

# CULP VALLEY CULTURAL PRESERVE

## Purpose and Intent of Cultural Preserve Zone

Culp Valley is located within an upland valley of the San Ysidro Mountains in northwestern Anza-Borrego Desert State Park at an elevation between 3400 and 3600 ft. The proposed cultural preserve occupies an area within a greater upland area that is known as Culp Valley. The proposed Cultural Preserve is located on the southern side of State Highway 22, sometimes known as Montezuma Highway. The main features of this 1277-acre area are exceptionally large numbers of rock-shelter dwellings, abundant springs, and luxuriant vegetation – all factors in making this area an optimal intermediate stopping place on the seasonal round of Native People in the prehistoric and contact periods, as well as a favored place to graze cattle during the ranching era. Ethnographer John Peabody Harrington reported in 1925 that the Native name of the area was *Ackawaka* and that there still were some standing structures of a Native village that, in 1854, had ten houses and a chapel. *Ackawaca* meant something like “where a stream of water flowed from between two limestone rocks” or “rock spring.”

The ranching era within Culp Valley is represented by the site of the Paroli homestead; the Parolis were a pioneer cattle-ranching family of the area and the 1920s homestead was that of Lavina Paroli (1898-1990), one of the Paroli sisters. Today, only the foundations and some of the peripheral improvements, such as wells, survive. The homestead was built on a prehistoric residential archaeological site. Historic cattle trails (portions of the Jasper Trail and the Wilson Trail) also exist within the proposed cultural preserve. Both trails were used to move cattle between the desert pasturage in the winter and mountain pastures in the summer and are named after prominent cattlemen of the area: Ralph Jasper and Alfred Wilson.

The proposed Culp Valley Cultural Preserve is important to the Native Peoples of nearby reservations including the Mountain Cahuilla of Los Coyotes Reservation near Warner Springs, the Cahuilla Reservation in Anza, and the Cupeño People who formerly lived at Agua Caliente (Warner Springs). The Preserve is also important to the pioneer ranching families of the area, many of whom still live in proximity to ABDSP.

The name of the proposed cultural preserve is taken from its common name, the origin of which is not known. However, it may be that it is a derivative of the last name of *Angel Culip* a Native who lived at Agua Caliente and who was an often-quoted informant to Harrington and others.

## Primary Goal

The Primary goal for this and all Cultural Preserves is to protect and preserve the numerous cultural resources located here.

**“Complete integrity of the resources shall be sought, and no structures or improvements that conflict with the integrity shall be permitted.”** (P.R.C. 5019.74)

## Guideline

CV-G1

Projects, activities or facility development that may affect the integrity cultural resources or impacts the cultural landscape and or the historic viewshed within the Cultural Preserve zone will not occur.

## Roads and Parking

### Goal:

**“The use of motor vehicles in units of the state park system is subject to the following limitations: In state wildernesses, natural preserves, and cultural preserves, use is prohibited.” (P.R.C. 5001.8)**

### Guidelines

#### CV-G2

- Old Culp Valley Road will be excluded from the cultural preserve. Motor vehicle use will be maintained on this thoroughfare

#### CV-G3

- A short road spur (approximately 295 feet) in Section 15, north of the main thoroughfare of Old Culp Valley Road, will be within the Cultural Preserve and closed to motor vehicle traffic.

#### CV-G4

- A road spur (approximately 922 feet) in Section 22 south of Old Culp Valley Road, known as Paroli Camp Road will be within the Cultural Preserve and closed to motor vehicle traffic.

#### CV-G5

- These short spur roads will become hiking and equestrian trails.

#### CV-G6

- Parking will be available outside of the Cultural Preserve zone at the trail head to the Culp Valley Road spur.

## Camping

### Goal:

The open camping policy at Anza Borrego Desert State Park within this area has the potential to cause damaging or degrading impacts to known and unknown historic and archaeological resources. Cultural Preserve status will allow for further protection of these sensitive resources.

### Guidelines:

#### AS-G7

- No camping will be allowed within the proposed cultural preserve.

CV-G8

- ABDSP will enhance, improve, and expand the camping facilities at Culp Valley Camp, across route S-22 to the north of the proposed cultural preserve as an alternative for continuing camping within the designated Cultural Preserve area.

*Social Experiences and Activities*

*Goal:*

“Areas set aside as cultural preserves shall be large enough to provide for the effective management and interpretation of the resources” (PRC 5019.74)

*Guidelines:*

CV-G9

- The proposed Culp Valley Cultural Preserve shall encompass approximately 1277 acres.

CV-G10

- Visitors shall continue to have the opportunity to experience the Cultural Preserve Zone in a manner that does not compromise the integrity of the existing significant resources.

CV-G11

- Interpretive signs shall be installed at appropriate and strategic locations such as entrance to the Preserve from both route S-22 and from Jasper/Culp Valley road, in the nearby Culp Valley Camp, and at the designated parking/picnic area. Signs at trailheads will enhance the visitor experience while recognizing the previous inhabitants of the Cultural Preserve Zone and encouraging respectful visitation as well as alerting visitors to the sensitivity of both the cultural and natural resources. Interpretive information will include a Native voice and will include Native names of the vegetation that thrive within the preserve. At least one interpretive panel will describe the cattle-ranching era of the preserve and the personalities of that era, such as the Paroli, Jasper, and Wilson families and the parts they played in local history

CV-G12

- Interpretation shall include the vital fresh water springs ecosystem within the preserve and explain the interaction of humans with this ecosystem through time.

CV-G13

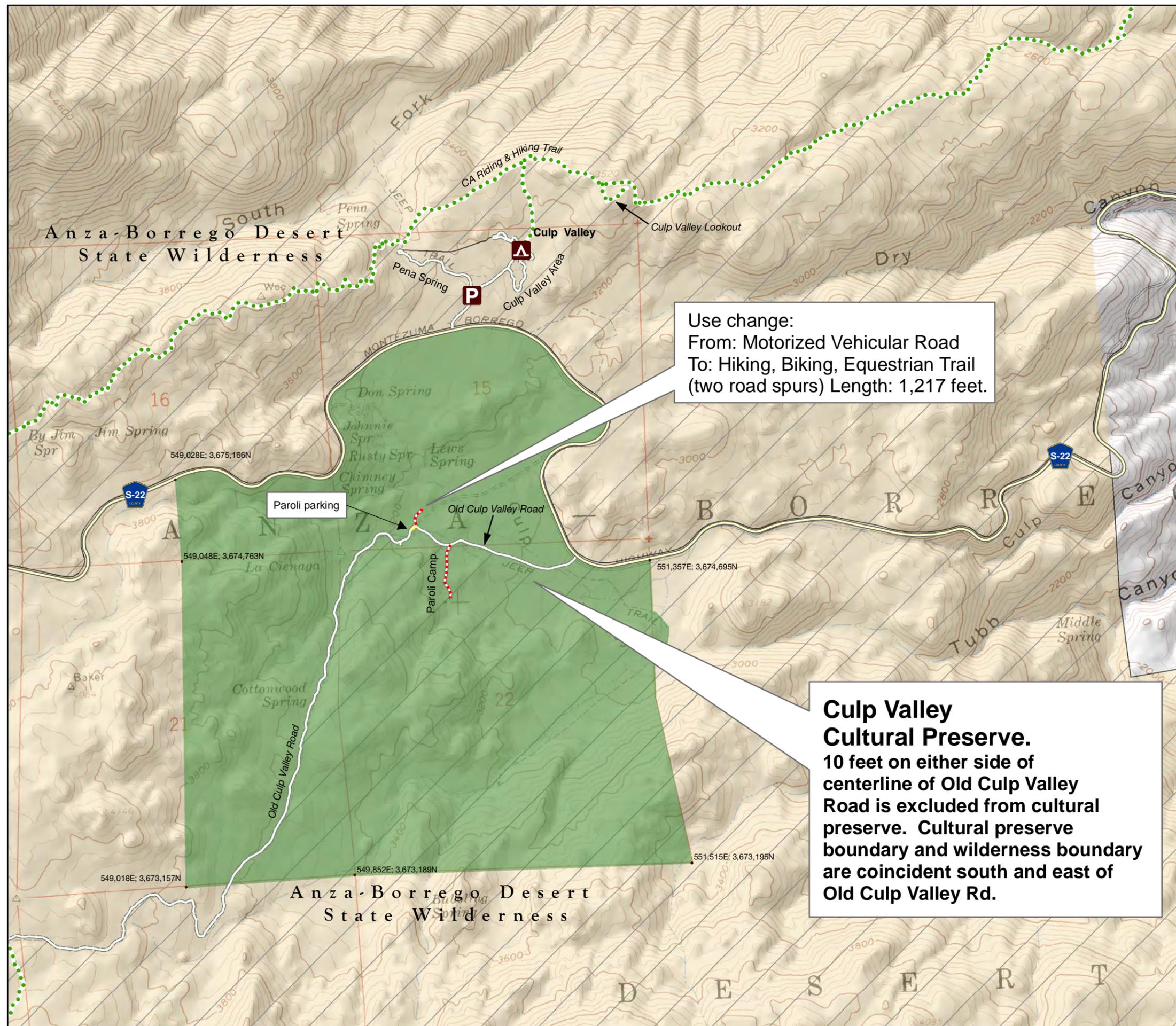
- Efforts shall be made to re-establish native vegetation where it has been heavily impacted by grazing cattle during the ranching era.

CV-G14

- Trained archaeological site stewards shall continue to make regular periodic visits to particularly sensitive areas and report any continuing impacts so that management of the proposed cultural preserve zone may be adjusted.

# ANZA-BORREGO DESERT STATE PARK

Culp Valley  
Cultural Preserve  
1,277.5 Acres

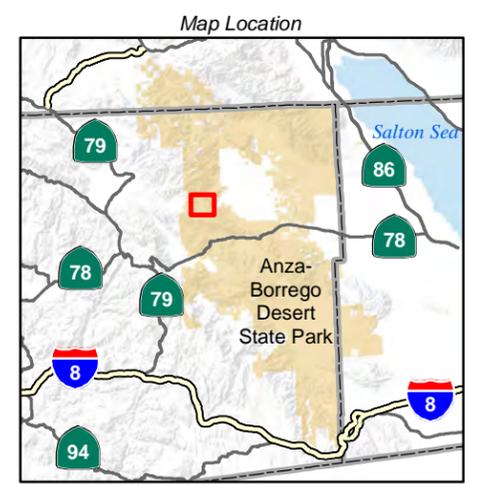
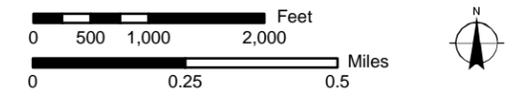


Use change:  
From: Motorized Vehicular Road  
To: Hiking, Biking, Equestrian Trail  
(two road spurs) Length: 1,217 feet.

**Culp Valley Cultural Preserve.**  
10 feet on either side of centerline of Old Culp Valley Road is excluded from cultural preserve. Cultural preserve boundary and wilderness boundary are coincident south and east of Old Culp Valley Rd.

- Proposed Cultural Preserves
- Revision: Omitted from proposed CP
- Anza Borrego Desert State Park
- Existing Wilderness
- Hwy
- Local Rd
- State Park Rd
- State Park Trail
- Road Use Change
- Primitive Family Campsite
- Parking

UTM 11, NAD 1983 Eastings, and Northings shown at points  
Base Map: USGS 1:24,000  
Contour Interval: 40'  
Representative Fraction: 1:19,000  
1 inch = 1,583 feet



**NOTES:**  
Parcel boundaries are approximate and should not be considered legal descriptions. Maps are intended for study purposes only.

<p>PLANNING DIVISION ----- GENERAL PLAN SECTION</p>	<p>Date 11/08/10 Sources: Calif. Dept. of Parks &amp; Recreation, Colorado Desert District</p>	
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