

San Onofre State Beach

REVISED
GENERAL PLAN

STATE OF CALIFORNIA - THE RESOURCES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION



June 1984

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

STATE PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION

BOX 2390, SACRAMENTO 95811



Resolution 28-84
adopted by the
CALIFORNIA STATE PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION
at its regular meeting in Santa Ana on
March 9, 1984

WHEREAS, the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation has presented to this Commission for approval the proposed General Plan Revision for San Onofre State Beach; and

WHEREAS, this reflects the long-range development plans to provide for the optimum use and enjoyment of the unit as well as the protection of its quality; and

WHEREAS, the land upon which the golf course use is to be permitted is approximately six percent of the total land included within Subunit 1 of San Onofre State Beach, is one-half mile from the seashore itself, just inside the perimeter of the San Onofre State Beach property adjacent to the San Clemente City limit, and is separated from the seashore by a major freeway (I-5); and

WHEREAS, the proposed golf course is separated from the main State Beach property by a heavily-traveled, paved road, which provides access to the military reservation and to other portions of Subunit 1 of the State Beach. This road will not be used to provide access to the proposed golf course; and

WHEREAS, the said land northwest of Cristianitos Road does not lend itself to, was not needed for, and was not planned to be used for development of facilities designed to carry out the objectives of Public Resources Code Section 5019.62, namely, to make "the areas available for public enjoyment, recreation, and education in a manner consistent with the perpetuation of their natural, scenic, cultural, ecological, and recreational value," which purposes can be fully achieved by the Department of Parks and Recreation by the use and development of facilities within the remainder of the land; and

WHEREAS, said land is adjacent to the city limit of San Clemente and to an existing municipal golf course with which the proposed golf course will be constructed and operated as a unit with access through the City of San Clemente at no cost to the State of California; and

WHEREAS, the Commission, having given consideration to the plan contents and Commission Policy 17 covering facilities which are attractions in themselves, found the following considerations to be of special importance: (a) the physical location of the land proposed for golf course use relative to the seashore itself and to the remainder of San Onofre State Beach; (b) the checkered history of the land, including past agricultural cultivation; (c) the fact that commercial abuse is not likely; and (d) the fact that the Commission does not intend nor consider that such determination represents a change in policy nor that it shall establish a precedent for future decisions:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the California State Park and Recreation Commission finds that the proposed golf use is not inconsistent with Section 5019.62 of the Public Resources Code and does not constitute an attraction in itself.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Commission approves the Department of Parks and Recreation General Plan Revision for San Onofre State Beach, dated November 1983, with the stipulation that the proposed golf course use be limited to land northwest of Cristianitos Road, and subject to such environmental changes as the Director of Parks and Recreation shall determine advisable and necessary to implement the provisions and objectives of said plan.

SAN ONOFRE STATE BEACH

REVISED GENERAL PLAN

June 1984

George M. Deukmejian
Governor

Gordon K. Van Vleck
Secretary for Resources

Wm. S. Briner
Director

State of California - The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
P.O. Box 2390
Sacramento, California 95811

INTRODUCTION

San Onofre State Beach is located on the Southern California Coast in San Diego County, adjacent to the City of San Clemente. The unit contains 3,036 acres of land in four separate subunits operated by the Department of Parks and Recreation under a lease agreement with the U.S. Navy. The ocean frontage totals 7.4 miles, and includes some of the finest surfing beach in California.

Lands added to the unit, as well as recent proposals for public use of this popular state beach, led to the decision to revise the General Development Plan. Regional and local planning considerations, recreational opportunities, visitor use facilities, and operational requirements have been identified in this revised General Plan. The plan also contains recommendations for preservation and protection of significant natural and cultural resources, including wetlands and native plant community preserves. The plan also proposes continuation of the agricultural preserve in Subunit 1. The plan further takes into consideration a proposal by local citizens to provide an eighteen-hole golf course on portions of Subunit 1.

The land uses and visitor support facilities proposed in this revised General Plan are summarized below:

Subunit 1:

- Natural preserve - native plant communities
- Primitive camps - 7
- Group/equestrian camp
- Golf course - 18 holes
- Family campground - 530 campsites if golf course is built
610 campsites if golf course is not built
- Picnic facility - if golf course is not built
- Agricultural preserve - continue existing use
- Wetlands preserve - San Mateo Creek
- Trails - equestrian, hiking
- Interpretive facility

Subunit 2:

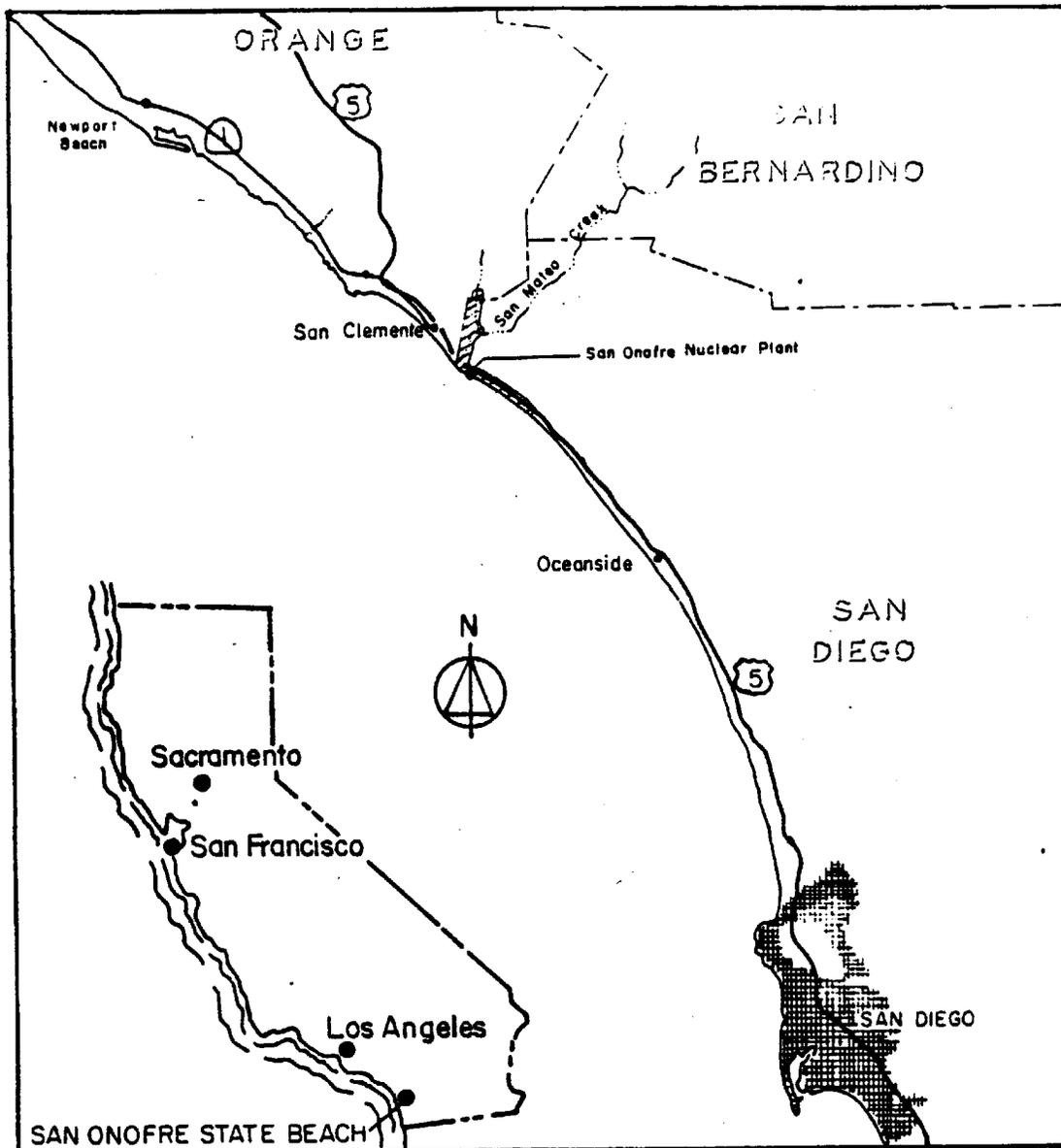
- Day use parking - 100 cars
- Wetland preserve - San Mateo Creek
- Trails - access, bicycle, interpretive

Subunit 3:

- Surfing interpretive facility
- Overlooks
- Overnight parking - for surfers
- Maintenance/service area

Subunit 4:

- Bluff protection zone
- Amtrak stop and concession (potential)
- No additional facilities are proposed



Location of San Onofre State Beach

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RESOURCE ELEMENT

The purpose of this Resource Element, which becomes a section of the General Plan for San Onofre State Beach, is to establish the long-range resource management objectives and policies necessary to perpetuate the resource values for which the unit was established. The specific programs and details for carrying out such management policies will follow general plan approval.

In addition, this element identifies specific resource sensitivities and physical constraints, and establishes the department's guidelines for acceptable levels of development and use with respect to these values.

The Resource Element is organized into two parts. The first part includes a brief summary of unit resources. More detailed information on these subjects is available in the Resource Inventory, on file with the department.

The second part of the Resource Element is the policy portion of the document, which begins with unit classification as a state beach, then builds on this foundation, arriving at specific resource management policies.

Any new acquisitions at San Onofre State Beach will require additional review and possible formation of additional resource policies.

Inventory Summary

Unit Identification

San Onofre State Beach is located in the extreme northwestern corner of San Diego County, except for a small portion which lies in adjoining Orange County. The Camp Pendleton United States Marine Corps base borders the unit directly to the east. The city limits of San Clemente adjoin the unit to the north. To the south, San Diego is approximately 72 km (45 miles) away, and Oceanside is 26 km (16 miles) away. To the west is the Pacific Ocean (refer to Map 1). The total area of the unit is 1,266 hectares (3,127 acres). San Onofre State Beach was leased to the state in 1971, under a 50-year lease agreement with the United States Marine Corps.

Along this part of the coast, the shoreline is paralleled by the old Coast Highway, formerly U.S. 101; the tracks of the Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe Railway, Los Angeles to San Diego line; and the Interstate 5 freeway, 8 lanes in width. For the most part, these transportation facilities exist in that order from the shoreline inland. The old coast highway has been abandoned as a through route, and serves only local traffic; it is cut off completely at the lower end of the state beach lease.

San Onofre State Beach is composed of four geographical subunits: the Cristianitos subunit, the Trestles subunit, the Surf Beach subunit, and the San Onofre Bluffs subunit (refer to Map 2).

The Cristianitos and Trestles subunits are the most northern subunits. They follow Cristianitos and San Mateo Creeks. The Trestles subunit lies west of Interstate 5, and includes the mouth of San Mateo Creek and the adjoining significant wetlands. The Cristianitos subunit lies east of Interstate 5, and

includes portions of San Mateo and Cristianitos Creeks. Much of the lower part of this subunit is occupied by agricultural lands under leases made prior to that granted to the California Department of Parks and Recreation. Along the northern boundary, more than 10 hectares (20+ acres) lie in Orange County.

The Surf Beach subunit, beginning just below the site of the former community of San Onofre, extends downcoast for a distance of about 2.0 km (1.3 miles). The San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station, switchyard, and other appurtenances are found downcoast over the next 1.4 km (0.9 mile). The Bluffs subunit begins at the south end of the nuclear plant, and extends about 5.5 km (3.4 miles) downcoast.

Partly because of the uniformity of the marine terrace in this area, and partly because of the routes selected for the transportation facilities, the width of the Surf Beach and Bluffs subunits is quite uniformly 183 to 244 meters (600 to 800 feet) throughout their entire length.

Summary of Resources and Evaluations

This section summarizes the Resource Inventory. More detailed information is on file with the department.

Natural Resources

Topography

San Onofre State Beach lies on the edge of the Santa Ana Mountains, along the Pacific Ocean. Topographic features include flat sandy beaches, sheer coastal cliffs, slumping terraces, flat, alluvial floodplains, and rolling foothills. Elevations range from sea level along the coast to 198 meters (650 feet) on the western boundary of the Cristianitos subunit.

The Bluffs subunit encompasses the most spectacular topography of the unit. Uplifted terraces 30 meters (100 feet) high meet the sandy shore in nearly vertical cliffs along this coastal subunit. Portions of the terrace are slumping due to slope instability and wave action.

Meteorology

The San Onofre area has a Mediterranean, semi-arid steppe climate. Additionally, the area is strongly affected by the moderating influences of the ocean.

The temperature regime is moderate. August is the warmest month of the year, with maximum temperatures averaging 23°C (73°F). In January, the minimum temperature averages around 6°C (43°F), with a mean maximum in this month of 16°C (61°F). Readings of 0°C (32°F) or lower are occasionally reported, but are usually not prolonged.

Precipitation averages 27 cm (10.7 inches) per year, ninety percent of which falls within a six-month period from November through April.

Nighttime and early morning fog is a dominant characteristic of this coastal area.

In recent years, weather patterns have become unpredictable and extremely variable compared to the 30 years between the late 1940s and the late 1970s. This stable, calm 30-year period may be over. In the future, the Southern California coast may experience more annual coastal erosion, increased annual precipitation, and more tropical storms.

Hydrology

The major watershed in San Onofre State Beach is the San Mateo Creek system, which drains the San Mateo Creek and Cristianitos Creek subunits. Both San Mateo and Cristianitos Creeks flow year-round.

Five drainages transect the Bluffs subunit. Intermittent streams have cut these five ravines deeply. These ravines may be subject to significant flash flooding. When the precipitation rate is high, runoff from Interstate 5 can contribute significantly to erosional and flooding problems. Past cultivation of terraces has also contributed to terrace slumping and sink hole formation.

Geology

San Onofre State Beach is on the coastal margin of the Peninsular Ranges Geomorphic Province. The peninsular ranges include the southwestern corner of California, and all of Baja California. The province, in most simple terms, is a northwest-trending granitic block, sharply uplifted on the east and tilted to the west. The eastern boundary is structurally defined by the San Jacinto fault zone, and the western limit is the edge of the continental borderland.

The Santiago and Monterey Formations, the oldest formations in San Onofre State Beach, occur in the inland Cristianitos subunit. The Eocene-aged Santiago Formation is uncemented and poorly to moderately consolidated arkosic sandstone, with some siltstone. The Middle to Upper Miocene-aged Monterey Formation is thin-bedded shale and mudstone.

Following the deposition of these older units, the mudstone and shale of the Capistrano Formation and the relatively coarse-grained sandstones of the San Mateo Formation were deposited in a late Tertiary sea. A period of tectonic activity followed, resulting in faulting and folding of these rocks. Evidence of faulting is clearly seen in the sea cliffs, mainly in the northern part of the area. The most prominent fault feature is the Cristianitos Fault, which occurs as a dark-colored zone of intensely sheared rock at the northern boundary of the landslide terrane. In addition, minor faults occur in the pale tan sandstones of the San Mateo Formation along the cliffs north of the Cristianitos Fault. Three distinct folds in the rocks believed to be of the Capistrano Formation, two synclines (downwarped strata), and one intervening anticline (upwarped strata) can be observed at low tide along a reef south of the Cristianitos Fault. The period of tectonic adjustment ceased before the deposition of the younger rocks; neither the Cristianitos Fault nor the other fault breaks cuts into the overlying (younger) rock units.

Following this early history, nothing is known of the geology until late Pleistocene times, when the sea inundated the land, cutting a broad platform or marine terrace. This event is reflected at the surface in the tableland

which stretches along the upper part of the proposed San Onofre Bluffs natural preserve, and by the thick alluvial and shoreline deposits which rest on the beveled-off surface cut into the more ancient bedrock formations. These younger rocks, known as marine and nonmarine terrace deposits, have left a record dating back several tens of thousands of years. As the sea withdrew from the wave-cut platform, it deposited a thin layer of pebbles and sand. Locally in this deposit occur fossil remains of heavy shelled marine animals. Radiometric age dates of fossil material from marine platforms at about the same elevation elsewhere along the California coast suggest that these marine deposits are a few tens of thousands, but less than 100 thousand, years old. Subsequently, the thin veneer of marine deposits was covered by a thick section of reddish-brown weathered debris comprised of clays, sands, and coarser rock fragments derived from the highlands northeast of San Onofre State Beach. Modern marine and stream erosion cut into this section of rocks, and a widespread landslide terrane developed. The fractured and milled landslide debris is periodically transported by streams to the shoreline, where it accumulates and forms the modern beach -- the youngest geologic feature in the San Onofre area (Cleveland, 1971).

Geologic processes are still active at San Onofre. Marine erosion is particularly severe. During heavy winter storms, when material is saturated and sea waves erode the base of the cliffs, movement of slide masses is common. Landslide terrain is widely distributed at San Onofre, illustrating the inherent weakness of the rocks and the high degree of erosion in the area. Surface erosion from inland runoff has also resulted in geologic hazards, including potholes and major gullies.

The nearby Newport-Inglewood fault zone (16 kilometers or 10 miles offshore) poses a seismic risk, and any large landslide or earthquake generated offshore could result in a tsunami, or seismic sea wave.

Geologic features of interest include precipitous cliffs, active geologic processes, the inactive Cristianitos Fault, and fossils of heavy-shelled littoral animals estimated to be a few tens of thousands of years old.

Soils

Five soil orders are represented at San Onofre State Beach. They are the entisols, vertisols, inceptisols, mollisols, and alfisols. Within these five orders, 13 soil series are represented, plus seven unclassified soil units. In total, 30 soil mapping units are represented at San Onofre. The Cristianitos subunit displays the most soil variability due to the presence of faults, geologic diversity, and slope aspect variability. Parent materials are predominantly marine in origin, and include shale, sandstone, mudstone, siltstone, and alluvium.

Soils of management concern include the Diablo and Altamont series. They contain high percentages of a primary clay mineral known as montmorillonite. This high clay content is responsible for the high shrink swell potential characteristic of these two soil series, rendering them restrictive of development.

The Altamont, Chesterton, Diablo, Gaviota, and Huerhuero series, as well as rough, broken land and steep-gullied land map units, are all subject to severe erosion when disturbed.

Soils of the San Mateo Creek floodplain exhibit fertility and texture suited to excellent plant growth in an agricultural setting.

Plant Life

Two hundred and five vascular plant species, representing 59 families and 158 genera, have been identified at San Onofre State Beach. The plant inventory, however, is incomplete; more field reconnaissance is necessary.

Sixteen plant communities are represented in the unit. Of these, seven are of particular interest due to reduction of their historical distribution. They are sycamore medium open savanna, laurel sumac-sugar bush medium closed scrub, purple needlegrass tall prairie, red willow short woodland, arroyo willow tall closed scrub, jaumea rush medium closed herb, and bulrush-cattail very tall closed graminoid. Three natural preserves have been proposed, in part to protect the wetland communities and the laurel sumac sugar bush closed scrub. Communities in the unit that are common include Brewer lenscale medium closed scrub, coyote brush medium scattered scrub, coyote brush medium closed scrub, coyote brush lemonadeberry medium closed scrub, California sagebrush medium closed scrub, California sagebrush coyote brush medium scrub, sea rocket very short forb barren, salt grass short prairie, and alien winter annual prairie.

Human activities that have greatly affected natural vegetation in the unit include agriculture, fire suppression, grazing, introduction of alien species, and recreational activities. The result has been widespread occurrence of alien-dominated communities such as sea rocket forb barren and alien winter annual prairie. Also more widespread are the early successional scrubs, dominated by coyote brush and sagebrush.

No rare and/or endangered plants have been found in the unit. However, more field investigation is needed. Two populations of Dudleya multicaulis occur within a few miles of the unit. Dudleya multicaulis is considered rare and endangered by the California Native Plant Society. Ten to 15 miles south of the unit is a population of the state-protected Eryngium aristulatum var. parishii.

Animal Life

The coastal and inland property at San Onofre offers a number of habitats for animal life. The coastal portion supports the sublittoral, littoral, coastal strand, and scrub habitats, while the interior portion has a freshwater marsh, agriculture fields, alien winter annual prairie, purple needlegrass prairie, riparian, desert wash, and scrub vegetation. This variety of biotic communities attracts many animal species.

Riparian ecosystems are particularly abundant with animal life. Ponds attract resident and migratory waterfowl. The riparian vegetation harbors migratory songbirds in spring and fall; shorebirds frequent the marsh areas. In addition, a variety of amphibians, reptiles, and mammals frequent or reside in riparian ecosystems.

According to present checklists, animals present or probable at San Onofre include 12 amphibians, 31 reptiles, 161 birds, and 52 mammals. Shorebirds are particularly well represented.

No rare, endangered, and/or threatened species are known to occur in the unit. However, further field work is necessary for more accurate data. The state and federally listed endangered California least tern has been sighted in the proposed Trestles Natural Preserve. A sighting was also made in the area of the state-protected least Bell's vireo. Other species of concern sighted from the proposed San Onofre Bluffs Natural Preserve include the state and federally listed brown pelican and peregrine falcon. Brown pelicans are seen all along this section of coastline. Burrowing owls are not uncommon along the bluff top; these owls are somewhat rare, but are not endangered.

Marine Life

The marine environs off the shores of San Onofre belong to the Southern California Seascape Province, as defined by the 1979 California State Park System Master Plan. This zonal subdivision extends south from Point Conception to the Mexican border. Marine species at San Onofre have their greatest affinities with the neritic San Diego fauna and flora.

Marine environs at San Onofre include San Diego neritic, sandy sublittoral, cobbly to rocky reef sublittoral, sandy littoral, and cobbly to rocky reef littoral. These are chiefly affected by oceanic environmental factors such as tides, currents, waves, water temperature, and chemical content.

The marine flora at San Onofre consist of marine algae, with the exception of surf grass and eel grass. Surf grass occurs scattered throughout the lower sandy littoral, and eel grass is present in the lower sandy littoral where mud or fine silt is mixed with the sand. Beds of giant kelp have been intermittently present offshore, but currently, the only extensive kelp bed (bull kelp) occurs about 5 kilometers (3 miles) southwest of the San Onofre Bluffs subunit. A small bed of bull kelp is present off San Mateo Point.

The phytoplankton which occurs near the surface zone in neritic biotic communities is of interest due to its tremendous importance to the earth's life support system. Phytoplankton has been responsible for most of the earth's atmospheric oxygen; it is also the basis of most marine food webs. Most phytoplankton production occurs along the continental shelves, where, unfortunately, most water pollution from continental land masses is found. Phytoplankton is very sensitive to certain types of pollution. Traces of herbicides and insecticides can greatly curtail phytoplankton production.

Thermal pollution from the nuclear plant outfall is known to have a local effect on marine life. Some species, such as sting rays, are attracted by the warmer water.

The marine fauna at San Onofre provide for excellent recreational resources. San Onofre has one of the better known littleneck clam beds in the state. In addition to littleneck clams, San Onofre's clam beds also support some sunset clams of good size. Unfortunately, the clam population at San Onofre is very unstable, and can fluctuate greatly even when it is not exploited. The heavy

runoff from San Mateo Creek during the spring of 1969 caused expansive sanding-in of the cobbles, and much of the bed was smothered. When this happened before, in the late 1950s, it took five years for the clam bed to build back to its former numbers.

Surf fishing is also quite good at San Onofre. The area is a good spawning and feeding ground for shortfin corvina, spotfin croaker, barred surfperch, and cabezon. In addition to the surf fishing, there are party boats leaving from Capistrano and San Clemente on the north and Oceanside on the south. The fishing boats from the north come primarily from Dana Point Harbor.

Cultural Resources

Native American History

Archeology: Southern California cultural traditions before 5,000 B.C. are not well defined for most of Orange and northwestern San Diego Counties, nor for the area of San Onofre State Beach.

By about 5,000 B.C., it appears that a relatively uniform cultural tradition existed on the coast from Santa Barbara south to San Diego. Most archeologists call this subsistence pattern the Millingstone Horizon or sometimes the Encinitas Tradition. This tradition centered around the collection of small, wild seeds and shellfish. The additive Campbell Tradition developed out of the Millingstone Horizon by about 3,000 B.C. in Santa Barbara, a little later in the Ventura area, and still later in parts of Los Angeles and Orange Counties. The Millingstone Tradition seems to have continued until 500-700 A.D. along the Orange and San Diego County coasts, when it was replaced by a cultural tradition identified by archeologists as the late prehistoric (Juaneno and Luiseno).

The Millingstone Horizon is identified in part by large projectile points, the use of milling stones (mano/metate), and a largely undifferentiated chip stone tool assemblage. The late prehistoric tradition has two tool phases. The early phase is marked by the introduction of small, triangular projectile points (desert side-notched points), addition of the mortar and pestle to the milling assemblage, shell beads, shellfish fish hooks, varied bone tools, so-called donut stones (use of which is not positively known), and a much broader array of ornamentation than the earlier Millingstone Horizon. The principal "late" prehistoric artifact addition is manufacture and use of pottery. Both of these late traditions continue up to Hispanic contact in the latter part of the 17th and early part of the 18th centuries.

Ethnography: San Onofre State Beach is in Juaneno territory, near the boundary between the Juaneno and Luiseno. The ethnographic population of San Onofre State Beach was recognized by Kroeber as Juaneno, a variant derived from the name of the closest mission (San Juan Capistrano) (Kroeber 1925:636-647). Lowell Bean has recently identified the local people as part of the large Gabrieleno group which occupied all of the Los Angeles basin, the San Fernando and San Gabriel Valleys, and most of the valleys, estuaries, and uplands of Orange and northwestern San Diego Counties (Bean 1978:538-549).

There is a large and recently identified living population of Juaneno who have a strong sense of identity. Their group, the Juaneno Band of Mission Indians, has grown rapidly over the last five years from a small nucleus to nearly 2,000 members.

The Juaneno spoke a Cupan language of the Takic family of the Uto Azetekan linguistic phylum. They were linguistically and culturally related to the Shoshonean peoples of the California Desert and Great Basin. The Juaneno were more remotely related to the Azetekan peoples of Mexico. Population estimates are sketchy for all the coastal peoples of California south and east of the Chumash of Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties. Several accounts indicate that the Juaneno suffered greatly from European diseases for some time before Hispanic colonization.

Archeological evidence indicates that these Shoshonean-speakers replaced an earlier population identified as Hokan-speaking, about 500 B.C.

Permanent villages appeared in fertile lowlands and in sheltered areas along the coast shortly after the Takic peoples expanded into Southern California.

The Juaneno and Gabrieleno were described by many early contacts as of fair complexion and hardy. Both body painting and tattooing were popular. Men and women wore their hair long, except when singed or cut short as a mourning sacrifice. It is probable that men, and possibly boys, wore a loin cloth part or all of the time. Women wore the characteristic double apron affected by most Californians. Everyone wore deerskin, fur, or bird skin capes when weather was inclement.

Most of the Juaneno material culture was quite perishable, and little has survived that can be identified archeologically. Early accounts extol the high degree of artisanship these people lavished on even everyday items, which are said to have been elaborately decorated with shell and stone inlay.

They made a variety of wooden utensils, bark baskets and trays, pottery, wooden bowls, bone tools, shell tools, and chip stone tools, as well as a large variety of weapons for both hunting and interpersonal conflict, groundstone tools including mortars and pestles, metates and manos, and a variety of both functional and sociotechnic artifacts from steatite (soapstone).

Their houses were domed, circular structures, constructed with suitable local materials. Other structures included the sweathouse, menstrual hut, and ceremonial enclosure (generally an open-air oval brush corral).

Little is known about Juaneno social organization. It is thought that they had a moiety system (bipartite social structure) with three internal classes: an elite that included chiefs and the very rich; a middle class composed of traders and artisans; and everybody else. Some evidence indicates that the elite class used a special language when speaking with each other. This language was probably much like our modern trade jargons. Some of the wealthier owned real property and controlled exploitation, much like modern American landowners. The property was marked around the perimeter with representations of the owner's personal tattoo.

Marriages were usually between persons of about equal social rank, with persons of high rank betrothed in childhood to persons from a different lineage to help cement social and economic ties. Men generally took only one wife at a time, with the possible exception of a village chief, who might have two wives. Lineage was traced through the male line, and all inheritance was also in the male line.

Each girl would be given her own personal ceremony at the onset of puberty. Not much is known about male puberty ceremonies, but the Juaneno were thought to practice the Toloache ceremony. Toloache is a drink made from the roots and/or other parts of the jimson weed (*Datura* sp.), which has a high concentration of belladonna and several other alkaloids. The drink was administered to young men and sometimes young women after an extended ritual of purification and fasting. Some initiates died from the strong narcotic, and those that survived spent one to three days drifting in and out of reality while experiencing colorful hallucinations. Some of the people of Southern California chose their adult symbols or secret names during their initiation.

Cremation was the typical method of disposal of the dead until the Hispanic intrusion. Most deceased were burned with all of their worldly possessions, or their material things were saved and burned over several years at annual mourning ceremonies.

Juaneno subsistence was similar to that of most of their neighbors. Large and small terrestrial and marine animals were hunted by men with spears, bows, nets, and a wide variety of traps and snares. Marine hunting also included hook and line, and was often carried out from a plank boat of the type associated with the Chumash. Women and children, and sometimes men, collected and prepared floral resources and some faunal resources.

The Juaneno and Gabrieleno were avid traders of both goods and ideas, and may have been surpassed in these endeavors in California only by the Yokuts of the San Joaquin Valley.

Although not as serious about warfare as the Yuman peoples of the Colorado River, the Juaneno had reed armor breast plates and war clubs designed only for use on other humans. More common than warfare between groups were family feuds that could last for generations. Hostilities were ritualized into the singing of obscene songs to their opponents, for sometimes as long as a week. It appears that these songfests rarely resulted in personal violence.

Euroamerican History

Euroamerican Resources: Physical remains of Euroamerican activities at San Onofre State Beach are of recent origin. These remains, mostly in the form of trails, pits, holes, or cement pads, reflect the World War II era or later, and can be traced to military activities. Earlier activities left little trace of Hispanic travelers, Spanish missionaries, or Mexican and American rancheros. Farmers have left a mark in the form of cultivated fields. Two attempts at urbanization near the mouth of San Onofre Creek have produced little results. The early-1870s "town of Forster" saw but a few houses. The little roadside community of San Onofre, late 1910s to World War II, flourished briefly with a population never more than 40, but has since disappeared without a trace. There appears to be no significant resource in the study area.

Historical Sketch: San Onofre was given its name July 22, 1769 by the Spanish expedition of Captain Gaspar de Portola, enroute in a search for the Bay of Monterey. The name honored an obscure Egyptian saint, Saint Onophrius. In time, San Onofre became a place name for a creek, a canyon, a mountain, a hill, a bluff overlooking a beach, that beach, and a small 20th-century village.

Members of the Portola expedition passed down San Onofre Canyon until it joined with Cristianitos Canyon, then turned northward. They camped at a "pool of fresh water...in a dry arroyo." Further up the canyon was an Indian rancheria, and here, the Spanish padres performed the first baptisms in Alta California. The friars called the canyon "San Apolinario," and the soldiers dubbed it "Valle de los Bautismos," but the canyon became known as the place of the Little Christians, "Cristianitos Creek."

Portola's route, more correctly the route explored by engineer Miguel Costanso and Sergeant Jose Ortega, became for a while El Camino Real (The King's Highway). It coursed from Horno Canyon and Las Pulgas down San Onofre Canyon, crossing San Mateo Creek to travel north up Christianitos Canyon and down Trampas Canyon to the waters of San Juan Creek, then northward up Canada Gobernadora. With the founding of the Mission San Juan Capistrano, the King's Highway was relocated westward, and the route was along the coast. At San Onofre, the canyon routes were dropped, though no doubt the established trails were used. The "road" crossed the area either on the bluffs between the easterly hills and the sea or along the beach itself, which was firm, without great outcroppings of rock to bar travel.

San Onofre became a place "halfway between," especially after the founding of the Mission San Luis Rey. It was a day's ride north to San Juan Capistrano. San Onofre, watered by two streams, presented a place to rest and eat lunch. Alfred Robinson, an agent for the American firm of Bryant, Sturgis and Company of Boston, traveling north, staying several days at San Luis Rey; then pushing on, he rode past "Rancho de Las Flores, one of the cattle establishments on San Luis." After commenting on the small, inferior gardens cultivated in the small valleys, Robinson noted: "Not many leagues further brought us to a beautiful spot in the centre of an opening in the highlands, extending from the beach to the distant mountains. A small river flowed down the glen toward the sea, but the constant action of the surf upon the sand had dammed up its mouth and formed it into a lake. We halted on its margin to partake of the liberal provision supplied us by the father Antonio Peyri of San Luis Rey, and then continued our course along the hard and sandy beach to the Mission San Juan Capistrano."

With the founding of the Mission San Juan Capistrano, the land south of the mission, including the district of San Onofre, was considered, particularly by the mission padres, as belonging to the mission. Twenty years later, the founding of San Luis Rey created a minor jurisdictional rivalry. While the fathers never argued over the matter, it was nevertheless a bone of contention as San Luis Rey grew and prospered. San Juan Capistrano considered the whole area as part of the Rancho de San Mateo, a cattle establishment three leagues "a little more or less" southeast of the mission.

As San Luis Rey developed under the energetic Friar Antonio Peyri, six cattle ranchos were established. The largest, an asistencia which also served as a hospice along the El Camino Real, was Rancho de San Pedro, more commonly called Rancho de las Flores, or simply Las Flores. Around this outpost, roughly 300 Indians lived in adobe and brush huts. Due to the uneven water source during the year, the great herds of cattle were scattered, and slowly, the Mission San Luis Rey encroached into the mesas formed by San Mateo and San Onofre Creeks.

In a report in 1822, Friar Peyri could proudly proclaim: "The land belonging to the mission may be calculated as extending eleven leagues (about 29 miles) from north to south and fifteen leagues (39 miles) east to west, for it has a cattle ranch at that distance to the north." In a report to the California Provincial Assembly in December 1827, the padres of San Juan Capistrano confirmed this cattle establishment. Referring to the encroachment of the "Rancho de San Onofrio" about a half a league (1.3 miles) from their Rancho de San Mateo, the padre stated that the land belonged to San Juan, but "San Luis Rey has taken possession of that whole district."

While a rancho existed in the area of San Onofre, no structures were built; the rancho was simply a large pasture for the thousands of cattle of San Luis Rey. Also, no use was made of the large, gentle beaches of San Onofre during the days of the hide and tallow trade. The produce of San Luis Rey was hauled overland to San Diego to be exchanged. On one occasion in December 1829, Governor Jose Maria Echeandia authorized the padres of San Luis Rey to take their hides "to the anchorage of San Juan Capistrano," but this seems to have been an exception. If smuggling operations occurred across the beaches, as they did in the 20th century, then they were unnoticed or, at least, unreported.

Secularization of the missions in the mid-1830s opened the rancho lands for civilian settlement. The Pico brothers, Pio and Andres, apparently moved onto the land in 1833. On May 10, 1841, the Pico brothers received a grant of 89,742 acres which constituted the Rancho San Onofre y Santa Margarita. Three years later, the grant of Las Flores was added to their domain, and the rancho was renamed Rancho Santa Margarita y Las Flores. The grant was later confirmed by the U.S. Land Commission in April 1855. Andres Pico turned over ownership to his older brother Pio, and Pio owned the rancho until it was purchased by the Picos' brother-in-law, John Forster, in 1864.

Aided by his sons, Francisco (Chico), Marcus (Marco), and John, John Forster began a dramatic expansion program with more cattle, more construction, and schemes of a city and a colony of farmers. Near the mouth of San Onofre Creek, Forster City was planned as an agricultural settlement. In 1876, three years into the program, Forster City could count but five houses. In February 1882, Forster died. The rancho had been mortgaged to Charles Crocker of San Francisco and, to pay off the debt, the heirs sold the property to Richard O'Niell, who was acting for James L. Flood of San Francisco.

Under the new Flood ownership, O'Niell managed the ranch. A portion of Las Flores was leased to Henry Magee, a former officer in Stevenson's New Yorkers. Magee, and later his son, Louis, developed several thousands of acres for agriculture, raising grain and lima beans. The Santa Fe Railroad

constructed a coastal line in 1887-1888, branching off from the line that originally turned inland at Santa Margarita Canyon at the southern end of the rancho. A siding was constructed at San Onofre.

James Flood died in 1888. James L. Flood, Jr. assumed full title of the property in 1891, after sharing ownership with his mother and sisters for two years. In 1906, Flood, Jr. bestowed upon O'Niell an "undivided half-interest in the ranch." The following year, the 82-year old "Big Dick" turned over his interest to his son, Jerome. Jerome, who rode the range with his vaqueros, had been struck as a youth by infantile paralysis. From May 24, 1907 until 1926, Jerome managed the property. His annual profit was estimated at one-half million dollars, and the rancho grew under his direction until the acreage totaled 260,000 acres. In 1923, Jerome O'Niell and James L. Flood, Jr. formed a corporation to control the ranch now known as Rancho Santa Margarita, sprawling across three counties. In 1926, in the middle of a great water fight with the Vail Company, which owned Pauba and Temecula Ranchos in Riverside County, James and Jerome died -- one day apart.

With the continuing growth of population and development of intensive agriculture, a small community developed around the railroad stop of San Onofre. Never large, San Onofre became a small bedroom community for the surrounding area. On February 2, 1917, the village received a post office that would remain, despite several periods when it appears to have been non-functioning, until November 30, 1943, when the office was closed and services transferred to San Clemente. By mid-1930, San Onofre had peaked as a civil community. The adult population was roughly 32. Acquisition of the rancho by the U.S. Government marked the end of the little village.

Interest in the San Onofre area as a public facility dates back to 1929. In May 1941, the U.S. Government bought 9,000 acres of the rancho near Fallbrook for a naval ammunition depot. During the summer of 1942, the U.S. Government purchased the remaining San Diego County acreage of Rancho Santa Margarita, 125,000 acres, for \$4,239,062, to be used as a marine corps training facility. Camp Joseph H. Pendleton was dedicated on September 25, 1942.

In 1963, negotiations for acquisition of a portion of the coastline (specifically that around the Trestles area) began between the state and the commanding officers of the reservation. Progress seemed assured when a change in policy in 1964 was announced by the U.S. Marine Corps, with the statement that "projected increases in amphibious training will require the Marine Corps to retain every inch of the beach land it now owns..."

The State of California, in 1966, pressed by the mounting need for coastline recreation facilities, made a feasibility study of the Camp Pendleton-San Onofre Beach area through provisions sponsored by the 1964 Cameron-Unruh Beach, Park, Recreational and Historical Facilities Bond Act.

After several false starts, the state and the U.S. Marine Corps reached a lease agreement for beach frontage and inland portions of the base in late 1970. This agreement produced a dedication ceremony of San Onofre State Beach on February 13-15, 1971. Since then, additional property has been included in the lease agreement.

Native American Resources: At least thirteen Native American sites and possibly one historic townsite are known to exist in San Onofre State Beach. The resources will be noted as they occur in each of the previously mentioned subunits.

The Trestles subunit contains Native American Site CA-SDi-1075, possibly the village of Panhe.

The Cristianitos subunit contains eleven Native American sites, two in Orange County and nine in San Diego County. The Orange County sites are CA-ORa-22 and 362. The San Diego County sites are CA-SDi-1311-1315, 4282, 4283, 4535, and 8435.

The Surf Beach subunit contains CA-SDi-1074, probably the village of Hechwai. This may contain a portion of the former townsite of Forster City, later known as San Onofre.

The Bluffs subunit has no known cultural resources. There is no record of any cultural resource inventory for this subunit in either DPR records or Office of Historic Preservation central files. No inquiry has been sent to the regional office of San Diego State University.

Native American Site Descriptions: CA-SDi-1075 in the Trestles subunit was recorded in 1950, and rerecorded in 1964. The site is located on the bluff between the San Mateo and San Onofre Creek drainages. It is described as a rich shell midden, with numerous artifacts. The site was mapped as about 350 meters (1,150 feet) southwest to northeast by 250 meters (820 feet) southeast to northwest. It is bisected by Interstate 5, and was partially destroyed by the Interstate 5/Basilone Road interchange. The site area has suffered extensive human modification, and may be as much as 90 percent destroyed. Although noted as a possible site for the Juaneno village of Panhe, it is more likely that the composite of CA-ORa-22, CA-SDi-4282, 4535, and 8435 comprises the remains of Panhe (Kroeber 1925:Plate 57 (Pocket)).

Four sites consisting of artifact scatters with no midden noted are located in or adjacent to the northernmost portion of the Cristianitos subunit. CA-SDi-1311 and 1312 and ORa-595 are in the subunit on the west side of Cristianitos Creek. CA-ORa-596 is located immediately north of this subunit boundary. All of these sites are lithic scatters exhibiting chip stone tools, stone flakes, cores, hammerstones, manos, and metate fragments. Significantly, no ceramics or mortars and pestles are noted for these sites. It is possible that these sites are related, and that they are Millingstone Horizon sites or specialized use areas from a later time period. CA-ORa-595, SDi-1311, and 1312 have all suffered moderate to severe damage from road construction and general grading by the U.S. Marine Corps. CA-ORa-596 is on private property, and at least part of the site area has been used as a construction borrow pit.

CA-SDi-1313 is a midden area approximately 50 by 100 meters (150 by 300 feet), located immediately east of the confluence of San Mateo and Cristianitos Creeks. The midden area may be 1 meter (3 feet) or more deep. Several chipped stone scrapers and a metate were noted on the surface. The scrapers were collected and accessed by the State Department of Parks and Recreation in Sacramento. The site has suffered moderate surface damage due to scraping.

CA-SDi-1314 and 1315 are located between 500 and 600 meters (1,650-2,000 feet) west of CA-SDi-1313, between Cristianitos Road and San Mateo Creek, on a terrace overlooking the creek. CA-SDi-1314 is noted as a surface artifact scatter, 30 by 45 meters (100 by 180 feet). Artifacts noted include flakes, cores, core tools, manos, and fire-fractured rock (often indicative of a hearth). One bifacial mano and one core tool are accessed in Sacramento. The site has suffered moderate to extreme damage due to U.S. Marine Corps maneuvers and bulldozing. CA-SDi-1315 is about 200 meters (600 feet) southwest of SDi-1314, and within 50 meters (165 feet) of Cristianitos Road. The site is a surface lithic scatter, with no midden. Only a few chip stone flakes were noted. The site has suffered moderate damage due to erosion.

CA-SDi-4283 is in an agricultural field immediately east of Cristianitos Road. The site is located 1.5 kilometers (1 mile) southwest of CA-SDi-1315, and the same distance northeast of the Interstate 5/Cristianitos Road intersection. In 1940, a crew digging a trench for a farm waterline discovered approximately a dozen incised stone disks ranging in size from 8 to 12 inches in diameter. The digging machine apparently broke most of the disks. Dr. Paul Chase of San Diego is the leading authority on these unusual artifacts. No other artifacts were noted at the time, and no excavation has been attempted in the area. The field was examined immediately after plowing in the spring of 1976, and no midden context or surface artifacts were noted.

The next grouping of four sites constitutes the San Mateo Archeological National Register District. The nearly contiguous sites are CA-ORa-22, CA-SDi-4282, 4535, and 8435. The National Register District nomination was generated by California Department of Transportation personnel after a 1980 resurvey of the area to be affected by the Cristianitos Road/Interstate 5 interchange.

CA-ORa-22 lies on the northwest corner of Cristianitos Creek, and is at least 40 percent destroyed. It stretches more than 350 meters (1,150 feet) southwest to northeast and more than 700 meters (2,300 feet) northwest to southeast, and is bisected by Interstate 5 on the latter axis. The site was a large late village area, probably the core area of Panhe. It has been severely damaged by highway construction activities, and is currently thought to have been about 18 hectares (45 acres) in extent. One burial was uncovered during road construction activities.

Within 20 meters (65 feet) of the east side of CA-ORa-22 is CA-SDi-4535. A late midden about 1.2 hectares (3 acres) in extent, the site was excavated in 1975. The site has been virtually destroyed by road construction.

Adjacent to the east side of CA-SDi-4535 is SDi-4282. The site is a 20-acre lithic scatter on the upper San Mateo Creek terrace. Numerous chipped and ground stone tools, shell, and pottery are noted on the surface. The site is 600 meters (1,970 feet) northeast/southwest by 100 meters (328 feet) northwest/southeast. It has been damaged on the south and west by the realignment of Cristianitos Road.

The Patterson site, CA-SDi-8435, is a buried site that stretches for 350 meters (1,150 feet) along the east side of SDi-4282, and another 400 meters (1,310 feet) to the northeast. The northwest by southeast horizontal dimension of the site is undetermined. It is visible only in the

cut bank along the north and west side of San Mateo Creek. Features noted include a hearth weathering out and a shell concentration. Lithics were noted throughout the length of the site. It has been severely damaged due to erosion and the cutting of an agricultural access road. The bulldozing of roads through the site occurred as recently as late 1981 or early 1982.

The Surf Beach subunit contains the remains of CA-SDi-1074 on the south side of San Onofre Creek, where it enters the ocean. The site is probably the village of Hechmai noted by Kroeber (1925:Plate 57 (Pocket)). The site consists of a 100-meter (328-foot) diameter area of shell midden, ranging up to .6 meter (20 inches) in depth. The site is principally in the Interstate 5 right-of-way area, and may be 80 percent destroyed.

No archeological survey of the Bluffs subunit shows in Department of Parks and Recreation or Office of Historic Preservation files. No sites are recorded for the bluffs downcoast of the San Onofre nuclear power generation facility.

Surrounding Native American Resources: There have been a large number of archeological surveys of areas surrounding San Onofre State Beach. Several sites are known in San Clemente and Segunda Beshesha Canada, the next major drainage upcoast from San Mateo Creek. The remains of two large villages, CA-Ora-599 and 504, and nine small midden deposits, ORa-632-640, are known to be in this area.

A 1980 survey of 2,430+ hectares (6,000+ acres) of the interior of Camp Pendleton resulted in the recording of 36 new sites and 49 isolated artifacts. There were three previously recorded sites in the area. Most of these sites are milling stations and other task-specific resources.

It is possible that there are more than 100 recorded sites within 10 kilometers of the state beach boundaries.

Esthetic Resources

San Onofre State Beach exhibits good scenic variety, including a beautiful coastline, lush wetlands, and a stately sycamore stand.

The coastline offers scenic bluffs, attractive vegetation and marine habitats, a beautiful sandy beach, and ocean vistas. The laurel sumac-sugar bush closed scrub is particularly interesting. The contrast of the grey-silver leaves of sagebrush against the dark green of sumac is quite striking. Unfortunately, the San Onofre nuclear power plant is visible from the coastal San Onofre Bluffs subunit. The cyclone fence at the southern end of this subunit is also esthetically disrupting.

The wetlands at San Onofre State Beach offer dense, lush vegetation, the meandering San Mateo Creek, and isolated ponds, which attract a myriad of animal species. However, the sights and sounds of Interstate 5 and the railroad detract from the esthetic quality of an otherwise tranquil setting.

The sycamore stand in the Cristianitos Creek subunit offers majestic sycamores mixed with large live oaks. Unfortunately, power lines and an electrical substation considerably mar the area's scenery. Nearby military activities, particularly the noise of gunfire and machinery, also detract from the natural setting.

Recreation Resources

San Onofre State Beach offers a variety of recreational opportunities, including recreational vehicle and car camping, surfing, fishing, clamming, sunbathing, beachcombing, picnicking, nature study, photography, and painting.

Surf riding along San Onofre's coastline is considered to be the best in Southern California. The beach and reef at the mouth of San Mateo Creek have a wide reputation among surfers, and the waves are good all along this part of the coast. The beaches are also excellent for swimming; sunbathing and beachcombing are popular quiet pursuits.

Clam beds support littleneck and sunset clams. Surf and offshore fishing are both productive.

Opportunities along the coast to study nature are exceptional. The proposed San Onofre Bluffs Natural Preserve supports one of the state's finest examples of the laurel sumac sugar bush closed scrub community. Marine life at San Onofre is extremely diverse, including such popular ecosystems as littoral reef tidepools. Numerous geologic processes are represented along the coast, reflected in the faults, collapsing bluffs, slumping terraces, and marine fossils.

The conditions along Cristianitos Creek on the inland parcel of San Onofre State Beach are good for both camping and picnicking. Camping is now restricted to the Bluffs subunit. The hills to the west and north of the creek offer interesting routes for trails, and numerous opportunities for nature study of various types.

Resource Policy Formation

Classification

The lands at San Onofre State Beach were leased from the United States Department of the Navy September 1, 1971 for 50 years, ending August 31, 2021. San Onofre was classified as a state beach in November 1971 by the State Park and Recreation Commission. It is also part of the San Diego Coast State Seashore.

The following definition of a state beach, as described in the 1978 Public Resources Code (PRC), Division 5, Chapter 1, Article 1.7, Section 5019.56d, includes definitions pertinent in plan formulation for resource management and recreational development:

"State beaches...consist...of areas with frontage on the ocean, or bays designed to provide swimming, boating, fishing, and other beach-oriented recreational activities. Coastal areas containing ecological, geological, scenic, or cultural resources of significant value shall be preserved within state wildernesses, state reserves, state parks, or natural or cultural preserves."

The following definition of a State Seashore, as described in the 1978 PRC, Division 5, Chapter 1, Article 1.7, Section 5019.62, includes references pertinent in plan formation:

"State seashores consist of relatively spacious coastline areas with frontage on the ocean,..., possessing outstanding scenic or natural character and significant recreational, historical, archaeological, or geological values...

The purpose of state seashores shall be to preserve outstanding natural, scenic, cultural, ecological, and recreational values of the California coastline as an ecological region and to make possible the enjoyment of coastline and related recreational activities which are consistent with the preservation of the principal values and which contribute to the public enjoyment, appreciation, and understanding of these values.

Improvements undertaken within state seashores shall be for the purpose of making the areas available for public enjoyment, recreation, and education in a manner consistent with the perpetuation of their natural, scenic, cultural, ecological, and recreational value. Improvements which do not directly enhance the public enjoyment of the natural, scenic, cultural, ecological, or recreational values of the seashore, or which are attractions in themselves, shall not be undertaken in state seashores."

Partly due to the presence of threatened scrub and riparian and wetland ecosystems in three areas in the unit, natural preserves have been proposed. These would provide protection for the areas, and would conform to the management objectives as defined in the statutes defining a state beach: "Coastal areas containing ecological, geological, scenic...resources of significant value shall be preserved within...natural...preserves." The proposed San Onofre Bluffs Natural Preserve contains significant geological and scenic values as well.

Declaration of Purpose

San Onofre State Beach was established to make available to the people the outstanding natural beach, bluffs, and related geological, ecological, and cultural features along the northern coast of San Diego County, including important uplands east of the Interstate 5 Freeway in the valley of San Mateo Creek; and to provide for the enjoyment and use of these areas in ways that take full advantage of the recreational opportunities thus afforded, while protecting the natural and cultural values of the region.

Located amidst dense urban development along the coast, the unit's relatively large size (more than 6.4 km (4 miles) of ocean beach and 1,266 hectares (3,127 acres) has regional and statewide significance. Archeological sites and threatened plant communities such as purple needlegrass tall prairie, red willow short woodland, arroyo willow tall closed scrub, and laurel sumac-sugar bush medium closed scrub are also prime resources of statewide significance.

Zone of Primary Interest

The zone of primary interest is the area in which the department would like to have influence on any development and use so unit resources are not seriously degraded. The zone includes all land adjacent to the state beach boundaries, such as Camp Pendleton, the San Onofre nuclear generating plant, and Interstate 5.

The department is primarily concerned about any land use that might adversely affect unit resources and enjoyment.

Resource Management Policies

Management of resources in a unit of the State Park System is governed by statutes, policies, and directives. In addition, specific policies for management of resources in San Onofre State Beach are given below by resource subject. Included are previously established policies and directives that are especially pertinent to existing or potential resource problems.

Natural Resources

Geologic Resources

Geologic Hazard Mitigation: Geologic hazards at San Onofre State Beach can threaten human safety and unit facilities. These hazards include landslides, blockfalls, potholes, gullies, seismic events, and tsunamis. Tsunamis can be triggered by earthquakes, which cannot be predicted or controlled with any accuracy. Landslides and blockfalls can be triggered by earthquakes, ocean wave undercutting, severe storms which saturate permeable formations, or human alterations to the natural system. Potholes and gullies develop from surface erosion or from sheet flow.

Policy:

Geologically hazardous areas shall be posted or the hazard reduced to the extent required to enable the public to use the areas in reasonable safety.

Monitoring of Geological Hazards: Historic blockfalls, landslides, and pothole development are evidence of active geological processes at work. Recognition of these processes and the tracing of their development will aid in proper resource management and visitor protection.

Policy:

A monitoring program shall be established to document development and progress of: 1) blockfalls on and adjacent to the beach; 2) landslides; 3) potholes on the bluff top; 4) pavement cracks due to settling collapse of pipes, undercutting, or faults; and 5) beach elevation and width. The monitoring program shall be conducted by field staff, under the supervision of the region and the Resource Protection Division technical staff. The program should involve use of aerial photos, ground photos with explanations, and permanent monuments, if necessary. The program

should be coordinated with the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, San Diego State University, and other appropriate research institutions. Special plans should be formulated well in advance of storms to document conditions at key locations during major storms.

Echo Arch Campground Management: The Echo Arch walk-in campground is situated on an active landslide. New cracks in the area are developing each year.

Policy:

The landslide development and hazard should be monitored regularly. If the situation worsens, consideration should be given to closing the campground.

Bluff Protection Zone: The bluffs and the immediately adjacent terrace are highly erosive. Vegetation is fragile and sensitive to disturbance.

Policy:

A bluff protection zone shall be established to protect sensitive resources and to mitigate excessive erosion. This zone shall include all bluffs from beach to terrace. In addition, it shall include a 122-meter (400-foot)-wide strip on the terrace top, including drainage canyons. Only lands to the ocean side of Interstate 5 are included in the zone.

In this zone, there shall be no additional parking areas or public access roads. Existing facilities may remain in use subject to regular inspections by field personnel in coordination with the department's geologists. Public access to the beach shall be on prepared and designated trails.

All formal trails in the bluff protection zone shall be reviewed by the department's natural and cultural resources specialists before their establishment. Revegetation of the many extraneous and unnecessary existing trails and paths shall be part of establishing a formal trail system.

Seismicity: Although several faults have been mapped in the San Onofre area, none have displayed Quaternary movement. The nearest fault exhibiting Quaternary movement is the Newport-Inglewood fault zone, which is approximately 16 km (10 miles) offshore.

Policy:

New buildings constructed in the unit shall be designed to withstand a Richter-magnitude 7.0 earthquake, with repeatable ground acceleration of 0.33 gravity (g). The expected maximum peak horizontal bedrock acceleration for a seismic event of magnitude would be approximately 0.5 g.

Protection of Paleontological Sites: Marine deposits contain fossils of heavy-shelled littoral animals. Rich fossil deposits crop out in several areas in the unit.

Policy:

Paleontological sites shall not be developed or otherwise disturbed, except for low-impact scientific investigations or removal if threatened by erosion.

Soil Resources

General Erosion Control: Soil erosion has been greatly accelerated in the unit by concentrated foot traffic, road building, inland land use, and natural drainage channel interruption.

Policy:

Destructive or unnatural erosion shall be controlled or prevented by means that are in harmony with the purposes of the unit. The primary objective of erosion control shall be to prevent, rather than to cure or correct, conditions of accelerated or unnatural erosion. All measures used shall be as unobtrusive as possible, fitting naturally into the environment, with the objective of restoring the natural condition.

Steps shall be taken to correct existing erosion problems and eroded areas in the unit. Revegetation of problem areas with native plants may be warranted in some areas, and shall be undertaken when needed.

Plant Resources

General Vegetation Management: It is a goal of the department to preserve and perpetuate representative examples of natural plant communities common to the unit and the region. Plant communities such as the laurel sumac sugar bush medium closed scrub found on slumped marine terraces were once widespread in the region, but are now nearly gone. Sycamore medium open savanna, red willow short woodland, arroyo willow tall closed scrub, and purple needlegrass tall prairie are also threatened communities in this region which occur in the unit. These plant communities have been greatly diminished and altered by past activities such as cultivation, grazing, fire suppression, and development.

Policy:

On lands other than those supporting facilities or agricultural leases, vegetation shall be managed toward a natural condition; that is, plant communities that result from normal successional activities. In modified areas, ongoing efforts shall be made to encourage restoration of native plant communities. The natural state of the vegetation shall be determined through scientific analysis, including phytoloth and soil morphological studies.

Prescribed Burning for Ecological Purposes: In most pristine plant communities of the San Onofre area, natural fire is one of the ecological factors contributing to the perpetuation of plants and animals in those communities. Such communities include laurel sumac sugar bush medium closed scrub and purple needlegrass tall prairie.

Policy:

To the maximum extent possible, fire shall be restored to its natural role. A fire management plan that details an ongoing program of fire use shall be prepared and periodically updated.

Grazing of Livestock: Heavy grazing of livestock before acquisition caused severe erosion in some areas, considerable alteration of natural plant communities, and general debilitation of the natural landscape. Grazing has also had a profound negative effect in grasslands, encouraging the spread of alien, European annual grasses and weedy forbs at the expense of the few remaining native bunchgrasses.

Policy:

Livestock grazing is not consistent with the recreational facilities planned or with the protection of natural and cultural resources. Where grazing has taken place and modified plant communities, a program shall be established to restore the vegetation to its natural means if possible.

Rare and Endangered Plant Protection: Rare and/or endangered plants can be inadvertent / destroyed by development of facilities, maintenance activities, or visitor use, especially when their exact locations, habitat requirements, and tolerances are unknown.

Policy:

If rare and/or endangered plants are found in the unit, they shall be protected and managed for their perpetuation.

Alien Plant Species Control: Alien (non-native) plants often compete successfully with natural vegetation, altering natural ecosystems and changing natural scenery.

Policy:

Alien species capable of naturalizing in the wild, including but not limited to castor bean, sweet fennel, tree tobacco, and tamarisk, shall be removed in accordance with policies set forth in the department's Resource Management Directives, 1831.1 (34). Exceptions include agricultural plants grown in the San Mateo Creek floodplain, which are covered separately under policies for cultural resources.

Protection From Wildfires: Wildfire is a severe hazard throughout Southern California. The scrub and chaparral vegetation in the unit are of particular concern.

Policy:

A wildfire protection plan which addresses wildfire prevention and suppression shall be developed by the Department of Parks and Recreation in cooperation with the responsible wildfire control agency. This plan shall include prevention measures, location and maintenance of fuel and

firebreaks, visitor evacuation and safety, fire access roads, and acceptable fire-fighting procedures. Plans for development and maintenance of fuel breaks and fire roads to acceptable standards shall be included.

Department standards require that there be a minimum disturbance of soil and consideration of esthetic impacts in construction and maintenance of fire roads and fuel breaks.

The proposed use of prescribed burning for fuel reduction and, more importantly, vegetation management purposes does not reduce the necessity for prevention and control of wildfires.

Wildlife Resources

Wildlife Management: Protection and perpetuation of natural wildlife populations is a goal in the management of the unit.

Policy:

The department shall restore altered wildlife habitats as nearly as possible to conditions that would be found today had natural ecological processes not been disturbed. Whether or not restoration of natural conditions is possible, it shall be the policy of the department to avoid significant imbalances in natural wildlife populations caused by human influences. If it is necessary to regulate the populations by other than natural means, methods used shall be based on sound principles of wildlife management, and shall avoid disturbance to other natural values of the unit.

Rare and/or Endangered Animal Protection: Rare and/or endangered animals can be inadvertently displaced or destroyed by development of facilities, maintenance activities, or visitor use, especially when their exact locations, habitat requirements, and tolerances are unknown.

Policy:

Any rare and/or endangered animals in the unit shall be protected and managed for their perpetuation.

Marine Life Resources

Protection of Marine Life: The large visitor influx at San Onofre State Beach could affect the marine environment and marine life populations.

Policy:

The department shall post and enforce State Department of Fish and Game regulations regarding limitations on the size and number of fish and clams allowed to be taken by licensed anglers and/or clam diggers. Periodic monitoring of clam populations may be necessary.

The department shall inventory, evaluate, and monitor the marine resources in and adjacent to the unit. A separate classification may be designed if the underwater area contains significant values.

Natural Preserves

Establishment of Natural Preserves: Natural preserves are established in the State Park System to preserve unique natural features. The parameters required for natural preserve classification are outlined in Section 5019.71 of the Public Resources Code.

Policy:

Three areas in San Onofre State Beach shall be proposed for classification as natural preserves. Collectively, they encompass wetlands, the threatened laurel sumac-sugar bush closed scrub, and illustrative examples of geologic processes.

Cultural Resources

General Cultural Resources Management and Protection

Management of the cultural resources at San Onofre State Beach is governed by statutes, policies, and directives. The following portions of the Public Resources Code pertain to the management of cultural resources: Section 5019.74 (if a cultural preserve is designated); Section 5097.5; and Section 5097.9.

Specific directives from the department's Resource Management Directives that pertain to the cultural resources of San Onofre State Beach are: 11, 24, 25, 32, 50-53, 58-60, and 69-72.

All of the known Native American sites in San Onofre State Beach have suffered moderate to severe damage through human and/or natural action. The sites in the upper Cristianitos Creek subunit, CA-SDi-1311, 1312, and ORa-595, have been damaged by the U.S. Marine Corps. Sites CA-SDi-1313 and 1314 near the San Mateo/Cristianitos Creek confluence have also suffered moderate to severe damage from U.S. Marine Corps-related activities.

Policy:

It shall be department policy to maintain the remaining integrity of these sites, and to preserve them from further human and natural degradation.

Native American sites CA-SDi-4283 and 8435 are both suffering due to ongoing agricultural activities. Additionally, CA-SDi-8435 is rapidly eroding into San Mateo Creek.

Policy:

It shall be department policy to carefully monitor all local agricultural activities and, where appropriate, curtail these activities when they constitute a danger to the integrity of these resources.

Policy:

It shall be department policy to carefully monitor the effects of natural erosion on CA-SDi-8435, and either work toward curtailment of erosion or mitigate this important buried resource.

Native American sites CA-ORa-22, SDi-4535, 4282, 1074, and 1075 have suffered major damage as a result of work on Interstate 5 and Cristianitos Road.

Policy:

It shall be department policy to preserve the remains of these Native American sites, which are on DPR-leased property, by proscription of development in general and subsurface modification specifically.

As recently as early 1982, there was significant damage to CA-SDi-8435 due in part to the lack of an adequate cultural resource management program for San Onofre State Beach.

Policy:

Pursuant to department's Resource Management Directive 32, "...it shall be an objective of the Department to prepare for each unit of the State Park System a resource management program or programs, identifying the field management actions required to achieve unit purpose(s) in relation to resources. When approved by the Director, the resource management program or programs for each unit will form the basis for resource management activities at that unit."

It shall be the policy of the department that Operations Division and Resource Protection Division staff will work in cooperation with designated members of the Juaneno Band of Mission Indians to develop a cultural resource management program specific to the Native American resources at San Onofre State Beach. This program must be developed as soon as possible to help avoid further damage to Native American resources such as the bulldozing of an agricultural road through CA-SDi-8435 in late 1981 or early 1982.

Archeological resurveys have resulted in the recording of previously unknown sites on surveyed lands. Sites have also been found and damaged when uncovered through erosion and road construction activities. The historic townsite of Forster City has not been located with certainty, and there is some likelihood that there are other prehistoric and historic sites as yet unknown and unrecorded within the state beach boundaries.

Policy:

The department shall ensure that no trail, road, facility, utility, or other construction is planned without adequate input from the Resource Protection Division. Subsurface archeological resources shall be located by survey and appropriate subsurface testing methods, and all construction activities shall be carefully designed to avoid, or allow for mitigation of, archeological sites.

Euroamerican Resources

There are no known significant Euroamerican resources located within the boundaries of San Onofre State Beach.

Agricultural Lands

Approximately 202 hectares (500 acres) of the Cristianitos subunit is used for vegetable production, which is high in social and economic value. This cultivated, leased land is adjacent to and interspersed with light, medium, and heavy-intensity-use wildland areas of San Onofre State Beach. The row crops grown on these lands include tomatoes, corn, and cucumbers, which require various degrees of pesticide, herbicide, and fungicide applications. Overuse of chemicals on these croplands can adversely affect the health of the user public and the wetland ecosystems of the proposed natural preserves.

Policy:

An integrated pest management program shall be established on these lands that includes monitoring of the pest populations and pest damage, and the use of cultural, chemical, and biological control methodology. This program shall be the responsibility of the lessee, and must be approved by the Resource Protection Division.

Esthetic Resources

The scenic resources of San Onofre State Beach are of great importance. They include outstanding ocean vistas, geologic features, and striking vegetation. Unfortunately, scenic detractors such as power lines, cyclone fences, and litter are found in the unit.

Policy:

The special scenic resources of the unit shall be protected from all degrading and undesirable intrusions. Structures in the unit shall be sensitively designed and located so they blend with their surroundings. Powerlines and other detracting installations shall be kept as unobtrusive as possible. Signs shall be kept to a minimum, strategically located, and in the best of taste.

Prescribed burning or other highly visible management practices shall be conducted so as to minimize impact on the unit's scenery.

Recreation Resources

Restrictions of Recreational Activities

Recreational activities can detrimentally affect natural, cultural, and esthetic resources.

Policy:

No concentrated use activities shall be permitted in the bluff protection zone (see policy on the bluff protection zone under Soil Resources, page 21).

Bicycling shall be restricted to paved vehicle access areas, to paths immediately adjacent to them, and to paved bicycle paths.

Off-highway-vehicle recreation shall not be permitted in San Onofre State Beach.

Allowable Use Intensity

California law (Section 5019.5, Public Resources Code) requires that a land carrying capacity survey be made before any park or recreational area development plan is prepared. As a step in determining carrying capacity, the department first determines allowable use intensities for the various parts of the unit. This evaluation serves as a general guide, indicating areas in which natural or cultural resource sensitivity will affect development planning. Section 5001.96 of the Public Resources Code requires that attendance at State Park System units will be held within limits established by carrying capacity.

Allowable use intensity is determined by analysis of three components: 1) the impact of any development and use on natural and cultural resources; 2) visitor perceptions and attitudes; and 3) management objectives.

The first and most important component in determining allowable use intensity involves an analysis of the natural, cultural, and esthetic resources to determine the area's physical limitations for development of facilities, and the ability of the ecosystem to withstand human impact (ecological sensitivity). This analysis is based on a number of considerations, including: cultural and esthetic resources sensitivity; soils and their erodibility and compaction potential; geologic factors, such as slope stability and relief; hydrologic considerations, including the potential for pollution of surface waters, flooding, and depleting surface and groundwater through water use; vegetation characteristics, such as durability, fragility, wildfire hazard, and regeneration rates; and wildlife considerations, such as tolerance to human activity, wildlife population levels, and stability. Additional considerations in determining ecological sensitivity are: rare and/or endangered plants and animals; unique botanical features or ecosystems; and examples of ecosystems of regional or statewide significance.

The second component, visitor perceptions and attitudes, involves assessing the social objectives of the department, what recreationists perceive as an acceptable recreational environment, what degree of isolation or crowding is acceptable, and other perceptions and attitudes pertaining to the quality of visitors' recreation experiences. Although these factors are very difficult to quantify, this component's influence is extremely important.

The management objective for San Onofre State Beach is set forth in the statutes defining a state beach (see Classification, page 18).

Based on the preceding factors, allowable use intensities for lands in San Onofre State Beach were determined as shown in the Allowable Use Intensity Map; refer also to Table 1. The existing Echo Arch walk-in campground will be eventually phased out as erosion problems warrant, because this facility falls in a light-intensity-use zone.

TABLE 1

Limiting Factors and Allowable Use of Sensitive Areas

<u>Sensitivity</u>	<u>Limiting Factors</u>	<u>Allowable Use</u>
High	Very fragile or valuable cultural resources, very sensitive ecological resources, geologic hazards and land instability.	Light-intensity uses: Birdwatching Hiking Nature study Painting (artistic) Photography Scenic observation
Moderate	Slope stability, moderate erosion potential, sensitive ecological resources, important scenic resource areas.	Medium-intensity uses: Bicycling (on designated paths) Fishing Picnicking (maximum of two sites/acre) Sunbathing Surfing
Low	Moderate to low erosion potential.	High-intensity uses: Camping Parking (paved) Picnicking (three or more sites/acre) Roads (paved)
Closed to Public	Lease restrictions.	Agricultural use

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- Kroeber, A. L. 1925. Handbook of the Indians of California. Bureau of American Ethnology Bulletin Number 78, Parts 1 and 2, Washington.
- State of California, Department of Parks and Recreation. 1973-1983. San Onofre State Beach Resource Inventory. Resource Protection Division, Natural Heritage Section. Unpublished.
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LAND USE AND FACILITIES ELEMENT

Each subunit has different characteristics that determine the uses which are most suitable. Each subunit is depicted on the attached map entitled "Proposed Land Use and Facilities," and each subunit will be discussed separately in the narrative which follows.

Existing Land Use

Subunit 1

Most of this 2,500-acre subunit is scenic open space. A 500-acre agricultural preserve is located between the southeast boundary and the San Mateo Creek drainage.

Subunit 2

More than one mile (6,000 lineal feet) of shoreline is used for surfing. A lifeguard tower is perched on the bluff tops near the Basilone Road freeway overpass.

Subunit 3

This 3,400-foot-long beach is zoned for surfing use. The bluff top is used for parking for nuclear plant construction workers.

Subunit 4

Three and one-half miles of beach are used for swimming, sunbathing, etc. The old freeway provides day-use parking and overnight camps. The bluff tops and canyons between the highway and beach are used for scenic open space.

Recreational Needs Analysis

An important aspect of many popular recreation areas is variety. A variety of things to do attracts a variety of people. This, in turn, makes a place active and useful, which very effectively provides for public recreation.

The Yosemite Valley, the Russian River resort area, Golden Gate Park in San Francisco, and Mission Bay in San Diego are all examples of places that are popular because they offer diversity in recreation.

To provide for public recreation is one of this department's goals, and it is logical to look for areas that offer a built-in variety of recreation to efficiently and effectively meet this public recreation goal. The following is a summary listing of the recreation diversity already existing in and around San Onofre and San Clemente State Beaches and the City of San Clemente:

Surfing -- The best surf break in Southern California is "Trestles" Break at San Onofre State Beach.

Fishing -- Party boats sail out of San Clemente, and there is surf fishing off San Onofre beaches.

Clamming -- San Onofre has the best-known littleneck clam bed in the state. Also, there are sunset clams.

Swimming -- Water temperatures are conducive to swimming; they are warmer than in most areas of the state.

Beach Play/Sunbathing/Beachcombing -- There are ten miles of warm, sandy, wide public beaches, from the City of San Clemente to San Onofre.

Riding, Hiking, and Bicycling Trails -- Riding clubs enjoy an extensive area, including certain U.S. Marine base lands. Hikers and bicycle riders use the coastal trail from San Diego through Camp Pendleton, San Onofre, and San Clemente to points north.

Sightseeing/Nature Study/Photography/Painting -- Scenic variety includes a beautiful coastline, lush wetlands, scenic bluffs, attractive marine habitats, and a stately sycamore stand inland.

Hosteling -- San Clemente State Beach has a hostel site which is part of the department's coast hostel system.

Camping -- Three hundred and eighty-seven campsites are located in San Clemente and San Onofre State Beaches. Nearly two million visitors attend the two parks annually.

Other Overnight Accommodations -- There are many motels in San Clemente which serve many visitors throughout the year. The San Clemente Inn, located at the corner of San Clemente State Beach property, is converting from a motel to 4,800 time-share units.

Golf -- The City of San Clemente's golf course accommodates 110,000 rounds annually.

There is an exceptionally high quality and quantity of recreational diversity existing in and around San Onofre State Beach.

Proposed Land Use

Subunit 1:

The westerly boundary adjacent to the city/county line of Subunit 1 is more than three miles long, and goes through steep, unstable slopes. Most of this steeply sloping, rugged terrain is recommended to remain in scenic open space. A portion of this terrain, adjacent to and on the northwest side of Cristianitos Road (about 180 acres), is recommended for golf course use. A small portion of this area at the south end adjacent to the frontage road is recommended for day use parking.

The small area on the southeast side of Cristianitos Road next to Interstate 5 is recommended for interpretive day-use.

A total of about 175 acres is recommended for campground use. These two areas lie along the San Mateo Creek, and are also adjacent to Cristianitos Road. The southernmost of these two areas would be separated from the golf course by Cristianitos Road.

All steep terrain to the east of Cristianitos Road and the San Mateo Creek drainage area is recommended for scenic open space.

A natural area is recommended at the extreme north end of Subunit 1; the flat area immediately south of the natural area is recommended for overnight group use. There are some small flats in the steep terrain at the northwest end of Subunit 1; these flats are recommended for overnight use.

The land east of the San Mateo drainage is recommended for use as an agricultural preserve, and a wetlands preserve is recommended at the south end, next to the coast freeway.

Subunit 2:

The entire shoreline is recommended for surfing use. The wetland area is recommended for use as a natural preserve. A small portion of the bluff top at Basilone Road Interchange is recommended for day use parking.

Subunit 3:

Surfing use is recommended for all of the Subunit 3 beach area. The bluff and bluff top are recommended for day use and scenic open space use.

Subunit 4:

Day use (swimming and beach play) is recommended at the beach. The abandoned freeway area is recommended for overnight use and day use parking for beach visitors.

Proposed Visitor Facilities

Subunit 1:

The golf course is the most complex proposal of this plan. The proposal originated from individuals representing the San Clemente Golf Course who are recognized by the San Clemente City Council. The proposal is to expand the existing 18-hole golf course on city lands adjacent to Subunit 1 across the city/county line into Subunit 1, to provide an additional 18 holes. The golf course proposal is recommended in the area between Cristianitos Road and the city/county line inland of the coast freeway. On about 2 acres of this area at the south end next to the frontage road, a 100-car parking area is proposed for daytime beach users. The plan recommends making use of it as necessary for overnight parking (see Subunit 3, page 35). The locations where overnight parking will be permitted will be decided entirely by the operations staff.

The city would bear the total costs of construction, maintenance, and operation of the course. This revised General Plan recommends the golf course proposal, with the following conditions:

1. That all applicable public resources codes and especially Section 5001.65, "Commercial Exploitation of Resources," and Section 5019.62, "State Seashores," be interpreted by the State Park and Recreation Commission to permit golf course use as proposed.
2. That the golf course organization bears all costs and responsibilities for design, construction, maintenance, and operation of the golf course.
3. That the golf course is designed and constructed entirely within the area recommended by this plan.
4. That the department receive compensation from the profits brought in by the new 18-hole course, once built and in operation.
5. That, as part of the golf course operation, the golf course operator agrees to construct, operate, and maintain a facility for the purposes of interpretation.
6. That the golf course organization agrees to secure all arrangements, agreements, permits, and other legal documents required by the City of San Clemente, Orange County, San Diego County, the California Coastal Commission, the Department of the Navy (which owns the property), the U.S. Marine Corps Base, and this department to implement conditions 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 above before proceeding with any construction whatsoever.

A picnic facility is proposed at the knoll overlooking San Mateo Creek. The picnic facility would be located at the top of the bluffs just southwest of Cristianitos Road before the road descends toward the campground area.

Family campgrounds are proposed adjacent to the San Mateo Creek drainage. These 95 and 80-acre areas will support a total of 610 campsites. The fertile soil will support ample vegetation for shade and screening, making an ideal camp setting.

During the high-use summer season, campers can walk to the beaches through the San Mateo drainage, under the freeway bridges. When San Mateo Creek is running full, campers can follow trails leading to the Cristianitos Road overpass, which joins the bike trail and the trail to the beach.

About 1,000 acres of scenic open space at the northwest end of Subunit 1 are recommended for development with hiking trails, primitive camps, a primitive group camp, and a natural preserve. Primitive camps include a designated area adjacent to a designated trail, with a chemical toilet or pit toilet. Primitive campers would be required to reserve campsites in advance, and to bring in their own water and take out their own garbage. The group camp/equestrian camp would be provided with chemical toilets and a central source of potable water.

Ultimately, a primitive dirt road off the end of Pico Avenue is recommended to provide access for group campers, including equestrian groups.

No visitor facilities are proposed in the agricultural preserve located between San Mateo Creek and the east park boundary. A natural preserve is recommended at the south end of this agricultural preserve, adjacent to Interstate 5. Interpretive trails are recommended in the natural preserve.

Subunit 2:

A new day-use beach access/overnight parking area for 100 cars is recommended on the bluff top near the Basilone Freeway overpass. The parking should be sited at the downcoast inland corner of Subunit 2, next to abandoned Highway 1. An access trail from this parking area into the adjacent San Onofre Creek drainage and under the railroad trestle to the beach is also recommended.

This plan recommends a natural preserve in all areas of existing wetlands between the beach and abandoned Highway 1. Interpretive trails are recommended in the natural preserve, carefully designed and routed to avoid through traffic to the surfing beach. This plan recommends removal of a portion of abandoned Highway 1 in the area included in the wetlands preserve. This abandoned highway is +70 feet wide. A bicycle trail and service access is all the space required by this plan's proposals. Twenty feet is adequate for bicycle trail and service access, leaving about a 50-foot width of pavement 200 feet long to be removed. The plan recommends scarifying the earth beneath the removed pavement, treating the soil, and establishing native vegetation.

The most direct trail routes to the beach at Subunit 2 are: 1) the previously recommended trail through the San Onofre drainage from the new proposed day use beach access parking near the Basilone Road interchange; and 2) the existing road on the upcoast side of San Mateo Creek along the northwest boundary of Subunit 2. This plan recommends that these two trail accesses to the Subunit 2 beach be well signed and well maintained for public access. No access to the beach through the natural preserve wetlands area is recommended.

Subunit 3:

No changes are recommended to the existing facilities on the beach area. The bluff top area (now being used for nuclear plant construction workers' parking) is recommended to be landscaped with native shrubs and grasses. A surfing interpretive facility is recommended in this bluff top area, with parking and benches overlooking this surfing beach. No trails or stairways are proposed leading to the beach, and controls such as railings and signs are recommended to prevent beach access from the bluff top area. It is important for safety purposes to control the numbers of surfers on the beach at any one time. This is now being done by the limited beach parking available, and by an entrance station where cars are stopped from entering when the parking is at capacity. Surfing use at San Onofre has created a special need for overnight parking. Surfers are seeking the surf, and they want to catch the waves first thing in the morning. Many have vans or some sort of RVs, but do not desire to "camp." The special need of surfers is to park overnight and be gone by 6 a.m. back to the beach.

This plan recommends that the daytime beach use parking lots in the vicinity of these surfing beaches become available to overnight parking for a fee less than that charged for camping. The proposed parking area at the surfer's interpretive facility and overlook area is an appropriate site for overnight parking use, and this plan recommends it.

A new maintenance/service area is recommended in the area between the railroad spur and Old Highway 1. This area is also being used for nuclear plant construction workers' parking. The area is not very suitable for public recreation use because it has no ocean views, and is surrounded by roads and railroad tracks. It is centrally located relative to the other subunits, and is a logical place for a central service and maintenance facility.

Subunit 4:

Development of this subunit is completed. This plan does not recommend any additional camping, day-use parking, or trails.

Utilities

Water:

An agreement with the Tri-Cities Municipal Water District for providing water to San Onofre State Beach was signed in 1978. The Tri-Cities Municipal Water District provides water to all of the area from San Clemente to Capistrano Beach.

Electricity:

The Southern California Edison Company has power available to all these subunits, and this supply is the only practical source.

Sewer:

Negotiations over a period of years have resulted in an agreement signed late in 1982 with the City of San Clemente to accept sewage from San Onofre State Beach.

Low-flush toilets and holding tanks have been installed in all restrooms at Subunits 3 and 4. Holding tanks in Subunits 3 and 4 are pumped out, and sewage is hauled away. Construction of sewer lines, pump stations, and so forth for this small amount of sewage, over the five miles to connect to the city, is not economical.

Sewage generated in Subunit 1 and 2 developments will be connected by sewer lines to the City of San Clemente sewer system, which is only a few hundred feet away.

Telephones:

Telephones are available at all subunits.

Proposed Plan Phasing

Initial development has provided public access to the shoreline areas in all subunits.

The family campgrounds in Subunit 1 are currently the first priority for development, but funding for the initial phase of the project has become entangled in litigation brought against the Coastal Commission.

Temporary encroachment on the beach area during construction of the nuclear power plant was originally approved by the Coastal Commission. The nuclear power plant owners asked for a revised permit which would approve of their permanent encroachment on the beach area for safety and security purposes. The Coastal Commission approved, with the condition that the permanent encroachment be mitigated by paying \$3 million to the Department of Parks and Recreation to develop public camping and trail access to the San Onofre beaches. The nuclear power plant owners agreed, but a third party took the Coastal Commission to court, claiming that the condition made by the commission was neither legal nor appropriate.

The Department of Parks and Recreation coincidentally requested \$4 million for the campground development at the time of the Coastal Commission action. The legislature, recognizing the situation, approved of the \$4 million development in the 1982-83 Fiscal Year Capital Outlay Budget, but with the following control language:

"None of the funds appropriated in category (ii) of this item shall be expended for the construction of Parcel 1 camping at San Onofre State Beach unless and until \$3 million in reimbursements are received by the Department of Parks and Recreation from Southern California Edison and San Diego Gas and Electric as identified in category (jj) of this item."

The beach access parking in Subunits 1 and 2 should be built as soon as possible. The next priority is to restore the vegetation, provide the surfing interpretation, day use parking, overlooks, and maintenance and service area at Subunit 3.

Finally, the group camp and primitive camps and trails at the inland portion of Subunit 1 should be built. Since these are inexpensive developments, it may be possible to develop these improvements at any time using volunteer labor working with the unit's maintenance staff.

TRANSPORTATION AND CIRCULATION ELEMENT

Motor Vehicle

There are about 120 miles of Interstate 5 freeway between downtown Los Angeles and downtown San Diego. San Onofre is in the middle of it, 60 miles from both metropolitan complexes, and within one hour's driving time of at least ten million people.

The coast freeway (I-5) provides access to Subunit 1 via the Cristianitos Road Interchange, and the Basilone Road Interchange provides access to Subunits 2, 3, and 4. Both these roads function as entry roads into the Camp Pendleton Marine Base, and Basilone Road provides access to the nuclear power plant.

These subunits are laid out along a seven-mile stretch of freeway, and are accessible to vehicles by using freeway interchanges and the abandoned freeway/frontage road. Visitors enter this unit by car, and once there, they can circulate by car from one subunit to another.

Bicycle

This plan recommends that the existing bicycle trail through Subunits 2, 3, and 4 be retained.

The abandoned freeway is open through Camp Pendleton to bicycle and hiking traffic. This links the City of San Clemente and the City of Oceanside, through which bicycle trail routes have been provided; a coast route for bicycles is established through the area. A bicycle route through Subunit 1 to the beach should be provided with the camping and golf links developments.

Train (See Proposed Visitor Facilities, Page 33)

The Atchison-Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad runs parallel to and on the coast side of I-5. The railroad right-of-way is adjacent to Subunit 4, and goes through Subunits 2 and 3. Amtrak provides seven daily runs in each direction between Los Angeles and San Diego, with stops in between at Del Mar, Oceanside, San Clemente, San Juan Capistrano, Santa Ana, and Fullerton.

Airplane

The closest commercial airport is Orange County's John Wayne Airport, which is about a 40-minute drive from San Onofre State Beach on I-5. San Diego's Lindbergh Field would be conveniently close to the San Diego Amtrak Station, which provides service to San Clemente.

Boat

The nearest boat harbor is Dana Point, ten miles north of San Onofre on I-5.

INTERPRETIVE ELEMENT

Interpretive Themes

Interpretation at San Onofre State Beach will provide the public with informative and educational information to promote enjoyment, use, and safety in the unit. Interpretive themes will be consistent with the declared purpose expressed in the Resource Element. The major focus for interpretation in the unit will be on the coastal geology, biotic communities, ocean-oriented recreation, and the cultural history of the area.

Primary Themes

The Restless Earth

The long, sandy beach and precipitous bluffs that are the primary scenic and recreational attractions of the area are products of dynamic geologic processes still operating today. These need to be interpreted as well as seen to be fully appreciated. Interpretation will seek to explain the formation and development of the unique sink or "stope" holes, will emphasize caution regarding hazards presented by the bluffs, and will stress the importance of protecting and preserving the unit's fragile natural resources. The reef and cobble bed communities will also be included in the interpretation.

The sub-themes that follow will be among the many topics which could be developed for interpretation under the primary theme of "The Restless Earth."

Terrace Geology and Erosion of Bluffs

Plate Tectonics

Reading Geologic Clues in roadcuts, bluffs, etc.

Rivers of Sand - sand transport and beach formation

Water Movement - waves, currents, and tides

Weather on the Winds - coastal weather patterns

Coastal Communities

Diversity of life marks the various plant and animal communities which inhabit the inland, littoral, and sublittoral zones along the coast. Interpretation will examine the web of life found among the different biotic communities in the park, including: the ocean, marine intertidal zone, coastal strand, freshwater marsh, coastal sage-scrub, annual grassland, riparian woodland, and California coastal chaparral. Attention will be directed toward acquainting visitors with not only the diversity of flora and fauna and their seasonal changes, but also the importance of preserving each of the various habitats.

Sub-themes of "Coastal Communities" include, but are not limited to, the following:

Life of the Sea:

Commonly Caught Surf Fishes

Sea Water - a chemical and biological soup

The Mysterious Sea

Marine Mammals - swimming comparison with humans

Whale Watching

Biological Rhythms, Events of the Seasons - life cycles keyed to tides and daily, monthly, and seasonal changes

Spring - red tide, plankton bloom, grunion

Summer - jellyfish, ospreys

Winter - polar winds, strong seas, gray whales

Between Land and Sea:

Intertidal Life - adaptations to wave and tide actions

Wealth of the Wetlands

Life Underfoot - invertebrate life in the wave-washed zone

Flotsam and Jetsam - where did it come from? Where will it go?

Birds of the Shore and Wetlands

A Bill for Every Purpose - comparison of size, food, behavior, and bill length among common shorebirds

Beach Scavengers

Life on Land:

Life in the Harsh Coastal Environment

The Grassland Story

Coastal Scrub and Chaparral - plant life in fog and fire

Riparian Community Ecology

Camp Critters

A Resource for Recreation

The San Onofre area attracts recreationists of all kinds. The beach is popular with swimmers, surfers, beachcombers, sunbathers, and fishers. The marsh is well studied by birdwatchers and students from nearby schools. Bicyclists and hikers often explore the roads and trails meandering within the park, and camping facilities are well used. Interpretation will concentrate on the broad range of recreational activities possible at San Onofre, providing orientation information along with rules, regulations, and safety precautions.

Listed below are sub-themes which will be the core of interpretation under the primary theme, "A Resource for Recreation."

California State Parks: Treasures for the People - overview of State Parks in California

San Onofre State Beach - orientation map indicating facilities, services, trails, points of interest, nearby park units, etc.

Bulletin board on which rules and regulations are posted along with state park activity notices

Staying Safe at the Beach - rip currents, poisonous animals, etc.

Your Body in the Sun - cooling down, overexposure, and tanning

Surf Fishing - techniques, equipment, regulations, safety, and courtesy

Surfing - origin, history, and evolution of the sport

Surf's Up! - surfing techniques and terminology

Clamming - what you need to know to catch a clam

Camp Courtesy - basic rules and safety for camping at San Onofre State Beach

Litter Lasts - garbage and its impact on the environment and park users

People of San Onofre

Interpretation in the unit will focus on the diversity of peoples who have occupied the land in and around San Onofre, and their differing perceptions about the land and its use. Archeological sites within the park's boundaries provide evidence of the area's prehistoric hunting and gathering inhabitants, as well as the Juaneno, Native Americans present at the time of the first contact by the Spanish. The land and its resources have been used to raise livestock and crops, as well as for survival. San Onofre property was granted to Pio and Andres Pico during California's Mexican period. The land eventually became part of one of the great cattle empires of California. Row-crop farming along San Mateo Creek, begun during the Mission Era, continues to be practiced. Use of the land has evolved away from survival and food production in recent years to military and recreational purposes and land development. The San Onofre area has been known for its outstanding surf since surfing became popular in the 1920s. The U.S. Marine Corps base, Camp Pendleton, encompassed the San Onofre land when the camp was established in 1942. In 1968, the State of California began negotiations to lease property from Camp Pendleton for San Onofre State Beach, finally opening it to the public in 1971.

Sub-themes to be interpreted under the primary theme, "People of San Onofre," include, but are not limited to, the following:

The Juaneno - a people close to the land

Portola and the Spanish Presence

California's First Baptism - performed in 1769 in Cristianitos Canyon

An Empire of Land and Cattle - Mexican grants and their impact on the land and people of San Onofre.

The Row-Crop Farming Tradition

World War II and Camp Pendleton

People and the Beach - an overview of human use of the beach from the food gathering of the Juanenos to today's recreation

The Evolution of Beach Recreation

Methods and Media

Self-guided trails, a campfire center, graphic interpretive displays, and personal contact are the most appropriate methods for interpretation at San Onofre State Beach. Personalized services such as guided walks, impromptu discussions, demonstrations, and campfire programs are perhaps the most effective way of interpreting San Onofre to the general public. Unfortunately, the availability of park personnel usually limits the number of such contacts. Thus, self-interpretive facilities must be available so all visitors can be enriched by their time at San Onofre. A proliferation of signs and posts, however, can be most disruptive to the natural setting. Therefore, it is recommended that interpretive displays be limited and clumped together in day-use and overnight facilities. Placing panels, exhibits, and guide posts in well-patrolled areas should minimize vandalism, a major park problem.

The four subunits that make up San Onofre State Beach are strikingly different in character, and each receives different kinds of visitor use. The interpretive program should reflect the varying interests of visitors to these subunits, emphasizing or de-emphasizing the primary interpretive themes depending on the subunit's resources and the visitors' needs. All subunits will have orientation displays to acquaint visitors with the unit.

Subunit 1

Campers, hikers, and students of natural and cultural history are the primary users of Subunit 1. Interpretation will complement the hiking, camping, and picnicking facilities in the subunit by directing attention to the diversity of San Onofre's natural and cultural history. The primary interpretive themes to be used will be "Coastal Communities" and "People of San Onofre." Other recreational themes to be used will concentrate on orientation to the unit and information on camping and park courtesy.

An interpretive facility with four kiosk-type shelters for panels will provide a focal point for visitors at the southern end of Subunit 1. This facility will have maps and drawings for visitor orientation, along with the above-mentioned interpretation. Other interpretive display panels will be located at major trailheads and in the proposed picnic areas and family campgrounds of the subunit. Nearby natural and cultural features which can be easily identified will be interpreted. It is proposed that a campfire center be developed to give the unit staff the opportunity to expand interpretation with evening talks, demonstrations, and presentations. This should be located near the campgrounds.

Subunit 2

Most visitors to Subunit 2 are interested in the range of recreation the beach offers. The primary themes, "A Resource for Recreation" and "People of San Onofre," will guide interpretive development in the subunit. In addition, several sub-themes of "Coastal Communities" will be used to highlight the natural features and wildlife of the marshlands. A boardwalk which extends into the marsh a short distance is proposed to allow visitors an opportunity to catch a closer glimpse of this fast-disappearing biotic community. Exhibit shelters and small panels will be the major media used for interpretation in this subunit.

Subunit 3

People have come to San Onofre for many years to actively enjoy the recreation available in Subunit 3. Surf Beach has a world-wide reputation for its fine surf. It is proposed that interpretation in this subunit concentrate on San Onofre as "A Resource for Recreation." A limited number of exhibit shelters located on the bluffs adjacent to proposed parking will concentrate on surfing techniques and technology. It is suggested that benches also be installed nearby, in order for visitors to see the sport in action. Additional interpretation in the subunit will provide information and orientation about San Onofre's other points of interest, trails, and facilities.

Subunit 4

Campers and daylight visitors make good use of the facilities in Subunit 4, which has fine beaches and beautiful coastal bluffs. It attracts many people in search of solitude or leisurely enjoyment of a beach. Primary interpretation in the subunit will center on "The Restless Earth" and "Coastal Communities." This emphasis on the natural environment should help most visitors to identify more closely with the world around them at San Onofre. Several orientation

panels are also important to this subunit, to acquaint visitors with all of the unit's resources. The principal interpretive media in the subunit should be exhibit shelters. It is proposed that these be installed near heavily-used trailheads and campgrounds. Adjacent to the camping facilities along the bluff, a campfire center should be installed. This would provide the staff with a facility where they could share their knowledge of the unit with larger numbers of visitors, and the flexibility required to interpret seasonal changes as well as unique occurrences at San Onofre.

CONCESSIONS ELEMENT

General Statement of Concession Policy

Recognizing the diverse missions of the Department of Parks and Recreation relative to providing recreation opportunities and preserving and interpreting natural and historic resources, it shall be the department's policy to enter into concession contracts for the provision of products, facilities, programs, and management and visitor services which will provide for the enhancement of visitor use and enjoyment, as well as visitor safety and convenience. Such concessions should not create added financial burden on the state, and wherever possible, shall either reduce costs or generate revenues that aid in maintaining and expanding the State Park System. In carrying out this policy, the department shall observe and adhere to the provisions of the Public Resources Code that forbid commercial exploitation of resources in units of the State Park System, and that limit the kinds of improvements and activities which are allowed in certain types of units.

This Concessions Element evaluates existing concession facilities and activities. It also identifies potential additional services to visitors and revenue-generating activities.

Existing Concession Activities

Currently, concession activities at this unit consist of a camper supply store located at the north end of Subunit 4. This concession meets the needs of campers, hikers, and daily beach visitors.

Potential Concession Activities

Given the diversity of the recreation activities available in this unit, the potential for future concessions is exceptionally optimistic.

1. Because the Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe railroad tracks run adjacent to Subunit 4 for 3-1/2 miles, and because of this proximity of railroad tracks to the public campgrounds, there is a potential for a public railroad connection from the nearby major metropolitan areas of Los Angeles and San Diego. If, at some time in the future, the railroad company or Amtrak desires to add a recreation stop and is willing to build, maintain, and operate it at no cost to the State Park System, it is recommended by this plan under those conditions. The concept of an Amtrak stop could also include a camp store concession with camp and beach equipment rentals, as well as food and beverage sales. This recommended concept is to provide people from the inner city an opportunity to spend some time camping near the beaches without having to fight the freeway traffic.
2. Because of the proposed new development of approximately 610 family campsites in Subunit 1, there is the strong potential for the need of an additional campground store. A possible location of this concession could be at the southwestern portion of this subunit.

3. Another possible future concession is the development of an 18-hole golf course in Subunit 1. This facility will be located between Cristianitos Road and the city/county line.

Since this golf course will be adjacent to an existing course owned by the City of San Onofre, the proposed new course will provide additional enjoyment and recreational facilities to park visitors.

Recommendations

1. Existing concession facilities and services should continue.
2. The golf course development should be consistent with the conditions stated in the Land Use and Facilities Element of this General Plan.

OPERATIONS ELEMENT

Operation of San Onofre State Beach is the responsibility of the department's Operations Division, headquartered in Sacramento. Field operations (resource management, administration, maintenance, and interpretation) are conducted through the Region 4 Office in San Diego and the Camp Pendleton Area Office in San Clemente.

Current Operational Concerns

A major concern is the closeness of the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station to Bluffs Campground and Surf Beach, and the safety of unit visitors should an accident occur at SONGS. To comply with federal regulations, an emergency telephone and teletype have been installed at the Camp Pendleton Area's dispatch office. A comprehensive evacuation plan has been developed, and an annual exercise is conducted to insure that the safety of visitors can be maintained.

The Santa Fe Railroad and Interstate 5 are adjacent to the Bluffs Campground and the day use parking lot. The possibility of toxic material spillage from a railroad derailment or an accident on I-5 is of concern; toxic material spillage from military hardware, military canisters of unknown material, and oil spills in the ocean are also a constant possibility.

The Trestles area between the beach and I-5 contains a marshland. Patrols are necessary to maintain the integrity of the area, and to retain it in a natural state. Heavy marine corps vehicles that have wandered from their assigned positions have been observed in the area.

Future Operational Concerns

These include the compatibility of farming activities and the proposed campground in Subunit 1. Patrols will be needed to assure that pesticides and fertilizer used by the farming operation do not endanger visitors. Patrols and education of visitors will also be necessary to insure that campers do not interfere with the farming operation.

The City of San Clemente maintains a skeet range next to the boundary of Subunit 1. The trajectory of clay birds and shot could affect future development in the area.

Power lines from SONGS to a distribution station traverse Subunit 1. To maintain the lines, the power company has constructed roads along the route of the lines. Patrols are needed in the area to eliminate use of these roads by off-highway vehicles. This problem could increase with future development of Subunit 1.

A variety of animals and birds are present on Subunit 1. Deer, coyotes, and bobcats can be readily observed; quail and doves are common in the area. Development of Subunit 1 will encroach on the habitat of several of these species. Patrols will be necessary to prevent poaching during the quail, dove, and deer hunting seasons.

Cristianitos Road, which traverses Subunit 1, is a two-lane road designed for light traffic. Development will increase traffic on this road, creating additional operational concerns.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ELEMENT

This Environmental Impact Element constitutes, in conjunction with the rest of the revised General Plan, an Environmental Impact Report as defined in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA--Title 14 of the Public Resources Code).

The revised General Plan sets general policies that will guide the development and operation of the state beach for years to come. The Environmental Impact Element assesses the potential environmental effects of these policies. As specific development projects are budgeted, the specific environmental impacts of these projects will be assessed in other CEQA documents.

Chief among these projects is the proposed golf course, which is being actively promoted by a group of local citizens and the City of San Clemente. The golf course is considered in the revised General Plan in recognition of its local support. The State Park and Recreation Commission has determined that a golf course is an appropriate use for the unit, and a focused EIR must be prepared for the department by the proponents for the project. Based on the information supplied in this focused EIR, the director of the department will decide the issue.

Summary

The following environmental impacts may occur as a result of this revised General Plan:

- Increased traffic on Cristianitos Road.
- Changes in the natural topography.
- Increased runoff from new roads and parking lots.
- Increased air pollution.
- Increased light and glare from parking lots.
- Increased water consumption.
- Greater fire hazard.
- Loss of native vegetation.
- Loss of wildlife habitat.
- Increased use of water.
- Threat to known archeological sites.
- Increased generation of sewage.
- Exposure of more people to the hazards of a possible nuclear accident at the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS).
- Greater need for law enforcement.

Mitigation Measures Proposed

Increased traffic:

- A "campground full" sign will be located at the Cristianitos Road interchange.
- A bicycle lane will be added to Cristianitos Road.
- Bicycle parking facilities will be added at the beaches.
- Concessionaire-operated shuttles will be continued and expanded between the beaches and various inland points, including the campground, during the summer months.

Changes in natural topography:

- Facilities will be sited to minimize grading.

Increased runoff:

- Runoff from paved areas will be channeled and directed into existing stream courses according to best management practices.

Increased air pollution:

- See mitigation measures to reduce traffic.
- Construction site dust will be controlled.

Light and glare:

- Area lighting will be kept at the minimum necessary for public safety. Most area lighting will be turned off after midnight. Parking lots will be screened with landscaping.

Increased water consumption:

- Water-saving fixtures will be used.
- Drought-tolerant landscaping will be planted.

Fire hazard:

- A wildfire protection plan will be developed.
- Fire and fuel breaks will be maintained in the unit.
- Prescribed burning will lessen the amount of fuel.
- Fire safety will be stressed in the visitor information program.

Loss of native vegetation:

- A vegetation management program will upgrade and restore remaining native plant communities.
- Three natural preserves will be established.

Loss of wildlife habitat:

- See above "Native Vegetation" mitigation measures.

Threat to archeological sites:

- See policies in Resource Element.

Sewage production:

- The above water conservation measures will reduce amount of sewage.

Exposure to radiation:

- An evacuation plan will be maintained and updated.
- Rangers and lifeguards will continue to be trained to carry out the evacuation plan.

Need for law enforcement:

- Rangers will be added to the existing force.

Project Description

See Land Use and Facilities Element.

Environmental Setting

San Onofre State Beach is located on the coast, on the San Diego side of the San Diego-Orange county line. To the south and east of the unit is the Camp Pendleton marine base, consisting of 134,000 acres of sparsely developed open space. To the north are the equally sparsely developed holdings of the TRW Weapons Research Facility. To the west in Orange County is the City of San Clemente, and a vacant U.S. Coast Guard LORAN station. Much of the inland portion of the city is open space, proposed for urban development.

For a description of the environmental setting of San Onofre State Beach proper, see the Resource Element and the Land Use and Facilities Element of this revised General Plan. The following information is added to complete the description of the environmental setting.

Air Quality

The air at San Onofre State Beach is, by Southern California standards, clean. There are no significant sources of air pollutants such as fossil-fuel power plants or oil refineries within 30 miles of the area, and on-shore winds blow pollutants inland much of the time. As with the rest of Southern California, motor vehicles are the source of most of the air pollutants at San Onofre. A five-year summary of air quality at Oceanside, San Diego County -- the closest air quality station -- is shown in Table 2. These data are probably representative of San Onofre State Beach as well. At Oceanside, the only gaseous pollutant that exceeded state or federal standards in the last five years is ozone, which exceeded the federal standards an average 16 days a year. The only other air pollutant that violated state and federal standards at Oceanside during this period was total suspended particulates. Composed primarily of salt particles blown off the ocean, total suspended particulates violated the California 24-hour standard an average of 36 days per year.

Table 2 - Oceanside Air Quality

<u>Pollutant</u>	<u>1978-82 5-Year Average*</u>	<u>1978-82 Average 1-Hour Max.</u>	<u>Average No. Days Exceeded Fed. Stds.</u>
Ozone	--	29 pphm	16
Carbon Monoxide	--	8 ppm	0
Nitrogen Dioxide	2.0 pphm	19 pphm	0
Sulfer Dioxide	0.2 pphm	4 ppm	0
Total Suspended Particulates	88 ug/m ³	1613 ug/m ³ (24-hr. sample)	4 (36-State Standard)

* SDAPCD does not report average daily concentrations of ozone and carbon monoxide.

Source: San Diego Air Pollution Control District

Noise

The principal sources of noise in the San Onofre area are traffic on I-5, train traffic on the AT&SF line, surf, explosions at Camp Pendleton, rocket engine testing at TRW, and frequent overflights by military aircraft. Of these sources, traffic on the freeway is the most significant. A noise assessment done for the City of San Clemente in 1982 estimated existing noise levels along I-5 (Table 3).

Table 3 ¹ - Noise Generated by I-5 through San Clemente

<u>Roadway Segment</u>	² Distance to CNEL Contour From Roadway Centerline		
	<u>60 CNEL</u>	<u>65 CNEL</u>	<u>70 CNEL</u>
San Diego Freeway ³ S. of Av. Pico	903	419	194

- 1) From Rancho San Clemente Specific Plan EIR; LSA, Inc.
- 2) CNEL = Community Noise Equivalent Level in decibels (dB).
- 3) ADT (existing) is 62000; vehicle speed is 55 mph.

According to this table, the only facility at San Onofre State Beach that is currently being affected by freeway noise is the campground at the San Onofre Bluffs subunit, which would be subjected to a CNEL of about 65 dB. This level of noise is considered only conditionally acceptable for residences.⁴

- 4) Guidelines for the Preparation and Content of Noise Elements of the General Plan. Cal. Dept. Health, Off. of Noise Control, and the Off. Planning and Research. Feb. 1976.

Traffic

Primary vehicular access to San Onofre State Beach is from the I-5 freeway via the Cristianitos Road and Basilone Road interchanges. Subunits 1 and 2 are reached via the Cristianitos Road interchange and Cristianitos Road, while Subunits 3 and 4 are reached via the Basilone Road interchange and old Highway 101. Local traffic from San Clemente can reach the Cristianitos Road interchange via frontage roads on both sides of the freeway. Both interchanges also serve Camp Pendleton, while workers at SONGS must use the Basilone Road interchange and a 1-1/2-mile section of old Highway 101. A survey by the Southern California Edison Company in August 1983 counted an average 13,500 vehicles/day on old Highway 101; of these vehicles, 750/day (6%) were of visitors to San Onofre State Beach, while the remaining 12,750/day (94%) were of workers at SONGS.

Basilone Road provides the principal access to the northern part of Camp Pendleton, while Cristianitos Road is a less-used alternate. Cristianitos Road also provides the only access to Subunit 1 at this time. There are no recent traffic counts for Cristianitos Road or Basilone Road.

Table 4 shows 1982 traffic counts for I-5 through San Onofre State Beach. I-5 is at 45% of capacity at these locations.

It is estimated that 98% of the visitors to San Onofre State Beach arrive by motor vehicle. A census of vehicles entering San Onofre State Beach is shown in Table 5. These figures do not include people visiting Subunit 1 or Trestles Beach, where there are no controlled parking areas or access points.

Table 4 - Traffic Volume on I-5 at San Onofre State Beach, 1982

<u>Mile Post</u>	<u>Peak Hour</u>	<u>Peak Month</u>	<u>Annual</u>	<u>Volume/Capacity</u>
R71.38 Basilone Rd. Interchange	6,700	69,000	67,000	
				0.45
R72.37 Cristianitos Rd. Interchange	6,600	65,000	63,000	

Table 5 - Motor Vehicles Driven to San Onofre State Beach, 1980-1982

<u>Year</u>	<u>Total Cars</u>	<u>Total Day Use</u>	<u>Total Camping</u>	<u>Peak Month</u>
1980	216,688	182,065	34,623	37,067 (July)
1981	185,754	159,490	36,264	39,005 (Aug.)
1982	216,168	177,485	38,683	34,869 (Aug.)

Accidents

The accident rates at the Basilone and Cristianitos Road intersections are not significantly greater than expected for the number of vehicle miles traveled. The same applies for I-5 where it passes through the state beach.

Transit

The only public transportation serving San Onofre State Beach is a concession-operated shuttle carrying surfers to Trestles Beach and back from their parking area at the Cristianitos Road interchange. The shuttle, consisting of an ATC pulling a trailer, operates daily during the summer and weekends only during the spring and fall.

An Orange County Transit District bus line extends to the county line at the Cristianitos Road interchange, from where visitors can walk or take the shuttle to Trestles Beach.

Two Amtrak trains daily -- one from the north, and one from the south -- stop in San Clemente in front of the city pier, 2-1/2 miles from the boundary of the state beach. Nineteen Greyhound buses stop at San Clemente each day. The bus station is located four miles from the state beach. Very few people use public transportation to travel to San Onofre State Beach.

Bicycles

There is a substantial amount of bicycle use in San Onofre State Beach. Some people, mostly from the City of San Clemente, use their bicycles to visit the beach for a few hours or a day. Others pass through or stop while on longer trips. The Pacific Coast Bicentennial Bike Route passes through the unit, following along old Highway 101. A few bicyclists commute through the park to their jobs at SONGS or Camp Pendleton.

Public Services

Water

San Onofre State Beach is supplied water by the Tri-Cities Municipal Water District. The water comes off the main pipeline that supplies the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station. The agreement with Tri-Cities limits the department to a maximum of 635 gal./min. This would total 1,024 acre-feet/year. Current usage averages about 10 acre-feet/year.

Sewage

The department maintains pump-out restrooms at Surf Beach and San Onofre Bluffs. The sewage from these restrooms is currently trucked to South Carlsbad in San Diego County for treatment.

Plans and Zoning

San Onofre State Beach is leased from the U.S. Navy, and hence is not subject to land-use regulation by the county or the state. The Coastal Commission will review the development plans, however, to determine their consistency with the Coastal Act. The proposed development must be consistent with the requirements of the Federal Coastal Zone Management Act. It is the U.S. Navy's responsibility to enforce such consistency.

Three proposed transportation projects would have a major impact on Subunit 1 of San Onofre State Beach, if carried out as planned. These projects are the Foothill Transportation Corridor (FTC), the La Pata Avenue parkway, and the bullet train.

The FTC and La Pata Avenue are shown in the Master Plan of Arterial Highways Component of the Orange County General Plan, adopted in 1983. The Foothill Transportation Corridor would have six or eight lanes, claiming a right-of-way of 300 to 400 feet wide. The final route for the FTC has not been selected, but the maps show it running along the east side of San Mateo Creek the full length of Subunit 1, intersecting with the San Diego Freeway at the location of the Basilone Road interchange.

La Pata Avenue is shown as a four-lane parkway running parallel with the FTC. It would intersect with the FTC in the northern half of Subunit 1. Neither of these two projects would necessarily require any changes in the facilities called for in the revised General Plan, although they would undoubtedly inflict visual and noise impacts and require land use changes in Subunit 1.

The bullet train is a high-speed passenger train service between Los Angeles and San Diego being proposed by an investment organization called American High Speed Rail, Inc. The train route chosen by the company would cross Subunit 1 in the vicinity of the proposed family campground. The rail bed would be on the surface or above ground in this segment. The agricultural tract, the family campground, and the proposed golf course would be affected by the construction and operation of the selected route.

The Master Plan of Riding and Hiking Trails, part of the Recreation Element of the Orange County General Plan, shows two riding and hiking trails converging on the northern end of Subunit 1. These trails -- called the Cristianitos Trail and the Prima Desecha Trail -- would tie into the group and equestrian campground proposed in the revised General Plan.

Demographics

Approximately 12 million people live within a two-hour drive of San Onofre State Beach. This includes all of Orange County and parts of Los Angeles, San Diego, Riverside, and San Bernardino Counties. In this region, the area within a one-hour drive -- southern Orange County, northern San Diego County, and western Riverside County -- is expected to experience rapid growth during the rest of this century. By the year 2000, the population within a two-hour drive could reach 16 million.

Environmental Impacts

A summary of the proposed new development at San Onofre State Beach includes:

Subunit 1 - Inland

- 155-acre family campground
- 180-acre public golf course
- group camping/equestrian camping area
- small picnic area/overlook
- primitive camping areas
- hiking and equestrian trails
- 37-acre natural preserve

Subunit 2 - Trestles Beach

- 100-car parking lot
- trail from parking lot to beach
- 82-acre natural preserve

Subunit 3 - Surfers Beach

- scenic overlook and interpretive center
- maintenance/service area

Subunit 4 - San Onofre Bluffs

- suggested train stop and expanded camp store
- 365-acre natural preserve

The environmental impacts of the proposed developments include the following:

Geology and Soils

Changes in the natural topography: Grading will be done for the golf course, campground, and parking lots. It is not known at this time how much grading will be required.

Mitigation: The proposed developments are sited to take advantage of the natural topography: the family campground site is on a gently sloping bench; the proposed golf course design might require very much alteration of the existing topography in some areas.

Impervious surfaces: The new parking lots, roads, campsites, and trails will be paved or have hard-packed surfaces which will increase the amount of runoff from those areas, and will increase the potential for gully erosion.

Mitigation: Runoff control measures will be applied as needed. Measures such as those described in the Erosion and Sediment Control Handbook* will be employed. For example, runoff will be directed into existing natural drainage courses, with paved open ditches or culverts and energy dissipators, if necessary. Special care will be taken in the design of drainage control for developments on the bluff top (the overlook and interpretive center on Subunit 3, and the parking lot on Subunit 2).

*California Department of Conservation, 1981.

Air Quality

With a build-out of the new facilities called for in the revised General Plan,¹ it is calculated that by 1990, more than 500 lbs. of air pollutants per day would be generated in the San Onofre area in July and August by the additional vehicular traffic that the development would generate (see Table ___ for the calculations and assumptions). This is a significant level of air pollution.²

In addition to the vehicle-generated pollution mentioned above, dust will be generated during the construction phase.

- 1) The golf course proposal is excluded from this discussion, and will be treated in an independent EIR to be prepared later.
- 2) Air Quality Handbook for Environmental Impact Reports (1980). South Coast Air Quality Management Dist.

Mitigation: The construction sites will be watered if dust becomes a problem. See also the mitigation measures proposed under Traffic and Circulation.

Table 6
Estimated Maximum Daily Air Pollution from Motor Vehicles Using New Facilities Proposed in the San Onofre State Beach General Plan (months of July and August)

<u>Facility</u>	<u># Parking Spaces</u>	<u># Vehicles/Day</u>
Family Campground Subunit 1	530	1,060
Parking Lot, Trestles Beach Bluff	100	200
Picnic Area, Subunit 1	30	30
Group Camp	70	<u>70</u>
		Total = 1,360
Max. # Cars/Day (80%)		1,088
Accommodated turnaways and Trestles Beach users (100 cars/day)	Adjusted Total =	988

Average miles/vehicles/day (10 mi.) =	9,880 miles/day driver
1990 California State Composite Moving Exhaust Rates (29.2 g/mi.) ¹	<u>289 kg/day (635 lbs/day) pollutants</u>
Significance Threshold ¹ =	150 lbs/pollutants/day

1) Air Quality Handbook for Environmental Impact Reports. Rev. Oct. 1980. South Coast Air Quality Management District.

Water Usage

Excluding the proposed golf course, the developments called for in the revised General Plan will require an estimated 67 acre-feet per year. This amount can be supplied by the Tri-Cities Water District, with which the department has a contract. With the addition of an 18-hole golf course, an additional 250-300 acre-feet per year of reclaimed water will be needed. This water will be drawn from the same source that supplies the existing San Clemente Municipal Golf Course.

Mitigation: All restrooms and showers will conform to state standards with regard to the use of low-flush toilets and low-flow shower heads. Drought-resistant plant materials will be emphasized in the landscaping plan for the unit; lawn areas will be minimal.

Vegetation

The area of land covered with wild vegetation, especially in Subunit 1, will decrease approximately 165 acres due to the creation of roads, parking lots, and other facilities (or about 300 acres if the proposed golf course is included). About 90 acres (180 with golf course) of coastal sage scrub would be lost. Another 30 acres of Central Valley prairie (*Stipa* grassland) would be destroyed. The rest of the area to be altered consists of recently cultivated upland (now covered with exotic plants) and annual grassland.

Mitigation: Much of the land to be converted from natural vegetation has been greatly disturbed by farming, military maneuvers, or other soil-disturbing activities, and supports, as a result, a degraded mix of exotic plants (e.g., sweet fennel, tree tobacco), as well as natives such as coyote bush that colonize disturbed sites.

Efforts will be made under the revised General Plan to restore the native vegetation by planting (Subunit 3 bluffs parking area), prescribed burning (inland subunit), and various techniques to control the exotic plants.

There are no known rare, endangered, or sensitive plant species in San Onofre State Beach.

Wildlife

The change of habitat by the development called for in the revised General Plan, especially the golf course, would reduce the numbers of some animals and possibly increase the numbers of others. Animals which prefer or require grassland and coastal scrub plant communities, such as the Savannah Sparrow, Wrenit, and Brush Rabbit, may decrease, whereas the irrigation, addition of trees and shrubs for screening, and the edge effect created, especially by the golf course, will probably increase the numbers of such species as the American Robin, House Finch, Killdeer, California Ground Squirrel, and Black-Tailed Hare.

Two species of birds that are both state and federally listed as "endangered" are known to occur at San Onofre State Beach. The brown pelican feeds off-shore, and rests on the beach. The California least tern feeds offshore, and in the lagoon at the mouth of San Mateo Creek. Nothing called for in the revised General Plan would adversely affect either of these species.

A state-listed endangered species, the least Bell's vireo, could potentially nest in the riparian vegetation near the mouth of San Mateo Creek, or along Cristianitos Creek in Orange County.

Mitigation: The proposed Trestles Natural Preserve would protect the existing California least tern feeding area at the mouth of San Mateo Creek.

The proposed Trestles and San Mateo Wetlands Natural Preserves protect riparian vegetation and habitat for numerous species of nesting and transitory birds, including the least Bell's vireo. Designation of the Orange County property as a light intensity use area will do the same.

Noise

Development of Subunit 1 will increase auto traffic on Cristianitos Road, adding to the noise created by the existing traffic from the marine base. The absence of nearby residential development reduces the significance of this projected minor increase in noise.

Mitigation: None.

Light and Glare

Motor vehicles parked in parking lots and campgrounds will produce glare. Area lighting in the campgrounds and parking lots will increase the amount of night lighting in the area.

Mitigation: The parking lots will be screened with low evergreen trees and shrubs. Area lighting will be the minimum consistent with public safety. Most area lighting will be turned off after midnight.

Cultural Resources

Several archeological sites occur in areas of planned development under the revised General Plan. These include: CA-SDi-1311, 1314, 4283, and 4282. In addition, CA-SDi-4283 and 8435 are suffering damage because of natural erosion and agricultural activities.

Mitigation: See policies on pages 25 and 26 of the Resource Element.

Non-Renewable Resources

Fossil fuels will be consumed in the development and operation of the unit.

Mitigation: None.

Traffic and Circulation

The major traffic impact of the proposed developments (golf course excluded) would be the increase of vehicles using Cristianitos Road and the Cristianitos Road interchange at I-5. These increases will be greatest during the summer season (Memorial Day to Labor Day), when the family campground is expected to be full much of the time. The campground is expected to generate between 500 and 1,000 round trips per day during this time. The campground traffic is expected to be more evenly distributed throughout the day than traffic from the marine base that also uses the road. Marine base traffic has daily peaks centered around 7 a.m. and 4 p.m. on weekdays, and 8-11 p.m. on weekends.

The San Onofre State Beach component of traffic at the Basilone Road interchange would increase up to a maximum of 400 vehicles/day with the addition of a 100-space parking lot at Trestles Beach. In the same period of time, the SONGS component of traffic is expected to decrease more than 2,000 vehicles/day with completion of nuclear generating units #2 and #3.

Traffic on other roads or intersections is not expected to significantly increase on account of the new development.

Up to 2,000 cars/day will be added to traffic on I-5 due to the development called for in the revised General Plan (excluding the proposed golf course). As the freeway currently carries an average of 63,000-67,000 vehicles/day through San Onofre State Beach and is at 45% capacity, this increase cannot by itself be considered significant.

The traffic impacts of the proposed golf course will not be on any road in the state beach but, rather, on streets in the City of San Clemente. These impacts will be examined in a subsequent EIR to be prepared if the State Park and Recreation Commission chooses to pursue the golf course proposal.

Mitigation: When appropriate, a "campground full" sign will be posted on Cristianitos Road at the I-5 interchange to discourage "turnaway" traffic on Cristianitos Road.

A bicycle lane will be built along Cristianitos Road connecting the family campground with the beach areas; bicycle lockers or racks will be provided at the beach end. The department will seek a concessionaire to transport people from the campground and the more distant parking areas to the beaches and back.

Public Services

Fire Control

The potential of human-caused wildfires in the state beach will increase when the inland subunit is developed for recreation.

Mitigation: Fuels (dry grass, brush, litter) will be reduced and kept at low levels around all campsites and picnic areas. Firebreaks will be built and maintained around all primitive camping areas (the family campground will be bounded by pre-existing fire barriers: Cristianitos Road and San Mateo Creek). The department will continue to maintain a firebreak along the Orange County line in Subunit 1. During periods of extreme fire weather, open fires will be prohibited, and the primitive camping areas will be closed.

Fire control in San Onofre State Beach is provided by the marine base fire department. This arrangement has been adequate to date, and should continue to be adequate under the proposed plan.

The department will stress fire prevention in its visitor information program at San Onofre State Beach.

Law Enforcement

Additional visitors under the revised General Plan will cause an additional law enforcement need.

Mitigation: From seven to ten state park rangers will be assigned to San Onofre State Beach during the summer high-use period; six will be the minimum number of rangers assigned there at any time. State park rangers are law

enforcement officers certified under the Police Officers Standards Training (POST) program. If necessary, backup support is available from the San Diego County Sheriff's Department (located 25 miles away in Encinitas), the San Clemente Police Department, or the military police at Camp Pendleton.

Geology and Soils

The amount of grading required to fulfill the objectives of the revised General Plan will have a significant impact on the natural soils of the unit, especially the golf course and campground developments.

Air Quality

The predicted increase in traffic will generate a significant increase in local air pollution.

Water Consumption

The increased water consumption, particularly if the proposed golf course is built, will be significant.

Vegetation

Natural plant communities will be removed and replaced with various developments. Coastal sage scrub is the plant community that will be most affected.

Wildlife

Wildlife that requires coastal sage scrub or annual grassland will be displaced by the development proposed in the revised General Plan.

Traffic and Circulation

Traffic on Cristianitos Road would be significantly increased.

Significant Environmental Effects Which Cannot Be Avoided If The Proposal Is Implemented

None of the environmental effects described above as significant can be avoided if the General Plan is implemented as proposed.

Alternatives

No Project

If no further development of San Onofre State Beach is undertaken, none of the impacts associated with DPR recreational development would occur. If the recreational development of Subunit 1 does not occur, however, the U.S. Navy will undertake to terminate the lease for this parcel, and open it up again for base uses. Those uses could include construction of base housing, military maneuvers, or other developments and activities that would have a significant environmental impact.

No Golf Course

If the golf course is not built, there will be 180 fewer acres developed. That area not to be used for the campground will be left as open space, with some vegetation management aimed at fuel reduction and the restoration of native plant communities.

Without a golf course, the development called for in the revised General Plan will have significantly less impact on native plant communities and their associated wildlife. The amount of water used will be much less (probably 80% less). The amount of grading will be significantly less, although at this time it is not known how much grading the golf course will require; the biocides and fertilizers used on golf courses will not be used.

Parking Lot on Old Highway 101, Subunit 2, Replacing the Parking Lot on the Bluff

Instead of tearing out all but a 15-foot service road, the full width of old Highway 101 will be preserved and turned into a parking area for Trestles Beach (Subunit 2). Traffic will enter and exit via the Basilone Road interchange. Approximately 75 cars could be parked there.

This parking lot could take the place of the parking lot slated for the bluff overlooking Trestles Beach.

This change will subtract some traffic to the Basilone Road interchange; it will also necessitate a widening of the access road which is now used by pedestrians, bicyclists, and DPR patrol vehicles, so motor vehicles and other users do not conflict. No other impacts are foreseen.

The San Onofre State Beach Advisory Committee is opposed to this alternative.

Short Term Use vs. Long-Term Productivity

The irrigated agriculture currently taking place in Subunit 1 will be continued under the revised General Plan. Land in coastal sage scrub and grassland will be used for recreational development, but a much greater area of open space will be enhanced by a vegetation management program designed to restore native plant communities. The net effect of actions taken under the revised General Plan should be an improvement of both the natural and cultural environments at San Onofre State Beach.

Irreversible/Irretrievable Changes/Commitments

The losses of soil and habitat caused by the construction of campgrounds and parking lots are, for all practical purposes, irreversible, while the fossil fuels used in the construction and operation of the proposed new facilities are irretrievable.

Growth-Inducing Impacts

There are none.

Cumulative Impacts

Loss of native plant communities such as coastal sage scrub, taken with other developments past and present along the Southern California coast, form a cumulative impact of great significance. Increased water usage in an area that is forced to import and reuse most of its water is also a significant cumulative impact.

Agencies Consulted

California Coastal Commission, San Diego Regional Commission
California Department of Parks and Recreation
Caltrans, District 11
City of San Clemente, Park and Recreation Department
Orange County Environmental Management Agency
San Diego County Air Pollution Control District
Southern California Edison Company
U.C. Davis Extension
U.S. Navy, Camp Pendleton Marine Base

SAN ONOFRE STATE BEACH
REVISED GENERAL PLAN, INCLUDING
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

SCH 83110204

COPIES OF THE SAN ONOFRE STATE BEACH REVISED GENERAL PLAN, INCLUDING
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT WERE SENT TO THE FOLLOWING
INDIVIDUALS, ORGANIZATIONS AND AGENCIES ON NOVEMBER 1, 1983:

State Clearinghouse (10 copies)
California Department of Parks and Recreation - Southern Region
California Department of Parks and Recreation - Pendleton Coast
Area
San Diego Association of Governments
Mr. Russ Armstrong, Equestrian Trails, Inc.
Mr. San Conroy, San Onofre State Beach Advisory Committee
Colonel Bornotas, U.S.M.C., Camp Pendleton
Mr. Larry Alsup, Southern California Edison Co.
Mr. Murray Rosenthal, Sierra Club
Mr. Lloyd Bookout, Michael Brandman Associates
Mr. Ford Dickerhoff, San Clemente Golf Course Planning Committee
Mr. Bob Himmerich, Capistrano Council of Juanenos
Mr. Raymond Balardes, Juaneno Band of Mission Indians
Mr. Gary Spaulding, Institute of California Indian Heritage
San Clemente City Planning Department
San Diego County Planning Department
Orange County Environmental Management Agency
AMTRAK
Oceanside City Planning Department
Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe Company

THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS WERE SENT COPIES
AFTER NOVEMBER 1, 1983, AT THEIR OWN REQUEST:

Daily Sun-Post, Fred Swegles
Mr. Alfred Blumberger, c/o Glen Edward Roy
Mr. Don Harvey, TRW Capistrano Test Site
Mr. Jose de Luna, Department of the Navy, San Bruno
Mr. Alan L. White
Mr. Gary Reynolds, Orange County Vector Control District

NEWSPAPER ADS WERE PLACED IN THE FOLLOWING NEWSPAPERS: (See
sample attached)

San Diego Union (November 10, 1983)

Daily Sun-Post (San Clemente - November 17, 1983)

COPIES OF THE DOCUMENT WERE AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC REVIEW AT THE
FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

Orange County Library, San Clemente Branch
California Department of Parks and Recreation, Region 4 Headquarters
California Department of Parks and Recreation, Pendleton Coast
Area Office

COMMENTS WERE RECEIVED FROM THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS, ORGANIZATIONS,
AND AGENCIES:

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- California Department of Fish and Game
- Public Utilities Commission
- Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region
- Thomas F. Riley, Supervisor, Orange County Board of
Supervisors
- City of Oceanside
- Mr. Karlin G. Marsh
- Mr. Glen Edward Roy
- Mr. Arthur E. Palmer
- Mr. Ray Belardes, Juaneño Band of Mission Indians
- City of San Clemente (Resolution)

NOTICE

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

SAN ONOFRE STATE BEACH
GENERAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ELEMENT (REPORT)

The California Department of Parks and Recreation has prepared the subject report; copies of the document are available for public review at the following locations:

Orange County Library
San Clemente Branch
242 Avenida del Mar
San Clemente, CA 92672

California Department of
Parks and Recreation
Region 4 Headquarters
2505 Congress Street
San Diego, CA 92110

California Department of
Parks and Recreation
Pendleton Coast Area Office
3030 Avenida del Presidente
San Clemente, CA 92672

There is a thirty (30) day public review period mandated by The California Environmental Quality Act. Any questions or written comments should be directed to James M. Doyle, Supervisor, Environmental Review Section, California Department of Parks and Recreation, P.O. Box 2390, Sacramento, CA 95811 and received prior to DEC 1 1983. Comments received after this date may not be given full consideration. For additional information, you may telephone (916) 445-7067.

OFFICE OF RESOURCES, ENERGY, AND PERMIT ASSISTANCE
1400 TENTH STREET
SACRAMENTO, CA - 95814



December 1, 1983

James M. Doyle
California Department Of Parks and Recreation
P.O. Box 2390
Sacramento, CA 95811

Subject: San Onofre State Beach Revised General Plan/ SCH # 83110204

Dear Mr. Doyle

The State Clearinghouse submitted the above named draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) to selected state agencies for review. The review period is closed and the comments of the individual agency(ies) is(are) attached. If you would like to discuss their concerns and recommendations, please contact the staff from the appropriate agency(ies).

When preparing the final EIR, you must include all comments and responses (CEQA Guidelines, Section 15146). The certified EIR must be considered in the decision-making process for the project. In addition, we urge you to respond directly to the commenting agency(ies) by writing to them, including the State Clearinghouse number on all correspondence.

A 1981 Appellate Court decision in Clary v. County of Stanislaus (118 Cal. App. 3d 348) clarified requirements for responding to review comments. Specifically, the court indicated that comments must be addressed in detail, giving reasons why the specific comments and suggestions were not accepted. The responses must show factors of overriding significance which required the suggestion or comment to be rejected. Responses to comments must not be conclusory statements but must be supported by empirical or experimental data, scientific authority or explanatory information of any kind. The court further said that the responses must be a good faith, reasoned analysis.

In the event that the project is approved without adequate mitigation of significant effects, the lead agency must make written findings for each significant effect and it must support its actions with a written statement of overriding considerations for each unmitigated significant effect (CEQA Guidelines Section 15088 and 15089).

If the project requires discretionary approval from any state agency, the Notice of Determination must be filed with the Secretary for Resources, as well as with the County Clerk. Please contact Dan Conaty at (916) 445-0613 if you have any questions about the environmental review process.

Sincerely,

Terry Roberts
Terry Roberts
Manager
State Clearinghouse

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United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
ECOLOGICAL SERVICES
24000 Avila Road
Laguna Niguel, California 92677

November 25, 1983

James M. Doyle, Supervisor
Environmental Review Section
California Department of Parks & Recreation
P.O. Box 2390
Sacramento, California 95811

Re: San Onofre State Beach Revised General Plan

Dear Sir:

The Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) has reviewed the Revised General Plan for the San Onofre State Beach. This area of southern California contains valuable wildlife resources; however, the late date on which we received this document, November 17, 1983, did not allow the FWS to review the project with the thoroughness this area deserves. Specifically, we offer the following comments.

1. The plan states that no rare, endangered, and/or threatened animal species are known to occur in the area, but that further field work is necessary to verify this fact. The FWS believes that this information should be gathered before any decisions are made to disturb habitat within the State Park. The least Bell's vireo (Vireo bellii pusillus), a State endangered species and candidate for Federal listing, has nested near the mouth of San Mateo Creek in recent years. (Data are available from Larry Salata through our office.) The area also contains habitat suitable for the willow flycatcher (Empidonax traillii), an Audubon blue-listed species considered sensitive by State and Federal agencies, and the black-tailed gnatcatcher (Polioptila melanura californica), a candidate for Federal listing.

Coastal sage scrub habitat in the area is suitable habitat for the orange-throat whiptail (Cnemidophorus hyperythrus) and the coast horned lizard (Phrynosoma coronatum blainvillei), both candidates for Federal listing. Surveys for these species conducted in the appropriate habitat during the spring and summer would provide valuable information as to their status within the park.

2. Although more plentiful than riparian gallery forests and some other habitats, coastal sage scrub is rapidly disappearing throughout southern California. The state park system offers one alternative for protecting sensitive ecosystems from development. Construction of a golf course in coastal sage scrub habitat would eliminate virtually all important native wildlife resources in that area

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and introduce an area of discontinuity into an otherwise valuable wildlife corridor. For these reasons, we believe the 20-acre extension of the camping area to be an acceptable alternative to the proposed golf course.

3. The FWS supports the concept of the wetland preserves and the natural area. Wetland areas in particular provide vital habitat for numerous species of wildlife.

We would appreciate receiving any further documents on this matter as they become available. If you have any questions, please contact Chris Nordby or Ray Bransfield at (714) 831-4270.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wayne S. White". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "W" and "S".

Wayne S. White
Acting Field Supervisor

cc: CDFG, Reg. 5, Long Beach, CA (Attn: Jack Spruill)

Memorandum

To :

Date : November 29, 1983

1. Projects Coordinator
Resources Agency
2. California Department of Parks and Recreation
P. O. Box 2390
Sacramento, CA 95811

From : Department of Fish and Game

Subject: San Onofre State Beach Revised General Plan, San Diego and Orange Counties,
SCH-83110204

We have reviewed the subject plan which replaces the General Development Plan prepared in 1974. The revised plan designates additional facilities and land uses such as a family campground, three Natural Preserves, and an 18-hole golf course. We have the following comments and recommendations for your consideration.

We object to the proposed development of a golf course located along San Mateo Creek. Grading activities within the steep and unstable terrain in Subunit 1 and conversion of natural vegetation to manicured lawns would increase surface run-off velocities causing sediments to be deposited in the San Mateo Wetlands located immediately downstream of the project site. Protection of the Wetlands is extremely important because they are being proposed as a Natural Preserve to protect fish and wildlife. Additionally, the City of San Clemente has an 18-hole golf course adjacent to the proposed expansion area which provides recreational opportunity for the golfing public. We recommend that the State Park lands be preserved in as near a natural state as possible and that they not be available for projects that are incompatible with preservation of existing natural resources.

The project sponsor should be advised that diversion of the natural flow or changes in the channel, bed, or banks of any river, stream or lake must include notification to the Department of Fish and Game as called for in Section 1601 of the Fish and Game Code. This notification (with fee) and the subsequent agreement must be completed prior to initiating any such changes. We urge compliance with this code section prior to completion of the specific design since project features associated with streams or streambeds may require modifications.

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on this project. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Fred A. Worthley Jr., Regional Manager, Region 5, 245 West Broadway, Suite 350, Long Beach, California 90802; telephone ATSS 635-5113.

Director

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OFFICE OF PLANNING
AND RESEARCH



T. S. Joe 8536

Public Utilities Commission
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

November 14, 1983

183-37/EIR

Dan Conaty
Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street - Room 121
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Conaty:

This is in response to the California Department of Parks and Recreation's Draft Environmental Impact Report covering the San Onofre State Beach Revised General Plan, SCH #83110204.

Based on the information contained in the report, it does not appear that sufficient consideration was given to the fact that The Atchafalaya, Topsis and Santa Fe Railway tracks traverse through the area except for the one paragraph on page 39 of the report. Our records indicate that there are approximately 10 trains operating through the area with permissible speeds up to 90 mph. This number of trains would increase should the American High Speed Rail, Inc.'s 'Bullet train' come into being and which would also be operating at higher speeds.

Our concern is that there is no real discussion or mitigation measures given on this railroad line running through the project area. The report appears to ignore the fact that trespassers could present a safety problem. Neither are there any measures given nor proposed which would preclude these trespassers from possible injury. It is our belief that the increase in usage of these areas will increase the potential of hazards, all along the track, of injury to the myriad users of the beach, campsites and proposed golf course unless right-of-way protection is satisfactorily established throughout that portion of trackage in the project areas.

1

Very truly yours,

WILLIAM L. OLIVER, Principal
Railroad Operations and Safety Branch
Transportation Division

cc: James M. Doyle
California Department of Parks and Recreation
P. O. Box 2390
Sacramento, CA 95811

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CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
SAN DIEGO REGION

8154 Mission Gorge Road
(Mail: Suite 205/Enter: Suite 106)
San Diego, California 92120-1939
Telephone: (619) 265-5114



November 23, 1983

Mr. Dan Conaty
State Clearinghouse
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Mr. Conaty:

Re: San Onofre State Beach Revised General Plan,
SCH No. 83110204

Regional Water Quality Control Board staff have reviewed the revised general plan for the San Onofre State Beach. The plan states that all wastewater is currently collected in pump-out restrooms and trucked to south Carlsbad in San Diego County for treatment. Our understanding is that this practice will continue as the State Beach is further developed. However, if this is not the case and localized treatment and/or discharge is anticipated, it will be necessary for the Department of Parks and Recreation to obtain a waste discharge permit or even a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit from this Board.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please call Betty Meyer at 265-5114.

Very truly yours,

MICHAEL P. McCANN
Senior Engineer

EM:ds

cc: William S. Briner, Director
Department of Parks and Recreation
P.O. Box 2390
Sacramento, California 95811

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PARKS & RECREATION

SUPERVISOR, FIFTH DISTRICT

THOMAS F. RILEY

ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

ORANGE COUNTY HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
10 CIVIC CENTER PLAZA, P. O. BOX 687, SANTA ANA, CALIFORNIA 92702
PHONE: 834-3550 (AREA CODE 714)

Mr. Wm. S. Briner, Director
Department of Parks and Recreation
State of California
P. O. Box 2390
Sacramento, California 95811

SUBJECT: Revised San Onofre State Beach General Plan and Draft EIR

Dear Mr. Briner:

The County of Orange appreciates the opportunity to review and comment on the Revised General Development Plan and Draft EIR for San Onofre State Beach.

Our primary concern is that the Revised General Plan and EIR document only briefly acknowledges the Foothill Transportation Corridor which is shown on the Orange County Master Plan of Arterial Highways to pass through the San Onofre State Beach area. We believe that the proposed transportation corridor should be given more detailed assessment in the document as it relates to the Revised General Plan. A Transportation Corridor is defined by the County of Orange as a "high-speed, high capacity, limited-access transportation facility to serve both local and regional traffic and transit needs." The transportation corridor will extend from the Tustin area for a distance of approximately 30 miles to a connection with Interstate Route 5 (I-5), near San Onofre State Beach. The facility is a very important link in the regional and local transportation system and is expected to equal or near the importance of I-5 when completed. The County of San Diego also shows a highway passing through the State Beach area which we believe would be appropriate to address in the EIR.

We have completed a preliminary analysis of potential transportation corridor routes through the area. This analysis shows that there are significant physical, planning and cost constraints which appear to indicate that feasible routes must pass through or very close to the State Beach area. Enclosed are a series of exhibits (Attachments 1 through 3) showing various possible alignments for the Foothill Transportation Corridor through the area which will be the basis for further study and evaluation. The enclosed exhibits utilize U.S.G.S. Topographic Maps as base maps and show the revised version of the State Beach Plan which incorporates the proposed expansion of the City of San Clemente Municipal Golf Course.

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Mr. Briner

Page Two

It is anticipated that further study, coordination and environmental documentation will lead to Board of Supervisors consideration and selection of a preferred corridor route within approximately 18 months. The route for the corridor north of Ortega Highway in Orange County was selected by the Board earlier this year. We will coordinate in depth with your department as more detailed planning for the corridor progresses.

2

We understand that the intent of your EIR is to establish "long range resource management objectives and policies" for the State Beach and thus should reflect the planning programs of local agencies. Therefore, we request that the enclosed exhibits be included in the Revised General Plan and Final EIR documentation to acknowledge our continuing corridor planning efforts. We also suggest that the Master Plans of Arterial Highways for both Orange and San Diego Counties be included in the Final EIR (Attachments 4 and 5).

3

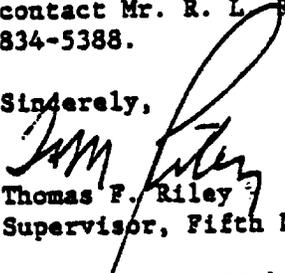
In addition to the above prime concern, more specific comments on the draft document are included in Attachment 6.

On October 13, 1983, Orange County Environmental Management Agency staff met with Mr. George Rackelmann of your staff for a fruitful exchange of our mutual planning concerns in the State Beach area. We would very much like to continue this cooperative effort. In this regard I would like to personally meet with you on this matter and invite appropriate officials from Camp Pendleton to join us. I will be in contact soon to arrange a meeting.

In the meantime, I will appreciate your consideration of the above comments during the preparation of the final Revised General Development Plan and EIR and would like to receive a copy of the proposed final document together with notification of upcoming public hearings.

Should you have questions, please feel free to contact me directly. For questions regarding our technical comments, your staff may best contact Mr. R. L. Rende of our Environmental Management Agency at (714) 834-5388.

Sincerely,


Thomas F. Riley
Supervisor, Fifth District

TFR:jg (MC-01-023)

cc: James M. Doyle - State Dept. of Parks and Recreation
Leo J. Trombatore, Director - Caltrans
George Carvalho - City of San Clemente
Herman Rosenthal - County of San Diego
Murray Storm, Director - EMA

Attachments: 1. Alignment Alternatives Key Map 8 1/2" x 11"
2. Alignment Alternatives Key Map 1" = 2000'
3. Alignments A, B-1, B-2, B-3, C and D 1" = 2000'
4. Orange County MPAH
5. San Diego County MPAH
6. Specific Draft General Plan and EIR Comments

ORANGE COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT AGENCY

Attachment 6

San Onofre State Beach EIR Comments

1. In Table 2, page 54, the EIR should mention which state and national air quality standards are being referenced. (Example: For total suspended particulate the 24-hour standard should be listed.)
2. Air pollutant species are not additive. The emissions should be calculated separately, by species, in Table 6, page 60.
3. Table 6, on page 60, uses the old emission factors for the "hot stabilized" mode of operation, which do not include trip end emissions. If the current "hot stabilized" emission factors are used, trip end emissions must be calculated separately in the analysis. Alternately, emission factors that include trip end emissions can be used. Attached for your information are current 1990 vehicle emission factors which include trip end emissions, based on CALTRANS most recent hot and cold start data.
4. The speed assumed in calculating emissions should be referenced in Table 6, page 60.
5. The EIR should state whether or not it conforms with the air quality plans in effect in the area.
6. On page 57 reference is made to the Foothill Transportation Corridor (FTC) as having been adopted in 1983. In 1983 the Board of Supervisors adopted the alignment of the Foothill Transportation Corridor from the Eastern Corridor to Ortega Highway. No alignment has yet been adopted from Ortega Highway to the I-5 Freeway. The entire corridor was adopted on the County's Master Plan of Arterial Highways in 1981.
7. On page 57, the statement is made that the FTC "would have six or eight lanes, claiming a right-of-way of 300 to 400 feet wide." Lane requirements have not yet been determined for this segment of the Corridor, therefore, the 300 to 400 feet quoted in the report may be an overstatement.
8. Although the report states that the FTC will not require changes in the facilities recommended by the General Plan, we wish to continue to coordinate closely as facility locations and the alignment of the Corridor come more clearly into focus. The development of the golf course is of special concern. Because of its size, it would be the most difficult to "work around" or replace if necessary.
9. Runoff from the equestrian camp and family campgrounds within the Christianitos Creek Subunit may lead to excess nutrification of San Mateo Creek water, with negative impact accruing to the downstream Wetland Preserve. Golf course development within this subunit, with attendant fertilizers, may compound the problem further.

The Environmental Impact Element of subject plan does not adequately address this potential impact, proposing only to direct runoff into existing natural drainage courses. Mitigation measures are limited to a statement of compliance with the Erosion and Sediment Control Handbook. The potential nutrification impact should be discussed thoroughly and appropriate mitigation measures provided (i.e., reduction in facilities and/or redirection of runoff from inland facilities away from San Mateo Creek).

10. Equestrian trails are not depicted on subject plan's exhibits. The Land Use and Facilities Map should be revised to depict trails, including linkage with the Cristianitos Riding and Hiking Trail, identified on the Board-adopted Master Plan of Riding and Hiking Trails for Orange County. A copy is attached.

TABLE 2 - OCEANSIDE AIR QUALITY (continued)

Pollutant	1978-1982 5-Yr. Av.	1978-1982 Av. 1-Hr. Max.	1-Hr. Stds. (ppm)		Av. # Days/Yr. Exceeded State or Fed. Standards
			Fed. Prim.	State	
Sulfur Dioxide	0.002 ppm	0.04 ppm	-	0.5	0 (State)
Total Suspended Particulates	88 ug/m ³	1613 ug/m ³ (24 Hr. sample)	<u>24 Hour</u>		36 (State) 4 (Fed.)
			260 ug/m ³	100 ug/m ³	

* SPAPCD does not report average daily concentrations of ozone and carbon monoxide

AIR QUALITY

Page 59, Line 2: "500 lbs. of air pollutants" should read "475 lbs. of carbon monoxide".

Lines 5 and 6: Last sentence in the paragraph should read:
"This exceeds the interim standard set by the South Coast Air Quality Management District of 150 lbs./day of any pollutant."

Page 60, Table 6: Bottom of table should read as follows:

Average trip length/vehicle/day (10 mi.) = 9,880 trip miles/day
1990 California State Composite Moving Exhaust Rates,
including Trip-End Emissions^{1.}

LBS./DAY

CO	-	478
PHC	-	41
NMHC	-	35
NOX	-	34
SOX	-	5
PART	-	7

1.) Rates supplied by Orange County E.M.A.

Karlin G. Marsh
Biological Consultant

November 15, 1983

MEMORANDUM

TO: James Doyle, Supervisor
Environmental Review Section
California Department of Parks

FROM: Karlin G. Marsh, Biological Consultant

REGARDING: Revised General Plan for San Onofre State Beach

Please send me a copy of the above-cited document. I understand that the public review period for this study terminates December 1, 1983. Because of its late release and the limited number of copies released, it appears that the duration of the review period is inadequate.

I have several comments and questions pertaining to the Revised General Plan.

1. It has been reported to me that the document contains the statement that no rare or endangered biota occur within the study area. On what basis is this statement made? Has a biological assessment been conducted here? By whom? Is this study subject to public review? If so, I would like to obtain a copy.

2. It has also been reported to me that a golf course is proposed for construction in the San Mateo Creek floodplain. This is an area of highly significant wildlife habitat value. The least Bell's vireo has been documented from the floodplain by Larry Salada, a biologist working under contract to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The least Bell's vireo is a State of California Endangered-listed species and a Federal Category One species for Threatened/Endangered listing. The coastal race of the black-tailed gnatcatcher, a state and federal species of concern, nests in the coastal sage scrub of the adjacent uplands. The floodplain is appropriate habitat for the willow flycatcher, an additional species of concern.

Upper San Mateo Creek, within the Cleveland National Forest, is a Rare II Wilderness Study Area. A viable wildlife dispersion corridor, particularly for raptors, exists between the National Forest wildlands and the coast along the creek's unmodified riparian zone. White-tailed kites (a State of California Fully Protected Species), red-shouldered hawks, red-tailed hawks, barn owls, great horned owls and, at least historically, long-eared owls occupy habitat in this corridor, according to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service biologists. The construction and use of a golf course in the floodplain would disrupt and degrade this dispersion corridor.

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NOV 22 1983

Environmental Impact Report Biological Assessments
30262 Acorn Lane, P.O. Box 404, Silverado, California 92676
714/649-2027

3-2000



3. Any disruption of riparian habitat in the San Mateo Creek floodplain would be subject to both the California Department of Fish and Game 1601/03 and the Army Corps of Engineers 404 permit process. The latter requires mandatory U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service review of the project. The project is also within the Coastal Zone and subject to the jurisdiction to the California Coastal Commission. Because of the known significance of lower San Mateo Creek, it would appear unlikely that the various agencies involved would approve an adversely impacting land use here.

4. I personally question the appropriateness of building a golf course on State Park land. This proposal appears to be highly responsive to special interests within the neighboring city of San Clemente and is not truly reflective of the greater public need. The State is the guardian of significant areas of wilderness open spaces. It should plan the use of these areas in such a way as to exert the least degree of adverse environmental impact.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

CCs to:

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Laguna Niguel, CA

California Coastal Commission
San Francisco, CA

Environmental Analysis Section
County of San Diego

California Native Plant Society, Orange County Chapter, San Diego
County Chapter

National Audubon Society, Sea and Sage Chapter, San Diego County
Chapter



CITY OF OCEANSIDE

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

November 15, 1983

Mr. James M. Doyle, Supervisor
Environmental Review Section
State of California, Resources Agency
Department of Parks and Recreation
P. O. Box 2390
Sacramento, CA 95811

SUBJECT: SAN ONOFRE STATE BEACH, REVISED GENERAL PLAN

Dear Mr. Doyle:

The City of Oceanside has reviewed the document referenced above and finds it to be well written and adequate. Although the City of Oceanside will not be a Responsible Agency for this project, we appreciate being afforded the opportunity to review and comment on the Revised General Plan. (1)

Very truly yours,

MARILYN E. COX
Associate Planner/Environmental

MEC/gfd

cc: Richard Watenpaugh, Leisure Services Director

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NOV 18 1983

RPI

CITY HALL

320 N. HORNE ST.

OCEANSIDE, CA 92054

TELEPHONE 714-439-7272

GLENN EDWARD ROY
Post Office Box 214
San Clemente, CA 92672 .

November 29, 1983

James M. Doyle, Supervisor
Environmental Review Section
State of California
Department of Parks & Recreation
Post Office Box 2390
Sacramento, CA 95811

Dear Supervisor Doyle:

I am writing to you to fully express my concern over the recently proposed "San Onofre State Beach, revised general plan". This plan proposes to provide more access to an area many feel to be critically endangered environmentally.

A 75-car parking lot on the south bluff of this wetland west of Interstate 5 would encourage, rather than dissuade, unauthorized entry into lower San Mateo Creek's waterfowl nesting area. Already fertilizer enriched run-off from the adjacent San Clemente Farm and marginally treated sewage wastes contribute to high phosphate and nitrate loading in the stream. Further, coliform bacilli, and giardia lamblia, a protozoan causing gastric illness, are detectable in measureable quantities. Additional phosphate/nitrate loading from a necessarily heavily fertilized 18 hole golf course could conceivably be the death knell for the aquatic life of San Mateo Creek.

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NOV 29 1983

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The result would be a stream abundant with algae. The dying algae would settle into the river mouth's impounded lagoon bottom, and undergo anaerobic decomposition. This process, known as eutrophication, will result in fish kills rendering the watercourse devoid of life.

Several species of chubs and minnows inhabit the stream. Beneficial fish, such as *Gambusia affinis*, known as the mosquito fish, would vanish. Already, a serious mosquito problem exists from a human comfort standpoint. Within the marshy areas of the wetland, *Anopheles punctipennis* and *Anopheles freeborni*, both potential malaria carriers, breed. With no diseased human intermediary population nearby, they pose no threat. However, *Culex tarsalis*, a vector for viral encephalitis, cycles through the waterfowl population which may act as a potential reservoir of contagion. County of Orange, Vector Control stocks mosquito fish to prevent this problem. If fishlife is threatened, historically non-effective chemical means will become necessary to attempt control of the culicine and anopheline mosquitos.

Other problems also exist with fertilizers. Fortunately, the underground water table in San Mateo Creek is extremely high due to the last three winters' heavy rains. However, in the 1940's and '50's the water table was dangerously threatened due to overpumping which allowed the incursion of salt water into the aquifer. Only this past year has the trend been reversed as evidenced by the fact San Mateo Creek flowed to the ocean year round. Further pumping to meet the needs of a golf course and public facilities will lower the water table and replace a fraction of what is drawn-up with more phosphates and nitrates. The underground water table will be forever poisoned. Further yet upstream, a proposed equestrian center for Cristianitos Creek is to be located in the midst of a stately grove of old sycamore. This may be ill-advised

...already several National Parks have banned horses due to their innate propensity for causing erosion related damage and the destruction of native plants. From an environmental standpoint, these factors must be considered. Do environmental concerns offset the human need for increased recreational potential of the park? Opinions differ from those who wish to preserve to those who wish to develop.

My main concern was that this be made a topic for public discussion. Pursuant to Section 15160(c) of the State Environmental Impact Guidelines, there must be a (30) day public review period for the project. The law reads: "In order to provide sufficient time for public review, review periods for draft Environmental Impact Reports should not be less than 30 days nor longer than 90 days except in unusual circumstances. The review period for draft Environmental Impact Reports for which a State agency is the Lead Agency or a responsible agency shall be at least 45 days unless a shorter period is approved by the State Clearinghouse." As of November 1, 1983, no effort was made by the State of California, Department of Parks and Recreation to notify either the SUN-POST newspaper of San Clemente, the REGISTER of Orange County, or the LOS ANGELES TIMES. Nothing in print nothing in the legal notices column. The SUN-POST learned of this revised general plan because I told Fred Sweggles, the reporter. Only the County of Orange Library System did receive copies, and not until the 4th of November. The deadline for review is December 1, 1983. After that, you stated, "If we do not receive your comments by this date, we assume you have none." When I spoke with you on November 28, you said "we feel that the guidelines have been observed ... December 1 is the deadline for letters to be put before the commission at the hearing in February."

Will an existing golf course be abandoned in favor of a development which threatens to destroy the unique ecosystem of San Mateo Creek? Karlin Marsh, UCI botanist and administrator of the California Native Plant Society opposes many aspects of the Revised General Plan. In particular, the removal of 30 acres of Stipa plant community. The species pulcra, commonly known as purple needle grass, is endangered ... now occupying less than 1% of its previous range in California. Art Palmer, local director of the Audubon Society expresses his concern for the state and federally listed endangered least tern, and the least Bell's vireo which nests in the San Mateo Creek wetland. A study is underway by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service at this time to document the presence of the Least Bell's Vireo within the impacted riparian environment. Eric Jensen and Gary Madeiros, of the County of Orange, Environmental Management Agency, express their concerns for the probable destruction of the stream ecology. Gary Reynolds of County of Orange, Vector Control expresses concern for the stream ecology as it relates to possible impacts affecting human disease vectors. Floyd Cate, vice president of the Association of Shorecliff Residents opposes the development proposal for ecological as well as the self interests of those approximate 4,500 residents near the currently abandoned golf course. Many agencies and individuals with responsibilities within the impacted area simply were not consulted or notified.

Few people in San Clemente aware of the San Onofre State Beach, revised general plan approve of the development it will bring to an area worth preserving for its natural beauty and unique ecology. Any responsible future plan to initiate limited development of San Mateo Creek must acknowledged that water flows downhill, and that what is damaged upstream impacts a seemingly unrelated factor downstream.

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9

How could one respond to this vital issue of development in our backyard when no notification was given? What prompted my fervor to inform the public on this matter was generated by a rather curious and out-of-the-blue telephone call I received from Mr. Sherman Burke of the City of San Clemente's Golf Committee. He is adamantly in favor of a new 18 hole golf course, despite the list of negative impacts on page 51 of the San Onofre State Beach, revised general plan. Such are:

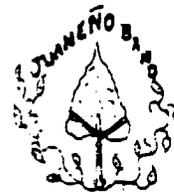
- Increased traffic on Cristianitos Road.
- Changes in the natural topography.
- Increased run-off from new roads and parking lots.
- Increased air pollution.
- Increased light and glare from parking lots.
- Increased water consumption.
- Greater fire hazard.
- Loss of native vegetation.
- Loss of wildlife habitat.
- Increased use of water.
- Threat to known archeological sites.
- Increased generation of sewage.
- Exposure of more people to the hazards of a possible nuclear accident at the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS).
- Greater need for law enforcement.

To no avail, I even pointed out that San Clemente already has another 18 hole course, The Estrella Country Club, which is yet to be rebuilt. Mr. Burke is not in favor of reopening The Shorecliff's course because in his words, "It is too narrow for tournament play."

JUANENO BAND OF MISSION INDIANS

16760 Paradise Mountain Road
Valley Center, Ca. 92082

SPOKESMAN:
RAYMOND T. BELARDES
VICE SPOKESMAN:
JOE A. O'CAMPO
SECRETARY-TREASURER:
JEAN L. PRIETZE
COMMITTEE
DAVID L. BELARDES
FRED S. ESTRADA



November 28, 1983

Mr. James M. Doyle
Supervisor Environmental
Review Section California
Department of Parks and Recreation
P.O. Box 2390
Sacramento, Ca. 95811

Dear Mr. Doyle:

We, the JUANENO BAND OF MISSION INDIANS, must say that San Onofre state beach revised general plan is inadequate for the following reason; operation division and resources protection division has not contacted the Juaneo Band as of this date, to develope a cultural resource management plan.

1

Gentlemen, I must remind you that alot of these sites are in San Mateo archacological nations register district, and new information came to me concerning site c.a.-sdi-4283. As noted, in revised plan, this is a very sacred and religious site. Also, I wish to remind you of the village of Hechmai noted by Kasber (1925 Plate 57) and also the village Panhe which the Juaneno considers very sacred.

2

There are no mitigation measures for Native Americans, so again we must turn this plan down. Ethnography statements are mostly wrong, so we must insist that we be allowed to choose our own person for the Ethnography and Archologcel study. We are recommending that a Archologcel Ethnography be done, and that Native Americans be present throughout the project, and that all burials and artifacts be returned to the Juaneno.

3
4
5

If more information is needed please feel free to contact me.
(619) 749-2312

Sincerely,

Ray Belardes
Ray Belardes

Spiritual Leader and Chief of Spokesman
of the Juaneno Band of Mission Indians

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DEC 1 1983

3-7732

RESOLUTION NO. 150-83

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN CLEMENTE,
CONSIDERING A REVISED MASTER PLAN FOR SAN ONOFRE STATE
BEACH PARK AS A POSSIBLE LOCATION OF A GOLF COURSE.

WHEREAS, the State of California Department of Parks and
Recreation is currently considering a revised master plan for San
Onofre State Beach Park; and

WHEREAS, a portion of that park land being planned is
contiguous to the existing San Clemente Municipal Golf Course, and

WHEREAS, use of the San Clemente Municipal Golf Course has
reached a saturation level of 115,000 rounds per year.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the San Clemente City
Council recommend that the State Department of Parks and Recreation
adopt a master plan for San Onofre Beach Park which includes the
possible location of a golf course.

APPROVED, ADOPTED AND SIGNED this 16th day of November,
1983.

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS: U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

1. In the past, inappropriate activities and developments have destroyed riparian vegetation within San Onofre State Beach. While the revised general plan contains no specific measures that would destroy riparian vegetation along San Mateo or Christianitos Creeks, the group/equestrian campground will be close to Christianitos Creek, and measures are needed to ensure the protection of its riparian forest. Further environmental analysis will be required before the group/equestrian campground is funded. In addition, the following resource management policy is added to the revised general plan to protect the riparian forest and its associated wildlife:

Page 22, Plant Resources

Riparian Vegetation Along Christianitos Creek:

Christianitos Creek supports a dense and diverse riparian forest which in turn supports a variety of wildlife as well as habitat suitable for the State-listed endangered Least Bell's Vireo (Vireo bellii pusillus).

Policy: The riparian gallery forest along Christianitos Creek will be protected from clearing or encroachment.

To protect sensitive species of wildlife that depend on the coastal sage scrub plant community, the following resource management policy is added to the revised general plan:

Page 24, Rare and/or Endangered Animal Protection

Coastal Sage Scrub-dependent Species: Three candidates for Federal listing as threatened or endangered species of animal, the Black-tailed Gnatcatcher (Polioptila melanura californica), the Orange-throated whiptail (Cnemidophorus hyperthrus), and the Coast Horned Lizard (Phrynosoma coronatum blainvillei), occur in coastal sage scrub. The Coast Horned Lizard has been sighted at San Onofre State Beach. Before any coastal sage scrub is converted through development, a thorough search will be conducted for these species during the proper season. Should any of these sensitive species be encountered in or near suitable habitat slated for conversion, the conversion plan will be altered, or mitigation measures will be taken, to avoid or mitigate the habitat loss.

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS: THOMAS F. RILEY (continued)

2. For the reasons stated above, it is premature to discuss specific alignments of the FTC within San Onofre State Beach.
3. Comment accepted - maps included.

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS: CITY OF OCEANSIDE

1. Comment noted.

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS: ARTHUR E. PALMER

1. The alternative parking lot along old Highway 101 in Subunit 2 is not the Department's preferred alternative.

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS: KARLIN G. MARSH

1. A search of the literature and the files of the California Natural Diversity Base revealed no state or federally-listed rare or endangered plants within San Onofre State Beach. Botanical field investigations were conducted by the Department in the winter and spring of 1972, the summer of 1976, and the fall of 1982.

On page 7 of the revised general plan is the following statement: "No rare and/or endangered plants have been found in the unit. However, more field investigation is needed." On page 8 the following species of birds - all state or federally listed - are shown as being sighted in San Onofre State Beach: Brown Pelican, Peregrine Falcon, California Least Tern, and Least Bell's Vireo. The plan goes on to say that "...further field work is necessary for more accurate data."

An unpublished inventory of resources for San Onofre State Beach is available for public inspection at the Resource Protection Division of the California Department of Parks and Recreation in Sacramento.

2. The layout of the golf course in the plan presented to the Department by the San Clemente Golf Course Facilities Commission would not be in the floodplain. An E.I.R. would be required before the proposed golf course could be built (p. 51 of the revised general plan).
3. See response #2.
4. Comments noted.

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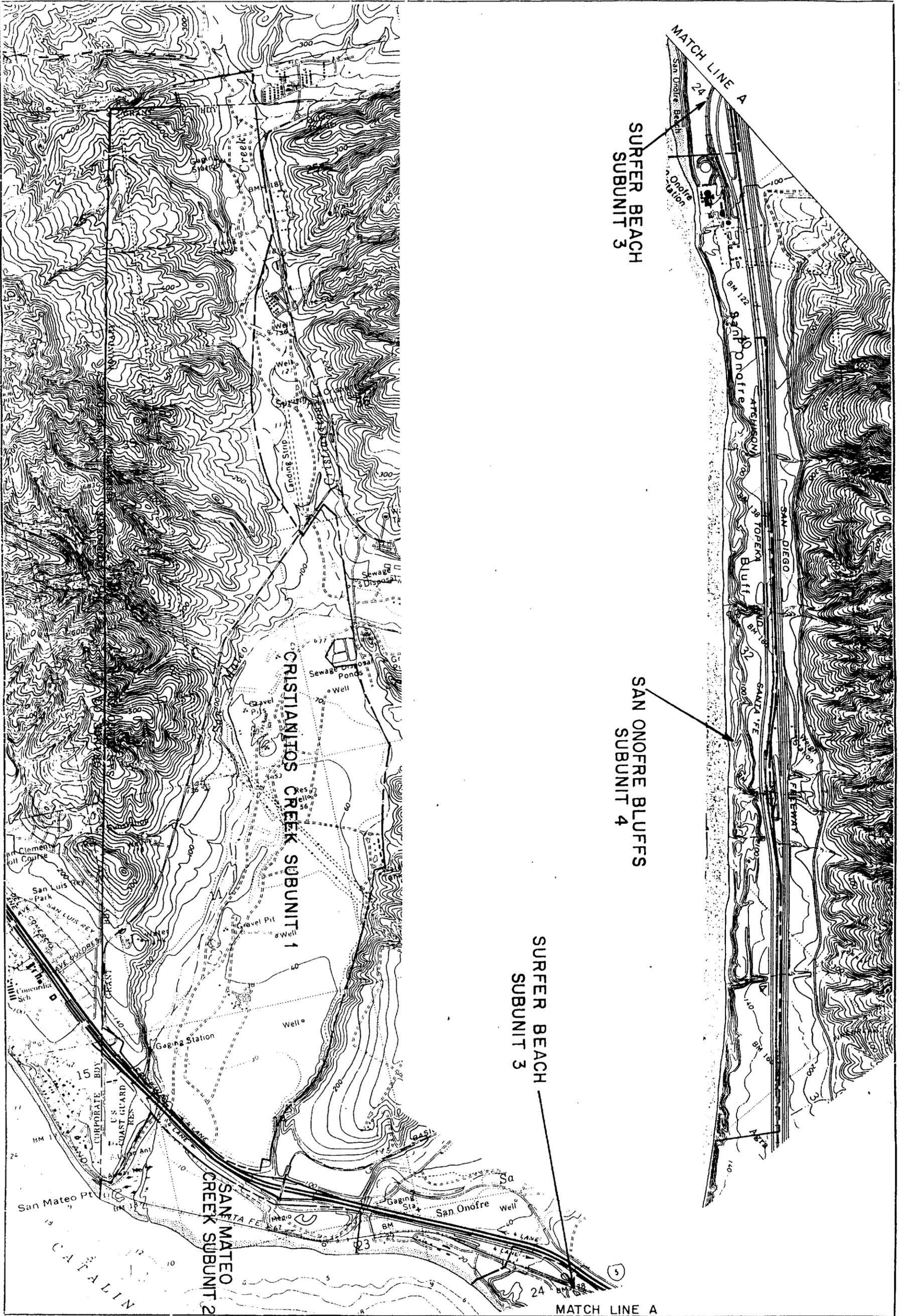
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3. See response #2.
4. Comments noted.

GLEN EDWARD ROY (continued)

7. While greatly reduced in range and abundance, purple needle grass (Stipa pulchra) is not endangered.
8. No study is underway by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to document the presence of the Least Bell's Vireo within San Onofre State Beach.
9. See responses 2 and 3. If Orange County officials are concerned about the health and integrity of San Mateo Creek in San Diego County, they should be particularly concerned about Orange County's proposed alignment of the Foothill Transportation Corridor in this area.



MAP
1

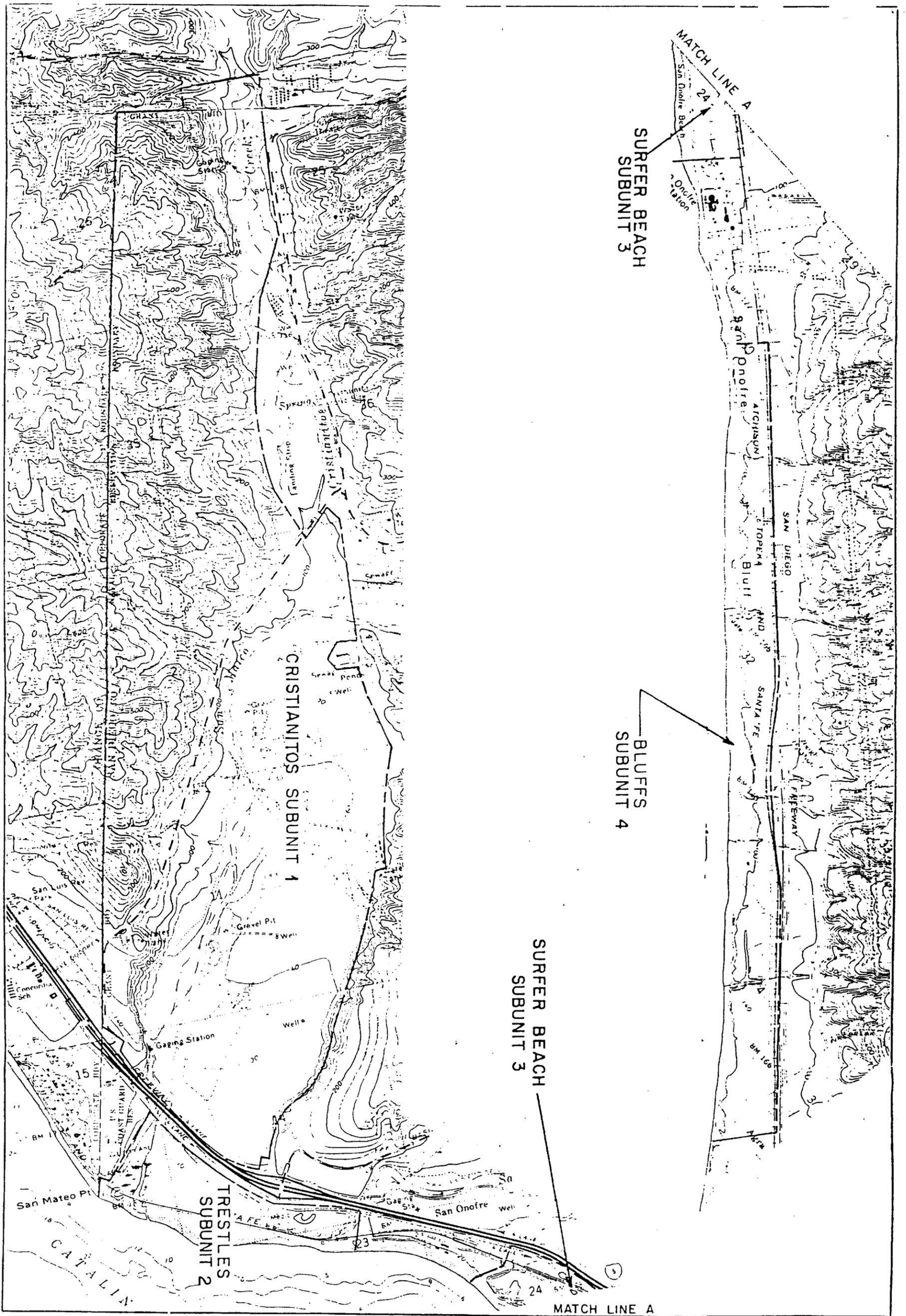
DRAWING NO.
19466

SAN ONOFRE STATE BEACH
RESOURCE ELEMENT
SUBUNITS & ELEVATION FEATURES

RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
APPROVED _____ DATE _____

REVISIONS	DATE

DESIGNED
DRAWN
CHECKED



MAP
2

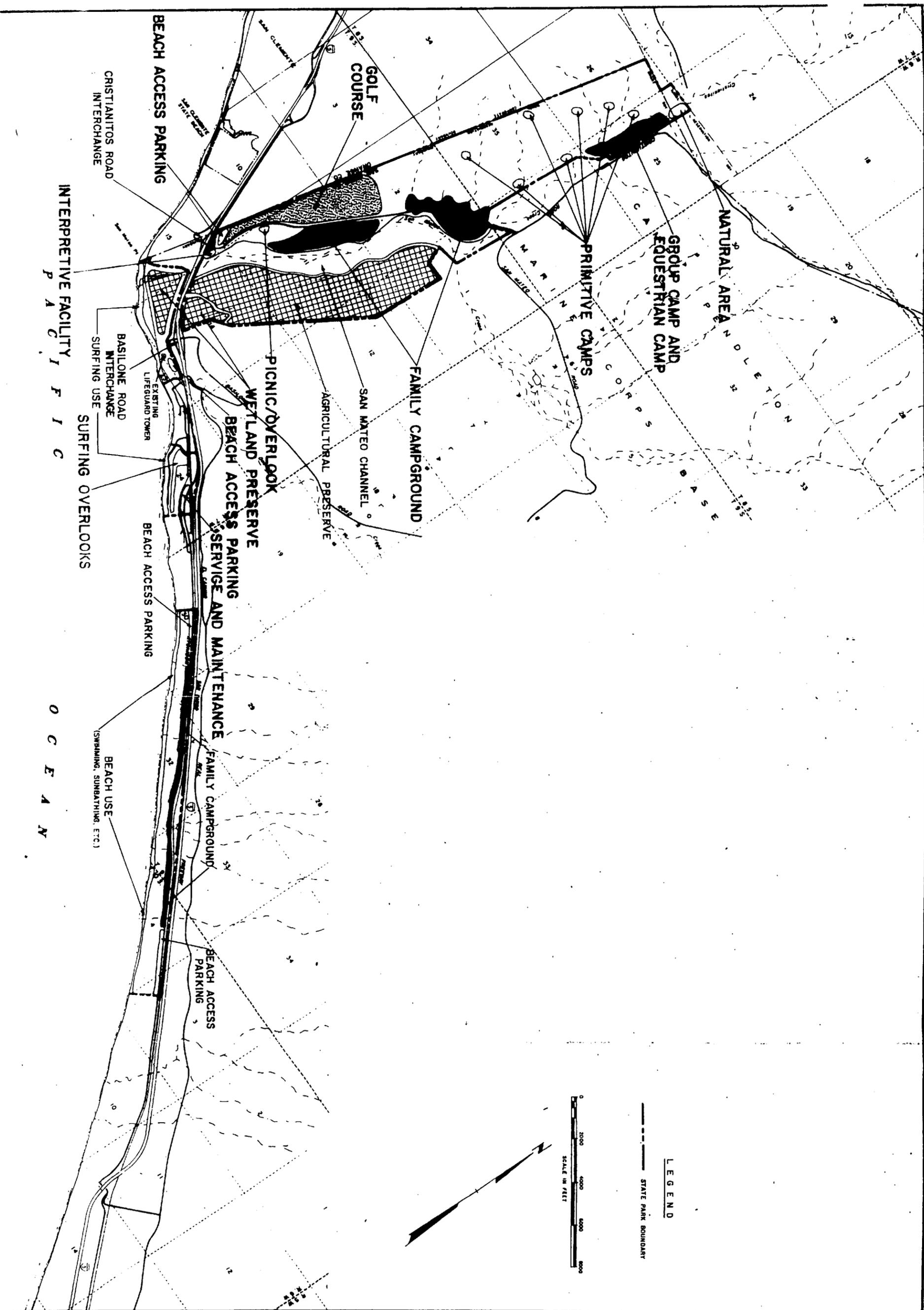
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SAN ONOFRE STATE BEACH
RESOURCE ELEMENT
SUBUNITS & ELEVATION FEATURES

RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
APPROVED _____ DATE _____

REVISIONS	DATE

DESIGNED
DRAWN
CHECKED



INTERPRETIVE FACILITY
P A C I F I C

O C E A N

LEGEND
STATE PARK BOUNDARY



SAN ONOFRE STATE BEACH
LAND USE & FACILITIES MAP

RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
APPROVED _____ DATE _____

REVISIONS	DATE	DESIGNED
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19394
SHEET NO. 1 OF 1

