

Waddell Beach and Rancho del Oso (RDO)

Existing Conditions

- State Highway 1 provides vehicle access to inland areas and beach parking lot.



Highway 1 bridge at Waddell Creek

- Caltrans is considering replacing the Highway 1 Bridge at Waddell Creek to address traffic safety, sea level rise, and estuarine habitat and hydrology issues.
- Beach parking lot occupies a portion of Caltrans right-of-way on Highway 1. Includes restrooms, interpretive signs and bus stop.
- In recent years, the Coastal Commission issued 5-year permits to Caltrans for material deposits and rock placement to stabilize the parking lot in its current configuration. Beach parking is not considered "permanent" at the present time.

Planning Issues

- *Future visitation and projected use will exceed the available parking lot capacity (100-120 cars) at Waddell Beach.*



Waddell Beach kite surfing

- *The Caltrans bridge replacement project must address vehicle access and use of state park and adjacent properties, as well as many other resource and public safety issues.*



Beach and inland parking along Highway 1

- Recreation opportunities include beach activities, surfing, coastal recreation events, and roadside ocean viewing. Waddell Beach is a major kite surfing destination.
- Inland recreation opportunities include hiking, horseback riding, mountain biking, camping, nature study, geocaching, and interpretive activities.
- Developed facilities include RDO Ranger Station and interpretive facility, equestrian campground, trail camps, trails; including interpretive trails and display panels, staging area, Nature and History Center, maintenance materials building, park staff residences and equipment storage.



T. J. Hoover Natural Preserve

- T.J. Hoover Natural Preserve is a wetland with special status species near the mouth of Waddell Creek and has a multitude of sensitive resource concerns.
- Waddell Creek Interpretive Association assists in the operation of the Nature and History Center. A staff residence is also located at this facility.



- *RDO is the western terminus of the Skyline to the Sea Trail, which serves as a regional hiking trail connection from Saratoga Gap and Castle Rock SP through Big Basin to Highway 1.*
- *Bicycles are allowed on park roads in the backcountry, but restricted in the wilderness and on most trails.*



Horse camp and overnight trail camp parking