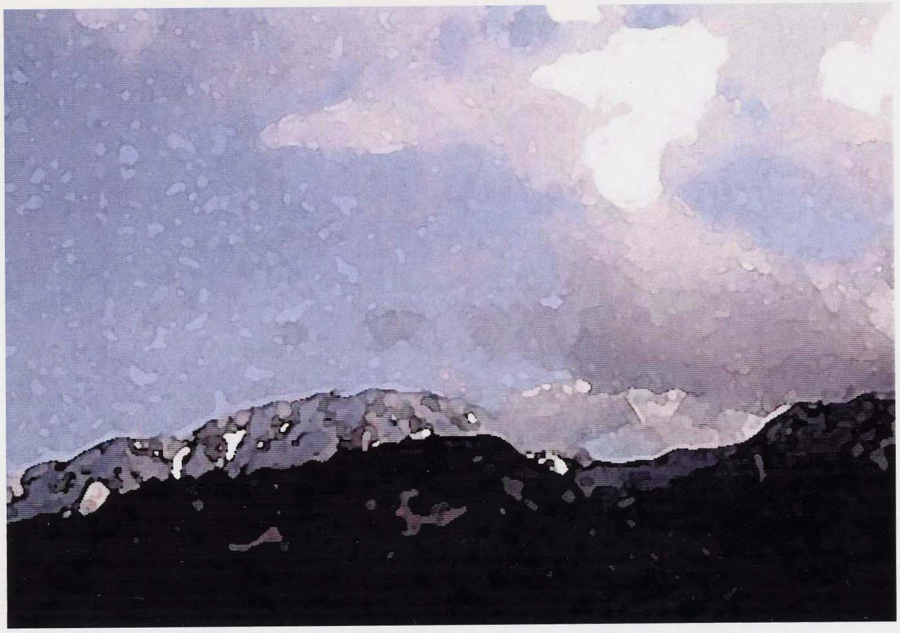


Mount San Jacinto State Park General Plan

April 2002

California Department of Parks and Recreation

General Plan Inquires

The Mount San Jacinto State Park General Plan was prepared by the Department of Parks and Recreation Southern Service Center. For general information regarding the document contact the Service Center at (619) 220-5300, or direct correspondence to:

California Department of
Parks and Recreation
Southern Service Center
8885 Rio San Diego Drive, Suite 270
San Diego, California 92108

Attention: Mount San Jacinto State Park General Plan Team

Publication Price and Order Information

Additional copies of the Mount San Jacinto State Park General Plan can be obtained for $5.00 each, plus $1.00 per copy for postage. Make checks payable to California Department of Parks and Recreation, and send your order to the address denoted above.

Front cover watercolor image:
San Jacinto Peak

State of California • The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
STATE PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION
P. O. Box 942896
Sacramento, California 94296-0001
(916) 653-0524 FAX: (916) 654-6374

Gray Davis, *Governor*
Rusty Areias, *Director*

Resolution 7-02
adopted by the
CALIFORNIA STATE PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION
at its regular meeting in Palm Springs
April 27, 2002

WHEREAS the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation has presented to this Commission for approval the proposed General Plan for Mount San Jacinto State Park; and

WHEREAS this document provides conceptual parameters and guidelines for long-term management, development, and operation of Mount San Jacinto State Park, to allow for optimum use and enjoyment of the unit as well as the protection of its unique visitor experience and pristine resource conditions as exemplified in the State Wilderness; and

WHEREAS the Mount San Jacinto State Park General Plan proposes to expand the boundaries of the existing wilderness area by 2,600 acres, incorporating new wilderness boundaries which follow natural landscape features and operational facilities, thereby providing additional protection for the unit's natural and cultural resources; and

WHEREAS the Mount San Jacinto State Park General Plan proposes the creation of a 255-acre Natural Preserve, to heighten the protection of the distinct natural features found within the Hidden Divide area, and to serve as habitat for several sensitive wildlife and plant species,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the California State Park and Recreation Commission hereby approves the Department of Parks and Recreation's Mount San Jacinto State Park Preliminary General Plan, dated October 2001, including expansion of the boundaries of the existing Mount San Jacinto State Wilderness to include approximately an additional 2,600 acres within Mount San Jacinto State Park, and classification of 255 acres in Mount San Jacinto State Park as Hidden Divide Natural Preserve, subject to such environmental changes as the Director of Parks and Recreation shall determine advisable and necessary to implement the provisions of said plan.

Mount San Jacinto State Park General Plan

April 2002

Gray Davis
Governor

Mary D. Nichols
Secretary for Resources

Ruth Coleman
Director of Parks and Recreation

State of California
The Resources Agency
Department of Parks and Recreation
P.O. Box 942896
Sacramento, California
94296-0001

1 INTRODUCTION

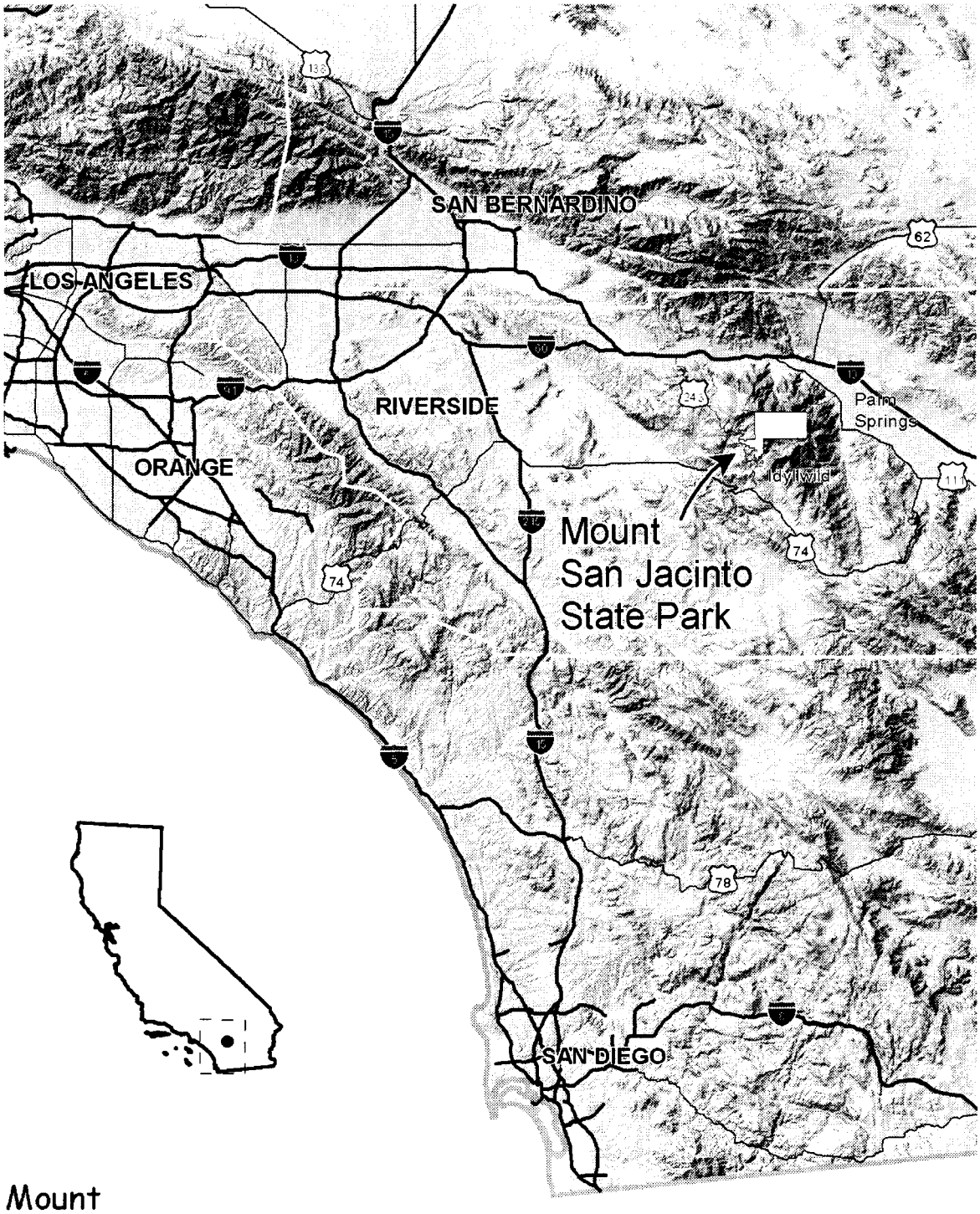
2 EXISTING CONDITIONS AND ISSUES

3 THE PLAN

4 ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

5 APPENDICES

6 FIGURES



Mount
San Jacinto
State Park

Vicinity Map

Figure One

California Department of Parks and Recreation

Valleys and meadows

Introduction 1

INTRODUCTION

INTRODUCTION TO THE PARK

Mount San Jacinto State Park (including Mount San Jacinto State Wilderness) is located in western Riverside County, along the western edge of the San Jacinto Mountains (Figure One). Park boundaries extend westward toward the town of Idyllwild and eastward, overlooking Palm Springs and the Coachella Valley. The north and south boundaries border the San Jacinto Wilderness, which is administered by the United States Forest Service (USFS) as part of the San Bernardino National Forest. Several parcels of land owned by the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians and the County of Riverside lie adjacent to sections of the Park.

Mount San Jacinto State Park is approximately 13,700 acres in size and includes the highest summit of the San Jacinto Mountain Range, San Jacinto Peak at an elevation of 10,834 feet (based upon National Geodetic Survey, June 1998). The Park is characterized by mountainous areas reminiscent of the High Sierra, with montane wet valleys and meadows. Unfolding views of the desert floor below and the mountainous ranges within and beyond the Park add to its uniqueness. The Park's northern escarpment is one of the sheerest in the United States, plunging dramatically to the San Gorgonio Pass nearly two miles below. Within the Park boundaries are approximately 9,900 acres designated as State Wilderness, as defined in Section 5019.68 of the Public Resources Code. Refer to Figure Two (page 5) for additional site characteristics.

Within an hour's drive of the Park are the cities of Riverside, Temecula, and Palm Springs, and it is only a two-hour drive to the densely populated counties of Los Angeles and San Diego. State Highway 243 runs along the western side of the Park and allows automobile access to the Park's two existing developed campgrounds: Stone Creek and Idyllwild. On the northeastern corner of the Park, at the base of the San Jacinto Mountain Range, and just west of Palm Springs, is the Palm Springs Aerial Tramway. The Tramway is operated by the Winter Park Authority (WPA), a legislatively created body, separate and autonomous from California State Parks. The Tramway allows people to access the Park on the eastern Park boundaries.

Additional access points include trailheads located on adjacent properties. These trailheads, operated by USFS and the County of Riverside, connect to trails within Mount San Jacinto State Park, creating a regional trail system. The Pacific Crest Trail (PCT) is one of the trails that traverses the Park. The PCT, which spans 2,650 miles from Mexico to Canada, reaches an elevation of 9,030 feet in Mount San Jacinto State Park.

In October 2000, legislation to establish the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountain National Monument (refer to Figure Two, page 5) was established by Congress and was approved by President William (Bill) Clinton. The boundary of this newly established National Monument crosses through the eastern portion of Mount San Jacinto State Park. Although the legislation does not establish any new authority by the Federal Government over State owned lands, California State Parks is supportive of working cooperatively with the Monument lead agency, the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture, to fulfill the Park's highest potential.

Purpose Acquired

In 1929, the California State Park Commission chose landscape architect Fredrick Law Olmstead Jr. to survey the San Jacinto mountain range. He stressed to the Commission that "the entire area still in a wilderness condition, above the region now occupied by resorts (Idyllwild area), should be publicly controlled as a wilderness park". This wilderness area Mr. Olmstead was referring to became the impetus for Mount San Jacinto State Park. Many individuals and groups are associated with the early development of the Park, but Newton Drury (1889-1978) was a guardian of the area's wilderness character prior to, during, and after his tenure as the Chief of the California Division of Beaches and Parks (predecessor of the Department of Parks and Recreation). For his valiant efforts at keeping the area as a wilderness park without intrusion of highways, Drury is recognized by California State Parks by the naming of a peak after him, Newton Drury Peak (elevation 10,160 feet).

The California State Park Commission received title to San Jacinto State Park in February 1933. The Park was dedicated on June 19, 1937.

A Statement of Purpose for the Park (1959), Declaration of Purpose for the Park (1966), and Statement of Purpose (1975) for the State Wilderness have been developed for Mount San Jacinto State Park. Each of these Purpose Statements convey the importance of preserving the wilderness conditions while providing recreational opportunities.

Today, as one of the oldest and largest wilderness areas within the California State Parks system, the primary reason for acquiring the parkland for Mount San Jacinto State Park was, and will continue to be, its value as wilderness. Annually, close to a half-million visitors enjoy this wonderful wilderness experience and the natural and recreational resources for which Mount San Jacinto State Park is renowned.

Snow capped San Jacinto Peak

Spirit of Place

People who visit Mount San Jacinto State Park can get a sense of the wild, untamed California of earlier times. The rugged high country offers a true wilderness experience that is a two-hour drive from an urban population of nearly 20 million people. When entering the Park from the town of Idyllwild, you can leave behind the bustle of a village for the rustic comforts of the developed campgrounds. As you venture further, rugged trails lead quickly into the high country wilderness. Approaching from the east, you are whisked up a sheer escarpment by the Palm Springs Aerial Tramway, and in a few short minutes are exposed to the wilderness.

Once in the wilderness, the sights and sounds of the modern world disappear,

and you are a visitor to a place where the forces of nature dominate. The San Jacinto Mountains, rising to an elevation of 10,834 feet, form an imposing barrier between the populated coast and the vast deserts to the east. Nearly surrounded by Forest Service Wilderness and partially within the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountain National Monument, the Park is truly isolated from southern California's urban influences.

Without city noises and visual obtrusions, visitors may become aware of the Park's subtle sound, pure scents, and variations in microclimate, vegetation, and topography. Solitude, natural sounds, fresh air, and uncluttered vistas cannot be quantified like physical resources; nonetheless, Park visitors cherish these qualities. There is nothing quite like sitting on a boulder at the edge of Little Round Valley while watching a spectacular sunset.

The sheer granite faces of the peaks, steeply cut valleys, and lush grassy meadows have been shaped by four very distinct seasons. Winter may bring a deep blanket of snow and temperatures well below zero. Spring comes late to this high country, but is accented by the rich scent of azalea blossoms and the striking beauty of the lemon lily. Summer is short and dry, sometimes dusty, sometimes punctuated by brief afternoon thunderstorms. Fall brings a golden hue to the oak leaves as the corn lily begins to die back along the high mountain meadows. Variations can also be discovered as one moves up and down or east and west through the various Park environments. South facing slopes can appear dry and exposed, hosting a tangle of chinquapin while a short distance away luxuriant meadows open out of the lodgepole pine forest. Lower slopes are blanketed with chaparral while high above the limber pines cling to boulders at the edge of timberline.

Many visitors have their first wilderness experience at the Park. For some, this introduction is the beginning for a life long pursuit.

Mount San Jacinto State Park provides a wilderness experience and a place to recreate that will become increasingly precious as the pace of life quickens and population of Southern California continues to grow.

PURPOSE OF THIS GENERAL PLAN

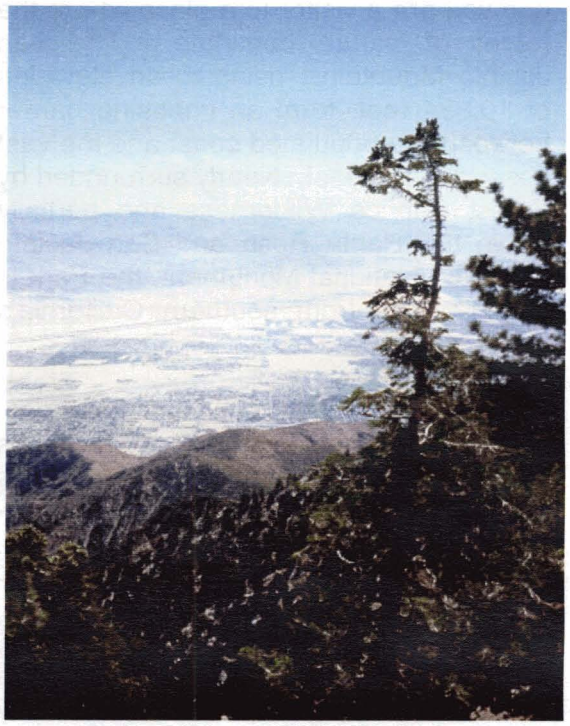
This General Plan was developed to serve as a long-range management tool that provides guidelines for achieving the purpose of the Park. This document does not attempt to provide detailed management recommendations, but rather provides conceptual parameters for future management actions.

Specifics, such as the exact location of a visitor center or campground, will be determined by future management plans. These subsequent management plans will require additional data collections and public/internal reviews to ensure adherence to the goals and guidelines established within this General Plan.

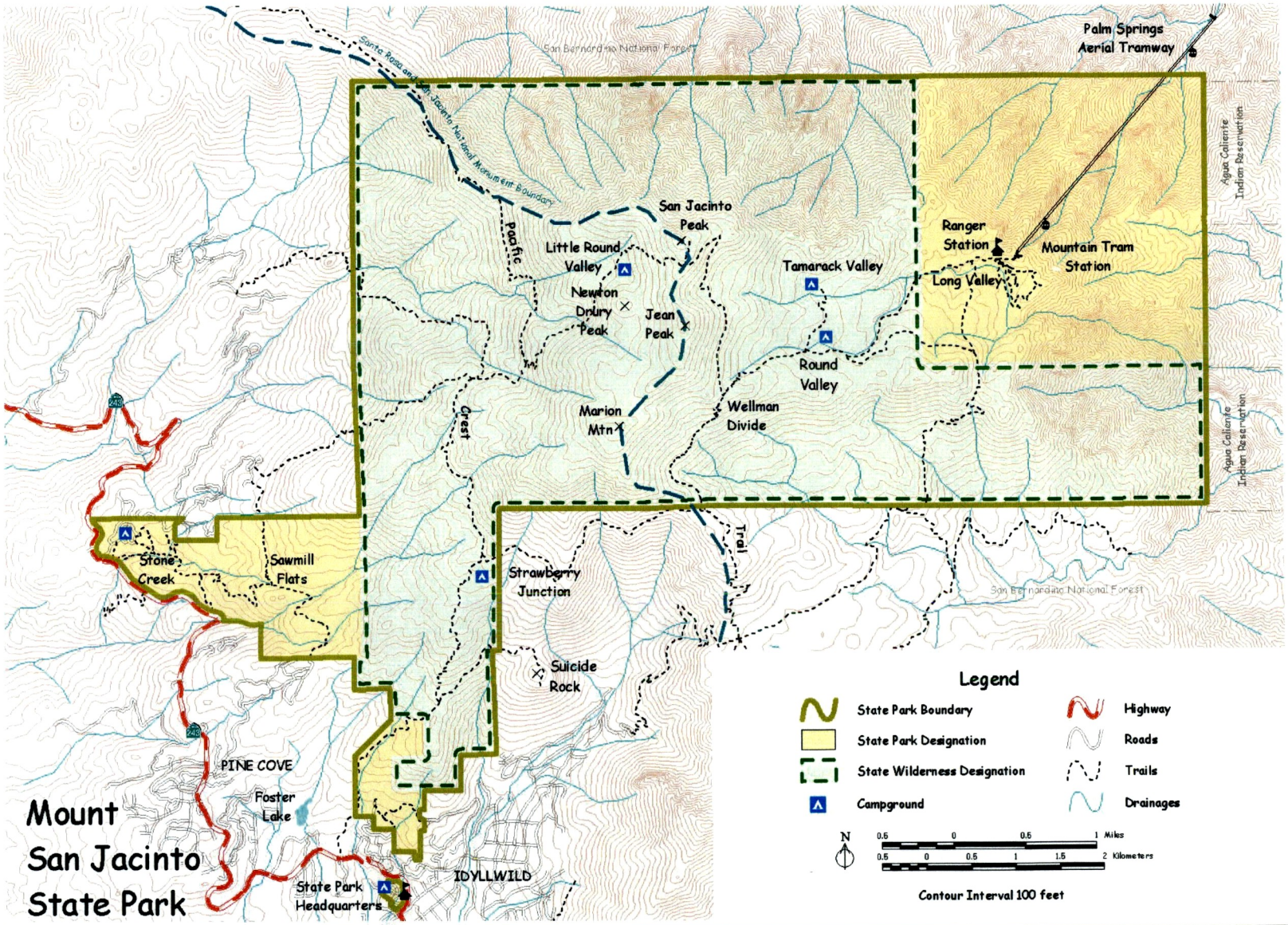
This General Plan serves as a first-tier Environmental Impact Report (EIR) as defined in Section 15166 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines. The analysis of broad environmental matters found within the Environmental Analysis will be a reference for future Environmental Impact Reports or Negative Declarations, which will provide more detailed information and analysis for site-specific developments and projects.

The Winter Park Authority (WPA), the entity responsible for the management and operation of the Palm Springs Aerial Tramway, provided the funding for the Resource Inventory and General Plan for Mount San Jacinto State Park as part of an Operating Agreement with the California State Parks.

Pine Forest along steep escarpments



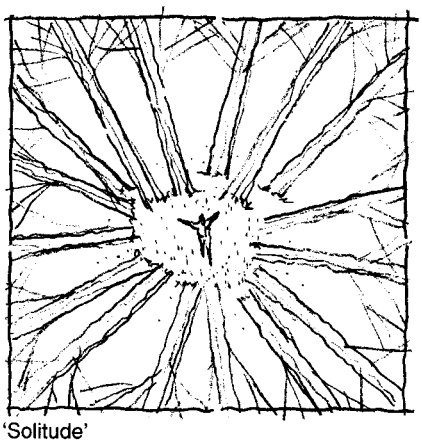
Desert vista atop the eastern ridgeline



Existing Site Characteristics

Figure Two

California Department of Parks and Recreation



'Solitude'

Existing Conditions and Issues 2

EXISTING CONDITIONS AND ISSUES

PARK SUMMARY

The following section summarizes the existing land uses, facilities, and significant natural, cultural, aesthetic, and recreational resources of Mount San Jacinto State Park. The information was adapted from the Resource Inventory that was initiated for the General Plan process and provided the baseline data for developing the 1) management zones and 2) the goals and guidelines found within the Plan Section of this document.

Existing Land Use

Mount San Jacinto State Park is predominately comprised of undeveloped land because of the wilderness classification that is assigned to the majority of the Park land. The wilderness consists of rugged mountain terrain with steep topography and wet valleys and meadows. Land use within the wilderness includes trails and primitive campgrounds.

Land use outside of the wilderness include day and overnight visitor-use opportunities and Park administrative and maintenance operations.

Existing Facilities

Mount San Jacinto State Park has a limited number of developed facilities that are concentrated mainly in the most westerly and easterly sections of the Park. On the west side, near the town of Idyllwild, are the Idyllwild Ranger Station, a maintenance building, and two Park staff residences. Adjacent to the Ranger Station is the Idyllwild Campground consisting of thirty-three developed sites including two with recreational vehicle hook-ups, two restrooms, showers, and a campfire center.

Six miles north of the Idyllwild Ranger Station along Highway 243 is the Stone Creek Campground. This campground has fifty developed sites and three restrooms.

On the east side of the Park, the Palm Springs Aerial Tramway provides access into the Park. The Mountain Station and the upper two-thirds of the tram route lie within the Park. Within the Mountain Station are food services, a gift shop, conference rooms, restrooms, viewing decks, and an interpretive audio/video area. State Park volunteers, under the guidance of California State Parks, operate an information center located in the Mountain Station. North of the station is WPA's potable water storage tank that supplies the water for both the station and two potable water tanks located within Long Valley. Potable water is transported to WPA's water tank by the tram car.

A Ranger Station and a minor maintenance building are located in Long Valley. WPA facilities within the valley included an abandoned mule ride operation with a staging area and corrals, and an Adventure Center that offers snow-oriented equipment rentals. The WPA also operates a downhill snow-tubing/sledding area adjacent to the Adventure Center. Two potable water storage tanks, one fire-fighting water storage tank, and several leach fields are located in the valley. Water for the fire-fighting tank is taken from Long Valley Creek.

Within the wilderness, there is a total of forty-nine primitive campsites located at four locations: Round Valley, Tamarack Valley, Little Round Valley, and Strawberry Junction.

A few historic facilities built by the Civilian Conservation Corp (CCC) that remain in use by Park staff, are located within the Park. These CCC-constructed facilities include the Ranger Station at Round Valley, the maintenance shop and residence number 1 at Idyllwild Campground, and the Peak Shelter.

Other CCC-constructed facilities include the Diablo stoves at the Idyllwild Campground and the finely crafted and constructed trails with high quality rock cribbing.

Adjacent Land Use

The majority of the Park is bordered by the San Bernardino National Forest, most of which is designated as National Wilderness. Lily Rock and Suicide Rock, two popular climbing areas, fall just outside the Park boundaries within USFS lands.

On the west side, the communities of Idyllwild and Pine Cove are situated close to the Park boundaries. These two mountain villages support quaint cabins, inns, shops, and restaurants. Between these two villages along Highway 243, the County of Riverside operates the County Nature Center and a campground facility.

On the east side, adjacent to the Park's steep escarpments facing the desert floor, are square parcels of undeveloped land owned by the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Topography

Generally speaking, the cross section of Mount San Jacinto State Park and the Peninsular Ranges as a whole, has a gentle westerly slope and a steep eastern face. The San Jacinto Mountains are the northern extent of the Peninsular Ranges that stretch south approximately 900 miles into Baja California, Mexico. The western slopes of the San Jacinto Mountains have mature valleys and stepped topography. The eastern slopes have massive rock outcroppings and steep slotted canyons. The elevation range in the San Jacinto Mountains is from 1,840 feet to 10,834 feet. Refer to Figure Three (page 13) for additional topographic information.

Geology

According to D.M. Fraser, the San Jacinto Mountains show evidence of tens of millions of years of geologic activity. These periods include deposition of sediment (Paleozoic or older), granitic intrusion (Jura-Cretaceous) and uplift and faulting (Pleistocene and recent). The recent earthquake activity, during the early 1900s, and geological proximity to the San Andreas Fault would suggest that this region is active.

The bulk of Mount San Jacinto State Park is made up of granitic rock. The outcropping within Mount San Jacinto State Park is a representation of the larger geologic formation known as the California Batholith, which was formed 120 – 90 million years ago in the mid-Cretaceous Period.

Soils

The soils and soil profiles within Mount San Jacinto State Park were identified in a soil survey of the San Bernardino National Forest Area, completed by United States Department of Agriculture and Soil Conservation Service. The soils within Mount San Jacinto State Park consist of shallow to moderately deep and somewhat excessively drained soils that

formed in material from weathered granite. The permeability of the soil ranges from rapid to very rapid and the erosion hazard ranges from moderate to very high.

Hydrology

Mount San Jacinto State Park is an "island" surrounded by desert and intensely urban developed areas. Within the Park, the sensitive wetlands resources are "islands within the island," many plant and wildlife resources depend directly on these relatively uncommon, limited in size, easily-disturbed habitats. An example of this "island within an island" concept is the Long Valley Meadow and Round Valley Meadow. These areas are at different elevations within the same 4,000-acre watershed, with runoff from snowpack melting and infiltrating into the permeable soils, and feeding springs at the lower elevations. Each of these areas have distinct natural features and characteristics, which all depend on the localized and surrounding hydrologic resources.

Major springs in the Park include Deer Springs, Wellman's Cienega, Round Valley Meadows, Little Round Valley Meadows, Strawberry Cienega and Long Valley Meadow. The watersheds and runoff flow into drainage channels such as Snow Creek, Fall Creek, Chino Creek, and Tamarack Creek. On the west side, runoff flows towards the North Fork of the San Jacinto River, Fuller Mill Creek, and Strawberry Creek.

Strawberry Creek

Plant Life

The unique floristic composition that characterizes Mount San Jacinto is tied to the mountain's geological location and striking features. These ranges are isolated not only from surrounding land by the Pacific Ocean and Gulf of California, but also are isolated from other mountains by lower elevation desert regions. Mount San Jacinto exhibits one of the steepest escarpments in North America on its dry northeast side, however, on its west flank it possesses a gentler and densely forested slope. Harsh habitats, like Mount San Jacinto's desert transition and montane areas, favor species that are adapted to dry environments, as well as to intense heat and cold. In general, physiologically stressful environments have been defined by a lower species diversity compared to less stressful environments. However, the mountain's extreme elevation change create vertical habitat zonation for over half a dozen vegetative communities resulting in a diverse suite of native plant species.

Vegetative community, floristic, sensitive plant, and exotic plant surveys were performed during the 1999-2000 field seasons and were generally restricted to areas encountering human impact such as trails, access roads, scenic overlooks, accessible technical climbing locations, and campgrounds. Trails, as well as off-trail areas, were surveyed according to their elevation and habitat potential for sensitive species. Subsections summarizing the 1999-2000 findings for vegetation, floristic, and sensitive and exotic species are discussed below.

Plant Communities

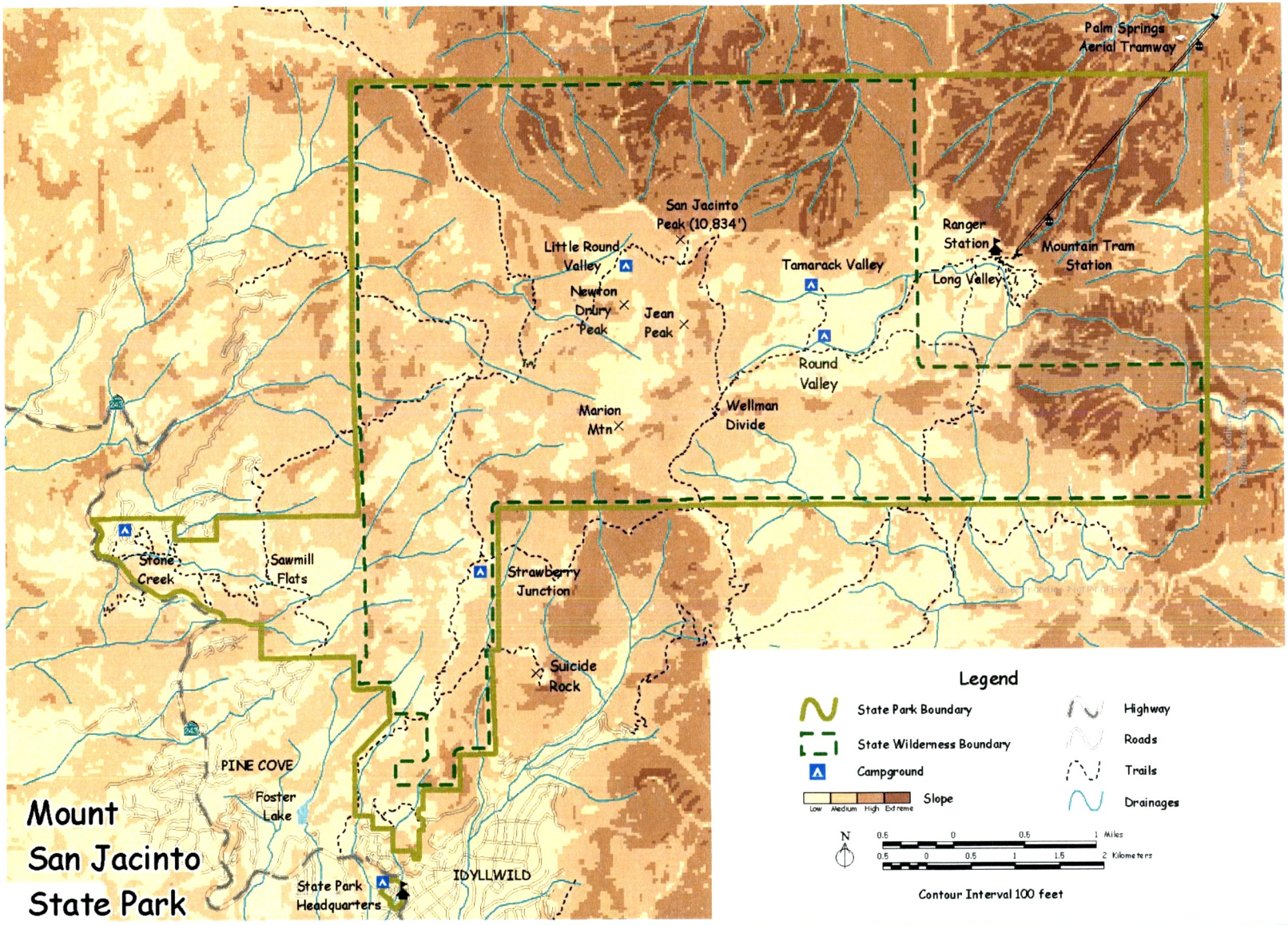
Mount San Jacinto State Park supports fourteen vegetation types as defined in the California Native Plant Society's (CNPS) classification, *A Manual of California Vegetation* (J. Sawyer and Keeler-Wolf, 1995). These vegetation types are listed in Table A. An updated vegetation map was created by State Park Resource Ecologists and GIS (Geographic Information Systems) specialists. Vegetation types were mapped by dominant overstory species and followed the CNPS classification system. Refer to Appendix A and Figure Four (page 17).

California black oak (*Quercus kelloggii*) and singleleaf pinyon pine (*Pinus monophylla*) forests are two vegetation types not currently found within the Park, but are within one air kilometer (0.621 air miles) of its boundary. These vegetation types may develop in the Park if habitat is created via a natural disturbance event or successional process, and may be found within the Park during future surveys.

Of the various vegetation types represented in the Park, two can be considered significant, the montane vernal lake and the montane meadow habitat. The significance of these areas is twofold; the montane meadow habitat and the montane vernal lake are considered wetlands. Wetlands are particularly vulnerable to human impact as people are drawn to meadows and lakes for water and scenic beauty. Exemplifying the montane vernal lake classification is

Table A
Vegetation Types Represented in Mount San Jacinto State Park

CalVeg	Sawyer, Keeler-Wolf Series	Bauder
Grassland	California annual grassland	Montane vernal lake
Desert (petran) chaparral		
Mixed chaparral	Scrub oak-chaparral;whitethorn Mixed scrub oak; Scrub oak birch-leaf mountain mahogany	
Timberland chaparral	Bush chinquapin; Greenleaf manzanita; Mountain whitethorn	
Canyon live oak	Canyon live oak	
Coulter pine forest	Coulter pine	
Jeffery pine forest	Jeffrey pine	
Mixed conifer forest	Mixed conifer	
Subalpine forest	Lodgepole pine	
	Montane meadow	



Slope

Figure Three

Hidden Lake. According to the description by Dr. Ellen Bauder of San Diego State University, the geomorphological and hydrological conditions at Hidden Lake support a unique assemblage of herbaceous vegetation. Yet, Hidden Lake was the only unique vegetative community not defined on the CalVeg map, and is not considered an official community in any current standard California vegetation classification source.

Therefore, Hidden Lake was given the unique habitat description, "vernal lake" for the Mount San Jacinto State Park Resource Inventory.

Montane Meadow Habitat

Montane meadow habitat is characterized by a dense growth of sedges and other perennial wetland herbs, generally from 0.5 to 1 meter (1.6 - 3.28 feet) high with some taller herbs reaching up to 2 meters (6.6 feet) tall. Flowering occurs mainly in the summer with plants dormant in the winter, and from fall through spring at higher elevations. Montane meadows are characterized by fine-textured, saturated soils. Distribution of the meadows is scattered throughout the lower montane forests of the Transverse and Peninsular Ranges ranging in elevation from 1,520 to 2,740 meters (1,520 – 2,740 feet). This habitat is represented within Mount San Jacinto State Park at Round Valley and Long Valley.

Montane Vernal Lake

Montane vernal lake habitat (Hidden Lake), can be characterized as a shallow basin or depressional wetland with an annual cycle of shallow inundation followed by a lengthy period of exposure. Hidden Lake is comprised of an impermeable layer of granitic rocks, which promotes prolonged water retention, and is surrounded by slopes and steep escarpments. Vegetation characteristics include a dominant herb canopy that fluctuates between continuous and

Table B
Sensitive Plant Taxa Known to Occur within Mount San Jacinto State Park

Taxon	Common Name	Listing Status
Erigeron breweri var. *jacinteus*	San Jacinto Mountains daisy	CNPS 4
Heuchera hirsutissima	shaggy haired alumroot	CNPS 1B
Linanthus jaegeri [*Leptodactylon jaegeri*]	San Jacinto prickly phlox	CNPS 1B
Lilium parryi	lemon lily	CNPS 1B
Penstemon clevelandii var. *connatus*	San Jacinto beard tongue	CNPS 4
Potentilla rimicola	cliff cinquefoil	CNPS 1B
Streptanthus bernardinus	Laguna Mountains jewel-flower	CNPS 1B
Trichostema austromontanum ssp. *compactum*	Hidden Lake bluecurls	FT/CNPS 1B

Refer to Appendix A for: Sensitive Plant Species Potentially Occurring at Mount San Jacinto State Park. Refer to Appendix C for Listing Status Code definitions.

intermittent depending on the amount of precipitation and runoff in a given year. Hidden Lake is found at approximately 2650 meters (8,694 feet) in elevation and is the only natural montane vernal lake in Riverside County.

Sensitive Plants

Mount San Jacinto State Park supports approximately eight sensitive taxa which were found during the focused 1999 and 2000 survey efforts (refer to Appendix A). One is listed as federally threatened and the remaining seven taxa are listed in the California Native Plant Society - Inventory of Rare and Endangered Vascular Plants of California (refer to Appendix C for listing definitions).

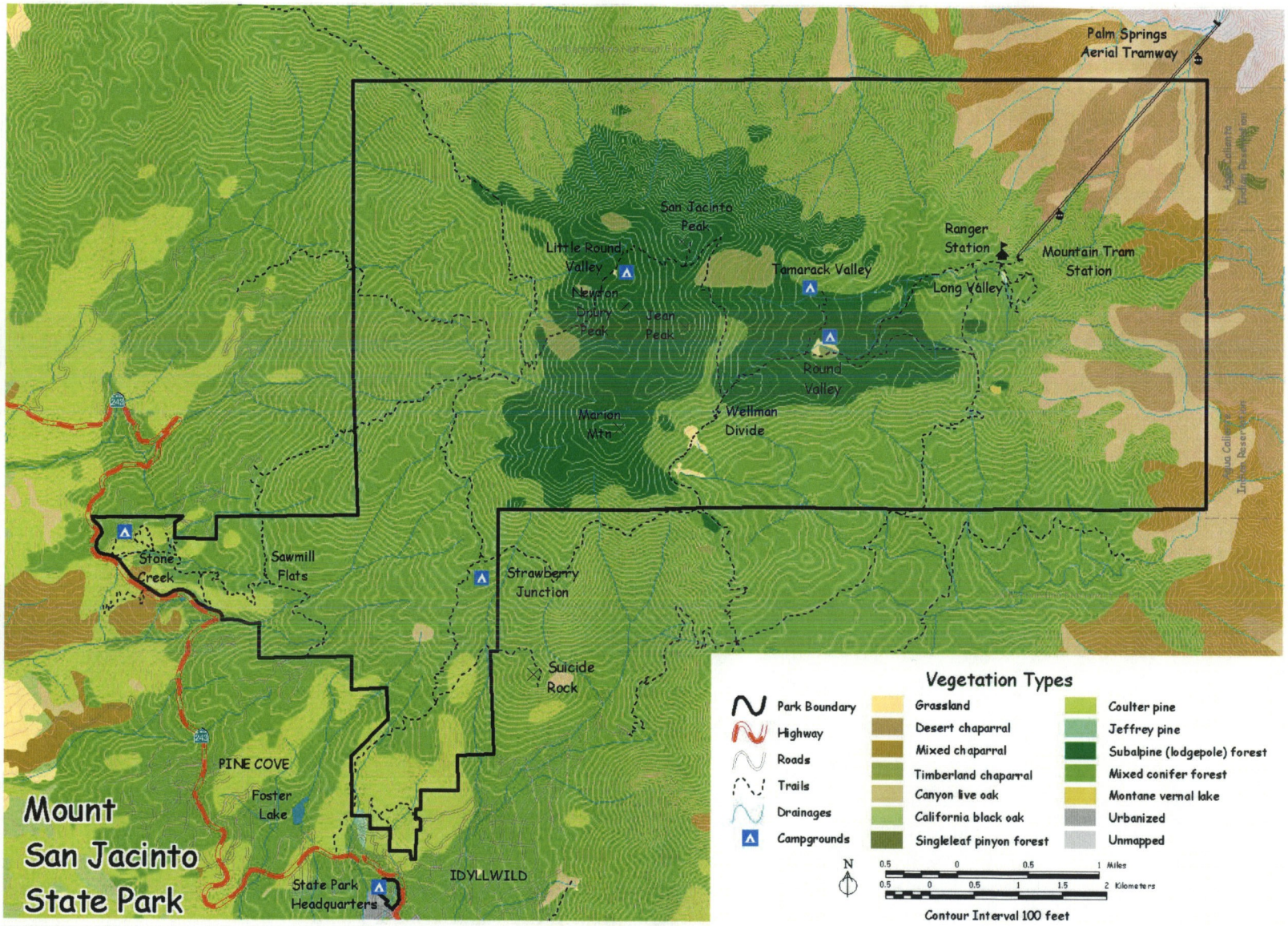
Sixteen additional sensitive plant species have the potential to occur within the Park (refer to Appendix A). Not all of the potential sensitive species were observed during focused survey efforts but many new locations of sensitive species, such as the shaggy haired alumroot (*Heuchera hirsutissima)* and lemon lily (*Lilium parryi*), were documented during the 1999-2000 surveys. In addition, cliff cinquefoil (*Potentilla rimicola*) was recorded for the first time since historical occurrences were discovered over fifty years ago.

Exotic Plants

Two exotic plant species, cheat grass *(Bromus tectorum)* and dandelion *(Taraxacum officinale)*, are known to occur within the Park. Cheat grass invades open, disturbed sites generally less than 2,200 meters (7,218 feet) in elevation and has become widely distributed throughout North America. At Mount San Jacinto State Park, it is most often observed along trails on the west side of the Park, especially in openings in Coulter pine and lower mixed conifer forests. Dandelion was introduced to the United States from Europe and invades grazed areas such as lawns and meadows. It is known to occur from sea level to as high as 3,300 meters (10,827 feet) in elevation and is abundant throughout the California Floristic Province. At the Park, occurrences were observed around the margins of montane meadows, including several mesic areas along Wellman Cienega.

Several other species of brome grasses, such as ripgut grass *(Bromus diandrus)*, were observed near trailheads just outside of the Park boundary on the west side. Species like these near the boundary of the Park do have the potential for spreading into it and becoming invasive. Exotic plant species can be spread through a variety of ways including hiking and equestrian use, both of which are forms of recreation within the Park.

Red Snow Plant (Sarcodes sanguinea)



Vegetation

California Department of Parks and Recreation

Figure Four

Animal Life

There are nine different wildlife habitats represented in the Park, as defined by the California Wildlife Habitat Relationship classification system, and these relate to the vegetation types delineated on the vegetation map, refer to Figure Four (page 17), and as classified per Table C.

A tenth wildlife habitat type, Pinyon-Juniper (PJN) woodland, may occur to a limited extent on the north and east facing escarpments.

In addition, the vegetation-based wildlife habitat classifications denoted in Table C, rocky cliff and talus slope habitats, most prevalent in the northern and eastern portions of the Park, also provide important habitat for species, including bats, swallows, birds of prey, and certain reptiles, such as the granite night lizard (*Xantusia henshawi*). Rocky cliff and talus slope habitat is most prevalent in the northern and eastern portions of the Park. Collectively, these habitats have the potential to support a variety of animal species, including 121 birds, 52 mammals, 22 reptiles, and 7 amphibians. To date, 147 vertebrate species have been confirmed to be present in the Park or use its resources during some portion of the year (refer to the Mount San Jacinto State Park Resource Inventory). Typical wildlife species observed in the conifer forests of the Park include southern sagebrush lizard, large-blotched ensatina salamander, big brown bat, Merriam's chipmunk, western gray squirrel, coyote, mule deer, and a variety of birds, including mountain quail, Stellar's jay, band-tailed pigeon, white-headed woodpecker, Clark's nutcracker, white-breasted nuthatch, mountain chickadee, fox sparrow, and dark-eyed junco. On the desert escarpments reside species such as the golden eagle, white-throated swift, canyon wren, pocketed free-tailed bat, western mastiff bat, desert spiny lizard, granite night lizard, ring-tailed cat, and peninsular bighorn sheep. In the chaparral and pine-oak woodlands of the western slopes one can find the western fence lizard, gopher snake, southern Pacific rattlesnake, western screech owl, southern spotted owl, acorn woodpecker, northern flicker, scrub jay, Bewick's wren, western blue bird, California myotis bat, California ground

Table C
Wildlife/Vegetation Classification

Wildlife Habitat Classification	Vegetation Classification (CalVeg)
Annual Grassland (AGS)	Grassland
Wet Meadow (WET)	Montane vernal lake
Mixed Chaparral (MCH)	Mixed chaparral and Desert chaparral
Montane Chaparral (MCP)	Timberland chaparral
Montane Hardwood (MHW)	Canyon live oak
Montane Hardwood Conifer (MHC)	Coulter pine forest
Jeffrey Pine (JPN)	Jeffrey pine forest
Sierran Mixed Conifer (SMC)	Mixed conifer forest
Subalpine Conifer (SCN)	Subalpine forest

squirrel, striped skunk, raccoon, and bobcat. A complete list of potential vertebrate species is contained in the San Jacinto State Park Resource Inventory. The composition of animals in Mount San Jacinto State Park reflects the Park's location on the highest and most northerly section of the Peninsular Range. It is generally more similar to that of mountain ranges to the south than to the San Bernardino Mountains of the Transverse Range, only a few miles to the north across the San Gorgonio Pass. However, there are a few species that are more typical of boreal regions to the north. It is believed, by some, that the boreal zone was once more extensive within the State and that following the last ice age the zone contracted towards the north, leaving boreal fauna with habitat only on the highest mountains of southern California. Several boreal species currently reach their most southern distributional limit on Mount San Jacinto, including the State-listed threatened southern rubber boa (*Charina bottae*), the lodgepole chipmunk (*Tamias speciosus*) (probably extirpated), and the northern flying squirrel (*Glaucomys sabrinus*), all of which appear to be declining in abundance in the San Jacinto Mountains, possibly in response to continuing climatic changes.

The general isolation of the Mount San Jacinto Mountains has likely resulted in the evolution of a novel and geographically restricted invertebrate fauna, however this fauna is relatively undocumented and little information exists at this time.

Important considerations for the maintenance of faunal diversity and the integrity of the ecological communities at Mount San Jacinto State Park include prevention of the establishment of exotic species such the nest-parasitizing, brown-headed cowbird, protection of cliff-roosting species and their habitat from disturbance, protection of certain species from poaching and illegal collection, and maintenance of wildlife movement corridors between the Park and other natural open space areas within the region.

Sensitive Wildlife

Of the vertebrate species that occur or could occur within the Park, 52 are on the California Department of Fish and Game's list of Special Animals (2000), which means these species are either officially listed or are of concern to regulatory agencies and Park managers. These species include 2 amphibians, 8 reptiles, 18 mammals, and 21 birds (refer to Appendix B). Those that are officially listed by regulatory agencies and confirmed to be present in the Park at this time are the State-listed threatened southern rubber boa (*Charina bottae*), the federally endangered peninsular bighorn sheep (*Ovis canadensis*) and the southern California populations of the federally proposed threaten mountain yellow-legged frog (*Rana mucosa*).

The southern rubber boa generally occurs in moist coniferous forest and woodland habitats at elevations exceeding 5,000 feet. The mountain yellow-legged frog inhabits creeks and streams in ponderosa pine, montane hardwood-conifer, and montane riparian habitats. The Peninsular bighorn sheep is distributed within the Peninsular Range from the San Jacinto Mountains south into Baja California, Mexico. This large, shy ungulate prefers open areas of low-growing vegetation for browsing, and steep, rugged terrain nearby in which to escape, give birth, and rest. It also requires a reliable water source for drinking.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

Prehistoric and Ethnographic Overview

Southern California's earliest inhabitants migrated into the areas surrounding the San Jacinto Mountains over 9,000 years ago. These early peoples have been classified as hunters with an artifact assemblage that includes leaf-shaped or fluted projectile points, chipped-stone crescents, choppers, hammers, flake scrapers, and a scarcity of groundstone or seed-processing tools. Sometime around 8,000 years ago, more groundstone tools began to appear. The change to a diversified subsistence strategy (hunting, fishing, and gathering) occurred around 5,000 years ago, which also marks the beginning of a period of increased rainfall in the deserts, increases in population, and the beginning of specialized and selective exploitation of particular environments.

Mount San Jacinto State Park is within the ethnographic territory of the Cahuilla Indians, whose ancestors entered this region of southern California approximately 3,000 years ago. Ethnographers and linguists have divided the Cahuilla into three groups: the Mountain Cahuilla, the Desert Cahuilla, and the Western or Pass Cahuilla. The Cahuilla range once covered much of Riverside County and parts of San Bernardino, San Diego, and Imperial Counties. This territory was bordered on the north by the Serrano and the Chemehuevi, on the east by the Chemehuevi and Quechan (Yuma), on the south by the Kumeyaay (also called Diegueño, Ipai, Tipai, and Kamia), and on the west by the Gabrielino, Luiseño (Juaneño), and Cupeño.

The prehistoric Cahuilla were hunters and gatherers who lived in permanent villages and seasonally traveled into other portions of their territory to take advantage of various resources. The high mountain region that includes San Jacinto Peak was primarily used for hunting deer and gathering various plants. There are also places in the mountains that the Cahuilla (and other southern California tribes) consider to be sacred, including certain mountain peaks, springs, rock outcroppings, and other natural formations.

European contact with the Cahuilla came in 1774 when the Juan Bautista de Anza expedition passed through their territory. The Cahuilla were probably already aware of the Europeans and had most likely, been affected by European diseases through other American Indian groups. Some of the Cahuilla were baptized at Spanish missions in San Gabriel, San Luis Rey, and San Diego, and by 1819 several asistencias (San Bernardino, Santa Ysabel, and Pala) had been established near Cahuilla territory. The Cahuilla began to adopt some of the Spanish culture including cattle operations, intensive agriculture, wage labor, clothing, language, and religion, but they managed to maintain their political and economic autonomy until the establishment of the reservations, between 1877 and 1891, forced their relocation and took away many of their freedoms.

Archaeological Resources

There have been 42 prehistoric and historic sites and isolated finds recorded within Mount San Jacinto State Park; however, only about five percent of the Park has been surveyed for cultural resources. Detailed descriptions and locational information for the recorded sites are found in the Mount San Jacinto State Park Resources Inventory and other California State Parks files.

Prehistoric Archaeology

Native American sites located within the Park include bedrock mortars, basins, and slicks; rock shelters; lithic chipping waste scatters; and portable groundstone implements. Thirteen of these sites and isolated finds are located on the western side of the Park at lower elevations. Seven sites are located on the eastern side of the Park at elevations ranging from 8,390 to 9,040 feet. Although ethnographic accounts seem to indicate that the Cahuilla mainly used the higher elevations for hunting, the presence of grinding implements (including bedrock slicks and basins, and portable metates) indicates that some sort of processing was also occurring at these higher elevations. Six of these prehistoric sites also include historic components and are included in the counts for both prehistoric and historic sites.

Historic Overview

Acquired in February 1933, during the height of the Great Depression, Mount San Jacinto State Park was the culmination of over forty years of private and public attempts to preserve the San Jacinto Mountain wilderness from uncontrolled exploitation by lumber, game hunting and tourist interests. Through the cooperative efforts of California State Parks, the Federal government, and local officials, as well as concerned citizens, almost all of the San Jacinto high country was protected as wilderness. The oldest State Wilderness administrated by California State Parks, it was dedicated on June 19, 1937. Some of the park earliest improvements dating from this time include a number of surviving trails, bridges, campgrounds, wilderness shelters, and administration buildings. Designed by National Park Service (NPS) specialists and built by Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) construction crews, they made it possible for California State Parks to administer on of the State's most dramatic wilderness areas. Many of these surviving Depression-era facilities continue to serve the park today, serving as historic links to a facility development program that not only improved the Park's accessibility, but, more importantly, provided jobs and hope throughout California during one of the greatest economic crises in the nation's history. Like those found in other state, local, and national Parks, these resources have been recognized through California State Parks' thematic studies as historically significant.

While the Depression-era resources are of primary historical significance, there are other buildings and structures that represent the Park's continued development and improvement in response to the demands placed by increased use after World War II. In addition, the Park contains historical sites and artifacts that are linked to a period of time when the area was exploited by pioneer lumbering operations, livestock raising, as well as health improvement and tourist operations.

Historic Archaeology

There are 19 historic archaeological sites and isolated finds that have been recorded within the Park. These include trash dumps, historic camp remains, structure remains, rock shelters, and isolated artifacts. The trash dumps range from small can dumps to large refuse deposits dating from the late 1800s to the mid 1900s. Of the six historic camp remains, only three have been associated with specific activities: one to the CCC era, and the other two to historic logging. Two rock shelters that have been recorded may have been used both

prehistorically and historically, but there are no specific indications of dates of use.

Historical Resources

The majority of the Park's historical resources are associated with the work of the CCC during the 1930s. Administered by NPS staff and reserve military personnel, the historic resources that the CCC constructed in Mount San Jacinto State Park are part of the more than 1,500 buildings and structures that they erected within the California State Parks system.

Among the historic resources directly associated with the CCC's work in the Park is the Campground and Administrative Center at Idyllwild. Their "Park Rustic" architecture is a key character-defining feature of all the CCC-related buildings and structures located throughout the Park. This style is characterized by environmentally sensitive designs utilizing native materials such as local fieldstones and hand-hewn lumber beams and shingles. Other Park Rustic-inspired, CCC-built buildings include the Round Valley Ranger Station and the Peak Shelter. The Round Valley Ranger Station is a cabin made of upright dressed logs and fieldstone rubble. The Peak Shelter is a small, one-story cabin-like shelter. Its walls are composed of rough courses of cut and dressed granite rock gathered from the surrounding area.

Other historic archaeological resources that exist which may be associated with the CCC-era include: the remains of a small dam made out of native rock and cement, white and brown ceramic insulators and phone lines tied into pine trees, and a small bench made out of native rock and cement with "Hope Seat" etched into the cement.

A potentially historic resource along the upper portion of the Park's eastern escarpment is an approximately two mile section of the controversial Palm Springs Aerial Tramway. At the time of its completion in 1963, the tramway was the longest single-lift overhead suspension tramway in the world. It rises 6,300 feet from the tramway's Palm Spring base to the Mountain Station. The steel towers and overhead cables are key character-defining features of one of the longest passenger aerial tramways in the world. While only 38 years old, the tramway has already established a place for itself in American history and engineering as an important example of the type of engineering and construction practices used during the early 1960s. It is also associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our collective history: the 37-year struggle between the tramway's supporters and opponents.

Cultural Landscapes

In addition to constructing buildings, the CCC crews spent a great deal of their time improving campground facilities and trails throughout the Park. Combined with the historic Park-Rustic-style buildings and native geological and plant features, these stone, wood, and concrete structures combine to form Cultural Landscapes. Consciously designed either by a landscape professional according to design principles or by amateurs following a recognized style or tradition, Mount San Jacinto's CCC-era cultural landscapes also qualify as Historic Designed Landscapes. Adapting the design to complement the site's natural features creates unique spatial arrangements. Examples are the grouping of heavy stone entry piers, a massive stone and concrete vehicle bridge, as well as stone "Diablo" stoves, benches, retaining walls,

culverts, parking space delineators, and wood fences at the Idyllwild Campground and Administrative Center.

The concept of a Historic Designed Landscape can also be seen along the approximately 36 miles of improved trails that are still used today by Park visitors and staff to travel up to higher elevations. From temporary camps at Idyllwild, Tahquitz Meadow, and Round Valley, CCC crews improved the Wellman's Cienega and the Deer Springs trails and repaired other existing trails. They also constructed the San Jacinto Peak Trail to the peak shelter. While the trails have experienced modifications and the addition of connecting trails to accommodate the Pacific Crest Trail, for the most part, the original trail system, as well as the associated CCC-built buildings and other structures, have retained their historic integrity.

Predating the historic CCC-era historic landscapes are cultural landscapes associated with the area's lumber industry. One large site consists of the remains of a historic sawmill and nearby workers' camp. The site includes foundation pads, debris fields, and trash pits.

Collections

Materials excavated from the historic refuse dump in Idyllwild Campground are curated at the Museum of Cultural History at the University of California, Los Angles. A collection of historic artifacts from a rock shelter site on the eastern side of the Park is housed at the Long Valley Ranger Station. Isolated artifacts collected by Park staff including a WWI-era bayonet and scabbard, a turn-of-the-century pair of manacles, a musket ball, and a crucifix are also housed at the Long Valley Ranger Station. A large collection of historic photographs and miscellaneous Park memorabilia is located at the State Park Headquarters in the Idyllwild Campground.

EXISTING PARK INTERPRETATION

The primary areas for engaging the public with park interpretation are in and around the tramway mountain station and in the developed campgrounds on the Idyllwild side of the park. There is very little interpretation within the wilderness.

Visitor Center

The park operates a small visitor center on the lower level of the tramway mountain station. Currently there are exhibits on the plants and animals of the area and some information on the local history. Static exhibits utilizing taxidermy and other natural history items along with a touchscreen interactive computer are the primary interpretive media. An information counter and sales area staffed by park volunteers is located adjacent to the visitor center.

Self-Guided Trails

Within Long Valley there is a very popular self-guided loop nature trail. Along the trail there are ten engraved stone interpretive panels. There is also a short self-guided trail in the Idyllwild campground. Numbered posts along the way correspond to a printed brochure available at the trailhead. Approximately 3,000 visitors use these trails annually.

Wayside Panels

Outdoor interpretive panels are located around the tramway Mountain Station and in Long Valley. The panels interpret views of the mountains and desert floor as well as public safety and natural history themes. A large stone interpretive

panel welcomes visitors to the State Park as they exit the tramway Mountain Station.

Ranger Stations

Bulletin board-type displays within the Long Valley Ranger Station and the park office in Idyllwild interpret wilderness safety. This is a key location to provide this type of information at the points where wilderness permits are issued.

Interpretive Programs

Campfire centers are located within both the Idyllwild and Stone Creek campgrounds and summer campfire programs are presented each weekend. Subjects vary according to the specialties and interests of the staff presenting them. A rustic campfire circle is also located within the wilderness at Round Valley camp. Programs are also provided there on Saturday nights in summer.

Junior Ranger programs for children are also conducted at the Idyllwild campground. Trained volunteers also conduct nature walks in the Long Valley area periodically during the summer. School group programs are conducted in partnership with the WPA. A State Park Interpreter I is assigned to Long Valley to coordinate the school group program as well as to provide support to the park volunteers.

AESTHETIC RESOURCES

Aesthetic resources are abundant throughout Mount San Jacinto State Park. Whether it is the imagery of the sculptural branching pattern of the manzanita dominating the slopes along the west side of the Park or the strong vertical lines of the pine forests reaching upward towards the crisp blue sky, such scenes all contribute to the grandeur and spirit of Mount San Jacinto State Park.

Within the Park one begins unconsciously to use the elements of form, line, texture, and color and combine them with the senses of smell, hearing and touch to experience the wonderful spaces of the Park. From the grand peaks and ridge-lines to the intimate scale of the quiet meadows, the visitors begin to shape their own aesthetic value for the Park.

Walking upon a bed of fallen pine needles while taking in the fresh scent of the pine forest or sitting atop a ridgeline taking in the numerous scenic vistas, are only two of the many characteristics that make Mount San Jacinto State Park a special place.

If a single element stands out, it is the opportunity for solitude. Once you become aware of your presence within the wilderness and recognize the elements that make up the whole, the natural quiet inherent to the wilderness becomes apparent. This intangible and difficult-to-quantify quality is distinctive to Mount San Jacinto State Park because the majority of the Park is designated as a wilderness. And with the Park being in close proximity to highly populated areas, the opportunity for solitude becomes much more welcome.

RECREATIONAL RESOURCES

In the early 1900s, the wilderness drew people to Mount San Jacinto with the commonly held belief that the mountain air was a cure for respiratory illnesses such as tuberculosis. Although the mountain air and wilderness experience fell short of providing a cure, the value of the wilderness became evident, and soon the wilderness experience became the impetus for establishing the area as a State Park.

By the time the area was dedicated as a State Park in 1937, the wilderness experience was well established as the major recreational draw. Today, with its camping facilities and its internal trails connected to adjacent trail systems, Mount San Jacinto State Park offers visitors the opportunity to absorb the same wilderness experiences as the early visitors.

Additional recreational activities and uses include hiking, camping, cross country skiing, snow play, picnicking, bird watching, nature viewing, rock climbing, equestrian use, star gazing, photography, and many more.

A summary of the predominant recreational activities follows:

Trail Use

Approximately thirty-six miles of trails exist within the Park, with two trailheads, one at Long Valley and the other at Stone Creek Campground maintained by California State Parks. Other trailheads and vehicular parking fall outside the Park boundaries. With the majority of the trailheads existing outside the Park boundaries, a regional trail system was created to form a varied user-level system. The Pacific Crest Trail is an example of one of the trails that crosses through the Park.

Trails are open to hiking and stock use except for occasional safety related closures. Motorized vehicles and mountain bikes are not permitted on trails.

Day-use permits are required for entering the wilderness.

Travel experiences on the trails vary based upon the level of the gradient, distance traveled, and the contrasting scenes of the plant communities and geological features.

Camping

On the west side of the Park, approximately 30,000 visitors per year either enter the Park or camp at the two developed campgrounds at Idyllwild and Stone Creek. On the east side, using the Palm Springs Aerial Tramway, approximately 375,000 riders per year take the tram to the Mountain Station, while approximately 20,000 (5%) actually venture into the State Wilderness.

Once in the wilderness, visitors may camp at four designated primitive campgrounds: Round Valley, Tamarack Valley, Little Round Valley and Strawberry Junction. Camping is allowed year around, however, a capacity limit of 400 campers within the wilderness has been established by the California Administrative Code 4608.

Rock Climbing

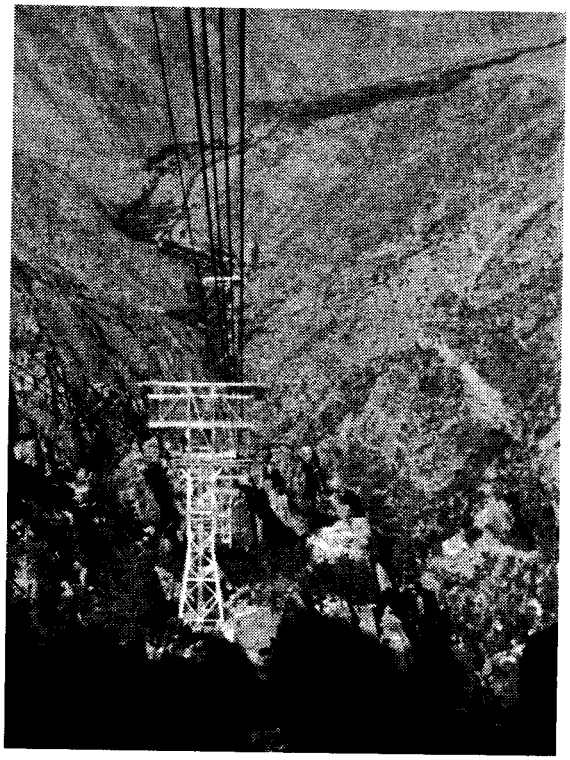
Rock climbing, which is currently allowed throughout the Park, has become more popular in recent years. Most of the traveled routes are situated on the east side of the Park. Climbing areas such as "8802 Dome" and "Yale Peak" have

varied climbing ratings. Climbers are prohibited from using bolts by California Administrative Code 4307. There are no other established climbing policies.

Climbing the north-facing escarpment via Snow Creek, which has an elevation gain of over 9,000 feet within four linear miles, is nationally known among mountaineering enthusiasts. Because it is widely known and a very difficult climb, the State Park established a review process to ensure people are qualified to undertake the climb.

Tram Experience

The Palm Springs Aerial Tramway is partially located within Mount San Jacinto State Park. The tramway takes the visitor from the desert floor (2,643-foot elevation at lower tramway station which lies outside the State Park) into Mount San Jacinto State Park (8,516-foot elevation at the Mountain Station) in a matter of minutes. During the ride, the tramway offers the visitor panoramic views of Palm Springs and the surrounding area, including the majestic mountain ranges of the Park and varied plant communities. Once the visitor arrives at the top of the ridgeline, there are activities available both within the Mountain Station and in Long Valley. Within the station visitors can enjoy the interpretive center and exhibits, dining, and the many views of the mountain ranges and the Palm Springs area. In Long Valley activities include nature study, guided trail tours, cross-country ski/snow shoe rental, and snow tubing.



Tram Towers in Chino Canyon

PLANNING INFLUENCES

Existing State Park System-Wide planning influences that cross Park and regional boundaries may affect planning decisions regarding Mount San Jacinto State Park. The following represent such influential policies, regulations, and plans:

System-Wide Planning Influences

- Public Resources Code (PRC)
- California Code of Regulations (CCR)
- Policies, Rules, Regulations, and Orders of California State Park and Recreation Commission and the California Department of Parks and Recreation
- Planning Handbook (General Plan Improvement Team)
- Department of Parks and Recreation Operation Manual (DOM)
- Department of Parks and Recreation Administration Manual (DAM)
- California State Parks System Plan
- California State Parks Mission Statement
- California State Parks Access to Parks Guidelines
- California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)
- California Wilderness Act of 1974

Resource Management Directive for the Department of Parks and Recreation

These directives amplify the legal codes contained in the Public Resources Code, the California Codes of Regulations and the California State Park and Recreation Commission's Statement of Policy and Rules of Order. The directives pertinent to existing or potential issues at Mount San Jacinto State Park are:

#5 – State Park Development
#9 – Boundaries and Developments in Natural Preserves
#27 – Establishment of Natural Preserves
#28 – Visitor Impacts
#33 – Exotic Plant Introduction
#35 – Wildlife Habitat
#46 – Protection of Scenic and Aesthetic Quality
#52 – Preserve Native California Indian Cultural Resources
#58 – Cultural Resources
#70 – Archaeological Values
#74 – Recreational Resources

Mount San Jacinto State Wilderness Management Plan – 1985

This management plan for the wilderness area within Mount San Jacinto State Park was completed in 1984 and approved by California State Parks in 1985. This plan is being used as a management tool by Park staff in their daily operations of the Park.

As indicated in the plan, periodic updating and reevaluation of the plan should occur at least every ten years. With the development of this General Plan, the Wilderness Management Plan will need to be reevaluated and revised to meet the goals and guidelines established within this General Plan.

Mount San Jacinto State Park Wildfire Management Plan – August 1989

This wildfire management plan, approved in 1989, remains in effect and is followed by the Park staff; however, the District is planning to reevaluate the contents of the plan.

Regional Planning Influences

The following legislation, plans, and programs address regional issues that may affect planning decisions at Mount San Jacinto State Park:

Mount San Jacinto Winter Park Authority Act and the Operating Agreement for Mount San Jacinto Winter Park Authority

In 1945, the Mount San Jacinto Winter Park Authority (WPA) was established by special legislation, Chapter 1040 of the Statues of 1945, for the purpose of constructing, operating, and maintaining a system of transportation which would allow the public access to the Park and for the improvement and operation of the recreational facilities within their jurisdiction. Their jurisdiction includes, but is not limited to, the land they control under the operating agreement with California State Parks.

In 1960, an operating agreement was entered into between the Department of Natural Resources, Division of Beaches and Parks (predecessor of California State Parks) and the WPA. This agreement expired when the bonds to construct the transportation system, which became known as the Palm Springs Aerial Tramway, were paid off in May of 1996.

In November of 1996, a new operating agreement was entered into between the WPA and California State Parks. The operating agreement established the criteria under which the WPA shall operate within Mount San Jacinto State Park. This agreement covers issues such as operations, rates, tolls and charges, rent to California State Parks, construction, and interpretation. In addition, the operating agreement stipulates that no additional permanent development can occur within the Mount San Jacinto State Park until a General Plan is developed for the Park.

Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountain National Monument, United States Forest Service, and the Bureau of Land Management

A major stakeholder surrounding the Park is the USFS which owns and manages over 32,850 acres of wilderness adjacent to Mount San Jacinto State Park. Periodic meetings are held between California State Parks and the USFS, to discuss and coordinate management and visitor-use issues.

Midway through this General Plan process, legislation sponsored by Congresswoman Mary Bono to establish 440 square miles of the mountain range and adjacent desert as a national monument was approved by Congress and President William (Bill) Clinton. The monument boundary includes the Santa Rosa Mountains National Scenic Area, part of the San Bernardino National Forest, parcels of Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians property, and a portion of Mount San Jacinto State Park.

The USFS will jointly manage the National Monument with BLM. An advisory committee comprised of the various area representatives will be assembled to advise the USFS/BLM with respect to the preparation and implementation of the management plan for the area. The legislation states that, "Establishment of the Monument shall not grant the Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary of Agriculture any new authority on or over non-Federal lands not already provided by law."

Pacific Crest Trail

The Pacific Crest Trail (PCT) spans 2,650 miles from Mexico to Canada, crossing three western states. This regional trail system offers users wonderful experiences and views of the mountain ranges, the desert floor, and Mount San Jacinto State Park.

Although the USFS has overall responsibility for the PCT, operation of the system is shared by the USFS, NPS, BLM, Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA), and several provincial, county, and state parks, including California State Parks.

Plans That May Affect Planning Decisions at Mount San Jacinto State Park:

- Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan
- Riverside Extended Mountain Area Plan
- Coachella Valley Association of Governments Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan
- Environmental Assessment Wilderness Management Plan (USFS)
- Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) Regional Comprehensive Plan and Guide
- Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Department of Parks and Recreation and Desert Water Authority, June 1996

Demographics

Aside from a few peak years, Mount San Jacinto State Park attendance records for the past 10 years have remained stable. The annual average for the east (Tramway) side of the Park was 352,247 visitors while on the west (Idyllwild) side, the annual average was 30,135 visitors.

According to a study by the California Department of Finance, Riverside County, experienced a 23.7 percent increase in population between 1990 to 1997. The same study projects Riverside County to increase by 30 percent and exceed 2.5 million people by 2020. The study furthered identified that California's three largest populated counties, Los Angeles, San Diego and Orange are within a two-hour drive of the Park.

Public Involvement

California State Parks initiated the General Plan process for Mount San Jacinto State Park in October 1999, with two public meetings. One meeting was held in Palm Springs, a subsequent meeting was in Idyllwild. The meetings were structured to familiarize the public with the General Plan process, to discuss the resource information, and to start the visioning process. Subsequent public meetings were held in Palm Springs to present alternatives and a preferred plan.

At the meetings, public comments were received by encouraging participants to either voice their opinions or write their comments directly on the presentation material being displayed and upon a "comment wall" (brown paper tacked against the wall). All comments were recorded and reviewed by the General Plan Team.

Preserving the wilderness experience and maintaining recreational opportunities were two reoccurring concerns at the public meetings. Also, trail users with different activity styles, such as joggers,

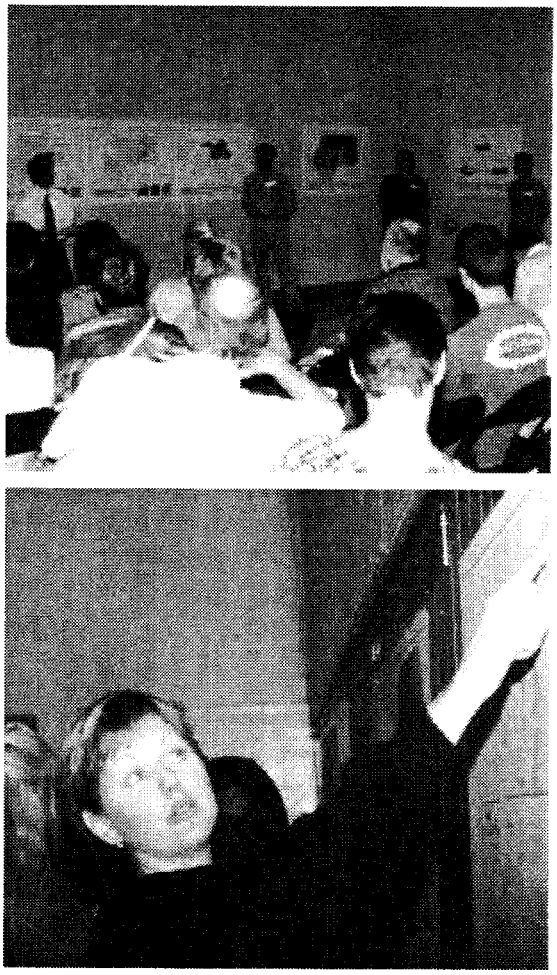
horseback riders, and nature seekers, perceived other trail uses as incompatible with their own use.

Other techniques used to involve the public included: 1) establishing a website that documented the General Plan process and posted pertinent information and meeting announcements; 2) randomly mailing out comment cards to past Park visitors based upon historical records of wilderness permits, camping reservations, and interpretive programs held for schools; 3) having comment cards available at the public meetings, the Tram Station, and the Ranger Stations in Idyllwild and Long Valley; 4) developing the Mount San Jacinto State Park Resource Inventory Overview booklet that contained a summary of the baseline data used during the General Plan process. This booklet was made available to the public at the Park Ranger Stations, the District Headquarters in Borrego Springs, and at the Southern Service Center in San Diego.

In addition to the public meetings, the General Plan Team held focused meetings with various public agencies and groups such as the USFS, BLM, County of Riverside, Native American groups, and the Sierra Club.

Park Support

The Mount San Jacinto Natural History Association (NHA) is a non-profit cooperating association under contract with California State Parks. It was created in May 1979 to support the educational and interpretive programs of Mount San Jacinto State Park. The NHA provides books, maps, and other interpretive publications for sale at the Park headquarters in Idyllwild and the Visitor



Public Meetings

Center at the Mountain Station. The NHA also provides substantial support and assistance to the State Park Volunteer Program.

ISSUES AND ANALYSIS

The Issues and Analysis Section summarizes the important issues derived from the Park Summary (page 9) and from the Planning Influences (page 28). Because all the issues are interdependent, the following key issues will be addressed throughout the Plan Section.

Wilderness Experience

With the majority of the Park classified as State Wilderness, the wilderness experience is a significant and defining feature of Mount San Jacinto State Park. Different people experience the wilderness in different ways. Some may appreciate the solitude while others enjoy the physical challenge and recreational activities associated with the rugged and undeveloped conditions.

However, due to current staffing and funding constraints, interpretive and educational opportunities are being missed, resulting in visitors leaving the Park with little understanding of Mount San Jacinto State Park. Ways to connect visitors to the wilderness experience and educate them about the natural, cultural, and recreational resources within the Park need to be further examined.

Natural, Cultural and Scenic Resources

As the density of the urban areas surrounding the Park increases, the protection of Mount San Jacinto State Park's natural, cultural, and scenic resources becomes more challenging. Balancing visitor use and access with the protection of the Park's resources is essential to the maintenance of the Park's ecosystem as well as the wilderness experience for which Mount San Jacinto State Park has become renown.

The identification of core wildlife habitats within the Park and their linkages to surrounding areas outside the Park's boundary is critical to maintaining the ecosystem. Understanding and preserving these linkages, called biocorridors, will help protect the regional ecosystem.

Visitor Experience and Use

On the east side of the Park, approximately 375,000 riders per year take the Palm Springs Aerial Tramway to the Mountain Station. Most riders confine themselves to the Tram Station with a small but increasing segment of riders managing the steep pedestrian path into Long Valley. This route is a struggle for many visitors especially the elderly and people with disabilities. Approximately 20,000 tram riders venture beyond Long Valley into the State Wilderness.

An opportunity exists to educate these tram riders about Mount San Jacinto State Park. With a natural and significant resource such as Long Valley being in close proximity to the Mountain Station, many city dwellers have an opportunity to experience a sampling of the spectacular natural resources of the Park for the first time.

On the west side of the Park, the level of visitation is influenced by the ease of access from State Highway 243 and the close proximity of the mountain communities of Idyllwild and Pine Cove. Both communities attract an increasing number of tourists and vacationers to the area.

With the visitation levels being influenced by the tramway and the ease of access from State Highway 243, the range of visitor-use opportunities and the establishment of the desired conditions need to be examined. The wilderness

experience and the Park's natural and cultural resources may be threatened by the increase in public use or inappropriate uses.

Camping and Overnight Facilities

Camping occurs at designated primitive campsites within the wilderness while developed campground facilities are situated outside of the wilderness. No other overnight facilities exist except the ranger stations which are occasionally staffed overnight for Park operations and public safety. In the adjoining wilderness areas operated by the USFS, dispersed camping is permitted.

To promote the wilderness experience and to provide visitors the opportunity to experience the wilderness, the issue of camping at designated campgrounds versus the implementation of dispersed camping needs to be examined. Also, overnight use such as tent cabins outside of the wilderness needs to be fully explored to determine its need and appropriateness.

Regional Cooperation/Park Operations

With the passage of legislation to establish the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountain National Monument midway through this General Plan process, the significance of regional agency cooperation was emphasized. The Monument boundary includes a portion of the Park.

Maintaining regional communication and cooperation with other agencies, which may influence the Park's operation and the protection of the Park's natural and cultural resources, will be examined. Inconsistent policies and procedure need

Idyllwild Campground and Park Headquarters

to be identified and may serve as the basis for the establishment of goals/guidelines within this Plan or future management plans.

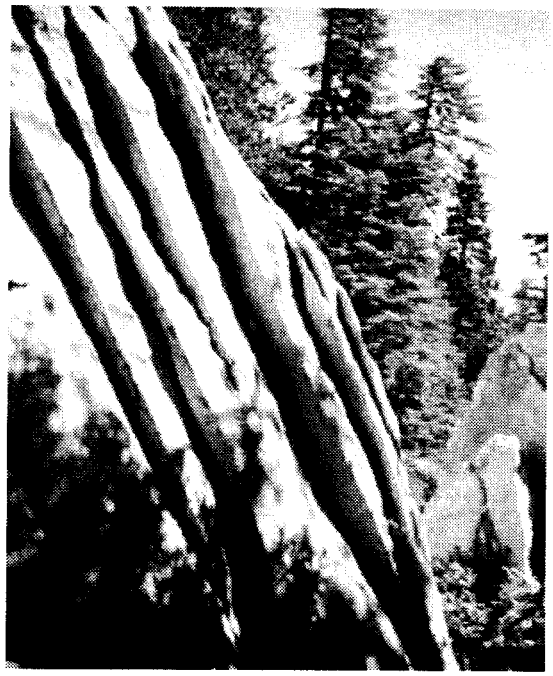
Round Valley Meadow

The Plan 3

THE PLAN

PLAN OVERVIEW

The Plan Section provides the overall and long-range vision for the management of Mount San Jacinto State Park. Through the development of broad goals and guidelines, this Section sets the framework for the desired resource conditions and visitor experiences for the Park. Specific facilities, capacities, or locations are not being provided but rather the general direction for the protection, preservation, restoration, and development of the Park are addressed. This flexibility allows current and future managers to use the latest technology and resource information available to meet current circumstances and visitor-use patterns.



Granitic rock formation

Specific management actions will be determined by future management plans.

Tentatively identified management plans include:

- Long Valley Management Plan
- Wilderness Management Plan (amendment to the 1985 plan)
- Trail Management Plan
- Climbing Management Plan
- Prescribed Fire Management Plan
- Exotic Plant Species Management Plan
- Camping Management Plan
- Stock Use Management Plan
- Cultural Resource Management Plan
- Collections Management Plan

Declaration of Purpose

The Declaration of Purpose defines the purpose of the Park. A declaration of purpose is required by the Public Resource Code, Section 5002.2 (b), "setting forth specific long-range management objectives for the Park consistent with the Park's classification..."

In 1963 a Declaration of Purpose for the Park was created by the Master Plan Review Committee and later approved by the State Park Commission in 1966. Although much of this Declaration remains valid today, a new Declaration has been developed to better convey the Park's vision.

The new Declaration of Purpose will be as follows:

The purpose of Mount San Jacinto State Park is to preserve and protect for the public enjoyment and inspiration, the scenic grandeur of the granite peaks, forest, and mountain meadows of the San Jacinto Mountain range. The sheer escarpment soaring up to one of the highest peaks in Southern California, the panoramic desert views, the wilderness and the opportunity for solitude, will remain available for future generations.

California State Parks will preserve, protect, and interpret natural and cultural resources making these features available to the public for their educational, scientific, and recreational benefits. California State Parks will establish interpretive programs for visitors that instill an appreciation for the Park's special features and maintain cooperative partnerships with adjoining entities to foster mutual conservation and natural resource management goals.

Wilderness Trailhead along Deer Springs Trail

PARKWIDE MANAGEMENT GOALS AND GUIDELINES

This Section represents the broad goals and guidelines developed for managing Parkwide natural and cultural resources, interpretation, visitor uses, and development.

NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

The following sections contain goals and guidelines for managing the significant natural resources of Mount San Jacinto State Park and its wilderness. A few sections have over-arching goals that apply to several sub-sections, such as Vegetation Management includes Native Plant Communities and Sensitive Plant Species. Each sub-section will have guidelines that relate to the over-arching goal and to that specific sub-section.

Essential to the realization of these goals is the periodic assessment of the status and conditions of key resources recognized as requiring protection and management within the Park. California State Parks has recently devised a process to assess the conditions of environmental complexes within units of the State Park System, referred to as the Environmental Condition Assessment (ECA) process under the auspices of the natural resource Inventory, Monitoring, and Assessment Program and the Resource Management Program. In order to assure that natural resource management goals for the Park are reached, this process should be implemented to supplement the base data that was developed prior to this General Plan.

VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

Historical management practices, such as logging and fire suppression, changed the species composition and ecological conditions of healthy native plant communities in Mount San Jacinto State Park. Due to the extensive logging that occurred on the west side of the Park, relatively few mature ponderosa pines remain within the Park boundary. In addition, fire suppression has caused dead wood build-up and the growth of dense woodlands. Human-induced changes that have altered the natural processes of the mountain ecosystem also affect wildlife usage of the mountain habitats. Although most of the vegetation management concerns, goals, and guidelines are the same throughout the entire Park, consideration must be made for those areas that are recognized and/or recorded as cultural landscapes. The vegetation management guidelines for native plant communities and cultural landscapes are discussed within this section to illustrate the differences in management and resource protection.

Goal: Promote and restore the sustainability of natural ecosystem processes by actively managing plant community health and development, while maintaining the protection of cultural landscapes and resources. Efforts also will address the conservation of sensitive and unique species and the control of exotic invasive species.

Native Plant Communities

Fourteen vegetation associations, including montane meadows and several types of chaparral and coniferous forests, characterize Mount San Jacinto State Park. These vegetation communities are essential habitat for many plant and wildlife species.

Guidelines:

- California State Parks will develop scientifically-based vegetation management objectives for issues such as habitat restoration and prescribed fire management.

- When appropriate, California State Parks will seek partnerships with neighboring jurisdictions to implement a congruent plan for restoring and preserving forest health.

Cultural Landscapes

Cultural landscapes are geographic areas containing a variety of natural and historic or ethnographic features. Cultural landscapes, like historic Sawmill Flats on the west side of Mount San Jacinto State Park, require multi-disciplinary management to preserve their integrity. As previously mentioned, cultural landscape is being noted within this section and under a separate section to illustrate the differences in management and resource protection.

Guidelines:

- California State Parks will preserve cultural landscapes, while undertaking goals to restore natural processes to the Mount San Jacinto ecosystem. Environmental regulatory procedures used to evaluate natural resource management techniques (e.g., prescribed fire) prior to program implementation, will seek to avoid or minimize negative impacts to cultural resources.

- California State Parks staff, including Park operations specialists, ecologists, and cultural specialists, will work cooperatively to manage the Park's cultural landscapes.

- California State Parks will provide interpretation for visitors of the Park's cultural landscapes that addresses the interrelationship of the associated natural and cultural features.

Sensitive Plant Species

The San Jacinto Mountains are bordered by the desert, and farther out on either side by water (i.e., the Pacific Ocean and the Salton Sea). The mountains are also adjacent to increasing urbanization. Many plants that live in the San Jacinto Mountains are specifically adapted to these mountains and the isolating effects of deserts, water, and urban development present barriers to the movement of plant seeds, bulbs, and plantlets. Because of their limited distribution, environmental requirements, and often because of human impacts, these species become rare, threatened, or endangered.

Guidelines:

- California State Parks will protect sensitive plant species, including those that are legally listed under Federal and State laws as rare, threatened, or endangered, or that are species of concern. In addition, California State Parks will protect those species that meet the legal requirements for listing, but are not listed (i.e., California Native Plant Society List 1B taxa and the Federal candidates for listing), and those considered locally sensitive or endemic to the area. Protection may include, but is not limited to, habitat preservation, seed banking, restoration/enhancement, and visitor education.

- A scientifically sound protocol for sensitive plant surveys will be developed and implemented to find previously

unknown sensitive plant populations within the Park. In addition, sensitive plant surveys will be conducted as part of the environmental review process for future projects. Avoiding or minimizing cumulative negative effects on sensitive plant populations and their habitats will be a priority.

- Regular monitoring of known populations of sensitive species will be conducted to track population trends and health through time. Propagation and reintroduction programs may be considered with the consultation and assistance of research institutions and other government agencies. Projects may require the formation of inter-agency partnerships to plan and implement conservation actions.

- California State Parks will use scientific information to determine how sensitive species tolerate various disturbances and use this information to develop sensitive species management plans. Sensitive plants, like Hidden Lake bluecurls (*Trichostema austromontanum* ssp. *compactum*), that exhibit extreme rarity in the Park and region, will be management priorities.

- California State Parks will avoid or minimize human activities that cause imbalances in the natural ecological system. Alternatively, California State Parks will conduct management activities, such as habitat restoration, that foster ecological balance.

Exotic Plant Control

Generally an invasive exotic plant is a species that is not known to have occurred previously in an area. Invasive exotics pose a threat to native species and usually proliferate in the absence of natural ecological processes, often outcompeting native plants for valuable resources.

The San Jacinto Mountains are known to harbor exotic plant taxa, and some have altered the ecological processes characteristic of that region. Exotic plant taxa can be spread by a variety of users and activities such as on the fur of pack, domestic, and native animals known from the region, as well as in their solid waste, if ingested. Measures can be taken to minimize this and can result in a significant reduction in the introduction and spread of exotic species throughout the Park.

Guidelines:

- California State Parks will develop an exotic plant species management plan and will be vigilant about identifying, monitoring, and controlling exotic plant infestations that pose a threat to native habitat. Monitoring and control efforts may require cooperative work with neighboring landowners, including government agencies like the USFS.

- This management plan will address the ability of horses and other pack animals to carry and spread exotic plant seed throughout the Park. The Park, therefore, will adopt a policy congruent with Federal agencies, like USFS and NPS, to evaluate regulations to reduce exotic introduction. Removal of solid waste should be further examined within this management plan for their impact on the spread of exotic plant taxa.

- California State Parks will develop interpretation for Park visitors covering how exotics, like cheat

grass, have altered the San Jacinto Mountains landscape, ecology, and fire regime.

WILDLIFE

The extreme elevation changes that characterize the Park, support various habitat zones ranging from about 3,000 to over 10,000 feet. Numerous wildlife species, including amphibians, reptiles, birds, and mammals, take advantage of this zonation by making their homes in association with particular plant communities, geology, or hydrological characteristics.

Within native ecosystems, the presence of people and associated food, trash, and development can sustain and enhance populations of some species at the expense of other species, thus upsetting the natural ecological balance. Within Mount San Jacinto State Park, this is most likely to occur in the vicinity of campgrounds and the Long Valley area.

Goal: Perpetuate wildlife assemblages by protecting, restoring, and interpreting the native terrestrial and aquatic animals in Mount San Jacinto State Park.

Guidelines:

- California State Parks will avoid or minimize human activities that cause imbalances in natural ecological dynamics. Alternatively, California State Parks will conduct management activities, such as habitat restoration, that foster ecological balance.

- California State Parks will use sound methods of resource management to evaluate the need for individual animal or population regulation. Necessary to the regulation process is the development of specific management plans or programs that incorporate habitat modification and visitor education as the first means of population regulation. For example, California State Parks can prevent the development of "nuisance behavior" by providing wildlife-proof garbage receptacles in campgrounds, and educating visitors about not feeding wildlife, and the proper storage of camp food. Direct regulation will be carried out in accordance with the California State Parks Resource Management Directives. Population regulation activities will be subject to environmental review, and disturbance to non-target native species and other features will be avoided or minimized.

- Indicator species of ecosystem health will be monitored (refer to Biocorridor, page 46).

Sensitive Animal Species

The San Jacinto Mountains are like an "island" bordered by desert and urbanization. The resident animals, as well as local plant life, experience the isolating effects of these barriers because most cannot move easily between Southern California mountain ranges. This biogeographical isolation, therefore, predisposes some local populations to survival pressure, making them more sensitive to decline. Cliff-dwelling animals, like the Peninsular bighorn sheep and golden eagle, that occur on the north and east escarpments of Mount San Jacinto are of concern. The Peninsular bighorn have declined dramatically in the San Jacinto area in the last 30 years. Because pristine cliff habitat in Southern California faces continued human encroachment, the Mount San Jacinto escarpment is integral

to cliff-dwelling species' survival in the region.

Goal: Protect all sensitive wildlife species occurring in the Park. Sensitive wildlife species include those legally listed under Federal and State law as threatened or endangered, those that are species of concern, and those considered locally sensitive or endemic to the area.

Guidelines:

- Regular monitoring of sensitive species will be conducted to track the health and sustainability of sensitive animal populations in the Park. Breeding and reintroduction programs may be considered with the consultation and assistance of other federal and state agencies. Projects may require the formation of inter-agency partnerships to plan and implement conservation actions.

- California State Parks will place emphasis on the protection of cliff-dwelling animals and the conservation of their habitat. Focused surveys, reliable scientific methodologies, and interagency cooperation will be used to develop an appropriate long-term monitoring program. This data will aid in the development of a management plan that defines requirements of, and threats to, cliff-dwelling species. Regulation, interpretation, and California State Parks visitor cooperative partnerships will manage human activities that threaten the fitness or health of a cliff-dwelling animal.

- Reintroduction of species that are no longer occurring in the localized region, such as the California condor, will be considered if historical or recent prehistorical evidence exists to substantiate reintroduction and if appropriate habitat currently exists within and neighboring the Park to support a viable population.

Exotic Animal Control

Non-native animal species have been shown to exert pressure on native species through predation and out-competing them for resources. Although this is not currently a major issue at the Park, it may become more problematic as development in the area increases. For example, domesticated or feral cats and the livestock-following, non-native cowbird are generally known to have a negative effect on native bird populations.

Guidelines:

- California State Parks will work to control exotic animals that are found to upset natural ecological dynamics of native species.

- Regular monitoring of exotic species will be conducted to track the spread of ecologically damaging organisms. This may require cooperative work with neighboring landowners, including government agencies like the USFS.

HYDROLOGY

Within the Park, sensitive wetland resources are limited in size. They are easily-disturbed habitats upon which many other plant and wildlife resources directly depend. Commensurate with the degree to which society sought to protect California's remnant wetlands and surface water quality, so too should the sensitive wetland and hydrologic resources be recognized as requiring the highest appropriate level of protection.

Goal: Protect, enhance, and restore the Park's wetlands and hydrologic resources.

Guidelines:

- Initiate regular monitoring programs including detailed surveying of thalweg elevation, headcut location, and monitoring of rate of headcut progression.

- Examine methods to deter concentrated foot and stock traffic within the margin of the meadows in order to prevent additional soil compaction, and trampling of sensitive wetland plants. Also facilitate restoration programs of denuded areas.

- Minimize impacts from routine maintenance to stream and meadows, (i.e. avoid removal of fallen logs from the meadow margins or stream).

- Examine strategies for periodically removing or repressing conifer encroachment into the meadow.

- Address strategies for stabilization and topographic restoration of severely eroded features and areas.

- Examine waste management conditions such as existing leech fields for their impact on water quality.

FIRE MANAGEMENT

Until Europeans settled the area, fire ignited by lightning and Native Americans was a major force that shaped and maintained the health of plant communities. Before suppression, fire cycles promoted regeneration by opening the forest canopy and reducing plant competition, burning off duff and litter to expose soil for seed germination, reducing insect pests and disease that kill woody plants, and aiding in nutrient recycling. Today, prescribed fires are used as a management tool to eliminate exotic weeds from native habitats, promote the growth of native plant species, and enhance wildlife habitat.

Goal: Promote ecosystem health with the use of prescribed fire while protecting people, infrastructure development, and resources from catastrophic wildfire.

Prescribed Fire

Prescribed burning is the planned application of fire implemented under safe weather conditions to restore a healthy forest ecosystem and reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfires. By reintroducing fire cycles to the ecosystem, healthy landscape-level ecological dynamics are restored.

Guidelines:

- California State Parks will form cooperative partnerships with State and Federal agencies, and research institutions/organizations to develop scientifically sound objectives and methodology for prescribed burning.

- California State Parks will communicate their prescribed fire methodology and intention to conduct burns to the public. In addition, fire's role in maintaining a healthy ecosystem will be interpreted for Park visitors.

- Damage to sensitive resources will be avoided or minimized before, during, and following prescribed burns.

Wildfire

In general, fire suppression has caused the development of dense woodlands with much downed wood, heavy layers of litter and duff, higher numbers of standing dead and diseased trees, and, in some situations, the unchecked invasion of exotic weeds. Today, wildfires fed by these high fuel loads and under dry, hot, or windy conditions are a threat to development and human safety. Wildfire management is essential for human safety and the minimization of catastrophic fire damage to vegetation, wildlife, and cultural resources in Mount San Jacinto State Park. However, some wildfire management activities during suppression and post-fire clean-up may also cause damage to Park resources.

Guidelines:

- California State Parks will take educational and preventative measures with the public to minimize the risk of wildfires originating within the Park and wilderness.
- California State Parks will work with other appropriate government agencies to implement wildfire management in the Park. Pertinent issues include methods of evacuation and infrastructure protection, modified fire suppression, and post-fire clean up and restoration procedures to meet Park management goals and sensitive resource protection.
- Cooperating with city and county governments and local landowners, California State Parks will participate in municipal planning, zoning, and permitting for issues like development and vegetation, watershed, and wildfire management.
- In the event of a wildfire, appropriate suppression methods appropriate to the different vegetative communities and terrain will be implemented.
- Fire fighting crews, equipment, and chemicals can inadvertently damage natural and cultural resources during and following fire fighting activities. Damage to sensitive resources will be avoided or minimized while implementing wildfire management.
- If consistent with California State Parks Resource Management Directives and policies post-fire restoration of the Park's natural resources will be considered in order to minimize further damage to the mountain's watersheds and ecosystem. For example, seeding with non-native species is not allowed.

BUFFERS

Buffers, such as dedicated municipal open space, are relatively low-use areas between adjacent development and state Park boundaries. Buffers separate conflicting land uses, like residential and Park lands, and protect natural habitats from destructive impacts.

Some types of land use outside of the Mount San Jacinto State Park boundaries cause significant negative impacts to Park land. Impacts may include exotic species invasion; the spread of wildfire; air, soil, and water pollution; noise pollution; predation and competition for resources by domestic pets; and the loss of habitat for plants and animals that spread outside the boundaries of the Park.

Goal: As regional development pressures increase, establish, maintain, and protect buffers adjacent to Mount San Jacinto State Park.

Guidelines:

- California State Parks will plan with neighboring land and business owners, communities, and city, county, state, and Federal agencies to develop and maintain a buffer system along the outer edge of Park boundaries.

- In addition, California State Parks will work with these constituents to minimize threats of wildfire in the community and maximize the value of local pollution control and education programs.

- California State Parks will form partnerships with neighbors, public agencies, and private businesses to plant native or non-invasive horticultural plant species in the vicinity of the Park.

BIOCORRIDORS

Biocorridors or linkages are interconnected tracts of land characterized by significant natural resource value through which native species can disperse. Facilitating the movement of plants and animals within the Park and throughout the region outside of the Park is imperative to preserving natural ecosystem dynamics and regional bio-diversity. The Mount San Jacinto Wilderness and portions of the State Park function as part of a regional bio-corridor complex.

Goal: Reflective of natural ecosystem dynamics, enhance or maintain the dispersal and movement of native plants and animals through the Park and the region.

Guidelines:

- California State Parks will maintain high standards for ecosystem health and bio-diversity by protecting plant and animal habitat and dispersal corridors in the Park.

- California State Parks will coordinate with local communities, county, state, and Federal agencies, research institutions, and relevant organizations to develop an ecologically sound regional bio-corridor system. In addition, California State Parks will discourage urban, suburban, and infrastructure planning that does not consider, through avoidance or mitigation, the degradation and fragmentation of habitat.

- California State Parks will actively work with or coordinate with other agencies and property owners to acquire or secure land acquisitions to ensure key biocorrdiors are preserve or enhanced.

- California State Parks promotes natural resource preservation by recognizing the importance of sustainable species populations and their genetic diversity. Inventory and monitoring of the Park's natural resources and human impacts will be done at regular intervals to assess and document the health of species that rely on large areas to live, hunt, and disperse. Furthermore, California State Parks will participate with government agencies and research institutions in regional resource monitoring.

- The ecological significance of biocorridors, with emphasis on Mount San Jacinto State Park and the surrounding region, will be interpreted for Park visitors.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

Archaeological Sites (Prehistoric and Historic)

Mount San Jacinto State Park includes significant archaeological resources. Ethnographic accounts and the prehistoric sites located in the Park and the surrounding mountains indicate that the Cahuilla and their ancestors used the area for hunting and gathering. There are also sites of special cultural and religious significance located within the Park (see Ethnographic Sites below). Several historical archaeological sites are also located within the Park and reflect the various historical land uses of the San Jacinto Mountains (also see Historic Resources below).

Goal: Identify, protect and interpret the archaeological resources at Mount San Jacinto State Park.

Guidelines:

- Prepare a Cultural Resources Management Plan for the Park that includes measures for protection, preservation, and interpretation of cultural resources.

- Develop an inventorying and monitoring program that provides for on-going survey, recordation, mapping, evaluation, and data management for the Park's cultural resources. Monitoring will include periodic examinations of known sites by a qualified state archeologist or an archeological consultant under the guidance of California State Parks. A report of findings consisting of updated site forms, condition assessment forms, photographs, etc. will be prepared and submitted to document observe changes.

- Cultural resources surveys will be completed at proposed project sites prior to any facility development or undertaking that has the potential to affect archaeological resources. Additional archaeological investigations such as archival research, detailed site recording and mapping, and subsurface testing will occur at any project or undertaking that will disturb a known or potential cultural site. Project design modifications and/or monitoring will be used to further minimize or prevent significant impacts to archaeological resources.

- Site studies will be undertaken to determine if onsite interpretation (signs, tours, education programs, etc.) should be developed for archaeological features that are currently in or adjacent to trails and campgrounds.

- Previously recorded site locations will be made known to patrol rangers so that they can more closely monitor their conditions and watch for deterioration and/or vandalism.

Ethnographic Sites

Ethnographic accounts indicate that there were many places the Cahuilla considered to be of special cultural or religious significance, including mountains, springs, rock outcroppings, and other natural formations. For example, San Jacinto Peak was considered to be the home of *Tahquitz*, a supernatural being associated with earthquakes, meteors, thunder, and lighting.

Goal: Identify, protect, and interpret the ethnographic uses of and resources in

Mount San Jacinto State Park and Wilderness.

Guidelines:

- Work with local Native American groups, historical accounts, and ethnographic records to identify traditional cultural properties including sites of special cultural and/or religious significance that are located within the Park.

- With the approval of the Cahuilla, record the traditional cultural properties that are within the Park.

- In conjunction with the Cahuilla, develop interpretation and education programs for the Park that highlight the culture of the Cahuilla, their continuing presence, and their long-time use of Mount San Jacinto State Park and its resources.

Historic Resources (Structures, Sites, and Landscapes)

Mount San Jacinto State Park includes a number of locally and regionally significant historic resources including buildings, structures, features, historic archaeological sites, and cultural landscapes. Established in 1933 and dedicated in 1937, Mount San Jacinto State Park was the first California State Park specially "set aside as a perpetual wilderness area" (Robinson & Risher, 212). The wilderness has been shaped and modified by various historical and prehistorical activities. Scattered throughout the Park are the remains of lumber mills, logging camps, and other evidence of logging activities; buildings, structures, campgrounds, and trails constructed or improved by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC); and the remains of historic campsites, cabins, and features representative of other historical activities.

Goal: Protect and interpret the significant historical resources in Mount San Jacinto State Park.

Guidelines:

- Historical features and sites identified through cultural resource survey will be evaluated prior to any development or removal. Additional studies such as archival research, detailed site/structure recording and mapping, and subsurface testing will occur at any project or undertaking that will disturb a known or potential historical site, feature, or landscape.

- Evaluate the need for/appropriateness of interpretive signage for specific historical resources without compromising the wilderness experience.

Historic Logging Landscape – Sawmill Flats / Logging Camp Meadow Area

One of the most significant historical impacts to the natural landscape was the historic period logging on the western side of Mount San Jacinto. Two logging camps and at least one lumber mill site have been identified in the western portion of the Park and much of the landscape still shows the scars of logging: cut tree stumps, logging roads and trails, abandoned machinery, and artifacts.

Goal: Preserve and interpret the regionally unique and significant historical logging sites and features within the Sawmill Flats and Logging Camp Meadow landscape.

Guidelines:

- Further study will be undertaken to better understand these sites and their place in the logging history of the area. A site management plan will be prepared to establish resource protection and operational goals, identify threats (vandalism, trail use, etc.), and to establish an interpretation program for these sites and the surrounding landscape.

Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) Structures and Features

The CCC was instrumental in the development of the Park including construction of campgrounds, shelters, and trail systems. The CCC program was an important part of the history of California and the nation during the Great Depression (1930-1940).

Goal: Preserve, interpret, and restore CCC sites, structures, and features within the Park, while providing for visitor use and California State Park administrative and/or maintenance use.

Guidelines:

- All historic CCC-built structures will be preserved, protected, and restored through implementation of applicable California State Park policies and the application of professional standards.

- CCC-constructed buildings and structures may be utilized for appropriate operational and interpretive functions following California State Park policies and the *Secretary of the Interior Standards for Treatment of Historic Properties.*

- Further study will be undertaken to better understand the CCC's contributions to the Park and to develop management goals and an interpretive plan for the CCC era structures and features.

Building remnants at Sawmill Flats

INTERPRETATION

Interpretation helps connect visitors to Mount San Jacinto State Park's significant natural, cultural, and recreational resources. Themes guide the interpretation of these resources by defining a point of view.

Goal: Expand the visitor's awareness, understanding and appreciation of the Park's significant natural, cultural, and aesthetic resources.

Unifying Theme: Mount San Jacinto State Park is unique because of its wilderness designation — an area "where the earth and its community of life are untrammeled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain."

Primary Theme 1: Because Mount San Jacinto State Park is a wilderness, people need to treat it with respect.

Supporting Theme 1A: Many characteristics make it Wilderness.
Supporting Theme 1B: Wilderness can be dangerous, but it doesn't have to be.
Supporting Theme 1C: Practicing wilderness etiquette preserves the experience for everyone.
Supporting Theme 1D: Wilderness Recreation offers many unique opportunities.

Primary Theme 2: Mount San Jacinto State Park wilderness protects many unique and fragile habitats.

Supporting Theme 2A: The high mountain wilderness of Mount San Jacinto State Park shelters some very special plants.

- Topic 2A1: Subalpine Forests (fire ecology)
- Topic 2A2: Montane Meadows (hydrology – nature's plumbing)
- Topic 2A3: Life on the Edge (at timberline)
- Topic 2A4: Riparian / Wetland Areas (most threatened)
- Topic 2A5: Chaparral (fire ecology)
- Topic 2A6: The threat of exotic weeds

Supporting Theme 2B: Mount San Jacinto provides critical habitat for some fascinating wildlife.

- Topic 2B1: The diversity of wildlife
- Topic 2B2: Human / Wildlife interaction (feeding, habituation)
- Topic 2B3: Linking - Biocorridors
- Topic 2B4: Microhabitats (Cliffs, vernal pools, etc.)

Supporting Theme 2C: Mount San Jacinto is unique because of its "Island Biogeography."

Secondary Theme 1: Mount San Jacinto State Park lands show the marks of past people and their cultures. In some areas a cultural landscape shows the interrelationship between natural and cultural features.

Supporting Theme 1A: The prehistoric Cahuilla people used these mountains for hunting and gathering as well as for sacred purposes.
Supporting Theme 1B: Historic logging partially shaped this landscape.
Supporting Theme 1C: Cattlemen and sheepherders also left their mark.
Supporting Theme 1D: The CCC developed the Park we use today.
Supporting Theme 1E: A tramway comes into the wilderness.

Secondary Theme 2: Mount San Jacinto and the surrounding Peninsular Range were shaped by powerful geological processes.

Collections

California State Parks acquires and maintains collections for several reasons including preservation of elements of the natural and cultural environment of the Park; documentation of the people, events, and cultural or natural features that are central to the Park's purpose; scientific research values; and support of interpretive programs. Numerous artifacts, records, photographs, and other items of cultural or natural significance have been collected or have accumulated over the years and are currently stored within California State Parks facilities at Mount San Jacinto State Park. Many of these collections do not have any specific storage location and no special preservation measures have been taken, thus putting these resources in danger of deterioration and/or loss.

Goal: Provide for collections of natural and cultural artifacts from Mount San Jacinto State Park that support the Declaration of Purpose and California State Parks' Mission.

Guidelines:

- A Scope of Collections Statement was prepared for Mount San Jacinto State Park in 1998 and updated in 2001. The following summarizes the management objectives and guidelines for collections:

  Natural and cultural collections at Mount San Jacinto State Park should have specific associations to the natural or cultural history of the Park, intrinsic educational or scientific value, and/or provide support for interpretive themes and programs. Geological and paleontological materials, natural history specimens of Park flora and fauna, archaeological materials, and historical objects such as furnishings, architectural elements, equipment, or personal items associated with Mount San Jacinto State Park or important people or organizations connected with the Park, are all potential collection items. Historical collections may include items of the pre-Park logging and ranching eras, Civilian Conservation Corps era, early recreation era, and wilderness development era.

- Natural, geological, and cultural materials should only be collected in a manner consistent with the guidelines contained in the Department Operations Manual, The Cultural Resources Management Handbook, and the updated Mount San Jacinto State Park Scope of Collections Statement. Collection practices should also comply with professional standards, and applicable State and Federal laws, authorizations, and regulations.

Goal: Provide for adequate preservation and curation of artifacts, specimens, records, photographs, and other collected items of natural or cultural significance.

Guideline:

- A collections inventory system and management plan will be developed for Mount San Jacinto State Park, following the policies outlined in the Cultural Resource Management Handbook and the Department Operations Manual (DOM) Chapter 20: Museum Collections Management.

- California State Parks will establish safe and secure spaces for curation and/or display of Park collections based on professional preservation guidelines. Appropriate locations for

such curation facilities should be included in the development of a new visitor center or other similar facilities.

- Those collections not able to be curated at the Park or district should be sent to a professional and reasonably accessible repository. It is preferable to have the collections curated as close to their source of origin as possible so that they are more easily accessible by local researchers. Therefore, it is not recommended that they be sent to the State Parks curation facilities in Sacramento unless no other suitable location can be found.

Historic collections

VISITOR USE AND DEVELOPMENT

RECREATIONAL USES

Traditionally, the recreational value of Mount San Jacinto State Park has been associated with its wilderness experience. The majestic views of the mountain ranges within and beyond its boundaries have attracted hikers, climbers, and backpackers.

Aside from the important characteristic of the wilderness experience - the opportunity for solitude - visitors seek out other recreational opportunities such as cross-country skiing, equestrian use, snow shoeing, bird watching, star gazing, astronomy, and nature appreciation.

The General Plan will begin to examine visitation levels and the establishment of desired conditions. This process will then continue into subsequent management planning. Visitor use surveys and the Visitor Experience and Resource Protection (VERP) process developed by the NPS are potential tools that may be used in subsequent planning efforts. The process will remain dynamic. It will adjust and readjust to changing conditions, such as demographics and visitor-use patterns.

Goal: Provide for diverse recreational uses while protecting the wilderness experience and cultural and natural resources.

Guidelines:

- California State Parks will work to introduce recreational opportunities that interpret or enhance the wilderness experience.
- Recreational uses will be carefully controlled to minimize impact on the wilderness experience while allowing visitor enjoyment of the Park.
- Where current recreational uses are deemed incompatible with the Park's purpose or are impacting natural or cultural resources, the recreational use will be modified or eliminated and restoration or enhancement of the undermined resources will be undertaken.
- California State Parks will monitor public use and visitors' experience and where necessary develop management plans to address conflicts between recreational uses and between recreational use and the protection Park resources.
- Special events that are not directly related to the Declaration of Purpose or California State Parks Mission, will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Factors such as environmental impacts and visual and auditory intrusions caused by the event are criteria to be used while evaluating the appropriateness of the event.
- Recreational uses or opportunities that may adversely impact natural and cultural resources of the Park and that can be attractions in and of themselves will not be permitted.

Trails

Numerous trails within the Park boundaries are connected to adjoining agency trails to form a diverse system. The Pacific Crest Trail is an example of one of the trails that traverses through the Park and adjacent USFS land.

Erosion, multiple-use issues, and unauthorized trails have been identified as problems with the current trail system.

Goal: Assess the current trail system based upon capacity objectives and visitor experiences and make changes where necessary to meet the visitors' varied needs.

Guidelines:

- Examine the visitor-use levels on the existing trail system (including unauthorized trails) to determine visitor-use levels and impacts to natural and cultural resources. This data will be used to develop a trail management plan. Within this management plan specific uses such as mountain biking shall be examined.

- Encourage a regional planning effort, including consistent permitting policies with adjoining land agencies to minimize visitor confusion. This includes the reevaluation and review of the information being requested on the current day-use and wilderness permits.

- Visitor-use data combined with the evaluation of potential land acquisitions will be used to identify new trail heads and visitor staging areas.

- California State Parks will develop a plan to improve access for a wider range of abilities of visitors. The American Disabilities Act (ADA) guidelines will be included in the management planning process.

- Where trail-use conditions are deemed unsafe or have an adverse impact on natural and cultural resources, the trail will be closed until appropriate mitigation measures or improvements can be made. Trail modification or realignment will be considered.

- California State Parks will examine current wayfinding system and evaluate locations of existing signage. Remove or relocate signage that is distracting to the scenic value of any Park feature.

- California State Parks will work cooperatively with trail user groups to identify and address trail maintenance needs. Acquisition of grant funding for trail maintenance will be jointly pursued by Park staff and user groups.

Camping

Camping is currently allowed throughout the year at designated campsites. Both developed and primitive sites are available. Overnight permits are required and a capacity limit of 400 campers was established within the wilderness area by the California Administrative Code, section 4608.

Goal: Maintain a limited number of primitive designated campsites within the wilderness while providing additional overnight opportunities outside of the wilderness.

Guidelines:

- Examine visitor use within current campgrounds and campsites to determine impacts on the natural and cultural resources. This information will be used to develop a management plan for future levels of use of the existing locations and the exploration of developing new campgrounds. The monitoring of individual campsites and the closing of sites that show adverse impacts to the Park's resources will continue.

- Retain the current policy of camping at designated campsites within the wilderness.

- Alleviate visitor confusion with consistent regional planning policies wherever feasible (such as group camping size). When establishing these policies, monitoring of resources and visitor use will take priority in making decisions.

- Examine the need for additional campsites and group campsites outside the wilderness.

Climbing

With the popularity of climbing (scrambling on boulders, top roping, and face climbing) increasing locally within and adjacent to the Park, management of the activity needs to be evaluated. Several permanent routes do exist within State Park designated areas although use of permanent climbing aids (bolting) is not allowed.

The main impact caused by climbers is their prolonged presence on the cliff rather than any overt act. This presence need only be for an hour or so to cause damage to such sensitive animals as the golden eagle and peregrine falcon.

Goal: Evaluate and reduce impacts to rock outcrops and cliff-dwelling sensitive species.

Guidelines:

- Allow climbing where the activity itself or access to the climbing areas does not impact natural and cultural resources. If impacts are evident, closure of affected area should be considered.

- Develop an educational strategy to provide information on the serious negative impacts to sensitive species in current popular climbing areas.

- Develop a management plan for climbing based upon the identification of sensitive wildlife and plant habitats and cultural resources.

- Establish a technical climbing committee to provide advisory information and/or guidance for the development of the management plan.

- Climbing will not be allowed within areas designated as Natural Preserves.

- Climbing will not be allowed where public safety is an issue and where monitoring or manageability by Park staff is not possible.

- Flaking, drilling, or bolting will not be allowed.

Stock Use

Currently, stock use is allowed on all trails that are deemed safe by Park staff. Although Park-wide stock activities, including horseback riding and pack animal use are low, several areas within the Park have severe soil compaction and erosion issues associated with both equestrian and pedestrian use. Better management of equestrian use in these impacted areas and restoration measures need to be implemented to ensure the protection of the natural and cultural resources.

Goal: Reduce the impact of stock use on natural resources and prescribe restoration measures.

Guidelines:

- Permit stock use only along designated trails.
- Evaluate current and future development of equestrian trails and facilities within the Park and modify or remove uses to minimize erosion, soil compaction, down-cutting, and overgrazing of native vegetation. Input from equestrian user groups will be obtained when deemed necessary by future management plans regarding equestrian activities.
- Where public safety is an issue, such as on a steep gradient or slippery granite surface, equestrian use will be prohibited.
- Refer to Exotic Plant Control (page 41) for guidelines regarding the prevention of the spreading of exotic plant seed by horses and other pack animals.

DEVELOPMENT

Careful planning and siting of future visitor use and Park operations facilities including roads, trails, campsites, and buildings needs to be implemented to ensure the protection of the natural and cultural resources and to provide an integrated and aesthetically pleasing Park setting.

Goal: Consolidate and locate essential visitor services and operation facilities to minimize impacts on the natural environment and to allow better manageability and accessibility.

The following guidelines shall pertain to all development within the Park.

Guidelines:

Natural and Cultural Resources

- Development shall only occur in areas that will not adversely impact significant natural and/or cultural resources. Sacred and historical sites will be respected and protected.
- Disturbance of native vegetation shall be minimized by integrating the development with the native landscape and topography. When appropriate, weave structures through forest areas rather then clear cutting or grubbing.
- Sufficient setbacks or natural buffers shall be established to protect sensitive species, resources, and biocorridors.
- Sustainable design and maintenance practices shall be prescribed that promote energy conservation, waste reduction, recycling, and other resource conservation practices. No development shall occur until such issues are addressed.
- Technologies that improve upon the current waste management practices within the Park shall be utilized. Current sewage leach fields and pit toilets shall be evaluated for their impacts to the Park's scenic value and water resources.
- After development has occurred, monitoring shall be implemented to evaluate impacts to the environment.

Aesthetics

- Development shall blend with and complement the natural surroundings. Development shall not dominate the site but rather remain in harmony with the native landscape.

- Textures of the development, whether of material or of the over-all physical profile, shall be reflective of the surrounding environment.

- Design aesthetics shall be equally weigh with the facilities function, without compromising the basic human needs for comfort and safety.

- Retain existing viewsheds by strategically locating, minimizing or consolidating future developments.

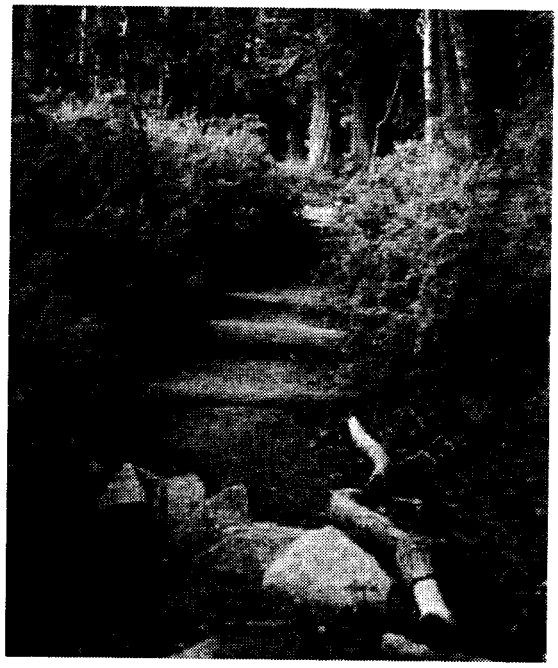
- Development shall not disturb or displace ridgelines or natural drainage systems.

- Noise/sound levels from any activity shall not impact the opportunity for solitude in adjoining wilderness areas.

- Nightlighting shall not obscure or intrude upon the nighttime sky. Park activity such as star gazing shall be fully considered in developing lighting concepts. If required for visitor safety, energy efficient light fixtures set low to the ground plane, to reduce glare and light pollution, will be used.

- Offensive odors and other issues related to the sense of smell will be fully considered in the design process.

- Both existing and future utilities such as telephone and electric lines will be installed underground wherever possible or out of viewshed corridors.



Trail near Round Valley

CONCESSION AND REVENUE GENERATION

Concession operations within Mount San Jacinto State Park are governed in part by Public Resources Code, Section 5080.02, et seq.; by the State Park and Recreation Commission policies; and by the Operating Agreement between the WPA and California State Parks.

A concession may be defined as a grant to a natural person, corporation, partnership, or association for the use of certain lands of the State Park System for the specific purpose of providing for general public service, products, facilities, and programs for use, enjoyment, and enhancement of recreational and educational experiences.

Goal: Concession operations within Mount San Jacinto State Park shall provide the visitor service and products that enhance the recreational and/or educational experiences at the Park while being consistent with the Park's purpose and classification.

Guidelines:

- Concession operations shall conform to the Park's General and Management Plans, the Operating Agreement, the State Park and Recreation Commission policies, and the Public Resources Code.

- A feasibility study shall be prepared for any proposed concession operation to determine economic viability, as well as contract terms and conditions and the appropriateness of the concession to the recreational and/or educational value to the Mount San Jacinto State Park and its conformation to the Park's purpose and classification.

- Potential direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts to Park resources by a proposed concession operation must be evaluated prior to approval to proceed with implementation.

ACQUISITIONS

Both private and public lands in the vicinity of Mount San Jacinto State Park may influence the Park's character, natural resources, and operations. Monitoring the development of these lands is critical to the protection and enhancement of the Park.

Goal: Evaluate future land acquisitions that include similar natural resources and recreational values similar to those of Mount San Jacinto.

- California State Parks will coordinate with federal as well as local jurisdiction and agencies to monitor development activities outside the Park's boundaries, to ensure buffers zones are enhanced or maintained.

- California State Parks will actively work with or coordinate with other agencies and property owners to secure land acquisitions to ensure key biocorrdiors are preserved and enhanced.

- California State Parks will evaluate all lands acquisitions based upon both its resource value and recreational opportunities and visitor enjoyment.

MANAGEMENT ZONES

The management zones depicted in Figures Five (page 63) and Six (page 65) were delineated based upon their natural, geographical, cultural, aesthetic, and recreation sensitivities and values. Within these management zones, desired resource conditions, proposed visitor use/experiences, and potential facilities were determined by further analysis of the resource inventory, public input, and consultation with adjoining agencies.

The seven management zones for Mount San Jacinto State Park are: the Idyllwild Gateway Zone, Long Valley Gateway Zone, Long Valley Meadow Zone, Tram Corridor Zone, Seasonal-Use Zone, the Backcountry Zone, and the Hidden Divide Natural Preserve Zone.

The management zones can be viewed as a gradient, with the highest level of visitor-use allowed in the Idyllwild Gateway Zone and Long Valley Gateway Zone and the lowest level of use allowed within the Backcountry Zone and Hidden Divide Natural Preserve Zone. The Tram Corridor and Seasonal-Use Zone have specific uses.

All the management zones will adhere to the appropriate goals and guidelines found within the Parkwide Goals and Guidelines section and the Management Zone Matrix (page 66-67).

Idyllwild Gateway Zone and Long Valley Zones

The Idyllwild Gateway Zone on the west and the Long Valley Zones on the east, all classified as "State Park," serve as gateways to the wilderness area. These gateways will be governed by the State Park classification (Public Resources Code, Section 5019.53):

Wintry scene

State Parks consist of relatively spacious areas of outstanding scenic or natural character, often times also containing significant historical, archaeological, ecological, geological, or other such values. The purpose of State Parks shall be to preserve outstanding natural, scenic, and cultural values, indigenous aquatic and terrestrial fauna and flora, and the most significant examples of such ecological regions of California as the Sierra Nevada, northeast volcanic, great valley, coastal strip, Klamath-Siskiyou Mountains, southwest mountains and valleys, redwoods, foothills and low coastal mountains, and desert and desert mountains.

Each State Park shall be managed as a composite whole in order to restore, protect, and maintain its native environmental complexes to the extent compatible with the primary purpose for which the Park was established.

Improvements undertaken within State Parks shall be for the purpose of making the areas available for public enjoyment and education in a manner consistent with the preservation of natural, scenic,

cultural, and ecological values for present and future generations. Improvements may be undertaken to provide for recreational activities including, but not limited to, camping, picnicking, sightseeing, nature study, hiking, and horseback riding, so long as such improvement involve no major modification of lands, forests, or waters. Improvements which do not directly enhance the public's enjoyment of the natural, scenic, cultural, or ecological values of the resource, which are attractions in themselves, or which are otherwise available to the public within a reasonable distance outside the Park, shall not be undertaken within State Parks.

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

The unique situation provided by the tram that makes wilderness immediately accessible to a multitude of people requires thoughtful management in order to assure that wilderness values are maintained; therefore, two Long Valley zones were necessary. Visitor-use facilities that introduce and educate the public regarding resource values and wilderness/recreational opportunities will be provided in Long Valley Gateway Zone. Facilities may include a visitor center, restrooms, and public safety support. The boundaries of this zone are delineated by the ridgeline, which includes the Mountain Station and the perimeter of the existing leach fields within Long Valley.

Long Valley Meadow Zone will provide a natural and interpretive experience that will serve as a buffer, transitioning from Long Valley Gateway Zone into the Backcountry Zone. The boundaries of this zone are delineated by the provision of a buffer zone adjacent to Long Valley Creek and the edges of the ridgeline adjacent to the Desert View Trail.

Visitor experiences within the Idyllwild Gateway Zone, the western portion of the Park, will be different from those found in Long Valley Gateway Zone. The Idyllwild Gateway Zone is different in scale and character from the two Long Valley Zones and will support a higher level of developed facilities and a variety of social activities. The two Long Valley Zones are defined by the valley character, with ridgelines encasing the meadow and forest, whereas the Idyllwild Gateway Zone is more open and less confined. The Idyllwild Gateway Zone's topography and close proximity to Highway 243 provide easy public access and opportunities for overnight use such as tent cabins.

Both Long Valley Gateway Zone and Idyllwild Gateway Zone will introduce visitors to the Park prior to entering the Backcountry Zone. The interpretive and educational facilities within these areas will be of high quality, formalized, and consolidated, making them accessible to visitors.

Within Long Valley Gateway Zone, equestrian access to the valley will remain, but will be limited to a minor staging area. The scale and size of the valley lends itself well to a pedestrian experience, where interpretive elements and trail designs direct visitor's use patterns.

Seasonal-Use Zone

The Seasonal-Use Zone, surrounded by the Long Valley Meadow Zone, will be designated for winter activities only. During the winter season and when snow cover is sufficient to handle winter

activities, such as snow tubing, and sledding without impacting the natural resources, winter play will be directed to this area. When snow level is at an insufficient level or during the warm season, the area shall be closed to visitor use.

Within the Seasonal-Use Zone is an existing building called the Adventure Center that is operated by WPA. Winter play equipment such as cross-country skis, snow shoes, and sleds are available to rent at the Adventure Center. The majority of these rental functions and other structures/facilities except the equipment required for the downhill activities within the Seasonal-Use area will be moved to a consolidated multi-use facility in Long Valley Gateway Zone.

Tram Corridor Zone

Similar to the focused intent of the Seasonal-Use Zone, the Tram Corridor is an area designated for maintenance access for the existing tramway system. Existing tramway equipment and utilities in the area can remain but future efforts should be directed toward minimizing or removing their visual and environmental impact. This area is an important viewshed and interpretive corridor for visitors being transported into the Park from the Palm Springs Aerial Tramway. Its natural characteristics, particularly its diverse botanical communities and geological features, shall be maintained and protected.

Backcountry Zone

The Backcountry Zone is comprised of all the existing wilderness designated areas and the areas being proposed to be reclassified as wilderness (Figure Five). This Plan proposes to reclassify 2,565 acres of State Park designated areas to State Park Wilderness, all of which will fall within the Backcountry Zone.

The Backcountry Zone will provide visitors a wilderness setting with the least amount of human contact and influences. The Backcountry Zone will be governed by the wilderness classification in the Public Resources Code, Section 5019.68, as follows:

PRC 5019.68. In contrast with those areas where man and his own works dominate the landscape, are hereby recognized as areas where the earth and its community of life are untrammeled by man and where man himself is a visitor who does not remain. A state wilderness is further defined to mean an area of relatively undeveloped state-owned or leased land which has retained its primeval character and influence or has been substantially restored to a near-natural appearance, without permanent improvements or human habitation, other than semi-improved campgrounds, or structures which existed at the time of classification of the area as State Wilderness and which the State Park and Recreation Commission has determined may be maintained and used in a manner compatible with the preservation of the wilderness environment, or primitive latrines, which is protected and managed so as to preserve its natural conditions, and which:

(a) Appears generally to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable.
(b) Has outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.
(c) Consists of at least 5,000 acres of land, either by itself or in combination with contiguous areas possessing wilderness characteristics, or is of sufficient size as

to make practicable its preservation and use in an unimpaired condition.
(d) May also contain ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value.

State Wildernesses may be established within the boundaries of other State Park system Parks.

This plan, based upon strong public input, proposes to enhance the wilderness experience by expanding the boundaries of the existing 9,900 acres of wilderness. The areas being proposed for reclassification from State Park to State Wilderness have the same natural and scenic characteristics and features as the current wilderness area. And unlike the original wilderness boundaries, which followed USGS section lines, the plan proposes to expand the boundaries based upon natural landscape features and protection of the Park's natural and cultural resources.

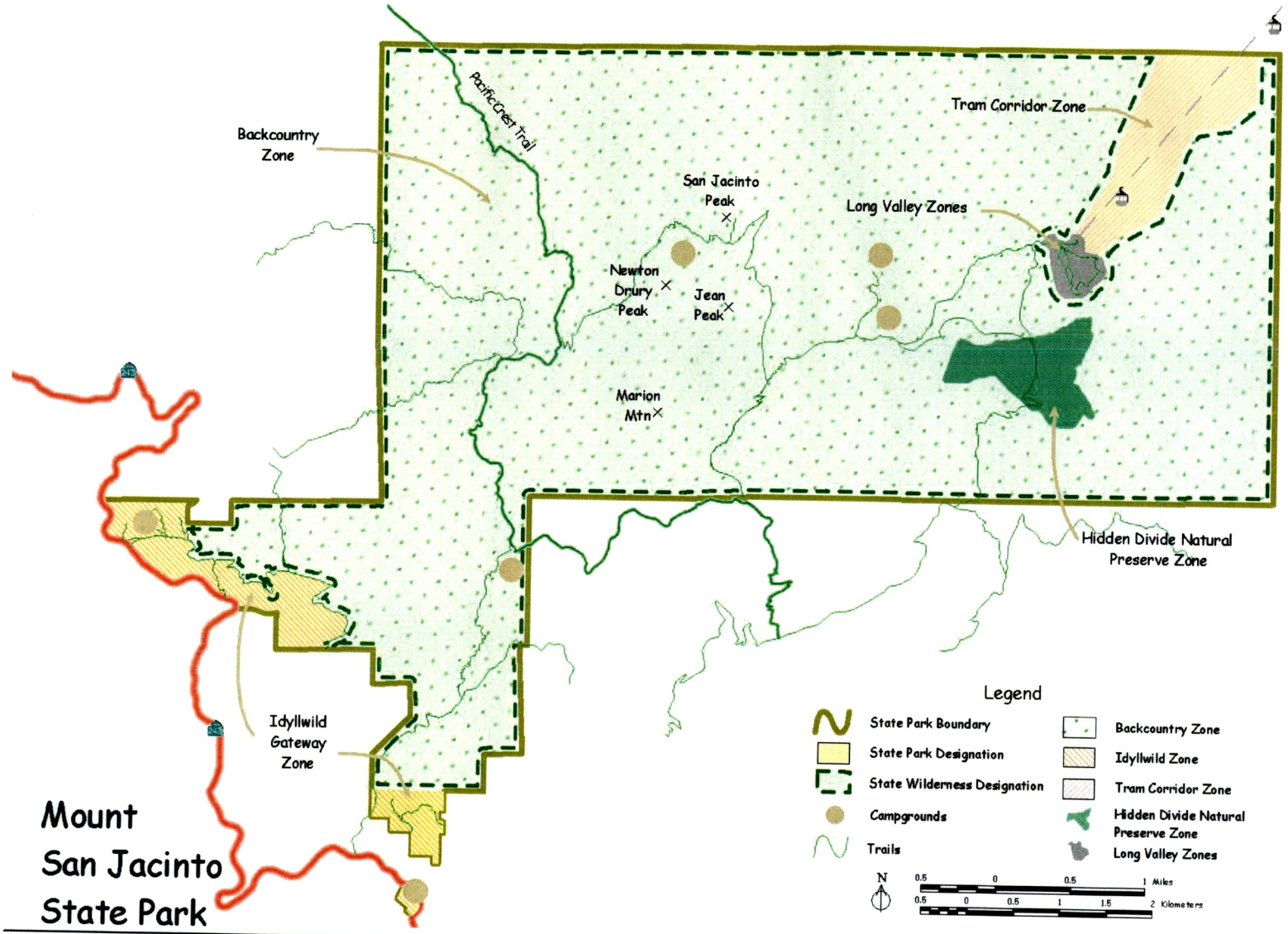
Hidden Divide Natural Preserve Zone

A 255-acre Natural Preserve is being established to heighten the protection of the distinct natural features found within the Hidden Divide area. Aside from a montane vernal lake, the area serves as a habitat for several sensitive wildlife and plant species, including the Federally threatened Hidden Lake bluecurls (*Trichostema austromontanum* ssp. *compactum*).

Currently, the area is governed by the State Park classification as stated in Public Resources Code, Section 5019.53 and the Wilderness classification as stated in Public Resources Code, Section 5019.68. The change to a Natural Preserve status will provide the highest level of protection for the area. Resource protection within the area will take precedence over recreational use as established by Section 5019.71, which governs the intent, management and use of Natural Preserves:

PRC 5019.71. Natural preserves consist of distinct areas of outstanding natural or scientific significance established within the boundaries of other State Park system Parks. The purpose of natural preserves shall be to preserve such features as rare or endangered plant and animal species and their supporting ecosystem, representative examples of plant or animal communities existing in California prior to the impact of civilization, geologic features of cultural or economic interest, or topographic features illustrative of representative or unique biogeographical patterns. Areas set aside as natural preserves shall be of sufficient size to allow, where possible, the natural dynamics of ecological interaction to continue without interference and to provide, in all cases, a practical management Park. Habitat manipulation shall be permitted only in those areas found by scientific analysis to require manipulation to preserve the species or associations which constitute the basis for the establishment of the natural preserve.

The essence of the proposed Natural Preserve classification is to protect the "integrity" of nature rather than the spaciousness and primeval characteristics that defines wilderness. Wilderness is largely dependent on the expansive areas of land that invoke the feeling of wildness and solitude, whereas the environmental integrity of a natural preserve depends largely on the inclusion of sufficient land or habitat necessary to maintain the ecosystem processes of which the sensitive features are a part. The Natural Preserve will be called the Hidden Divide Natural Preserve.

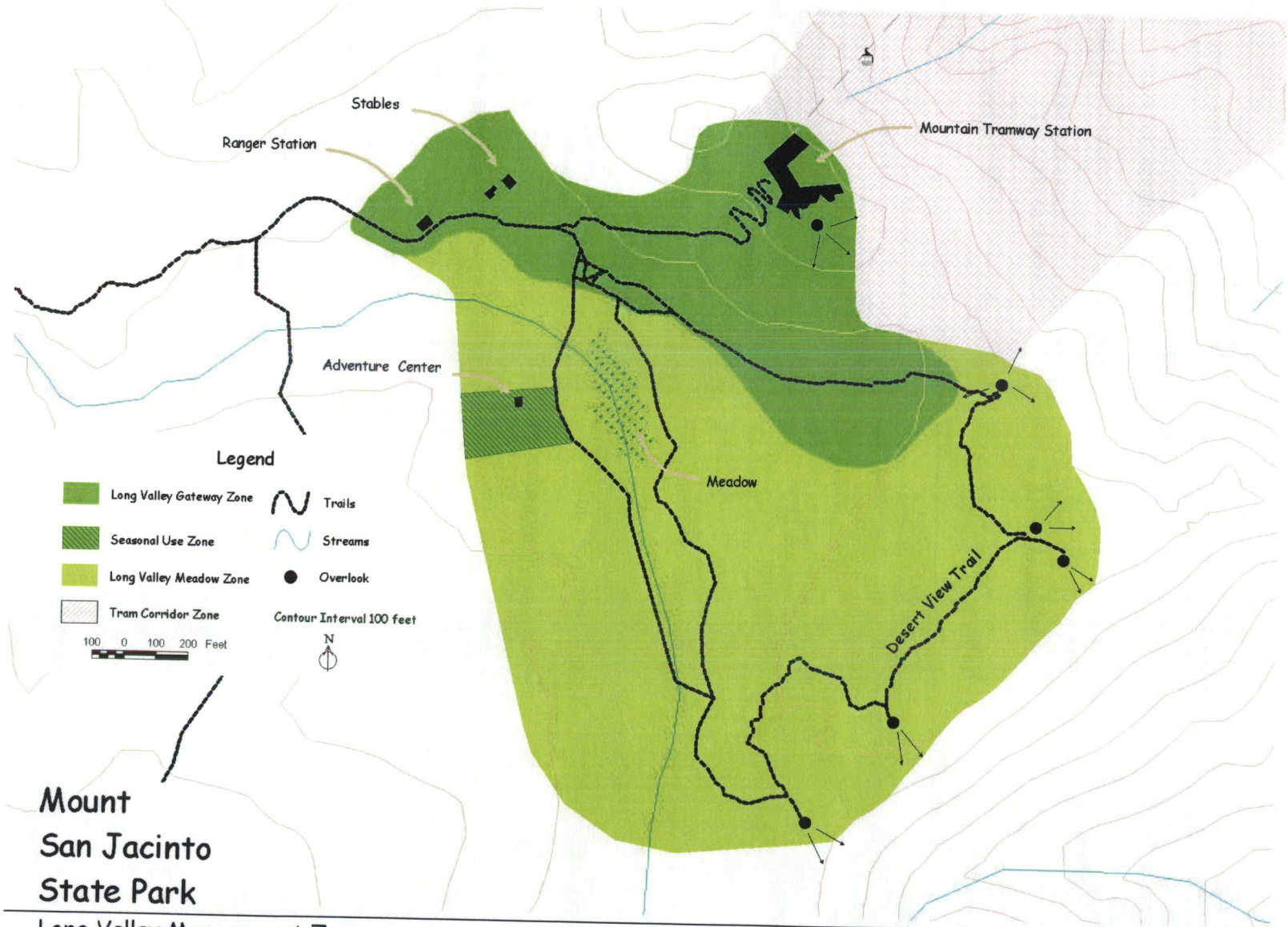


Mount San Jacinto State Park

Management Zones

California Department of Parks and Recreation

Figure Five



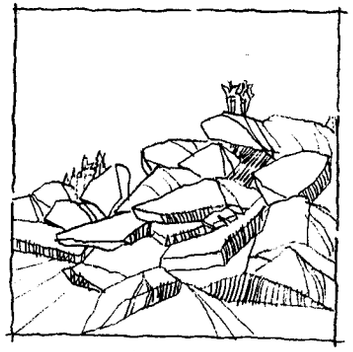
Long Valley Management Zones

California Department of Parks and Recreation

Figure Six

	IDYLLWILD GATEWAY ZONE	LONG VALLEY GATEWAY ZONE
AREA DESCRIPTION	This zone includes three separate areas adjacent to Highway 243 on the west side of the Park. This zone includes the existing Idyllwild and Stone Creek campgrounds. This zone is adjacent to the Backcountry Zone.	This zone includes the northern portion of Long Valley and the upper Tram Station. This zone is adjacent to the Tram Corridor Zone, Long Valley Meadow Zone and the Backcountry Zone.
RESOURCE CHARACTER AND MANAGEMENT (CARRYING CAPACITY OBJECTIVE)	▪ State Park designation ▪ maintain and protect the natural character including sensitive watersheds, wetlands, and creeks ▪ facilities to complement and blend with natural surroundings ▪ prescribe sustainable design and maintenance practices ▪ avoid, minimize, or mitigate impacts on natural and cultural resources	▪ State Park designation ▪ maintain and protect the natural character of this valley environment including the mountain ridge line, rock outcrops, uplands, and adjacent meadow and creek ▪ facilities to complement and blend with natural surroundings ▪ prescribe sustainable design and maintenance practices ▪ avoid, minimize, or mitigate impacts on natural and cultural resources
VISITOR EXPERIENCES (CARRYING CAPACITY OBJECTIVE)	The visitor will have a broad spectrum of experiences within this zone, from the exploration of the natural environment to the participation in social activities and the enjoyment of conveniences of developed facilities. This zone will serve as the west gateway into the Park. ▪ high level of use ▪ frequent contact with others	The visitor will be introduced to an upper montane and wilderness experience. Consolidated and convenient facilities and activities that complement and blend with the natural environment will be available. Social interaction and Park staff will be readily encountered. This zone will serve as the east gateway into the Park. ▪ high level of use ▪ frequent contact with others
VISITOR USES	▪ overnight use permitted ▪ hiking ▪ motorized equipment and vehicles allowed on designated Park roads ▪ equestrian activities restricted to designated trails ▪ cross country skiing/snow shoeing ▪ scientific research	▪ no overnight use permitted ▪ hiking on designated trails ▪ alternative fuel or environmentally friendly maintenance vehicle/equipment allowed on designated routes ▪ climbing without flaking, drilling, or bolting ▪ minor staging area for equestrian activities (equestrian trails, overnight equestrian staging/stables or equestrian concessions will not be allowed) ▪ cross country skiing/snow shoeing ▪ scientific research
POSSIBLE RANGE OF PROPOSED FACILITIES	▪ *visitor use/support facilities, may include:* *- visitor center* *- interpretive elements* *- lodging* *- minor parking* *- campgrounds* *- camp store* *- picnic sites* *- administrative facilities* *- maintenance and storage buildings* *- hiking trails* *- trailheads* *- restrooms* *- concession facilities*	▪ *visitor use or support facilities may include:* *- visitor center* *- interpretive elements* *- picnic sites* *- ranger station* *- minor maintenance/operational bldg.* *- hiking trails* *- trailheads* *- restrooms* *- concession facilities (minor facilities within the valley)* *- accessibility improvements*

LONG VALLEY MEADOW ZONE	BACKCOUNTRY ZONE	HIDDEN DIVIDE NATURAL PRESERVE ZONE	SEASONAL-USE ZONE	TRAM CORRIDOR ZONE
This zone includes the southern portion of Long Valley. This zone occurs immediately south of Long Valley Gateway Zone and is surrounded on three sides by the Backcountry Zone.	This zone is the core of the Park, which includes all of the wilderness. The Backcountry extends to the Idyllwild Zone and surrounds the Long Valley Zones. This zone includes Mount San Jacinto Peak and all the majestic escarpments.	This zone lies within San Jacinto Peak Quadrangle, T4S, R3, Section 26-27. The Natural Preserve includes shear rock walls, spines, and peaks; and sensitive wetlands.	This north facing slope area is surrounded by Long Valley Meadow Zone on three sides with the fourth side abutting the Backcountry Zone.	This area is surrounded by the Backcountry Zone and includes the tramway route above Tower 1 and the upper portion of Chino Canyon.
▪ State Park designation ▪ maintain and protect the natural character of this valley environment including the pristine meadow, creek, rock outcrops, and upper montane forest. ▪ no facilities or development other than modifications to trails ▪ prescribe sustainable design and maintenance practices ▪ avoid, minimize, or mitigate impacts on natural and cultural resources	▪ Wilderness and State Park designation ▪ maintain and protect the natural character including the pristine wilderness conditions (solitude and natural/cultural resources) ▪ no facilities or development other than minor modifications to trails or designated camping areas ▪ areas disturbed will be restored to natural conditions ▪ avoid, minimize, or mitigate impacts on natural and cultural resources	▪ Natural Preserve designation ▪ maintain and protect this distinct area of outstanding natural and scientific significance ▪ no facilities or development other than minimum modifications to trails or to conduct appropriate scientific research ▪ avoid or minimize impacts on natural and cultural resources ▪ habitat manipulation only permitted to preserve the unique species or characteristics which constitute the basis of the preserve	▪ State Park designation ▪ maintain and protect the natural character including existing forested area ▪ facilities to complement and blend with natural surroundings ▪ prescribe sustainable design and maintenance practices ▪ avoid, minimize, or mitigate impacts on natural and cultural resources	▪ State Park designation ▪ maintain and protect the natural character of this valley environment including the ridge lines, the valley and rock outcrops ▪ no facilities or development allowed other than the existing tram components ▪ infrastructure to complement and blend with natural surroundings ▪ prescribe sustainable design and maintenance practices ▪ avoid, minimize, or mitigate impacts on natural and cultural resources
The visitor will have the opportunity to become aware of the natural environment and setting, but development on the fringes and outside the Park boundaries will be evident. Visitors shall be exposed to various interpretive experiences. ▪ moderate level of use ▪ frequent to moderate contact with others	The visitor will experience a wilderness setting with the least amount of human contact and influences. Visitors will be able to immerse themselves with the tranquility and solitude inherent to the wilderness experience and exert themselves physically and mentally in the rugged topography and undeveloped conditions. ▪ low level of use ▪ minimal encounters with others ▪ maximum opportunities for natural quiet	The visitor experience within this zone shall be directed towards an experience of unique natural processes and potentially scientific research geared towards understanding, preserving and protecting these distinct natural features. ▪ low level of use ▪ infrequent contact with others ▪ maximum opportunity for natural quiet and interpretation of distinct natural features	The visitor will have a site specific use that is directed towards winter activity or play. This area is to be used seasonally during the winter. When snow cover is not at sufficient levels to minimize environmental impacts, this area shall be closed to visitors. ▪ high seasonal level of use ▪ frequent contact with others	The visitor accessing via the tramway will be rapidly introduced from the desert environment to an upper montane experience. Interpretive elements and programs related to the Park and the wilderness shall be encouraged to be incorporated into the Tram ride experience. ▪ high level of use (related to the tramway)
▪ no overnight use permitted ▪ hiking on designated trails ▪ alternative fuel or environmentally friendly equipment allowed on designated routes ▪ climbing without flaking, drilling, or bolting ▪ no equestrian activities ▪ cross country skiing/snow shoeing ▪ scientific research	▪ overnight camping at designated camp sites ▪ hiking ▪ no motorized equipment or vehicles unless required for actions necessary to protect human welfare, health and safety ▪ climbing without flaking, drilling, or bolting ▪ equestrian activities along designated trails ▪ no snow tubing/sledding ▪ cross country skiing/snow shoeing ▪ scientific research	▪ no camping ▪ hiking on designated trails ▪ no vehicular roads ▪ no climbing or bouldering ▪ no motorized equipment or vehicles unless required for actions necessary to protect human welfare, health, and safety ▪ no snow tubing/sledding ▪ cross-country skiing/snow shoeing on designated routes ▪ equestrian activities along designated trails ▪ scientific research	▪ seasonal use only ▪ no motorized equipment or vehicles unless required for actions necessary to protect human welfare, health, and safety and for general maintenance ▪ snow tubing/sledding on designated slope area ▪ scientific research	▪ access for tramway maintenance only ▪ alternative fuel or environmentally friendly maintenance vehicle/equipment ▪ no hiking trails ▪ no climbing or bouldering ▪ scientific research
▪ *interpretive elements* ▪ *hiking trails* ▪ *footbridges over waterways where trail re-routing is not feasible and where hydrologically appropriate*	▪ *historically significant structures and trails* ▪ *hiking trails* ▪ *footbridges over waterways where trail re-routing is not feasible and where hydrologically appropriate* ▪ *primitive toilets (only at campgrounds)*	▪ *historically significant trails* ▪ *hiking trails* ▪ *minor interpretive elements*	▪ *visitor use/support facilities, may include:* *- snow play/support facility* *- interpretive elements*	▪ *view corridor*



San Jacinto Peak

← Figure – Seven
Management Zone Matrix

The management zone matrix summarizes the desired conditions, different levels of visitor experiences/uses and the possible range of facilities, based upon the Park's natural, cultural, aesthetic, and recreational resources.

Rustic Ranger Station at Round Valley

Environmental Analysis

4

SUMMARY

The California Department of Parks and Recreation is the lead agency responsible for the preparation of environmental review documentation for the proposed Mount San Jacinto State Park General Plan in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) as required by Public Resources Code Sections 5002.2 and 21000 et. seq. This General Plan provides guidelines for long-term management, development, and operation of Mount San Jacinto State Park. This Environmental Analysis Section and other sections of this document, incorporated by reference, constitute the first tier Environmental Impact Report (EIR) as defined in Sections 15152, 15166, 15168 and 15385 of the CEQA Guidelines. It should be recognized that the level of detail addressed by this EIR is commensurate with the level of detail provided in the land-use proposals of the General Plan.

As subsequent management plans and site-specific projects are proposed, they will be subject to further environmental review. Appropriate environmental documents will be prepared with specific mitigation measures, as necessary, when subsequent projects are proposed. The General Plan proposes at least ten management plans to be prepared subsequent to adoption of the General Plan.

The proposed Mount San Jacinto General Plan includes modifications to land-use designations, the incorporation of new guidelines for the protection of natural and cultural resources, and the development of appropriate recreational, interpretive, and operative facilities. The General Plan proposes to:

Change approximately 2,565 acres in the State Park designation to State Wilderness, thereby providing additional protection to resources and wilderness values.

Change approximately 255 acres in the State Park and State Wilderness designations to Nature Preserve, thereby providing additional protection to unique sensitive resources.

Establish management zones, goals and guidelines to protect sensitive resources.

Consolidate visitor-serving facilities in gateway areas located in less sensitive or previously disturbed locations.

Provide accessible interpretive and recreational programs to the public.

Development, maintenance and use of facilities such as buildings, parking lots, campsites, trails, picnic areas, interpretive stations, utilities, and septic systems have the potential for significant short-term and long-term impacts to the environment. These impacts could include soil disturbance, dust, increased erosion, altered drainage patterns, lowered water quality, degradation of cultural resources, and degradation of sensitive plant communities or populations of plants or animals. As a program EIR (first-tier, Guidelines Secs. 15166, 15168), the General Plan identifies potential broad-level environmental impacts and mitigation. Additional environmental review, specific mitigation proposals and monitoring will be required under CEQA, Guidelines Secs. 15152 and 15385, as management or development plans are proposed. All potentially significant new adverse impacts will be avoided, minimized, or mitigated below a level of significance.

Project Description

Because the General Plan and EIR are contained in a single document, the project description is discussed in the *Introduction* (page 1) and *Plan Section* (page 35).

Environmental Setting

Please refer to the description of the environmental setting in the earlier sections *Existing Conditions and Issues* (page 9), *Natural Resources* (page 10), *Cultural Resources* (page 21), *Aesthetic and Recreational Resources* (page 25), and *Planning Influences* (page 28) and Appendices A, B, and C.

Access to the west side of the Park is by a two-lane rural state highway (CA 243) near Idyllwild. State Highway 243 operates at a high level of service except under winter storm conditions. The Palm Springs Aerial Tramway allows access to the east side of the Park, with highway access to the tram station via Tramway Road from Highway 111.

PLAN ALTERNATIVES

Based on the accumulation of information from resource studies, other agencies, Park managers, and the general public (at four public meetings), four plan alternatives were considered during development of the proposed general plan. Each plan was presented at the public meetings. It was emphasized at the meetings that one plan did not need to be selected over another, but rather elements from each plan could be intermixed, to create the best plan possible given the often conflicting needs of resource protection, visitor recreation and education, and park and tramway operations.

The Preferred Plan was developed to incorporate public comment and the increasing amount of resource and operational data discovered during the General Plan planning and public involvement process. Not only were the locations of management zones changed but also the uses allowed within the management zones were refined. For example, the Backcountry Zone added the following changes: 1) no facilities or development other than minor modifications to trails or designated camping areas, and 2) areas disturbed will be restored to natural conditions. In addition, the Preferred Plan proposes to reclassify to State Wilderness (PRC 5019.68) approximately 2,565 acres of the proposed Backcountry Zone currently classified as State Park (PRC 5019.53).

The Preferred Alternative (Preferred Plan) is discussed in the *Plan Section* starting on page 35 and shown in Figure Five (page 63). The alternatives were developed to show a range in the amounts of land placed in State Wilderness, State Park and Natural Preserve designations and the resulting effect that these designations may have on the uses allowed within each area. These alternatives are shown on Figure Eight and are compared in the following Alternatives matrix (Figure Nine).

Preferred Alternative

The Preferred Plan increases the amount of State Wilderness from the existing designation by approximately 2,565 acres and places the most sensitive land into a 255-acre Natural Preserve. The Preferred Plan also added a Long Valley Meadow Zone to provide for the management of projected and existing visitor uses in the future Long Valley Management Plan and create a buffer between the wilderness and the Long

Valley Gateway Zone. The wilderness boundaries were primarily based on natural landscape features, solitude, aesthetics, buffers, and protection of the Park's natural and cultural resources. The Preferred Alternative provides the greatest resource protection while allowing the Winter Park Authority to continue their operation per the State Legislative mandate, and California State Parks to respond to planned and existing recreational/interpretive needs.

Under the tiered environmental process, changes from existing conditions/operations proposed by either Winter Park Authority or California State Parks must undergo additional environmental review to avoid or minimize impacts to resources. The Preferred Alternative also introduces the gateway concept of consolidating contact stations, infrastructure and new facilities into the least environmentally damaging areas near points of greatest public contact.

No Project Alternative

Public Resource Code 5003 states that before substantial work may be proposed within a State Park, there must be a general plan. Therefore, the existing conditions, lack of needed facilities, and park management limitations would continue if the General Plan were not adopted.

Under the No Project Alternative, heightened protection for the distinct natural and cultural features found within the park would not be established. Despite current efforts to protect, rehabilitate, or restore such features, visitor use patterns over time could be expected to impact these features. Without a General Plan, a holistic approach for protecting these features through management zones and other planning efforts will not be adequately implemented.

The No Project Alternative will make it difficult for the District to systematically address land use and visitor use issues. Consolidating or improving visitor use or operational facilities to minimize environmental impacts, enhancing park interpretation, and creating a higher quality of visitor experience would be difficult to execute under the No Project Alternative.

Alternative 1

Alternative 1 essentially continues the land use designations at Mount San Jacinto State Park in their current condition at approximately 3,611 acres of State Park and 10,089 acres of State Wilderness. Alternative 1 includes a single Long Valley Zone, essentially unchanged from the existing condition, and an Idyllwild Zone for more active recreational/interpretive uses. The meadows in Long Valley and Long Valley Creek are currently subject to erosion, soil compaction, and denuded vegetation and Alternative 1 would not place more restrictive management zones on this fragile area. Further, important cultural resources on the western side of the park would be left in a State Park land use designation that would allow potential development. It is not preferred because it does not offer enough resource protection particularly to sensitive resources identified on pages 9 to 34 in the General Plan/Environmental Impact Report, Appendices A, B, & C and the Resource Inventory Overview Booklet, given the current knowledge of visitor impacts and past uses.

Alternative 2

Alternative 2 changes the land use designations to approximately 3,550 acres of State Park, 9,895 acres of State Wilderness, and 255 acres of Natural Preserve. The Natural Preserve designation creates a higher level of protection than the State Wilderness designation for the most sensitive natural resources in Mount San Jacinto State Park. Additionally, Alternative 2 contains a smaller Long Valley Zone and an Idyllwild Zone for more active recreational/interpretive uses. Since there is no Long Valley Meadow Zone, there would be no transition to the wilderness area and more restricted uses. Therefore the Long Valley Meadow and Desert Trail would not be managed for the current and projected visitor use. Although Alternative 2 provides greater resource protection than Alternative 1, it does not incorporate the natural boundaries in the land use designations and does not protect as many resources as the Preferred Alternative.

Alternative 3

Alternative 3 provides the greatest amount of State Wilderness designation with approximately 13,075 acres, 370 acres of State Park, and 255 acres of Natural Preserve. A smaller Idyllwild Zone and the Long Valley Zone provide for active uses. Alternative 3 does not allow the Winter Park Authority (WPA) adequate space to maintain the tramway towers as mandated under the operating agreement or follow the natural boundaries on the east side of the park. Regular helicopter flyover and the use of other mechanical equipment necessary to maintain operations would be precluded under the wilderness designation in the Tramway Corridor rendering this alternative infeasible. The wilderness designation within sight of the tramway would not fit the wilderness criteria for aesthetics and solitude.

Also, the wilderness designation under Alternative 3 would have precluded both the use of mechanized fire protection equipment on the western side of the park near the community of Idyllwild and, since the Long Valley Zone was smaller, management flexibility for maintenance on the Desert View Trail. Visitors could be denied use of the Desert View Trail in order to meet the criteria of solitude under the wilderness designation.

ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS OF PREFERRED PLAN

The Preferred Alternative for the General Plan proposes to designate park Management Zones in order to limit the geographical area in which certain types of activities and development can occur and to establish goals and objectives for determining appropriate amounts of these activities and developments within each zone (Pages 59-67, including Figure Seven). The Parkwide Management Goals and Guidelines Section (Pages 39-58) provides further direction for managing the park as a whole, including visitor use, development, and environmental protection. As this is a General Plan, specific proposals for potential visitor use and development have not yet been developed. Therefore, identification and discussion of potential significant effects of the General Plan proposals are also general in nature. Nevertheless, to convey the purpose of these proposals and to aid in the analysis of their potential significant environmental effects, a table was developed to represent a reasonable set of scenarios for visitor use and development that would be allowed in each Management Zone under the proposed General Plan

(Figure Ten, Reasonable Projections of Development). The scenarios presented each represent one of many potential scenarios that would be allowed in each zone. Within the range of possibilities, the scenarios depicted portray the most extensive development that should be reasonably expected. The actual choice of types, sizes, and locations of facilities to be developed within each zone will be determined during preparation of subsequent management plans (such as in the Long Valley and Wilderness Management Plans) or specific project plans, as the need arises and/or funds are available for their implementation. The decisions made in these plans will be consistent with the goals and guidelines of the General Plan and based on many factors including natural and cultural resource protection, and visitor experience. These plans will undergo further environmental review when they are prepared, in accordance with CEQA guidelines.

As illustrated in Figure Ten, the majority of potential development would be contained in the two gateway zones, the Idyllwild Gateway Zone and the Long Valley Gateway Zone (See Figure Five), representing roughly only 4% of the park's acreage. Within the zones encompassing the rest of the park, no significant development is proposed. However, there will likely be a moderate increase in day use visitation in response to regional population increases and the level of use in the gateway zones.

The Notice of Preparation identified that the General Plan, or projects carried out under its guidance, may have environmental effects relative to geologic features, erosion, water quality, transportation, biological resources, fire and geologic hazards, aesthetics, cultural resources, and recreation. The following sections identify and discuss the relative significance of these effects.

UNAVOIDABLE AND IRREVERSIBLE SIGNIFICANT EFFECTS

The purpose of the land-use designations (i.e. Management Zones and Classifications) and the management goals and guidelines presented in the General Plan are to avoid, minimize, or mitigate significant environmental effects of facility development, maintenance, operations, and visitor use. Of primary concern is the protection of wilderness values, particularly in the Long Valley portion of the park.

Through legislative mandate, the Winter Park Authority was created and authorized to construct the aerial tramway, which was completed in 1963. As such the tramway, its Mountain Station, and the visitation associated with the access it provides are pre-existing conditions relative to this General Plan. The decision to designate the Tram Corridor Zone, Long Valley Gateway Zone, Long Valley Meadow Zone and Season-Use Zone on the east side of the park was predicated on the existing presence of the tram and the level of visitor use it invokes. The Long Valley Area currently shows signs of stress from uncontrolled visitor use, such as soil compaction and reduced vegetative cover. The General Plan recognizes that use in this area needs to be managed in some manner to reduce existing and future negative environmental effects. To that end the General Plan establishes several management zones within the Long Valley area that vary in their methods for management of use. Further, the General Plan proposes that following the collection of additional data a Long Valley Management Plan be developed that provides for visitor access

while at the same time protecting wilderness values. This plan will include specific management actions and improvements, as well as measures to avoid, minimize, or mitigate significant environmental effects.

The Idyllwild Gateway Zone represents another location in the park where provision of visitor-serving facilities will need to be balanced with protection of wilderness values. Given its proximity to Highway 243, and the tourist-oriented community of Idyllwild, as well as it low relief, this zone is anticipated to support a higher level of developed facilities and a broader spectrum of recreation activities, including expanded overnight accommodations, day-use facilities concessions. Specific plans will be prepared at the time the individual development projects are proposed, and will include measures to avoid, minimize, or mitigate significant environmental effects. All management plans and specific plans will undergo additional environmental review per CEQA guidelines.

Implementation of the Long Valley Management Plan and specific projects in the Long Valley and Idyllwild Gateway Zones has the potential to cause significant short-term and long-term effects on the environment. Long-term effects in Long Valley could include negative impacts to geologic, water, natural, cultural, and aesthetic resources resulting from development, maintenance, and use of facilities, such as buildings, trails, picnic areas, interpretation facilities, and septic systems. Long-term effects in the Idyllwild Gateway Zone could include negative impacts to geologic, water, natural, cultural, and aesthetic resources resulting from development, maintenance, and use of facilities, such as buildings, camp sites, tent cabins, trails, picnic areas, interpretation facilities, septic systems and parking areas. Short-term effects could include soil disturbance, dust, increased erosion, altered drainage patterns, water quality impacts, degradation of cultural resources, disturbance or degradation of sensitive plant or animal populations.

Implementation of measures to avoid, minimize, or mitigate significant environmental effects contained in the General Plan and future Management Plans and specific project plans will reduce negative impacts to a level below significance. If a specific project does not conform to the guidelines contained within the General Plan, or subsequent management plans, or if mitigation cannot reduce negative impacts to a level below significance, the project will not be implemented. Therefore, there are no new unavoidable significant environmental effects resulting from implementation of the General Plan.

SIGNIFICANT EFFECTS & PROPOSED MITIGATION

Even though the majority of development will be contained to very limited portions of the Park, development, maintenance and use of facilities such as roads, buildings, trails, parking lots, campsites, picnic areas, utilities, and septic systems have the potential for significant short- and long-term impacts to the environment. These impacts could include soil disturbance, dust, increased erosion, altered drainage patterns, lowered water quality, degradation of cultural resources, and degradation of sensitive plant communities or populations of plant or animal.

Geologic Resources

Impact: Demolition and construction activities associated with removal, consolidation development, and maintenance of facilities, particularly in the Idyllwild and Long Valley Gateway Zones, has the potential to cause significant increases in erosion, dust, soil disturbance, and topographic change.

Discussion: Grading and soil disturbance associated with facility expansion and development in the Idyllwild Gateway Zone, such as construction of new campsites, tent cabins, restrooms, buildings, and other use areas, has the potential to cause significant changes in topography and increases in erosion, unless measures to avoid, minimize, or mitigate these impacts are incorporated into specific project plans and implemented. The purpose of the General Plan within the Long Valley area is to reduce long-term impacts to resources, including the reduction of soil compaction and extent of disturbed areas, through rearrangement of facilities and better management of visitor use. However, removal, consolidation, construction, or maintenance of facilities could have short-term and long-term impacts to geologic features, topography, and soil erosion, unless measures to avoid, minimize, or mitigate these impacts are incorporated into the future Long Valley Management Plan and implemented. Potential impacts to geology and soil associated with the development and maintenance of trails, interpretive elements, and primitive toilets are not considered to be significant. In addition to any mitigation measures deemed necessary at the time a project is scoped for implementation, the following mitigation measures will be implemented.

Mitigation 1: Any new facilities will be designed and constructed to follow and fit into natural contours, as much as possible, to minimize the amount of topographic change that is required.

Mitigation 2: All demolitions, grading, and excavations will be subject to the typical restrictions and requirements that address erosion and runoff, including the Federal Clean Water Act and National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), which includes but may not be limited to silt fencing, sand bags appropriately placed during rain events, and an erosion control plan that uses native species known to occur in the area for revegetation. California State Parks will use Best Management Practices throughout construction to avoid and minimize indirect impacts.

Water Resources

Impact: Demolition and construction activities associated with removal, consolidation development, maintenance, and use of facilities, particularly in the Idyllwild and Long Valley Gateway Zones, has the potential to significantly effect drainage patterns, runoff, or discharge into surface waters.

Discussion: Within the Long Valley Gateway Zone, water for consumptive use is transported to the Long Valley area via the tramway and stored in several water aboveground tanks. Water for the fire-fighting tank, however, is currently taken from the Long Valley Creek (page 9). In the Idyllwild Gateway Zone, the local water district supplies water for park use. Several leach fields associated with septic systems are located in both the Idyllwild Gateway Zone and the Long Valley Gateway Zone. In the designated camping areas in the Backcountry Zone, water is either packed in or obtained from springs, and primitive pit toilets are provided. Use and maintenance of trails

in the vicinity of the creeks and montane meadows have the potential to affect hydrologic regimes and water quality. The General Plan recognizes the potential these conditions have for impacting water resources. Goals and guidelines for hydrology direct park managers to "protect, enhance, and restore hydrologic resources" (page 44). Guidelines for development state that "technologies that improve upon the current waste management practices within the Park shall be utilized", and that "current sewage leach fields and pit toilets shall be evaluated for their impacts to . . . water resources" (page 56).

Activities associated with construction, use, and maintenance of facilities could have short-term and long-term impacts on drainage patterns and water quality, particularly to Long Valley Creek and its associated wetland, unless measures to avoid, minimize, or mitigate these impacts are incorporated into management plans and specific development projects. In addition to any mitigation measures deemed necessary at the time a project is scoped for implementation, the following mitigation measures will be implemented. All actions will be in compliance with state and federal permitting and regulatory requirements.

Mitigation 3: Before development can occur within the Long Valley Gateway Zone, potential impacts to water resources associated with waste management and fire suppression programs need to be addressed. The Long Valley Management Plan will consider the limitations of the site to support these programs and limit facility development accordingly. The management plan will also include appropriate measures to avoid, minimize and mitigate impacts to water resources, and a monitoring program that monitors the status and condition of water resources over the long-term.

Mitigation 4: In accordance with the General Plan goals and guidelines, any new facilities within the Park will be designed and constructed to avoid impairment of natural drainages. Impacts to streams and meadows from trail use and routine maintenance will be avoided or minimized. Also see Mitigation 2 under Geologic Resources above.

Biological Resources

Impact: Activities involving the manipulation of vegetation or disturbance of wildlife and their habitat, including development, maintenance, and recreational activities, have the potential to negatively affect endangered, threatened, or rare species, and special status habitats.

Discussion: The General Plan identifies 2 significant vegetation types, 24 special status plants and 49 special status animals that have the potential to occur within the park (pages 11-20 and Appendices A & B). Many of the General Plan goals and guidelines address the protection and management of biotic resources, including maintenance of native plant communities, protection of special status species of plants and animals, control of non-native plants and animals, protection of habitat buffers and movement corridors, and protection of natural resources from recreation and development activities. These goals and guidelines recognize that activities associated with construction, maintenance, and use of facilities, as well as recreational activities could have short-term and long-term impacts on sensitive species and the ecosystem. It is also recognized that it will be essential to periodically assess the status and

condition of key resources and adapt park management to assure their protection. (Please see Parkwide Management Goals and Guidelines, pages 39-58 for further discussion of potential significant effects and guidance for avoiding and minimizing these effects). Measures to avoid, minimize, or mitigate impacts need to be incorporated into the future Management Plans, development projects, and specific management actions. All actions will be in compliance with state and federal permitting and regulatory requirements. In addition to any mitigation measures deemed necessary at the time a project is scoped for implementation, the following mitigation measures will be incorporated.

Mitigation 5: Prior to the implementation of removal, consolidation, or construction of facilities potentially affected areas will be surveyed for the presence of special status species. Special status species found on site will be avoided to the fullest extent possible, through project design, timing of activities, and implementation. If a special status species is detected within the area of potential impact, the area shall be flagged, and personnel educated on the sensitivity of the area and instructed to avoid it.

Mitigation 6: As much as possible, all project related activities located within the habitat of special status species will take place outside of their breeding season or season of greatest potential effect on survivability. If project activities cannot avoid the breeding season or season of greatest potential effect, California State Parks will arrange for weekly surveys to detect any special status species within 300 feet of the work area (1/4 mile for raptor nests). If special status species are discovered within this area of potential impact, surveys will continue through the period of construction. If special status species are being negatively affected, construction activities will be postponed until the potential for negative effects has passed. Sensitive habitat areas shall be flagged and construction personnel shall be educated on the sensitivity of the area and instructed to avoid the area.

Mitigation 7: Any areas cleared or disturbed will be restored with native plant species known from the area, using locally collected material, and species that represent habitat composition for the sensitive species detected on site.

Mitigation 8: Any populations or focus use sites of special status species discovered during project surveys (See Mitigation 5) will be periodically monitored in order to detect changes in population viability or use of those sites caused by the presence, use, or maintenance of new park facilities. If changes are detected, actions will be taken to modify the presence, use, or maintenance of those facilities so that the biotic resource is no longer negatively affected.

Cultural Resources

Impact: Demolition and construction activities associated with removal, consolidation and facility development, as well as maintenance of facilities, has the potential to disturb, degrade or damage buried archaeological remains, historic structures or features, or sacred sites.

Discussion: Significant archeological, historical, and ethnographic resources are known to occur within the Park. These include prehistoric Native American (Cahuilla) use sites and sacred sites, historic lumber industry sites, historic CCC-era park structures and trails, and the Palm Spring's Aerial Tramway (See Cultural Resources, pages 21-24).

Several goals and guidelines contained in the General Plan address the protection of these cultural resources, including identification, protection and interpretation of archaeological resources, ethnographic resources, and historic resources, and protection of cultural resources from recreation or development (pages 47-57). These goals and guidelines recognize that activities associated with demolition, construction, maintenance, and use of facilities, as well as recreational activities could have long-term impacts on significant cultural resources. It is also recognized that it will be essential to periodically assess the status and condition of these significant cultural resources and adapt park management to assure their protection. Measures to avoid, minimize, or mitigate impacts need to be incorporated into the future Management Plans, development projects, and specific management actions. All actions will be in compliance with state and federal regulatory requirements. In addition to any mitigation measures deemed necessary at the time a project is scoped for implementation, the following mitigation measures will be incorporated.

Mitigation 9: Prior to any actions that have the potential to disturb the area of a possible archeological site, additional research and testing will be carried out to determine if buried cultural remains exist. Any new facilities will be designed and constructed to avoid archaeological remains to the extent practicable. If impacts to archaeological remains are unavoidable, then a recovery plan will be developed and implemented. A California State Park archaeologist will monitor those activities deemed to have the highest potential to disturb or damage buried archaeological remains to ensure that no historical or prehistorical resources are adversely impacted. If cultural remains are uncovered during any project activities, work will be stopped in that area so that the resource can be recorded, the nature of the deposit can be determined, and an appropriate protection or recovery plan can be implemented.

Mitigation 10: Any proposed project will be reviewed for their potential to affect significant historical resources. All significant historical resources will be mapped, recorded, and evaluated to determine their eligibility for placement on the National Register of Historic Places. Projects will be designed and implemented to avoid significant impacts to potentially eligible historic resources in compliance with the *Secretary of the Interior Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties*.

EFFECTS FOUND NOT TO BE SIGNIFICANT

Hazards & Air Quality

Use of camping facilities in both the designated wilderness campgrounds and the Idyllwild Zone has the potential to place the public at risk due to wildfires caused by inadvertent or natural ignition from within, as well as from outside the Park. No campfires will be allowed outside designated areas. A wildfire management plan will be developed, as appropriate, to ensure protection of human lives and property, and will emphasize control of fires along predetermined suppression lines, which divide the Park into control compartments, and will include evacuation procedures.

The use of prescribed fire as a vegetation management tool has the potential for significant impacts to regional air quality and may, in the event of an escape, place the public in danger. The restoration of

the role of fire in natural ecological processes will include a prescribed fire management plan. This plan will include provisions for coordinating with regional air quality control boards to avoid significant emissions of smoke during sensitive time periods. It will also provide for public notification and exclusion areas prior to and during prescribed burning operations. In the event of an escape, the wildfire management plan is invoked, which provides for public evacuation and appropriate suppression activities.

Traffic

There is a potential for an increase in vehicle trips on Highway 243 resulting from implementation of the General Plan. The Idyllwild Gateway Zone allows California State Parks to respond to increased demands for camping and day use facilities, including parking. Based on the Reasonable Plan Projection (See Figure Ten) there is a potential for generating an additional 203 vehicle trips per day during peak seasons. This estimate is based on a 50% turnover rate at parking areas and a 28% turnover rate at campsites, with individual campsites having two vehicles per site and group camps having 5 vehicles per site. This level of traffic increase is not considered to be significant for Highway 243, especially since development of these facilities is anticipated to occur in response to demand for these facilities in the area, rather than for the purpose of generating increased visitation.

Noise

There is potential for temporary increases in noise levels during any demolition or construction activities. Such activities would be timed to avoid seasons of peak visitation, and periods of time when sensitive wildlife species may be significantly impacted. When construction is to occur near residential areas, as might potentially occur in the Idyllwild Gateway Zone, all local noise ordinances would be followed. Impacts from noise are expected to be nominal.

Public Services

Implementation of the proposed plan will not increase the need for public services or utilities.

Recreation

Some recreational uses including stock use and climbing may be eliminated or restricted in portions of the Park. However, these uses will continue in areas with less resource sensitivity. It is not expected that the types of recreation uses will change substantially from the existing conditions, however it is expected that implementation of the plan will result in enhanced recreational experiences.

Aesthetics

Mount San Jacinto State Park is best known for its inherent opportunity for solitude in a high montane setting. The Backcountry Management Zone, as proposed in the General Plan, would further protect this opportunity by increasing the amount of land (approximately 2,565 acres) that is managed as State Wilderness as defined in PRC 5019.68 (page 61). The General Plan goals and guidelines for development of facilities in the Park (page 56) provide direction in the design, siting, materials used, lighting, and sound to assure that development blends in with and complements the natural surroundings. This is in keeping with the historic design precedence of California State Park facilities. No significant impacts to aesthetics are anticipated.

GROWTH-INDUCING IMPACTS

Mount San Jacinto State Park is primarily a wilderness park with several existing public use areas. Although these public use areas may be expanded with the implementation of the gateway concept in the General Plan, the General Plan will not substantially increase the current day use or overnight visitors within the Park. Other than improving park facilities, interpretation and accessibility, implementation of the General Plan will not substantially effect public services. Although park attendance has remained stable for the last 10 years, implementation of new facilities would provide needed park services to the rising local and state population. Therefore, there will be no significant growth-inducing impacts.

CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

None of the proposals contained in the General Plan will contribute significantly to the cumulative impacts of past, ongoing, or future projects. This General Plan recognizes the need for wilderness and resource protection by setting guidelines for the preservation of natural and cultural resources within the Park. Some types of recreation will be reduced or designated to certain areas within the Park in an effort to protect valued resources. A portion of the Park is included in the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountain National Monument. California State Parks will coordinate with the USFS and BLM in the preparation and implementation of the management plan for the national monument while retaining autonomous control of the Park.

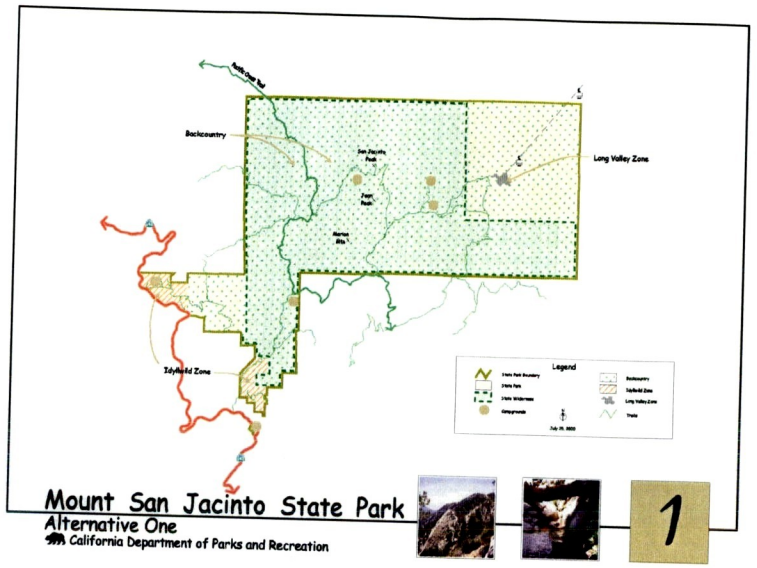
MITIGATION MONITORING

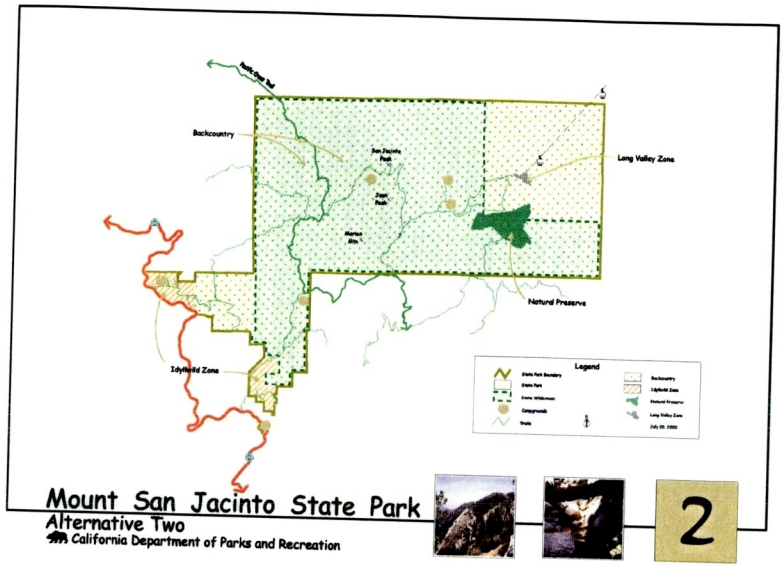
Mitigation will be specified at the time each project proposed under the General Plan is prepared. A Mitigation Monitoring Program will be developed and implemented, as appropriate, for each California State Parks project as required under CEQA guidelines Sec 15091(d) and will require approval of natural and cultural specialists.

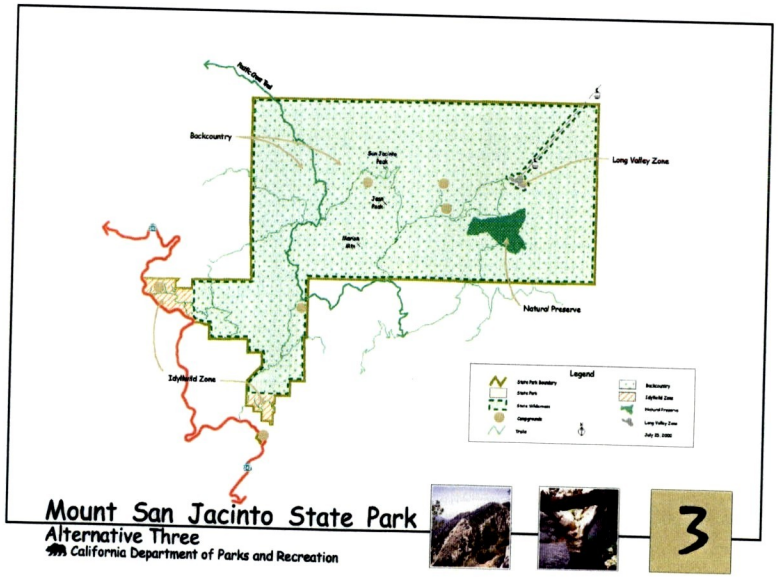
PUBLIC COORDINATION

Public Involvement in development of the General Plan included two public meetings in October 1999 and two subsequent meetings May of 2000 and January of 2001, and is discussed in detail on page 30. Additionally, California State Parks has closely coordinated the General Plan development with the USFS and the WPA.

A Notice of Preparation (NOP) and the Preliminary General Plan/Draft EIR were circulated through the State Clearinghouse to state agencies, as well as to appropriate city and county planning offices, Federal agencies, special interest organizations and individuals. The State Clearinghouse reference number is SCH #2000031109. The public review period closed on December 3, 2001. Seventeen comment letters were received. The NOP, public comment letters, and the Department's responses and findings were submitted to the State Park and Recreation Commission for their consideration in approving the plan and are retained by the Department as part of the public record. To view these materials, please contact the Department at the address shown inside the front cover.







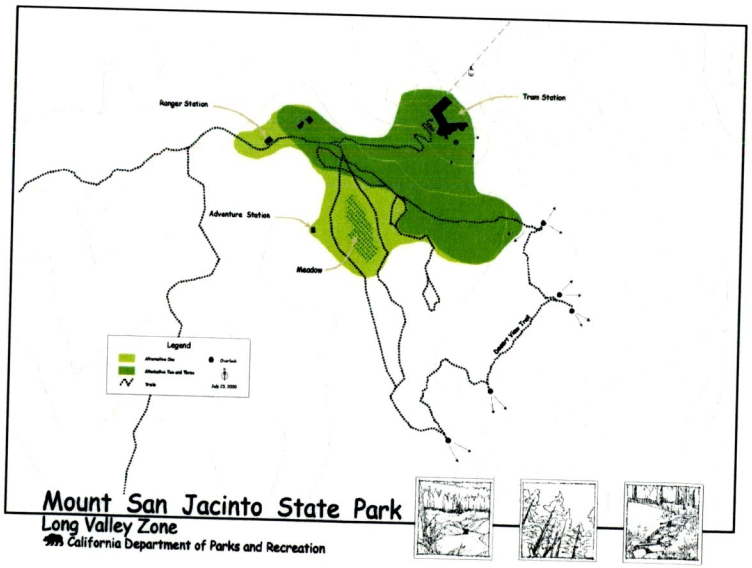


Figure – Eight
Alternative Maps
Refer to the following page for a comparison summary of the Alternatives

MOUNT SAN JACINTO GENERAL PLAN ALTERNATIVES MATRIX
PROPOSED USES AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

Figure - Nine

	Preferred Plan	Alternative 1	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	No Project
ACREAGES*					
Proposed Management Zones					
Backcountry Zone	12,465	13,240	12,993	13,074	n/a
Nature Preserve	255	n/a	255	255	n/a
Idyllwild Gateway Zone	453	434	434	336	n/a
Long Valley Gateway Zone	21	26	18	18	n/a
Long Valley Meadow Zone	55	n/a	n/a	0	n/a
Seasonal Use	1.5	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Tram Corridor	450	n/a	n/a	17	n/a
Proposed Classifications / Designations					
Wilderness	12,465	10,089	9,892	13,074	9,900
Natural Preserve	255	n/a	255	255	n/a
State Park	980	3611	3553	371	3,800
IMPACTS					
Natural Resources	Protects the most sensitive resources in the Nature Preserve, greater protection of Long Valley Meadow with implementation of the General Plan guidelines. All new potentially significant impacts will be below significance.	Essentially unchanged from existing conditions. Meadows in Long Valley subject to erosion, compaction, denuded vegetation. Potential significant unmitigable impacts.	same as Preferred Plan except 1) more natural resources are potentially impacted if there is development in the State Park designated land and 2) the land configuration for the Idyllwild Gateway Zone is different.	same as Preferred Plan except that the Idyllwild and Tramway Corridor Zones are smaller and potential impacts of park development within those areas would be eliminated.	same as Alternative 1, except that there would be no new facilities
Cultural Resources	Provides protection for all significant cultural resources. No potentially significant unmitigated impacts.	Allows potential development in an area with sensitive pre-historic cultural resources. Potential significant unmitigable impacts.	same as the Preferred Plan	same as above except that there may be potentially significant adverse impacts to the Tramway which is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.	same as Alternative 1 except that there would be no new facilities
Visitor Services & Interpretation	Provides a unique wilderness experience and education to the people of California, including those with little opportunity to otherwise visit remote areas. These people include the elderly, schoolchildren and the physically disabled.	same as Preferred Plan	same as the Preferred Plan	Potentially significant adverse impacts to existing visitor services if the tramway were unable to operate. There would be less opportunity for Visitor Services in the Idyllwild Zone.	Precludes opportunity to enhance visitor services for all members of the public.
Park Operations	Allows for efficient park operations, compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and Access to Parks Guidelines.	same as Preferred Plan except for potentially requiring more personnel for resource protection enforcement	same as the Preferred Plan	Precludes mechanized equipment for fire management operations near Idyllwild/maintenance of the Desert View Trail.	Would not allow construction of new facilities within State Park. May prevent compliance with ADA requirements
Tramway Operations	Allows tramway operations and maintenance and modifies existing concession operations.	Allows tramway operations and maintenance and leaves remaining concession operations unchanged.	same as the Preferred Plan except that the Tramway would have greater operational freedom.	Precludes necessary mechanized equipment for Tramway operations/helicopter flyover	Would not allow construction of new facilities within State Park

Please note: All acreages are estimated for comparison purposes using GIS technology and are not from survey data.

Reasonable Projection of Development under the General Plan

The following table (See Figure Ten) represents a reasonable scenario of potential public-use facilities that could be developed in each of the proposed Management Zones (See Figure Seven) under the goals and guidelines proposed in the General Plan for Mount San Jacinto State Park. They each represent one of many potential scenarios in each zone. Within the range of possibilities, the scenarios depicted below portray the most extensive development that should be expected.

This matrix was developed merely to provide a means by which to represent the analysis of potential significant environmental effects that could result from implementation of the General Plan. The actual choice of types, sizes, and locations of facilities to be developed within each zone will be determined during preparation of subsequent management plans (such as the Long Valley Management Plan and amendment of the Wilderness Management Plan) or specific project plans. The decisions made in these plans will be consistent with the goals and guidelines of the General Plan and based on many factors including natural and cultural resource protection, and visitor experience.

Annual visitation estimates and square footage used in the matrix are interpolated from State Park staff surveys and historical records. Tramway mountain station and tram corridor visitation estimates were taken from the environmental document for the Palm Springs Aerial Tramway Modernization Project (SCH# 199081014), including the projected 15% increase in ridership.

REASONABLE PROJECTION OF DEVELOPMENT

Figure Ten

	Existing Condition	Reasonable Plan Projection (Cumulative)	Net Difference (Between Existing and Reasonable Plan Projection)
Idyllwild Gateway Zone			
~453 acres			
Buildings (square feet)			
Headquarters (1)	1,000	2,000	1,000
Residences (2)	2,360	2,360	0
Garages (2)	1,200	1,200	0
Maintenance (4)	1,450	1,800	350
Comfort stations (2)	1,400	2,500	1,100
Pit toilets (9)	145	192	47
Vehicle Parking	16	51	35
Trails (miles)			
Hiking Only	2	3	1
Riding & Hiking	1	1	0
Campsites			
Developed Sites (no hook-ups)	81	90	9
Developed Sites (hook-ups)	2	3	1
Tent Cabins	0	10	10
Group Camp Sites	0	5	5
Person Capacity	664	949	285
Annual Visitation (Approximate)	30,000	43,000	13,000
Long Valley Gateway Zone			
~21 acres			
Buildings (square feet)			
Ranger station	1,500	0	-1,500
Maintenace building (1)	560	0	-560
Barns (2)	1,200	0	-1,200
Mule Corral/Staging Area	2,500	0	-2,500
Amphitheater	500	0	-500
Tram Station (1)	16,500	16,500	0
Multi-use Facility w/ Amphitheater	0	8,000	8,000
			0
Vehicle Parking	0	0	0
Trails - Access Ramp (miles)	0	0	0
Campsites	0	0	0
Annual Visitation (Approximate)			
Tram Station	375,000	431,000	56,000
Long Valley	105,000	120,000	15,000

	Existing Condition	Reasonable Plan Projection (Cumulative)	Net Difference (Between Existing and Reasonable Plan Projection)
Long Valley Meadow Zone			
~ 55 acres			
Vehicle Parking	0	0	0
Trails (miles)			
Hiking Only	0	2	2
Riding and Hiking	3	0	-3
Unsanctioned Volunteer Routes (approximate)	2	0	-2
Campsites	0	0	0
Annual Visitation (Approximate)	105,000	120,000	15,000
Backcountry Zone			
~12,465 acres			
Buildings (square feet)			
Historic Buildings (3)	400	400	0
Pit Toilets (10)	160	160	0
Vehicle Parking	0	0	0
Trails Riding and Hiking (miles)	36	36	0
Campsites			
Primitive Sites	50	50	0
Person Capacity	400	400	0
Annual Visitation (Approximate)	50,000	58,000	8,000
Hidden Divide Natural Preserve			
~255 acres			
Vehicle Parking	0	0	0
Trails - Hiking Only	1	1	1
Campsites	0	0	0
Annual Visitation (Approximate)	1,000	1,150	150
Seasonal-Use Zone			
~1.5 acres			
Buildings (square feet)			
Adventure Center	1,100	100	-1,000
Pit toilets (2)	32	32	0
Vehicle Parking	0	0	0
Campsites	0	0	0
Annual Visitation (Approximate)	9,200	10,600	1,400
Tram Corridor Zone			
~450			
Tramway towers (each)	4	4	0
Annual Visitation (on tram)	375,000	431,000	56,000

Manzanita branching pattern

Appendices

5

APPENDIX A

Sensitive Plant Species Potentially Occurring at Mount San Jacinto State Park

Plant Taxa	Common Name	**Listing Status	Blooming Period	Presence	Habitat
Arabis johnstonii	Johnston's rock cress	1B, 3	Feb - June	Possible	Dry, rocky slopes
Calochrotus palmeri var. *munzii*	Munz's mariposa lily	1B, 3	June - July	Possible	Ponderosa pine forest
Calochortus plummerae	Plummer's mariposa lily	1B, 2	May - July	Possible	Dry, rocky chaparral, ponderosa pine forest
Castilleja lasiorhyncha	San Bernardino Mountains owl's clover	1B, 1	June - Aug	Possible	Meadows, flats, open forest
Caulanthus simulans	Payson's jewelflower	4, 1	March - June	Possible	Open, dry areas
Eriogonum foliosum	Leafy buckwheat	1B, 2	July - Oct	Possible	Sand
Erigeron breweri var. *jacinteus*	San Jacinto Mountains daisy	4, 1	June - Sept	Confirmed	Rocky areas in subalpine and upper coniferous forests
Galium angustifolium ssp. *jacinticum*	San Jacinto Mountains bedstraw	1B, 3	June - Aug	Possible	Open, mixed forest
Heuchera hirsutissima	Shaggy-haired alumroot	1B, 3	May - July	Confirmed	Rocky areas
Heuchera parishii	Parish's alumroot	1B, 2	June - Aug	Possible	Rocky areas
Ivesia callida	Tahquitz ivesia	1B, 3	July - Sept	Possible	Granite crevices
Linanthus jaegeri (formerly *Leptodactylon j.*)	San Jacinto prickly phlox	1B, 2	July - Aug	Confirmed	Dry, rocky areas
Lilium parryi	Lemon lily	1B, 2	July - Aug	Confirmed	Meadows, streams in montane coniferous forest
Malaxis monophyllos ssp. *brachypoda*	Adder's-mouth	2, 3	June - Aug	Possible	Wet meadows, shaded places, coniferous forest

APPENDIX A (continued)

Sensitive Plant Species Potentially Occurring at Mount San Jacinto State Park

Plant Taxa	Common Name	**Listing Status	Blooming Period	Presence	Habitat
Monardella macrantha ssp. *hallii*	Hall's monardella	1B, 2	June - Aug	Possible	Chaparral, woodland,forest
Muhlenbergia californica	California muhly	1B, 2	July - Sept	Possible	Streambanks, canyons, moist ditches
Penstemon californicus	California beardtongue	1B, 3	May - June	Possible	Sandy soils, ponderosa pine forest or juniper-pinyon woodland
Penstemon clevelandii var. *connatus*	San Jacinto beardtongue	4, 1	March - May	Confirmed	Rocky hillsides and crevices in chaparral and desert scrub
Poa atropurpurea	San Bernardino blue grass	1B, 2 FE	April - June	Confirmed	Moist meadows
Potentilla rimicola	Cliff cinquefoil	1B, 2	July - Sept	Confirmed	Granite crevices
Scutellaria bolanderi ssp. *austromontana*	Southern skullcap	1B, 2	June - Aug	Confirmed	Gravelly soils, streambanks, oak or pine woodland
Streptanthus bernardinus	Laguna Mountains jewel-flower	1B, 2	June - July	Confirmed	Montane conifer forest: 3900 - 8200 ft.
Streptanthus campetris	Southern jewel-flower	1B, 2	May - July	Confirmed	Open, rocky coniferous forest, chaparral, woodland
Trichostema austromontanum ssp. *compactum*	Hidden Lake bluecurls	1B, 2	July - Sept	Confirmed	Hidden Lake only (vernal lake)

** Refer to Appendix C for Listing Status definitions

APPENDIX B

Sensitive Animal Species Potentially Occurring at Mount San Jacinto State Park

Taxon	Common Name	**Listing Status	Presence
Ensatina eschscholtzi	Large-blotched Salamander	CSC, FSC, FSS	Confirmed
Rana muscosa	Mountain Yellow-legged Frog	CSC(E), FPE, CP, FSS	Confirmed
Phrynosoma coronatum blainvillii	San Diego Horned Lizard	CSC, FSC, CP, FSS	Confirmed
Cnemidophorustigris multiscutatus	Coastal Western Whiptail	FSC	Probable
Charina bottae umbratica	Southern Rubber Boa	CT, FSC, FSS, CP	Confirmed
Charina trivirgata	Rosy Boa	FSC	Confirmed
Diadophis punctatus modestus	San Bernardino Ringneck Snake	FSS	Confirmed
Lampropeltis zonata parvirubra	San Bernardino Mountain Kingsnake	CSC, FSC, CP, FSS	Probable
Thamnophis hammondii hammondii	Two-striped Garter Snake	CSC, FSC, CP, FSS	Probable
Crotalus ruber ruber	Northern Red-diamond Rattlesnake	CSC, FSC	Confirmed
Accipiter gentilis	Northern Goshawk	CSC, FSC, FSS, MNBMC (nesting)	Possible
Accipiter cooperi	Cooper's Hawk	CSC, ABL (nesting)	Confirmed
Accipiter Striatus	Sharp-shinned Hawk	CSC, ABL (nesting)	Confirmed
Aquila chrysaetos	Golden Eagle	CSC, CP	Confirmed
Falco columbarius	Merlin	CSC (wintering)	Confirmed
Falco mexicanus	Prairie Falcon	CSC, FSS (nesting)	Confirmed
Falco peregrinus anatum	American Peregrine Falcon	CE, delisted(FE), CP, FSS, MNBMC	Possible, transient
Asio otus	Long-eared Owl	CSC, FSS (nesting)	Confirmed
Strix occidentalis occidentalis	California Spotted Owl	CSC, FSC, FSS, MNBMC	Confirmed
Chaetura vauxi	Vaux's Swift	CSC, MNBMC (nesting)	Confirmed (migrant)
Cypseloides niger	Black Swift	CSC, FSS, MNBMC(nesting)	Confirmed
Selaphorus rufus	Rufous Hummingbird	MNBMC, PIF (nesting)	Confirmed (migrant)
Contopus borealis	Olive-sided Flycatcher	MNBMC, PIF (nesting)	Confirmed

APPENDIX B (continued)
Sensitive Animal Species Potentially Occurring at Mount San Jacinto State Park

Taxon	Common Name	**Listing Status	Presence
Progne subis	Purple Martin	CSC, FSS, ASC (nesting)	Probable
Vireo bellii pusillus	Least Bell's Vireo	CE, FE, MNBMC, ABL, PIF (nesting)	Possible
Vireo vicinior	Gray Vireo	CSC, FSS, MNBMC(nesting)	Possible
Dendroica occidentalis	Hermit Warbler	MNBMC, ABL, PIF(nesting)	Confirmed (migrant)
Wilsonia pusillus	Wilson's Warbler	FSS	Probable
Dendroica petechia brewsteri	Yellow Warbler	CSC, FSS, ASC (nesting)	Possible
Spizella atrogularis	Black-chinned Sparrow	PIF(nesting)	Possible
Carduelis lawrencei	Lawrence's Goldfinch	MNBMC, AWL, PIF(nesting)	Probable
Myotis yumanensis	Yuma Myotis	CSC, FSC	Confirmed
Myotis evotis	Long-eared Myotis	FSC	Confirmed
Myotis thysanodes	Fringed Myotis	FSC, WBWG	Confirmed
Myotis volans	Long-legged Myotis	FSC, WBWG	Probable
Myotis ciliolabrum	Small-footed Myotis	FSC	Confirmed
Lasiurus blossvillei	Western Red Bat	CSC, FSS	Probable
Corynorhinus townsendii	Western Big-eared Bat	CSC, FSC, FSS, WBWG	Possible
Euderma maculatum	Spotted Bat	CSC, FSC, WBWG	Probable
Antrozous pallidus	Pallid Bat	CSC, FSS, WBWG	Possible
Nyctinomops femorosaccus	Pocketed Free-tailed Bat	CSC	Confirmed
Nyctinomops macrotus	Big Free-tailed Bat	CSC	Possible
Eumops perotis californicus	Western Mastiff Bat	CSC, FSC, WBWG	Confirmed
Glaucomys sabrinus californicus	San Bernardino Flying Squirrel	CSC, FSC	Probable, but none recent
Tamias speciosus speciosus	Lodgepole Chipmunk	FSC	Probably extirpated
Chaetodipus fallax	San Diego Pocket Mouse	CSC, FSC	Possible
Ovis canadensis	Peninsular bighorn sheep	CT, FE, CFP, FSS	Confirmed
Bassariscus astutus	Ringtail	CP	Confirmed
Felis concolor	Mountain Lion	FSS	Probable

**Refer to Appendix C for Listing Status definition

APPENDIX C

Listing Status Definitions

Listing status code definitions used by the California Native Plant Society (CNPS), the State of California (i.e., California Department of Fish and Game), and the Federal Government (i.e., U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service) to describe the degree of endangerment and the legal status of sensitive plant taxa.

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY (CNPS) LISTS

List 1A: Plants presumed extinct in California

List 1B: Plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere

List 2: Plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California, but more common elsewhere

List 3: Plants about which more information is needed

List 4: Plants of limited distribution

CNPS R-E-D CODE

R (Rarity)

1. Rare, but found in sufficient numbers and distributed widely enough that the potential for extinction or extirpation is low at this time
2. Occurrence confined to several populations or to one extended population
3. Occurrence limited to one or a few highly restricted populations, or present in such small numbers that it is seldom reported

E (Endangerment)

1. Not endangered
2. Endangered in a portion of its range
3. Endemic to California

D (Distribution)

1. More or less widespread outside California
2. Rare outside California
3. Endemic to California

LISTING CODES

ABL	Audubon Society Blue List
ASC	Audubon Society Species of Concern
CE	State listed, endangered
CT	State listed, threatened
CR	State listed, rare
CSC	California Species of Concern
CP	California Protected or Fully protected Species
FE	Federal, endangered
FT	Federal, threatened
PE	Federal, proposed endangered
PT	Federal, proposed threatened
PIF	Partners of Flight, Watch List
FSC	Federal species of concern (replaces old "candidate" categories C1, C2, C3c)
FPE	Federally proposed Endangered
FSS	Forest Service Sensitive
NBMC	US Fish and Wildlife Service, Migratory Non-game Bird of Management Concern
WBWG	Western Bat Working Group – High Priority for Conservation

APPENDIX D

List of Abbreviations

ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act
BLM	Bureau of Land Management
CALVeg	Classification and Assessment with Landstat of Visible Ecological Groupings
CCC	Civilian Conservation Corps
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CNDDB	California Natural Diversity Database (California Department of Fish and Game)
CNPS	California Native Plant Society
CSP	California State Parks
CWHR	California Wildlife Habitat Relationships
DAM	Department Administrative Manual (California State Parks)
DOM	Department Operations Manual (California State Parks)
ECA	Environmental Condition Assessment
EIR	Environmental Impact Report
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
GIS	Geographic Information Systems
NHA	Natural History Association (Mount San Jacinto)
NOP	Notice of Preparation
NPS	National Park Service
PCT	Pacific Crest Trail
PCTA	Pacific Crest Trail Association
PRC	Public Resources Code
USFS	United States Forest Service
USGS	United States Geological Survey
VERP	Visitor Experience and Resource Protection
WPA	Winter Park Authority

APPENDIX E
Defined Terms

Aesthetic resource: In this general plan, the term aesthetic resource refers to the visual, audible, and other sensory factors within the park setting and its surrounding landscape that, taken together, establish the park's character and sense of place.

Asistencias: Satellite facility for a mission.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA): The ADA was signed into law by President George Bush in 1990. Divided into four titles, it guarantees people with disabilities equal access to employment, transportation and public services, public accommodations, and telecommunications.

Biotic community: A group of living organisms characterized by a distinctive combination of both animal and plant species in a particular habitat.

Biocorridors: Interconnected tracts of land characterized by significant natural resource value through which native species can disperse.

Biodiversity: The number and abundance of species found within a common environment. This includes the variety of genes, species, ecosystems, and the ecological processes that connect everything in a common environment.

Boreal : Of or pertaining to the north.

Buffer, Buffer Zone: An area of land separating two distinct land uses that acts to soften or mitigate the effects of one land use on the other. Buffer strips along a trail could block views that may be undesirable. Buffers may be set aside next to wildlife habitat to reduce abrupt change to the habitat.

California State Park Commission: Established in 1927 to advise the Director of Parks on the recreational needs of the people of California. In 1928 it gathered support for the first state park bond issue. The Commission schedules public hearings to consider each matter of classification or reclassification and the approval of the department's general plan for each park unit.

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA): A State law requiring State and local agencies to regulate activities with consideration for environmental protection. If a proposed activity has the potential for a significant adverse environmental impact, an **EIR** must be prepared and certified as to its adequacy before taking action on the proposed project. General Plans require the preparation of a "program EIR."

Cienga: A spring or wetland area. From the Spanish terms for "hundred waters."

California Species of Special Concern: This is a California Department of Fish and Game designation based on declining population levels, limited range, and/or continuing threats to certain vertebrate species. The goal of this designation is to halt or to reverse their decline by bringing attention to their status.

Classification and Assessment with Landsat of Visible Ecological Groupings (CALVeg): A land-cover mapping and monitoring system that produces vegetation maps that can pinpoint

habitats and species likely to be affected by management decisions and monitor temporal vegetative changes. These maps can also help identify and prioritize conservation activities.

Chaparral: Characterized by impenetrable stands of dense shrubs with tough evergreen leaves forming a continuous or intermittent shrub canopy. Chaparral exist in areas along the coast and montane areas of California between 30° and 40° latitude that usually have mild rainy winters and long, hot, dry summers.

Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC): President Franklin Delano Roosevelt presented to Congress in 1933, his plan to enlist 250,000 men in an effort to "preserve the natural resources of these United States." As part of this conservation movement he wanted to put city men to work restoring the country to its "former beauty."

Clear cutting: Harvesting in which all or almost all of the trees are removed in one cutting.

Department Administrative Manual (DAM) (California State Parks): Provides the policies and procedures by which California State Parks functions. Departmental manuals are intended to contain general matters of policy and procedure. In certain areas there will be information and specifications that are too detailed or lengthy to include in a manual. These more detailed materials will be prepared and issued in the form of handbooks, with each handbook devoted to a single topic.

Department Operations Manual (DOM) (California State Parks): Provides the policies and procedures that are pertinent to the operation of the State Park System. It is intended as a working guide for personnel in the Operations Division, and as a reference document for other departmental personnel. It is intended to complement the departmental manuals on Administration (**DAM**) and Planning and Development.

Dispersed camping: Camping that does not occur in a developed or primitive recreation site.

Ecology: The study of interrelationship of living things to one another and their environment.

Endangered species: A species of animal or plant is considered to be endangered when its prospects for survival and reproduction are in immediate jeopardy from one or more causes. This designation is made by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and/or the California Department of Fish and Game.

Environment: CEQA defines environment as "the physical conditions which exist within the area which will be affected by a proposed project, including land, air, water, mineral, flora, fauna, noise, and objects of historical or aesthetic significance."

Environmental Impact Report (EIR): A report required by **CEQA** that assesses all the environmental characteristics of an area and determines what effects of impacts will result if the area is altered or disturbed by a proposed action. If a proposed activity has the potential for a significant adverse environmental impact, an **EIR** must be prepared and certified as to its adequacy before taking action on the proposed project. General plans require the preparation of a "program" **EIR** appropriate to its level of specificity.

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS): Under the National Environmental Policy Act, a statement of the effects of development proposals and other major actions that significantly affect the environment and alternatives to it. The EIS is released to other agencies and the public for comment and review.

Environmental Condition Assessment (ECA): A brief version of EIS/EIR.

Escarpment: A long, precipitous, clifflike ridge of land, rock, or the like, commonly formed by faulting or fracturing of the earth's crust.

Exotic species: A species occurring in an area outside of its historically known natural range that have been intentionally introduced to or have inadvertently infiltrated into the system. Also known as alien, weed, non-native, or introduced species. Exotic animals prey upon native species and compete with them for food and habitat. Exotic plant species can convert natural ecosystems into a non-native dominated system that provide little benefit to other species in the ecosystem.

Extirpated: A species that may be locally extinct or extinct in part of it's range.

Geographic Information Systems (GIS): A computer system for capturing, storing, checking, integrating, manipulating, analyzing and displaying data related to positions on the earth's surface.

Geomorphological: Pertaining to the study of the relief features of the earth's surface and the forces that shaped them.

Grubbing: To clear ground of roots and stumps by digging them up; to dig up by the roots, uproot.

Habitat: The physical location or type of environment in which an organism or biological population lives or occurs. Habitat typically includes shelter and/or sustenance.

Headcut: The sudden change in elevation at the leading edge of a gully, creek, stream, or river. Headcuts can range from less than an inch to several feet in height.

Hydrological: Having to do with the study of water on the surface of the land, in the soil and underlying rocks, and in the atmosphere.

Interpretation: In this general plan it refers to a communication process, designed to reveal meanings and relationships of our cultural and natural heritage, through involvement with objects, artifacts, landscapes, and sites.

Metate: In the Southwestern United States, a common term for an unshaped or shaped stone slab or basin, upon which seeds, plants, pigments, or other materials are ground with the use of a handstone or mano. Also called groundstone or millingstone.

Microclimate: The essentially uniform local climate of a usually small site or habitat. Macroclimate is the general, large-scale climate of a large area that encompasses various microclimates.

Montane: Of, relating to, growing in, or being the biogeographic zone of relatively moist cool upland slopes below timberline dominated by large coniferous trees.

Notice of Preparation (NOP): A document stating that an EIR will be prepared for a particular project. It is the first step in the EIR process.

Potable water: Water suitable for human consumption.

Predation: Predatory behavior; the capture and consumption of prey.

Public Resources Code (PRC): In addition to the State Constitution and Statutes, California Law consists of 29 codes covering various subject areas. The PRC addresses natural, cultural, aesthetic, and recreational resources of the State.

Sensitive species: Plant or animal species, which are susceptible to habitat changes or impacts from activities. The designation is made at the regional level and is not part of the designation of Threatened or Endangered Species made by the US Fish and Wildlife Service or California Department of Fish and Game for animal species.

Slick/grinding slick
An area of a rock that has been worn smooth by grinding with a handstone or mano (a round-shaped or oval-shaped stone used for grinding seeds, pigments, bones).

Species of concern: An informal term that refers to those species that might be in need of concentrated conservation actions. These actions vary depending on the health of the populations and degree and types of threats. Species of concern receive no legal protection and the use of the term does not necessarily mean that the species will eventually be proposed for listing as a threatened or endangered species, under the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Taxon (pl. taxa): The general term for a biological classification group (e.g., a family, genus or species)

Thalweg: Line joining the lowest points of successive cross sections, either along a river channel or, more generally, along the valley that it occupies.

Vernal lake/pool: An ephemeral or temporary wetland that can be characterized as a shallow basin or depressional wetland with an annual cycle of shallow inundation followed by a lengthy period of exposure. They are typically found on ancient soils with an impermeable layer such as hardpan, claypan, or volcanic basalt. The impermeable layer allows the pools to retain water much longer than the surrounding areas; nonetheless, the pools are shallow enough to dry up each season. Only plants and animals that are adapted to this cycle of wetting and drying can survive in vernal pools over time.

Wilderness Act (1964): The law passed by Congress that created a National Wilderness Preservation System. Its authors defined wilderness, "in contrast with those areas where man and his own works dominate the landscape, as an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammeled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain." The act went on to require that a wilderness retain "its primeval character and influence: and that it be protected and managed in such a way that it "appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature."

APPENDIX F
References Consulted

Natural Resources:

Vegetation

Bauder, E.T. 1999. Environmental factors and Micro-distribution of Hidden Lake bluecurls (*Trichostema austromontanum* spp. *compactum*) Mount San Jacinto State Park, Riverside, California. Final Report prepared for California Department of Parks and Recreation, Colorado Desert District, Borrego Springs, California.

Franklin, J. (CalVeg). 1996. Final Report for the Four Southern Forests: Cleveland National Forest, San Bernardino National Forest, Angeles National Forest, and Los Padres National Forest. Department of Geography and Center for Earth Systems Analysis Research, San Diego State University, San Diego, California.

Hamilton, M.P. in litt. San Jacinto Mountains Forest Stewardship Database Geographic Information System. University of California James San Jacinto Mountains Reserve, Idyllwild California.

Hickman, J.C. 1993. The Jepson Manual, Higher Plants of California, J.C. Hickman (Ed.) University of California Press, Berkeley, California.

Holland, R.F. 1986. Preliminary Descriptions of terrestrial natural communities of California. California Department of Fish and Game, Nongame Heritage Program, Sacramento, California.

Munz, P.A. and I.M. Johnston. 1925. The Potentilla's of Southern California. The Bulletin of the Southern California Academy of Sciences.

Munz, P.A. 1974. A Flora of Southern California. University of California Press, Berkeley, California.

Sawyer, J.O. and T. Keeler-Wolf. 1995. A Manual for California Vegetation. California Native Plant Society, Sacramento, California.

Skinner, M.W. and B. M. Pavlik. 1994. CNPS Inventory of Rare and Endangered Vascular Plants of California, 5th ed. California Native Plant Society, Sacramento, California.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. 1998. Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Final Rule to Determine Endangered or Threatened Status for Six Plants for the Mountains of Southern California. Federal Register 63: 49006-49022.

Ecology

California Department of Fish and Game. 1998. California Wildlife Habitat Relationships. Version 6.0.

California State Parks Flora and Fauna Databases, Version 3.1. 1998. Quinn et al. University of California, Davis. Information Center for the Environment.

California Natural Diversity Database. 2000. California Department of Fish and Game, Nongame Heritage Program, Sacramento, California.

Lincer, J., D. Bittner, and J. Wells. 2000. Field notes from biological monitoring of Palm Springs Aerial Tramway Improvements Project. On file at Southern Service Center.

Rischbieter, D. 2000. Unpublished reconnaissance evaluation for select hydrologic resources of Mt. San Jacinto State Park and State Wilderness. On file at California State Parks, Southern Service Center.

Stephenson, John, Biologist for Cleveland National Forest, USFS, Rancho Bernardo, CA. Phone conversation 8/1999.

Wildlife

Anderson, Alison U.S. Fish and Wildlife Entomologist, pers. comm.

Barbour, R. W. and W. H. Davis. 1969. Bats of America. University of Kentucky Press, Lexington. 286 pp.

Barrows, C. 1986. Source cited for *Vireo bellii pusillus* occurrence record No. 63 in California Natural Diversity Data Base. California Department of Fish and Game, Sacramento, CA.

Brennan, Kevin. Biologist with California Department of Fish and Game, Hemet, CA. Telecommunication regarding bears, deer and other wildlife issues.

Brown J. W. and D. K. Faulkner. Draft. A preliminary analysis of butterfly biography in the transverse and peninsular ranges of southern California. Draft report on file at Southern Service Center.

Brown, J.W. 1991. Sensitive and Declining Butterfly Species (Insecta: Lepidoptera) in San Diego County, California. Dudek and Associates, Inc. Draft, unpublished.

Callaghan, J. 1995. Mammals, reptiles and amphibians of the Mount San Jacinto State Park and Wilderness Area. An annotated checklist. On file at Colorado Desert District, California Department of Parks and Recreation, Borrego Springs, CA.

Constantine, D. G. 1998. Range extensions of ten species of bats in California. Bull. Southern Calif. Acad. Sci. 97(2): 49-75.

Emmel, T.C. and J. F. Emmel. 1973. The Butterflies of Southern California. Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, Science Series 26: 1-148.

David Faulkner, pers. comm.

Foerster, K.S. and C.T. Collins. 1990. Breeding Distribution of the black swift in southern California. Western Birds 21:1-9.

Garrett, K. and J. Dunn. 1981. Birds of Southern California: Status And Distribution. Los Angeles Audubon Society. 408 pp.

Gould, G. 1986. Source cited for *Cypseloides niger* occurrence record No. 22 in California Natural Diversity Data Base. California Department of Fish and Game, Sacramento, CA.

Grinnell, J. and H. S. Swarth. 1913. An account of the birds and mammals of the San Jacinto area of Southern California, with remarks upon the behavior of geographic races on the margins of their habitat. University of California Publications in Zoology. Vol. 10, No. 10, pp.197-406.

Gutierrez, R.J. and J. Pritchard. 1990. Distribution, density, and age structure of spotted owls on two southern California habitat islands (MSJ and Palomar). Condor 92:491-495.

Hansen, Eric, State Park Ranger for Mount San Jacinto Sector, CDPR, Idyllwild, CA. Phone conversation and in person 8/1999.

Harris, J. 1990. Red bat, *Lasiurus borealis*. In Zeiner, D. C., W. F. Laudenslayer, Jr., K. E. Mayer and M. White (Eds.) California's Wildlife, Vol. III, Mammals. California Statewide Wildlife Habitat Relationship System. California Department of Fish and Game, Sacramento, CA

Holland, D.C., N. R. Sisk and R.H. Goodman, Jr.. 2000. A herptetofaunal survey of Mt. San Jacinto State Park, with management recommendations for sensitive species. Interim/Draft Report prepared under contract to California State Parks, Southern Service Center, #C99S0014, 05 October, 2000.

Holland, D.C., N. R. Sisk and R.H. Goodman, Jr.. 2001. A Guide to the Amphibians and Reptiles of Mt. San Jacinto State Park, Riverside County, California. Prepared under contract to California State Parks, Southern Service Center, #C99S0014, 17 September 2001.

Jennings, M. R. and M. P. Hayes. 1994. Amphibians and Reptile Species of Special Concern in California. Final Report submitted to the Department of Fish and Game Inland Fisheries Division under contract No. 8023. 255 pp.

Miner K. and D. Stokes. 1999. Unpublished bat survey field notes for Mt. San Jacinto State Park and Wilderness Resource Inventory. Southern Service Center, California Department of Parks and Recreation, San Diego, CA.

Pierson, E. D. and W. E. Rainey. 1998. Distribution, habitat associations, status and survey methodologies for three Molossid bat species (*Eumops perotis, Nyctinomops femorosaccus, Nyctinomops macrotis*) and the Vespertilionid (*Euderma maculatum*). Final report to Cal. Dept. of Fish and Game, Wildlife Management Division, Contract No. FG2328WM.

Simons, D., J. Stephenson, D. Stokes, K. Miner, P. Brown and L. Underwood. 1999. Distribution and habitat associations of bat species in the mountains of southern California: 1996-98. Unpublished draft manuscript, U. S. Forest Service sponsored research.

Scott, J. A. 1986. The Butterflies of North America, a Natural History and Field Guide. Stanford University Press, Stanford, California.

Stebbins, R. C. 1954. Source cited for *Phrynosoma coronatum blainvillei* occurrence record No. 70 in California Natural Diversity Data Base. California Department of Fish and Game, Sacramento, CA.

Stebbins, R. C. 1985. A Field Guide to Western Reptiles and Amphibians, Second Edition, Revised. A Peterson Field Guide Series. Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston. 336 pp.

Stewart, G. R. 1980. Source cited for *Charina bottae umbratica* occurrence record No. 28 & 31 in California Natural Diversity Data Base. California Department of Fish and Game, Sacramento, CA.

Unitt, P. 1981. Birds of Hot Springs Mountain, San Diego County, California. Western Birds 12:125-135.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. 1997. Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Final Rule: Determination of Endangered Status for the Laguna Mountains Skipper and Quino Checkerspot Butterfly. Federal Register 62: 2313-2322.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. 1998. Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Proposed Rule: Proposed Endangered Status for the Southern California Population Distinct Vertebrate Population Segment of the Mountain Yellow-Legged Frog. Federal Register 64: 71714-71721.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. 1999. Draft Recovery Plan for the Bighorn Sheep in the Peninsular Ranges. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Portland, OR.

U. S. Forest Service. 1999. Table of sensitive animals of the San Bernardino National Forest by forest district dated March, 1999. Provided by Diane Freeman, wildlife biologist for San Jacinto District, San Bernardino National Forest.

Williams, D. F. 1986. Mammalian Species of Special Concern in California. Wildlife Management Division Administrative Report No. 86-1. 112 pp.

Cultural Resources:

Archaeology

Barrows, D. P.
1971 Desert Plant Foods of the Coahuilla. Reprinted in: *The California Indians: a Source Book.* Edited by R.F. Heizer and M. A Whipple. University of California Press, Los Angeles. Originally published 1900, in *The Ethno-Botany of the Coahuilla Indians of Southern California.* University of Chicago Press, Chicago.

Bean, L. J.
1972 *Mukat's People.* University of California Press, Los Angeles, California.

1978 Cahuilla. In *California,* edited R. F. Heizer, pp. 575-587. Handbook of North American Indians, vol. 8, W. C. Sturtevant, general editor. Smithsonian Institution, Washington D.C.

Bean, L. J. and L. Bourgeault
1989 *The Cahuilla.* Indians of North America. F. W. Porter III general editor. Chelsea House Publishers, United States.

Bean, L. J. and H. W. Lawton
1973 Some Explanations for the Rise of Cultural Complexity in Native California with Comments on Proto-Agriculture and Agriculture. In *Ballena Press Anthropological Papers* Number 1. Edited by L. J. Bean. Ballena Press, Ramona, California.

Bean, L. J. and K. Saubel
1987 *Temalpakh.* Reprinted. Rubidoux Printing Company, Riverside, California. Originally published 1972, Malki Museum Press, Banning, California.

Bean, L. J., J. Schaefer, and S. Brakke Vane
1995 *Archaeological, Ethographic, and Ethnohistoric Investigations at Tahquitz Canyon, Palm Springs, California.* Prepared for Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District. Prepared by Cultural Systems Research Inc.

Bean, L. J., S. Brakke Vane, and J. Young
1991 *The Cahuilla Landscape: The Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains.* Ballena Press, Menlo Park, California.

Farnsworth, L. A. W. & P. Farnsworth
1989 *Analysis of Artifacts Recovered from a Historic Dumpsite at the Idyllwild Campground, Mount San Jacinto State Park, California.* On file at DPR, SSC, San Diego

Heizer, R. F. and M. A. Whipple
1971 *The California Indians: A Source Book.* University of California Press, Los Angeles.

Kroeber, A. L.
1971 Elements of Culture in Native California. Reprinted in: *The California Indians: a Source Book.* Edited by R.F. Heizer and M. A Whipple. University of California Press, Los Angeles. Originally Published 1922, in University of California Publications in American Archaeology and Ethnology, 13:260-328.

1976 *Handbook of the Indians of California.* Reprinted. Dover Publications, New York. Originally published 1925 as Bulletin 78, Smithsonian Institution, Bureau of American Ethnology, Government Printing Office, Washington D.C.

Love, B.
1999 Draft Native American Consultation Report. Prepared for the Palm Springs Aerial tramway Improvement Project. On file at DPR, SSC, San Diego.

Moratto, M. J.
1984 *California Archaeology.* Academic Press, Inc., Orlando.

Powell, J. W.
1966 Indian Linguistic Families of America North of Mexico. In *American Indian Languages.* Edited by P. Holder. University of Nebraska Press, Lincoln. Originally published (1891) in *Seventh Annual Report,* Bureau of American Ethnology, Government Printing Office, Washington D.C.

Remeika, P. and L. Lindsay
1992 *Geology of Anza-Borrego: Edge of Creation.* Sunbelt Publications, San Diego. Kendall/Hunt Publishing Co, Dubuque, Iowa.

Ruby, J.
1961 Aboriginal Uses of Mount San Jacinto State Park. Report on file at DPR, SSC, San Diego.

Wallace, W.
1978 Post-Pleistocene Archaeology, 9000 to 2000 B.C. In *California,* edited R. F. Heizer, pp. 575-587. Handbook of North American Indians, vol. 8, W. C. Sturtevant, general editor. Smithsonian Institution, Washington D.C.

Site Forms

Block, L.
1982a Site Form for CA-RIV-3426H (Peak Shelter).

1982b Site Form for Round Valley Ranger Station.

1982c Mount San Jacinto State Park Residence #1.

Foster, J., E. Fisher, E. Gonzales
1981 Site form for CA-RIV-2188.

Kingman, G.
1967 Site Form for CA-RIV-416

Morin, M.
1977 Site Form for CA-RIV-1866.

Roland, C. and E. Barter
1992 Site form for Idyllwild Campground.

Sampson, M.
1988a Site Form for CA-RIV-3425H (Wellman's Cabin)

1988b Site Update Form for CA-RIV-3426H (Peak Shelter)

1989 Site Form for CA-RIV-3666H

Sampson, M. and D. Renner
1988 Site Update Form for CA-RIV-416

Schwaderer, R.
1996 Site form for Sawmill Flats Site.

Van Wormer, S.
1998 Site form for Mount San Jacinto State Park Headquarters Historic District (Idyllwild Campground).

History

California Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR)
1968 Unit History: Mount San Jacinto Wilderness State Park. On file at DPR, SSC, San Diego.

Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC)
1935 Summary Report, Fifth Period, April 1 – September 30. On file at California Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR), Southern Service Center (SSC), 8885 Rio San Diego Drive, Suite 270, San Diego, California, 92108.

Davis, R. C.
1973 Wilderness, Politics, and Bureaucracy: Federal and State Politics in the Administration of San Jacinto Mountain, Southern California, 1920-1967. University of California, Riverside, Ph.D. Dissertation.

Emergency Conservation Work, Office of the Director [ECW]
1935 Camp Report, August 23. On file at DPR, SSC, San Diego.

Gunther, J. D.
1984 *Riverside County, California, Place Names: Their Origins and Their Stories.* Rubidoux Printing Co. Riverside, California.

Hinds, N. E.
1952 *Evolution of the California Landscape.* California Department of Natural Resources, Division of Mines. Bulletin 158. San Francisco.

Idyllwild Town Crier (ITC)
1987 May 28 issue, Page 14.

Jefferson, G. T.
1998 Mount San Jacinto State Park 616 and Wilderness 619 Scope of Collections Statement. On file at DPR, SSC, San Diego.

Love, B. and M. Hogan
1999 Identification and Evaluation of Historic Properties: Palm Springs Aerial Tramway. On file at DPR, SSC, San Diego.

Mount San Jacinto State Park (MSJ)
1991 CCC Building Inventory list.

National Park Service (NPS)
1935 Narrative Report July 31, 1935. On file at DPR, SSC, San Diego.

Robinson, J. and B. Risher
1993 *The San Jacintos.* Big Santa Anita Historical Society, Arcadia, California.

Planning Team

Brian Cahill
District Interpretive Specialist
Colorado Desert District

Rick Campbell
Sector Superintendent
Mount San Jacinto

Paul Jorgensen
Resource Ecologist
Colorado Desert District

Barney Matsumoto
Project Leader
Southern Service Center

Brenda McMillan
Associate Resource Ecologist
Southern Service Center

Marla Mealey
Associate State Archaeologist
Southern Service Center

Heidi West
Assistant Resource Ecologist
Southern Service Center

Planning Assistance

Laurie Archambault
Associate Resource Ecologist
Southern Service Center

Alex Bevil
State Historian II
Southern Service Center

Ronilee Clark
District Superintendent
San Diego Coast District

Lisa Fields
Environmental Service Intern
Southern Service Center

Jerry Frates
Supervising Ranger
Mount San Jacinto Sector

Eric Hanson
Park Ranger I
Mount San Jacinto Sector

Larry Hendrickson
Environmental Services Intern
Colorado Desert District

Greg Lewis
Senior Civil Engineer
Southern Service Center

Patricia McFarland
Archaeological Project Leader
Southern Service Center

Karen Miner
Senior Resource Ecologist
Southern Service Center

Marsha Moss
Associate Park and Recreation Specialist
Southern Service Center

Bob Patterson
Senior Landscape Architect
Southern Service Center

Roy Pettus
Associate State Archaeologist
Southern Service Center

Clay Phillips
Chief
Southern Service Center

Tina Robinson
Associate Park and Recreation Specialist
Southern Service Center

Douglas Rischbieter
Associate Resource Ecologist
Calaveras District

Robert Shanaberger
Research Analyst II — GIS
Southern Service Center

Dave Van Cleve
District Superintendent
Colorado Desert District

Gary Watts
District Superintendent
Inland Empire District

Special thanks to:

- The staff at Colorado Desert District and the Mount San Jacinto Sector Headquarters who provided considerable knowledge and support
- The many citizens who helped shape this plan through their participation at workshops and meetings
- Individuals with various local, State, and Federal agencies
- Marla Mealey for her desktop publishing and editing knowledge
- Karen Beery for her editing input

California State Parks Mission

The mission of the California Department of Parks and Recreation is to provide for the health, inspiration, and education of the people of California by helping to preserve the state s extraordinary biological diversity, protecting its most valuable natural and cultural resources, and creating opportunities for high-quality outdoor recreation.