

# Red Rock General Plan

# Canyon State Park Revision



## Overview

**Red Rock Canyon State Park** is located 25 miles north of Mojave in Kern County, where the southern tip of the Sierra Nevada meets the El Paso Range. Red Rock Canyon was considered to become part of the State Park System in 1930. Since then, the Park has grown significantly, now encompassing 27,000 acres of desert landscape. The current Park General Plan was approved in 1982, before it tripled in size with the Congressional transference of lands known as the Desert Protection Act of 1994.

As a result, California State Parks has initiated the **General Plan Revision** process for Red Rock Canyon State Park. The General Plan Revision will set the comprehensive framework to plan the future of the Park over the next 20 years and will, for the first time consider all of the Park's acreage. The General Plan Revision will define the purpose and vision for the Park as well as address appropriate land use, circulation, facilities, recreation, interpretation, and management of natural and cultural resources. The Park's regional surroundings and influences will also be considered in the planning effort.

To ensure that **public input** plays a significant role in the planning process, several public meetings are expected to be held; with the first one scheduled for December 2008 (a preliminary timeline for the planning process is included in this newsletter). California State Parks aims to present a completed General Plan Revision to the State Park and Recreation Commission for approval in the spring of 2010.

Additionally, the General Plan Revision is subject to environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and a program Environmental Impact Report (EIR) will be prepared in tandem with the planning process. A Notice Of Preparation (NOP) for the General Plan Revision will be filed with the State Clearinghouse in the first week of December, 2008. The NOP will be available for review at the project's website [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=25064](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=25064).

To assist the completion of the General Plan Revision, California State Parks has hired EDAW, Inc., a planning consultancy.



Youth groups at picnic area in Red Rock Canyon State Park.

## How can I participate?

Planning the future of Red Rock Canyon State Park is a shared responsibility. Your participation will help us ensure that the General Plan Revision is founded on the best possible information and incorporates the ideas and desires of the community.

There are several ways for you to get involved!

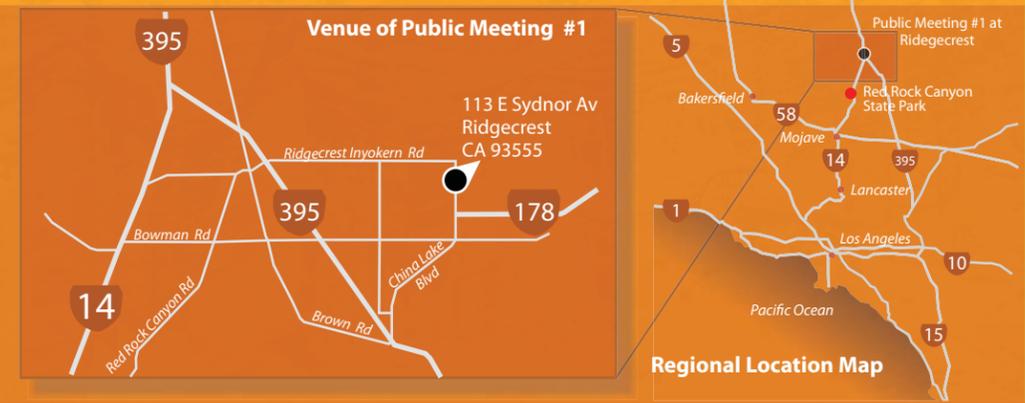
**Get on the mailing list:** Please contact Russ Dingman at the Tehachapi District Office and ask to be included on the mailing list (contact info on reverse).

**Visit our website** at [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=25064](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=25064).

**Host a Stakeholder Workshop:** Request a stakeholder workshop kit and follow the instructions to host and conduct a successful workshop for your organization.

**Attend public meetings:** We will hold a series of public meetings during the planning process. **The first public meeting, which will also serve as the scoping meeting for the General Plan Revision, is scheduled for:**

- WHEN:** Saturday, December 13, 2008.
- WHERE:** Springhill Suites by Marriott, Maturango Conference Room
- ADDRESS:** 113 E Sydnor Ave. Ridgecrest, CA 93555
- TIME:** 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.



## What is a general plan?

A General Plan directs the long-range development and management of a California State Park by broadly defining policies and programs. It is the primary management document for the Park, establishing its purpose, vision, and management framework. The General Plan Revision for Red Rock Canyon State Park will revise the previous General Plan and reinforce its purpose to protect natural resources and enhance the public's benefit of recreational, educational and cultural opportunities.

The General Plan Revision is a step-by-step process that achieves its success by the participation of all stakeholders. Through the public participation program, we will be able to address the important issues facing the Park and identify opportunities for successful long-term management.

## General plan revision process

- 1 Resources And Opportunities**  
Identify issues, important resources, and long-term vision for the Park.
- 2 Alternatives**  
Develop alternative scenarios for Park management.
- 3 Draft General Plan And Environmental Impact Report (EIR)**  
Integrate all alternatives and identify a preferred alternative to be reviewed by the public.
- 4 Final General Plan And Environmental Impact Report (EIR)**  
Incorporate comments received during the circulation of the Draft General Plan, and prepare one final General Plan Revision for the Park.



General Plan Revision Timeline

California State Parks, Tehachapi District  
43779 15<sup>th</sup> Street West  
Lancaster, CA 93534

# Red Rock Canyon State Park General Plan Revision

Red Rock Canyon State Park is one of California's most unique desert environments. California State Parks is preparing a General Plan Revision for the Park and needs your ideas. Help kick off the planning process by participating in the first public meeting.

Your input will help guide the vision for Red Rock Canyon State Park for the next 20 years. Read on to find out more on all that Red Rock Canyon State Park has to offer and how you can get involved.

## SAVE THE DATE!

### Red Rock Canyon State Park General Plan Revision Public Meeting #1

Please join us as we start the planning process to address the future of Red Rock Canyon State Park. You will help us envision the future of the Park, and your input and ideas will help shape the General Plan Revision.

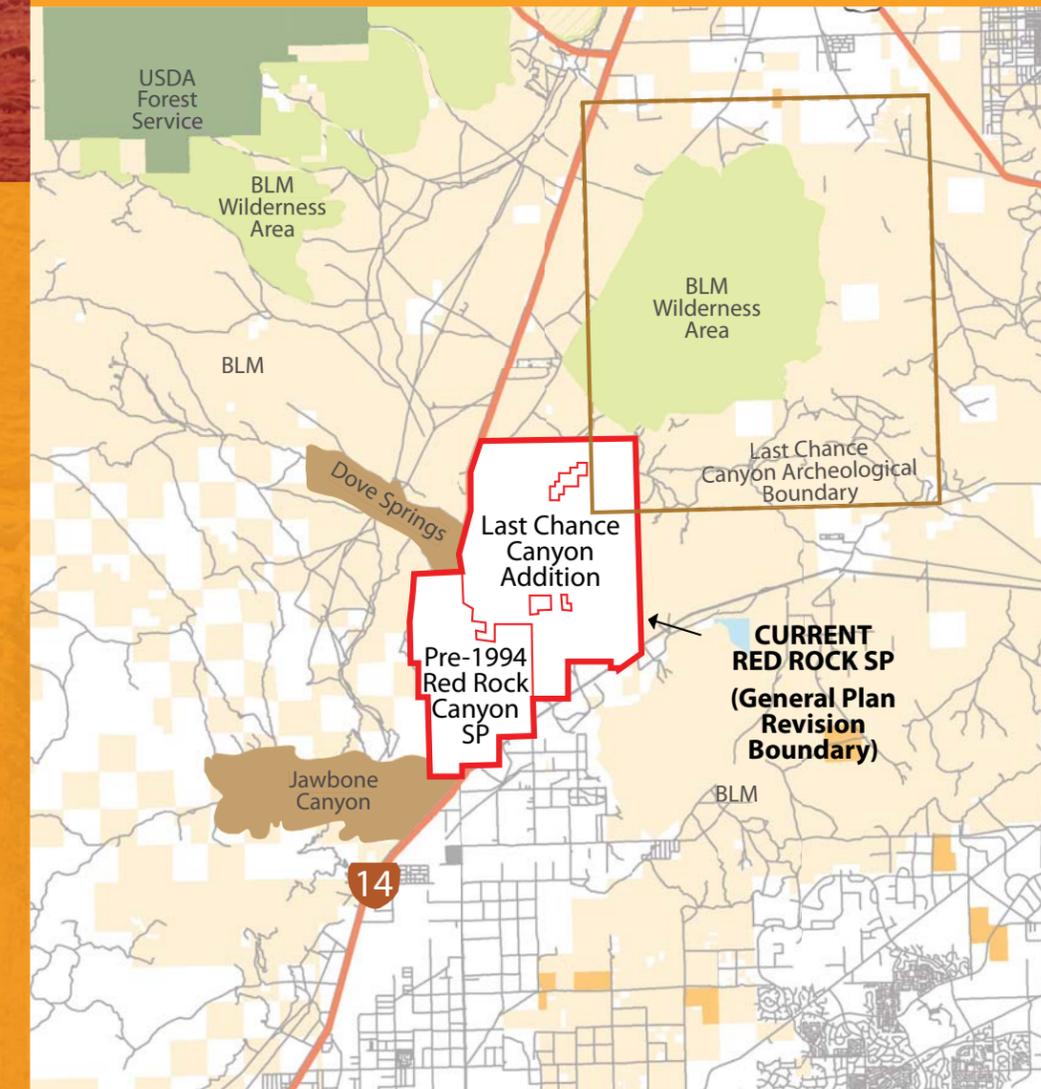
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**ADDRESS:** 113 E Sydnor Ave.  
Ridgecrest, CA 93555  
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**We have stakeholder workshop kits! If your group or organization would like to hold a workshop in advance of the public meeting please contact us to request a kit.**

## What does the Park offer?

Red Rock Canyon State Park offers a range of activities and facilities to help visitors explore its diverse natural, historic and cultural resources. The Park's colorful collage of cliffs, the drainages of Last Chance Canyon, the sheer precipices of Hagen Canyon, and the steep, narrow washes of Scenic Canyon and Nightmare Gulch create a unique desert environment offering unparalleled experiences. Red Rock Canyon State Park is one of the best locations to star gaze in Southern California. The Park is also host to over three hundred different plant species and is home to a variety of habitat types for a wide range of wildlife.

A system of trails offers miles of hiking, biking and horseback riding through desert land, and primitive roads allow motorists to explore more remote areas of the Park. Red Rock Canyon State Park accommodates day use and overnight visitors through its designated picnic areas and camping facilities. Visitors can also explore the Park through guided nature walks on a wide range of topics, from motion picture history and geology, to photography, and astronomy.



## contact

If you would like to be added to the mailing list or request a stakeholder workshop kit, email your mailing address to Russ Dingman at [rdingman@parks.ca.gov](mailto:rdingman@parks.ca.gov), or write to the Tehachapi District office located at 43779 15<sup>th</sup> Street West, Lancaster CA 93534. Russ's contact number is (661) 726-1672. All materials related to the planning process are available to the public on our website: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=25064](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=25064).



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## mission

The mission of California State Parks is to provide for the health, inspiration, and education of the people of California by helping to preserve the state's extraordinary biodiversity, protect its most valued natural and cultural resources, and create opportunities for high quality outdoor recreation.