

#### **Bureau of Reclamation 2003 Notice of Intent**

Federal Register/Vol. 68, No. 26/Friday, February 7, 2003/Notices

6509

and available for public review by late 2003.

Additional information about the study/EIS may be obtained from the National Park Service Boston Support Office, 15 State Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02109, Barbara Mackey, Team Captain, at telephone 617–223–5138 or Barbara\_Mackey@nps.gov.

Dated: December 11, 2002.

#### Lawrence Gall.

Acting Superintendent, Boston Support Office.

[FR Doc. 03-3097 Filed 2-6-03; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 4310-70-P

#### DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

#### **Bureau of Reclamation**

San Luis Reservoir and Los Banos Creek State Recreation Area Joint General Plan and Resource Management Plan, Merced County, CA

AGENCY: Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare a programmatic environmental impact statement/environmental impact report (PEIS/EIR).

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Bureau of Reclamation, in cooperation with the California Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR), proposes to prepare a draft PEIS/EIR for the San Luis Reservoir and Los Banos Creek State Recreation Area (SRA) joint General Plan and Resource Management Plan (GP/RMP). Scoping meetings are being conducted to elicit comments on the scope and issues to be addressed in the draft PEIS/EIR. The dates and times for the meetings are noted below.

DATES: The first scoping meeting was held on Saturday, January 11, 2003, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Gustine, California. The second scoping meeting will be held on Thursday, February 20, 2003, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. in Gustine, California.

Written comments should be sent to Reclamation at the address below by March 10, 2003.

ADDRESSES: The meeting location is at the California Department of Parks and Recreation, Four Rivers District Office, 31426 Gonzaga Road, Gustine, CA, 95322.

Written comments should be sent to Mr. Dan Holsapple, Bureau of Reclamation, South-Central California Area Office, 1243 N Street, Fresno, CA 93721–1813; or faxed to 559–487–5130 (TDD 559-487-5933); or e-mail: dholsapple@mp.usbr.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Dan Holsapple, Bureau of Reclamation, at the above address, telephone: 559—487–5409; or Dennis Imhoff, CEQA Coordinator, California Department of Parks and Recreation, Four Rivers District, 31426 Gonzaga Road, Gustine, CA 95322, telephone: 209–826–1197, e-mail: dimho@parks.ca.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: San Luis Reservoir is approximately 5 miles west of the City of Los Banos, adjacent to State Route 152, in Merced County, California. Los Banos Creek State Recreation Area is located about 5 miles southwest of the City of Los Banos, south of State Route 152, off Volta Road, just west of Interstate 5.

just west of Interstate 5.

Reclamation and DPR are preparing a joint draft PEIS/EIR. DPR will be the Lead Agency for the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and Reclamation will be the Lead Agency for NEPA.

DPR's General Plan Unit, in conjunction with its Four Rivers District Office, is developing the General Plan (GP) portion of the GP/RMP, in accordance with Public Resources Code § 5002.2 (General Plan guidelines) and § 21000 et seq. (CEQA). The purpose of the GP is to guide future development activities and management objectives at the Park. Reclamation is developing a RMP portion of the GP/RMP, pursuant to the Reclamation Recreation Management Act of 1992, Title 28, Pub. L. 102-575, the Council on **Environmental Quality Regulations** (CEQ) (40 CFR 1500-08) and the Federal Water Project Recreation Act. Reclamation and DPR are cooperating to prepare the GP/RMP in a consolidated planning process to solicit agency and stakeholder participation for both efforts simultaneously. The project areas for each plan will vary, based on differences in management and ownership; however, there will be common components within the joint

The San Luis Reservoir and the Los Banos Creek Retention Dam were built in 1965 as part of the Central Valley Project on lands owned by Reclamation. The lands are jointly managed by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) and DPR. DPR is responsible for recreation and resource management while DWR manages the water supply facilities.

There are additional tracts of land, managed by the California Department of Fish and Game (DFG) in the vicinity of the San Luis Reservoir, which were set aside to mitigate for construction impacts. These DFG-managed lands will not be part of the GP and PEIR/EIS, as DPR does not have management jurisdiction over these lands.

San Luis Reservoir Wildlife Area and O'Neill Forebay Wildlife Area, federally owned lands which are managed by DFG, will be included in the RMP and PEIR/EIS.

The objectives of the GP/RMP are to establish management objectives, guidelines, and actions to be implemented by Reclamation directly, or through its recreation contract with DPR to:

- Protect the water supply and water quality functions of the reservoirs,
- Protect and enhance natural and cultural resources in the SRA, consistent with Federal law and Reclamation policies,
- Provide recreational opportunities and facilities consistent with the Central Valley Project purposes.

The GP/RMP will be the primary management guideline for defining a framework for resource stewardship, interpretation, facilities, visitor use, and services. The joint plan will define an ultimate purpose, vision and intent for management through goal statements, guidelines, and broad objectives. The GP/RMP will be a long-term plan that will guide future specific actions at the SRA. Subsequent specific actions will be the subject of future environmental analysis as required.

We would like to know the views of interested persons, organizations, and agencies as to the scope and content of the information to be included and analyzed in the draft PEIS/EIR. Agencies should comment on the elements of the environmental information that are relevant to their statutory responsibilities in connection with the proposed project.

It is Reclamation's practice to make comments, including names and home addresses of respondents, available for public review. Individual respondents may request that we withhold their home address from public disclosure, which we will honor to the extent allowable by law. There may also be circumstances in which we would withhold a respondent's identity from public disclosure, as allowable by law. If you wish us to withhold your name and/or address, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comment. We will make all submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, available for public disclosure in their entirety.

Federal Register/Vol. 68, No. 26/Friday, February 7, 2003/Notices

Dated: February 3, 2003

#### Frank Michny,

Regional Environmental Officer, Mid-Pacific Region.

[FR Doc. 03-3023 Filed 2-6-03; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 4310-MN-P

#### INTERNATIONAL TRADE

Request for Public Comments Concerning the Maintenance of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States

AGENCY: United States International Trade Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Commission is responsible for the maintenance and publication of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS), pursuant to title I of the Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988 (19 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.). The Commission is seeking input from users of the HTS on the maintenance and structure of the change record, so that public and private users can identify more easily the changes in each issuance of the HTS and locate the source of such changes. In addition, the Commission is asking users of the electronic revisions of the HTS to suggest changes or improvements in the posting of such files on the Commission's Web site.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** Upon publication; comments are sought through the close of business on the date that is four weeks after the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Eugene A. Rosengarden, Director, Office of Tariff Affairs and Trade Agreements, (202) 205-2592; Janis L. Summers, Attorney-Adviser, Office of Tariff Affairs and Trade Agreements, (202) 205–2605; or David G. Michels, Special Assistant to the Director, (202) 205-3440; U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW. Washington, DC 20436. Hearingimpaired persons can obtain information on this matter by contacting the Commission's TDD terminal on 202-205–1810. General information concerning the Commission may also be obtained by accessing its Web site (http://www.usitc.gov). Comments filed pursuant to this notice may be viewed on the Commission's Electronic Document Information System (EDIS-II) at http://edis.usitc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### Background

Beginning with the first edition of the HTS (Commission Publication 2030) and continuing through the present each printed annual edition of the HTS and each printed supplement has included as a final section a record of the changes contained therein. These records, although not legally authoritative in regard to the tariff treatment of imported goods, assist both public and private sector users of the HTS by identifying changes in HTS provisions. The change records list legal and statistical modifications in the notes and headings of the tariff schedule and, more recently, have included the source of each change together with its effective date. They are intended to be read in conjunction with the Preface to each printed or electronic issuance. because the Preface contains a complete enumeration of legal and administrative instruments and actions that affect the particular issuance, along with effective dates and citations. Since 2000, the Commission has also posted periodic electronic revisions of the HTS on its Web site, www.usitc.gov, so that the information in the tariff schedule is more current, together with electronic links to legal instruments making changes in the legal provisions of the HTS. These revisions each contain a complete set of the files that comprise the HTS, whether or not each file was modified. Each such revision likewise contains a change record, but that change record lists only the modifications contained in that revision and is not cumulative to the last printed edition or supplement. Thus, in order to compile a complete list of changes since the immediately prior printed document, a user must retain and combine all of the revision-related change records to have a composite list of changes since that printed document. This system has proven to be confusing to users, even to those most familiar with the HTS. The change records are presented for convenient reference, and as such are not part of the legal text of the HTS; further explanation was provided in the recently revised and expanded Preface to the HTS (2003).

Possible changes.—First, the Commission is considering any modifications that may make the change record more useful to all users, while still being administratively feasible, and that may also enable the staff concerned to keep this record more current (and better meet the needs of the Customs Service in updating its automated entry system). It should be noted that any such modifications would have no effect on the advisory nature of the change

record, because the interpretation and administration of the HTS are within the legal authority of the Customs Service. In addition, significant lengthening of the change record and oposals for software changes are not likely to be feasible. Nonetheless, possible modifications might include: (1) Expansion of or changes in the descriptions of changes; (2) use of a revised tabular format, perhaps with additional columns providing new information of interest to users; (3) devising a useful method to show the indentation level in the nomenclature structure at which a change has occurred; (4) providing an on-line composite change record, perhaps extending back as far as the 1989 HTS, reflecting all prior legal and/or statistical changes as a history of each tariff provision; (5) if possible, using a format that enables the maximum number of users having different software to download or access the change record. Because the Commission does not determine as a matter of law the classification of imported goods, the change record cannot provide a crossreference table showing actual changes in classification or the derivation of the scope of new tariff categories. However, other possible useful modifications in addition to the list above can be considered.

In addition, the Commission is considering whether the posting of electronic revisions of the HTS might be changed or improved, either in timeliness or in their method of presentation. These changes might include: (1) Posting only those chapter files, or even individual pages, that contain actual modifications; (2) posting a downloadable file that contains all chapters or pages that were modified since the last electronic revision was posted; (3) posting chapter files or pages whenever changes occur, rather than periodically when several instruments have modified the HTS; (4) eliminating the WordPerfect version and posting only the PDF version of the schedule; or (5) making other changes in the organization of the Web site to make it easier to locate and use these revisions. It is not considered feasible or desirable to insert in the actual tariff chapter files themselves a typed indicator of a change (such as italicized language) or the date it occurred, given staff resources, possible confusion where multiple changes occur, and the need for a more rapid reflection of tariff changes; also, the change record already provides a clearer list of these modifications and their sources

Written submissions.—All submissions must comply with the

#### California State Parks 2002 Notice of Preparation

#### NOTICE OF PREPARATION

To: Responsible and Trustee Agencies, and Office of Planning and Research.

Subject: Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement and

Environmental Impact Report for the San Luis Reservoir State Recreation Area (SRA) joint General Plan and Resource Management Plan (GP/RMP). The SRA includes the O'Neill Forebay and Los Banos Creek Detention Dam and their

adjacent recreation areas.

Lead Agency: California Department of Parks and Recreation

Four Rivers District 31426 Gonzaga Road Gustine, CA 95322

Contact: Dennis Imhoff, CEQA Coordinator Phone: (209)826-1197 Fax: (209)826-0284

Email: dimho@parks.ca.gov

and

United States Department of the Interior

Bureau of Reclamation

South-Central California Area Office

1243 N Street

Fresno, CA 93721-1813 Contact: Dan Holsapple

Phone: (559)487-5409 Fax: (559)487-5397

dholsapple@mp.usbr.gov

Consultant: EDAW, Inc.

753 Davis Street

San Francisco, CA 94111 Contact: Donna Plunkett

Phone: (415)433-1484 Fax: (415)788-4875

Email: plunkettd@edaw.com

A joint programmatic Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Environmental Impact Report (DEIS/EIR) is being prepared by the California Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) and the U. S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation). DPR will be the Lead Agency for the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and Reclamation will be the Lead Agency for the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

We would like to know the views of interested persons, organizations, and agencies as to the scope and content of the information to be included and analyzed in the DEIS/EIR. Agencies should comment on the elements of the environmental information that are relevant to their statutory responsibilities in connection with the proposed project. The project description, location, and potential environmental effects of the proposed project (to the extent known) are contained in this Notice of Preparation (NOP).

Due to the time limits mandated by State law, your response should be sent at the earliest possible date, but not later than January 3, 2003.

Please send your written response to Dennis Imhoff, CEQA Coordinator, California Department of Parks and Recreation, at the address shown above. Responses should include the name of a contact person at your agency.

Project Title: San Luis Reservoir State Recreation Area joint General Plan and Resource Management Plan.

Project Location: San Luis Reservoir and O'Neill Forebay are approximately four miles west of the City of Los Banos, north and south of State Route 152, and west of its intersection with Interstate 5, in the County of Merced, California. Los Banos Creek Detention Dam is located six miles southwest of the City of Los Banos, south of State Route 152, off Canyon Road, and on the west side of Interstate 5. (see attached Project Location Map)

**Project Description:** 

DPR's General Plan Unit, in conjunction with its Four Rivers District office, is in the process of developing a General Plan and EIR for San Luis Reservoir State Recreation Area in accordance with Public Resources Code \$5002.2 referencing General Plan guidelines and \$21000 et seq. concerning the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The purpose of the General Plan is to guide future development activities and management objectives at the Park. Additionally, pursuant to the Reclamation Recreation Act of 1992, Title 28 (P.L. 102-575) and the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations (CEQ) (40CFR 1500-08), Reclamation is developing a Resource Management Plan and EIS. The GP and RMP will be a joint document as the agencies are cooperating to engage in a consolidated planning process to solicit agency and stakeholder participation for both efforts simultaneously. The project areas for each plan will vary, based on differences in management and ownership, however there will be common components within the joint Plan.

The San Luis Reservoir, O'Neill Forebay and Los Banos Creek Detention Dam were built in 1962 and 1965 as part of the Central Valley Project and the California State Water Project on lands owned by Reclamation. Portions of the lands are jointly managed by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) and DPR. DPR is responsible for recreation and resource management while DWR manages the water supply facilities responsible for furnishing approximately 1.25 million acre—feet of water as irrigation to various agencies.

There are additional tracts of land managed by the California Department of Fish and Game (DFG) in the vicinity of the San Luis Reservoir that were set aside as mitigation lands during the construction thereof. DFG managed lands will not be part of the General Plan and EIR, as DPR does not have management jurisdiction over these lands. The Federally owned lands, managed by DFG will be included in the RMP sections of the plan. The DFG managed lands owned by Reclamation are known as the San Luis Reservoir Wildlife Area and the O'Neill Forebay Wildlife Area.

Preparation of the joint General Plan and Resource Management Plan is in its early stages, so ultimate land use and resources management provisions or recommendations have not yet been determined. The lead agencies are currently in the process of evaluating existing resources and management opportunities and constraints at the SRA that will aid in the development of the GP/RMP. Known resources at the SRA include:

- Water storage, supply and distribution facilities and infrastructure;
- Plant Communities including Grassland, coastal Sage Scrub and riparian;
- Special-status wildlife species (e.g., San Joaquin kit fox, California red-legged frog);
- · Culturally and historically significant areas;
- High-use recreational areas for camping, boating, fishing and swimming (e.g., San Luis Creek, Basalt, Madeiros, Dinosaur Point and Los Banos Creek);

Issues that will be considered as part of the General Plan process include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Expansion of recreational facilities (e.g., improved water system. camping facilities, rest room facilities, expanded swimming area, windsurfing safety patrol platform, marina improvements);
- Significant plant communities and wildlife habitats for San Joaquin kit fox and California red-legged frog, as well as other species of concern;
- Open space/scenic vistas;
- Water and land based recreation and sports including hiking, camping, windsurfing, fishing;
- · Evaluation of archaeological/historical/cultural resources;
- · Opportunities for transportation and safety improvements;
- · Regional growth and planning issues;
- Interpretive and concession opportunities;
- · Management constraints with regards to access to Los Banos Creek;
- Relationship to adjacent Pacheco State Park;
- Implications of potential alignments for high-speed rail facilities.

#### Potential Environmental Effects:

Although ultimate land use and resources management provisions of the GP/RMP have not yet been determined, generally expected types of environmental impacts that may occur as a result of the GP/RMP can be identified. Based on the resource characteristics of the SRA and generally

anticipated uses, potential environmental effects that will likely be addressed in the EIS/EIR, include:

- Potential conflicts between sensitive wildlife species/natural communities (e.g., San Joaquin kit fox corridor protection and facility development);
- Potential for development of telecommunications structures (cell towers) on Federally-owned lands affecting ecological and scenic resources;
- Potential for substantial adverse change in the visual character of portions of the project area due to the placement of additional facilities;
- · Transportation impacts associated with safety for ingress and egress.

While potential take of threatened and endangered species is not anticipated, the EIR/EIS will describe future State and Federal consultation and permit requirements that may be required for facility development as necessary.

#### Intended Use of the EIR/EIS:

DPR and the Parks and Recreation Commission and Reclamation will use the EIS/EIR component of the GP/RMP to consider the environmental effects, mitigation measures, and alternatives, when reviewing the proposed Plan for approval. The EIR/EIS will serve as the State's CEQA compliance document for adoption of the General Plan and as Reclamation's NEPA compliance document for adoption of the Resource Management Plan. It will also serve as the programmatic environmental document that may be referenced in implementing future actions included in the GP/RMP. Responsible agencies may also use the EIR as needed for subsequent discretionary actions.

#### Scoping Meeting:

Saturday, January 11, 2003 10:00 am. – 2:00 pm Four Rivers District Office 31426 Gonzaga Road Gustine, CA, 95322

State Parks CEQA Coordinator, Four Rivers District

Date

Attachments:

NOP Distribution List; Project Location Map

#### Newsletter 1 (December 2002) and Survey Form



## SAN LUIS RESERVOIR & PACHECO PARK



MAP AREA

#### GENERAL PLANS

#### PARTNERS IN PARK PLANNING

In a collaborative partnership, the California Department of Parks and Recreation and U.S. Bureau of Reclamation are launching a joint planning process to improve recreation facilities at the San Luis Reservoir. Working together with the community, this planning process will create a vision for the future, provide recommendations for improvements, and set guidelines for managing the park so it can be enjoyed for years to come. We invite you to join us in planning the park's future!

We welcome your ideas and suggestions for improving this recreation area and preserving its special characteristics. You can start by filing out the enclosed survey and attending the Public Planning Workshop on January 11. Public input will help us focus on priorities, desires and concerns as we evaluate the park's recreational uses and visitor facilities.

Stewardship of the park's environmental resources will also be an important consideration in the planning process. We look forward to hearing your ideas about ways that we can ensure the long-term protection of the area's wildlife, plants, and cultural resources. Given its proximity to the reservoir, we also will be discussing Pacheco State Park during this planning process. We hope you will take some time to share your ideas and help plan the future of these mapplificent state parks.

#### **HOW CAN YOU CONTRIBUTE?**

Stay Informed: This Planning Update will keep you informed on the progress of the General Plan process. It will cover both the San Luis Reservoir State Recreation Area and Pacheco State Park General Plans, because the parks are adjacent to each other and parts of the planning process will be combined. Over the next year and a half, we'll be working together to discuss and evaluate a variety of planning topics including recreation facilities, habitat protection, and education and interpretive programs, just to name a few. This Planning Update will track our progress and notify you of upcoming public workshops.

Fill Out the Survey: The enclosed survey will help us understand your key issues, ideas and concerns. Tell us what you like about the parks, what's missing, or what could work better!

Attend the Public Planning Workshops: We will host three public workshops for the San Luis Reservoir and Pachecho Park General Plans. The first workshop will be held on January 11 at the San Luis Reservoir. The workshop will provide a forum to discuss suggestions for park enhancements and to identify topics for the planning process to explore. Please join us!



#### San Luis Reservoir

#### San Luis Reservoir State Recreation Area

This recreation area contains three main water bodies: the San Luis Reservoir, Los Baños Creek Detention Dam, and O'Neill Forebay. These facilities are managed through a joint agreement between the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and the California Department of Water Resources and supply approximately 1.25 million acre-feet of irrigation water to about 600,000 acres of land. In a 1969 agreement, certain lands surrounding the San Luis Reservoir and Los Baños Detention Dam were designated for recreational use and are currently managed by the California Department of Parks and Recreation.

The San Luis Reservoir is well-known for its windsurfing, fishing, camping and boating opportunities, in addition to other recreational activities. Equally important in the planning process is the area's historic significance, including its early use by Native Americans and later as important lands in California's ranching history.



Los Baños Riparian Corridor

#### Known resources at the San Luis Reservoir State Recreation Area include:

- Water storage, supply and distribution facilities and infrastructure.
- High-use recreational areas (e.g., San Luis Creek, Basalt, Medeiros, Dinosaur Point and Los Baños Creek),
- Plant communities such as Grassland, Coastal Sage Scrub and Rinarian
- Wildlife species such as San Joaquin kit fox, and
- Culturally and historically significant areas.

#### Some copies the General Plan process will consider include:

- Expansion of recreational facilities (e.g., camping facilities, restroom facilities, swimming area, windsurfing, safety patrol platform, marina improvements),
- · Land management actions for plants and wildlife,
- Interpretation of archaeological/historical/cultural resources,
- Evaluation for access safety improvements,
- Regional growth and planning issues,

- Relationship to adjacent Pacheco State Park, possibly providing a linking trail system, and
- Remote access to Los Baños.

The Los Baños Detention Dam lies approximately 10 miles to the southeast of San Luis Reservoir. The area contains camping and day use areas and also provides boating and fishing opportunities. Both the San Luis and Los Baños areas host many plant and animal species and associated habitats, including some that warrant special management considerations, such as the San Joaquin kit fox, a federal and state endangered species.



Biologists working on the San Luis Reservoir wildlife inventory photographed this coyote at night, using a stationary camera set with infrared transmitters.

#### PARKS TEAMS WITH BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

The San Luis Reservoir State Recreation Area is unique because although the recreation lands are managed by the California Department of Parks and Recreation, the land is owned by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. They have owned the land since building the dam in 1965. The Bureau of Reclamation uses Resource Management Plans in the same way that California State Parks uses General Plans. The two agencies are working together to produce a joint plan to consolidate certain facets of the planning process. Your voice and/or written comments will be heard by both state and federal agency staff – so your participation in this process is doubly important!

A joint Environmental Impact Report / Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS) also will be produce as part of this planning process, providing an opportunity to plan for the future of the San Luis Reservoir recreation lands, while respecting their role as habitat and water distribution facilities.

#### Pacheco Park

#### Pacheco State Park



Scenic Rolling Hills of Pacheco State Park

The approximately 6,800 acres of Pacheco State Park were donated to the State of California by the late Paula Fatjo, a descendant of Francisco Pacheco. Currently, 2,600 acres are open to the public, principally for hiking and horseback riding. These lands were part of the larger 48,000-acre Mexican land grant deeded to Pacheco in 1843. The original adobe structure built by the Pacheco family was moved during the construction of the San Luis Reservoir and sits amidst the other ranch buildings, paddocks and outbuildings that exist today. The park is adjacent to the San Luis Reservoir on the east and is accessible off Dinosaur Point Road from State Route 152 in western Merced County.

#### **PACHECO RESOURCES**

Pacheco Park is located in the Diablo range at the edge of the Central San Joaquin Valley rising from 650 feet to its highest peak at 1,900 feet above sea level. Pacheco's scenic rolling hills are a result of coastal and valley influences resulting in a mosaic of oak and blue oak woodland, open grassland and wildflowers. The hills are laced with a myriad of old ranch roads. Deer, bobcat, mountain lion, coyote, fox and eagles are among its diverse wildlife. Approximately 25 small reservoirs, originally created as livestock watering ponds, now capture and store water runoff.

#### Pacheco State Park (1930) include:

- · Hiking and equestrian trails,
- Historical/cultural resources, including old ranch buildings and corrals.
- Plant communities such as oak and blue oak woodland,
- Wildlife species, such as the California red-legged frog,
- Open space, and
- Scenic vistas.

### Some <u>रिकृतिङ</u> that will be considered in the General Plan process include:

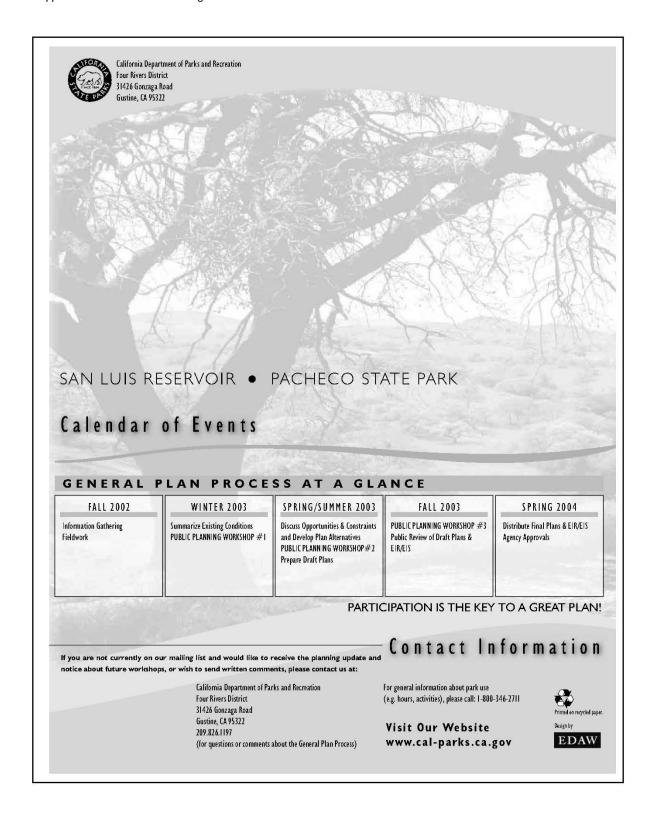
- Access safety on State Route 152,
- Opportunities for overnight camping, horseback riding, and other recreational activities.
- Opportunities for interpretive and educational programs,
- Relationship to the adjacent San Luis Reservoir State Recreation Area
- Historical/cultural resources including old ranch buildings and corrals.
- Facilities analysis, including use of existing buildings, and
- Evaluation and inventory of historic and cultural resources.

Paula Fatjo bequeathed the property in her will for the "protection, maintenance and fostering of natural flora and fauna." Therefore, this site's recreation use is more passive in nature than at San Luis and is predominantly used by equestrians and hikers. Several ridges have been leased for energy production and contain large wind turbines which currently generate 22.3 million kilowatts of energy annually. Areas of the park outside of the wind turbine lands are leased for cattle grazing. The property's historic features, in addition to the Fatjoranch, include an old line shack used by Henry Miller's cattle company in the 1800s and part of the Butterfield Stage line route. Other areas are known to be rich in archaeological resources.

This park is separate from San Luis Reservoir, and a General Plan has never been prepared for it before. The planning process will coordinate the work for these two areas while still recognizing their differences. The General Plan process will be an opportunity to plan for the future of the sites' historical and natural resources, while exploring ways to enhance recreational use of the property.



Historic corrals characterize the Fatjo ranch





# San Luis Reservoir State Recreation Area General Plan / Resource Management Plan SURVEY



	(please mail back by January 3, 2003)		
Your Name:			
Organization (if any): Address:			
City, State, Zip:			
Phone (optional):			
E-mail (optional):			
		Yes	No
ould you like to rem	ain on our mailing list to receive		
ture Planning Upda			
ow often do you visit t	he San Luis Reservoir?		
ow far do you travel to	get there? (miles)		
/hat activities do you li	ke to do there?		
/hat do you value mosi	about the San Luis Reservoir?		
hat do you like the lea	st?		
/hat facilities need imp	rovements or additions at the Park?		

When you last left the park, what did you remember the most?	
Are there any environmental issues that you think we should pay close attention to during preparation of the General Plan and Environmental Impact Report?	
Have you ever been to the Los Baños Creek area? What did you do there?	
Is there anything else that you would like to share with us?	
please fold in thirds tape it closed, affix a 37 cent stamp and mail by January 3, 2003 Thank you!	·
	requires 37 cent stamp
California State Parks	
Four Rivers District Office - Attn: Dennis Inhoff 31426 Gonzaga Road Gustine, CA 95322	

#### Meeting Summary: January 11, 2003, Scoping Meeting

## GENERAL PLAN/RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN and EIR/EIS SCOPING MEETING

FOR
SAN LUIS RESERVOIR STATE RECREATION AREA
AND
PACHECO STATE PARK
January 11, 2003
Four Rivers District Headquarters

MEETING SUMMARY Issue Date: February 21, 2003

**Participants** 

Robert Epperson, RMP Coordinator, USBR Dan Holsapple, Resource Management

Specialist, USBR Ricardo Cortesa, USBR

Donna Plunkett, Project Manager, EDAW Corrina Kweskin, Project Planner, EDAW

Ian Ferguson, Project Planner, EDAW
Leo Edson, Wildlife Biologist, EDAW

Wayne Woodroof, Statewide Coordinator,

**DPR** 

Warren Wulzen, Associate State

Archaeologist, DPR

Dave Gould, Chief Ranger, DPR

Mary Stokes, Interpretive Specialist, DPR

Dennis Imhoff, Chief Ranger, DPR

Dave Milam, Ranger, DPR Lee Sencenbaugh, DPR Steve Skram, DPR

Curtis Climer, DPR

Michael Mulligan, Compliance Specialist

DFG

Daniel Applebee, DFG Tom Young, DWR

Mandeep Bling, DWR Julie Vance, DWR

Cheryl Johnson, Caltrans/USFWS

John Fulton, USFWS

Robert King, Merced County Planning Dept.

Lynn Hurley, SCVWD

Frances Mizuno, "SLDMWA"

Clyde Strickler, Retired DPR Superintendent

Steve Pearl, Wild Fro Racing Sam Halsted, Landowner

George Stricker

Bruce Hochuli, SLSPP George Ground, SLSPP

Vern Masse

The meeting began at approximately 10:00 a.m. The agenda follows the summary below. *Public comments are indicated in italics*. Two poster maps were on display: "Sensitive Biological Species" and "Existing Conditions." In addition, the following handouts were distributed:

- 1. Agenda
- 2. General Plan Table of Contents
- 3. San Luis Reservoir Resource Inventory (January 1973)
- 4. San Luis SRA Preliminary Scoping Document (11/20/01)
- 5. San Luis Reservoir SRA General Plan and RMP EIR/EIS Notice of Preparation (11/22/02)
- 6. Pacheco SP Preliminary Scoping Document (11/2001)
- 7. Fatjo Project Resource Summary (May 1996)

- 8. Pacheco State Park General Plan/EIR Notice of Preparation (11/22/02)
- 9. Contact List
- 10. California State Parks Planning Handbook Pages 29-37 (February 2002)

#### **Sign-In and Introduction**

Dave Gould provided a team overview, introducing the team members that were present from the various agencies. Dennis Imhoff provided an overview of the General Plan process. The current General Plan on file for San Luis Reservoir SRA is from 1971, with a 1985 amendment. There is no General Plan on file for Pacheco State Park since it is a relatively new addition to the State Parks system. The ultimate goal of the General Plan process is a "broad brush" look at desired facilities and resources. The General Plan is scheduled to be completed by April/May 2004. Dennis also discussed the use of planning consultants for completing the General Plan work and introduced EDAW team members for the subject park units.

#### Planning Process Overview & Public Participation

Donna Plunkett from EDAW thanked everyone for attending and provided an overview of the General Plan process and EDAW's role as the consultant. She described that there are two separate processes for the General Plan/RMP and for the EIR/EIS and that there will be a separate Plan for Pacheco and San Luis Plan. The latter will be joint effort of DPR and Reclamation. She also described the difference between a State Park and a State Recreation Area. She referenced the State Parks Planning Handbook and distributed the section on the planning process. EDAW is currently putting together the existing conditions, noting that this a particularly appropriate time to get feedback on maps and other data. This meeting is also considered a formal scoping meeting and comments made at this meeting will become part of the formal CEQA/NEPA record.

The next step in the process will be to develop alternatives over the next few months with the goal of a preferred alternative by summer of this year. The San Luis Reservoir State Recreation Area General Plan and the Pacheco State Park General Plan currently are on a joint track but they may diverge since the San Luis Reservoir State Recreation Area General Plan also needs to comply with NEPA and this may take more time. It was noted that there will be two other public workshops and opportunities for public comment. It was also noted that the EIR for Pacheco and the EIR/EIS for San Luis will be program-level analysis and that future projects implemented as part of this process may require a project-level analysis.

Vern Massy asked whether the O 'Neill Forebay water levels would be addressed at this level. Donna replied that desired water levels and seasonal recommendations could be included. Bob Epperson commented that the Reclamation's primary goal for the project is to collect and distribute water. Recreation is a secondary use and, therefore, will not have as much influence on water level recommendations. However, USBR will entertain concerns. Bruce Hochuli asked whether water supply goals for CVP users and increased water levels were mutually exclusive. Bob responded that they may or may not be mutually exclusive, depending on how much water was available at different times of the year. The water levels will be affected by the operating contracts. Wayne Woodroof commented that this planning process is an opportunity to look at these conflicting goals and uses to see whether they can be brought together. Bob added that they have made some minor changes in the way that flows are released at Millerton.

Steve Pearl asked whether the primary goal of the planning process is to ascertain the highest use value and had this been decided already. It was noted that the planning process is not about determining highest use; however, it is an opportunity to try to balance and reconcile conflicting issues about uses. Mandeep Bling, DWR operates and maintains the SLR project. He reiterated that the primary purpose of the prefect is to distribute water to consumers through existing

contracts that they hold. Every effort is made to minimize fluctuations of water levels at the O'Neill Forebay. For example, most of the water level reduction occurs at night as this also helps to reduce energy costs. Clyde Strickler added that USBR and DWR have always worked closely with DPR to resolve fluctuation issues as much as is possible.

#### **Project Overview**

#### Pacheco State Park

Dave Milam provided an overview of the general history of Pacheco State Park, including the funding structure which is unique for this park. The property was bequeathed in the will of Paula Fatjo and a separate fund is used to pay for the operations at the Park. Tom Young suggested that the fees at Pacheco could be reduced because there is a separate fund set up to support the Park. Steve Pearl asked whether Pacheco is open to ATV vehicles. Dave Milam responded that they are not allowed although sometimes they are used by ranchers and rangers.

Dave Gould provided an overview of the recreational aspects of Pacheco. The eastern half of the Park is closed to public use except for guided tours. The western half is open to day use activities including hiking, biking, horseback riding, and camping with a special event permit. Mary Stokes provided an overview of the interpretive uses at Pacheco. Currently there are freestanding outdoor exhibits, guided tours, and limited maps. Mary distributed a handout describing the main interpretive stories currently offered at Pacheco and asked for feedback on the content of the stories they are telling about the Park.

Leo Edson gave an overview of the biological resources at Pacheco, noting that the existing ponds are host to the California red-legged frog, a federally endangered species based on reconnaissance level surveys that took place last fall. He noted that survey work was limited for the property so a full wildlife and vegetation inventory does not exist.

Warren Wulzen described the cultural resources, Pacheco was partially surveyed when it was made a State Park. It contains 10 cultural resource sites, 8 of which are Native American sites with bedrock millings and/or middens. The redwood picket fence lines along the base of the Park and through the center are historic resources. Paula Fatjo left a collection of artifacts at the ranch, including books and saddles, which are a rich source of ranching and family history. Currently, DPR is putting out a contract to develop recommendations for how best to preserve the adobe in its present condition.

#### San Luis Reservoir State Recreation Area

Bob Epperson provided an overview of the general history of the San Luis Reservoir project, including the Santa Clara-Pacheco conduit. *Dan Applebee asked why land was purchased in excess of what was needed for the reservoir*. Bob responded that excess land was purchased for several reasons. First, purchased land included the basalt rock quarry that was used to build the dam. Second, flood prone areas were purchased. Third, in cases where landowners were not willing to sell, land was acquired through condemnation proceedings. In the latter case, excess lands have been used as mitigation areas such as the DFG managed wildlife areas in the vicinity of the SRA. *John Fulton asked for clarification on the areas indicated in light and dark yellow on the map*. Bob responded that all of these areas are managed by DFG however the lighter areas are federally owned and the darker areas are owned by DFG.

Dave Gould provided an overview of the recreational resources of San Luis Reservoir SRA. It includes 26,000 acres. The Basalt use area is developed with 79 campsites and sewage dump stations. It is popular for striped bass fishing. The Dinosaur Point use area has a boat launch ramp for fisherman and is used by jet-skiers. The O'Neill Forebay is the most developed of the

reservoirs. It has the San Luis Creek use area with 149 developed picnic sites and a boat launch ramp. It has a swimming area and group camping facility which can accommodate 100 people. The Medeiros uses area is on the undeveloped side of the O'Neill Forebay. It has 60 primitive campsites, 49 ramadas, and a day use facility. It also has a boat launch which has been closed since 9/11. This is the area that the windsurfers launch. Los Banos Creek is primitive with a small campground with 15 sites, a boat launch facility, and a small picnic area. The boat limit is 5 mph or "no wake". This area is good for black bass and also popular for remote control model planes. The SRA has a total of 206 developed campsites. A new addition to recreational opportunities is Steve Pearl's "street luge" program on Dinosaur Point Road. *Bruch Hochuli questioned whether the gates at the boat launch at the Medeiros use area provided increased security*. Dave responded that the gates prevent people from launching boats in the evening when no one is patrolling the area. This also helps reduce the risks associated with higher nighttime winds.

Dan Applebee asked about current hunting levels. Dave responded that at O'Neill Forebay and San Luis Reservoir only open-season waterfowl hunting is allowed. This is not very popular in this area. There are also a few scull boats on O'Neill and fewer on San Luis Reservoir. *Ricardo Cortesa asked about opportunities for equestrians*. Dave responded that there is one horse camp at the Los Banos Reservoir. *Dan Applebee asked about limits on jet-skis*. Dave responded that there are no limits.

Bruce Hochuli asked about bicycling opportunities because windsurfers like to use a bicycle to launch when there is no wind. Bruce asked why the dam had been closed to bicyclists since 9/11. In addition, restrictions at the O'Neill Pumping Plant prevent a continuous bike loop around the reservoirs. Dave responded that the California Aqueduct is a designated bike route and one can still walk across the dam. Bruce questioned the distinction between bicyclists and hikers. Mandeep responded that closing the route across the dam was part of Reclamation's security assessment. Dave said that the concern was that bicyclists can pull large ice chests on their bicycles, which are a security threat. Tom Young added that in the 80s, DWR was sued for millions by someone who fell off of their bike on DWR property and became a quadriplegic. As a result DWR hired a consultant to determine which areas were appropriately maintained for bicycle use.

The south end of the O'Neill Forebay is closed to bicyclists because it is not maintained for bicycle use. Bruce responded that mountain biking can be done on very primitive trails. George Ground, SLSSP added that courts are starting to reverse these types of decisions. For example, they are allowing skateboards. Bob King, Merced County Planning, said that laws are starting to address liability issues as long as certain steps are followed. John Fulton thought that bicycle restrictions should be at the top of the Los Banos Creek area, not the bottom. Bruce Hochuli brought up a concern about power lines since many windsurfers are also kite flyers. Steve Pearl discussed the potential for gravity sports at the Dinosaur Point Road area. Dave did not see a conflict between these sports and uses at either Pacheco State Park or San Luis Reservoir.

Mary Stokes provided an overview of the interpretive resources at San Luis Reservoir SRA. There is the Romero Visitors Center, Basalt Campground activities, and an informal weather station at the O'Neill Forebay. Mary distributed a handout describing the main interpretive stories currently offered at San Luis and asked for feedback on the content of those stories.

Leo Edson described the potential sensitive biological resources within the SRA, including the California red-legged frog, San Joaquin kit fox, tri-colored blackbird, tiger salamander, and burrowing owl. *Julie Vance asked whether kit fox surveys would be conducted at either Pacheco* 

or San Luis. Leo responded that there are no planned surveys. Robert King asked about the relationship between the General Plan process and the USFWS HCP process and whether Pacheco State Park or the San Luis Reservoir would consider providing kit fox corridors. Leo responded that the General Plan team will be working with USFWS to preserve existing corridors but that the team has not yet considered formally becoming part of the HCP process. Donna added that the planning team will consult with the USFWS and that Joanne Karlton of State Parks is working closely on the HCP and the kit fox corridor. Robert King added that Merced County would like to see State Parks partnering with the County on the HCP. Leo thought this would be a logical partnership. Bob Epperson added that Reclamation has been looking to acquire land in the area to facilitate the HCP process.

Warren Wulzen described the cultural resources at the San Luis Reservoir SRA. Forty-eight Native American sites have been recorded along the upper level of the San Luis Reservoir while 32 were within the reservoir area. Five were destroyed or inundated and 24 are below the top pool so they are flooded part of the year. One of the sites is on the O'Neill Forebay. Ten sites have been recorded at the Los Banos Reservoir. DPR needs to treat the SRA sites differently than those at Pacheco because the SLR is federally owned and therefore subject to NEPA Section 106 requirements. Warren also described that the historic resources of the dam and the quarry could help interpret the construction of the California Water Project. There are no paleontological resources, despite the name Dinosaur Point, although a few mastodon tusks were found during construction, as well as some early marine shell deposits.

#### **Open House**

Lunch was provided and all participants had an opportunity to mingle and ask individual questions.

#### **Presentations**

It was suggested that some of the groups and individuals present might want to give an overview of how they use the facilities and state any recommendations or requests that they may have.

#### Bruce Hochuli, San Luis Sailboarders Safety Patrol (SLSSP)

The San Luis Reservoir area is popular because of great wind, water; and vehicular access. Because of prevailing westerly winds, the majority of the windsurfers use the Medeiros use area of the O'Neill Forebay. An occasional north wind attracts people to launch from Checkpoint 12. The primary concerns are:

- 1. Leave parking near the water; it is good the way it is.
- 2. The submerged pipe near Medeiros has caused several injuries; windsurfers would like to see it covered or removed.
- 3. Water levels on O'Neill Forebay should be maintained at a higher level. 219 is the minimum that windsurfers can tolerate, particularly at "Catfish Flats" along the southwestern part of the O'Neill Forebay.
- 4. Automated water level information would help inform windsurfers of when to use the area.
- 5. The 10 mph speed limit should be marked near the main windsurfing area. Currently it is marked only at the boat launching area.
- 6. The jet ski launch area is difficult to use and it would help to have a good ramp.

The SLSSP represents windsurfers and also bicycle riders and kayakers because these provide alternative sporting opportunities when there is no wind. Part of the SLSSP goal is to provide unofficial guidance regarding unique local conditions. For example, SLSSP will warn new users about the overgrown weeds in August when water levels are low.

Steve Pearl asked whether dredging could be used to achieve higher water levels.

George Ground commented that there would be no issue if the ridges could be knocked down. SLSSP would be happy to help identify the high points in the ridges. Currently they place buoys on the ridges to warn windsurfers.

Tom Young mentioned that the minimum USGS water level currently is 217. Mandeep said that this is not the operational level. Bruce said that they have seen the water levels go as low as 216. Tom Young replied that levels have only once or twice gotten as low as 217.5 for a twelve hour Period. Bruce said that currently water levels are lowest in the morning, which is a preferred time for windsurfers because winds are higher. Tom said that the "glory hole" is maintained at 225. Bruce stated that currently there is no way for windsurfers to know the water level until they arrive at the site. Tom stated there is a water level recorder which could transfer water level information to the California Data Exchange (CDEC), which could possibly put the information on the Internet.

Los Banos Reservoir is currently online and updates every three hours. Bruce said it would be great if they could get the O'Neill Forebay water levels online. In addition, they would really like San Luis Reservoir SRA to see fluctuations around plus or minus 220 instead of plus or minus 219. In addition to causing problems for windsurfers, power boats run aground. A viewing platform is not a high priority for windsurfers since they are usually already out in the water.

#### Steve Pearl, Wild Fro Racing, LLC

Steve Pearl represents street luging on Dinosaur Point Road, a world class recreational street luge road at about 2.5 miles long. He described the tremendous potential for gravity and adrenaline sports. His primary interest is to increase the "technical" nature of the road and to provide some increased level of road control to keep cars off of it while riders are using it.

#### Sam Halsted, adjacent landowner and rancher

Sam expressed concern that more of the ranchers did not show up for the meeting. He has sold off lots 40 acres and larger, except for a few small lots along Dinosaur Point Road. He is interested in maintaining open space. He described a problem where Whiskey Flat Road and Fifield Road split a ranch, the 12,000 acre Mathis Ranch and the 5,000 acre Sherrer Ranch. Whiskey Flat Road served as the only access for some ranchers with 80 foot right-of-way to drive cattle. Sam is concerned about the future uses proposed along Whiskey Flat Road, especially if parking or other uses are allowed.

Bob Edminster just completed a biological study regarding the pig problem. Sam is interested in what State Parks could do to help get rid of the pigs. Dave Gould agrees about tremendous damage caused by pigs. State Parks has been getting depredation permits from DFG. As an example, State Parks hired a pig trapper for Henry Coe State Park who caught 750 pigs in three months. State Parks would like to do the same thing at Pacheco.

Sam is also interested in the financial aspects of running Pacheco State Park, whether some general fund money was coming into the Park, and how projects will be funded. For example, he wondered whether wind farming would be increased. Dave Gould responded that Paula Fatjo's will required that all money generated from the Park goes to run it. The contract with PG&E dropped rates when they went to market rate four years ago. The Fatjo Corporation funds Dave Milam and Curtis Climer's positions. Pacheco State Park is self supporting.

#### Tom Young, DWR Operational Issues

The San Luis Reservoir is a joint use operation between the State Water Project and the Central Valley Project. The State Water Project has 28 contracts. "Banks" feeds the California Aqueduct. The Tracy Pumping Plant is feeding the Delta-Mendota federal aqueduct. The San Luis Reservoir project currently is 55% federally operated and 45% state operated. Both the state and the federal water come into the O'Neill Forebay and are lifted at the Gianelli Pumping Plant into the San Luis Reservoir. Both the San Luis pumping plant and the O'Neill pumping plant pump and generate. The San Luis Canal is shared between the federal government and the state government. At 2 million acre-feet, the San Luis Reservoir is the largest off-stream storage facility in the U.S.

*Bruce asked why there are two canals.* Tom explained that the Delta-Mendota canal was built in the late 1930s or early 1940s when the Friant Dam was built on the San Joaquin River. The California Aqueduct was built in the 1960s as a joint use project.

Tom also discussed the issue of water levels. DWR pumps at night when electricity rates are low and generates during the day when electricity rates are higher. It is very difficult to match scheduled demands, real time demands, and desired water levels. DWR also has as a goal to generate income from the electricity generation. George Ground asked whether it would increase DWR operational expenses to increase the current water level fluctuation of 218-222 to 220-222. Tom responded that although it sounds easy, an entire team at DW R is working on generating the information that goes into the water levels. They are aware of the windsurfers desires but the level of the water is driven by the financial situation. Vern Masse added that the windsurfers really want to understand the mechanics behind the water levels and whether costs are some how higher when water levels are maintained at a higher minimum level. Bob Epperson responded that the downstream water users, farmers and cities, are affecting the water levels. This is affected by high temperatures and the price of electricity. Tom added that there are environmental restrictions placed on pumping water through the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta For example, pumping through "Tracy" and through "Banks" is affected by fish counts in the Delta. George Ground asked whether DWR could benefit from Widening the Reservoir. Mandeep responded that many studies would need to be done regarding siltation, channel capacity, surface evaporation, and dredging material. Bruce asked when pumping was stopped. Tom said that the highest pumping occurs between October and March but it can also occur all year long.

#### Robert King, Merced County Planning Department

The County receives a great benefit from the San Luis Reservoir and Pacheco State Park. As neighbors, they would like to work closely with state and federal governments, particularly in addressing the pressures on wildlife. Merced County has approved some subdivision projects, mostly in the Santa Nella area.

Wayne Woodruff asked about the status of Merced County's General Plan, amendments, Williamson Ad implementation, and whether any standards had changed recently. Bob responded that the General Plan has not been updated but it has not been budgeted and is not currently the highest priority. Merced is the last County within the Central Valley to implement the Williamson Act Amendments. The Santa Nella Specific Plan took the last 10 years to complete and has considerably more documentation than the General Plan. Merced County is working closely with DFG and USFWS on the HCP for the west side of the county, as they have been doing for the east side.

#### Other Issues

Steve Pearl stated that Highway 152 egress issues from different locations within San Luis Reservoir and Pacheco State Park need to be addressed. The Dinosaur Point Road left turn is a safety hazard, as are the Basalt left turn and the San Luis Creek left turn. Donna responded that the planning team will be reviewing all of the information from the scoping meetings, which included discussion about traffic safety issues. She also stated that currently, Caltrans does not have proposals for safety improvements but that the General Plan could make recommendations regarding these issues.

*Bruce Hochuli asked about the high speed bullet train.* Dennis responded that DPR has been attending the meetings and the final route has not been chosen yet. A decision likely will be made this summer. Dave Gould added that one alternative would run between the cemetery and Checkpoint 12.

Dan Applebee asked about the connection between the General Plan process and the Santa Clara Valley Water District San Luis Low Point Project. Dave Gould described that water is pumped to a reservoir in San Benito County. When water levels are low, algae in the San Luis Reservoir causes problems for pumping. The SCVWD is looking at 18 alternatives to address the problem of the low point. They expect to have the alternatives narrowed to six by February. Tom added that SCVWD will be concerned about anything that affects their access to the San Luis Reservoir and Dinosaur Point Road.

Dan Applebee asked whether the control of water levels would be included within the General Plan/RMP process. Bob responded that water levels were affected by issues beyond the scope of the RMP. Wayne added that the General Plan could include policies regarding ways to try to resolve some of the conflicts. It will not, however, have any legal authority to solve the conflicts.

Bob Epperson stated that he has gotten some useful suggestions out of this scoping meeting, particularly for automated real time water levels at the O'Neill Forebay and for the idea of studying the possibility of increasing water levels at the O'Neill Forebay.

Steve Pearl asked about the possibility of dedicating some roads for gravity sports, as opposed to leaving them open for dual use. Donna responded that this could possibly be included as a recommendation.

Mike Mulligan commented on DFG's interests in the process. 1) DFG would like to see the General Plan process help to fill some of the gaps in knowledge about wildlife, at least as part of its recommendation; 2) DFG's constituency also includes hunters and fishers and they would like to see these activities maintained, if not expanded; 3) the General Plan provides an opportunity for a long-term Section 1600 permit for ongoing maintenance activities; and 4) addressing the issue of permits for endangered species.

#### **Conclusions & Next Steps**

Donna Plunkett thanked everyone for their participation and reminded everyone to sign in to ensure that they would receive future mailings. She also stated that there would be two additional public workshops and that newsletters would be mailed to inform people about the meetings and the planning processes. The meeting ended at approximately 2 p.m.

#### Meeting Agenda: January 11, 2003, Scoping Meeting

## CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION AND US BUREAU OF RECLAMATION SCOPING MEETING FOR

#### PACHECO STATE PARK GENERAL PLAN & EIR AND

## SAN LUIS RESERVOIR STATE RECREATION AREA JOINT GENERAL PLAN and RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN & EIR/EIS

Saturday, January 11, 2003 Four Rivers District Headquarters Gonzaga Road 10:00 am- 2:00 pm.

#### 10:00- 10:30 a.m. Sign-In and Introduction

• Team Overview-Four Rivers Sector, Department of Fish & Game, Department of Water Resources, Bureau of Reclamation, Consultants (*Dave Gould, Acting Superintendent; Four Rivers District*)

#### 10:30-10:45 a.m. Planning Process Overview and Public Participation

• General Plan - Resource Management Plan & Environmental Impact Report/Statement (Donna Plunkett EDAW)

#### **10:45- 11:15 a.m. Project Overview**

- Pacheco State Park General Plan and EIR
  - General History (Dave Milam, Ranger, Four Rivers District)
  - Recreation Overview (Dave Gould, Acting Superintendent, Four Rivers District)
  - Interpretive Overview (Mary Stokes, Interpretive Specialist, Four Rivers District)
  - Natural Resources Overview (Leo Edson, Biologist, EDAW)
  - Cultural Resources Overview (Warren Wulzen, Archeologist, Four Rivers District)
- San Luis Reservoir State Recreation Area Joint General Plan and Resource Management Plan and EIR/EIS
  - General History (Bob Epperson, US Bureau of Reclamation)
  - Recreation Overview (Dave Gould, Acting Superintendent, Four Rivers District)
  - Interpretive Overview (Mary Stokes, Interpretive Specialist, Four Rivers District)
  - Natural Resources Overview (Leo Edson, Biologist, EDAW)
  - Cultural Resources Overview (Warren Wulzen, Archeologist Four Rivers District)

#### 11:15- 12:00 p.m. Question & Answer

• Public Comment Period (written comment cards are available if you do not wish to speak)

#### 12:00-12:45 p.m. Open House

• Light Refreshments & Mingling

#### 12:45-1:30 p.m. Break-out Groups - Visioning Session

• Pacheco State Park (Facilitated by Dave Milam and Corrina Kweskin)

• San Luis Reservoir State Recreation Area (Facilitated by Dave Gould and Leo Edson)

1:30-1:50 p.m. Visioning Session Summaries

1:50-2:00 p.m. Conclusions and Next Steps

#### Meeting Summary: February 20, 2003, Scoping Meeting

## GENERAL PLAN/RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN and EIR/EIS SCOPING MEETING FOR SAN LUIS RESERVOIR STATE RECREATION AREA February 20, 2003

February 20, 2003 Four Rivers District Headquarters

MEETING SUMMARY Issue Date: March 6, 2003

Participants

Robert Epperson, RMP Coordinator, BOR
Dan Holsapple, Resource Management Specialist BOR
Donna Plunkett, Project Manager, EDAW
Wayne Woodroof, Statewide Coordinator, DPR
Jerry Bartholomew, DWR
Warren Wulzen, Associate State Archaeologist DPR
Dave Gould, Chief Ranger, DPR
Mary Stokes, Interpretive Specialist DPR
Dennis Imhoff, Chief Ranger, DPR
Dave Milam, Ranger, DPR
Tom Young, DWR
Mandeep Bling, DWR

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The meeting began at approximately 1:00 p.m. The agenda follows the summary below. *Public comments are indicated in Italics*. Two poster maps were on display: "Sensitive Biological Species" and "Existing Conditions." In addition, the following handouts were distributed:

- 1. Agenda
- 2. General Plan Table of Contents
- 3. San Luis Reservoir Resource Inventory (January 1973)
- 4. San Luis SRA Preliminary Scoping Document (11/20/01)
- 5. San Luis Reservoir SRA General Plan and RMP EIR/EIS Notice of Preparation (11/22/02)
- 6. California State Parks Planning Handbook Pages 29-37 (February 2002)
- 7. Contact List

#### **Sign-In and Introduction**

A sign-in sheet was provided and all participants were asked to sign-in. As there were only three participants in addition to the staff, it was decided that the full overview noted on the agenda was not necessary. Donna Plunkett started off by giving an overview of the planning process and noted this meeting was in addition to a scoping meeting held on January 11, 2003.

#### **Planning Process Overview & Public Participation**

Donna Plunkett from EDAW thanked everyone for attending and provided an overview of the General Plan process and EDAW's role as the consultant. She described that there are two separate processes for the Joint General Plan/RMP and for the EIR/EIS. This is joint effort of

DPR and Reclamation as DPR manages much of the land that Reclamation owns for recreation. The map of Existing Conditions displays ownership and management in the area and she pointed out the mosaic of agencies and land areas that comprise the SRA. She referenced the State Parks Planning Handbook and noted the section on the planning process. EDAW is currently putting together the existing conditions, noting that this a particularly appropriate time to get feedback on maps and other data.

She noted that the next step in the process will be to develop alternatives over the next few months with the goal of a preferred alternative by summer of this year. It was noted that the EIR/EIS for San Luis will be program level analysis and that future projects implemented as part of this process may require a project level analysis.

Bob Epperson gave a brief overview of the SRA and noted that the project area does not include the canal areas. He suggested that we open the meeting up for informal discussion since we had a small group and the visitors were from DWR. Tom Young noted that since the last meeting when there was a request for water level data to be placed on the Internet he has been working on getting this information posted on the California Data Exchange. He then asked about sewage handling at Pacheco State Park. Wayne Woodroof commented that the General Plan will not have a specific design for a system as we would cover broader recommendations. Donna noted that certainly the General Plan would take into consideration the surrounding resources if there were to be a recommendation for a future restroom facility.

Bob Epperson asked about the allocation of water resources and asked about any existing entitlements that DWR knows about. It was noted that DPR is provided water as they are entitled to a certain amount although currently do not use near the agreed upon amount. *Tom Young noted that each area of the SRA has a water supply and distribution system in place and briefly reviewed what these are.* 

Tom asked a question about notifying people for the meetings. Donna gave a brief overview of the outreach work that is being done as part of the planning process. She explained that a database has been set up with individuals and agencies that are recognized as stakeholders for work in this area. She noted however that it may not be inclusive of all of the surrounding landowners if they were not on the lists that DPR provided. Dennis Imhoff noted that for Pacheco they had most of the landowners but not for the SRA. Tom noted that they have a list of contact people that use to notify for dam release issues. Donna said that they would incorporate it if he sends it to her. She also noted that the other DWR contacts that Tom gave Dennis were already added to the database.

Bob noted that recently, Reclamation published a notice regarding the encroachment of a private landowner on Federal land in the vicinity of Interstate 5 and the San Luis Canal. He noted that this area was a kit fox mitigation parcel. There was a brief discussion about the portions of the Los Banos Retention Dam that were part of the GP/RMP and it was noted that the DWR owned land in that area was not included. The Los Banos Grande Dam project was noted and that led into a discussion about regional planning efforts and how they fit within the planning process. *Jerry Bartholomew noted that security is an issue and DWR tries to prevent access from the highway.* 

Donna noted that all regional plans are mentioned in the Plan and a summary is provided. So far, the plans included, amongst others are the Los Banos Grande Dam project, Caltrans Regional Transportation Plan and the plan for a regional light rail system. Donna then noted briefly that there are natural and cultural resources that are being considered in the Plan. Namely, that there

are many archaeological sites that are in the Valley where the reservoir exists now. She also noted that there are endangered species in the vicinity of the project area including the kit fox and the red-legged frog which will require coordination with US Fish and Wildlife Service. Mary Stokes noted that the power plant tour is very popular and water related interpretive programs are in demand.

She noted that since some tours ended after 9/11, it would be great if there were some other location where an old turbine could be placed to tell the story of the water pumping. A brief discussion ensued about the Romero Visitor's Center and that DWR manages that for interpretive and educational information. It was suggested that Mary contact Sara Betterridge about any future programs.

Bob Epperson asked Mandeep Bling from DWR about the use of the quarry. *Mandeep noted that the quarry has been set aside for future rock reserves should they be needed for the dam.*Bob noted perhaps the area should be cordoned off from access as presently it is possible to gain access to the area. A discussion ensued as to who has management authority over certain areas of the SM. Donna noted that there has been a summary compiled all the legal agreements between Reclamation and the various agencies that have land or management jurisdiction in the SM. Bob noted that the agreement about the quarry was not in the legal agreements that he had.

Tom Young noted that the letter that DWR submitted as part of the scoping process included a provision about how the rangers should be trained to deal with a variety of enforcement issues outside of just recreation-related violations but that DWR keeps limiting access to certain areas within the SRA which makes it harder for them. He noted that perhaps there can be a joint access system, such as a common key or combination lock that both agencies can utilize.

Dave Gould asked if DWR staff knew of any agreements for cattle grazing north of SR 152 where currently, the cattle graze right to the edge of the water. *Mandeep did not know of any but said he would look into the matter*. The matter of cattle grazing shifted to Los Banos where the question also arose about the rights at the water's edge there. *Mandeep noted that he thought there was a lease in that area. Joanne Karlton noted that DPR has a continual fence maintenance problem in that area.* 

Donna concluded that if there were no more comments or questions, there is always an opportunity to contact her directly on behalf of DPR or others who are noted on the contact list provided.

#### Meeting Agenda: February 20, 2003, Scoping Meeting

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
AND
US BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
SCOPING MEETING
FOR

## SAN LUIS RESERVOIR STATE RECREATION AREA JOINT GENERAL PLAN and RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN & EIR/EIS

Thursday, February 20, 2003 Four Rivers District Headquarters Gonzaga Road 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_

#### 1:00-1:15 p.m. - Sign-In and Introduction

• Team Overview - Four Rivers District Department of Fish & Game, Department of Water Resources, Bureau of Reclamation, Consultants (Dave *Gould, Acting Superintendent; Four Rivers District*)

#### 1:15-1:30 p.m. - Planning Process Overview & Public Participation

• General Plan - Resource Management Plan & Environmental Impact Report/Statement (Donna Plunkett EDAW)

#### 1:30-2:00 p.m. - Project Overview

- San Luis Reservoir State Recreation Area Joint General Plan and Resource Management Plan & EIR/EIS
  - General History (Bob Epperson, US Bureau of Reclamation)
  - Recreation Overview (Dave Gould, Acting Superintendent Four Rivers District)
  - Interpretive Overview (Mary Stokes, Interpretive Specialist, Four Rivers District)
  - Natural Resources Overview (Joanne Karlton, Biologist Four Rivers District)
  - Cultural Resources Overview (Warren Wulzen, Archeologist Four Rivers District)

#### 2:00-2:45 p.m. - Question & Answer

 Public Comment Period (written comment cards are available if you do not wish to speak)

#### 2:45-3:00 p.m. Conclusions & Next Steps

#### Meeting Agenda: March 13, 2003, USFWS Meeting

### CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION, US BUREAU OF RECLAMATION AND EDAW TEAM

SAN LUIS RESERVOIR STATE RECREATION AREA GENRAL PLAN/RESOURCEMANAGEMENT PLAN &EIR/EIS

### USFWS CONSULTATION MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, March 13, 2003 USFWS Sacramento Office

#### 11:00-11:30 p.m. - Project Overview& Status

- Current Mapping and Status of Data (Review Existing Mapping)
- Alternatives Development (Overview of Possible Project Components)
  - trail additions and improvements
  - additional boat launching areas
  - additional swimming beach
  - infrastructure improvements
  - camping facilities
- Inter-agency Cooperation (DPR, Reclamation, DFG, DWR)

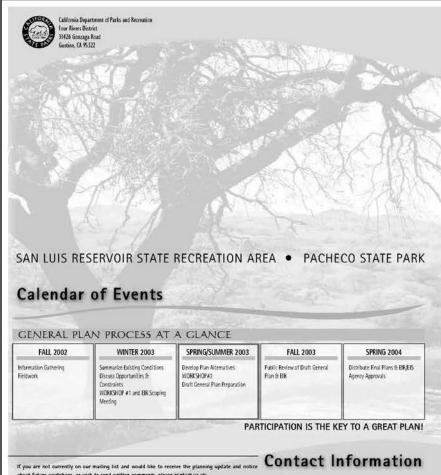
#### 11:30- 12:15 p.m. Consultation with USFWS

- San Joaquin fit fox (review of KFPACT corridor mapping)
- Red-legged frog at SRA and Pacheco SP
- Response to USFWS Scoping Letter
- Consultation with USACE (Section 404 requirements)
- Consultation with DFG (CESA and Streambed Alteration Permitting)

#### 12: 15- 12:45 p.m. Next Steps and Action Items

• Timeline for Planning Work

#### Newsletter 2 (May 2003)





#### San Luis Reservoir Pacheco Park



GENERAL PLANS

**NEWSLETTER #2** 

#### PARTNERS IN PLANNING

he first public planning workshop for the San Luis Reservoir General Plan/Resource Management Plan and Pacheco State Park General Plan was a success! Thanks to all who attended and shared their ideas about the parks' futures and also to those of you who filled out the survey. A summary of comments from the scoping meeting/workshop and the survey are enclosed. We're now in the process of incorporating your ideas into three alternatives for each Plan. These plans will define long-term visions for the parks, identify desired improvements and enhancements, and provide guidelines for protecting natural and cultural resources.



#### Public Planning Workshop #2:

Tuesday, May 27, 2003 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm Four Rivers District Office 31426 Gonzaga Road Gustine, CA 95322



Dinosaur Point Boat Ramp

#### HOW CAN YOU CONTRIBUTE!

Stay Informed: This newsletter is being published to keep you informed about the progress of these planning processes. It covers both the San Luis Reservoir State Recreation Area joint General Plan and Resource Management Plan and the Pacheco State Park General Plan. Because the parks are adjacent to each other, the planning processes are being combined to make it easier for you to participate. You may also visit the State Parks website at www.parks.ca.gov to get updated information. To access the General Plan website from the main page, under Related Links click on "Planning", then under Related Links click on "General Plans", then under Related Links click on "Plans In Progress", then click on "San Luis Reservoir State Recreation Area" or "Pacheco State

Attend the Second Public Planning Workshop: We will host the second public workshop for the San Luis Reservoir State Recreation Area and Pacheco State Park General Plans from 4:00 to 8:00 pm at the Four Rivers District Office fsee location on map inside). We will present the three alternatives for each of the parks and ask for your input to help select the preferred alternatives for the General Plans. You will have the opportunity to comment and vote on the alternatives so that the preferred alternative can be selected with your input in mind. After the public meeting, the final preferred alternative will be chosen and used to craft the draft plans and analyze environmental impacts.

This meeting will be designed as an open house - so you can drop in any time during the session to learn about the alternatives and provide your comments. Presentations for the alternatives will be given at 90 minute intervals between 4:00 and 8:00 pm so you don't need to stay for the whole meeting to participate. Your attendance is important for reviewing the plans, so please join us!



Summer Hills at Pacheco

about future workshops, or wish to send written comments, please contact us at:

California Department of Parks and Recreation Four Rivers District 31426 Gonzaga Road Gustine, CA 95322 209.826.1197 (for questions or comments about the General

For general information about park use (e.g. hours, activities), please call: 1-800-346-2711

Visit Our Website www.parks.ca.gov/generalplans EDAW

may 2003

#### PACHECO STATE PARK

Pacheco State Park was created when Paula Fatjo bequeathed the property in her will to DPR for the "protection, maintenance, and fostering of natural flora and fauna thereon."

Based on issues identified through the scoping process and keeping the stated purpose of the park in mind, the alternatives for Pacheco should provide solutions for a variety of issues related to resource protection and recreation enhancements. It is useful to think of alternatives in terms of a range from minimum to maximum - or as passive uses, such as nature study, and active uses, such as overnight camping. The alternatives will include options such

- · providing access to the adjacent San Luis State Recreation Area
- · improving access and safety off State Route
- · expanding day use areas and overnight camping · exploring concession services for equestrian use and mountain biking rentals
- · expanding trail use to more areas of the park expanding self—quided interpretive programs and provide an all-weather shelter for group gatherings
- · continuing cultural and historic resource inventories and monitoring and set up a collections facility
- · protecting native plant species utilizing best management practices
- · continuing existing feral pig management and increase as resources allow
- · evaluating maintenance of stock ponds and adjacent dams

#### MANAGEMENT ZONES AND ALTERNATIVES DEVELOPMENT

he planning process for San Luis and Pacheco will serve to guide the future of these parks for the next 30 years. To determine where future facilities and resource protection should occur, the designation of management zones is a planning tool that will be employed in this process. Management zones will help in describing the purpose of various areas within the parks, as well as depict their intended uses.

Management zones are set up based on what activities or resources exist in a given area now, as well as future goals for the area based on opportunities and constraints and issues identified by the stakeholders, as outlined in the enclosed summary. For San Luis, designations for both the land area and the surface water areas are proposed, since distinct activities occur in each.

To assist in developing alternatives, a summary of opportunities and constraints has been developed based on input received during the early scoping phase of this planning process and can be

#### LAND-BASED MANAGEMENT ZONES

- Proposed Uses
- Storage
- Administrative uses
- Office space Maintenance
- · Staff living quarters
- Historic buildings
- Interpretive facilities
- 1. Administration/Operations Zone (AO) 2. Frontcountry Zone (FC) 3. Backcountry (BC)
  - Visitor orientation Visitor center
  - Camping
  - Day use activities Parking

Rest rooms

- Proposed Uses
- Limited mechanized vehicles
- Passive recreation
- Grazino
- Limited visitor access Limited recreation
- Nature study
- Research

#### 4. Leased Zone (LZ) (Pacheco State Park only) Proposed Uses and Actions

- Vegetation and wildlife management
- Limited public access
- · Wind turbines
- Interpretive trails Link to SRA lands

#### WATER-BASED MANAGEMENT ZONES

San Luis, an inventory system known as Water Resources Opportunities Spectrum (WROS) was employed and yielded the following results for each of the unit's reservoirs:

#### For the water-based designations at O'Neill Forebay - Suburban Recreation Zone (S)

- · Highest concentration of water uses including personal watercraft, windsurfing. San Luis Reservoir - Rural Developed Recreation Zone (RD)
- Maintain current water uses.

Los Banos Reservoir - Rural Natural Recreation Zone (RN)

· Least concentration of water uses excluding personal watercraft, windsurfing and water skiing and allowing non-motorized boating.

WROS is a planning tool to inventory, plan and manage water recreation resources for the future. We will be conducting additional WROS inventories and if you would like to participate, please contact us and we will let you know how you can help!

categorized in the following topics: Local and Regional Planning: Infrastructure and Operations; Water Operations; Visitor Experience and Education; and Resource Management.

#### SAN LUIS RESERVOIR STATE RECREATION AREA

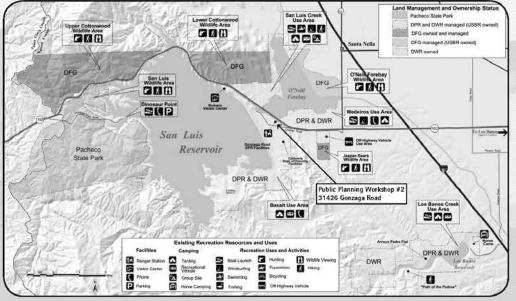
he San Luis Reservoir State Recreation Area was created when the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation developed the property for water storage and distribution. This is the primary purpose of the reservoirs and associated operational facilities located on over 25,000 acres of land and water that make up the project area. As part of that work, the Bureau set up a management agreement with the State to use portions of the area for recreation. California Departement of Parks and Recreation's purpose statement for the area includes:

"the full utilization of the aquatic and other recreational opportunities in and about San Luis Reservoir and its Forebay; together with consideration for all scientific, scenic, and historical resources of the area."

Land and water areas are also managed by the California Department of Water Resources and California Department of Fish and Game. The map to the left illustrates the ownership, management and existing recreational uses of the two parks. The planning process for San Luis must consider the management responsibilities of each of the four agencies.

The alternatives for the State Recreation Area should provide solutions for a variety of issues for recreation and resource management while recognizing the unit's primary role for water supply and distribution. It is useful to think of alternatives in terms of a range from minimum to maximum improvements or management activities or from passive to more active recreation solutions. The alternatives will include options such as:

- · providing linking trails between adjacent public lands
- · improving access and safety between use areas expanding and improving visitor facilities
- and recreational opportunities providing concession services in limited
- · maintaining and improving interpretive programs and facilities
- continuing cultural and historic resource inventories and monitoring and setting up a collections facility
- maintaining and providing wildlife corridors and habitat particularly for the San Joaquin
- protecting native plant species utilizing best management practices



#### Meeting Summary: May 27, 2003, Alternatives Meeting

#### GENERAL PLAN/RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN and EIR/EIS

#### ALTERNATIVES WORKSHOP

FOR

SAN LUIS RESERVOIR STATE RECREATION AREA

AND

PACHECO STATE PARK

May 27, 2003

**Four Rivers District Headquarters** 

MEETING SUMMARY Issue Date: July 9, 2003

#### **Participants**

Lynn Hurley, SCVWD Madeline Yancey
Tom Young, DWR Dennis Woolington

Sam Halsted Robert King, Merced County Planning Dept

Steve Pearl, Wild Fro Racing, LLC Dave Gould, Chief Ranger, DPR

Gary Florence Warren Wulzen, Associate State Archeologist, DPR

Matthew A. Fantazia

David Milam, DPR

Claudia Gonzalez

Chet Vogt

Gloria Escallier

Mary Stokes, Interpretive Specialist, DPR

Bob Epperson, RMP Coordinator, BOR

Donna Plunkett, Project Manager, EDAW

Ian Ferguson, Environmental Analyst, EDAW

Wayne Woodroof, Statewide Coordinator, DPR

Don Escallier Dennis Imhoff, Chief Ranger, DPR

Anne Newins

The meeting began at approximately 4:00 p.m. The summary below follows the agenda that follows. *Public comments are indicated in italics*. Two poster maps were on display: "San Luis Reservoir Draft Alternatives Table" and "Pacheco State Park Draft Alternatives Table." Also on display were nine 11 x 17 maps, three showing Alternatives 1, 2, and 3 for San Luis Reservoir SRA and six showing Alternatives 1, 2, and 3 for Pacheco State Park (one showing the entire park and one enlargement for each alternative), In addition, the following handouts were distributed:

- 1. Agenda
- 2. San Luis Reservoir SRA General Plan and RMP EIR/EIS Notice of Preparation (11/22/02)
- 3. Pacheco State Park General Plan/EIR Notice of Preparation (11/22/02)
- 4. Newsletter
- 5. Surveys
- 6. San Luis Reservoir SRA General Plan Alternatives Table
- 7. Pacheco State Park General Plan Alternatives Table
- 8. Contact List

#### **Sign-In and Introduction**

Donna Plunkett provided a brief introduction to the planning process as well as to the meeting, including an outline of the meeting's purpose, agenda (attached), and goals. The purpose of the meeting was to update the public on planning process and to obtain public input and opinions on the development of general plan alternatives for both units. The goals of the meeting were to answer any questions regarding planning alternatives and alternatives development and to obtain public input to incorporate into the final alternatives. Attendees then introduced themselves and described their interest in the planning process.

#### **Presentation of Planning Process and Alternatives**

After all attendees had introduced themselves, Donna Plunkett gave a presentation detailing the planning process and the development of general plan alternatives for both units. The presentation began with a brief introduction to the planning process in general, including a planning process timeline and a discussion of the plan's purpose, and the meeting's goals and outcomes.

Following the general overview of the process, Donna discussed the factors taken into consideration in developing the alternatives for the San Luis Reservoir SRA. Major factors include the unit's purpose and vision; the missions of the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR), Department of Fish and Game (DFG), and the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) in managing the unit; and stakeholder input and concerns, including comments from the first public meeting, scoping letters, and surveys. Each of these factors, as well as an overview of the project area reservoirs and ownership and management, was discussed in detail to provide information on how alternatives were developed and where conflicts of interest may arise, and key opportunities and constraints at each unit were summarized. Finally, Donna introduced the conceptual models used in developing alternatives, including the development of "Passive," "Moderate," and "Active" alternatives, the use of management zones, and the Water Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (WROS).

After this background, the San Luis Reservoir SRA planning alternatives were presented using maps to show the management zones along with existing and proposed future uses and developments. Alternative 1 includes the least amount of active development and management, including less development of new facilities, programs, and resource management activities. Alternative 2 includes a moderate amount of development, and Alternative 3 includes the most development.

Sam Halsted asked if an analysis had been done to determine the carrying capacity at Pacheco State Park. Donna answered that no quantitative analysis has yet been conducted and that current planning activities are focusing on collecting public opinion regarding the types of activities and uses, use levels, and development that is desired for the park. Wayne Woodroof commented that the planning process is looking for development of alternatives based on public and agency goals, and that a complete analysis of specific issues such as carrying capacity will be carried out during the CEQA review process for individual projects. Donna added that all three alternatives include natural and cultural resource protection to ensure that the park's use levels will not negatively impact the park's unique resources.

Steve Pearl asked whether it is assumed that the management/use categories used in the planning process reflect existing use and existing development, or if they allow for new and future uses and developments in each unit. In addition, he asked if the planning process looks at the "nature of the users" at each use area, including their uses and opinions. Donna commented that the general plans outline each unit's goals for the next 30 years, that regional and visitor demographics have been analyzed, and that surveys have been distributed in an attempt to

determine and incorporate the "nature of the users" as best as possible. Furthermore, Donna commented, specific studies will be conducted during implementation of specific general plan alternatives. In addition, Wayne Woodruff commented that uses do show something about the nature of the users, and that CEQA will require a complete analysis of future changes associated with implementation of alternatives. Lastly, Bob Epperson commented that trends in users are another consideration to be included in the planning process, as is compatibility with nearby uses. Bob used the example of developing a marina in an area currently enjoyed as a quiet, remote fishing area; development of one use should not exclude another existing use, particularly one with a high number of users.

Specific management and development activities under each alternative were shown in the attached San Luis Reservoir Draft Alternatives Table and the attached maps of the alternatives, (Note: in the interest of time and at the request of Sam Halsted, who wanted to see the alternatives for Pacheco State Park and had to leave at 6:00pm, only Alternatives 1 and 2 For San Luis SRA were presented in detail.)

Next, the planning alternatives for Pacheco State Park was presented in detail, including DPR's mission, stakeholder concerns at the unit, and the key opportunities and constraints for development. Alternatives 1, 2, and 3 were then detailed through maps showing the management zones and existing and proposed future uses and developments, as for San Luis Reservoir SRA. Alternative 1 again proposed the least development of facilities, uses, programs, and resource management while Alternative 3 again proposed more intensive development.

Sam Halsted commented that he has an easement on 4 acres immediately northeast of Pacheco State Park. His easement allows for cattle gathering, and for potential development of the old Butterfield Stage Mountain House located on the property, which he is willing to work on with the appropriate parties Sam also commented that much of the area around Pacheco State Park is being subdivided and sold, and that there will be increasing residential development in the near future. This should be noted and addressed as much as possible during the planning process. In addition, Sam commented that Whiskey Rat Road should not be used for public access to the park, and that increasing development and traffic In the area is making the intersection of SR 152 and Dinosaur Point Road increasingly dangerous.

During the presentation of alternatives, Sam Halsted asked how the existing cattle route through the park and the existing corals used by cattle ranchers would be changed. Donna answered that cattle routes would be realigned to avoid day use areas and other major use areas and would most likely be moved south, but that specific changes have not yet been proposed.

Tom Young asked if the windmill lease would be renewed under Alternative 1. Donna answered that no the lease would not be renewed in Alternative I and that impacts associated with both lease renewal and windmill removal will be analyzed. Dave Milam further commented that Alternative 3 proposes an extension and expansion of the windmill lease, but that this does not necessarily include expansion of the geographical area of the lease. In addition, Tom asked if a speed reduction for SR 152 in the vicinity of Dinosaur Point Road would be proposed in Alternative 1, or either of the other alternatives. Donna answered that while a speed reduction has not been included as a recommendation in any alternative, it is still an option and may be included.

Gary Florence asked what the equestrian concession proposed under Alternatives 2 and 3 would entail. Donna answered that under Alternative 2, minimal stable and corral facilities would be developed to allow for seasonal horse rental, while under Alternative 3, full stable and corral

facilities would be developed to allow for year-round horse rental as well as possible boarding of privately owned horses. Specific facilities have not fully been determined and may better be addressed during implementation, though potential concessions will be included in the general plan.

Steve Pearl again commented that it is essential to address the dangerous intersection of SR 152 and Dinosaur Point Road.

Sam Halsted commented that the development and planning of SR 152 originally included an interchange at Dinosaur Point Road. This interchange was eventually dropped, and the right-of-way that had been acquired by Caltrans relinquished, due to low use in the area and low Caltrans priority. This indicates that Caltrans is aware of the dangers at this intersection, and that there is a possibility of working with Caltrans to make some degree of improvement.

Chet Vogt commented that the planning process must regard biodiversity as a highest priority at Pacheco State Park, as is detailed in Paula Fatjo's will. Because the park's lands have been continuously grazed for two hundred years, grazing is a necessary component of preserving the land and its existing biodiversity. Grazing should be maintained as a priority to keep the land healthy and natural. Donna and Dave Gould responded that grazing is currently included in each alternative at least as a grazing management option, and that DPR is currently conducting studies to determine its benefit to biodiversity.

Gary Florence asked what alternatives have been included for park maintenance facilities and equipment at Pacheco State Park. Currently, Gary added, facilities and equipment are extremely limited; there is no space to carry out simple tasks such as cutting a board, and such tasks are currently done on the backs of workers' trucks. Donna answered that the need for additional maintenance facilities and equipment has been acknowledged and discussed, but that specific needs and alternatives have not yet been developed. Maintenance facilities and equipment will be included in the Administrative and Operations Zone, and there is the possibility of an enclosed work/maintenance building.

Specific management and development activities under each alternative are shown in the attached Pacheco State Park Draft Alternatives Table and the attached maps of each alternative.

Finally, Donna asked the attendees to review the tables and maps posted on the walls and tables around the room, and to make comments using stickers and post-it notes. She asked people to review the maps for each alternative, read through the alternatives tables posted, and ask her or the parks staff any questions they might have, then to mark their favored alternatives with the colored tabs provided. In addition, she asked that specific comments be included on post-it notes or written on the smaller printouts of the tables and returned to the parks office by mail or by hand.

#### **Open House**

Following the presentation, attendees reviewed the maps and tables provided and asked questions, marked their favored elements of each Alternative, and made comments on the post-it notes provided. Approximately 20 copies of the Alternatives tables were distributed for further review and commenting.

#### **Conclusions & Next Steps**

After receiving mailed-in comments, EDAW and DPR staff will work to finalize the planning

alternatives and identifying the preferred Alternative. Finalization of Alternatives will incorporate public opinion and will include further development of Alternatives as needed. Following the completion of the Alternatives, the Draft General Plan and EIRJEIS will be prepared in compliance with CEQA and NEPA. The meeting ended at approximately 8:00pm.

### Meeting Agenda: May 27, 2003, Alternatives Meeting

# CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PARKSAND RECREATION AND USBUREAU OF RECLAMATION ALTERNATIVES WORKSHOP FOR

## PACHECO STATE PARK GENERAL PLAN & EIR AND

## SAN LUIS RESERVOIR STATE RECREATION AREA JOINT GENERAL PLAN and RESOURCE MANAGEMENTPLAN&EIR/EIS

May 27, 2003 Four Rivers District Headquarters Gonzaga Road 4:00 - 8:00 pm.

#### 4:00-4:30pm Sign-In and Introduction

- Team Overview Four Rivers District, Department of Fish & Game, Department of Water Resources, Bureau of Reclamation, Consultants(Dave *Gould, Acting Superintendent; Four Rivers District*)
- Handouts
- Meeting Format

#### 4:30-5:45 pm Alternatives Presentation # 1

• Feedback Session

#### 5:45-7:00 pm Alternatives Presentation #2

Feedback Session

#### 7:00-8:00 pm Alternatives Presentation #3

Feedback Session

#### **Native American Consultation**

July 11, 2003 Debbie Pilas-Treadway Native American Heritage Commission 915 Capitol Mall, Room 364 Sacramento, CA 95814

#### Re: Tribal Contacts for Western Merced and Eastern Santa Clara Counties

Dear Ms. Treadway:

EDAW Inc. has been retained by the California Department of Parks and Recreation working jointly with the U.S Department of the Interior Bureau of Reclamation to prepare a joint General Plan (State) and Resource Management Plan (Federal) at the San Luis Reservoir State Recreation Area ("SRA") in Merced County. We are also preparing a General Pan for Pacheco State Park in Merced and Santa Clara counties which is adjacent to the SRA on the west. These parcels are depicted on the San Luis Dam, San Luis Creek, Pacheco Pass, and Ortigalita Peak NW USGS topographic quadrangle maps and highlighted on the attached map. As part of these planning efforts we are also preparing program level EIR/EIS's as necessary.

We are pleased to bring this activity to your attention, and would appreciate any background information you can provide regarding prehistoric, historic or ethnographic land use. We are also interested in any contemporary Native American values that might be present in or near the project area and would appreciate a search of the Sacred Lands File and a list of local Native American contacts at your earliest convenience.

If you have any questions or need further information for these requests, please feel free to contact me at the number noted hereon or by email at ludwigt@edaw.com or the EDAW project manager, Donna Plunkett at 415-433-1484, email at plunkettd@edaw.com. Thank you for attention to this matter.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Edmund G. Brown Jr., Governor

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION 915 CAPITOL MALL, ROOM 364 SACRAMENTO, CA 95814 (916) 653-4062 Fax (916) 657-6390 Web Site www.nahc.ca.gov



October 27, 2011

Army Havens URS Corporation 1333 Broadway, Suite 800 Oakland, CA 94612

610.074.3260

Sent by Fax: 530-741-4457

# of Pages: 2

Re: Proposed San Luis River Reservoir State Recreation Area (SRA) Resource Management Plan (RMP), Merced County.

Dear Ms. Havens:

A record search of the sacred land file has failed to indicate the presence of Native American cultural resources in the immediate project area. The absence of specific site information in the sacred lands file does not indicate the absence of cultural resources in any project area. Other sources of cultural resources should also be contacted for information regarding known and recorded sites.

Enclosed is a list of Native Americans individuals/organizations who may have knowledge of cultural resources in the project area. The Commission makes no recommendation or preference of a single individual, or group over another. This list should provide a starting place in locating areas of potential adverse impact within the proposed project area. I suggest you contact all of those indicated, if they cannot supply information, they might recommend others with specific knowledge. By contacting all those listed, your organization will be better able to respond to claims of failure to consult with the appropriate tribe or group. If a response has not been received within two weeks of notification, the Commission requests that you follow-up with a telephone call to ensure that the project information has been received.

If you receive notification of change of addresses and phone numbers from any of these individuals or groups, please notify me. With your assistance we are able to assure that our lists contain current information. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at (916) 653-4040.

Sincerely,

Katy Sanchez Program Analyst

#### **Native American Contact List**

Merced County October 27, 2011

Southern Sierra Miwuk Nation Jay Johnson, Spiritual Leader

5235 Allred Road Mariposa CA 95338

209-966-6038

Miwok

Pauite Northern Valley Yokut Southern Sierra Miwuk Nation Les James, Spiritual Leader

PO Box 1200 Mariposa, 209-966-3690

, CA 95338

Miwok Pauite

Northern Valley Yokut

North Valley Yokuts Tribe Katherine Erolinda Perez

PO Box 717 Linden

. CA 95236

(209) 887-3415 canutes@verizon.net Ohlone/Costanoan Northern Valley Yokuts

Bay Miwok

Amah MutsunTribal Band Edward Ketchum

35867 Yosemite Ave Davis . CA 95616 Ohlone/Costanoan Northern Valley Yokuts

aerieways@aol.com

Southern Sierra Miwuk Nation Anthony Brochini, Chairperson

P.O. Box 1200

Miwok

Mariposa , CA 95338

Pauite Northern Valley Yokut

tony\_brochini@nps.gov

209-379-1120 209-628-0085 cell

This list is current only as of the date of this document.

Distribution of this list does not relieve any person of the statutory responsibility as defined in Section 7050.5 of the Health and Safety Code, Section 5097.94 of the Public Resources Code and Section 5097.98 of the Public Resources Code.

This list is only applicable for contacting local Native Americans with regard to cultural resources for the proposed San Luis Reservoir State Recreation Area (SRA) Resource Management Plan (RMP): Merced County.



Anthony Brochini Southern Sierra Miwuk Nation P.O. Box 1200 Mariposa, CA 95338

Subject: San Luis Reservoir SRA Resource Management Plan/General Plan

Dear Mr. Brochini:

In early August 2012, the Bureau of Reclamation sent you a mailer to inform you of the availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Revised Draft Environmental Impact Report (Draft EIS/REIR) for the San Luis Reservoir State Recreation Area (SRA) Resource Management Plan/General Plan (RMP/GP). This is a follow-up inquiry to find out if you or your organization has any information or concerns about San Luis Reservoir SRA or the RMP/GP.

The San Luis Reservoir SRA consists of more than 27,000 acres of land owned by Reclamation and includes the water surfaces of San Luis Reservoir, O'Neill Forebay, Los Banos Creek Reservoir and adjacent recreation lands in Merced County, Calif. The RMP/GP is intended to guide recreation and resource management at the SRA in a way that maintains and enhances public and resource benefits and is consistent with Reclamation's core mission of delivering water and generating power. The RMP/GP is combined with an EIS/REIR that describes the SRA's existing setting, alternatives for future management under the RMP/GP and potential environmental impacts of the alternatives. Additional information is available at http://www.usbr.gov/mp/nepa/nepa\_projdetails.cfm?Project\_ID=548.

To reach us, please contact Lynn McIntyre, URS, at lynn.mcintyre@urs.com or 510.874.3149; or William E. Soule, Bureau of Reclamation, Mid-Pacific Region via postal mail to:

Division of Environmental Affairs 2800 Cottage Way, MP-153 Sacramento, CA 95825 Or via email to wsoule@usbr.gov; or via phone at 916.978.4694.

We look forward to hearing from you. Thank you.

Sincerely,

URS CORPORATION

Lynn McIntyre Environmental Planner

URS Corporation 1333 Broadway, Suite 800 Oakland, CA 94612-1924 Tel: 510.874.3268 www.urscorp.com

From: Havens, Amy

Sent: Thursday, April 18, 2013 10:16 AM

To: 'tony\_brochini@nps.gov'

 Subject:
 San Luis Reservoir SRA RMP/GP - request for information

 Attachments:
 San Luis Reservoir SRA RMP\_GP request for information.pdf

Dear Mr. Brochini,

In early August 2012, the Bureau of Reclamation sent you a mailer to inform you of the availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Revised Draft Environmental Impact Report (Draft EIS/REIR) for the San Luis Reservoir State Recreation Area (SRA) Resource Management Plan/General Plan (RMP/GP).

This is a follow-up inquiry to find out if you or your organization has any information or concerns about San Luis Reservoir SRA or the RMP/GP. Please see attached letter.

Please provide your response and comments to Lynn McIntyre, <a href="mailto:lynn.mcintyre@urs.com">lynn.mcintyre@urs.com</a> or 510.874.3149.

Amy Havens Environmental Planner URS Corporation 1333 Broadway, Suite 800 Oakland, CA 94612 Direct: 510-874-3294

Fax: 510-874-3268 amy.havens@urs.com



Edward Ketchum Amah Mutsun Tribal Band 35867 Yosemite Avenue Davis, CA 95616

Subject: San Luis Reservoir SRA Resource Management Plan/General Plan

Dear Mr. Ketchum:

In early August 2012, the Bureau of Reclamation sent you a mailer to inform you of the availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Revised Draft Environmental Impact Report (Draft EIS/REIR) for the San Luis Reservoir State Recreation Area (SRA) Resource Management Plan/General Plan (RMP/GP). This is a follow-up inquiry to find out if you or your organization has any information or concerns about San Luis Reservoir SRA or the RMP/GP.

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To reach us, please contact Lynn McIntyre, URS, at lynn.mcintyre@urs.com or 510.874.3149; or William E. Soule, Bureau of Reclamation, Mid-Pacific Region via postal mail to:

Division of Environmental Affairs 2800 Cottage Way, MP-153 Sacramento, CA 95825 Or via email to wsoule@usbr.gov; or via phone at 916.978.4694.

We look forward to hearing from you. Thank you.

Sincerely,

URS CORPORATION

Lynn McIntyre Environmental Planner

URS Corporation 1333 Broadway, Suite 800 Oakland, CA 94612-1924 Tel: 510.893-3600 Fax: 510.874.3268 www.urscorp.com

From: Havens, Amy

Sent: Thursday, April 18, 2013 10:12 AM

To: 'aerieways@aol.com'

Subject: San Luis Reservoir SRA Resource Management Plan/General Plan - request for

information

Attachments: San Luis Reservoir SRA RMP\_GP request for information.pdf

Dear Mr. Ketchum,

In early August 2012, the Bureau of Reclamation sent you a mailer to inform you of the availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Revised Draft Environmental Impact Report (Draft EIS/REIR) for the San Luis Reservoir State Recreation Area (SRA) Resource Management Plan/General Plan (RMP/GP).

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Amy Havens Environmental Planner URS Corporation 1333 Broadway, Suite 800 Oakland, CA 94612 Direct: 510-874-3294 Fay: 510-874-3268

Fax: 510-874-3268 amy.havens@urs.com

1

From: Havens, Amy

Sent: Tuesday, April 23, 2013 1:33 PM

'Ed Ketchum' To: McIntyre, Lynn Cc:

RE: San Luis Reservoir SRA Resource Management Plan/General Plan - request for Subject:

Ed,

The document can be viewed at the location below: http://www.usbr.gov/mp/nepa/nepa projdetails.cfm?Project ID=548

Please let us know if you have any other questions or comments.

Thank you,

Amy Havens Environmental Planner **URS** Corporation 1333 Broadway, Suite 800 Oakland, CA 94612 Direct: 510-874-3294 Fax: 510-874-3268 amy.havens@urs.com

From: Ed Ketchum [mailto:aerieways@aol.com]

Sent: Friday, April 19, 2013 1:52 PM

To: Havens, Amy

Subject: RE: San Luis Reservoir SRA Resource Management Plan/General Plan - request for information

I see that the attachment is not the document. Do you have a address where I can review the document?

From: Havens, Amy [mailto:amy.havens@urs.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 18, 2013 10:12 AM

To: aerieways@aol.com

Subject: San Luis Reservoir SRA Resource Management Plan/General Plan - request for information

Dear Mr. Ketchum,

In early August 2012, the Bureau of Reclamation sent you a mailer to inform you of the availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Revised Draft Environmental Impact Report (Draft EIS/REIR) for the San Luis Reservoir State Recreation Area (SRA) Resource Management Plan/General Plan (RMP/GP).

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Please provide your response and comments to Lynn McIntyre, lynn.mcintyre@urs.com or 510.874.3149.

Amy Havens

Environmental Planner



Les James Southern Sierra Miwuk Nation P.O. Box 1200 Mariposa, CA 95338

Subject: San Luis Reservoir SRA Resource Management Plan/General Plan

Dear Mr. James:

In early August 2012, the Bureau of Reclamation sent you a mailer to inform you of the availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Revised Draft Environmental Impact Report (Draft EIS/REIR) for the San Luis Reservoir State Recreation Area (SRA) Resource Management Plan/General Plan (RMP/GP). This is a follow-up inquiry to find out if you or your organization has any information or concerns about San Luis Reservoir SRA or the RMP/GP.

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Division of Environmental Affairs 2800 Cottage Way, MP-153 Sacramento, CA 95825 Or via email to wsoule@usbr.gov; or via phone at 916.978.4694.

We look forward to hearing from you. Thank you.

Sincerely,

URS CORPORATION

Lynn McIntyre Environmental Planner

URS Corporation 1333 Broadway, Suite 800 Oakland, CA 94612-1924 Tel: 510.893-3600

Fax: 510.874.3268 www.urscorp.com



Jay Johnson Southern Sierra Miwuk Nation 5235 Allred Road Mariposa, CA 95338

Subject: San Luis Reservoir SRA Resource Management Plan/General Plan

Dear Mr. Johnson:

In early August 2012, the Bureau of Reclamation sent you a mailer to inform you of the availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Revised Draft Environmental Impact Report (Draft EIS/REIR) for the San Luis Reservoir State Recreation Area (SRA) Resource Management Plan/General Plan (RMP/GP). This is a follow-up inquiry to find out if you or your organization has any information or concerns about San Luis Reservoir SRA or the RMP/GP.

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We look forward to hearing from you. Thank you.

Sincerely,

URS CORPORATION

Lynn McIntyre Environmental Planner

URS Corporation 1333 Broadway, Suite 800 Oakland, CA 94612-1924 Tel: 510.893-3600

Fax: 510.874.3268 www.urscorp.com



Katherine Erolinda Perez Northern Valley Yokuts Tribe P.O. Box 717 Linden, CA 95236

Subject: San Luis Reservoir SRA Resource Management Plan/General Plan

Dear Ms. Perez:

In early August 2012, the Bureau of Reclamation sent you a mailer to inform you of the availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Revised Draft Environmental Impact Report (Draft EIS/REIR) for the San Luis Reservoir State Recreation Area (SRA) Resource Management Plan/General Plan (RMP/GP). This is a follow-up inquiry to find out if you or your organization has any information or concerns about San Luis Reservoir SRA or the RMP/GP.

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We look forward to hearing from you. Thank you.

Sincerely,

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Lynn McIntyre Environmental Planner

URS Corporation 1333 Broadway, Suite 800 Oakland, CA 94612-1924 Tel: 510.893-3600

Fax: 510.874.3268 www.urscorp.com

From: Havens, Amy

Sent: Thursday, April 18, 2013 10:10 AM

canutes@verizon.net To:

Subject: San Luis Reservoir SRA Resource Management Plan/General Plan - request for

information

Attachments: San Luis SRA RMP\_GP request for information.pdf

Dear Ms. Perez,

In early August 2012, the Bureau of Reclamation sent you a mailer to inform you of the availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Revised Draft Environmental Impact Report (Draft EIS/REIR) for the San Luis Reservoir State Recreation Area (SRA) Resource Management Plan/General Plan (RMP/GP).

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Amy Havens **Environmental Planner URS** Corporation 1333 Broadway, Suite 800 Oakland, CA 94612 Direct: 510-874-3294

Fax: 510-874-3268 amy.havens@urs.com