



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

**PUBLIC MEETING #2
January 18, 2003**

VERBAL COMMENTS

- Equestrian & Mountain Bikes need separation
- Concern for all access and safety
- Concern for relationship of mining and dept.
- Leave last chance open
- Protect sensitive arch. sites
- Eliminating some of the best game bird hunting in Southern California. Can you reclassify some area to State Recreation area for hunting to continue?
- How does filming get defined in the zones
- Thanks for coming to Ridgecrest
- Remember parks belong to all Californians
- Like to see entire park General plan revisited
- Need more detail on sensitive species
- Please consider my comments from 1995 (received handout)
- The guzzlers: What happens to them
- What about gem & mineral collection as a recreation activity
- You missed some trails big time. 74 miles is not enough. Need to separate users. Need access for RV
- You're kicking people out.
- EIR should address operations
- Horses need to stay on maintained trails
- Bikes on designated routes only
- 74 miles of roads is more than adequate for touring only
- Work with Kern County regarding the Conditional Use permit for Old Dutch cleanser mine
- If gem & mineral collection by the public is considered keep it small.
- Ban "Green Sticker" vehicles from park
- Can we fix road(s) to private property in south end
- What's our backup plan in this fiscal crisis
- Strongly opposed to any road closures
- Hunters have been excluded
- You missed a lot of roads on your maps
- Deal with roads & trails NOW not later.

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- Why are equestrians separate from hiking? Equestrians should be included in all areas where hiking is included.
- In the sensitive zones horses should be considered vehicle access- setting up telescopes would also be illegal. Leave access open
- Can't please everyone all the time. Favor the current system of recreation. Plenty of places left for vehicle access.
- Any research done recently to justify extension of Birds of Prey area
- How will the public know why suggestions were not included on the 3 alternatives - evaluation for CEQA (e.g. mining- Kern County- Hunting)
- Access- some would rather leave the area as is rather than have access to it
- Would like to see General Plan address landscape connectivity (Raptors, Red Rock tarplant)
- Include all park in EIR (connectivity access, etc.) not just Last Chance Canyon area
- If hunting not addressed now cannot address later. Management guidelines from Public Resources Code. How does Desert Protection Act document addresses the issue- maybe should manage as State Recreation Area instead
- Nightmare Gulch- Gear grinders have an MOU with Bureau of Land Management to maintain access thru area.
- Concern about aviary use within the area
- Under CEQA- need to clearly define processes and procedures, impact on Kern County, comment period, activity areas- what types of groups use the area? - will that continue?
- RS 2477 not clearly defined- also- guzzlers and safety for visitors
- Trails historically used are not represented on the maps. Need to show hiking & equestrian trails
- EIR needs to include current and proposed staffing along with hours of availability
- Everyone doesn't need the ability to go everywhere
- State Parks should work with Kern County for mining use ligit (permit?). Note petrified forest now gone due to gem/mineral collecting
- Guzzlers- study needs to be done to show species that benefit and are ill-effected because of
- Make sure there is contact between visitor groups (trail users) and parks on issues yet to be resolved
- Park appears to be increasing in size but decreasing in access. Want to be able to still have access to see the park.
- Concern that sensitive areas vary in size from one alt to another

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- Concern with some not knowing about the 1995 start of process- wonder if adequate announcement was sent for this meeting
- Concerned with maintaining of night sky for astronomy “star gazing” as well as access to these areas.
- Acknowledgement of tortoise use of washes with respect to road closures
- Resource inventory vs. summary confusing due to lack of mentioning species
- Need to have focus-use meetings between staff and visitors
- Roads don’t have a divine right to exist-Government agencies don’t have an obligation to provide access to mining claims
- Can hunting be added to uses within parks
- Mapping inaccurate- refer to the BLM’s WEMO maps- public needs better input regarding where roads and trails exist within the park
- Filming industry important economic addition to this community- don’t want to limit that too much
- Hunting also an economic condition to community- Hotels, restaurants, etc.
- Sometimes parameters must be set and may not be favorable to all- remember department mission