

November 28, 2003

All Interested Agencies, Organizations, and Persons

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY
MALIBU CREEK STATE PARK PRELIMINARY GENERAL PLAN
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

A Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) has been prepared by the California Department of Parks and Recreation (Department) for the Malibu Creek State Park Preliminary General Plan (General Plan). The Department is the lead agency, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), responsible for preparation of this document.

Project Location:

Malibu Creek State Park (Park) is located in the Santa Monica Mountains along Las Virgenes/Malibu Canyon Road and Mulholland Highway south of the City of Calabasas, Los Angeles County. Located in the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, the 7,500-acre Park is approximately 25 miles west of downtown Los Angeles.

Project Description:

The purpose of the proposed project is to develop a new General Plan for the Park. The Park, a popular weekend getaway for local residents and regional visitors, hosts numerous recreational activities, including hiking, camping, fishing, bird watching, and horseback riding. The Park is also home to a number of important natural and cultural resources. The existing General Plan was prepared over 25 years ago and a new plan is needed to guide future development activities and management objectives at the Park.

The General Plan contains a comprehensive and cohesive set of park-wide and location-specific goals and guidelines for the long-term direction of the Park. Several park management zones are identified in the plan, encompassing the entire Park and providing detailed direction tailored to each of the use and condition characteristics at the Park. The four zones – Core Habitat, Natural Open Space, Cultural/Historic, and Recreation/Operations Zones – provide for high-quality park experiences for visitors while enhancing and preserving the natural and cultural features that make the Park a unique destination. A number of Park improvements are identified in the General Plan's goals and guidelines, including the development of an equestrian campground at Reagan Ranch, establishment of a cultural and historic zone encompassing Sepulveda Adobe and White Oak Farm, development of more centralized visitor use facilities, creation of a new Natural Preserve in Malibu Canyon, and a host of natural and cultural resource management measures for the Park.

Summary of Impacts:

The EIR analyzes a program-level analysis of the potential environmental impacts associated with the Preliminary General Plan. No significant environmental impacts would occur as a result of the proposed project.

Public Comment Period:

The 45-day public comment period for this Draft EIR will commence on December 2, 2003 and conclude on January 16, 2004. Copies of the Preliminary General Plan and Draft EIR will be available at the Angeles District Headquarters located in the Park (1925 Las Virgenes Road, Calabasas, CA 90265) and at the Calabasas Library (23975 Park Sorrento Calabasas, CA 91302). Please submit comments in writing to the address provided below. Comment letters must be postmarked by January 16, 2004.

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