



AUBURN STATE RECREATION AREA



August 2018

California State Parks and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation are currently preparing an

AUBURN SRA GENERAL PLAN/AUBURN PROJECT LANDS RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT/ ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (GP/RMP)

The GP/RMP will define a long term vision for the park unit that meets California State Parks' Mission, provide guidelines for the protection and management of natural and cultural resources, determine management of many recreation activities which will occur here, and identify any additional facility improvements.

The GP/RMP is a programmatic document that will outline broad management goals and guidelines and will provide the basis for developing future focused management plans, specific project plans, and other proposals. An Environmental Impact Report/ Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS) will be prepared as part of this project, to describe potential environmental effects of implementing the GP/RMP.

The planning team appreciates the wide range of public input that has been offered, which reveals many ways that people enjoy and treasure Auburn SRA's recreational, cultural and natural resource values. This input is being utilized to prepare the GP/RMP.

SIGN UP FOR ASRA PLANNING NEWS:
PLAN.GENERAL@PARKS.CA.GOV

WEB PAGE:
www.parks.ca.gov/PLANASRA

WHAT IS AUBURN SRA?

The Auburn SRA consists primarily of lands set aside by the federal government for the construction of Auburn Dam and Reservoir. Auburn SRA has been managed by California State Parks through an agreement with Reclamation since 1977. The Auburn SRA includes approximately 30,000 acres of lands along close to forty miles of river canyon on the North and Middle Forks of the American River. Auburn SRA is located south of Interstate 80 in both Placer and El Dorado Counties.

Recreation uses include hiking, river access, boating, fishing, camping, mountain biking, gold panning, swimming, picnicking, rock climbing, horseback riding, and off-highway vehicle riding. Boating is popular on the North and Middle Forks of the American River.



PLAN ALTERNATIVES

California State Parks and Reclamation have developed four separate alternatives for the GP/RMP. Each of these alternatives would take a different approach to achieve the agencies' missions at Auburn SRA. The final GP/RMP could include elements from any or all of these alternatives. The major themes of the four alternatives are:

Resource Management Emphasis:

This alternative would place a major emphasis on natural and cultural resources protection and restoration. It would plan for a similar level of visitation as currently exists, but it could reduce some recreational opportunities and remove some facilities when necessary for resource protection.

Increased Recreation and Resource Management:

This alternative would place an approximately equal emphasis on resource management and recreation opportunities. It would accommodate moderate increases in visitation and would expand visitor facilities in areas that already receive a lot of use.



RECREATION FACILITIES

The plan alternatives consider the addition, expansion, or removal of a range of recreation facilities. New campgrounds, trail bridges, a visitor center, interpretive features, and other day use facilities are being evaluated in several areas. The alternatives envision transportation, parking, and access changes near the Confluence and other popular access points. They include various long-term management approaches for facilities and uses at Lake Clementine and Mammoth Bar OHV area.

Recreation Management Emphasis:

This alternative would emphasize recreational opportunities. It would accommodate increases in the amount of visitation and provide more diverse recreational opportunities. This alternative would expand visitor access, facilities, and programs.

No Action Alternative:

This alternative would not include an updated GP/RMP. Therefore, it would make no changes to the existing management of Auburn SRA. Existing visitor facilities and uses would be maintained and existing natural and cultural resource management would continue.



RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

The plan alternatives include strategies to manage and protect natural and cultural resources. Auburn SRA contains evidence of the Native Californian, mining, and ranching eras. Auburn SRA is also a very biodiverse park with many species of native plants and animals. All the alternatives seek to manage forests to reduce wildfire risk and protect sensitive natural and cultural resources from human disturbance. The alternatives vary in the level of emphasis placed on locating, protecting, and restoring sensitive resources.

DRAFT CSP PROPOSED ACTION

After considering public input on the four draft alternatives and statewide needs, California State Parks selected a Draft Proposed Action.

Highlights of the proposed action would allow or facilitate:

- Parking capacity to be increased by up to 25 percent.
- Camping capacity to be increased by up to 245 individual campsites and five group sites.
- River access improvements to trails, roads and boat landings.
- Trail bridges over the North Fork American River between Auburn and Cool and over the Middle Fork American River at the former Greenwood Bridge site.
- Increased natural and cultural resources management, including fire prevention strategies.
- Increased opportunities for visitors to engage in stewardship and education opportunities.

Details of the proposed action and the other alternatives can be found here:

[CSP Proposed Action Facilities Summary](#)

[CSP Proposed Action Maps](#) (24mb)

[Detailed Actions Alternatives Table](#)

[Purpose, Vision, Alternative Themes and Land Use](#)

[Intensity Comparison Chart](#)



FACT SHEETS

Detailed information about several topics that have been of particular interest to the public is available here:

[Road and Trail Management Plan](#)

[Recreational Mineral Collection](#)

[Whitewater Management Program](#)

[Boundary Corrections](#)

[Hunting Program](#)

[Fire Management Plan](#)

In addition, a traffic study is underway to assess the potential impact of the proposals on nearby roadways. The draft study will be posted at www.parks.ca.gov/PLANASRA when it is available.

WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

There are several easy ways to participate:

Get on the mailing list:

Throughout the planning and environmental review process, we will email updates and newsletters informing you of ongoing work. Please email: plan.general@parks.ca.gov and ask to be added to the mailing list.

Visit our website:

Information about the planning process and opportunities to provide input are available online at www.parks.ca.gov/PlanASRA.



Photo courtesy of Robert Sydnor

PUBLIC		INPUT	PROCESS
DATE	PUBLIC OUTREACH	PUBLIC INPUT	
November 2015	First Public Workshop Learn about the plan and let us know what is important to you.	Public comments submitted as of December 1, 2015	
December 2017	Second Public Workshop Provide input on plan alternatives and scope of environmental review.	Input Summary (16mb)	
June 2018	Third Public Workshop Provide your feedback on the draft proposed action.	Public comments on our online questionnaire (Complete summary coming soon)	
NEXT STEPS			
Spring 2019	Public Review Period Review the preliminary plan and draft environmental review document (GP/RMP)* and provide written comments. Copies of the plan will be available online, at the Gold Fields District and Auburn Sector offices, and at local libraries.		
Autumn 2019	State Park and Recreation Commission Testify at the public meeting, or provide final written input as GP/RMP approval is considered.		
Check the web page regularly as this schedule is subject to change			

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