

4. Revisions to the General Plan

This chapter contains revisions to the Preliminary General Plan following the public review process that are reflected in the current version of the Draft General Plan. Text revisions are organized by section and page numbers in the Preliminary General Plan. Revisions to text are shown with a strikethrough or underline. Text that has a ~~strikethrough~~ has been deleted from the Preliminary General Plan. Text that has been added is presented as single underlined.

The Draft General Plan includes the revisions to the Preliminary General Plan indicated below. The Final General Plan may include additional minor revisions in the future to ensure the accuracy of information presented in the plan.

The revisions to the General Plan listed below have been made in response to requests made by agencies, organizations, or individuals during the public review process or from the final review of the Preliminary General Plan by Parks staff and the planning team. Revisions have been made for clarification purposes or, where needed, to add information or correct minor errors. Where applicable, these revisions also are cited in the responses to comments in Chapter 3 of this FEIR.

Chapter 1 Revisions

The following text of Chapter 1 “Introduction” Section 1.8.3.1 on page 1-9 of the Preliminary General Plan is hereby revised as follows:

State Parks issued Departmental Notice No. 2007-05, “Native American Consultation Policy & Implementation Procedures,” in November 2007. The notice sets forth State Parks’ policy for consultation with ~~Native California Native Indians~~ Native peoples about activities that affect matters related to their heritage, sacred sites, and cultural traditions. General plans are included in the list of potential activities. In September 2011, Governor Brown ordered state agencies (including State Parks) to “encourage communication and consultation with California Indian Tribes... and permit elected officials and other representatives of tribal governments to provide meaningful input” (Governor’s Executive Order B-10-11). State Parks conducted Native American consultation in accordance with Departmental Notice 2007-05 and Governor’s Executive Order B-10-11.

As part of the ~~Native American consultation process, State Parks archaeologists~~ the Diablo Range District archaeologist contacted the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) to request a ~~record search of the sacred lands files and a~~ Native American contact list for the planning area. ~~The NAHC’s review of the sacred lands files failed to identify sacred sites within Carnegie SVRA; however, consultation with the Native American tribes on the NAHC contact list, which included site visits with five Native American groups between August and October 2012, identified two sacred sites. The group also had concerns about impacts on a culturally sensitive site and botanical resources that are important for ceremonial uses in the Native American community. State Parks is committed to ongoing consultation with the Native American tribes about the General Plan Update and continues to meet with tribe representatives, including representatives from the Confederated Villages of Lisjan and the Northern Valley Yokuts, since 2022. Of these California Native American tribes, the Northern Valley Yokut/Ohlone Tribe and the Confederated Villages of Lisjan requested consultation for this project.~~

The NAHC’s review of the sacred lands files failed to identify sacred sites within Carnegie SVRA. However, two sacred sites were identified during consultation with Native American tribes on multiple site visits. The group also had concerns about impacts on a culturally sensitive site and botanical resources that are important for ceremonial uses in the Native American community.

State Parks has been committed to ongoing consultation with Native American tribes about the General Plan Update and has regularly met with tribe representatives, including representatives from the Confederated Villages of Lisjan and the Northern Valley Yokuts/Ohlone tribes, since 2022. The planning team received questions, concerns, comments, feedback, and ideas on improving the Park during consultation meetings, emails, and mail. The planning team considered all ideas, concerns, feedback, and comments to develop the preliminary General Plan Update. Additional consultation is ongoing and additional cultural resource inventories have been conducted at the SVRA as described in Chapter 2 “Existing Conditions”.

Chapter 2 Revisions

The following text of Chapter 2 “Existing Conditions” Section 2.3.3.4 on page 2-95 and 2-96 of the General Plan is hereby added as follows:

2.3.3.4 Archaeological Resources

From 2008 to 2010, State Parks contracted with the Anthropological Studies Center (ASC) at Sonoma State University to identify historical resources within Carnegie SVRA and evaluate the resources’ historical significance and integrity according to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHP) criteria. The cultural resource inventory of Carnegie SVRA included the survey, recordation, and evaluation of historic-era sites, features, and artifacts to learn more about the brick and pottery industrial undertakings and company town sites within Corral Hollow between 1855 and the 1960s. As described above, Carnegie SVRA is listed as a California Historical Landmark Number 740 for its industrial history and settlement:

NO. 740 CARNEGIE - A city of 3,500 population from 1895-1912, the town had a post office, company store, hotels, saloons, bandstand, and hundreds of homes. The Carnegie Brick and Pottery Company had 45 kilns and 13 tall smokestacks, clay came from the famous Tesla Coal Mine, four miles to the west. Town and plant were served by the Alameda and San Joaquin Railroad. (Parks, C. S. (n.d.).

Carnegie SVRA regularly monitors its cultural sites for damage or impacts. Wildfires at the park create one of the biggest concerns with protecting cultural resources-- it has burned several times since 2017 and twice in 2020. Cultural resources risk exposure and damage from fires. Surveying and monitoring sites for fire damage have increased in recent years. Numerous historical artifacts such as bricks, pottery, terra cotta, and other construction materials surround the Carnegie Brick and Pottery Company and SVRA. Fortunately, the fires and fire suppression efforts did not damage any cultural resources in recent fires. The lack of vegetation due to fire has led to an increase in visitors collecting and moving artifacts.

Diablo Range District cultural resources staff conduct annual cultural sensitivity training that teaches park staff what to look for in the landscape, guidelines to address visitor collecting, and what to do if visitors turn in artifacts. Carnegie SVRA participates in the California Archaeological Site Stewardship Program (CASSP), where trained volunteers help monitor important sites that park staff cannot visit as often. In addition, Carnegie SVRA staff developed educational content for programs and public outreach about the park’s historic landscape. For instance, interpreters created a video series on the Carnegie Brick and Pottery Company and the Tesla Mining Company. These videos are intended for young children and inform them about the park’s history.

Native American Cultural Resources

ASC conducted archaeological surveys of Carnegie SVRA from 2008 to 2010 and prepared a cultural resources report. During the current general plan update, the Northern Yokut tribe recommended State Parks conduct an updated cultural resources survey. The updated survey was recommended for three reasons. First, a large portion of the SVRA was never surveyed. The

2008-2010 survey focused on specific areas, such as historic resources on the valley floor, but did not examine the entire property. Second, it is a best management practice to update large surveys every 5-10 years. Lastly, after consultation with the Native Californian American Tribal community, they recommended a new survey incorporating traditional tribal knowledge.

State Parks contracted with ASC in 2024 to:

- Incorporate traditional tribal knowledge into the survey and reporting process;
- Conduct a reconnaissance survey using 15-meter transects through the entire property;
- Record previously recorded sites using Geographic Information System (GIS) and current scientific standards and record cultural sites important to Tribal Partners;
- Evaluate sites for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

ASC conducted field surveys on June 20-25, July 22-26, and September 3-4, 2024. State Parks Tribal Liaisons met with the Northern Valley Yokut/Ohlone Tribe at Carnegie SVRA on June 27 and September 9, 2024, to discuss the project scope, a survey strategy, and identification of Traditional Tribal Resources. State Parks and Northern Valley Yokut/Ohlone Tribe also communicated weekly on survey status and recordings. ASC worked with Diablo Range District's Associate State Archaeologist and Cultural Resources Supervisor, the Northern Yokut Chairperson and Tribal monitor throughout the archaeological survey.

The following text of Chapter 4 "The Plan" Section 4.4.6.2 on page 4-23 of the General Plan is hereby added as follows:

NRM Guideline 1.3: In the event that disturbing a sensitive biological resource is unavoidable, additional environmental analysis may be required. ~~¶~~Minimize the disturbance to the minimum area necessary to achieve the project purpose and identify and implement measures to avoid or offset these impacts in coordination with a qualified biologist and the appropriate resource agencies, depending on the listing or protection status of the resource. Coordination with the agencies may include acquisition of any required environmental permits, take authorizations, management plans, or other documents as required by the respective agencies.

Chapter 3 Revisions

No revisions were made to Chapter 3.

Chapter 4 Revisions

The following text of Chapter 4 "The Plan" Section 4.4.6.2 on page 4-24 of the General Plan is hereby added as follows:

NRM Guideline 1.4: Continue to implement the ~~OHMVR Division's~~ Carnegie SVRA Habitat Monitoring System (HMS) until the Wildlife Habitat Protection Plan (WHPP) for the Carnegie SVRA is finalized.

~~The HMS and the WHPP are~~ is a tools used to aid in the implementation of park-specific natural resource monitoring and adaptive management, with a focus on trends in percent habitat cover, focal species distribution and abundances, and comparisons between riding and nonriding areas. The HMS data is used to accumulate, standardize, and analyze records of plants, animals, and habitats in the planning area and guide adaptive management. The HMS is consistent with State Parks' resource management directives, and with the specific biological provisions that outline management programs for working with natural processes of vegetation succession, controlling the spread of noxious and invasive weeds, and protecting natural wildlife habitat.

~~The WHPP is~~ an a statutorily required document unique to SVRAs that must conserve and improve wildlife habitats over time. In 2017, the California legislature amended sections of the Public Resources Code (Section 5090.35 et seq.) relating to resource management at SVRAs.

The changes prompted an update of SVRA WHPPs to meet the new requirements. The Carnegie SVRA WHPP, currently in draft form, captures the entirety of the SVRA's natural resource management program. Each WHPP incorporates natural resource related goals and objectives coupled with management actions that describe how the SVRA will achieve habitat conservation and improvements. The Carnegie SVRA WHPP describes a monitoring program that tracks progress towards accomplishing goals and objectives. WHPPs are drafted in consideration of state and regional conservation objectives, utilize best available science, and make opportunities for public comment. improved framework which emphasizes a broad range of scientifically accepted techniques and measures that are appropriate for the unique habitats found within each SVRA. This monitoring system provides information on protocols for baseline studies, focused studies, monitoring, and surveys, and is used by SVRA resource managers to aid in the development of park specific monitoring plans and techniques.

The goals of the Carnegie SVRA WHPP are to monitor and manage drives natural resource management at the SVRA and will be used to monitor wildlife and plant populations communities and restore habitats where necessary to sustain a viable species composition within each SVRA. The plans enables adaptive management, allowing management practices and strategies to change, or "adapt," as warranted by new monitoring information. Carnegie SVRA Environmental scientists Scientists for each SVRA conduct and oversee the monitoring based on the WHPP and other monitoring protocols requirements. Biological resource assessments conducted at Carnegie SVRA have been compiled according to the guidelines set forth by previous iterations of this system document.

The following text of Chapter 4 "The Plan" Section 4.4.6.2 on page 4-26 of the General Plan is hereby added as follows:

Wildlife Guideline 1.7: if construction activities are planned within suitable upland habitat Perform a preconstruction survey for special-status herpetofauna (California red-legged frog, California tiger salamander, western pond turtle, or western spadefoot). Qualified Biologist will inspect for individuals and habitat features, and flag for avoidance to the extent feasible, and within the known maximum upland dispersal distance of those species from known breeding habitat, develop and i Implement appropriate measures to avoid or compensate for potential direct and indirect impacts of project-specific activities on special-status herpetofauna in upland habitats. Avoidance and minimization measures may include: daily site clearance by a qualified biologist and biological monitoring to ensure that special-status species are avoided. If avoidance of listed herpetofauna is not possible, obtain permits and approvals as required by the wildlife agencies. Before the start of construction, implement any protection or mitigation measures agreed upon during consultation with the wildlife agencies.

Chapter 5 Revisions

The following text has been added to Chapter 5 "References" of the General Plan is hereby added as follows:

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5. Revisions to the DEIR

No revisions were made to the Draft EIR during preparation of the Final EIR.

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7. References

7.1 Executive Summary

No references cited.

7.2 Chapter 1, “Introduction

No references cited.

7.3 Chapter 2, “Project Description”

No references cited.

7.4 Chapter 3, “Environmental Analysis”

7.4.1 Section 3.1, “Aesthetics”

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