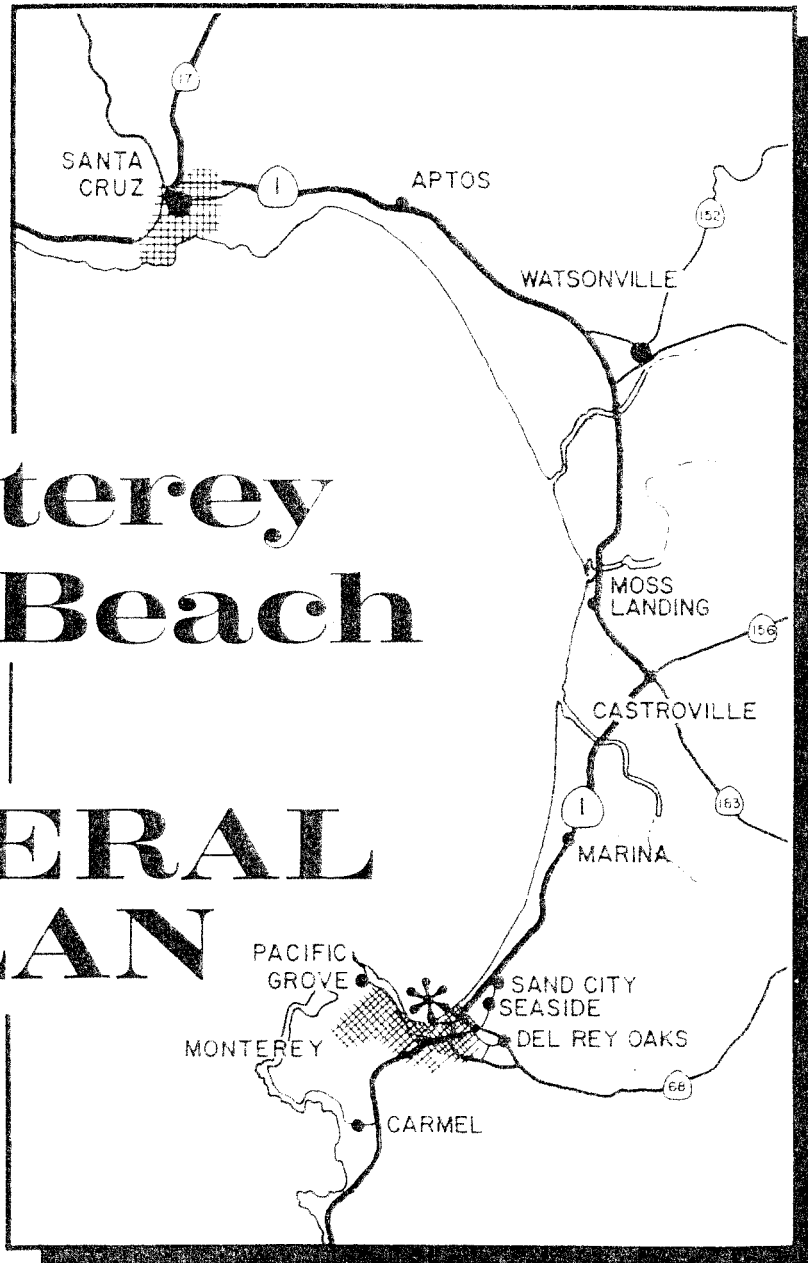


Monterey State Beach

GENERAL PLAN



*George Deukmejian, Governor
Gordon Van Vleet, Secretary for Resources
Henry R. Agona, Director*

*State of California — The Resources Agency
Department of Parks and Recreation*



DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

STATE PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION

P.O. Box 942896, SACRAMENTO, CA 94296-0001



Resolution 59-87
adopted by the
CALIFORNIA STATE PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION
at its regular meeting in Pacific Grove on
August 14, 1987

WHEREAS, the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation has presented to this Commission for approval the proposed General Plan for Monterey State Beach; and

WHEREAS, this reflects long-range development plans to provide for optimum use and enjoyment of the unit as well as the protection of its quality;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the State Park and Recreation Commission approves the Department of Parks and Recreation's Preliminary General Plan for Monterey State Beach, dated May 1987, subject to such environmental changes as the Director of Parks and Recreation shall determine advisable and necessary to implement the provisions and objectives of said plan.

The following statement shall be included in the Operations Element:

"The Department will keep under close monitoring the status of aquatic and other safety measures to determine whether lifeguarding may be required in some form."

MONTEREY STATE BEACH
GENERAL PLAN
SEPTEMBER 1990

George M. Deukmejian
Governor

Gordon K. Van Vleck
Secretary for Resources

Henry R. Agonia, Director
Department of Parks and Recreation

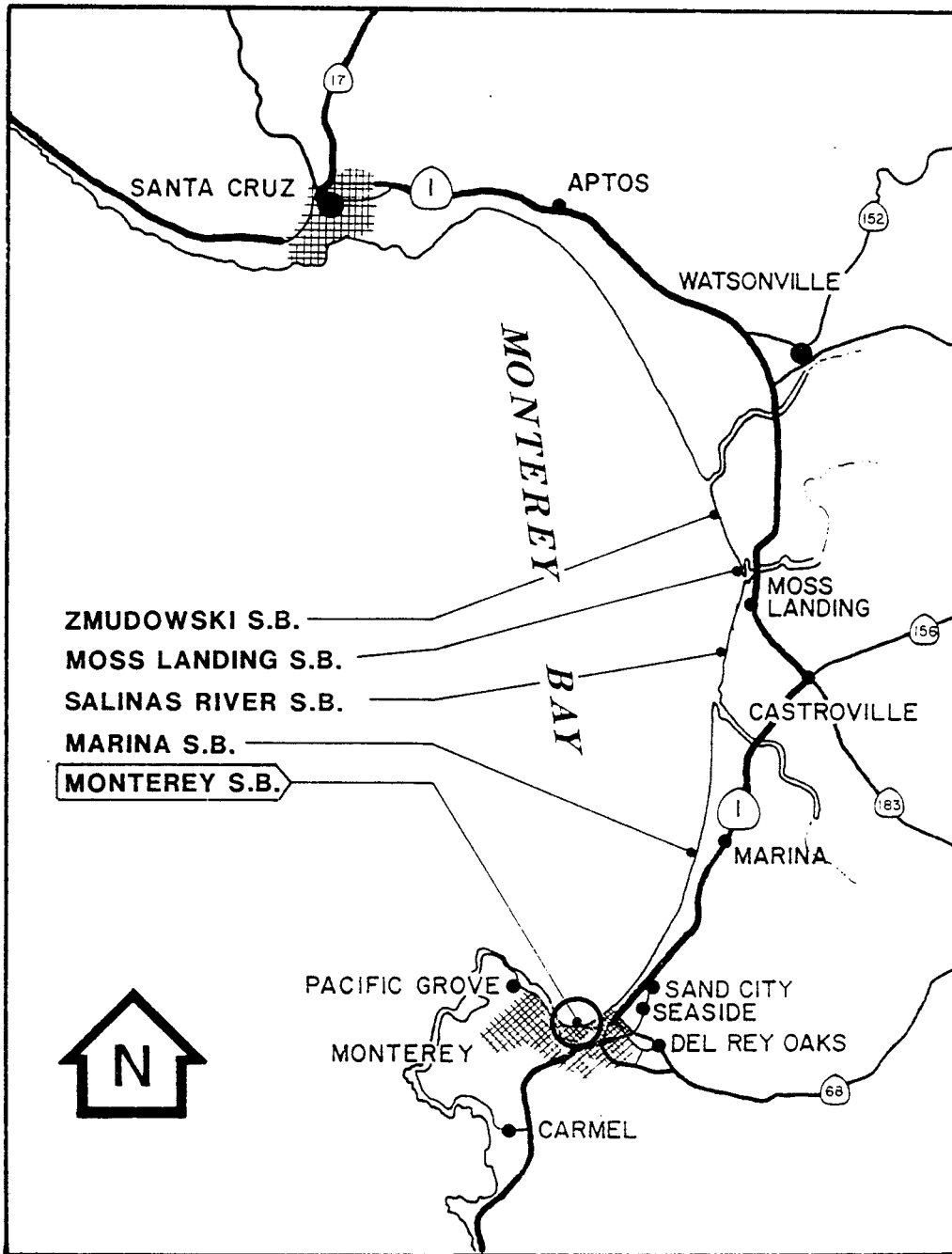
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SUMMARY



MONTEREY STATE BEACH

UNIT DATA

STATISTICS

Size: 40 acres (two parcels)
 Ocean frontage: 3,800 linear feet
 Existing facilities
 -35 car parking strip
 Visitation: 160,000 visitors

RESOURCES

-Sandy beach
 -Low vegetated dunes and steep dunes
 -Marine ecosystem

VISITOR USE

Primary recreation activities include:
 -Swimming and beachcombing
 -Sunbathing
 -Surfing and wind surfing
 -Surf fishing
 -Special permit beach events

ISSUES AND CONCERNS

-Dune stabilization
 -Day use parking, restrooms, vehicle control
 -Coordination with City of Monterey
 "Window on the Bay" and Recreation trail
 -Adjacent land use compatibility

MONTEREY STATE BEACH GENERAL PLAN

SUMMARY

This General Plan for Monterey State Beach was prepared as part of an overall general planning process for five state beaches in the northern portion of Monterey County. The others are Marina, Moss Landing, Salinas River, and Zmudowski State Beaches.

A separate General Plan has been developed for each unit so as to clearly present the material, and more importantly to aid in the future implementation of this plan.

The plans have been developed through extensive coordination within the various departmental divisions and offices, a series of public meetings and user questionnaires, and interaction with local agencies.

All five of these state beaches are similar in that they consist of a stretch of ocean beach backed by coastal dunes. Each is unique, however, in dune height, vegetation, human disturbance, and recreation opportunities. The beaches themselves are the primary recreation resource, providing opportunities for jogging, fishing, swimming, surfing, horseback riding, and a wide variety of other uses.

This collection of beaches serves visitors both from the adjacent communities and statewide. With the exception of Monterey State Beach, these units present a rural and somewhat isolated experience for visitors. (The City of Monterey and its collection of cultural and recreational resources draw visitors statewide. The proposals of the Monterey State Beach General Plan reflect that relationship.)

Collectively these General Plans provide a wide array of uses; however, individually they will provide only those recreational uses and development that are compatible with the resource values of the unit.

Monterey State Beach is within the City of Monterey and consists of two separate parcels about one mile apart:

Monterey Beach Area - This southerly 16-acre parcel is located immediately west of the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School near the City of Monterey's harbor. The beach is heavily used during special events, but generally has not been subject to heavy use year round. However, recently the City of Monterey's waterfront development projects (the recreation/transportation trail and Window-to-the-Bay) have increased visibility and pedestrian access to this state section. Acquisition efforts for the latter program began as a joint city and state project in 1983.

The unit has no facilities or direct legal vehicle access. However, the city beach adjacent to Monterey State Beach is a staging area for various water-related activities which overlap onto the state beach property.

The development of a railroad, sewer lines, and random roads through the years has greatly disturbed native vegetation and allowed the spread of exotic species.

Key recommendations of this plan for the Monterey Beach Area include:

- o Continued acquisition and planning efforts by the state and City of Monterey to achieve the objectives of open space and improved beach access.
- o The development of visitor parking and restroom facilities outside the bay view corridor.
- o Coordination with the U.S. Navy to consider alternate routes from the recreation trail over federal lands, which will satisfy demands and objectives for more public access.
- o Our department should continue to coordinate with the City of Monterey to provide the necessary law enforcement, maintenance, visitor control, as well as operating and development agreements.
- o Stabilization of the dunes.

Sand Dunes Drive Area - This 24-acre parcel is located in Monterey near the City of Seaside. This unit commands an excellent view of the immediate Monterey city shoreline and is the first beach access visible to the Highway 1 traveler between Moss Landing and Carmel River State Beach.

The site has chemical toilets and trash barrels, and Sand Dunes Drive, a city-owned street, provides parking and vehicular access. Frequent patrols are needed at this portion of the unit because of the extensive drug and alcohol-related activities and general misuse of the area.

There is very little vegetation left on the scalped and drifting sand dunes that remain on the property, and without vegetation there is a lack of land-based fauna. The primary resource is the sandy beach and the scenic view it provides.

The proposed short-term uses of the area will be similar to the present uses. The proposals should be a long-term solution to the needs of the public for parking, day-use facilities, beach access, and improved maintenance and visitor protection. In addition, the natural resources will be better protected and esthetics will be improved.

The key recommendations of this plan for the Sand Dunes Drive Area include:

- o The department should investigate the possibility of obtaining ownership transfer or jurisdiction of the portion of Sand Dunes Drive within state beach property to improve control and design options.
- o Develop a 150-car parking lot near the end of Sand Dunes Drive with some pull-through spaces.

- o Install vehicle barriers and control gates to restrict vehicle entry into dune areas and to regulate hours of visitor use.
- o Install permanent restroom facilities near the new parking lot (should accommodate access for the elderly and disabled persons with boardwalk connections).
- o Designate 25 picnic sites at the west end of the parking lot.
- o Install two boardwalks for access to the beach from each end of the parking lot.
- o Restore foredune, native vegetation, and wildlife habitat areas.
- o Install interpretive signing to identify and explain sensitive resource habitat areas, ocean hazards, and to orient visitors to Monterey Bay with specific emphasis on the peninsula shoreline.
- o Future management of this area should consider overnight use as part of the department's enroute camping program, provided that ranger surveillance is made available.

INTRODUCTION

MONTEREY STATE BEACH GENERAL PLAN

INTRODUCTION

General management and development guidelines in this plan will remain flexible through review and continued updating. The plan will act as the primary source of information for future unit management and use. Specific proposals will be further refined when specific items are funded for implementation.

This plan includes the following elements:

The Resource Element is a summary of the natural, cultural, esthetic, and recreational resources of the area; it sets management policies for protection and use of these resources.

The Land Use and Facilities Element describes current and proposed land uses, and describes proposed facilities.

The Interpretive Element describes proposals and programs for public information and interpretation.

The Concessions Element describes the use of concessions in the unit.

The Operations Element describes operational guidelines for the unit.

The General Plan as a whole serves as the draft Environmental Impact Report. Environmental impact information is presented in the Environmental Impact Element. Further environmental assessment will be performed when specific construction or management programs are proposed and, if significant environmental impacts differing from those specified in this General Plan are found, further environmental documents will be filed.

In preparing the plan, several initial goals and objectives have been established to serve as a general guide:

1. Identify the unit's cultural and natural resources.
2. Identify existing and potential problems, and provide solutions.
3. Determine land use, unit development, and visitor activities that are compatible with the purpose of the unit and the surrounding area.
4. Determine the potential environmental impacts of the land uses and visitor activities.
5. Establish policies for maintenance and operation, protection and preservation, development, and interpretation of the resources.
6. Establish a sequence of unit development.
7. Provide an information document for the public, the Legislature, department personnel, and other government agencies.

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MONTEREY STATE BEACH GENERAL PLAN

RESOURCE ELEMENT

This Resource Element was prepared to meet requirements of state law.* In compliance with the Public Resources Code, the Resource Element sets forth long-range management objectives for the natural and cultural resources of the unit. Specific actions or limitations required to achieve these objectives are also set forth in this element; maintenance operations and details of resource management are left for inclusion in specific resource management programs that will be prepared at a later date.

Discussions about lands not now owned by the Department of Parks and Recreation have been included. These lands represent potential acquisition opportunities, based on available data. However, the discussions are intended for planning purposes and do not represent an intention or commitment for acquisition.

Unit Description

Monterey State Beach is within the City of Monterey and is part of the Coastal Strip Landscape Province. The 40-acre unit consists of two separate parcels about one mile apart: a 16-acre southerly parcel which is immediately west of the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School, and a 24-acre upcoast parcel which is west of the Monterey Beach Hotel at the west end of Canyon Del Rey Boulevard. The total ocean frontage is 3,800 feet. The nearest State Park System units are Monterey State Historic Park, 1/2 mile west; Marina State Beach, 6 miles north; and Asilomar State Beach, 4 miles west. Monterey Peninsula College is 1/2 mile south. The Monterey Municipal Wharf is 1,000 feet west of the western parcel.

Resource Summary

Natural Resources

Topography

Monterey State Beach is north- and northeast-facing. Dunes in the eastern parcel that reach an elevation of 40 to 60 feet are the most prominent topographic features in this unit. As a result of extensive human impact on dune vegetation, these dunes are largely unstabilized drifting sand.

Meteorology

Northern California experiences a Mediterranean climate with cool, wet winters and warm, dry summers. The waters of the Pacific Ocean have a profound moderating effect on temperatures along the coast, producing a maritime temperature regime with mild temperatures year-round. Mean daily maximum temperatures for the months of May through November at Monterey State Beach are in the low to mid 60s and mean daily minimums are in the high 40s. For

* Section 5002.2, Subsection (b) of Division 5, Chapter 1 of the Public Resources Code and Chapter 1, Section 4332 of Title 14 of the California Administrative Code.

December through April, mean daily maximums are in the high 50s and mean daily minimums are in the middle 40s. Mean annual precipitation is estimated at 16 inches. Most of this precipitation (83%) occurs during the months of November through March.

Windy conditions are the norm around Monterey Bay; the weather station in the City of Monterey reports wind speeds of 4 to 15 miles per hour about 75% of the time, and strong winds, 16 to 31 miles per hour, are recorded 5% of the time. Calm winds, less than 4 miles per hour, are recorded about 20% of the time.

Fog, or fog-generated low clouds, occurs during all seasons, but is most common on summer mornings and evenings. The Monterey Bay area has fog 12% of the time during July through September. As a consequence of the foggy summers and frequent winter storms, this area only receives about 3,000 hours of sunshine or about 70% of possible light.

Microclimatic zones, areas that depart from the general climatic factors (e.g., insolation, temperature, or soil moisture), are generated at Monterey State Beach by the ocean, the prevailing breeze, the coastal fog, the sandy beach, the sand dune formation, and the adjacent heavily developed urban core.

Water reflects only half as much solar insolation as land; hence, the ocean stores more energy during the day and releases more energy at night. However, because of its lower specific heat, the land warms up and cools down two to three times as fast as the ocean. These energy storage and temperature differences, together with the prevailing onshore breeze, moderate high and low temperatures near the coast. When the coastal fog moves inland, it enhances this moderating effect. At first, it produces a sudden chill that chases visitors from the beach; thereafter, it acts as a thermal blanket, keeping air and soil temperatures almost constant.

Surf and white beach sand reflect about half the solar radiation. This extra half-dose of sunshine accounts for the unexpected sunburns of many inexperienced beach users.

The high reflectivity of beach sand and its lower water-holding capacity create a cool, arid habitat in the dunes on the eastern parcel of Monterey State Beach. Both parcels of the state beach are adjacent to the heavily developed urban core of Monterey. This core produces a heat island with somewhat warmer temperatures than would be found at more rural beaches.

Hydrology

Monterey State Beach is situated within the Monterey Peninsula Hydrologic Area, which is within the Central Coastal Hydrologic Basin. The unit is subject to flooding during winter storm surges and high tides and would also be flooded during a tsunami. Specific groundwater quality data are not available for Monterey State Beach; however, saltwater intrudes wells to the east of the unit.

Geology

Monterey State Beach is within the Salinian block of the southern Coast Ranges geomorphic province. The Salinian block is a wedge of continental crust-type material bounded on the northeast by the San Andreas fault zone (about 38 km northeast of Monterey State Beach) and on the southwest by the Sur-Nacimiento fault zone.

The unit contains no bedrock outcrops; it consists entirely of sandy beaches, low foredunes in the western parcel, and higher elevation dune deposits in the eastern parcel. The dune deposits are superposed on older dune material and a seaward-sloping terrace which is below sea level in this location. Miocene Monterey shale lies below the terrace deposits.

The beach has fluctuated in morphology and width over the years, with a narrowing, eroding trend. Structures built on neighboring properties years ago, behind wide sandy beaches and low dunes, have been threatened when storm waves and high tides have dramatically eliminated the once-apparent protection.

Soils

Coastal beaches, dune land, and a small area of Baywood loamy sand are the land types and soils occurring at Monterey State Beach.

The coastal beach land type occurs as narrow sandy beaches and adjacent low sand dunes, consisting of sand, gravel, cobbles, or boulders, or a mixture of these. Portions of the coastal beach land type are exposed during low tides and inundated at high tide. Drainage is very poor to excessive; erodibility is high.

Dune land is a miscellaneous category consisting of sloping to very steep terrain derived from wind-deposited sand. Drainage and permeability are very rapid. Wind erosion hazard is high. Dune land in this unit is highly eroded.

Baywood loamy sand, 2 to 15% slope, is an excessively-drained soil that has formed in stabilized sand dunes. The surface layer is typically dark grayish brown and brown, slightly to medium acid, averaging 21 inches thick. The subsurface layer, about 6 inches thick, is pale brown and slightly acid. Permeability is rapid. Shrink-swell potential is low. Erodiability is low. This soil phase is found along the southern and southeastern boundaries of the unit.

Plant Life

The vegetation at Monterey State Beach falls under the classification of foredune community. Species diversity is typically low in the foredune community; however, there is also an extensive exotic flora at Monterey State Beach.

The common species found on the low sand dunes of Monterey State Beach include sea fig and Hottentot fig (Carpobrotus aequilaterus and C. edulis), beach bur (Ambrosia chamissonis), and sea rocket (Cakile edentula). Sea fig and Hottentot fig form solid stands throughout most of the back dune area.

The development of a railroad, sewer lines, and roads, compounded with heavy beach use and vehicular traffic, has greatly disturbed the native vegetation and allowed colonization by exotic species. Planted Monterey cypress (Cuppressus macrocarpa), eucalyptus (Eucalyptus sp.), and Monterey pine (Pinus radiata) occur in the southerly 16-acre parcel. A few of the common species found in the disturbed areas are black mustard (Brassica nigra), New Zealand spinach (Tetragonia tetragonioides), bull thistle (Cirsium vulgare), and wild radish (Raphanus sativus).

The species list compiled for the unit lists 28 species. Of these, 16 (57%) are nonnatives.

No rare or endangered plant species are known to occur at Monterey State Beach.

Animal Life

Habitat diversity is very limited at Monterey State Beach due to direct human impact and urban encroachment.

Kelp beds offshore provide foraging sites for marine mammals and pelagic birds. Mammals include the harbor seal, California sea lion, and southern sea otter.

Harbor seals occasionally use the beach as a haul-out area (place of rest), and gulls and shorebirds forage along the littoral zone. These birds include California and Heermann's gulls, sandpipers, sanderlings, and killdeer.

Due to its degraded condition, the coastal dune biotic community provides poor wildlife habitat. Birds found here include Brewer's blackbird and white-crowned sparrow.

The California brown pelican, a state and federally listed, endangered species, has been observed foraging offshore at Monterey State Beach. The endangered Pacific gray whale and other whale and dolphin species have also been seen here.

The federally listed endangered Smith's blue butterfly (SBB) may occur in the northern portion of this unit. The sand dunes between Sand Dunes Drive and State Highway 1 support coast buckwheat (Eriogonum parvifolium), one of two plant species that are host plants for the butterfly. The adjacent Phillips Petroleum property is identified as SBB habitat in the SBB recovery plan.

Marine Life

Located within Monterey Bay, the marine environment off Monterey State Beach is within the Central California Seascape Province, a region of characteristic geological and biological features that extends south from San Francisco Bay to Point Conception.

The marine ecosystem consists of two principal environments, benthic and pelagic. The pelagic environment is the open water from the surface to the sea floor. Benthic environments are on the ocean floor and are defined on the basis of depth, substrate, and tidal influences. There are two significant benthic zones at Monterey, intertidal and subtidal.

The intertidal benthic zone is the sandy beach area between high and low tides. This zone is limited in biological productivity due to the daily exposure to the atmosphere and the constantly shifting sand. Nevertheless, some species, primarily burrowing animals, occur here. The most common burrowing animals are blood worms and the mole crab. Scavengers are also present, primarily beach hoppers. When the tide is in, several fish, including surf perch, diamond turbot, and round stingray, utilize this habitat. When the tide is out, the major vertebrates are foraging shorebirds such as willets and sanderlings.

The subtidal benthic zone extends from the lowest tide line to a depth of 30 feet and is composed of a mosaic of unconsolidated sand deposits and outcrops of Monterey shale. The dominant species that dwells within the sandy substrate is the polychaete tube worm. Species that dwell on the sandy substrate include dungeness crab and short-spined sea star. Fish that commonly occur in this zone are sanddabs, California halibut, and starry flounder.

The hard shale outcrops support a different set of organisms than the unconsolidated sand. In most areas of exposed shale, the dominant organisms are burrowing bivalves. During winter storms, quantities of borer-penetrated shale are tossed up on the beach, giving evidence of the effect of these animals on the erosion of the shale bottom. The shale area provides for attachment sites for the most easterly growing kelp bed found in Monterey Bay. No other kelp bed is found along the eastern edges of Monterey Bay from Monterey State Beach to Soquel Point in Santa Cruz. This kelp forest is dominated by Macrocystis pyrifera.

The pelagic environment contains floating and swimming organisms. Floating organisms include phytoplankton, zooplankton, crustaceans, jellyfish, and copepods. Fish in this zone include surf perch, rockfish, and night smelt. Marine mammals occurring occasionally in this environment include harbor seals and California sea lions. A number of inshore seabirds such as western grebe, surf scoter, Caspian tern, and gulls also utilize this environment.

The state-listed (threatened) Guadalupe fur seal may occasionally forage near Monterey State Beach (a small male was found beached in Monterey Bay in 1977). The federally-listed (threatened) southern sea otter occurs in Monterey Bay and may occasionally be seen from the unit while it migrates between kelp beds, its preferred habitat. Many of the fish and birds that inhabit the marine environment off Monterey are of ecological, recreational, and commercial importance.

Ecology

The many small ecosystems occurring in the coastal environments of Monterey Bay are interrelated by physical and biological elements.

Streams, bluffs, and cliffs contribute sediments to marine ecosystems. The sediments are then redistributed by littoral and oceanic currents. As a result of the current pattern in Monterey Bay, the benthic marine environment at Monterey State Beach is sandy. Nutrients associated with these sediments are important to marine life in the nearshore zone. Upwelling of cold bottom

waters, however, provides the greatest source of nutrients. These nutrients greatly enhance the biological productivity in nearshore marine ecosystems. Because of the upwelling, Monterey Bay is one of the richest marine basins in California.

Extensive urban and commercial development has occurred near Monterey State Beach. Within the unit, heavy use of the beach and dune systems has resulted in a degradation of natural ecosystem values. The greatest threats to the ecological integrity of Monterey State Beach appear to be competition from nonnative vegetation and blowouts in the dunes caused by human disturbance.

At Monterey State Beach, the ecosystems retaining the greatest natural values are the supratidal beach and those in the marine environment. The marine systems are not heavily impacted by visitor use.

Two nearby marine areas have been identified as important natural areas by the California Natural Areas Coordination Council (CNACC) and have been designated by the California Department of Fish and Game as ecological reserves. They are the Pacific Grove Marine Gardens Fish Refuge and the Hopkins Marine Life Refuge. The latter is also recognized as an Area of Special Biological Significance by the California State Water Quality Control Board.

Cultural Resources

Archeological Sites

No prehistoric archeological sites were found in Monterey State Beach during a records check and a complete field survey.

Standing Structures and Historic Sites

There are no existing historic structures at this state beach. The 1880s era Del Monte Hotel bathhouse and wharf were located in present-day Monterey State Beach. These structures were removed post-1925. No remains of these features have been located.

Ethnographic Background

The Indians who lived along the coast from San Francisco Bay to Monterey Bay are generally referred to as Costanoan, though the name Ohlone has become more popular in recent years among native descendents. The terms are an abstraction for a linguistic family of eight distinct languages. Three different languages were spoken on Monterey Bay: Awaswas from Aptos upcoast to Davenport, Mutsun in the Pajaro and lower Salinas River valleys, and Rumsen from about Marina downcoast to the Little Sur River.

Political organization was limited to a tribelet level consisting of one or more villages, served by a chief and council of elders. Each of the approximately 50 tribelets was like an autonomous nation. Tribelet territories were apparently well defined and defended, with warfare commonly mentioned in historical accounts. Marine resources provided items for trade to inland neighbors, primarily mussels, abalone shells, salt, and dried abalone. Pinon pine nuts and obsidian were obtained as imports.

Prayers, offerings, dreams, dances, and shamanism were important in Ohlone religious life. Musical instruments included whistles, flutes, rattles, and a musical bow. Several types of games and gambling were popular. Most houses were dome-shaped, using thatch to cover a pole framework, and large enough for 10 to 15 persons. Animal skins were used for robes (on cold days), blankets, and bedding, along with tule mats. Baskets were used for storing household items, and especially for collecting, processing, and storing food.

Acorns provided the bulk of the diet, supplemented by a variety of other nuts, seeds, berries, roots, and shoots. Animals were hunted, trapped, and fished, including most of the mammals and reptiles in the area, waterfowl and other birds, and insects. Extensive burning of brush and grasslands helped to improve the hunting and gathering potential of their lands while reducing the danger of wildfires. Beached whales, sea otters, and sea lions were roasted and eaten. Mussels and abalone were gathered, though this resource was probably never abundant along the sandy bay from Aptos to Monterey.

The seven missions in Ohlone territory had cataclysmic and devastating effects on the native population and traditional culture. The Indians living around Monterey Bay were drawn into missions at Santa Cruz, San Juan Bautista, and San Carlos.

Historic Background

Gaspar de Portola's 1769 expedition, and the Rivera-Palou and Hezeta and Palou expeditions of 1774 and 1775, initiated Spanish occupation and missionization of the Monterey Bay area. This missionization activity proved disastrous for the Native Americans. Mexican secularization of the mission system in 1834 further dispersed the remaining Costanoan peoples. Simultaneously with orders for mission secularization came requests for Mexican land grants. For the most part, however, the land encompassing the present-day state beach units in Monterey County (Monterey, Marina, and the southern portion of Salinas River State Beach) retained its status as the pueblo lands of Monterey prior to statehood. When Monterey claimed the pueblo lands as city lands in 1853, present-day Monterey State Beach became part of the 28,000-acre Tract III of city lands.

Prior to 1877, David Jacks acquired Tract III. Due to its proximity to historic Monterey, the area near Monterey State Beach saw rapid late 19th-century development. In 1880, San Francisco capitalists and the Southern Pacific Railroad built the Hotel Del Monte, a 250-acre resort which offered beautifully landscaped grounds, a polo field, golf course, and race track, and the magnificent Eastlake bathhouse and wharf which were located in present-day Monterey State Beach. No visible evidence remains of the bathhouse and wharf.

The State of California purchased 7.58 acres from John Franklin Work, et al., on November 7, 1960 and 5.97 acres from Ralph P. Gomez on November 27, 1964 to establish Monterey State Beach.

Esthetic Resources

The principal scenic resource of this unit is the view of Monterey Bay. Negative scenic features in relation to the natural coastal setting include the adjacent urban structures, primarily the motel complex adjacent to the eastern parcel and the row of commercial structures bordering the western parcel.

The auditory features of Monterey State Beach encompass the multitude of varied sounds -- automobiles, trucks, airplanes, boats, construction noises, sirens, horns, voices, etc. -- that are heard in a major metropolitan center.

Recreation Resources

The coastal area of Santa Cruz and Monterey counties is one of the major recreation destinations in California, accounting for roughly one out of 20 recreation trips (4.6%) within the state by Californians in 1980. These trips brought 5,760,000 recreation visitors to the two counties, not including local residents and visitors from out of state. In addition to these "destination" visitors, this area is very popular with persons touring enroute to another destination.

Twenty major recreation activities currently occur at Monterey State Beach. Of these, 11 are strongly dependent on the ocean or ocean beach and six are dependent on other natural resources of the unit. Recreation activities that are primarily dependent on the ocean or sandy beach -- scuba, skin diving, board surfing, body surfing, wind surfing, swimming, sunbathing, beachcombing, surf fishing, beachball, and volleyball -- are of high statewide significance. Painting, photography, bird watching, other nature study, esthetic appreciation, and kite flying are also activities of statewide significance at this unit.

The subtidal shale substrate off Monterey State Beach supports an interesting variety of plants and animals that is an attraction to recreational scuba and snorkel divers. The area includes sand, smooth shale bottom, and shale shelf habitat. The shale also provides attachment sites for a kelp bed which increases the diversity of animal species in the area.

The shoreline is readily accessible to divers from the beach and from the adjacent harbor. However, divers must carry equipment from the city parking areas. The waves at Monterey State Beach are smaller than at the state beach to the north. This makes the unit a safer location for launching Hobie Cats and other boats. Scuba divers use this area for beginning practice of beach entry.

Resource Policy Formulation

Classification

Monterey State Beach has been a unit of the State Park System since 1960. The unit was classified as a state beach by the State Park and Recreation Commission in November 1962. The Public Resources Code defines a state beach as a type of state recreation unit as follows:

5019.56. State Recreation Units. State recreation units consist of areas selected, developed, and operated to provide outdoor recreational opportunities. Such units shall be designated by the Commission by naming, in accordance with the provisions of Article 1 (commencing with Section 5001) and this article relating to classification.

In the planning of improvements to be undertaken within state recreation units, consideration shall be given to compatibility of design with the surrounding scenic and environmental characteristics.

State recreation units may be established in the terrestrial or underwater environments of the state and shall be further classified as one of the following types: . . .

(d) State beaches, consisting of areas with frontage on the ocean, or bays designed to provide swimming, boating, fishing, and other beach-oriented recreational activities. Coastal areas containing ecological, geological, scenic, or cultural resources of significant value shall be preserved within state wildernesses, state reserves, state parks, or natural or cultural preserves.

Declaration of Purpose

The purpose of Monterey State Beach is to protect and perpetuate public access to and enjoyment of the ocean beach. The opportunities for recreation provided by the beach are the prime resource of this unit.

The function of the California Department of Parks and Recreation at Monterey State Beach shall be to provide and maintain facilities for public access to the ocean beach and provide the necessary public services to allow for high-quality recreational experiences in a natural setting.

Zone of Primary Interest

The zone of primary interest is that area outside the unit where land use changes could adversely affect the operation of Monterey State Beach. This zone includes the areas of the City of Monterey near the unit, especially the Southern Pacific Railroad right of way, the Monterey Beach Hotel, and the residential areas adjacent to the unit. The proximity of the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School and the City of Monterey Municipal Wharf makes the operation of these facilities of concern to the department.

In addition, the department is interested in all lands, no matter how far away, that through their use and development adversely affect the unit's resources and features. Air pollution and acid rain are regional problems that affect the unit's resources and may be influenced by changing land uses on distant lands. The damming of rivers and the building of breakwaters and other structures along the coast, which disrupts littoral sand movement and may increase coastal erosion, is another problem affecting the unit.

Resource Management Policies

Resource management in the State Park System is governed by laws contained in the Public Resources Code and the California Administrative Code, and is further guided by directives approved by the department's director and by policies approved by the State Park and Recreation Commission. General policies related to the unit classification and the declaration of purpose have been addressed in previous sections.

Specific departmental Resource Management Directives amplify the legal codes and provide clearer management guidelines. Directives that are especially pertinent to existing or potential problems related to the management of resources at Monterey State Beach are:

- #15 State Recreation Units; protection of resources
- #18 State Beaches; avoid using sandy beaches for secondary uses
- #19 State Beaches; protection of resources
- #33 Exotic Plant Species
- #35 Wildlife Protection
- #46 Environmental Quality
- #58 Cultural Resource Protection
- #70 Archeological Sites

Directives #18 and #19 are particularly relevant to planning issues for the state beaches along Monterey Bay:

(18) Insofar as is possible in state beaches, the entire area of the sandy littorals will be available for recreation use and visual enjoyment. It is an objective of the department to avoid use of natural sandy beaches for parking or for other supportive or secondary uses.

(19) The scenic, natural, and cultural values of state beaches, including the ecological relationships of the littoral, tidal, and nearshore areas will be identified, evaluated, and protected so the total quality of the recreation experience may be perpetuated and enhanced.

Following several years of significant storm damage in many coastal State Park System units, a department policy for coastal erosion was adopted on October 24, 1984. The intent of the policy is to avoid construction of new permanent facilities in areas subject to coastal erosion, and to promote the use of expendable or movable facilities where the expected useful life is limited due to their location in erosion-prone areas. The policy reads as follows:

The Department of Parks and Recreation shall avoid construction of new structures and coastal facilities in areas subject to ocean wave erosion, seacliff retreat, and unstable cliffs, unless specific determinations have been made that the risk of loss of the facility is clearly offset by the investment and need for the facility. Measures shall be taken to minimize human-induced erosion by reducing:

concentrated surface runoff from use areas, elevated groundwater levels from irrigation and urbanization, and surface disturbance of blufftop soils. In recognition of California's actively eroding coastline, new structures and facilities located in areas known to be subject to ocean wave erosion, seacliff retreat, or unstable bluffs shall be expendable or movable. Structural protection and re-protection of developments shall be allowed only when the cost of protection is commensurate with the value (physical and intrinsic) of the development to be protected, and when it can be shown that the protection will not negatively affect the beach or the near-shore environment.

In addition to the policies, directives, and laws that apply statewide, the following resource policies have been prepared for Monterey State Beach:

Monitoring Erosion and Sand Loss

Beach erosion and seacliff retreat have been recognized as serious threats to facilities and use of coastal units of the State Park System. Better baseline information on erosion rates is needed to plan for appropriate land use, resource management, and visitor safety. In the vicinity of Monterey State Beach, erosion rates have been measured at from 1.0 to 10.3 feet per year.

Policy: A monitoring program shall be established at Monterey State Beach to document landslides, pavement cracks or building cracks from differential settlement or subsurface movements, and beach elevation and width. The program should include the comparison of historical and recent aerial photos, ground photos with explanations, and installation of permanent monuments, if necessary. The program should be coordinated with data collection efforts of the U.S. Geological Survey, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, California Department of Boating and Waterways, the University of California at Santa Cruz, and the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School.

Sand Replenishment

The beach at the unit has narrowed in recent years, as severe storms have removed some of the buffering sand wedge below the dunes, carrying the beach sand to deep water and possibly into the Monterey submarine canyon. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the California Department of Boating and Waterways are embarking on a Monterey Bay erosion study in cooperation with the Department of Parks and Recreation, U.C. Santa Cruz, and the U.S. Geological Survey. These studies are primarily data collection efforts; however, they will be oriented to developing solutions to perceived problems. One potentially beneficial solution to increased erosion and loss of land base and valuable structures would be to supplement the wave-buffering beach with appropriately sized materials from offshore or inland sources.

Policy: The department shall coordinate with the various agencies studying storm damage and beach erosion problems of Monterey Bay to develop regional nonstructural solutions to the erosion problems. Beach replenishment shall receive serious consideration as an ongoing, nondestructive solution to the problem that will also result in a more substantial recreational land base.

Shoreline Protection Devices

As wave erosion continues to cut back the beach, private property owners may request permission to build structures on the beach to protect their land, or the department may consider building devices to attempt to stop the encroachment of the sea. Structural protection measures are not consistent with the general objectives for resource management within the State Park System. In certain circumstances, however, when the public facility is of greater necessity and importance than the natural resources that may be negatively affected, structural protective measures may be appropriate.

Policy: Structural protection measures shall be undertaken only if nonstructural measures (i.e., relocation of facility, setback, redesign, or beach replenishment) are not feasible. If a protective structure is constructed (i.e., riprap, seawall, revetment, etc.), the structure shall not:

- 1) Significantly reduce or restrict beach access;
- 2) Adversely affect shoreline processes and sand supply;
- 3) Significantly increase erosion on adjacent properties;
- 4) Cause harmful impacts on plant, wildlife, or fish habitats;
- 5) Be placed further than necessary from the development requiring protection; or
- 6) Create a significant visual intrusion.

General Vegetation Management

It is the goal of the department to preserve and perpetuate representative examples of natural plant communities common to the unit and the region. The plant communities at Monterey State Beach have been influenced by road and sewer development, vehicle traffic and off-road parking, heavy recreational use, and invasion by exotic species. The net results of such impacts and alterations include the loss of vegetation and sand, unnatural community structures, alteration of the extent and distribution of many native species, and the invasion of exotics which create deleterious competition with native species.

Policy: The primary objective of vegetation management shall be to manage toward a natural condition with a minimum of disruption to natural processes. The secondary objective shall be to restore and perpetuate the native plant communities that prevailed in the area prior to Euroamerican influences.

Coastal Dune Management

Dune systems are composed of unconsolidated sand that has been transported from the beach environment by strong onshore winds. The dunes are stabilized with vegetation. Human activities in the dunes can destroy the vegetation and thereby destabilize the dunes. Typically, once vegetation is removed, a dune blowout forms where steady sand movement makes natural revegetation of the area very difficult. If human use of the blowout area continues, natural revegetation is virtually impossible.

Coastal dunes provide important plant and animal habitats. Many species are endemic to this habitat type. The use of coastal areas for residential, agricultural, and industrial purposes has destroyed most of the native coastal dune habitat in California. Heavy recreational use has lowered the quality of the dune habitat in many areas. Along Monterey Bay, most of the remaining natural dune environment is within units of the State Park System. The continued existence of coastal dunes and the species that depend on this habitat type rests with the effective stewardship of the coastal dune resource by the department.

Policy: Human activities within the dunes shall be regulated to prevent destruction of the natural dune environment. Hiking, horseback riding, hang gliding, and other recreation uses shall be restricted to designated areas and routes. Destabilized areas within the dunes shall be revegetated. In order to maintain the genetic integrity and diversity of California native plants, revegetation efforts will utilize native plants from local populations.

Rare and Endangered Plants

The Monterey Bay area is rich in rare, endangered, and endemic species. Of 18 rare plant species known to occur in the bay's coastal strand and scrub habitats, seven have been confirmed to occur at state beaches.

Protection of rare and endangered species habitat is an important objective in the statewide management of the State Park System. Rare and endangered 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.

Policy: Rare and endangered plants found within Monterey State Beach boundaries shall be protected and managed for their perpetuation.

Systematic surveys for rare and endangered plants shall be made throughout the unit. If any rare or endangered species is found, all populations shall be mapped and management plans developed for their protection and perpetuation.

Prior to any site-specific development or heavy use activities, additional surveys shall be made for rare or endangered plants in the areas that will be impacted.

Landscaping

Exotic species can detract from the natural appearance of the state beach, naturalize into the wild and displace native species, have less habitat value for native wildlife, be more prone to insect attack and disease, and require permanent irrigation and greater maintenance costs.

Policy: Landscaping in developed areas should consist of species indigenous to the unit. If exotic species are used, these shall be species that are incapable of naturalizing in the wild and that would not require a permanent irrigation system.

Allowable Use Intensity

The California Public Resources Code, Section 5019.5, requires that a land carrying capacity survey be made prior to the preparation of any development plan for any park or recreation area. Section 5001.96 further requires that attendance be held within limits so established. Allowable use intensity is a refinement of the land carrying capacity concept and is presented as part of the Resource Element of the General Plan in fulfillment of the above code sections.

Allowable use intensity is just one of several factors considered in developing the Land Use Element of the General Plan. Other factors that may also be considered in determining land use for any unit of the State Park System are classification and purpose, recreation needs, design considerations, and social carrying capacity or the desired quality of the recreation experience.

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. Determinations are based on analysis and integration of resource management and protection objectives, resource constraints, and resource sensitivities information.

Resource management objectives are defined by the Public Resources Code and other law, unit classifications and declarations of purpose, and by specific declarations of resource management policy presented in this Resource Element.

Resource constraints are factors that would make visitor use or facility development unsafe, economically impractical, or undesirable. They are determined by evaluating such factors as erodibility and compaction potential of soils, geologic hazards, slope stability and relief, hydrologic conditions, 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 tolerance to human activity, population levels, and stability. Sensitivities may also include scenic resources; rare, threatened, or endangered plants, animals, and habitats; unique or scientifically important botanic features; and other resources of regional or statewide significance.

Based on the preceding factors, allowable use intensities for lands within Monterey State Beach were determined and are shown on the Allowable Use Intensity Map. Two use intensity categories have been developed: moderate and high. The moderate intensity zone is the sandy beach where the environment can withstand heavy visitor use but is subject to ocean wave attack. The high use intensity zone consists of highly disturbed sand dunes dominated by exotic plant species.

LAND USE AND FACILITIES ELEMENT

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MONTEREY STATE BEACH GENERAL PLAN

LAND USE AND FACILITIES ELEMENT

The Land Use and Facilities Element describes the existing facilities and conditions affecting visitor use and activities at Monterey State Beach. Specific recommendations and proposals are included for unit access, circulation, and development of interpretive, operations, and public use facilities.

It is intended that this General Plan will serve as a long-range, but flexible guide to future planning and development, consistent with our department's resource management policies and specific objectives established by this plan.

Monterey State Beach (40 acres) consists of two parcels: the southerly Monterey Beach Area, 16 acres located immediately west of the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School property across from Lake El Estero; and the upcoast parcel referred to in this plan as the Sand Dunes Drive Area, approximately 24 acres located south of the hotel at the west end of Canyon del Rey.

Existing conditions and land use and facility proposals are discussed separately for the two areas of Monterey State Beach.

Monterey Beach Area - Existing Conditions

This area consists of undeveloped beach and narrow dune strip immediately west of the U.S. Navy property. There are no facilities. The portion of the beach between state property and Wharf No. 2 is owned by the City of Monterey and Southern Pacific.

Surrounding developments include the Del Monte Townhouse complex located east of Park Avenue between the railroad tracks and shoreline, and commercial buildings on frontage lots along Del Monte Avenue. The visual impact of development and the obstruction of views to the bay affect the unit's current recreational values.

Recreation

Recreational activities at the beach do not recognize jurisdictional boundaries, and beach enthusiasts can move freely across the entire expanse of sand from the wharf upcoast to the Sand Dunes Drive area. Walking, jogging, shell collecting, and sunbathing are popular recreational pastimes along the beach. In the beach area near Wharf No. 2, the wave action is altered by the breakwater. The beach is composed of finer sand particles and is less sloped than any other Monterey beach to the north. This makes a perfect launch area for windsurfing and Hobie Cat regattas held four to five times a year, attracting from 100-200 boats depending on the weather.

The beach is heavily used during special events, but generally is not subject to heavy use year round. This is partly because of limited parking and the fact that the beach is not clearly visible from Del Monte Avenue due to a row of existing commercial buildings. The mild weather and colder waters, in comparison to southern California beaches, do not make the beach as popular

for swimming and sunbathing. However, a number of recent factors, including warmer weather and greater interest in jogging and windsurfing, have combined to draw more visitors to the beach. In addition, the newly completed bicycle-walking trail has attracted many visitors.

Access

There is no vehicle access to this unit. The recreation trail extends from Pacific Grove to Seaside within the old railroad right-of-way and provides pedestrians beach access and picnicking on city property. Long-range city plans include support parking, picnic areas, restrooms, additional trails, and potential light-rail transportation.

At present, available on-street parking for the unit is provided along Del Monte Avenue, city streets, and Wharf No. 2. Illegal access and parking occur at Park Avenue and within the railroad right-of-way and trail corridor near the Del Monte townhouse complex.

The proposed city development of the Recreational Trail/Transportation Corridor will provide an integrated circulation system, linking major visitor attractions, open space, and park areas throughout the city. This corridor will become the primary access for beach users, thereby reducing the parking needed to serve this beach exclusively.

Random footpaths circulate through a vegetated dune area of the state beach between the townhouses and shoreline. These paths extend beyond the state beach boundary upcoast into Navy property. The Navy property is posted off-limits for recreation use, but lacks fencing. An unmarked 60-foot-wide strip of state property between the Navy property and townhouses provides legal access from the recreation trail to the beach. Most visitors are understandably unaware of the ownership boundaries and continue to trespass on adjacent federal and private properties.

Monterey Beach Area - Future Plans by the City of Monterey

"Monterey Bay Waterfront Park"

Locally known as "Window-to-the-Bay," the Monterey Bay Waterfront Park has been planned since the 1939 City General Plan. Located between Lake El Estero and Monterey State Beach, a 5.7-acre strip of commercially developed land is envisioned as a future open space area, opening up views to the state beach and Monterey Bay; hence, the "Window-to-the-Bay." Acquisition began initially as a city effort. In 1983, a joint city and state effort was undertaken cooperatively, and acquisition proceeded along Del Monte Boulevard. To date, the acquisition has resulted in the removal of a number of buildings, thereby providing additional open space with views to the bay as well as public access to Monterey State Beach. The appendix includes two city plans which illustrate the city's planning concept and priority acquisition areas for future open space and support-parking projected by the year 2000.

This open space concept is further described in the city's current planning documents as follows:

The city desires to re-establish a continuous, visual park-like setting between El Estero Park and the Monterey Beach Waterfront. A physical connection of the El Estero Park area to the beach waterfront may be realized by gently undulating Del Monte Avenue up a few feet and excavating underneath a few feet to create a pedestrian passageway out through the beach waterfront area...Principal objectives include retaining the open area in as natural a state as possible, providing support parking just east of the open waterfront park area.

The City of Monterey, Parks and Recreation Master Plan, 1986, proposed that a design study will be necessary to formalize improvement plans for the Monterey Bay Waterfront Park in order to identify resource and recreation opportunities within the park site and with respect to the entire stretch of sandy beach from Wharf No. 2 eastward to the city limits line.

This General Plan recommends that the California Department of Parks and Recreation and City of Monterey continue acquisition and future planning efforts to achieve the objectives of open space and improved beach access. Our department should encourage the city's plans and the development of visitor parking and restroom facilities outside the bay view corridor, and assist with the city's design study for the Monterey Bay waterfront area to include Monterey State Beach.

Monterey Beach Area - Proposed Land Use and Facilities

The City of Monterey's waterfront development projects, such as the recreation-transportation trail and Window-to-the-Bay, have increased visible and physical access to state and city beaches. Improved access has increased local use of the beach and recreation trail on city and state-owned properties.

Facilities will be necessary on state beach property, including picnic tables, benches, fire rings, trails, and interpretive signing. Structural improvements such as restrooms, shelters, and parking lots are encouraged at locations outside the bay view corridor so they do not impact the natural values and impair the visual access to the beach. The City of Monterey perceives the open space as a more urban park space. To accomplish this, the actual design and location of facilities will be coordinated between the city and state during the city's design study and in future trail or park development.

Parking

Public parking lots provided near Wharf No. 2 will accommodate a limited portion of the parking demand for beach use. There is currently no land base for a parking lot on state beach property. A preferred parking plan should be developed to address the overall parking needs of this area as part of the waterfront park design study. Preferred visitor parking locations are outside the bay view corridor along Del Monte Avenue. Provisions should be included in this plan to satisfy beach access requirements for the elderly and disabled persons. It is expected that public transit and bicycle and pedestrian trail systems will help supplement vehicle parking demands.

Restrooms

The state beach property is entirely within the bay view corridor and offers limited development potential. Our department should continue to coordinate with the city to study feasible alternatives for facility construction on other than current state-owned properties. It is hoped that preferred sites can be selected that better satisfy state and city objectives as part of other recreation development projects.

The city's existing restrooms should remain until such time that new facilities are constructed in nearby locations to serve public beaches and the recreation trail.

Access

The City of Monterey's Local Coastal Plans identify a vertical access point to the beach along a narrow strip of state property between the Naval Postgraduate School property and Del Monte townhouses. This location would provide easy beach access from the existing recreation trail and any future support facilities that may be developed along Del Monte Avenue.

The city and state should coordinate with the Navy to consider alternate routes from the recreation trail that may cross over federal lands and better satisfy demands and objectives for public access. A boardwalk connection could be designed with sensitivity to native vegetation and existing topography. This would satisfy the users' desire to enjoy the vantage point from this property, and would reduce the random trespassing that is likely to continue.

Sand Dunes Drive Area - Existing Conditions

This portion of the unit commands an excellent view of the immediate Monterey city shoreline. It is the first beach access visible to the Highway 1 traveler between Moss Landing and Carmel River State Beach. It has the potential to provide a much needed overview and public orientation to the Monterey Bay's southern resources. This unit location and the vista also become a front door, welcoming visitors to the city and the excitement of the ocean.

Facilities

The site now has few facilities, consisting of chemical toilets and trash barrels. Sand Dunes Drive, a city-owned street, provides parking and vehicular access to state beach property from the Humboldt Street exit off Highway 1. No highway signing is provided on Highway 1 directing visitors to this state beach. The limited public awareness of this unit, coupled with very marginal facilities, has contributed to a substandard appearance and a reduced quality of recreational use. The area appears to be a meeting place where illegal activities inconsistent with family recreation use occur. A gate at the unit entrance restricts hours of use between 9 a.m. and sunset.

Parking

Sand Dunes Drive extends 1,500 feet past the Monterey Beach Hotel into the unit, ending in a graded, unpaved cul-de-sac for parking and turnaround. This street accommodates parking for approximately 35 cars along the shoulder of the road and turnaround.

Dune erosion and sand movement across the road is accelerated by random use and beach access from any point along this road. A large sewer pipe, manholes, and concrete foundations are partially exposed along the beach side of the road. Sand must be cleared periodically from the roadway by the City of Monterey to maintain vehicle access to this area.

Sewage

A single sewage collection line runs through the unit and is under the jurisdiction of the City of Monterey Public Works Department. This line serves the hotel and is aligned inland of the road behind the dunes. The sewage line expands in size from 8" to 15" in diameter as it approaches the treatment plant to the south. The old sewer pipe is still located, and partially visible, near the edge of the road within the unit and beyond. The availability of water and sewer allocations to our department is at present undetermined for future state beach facilities.

Sand Dunes Drive Area - Proposed Land Use and Facilities

This area will feature improved vehicle parking and circulation, restrooms, picnic areas, boardwalks, and facilities for public contact, information, and interpretation.

Unit Access

Access will continue to be from Sand Dunes Drive, a city street, to the beach and developed facilities. In the design of the future entrance road and parking, road realignment should be considered to establish a visitor contact station and provide a desirable setback for new facilities. Our department should investigate the possibility of obtaining from the City of Monterey ownership transfer or jurisdiction of the portion of Sand Dunes Drive within state beach property. This will improve control and design options.

Parking

A large paved parking lot should be developed for 150 cars near the end of Sand Dunes Drive. This parking area should be designed with pull-through spaces for recreation vehicles and trailers, and ocean view parking. The existing roadway should be removed or incorporated into the overall design of the parking and beach access facilities. Vehicle barriers and control gates will be necessary to restrict vehicle entry into dune areas and to regulate hours of visitor use.

Comfort Station

Permanent restroom facilities are proposed near the new parking lot and should accommodate access for the elderly and disabled persons with boardwalk connections. This facility should be connected to the existing sewer collection system, which serves the adjacent hotel and passes through state beach property.

Picnic Area

A designated picnic area with 25 sites, including tables and barbecues, is proposed at the west end of the parking lot. Two boardwalks are proposed for access to the beach from each end of the parking lot. A dune restoration and revegetation program shall be initiated during the design and placement of both picnic and boardwalk facilities.

Interpretive Facilities

A free-standing exhibit shelter with interpretive panels should be located near the parking lot and restrooms. Interpretive signing should be provided where necessary to identify and explain sensitive resource habitat areas and orient visitors to Monterey Bay with specific emphasis on the peninsula shoreline. Special signing will also be necessary to inform visitors of ocean hazards.

Enroute Camping

Day-use parking facilities proposed for this unit may be considered for overnight use as part of our department's enroute camping program, provided that ranger surveillance is made available in this area.

Dune Restoration Program

This plan recommends recontouring the sand dune and stabilizing its sand movement near the unit entrance, and restoring the foredune and native vegetation between the parking lot and beach. An overall dune restoration program will include restoring native vegetation and protecting and enhancing sensitive plant and wildlife habitat areas.

Sand City and Seaside Parcels

The department currently owns scattered parcels mixed with private dune properties in Sand City. Funding is available to acquire other parcels in the City of Seaside. These parcels are not contiguous with the Sand Dunes Drive Area or classified as part of Monterey State Beach. Our department shall strive to meet the objectives of providing increased recreational opportunities, preserving coastal dune habitat, and providing open space and shoreline access in these areas.

Facility development may include parking, restrooms, and designated beach access locations. Future dune restoration programs for Monterey State Beach should include revegetation of unstable dunes in these areas as well as consideration of boardwalks, trails, and interpretive signing.

Underwater Areas

The marine area offshore from Monterey State Beach supports an interesting variety of natural resources and is an attraction to recreational divers. The area is readily accessible to divers from the beach and adjacent harbor. The Advisory Board for Underwater Parks and Reserves has recommended that this area be included in the State Park System as an underwater recreation area.

In addition to recreational diving, other water-oriented recreational activities occur in this area. Windsurfing, jet skiing, kayaking, and canoe and Hobie Cat racing are becoming increasingly popular activities, creating potential conflicts between divers and watercraft.

This plan recommends further study and monitoring of the recreational demand for specific water-related activities before designation of this area as an underwater park. Our department shall coordinate with other state and local agencies to preserve underwater resources and will continue to manage this area for its current recreational use.

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MONTEREY STATE BEACH GENERAL PLAN

INTERPRETIVE ELEMENT

Interpretive Period

The department will interpret the flow of history at Monterey State Beach from geologic times to the present.

Interpretive Themes

Several themes are appropriate for interpretation at Monterey State Beach. These themes cover both the natural and cultural history as well as the recreational use of the beach. The themes are as follows:

- Fluttering jewels
- A bill for every purpose
- Playing in style
- Underneath the sheltering waves
- The resourceful life of the beach
- Staying safe at the beach
- Building grain-by-grain
- Fishing industry

Expanded Themes

Fluttering jewels: The Smith's blue butterfly, a federally listed endangered species, may occur in the portion of Monterey State Beach along Sand Dunes Drive. The bright blue wings of the males make them easier to spot than the brown and red-orange wings of the female, but both can be found near coast buckwheat plants. The butterfly's life cycle is closely linked with that of the buckwheat growing on the dunes. The larval butterflies feed on the flower heads, while the adults ingest nectar at the flowers, and use the remainder of the plant for resting, sunning, and mating. Without this plant, the Smith's blue butterfly would soon die out. The strong link between the host buckwheat and the dependent butterfly can serve as an example of the interconnectedness of living organisms in the dunes.

A bill for every purpose: An understanding of the kinds of food the shorebirds eat at Monterey State Beach can be gained by observing their bills and where they are feeding. Those birds who have long bills probe deep into the sand for the small creatures who live there. Those with short bills peck through the windrows of kelp and along the edges of the waves for crustaceans and marine worms.

Playing in style: Inland from Monterey State Beach is the Naval Postgraduate School. The predecessor of the Postgraduate School main building was originally opened in 1880 as the Del Monte Hotel. Containing an impressive 500-plus rooms, the hotel was a popular resort for the rich and famous people of the times. Guests could enjoy golf, swimming, croquet, polo, and other sports. The hotel burned in 1887, but was quickly rebuilt and opened again in 1888. Another fire struck in 1924, burning the center portion of the main

building. The owners again rebuilt and opened in 1926. During World War II, the hotel was leased by the United States Navy as a cadet training station. The Navy bought the property after the war and has operated it since. The Del Monte Hotel beach house and ocean swimming area were located at present-day Monterey State Beach.

Underneath the sheltering waves: Monterey Bay contains a unique underwater world. Offshore of Monterey State Beach are sandy and shale bottom areas and kelp beds, each of which are popular diving areas. The sandy bottom offers sandfish and glimpses of octopi, while the kelp beds have rockfish, sea otters, and the sensation of swimming through a forest. The kelp beds grow on Monterey shale, the only diveable subtidal shale outcropping in south Monterey Bay. This soft, drillable rock is host to boring clams and mussels. Two to three thousand meters thick, the shale is 15-30 million years old.

There is good shoreline access for divers here, making this an attractive training area. However, parking is in city parking areas, which requires carrying equipment in. Nearby are two marine ecological reserves, the Pacific Grove Marine Gardens Fish Refuge and the Hopkins Marine Life Refuge.

The resourceful life of the beach: Sandy beaches are sparsely populated in comparison to other parts of the marine environment, but they are not empty. The beach is an unfavorable place for many animals to live, but there are those that have adapted to surviving on the limited resources. The piles of beach wrack (kelp, dead and decaying marine life, etc.) offer food and shelter for many kinds of insects and small crustaceans. The sand itself is home to varieties of clams and crabs. Shorebirds visit the beach to rest, eat, and nest. What seems barren is actually full of life for those who know where to look.

Staying safe at the beach: Monterey State Beach is a popular recreation beach. Wind surfing, swimming, and other ocean-oriented sports occur here. But the seemingly quiet waters of the ocean off Monterey State Beach hide rip currents and undertows that can turn an afternoon at the beach into a tragedy.

Building grain-by-grain: Sand dunes along Monterey Bay have formed over time by the combined forces of wind and waves. The sand deposited on the beaches by the waves is blown inland by the wind until it comes to rest against vegetation or other obstructions. The grains gradually build up to form dunes that are very easily eroded. Over time, they have suffered from erosion, ocean wave attack, and human-caused loss of vegetation.

Proposed Interpretation

Facilities

There are currently no interpretive facilities at Monterey State Beach. The lack of buildable land precludes any extensive interpretive structures. Consequently, minimal interpretive facilities, such as free-standing exhibit shelters, are proposed. Possible locations for exhibit shelters are the access points at each part of the beach. A program of seasonally rotating panels is strongly suggested.

An orientation area, consisting of two or more panels, is proposed for the portion of Monterey State Beach located adjacent to Sand Dunes Drive. These panels would introduce the Monterey District State Parks to visitors and serve to assist them in planning their stay in the Monterey area. Emphasis could also be given to other interesting places in the Monterey Area, such as the Monterey Bay Aquarium.

Visitor Activities

Visitor involvement in interpretation at present consists of occasional personal contact with the Visitor Services staff. These contacts will, of course, continue. Casual contacts should be supplemented with guided walks on the beach on the themes outlined above.

Interpretive Associations and Collections

There are currently no interpretive associations or interpretive collections associated with Monterey State Beach.

Interpretive Priorities

1. Construct exhibit shelter(s).
2. Develop a series of interpretive panels and a suitable seasonal rotation program for them.
3. Institute a series of guided interpretive walks on the themes listed in this element.

CONCESSIONS ELEMENT

Potential Concession Activities----- 45

MONTEREY STATE BEACH GENERAL PLAN

CONCESSIONS ELEMENT

At this time there are no concessions at Monterey State Beach. There are adequate commercial developments in adjacent communities and current recreational activities at the unit do not generate a need for commercial facilities. This Concessions Element evaluates the potential for additional visitor services and revenues and appropriate concession policies and guidelines consistent with the unit's classification and the provisions of all elements of this General Plan.

A concession is a general term for a grant of authority by the department to another party, permitting that party to make specific use of parklands and/or facilities for a specified period of time.

It is the department's policy to enter into concession contracts to provide products, facilities, programs, and management and visitor services that will enhance visitor use and enjoyment as well as visitor safety and convenience. Such concessions should not create added financial burden on the state and, wherever possible, shall either reduce costs or generate revenues that aid in maintaining and expanding the State Park System. In carrying out this policy, the department must adhere to the provisions of the Public Resources Code that forbid certain commercial uses of resources in units of the State Park System and that limit the kinds of allowable improvements and activities.

Potential Concession Activities

Monterey State Beach is close to necessary retail services. Proposed improvements within this state beach and adjacent city recreation properties, which include parking, restrooms, and trails, may increase the demand on local retailers but will not require the provision of commercial services within this unit. However, special event activities compatible with the unit's environment can be approved by the appropriate unit manager. The Operations Element discusses the potential of a development and operating agreement with the City of Monterey because of overlapping land uses and public need.

Because of the above situation, and because of the lack of available sites for commercial facilities, no concession facilities are being proposed in this General Plan. This approach will encourage private efforts when and where they are needed, in a manner that is still advantageous to the public without adversely affecting State Park System values.

OPERATIONS ELEMENT

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MONTEREY STATE BEACH GENERAL PLAN

OPERATIONS ELEMENT

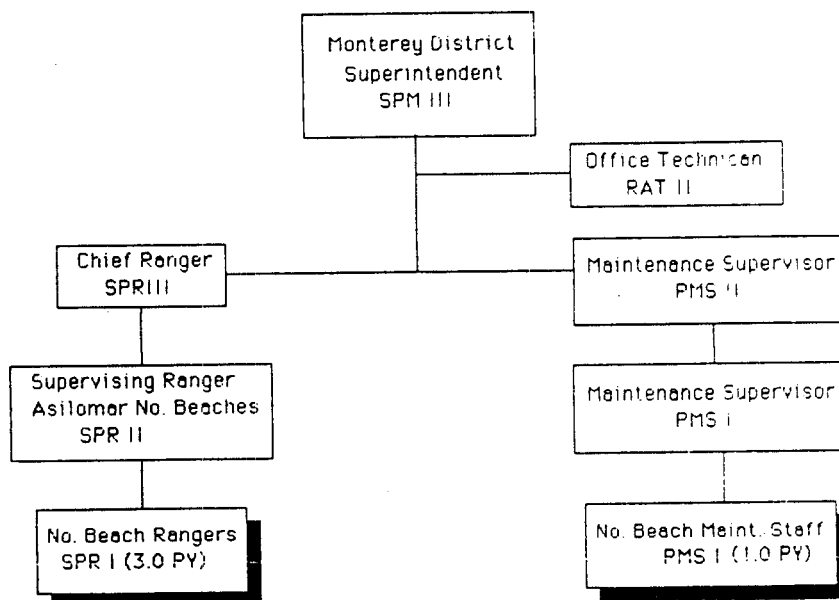
This element outlines broad goals for the unit operations in view of the other elements within the General Plan, and it also identifies existing or potential operational problems and strategies for solving them.

Existing Situation

Operations responsibilities are carried out under the on-site guidance of the first-line supervisor as directed by a district superintendent. The district reports to the Monterey regional director. At the district level, operations are divided into three functions: administration, maintenance, and visitor services.

The maintenance and operations staff directly responsible for this unit is centered at Marina State Beach.

The organizational structure of the Monterey District staff associated with North Sector Beach units (Monterey State Beach, Marina State Beach, Salinas River State Beach, Moss Landing State Beach, Zmudowski State Beach) is as follows:



Monterey State Beach is divided into two areas, both within the City of Monterey Coastal Zone. The southern beach portion, called the Monterey Beach Area, is located in the Monterey Harbor Local Coastal Plan (LCP) Area. The northern segment, the Sand Dunes Drive Area, is within the Del Monte Beach LCP Area near the cities of Seaside and Sand City. The management of these areas requires unit staff to coordinate with all three cities and their agencies on planning, unit access, and public use.

The department currently owns scattered parcels mixed with private dune properties in Sand City. These parcels are not contiguous with the Sand Dunes Drive Area or classified as part of Monterey State Beach. However, the resource management and visitor safety concerns are integrated with the recreational use and operations of the nearby state beach. Funding is available to acquire additional coastal properties in the City of Seaside. Objectives for these parcels, if acquired, include preservation of coastal dune habitat and provision of open space and shoreline access.

The basic responsibilities for the operations staff include law enforcement, resource management, visitor safety, and maintenance. These subjects are discussed separately for the two areas of Monterey State Beach.

Sand Dunes Drive Area

Law Enforcement

This area is currently patrolled by state park rangers and Monterey city police. More frequent patrols are needed at this portion of the unit because of the extensive drug and alcohol-related activities and general misuse of the area. Our department in 1985 entered into a cooperative agreement with the city to install a gate at the unit entrance (a city street) so that the beach could be closed shortly after sunset and opened at 9:00 a.m. or any time as required. The gate has solved almost all the problems related to after-hours use, but the general type of user activities has not improved, and use by family groups is very limited.

Visitor Safety

The level of ocean use for the state beaches located in Monterey County cannot currently justify lifeguard service. However, with increased public use, the Sand Dunes Drive area will require additional warning signs and increased patrols to prevent accidents along this narrow, steep beach, which has a rip current. Increased patrol and public contacts resulting from any new development will benefit general public safety. The department will keep under close monitoring the status of aquatic and other safety measures to determine whether lifeguarding may be required in some form.

Activities associated with the 4th of July have required the department to close the Sand Dunes Drive Area to vehicle access. This was necessary for visitor safety as well as resource protection. The beach, however, is still open to pedestrian use.

Maintenance

Our department has a Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Monterey regarding general maintenance of this property. The state provides grounds cleaning, trash collection, and chemical toilet cleaning. As a partner to this agreement, the city maintains Sand Dunes Drive, which is frequently covered by sand. The city has also agreed to provide chemical toilets and contract for pumping. Neither party was satisfied with the level of contract service, so a new agreement was developed. The state would pump city-purchased chemical toilets and the city would annually contribute toward shared operating expenses of this unit. This requires ongoing coordination by department staff for appropriate use of the contribution.

The city-state agreement also includes vehicle patrols by city police several times per day.

General Plan Implementation

Generally, the proposed development will bring about more uniform use and improve the quality of this unit. This beach's obscured location and close proximity to an urban area will continue to contribute to problems such as vandalism, litter and threats to visitor safety, which may lead to a higher level of unit maintenance and surveillance.

Monterey Beach Area

Law Enforcement

The close relationship of this area to the City of Monterey requires cooperation between the operations staff and city personnel in order to provide adequate law enforcement, safe public use, and unit maintenance.

The general area surrounding the unit and the adjacent city bike trail is used after hours and patrolled regularly by city police. Until recently, homeless people camped on the beach because the beach area was not visible from Del Monte Avenue. The city's development of the recreation trail and the removal of buildings blocking the view to the beach have improved unit access and visibility, which has helped alleviate the camping problem.

Visitor Safety

Public safety is not a major problem in this area because of frequent patrols and the fact that the area is small and the wave slope in this portion of the unit is very gradual. The city beach adjacent to Monterey State Beach is a staging area for regattas, wind-surfing, and various other water-related activities. Some of these activities overlap onto state beach property and require a special use permit and cooperation with the city to provide the necessary law enforcement, maintenance, and visitor control.

Maintenance

Maintenance by the department is limited to routine beach cleanup and garbage pickup. Special events and 4th of July activities require additional attention.

General Plan Implementation

The Monterey Beach Area and the adjacent city beach will continue to play a role in serving the needs of an increasing number of visitors as well as local residents for beach access and recreation. However, users are usually not aware of different beach ownership and the different rules and regulations

that may apply on state and city properties. Therefore, it is important that public agencies develop a coordinated operations plan for this multirecreational resource. The Department of Parks and Recreation should enter into an operating and development agreement with the City of Monterey for this portion of Monterey State Beach. This would allow for development of complementary facilities within the criteria of this General Plan, serve the public need for access to the state beach, and better meet the expectations of the local community.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ELEMENT

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MONTEREY STATE BEACH GENERAL PLAN

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ELEMENT

Preface

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 comprise "adequate" discussion of the seven topics usually discussed in an EIR.

When a point has been adequately discussed in another part of the General Plan, it is covered in this element by a reference to that discussion, to avoid redundancy.

Summary

Following are the major environmental effects that will result from implementation of this project, and major mitigation measures that will reduce or eliminate those environmental effects.

The proposed plan will benefit the environment and public recreation opportunities. These actions will be in concert with the City of Monterey's plans.

The sand dunes in both areas have been heavily damaged. However, in the Sand Dunes Drive area a habitat for the Smith's blue butterfly still exists. To preserve what remains of the sand dunes, the department will attempt to revegetate them with native plant species and control visitor use.

The department will work with the city in the "Window-to-the-Bay" project, and also to reduce parking and access problems. The department will also coordinate with other agencies as appropriate in planning for the future of Monterey State Beach.

Project Description

The Resource Element, the Land Use and Facilities Element, and to a lesser degree the other elements in this plan propose how the unit will be used, how resources will be protected, and what facilities will be constructed.

Description of the Environmental Setting

Refer to the Resource Element, in particular, for a description of the natural and cultural environment of this state beach. The Land Use and Facilities Element 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, the following has been added.

Air Quality

Air quality along the Monterey Bay coast is good because of the influx of clean air off the Pacific Ocean. The Salinas II Monitoring Station records for 1985 indicate that gaseous and particulate pollutants were below state and national standards on all recorded days. Available records at other central coast monitoring stations substantiate these findings.

Circulation

Road access to Monterey State Beach is via Del Monte Avenue in Monterey for the Monterey Beach area, and the Humboldt Drive exit off State Highway 1 to the Sand Dunes Drive area. Parking is available on Sand Dunes Drive. The Monterey Beach area has access from city streets, Municipal Pier No. 2, and the bikeway trail along the railroad right-of-way. Except for the east end, which is adjacent to U.S. Navy or private properties, access to Monterey State Beach is across City of Monterey property.

Public Services

There are no utilities presently connected to either beach area. In the Sand Dunes Drive area, restrooms are portable and are pumped out by maintenance personnel. Restrooms are provided by the city of its property in the Monterey Beach area.

Fire and rescue protection is handled by department staff and by the City of Monterey's police and fire departments.

Typical problems to which the rescue unit and police have responded include capsized boats and other accidents, and problems such as fights and drunkenness.

Hospitals in the area are Fort Ord Hospital for military personnel and Community Hospital between Monterey and Carmel on the Monterey Peninsula.

The Significant Environmental Effects of the Proposed Project

Most of the proposals as described in the Land Use and Facilities Element and the Resource Element will ameliorate existing adverse conditions at the state beach. The following describes several possible significant effects to the environment that presently exist or may be caused by the project.

Soils and Geology: Sand dunes in this unit have been greatly disturbed. Construction of facilities and trails in the dune area may add to the denuded and disturbed condition. Sand dune destabilization could cause sand to blow offsite. Sand dunes contain many plant and wildlife species, both native and exotic, and act as a warehouse for sand to be supplied to beaches. (See Resource Element.)

Energy: Construction equipment used for the project will use energy. This is a short-term effect. Long-term energy use includes beach maintenance, emergency and patrol vehicles, and vehicles used by the public to reach their destinations.

Vegetation and Wildlife: The Resource Element states there are no rare or endangered plant species known to occur at Monterey State Beach. The state-listed (threatened) Guadalupe fur seal and the federally-listed (threatened) southern sea otter may occasionally be seen offshore. The federally listed endangered Smith's blue butterfly occurs on the adjacent Phillips Petroleum property and may be present within the state beach.

Vegetation and wildlife have been greatly disturbed by past human activities. Existing native vegetation and wildlife may be inadvertently affected by proposed project construction and, intentionally or unintentionally, by the public.

Esthetics: The existing appearance of the street parking, chemical toilets, and trash receptacles in the Sand Dunes Drive area is unattractive. The proposed project will improve esthetics, as well as other conditions. This will be discussed in the following section on mitigation.

The "Window-to-the-Bay" concept will improve the view for travelers on Del Monte Avenue. This also will be discussed in the mitigation section.

Traffic Circulation: During peak use periods there may be times when the supply of parking spaces in the Sand Dunes Drive area will be inadequate for the number of people wanting to use the state beach. This may cause people to park along the city streets, sometimes illegally, leading to indecision, frustration, and traffic congestion. The Monterey Beach Hotel off Sand Dunes Drive as well as Park Avenue and other city streets near the Monterey Beach portion of the unit could be affected by beach users parking in restricted areas. These occasions would not be considered a significant effect.

Recreation Safety: Improvements will increase the number of times people will be exposed to certain ocean hazards, including riptides, high tides, and unexpected high waves. Winter storms and rare tsunami conditions are especially dangerous.

Mitigation Measures

Soils and Geology: The Resource Element describes how revegetation will help stabilize the dunes. Areas that have been denuded by past use and project development will be replanted with native vegetation.

Trails will be signed and marked. Boardwalks will help protect the dunes and make it easier for the public to reach the beach.

Sand will be removed from parking lot and roadway and replaced in the dunes or on the beach.

The department will also work with the Corps of Engineers and other agencies in finding long-range solutions to beach erosion, a regional and statewide problem (see Resource Element policies).

Energy: Use of construction machinery will be minimized in order to conserve energy.

Vegetation and Wildlife: Resource policies for plants and animals as presented in the Resource Element will be followed. Site-specific plant surveys will be made prior to trail and facility development. Based on these surveys, facilities and trails will be located to avoid all sensitive resources.

The marked trail and boardwalk through the dunes will help protect dune vegetation and wildlife and prevent sand erosion. Interpretive displays will also educate the public and make them more aware of the biota of this state beach.

Esthetics: The proposed Sand Dunes Drive area project will improve the esthetics. Facilities and facility appearances will be improved. Additional personnel will help control vandalism and litter. The result will be a more attractive, safer, and cleaner area for visitors.

Coordination with the City of Monterey will enable the Monterey Beach area to be developed to its best potential, both functionally and esthetically. For example, the "Window-to-the-Bay" concept will open up the view of the bay to travelers along Del Monte Avenue. Facilities will be attractive and coordinated with the city's planning for adjacent lands.

Controlling use and revegetating with native plant species will help to protect the sand dunes from blowouts, making the two beach areas of Monterey State Beach more attractive.

Traffic: The city will be consulted as the department attempts to find both long- and short-term solutions to the lack of adequate parking for beach users. The proposed increases in parking and improved circulation for the Sand Dunes Drive area will help to ease the situation considerably.

Beach Safety: Unit personnel, with backup help from the city, will help visitors who are in difficulty because of injuries or other situations. Signs warning visitors about surf conditions will be prominently displayed.

Interpretive displays and unit personnel will assist with information to the public.

Any Significant Environmental Effects That Cannot Be Avoided if the Proposal Is Implemented

Most environmental problems can be effectively mitigated, as described in this plan. One problem that cannot always be mitigated is the limited parking, which may result in traffic problems on peak use days. These occasions would be infrequent, and would not constitute a significant effect.

Alternatives to the Proposed Project

The preferred alternative is described in this plan. No other alternatives were considered that significantly differ from the proposed plan.

The "No Project" alternative was also assessed. All of the existing problems described in the Resource Element and Land Use and Facilities Element would probably be exacerbated by this alternative.

The Relationship Between Local Short-Term Uses of the Environment
and the Maintenance and Enhancement of Long-Term Productivity

The proposed short-term uses of the area will be similar to the present uses. The proposed project should be a long-term solution to the needs of the public for parking, day-use facilities, beach access, and improved maintenance and visitor protection. In addition, the natural resources will be better protected.

Any Significant Irreversible Environmental Changes That Would Be
Involved if the Proposed Project Should Be Implemented

There would be the commitment of nonrenewable resources such as oil, gasoline, and gravel to construct roads, parking areas, and other facilities.

The Growth-Inducing Impacts of the Proposed Action

This project will not increase human population in the area. The number of parking spaces being proposed is about the same as the number of cars that now park in the parking lot along the entrance road on a weekend day. Occasions when capacity is reached would be infrequent and not considered a significant effect.

Comments and Responses
General Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Report
Monterey Bay State Beaches in Monterey County
SCH #86011401

Review copies were provided to the following on or subsequent to May 19, 1987.
The review period ended July 3, 1987.

State Clearinghouse (10 copies)
Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments
The Honorable Henry J. Mello, Member of the Senate
The Honorable Sam Farr, Member of the Assembly
The Honorable Leon E. Panetta, House of Representatives
Honorable Karin Strasser Kauffman, Chairman, Monterey Co.
Board of Supervisors
California Coastal Conservancy, Peter Grenell
California Highway Patrol, J. R. Munson
California Coastal Commission, Edward Brown
Monterey Regional Park District, Board of Directors,
Monterey County Planning Director, Salinas
Monterey North County Fire District, Mark Perira, Castroville
Monterey County Sheriff, Salinas
Monterey County Park and Recreation Director, Richard Brandan, Salinas
Monterey, Fred Cohn, City Manager
Monterey, Manager, City Planning
Seaside, City Manager
Seaside, Ernest Franco, City Planning and Inspection
Marina, City Manager
Marina, Recreation and Park Commission
Marina, Planning Director
Marina, City Water District, Manager
Moss Landing Harbor District, Manager
Moss Landing Marine Lab, Gary Greene
Sand City, Planning Department, Peter Chamberlain
Pacific Grove, Natural History Museum, Vern Yadon
Santa Cruz, Bill Ferral, Resource Planning and Management
U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles
U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, San Francisco, Tom Kendall
U. S. Army, Fort Ord, Environmental Office Director
U. S. Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, Debora Waxer
U. S. Coast Guard, Monterey, Nick Casara CWO 4
U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Endangered Species, Sacramento
Sierra Club State Park System Task Force, Robert Mark, Palo Alto
Sierra Club State Park System Task Force, Murray Rosenthal, Los Angeles
Sierra Club Local Task Force, Carl Larson, Monterey
Point Reyes Bird Observatory, Gary Page, Stinson Beach
California Native Plant Society, Bruce Cowan, Pacific Grove
Pacific Gas and Electric Co., Wayne Yamagina, Salinas
Marina Chamber of Commerce
Elkhorn Slough (NES), Mark Silberstein, Watsonville
Kitty Hawk Sports, James Johns, Marina

Monterey Dunes Colony, Castroville
Sea Mist Farms, Castroville
California Land Management, Palo Alto
Lone Star Industries, Pleasonton
Monterey County Horseman's Association, Castroville
Northern California Morgan Horse Assn., Karin Foy, Livermore
California State Horse Assn, et al., M. A. Miller-Dowdy, Watsonville
North County Trails Committee, Watsonville
Mary Ann Mathews, Carmel Valley
Tom Gillott, Salinas
Santa Cruz Horse Association, Susan Herzberg, Santa Cruz
David Shonman, Pacific Grove
Lee Holthausen, Watsonville
Watsonville Saddlites, Anna Clary, Watsonville
San Martin Horseman's Association, Sheri & Dave Elliot, San Martin
California Dressage Society, Jane Escola, Gilroy
Henry Coe-Pine Ridge Association, Sally Ryser, Morgan Hill
Summit Riders Horsemen's Association, Anne Plucy, Los Gatos
Mission Trails Appaloosa Association, Morgan Hill
Northern California Morgan Horse Association, Margie Barrett, San Martin
Equestrian Trails, Inc., Cathy Conway, Castroville
Horse Heaven, Patricia Sanaran, Aptos
Larkin Valley Horsemen's Association, Watsonville
Natividad 4-H Horse, Bill Moe, Salinas
Sugar Loaf Farm, J. C. Frommhagen, Soquel
American Vaulting Assoc., Soquel
Santa Cruz County Pony Club, Watsonville
Cienega Valley Horseman's Assoc., San Juan Bautista
Equestrian Trails, Inc., Vic Farr, Carmel Valley
Fort Ord Riding Group, Fort Ord
American Morgan Horse Association, D. Dawson, Gilroy
Heritage Trails Association, Soquel
Peruvian Paso Association, Aromas
Año Nuevo Volunteer Horse Patrol, Watsonville
Westwind Equestrian Center, Freedom
4-H Horse Leader, G. R. Beauchaine, Salinas
Carmel Valley Trails Association, Carmel Valley
R. Cali & Bro. Feed, Santa Cruz
El Rancho Escondido Arena, C. "Sam" Samples, Salinas
Dianne Harrington, San Jose
Northern California Junior Rodeo Association, Terry Andrade, Hayward
Santa Clara County Horsemen's Association, San Jose
Full House Farm Newsletter, Los Altos

A notice announcing location of copies of documents for public review was published in the following newspapers:

Monterey Peninsula Herald
Salinas Californian

Documents were available at the following locations for public review:

Dept. of Parks and Recreation
Central Coast Region Headquarters
2211 Garden Road
Monterey, CA 93940

Harrison Memorial Library
Ocean Avenue and Lincoln Street
Carmel, CA 93922

Marina Branch Library
371 Carmel Avenue
Marina, CA 93933

Seaside Branch Library
550 Harcourt Avenue
Seaside, CA 93955

Pacific Grove Library
Central and Fountain Avenues
Pacific Grove, CA 93950

Monterey City Library
625 Pacific Street
Monterey, CA 93940

Monterey County Library
Castroville Branch
11266 Merritt
Castroville, CA 95012

Main Library, Salinas
John Steinbeck Library
110 West San Luis Street
Salinas, CA 93901

Comments were received from the following local, State and Federal agencies and private organizations. No private individuals commented.

Federal Agencies

U. S. Army Corps of Engineers
U. S. Department of Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service

State Agencies

California Coastal Commission
California Department of Transportation, District 5
Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Coast Region

Local Agencies

Monterey County Planning Department
City of Monterey, City Manager
City of Marina, City Manager

Private Organizations

Point Reyes Bird Observatory

Comments and Responses to Comments

Following are the comments received. Each comment has been given a number and the response to that comment has the same number.



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
SAN FRANCISCO DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
211 MAIN STREET
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94105 - 1905

June 15, 1987

Environmental Branch

To: Mr. James M. Doyle
Environmental Review Section
Department of Parks and Recreation
P.O. Box 942896
Sacramento, California 94296-0001

Subject: General Plan and DEIR Monterey State Beaches in Monterey County

Your request for comments from this office was received on 21 May 1987 by your letter dated 19 May 1987.

The proposed construction project may require Department of the Army Authorization under Section 10 of the River and Harbor Act of 1899 and/or under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. A copy of our pamphlet "U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Permit Program, A Guide for Applicants" is enclosed. For additional information please contact our Regulatory Functions Branch at 415-974-0418.

Any impacts on wetlands, threatened or endangered species, other valuable fish and wildlife resources, or on cultural resources are among the important environmental considerations for all Corps permit applicants. Other areas of environmental concern specific to this project are: We encourage the proposed coordination with the Corps on erosion monitoring.

Questions concerning our AB 884 review can be referred to the undersigned at 415-974-0443. Thank you for including us in your review process.

Roderick A. Chisholm, II
Environmental Branch
Planning/Engineering Division

Enclosure

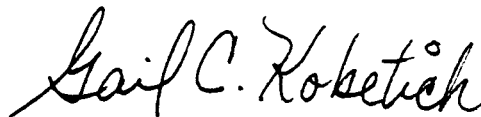
conservation plan should specify the mitigation measures the permit applicant (e.g., Department of Parks and Recreation, City of Marina) will undertake and funding mechanisms made available to implement such mitigation, and alternatives to the proposed project that were considered and the reasons why these alternatives were not implemented by the Department of Parks and Recreation.

5
cont.

Currently, the Marina Coastal Zone Planning Task Force (Task Force) of the City of Marina is developing a conservation plan to ultimately accompany a Section 10(a) permit application. The permit, if granted, would allow for the "incidental take" of Smith's blue butterfly within identified portions of the Marina Dunes largely to the north of Marina State Beach. Although the Marina State Beach is represented on the Task Force, "incidental take" relating to ongoing or proposed activities at the State beach has not been considered as part of this conservation plan and permit application. Perhaps, the Department of Parks and Recreation would like to include activities on their lands potentially affecting "take" by expanding the scope of this process to ensure compliance with the Endangered Species Act.

Similar conflicts may occur at Salinas River State Beach if development activities or intensive human uses are allowed in areas where the Smith's blue butterfly occurs. Questions relating to these comments should be addressed to either Jim Bartel or Ed Lorentzen at 916/978-4866. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on these plans.

Sincerely,



Gail C. Kobetich
Field Supervisor

Enclosure

cc: David Shonman, City of Marina, Marina Coastal Zone Planning Task Force, 211 Hillcrest Avenue, Marina, CA 93933
Chief, Endangered Species, Portland, OR (AFWE-SE)
Field Supervisor, Ecological Services, Sacramento, CA (ES-S)

OFFICE OF PLANNING AND RESEARCH

1400 TENTH STREET
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814

July 3, 1987

James M. Doyle
CA Department of Parks & Recreation
P.O. Box 942896
Sacramento, CA 94296-0001Subject: General Plans for Monterey Bay State Beaches
SCH# 86011401

Dear Mr. Doyle:

The State Clearinghouse submitted the above named draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) to selected state agencies for review. The review period is closed and the comments of the individual agency(ies) is(are) enclosed. Also, on the enclosed Notice of Completion, the Clearinghouse has checked which agencies have commented. Please review the Notice of Completion to ensure that your comment package is complete. If the package is not in order, please notify the State Clearinghouse immediately. Your eight-digit State Clearinghouse number should be used so that we may reply promptly.

Please note that recent legislation requires that a responsible agency or other public agency shall only make substantive comments on a project which are within the area of the agency's expertise or which relate to activities which that agency must carry out or approve. (AB 2583, Ch. 1514, Stats. 1984.)

These comments are forwarded for your use in preparing your final EIR. If you need more information or clarification, we suggest you contact the commenting agency at your earliest convenience.

Please contact Norma Wood at 916/445-0613 if you have any questions regarding the environmental review process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "David C. Nunenkamp", is written over a horizontal line.

David C. Nunenkamp
Chief
Office of Permit Assistance

cc: Resources Agency

Enclosures

RECEIVED

JUL 6 1987

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RFD

7-4153

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

CENTRAL COAST DISTRICT
701 OCEAN STREET, ROOM 310
SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060
(408) 426-7390



June 23, 1987

James Doyle
California Department
of Parks and Recreation
P.O. Box 942896
Sacramento, CA 94296-0001

Subject: Marina State Beach Preliminary General Plan and
Monterey State Beach Preliminary General Plan; State
Clearinghouse Notice of Completion 86011401

Dear Mr. Doyle:

We have reviewed referenced plans and have the following comments:

Marina State Beach

We support the State Park proposal to designate the major part of the dune area at Marina State Beach as a Natural Preserve to protect and perpetuate the resource values of the park. Since federally and state listed endangered species have been located in the dunes and since the dunes ecosystem itself is a fragile and easily disrupted habitat, Coastal Act policy 30240 would apply to the area. This policy protects environmentally sensitive habitat against disruption and allows only uses dependent on resources within the area, and in areas adjacent to sensitive habitat areas, development is to be sited and designed to prevent degradation and to be compatible with the continuance of such habitat areas.

There appear to be some discrepancies between the area identified as a proposed Natural Preserve and the kinds of uses considered appropriate (Allowable Use Intensity Map) and the the Land Use Map designations. The following points should be considered in your planning:

6 - (1) In addition to the hang glide area shown at the main parking lot, the Land Use Map shows an indentation into the area of the Natural Preserve and indicates the area to be used for hang gliding. This would appear to conflict with the Category II "Low" use intensity of the Allowable Use Intensity Map which indicates that hiking and picnicking in designated areas are the only appropriate uses in this category. If your agency determines that this area is not category II, it should justify the change in

6 - cont. [designation and should provide for minimizing disruption of the dune, e.g., providing boardwalks and platforms for the recreationalists to reduce destruction of the plant life that anchors the dune. There is insufficient discussion in the text as to the development of the hang glide facilities to fully understand what is being proposed.

7 - [(2) Regarding the hiking and picnicking designations the areas indicated for picnicking on the Land Use Map are appropriately located. However, in the area adjacent to Lake Court previous field surveys had indicated a significant back dune habitat. There may be sections of this area that should be preserved.

8 - [(3) Regarding hiking trails in the preserve, the use of boardwalks is recommended. Boardwalks are shown at either end of the reserve but it appears that trails will then continue into the dunes. The existing boardwalk greatly facilitates access and discourages random walking over the dunes. We suggest additional boardwalks and that unguided walks be restricted to boardwalks to protect the restoration and preservation program being undertaken by your department.

9 - [(4) We also suggest that in addition to the excellent policies provided on shoreline erosion and protective structures that the General Plan's Bluff Setback Policy correlate development setback with erosion rate and life span of project, that is, identify a target erosion time span (e.g. 100 year erosion setback) that must be met for new permanent development.

Monterey State Beach - Sand Dunes Drive area

10 - [(1) No allowable use intensity map was included as the text indicated (p.20). The two allowable uses proposed, (a) high use - highly disturbed sand dunes and (b) moderate use - sandy beach, do not appear appropriate to the higher dune area coterminous with the adjacent Ponderosa property. The federally endangered Smith's blue butterfly has been surveyed in this area. Though the Land Use Map proposes restoration of this area, it is not clear that there is a long term commitment to manage this area for habitat protection.

11 - [(2) En route camping would provide for a critical public need consistent with the Coastal Act if appropriate protection of dune habitat is provided.

12 - [(3) To the degree feasible under General Plan procedural regulations we would recommend clarification of the status of the Seaside and Sand City parcels and additional information on future plans for these and other properties for potential inclusion in the Monterey State Park units.

James Doyle
June 23, 1987
Page 3

With consideration of the above comments these State Park General Plans provide excellent public recreational opportunities while protecting the natural resources that make the areas desirable for recreational use. If you have any questions or if we can be of assistance, please call.

Sincerely,


Joy Chase
Coastal Planner

cc: Mary Gunter
Norma Wood, OPR Clearinghouse
1913A

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

P.O. BOX 8114
SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA 93403-8114
Telephone: (805) 549-3111
TDD (805) 549-3259



Date: June 29, 1987

Mr. James M. Doyle
Calif. Dept. of Parks and Recreation
P.O. Box 942896
Sacramento, CA 942896-0001

File: MON-001-var.
G.P. for Mon. Bay
State Beaches
SCH#: 86011401

Subject: Intergovernmental Review

Dear Mr. Doyle:

Caltrans District 5 staff has reviewed the above-referenced document. The following comments were generated as a result of the review:

13 — [Caltrans has no particular concerns other than the fact that expanded and improved parking at the various state beaches will cause incremental increases in traffic turning moves on Route 1. As you are no doubt aware, Route 1 already operates at a very low level of service (F). Additional traffic just exacerbates the existing problems.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (805) 549-3139.


A. C. Carlton
District 5
Intergovernmental Review Coordinator

cc: Terry Roberts, State Clearinghouse
JMA,VLN,CSW

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JUL 1 1987

RPD

Memorandum

To : State Clearinghouse
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121
Sacramento, CA 95814

Date: June 11, 1987

From : William R. Leonard, Executive Officer
California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Central Coast Region—1122 Laurel Lane
San Luis Obispo, California 93401

Subject: MONTEREY STATE BEACHES - PRELIMINARY GENERAL PLAN REVIEW

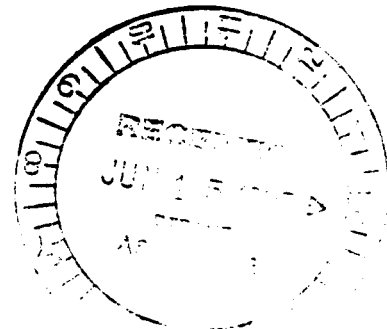
(4) We reviewed preliminary general plans for California State Beaches located in Monterey County (Zmindowski, Moss Landing, Salinas River, Marina, and Monterey). At each facility we note there is discussion of restroom facilities "proposed", but no discussion of where the wastewater goes. Restroom facilities should be sewerred wherever sewers are available. If restrooms are constructed using on-site septic tank-leachfield systems, they should be built in accordance with specifications in the Board's Resolution No. 83-12 and applicable county criteria.

Very truly yours,

William R. Leonard
WILLIAM R. LEONARD
Executive Officer

JFC/se

stclearhs.1tr2



MONTEREY COUNTY

PLANNING DEPARTMENT



(408) 422-9018 - P.O. BOX 1208 - SALINAS, CALIFORNIA 93902

ROBERT SLIMMON, JR.
DIRECTOR OF PLANNING

July 1, 1987

Mr. James M. Doyle, Supervisor
Environmental Review Section
Department of Parks and Recreation
P.O. Box 942896
Sacramento, CA 94296-001

Dear Mr. Doyle:

The Department has reviewed the preliminary General Plans for the following State Beaches located in the unincorporated areas of northern Monterey County: Zmudowski, Moss Landing and Salinas River. These documents were analysed with respect to the proposed land uses and facilities planned for each park unit and the certified North County Land Use Plan (LUP) of Monterey County's Local Coastal Program. The LUP is the controlling land use document upon which all State Park General Plans and proposed projects will be evaluated for consistency. Some of the detail comments which follow later address consistency issues. Resolvment of issues will be facilitated through County and State Coastal Commission consideration of the General Plan Program as an amendment to the certified LUP.

The LUP contains a Public Access Component and provides policy for the protection of access opportunities, management plans and programs, priorities for improvements and management for access and recreational facilities, trails, public safety, habitat and resource protection, visual, land use compatibility, parking and facilities and signs and maps. The LUP identifies the Department of Parks and Recreation as the responsible agency for the development of access and recreational facilities for these three State Park units.

In general, we find the preliminary General Plans consistent with the Public Access Component contained in the LUP. However, we note an absence of reference to this controlling land use document and policies (with the exception of its citation as a selected reference) in any of the three plans. The coastal planning effort in Monterey County has, and continues to be a mutual effort among property owners, special interest groups and local, state and federal agencies. The Department of Parks and

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7-4151

15 - Recreation contributed substantial background information to support various aspects of the LUP during its preparation and provided valuable input to assure your management concerns and objectives were included. Planning Department staff have met several times with your staff and have attended public hearings in this State Beach General Plan Program. We are therefore concerned that the preliminary General Plans contain no planning history or identification of the planning process in which this present Program evolved. We would recommend an addition section on the local planning effort and development of the LUP consistent with the Coastal Act of 1976; the Coastal Commission planning effort; as well as State Parks and Recreation General Plan Program and how that Program is part of the comprehensive coastal planning process. At present, the documents stand alone and are not reflective of the rich planning process which has occurred. The General Plan Program needs to be placed into the context of the entire coastal planning process. The following are specific comments to each of the three park units previously identified:

Zmudowski

- 16 - 1. p.2 Key Recommendations
 - o Permanent restrooms requiring public sewer and water are not feasible due to lack of public services to the site. Expansion of such public utilities to this site is also not feasible. Permanent restrooms will require on-site water and septic systems.
- 17 - 2.
 - o Equestrian use is not presently provided for in the LUP.
- 18 - 3.
 - o Dune management plans will require County and State Coastal Commission review and approval.
- 19 - 4.
 - o Signing should also include hazardous or restricted use warnings; if appropriate.
- 20 - 5.
 - o Operation and maintenance facilities and overnight camping will require County and State Coastal Commission approval.
- 21 - 6. p.5 Unit Description, 2nd paragagh
 - o This unit is bordered on the north by the Pajaro River, the east by agricultural fields...

- 22 — [7. p.12 Historic Background, 5th paragraph, 3rd line
- o "...in 1972, and a 20-acre use permit from the State Lands Commission." Please clarify, explain and/or correct.
- 23 — [8. p.14 Resources Management Policies
- o Resource Management in the State Park System in the Coastal Zone is governed by laws contained in the Public Resources Code and the California Administrative Code. Additional state agencies, such as the Coastal Commission, State Land Commission, State Coastal Conservancy, Department of Fish and Game and the Department of Boating and Waterways all have laws and regulations for resource management that must be considered in the development of State Park General Plans along the coast.
- 24 — [9. p.16 Shoreline Protective Devices
- o Application of this policy assumes some level of facility (i.e. structure, etc.) exists at Zmudowski. Since no facility exists warranting structural protection, this section can be deleted.
- 25 — [10. p.22 Parking
- o Expanded parking will require County review and approval.
- 26 — [11. p.22 Comfort Station
- o See Comment #1
- 27 — [12. p.22 Interpretive Facilities
- o Signage will require County review and approval consistent with LUP Policy 6.4.J.
13. p.22 Operations and Maintenance
- o Any facilities will require County review and approval.
14. p.23 Employee Housing
- o Any housing or equipment storage will require County review and approval

28 - 15. p.27 Proposed Interpretation

- o If the second sentence under "Facilities" is correct "...the lack of buildable land precludes any extensive interpretive structures," How can improvements such as: Employee housing, operations and maintenance facilities and parking be proposed in this General Plan?

29 - 16. p.33 General Plan Implementation

- o Upon Parks and Recreation Commission approval of the General Plan, the Department of Parks and Recreation should submit an amendment application to the LUP for County and State Coastal Commission consideration.

17. Mapping

- o Land Use and Facilities and Allowable Use Intensity Maps should be amended into the LUP.

30 - 18. p.35 EIR

- o Air Quality. The Monterey Bay Unified Air Pollution District is presently non-attainment for ozone.

MOSS LANDING

31 - 19. p.12 Recreation Resources

- o Substantial public testimony regarding the use of Moss Landing State Beach by a significant number of surfers was given at the May 28, 1986 public hearing in Marina. This section should include a discussion of this highly popular form of recreation at Moss Landing.

20. p.14 Resource Management Policies

- o See Comment #8.

32 - 21. p.15 Shoreline Protective Devices

- o See Comment #9 as it relates to Moss Landing State Beach

- 33 - 22. p.23 Existing Land Use and Facilities, 2nd para.
 - o Add Monterey County, State Coastal Conservancy, State Lands Commission, Department of Boating and Waterways and the Coastal Commission to the list of responsible agencies having a role in land and water management around Moss Landing State Beach.
- 34 - 23. p.35 General Plan Implementation
 - o See Comment #16
 - o See Comment #22 for agencies involved in land and water management responsibilities
- 35 - 24. Mapping, see comment #17 regarding Land Use and Use Intensity Maps
- 36 - 25. p.37 EIR
 - o Air Quality, see comment #18


SALINAS RIVER

- 37 - 26. p.11 Animal Life
 - o The City of Marina and State Coastal Conservancy have funded a Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) for the Smith's blue butterfly consistent with the Engangered Species Act. The study area includes the coastal dunes south of Salinas River Wildlife Management Area to Marina State Beach. Information regarding rare and endangered plants and animals developed from the HCP should be included in this document.
- 38 - 27. p.19 Shoreline Protective Devices
 - o See comment #9 as it relates to Salinas River State Beach
- 39 - 28. p.21 Rare and Endangered Plants
 - o The previously cited HCP (in preparation) has located Chorizanthe pungens Benth. Var. pungens and Erysimum Menziesii in the study area to the south. It is therefore probable these species also occur at Salinas River State Beach.
- 40 - 29. p.26 Parking
 - o See comment #10

- 41 - [30. p.27 Comfort Station
 - o See comment #1
- 42 - [31. p.28 Employee Housing
 - o See comment #14
- 43 - [32. p.38 General Plan Implementation
 - o See comment #16
- [33. Mapping, see comment #17 regarding Land Use and Use Intensity Maps
- 44 - [34. p.42 EIR
 - Air Quality, see comment #18
- 45 - [35. p.43 Vegetation and Wildlife
 - o See comment #27

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the preliminary General Plans for Zmudowski, Moss Landing and Salinas River State Beaches. We look forward to your responses and inclusion of our comments in the final General Plans. Further, we look forward to participation in the public hearing process at Asilomar this August.

Sincerely,


 Robert Slimmon, Jr.
 Director of Planning

cc: Supervisor Strasser Kauffman
 Supervisor Del Piero
 Edward Y. Brown, Coastal Commission



June 19, 1987

Mayor:
DAN ALBERT

Councilmembers:
THERESA CANEPA
CARL OUTZEN
CLYDE ROBERSON
RUTH VREELAND

City Manager:
JOHN DUNN

Mr. James Doyle, Supervisor
Environmental Review Section
Department of Parks and Recreation
P. O. Box 2390
Sacramento, CA 95811

Re: Monterey State Beach Preliminary General Plan

Dear Mr. Doyle:

On behalf of the City of Monterey, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to review the Preliminary General Plan for Monterey State Beach.

The Preliminary General Plan has been reviewed by the Monterey Parks and Recreation Commission at their meeting of June 2, 1987, and by the Monterey City Council at their meeting of June 16, 1987. Each found the document consistent with existing City policy and policy documents, and endorsed its passage by the State Parks and Recreation Commission.

Our staff has compiled the following technical comments related to the document:

- 46 — 1. Page 20. The allowable use intensity maps were not included in the City's copies of the Preliminary General Plan.
- 47 — 2. Page 21. In the second paragraph under Existing Conditions, it is suggested that the wording be changed to read, "Obstruction of views to the Bay from Del Monte Avenue affect the unit's current recreational values."
3. Page 22. The first sentence under Access should read, "There is no legal vehicle access to this unit." In the next sentence the word "primarily" should be inserted before "within the old railroad right-of-way."

47
cont.

The illegal accesses discussed in the second paragraph will be remedied with the installation of additional barriers, which is scheduled for July, 1987.

4. Page 23. It is suggested that the sentence, "The City of Monterey perceives the open space as a more urban park space" be deleted. Although there has been some preliminary discussion regarding the future use and design of this open space area, no decisions or policy direction have been set.

48

5. Page 25. A water line and a cable TV line run concurrently with the sewage collection line discussed in the document. It is the water line and not the sewage line that is visible. It should be noted that the City is budgeting funds to relocate these lines because of the potential for future loss. The relocation of these lines will lessen the City's need for Sand Dunes Drive for utility access.

49

6. Page 26. With the relocation of the sewer line, alternate service for the proposed comfort station may be required.

50

7. Pages 25 and 26. The improvements discussed for the Sand Dunes Drive area are consistent with the Del Monte Beach LUP, but the LUP does not mention the possibility of overnight camping. We feel that en-route camping would be consistent with the Coastal Act, and appropriate for this location if security concerns can be addressed.

51

8. Page 27. It may be desirable to discuss a potential relationship between the underwater recreation area suggested in the Plan, and a similar area proposed for the Cannery Row region.

52

9. Page 39. Any effort to preserve the habitat for the Smith's Blue Butterfly should be coordinated with other efforts that have occurred, are ongoing, or may be implemented in surrounding areas.

53

10. Page 40. The Public Services section should mention the City's sewer and water lines running through the property, and their potential for damage or loss from ocean forces.


Mr. James Doyle, Supervisor
June 19, 1987
Page Three

53
cont.

11. Fold-out map. On sheet 1 of the Land Use and Facilities map, the Recreation Trail is shown incorrectly as passing through the Southern Pacific property adjacent to the City beach. The Trail presently follows an interim alignment adjacent to Del Monte Avenue. It also may be appropriate to show the future improvements proposed for the City beach in the Harbor LUP, such as the beach craft launch area in the area of Wharf #2.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to review this document. Should you have any questions, please contact Mr. Fred Cohn of my office at (408) 646-3760.

Sincerely,



Lee Riordan
City Manager (Interim)

dt

c Community Development Director
Parks and Recreation Director
Senior Administrative Analyst
City Clerk
Ms. Mary Gunter, District Superintendent,
Monterey District



City of Marina
 211 HILL REST AVENUE
 MARINA, CALIFORNIA 94027
 (408) 384-3715

July 2, 1987

Mr. James M. Doyle, Supervisor
 Environmental Review Sections
 Department of Parks and Recreation
 P. O. Box 2390
 Sacramento, CA 95811

Dear Mr. Doyle:

The City Council of the City of Marina had an opportunity to review the Marina State Beach Preliminary General Plan. One of our Councilmembers, Joan Blake, made the following comments after her careful review of it.

- 54 - Page 15 Zone of Prime Interest
 Don't care for all the "concern" about Water District, and why the concern over Corp Yard? Gas Hazard? This isn't clear at all. Also, fail to see how the rest is of so much concern, as Parks primary job is for visitor serving reasons, and RV and Motels bring in what Parks is about.
- 55 - Page 28 Staying Safe
 Swimming? This needs to be striken from para.
- 56 - Page 35 Maintenance - Para III
 Dislike user fee - fines for littering should first be tried - funds should be used only for improvements.
- 57 - Land Use Plan
 One hand says erosion, then Plan shows parking and restrooms in what could be considered near danger zone.

Thank you for the opportunity to review the Plan.

Sincerely,

LARRY W. BAGLEY
 City Manager

LWB/frc

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JUL 6 1987

RPD

7-4152

POINT REYES BIRD OBSERVATORY

4990 Shoreline Highway, Stinson Beach, California 94970
Telephone (415) 868-1221

June 17, 1987

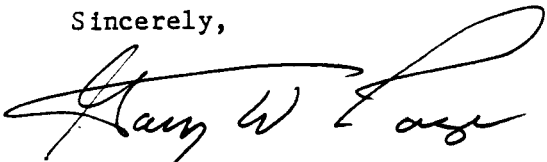
James M. Doyle
Environmental Review Section
State of California
Department of Parks and Recreation
P.O. Box 2390
Sacramento, CA 95811

Dear Mr. Doyle:

58 — This letter (responding to the preliminary general plans for Zmudowski and Salinas River state beaches) addresses only protection to nesting Snowy Plovers through the proposed Natural Preserves. I think the steps taken in both plans are excellent. A particularly valuable approach has been to limit access at Zmudowski Beach to the existing entry points. Since the Natural Preserve at Salinas River State Beach requires the same kind of protection, the park system should not open access to the south end of the beach in the future (see page 27). Access at the south end will make it much more difficult to limit human disturbance to the Natural Preserve. It will also increase public access to the Salinas River Wildlife Refuge, another important plover breeding site. Access to sensitive areas should be restricted to walk-in traffic only.

Snowy Plovers breed along the entire length of Salinas State Beach. As beach use increases by the public, breeding plovers will become more and more restricted to the preserves. The total number of plovers using state beaches will decrease with the loss of nesting sites in heavily used areas, thus the preserves will become essential to protecting this species. I believe it is particularly important not to allow access to the south end of Salinas River State Beach.

Sincerely,



Gary W. Page
Director Coastal and Estuarine Program

Response to Comments

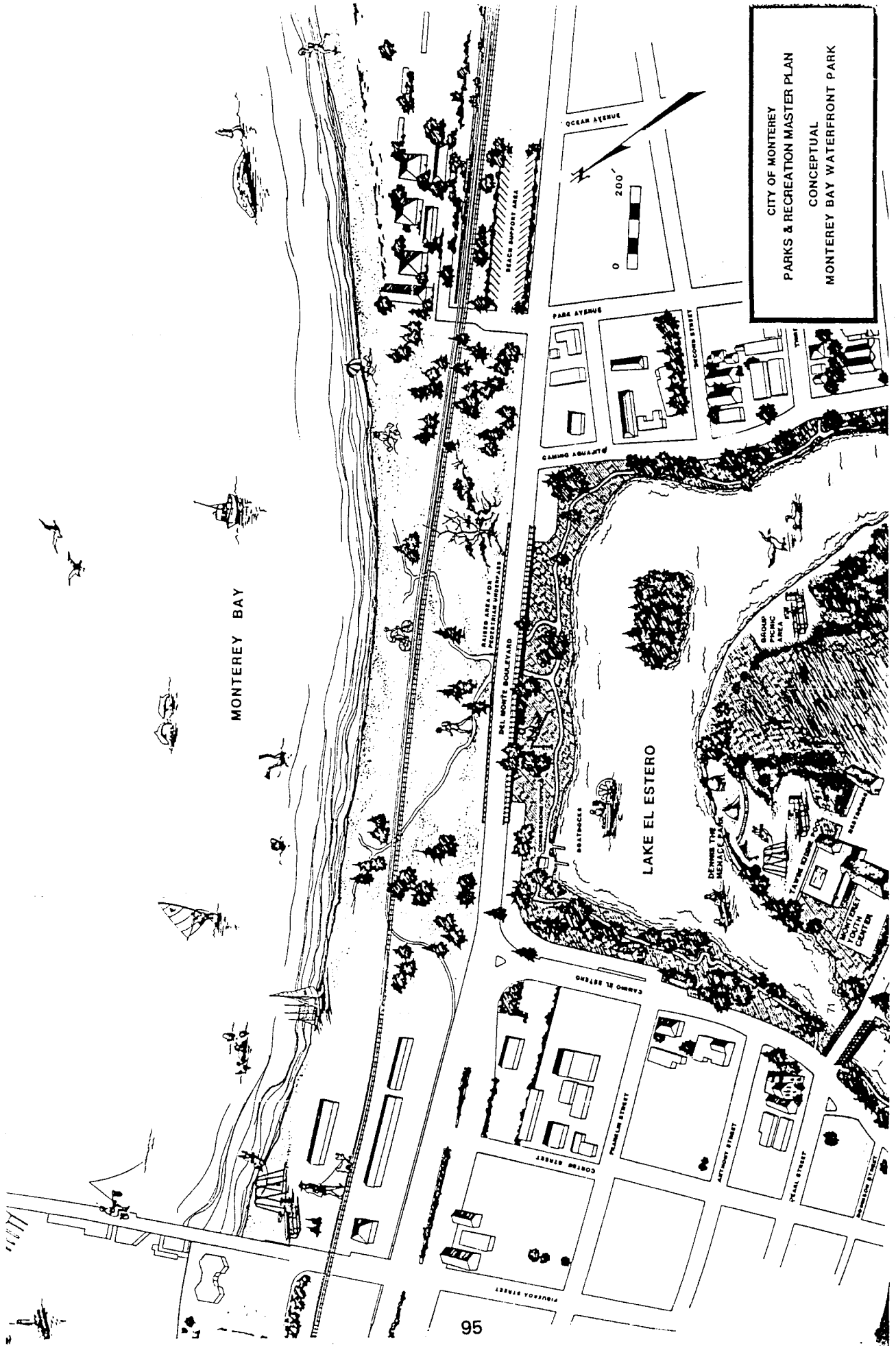
1. It does not appear that any of our actions will require a permit from the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers. We wish to continue to coordinate with the Corps on erosion monitoring.
2. Existing State and Federal laws and DPR policies provide for protection of rare and endangered fauna. One of our objectives for all of these units is to protect and restore native dune ecosystems. Meeting this objective should benefit the native flora and fauna including rare, threatened, and endangered species. Specific management actions to benefit the black legless lizard and the Smith's blue butterfly will be undertaken as specific needs and funding are identified. DPR funded a study of the Smith's blue butterfly at Marina SB in 1986. A copy of the report was sent to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Endangered Species Office in Sacramento.
3. The Department believes that if carefully designed and regulated the land use and facility proposals can be implemented without conflicting with resource management policies. If conflicts develop, the resource management policies will take precedent over land use and facilities proposals.
4. Hang gliding within the proposed Natural Preserve will be severely limited to a relatively few experienced pilots operating from a small launch area. No significant impact is predicted.
5. The relatively intense visitor use of the northern area at Marina State Beach will be limited to the ocean beach and the immediate vicinity of the parking area. Access to the dunes in this area is currently limited to a designated boardwalk trail. The surrounding dune area is fenced and officially closed to all public use. These restrictions will continue as long as needed to protect the listed species which occur in this area. We do not believe that incidental take of Smith's blue butterfly is likely through the implementation of these plans. We will keep the USFWS and the California Department of Fish and Game (DFG) informed about DPR activities which may affect sensitive species in this and the other units.
6. Please refer to response #4.
7. The land use and facilities map is schematically drawn. Sections of significant back dune habitat near Lake Court could be included in the Natural Preserve. Also see response #3.
8. We agree that boardwalks greatly facilitate access and discourage random walking over the dunes. The Department is studying the construction and maintenance costs of the boardwalks and their effectiveness. The trail connecting the two terminuses of the boardwalk would be posted and at some time in the future a boardwalk may be constructed. All use would be restricted to boardwalks and designated trails in the preserve.

9. Pages 18 and 19 in the Marina State Beach General Plan discuss the Department's bluff setback policy. We haven't identified a target erosion timespan, but we believe that permanent facilities setback in the zone of demonstration would not be threatened for many years. The many factors that involve shoreline bluff erosion make a target date prediction extremely difficult.
10. The allowable use intensity map for Monterey State Beach was inadvertently omitted. The federally endangered Smith's blue butterfly and other endangered and threatened species will be protected here as well as in other State Beaches. (See responses #2 and 3.)
11. We agree that en route camping would provide a critical public need in the Sand Dunes Drive area of Monterey State Beach. The Department has a commitment to protect the dunes habitat. State Park Rangers will enforce rules and regulations concerning restrictive use in certain designated areas. (Also see response #3.)
12. The status of parcels that may be acquired cannot be discussed in this General Plan because of the sensitive nature of the proposals.
13. This comment is noted. The Department supports possible solutions to the traffic problems.
14. We agree. Restrooms will be sewerred whenever sewer lines are available now or in the future. Septic tanks and leach lines will be used if conditions permit this. A pumpout system will be used otherwise. We will work at having water and sewer lines to as many restrooms as possible in the future.
15. The general plans for these State Beaches were coordinated with local, State and Federal agencies. We believe the plans are consistent with the Local Coastal Plan (LCP), even though the text may not include a large volume of background material on that subject.
16. See response #14.
17. Equestrian use has been authorized at Zmudowski, Moss Landing, and Salinas River State Beaches. The County LCP should be amended.
18. Comment noted and we will seek approval.
19. Comment noted.
20. See response #18.
21. Corrections, deletions and additions noted.
22. The Department has a lease from the State Lands Commission for a 20-acre parcel at the mouth of the Pajaro River. This parcel is operated as part of Zmudowski State Beach. The lease enables the Department to protect resources, enforce rules and regulations and allow public use.

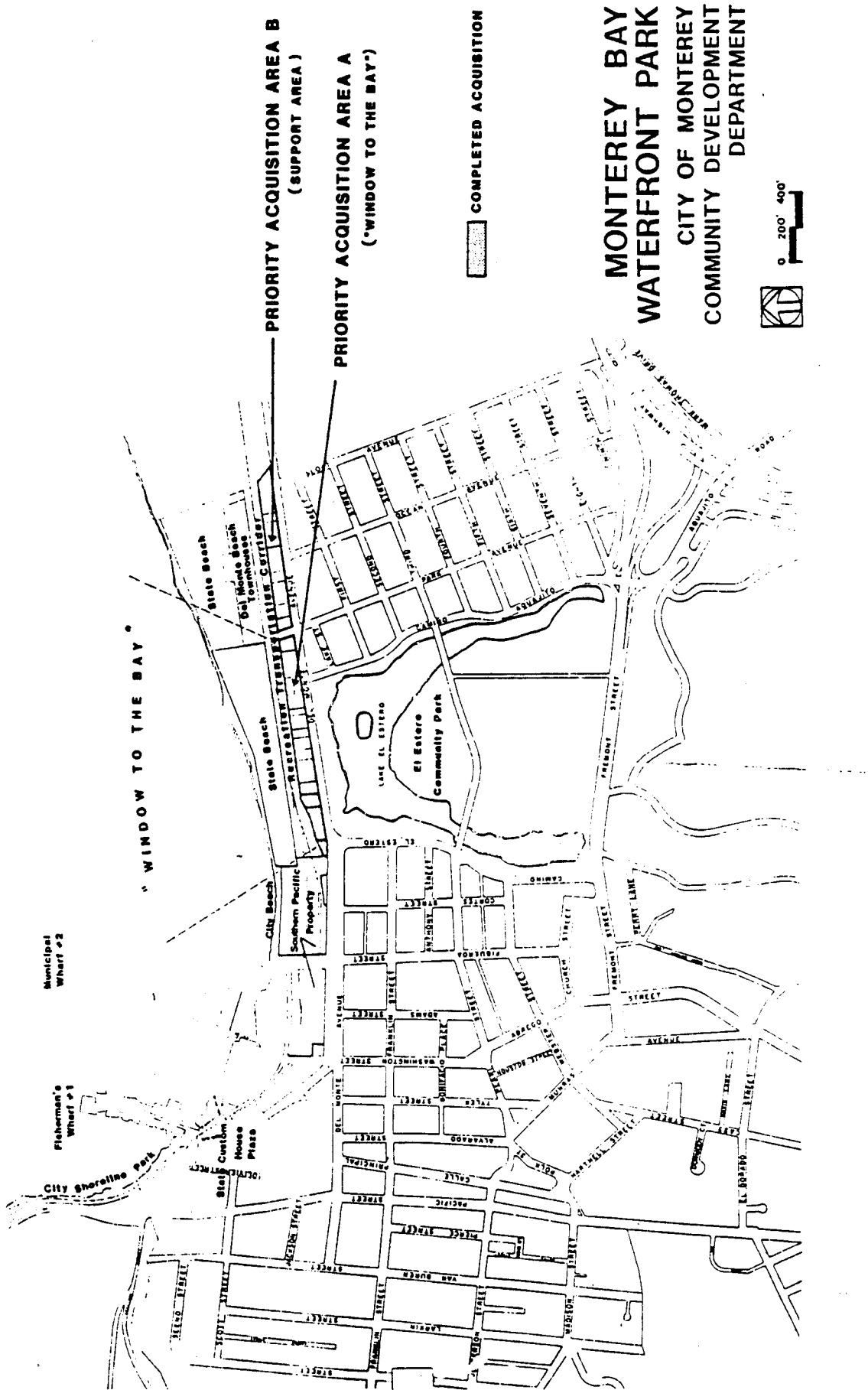
23. See response #21.
24. This policy was included because shoreline protective devices have been or may be suggested. Residents of the development to the north of Zmudowski have built a seawall on their property. We feel that this policy needs to be included and should not be deleted from any of the General Plans.
25. See response #18.
26. See response #14.
27. See response #18.
28. Please see pages 22 and 23 in the Zmudowski S.B. General Plan. These proposals are conditional to additional land and other requirements.
29. When the Department proceeds with planning for implementation, we will submit plans and maps for approval. (See response #18.)
30. See response #19.
31. See response #21.
32. See response #24.
33. See response #21.
34. See response #29.
35. See response #21.
36. See response #19.
37. See response #19.
38. See response #24.
39. See response #19.
40. See response #18.
41. See response #14.
42. See response #18.
43. See response #29.
44. See response #10.

45. See response #24.
46. See responses #10 and 21.
47. See response #21.
48. See responses #21 and 19.
49. See responses #19 and 14.
50. See response #11.
51. See response #21.
52. See response #10.
53. See response #21.
54. We disagree. The Department is very concerned about surrounding properties and local activities that could affect State Park System units. For example, traffic to the corporation yard and water district affect traffic and congestion on Reservation Road and access to Marina State Beach. Likewise, the mining of sand affects the sand replenishment to State Beaches. The sewer operation could affect visitor health. Many more examples could be given.
55. We disagree. Swimming, while not a major activity, is a valid recreation activity.
56. See response #19.
57. See response #9. The drawings are schematic and the permanent facilities appear closer to the edge of the bluff than in fact they will be.
58. We agree that the nesting areas for the snowy plover need as much protection as possible. The proposed future access point at the south end of Salinas River State Beach is still a preliminary consideration. This would be an interpretive area for visitors and an observation point. Access would be prohibited during sensitive periods.

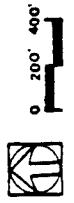
APPENDIX



Source: City of Monterey Parks and Recreation Master Plan, 1986



**MONTEREY BAY
WATERFRONT PARK**
CITY OF MONTEREY
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT



Source: City of Monterey Parks and Recreation Master Plan, 1986

SELECTED REFERENCES

California State Park System, Underwater Parks Master Plan, October 1984.

City of Monterey, Parks and Recreation Master Plan, 1986.

City of Monterey, Del Monte Beach Local Coastal Program, Draft Land Use Plan,
February 1984.

Naval Postgraduate School, Hotel Del Monte Revisited, pamphlet, 1986.

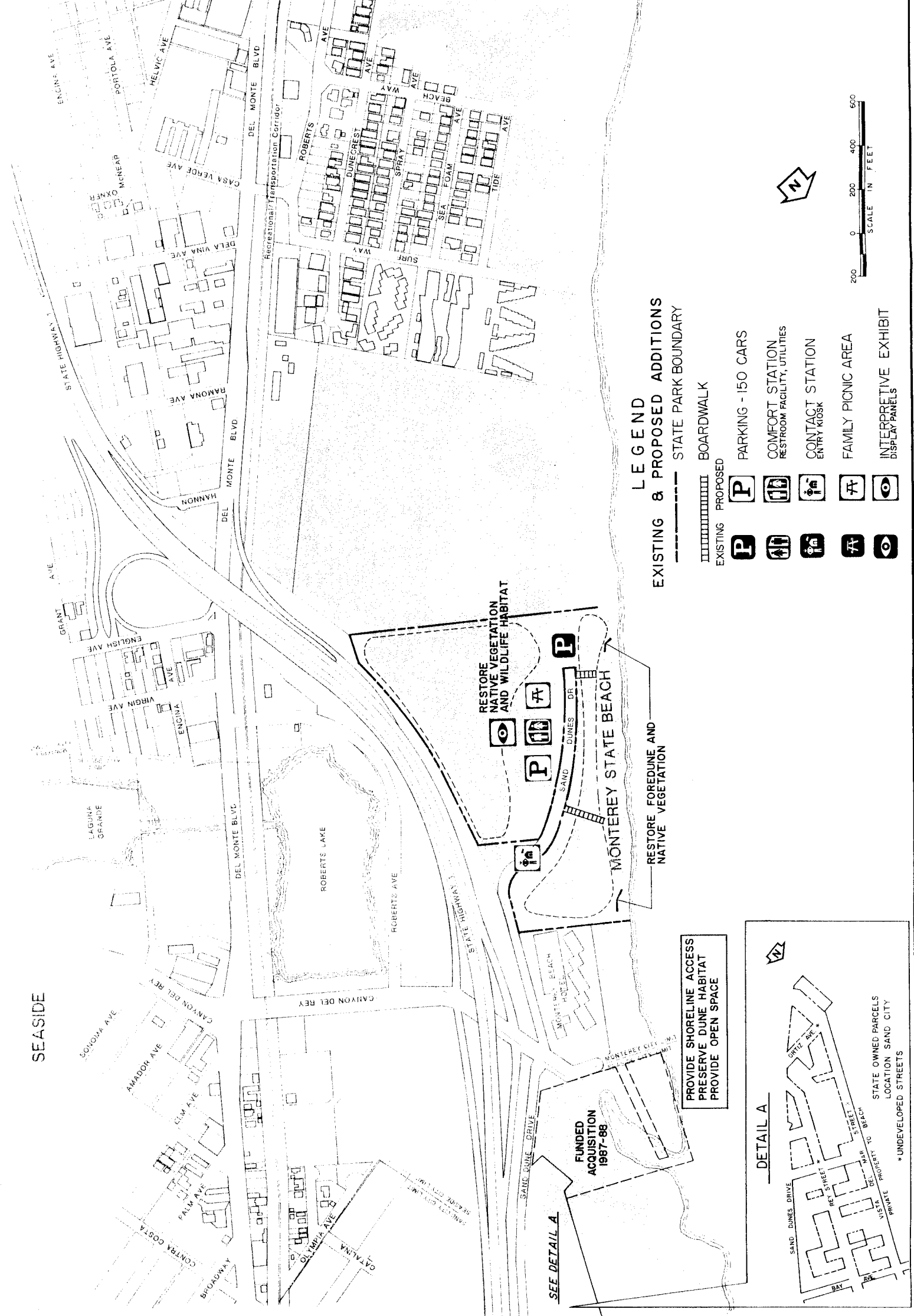
Shropshire, Helen and Elstob, Winston, Where California Began, Bonanza Books,
New York, 1966.

DESIGNED	DATE
D. KECK	
DRAWN	
J.M.D. MAY 8	
CHECKED	

RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA
 DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
 STATE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
 APPROVED DATE 8-14-87

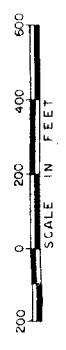
MONTEREY STATE BEACH
 LAND USE AND FACILITIES
 GENERAL PLAN

DRAWING NO. 23035
 SHEET NO. 2



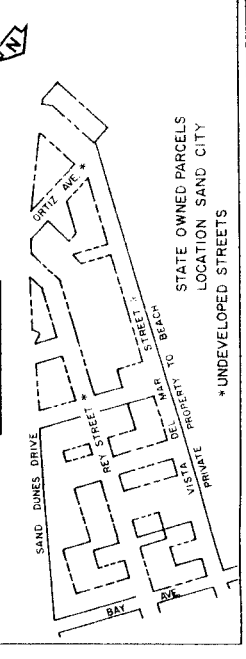
LEGEND
 EXISTING & PROPOSED ADDITIONS

- STATE PARK BOUNDARY
- ||||| EXISTING BOARDWALK
- ||||| PROPOSED BOARDWALK
- P** EXISTING PARKING - 150 CARS
- P** PROPOSED PARKING - 150 CARS
- EXISTING COMFORT STATION RESTROOM FACILITY, UTILITIES
- PROPOSED COMFORT STATION RESTROOM FACILITY, UTILITIES
- EXISTING CONTACT STATION ENTRY KIOSK
- PROPOSED CONTACT STATION ENTRY KIOSK
- EXISTING FAMILY PICNIC AREA
- PROPOSED FAMILY PICNIC AREA
- EXISTING INTERPRETIVE EXHIBIT DISPLAY PANELS
- PROPOSED INTERPRETIVE EXHIBIT DISPLAY PANELS



PROVIDE SHORELINE ACCESS
 PRESERVE DUNE HABITAT
 PROVIDE OPEN SPACE

DETAIL A



SEE DETAIL A

FUNDED ACQUISITION 1987-88

RESTORE NATIVE VEGETATION AND WILDLIFE HABITAT

RESTORE FOREDUNE AND NATIVE VEGETATION

SEASIDE

Recreation/Transportation Corridor

MONTEREY STATE BEACH

MONTEREY CITY, CA

ROBERTS LAKE

SAND DUNES DRIVE

SEE DETAIL A

STATE PARK BOUNDARY

ROBERTS AVE

DEL MONTE BLVD

CANYON DEL REY

DEL MONTE BLVD

DEL MONTE BLVD

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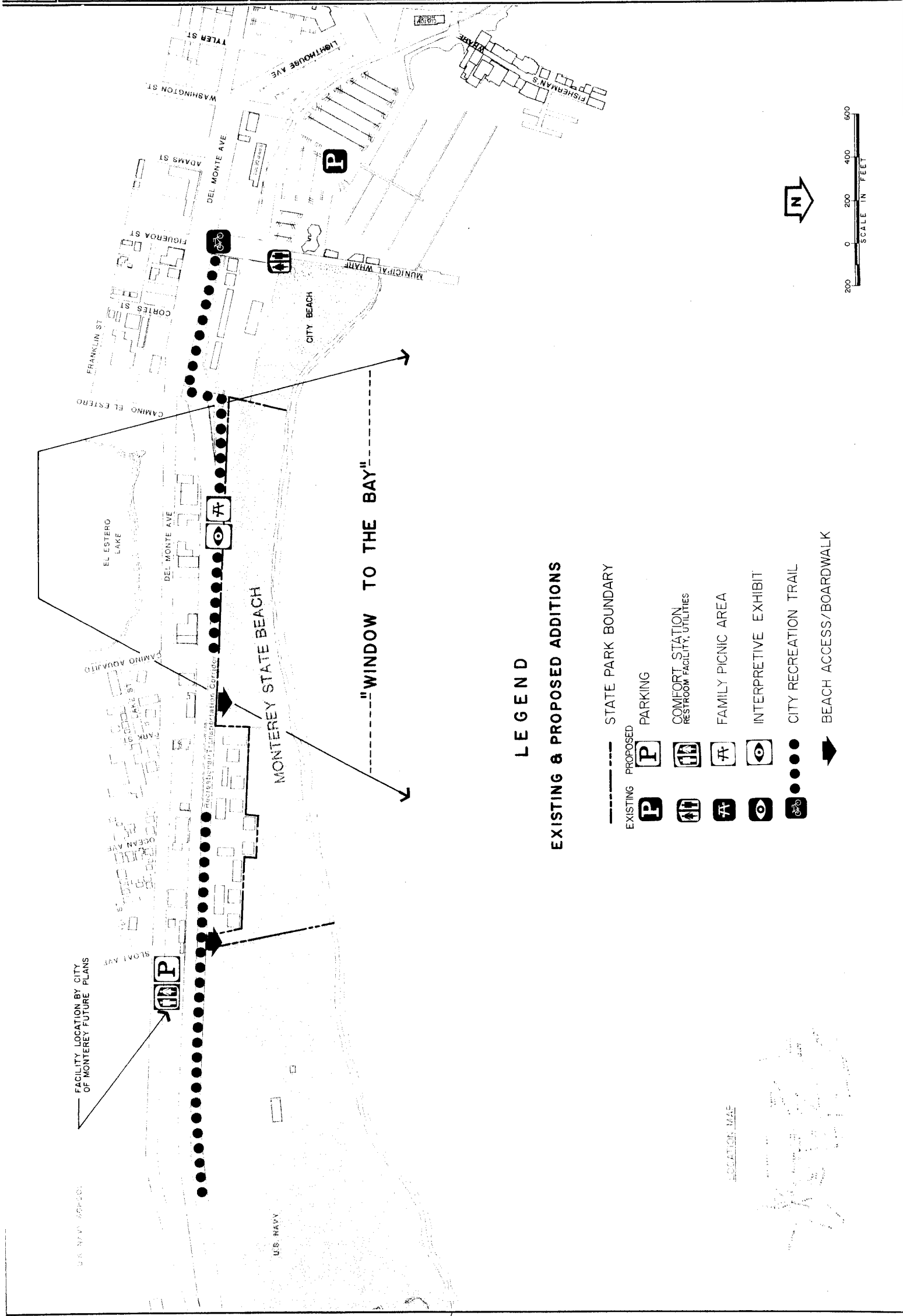
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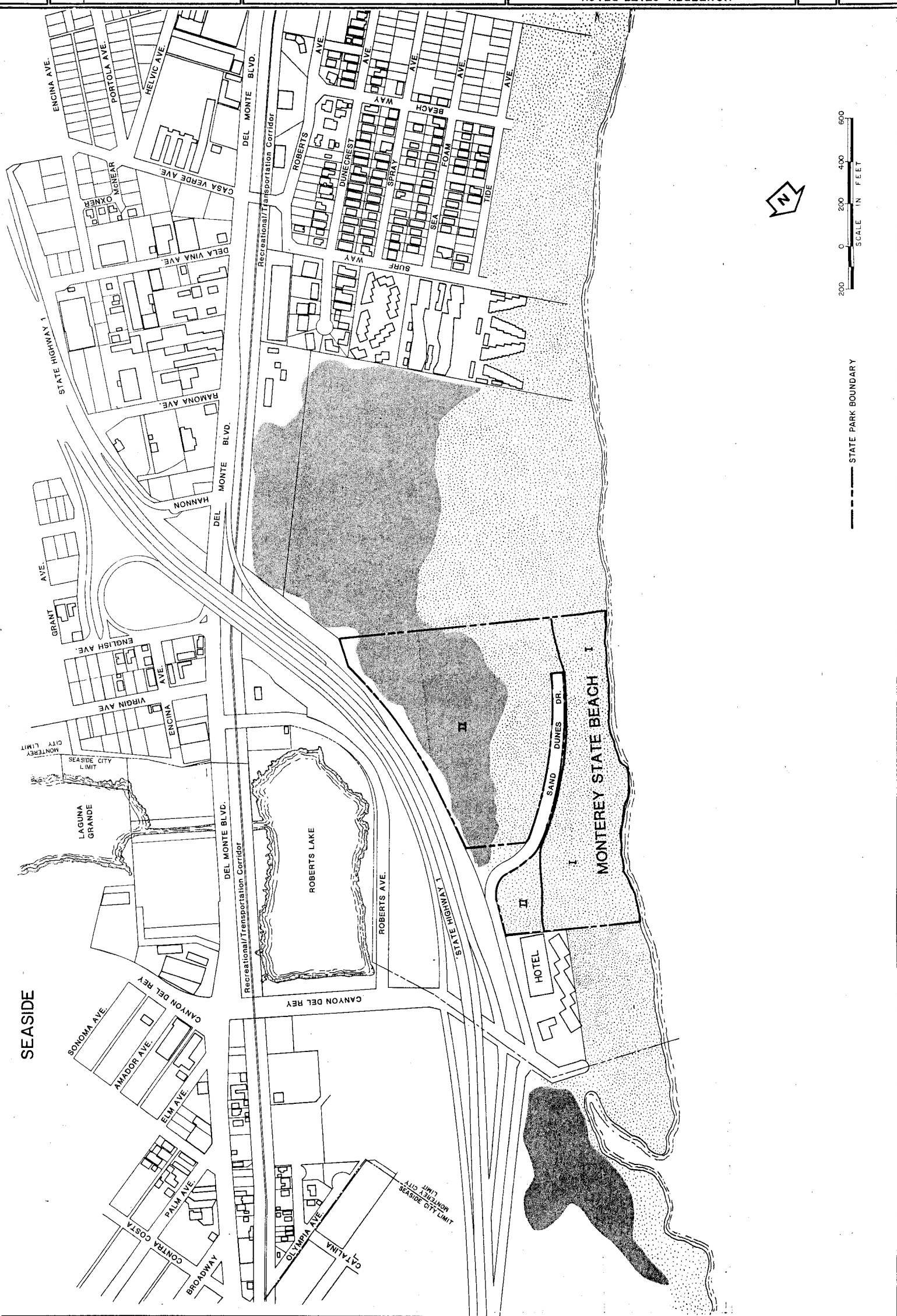
LOCATION MAP

DESIGNED	DATE	REVISIONS
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RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA
 DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
 STATE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
 APPROVED DATE 8-14-87

ALLOWABLE USE INTENSITY MAP
 RESOURCE ELEMENT

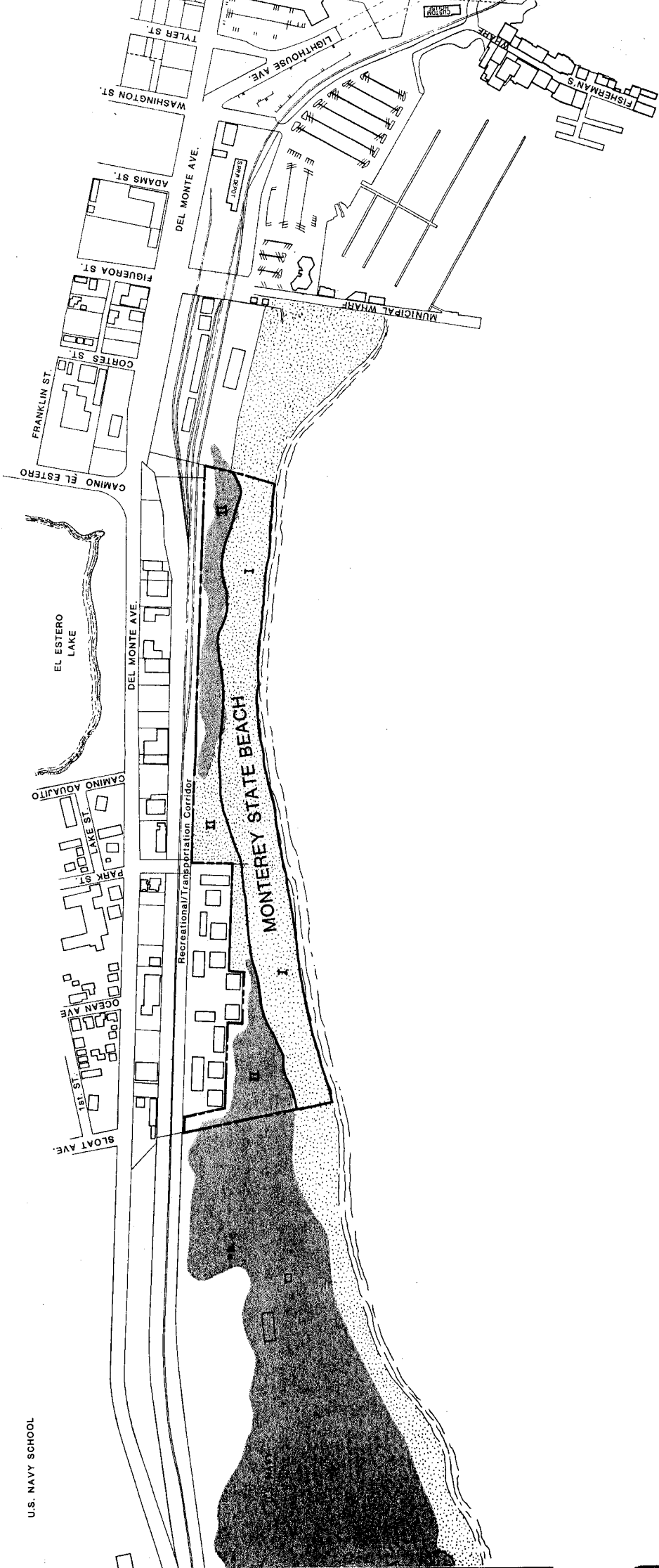
DRAWING NO. **21393**
 SHEET NO. **2**



DESIGNER	DATE	REVISIONS
DRAWN		
CHECKED		

RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA
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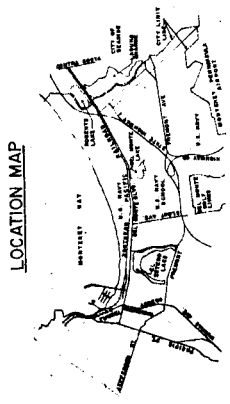
MONTEREY STATE BEACH
 ALLOWABLE USE INTENSITY MAP
 RESOURCE ELEMENT
 DRAWING NO. 21393
 SHEET NO. 1 OF 2



STATE PARK BOUNDARY

This map is based on natural, cultural, and scenic constraints and sensitivities. Other factors such as land use, socioeconomic, and design factors may be considered in the planning process and can be incorporated in the planning process, higher use intensities may be acceptable.

This map is useful only for general planning purposes. Small sensitive resource areas and facilities have been developed; the proposed location should be checked for resource sensitivity on the various resource maps on file in the Department of Parks and Recreation, Resource Protection Division office. Site specific field investigations may also be necessary.



U.S. NAVY SCHOOL

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