



MALIBU CREEK STATE PARK

GENERAL PLAN

PARTNERS IN PLANNING

The first Public Planning Workshop for the Malibu Creek State Park General Plan was a success! Thanks to all who attended and shared ideas about the park's future. A summary of the workshop and some of the ideas generated are presented on the last page of this newsletter. Your input has been incorporated into three alternative approaches to be considered as long range management goals, which will provide guidelines for maintaining and achieving the purpose of the park over the next 20 years. The three alternative approaches will be presented at the second planning workshop on **Wednesday, July 23**, at the Las Virgenes Municipal Water District (details below).

Once the alternatives are presented, you will be asked to assist California State Parks (CSP) in selecting a preferred alternative. After this workshop, the preferred alternative will be refined and presented in a draft General Plan, as well as a draft Environmental Impact Report for public review. We look forward to having you participate as a partner in the planning process.

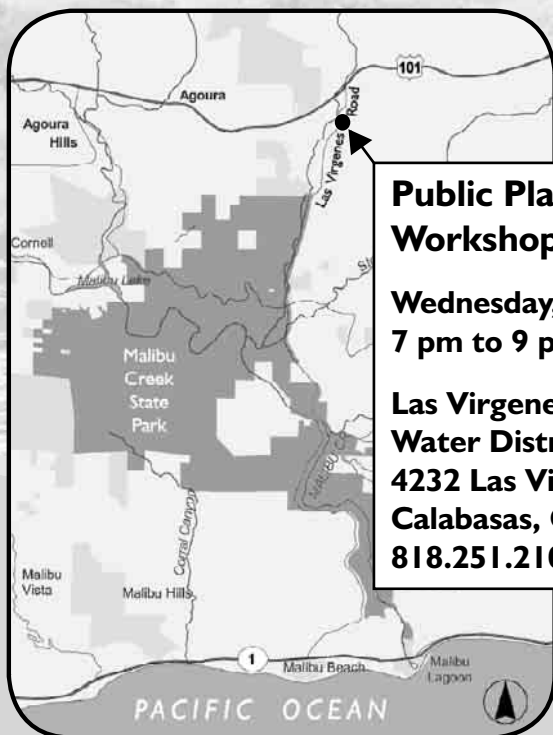
DEVELOPMENT OF GENERAL PLAN ALTERNATIVES

California State Parks' three alternatives to be considered present different ways to balance the protection of natural and cultural resources and the demand for recreation, with the goal of providing a satisfying visitor experience. The alternatives have been developed using information and ideas gathered from public input and the existing conditions analysis conducted last fall. Specifics, such as an exact location of a facility, will be determined in future management plans. These subsequent management plans will require additional data collection and public/internal reviews to ensure adherence to the goals and guidelines established with the adopted Malibu Creek State Park General Plan.

The alternatives vary in terms of the extent of land designated as natural preserve. Each of the three alternative concepts builds upon the previous one.

- **Alternative A:** Preserve Existing Resource Values and Improve Visitor Experience
- **Alternative B:** Create a New Natural Preserve (Core Habitat Zone) through Malibu Canyon in the Southern Park Area
- **Alternative C:** Expand Existing Liberty Canyon Natural Preserve (Core Habitat Zone) to include Las Virgenes Creek

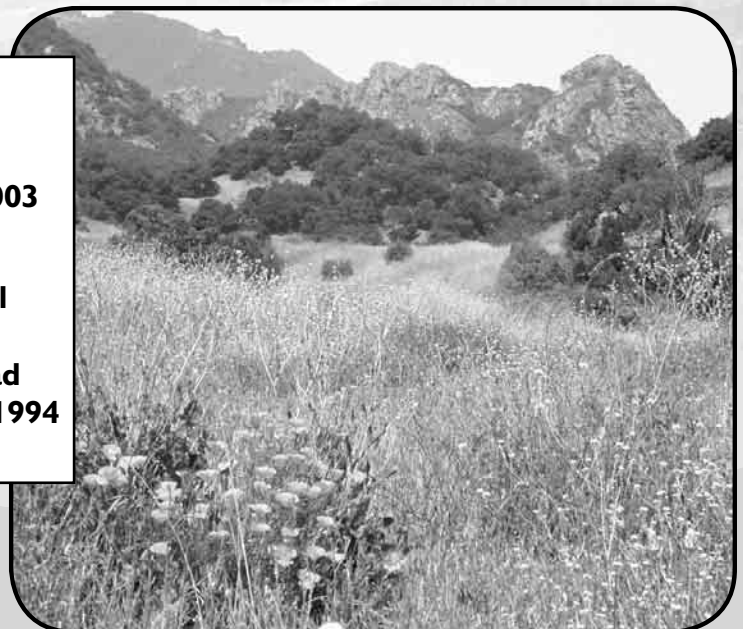
The next planning workshop will seek public input on the alternatives to assist California State Parks in selecting a preferred alternative. The preferred plan may be one of the alternatives or a combination of features of more than one alternative.



Public Planning Workshop #2

Wednesday, July 23, 2003
7 pm to 9 pm

Las Virgenes Municipal Water District
4232 Las Virgenes Road
Calabasas, CA 91302-1994
818.251.2100



Spring Wildflowers at Malibu Creek State Park

Three Big Ideas for the Park

From the early public input and suggestions received, we have developed three draft alternatives for the Malibu Creek State Park General Plan. Each presents a set of options for improving the park's recreation facilities, protecting natural resources, and ensuring that visitors will continue to have a satisfying experience over the next 20 years. The goal is to find the right balance between providing recreation opportunities for a growing number of visitors and protecting the park's environment and other features that make it so special.

Each of the three alternatives builds on the previous one. Alternative A represents the basic set of actions – sort of the minimalist approach.

ALTERNATIVE A: Preserve Existing Resource Values and Improve Visitor Experience

Goals

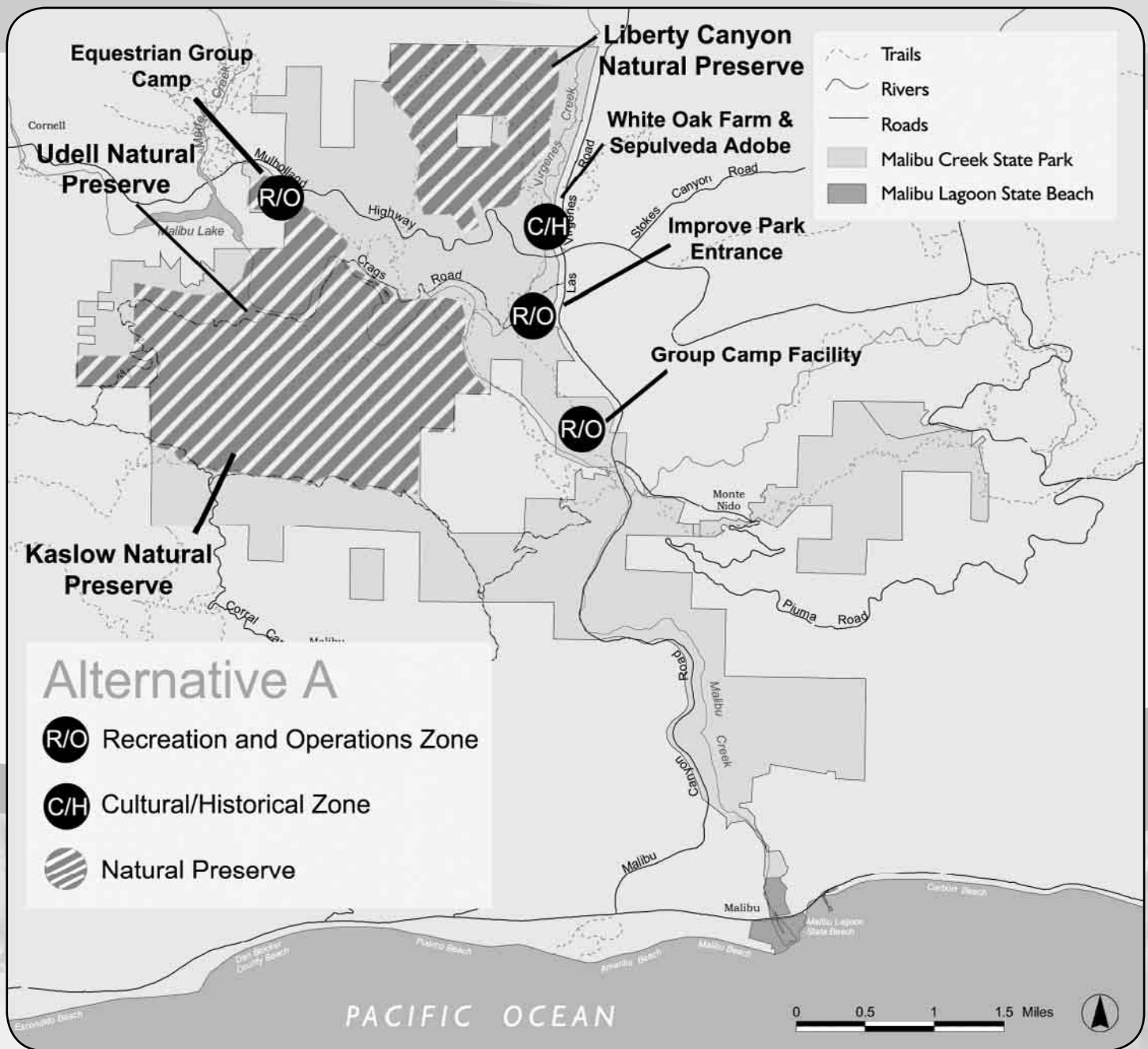
- Preserve existing sensitive habitat and biocorridors
- Protect and enhance historical and cultural resources
- Enhance visitor experience through improved facilities, circulation, and access

Alternative A would protect the natural resources within the park through management of the existing Udell, Kaslow, and Liberty Canyon Natural Preserves (Core Habitat Zone); protect cultural and historic resources by restoring, enhancing, and preserving existing archaeological and historical sites as designated management zones; and enhance the visitor experience by improving facilities, circulation, and access. A Cultural/Historical Zone would be created to protect prehistoric sites, historic resources and structures, and cultural landscapes. This zone would allow for development of appropriate visitor services, recreational opportunities, and operational facilities through adaptive reuse of existing historic structures and would also serve as enhanced educational and interpretive areas.

Currently, visitor use is concentrated in a relatively small portion of the park. In some areas, this high level of use has resulted in adverse impacts to sensitive resources, water quality and erosion problems, and has limited the ability of visitors to escape crowds and find solitude. To address these issues, Alternative A would allow facility relocations, such as moving the visitor center, and the addition of new facilities, such as an equestrian camp, in Recreation and Operations Zones to help redistribute visitor use across the park. Any new or expanded facilities would be restricted to these zones and measures would be implemented to minimize potential adverse effects to natural and cultural resources. Alternative A would improve visitor experience and recreational opportunities without adversely impacting the natural environment or cultural resources.

Key Recommendations and Features

- Establish Recreation and Operations Zones for improved operational and visitor services in high use areas
- Establish a Cultural/Historical Zone at White Oak Farm and Sepulveda Adobe
- Improve the entrance/exit on Las Virgenes/Malibu Canyon Road
- Develop a group camp facility at Tapia Park
- Establish a backpacking campsite
- Create a trail management plan consistent with the regional trail management plan
- Develop interpretive facilities to demonstrate the long, unique natural and cultural history and utilize areas to highlight key themes
- Adapt historic structures for visitor services and interpretive uses, where appropriate
- Develop aesthetic guidelines and siting standards
- Develop wildfire suppression and prescribed fire management plans
- Restore watercourses to their original natural state



ALTERNATIVE B: Create A New Natural Preserve (Core Habitat Zone) Through Malibu Canyon In The Southern Park Area

Alternative B builds on Alternative A by including all of those features, plus adding further environmental and recreation facility enhancements.

Goals

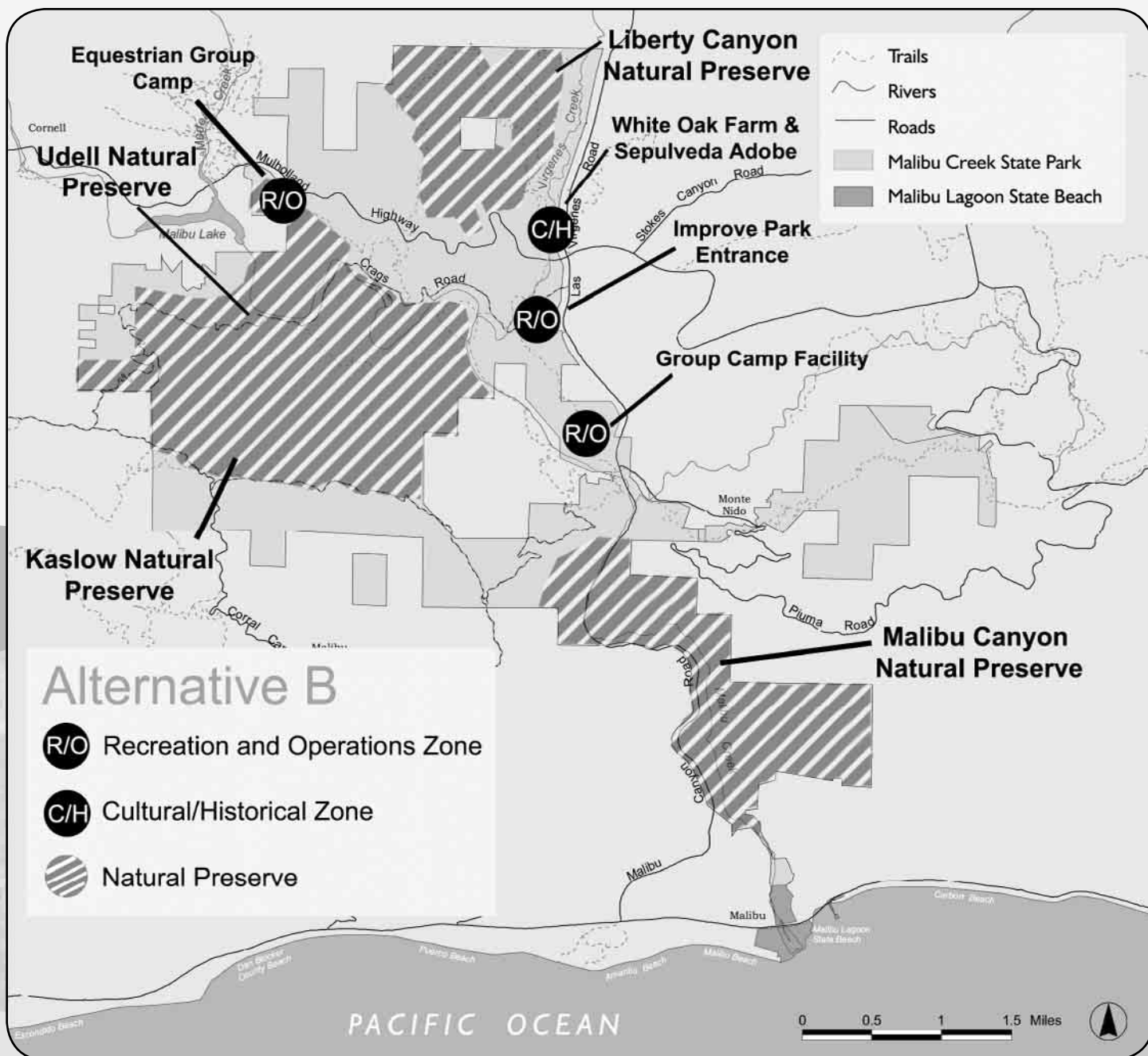
- Protect sensitive habitats and viewsheds along Malibu Creek through Malibu Canyon
- Preserve existing sensitive habitat areas and biocorridors
- Protect and enhance cultural and historical resources
- Enhance visitor experience through additional recreation facilities and improved circulation and access

In addition to the recommendations in Alternative A, Alternative B would expand the extent of the Park's Core Habitat Zone along Malibu Creek in the southern portion of the park. A new natural preserve would be created along Malibu Creek, starting near the County's stream gauge (south of Puma Road) and extending south to approximately Cross Creek

Road. The natural preserve would protect steelhead habitat, riparian plant communities, native grasslands, and pristine views to the east of Malibu Canyon Road. Future development would be restricted in this natural preserve and recreational uses would be limited.

Key Recommendations and Features

- Identify opportunities to restore and enhance sensitive habitat along Malibu Creek
- Establish a natural preserve along Malibu Creek from just south of Puma Road south to approximately Cross Creek Road



ALTERNATIVE C: Expand Existing Liberty Canyon Preserve (Core Habitat Zone) To Include Las Virgenes Creek

Alternative C builds on the features of Alternatives A and B, but would also include expanding the existing Liberty Canyon Preserve.

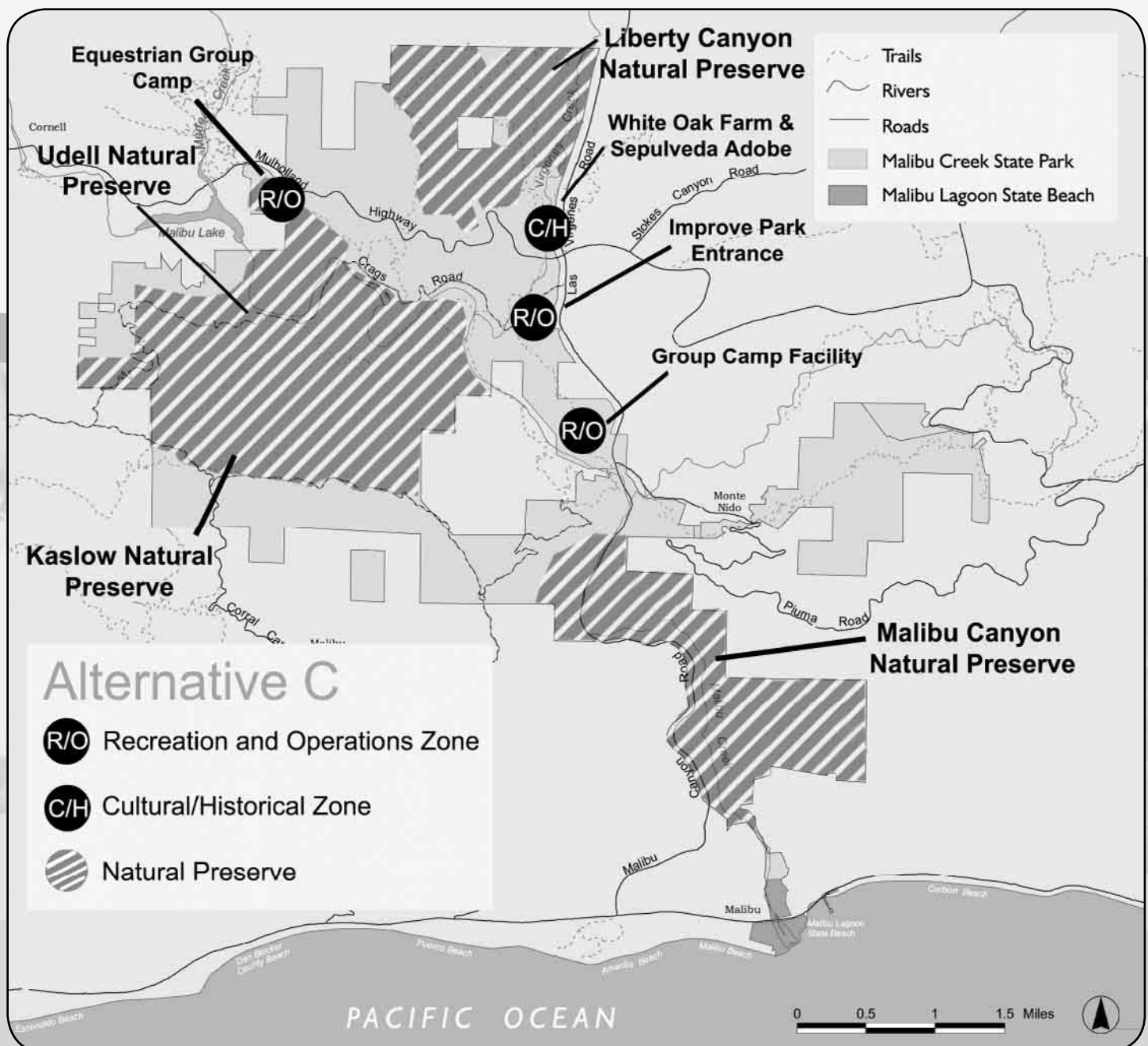
Goals

- Expand existing Liberty Canyon Natural Preserve to include the Las Virgenes Creek corridor
- Protect sensitive habitats and viewsheds along Malibu Creek through Malibu Canyon
- Preserve existing sensitive habitat areas and biocorridors
- Protect and enhance historical and cultural resources
- Enhance visitor experience through improved facilities, circulation, and access

In addition to the recommendations for Alternative A and B, Alternative C would expand the Liberty Canyon Natural Preserve to include the Las Virgenes Creek corridor. The natural preserve boundary would extend from the park boundary on the north to the White Oak Farm Cultural/Historical Zone on the south. Restoration and enhancement of the valley oak woodland/savannah and the Las Virgenes Creek riparian corridor would occur prior to its designation as a natural preserve.

Key Recommendations and Features

- Restore and enhance valley oak woodland/savannah
- Restore and enhance Las Virgenes Creek riparian corridor
- Establish a Natural Preserve along Las Virgenes Creek





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MALIBU CREEK STATE PARK GENERAL PLAN

FIRST PUBLIC PLANNING WORKSHOP A SUCCESS!

Over 25 people attended the first public planning workshop for the Malibu Creek State Park General Plan. The meeting was held at the Las Virgenes Municipal Water District on January 9th and provided an opportunity for the public to comment on existing conditions and provide suggestions for park improvements to be considered in the drafting of the alternatives for the General Plan and EIR.

The following highlights some of the ideas and comments presented by meeting participants:

- Expand the natural preserves
- Continue to protect cultural and historical resources
- Encourage public transportation to and from the park
- Enhance interpretive education
- Add an equestrian campground
- Provide backcountry camping
- Improve trail signage
- Develop more trail linkages

These are just a few of the many ideas generated at the public meeting. In addition California State Parks received written comments from interested community members who were unable to attend the meeting, organizations, and state and local agencies. Many of the ideas received have been incorporated into the plan alternatives.



Public Workshop #1

Contact Information

If you would like to get on the mailing list, please contact **Dianna Martinez-Lilly** at 619.278.3777 or at the address above.



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