

Appendix A: Outdoor Recreation Providers: Roles and Key Programs

Many different federal, state, and local governmental agencies and commercial, private, and nonprofit entities provide recreation opportunities in California. This chapter identifies many of the primary providers and discusses their current roles and some of the key programs that benefit parks and recreation. This is not intended to include all providers. Since the federal government administers nearly half of the state's landmass, special attention is given to the outdoor recreation opportunities available through federal lands and programs.

The primary focus of this chapter is to introduce the many providers of recreation opportunities and some of the key programs that benefit parks, recreation and open space in California. The providers include federal, state, and local governmental agencies, special districts, non-profit organizations, land trusts and the private sector. Collectively these recreation providers offer a broad array of settings, opportunities and experiences to meet the diverse needs of Californians and visitors to the state. From mountain peaks to underwater reserves; from lush redwood forests to arid desert floors; from Disneyland to a neighborhood tot-lot; from highly active to passive forms of recreation; from free to very expensive pursuits; from activities involving no equipment to those requiring the latest technology, California offers recreation opportunities to meet virtually every need.

California's recreation providers, through the lands and facilities they administer and the services and programs they provide, contribute significantly to the quality of life and well being of Californians.

Park and recreation opportunities offered by California providers are important for maintaining the physical and emotional health and wellness of individuals. Parks and recreation areas convey a sense of place that brings people back time and again. California's economy benefits tremendously from recreation related sales of clothing, equipment, fees and services and the revenues generated from the tourism and hospitality industries. Recreation activity provides a strong support for community values and serves as a mechanism and social bridge for integrating people of all ethnicities, ages, incomes and abilities.

The providers educate, challenge, inspire and entertain our children, they offer safe and secure places for families and seniors, they protect and conserve our natural and cultural resources and they help strengthen and stimulate California's economy.

I. Federal Land Managers

Nearly half of California's total landmass - more than 47 million acres - is federal land or Indian land held in federal trust. These lands were specifically set aside by Congress or Presidential Executive Order, never having left the public domain, or were acquired for a specific purpose such as protecting wildlife habitat and wetlands, constructing reservoirs or creating parks and public recreation areas. The federal land management agencies, as directed by Congress, have statutory responsibilities for the management of federal lands and the development of recreational facilities and programs. Typically, the benefits and opportunities on federal lands are of national significance or are those that would generally not be feasible for state or local governments.

The outdoor recreation role of federal land managers includes direct services through the management of federally owned properties such as national parks, recreation areas, monuments, forests, wildlife refuges, preserves, wilderness areas, historic sites, reservoir areas and military installations.

Federal land managers provide a significant diversity of outdoor recreation opportunities. The spectrum of federal outdoor recreation opportunities can range from riding off-highway vehicles to enjoying a pristine wilderness, from a short visit to a small historic monument to a multi-week exploration of thousands of acres of forest and desert. Federal recreation activities are both diverse and abundant.

Federal programs also provide vital support to state, local and nonprofit agencies and citizens, helping them meet a variety of land use goals. A variety of federal financial and technical assistance programs enhance local recreation opportunities, protect wildlife habitat, cultural resources and are used to plan and develop community and regional facilities. Programs administered by federal agencies, such as the Land and Water Conservation Fund, are vital to federal land managers and tribal governments as well as to state, local and nonprofit agencies and citizens. Such programs assist with coordinated planning, improving public services, extending local capability, helping with land acquisition, promoting partnerships and developing facilities and land resources. Recreation experiences for Californians are greatly enhanced by the diverse opportunities provided by federal land managers.

A. Department of the Interior



Congress created the Department of the Interior in 1849. The Department's recreation responsibilities include administration of the nation's scenic and historic areas, the multiple uses of public lands, recreational use of federal reservoirs, the conservation and management of fish and wildlife resources, the coordination of federal and state recreation programs and services and the programs benefiting Native

Americans. Four key agencies or bureaus within the Department provide the public outdoor recreation resources and programs in California.

1. National Park Service

www.nps.gov

Mission



“The National Park Service preserves unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the National Park System for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations. The Park Service cooperates with partners to extend the benefits of natural and cultural resource conservation and outdoor recreation throughout this country and the world.”

Created by Congress in 1916, the National Park Service (NPS) was directed “to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wildlife therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such a manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.”

The National Park System includes superlative natural, historic and recreation areas, consisting of parks, monuments and reservations such as National Recreation Areas, National Historic Sites and National Seashores, as designated by Congress or Executive Order. The NPS provides a broad array of recreational opportunities compatible with its responsibility to conserve and protect resource values for the enjoyment of future generations. Camping, hiking, nature observation, scenic drives, natural and cultural resource interpretation, boating, horseback riding, rock climbing and swimming are among the many recreational activities within the National Park System.

The NPS administers 24 units and one historic trail in California, covering over 8.2 million acres. These units are widely distributed throughout the state and represent a cross section of the diverse landscapes that define the character of California. The NPS units in California include towering redwoods and giant sequoias, volcanic landscapes, pristine windswept beaches, untrammelled wilderness, vast deserts, offshore islands, awe-inspiring beauty and history. In 2006, California’s NPS units hosted almost 39 million visitors.

The NPS also serves as a national focal point for outdoor recreation. In this role, the NPS provides guidance to states to plan, coordinate and develop outdoor recreation policy, conduct surveys and studies of recreational supply and demand, and develop strategies and plans to meet outdoor recreation needs.

The NPS, through the National Center for Recreation and Conservation, administers programs assisting state and local agencies and communities to

restore rivers, establish trails, save open space, rebuild parks and preserve other special places.

The NPS also maintains the National Register of Historic Places and administers the National Historic Landmark and the National Natural Landmark programs.

a. Federal Programs Administered by the National Park Service

i. Land and Water Conservation Fund

www.nps.gov/lwcf

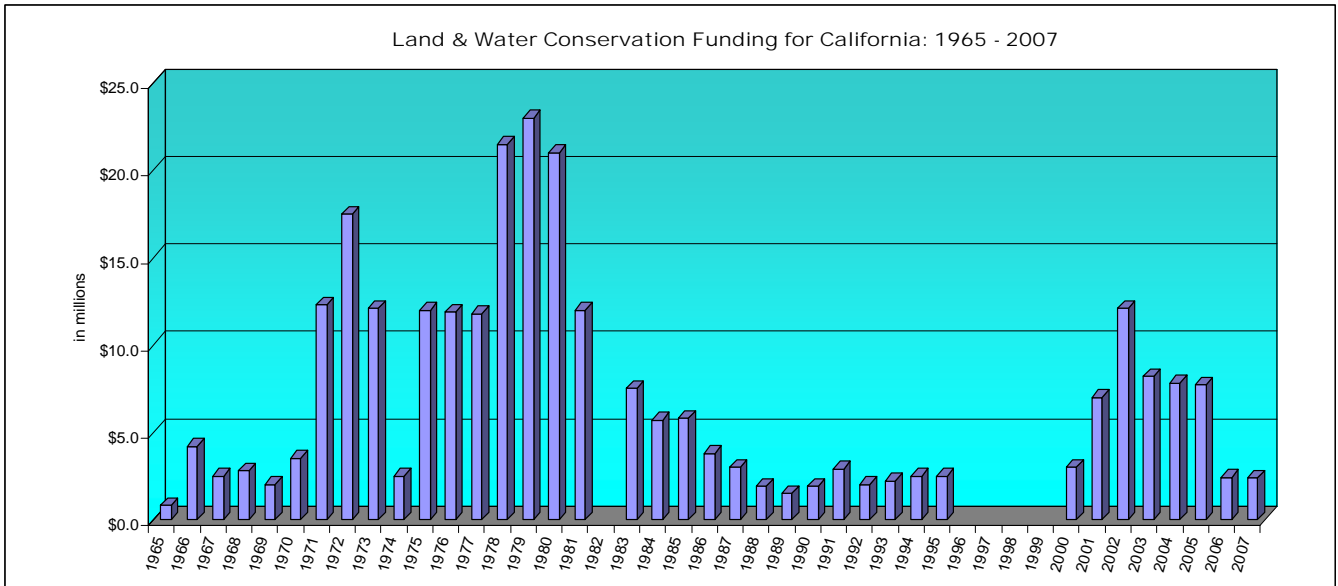


Established in 1965, the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) is the best-known source of federal funding for state and local outdoor recreation projects. The LWCF has provided \$3,790,805,266.78 for new federal acquisitions and grants to state and local governments over its 40-year history.

Since its establishment, LWCF has assisted with the acquisition of over 210,733 acres in California. In 1979, California received its largest amount of \$27.2 million but in 1982 and from 1996 through 1999 the state received no allocations. The table below shows California’s historical LWCF allocations from 1965 through 2007. California’s 2007 allocation was \$2.38 million.

LWCF funding is subject to annual Congressional appropriations, which have been inconsistent over the years.

The LWCF is the primary source of federal funds, authorized by Congress, to acquire new federal forests, parks, wildlife refuges and other recreation areas.



The LWCF also provides matching grants to state and local governments for acquiring park and recreation lands, developing and rehabilitating recreation facilities and for studying recreation potentials, needs, opportunities and policies.

ii. Federal Lands to Parks

<http://www.nps.gov/ncrc/programs/flp/index.htm>

The National Park Service administers the Federal Land to Parks (FLP) program, helping communities create new parks and recreation areas by transferring surplus federal land to state and local governments. When a federal military base becomes surplus, NPS reviews the notices of availability and then notifies the relevant state, regional and/or local park agencies. A state or local government agency looking for parks and recreation property then notifies the Federal Lands to Parks Program regional office of its interest in the surplus property. Surplus federal lands can satisfy a number of community needs while remaining available for public beneficial use, subject to accepted stewardship principles and practices.

According to the FLP website, as of February 2004 6556.86 acres of property in California has been conveyed from the U.S. Government to state or local government for parks.

iii. Save America's Treasures Program

<http://www.nps.gov/history/hps/treasures/>

The Federal Save America's Treasures program is one of the largest and most successful grant programs for the protection of our nation's endangered and irreplaceable and endangered cultural heritage. Grants are available for preservation and/or conservation work on nationally significant intellectual and cultural artifacts and historic structures and sites. Intellectual and cultural artifacts include artifacts, collections, documents, sculpture, and works of art. Historic structures and sites include historic districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects.

Grants are awarded to Federal, state, local, and tribal government entities, and non-profit organizations through a competitive matching-grant program, administered by the National Park Service in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Institute of Museum and Library Services and the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities.

In 2006, \$450,048 in grants was awarded to two California projects.

iv. Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) Program

www.nps.gov/ncrc/programs/rtca/

The RTCA program provides advice and technical assistance to state and local governments, nonprofit groups and Indian tribes on a wide variety of open space, rivers, trails and related projects. The program, through voluntary partnerships instead of direct funding, helps local groups plan greenways, conserve rivers and waterways and develop new trails.

v. Cultural Resources - Grants, Tax Credit and Other Assistance

www.cr.nps.gov

The National Park Service administers a number of successful programs promoting historic preservation. These programs can revitalize communities through technical assistance, matching funds and local, state and federal partnerships to preserve and conserve cultural resources.

vi. Urban Park and Recreation Recovery

<http://www.nps.gov/ncrc/programs/uprr/index.htm>

When funding was available, the Urban Park and Recreation Recovery (UPARR) program provided matching grants and technical assistance to economically distressed urban communities. The program provided direct federal assistance to urban localities for rehabilitating critically needed recreation facilities. Eligible cities and urban counties were able to receive rehabilitation, renovation, and planning grants.

UPARR has not been funded since 2002 when \$28.9 million were granted. Previously assisted sites and facilities, more than 1,500 in number in over 300 localities, remain protected in public recreation use, however, under the provisions of Section 1010 of the UPARR Act the same as §6(f) protection under LWCF).

In accordance with Section 1010 of the UPARR Act, no property improved or developed with UPARR assistance shall, without the approval of the National Park Service, be converted to other than public recreation uses. A conversion will only be approved if it is found to be in accord with the current local park and recreation Recovery Action Program and/or equivalent recreation plans and only upon such conditions as deemed necessary to assure the provision of adequate recreation properties and opportunities of reasonably equivalent location and usefulness. Section 1010 is designed to ensure that areas or facilities receiving UPARR grant assistance are continually maintained in recreation use and available to the general public.

2. Bureau of Land Management

www.ca.blm.gov

Mission



“To sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations.”

True to the multiple-use mandate of the agency, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) manages a wide variety of public land uses including outdoor recreation, wilderness, grazing, forest products, mineral extraction, energy production and fish and wildlife management. BLM management practices are intended to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the land and water resources without sacrificing their significant natural or cultural values.

Outdoor recreation is an equal partner in the Bureau of Land Management’s multiple-use mandate and managing land and water resources for recreation is a high priority. Nationally, the BLM’s commitment to manage and enhance outdoor recreation opportunities was reinforced in May 2003 with the release of The BLM’s Priorities for Recreation and Visitor Services Workplan followed by the Unified Strategy to Implement the Workplan. These plans established outdoor recreation related policies, goals, and specific actions, including state strategic plans for managing, maintaining and developing recreation opportunities. The BLM is currently developing A Strategic Recreation and Visitor Services Plan for California, using Benefits Based Management to look at California’s diverse land and water resources and outdoor recreation opportunities, issues affecting their management and the need to enhance and promote outdoor recreation throughout the state.

According to the BLM, they administer multiple-use programs on more than 15.2 million acres, covering nearly 15% of California. BLM lands are particularly concentrated in the southeastern California desert, northeastern and north coast portions of the state. There is some BLM public land in all but three of the 58 California counties.

There are 15 BLM field offices responsible for managing California’s public lands. These lands provide a broad spectrum of outdoor recreation opportunities. The resource-dependent outdoor recreation opportunities on BLM lands offer a high degree of freedom for unstructured and dispersed activities that are still sustainable within the constraints of sound resource management principles and practices.

BLM’s outdoor recreation resources are divided into Recreation Management Areas and further classified into Special Recreation Management Areas (SRMA) and Extensive Recreation Management Areas (ERMA) to facilitate planning and management among the field offices.

The SRMAs usually require some kind of special management consideration, have been Congressionally or administratively designated, require a substantial management commitment and/or have had recreation identified as a principle management objective during the land use planning process.

Most of the BLM lands in California are designated ERMAs, catering to a wide range of personal recreation preferences with minimal regulation. ERMAs typically have minimal recreation services but offer diverse and unstructured resource-dependent outdoor recreation opportunities.

There are 45 SRMAs and 16 ERMAs in California. The SMRAs include National Scenic Areas, Wilderness and Wilderness Study Areas, Wild and Scenic Rivers, National Conservation Areas, National Natural Landmarks and sections of the National Trails System. Recreation opportunities include off-highway vehicle use, whitewater rafting, boating, fishing and camping as well as a broad mix of other recreation opportunities and experiences.

a. Federal Programs Administered by the Bureau of Land Management

i. Payments in Lieu of Taxes Act

<http://www.doi.gov/pilt/>

Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) are congressionally approved payments to counties offsetting tax revenue losses from the tax-exempt federal lands within their jurisdiction. The payments apply to lands in the National Forest System, the National Park System, BLM administered lands and lands reserved or withdrawn from the public domain for federal water projects, the National Wildlife Refuge System, and a few other categories. California counties received nearly \$21 million in PILT payments in 2007 distributed by BLM. The payments are in addition to other federal land receipt-sharing sources, including revenues from mineral leasing, livestock grazing and timber sales. The PILT payments help fund vital community services, including fire and police protection, recreation, as well as hospital and school construction.

ii. Recreation and Public Purposes Act

www.blm.gov/nhp/what/lands/realty/rppa.htm

This Act authorizes the sale or lease of public lands for recreational or public purposes to State and local governments and qualified nonprofit organizations. Recreational purposes include campgrounds, trails and parks, while public purposes include schools, firehouses, law enforcement facilities, hospitals and landfills. The Act specifies conditions, qualifications, acreage limitations and other provisions. Land within national forests, national parks and monuments,

national wildlife refuges, Indian lands, and federally acquired lands are excluded from this Act.

3. Fish and Wildlife Service

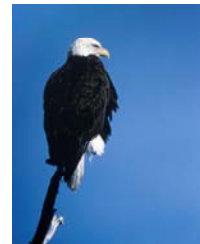
www.fws.gov/

Mission



“Working with others, to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people.”

The Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) is principally responsible for conserving, protecting and enhancing fish, wildlife and plants and their habitats. The FWS manages the 96 million-acre National Wildlife Refuge System, with more than 548 National Wildlife Refuges, thousands of small wetlands and other special management areas. It also operates 70 fish hatcheries, 64 fishery resource offices and 78 ecological services field stations. The agency enforces federal wildlife laws, administers the Endangered Species Act, manages migratory bird populations, restores nationally significant fisheries, conserves and restores wildlife habitat, provides federal aid to states, and helps foreign governments with their conservation efforts.



In California, the FWS manages 43 National Wildlife Refuges and Wildlife Management Areas, two National Fish Hatcheries and a Sacramento River salmon-viewing plaza. Approximately half of the refuges are open for recreation activities, including wildlife observation, study and photography, hunting, fishing, equestrian use, hiking, biking, environmental education and automobile touring. The remaining areas are either closed or have restricted access for public safety reasons or for the protection of special status species.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program administers federal aid programs that award millions of dollars in state grants. These programs may also benefit local governments and, in some cases, private landowners through state agency partnerships. Program elements vary depending on specifics within the enabling legislation.

a. Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program Awards and Grants administered by the Fish and Wildlife Service

<http://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/>

i. Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act (Pittman-Robertson Act)

<http://www.fws.gov/southeast/federalaid/pittmanrobertson.html>

Approved by Congress in 1937, this Act funds the selection, restoration, rehabilitation and improvement of wildlife habitat, wildlife management research, hunter training and the development, operation and maintenance of public target ranges. Funds come from a federal excise tax on sporting arms, ammunition, archery equipment, and handguns. Funds are collected annually from manufacturers and apportioned to each state. Only state agencies are eligible to receive these grant funds. The grant amount is based on a formula considering the total area of the state and the number of licensed hunters.

ii. Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Act (Dingell-Johnson Act & Wallop-Breaux Amendment)

www.fws.gov/laws/lawsdigest/FASPORT.html

Established in 1951, the Sport Fish Restoration Act provides financial assistance for state programs to manage, conserve, and restore fishery resources. This program is funded by federal excise taxes on fishing equipment manufacturing, including rods, reels, lines, hooks and lures. The funds are apportioned to state agencies based on size of the state and number of licensed anglers.

iii. Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Grant Program

www.fws.gov/endangered/grants/section6/index.html

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service offers a variety of grant programs under the Endangered Species Act to help states, territories, and landowners plan and implement habitat conservation projects for special status species.

iv. National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program

http://ecos.fws.gov/coastal_grants/viewContent.do?viewPage=home

This is a competitive grant program established by the Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection, and Restoration Act of 1990. The FWS provides matching grants through this program to acquire, restore, manage or enhance coastal wetlands. The program encourages partnerships, support for watershed planning and leveraged funding for on-going projects to maximize use of the limited funds.

v. Clean Vessel Act

<http://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/Subpages/GrantPrograms/CVA/CVA.htm>

This nationally competitive grant program distributes funds for the installation of pump-out stations at marinas and other public recreation sites.

vi. Boating Infrastructure Grants

<http://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/Subpages/GrantPrograms/BIG/BIG.htm>

This grant program was first authorized in 1999 and provides funds annually to improve facilities for recreational boats longer than 26 feet. The grant program has two tiers of funding.

vii. State Wildlife Grants

<http://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/Subpages/GrantPrograms/BIG/BIG.html>

Since 2002, Congress has annually appropriated funds to state fish and wildlife agencies for planning and conservation efforts with an emphasis on conservation of non-game species. These funds are apportioned to the states based on their land area and total population.

viii. Tribal Grants

www.fws.gov/nativeamerican/grants.html

In 2003, two new programs awarded grants, the Tribal Landowner Incentive Program and the Tribal Wildlife Grant Program. Congress awarded monies to help 48 federally-recognized tribes conserve and recover endangered, threatened and at-risk species and other wildlife on tribal lands in 22 states, including California.

4. Bureau of Reclamation

www.usbr.gov/

Mission



“To manage, develop, and protect water and related resources in an environmentally and economically sound manner in the interest of the American public.”

The Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) was established in 1902 to develop water resources in 17 western states to facilitate agricultural development and settlement. The agency has moved more recently towards a multipurpose approach in the management of its land and water resources. In addition to agricultural, municipal and industrial water supplies, BOR today addresses endangered species, instream flows, fisheries management, wetlands preservation, fish and wildlife habitat conservation and enhancement, recovery of

salmon populations, cultural resources preservation, water quality, recreation and other environmental-related concerns.

In California, millions of people visit the Mid-Pacific Region's reservoirs each year to recreate. Most facilities are administered by other federal, state, county and city managing partners. The Bureau of Reclamation still directly manages some facilities such as Lake Berryessa and New Melones Lake.

B. Department of Agriculture

1. U.S. Forest Service

www.fs.fed.us/

Mission



“To sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the Nation’s forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations.”

The Forest Service provides outdoor recreation opportunities through three entities:

- ❖ National Forest System
- ❖ State and Private Forestry
- ❖ Research and Development

The National Forest System in California includes 18 national forests covering over 20.6 million acres - one-fifth of the state’s total landmass. The Forest Service employs multiple-use and sustained yield principles and practices to manage these lands while accommodating a variety of uses, including outdoor recreation, timber, grazing, watershed management, fish and wildlife habitat and wilderness. The multiple uses fit within an ecosystem framework approach, a fairly new resource management concept.

The Forest Service provides about half of the wildland recreation opportunities in California. In 2007, there were 31 million recreation visits to the state’s national forests, representing nearly 15 percent of all recreational visits to all national forests in the country. The national forests contain an estimated 30 percent of the family campgrounds, 4.3 million acres of the designated wilderness areas, 50 percent of the state’s water supply, and 24 of the 31 major downhill ski areas in California. The California national forests also contain more than 2,400 lakes and reservoirs, 13,000 miles of fishable rivers and streams, 1,200 miles of designated Wild and Scenic Rivers, and 18,959 miles of maintained hiking, horseback riding and off-road vehicle trails. There are over 6,131 forest service summer cabins permitted as “recreation residences,” some dating back to 1906.

The State and Private Forestry programs provide technical and financial conservation assistance to state and private non-industrial landowners. The program leverages federal resources to produce a variety of forest-based goods

and services, including recreation, fish and wildlife, biological diversity, and timber. The programs include wildland fire protection, Smokey Bear, forest health protection, cooperative forestry, and natural resource preservation.

The Research and Development programs focus on areas requiring urgent policy and management action, including studies on watershed health and restoration, sustainable forest management, economic and social values, and forest health. In California, the Pacific Southwest Research Station, Wildland Recreation and Urban Cultures, engages in a variety of recreation research topics, including recreation customer models, market analysis, visitor communication, volunteer management, mountain biking issues, cultural diversity and California outdoor recreation management.

C. Department of Defense

1. U.S. Military

www.defenselink.mil/



The Department of Defense (DOD) administers approximately 4 million acres in California, used almost exclusively for military purposes.

The DOD is required to manage its natural resources and cultural sites, and, wherever possible, provide for multiple uses and public access compatible with each facility's military mission. The DOD has a resource management plan for each facility, which includes a section on managing natural resource-based outdoor recreation.

The Department's military mission and current level of national defense readiness influences access policies for military personnel, their families, civilian employees, military retirees, escorted guests, and the general public wanting to use the recreation areas. Some DOD facilities allow public access for hunting, fishing, horseback riding, visiting historic sites and access to beaches. Access may be continuous or granted only on special occasions, although many military facilities prohibit any public access.

With the end of the Cold War, Congress passed the Base Realignment and Closure Act (BRAC) in 1988. The Act appointed four rounds of independent BRAC commissions to recommend surplus and obsolete military bases for realignment or closure. California was the hardest hit in the nation with 29 major bases and several small installations identified for closure or downsizing. The closures reduced the state's annual economy by an estimated 9 billion dollars and caused the direct and indirect loss of 200,000 jobs. The base closures did free up over 77,000 acres of land for industrial, commercial, recreational, educational and residential uses. These closures have allowed federal, state and

local agencies to submit reuse plans for parks, recreation, open space, wildlife habitat and economic development.

2. U. S. Army Corps of Engineers

www.usace.army.mil/

Mission



“Provide peacetime emergency and environmental services while strengthening military support capabilities.”

The civil works activities of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) include flood control, water supply, navigation, recreation, regulatory oversight, water quality, fish and wildlife conservation, and disaster response throughout California. These lands are administered directly through lease arrangements with other public agencies or through concessionaires. Corps projects are primarily water oriented, making them popular recreation resources.

a. Federal Programs Administered by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

i. Clean Water Act: Section 404

www.epa.gov/OWOW/wetlands/regs/sec404.html



The 1977 Clean Water Act amendment to the 1972 Federal Water Pollution Control Act is intended to “restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the Nation’s waters.” Section 404 of the Clean Water Act regulates the placement of dredge and fill material into United States waters and wetlands. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has primary responsibility for the permit program and issues permits in compliance with environmental requirements.



D. Special Systems on Federal Lands

There are three special management systems on California federal lands: the National Wilderness Preservation System, the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, and the National Trails System. Congress created these systems to protect special features on federal lands and the systems are administered by several agencies, including the U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service and the Fish and Wildlife Service. Congress reserved the right to define the extent of the systems but under certain circumstances, state-designated rivers and streams or recreational trails can be added to the systems without congressional action.

1. The National Wilderness Preservation System

<http://www.wilderness.net/>

The National Wilderness Preservation System was created on September 3, 1964. The Wilderness Act defines federal wilderness as land untouched by human activity, primarily affected by the forces of nature where solitude and primitive recreation are the dominant values. The Act directs wilderness to be “devoted to the public purposes of recreational, scenic, scientific, educational, conservation, and historical use.” Commercial activities, motorized access, and permanent roads, structures or facilities are generally prohibited. Areas within the National Wilderness Preservation System pertain to only lands that are federally owned. While agencies can nominate wilderness areas, only Congress can designate them.

The National Wilderness Preservation System includes 702 wilderness areas, 138 of which are in California. Nationally these areas contain 107,436,608 acres with 14,335,878 acres located in California. The largest California unit within the system is the Death Valley Wilderness at 3,253,028 total acres and the smallest California unit within the system is the Rocks and Islands Wilderness with 5 acres.

2. The National Wild and Scenic Rivers System

www.rivers.gov/



The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act celebrated its 40th Anniversary in 2008. The Act, championed by Senator Frank Church, and signed into law by President Lyndon Johnson on October 2, 1968, protects the free-flowing waters of many of the United State’s most spectacular rivers.

The National Wild and Scenic Rivers System Act established three river classifications that prohibited any water resource projects that would hinder or divert river flow. Congress required management agencies to protect and enhance the river’s values contributing to the Wild and Scenic River designation, but allowed most other land uses unless they “substantially interfere with public use and enjoyment of these values.”

As of 2006, the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System protects more than 11,000 miles of 165 rivers in 38 states and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico; this is a little more than one quarter of one percent of the nation’s rivers. Of these protected resources, 1,893.8 miles of 15 rivers are within California.

3. The National Trails System

www.nps.gov/nts/index.html



The National Trails System Act (1968) established four classes of National Trails. National Trails include Scenic, Historic and Recreation Trails—and connecting or side trails providing access between the other trails.

Eight National Scenic (NST) and eighteen National Historic Trails (NHT) running 64,445 miles (not including the as yet determined length of the recently authorized Star-Spangled Banner NHT), have been designated by law. Another two connecting trails have been designated (certified) administratively. Sections of the Pacific Crest NST, California NHT, Pony Express NHT, Old Spanish NHT and the Juan Bautista de Anza NHT are found in California.

Over 1,000 National Recreation Trails have been recognized by the Secretaries of Agriculture and the Interior.

E. Other Federal Agencies Supporting Outdoor Recreation

1. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration

<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/>



The Federal Highway Administration manages the Highway Trust Fund to finance the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). SAFETEA-LU authorizes the Federal surface transportation programs for highways, highway safety, and transit for the 5-year period 2005-2009.

With guaranteed funding for highways, highway safety, and public transportation totaling \$244.1 billion, SAFETEA-LU represents the largest surface transportation investment in our Nation's history. The two landmark bills that brought surface transportation into the 21st century—the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA) and the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21)—shaped the highway program to meet the Nation's changing transportation needs. SAFETEA-LU builds on this firm foundation, supplying the funds and refining the programmatic framework for investments needed to maintain and grow our vital transportation infrastructure.

Projects are sponsored by state agencies, federal agencies, and regional, local or private/non-profit agencies acting with a state agency partner.

A total of \$370 million is provided through 2009 to continue this program to develop and maintain trails for recreational purposes that include pedestrian,

equestrian, bicycling and non-motorized snow activities as well as off-road motorized vehicle activities. New eligibilities are provided, including construction and maintenance equipment, real estate costs, educational program costs, State administration costs, and assessment of trail conditions.

F. Other Federal Programs

1. Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (FLREA)

http://www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/prog/Recreation/recreation_national/recreation_fees/rea_info_page.html

With the signing of the FY 2005 Appropriations Act, the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (FLREA) replaced the Recreational Fee Demonstration (Fee-Demo) authority. The new authority limits fees at sites that have a specified minimum level of development and meet specific criteria. Additional safeguards include provisions that require the use of Recreation Resource Advisory Committees and specific requirements to provide the public with information about fees and how fee revenues will be used. The Act provides agencies with recreation fee authority for 10 years, which will allow the agencies to improve the efficiency of the program, provide better facilities and services to the visitors, employ greater use of technology, and enter into more fee management agreements with counties and other entities to provide additional services to visitors.

The majority of fee revenues are retained at the site of collection and used to enhance visitor services, including repair, maintenance, and facility enhancement. Typical uses of fee revenues include maintaining campgrounds, habitat restoration directly related to wildlife-dependent recreation, fixing boat launches, offering interpretive displays and tours, and providing toilets, developed parking, trash receptacles, water, and other amenities that many visitors expect.

2. Federal Regulatory Actions

Federal regulatory actions can have a significant impact on outdoor recreation activities, including the types of uses allowed, the season of use, restrictions on the use of certain equipment and environmental quality-related restrictions. Regulations can have a profound affect on segments of the recreation equipment industry. New regulations for improving safety standards, reducing pollution, protecting the health and welfare of citizens and the environment are constantly being proposed. These regulations can restrict, curtail or eliminate certain activities or equipment. They can also require costly redesigns or early phase-out of expensive equipment before research and development costs can be fully recovered. Redesigns are not only financially and technologically burdensome to manufacturers but the added costs are passed on to retailers and consumers.

New regulations typically respond to consumer complaints, pressure from environmental advocacy groups, scientific advancements, and scientific evidence of resource degradation or to the manufacturing advances of new technologies or new products.

II. State Land Managers

A. California Resources Agency

www.resources.ca.gov/

The Resources Agency is responsible for conserving, enhancing, and managing the state's rich and diverse natural resources, including the land, water, wildlife, parks, minerals, and historic sites. California's natural resources supply the state's water, air, minerals, lumber, power and food. They also provide outstanding outdoor recreational opportunities, including nature study, research, and tourism. The Resources Agency oversees policies, activities, and a budget of \$6.4 billion and 16,000 employees in 25 departments, commissions, boards and conservancies. Several directly provide outdoor recreation opportunities—most notably the Department of Parks and Recreation. Several others that do not provide direct services instead provide regulatory oversight, financial assistance, or resource protection supporting outdoor recreation opportunities and maintaining open space.

1. Department of Parks and Recreation

www.parks.ca.gov

Mission



“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 valued natural and cultural resources, and creating opportunities for high-quality outdoor recreation.”

The California Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) manages the State Park System, the Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Program, the Historic Preservation Program and the Office of Grants and Local Services. DPR provides millions of dollars in state and federal funds through its many programs to local and state agencies and other organizations for parks, recreation, and resource-related projects.

a. California State Park System

www.parks.ca.gov

The 1901 bill authorizing the use of state funds to acquire redwood property led to preservation of the first 2,500 acres in Big Basin in 1902 creating the first California state park. This set the tone for preserving California's most valuable

resource lands for future generations and the birth of the State Park System. Units of the State Park System include:

- ❖ Underwater recreation areas and reserves
- ❖ Natural and cultural preserves
- ❖ Beaches, recreation areas, wilderness areas, and reservoirs
- ❖ Historic and archaeological sites, National Register and National Historic Landmark properties
- ❖ Lighthouses, ghost towns and conference centers
- ❖ Off-highway vehicle parks

As of FY 2007/08, the California State Park System hosted over 79.5 million visitors and was responsible for 278 park units covering 1,560,623.2 acres of land, 315.43 miles of coastline; over 973 miles of lake and river frontage; more than 14,500 campsites; and over 4,600 miles of hiking, biking, and equestrian trails.

The System includes some of the State's finest coastal wetlands, estuaries, beaches, and dune systems representing almost one-third of California's scenic coastline.

The System's cultural resources include:

- ❖ Over 1 million museum objects
- ❖ More than 3 million archival documents
- ❖ Two million archaeological specimens
- ❖ 3,375 historic buildings and structures
- ❖ Over 100 properties on the National Register of Historic Places
- ❖ 123 California Historical Landmarks,
- ❖ 26 National Historic Landmarks
- ❖ 47 Historic Parks and Museums
- ❖ 14 Cultural Preserves
- ❖ Over 13,500 Cultural Resources inventoried
- ❖ 10,271 archaeological sites

b. Office of Historic Preservation

www.ohp.parks.ca.gov

The mission of the Office of Historic Preservation and the State Historical Resources Commission is to preserve and enhance California's irreplaceable historic heritage in the public interest so that California's vital legacy of cultural, educational, recreational, aesthetic, economic, social, and environmental benefits will be maintained and enriched for present and future generations. The Office of Historic Preservation administers California's statewide historic preservation program. The Commission reviews historic and archaeological site applications for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, the California Register of

Historic Resources, and the lists of California Historical Landmarks and Points of Historical Interest.

The Office of Historic Preservation administers a variety of grants to certified local governments, accredited colleges and universities, federally recognized California Native American tribes and any non-profit organization existing under section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Service Code that promotes historic preservation as its principle charitable purpose.

c. Office of Grants and Local Services

www.parks.ca.gov/grants

The Office of Grants and Local Services (OGALS) develops and administers a variety of grant programs providing funds to state agencies, counties, cities, park and recreation districts, special districts, and non-profit organizations for parks, recreation and resource-related projects. Over the last 35 years the Office of Grants and Local Services has administered \$1.8 billion in local assistance grants, funding over 14,000 projects.

Historically, in 2000 voters approved a \$2.1 billion Bond Act (Prop. 12) including \$800 million for local grants. In 2002, a \$2.6 billion Bond Act (Prop. 40) was passed including \$832.5 million for local assistance grants.

Currently, the only new funds available being administered by OGALS are the annual programs (Habitat for Conservation Fund, Recreational Trails Program and the Land and Water Conservation Fund).

On November 7, 2006, voters passed the “Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006” (Safe Drinking Water Bond) by 53.9 percent. The 5.4 billion dollar Safe Drinking Water Bond cannot be implemented until a law is enacted specifying what grant programs the funds should support. In the 2007 legislative session, the Legislature did not send any bills to the Governor that would implement the Safe Drinking Water Bond.

Annual grant programs administered by the California Department of Parks and Recreation include the Habitat Conservation Fund, Land and Water Conservation Fund and the Recreational Trails Program.

d. Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division

www.ohv.parks.ca.gov

Since the Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) program began in 1971, the Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation (OHMVR) Division of the California Department of Parks and Recreation has maintained and managed designated off-highway recreation areas. The OHV program directly or indirectly manages millions of acres across the state, with 90% of the off-highway vehicle recreation opportunities located on federal lands. All told, an estimated 100,000 miles of roads and trails are currently open to the off-road enthusiast, including the popular Sno Park areas. The largest source of OHV program funding comes from motor fuel taxes on those individuals who may also be driving off-road for recreation.

The State directly administers six State Vehicular Recreation Areas (SVRAs) covering 87,892 acres. In FY2007/08, almost 5 million people visited SVRAs.

The state provides grants and cooperative agreements through an OHV grant program for conservation, law enforcement, land acquisition, development, and operation of local and federal OHV areas. There are 11 locally operated OHV parks, 60 U.S. Forest Service sites, and 26 Bureau of Land Management facilities. The OHV grant program has awarded \$194 million since 1986.

The Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division released a report in 2002, "Taking the High Road:" The Future of California's Off-Highway Recreation Program. This report details recent OHV program reform efforts to benefit the public and the environment. Among the topics were:

- ❖ Encouraging and expanding participation in setting policies and procedures
- ❖ Reforming the OHV grant program
- ❖ Commissioning an updated and comprehensive fuel tax study
- ❖ Instituting strategic planning
- ❖ Strengthening public safety, education and outreach

2. Department of Fish and Game

www.dfg.ca.gov

Mission



"To manage California's diverse fish, wildlife, and plant resources, and the habitats upon which they depend, for their ecological values and for their use and enjoyment by the public."

The Department of Fish and Game (DFG) currently owns or administers 716 properties statewide, totaling 1,082,641 acres (606,306 owned and 476,335 administered). These 716 properties include 110 wildlife areas, 123 ecological reserves, 11 marine reserves, 233 undesignated lands, 180 public access areas, 21 fish hatcheries, and 38 miscellaneous lands.

The various land and water resources are classified as wildlife areas, ecological reserves, public access, fish hatcheries or are undesignated. The state acquired these lands to provide public outdoor recreational use opportunities and to protect and enhance habitat for a wide array of plant and wildlife species, including many threatened or endangered species. Outdoor recreation opportunities include hunting and fishing and places for hiking, camping, boating, wildlife viewing and nature study.

DFG also enforces the state's Fish and Game Code, wetlands regulation, permitting and mitigation, streambed alteration permitting, statewide oversight for conservation planning, as well as overseeing partnerships and related programs and administration of the California Endangered Species Act, including plant and animal species listing.

The DFG receives funding through several federal grant-in-aid programs that benefit fish and wildlife through habitat acquisition and restoration, research, environmental protection and public access. The DFG also provides outdoor recreational opportunities including hunting, fishing, boating, education, safety programs and wildlife viewing. Federal aid comes from a variety of sources including the well-known Dingell-Johnson, Wallop-Breaux, and Pittman-Robertson Acts, as well as several others. Federal aid programs are primarily administered through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Other state agencies, local governments, nonprofit organizations and, in some cases, individual landowners, can benefit from these funds through partnerships with the DFG.

a. Wildlife Conservation Board

<http://www.wcb.ca.gov/>

Mission



“The mission of the Wildlife Conservation Board is to select, authorize, and allocate funds for the purchase of land and waters suitable for the preservation, protection, and restoration of wildlife habitat.”

The Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB) was created by 1947 legislation to administer a capital outlay program for wildlife conservation and related public recreation. Although falling within the Department of Fish and Game, the WCB is a separate and independent board with the authority and funding to carry out acquisition and development programs for wildlife conservation.

WCB financial assistance is available to cities, counties and public districts or corporations for development projects and facility construction. Facilities may include fishing piers and floats, boat ramps, jetty access walkways, lake or reservoir improvements, boardwalks, nature trails and interpretive areas. Projects

are generally completed in coordination with local agencies, which then operate and maintain them for public use.

The primary responsibilities of the Board are to select, authorize and allocate funds for land and water resource acquisitions suitable for recreation purposes and the preservation, protection and restoration of wildlife habitat. The Board can also authorize recreational facility construction on property in which they have a proprietary interest.

3. Department of Water Resources

<http://www.water.ca.gov/>

Mission



“The mission of the Department of Water Resources is to manage the water resources of California in cooperation with other agencies, to benefit the State’s people, and to protect, restore, and enhance the natural and human environments.”

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) develops and manages the state’s water resources to supply quality water for municipal, industrial, agricultural, and recreational uses. The DWR is also responsible for maintaining adequate water to sustain fish populations and for the protection and enhancement of habitat and wildlife.

DWR also plans, designs, constructs, operates and maintains the State Water Resources Development System. The DWR is additionally responsible for protecting and restoring the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, regulating dams, controlling floods, educating the public and serving local water needs.

Water is one of the strongest and most popular attractants for a variety of outdoor recreation activities and experiences. Water-based outdoor recreation such as swimming, beach activities, boating, fishing and water skiing are very important on the state’s rivers and reservoirs. Water features enhance picnicking, camping, hiking and driving for pleasure. Managed water resources also provide wildlife habitat, promote or enhance nature study, photography as well as fish and wildlife production. Managed water resources also help maintain environmental quality.

4. Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

www.fire.ca.gov

Mission



“The Department of Forestry and Fire Prevention protects the people of California from fires, responds to emergencies, and protects and enhances forest, range, and watershed values providing social, economic, and environmental benefits to rural and urban citizens.”

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) is dedicated to the fire protection and stewardship of over 31 million acres of privately owned wildlands. CAL FIRE responds to an average of more than 5,600 wildland fires each year. In 2007, CAL FIRE responded to 3,610 fires that burned 434,667 acres. CAL FIRE also responds to an average of more than 350,000 non-wildfire emergencies each year. For many outdoor recreation users, CAL FIRE is often the first responder during medical emergencies, auto accidents, search and rescues, and civil disturbances. Fire prevention and fire safety programs remain a high statewide CAL FIRE priority.

CAL FIRE also has a role in managing and protecting California's natural resources through their Resource Management Program. CAL FIRE foresters review between 500 and 1,000 Timber Harvest Plans and conduct over 7,500 site inspections annually to ensure protection of watersheds, wildlife, tree renewal and cultural resources and to ensure compliance with California's forest practices regulations.

CAL FIRE operates eight Demonstration State Forests covering 71,000 acres. The demonstration forests contain 50 million board feet of growing trees and an average of 30 million board feet is harvested there annually, enough for 3,000 single-family homes. The demonstration forests also support research, demonstration projects, public recreation, fish and wildlife habitat, and watershed protection.

5. Department of Boating and Waterways

www.dbw.ca.gov

Mission



“To provide safe and convenient public access to California's waterways and leadership in promoting the public's right to safe, enjoyable and environmentally sound recreational boating.”

The Department of Boating and Waterways (DBW) is the state's recreational boating agency. For the past 50 years, it has been a leader in developing safe and convenient access to California's waterways in state parks, inland lakes, reservoirs, rivers and along the scenic coastline. There are about 2.7 million boats in California, which include 1 million motorized boats and 1.7 million non-motorized boats. DBW services include loans for the construction of marinas, funding for the construction of boating instruction and safety centers, and grants for motorized and non-motorized boat launching facilities, removal of abandoned watercraft, vessel sewage pumpouts, floating restrooms and boating law enforcement support. Other services include boating safety and clean green boating education, aquatic weed control and law enforcement training.

Since 1957, the Department of Boating and Waterways has provided over \$800 million in program funds supporting recreational boating. Recreational boating contributes over \$20 billion annually to the State's economy.

6. Department of Conservation

www.consrv.ca.gov

Mission



"The Department of Conservation was created in 1961 to administer activities and programs for the purpose of conserving California's soil resources."

The Department of Conservation (DOC) administers a variety of programs to ensure the wise use and conservation of the state's land, energy and mineral resources.

The DOC works with landowners, local governments, and researchers to conserve farmland and open space through conservation easements, tax incentives, and mapping and monitoring farmland. As California's population grows, DOC land conservation programs promote smart growth to protect farmlands and related open space, important backdrops for enhancing outdoor recreation experiences. The California Land Conservation Act of 1965 (Williamson Act) for example, encourages local governments to contract with private landowners, restricting land use to agriculture or open space in return for lower tax assessments. DOC programs help preserve and enhance the rural agricultural lifestyle, character and landscape. Rural landscapes are important to the sightseeing and traveling public and help maintain the quality of life in California.

7. California Conservation Corps (CCC)

www.ccc.ca.gov

Mission



"Protect, conserve, restore, and enhance environmental and human-based resources of the California coast and ocean for environmentally sustainable and prudent use by current and future generations."

The California Conservation Corps (CCC) is the oldest, largest and longest-running youth conservation corps in the world.

Federal, state, county, and city agencies as well as school districts, nonprofit and private organizations can partner with the CCC. The CCC works on reimbursable projects such as trail construction, erosion control, irrigation system installation, tree planting and park maintenance and restoration.

8. State Conservancies

<http://www.resources.ca.gov/conservancies.html>

The nine conservancies below are independent agencies under the California Resources Agency umbrella. Each has a different mission in specific geographic areas around the state. While their missions vary, their primary objectives include protecting the natural environment, increasing public access and recreation opportunities and preserving and enhancing the broad diversity of wildlife habitat.

a. Coastal Conservancy

www.coastalconservancy.ca.gov



The California Coastal Conservancy is an independent state agency that uses non-regulatory means to purchase, protect, restore, and enhance coastal resources and wetlands, and provide public access to the shore. The Coastal Conservancy works in partnership with local governments, other public agencies, nonprofit organizations, and private landowners to resolve land use conflicts and develop restoration plans. To date, the Conservancy has undertaken more than 1,200 projects along the California coastline and around San Francisco Bay and has provided more than \$1.5 billion to complete these projects.

Conservancy projects can include trail construction, public access facilities, wetland restoration and enhancement, public pier restoration, and preservation of agricultural lands.

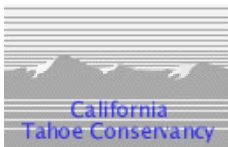
b. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy

<http://smmc.ca.gov/>

The Santa Monica Mountains in Los Angeles and Ventura counties is one of the great urban wilderness areas in the country. The Conservancy's mission is to strategically buy, preserve, protect, restore, and enhance treasured pieces of Southern California, forming an interlinking system of urban, rural, and river parks, open space, trails and wildlife habitats easily accessible to the general public.

c. California Tahoe Conservancy

www.tahoecons.ca.gov



The California Tahoe Conservancy's mission is to preserve, protect, restore, enhance and sustain the unique and significant natural resources and recreational opportunities on the California side of the Lake Tahoe Basin. It was established to develop and implement programs of land acquisitions and site

improvements to improve water quality, preserve the scenic quality and recreation opportunities in the region, provide public access, preserve wildlife habitat, and manage and restore lands to protect the natural environment. The Conservancy is not a regulatory agency.

d. Baldwin Hills Conservancy

www.bhc.ca.gov

The Baldwin Hills Conservancy is the primary state agency responsible for acquiring and developing open space in the Baldwin Hills to expand the Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area, located in the northwestern area of the Los Angeles Basin.

The Baldwin Hills Conservancy develops and coordinates an integrated program of resource stewardship to optimize recreational and natural resource values consistent with community needs and the region's long-term recreation and habitat conservation goals. The Conservancy's goal is a two square mile world-class natural park and recreation area for the Los Angeles Basin.

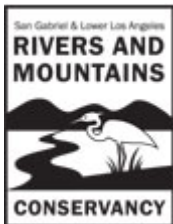
e. Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy

www.cvmc.ca.gov

The Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy was established by the California Legislature in 1990 to protect the Coachella Valley mountains from Palm Springs to the Salton Sea. The Conservancy grew out of a community-based conservation group creating a partnership between local, state, and federal agencies, and the public as the most effective way to protect the splendid natural and cultural resources of the area. The Conservancy's mission and territory were broadened in 2000 to include natural community conservation land acquisitions following guidelines in the DFG's Natural Community Conservation Plan.

f. San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy

www.rmc.ca.gov



Legislation created the Conservancy in 1999 and a year later, it created a Parkways and Open Space Plan to preserve urban open space and habitat for the enjoyment and appreciation of present and future generations. The Conservancy sponsors projects providing low-impact recreation, education, wildlife and habitat restoration, and watershed improvements that prioritize river-related recreation, re-vegetation, aesthetic improvements, and wildlife habitat.

The San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy planning area includes 58 cities in eastern Los Angeles County and 10 cities in western Orange County. The Conservancy works collaboratively with the 68

cities and two counties, other local, state and federal agencies as well as non-governmental organizations and citizens. The Conservancy has adopted a parkway and open space plan for the San Gabriel River watershed, the lower Los Angeles River watershed, and the San Gabriel Mountains.

g. San Joaquin River Conservancy

<http://sjrc.ca.gov/>



The San Joaquin River Conservancy develops, operates and maintains the San Joaquin River Parkway, situated along both sides of the San Joaquin River from Friant Dam to Highway 99 in Madera and Fresno Counties. The Conservancy preserves and enhances the River's extraordinary biological diversity, protects its valued cultural and natural resources and provides educational and recreational opportunities to the local communities.

h. San Diego River Conservancy

<http://sdrc.ca.gov/>

Governor Gray Davis signed legislation creating the San Diego River Conservancy in September of 2002. The Conservancy fulfills its mission of the restoration and conservation of the San Diego River Area through acquiring, managing and conserving land and by protecting or providing recreational opportunities, open space, wildlife species and habitat, wetlands, water quality, natural flood conveyance, historical / cultural resources, and educational opportunities. One of the Conservancy's goals is to build a River-long park and hiking trail stretching fifty-two miles from the River's headwaters near Julian to the Pacific Ocean.

i. Sierra Nevada Conservancy

<http://sierranevada.ca.gov/>

The Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) initiates, encourages and supports efforts that improve the environmental, economic and social well-being of the Sierra Nevada Region, its communities and the citizens of California. The SNC Region is comprised of all or part of 22 counties and over 25 million acres. The Region is California's principal watershed; supplying 65% of the developed water supply.

The Region is divided into six Sub-Regions. SNC was created to work collaboratively and in coordination with local governments and interested parties to carry out the seven program goals. The Governing Board is made up of 13 voting and 3 non-voting members as outlined in Public Resources Code Section 33321.

9. California Coastal Commission

www.coastal.ca.gov



The California Coastal Commission was made permanent by the Legislature through the 1976 California Coastal Act as an independent, quasi-judicial state agency. The Coastal Commission regulates coastal land use and issues development permits.

The Coastal Act contains policy on shoreline public access and recreation, lower cost visitor accommodations, terrestrial and marine habitat protection, visual resources, landform alteration, agricultural lands, commercial fisheries, industrial uses, water quality, offshore oil and gas development, transportation, development design, power plants, ports, and public works.

California's coastal management program involves a partnership between state and local governments. The Coastal Act requires that each local government in the coastal zone prepare a Local Coastal Program (LCP), meeting the Act's provisions and policies. Coastal zone development is restricted unless a coastal zone development permit is issued by the Commission or by a local government with an approved LCP. In past years, the Coastal Commission provided substantial grants for coastal communities to complete or update their LCP. However, no funding for local planning grants has been included in the Commission's budget since FY 2000/01.

Whale Tail Competitive Grants, Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Grants, Regional Wetlands Grants, the Coastal Resources Grant Program and the Coastal Assistance Impact Program are additional sources of coastal community assistance through the Coastal Commission.

The Coastal Commission manages a public access program for the length of California's coastline and maintains an inventory of all the offers-to-dedicate (OTD) public access easements. Once all the OTDs are identified, local governments and the Commission work to fund the construction and opening of these coastal easements.

The California Coastal Trail will span the 1,200-mile length of the state's shoreline when completed, providing access opportunities for a variety of users. The trail has been designated a National Millennium Legacy Trail and the Commission and the State Coastal Conservancy are working towards completing it.

10. California Wilderness Preservation System

<http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/cgi-bin/waisgate?WAISdocID=15498928687+1+0+0&WAIAction=retrieve>

The California legislature established the California Wilderness Preservation System (CWPS) in 1974. Three basic criteria govern admission to the system: 1) the land must be state owned; 2) the area must remain in, or have been returned to, or have substantially reestablished its principal, natural character, and influence; and 3) the area must be of sufficient size to make its preservation practicable. The 1974 legislation created two wilderness areas: the Santa Rosa Mountains Wilderness Area of 87,000 acres and the 12,465-acre Mount San Jacinto Wilderness Area abutting the federally designated San Jacinto Wilderness. Much of the land in the state system is in Anza-Borrego Desert State Park (297,400 acres); other areas are along the coastline and in mountain ranges along the coast. California State Parks includes the following designated State Wilderness (SW) areas in addition to those mentioned above: Boney Mountain SW (6,190 acres), Bull Creek SW (10,450 acres), Cuyamaca Mountain SW (13,210 acres), Henry W. Coe SW (23,300 acres), Murrelet SW (6,600 acres), Redwood Heritage SW (5,500 acres), West Waddell Creek SW (5,810 acres) and most recently Sinkyone SW (7,100 acres). In California, the State Legislature can designate wilderness, or proposals can be brought before the California Park and Recreation Commission.

11. California Wild and Scenic River System

<http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/cgi-bin/waisgate?WAISdocID=155451738+0+0+0&WAIAction=retrieve>

The State of California designates that certain rivers that possess extraordinary scenic, recreational, fishery, or wildlife values and states that they shall be preserved in their free-flowing state, together with their immediate environments, for the benefit and enjoyment of the people of the state.

The Public Resources Code (PRC) defines “wild rivers” as being “those rivers or segments of rivers that are free of impoundments and generally inaccessible except by trail, with watersheds or shorelines essentially primitive and waters unpolluted.” [PRC 5093.53(a)]

There are 16 rivers within the California Wild and Scenic River System.

III. Local Government Providers

Counties, cities and special districts manage significantly less acreage when compared to the area managed by federal and state providers. Despite their smaller land base, local park and recreation agencies provide more outdoor recreation opportunities. There are many more local parks and recreation areas and they are more convenient for frequent use. Much of California’s outdoor recreation occurs at these local community sites, from neighborhood tot-lots,

playgrounds and swimming pools to green belts for walking and bicycling, regional sports complexes, turf fields and natural areas. The California State Parks' Office of Grants and Local Services reports there are 836 agencies in the state that administer park and recreation services. A 1987 DPR survey identified 7,738 parks and recreation areas being administered by local governments.

Most city or county governments provide park and recreation services through specific park and recreation departments. In some areas, special park and recreation districts have been created to offer recreation services otherwise unavailable in the area.

State law empowers local governments to establish, maintain, and operate park and recreation systems. Most local governments can issue bonds to finance capital improvements, while funding for operations and maintenance comes from local taxes, grants, donations, land leases, user fees, and concessionaire fees.

Counties generally operate larger parks and recreation areas located on the edges of population centers and serving several communities although they also operate smaller neighborhood parks in unincorporated areas as well. County park and recreation systems account for nearly half of all local government parklands. County agencies generally place more emphasis on open space and a lower priority on recreation programming. County park rangers or county sheriffs provide law enforcement services.

City parks are typically smaller than county parks, though some older parks are quite large. City parks include developed facilities designed to meet immediate community needs. Most visitors can walk, ride a bicycle, or drive a short distance to a city park. Community proximity makes recreation programming a high priority and city police usually provide law enforcement.

City park and recreation facilities typically include community teen and senior centers, play fields, green belts, fields for turf sports, swimming pools, picnic and barbecue areas, activity centers, skateboard parks, playground equipment, surfaced sport courts, tot-lots, and exercise facilities. Many of these parks are lighted, allowing use during evening hours. These facilities are used by children after school and by adults on evenings, after work or on weekends for league sports like baseball, softball or soccer. Many local schools allow joint use of their lands and buildings for neighborhood and community recreation.

There are approximately 50 principal law statutes used to create special districts in California. The size and function of a special district depends on its location and service provided. There are approximately 4,000 special districts in California providing over 50 types of services, including parks and recreation. Special districts have the same governing powers as other local governments, allowing them to execute contracts, employ workers, and acquire real property.

These districts have defined geographical areas, resident populations, a governing body, and revenue-raising powers.

Governance and authority of special districts vary depending on district type. Enterprise Districts provide services received and paid for by a specific beneficiary. Non-Enterprise Districts provide services without charging fees, with property taxes covering the costs. Independent Districts are governed by a separate elected board of directors. Dependent Districts are governed by existing legislative bodies, either the County Board of Supervisors or a City Council. Each district must adhere to rules, regulations and restrictions according to state laws. Dependent districts have no taxing authority and cannot set service levels. Some special sanitation, water or open space districts may offer recreation services to supplement their primary services.

IV. Non-Profit Providers

Non-profit providers are extremely important to federal, state and local park and recreation providers. Non-profit foundations can raise funds and educate the public, media and elected officials on the enhanced quality of life associated with quality park and recreation areas. Funds provided by members, corporations and foundations can improve and expand park and recreation programs, services, and facilities. Non-profits also serve a vital role in educational programs, volunteerism and park and recreation stewardship.

A. California State Parks Foundation

<http://www.calparks.org>



The California State Park Foundation has raised over \$127 million for State Parks program support since it was founded in 1969. The Foundation has financially supported various park projects by adding land, constructing visitor centers and interpretive displays,

building trails, restoring wildlife habitat and supporting family camping programs for youth.

FamCamp is a family camping program administered by the Foundation and operated through member support. The FamCamp program encourages participation from low-income families, families with developmentally disabled children, and youth of various backgrounds. Over the last two years, FamCamp has provided 1,600 youth and their families with their first camping experience.

B. Save America's Treasures

<http://www.saveamericastreasures.org/>



Save America's Treasures is a public-private partnership between the National Park Service and the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Save America's Treasures is a national effort to protect "America's threatened cultural treasures, including historic structures, collections, works of art, maps and journals that document and illuminate the history and culture of the United States." Established by Executive Order in February 1998, Save America's Treasures was originally founded as the centerpiece of the White House National Millennium Commemoration and as a public-private partnership that included the White House, the National Park Service and the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Dedicated to the preservation and celebration of America's priceless historic legacy, Save Americas Treasures works to recognize and rescue the enduring symbols of American tradition that define us as a nation.

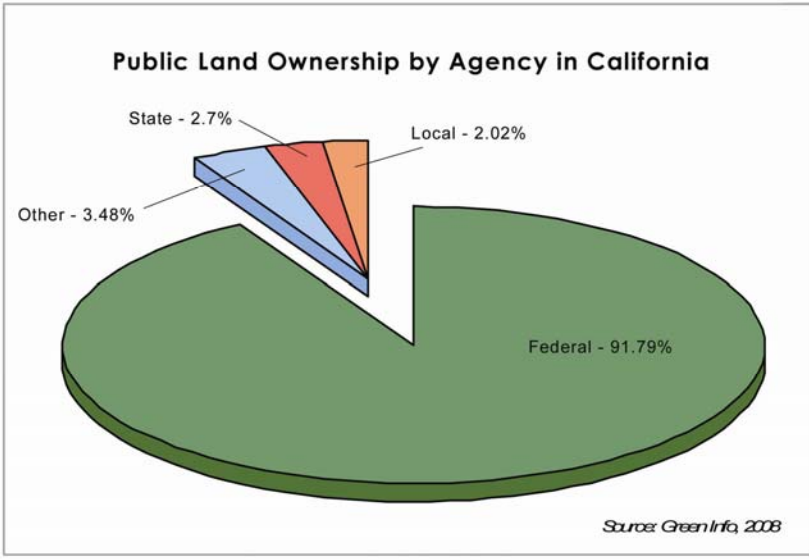
As of January 2007 26 projects were awarded funding in California including the Angel Island Immigration Station and the Dr. John Marsh Stone House.

Non-profit land trusts at local, regional, state and national levels have been increasing in the last decade. These organizations purchase land, hold options to purchase or acquire conservation easements. They can move fairly quickly to acquire land from willing sellers and often partner with public agencies who move more slowly. The non-profit land trusts typically purchase and hold the property until public agencies can complete environmental review and secure funding.

Non-profit organizations come in many forms and address a variety of issues but have the unifying theme of being non-profit businesses providing social benefits.

V. Private Providers

Private sector providers play an important role by handling the many forms of profitable outdoor recreation. Private providers offer recreational pursuits on privately owned and controlled lands. Private businesses often operate in concert with public agencies on publicly owned



lands.

Concessionaires are an example of successful private providers operating on public lands. Private concessionaires can provide stores, marinas, restaurants, equipment rentals, and lodging. Innovative public agencies are arranging with private businesses to develop, maintain and operate various public facilities on public lands. The public-private partnerships use the inherent strengths and advantages of both sectors towards mutually beneficial goals. The keys to an effective relationship are the contractual terms and conditions and effective public agency oversight.

The private sector has certain advantages over public providers. The private sector can have better access to capital, particularly the large amounts needed for new venture investments. Private recreation providers generally command a higher price than public providers. Private providers capitalize on rapidly changing public demand and can quickly market new and popular recreation activities, which would be difficult and maybe inappropriate for a public agency. Private providers also have more flexibility in the labor market. They can hire employees in a variety of skill groups to quickly meet changing or special situations, and can quickly reduce or change their staffs when requirements change, a level of flexibility virtually impossible for public agencies.

From amusement parks to family owned petting zoos, from exclusive golf courses to neighborhood health clubs, the private sector provides many types of outdoor recreation on privately owned and controlled lands. Conversely, Big League Dreams' sports parks are a good example of a privately operated franchise on public parklands.

California's theme parks are a good example of private outdoor recreation facilities on private land. Theme parks are some of the most popular outdoor recreation destinations in the State. Although Disneyland's attendance has been declining since the 15 million visitor peak in 1996, in recent years attendance has increased, and in 2006 visitation reached 14.4 million people.

Regardless of an individual's outdoor recreation interest, there are private providers offering a service. From hang gliding to scuba diving, from horse back riding to llama hiking, from whitewater rafting to yacht sailing, all are possible in California.