

CUYAMACA RANCHO  
STATE PARK

GENERAL PLAN



# *Objectives for Tonight's Public Meeting:*

- Introduce Planning Process, Schedule and Anticipated Outcomes
- Present Resource Summaries
- Identify Public Issues, Concerns, and Desires
  - Workshop (written responses)
  - Verbal Comments
  - Comment Cards
  - Visitor Survey

# *What is a “General Plan”?*

- A long-term (20 – 40 yr.) guiding document for a state park
- Management tool – future decisions are checked to be consistent with the G.P.
- Sets the “Purpose” and “Vision” for the park
- Establishes “Goals”, “Guidelines”, and “Management Zones” and Criteria
- Includes a programmatic EIR

## What a “General Plan” is NOT:

- ⦿ Not a plan for an individual project
- ⦿ Not a “Management Plan” for a particular area or zone of the park
- ⦿ Does not set policy (such as park fees, regulations, Superintendent Orders, etc.)

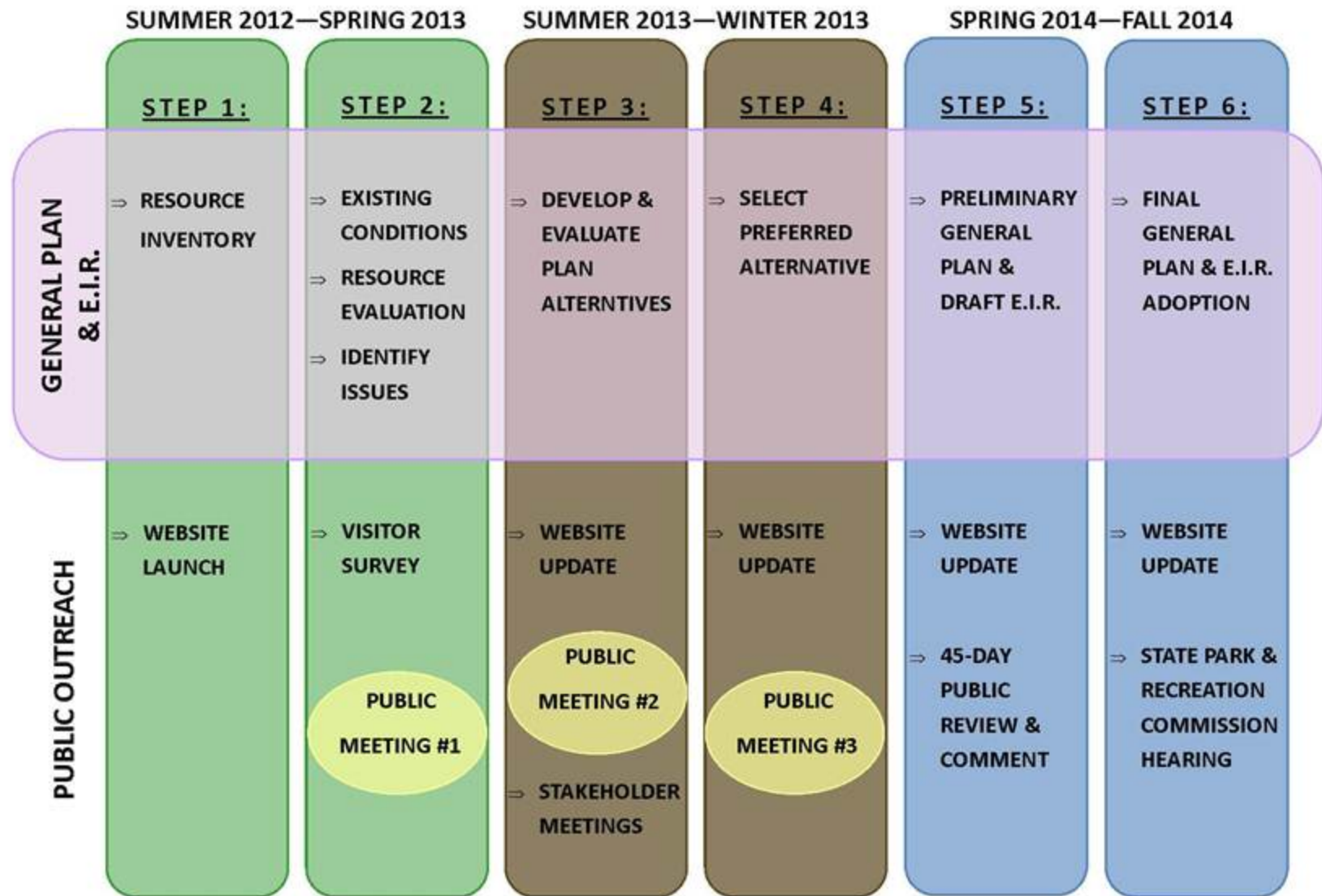
## *Why is a General Plan needed?*

- ⦿ Existing 1986 General Plan is outdated
- ⦿ Recent acquisitions of former “Tulloch Ranch” and “Lucky 5” parcels
- ⦿ Changes in the environment due to Cedar Fire
- ⦿ We have updated information about park resources
- ⦿ Comprehensive look at the park needed – everything can be considered.

## *Factors and Considerations that help shape the General Plan:*

- ⦿ Public and other stakeholder input
- ⦿ Current opportunities and constraints
- ⦿ Current Park conditions
- ⦿ Current public use

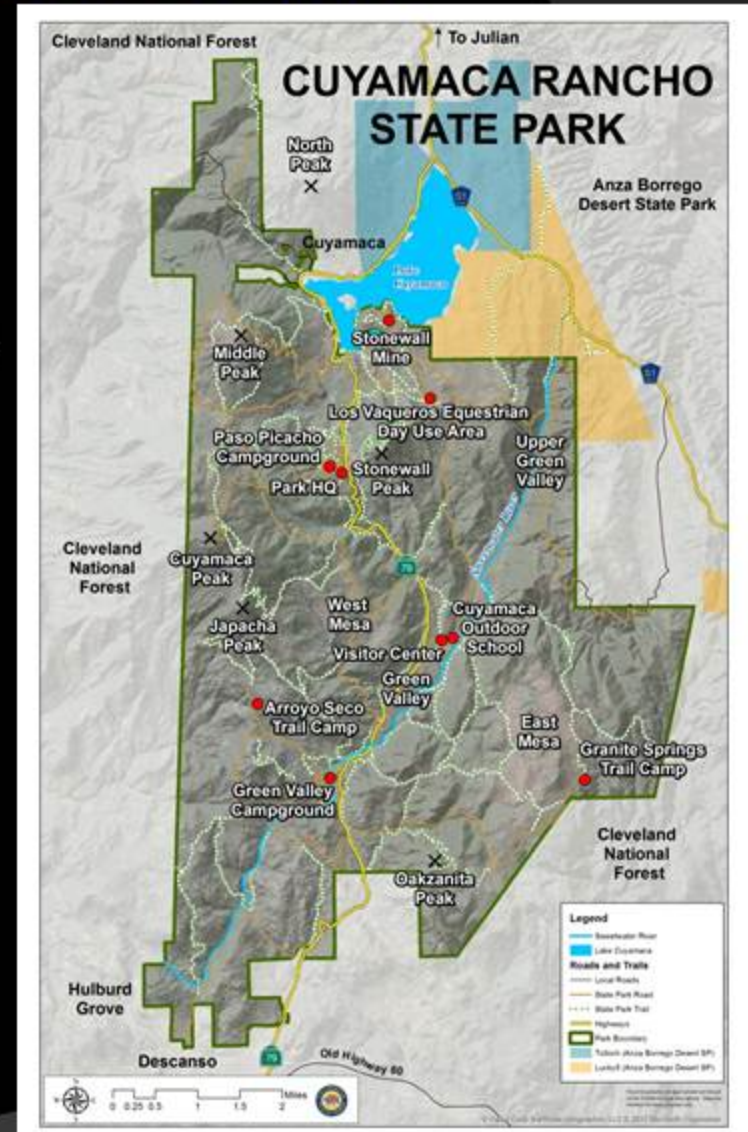
# GENERAL PLAN PROCESS & TIMELINE SUMMARY



# Cuyamaca Rancho State Park

## - Introduction

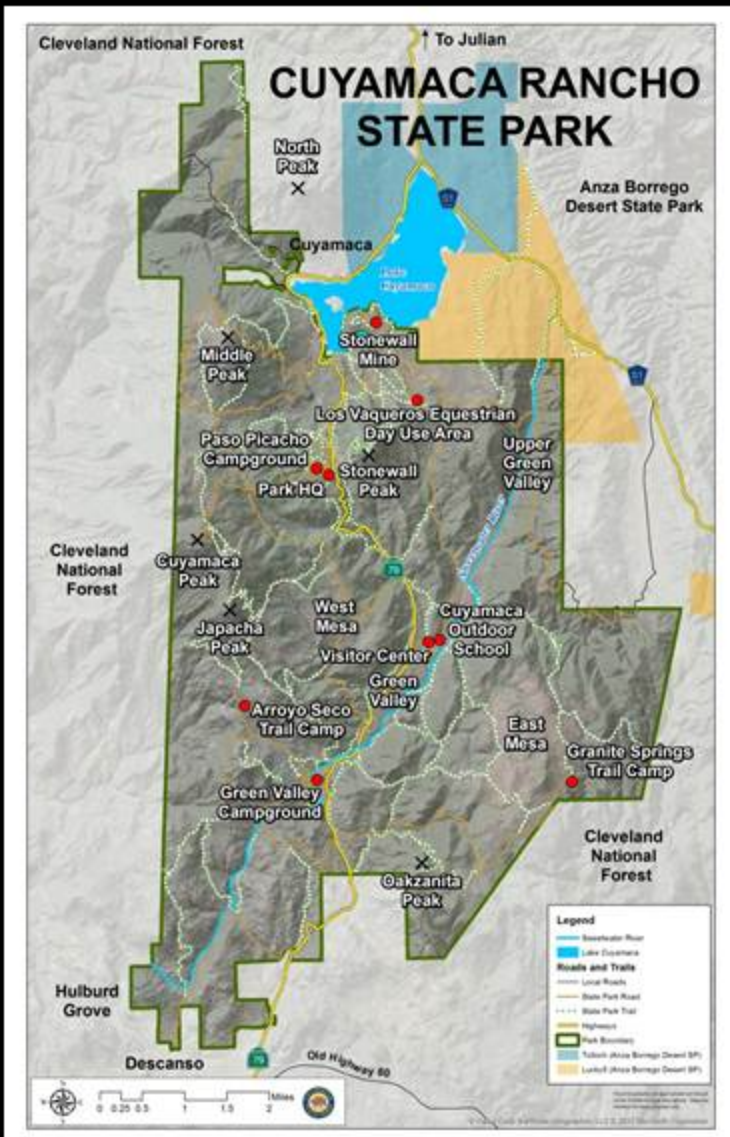
- Became a state park in 1933.
- Part of Montane Sector of Colorado Desert District (includes Palomar Mnt. SP).
- Approx. 24,700-acres
  - Wilderness = 13,073
  - Natural Preserve = 730
  - Cult. Preserve = 2,456
- 5 main Peaks
  - Cuyamaca Peak (6,512 ft.)
  - Stonewall Peak (5,730 ft.) (one of most popular hikes)





# Cuyamaca Rancho State Park

- Borders Cleveland National Forest
- Adjoins Anza Borrego Desert SP (former “Tulloch” and “Lucky 5” parcels).
- Communities of Descanso and Cuyamaca
- Lake Cuyamaca (Helix Water District)
- SR 79 bisects Park
- Julian 9 miles to north
- Downtown SD to Green Valley only 44 mi (50 min)



# Cuyamaca Rancho State Park



Park HQ



Visitor Center

- Park HQ next to Paso Picacho Campground
- Visitor Center near:
- Cuyamaca Outdoor School (SD County Office of Ed)



Cuyamaca Outdoor School

# Cuyamaca Rancho State Park



Green Valley Campground



Los Vaqueros Equest. Day Use

- Family Campgrounds:
  - Green Valley (81 sites)
  - Paso Picacho (85 sites)
  - Paso Group Camp (currently closed)
- Equestrian Group Campground:
  - Green Valley (14 sites)
- Equestrian Group Day Use:
  - Los Vaqueros
- Horse Staging Areas:
  - Hual-Cu-Cuish
  - Parking lot adjacent to SR 79 near Green Valley
- Hike- or Ride-in camps:
  - Arroyo Seco
  - Granite Springs

# *Cuyamaca Rancho State Park*

## ◎ Camping

accomodations:

- Tent
- RV/Trailer (2 Dump stations, no hookups)
- (4) Cabins at Paso Picacho
- Accessible campsites



Cabins at Paso Picacho

# Cuyamaca Rancho State Park

- Day Use Parking at:
  - Merigan (South End of Park)
  - Paso Picacho and Green Valley
  - 9 locations along SR 79
  - Stonewall Mine



Merigan Day Use Parking



Parking along SR 79



Stonewall Mine

# Cuyamaca Rancho State Park



At Green Valley



At Los Vaqueros

- Other Public Facilities at Campgrounds Include:
  - (2) Campfire Centers
  - (4) Picnic Areas
  - (5) Restrooms
  - (8) Restroom /Shower Buildings



Picnic Area at Paso

# Cuyamaca Rancho State Park



Paso Picacho Loop Trail

- Approx. 50 miles of trails available to equestrians
- Approx. 40 miles of trails open to bikers
- Approx. 93 miles of trail open available for hiking



Merigan Fire Road



Azalea Glen Trail

# *Cuyamaca Rancho State Park*

\*Visitation (FY 2010/11):

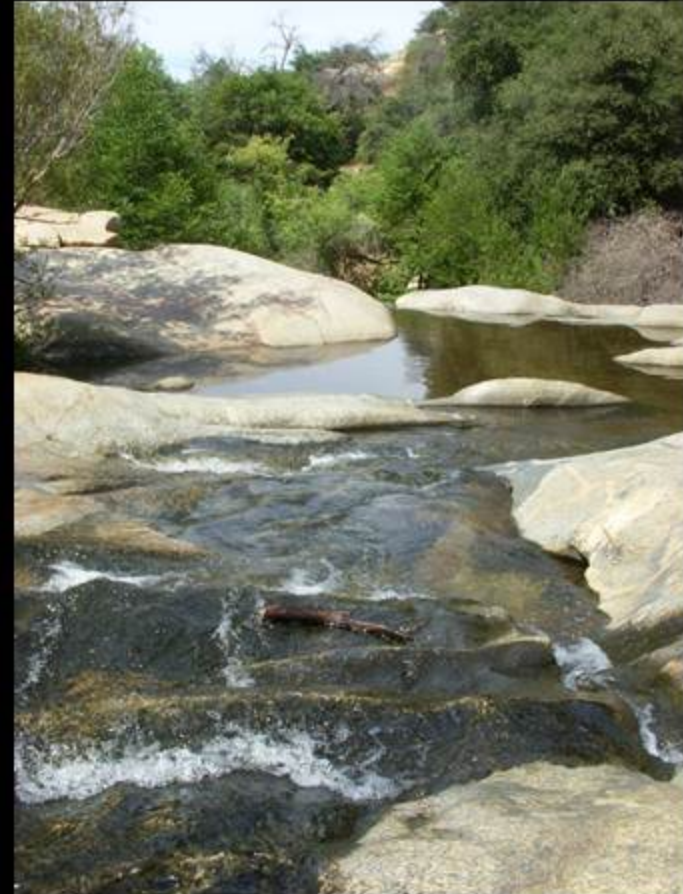
- ◎ 623,349 total
- ◎ 195,946 campers
- ◎ 67,869 paid day users
- ◎ 359,534 free day use

(\*from State Parks Statistical Report)



# *Cuyamaca Rancho State Park*

- ◎ Some reasons visitors come to CRSP:
  - Its near home
  - They like the scenery
  - They like campgrounds and using the trails
  - Horse camping
  - Green Valley Falls



Green Valley Falls

# Cuyamaca Rancho State Park

## Typical activities:

- Hiking/walking
- Relaxing outdoors
- Camping
- Horseback riding
- Bike riding
- Snow play
- Fishing in Lake Cuyamaca



# *Cuyamaca Rancho State Park*



Beautiful Mountain Meadows



Breathtaking Views



Excellent Camping and Picnicking