

PUBLIC NOTICE

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

Division of Boating and Waterways | Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division | Office of Historic Preservation

For Immediate Release
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California State Parks Announces Statewide Wi-Fi and Broadband Internet Concession Opportunity

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — California State Parks is accepting proposals from private entities to expand Wi-Fi and Broadband Internet at various state park units throughout California. The department is building on infrastructure already in place at selected parks and available to staff, but will now expand the service to the public through a “pay as you go” plan at a minimum of 113 state park units throughout the state, some of which do not currently have Wi-Fi capabilities. Visitors will be able to purchase a set amount of data to utilize the Wi-Fi. Any unused data will remain on their account for future visits to park units providing this service.

With 280 state park units, California is home to some of the most scenic and iconic natural, cultural and historic places in the country, perhaps even the world. It is important for State Parks to modernize itself while staying true to its mission and being sensitive to visitors who want to disconnect from technology and enjoy nature. At this time, 102 state park units offer limited, low bandwidth, free Wi-Fi to park visitors.

Some of the benefits from providing Wi-Fi connectivity in the nation’s largest state park system include:

- Allows for better trip planning such as viewing park maps for hiking and camping, directions, safety tips and emergency contacts.
- Promotes stewardship of outdoor public spaces by sharing outdoor experiences such as camping, hiking or swimming in real time, inspiring new people to visit state parks.
- Could encourage new visitors to enjoy the backcountry and not necessarily go off the grid.
- Visitors could learn about the natural and cultural resources found in the state park system.

The Request for Proposal (RFP) for this latest phase of the Wi-Fi project is being issued for a 10-year concession contract. A copy of the RFP is available for download from Cal e-Procure at www.caleprocure.ca.gov. A pre-proposal presentation is available online at [Current Concession Opportunities](#) on the California State Parks webpage beginning Oct. 23, 2020.

Proposals for this concession opportunity will be accepted starting today, October 23, through Thursday, Dec. 3, 2020 by 2 p.m. PT by mail or in person to California Department of Parks and Recreation, 1416 9th Street, Room 1431, Sacramento, CA 95814.

Once proposals have been reviewed and scored, State Parks will distribute a notice of intent to award to all proposers via email. It is the goal of the department to provide this notice by the end of January 2021.

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California State Parks and the recreational programs supported by its divisions of Boating and Waterways, Historic Preservation and Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation provide the opportunity for families, friends, and communities to connect. Off-highway motor vehicle recreation, boating activities, horseback riding, cycling, hiking, camping, rock climbing, tours, hikes, school group enrichment, and special events are just some of the activities enjoyed in 280 park units organized into 21 field districts throughout the state. Learn more at www.parks.ca.gov.

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