



Cuyamaca Rancho State Park General Plan
California State Parks and Equestrians Meeting – May 27, 2014
MEETING SUMMARY

Meeting Date: May 27, 2014, 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM

Location: Denny's Restaurant, 665 N. Mollison Ave, El Cajon, CA.

Meeting Participants:

- Terry Jorgensen (Liaison) (Back Country Horsemen and Ramona Trails Assoc.)
- Marty Jorgensen (Back Country Horsemen and Ramona Trails Assoc.)
- Bernie Martin (Back Country Horsemen SD and Saddle Sorority)
- Peggy Martin (Back Country Horsemen SD and Saddle Sorority)
- Bill Butters (CRSP Mounted Assistance Unit)
- Mark Kukuchek (Back Country Horsemen, Bonita Valley Horsemen, TJ River Valley Equestrian Assoc.)
- Dan Falat, Colorado Desert District Supt., CSP
- Kevin Best, Sector Supt., Montane Sector, CSP
- Bob Patterson, General Plan project lead, CSP

Meeting Purpose:

Provide comments and ask questions about excerpts from the Administrative Draft of the CRSP General Plan that Bob Patterson emailed to the Equestrian group.

Items Discussed During the Meeting:

1. Bob said the excerpts emailed were of the Admin Draft General Plan that was for CSP team review, prior to another Admin Draft going to Sacramento for CSP executive staff review. After executive review, CSP will have a 45-day public review period of the Preliminary General Plan beginning first week of July and ending mid-August. Public may comment on the Preliminary GP at that time.
2. CSP has begun the trail inventory and pre-planning stage of the Roads and Trails Management Plan (RTMP). In about 6 months to a year, CSP will begin the public involvement stage, and the equestrian group will be asked to participate. The Colorado Desert District will be the lead/point of contact for the RTMP (not the General Plan team).
3. The Management Zone Matrix has been changed to allow for the possibility of a developed individual campground in the north end of the Park. Following a request by the group, Bob will change the wording from "North of Paso Picacho Campground" to "North end of the Park" in order to include potential locations south of Paso Picacho and north of the Cuyamaca Outdoor School.
4. Page 4-23, Horseback Riding Guidelines #4: Bob will change wording to reflect preference to keep trails open while repairing any resource damage, as opposed to closing them. Bob will add the following wording to the end: "... and, if possible, any re-routes should be in place before the original trail is closed."
5. Bob will change description of Los Vaqueros to include that tent camping IS allowed.
6. Bob will change dates shown for camping to something more general, since exact opening and closing dates for the season vary from year to year.
7. Marty asked if the closed group camp at Paso Picacho was still a possibility for an equestrian camp. Dan answered it is being rebuilt back into a group camp. Bob said the General Plan supports it being re-opened as a group camp since there is a strong need for one and there would be some potential drawbacks to having it as an equestrian camp (e.g., steep and narrow entrance road, tight



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California State Parks and Equestrians – June 25, 2013
MEETING SUMMARY

- turning radius in parking area, small parking area, small footprint for horse corrals, etc.)
8. Question was asked if horses can still be watered if bridges or other stream crossings are built. Bob indicated the proposal for stream crossings is in the GP to help prevent and repair stream damage occurring in some areas due to trail use. Dan said horses could still access water on stream edges away from the bridge or stream crossings.
 9. Question was asked what the policy was regarding overnight parking to access the trail camps. Bob said GP did not currently address this, but would add something. Dan indicated that overnight visitors to trail camps most likely paid to park at Paso Picacho or Green Valley campgrounds.
 10. Terry asked what a “trailhead feature” is as shown in the Management Zones Matrix, and if parking was included in the definition. Bob said parking is not considered a trailhead feature but interpretive panels, trail signs, etc. were. Terry asked if parking could be clarified in the Matrix. Bob said he will clarify the Matrix.
 11. Peggy asked that language be included in the GP to improve certain trail sections prior to designating them as multi-use. Bob said he will add language.
 12. Bob discussed proposed adjustments to wilderness boundaries as part of the General Plan and showed a map depicting those changes. He explained the reasons behind proposed changes: original maps were inaccurate due to lack of GIS when the wilderness was established in 1982 (hand drawn maps) - thus a need for consistent wilderness boundaries to avoid confusion, establishment of clear and consistent setbacks/buffers between roads and wilderness boundaries for brush and road maintenance, need to decommission certain areas of wilderness due to some existing utility easements and roads through wilderness, need to create better multi-use trail connectivity between south and north sections of the Park, and areas previously designated wilderness that today aren't considered as having strong wilderness values (e.g., meadow at Green Valley, some areas adjacent to SR 79).
 13. Bob will post excerpts and maps from this meeting to the General Plan webpage