May 11, 2010

Dear General Plan/Interim Resource Management Plan Participant,

This letter is to inform you that the planning process to develop a new General Plan and Interim Resource Management Plan for Auburn State Recreation Area (SRA) and the Auburn Dam Project Lands has been suspended indefinitely at the request of the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation).

Auburn SRA and the Auburn Dam Project lands consist of approximately 26,000 acres of primarily federal lands that California State Parks manages through a service contract with Reclamation. These federal lands include Reclamation fee title lands, and lands owned by the Bureau of Land Management, Forest Service and Army Corps of Engineers. Reclamation has administered the non-Reclamation federal lands within the Auburn Dam Project Boundary through various agreements and withdrawals from the other federal agencies. Some of these agreements have expired. As part of renewing these agreements and addressing insufficient funding issues, Reclamation is attempting to clarify the future management for the federal lands within the project area.

Reclamation has indicated that it would not be prudent to proceed with the preparation of the General Plan/Interim Resource Management Plan (GP/IRMP) until the future management is resolved, therefore this GP/IRMP process is suspended indefinitely.

California State Parks and Reclamation initiated the project to develop a new GP/IRMP for Auburn SRA in 2006. Initial public scoping meetings were held in the spring of 2006 and follow-up public meetings to discuss preliminary planning concepts were held in spring 2007. Work on the Plan was halted in December 2008 when Reclamation first began to address these land management issues. At that time it was anticipated that these issues would be resolved quickly and work on the plan would be able to continue, however this has not been the case.

State Parks and Reclamation appreciate your interest in Auburn SRA. Both agencies hope that the land management responsibilities for the various federal lands within the project area will be resolved and the GP/IRMP process can be resumed in the future.

If you have question regarding this notice, please contact Walter Clevenger from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation at (916) 989-7173 or Jim Micheaels at California State Parks at (916) 988-0513. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Scott Nakaji
District Superintendent