

Environmental Analysis





SUMMARY

The California Department of Parks and Recreation is the lead agency responsible for the preparation of environmental review documentation for the proposed Santa Susana Pass State Historic 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 Santa Susana Pass Historic Park. This State 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 CEOA 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 site-specific projects (such as a Visitor Center or Staging Area) and management plans 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.

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. increased erosion. altered dust. patterns, drainage lowered water degradation quality, 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 be required under Guidelines Sections 15152 and 15385, as management or development plans potentially proposed. All 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 3) and Plan Section (page 57). In summary, the proposed Santa Susana Pass State Historic Park 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 operational facilities.

The General Plan proposes to:

- Establish management zones, goals and guidelines to protect sensitive resources.
- Consolidate visitor-serving facilities and access points at gateway areas and secondary

- access points located in existing locations and less sensitive or previously disturbed locations.
- Provide accessible interpretive and recreational programs to the public.

The General Plan also establishes the primary interpretive themes for programs and activities. Additionally, this General Plan contains specific proposals to consolidate the Park's trail system and eliminate duplicate or volunteer trails and relocate several trails away from sites with sensitive resources.

ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

Please refer to the description of the environmental setting in the earlier sections: Existing Conditions and Issues (page 15), Natural Resources (page 16), Cultural Resources (page 25), Aesthetic Resources (page 42), Recreational Resources (page 43), Planning Influences (page 49), and Appendices A through F.

Because the Park is situated in a mountainous pass between the City of Los Angeles' San Fernando Valley and Simi Valley in Ventura County, vehicular access to the Park is limited to a few trailheads with parking either on City of Los Angeles streets or parks or Ventura County streets. There are a number of trail access points into the Park from local streets and three local parks. Please refer to Figure 2 which shows the existing access into the Park.

PLAN ALTERNATIVES

Based on the accumulation of information from resource studies, other agencies, Park managers, and the general public (at three public

meetings and six stakeholder meetings), three 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 education. and neighboring communities.

The Preferred Plan was originally developed to incorporate comment and the increasing amount of resource and operational data discovered during the planning and public involvement process. However, at the third public meeting, additional concerns were raised and a series of stakeholder meetings were held to gain additional input. The Preferred Plan was changed to reflect a number of these concerns. Locations secondary public access to the Park were changed as well as some of the concepts for proposed uses. For example, the existing public access at Jeffrey Mark Court will be closed and moved to another location to the east.

The Preferred Alternative (Preferred Plan) is discussed in the *Plan Section* starting on page 57 and shown in Figure 5 (page 93). The alternatives were developed to show a range in the amounts of land placed in different management zones and the resulting effect that these zone designations may have on the uses allowed within each area. These alternatives are shown in Figure 6 and are compared in the following Alternatives Matrix (Table 4).



Table 4: Alternatives Matrix

	Preferred Plan	Alternative 1/Least Environmentally Damaging	Alternative 2
Primary Historic Zone	155 acres*	248 acres*	174 acres*
Scenic Ridge Zone	465 acres*	389 acres*	445 acres*
North Forty Zone	21 acres*	2 acres*	21 acres*
Riparian Zone	40 acres*	41 acres*	39 acres*
Gateway Zone & Secondary Access Points	Gateway = 2 Secondary Access = 4	Gateway = 2 Secondary Access = 5	Gateway = 4 Secondary Access = 2
Trail Mileage	9.2 miles	5 miles	9.5 miles
Natural Resources	Protects the most sensitive resources with implementation of the General Plan guidelines. All new potentially significant impacts will be below significance.	Same as Preferred Plan except has fewer trails and potential wildlife/visitor conflicts.	Essentially unchanged from existing conditions. Trails and riparian area subject to erosion, compaction, & denuded vegetation. Potential significant impacts with increased use over time.
Cultural Resources	Provides protection for all significant cultural resources. No potentially significant unmitigated impacts.	Better protection than Preferred Plan because users are not active in areas with the most sensitive resources and the type of use is limited.	Allows potential development in an area with sensitive prehistoric cultural resources. Potential significant unmitigable impacts.
Aesthetics	Potentially adverse visual effects due to the introduction of new facilities into the Park. Facilities will be designed to fit the topography but may create a significant adverse effect to some viewers.	Overall, better than the Preferred Plan because there would be less development and fewer trails. However, this alternative still may create a significant adverse visual effect to some viewers because some facilities will still be constructed.	Alternative 2 would have similar effects to the Preferred Plan, although some facility locations are in different areas.
Recreation	Reduction of some trail experiences for various user groups due to the consolidation and closure of some trails. Other opportunities will be made available to at least partially mitigate this effect.	Significant reduction of recreational experience for trail users of all types in the Park.	Alternative 2 would leave the trails in essentially the same condition as the existing network with some consolidation of trails.
Geological, Land Form, and Water Resources	Potential effect due to new development but less than significant due to location and future design of facilities.	Less effect than the Preferred Plan because less development would be proposed.	Same as Preferred Plan except for a slightly greater potential for erosion and reduced water quality from trail use.
Visitor Services & Interpretation	Provides a unique trail, cultural, and scenic experience and education to the people of California including those with little opportunity to otherwise visit remote areas.	Less quality of recreational experience than the Preferred Plan and a loss of existing recreational resources and trail use.	Same as Preferred Plan
Park Operations	Allows for efficient park operations, compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and Access to Parks Guidelines.	Same as the Preferred Plan but fewer facilities to serve.	Same as Preferred Plan except for potentially requiring more personnel for resource protection enforcement

^{*}All acreage figures are rounded. The Gateway Zone and Secondary Access Points acreage amounts are included under the North Forty or Scenic Ridge acreages.

Note: See following page for No Project Alternative

Preferred Alternative

The Preferred Plan

The Preferred Alternative (Figure 5) is discussed in full in the Plan Section. The following is a brief synopsis of the six proposed zones: Gateway Zone, Secondary Access Points, North Forty Zone, Primary Historic Zone, Riparian Zone, and the Scenic Ridge Zone. The Preferred Alternative also introduces the gateway concept of consolidating contact stations, infrastructure, and facilities into the least new environmentally damaging areas near points of greatest public contact.

The Gateway Zone is located along the Park's boundaries and provides major arrival points into the core of the Park. This zone will provide visitor orientation and support facilities such as interpretation, restroom facilities, and parking.

Secondary Access Points enhance trail connections to adjoining open spaces and to maintain access to neighboring communities. The level of improvements in these zones will be minor, with limited parking and visitor orientation elements such as signage and minor restroom facilities.

The North Forty Zone is on the northern fringe of the Park immediately adjacent to Santa Susana Pass Road. This area contains steep topography as well as flat areas that could be developed into camping or staging areas.

The Primary Historic Zone lies in the southern half of the Park and contains a high concentration of cultural resources that are unique for their historical, archeological, and scientific significance. This zone includes the Old Santa Susana Stagecoach Road.

The Primary Historic Zone modifies the existing National Register property boundary within the Park to better protect the resources, while allowing for maximum interpretation and recreational use in the southern half of the Park.

The Riparian Zone contains the major drainage of the Park, which runs parallel with Santa Susana Pass Road. This zone serves as an important wildlife corridor to adjoining open spaces and a high aesthetic value, for it is a welcome and lush retreat within the Park's boulder strewn landscape.

The Scenic Ridge Zone encompasses the majority of the Park's rock outcroppings and ridges. This zone is to remain rustic in nature with minimal development such as interpretive programs and trails.

Under tiered the environmental process, from changes existing conditions and operations proposed by CDPR undergo additional must environmental review to avoid or minimize impacts resources. to However, the proposed trail system in Preferred Alternative consolidate existing trails into specific alignments and close trails in several locations to protect sensitive natural and cultural resources.

No Project Alternative

Public Resource Code Section 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 trail management, and other 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 (including trails) to minimize environmental impacts, enhance park interpretation, and create a higher quality of visitor experience would be difficult to execute under the No Project Alternative.

Alternative 1 (Environmentally Preferred Alternative)

While Alternative 1 (see map on page 95) provides additional protection to sensitive resources, it has an adverse effect on certain existing outdoor recreation activities including equestrian use, mountain bike use, and hiking. These activities would be restricted to fewer trails, providing only 5 miles of trails in relation to the 9.2 miles of trails in the Preferred Plan. This alternative could cause significant impact to recreation and is not within the general public's level of acceptable change. Furthermore, CDPR contends that sensitive resources can be adequately protected, in compliance with existing policies and regulations, through resource-protective goals and guidelines and site-specific management and enforcement incorporated into the Preferred Plan. Alternative 1 would also preclude the opportunity for a campground in the North Forty Zone, although it would allow for remote camping in the Scenic Ridge Zone.

Alternative 2

Alternative 2 combines the Gateway concept of an earlier generation of the Preferred Alternative while continuing the existing land-use designations at Santa Susana Pass State Historic Park. This Alternative would allow uses to continue in their current condition within the Primary Historic Zone and Riparian Zone. This alternative would also expand visitor uses from the condition the current through placement of gateways in four locations within the Park.

It is not preferred because it does not enough resource protection particularly to sensitive resources identified on pages 16 to 54 in the General Plan/Environmental Impact Report, Appendices A, B, and C and the Resource Inventory (Appendix G, under separate cover), given the current knowledge of visitor impacts and past uses. Specifically, it would allow continued trail use through sensitive biological and cultural resource areas. Impacts associated with visitor use in these areas include degradation of cultural sensitive resources potential habitat and wildlife barriers with the riparian zone. Since these are existing uses, it would not create immediate new adverse effects on these resources but would, instead, allow these impacts to continue or increase as the Park's visitor use increases over time. Park managers are directed to protect these resources from damage through resource policies including

DOM Section 0300. Natural Resources; DOM Section 0400.Cultural Resources: the Cultural Resources Management Handbook; set forth in and other policies Department Resource Management Directives.

Additionally, it does not remove the existing public access at Jeffrey Mark Court and proposes additional gateways at that location and at Lilac Lane. Designations of gateways in these areas were opposed by nearby residents and were removed from the Preferred Alternative after the third public meeting and subsequent stakeholder meetings.

ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS OF THE PREFERRED PLAN

The Preferred Alternative for the General Plan proposes to designate park management zones in order to limit the geographical area in which of certain types activities development can occur and to establish goals and objectives for determining appropriate amounts of these activities and developments within each zone (pages 91 to 98 and Figure 5). The Parkwide Management Goals and Guidelines Section (pages 58 to 80) provides further direction for managing the Park as a whole, including visitor use, development, and environmental protection.

As this is a General Plan, other than for use, specific proposals for potential visitor use and development have not vet 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 (Table_5, Reasonable Projections of Development).

The scenario presented, represents 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 specific project plans, as the need arises and/or funds are available for their implementation.

The decisions made in these planning efforts 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 5 the majority of potential development would be contained in the Gateway Zone. 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 Zone.

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 of the land-use purpose designations (i.e., management zones classifications) and 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 cultural resources, particularly in the Primary Historic Zone, and the maintenance of wildlife corridors.

Implementation of specific projects such as development of a Visitor Center, campgrounds, or equestrian staging areas, has the potential to cause significant short-term and long-term effects on the environment. Long-term effects could include negative impacts to geological, hydrological, natural, cultural, and aesthetical resources resulting from development, maintenance, and use of visitor-use facilities, trails, picnic areas, sanitary disposal or systems, and parking areas. Short-term effects could include soil disturbance, dust, increased erosion, altered drainage patterns, water quality degradation impacts, of cultural disturbance resources. or degradation of sensitive plant or animal populations.

Implementation of measures to avoid, minimize, or mitigate significant

environmental effects contained in the General Plan, any 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 AND PROPOSED MITIGATION

CDPR does not have adopted thresholds for significance due to the vast diversity of the units within the state park system. However, CDPR resource specialists and environmental review staff evaluate the context and intensity of existing and proposed uses each park setting, prior determining the potential level of significance of adopting the General Plan and its goals, guidelines, and proposed land uses.

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

plant communities or populations of plant or animal.

Aesthetics

Impacts: Construction activities associated with development and maintenance of facilities, particularly in the Gateway Zone, Secondary Access Points, and North Forty Zone, have the potential to cause significant impacts to aesthetic resources (i.e., viewsheds).

Discussion: The expansive views, natural appearance of geological and biological features, and quiet solitude are significant characteristics of the Park that are highly valued by the public. The General Plan recognizes this (see page 57) and limits the Park's overall development and visitor densities. Future facilities are restricted to specific zones representing a small percentage of the Park's acreage. The Gateway Zone and North Forty Zone will allow for the most intensive development that may occur within the Park including a visitor restrooms, campsites, maintenance facilities and electrical hookups, and has the highest potential for negative impacts aesthetic resources. to However, smaller facilities located in the other management zones also have the potential to negatively affect aesthetic resources. Future projects should be designed to be consistent with cultural, historical, and natural characteristics and themes of Santa Susana Pass State Historic Park. Structures should be aesthetically pleasing to the eye, as well as blending in with the environment and fitting with the natural contours of the land, in order to limit grading and visual impacts.

Future projects will follow General Plan goals and guidelines, and any specific management plans containing guiding criteria or mitigation measures for limiting impacts to the physical natural and cultural resources that provide the Park's unique aesthetic characteristics (see pages 58 to 90). To avoid, minimize, or mitigate negative impacts aesthetic resources. mitigation measures that are deemed appropriate and necessary at the time a project is scoped for implementation will be incorporated.

Mitigation AR 1: Design and review of proposed projects and activities shall consider potential effects to sitespecific aesthetic resources including regional characteristics and themes, viewsheds, dark skies, topographical, geological, cultural, and natural features. Design and construction measures that avoid. minimize, or mitigate these effects shall be incorporated into everv project.

Biological Resources

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

<u>Discussion</u>: Many of the General Plan goals and guidelines address the protection and management of natural resources. Management of biotic resources includes maintenance of native plant communities, inventory and monitoring programs, protection of special status plants and animals, control of nonnative plants and animals, protection of habitat buffers



and corridors. movement and protection of natural resources from recreation and facility development. Natural Resource goals and guidelines (see page 59 to 68) recognize that activities associated with construction, maintenance. facility use. recreation have the potential to cause and long-term impacts to sensitive species and the ecosystem. It is essential to periodically survey key resources and implement management directives to protect and preserve natural resources if necessary. Measures to avoid, minimize, or mitigate impacts must be incorporated into any future Management Plans, development projects, and specific management actions. All actions will be in compliance with federal and state regulatory requirements. projects will follow General Plan guidelines, and include mitigation measures that are appropriate and necessary at the time a project is scoped for implementation.

Mitigation BR 1:Prior to construction of facilities, potentially affected areas will be surveyed for the presence of special status species. Special status species found on a project 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, alternative sites will be considered, the area shall be flagged, and personnel educated on the sensitivity of an area and instructed to avoid it.

Mitigation BR 2: 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, CDPR 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, activities construction will be postponed until the potential for negative effects has passed. Sensitive habitat areas shall be flagged and construction personnel shall educated on the sensitivity of the area and instructed to avoid the area.

Mitigation BR 3: 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.

Cultural Resources

<u>Impact</u>: Construction of facilities and visitor-use activities 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. prehistoric These include Native American use and sacred sites, historic stagecoach station and quarry sites, and the historic stagecoach trails. Several goals and guidelines contained in the General Plan address the protection of these cultural resources, including protection. identification. archaeological interpretation of resources, ethnographic resources, and

historic resources and protection of cultural resources from recreation or development (pages 69 to 76). These goals and guidelines recognize that activities associated with 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 Measures protection. to avoid. minimize, or mitigate impacts need to incorporated into any 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 for implementation, following mitigation measures will be incorporated.

Mitigation CR 1: 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 facilities will be designed constructed to avoid archaeological resources to the extent possible. If impacts to archaeological remains are unavoidable, then a recovery plan will be developed and implemented. A CDPR 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 CR 2: Any proposed project will be reviewed for its potential to affect significant historical resources. All significant historical resources will be mapped, recorded, and evaluated to determine their eligibility placement on the National Register or California Register of Historic Places. will be Projects designed 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.

Mitigation CR 3: Information about the importance of cultural resource protection will be incorporated as part of the interpretation and signage for Santa Susana Pass State Historic Park. For example, there will be signs directing mountain bike users to walk their bikes down the portions of the Old Santa Susana Stagecoach Road that are very steep and subject to erosion or damage.

Geologic Resources

Impact: Demolition and construction activities associated with removal, consolidation development, and maintenance of facilities, particularly in the Gateway Zone, Secondary Access Points, and North Forty Zone, has the potential to cause significant increases in erosion, dust, soil disturbance, and topographic change.

<u>Discussion</u>: Grading and soil disturbance associated with facility expansion and development in the Gateway Zone, Secondary Access



Points, and North Forty Zone, such as construction of new campsites, 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 is to reduce long-term impacts to resources. including the reduction of compaction and extent of disturbed areas, through planning of facilities placement and better management of visitor use. However, removal. consolidation. construction. 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 General Plan and implemented. Facility development, campgrounds, and trails will constructed to avoid potentially hazardous areas or minimize risk. 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 for implementation, scoped following mitigation measures will be implemented.

Mitigation GR 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. Significant rock features will be avoided.

Mitigation GR 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. CDPR will use Best Management Practices throughout construction to avoid and minimize indirect impacts.

Mitigation GR 3: General Plan goals and guidelines call for ongoing monitoring of impacts to geological resources, such as change in topography and increased erosion. Geological features, including rock outcroppings that characterize the Park, will be preserved and protected from significant impacts because of visitor use.

Recreation

Impacts: Management zone designations associated with allowable visitor use has the potential to adversely affect some recreational activities as a result of cultural, natural, and aesthetic resource protection. Development, maintenance, erosion, dust, and resource degradation may also have an adverse affect on visitor experience.

Discussion: Management zone designations act as tools to preserve sensitive natural and cultural resources while providing recreation activities visitor-serving and facilities. Management zone designations have potential to restrict the certain recreational activities in some areas in order to protect sensitive resources or visitor experiences, particularly in the

Historic Zone. Some Primary recreational uses including equestrian and hiking 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 access to some existing areas will be restricted.

For example, an existing loop trail is proposed to be closed in the Preferred Plan. (See pages 91 to 92, Table 3 and Figure 5 for description of appropriate activities and facilities within each management zone.) Park users are concerned with maintaining current access and recreational activities in the Park. Although the Primary Historic Zone designation may limit trail use in certain areas, it will permit other types of recreation activities, such interpretive and educational programs and hiking on designated trails. Therefore, adverse impacts to some types of recreation activities will be offset recreational by other opportunities.

Additionally, each visitor has his or her own sensitivity to visitor carrying capacity. For instance, an individual's tolerance of user- or facility-densities could be exceeded by higher level facility development in the Gateway Zone or North Forty Zone, while another individual is comforted by the presence of other people or facilities. Other aspects of recreation management include the degree to which multiple recreational activities compliment or conflict with one another and with maintenance of resource integrity (see pages 80 to 90).

Mitigation RR 1: General Plan goals and guidelines call for an assessment of current and potential recreational activities for compatibility with the management zones. Implementation of these guidelines will address the relative distribution of the different types of recreational activities and potential inherent conflicts, as well as specific mitigation and monitoring measures, in order to provide high quality outdoor recreation activities while preserving the integrity of the Park.

Mitigation RR 2: CDPR will make available to the public alternative recreational activities that are compatible with resource protection in areas within the Park that contain sensitive natural and cultural resources.

Water Resources

Impact: Demolition and construction activities associated with removal, consolidation development, maintenance, and use of facilities, particularly in the Gateway Zone, Secondary Access Points, or North Forty Zone, have the potential to significantly affect drainage patterns, runoff, or discharge into surface waters. Other park uses, such as trail use or primitive camping may also affect runoff or discharge.

<u>Discussion</u>: Since the Park is small, most construction activities would be proposed in the Gateway Zone, Secondary Access Points, or North Forty Zone and would be limited in scope and scale. These facilities would have the potential to affect water quality due to the need for sanitary facilities and stormwater runoff during construction and operation. If camping areas in the Scenic Ridge Zone are built, water would need to be either



packed in or provided by park operations, and primitive pit or chemical toilets would be provided. Use and maintenance of trails in the vicinity of the creek and 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 within the Park (page 59).

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 the creek in the Riparian Zone 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 necessary at the time a project is implementation, scoped for following mitigation measures will be implemented. All actions will be in compliance with state and federal permitting and regulatory requirements.

Mitigation WR 1: Before additional facility development can occur within the Park, potential impacts to water resources need to be addressed. Potential impacts to water resources, including availability of sufficient water for facility use, will be identified and addressed.

Mitigation WR 2: 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.

EFFECTS FOUND NOT TO BE SIGNIFICANT

Air Quality

The Park is located at the far western boundary of the South Coast Air Basin which covers the San Fernando Valley and the far eastern boundary of the South Central Coast Air Basin in Ventura County. Both of these air basins are nonattainment areas for air quality. The most recent annual data for the monitoring station closest to the Park in Simi Valley had 18 days that exceeded the 1-hour state standard for Ozone and 54 days that exceeded the 8hour state standard. This site also exceeded the 8-hour National Standard for Ozone on 18 days. The monitoring station for the western San Fernando Valley reported that in 2005, the 1-hour state standard for Ozone was exceeded for 30 days and the 8-hour standard for 29 days. The National 1-hour standard was exceeded for 2 days and the 8-hour standard for 12 days. However, the data also reflected an improvement in Ozone compliance between 2003 and 2005.

These data are generally representative of air quality in southern California which can vary substantially depending on the season and whether or not inversion layers are present. The population is alerted to avoid outdoor activities by local radio and television when the air quality is Implementation of the General Plan will have little effect on air quality in the area because the Park is small and proposes very little new development. Potential air quality concerns for

vegetation management through controlled burns is addressed below.

Fire Hazard

Use of camping facilities has the potential to place the public and neighboring properties 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 has been developed to ensure protection of human lives and property, and will emphasize control of fires along predetermined suppression lines, which divide the Park into will and include compartments evacuation procedures. Park managers will have the authority to stop the use of fires or smoking during periods of extreme fire danger and will patrol to prevent fires in unauthorized locations.

The use of prescribed fire as a vegetation management tool has the potential for 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 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.

Hazardous Materials

The majority of the Park is currently undeveloped but portions were

developed and used in the past. These included homesteading, uses stagecoach use, quarrying, and motion television picture and filming. Additionally, refuse. construction debris, and abandoned cars have been found on the property. Although it is unlikely that these areas contain hazardous wastes, if such wastes such as dumped asbestos are found, all accepted protocols will be followed to ensure that the public is not exposed to such wastes and that they are disposed of properly if found.

At the last public meeting, it was brought to the attention of CDPR by a member of the public that there was a potential for exposure to radiation due to proximity of the Park to the former Santa Rocketdyne Susana Laboratory (SSFL). The laboratory was approximately 2.5 located southwest of Santa Susana Pass State Historic Park. The site is associated with one of the most important Cold-War-era defense, aerospace, atomic energy facilities in the nation. A Rocketdvne subsidiary, Atomics International, built and operated the first commercial nuclear-power producing reactor inside the United States at the SSFL site. Between March, 1959 and 1969, there were at least four nuclear accidents, fires, or partial meltdowns. Although it is doubtful that surface water runoff from the SSFL site would affect Santa Susana Pass State Historic Park from these accidents due to the topography between SSFL and the Park, data have not been released indicating whether or not the wind was blowing in the direction of the Park at the time of the incidents. Until such data are released the Park and surrounding communities are tested, the presence or



of radiation absence be cannot determined. Implementation of the General Plan would not change this situation. However, prior to construction of a campground or visitor center facility, on-site testing should be conducted to determine whether or not radiation is present. If radiation is found to exist, the material will be identified and accepted protocols followed as determined by appropriate authorities and/or experts.

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 Gateway Zones or Secondary Access Points, all local noise ordinances would be followed. Impacts from noise are expected to be nominal.

Paleontological Resources

Construction and grading will be limited to only a few areas within the Park. The likelihood of paleontological resources being present in these areas is low and, should such a resource be found, CDPR would determine appropriate protection, avoidance, or removal measures as appropriate to the situation.

Public Services

Implementation of the proposed plan would only require a nominal increase in the need for public services or utilities and be limited to just a few buildings. However, due to the Park's strategic location between two valleys, it is crossed by a number of utilities

and right-of-ways. The implementation of the General Plan will not adversely affect the rights of any of the easement holders to perform their services in accordance with the rights and stipulations of the easement specifications.

Traffic

A Traffic Study was performed by an outside consultant, Katz, Okitsu & (Appendix H—under Associates cover), to evaluate separate the potential effects that the implementation of the General Plan would have on the local street system. The study determined that, based on forecasted traffic volumes and the Los Angeles Department of Transportation threshold of significance. implementation of the General Plan would not have any significant traffic impacts on any of the six roadway segments studied and would continue to operate at Level of Service A (the highest level of service). The roadway segments studied 1) Devonshire Street, east of Larwin Avenue; 2) Larwin Avenue, north of Jeffrey Mark Court; 3) Avenue, south of Valley Circle Boulevard; 4) Santa Susana Pass Road, west of Topanga Canyon Boulevard; 5) Santa Susana Pass Road, east of Lilac Lane: and 6) Lilac Lane south of Santa Susana Pass Road.

The General Plan proposes to add up to 124 new parking spaces for general public use. The Traffic Study concluded that the parking supply would be more than adequate to accommodated average weekday and weekend vehicular demand. Therefore, it would be unlikely that significant, General Plan related parking would

spill over onto nearby residential streets.

GROWTH INDUCING IMPACTS

Santa Susana Pass State Historic Park is a park with important natural and cultural resources and serves as a valuable recreational area as well. Although 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 dayuse visitors within the Park and would only provide camping opportunities for up to 75 visitors. Other than improving facilities, interpretation accessibility, implementation of the General Plan will not substantially affect 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 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.

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 CDPR project as required under CEQA guidelines Section 15091(d) and will require approval of natural and cultural specialists.

PUBLIC COORDINATION

Public involvement in development of the General Plan included three public meetings in Chatsworth and five stakeholder meetings. Public involvement is discussed in detail on page 50. Additionally, CDPR has closely coordinated the General Plan development with community interest groups.

At the third public meeting, when the Preferred Plan was presented for public comment, property owners near several locations identified as Gateway Zone access points raised objections. These objections were based on limited street access at Lilac Lane and parking issues, conflicts with park users, and vandalism (primarily after-hours) along Jeffrey Mark Court. Much of this public comment is attached in the NOP Responses (Appendix F, under separate cover) although it was received after the close of the 30-day response period. CDPR subsequently held stakeholder meetings and modified the Preferred Plan by changing the Gateway Zone at Lilac Lane to a Secondary Access Point and removing the Gateway Zone designation and access off Jeffrey Mark Court. The existing access at Jeffrey Mark Court will be closed off. Due to topographical considerations, a parking area is proposed within Park property across from Jeffrey Mark Court but visitor use will be limited to normal day-use hours (usually sunrise to sunset) and accessed at the end of the Powerhouse Road Trail through a gated Secondary Access Point off Larwin Avenue.

A Notice of Preparation (NOP) was circulated through the State Clearinghouse to state agencies, as well as to appropriate city and county planning offices, federal agencies, special interest organizations, individuals. The State Clearinghouse reference number SCH #2006061092. The public review period for the NOP closed on July 18, 2006. The NOP, and responses letters from the public are located in Appendix F (under separate cover).

REASONABLE PROJECTION OF DEVELOPMENT UNDER THE GENERAL PLAN

The following matrix represents a reasonable scenario of potential publicuse facilities that could be developed in each of the proposed management zones (Table 5) under the goals and guidelines proposed in the General Plan for Santa Susana Pass State Historic Park. Each represents 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 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.

Table 5: REASONABLE DEVELOMENT PROJECTION MATRIX

Existing
ConditionReasonable
Plan Projection
(Cumulative)Net Difference
(Between
Existing and
Reasonable
Plan Projection)

Existing
ConditionReasonable
Plan Projection
(Cumulative)Net Difference
(Between
Existing and
Reasonable
Plan Projection)

Buildings (square feet)			
Visitor Center or Operations	0	4,000	4,000
Maintenance	0	1,000	1,000
Comfort stations	0	800	800
Vehicle Parking (number of spaces)	0	12	12
oahn Ranch Gateway Zone			
Buildings (square feet)		T I	
Visitor Use or Operations	0	5,000	5,000
Maintenace building (1)	0	1,000	1,000
Comfort Station	0	800	800
Corral or manure facility	0	6,000	6,000
Vehicle Parking (number of spaces)			
Regular Parking	0	50	50
Truck/Trailer Parking	0	6	6
arwin Secondary Access Point			
Buildings (square feet)			
Restroom - Vault type toilet	0	100	100
Vehicle Parking (number of spaces)	0	12	12
ac Lane Secondary Access Point			
Buildings (square feet)			
Buildings (square feet) Restroom - Vault type toilet	0	100	100
9 (1)	0	100	100
Restroom - Vault type toilet Vehicle Parking (number of spaces)	0		
Restroom - Vault type toilet Vehicle Parking (number of spaces) anta Susanna Pass Road Secondary Access P Buildings (square feet)	0 oint	6	6
Restroom - Vault type toilet Vehicle Parking (number of spaces) Inta Susanna Pass Road Secondary Access P	0		

Andora Secondary Access Point			
Buildings (square feet)			
Restroom - Vault type toilet	0	100	100
Vehicle Parking (number of spaces)	0	12	12
North FortyZone			
21 acres		1	
Buildings (square feet)			
Visitor Center or Operations	0	2,500	2,500
Campfire Center	0	500	500
(approximate)			
Campsites/tent cabins or bunk facility	0	75 people	75 people
Primary Historic Zone 155 acres			
Building - historic related inc. restroom	0	2,500	2,500
Scenic Ridge Zone			
465 acres			
Campsites - combined with North Forty	0	75 people	75 people
Trail System			
Total Park Trail Mileage	9.5	9.2	
Does not consider duplicate trails			
		•	



Innovative technology for Park's interpretive programs

Appendices



APPENDIX ASensitive plant species and vegetation communities potentially occurring at Santa Susana Pass State Historic Park.

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	PRESENCE*	FEDERAL STATUS	STATE STATUS	CNPS STATUS
Astragalus brauntonii	Braunton's milk-vetch	Potential	FE		1B
Calochortus clavatus var. gracilis	Slender mariposa lily	Potential			1B
Calochortus plummerae	Plummer's mariposa lily	Confirmed			1B
Chorizanthe parryi var. fernandina	San Fernando Valley spineflower	Potential		SE	1B
Deinandra minthornii	Santa Susana tarplant	Confirmed			1B
Dodecahema leptoceras	Slender-horned spineflower	Potential	FE	SE	1B
Dudleya blochmaniae ssp. Blochmaniae	Blochman's dudleya	Potential			1B
Dudleya cymosa ssp. agourensis	Agoura Hills dudleya	Potential	FT		1B
Dudleya multicaulis	Many-stemmed dudleya	Potential			1B
Dudleya parva	Conejo dudleya	Potential	FT		1B
Erodium macrophyllum	Round-leaved filaree	Potential			2
Nolina cismontana	Chaparral nolina	Potential			1B
Orcuttia californica	California Orcutt grass	Unlikely	FE	SE	1B
Pentachaeta lyonii	Lyon's pentachaeta	Potential	FE	SE	1B
Southern coast live oak riparian forest Confirmed					
FE Listed as endangered under the Federal Endangered Species Act.					
FT Listed as threatened under the Federal Endangered Species Act.					
SE Listed as endangered under the California Endangered Species Act.					
1B CNPS List 1B: rare, Threatened or Endangered in California, and elsewhere.					
2 CNPS List2: Rare, Threatened, or Endangered in California, but more common elsewhere					
Confirmed Known occurrence within the Park's boundaries					
Potential Habitat present within the Park's boundaries					

Unlikely

No habitat present within the Park's boundaries

LISTING STATUS DEFINITION

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.

Listing Codes

FE Listed as endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act
FT Listed as threatened under the federal Endangered Species Act
SE Listed as endangered under the California Endangered Species Act

California Native Plant Society (CNPS) Lists

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

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



APPENDIX BSensitive vertebrate and invertebrate species potentially occurring at Santa Susana Pass State Historic Park.

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	PRESENCE	FEDERAL STATUS	STATE STATUS	CDFG STATUS
Spea (=Scaphiopus) hammondii	Western spadefoot	Potential			SSC
Bufo californicus	Arroyo toad	Potential	FE		SSC
Rana aurora draytonii	California red-legged frog	Potential	FT		SSC
Clemmys marmorata pallida	Southwestern pond turtle	Potential			SSC
Phrynosoma coronatum (blainvillei)	Coast (San Diego) horned lizard	Potential			SSC
Aspidoscelis tigris stejnegeri	Coastal western whiptail	Potential			
Anniella pulchra pulchra	California legless lizard	Potential			SSC
Thamnophis hammondii	Two-striped garter snake	Potential			SSC
Aquila chrysaetos	Golden eagle	Confirmed			SSC
Athene cunicularia	Burrowing owl	Potential			SSC
Polioptila californica californica	Coastal California gnatcatcher	Potential	FT		SSC
Vireo bellii pusillus	Least Bell's vireo	Unlikely	FE	SE	
Agelaius tricolor	Tricolored blackbird	Unlikely			SSC
Felis concolor californica	Mountain lion	Confirmed			
Neotoma lepida intermedia	San Diego desert woodrat	Potential			SSC
Gila orcutti	Arroyo chub	Unlikely			SSC
Danaus plexippus	Monarch butterfly	Potential			
Streptocephalus woottoni	Riverside fairy shrimp	Unlikely	FE		
Socalchemmis gertschi	Gertsch's Socalchemmis spider	Unknown			

FE	Listed as endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act.
FT	Listed as threatened under the federal Endangered Species Act.
SE	Listed as endangered under the California Endangered Species Act.
SSC	CDFG Species of Special Concern

Confirmed	Known occurrence within the Park's boundaries
Potential	Habitat present within the Park's boundaries
Unlikely	No habitat present within the Park's boundaries

LISTING CODES DEFINITIONS

Listing Codes

FE Listed as endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act
FT Listed as threatened under the federal Endangered Species Act
SE Listed as endangered under the California Endangered Species Act
SSC CDFG Species of Special Concern



APPENDIX C—CULTURAL RESOURCES IN CONTEXT

This list of resources, periods, and topics correlates to the archaeological and historic resources within the Park. This list can be used to organize historic time into coherent patterns that have influenced the Park's development during one or more periods of its history. This list categorizes the Park's recorded and potentially eligible cultural resources into their applicable context.

NATIVE AMERICAN

Period: Pre- and post-contact (prior to and after ca. 1769)

Significance: The area of Santa Susana Pass State Historic Park was an interaction zone between the Tongva/Gabrielino, Ventureño Chumash, and Fernandeño/Tataviam peoples. It was also the location of villages, camps, sacred spaces, and other activity areas.

Sites: CA-LAN-448/449/1126/1728 (village site)*

CA-LAN-1028 (rockshelter/camp)

CA-LAN-1718/1719 (small village/camp)

CA-LAN-1736 (camp/activity area)

CA-LAN-1737 (camp/activity area)

CA-LAN-1738 (activity area)

CA-LAN-2173 (small village/camp)

CA-LAN-2198 (camp/activity area)

CA-LAN-3493 (activity area)

P-19-120087 (activity area)

CA-LAN-3494 (camp/activity area)

CA-LAN-3507 (activity area)

CA-LAN-3512 (camp/activity area)

P-19-120080 (shelter)

CA-LAN-3506 (activity area)

Shell isolate (activity area)

CA-LAN-3503 (activity area)

CA-LAN-3504 (activity area)

P-19-100563 (activity area)

P-19-100564 (activity area)

CA-LAN-3508 (camp/activity area)

ARCHAEOLOGY (HISTORIC)

Period: Historic (1769 to 1960s)

Significance: The archaeological study of people during historic times leads to the understanding the lives of people who lived, worked, died, or traveled through the Santa Susana Pass area during historic times.

Sites: P-19-150427 (historic structure)

P-19-150436 (historic structure)

CA-LAN-448/449/1126/172(stagecoach road/station/quarry/homestead/etc.)*

CA-LAN-1718/1719 (rock walls/old road/brick dump)

CA-LAN-1738 (trash dump)

CA-LAN-2173 (trash dump/old road)

P-19-120085 (brick dump)

CA-LAN-3509 (work camp/homestead)

CA-LAN-3510 (car and shelter)

P-19-120086 (car)

CA-LAN-3492 (well head and pump foundation)

P-19-120078 (historic fill/construction)

CA-LAN-3511 (El Camino Nuevo)

CA-LAN-3495 (trash dump/quarrying)

P-19-120080 (shelter)

CA-LAN-3496 (rock walls/terraces/road/structure remains)

CA-LAN-3497 (activity area/trash dump)

P-19-120079 (quarrying)

P-19-120081 (quarrying)

P-19-120082 (quarrying)

P-19-120083 (trash dump)

CA-LAN-3498 (fenceline)

CA-LAN-3499 (communications)

CA-LAN-3500 (quarrying/transportation)

P-19-120084 (construction debris)

CA-LAN-3502 (Spahn Ranch)

CA-LAN-3501 (bridge footings/abutments/spillway)

CA-LAN-3505 (trash dump)



EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT

Period: 1769-1892

Significance: Exploration and settlement refers to the investigation and expansion of geographical knowledge by an individual or group of explorers and the establishment and development of new settlements and communities: These activities led to the exploration and development of new settlements, routes of travel and communication in the northwestern section of the San Fernando Valley.

Sites: El Camino de Santa Susana y Simí (Santa Susana Pass Wagon Road)

AGRICULTURE

Period: 1833-1905

Significance: Early agricultural methods and techniques in use in the northwestern San Fernando Valley included the technology of cultivating soil, projecting crops, and raising livestock and plants.

Sites: Santa Susana Pass Road*: Mission and later secular *vaqueros* (cowboys) and *pastores* (sheepherders) often led large herds of cattle and sheep through the pass to their seasonal pasturage

Homesteads belonging to:

Francisco Miranda

Dionisio Sanchez

James R. Williams

James D. Hill

Florence M. Mattingly

William Bannon*

TRANSPORTATION

Period: 1833-1955

Significance: Pioneer individuals and organizations used various modes and forms of technology to transport goods and people up and over Santa Susana Pass.

Sites: Old Santa Susana Stagecoach Road including The Devil's Slide*

La Cuesta: Rita de la Osa Family-operated Stagecoach Swing Station*

"El Camino Nuevo": New Santa Susana Pass Wagon Road a.k.a. Chatsworth Grade Road —1895-1917

Santa Susana Pass Railroad Tunnels**

Bannon/Chatsworth Stone Quarry Railroad Spur*

INDUSTRY

Period: 1891-1919

Significance: People applied labor, technology, and equipment to extract, process, and transport raw materials from mines or quarries. This is indicative of the early development of extractive industries in the Chatsworth Hills area.

Sites: Bannon/Chatsworth Stone Quarry Administration/Operations Area*

Bannon/Chatsworth Stone Quarry*

P-19-120079 (quarrying)

P-19-120081 (quarrying)

P-19-120082 (quarrying)

CA-LAN-3495 (trash dump/quarrying)

CA-LAN-3500 (quarrying/transportation)

TELEVISION AND MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRIES

Period: 1915-1970

Significance: Pioneer motion pictures and television production used the natural landscape as a backdrop for exotic locales. Hollywood studios' used the Chatsworth Hills area as a popular location for motion pictures and television series during their pioneer and golden ages.

Sites: Jack and the Beanstalk (near Miranda Homestead)

Spahn Movie Ranch and neighboring movie ranches

RESOURCE CONSERVATION

Period: 1933-1942

Significance: The preservation, maintenance, and management of natural or manmade resources marked the beginning of the efforts to preserve Santa Susana Pass State Historic Park in the 1930s.

Sites: Depression-Era Indigent Camp Site

Native Daughters of the Golden West Plaque commemorating the Old Santa Susana Pass Stagecoach Road*



^{*} Listed on National Register of Historic Places/California Register—Point of Historic Interest

^{**}Not owned by CDPR

APPENDIX D—DEFINED TERMS & LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

Adobe

A Spanish term meaning "mud brick or block." It is a sun-dried, unfired brick or building block made from a mixture of clay, straw, and water. The term can also refer to the clay or soil from which the brick is made, or a structure built with this type of brick and lime-plastered, mud-stucco-clad walls.

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.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

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

Bedrock Grinding Feature

A groundstone feature on or in a bedrock outcrop. Bedrock grinding features include slicks, rubs, basins, mortars, and sometimes cupules.

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.

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.

Butterfield Overland Mail Company

known as the Butterfield Overland Stage or the Butterfield Stage. Named after John Butterfield (in partnership with the Wells Fargo and the American Express companies) and carried U.S. mail and passengers overland from St. Louis, Missouri to San Francisco, California. The stagecoaches were in operation from September 15, 1857 until the outbreak of the Civil War on April 12, 1861.

Cahuenga Pass

From the Spanish phrase: Paso de Cahuenga meaning "Pass of Cahuenga." Cahuenga is from the Gabrieliño/Tongva term kawé'nga or kavwé'nga meaning "the mountain place" or "at the mountain." Cahuenga Pass is the mountain pass through the eastern end of the Santa Monica

Mountains, which connects southeastern San Fernando Valley to the City of Los Angeles.

California State Park and Recreation Commission

Established in 1927 to advise the Director of the California Division of Beaches and Parks (earlier name for the California Department of Parks and Recreation) 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 CDPR'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."

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.

Carreta

An all purpose, two-wheeled, wooden wagon or cart in use during the Spanish Mission and Mexican Rancho

eras. The term is Spanish for "ox cart." Carretas were often pulled by two yoked oxen. They were used to carry goods and people along primitive roads.

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 stands of structurally homogeneous shrubs with tough evergreen leaves forming a continuous or intermittent shrub canopy depending on fire and precipitation regimes. Mixed chaparral generally occurs below 5000 ft on mountain ranges throughout California with Mediteranean climates (cool wet winters and hot dry summers).

Chumash

See Ventureño Chumash.

Corral

An enclosure for confining livestock. The Spanish word means "enclosure."

Cultural Resources

Archaeological, ethnographical, traditional, and historical sites, artifacts, features, landscapes, properties, and built environment resources, including but not necessarily limited to buildings, structures, objects, and districts.



Cupule

A small pecked or ground, shallow hole in a rock or outcrop. Cupules are often considered to be nonutilitarian forms of rock art. There are similarlysized and shaped grinding holes that may have been used for processing specialty foods or other resources, or as a form of mineral extraction.

Department Administration Manual (DAM) (California Department of Parks and Recreation)

Provides the policies and procedures by which the California Department of Parks and Recreation functions. CDPR are intended to contain manuals policy general matters of procedure. In certain areas there will be information and specifications that are too detailed or lengthy to include in 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 Department of Parks and Recreation)

Provides the policies and procedures that are pertinent to the operation of the CDPR system. It is intended as a working guide for personnel in the Operations Division, and as a reference document for other CDPR personnel. It is intended to complement the CDPR manuals on administration (DAM) and planning and development.

Ecology

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

El Camino Real

Spanish for "the New Road." The dirt road (basically a carreta trail) that linked Mexico City to Monterey (the capital of Alta California) and beyond during the 1769-1810 Spanish Colonial Era. Also known as the "Mission Trail," it connected Spanish California's Franciscan mission s from San Diego to Sonoma.

El Camino Nuevo

Spanish for "the New Road." This was the original name for the Chatsworth Grade Road, which bypassed the older Santa Susana Pass Wagon Road in 1895

El Camino Viejo

Spanish for "the Old Road." This was the colloquial name for El Camino Real during the Mexican Republic and early American periods. The name was also used to distinguish the Devil's Slide segment of the original Santa Susana Pass Wagon Road after 1895.

El Paso Conejo

Spanish for "the Rabbit Pass." This is an important pass leading down some 680 feet from the upper Conejo Valley to the eastern approaches to Pleasant Valley and the town of Camarillo in Ventura County.

Endangered Species

Any native species which is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range 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 all the environmental assesses of characteristics area an 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.

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, nonnative, 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 nonnative dominated system that provide little benefit to other species in the ecosystem.

Feldspathic Sandstone

Sandstone with high amounts of feldspar present in its matrix ranging from unassorted products of granular disintegration of granite to partly sorted river-laid or even marine deposits.

Fernandeño

The ethnographic territory of the Fernandeño includes the San Fernando Valley and into the Santa Clarita Valley. The name Fernandeño was given to them by the Spanish and indicates they were associated with the Mission San Fernando Rey de España. This mission included people of

Tongva, Tataviam, and Ventureño Chumash descent.

Floristic Province

A geographic area with a relatively uniform composition of plant species and similar growing conditions.

Gabrielino (Gabrieleno)/Tongva

See Tongva/Gabrielino (Gabrieleno).

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.

Groundstone

An archaeological term that refers to stone tools and features that were used to grind or process seeds, pigments, clay, fibers, or other food or materials. Also called milling. Groundstone tools include manos/ handstones, pestles, and portable metates and mortars. Groundstone features include bedrock slicks, basins, and mortars. Also called Bedrock Grinding Features.

Habitat

The sum total of the environmental factors, food, cover, and water that promotes occupancy by individuals of a given species and allows those individuals to survive and reproduce.

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.

Kashi'wey

Ventureño Chumash for "the pass." The term was used to refer to Santa Susana Pass.

La Cuesta/La Cuesta Vieja

Local name for the De la Osa family-operated swing station near the foot of Devil's Slide, and for the road itself. This Spanish term means "hill, grade, slope, or ridge" the *La Cuesta Vieja* variation (used mainly for the Old Santa Susana Stagecoach Road) means "old grade or slope."

Las Pilitas

The name of the central portion of the Park at the bottom of Devil's Slide. This name was used by the Fernandeños who were interviewed by J. P. Harrington in the early 1900s. Spanish for "the little basins." Possibly a reference to the historic cisterns, which are also called *pilas*.

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."

Mortar

A shaped, circular hole or depression in a rock that is used as a container for the process of pounding and/or grinding seeds, plants, pigments, or other materials and foods with the use of a pestle.

National Register of Historic Places (National Register, NRHP)

The National Register of Historic Places is the Nation's official list of cultural resources worthy of preservation. Authorized under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the National Register is part of a national program to coordinate and support public and private efforts to identify, evaluate, and protect our historic and archeological resources.

National Register Property

A site that has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places. National Register properties distinguished bv having been documented and evaluated according uniform standards to and considered to be of significance to the nation, state, or local community.

Native Daughters of the Golden West

A charitable and fraternal organization dedicated to promoting and preserving California's history. Organized locally into "Parlors," the group, like the Native Sons of the Golden West, is best-known for the placement of commemorative markers throughout the state.

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.

Pastores

This is the Spanish term for sheepherders. There were pastores who guarded, tended, and drove herds of sheep through Santa Susana Pass.

Petroglyph

A type of Native American rock art consisting of carved, scratched, ground, or pecked figures and/or shapes.

Pictograph

A type of Native American rock art consisting of painted figures and/or shapes.

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.

Rancheros

Spanish term meaning "ranchers," it was used in the American Southwest and California during the Spanish Colonial and Mexican Republican eras for owners of large ranches (*Ranchos*), or ranchers in general.

Rancho El Encino

Spanish for "Ranch of the Evergreen Oaks." The Mexican government originally granted a parcel of land to three Mission Indians following the abandonment of the California mission system in 1833. Don Vincent de la Osa eventually acquired title to the land in 1851, and is credited with building a nine-room adobe. Also referred to as Rancho Los Encinos, it was a popular overnight rest place or roadhouse along El Camino Real.

Riata

American Spanish term for a longnoosed rope used to catch animals. From the Spanish *reata* meaning rope to tie horses and keep them in single file. *La riata* was Anglicized in American Western vernacular into "lariat." Also called *lasso*, the Spanish word for snare.

Riprap

A loose assemblage of broken stones erected in water or on soft ground as a foundation. The broken stones used for such a foundation.

Sensitive Species

Any species of plant or animal potentially needing management in order to prevent them becoming from threatened endangered due to habitat changes or impacts from various activities. This description is not part of the designation Threatened of 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.

Species of Special Concern

A CDFG designation which applies to animals not listed under the federal Endangered Species Act or the California Endangered Species Act, but which nonetheless 1) are declining at a rate that could result in listing, or 2) historically occurred in low numbers and known threats to their persistence currently exist.



Swing Station

A temporary stop along a stagecoach route where horses, tack, and other items were kept to service arriving coaches. A person or family usually operated a swing station under contract with the stagecoach company.

Tataviam

The ethnographic territory of the Tataviam includes the northern San Fernando Valley, Santa Clarita Valley, and into the Antelope Valley. The name Tataviam means "people facing the sun." The southern Tataviam were also associated with the Mission San Fernando (see Fernandeño above).

Taxon (pl. Taxa)

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

Threatened Species

Any native species which is likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range. This designation is made by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and/or the California Department of Fish and Game.

Tinaja

Spanish for "large earthen jar." Also refers to a basin-shaped water hole usually carved into bedrock by natural erosion, although some are human-modified or enhanced.

Tongva/Gabrielino (Gabrieleno)

The Tongva/Gabrielino inhabited most of the Los Angeles Basin including many of the Channel Islands. The name Gabrielino (or Gabrieleno) was given to them by the Spanish and indicates they were associated with the Mission San Gabriel Arcángel. The Indian name Tongva means "people of the earth."

Valleywood

Informal name for the San Fernando Valley in regards to its use by Hollywood motion picture producers and directors for location filming as early as 1910.

Vaquero

The Spanish term for cowboy or ranch hand, from the Spanish word *vaca* meaning "cow." During Spanish Colonial and Mexican Republic eras it meant a skilled horseman who herds cattle, horses, or other livestock. The term was Anglicized during the early American Period into "buckaroo."

Ventureño Chumash

The ethnographic territory of the Ventureño Chumash includes northernmost portion of Los Angeles County and most of Ventura County. The name Ventureño is from the Spanish and indicates an association with the Mission San Buenaventura. The Indian name Chumash is a derivation of the name that the mainland Chumash called the inhabitants of Santa Cruz Island but it has come to be used for all the linguistically-related Indians from San Luis Obispo County down into northern Los Angeles County as well as across some of the Channel Islands.

Way Station

Also known as a "Home Station," it was a building owned and managed by a station manager and his family who provided meals and overnight accommodations for passengers, coach drivers, and other stagecoach line employees.

List of Abbreviations

ADA Americans with Disabilities Act

CALVeg Classification and Assessment with Landstat of Visible Ecological Groupings

CEQA California Environmental Quality Act

CNDDB California Natural Diversity Database (California Department of Fish and Game)

CNPS California Native Plant Society

CDF California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

CDFG California Department of Fish and Game

CDPR California Department of Parks and Recreation

DAM Department Administration Manual (California Department of Parks and

Recreation)

DOM Department Operations Manual (California Department of Parks and Recreation)

ECA Environmental Condition Assessment

EIR Environmental Impact Report
EIS Environmental Impact Statement

GIS Geographic Information Systems

IMAP Inventory, Monitoring, and Assessment Program

NAHC Native American Heritage Commission

NOP Notice of PreparationNPS National Park ServicePRC Public Resources Code

SMMNRA Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area
USEPA United States Environmental Protection Agency

USFS United States Forest Service

USGS United States Geological Survey



APPENDIX E

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California Department of Parks and Recreation 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.

