



Golden Gate National Recreation Area Muir Woods National Monument General Management Plan/ Environmental Impact Statement

SUMMARY EDITION



A Guide to this Document

To view the full General Management Plan / Environmental Impact Statement or to download this document visit: nps.gov/goga

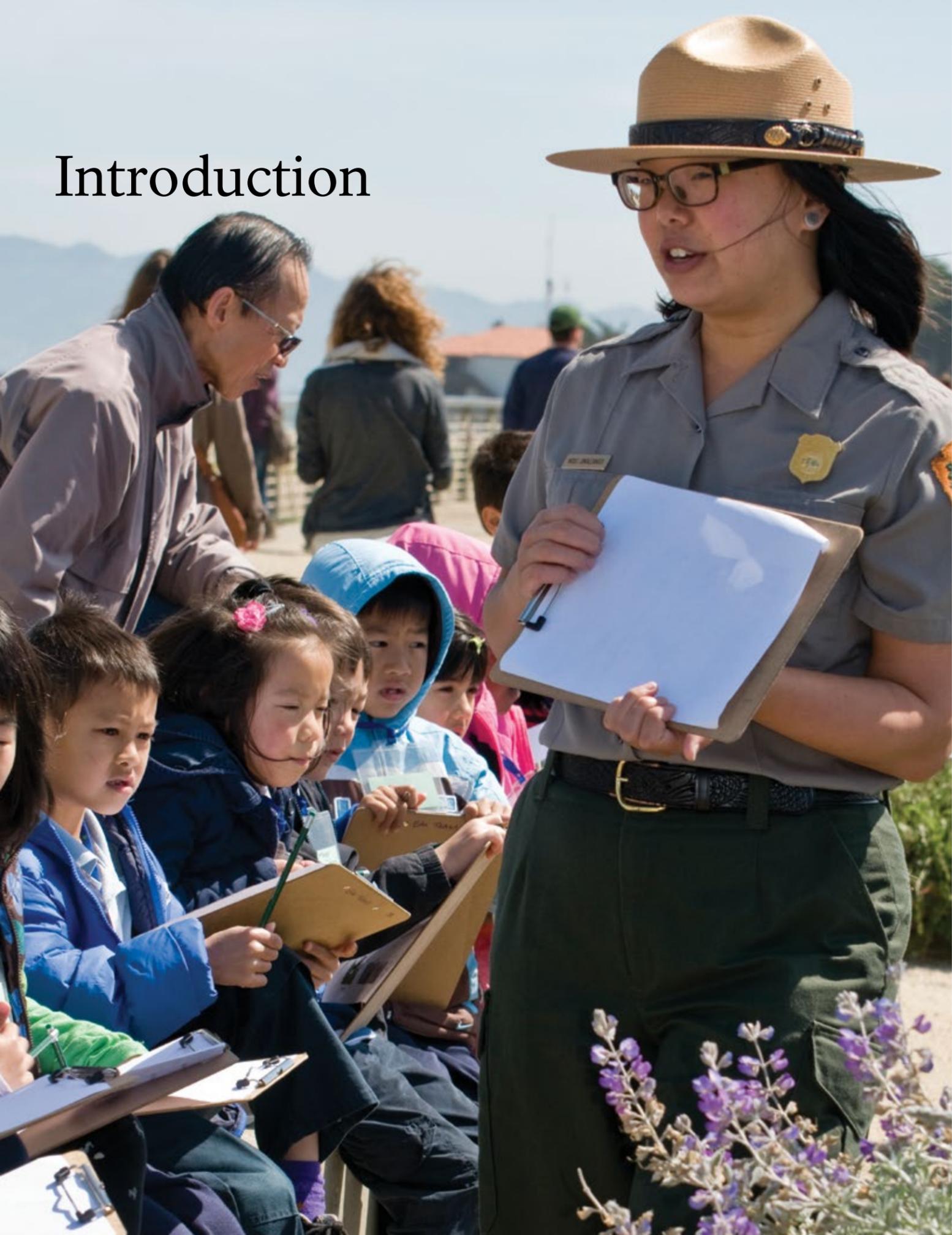
This *Summary Edition* is an abridged version of the two-volume *Golden Gate National Recreation Area and Muir Woods National Monument General Management Plan/ Environmental Impact Statement (FGMP/EIS)*. It is intended to provide background to the plan and a complete description of the National Park Service's selected alternative for future management of the park without reading the full plan. While this *Summary Edition* provides a complete description of the selected alternative, the full text of all other sections can be found in the full FGMP/EIS. The sections not provided in this *Summary Edition* include the following: planning issues, complete description of all alternatives (including elements common to all alternatives), affected environment, environmental consequences, user capacity, consultation and coordination efforts, responses to comments on the draft GMP/EIS, and appendixes. Digital versions of this *Summary Edition*, the FGMP/EIS volumes, and the Record of Decision (signed January 30, 2015) are available online at <http://parkplanning.gov/goga>.

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Introduction



Over 30 years ago, the National Park Service adopted a plan outlining the future of Golden Gate National Recreation Area, then a new and different park that brought the national park system to a large urban area. Because of the size and diversity of the San Francisco Bay Area community and the National Park Service commitment to a pioneering public involvement process, it took five years to prepare the plan. This diligence was a success and the final plan won the unanimous support of the community. That plan, along with several amendments, has firmly guided the preservation and enhancement of Golden Gate National Recreation Area for three decades.

It is not unusual for many long-range plans to just sit on the shelf and gather dust—usually as a result of inadequate funding to implement the dreams they offer, but also because of changing conditions and fading public support. When the future of the Presidio’s Crissy Field was being discussed early in the planning process, one member of the park’s advisory commission confided that the National Park Service would never get the funds to improve it, especially considering demolition and toxic cleanup costs. Today Crissy Field stands as an international standard for waterfront restoration and is a top visitor destination.

Success stories like Crissy Field happen because of the appeal and popularity of park resources, enhanced by the efforts of the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy and the resultant financial support of generous members of the community.

When considering the transformational expectations offered by the 1980 General Management Plan, it has been a remarkable success. In addition to Crissy Field, the visions for Alcatraz Island, Fort Mason, Cliff House, Lands End, Fort Baker, and much of the Marin Headlands have been achieved.

Today, Golden Gate National Recreation Area constitutes one of the largest urban national parks in the world, extending north of the Golden Gate Bridge to Tomales Bay in Marin County and south to Half Moon Bay in San Mateo County. These lands are also coastal preserves that encompass many miles of bay and ocean shoreline.

The park has an abundance of historical and cultural assets, including sites such as early fortifications on Alcatraz Island, Forts Cronkhite and Barry in the Marin Headlands, Fort Mason, Fort Point, and the Presidio of San Francisco. These sites comprise a variety of archeological resources, military batteries, and other historic structures that present a rich history. Chronicles of American Indian settlements, the frontier of the Spanish Empire, the Mexican Republic, evolution of U.S. coastal fortifications, maritime history, 19th century and early 20th century agriculture and ranching, the U.S. Army in World War I and World War II, the California Gold Rush, Buffalo Soldiers, and the growth of San Francisco are told in the settings in which they occurred.

Golden Gate National Recreation Area is also rich in natural resources. The park includes 19 types of ecosystems in numerous distinct watersheds and is home to over 1,200 known plant and animal species. The park provides habitat for many sensitive, rare, threatened, or endangered species, including the Mission blue butterfly, northern spotted owl, and California red-legged frog. Coho salmon and steelhead trout inhabit the clean waters of Redwood Creek as it flows through Muir Woods National Monument.

Each year 16 to 20 million visitors explore the park. Visits to Muir Woods National Monument and Alcatraz Island are high priorities for many people. Trips to the park account for nearly 50% of all visits to the 29 national park system units in California.

The first plan served to shape a new park and reach a consensus on the definition of its identity. This document will serve to fine tune and expand the vision for a maturing national park and will shape and define new areas being added to the park.

Each year, park visitors contribute hundreds of millions of dollars to the Bay Area economy. This money directly sustains the revenue stream and jobs at hotels, restaurants, and stores that serve park visitors. Economic modeling indicates that in 2010, park visitors spent \$260 million in the local economy and supported 1,500 local jobs (Stynes 2011).

In looking back at the 1980 General Management Plan and where the park is today, there appears to be only one major goal yet to be fully accomplished—the ambitious transportation proposals contained in the document. Lack of funding and jurisdictional issues have hindered their accomplishment. However, one of the principal goals of this element of the plan was to provide access to the park for underrepresented populations. Other strategies have apparently made progress in reaching that goal, as general observations indicate that increasing numbers of young people from underrepresented groups are visiting the park. It can be safely assumed that this apparent trend is strengthened by the many educational and volunteer programs managed by the park and park partners.

It is our goal to continue this trend. Golden Gate National Recreation Area and Muir Woods National Monument are in one of the most demographically diverse regions in the United States. In addition, demographic trends forecast a dramatic increase in the diversity of the statewide population and in the number of residents who are less than 18 years of age. As a result, the park is uniquely situated to reconnect people with the national parks, with a goal of reaching a 21st century audience—more diverse and younger than today’s national park visitor—and sustaining their engagement.

The impacts of Golden Gate National Recreation Area are not contained solely within its borders. The park plays a large role in contributing to the quality of life of Bay Area residents by providing open space as well as recreational opportunities and community outreach, education, and resource stewardship programs. In terms of economics, the park has the potential to generate economic activity in a variety of ways that benefit gateway communities in the three adjacent counties.

Even before the 1980 General Management Plan was approved, the park was growing. Legislation for a boundary expansion was passed by Congress in 1978, and since then various acts of Congress have added many additional acres to the park. Research and management activities have revealed new resource values, both cultural and natural. Visitation has increased and new activities have put unanticipated pressures on park resources. In short, today’s park is vastly different from the one depicted in the 1980 General Management Plan. The first plan served to shape a new park and reach a consensus on the definition of its identity. This document will serve to fine tune and expand the vision for a maturing national park and will shape and define new areas being added to the park.

Purpose and Need

The purpose of this general management plan (GMP) is to guide planning and decision-making at Golden Gate National Recreation Area and Muir Woods National Monument for the next 20 years. The first general management plan, completed in 1980, is now more than 30 years old. Since the completion of that first plan, the issues, opportunities, and challenges associated with the park and monument have significantly changed. In addition, park managers have had 30 years to better understand the natural and cultural resources of the park and monument and the changing needs of park visitors.

This new General Management Plan / Environmental Impact Statement (GMP/EIS) will serve as a foundation and framework for the management of these park lands. The plan articulates the desired future conditions for park resources and visitor experience that will best fulfill the legislative and presidential mandates that established these park units as part of the national park system.

This plan has been developed by an interdisciplinary team in consultation with NPS offices; park partners; tribal, federal, state, and local agencies; and other interested organizations. There has been substantial input and participation from the general public. These public involvement and consultation efforts helped to ensure that the decisions made through this planning process are widely supported and sustainable over time. A completed general management plan represents an agreement with the citizens of the United States about how these lands and facilities will be managed. The plan will be a blueprint for the future.

The “Planning Issues” section of this general management plan provides details of issues, opportunities, and challenges. Generally, the overall need for a new general management plan has arisen because of the following:

- The park has significantly expanded in size and includes many new lands in San Mateo County. This planning process is based on a comprehensive look at the park as a whole rather than its individual sections. This comprehensive parkwide approach will help ensure that management of natural and cultural resources and visitor experience is consistent across all park areas.
- There is an increased public demand for access to and use of open spaces within the ever-growing San Francisco Bay Area. The general management plan provides a regional collaborative approach to open space preservation.
- The changing demographics in the Bay Area are bringing notable shifts in park visitation, uses, and trends. The general management plan provides desired conditions that will guide the decision-making needed to manage the anticipated increase in visitation.
- Through research and park management over the years, the park has gathered a considerable amount of new information and knowledge regarding resources and visitor use. This new awareness is incorporated into the desired conditions, proposed management actions, and policies of this general management plan.
- In recent years, climate change has become better understood and its effects more evident on both ecological systems and cultural resources. The general management plan considers the potential impacts of climate change to park operations and visitor use and identifies the management actions necessary to guide efforts to minimize the park’s carbon footprint.

A completed general management plan represents an agreement with the citizens of the United States about how these lands and facilities will be managed. The plan will be a blueprint for the future.

The relationship between the General Management Plan and the separate Dog Management Plan is clarified in the Record of Decision.

- Visitor access to the park continues to evolve as the local transportation infrastructure changes. The strategies that were identified in 1980 continue to be explored; new ideas and techniques are also identified to help address sustainable options for park access and strategies to reduce traffic congestion around and within the park.
- To comply with federal law, the plan specifies the types and intensities of projected development, including anticipated costs. This is important, as the availability of federal funds may be limited over time.

The General Management Plan / Environmental Impact Statement provides recommendations regarding the use of many park facilities; however, future decisions about the specific use of individual facilities will be based on a number of criteria and opportunities for maximizing the life and value of these important public resources. Facilities could serve a variety of uses over the 20-year life of the general management plan consistent with the surrounding management zoning and NPS policy.

Implementation of the plan will depend on future NPS funding levels and service-wide priorities and on partnership funds, time, and effort. The approval of a general management plan does not guarantee that the funding and staffing needed to implement the plan will be forthcoming. Full implementation of the plan could be many years in the future.



Foundation Statement

Each unit of the national park system has a formal statement of its core mission that provides basic guidance for all planning and management decisions—a foundation for planning and management. It provides information necessary to effectively manage the park over the long term and to protect park resources and values that are integral to the purpose and identity of the park unit. In short, the foundation statement expresses what is most important about the park.

The foundation statement for GGNRA and Muir Woods describes the core mission of the two park units by identifying the purpose, significance, fundamental resources and values, and key interpretive themes. These components are briefly defined below and described on the following pages:

- The Park Purpose identifies the specific reason for establishment of a particular park. It is drawn from the enabling legislation for GGNRA and the Presidential Proclamation for Muir Woods.
- Significance Statements express why the park unit's resources and values are important enough to merit designation as a unit of the national park system.
- Fundamental Resources and Values are those that warrant primary consideration during planning and management processes because they are essential to achieving the purpose of the park unit and maintaining its significance.
- Interpretive Themes are often described as the key stories or concepts that visitors should understand after visiting the park unit.

Golden Gate National Recreation Area Park Purpose

The purpose of Golden Gate National Recreation Area is to offer national park experiences to a large and diverse urban population, while preserving and interpreting the park's outstanding natural, historic, scenic, and recreational values.



Recreational and Educational Opportunities

Significance

The continuum of park resources at the doorstep of the San Francisco Bay Area provides an abundance of recreational and educational opportunities.

Fundamental Resources and Values

- **Diverse Park Settings:** The diversity of settings, from remote to urban, provides visitors with active and passive recreational and educational opportunities, including participation in park stewardship.
- **Park Access:** A system of designated trails and scenic park roads supports access to sites that provide visitors with a broad range of activities and varied experiences.

Interpretive Theme

The park provides diverse recreational and educational opportunities from contemplative to active pursuits, including participation in stewardship and volunteer activities. Its proximity allows an urban population to connect with nature and history.

Coastal Corridor

Significance

The remnant of undeveloped coastal corridor comprising marine, estuarine, and terrestrial ecosystems supports exceptional native biodiversity and provides refuge for one of the largest concentrations of rare, threatened, and endangered species in the national park system.

Fundamental Resources and Values

- Ocean and Bay Environment: Oceanic conditions, such as tides, currents, waves, surf, upwelling, and sea level, influence Golden Gate National Recreation Area’s coastal environment, including climate and the land.
- Coastal Ecosystems: Golden Gate National Recreation Area contains a rich assemblage of coastal native plant and animal habitats that includes forests, coastal scrub, grassland, freshwater, estuarine and nearshore marine habitats, beaches, coastal cliffs, and islands.
- Threatened and Endangered Species: Golden Gate National Recreation Area supports one of the largest numbers of federally listed threatened and endangered species in the national park system. This island of refuge is due to the protected confluence of unique and diverse habitats adjacent to the urban Bay Area.
- Water Resources: Golden Gate National Recreation Area’s water resources support coastal corridor ecosystems, which consist of groundwater sources (aquifers and springs); freshwater systems (streams, lakes, and ponds); coastal, estuarine, and marine water resources (the Pacific Ocean and San Francisco Bay); and other wetlands.

Interpretive Theme

In a world of diminishing biological diversity and threatened natural resources, Golden Gate National Recreation Area preserves islands of biodiversity within and near a large urban area. The accelerating rate of global climate change threatens even these remnants.



Military Installations and Fortifications

Significance

The park includes one of the largest and most complete collections of military installations and fortifications in the United States, dating from Spanish settlement in 1776 through the 20th century. These installations have served as command posts for the U.S. Army in the western United States and the Pacific Ocean. This long period of military presence has yielded one of the most extensive collections of historic architecture in the national park system.

Fundamental Resources and Values

- Fortifications and Military Installations: Golden Gate National Recreation Area includes cultural landscapes, historic structures, archeological sites, and museum collections, including historic fortifications and military installations.

Interpretive Theme

Coast defense posts are at the heart of park lands and are a major reason the park is preserved today. Although no hostile shot was ever fired, every major type of military fortification and architecture represented here demonstrates evolving defense technology. War, peace, and the nature of protection have shaped the country in the past and will continue to do so.

Scenic Beauty

Significance

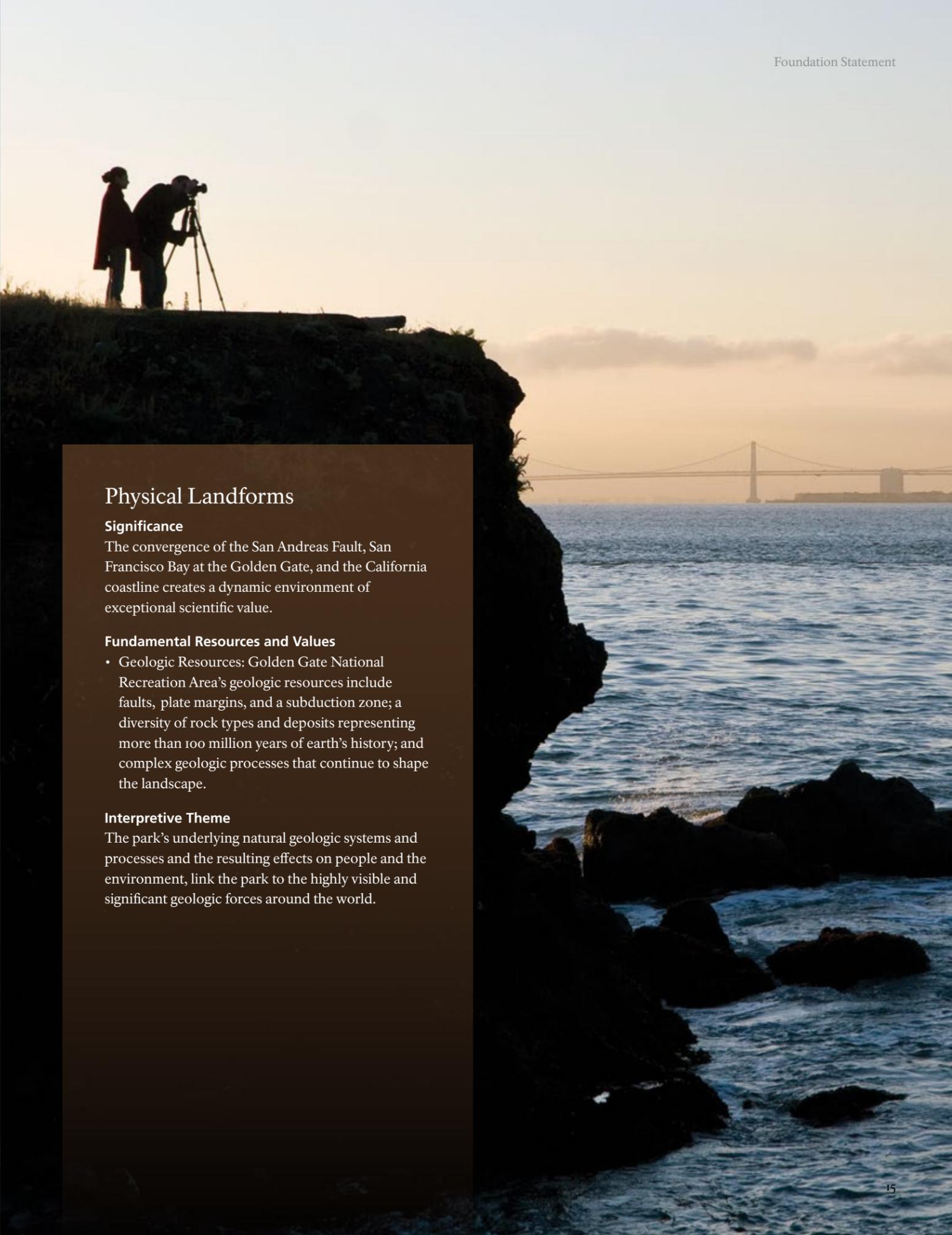
The headlands of the Golden Gate have long been recognized for their outstanding scenic qualities. The remarkable convergence of land and sea and of bay and ocean—combined with the palpable energy of 16 major rivers merging—create a spectacle that is truly unique.

Fundamental Resources and Values

- **Dramatic Settings:** In concert with the open lands that frame it, the Golden Gate serves as the backdrop to the San Francisco metropolitan area. The dynamic contrast between urban environments and undeveloped spaces ranging from the open waters of the Pacific Ocean and San Francisco Bay to beaches, estuaries, headlands, and valleys contributes greatly to the scenic experience enjoyed by area residents and visitors alike.
- **Compelling Historical Stage:** With its exceptional diversity of natural settings and central role in many significant chapters from America’s past, the Golden Gate instills a continuous sense of wonder and appreciation.

Interpretive Theme

The powerful positive influences that park land and undisturbed open space can exert on urban settings (and residents) constitute an important interpretive message. The scenic beauty of the park’s historic and natural undeveloped landscapes inspired a grassroots movement that led to their protection. Proposed development that would have destroyed these lands sparked Bay Area community members to organize and ultimately preserve the open spaces that contribute so much to their quality of life.



Physical Landforms

Significance

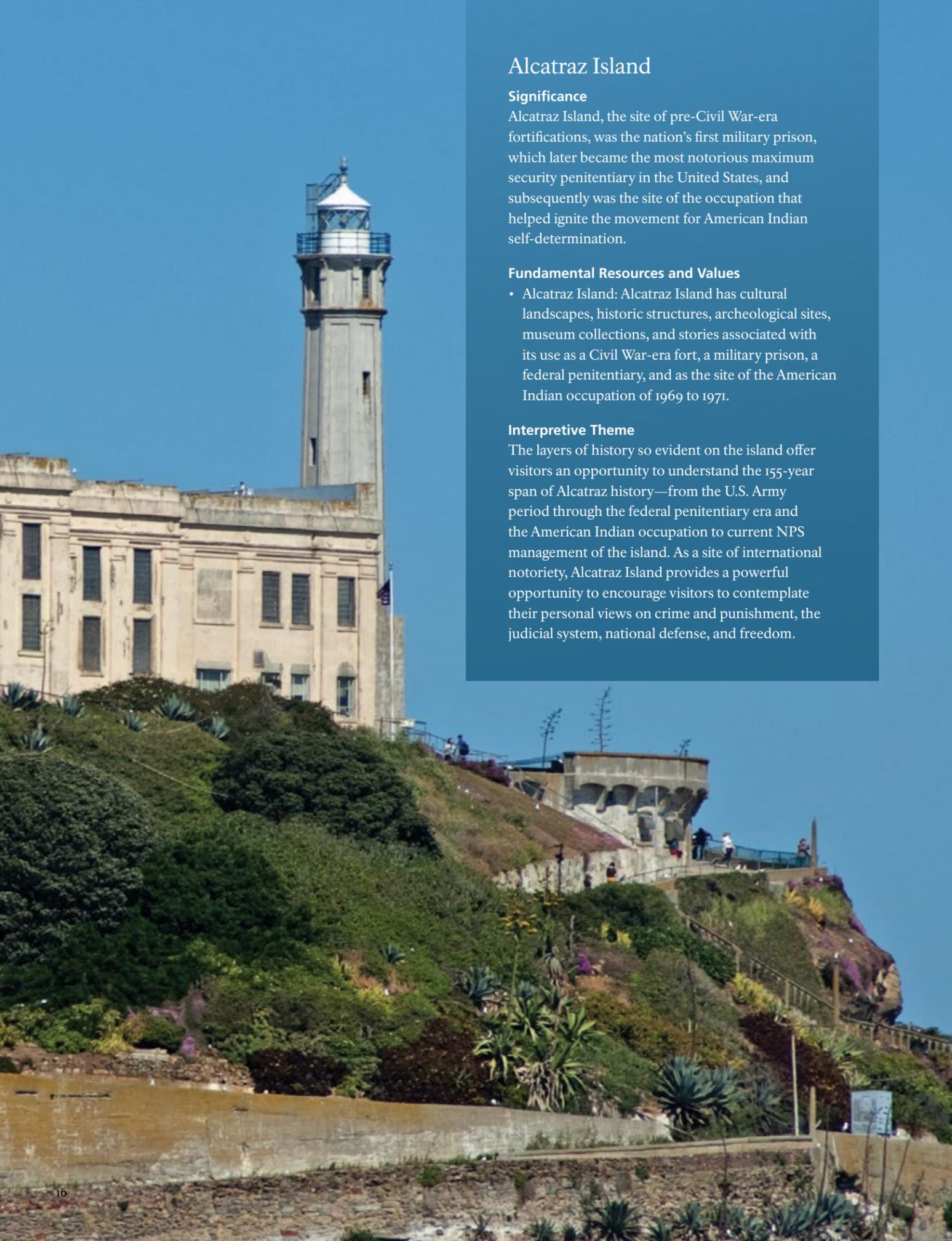
The convergence of the San Andreas Fault, San Francisco Bay at the Golden Gate, and the California coastline creates a dynamic environment of exceptional scientific value.

Fundamental Resources and Values

- **Geologic Resources:** Golden Gate National Recreation Area’s geologic resources include faults, plate margins, and a subduction zone; a diversity of rock types and deposits representing more than 100 million years of earth’s history; and complex geologic processes that continue to shape the landscape.

Interpretive Theme

The park’s underlying natural geologic systems and processes and the resulting effects on people and the environment, link the park to the highly visible and significant geologic forces around the world.



Alcatraz Island

Significance

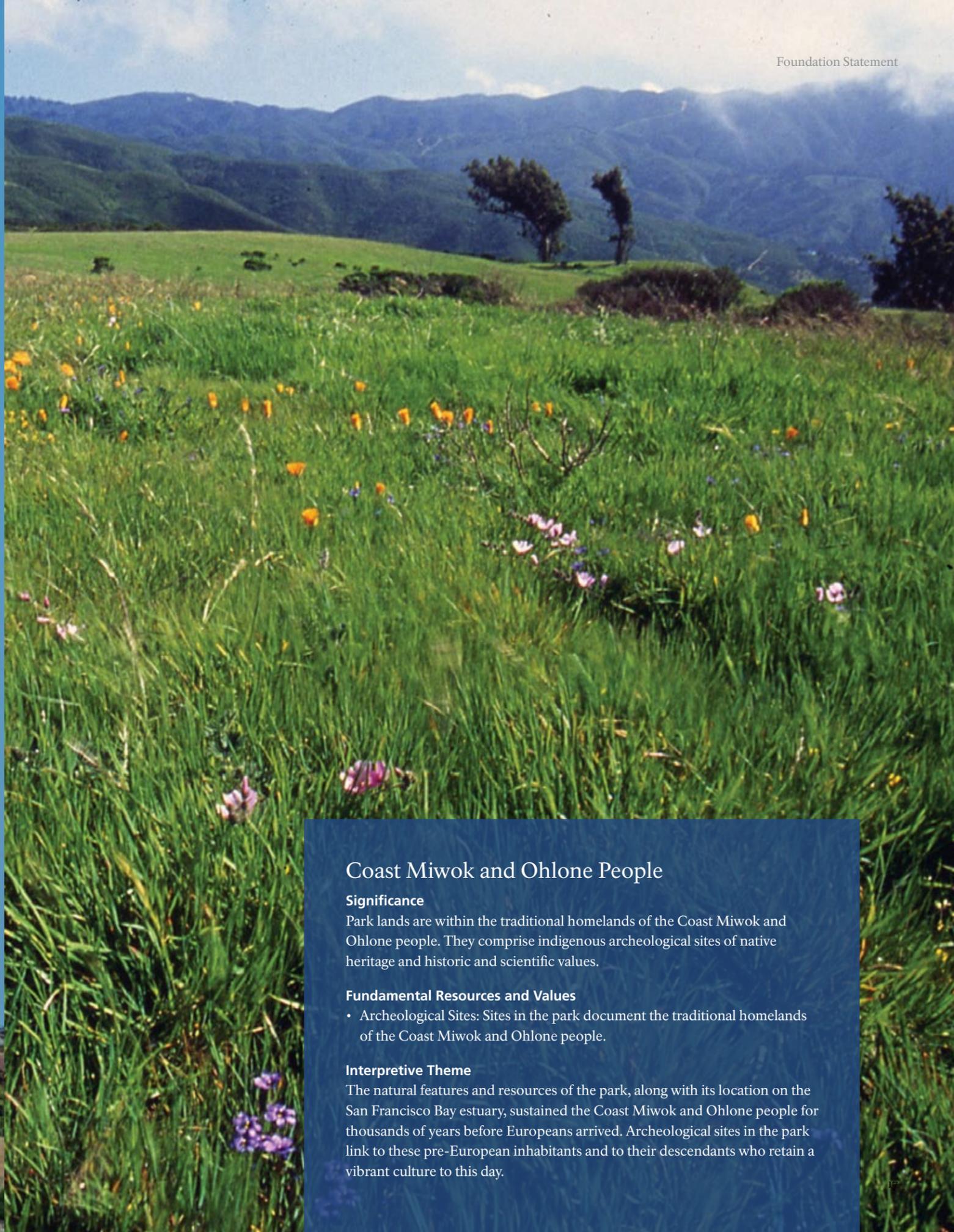
Alcatraz Island, the site of pre-Civil War-era fortifications, was the nation's first military prison, which later became the most notorious maximum security penitentiary in the United States, and subsequently was the site of the occupation that helped ignite the movement for American Indian self-determination.

Fundamental Resources and Values

- Alcatraz Island: Alcatraz Island has cultural landscapes, historic structures, archeological sites, museum collections, and stories associated with its use as a Civil War-era fort, a military prison, a federal penitentiary, and as the site of the American Indian occupation of 1969 to 1971.

Interpretive Theme

The layers of history so evident on the island offer visitors an opportunity to understand the 155-year span of Alcatraz history—from the U.S. Army period through the federal penitentiary era and the American Indian occupation to current NPS management of the island. As a site of international notoriety, Alcatraz Island provides a powerful opportunity to encourage visitors to contemplate their personal views on crime and punishment, the judicial system, national defense, and freedom.



Coast Miwok and Ohlone People

Significance

Park lands are within the traditional homelands of the Coast Miwok and Ohlone people. They comprise indigenous archeological sites of native heritage and historic and scientific values.

Fundamental Resources and Values

- Archeological Sites: Sites in the park document the traditional homelands of the Coast Miwok and Ohlone people.

Interpretive Theme

The natural features and resources of the park, along with its location on the San Francisco Bay estuary, sustained the Coast Miwok and Ohlone people for thousands of years before Europeans arrived. Archeological sites in the park link to these pre-European inhabitants and to their descendants who retain a vibrant culture to this day.

Muir Woods National Monument Park Purpose

The purpose of Muir Woods National Monument is to preserve the primeval character and ecological integrity of the old-growth redwood forest for scientific values and inspiration.

Significance

Muir Woods National Monument preserves the last remnant old-growth redwood forest in proximity to metropolitan San Francisco that retains its primeval character.

The establishment of the monument is an important demonstration of early 20th century conservation history.

Fundamental Resources and Values

- Old Growth: Muir Woods National Monument preserves plant and animal species and the natural processes associated with the once-abundant coastal redwoods ecosystem.
- Conservation Movement: The efforts of the people who ensured the preservation of this old-growth redwood forest continue to inspire conservation and stewardship actions today.

Interpretive Theme

The majestic, primeval old-growth redwoods of Muir Woods invite visitors, in the words of namesake John Muir, to “come to the woods, for here is rest.” The forest ecosystem of these towering trees and the creek beneath them supports an abundance of life. This remnant of the Bay Area’s once-abundant redwood forests inspires visitors through its seminal conservation story, today welcoming travelers from around the world to have what is, for many, their first wildlands experience.

Guiding Principles for Park Management

In addition to the many laws, policies, and directives that govern management of all units of the national park system, the leadership at Golden Gate National Recreation Area and Muir Woods National Monument has highlighted some of the principles that are most deeply rooted and distinctive at this park. These originate from the 1916 Organic Act that established the National Park Service to *“...promote and regulate the use of the Federal areas known as national parks, monuments, and reservations... by such means and measures as to... conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wild life therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.”*

Sustainability

The National Park Service will continue to learn about and use practices that help sustain park resources. Sustainability will be fundamental to the facilities, projects, programs, and operations of the park, using sound environmental management practices. The National Park Service will seek opportunities to promote sustainability and stewardship to park visitors, neighboring communities, and stakeholders.

Community-Based Stewardship

The National Park Service is committed to ongoing involvement of individuals and organizations in understanding, caring for, and preserving the park’s natural habitats, historic places, and trails. This community stewardship brings the commitment to preserve our common heritage and public lands—national treasures that can best be sustained by the efforts of many.

Civil Engagement

The National Park Service is dedicated to ongoing, dynamic conversations about the contemporary relevance of park resources and will also provide opportunities for meaningful involvement to promote better understanding and communication, discuss concerns, and express values and preferences when park decisions and policies are being developed and implemented.

Partnerships

The National Park Service will continue to build on the legacy of the many partnerships that have enhanced the ability to protect resources and serve the public since the park was established. Through mutual collaboration, shared values, and learning, these partnerships have created outcomes beyond any one organization’s individual capacity. Partnerships will continue to be an important way to accomplish the park’s mission and build a community of stewardship.

Regional Collaboration

In working to preserve the park’s resources unimpaired for future generations, cooperative relationships with managers of adjacent public lands and watersheds; tribal, state, and local governments; community organizations; and private landowners will be established and maintained. To ensure that watersheds, ecosystems, historic properties, prehistoric sites, viewsheds, and trail and transportation systems that extend beyond park boundaries are considered holistically, in order to best preserve important park resources, provide equitable and sustainable access, and advance the goal of creating a seamless network of protected lands, collaborative relationships will be built and sustained.

Inclusion

Recognizing the special opportunities and obligations resulting from the park’s location within a region of great demographic and socioeconomic diversity, the National Park Service will strive to ensure that Golden Gate National Recreation Area is a “park for all.” Working with, rather than for, various community partners, the National Park Service will undertake proactive strategies that make the park welcoming and accessible to those at every economic stratum, people with disabilities, and ethnic and cultural communities who have not traditionally visited national parks in numbers proportionate to the changing demographics of California and the nation.

Management Concepts and Zones

Connecting People with the Parks

The emphasis of this concept is to reach out and engage the community and other visitors in the enjoyment, understanding, and stewardship of park resources and values. Park management would focus on ways to attract and welcome visitors; connect people with resources; and promote understanding, enjoyment, preservation, and health—all as ways to reinvigorate the human spirit. Visitor opportunities would be relevant to diverse populations now and in the future.

Rationale

This concept emphasizes park management's commitment to the founding idea of "parks to the people" and the park's fundamental purpose of bringing national park experiences to a large and diverse urban population. Improving connections between the park and visitors is fundamental to achieving the park's purpose and to maintaining the public's continued interest and support.

Goals

VISITOR EXPERIENCE

- Actively seek opportunities to respond to the needs and interests of the diversity of visitors.
- Encourage visitors to engage in a wide range of opportunities and experiences in a diversity of settings.
- Enhance outreach and access to and within the park and monument and make them welcoming.
- Foster the visitor's deep personal connection to the park and discovery of the values and enjoyment of the natural environment.
- Encourage hands-on stewardship through visitor opportunities that promote personal health and responsibility.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

- Maximize adaptive reuse, rehabilitation, stabilization, and interpretation of cultural resources (structures, landscapes, archeological sites, ethnographic resources, and museum collections) to support visitor enjoyment, understanding, and community connections.
- Work with the public, park partners, local communities, historical organizations, and regional collaborators to steward, preserve, and protect cultural resources.
- Preserve and protect cultural resources so that visitors can connect with and appreciate these resources and their stories.

NATURAL RESOURCES

- Maintain the integrity and diversity of natural resources and systems and mitigate the effects of climate change and urban pressures.
- Enhance the public's access to natural resources to promote visitor understanding and appreciation.
- Integrate natural resource preservation and concepts with visitor stewardship opportunities to deepen visitor understanding.
- Increase visitor understanding, awareness, and support for park resources through education and interpretive opportunities that include messages about the sensitivity of park resources, park regulations, and appropriate visitor behavior.

Focusing On National Treasures

The emphasis of this concept is to focus on the park's nationally important natural and cultural resources. The fundamental resources of each showcased site would continue to be managed at the highest level of preservation to protect the resources in perpetuity and to promote appreciation, understanding, and enjoyment of those resources. Visitors would have the opportunity to explore the wide variety of experiences that are associated with many different types of national parks—all in this park. All other resources would be managed to complement nationally significant resources and associated visitor experience.

Rationale

This concept highlights the park's variety of nationally significant resources. By distinguishing the nationally significant resources and promoting the NPS identity, the objective of bringing exemplary national park experiences to an urban population would be met. The concept would also allow the National Park Service to focus management of park resources, visitor experience, and partnerships, giving priority to the most significant sites.

Goals

VISITOR EXPERIENCE

- Provide visitors with opportunities to explore, learn, and enjoy the park's unique resources and history.
- Allow the park's distinctive resources and associated narratives to shape recreational opportunities.
- Emphasize active public participation in stewardship programs at the showcased sites.
- Provide visitors with opportunities for understanding and enjoying the national park experience.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

- Emphasize the fundamental resources that contribute to the national significance of the park, including national historic landmarks. Manage all other resources to complement significant resources and visitor experience.
- Tie the associated cultural resources, museum collections, and histories to the showcased sites.
- Preserve and protect cultural resources to highlight the interpretive and educational values and provide, wherever possible, direct contact with the resources.

NATURAL RESOURCES

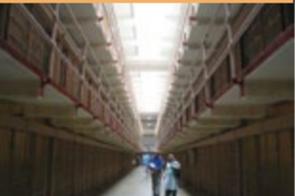
- Emphasize the preservation of fundamental natural resources that contribute to the significance of each park unit. Manage all other resources to complement the distinctive resources and experiences.
- Protect or restore the integrity of fundamental natural resources and processes that support the significance of each park unit.
- Manage distinctive natural resources to ensure their ecological integrity while providing opportunities to engage visitors in hands-on stewardship and exploration.

The Connecting People with the Parks management concept applies to Marin, San Francisco and San Mateo counties.

The Focusing on National Treasures management concept applies to Alcatraz Island and Muir Woods National Monument.

General Summary of Management Zones

Management zones are the heart of the general management plan. Each zone defines a set of desired conditions for natural and cultural resources, visitor experience, and general levels of development. These desired conditions are different in each management zone and reflect the overall focus of that particular zone. Eight management zones have been developed.

RESOURCE	Diverse Opportunities Zone	Scenic Corridor Zone	Evolved Cultural Landscape Zone	Historic Immersion Zone
SUMMARY	This management zone provides a range of natural and historic settings and facilities to welcome and support a variety of opportunities appropriate to the setting. Significant fundamental park resources would be preserved while different levels of visitor use would be accommodated. Visitors would have a wide range of educational, interpretive, and recreational opportunities to enjoy and appreciate the park's resources. Rare and exceptional natural resources, processes, systems, and values would be preserved and enhanced.	This management zone includes scenic trails, roads, and coastlines that provide sightseeing and related recreational opportunities. Resources could be modified in this zone and facilities would highlight and enhance the natural, cultural, and scenic values, as well as provide for a safe tour route.	This management zone would preserve significant historic, archeological, architectural, and landscape features while being adaptively reused for contemporary park and partner needs. Cultural resources, as well as the surrounding natural resources that are often integral to the historic site, would be preserved and interpreted. This zone could contribute to visitor enjoyment and exploration of the historic values and events while providing for other types of uses.	This management zone would preserve historic sites, structures, and landscapes that are evocative of their period of significance. Selected exteriors and designated portions of interior spaces would be managed to protect their historic values and attributes. Visitors would have opportunities to be immersed in the historic setting to explore history with direct contact to cultural resources, complemented by rich interpretation of past stories and events.
EXAMPLES OF PARK SITES	Fort Funston Fort Cronkhite Great Meadow Ocean Beach: North	Nearshore Bay and Ocean Environment Conzelman Road Panoramic Highway	Kirby Cove Lands End Upper Fort Mason Seacoast Fortifications	Alcatraz Island Nike Missile Launch Site in Marin Headlands
				
	KIRKE WRENCH/NPS	KIRKE WRENCH/NPS	KIRKE WRENCH/NPS	DAN NG/NPS

Interpretive Corridor (Muir Woods)	Natural Zone	Sensitive Resources Zone	Park Operations Zone	RESOURCE	
SUMMARY	This management zone would preserve the monument's natural character and would be richly interpreted through a variety of means. Visitor use would be managed to preserve important natural and cultural resources and their associated values and could involve controlled access.	This management zone would retain natural, wild, and dynamic characteristics and ecological functions. Natural resources would be managed to preserve and restore resource integrity while providing for backcountry types of visitor experiences. Visitors would have opportunities to directly experience the natural resources primarily from trails and beaches. Visitor use would be managed to preserve resources and their associated values and could involve controlled access by means of fencing off sensitive areas. Modest facilities that support management and visitor use within this zone, such as a trailhead, could be placed on the periphery of the zone.	This management zone would consist of fundamental natural resources that are highly sensitive to a variety of activities and would receive the highest level of protection. Resources would be managed to preserve their fundamental values while being monitored and often studied for scientific purposes. Access to these areas would be highly controlled. These areas could be subject to closures, and access could be restricted to the less sensitive edges of the zone. External threats to resources would be aggressively addressed.	This management zone would primarily support developed facilities for park and partners operations and maintenance functions. This zone would be managed to provide facilities that are safe, secured, and appropriate for functions required for park management. Access to these areas for visitors would be controlled and limited to organized meetings, programs, and access to park administration.	SUMMARY
EXAMPLES OF PARK SITES	Muir Woods: Redwood Creek Corridor	Tennessee Valley Gerbode Valley Rancho Corral de Tierra Ocean Beach: South	Muir Woods: Upper hillsides of Redwood Canyon Rodeo Lagoon Selected Coastal Areas	Upper Fort Mason East Fort Miley Fort Funston Rodeo Lagoon	EXAMPLES OF PARK SITES
					
ALISON TAGGART-BARONE/NPS	ALISON TAGGART-BARONE/NPS	KIRKE WRENCH/NPS	KIRKE WRENCH/NPS		

Plan for Park Lands



Park Lands in Marin County

Connecting People with the Parks

Overview

In this plan, park managers would preserve the natural, cultural, scenic, and recreational qualities that are enjoyed today and would improve access to the park for all visitors. The park would enhance the facilities that support visitor experience in what has been called “the wilderness next door.” Park managers would work to preserve and restore these interconnected coastal ecosystems through collaborative partnerships with other land management agencies in the region. A stronger national park identity and message would welcome people as they arrive, and improved orientation and information services would inform them of the variety of experiences available in the park. Important park operational uses would remain in the Marin Headlands, and visitor facilities at these sites would be improved.

The park lands in Marin County are an outdoor recreationist’s paradise, with an extensive network of trails through valleys, atop windblown coastal bluffs, along rocky shores, and among redwoods and oaks. Sustainable approaches to rehabilitating facilities that are in place today would improve trailheads and trails as well as roads, parking lots, campsites, picnic areas, restrooms, and other structures at popular destinations such as the coastal fortifications. Some new facilities would be developed to improve visitor services and support the growing stewardship programs. Park partners would continue to play important roles in preserving resources and offering programs and services to visitors in support of the park’s mission. Public transportation and multimodal access to all park sites would be improved.

Stinson Beach North to Bolinas-Fairfax Road

Diverse Opportunities Zone (Beach, Dunes, and Developed Area)

At Stinson Beach, the park's only designated swimming beach with seasonal lifeguards, the setting and facilities would be improved to better support recreation, expand the creek buffer to protect endangered species habitat, and enhance the dunes. Sustainable new facilities would replace deteriorated restrooms, showers, picnic areas, and parking lots. The siting of any new facilities would first be evaluated for long-term viability and cost effectiveness, taking present and future climate change influences into consideration. A visitor contact facility could combine existing services (food service, equipment rental) and interpretive and educational programs. Visitor facilities would be removed or relocated if it becomes infeasible to maintain them because of climate change. Maintenance and public safety offices with staff housing would be retained.

The park would explore ways to improve visitor access to Stinson Beach such as increasing transit on weekends during the peak season and enhancing regional trail connections. The park would also continue to work with the community and Marin County to manage parking and reduce traffic using congestion management tools.

The park would continue to work with the Stinson Beach Community Services District, Marin County, Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary, and the local community to find sustainable solutions to flooding and floodplain functions, water use, water quality, wastewater treatment, and sea level rise related to climate change where these affect park resources. More detailed site planning for proposed improvements will involve working with the community to identify alternatives for vulnerable facilities, including off-site locations and increased transit service to offset reduced parking.

Natural Zone (Surrounding Park Land North to Bolinas-Fairfax Road, Except Stinson Beach)

This area would be managed to protect and restore the coastal ecosystems, and contribute to the restoration of natural processes that affect Bolinas Lagoon. The *Bolinas Lagoon Restoration Project—Recommendations for Restoration and Management* (Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council 2008) identified key actions to protect and restore Bolinas Lagoon and its watershed. Three tables identify recommendations for restoration in the Locally Preferred Plan, recommendations for management (best management practices), and recommendations for adaptive management and monitoring. Each action identifies the key land managers, including Golden Gate National Recreation Area, with a vested interest in implementation of each action. Park involvement would be required to implement restoration actions in portions of the watershed, including improving floodplain function along Easkoot Creek, at the Bolinas Y, and along the east shore of Bolinas Lagoon (e.g., Stinson Gulch), and improving transitional habitat and habitat connectivity along the east shore of the lagoon. Partnerships with neighboring ocean and land managers would be strengthened to achieve these goals across the broader landscape. The park would improve trails, trailheads, and directional signage to provide access to other nearby park lands.

State Route 1 and Panoramic Highway Area

Scenic Corridor Zone

Park lands in this area would be managed to enable visitors traveling by car, bicycle, and transit to enjoy spectacular views of the Pacific coast and natural habitats and to provide trail access to park sites.

The park would collaborate with Caltrans and Marin County, the managers of these two important access roads that pass through the park, and with California State Parks and other land management

agencies to improve the roadways and trail crossings for the safety and enjoyment of park visitors while retaining the scenic rural character. New facilities could include overlooks and trailheads with parking, restrooms, interpretive exhibits, picnic areas, enhanced trail and transit connections, and a unified wayfinding system. A small trailhead parking area could be developed in the vicinity of the former White Gate Ranch. Improvements east of Panoramic Highway in the vicinity of Homestead Hill could enhance trail and transit access to Muir Woods and other nearby park destinations. Improvements would fit with the rural character of the area. Park managers would seek to minimize impacts on natural resources caused by road use, maintenance, and drainage.

Slide Ranch

Diverse Opportunities Zone (Developed Area)

This area would be managed to enhance the environmental and farm education center and provide improved facilities for public day use of the site, including a picnic area, trail access, and a scenic overlook. Improvements would take into account the dynamic geologic conditions of the site. The siting of any new construction would first be evaluated for long-term viability and cost effectiveness, taking present and future climate change influences into consideration.

Natural Zone (Land Surrounding the Developed Area)

The landscape that surrounds the educational programs would be managed to enhance its natural and scenic values, retain flexibility to adapt to coastal geologic processes, and provide public trail use and access to the coast.

Lower Redwood Creek (Formerly Banducci Flower Farm and Surrounding Area)

Natural Zone (Majority of Lower Redwood Creek)

Park managers would continue to restore the natural coastal ecosystem and the riparian habitat of Redwood Creek while providing improved trail connections to Mount Tamalpais State Park and other area trails, including the California Coastal Trail. All unnecessary structures would be removed.

Evolved Cultural Landscape Zone (Developed Area and Adjacent Approximately 6-Acre Site)

Park managers would preserve the rural, pastoral character of the landscape. Stewardship facilities relocated from Muir Woods National Monument could be accommodated in this zone. The stewardship center, incorporating a native plant nursery and other native plant propagation areas, would reinvigorate the horticultural traditions of the site and engage the community. Existing buildings would be rehabilitated to support park programs and operations.

The National Park Service would work with California State Parks to encourage development of a small trailhead parking and picnic area near Santos Meadow and the Frank Valley horse camp, and improve access to this zone.

A sustainable approach to providing for water supply and wastewater treatment would be identified and implemented to confirm the viability of possible uses at this site. To further protect the creek's endangered salmon, park managers could collaborate with the community to increase water storage capacity for use during the dry season.

The planned improvements east of Panoramic Highway in the vicinity of Homestead Hill are clarified in the Record of Decision.

Park managers would continue to work with Marin County and California State Parks to explore realignment of Muir Woods Road to reduce impacts on Redwood Creek and repair and reopen damaged road segments.

Muir Beach

Natural Zone

The National Park Service would manage the area to restore and sustain the wetlands, creek, dunes, and lagoon with improvements for beach and trail access that preserve the natural setting. The park would continue to collaborate with the community, Muir Beach Community Services District, and Marin County to understand and address water quality issues that impact park resources. Ongoing collaboration with Green Gulch Farm managers would continue to promote compatible management of this private parcel within the park boundary.

Golden Gate Dairy and Vicinity

Evolved Cultural Landscape Zone (Developed Area Only)

The area would be managed to preserve the historic structures and pastoral character while continuing to support park and community needs. Site improvements would accommodate a small trailhead and rural transit stop and enhance the creek corridor. Equestrian facilities would be retained, with site improvements made to incorporate best management practices and protect the adjacent riparian area. The National Park Service would continue to work with the operator of the equestrian facilities to expand programs that benefit the public. Nonhistoric residences along State Route 1 could be removed if they do not contribute to essential community services or park operational needs.

The National Park Service would continue to promote regularly scheduled transit service to reduce vehicle traffic. The National Park Service would also continue to work with Caltrans to improve the safety of State Route 1 for park visitors, including traffic calming and improved pedestrian crossing, and also to complete the trail connection between Dias Ridge and Redwood Creek trails.

Natural Zone (Surrounding Uplands)

The uplands surrounding the dairy would be managed to preserve and enhance the natural setting, protect the coastal prairie and scrub habitat, and provide connections to trails to the beach and the adjacent Mount Tamalpais State Park.

Tennessee Valley and Surrounding Parklands (From Oakwood Valley to the Ocean, and Northwest To Highway 1)

Diverse Opportunities Zone (Tennessee Valley Trailhead and the Upper Stables Area)

Trailhead site improvements, including potable water, restrooms, and an improved picnic and parking area, would enhance this portal to the park that supports hiking, biking, and equestrian activities. A small food and information kiosk could be included in this area.

In collaboration with Marin County and the community, park managers would explore the feasibility of public transit service to the trailhead on peak season weekends. Park managers would also collaborate to extend and link the Tennessee Valley trail system into the surrounding community's trail network such as the Mill Valley Bike Path (San Francisco Bay Trail).

Equestrian facilities would be retained and could be expanded while protecting the historic character of the former dairy ranch. Site improvements would be made to incorporate best management practices and protect the adjacent riparian area. The National Park Service would continue to work with equestrian operators to expand programs that benefit the public.

Modest facilities could be sited within this zone that support stewardship, education, and youth programs.

Diverse Opportunities Zone (Oakwood Valley)

Visitor access improvements, including trailhead amenities, parking, picnicking, and restrooms, would be provided in this zone to support access to the trail system.

Natural Zone (from the Trailhead to the Ocean and the Surrounding Uplands Including Oakwood Valley)

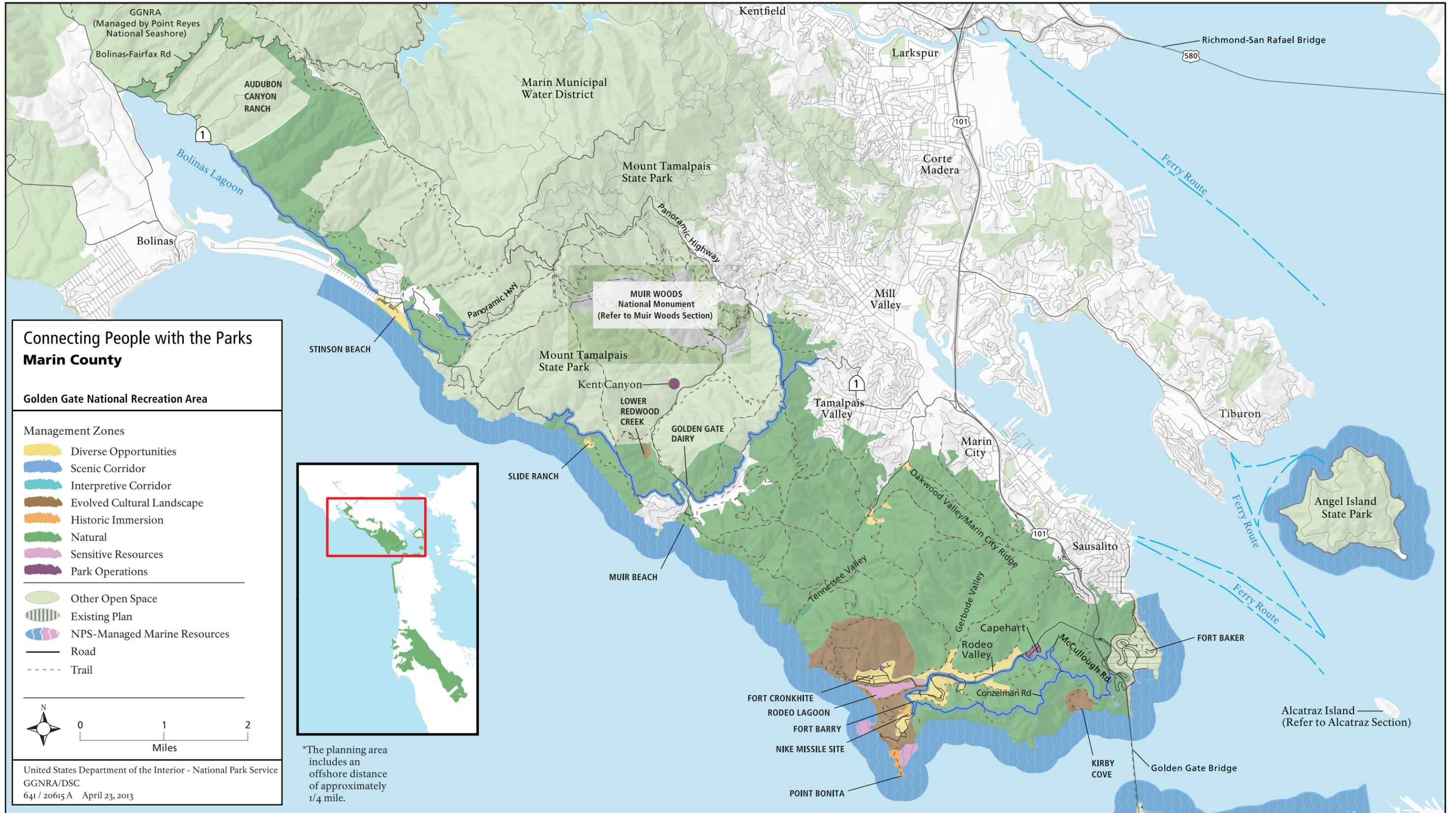
The main multiuse trail would be enhanced to support ongoing use and improve accessibility. Unnecessary management roads could be converted to trails and natural processes restored.

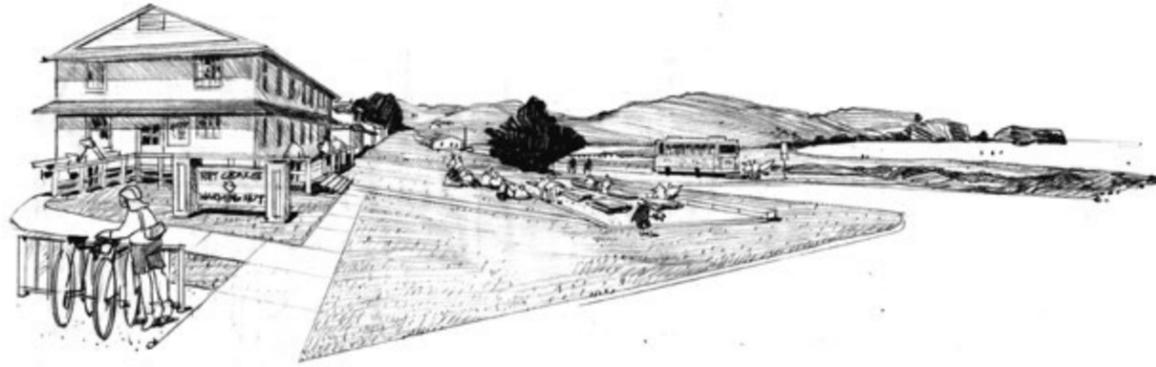
Hike-in camping would be retained at Haypress Meadow, and primitive camping for park work groups could be retained in its current location, along with the lower restroom. All other structures in lower Tennessee Valley, including buildings, paddocks, dams, and constructed ponds, would be removed and native habitats restored. The park horse patrol would be relocated and other existing programs could be accommodated in other park locations.

The scenic hills that surround the main trail corridor and trailhead and extend to the north and south would be managed to preserve and enhance the expanse of undeveloped coastal habitat, outstanding natural features, and the scenic beauty of a large contiguous natural area. Trail improvements would create a more sustainable trail system that would provide access to the variety of settings.



Valuable habitat created by removing obsolete facilities and power lines improves the ecological function and natural beauty of Tennessee Valley.





A visitor center in the historic WWII Barracks supports the wide range of visitor activities and preservation goals at Rodeo Beach.

Marin City Ridge and Gerbode Valley

Natural Zone (Majority of the Marin Headlands Extending South of Tennessee Valley)

This area would be managed to preserve the expansive undeveloped wild character of the landscape, preserve natural resources and processes, continue habitat restoration, protect endangered and sensitive species, and improve the trail system with more sustainable trails and better connections to adjacent communities. Visitor amenities could include expanded primitive and accessible camping opportunities. The National Park Service would collaborate with other agencies and the community to develop a community trailhead in Marin City.

Fort Barry and Fort Cronkhite

Diverse Opportunities Zone (Lower Elevations of Rodeo Valley along Bunker Road, Fort Barry, and Fort Cronkhite)

This zone would be managed to provide visitors with a variety of recreational, educational, and stewardship activities consistent with the protection of the nationally significant cultural resources in the area. Visitor amenities could be expanded to include improved trailheads, accessible trails, camping, picnicking, and orientation. These facilities would welcome visitors and give access to the adjacent natural areas. Fort Cronkhite would function as the visitor portal to the Marin Headlands.

This plan would build upon the nucleus of existing programs offered by the park and its partners that contribute to the concept of a “Center for the Environment.” Rehabilitated structures and limited new construction would continue to be used by the park and its partners to provide visitors with an expanded menu of opportunities that are strongly linked to the park’s purpose. Programs would focus on environmental education, science, history and culture, recreation, healthy lifestyle activities, and special events. A native plant nursery, staff offices, and housing for staff, interns, and volunteers of the park and its partners would be provided within this zone. A visitor contact facility combining information and food service would be developed at a site near both the beach and a transit stop, replacing the existing chapel visitor center at Fort Barry.

In 1994, the National Park Service removed a national landmark World War II cantonment to restore Crissy Field, with the understanding that the cantonment at Fort Cronkhite would be preserved and interpreted. The Fort Cronkhite cantonment is not only highly representative of the once-ubiquitous 700-Series World War II mobilization cantonments; it is considered the best-preserved example of its type in the United States. Every effort will be made to enhance the historic scene while creating diverse visitor opportunities in this zone.

Fort Barry and other historic sites and structures within this zone would continue to support programs provided by the park and its partners consistent with the concept described for Fort Cronkhite. The former motor pool site would provide for public equestrian programs and the park horse patrol, while the balloon hangar would support interim park maintenance functions. The park would incorporate essential site improvements while preserving historic resources and implementing best management practices to protect natural resources. The Fort Barry chapel visitor center could be adapted for other uses.

Natural Zone (Uplands)

This area of the Marin Headlands would be managed as part of the extensive natural landscape, with emphasis on the protection and restoration of habitat for threatened and endangered species.

Evolved Cultural Landscape Zone (Rodeo Beach and Seacoast Fortifications)

This zone would be managed for enjoyment of the beach, trails, and other outdoor recreation and educational opportunities. The landscape would be managed to preserve and interpret the significant military features and structures, such as Wolf Ridge and Batteries Townsley and Mendell, in the natural coastal setting.

Sensitive Resources Zone (Rodeo Lagoon and Rodeo Lake)

This area would be managed to preserve and restore coastal habitat for threatened and endangered species. Visitor access would be highly controlled and restricted to designated trails.

Historic Immersion Zone (Nike Missile Launch Site SF88-L)

The restored compound would continue to provide visitors with an immersion that is evocative of the military tensions during the Cold War era.

Capehart Housing Area

Park Operations Zone

A new park operational facility would be constructed within this zone south of Bunker Road. Housing lost through removal of Capehart buildings to construct this facility could be accommodated at another site, either in existing structures or through limited new construction.

Natural Zone

The residences on the north side of Bunker Road would be removed to provide for creek restoration and to create a more natural and scenic entrance to Rodeo Valley.

Conzelman, Bunker, and McCullough Roads (Including Battery Spencer and Hawk Hill)

Scenic Corridor Zone

Managers would highlight the fundamental coastal resources, endangered species habitat, military fortifications, and spectacular views of the Golden Gate Bridge, San Francisco Bay, and the urban skyline of San Francisco, primarily from the roads and trails. Pedestrian, bike, and motor vehicle access to overlooks and to interpretive and recreational opportunities would be provided. Some overlooks, such as Hawk Hill, would be improved with amenities including interpretive signs, restrooms, and benches.

A community trailhead
above Marin City connects
to ridgetop trails and the
Marin Headlands.



Kirby Cove

Evolved Cultural Landscape Zone

This area would be managed for beach access and camping, and would support additional uses by visitors on the new San Francisco Bay Water Trail. Rustic cabin accommodations could be developed, maintaining the setting and character of this park site. The coastal fortifications and historic forest would be preserved and interpreted.

Habitat restoration would continue outside the historic forest with removal of invasive nonnative vegetation and expansion of habitat for the endangered mission blue butterfly.

Point Bonita Lighthouse Complex

Historic Immersion Zone

The park would continue to preserve the historic structures and interpret the site's maritime and military history in partnership with the U.S. Coast Guard. The coastal environment and sensitive marine habitat would be protected.

Nearshore Ocean and Bay Environment

Scenic Corridor Zone (All Nearshore Areas Except Point Bonita Cove and Bird Rock)

Park managers would work to preserve the integrity of the ocean and bay environment, while accommodating public uses including surfing, boating, and recreational fishing. Management actions would protect the marine habitat, rocks, sea caves, and other natural features of the area in coordination with the Monterey Bay and Gulf of the Farallones national marine sanctuaries. This zone would support the San Francisco Bay Water Trail where appropriate.

Sensitive Resources Zone (Extending 300 Feet Around Point Bonita Cove and Bird Rock)

The park would preserve sensitive marine resources—intertidal resources, seabirds, and marine mammals—in these two locations. Visitation would be highly restricted to protect resources that are easily disturbed. Park-approved research would be the primary activity in this zone, but would be conducted in a manner that is highly protective of sensitive resources.



Park Lands in San Francisco

Connecting People with the Parks

Overview

The park lands of San Francisco would continue to provide opportunities to experience nature; explore our heritage; and enjoy the company of family, friends, and fellow community members. Under this alternative, these areas would be managed to preserve and enhance a variety of settings and improve and expand the facilities that welcome and support visitors to the “National Park Next Door.”

The visibility and identity of national park system sites would be improved in settings from military to “wild,” and visitors would be introduced to Golden Gate National Recreation Area through facilities, information, and programming at popular arrival nodes and recreational destinations. The San Francisco-based Alcatraz embarkation facility would serve as a portal to Golden Gate National Recreation Area and the larger national park system.

The plan would also emphasize the importance of education, civic engagement, and healthy outdoor recreation, including offering nature experiences to city children and their families. Existing and new facilities, including a museum collection facility, would support visitor enjoyment, learning, and community-based natural and cultural resource stewardship. Recreational and stewardship opportunities would promote healthy parks and healthy communities. Similar to the engagement around Crissy Field, this plan will engage the community to revitalize coastal park areas such as Ocean Beach, Fort Funston, and Lands End in collaboration with other land managers.

The park would continue to improve multiuse trails and trailheads throughout the San Francisco park lands to make the park accessible to the broadest array of visitors. Sites would be connected to each other and to communities by the trail system and the city's transit and multimodal access systems.

Upper Fort Mason

Evolved Cultural Landscape Zone (Eastern Portion of the Site)

The historic district would become a portal to Golden Gate National Recreation Area, using historic structures to welcome visitors in a setting that would remain a peaceful contrast to the more bustling northern waterfront of Fisherman’s Wharf and Lower Fort Mason. The park would preserve and rehabilitate select historic structures for new uses that provide orientation, information, food service, special events, and other services for visitors. With improved visibility, signs, and additional activities, this site would provide visitors with better access and understanding of the opportunities available throughout the park.

Historic residences would continue in residential use where compatible with preservation goals. Other nonresidential historic structures would be preserved for uses such as a hostel and other overnight accommodations, park headquarters, partner offices, and other programs that support the park mission.

The two neighboring national park units, Golden Gate National Recreation Area and San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park, would collaborate on unified visitor welcoming and orientation, exploring the potential to share facilities. Consistent NPS site identification and directional signs would be placed along the popular Golden Gate Promenade / San Francisco Bay Trail and at transit nodes.

An expanded stewardship program would connect the park with San Francisco through youth programs offered by the park and its partners.

The historic district’s batteries and landscape would be restored and rehabilitated, including the overgrown gardens on the east and northeast slopes. The community garden would be retained in its current location. Historic Pier 4, at the foot of Van Ness Avenue, would be stabilized.

This scenario anticipates improved access to the park by the development of a water shuttle at Lower Fort Mason and improved walking paths and planned San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) projects, including both the extension of the F-Line Streetcar to Lower Fort Mason and development of the bus rapid transit on Van Ness Avenue. Visitor circulation and wayfinding improvements would be implemented in response to these new adjacent bus, transit and ferry connections. These concepts would require close collaboration with San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park and the City of San Francisco to improve the experience of arriving at Fort Mason through Aquatic Park and Gashouse Cove at Laguna Street and Marina Boulevard.

Diverse Opportunities Zone (“Great Meadow”)

The “Great Meadow” would continue to support a variety of uses and special events with modest improvements to enhance the landscape, enhance the safety of pedestrians and bicyclists on the paths, and provide formal opportunities for picnicking.

Park Operations Zone

Park operations could remain in their current locations. Adjacent structures would continue to house a conservation corps program. If the program relocates, the site and structures would serve park operational needs.

Sensitive Resource Zone (Shoreline at Black Point, Including a 100-Foot Nearshore Buffer to Protect Intertidal Resources)

This area would be managed to protect the rare remaining natural rocky shoreline in San Francisco inside the Golden Gate. An overlook would be developed in the adjacent zone to allow visitors to experience this small site.

China Beach

Diverse Opportunities Zone

Park managers would improve visitor facilities and access to support current uses. The park would also retain space for park operational needs, including a support office for lifeguards.

Lands End

Evolved Cultural Landscape Zone

Park managers would continue to enhance the landscape, integrating natural habitat restoration with cultural landscape preservation, and improving the trail system. This would include the California Coastal Trail and the secondary trails that access the shoreline and would enhance scenic viewpoints and opportunities for bird watching. The area would continue to be managed for the preservation of dark night skies. Trail connections and directional signage to the community and adjacent park lands would also be improved.

Fort Miley

Evolved Cultural Landscape Zone (West Fort Miley)

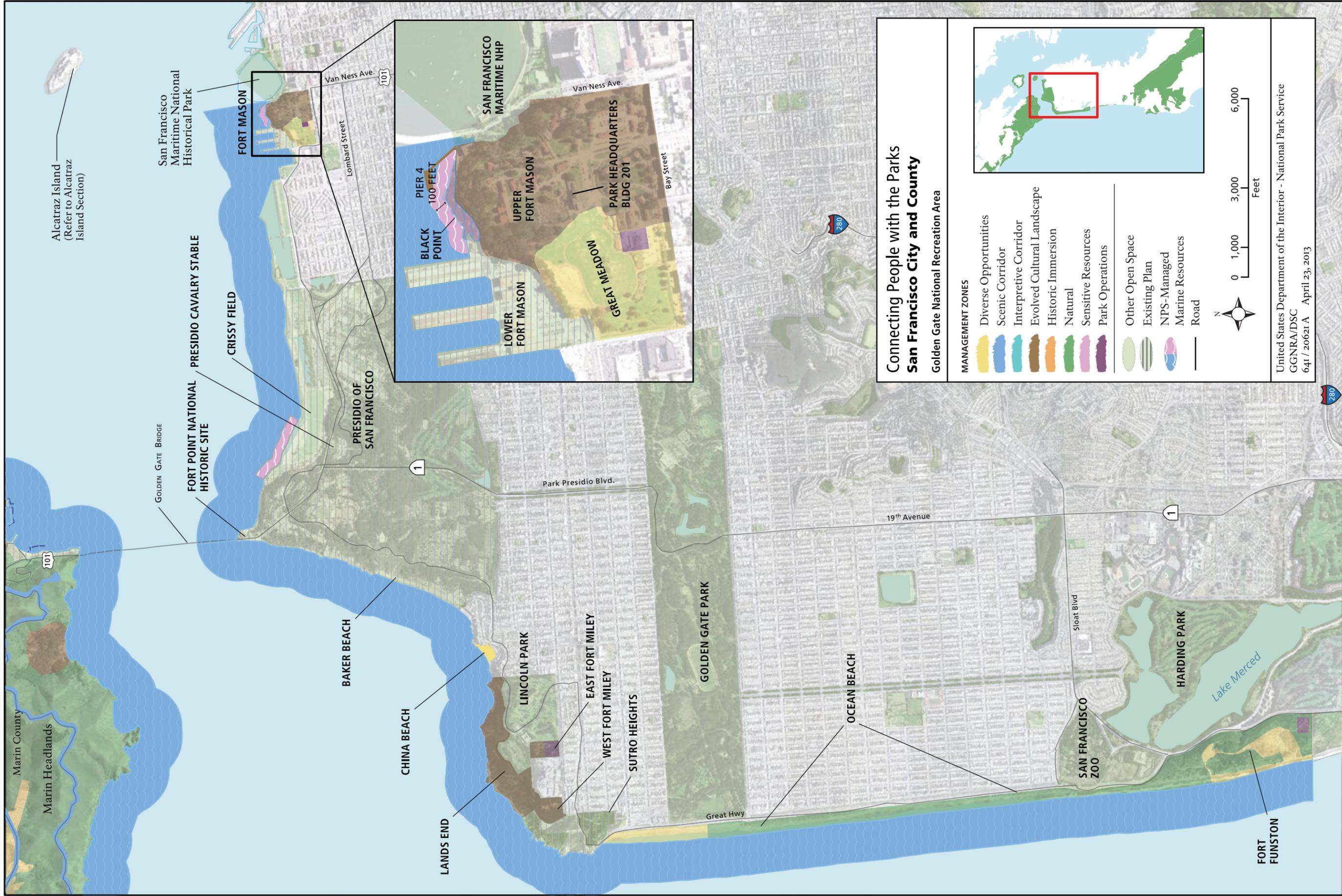
The historic structures and cultural landscape would be preserved and enhanced. The Marine Exchange Lookout Station (Octagon House) and its setting would be rehabilitated and its history interpreted. It would provide for park operations, residential, or public uses. Site improvements would focus on enhancing the fort’s appearance and providing better connections to the surrounding community, nearby Lands End site, and the Veterans Administration hospital campus. Improved picnicking and group camping facilities would be provided in an appropriate location, as would opportunities for outdoor learning and leadership programs. The area would continue to be managed for preservation of dark night skies.

Park Operations Zone (East Fort Miley)

The historic batteries and ordinance storehouse would be preserved and would continue to support park maintenance and public safety satellite operations with potential expansion of volunteer stewardship based from this site. Group camping facilities could also be developed. Other site improvements would focus on interpreting the history of Fort Miley, improving the picnic area, and



The coastal setting of the historic Marine Exchange Lookout Station at West Fort Miley is restored.



enhancing trail connections for better visitor access linking to the medical center, the community and Lands End. Safe and more direct service vehicle access could be developed.

In Both the Evolved Cultural Landscape Zone and the Park Operations Zone

Continued coordination with the San Francisco Veterans Affairs regarding their campus development and management will be important to ensure compatibility with park uses and historic preservation.

Ocean Beach

In Both the Diverse Opportunities Zone and the Natural Zone

The park would participate in multiagency efforts to knit the unique assets and experiences of the Ocean Beach corridor into a seamless and welcoming public landscape, planning for environmental conservation, sustainable infrastructure, and long-term stewardship. The park would continue to participate in multiagency planning and implementation efforts following the 2012 Ocean Beach Master Plan, and other more detailed planning and implementation processes that would follow.

The National Park Service would continue to work with the City of San Francisco, California Coastal Commission, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to address coastal erosion, restore natural processes, and maximize protection of the beach for its natural and recreational values. The National Park Service could relocate park facilities from vulnerable locations and would work with municipalities to identify the most compatible and sustainable management of stormwater and wastewater facilities within their easement rights.

The California Coastal Trail and other connections would be improved to link Ocean Beach to Lands End, Fort Funston, city neighborhoods, and other park lands including Golden Gate Park and Lake Merced.

Diverse Opportunities Zone (Along the O’Shaughnessy Seawall)

Park managers would continue to provide a diversity of recreational beach use and preserve the natural setting and resource values, including shorebird habitat. The vital community stewardship activities that are part of the successful management of the beach would be promoted.

The park would preserve the historic O’Shaughnessy seawall and collaborate with the City of San Francisco to enhance the Ocean Beach corridor with improved amenities that support enjoyment of the beach, including the promenade, parking areas, and restrooms.

Natural Zone (South of the O’Shaughnessy Seawall)

The area would be managed to protect shorebirds and threatened species and allow natural coastal and marine processes to occur, while providing for a variety of compatible recreational activities. Public safety and stewardship activities would be continued.

Fort Funston

Diverse Opportunities Zone (Central Area and Southern Beach)

This site would continue to support current recreational activities, including dog walking and the unique opportunity for hang gliding in the park, while making landscape and trail improvements and protecting and restoring natural habitat. New visitor facilities would be provided near the parking lot. These could include restrooms, group picnicking facilities, a visitor contact facility combining food service with park information, and other support structures. Battery Davis, the historic seacoast fortification, would be preserved and interpreted and its earthworks fenced and protected.



New garden walkways and the historic streetcar connect visitors to Fort Mason and Aquatic Park.

Natural Zone (Corridors Along the Perimeter and Northern Beach)

Fort Funston’s islands of native habitat would be extended to form a continuous habitat corridor that supports recovery of native dune habitat including endangered San Francisco *Lessingia* plants. The northern stretch of beach would be managed to protect shorebirds, coastal bluffs, and bank swallows and to allow natural coastal and marine processes to occur to the extent feasible, while providing for a variety of compatible recreational activities.

Park Operations Zone (Southeast Corner)

Operational facilities could be expanded to meet park needs, including public safety offices, nursery, stewardship center, satellite maintenance facilities, and staff or volunteer housing.

The existing environmental education center could remain in this zone or be relocated to another site better served by public transportation with appropriate facilities and outdoor settings.

In Both the Diverse Opportunities Zone and the Natural Zone

Trails within Fort Funston and trails connecting to adjacent park lands, such as the California Coastal Trail, would be improved.

In All Zones

The National Park Service would work with municipalities to identify the most compatible and sustainable management of their stormwater and wastewater facilities within their easement rights. Also, the National Park Service would cooperate with Caltrans and the City of San Francisco to encourage safety improvements along Highway 35 and protect high-quality visitor experiences for visitors to both Fort Funston and Lake Merced along this corridor.

Nearshore Ocean and Bay Environment

Scenic Corridor Zone

The park would preserve the ocean and bay environment and accommodate public uses including surfing, boating, and recreational fishing. Park managers would protect the marine habitat, geologic resources and processes, and other natural features of the area.

Sensitive Resource Zone

The park would continue to manage the existing Crissy Wildlife Protection Area for the protection of waterbirds and other wildlife.



Park Lands in San Mateo County

Connecting People with the Parks

Overview

Park lands and ocean environments in San Mateo County would be managed as part of a vast network of protected lands and waters, some recognized as part of the UNESCO Golden Gate Biosphere Reserve. This network includes San Francisco Public Utilities Commission Peninsula Watershed lands, California State Parks, the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, county parks, and other land held by regional land trusts. Park managers would emphasize connectivity, preservation, and restoration of the area's vital ecosystems through collaborative partnerships with other land management agencies.

In the spirit of the "Parks to People" movement that created Golden Gate National Recreation Area four decades ago, this plan would focus on the importance of improving access and engaging the community in these newest park lands. Given the significant addition of park land in the county in recent years, a series of actions would be needed to enhance visitor access, enjoyment, appreciation, and stewardship.

Key efforts would include improving the visibility and identity of NPS sites. Park trails would be improved to create a sustainable system that provides opportunities to enjoy park sites, connects with local communities, and contributes to an exceptional regional trail network. Equestrian facilities would continue to have an important role in recreation and stewardship. A comprehensive trail plan would be prepared to achieve these goals.

Park managers would work with county transit providers to improve transit connections to local trailheads and east-west transit between bayside communities and the ocean beaches. Collaboration with the community and Caltrans would focus on providing safe access to park sites along State Route 1.

The addition of signs and trailhead parking would help visitors find their way to various park sites and help them gain an understanding of the park's diverse natural and cultural resources. Equestrian needs would be incorporated in trail and trailhead design.

Equally important would be providing facilities to welcome visitors to the park. This plan would promote visitor information and orientation centers in Pacifica and in the coastal community south of Devil's Slide. Park improvements would be consistent with preservation of community character.

These facilities could be shared with San Mateo County Department of Parks, California State Parks, Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, local governments, and other organizations. The National Park Service would explore community trailheads and partnerships with the San Mateo County Historical Association at the Sanchez Adobe.

South of Fort Funston to South of Mussel Rock

Natural Zone

Park managers would work with other land managers to preserve and enhance the natural, cultural, and scenic values of the area; allow for natural coastal geologic processes to continue; and provide modest visitor access facilities (trails, trailheads) to beaches, scenic overlooks, and along the California Coastal Trail, where feasible.

The beach, dunes, and cliffs extending from San Francisco's Ocean Beach south to Mussel Rock (a stretch of almost 5 miles) would be managed to protect shorebird habitat, allow natural shoreline processes to continue unimpeded, and provide improved or new trails for visitors to enjoy and view nature. Park staff would work with neighboring communities to mitigate concentrated urban runoff and landslide threat.

Milagra Ridge (Including Lower Milagra Ridge [Connemara]) Conservation Easement

Natural Zone

The area would be managed to preserve its wild character and protect habitat for endangered species. Disturbed areas would be restored. Coordinating with other land managers, the park would also make trail improvements that could include connections to Oceana Boulevard, the Pacific coast, Skyline Boulevard, and Sweeney Ridge. Historic structures would be preserved.

Scenic Corridor Zone (Center of Ridge)

Additional amenities would be developed to support visitors and stewardship volunteers. These could include accessibility improvements, trailhead parking, restrooms, and picnic facilities.

Shelldance Nursery Area

Diverse Opportunities Zone and Park Operations Zone

The site would transition from its primary use as a commercial nursery to an area that provides a variety of visitor services that could include enhanced trailhead parking serving Sweeney Ridge and Mori Point, restrooms, park orientation and information, and a community stewardship / education center. The park would encourage improved east-west connectivity between Sweeney Ridge and Mori Point as part of planned improvements to State Route 1. Safe access from State Route 1 and the trail connection to Mori Point would be improved.

A portion of this park site would be dedicated to park operational needs, possibly including a satellite facility for maintenance and public safety, native plant nursery, and ranger workforce or volunteer housing.

Sweeney Ridge (Including Cattle Hill, Picardo Ranch, and Sweeney Ridge Gateway Conservation Easement)

Natural Zone (Majority of the Area)

The area would be managed to protect endangered species and the large contiguous natural landscape extending into the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission Peninsula Watershed. Visitors could experience the area through stewardship activities, improved trails, and primitive camping. Improved trailhead facilities would enhance the connection to the community at Fassler Avenue. Connections to the regional trail network and the surrounding public lands (San Francisco Public Utilities Commission lands, San Pedro Valley County Park, McNee Ranch, and Rancho Corral de Tierra) would be developed in coordination with other land managers.

Management of the conservation easement over the 7.2-acre parcel adjacent to the Sweeney Ridge Sneath Lane Trailhead would be consistent with the 2007 easement and the restrictions of the 2005 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) biological opinion for the PG&E Jefferson-Martin Project. The emphasis of management will be to preserve upland habitat for the California red-legged frog and San Francisco garter snake.

Scenic Corridor Zone (Sneath Lane and Part of Sweeney Ridge)

Trail amenities would be developed and connections would be enhanced to the Bay Area Ridge Trail and the San Andreas Trail in San Francisco Public Utilities Commission Peninsula Watershed. The San Francisco Bay Discovery Site National Historic Landmark would be preserved and interpreted. The park would continue to permit vehicular access to the discovery site for visitors with disabilities and to accommodate limited special events. A hikers' hut could be developed as part of a system of huts proposed for the Bay Area Ridge Trail. Partnership-based programs would be pursued in preparation of the upcoming 250th anniversary of the discovery of San Francisco. Actions for the Nike Missile Launch Site might include removal of buildings or retaining the shells of buildings. Under either preservation treatment, the site's history could be interpreted.

Diverse Opportunities Zone (Developed Portion of Picardo Ranch)

If acquired, the existing facilities could be adapted or replaced with new facilities to support visitor activities, potentially including continued equestrian use, environmental education, trailhead improvements, and park operations. Management would include strong protection for the creek corridor and other natural habitats.



The trailhead to Sweeney Ridge is enhanced as the site transitions from commercial to park purposes.

Mori Point

Natural Zone

The land would be managed for ongoing restoration of natural habitats and to protect threatened and endangered species while improving the trail system for public enjoyment of the site and its exceptional views and landscapes. Access to Mori Point would be enhanced with modest trailhead and parking improvements.

Trail connections to the community, Sweeney Ridge and the adjacent public lands, and the California Coastal Trail would be improved in partnership with other land managers. Collaboration with adjacent land managers would also contribute to expanded efforts to preserve listed species and their habitats, improving habitat connectivity across management boundaries.

Point San Pedro

Natural Zone

These lands, if acquired, would be managed to maintain natural features and scenic beauty and to continue with the habitat restoration and access improvements initiated by the community and other agencies. Trailheads and trails would be developed and enhanced to improve accessible connections to the California Coastal Trail, Devil's Slide, and adjacent lands. Public access would be managed to protect nesting seabirds and historic resources. Collaboration with adjacent land managers would be essential.

Rancho Corral de Tierra

Natural Zone (Majority of the Area)

The upland areas and land outside the existing equestrian centers would be managed to preserve the wild, open character of the landscape and offer trail-based recreation that is light on the land, including walking, hiking, bicycling, and horseback riding. Natural habitats and processes in the zone, which includes four creek corridors, would be restored to the greatest extent possible with the help of community stewards.

Visitors would enjoy the scenic coastal environment through an enhanced and sustainable system of trails. The trail network would connect local communities to the park and link the ridges of Montara Mountain to the Pacific Ocean. The National Park Service would work with the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission to complete a trail connection to Sweeney Ridge through the Peninsula Watershed's northwest corner along Whiting Ridge. Unnecessary management roads could be converted to trails or removed. Exploration of the park could be facilitated by scenic overlooks, primitive camping sites, and possibly a hikers' hut in a remote setting.

Diverse Opportunities Zone

Modest improvements would be created in this zone consisting of trailheads and other visitor facilities that provide for the enjoyment of this new area. This area would be considered a southern portal to the Golden Gate National Recreation Area and other public open space. Detailed future planning would determine the mix of uses that would share this zone. Equestrian uses would be retained at Rancho Corral de Tierra, with the exact location, type, and scale of facility improvements determined in future planning efforts. Park managers would continue to work with equestrian operators to enhance the best management practices employed to protect the environment and expand programs that welcome and benefit the public. New facilities in this zone could include trails, trailheads, a community stewardship/educational center, a group picnic area, a rustic campsite,

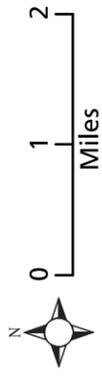
Connecting People with the Parks San Mateo County

Golden Gate National Recreation Area

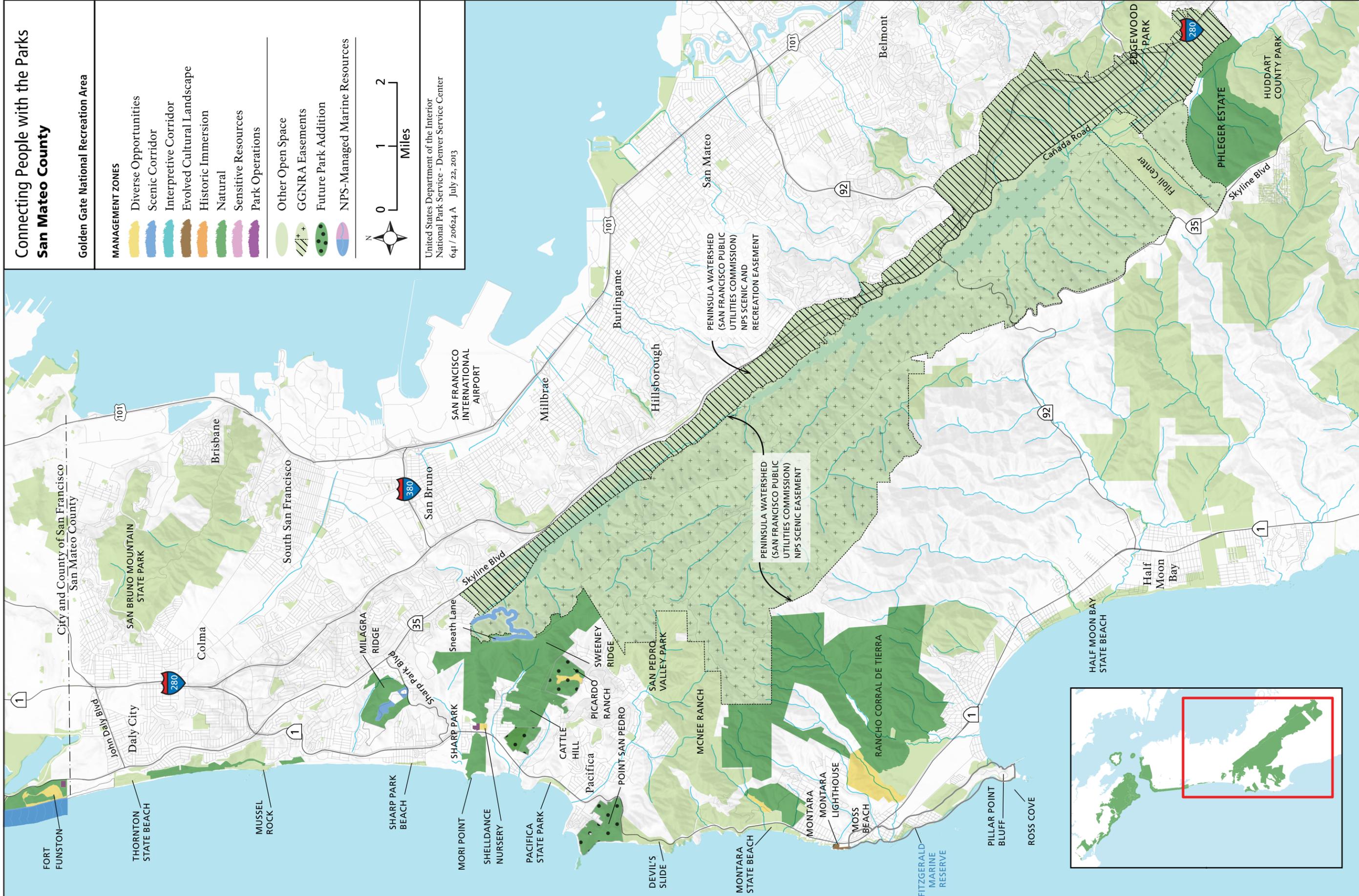
MANAGEMENT ZONES

-  Diverse Opportunities
-  Scenic Corridor
-  Interpretive Corridor
-  Evolved Cultural Landscape
-  Historic Immersion
-  Natural
-  Sensitive Resources
-  Park Operations

-  Other Open Space
-  GGNRA Easements
-  Future Park Addition
-  NPS-Managed Marine Resources



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Visitors are welcomed to
Rancho Corral de Tierra at
a new trailhead.



and a horse camp. Significant constraints on availability of water will influence development and operations of facilities at this site. Any new visitor facility would be sited to preserve natural and cultural resources and where compatible with adjacent uses such as agriculture.

In addition, safe trailheads would be developed near State Route 1 to support exploration of this large, diverse landscape and the extensive adjacent public lands. The multiuse trails and trailheads would be compatible with adjacent residential uses.

Habitat restoration and community stewardship activities would have a strong presence in both zones. An area for native plant production would be established to support restoration projects in the park. The National Park Service would partner with surrounding land managers and the Fitzgerald Marine Reserve, one of the richest intertidal areas on the California coast, to improve habitat connectivity and protect sensitive habitats, protect water quality, restore the creek corridors and reconnect them to the ocean, and reestablish anadromous fish passage where possible.

The National Park Service would connect people to the agricultural history of Rancho Corral de Tierra through interpretation of its cultural landscape and adjacent working farms.

Montara Lighthouse

Evolved Cultural Landscape Zone

The historic lighthouse structures and other associated resources, if acquired, would be preserved and interpreted. Management would enhance the current hostel and day-use programming. Trail connections from the hostel up and down the coast would better integrate this site with other park lands and open space.

The park would seek an opportunity to establish a multiagency visitor information and orientation facility in the vicinity. Safe access for vehicles, bicyclists, and pedestrians would be pursued in cooperation with Caltrans and San Mateo County and addressed prior to any substantial change in visitor use.

Phleger Estate

Natural Zone

The area would be managed to provide trail-based recreation in a natural and contemplative setting that complements the more developed recreation facilities at adjacent Huddart County Park. The redwood forest ecosystem, including West Union Creek and threatened and endangered species, would be protected and restored. The history of logging on the estate and its role in the settlement of San Mateo County would be interpreted. Trail connections to adjacent lands and the regional trail system would be pursued in collaboration with San Mateo County and San Francisco Public Utilities Commission. These connections would include the Bay Area Ridge Trail, potential access from trailheads on Cañada Road and Skyline Boulevard, and a multiuse trail connection between Cañada Road and Skyline Boulevard north of the Phleger Estate. Community stewardship of the site could contribute to trail and habitat improvements. The National Park Service would explore community trailheads and partnerships with the San Mateo County Historical Association's Woodside Store historic site.

San Francisco Public Utilities Commission Peninsula Watershed Easements (Not Zoned)

Note: The approximately 23,000-acre San Francisco Peninsula Watershed is owned by the City and County of San Francisco and managed by the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission for watershed protection as a water supply resource with limited public access. This area is included within the Golden Gate National Recreation Area authorized boundary, and is adjacent to NPS-managed lands at the Phleger Estate, Sweeney Ridge, and Rancho Corral de Tierra.

Golden Gate National Recreation Area administers two easements encompassing the entire watershed property—a scenic easement over approximately 19,000 acres and a scenic and recreation easement over approximately 4,000 acres. The provisions of the easements include preservation of the land in its present natural state, allowing certain recreational uses, and requiring approval of the park superintendent for certain actions (see “Special Mandates” section and the appendices of the full General Management Plan / Environmental Impact Statement [FGMP / EIS]).

Because NPS management responsibility over the watershed is limited to administration of the easements, this area is not included in management zoning for the park. Actions described below would be encouraged or promoted by the National Park Service for these two easement areas (see appendixes I and J of the FGMP / EIS). Some of these actions are already identified in the *Peninsula Watershed Management Plan* (SFPUC 2001)—the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission's current land use plan for this area. Other actions are suggested for future consideration. Future actions would be subject to the approval of the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission and consistency with the easements. Actions could be implemented either solely by the commission or in cooperation with Golden Gate National Recreation Area and San Mateo County.

Both Easement Areas

The National Park Service would continue to coordinate with the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission to administer the easements consistent with the easement goals and restrictions. Ongoing and regular communication with the commission to review activities and proposed projects would continue to be a key NPS responsibility. Park managers would continue to cooperate with the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission for preservation of the natural, cultural, scenic, and recreational values of the watershed with improved public access on trails.

Scenic Easement Area (Majority of the area—approximately 19,000 acres)

Within this area, completion of the Bay Area Ridge Trail connection from the Phleger Estate to Highway 92 would be encouraged. A new trail connection between the Bay Area Ridge Trail and the California Coastal Trail using an existing management road over Whiting Ridge would also be promoted. The Whiting Ridge alignment would connect Sweeney Ridge with McNee Ranch and Rancho Corral de Tierra. Park managers would also promote preservation of the values that resulted in designating this area as the core of the UNESCO Golden Gate Biosphere Reserve.

Scenic and Recreation Easement Area (Eastern area closest to Highway 280—approximately 4,000 acres)

Implementation of trail improvements proposed in the 2001 Peninsula Watershed Management Plan would be promoted. These include completion of the north-south trail through the watershed in areas of low sensitivity and a new trail connecting the existing San Andreas multiuse trail to Sweeney Ridge via Sneath Lane. Improving trail access to the Phleger Estate from a new trailhead on Cañada Road and a new multiuse trail connection through the Peninsula Watershed lands between Cañada Road and Skyline Boulevard north of the Phleger Estate would also be encouraged. Preservation of scenic views along the trails, Cañada Road, Skyline Boulevard, Interstate 280, and its vista points would be promoted in cooperation with the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission and Caltrans. Additional coordination with the Juan Bautista De Anza National Historic Trail could also be provided.

The National Park Service would offer to cooperate with the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission in creating a watershed visitor education center near the Pulgas Water Temple on Cañada Road, as described in the 2001 *Peninsula Watershed Management Plan*.

Nearshore Ocean Environment

Management of nearshore areas could be extended to cover new segments of the San Mateo County coast as described in the “Boundary Adjustments” section of the FGMP/EIS.

Fitzgerald Marine Reserve (Not Zoned)

In areas where the park boundary coincides with the Fitzgerald Marine Reserve, the two organizations would continue to cooperate in implementation of the provisions of the California State Marine Life Protection Act.



Alcatraz Island

Focusing On National Treasures

Overview

For more than 150 years, Alcatraz Island has been reworked and altered by human activity. This alternative would immerse visitors extensively in all of Alcatraz Island’s historic periods, including Civil War military fortifications and prison, a federal penitentiary, and American Indian occupation. Alcatraz Island’s history would be interpreted, first and foremost with tangible and accessible historic resources, including the structures, landscape, archaeological sites, and museum collection. These resources contribute to the island’s national historic landmark status and its recognition as an international icon.

Most visits would begin at an enhanced ferry embarkation facility in San Francisco. On the way to the island, the ferry would pass a line of replica warning buoys. The immersive experience would continue at the island’s arrival dock, with greater access to restored portions of Building 64, the historic barracks. On the island, visitors would ascend to the main prison on the summit through a landscape of preserved historic structures and features. While the primary visitor experience would focus on the federal penitentiary, visitors also would be exposed to the other periods of history, literally and programmatically.

Implementation of this plan would require excavations, extensive stabilization, rehabilitation, and/or restoration of historic buildings, small-scale landscape features, and archeological sites, as well as creative interpretive and educational programs and visitor services. Park managers would create additional opportunities for cultural resource stewardship programs.

Visitors would have opportunities to learn about the natural history of San Francisco Bay. The colonial waterbird habitat that has grown in regional importance would be protected, enhanced, and interpreted. Visitors could also explore the island perimeter, managed to protect sensitive bird populations while providing opportunities to observe them or participate in stewardship activities. The large population of gulls would be managed to reduce conflicts in primary visitor use areas like the Parade Ground. In addition, a comprehensive user capacity strategy would help the park to monitor and adaptively manage crowding, congestion, and impacts on resources.

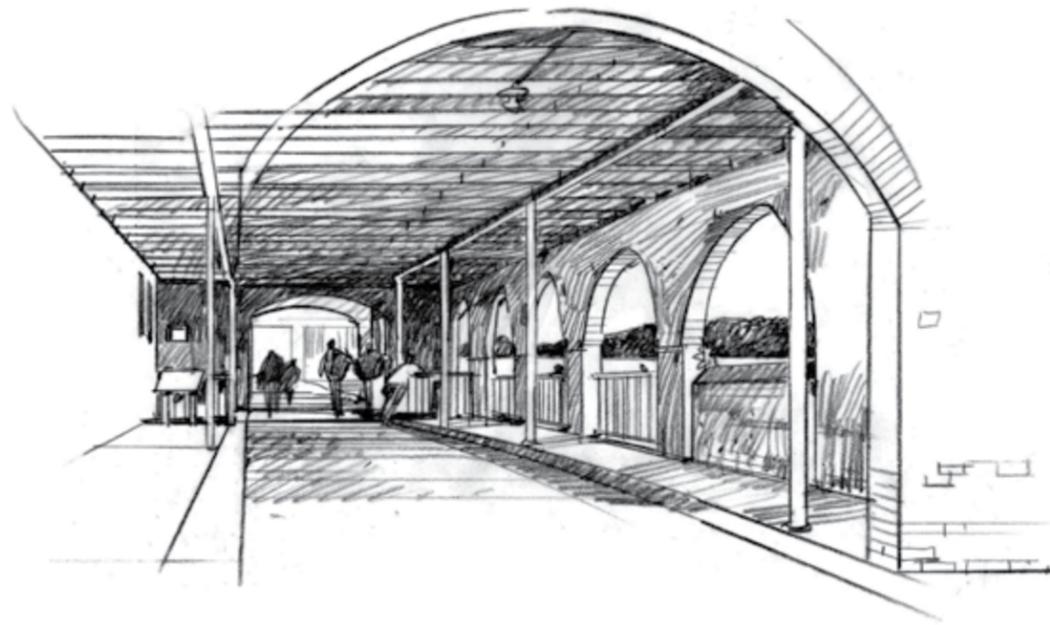
Ferry Embarkation

The visitor's immersion in Alcatraz Island history would begin from an embarkation site in San Francisco. The primary embarkation site would remain on San Francisco's northern waterfront where visitor services, including education about Alcatraz and orientation to Golden Gate National Recreation Area, could be enhanced. Additional ferry connections could be provided to other park sites as part of the San Francisco facility's role as a portal to the park. Ticketing would continue to be through a reservation system, and ferries would operate daily on a year-round schedule. The length of the ferry trip between the mainland and Alcatraz Island would remain approximately 10-15 minutes.

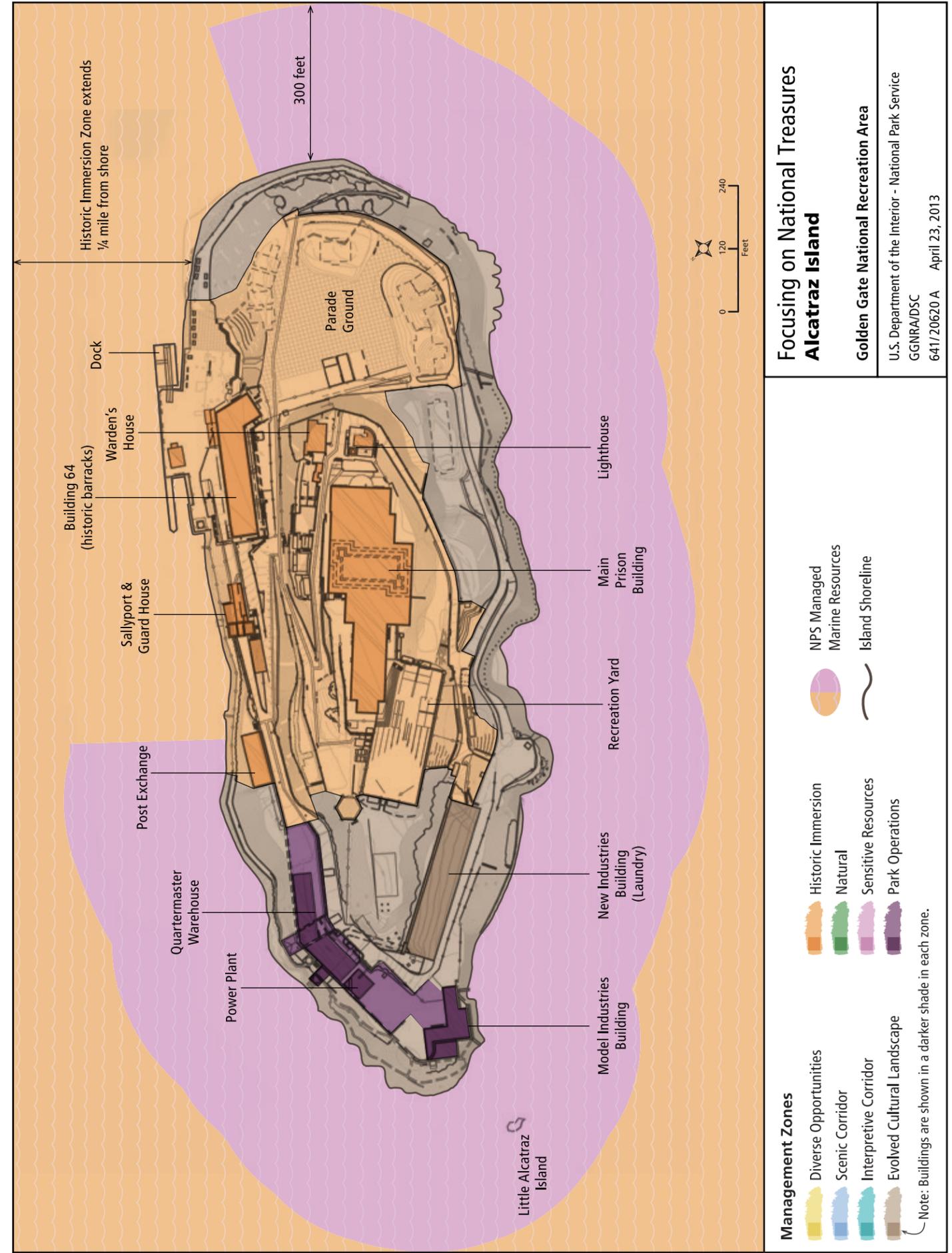
Arrival Area (Including the Dock, Building 64 [Historic Barracks], and the Sallyport)

Historic Immersion Zone

Here, the park would welcome, orient, and begin to immerse visitors in the island's prison landscape, creating an atmosphere evocative of its history. To better reveal the early military prison period, the guardhouse could be restored by removing the later boathouse addition. Selected areas of Building 64 would be restored to tell the story of its history and use. Period restoration in the building would include the post office, canteen, and a prison-era guard apartment to extend the immersive experience. Other parts of Building 64 would be rehabilitated for visitor services and administrative functions and could include modest dorm-like overnight accommodations for participants in education, conservation, and stewardship programs. The upper floors would be stabilized to preserve the structure's integrity.



Selectively removing later building additions could help visitors understand the character and central role of the Guardhouse Sallyport, from when Alcatraz was a military prison.



Main Prison Area (Including the Citadel, Main Cellblock, Hospital Wing, Administration Wing, Recreation Yard, New Industries Building, Post Exchange, and Parade Ground)

Historic Immersion Zone

The many historic resources of the Main Prison Building would provide visitors with the opportunity to explore the federal penitentiary's history. Visitors would also have access to the wide range of historic structures and features in historically accurate conditions that tell stories about the different layers of island history. Park managers would look for opportunities to expose visitors to the tangible resources (including artifacts in the park's museum collection) of the federal penitentiary and military eras.

Treatments ranging from upgrades to exhibits and furnishings to more complete restoration would continue with the goal of increasing access and interpretation of the structure's history.

The park would also manage the adjacent areas, such as the main road, Warden's House, and the Parade Ground, to reinforce the sense of history as visitors move around the island. The Parade Ground would be rehabilitated, along with aspects of its buried archaeological sites, to support year-round visitor exploration of this area in coordination with adaptive management of western gulls. The rehabilitation could incorporate measures to support natural systems with preservation of cultural resources. With potential involvement of partners, the Post Exchange would be stabilized to provide visitors with opportunities to explore and understand the building's layered history. Additional preservation could be possible with the involvement of partners to make a more complete visitor experience and interpret the building's history.

Lighthouse

Historic Immersion Zone

The lighthouse and surrounding area would be preserved to give visitors opportunities to learn about the maritime history of Alcatraz Island and its strategic location in the bay. Access and interpretation would be enhanced.



Controlling gulls and repairing the foundations of buildings razed after the American Indian occupation could enrich visitor understanding of Alcatraz's Parade Ground.



Partial restoration of guard towers and fences, along with maintaining vegetative buffers, could balance historic preservation and waterbird habitat goals on Alcatraz.

North End of Alcatraz Island

Park Operations Zone

The Quartermaster Warehouse would be rehabilitated and used as an operational center for maintenance, public safety, and a preservation stewardship workshop.

The Power Plant would be stabilized to house green, sustainable infrastructure technologies. Where appropriate, visitor access would be provided to showcase the technologies and interpret the history of energy use on the island. The adjacent yard would support island operational needs. Access to the yard would employ measures to protect nearby seabird habitat. Visitor access to this zone would be limited.

Although this area is currently identified as the primary park operations area, the National Park Service would continue to evaluate other portions of the island that may be advantageous for operational uses such as administrative space, maintenance, and auxiliary functions.

Evolved Cultural Landscape Zone (Including Model Industries Building and New Industries Building)

The Model Industries Building and courtyard would be stabilized to the extent feasible, with only the ground floor used for park operations. Measures would be taken inside and outside the building to protect nearby sensitive natural resources. The adjacent cliffs would be closed to park operations and general visitation to protect the nearby sensitive habitat of nesting waterbirds.

The New Industries Building (Laundry) would be rehabilitated as a multipurpose facility. It would include flexible space that could accommodate interpretation, special events, classrooms, and meetings, and would include restrooms and a service kitchen to support these uses. The perimeter trail would connect through the building and provide bird-viewing opportunities from its interior.

Island Perimeter

Evolved Cultural Landscape Zone (Majority of the Island Perimeter)

The perimeter of the island, including the coastal cliffs, would be managed to stabilize significant historic resources, protect colonial nesting birds and intertidal habitat, and interpret the island's changing cultural and natural conditions. Opening a perimeter trail, including segments of the historic sentry walk, would provide visitors with enhanced access to much of the island. Sensitive design and seasonal closure of the trail, which could include the Agave Trail, would protect nesting bird habitat.

Nearshore Bay Environment

Sensitive Resources Zone (Extending 300 Feet Around Most of Alcatraz Island)

This zone would be managed as a marine protected area to preserve coastal resources, including Little Alcatraz Island, submerged resources, and seabird colonies using the island's cliffs. The area would be demarcated by buoys and closed to boats. A formal rule-making process would consider both seasonal and year-round closures.

Historic Immersion Zone (Extending from the Sensitive Resources Zone Out to ¼ mile from the Island's Shore)

The National Park Service would manage this area to accommodate service to the island. Park managers would mark and interpret the historic no-trespass zone that was in place during previous periods. Only approved vessels, like the visitor ferry, would be allowed to use the island's dock.

Sustainability

The National Park Service would continue to develop and implement sustainable approaches to meet the island's energy, water, and wastewater needs. Actions that are being considered include replacing diesel generators with renewable (e.g., photovoltaic panels) and grid-tied energy sources. These infrastructure technologies would be interpreted where possible.



Muir Woods National Monument

Focusing On National Treasures

Overview

Muir Woods National Monument is a window into the complex world of nature and conservation. This alternative would present the monument as a contemplative setting where visitors discover the primeval redwood forest and the monument's place in the early U.S. conservation movement—within minutes of San Francisco.

The system of trails would continue to lead visitors into the forest to feel, see, and learn, in different ways, about the essential qualities of the forest. These include its giant trees, the ecology of Redwood Creek, and William Kent's generous donation of the forest to the American public. Rather than continue to concentrate visitation along a main trail, visitors would be encouraged to take different thematic interpretive trails, some new and some existing, to experience different parts of the park. Other trails would be enhanced to better link the monument with the surrounding Mount Tamalpais State Park.

Some existing facilities and use areas, such as the entrance area and parking lots, would be modified or relocated to reduce their impacts on the ecosystem and improve the park experience.

Shuttle service from off-site locations would be expanded and be an important first point for orientation and a key to providing sustainable access to the monument. Visitors would continue to be drawn to the monument to see the trees, but they would leave with a richer understanding of this precious ecosystem and how the saving of these few acres helped spark conservation across the United States. They would be motivated to return and learn more of the story. A comprehensive user capacity strategy would help the park to monitor and adaptively manage crowding, user conflicts, and impacts on resources.

Building on the interagency *Redwood Creek Watershed: Vision for the Future* (2003), and a cooperative management agreement with California State Parks, the National Park Service would continue to collaborate with the public and other land managers to address watershed restoration, stewardship, and recreation.

The National Park Service's approach to managing visitors to Muir Woods is clarified in the Record of Decision.

A meadow-like pedestrian entrance to the monument is created by reorganizing vehicular circulation and support facilities.



Arrival

Off-site

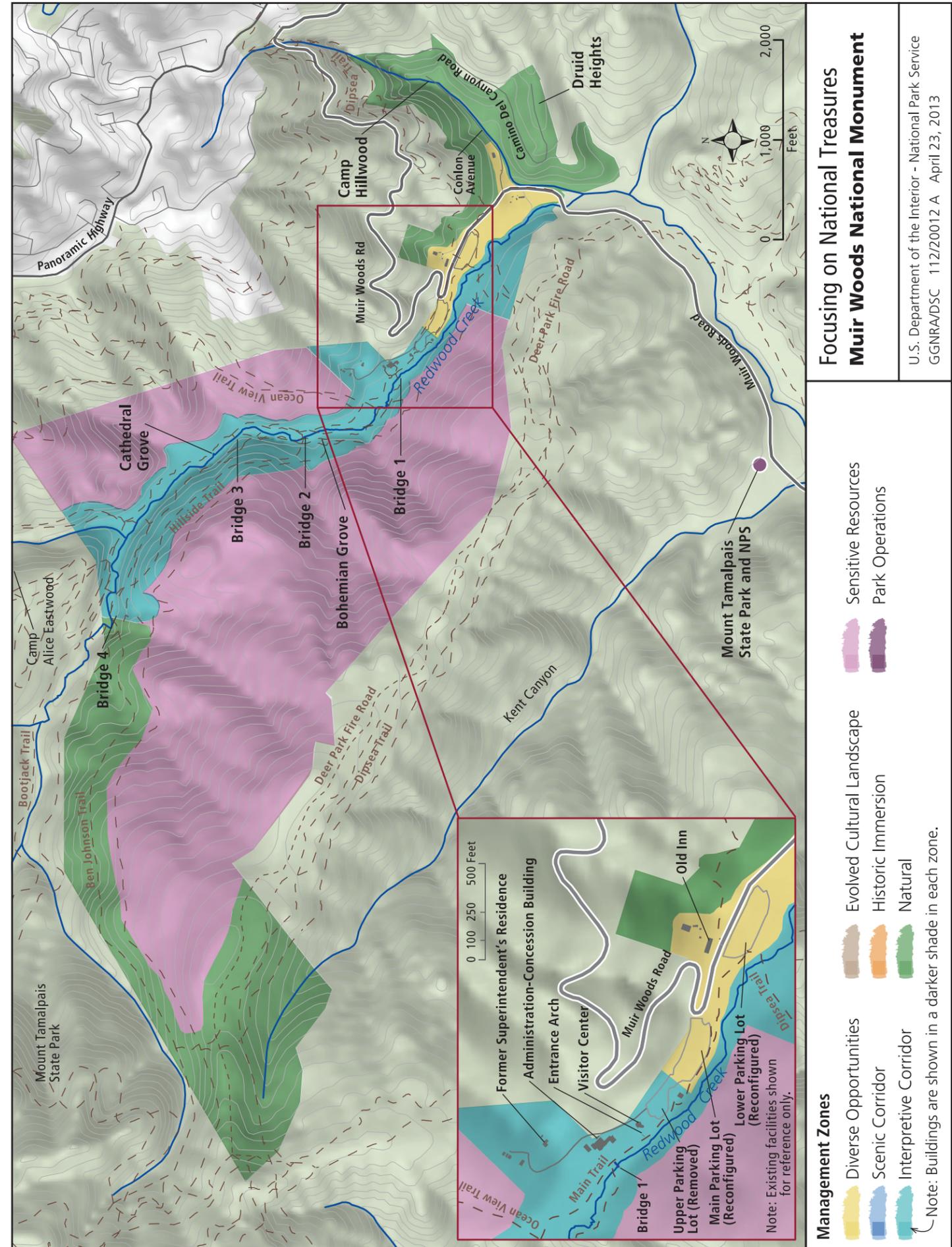
To enhance the visitor experience and address congestion problems, permanent shuttle service to Muir Woods National Monument would be provided during peak periods throughout the year. The existing transit hub in the vicinity of State Route 1 and Highway 101 could continue to serve as a shuttle facility. The National Park Service would collaborate with partners including Marin County, California State Parks, and Caltrans to provide shuttle and other necessary visitor services. This could include phased improvements to parking, sheltered waiting areas, restrooms, orientation to the monument and other regional park destinations, and improved connections to regional ferry services.

Diverse Opportunities Zone

The monument's existing entry area would be redesigned to enhance the visitor's arrival experience, protect resources, and improve safety. Parking at the monument would be reduced, reconfigured, and relocated using sustainable design practices to better protect Redwood Creek and other sensitive resources. Removal of parking would primarily be along the shoulder of Muir Woods Road. Parking supply would continue to meet demand during off-peak periods. Pedestrian access would be improved to offer visitors a more natural experience transitioning into the redwood forest separated from roads and parking.

A modest facility would be provided to receive visitors arriving by different modes of transportation. The services provided could include shuttle drop-off, sheltered waiting areas, orientation, restrooms, food service, and a bookstore. The existing separate structures for fee collection, a bookstore, and restrooms could be replaced as part of the new facility. The goal of the design process would be to accommodate visitor needs while minimizing the overall footprint of development in the park.

Future use or removal of the Old Inn would be determined through more detailed site planning that would consider its utility for visitor services or operational needs in the



Restored banks of Redwood Creek along with redesigned segments of the main trail improve ecological functions and conditions for visitors in the forest.



redesigned entry area. To allow visitor parking to be reconfigured, the native plant nursery would be relocated to Lower Redwood Creek as part of a stewardship center.

In order to improve pedestrian safety and protect Redwood Creek, the park would collaborate with Marin County and California State Parks to restrict shoulder parking along Muir Woods Road as alternative transportation becomes more readily available.

Redwood Forest and Redwood Creek

Interpretive Corridor Zone (Large Corridor Around Redwood Creek)

This area would be managed as a setting where visitors discover and interact with the features of the primeval redwood forest. Each of the existing trails within the monument would be managed to unveil a different story and experience using creative interpretive approaches that are appropriate to the majestic old-growth forest. The trails would be designed and managed to provide visitors with opportunities to learn, explore, and become immersed in the resources that illustrate a particular theme. Examples of thematic trails could include an ecology-themed trail that leads visitors to examine the forest structure and the dynamic habitats of the creek. Another trail would highlight a century of conservation history and quietly usher visitors into Cathedral Grove. Some trails would start at the main entrance and highlight the main redwood groves along the creek. Others would bring visitors down into the woods from higher in the canyon.

The Dipsea Trail and other trails from Mount Tamalpais State Park also would be highlighted, offering opportunities for self-discovery. The experience would be further reinforced through ranger-led activities that engage the visitor with the monument's natural and cultural resources.

Portions of the main trail and bridges could be relocated to allow for creek and floodplain restoration and improvements to the integrity of the redwood forest ecosystem.

The Administration-Concession Building would transition to support interpretive and educational activities, providing flexible classroom and program space in the woods. Nonhistoric and nonessential additions made to this structure and its surroundings would be removed to reduce development in the monument. The adjacent restroom building would be retained.

The historic structures and features that represent the conservation movement would be preserved and rehabilitated and used to support visitor programming and services. These include the former Superintendent's Residence, equipment shed, garage, trails, monuments, and named groves. The historic creek stabilization rock work could be removed in targeted areas to restore natural creek functions important to forest health.

Sensitive Resources Zone (Upper North-Facing Slopes of the Canyon)

These areas would be managed to preserve the redwood forest and natural sounds that provide a backdrop to the adjacent interpretive corridor zone. Visitor access to this area would be carefully managed and limited to retain the pristine setting and protect its resources.

Natural Zone (Western Portion of the National Monument)

This area of the monument would be managed to preserve natural systems and contribute to the primeval forest setting. Visitors within this zone would have opportunities for self-discovery and challenge on the Ben Johnson and Dipsea trails in a more dispersed and wild park setting.

Muir Woods Addition (Also Known As Camino Del Canyon, Conlon Avenue, and Druid Heights)

Natural Zone

The area would be managed to provide low-impact, trail-based day uses and restore native habitat and natural processes with emphasis on removal of roads, nonhistoric structures, stabilization of sediment sources, re-establishment of natural drainage patterns, restoration of the tributary creek, and removal of invasive vegetation that has escaped from developed areas.

Camino del Canyon would be converted to a trail with access by foot or light service vehicle. Some historic structures associated with the bohemian community at Druid Heights would be preserved to the extent practicable and consistent with limited access. Camp Hillwood could be preserved to the extent that this would not compromise natural resource values. If retained, use of the main building could be for park operations or limited visitor programs and uses consistent with the surrounding natural zone. The segment of Conlon Avenue extending from the lift station to the camp could be realigned to restore natural processes and conditions for the tributary to Redwood Creek.

Diverse Opportunities Zone (Lower Conlon Avenue from Muir Woods Road to the Lift Station)

A small parking area and trailhead would be situated in this zone. The park would explore a more sustainable wastewater treatment process to eventually replace the existing lift station. Other existing operational functions (maintenance and native plant nursery) would be relocated to the Lower Redwood Creek site (former Banducci flower farm) or in potential shared facilities with Mount Tamalpais State Park nearby at Kent Canyon.

Kent Canyon, Mount Tamalpais State Park

The park would work with California State Parks to achieve common objectives for this area. Collaboration would focus on maintenance, parking, and trails. Most maintenance functions in the monument would be relocated here to facilities shared with Mount Tamalpais State Park. This action would be subject to an agreement with California State Parks.

Costs and Capital Projects

The plan describes the maximum potential capital improvements; lesser improvements may be implemented or built in phases if necessary. Implementation of the approved plan would depend on future funding. The approval of this plan does not guarantee that the funding and staffing needed to implement the plan will be forthcoming. Full implementation of the actions in the approved general management plan could be many years in the future. Additionally, some of the future long-term funding needed to implement the various actions called for in the plan is anticipated to come from nonfederal partners, consistent with the park's current practices. All costs are in 2009 dollars.

Annual Operating Costs

The annual operating costs comprise the current annual operating costs, with changes made to reflect additional staffing needs. The annual operating cost is estimated at \$32,000,000.

Staffing Requirements

Total additional staff needed would be 46 FTE.

One-time Capital Costs

One-time costs are estimated at \$152,850,000 over the life of the general management plan. The following tables describe costs in each park area. One-time capital costs for elements common to all action alternatives (not included in this *Summary Edition*) are estimated at \$33,200,000.

One-Time Capital Costs for Park Lands in Marin, San Francisco, and San Mateo Counties

FACILITY REHABILITATION

Fort Barry / Fort Cronkhite: visitor access improvements

Fort Funston: visitor facilities improvements

Fort Miley: improve visitor access and facilities*

Lower Redwood Creek: improve trail connections*

Lower Redwood Creek: stewardship center and landscape improvements

Oakwood, Marin City Ridge, Gerbode: improve trail connections to local communities*

Oakwood, Marin City Ridge, Gerbode: visitor access improvements

Other Marin County projects

Other San Francisco projects*

Other San Mateo County projects*

Rancho Corral de Tierra: equestrian facilities improvements

Rancho Corral de Tierra: trails system development

Stinson Beach: replace restrooms, showers, parking

Stinson Beach: replace visitor contact facility

Tennessee Valley: improve main multiuse trail*

Tennessee Valley: stewardship center and environmental education

Tennessee Valley: trailhead improvements

Thornton Beach/Mussel Rock: improve trail and trailhead*

HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Marin Headlands seacoast fortifications: stabilization and rehabilitation*

China Beach: rehabilitate structures and parking

Fort Barry/Fort Cronkhite: rehabilitate and relocate visitor contact facility

Fort Mason: stabilize Pier 4*

Fort Miley: rehabilitate historic structures*

Ocean Beach: rehabilitate O'Shaughnessy seawall

Sheldance Nursery: rehabilitate for park operational uses and stewardship center*

Other San Mateo County historic preservation projects*

(continued)

NATURAL RESOURCE RESTORATION

Marin County sites, including Stinson Beach and Tennessee Valley

San Francisco: Ocean Beach, Fort Funston, and Lands End

San Mateo County sites

FACILITY REMOVAL

Lower Tennessee Valley: remove roads and nonhistoric structures

Capehart housing: remove units north of Bunker Road

NEW CONSTRUCTION

Fort Funston: new visitor contact facility (warming hut)*

Kirby Cove: new rustic overnight accommodations*

Rancho Corral de Tierra: new trailhead and parking

Rancho Corral de Tierra: new rustic overnight accommodations*

Rancho Corral de Tierra: new stewardship and education center*

TOTAL \$49,710,000

All costs in 2009 dollars

*These projects are desirable/lower priority, and while important to full implementation of the alternative, may be accomplished with nonfederal funds or in later phases.

One-Time Capital Costs for Alcatraz Island

HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Building 64 stabilization

Building 64 rehabilitation: offices, overnight accommodations, exhibits*

Guardhouse stabilization

Guardhouse rehabilitation*

Main Prison Building stabilization and rehabilitation

Model Industries Building stabilization

New Industries Building stabilization

New Industries Building rehabilitation*

Parade Ground rehabilitation*

Post Exchange stabilization

Power Plant stabilization

Quartermaster Warehouse stabilization and rehabilitation

Recreation Yard stabilization

TOTAL \$54,380,000

All costs in 2009 dollars

*These projects are desirable/lower priority, and while important to full implementation of the alternative, may be accomplished with nonfederal funds or in later phases.

One-Time Capital Costs for Muir Woods National Monument

REHABILITATION PROJECTS

Entrance area improvements

Entry drive and parking improvements

Trail system improvements

HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Administration-Concessions building: rehabilitate for interpretation and education*

Camp Hillwood: rehabilitation*

Former Superintendent's residence and adjacent structures: rehabilitation

NATURAL RESOURCE RESTORATION

Muir Woods Addition

Areas within the Monument boundary

FACILITY REMOVAL

Minor structures and infrastructure removal

Nonhistoric structures in the Muir Woods Addition

NEW CONSTRUCTION

Off-site welcome center

TOTAL \$17,790,000

All costs in 2009 dollars

*These projects are desirable/lower priority, and while important to full implementation of the alternative, may be accomplished with nonfederal funds or in later phases.



As the nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has responsibility for most of our nationally owned public lands and natural resources. This includes fostering sound use of our land and water resources; protecting our fish, wildlife, and biological diversity; preserving the environmental and cultural values of our national parks and historic places; and providing for the enjoyment of life through outdoor recreation. The department assesses our energy and mineral resources and works to ensure that their development is in the best interests of all our people by encouraging stewardship and citizen participation in their care. The department also has a major responsibility for American Indian reservation communities and for people who live in island territories under U.S. administration.

GOGA 641/128449; May 2015

U.S. Department of the Interior
National Park Service
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Fort Mason, William J. Whalen Building
San Francisco, California 94123

Official Business
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