

## Executive Summary

California State Parks' 2008 California Outdoor Recreation Plan (CORP) is the comprehensive statewide outdoor recreation planning document that reflects the current and projected changes in California's population, trends and economy.

A Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) is required of every state in order to be eligible for grants from the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act. The LWCF Act requires the SCORP to include the following: a) the name of the state agency with authority to act for California in dealing with the Secretary of the Interior for the purposes of the LWCF Act, b) an evaluation of the demand for and supply of the outdoor recreation resources and facilities in the state, c) a program for the implementation of the Plan, d) certification by the governor that ample opportunity for public participation has taken place in Plan development, e) other necessary information as may be determined by the Secretary.

The LWCF Act also requires the States to operate and maintain by acceptable standards the properties or facilities acquired or developed for public outdoor recreation use with LWCF assistance. Section 6(f)(3) applies to each area or facility for which LWCF assistance is obtained, regardless of the extent of that assistance. The Section requires that property acquired or developed with LWCF assistance be retained and used for public outdoor recreation in perpetuity. The subject property cannot be wholly or partly converted to other than public outdoor recreation uses without the approval of NPS.

The state agency with the authority to act for California in dealing with the Secretary of the Interior for the purposes of the LWCF Act is the California Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR). This plan serves as a comprehensive outdoor recreation plan for DPR since it outlines outdoor recreation needs statewide and identifies strategies for meeting those needs. California complies with the remaining LWCF Act requirements both through its CORP and through additional documents such as the forthcoming final report on the survey of Public Opinions and Attitudes on Outdoor Recreation in California.

This 2008 CORP update improves upon the 2002 CORP version. Some of the improvements include:

- The Past Planning Grant Progress and Future Products chapter illustrates the trajectory of DPR's planning process.
- The California Protected Areas Database is a new inventory of protected open space lands and recreation areas. The CPAD chapter provides a good overview of the kinds of information available through the database.
- The California Recreation Policy chapter outlines the state's strategies, priorities and actions, including indoor recreation, accessibility, preservation of natural and cultural resources and examples of policy implementation.

- This Plan updates all the 2002 outdoor recreation issues of statewide importance and includes two new issues: 1) The Lack of Linkages and Seamless Delivery of Recreation Opportunities, and 2) The Need for Workforce Development and Succession Planning.

The plan also brings up to date the listing of the state's outdoor recreation providers and their roles and programs, *Wetlands*, which guides the state's identification of wetland priorities and actions, and two pivotal updated chapters; *Public Opinion and Attitudes*, and the *Issues and Actions*.

The *Public Opinion and Attitudes* and the *Issues and Actions* are the focus and heart of CORP. Understanding and analyzing the connection between the *Public Opinion and Attitudes* survey data which evaluates Californian's demand for outdoor recreation resources and facilities, and the *Issues and Actions* that explores ways that recreation providers can both accommodate current demands for outdoor opportunities and prepare to meet the needs of future generations is the groundwork of CORP.

California State Parks considers CORP as our state's strategy for identifying the a wide range of ways in which recreation providers can deal with obstacles and create the outdoor recreation opportunities to meet public demand now and in the coming years. California's strategic priorities include:

- Projects that provide opportunities for the top 15 outdoor recreation activities identified in the latent demand scoring in the survey of Public Opinions and Attitudes on Outdoor Recreation in California
- Projects that provide outdoor recreation opportunities for those underserved communities identified using the California Protected Areas Database, such as communities in the Central Valley
- Projects that support the acquisition and preservation priorities being pursued by the state's wetland preservation organizations
- Projects that support the five goals of California's Recreation Policy
- Projects that provide outdoor recreation activities for children, such as those ten activities listed in the Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights
- Projects that develop the regional trail corridors identified within the 2002 California Recreational Trails Plan and its scheduled update

Projects meeting one or more of these strategic goals will receive priority in the distribution of LWCF grant moneys through the Open Project Selection Process.