



**Red Rock Canyon State Park
General Plan Amendment**

**PUBLIC MEETING #3
March 22, 2003**

VERBAL COMMENTS

- GRIMSLEY OHV – Why is Nightmare Gulch/Scenic Canyon closed to Motor Vehicles?
- SIERRA CLUB– JEANNIE HAYE – If public is concerned.... Close until scientific data shows it's ok to open. Likes the plan overall. Concerned about Vehicle access to Last Chance Canyon wash.
- EQUESTRIAN – Maps don't show TOPO markings. Can't make determination because not specific enough. Equestrian access difficult due to shifting sands. Allow cross-country equestrian access. RS2477=How will this impact? Will it take precedent. Wants to know time line for planning.
- Access clarification – Roads in Cult. Preserve in N/E vital access? How many SQ miles? How far to walk from road to get into Cult Preserve there?
- LANCASTER PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB – DEAN WEBB – please protect area west of and bounded by Red Rock/Inyokern road. Spectacular for wildflowers – Please do not develop extra roads or campgrounds in this area.
- OHV – We are still required to accept any and all comments including all alternatives we should be calling it “Draft” not preferred. Focus Meetings – should consider mineral collecting – Analyze this is in draft EIR. Guzzler Groups impacted – Designate it as a S.R.A. and analyze in EIR. Make sure everyone to write to the team and make sure your thoughts are clear.
- JEFF DORSO, ATTY. Representing Red Rock Mineral LLC – Access road to Old Dutch is not Cultural Preserve (Correct) make it more clear on the map. Provide a buffer around RD. Old Dutch – 15'. Solitude and tranquility will be not possible with large scale commercial mining. On North and North East section is white line around Old Dutch a buffer (no). Wants buffer due to incompatible use. FYI our timeline for mining – summer 2003. Recognize rights of private property owners with in general plan. (Matrix – add it to).
- OHV – PAUL KOBER - Guidelines under Recreation should include children and “green” sticker. If not might as well put up a sign that says, families not welcome.

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- ASTRONOMY SOCIETY OF LOS ANGELES– likes protection of Red Rock / Inyokern for astronomy viewing.
- QUAIL UNLIMITED...sent letter to Ms. Autry, no response....Suggest you convert some of the Addition lands to SRA – submitted map.
- RANDY BANNIS – Drive thru tourist. As an example, ABDSP allows a great deal of driving opportunity. Nightmare Gulch – MOU is middle of the road cooperative response to resource protection and recreation desire. An effort that worked well – This should be considered for all of land use planning. Nature will close the road one day anyway. Currently the route is open 14 weeks to vehicles, 14 to hiking , 38 to solitude for raptor nesting. Focus use zones are under represented. There are others opportunities you missed. He'll submit specific suggestions. Routes should be considered as resources themselves....He was part of WEMO roads survey team...His opinion that there is road proliferation/redundancy else where in the desert but not in RRCSP. Wants to see more written documentation on the resource of roads. Reopen historic route by rock cabin/stone ruins. Wants to drive Nightmare and Cultural Preserve. Also road S. of Cudahy Creek Road (“Pinnacles”)- But remove junk car(s).
- STAN HAYE – Good Plan, going in right direction separate users esp. hikers from vehicles. Route over top of Red Butte – Include for equestrian (we show dotted black line on map – not visible on small map but is on large). Motor Vehicle routes still make loops – Good idea Arch. Preserve closures are ok – Everyone doesn't need access everywhere. Larger parks might have more considering RR's side roads are ok. Nightmare Gulch – Vehicle impacts repeatedly. Floods follow ruts – Changes course of H2O. Plants are used to floods, not vehicles. Purpose of roads is tour park not recreational cross-country OHV use. GRN stickers – plenty places outside park. Open Areas – plenty place outside park.
- Create more opportunities for recreation – so far it appears you're not doing that.
- DARRELL READMAN, Equestrian Trails Inc.- Many different uses – World is smaller...Not everything will be available to everyone... makes Appeal to OHV community – Please let's work together. In some areas conflicts are a big problem and safety is of concern in other areas, no conflict. The fear of speed of other users is of major concern.

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- OHV – Historic uses of park have been happening for decades. Don't change a thing.... Where's the problem? (perhaps Archaeo). We're being funneled into a pre-determined area...Will this diminish again in another 15 years?
- EQUESTRIAN USER – Haven't had much conflict with other groups. DPR – Get user groups together and implement ways to resolve with etiquette.
- GEORGE (VOULNTEER) – Historical value of RRCSP Pony Express, 20 mule teams. It's a fantastic educational area. Resources have been degraded. Example: Miners dugout. Old Dutch – 20 years ago much to see (not now). The more roads are open, the more the history disappears. E.g. spray painted petroglyph. Protect the History, Geologic, and Archaeological Resources. Access has promoted vandalism and a lack of respect for desert resources.
- JERRY GRIMSLEY – Why Nightmare Gulch closed? What scientific basis... Please explain. How many vehicles actually use when allowed at current time? (Approx. ≤ 200) This should be analyzed in the amendment. Environmental document needs to explore alternatives to access – suggest it be 2 preserves, permits, etc...
- Where is user analysis...How do you set goals and guidelines without knowing users? Where is your use analysis?
- OHVMR is a historical use.
- You talked about the extending limited green sticker access? What does that mean?
- No reason to close roads/no justification shown.
- Suggest the better solution is to close areas until studies can be performed.
- Concern that Last Chance canyon is open to vehicles and should be protected.
- Show us a timeline of process (put on web).
- Your plan eliminates cross-country equestrian access and suggests we don't want to mix with other uses. RS 2477 could apply here...

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- JOE FONTAINE on behalf of VICKI ARAJO (former Park Commissioner)– She would like to be added to your mailing list if she’s not there already. Pleased with direction and effort of the planning team. Roads network achieves a good balance. Remind you to talk to BLM about connectivity. Astronomy – dark skies are important and you can control light inside – suggest you get in touch with Intl. Dark Sky Society with lighting issues.
- Throw out 1982 General Plan. Gear grinders/parks/BLM/Audubon had a M.O.U. for access to Nightmare Gulch/Scenic Canyon.
- Humboldt SB allows mineral collection. Use as a model for here.
- Plan should address an alternative as if this were classified a SRA.
- As a teacher, Red Rock is a wonderful Resource for education with kids. Especially if Nightmare Gulch remains closed to vehicles.
- Make preserve designation more clear.
- JIM MCVEY – Quail unlimited suggests posting area as SRA.
- SCOTT BART – Great Grand Father had a mining claim. Preserves closure of Nightmare Gulch prevents him from sharing the area with his children.
- Suggest more focus use area and study route connections as this proposal is too harsh. Leave all routes open subject to Roads and Trails Management plan.
- Do you know how many equestrian users in park? Don’t eliminate cross-country access by horses as historic use in park is cross-country.
- Concern for Various speed capabilities from various users.
- Oppose cross-country equestrian use, since often in groups and follow each other thereby creating a new trail. Maybe an opt is due nothing.
- Have not heard us address the historic value/educational value of Red Rock as a whole.
- Need to address economics of the plan. Consider if cost of more enforcement could provide more resource protection on the existing land vs. cost of implementing this plan.