

News Advisory



Notice of Event

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Interior Secretary Norton to Lead Ceremony Transferring Historic Lighthouse to California State Parks

WHO: U.S. Interior Secretary Gale Norton
California Resources Agency Secretary Mike Chrisman
California State Parks Director Ruth Coleman
U.S. Coast Guard representatives

WHAT: U.S. Secretary of the Interior Gale Norton, California Resources Secretary Mike Chrisman and California State Parks Director Ruth Coleman will be present to sign documents for the transfer of the Point Sur Light Station property from the U.S. Coast Guard to the State of California, making it a part of the California State Park System.

This is an historic event because it will be the first West Coast lighthouse to be transferred from the Coast Guard as part of the National Historic Lighthouse Preservation Act of 2000.

WHEN: Friday, April 23 at 11:30 a.m.

WHERE: Point Sur State Historic Park, located 15 miles south of Carmel along Highway 1.

Special Note for Press: Please arrive no later than 10:45 a.m. at the main gate on Highway 1.

Due to extremely limited space on top of the lighthouse rock, no vehicles will be allowed and extra time is required to shuttle press and all other attendees the final ¼ mile. However, there is adequate space below the rock for parking for live or satellite trucks.

Background: The Point Sur Light Station sits 361 feet above the surf on a large volcanic rock, and is the only complete turn-of-the century Light Station open to the public in California. First lit on August 1, 1889, the lighthouse has remained in continuous operation. Lighthouse keepers and their families lived at the site from 1889 until 1974 when the lighthouse was automated.

The Light Station is on the National Register of Historic Places and is open to the public only through docent-led tours. ###