



Carmel Area State Parks General Plan/EIR

Public Open House
Preferred Alternative

June 1, 2016



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Public Comments on Proposed Alternatives



July 22, 2015 Public Workshop

- Two proposed action alternatives presented
- About 150 people in attendance
- Approximately 200 written comments received
- Wide support for resource conservation and preservation of existing natural and cultural resources, as well as other physical resources (e.g. geology and water)
- Support for addition of hiking trails and in some locations equestrian and bicycle access
- Support for improvement of bicycle facilities
- Support for operations and maintenance related to protection of public safety, more efficient operations that reduce traffic congestion, limiting visitors or establishing a reservation system, and enforcement of resource protection

Response to Public Input

- Preferred Alternative focuses on resource conservation and preservation

Preferred Alternative Overview

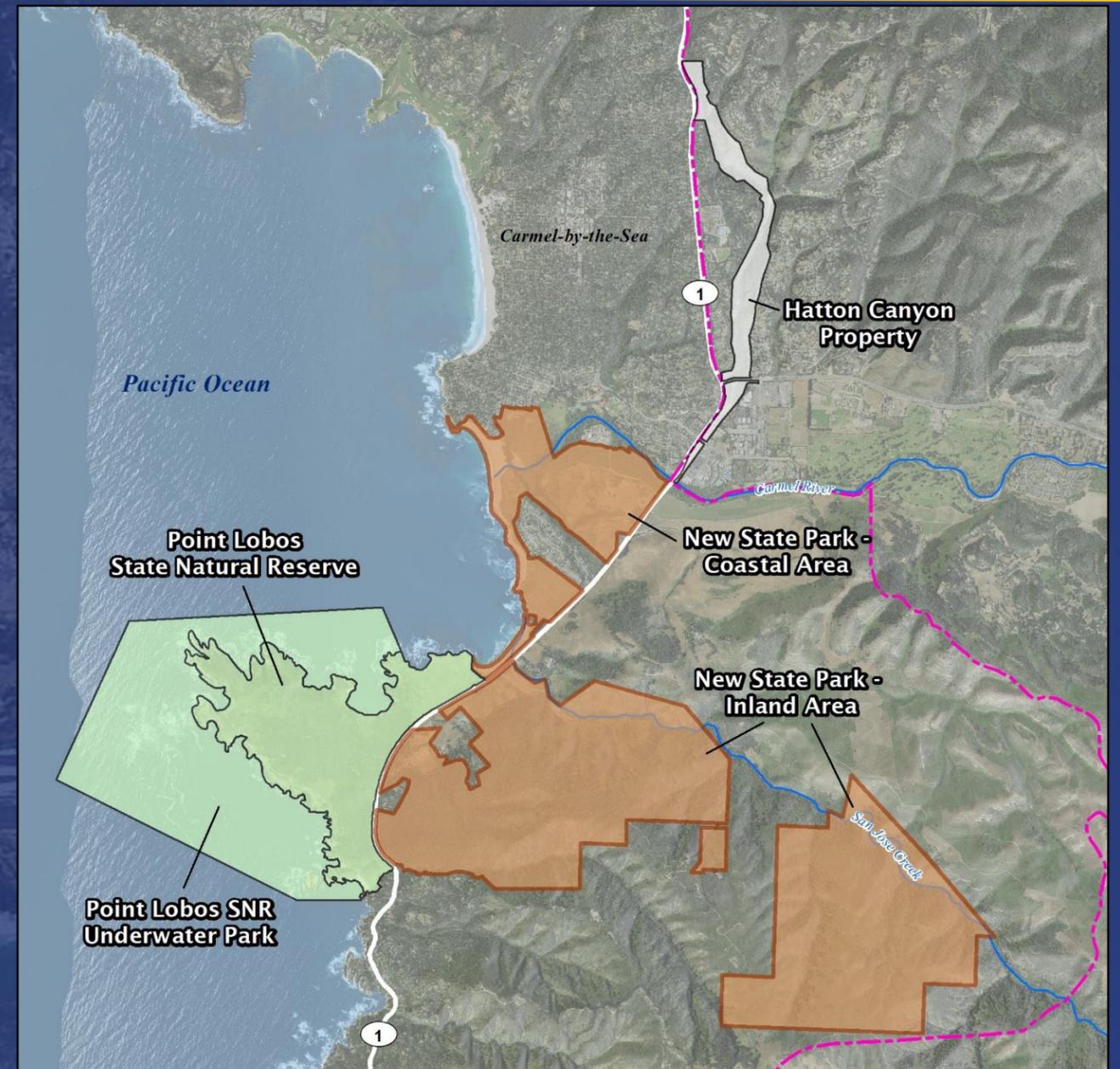
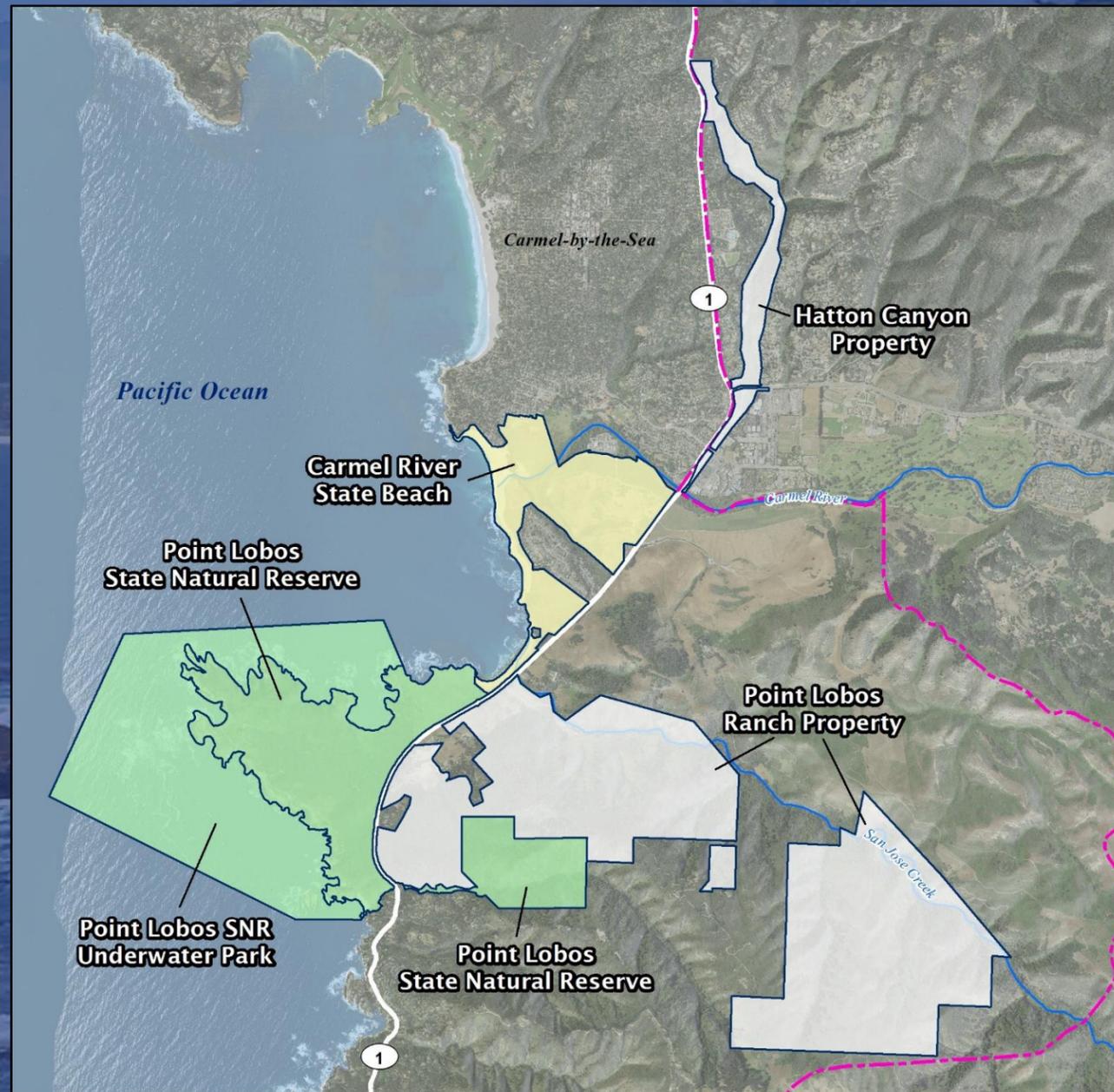
Unifying Recommendation

Focus on Conservation. In collaboration with local partners, protect, appreciate, and celebrate the unique and sensitive resources with adaptive management, engaging interpretation, and strategically placed visitor facilities.

Unit Classification: Existing and Preferred Alternative

Existing Unit Classification

Preferred Alternative Unit Classification



Carmel Area State Parks General Plan

Carmel Area State Parks General Plan

Classification: Existing Conditions

Legend	Classification
— Highway	□ Unclassified
- - - Coastal Zone Boundary	□ State Beach
— Creek/River	□ State Natural Reserve

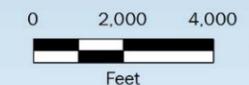
Draft Preferred Alternative Classifications

Legend	Classification
— Highway	□ New State Park
- - - Coastal Zone Boundary	□ State Natural Reserve
— Creek/River	□ Unclassified

Parcel boundaries are approximate and should not be considered legal descriptions. Maps are intended for study purposes only.
Source: DPR 2012, CalTrans 2010
Aerial Imagery: NAIP 2014



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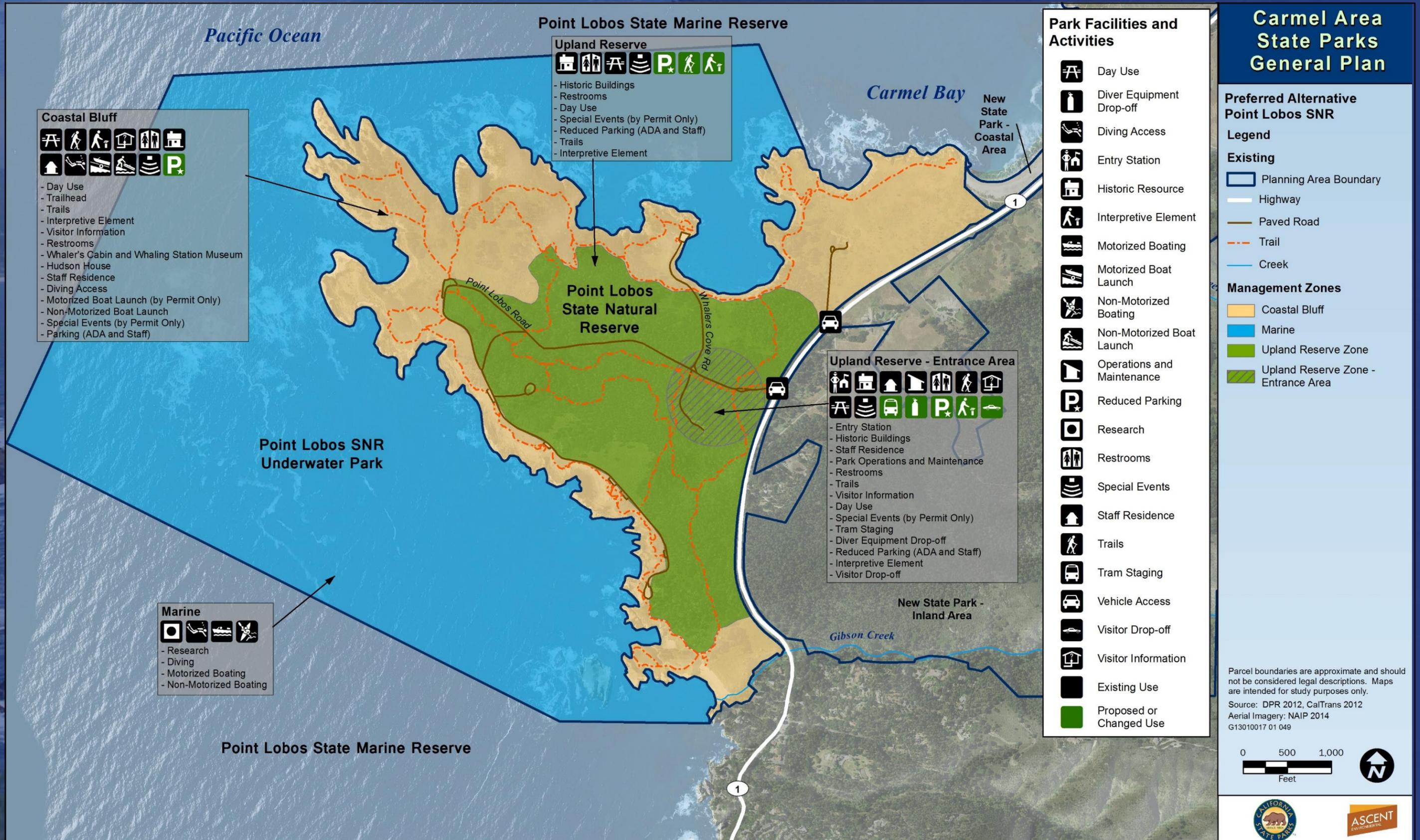
Preferred Alternative: Point Lobos State Natural Reserve

Key Recommendations

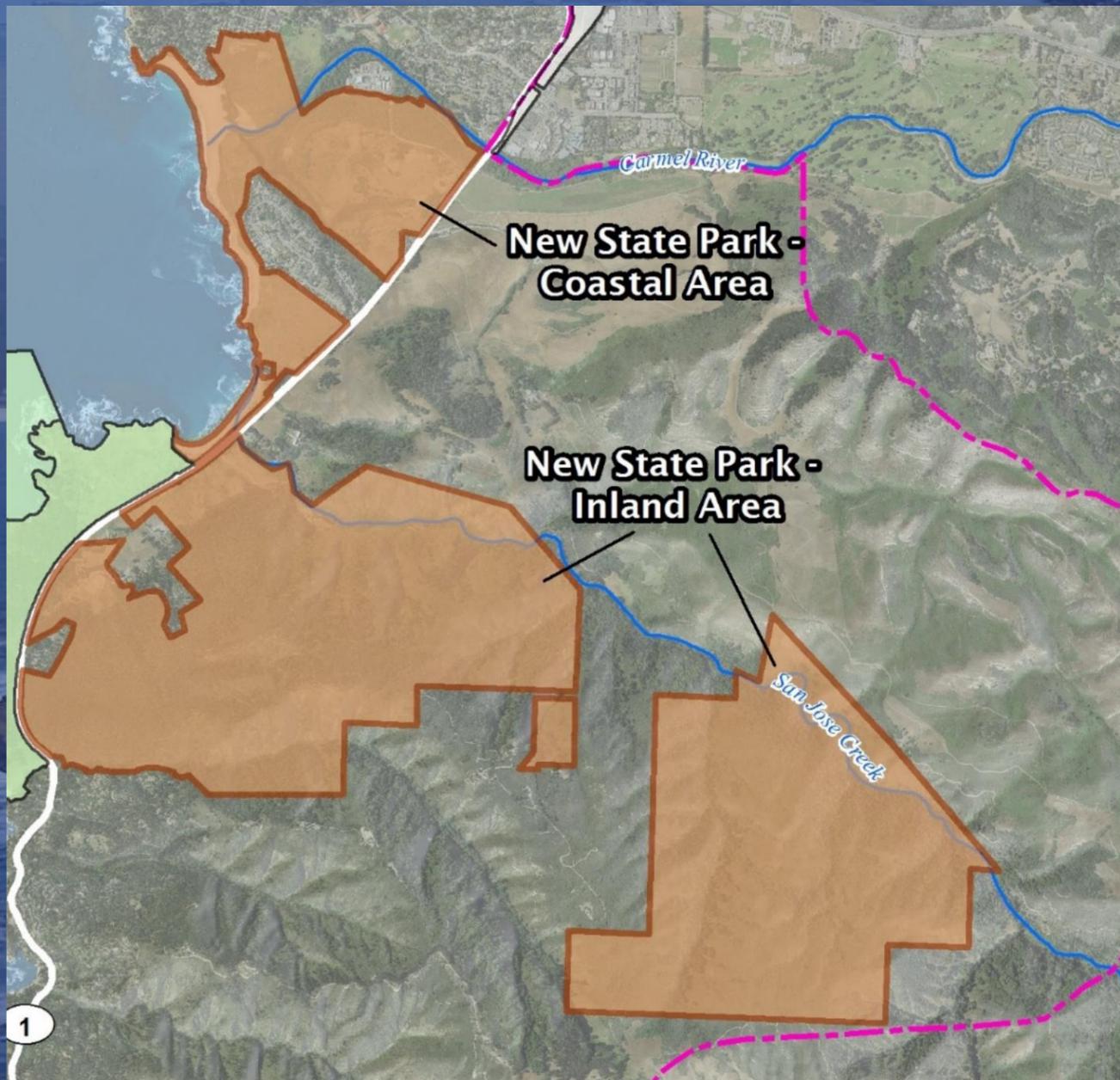
- Emphasize preservation and restoration of sensitive natural and cultural resources and the world-class landscape and waterscape
- Limit visitor facilities to help balance visitor use and high-quality recreation experiences with resource conservation and preservation
- Reduce on-site visitor parking and establish an alternative visitor conveyance system, such as a shuttle
- Relocate operations and maintenance facilities at Rat Hill and combine with the operations facilities located at the inland area of New State Park
- Continue active partnerships with the Point Lobos Foundation, park docents, and other volunteers to interpret the reserve and educate visitors
- Adaptively manage visitor use to avoid resource degradation and habitat loss
- Improve water quality and marine habitat in Whalers Cove and the off-shore areas (Underwater Park), allowing for continued research and managed visitor use
- Restore and enhance coastal forest and prairie habitats
- Adaptively re-use historic structures and landscapes for visitor education and interpretation
- Establish safe and managed visitor entry points that provide revenue support
- Preserve and conduct research on globally rare and endemic plant species



Preferred Alternative: Point Lobos State Natural Reserve



Preferred Alternative: New State Park



Key Recommendations

- Reclassify the current State Beach to a State Park and combine with the inland park property, currently known as Point Lobos Ranch, into a single State Park unit
- Adaptively manage natural and cultural preserves to reduce resource degradation (i.e. human-caused coastal bluff erosion) and conserve native habitats and unique resources
- Working with partners, continue to support restoration planning, implementation, and actions to reduce impacts to marine mammals and other wildlife
- Provide environmentally compatible trails to enrich visitor experiences associated with natural preserves
- Allow special events and concessions in balance with resource capacity and quality visitor experience

Preferred Alternative: New State Park

Coastal Area

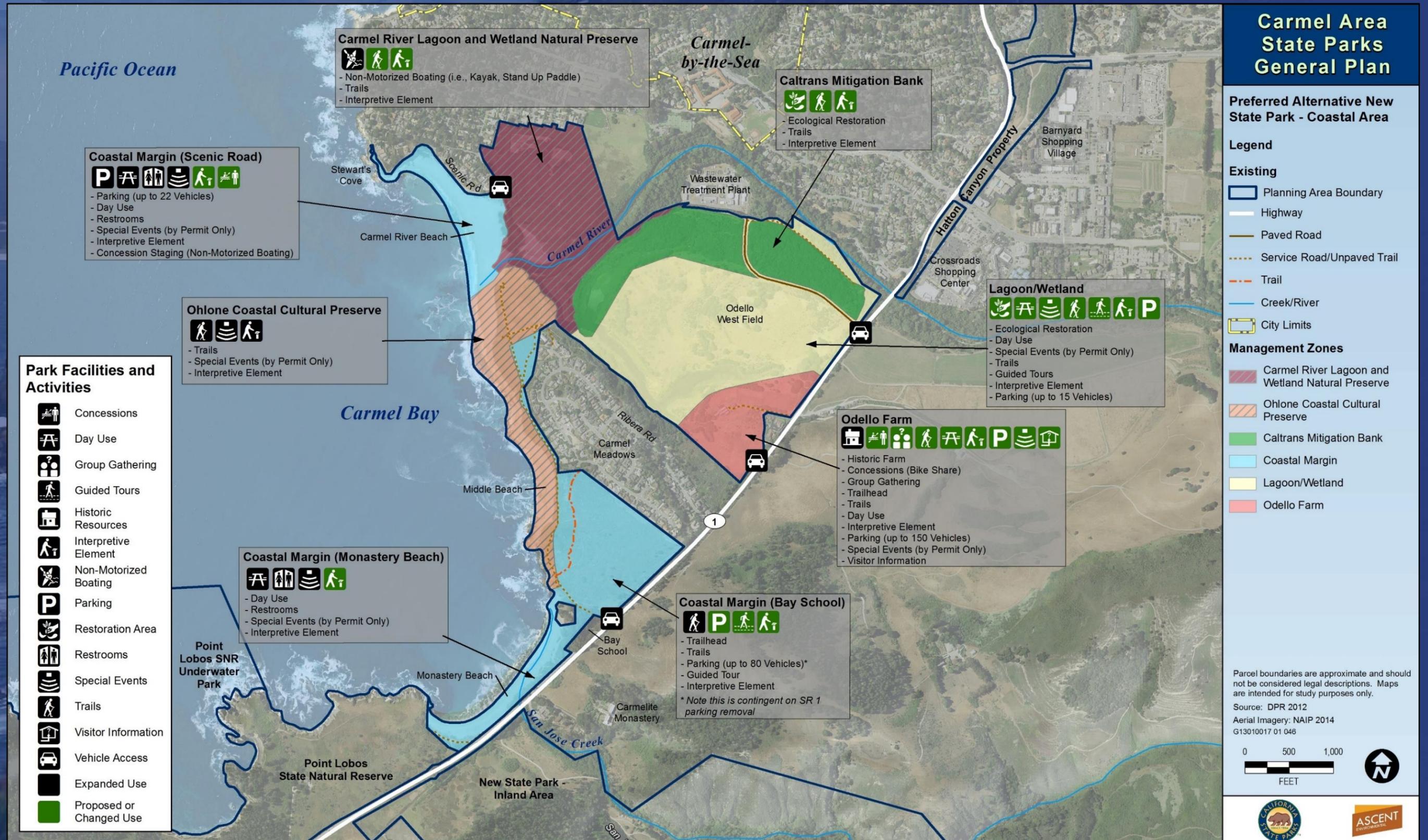
Key Recommendations

- Provide visitor access, staging, and limited parking at Odello Farm
- Stabilize and adaptively re-use historic structures at Odello Farm for visitor use and interpretation, including group use
- If adjacent on-highway parking is prohibited (by others), provide on-site parking in the vicinity of the Bay School
- Continue special events and concessions in balance with resource capacity



Preferred Alternative: New State Park

Coastal Area



Preferred Alternative: New State Park

Inland Area

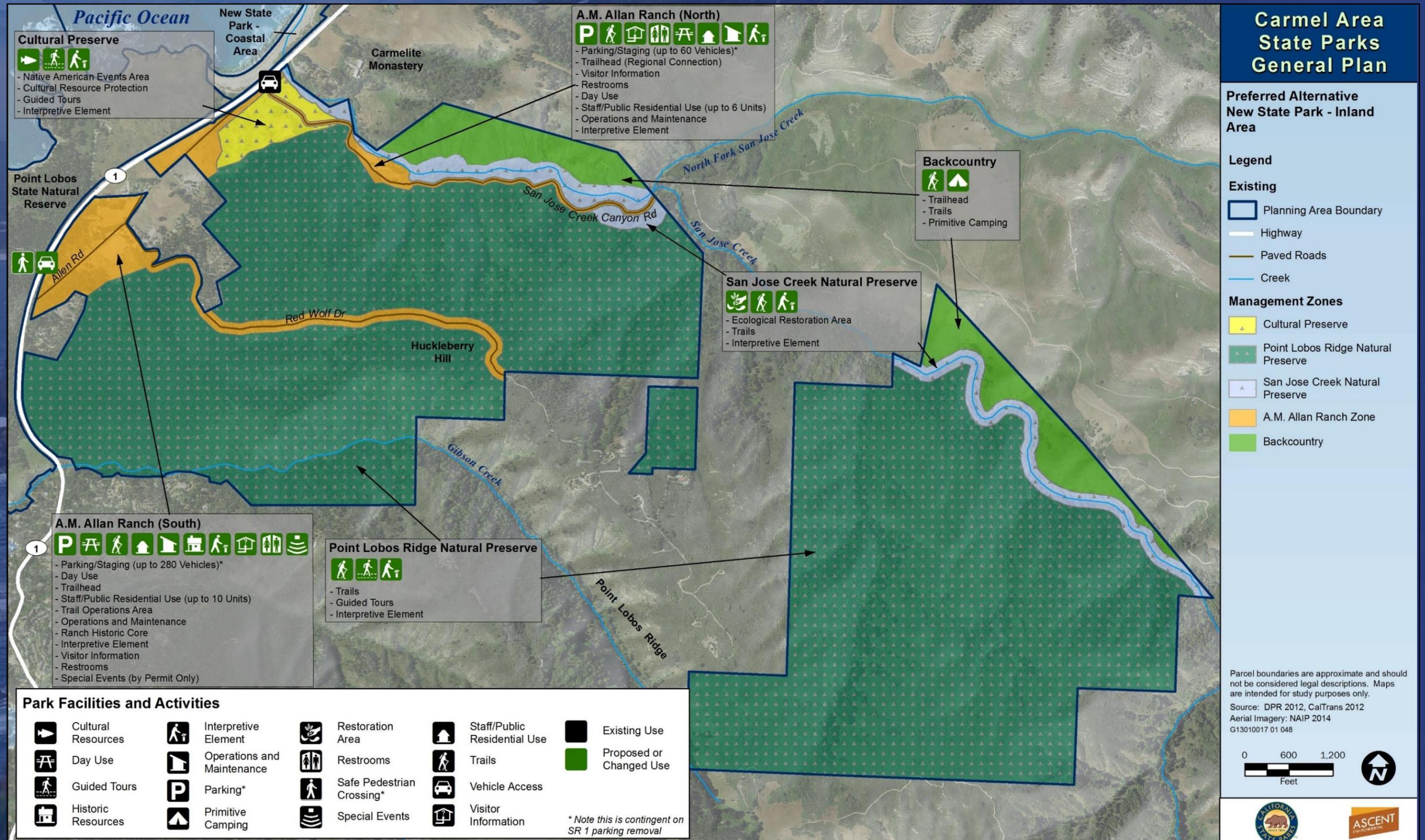
Key Recommendations

- Create a cultural preserve (approx. 19 acres), to include the Hudson Mound, to preserve and protect important cultural resources and recognize the culture of the native Rumsien and Esselen peoples
- Create a natural preserve (approx. 62 acres) to carefully manage San Jose Creek and the associated riparian corridor for steelhead, California red-legged frog, and other aquatic and riparian species
- Create a natural preserve (1,200 acres) in the uplands to manage and protect rare plant communities (i.e., Monterey pine, Gowen cypress, maritime chaparral), large forest assemblages, sensitive species, wildlife habitats, and wildlife corridors
- Develop environmentally compatible visitor access and trails to protect sensitive resources and create high-quality backcountry visitor experiences
- Maintain, interpret, and adaptively re-use the historic A. M. Allan ranch buildings
- If adjacent on-highway parking is prohibited (by others), add visitor staging and on-site parking, with alternative conveyance connections (i.e. shuttle) to the reserve
- Retain adaptively re-used historic buildings for staff or public housing
- Consolidate operations and maintenance facilities for the New State Park and Point Lobos State Natural Reserve to improve park services and operations efficiencies
- Work with partners to establish trail connections to adjacent regional trail systems and open space



Preferred Alternative: New State Park

Inland Area



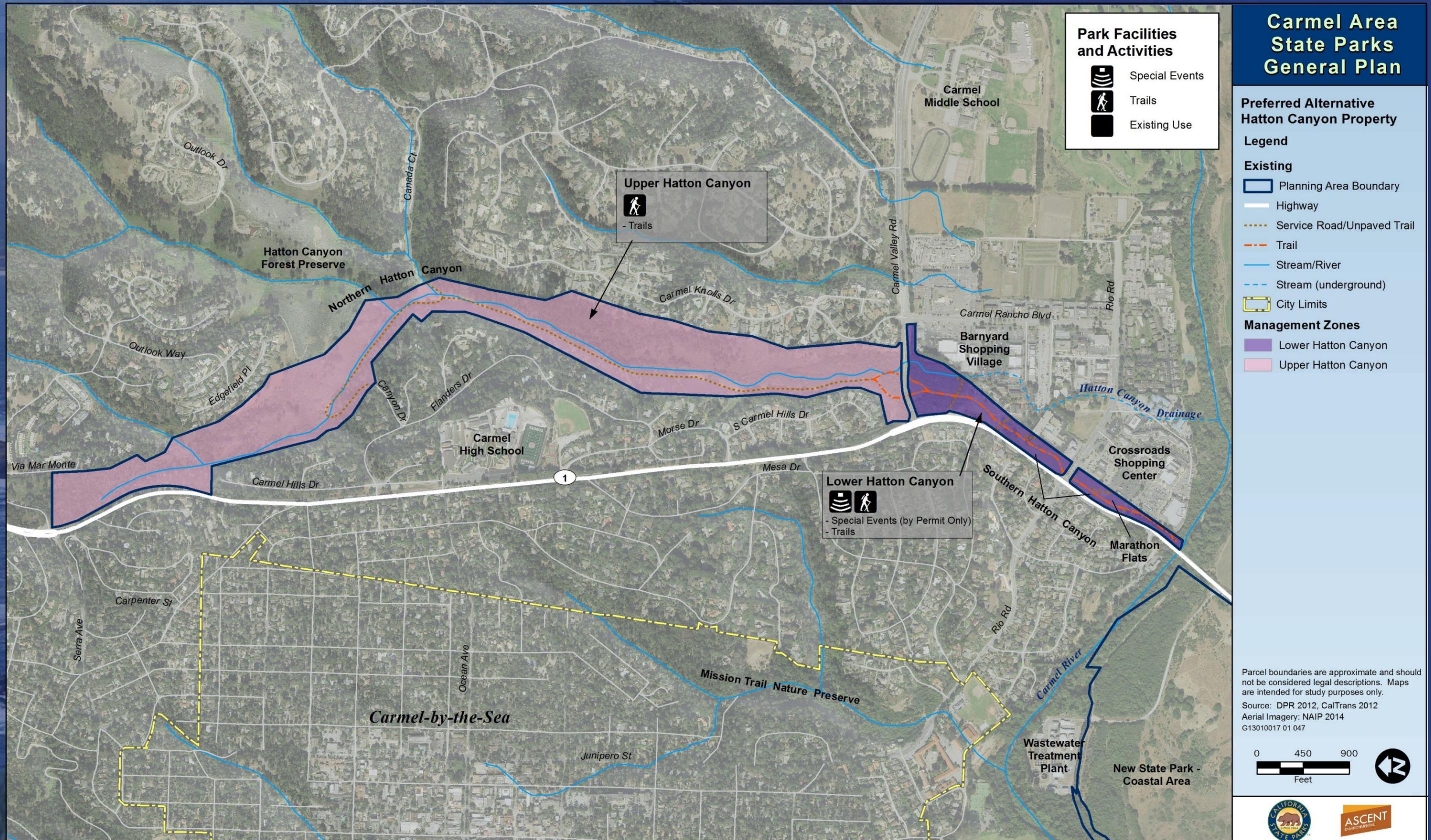
Preferred Alternative: Hatton Canyon Property

Key Recommendations

- Transfer the property to a more appropriate local or regional agency
- In the interim, maintain the existing property and multi-use trail and continue to provide this area as a venue for local and regional special events



Preferred Alternative: Hatton Canyon Property



Schedule and Next Steps

	FALL 2011	2012 - 2013	FALL – WINTER 2014 - 2015	SPRING - FALL 2015	WINTER - SUMMER 2015 -2016	FALL – WINTER 2016	WINTER – SPRING 2016- 2017	SUMMER 2017
General Plan and EIR Preparation Steps	Start-up and Scoping	Existing Conditions, Develop Draft Vision and Issues Analysis	Define and Assess Park Vision/Agency Input	Develop Plan Alternatives	Develop Preferred Alternative	Prepare Preliminary General Plan and Draft EIR	Respond to Public Comments and Prepare Final EIR	Certify EIR and Approve General Plan
Public and Stakeholder Outreach Activities	Newsletter 1 Public Meeting 1 EIR Scoping Agency/ Stakeholder Meeting 1		Agency/ Stakeholder Meeting 2	Newsletter 2 Public Meeting 2 (Conceptual Alternatives)	Newsletter 3 Public Meeting 3 (Preferred Alternative) Agency/ Stakeholder Meeting 3	Notice of Availability/ Completion Public Review and Comment of Preliminary General Plan and Draft EIR		Park and Recreation Commission Public Hearing

Next Steps

- Prepare the Preliminary General Plan/Draft EIR
- Release the Preliminary General Plan/Draft EIR for CEQA public review and comment
- Provide a public Information Session during the CEQA public review period
- State Park and Recreation Commission Public Hearing