

**DPR Alternatives Workshop
Meeting Summary
May 29, 2003 10 am – 4 pm
Needle Rock House**

The DPR Sinkyone Wilderness State Park (SWSP) staff gathered the day after the public meeting at the Needle Rock House to participate in a similar exercise as performed at the public meeting the night before. Two smaller planning groups were formed among the attendees and each group was assigned 4 or 5 topics from the handouts to address during small group discussion. During a hour-long exercise small planning groups sort visionary statement vs. management statements and define goals for each management topic. Results by topic and comments from the larger planning group are provided below.

A large group discussion occurred after the breakout session to share formulated goal statements and to discuss any additional thoughts or comments on the goals. The following issues presented in *italics* represent important points raised during the summary discussion.

Group #1 (SP Staff)

Topic: Overall Park Management and Operations

Goal: Parks Administration, Management and Operations will be tailored to promote, enhance and maintain wilderness values and experience at Sinkyone (including natural, cultural, and public).

Topic: Natural Resources Protection

Goal: Protect, maintain and, when appropriate, enhance and/or restore the natural biodiversity and unique natural resources of SWSP.

Topic: Community Involvement

Goal: Actively maintain open communication and cooperation with local communities and stakeholders in the planning and management of SWSP.

Topic: Fire Hazards and Management

Goal: Restore fire as a natural process while providing protection for local communities and park.

Restore fire as an ecological process as needed to manage ecological systems and hazardous fuels.

Topic: Roads and Trails

Goal: Manage and maintain public and administrative access through a system of sustainable roads and trails that is consistent with protecting park resources and maintains wilderness values (including peripheral connectivity).

Group #2 (SP Staff)

Topic: Cultural Resources

Goals: Cultural and historic sites and associated structures and/or stories will be inventoried, interpreted, and preserved when not in conflict with management goals to protect natural resources. Park management will consult with local Native American people (ethnographic and significant historic landscapes).

Topic: Recreation

Goals: Provide a wilderness experience by managing number of visitors by managing types of recreation to those cons. or compatible with wilderness values. Restrict front and back country overnight use to designated sites.

Topic: Interpretation and Education

Goals: Primary int. themes will be presented at front country facilities (e.g., visitor's center, Usal, Needle Rock) on internet, publications and offsite. Park management will develop and implement a sign (interpretive displays) program consistent with wilderness character of park.

Topic: Facilities

Goals: Provide essential facilities as needed to support front and back country use consistent with land use and public health and safety. Park management will acquire lands when needed to support public use.

Comments:

- < *Herbicides are not preferred method, but available as a tool (integrated pest management).*
- < *Existing roads used as trails would be converted or removed (i.e., trail management plan).*
- < *Allow limited use of mechanical equipment to accomplish management goals through auth. or seasonal variance – phasing areas into wilderness as General-Plan-approved work is completed – wilderness subsection within State Park.*