



Cuyamaca Rancho State Park General Plan
California State Parks and Equestrians Meeting – June 25, 2013
MEETING SUMMARY

Meeting Date: June 25, 2013, 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM
Location: Ramona Community Center

Meeting Participants:

- Terry Jorgensen (Liaison) (Back Country Horsemen and Ramona Trails Assoc.)
- Marty Jorgensen (Back Country Horsemen and Ramona Trails Assoc.)
- Ernie Smith (Cuyamaca Equestrian Assoc.)
- Bernie Martin (Back Country Horsemen SD and Saddle Sorority)
- Peggy Martin (Back Country Horsemen SD and Saddle Sorority)
- Bill Butters (CRSP Mounted Assistance Unit)
- Mark Kukuchek (Back Country Horsemen, Bonita Valley Horsemen, TJ River Valley Equestrian Assoc.)
- Patty Heyden (Back Country Horsemen – SD)
- Dan Falat, CSP
- Sue Wade, CSP
- Bob Patterson, CSP

Meeting Purpose:

Advise California State Parks on issues of importance to equestrians, share information about the General Plan (GP) process.

Items Discussed During the Meeting:

1. Group Purpose and Procedures:

- Ernie volunteered to create a Facebook page that would provide summary information as a way for other equestrians to stay informed and provide input. As part of this Ernie will create a link to the GP webpage.
- Bob will update the GP webpage with notes and info from the meeting(s). CSP policy does not allow us to link the GP webpage with the Facebook page.
- The equestrian group's purpose is to advise CSP on issues of importance to equestrians as part of the GP process.
- Bob suggested that meetings should be held only as needed through the GP process, as opposed to a standing meeting date/time (i.e., once per quarter).
- Bob discussed the already-requested Roads and Trails Management Plan that will be the vehicle for designing more specific recommendations than the General Plan will provide. Roads and Trails Management Plan process will provide for an on-going relationship with Roads and Trails Users including Equestrians. District and Southern Service Center are recommending that it happen sooner rather than later.
- Bob stated CSP's desire for an open dialog regarding accommodating Equestrian Group recommendations. CSP can take comments until Sept 2014, which is the scheduled date of the State Parks Commissioner's Hearing on the GP.
- Bob identified additional milestone dates, more practical for incorporating comments: November 2013-draft General Plan prepared and 3rd Public Meeting and April 2014 Draft GP Public Review Period.

2. Equestrian Questions and Comments:

- Equestrians: Regarding Natural and Cultural Preserves, is trail use permitted within these? Matrix handed out at last Public Meeting said not in Natural Preserves. Bob: there will still be trail corridors, possibly reroutes. Equestrians



Cuyamaca Rancho State Park General Plan
 California State Parks and Equestrians – June 25, 2013
 MEETING SUMMARY

requested that reroutes be in place before closing old alignment. Bob will work to correct info shown in Matrix presented. Will plan to get revised Matrix posted on Website within about three weeks.

- Equestrians: What is science to support hiking and prohibit equine and mountain biking use? Existing equestrian trails in natural and cultural preserves are likely to remain, albeit re-routed around meadows or cultural resources.
- Equestrians: Why is there an expansion of cultural and natural preserves? Bob will provide background info.

3. Equestrian input regarding Family Horse Camp

- Regarding Family Horse Camp, equestrians had several suggested locations. Paso Group Camp, Marty Minshall Property, Camp Fire Girl Camp Wolahi, Los Vaqueros North, Hual-Cu-Cuish Big Tree. Bob described how General Plan doesn't dictate specifics, but makes more general Goals that would identify need for a camp and the criteria that would be used to identify a site. Identifying a site using those criteria would be implemented at the Management Plan or project level. Equestrians identified criteria, roughly in order of importance, including 1) 12 sites, 2) Trail Connectivity (highly important), 3) water, 4) access, 5) restrooms, 6) trail loops, 7) adjacent or nearby day use area. Regarding identifying site, CSP asked if Equestrians perceive an inherent conflict between group and family equestrian camp close to each other. They responded no.
- Dan addressed camp and trails issue in General Plan. It is CSP's intention not to reduce recreation. The General Plan will lay out criteria for camp in north. General Plan Goal could state intention to establish campground in North end of Park.

4. Equestrian input regarding Day Use Staging Areas:

- Equestrians had several suggested locations: 1) Across from Paso Picacho, 2) Hual-Cu-Cuish Big Tree, former Lakeland Restaurant site, Fletcher site. (Sue later thought to ask several of equestrians about including the earlier plan to expand the day use area at Merigan and they responded affirmatively). Again, Parks asked that equestrians identify criteria for Day Use Area. Roughly in order of importance: 1) water, 2) pull through access, 3) at least 4 corrals, 5) at least 2 picnic tables.
- Equestrians: Proposed HCC conference center would result in closing day use area. Don't close temporary HCC Day Use Area before opening new site.

5. Next Meeting:

It was agreed that another meeting could be scheduled after everyone had time to review the information from Action Items (shown below)

	ACTION ITEMS	Due	Resp
1.	Summarize meeting notes	7/8/13 <i>(complete)</i>	Bob P.
2.	Provide a list of horse camp and staging area (day use area) criteria	ASAP	Marty J.
3.	Post meeting summary to General Plan webpage	7/16/13 <i>(complete)</i>	Bob P.
4.	Provide updated Management Zone Matrix, and background info to expanding natural and cultural preserves to the Group	7/19/13 <i>(complete)</i>	Bob P.