



# STAKEHOLDER MEETING #1

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GREAT VALLEY GRASSLANDS STATE PARK GENERAL PLAN



# Team Organization and Roles

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- California State Parks Team
  - Headquarters Staff
    - Senior Park and Recreation Specialist: Katie Metraux
    - Deputy Director, Planning: Alex Stehl
    - Park and Recreation Specialist: Jason Finley
    - Associate Park and Recreation Specialist: David Block
  - Central Valley District Staff
    - District Superintendent: Danielle Gerhart
    - Sector Superintendent: Duke Heberling
    - Natural Resources Manager: Heather Reith
    - Senior Park and Recreation Specialist: Paige Haller
    - Environmental Scientist: Collette Bradley
    - Museum Curator/Cultural Resources Specialist: Lee Eal
- Consulting Team (Ascent)
  - Principal: Curtis Alling
  - Project Director: Adam Lewandowski
  - Project Manager: Lily Bostrom
  - Park and Recreation Planner: Lindsay Kageyama
  - Engagement Specialist: Luis Montes
  - Environmental Planner: Nicole Greenfield



# Agenda

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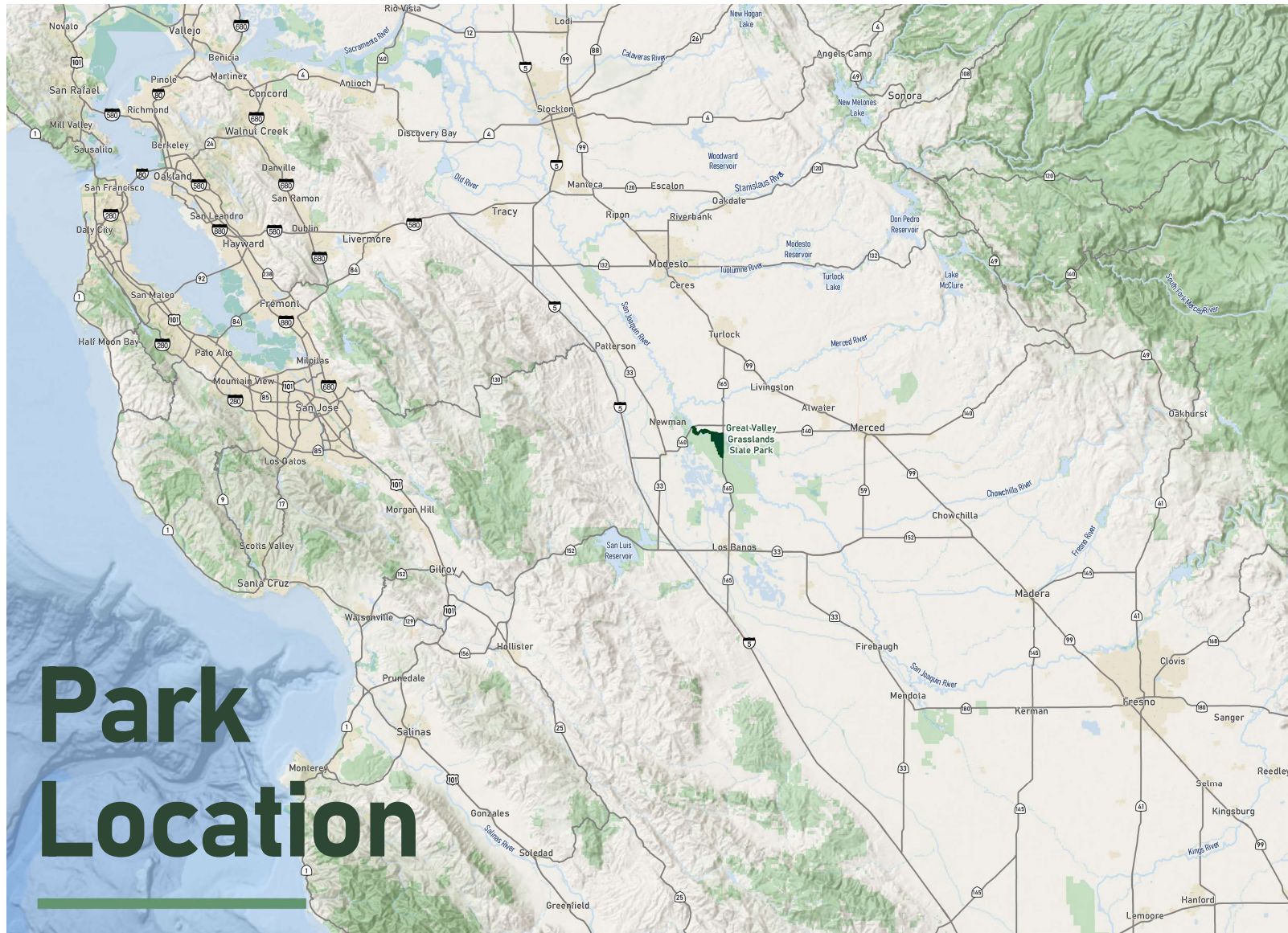
- 1 Park Overview
- 2 Plan Overview & Purpose
- 3 Stakeholder Engagement
- 4 Planning Process & Timeline
- 5 Unit Purpose & Vision
- 6 Discussion/Group Exercise
- 7 Final Remarks



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## Park Overview





# Park Location

## GREAT VALLEY GRASSLANDS

### STATE PARK

- Great Valley Grasslands State Park
- Public Land

San Francisco  
★ PROJECT LOCATION  
Fresno  
LOS ANGELES  
CALIFORNIA

0 5 10 15 Miles

ESRI World Base  
20210027.04 GIS 017



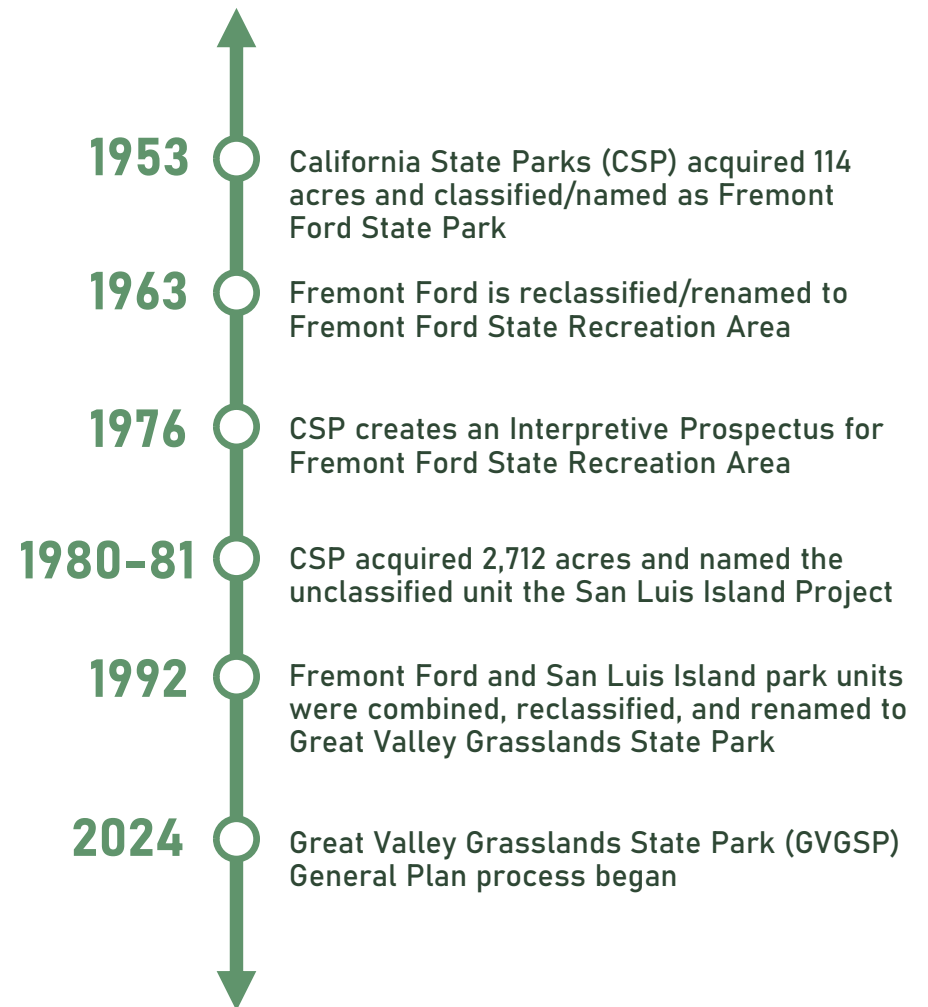
# Park Overview

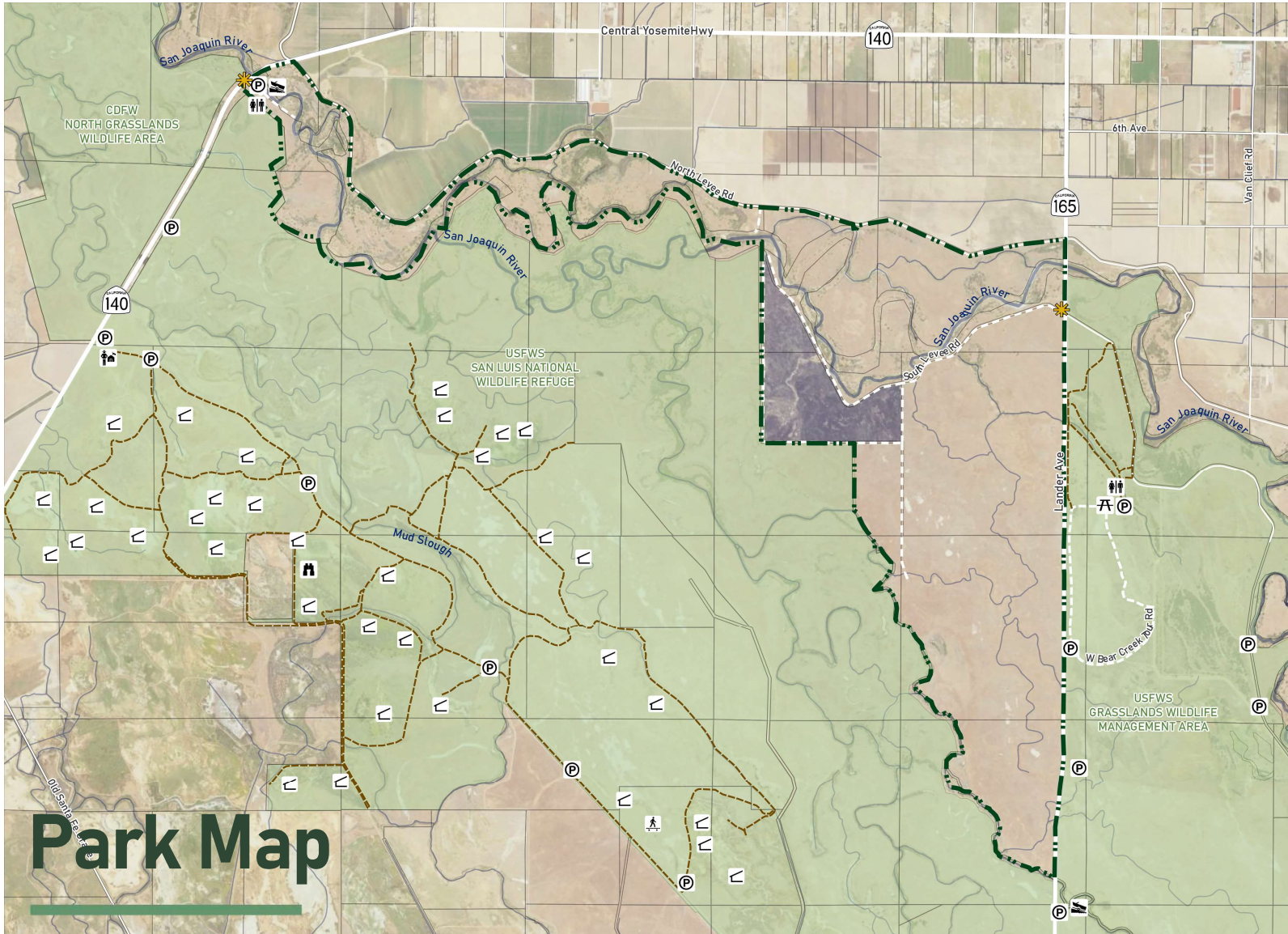
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- 2,826 acres
- San Joaquin River runs through park
- Grasslands, vernal pools, riparian channels, sloughs, riparian woodlands
- Park is largely unknown and has low visitation
- Recreation facilities:
  - Boat launch
  - Parking
  - 5.3 miles of trails/unpaved roads
- Recreation activities:
  - Fishing
  - Boating
  - Hiking
  - Biking
  - Birdwatching



# Park Acquisition and Planning History





# Park Map

## GREAT VALLEY GRASSLANDS

STATE PARK

- Park Boundary
- Park Entrance
- Boat Launch
- Parking
- Picnic Area
- Restroom
- Hunter Check Station
- Hunting Blind
- Observation Tower
- Foot Bridge
- Unpaved Trail
- Major Road
- Paved Road
- Unpaved Road
- Waterways
- Parcels

0 1,500 3,000 FEET

NAIP Imagery  
20210027.04 GIS 002

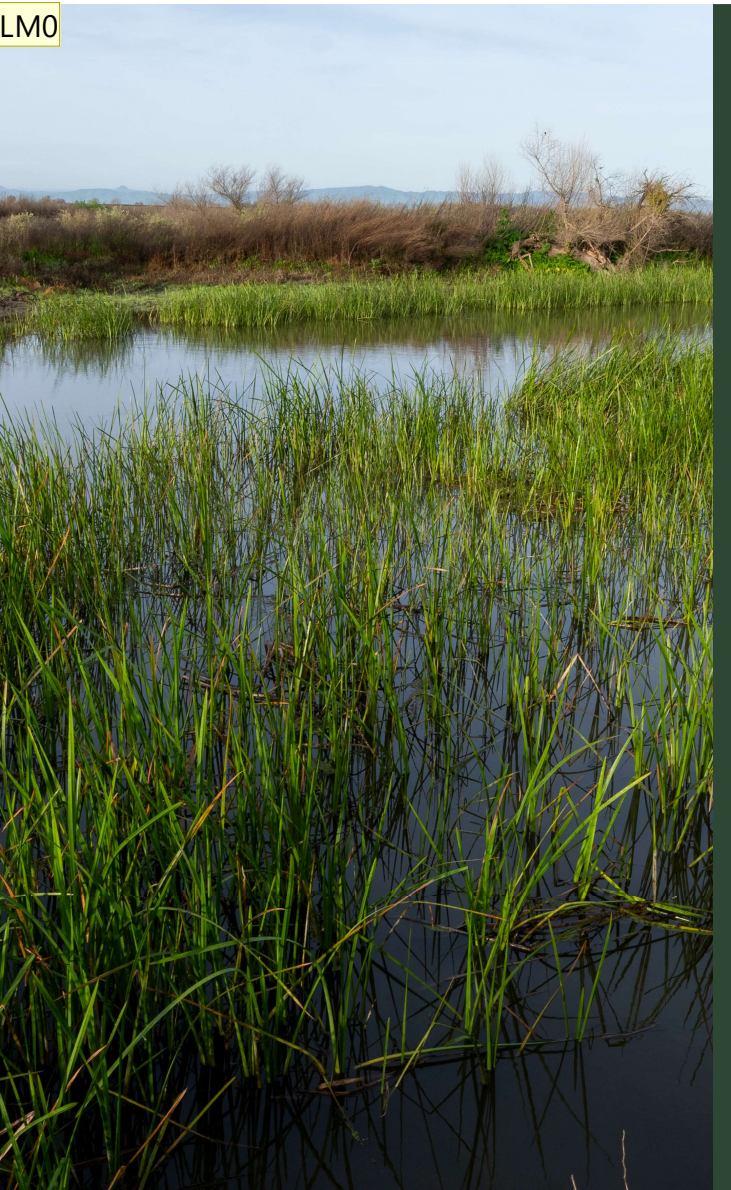






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## **Plan Overview & Purpose**

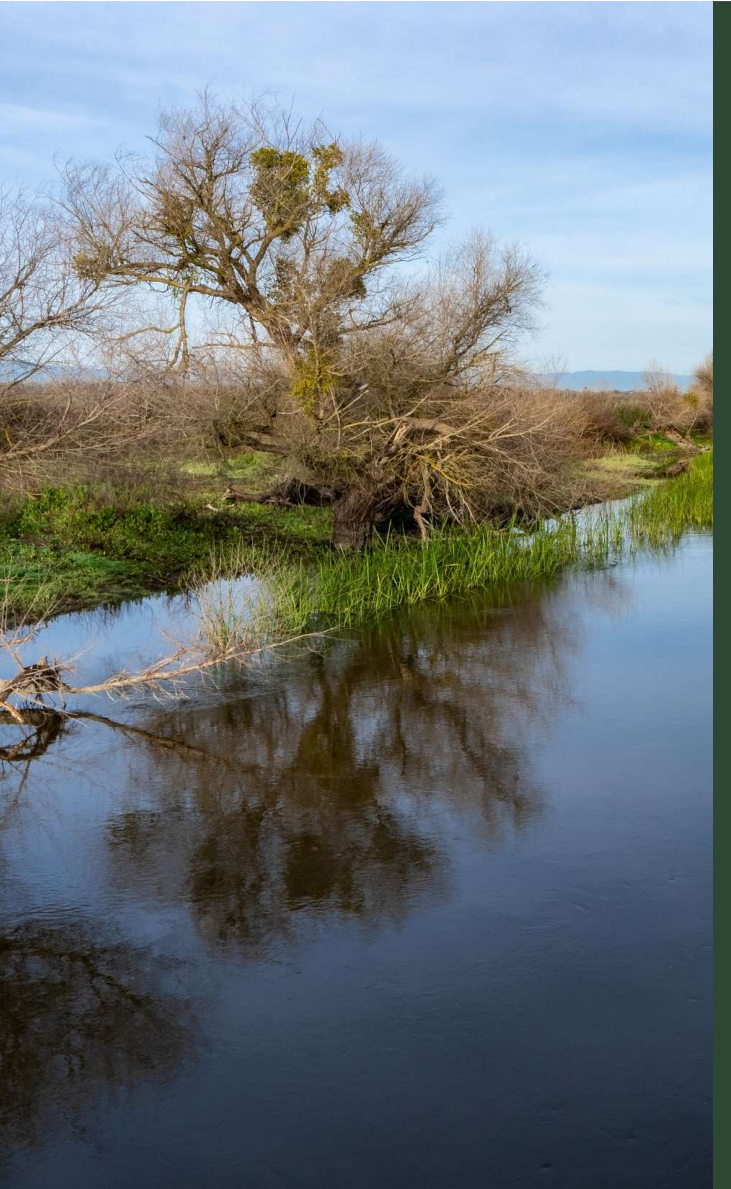


# What is a State Park General Plan?

- Policy-level long-range planning tool
- Primary managing document for the park
- Visionary document that sets the goals and guidelines for current and future park facilities
- Opportunity for stakeholders and the public to provide input







# Plan Purpose

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- General plans are required for every state park unit
- Long-term guidance on operations, visitor uses, resource management, and facility development
- Comprehensive vision for the park
- Enhance visitor experience
- Opportunity to streamline future CEQA

# Importance for GVGSP

- Proximity to underserved communities with lower-than-average access to parks and open space.
- Prioritization of recreation improvements in the Central Valley, where the population is growing and becoming younger.
- Interpretation and education of the Central Valley landscape and cultural setting/history
- Enables future resource management projects
- Ongoing projects:
  - Great Valley Grasslands Floodplain Restoration project
  - Cannabis Remediation and Floodplain Restoration project





# General Plan Elements

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Existing Conditions Overview



Issues & Analysis



Plan Alternatives & Selection of  
Preferred Alternative



Unit Vision, Goals, & Guidelines



Environmental Analysis

3

## **Stakeholder Engagement**









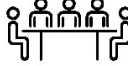




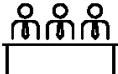

# Stakeholder Engagement Objectives

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- Share General Plan updates and engagement opportunities across your network.
- Assist CSP in identifying concurrent and ongoing initiatives.
- Help identify opportunities to enhance the park.
- Identify constraints that might hinder the achievement of General Plan vision.
- Strengthen partnerships and leverage resources to address challenges.
- Ensure General Plan goals and guidelines align with stakeholder values.



# Opportunities for Stakeholder Participation

		GENERAL PLAN				ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT		GENERAL PLAN	
PROJECT PHASES	PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT OPPORTUNITIES	Project Kick-Off	Issues & Opportunities	Alternatives & Feedback	Preferred Alternative	Draft General Plan & Environmental Scoping	Draft EIR	Final EIR	Final General Plan
			<div></div> <div>Public Survey</div> <div></div> <div>Public Meeting #1</div> <div></div> <div>Stakeholder Meeting #1</div>	<div></div> <div>Stakeholder Meeting #2</div> <div></div> <div>Public Meeting #2</div> <div></div> <div>Public Review of Alternatives</div>		<div></div> <div>Public Meeting #3</div> <div></div> <div>CEQA NOP</div> <div></div> <div>Public Review of Draft General Plan</div>	<div></div> <div>Public Review of Draft EIR</div>	<div></div> <div>Release Final EIR</div>	<div></div> <div>Commission Public Hearing</div> <div></div> <div>Release Final General Plan</div>
		January 2024 – February 2024	March 2024 – October 2024	November 2024 – March 2025	March 2025 – May 2025	May 2025 – January 2026	January 2026 – August 2026	August 2026 – January 2027	January 2027 and later

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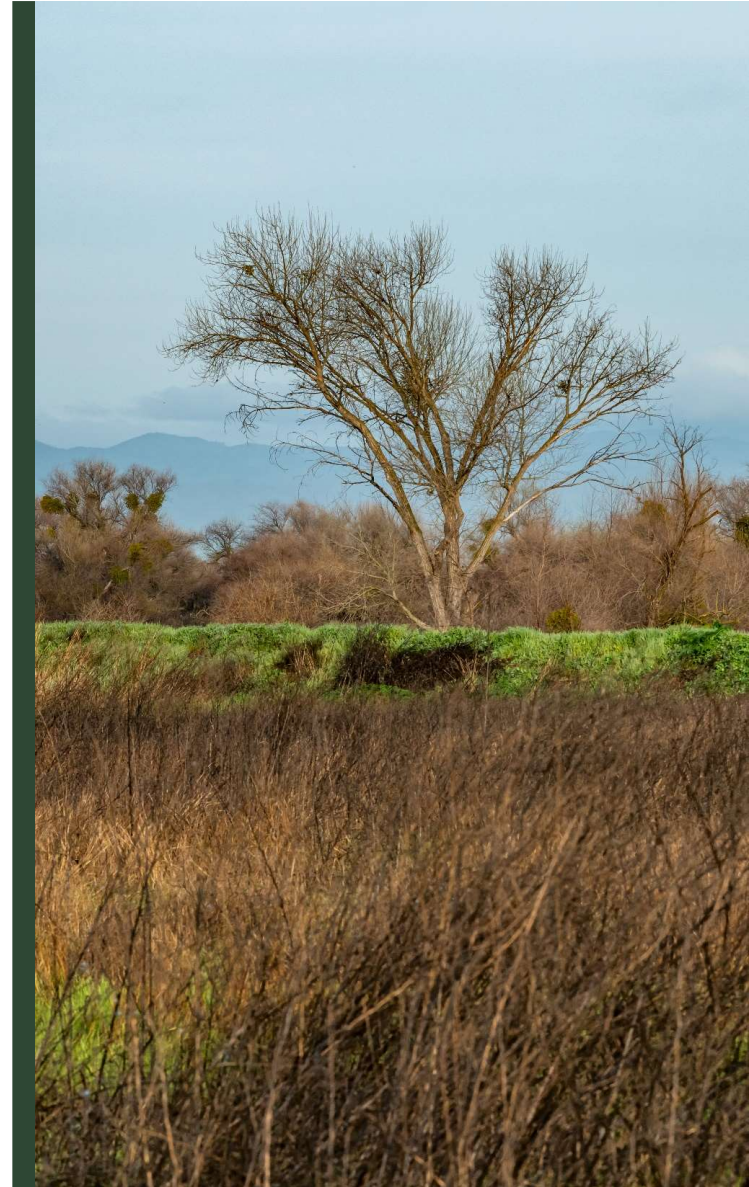
## **Unit Purpose & Vision**



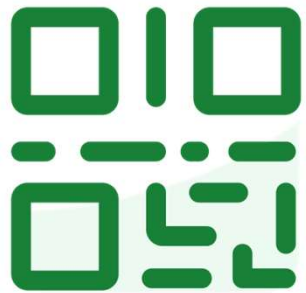
# Unit Purpose

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- Basis for planning and management at the park
- Required by the Public Resources Code
- Describes the park's:
  - Significance to California
  - Key resources and values
  - Framework for future management and planning



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**Join at [slido.com](https://slido.com)  
#9158172**

① Start presenting to display the joining instructions on this slide.

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**What core values should be integrated into the planning and management of GVGSP?**

① Start presenting to display the poll results on this slide.





## Unit Vision

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- Describes the future desired condition, character, uses, and functions once the general plan goals are met
- Expresses how the park will ultimately look
- Describes visitor opportunities

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**What is your vision for how the park should look in the future? Consider desired conditions, uses, and features you'd like to see.**

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Questions?







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**Discussion/Group Exercise**



# Discussion Topics

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- *Concurrent and Ongoing Efforts*
  - What ongoing initiatives or programs in or near GVGSP could potentially intersect with the park's goals? How can we collaborate on them?
- *Opportunities*
  - What opportunities (e.g., recreational, infrastructural, environmental) exist to improve the park and enhance the visitor experience? LMO
- *Challenges and Concerns*
  - What constraints might hinder the achievement of General Plan objectives?
- *Leverage Partnerships and Resources*
  - How can we work together to address challenges and seize opportunities?

# *Concurrent and Ongoing Efforts*





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**What ongoing initiatives or programs in or near GVGSP could potentially intersect with the park's goals?**

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# *Opportunities*



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**What opportunities (e.g., recreational, infrastructural, environmental) exist to improve the park and enhance the visitor experience?**

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# *Challenges and Concerns*



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**What challenges or constraints might hinder the achievement of General Plan objectives?**

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***Leverage  
Partnerships  
and  
Resources***



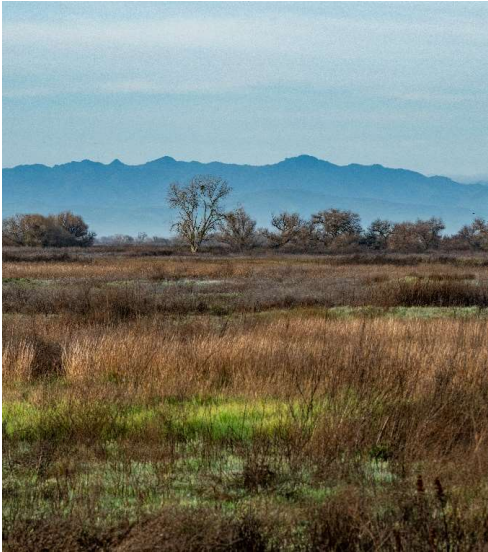


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**How can we work together to address challenges and seize opportunities?**

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# Final Remarks



# Stay Engaged

- Visit [www.parks.ca.gov/GVGSP\\_GP](http://www.parks.ca.gov/GVGSP_GP) or scan QR code below
- **Questions?** Contact [greatvalleygrasslandsgp@parks.ca.gov](mailto:greatvalleygrasslandsgp@parks.ca.gov)







**THANK YOU**