable biological diversity, including several unique and sensitive ecosystems.
The interaction of the biotic and abiotic factors determines the ecology of a particular area. To help understand how these factors influence one another, smaller geographical areas known as ecosystems, or Ecological Units (EUs), have been identified and are described in the Resource Element. Identification of what comprises an EU and what causes one EU to be different from another lends to a better understanding of how various activities and uses may affect an Ecological Unit.

Analysis of the known or potential affect of human activities and uses on each of the park's ecosystems makes it easier to manage the park without causing adverse impacts to its sensitive resources. Drawing on this analysis, Resource Management Zones (RMZs) for Manchester State Park are also identified in the Resource Element. The concept of RMZs ties the following information on ecological unit sensitivity to the appropriate management of various areas of the park.

ECOLOGICAL UNITS

Five ecological units (EUs) are delineated at Manchester State Park: Marine, Coastal Beach and Bluff, Coastal Dunes, Riparian Areas and Wetlands, and Marine Terrace. These ecological units constitute ecosystems whose boundaries were drawn based primarily on analysis of vegetation, landforms, and hydrological processes, and apply to all systems, not just undisturbed native systems. Descriptions and locations of primary features and discussions on the sensitivities, importance, influences, and impacts in each ecological unit are presented below. Maps 3/1 and 3/2 delineate the locations and extent of these ecological units. Refer to **APPENDIX C**, Maps 1-4 (Drawings 26210 to 26217), for an orientation to the sensitive resources and constraining conditions within them.

Marine Ecological Unit

The Marine Ecological Unit encompasses the nearshore and underwater areas adjacent to the terrestrial boundaries of Manchester State Park, generally running seaward 8,000-11,000 feet to include the boundary of the submerged lands leased from the State Lands Commission, including the Arena Rock Marine Natural Preserve. As such, all of its features are part of the marine environment, constituting a rich and diverse ecosystem.

The marine environment is an integrally important component of the terrestrial features and the plants and animals influenced by both environments.

The sea floor in Manchester State Park falls under the jurisdiction of the State Lands Commission, while the Department of Fish and Game has jurisdiction over the living marine resources, both plant and animal. Although the Department of Parks and Recreation has no fee title ownership, jurisdiction is granted by the terms of the lease. In addition, the Department of Parks and Recreation has the authority to enforce certain statutes, according to PRC 5003.05, which states: "Rules and regulations adopted pursuant to Section 5003 shall also apply on any granted or ungranted tidelands or submerged lands abutting property of the department and used for recreational purposes by members of general public in conjunction with their use of the department's property between the boundary of the lands under the jurisdiction of the department and a line running parallel to and 1,000 feet waterward of the ordinary high water mark, so long as the rule or regulation being applied is not inconsistent with any rule or regulation of any other public agency which is applicable to those tide or submerged lands."

Manchester State Park lies on the Gualala Block, and thus, is west of the San Andreas fault. Much, if not most, of the bottom is covered by sand, as indicated by the lack of tall (bull) kelp canopy, and by the presence of California halibut occurring between Arena Rock and the beach.

The ocean bottoms along the beach at Manchester State Park are sandy. The waters are usually highly turbid, and the exposure to prevailing northwesterly swell is great. The beach is not amenable to diving. Visibility at Arena Rock, on the other hand, is often very good, and offers divers opportunities to view outstanding subtidal biota.

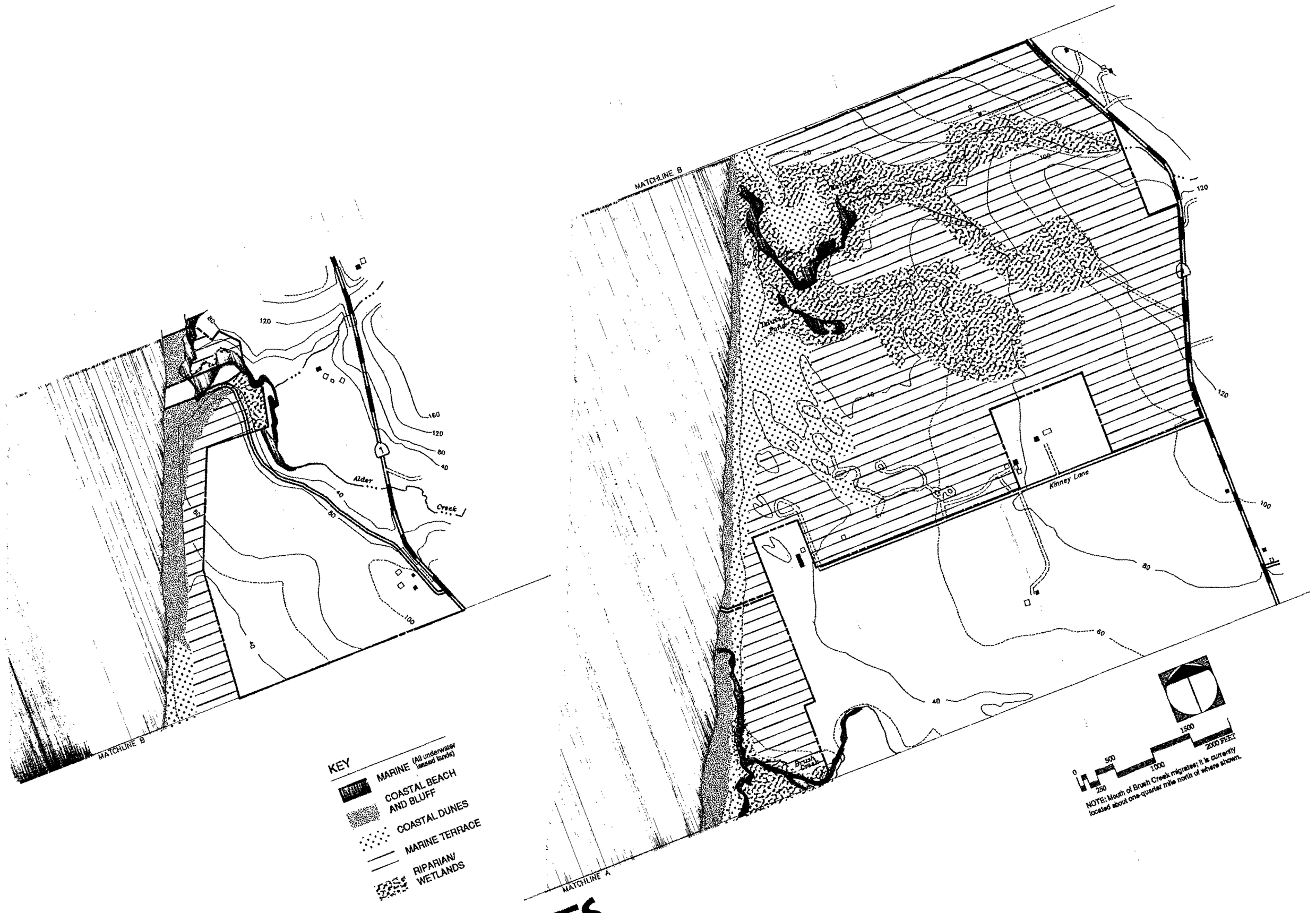
The ocean floor slope in the unit is very gentle, about 2-3% from the beach to Arena Rock, located about 1-1/2 miles north of Point Arena, and about 2 miles offshore. Arena Rock lies in about 100 feet of water, and the top breaks the surface only at low tide. The top is somewhat flat, with irregularities. The rock consists of sedimentary rocks of differing hardness. Consequently, differential weathering, undoubtedly accelerated by the high energy level of prevailing seas, has resulted in a topography ,of vertical wall with cracks, crevices, holes, and caves. Cracks and crevices may contain boulder and cobble. The base of Arena Rock is surrounded by cobble, boulder, and sand.

The intertidal zone of Manchester State Park is steep, of coarse sand, and highly exposed to prevailing westerly and northwesterly seas. Associated with the physical attributes of the intertidal zone, the macrofauna is expectedly depauperate. Burrows of beach hoppers, drift saxicolous algae like bull kelp, and sea palm are common, and are probably transported by currents from some distance to arrive on the beach.

Exposed sandy bottoms are not conducive to a rich marine flora. However, rocky bottoms in the photic zone are conducive to a rich marine flora. The flora in this area are typical for the Mendocino County coast.

The top of Arena Rock is subtidal, and for the most part, may be no less than 50 feet deep. The flora do not appear to be diverse. It is plausible that many algae are lacking on Arena Rock due to the depth being below their compensation points. The flora are primarily restricted to the horizontal surfaces on the top of the rock. Competition with sessile invertebrates appears to be keen.

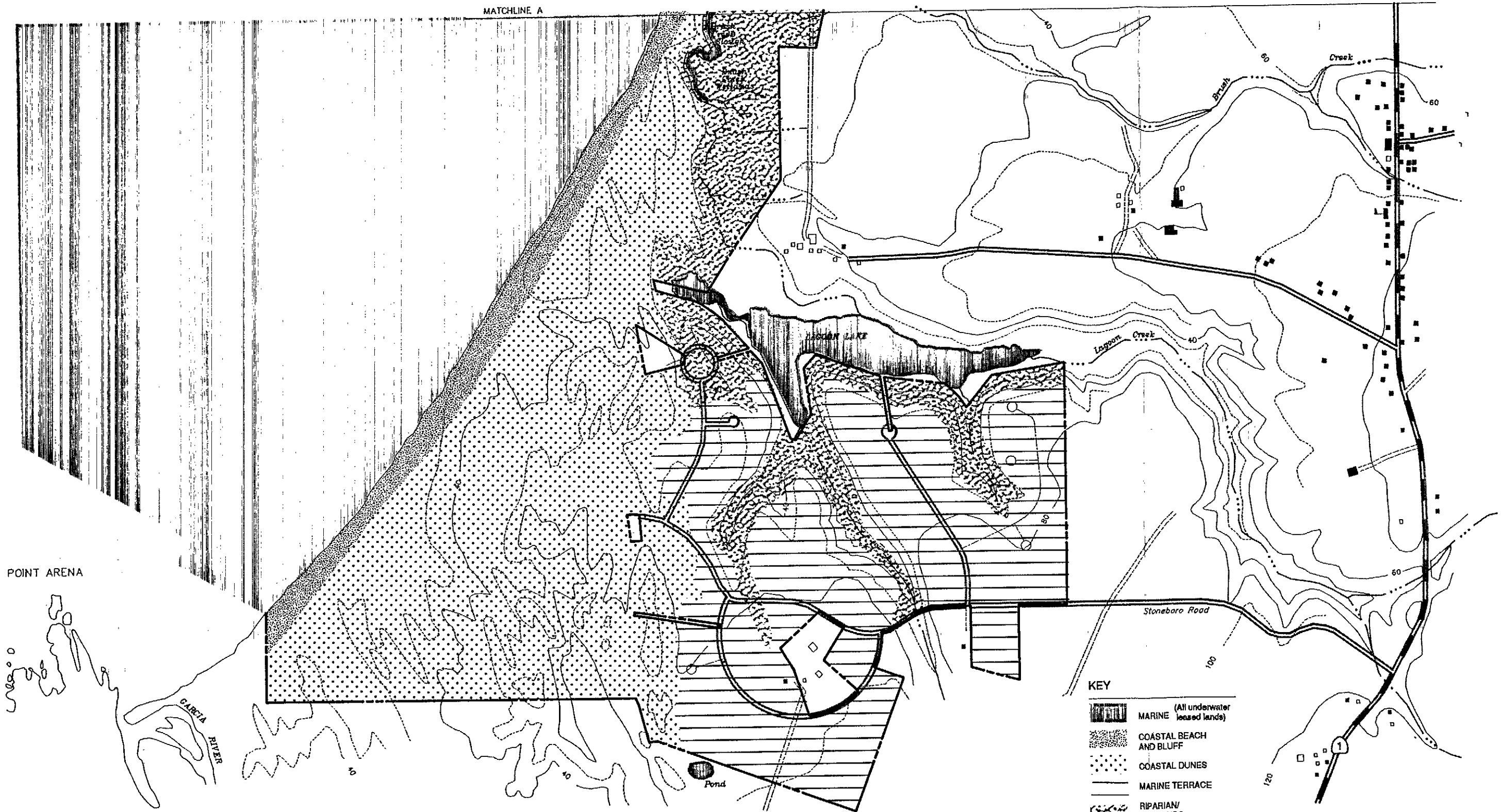
The invertebrate and fish fauna of this area are typical of the northern California coast. A sand bottom fauna apparently predominates over much of the bottoms. Such is indicated



ECOLOGICAL UNITS

MANCHESTER STATE PARK - MAP 3/1
RESOURCE ELEMENT OF THE GENERAL PLAN

CALIFORNIA RESOURCES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
DRAWING NO. 26180



ECOLOGICAL UNITS

MANCHESTER STATE PARK - MAP 3/2
RESOURCE ELEMENT OF THE GENERAL PLAN

CALIFORNIA RESOURCES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
DRAWING NO. 26181

The park's four-and-a-half mile sandy beach encompasses most of the coastline from the Garcia River north to the mouth of Alder Creek. It is considered one of California's best driftwood beaches.

by the presence of Dungeness crab, and of California halibut and redtail surfperch in the unit. A well-developed fauna occurs at Arena Rock. Invertebrates are primarily sessile, colonial forms, obtaining nutrients from the water column by filter and suspension-feeding. Herbivores are uncommon. Abalones and sea urchins appear absent, indicating that seaweed production and/or availability may be tenuous. The fishes occur in huge schools of mixes of blue and black rockfishes, occupying the water column over and around the rock. Other rockfishes, the China, Copper, and Yelloweye, also occur. Large lingcod also are common.

Gray and humpback whales, federally listed endangered species (FE), have been seen offshore at Manchester State Park. Other state and federally listed species which have been observed from the unit include the California brown pelican, bald eagle, and American peregrine falcon (FE/CE), also on the California endangered species list. The osprey, which is a species of special concern (CSC), also hunts off the Mendocino coast, and has been observed from the unit. Other birds and mammals are common in the marine environment.

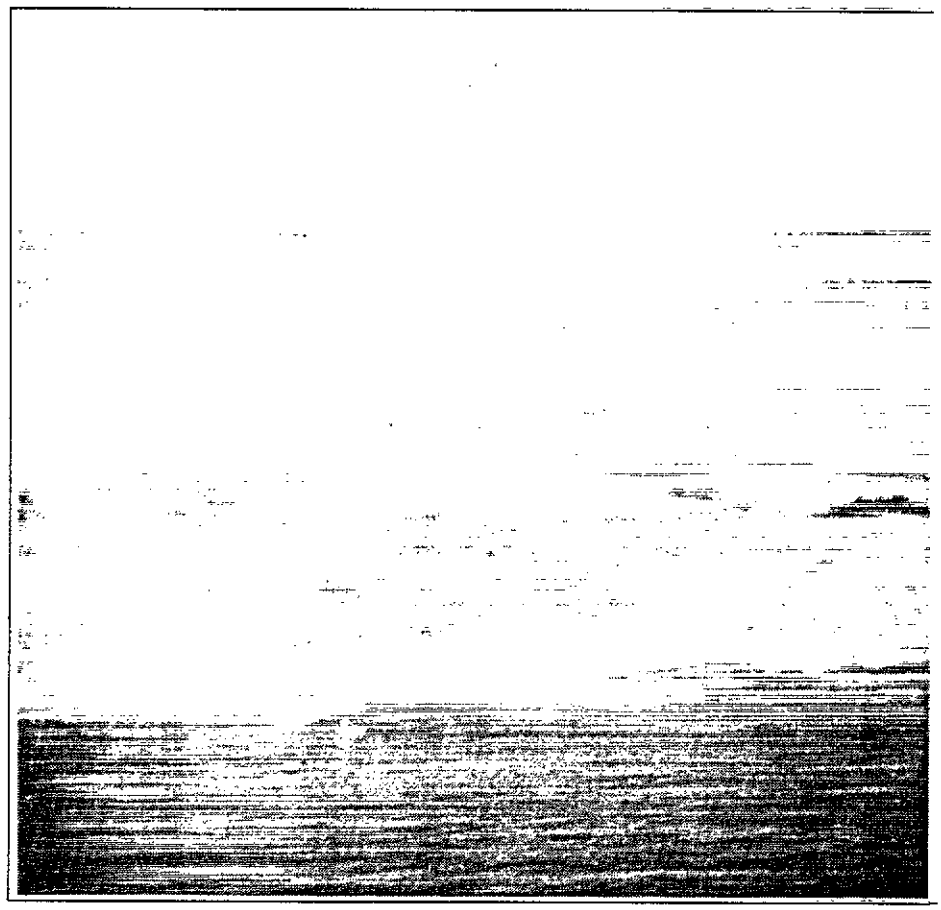
Coastal Beach and Bluff Ecological Unit

A narrow stretch of sandy beach about 4 miles long bounded by the ocean on the west, and low terraces and coastal dunes on the east, encompass this linear ecological unit, which includes the coastal strand and the steep bluff faces.

Small sandy beaches and coves at the base of coastal bluffs are typical of the Mendocino coast, yet at Manchester State Park, the shoreline features a continuous and well-developed sandy beach. The beach provides habitat for such species as harbor seals, sea lions, and marine invertebrates. Point Arena, southwest of the unit, is a marine mammal haul-out (resting area).

The qualities of beaches change seasonally depending on the ocean currents and weather patterns. A beach with thick sand deposits, such as occurs here, provides optimum conditions for spawning surf smelt, and favors interstitial invertebrates which provide food for shorebirds.

Nearly vertical sea cliffs and sea stacks characterize the rugged Mendocino coast. The bluff faces vary from bare precipices to a mosaic of herbaceous plants and dwarfed shrubs. The latter extreme is known as the northern coastal bluff scrub, which is listed as a rare natural community by the Department of Fish and Game's (DFG) California Natural Diversity Data Base (CNDDB). At Manchester State Park, bluff scrub occurs on the low bluffs near the mouth of Alder Creek. Plant species common to this community include sea fig (*Carpobrotus aequilaterus*), seaside daisy (*Erigeron glaucus*), seaside sunflower (*Eriophyllum staechadifolium* var. *artemisiaefolium*), and wild buckwheat (*Eriogonum latifolium*). One sensitive plant occurs on the coastal bluffs in the unit: Mendocino coast Indian paintbrush (*Castilleja mendocinensis*), which is listed by the California Native Plant Society (CNPS, List 1B).



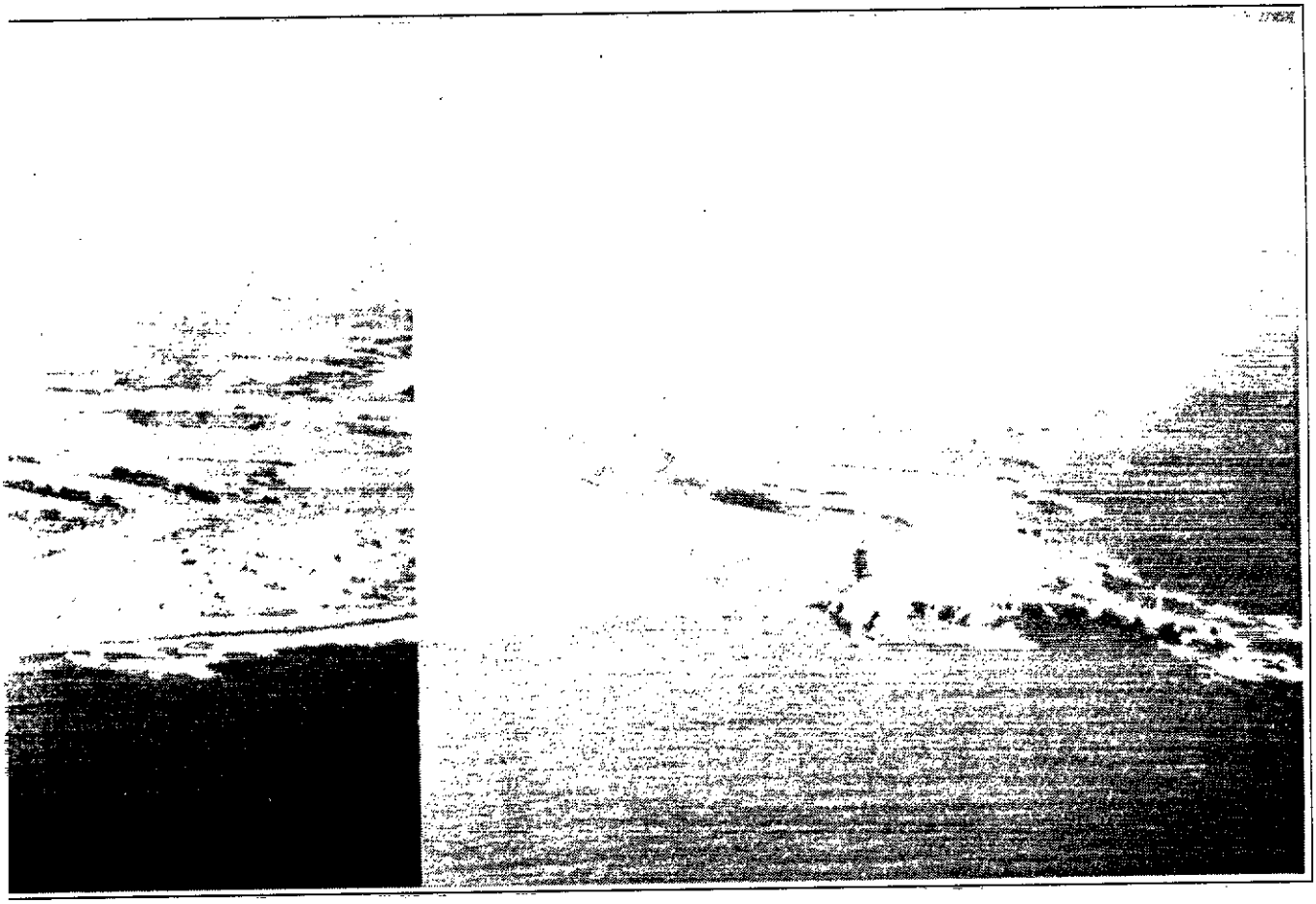
Extensive coastal dunes are a prominent feature of Manchester State Park. Shown here are the coastal dunes stretching south from Brush Creek to the mouth of the Garcia River, just north of Point Arena (at the far right).

Coastal Dunes Ecological Unit

The Coastal Dunes Ecological Unit occurs adjacent to and just inland from the coastal strand in an irregular pattern. Near the north end of Manchester State Park, the dunes begin close to shore and extend inland, probably following natural swales and filling depressions. Just southwest of Lake Davis, the dune system juts inland about one quarter mile, and then extends in a narrow band south along the beach, where it again begins to spread out, inland. Southwest of the Brush Creek wetlands complex, a more extensive dune system is developed, reaching nearly a mile inland, with heights of 80 feet or more.

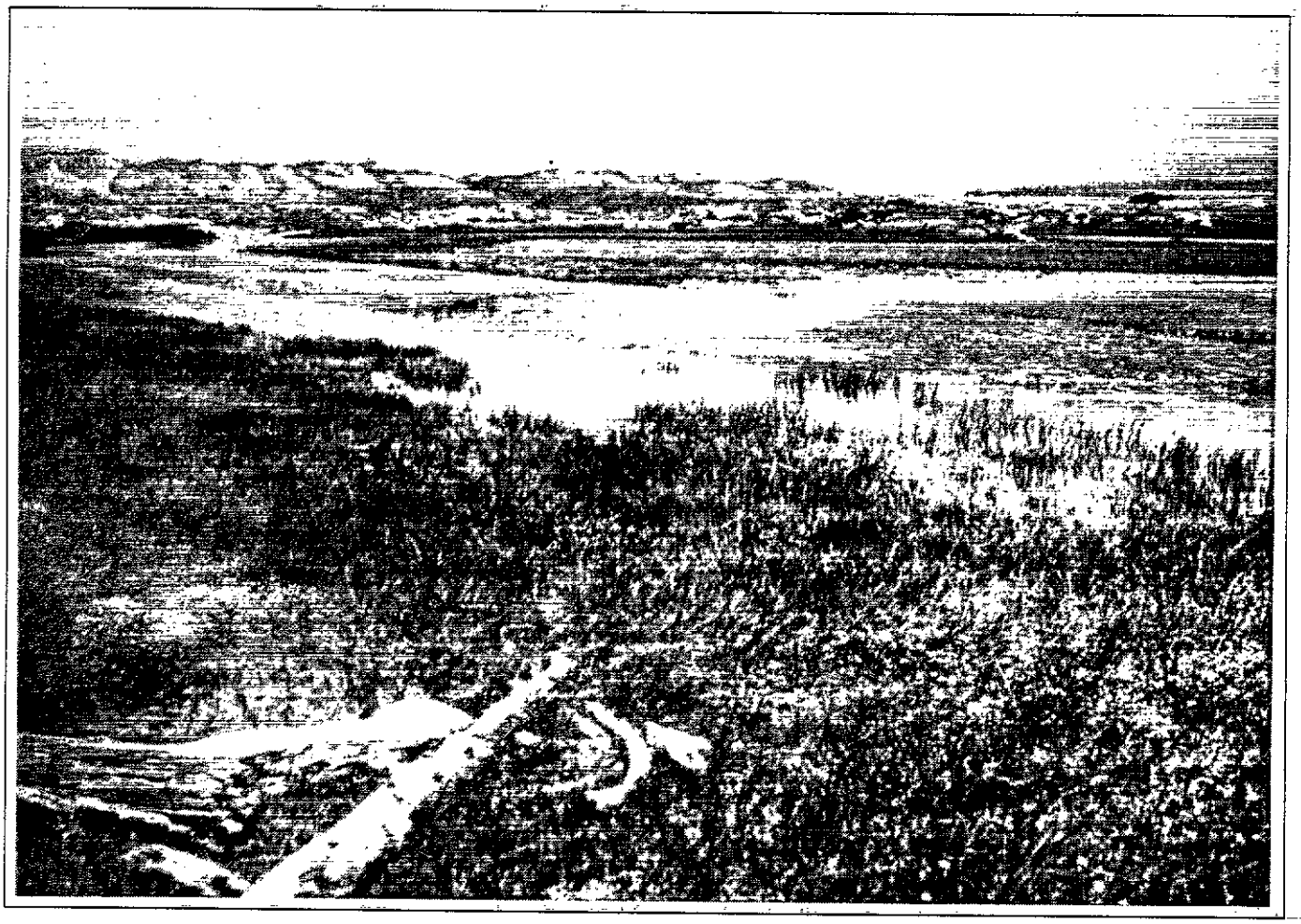
Extensive coastal dunes are a prominent feature of Manchester State Park. Due to their rarity and threatened status along the California coastline, dune systems are tracked by CNDDB. The northern dune scrub is also a CNDDB rare natural community. Several endangered species are restricted to coastal dunes, although none are known to occur in the Manchester State Park dunes.

Remnants of the northern foredune community in its natural condition still remain, primarily between Lake Davis and the campground. The northern foredune community in its natural condition is composed of sea lyme grass (*Elymus mollis*), sand verbena (*Abronia latifolia*), beach bur (*Ambrosia chamissonis*), and dunesage (*Artemisia pycnocephala*). A variety of insects, as well as small rodents, jackrabbits, and their predators, gray foxes



and bobcats, also occur in the dunes. Studies of coastal dunes at Pismo Dunes State Vehicular Recreation Area in San Luis Obispo County have found these systems to be rich wildlife habitat. The Point Arena mountain beaver, which was recently federally listed as an endangered species, an upgrade from its prior proposed status and a species of special concern (CSC), occurs in the coastal dunes in and around the campground in Manchester State Park. When denuded of vegetation, coastal dunes are subject to severe wind erosion and movement.

European beach grass (*Ammophila arenaria*), planted by early settlers to stabilize shifting dunes, has spread to dominate the coastal dune ecosystem. Growing in dense stands, this aggressive non-native displaces native vegetation, and changes the topography and ecology of the dunes. These changes, combined with disturbance by humans and dogs, have had a detrimental effect statewide on the foraging and nesting habitat of the western snowy plover, which is a recently proposed federal threatened species, an upgrade from its prior Category 2 listing. Snowy plover could potentially occur in Manchester State Park.



The Lake Davis Wetlands complex, one of the park's three wetlands systems, supports a diversity of plant and animal life.

Riparian Areas, Wetlands, and Aquatic Habitats Ecological Unit

The ecological unit encompassing the riparian areas, wetlands, and aquatic habitats includes linear corridors and fingers following Alder Creek, an unnamed creek flowing into Lake Davis, Brush Creek, and tributaries of Lagoon Creek. These features occupy low-lying areas, some of which entirely cross the unit, and interface with coastal strand, coastal dune complexes, and upland terraces, creating a very diverse mosaic of habitats.

Along the southern Mendocino County coast, unconsolidated alluvium and river channel deposits are geologic deposits of major importance as ground water sources, as well as prominent features of riparian and wetland habitats. Deep alluvial deposits provide a reliable water source. Ground water quality for the region is recognized as very good to excellent, characteristically a sodium-chloride bicarbonate water, with relatively low dissolved solids. On a regional basis, surface water quality for the Mendocino coast is also high. Dissolved minerals are predominantly calcium bicarbonates, and have very low percent sodium, low total dissolved solids, and low chlorides. Surface waters are moderately soft, but high hardness values are often observed during periods of low flow.

The complex of wetland communities found at Manchester State Park constitutes a unique ecosystem of statewide importance. Many of the riparian and wetland communities, and aquatic habitats found in the unit are listed as rare natural communities by CNDDB. In addition, three aquatic species of special concern and two sensitive plants occur in the wetlands: red-legged and yellow-legged frogs, tidewater goby, coast lily (*Lilium maritimum*), and swamp harebell (*Campanula californica*). The coastal lagoons at Brush and Alder Creeks are important habitat for anadromous fisheries.

Primarily, two wetland areas occur at Manchester State Park behind the large coastal dune complex. The Brush Creek and the Lake Davis wetland complexes are separated by low coastal terraces. As part of the Brush Creek complex, a small corner of Lagoon Lake occurs within the unit boundaries. Habitat types represented in these complexes are permanent and intermittent streams, permanent and seasonal ponds, coastal lagoons, sloughs, agricultural drains, coastal brackish marsh, coastal freshwater marsh, northern coastal saltwater marsh, freshwater seep, and north coast riparian scrub; the marshes and seeps are all rare natural communities. The wetlands areas provide important habitat for many species of waterfowl and other wildlife. An annual wintering flock of tundra swans visits Lagoon Lake, unique in that this is the only area on the Pacific coast that attracts a sizeable flock of swans.

Two sensitive plant species have been observed in the wetland ecosystems in the unit: swamp harebell and coast lily. Both are listed by CNPS (List 1B) as rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere. The streams in the unit support especially large populations of steelhead. Coho salmon were probably once common in these streams as well, but they have been extirpated in recent years by deleterious land use practices. Other common native fishes in the unit include coastrange and prickly sculpin, threespine stickleback, and lamprey. Tidewater gobies, which are uncommon on the Mendocino coast, were found in Lake Davis. Several species of amphibians were collected from the Lake Davis complex, Lagoon Creek, Brush Creek wetlands, and Alder Creek, including red-legged and yellow-legged frogs. Pacific tree frogs and western toads, which are relatively common, were also found in the unit.

Considerable areas of wetland complex that include seeps, freshwater lakes, marshes, and lagoons are present at the mouths of the streams in this unit. The surface hydrology associated with local streams backing up on the sand dune complex along the shore of the unit is complicated. The main stream systems associated with this unit are Alder Creek, an unnamed creek that flows into Lake Davis, Brush Creek, and Lagoon Creek. The Garcia River enters the ocean

A view eastward of Alder Creek and adjacent farmland. The future health of this and other park streams is dependent, to a great extent, upon upstream conditions, since less than 5% of the watersheds is in the unit.

within a few hundred yards of the southern boundary. All of these streams have most of their watersheds upstream from the unit, with forestry and agriculture as the predominant uses. Although less than 5% of the watersheds are in the unit, the physical condition of the lower reaches of these streams can affect the distribution and abundance of fish, amphibians, and invertebrates using upstream portions of the waterways. Also, upstream watershed disturbances can cause serious degradation of critical habitats that are only found in the lower sections of these streams.

Flow patterns show strong seasonal fluctuations mainly in response to heavy winter rains. Formation of a seasonal lagoon is common at the mouths of Brush Creek and Alder Creek. Flooding is common in the unit streams, partly due to the natural configuration of the stream channels in the area. Sand bars at the mouths of streams can cause short-term flooding until the sand bar is breached. The bar on Brush Creek has been artificially breached occasionally to reduce this type of flooding, as well as to stop northerly flows that may damage AT&T facilities. Development in the wetlands at Manchester State Park is legally restricted under Section 404 of the Federal Clean Water Act due to jurisdictional wetland status. Hydric soil conditions common in the wetlands severely restrict uses due to flooding, wetness, and shrink-swell potential.

Marine Terrace Ecological Unit

The Marine Terrace Ecological Unit occupies the inland and easternmost areas in Manchester State Park, and achieves the highest elevations. Marine terrace occurs adjacent to the other three terrestrial ecological units running parallel to both the coastal strand and bluff, and the coastal dune complexes, and surrounds fingers of riparian corridors and wetland complexes.

Gently sloping marine terraces, frequently divided by moderate-sized streams, are characteristic landforms on the coast of Mendocino County. Much of Manchester State Park is located on a broad, bench-like marine terrace from the coastal bluff extending inland to the toe of the

mountains east of the unit. Elevated Pleistocene-age marine terraces along the shoreline reflect Quaternary tectonic movement and sea level changes associated with post-glacial melting. The elevations of the top of the marine terraces range from 50 to 150 feet in the unit.

Semi-consolidated marine terraces are geologic deposits of major importance as ground water sources. Because of the relative thinness of terrace deposits, their limited east-west extent, and their consequent lack of storage capacity, fractured bedrock is the principal water source. Ground water is the principal source for domestic water supplies and for irrigation in coastal Mendocino County, although occasional diversions of surface waters from minor streams exist. The Mendocino County Land Use Plan designates Manchester State Park as a "critical ground water area," where development density may be increased only on proof of public water service or a positive hydrological study. Ground water quality for the region is recognized as very good to excellent, characteristically a sodium-chloride bicarbonate water, with relatively low dissolved solids.

South of Lagoon Lake in Manchester State Park, two different soils could constrain development according to the USDA Soil Conservation Service (SCS). The Cabrillo soil series poses moderate constraints for campground development because of slow percolation. The Heeser soil series has extremely fast drainage, and ground water is susceptible to contamination by septic systems. Blowing dust is a problem for all soils in this area. Constraints for all other uses in this area are rated as slight. For the terrace areas in the central and northern portions of the unit, including the area around the campground, development constraints for roads, buildings, campgrounds, and picnic areas are moderate, resulting from a cemented pan and slow percolation. Physical constraints for trail construction in this area are slight.

Non-native grasslands dominate the marine terraces, and have replaced native coastal prairie as a result of past livestock grazing and pasture modifications. Some cattle grazing continues in Manchester State Park as a result of trespass. After release from agricultural use, some terrace communities are succeeding to northern coastal scrub, and possibly, beach pine forest.

On the southern edge of the marine terrace in the unit, beach pine (*Pinus contorta* var. *contorta*) reaches the southern end of its global distribution in a small stand on the lee of the dunes. Beach pine forest is listed as a rare natural community by CNDDB.

Non-indigenous and non-native trees commonly planted for windrows on the marine terrace, such as Monterey cypress (*Cupressus macrocarpa*), Monterey pine (*Pinus radiata*), and eucalyptus (*Eucalyptus* sp.), frequently obscure ocean vistas.

At the interface between the marine terrace and the coastal dunes at Manchester State Park, northern dune scrub intermixes with northern coastal scrub communities. Northern dune scrub is dominated by dunesage, wild buckwheat, and bush lupine (*Lupinus arboreus*).

Numerous sensitive species occur or potentially occur in the various habitats found on the marine terraces in the region. The edge of the coastal dune and coastal scrub communities of Manchester State Park provide habitat for the federally listed endangered Point Arena mountain beaver. The mountain beaver creates shallow burrow systems vulnerable to destruction. It is currently threatened by disturbance from humans and feral dogs and cats. Marine terraces contain the greatest extent of mountain beaver habitat in the unit. The marine terraces are also in the range of the lotis blue butterfly (FE) and ten sensitive plant species.

Ticks, geologic faults, and soil constraints are also of management concern on marine terraces. Some species of ticks are vectors of the potentially debilitating Lyme disease. Ticks are particularly numerous in the non-native grasslands.

Cultural Resources

Cultural Background

The prehistory of this section of the Mendocino coast is currently not well known, although evidence from adjacent areas of the coast suggests that it has been occupied for at least 9,000 to 12,000 years. In the early 19th century, the Manchester area was in the territory of the Bokeya Pomo. Prior to the broad changes brought about by the whites, the Bokeya people obtained their subsistence through hunting and gathering. Although they had trading links with inland peoples, much of their focus was the coastal area. The Bokeya were adept at harvesting the sea foods of the coast, both plant and animal. Even today, despite the massive impacts of modernization, they still frequently make visits to the shore to collect traditional foods, particularly seaweed, mussels, turban snails, surf fish, and abalone. Seaweed had long been important to them, and even inland people would come to the coast to obtain it. The presence of the coastal lagoons and freshwater ponds at Manchester State Park attracted passing birds, which were hunted using nets, bolas, and bows-and-arrows.

The main village community in the vicinity of Manchester State Park was called Pda'hau (literally, river mouth). The old original village was down near the mouth of the Garcia River, about a mile from the sea. Following the return of the Pomo from internment at Fort Bragg, Pda'hau was re-established about 4 miles up the Garcia River. The social structure was that of a small village of no more than 200 people (generally closer to 80-100), with a chief or headman. Indian doctors were also important authority figures. Specialists in various fields existed, particularly hunting, arrow-making, and fishing. Women were highly regarded in the society, and were often doctors, a practice which is still prevalent today. As artisans, women made baskets with consummate skill, which today are treasured as virtual objets d'art.

Fighting between villages existed, but generally on a modest scale. The primary reasons for inter-village fights were abduction of women and poisoning (usually of a spiritual nature, but which had physical manifestations). On the other hand, peaceful gatherings did occur, and were more the rule. When a village had decided to host a gathering, messengers were sent to other villages to deliver an invitation string with a number of sticks tied to it to indicate the number of days until the festivity. Feasting and games of skill were important aspects of the entertainment.

A large, communal, semi-subterranean sweathouse was important to the social life, and to personal hygiene. The houses were either conical brush huts or tepee-like redwood bark structures.

At death, bodies were cremated first, and then whatever remained was buried. Often wealth objects, particularly baskets, would be burned along with the body.

In 1844, this area was included in a land claim filed with the provincial government by Rafael Garcia. Within a few years, Garcia had settled other Pomo groups with the Bokeya at the village of Pda'nau near his headquarters at the mouth of the Garcia River, just south of the present unit. These people were removed to the Mendocino Reservation from 1856 to 1867; they afterward returned to their village, which about 1877 was moved about 4 miles upriver to the present site of the Manchester Rancheria.

Garcia's land claim was invalidated in 1860, and the area was declared public land. By then, the land surrounding the Manchester beach was quickly being claimed. One Vermont man, Sylvanus S. Hoyt, arrived in December 1859, and began a dairy on land that encompassed the northern portion of the present unit. Hoyt worked in the dairy business in New York, New Jersey, and San Francisco before settling on his 300 acres in Mendocino County. Hoyt filed for 208.99 acres in 1875 under the Conness Act, and for 114.47 acres in 1876 under the Pre-emption Act, paying $1.25 an acre for the land. By 1885, Hoyt was still running a dairy operation on 275 acres. Sometime before 1870, Hart B. Scott, an Illinois farm hand, began to work for Hoyt. He later married Hoyt's only daughter, Charlotte, and in 1875 filed for 160 acres just north of his father-in-law's house, still within the present unit boundaries.

Other settlers who arrived in the area during the 1860s and took up land east of the beach included Charles Reinking, Lewis Morse, Samuel C. Hunter, James C. Stewart (from Stewart's Point in Sonoma County), Clark Fairbanks, David Clanton, and John Bowen. They all filed claims under the Pre-emption Act between 1874 and 1876. For the most part, they were engaged in farming, dairying, and stockraising. Hunter was listed as a sheepraiser on 352 acres in 1884. The Manchester area quickly became noted for its butter and other dairy products, which were in constant demand in San Francisco and other California towns. The produce harvested in the area was transported six miles south to Point Arena, and shipped from the wharf there.

Another early settler was Irving Wright, who established a farm in the northern portion of the unit in 1865 or 1866. Although he built a house on the property, his residence was brief. In 1868, he fled an arrest warrant in a civil case involving failure to pay pasturage fees, but was tracked by a posse to his brother's farm, where he was shot and killed by one of the opposing litigants.

It is not altogether clear what happened to the property during the next seven years, but by 1875, it had been taken up by William Barns Davis, who filed a homestead entry patent on the property in December 1880. One of Davis' sons, George Worrel Davis, had filed a cash entry patent on an adjoining parcel (partially in the present unit) in February 1874, where he lived with his own family. The elder Davis was living in the general area as early as 1869, serving as a pastor of the Point Arena Methodist Church. He died in 1887, leaving his farm to another son, William O. Davis. The latter man did not operate the farm, but leased it to a series of tenants.

While the fertile bench lands were being settled and farmed, lumbermen were making inroads into the thick redwood and Douglas-fir forests east of Manchester and Point Arena. Four mills were built on the Garcia and its tributaries. The most successful of these was the Garcia Mill, built in 1869, four miles east of Point Arena. It was purchased in 1891 by the L. E. White Co. of Greenwood, which ran it as a tie mill until it was destroyed by fire in 1894. A paper mill was established on Brush Creek east of Manchester in the 1870s. All of these mills shipped their products from Point Arena.

Lumber activities did not directly affect the Manchester beach area, although they added to the prosperity of the district. A lighthouse was established on Point Arena in 1870.

Farming and the dairy industry continued to dominate the Manchester area throughout the late nineteenth century. By 1880, the town of Manchester consisted of a blacksmith shop, a store, a school house, and a Methodist Episcopal church, surrounded by a very few dwellings. By 1892, the fame of Manchester butter was widespread. According to a contemporary magazine:

> *"The larger portion of this Point Arena country is given up to dairying... The butter from this section finds its principal market in San Francisco, though hundreds of pounds are also disposed of at the lumber settlements. The business is mainly in the hands of Americans, most of the dairies being owned by old residents who came here in the fifties."*

Beginning around 1900, Swiss-Italian families settled in the area, and greatly increased the local population. Both Point Arena and Manchester were incorporated in 1908. By 1914, the latter community boasted of one store, a blacksmith shop, two creameries, two churches, and a hotel. Most remainders of lumbering activities had disappeared by 1915. Up to the present time, the area around Manchester has remained essentially a country consisting of prosperous farms and dairies.

Manchester beach's single claim to fame, if it could be called that, was its notoriety as a site for shipwrecks. One local historian noted that the area around Point Arena had seen more than its share of beached ships:

> *"The beach north of the lighthouse has been a favorite place for old vessels to close their careers, nearly every vessel built in the township, of which there have been several, has come back to die, some before even a full voyage has been made."*

The schooner Eastport went ashore on the beach July 3, 1875. One of the few early pictures of Manchester beach shows the stranded schooner Zillah May. Chester Bishop, a long-time resident of the area, recalled one tragic accident:

> *"We only had one serious drowning, that was the old San Benito. That was Manchester. We'd come up with a real storm. This boat piled up on the beach, oh 75 yards from the beach to where she piled up. There was quite a few people on it. Half of them went down. Climbing up the rigging and hang there till they got so cold they'd just drop in the ocean. You can still see the old smokestack of the engines. It's still down there now at low tide."*

On August 26, 1930, the State Park Commission set aside approximately 295 acres along the coast for recreational purposes. This land had been claimed by several parties earlier, but none of them perfected their titles. The state received the patent for the land on March 8, 1955, and it became the nucleus for the then Manchester State Beach. Most of the remainder of the unit came from the old Hoyt ranch, and was granted to the state in 1961 by James Biaggi. From then until 1977, pieces of property were added.

In 1957, the American Telephone and Telegraph Company chose the beach as the terminus for its cable between the Hawaiian Islands and the mainland. The cable is now maintained by a communication station just outside the state boundaries.

Prehistoric Sites

An archeological survey of the unit in 1989-90 re-recorded only one prehistoric site (CA-MEN-852), a small lithic scatter in the dune area (see the Cultural Resource Sensitivities map in **APPENDIX C**).

Historic Sites and Features

Several early homesteads exist within the unit boundaries, but except for the Davis House (discussed below) little physical evidence remains. An old corral exists in the central portion of the unit, about 2,200 feet north of Kinney Lane and 1,000 feet west of the highway, but this does not appear to be connected with any of the early settlers.

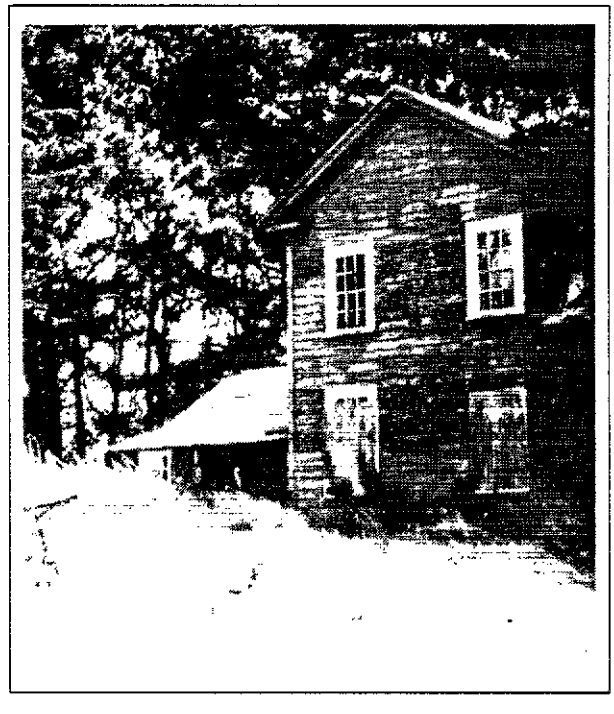
About 1,500 feet west of this is the old Dickinson homestead, but the area is totally overgrown with coastal scrub. Except for a number of Calla lilies which have survived from domestic plants, nothing is visible to mark the site.

Historic Structures

The only surviving historic building in the unit is located in the northern portion of the unit, between Lake Davis and State Highway 1.

This building, known locally as the Davis House, may actually have been built by Irving Wright as early as 1866. Though there is no conclusive proof that this is the same house that appears on the 1867 General Land Office map, there is nothing in the style of construction of the building that precludes its having been built at the earlier date. A simple gabled-ell cottage with elements of Greek Revival style, the house is sided in channel-rustic novelty siding. Pediment returns on the gable ends, boxed cornices, and corner boards provide detail. The main wing of the house is two stories tall; the ell is a single story. A partially covered porch is located at the juncture of the two wings. The porch structure appears to be a replacement of the original. A kitchen wing has been added to the north facade; its construction date is currently unknown.

Many changes have taken place in the house over the years. Plumbing and electricity were installed, fenestration has been changed on two facades, two ground-floor fireplaces and a second-story stove pad were added, and much of the original interior detail has been lost through redecoration. Recycled barn wood, burlap, and plywood panels now cover most of the walls. Both exterior doors have been replaced. In spite of these changes, much of the original fabric of the house remains in good condition.



The Davis House is the only surviving historic building in the unit.

RESOURCE DIRECTIVE FORMATION

Development of natural and cultural resource management directives is a multi-step process that includes:

1. Application of a classification to a unit of the State Park System that provides a general framework for management of resources;
2. A Declaration of Purpose that defines more specifically the purpose of the unit, its prime resources, and the broadest goals of management;
3. Delineation of a Zone of Primary Interest which describes the area where environmental changes outside the unit may affect unit resources and values; and
4. Formation of resource management directives designed to achieve specific objectives developed during an evaluation of resource conditions and general directive direction.

CLASSIFICATION

Classification establishes management and public use direction, and affords certain protections under the Public Resources Code (PRC 5019.50 et seq.), Resource Management Directives for the Department of Parks and Recreation, and other provisions. An inventory of the unit's scenic, natural, and cultural features must be submitted by the department to the State Park and Recreation Commission for its consideration prior to classification action (PRC 5002.1).

State acquisition of the parcels owned at Manchester State Park to date began in 1930, when approximately 295 acres were set aside. The state received the patent for the land in 1955. In July 1963, the State Park and Recreation Commission officially established the project as a unit of the State Park System by classifying and naming the unit Manchester State Beach.

Since the original classification, acquisitions have substantially increased the size and character of the unit. Wetlands and dunes complexes of notable statewide significance, as well as extensive submerged lands adding their marine environments, have greatly increased the important role this unit plays in preservation of critical resources. In recognition of these added resource values as well as its expanded space, the State Park and Recreation Commission took action on April 12, 1991, to reclassify this unit as Manchester State Park. Approximately 1,500 acres are currently in State Park System ownership. Roughly 3,700 acres offshore are leased from the State Lands Commission.

The Public Resources Code, Section 5019.53, defines state parks as follows:

> *State parks consist of relatively spacious areas of outstanding scenic or natural character, oftentimes also containing significant historical, archaeological, ecological, geological, or other such values. The purpose of state parks shall be to preserve outstanding natural, scenic, and cultural values, indigenous aquatic and terrestrial fauna and flora, and the most significant examples of such ecological regions of California as the Sierra Nevada, northeast volcanic, great valley, coastal strip, Klamath-Siskiyou Mountains, southwest mountains and valleys, redwoods, foothills and low coastal mountains, and desert and desert mountains.*
>
> *Each state park shall be managed as a composite whole in order to restore, protect, and maintain its native environmental complexes to the extent compatible with the primary purpose for which the park was established.*

Improvements undertaken within state parks shall be for the purpose of making the areas available for public enjoyment and education in a manner consistent with the preservation of natural, scenic, cultural, and ecological values for present and future generations. Improvements may be undertaken to provide for recreational activities including, but not limited to, camping, picnicking, sightseeing, nature study, hiking, and horseback riding, so long as such improvements involve no major modification of lands, forests, or waters. Improvements which do not directly enhance the public's enjoyment of the natural, scenic, cultural, or ecological values of the resources, which are attractions in themselves, or which are otherwise available to the public within a reasonable distance outside the park, shall not be undertaken within state parks.

State parks may be established in either the terrestrial or underwater environments of the state.

State seashore designation was given to the Mendocino coast in 1978. As defined in Public Resources Code Section 5001.6, the Mendocino Coast State Seashore consists of lands extending from Jughandle Creek to the Gualala River. Manchester State Park is not specifically identified as part of the state seashore; however, the PRC states that appropriate coastal lands may be acquired as additions to such state seashores.

The Public Resources Code, Section 5019.62, defines state seashores as follows:

State seashores consist of relatively spacious coastline areas with frontage on the ocean, or on bays open to the ocean, including water areas seasonally connected to the ocean, possessing outstanding scenic or natural character and significant recreational, historical, archeological, or geological values. State seashores may include underwater areas within them, but may not be established solely in the underwater environment.

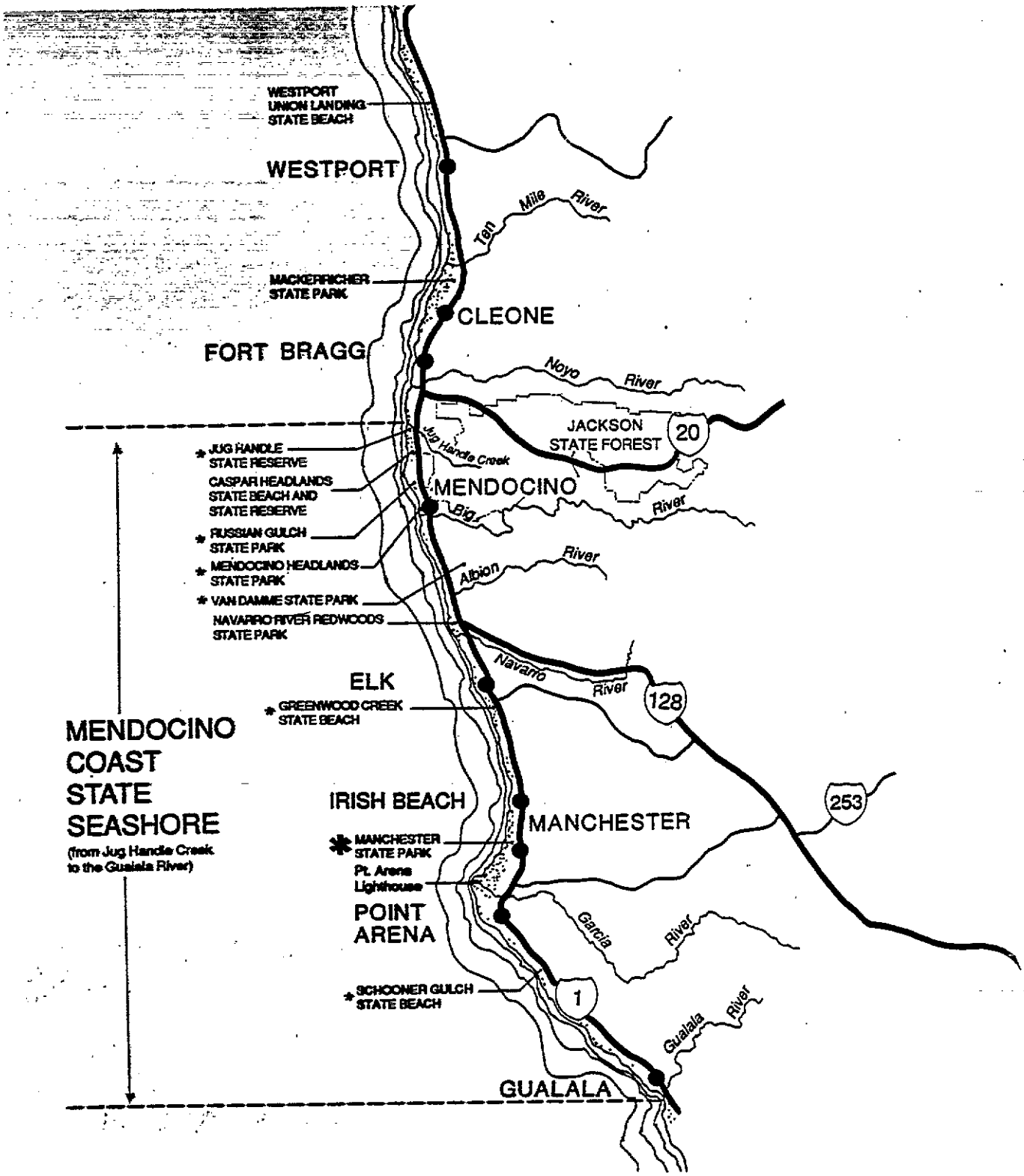
The purpose of state seashores shall be to preserve outstanding natural, scenic, cultural, ecological, and recreational values of the California coastline as an ecological region and to make possible the enjoyment of coastline and related recreational activities which are consistent with the preservation of the principal values and which contribute to the public enjoyment, appreciation, and understanding of those values.

Improvements undertaken within state seashores shall be for the purpose of making the areas available for public enjoyment, recreation, and education in a manner consistent with the perpetuation of their natural, scenic, cultural, ecological, and recreational value. Improvements which do not directly enhance the public enjoyment of the natural, scenic, cultural, ecological, or recreational values of the seashore, or which are attractions in themselves, shall not be undertaken.

The Classification Act establishes several categories of units that may be included within the boundaries of another unit of the State Park System. These categories include state wilderness, natural preserve, and cultural preserve. The natural preserve category is appropriate to certain portions of Manchester State Park.

The Arena Rock Marine Natural Preserve (shown on Map 2) was classified by the State Park and Recreation Commission in 1987, establishing a 500-acre preserve in a portion of the subtidal lands leased by the department from the State Lands Commission.

The general plan process establishes a mechanism for further determination of values that may warrant inclusion in one or more of these subclassifications. Suitable natural preserve areas have been identified, and are addressed in the Land Use Element of this General Plan. The natural preserve category, as defined by the Public Resources Code, is included here for clarification of the department's objectives in establishing such areas.



MENDOCINO COAST STATE SEASHORE

KEY

* STATE PARK SYSTEM UNITS INCLUDED IN EXISTING STATE SEASHORE DESIGNATION

✱ PROPOSED ADDITION TO MENDOCINO COAST STATE SEASHORE

MANCHESTER STATE PARK - MAP 4
RESOURCE ELEMENT OF THE GENERAL PLAN

CALIFORNIA RESOURCES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
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The Public Resources Code, Section 5019.71, defines natural preserves as follows:

> *Natural preserves consist of distinct areas of outstanding natural or scientific significance established within the boundaries of other State Park System units. The purpose of natural preserves shall be to preserve such features as rare or endangered plant and animal species and their supporting ecosystems, representative examples of plant and animal communities existing in California prior to the impact of civilization, geological features illustrative of geological processes, significant fossil occurrences or geological features of cultural or economic interest, or topographic features illustrative of representative or unique biogeographical patterns. Areas set aside as natural preserves shall be of sufficient size to allow, where possible, the natural dynamics of ecological interaction to continue without interference, and to provide, in all cases, a practicable management unit. Habitat manipulation shall be permitted only in those areas found by scientific analysis to require manipulation to preserve the species or associations which constitute the basis for the establishment of the natural preserve.*

This General Plan recommends that the State Park and Recreation Commission officially designate Manchester State Park as part of the Mendocino Coast State Seashore (shown on Map 4), and that portions of Manchester State Park be classified as natural preserves (see **APPENDIX C**, Map 5).

These classifications establish certain protections for the resources, and guide the department in management and operation of the unit. The directives in this Resource Element are designed to assist the department in achieving the goals outlined in the Public Resources Code definitions of state parks, state seashores, and natural preserves.

DECLARATION OF PURPOSE

A Declaration of Purpose is required by the Public Resources Code, Section 5002.2(b), "setting forth specific long-range management objectives. . .consistent with the unit's classification."

The Declaration of Purpose defines the purpose of the unit in the context of the State Park System and the broadest goals of management. It includes an identification of prime resources, a broad statement of management goals consistent with unit classification, and a general statement of appropriate recreational opportunities. The impetus and purpose for acquisition of Manchester State Park were to preserve beach access to this highly scenic area of the California coastline, and to protect its natural resources. The natural features include diverse marine environments, a unique coastal beach and dune system, rich wetland habitats, and low marine terraces which host a variety of wildlife, including sensitive species. Cultural features include a significant historic structure and a prehistoric site. Scenic and recreation opportunities are associated with the natural and cultural features.

When the State Park and Recreation Commission classified and named Manchester State Beach in 1963, they also formally adopted the unit's Declaration of Purpose, as follows:

> *The purpose of Manchester State Beach is to make secure forever as a public beach the coastline and related uplands of Mendocino County, including Point Arena and the mouth of Alder Creek, approximately 5 miles along the coast and embracing stretches of sandy beach; the lagoons of Alder Creek, Brush Creek, and the Garcia River; the headlands of Point Arena; together with such recreational resources as are inherent to this portion of the California coast.*

The function of the Department of Parks and Recreation at Manchester State Beach is to protect and manage the resources and values of the coastline as to assure their perpetuation; and to provide such facilities and services, consistent with its declared purpose, as are necessary for enjoyment by visitors, including: fishing, sunbathing, and general beach recreation activities on the beaches; nature study and sightseeing around the lagoons; hiking and sightseeing on the headlands; camping, picnicking, and related outdoor recreational activities on the uplands.

This purpose statement is now in need of updating based on a broader, more complete understanding of the unit's resource values, and on additions to the unit since its original classification, which led to reclassification of the unit as Manchester State Park. The new Declaration of Purpose for Manchester State Park shall be as follows:

The purpose of Manchester State Park is to make available to the people for their inspiration, enlightenment, and enjoyment, in an essentially natural condition, the outstanding scenic features and natural values, including offshore marine environs and submerged lands; the coastline embracing stretches of sandy beach and the coastal bluffs; the unique coastal dunes; the wetland complexes including the lagoons and other water features of Alder Creek, Brush Creek, Lagoon Creek, and the Lake Davis complex; the low marine terraces; the geology and plant and animal life; the significant historical and archeological resources; and the scientific values therein.

The department shall define and execute a program of management to perpetuate the unit's declared values, and provide recreational facilities and interpretation that make these values available in a manner consistent with their perpetuation.

ZONE OF PRIMARY INTEREST

The Zone of Primary Interest is a declaration of the department's concern for any environmental changes outside the unit that could seriously jeopardize or degrade State Park System values.

At Manchester State Park, the department is concerned about proposed offshore oil drilling, artificial lagoon breaching to protect the AT&T facilities, potential adverse impacts posed by uncontrolled domestic animals to mountain beaver and possibly to snowy plover, as well as water diversions, pesticide runoff and nutrient loading, and livestock trespass from neighboring agricultural lands. Oil spills pose significant threats to marine resources. Uncontrolled dogs and cats can pose a significant threat to sensitive wildlife species, possibly resulting in their local extirpation. The influence of agricultural activities and livestock could cause environmental degradation of the wetland habitats and sensitive aquatic species in the unit.

The department is also concerned about the esthetic quality of Manchester State Park. Development such as nearshore drilling rigs or platforms, AT&T towers, and potential structures on adjacent terraces or properties within the viewshed of the unit, including the bluffs south of the Garcia River, could have an adverse affect on the open, relatively undeveloped character of the area. The department will need to review development proposals in the vicinity of Manchester State Park that might have an adverse impact on the esthetic qualities of the unit. The purpose in such review would be to eliminate or minimize these impacts.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ZONES

The designation of a Resource Management Zone (RMZ) begins with evaluation of the ecological units and cultural resource information presented above in the Resource Summary and Evaluation. The evaluation of natural and cultural features helps decide the resource management approach most appropriate for a given area. Resources in the State Park System are generally managed under one of four approaches briefly described below:

- **Natural Process Management:** Nature is recognized as a dynamic system with a complex of processes and interactions. Under this approach, natural processes are allowed to occur without interference, and where they have been altered or interrupted by human influence, attempts are made to restore processes to a natural condition.

- **Cultural Area Management:** This type of management is appropriate in areas of prime historical or archeological significance, where cultural features are given highest priority. Historic zones and historic landscape scenes and settings are managed under this approach.

- **Recreation Enhancement:** Management to enhance visitor appreciation of natural and cultural resources calls for unique resource management approaches. For instance, management of natural vegetation in campgrounds may be based on ecological knowledge, but vegetation would be controlled to enhance visitor safety and facility maintenance.

- **Special Protection:** Giving management priority to a specific element or condition is sometimes required or suggested by legislation earmarking acquisition funding, by unit classification, or by declaration of purpose, as well as by federal, state, and local laws. Archeological site protection, scenic viewshed protection, rare species or rare habitat management, and management for a specific successional stage (e.g., Kruse Rhododendron State Reserve) are all examples of special protection.

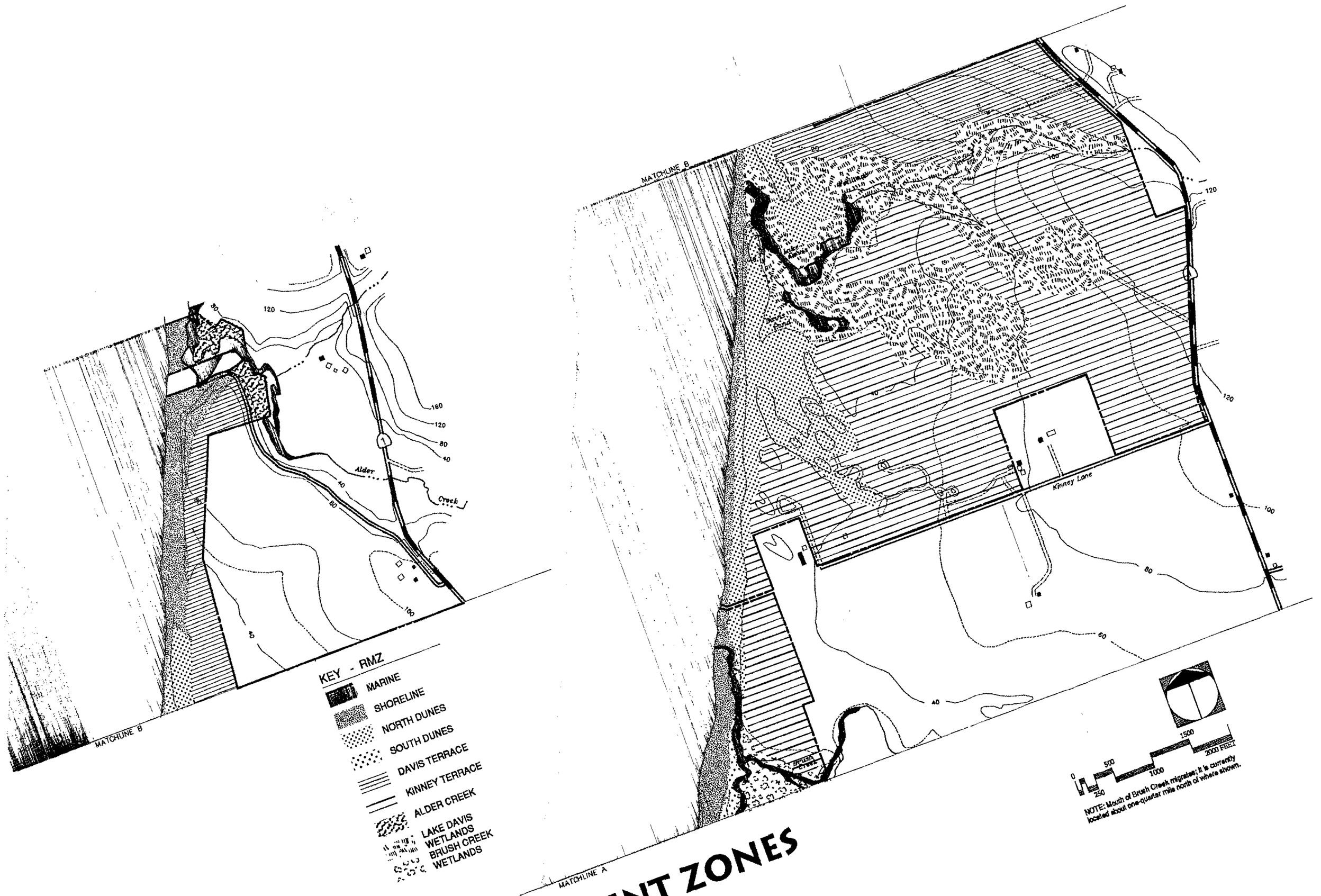
After an approach, or a blend of approaches, has been decided, geographic-based RMZs are delineated, founded primarily on ecological units and cultural sensitivity areas. Specific resource management objectives and directives are then developed for each RMZ. More than one management approach can apply to a single geographic area. In situations where management approaches may conflict, resolving conflict and identifying priorities can be guided by intent of unit classification and the Declaration of Purpose, as well as by professional judgment. The final RMZ may be subdivisions of ecological units, so that geographic-based conflicts between approaches can be resolved. Alternatively, an RMZ may include two or more ecological units with similar management approaches and objectives. Resource management approaches are not land-use designations. Rather, they are philosophies or strategies that guide development of resource management objectives and directives.

The next step in the process is to establish specific objectives for resource management for each RMZ, after which directives are prepared to achieve those resource management objectives. Both the objectives and the directives are intended to guide the department in achieving the broader goals of the State Park System. Some resource management objectives have unitwide or regional significance, while other objectives and directives apply to more than one RMZ. Objectives and directives that have broader application than single RMZs are presented separately under the heading "General Directives."

The RMZs for Manchester State Park are shown on Maps 5/1 and 5/2. A brief description and outline of the features and values leading to the appropriate resource management approach for each RMZ are presented in Table 1.

TABLE 1: RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ZONE FEATURES, VALUES, AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT APPROACH

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ZONE	NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCE VALUES	RESOURCE MANAGEMENT APPROACH
Marine RMZ 3,700 acres of underwater land offshore of the terrestrial portion of Manchester State Park.	Arena Rock, unique undisturbed marine environment, diverse assemblage of invertebrates and fish, sensitive marine mammals, raptors, and shorebirds.	Natural processes with special protection for sensitive species.
Shoreline RMZ The narrow strip of coastal strand and the bluff faces overlooking the beach.	Mendocino coast Indian paintbrush, beach, bluff faces.	Natural processes with special protection for sensitive species. Access development appropriate when compatible with resources.
North Dune RMZ The dune system between Kinney Lane and the north boundary, including some environmental camps near Lake Davis.	Snowy plover habitat, Point Arena mountain beaver, rare plants habitat, rare dune ecosystem.	Natural processes with special protection for sensitive species and habitats. Access development appropriate when compatible with resources.
South Dune RMZ The large dune complex between the south boundary and Brush Creek.	Snowy plover habitat, pocket wetlands, rare dune complex, archeological site.	Natural processes with special protection for sensitive species habitats and cultural features.
Alder Creek RMZ The mouth of Alder Creek and some of the uplands immediately adjacent to it.	Critical steelhead habitat, red-legged frogs, foothill yellow-legged frogs, Mendocino coast Indian paintbrush.	Natural processes with special protection for sensitive species and habitat. Access development appropriate when compatible with resources.
Brush Creek Wetlands RMZ Wetland and open water habitats along Brush Creek, Lagoon Lake, and the slough that connects the two.	Steelhead, Coho salmon habitat, swamp harebell, coast lily, red-legged frogs, rare wetland habitats, and rare plant communities.	Natural processes with special protection for sensitive species and habitats.
Davis Wetlands RMZ Streams, seeps, marshes, and open water in and around Lake Davis.	Swamp harebell, rare plant communities, rare wetland habitat, tidewater gobies.	Natural processes with special protection for sensitive species and habitats.
Davis Terrace RMZ The upland marine terrace areas north of Lake Davis.	Rare plant communities, Point Arena mountain beaver, Davis farmhouse area.	Natural processes with special protection for sensitive species and habitats. Cultural area protection near farmhouse.
Hunter Terrace RMZ Terrace areas south of Lagoon Lake.	Southern extent of beach pine.	Special protection for viewshed. Natural processes and recreation enhancement when compatible with special protection.
Kinney Terrace RMZ Terrace areas between Lake Davis and Kinney Lane, including the campground.	Point Arena mountain beaver, rare plant communities.	Natural processes with special protection of sensitive species and habitats. Recreation enhancement appropriate when compatible with resources.

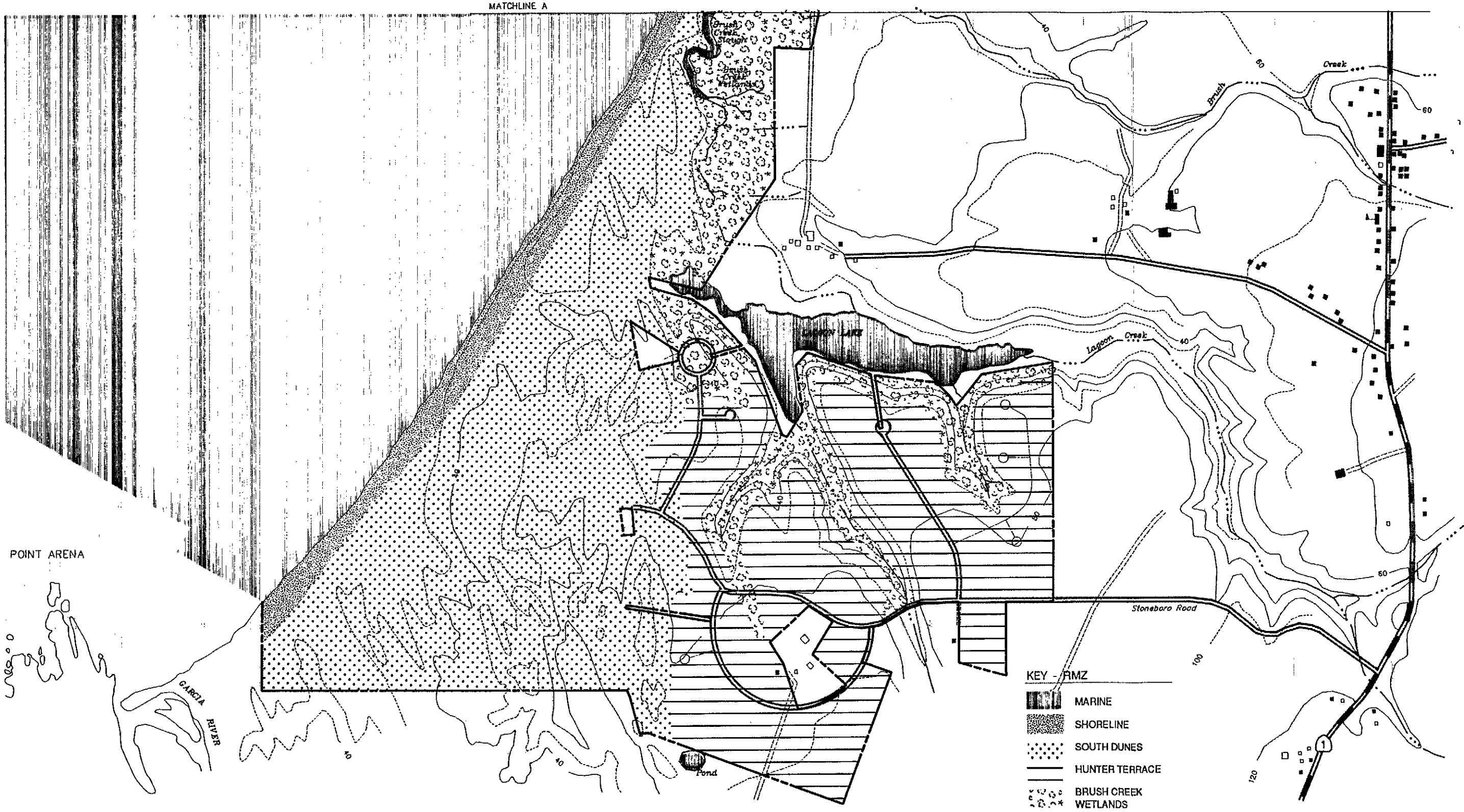


RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ZONES

MANCHESTER STATE PARK - MAP 5/1

RESOURCE ELEMENT OF THE GENERAL PLAN

CALIFORNIA RESOURCES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
DRAWING NO. 26183



RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ZONES

MANCHESTER STATE PARK - MAP 5/2
RESOURCE ELEMENT OF THE GENERAL PLAN

CALIFORNIA RESOURCES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
DRAWING NO. 26184

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT DIRECTIVES

Directives in this section of the **RESOURCE ELEMENT** are included pursuant to Section 5002.2(b) of the Public Resources Code, which states that "a declaration of resource management policy" shall be included, "setting forth the precise actions and limitations required for the achievement of the objectives established in the declaration of purpose."

General Directives

Objectives and directives that may apply to more than one RMZ, unitwide, or to regional matters are presented here, organized first according to physical features, followed by biological resources, cultural resources, and esthetics and recreation. Table 2 details to which RMZs the general directives refer.

TABLE 2: APPLICATION OF GENERAL DIRECTIVES TO SPECIFIC AREAS

General Directives	Marine	Shoreline	N & S Dunes	Alder Creek	Brush Creek	Lake Davis	Davis Terrace	Hunter Terrace	Kinney Terrace
1. Liquefaction		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
2. Tsunami		x	x	x	x	x			
3. Seismicity		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
4. Landslides		x		x	x	x	x	x	x
5. Trail Development		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
6. Vegetation Management		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
7. Landscaping		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
8. Exotic Plants		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
9. Sensitive Plants		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
10. Livestock Grazing			x	x	x	x	x	x	x
11. Prescribed Fire		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
12. Fire Supression		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
13. General Wildlife	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
14. Sensitive Wildlife	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
15. Mountain Beaver			x	x	x	x	x	x	x
16. Red-Legged Frogs				x	x	x	x		
17. Special Interest Species	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
18. Anadromous Fish	x			x	x	x			
19. Wildlife, Special Mgmt.		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
20. Landscape Ecology		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
21. Prehistoric Sites		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
22. Historic Sites/Features		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
23. Scenic Preservation	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
24. Compatible Activities	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

• Geophysical Processes

Liquefaction and Differential Settlement
Liquefaction involves significant reduction of strength in a buried layer of water-saturated silt or sand, which results in a temporary quicksand-like condition and ground failure. Differential settlement is the uneven settling of the ground surface as materials of different types respond differently to loading. This process may be the result of local liquefaction or differential compaction of alluvium during construction or earthquake shaking. Buildings with foundations in such layers may overturn, sink, or settle unevenly.

Low-lying coastal areas underlain by beach, lagoon, or wetland soils probably contain the structurally weak materials and high water tables necessary for liquefaction and differential settlement.

Directive: *Structures with high visitor use should not be built in areas subject to liquefaction and differential settlement, or should be designed to eliminate the liquefaction factor.*

Tsunami Inundation
Tsunamis are large sea waves that originate directly or indirectly from earthquakes, submarine volcanic eruptions, or large submarine landslides. Available tsunami statistics do not directly cite Mendocino County. However, the study area lies between Crescent City in Del Norte County, where wave height and tsunami damage in California generally has been greatest regardless of point of origin, and San Francisco, where wave height due to tsunami can be expected to reach 8 feet at least once every 100 years.

All areas of the exposed coast lying below 25 feet above mean sea level would be subject to tsunami inundation that could damage park structures and injure park staff and visitors. Because the forces involved with tsunami inundation are so great, the only positive means of protection is to avoid areas subject to tsunamis.

Directive: *All new structures shall be constructed in those coastal areas lying above approximately 25 feet above mean sea level.*

Seismicity
Southern Mendocino County is not an area of high seismic activity. However, movement recorded in the San Andreas fault zone and evidence of smaller earthquakes indicate that the area will continue to be subject to earthquake shaking. The most probable source of earthquake shaking in Manchester State Park is the San Andreas fault zone.

The active trace of the San Andreas fault cuts across the northern portion of Manchester State Park, and leaves the coastline for the last time at the mouth of Alder Creek. Approximately 500 feet on either side of the San Andreas fault has been designated by the California Division of Mines and Geology as a Special Studies Zone (SSZ). For certain development projects in the SSZ, geologic investigations must demonstrate that proposed project sites are not threatened by surface displacement from future faulting. The San Andreas fault is capable of generating a magnitude 8.3 earthquake. Continued seismicity, ground rupture, and violent shaking are to be expected.

Directive: *A geologist shall be consulted on the siting and design of permanent structures, and detailed site investigations and soil testing shall be conducted before construction of major public projects. A geologic report shall be filed with the State Geologist before construction in the Special Studies Zone defined by the California Division of Mines and Geology.*

Landslides
A number of small, generally shallow slides exist along road cuts, in steep valley and stream canyons, and along the steep-cliffed erosion-prone coastal headlands. Most of the slides are in weathered bedrock, colluvial material, or in the more erosive terrace deposits. The intersections of stream channels with sea cliffs are also common localities for landslides. Landslides are particularly abundant in the San Andreas fault zone, and other slides undoubtedly exist in areas not field-checked.

Damage due to landslides can be reduced or prevented by (1) avoidance, selective removal, or stabilization of landslides in areas of proposed development, and (2) regulating construction practices to include proper techniques for drainage control in all areas of construction such as road cuts and foot trails on steep slopes. In all cases, the first and critical step is to recognize the presence of pre-existing earth failures.

Directive: *Generally, new buildings, roads, pipelines, water tanks, and septic tanks shall not be constructed on landslides, or areas recognized as having high potential for slope failure. If facilities must be constructed in landslide areas, a site-specific geologic report shall be prepared early in the project planning process in order to evaluate the geologic conditions which would affect the proposed facility. This study shall be used to propose special modifications to the facility to lessen the potential impact from landslides.*

Trail Development
Hiking trails are the primary means for visitors to experience undeveloped areas of the unit. For this reason, they are a critical component of any development plan. They also may constitute a significant environmental impact in terms of esthetics, altered surface drainage, and damage to vegetation and cultural sites. In addition, they may bring visitors to areas with sensitive plant and/or wildlife populations.

Directive: *New trail construction shall minimize effects on natural, cultural, and scenic resources. For trails specified in the Gneral Plan, a unitwide trails plan shall be prepared that considers the full range of cumulative affects on unit resources. All existing trails not a part of the General Plan shall be abandoned and restored to natural contours and conditions.*

• Plant Life

Vegetation Management
Preservation and perpetuation of representative examples of natural plant communities are statewide goals for the department. In addition, a central goal of natural area management in the State Park System is to restore, protect, and maintain native ecosystems and indigenous flora and fauna.

The plant communities in Manchester State Park have been affected in the last 150 years by residential and industrial development, livestock grazing, plowing, alteration of the fire regime, and invasion by non-native species. These impacts have caused a shift in species composition, changes in the structure of plant communities, and a change in the pattern of communities at a landscape level. The changes in turn have generally had detrimental ecological effects on natural floral and faunal diversity, wildlife populations, hydrologic processes, nutrient cycling, and microclimate.

Directive: *The primary objective of vegetation management in Manchester State Park shall be to manage toward a natural condition with a minimum of disruption to natural processes. In order to perpetuate the natural diversity of native flora and fauna, a secondary objective shall be to restore and perpetuate native communities to the conditions that would currently exist had they not been disrupted by Euroamerican influence.*

In order to achieve these objectives, the department shall develop and implement a vegetation restoration and management plan for Manchester State Park. The plan should include at least the following features:

1) *Identified management units (these may include more than one plant community).*

2) *An evaluation of current conditions, disturbance factors, and successional patterns.*

3) *An estimate of pre-Euroamerican-era conditions.*

4) *Site-specific and quantifiable vegetation goals for each management unit.*

5) *Analysis of landscape level patterns and their implications for wildlife habitat in the unit, and in adjacent lands.*

6) *An evaluation and prioritization of restoration opportunities for all management units based on the rarity, present condition, level of threat, and feasibility of restoration for each of the management unit's plant communities.*

7) *Establishment of management actions for each management unit that consider management needs, treatment costs, appropriate technology and techniques, and alternatives.*

8) *A monitoring and evaluation program that quantifies management effects, and serves to guide adjustments to the plan.*

All components of the vegetation restoration and management plan need not be completed before specific projects in individual management units are implemented; however, applicable components for each management unit must be completed prior to commencing work.

Landscaping Plant Materials

Non-native species can detract from the natural appearance of the unit, escape into the wild, and displace native species.

Directive: *Landscaping in developed areas shall consist of species indigenous to the area. Non-native species, used because no indigenous species are suitable for a desired landscape purpose or location, or that are used for interpretive reasons, shall be species incapable of naturalizing and spreading into other areas of the unit, and those not requiring a permanent irrigation system.*

Exotic Plants

Many exotic species have become naturalized in the unit, and are successfully competing with native species. Perpetuation of native plant communities is dependent on control and removal of exotic invaders. European beach grass and sea fig grow in dense stands in the dunes, and are a significant threat because they are highly invasive, can displace native species, and can change the topography and ecology of the dunes. Other exotic plants in the unit that require attention to keep them from spreading are Monterey cypress, Monterey pine, and eucalyptus.

Directive: *The department shall pursue a long-range objective of reducing exotic plants established in the unit. The highest priority for control efforts shall be given to those species most invasive and conspicuous in the unit.*

Sensitive Plants

Sensitive plants are those species listed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the California Department of Fish and Game, and the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) as rare, threatened, or endangered. Species that are candidates for listing by the federal government are legally protected as if they were listed. Species listed by CNPS on their Lists 1A and 1B meet the criteria for state listing, and are protected as such.

Three sensitive plant species occur in Manchester State Park: coast lily (*Lilium maritimum*), Mendocino coast Indian paintbrush (*Castilleja mendocinensis*), and swamp harebell (*Campanula californica*). These three sensitive species are on CNPS List 1B. Due to limited botanical exploration of the unit, populations yet unknown of these plants could still be found. Many other sensitive plant species known from the Mendocino coast could also potentially occur in the unit.

Sensitive plants can be inadvertently destroyed by facility development, maintenance programs, visitor use, or other activities, especially when the exact population locations, habitat requirements, and tolerances are not known.

Mendocino Coast Indian paintbrush, one of the park's three sensitive plant species.

Directive: *Sensitive plants in Manchester State Park shall be protected and managed for their perpetuation in accordance with state law (Fish and Game Code, Division 2, Chapter 10, Section 1900). Management plans will be developed for all sensitive plant species found in the unit. All populations found shall be mapped.*

Prior to any site-specific development, heavy use activities, or prescribed burns, additional surveys for sensitive plants shall be made during the flowering season in the areas that will be affected.

Livestock Grazing

The State Park System (SPS) policy and philosophy, and enabling legislation, mandate that SPS units be managed by the department for the primary purposes of preserving scenic, natural, and cultural resources, and providing public access and recreational opportunities to enjoy and gain an appreciation for these resource values. While livestock grazing may be an appropriate use of private land, and of public lands managed for multiple commodity and recreational uses, it is generally incompatible with SPS management objectives of preservation and public recreation. The Public Resources Code prohibits commercial exploitation of resources in units of the State Park System.

Directive: *Livestock grazing shall be prohibited in Manchester State Park.*

Prescribed Fire

Native Americans apparently burned oceanside terraces along the Mendocino coast in order to enhance hunting conditions, and to promote reproduction of food. These fires probably occurred in the fall, when coastal camps were abandoned for the interior. The fires burned primarily on terraces and occasionally burned into the redwood forests higher on the slope. Terraces probably were open perennial grasslands or pine savannahs, with lesser coverages of coastal scrub communities than what currently occurs. Lightning-caused ignitions are now extremely rare along the coastal strip, and, historically, were probably similarly infrequent. Prescribed fire is a management tool that allows modern managers to mimic pre-Euroamerican influences that have shaped both the evolution of individual species and the pattern of vegetation across the landscape.

Directive: *In accord with the department's prescribed fire management directives, fire shall be restored to its natural role in suitable ecosystems at Manchester State Park. Unit-wide prescribed fire management plans that detail an ongoing program of prescribed fire use shall be prepared. They should be made part of and be consistent with the vegetation restoration and management plan. The prescribed fire plan should identify, as nearly as possible, the pre-Euroamerican fire regime by estimating timing, frequency, intensity, and extent of these fires for each plant community in the unit.*

The plan for prescribed fire use shall contain program objectives, guidelines and treatment constraints, specific burn plans, and provisions for monitoring and evaluation. Particular care shall be taken to minimize deleterious effects on the unit's natural, cultural, and scenic resources. Artificial modifications and processes shall be minimized. A program of prescribed fire shall not preclude in any way the necessity for wildfire prevention.

Fire Suppression and Prevention

Wildfire can be a threat to human life and property, and can also severely damage State Park System resources. Because conventional fire control facilities and procedures often cause longer-lasting damage to resources than does fire itself, development of standards and procedures applicable to this unit is necessary.

Directive: *A wildfire management plan that addresses wildfire prevention, presuppression, and suppression shall be developed by the department, in cooperation with the responsible fire control agencies. This plan shall include prevention measures; criteria, standards, and location of fire access roads and fire protection facilities; visitor evacuation routes; and acceptable fire suppression procedures.*

The plan shall be consistent with primary unit resource values and major unit objectives. Department standards require a minimum disturbance of soil and primary emphasis on avoiding esthetic impacts in location, construction, and maintenance of fire roads and fuelbreaks. Suppression methods shall be those that cause the least resource damage commensurate with effective control.

• Animal Life

General Wildlife Management
Animal life is an important part of natural ecosystems, and adds interest and variety to the park experience. Manchester State Park encompasses valuable wildlife habitat used by many species, some of which are classified as sensitive. Natural habitats altered by human influence since the Euroamerican settlement period can be restored or nearly so to conditions that would exist had natural processes not been disrupted. If it is necessary to regulate animal populations, methods are available that are based on principles of ecosystem management, consistent with the general directives of the department, and that avoid disturbance to other natural values of the unit. Protection and perpetuation of natural wildlife populations are major management objectives in the unit.

Directive: *The department shall manage habitats for natural wildlife populations, and shall avoid significant imbalances caused by human influences.*

Sensitive Wildlife Management
For the purpose of addressing management concerns for important wildlife species, the definition for "sensitive wildlife" as used here shall include those species listed by state and federal agencies as threatened and endangered, and species under investigation as candidates for listing. Also, the Department of Fish and Game's "species of special concern" and "fully protected species," and other species defined by state and federal agencies as sensitive, are included in this definition.

The state and federally-listed endangered American peregrine falcon and the California brown pelican have been seen foraging along or off the shore. The bald eagle, also a state and federally-listed endangered species, has been observed in the area, and the federally-listed endangered lotis blue butterfly is known from the area. The gray whale and the humpback whale, both federally-listed endangered species, may be seen from the unit. Northern spotted owl sightings have been reported at the unit, although this probably represents an infrequent occurrence.

Many wildlife species of special concern occur or may occur in Manchester State Park. These species are of concern to the California Department of Fish and Game due to a statewide reduction in breeding populations, suitable habitat, or other threats to the populations. Some of these species are the osprey, sharp-shinned hawk, Cooper's hawk, and burrowing owl. Other species of special concern that may be observed from the unit include the double-crested cormorant, California gull, and elegant tern.

Directive: *Threatened and endangered wildlife species in the unit shall be a high management priority, and these species shall be protected and managed for their perpetuation in accordance with state and federal law.*

Specific management programs shall be developed when appropriate for animal species that are threatened, endangered, or other species that are defined here as sensitive wildlife. Necessary and suitable habitat, where it exists, shall be perpetuated. Programs or projects undertaken shall be planned and designed so sensitive wildlife and their requisite habitats will not be adversely affected.

To protect these species, their locations and habitats should be documented and mapped. The maps documenting their locations should not be generally available to the public. Information on reproductive/nesting success should be obtained only if possible without disturbance.

Point Arena Mountain Beaver

The Point Arena mountain beaver or aplodontia (*Aplodontia rufa nigra*) has recently been listed as endangered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, an upgrade in protection status from its prior proposed listing status, and is a California species of special concern of the highest priority. The petition for listing this animal as a California endangered species is in preparation.

The mountain beaver is a rodent (although not a true beaver), the only species of the family Aplodontiidae, and endemic to the northwestern coast of North America. It is of immense scientific and interpretive interest because it may be the most primitive living rodent. The family Aplondontiidae has been presumed ancestral to the sciurid or squirrel-like rodents. These rodents possess some odd, perhaps "relict," physiological characteristics such as their inefficient excretory system and limited thermoregulatory ability, both of which restrict the distribution of mountain beavers to very moist areas with a steady, mild climate.

Point Arena mountain beavers are found in coastal scrub, and at the edge of coastal dunes. Of the ten currently known areas of occupied habitat, five occur in Manchester State Park. This unique and sensitive animal needs protection, because the threats to its survival within unit boundaries are numerous. People form volunteer trails that can cause burrow destruction and fragmentation of habitat in the campground area and around the AT&T property. Livestock impacts from grazing trespasses in the unit occurring near the Alder Creek area, south of the AT&T property, and in the Brush Creek area are additional sources of habitat degradation. Introduced sea fig, European beach grass, and other invasive exotic plant species, rampant at the unit, also degrade mountain beaver habitat. Park visitors' pets, the KOA Kampground adjacent to the unit office, and any large-scale suburban development, such as the Irish Beach area north of the unit, are primary sources of predatory domestic cats and dogs.

Directive: *Any potential habitat not yet investigated in the unit shall be surveyed for the presence of Point Arena mountain beaver, and for potential mountain beaver habitat. Perpetuation and protection of mountain beaver habitat shall be a high priority in management of both potential and occupied habitat areas. The department shall work with the Department of Fish and Game and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in management of this sensitive species, including cooperating in the determination of critical habitat and in preparing the recovery plan.*

Potential habitat and occupied colonies should be mapped on unit base maps, and should not be available to the general public. If deemed necessary, occupied habitat areas may be closed to visitor use to avoid disturbance to shallow burrow systems.

Red-Legged Frogs

There are two subspecies of red-legged frogs in California, the California red-legged frog (*Rana aurora draytonii*), and the northern red-legged frog (*R. a. aurora*). The historic distribution of the California red-legged frog included most of southern California, including the western edge of the deserts, the Central Valley, and the coastal area, including the Coast Ranges from San Diego to Mendocino County. The distribution of the northern red-legged frog in California includes coastal portions of Del Norte, Humboldt, Mendocino, and possibly Sonoma Counties. The area along the coast between the Marin-Sonoma County line and the Mendocino-Humboldt County line is a zone of overlap for the two subspecies of the red-legged frog. Manchester State Park is in the middle of this area, and red-legged frogs were collected from all drainages in the unit. California red-legged frogs are a species of special concern; their populations in southern California and in the Central Valley are virtually gone. The major populations are in the Coast Ranges, and in healthy coastal wetlands. The distribution of the two subspecies of red-legged frogs in the zone of overlap is not well understood. It is possible that the distribution of the two subspecies may be associated with the movement of land masses along the two sides of the San Andreas fault in this region. The two subspecies are thought to be reproductively isolated because the northern red-legged frog calls underwater, while the California red-legged frog calls above water. Management of the wetland and riverine habitats at the unit may influence habitat available for either subspecies of red-legged frog. Currently, there is no information as to which subspecies occurs at Manchester State Park, or if both subspecies occur here. The two subspecies can be identified by physical as well as behavioral attributes.

Directive: *The department's objective is to protect the biotic diversity and integrity of the habitats in Manchester State Park. Toward this end, the department needs to identify subspecies of the red-legged frog, their distributional patterns, and habitat requirements in the unit.*

Special-Interest Species

Special-interest species are defined here as rare or unusual species, and species of special scientific, interpretive, and educational interest. At this time, no terrestrial special-interest species have been identified as an animal under this category that may be present in the unit. Steelhead trout and coho salmon are of special interest because they are currently considered a depleted resource by the Department of Fish and Game.

Directive: *Distribution of special-interest species, if observed in the unit, should be monitored. Observations of these species, active nest sites, and other important habitat resources for these species should be documented on unit base maps. Such maps should not be generally available to the public.*

Anadromous Fish

Anadromous streams in the coastal Mendocino area support runs of steelhead rainbow trout and coho salmon. The Salmon, Steelhead Trout, and Anadromous Fisheries Program Act of 1988 (Section 6900 et sub. of the Fish and Game Code) recognizes the drastic decline of salmon and steelhead trout populations over the past 40 years, primarily as a result of lost stream habitat on many streams in the state. In summary, the act recognizes that reliance on hatchery production is at a maximum percentage that it should occupy in the state, and, when both natural and hatchery production are

feasible, preference shall be given to natural production. Protection of and an increase in the naturally spawning salmon and steelhead trout resources of the state must be accomplished primarily through improvement of stream habitat, and such an improvement would provide a valuable public resource to the residents of the state. Two legislative declarations in the act include doubling the current natural production of salmon and steelhead trout in the state by the end of this century, and existing natural salmon and steelhead trout habitats shall not be diminished further without offsetting the impacts of the lost habitats.

The coho salmon resources in Mendocino County coastal streams have been identified as having unique genetic attributes, uncontaminated by hatchery stocks. Many of the coho salmon runs in the area occur in small, short stream systems, and are referred to as short-run coho. These short-run coho are recognized as unique in the state. Small streams can be quickly altered or affected by inappropriate land uses.

Coho salmon runs have recently been eliminated from Brush Creek; they once probably also occurred in Alder Creek. Steelhead runs still occur in both these stream systems, but at levels that are reduced when compared to historic run sizes. The Salmon, Steelhead Trout, and Anadromous Fisheries Program Act identifies improving natural production of salmon and steelhead through improvement of stream and streambank conditions or changes in streamflow operations, without an effect on land ownership or land use practices. These conditions are generally applicable to all streams in the unit. The American Fisheries Society's 1991 list of depleted Pacific salmon, steelhead, and sea-run cutthroat from California, Oregon, Washington, and Idaho identifies threats to the various stocks (fish that spawn in a particular river system, or portion of it, at a particular season, and that do not interbreed to any substantial degree with any group spawning in a different place, or in the same place at a different season) on the Pacific coast of the mainland United States. This list includes a stock of coho salmon identified in "California small coastal streams north of San Francisco Bay" and given status B, "at moderate risk of extinction." Individual streams were not identified because adequate information is not known about these small systems. However, it seems likely that the individual stream systems would be considered as additional, unique stocks. The threats to this group were identified by "the present or threatened destruction, modification, or curtailment of its habitat or range (this category also includes mainstem passage and flow problems)." Management of the streams for protection or improvement of coho salmon and steelhead trout spawning areas, juvenile, yearling, and smolt habitats, overwintering pool habitat, critical habitat for adult spawners, and migration corridors up and downstream will benefit anadromous fish populations, and aid to restore these important resources.

Directive: *The department shall acknowledge the sensitivity of the anadromous salmonids in the stream systems in the unit, and shall follow the goals of the Salmon and Steelhead Trout Anadromous Fisheries Program Act to improve and protect conditions in anadromous streams for coho salmon and steelhead trout. Anadromous streams in Manchester State Park shall be managed to improve or protect the natural production of coho salmon and steelhead trout. Restoration work shall also consider habitat needs for other native aquatic or terrestrial organisms.*

The department's intent is to preserve genetic integrity when restoring and maintaining native animal populations, including fish, to appropriate habitats in the State Park System. When restocking stream systems that historically

contained runs of coho salmon, use of local, native strains shall be used whenever available. Hatchery-reared fish should be used only if reared from pure, wild parental stock taken from nearby or adjacent stream systems. In order to achieve reestablishment of native runs, artificial rearing facilities in Manchester State Park may be appropriate on an interim basis only for restoration of coho salmon runs.

Wildlife Requiring Special Management Consideration

Certain wildlife species, both native and exotic, can affect the natural balance of wildlife populations, or cause public safety concerns. Feral or uncontrolled domestic dogs and cats are an unnatural part of the ecosystem, and affect native wildlife through disturbance, predation, and competition for resources. A park visitor's experience can be disturbed by the sight or intimidating action of a stray or uncontrolled dog. A specific management program for control, removal, and population management could be developed and implemented when necessary. If deemed necessary, an interpretive/ educational program could be developed.

Brown-headed cowbirds are a management concern due to their habit of nest parasitism, which threatens native songbird species.

Ticks are invertebrate species of special management consideration on the Mendocino coast. Ticks are found in grassy or brushy areas, waiting to be brushed off onto warm-blooded host organisms, including park visitors. Mendocino County is an endemic area for Rocky Mountain spotted fever, tularemia, and other tick-borne diseases. Of particular concern for the unit is Lyme disease, which has dermatologic, cardiac, and arthritic manifestations, and which attacks the nervous system of humans, causing neuropsychiatric disorders in its later stages. The western black-legged tick (*Ixodes pacificus*) is implicated in Lyme disease in California, and mice (*Peromyscus* sp.), deer, birds, and the western fence lizard may serve as reservoirs for the pathogenic spirochete. From one to four percent of the ticks in Mendocino County may harbor the Lyme disease organism, and, therefore, pose a potential threat to visitor health. To reduce the incidence of tick contact, signs can be posted informing the public of the location of ticks, as well as the health hazard posed by the ticks. Information on avoiding ticks and Lyme disease symptoms could also be made available.

Directive: *The department's objective is to eradicate or control exotic and feral animals in units of the State Park System, and to the extent that no broad-scale ecological damages are induced, to regulate, when feasible and warranted, extremely dangerous native wildlife species that are injurious to humans.*

The department shall take appropriate measures, such as dissemination of public health information, to minimize the risk and incidence of tick contact with park visitors.

Landscape Ecology

The basic need for conservation of biological diversity, the importance of the habitat surrounding the unit, and the need for natural ecosystems to change and interact with their surroundings requires us to expand our focus for ecosystem management. This expanded focus includes areas beyond unit boundaries, so that the State Park System property is viewed "not. . .as isolated reserves, but as integral parts of the complex economic, social, and ecological relationships of the region in which they exist" (Hartzog 1972, Director, National Park Service).

The department recognizes the desirability of involvement in management of lands outside unit boundaries when possible, to protect significant natural, cultural, scientific, and recreational values. Landscape ecology deals with the pattern of objects and processes across the landscape. Protecting whole watersheds, preserving migration corridors, and preventing habitat fragmentation or isolation are some of the goals accommodated by this broader view. Management activities that reflect this regional framework include cooperative planning and management with adjacent land management agencies and interest groups. Providing landscape linkages and wildlife corridors between separate protected natural areas may also be approached through easements and leases. If lands of habitat importance adjacent or near the unit, or if lands in unit watersheds, should become available for purchase, the department should consider the factors discussed above when determining the suitability of the property for State Park System purposes. Recommendations and priorities for appropriate park additions will be discussed in the **LAND USE ELEMENT** of this General Plan.

Directive: *The department's goal is to provide, administer, and manage areas of sufficient size and appropriate shape to be meaningful wildlife habitat preservation areas.*

• Cultural Resources

Prehistoric Sites
The small lithic site (CA-MEN-852) found in the dunes has been variously exposed and obscured over the years, reflecting the nature of shifting dunes over archeological sites. It is possible that other such sites exist in the unit, but have been covered by dune movement.

Directive: *The department shall protect and preserve the prehistoric resources at Manchester State Park. If, in the course of ground-disturbing activities, evidence of prehistoric use comes to light, work shall be halted and the Regional Archeologist contacted to determine significance and attendant mitigation. No ground-disturbing activities shall be undertaken in the vicinity of known sites without prior approval by the Regional Archeologist.*

Historic Sites and Features
Historic records indicate that at least four 19th-century homesites exist at Manchester State Park. Such sites are not always identifiable from surface features, although they frequently contain subsurface features and other remains. One structure, the Davis House, is still standing, but the Pease homestead is marked only by remnants of corrals and fences, and the Dickenson and Scott-Kinney homesites are indicated only by changes in vegetation.

Directive: *The department's intent is to preserve and protect historic archeological sites in Manchester State Park. To this end, staff will maintain a sensitivity to the possibility of buried features and other remains in the vicinity of early homestead sites. If, in the course of ground-disturbing activities, evidence of such resources is encountered, work shall be halted and a department archeologist contacted to determine their significance and the need for mitigation. No ground-disturbing*

activities shall be undertaken in the vicinity of known historical features or deposits without the prior approval of a department archeologist.

• Esthetics and Recreation

Scenic Preservation

The Mendocino coast is well known for its scenic qualities, and it is the visual quality and the accessibility of the area that draw visitors as well as new residents. The diverse landscape of this region of the coast offers visitors a variety of scenic experiences from the ocean to the land, from wide open views of the sea, coastline, and dunes to the wooded hills of California's Coast Range, all represented on the southern Mendocino coast. The visual resources of the coast need protection, and the Coastal Element of the Mendocino County General Plan has recognized this need in explicit policies concerning the visual resources, particularly addressing any obstruction of the coastal view from public areas and from State Highway 1. The proximity of the highway to the unit, the highway in places running parallel and adjacent to the unit, makes protection of the viewshed even more important. Visitors traveling on the highway represent the great majority of those who enjoy the unit's esthetic resources.

The scenic resources of the unit may be protected in a variety of ways, from well-planned development to the level of maintenance. Development can be integrated into the environment through use of appropriate siting techniques, scale, materials, and colors. Major park facilities can be located in areas close to the unit's periphery, and in areas most accessible by motor vehicle, at the same time preserving the scenic qualities of the ocean views from State Highway 1, as called for in the Mendocino County Local Coastal Program. Land use or development that significantly impairs or detracts from the views of motorists passing the unit should not be permitted. Signs should be kept to a minimum, and strategically located.

The protection of scenic resources extends beyond the park boundaries. The scenic quality and landscape character of the park is dependent to a great extent on the unobstructed coastal views and openess of the lands that surround it. The department shall pursue protection of the park's scenic integrity from outside influences.

Directive: *The department's objective is to protect the scenic resources of Manchester State Park from all unnecessary degrading intrusions either inside or outside the park.*

Compatible Recreation Activities

The natural resources of Manchester State Park provide for high-quality scenic and ocean-related recreation. It is a primary mission of the department to provide the public with recreational opportunities in a manner consistent with the perpetuation of these resources.

Directive: *The department's objective is to provide recreational opportunities that are compatible with the scenic, natural, and cultural resource values of the unit.*

Resource Management Zone Directives

Presented below are the individual RMZs developed for Manchester State Park. Each RMZ includes a ranked list of resource management objectives based on the management approach presented earlier. Where needed, specific directives have been developed to achieve stated objectives.

• Marine Resource Management Zone

Resource Management Objectives:

1) Protect the unit from offshore development influences;
2) Preserve and protect ecosystem processes and elements;
3) Give high management priority to sensitive species.

Offshore Petroleum Development
The federal government has placed a moratorium on petroleum development off the northern California coast until the year 2001; however, offshore petroleum development along the Mendocino coast is a possibility during the life of this General Plan. Petroleum development would not only result in construction of offshore platforms, but would also require substantial onshore development for support facilities during all phases of petroleum exploration, development, and production.

Onshore Impacts: If petroleum reserves are developed, the onshore support facilities could include marine supply terminals, petroleum refineries, pipelines, and construction yards. Traffic on local highways would increase, and local airports would become the helicopter support bases for air supply to the petroleum platforms, creating a visual and acoustic distraction in adjacent State Park System units. The highly visible and lighted platforms would affect open ocean vistas day and night.

Marine Impacts: No petroleum development along the California coast has occurred in an area similar to the Mendocino coast. Sea conditions are generally rough, and winds tend to be onshore, making petroleum recovery an improbability, and clean-up activities extremely difficult in the event of a spill. There is no local harbor facility of adequate size to maintain a large clean-up response fleet. Rocky headlands, offshore sea stacks, and small pocket beaches would be nearly impossible to clean. Local fisheries might also be affected by a spill.

Directive: *If petroleum reserves are developed along the Mendocino coast, the department shall:*

1) *Prohibit access to or across lands and waters under its jurisdiction for the purpose of any activity associated with offshore petroleum development having the potential to damage or impair State Park System values and resources. This prohibition shall apply to all petroleum companies and companies associated with petroleum exploration, development, production, or transportation. The department shall work with other state and county agencies to ensure that DPR ownerships are protected, and if damaged, a restoration program instituted.*

2) *Cooperate with other responsible agencies to develop a regional petroleum development response plan to delineate issues and management concerns in coastal Mendocino County. The department shall be involved in development and operation of a petroleum spill response network.*

3) *Initiate and maintain an ecological monitoring program in tidal and subtidal areas in order to establish baseline information and develop criteria to ensure replacement of natural and cultural resources that may be damaged or lost due to petroleum development impacts.*

Protection of Marine Life
Biotically diverse marine resources exist at Manchester State Park. Arena Rock offshore has been classified as Arena Rock Marine Natural Preserve. Heavy visitor use in the underwater portion of the unit could adversely affect the offshore underwater environment. Urchin and kelp harvests have recently increased due to increased popularity of these marine organisms as food items and changes in California Department of Fish and Game policy.

Directive: *To the extent consistent with the jurisdiction vested in the Department of Parks and Recreation, the intertidal and subtidal marine resources located immediately adjacent to the terrestrial environs of Manchester State Park shall be considered and protected in perpetuity as a resource of public importance. Marine ecosystem management should include protection of intertidal habitats and the kelp beds offshore. Marine resources management activities shall include enforcement of applicable regulations concerning extraction of marine resources, and should stress informing the public of existing state laws.*

Recreational uses in the underwater environment at the unit shall be consistent with preservation of resource values. If public use of the unit results in a significant adverse impact on the marine resources, these areas may be closed temporarily in order to implement rehabilitation efforts.

• Shoreline Resource Management Zone

Resource Management Objectives:

1) Preserve and protect ecosystem processes and elements;
2) Give high management priority to sensitive species and habitat protection;
3) Develop recreational access that allows for natural geologic processes to occur.

Geologic Specimen Collection
Collection of onshore coastal rock specimens for the purpose of extrapolating petroleum-bearing potential and reservoir characteristics of offshore geologic formations constitutes commercial collection for the production of profit, prohibited by Title XIV, Division 3, Chapter 6, Section 4610.2, California Code of Regulations.

Directive: *The department shall not permit collection of geologic specimens for the purpose of determining petroleum-bearing potential and reservoir characteristics of offshore geologic formations.*

Monitoring Erosion and Sand Loss

Beach erosion and sea cliff retreat have been recognized as serious threats to archeological sites, facilities, and visitor use of State Park System coastal units. Better baseline information on erosion rates is needed to plan for resource management, appropriate land use, and visitor safety.

Directive: *A monitoring program shall be established to document: 1) sea cliff retreat, 2) landslides, 3) beach elevation, 4) beach width, and 5) dune migration. The program should include comparison of historical and recent aerial photographs, ground photos with explanations, and installation of permanent monuments, and should be coordinated with any data collection efforts by the U.S. Geological Survey, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the California Department of Boating and Waterways.*

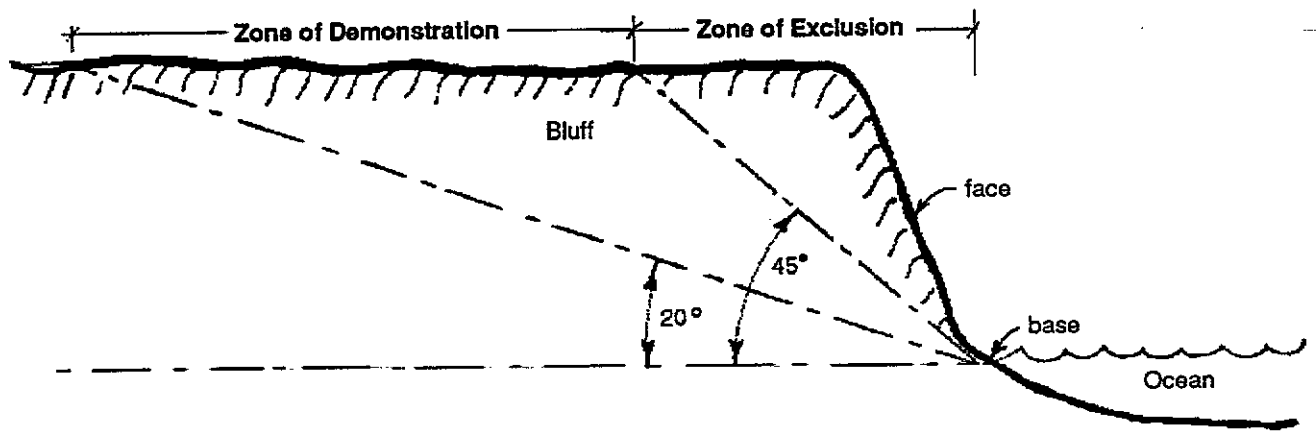


FIGURE 1. ZONES OF DEMONSTRATION AND EXCLUSION

Sea Cliff Retreat

Sea cliff retreat is an ongoing natural process that should be considered when designing and placing facilities near bluff edges. The average rate of cliff retreat is difficult to determine because of the different rock types and variations in their rates of erosion. Basalt erodes very slowly, perhaps at most a few inches each year. Less-resistant sedimentary rocks and landslide materials are much more prone to erosion, and could retreat as much as tens of feet per year.

Directive: *A zone of exclusion shall be established to include the base, face, and top of all bluffs and cliffs extending inland to a plane formed by a 45-degree angle from the horizontal at the base of the cliff or bluff. No new permanent structures shall be constructed in this zone. A zone of demonstration shall be established in the unit to extend inland from the zone of exclusion to the intersection of the ground surface with a plane inclined 20 degrees from the horizontal from the toe of the cliff or bluff (see Figure 1).*

Shoreline Protective Devices

There are currently no known threats to public or private developments by beach or bluff erosion occurring at Manchester State Park. However, as the coastline continues to develop (change), beach segments could someday be suggested for protection by

riprap, revetments, seawalls, or other structures to protect public or private developments. Structural protective measures are not consistent with the general objectives for resource management within the State Park System.

Directive: *The department shall cooperate in developing regional, non-structural solutions to coastal erosion problems, and shall undertake structural protective measures only if bioengineering or other non-structural measures (i.e., relocation of a facility, setback, redesign, or beach replenishment) are not feasible. If a protective structure is constructed (riprap, rock revetment, seawall, etc.), the structure shall not:*

1) *significantly reduce or restrict beach access;*
2) *significantly affect shoreline processes and sand supply;*
3) *significantly increase erosion on adjacent properties;*
4) *cause harmful impacts on vegetation, wildlife, or fish habitat;*
5) *be placed further than necessary from the development requiring protection; or*
6) *create a significant visual intrusion.*

• North and South Dunes Resource Management Zones

Resource Management Objectives:

1) Restore natural vegetation and geologic processes to dune systems;
2) Preserve and protect sensitive species and critical habitat;
3) Develop recreational access consistent with natural processes.

Paleontological Resources
There are no known paleontological resources at Manchester State Park.

Pleistocene-age fossils could be found associated with the dunes at the unit. This is unlikely, however, since the dynamic dune environment is not conducive to preservation of the record of former life forms.

Directive: *If eroding bluffs and/or shifting sands reveal a fossil locality, the department shall determine the fossil's significance, and take appropriate protective or stabilization action.*

Sand Dunes
The coastal dunescape at Manchester State Park is largely due to the serendipitous result of southerly littoral drift of sand, and the unusually wide expanse of marine terraces cut down by the Garcia River to form a westwardly-oriented, gently-rising coastline receptive to sand driven shoreward by northwesterly winds.

Dunes are an ephemeral geomorphic feature, attuned to natural changes but less so to human influences. Sand dunes are extremely fragile, and, whether vegetated or not, form a zone sensitive to disturbance and rapid instability. Development in conflict with natural dynamic processes, overuse, and displacement of native vegetation by non-native species can quickly degrade dune habitat. Physical, biotic, and human factors interact with great complexity in the coastal zone. Understanding each of these factors in order to assess which ones can or should be controlled by manage-

ment requires ecological and historical surveys of site development trends and patterns. If ever-increasing demands of coastal development and recreation are to be balanced with conservation of dune form and biotic diversity, study of the dune environment response to human influences will be necessary.

Directive: The department shall develop an ongoing program of ecological and historical surveys of trends and patterns of dune development. These studies and analyses shall be used as the flexible management tool required to effectively respond to natural change in the dynamic dune system, and to balance human use with biotic diversity and conservation of geomorphic form. These surveys should include:

1) *Large-scale baseline topographic surveys: against which all dune management work and change can be noted;*

2) *Dune vegetation survey maps: to pinpoint areas of change, deterioration, or evident imbalance, and to assess the effectiveness of revegetation and dune stabilization projects;*

3) *Geomorphic survey: to clearly identify all features of the dune system, areas of deterioration or imbalance, and the relative stability of the system as a whole over time;*

4) *Historical research: to establish past changes in the coastline, site topography, and use; and*

5) *A current-use survey: to assess human use patterns and needs, necessary access points, development of foot trails, and the relative importance of various types of use.*

The foredunes, those dunes closest to the beach, are active landforms that should be considered temporary features. The typically barren appearance of foredunes frequently leads to the assumption that they are resistant to human influences. Unfortunately, the natural balance of the dune system can be destroyed by the passage of off-highway vehicles or excessive foot traffic. Uncontrolled or unmonitored access can result in wind-funnel erosion along trails, death of fragile sand-trapping and stabilizing vegetation, and loss of animal habitat, and may contribute to erosion by surf action. Inland dune migration (downwind) permanently removes sand from the beach. In addition to depletion of beaches, the effect of migrating sand on human activity may be hazardous and expensive to control.

Directive: *Trail development and access management to prevent or reduce erosion of dunes and to protect native plant and animal habitat shall be a high priority. Educational and recreational features such as nature trails, viewpoints, and horse trails shall be created as an alternative to free-range use of the dune area.*

Local erosion followed by dune regeneration is a natural dynamic process in the dune environment. Therefore, management of the dune system is never likely to be once-and-for-all. As the balance of the natural system shifts in response to weather events and human influences, paths will need to be realigned, and different areas will require stabilization in the form of planting and protective fencing.

Directive: *Rather than developing and attempting to move permanent but expensive and inflexible pathways and structures, the department shall develop access points and trails using*

techniques and materials that are in harmony with the natural dynamics of the dune system, and fit as naturally and unobtrusively as possible into the dune environment.

There has been tremendous spread of European beach grass since the original planting about 1900. Toward the sea, the grass occurs in clumps and patches, and on many inland portions, it forms an almost solid turf that has largely destroyed the original dune forms and vegetation.

Directive: *The department shall assess the feasibility and effectiveness of eradicating or controlling European beach grass and replacing it with native species to stabilize and enhance biotic diversity and the geomorphic integrity of the dunescape.*

Western Snowy Plover

The western snowy plover (*Charadrius alexandrinus nivosus*), a proposed federal threatened species (a recent upgrade from its prior Category 2 listing) and a California species of special concern, second priority, occurs on the Mendocino coast. A decrease in the abundance of snowy plovers was detected by the 1940s, and, during statewide surveys in the late 1970s, the birds were absent from 33 of 53 coastal segments in which breeding had been recorded prior to 1970. None have been observed at Manchester State Park, although suitable nesting and forage habitat exists.

This small shorebird nests on flat, barren to sparsely-vegetated sand beaches from Baja California to northern Washington, and in isolated saline sinks in the interior. The limiting factors for the snowy plover include a decreased amount of nesting habitat, a degraded quality of habitat, an increased level of human activity, and a high level of predation. Colonization of the dunes along beaches by aggressive European beach grass as at Manchester State Park has resulted in dense vegetative cover, and visitor use, by both human foot and vehicle traffic and uncontrolled domestic dogs, is expected to increase in most publicly-owned areas where snowy plover use has been documented. Dogs disturb other shorebirds as well as the western snowy plover, and may destroy nests and young.

The federal petition for placing the western snowy plover on the threatened list under the Endangered Species Act has been written and has gone through the review period, and the proposed rule change is currently in preparation. The petition for listing the bird on the California threatened and endangered species list is being initiated at this time. For protection of the species, the department must consider the welfare of the western snowy plover in management of State Park System lands; surveys, habitat improvement efforts, and habitat protection, such as the periodic closure of areas or beaches with possible nesting habitat, will need to be considered. If deemed warranted and necessary, public access will be limited seasonally to beach areas below high tide line, leaving the sensitive areas of soft sand preferred for nesting undisturbed. Information on ground-nesting seabirds and shorebirds, and snowy plovers in particular, and cautions against disturbing the nesting birds should be posted.

Directive: *The department shall protect and perpetuate western snowy plovers and their foraging and nesting habitat. The department shall survey appropriate areas for snowy plover forage use and nest sites. Vehicle trespass and dog leash laws shall be strictly enforced.*

The department shall cooperate with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Department of Fish and Game in determining Critical Habitat and in preparing a Recovery Plan for snowy plover.

• Alder Creek Resource Management Zone

Resource Management Objectives:

1) Allow natural ecosystem processes to occur;
2) Preserve and protect sensitive species and critical aquatic habitats;
3) Allow natural fluvial processes and lagoon formations to occur;
4) Provide for recreational access compatible with species and habitat protection.

• Brush Creek Wetlands and Lake Davis Wetlands Resource Management Zones

Resource Management Objectives:

1) Preserve and protect wetlands and open water habitats;
2) Give high management priority to sensitive wetlands and aquatic species;
3) Allow natural fluvial processes and lagoon formations to occur.

Brush Creek Wetlands Water Quality
Dairy operation requires use of pesticides to control insects, and to maintain a healthy, sanitized facility for milk collection. Herds of milk cows also produce prodigious amounts of waste that is usually collected and stored in relatively small areas. Local topography and weather conditions can result in runoff from areas containing animal waste products, pesticides, or both to enter and contaminate surface watercourses. Excessive nutrient loading from animal waste products can have a serious effect on water quality, lowering available dissolved oxygen levels, and increasing the biological oxygen demand as bacteria in the animal waste consume available oxygen. Other consequences of contamination may include an increase in turbidity and odor and a decrease in pH. These products can change the water quality of lakes, and alter biological communities. Pesticide contamination can be transferred through the food web of aquatic and terrestrial animals, sometimes in concentrations sufficiently high to impair reproduction, or change behavior. Pesticides can also remain for years in the sediments, sometimes affecting plants and animals long after application has stopped.

Directive: *The department's objective is to protect the natural resources in Manchester State Park from the deleterious effects of adjacent land uses. In order to protect aquatic resources and wetlands values, the department shall carry out an evaluation of waters draining from the Lagoon Lake area, to the determine if water quality or the biological system dependent on the waters of Lagoon Lake are in any way impaired by operation of dairies or other agricultural practices in the watershed of Lagoon Creek. If water quality problems are identified, the department shall develop solutions to the contamination problem, working with the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board and local dairy operators to correct any problems identified with water quality conditions.*

Water Rights

Diversions of streamflow in Brush Creek have been an issue with local ranchers and landowners, and the California Department of Fish and Game. The Department of Parks and Recreation also has a public trust responsibility to protect water and instream resources. Upstream diversions have reduced the water available for downstream riparian users and the habitat available for native aquatic species in Brush Creek. The stream produces high numbers of juvenile steelhead. Legal action among the landowners has resolved the water rights issues, at least for the immediate future. Diversions from the stream upstream of Manchester State Park reduce available instream habitat in the unit. Bypass flows have been established at the west pump, about 0.7 of a mile upstream of the unit boundary. Diversion from the west pump further affects available habitat in the stream and water temperatures below this point, and probably also affects the quantity and quality of water in the Brush Creek lagoon and wetlands area. All diversions on Brush Creek must be viewed for their cumulative effects on downstream resources.

Directive: *The department's objective is to protect, preserve, and maintain the water resources of Manchester State Park. The department shall protest any additional water applications for diversions from Brush Creek. In order to secure and carry out the department's public trust responsibilities, the department shall request that a finding be made by the State Water Resources Control Board that no summer water is available for diversion from Brush Creek.*

Wetlands Soil Constraints

Water interacting with texture has a strong influence on soil strength. Water weakens the bond between particles, and makes it easier for particles to shift and compact under a load. Human, animal, and wheel traffic damages wetlands soil by destroying vegetation and compacting the soil into a sodden mass that resists revegetation when dry. When wetlands soil loses its vegetative cover and dries, it is highly susceptible to wind erosion.

Directive: *All trails and roadways through wetlands areas shall be avoided, but where needed, shall be designed and constructed to allow access over, but not on, structurally weak wetlands soils.*

A view northwest over privately owned Lagoon Lake. Visitor access for viewing of wetland areas will consider not only the biological sensitivity of the associated plant and animal life, but also the fragility of wetlands soils.

Tidewater Goby

Tidewater gobies are small fish, rarely exceeding two inches in total length. They occur only in the State of California, in coastal lagoons and river mouths that are seasonally tidal and have sandy bottoms. Tidewater gobies are burrow nesters in sandy substrate, and can handle freshwater to hypersaline conditions and cool to warm temperatures. Individual populations of tidewater gobies are understood to be genetically unique, and, once lost, may not be easily restored. The larvae can withstand full-strength seawater, so there is some evidence that gobies can disperse to uninhabited coastal lagoons through ocean currents; however, no goby population that has been lost is known to have been reestablished through this mechanism. Distance along the coast would play a major role in successful dispersal to uninhabited areas.

Nearly half of the known tidewater goby populations in the state have disappeared, primarily as a result of destruction or alteration of the coastal lagoons, or contamination or reduction of inflowing freshwater sources. Most of these losses have been in southern and central coastal California, but one habitat in northern California has also been destroyed. Only four tidewater goby populations are known from Mendocino County. The nearest populations to Manchester State Park are in Pudding Creek at MacKerricher State Park, about 35 miles to the north, and in Salmon Creek, Sonoma Coast State Beach, about 55 miles to the south. Therefore, the population of tidewater gobies in the Lake Davis complex is relatively isolated, and elimination of this population would present problems in obtaining a local source for reintroductions.

Currently, the population of tidewater gobies in the Lake Davis complex appears healthy and thriving. Because of the serious decline of the number of tidewater goby populations statewide, however, the fish is a Category 2 candidate species for federal listing.

Directive: *The department's objective is to preserve and protect the resources in the Lake Davis complex in order to perpetuate the existence of the tidewater goby population at Manchester State Park. Land use practices in, and water diversion from, the watersheds draining into the Lake Davis complex should be consistent with maintenance of tidewater goby habitat.*

Riparian Zone Geomorphology

Natural rivers and streams have an equilibrium in which the components of the fluvial system, including watershed, length, slope, width, floodplain, channel depth, and bedform, evolve in relationship with each other. The equilibrium derived from the proper relationship of these components to one another determines the character of the watercourse, and results in a diversity of streambank and floodplain vegetation and habitat necessary for both aquatic and terrestrial riparian animal life.

Directive: *Where watercourses are not in equilibrium, the proper relationship of one fluvial component to another shall be determined and rehabilitated whenever possible. In situations in which a watercourse or floodplain must be modified in any way, the components of the natural fluvial system and their proper relationship to one another shall be determined and incorporated, whenever possible, into the design of the channel and/or floodplain modification project so that the natural dynamic processes of the watercourse will be protected and/or rehabilitated.*

Trail access in the riparian corridor where developed and maintained shall be compatible with the natural resource values, and shall not disrupt or interfere with the natural dynamics of the watercourse. Construction of new structures and/or permanent facilities shall be avoided in the riparian corridor.

Permanent engineered structures for flood control, by their static nature, are in conflict with the flexibility demanded by the dynamic processes of rivers and streams, and inevitably require protective measures that are inconsistent with the general objectives for resource management in the State Park System.

Directive: *Flood control measures taken by the department shall not include structures or devices that impede the natural periodic inundation of the riparian corridor, or that impose unnatural fluvial processes.*

Artificial Manipulations of River Mouths

Coastal lagoons up and down the coast have periodically been artificially opened for a variety of reasons. Currently, the State Coastal Commission requires a permit to open lagoons, and the California Department of Fish and Game requires a Streambed Alteration Agreement prior to opening the mouth of any creek. Brush Creek has often been opened by AT&T to protect an underwater telephone cable from wave erosion. Little to no concern has been given to landward resources that are affected by these openings. Coastal lagoons provide valuable rearing habitat for steelhead juveniles and smolts. These seasonally large lagoons are essentially freshwater, and draining them can affect the quality of extensive, surrounding wetlands areas and their dependent fish and wildlife populations for considerable distances from the mouth. Opening lagoons can also reduce groundwater levels and lead to saltwater intrusion, thereby degrading water quality in nearby wells. The value of the resources rearing in these lagoons can exceed the value of the facilities that are being protected, considering the persistent diminution of resources over many years.

Directive: *The department's objective is to protect the integrity and biotic diversity of the valuable resources associated with coastal lagoons. Toward this endeavor, any request to artificially open coastal lagoons where the department has jurisdiction without the required permits shall be denied. Facilities that are continually threatened by coastal erosion or wave action from natural lagoon openings should be relocated or redesigned. If lagoons must be opened on an interim basis, a management plan shall be developed that will address how and under what conditions a lagoon can be opened, and establishes protocol, monitoring, and mitigation for the opening process.*

• Davis Terrace Resource Management Zone

Resource Management Objectives:

1) Allow natural ecosystem processes to occur;
2) Preserve and protect sensitive species and critical habitat;
3) Protect historic resources in the area of the Davis farmhouse;
4) Develop recreational access consistent with natural processes and cultural area protection.

Davis House

The history of this structure extends back at least to the arrival on the property of William B. Davis in 1875, and possibly to that of Irving Wright about 1866. It is a two-story farmhouse of Greek Revival style which exemplifies the successful 19th-century farming community in the area. Although it has been extensively modified over the years, much of the original fabric remains. In spite of general neglect since its abandonment, the structure remains in good condition.

Directive: The Davis House will be maintained as a historic structure. It may be internally adapted for interpretation or other uses, as long as such adaptations do not significantly affect early historic fabric. No restoration or adaptive remodeling, other than work necessary for stabilization or weatherproofing, will be undertaken prior to a thorough historic structure investigation.

- **Hunter Terrace Resource Management Zone**

Resource Management Objectives:

1) Preserve and protect sensitive species and critical habitat, particularly the Point Arena mountain beaver population;
2) Protect open and expansive viewshed qualities;
3) Provide for enhancement of recreational opportunities consistent with natural processes.

- **Kinney Terrace Resource Management Zone**

Resource Management Objectives:

1) Allow natural ecosystem processes to occur;
2) Preserve and protect sensitive species and critical habitat, particularly the Point Arena mountain beaver population adjacent to the campground;
3) Provide for enhancement of recreational opportunities consistent with natural processes.

ALLOWABLE USE INTENSITY

Before any park or recreational area development plan is made, the department is required to determine the land's carrying capacity, considering such factors as soil moisture and natural cover (Public Resources Code 5019.5). Carrying capacity is also partly based on an allowable use intensity analysis that considers three interdependent components: 1) resource management objectives as outlined in the Resource Element; 2) visitor perceptions and attitudes; and 3) the impact of recreational activities and development on unit resources. The potential impact of recreational development on unit natural, cultural, and scenic resources is assessed through ecological and cultural sensitivity and physical constraints analyses. Data used in these analyses were gathered during the Resource Inventory phase of the planning process. The specific process and final determination for allowable use intensity and carrying capacity are presented in the **LAND USE ELEMENT**.

INTERPRETIVE ELEMENT

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INTRODUCTION

Interpretation aims at enhancing public enjoyment and benefit in the State Park System through increasing understanding of significant natural, cultural, and recreational resources, and encouraging appreciation of their values. Interpretation is founded on the premise that knowledge deepens the park experience, providing lasting benefits not only to individuals but to society in general. The INTERPRETIVE ELEMENT works toward this goal by identifying park themes and a variety of facilities and programs appropriate for their presentation.

INTERPRETIVE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Goal: *To motivate and prepare visitors to carefully enjoy, understand, and appreciate natural areas.*

Objectives:

- To focus interpretive exhibits on the immediate area.
- To use a variety of interpretive media, including exhibits, guided walks, self-guided walks and auto tours, audio-visual media, collections, and sales of publications.

Goal: *To meet the special needs of all ages and abilities, and encourage visitors to return to the park.*

Objectives:

- To provide "sensory-rich" interpretive media.
- To provide full access for mobility-impaired visitors.
- To aim interpretation at various ages, interests, and abilities.

Goal: *To encourage visitors to extend learning beyond the park.*

Objectives:

- To coordinate themes with those used in the schools, and provide publications to the schools.
- To provide bibliographies to visitors.

Goal: *To encourage visitors to see the Mendocino coast as a fragile and complex system.*

Objectives:

- To use interpretive messages about the complex natural and human interactions that occur there.
- To examine changes in resource attitudes, land uses, and consequences over time.
- To educate visitors that preserving and restoring ecological integrity is important, and that they are a critical part of the effort.

INTERPRETIVE THEMES

Themes define the point of view to be given to the interpretation of the resources of this unit. Since this is an element of a general planning document, the themes recommended here will be kept relatively broad. The goal is to provide planners of future interpretive development and programs at this unit both thematic definition and enough creative leeway to successfully complete their interpretive projects. Such future planning will necessarily entail a more detailed definition of these interpretive themes.

Thematic development has been coordinated for nine of the Mendocino District State Park System units along the coast. Interpretive resources for these units were listed and compared. Units were ranked according to how well they represented each resource. These rankings, existing interpretive efforts, and distances between units were analyzed to arrive at suggested interpretive themes for each unit. The goals are to tell the best stories where and when they can be best told, and to avoid redundancy. As such, the following themes are not all-inclusive. For example, marine mammals live offshore of all of these units, but this topic is only recommended as an interpretive theme for the units where they are commonly seen.

This unit's themes are presented in three ways: the **unifying theme, primary themes,** and **secondary themes.** The unifying theme provides a conceptual focus for the interpretive programs of the Mendocino coast State Park System units. The unifying theme also sets the overall interpretive tone and direction, and implies the desired result interpretation should have on visitors' attitudes and perspectives. The unifying theme is presented exclusively through interpretation of the primary and secondary themes. Primary themes define the most important ideas to be interpreted, which should naturally receive more emphasis. Secondary themes provide support and interpretive context for the primary themes.

The unifying interpretive theme for this unit is:

> *Explore how natural forces, plants, animals, and people continually change this fragile and dynamic coast.*

Primary Theme

Enjoying and Preserving the Mendocino Coast: You can safely enjoy the Mendocino coast, and leave it unmarred for others and for you to enjoy in the future.

This theme helps visitors make decisions that lead to enjoyable, safe, and low-impact use of this unit's resources. This information can be conveyed through take-home interpretive materials (trail guides, the *"North Wind"* guide, guidebooks, maps, local history books, videocassettes), audio-visual programs, guided walks, roving interpretation, exhibits, and contact stations. About 42,000 people come to this unit annually to camp, hike, kayak, sportfish, watch whales, picnic, beachcomb, birdwatch, and scuba dive. Teaching visitors to stay on designated trails in the dunes is especially important at this unit.

Primary Theme

Discover the Sandy Shore! Most sandy shore animals live beneath the sand and under the waves in this harsh and dynamic habitat.

Sandy shores are one of the harshest and most dynamic environments for life on earth. Winds, waves, and tides incessantly rearrange the topography, and change the conditions for life. Shifting sand particles give organisms little chance of stable attachment. Exposure is great, and temperature and moisture changes are extreme. Inhabitants are exposed alternately to aquatic and then terrestrial and aerial predators. Yet, the sandy shore ecosystem is endowed with rich nutrients, particularly from the sea, in the form of plankton, flotsam, and detritus. Life has evolved to thrive even in this harsh and dynamic environment. Relatively few species live here, but those that do often occur in great numbers. But to see most of them, one must look under the sand or beneath the beach wrack, where living conditions are more favorable. The burrowing lifestyle offers protection from predation, wave impact, temperature extremes, and desiccation when the tide is out. But it poses problems of getting enough oxygen, finding mates, and acquiring food. Beach species have evolved adaptations that enable them to meet these problems.

Primary Theme

Discover the Coastal Dunes! The coastal dune community shifts through time and space as life gets a foothold in the sand, and then fixes it in place.

Coastal dunes form where there is a steady supply of beach sand and constant onshore winds blowing toward land with a low relief. Dune pioneer plants are adapted to survive desert-like conditions of wind, drought, heat, and sand abrasion. Salt spray is an added plant survival challenge. Plant adaptations to these harsh conditions include: succulence, woody stems, waxy cuticles or small "hairs" on stems and leaves, vertical leaf orientation, long tap roots or shallow root systems, and dropping leaves or curling them up. Coastal dune physical conditions vary greatly with location, stabilization, and vegetation. Foredunes are naturally more exposed, less vegetated, and less stable. Secondary dunes are more sheltered, have more vegetation, and are consequently more stable. Dune animals are not very evident because most species are either nocturnal or are adapted to live beneath the sand. Some dune insects build traps in the sand to catch prey. The Mendocino coast's dune areas, like most strand areas in California, have been severely disrupted by human influences and uses. Native dune plants have been largely supplanted by European beach grass. Survival of the Point Arena mountain beaver depends on our preserving enough appropriate dune-coastal scrub habitat for them.

Primary Theme

Discover the Coastal Wetlands! Rare saltwater, brackish, and freshwater wetlands support abundant and varied life at the dynamic edge of the land and the sea.

Coastal wetlands are some of the richest, most dynamic, and complex ecosystems on the Mendocino coast. These wetlands are also greatly affected and threatened by human uses and influences. This unit contains extensive wetlands in the Brush Creek and Lake Davis wetland complexes. Lagoon Lake is bordered partially by this unit. A small seasonal lagoon and freshwater wetland occur at the mouth of Alder Creek. These wetlands are dynamic ecosystems which change with the amount of freshwater

inflow, sand dune movement, and tidal and wave action. Lagoon Lake is a freshwater lake with no tidal action. Lagoon Creek and the Brush Creek slough connect Lagoon Lake with Brush Creek and its seasonal lagoon, which forms when a sand bar closes off the mouth of the creek. This unit's wetlands include saltwater marsh, brackish marsh, freshwater marsh, and freshwater seep habitats. These wetlands provide important habitats for species whose local populations are in question, such as steelhead trout, red-legged frogs, the coast lily, and the swamp harebell.

Secondary Theme

Preserving the Coast's Natural Heritage: Native species populations that are rare, threatened, or endangered must be actively managed.

Each native species plays an important role in maintaining the ecological balance of its ecosystem. This unit has the following rare, threatened, endangered, or otherwise sensitive species which must be actively managed to help preserve them: Point Arena mountain beaver, snowy plover, bald eagle, American peregrine falcon, brown pelican, Mendocino coast Indian paintbrush, coast lily, swamp harebell, and Lotis blue butterfly.

Secondary Theme

Preserving the Coast's Natural Heritage: Exotic species populations that are invasive must be actively controlled.

Exotic species must be controlled to restore native species populations and the habitats they depend on. Exotic species needing control at this unit include: European beach grass, hottentot fig, Monterey pine, Monterey cypress, thistle, tansy ragwort, blue gum eucalyptus, pampas grass, and loose or feral dogs and cats.

Secondary Theme

Preserving the Coast's Natural Heritage: Disrupted natural processes, such as anadromous fish runs, must be actively reinstated.

Anadromous fish, such as Coho salmon, steelhead, and tidewater goby, are now absent from many Mendocino coast streams where they once spawned. Efforts to reestablish disrupted anadromous fish access to this unit's streams and to improve stream habitat to support reproducing populations of anadromous fish should be interpreted.

Secondary Theme

The Arena Rock Marine Natural Preserve: Helping preserve the Mendocino coast's marine heritage.

Arena Rock is a ten-acre flat-topped reef located 1.5 miles north by northwest from Point Arena. This "wash rock" breaks the surface at low tide. Arena Rock's nearly vertical walls are covered with crevices and caves which create many habitats for a wide variety of marine life. The wealth of marine life on Arena Rock is stimulated by nutrients supplied by upwelling, and by currents from the mouth of the Garcia River and Point Arena. The extensive overhangs and caves serve as habitat for rock fish, huge lingcod, and wolf eels. Suspension-feeding invertebrates, such as sponges,

hydroids, bryozoans, tunicates, and barnacles, cover the rock walls in beautiful mosaics. Because this rocky underwater ecosystem is surrounded by many square miles of sand substrate, Arena Rock presents an excellent opportunity to study and interpret "island" ecology. Arena Rock Preserve also protects the cultural remains of ships that foundered on this reef.

Secondary Theme

Discover the Kelp Forest! From their anchoring holdfasts to their floating fronds, towering forests of kelp shelter and nourish diverse and colorful lifeforms.

To survive, giant kelp requires a hard surface for its holdfasts to attach to, cool and clear water in moderate motion, and rich nutrients. Wherever these conditions are found, lush beds of giant kelp flourish along the Mendocino coast. Similar to terrestrial forests, kelp forests support many kinds of animals in a layered three-dimensional habitat that goes through seasonal changes. Animals find greatly different survival conditions in the different layers of both kinds of forests. However, unlike land forests, kelp forests absorb all their nutrients directly from the water that envelopes and supports them. Exceptionally fast-growing, a giant kelp plant usually lives only one to seven years before it is torn from its anchoring rock by a storm wave. During its life, a giant kelp supports and shelters a rich variety of marine life, and, like a fallen tree, in its death, a washed up kelp supports a new food chain of decomposers.

Secondary Theme

Discover the Coastal Streams! Coastal streams are critical and fragile ecological magnets for diverse freshwater, terrestrial, and anadromous life.

The Mendocino coast's stream or riparian habitats are wildlife magnets and corridors that both link and bisect grassland, coastal scrub, and coastal forest ecosystems. North coast riparian scrub, dominated by willows, forms dense canopies over portions of this unit's streams. The lush vegetation often contrasts sharply with the drier vegetation that borders the streams. This "ecotone" or edge effect of contrasting habitat types offers a variety of nesting, feeding, and cover opportunities to wildlife. Many riparian birds are heard more than seen in this lush environment. Riparian birdlife is at its highest and noisiest activity during the spring courtship and nesting period. A high percentage of riparian birds are cavity nesters. Many migratory bird species travel along stream corridors during the spring and fall. The riparian ecosystem is critical to many species. Never a large part of California's landscape, our state's original riparian areas have been largely destroyed by agricultural clearing, bank stabilization, channelization, and road building. Remaining riparian areas must be protected and restored.

Secondary Theme

Discover the Coastal Scrub! The coastal scrub ecosystem offers critical food and cover to many wildlife species.

The dense coastal scrub is made up of low, evergreen, and often woody shrubs, with an understory of herbaceous perennials and ferns. The northern coastal scrub community occurs on coastal terraces between the coastal bluff scrub and the coniferous

forest, often intergrading with the coastal prairie. Common scrub wildlife include the western fence lizard, gopher snake, pocket gopher, vagrant shrew, deer mouse, western harvest mouse, dusky-footed woodrat, brush rabbit, coyote, gray fox, song sparrow, white-crowned sparrow, American goldfinch, and rufous-sided towhee.

Secondary Theme

Discover the Coastal Prairie! Though Mendocino District units are not now grazed by livestock, past livestock grazing has helped introduce annual grasses and weed species to supplant the native bunchgrasses and wildflowers of the parks' coastal prairie.

Along the Mendocino coast, grasslands are generally found on coastal terraces in areas without enough soil moisture to support woody vegetation. Though grasslands provide abundant food in the form of vegetation, nectar, pollen, seeds, insects, and small vertebrates, they offer little cover from predators and exposure to weather. Some grassland animals find shelter in burrows. Small rodents and seed-eating birds, such as the California quail, the mourning dove, and sparrows, commonly forage in the grassland. Grasslands are an ideal habitat for many wildlife species, including some reptiles and amphibians. The grasslands ecosystem has been greatly reduced in extent, and its vegetation has been heavily altered by human uses. Grasslands are easily converted to either crop fields or pasture. The native perennial bunchgrasses have been largely replaced by introduced European annual grasses and weeds.

Secondary Theme

Discover Coastal Forests! Whether growing or decaying, native conifers support a rich variety of wildlife.

The Bishop pine forest supports many kinds of wildlife in and below its dense stratified vegetation. The bark of living trees and dead snags and fallen wood provide food and shelter for many kinds of invertebrates and their predators. Common forest amphibians and reptiles include the western toad, ensatina, California slender salamander, western skink, and ringneck snake. Common mammals include the big brown bat, red bat, hoary bat, Trowbridge shrew, vagrant shrew, Pacific mole, Oregon vole, brush rabbit, northern flying squirrel, dusky-footed woodrat, black-tailed deer, gray fox, and ringtail. Common birds include the Wilson's warbler, purple finch, wrentit, pine siskin, western flycatcher, Allen's hummingbird, red-breasted nuthatch, hairy woodpecker, Steller's jay, golden-crowned kinglet, chestnut-backed chickadee, brown creeper, and rufous-sided towhee.

Secondary Theme

A Coast in Constant Change: Restless atmospheric and oceanic forces are daily changing this dynamic and fragile coast.

The Mendocino coast's weather patterns of fog, winter storms, and summer droughts are part of the constant exchange of air and moisture between the equator and the poles, and between the ocean and continental surfaces. The cold southward-moving California Current, upwelling currents, local waves, and tides are part of the dynamic ocean system that moves energy, minerals, and nutrients around the earth.

Secondary Theme

A Coast in Constant Change: Geologic forces slowly move the Mendocino coast along the San Andreas fault.

Historic photographs of the aftermath of the 1906 San Francisco earthquake show the devastation left in the aftermath of this famous temblor. An old stagecoach bridge at Alder Creek collapsed, and every brick building in Point Arena became piles of rubble.

Secondary Theme

Making a Living on the Coast: The Bokeya Pomo lived skillfully on the Mendocino coast for 10,000 years.

Native Americans probably used the resources of this unit in the past, as they have lived in this area for at least the last 9,000 to 12,000 years. The Bokeya Pomo were occupying this region in the early 19th century. The main Pomo village, "Pda'hau," had no more than 200 citizens, and was situated near the mouth of the Garcia River. The Bokeya Pomo were skilled hunters and gatherers of land and marine animals and plants. They traded coastal goods for inland resources. Pomo society was organized under a chief or headman and Indian doctors. Some Pomo specialized as hunters, arrow-makers, or fishermen. Women were highly regarded, and became skilled doctors or basketmakers. A large ceremonial structure served to hold the society together. Though occasional fighting between villages occurred, relationships were generally peaceful, and inter-village feasts and games were held.

Secondary Theme

Ranching and Dairy Farming: Cattle and sheep ranching and Italian-Swiss dairy farming have been important economic activities for the Manchester area.

The first pastoral use of what is now Manchester State Park may have occurred as early as the 1840s, when Rafael Garcia was granted the Rancho del Norte by the Mexican government. American ranchers, including Samuel Hunter, had control of this land by 1860. Soon, the well-watered marine terrace between the sand dunes and the wooded mountains to the east was developed into dairy farms and sheep ranches. The village of Manchester developed in the 1860s. By 1914, Manchester boasted a school, two churches, a store, a blacksmith shop, a hotel, and two creameries (one of which produced more than 500 pounds of butter daily). The well-known butter from Manchester was loaded on steamers at Point Arena.

INTERPRETIVE MEDIA AND METHODS

INTERPRETIVE FACILITIES ✔

No indoor interpretive facilities currently exist at this unit. Interpretation can be adequately addressed through ranger or docent-led walks and programs, outdoor panels, and publications. However, if ever acquired, the private residence at the end of Bristol Road should be considered for adaptation as a visitor center because its location and views would make it suitable for interpretation of subjects related to the ocean, beach, dunes, wetlands, forests, and grasslands.

Currently, few visitors have any experience or even knowledge of the unit's wetlands. Though these areas are too sensitive to encourage visitors to enter them, they can be safely experienced from high terrain overlooking them. The most accessible and broadest wetland panorama is from the high southwestern edge of Lagoon Lake. From this high point, the full sweep of the lake, its birdlife, the dunes, and the ocean beyond can be surveyed. A direct full-access trail should be built to span the short distance between the end of the Bristol Road turnaround and the first elevated wide view of Lagoon Lake. Another, equally short trail to a viewpoint could be developed at Lagoon Lake's southeastern shore from the end of Barnegat Drive, but this view is more restricted. A trail system along the southern or western rims of the lake is not recommended due to the steep terrain and thick, obscuring vegetation. A self-guided interpretive trail could be sensitively sited for viewing the Lake Davis wetlands.

Outdoor panels can interpret topics such as geology, resource management, historic sites, plant communities, wildlife, and recreation. A few panels in this unit now interpret some topics. These include: the San Andreas Fault and plate tectonics at Alder Creek, and shore birds at the campground. Possible topics and locations for additional panels at this unit include: dune and beach themes at the Stoneboro Road and Kinney Lane beach access parking areas, beach themes at the Alder Creek beach access parking, wetland and historic themes at the Davis House and new trailhead parking, wetland themes at the Lagoon Lake overlook, recreation themes at the campground, and park/regional orientation and revolving themes at the new park office. The locations, size, and number of interpretive panels must be carefully selected to avoid marring visitors' esthetic experiences.

A self-guiding auto tour using a brochure with map or an insert into the *Northwind* visitor guide could interpret the highlights of the entire Mendocino coast for motorists traveling on Highway 1.

Publications should be available at the park office. These and bibliographies outlining suggested further reading should also be available to teachers to coordinate park interpretation with related curricula in the schools.

The campfire center at this unit might be improved by reorienting it. Currently, car headlights from the campground road interfere with audio-visual programs on occasion.

INTERPRETIVE ACTIVITIES ✔

The following interpretive programs are now conducted at this unit: campfire programs, Junior Ranger programs, and interpretive walks. These programs currently meet the interpretive activity needs of this unit.

INTERPRETIVE MEDIA ✔

To aid visitors in understanding the park's resources, interpretive media will be "sensory-rich." Exhibits will focus on areas in their immediate vicinity. Walking and driving tours will bring visitors into contact with other resource areas, while audio-visual presentations will expose them to facets of the park's resources that they could not otherwise experience. Interpretive collections will allow "hands-on" experiences, and publications will add impressions that will last.

Interpretation at Manchester State Park will employ labels and other media that are "layered" to be aimed at different ages, interests, and abilities, with special attention to the needs of mobility-impaired visitors.

INTERPRETIVE CONCESSIONS

No interpretive concessions currently operate at this unit, and none are recommended.

INTERPRETIVE ASSOCIATIONS

Throughout California, interpretive associations provide critical volunteer interpretive support to the department's mission. The Mendocino Area Parks Association (MAPA) is "a non-profit organization that provides educational and interpretive activities that encourage visitors' and residents' awareness, understanding, and appreciation of the natural and cultural resources of the coastal area and the local parks. MAPA volunteers operate a visitors' center, sponsor monthly gallery exhibits, provide historical information to groups of children and adults, conduct activities for special events, and show nature films on a regular basis, all at Ford House in Mendocino." They publish the "Northwind" visitor guide to the Mendocino area, and provide various publications and books for sale at the park office.

INTERPRETIVE COLLECTIONS

Interpretive collections include natural and historic objects, photographs, and references which support displays, programs, demonstrations, and research. There are currently no formal interpretive collections at this unit. A modest formal collection would enhance this unit's interpretation, and could be displayed at the new park office.

INTERPRETIVE RECOMMENDATIONS

RESEARCH NEEDS

Research should continue to support interpretation of all themes. Further research on the following topics would particularly aid interpretation of this unit:

1. The status and habitat needs of sensitive species, particularly the Point Arena mountain beaver and anadromous fishes.
2. Dune and wetland ecology and dynamics.
3. The status and influences of exotic species, particularly European beach grass.
4. The ecology and geology of Arena Rock Marine Natural Preserve.
5. Geologic fault systems in the unit.

INTERPRETIVE RECOMMENDATIONS

No order of priorities is implied in the following listings:

- Plan and construct the full access overlooks and interpretive trail at Lagoon Lake.
- Plan and install the interpretive trail at Lake Davis.
- Plan, fabricate, and install interpretive panels throughout the park, and at the new park office on Kinney Lane.
- Improve the campfire center.
- Conduct research to support interpretation of this unit's resources.
- Collect, organize, and curate appropriate interpretive objects, photographs, and references.
- Prepare and print additional publications.

CONCESSIONS ELEMENT

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INTRODUCTION

Concession operations in this State Park shall be governed in part by Public Resources Code, Section 5080.02 et seq. and by the California State Park and Recreation Commission Policies (especially Policy No. 19).

A concession is defined as authority to permit specific use of State Park System lands and/or facilities for a specified period of time. The intent is to provide the public with goods, services, or facilities which the department cannot provide as conveniently or efficiently, and that are not reasonably available outside the unit, or to permit limited uses of State Park System lands for other purposes compatible with the public interest, and consistent with the Public Resources Code.

It is the department's policy to enter into concession contracts for provision of services, products, facilities, programs, management, and visitor services which will provide for enhancement of visitor use and enjoyment, as well as visitor safety and convenience. Such concessions should not create added financial burdens on the state, and, wherever possible, shall reduce costs and/or generate revenues to aid in maintaining and expanding the State Park System.

Concession developments, programs, or services must be compatible with this unit's classification and the objectives and provisions of the General Plan.

Concession opportunities may be considered at all stages of planning and operation.

CONCESSION POLICIES

GENERAL POLICIES

Regarding concessions, it is the policy of the Department of Parks and Recreation:

- To study the economic feasibility of proposed concessions to determine viability as well as contract terms and conditions. Final approval for development and operation of a proposed concession will be made by the director of the Department of Parks and Recreation.
- To cultivate and encourage small businesses and ethnic minorities as concessionaires.
- To avoid entering into convenience-type concession agreements for facilities, products, or programs that are adequately provided within a short distance outside unit boundaries, when such travel will not unduly endanger or inconvenience visitors, or lead to unreasonable consumption of transportation fuels.
- That concessions shall provide facilities, products, programs, or services at prices competitive with similar businesses outside State Park System units.

LIMITATIONS

Appropriate concession activities for this State Park System unit are limited to:

1. Special events.
2. Commercial/retail-type concessions for which there is a need.
3. Concessions which enhance this state park's theme and policies.

Existing and Proposed Concessions

Existing Concessions

There are no concessions at Manchester State Park at this time, and little need is foreseen for concessions in the near future. The adjacent KOA Kampground and the nearby towns of Manchester and Point Arena provide the necessary goods and services for the comfort and convenience of park visitors.

Proposed Concessions

If, in the future, unmet visitor needs become apparent, concessions at Manchester State Park may be appropriate to enhance recreational use and enjoyment of the unit. Proposals will be considered on a case-by-case basis at that time.

OPERATIONS ELEMENT

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INTRODUCTION

The Operations Element describes how the California Department of Parks and Recreation operates this park: how departmental staff carry out their responsibilities to protect the resources, serve park visitors, provide interpretive opportunities, enforce the law and park rules and regulations, ensure proper park use, and maintain facilities. It identifies existing operational problems, and anticipates future needs based on implementation of the General Plan. It outlines broad operational goals for the unit, and provides strategies for future operation of the park.

EXISTING OPERATIONS

OPERATIONAL ORGANIZATION ✔

Manchester State Park is one of twenty-one State Park System units located in Mendocino County. The park is operated as part of a district consisting of several park system units, and operated under the supervision of a district superintendent. Functions at the district level are divided into three main areas: visitor services, maintenance, and administration. Resource management services are also provided, and other prime responsibilities include directing volunteers and coordination with other public agencies.

Operational responsibilities at Manchester State Park and the other remote Mendocino units located south of the Navarro River, (Greenwood Creek State Beach, Schooner Gulch State Beach, and Arena Rock Marine Natural Preserve), are carried out by unit personnel consisting of a park ranger and a maintenance worker, supported by district maintenance and seasonal staff. For operations purposes, Arena Rock Marine Natural Preserve is administered as part of Manchester State Park, and is considered to be included in this General Plan.

All park units are operated in compliance with standard departmental procedure, as defined by the department's Operations and Administrative Manuals.

GENERAL DISTRICT AND UNIT OPERATIONS ✔

Operations Facilities

Maintenance and visitor services for the three southern Mendocino units are carried out from the park office and maintenance area at Manchester State Park and supported by larger facilities at Russian Gulch State Park, about eight miles south of Fort Bragg, and thirty-eight miles north of Manchester State Park. Facilities at Russian Gulch consist of an administrative office building, and a large maintenance work center and storage yard. At Manchester State Park, the park office shares space with the maintenance shop. Both are located inside a metal quonset hut at the maintenance/employee housing area north of Kinney Lane. Due to the unit's remote location, a mobile home pad with utility hook-ups for a district employee is located inside the maintenance area in order to provide for 24-hour staff presence in the park. Utility hookups for a trailer are also provided for seasonal park employee use.

Administration

General administrative tasks of the parks are the responsibility of the district administrative staff. These duties include community relations, minor capital outlay budgeting, program and personnel management, time and fiscal accounting, document management, monitoring of concessions operations, and special event scheduling. The administrative staff is also involved with a high amount of public contact, providing information via the telephone and over the counter.

Resource Management

Resource management programs are conducted under the overall guidance of the department's Resource Management Directives as well as the specific directives in this General Plan. Specific programs are directed by a variety of documents, including the department's Tree Hazard Control Manual, Pesticide Use Manual, and Prescribed Fire Management Policy and Procedures document. Line responsibility for resource programs rests with a resource ecologist, who is assisted by the unit ranger and seasonal staff. Ongoing resource programs in the district units include prescribed burning, exotic plant control, and tree hazard control.

At the present time, there is only one ongoing resource management program at Manchester State Park. Surveying and monitoring of endangered mountain beaver habitat is being conducted through a contract administered by a regional resource ecologist. The unit ranger also assists in monitoring the habitat. Exotic vegetation is removed from the park on an occasional basis when California Department of Forestry labor crews are available, or court referrals are provided.

Visitor Services

The district's ranger staff is responsible for all park functions involving contact with the visitor public. These include entrance station operations, campground registration, information and interpretation, patrol and law enforcement, and medical emergencies. The ranger staff is assisted by seasonal park aides, who are used primarily for entrance station operations.

One unit ranger is responsible for visitor services at Manchester State Park, as well as at Greenwood Creek and Schooner Gulch State Beaches. The portable contact station at the Kinney Lane campground is used for camper registration only during the peak use season, when it is occasionally staffed by a seasonal park aide. Otherwise, camper registration is often assisted by a volunteer camp host when available during the summer, and is the responsibility of the unit ranger at other times. An iron ranger is also provided at the campground for fee collection during the off season; there is no fee collection at any of the day use areas.

Law enforcement and public safety protection provided in these three units is sporadic due to the distance between the units and the limited staff. The main enforcement problems are illegal camping and fires, auto burglaries, off-road vehicle use, and Fish and Game Code violations. Most of these problems occur from April through November, coinciding with both the abalone season and the highest park visitation.

Despite the park's four and a half miles of sandy beach, Northern California's cold ocean temperatures discourage ocean swimming. Because swimming is not a popular activity at this unit, lifeguards are not provided. However, the Department of Parks and Recreation continues to monitor aquatic recreation activity along the Mendocino coast in order to determine appropriate safety services, consistent with the department's Aquatic Safety Task Force Report (September 1988).

Interpretive programs are offered at the campfire center an average of twice weekly during the peak use period. Also during the peak use season, the unit ranger conducts a nature walk once a week at each of the three southernmost Mendocino units, and runs a Junior Ranger Program on the weekends, assisted by seasonal park aides.

Maintenance Services

The maintenance staff is responsible for ensuring that all park facilities are kept in a clean and functional condition. Routine duties include housekeeping, garbage collection, carpentry, plumbing, heavy equipment operation, equipment maintenance, water treatment, and sewage treatment. The maintenance staff is augmented during the summer months with a seasonal staff that performs most routine duties.

Maintenance at Manchester State Park is the responsibility of one maintenance worker who is supported by the district maintenance staff. Seasonal workers do most of the housekeeping and trash collection during the peak use season. Ten compost toilets in the unit require daily cleaning; another two at the environmental campsites are cleaned on a twice-weekly basis. The beach requires litter pick-up two to three times a month in the summer.

Regular maintenance responsibilities at Manchester also include upkeep and repair of all the park's facilities, including the Davis House, and signs, gates, fencing, campground tables and stoves, comfort stations, water systems, and road surfaces. Brush clearing on trails and campsites, landscape maintenance, and mowing are also necessary.

COORDINATION WITH OTHER AGENCIES ✔

Fire and Public Safety Agencies

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF) has the primary responsibility for fire protection in all State Park System units with wildland vegetation. The CDF facility in Point Arena responds to fires at Manchester State Park during the summer, and is assisted by the volunteer fire and rescue departments of Manchester and Point Arena. Ambulance service is provided by the Elk volunteer fire department and a paid ambulance from Gualala.

In conjunction with the California Department of Corrections, CDF provides the park with an inmate fire crew that performs resource- and maintenance-related tasks on an occasional basis.

Law Enforcement Agencies

Concurrent law enforcement jurisdiction includes the Mendocino County Sheriff's Department, the California Highway Patrol (CHP), and the California Department of Fish and Game (DFG). The great distance to cover increases response time to emergencies at Manchester State Park. The unit ranger is also frequently called on to assist at vehicle accidents along Highway 1, and backs up the sheriff an average of two times a month in the Manchester/Point Arena area.

VOLUNTEERISM

The Mendocino Area Parks Association (MAPA) is a non-profit park cooperative association whose purpose is to assist the district through a variety of programs. MAPA's Docent Council operates the visitor centers in the Mendocino park units, and assists in interpretation, conducting walks and tours, and giving talks. The primary focus of their assistance is the Ford House at Mendocino Headlands State Park, and the visitor center at Van Damme State Park. MAPA provides and sells brochures, publications, and firewood to park visitors, and proceeds from its fund-raising pay the salaries of two of the park's interpretive specialists and three student interns. At the present time, MAPA provides no volunteer services at the three southern Mendocino park units. However, the unit ranger sells firewood and the brochures it furnishes.

During the peak use season, Manchester State Park often uses a volunteer campground host supplied through the department's Camp Host program. In general, a host is effective in reducing campground theft, vandalism, and other illegal or undesirable activities, thereby releasing both maintenance and ranger personnel for more critical operational functions. The camp host at Manchester aids the park staff in campground registration and housekeeping responsibilities, and, while working, receives the use of a centrally located campsite with trailer hookups.

VISITOR ATTENDANCE

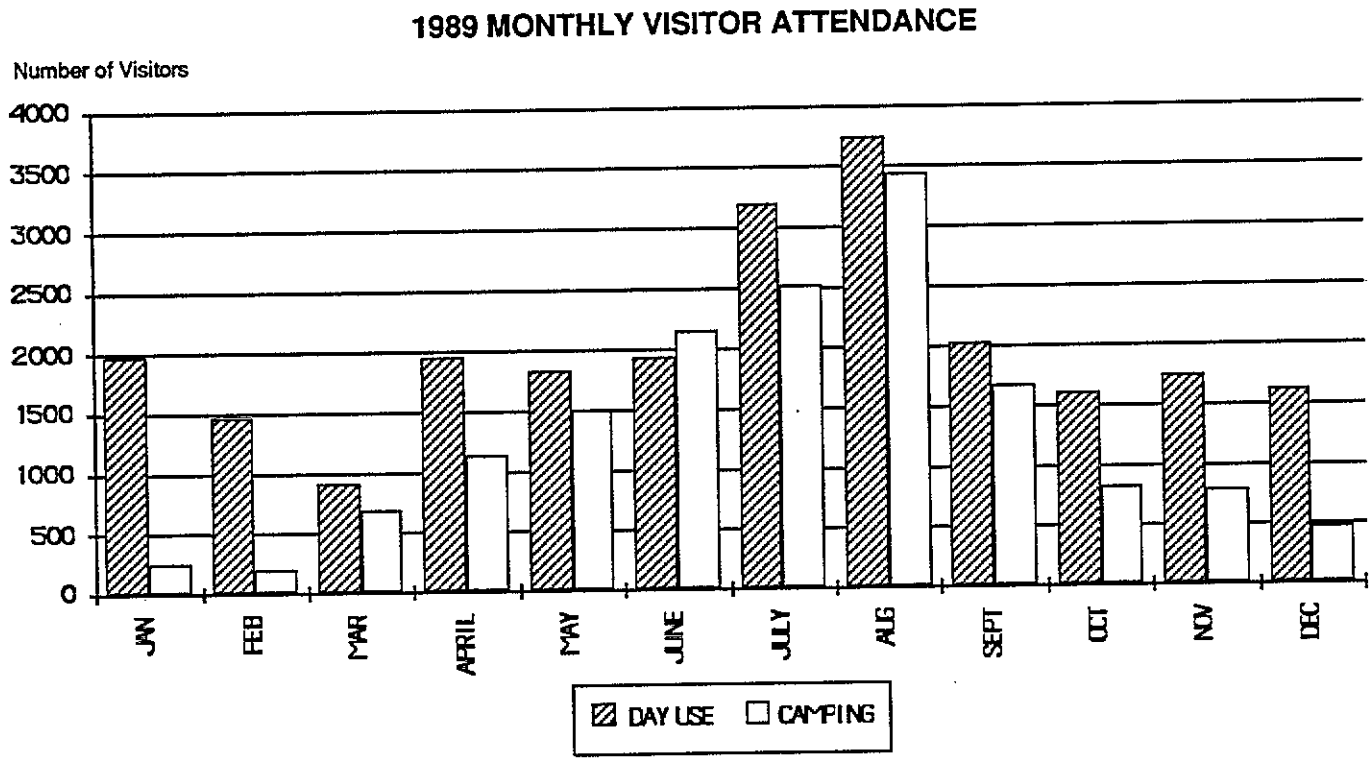


FIGURE 2. MANCHESTER STATE PARK 1989 MONTHLY VISITOR ATTENDANCE

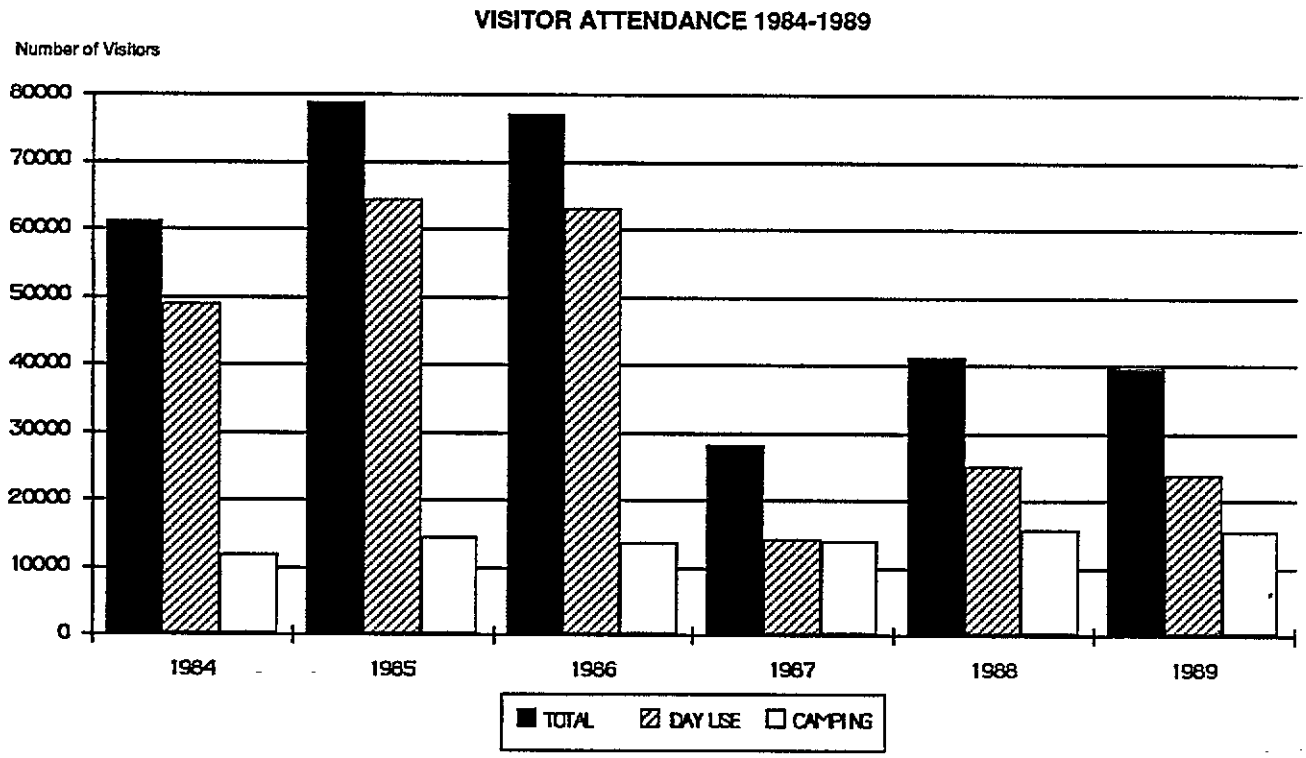
Figure 2 (1989 Manchester State Park Monthly Visitor Attendance) shows a pattern of use typical in State Park System units; the majority of use at the park in 1989 occurred during the peak months of June, July, August, and September. The combined visitor attendance in these months is more than twice as great as attendance in the off-season (October, November, December, January). The greatest participation in camping occurs in the peak season; day use and overnight use at Manchester run neck and neck during that period.

Visitor use of the park is relatively light compared to other Mendocino coast State Park System units; day use predominates. Total attendance at the park in 1989 was 39,587 visitors, of which 23,986 (60%) were day users, and the remaining 40% campers. Comparison of 1990 day use attendance during the first ten months of the year with the same period in 1989 shows a 9.4% increase, a trend which is expected to continue.

Overnight use has remained fairly constant over the past decade, with smaller fluctuations and drops compared to day use. In the five-year period between 1984 and 1989, camping use at Manchester State Park increased 29%, from 12,084 (1984) to 15,601 (1989) campers annually, an average of almost 10% increase per year.

Because it is the most lightly used of the Mendocino coastal state park campgrounds, campers are referred here when other district campgrounds are full, and the unit is not on the statewide reservation system. Nevertheless, the campground operates at full capacity an average of only 13 days a year. This compares to eight to 12 nights at full capacity at the KOA Kampground. These nights correspond to the low tides and three major summer holidays.

FIGURE 3. MANCHESTER STATE PARK VISITOR ATTENDANCE 1984-1989



Operational Issues and Concerns

Operations Facilities

At current levels of operation, the park's maintenance building/park office is too small to easily and efficiently carry out administrative and maintenance functions. The building is located outside the main park traffic flow, and is not visible or easily accessible to the public. For campground registration and visitor information, it would be preferable for the park office to be more centrally located in relation to the entrance road and campground. A more central location would enable visual supervision of both the campground and visitor ingress/egress. These abilities are helpful for establishing a ranger presence in the park. Additionally, an adequate park maintenance building located in the service/employee housing area would improve equipment, tool, and materials storage at this unit.

The lack of controlled access points and an entrance station at this park unit make visitor observation and resource protection difficult. With three separate county roads providing access to the park and no internal connecting park roads, the unit ranger is unable to prevent much illegal access and use of the park that contribute to resource damage.

Public Safety

Most accidents and injuries in Mendocino coastal park units result from individuals falling while trying to climb up or down coastal cliffs. In addition, at Manchester, special conditions are a source of concern for visitor safety. Because of the predominantly natural conditions of the park, hazards exist, and accidents do occur. For example, the movement or collapse of unstable logs as a result of visitor activity in the driftwood piles on the beach is a source of accidents and injuries. The houses on the Alder Creek bluff are an attractive nuisance, and an operational problem. Because of their location, they attract visitors, and other than signing, or the potential to fence, there is no way to prevent public access. Their structural integrity is doubtful because of deterioration and vandalism; their state of deterioration is progressing to a potentially unsafe condition. The Davis House, boarded up to protect it from the elements, and closed to the public because of its hazardous condition, also attracts attention, and is vandalized on occasion. Additional park staff is needed to provide thorough patrol coverage of these areas.

The park's remote location and the inaccessibility of many areas to vehicles can make response to accidents difficult. Responses to such varied emergencies as beach and swimming accidents, cliff rescues, wildfire, and traffic accidents require trained staff. Emergency response procedures have been developed, and are periodically tested by staff and allied agencies.

Aquatic Safety

Inherent in all coastal State Park System units are aquatic hazards. At Manchester, visitors are attracted year-round to the length of ocean frontage with its flat beach, backed by dunes with few cliffs. Surfing, fishing, beach picnicking, and shoreline hiking are the main activities along the water, and the Point Arena Marine Natural Preserve fronting the unit draws boating activity. Drownings have included free divers, scuba divers, persons swept off the beach and rocks, and boats overturning in the surf line.

Aquatic Hazards

The following aquatic hazards are common at Manchester State Park, as well as several other Mendocino coastal units:

1. *Cold water.*
   A wet suit is required to safely enter the water.
2. *Variable surf conditions.*
   Ocean conditions range from flat crystal-clear water to moderate swells with good visibility, rough water with poor visibility, and the hazards of major Pacific storms. Conditions can change quickly from small surf to heavy storm-driven waves.
3. *Tsunami.*
   This area of the coast is subject to tsunamis as a result of seismic events off the coast of Alaska.
4. *River mouth.*
   The Garcia River mouth, a major river used for ocean access by fishermen, empties into the marine natural preserve fronting this unit. High surf makes entering and exiting the ocean via the river mouth difficult and dangerous, requiring monitoring and rescue by department staff.

Aquatic Hazard Mitigation

In response to aquatic hazards, current park operations include the following mitigations to provide visitor safety:

- Various areas are posted warning visitors of unsafe situations.
- Interpretive programs emphasize aquatic safety.
- Outreach services such as Junior Ranger campfire programs, school and group talks, and district newspapers emphasize aquatic safety.
- Permanent staff are all trained in first aid and CPR. Some staff have training in cliff rescue.
- Several well-trained and equipped volunteer fire and rescue departments are available to the district.

WILDFIRE ✔

During the summer, wildfire is a threat at this unit. The large expanses of the park's grasslands and adjacent private grazing lands present a significant fire hazard. In the last five years, two fires on Hunter's Terrace, whipped by southerly winds typical at the park, have threatened adjacent residences on private property. Activities on adjoining residential and commercial properties create another wildfire threat.

OFFSHORE OIL DRILLING ✔

In recent years, exploration for offshore oil drilling has begun to threaten the integrity of coastal park units. Collections of soil and geological samples and other park resources are occurring without scientific collection or special activity permits. The unit ranger's time is inadequate to thoroughly monitor such activity.

OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE USE

Off-highway vehicle activity in the park has been an ongoing problem, particularly in the sand dunes directly adjacent to the day use parking areas at the ends of Stoneboro and Alder Creek Roads and Kinney Lane. Vehicles also find access to the beach from private property at the park's southern boundary. Persistent enforcement of laws governing off-highway vehicle operation have helped control the problem, but the lack of perimeter fencing of the day use parking areas, and the general lack of boundary fencing, signing, appropriate beach patrol equipment, and adequate staff time prevents total control of the problem.

TRESPASS

The park is subject to various trespass-related problems, the most serious of which, involving cattle grazing on park land, has just recently been resolved through a boundary survey. Some adjacent neighbors use park property to create firebreaks along a common boundary, clearing away 10 to 20-foot wide swaths of vegetation. In the Stoneboro Road area, a private access to the south has been developed from Duxbury Drive along a utility easement on park property. In addition, cattle often cross onto park property through weak or damaged portions of a fence maintained by adjacent landowners. Unauthorized dredging at the mouth of Brush Creek has been a concern. The problem of trespass is particularly critical in those areas where it results in resource damage to very sensitive wetlands.

EASEMENTS

A variety of easements exist in the park, although most have little direct impact on the unit's operation and resources. They are, however, esthetically unattractive. AT&T's transpacific cable easement across the beach and dunes is the most significant of the existing easements due to its proximity to both wetland and endangered mountain beaver habitat. AT&T's access needs and those of other communication companies have to be carefully coordinated and controlled to prevent destruction of park resources and possible disruption of visitor activities.

JURISDICTIONS

DFG exercises jurisdiction over sport and commercial hunting and fishing in California. Although the unit and district staff maintain good working relationships with their counterparts in DFG, the regulation of marine resources by DFG in State Park System coastal units poses a conflict for management of park resources. At the present time, DFG permits commercial collection and harvesting of seaweed and sea urchins in the offshore waters of the Mendocino park units that is contrary to the department's mission to preserve and protect all park resources. Collection activities often threaten or damage other park resources.

OPERATIONAL GOALS AND IMPLEMENTATION

Many of the unit's operational problems will be resolved as a result of general plan implementation. Some problems will remain outside the ability of the department to resolve, and new problems may arise. Impacts of general plan implementation on park operations have been anticipated, and general operational goals and strategies for dealing with them are discussed below.

GOALS

Facilities

- Office, maintenance space, and storage needs will continue to grow as park activities, attendance, and staff increase, and visitor facilities and interpretive collections are added. A more centrally located park office and a permanent park entry station should be constructed to make park operations more effective and efficient. Relocation of the office function will free up needed space in the existing maintenance building on a temporary basis. A new maintenance structure will be required to replace the gradually deteriorating and difficult-to-repair quonset hut.

Administration

- Planning of activities, projects, and development shall be carefully coordinated with other agencies by the district superintendent to assure that their concerns are addressed, avoiding potential misunderstandings and conflicts.

Resource Management

- Manchester State Park is noted for its extensive sandy beaches and dunes, and the richness of its wetlands, grasslands, wildlife, and historic feature. It is the declared purpose of the department to provide protections as appropriate and necessary to maintain and perpetuate their value. As long as special programs and events can be conducted without compromise to perpetuation of park features, they should be encouraged by the district.

- The department's legislatively authorized responsibility to protect park resources and ensure proper park use can sometimes make it difficult to maintain "good neighbor" relationships, especially in situations where trespass or private encroachment damages park resources. Whenever possible, park staff shall attempt to educate neighbors to the value of park resources and the continuity of natural ecosystem processes. Nevertheless, park lands are to be protected from trespass or unauthorized private use or encroachment. Unauthorized private accessways over park lands shall be eliminated. Written approval from the District Superintendent or appropriate department representative is to be required for exclusive private use of or access over park property.

- As disscussed in the Resource Element directives, a wildlife managment plan addressing wildfire prevention, presuppression, and suppression will be prepared for this unit.

- The sensitive natural resource areas at the park receive special care and consideration when any activity is conducted in them. Proposed activities and development in or affecting the park's natural preserves will be described in writing, reviewed by the district superintendent, and forwarded for public reviews as required by the California Environmental Quality Act.

- Manchester State Park's rare natural plant communities, wildlife, beach and dunes, unique wetland complexes, and open space are significant. Protection of these values with particular emphasis on the two natural preserves will require special management programs. Holistic ecological management plans will have to be developed and implemented. Special expertise will be necessary to conduct studies and develop and carry out management plans.

- Mendocino County's Coastal Element requires that the General Plan for Manchester State Park includes "an effective dog control program to prevent livestock predation on adjoining ranches." Predatory dogs are of concern to the park's neighbors, especially for those landowners who run livestock on their property. However, the park does not currently experience serious problems related to stray domestic dogs, dog packs, or feral dogs. At the present time, any problems with unleashed or stray dogs in the park have been manageable; the unit ranger enforces state park rules and regulations regarding unleashed dogs, and attempts to educate park visitors as to the detrimental impact of loose dogs on the park's wildlife and bird nesting and habitat areas. It is the policy of the department to remove domestic and feral dogs as humanely as possible. If, at some future time, it becomes necessary to control predatory dogs originating from the park, a dog management program shall be developed and implemented.

Visitor Services

- For continued visitor protection, application of aquatic hazard mitigations will be expanded to meet increases in visitation. In addition, it is proposed that some district staff be trained in rescue boat operation.

- Public recreation use at unit has included camping, hiking, nature observation, birdwatching, beachcombing, sunning, and other such compatible day use activities. To the extent that such activities may be permitted without compromise to the park's historical and natural resource values, they shall be encouraged. Park staff shall seek to identify methods to reasonably facilitate compatible general public recreational use. Recreational activities sponsored by individuals, groups, or organizations may be considered by special event permit, and may be approved if the activities are not in conflict with this General Plan and the purpose of state park rules, regulations, policies, or orders.

- The unit does not have extensive enforcement problems. However, common problems such as OHV use, illegal fires, and camping are of particular concern because they directly threaten the park's resource values. To counter these problems, regular and careful patrols are needed to establish a basic law enforcement presence. Should enforcement problems change decidedly, the level of response may need to be reviewed and modified by the district superintendent.

Maintenance Services

- Facility maintenance shall continue to be conducted in a manner appropriate to meet standards for public health and safety, to maintain public and departmental expectations for cleanliness and appearances, to meet security requirements, and to extend the lifespan of facilities, tools, and equipment. At Manchester State Park, it is important that maintenance methods and materials used reinforce the park's primitive quality. In addition, facility maintenance shall be consistent with design criteria established in the Facilities Element of this General Plan, when applicable. The Davis House and associated structures identified as historically significant, or which lend to the historic sense of time and place, will be repaired and maintained, using aged or similar materials to the extent practical, and in accordance with the federal Standards for Historic Preservation Projects. Significant repairs or proposed alterations to such historic facilities are to be described in writing, reviewed by the district superintendent, and forwarded for appropriate reviews as required by the department and the California Environmental Quality Act or other provisions of law.

Coordination with Other Agencies

- Park and district staff expect to continue to assist county, state, and other law enforcement agencies. Cooperative effort should result in clear understanding by all law enforcement personnel of their responsibilities and jurisdiction with respect to protection of the park's prime resources. The department and district staff shall participate with the Department of Fish and Game in resolving the conflicts of jurisdiction which permit commercial removal of the park's marine resources.

Volunteers

- Volunteers in parks help meet several objectives by increasing public awareness of park values and features, and developing ways to make those features and resources more accessible to the public. This public service is to be fully supported by the district. To encourage volunteer effort, park and district staff shall work closely with individuals and their organizations to assist with training, and to provide the direction and supervision necessary to ensure efficient and effective interpretive programs and public service.

OPERATIONAL IMPACTS OF GENERAL PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

Implementation of the General Plan will present a significant increase in responsibility for park staff. The Resource Element identifies a number of resource management projects and programs that are needed for surveying, monitoring, controlling, restoring, protecting, and preserving park resources. New and expanded park facilities will be provided, requiring maintenance and operation. Park boundaries may be expanded, adding new lands that require patrol and protection. Proposed interpretive programs, as well as facilities, will result in greater visitation and a corresponding increase in staff workload. The need for additional space for park office functions, maintenance work, and storage will grow.

Ideally, the necessary administrative, maintenance, and storage needs can be accommodated in the unit as identified in the Facilities Element, easing current and projected operational problems associated with visitor control and contact and facility maintenance. Improved and/or redesigned use areas are intended to minimize or eliminate resource problems related to visitor use, and new interpretive panels can take on some of the educational and informational functions now required of park staff. Nevertheless, the operational responsibilities associated with increased visitation, development, and programs, will grow beyond the ability of the existing staff to handle. As the General Plan's recommendations are implemented, it will be the responsibility of the district superintendent to recommend to the department appropriate future increases in staffing, equipment, and operational expenses necessary to fulfill operational responsibilities at Manchester State Park.

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INTRODUCTION

Considering the Department of Parks and Recreation's dual mission, to protect and preserve the resources of the State Park System and to provide for visitor enjoyment and appreciation of those resources, the function of the **LAND USE ELEMENT** is to determine an appropriate harmony between resource preservation and visitor use. Finding that relationship is essentially a problem-solving process that takes into account the challenges and opportunities presented by a number of factors: existing park uses and their context, local coastal planning efforts, regional recreation deficiencies, and physical factors of the site, analyzed in the context of certain planning parameters that include consideration of public input, resource suitability, and the park's spirit of place. Goals and objectives represent the planning intent for resolving park problems and taking advantage of the opportunities presented for resource preservation, interpretation, and public appreciation of the park. Concepts represent the means of accomplishing those goals and objectives in a unified way.

The Land Use Plan is the tool that portrays how lands will be used to achieve that balance between resource preservation and visitor use. It defines the pattern of human activity in a given area, as well as non-use areas free from direct human influence. It reaffirms the character of a place, its spirit of place, by establishing what happens, where it happens, and how and to what degree it happens. It determines the appropriate levels of use and development, and arranges these park activities and facilities so visitors may have the opportunity to enjoy the recreational, educational, and spiritual experiences the park has to offer, without adversely affecting its resources.

EXISTING CONDITIONS

Principles of sound land use planning involve collecting and evaluating information in order to determine the nature of the land, the users, and the possible impact of one upon the other. Existing park conditions and adjacent land use patterns as they relate to the park and affect the behavior of potential park users are described in this section. Basic knowledge of the region helps establish the park's context, the effect of that context on park character or change, and provides an understanding of its location in the landscape. In addition, the history and evolution of the land, the natural systems and processes that continue to operate in the park, the sensitivities of the lands and water to human use, and the relative suitability of various activities have been investigated and evaluated as part of the **RESOURCE ELEMENT** of the General Plan. Related planning data compiled for Manchester State Park include: characteristics of park users, including attitudes about the park, demography, Mendocino County population trends, and recreation needs. A summary of this information forms the content of **APPENDIX A: EXISTING LAND USE CONDITIONS AND TRENDS.** Existing conditions regarding park operations, interpretation, and concessions (as discussed in the **OPERATIONS, INTERPRETIVE,** and **CONCESSIONS ELEMENTS**) have also been used in the subsequent analysis of the conditions, opportunities, and constraints affecting park planning, and leading to identification of the major issues to be resolved for effective park management.

PARK OWNERSHIP

The park's boundaries, easements, and encumbrances are shown in **APPENDIX B: LAND OWNERSHIP RECORD**, Drawing No. 25308. Of significance is the existence of several inholdings, privately held "paper" (not constructed) streets, and county roads in or along the perimeter of the park.

ACCESS AND CIRCULATION

Vehicular Access and Circulation

Manchester State Park's primary road system, two-lane Highway 1, is also the heart of the coastal region's highway network. Because there is no internal circulation system connecting the various use areas of the park, Highway 1 serves as the great north-south spine supporting and transferring visitor traffic to and between its limbs — the three east-west county roads that provide access to the park. Stoneboro Road serves the south sector of the park, Kinney Lane the main body, and Alder Creek Road the narrow northern neck and head of the park. (The park's Arena Rock Marine Natural Preserve, located about two miles offshore, is accessible only by boat.) To go from one area of the park to another requires leaving and reentering the park via these county roads and Highway 1.

In the park and each use area, internal connecting roads are limited:

- The Kinney beach access parking area, group camp, family campground, and maintenance area each has its own entrance from Kinney Lane. Only the family campground and maintenance area are connected to each other by a short park service road paralleling Kinney Lane.

- Between the Alder Creek area and the Davis House area, an unpaved one-lane service road runs south from Alder Creek Road to Highway 1, east of the Davis House. Beginning where Alder Creek Road enters the park, at the abandoned water storage tank, it connects the two abandoned houses on the Alder Creek bluffs with the unit's environmental campsites and the historic Davis House. Vehicular use of this service road, however, is reserved for park maintenance and emergency vehicles.

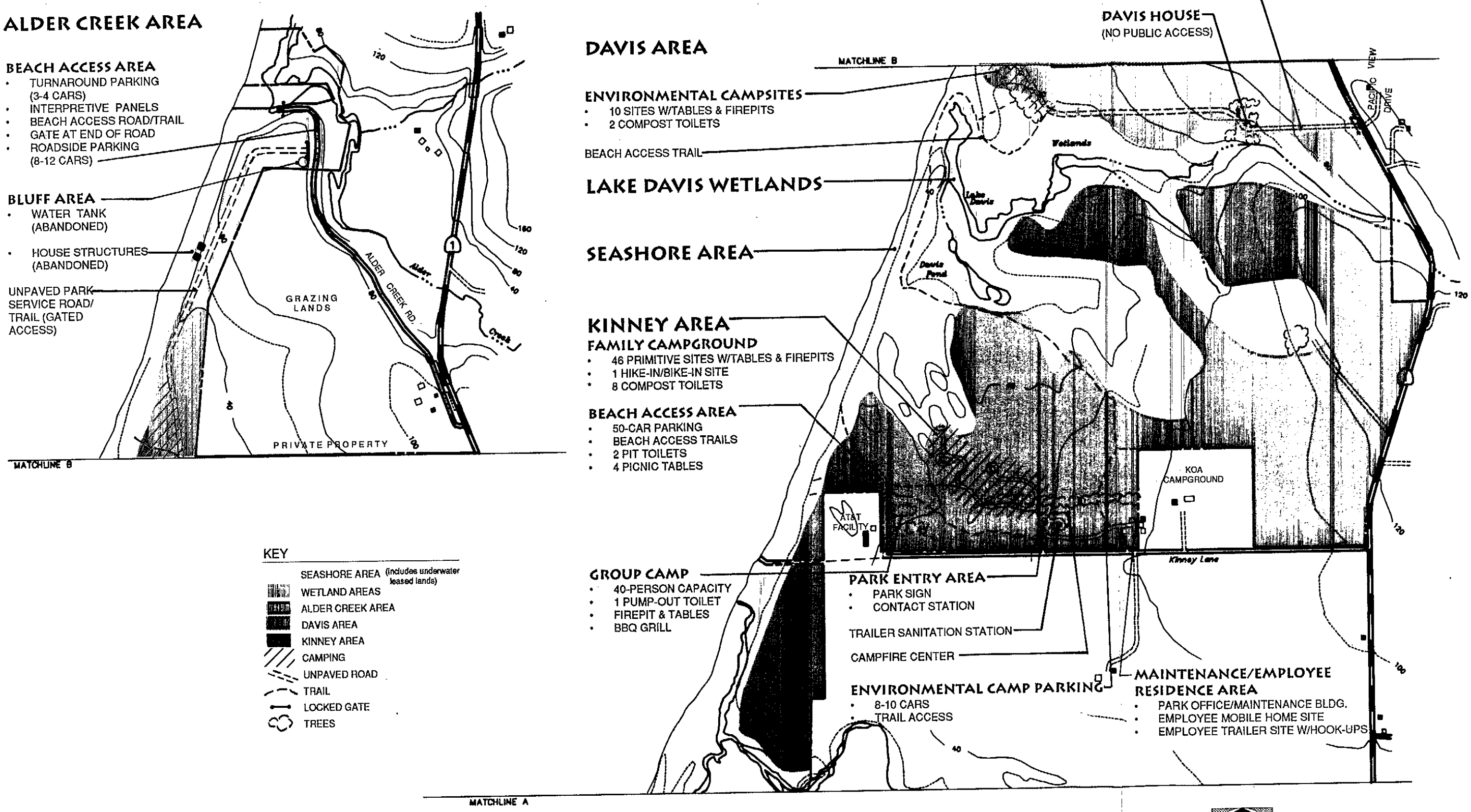
- In the Stoneboro Area, several county roads off Stoneboro Road provide access to the private residential inholdings that remain from what was once a planned subdivision. Duxbury Drive forms a semi-circle south of Stoneboro Road, intersecting it at two locations. On the north side of Stoneboro Road, Bristol Road and Barnegat Drive roughly parallel each other, terminating in cul-de-sacs to the north, near Lagoon Lake. Bristol Road lies further west along Stoneboro Road, intersecting it just east of the beach access parking area. It also provides access to a short spur cul-de-sac to the east.

Transportation Capacity of Access Roads

According to the Mendocino County Coastal Element, current peak-hour traffic on Highway 1 between Point Arena and Irish Beach operates at a lower service level, on narrower sections of the highway, where lanes are nine feet wide. In most locations, the roadbed could be widened, and the Mendocino County Coastal Element calls for construction of 12-foot lanes with four-foot bike lanes where feasible. The coastal element also requires any improvement plans submitted to the county for approval to include protected left-turn lanes and passing lanes where possible.

In only a few locations are there north-south county roads that provide short alternative routes to use of Highway 1. Studies by Mendocino County have found it difficult to predict how additional trips by both county residents and visitors to the area would be distributed among these existing roads and Highway 1. From Manchester, the Bay Area can be reached in nearly the same driving time on Highway 128, or via Jenner and Highway 116. Weekday and weekend surveys show that about 57% of Irish Beach traffic uses Highway 1 south, but some of these trips are for shopping in Manchester. Although Highway 128, Greenwood Road, and Mountain View Road can carry some traffic to and from this section of the coast, many drivers, particularly second-home users returning to the Bay Area, will travel through Gualala and Jenner during the peak hours.

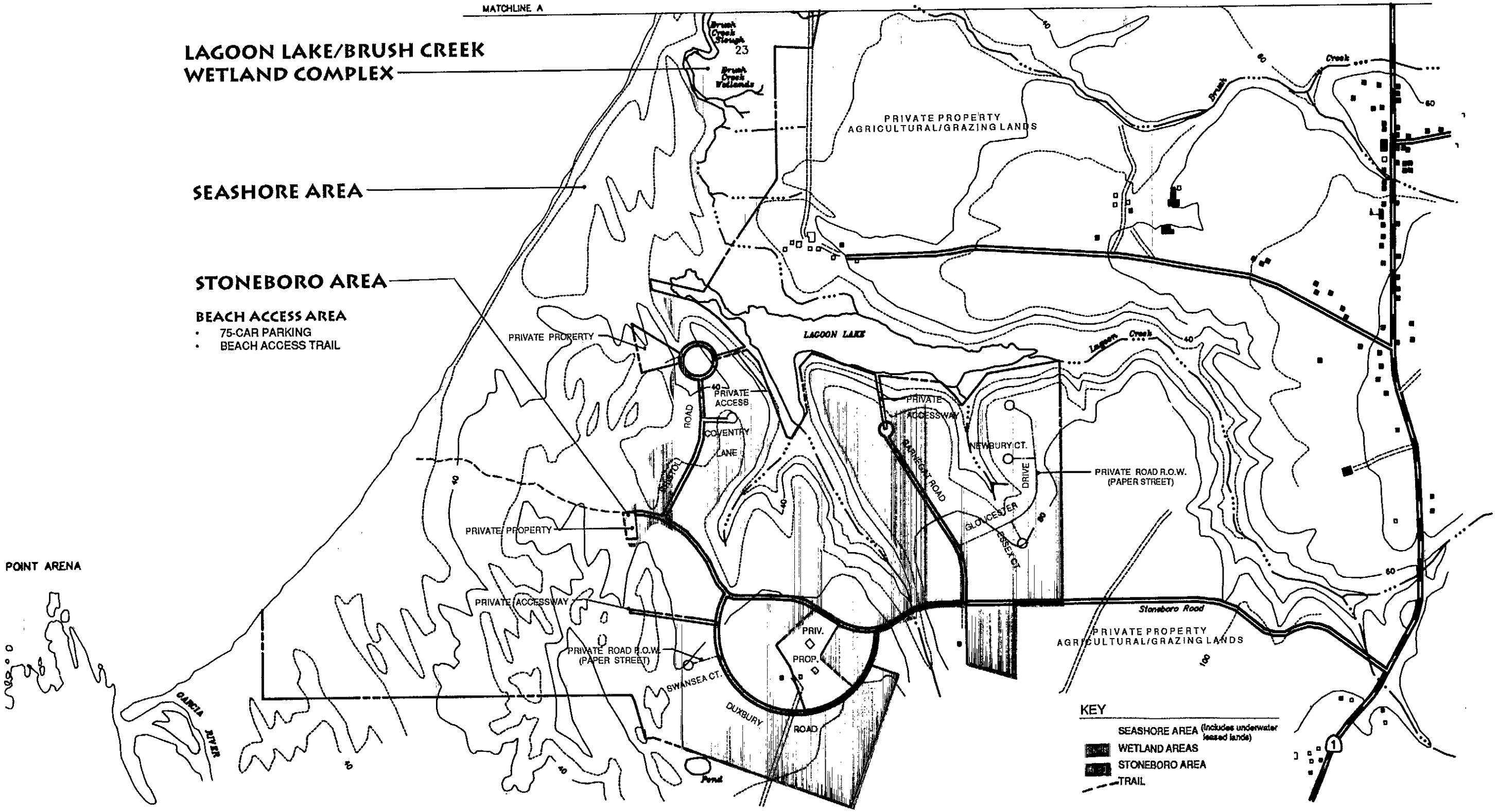
All three county roads accessing the park carry a relatively light traffic load in addition to park visitor use. Kinney Lane carries the greatest amount of use, since it is the major access point for the park and beach. It also provides access to the popular neighboring KOA Kampground, the AT&T facility, two or three residences, and adjacent pasture lands. There are only five residences, mostly vacation homes, located off Stoneboro Road. Alder Creek Road serves only one farm, as well as a private inholding northwest of the turnaround.



EXISTING CONDITIONS

MANCHESTER STATE PARK - MAP 6/1
LAND USE ELEMENT OF THE GENERAL PLAN

CALIFORNIA RESOURCES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
DRAWING NO. 26185



EXISTING CONDITIONS

MANCHESTER STATE PARK - MAP 6/2
LAND USE ELEMENT OF THE GENERAL PLAN

CALIFORNIA RESOURCES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
DRAWING NO. 26186

Trails

Most park visitors arrive by auto; less than five percent arrive by bicycle. Highway 1 has been designated as a coastal bike route by Caltrans and Mendocino County, and provides linear access for bicycles to and from the park. However, there are no bicycle lanes on the county roads to the park, and no bicycle trails in the park.

The park's four miles of sandy beach serve as the primary pedestrian route in the park, and provide the only continuous connection between the north and south areas of the unit. A more inland trail route connects the Kinney Lane campground to the Lake Davis environmental campsites. Also, a park service road connects Alder Creek Road and the Davis House. A small parking area next to the maintenance area serves as the trailhead for the environmental campsites. A short connecting trail has also been constructed between the Kinney Lane — Lake Davis trail and the northwestern corner of the KOA Kampground. Another short trail exists between the park's campground entrance road and the beach parking area at the end of Kinney Lane.

All three beach parking areas provide pedestrian access to the beach via trails through the dunes. These are relatively short trails, except for the one-half-mile trail from the Stoneboro Road parking area.

Handicapped Accessibility

None of the park's facilities, including trails, restrooms, picnic sites, or campsites, are accessible to the handicapped.

EXISTING PARK USE AREAS

The predominant land use in Manchester State Park is unimproved open space, generally sandy beach, dunes, grassland, and scrub. Wetland areas are found along the coast and in conjunction with the lagoons and streams. They occupy less than 150 acres, or 10% of the park's acreage, but account for a high percentage of the park's biological diversity and scenic value. All other uses occupy areas of far less size and significance. Developed recreation and park support facilities occupy 28 acres. Maps 6-1 and 6-2, Existing Conditions, depict the areas of existing land use at Manchester State Park which are discussed below.

Seashore Area

At Manchester, easy access and wide appeal have resulted in intensive use of the seashore area. Visitors there usually outnumber those in other areas. Recreational activities at Manchester State Park are concentrated on the park's four and a half-mile sandy beach and the marine environment. Arena Rock provides opportunities for scuba diving. Picnicking, surf fishing, hiking, beachcombing, and informal beach play continue to attract to the beaches thousands who seem to ignore the adversities of wind and fog. In places where it is easily reached, the beach will often present a busy, crowded scene, but on walking the shoreline a short distance, one might easily find solitude. The three major

ALDER CREEK AND DAVIS AREAS

Aerial view south from the park's north boundary toward Kinney Lane in the background:

1. *Alder Creek Rd. turnaround*
2. *Beach access road/trail*
3. *Abandoned storage tank*
4. *Park service road/trail*
5. *Alder Creek bluffs*
6. *Davis House.*


6
4
STATE PARK
4
PRIVATE PROPERTY
ROAD
3
4
4
5

accesses (Alder Creek, Kinney Lane, and Stoneboro Road) distributed along its length serve as impact points to focus use that otherwise might be widespread and indiscriminate.

Wetland Areas

Manchester State Park has two significant wetlands areas: (1) the Lake Davis marsh complex and upland riparian corridor of the adjacent unnamed creek that flows into it, and (2) the Brush Creek/Lagoon Lake wetlands complex.

- **Lake Davis Wetlands**

Directly south of the environmental campsites, behind the beach foredunes, the fragile Lake Davis wetlands attract a great deal of birdlife, and, therefore, birdwatchers. Seasonal wildflowers, together with the activities of bird and other animal life, provide visitors with many opportunities for observation and education. The trail from Kinney Lane to the environmental campsites skirts the wetland perimeter along the south side, and parallels it through the dunes along the beach, but there are no facilities, either developed or informal, in the wetlands themselves.

- **Brush Creek/Lagoon Lake Wetlands Complex**

In the Stoneboro Area, Brush Creek and Lagoon Lake form one of the most significant wetland features in Mendocino County. Although nearly all of the lagoon and its shoreline are in private ownership, park property includes a small portion of the lagoon near its western tip, and abuts it on the south and east sides of its perimeter, overlooking the expanse of water, with views also of the ocean, Brush Creek, and associated wetlands. Except along its northern shore, Lagoon Lake is bordered by dense riparian vegetation. From the cul-de-sacs at the ends of Barnegat Drive and Bristol Road, short trails in privately owned recreational access easements end at the top of the low bluff overlooking the lagoon. In park ownership, there are no developed trails or facilities in the wetland area itself or along the perimeter of the lagoon, although the public does use the trails in the private recreation easements. The wetlands area is extremely popular with birdwatchers, who make indirect use of it through observation from the trails or the surrounding areas.

Alder Creek Area

This area consists of the extreme northern end of the unit: the Alder Creek bluffs, Alder Creek Road (portion within the park boundaries), and the beach access parking area.

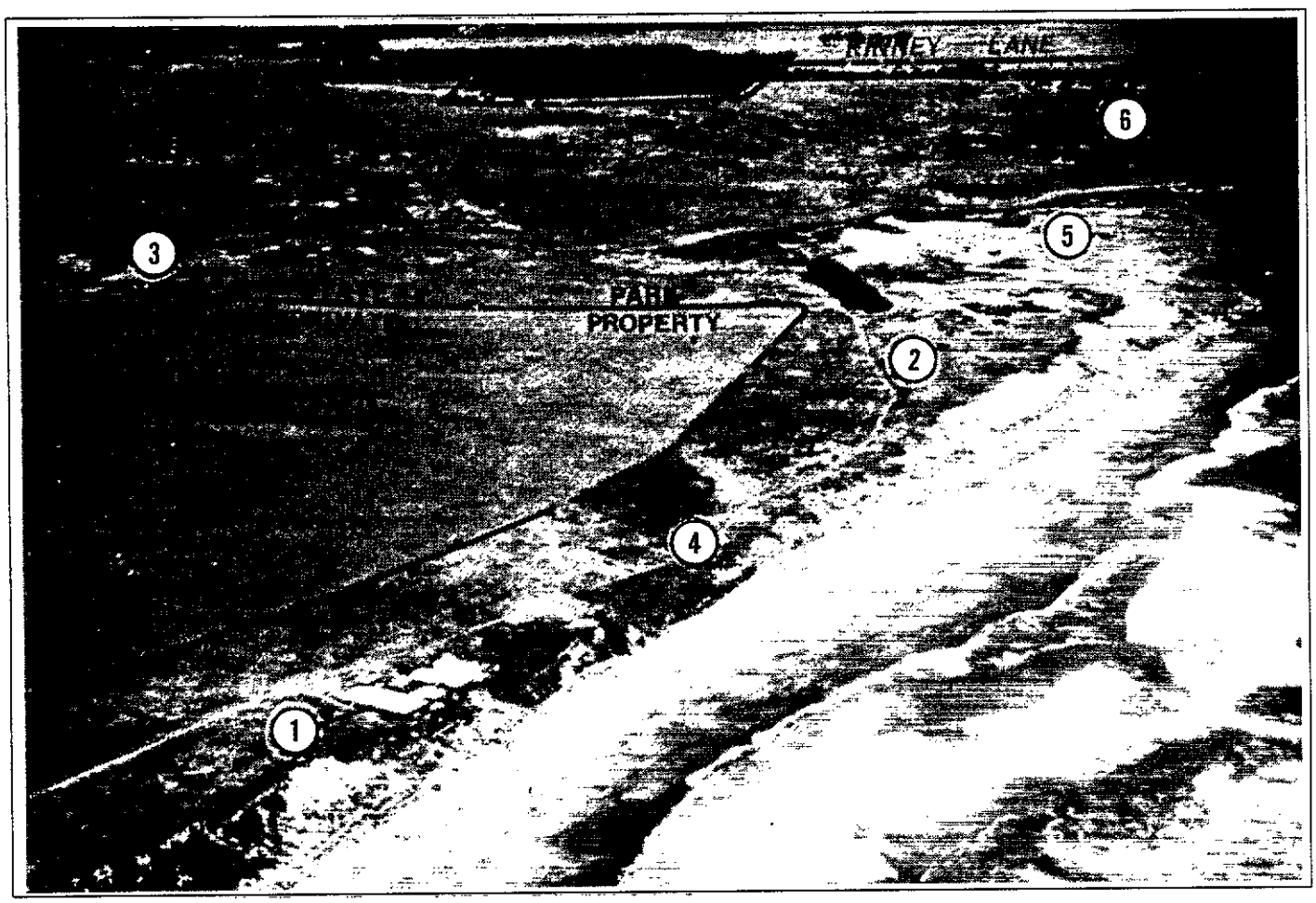
- **Beach Access Area**

Alder Creek Road provides the shortest and most direct access to the beach at Manchester, but the turnaround at the end of this narrow, low-standard road accommodates only three to four parked cars. The short, unpaved extension to the west, steeply inclining from the turnaround down to a locked metal gate at beach level, can accommodate another three to four cars parked on the road edge, and is also used by beachgoers as trail access to the beach. When the turnaround is full, as many as twelve cars can be found parked along the shoulder of Alder Creek Road from the top of the Alder Creek bluffs to the turnaround. These parked cars encroach onto the road's pavement, further constricting its narrow width. As the only existing vehicle

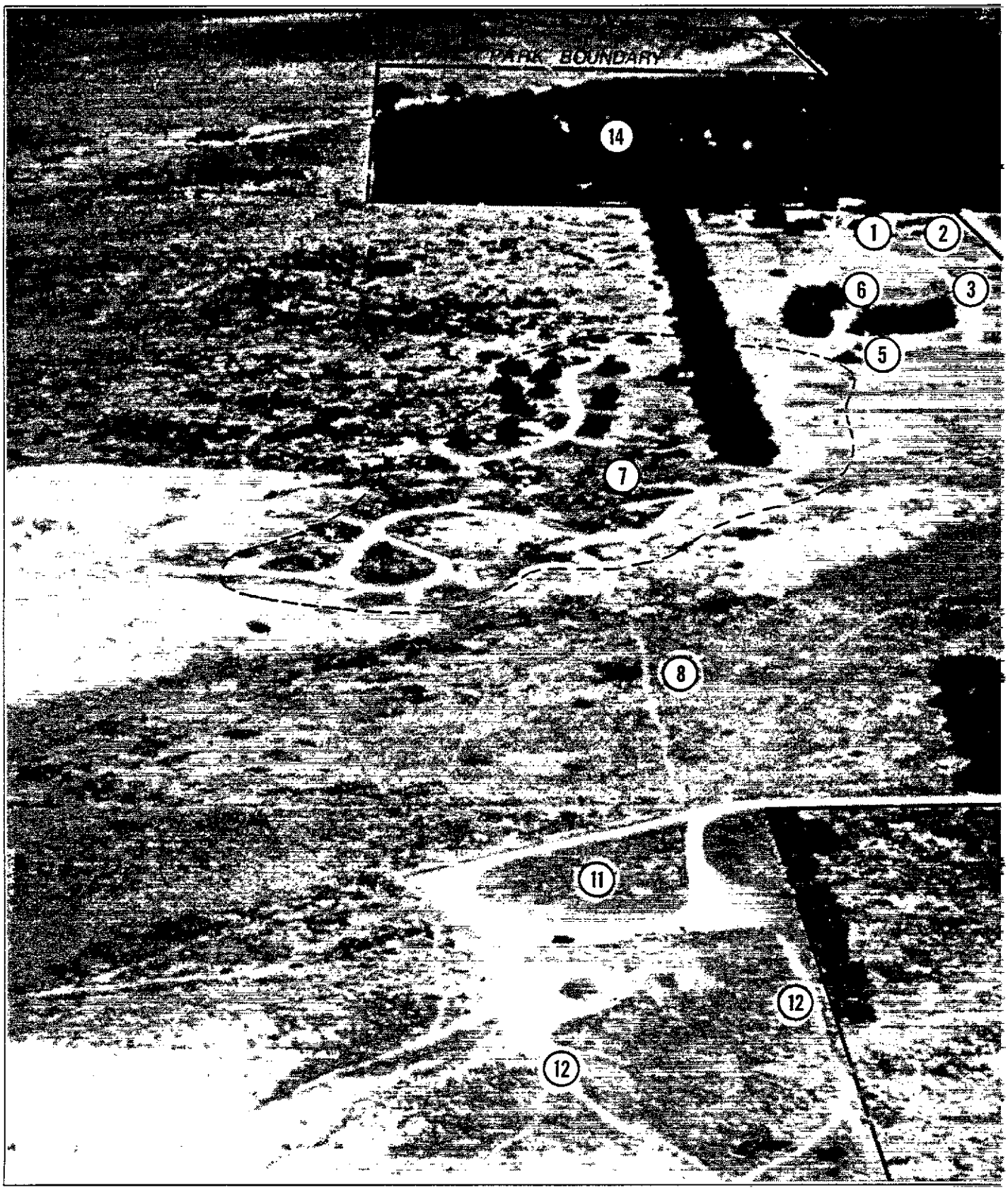
access point with direct visual access to the water, the turnaround is popular with both surfers and fishermen for checking tide and surf conditions, and with those who just want to sit in their cars and watch the ocean. A small interpretive panel compares the current pastoral scene below with its appearance before the 1906 earthquake. It is at the Alder Creek Area that the San Andreas fault zone leaves the land and disappears into the ocean floor.

- **Bluff Area**

An abandoned water storage tank marks the spot where the county road enters the park. Directly north of the tank, a park service road heads west across the flat plateau atop the bluffs, and curves south before descending to a lower marine terrace behind the sand dunes. Just below the crest of the plateau, the park road passes two abandoned and dilapidated houses overlooking the ocean. Both the house site and the plateau above it provide spectacular panoramic views of the park, the coastline north, and south to the Point Arena peninsula and lighthouse. These bluffs are a popular destination point for hikers along the coastal terrace. They offer a quiet, relatively isolated and secluded opportunity for viewing. In character, this area differs from the only other public scenic viewpoint along this stretch of coastline, the Caltrans overlook off Highway 1. It is two miles north at Mallo Pass Creek, and is affected by greater numbers of people and the presence of auto traffic.



Aerial view south from Alder Creek bluffs toward Kinney Lane in the background: (1) Alder bluff houses, (2) environmental camps, (3) Davis House area, (4) park service road/trail, (5) Lake Davis wetlands, (6) Kinney family campground.


PARK BOUNDARY
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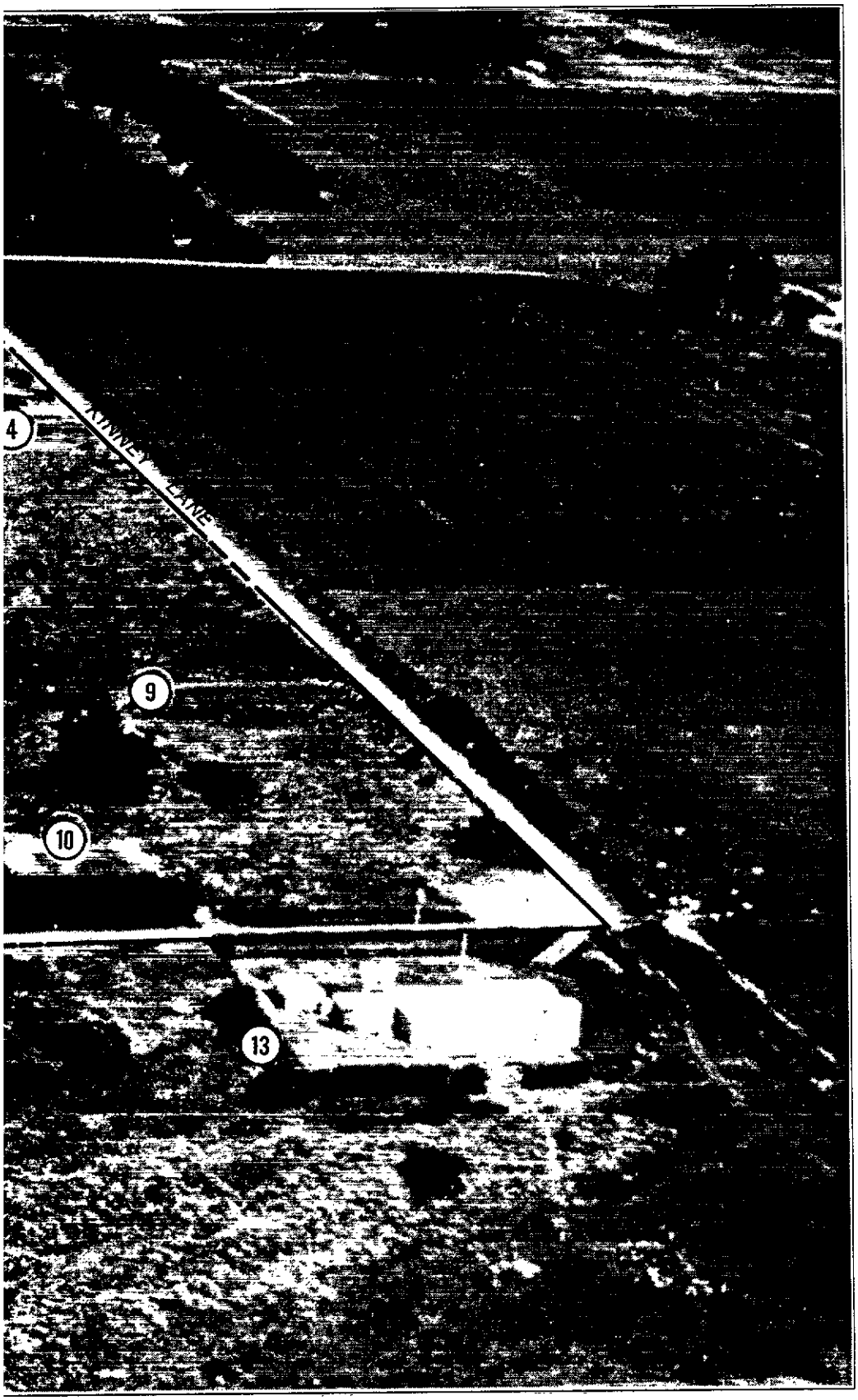

KINNEY AREA

Looking eastward from the ocean over the Kinney Area toward Highway 1 at the top of the photo:

1. *Maintenance/residence area*
2. *Maintenance area access road*
3. *Park service road*
4. *Campground entrance road*
5. *Campground contact station*
6. *Trailer sanitation station*
7. *Family campground*
8. *Campground to beach trail*
9. *Park water well*
10. *Group camp*
11. *Beach access parking area*
12. *Beach access trails*
13. *AT&T property*
14. *KOA Campground*

Davis Area

The Davis Area slopes southwestward from Highway 1 and the Alder Creek bluffs toward the ocean. It encompasses the Davis House, the coastal terrace below the Alder Creek bluffs to the north, and the environmental campsites.

- **Davis House**

The Davis House sits centrally located in this area, in a small bowl of land, screened from the highway by tall Monterey pine and cypress trees. This historic structure is boarded up and closed to the public. There is no public vehicular access to the house; it can only be reached by hikers using the park service road from either the environmental campsites to the west or the highway to the east.

- **Environmental Campsites**

The environmental campsites are located north of Lake Davis and south of the Alder Creek houses, behind the frontal coastal dunes. They are set either into the grass-covered dunes, or at the base of and into a long line of cypress trees that provide some windbreak. The ten walk-in sites are intended for use by backpackers or by tent campers who carry their equipment from the parking area, one mile distant. Facilities include tables, fire pits, and two pit toilets.

At this time, parking for the campsites consists of about eight parking spaces located near the entrance to the park service area off Kinney Lane. From here, a trail to the campsites traverses the coastal terrace, and detours around the Lake Davis wetlands up and along the dunes. It is almost a mile in length, and involves traveling through sand for about half that distance.

Kinney Area

Use areas along Kinney Lane are the most heavily visited in the park. The park signs are located along Highway 1 approaching Kinney Lane, and Kinney Lane serves as the primary park entry point. The use areas consist of the park entry, beach access parking, two camping areas, and a park maintenance and employee residence area.

- **Park Entry Area**

Park signs on the highway channel visitors into the park via Kinney Lane, and the park sign at the campground entrance on Kinney Lane identifies the unit. A portable contact station at the campground entrance is used to register campers during the peak use season, and when staffed, day use visitors will detour into the campground entrance looking for information or a ranger.

- **Beach Access Area**

An unpaved 50-car parking area, four portable picnic tables, and two pit toilets are provided. Trails through the dunes from both the northwestern and southwestern corners of the parking area eventually converge, and provide pedestrian access onto the beach.

The beach access parking area at the end of Kinney Lane is the most heavily used of the three beach access points in the park year-round. In the winter, when it is not raining, 35 cars per day on the weekends are not uncommon, and weekdays, there is an average of 10 to 15 cars per day. During the summer, the total average per day is 40 cars.

- **Camping Areas**

A 47-unit primitive campground (including one hike-in/bike-in campsite) lies east of the day use parking area, and west of the maintenance/employee residence area. A loop road through the campground connects to a campfire center and a trailer sanitation station southeast of the campground. A long east-west row of cypress trees provides a windbreak for some campsites, screening most of the campground from Kinney Lane, and another grouping of trees screens the trailer sanitation station and the campfire center.

The primitive campground provides fire pits, drinking water, tables, and stoves. Sanitary facilities, eight pump-out toilets, are housed in attractive low-key wooden structures with shed roofs, and blend well with the environment. One campsite with full utility hook-ups is provided near the campground entrance for use in the Campground Host Program. In exchange for use of the campsite and utilities, a volunteer performs light housekeeping, maintenance, and camper registration services during the peak use season to supplement the regular park staff.

A group camp is also located on the north side of Kinney Lane. Vehicle access is directly off Kinney Lane, south of the beach parking area, and opposite the AT&T facility. It is enclosed on the north and east sides by large cypress trees that provide a windbreak and some visual screening. The camp can accommodate up to forty people, and has one pump-out toilet, drinking water, a fire pit, and a large BBQ.

Campground use at this park is light compared to other Mendocino District campgrounds. The group camp is on the statewide reservation system, but the family campground and environmental campsites are not. As a result, campers are referred here when other Mendocino District campgrounds are full. The visitor use pattern for camping during the peak use months of July and August is one of moderate weekend use, 65 percent capacity, and light weekday use, 30 percent capacity. Use is very light September through June.

Bicyclists account for approximately five percent of campground use at the park during the peak season. They are primarily transient enroute travelers who rarely spend more than an evening in the park. One hike-in/bike-in site in the campground is designated specifically for those who arrive to camp at the park without an automobile. Bicyclists/hikers are free to use other campsites if they are available.

- **Maintenance/Employee Residence Area**

Maintenance functions for the three southern Mendocino coast state park system units are carried out from the maintenance area at Manchester State Park, and supported by a major work and storage center at district headquarters at Russian Gulch State Park. The maintenance area at Manchester State Park is located off the short service road paralleling Kinney Lane, about 1/8 mile east of the campground entrance. It is landscaped and screened from Kinney Lane with exotic trees and shrubs. Facilities here include a metal quonset hut that accommodates both the park office and maintenance/repair functions. A concrete trailer pad and storage shed for a permanent mobile home is provided for a resident employee. Additionally, an electrical/sewer trailer hook-up is provided for a seasonal employee. Water from a well with a pressure system serves the campground and service area.


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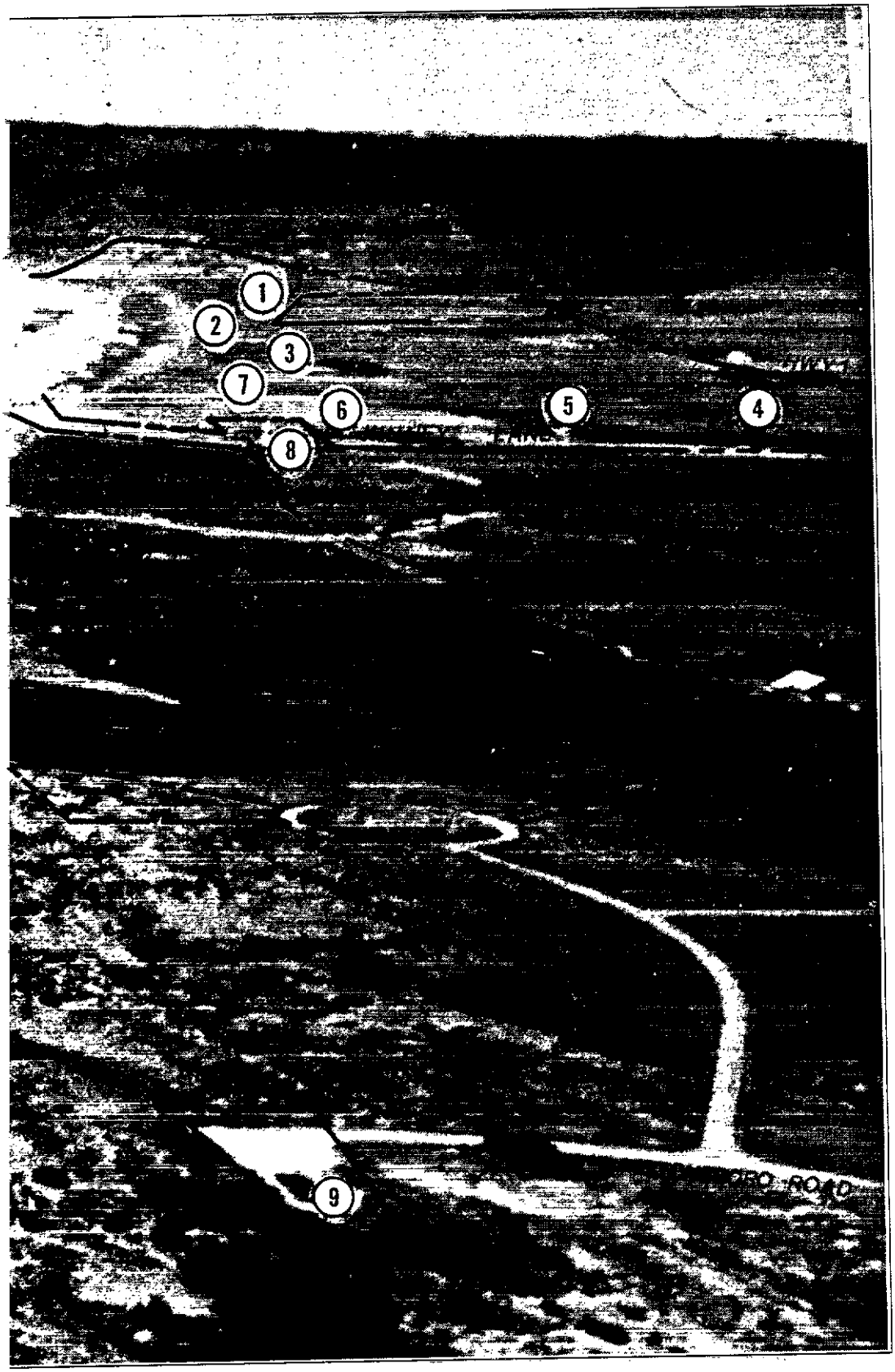


STONEBORO AREA
Aerial view north from the dunes near the park's southernmost boundary toward the Kinney Area in the middleground and the Alder Creek Area and northern park boundary in the distance. (Park boundary line approximate only.)

1. *Alder Creek bluff-top*
2. *Alder bluff houses*
3. *Environmental campsites*
4. *Davis House*
5. *Kinney family campground*
6. *Kinney group camp*
7. *Kinney beach parking*
8. *AT&T facility*
9. *Stoneboro beach parking*
10. *Stoneboro beach access trail*

Stoneboro Area

This area consists of the grassland and scrub terrace south of Lagoon Lake. Before this property was acquired in the 1970s as an addition to the park, it had been subdivided, the lots sold, and streets installed. The county assumed responsibility for most of the streets in the subdivision, although just four houses were constructed on the lots. The park's boundaries in this area surround five inholdings, including one developed parcel, in addition to several easements and rights-of-way and two privately-owned "paper" (not constructed) streets.

- **Beach Access Area**

Stoneboro Road is a designated coastal access point (county Coastal Access Program), and is signed as such on the highway; however, no visitor-serving facilities are provided by the county. Visitors leave their cars in a privately-owned area located on the edge of the grasslands at the leeward toe of the sand dunes. From the parking area, visitors enter park property and follow a half-mile trail over shifting sand dunes to the beach. The parking area can potentially accommodate as many as 75 cars. However, due to the length and difficulty of the walk to the beach, it is the most lightly used of the three existing beach access points in the park, and serves no more than 10-15 cars at any one time.

UTILITIES ✔

Utilities are a major concern at Manchester State Park, and will be an important consideration in future use and management of the park. In some areas, no utility systems exist; in other areas, the existing systems need substantial upgrading. Sewage disposal is currently handled by a combination of leachfields and septic tanks, composting, and pit toilets. Water, where it is available, is provided by well. Telephone and electric service are provided by conventional service lines. Gas is provided by propane tank service.

ADJACENT LAND USES AND TRENDS ✔

The coastline north and south of Manchester State Park, from Mallo Pass Creek (3 miles north) to Schooner Gulch State Beach (3-1/2 miles south), encompasses a majority of the Mendocino coast's full-time, large-acreage ranches and prime agricultural soils. The primary crop, silage, is used to feed cows at the two Grade A dairies. Cattle and sheep graze on large ranches whose properties surround the park along Highway 1. Up to the present time, the area around Manchester State Park has remained essentially a landscape of prosperous farms and dairies.

The village of Manchester gained fame in the 1880s for the quality of the butter produced by the area's dairies for consumption in San Francisco and lumber settle-

ments throughout the region. Much of the park was acquired from the families of Swiss-Italian dairy farmers who came to the area in the early 1900s. Properties immediately adjacent to the park to the north, south, and east continue to be used for dairy production.

The focal point of any south-facing view along the beach at Manchester is the Point Arena spit and lighthouse. The historic lighthouse is no longer operated by the federal government, but a nonprofit organization has established a small maritime museum, and rents overnight accommodations, as well as conducting guided tours of the lighthouse.,

South of the park boundary a few hundred feet is the Garcia River mouth. The mouth and upstream corridor, including Hathaway Creek, are considered one of the most significant riparian and wetland areas in Mendocino County, and provide important habitat in the Pacific Flyway for several migrating bird species. Another significant wetland area, Lagoon Lake, lies east and north of the park boundary, and feeds into wetland areas on park property.

The park surrounds a telecommunications facility located just back of the coastal dunes. This is the western terminus of AT&T's underwater cable to Hawaii. The facility's ownership extends in a narrow corridor across the beach to the mean high tideline, the only interruption in four and a half miles of park ownership. Coastal Commission-approved plans for AT&T's site include the construction of a 45-foot tall microwave tower. Protection of endangered mountain beaver habitat at this facility has been required recently as mitigation for previous development, and has been done in consultation with the Department of Parks and Recreation.

A KOA Kampground on Kinney Lane is bordered on two sides by park lands. Its facilities provide many amenities not usually found in the State Park System. In addition to 77 tent and RV campsites, there are 12 rental cabins, a convenience store and laundry, game room, showers/restroom facility, swimming pool, and hot tub. A total of 125 tent and RV sites and 20 cabins have been approved by the Coastal Commission for development on the KOA site. At its present size, the KOA Kampground operates at full capacity about eight to ten days per year, with those peaks occurring on holidays and at low tides. The KOA management states that use is divided about equally between tents and RVs.

There are several small inholdings in the park. One parcel at the mouth of Alder Creek is undeveloped open space. There are also four 2- to 10-acre single-family residential parcels, including one historic ranch property. A 20-acre residential property is located between the park and the KOA Kampground.

The last 20 years have seen rural parcels east of the town of Manchester subdivided into smaller parcels primarily as homesites for retirees and weekend residents. Irish Beach, just one mile north of the park, is a relatively high-density vacation rental and second home community, used primarily by Bay Area residents. It has not reached full build-out.

While current county plans do not indicate extensive urbanization for the immediate vicinity of Manchester State Park, it is likely that the current open space character of the area around the park will ultimately be subject to development pressure.

LAND USE REGULATIONS

Zoning

Land use regulations exist on all lands in Mendocino County. Lands in the unincorporated areas of the county are regulated by a land use zoning ordinance created by the county board of supervisors, and administered by the county planning commission. The land uses permitted under this ordinance range from agricultural to urban uses.

With the exception of two areas of the park, lands in park ownership are zoned open space. Open space lands are those considered not suited for development or most valuable in their undeveloped natural state. The two park areas where zoning differs are the Stoneboro Road area and the Kinney Lane campground. Three small parcels in the Stoneboro Road area of the park are zoned rangeland, and another two parcels are zoned RR-2 (rural residential, two-acre minimum parcel size). Rangelands are considered suited for and appropriately retained for grazing and forage for livestock and some timber producing areas. Rural residential lands can be used for local small-scale agriculture. The Kinney Lane campground is zoned "*3", meaning that it is a principal permitted "visitor accommodation and services" area in the coastal zone, and may be used for campground or RV purposes.

The majority of the lands outside the park and immediately adjacent fall into agriculture or rangeland categories. Properties east and south of the park are prime agricultural lands under Williamson Act (California Land Conservation Act of 1965) contracts, restricted to agricultural use and 60-acre minimum parcel size. Lands north of Manchester State Park are rangeland, also under Williamson Act contracts. New parcel sizes are limited to 160-acre minimums. The AT&T facility at the end of Kinney Lane is zoned PF, defined as public or semi-public facilities, or federal government lands used for public purposes. Isolated parcels of land classified as RR-2 (two-acre parcels), RR-5 (five-acre parcels), or RR-10 (ten-acre parcels) are privately owned residential inholdings in the Hunter's Terrace area of the park. An RR-2 parcel lies between the park employee residence area and the KOA Kampground. The KOA Kampground is zoned "*3" (permitted visitor accommodation and services area for use as tent or RV camping). Lands bordering the park on the east across Highway 1 and at the southwest corner of the Kinney Lane/Highway 1 intersection are classed rangeland.

Coastal Element of the County General Plan

The current General Plan for Mendocino County was adopted by the board of supervisors in 1981. The Coastal Element of the General Plan, which affects land use in the coastal zone, was approved by the board of supervisors and the State Coastal Commission in 1985. The county's Coastal Element delineates many policies that affect the general plan effort for Manchester State Park. Pertinent policies are summarized in APPENDIX E. Further development and use of Manchester State Park must be reviewed for consistency with the county's Coastal Element.

Access to the shoreline is a key mandate of the California Coastal Act, which gives priority to recreational use, and encourages provision of support facilities, especially those available to the public at a low cost. In general, the county Coastal Element recognizes the importance of Manchester State Park as the major provider of public coastal access and recreation in the south coast Mendocino area. State parks are the largest, best known, and most heavily used recreational sites along the coast. However, the Coastal Element limits the capacity of future campground development. It calls for "allocating the increase in visitor accommodations to distribute a higher proportion of trips south of the Navarro River and a smaller share between Russian Gulch and the Navarro River" (the primary visitor destination area) as a result of the need to preserve special communities and limit highway improvements in that area. The Coastal Element does question how much of the demand can be shifted to the south coast. In a related issue, the Coastal Element questions the ability of the State Park System to build large numbers of additional campsites, and asks whether private enterprise can meet the need, and what assurances private campground owners might be given that new investment will not be undermined by state park competition.

In general, policies of the county's Coastal Element are designed to ensure that development in the coastal zone is consistent with protection of the coast's scenic and natural resources. For example, Manchester State Park is located in a designated "highly scenic area in which new development shall be subordinate to its setting. Any development permitted in these areas shall provide for the protection of ocean and coastal views from public areas including highways, roads, coastal trails, vista points, beaches, parks, coastal streams, and water used for recreational purposes." In addition, Manchester State Park lies in a critical groundwater area "where development density may be increased only upon proof of public water service or a positive hydrological study."

More specifically, the Coastal Element requires DPR to develop a comprehensive land use plan and management program prior to any additional development or relinquishment of park lands. Unless amended in the future, specific policies of the county Coastal Element require the Department of Parks and Recreation to:

1. **Provide signing on Highway 1 for public coastal access at Alder Creek Road.**

2. **Restore the dilapidated park houses on the bluff south of Alder Creek *"for use as a park interpretive center or other public use or leased to a non-profit organization or concessionaire for a use which will be compatible with the park environment in which they are situated."***

3. **Prepare a general plan for Manchester State Park incorporating development of access of Alder Creek, Kinney Lane, and Stoneboro Road, and making use of the abandoned houses near Alder Creek. The plan is to include *"an effective dog control program to prevent livestock predation on adjoining ranches."***

4. **Provide trail access along the sandy beach at Manchester State Park, with non-vehicular access at Alder Creek Road, Kinney Lane, and Stoneboro Road, and connecting to trails from Irish Beach and the Garcia River mouth.**

THE ANALYSIS

Planning for units of the State Park System includes consideration of several parameters that act as limitations on the direction of the planning effort, focusing or narrowing down the range of possibilities for what occurs in the future at a park. The basic tenets on which this plan has been written are found in the park's classification and declaration of purpose, the inherent nature and suitability of the site and its resources, the integrity of its spirit of place, and public opinion:

- The unit's **Classification** as a state park (refer to *Classification* in the **RESOURCE ELEMENT** for a complete definition), in comparison to other types of State Park System unit classifications, defines a very broad purpose for the park relative to the balance between resource protection and visitor use and enjoyment of the park. Preservation of outstanding natural, scenic, and cultural values is the emphasis in a state park, for example, whereas in a state recreation area, the emphasis is on providing recreation opportunities. In a state park, improvement for public access and recreational activities must be consistent with preservation of the resources, and involve no major land or water modifications. Improvements which do not directly enhance public enjoyment of the resource values, which are attractions in themselves (e.g., an amusement park or a swimming pool), or which are available within a reasonable distance of the park are not allowed.

- The **Declaration of Purpose** identifies the particularly significant resources of that park and its purpose, and is established by the State Park and Recreation Commission when the unit is classified or reclassified. (Refer to *Declaration of Purpose* in the **RESOURCE ELEMENT.**) At Manchester State Park, the marine environs, beach, dunes, wetlands, and marine terraces are among that unit's outstanding features. The purpose of the park — to make those features available, in an essentially natural condition, for visitor enjoyment — will necessarily limit development and activities that can occur at the park.

- The inherent nature and **Suitability of Park Resources** help to establish park carrying capacity, the capability of the resources to sustain human use without suffering unacceptable or irreparable damage. In addition, they are the primary characteristics on which land use zones in the park are established to give directions for management and use that will best fulfill the park's purpose and objectives.

- At Manchester State Park, the **Spirit of Place** is defined as the visitor's emotional/spiritual/physical response to the distinctive characteristics of the park. This notion is based on the belief that each park has its own individual special uniqueness, character, identity, and spirit which differs from all other places; a spirit which has value and meaning to a park's visitors, and without which the quality of their visits would be diminished. In general, a discussion of spirit of place is included in the General Plan as a way of identifying the essential elements of a park's uniqueness so: (1) these attributes are recognized for their value and incorporated into the decision-making process; (2) land use concepts and facility proposals complement the park's spirit of place; and (3) design criteria can be developed to successfully integrate proposed change into the park.

- Within the limits of the preceding planning parameters, **Public Opinion** about critical issues and ideas shapes the direction of planning for development of alternative proposals, and aids in the choice of a single plan for the park's future. Public dialogue represents an intensive effort to ensure that future management and use of the park considers the desires of the people who will use it, and the concerns of those potentially affected by it (e.g., adjacent property owners).

The suitability of park resources, the spirit of place, and public opinion are discussed in more detail in the following sections.

SUITABILITY OF PARK RESOURCES

Carrying Capacity

The Public Resources Code requires that the carrying capacity of a park be established as a part of the general plan process, and that subsequent attendance at the unit be held within the limits established by the General Plan. The carrying capacity for recreation lands is defined as the number of people a recreation resource can accommodate and still maintain a desirable landscape quality for a given recreational experience.

This concept assumes that there is an optimum or desirable combination of users, activities, density of use, timing of use, and management of resources and users. Theoretically, it assumes that it is possible to match demand to supply, and produce the sustained product service — the park recreation experience.

From a park planning and management viewpoint, this concept is important to:

- prevent deterioration of resources and overuse
- protect visitor safety
- provide visitor satisfaction
- allow for multiple use where appropriate
- classify/zone park lands for visitor use
- analyze environmental impacts of visitor use
- prepare park master plans and detail site design
- manage visitors

When applied to a state park, where the emphasis of planning and management is on preservation of natural resource values, the concept of carrying capacity implies that the natural processes and characteristics of an area are of primary importance, and form the basis for planning, design, and management. The inherent nature and suitability of park resources are major planning factors, and the primary factors in determining a park's natural carrying capacity. Unfortunately, there is neither a scientific nor magic formula for determining the carrying capacity of a natural area. As a means of establishing carrying capacity, therefore, two methods of determining future levels of visitor use at Manchester State Park have been established: allowable use intensity and visitor capacity.

Allowable use intensity graphically illustrates areas in which resource sensitivities and constraints will affect development planning, correlating resource sensitivities with certain types and intensities of use. A discussion of allowable use intensity follows in the next section. Visitor capacity is the number of park visitors that can be accommodated in the park based on the capacity of the park's existing and proposed facilities and development, and is discussed in the context of the **FACILITIES ELEMENT.** A necessary third component is involved in determining carrying capacity: monitoring. As facilities are incorporated into the park and as visitor use increases, it will be essential to periodically assess the ability of the resources to absorb the use they are receiving, and to adjust use and facility capacities and proposals to adequately protect resource values.

Allowable Use Intensity

Allowable use intensity determinations establish the limits of development and use an area can sustain without an unacceptable degree of deterioration in the character and value of the scenic, natural, and cultural resources, and establishes limits that maintain the desired quality of experiences that the character of the park provides. Determinations are based on analysis and integration of three interdependent components:

1. *Resource management objectives.*
   What is the purpose of the unit as identified in its classification? What specific policies for its management are contained in the **RESOURCE ELEMENT**? In addition, the Public Resources Code and other law, and the unit's declaration of purpose, shape broad resource management objectives.

2. *Visitor perceptions and attitudes.*
   This is sometimes referred to as the "social carrying capacity." It involves, among other things, what recreationists perceive as an acceptable recreational environment; what degree of isolation or crowding is acceptable; what amount of site deterioration is acceptable; and other perceptions and attitudes pertaining to visitors' quality of recreational experience gathered from public input during the planning process, and through recreation planning research. Although difficult to quantify, this component is extremely important.

3. *Impact on resources.*
   What will be the impact of visitor and operational activities on the scenic, natural, and cultural resources? What, if any, is the acceptable level of damage to the resources? The potential impact of recreational development on natural, cultural, and scenic resources is assessed through ecological and cultural sensitivity and physical constraints analyses. This is perhaps the most important component in determining allowable use intensity.

Resource *constraints* are factors that would identify visitor use or facility development as unsafe, economically impractical, or undesirable. They are determined by evaluating such factors as the erodibility and compaction potential of soils, geologic hazards, slope stability and relief, hydrologic conditions, the potential for pollution of surface waters, and flooding.

Sensitivities are conditions, locations, or values of resources that warrant restricted use or development to protect resources. Sensitivities are evaluated by considering such factors as the ability of the ecosystem to withstand human impact (ecological sensitivity), not only in the short term but also over a more extended time span; the fragility

and significance of archeological and historical resources; vegetation characteristics such as durability, fragility, and regeneration rates; and wildlife considerations such as population levels, stability, and tolerance to human activity. Sensitivities may also include scenic resources; rare, threatened, or endangered plants, animals, and habitats; unique or scientifically important ecosystems and botanic features; and examples of ecosystems or other resources of regional or statewide significance.

Departmental experience and observations of recreation impact on sites, plus available research results, indicate that sensitivity is correlated to a great extent with certain types and intensities of use. Resource sensitivity and its approximate correlation with types and intensities of recreational uses at Manchester State Park are shown on Maps 7/1 and 7/2, Allowable Use Intensity. The most important limiting constraints and resource sensitivities used in determining allowable use intensity are indicated on Table 3, while Table 4 shows the resource sensitivity ratings based on resource mapping contained in APPENDIX C.

Other factors such as land use, socioeconomic consideration, and design criteria may indicate that a higher or lower use intensity is desirable in particular areas. If appropriate mitigations are feasible and can be incorporated in the planning process, higher use intensities may be acceptable. Conversely, if monitoring indicates that unacceptable resource damage is occurring, use intensities may be lowered.

TABLE 3. CRITERIA USED TO ESTABLISH ALLOWABLE USE INTENSITY

FACTORS	LOW USE INTENSITY-CATEGORY I	MODERATE USE INTENSITY-CATEGORY II	HIGH USE INTENSITY-CATEGORY III
Soil Series limitation rating for campgrounds[1]	severe	moderate/severe	slight/moderate
Soil Series limitation rating for picnic areas[1]	severe	moderate/severe	slight/moderate
Soil Series limitation rating for paths/trails[1]	severe	moderate	slight
Soil Series limitation rating for roads[1]	severe	moderate/severe	slight/moderate
Seasonally flooded/high water table rating[1]	severe	moderate	slight
100-year flood/tsunami zones rating[1]	severe	moderate	slight
Geologic faults rating[1]	severe	moderate/severe	slight/moderate
Ecological sensitivity rating[2]	severe	moderate/severe	slight/moderate
Cultural sensitivity rating[3]	severe	moderate	slight

Note: Not all conditions and areas mapped in each use intensity category on the Allowable Use Intensity Map have the same level of constraints as rated in this table. Therefore, a single rating factor can affect designation to a use intensity category, even if all other factors are not as constraining. For example, some soils in areas mapped Low Use Intensity, Category I may have only moderate or even slight constraints, but are included in Category I because other factors are rated as severe. Thus, the most severe factor determines the final sensitivity rating and use intensity category.

Footnotes:

1 Based on land use constraints for soils, hydric conditions, and geologic hazards (Map 1 - Physical Constraints, Appendix C).

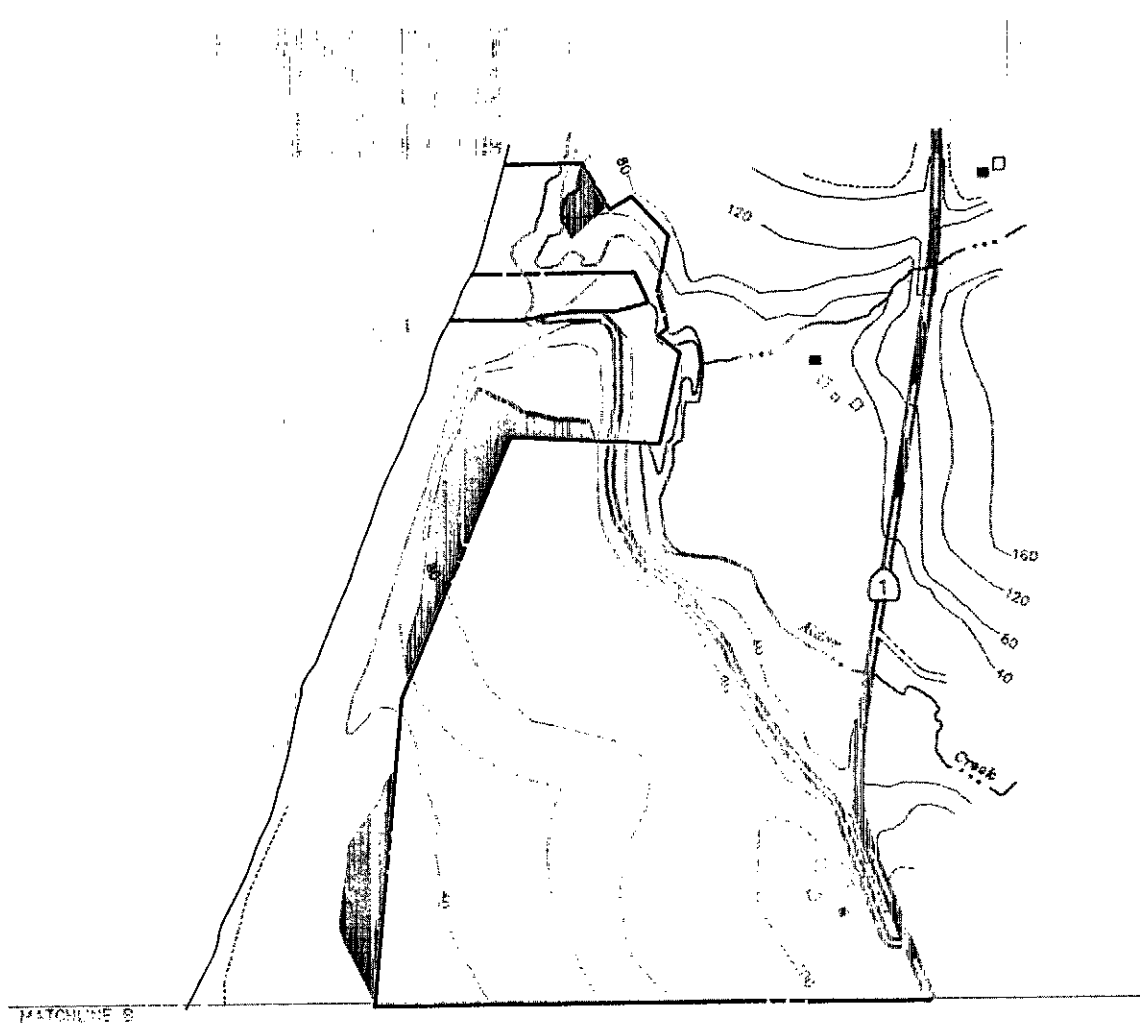
2 Based on land use constraints for vegetation and animal life (Map 2 - Sensitive Plants and Rare Natural Communities and Map 3 - Sensitive Wildlife, Aquatic Life, and Habitats, Appendix C).

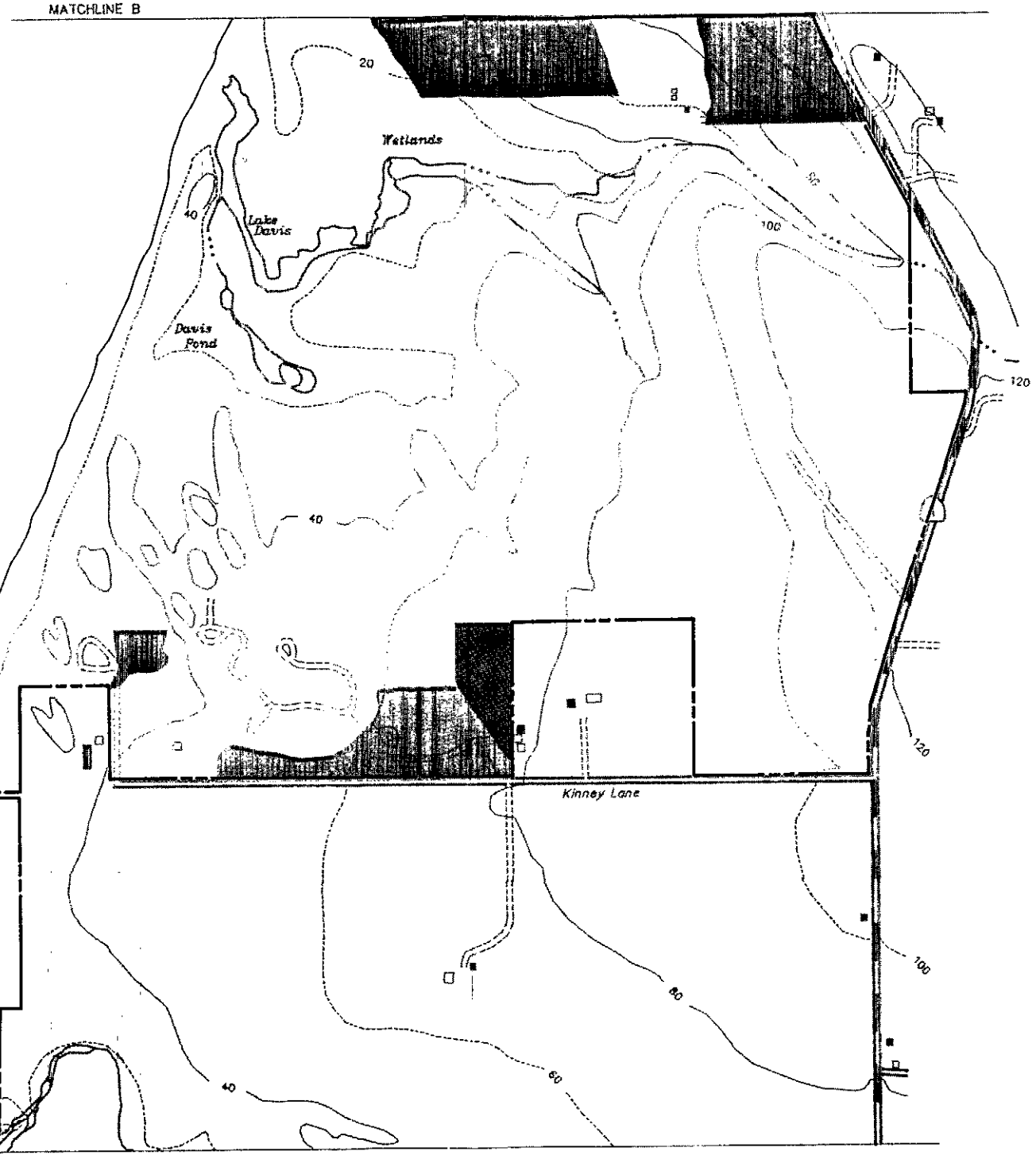
3 Bases on land use constraints for cultural resources (Map 4 - Cultural Resource Sensitivity, Appendix C)

TABLE 4. ECOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCE SENSITIVITY RATINGS

SENSITIVE PLANTS AND RARE NATURAL COMMUNITIES	Sensitivity rating for land use constraints associated with: Campgrounds	Roads	Picnic areas	Paths/trails
Coast Lily	severe	severe	severe	severe
Swamp Harebell	severe	severe	severe	severe
Mendocino Coast Indian Paintbrush	severe	severe	severe	severe
Freshwater seep	severe	severe	severe	severe
Coastal freshwater marsh	severe	severe	severe	severe
Coastal brackish marsh	severe	severe	severe	severe
Northern coastal saltwater marsh	severe	severe	severe	severe
North coast riparian scrub	severe	severe	severe	moderate
Northern dune scrub	severe	severe	severe	moderate
Northern coastal bluff scrub	severe	severe	severe	moderate
Beach pine forest	severe	moderate	severe	slight
SENSITIVE WILDLIFE, AQUATIC LIFE, AND HABITATS				
Pt. Arena mountain beaver habitat, confirmed	severe	severe	severe	moderate
Pt. Arena mountain beaver habitat, potential	severe	severe	moderate	moderate
Potential snowy plover habitat	severe	severe	moderate	moderate
Red-legged frog	severe	severe	severe	moderate
Steelhead trout	severe	severe	severe	severe
Coho salmon	severe	severe	severe	severe
Tidewater goby	severe	severe	severe	severe
Sensitive aquatic life habitat	severe	severe	severe	severe
PREHISTORIC AND HISTORIC FEATURES AND SITES				
Davis House	severe	severe	slight	moderate
Historic homestead sites	severe	severe	moderate	moderate
Prehistoric site (CA-MEN-852)	severe	severe	moderate	moderate

At Manchester State Park, the **Low Use Intensity - Category I** areas include all of the marine environment, as well as areas severely constrained by soil conditions such as slope, dunes, beaches, and bluff faces; those with certain hydric conditions such as wetlands, seasonally flooded areas, and within 100-year flood and tsunami zones; and/or those with geologic hazards such as fault zones. The low use intensity category also encompasses areas with high ecological sensitivities such as rare and endangered flora, rare natural communities, threatened and endangered wildlife and aquatic





KEY

USE INTENSITY CATEGORIES	SITE CHARACTERISTICS	REPRESENTATIVE FACILITY/ACTIVITY
I LOW	• ALL OF THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT • AREAS WITH SEVERE SOIL CONSTRAINTS (DUNES, BEACHES, BLUFFS) • WETLANDS, SEASONALLY FLOODED AREAS, 100-YEAR FLOOD AND TSUNAMI ZONES • FAULT ZONES • AREAS WITH RARE/ENDANGERED/THREATENED PLANTS, NATURAL COMMUNITIES, ANIMALS AND/OR HABITATS • IMPORTANT HISTORIC SITES	• TRAILS AND EXISTING ROADS MONITORED TO AVOID UNACCEPTABLE DAMAGE TO IMPORTANT RESOURCES • BEACHCOMBING, SIGHTSEEING, NATURE STUDY, HIKING, PICNICKING, HIKE-IN CAMPING • USE OF EXISTING CAMPGROUND WITH MONITORING OF MTN. BEAVER HABITAT
II MODERATE	• MODERATE SOIL CONSTRAINTS • HIGH WATER TABLE, SEASONAL FLOODING, FLOOD/TSUNAMI HAZARDS • GEOLOGIC HAZARDS • NATIVE PLANT COMMUNITIES, SPOT LOCATIONS OF SENSITIVE FLORA & FAUNA • HISTORIC FEATURES OF UNDETERMINED IMPORTANCE	• TRAILS, ROADS, AND BUILDINGS DESIGNED TO WITHSTAND HAZARDS OF PHYSICAL CONSTRAINTS AND TO MINIMIZE IMPACTS ON NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES • ALL CATEGORY I USES
III HIGH	• AREAS OF SLIGHT OR NO CONSTRAINTS RELATED TO SOIL, HYDRIC CONDITIONS, OR GEOLOGIC HAZARDS • AREAS WITH SLIGHT ECOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL SENSITIVITIES BUT CONTRIBUTING TO THE PARK CHARACTER SUCH THAT LARGE-SCALE DISTURBANCE WOULD APPRECIABLY DIMINISH THE PARK'S SPIRIT OF PLACE AS A WHOLE	• TRAILS, ROADS, BUILDINGS, AND OTHER FACILITIES SITED AND DESIGNED TO MAINTAIN PARK CHARACTER AND AVOID IMPACTS ON IMPORTANT RESOURCES • GROUP ACTIVITIES, FAMILY CAMPING; ALL CATEGORY I AND II USES

NOTE: THIS MAP IS FOR GENERAL PLANNING PURPOSES ONLY. SITE-SPECIFIC FIELD INVESTIGATION MAY BE NECESSARY TO CHECK RESOURCE SENSITIVITIES AND CONSTRAINTS PRIOR TO SITE DEVELOPMENT.

0 500 1500
250 1000 2000 FEET

ALLOWABLE USE INTENSITY

MANCHESTER STATE PARK - MAP 7/1
LAND USE ELEMENT OF THE GENERAL PLAN

CALIFORNIA RESOURCES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
DRAWING NO. 26187

KEY

USE INTENSITY CATEGORIES

I — LOW

SITE CHARACTERISTICS
- ALL OF THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT
- AREAS WITH SEVERE SOIL CONSTRAINTS (DUNES, BEACHES, BLUFFS)
- WETLANDS, SEASONALLY FLOODED AREAS, 100-YEAR FLOOD AND TSUNAMI ZONES
- FAULT ZONES
- AREAS WITH RARE/ENDANGERED/THREATENED PLANTS, NATURAL COMMUNITIES, ANIMALS AND/OR HABITATS
- IMPORTANT HISTORIC SITES

REPRESENTATIVE FACILITY/ACTIVITY
- TRAILS AND EXISTING ROADS MONITORED TO AVOID UNACCEPTABLE DAMAGE TO IMPORTANT RESOURCES
- BEACHCOMBING, SIGHTSEEING, NATURE STUDY, HIKING, PICNICKING, HIKE-IN CAMPING
- USE OF EXISTING CAMPGROUND WITH MONITORING OF MTN. BEAVER HABITAT

II — MODERATE

SITE CHARACTERISTICS
- MODERATE SOIL CONSTRAINTS
- HIGH WATER TABLE, SEASONAL FLOODING, FLOOD/TSUNAMI HAZARDS
- GEOLOGIC HAZARDS
- NATIVE PLANT COMMUNITIES, SPOT LOCATIONS OF SENSITIVE FLORA & FAUNA
- HISTORIC FEATURES OF UNDETERMINED IMPORTANCE

REPRESENTATIVE FACILITY/ACTIVITY
- TRAILS, ROADS, AND BUILDINGS DESIGNED TO WITHSTAND HAZARDS OF PHYSICAL CONSTRAINTS AND TO MINIMIZE IMPACTS ON NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES
- ALL CATEGORY I USES

III — HIGH

SITE CHARACTERISTICS
- AREAS OF SLIGHT OR NO CONSTRAINTS RELATED TO SOIL, HYDRIC CONDITIONS, OR GEOLOGIC HAZARDS
- AREAS WITH SLIGHT ECOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL SENSITIVITIES BUT CONTRIBUTING TO THE PARK CHARACTER SUCH THAT LARGE-SCALE DISTURBANCE WOULD APPRECIABLY DIMINISH THE PARK'S SPIRIT OF PLACE AS A WHOLE

REPRESENTATIVE FACILITY/ACTIVITY
- TRAILS, ROADS, BUILDINGS, AND OTHER FACILITIES SITED AND DESIGNED TO MAINTAIN PARK CHARACTER AND AVOID IMPACTS ON IMPORTANT RESOURCES
- GROUP ACTIVITIES, FAMILY CAMPING; ALL CATEGORY I AND II USES

ALLOWABLE USE INTENSITY

MANCHESTER STATE PARK - MAP 7/2
LAND USE ELEMENT OF THE GENERAL PLAN

CALIFORNIA RESOURCES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
DRAWING NO. 26188

NOTE: THIS MAP IS FOR GENERAL PLANNING PURPOSES ONLY. SITE-SPECIFIC FIELD INVESTIGATION MAY BE NECESSARY TO CHECK RESOURCE SENSITIVITIES AND CONSTRAINTS PRIOR TO SITE DEVELOPMENT.

0 500 1500
250 1000 2000 FEET

life, and important habitats for these species. Areas with high cultural resource sensitivities such as Native American and important historic sites and features are included in this category.

In the low use intensity category, appropriate facilities include trails and existing roads monitored to avoid unacceptable damage to important resources. Facilities and uses associated with the family campground will be carefully monitored to evaluate the condition and status of the endangered Point Arena mountain beaver population and its habitat. Sightseeing, beachcombing, hiking, nature study, picnicking, and primitive hike-in camping are representative of appropriate activities for this category.

The **Moderate Use Intensity - Category II** areas include those moderately constrained by soil conditions such as slope, slow percolation, shrink-swell potential, and dusty conditions when exposed; hydric conditions such as a high water table, seasonal flooding, 100-year floods, and tsunami hazard; and/or geologic hazards such as fault zones. Ecologically sensitive areas in this category are those with native plant communities that help define the character of the unit, and that provide habitat for native wildlife, and spot locations of sensitive flora and fauna. Moderately sensitive cultural resources such as historic features of undetermined importance are included in this category also.

Appropriate facilities in the moderate use intensity category are trails, roads, and buildings designed to withstand hazards associated with physical constraints, and to avoid or minimize impacts on natural and cultural resources. All other uses and activities compatible with Category I areas are appropriate here.

Lands of **High Use Intensity - Category III** are not, or are only slightly, constrained by soil conditions, hydric conditions, or geologic hazards, although seismic activity and severity are difficult to predict. In this category are areas with slight ecological sensitivities but that still contribute to the general character and appeal of the unit, such that large-scale disturbance in these areas would appreciably diminish the attractiveness and ambiance of the unit as a whole. Slight cultural resource sensitivities to known sites and features are included, as long as no major resource modifications are undertaken. Appropriate facilities in the high use intensity category are trails, roads, and buildings designed to blend esthetically with scenic, natural, and cultural features, and to avoid large-scale disturbance and minimize impacts. Group activities, family camping, and all other compatible uses identified with Category I and II areas are appropriate in Category III.

Not all areas in a category share the same characteristics or are affected in the same way by the conditions that may influence them. Therefore, the Allowable Use Intensity Map is useful only for general planning purposes. When site-specific proposals for land uses or facilities are to be prepared, the proposed location will be checked for resource constraints and sensitivities on various resource maps on file in the Resource Protection Division, during the preliminary planning phases of the project. Site-specific investigations may also be necessary.

SPIRIT OF PLACE

To a greater or lesser degree, every unit of the State Park System is a special place, more than the sum of the individual resources it was acquired to preserve. The process of defining what makes a park unique or special, its spirit of place, is often illusive and very difficult to clearly express or define. Each park is like each other unique place throughout the world, however, in that the mention of one can evoke strong mental images of remembered or imagined character.

In the general plan process, the concept of spirit of place is an essential consideration. The importance of this concept is based on the idea that each and every place has some measure of unique expression or quality that justifies protection from the impact of deleterious change. Each park contains locally special attributes which produce a spirit of place, and a sense of well being among its visitors. Often the interaction of the ingredients which produce a place's attributes are not understood until they have been unalterably lost; and are, therefore, very vulnerable to unplanned change.[1] The General Plan examines spirit of place as a means to identify and define the component ingredients of a park, and to accurately communicate the role they play in creation of its unique character. The focus of the General Plan's concern is that these set attributes not be the casualty of change, but are instead recognized for their value, and incorporated into the decision-making process.

What a park's spirit of place *should be* is often just as or more important than what it *is*. Planning for a historic park, for example, might include removal of intrusive modern development and restoration of historic buildings to recreate its former ambiance. Similarly, areas of a park identified for growth and change may require creation of new images and new character. To be successful, however, these new or restored images should occur in the context of an overall plan and program. When properly executed, the design of positive new/former images can add to and enhance a park's character and quality. Awareness of the components of existing spirit of place is essential in developing land use concepts and design criteria which will guide future growth and change in a positive manner. (Design Criteria is discussed in the FACILITIES ELEMENT.)

The major components of identity have been found to be:

1. *Physical Features and Appearance*
   The actual physical structure of a place. Aspects of the existing natural environment such as landform and topography, vegetation, climate, and the presence of water. Aesthetic quality.

2. *Meanings or Symbols*
   A more complex aspect, primarily the result of human intentions and experiences. Cultural expressions such as bridges, forts, churches, or missions, which are a reaction to landscape, social history, physical location, human activities, and place as a cultural artifact (a place's

[1] Garnham, H.L.,1985. *Maintaining the Spirit of Place.* Mesa, Arizona: PDA Publishers Corporation

meaning beyond its physical expression such as Sutter's Fort, due to its historical significance).

3. *Observable Activities and Functions*
How a place's visitors interact with it, how their cultural institutions have affected it, and how the buildings and landscapes are used. The sensory experience, primarily visual, which results from the interaction of culture with the existing landscape. Much of a place's character will be derived from people's reaction to its physical and functional aspects.[2]

The interaction of these components has been used by the planning team in an attempt to define both an overall park spirit and a sense of place for each of the park's primary use areas. Of necessity, these definitions are both general and subjective. The level of a person's understanding as to the role these components play in determining a definition of sense of place is often based on the degree of familiarity a person has with the place. Each visitor comes to the park with a different background; a different set of personal experiences, expectations, attitudes, and memories; a different individual focus; and each has a different reaction to his/her immediate sensation of the park.

General Park Character

At Manchester State Park, the immense size and diversity of landscape features implies that various areas of the park may have their own individual spirit of place. It is also true to say that seen as a whole, the park possesses an overall spirit of place defined by its unique landscape in combination with its physical setting — encompassing more than just the park itself — extending to the limits of what the eye can see: to the south, the high horizontal plateau of the Point Arena peninsula with its vertical focal point, the lighthouse; the backdrop of mountains, the broad alluvial plain, and the Garcia River to the east and southeast; to the north, a long line of vertical cliffs; and westward, the endless sea.

The sea, of course, is the key to its attraction. But "horizontal," "spacious," and "primitive" are also essential characteristics. The low, horizontal profile of the land reinforces the horizontality of the sea, the linear meeting of land and sea (the shore), sea and sky (the horizon). The open character of the landscape — low-growing vegetation, lack of trees or landforms as vertical accents, screening, or visual barriers — reinforces the concept of spaciousness shared by the vast expanses of sea and sky, while emphasizing the sense of exposure to the elemental forces of nature, and reveals its primitive, undeveloped nature.

The Manchester-Point Arena area in which the unit is located possesses much of the rural character that distinguishes the park. Several hundred acres of land surround it that have been designated as agricultural preserve and/or are actively grazed. This comparative abundance of open space serves as both a physical and psychological buffer to the park, and is an important aspect of the visitor experience.

2 Dubos, R.,1972. *A God Within.* New York: Charles Scribners Sons

Seashore Area Spirit of Place

In only a few places does there exist a piece of coastal land large and undisturbed enough to convey the full impact and range of seashore experiences that this stimulating environment deserves. Manchester State Park is one of a tiny number of such places that are permanently dedicated to the public. These attributes are basic to what this coastal remnant means to visitors.

The sea is the dominant visual element of this coastal landscape, exerting its magnetism on all who come within its purview, drawing them to the shore, the meeting of land and water. Man's ageless perception of its magnetism is expressed in the words of Rachel Carson: "Like the sea itself, the shore fascinates us who return to it, the place of our dim ancestral beginnings. In the recurrent rhythms of tides and surf and in the varied life of the tide lines there is the obvious attraction of movement and change and beauty. There is also, I am convinced, a deeper fascination born of inner meaning and significance."

In this way, the spirit of the seashore can be said to derive from its cultural, emotional, and symbolic meanings as well as its visual appeal and beauty. The presence of huge accumulations of driftwood and the vista converging on the Point Arena lighthouse strengthen that spirit by the way in which they serve as reminders of the powerful forces of nature, the danger of the sea, and the safe harbor of land.

This is not to discount, however, the contributions of the physical appearance and aesthetic quality of these components in creating uniqueness. Unlike most Mendocino beaches that are small pockets of sand at the base of steep, rocky inlets, the sheer size and length of Manchester's beach make it special, as well as the extensive system of fragile grassy dunes backing it. The low dunes coming directly off the marine terraces make the beach approachable in a way that the vertical accessways of those rocky inlets can never be. Visually, the driftwood lends a distinctive character to the beach. And in such a low horizontal environment, the eye focuses on the unusual, in this case, the strong vertical element of the lighthouse in the distance.

Alder Creek Area Spirit of Place

The curving, winding approach along Alder Creek Road provides an intriguing entrance to the Alder Creek Area. The road hugs the eastward rim of a peninsular plateau extending northward on a diagonal course toward the sea — on the left, this empty, windswept grassy plateau, high above the creek and highway, contrasts with the quaint farm scene nestled in the verdant, irrigated valley far below. The plateau is an open, exposed landscape — the gentle curvature of this flat space reveals all; there is no place to hide. Yet standing above the world below, this limitless space evokes a sense of freedom: there is no one to observe you, and no restrictions, just you and the sky above. A barren, almost monotonous landscape — but here too is the attraction of the "edge", in this case the meeting of land and sky, the edge of the bluff as it meets the horizon, and disappears into space. And it is the rim of the plateau that attracts most visitors to the area. They are drawn to the edge, to the sound of the surf, a glimpse of the waves and the movement of water below, for the promise of what the unseen view may hold. From the park's interior, this high point exerts on visitors the ageless attraction of mountains — the desire to climb "just because it's there," to stand on top of the world, to see what can be seen.

The turnaround at the end of Alder Creek Road has a slightly more intimate feel. Below the main height of the bluff, yet still above the creek, this intermediate plateau sits at a focal point where the high coastal terraces on each side of the Alder Creek drainage come together in a narrow V-necked passage for the stream. From the highway, the lines of the landforms, the creek, Alder Creek road, the ridgelines, the floodplain, converge in a one-point perspective on this narrow gap, framing the view of the ocean beyond. It is here that the San Andreas fault leaves the land and passes into the sea. The significance of this area is not immediately clear to visitors. The potential interpretation of the power of the tectonic plate played against the placid, lazy farmland and old dunes in this zone can build a strong spirit of place.

Davis Area and Lake Davis Wetlands Spirit of Place

Perhaps of all the park's use areas, the Davis Area offers the greatest variety of experiences. It includes not only great open spaces of dunes and grassland, but the more intimate associations of the historic farmhouse, nearby riparian area, and a marsh complex, as well as the proximity of the pastoral landscape of the neighboring dairy farm. The approach along the ranch road from the highway through the farmhouse area toward the sea is a linear succession of open and closed vistas. One is drawn evermore forward by the road and tantalizing glimpses of what lies ahead. The road provides the transition between the area's diverse environments, opening up new vistas, and inviting personal exploration.

The entrance to the Davis Area is like the other park entrances in that one progresses from a rural environment to a primitive, undeveloped environment. Unlike the others, however, this entrance has a particular point which triggers a sense of entry — the Davis House. Framed on the north by a high plateau tilting diagonally southwest toward the sea, the house sits hidden behind a dense line of trees on the leeward side of a small V-shaped valley, lying west of and below the highway. Sloping to the south, this valley drains into a small creek blanketed in a thick swath of riparian vegetation at the foot of a long ridge which visually frames the southern side of the Davis Area.

From the highway, the ocean and far horizon fill the view. Approaching the Davis House, this expansive vista rapidly narrows as the park service road descends the grassy slope. The surrounding hills rise up to fill the horizon and enclose viewers on all sides. At the bottom of the slope, a dense and green canopy of trees block out any westward view beyond. It is through this green doorway that visitors enter into the secluded quiet of the farmyard. On the right, the looming presence of the Davis House, with its appearance of abandonment and neglect, sets a mysterious, almost secretive air. This is intensified by the absence of activity, the eery soughing of wind high in the trees, the deep shade that seems to damp the sound, the distant murmur of the ocean. To the left, the downward slope and dense riparian vegetation of the nearby creek; immediately ahead, foliage frames a view of a rustic outbuilding. Rounding a bend, sunlight beckons. Climbing the hillside toward a copse of trees, visitors follow the road, turning as it turns, toward the ocean, disappearing over the crest of the hill, drawn ever upward and onward. Promising a glimpse of something hidden, inviting exploration, the view finally converges on the highpoint of the hill. But on arrival, a new destination reveals itself; the distant ocean beckons beyond the shimmering expanse of grassland and dunes spread out below. The appeal of the downward journey draws visitors along the road. Slowing, stopping to breathe in

the salt air, the changing perspective of the landscape ever closer to the water, the stride lengthens as the long slope flattens out behind a line of tall trees that hide the sea. Reaching the solid green weight of these cypress, and their dense, cool shade, the perspective changes again. Here, a choice must be made: to the right, the road disappears around another broad curve, behind a higher hill; to the left, a trail winds its way through sand dunes to low-lying wetlands, and, as one hopes, to the sea beyond.

Taking the right fork, and moving not toward the ocean but parallel to it, the road forms the long, linear spine to a shallow basin of land lying between the back dunes and the grassy bank of the round hill to the right. In the distance, the view converges again on another upward climb, disappearing into the sky as the road vanishes over the crest of a hill toward the Alder Creek bluffs. There is again the urge to travel onward, to discover the destination at the end of the journey. Yet meandering along the road, there is no sea, just sky above. Eyes focus on the life in this enclosed landscape, the myriad of textures and colors, rough and soft, spiny, hairy, muted grays and gold, olive, ochre, brown. Ears tune finely to the silence, the stillness, the cricket chirrup, the whisper of wind through dry grass, the slither of shoe soles through sand, the murmur of surf just over the dune.

Elements that negatively affect the area's sense of place are relatively minor. The most significant perhaps is the looming presence of the neighbor's barn on the hillside, and its affect on the natural character and sense of solitude of the downward journey to the sea from the Davis House. The intersection of the service road with the beach trail is relatively unattractive. There are too many tire tracks in the loose sand, and the trees have been unnaturally pruned to create hollows for the environmental campsites. At the Davis House, the dilapidated condition of the house, with broken glass and boarded up doors and windows, detracts from the character of the area, so it appears unkempt and uncared for.

Kinney Area Spirit of Place

The entry to the Kinney Area presents a contrast to the generally open landscape along the highway approaching the park. Nearing the intersection with Kinney Lane, tall Monterey pines block coastal views, and it is through two parallel lines of shady evergreens that visitors eventually emerge into the sunny open grasslands that characterize much of the Kinney and Stoneboro Areas. Fenced private grazing lands are located on the left, the park's recovering grasslands on the right. From this point onward, several elements conspire to detract from the area's spirit of place. Immediately to the left as one enters this wide open space is the maintenance area, where metal structures and house trailers are visible through the exotic landscaping. Directly ahead, the straight-line approach down Kinney Lane visually terminates at a large industrial building surrounded by thick shrubby plantings and tall trees that block ocean views. Seen from a distance, they obscure the horizontal vista of dunes and grasslands. Future development of a tall microwave tower on the AT&T property will create an additional detracting visual element to the scene.

Away from Kinney Lane, visitor experiences of the use areas are pleasant. The layout of the campground in the dunes and low-profile buildings complement the visual setting. The low-density use is compatible with the natural character of landscape. However, the long line of trees forming a windbreak, though functional, is out of character for the area.

The Kinney Area has much potential for conveying the park's overall sense of place to arriving visitors. The open, horizontal landscape with its proximity to the low-lying dunes and wide beach forms the park's central core. The potential strength of this area's sense and spirit of place is severely weakened by the presence of the AT&T facility. Tall vertical

elements and bulky screens which obscure or distract from the open coastal vista are to be discouraged and eliminated where practical. A park circulation system in the Kinney Area should be designed to orient visitors toward focused vistas that enhance the visitor perception of the area, and away from the AT&T facility or other unattractive views.

Stoneboro Area and Brush Creek/Lagoon Lake Wetlands Spirit of Place

The Stoneboro Area is a key access point to experiencing the essence of this park's particular character. Visitors approach the area from the highway, curving and climbing steadily upward. Nose skyward, the road fills the visitors' foreground, parallel lines of wood rail fencing framing the asphalt. Leveling out, the perspective gradually broadens as the land to the north falls gently away, the grassy slopes dipping into the dense and verdant swale of the wetlands. The eye focuses westward toward the as yet unseen ocean. Then, the northerly fenceline gives way, and the view opens. For visitors, there is a sense of arrival, of expectations fulfilled, and also of interest piqued. In all directions, the grassland stretches on ahead, part of a larger and expansive environment, melding into dunes in the distance and the mysterious darkness of the wetlands to the northwest. Then beyond, the sea, the far horizon, and above, the all-encompassing sky. This is a low and horizontal landscape of grand scale, emphasizing the meeting of land and sky, and reminiscent of the "big sky country" of the Great Plains.

The scenic beauty of this area has obvious appeal. The journey along Stoneboro Road provides continually changing perspectives of the grassland interspersed with varying landscape elements: to the south, pastoral farmland and heavily vegetated residential inholdings; westward, the occasional vertical copse of trees, the undulating line of secondary dunes hiding the ocean; northward, the reflection of sun on water, the creek, the lagoon, the sea. For visitors, what is hidden becomes especially alluring, inviting personal exploration: the dense environs of the wetlands, the distant and isolated shoreline. And the diversity of these places produces a corresponding variety of creatures that inhabit them — some common, some unique, but all injecting excitement and intrigue into the scene. This is particularly apparent in the bird population of the wetlands that draws numerous birdwatchers.

However, aesthetically, the area does have drawbacks that detract from its spirit of place. In particular, the surfeit of roads in the area is unnatural and unattractive. Built to suburban subdivision standards, the cleared width of them seems especially out of place in this environment, the harsh grayness of them contrasting with the dun and olive tints of the sand and grasses. The residential inholdings also detract from the natural character of the area. Two of these are surrounded by thick swaths of exotic vegetation, whose green and lush appearance is out of character with the grassland. One private residence across from Lagoon Lake is built atop the dunes, its profile protruding into the air like a vertical beacon in this horizontal environment.

Even without these evidences of man's impact on the land, change in this area is almost inevitable. These grasslands exist due to the influence of past grazing activity. In the natural ecological succession, taller scrubs and trees will eventually replace the grasses. Trees are already establishing themselves, and when grown, will screen views of both the ocean and wetlands, and alter the open and horizontal aspect of much of the area. Change is likely to produce a landscape where the sense of place has more to do with the framing/concealing dynamics of the vertical trees than in the revealing nature of the open and horizontal elements.

PUBLIC OPINION

Although the public expressed many varying (even contradictory) viewpoints, there were a number of critical issues and ideas on which a clear consensus was reached. This consensus, which seemed to reflect an intuitive appreciation of the suitability of park resources, established the following direction for planning:

- The basic attraction of the park will continue to be its inherent natural, historic, and scenic features. Future efforts will be directed primarily at enhancing public appreciation and enjoyment of these resources.
- The diversity of park plant and animal life will be maintained.
- Nonnative plants will be controlled.
- To conserve important natural and recreational resources, erosion will be controlled whenever feasible.
- All threatened and endangered plant and animal species, as well as other sensitive natural resources, will be identified and protected.
- The park's important cultural resources will be identified, evaluated, preserved, managed, and interpreted.
- Park development and programs will respond to needs of special populations whenever possible.
- In order to maintain the primitive character of parklands, use and development will be dispersed rather than concentrated.
- Where appropriate, necessary development will be located in areas previously disturbed by human activity.
- All development will be planned with an emphasis on a variety of uses directly related to visitor enjoyment of the resource values for which the park was established.
- Every effort will be made to retain opportunities for appropriate recreational activities pursued in the park today. The variety of overnight experiences will be retained.
- Every effort will be made to balance the responsibility of meeting the needs of park visitors with the need to consider the interests of residents of adjacent properties and communities.

PLANNING ASSUMPTIONS: OPPORTUNITIES AND CONSTRAINTS

Based on an analysis of existing conditions, the following assumptions were made.

Recreation Values and Use

These planning assumptions are primarily opportunities — what draws visitors to the park and what about the park is valued by visitors. They represent existing and potential uses, activities, or development at the unit.

- The Mendocino coastline is one of Northern California's major tourist destination areas, and provides a diversity of tourist accommodations, leisure activities, and recreation opportunities of world, national, state, and local interest.

- Manchester State Park and its shoreline, dunes, coastal terraces, and wetlands are highly scenic. The open, undeveloped character of the landscape is a significant value, especially in contrast to the generally high cliffs and steep, rocky inlets typical of the Mendocino coast.

- Visitors are drawn by the park's quiet, beauty, natural character, and access to the shoreline. Use is concentrated on the resources of the four-mile stretch of beach. Informal day-use water and beach-oriented activities and passive ocean viewing predominate. Other popular recreation activities are also related directly to the unit's natural resources: hiking on the marine terraces and nature observation are popular activities. The park's high point, the Alder Creek bluffs, is a major destination for hikers; birdwatchers frequent the Brush Creek/Lagoon Lake and Lake Davis wetland areas.

- Visitors at the park unit are expected to be predominantly day users. Day use visitors outnumber campers nearly three to one.

- The primitive campground and environmental camping facilities are unique along the Mendocino coast, and offer an unusual opportunity to camp in a natural setting near the ocean. These facilities differ markedly from, but are complemented by, the adjacent KOA Kampground, which offers campground amenities and other overnight accommodations that the park does not.

- The major recreation facility deficiencies in Mendocino County are picnic tables and campsites (according to CORRP). However, the demand for camping south of the Navarro River is significantly less than for areas north. Located south of the major tourist attractions, and bypassed by the major tourist travel route, camping and day-use demand at Manchester State Park will probably always be considerably less than for park units north of Highway 128 and the Navarro River.

- Manchester State Park is one of the Mendocino coast's more lightly used state park units. The current low level of recreational development is generally adequate to meet both existing day and overnight use at the park. During the peak use season, the campgrounds are rarely full, and generally operate at less than full capacity. Park camping facilities will not need to be greatly increased to meet projected future need as long as the adjacent KOA Kampground continues in its planned expansion program.

- The Point Arena lighthouse is the scenic and visual focal point for views south from the park's beach and the Alder Creek bluffs. It offers public overnight accommodations, and houses a small museum. It is separated from the park by about one-half mile of privately-owned land.

- Considering the low level of demand and the park's proximity to the diverse recreation facilities and opportunities adjacent to the park, in the region, and in local communities, nearby recreation facilities and activities do not need to be duplicated in the park.

Physical Factors

For the most part, these assumptions represent planning constraints limiting the physical development, type, and location of facilities in the park. However, the physical attributes of some sites in the park may offer new planning opportunities for use or development.

- Use is concentrated where the beach is most accessible from the road or parking area: at the ends of Alder Creek Road and Kinney Lane. The parking area at Stoneboro Road is further from the beach, and does not receive as much use. The beach is also accessible from the service road that runs between the Davis House and Alder Creek Road, although there is no public vehicular access to that area.

- Lagoon Lake is one of the most significant wetland features in Mendocino County, attracting both bird and other animal life. Although almost all of the lagoon and its shoreline are in private ownership, park property abuts the lagoon on the west, south, and east sides of its perimeter, and overlooks the expanse of water with views also of the ocean, Brush Creek, and associated wetlands.

- The site of the abandoned Alder Creek houses is a level site providing panoramic views of the park and its setting south to the Point Arena lighthouse. Although the houses are not open to the public, the site is located along an unpaved park service road that connects to a public road.

- Parking areas at the ends of Kinney Lane and Alder Creek Road provide visual access to the shoreline. Elsewhere, topography blocks coastal views from the highway.

- The popularity of the beach as the major park use area indicates that visitor use facilities should be located in close proximity. However, vehicular access to the beach itself exists only at Alder Creek. Attempts to develop vehicular or handicapped access and recreation development here or elsewhere on the beach or near the water would be extremely difficult, expensive, and environmentally damaging due to physical constraints, resource sensitivities, and ownership patterns.

- The horizontal profile of the land and low-lying vegetation exposes most of the park to view and wind. In general, there are few developable sites in the park where trees or landforms provide screening or windbreaks. Exceptions include existing developed sites (the Kinney group camp and family campground, the environmental campsites, the Davis House) screened by non-native vegetation whose height and mass are not in keeping with the natural character of the landscape. Stands of mature and immature trees are scattered on both Hunter and Kinney Terraces, and will eventually create some screening and less exposed areas. In some other locations, the sand dunes are high enough to provide only small screened pockets on their leeward sides.

- Due to physical limitations and resource sensitivities, only two areas in addition to existing use areas are suitable for large-scale, intensive recreation development: the Kinney and Hunter Terrace Resource Management Zones (shown on the Resource Management Zones Map in the **RESOURCE ELEMENT**). However, the Hunter Terrace area is not close to the beach, and both areas are adjacent to sensitive wetland and other habitat areas that need to be protected from intensive visitor use.

- For all the above reasons, certain recreation generally will not be feasible, for example, beach-front parking and camping, boat-launch areas, and direct handicapped access to the water.

- The park's Arena Rock Marine Natural Preserve, located two miles offshore, is accessible only by boat. The lack of both existing boat-launch facilities and the potential for developing them at the park will mean that visitors must continue to launch their vessels elsewhere.

- Considering the physical limitations and sensitivity of the resources, the capacity of the land for recreation use is low to moderate.

- In general, the existing campground facilities are in good condition, and do not need major upgrading.

Access and Circulation

These assumptions also represent planning constraints.

- Because ocean frontage is premium for recreation purposes, and owing to land ownership patterns, resource sensitivities, and constraints, the potential for an internal park circulation system linking use areas is non-existent; in most instances, to go from one recreation use area to another by motor vehicle, one must leave and re-enter the park. Therefore, many areas of the unit simply have no potential for auto access. Access to existing use areas will continue to be over existing county roads, with Highway 1 as the connector between them.

Legal Constraints

- The presence of several private inholdings in the Stoneboro Area, as well as one at the end of Alder Creek Road, will require that access be available to them through the park.

- Because county roads to and in the park are public rights-of-way, park staff has little control of public access into the park.

- Of the three existing beach access parking areas, only the one at Kinney Lane is in park ownership. The parking area at Stoneboro Road is privately owned; the turnaround and beach trail are in the county road right-of-way. The Department of Parks and Recreation cannot make improvements on land in which it has no legal interest.

LAND USE PROBLEMS AND ISSUES

During the planning process, the planning team identified several land use issues and concerns that must be resolved for effective park management. Major issues identified include the following items:

Access and Circulation Problems and Issues

- **County concern about potential congestion.**
  The county is concerned about any development that will substantially increase traffic on Highway 1. In addition, park visitors and neighbors share use of the county roads that provide access to the park, and would be affected by any substantial increases in traffic on these roads. Alder Creek Road, especially, is a low-standard road with a steep drop-off on one side. Nevertheless, the Mendocino County Coastal Element requires that this road be signed on Highway 1 as a coastal access point.

- **Inadequate highway intersections.**
  Highway 1 intersections with the county roads that provide access to the park are not adequate. At current levels of use, Caltrans considers that Highway 1 improvements such as acceleration/deceleration lanes and left-turn pocket lanes are desirable at the intersections with both Alder Creek Road and Kinney Lane. In addition, sight distance for northbound traffic onto the highway from Alder Creek Road does not meet Caltrans standards. The intersection of Highway 1 and the park service road to the Davis House is not adequate for public access. The visibility is poor for vehicles exiting the park because the road grade drops off sharply from the highway.

- **Lack of means to regulate visitor access, resulting in operational problems and resource destruction.**
  Separate accesses and lack of an internal circulation system isolate the park's use areas, hampering effective park management. Combined with lack of staffed entrance stations at each of the different access points, these conditions stretch the resources of the park's staff, making it difficult for staff to patrol, to monitor or regulate inappropriate visitor use, to prevent resource damage, and to provide for visitor safety. Unfortunately, it is not feasible or efficient to provide a staffed entrance station at each of the park's access points.

- **Lack of accessibility to shoreline and park use facilities for special populations.**
  Programs and facilities for special populations are inadequate; the park has no facilities or use areas that provide for access by the disabled. Current departmental policy requires that planning and design of new park facilities consider full accessibility for the disabled. A constituency of local and Mendocino County residents has actively lobbied for disabled-accessible trails and park facilities. In addition, Manchester State Park is one of the few locations in Mendocino County that potentially has the capability of providing beach access for mobility-impaired individuals.

- **Proliferation of beach access trails in the Kinney Area leading to erosion and potential impacts on endangered mountain beaver habitat.**
  Throughout the dunes, "volunteer" beach access trails have damaged vegetation, and are contributing to erosion and loss of existing or potential wildlife habitat. The Kinney Area, especially, suffers from a proliferation of volunteer beach trails that emanate from the parking lot and campground. The configuration of the parking area stretched out along the dunes leads visitors to ignore the trail signs, and find their own way to the beach. In the campground, lack of a designated beach access trail and trail signs has resulted in creation of several trails through endangered mountain beaver habitat areas.

Seashore Area Issues

- **Inadequate marine resource protection.**
  Problems in the seashore area are related primarily to loss or destruction of marine resources through improper or illegal collection and use.

Wetland Areas Problems and Issues

- **Deterioration of wetland areas.**
  Statewide, wetland areas are on the decline, and concerted efforts are being made on the federal, state, and local level to encourage protection and slow the deterioration and disappearance of wetland areas. Wetland areas at Manchester are of significant value. Nevertheless, they have been subjected to a number of conditions leading to their deterioration, not just from improper visitor use, but primarily as a result of actions occurring on adjacent or upstream private property.

- **Trail to environmental camps adversely affecting wetlands.**
  The lengthy trail to the environmental campsites from Kinney Lane has adverse effects on vegetation and wildlife habitat in the Lake Davis vicinity because visitors attempt to short-cut through this area to avoid sandy portions of the trail through the dunes.

- **Lack of interpretation and visitor use facilities to meet visitor interest and educate the public to resource values.**
  The potential for various kinds of educational and interpretive use of the wetlands is not being met because of the absence of trails and interpretive facilities. With the exception of a portion of the environmental camp trail that passes along the periphery of Lake Davis, no public facilities are provided to facilitate visitor use of the wetlands; the only other existing trails are located on privately owned land. Yet the Lake Davis and Brush Creek/Lagoon Lake wetlands are of great interest to birdwatchers, school groups, nature observers, and photographers, and have the potential to attract even more use. The lack of designated trail routes and interpretation has led to trampling of vegetation and other inappropriate use of the wetland areas.

Alder Creek Area Problems and Issues

- **Inadequate parking.**
  The parking provided by the county at the end of Alder Creek Road is inadequate to accommodate either existing or projected future use. In addition, parking along the shoulder of the road compromises pedestrian safety and destroys vegetation, leading to erosion along the bluff face. The lack of guardrails or perimeter barriers along the shoulder or at the turnaround makes parking perilous. Rectifying problems in this area is complicated by the fact that Alder Creek Road is a county road, over which the department has no legal jurisdiction. The lack of legal interest in the land would prevent DPR from making improvements to the road or the parking at the turnaround.

- **Negative impact of parking on coastal views and spirit of place.**
  Parked cars along Alder Creek Road and at the turnaround detract from coastal views as seen from Highway 1. The approach to the beach along a line of parked cars interferes with the potential experience of the area's sense of place.

- **Trail erosion.**
  Water seepage from the hillside above the spur road/beach trail is causing erosion, and leaves the lower portion of the road wet and muddy. Use of the hillsides to detour around wet areas accelerates erosion, exacerbated by cars parking along the spur road.

- **Vehicle trespass on beach.**
  Placement of the existing gate at the end of Alder Creek Road does not control vehicle trespass onto the beach, and illegal OHV use has damaged the sand dunes.

- **Inadequate and deteriorating visitor use facilities.**
  In addition to the lack of adequate parking, the turnaround surface and spur road/beach access trail are all deteriorating, and need attention. No water or sanitary facilities are provided, which means that the nearest available facilities are at Kinney Lane, more than two miles away.

- **Lack of jurisdiction over Alder Creek Road, limiting the department's ability to resolve the above problems.**
  The lack of ownership and control over access and the existing beach parking area at Alder Creek Road affects potential solutions to the above problems. As a county road, the public has unrestricted access; also, the owner of the private inholding at the end of the road has legal access to his property over the road. DPR has no jurisdiction to control use or limit access over the road, and without ownership, cannot make improvements to it.

- **Potentially hazardous houses on the bluff and the conflict between park staff and the county over future disposition of them.**
  The county coastal element requires that the houses on the Alder Creek blufftop be retained for park use. However, park staff recognizes these houses as an attractive nuisance, and that their presence adversely affects the park's scenic features and natural resources and processes. Over a period of years, vandals have gutted and damaged the houses, leaving the interiors exposed to the elements. The structures have deteriorated to the point where they have become potential hazards to the public. The costs to rehabilitate these buildings would be high, and the department has no legitimate justification for retaining them. These houses existed when

the land base was acquired for park purposes, but under current departmental resource protection directives, these houses could not be built. Their location does not conform to departmental coastal erosion policy guidelines and setback restrictions. They exist within the known and potential habitat of the endangered mountain beaver and the rare Mendocino coast Indian paintbrush. In addition, seen from the south, the houses interrupt the view and detract from the character of this stretch of park as representative of California's untouched coastline.

Davis Area Problems and Issues

- **Existing parking and trail access for environmental camps limiting camping use.** Visitor use of the environmental campsites is unnecessarily limited by inadequate trail and informational signing, and the length and condition of the trail to the campsites from the parking area at Kinney Lane. The campsites also lack a year-round source of water.

- **Deterioration of the Davis House.** Concerns about the Davis House, as a cultural resource, are related to deterioration of the structure and the need for management decisions on its use or disposition; its potential for adaptive use; and inadequate interpretation due to the condition of the structure.

- **Lack of public access and visitor use facilities.** Visitor use and enjoyment of the Davis Area is unnecessarily restricted due to lack of visitor access and potential visitor uses and interpretation not being realized there.

Kinney Area Problems and Issues

- **Lack of park entry/visitor information and interpretive/educational facilities.** Essentially, the park lacks an entry area. For visitors, this means that there is no transition from the "real" world to the park experience, no orientation to the park, and no centralized location to go to for assistance or information that would ordinarily be provided at an entrance station. Many visitors are unaware that the Stoneboro and Alder Creek areas exist, or are available for public use. In general, appropriate visitor use and enjoyment of the park is limited because of inadequate information, orientation, and signage to facilitate approved park uses, and the potential for interpretive programs or services is not being realized.

- **Inadequacy of the existing contact station.** Due to its location and lack of an internal park road connecting the campground and beach use area, the Kinney Area contact station can be used only for campground registration, not for contact with the beach users who are the majority of the park's visitors.

- **Inadequacy of the park office.** Effective park management is hampered because the park office facilities for administrative staff are inadequate and poorly located to effectively and efficiently fulfill their responsibilities. The existing park office is considered too small to accommodate existing functions. In addition, the office is located out of the main park traffic flow, and is not easily identifiable or accessible to the public.

- **The negative impact of Kinney Lane alignment and the AT&T facility on the park experience and spirit of place.**
  Kinney Lane, a county road paralleling the park boundary, is a long, straight stretch of asphalt that negatively affects park visitors' entry experiences. Visually, the AT&T facility is the unattractive focal point at the end of the road, a large and looming bulk surrounded by exotic vegetation, blocking ocean views, and totally out of character with the exposed and horizontal landscape and the natural character of the park's spirit of place. A proposed microwave tower will contribute another incompatible bulky, vertical element to the landscape.

- **The demand for additional camping opportunities and potential competition between park and the adjacent KOA.**
  Camping is in high demand in Mendocino County, especially along the coast, and population and recreation growth trends indicate that the demand for camping opportunities will continue to grow in Mendocino County. Manchester State Park might be expected to play a role in helping to satisfy that demand by providing additional camping opportunities, and through upgrading of the existing primitive facilities to conventional campground standards. However, this would put the park in direct competition with the adjacent KOA Kampground. In general, state park facilities are not intended to compete with nearby private enterprise. Currently, the park's primitive facilities serve as an alternative to KOA's highly developed ones. In addition, many park visitors have indicated that the park's primitive facilities are what attracts them to the park.

- **The inadequacy of beach access parking and visitor use facilities in meeting future demand.**
  Based on growth trends, day use visitation at Manchester State Park is expected to increase the demand for parking at the Kinney beach parking area beyond the capacity of the existing parking and sanitary facilities to accommodate.

- **Inadequate and poorly sited sanitary facilities.**
  Visitor use and enjoyment of the beach parking area is affected by the condition and placement of the visually obtrusive pit toilets on the north end of the parking area.

- **The impact of visitor use and existing facilities on the endangered mountain beaver habitat.**
  The potential exists for adverse effect on the endangered mountain beaver habitat by continued use of portions of the Kinney Lane campground and beach parking area. Campsites at the western edge of the campground infringe on endangered mountain beaver habitat, and burrows are visible between the sites and along the main trail to the beach. The impact of continued visitor use and vehicle parking on the habitat and distribution of the mountain beaver is not known, and will require observation and on-site monitoring to assess, as discussed in the Resource Element. Eventually, however, some of the facilities may need to be relocated.

- **Potential overcrowding at the Kinney beach access area as a result of inadequate facilities at the park's other beach access areas.**
  Beach use is concentrated at the end of the trails from the three beach parking areas, but is especially concentrated near the Kinney beach access parking area. The ease of access and proximity to both the park and the KOA Kampground

accounts for a great deal of its attraction, but the inadequacy of parking and lack of sanitary facilities at the other beach access areas also affect the distribution of beach use. In the Kinney Area, the trend toward increased park visitation has the potential to accelerate resource deterioration in the endangered mountain beaver habitat areas, and to create undesirable crowding, something many visitors have come to escape.

- **Visitor dissatisfaction with the campground's sanitary facilities.**
  Visitor enjoyment of the campground and group camp is affected by use and smell of pit toilets. Campground users have expressed a preference for flush toilets.

- **Deterioration of the maintenance building.**
  Maintenance responsibilities are hampered by the condition of the existing structure, an old metal quonset hut which is deteriorating due to age, coastal climatic conditions, and type of construction.

- **The negative impact of the maintenance area on the park entry experience and spirit of place.**
  The maintenance/employee residence area is poorly screened. In addition, exotic plants have been used that are not in keeping with the natural character of the park.

Stoneboro Area Problems and Issues

- **Scenic impacts and operational and resource management problems resulting from proliferation of non-park roads, unregulated access, and lack of departmental jurisdiction.**
  The necessity of keeping public roads open to serve the private inholdings in the Stoneboro Area contributes to park and resource management problems in this area. Illegal OHV activity on the beach, unauthorized vehicular access to the beach, removal of driftwood, and damage to sensitive wetland features and grasslands occur as a result of access over non-park lands (Stoneboro Road and the other subdivision streets) in parklands. In addition, the presence of so many non-park roads scars the landscape, and displaces natural habitat. "Paper" streets and portions of existing roads are not required for either access to private inholdings, or to the park. The park staff has no jurisdiction to restrict traffic on these county roads, which contributes to the difficulty in preventing illegal access and resource damage, and controlling fires. The traditional means of visitor control and resource protection are either inappropriate or not feasible: the lack of legal interest prevents installation of a gate or manned entrance station; park boundary fences or barriers along all roads would be visually obtrusive and inordinately expensive; sufficient park staffing for 24-hour monitoring and patrol of the area is too costly.

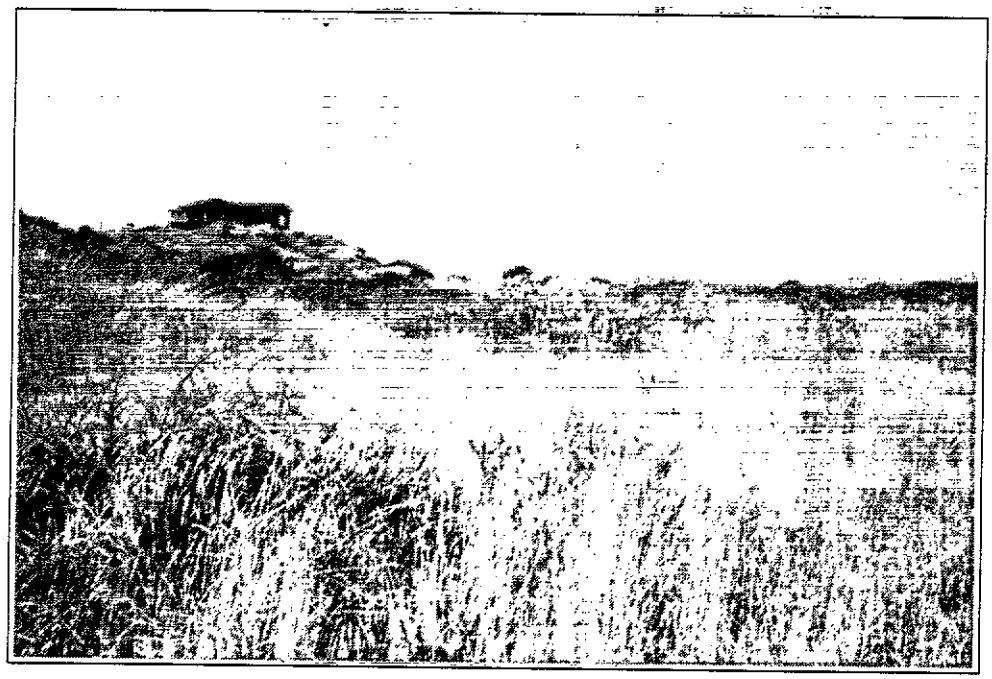
- **Future use of the privately owned parking area not secure.**
  The area now used for parking is not in park ownership. Other than the history of past use, park visitors have no recognized legal recognized right to continue using this private property for parking.

- **The unattractive appearance of the existing parking area.**
  The present appearance and condition of the existing parking area detracts from the location's spirit of place.

- **Lack of sanitary facilities.**
  Appropriate visitor use is unnecessarily limited because of inadequate restroom facilities.

Spirit of Place Concerns

- **Potential future changes on adjacent private lands may affect the park's spirit of place.**
  The park's spirit of place is dependent to a great degree on the pastoral character of surrounding private agricultural lands. Changes in use or development have the potential to negatively affect the park's character and aesthetic views and appeal. However, DPR has no control over any changes to adjacent lands which might result from sale or development.



The open, horizontal character of the landscape and unobstructed coastal views leave the park vulnerable to visually intrusive development on adjacent lands.

THE LAND USE PLAN

The intent of this section of the Land Use Element is to develop a unified concept for perpetuating the park's spirit of place, while providing for appropriate public use. In this concept will be a solution to the previously identified issues and problems confronting the park. The plan begins with establishment of goals and objectives, consideration of several alternative solutions (described in **APPENDIX F**), and ends in presentation of an overall concept the planning team considers will best serve the park's purpose.

LAND USE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The following goals and objectives are not themselves solutions, but rather criteria for measuring the success of the final plan — where we want to be once the plan has been implemented.

Access and Circulation Goals and Objectives

Goal: *Improve vehicular access routes to the park; bring hazardous or substandard roads up to standards justified by their use.*

Objectives:

- Work with Caltrans and the county to make Highway 1 improvements at county roads that provide access to the park.
- Work with the county to eliminate parking along Alder Creek Road, and to control parking at the turnaround. Provide adequate off-street parking to serve this beach access point.
- Work with the county to determine the appropriate ownership and control of Alder Creek Road, Kinney Lane, and Stoneboro Road.

Goal: *Minimize the impact of access and circulation systems and facilities on the parklands.*

Objectives:

- Eliminate erosion problems on access trails.
- Remove existing roads and rights-of-way not necessary for private property access. Restore to a natural condition where appropriate.
- Remove volunteer trails, and limit beach access to designated trail routes.
- Throughout the park, remove trails not necessary for internal park circulation, and restore to a natural condition.
- Limit vehicular access points to strategic key locations: from the existing county roads that access the park, and at the Davis House.
- Minimize new road construction by using existing roads and trails where possible for internal park circulation; use the existing park service road for new public vehicular access to the Davis Area.
- Design new roads as scenic parkways, emphasizing views from the road, and providing for interpretive or scenic turnouts; site them for minimum environmental impact and visibility.
- Designate trails through signing, and confine visitors on trails through fragile areas by using railings, sand mats, elevated boardwalks, or other special construction techniques.

Goal: *Provide access for the disabled in development or rehabilitation of park facilities and use areas whenever possible.*

Objectives:

- Design all new structures and sanitary facilities as handicapped-accessible.
- Provide handicapped parking in close proximity to visitor use areas and facilities.
- Retrofit existing facilities and use areas to accommodate the handicapped, where handicapped access to them is feasible.

Seashore Area Goals and Objectives

Goal: *Provide additional protection for the marine environment and coastal views.*

Objectives:

- Retain the Arena Rock Marine Natural Preserve classification.
- Designate the park as a part of the Mendocino Coast State Seashore.
- Work with local and regional planning agencies and private entities to eliminate/minimize structures and landscaping that interfere with unobstructed coastal views.

Wetland Areas Goals and Objectives

Goal: *Provide for public enjoyment and appreciation of wetland areas while protecting sensitive wetland resources and values.*

Objectives:

- Provide for indirect use of the Brush Creek/Lagoon Lake wetlands.
- Provide appropriate trail access to the wetlands.
- Provide interpretive facilities directed toward understanding of wetland/riparian ecosystems.
- Relocate/eliminate inappropriate trails or public use that is adversely affecting wetlands.

Alder Creek Area Goals and Objectives

Goal: *Improve visitor use facilities necessary to support beach access and ocean viewing; ensure visitor safety.*

Objectives:

- Provide adequate and safe parking and sanitary facilities.
- Work with the county to assume jurisdiction over Alder Creek Road necessary for making improvements.
- Improve visitor safety at the turnaround.
- Eliminate potential visitor hazards on the blufftop.
- Provide public access to the bluff-top for day use and ocean viewing in keeping with the area's spirit of place.

Goal: *Protect the Highway 1 viewshed.*

Objectives:

- Minimize the visual impacts of parking, visitor use, and visitor use facilities along Alder Creek Road and the plateau, as seen from the highway.

Goal: *Protect fragile resources.*
Objectives:
- Control vehicle trespass onto the beach.
- Avoid endangered mountain beaver habitat when siting visitor use facilities.
- Provide pedestrian access to use areas via trail connections along existing roads, rather than creating new trails through the mountain beaver habitat.
- Consider acquisition of private property inholdings from willing sellers.

Davis Area Goals and Objectives

Goal: *Protect historic resources.*
Objectives:
- Stabilize the abandoned farmhouse.
- Provide appropriate interpretation of historic values.

Goal: *Encourage increased use of the beach to help distribute beach use and minimize the impacts of heavy use at the Kinney Area.*
Objective:
- Enhance beach access at the Davis Area by providing new public vehicular access and parking.

Goal: *Provide adequate facilities to support and enhance visitor use of the Davis House, Lake Davis Wetlands Area, environmental campsites, and the beach.*
Objectives:
- Provide public vehicular access to the Davis Area.
- Provide day use and parking facilities in proximity to the Davis House.
- Provide interpretation of the wetlands area.
- Use existing roads and trails to provide pedestrian circulation through the Davis Area.

Goal: *Protect the Highway 1 viewshed.*
Objectives:
- Minimize the impact of new parking and visitor use facilities through siting and additional screening.

Kinney Area Goals and Objectives

Goal: *Maximize the safe, functional, and orderly management of the park environment for enjoyment by visitors and protection of the resources. Provide orientation information, reduce illegal park activities and use, and minimize resource damage by park visitors.*
Objectives:
- Implement a visitor information and control system. Provide a major park entrance facility.
- Work with the county to assume jurisdiction over Kinney Lane in the park.
- Develop a vehicular circulation system that allows for regulation of both day and overnight users.
- Provide a strategically located and adequate park office.
- Institute interpretive programs directed toward low-impact use of fragile resource areas and understanding of the park's significant resources.

Goal: *Retain the open and natural landscape character.*

Objectives:

- Improve the visitor experience and views from Kinney Lane, minimizing views of the AT&T facility.
- Maintain the low density and semiprimitive quality of the visitor use facilities.
- Enhance the appearance of the beach access parking area, and minimize views of sanitary facilities.
- Enhance the appearance and views of the maintenance/employee residence area.
- Remove or relocate visually obtrusive or unnecessary facilities.
- Work with local and regional planning agencies to ensure that existing adjacent agricultural lands retain their pastoral character.
- Enhance the viewshed through park circulation, design and facility layout and landscaping to minimize the negative visual affect of existing and future AT&T facilities.

Goal: *Minimize the impact of visitor use, facilities, and development on fragile or sensitive natural resources.*

Objectives:

- Retain visitor use areas at existing sites, if possible, to avoid impacts on new sites.
- Remove or relocate existing trails, beach access parking, and camping facilities that prove to negatively affect the endangered mountain beaver habitat. Work with KOA management to define trails into the park from KOA.
- Avoid development of new facilities near known sensitive animal populations and/or habitats.
- Delineate parking areas, and provide physical barriers to minimize visitor impacts on dunes at the beach access area.

Goal: *Retain and enhance resource-related visitor activities and facilities; minimize competition between park and adjacent campground facilities.*

Objectives:

- Provide for expansion of the family campground to extend this type of camping to additional visitors; maintain the family and group camping areas as semiprimitive facilities.
- Provide for expansion of the beach access parking area, and upgrade facilities to meet future visitor needs.
- Expand day use opportunities by increasing picnicking facilities.
- Rectify problems at the campfire center, and provide for disabled access.

Goal: *Increase distribution of visitor use along the park's shoreline to minimize impacts of visitor use in any one area; ameliorate impacts of visitor use on the beach access at the Kinney Area.*

Objective:

- Encourage increased use of other beach access areas by enhancing vehicular access, parking, trails, and day use facilities at the Stoneboro and Alder Creek Areas; open up beach access at the Davis Area by providing new vehicular access and parking facilities.

Goal: *Retain and enhance facilities that are essential to operation of the park.*
Objectives:
- Provide an adequately-sized park office to meet the needs of increased operational responsibilities and functions.
- Retain employee housing to provide the capability of 24-hour park supervision.
- Provide a functionally adequate and easy-to-maintain shop/maintenance building.

Stoneboro Area Goals and Objectives

Goal: *Mitigate negative impacts on the area's operations and spirit of place.*
Objectives:
- Acquire inholdings from willing sellers; restore to a natural condition where appropriate.

Goal: *Ensure continued public access to the beach in the Stoneboro Area, and facilitate visitor use of the area.*
Objectives:
- Provide a permanent site for beach access parking for park visitors through acquisition of the existing park area, or development at a nearby new site.
- Supply adequate and attractive day use facilities such as parking, sanitary, and picnic facilities.

Goal: *Provide adequate visitor use facilities to support access to the Brush Creek/ Lagoon Lake wetlands, while minimizing the impacts of visitors and vehicles adjacent to the wetlands.*
Objectives:
- Develop a pedestrian connection between the beach access area and the proposed lagoon overlooks.
- Provide parking facilities and trail access to overlooks in the wetland areas carefully sited to avoid negative impacts on the endangered mountain beaver habitat.

Utilities Goals and Objectives

Goal: Upgrade utilities as necessary to meet visitor and park needs and state and local standards.
Objectives:
- Ensure an adequate water supply and sewage treatment and disposal at use areas in the park.

LAND USE CONCEPTS

Conceptual Overview

With its vast expanse of sea and sky, extensive dunes, broad beaches, open grasslands, low scrub, and more intimate wetlands and streams, Manchester State Park can offer visitors an experience that is spiritually uplifting and refreshing. Concepts of land use at this park are intended to ensure visitors' experiences by maintaining and strengthening the primitive and expansive character of park's the spirit of place.

The natural landscape, representing most of the park, does not need much more than careful preservation. Some areas will remain as a natural expression of the ever-changing environment, insulated from human impact to the degree that careful use will permit. A few of these areas possess such outstanding values that they demand classification as natural preserves — granting special protection and recognition to their outstanding components. The Lake Davis and Brush Creek/Lagoon Lake wetlands are two of these areas. In addition, the beach and marine environment will become part of the Mendocino Coast State Seashore. In contrast, other areas will require active management to either alter or maintain desired ecological and esthetic relationships. The basic purpose for such manipulation will be to restore and preserve the mosaic of ecosystems representative of those that were present in pre-Euroamerican times. The concept is of dynamic rather than static management, and envisions use of man-directed substitutes for certain arrested natural processes for long-range ecological benefits.

Long-established visitor use patterns — that is, how people move through the park and use its resources — will not change significantly. Dispersed recreational access and development will be key to maintaining the park's spirit of place. The park displays a fairly atypical coastal state park structure, being a large expanse of natural landscape, with scattered concentrations of use and development. Distribution of use eliminates both the impacts of concentrated use in any one area and undesirable crowding, something many people have come to Manchester to escape. Located at the ends of the three county roads that provide access to the northern, southern, and central portions of the park, and clustered at the edges of the dunes, the three major access spots are proposed to remain, and will continue to represent the focus of park use. In addition, a proposed fourth public park access will be created, centered at the Davis Area.

Visitors will be encouraged to leave their automobiles so they and others can more fully experience nature, without the distraction of traffic and the psychological protection of the automobile as an isolation chamber. They should be free to respond to what they perceive in their own individual ways — to absorb the sights, the colors, the sounds, the silence, and the feelings that uniquely belong to Manchester State Park. Park circulation systems and trails will provide guidance without regimentation. Those who wish may get away from civilization almost completely by hiking the coastal terraces, the beach, and exploring the wetlands and streams.

The complete park circulation system will involve both the park's interior circulation system of trails and minimal roads, and an exterior system on Highway 1 and county roads outside the park. The exterior system will provide visitor access to private enterprise facilities for food and accommodations located in local communities outside the park, as well as providing access and egress between the various park areas. The interior system will enable visitors to participate in a variety of visual,

interpretive, and recreational experiences, and will provide opportunities primarily for hiking and walking, rather than automobile touring. Existing roads and trails throughout the park will be used to accommodate the interior circulation systems, and in some cases, portions of county roads in the park may be acquired to provide appropriate access or clarify circulation patterns.

Much of the park will be accessible by trails and paths, and the Coast Trail will run the entire length of the park. It is hoped that the trail will be expanded into a Pacific Coast Trail, providing public pedestrian access not only along the county's coastline, as envisioned by the Mendocino County Coastal Element, but serving as a counterpart of the Pacific Crest Trail, running the length of the entire state.

Facilities, recreational opportunities, and programs for special populations will be provided throughout the park. An especially high priority is access to the beach for physically disabled people. Along the Mendocino coast, high bluffs and steep inclines make access to the ocean impossible for the disabled at most public coastal access points. Manchester State Park is one of the few state park locations south of the Navarro River where wheelchair access is even potentially feasible. A visual connection to the ocean can be provided for the disabled on the Alder Creek bluffs and at the Alder Creek turnaround, and the shoreline at Kinney Lane has the potential to provide physical beach access.

With a well-balanced system of access, recreation at Manchester State Park essentially does and will "just happen." So will education and interpretation — eventually — but perhaps not as soon and effectively as needed. It seems appropriate, then, that any visitor facilities proposed should function primarily to help visitors see, understand, and appreciate this compelling example of the values that are so important to people's emotional and spiritual "re-creation." Development in the park will be limited to that necessary to protect the resource, to facilitate visitor use and implementation of interpretive themes, and to provide essential administrative and maintenance facilities. Facilities envisioned by the plan will be specifically designed to feature their environmental settings, while buffering the effects of human activities.

The most significant proposals in terms of physical change in the park involve enhancement of the Kinney Area as the primary park entry point, with several means of informing and orienting park visitors and development of the park's three existing use areas, and an additional site as dispersed "activity" centers. These sites will each feature aspects of the park's natural environment or significant cultural resource. The extreme northern area, Alder Creek, will take advantage of its location as the park's high point for observing the coastline, and the effects of coastal dynamics and geologic forces. The Davis Area, extending from the environmental campsites to the Lake Davis wetlands, will focus on interpretation of the historic Davis House and the adjacent wetlands. The Stoneboro Area, extending from the Brush Creek/Lagoon Lake wetlands to the southernmost park boundary, will be used to present themes related to the dunes, wetlands, and the mosaic coastal scrub and prairie. Linking all of these areas is the park's primary visitor attraction, the seashore. Here, the emphasis will be on the ocean and marine environment, providing both passive and active visitor experiences.

This concept for use and interpretation will allow visitors to get an impression of each of Manchester State Park's unique geographic areas. At each activity center or site, park users will be able to get specific information about features and activities in that area, and some of the sites will serve as trailheads or "jumping-off points" for further exploration of the park.

The Kinney Area will fill an identified need in orienting visitors to the park. There, an orientation/information system will be devised to overcome the disorientation that visitors sometimes experience because of the park's long, narrow configuration, separate accesses, and resulting segmentation. People will be contacted early in their visits and told about the location of recreational opportunities in the park, and comprehensive information will also be distributed.

Camping facilities will not be offered solely for the comfort and convenience of visitors. This service is furnished by private development outside the park boundaries. The camping concept is to provide visitors with a unique experience along the coast — a feeling of oneness with nature, and an intensity of environmental awareness. Camping improvements proposed are only those that will enhance this experience, or that will make this experience available to an increased number of visitors. Both the group camp and the primitive campground are proposed to remain, not as a convenience for people passing through the area, but because the activity of these particular types of camping is considered an important aspect of a park experience here — providing an extension of the daytime experience, and the means for broader contact with the park's resources. In addition, the special camping needs of organized groups must be recognized, and use of the 40-person group camp will continue.

These three types of camping experiences are designed to complement rather than compete with the camping opportunities offered by the adjacent KOA Kampground. The services and accommodations provided outside the park will be essential to visitors' personal comfort. In the park, the continued focus on primitive camping is not only more consistent with the park's spirit of place, but provides a maximum contrast to the more concentrated and refined facilities outside the park, thus easing competition.

General Land Use Concepts

Emphasize landscape preservation and visual protection.

- Maximize open space.
  1. Recreation use to be low density: for every acre of recreation development, including roads and trails, there will be a minimum of 75 acres of open space.
  2. Disperse development and beach access to avoid overcrowding and the environmental and visual impacts of concentrated heavy use in any one area.
  3. Integrate facility developments into the environment through use of appropriate siting techniques, scale, materials, and color. Locate new development and facilities close to the periphery of the park and in areas most accessible to vehicles, adjacent to existing development, or along margins of scenic or open areas where existing vegetation, landforms, or screening will minimize visual impacts.
  4. Remove unnecessary roads, trails, and facilities.
- Remove visually intrusive facilities.
  1. Place new and existing utility lines underground, where appropriate.
- Emphasize preservation of fragile natural areas: the wetlands, dunes, the marine environment, and sensitive species habitat areas.
  1. Establish additional protection for these areas through natural preserve status or other management techniques.

2. Orient recreation use and development to ecosystems with the least resource sensitivities, i.e., generally beach and grassland areas.
- Protect the Davis House as a resource of historic importance.

Emphasize recreation uses which are compatible with natural values and the park's spirit of place (generally low-density, non-intensive, low-noise, low-technology recreation uses).
- Provide for continuation of existing recreation uses such as hiking, birdwatching, beachcombing, fishing, picnicking, and primitive camping.
- Provide only those visitor use facilities related directly to understanding and enjoyment of the park's resources, e.g., trails, primitive campsites. Avoid development of facilities that are attractions in themselves.
- Institute interpretive programs and facilities directed toward low-impact use of fragile resource areas and understanding of wetland and riparian ecosystems.

Disperse recreation use within the park and along the shoreline.
- Attract visitors to low-use areas by area enhancement.
  1. Enhance (and acquire if necessary) the beach access areas at Stoneboro and Alder Creek Roads.
  2. Relocate parking for the environmental campsites to the Davis Area.
- Create new use areas by providing more beach access.
  1. Develop public vehicular access to the Davis Area, and provide facilities for visitor use.
- Provide facilities to support visitor access and viewing of wetland areas.

Access and Circulation Concepts

Encourage pedestrian exploration of the park; de-emphasize the role of the automobile.
- Encourage alternative modes of access to the park.
  1. Cooperate with local transit systems by providing pedestrian connections to the park from the highway.
  2. Encourage local government agencies to continue to plan and implement hiking and bicycle trail systems connecting to the park.
  3. Provide additional hike-in/bike-in sites for bicyclists and pedestrians who arrive at the park without autos.
- Encourage alternative modes of circulation in the park.
  1. Develop new park trails where possible to connect park use areas.
  2. Enhance visitor use of trails by proper trail maintenance and separation of conflicting trail uses.
  3. Provide linkages for connections to regional and local trails if possible. Continue use of the beach and existing trails for linear coastal access through the park, providing potential connections for any future State Coastal Hiking Trail, or for County Coastal Element-mandated trails south to the Garcia River and north to Irish Beach.
- Minimize road construction.
  1. Use existing roads and trails where possible.
  2. Provide beach access at key strategic locations only.

Emphasize low-impact/aesthetic design criteria for new roads.

- Design and site roads for minimum environmental impact and visibility.
- Design park roads as scenic "parkways."
  1. Emphasize views from the road (except where road visibility is undesirable).
  2. Provide for interpretive or scenic turnouts.
  3. Use sensitive road grading; rounded and revegetated cut-and-fill slopes.

Maintain recreation densities in balance with the functional capacity of access roads; avoid increasing facilities where access standards are marginal.

- Solve traffic/access problems at Highway 1 intersections with county roads.
- Delay facility improvements and increases in recreation capacity at Alder Creek until access problems are solved.

The park's sandy beach will continue to be the primary visitor attraction, but carefully located access points will distribute use along its length to maintain opportunities for solitude.

Seashore Area Concept

The seashore area — the beach and the marine environment — will continue as natural open spaces, uncluttered by the presence of visitor facilities. In recognition of the many values of the seashore area, Manchester State Park will become part of the Mendocino Coast State Seashore. A designation of State Seashore will offer additional protections for significant scenic coastal features and unique natural resources, including the underwater marine environment. State Seashore designation provides public recognition and appreciation of the California coastline as an

ecological region, and a unique recreational opportunity. It will also direct the department to manage the coastal environment to make possible its enjoyment through education and related recreation activities which are consistent with preservation of the principal values of the coastline. While structures are not appropriate in this area, the seashore is the primary attraction for park visitors, and can withstand intensive recreational use without significant damage. Continued departmental efforts will be directed at protecting the coastal viewshed from deleterious visual intrusions originating on adjacent AT&T property and other private lands.

Wetland Areas Concepts

Wetlands are perhaps at the other extreme of area sensitivity in the park — highly vulnerable visitor attractions. Throughout the state and nation, wetland areas are on the decline as the land they occupy is converted to agricultural use or development. Yet their ecological importance merits all attempts at preservation. At Manchester State Park, additional protection of these vulnerable areas will be provided by designating them as natural preserves in conjunction with other areas of significant value in the park, such as the extensive, fragile dune system and habitat areas of the endangered mountain beaver. A designation of natural preserve will provide for public recognition and appreciation of unique resource values, and it will direct the department to manage these ecosystems for their biological, scientific, and educational values. Under such a designation, roads and all facilities except trails and interpretive displays are prohibited.

While trampling of vegetation by visitors is a concern, the disturbance of wildlife is the major impact visitors have on these areas. Yet it is the abundance of bird and other animal life that is the attraction for many visitors. As a means of providing public access to the wetlands, and yet protecting them by controlling access, interpretive trails are proposed for development at two areas — Lagoon Lake and the Lake Davis vicinity. Since the marsh complex of the Lake Davis wetlands and the upland riparian corridor of the adjacent unnamed creek (see Land Use Concept, Map 9) are quite different from the freshwater lagoon and associated wetlands of the Lagoon Lake area (see Land Use Concept, Map 11), interpretation of the park's many wetland features will serve to emphasize their difference, significance, and value. The park's interpretive themes will be presented in the fixed media of wayside panels and self-guided trails, focusing on experiencing and learning about the park's wetland areas.

Alder Creek Area Concepts

The existing turnaround at the end of Alder Creek Road provides one of the easiest accesses to the beach at Manchester State Park, in addition to being the only access to the northern section of the park's shoreline. The land use concept for the Alder Creek Area aims to retain this area as a popular beach access point, while remedying the lack of adequate parking, and eliminating potential visitor hazards. In addition, the Alder Creek bluffs offer some unique opportunities for new visitor use. Care, however, needs to be taken to avoid attracting too many people into mountain beaver habitat areas.

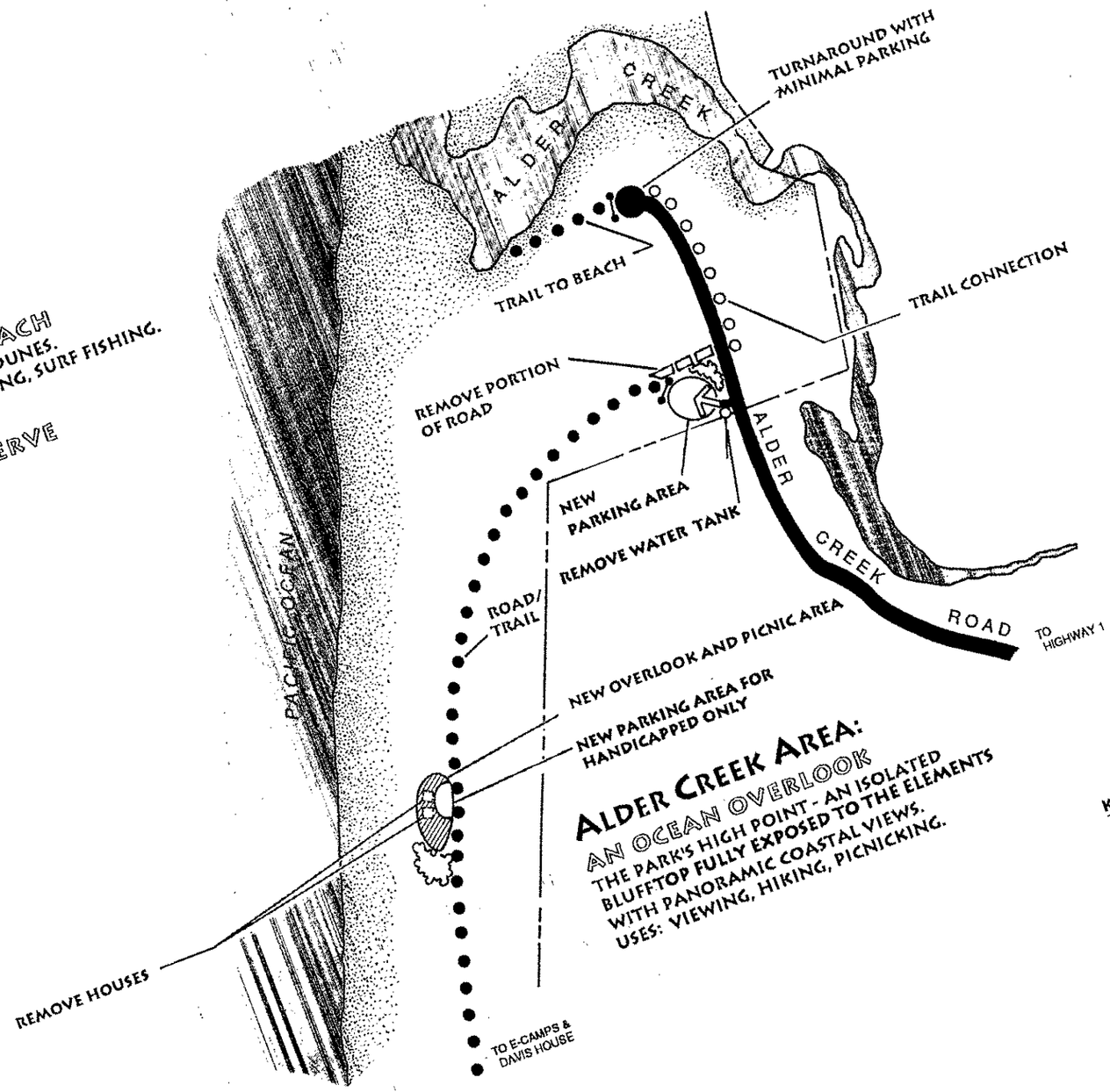
The landform, narrow roadway, and presence of endangered mountain beaver habitat areas restrict the possibilities for expansion or improvement of the existing roadside and turnaround parking. The turnaround can be improved to provide a few parking spaces, primarily for handicapped parking and ocean viewing. In the future, however, roadside and turnaround parking will be replaced by development of a small parking area on the site of the existing water tank, adjacent to the county road and the park service road. Landscaping will be used to screen the parking from the highway views. While this site is not ideal (it will have some impact on the scenic viewshed, and increases the walk to the beach by 500 feet), it is the best of the potential sites available. Alternative sites closer to the turnaround, on the blufftop directly above it, were eliminated because they are known endangered mountain beaver habitat, or necessary trail access from them to the turnaround would have to go through mountain beaver habitat. Other locations were either much more visually conspicuous, or would require substantially longer and more roundabout pedestrian routes to the beach. This would encourage volunteer trails along the bluffs, which would result in erosion and reduced visitor safety.

The Alder Creek bluffs, rising above the turnaround and overlooking the park to the south, provide a significant vantage point for panoramic views of the downcoast shoreline, dunes, pastoral landscape, and foothills of the coastal range. The General Plan recommends removal of the abandoned houses to facilitate visitor use of the site, and appreciation of the views afforded by this site. Removal of these houses will also eliminate visitor safety and operational problems associated with their deterioration. Low-key use and development of the area as an overlook with day use facilities will enhance existing visitor use of the bluffs as a popular park destination point. Picnic sites and handicapped parking spaces will be placed on the level, graded house site. Access to the site will be primarily for pedestrians. However, the existing service road will be used to provide handicapped vehicular access to the site from the new beach access parking area. It will be gated and signed for such use. The intent will be to maintain the low-key, almost primitive appearance of the roadway. Only minor improvements such as a compacted gravel base will be added to accommodate public access.

The determination of the appropriate level of use and development at this site is based on several factors. Many vehicles and activities could have a considerable visual affect on the area as it is seen from other park vantage points. Also, since the bluff overlooks the environmental campsites with views of most of the park, the potential continual presence of large numbers of park visitors on the bluff would destroy the sense of solitude and seclusion enjoyed by visitors in other areas of the park. Potential facility placement is also controlled by topography and the need to protect endangered mountain beaver and sensitive plant habitat, as well as the area's spirit of place. Because the natural resource sensitivities of the area are of concern, the desired intensity of use is quite low. Unrestricted vehicular access to the area and a major parking area would bring more use and resultant impacts than either the resources or the area's spirit of place can absorb.

SEASHORE AREA:
TRADITIONAL RECREATION BEACH
A LARGE AND ENDLESS SANDY BEACH AND DUNES.
USES: BEACHCOMBING, WALKING, SWIMMING, SURF FISHING.

ARENA ROCK: MARINE PRESERVE
USES: SCUBA DIVING, RESEARCH.



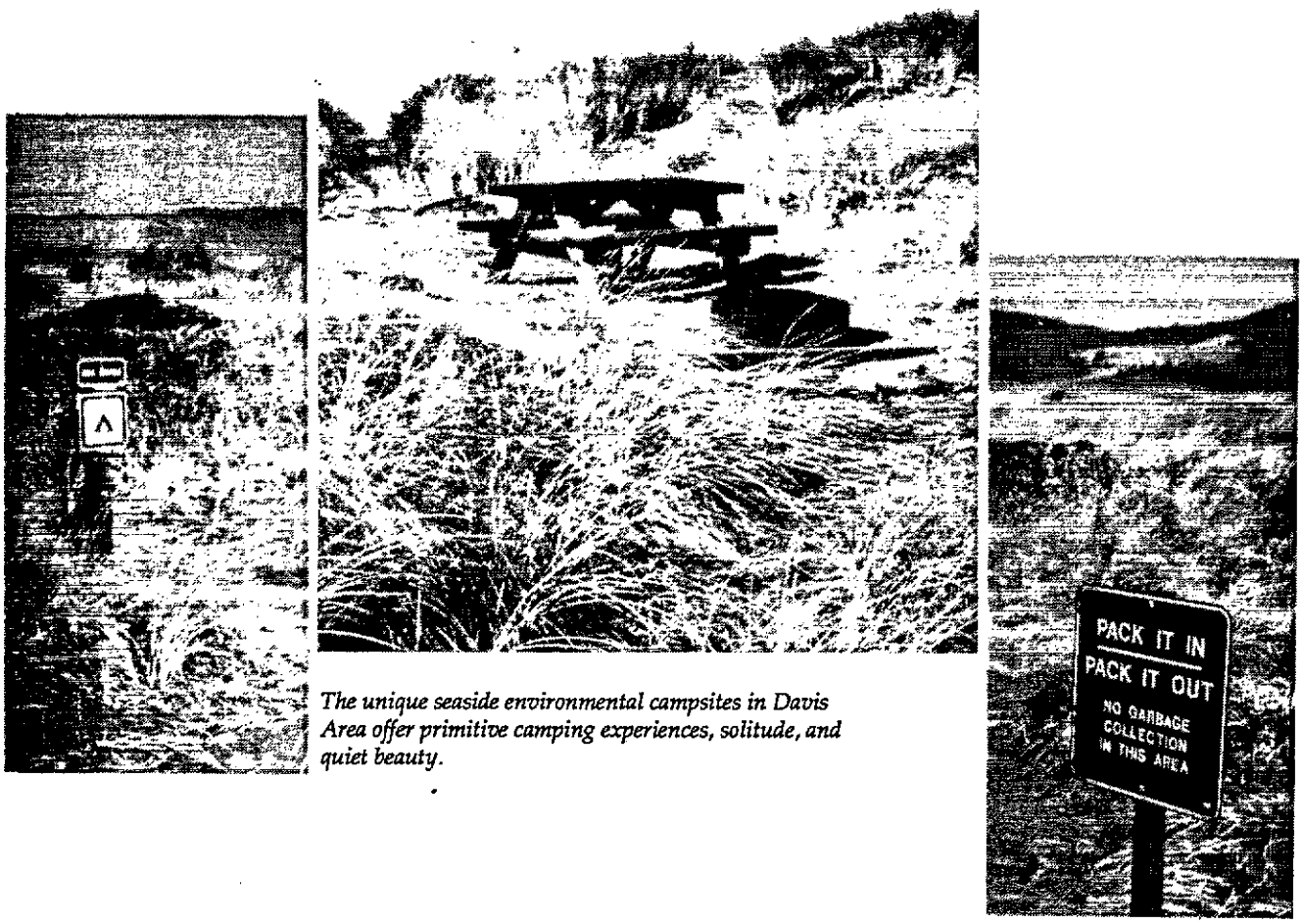
SEASHORE AREA
ALDER CREEK AREA
LAND USE CONCEPTS

MANCHESTER STATE PARK - MAP 8
LAND USE ELEMENT OF THE **GENERAL PLAN**
CALIFORNIA RESOURCES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
DRAWING NO. 26189

Davis Area Concepts

An activity center with new public vehicular access will be created on the periphery of the Davis Area, bringing new activities and increased visitors to the area. It will provide parking and serve as a trailhead for exploration of the area, orienting visitors to the various destinations that can be reached from here — the Davis House, the beach, coastal terrace, and adjacent wetlands. Picnicking and support facilities such as restrooms and visitor information will also be developed.

Opening up public vehicular access to the Davis Area is designed to accomplish several things: (1) to provide public use and enjoyment of the natural and historic resources of the area in a way that minimizes visitor impact on those resources; (2) to enable development of parking that will help distribute beach access along the shoreline to minimize the impacts of continued concentrated use at the Kinney Area; (3) to provide easier access to the environmental campsites as a means of increasing their use to help satisfy camping demand and reduce the need for additional campsites at the Kinney family campground; (4) to provide interpretation of the Davis House for both the physically disabled as well as the able-bodied; and (5) to enable use of the site as a trailhead for the several attractive destinations in the vicinity of the Davis House (allowing visitors to leave their vehicles and explore the area on foot).



The unique seaside environmental campsites in Davis Area offer primitive camping experiences, solitude, and quiet beauty.

The potential exists to create a new road connection off Highway 1 that will provide access to both the Alder Creek and Davis Areas, solving various engineering problems associated with the Alder Creek Road/Highway 1 intersection. Until conditions make this possible, the existing park service road will be improved to allow public entry to the Davis Area, terminating just inside the park boundary so automobiles remain outside the historic area. This will be a low-key access point — a narrow, rural lane, in keeping with the historic house and the bucolic setting.

- **Parking and Day Use Facilities**

The parking facilities will also be informal and rustic. The number of parking spaces available will be limited; while public access to the area is desirable, too many visitors is a concern because of the area's secluded and quiet atmosphere. Concerns for both the highway viewshed and the historic scene will require dense screening to shield the parking area from view.

New vehicular access to the Davis Area using the existing service road to the Davis House will help create a new park use area focusing on interpretation of the park's wetlands and historic features.

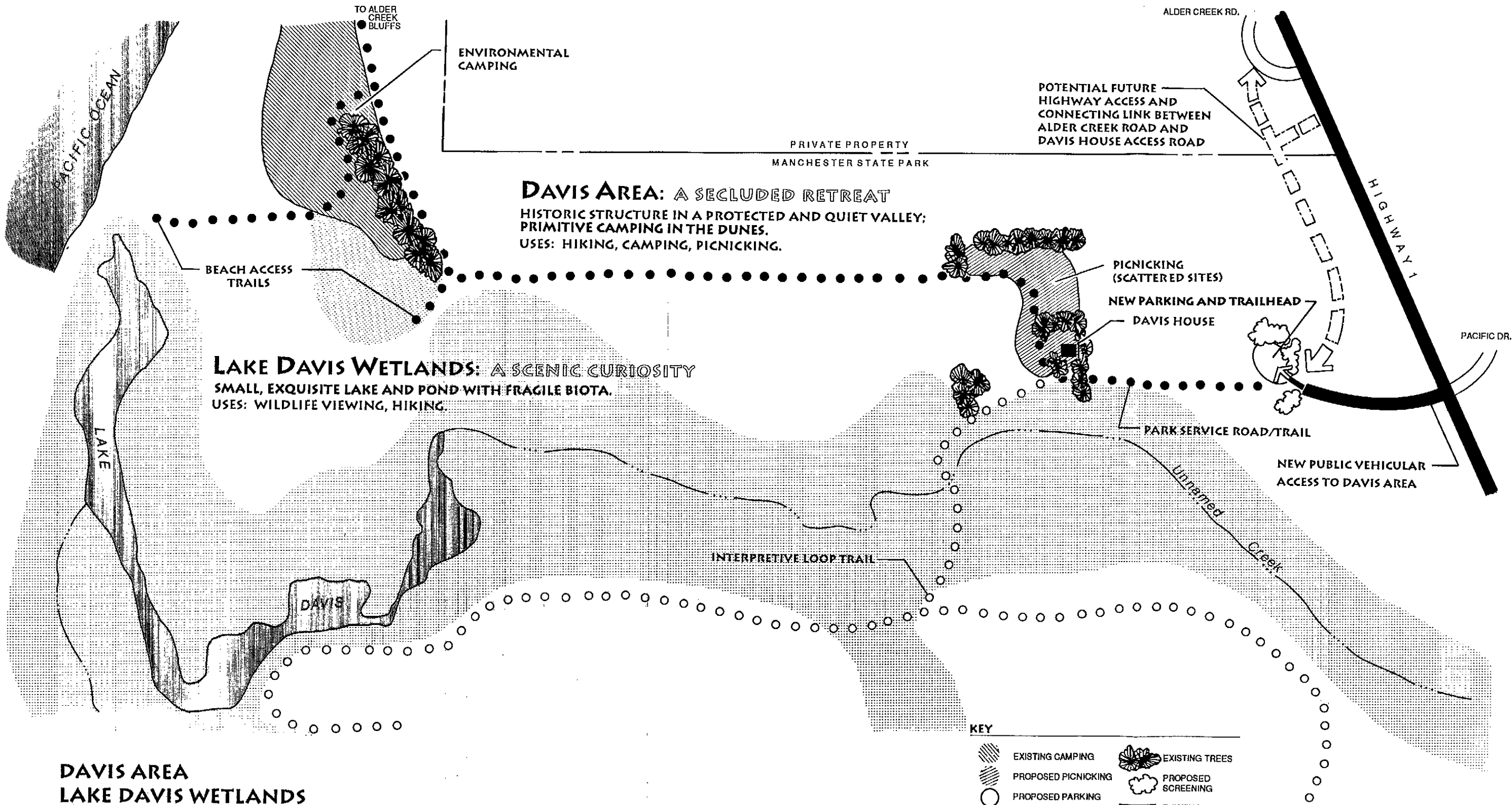
- **Davis House**

Resource Element directives call for preservation of this structure as a significant cultural resource. Its future is dependent, to a certain extent, on the results of a Historic Structures Report that must be prepared to evaluate the building's structural integrity and remaining historic fabric, and to recommend preservation treatments. Restoration, which involves complete rehabilitation of a structure or scene to its most historically significant conditions, is the most expensive form of management for historic structures, and will not be applied to the Davis House. Full restoration is not considered feasible, due mainly to cost and the modifications in the historic fabric which would be required to make the building structurally safe and fully accessible to the public.

Ongoing stabilization of the Davis House is proposed, a process in which decayed materials are replaced "in kind" or with new that match the original, and the building is "mothballed" to prevent further deterioration. Stabilization will allow the building to serve as a visual focal point for the area, and will eliminate any potential hazards attendant with visitor use of the building site. Site furnishings and adjacent minor facilities, such as benches, picnic tables, trails, walkways, and a comfort station, will be designed and sited in appropriate consideration of historic values and styles.

- **Environmental Campsites**

At Manchester State Park, the opportunity exists to instill an environmental awareness in relatively large numbers of park visitors. Environmental camping sites at Manchester State Park give visitors an unusual opportunity to experience a closer relationship with nature than is usually available in conventional campgrounds. These campsites will remain.



DAVIS AREA
LAKE DAVIS WETLANDS
LAND USE CONCEPTS

MANCHESTER STATE PARK - MAP 9
LAND USE ELEMENT OF THE GENERAL PLAN

CALIFORNIA RESOURCES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
DRAWING NO. 26190

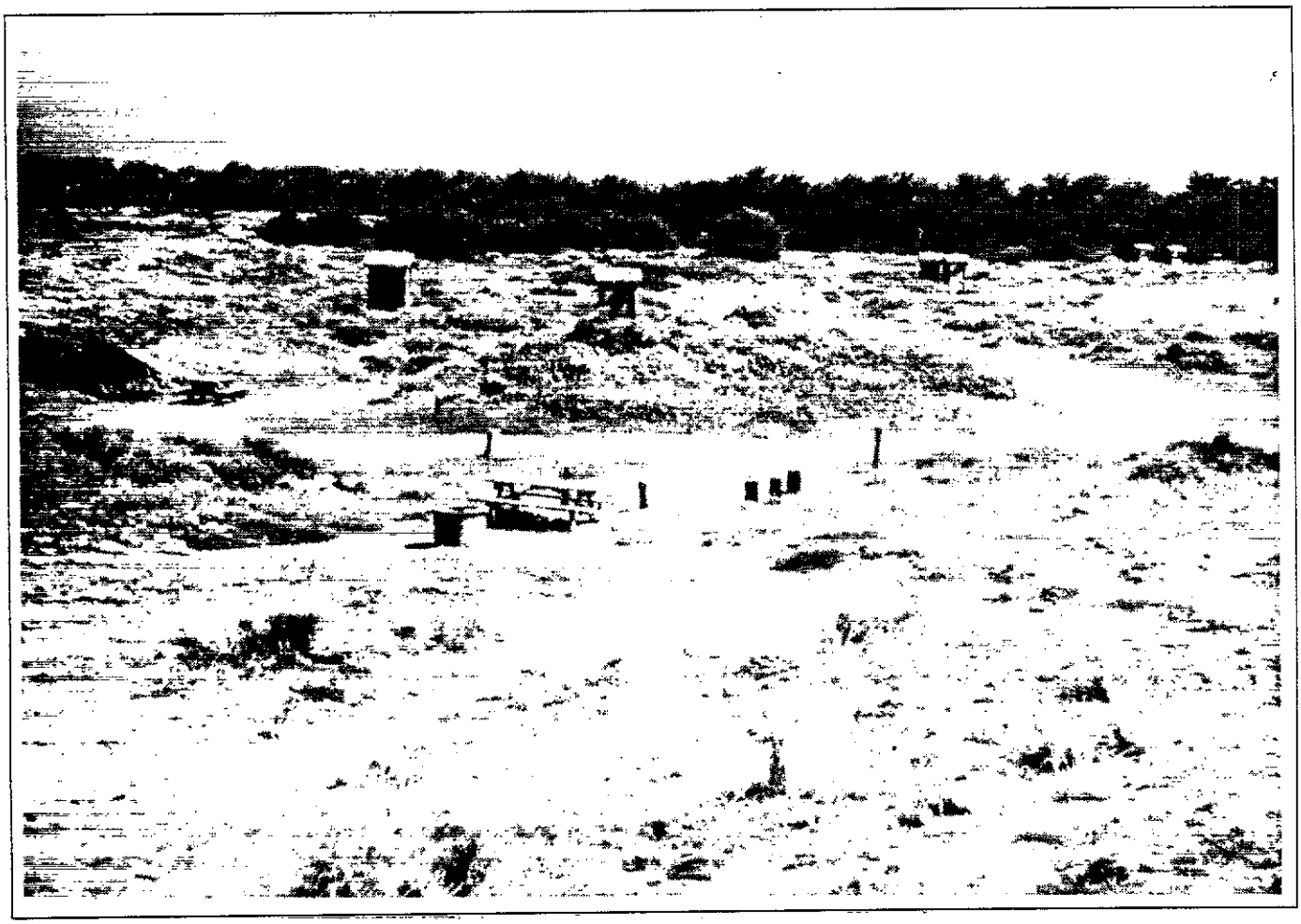
Kinney Area Concepts

Day and overnight opportunities that focus on the coast will continue to be provided in the Kinney Area. The Kinney campgrounds and beach access are the most heavily visited areas in the park, and Kinney Lane gives most users their first impression of the park. Kinney Lane will continue, therefore, as the primary park access, providing entry to the campground and beach, as well as to the park service area. The land use concept for the Kinney Area is based on enhancing the park entry, circulation, parking, administrative, and operational facilities to improve the quality of visitor experiences, as well as easing park management. Much can be done to improve the overall visual appearance. Expansion of camping and beach parking facilities will provide for some increased visitor use of these popular areas. In addition, new facilities will be developed to provide handicapped access to the beach, a high priority at this unit.

- **Park Entry**

The Kinney Area will serve as a "park entrance" for visitors, designed to fill an identified need for information, orientation, and interpretive service in the park. The intent of a park entry area is to create a sense of arrival. It provides a physical and psychological transition for park visitors, bridging the gap between the "real world" and the park experience. Ideally, it should offer a foretaste of what the park experience will be. Key components of the park entrance include: (1) the highway ap-

Located on the edge of the dunes, the family campground in the Kinney Area will continue to provide a primitive camping experience with rustic, low-key visitor use facilities.



proach, a signal to visitors that they are entering the park; (2) the park sign, a special, custom-made, and straightforward sign; (3) the entrance road, a preview of what lies ahead; indications of concentrated activity; graceful curves; low speed, one-way designs; (4) the entrance station. A staffed entrance station provides basic information about the park's facilities/activities and orientation to the unit to allow visitors to make fuller and more informed choices about park use. An entry station also makes it possible to educate visitors about rules and regulations designed to protect the park's resources, as well as to alert them to precautionary measures to be taken for their own safety. Through an entrance station, park staff controls vehicle ingress and egress, which aids in law enforcement, park security, and resource protection. In the Kinney Area, the park entrance will also include a park office with indoor/outdoor display space with parkwide orientation/information and interpretation.

- **Camping**

The westernmost sites in the family campground may need to be relocated to preserve endangered mountain beaver habitat. Increased camping demand in the future may indicate the need for additional sites. Should increases be warranted, expansion/ relocation opportunities are available south and east of the campfire center, and also north of the maintenance area. The spread of mountain beaver burrows in the Kinney Area has eliminated other potential sites.

- **Beach Access**

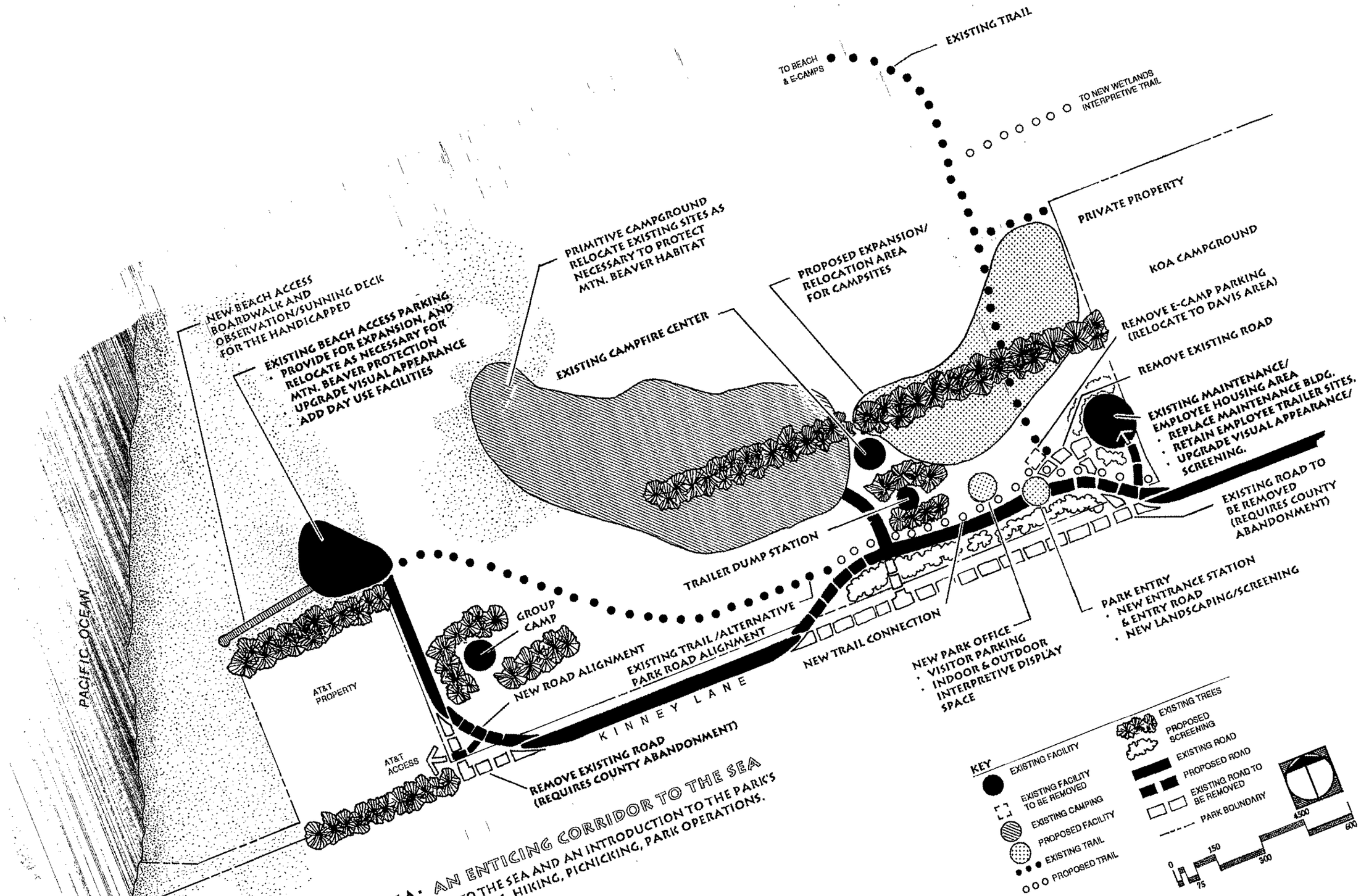
The proximity of the parking to the wide, flat beach makes the beach access opportunities at the end of Kinney Lane unique to the park. The daytime activities here will continue to serve many of the recreation needs of the immediate community and the adjacent KOA campground, as well as those of other park visitors. Expansion of parking will be provided to accommodate increased future use. Protection of endangered mountain beaver habitat may require relocation of some parking. Both of these will be provided as close to existing parking as space permits. A boardwalk will be constructed through the dunes to a sunning/observation platform, providing a beach overview for disabled people.

- **Operations/Maintenance Area**

The structure now used as the maintenance facility and park office will be replaced. At first, a new park office will be created at a different location, freeing up additional space for maintenance and storage. Over time, however, the continued deterioration of the existing maintenance building will require that it be replaced by a more durable and weatherproof structure. The shop, maintenance, and storage facilities will continue to be located in this area, as will the employee mobile home pads. Once the park office is relocated, this area will not be intended for public use. Native landscaping will be added to shield it from public view, and reduce its visual impact on the area's spirit of place.

Stoneboro Area Concepts

The existing beach parking area will be developed as an activity site for the Stoneboro Area, and it will serve as a trailhead and information center for exploration of the wetlands and dunes, as well as for beach access. Picnicking and support facilites such as restrooms will be provided.

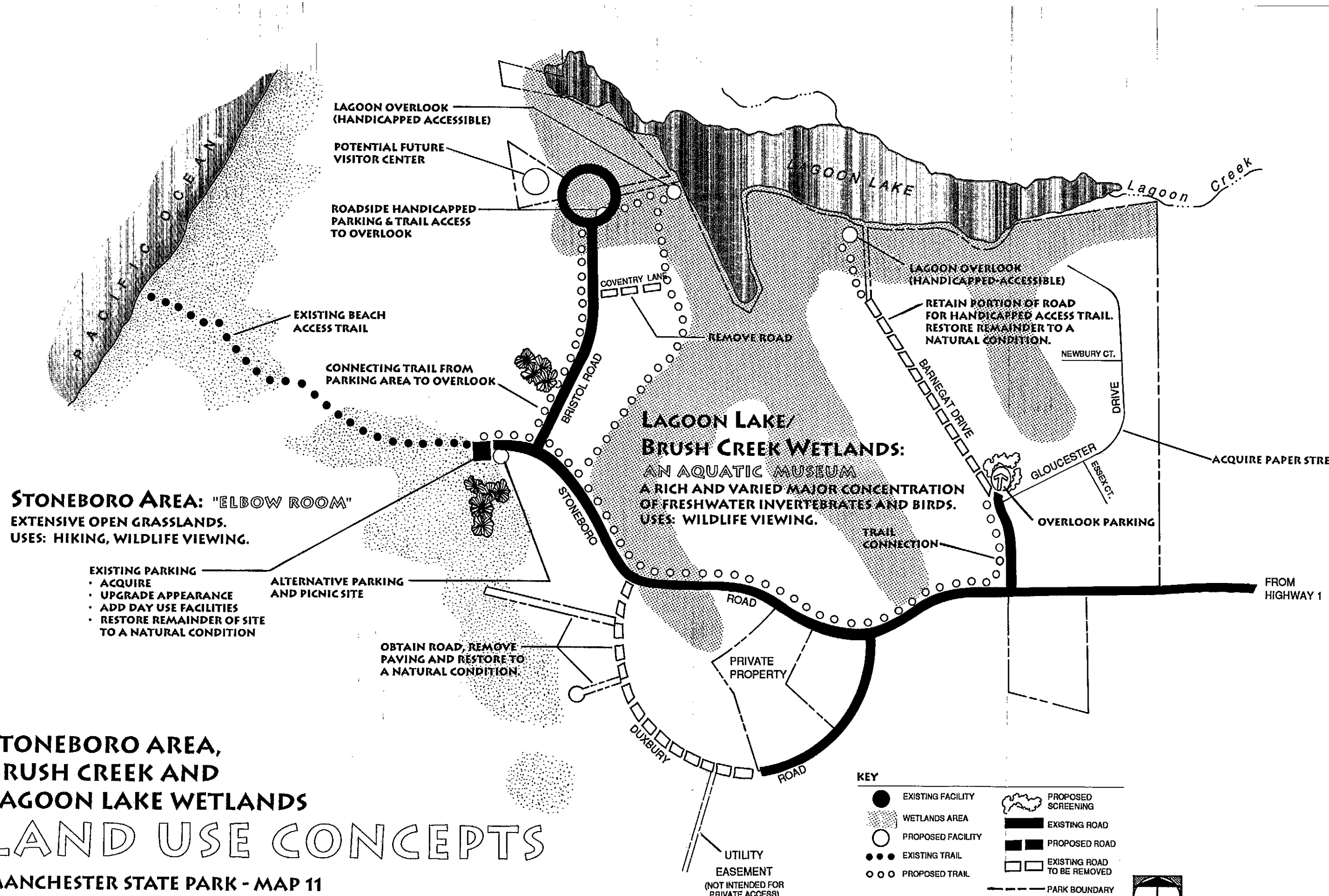


KINNEY AREA: AN ENTICING CORRIDOR TO THE SEA

AN OPEN AND LEVEL ACCESS TO THE SEA AND AN INTRODUCTION TO THE PARK'S MAJOR FACILITIES. USES: CAMPING, HIKING, PICNICKING, PARK OPERATIONS.

KINNEY AREA
LAND USE CONCEPTS

MANCHESTER STATE PARK - MAP 10
LAND USE ELEMENT OF THE GENERAL PLAN
CALIFORNIA RESOURCES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
DRAWING NO. 26191



STONEBORO AREA, BRUSH CREEK AND LAGOON LAKE WETLANDS

LAND USE CONCEPTS

MANCHESTER STATE PARK - MAP 11
LAND USE ELEMENT OF THE GENERAL PLAN

CALIFORNIA RESOURCES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
DRAWING NO. 26192

This existing parking is located at the terminus of Stoneboro Road, on privately owned land. To avoid the impacts associated with development of a new site for parking, the department will work toward continuing use of this area for parking and beach access. Although it is a relatively long walk to the beach from this location compared to other beach access points in the park, the site has already been altered and affected by use as a parking area, and is well-screened from view. There are no other sites in the Stoneboro Area with closer proximity to the beach that outweigh the potential negative impacts on the dunes or wetlands. If this property cannot be acquired, an alternative site is located just to the east, and will require dense screening to shield it from view.

At the southwestern end of Lagoon Lake, a viewing platform reached by a boardwalk from Bristol Road will be constructed at the edge of the lagoon. Another one will be located on the southeastern end of the lagoon, and connected by a boardwalk to Barnegat Drive. A small parking area for the Barnegat overlook will be provided a short distance north of Stoneboro Road, along Barnegat Drive. Roadside parking for handicapped vehicles only will be provided at the end of Bristol Road, to provide disabled access to this overlook. Primary exploration of the Stoneboro Area for able-bodied visitors will be by a loop trail from the Stoneboro activity center/trailhead, connecting to both lagoon overlooks.

Vehicular access to park facilities in the Stoneboro Area will be limited to Stoneboro Road, except for handicapped vehicle access to the overlook parking at the end of Bristol Road. Attempts will be made to work with the county and private owners to donate/close roads that are not needed for private property access. In the future, it may be possible to close off much of Duxbury Road, Barnegat Drive, and Coventry Lane, and to acquire paper streets (shown on county maps but not constructed) off Barnegat Drive, as well as private easements and rights-of-way off these roads. The intent in so doing will be to remove the roads and reduce superfluous non-park traffic in the area so the quality of natural resource-oriented experiences and the park's visual quality will be preserved and possibly enhanced.

LAND USE PLAN

As part of the general plan process, parklands are categorized to reflect the inherent nature and suitability of the resources, and to establish directions for management and use that will best fulfill the purpose of the park and the land use goals, objectives, and concepts. In this system, four general zones are recognized: natural, historic/cultural, development, and special use. The first three are applicable to Manchester State Park. (There is no special use zone). These major zones may be divided into subzones as necessary to focus on specific types of intended management, use or development.

The natural zone will include lands and waters that will be managed to conserve natural resources and ecological processes, and to provide for their use and enjoyment by the public in ways that do not adversely affect these resources and processes. Development in the natural zone will be limited to dispersed recreational and essential management facilities that have no adverse effect on scenic quality and natural

processes, and that are essential for management, use, and appreciation of natural resources. Examples of typical facilities include trails, signs, and trailside interpretive displays. The majority of the lands at Manchester State Park have received this designation.

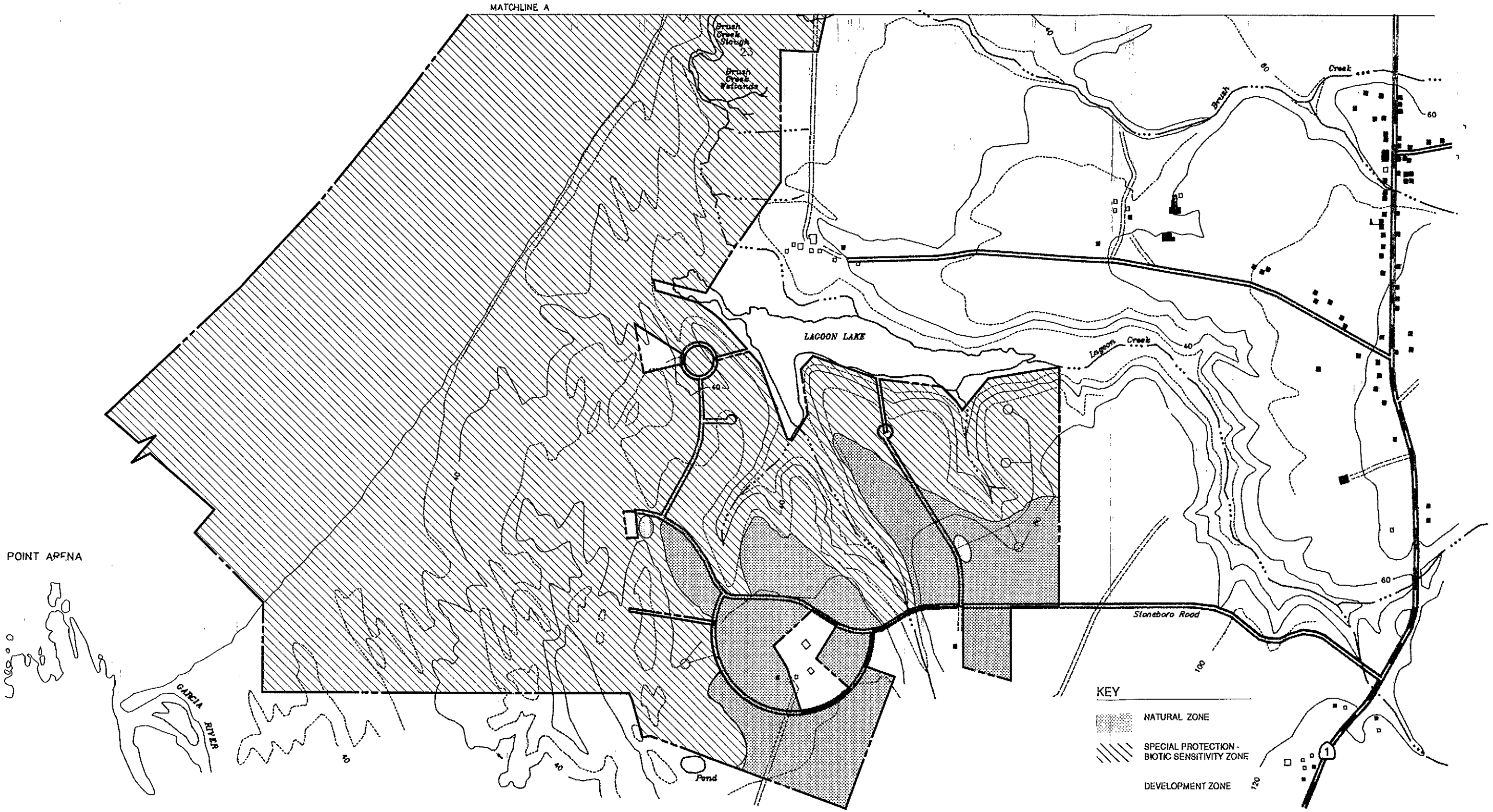
As a part of this general zone, a special subzone has been defined. The **outstanding natural feature-biotic sensitivity subzone** includes the wetlands and coastal dunes and sensitive species habitat areas. The General Plan recommends that these areas within Manchester State Park receive official subclassification as natural preserve. (Map 5 in **APPENDIX C** outlines and describes the specific boundaries of the natural preserve). This subzone will be managed to allow for continued visitor enjoyment without impairing its natural qualities or critical ecological processes.

The **historic/cultural zone** will include lands that will be managed for preservation, protection, and interpretation of cultural resources and their settings, and to provide for their use and enjoyment by the public. Development in the cultural zone must be compatible with preservation and interpretation of cultural values. At Manchester State Park, this zone includes the Davis House and associated ranch buildings and features. Physical development in the historic zone will be the minimum needed to preserve, protect, and interpret historical or cultural values.

The **development zone** will include lands that will be managed to provide and maintain facilities serving park staff and visitors. It will include areas where park development or intensive use may substantially alter the natural environment or the setting for culturally significant resources. Impacts associated with such development will be mitigated to the greatest extent possible. The development zone will encompass the facilities themselves and all associated lands directly modified as a result of their continuing use and management. Development zones will be restricted to the smallest area necessary to accommodate required development and use.

Park development zones are managed and maintained for intensive visitor use. Accordingly, roads, walks, buildings, and other visitor management facilities may occupy much of the zone, and the natural aspect of the land in the zone may be altered. In development zones adjacent to natural zones, management will aim at maintaining as natural an environment as possible, given use of the zone. Such management may involve manipulation of natural resources, but any manipulation will be the minimum necessary to achieve the planned use. There are several development zones at Manchester State Park such as the parking areas, campgrounds, and maintenance area.

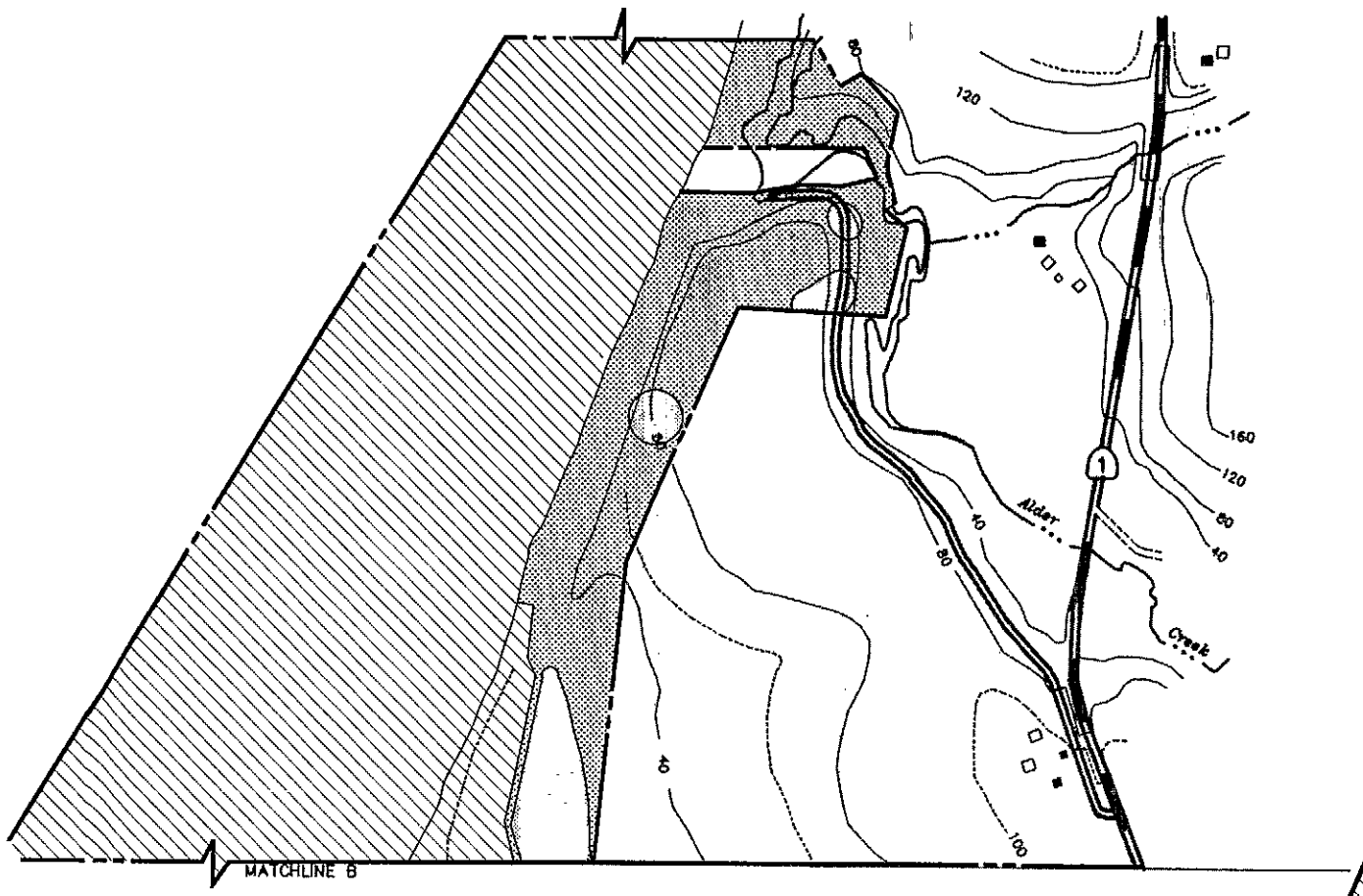
Because the different values that characterize each zone often overlap, it is nearly impossible to produce an understandable graphic representation of them that is also precise. Therefore, the accompanying Land Use Plan, Maps 12/1 and 12/2, should be used only as a general reference.

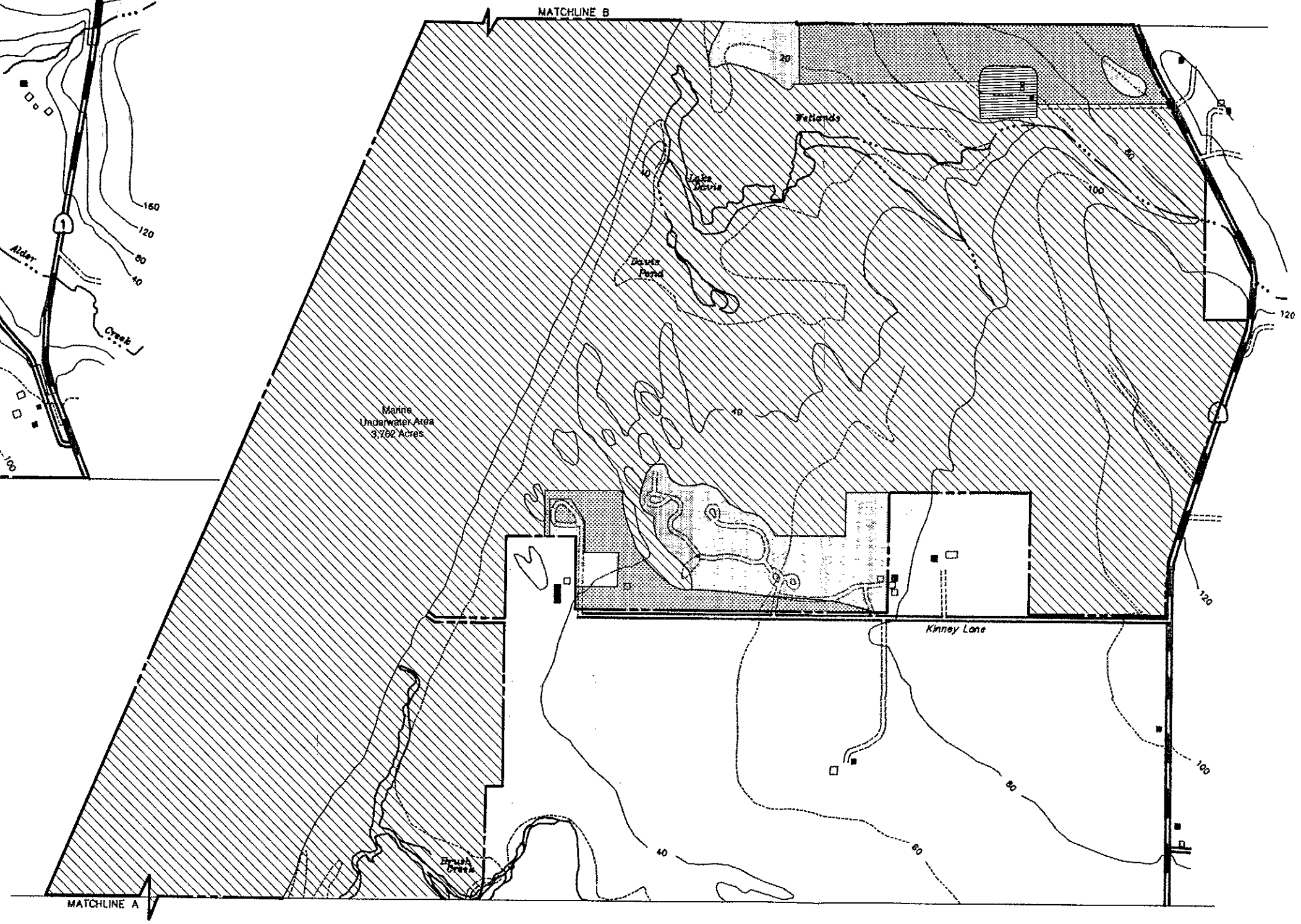


LAND USE PLAN

MANCHESTER STATE PARK - MAP 12/2
LAND USE ELEMENT OF THE GENERAL PLAN

CALIFORNIA RESOURCES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
DRAWING NO. 26194





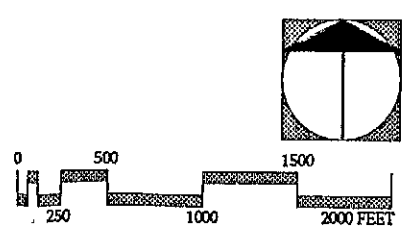
KEY

- NATURAL ZONE
- SPECIAL PROTECTION - BIOTIC SENSITIVITY ZONE
- HISTORIC ZONE
- DEVELOPMENT ZONE

LAND USE PLAN

MANCHESTER STATE PARK - MAP 12/1
LAND USE ELEMENT OF THE GENERAL PLAN

CALIFORNIA RESOURCES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
DRAWING NO. 26193



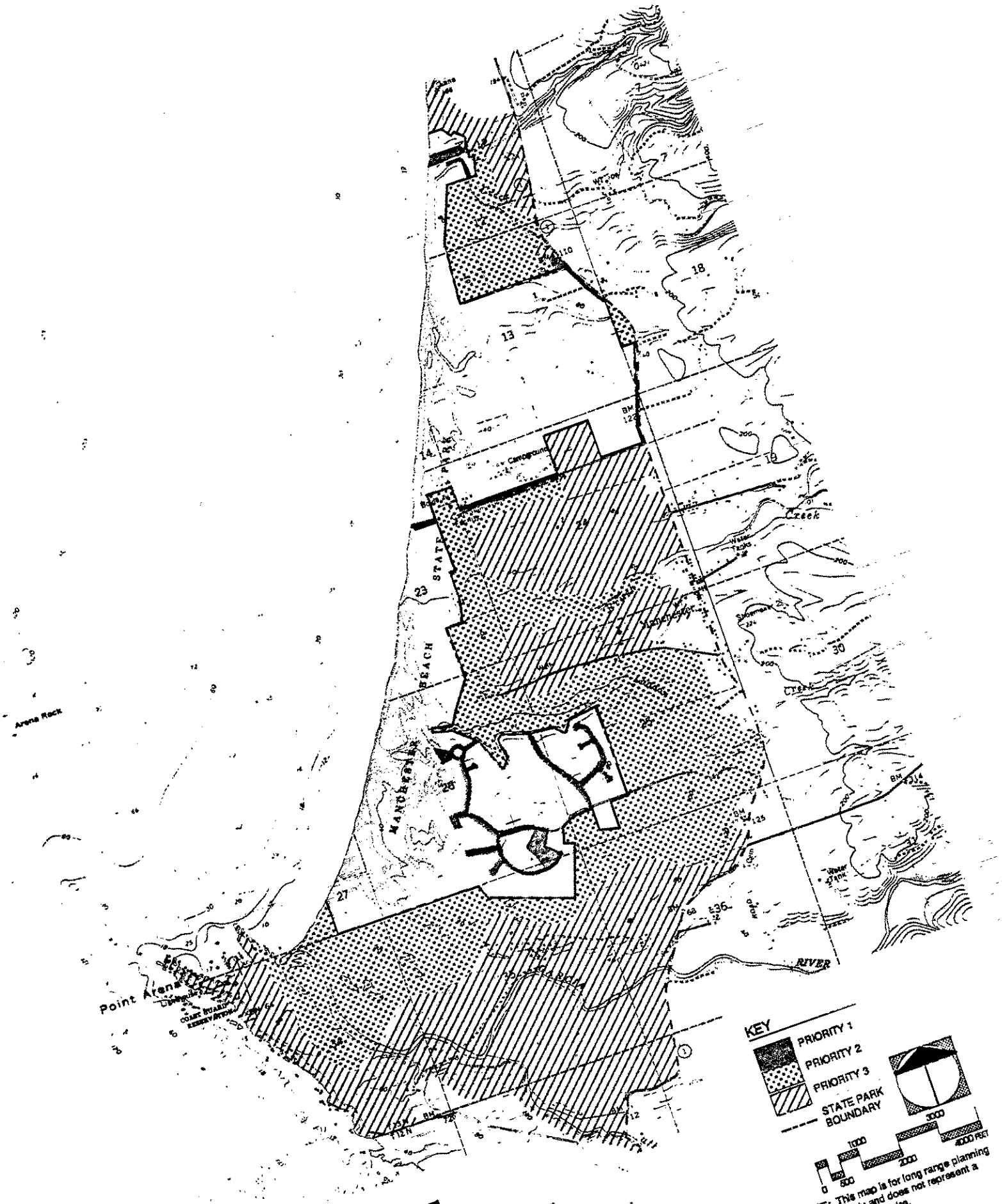
APPROPRIATE FUTURE ADDITIONS

As a park protection strategy, lands adjacent to the park are examined during the general plan process for their potential as appropriate future additions to the park. This determination is made not only on the basis of how potential changes in their uses may endanger the integrity of parkland resources, but also on the basis of their own inherent resource values, and their ability to realize unmet park needs or achieve general plan goals and objectives. Inappropriate acquisition can actually create additional problems, and can hinder the department's ability to achieve general plan goals and objectives. Determination of appropriate future additions in the General Plan serves as a tool for park planners and managers to use when evaluating the many offers for sale of real estate received by the department.

Expansion of park boundaries can often be desirable for several reasons: to solve existing park operation, management, and resource protection problems; to assure public realization of the park's recreation potentials (by providing access or necessary support facilities, for example); and to maintain the integrity of the park's resources. Acquisition of land depends on many factors, however, including the availability of funds for purchase, and the willingness of the owner to sell. Therefore, a discussion of potential park boundary changes is included in the General Plan for long-range planning purposes only, and does not represent an intent to acquire any of the lands discussed below and shown on the accompanying map.

In general, acquisition of private holdings within a park's boundaries is considered desirable as a means of reducing operational problems and eliminating existing or potential use conflicts. Three privately-held "paper street" parcels in the Stoneboro Area fall into this category. Two are located east of Barnegat Drive, and one is west of Duxbury Road. The approximate five-acre parcel at the end of Alder Creek Road is in this category as well, and should be considered as a desirable addition to the park. Park ownership of this parcel would eliminate the necessity of maintaining private access to it beyond the turnaround. Also, a significant wetland feature, the mouth of Alder Creek, is included in this parcel. The county's Coastal Element policies will not allow this land to be developed for residential purposes. However, burrows of the endangered mountain beaver are found along the stream banks, and riparian vegetation provides critical habitat for other wildlife species. All of these values are found in the park, and would receive an additional level of protection as part of the park.

The AT&T property at the end of Kinney Lane is a desirable addition to the park. It is doubtful that this property will ever be abandoned; recently, additional use and development has been proposed. However, for several reasons, acquisition should be considered if it ever becomes available. AT&T's ownership extends across the beach in a narrow corridor, the only interruption in four and a half miles of park ownership. This corridor marks the alignment of a now-abandoned metallic communications cable. The presence of the AT&T facility has an extremely negative impact on the scenic values of the park and surrounding coastline. It sits visually exposed in the midst of low-lying dunes. Surrounded by chain-link fence, with tall exotic trees, the facility may be functional, but is not aesthetically compatible with the primitive quality of the coast. Future development of a microwave tower will add another discordant vertical element to the horizontal landscape. Past operation and maintenance of the underground cable has had detrimental impacts on adjacent park resources, including aquatic habitat. In addition, the property encompasses portions of endangered mountain beaver habitat.



APPROPRIATE FUTURE ADDITIONS

MANCHESTER STATE PARK - MAP 13
LAND USE ELEMENT OF THE GENERAL PLAN

CALIFORNIA RESOURCES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
DRAWING NO. 26195

As a minimum, the department should attempt to acquire the abandoned cable corridor. Also desirable would be ownership or an easement along AT&T's southern boundary, which would allow for development of an additional access to a beach overlook for park visitors, including the physically challenged. The land here has been altered, and the flat terrain could provide easy, level access to a ocean overlook on top of the dunes.

The KOA Kampground adjacent to the park on Kinney Lane provides a valuable service for park visitors and tourists to the area, and the General Plan's recommendations are designed to complement its continued presence and operation by private enterprise. If changes are proposed that would alter its continued operation as a campground or compatible recreation facility, it should be considered as an appropriate addition to the park. Should it be acquired, then the intervening 20-acre parcel between it and the park should also be considered for acquisition, if ever available, to provide contiguous access.

To carry out the land use and facility recommendations of the General Plan with the least environmental impact, acquisition of the privately-held inholding at the end of Stoneboro Road would allow continued use of it by park visitors for beach access parking. County relinquishment of both Alder Creek Road in the park and Kinney Lane west of the park service/maintenance road would make it possible to add/improve visitor facilities, park access, resource protection, and visitor safety.

Residential inholdings that may become available for sale should also be considered for acquisition; two between Stoneboro Road and Duxbury Drive, another two southwest of those streets, and the five-acre parcel at the end of Bristol Road. Park ownership of these parcels would allow many of these subdivision streets to be removed, and natural conditions of the coastal terraces restored. Park staff could better monitor public use of roads that remain, and prevent resource damage and abuse. Some of the inholdings have value as park additions for other reasons as well: a structure of historic value is located on one parcel off Duxbury Drive.

Lands adjacent to the park that would be appropriate park additions include much of the surrounding undeveloped agricultural lands west of Highway 1 between Alder Creek and the Garcia River. The pastoral character of these lands is essential to maintaining the park's spirit of place as an example of aboriginal California's primitive open coastline. If threatened through development or offered to the department, lands south of Alder Creek Road, those between Kinney Lane and Lagoon Lake, and those between the park's southern boundary and the Garcia River and Point Arena peninsula should be considered for addition to the park. Some of these lands have recreation potential as well as natural and historic values deserving of protection. A portion of the property south of Alder Creek Road, for example, is important also because it would enable development of a new access point off Highway 1 serving both the Davis House and a realigned Alder Creek Road.

Due to the significance of wetlands and their threatened status statewide, expansion of the park boundaries to include adjacent wetlands and riparian lands is considered a high statewide priority. At Manchester State Park, these lands include the non-agricultural wetlands south of the park along the Garcia River and Hathaway Creek, portions of which also have value as natural extensions of the park's dune system. Along the park's northern boundary, Alder Creek west of the highway is important

for its wetland values, and as mountain beaver habitat. Lands south of Kinney Lane contain the wetland and riparian features of Lagoon Lake and Brush Creek. Undeveloped lands in the watershed areas of Lagoon Lake and Brush Creek are also desirable for the protection of water quality they can provide.

The Point Arena peninsula is considered a desirable addition for both landscape preservation and its recreation potential.

The following list of acquisition priorities, shown on the accompanying map, should be treated only as a guideline. Many factors influence the timing and desirability of acquisition. Strict adherence to these priorities, resulting in missed opportunities, is inappropriate.

Priority 1 additions are primarily inholdings or rights-of-way within the existing park boundaries. Many are desirable to allow continued public use of or access to existing park lands, and are essential for development of visitor use facilities recommended in the Facilities Element. Some are desirable to reduce private access through the park and resulting problems with patrol and land management procedures. Addition of these lands to the park will not require additional staffing to operate or manage, and will increase the efficiency of existing park staff by reducing management problems.

- AT&T metallic cable landing
- Stoneboro Road parking area
- Alder Creek Road county right-of-way in park
- Barnegat Way county road right-of-way
- Land necessary to provide a new highway access road from the Davis House, and to realign the Alder Creek Road/highway intersection
- Inholding at the end of Alder Creek Road
- Paper street parcels in Stoneboro Area (Shown on county subdivision map, but not constructed) Gloucester Drive, Essex Court, Newbury Court, and Swansea Court)
- Residential inholdings, if offered for sale, at the end of Bristol Road, and those west of the intersection of Stoneboro and Duxbury Roads
- Recreational access easements to Lagoon Lake off Bristol Road, and Barnegat Way, and private access road easement off Duxbury Road
- Kinney Lane county road right-of-way adjacent to park
- Stoneboro Road and remaining county road rights-of-way in the Stoneboro area (Bristol Road, western two-thirds of Duxbury Road, Coventry Lane)

Priority 2 additions are abutting private lands with scenic or ecological values, and are considered desirable for managing and protecting existing park resources and scenic and natural values. As a whole, these additions would significantly extend the park's boundaries.

- The AT&T facility, if offered for sale, or a trail access easement along its southern boundary between Kinney Lane and the beach
- Grazing lands between Alder Creek Road and the Davis House
- Brush Creek, Lagoon Lake, and undeveloped portions of their watershed west of Highway 1
- Alder Creek and its banks west of Highway 1
- Dune areas between the Garcia River and the south park boundary
- The Garcia River mouth and non-agricultural riparian lands and floodplain along its shores

Priority 3 lands contain scenic or ecological values that contribute to the significance and character of the park's setting. These lands are generally not immediately adjacent to the park; or existing land use regulations are considered sufficient to protect them from change in the near future that would adversely affect the park. In general, these lands should not be acquired unless those lands between them and the park are also acquired. These lands will add significant acreage and offer new recreation opportunities, requiring additional staffing and funding to operate and manage.

- Any undeveloped lands between Kinney Lane and Lagoon Lake and west of Highway 1, as long as lands between them and the existing park boundary are acquired first
- The northern bluff above the Alder Creek mouth and the V-shaped valley north of Alder Creek and west of Highway 1
- The Point Arena peninsula
- Agricultural lands between the south park boundary and the Garcia River

FACILITIES ELEMENT

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INTRODUCTION

The FACILITIES ELEMENT outlines implementation of the LAND USE ELEMENT's recommendations for addition of new facilities, and removal or enhancement of existing facilities. These recommendations are designed to rectify the problems identified in the LAND USE ELEMENT, in accordance with plan concepts and objectives also outlined in the LAND USE ELEMENT. Utility concerns are discussed, and architectural and landscape design criteria are established to guide the future design of facilities when the General Plan's proposals are implemented. Recommendations for phasing of implementation are included.

SUMMARY OF EXISTING

TABLE 5. SUMMARY OF EXISTING AND PROPOSED FACILITIES

	EXISTING	PROPOSED	TOTAL
PARKWIDE CIRCULATION			
Paved park roads* (miles)	3.6	-1	2.6
Service roads (miles)	1.2	0	1.2
Shoreline trail (miles)	4.2	0	4.2
ALDER CREEK AREA BEACH ACCESS			
Turnaround parking	6-8	-3-4	2-4
Roadside parking	12	-12	0
Parking	0	15-20	15-20
Comfort station	0	1	1
Trail (linear feet = l.f.)	750	0	750
ALDER BLUFFS OVERLOOK			
Parking spaces (handicapped)	0	0-5	0-5
Picnic sites	0	5-10	5-10
Compost toilet	0	1	1
Parking to overlook trail (l.f.)	0	1500	1500
Parking to turnaround trail (l.f.)	0	600	600
DAVIS AREA			
Parking	0	25-40	25-40
Historic structure	1	0	1
Comfort station	0	1	1
Picnic sites	0	10-15	10-15
Environmental campsites	10	0	10
Compost toilets	2	0	2
Trails:			
Beach and camp access (l.f.)	2500	0	2500
Interpretive trail (l.f.)	0	≃5000	≃5000
PARK ENTRY AREA			
Park office/visitor orientation area	0	1	1
Park office parking	0	6-10	6-10
Park entrance station	0	1	1
Entrance station parking	0	5	5
KINNEY AREA BEACH ACCESS			
Parking spaces	50	+25	75
Bus parking spaces	0	2	2
Picnic sites	2	+8-13	10-15
Sunning/observation platform	0	1	1
Pit toilets	2	-2	0
Comfort station	0	1	1
Beach access trail (l.f.)	400	0	400

AND PROPOSED FACILITIES

	EXISTING	PROPOSED	TOTAL
KINNEY AREA CAMPGROUNDS			
Group camp (40-person)	1	0	1
Pit Toilet	1	-1	0
Comfort station	0	1	1
Family campsites	46	+11-12	57-58
Hike/bike-in campsites	1	+1-2	2-3
Pit toilets	8	-8	0
Comfort station	0	2	2
Campfire center	1	0	1
Contact station	1	0	0
Trailer sanitation station	1	0	1
Campground/beach trail (l.f.)	1750	0	1750
PARK MAINTENANCE/EMPLOYEE HOUSING			
Park office	1	-1	0
Maintenance shop	1	1	2
Vehicle storage area	1	0	1
Employee trailer pads	2	0	2
Employee parking	5	0	5
Environmental camp parking	2	-2	0
E-camp access trail	1 mile	0	1 mile
STONEBORO AREA BEACH ACCESS			
Parking spaces	75	-25-40	35-50
Bus parking spaces	0	2	2
Picnic sites	0	10-15	10-15
Comfort station/pit toilet	0	1	1
Beach access trail (l.f.)	2200	0	2200
Interpretive loop trail (l.f.)	0	4600	4600
BRISTOL ROAD LAGOON OVERLOOK			
Parking spaces (handicapped)	0	5	5
Overlook trail (l.f.)	0	350	350
BARNEGAT DRIVE OVERLOOK			
Parking	0	10	10
Overlook trail (l.f.)	0	2100	2100
Barnegat-Stoneboro connecting trail (l.f.)	0	3500	3500

* includes county roads in the park

FACILITIES PLAN

Facility proposals are detailed below and shown on Maps 14/1 and 14/2. Access and circulation proposals are followed by land use area proposals in the same sequence established in the LAND USE ELEMENT, i.e., Seashore Area, Wetland Areas, Alder Creek Area, Davis Area, etc.

ACCESS AND CIRCULATION

Proposals concerning Highway 1 and trail access to the park are outlined below. Proposals for vehicular and trail circulation in the different land use areas are discussed in a separate section on each area which follows the Access and Circulation proposals.

Highway 1

The General Plan recommends that park improvements which may generate increased park visitor traffic on Alder Creek Road, Kinney Lane, or at the Davis House be accompanied or preceded by addition of Highway 1 improvements. (Due to previous highway improvements, the intersection of Stoneboro and Highway 1 is considered adequate.) The following improvements to Highway 1 at these intersections will facilitate safe traffic movement to and from the park, and along the highway:

- At Kinney Lane, install a center left-turn pocket and a deceleration lane on the highway.
- At the Davis House, an acceleration/deceleration lane and center left-turn pocket will be required where the existing park service/former ranch road meets Highway 1 opposite Pacific View Drive. With modifications, this location will provide good sight distance.
- At the existing Alder Creek Road/Highway 1 intersection, a left-turn pocket lane on the highway is desirable. If Alder Creek Road is realigned to intersect the highway further south, appropriate highway improvements should include acceleration, deceleration, and center left-hand lanes into the park.

Trails

In the park, existing trails will continue to serve as the primary means for visitor exploration of the park. Many modifications will be required to ameliorate visitor use impact on the environment. However, this plan contains few specific proposals for expansion of trail systems in Manchester State Park. Nearly every desired trail route already exists as an established recreational trail or unpaved service road/trail. Other than loop trails, interpretive trails, and short trails connecting facilities, opportunities for new hiking trails in the park are limited due to resource sensitivities and existing ownership patterns. Little has been done to designate or provide separated bicycle trails in the park for the same reasons. These barriers will prevent development of bicycle trails connecting the various use areas of the park.

Continuous linear trail access in coastal State Park System units is the goal of the California Coastal Trail, linking California's Mexico and Oregon boundaries via a hiking corridor "within the sights and sounds of the Pacific Ocean." At Manchester State Park, this will be accomplished by continued use of the beach as an informal trail. This is also consistent with county local coastal planning efforts that call for connecting the park by trail along the beach to the Garcia River mouth to the south, and Irish Beach to the north. Two private inholdings interrupt ownership of this stretch of beach between the park's north and south boundaries. However, existing county land use regulations should preclude construction of any barriers that would prevent public use of or access along the beach.

Beach access trails in the dunes will require changes to prevent or rectify resource management problems. In addition, most of the "volunteer" trails will be removed. In the Alder Creek Area, trail erosion problems will be corrected by eliminating parking on the road below the turnaround, and by installing drainage devices to channel water across the road, or through grading and addition of a gravelled trail surface. In the Davis Area, the plan calls for retaining the beach access trail from the environmental campsites without change.

In the Kinney Area, the proliferation of unnecessary trails to the beach will be reduced, especially those volunteer trails through the dunes from the campground and beach parking area. The northern trail alignment from the existing comfort stations to the beach should be removed; the southern beach access trail, adjacent to the AT&T facility, should be designated as the only pedestrian route to the beach from this parking area.

The General Plan proposes development of an above-grade boardwalk along the existing southern trail access from the Kinney beach parking area, terminating in a sunning/observation platform. The platform would be located behind the frontal dune rather than on the beach, in order to avoid unnecessary replacement and repair from storm and high-tide damage. Some hand-digging in the dunes will be required to accommodate the boardwalk and platform.

In the family campground, better signing to designate a primary beach access trail can help to reduce the proliferation of volunteer trails through the dunes from individual campsites. Fencing or railing in sensitive locations may also be helpful in controlling foot traffic to prevent further erosion.

Opportunities for providing trails *to* the park are few. For bicyclists, Highway 1 will remain as the primary and only bicycle access route to the park. County roads that provide access to the park, Stoneboro Road and Kinney Lane, will require determination by the county of their suitability for accommodating bicycle lanes; it is already known that Alder Creek Road is too narrow. The department will coordinate with the county to determine the possibility and desirability of creating bicycle lanes to and from the park along Stoneboro Road and Kinney Lane.

Accessibility

Many existing use areas can be retrofitted, and all new structures and facilities can be made accessible to accommodate the handicapped. Resource sensitivities will prevent direct access to the shoreline at Stoneboro, Alder Creek, and the Davis Area. The topography of the Kinney Area, however, offers opportunities for beach access, as discussed in the preceding section on Trails. In addition, camping at Kinney Lane can be made handicapped-accessible.

Summary of Access and Circulation Facilities/Development:

- **Make appropriate highway improvements at the intersections with roads providing public access to the park.**
- **Work with Mendocino County to establish bike lanes or bike routes along Stoneboro Road and Kinney Lane.**
- **Retain informal access along the beach as the means of providing for the California Coastal Trail to make a continuous link to the areas north and south of the park in the future.**
- **Correct erosion problems on the Alder Creek beach access trail, and relocate the beach access gate to eliminate parking on the trail.**
- **Remove unnecessary trails through the dunes from the Kinney parking area, and develop a handicapped-accessible boardwalk and sunning/observation deck.**
- **Provide better signing and designation of the beach access trail from the Kinney campground, and eliminate volunteer trails to the beach from the campground.**
- **Design all proposed new buildings and sanitary facilities to accommodate the handicapped. Provide handicapped parking at all new and existing use areas. Retrofit campsites in the Kinney campground for wheelchair access and use.**

PARK USE AREAS

Seashore Area Facilities

No facilities will be located in the Seashore Area.

Wetland Areas

- **Lake Davis Wetlands**
  A trail with wayside panels is proposed for development along the perimeter of the Lake Davis wetlands. Sections of the trail will go through less sensitive portions of the wetland area, and some of the trail will be located on the adjacent marine terrace to enable understanding of the different biotic values of these areas. To avoid wildlife disturbance and impacts on habitat, a 175-foot setback or a vegetative screen will be required as buffer between the wetland areas and any trail. The Audubon Society recommends this buffer between wetland areas and trails, or a vegetative screen to protect the bird habitat. Mountain beaver habitat will be avoided.

ALDER CREEK AREA

■ BEACH ACCESS TRAIL

TURNAROUND
- ☐ 3-4-CAR PARKING
- ■ RELOCATE GATE
- ☐ SCREENING
- ■ INTERPRETIVE PANELS

PARKING AREA
- ☐ 15-20-CAR PARKING
- ☐ SANITARY FACILITIES
- ☐ TRAIL TO TURNAROUND
- ✻ REMOVE STORAGE TANK

OVERLOOK
- ☐ 5-10 PICNIC SITES
- ☐ 5-CAR HANDICAPPED PARKING
- ✻ REMOVE HOUSES
- ☐ SCREENING
- ☐ INTERPRETIVE PANELS

■ PARK SERVICE ROAD/TRAIL

MATCHLINE B

ALDER CREEK RD./HWY. 1
- ☐ HWY. 1 IMPROVEMENTS
- ☐ COASTAL ACCESS SIGNING

Alder Creek

DAVIS AREA

ENVIRONMENTAL CAMPS
- ● 12 SITES
- ● 2 COMPOST TOILETS
- ● BEACH ACCESS TRAIL

DAVIS HOUSE
- ☐ STABILIZE
- ☐ 10-15 PICNIC SITES
- ☐ INTERPRETIVE PANELS

PARKING AREA
- ☐ 25-40-CAR PARKING
- ☐ 1-2 HANDICAPPED PICNIC SITES
- ☐ COMFORT STATION
- ☐ TRAILHEAD
- ☐ SCREENING

MATCHLINE B

Wetlands

Lake Davis

Davis Pond

KINNEY AREA

BEACH ACCESS AREA
- ■ 50-75-CAR PARKING
- ☐ 10-15 PICNIC SITES
- ☐ COMFORT STATION
- ☐ BOARDWALK & VIEWING DECK (HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE)

GROUP CAMP
- ● 40-PERSON CAPACITY
- ☐ COMFORT STATION

FAMILY CAMPGROUND
- ■ 47-60 CAMPSITES
- ☐ COMFORT STATIONS
- ■ CAMPFIRE CENTER
- ● TRAILER DUMP STATION
- ■ DESIGNATED BEACH ACCESS TRAIL

PARK ENTRY
- ☐ PARK OFFICE
- ☐ ENTRANCE STATION
- ■ ENTRY ROAD
- ☐ INTERPRETIVE DISPLAYS
- ✻ REMOVE ENVIRONMENTAL CAMP PARKING

Kinney Lane

PARK ROAD/HWY. 1
- ☐ PARK SIGNING
- ■ HWY. 1 IMPROVEMENTS
- ■ PARK ROAD IMPROVEMENTS

MAINTENANCE/RESIDENCE AREA
- ✻ REMOVE PARK OFFICE
- ☐ MAINTENANCE FACILITY
- ● EMPLOYEE TRAILER SITES
- ■ SCREENING

Brush Creek

MATCHLINE A

KEY
- ◯ DEVELOPED AREA
- BOARDWALK
- TRAIL
- ☐ PROPOSED FACILITY OR CONDITION
- ■ EXISTING FACILITY OR CONDITION - TO BE IMPROVED OR MODIFIED
- ● EXISTING FACILITY OR CONDITION - NO CHANGE
- ✻ EXISTING FACILITY TO BE REMOVED

0 500 1500
250 1000 2000 FEET

FACILITIES PLAN

MANCHESTER STATE PARK - MAP 14/1
FACILITIES ELEMENT OF THE GENERAL PLAN

CALIFORNIA RESOURCES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
DRAWING NO. 26196

MATCHLINE A

STONEBORO AREA

BRISTOL ROAD LAGOON OVERLOOK
- ☐ VIEWING PLATFORM
- ☐ HANDICAPPED-ACCESSIBLE BOARDWALK
- ☐ 5 HANDICAPPED ROADSIDE PARKING SPACES
- ☐ INTERPRETIVE PANELS

BEACH ACCESS
- ■ 35-50-CAR PARKING
- ☐ COMFORT STATION
- ☐ 10-15 PICNIC SITES
- ■ BEACH ACCESS TRAIL
- ☐ TRAILHEAD
- ☐ CONNECTING TRAILS TO LAGOON OVERLOOKS
- ☐ INTERPRETIVE PANELS

BARNEGAT DRIVE LAGOON OVERLOOK
- ☐ 10-CAR PARKING
- ☐ HANDICAPPED-ACCESSIBLE TRAIL
- ☐ VIEWING PLATFORM
- ☐ INTERPRETIVE PANELS
- ✻ REMOVE PORTION OF ROAD SURFACE

REMOVE EXISTING ROAD

REMOVE EXISTING ROAD

REMOVE EXISTING ROAD

Brush Creek Slough

Brush Creek Wetlands

Brush Creek

LAGOON LAKE

Lagoon Creek

Stonebora Road

Pond

POINT ARENA

GARCIA RIVER

KEY
- DEVELOPED AREA
- OVERLOOK
- TRAIL
- PROPOSED FACILITY OR CONDITION
- EXISTING FACILITY OR CONDITION - TO BE IMPROVED OR MODIFIED
- ✻ EXISTING FACILITY TO BE REMOVED

0 500 1500
250 1000 2000 FEET

FACILITIES PLAN

MANCHESTER STATE PARK - MAP 14/2
FACILITIES ELEMENT OF THE GENERAL PLAN
CALIFORNIA RESOURCES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
DRAWING NO. 26197

- **Brush Creek/Lagoon Lake Wetlands**
  To take advantage of the views of the adjacent Lagoon Lake and its significant but sensitive wildlife, the General Plan recommends development of two overlooks at Lagoon Lake: one at the southwestern edge of the lagoon just east of the Bristol Road turnaround, and another at the southeastern edge of the lake, near the end of Barnegat Drive. Both will be connected to new parking areas by handicapped-accessible trails. Since these trails and the parking areas are located outside the wetlands area for the most part, they are discussed under the Stoneboro Area proposals that follow.

Summary of Wetland Area Facilities:

- **Develop a loop trail along the Lake Davis wetland periphery, and through the adjacent grassland areas. Provide low-profile wayside interpretive panels.**

- **Adjacent to Lagoon Lake, develop two handicapped-accessible overlooks: one east of the Bristol Road turnaround, and a second one at the end of Barnegat Drive. Provide interpretive panels at the overlooks, and along handicapped-accessible trails serving them.**

Alder Creek Area Facilities/Development

- **Beach Access Area**

Proposals for enhancement of the turnaround include resurfacing and installation of low-profile perimeter barriers for safety and parking control. Only 3-4 parking spaces, including at least one handicapped space, will remain at the turnaround; parking along the road shoulders and on the spur road to the beach will be eliminated through signing or low-profile barriers. The emergency vehicle and private access gate will be relocated from the bottom of the beach access trail to the top of the slope, at the edge of the turnaround.

Additional parking for 15-20 vehicles and a comfort station will be accommodated at a new beach access parking area on the blufftop, at the site of the abandoned water storage tank and the park service road. It will also be connected to the turnaround by a pedestrian trail along the side of Alder Creek Road. Grading of the site to lower the profile of the parking on the hillside and landscaping to screen it and the comfort station will be necessary to minimize their impact on views from the highway.

The Mendocino County Coastal Element requires the department to install coastal access signing. This can be done only after the highway intersection and the existing turnaround are improved, road shoulder parking is eliminated, and a new beach access parking area is developed. For these improvements to be made by the department will require that the county relinquish control over the portion of Alder Creek Road in the park.

- **Bluff Area**

The two dilapidated houses on the bluff will be razed. The panoramic views from the site, and its popularity as a destination point for hikers, offer the opportunity to create an informal ocean overlook with picnic sites (5-10). From the south, hikers to the overlook will continue to use the service road for access; from the north, improvement of the

narrow roadway (repaving or gravel surfacing) from the beach access parking area will allow vehicular access to the site for the handicapped, and an adjacent pedestrian trail will be provided. At the overlook, up to five parking spaces will be available by reservation for the handicapped, with access controlled by a keyed gate at the new overflow parking area. Restoration of a portion of the overlook site will involve reestablishing natural contours and new landscaping to screen the parking and picnic sites from other areas of the park.

- Interpretive Facilities

Interpretive facilities in the Alder Creek Area will include exhibit shelters at the turnaround and ocean overlook.

Summary of Alder Creek Area Facilities/Development:

- **Enhance the appearance and function of the Alder Creek Road turnaround: resurface, install perimeter barriers, and designate handicapped parking.**
- **Develop a 15-20 car parking area and a comfort station on the blufftop, sited and landscaped to protect highway views, and connected to the turnaround by a pedestrian trail along Alder Creek Road. Install signing or low-profile fencing to prevent parking along the shoulder of Alder Creek Road.**
- **Remove the two houses on the bluff; develop an ocean overlook with 5-10 picnic sites. Provide up to 5 parking spaces limited to handicapped use, and available by reservation. Improve the service road to the new beach access parking area from the overlook, and also provide a trail connection between the two. Install new landscaping for screening the picnic sites and handicapped parking.**
- **Install exhibit shelters at the turnaround and overlook area.**
- **Install coastal access signing required by the Mendocino County Coastal Element when the county has relinquished control over Alder Creek Road in the park, all necessary safety improvements have been made, and adequate parking has been provided.**
- **If the county road is abandoned and private property is available for acquisition, develop a new park access from Highway 1 (with appropriate safety improvements) to serve both the Davis and Alder Creek Areas.**

Davis Area Facilities

- Access

Until Alder Creek Road is realigned, the existing park service road will provide public vehicular access to the Davis House. It will require improvements at its intersection with the highway. The roadbed will need to be raised to the elevation of the highway, so vehicles exiting the park will have proper sight distance. Some minor realignment and widening may also be necessary to make the park service road functional for public access.

- **Davis House**

The Davis House will be retained. Methods used to accomplish stabilization are dependent on the recommendations from a Historic Structures Report that will be prepared prior to beginning any work on the house.

- **Parking and Day Use Facilities**

The Davis House and surrounding site are intended to be the focal point of a new visitor use area in the park, providing public vehicular access to the area, and serving as a trailhead for interpretation of the Lake Davis wetlands, and access to the beach and the environmental campsites. To provide parking near the Davis House will require sensitive siting and grading to protect both the historic zone and the viewshed from the highway. As indicated by vegetation and winter run-off conditions, much of this area is quite wet. Siting will be critical to a successful and compatible facility here. About halfway down the slope between the highway and the house, north of the existing service road, the hillside forms a curving shoulder behind a shallow bench of land. Using judicious grading and new native landscaping, this site offers the best opportunity for screening a new trailhead and parking area (25-40 cars) from highway view. Beyond the new parking area, the existing narrow lane will provide pedestrian access to the Davis House. Topographically, this terrain is not suitable for handicapped access by wheelchair, and visitor vehicles next to the Davis House are not compatible with the historic scene; therefore, a viewing and picnic site for the handicapped in this rural/farm setting will be provided near the parking area.

Desirable visitor facilities to be provided will include a handicapped-accessible comfort station and 10-15 picnic sites in the vicinity of the Davis House.

- **Environmental Campsites**

The existing campsites are proposed to be retained as is. It would be desirable to provide a year-round potable water source for camper use. To enhance use of these campsites, the 8-car parking will be relocated from Kinney Lane and incorporated into the new parking area east of the Davis House. For environmental campers, this will reduce the distance to the campsites to less than a half mile on the easier walking surface of the park service road.

- **Interpretive Facilities**

Interpretive panels and signs will orient visitors to the resources and activities in this use area, and the various destinations served by the trailhead.

Summary of Davis Area Facilities/Development:

- **Stabilize the Davis House.**
- **Improve the existing park service road to provide public vehicular access into the Davis House area. Develop a trailhead with parking for 25-40 cars, including a comfort station and 10-15 picnic sites. Install new landscaping to help screen the parking area from the Davis House and Highway 1.**
- **Retain the environmental campsites as is; provide a year-round potable water supply if feasible.**
- **Provide interpretive shelters at the trailhead, Davis House, and the environmental camps, and install wayside panels along trails.**

Kinney Area Facilities

- **Park Entry**

For park operations, management, and visitor service, it is considered essential to develop a park entry. Since the Kinney Area is the most popular and heavily used in the park, the General Plan recommends that a park entry be established there. The campground contact station will be eliminated, and a new park access and new entrance station developed. To be installed on the new park entrance road (discussed under **Circulation** below), the entrance station will be located west of the turnoff to the park's maintenance/service area.

To make more effective use of park staff, the park's administrative functions will be removed from the maintenance area, and relocated to a new park office in the entry area, on the north side of a new entrance road, between the trailer sanitation station and the new entrance station. This will allow more interface between the public and park staff, and provide for more direct visual supervision and control by park staff of the campground and day-use visitors during the off-season, when an entry station is not usually operated. More strategically sited, the park office will also serve to provide a centralized location for outside interpretive panels integrated into the park entry area, as well as for exhibits or artifact displays, and maps and brochures inside the park office for visitor orientation.

Landscaping should be used to enhance the appearance of the entry area, and to screen views of the AT&T facility and the maintenance/employee residence area from the entry area. A park entrance sign should be incorporated into the design.

Improved highway signs should be provided, and unnecessary campground signs along Kinney Lane eliminated when a new entry area is established.

- **Circulation**

For more effective park protection and operation, the General Plan recommends creating an internal park road connecting the beach parking and campground areas. By routing beach traffic through the park (rather than along Kinney Lane), a single park entrance would serve the Kinney Area campground, group camp, and beach access. From Kinney Lane, traffic would enter the park using the existing park service road. This service road runs northwest from Kinney Lane just east of the park boundary, and connects to the campground. At the intersection with the existing campground entrance road, two potential road alignments to the beach are possible. The preferred solution would be to route traffic back onto Kinney Lane west of the existing campground entrance. The section of Kinney Lane roadbed between the new park entrance and the existing campground entrance road would be removed and restored to a natural condition; new landscaping of the area would be provided to screen views of the AT&T facility when entering the park, and views of the road both from in the park and from surrounding property. This preferred alternative for dealing with circulation problems could only be implemented if Mendocino County were to agree to abandon Kinney Lane adjacent to the park. (See discussion under Appropriate Future Additions, **LAND USE ELEMENT**).

If for some reason Kinney Lane is not relinquished to the department, the alternative road alignment to the beach from the campground would use an existing east-west pedestrian trail connection lying between the campground and Kinney Lane. In this alternative, Kinney Lane would terminate in a turnaround in front of the AT&T facility. The section of road between the beach parking area and the AT&T property would be eliminated.

In either solution, both AT&T and the private property owner on the south side of Kinney Lane are entitled to legal access to their property.

- **Beach Access Area**

The General Plan calls for enhancing the appearance and function of the beach parking area. Increased future use will require increased parking capacity and improved sanitary facilities. The General Plan recommends that parking be provided for up to 75 vehicles and two buses, increasing parking capacity by 50 percent. A permanent comfort station to replace the existing pit toilets will be included. It will be located to the south side of the parking area, where the structure can be placed up against the park boundary. Existing trees on the AT&T property and additional new landscaping in the park will help to screen its mass and height.

Reconfiguration of a portion of the existing parking area may be required to avoid impacts on endangered mountain beaver habitat and population. The west end of the center parking median and the areas south of the existing parking between the road and the park/AT&T boundary are recommended for future expansion.

Informal picnicking (10-15 sites with fire pits) will be provided along the outside perimeter of the parking area. Additional improvements include surfacing and installation of perimeter fencing or log barriers to control vehicle traffic and pedestrian movement toward the beach.

- **Camping Areas**

Both the group camp and the primitive family campground will remain. Other than installation of a permanent comfort station, no changes are recommended at the group camp. Modest expansion of the family campground, from 47 to 60 sites, is considered appropriate to accommodate increased use over the life of the plan. The location, density, and appearance of new and existing sites should reflect a concern for the primitive quality of the camping experience. As the campground is expanded, one or two of the new sites should be designated for hike-in/bike-in use. In addition, 3-4 sites should be designed or retrofitted for the disabled with hard-surfaced parking stalls, access trails, and table pads. Picnic tables and camp stoves should also be usable by visitors in wheelchairs.

Adverse impacts of human use on endangered mountain beaver habitat may necessitate relocation of up to 15 sites in the campground. Two areas have been identified for relocation of the sites, and for expansion of new sites. These areas are: (1) east of the campground and north of the trailer sanitation station and park service area, and (2) south of the campground between Kinney Lane and the campground road. Any proposed expansion should be developed only after demonstrated need, and after satisfactory resolution of concerns for the mountain beaver habitat.

Minor changes to the existing family campground may include improved sanitary facilities. New restroom buildings should take their architectural concepts from the appearance of the existing wooden structures. Installation of showers is not contemplated; the character of primitive camping is defined by, and the amount of campground use is somewhat regulated by, the lack of showers.

Both the camp host site and trailer sanitation station will remain. The portable campground contact station will be removed when a permanent park entrance is constructed, as discussed above. As discussed under Davis Area Facilities, the environmental camp parking area will be relocated from its current site, next to the maintenance area, to the new parking area at the Davis House.

- Maintenance and Employee Residence Area

The existing maintenance facility at Manchester State Park will eventually require replacement since this metal structure is suffering from the corrosive effects of the ocean environment. The General Plan recommends that the existing quonset hut be replaced with a contemporary structure designed to meet the specific maintenance functions at Manchester State Park. It should remain in the same area as the existing building. Some minor realignment of the access into the maintenance area may be required when a new park entry is developed.

Generally speaking, park employees will reside in Mendocino County communities outside the park boundaries. However, employee housing in a park may be appropriate for purposes of resource or visitor protection — for example, situations where 24-hour employee availability is deemed desirable. At Manchester State Park, because it is a relatively isolated unit, the existing employee mobile home pad will remain, along with the utility hook-ups for a seasonal employee trailer.

In general, the maintenance/employee residence area would benefit from new landscaping to increase the screening around the area as seen from both the campground and the entry road. At the same time, replacement of the existing landscape screening with plant materials indigenous to the area would help to more visually integrate this area with the park's character.

- Interpretive Facilities

The campfire center will remain in its existing location, although reorientation as outlined in the Interpretive Element may improve its function. Panels and/or shelters will be located at the beach access parking area, along the boardwalk, at the group camp, and at the family campground for interpretation of nearby resource values and information about health and safety hazards. In addition, interpretive exhibits inside the new park office and outside interpretive panels/shelters will focus on park resources and other subjects of interest to Mendocino coast visitors.

Summary of Kinney Area Facilities/Development:

- **(Work with Mendocino County to assume control over the west portion of Kinney Lane adjacent to the park.) Create a new park entry and access road off Kinney Lane connecting the campground and beach use areas. Locate a new entrance station and a new park office in the entry area, and eliminate the existing campground contact station. Realign access into the maintenance area if necessary. Provide new landscaping at the entry, and additional screening around the maintenance/ employee residence area. Relocate the park signs at the entry, and improve park signing on highway.**

- **Increase parking capacity at the beach access area to 75 vehicles and two buses. Add 10-15 picnic sites, fire pits, and a permanent comfort station screened by new landscaping. Upgrade the appearance and quality of the parking area, and reconfigure as necessary to avoid impacts on mountain beaver habitat.**

- **Retain the group camp and trailer sanitation station.**

- **Replace pit toilets at the group camp and family campground with permanent comfort stations.**

- **Relocate any campsites negatively affecting endangered mountain beaver habitat. Increase the capacity of the family campground from 47 to no more than 60 campsites.**
- **Eliminate environmental camp parking adjacent to the maintenance area along the existing service road.**
- **Replace the maintenance building with a contemporary structure located on the same site. Retain the employee residence facilities.**
- **Reorient the campfire center.**
- **Install interpretive panels/shelters at visitor use areas, including both indoor and outdoor interpretive displays at the park office.**

Stoneboro Area Facilities

- **Access and Circulation**

The General Plan recommends that unregulated access to and through the Stoneboro area, resulting in resource damage, be resolved. These problems have come about as a result of the several county roads and private rights-of-way that exist. The department should work with Mendocino County to assume jurisdiction over county roads in the area, providing access easements to the half-dozen private property owners. The department should also consider obtaining ownership of the private inholdings from willing sellers in the area, so it is no longer necessary to provide public access to them. When in park ownership, roads and rights-of-way not necessary for public access should be eliminated, the paving removed, and/or the areas regraded to natural contours, and native vegetation reestablished.

- **Beach Access Parking and Trailhead**

The General Plan proposes that the existing parking area at the end of Stoneboro Road be improved to provide for existing and projected future use of the beach and the Stoneboro Area. However, this privately owned parcel must be acquired before improvements can be made. If it is not possible to acquire or continue parking on this property, a new parking area could be developed. The proposed new site is located just east of the existing parking area, on the southside of Stoneboro Road, near its intersection with Bristol Road.

Enhancement of the existing Stoneboro Road parking area for future use (or development of a new parking area) includes defining parking for 35-50 cars, gravel surfacing, and installation of a comfort station. Landscaping or berming may be necessary to screen views from the north and east, although the existing parking area is now relatively well screened by vegetation.

Informal picnicking (10-15 sites) will be provided in a stand of pine trees south of the existing parking area. If a new parking area is developed, picnicking facilities will be located appropriately near the parking area.

- **Overlook Parking and Trail Access**

The existing Stoneboro Road parking area will serve as a trailhead for the Lagoon Lake overlook east of the Bristol Road turnaround. From the Stoneboro Road

trailhead, the able-bodied will have access to the overlook via a trail paralleling Bristol Road. For the disabled, up to 5 parking spaces will be provided around the perimeter of the turnaround at the end of Bristol Road. From the turnaround, a handicapped-accessible trail/boardwalk will connect to the Bristol Road trail, serving as the link to the lagoon overlook.

Access to the second overlook, along the southeastern edge of the lagoon, will use the alignment of Barnegat Drive for development of a hard-surfaced, handicapped-accessible trail. A small parking area (10 cars) will be constructed east of Barnegat Drive, and about 400 feet north of Stoneboro Road. This site is located in the midst of some immature trees, which, when grown and supplemented with additional landscaping, will screen parked cars from view. Barnegat Drive will be closed to vehicles north of the parking area, and the roadway surface removed, except for a 5-foot width necessary for trail access. (Closure of the road will not be possible without concurrence from the county.) It will not be possible to connect the two overlooks by trail along the southern perimeter of the lagoon due to rough terrain and wildlife sensitivities. Therefore, Stoneboro Road will provide pedestrian access between the two areas.

- Interpretive Facilities

Interpretive facilities in the form of shelters and wayside trail panels will be provided at the two overlook parking areas, and along the overlook trails. Interpretive shelters will be installed at the beach access parking and picnic areas. In addition, directional trail signs will be necessary throughout the area when the lagoon overlooks and associated parking facilities are developed.

In the future, should the private inholding at the end of Bristol Road become available for acquisition, the residence should be considered for conversion to a visitor/interpretive center. (See Interpretive Facilities, **INTERPRETIVE ELEMENT.**) Relinquishment of Bristol Road by Mendocino County would then allow the northern half of the road to be closed to vehicular traffic, except for use of the turnaround for visitor drop-off, bus loading, and handicapped parking.

Summary of Stoneboro Area Facilities/Development:

- **Work with the county to abandon county roads, and if available, acquire private inholdings in the Stoneboro Area. Restore unnecessary roadbeds and trails to natural contours and native vegetation.**

- **Acquire and upgrade the existing parking area at the end of Stoneboro Road to serve as a trailhead, or develop a new parking area just east of this site. Provide a gravel-surfaced parking area (35-50 cars) and a comfort station, screened to protect the terrace viewshed. Install interpretive panels/shelters and directional trail signs.**

- **Develop a 10-15-site picnic area adjacent to the parking area.**

- **Provide up to 5 handicapped parking spaces at the Bristol Road turnaround, connected by an interpretive trail along Bristol Road to the Stoneboro Road parking area.**

- **Develop a 10-car parking area northeast of the Stoneboro Road/Barnegat Drive intersection, and landscape to provide screening from Stoneboro Road. Except for a five-foot-wide path of asphalt, remove the paving from Barnegat Drive north of the parking area, and restore to a natural condition. Provide trailside interpretation.**

UTILITIES

The Department of Parks and Recreation will adhere to all applicable provisions of health and safety codes for prevention, control, and abatement of environmental pollution for all facilities under its jurisdiction. This includes adequate sewage collection and disposal, solid waste collection and disposal, and protection of the quality of waters in or flowing through the park. To accomplish this goal, whenever possible, wells will be used to supply water. Water storage will be provided where necessary for visitor accommodation and fire protection. If water cannot easily be provided to the environmental camps, they will be operated as "dry camps," with no water provided. Alternative means of supplying water in the park may include use of cisterns and rain catchments, importation, and tank storage. Where feasible, septic tanks and leachfields will be installed or upgraded to meet the disposal needs of most proposed facilities.

At this time, there is not enough information to declare specific solutions for provision of water and sewer services to proposed facilities in the park. However, preliminary findings suggest that the following approaches to utilities may be desirable:

Alder Creek:
Sewer - Develop vault system for beach comfort station.
Water - Well or creek diversion; will require chlorination/filtration system, electricity, pump, and storage tank.

Davis House/Lake Davis Area:
Sewer - Develop new onsite disposal or vault system near the Davis House. Existing compost toilets at environmental campsites are adequate.
Water - Develop new sources, with storage for peak periods.

Kinney Area:
Sewer - Expand existing septic tank and leachfield system at campground. Develop vault system for beach comfort station.
Water - Develop new sources or upgrade wells, with storage for peak periods.

Stoneboro Area:
Sewer - Develop vault system for beach comfort station.
Water - Develop well and storage system.

Further study will be taken to determine the most appropriate methods of service when general plan proposals are budgeted for implementation. If future studies show that visitor needs exceed the ability of an area to provide adequate water, facilities will be scaled down to a level consistent with available supply, or the need for water will be reassessed. Groundwater sites that have shown a concentration of solids due to seawater intrusion will not be used as water sources. Groundwater used for drinking will be treated.

Summary of Utility Recommendations:

- **Upgrade park utility systems as necessary to provide adequate and safe water and sewer services for park facilities, and for park operations.**

VISITOR CAPACITY

As a result of park development, the theoretical visitor capacity of most park areas will increase. Increases in the number of visitors are anticipated at the Stoneboro and Davis Areas as a range of new and enhanced facilities are created in currently undeveloped and underused areas. Campsites in the Kinney campground and beach access parking will be increased.

Future visitation levels for different park areas have been estimated, primarily in order to quantitatively analyze the range of impacts on the environment that would result from implementation of the proposals contained in this document. Maximum visitation levels have been calculated based on the estimated capacity of existing and proposed facilities. Decisions about the numbers of parking spaces and campsites proposed in the plan were made by the planning team based on a number of factors, including physical constraints of the site, environmental and resource sensitivities, and professional judgment and experience. An overriding consideration was the desire to avoid "overcrowding." Thus, these limits are based on people's tolerance of other park visitors. In most cases, people's enjoyment of the park would be impaired by overcrowding before the environment was actually damaged.

The figures are not absolute limits or desired goals. On the one hand, special events and good-weather weekends could periodically exceed the suggested levels without significant long-term effects. On the other hand, some of the limits may never be reached. The lack of camping demand and weather conditions, in particular, may always keep visitation below the suggested levels. However, based on present visitation patterns, maximum visitation levels would most likely occur on about 10-15 good-weather weekend days per year.

Although the figures should not be considered as carrying capacities, they could be used as a starting point from which future studies might be done in response to physical damage resulting from overuse. When and if carrying capacities are established with the benefit of thorough research and regular site monitoring, practical management measures will have to be developed to maintain use levels within the desired limits. Auto constraints and controlled implementation of development proposals are among the possible methods of accomplishing this.

TABLE 6. MAXIMUM VISITATION LEVELS

USE AREA/FACILITY	MAXIMUM VISITATION (PEOPLE) AT ANY ONE TIME [a] EXISTING	PROPOSED
Stoneboro Area beach access	48	128
Bristol Road lagoon overlook	0	16
Barnegat Drive lagoon overlook	0	48
Davis Area trailhead*	0	96
Environmental campsites	22	22
Park office	0	32
Kinney Area beach access**	160	240
Kinney Area campground	110	132
Group camp	40	40
Alder Creek beach access parking and turnaround	51	77
Alder Creek bluffs overlook	0	16
TOTAL PEOPLE AT ANY ONE TIME	484	847

[a] Maximum visitation levels are based on the estimated capacities of the existing and proposed facilities. For day-use facilities, parking sites were multiplied by a factor of 3.2, representing the State Park System average number of visitors per vehicle. Campground sites were multiplied by a factor of 2.2, representing the number of visitors per campsite based on a 1990 visitor use survey,except for the group camp, where maximum capacity is limited to 40 people.

* Not including the environmental camp parking.

** Not including bus parking.

DESIGN CRITERIA

The purpose of the design criteria is to provide guidelines to direct the design of appropriate and environmentally compatible improvements in the park. Harmony with the environment is the ultimate goal. Design criteria establish the parameters for ensuring that improvement projects demonstrate general plan intent, and reinforce a proper spirit of place.

Design criteria generally applicable to the park as a whole or to two or more areas or facilities in the park are outlined below, followed by design criteria specific to a particular area or facility.

GENERAL DESIGN CRITERIA

Site Accessibility

The accessibility of any public outdoor area hinges on the physical relationships between design elements both inside and outside the space. Unless there is a relationship of continuous accessibility between forms of transportation, site elements, and building/facility entries, the value in making any one of these components more accessible is lost. Consequently, it is imperative that all elements of circulation be made as easily accessible as possible.

The following items should be considered to ensure a good interface between transportation, site, and facility/building entry elements:

- Waiting areas should preferably be located within 300 feet of building entry, between the roadway and sidewalk, to avoid traffic congestion.
- Signage should be provided to direct pedestrians and vehicles to various destinations or areas of the site.
- Park entrances should be well identified, and have an obvious relationship to the sites they serve, with signage to direct vehicular and pedestrian traffic to destinations in the park that can be reached from that entrance.
- Walkways or connecting trails between facilities should provide clear, direct routes throughout the site. Surfaces should be firm and level, with curb cuts and ramps provided where necessary.
- Rest areas should be provided where pedestrians must walk long distances. Rest areas should be kept off walkway/trail thoroughfares.
- Parking should be related directly to buildings or facilities which they serve, with "handicapped" stalls no more than 100 feet from building entries and handicapped campsites and picnic sites.
- Drop-off zones should be located as close to a building entry or facility as possible. There should be no grade change between road surface and adjacent walkway/trail. Direct vehicular connections between drop-off, site entrance, and parking areas are important. Signage should be provided to direct both vehicles and pedestrians to destinations on the site.
- Building entries should be clearly identified, and alternative means of entry provided for handicapped individuals (e.g., both ramps and stairs) if necessary. No grade changes between entrance and facilities eases accessibility.
- Interiors of handicapped-accessible buildings should be functionally usable by handicapped individuals.

Architecture

- New buildings at the park will be designed as contemporary structures. In terms of architecture and building materials, they should convey a rustic simplicity in harmony with the primitive and natural character of the park, and in keeping with the open and horizontal landscape: i.e., low and horizontal rooflines, exteriors of painted earth-tone or weathered wood siding.
- In scale, these buildings shall be no larger than needed to minimally fulfill their function.
- Handicapped accessibility and energy efficiency are also essential characteristics.
- Comfort stations should be sited unobtrusively. These buildings should not be a focal point of arrival.
- All park structures should be screened from critical views in and outside the park, using grading and landscaping.

Additional design criteria for buildings may be further described below under the individual use areas.

Landscaping and Irrigation

- Grading to create mounds for screening should respect the natural contours as much as possible.
- Use plant materials native or indigenous to the plant community and location in which new landscaping is occurring, unless otherwise indicated in the design criteria of the specific use areas below.
- Use irrigation systems only for establishment of new landscaping.

Signage

Essentially, signs should perform three functions. They should: (1) identify a place and indicate whether or not it is accessible to everyone; (2) indicate warnings where necessary; and (3) give routing information. Four categories of signs are used to perform these functions. Directional signs, usually included with an arrow, are used for indication of a change in route, or confirmation of a direction. Informational signs are used for overall information for general organization of a series of elements, i.e., campground layout, park plan. Identification signs give specific information, identify specific items, i.e., Alder Creek Parking Lot, Park Office, Camp Host, etc. Regulatory signs give operational requirements, restrictions, or give warnings. These are usually used for traffic delineation or control, i.e., "Stop," "No Parking," "One-Way," etc. Interpretive panels are not considered signs, and are not included in this discussion of signage.

The following criteria are general guidelines for design and placement of signs at Manchester State Park:

- To maintain the natural and open character of the park, signs at Manchester should be kept to a minimum.
- Uniform sign style, materials, and sizes, suitable to the natural character and spirit of place, should be established and used consistently throughout the park.
- When possible, gather signs together into unified systems. Avoid sign clutter in the landscape.

- Information signs should be placed at natural gathering spots, and included into the design of site furniture where possible.
- Avoid placement of signs where they may conflict with pedestrian traffic.
- Sign location should avoid conflict with door opening or vehicular operation.
- Signs should be placed to allow safe pedestrian clearance, vertically and laterally.
- Key site-related areas that should be identified by sign posting are special car parking, directional signs for vehicles and pedestrians such as "One Way" traffic signs, trail markers, signs identifying accessible entrances to buildings or facilities, and informative signs on buildings.
- Information on signs should be as concise and direct as possible.
- Lettering styles and graphic symbols should be as bold and simple as possible. Fancy styles become cluttered, and are time-consuming and confusing to read.
- Color schemes of contrasting colors with light images on dark backgrounds make signs both easier to read and more readable from longer distances.
- Outdoor signs should be weather- and vandal-resistant.

Access and Circulation Design Criteria

Trails

Excepting the Kinney Lane beach access boardwalk and sunning/observation deck for the disabled, improvements to existing trails will be relatively minor.

- Beach access trails through the dunes and along the beach shall follow the natural contours, eliminating grading. Where necessary to control erosion, or prevent continual loss of trails from windblown sand, erosion control devices such as establishment of native vegetation may be used.
- Retain and maintain the informal appearance of existing trails in natural areas.
- Obliterate unnecessary trails by resculpting to natural contours and replanting.
- Realign relocated trails to reduce the temptation to shortcut by taking advantage of grade separation where possible, directing visitors to key vantage points in the viewshed, and providing appropriate orientation along the way.

Boardwalk and Sunning/Observation Deck

The following criteria shall govern the design and placement of the sunning/observation deck and beach access boardwalk from the parking area at the end of Kinney Lane:

- The trailhead shall be clearly visible to arriving visitors to encourage its use.
- To minimize impacts on mountain beaver habitat and unnecessary grading in the dunes, the alignment of the boardwalk shall follow as much as practical the course of the existing trail to the beach that begins at the northwest boundary of the AT&T property.
- The boardwalk shall be installed on piers at grade, or no higher than 18 inches above the surrounding grade, to eliminate the need for handrails, and to be visually inconspicuous. The minimum width shall be 5 feet; the preferred minimum is 6 feet. For drainage, a cross-slope no greater than 2% is permissible.
- For the boardwalk, gradients up to 3% are preferable where their use is practical. Short resting areas (5 feet) and/or pull-outs (at least 5 feet deep and 3 feet wide) at 100-foot intervals should be provided for sustained grades of 4 and 5%.

- Ramps designed to carry a minimum live load of 100 pounds per square foot and no longer than 30 feet with a 1:12 maximum gradient are permissible as long as a 5-foot minimum clear landing is provided at both the top and bottom of the ramp. Ramps of lesser grade can be lengthened. (Any surface pitched above 5% is considered a ramp.)
- A low curb, 2 to 4 inches high, along the sides of ramps and landings should be provided as surfaces against which wheeled vehicles can turn their wheels in order to stop. They should have breaks in them every 5 to 10 feet to allow for water drainage off of the walk.
- Handrails should be provided on both sides of every ramp, or along the edges of boardwalks or the observation deck where the drop-off to the ground from the structure surface is 18 inches or greater. On a ramp, handrails should extend past the heel and toe, 1 foot to 1 foot 6 inches. The vertical dimension from the ramp/boardwalk/deck surface to the top of a single handrail should be between 2 feet 8 inches and 3 feet. A second rail is advantageous to children and wheelchair-dependent people. Where two rails are used, the top rail should be placed at 3 feet to 3 feet 3 inches, and the lower rail should be placed at 2 feet 4 inches. Handrails should be designed to support 250 pounds.
- The sunning/observation deck shall be located behind the first berm of dunes fronting the beach. It shall be constructed no higher than necessary to allow visibility to the ocean for those seated in wheelchairs. The deck shall be oriented to feature 180-degree views up and down the beach, if possible, taking into consideration that it may also be necessary to provide a windbreak. A windbreak may be created through siting of the deck on the appropriate side of a dune, or through installation of a barrier, such as clear acrylic panels, that also permits visibility. Any handrails along the deck edge should be placed at a height that does not interfere with ocean views for wheelchair-dependent people.
- Boardwalks/ramps and decks should have a non-slip surface. The use of spaces between decking or walking surfaces should be minimized, and their size should be as small as possible, preferably under 1/2 inch in width.
- Any interpretive panels or signs used shall be located at handrail height (36 inches) or below. Unless intended to be read by the blind or the partially sighted, they should be set far enough off a traveled way and/or high enough off the ground so as not to be inadvertently walked into.
- To minimize unnecessary repair and replacement, construction materials shall be resistant to the effects of the marine environment, and shall also be appropriate to the spirit of place. Concrete piers and pressure-treated wood timbers are compatible with both of these criteria.

WETLAND AREAS DESIGN CRITERIA

No facilities will be constructed in wetland areas, with the exception of the two overlooks previously discussed. Design criteria for parking and trail access to the Lagoon Lake overlooks and the Lake Davis Wetlands Trail are discussed under the following sections on the Stoneboro Area and Lake Davis Area, respectively. As a means of inconspicuously integrating development into the environment and for protection of resource values, the following criteria are intended to guide design and placement of the Lagoon Lake overlooks.

- Both overlooks shall be accessible to disabled visitors. See **Seashore Area-Beach Access Boardwalk and Sunning/Observation Deck** for applicable design criteria.
- Views of the overlook from the approaching trail and surrounding areas shall be screened. Native riparian vegetation should be used to screen both the foundations and structural supports of the platform on all sides, as well as hiding visitors from birds and other wildlife. It may be necessary to control views of the lagoon (less than 180-degree views) in order to provide sufficient screening.
- Any interpretive panels shall be installed at or below handrail height.
- Decay and rot-resistant building materials shall be used in foundations and pilings to avoid unnecessary repair, and to minimize impacts of future maintenance on surrounding vegetation.

ALDER CREEK AREA DESIGN CRITERIA

For the parking and facilities to successfully complement the natural environment, and to provide a quality visitor experience, the following design criteria should be applied.

Beach Access Area

If relinquished by the county, the following design criteria should be applied to area improvements.

- Stabilize the beach trail for pedestrian and emergency vehicle access.
- Intercept water seepage from the spring on the hillside, and divert to Alder Creek, using water bars or culverts with native rock dissipators.

Retain the informal natural character of the beach access and river mouth.

- Match the color of trail surfacing or imported fill materials to existing soil.
- Align the trail profile to natural contours, and feather cut and fill slopes to meet existing grades.

Enhance the appearance and function of the existing turnaround.

- Provide a locking gate for emergency beach access, and install vehicle barriers along the perimeter, using low wooden bollards.
- Repave with asphalt concrete, using 2-foot gravel shoulders to reduce runoff.
- Stripe and designate two parallel parking spaces for loading and unloading.
- Establish low-growing native vegetation on regraded areas surrounding the pavement.

Integrate the new parking and comfort station into the surrounding environment as much as possible, and respect the view of the hillside as seen from Highway 1.

- Fit the parking area into the hillside. Terrace the parking lanes as horizontal bands that follow the contour of the land, minimizing cut and fill.
- Screen vehicles and the comfort station at the overflow parking area. Layer plant materials, combining trees with lower-growing shrubs and groundcovers to create a dense mass of vegetation from the ground upward.
- Respect the natural profile of the hillside as seen from the highway:
  (1) create a mass of vegetation whose profile echoes the natural profile of the hill

behind it; (2) limit the plant material palette used to the minimum height necessary to screen vehicles and the comfort station.
- Minimize the visual impact of new landscaping on the area. Use native trees and plants typical of the immediate vicinity when possible, and plants indigenous to this area of the coast.

Minimize the environmental impacts of new construction.
- Utilize a permeable surfacing material, such as gravel, in the parking area and on the entrance drive, to eliminate runoff.

Design the gate at the end of the parking area for access by disabled persons, and to restrict unauthorized vehicular visitor use.
- Use automatic card openers or other equipment that will allow operation of the gate by the disabled without getting out of the vehicle.

Overlook

Minimize the visual and other environmental impacts of new facility construction.
- Use the alignment of the existing park service road/trail for access to the overlook.
- Limit construction of new parking and picnic facilities to the already disturbed area of the existing house sites.

Design parking and picnic facilities for use by the disabled.
- Install a hard or compacted, stabilized base for parking spaces that meets handicapped standards.
- Provide level pads for five picnic tables that can accommodate wheelchairs.
- Develop a hard-surfaced loop trail that meets handicap standards for width and maximum grades connecting the parking area with the picnic table sites.

Design facilities in character with the primitive, natural, open, and exposed character of the blufftop, and to respect views of the blufftop as seen from other areas of the park.
- Maintain the "rural lane" quality of the access road, retaining its one-lane width, without shoulders, and providing for two pull-outs to allow cars to pass. Limit surfacing to gravel or other permeable material.
- Design trail alignments and pavement edges using flowing curves and natural shapes. Colors of surfacing or paving materials should blend with native soil.
- Locate parking next to and immediately south of the existing retaining wall to minimize the height and visual impact of parking on the hillside.
- Screen the north and south sides of the parking and picnic area from view. Use medium- and low-growing coastal scrub vegetation massed to follow the shape of the hill, rather than trees or tall shrubs that would create a vertical focal point.
- Outside the new parking and picnic areas, restore the existing house site to natural conditions as much as possible. Reestablish the natural contours of the hill, and provide continuity with the coastal terrace below by relandscaping the hillside with coastal scrub vegetation.

DAVIS AREA DESIGN CRITERIA

Two design directions are to be implemented in the Davis Area. Stabilization of the Davis House, development of new parking and picnic facilities, and a new park entry should respect and enhance the "rural homestead" appearance of the historic house and site. Outside the historic core, the emphasis is to be on maintaining the natural character of the area. The following design criteria are intended to help accomplish this.

Entry Road

The entry road shall have a rural, "country lane" character, somewhat rough or unrefined in appearance.

- Minimize road width to that necessary for safe vehicular traffic: either a two-lane road with no shoulders, or one lane with turnouts to allow two-way passage.
- Use a compacted gravel or other permeable surface to convey a sense of rustic simplicity, and to eliminate runoff.
- Minimize cut and fill. The highway intersection may require considerable fill to function adequately, but in general, use of the existing road alignment for public entry to the Davis Area should avoid the need for extensive grading.

Parking

- Site the parking area so existing trees and landforms will screen the site from both the highway and the Davis House. Supplement screening with new landscaping.
- The parking area should have an informal, irregular shape, fitted to the site without use of retaining walls. Curbing and raised walks are also inappropriate.
- Minimize signing and eliminate the need for striping by clearly defining circulation and parking patterns through site design.
- Use wood rail corral/farm fencing to define the parking perimeter and walkways.
- Provide an attractive handicapped-accessible picnic site adjacent to the parking area, oriented toward views of the Davis House.
- A gravel or other permeable parking surface is preferred to minimize runoff into nearby wetland and surrounding natural areas. However, paved or hard surfaces are necessary for handicapped parking spaces and wheelchair-accessible paths.

Davis House and Historic Area

- Preserve the house and adjacent ranch structures in a state of arrested decay.
- Retain the unpaved ranch road for pedestrian/service vehicle circulation through the site. Modern vehicular traffic is not appropriate in the historic zone.
- The existing line of trees to the east of the house is to be maintained, and replanted when necessary. Other existing trees and historic plantings are to be retained where possible. Use appropriate historic plant material or native plants for any additional landscaping in the historic zone.
- Place rustic wooden picnic tables individually and in groups of two to three, out of the main pedestrian flow. Site picnic areas unobtrusively, yet providing for views of the house and the surrounding area, and taking advantage of the sun and windbreaks provided by existing trees.

Trailhead

- Locate the trailhead in the transition zone between the parking area and the Davis House, in close proximity to the comfort station and interpretive panels.
- Appropriate trailhead signs include directional signs for the Davis House, environmental campsites, and other destination points, as well as information signs, including trail names and distances, etc.
- Restrict all freestanding signs and interpretive panels to a maximum height of 3 feet, respecting the open and horizontal landscape.

Comfort Station

- The comfort station should be located in the transition zone between the Davis House and the parking area, convenient to both the parking area and the pedestrian trail/service road to the Davis House.
- This shall be a contemporary structure, incorporating stylistic details and architectural materials of the historic outbuilding structures, e.g., wood siding and low-profile shed roof, etc. The comfort station should not appear to be a duplication of the ranch house architecture. Exterior sheathing should be left to weather naturally, or be painted to harmonize with the surrounding environment. This structure shall be kept as small as possible.
- Screen the structure from the highway, entrance road, and historic area, using the existing tree canopy and additional landscaping if necessary.

Beach Trail/Service Road

- The existing service road shall retain its present alignment through the historic zone, past the environmental campsites to the Alder Creek bluffs. It shall remain an unpaved, one-lane road.
- Along the trail/road, trail signing and interpretive panels shall be kept to a minimum. Trail intersections should be located at perspective points where destination or direction is visually revealed.

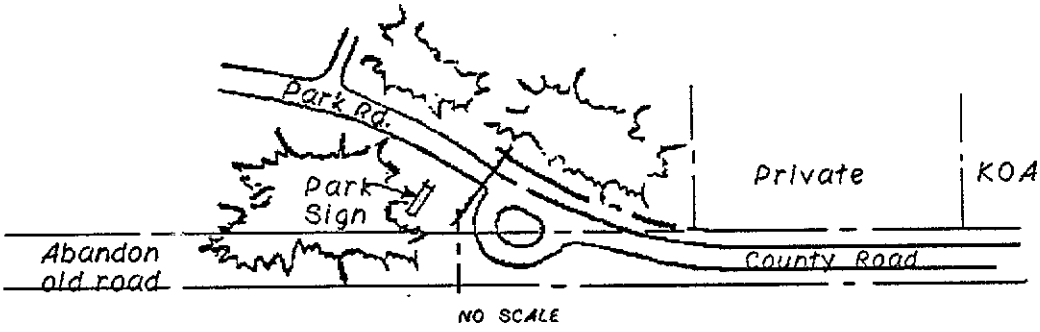
Lake Davis Wetlands Trail

- Wetland trail(s) shall be located on the periphery of wetland areas, except for a peninsular extension for an observation platform, or where the trail can be buffered by vegetation. Seasonal restrictions or closures may be necessary during the nesting season.
- No trail shall be located closer than 175 feet to a wetland, unless a vegetative buffer is provided to screen the trail from the wetland.
- The deck elevation of bridges and boardwalks shall be located below the height of existing vegetation, and any handrails shall be screened by new or existing native vegetation where possible.

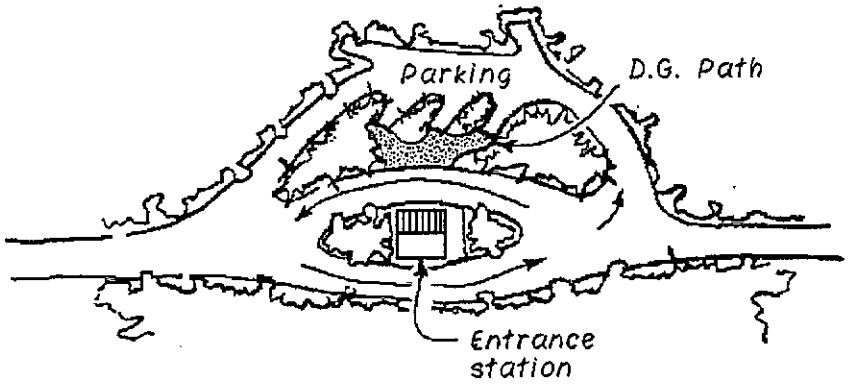
KINNEY AREA DESIGN CRITERIA

Park Entry

- At the new entrance, create a more park-like atmosphere for arriving visitors through addition of landscaping and a park entry sign. Install new landscaping also along the abandoned Kinney Lane roadbed as a part of restoring it to a natural condition, and to screen views of the AT&T facility.
- Provide a turnaround for vehicles not intending to enter the park, designed with a center island and a turning radius that will accommodate a vehicle pulling a trailer, with paving limited to a narrow one-way lane without shoulders.

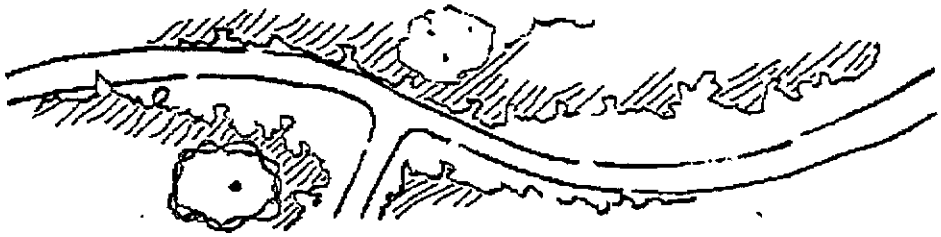


- Provide approximately five parking stalls in proximity to the entrance station, and out of the main traffic flow. Use native vegetation to screen the parking spaces from the horizontal line of site of an approaching vehicle.



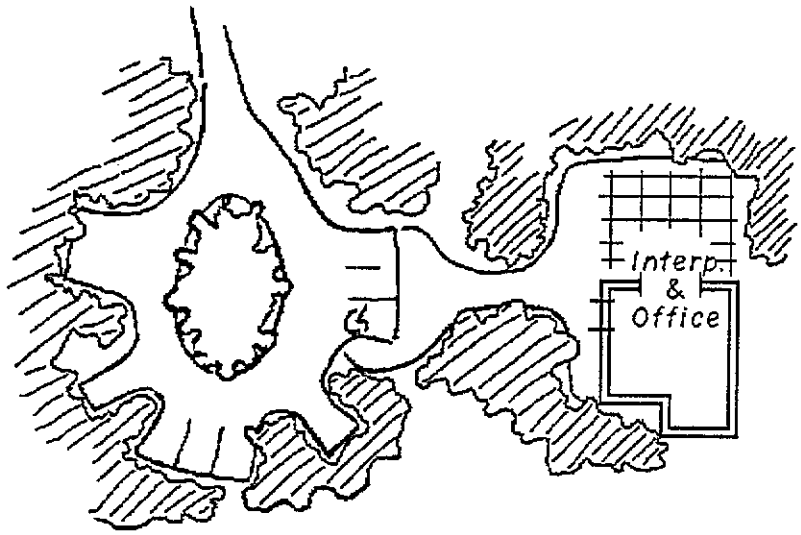
Entrance Road

- In realigning Kinney Lane through the park, follow existing contours and grades. Create changing perspectives from the road, using sweeping curves, and limiting straight alignments to the approach to intersections. Design for proper site distance at 15 mph.
- Limit the road width to 20 feet without striping, visible shoulders, or drainage structures. Crown the road surface for drainage.



Park Office/Interpretive Area

- Provide a reasonable setback from the road for the park office. It should be visible from the entry road, but not immediately adjacent to it.
- In addition to administrative functions, provide sufficient space in the interior of the building for key interpretive exhibits. Design outside space for interpretation as an integral part of the office complex, using a small interpretive shelter or ramada-type structure with a low roofline and wooden beam construction, and providing natural lighting through use of skylights or a clerestory.
- Fit parking for 6-10 vehicles unobtrusively into the site, separating sites using existing or new native plant materials indigenous to the grassland terrace. Curbing and striping are inappropriate.
- Provide a hard-surfaced connection to the office and interpretive area from the parking area for wheelchair-dependent people.



Campfire Center

- Retain the present rustic character, using logs for seating.
- Encourage growth of native vegetation on the periphery for screening.
- Install night safety lighting near ground level to reduce impacts on the nighttime environment and adjacent campgrounds.
- Provide a handicapped-accessible surface on the access trail and along the front row of seating, using soil cement.

Campground Expansion/Relocation

Campground development for relocation or expansion should echo the primitive character of the existing campground.

- New campground roads should be kept narrow and undulating, without shoulders or barriers. Vegetation bordering the roads should be maintained except for areas where clearing is necessary for visibility and safety. Use driftwood logs for vehicle control where necessary.
- Encourage native vegetation between campsites for screening/wind control, and bordering campsites, structures, and trails. Fit campsites to the land using the irregular shapes and sizes of existing clearings where possible. Use driftwood logs sparingly for campsite definition, parking and traffic control, and seating.

Group Camp

- Maintain this facility in its primitive condition.
- Continue to mow the activity space for group use.
- Retain the existing trees for windbreak, and replant if necessary, to perpetuate a solid barrier.

Beach Access

- Retain the character of the existing parking area.
- Use driftwood logs placed informally near the periphery of the parking area for traffic control where needed.
- Locate handicapped parking stalls near the access to the proposed boardwalk to the beach.
- Remove the existing restrooms. Locate a new restroom structure near the AT&T fenceline, and add landscaping to screen from the entrance road.
- Add walk-in picnic sites around the periphery of the existing parking area, providing two handicapped-accessible sites, and taking care to avoid disturbance of native grassland to the north. Place tables informally, and use driftwood logs to delineate the periphery of the picnic area and control vehicles.
- Remove "volunteer" trails by resculpting to natural contours and replanting with native plant material.

STONEBORO AREA DESIGN CRITERIA

Parking Areas

- Screen from approaching vehicles and from distant views with native vegetation and land shaping.
- Use permeable surface to minimize runoff into the lagoon, but provide a hard surface for handicapped stalls and trail access.
- Design circulation patterns to minimize the need for traffic signs and striping.

Picnic Area

- Place picnic sites at the southern end of the existing parking area, in the tree grove. Provide additional landscaping to provide some screening between sites. Create at least two handicapped sites accessible via compacted gravelled or hard-surfaced walks.

Trail Access to Lagoon Overlooks

- Design as wheelchair-accessible.
- Provide changing perspectives from access trails.
- Promote visual separation from automobiles.
- Respect wildlife setbacks.

PRIORITIES FOR IMPLEMENTATION

The general priorities in this section are intended to guide budget decisions in order to accomplish the most important things first, in terms of visitors' health, safety, resource protection, public access, and enjoyment. This program will be carried out over a long period of time; consequently, some priorities are likely to change as time goes on. The availability of funds or staff may also cause priorities to change. As each phase is completed, it will be prudent to evaluate how the facilities are being used, and to determine what future development is appropriate to accommodate visitors and their needs within the constraints of this plan.

Overall, the phasing of development is based on making improvements first at the most heavily used visitor areas, i.e., the Kinney Lane beach access and the Kinney Lane campground, followed by areas where improvements have the potential to provide for the greatest increase in visitor use, access, and enjoyment. Priority I actions, those that should be made in the near future, represent changes needed to protect visitor health and safety, remedy/prevent recreation use situations or operational control problems that lead directly to resource impacts and destruction, or must be accomplished in order to implement Priority II or III actions. Most of them represent relatively minor changes to existing conditions, and will require little or no additional park staff to operate and maintain. As visitation to the unit increases, Priority II items begin to make a permanent commitment of undeveloped areas in order to accommodate visitors and the necessary facilities for operating and administering the park. Emphasis is on providing for increased interpretation of the unit's resources. These actions will require additional detailed planning and budgeting. Third priority actions will add new opportunities for recreation use, and will require substantial funding, additional land, commitment from the county, and/or additional staffing to operate.

Several studies and programs can proceed independently, without regard to development or completion of other items. These include resource management programs, e.g., fire protection, and the Historic Structures Report for the Davis House. Individual actions in each group are presented in a recommended sequence. However, again, many factors can influence this development program, and it should be treated only as a guideline.

PRIORITY 1 ✔

- Remove the Alder Creek houses.
- If necessary, relocate Kinney Area campsites and portions of the beach parking area affecting mountain beaver habitat.
- Correct erosion problems on the Alder Creek beach access trail.
- Stabilize the Davis House.
- Improve the trail to the beach from the Kinney Area campground. Eliminate volunteer trails to the beach from the campground.
- Remove unnecessary trails through the dunes from the Kinney Area beach parking area, and develop a new handicapped beach access boardwalk and a sunning/observation deck.
- Add improved trail signing, picnic sites, fire pits, and new sanitary facilities at the Kinney beach access area.
- Work with Caltrans to make appropriate highway safety improvements at the Alder Creek Road intersection. Upgrade turnaround parking and the beach trail, and develop a new overflow parking area and sanitary facility. Eliminate parking along the road shoulder and on the road below the turnaround. (Requires relinquishment of Alder Creek turnaround by the county to the department.) Install coastal access signing required by the Mendocino County Coastal Element.

- Work with Caltrans and the county to make highway improvements at Kinney Lane.
- Develop wayside interpretive panels and shelters at existing beach access parking areas and camping areas.

PRIORITY 2

- Improve sanitary facilities at the Kinney Area campground.
- Reorient the campfire center at the Kinney Area campground.
- Construct a new park office, providing both indoor interpretive displays and an outdoor interpretive shelter.
- Develop handicapped-accessible parking, a picnic area, and an overlook on the Alder Creek bluffs. Install interpretive panels.
- Provide a new park entry. (Work with the county to obtain Kinney Lane adjacent to the park, west of KOA.) Create an internal park road connecting the campground and beach parking area (by using parts of Kinney Lane or developing a new road). Develop a park entrance station, and remove the campground contact station. Realign the access into the maintenance area. Provide new landscaping, and relocate the park entry sign.
- Provide an interpretive trail to Lagoon Lake from the existing parking area. Develop handicapped-accessible overlooks and parking areas at Lagoon Lake. Create pedestrian connections to the overlook parking areas from the Stoneboro beach access parking area.
- Establish a trailhead in the Stoneboro Area (by acquiring the existing parking area, or by developing a nearby park site). Add picnic sites and a sanitary facility. Install interpretive shelters/trail signs.
- Develop new vehicular access, make highway safety improvements, and construct a parking area for the Davis Area. Relocate the environmental camp parking from Kinney Lane to the Davis Area. Install interpretive shelters and panels at the trailhead and the Davis House.
- Restore unnecessary roads and trails in the Stoneboro Area to natural conditions. (Requires acquisition.)
- Replace the existing maintenance building with a new structure.

PRIORITY 3

- Develop a year-round water source for the environmental campsites.
- Develop the Lake Davis loop trail with low-profile interpretive panels. Provide picnic sites and a sanitary facility at the Davis parking area.
- Develop a new park egress/ingress from Highway 1, combining entry into both the Davis and Alder Creek Areas (if private property necessary to accomplish this becomes available).
- Expand the Kinney beach parking area.
- Expand the Kinney Lane campground.
- Work with the county to provide bike lanes along Stoneboro Road and Kinney Lane.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ELEMENT

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INTRODUCTION

The General Plan, with all its elements, constitutes an environmental impact report (EIR), as required by state law (Public Resources Code Sections 5002.2 and 21000, et seq.). The ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ELEMENT will discuss the topics usually discussed in an EIR. Public comments to the preliminary General Plan, received during the public review period, and the department's responses to those comments are included in APPENDIX G.

When a point has been adequately discussed in another element of this General Plan, it is mentioned in this element by reference to avoid redundancy.

SUMMARY

Following are the major environmental effects that will result from implementation of this project, and the major mitigation measures that will reduce or eliminate those environmental effects. Mitigation measures will be monitored.

In general, the proposals at Manchester State Park will benefit the unit's environment, and improve facilities for the public.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The **RESOURCE, INTERPRETIVE, CONCESSIONS, OPERATIONS, LAND USE,** and **FACILITIES ELEMENTS** in this plan propose how resources will be protected, how the unit will be used, and what facilities will be constructed.

DESCRIPTION OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

Refer to the **RESOURCE ELEMENT** for a description of the natural and cultural environment of this unit. The **LAND USE** and **FACILITIES ELEMENTS** and, to a lesser degree, other elements also describe the existing natural environment, and human influences on the environment.

In addition to those descriptions of the local environmental setting, note the following:

Air Quality

Air quality along the Mendocino coast is generally good because of the influx of clean air off the Pacific Ocean. Air quality data for the North Coast Air Basin were reviewed from the 1988 Summary of Gaseous and Particulate Pollutants by the California Air Resources Board, Technical Support Division. The Mendocino coast is within this boundary. Pollutants were monitored at several stations, mostly in populated areas in the air basin. There were no monitoring stations for gaseous pollutants along the Mendocino coast, and only one station along the Mendocino coast, in Fort Bragg, that monitored particulates.

The monitoring stations in the air basin did not measure any days where gaseous pollutants exceeded state or federal standards. The basin as a whole measured 25 days when particulate samples exceeded state standards of air quality, and three days when federal air quality standards were exceeded.

It is felt that air quality along the rural areas of the Mendocino coast is even better than at most of the monitoring stations.

Traffic Circulation and Parking

There are three county access roads off State Highway 1 to various areas of Manchester State Park. Road access is provided to the beach, day use, overnight use, and other facilities. Some areas are only accessible by trail, or are behind a locked gate.

Vegetation and Wildlife

As noted in the **RESOURCE ELEMENT**, there are several sensitive plant species as listed by the California Native Plant Society. Some of these are candidates for state or federal listings, and are legally protected.

Wildlife species that are on state or federal endangered species lists include the California brown pelican, the American peregrine falcon, and the Point Arena mountain beaver. Five of the mountain beaver's ten known habitats are located in Manchester State Park. Other endangered species observed in the area include the bald eagle and the federally listed lotis blue butterfly. The federally listed gray and humpback whales have been observed off the coast.

There are many other species of special concern listed in the **RESOURCE ELEMENT.**

There are many exotic plant and animal species, including feral cats and dogs, which are a threat to native species. Uncontrolled use by humans can also be considered a threat.

Public Services

Water and sanitary services are provided to this unit.

(See the **OPERATIONS ELEMENT** for existing public safety, law enforcement, and aquatic safety procedures, and personnel responsibilities and capabilities.)

SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT

Most of the proposals as described in the **RESOURCE, LAND USE,** and **FACILITIES ELEMENTS** will be beneficial to the environment.

Soils and Geology

The state park's soils consist mainly of sand and loam (see **RESOURCE ELEMENT**). The proposed project includes features that will protect the sand beach, bluffs, and dunes. Human use, unless mitigated, could cause beach and dune erosion.

The San Andreas Fault crosses this unit, and enters the Pacific Ocean. Earthquakes and tsunamis are possibilities at this unit. Both could cause damage.

Energy

Use of energy by construction equipment will be a short-term effect. Long-term energy uses will include maintenance, emergency and patrol vehicles, and vehicles driven by the public to reach the unit.

Vegetation and Wildlife

Some native vegetation and wildlife may be minimally affected by proposed project construction, and, intentionally or unintentionally, by the public.

The **RESOURCE ELEMENT** describes in detail a plan for how the vegetation and wildlife will be managed at Manchester State Park.

New facility development and increased use by the public could be a threat to native plants and animals. The plan proposes to avoid the impacts to the natural environment as much as possible. Elimination of volunteer trails, building new trails and boardwalks, and relocation of campsites and other facilities will all be done to protect the natural resources, as well as maximizing the recreational opportunities.

Cultural

The **RESOURCE ELEMENT** discusses the Davis House and other historic and prehistoric archeological sites. If left unprotected, these resources could be significantly affected.

Traffic Circulation and Parking

The **LAND USE** and **FACILITIES ELEMENTS** propose ways to improve circulation, increase parking, and improve trail access.

Esthetics

The General Plan **INTRODUCTION** and the **RESOURCE ELEMENT** describe this topic. Proposed facilities will not have significant impacts.

Public Services

This plan proposes continued services. (See **OPERATIONS ELEMENT** and **INTERPRETIVE ELEMENT**.)

Recreation Safety

Certain hazards exist for unwary recreationists. These include ocean or surf hazards such as riptides, tides, and unexpected high waves. Winter storms and rare tsunami conditions are especially dangerous.

MITIGATION MEASURES ✔

The resource management directives in the **RESOURCE ELEMENT** should be referred to for guidance on protection of the unit's natural and cultural resources. Several mitigation measures are specified here, and will be monitored when the project is implemented.

Soils and Geology

Proposed roads, parking areas, trails, and boardwalks in the dunes and wetlands will be designed so water runoff will not erode soils. Design features such as boardwalks and landscaping with native vegetation and dune restoration with native species will help prevent sand dune erosion.

Beach erosion is a regional and statewide occurrence. However, seacliff retreat and beach erosion are natural processes. Known large-scale solutions to these problems are not appropriate in State Park System units. (See **RESOURCE ELEMENT** directives.)

Energy

Use of construction machinery will be minimized to conserve energy.

Vegetation and Wildlife

Resource directives in the **RESOURCE ELEMENT** for plants and animals will be followed.

Exotic species will be controlled or removed, i.e., feral cats and dogs that threaten the mountain beaver and other wildlife species.

Cultural

The **RESOURCE, LAND USE,** and **FACILITIES ELEMENTS** propose to preserve the historical features in the unit, such as the Davis House, and use of the historical residence for interpretive use. Prehistoric sites will also be protected.

Esthetics

The proposed project will improve esthetics throughout the developed area. Removal of the houses along the bluffs near the north end of the beach will improve the appearance of the area. Screening parking areas from the highway and county roads will also prevent a negative impact.

Visitor Safety

Unit personnel will help visitors needing emergency attention. Signs warning visitors about surf conditions, or that a lifeguard may not be on duty, will be prominently displayed.

Interpretive displays and unit personnel will assist in informing the public.

Traffic Circulation and Parking

The proposals of the **LAND USE** and **FACILITIES ELEMENTS** will improve the traffic circulation, and provide more parking.

ANY SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS THAT CANNOT BE AVOIDED IF THE PROPOSAL IS IMPLEMENTED.....✔

Environmental problems can be effectively mitigated, as described in this plan. Therefore, there should not be any significant environmental effects if the proposal is implemented.

ALTERNATIVES TO THE PROPOSED PROJECT .....✔

The first alternative is the "No Project" alternative. The full potential of this unit would not be met, and the resources would not be fully protected.

There are several alternatives in the proposed General Plan, and they are presented in **APPENDIX F: ALTERNATIVES.**

For example, camping facilities at the park could be expanded into the Stoneboro Road area. However, with increased visitor use of the area, visual impacts on the open space, and impacts on adjacent wetland areas, this proposal was considered detrimental to the resources and spirit of place. Likewise, the existing Kinney Lane campground could be

upgraded from a primitive "Class C" one to a "Class A" campground, typical of more developed state park campground standards. However, this would affect the primitive experience, and compete with adjacent private enterprise.

Planning alternatives are limited because of local and state plans and legal requirements.

Relationship Between Local Short-term Uses of the Environment and Maintenance and Enhancement of Long-term Productivity.....✔

The proposed short-term uses of the unit will be similar to present uses. The proposed project should be a long-term solution to the needs of the public for parking, beach access, improved maintenance, and visitor protection. In addition, the natural and cultural resources will be better protected.

Any Significant Irreversible Environmental Changes if the Proposed Project is Implemented.....✔

None.

Growth-Inducing Impacts of the Proposed Project...✔

This project will not increase the permanent human population in the area. The number of proposed parking spaces exceeds the existing number. Parking infrequently reaches capacity, and does not have a significant impact.

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APPENDIX A: EXISTING LAND USE CONDITIONS AND TRENDS

REGIONAL CONTEXT

Population

The present land use pattern in Mendocino County is a rural one, with abundant timber and agricultural lands. The population of 79,100 people (July 1990) is generally concentrated along the sea coast, Highway 101, and in a few interior valleys. More than two-thirds of them live in unincorporated and rural areas. The four incorporated towns — Ukiah and Willits inland on Highway 101, and Fort Bragg and Point Arena on Highway 1 along the coast — are small. Ukiah, the county seat and the largest community, is the only one with a population exceeding 10,000 (about 14,000 in 1988). Ukiah is also the center of economic activity, and offers the greatest range of employment and residential options.

Preceded by a decade in which the population grew by only .1%, between 1970 and 1980 Mendocino's total population increased by 30.6%, about 3% per year. The 1980-90 decade saw the growth rate slow to about 2% per year. Almost 60% of this gain resulted from net migration. The California Department of Finance projects that the county's population will exceed 100,000 persons by the year 2010.

Transportation

The regional transportation network links Mendocino County with the San Francisco Bay Area, Eureka, and areas north by way of U.S. Highway 101 and the Pacific Coast Highway 1, running the full length of the coast.

There are two major east-west connections between the two. State Highway 20 connects Fort Bragg, Willits, and Ukiah with Sacramento via Lake County and Interstate 5; State Route 128 provides links to the coast from inland and Sonoma County. The 5,000-foot Ukiah Municipal Airport has complete facilities, including charter flight surface and ground transportation on to San Francisco International Airport, seven days a week. The Mendocino Transit Authority provides bus service throughout the county, and Greyhound has regular interstate service on Highway 101, plus north to Fort Bragg via Highway 128. Shipping can be done by Greyhound, United Parcel, Federal Express, and Northwestern Pacific/Eureka Southern rail from Sonoma County to Eureka.

Economy

Timber and agriculture are the mainstays of the county's economy. Wine grape production rivals commercial fishing and sportfishing as the second major industry. Pears also remain strong, and throughout Mendocino County, one finds a wide variety of traditional agricultural enterprises, such as cattle, sheep, apples, nursery and field crops, Christmas trees, and even llamas. As the north coast continues to grow as a premier wine region, and other commodities stay in demand, agriculture will continue to play an essential role in the county's economy and rural lifestyle.

Tourism is becoming an increasingly important part of the area's economy. The trend in this industry is one of sporadic but sustained growth, with a continuing increase and diversification of small business enterprises. The scenic beauty of the area, particularly the large expanses of privately managed timberlands, and the unique resources of the 13 Mendocino County coastal units of the State Park System are the primary bases for recreation and tourism.

Regional Recreation Profile

Land Ownership

Approximately 466,346 acres in Mendocino County, or 21% of the county, are in public ownership, almost all of which is available for park and recreation use. The largest single public landowner is the federal government, with approximately 372,700 acres distributed between various federal agencies (primarily the U.S. Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management).

These lands consist of largely undeveloped natural environment areas, with small scattered sites that provide developed recreation facilities (U.S. Forest Service) or occasional primitive hunter camps (Bureau of Land Management). Difficult access effectively precludes public recreation use of much of these lands. Recreation opportunities at Lake Mendocino, operated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, include boating, swimming, water-skiing, camping, picnicking, and hiking.

State-owned lands in the county total approximately 83,000 acres, 16,000 of which are managed by the Department of Parks and Recreation. This acreage is distributed among 21 state parks, beaches, reserves, and recreation areas, ranging in size from three-acre Caspar Headlands State Reserve to 5,900-acre Mailliard Redwoods State Reserve. These lands are used primarily for recreation, with emphasis on passive activities, such as hiking, camping, and picnicking, in strong programs of open space and natural resource preservation. Most State Park System lands have good access, and receive moderate to heavy recreation use during the summer, with lighter use in the spring and fall.

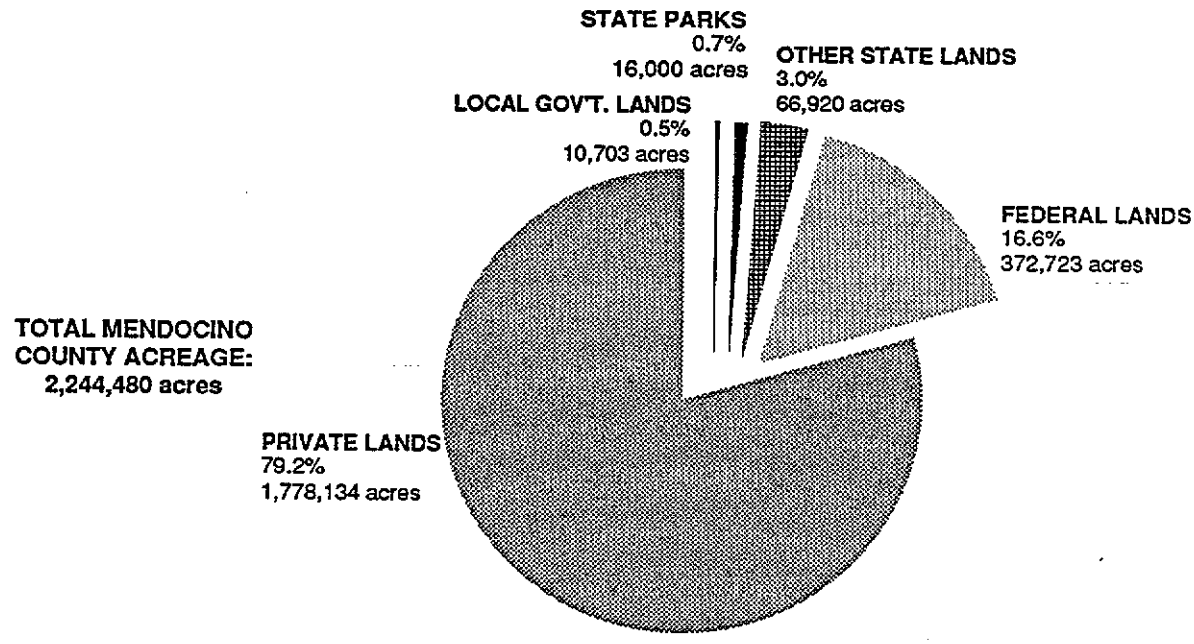


FIGURE 3. LAND OWNERSHIP IN MENDOCINO COUNTY (ACRES)

Currently, lands in county ownership for outdoor recreation purposes total approximately 500 acres. Gualala Point Regional Park fronts on the coast, and has developed hiking trails, picnicking, and camping by the ocean. Some of the county parks, such as Low Gap Regional Park and Cow Mountain Recreation Area, are specialized facilities developed or preserved for the intrinsic values found on these lands and their location. In other parks, Faulkner and Indian Creek County Parks, for example, camping facilities have been developed for overnight visits.

Local park and recreational needs are met through provisions established by the various incorporated areas of the county. In addition to local park and special use areas, recreation programs such as sports leagues, tiny tot's programs, senior citizen programs, adult education classes, and arts and crafts programs help to meet the needs of their clientele. However, analysis by the Department of Parks and Recreation (California Outdoor Recreation Resources Plan) indicates that the existing acreage of local park lands is less than one-tenth of that needed to serve the population now residing in the county's incorporated cities, and less than 3% of that needed to meet the needs of the county's present population.

The importance of the private sector in meeting recreation needs should not be overlooked. Of the approximate 1.8 million acres of private land in Mendocino County, 460,000 acres (26%) are available for recreation. Much of the acreage is accounted for by ranches, farms, and timberlands (used for hunting), but the private sector also provides campgrounds, marinas, launching and mooring facilities, theme parks, golfing, fishing, equestrian use, and picnicking.

Coastal Recreation Use

In Mendocino County, the coast is the primary recreation and tourist destination area, and is considered a recreation and tourist impact area. Most recreation and tourist use in this area is attracted from outside the county. The diversity and relatively unspoiled character of the Mendocino coast's natural and human-made environment invite visitors to spend a day or week there. A basic attraction is sightseeing by driving along Highway 1, admiring the dramatic vistas of sea and shoreline. Tourists are attracted by the coast's natural habitats, the tide pools, estuaries, and coves, its "uncrowded" rural character, and the charm of its villages and towns. Popular activities include hiking and walking, picnicking, bicycling, fishing, abalone diving, birdwatching, whale-watching, and photography. Leading attractions at specific points include the town of Mendocino, renowned for its quaint Cape Cod-style architecture and spectacular natural setting, the Skunk Train from Fort Bragg to Willits, fishing activity at Noyo Harbor, and the coastal State Park System units.

Other public recreation sites along the coast are the Wildlife Conservation Board fishing or boating access points at Kibesillah, Noyo, and Navarro, and the Caltrans Chadbourne Gulch scenic easement. There are 15 private campgrounds in the coastal zone, five of which have shoreline access (Wages Creek, Doyle Creek, Albion Flat, Anchor Bay, Gualala River Redwood Park).

State Park Coastal Facilities and Visitation

State Park System units are the largest, best known, and most heavily used recreational sites along the coast. Thirteen State Park System units along the coast account for approximately 38 miles of shoreline, or about 32% of the county total. Of all the Mendocino County State Park System units, the coastal units attract a substantial majority of visitors to the region. Most of them stress preservation of significant natural heritage resources and passive recreational pursuits typical of the north coast, such as nature observation and beachcombing. Several units help preserve the magnificent stands of coast redwood forest.

As of June 1989, there were a total of 886 campsites, 83 picnic sites, and 117 miles of trails in the 21 State Park System units in Mendocino County, of which 716 campsites, 63 picnic sites, and 108 miles of trail were located in the 13 coastal units. Visitor attendance countywide at State Park System units in fiscal year 1988-89 was 2,348,423. Visitation in units along the coast (2,151,363) accounted for 92% of the countywide total; 1,907,435 (or 89%) of the coastal visitation was day use.

Recreation Demand and Facility Deficiencies

In 1990, the annual demand for recreation in Mendocino County was about 30 million participation days. Projections by the department's Park and Recreation Information System (PARIS) through the year 2010 for Mendocino County show camping with the highest projected recreation demand out of 28 activities, followed by hiking, picnicking, nature appreciation, lake and stream fishing, visiting scenic areas, and sunning.

For the three activities most commonly provided by the State Park System, PARIS data project that by the year 2000, there will be a demand for 527,816 camping participation days in Mendocino County; 441,916 hiking/backpacking days; and 371,111 picnicking days. The data reveals that trail facilities are more than adequate to meet county needs for some years; however, picnic and camping facilities are deficient.

In the coastal area of Mendocino, the Mendocino County General Plan (Coastal Element) estimates that on a peak summer weekend day, when all accommodations are filled, there could be 2,600 visitor parties on the coast, 90% of whom will spend the night there. As of 1980, there were approximately 2,206 overnight accommodation units, including motels, inns, State Park System campgrounds, and private campgrounds in the county's coastal zone, not including those in incorporated cities. Based on the California Outdoor Recreation Resources Plan (CORRP) and PARIS data, as well as traffic trends on Highway 1, the county has projected tourism to increase between 1980 and 2000 at 3% per year (not compounded). By the year 2000, peak day use could increase 60%, to 4,160 parties. If the need for accommodations were to increase at the same rate as visitors, an additional 1,324 units would be needed, for a total of 3,530 units. The county's Coastal Element plans and allows for an increase to 3,086 overnight accommodation units by the year 2000.

The 716 coastal State Park System campsites account for 23% of the county's total projected overnight accommodations in the coastal zone. Since 1980, when the county Coastal Element was prepared, all of the 260 additional camp units allocated to State Park System units to meet future needs have been installed. Yet the need for camping facilities is still unmet in certain areas. Campgrounds near the towns of Mendocino and Fort Bragg are full during the peak season, while those farther from the heart of the tourist activity are usually fully occupied only over long holiday weekends.

Park User Survey and Preferences

Origins of visitors to Manchester State Park were determined from the 1990 visitor use survey distributed at the park, and illustrated on the following page. Results of the survey indicate that 24% of all visitors live in the San Francisco Bay Area, and 22% live locally (Mendocino County). Because of the regional, statewide, and national significance of the recreation and destination points along the Mendocino coast and its proximity to San Francisco, it is not surprising that, overall, 38% of the visitors to the park come from other states and countries.

The survey indicated that slightly less than 5% of park visitors arrive on bicycle; 92% by vehicle. The average number of visitors per vehicle is 2.2. Most visitors stop at the park as an overnight enroute stay (41%). Yet, for nearly a third of respondents, Manchester State Park is the primary destination. For two-thirds of them, it is their first visit to the park. The average stay for those who camp is 2.2 nights.

The areas of the park most enjoyed (57%) are the beach and sand dunes. The qualities visitors appreciate most are the park's beauty and quiet, opportunity for solitude, and its natural, undeveloped character. This is reflected in the kinds of activities visitors participate in: nature study, quiet contemplation, nature walks, camping, birdwatching, plant/flower study, hiking, seal watching, and beach activities.

Seventy-three percent of respondents prefer to keep the park as it is, without any changes. Suggestions for improvements were related to trails (better signing, extended day-use trail loop, boardwalk to beach), interpretation (natural resource information, park orientation), and improved sanitary facilities at the campgrounds.

USER SURVEY

State park planners are developing plans to guide the future of several Mendocino Coast state park system units - plans to provide countless opportunities for enjoyment and fun while maintaining the qualities that make the parks so attractive. These plans must fulfill many public expectations, not just those of the people of today, but the needs of generations of visitors to come.

The mission of the California Department of Parks and Recreation is two-fold: to protect and preserve the natural and cultural resources of the State Park System and to provide public recreation and use. As part of that mission, the purpose of a general plan is to guide the management and development of a park over a twenty-year period by outlining specific policies, actions, and programs for resource protection, preservation and interpretation, land use, facility development, and park operations.

To help us better serve park visitors, we need to know more about who uses this park, and their activities, opinions, and park experiences. Our survey will be useful only if you help. Please answer the questions below and return the completed form to the ranger station at the end of your visit or drop it in the mail. Your participation is truly appreciated.

---

1. What park are you visiting? (If you are visiting more than one park, please use only one form per park).

_____Schooner Gulch Project
_____Manchester State Beach
_____Greenwood Creek Project
_____Van Damme State Park
_____Russian Gulch State Park
_____Jughandle State Reserve
_____Caspar State Beach/State Reserve
_____MacKerricher State Park
_____Westport-Union Landing State Beach

2. How did you arrive at the park?
_____Vehicle _____Bicycle _____On foot

3. How many people in your party?_____
Number of vehicles _____

4. Do you live in California? Yes No
If yes, what is your zip code?_____
If no, where do you live?_____

5. Why are you visiting this park?
_____Visited by chance
_____Just passing thru
_____Overnite stay enroute
_____Park was one of several places to visit
_____Park was our primary destination.

6. How often do you visit this park?
_____1 or more times per month
_____3-4 times per year
_____1-2 times per year
_____Don't visit regularly
_____First visit

7. Did you camp at this park this visit? Yes No
If yes, how many nights?_____

8. What area of the park do you enjoy most and why?

9. Would you be willing to use only alternative forms of transportation (by foot, bicycle, or shuttle bus) to get around within the park? Yes No

10. Place a check mark next to the activities that you or your group participated in while at this park.

_____Nature observation
_____Seal watching
_____Birdwatching
_____Plant/wildflower study
_____Nature walks
_____Quiet contemplation
_____Native American culture/Euroamerican history study
_____Picnicking
_____Day hiking
_____Tent/car camping
_____RV camping
_____Group camping
_____Bicycling
_____Mountain biking
_____Visit visitor center
_____Attending campfire program
_____Viewing exhibits, hearing talks
_____Scuba/skin diving
_____Horseback riding
_____Fishing
_____Swimming
_____Sea kayaking
_____Other beach activities
_____Other_____

10b. For the activities that you checked above, were the facilities adequate for your recreation needs? Were the park's natural/cultural resources managed in a condition that allowed you to enjoy your activity? Next to your check mark above, please indicate yes or no. Use a "Y" for yes and an "N" for no. Rate only the activities that you checked.

10c. If you answered no, what was inadequate? How could they be improved?

11. List any activities or facilities you would like to see at this park that do not now exist; or, existing activities that you do not want to see continue at the park.

12. What do you like best about this park?

13. What do you like least about this park?

14. Please indicate your preferences for making changes at this park. On a scale of "1" to "5", "1" being the most important, indicate which five items are the most important to you.

_____Make no changes, leave the park as it is.
_____Enhance the park's natural and resources (for example, dune stabilization, wildlife habitat restoration, rare species protection, archeological site protection, closure/fencing of areas to protect plants/animals, etc.).
_____Improve education and information about the park and its natural and cultural resource values.
_____Increase number of ranger walks and talks.
_____Provide better visitor protection and law enforcement.
_____Improve maintenance and cleanliness of park facilities.
_____Restore/reconstruct historic structures.
_____Build/improve campground.
_____Provide (more) hiking trails.
_____Provide (more) horse trails.
_____Build/improve picnic areas.
_____Build/improve visitor center.
_____Provide more parking.
_____Make certain areas more accessible. (Which areas? and how?_____)
_____Remove recreation facilities (Which ones?_____)
_____Other_____

15. Is there anything else you would like to tell us about the park and your concerns?

THANK YOU!

The plans for the Mendocino Coast state park units will guide resource management and facility development for many years in the future. If you would like to be informed about the progress of the park general plans, please fill in your name and address.

_____
Name

_____
Address

_____
City State Zip Code or Country

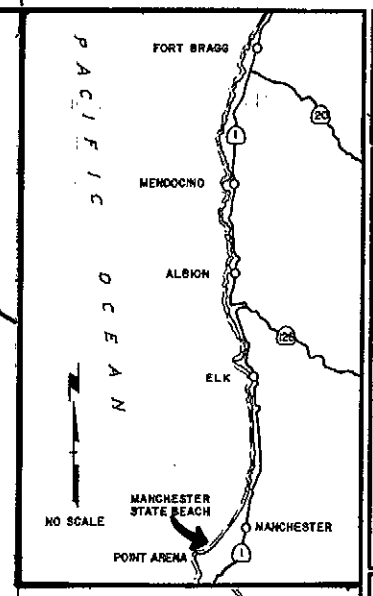
_____
Phone

APPENDIX B:
LAND OWNERSHIP RECORD

DRAWING NO. 25308, SHEETS 1-5

T. 13 N., R. 16 & 17 W., M. D. M.
MENDOCINO COUNTY

T.14 N
T.13 N.
R. 16 W.
R. 17 W.
WEST
8000'
ALDER CREEK
CRISPIN ROAD
KINNEY ROAD
BRUSH CREEK
MANCHESTER
LAGOON CREEK
STONEBORO ROAD
HUNTER'S LAGOON SUBDIV.
DUXBURY ROAD
RIVER
PACIFIC OCEAN
MARINE UNDERWATER AREA
3,782 ACRES
S. 40° W.
15,750'±
S. 60° E.
11,000'
GARCIA
LIGHTHOUSE ROAD
POINT ARENA
2 MILES TO THE TOWN OF POINT ARENA
1 2 6 7 12 13 14 18 19 23 24 25 26 27 30 34 35 36



0 500 1000 2000 3000
SCALE IN FEET

NOTE 1. SEE P&R FILE 419.4 FOR PERMITS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS.

NOTE 2. SEE P&R FILE 419.3 AND 419.8 FOR SPECIFIC INFORMATION AS TO TITLE AND ENCUMBRANCES.

NOTE 3. SEE P&R FILE 429.6 FOR USE AGREEMENTS ETC.

NOTE 4. FOR BENEFIT OF STATE PARKS USE AND OPERATIONS ONLY.

REFERENCE MAPS

USGS QUAD. "POINT ARENA," 7 1/2 MIN.
USGS QUAD. "MALLO PASS CREEK," 7 1/2 MIN.
RECORD OF SURVEYS MAP NO. 4371
P. & R. SURVEY MAPS: PA-15, PA-16
RECORD OF SURVEY: MAP CASE 2, DRAWER 3, PAGE 1

LEGEND

- STATE PARK BOUNDARY
- STATE LANDS COMM. PERMIT BOUNDARY
- (A1) APPURTENANCE

DESIGNED	DRAWN 10/90	CHECKED
S. CHILDRESS	S. CHILDRESS	M. LIBURDY

REVISIONS	DATE
REVISED BOUNDARY LINES IN SEC. 12 & IN HUNTER'S LAGOON	4/91
CHANGE NAME FROM BEACH TO PARK DUE TO RECLASSIFICATION	10/91

RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
APPROVED _____ DATE 1/23/91
RIGHT OF WAY AND OWNERSHIP MAPPING

MANCHESTER STATE PARK
LAND OWNERSHIP RECORD

DRAWING No 25308

SHEET No. 1 OF 5

T. 13 N., R. 16 & 17 W., M.D.M.
MENDOCINO COUNTY

PACIFIC OCEAN

DETAIL "A"
NOT TO SCALE

DETAIL "B"
NOT TO SCALE

SEE SHEET 3 FOR DETAILS THIS AREA (HUNTER'S LAGOON SUB.)

LEGEND

- STATE PARK BOUNDARY
- STATE LANDS COMM. PERMIT BOUNDARY
- (10) ACQUISITION PARCEL
- (E5) ENCUMBRANCE
- (A1) APPURTENANCE
- P.O.B. POINT OF BEGINNING

0 400 800 1600 2400
SCALE IN FEET

DESIGNED S. CHILDRESS | DRAWN S. CHILDRESS | CHECKED M. LIBURDY

REVISIONS | DATE
CHG. ISEL HALF FROM BEACH TO PARK | 10/91
CHG. TO RESURVEY LOCATION

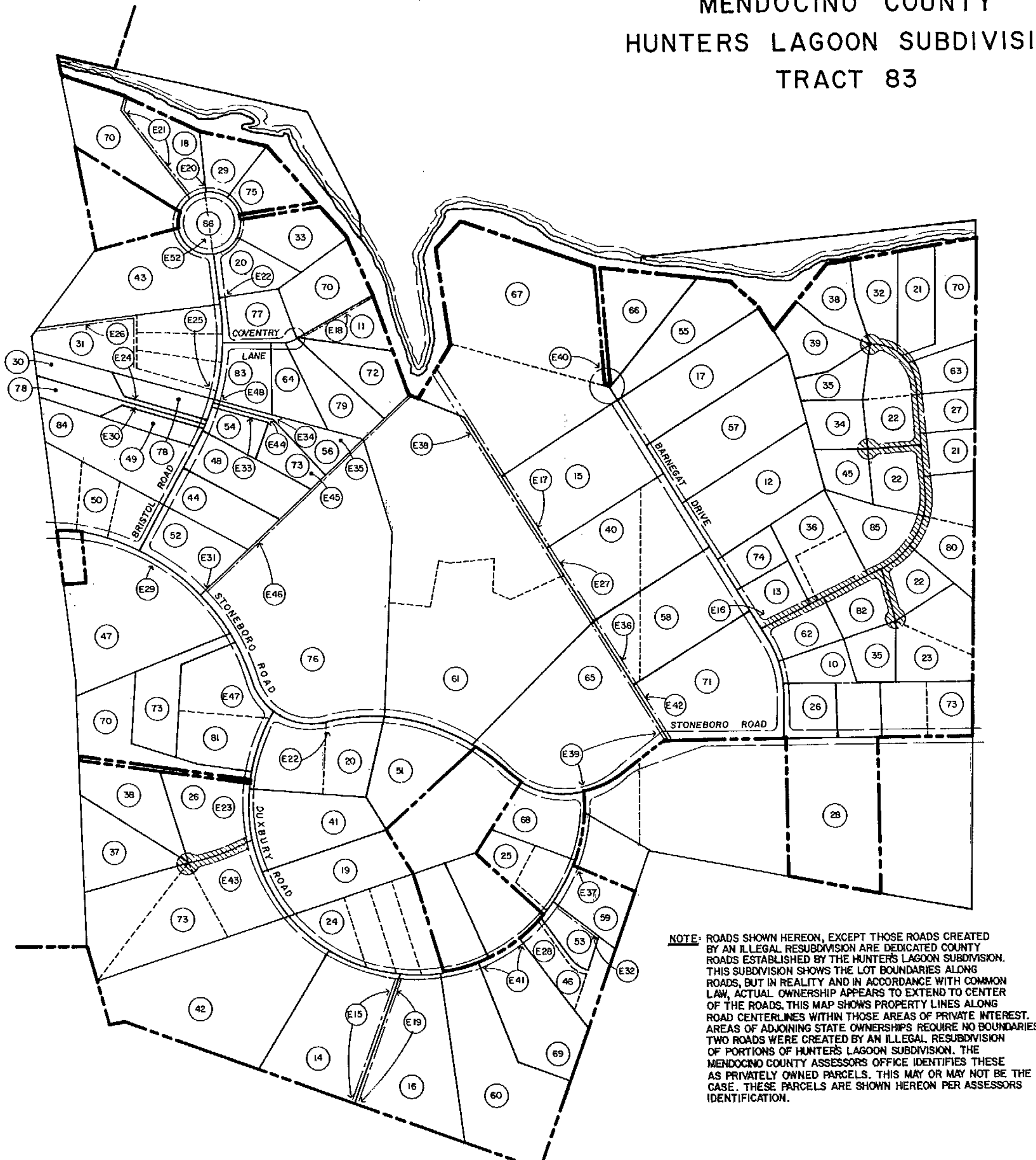
RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
APPROVED RIGHT OF WAY AND OWNERSHIP MAPPING DATE 1-23-91

MANCHESTER STATE PARK
LAND OWNERSHIP RECORD

DRAWING NO. 25308

SHEET NO. 2 OF 5

T. 13 N., R. 16 & 17 W., M.D.M.
MENDOCINO COUNTY
HUNTERS LAGOON SUBDIVISION
TRACT 83



NOTE: ROADS SHOWN HEREON, EXCEPT THOSE ROADS CREATED BY AN ILLEGAL RESUBDIVISION ARE DEDICATED COUNTY ROADS ESTABLISHED BY THE HUNTERS LAGOON SUBDIVISION. THIS SUBDIVISION SHOWS THE LOT BOUNDARIES ALONG ROADS, BUT IN REALITY AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH COMMON LAW, ACTUAL OWNERSHIP APPEARS TO EXTEND TO CENTER OF THE ROADS. THIS MAP SHOWS PROPERTY LINES ALONG ROAD CENTERLINES WITHIN THOSE AREAS OF PRIVATE INTEREST. AREAS OF ADJOINING STATE OWNERSHIPS REQUIRE NO BOUNDARIES. TWO ROADS WERE CREATED BY AN ILLEGAL RESUBDIVISION OF PORTIONS OF HUNTERS LAGOON SUBDIVISION. THE MENDOCINO COUNTY ASSESSORS OFFICE IDENTIFIES THESE AS PRIVATELY OWNED PARCELS. THIS MAY OR MAY NOT BE THE CASE. THESE PARCELS ARE SHOWN HEREON PER ASSESSORS IDENTIFICATION.

LEGEND

- STATE PARK BOUNDARY
- (10) ACQUISITION PARCEL
- (E5) ENCUMBRANCE
- ROADS CREATED BY AN ILLEGAL RESUBDIVISION

SCALE IN FEET: 0 150 300 600 900

DESIGNED	DRAWN	CHECKED
S. CHILDRESS	S. CHILDRESS	M. LIBURDY

REVISIONS	DATE
[illegible]	[illegible] 91

RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
APPROVED [signature] DATE 1/22/91
RIGHT OF WAY AND OWNERSHIP MAPPING

MANCHESTER STATE PARK

LAND OWNERSHIP RECORD

DRAWING NO. 25308

SHEET NO. 3 OF 5

SCHEDULE OF ACQUISITION

PARK NO	R.E.S. PCL NO	GRANTOR	TYPE OF DOCUMENT	RECORDING DATE	BOOK & PAGE	PARCEL ACREAGE	SHEETS	REMARKS	RES/PRG
1		U.S.A. (BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT)	PATENT	3-15-1955	393/494	295.31	2	PATENT NO. 1150465	
2/ 1/ 2		JAMES P. & FLORA BIAGGI	GRANT DEED	7-14-1961	572/480	389.00	2		
		JAMES P. & FLORA BIAGGI	DEED	10-17-1962	609/174		2		
3		HAROLD TRIMBLE	EXCH. AGREE.	7-25-1972	894/461	77.23	2	LAND EXCHANGE	
4		COUNTY OF MENDOCINO	QUITCLAIM	8-1-1972	895/240	1.19	2	ROAD EASEMENT (KENNEY LANE)	
5	1867	ROBERT C. & JANE SANDERS	GRANT DEED	4-6-1973	921/150	.91	2		
6	1869	DARRELL & FLORENE ROBINSON	GRANT DEED	4-6-1973	921/153	.87	2		DBP-538
7	1868	HAROLD & MARILYN TRIMBLE		5-14-1973	925/85	.91	2		DBP-538
8	1897	HUGO A. JR. & BEATRICE S. OSWALD		5-14-1973	925/82	240.00	2		
9	2337	S.V. WANTRUP		4-11-1977	1084/27	126.65	2		
10	3836	GENT L. & DORRINE H. DAVIS		11-7-1978	1179/115	2.40	3		DBP-538
11	3787	BEVERLY WAYNE ACEBO		11-9-1978	1179/373	1.29	3		DBP-503
12	3811	RUSSELL C. & VIOLA B. RAWLS		11-28-1978	1182/41	4.89	3	COVENANTS, CONDITIONS & RESTRICTIONS	DBP-538
13	3813	ROBERT N. STEUBER		11-29-1978	1182/164	1.23	3		DBP-538
14	3848	WILBUR H. & FLORENCE DALLESKA		11-29-1978	1182/168	6.22	3		DBP-538
15	3805	RUSSELL G. & IRENE H. CARPENTER		11-30-1978	1182/330	6.18	3		DBP-538
16	3847	TIMOTHY C. & MARLENE M. CALNAN, et al		12-5-1978	1183/264	6.00	3		DBP-538
17	3809	EDWARD E. & GRACE M. DAVIES		12-8-1978	1183/615	4.81	3		DBP-538
18	3778	KEITH P. & MARCELLA B. McELFRESH		12-12-1978	1184/113	1.96	3		DBP-503
19	3862	DONALD & L.M. CHRISTOFFESON		12-14-1978	1184/377	3.31	3		DBP-538
20	3784	RALPH V. & WANDA C. HYDE		12-20-1978	1185/521	1.59	3		DBP-503
	3860	RALPH V. & WANDA C. HYDE		12-20-1978	1185/521	4.19	3		DBP-538
21	3824	MILOSLAV & ELIZABETH BELE		12-20-1978	1185/525	2.08	3		DBP-538
	3828	MILOSLAV & ELIZABETH BELE		12-20-1978	1185/525	1.11	3		DBP-538
22	3816	HAROLD C. & LUCILLE W. THEDA		12-20-1978	1185/529	1.51	3		DBP-538
	3819	HAROLD C. & LUCILLE W. THEDA		12-20-1978	1185/529	2.10	3		DBP-538
	3830	HAROLD C. & LUCILLE W. THEDA		12-20-1978	1185/529	1.19	3		DBP-538
23	3834	ANNA JEAN TENDERELLA		12-21-1978	1185/694	3.65	3		DBP-538
24	3863	ELMER R. & VIOLET WILLIAMS		12-22-1978	1186/113	4.26	3		DBP-538
25	3868	JOHN R. & ELEANOR J. WATKINS		12-27-1978	1186/363	2.16	3		DBP-538
26	3835	PATRICIA KOURT, et al		12-28-1978	1186/541	1.21	3		DBP-538
	3854	PATRICIA KOURT, et al		12-28-1978	1186/541	2.83	3		DBP-538
27	3827	ERVEN O. & ADELINE I. MEIER		12-28-1978	1186/545	1.03	3		DBP-538
28	3839	PETER H. & ELLEN R. SHELTON		12-29-1978	1187/59	6.88	3		DBP-538
29	3781	RAYMOND & OLIVIA BYLER		1-3-1979	1187/397	1.32	3		DBP-503
30	3772	JOHN J. III & MARGARET C. SHEEHAN		1-5-1979	1187/623	1.08	3		DBP-538
31	3774	DENNIS J. & COLLEEN BADAGLIACCO		1-8-1979	1188/69	5.70	3		DBP-503
32	3823	CLIFFORD FRANK GERMAN		1-9-1979	1188/202	1.83	3		DBP-538
33	3783	MICHAEL O. & MARY LOU CACHERO, et al		1-10-1979	1188/305	2.26	3		DBP-503
34	3818	AUGUSTUS J. & LILLIAN K. SHANK		1-11-1979	1188/436	1.49	3		DBP-538
35	3820	P.V. SWEARENGIN M.D.		1-15-1979	1188/745	1.23	3		DBP-538
	3833	P.V. SWEARENGIN M.D.		1-15-1979	1188/745	1.31	3		DBP-538
36	3814	RUSSELL G. & IRENE H. CARPENTER		1-18-1979	1189/371	3.04	3		DBP-538
37	3851	EDWARD & SHERRY ISNARD		1-22-1979	1189/699	2.65	3		DBP-538
38	3822	MARVIN C. BOESEL & SHARON BOESEL		1-22-1979	1189/718	3.90	3		DBP-538
	3852	MARVIN C. BOESEL & SHARON BOESEL		1-22-1979	1189/718		3		DBP-538
39	3821	AL BARBERO		1-22-1979	1189/722	2.00	3		DBP-538
40	3804	SONIA ALLEN		1-22-1979	1189/728	6.19	3		DBP-538
41	3861	HENRY L. & MILDRED SLEZAK, trustee		1-22-1979	1189/737	3.83	3		DBP-538
42	3849	PHIL & JENNIFER PEARLMAN		1-25-1979	1190/451	10.68	3		DBP-538
43	3775	MONTE M. & BETTY A. TOOLE		1-30-1979	1191/212	5.46	3		DBP-503
44	3796	GUSTAVO L. TORRES		2-1-1979	1191/648	1.98	3		DBP-538
45	3817	DIRK & ANGELA D. WEILAND		2-5-1979	1192/97	1.28	3		DBP-538
46	3844	SUZANNE MALINOWSKI		2-26-1979	1195/46	2.05	3		DBP-538
47	3857	EDWIN F. & ELIZABETH L. ERICKSON		2-26-1979	1195/50	7.64	3		DBP-538
48	3795	CARL F. & ANN M. HANSEN		2-26-1979	1195/64	2.28	3		DBP-538
49	3770	JOHN C. & NANCY G. INGAMELLS		3-9-1979	1196/641	.943	3		DBP-538
50	3768	EMBREE H. BLACKARD		3-20-1979	1198/312	3.16	3		DBP-538
51	3864	DONALD E. & KATHLEEN M. WEISCHEDEL		3-22-1979	1198/568	3.42	3		DBP-538
52	3797	JOHN J. O'MARA, trustee		4-2-1979	1200/6	1.90	3		DBP-538
53	3843	PAUL BOROSH		5-11-1979	1206/347	.94	3		DBP-538
54	3792	RICHARD M. & LOUISE L. KAUTCH		5-22-1979	1207/691	1.00	3		DBP-538
55	3808	WALLACE N. & HAZEL P. HAWS		7-17-1979	1217/47	3.48	3		DBP-538
56	3794	RONALD L. & NANCY J. USHER		7-18-1979	1217/177	1.22	3		DBP-538
57	3810	W.F. JR. & DONNA G. MURDOCK, et al		7-19-1979	1217/359	5.66	3		DBP-538
58	3802	NANCY ARDELL NEVIS		7-24-1979	1218/119	5.37	3		DBP-538
	3803	NANCY ARDELL NEVIS		7-24-1979	1218/119		3		DBP-538
59	3842	WILLIAM & WILLIE MAE PHILLIP		7-24-1979	1218/123	1.77	3		DBP-538
60	3846	E. PAUL JR. & JOYCE T. ESCHER, et al		7-25-1979	1218/253	7.43	3		DBP-538
61	3799	E. PAUL JR. & JOYCE T. ESCHER, et al		7-30-1979	1219/75	24.98	3		DBP-538
62	3832	E. PAUL JR. & JOYCE T. ESCHER, et al		8-10-1979	1220/486	1.29	3		DBP-538
63	3826	E. PAUL JR. & JOYCE T. ESCHER, et al		8-10-1979	1220/490	2.59	3		DBP-538
64	3789	JOHN M. & JANE A. MALLON		8-14-1979	1221/207	1.30	3		DBP-538
65	3800	MAURICE G. & SHARON L. OWENS		8-16-1979	1221/475	8.71	3		DBP-538
66	3807	McKEE & SONS INC.	CORP. G/DEED	8-21-1979	1222/330	2.79	3		DBP-503
67	3806	PETER L. & VIOLET C. CIACCIO	GRANT DEED	8-21-1979	1222/334	16.99	3		DBP-503
68	3869	ALLEN C. & ELIZABETH L. ODIAN		8-21-1979	1222/338	2.08	3		DBP-538
69	3845	STEPHEN W. & ANNETTE ABRUZZO		9-18-1979	1227/276	4.34	3		DBP-538
70	3776	ROBERT Z. & MARION N. PERKINS		9-27-1979	1229/46	3.52	3		DBP-503
	3786	ROBERT Z. & MARION N. PERKINS		9-27-1979	1229/46	2.52	3		DBP-503
	3825	ROBERT Z. & MARION N. PERKINS		9-27-1979	1229/46	2.44	3		DBP-538
	3855	ROBERT Z. & MARION N. PERKINS		9-27-1979	1229/46	2.95	3		DBP-538
71	3801	LLOYD A. KATTENHORN		10-1-1979	1229/355	6.01	3		DBP-538
72	3791	B.J. & CLEO N. DENNIS		10-16-1979	1231/623	2.04	3		DBP-503
73	3793	HAROLD C. HUNTER JR., trustee		10-17-1979	1232/39	1.21	3		DBP-538
	3837	HAROLD C. HUNTER JR., trustee		10-17-1979	1232/39	2.34	3		DBP-538
	3850	HAROLD C. HUNTER JR., trustee		10-17-1979	1232/39	8.07	3		DBP-538
	3858	HAROLD C. HUNTER JR., trustee		10-17-1979	1232/39	2.56	3		DBP-538
74	3812	ABE & MAE S. TILLES		10-19-1979	1232/267	1.14	3		DBP-538
75	3782	JOSEPH K. MOLALE		11-27-1979	1237/319	1.65	3		DBP-538
76	3798	LOVERT F. & MONICA M. BASSETT		2-7-1980	1246/579	15.77	3		DBP-538
77	3785	GEORGE W. & FALDINA M. CELEVICH		2-26-1980	1248/557	1.45	3		DBP-503
78	3771	KATHLEEN SKLAVOPOULOS		6-23-1980	1263/121	.97	3		DBP-538
	3773	KATHLEEN SKLAVOPOULOS		6-23-1980	1263/121	.99	3		DBP-538
79	3790	BENJAMIN LARNER		6-24-1980	1263/242	1.80	3		DBP-538
80	3829	LOIS DePAUL, et al		6-26-1980	1263/438	2.80	3		DBP-538
81	3859	JOE H. & DIANE K. MAYFIELD		9-25-1980	1275/554	4.30	3		DBP-538
82	3831	MARY E. MYNHIER & ARDERN MYNHIER		10-16-1980	1278/391	1.29	3		DBP-538
83	3788	RALPH & SYLVIA SELAN		12-24-1980	1287/203	1.50	3		DBP-538
84	3769	JOHN W. & AMITY P. BUXTON, trustees		3-9-1981	1296/94	4.06	3		DBP-538
85	3815	JOHN W. BUXTON, et al		2-24-1982	1341/627	2.00	3		DBP-538

SCHEDULE OF ACQUISITION

PARK NO.	R.E.S. PCL. NO	GRANTOR	TYPE OF DOCUMENT	RECORDING DATE	BOOK & PAGE	PARCEL ACREAGE	SHEETS	REMARKS	RES/PRG
86	3777	TAX COLLECTOR OF MENDOCINO CO	TAX DEED	2-23-1983	1388/10	1.03	3	COVENANTS, CONDITIONS & RESTRICTIONS	DBP-503
87	7688	JAMES R. & VIRGINIA M. HOUSEL	GRANT DEED	11-21-1986	1591/544	37.30	2	COVENANTS, CONDITIONS & RESTRICTIONS	

1/ RESERVING ALL RIPARIAN RIGHTS

2/ RESERVING A SUBSURFACE DRAIN LINE ACROSS PORTIONS OF LOTS 3 & 4 WITH NECESSARY RIGHTS OF INGRESS AND EGRESS. THE GRANTEE MAY RELOCATE SAID DRAIN LINES

DESIGNED	DRAWN	CHECKED
S. CHILDRESS	S. CHILDRESS	M. LIBURDY

REVISIONS	DATE
CHANGED MAP FROM BEACH TO PARK [illegible]	[illegible]

RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

APPROVED [signature] DATE 1/22/91

RIGHT OF WAY AND OWNERSHIP MAPPING

MANCHESTER STATE PARK

LAND OWNERSHIP RECORD

DRAWING NO. 25308

SHEET NO. 4 OF 5

SCHEDULE OF ENCUMBRANCES, AGMTS., PERMITS, ETC.

NO.	GRANTEE	GRANTOR	TYPE OF DOCUMENT	TERM. DATE	DOCUMENT DATE	RECORDING DATE	BOOK & PAGE	SHEETS	REMARKS
E1	U.S.A. (BUREAU OF LAND MGMT)		PATENT	PERPETUAL	3-8-1955	3-15-1955	393/494	2	ALL MINERAL RIGHTS RESERVED
E2	U.S.A. (BUREAU OF LAND MGMT)		PATENT		3-8-1955	3-15-1955	393/494	2	ALL WATER RIGHTS RESERVED
E3	JAMES P. BIAGGI, ET UX		GRANT			2-7-1957	453/11	2	ELECT. TRANS. LINE R/W
E4	JAMES P. BIAGGI, ET UX		GRANT			2-7-1957	453/11	2	ROAD R/W
E5	ADIN ANTRIM, ET UX				7-10-1881		25/444	2	WAGON ROAD R/W
E6	MARY ANTRIM				9-1-1892	10-7-1892	57/474	2	ROAD R/W
E7	ELIZABETH ANTRIM, ET AL				8-17-1910	10-6-1910	118/94	2	ROAD R/W
E8	MRS. E. ANTRIM				1-30-1912	2-24-1914	118/274	2	ROAD R/W
E9	ELIZABETH ANTRIM				3-25-1925	5-1-1925	160/260	2	TELEPHONE LINE R/W
E10	ELIZABETH ANTRIM				12-7-1927	12-28-1927	26/159	2	ROAD R/W
E11	ELIZABETH ANTRIM TAFARO				4-24-1935		100/271	2	RIGHTS TO USE SPRING, ROAD R/W
E12	HUGO A. OSWALD JR., ET UX				12-8-1972	5-14-1973	925/82	2	COUNTY ROAD R/W
E13	HUGO A. OSWALD JR., ET UX				10-6-1965	11-24-1965	703/546	2	COMMUNICATION FACILITY R/W
E14	HERBERT E. BISHOP, ET AL					8-17-1925	8/37	2	POLE LINE R/W
E15	WILBUR DALLESKA, ET UX				11-29-1978		1182/168	3	PUBLIC UTIL. EASE.
E16	ROBERT N. STEUBER				10-4-1978	11-29-1978	1182/164	3	UTIL. EASE.
E17	RUSSELL G. CARPENTER, ET UX				9-28-1978			3	DRAINAGE EASE.
E18	BEVERLY WAYNE ACEBO				9-12-1978			3	DRAINAGE EASE.
E19	TIMOTHY C. CALNAN, ET AL				10-12-1978			3	PUBLIC UTIL. EASE.
E20	KEITH P. McELFRESH, ET UX				9-26-1978			3	PUBLIC UTIL. EASE.
E21	REDWOOD EMPIRE TITLE CO.				9-29-1966	10-7-1966	726/289	3	DRAINAGE EASE.
E22	RALPH V. HYDE, ET UX				11-1-1978			3	PUBLIC UTIL. EASE.
E23	PATRICIA KOURT, ET AL				9-29-1978			3	PUBLIC UTIL. EASE.
E24	JOHN J. SHEEHAN III, ET UX				10-28-1978			3	PATHWAY, DRIVEWAY & UTIL. EASE.
E25	DENNIS J. BADAGLIACCO, ET UX				9-22-1978			3	PUBLIC UTIL. EASE.
E26	DENNIS J. BADAGLIACCO, ET UX				9-22-1978			3	SANITARY SETBACK & WALKWAY EASE.
E27	SONIA ALLEN				9-26-1978			3	DRAINAGE EASE.
E28	SUZANNE MALINOWSKI				12-14-1978			3	DRIVEWAY EASE.
E29	EDWIN F. ERICKSON, ET UX				11-28-1978			3	PUBLIC UTIL. EASE.
E30	JOHN C. INGAMELLS, ET UX				12-28-1978			3	DRIVEWAY & UTIL. EASE.
E31	JOHN J. O'MARA				1-8-1979			3	PUBLIC UTIL. EASE.
E32	PAUL BOROSH				12-27-1978			3	PUBLIC UTIL. & DRIVEWAY EASE.
E33	REDWOOD EMPIRE TITLE CO.				2-17-1970	2-17-1970	811/48	3	ROADWAY EASE.
E34	RONALD L. USHER, ET UX				6-6-1974			3	DRIVEWAY EASE.
E35	REDWOOD EMPIRE TITLE CO.				2-17-1970	2-17-1970	811/48	3	ROADWAY EASE.
E36	NANCY ARDELL NEVIS				7-13-1979			3	DRAINAGE EASE.
E37	WILLIAM PHILLIP, ET UX				6-7-1979			3	PUBLIC UTIL. EASE.
E38	E. PAUL ESCHER JR., ET UX				7-30-1979			3	DRAINAGE EASE.
E39	MAURICE G. OWENS, ET UX				6-8-1979			3	PUBLIC UTIL. EASE.
E40	PETER L. CIACCIO, ET UX				6-15-1979			3	DRAINAGE EASE.
E41	STEPHEN W. ABRUZZO, ET UX				6-20-1979			3	PUBLIC UTIL. EASE.
E42	LLOYD A. KATTENHORN				7-31-1979			3	DRAINAGE EASE.
E43	HAROLD C. HUNTER JR.				5-4-1979			3	PUBLIC UTIL. EASE.
E44	HAROLD C. HUNTER JR.				5-4-1979			3	DRIVEWAY EASE.
E45	RONALD L. USHER, ET UX					2-17-1970	811/48	3	ROADWAY EASE.
E46	LOVERT F. BASSETT, ET UX				11-21-1979			3	DRAINAGE EASE.
E47	JOE H. MAYFIELD, ET UX				8-4-1980			3	UTIL. EASE.
E48	RALPH SELAN, ET UX				10-18-1980			3	PUBLIC UTIL. EASE.
E49	JAMES R. HOUSEL, ET UX				9-3-1986	11-21-1986	1591/544	2	OIL, GAS & MINERAL RIGHTS RESERVED
E50	PACIFIC TELE & TELE CO.				9-18-1980	10-28-1980	1280/59	2	UNDERGROUND TELE CABLE EASE.
E51	JAMES P. BIAGGI, ET UX				4-27-1961		572/481	2	DRAIN LINE EASE.
E52	MENDOCINO CO TAX COLLECTOR				2-23-1983	2-23-1983	1388/10	3	PUBLIC UTIL EASE.

SCHEDULE OF ENCUMBRANCES, AGMTS., PERMITS, ETC.

NO.	GRANTEE	GRANTOR	TYPE OF DOCUMENT	TERM. DATE	DOCUMENT DATE	RECORDING DATE	BOOK & PAGE	SHEETS	REMARKS

SCHEDULE OF APPURTENANCES

R. E. S. PAR. NO.	PARKS PAR. NO.	GRANTOR	TYPE OF DOCUMENT	RECORDING DATE	BOOK & PAGE	PARCEL ACREAGE	AFFECTED BY	SHEETS	REMARKS
A1	147	STATE LANDS COMMISSION	PERMIT		PRC 4533.9	3782.00			49 YEAR LEASE (8-1-1980 TO 7-30-2029)

DESIGNED S. CHILDRESS
DRAWN S. CHILDRESS
CHECKED M. LIBURDY

DATE 10/91
REVISIONS
CHANGE I.H./F. FRONTIER TO PARK
TYPE TO RECLASSIFICATION

RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
APPROVED _____ DATE 4/22/91
RIGHT OF WAY AND OWNERSHIP MAPPING

MANCHESTER STATE PARK
LAND OWNERSHIP RECORD

DRAWING No. 25308

SHEET No. 5 OF 5

APPENDIX C: RESOURCE MAPS

MAP 1. PHYSICAL CONSTRAINTS

MAP 2. SENSITIVE PLANTS AND RARE NATURAL COMMUNITIES

MAP 3. SESNSITVE WILDLIFE, AQUATIC LIFE, AND HABITATS

MAP 4. CULTURAL RESOURCE SENSITIVITIES

MAP 5. PROPOSED LAKE DAVIS WETLANDS
AND COASTAL DUNES NATURAL PRESERVE

MENDOCINO COUNTY T.13N., 16&17W., M.D.M.

PHYSICAL CONSTRAINTS TO LAND USE

	SOIL	CAMP-GROUNDS	PICNIC AREAS	PATHS/ TRAILS	ROADS	SEASONALLY FLOODED/ HIGH WATER TABLE	SEPTIC SYSTEM CONSIDER-ATIONS
SOILS (by mapping unit)							
360	COASTAL BEACH	Not rated: unsuitable for development due to instability and wave action.					
370	DYSTROPEPTS	Not rated: moderate to severe erosion hazard; underlies wetland and riparian areas; in flood zone.					
425	DUNELAND	Not rated: unsuitable for development due to instability.					
770	CABRILLO	Moderate: slow perc	Moderate: slow perc	Slight	Slight	Yes	Slow perc
	HEESER	Slight	Slight	Slight	Slight	No	Very rapid drainage
771	HEESER	Moderate: slope	Moderate: slope	Slight	Moderate: slope	No	Very rapid drainage
841	TROPAQUEPTS	Not rated: unsuitable for development due to hydric conditions / wetlands.					
849	MALLOPASS	Moderate: slow perc	Moderate: slow perc	Slight	Moderate: shrink-swell, low strength	Yes	Slow perc
852	WINDYHOLLOW	Moderate: slow perc	Moderate: slow perc	Slight	Moderate: shrink-swell, slope	Yes	Slow perc
855	FLUMEVILLE	Severe: wetness	Moderate: wetness slow perc	Moderate: wetness	Severe: shrink-swell, low strength	Yes	Slow perc
862	CRISPIN	Moderate: slow perc	Moderate: slow perc	Slight	Moderate: cemented pan	No	Hard pan at 23 inches
875	STORNETTA	Severe: flooding, wetness	Severe: wetness	Severe: wetness	Severe: flooding, wetness	Yes	Slow perc
100-year flood/tsunami zones (FEMA — 1983)		Severe: flooding, high waves	Moderate: flooding, high waves	Slight: flooding, high waves	Severe: flooding, high waves	NA	NA
Geologic faults — (considered to have been active during Quaternary time)		Severe: seismic rupture	Moderate: seismic rupture shaking	Slight: seismic rupture shaking	Moderate: seismic	NA	NA

LEGEND

- STATE PARK BOUNDARY
- PRIMARY HIGHWAY
- PAVED ROAD
- UNPAVED ROADS
- TRAILS
- INTERMITTENT STREAMS
- PERENNIAL STREAMS
- EXISTING BUILDINGS

KEY

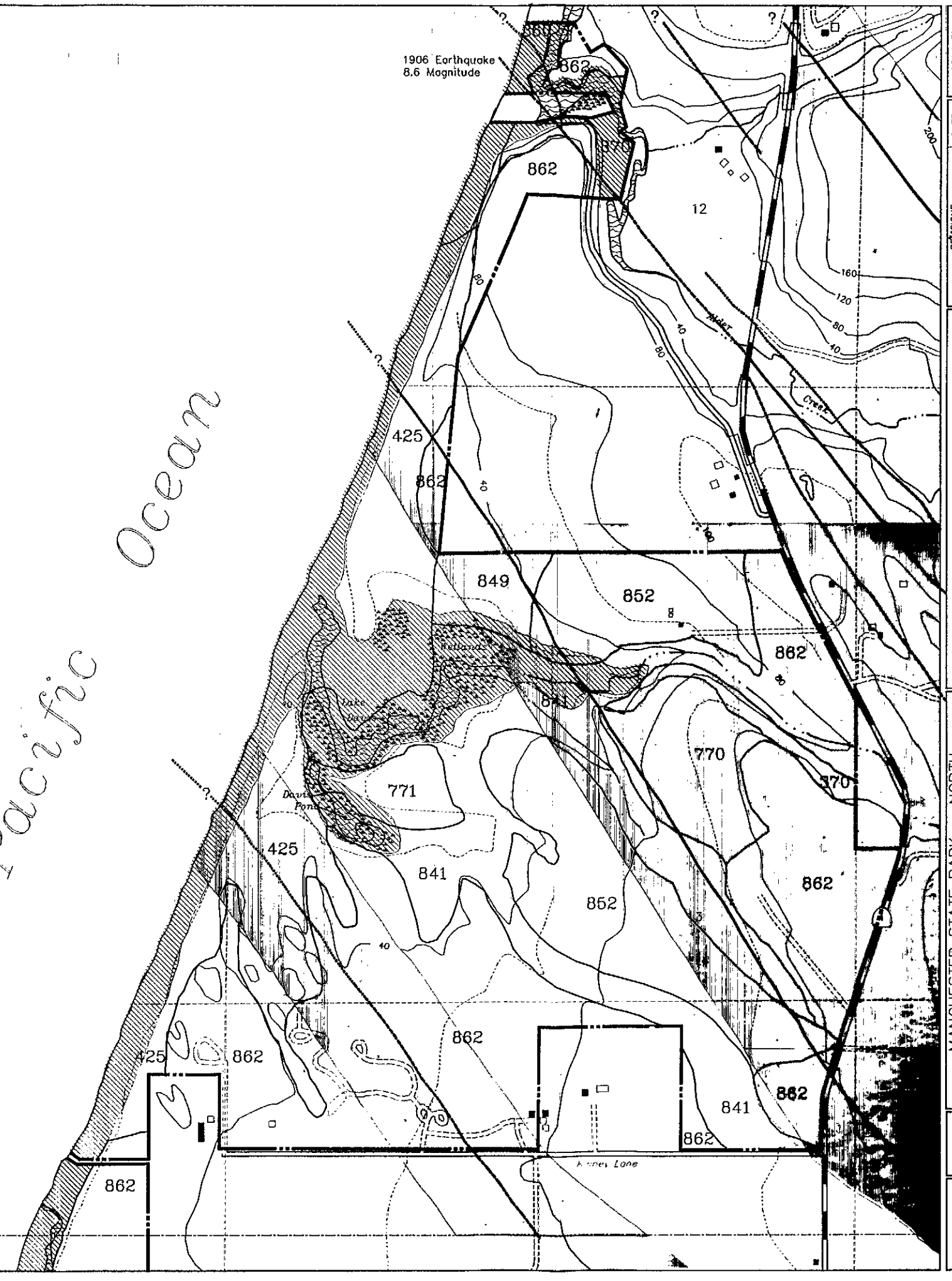
- 100-YEAR FLOOD/ TSUNAMI ZONES
- SEISMIC SPECIAL STUDIES ZONE
- LOCATED FAULT
- INFERRED FAULT
- CONCEALED FAULT
- ? ADDITIONAL UNCERTAINTY

5 AC
1 AC

NORTH

0 125 500 1500
250 1000 2000 FEET

Contour Interval 40 Feet
Dashed Contour Lines Represent 20 Foot Intervals



DESIGNED M. SWEZY
DRAWN C. E. A. 2\91
CHECKED

REVISIONS
3 STRUCTURES REMOVED WITHIN PARK BOUNDARY REVISED
DATE 4/9/91 10\3\91

RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
APPROVED ____ DATE ____

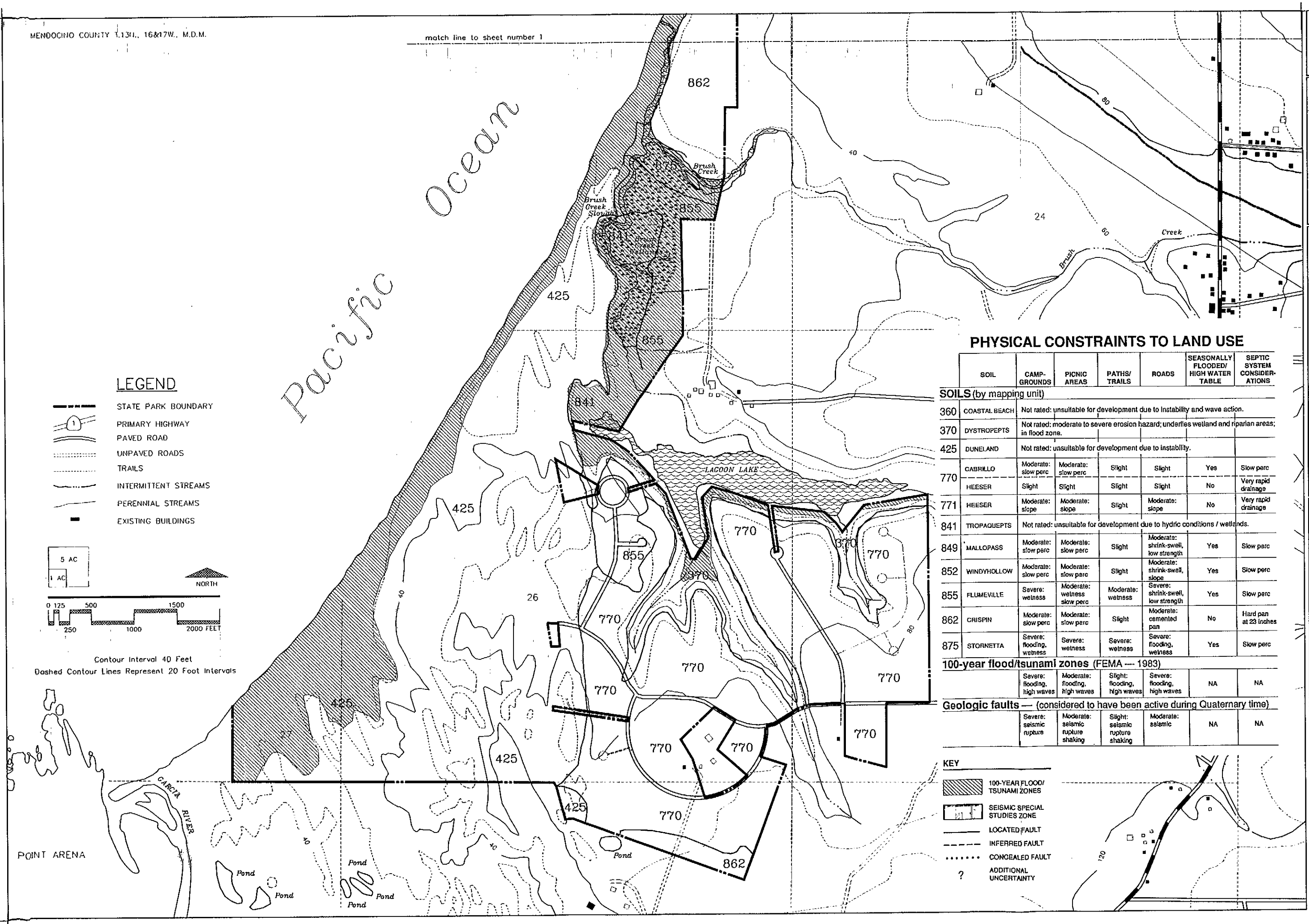
MANCHESTER STATE PARK — NORTH
PHYSICAL CONSTRAINTS
GENERAL PLAN — APPENDIX C

DRAWING NO. 26210

MAP NO. 1

MENDOCINO COUNTY T.13N., 16&17W., M.D.M.

match line to sheet number 1



LEGEND

- STATE PARK BOUNDARY
- PRIMARY HIGHWAY
- PAVED ROAD
- UNPAVED ROADS
- TRAILS
- INTERMITTENT STREAMS
- PERENNIAL STREAMS
- EXISTING BUILDINGS

5 AC
1 AC

NORTH

0 125 500 1500
250 1000 2000 FEET

Contour Interval 40 Feet
Dashed Contour Lines Represent 20 Foot Intervals

PHYSICAL CONSTRAINTS TO LAND USE

	SOIL	CAMP-GROUNDS	PICNIC AREAS	PATHS/ TRAILS	ROADS	SEASONALLY FLOODED/ HIGH WATER TABLE	SEPTIC SYSTEM CONSIDER-ATIONS
SOILS (by mapping unit)							
360	COASTAL BEACH	Not rated: unsuitable for development due to instability and wave action.					
370	DYSTROPEPTS	Not rated: moderate to severe erosion hazard; underlies wetland and riparian areas; in flood zone.					
425	DUNELAND	Not rated: unsuitable for development due to instability.					
770	CABRILLO	Moderate: slow perc	Moderate: slow perc	Slight	Slight	Yes	Slow perc
	HEESER	Slight	Slight	Slight	Slight	No	Very rapid drainage
771	HEESER	Moderate: slope	Moderate: slope	Slight	Moderate: slope	No	Very rapid drainage
841	TROPAQUEPTS	Not rated: unsuitable for development due to hydric conditions / wetlands.					
849	MALLOPASS	Moderate: slow perc	Moderate: slow perc	Slight	Moderate: shrink-swell, low strength	Yes	Slow perc
852	WINDYHOLLOW	Moderate: slow perc	Moderate: slow perc	Slight	Moderate: shrink-swell, slope	Yes	Slow perc
855	FLUMEVILLE	Severe: wetness	Moderate: wetness slow perc	Moderate: wetness	Severe: shrink-swell, low strength	Yes	Slow perc
862	CRISPIN	Moderate: slow perc	Moderate: slow perc	Slight	Moderate: cemented pan	No	Hard pan at 23 inches
875	STORNETTA	Severe: flooding, wetness	Severe: wetness	Severe: wetness	Severe: flooding, wetness	Yes	Slow perc
100-year flood/tsunami zones (FEMA — 1983)		Severe: flooding, high waves	Moderate: flooding, high waves	Slight: flooding, high waves	Severe: flooding, high waves	NA	NA
Geologic faults — (considered to have been active during Quaternary time)		Severe: seismic rupture	Moderate: seismic rupture shaking	Slight: seismic rupture shaking	Moderate: seismic	NA	NA

KEY

- 100-YEAR FLOOD/ TSUNAMI ZONES
- SEISMIC SPECIAL STUDIES ZONE
- LOCATED FAULT
- INFERRED FAULT
- CONCEALED FAULT
- ? ADDITIONAL UNCERTAINTY

DESIGNED M. SWEZY | DRAWN C. E. A. 3/91 | CHECKED

DATE 10/3/91, 5/18/92

REVISIONS: PARK BOUNDARY REVISED; ADD COVENTRY LANE

MANSCONS

RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

APPROVED ____ DATE ____

MANCHESTER STATE PARK — SOUTH

PHYSICAL CONSTRAINTS

GENERAL PLAN — APPENDIX C

DRAWING NO. 26214

MAP NO. 1

MENDOCINO COUNTY T.13N., 16&17W., M.D.M.

KEY

- Coast Lily (Lilium maritimum) CNPS List 1B
- Swamp Harebell (Campanula californica CNPS List 1B, Fed C2
- Mendocino Coast Indian Paintbrush (Castilleja mendocinensis) CNPS List 1B, Fed C2
- FS — Freshwater Seep
- FM — Coastal Freshwater Marsh
- BM — Coastal Brackish Marsh
- SM — Northern Coastal Saltwater Marsh
- NRS — North Coast Riparian Scrub
- NDC — Northern Dune Scrub/ Northern Coastal Scrub Complex
- NCB — Northern Coastal Bluff Scrub
- BP — Beach Pine Forest

LEGEND

- STATE PARK BOUNDARY
- PRIMARY HIGHWAY
- PAVED ROAD
- UNPAVED ROADS
- TRAILS
- INTERMITTENT STREAMS
- PERENNIAL STREAMS
- EXISTING BUILDINGS

5 AC
1 AC

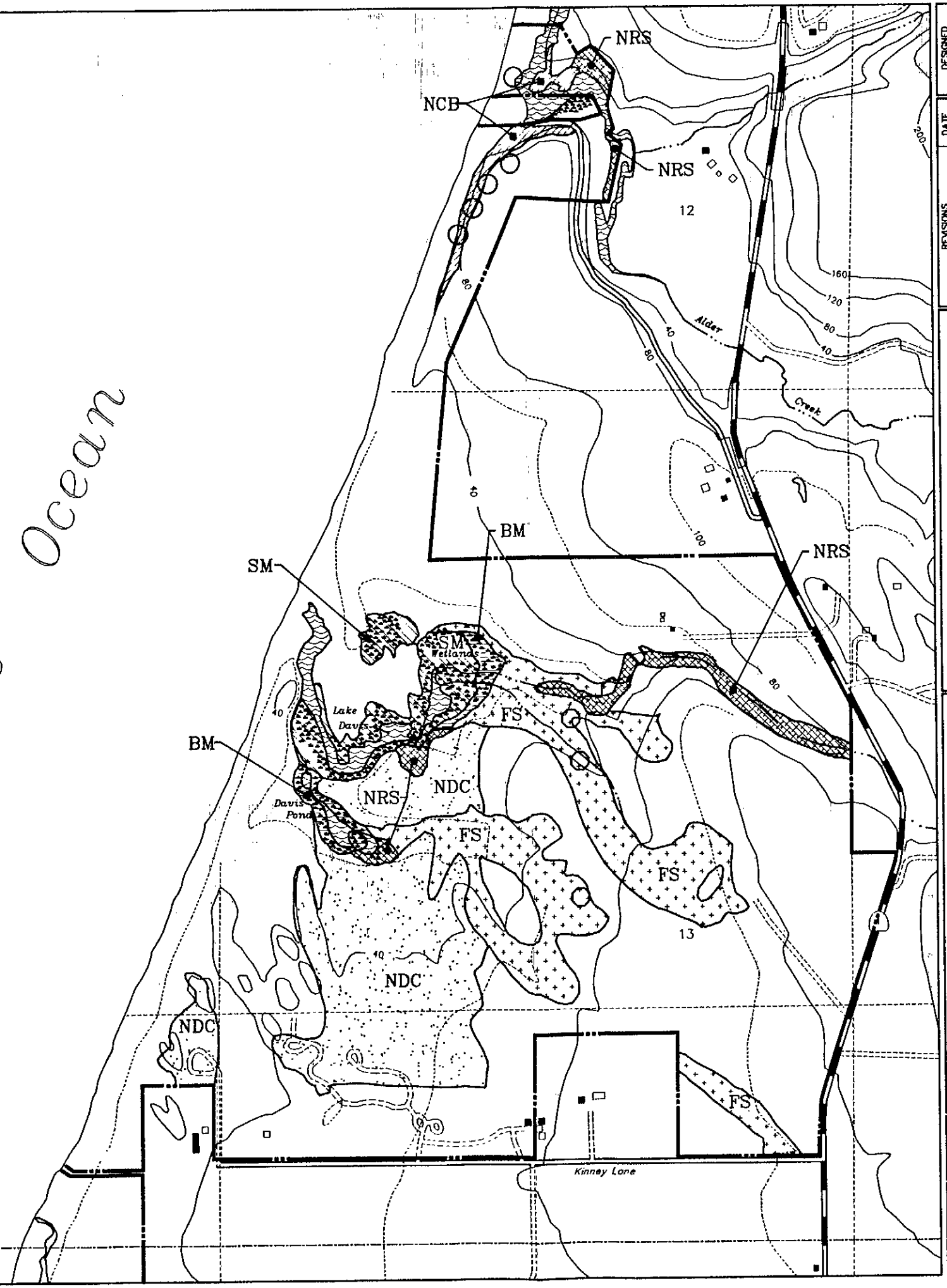
NORTH

0 125 500 1500
250 1000 2000 FEET

Contour Interval 40 Feet
Dashed Contour Lines Represent 20 Foot Intervals

Ocean

Pacific



match line to sheet number 2

DESIGNED J. DIXON
DRAWN C. E. A.
CHECKED

DATE 4/9/91 10/3/91

REVISIONS
3 STRUCTURES REMOVED WITHIN PARK/NOT PARK BOUNDARY REVISED

RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
APPROVED ____ DATE ____

MANCHESTER STATE PARK – NORTH
SENSITIVE PLANTS AND RARE NATURAL COMMUNITIES
GENERAL PLAN – APPENDIX C

DRAWING NO. 26211

MAP NO. 2

MANNSPRC

MENDOCINO COUNTY T.13N., 16&17W., M.D.M.

match line to sheet number 1

KEY

□		Coast Lily (Lilium maritimum) CNPS List 1B
○		Swamp Harebell (Campanula californica CNPS List 1B, Fed C2
○		Mendocino Coast Indian Paintbrush (Castilleja mendocinensis) CNPS List 1B, Fed C2
	FS	Freshwater Seep
	FM	Coastal Freshwater Marsh
	BM	Coastal Brackish Marsh
	SM	Northern Coastal Saltwater Marsh
	NRS	North Coast Riparian Scrub
	NDC	Northern Dune Scrub/ Northern Coastal Scrub Complex
	NCB	Northern Coastal Bluff Scrub
	BP	Beach Pine Forest

LEGEND

- STATE PARK BOUNDARY
- (1) PRIMARY HIGHWAY
- PAVED ROAD
- UNPAVED ROADS
- TRAILS
- INTERMITTENT STREAMS
- PERENNIAL STREAMS
- EXISTING BUILDINGS

5 AC
1 AC

NORTH

0 125 250 500 1000 1500 2000 FEET

Contour Interval 40 Feet
Dashed Contour Lines Represent 20 Foot Intervals

Pacific Ocean

Brush Creek Slough
Brush Creek Wetlands
Brush Creek
Lagoon Creek
LAGOON LAKE
Sloneboro Road
GARCIA RIVER
POINT ARENA
Pond

NRS FS BM FM BP SM NDC NCB

24 25 26 27

40 60 80 100 120

DESIGNED	DRAWN	CHECKED
J. Dillon	C. E. A.	

REVISIONS	DATE
PARK BOUNDARY REVISED	10\3\91
ADD COVENTRY LANE	5/18/92

RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

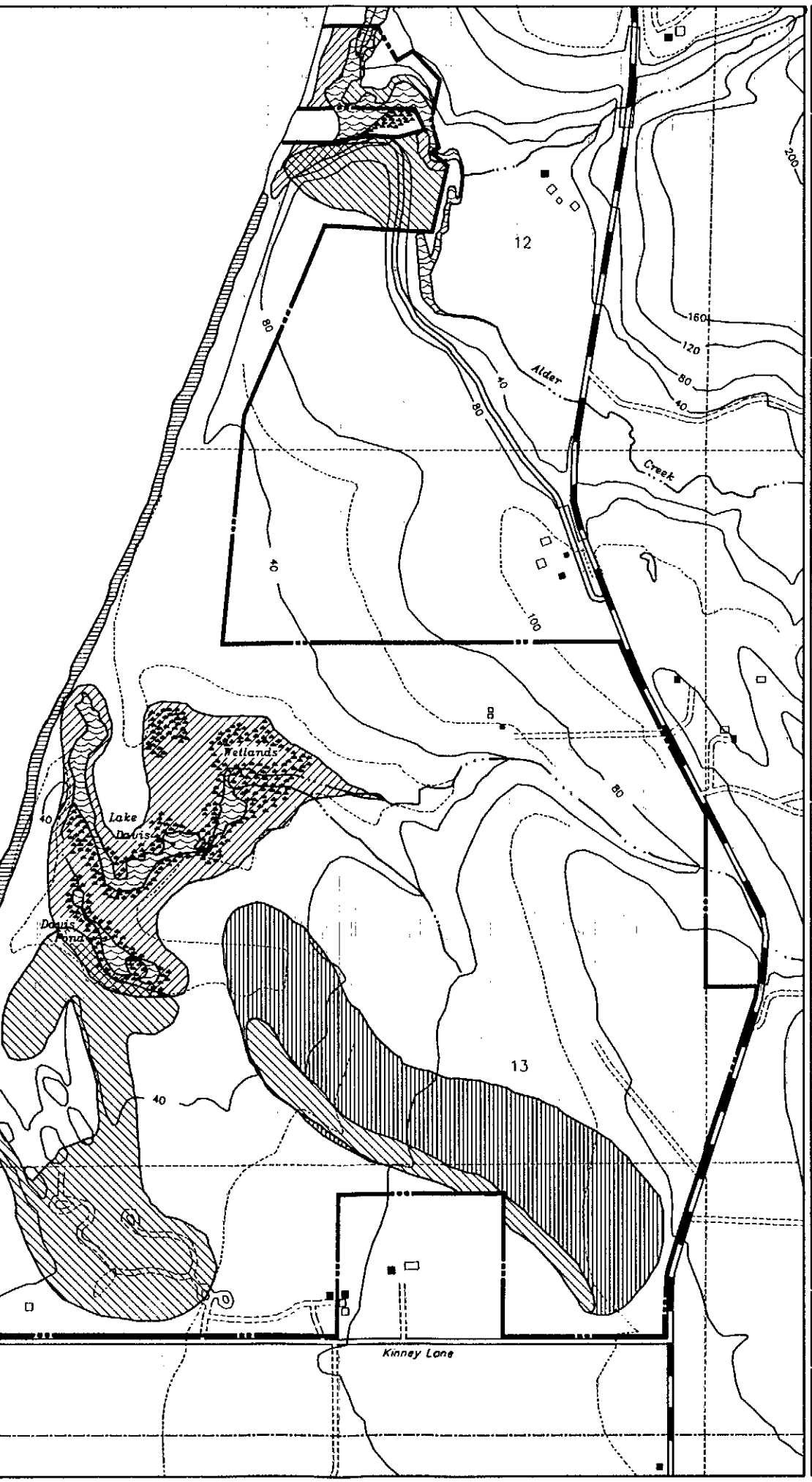
APPROVED DATE

MANCHESTER STATE PARK – SOUTH
SENSITIVE PLANTS & RARE NATURAL COMMUNITIES
GENERAL PLAN – APPENDIX C

DRAWING NO. 26215

MAP NO. 2

MENDOCINO COUNTY T.13N., 16&17W., M.D.M.



KEY

- Point Arena Mountain Beaver habitat, confirmed
- Point Arena Mountain Beaver habitat, potential
- Western Snowy Plover habitat, potential
- Aquatic Life habitat, sensitive

May include one or more of the following:
Potential Lagoon habitat
Tidewater Goby habitat
Red-legged Frog, Yellow-legged Frog → Egg deposition, nursery, subadult and adult habitat
Steelhead-juvenile, rearing habitat, critical pool habitat

NORTH

0 125 500 1500
250 1000 2000 FEET

Contour Interval 40 Feet
Dashed Contour Lines Represent 20 Foot Intervals

match line to sheet number 2

DESIGNED J. DIDION
DRAWN C. E. A.
CHECKED

REVISIONS
3 STRUCTURES REMOVED WITHIN PARK BOUNDARY REVISED
DATE 4/9/91 10/3/91

RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
APPROVED
DATE

MANCHESTER STATE PARK - NORTH
SENSITIVE WILDLIFE, AQUATIC LIFE, AND HABITATS
GENERAL PLAN - APPENDIX C

DRAWING NO. 26212

MAP NO. 3

MENDOCINO COUNTY T.13N., 16&17W., M.D.M.

match line to sheet number 1

NORTH

0 125 500 1500

250 1000 2000 FEET

Contour Interval 40 Feet
Dashed Contour Lines Represent 20 Foot Intervals

KEY

- Point Arena Mountain Beaver habitat, confirmed
- Point Arena Mountain Beaver habitat, potential
- Western Snowy Plover habitat, potential
- Aquatic Life habitat, sensitive
  May include one or more of the following:
  - Potential Lagoon habitat
  - Potential Tidewater Goby habitat
  - Red-legged Frog-egg deposition, nursery, subadult and adult habitat
  - Steelhead-spawning, juvenile, and rearing habitat, migration corridor
  - Three-spine Stickleback habitat, possible unique strain

Pacific Ocean

Brush Creek

Brush Creek Slough

Brush Creek Wetlands

LAGOON LAKE

Lagoon Creek

Brush Creek

Stoneboro Road

GARCIA RIVER

POINT ARENA

Pond

23

24

25

26

27

40

60

80

100

120

DESIGNED J. DIDION | DRAWN C. E. A. | CHECKED

DATE 10/13/91 5/10/92

REVISIONS
PARK BOUNDARY REVISED
ADD COVENTRY LANE

RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

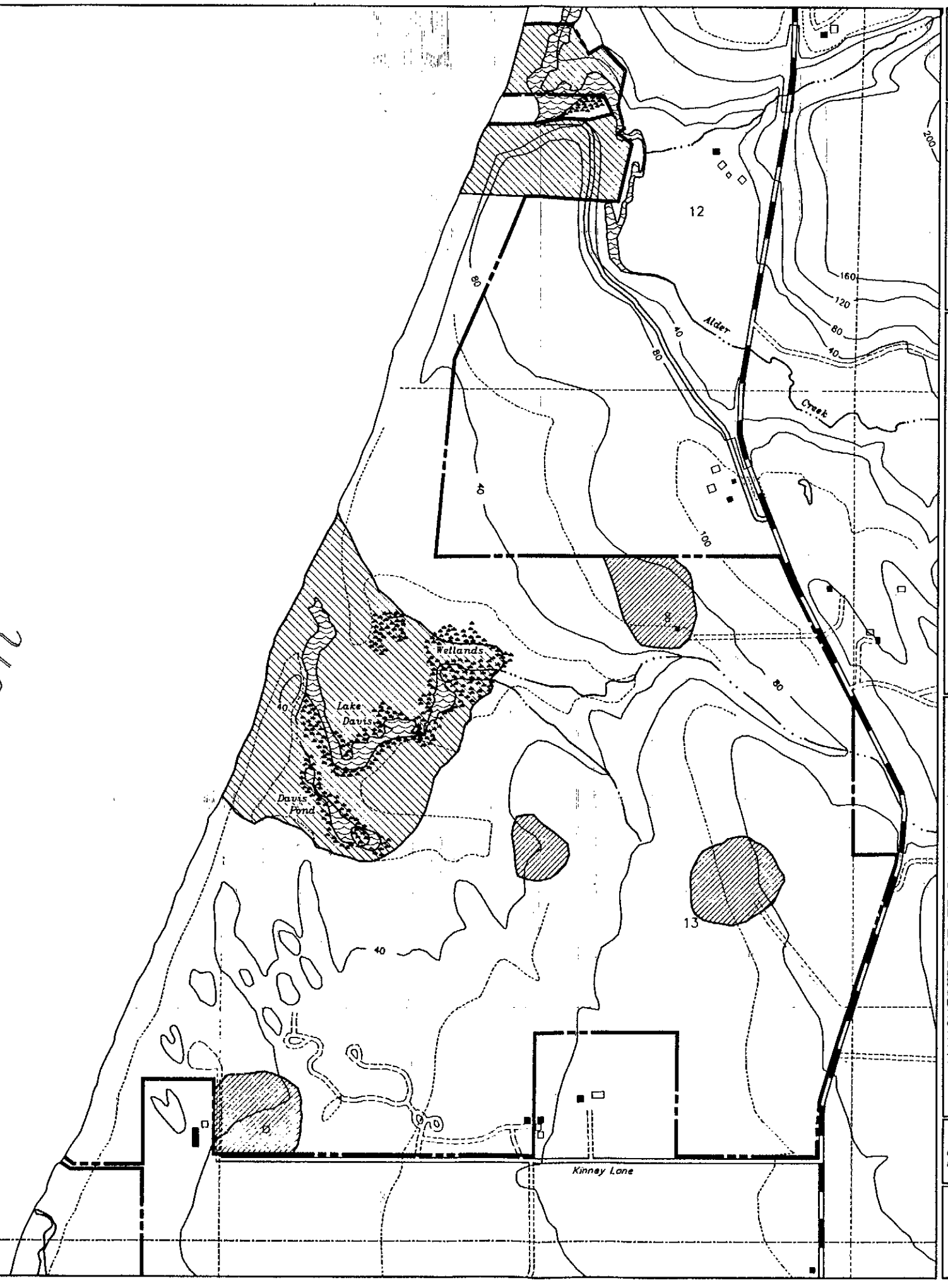
APPROVED _____ DATE _____

MANCHESTER STATE PARK – SOUTH
SENSITIVE WILDLIFE, AQUATIC LIFE, AND HABITATS
GENERAL PLAN – APPENDIX C

DRAWING NO. 26216

MAP NO. 3

MENDOCINO COUNTY T.13N., 16&17W., M.D.M.



KEY

HIGH SENSITIVITY – Areas with known archeological sites, or with a high potential for having archeological sites. Also areas containing historic structures or features and their immediate settings.

MODERATE SENSITIVITY – Areas where archeological sites and historic structures or features are likely to occur, but that have not been discovered or recorded to date.

LOW SENSITIVITY – Areas where archeological sites and historic structures or features are unlikely to occur, or are unlikely to be disturbed or damaged.

NORTH

0 125 500 1500
250 1000 2000 FEET

Contour Interval 40 Feet
Dashed Contour Lines Represent 20 Foot Intervals

match line to sheet number 2

DESIGNED R. ORLINS
DRAWN C. E. A.
CHECKED
MANCRSN

REVISIONS
3 STRUCTURES REMOVED WITHIN PKBNDY 4/9/91
PARK BOUNDARY REVISED 10\3\91
DATE

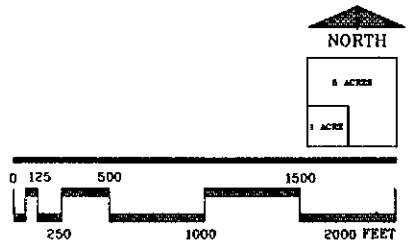
RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
APPROVED ____ DATE ____

MANCHESTER STATE PARK – NORTH
CULTURAL RESOURCE SENSITIVITY
GENERAL PLAN – APPENDIX C

DRAWING NO. 26213

MAP NO. 4

MENDOCINO COUNTY T.13N., 16&17W., M.D.M.



Contour Interval 40 Feet
Dashed Contour Lines Represent 20 Foot Intervals

KEY

HIGH SENSITIVITY – Areas with known archeological sites, or with a high potential for having archeological sites. Also areas containing historic structures or features and their immediate settings.

MODERATE SENSITIVITY – Areas where archeological sites and historic structures or features are likely to occur, but that have not been discovered or recorded to date.

LOW SENSITIVITY – Areas where archeological sites and historic structures or features are unlikely to occur, or are unlikely to be disturbed or damaged.

match line to sheet number 1

Pacific Ocean

Brush Creek
Brush Creek Slough
Brush Creek Wetlands
Brush Creek
LAGOON LAKE
Lagoon Creek
Stoneboro Road
GARCIA RIVER
POINT ARENA
Pond
23
24
25
26
27
40
60
80
100
120

DESIGNED R. ORLINS
DRAWN C. E. A.
CHECKED

REVISIONS
PARK BOUNDARY REVISED
400 COVENTRY LANE

DATE
10\31\91
5/18/92

RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
APPROVED _____ DATE _____

MANCRSS

MANCHESTER STATE BEACH – SOUTH
CULTURAL RESOURCE SENSITIVITY
GENERAL PLAN – APPENDIX C

DRAWING NO. 26217

MAP NO. 4

MENDOCINO COUNTY T.13N., 16&17W., M.D.M.

KEY

Proposed Lake Davis Wetlands and Coastal Dunes Natural Preserve

Boundary Description (1)

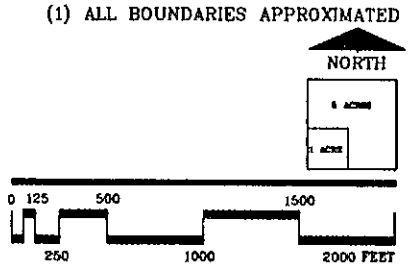
A–B: Starting at the southeast corner of the State Park property at the junction of State Highway 1 and Kinney Lane, the preserve is bounded on the east by the State Park boundary generally running northerly approximately 4,800 feet along the boundary line to a point at the south edge of the Davis Ranch House road next to the highway.

B–C_1: Bounded on the north by the south edge of the Davis Ranch House road and running due west approximately 1,050 feet to the edge of the Monterey pine windrow just east of the Davis Ranch House; then running due south approximately 100 feet to the north side of the unnamed creek flowing into Lake Davis; then running due west approximately 500 feet to the west edge of the Monterey cypress windrow; then running due north approximately 300 feet to the south edge of the park service road leading to the Environmental Camp; then running due west along the south edge of the park service road approximately 1,700 feet to the Monterey cypress windrow at the south end of the Environmental Camp; then generally running westerly and northerly along an irregular line to skirt the edge of the Environmental Camp approximately 2,600 feet to the north line of Section 13, Township 13 North, Range 17 West, Mount Diablo Base and Meridian; then running due west approximately 100 feet along the section line to the shoreline of the beach.

C_1–D_1: Bounded on the west by the shoreline of the beach, generally running southwesterly approximately 7,000 feet to the north side of the private road access that connects to the east with Kinney Lane.

D_1–A: Bounded on the south by the north side of the private road access, generally running southeast approximately 100 feet; then running due east approximately 600 feet along the State Park boundary; then running due north along the boundary approximately 700 feet; then running due east along the boundary approximately 350 feet; then running due north approximately 350 feet; then running due east approximately 650 feet to the west edge of the dunes; then generally running southeasterly along an irregular line approximately 1,000 feet to the end of the dunes; then generally running northwesterly along an irregular line between the dunes and the campsites approximately 1,250 feet to the north end of the campground; then generally running southeasterly along an irregular line at the north edge of the campsites approximately 1,250 feet to a point 40 feet north of the Monterey cypress windrow; then running due east approximately 650 feet along a line 40 feet north of the windrow; then running due north approximately 400 feet; then running due east approximately 1,600 feet; then running along the State Park boundary approximately 2,200 feet to the starting point at the southeast corner of the State Park property, to include approximately 490 acres of the primary wetland, dune, and sensitive habitat features of this portion of the State Park.

(1) ALL BOUNDARIES APPROXIMATED



Contour Interval 40 Feet
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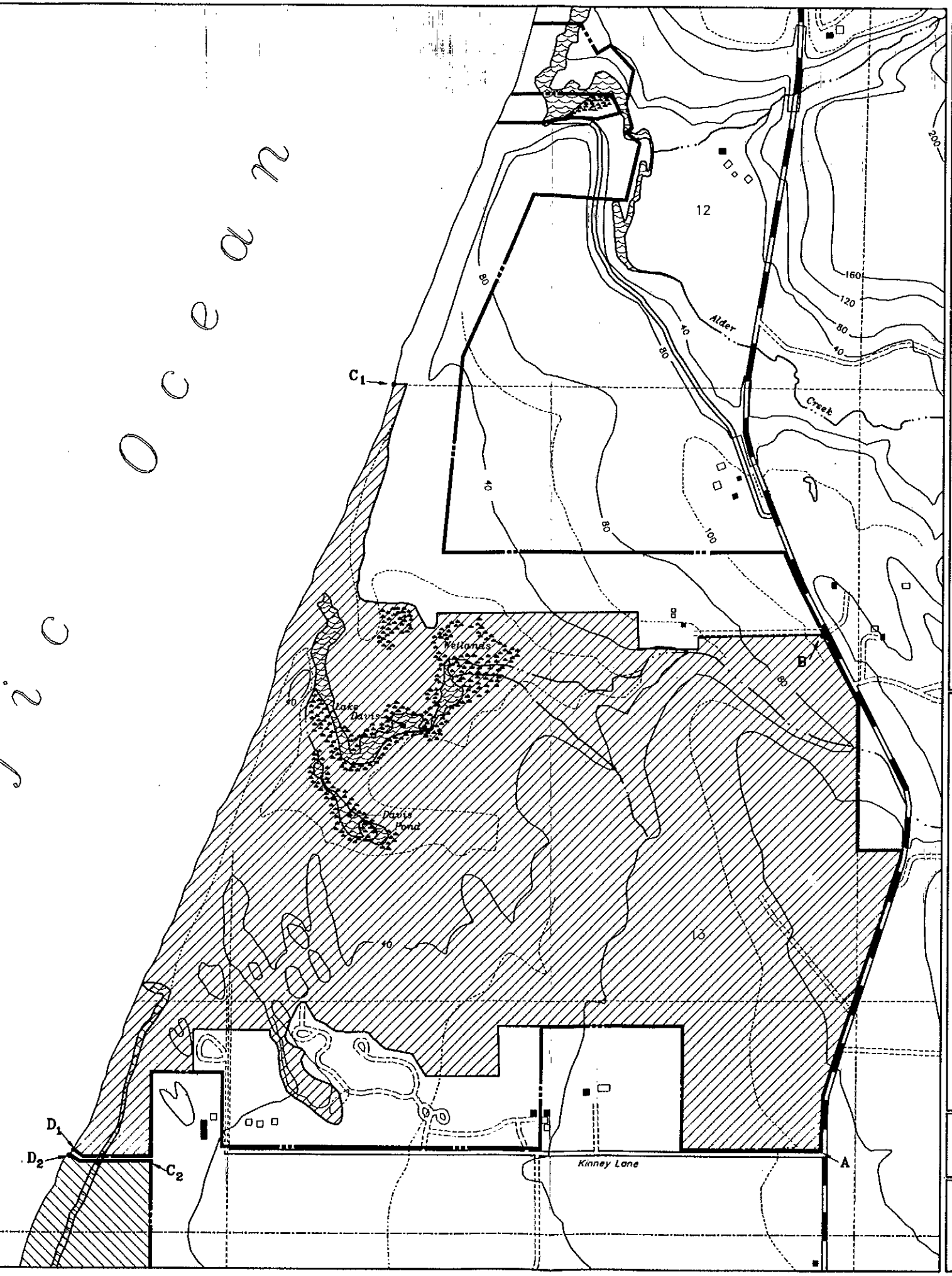


SEE DRAWING #26363 FOR CONTINUATION

match line to sheet number 26353

DESIGNED G. FREGIEN
DRAWN 92 V. FOSTER
CHECKED J. VANNEMAN

REVISIONS | DATE

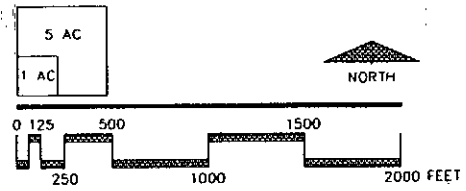
RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
APPROVED ____ DATE ____

MANCHESTER STATE PARK – NORTH
PROPOSED LAKE DAVIS WETLANDS AND COASTAL DUNES NATURAL PRESERVE
GENERAL PLAN – APPENDIX C

DRAWING NO. 26352

MAP NO. 5

MENDOCINO COUNTY T.13N., 16&17W., M.D.M



Contour Interval 40 Feet

Dashed Contour Lines Represent 20 Foot Intervals

KEY

Proposed Brush Creek/Lagoon Lake Wetlands and Coastal Dunes Natural Preserve

Boundary Description (1)

A–B: Starting at the southwesternmost corner of the State Park boundary, the preserve is bounded on the south by the State Park boundary running due east along the south lines of Sections 27 and 26, Township 13 North, Range 17 West, Mount Diablo Base and Meridian, to a point approximately 3,800 feet east; then along the State Park boundary generally running southerly to a point approximately 450 feet south of the section line; then along the State Park boundary generally running southeasterly approximately 1,050 feet to the edge of the Bishop pine forest.

B–C_2: Bounded on the east by a very irregular line generally running northerly and following the eastern edge of the Bishop pine forest, and in places along the old subdivision access roads and parcels, following the State Park boundary, excluding a 100-foot square parcel reserved for potential future day use parking at the end of Stoneboro Road; then generally running easterly and southerly to include the dunescape, wetland vegetation and/or mountain beaver habitat and the marine terrace generally following both sides of the tributary streams flowing northerly into Lagoon Lake, to the point of the easternmost State Park boundary corner at Lagoon Creek; then generally running westerly and northerly along the State Park boundary; and then across the western extreme of Lagoon Lake generally running easterly and northerly along the State Park boundary to the south side of the private road access that connects to the east with Kinney Lane.

C_2–D_2: Bounded on the north by the south side of the private road access, running due west approximately 600 feet, then generally running northwesterly approximately 100 feet to the shoreline of the beach.

D_2–A: Bounded on the west by the shoreline of the beach along a line generally running southwesterly approximately 10,000 feet to the westernmost State Park boundary; and then running due south approximately 900 feet to the starting point at the southwesternmost corner, to include approximately 650 acres of the primary wetland, dune, and sensitive habitat features of this portion of the State Park.

(1) ALL BOUNDARIES APPROXIMATED

match line to sheet number 26352

D_2 C_2

Pacific Ocean

Brush Creek

Brush Creek Slough

Brush Creek Wetlands

LAGOON LAKE

Lagoon Creek

Brush Creek

Stoneboro Road

24 25 26 27

A B

GARCIA RIVER

POINT ARENA

Pond

40 60 80 100 120

DESIGNED G. FREGIEN | DRAWN 92 V. FOSTER | CHECKED J. VANNEMAN

DATE

REVISIONS

RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

APPROVED DATE

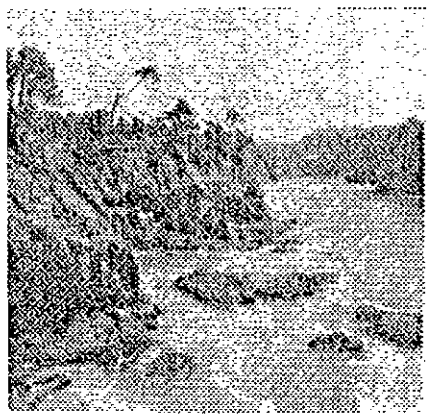
MANCHESTER STATE PARK – SOUTH
PROPOSED BRUSH CREEK/LAGOON LAKE WETLANDS AND COASTAL DUNES NATURAL PRESERVE
GENERAL PLAN – APPENDIX C

DRAWING NO. 26353

MAP NO. 5

California Department
of Parks and Recreation

Schooner Gulch
Greenwood Creek
Manchester State Beach



On July 9 come take part in planning their future.

Mendocino Coast State Park Units

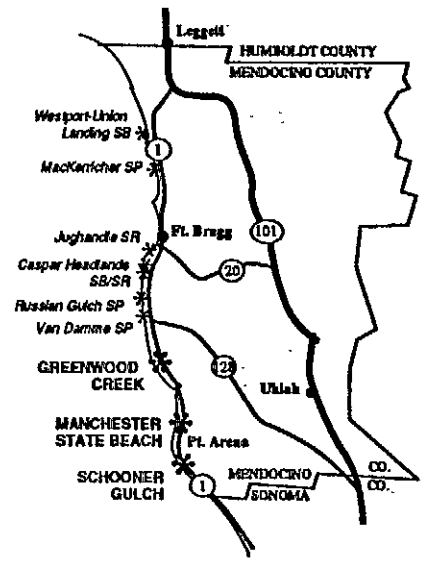
Scenic seashores

There are several beautiful State Park System units on the Mendocino coastline, offering us spectacular scenery, historic perspectives, and natural qualities unique to California. State park planners are developing plans to guide the future of ten of these important seashore units - plans to provide countless opportunities for inspiration and enjoyment while maintaining the qualities that make them so attractive. These plans must fulfill many public expectations, not just those of the people of today, but the needs of generations of visitors to come.

We ask you...

... the users of these coastal lands and waters to help the Mendocino Coast State Park planning team in this job. We are seeking your advice to ensure that these ten coastal state park units provide quality places for you and your families to enjoy. We want to get your ideas on what recreation opportunities are needed, what lands should remain open, natural, and untouched, and what facilities, if any, you'd like developed or improved.

Beginning with the three southern units, Schooner Gulch, Manchester State Beach, and Greenwood Creek, park planners will be conducting public workshops for all of these Mendocino parks over the next several months. A workshop to discuss



the first three units has been scheduled and we are requesting your active participation on this date:

July 9 Monday 7pm
Veterans Memorial Building
451 School Street
Point Arena

The planning team will describe lands and resources within the park units and share proposed staff recommendations for classifying and naming

the two currently unclassified projects, Greenwood Creek and Schooner Gulch. We want you to tell us about your issues and concerns.

The parks today

These three coastal units, with about 5,330 acres of land and almost 4 miles of seashore, offer a range of experiences from exploration and education to just plain fun. Their animals, birds, and plants are preserved in a wide variety of habitats - beach, bluff, headland, sand dune, forest, and wetland.

Manchester is classified as a "state beach," designed to provide outdoor recreational opportunities: swimming, fishing, boating, camping, picnicking, hiking, sightseeing, nature study, and many more.

Schooner Gulch and Greenwood Creek projects were acquired to insure continued public beach access at those locations and for landscape preservation and viewshed protection. These project areas will be classified and named prior to completion of their general plans. Classification as a state park, beach, recreation area, or reserve, etc,. provides a framework for how an area is to be developed, managed, and operated.

The general plan

The mission of the Department of Parks and Recreation is two-fold: to protect and preserve the natural and cultural resources of the State Park System, and to provide public recreation and use. As part of that mission, the general plan guides the management and protection of the park's resources and the development of facilities for park operation and visitor use over a twenty-year period. The plan consists of several elements:

- The **Resource Element** evaluates the park's natural and cultural resources, and sets management policies for protection, restoration and use of these resources.
- The **Interpretive Element** proposes programs and facilities for public information and interpretation of the park's natural and cultural resource values.
- The **Operations Element** describes specific operational and maintenance requirements unique to the park.
- The **Concessions Element** summarizes opportunities to provide appropriate goods or services to the public through concessions in existing or proposed facilities.
- The **Land Use Element** describes current land uses and relevant planning issues, outlines land use objectives and recommendations for the park, and determines future land uses.
- The **Facilities Element** describes existing facilities, recommends improvements and new facilities, and establishes priorities for park development.
- The **Environmental Impact Element** serves as the Environmental impact report required by the California Environmental Quality Act. It assesses environmental effects and proposes mitigation measures and alternatives.

Public involvement

Public involvement is an integral part of the planning process. Your ideas help determine what kind of place the park should be. With knowledge of your issues and concerns gleaned at the first workshop, planners develop alternative plans for resource preservation and facility development that are presented at a second public workshop. There you will be asked to review the alternatives and help formulate a single plan. The planning team then prepares a Preliminary General Plan document that becomes available for public review and comment before it is submitted to the State Park and Recreation Commission for approval. Commission action on the plan takes place at a public hearing where you will again have the opportunity to make comments.

Persons who want additional information about the workshop, the Department of Parks and Recreation planning process, or who want to submit comments about the park units should write to the address listed at the bottom.

REMINDER...

First planning workshop for
Manchester State Beach
Greenwood Creek project
Schooner Gulch project:

7PM Monday July 9
Veterans Memorial Building
451 School Street
Point Arena, CA 95468

PLEASE COME AND PARTICIPATE!

California Department of Parks and Recreation
Mendocino Coast State Parks General Plan Team
Robert Acrea, Project Manager
P.O. Box 924896
Sacramento, CA 94296-0001

UPDATE

A Newsletter of the Southern Mendocino Coast State Parks General Plan

Number One
November 1990

A NOTE FROM THE GENERAL PLAN PROJECT MANAGER

Last May, when we started planning for the Mendocino Coast state park units, and then in July, at the first public meeting, we promised those of you who participated in the first stage of our public involvement effort that we would keep you informed of our progress. Here is our first newsletter - *Update*, and with it we want to share with you the ideas we received at the public meeting and through visitor surveys, and to show you how the general plan team has translated those ideas into recommendations for future park use, development, and resource management.

In the first phase of our public involvement effort, the general task of exploring the horizons of the parks' future was initiated in an open public meeting held in July 1990. After the meeting, we compiled, studied, and categorized the ideas we heard, and a summary of these is presented in the newsletter. In addition, we received a number of comments by mail from people who were unable to attend the meeting and we are including some of those comments as well. The results of a 1990 use season visitor survey were tallied and have provided us with detailed information about visitor demographics and preferences. That information, too, is included here.

This issue of *Update* represents the second major stage of public involvement in planning for the future of the three southern Mendocino Coast state park units. Your concern and assistance are again needed to provide the critical feedback we believe is a constructive part of park planning.

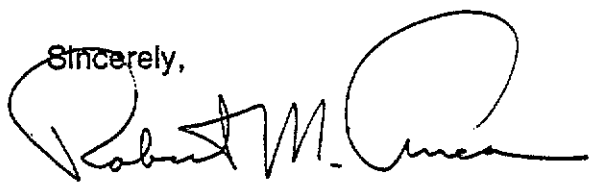
From the thoughts and ideas that surfaced in phase one, the general plan team assembled alternative approaches for visitor use and enjoyment of the parks based on our concerns for preserving and protecting the parks' resources. Now in phase two we are presenting you with our proposals for the ultimate development of these park units. We are contacting you at this junc-

ture in the planning effort to be sure that the direction we are headed takes into account your ideas and concerns. We ask that you provide us with comments and recommendations concerning our proposals at our next public meeting December 5, 1990, 7PM, at the Veterans Memorial Building in Point Arena.

Upon completion of this phase, we will analyze your input and prepare a DRAFT GENERAL PLAN (GP) AND ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT containing what we believe to be the most feasible plan for the management and use of the park. The draft GP will contain the recommended alternative and a full impact discussion of all the alternatives considered. We expect to have the draft ready for your review by next spring. Remember a draft plan is just that - a draft which is subject to change depending on information and discussion during the public review.

We want to thank you for your enthusiastic response to the survey and public meeting, and to ask for your continued support and assistance. We always welcome your thoughts and ideas - whether you write to us or come by and see us in person. Be assured that we will continue to keep you informed about our progress in future issues of *Update*.

Sincerely,



Robert M. Acrea
Mendocino Coast General Plan Project Manager
California Department of Parks and Recreation
P.O. Box 942896
Sacramento, California 94296-0001
(916) 322-8350

What's the Next Step?

•

Public Meeting

Manchester State Beach
Greenwood Creek
Schooner Gulch

Come hear the general plan team's proposed plans for resource management, park use, and development of facilities, and give us your comments and recommendations.

7PM
Wednesday
December 5
Veterans Memorial Building
451 School Street
Point Arena

• • •

Ideas from the Public

In July, about sixty interested citizens, some of them representing organizations with hundreds of members, took part in our first public workshop at Point Arena, and gave us their thoughts on the future of Manchester State Beach and Greenwood Creek and Schooner Gulch projects. Here is a summary of the ideas, arranged by unit, mentioned most frequently by people attending the meeting. Comments include those we heard at the meeting as well as excerpts from several letters we received following the meeting.

Schooner Gulch

- Provide safe access to the park.
- Ensure that park use does not negatively impact rights of adjacent private property owners.
- Cooperate with Caltrans/ County to provide a solution for safe park access and parking.
- Support resource protection efforts by local groups.
- Improve locations of existing sanitary facilities.
- Make use of the existing historic structure.
- Provide barrier-free trails and facilities if possible.
- Maintain the scenic qualities of the park.
- Restore fishery resources.
- Use the park for educational purposes.
- Preserve bird habitat/feeding areas.

Samples of Comments

"...more environmental campsites are needed on the Mendocino Coast."

"Restrooms are poorly located: one restroom is visible from highway, door flaps open in wind, and building has displaced a popular sunning spot; the other restroom is located in a popular spot for picnics and weddings."

"Parks should do something about nudity and indiscriminate use of the roadside pull-out (on private property) by scuba divers."

"The State property should be developed for public use; it takes too long to develop

property after acquisition."

"Make beach leash-optional."

"No dogs on beach; loose dogs kill our sheep."

"We need more information on classification ...prefer 'reserve' classification over 'state beach'".

"This ...along with all the other biologic activity, ...suggests a policy of human use with minimum impact: no camping, no unleashed dogs, no vehicles, ...considerable care in beach cleanups...and no further development beyond the existing privies and parking lot."

Manchester State Beach

- Provide better access to the environmental campsites.
- Ensure that park campgrounds do not compete with private industry.
- Keep facilities primitive.
- Generally upgrade accessibility to areas in park.
- Interpret cultural and natural resources.
- Provide more interpretive programs.
- Use the park for educational opportunities.
- Utilize existing bluff-top houses.
- Protect wetland areas.
- Manage rare and endangered plant and animal species.
- Restore fishery resources.
- Protect bird nesting/feeding habitat.
- Restore and maintain the scenic quality of park lands.
- Don't develop the Stoneboro Road area - keep it primitive and low-key.

"...the general character of Manchester should be maintained. For the most part is is minimally developed, and exists in a more or less natural state. I believe all efforts should be directed to keep it that way."

Samples of Comments

"The mouth of the Garcia River and tundra swan wetlands should be considered for acquisition."

"To my mind it is far more than just a beach, and I believe it should be redesignated to include the name 'park' in the title."

"...the general character of the park should be maintained. For the most part is is minimally developed, and exists in a more or less natural state. I believe all efforts should be directed to keep it that way."

"...a close liaison with the local schools should be developed so that young children can learn to appreciate their surroundings, ...to preserve their natural heritage."

"...a close look at litter collected would probably reveal something about the sources of it and possibly how to control it..."

"...The fact that they (the campgrounds) are not elaborate with hook-ups for power, water, and sewage is a real plus! There are still plenty of campers that like thing rustic. For those who would carry all the amenities of the city to the country for their...camping, there are numerous camping places along the coast to cater to their needs, e.g., a KOA right next door.""

Greenwood Creek

- Provide for continued post office use of the mill office.
- Provide facilities for civic events.
- Provide better sanitary facilities for park users.
- Interpret the area's history and natural features.
- Restore fishery resources.
- Restore and maintain scenic qualities of park lands.
- Don't overdevelop the park. No campgrounds.
- Work with local groups on resource protection issues.
- Promote local economy by encouraging tourism: provide quality visitor experiences and park facilities.
- Provide barrier-free trails and facilities where feasible.
- Ensure that park facilities do not compete with private industry.
- Provide more information about activities and facilities in and near the park.

Samples of Comments

"...the state should contribute to the Elk Community Water District."
"Our businesses across the street are impacted by park visitors wanting to use our restrooms. Improve the restrroms at the park."
"Garbage cans are good!"
"Cut back grass on the trails...brush on the bluff is overgrown - it's a potential fire hazard.
"The post office has always been in the mill office; we want it to stay."

"...tourist use of the Beach ...directly affects our lives in ways that are unprecedented... people knocking on our door wanting to use our bathroom, people picnicking on our front porch and leaving their garbage there, state park workers cutting shrubs on the headland ...so that dust blows in our faces for six months while the shrubs grow back..."

"Don't expand the existing facilities; there is already a problem with camping in the day-use parking lot."
"We don't want overnight use at this park - it's too small. Camping would impact water, businesses, increase vandalism."
"Bicyclists could use some facilities...like places to stay overnight off the road. How about campsites just for bicyclists?"
"Tables, toilet, fire rings impact esthetics of area, block beach views. Fire rings are in poor location and are a fire hazard."
"I'm concerned about invasive plant species on the bluff, like broom and pampas grass."
"Stop erosion, especially on the road down to the beach."
"Integrate a recycling program into park's trash disposal system."
" The trees (in Li Fu Gulch) need to be kept trimmed..."
"...I like the day use only. I firmly believe in the 'no wheeled vehicles' to the beach... This area is pristine and fragile."
"...we are very much against re-(sic)classification as a State Beach or State Park. We favor a Preserve."
"...Greenwood Creek estuary...needs restoration and protection..."
"Number One in preserving Greenwood Creek ... stop the overlogging of it..."

Visitor Survey Results

The first phase of our public involvement effort for the three southern Mendocino Coast state park units was initiated Memorial Day weekend with the distribution of a park visitor survey at all the Mendocino Coast state park units. Through June and into July, park visitors were asked to respond to a number of questions regarding park use and the quality of their recreational experience. We were disappointed in the returns from Schooner Gulch and Greenwood Creek: only one survey was received from the fifty handed out by the park staff. At Manchester State Beach, however, 37 (about 25%) of the 150 surveys distributed were returned; the results are tabulated below, along with a sampling of the comments made.

1. What park are you visiting today?
Manchester State Beach

2. How did you arrive at the park?
91.8% vehicle; 8% bicycle

3. How many people in your party?

One	8%
Two	77%
Four	11%
Seven +	3%

Average party size =2.2

4. Where do you live?

Out of USA	22%
Out of state	16%
Local	22%
SF Bay area	24%
Sacto. area	8%
So. Calif.	8%

5. Why are you visiting?

Overnite stay enroute	41%
Primary destination	30%
One of several places to visit	22%
By chance	5%
Just passing thru	3%

6. How often do you visit this park?

1+times/month	5%
2-4 times/year	14%
1-2 times/year	14%
Irregularly	3%
First visit	65%

7. How many nights did you camp at this park?

One night	46%
Two	11%
Four	5%
Five	3%
Six +	8%
Average stay	2.185 nights

8. Would you be willing to rely on walking, bicycling, or shuttle bus as the means of getting around within the park?

Yes	70%
No	27%
No answer	5%

9. What area of the park do you enjoy most and why?

Sand dunes/beach	57%
All of it	16%
Peace, quiet, solitude, natural character	11%
No answer	14%

10. What activities did you participate?

Nature study	81%
Quiet contemplation	73%
Nature walks	51%
Tent/car camping	41%
Birdwatching	41%
Plant/flower study	37%
RV camping	30%
Hiking	30%
Seal watching	24%
Picnicking	22%
Beach activities	22%
Fishing	11%
Bicycling	8%
Swimming	5%
Group camping	3%
Scuba/skin diving	3%
No answer	3%

11a. Were the park's facilities adequate for your recreation needs?
Yes 89% No 3%
No answer 8%
Suggestions for improve-

ment: more campsites, designated trail between campground and beach, flush toilets and showers.

11b. Were the park's natural or cultural resources in a condition that allowed you to enjoy your activity?
Yes 86% No 5%
No answer 8%

12. Are there new facilities/ activities you would like to see at the park or existing ones that should be removed?
No answer 33%;
No new facilities, keep as is - 30%; 37% suggested improvements in three areas: trails (better signing, boardwalk to beach, extended day use trail loop), interpretation (more bird and fish info, area/ orientation map), and facilities (better toilets, electrical hook-ups, showers, toilet paper, clothesline).

13. What do you like best about this park?

Beach	30%
Beauty/solitude/quiet	54%
Natural, undeveloped	24%
Wildflowers, birds	8%
Moderate price	5%

Others include: walking opportunities, space between campsites, accessibility 3% each

14. What do you like least about this park?
"Smelly outhouses and not enough trees"
"Wind" "Bugs" "RVs"
"Abandoned houses on cliff should be removed."
"can't find any dislikes"
"Rough - campsites, parking, need regraveling, leveling and grass cut".
"No showers - however, more people would discover the park and getting away from it all would decrease."
The greatest single number of responses (about 11%) concerned the lack of showers.

15. What are your preferences for making changes at this park?

Keep as is, no changes	73%
Enhance resources	32%
Improve campground	24%
Improve education	22%
More hiking trails	22%
Enlarge the park	14%
Areas more accessible	11%
Limit rec development	8%
More ranger walks/talks	8%
Provide more parking	5%
Improve maintenance/ cleanliness	5%
Better visitor protection/ law enforcement	5%
Bld/improve picnic areas	3%

16. Is there anything else you would like to tell us about the park and your concerns?

- "I'm concerned about the habitat disappearing and the welfare of all the species in the park, especially the 'Castilleja mendocinensis.'"
- "I'm concerned you will 'dress it up' for visitors, and spoil its natural beauty. Please leave this park as it is."
- "It is good that campsites are far apart from each other."
- "Only one or two signed ways from the top of the campground to the beach is better. The rest must be protected from people."
- "A ranger station where you can address questions would be nice. A recycle station would be advisable."
- "Toilet facilities could be clustered into one or two buildings instead of several scattered around."
- "Manchester SB is clean, quiet, well-preserved, and a fine site for family camping. Keep this park as a 'primitive' camp (without flush toilets) so that people who enjoy a quiet campground will have a place to go. Not all state parks need modern plumbing."
- "This park should be an example for others."
- "Needs telephone."
- "Open parking area across from communication facility for use by RVs."
- "I think you are doing a great job."
- "Splendid, wonderful."

General Plan Team Recommendations

Resource Protection and Management Proposals

Information about the resources helps forms the basis for decisions about ultimate park use and facility development. Significant resources and resource issues are highlighted below and will be presented in more detail at our upcoming December public meeting.

The state park system units on the southern coast of Mendocino County offer a rich and unique diversity of ecosystems: marine environments, beaches and cliffs, large sand dune systems, streams with anadromous fisheries, complex coastal wetlands, mature redwood forests, and grassland terraces offering striking ocean vistas. The ocean shore represents a dynamic and accessible geologic history. For instance, the San Andreas fault crosses Manchester State Beach and is an important factor in the hydrology of the area. Rare plant and animal species can be found in each of the units.

The area has a rich cultural history, as well. Numerous pre-historic Native American sites have been identified in the units. The Mendocino Coast's 19th century development is represented by the schoolhouse at Schooner Gulch, the farmhouse at Manchester State Beach, and the residual lumber mill features at Greenwood Creek.

In accordance with the department's requirements for protection of these important and sensitive natural and cultural features, the Resource Element of the general plan calls for public use limitations and for actions in the form of specific resource management objectives. In some cases policy statements, called "directives," have been developed to more clearly define resource management objectives and limitations for development and use.

The draft Resource Element calls for managing the units on the southern Mendocino Coast to maintain natural conditions to the fullest extent. Resource management directives include those for rare plant and animal protection, vegetation management, wildlife management, controlling exotic species, prescribed fire, fire suppression, geologic processes, protection of the park from off-site impacts, riparian corridor and stream protection, appropriate recreational activities, protection of cultural and historical features, and scenic preservation.

The rational basis for the management approach outlined in the Resource Element is the classification of the State Park System unit. Schooner Gulch Project and Greenwood Creek Project are being proposed for classification as State Beach. Manchester State Beach is being proposed for reclassification to State Park in recognition of the significant wetland and upland areas added since its creation as a State Beach in 1963. The wetlands adjacent to Lake Davis, Brush Creek, and Lagoon Lake contain rare plant communities, rare plant and animal species, and are generally very sensitive habitats. In recognition of their importance, these areas are proposed for the Natural Preserve sub-classification.

Facility Proposals
Greenwood State Beach

1 - Adapt southern portion of mill office for use as visitor center and restrooms ; continue post office use in northern portion and add handicapped access ramp and truck loading area. Relocate telephones and restore historic building facade and fencing.

2 - Provide new parking area behind mill office with access off Highway 1 for both post office/visitor center and beach users.

3 - Develop handicapped-accessible interpretive trail with overlooks and wayside interpretive exhibits along the bluff-top. Provide 5-10 picnic sites near new parking area.

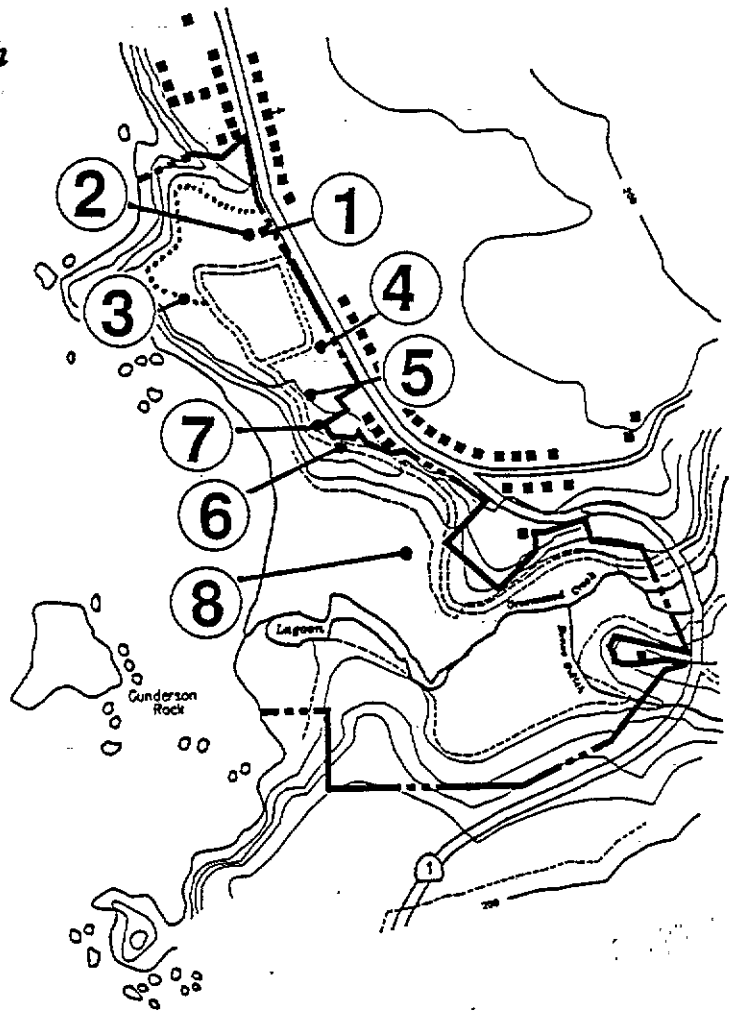
4 - Remove existing parking area and restore site.

5 - Retain existing bluff-top picnic areas and restroom.

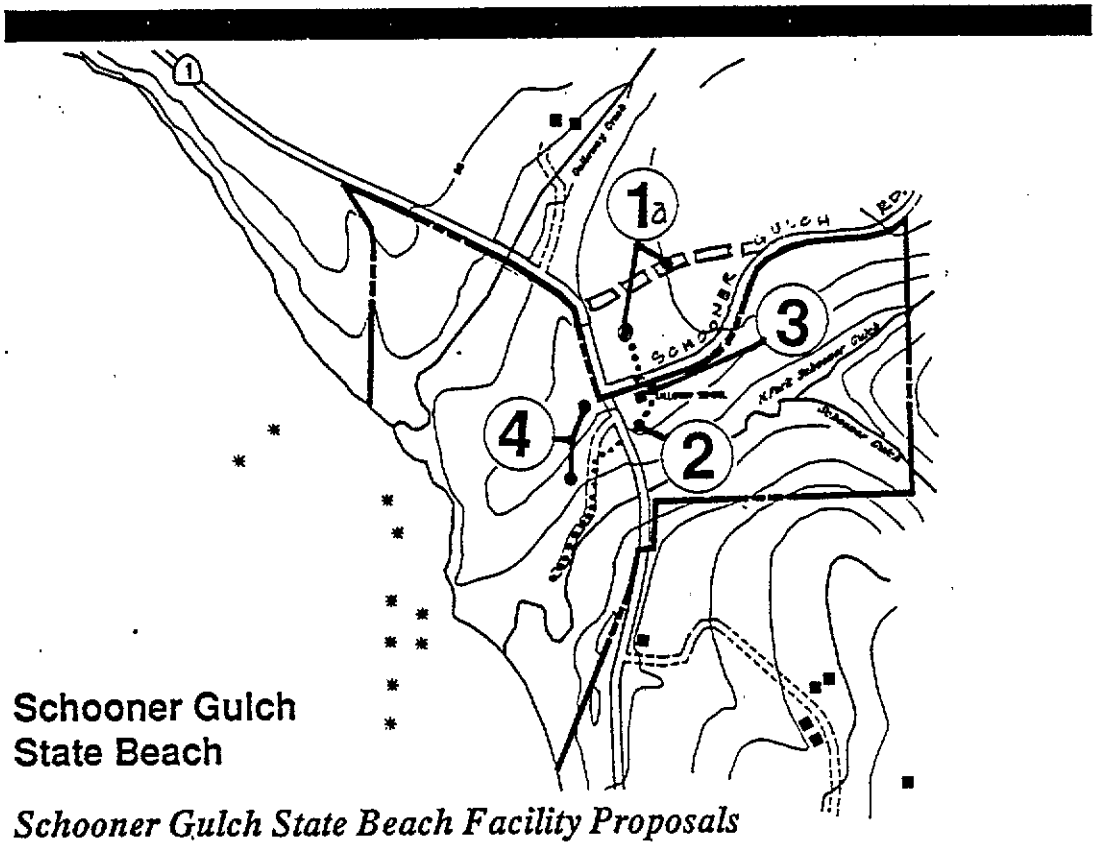
6 - Improve existing beach/ emergency vehicle access road by solving drainage/ erosion problems.

7 - Plant vegetative screening between beach road and adjacent private residences.

8 - Retain sanitary facility on beach. Relocate or reduce picnic sites and fire rings.



Greenwood State Beach



Schooner Gulch State Beach

Schooner Gulch State Beach Facility Proposals

1 - Provide safe access and parking area. (1a) If additional land north of Schooner Gulch Road becomes available for acquisition, State Parks should coordinate with the County to realign the road northward to intersect Highway 1 at crest of hill; develop new a 20-35 car parking area and comfort station north of school building on new lands with access off Schooner Gulch Road. (1b) Alternative solution: work with Caltrans to realign Highway 1 curve (requires major grading and bank removal on park property) and develop comfort station and 20-35 car parking area around the school building with access off Schooner Gulch Road.

2 - Locate new beach access trail under highway bridge connecting new parking area to existing beach trail west of highway.

3 - Restore and maintain historic facade of schoolhouse; future adaptiove use of the building may be appropriate, e.g., interpretive use if a volunteer/ docent group or additional park staff were available to operate it.

4 - Remove sanitary facility on terrace; reposition and screen or relocate sanitary facility closest to beach.

Facility Proposals
Manchester State Beach

ALDER CREEK BEACH ACCESS

1 Develop new 15-25 car parking area (where park service road now joins Alder Creek Road).

2 Close Alder Creek Road to vehicles north of new parking area. (Requires county abandonment of road north of private property). Remove existing parking at end of Alder Creek Road and provide comfort station; retain roadway as pedestrian/emergency vehicle beach access.

3 Remove houses on bluff-top and restore site.

DAVIS HOUSE AREA

4 Retain environmental camps (12).

5 Restore Davis House for use as an interpretive center with trailhead and restrooms.

6 Develop wetlands interpretive trail/boardwalk with wayside exhibits.

7 Relocate access from highway and improve entrance road.

8 Develop new gated 35-50 car parking area screened from highway for day-users and environmental campers.

SERVICE/MAINTENANCE AREA

9 Retain employee trailer pads.

10 Improve park office; designate public parking (2-4 spaces).

KINNEY ROAD CAMPGROUND

11 Enlarge campground eastward(15-25 additional sites). When necessary, relocate any existing campsite impacting mountain beaver habitat. Improve sanitary facilities, maintaining their rustic, low-key character.

12 Retain trailer sanitation station.

13 Retain campfire center.

14 Improve entrance and provide new contact station. Preferred solution is to develop a new contact station on Kinney Road that would serve both the campground and beach day-use area. (This would require consent of private property owners south and west of the road and county abandonment of the road at the park boundary).

15 Provide new designated trails and provide better signing for existing trails.

KINNEY ROAD BEACH ACCESS

16 Improve and enlarge the existing day-use parking area (50-75 cars). Provide comfort station.

17 Provide designated trail to beach. Eliminate volunteer trails over dunes. Improve trails from beach to campground and KOA.

STONEBORO ROAD AREA

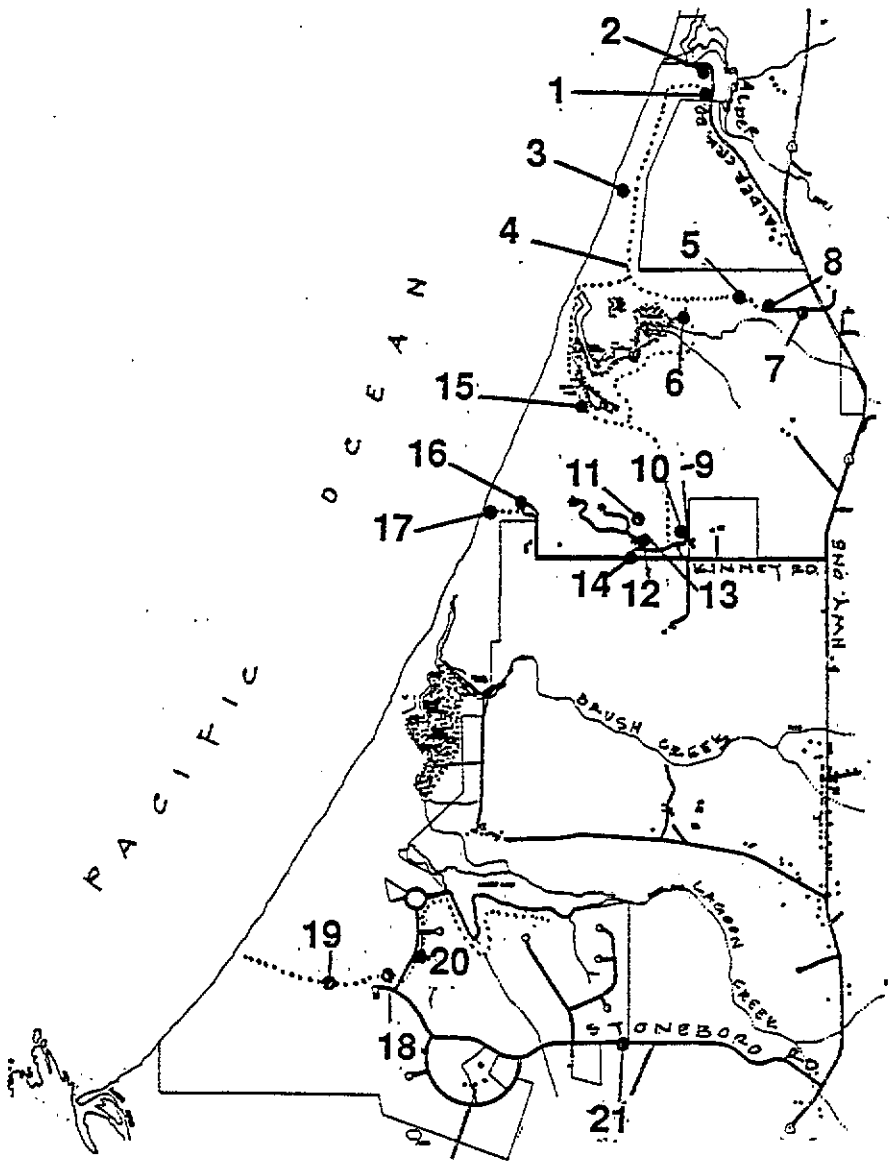
18 Provide new 50-car day-use parking area, comfort station, and 10-15 picnic sites. (Or provide two smaller parking areas: acquire and improve the existing beach access parking area in addition to developing a new 25-car parking area, comfort station, and picnic area).

19 Designate beach access trail. Eliminate volunteer trails.

20 Develop handicapped accessible wetlands trail/boardwalk.

21 Develop gated access on Stoneboro Road. When inholdings and private rights-of-way become available for acquisition, the county road should be abandoned west of the park boundary.

Manchester State Beach



Next Public Meeting

• • •

Wednesday
December 5
7 PM
Veterans Memorial Building
451 School Street
Point Arena

• • •

Come hear and respond to the general plan team's proposals for resource preservation and management, future land use, and development of facilities for:

Schooner Gulch
Manchester State Beach
Greenwood Creek

• • •

APPENDIX E:
SUMMARY OF PERTINENT MENDOCINO COUNTY GENERAL PLAN COASTAL ELEMENT POLICIES

Portions of Mendocino County Coastal Element policies applicable to Manchester State Park are summarized in this appendix. For context and more complete versions of the policies, consult the Mendocino County General Plan.

3.1 Habitats and Natural Resources

3.1-1 The various resources designations may be overcome only with additional information that can be shown to be a more accurate representation of the existing situation. Such showing shall be done in the context of a minor amendment to the land use plan.

3.1-2 Development proposals in environmentally sensitive habitat areas such as wetlands, riparian zones on streams, or sensitive plant or wildlife habitats shall be subject to special review to determine the current extent of the sensitive resource. Such development should be approved only if specific findings are made which are based upon substantial evidence that the resource as identified will not be significantly degraded by the proposed development.

3.1-4 Development in wetland areas shall be limited. Development for nature study purposes is permitted.

3.1-6 In the wetland portions of Ten Mile River and Big River, development shall be limited to wetland restoration, nature study, and salmon restoration projects.

3.1-7 A buffer area shall be established adjacent to all environmentally sensitive habitat areas to provide for a sufficient area to protect the environmentally sensitive habitat from significant degradation resulting from future developments. The width of the buffer area shall be a minimum of 100 feet. The buffer area shall be measured from the outside edge of the environmentally sensitive habitat areas, and shall not be less than 50 feet in width. Developments permitted in a buffer area shall generally be the same as those uses permitted in the adjacent environmentally sensitive habitat area, and must comply at a minimum with each of the following standards.

1. It shall be sited and designed to prevent impacts which would significantly degrade such areas;

2. It shall be compatible with continuance of such habitat areas by maintaining their functional capacity, their ability to be self-sustaining, and to maintain natural species diversity; and

3. Structures will be allowed in the buffer area only if there is no other feasible site available on the parcel. Mitigation measures, such as planting riparian vegetation, shall be required to replace the protective values of the buffer area on the parcel, at a minimum ratio of 1:1, which are lost as a result of development under this solution.

3.1-10 Areas where riparian vegetation exists, such as riparian corridors, are environmentally sensitive habitat areas, and development in such areas shall be limited to only those uses which are dependent on the riparian resources.

3.1-11 When development activities require removal or disturbance of riparian vegetation, replanting with appropriate native plants shall be required at a minimum ratio of 1:1.

3.1-12 Vehicle traffic in wetlands and riparian areas shall be confined to roads. Multi-use non-motorized trails and access to riparian areas are permitted if no long-term adverse impacts would result from their construction, maintenance, and public use. Trails should be made from porous materials.

3.1-15 Dunes shall be preserved and protected as environmentally sensitive habitats for scientific, educational, and passive recreational uses. Vehicle traffic shall be prohibited. Where public access through dunes is permitted, well-defined footpaths or other means of directing use and minimizing adverse impacts shall be developed and used. New development on dune parcels shall be located in the least environmentally damaging location, and shall minimize removal of natural vegetation and alteration of natural landforms.

3.1-18 Public access to sensitive wildlife habitats such as rookeries or haulout areas shall be regulated to ensure that public access will not significantly adversely affect the sensitive resources being protected.

3.1-20 Soil constraints to conventional septic tank and leachfield systems such as those on Noyo and Blacklock soils and similar soils shall be recognized, and use of alternative systems shall be encouraged. Water quality control regulations shall be enforced.

3.1-21 Pygmy forests are unique ecosystems which may contain species of rare or endangered plants, and if they do, they are environmentally sensitive habitat areas. Other pygmy forest areas that do not contain species of rare or endangered plants will not be included in the environmentally sensitive habitat areas. New development on parcels with pygmy vegetation shall be located in the least environmentally damaging locations, and shall minimize removal of native vegetation and alteration of natural landforms.

3.1-22 Mendocino County should support a brush management program to control gorse, scotch broom, pampas grass, and other introduced plant pests, with emphasis on those areas where brush is a fire hazard. Fire and/or mechanical means of pest control shall be preferred.

3.1-25 The Mendocino coast is an area containing many types of marine resources of statewide significance. Marine resources shall be maintained, enhanced, and, where feasible, restored; areas and species of special biologic or economic significance shall be given special protection; and the biologic productivity of coastal waters shall be sustained.

3.1-26 In order to protect, enhance, restore, and preserve the quality of the coastal marine ecosystem, it is the policy of Mendocino County to oppose any exploration for or development of mineral resources, including petroleum products, offshore of Mendocino County.

3.1-30 Vehicle traffic shall be prohibited from all public beach areas except for emergency purposes and maintenance, unless specifically designated for vehicular use.

3.1-31 Structures or projects involving a diversion of water from streams appearing as dotted or dashed blue lines on 7.5 minute USGS quadrangle maps shall be sited and designed to not impede upstream or downstream movement of native fish, or to reduce stream flows to a level which will have a significant adverse affect on the biological productivity of the stream and its associated aquatic organisms.

3.4 Hazards

3.4-4 The county shall require that water, sewer, electrical, and other transmission and distribution lines which cross fault lines be subject to additional safety standards beyond those required for normal installations, including emergency shutoff where applicable.

3.4-7 The county shall require that new structures be set back a sufficient distance from the edges of bluffs to ensure their safety from bluff erosion and cliff retreat during their economic life spans (75 years).

3.4-9 Any development landward of the blufftop setback shall be constructed so as to ensure that surface and subsurface drainage does not contribute to erosion of the bluff face, or to the instability of the bluff itself.

3.4-10 No development shall be permitted on the bluff face because of the fragility of this environment, and the potential for resultant increase in bluff and beach erosion due to poorly-sited development. However, where they would substantially further the public welfare, developments such as staircase accessways to beaches may be allowed as conditional uses, following a full environmental, geologic, and engineering review, on the determinations that no feasible less environmentally damaging alternative is available, and that feasible mitigation measures have been provided to minimize all adverse environmental effects.

3.4-12 Seawalls, breakwaters, revetments, groins, harbor channels, and other structures altering natural shoreline processes or retaining walls shall not be permitted unless judged necessary for protection of existing development, public beaches, or coastal-dependent uses.

3.4-13 All new development shall meet the requirements for fire protection and fire prevention as recommended by responsible fire agencies.

3.5 Visual Resources; Special Communities and Archeological Resources

3.5-1 State Highway 1 in rural areas of the Mendocino County coastal zone shall remain a scenic two-lane road.

The scenic and visual qualities of Mendocino County coastal areas shall be considered and protected as a resource of public importance. Permitted development shall be sited and designed to protect views to and along the ocean and scenic coastal areas, to minimize alteration of natural landforms, to be visually compatible with the character of surrounding areas, and, where feasible, to restore and enhance visual quality in visually degraded areas. New development in highly scenic areas designated by the County of Mendocino Coastal Element shall be subordinate to the character of its setting.

3.5-2 Communities including Caspar, Little River, Albion, Elk, and Manchester shall have special protection to the extent that new development shall remain within the scope and character of existing development by meeting the standards of implementing ordinances. The community of Westport shall be excluded from the requirements of this policy.

3.5-3 The visual resource areas listed below shall be designated as "highly scenic areas," in which new development shall be subordinate to the character of its setting. Any development permitted in these areas shall provide for protection of ocean and coastal views from public areas, including highways, roads, coastal trails, vista points, beaches, parks, coastal streams, and waters used for recreational purposes.

- The entire coastal zone from the Ten Mile River estuary north to the Hardy Creek Bridge.
- Portions of the coastal zone in the highly scenic areas west of Highway 1 between the Ten Mile River estuary south to the Navarro River, with noted exceptions and inclusions of certain areas east of Highway 1.
- Portions of the coastal zone in the highly scenic area west of Highway 1 between the Navarro River and the north boundary of the City of Point Arena as mapped, with noted exceptions and inclusions of certain areas east of Highway 1.
- Portions of the coastal zone in the highly scenic area west of Highway 1 between the south boundary of the City of Point Arena and the Gualala River, with noted exceptions and inclusions of certain areas east of Highway 1.

New development west of Highway 1 in designated "highly scenic areas" is limited to one-story (above natural grade) unless an increase in height would not affect public views to the ocean, or be out of character with surrounding structures. New development should be subordinate to natural setting, and minimize reflective surfaces.

3.5-4 Buildings and building groups that must be sited in the highly scenic area shall be sited near the toe of a slope, below rather than on a ridge, or in or near the edge of a wooded area. Development in the middle of large, open areas shall be avoided if an alternative site exists.

Minimize visual impact of development on hillsides by (1) requiring grading or construction to follow the natural contours; (2) re-siting or prohibiting new development that requires grading, cutting, and filling that would significantly and permanently alter or destroy the appearance of natural landforms; (3) designing structures to fit hillside sites rather than altering landform to accommodate buildings designed for level sites; (4) concentrating development near existing major vegetation; and (5) promoting roof angles and exterior finish which blend with hillside. Minimize visual impacts of development on terraces by (1) avoiding development in large open areas if an alternative site exists; (2) minimize the number of structures, and cluster them near existing vegetation, natural landforms, or artificial berms; (3) provide bluff setbacks for development adjacent to or near public areas along the shoreline; (4) design development to be in scale with the rural character of the area. Minimize visual impact of development on ridges by (1) prohibiting development that projects above the ridgeline; (2) if no alternative site is available below the ridgeline, development shall be sited and designed to reduce visual impacts by using existing vegetation, structural orientation, landscaping, and shall be limited to a single story above the natural elevation; (3) prohibiting removal of tree masses which destroy the ridgeline silhouette.

3.5-5 Provide that trees will not block coastal views from public areas such as roads, parks, and trails; tree planting to screen buildings shall be encouraged. In specific areas, identified and adopted on the Coastal Element land use plan maps, trees currently blocking views to and along the coast shall be required to be removed or thinned as a condition of new development in those specific area. New development shall not allow trees to block ocean views.

3.5-6 Development on a parcel located partly in the highly scenic areas shall be located on the portion outside the viewshed if feasible.

3.5-7 Off-site advertising signs, other than small directional signs not exceeding 2 square feet, will not be permitted in designated "highly scenic areas." Direction, access, and business identification signs shall minimize disruption of scenic qualities through appropriate use of materials, scale, and location. Appropriate handcrafted signs should be encouraged.

3.5-8 Power transmission lines shall be located along established corridors. Elsewhere, transmission lines shall be located to minimize visual prominence. Where overhead transmission lines cannot be located along established corridors, and are visually intrusive in a "highly scenic area," the lines shall be placed underground west of Highway 1, and below ridgelines east of Highway 1, if technically feasible.

3.5-9 The location of all new access roads and driveways in rural areas shall ensure safe location and minimum visual disturbance. Direct access to Highway 1 shall not be permitted where it is feasible to connect to an existing or proposed public road, or to combine access points for two or more parcels.

3.5-10 Prior to approval of any proposed development in an area of known or probable archeological or paleontological significance, a limited field survey by a qualified professional shall be required.

3.6 Shoreline Access

3.6-1 The State Department of Parks and Recreation and other appropriate agencies shall be requested to initiate a public relations program for protection and enhancement of coastal resources, particularly coastal access.

3.6-6 Shoreline access points shall be at frequent rather than infrequent intervals for the convenience of both residents and visitors, and to minimize impacts on marine resources at any one point. Wherever appropriate and feasible, public access facilities, including parking areas, shall be distributed throughout the coastal area so as to mitigate against the impacts, social or otherwise, of overcrowding or overuse by the public of any single area.

3.6-14 New and existing public accessways shall be conspicuously posted by the appropriate agency, and shall have advance highway signs. Additional signs shall designate parking areas and regulations for their use, and shall include regulations for protection of marine life and warning of hazards, including high tides that extend to the bluffs.

All accessways shall be designed and constructed to safety standards adequate for their intended use. Hazardous blufftops shall be marked, or, if lateral access use is intended, shall have a cable or other clear barrier marking the trail or limit of safe approach to the bluff edge.

3.6-15 The Department of Fish and Game, Department of Parks and Recreation, and appropriate county departments and agencies should be requested to monitor public access to sensitive coastal resource areas such as wetlands, dunes, riparian areas, tidepools, rocky intertidal areas, and other wildlife habitats. DFG should, in consultation with the operating agency at each access point, prepare regulations governing use which shall be prominently posted. DFG should determine whether use of specific access points should be controlled to avoid degradation and allow resource recovery by limiting the number of users, by requiring supervision of users, or by closing the access point seasonally or periodically.

3.6-16 Access to the beach and to blufftop viewpoints shall be provided for handicapped persons where parking areas can be close enough to beach or viewing level to be reachable by wheelchair ramp. The wheelchair symbol shall be displayed on road signs designating these access points where the means of access is not obvious from the main road.

3.6-18 Along sections of the highway where development intensity will result in pedestrian use, or where this is the siting of the county designated coastal trail, a 15-foot accessway measured from the right-of-way of Highway 1 shall be offered for dedication as a condition of permit approval if the topography is deemed suitable for pathway development.

3.6-19 Along intensively developed sections of Highway 1 (such as between Cleone and Albion, or in Gualala), Caltrans shall be requested to build a separate pedestrian, equestrian path parallel to the highway, where pedestrian traffic warrants and physical conditions permit.

3.6-20 Paved 4-foot shoulders should be provided by Caltrans along the entire length of Highway 1 wherever construction is feasible without unacceptable environmental effects.

3.6-21 The County of Mendocino coastal trail shall be integrated with the coastal trails in the cities of Fort Bragg and Point Arena, and with Humboldt County to the north and Sonoma County to the south, so as to provide a continuously identifiable trail along the Mendocino County coast.

3.6-23 Public fishing access for such craft as canoes, rowboats, or small boats using trolling-type motors shall be maintained, protected, and encouraged at Ten Mile River, Big River, and Navarro River.

3.6-26 Prior to opening, advertising, or use of any accessway, the responsible individuals or agency shall prepare a management plan for that accessway, which is acceptable to the County of Mendocino, sufficient to protect the natural resources and maintain the property.

3.7 Recreation and Visitor Serving Facilities

3.7-1 The Mendocino County Coastal Element land use plan designates the existing visitor-serving facilities, and reserves appropriate sites for future or potential visitor-serving facilities.

3.7-2 Because unrestricted development of visitor facilities would destroy those qualities that attract both residents and tourists, limitations on visitor facilities by type and location shall be as set by Policy 3.7-1 and illustrated by Table 3.7-2, which reflects a tabulation based on land use maps to avoid highway congestion, degradation of special communities, and disruption of enjoyment of the coast.

3.7-3 The precise intensity of visitor accommodations and development standards shall be specified by zoning regulations so the developments will be compatible with the natural setting and surrounding development.

3.7-4 Any visitor-serving facility not shown on the LUP maps shall require an LUP amendment.

3.7-6 The Department of Parks and Recreation is requested to complete all funded acquisitions.

3.7-7 Within two (2) years of the certification of the local coastal plan, the State Department of Parks and Recreation shall develop a comprehensive land use plan and management program for their lands on the Mendocino coast prior to any additional development or relinquishment of DPR lands. Such plan shall include a tree removal program on all Department of Parks and Recreation lands where so designated on the LUP maps. Exempted from this requirement for a development plan is any development necessary to ensure the health and safety of the general public.

APPENDIX F:
LAND USE AND FACILITY ALTERNATIVES

Following determination of the major issues affecting park management and development and goals and objectives for resolving them, the planning team developed various options for activities in the park, grouped into four combinations based on four basic park philosophies that had been expressed by the public: (A) minimum visible change — things are okay the way they are today; (B) maximum natural appearance — wherever possible, restore natural qualities, and hold development to a minimum; (C) education/history — the park is an ideal learning environment, and visitors need a lot of help to get maximum enjoyment and benefit from it; (D) recreation — the park is a place that offers many opportunities for leisure activities. These combinations of proposals simply represent one way of organizing the many options for the park's future into a convenient format. Choices could be made from all of the categories in formulating a single plan for the park, interchanging or eliminating options between categories, e.g., choosing the Category D option for camping, the Category A option for picnicking and/or interpretation, Category B for parking, etc. All of the options protected ecologically sensitive areas, retained significant historic structures, and proposed facilities only in areas suitable for development.

The following table summarizes the alternatives considered.

TABLE 7. SUMMARY OF LAND USE AND FACILITY ALTERNATIVES

	Category A Minimum Visual Change	Category B Maximum Natural Appearance	Category C Education/ History	Category D Recreation
Access and Roads	Sign access points on highway.	Sign access points on highway; remove subdivision roads not needed for public access.	Sign access points on highway; improve existing road to Davis House; make Highway 1 changes.	Sign access points on highway; improve existing road for access to Davis House. Make Highway 1 improvements.
Parking	Formalize/define perimeter; provide sanitary facilities; acquire Stoneboro Road parking area or relocate.	Retain as is; reduce or relocate Kinney Road beach parking.	Provide parking at Davis House screened from Highway 1; reduce or relocate Kinney Road beach parking.	Improve beach parking areas and sanitary facilities; relocate E-camp parking.
Camping	Retain campground and environmental campsites.	Modify, reduce, or relocate campground; remove E-camps.	Relocate, modify, or reduce campground; retain E-camps.	Enlarge existing campground; develop new camping.

TABLE 7 (cont'd.). SUMMARY OF LAND USE AND FACILITY ALTERNATIVES

	Category A Minimum Visual Change	Category B Maximum Natural Appearance	Category C Education/ History	Category D Recreation
Picnicking	Provide benches on trails/tables at vista points and scenic areas.		Develop picnic facilities at Davis House.	Provide picnic tables at Davis House, Stoneboro Road, and Alder Creek.
Historic Structures	Stabilize Davis House.	Stabilize Davis House.	Use Davis House as museum/ interpretive facility; Relocate E-camp parking.	Develop bicycle access to Davis House; adapt Davis House for hostel use; relocate E-camp parking.
Interpretation	Wayside exhibits.		Provide wayside exhibits on trails and at use areas.	Develop new visitor center.
Trails	Provide trail to Davis House from other areas of park.	Obliterate trails not related to basic access patterns.	Provide self-guiding trails.	Provide beach access trail for disabled; self-guiding trails.
Operations/ Maintenance	Leave as is.	Remove service area/dump station/ employee trailer pad.	Relocate park office and entry kiosk.	Relocate service/ employee facilities.
Other Facilities	Remove Alder Creek houses.	Remove Alder Creek houses.	Develop environmental education/ visitor center in Alder Creek houses.	Use Alder Creek site for disabled accessible facility/ overlook; develop viewing platform and handicapped trail at Lagoon Lake.

The plan presented to the public in December 1990 and described in Newsletter 1 (see **APPENDIX A**) was a melding of these four alternatives - programs and facilities were taken from each. The analysis of public responses to the plan revealed that the proposals received nearly unanimous support from reviewers. Where combined with new ideas that resulted from public review at the meeting, these proposals form the basis for the single plan which is described in concept in the **LAND USE ELEMENT**, and in detail in the **FACILITIES ELEMENT**.

Appendix G:
CEQA Comments and Responses