



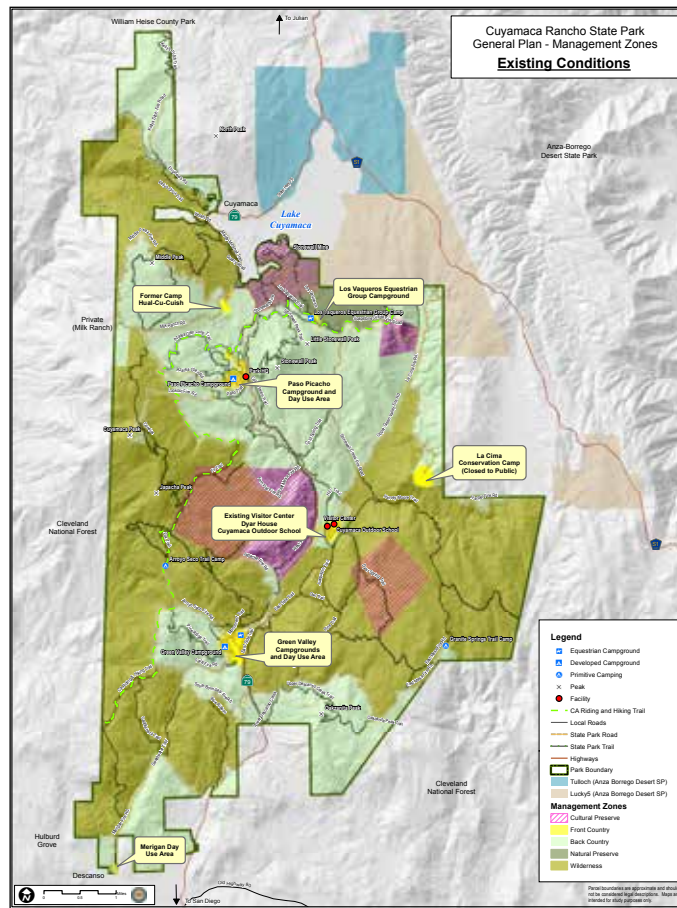
Park Entrance Sign



Executive Summary

Issues and Alternatives Cuyamaca Rancho State Park General Plan

For:
2nd Public Meeting - May 23rd, 2013



Draft Management Zone Map



Public Meeting #1

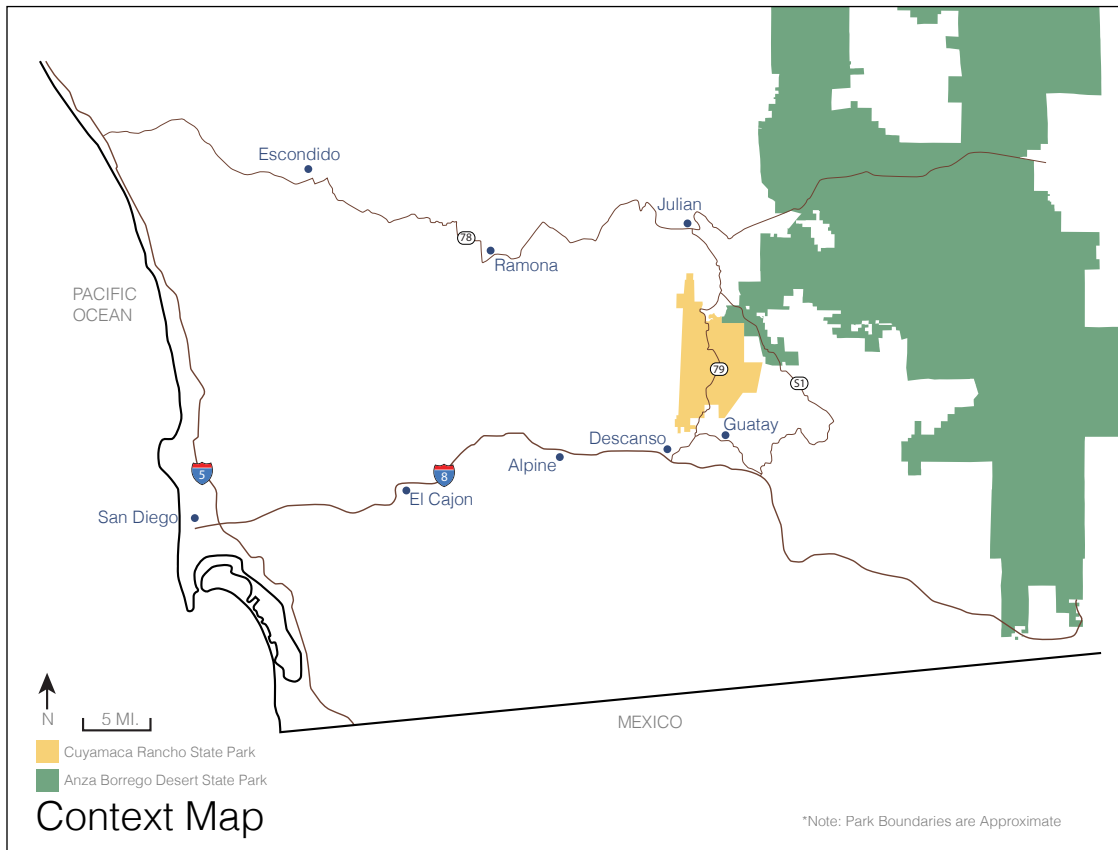


View from Stonewall Peak



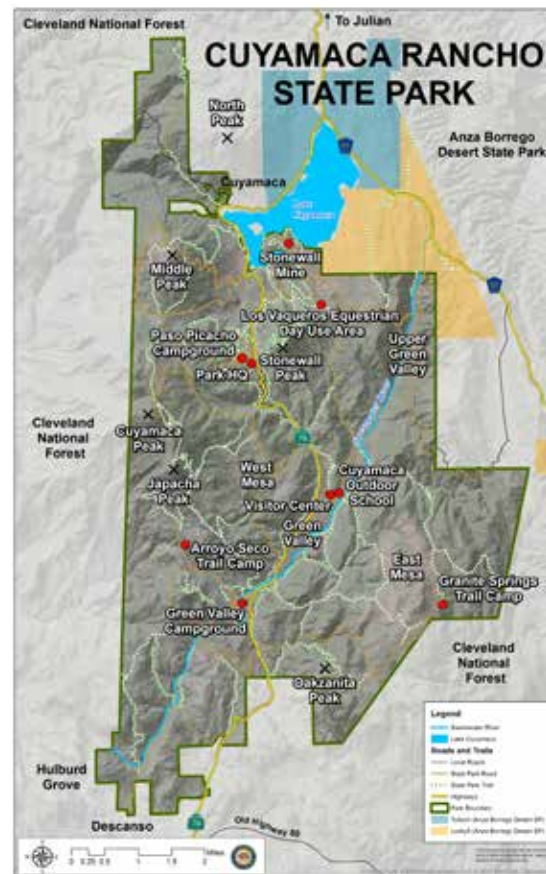
Scan Quick Reader (QR) Code with smart phone to go to General Plan web page.

PARK INFORMATION



Cuyamaca Rancho State Park is in the mountains 50 miles east of San Diego and is a short one-hour drive from nearly three million County residents. The Park is known for its 137+ miles of hiking, mountain biking, and horseback riding trails, beautiful mountain meadows, great camping, and mountain peaks with excellent views to the ocean and desert.

The Park shares its eastern border with Anza Borrego Desert State Park, is bordered on the west by the Cleveland National Forest, and to the south by the town of Descanso. The quaint historic town of Julian is 9 miles north of the Park. State Route 79 runs through the park from north to south and offers the only vehicular access.



Fire Damage

In 2003, the Cedar Fire burned about 95% of the Park and damaged or destroyed several historic CCC buildings and other facilities. Totally destroyed were the Los Caballos Equestrian Campground, the historic Dyar House, and the historic camp Hual-Cu-Cuish (former Boy Scout Camp).

The San Diego County Office of Education operates a 6th grade camp during the school year on property it leases from State Parks. A concessionaire of the SDCOE operates a retreat center at the property during the summer. No other concessions exist at the Park. The Park's cooperative association is the Cuyamaca Rancho State Park Interpretive Association (CRSPIA) and the Cuyamaca Rancho Foundation is responsible for fundraising for land acquisitions.

Cuyamaca Rancho State Park General Plan Park Information and Statistics

Address: Cuyamaca Rancho State Park
13652 Highway 79
Julian, CA 92036
Phone: (760) 765-3020



Park Sector: Montane Sector
Park District: Colorado Desert District

Average Annual Park Attendance: 475,472 (1996 to 2011)
Average Annual Interpretive Program Attendance: 1,500 (2007 to 2012)
Cuyamaca Outdoor School Average Annual Student Attendance: 12,000

Supporting Organizations: Cuyamaca Rancho Foundation (CRF), Cuyamaca Rancho State Park Interpretive Association (CRSPIA), Volunteers-in-Parks (VIP): Mounted Assistance Unit, Mountain Bike Assistance Unit, Trails Maintenance Unit, Interpreters Assistance Unit, Camp Hosts

Average Annual Volunteer Hours Donated: 19,441 (2005 to 2001)

Current Public Events Held At Park: Earth Day, Equestrian Benefit Ride, Mountain Bike Benefit Ride.

Current Acreage: 24,738 (Wilderness: 13,073, Cultural Preserve 2,457, Natural Preserve 731)
Miles of Trails: 137.14 miles (42% are fire roads)
Trail Access Points: 20 (approx.)
Scenic Overlooks: 6 (at least)

Wildlife Species: 233 potentially occurring wildlife species (204 avian, 22 mammal, 4 reptile, 3 amphibian)
Special Status Wildlife: 2 avian, 8 mammal, 1 amphibian, 2 reptile, and 1 invertebrate species
Plant Species: Approximately 682 plant species
Special Status Plants: 52 plant species
Habitat Communities: 1 rare natural community

Archaeological Sites: More than 700 documented sites (over 600 of those are Native American; approximately 40% of park has been examined for archaeology)

Historic Resources: More than 125 historic sites (includes historic buildings and historic archaeological sites)

Mountain Peaks:	7: Cuyamaca Peak (6,512 ft.), Middle Peak (5,883 ft.), Japacha Peak (5,825 ft.), Stonewall Peak (5,730 ft.), Little Stonewall Peak (5,250 ft.), Oakzanita Peak (5,054 ft.), Cosmit Peak (4,575 ft.)
Rivers:	1: Sweetwater River
Creeks:	7: Azalea Creek, Boulder Creek, Little Stonewall Creek, Harper Creek, Japacha Creek, Juaquapin Creek, Descanso Creek,
Streams:	8: (at least)
Springs:	5: Azalea Spring, Deer Spring, Japacha Spring, Cold Spring, Dyar Spring
Watersheds (parts of):	2
Waterfalls:	1: (at least): Green Valley Falls
Named Rock Features:	1: Stonewall Peak
Soils:	19 series (USDA)
Facilities:	
Family Campgrounds:	2: Paso Picacho Campground (85 sites) and Green Valley Campground (81 sites)
Equestrian Campgrounds:	1: Green Valley Equestrian Campground (14 sites)
Equestrian Group Campgrounds:	1: Los Vaqueros Equestrian Group Campground
Group Camps:	1: Paso Picacho Group Camp (currently closed)
Trail camps:	2: Arroyo Seco, Granite Springs
Cabins:	5: at Paso Picacho Campground
Visitor Centers:	1
Designated Picnic Areas:	4
Restrooms:	5
Restroom/ Shower Buildings:	8
Campfire Centers:	2
Sewage Dump Stations:	2
Day Use Parking Lots:	4 plus 9 locations along State Route 79
Equestrian Staging Areas:	3: Hual-Cu-Cuish, "Sweetwater" Day Use Parking Lot, Merigan Day Use Parking Lot

Note: All Data are approximate, for general reference only, and do not necessarily reflect definitive or final statistics.

INTRODUCTION

The Cuyamaca Rancho State Park General Plan is an update of the original 1986 General Plan and is being completed by a core team at the State Park's Southern Service Center with input and assistance from staff of the Colorado Desert District and Montane Sector.

Overall, park users are generally in favor of current recreational opportunities, facilities, and management, with minor improvements needed in specific areas, including, but not limited to, new horse riding facilities, mountain biking trails, educational and informational opportunities, and camping availability. The favorite trails and places mentioned most often are generally consistent with what was previously thought. There were requests for more trail connectivity both within the park and with resources adjacent to the park, such as Anza Borrego Desert State Park and Cuyamaca Lake. In general, users enjoy the parks extensive trail system, its accessibility and close proximity to San Diego, its educational opportunities, and its natural setting.

The General Plan Team for the Cuyamaca Rancho State Park expresses their sincere gratitude to all of the public stakeholders, visitors, and user groups who have contributed valuable ideas, concerns, and impressions about the park. Their input has and will continue to be vital as California State Parks manages the park and visitors come to enjoy it into the 21st century.

The Team is holding public and stakeholder meetings to gather input as well as has conducted an on-line visitor survey with over 1,400 respondents, mostly campers.



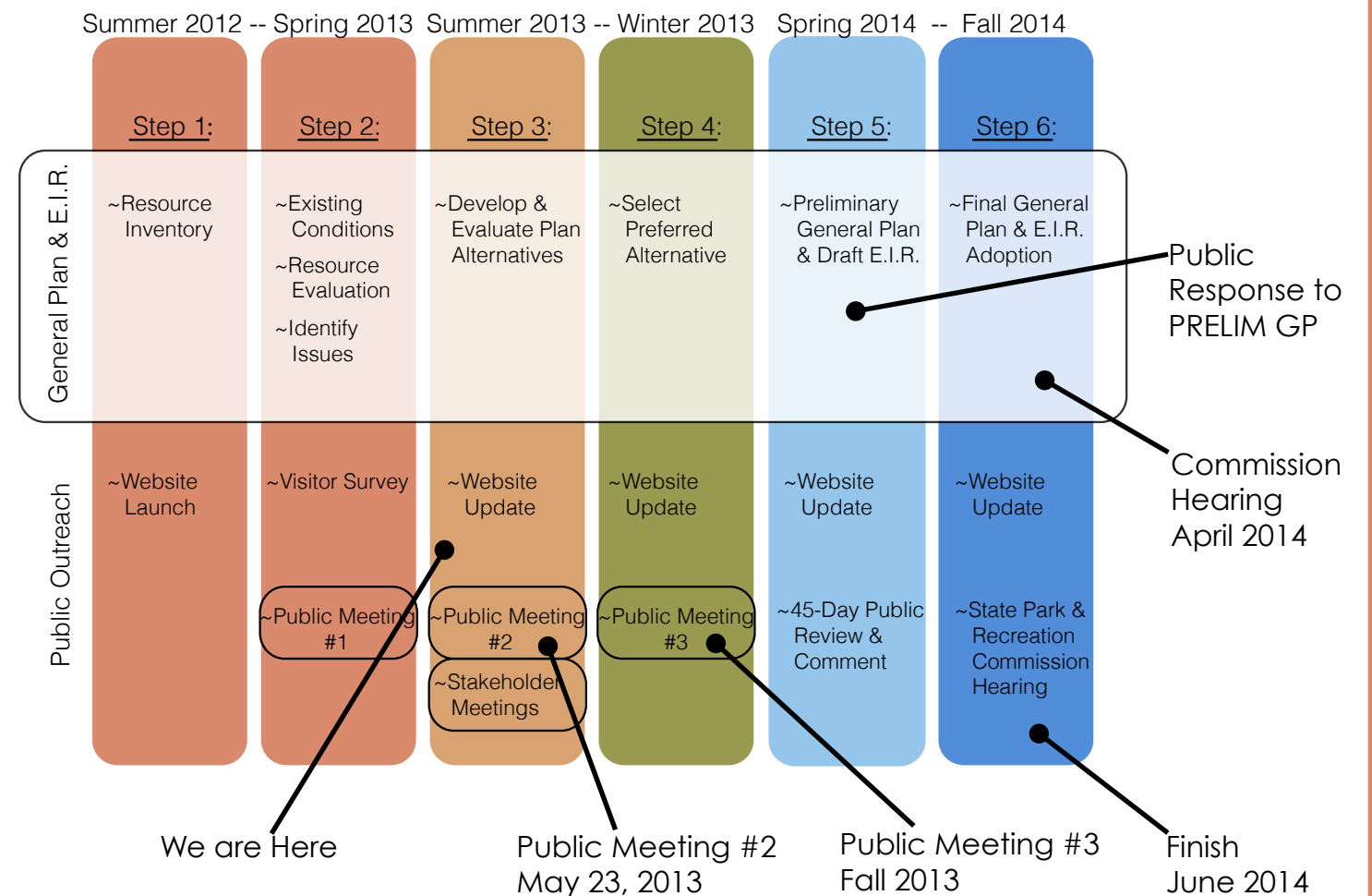
Public Meeting #1



Snow Play

TIMELINE

GENERAL PLAN PROCESS & TIMELINE SUMMARY





Mack Ranch House



Oakzanita Kiosk

SOME GENERAL PLAN ISSUES

PARK FACILITIES

Some operational/administrative facility issues include:

- Determining the best location(s) for Park Headquarters and administrative offices
- Finding a better location for material stockpile area currently at Stonewall Mine that is unsightly, detracts from historic area, and is open to public vandalism and theft
- How to best utilize the Mack Ranch parcel
- Determine best location for a permanent Visitor Center

PUBLIC FACILITIES

Besides a desire for an equestrian campground in the north part of the park, according to the visitor survey and anecdotal evidence, there appears to be little demand for additional group or individual campsites. Campsites are typically full on weekends and holidays during the summer but are only 30% or so full during the rest of the year. However, there may be demand for additional alternative overnight accommodations such as cabins.

Some Public Facility Issues are:

- Campers have complained about many campsites being too close (increasing noise), small, not level, and not large enough to accommodate large RV's.
- Visitors want and need to be oriented to the park but facilities and means to do that are inadequate
- Some trails go through sensitive habitat, are redundant, and need maintenance.
- Stream and river crossings are needed.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

Some archaeological resource issues are:

- Current cultural preserve boundaries do not encompass all sensitive archaeological resources around the former Los Caballos Equestrian Camp and Stonewall Peak
- Interpretation of archaeological resources could be much greater

Some historic resource issues are:

- Determine the need for restoration and adaptive use of the Park's historic Park Rustic resources destroyed by the Cedar fire (e.g. Dyar House, Former Camp Hual-Cu-Cuish)
- Stonewall Mine is greatly underutilized and under-interpreted.
- Interpretation of CRSP's historic resources is inadequate.
- Find viable use for historic resources to help preserve them



Miners Cabin, Stonewall Mine



Stonewall Mine Entrance

NATURAL RESOURCES

Some natural resource issues are:

- Current natural preserve boundaries do not encompass all sensitive and rare habitats of State Endangered Cuyamaca Lake downingia, Parish's meadowfoam, and State Rare Cuyamaca larkspur, as well as Jeffrey pine and Coastal Live Oak
- Protection for approximately 175 acres of Cuyamaca Cypress is needed (Federal Species of Concern, CNPS List 1B, and only known to occur within CRSP and adjacent Cleveland National Forest)



Cuyamaca Lake downingia



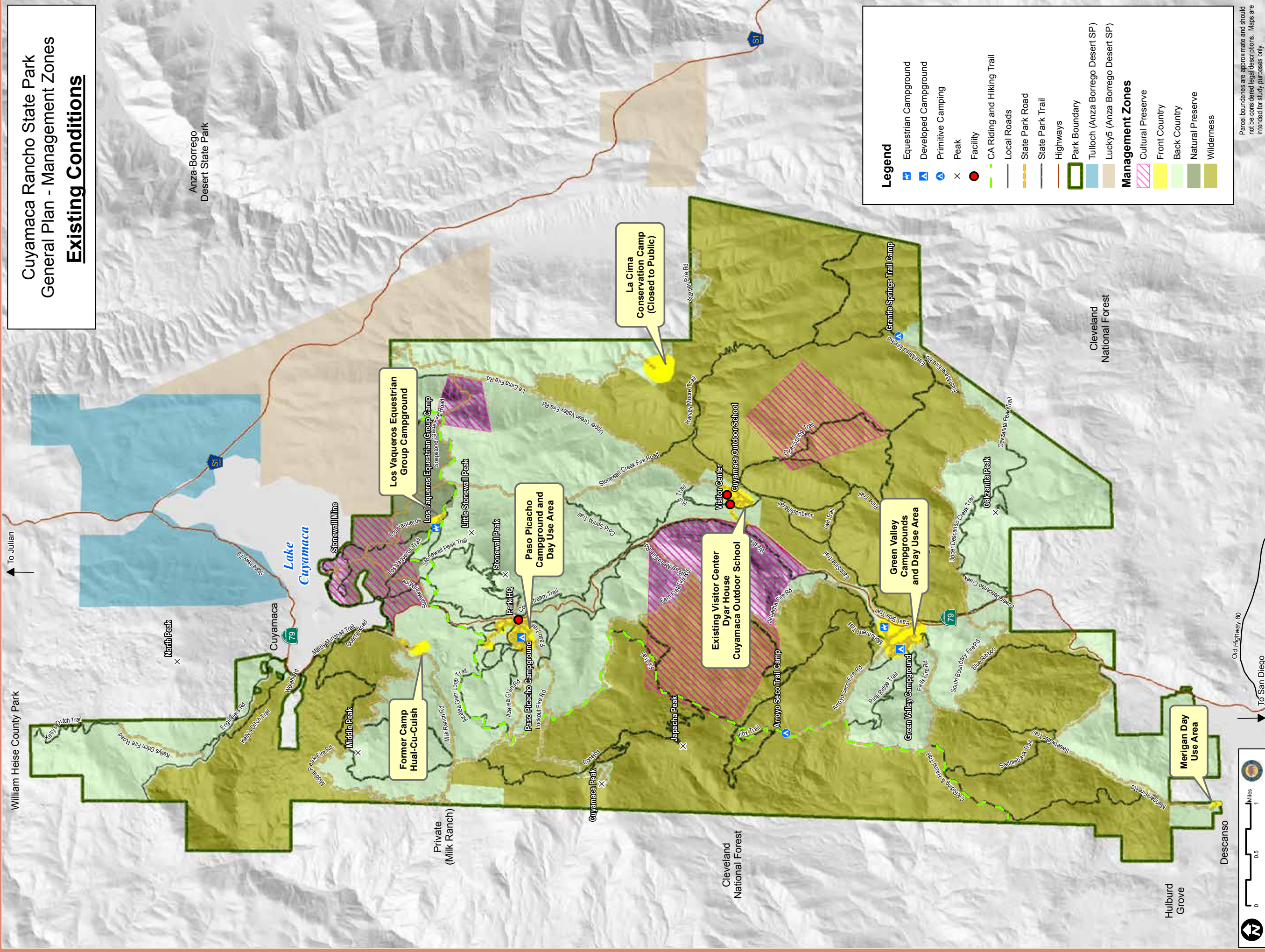
Meadow Wildflowers

DRAFT MANAGEMENT ZONES MATRIX

The Management Zones shown below will be applied to the Management Zone Maps on pages 6, 7, and 8.

Zones:	Gateway	Front-Country	Back-Country	Wilderness	Natural Preserve	Cultural Preserve	Historic
Zone Description	This zone includes the portion of State Route 79 right-of-way that runs through the Park including eight (8) existing day-use parking areas/pull-outs. This zone will serve as a gateway to the park and is focused on vehicle access, sightseeing, day use parking, park orientation, and trail access.	This zone includes developed areas such as campgrounds, visitor centers, picnic areas, parking, and operations facilities as well as the historic Dyar House and Cuyamaca Outdoor School. This zone is managed for visitor access, orientation, education, and recreation as well as park operations.	This zone generally includes non-wilderness, central areas of the park adjacent to the Gateway Zone or Front-Country Zone. This zone represents a transition between the Front-Country or Gateway Zones and Wilderness	This zone includes existing and proposed State Wilderness, and is managed primarily to preserve the area's wilderness values such as naturalness, undeveloped, and expansive.	This zone includes existing and proposed Natural Preserves and contains significant, rare, and/or endangered natural resources. This zone is focused on the preservation, protection, and interpretation of the area's natural resources.	This zone includes existing and proposed Cultural Preserves and contains a high concentration of significant cultural resources. This zone is focused on the preservation, protection, and interpretation of the area's cultural resources.	This zone includes the Stonewall Mine/Cuyamaca City site which lies within the Ah-Ha-Cuyamaca Cultural Preserve as well as the former Camp Hual-Cu-Cuish. This zone is focused on protecting, preserving, and interpreting the significant historic resources of the area.
Classification	State Park	State Park	State Park	State Wilderness	State Natural Preserve	State Cultural Preserve	State Cultural Preserve (at Stonewall Mine) State Park (at former Camp Hual-Cu-Cuish)
Resource Character and Management (Carrying Capacity Objective)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Protect scenic viewsheds - Provide for positive first impressions to the park - Development includes facilities to provide vehicle access and parking, and interpretive elements to support orientation to the park. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development includes a diversity of facilities to support park operations, visitor use, and interpretation and education, mixed with open space and natural settings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No facilities or development other than fire roads, trails, minor interpretive elements, and primitive trail camps. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No facilities or development other than trails and minor interpretive elements - No mechanical conveyances allowed (Per Public Resources Code) - Natural resources are in as pristine a condition as possible and are minimally modified only for wilderness visitor use and resource protection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No facilities or development other than fire roads and trails - Natural resources are in as pristine a condition as possible and the zone is managed foremost to protect natural resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No facilities or development other than fire roads and trails - Zone is managed foremost to protect cultural resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development in this zone consists primarily of historic structures and additional facilities necessary for adaptive reuse, and/or public education and enjoyment.
Visitor Experiences (Carrying Capacity Objective)	<p>Visitors will gain access and be oriented to the park, experience scenic vistas, and have the option to park their vehicles during the day and access the trail network.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Medium level of use - Moderate contact with others - Few opportunities for quiet and solitude 	<p>Visitors will have access to a wide variety of experiences within this zone, including camping, participation in group activities, enjoying the convenience of developed facilities, as well as introduction to the natural setting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - High level of use - Maximum contact with others - Few opportunities for quiet and solitude 	<p>Visitors will have the opportunity to transition from busier and noisier high use/developed areas to the relaxed and quieter wilderness areas of the park via the trail system.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Low to moderate level of use - Minimal to moderate contact with others - Some opportunities for quiet and solitude 	<p>Within this zone, visitors will be immersed in a undeveloped and wild environment, and will have the opportunity to experience solitude, natural sounds, a sense of remoteness and self reliance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Low level of use - Minimal contact with others - Maximum opportunities for quiet and solitude 	<p>Visitors will have the opportunity to become familiar with sensitive natural resources, natural processes, and the protections required. Visitor experiences will be compatible with this goal.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Low to moderate level of use - Minimal to moderate contact with others - Some opportunities for quiet and solitude 	<p>Visitors will have the opportunity to become aware of the importance, sensitivity and fragility of the area's cultural resources and protections required. Visitor experiences will be compatible with this goal.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Low level of use - Minimal contact with others - Some opportunities for quiet and solitude 	<p>Visitors will be able to learn about a historic mine and company town. Interpretational and educational facilities and programs for cultural resources will be available.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Moderate level of use - Moderate contact with others - Some opportunities for quiet and solitude
Time of Use	Day use only	Day and overnight use	Day use only	Day use only	Day use only	Day use only	Day and overnight use
Typical Visitor Activities/Uses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enjoying scenic views - Picnicking - Acquiring park information (maps, services and programs, rules, regulations) - Viewing interpretive and education displays 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Camping in designated areas - Picnicking - Attending interpretive and educational programs - Hiking, biking, and equestrian use on designated trails - Snow play 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Camping in isolated primitive campsites - Hiking, biking, and equestrian use on designated trails - Interpretation and education through a range of methods that are complementary to the natural setting - Snow play 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hiking and equestrian use on designated trails (roads are outside of Wilderness) - Interpretive and educational programs focused on wilderness values and are mostly self-directed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hiking on designated trails - Interpretive and educational programs focused on natural resource values, preservation and protection. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hiking and equestrian use on designated trails - Interpretive and educational programs focused on cultural resource values, preservation and protection - Native American uses by permit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hiking and equestrian use on designated trails - Interpretive and educational opportunities focused on historic resource values, preservation and protection
Range of Appropriate Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Day use parking - Interpretive elements - Trailhead features 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Campsites (group and individual) - Overnight facilities such as cabins - Parking lots - Picnic areas - Visitor serving facilities - Concession facilities - Operations facilities - Interpretive elements - Roads, trails and trailhead features 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Interpretive elements - Trails and trailhead features - Footbridges 	<p>Facilities are limited to those that protect or enhance resources and result in minimal intrusion to wilderness values.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Minor interpretive elements - Trails and trailhead features - Footbridges 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Interpretive elements - Trails - Footbridges 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Interpretive elements - Trails and trailhead features 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Interpretive elements - Trails and trailhead features - Restored historically significant features and structures - Reconstructed cabins
Camping	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Camping not permitted 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Developed group and individual campsites - Water typically provided - Flush toilets and showers may be available 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Isolated primitive campsites - Water typically not provided - Waterless toilets may be available 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Camping not permitted - Water not provided - Waterless toilets not allowed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Camping not permitted - Water typically not provided - Waterless toilets not allowed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Camping not permitted - Water typically not provided - Waterless toilets not allowed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Camping not permitted - Overnight accommodations such as cabins may be available - Flush and waterless toilets may be available
Equestrian Use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Day use parking of rigs and staging of horses allowed in designated areas - Hitching posts or corrals not allowed - Water typically not provided - Equestrian camping not allowed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Developed individual and group equestrian campsites - Feeding and watering horses - Corrals and hitching posts - Water typically provided - Riding on designated unpaved roads and trails only 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Riding allowed on designated unpaved roads and trails only - Hitching posts in isolated areas along trails - Water typically not provided - Equestrian camping allowed in designated trail camps 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Riding allowed on designated trails only - Hitching posts not allowed - Water not provided - Equestrian camping not allowed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No equestrian use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Riding allowed on designated trails only - Hitching posts may be allowed - Water not provided - Equestrian camping not allowed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Riding allowed on designated trails only - Hitching posts may be allowed - Water typically not provided - Equestrian camping not allowed
Mountain Bike Use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Day use parking allowed - Trail access allowed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mountain bikes allowed on designated roads and trails only 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mountain bikes allowed on designated roads and trails only - Mountain bike camping in designated trail camps 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mountain bikes not allowed - Mountain bike camping not allowed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mountain bikes not allowed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mountain bikes on paved roads only 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mountain bikes on paved roads only
Hiking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Day use parking allowed - Trail access allowed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hiking allowed on designated roads and trails only 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hiking allowed on designated roads and trails only 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hiking allowed on designated trails only 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hiking allowed on designated trails only 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hiking allowed on designated trails only 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hiking allowed on designated trails only

Cuyamaca Rancho State Park
General Plan - Management Zones
Existing Conditions



Legend

- Equestrian Campground
- Developed Campground
- Primitive Camping
- Peak
- Facility
- CA Riding and Hiking Trail
- Local Roads
- State Park Road
- State Park Trail
- Highways
- Park Boundary
- Tulloch (Anza Borrego Desert SP)
- Lucky5 (Anza Borrego Desert SP)

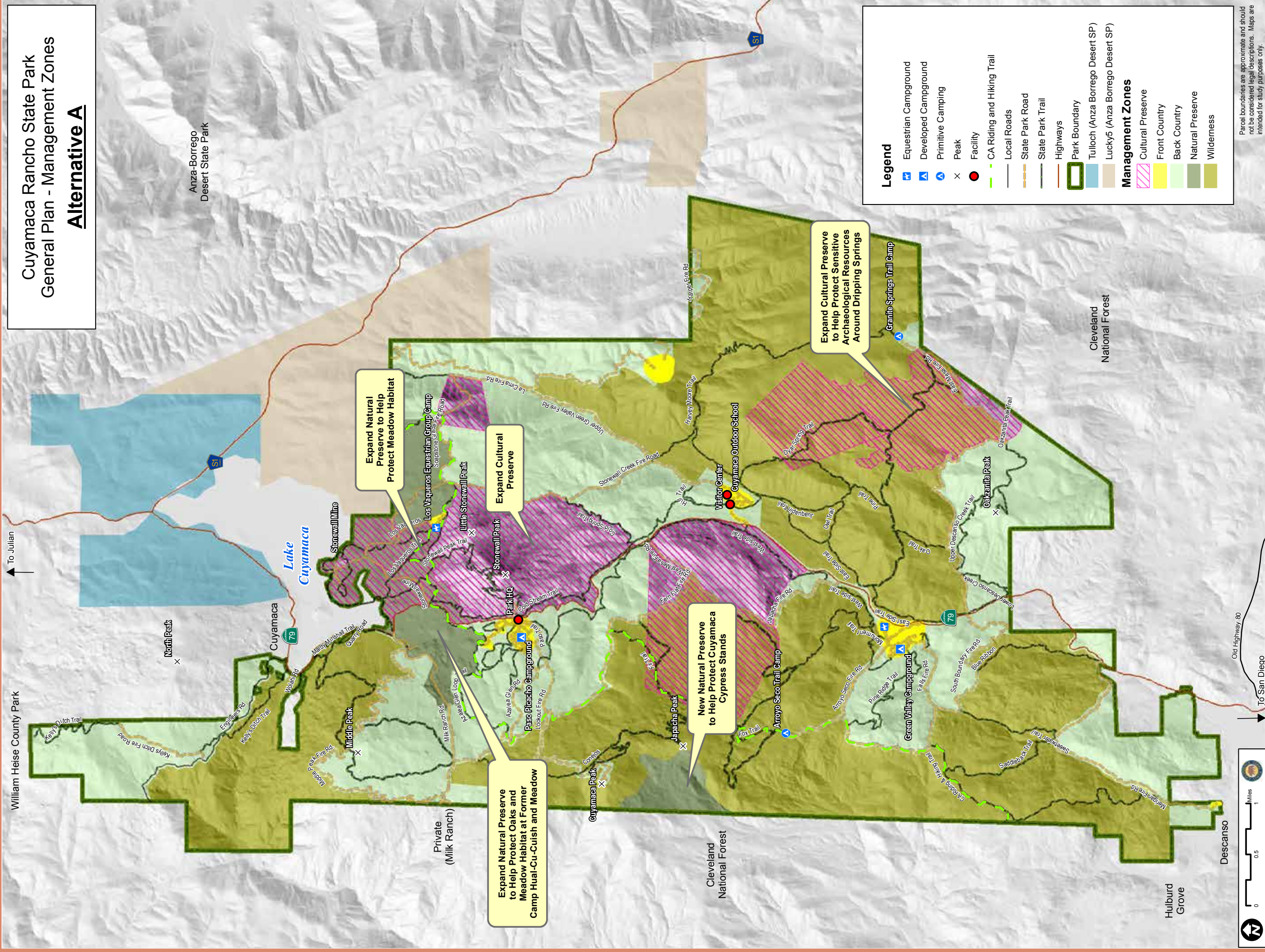
Management Zones

- Cultural Preserve
- Front Country
- Back Country
- Natural Preserve
- Wilderness

Parcel boundaries are approximate and should not be considered legal descriptions. Maps are intended for study purposes only.

MANAGEMENT ZONES MAP - EXISTING CONDITIONS

Cuyamaca Rancho State Park
General Plan - Management Zones
Alternative A



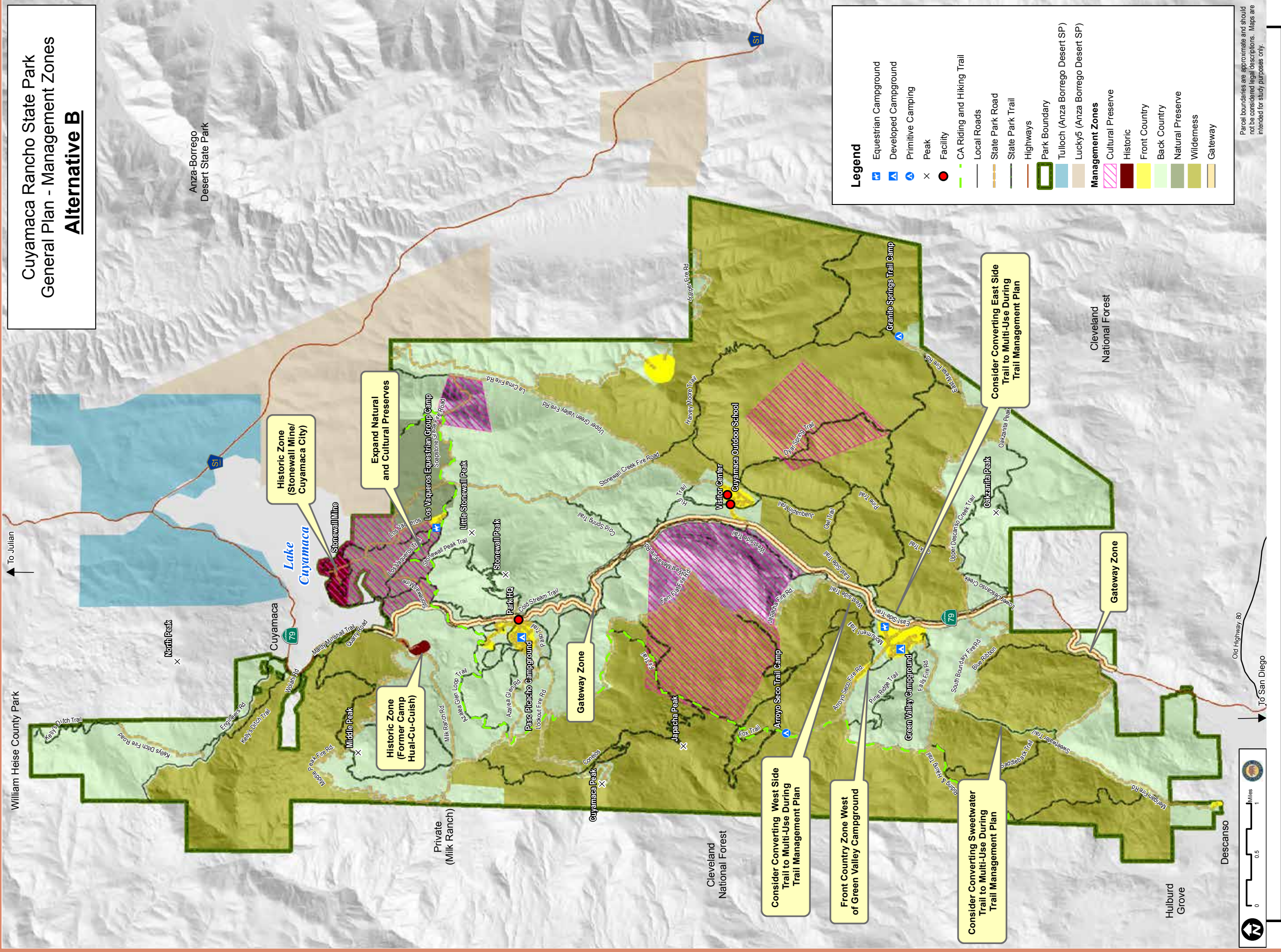
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MANAGEMENT ZONES MAP - ALTERNATIVE "A"



CUYAMACA RANCHO STATE PARK - GENERAL PLAN

Cuyamaca Rancho State Park
General Plan - Management Zones
Alternative B



Legend

- Equestrian Campground
- Developed Campground
- Primitive Camping
- Peak
- Facility
- CA Riding and Hiking Trail
- Local Roads
- State Park Road
- State Park Trail
- Highways
- Park Boundary
- Tulloch (Anza Borrego Desert SP)
- Lucky5 (Anza Borrego Desert SP)

Management Zones

- Cultural Preserve
- Historic
- Front Country
- Back Country
- Natural Preserve
- Wilderness
- Gateway

Parcel boundaries are approximate and should not be considered legal descriptions. Maps are intended for study purposes only.

North Arrow

Scale: 0, 0.5, 1 Miles

MANAGEMENT ZONES MAP - ALTERNATIVE "B"

DECLARATION OF PURPOSE (DRAFT)

The purpose of Cuyamaca Rancho State Park is to:

- Preserve and provide access to the Cuyamaca Mountains of eastern San Diego County;
- Preserve and protect the native plant and wildlife populations throughout the Park's beautiful yet fragile montane meadows and other areas throughout the Park;
- Recognize, honor, preserve, and interpret the culture and traditions of people who once called the Park home;
- Offer visitors ways to learn about the Park's natural and cultural history;
- Support opportunities for active and passive outdoor recreational activities, including accommodations for overnight experiences, consistent with park values and resource protection;
- Foster community involvement, public outreach, volunteerism and park stewardship for ongoing Park betterment;
- Connect with neighboring lands to preserve regional natural open space, bio-corridors, habitats, and backcountry recreational experiences;
- Implement the California State Department of Parks and Recreation's Mission Statement core values to provide for the appropriate use, education, inspiration and enjoyment of the Park by all people.



Visitor enjoying the wildflowers



Green Valley Falls



View from Stonewall Peak



Informational Kiosks



Class Gathering

VISION STATEMENT (DRAFT)

The Vision Statement for Cuyamaca Rancho State Park is:

Cuyamaca Rancho State Park provides visitors the opportunity to experience a diversity of scenic, natural and cultural resources, all within an hour's drive of America's eighth-largest city.

The Park will continue to be a place where visitors can enjoy a mountain wilderness setting; see and hear native wildlife; hike or ride the trails; take in the breathtaking views from a mountain peak; delight in a campfire with family or friends; play in the snow; or learn about past cultures and events.

In the face of encroaching development, the Park will be an increasingly important location for preserving the region's open space, trails, and biological linkages.

Likewise, the Park will be a premier destination for local children to experience a highly accessible mountain environment where they can learn first-hand about the Park's values, natural resources, and cultural heritage.

The Park will continue to encourage and promote an active and vibrant volunteer community that will assist in helping to operate, maintain, fund, and protect its natural and cultural resources; as well as to reach out to current and prospective visitors for the Park's betterment.

The Park will honor, interpret, preserve and protect the traditions, stories, lives, and evidence of past people and cultures so that their memories and legacies are not forgotten by future generations of Park visitors.

SOME POTENTIAL GP IDEAS



Park Headquarters Building



Maintenance Bone-yard,
Stonewall Mine



Former Cal Fire Station

Operations

- Maintain Sector Office and main maintenance facilities at Paso Picacho. Consider satellite office and maintenance facilities at Dyar House, Green Valley, and/or Merigan.
- Relocate maintenance bone-yard at Stonewall Mine area to Paso Picacho, Green Valley, and/or Merigan as well as the mounted assistance unit camp and trailer. These are modern, intrusive uses that do not fit with the historic character within the cultural preserve.
- Refurbish former Mack Ranch property so it can be used for Park Operations. Property is not suited for public use because of dangerous access onto SR 79 (poor sight lines and high speed vehicles).
- Acquire former radio repeater building atop Cuyamaca Peak for use as cell tower to improve cell phone communications within park and bring Department additional revenue.



Native American Mortars



Cuyamaca Peak

Cultural Preserves

- Increase the size of the Ah-Ha-Kwe-Ah-Mac/Stonewall Mine Cultural Preserve to incorporate all areas between Stonewall Creek Fire Road (eastern boundary), State Route 79 (western boundary) and Cold Spring Trail (southern boundary) – to protect cultural sites. Consider working with local Native Americans to co-manage cultural resources.
- Increase size of Cuish Cuish (East Mesa) cultural preserve to incorporate highly significant and concentrated Native American sites.



Cuyamaca Lake Meadows



Lookout Fire Road



Cuyamaca Cypress

Natural Preserves

- Increase size of Cuyamaca Meadow Natural Preserve to incorporate additional meadow areas by Cuyamaca Lake with critical stands of the state-listed endangered Meadow Foam and Cuyamaca Lake Downingia.
- Designate a new 175-acre natural preserve to protect the Cuyamaca Cypress (Federal Species of Concern, CNPS List 1B, and only known to occur within CRSP and adjacent Cleveland National Forest)

SOME POTENTIAL GP IDEAS CONTINUED



Picnic Area at Stonewall Mine

Campgrounds and Visitor Use Facilities

- Rebuild Dyar House and use as a permanent visitor center, satellite park administrative offices.
- -OR- Do not rebuild Dyar House, but interpret the ruins.
- Rebuild the former Camp Hual-Cu-Cuish for use as a conference/retreat center, mountain or fire research facility (with dorms), or other structured public use. Discontinue use as equestrian staging area. Work with Equestrians to find where another equestrian staging area should go.
- -OR- Keep former Camp Hual-Cu-Cuish as a ruin
- Improve Green Valley Equestrian Campground (sites not level, difficult for larger rigs, more water hookups, add shade ramadas)
- Continue work with stakeholders to look for a suitable location for an equestrian campground. Consider the former Tulloch Ranch parcel in ABDSP and off-site areas as possibilities.
- Prior to any major capital outlay improvements to Green Valley or Paso Picacho Campgrounds, redesign the campgrounds to provide better visitor experiences and improve operations. Some potential issues to address are: 1) separating tent and RV areas to reduce noise impacts, 2) providing greater separation between close sites to increase privacy and reduce noise, 3) increasing the size of small sites, and 4) grading sites that are too steep for comfortable camping.
- Consider Paso Fire Station for use as a park administrative office with staff and/or volunteer to greet public.
- Replace undersized and old water holding tank at Green Valley (or augment with another one).
- Upgrade (increase) electrical power at Paso Picacho. Determine feasibility of SDGE upgrade of main power supply as well as use of solar power.



Stonewall Peak Trail



Merigan Fire Road

Trails

- Call for a Roads and Trails Management Plan. Some trails may be changed to multi-use (see below). In addition, trails need to be assessed for needed repairs, erosion, long-term maintenance and potential closures or re-routes, connections to the regional trail system, and reduction of impacts to sensitive areas. Also examine potential trail user conflicts (although few were stated during public input process).
- Consider converting the West Side Trail between Arroyo Seco Fire Road to Japacha Fire Road to allow for multi-use (mountain bikers desire connection from south end to north).
- Consider converting to multi-use the Cold Stream Trail from West Mesa Fire Road to Paso Picacho (additional north/south connection).
- Establish a trail connection with ABDSP and other regional trails. Recognize and interpret prehistoric and historic trail routes (Native American and Fages).
- Add creek and river crossings (preferably bridges) at strategic locations.
- Add a short, accessible, interpretive loop trail near the existing visitor center.

Special Events

- The Mounting Biking Assistance Unit already holds a yearly benefit ride (for the park). Consider other special recreation events, such as half-marathons and walks for charity or cause that could increase public exposure and support of the park.



Snow Play

SOME POTENTIAL GP IDEAS CONTINUED



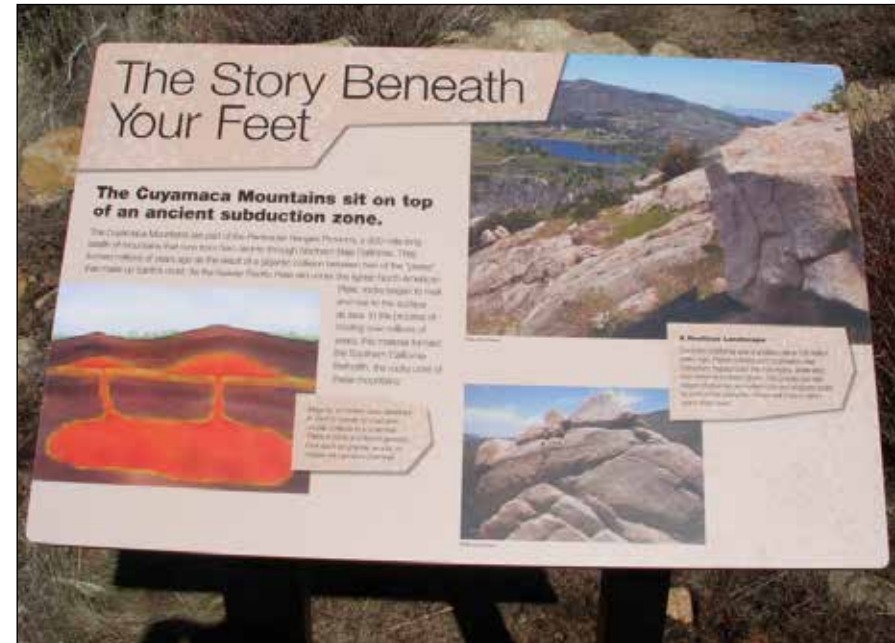
Mine Cage at Stonewall Mine



State Route 79 Road Sign



Foundation of Hual-Cu-Cuish Building



Interpretive Panel on Stonewall Peak Trail



Interpretive Exhibit at Stonewall Mine

New Management Zones

- Establish a management zone within the Ah-Ha-Kwe-Ah-Mac/Stonewall Mine Cultural Preserve that allows for focus on reconstruction and adaptive reuse of some historic buildings of Stonewall Mine/Cuyamaca City (possibly cabins for overnight use) as well as greater interpretation of historic resources.
- Consider the State Route 79 corridor, including its 8 day use parking lots and adjacent snow play areas, as a "Gateway" zone that emphasizes vehicle access, scenic viewing, orientation to the park, roving interpretation, and snow play.

Interpretation and Education

- Increase coordination efforts with Cuyamaca Outdoor School for improved youth education and involvement.
- Place new emphasis on reaching out to youth, as well as under-served, minority, and non-traditional state park users.
- Provide materials that promote the park's programs in English and in Spanish (e.g., interpretive activities and volunteer opportunities) as part of the Cuyamaca Outdoor School program (include on COS website, provide copies for each student, etc.).
- Develop short interpretive loop trails (about ¼ to ½ mile total) near Cuyamaca Outdoor School and the park visitor center.
- Work with Native American groups to enhance the park's cultural interpretation. Include in an M.O.U. or partnership agreement the co-management of areas of Native American interest, including active interpretation with Native American groups "telling their own story".
- Explore the use of diverse media (radio, cell phone, bilingual wayside panels, etc.) that can be accessed by potential visitors as they drive along Highway 79.
- Use established DPR programs such as Children in Nature and tie to roving interpretation programs to reach target audiences.
- Include training for staff and volunteer to be outreach ambassadors and schedule outreach programs in the community.
- Coordinate outreach efforts with other parks such as Cleveland National Forest and Anza-Borrego Desert State Park.
- Cultivate relationships with programs across the border, the Mexican Consulate, and other organizations involved with providing outdoor and/or educational experiences for potential tourists/visitors to the park.
- Work with Equestrian and Mountain Bike groups to educate the public in backcountry trail use/camping, including "leave not trace" program.