

Building the Management Alternatives

2



INTRODUCTION

The development of the alternatives for this general management plan began with publication of newsletter 1 (spring 2006) and public open houses that asked people what they valued and enjoyed most about Golden Gate National Recreation Area and Muir Woods National Monument. Additionally, the public were asked for their concerns and suggestions for the future management of the park. The public response was analyzed and reported in newsletter 2 (spring 2007). During this time, the planning team met with park staff, park partners, and other stakeholders to collect information on existing conditions and related issues.

Throughout the scoping process, the planning team collected and analyzed information about the park's natural and cultural resources, and about visitor characteristics and use patterns. Guided by the public input and the results of the analysis, the planning team defined the issues that the new general management plan would address. Next, the planning team explored different ways to address the issues. This exploration formed a set of concepts that would be used to develop the alternatives for the general management plan. The planning team developed four management concepts, each exploring a different possible future for Golden Gate National Recreation Area and Muir Woods National Monument. These management concepts were presented to the public in newsletter 3 (fall 2007). The management concepts were as follows:

- Concept 1: "Connecting People with the Parks"
- Concept 2: "Preserving and Enjoying Coastal Ecosystems"
- Concept 3: "Focusing on National Treasures"
- Concept 4: "Collaborating Regionally"

The planning team used these management concepts to guide their development of the preliminary alternatives for the general management plan. Each preliminary alternative consists of two main components. First, there is a management concept that creates a general theme for the overall management of the park. Second, management zones are created that identify a range of potential desired conditions for natural and cultural resources, opportunities for visitor experiences, and general levels of development and visitor use and services, based on the purpose and significance of the park. These management zones are then applied to the park in different ways to reflect the concept of each alternative.

Eight management zones were developed for this general management plan. The desired conditions are different in each management zone and reflect the focus of that particular zone. Guided by each management concept, zones were applied to the park in different configurations, forming the basis of the preliminary alternatives. The preliminary alternative maps reflected the intent of each concept, and showed how the zones would be allocated.

As the preliminary alternatives were being developed, it became apparent to the planning team that the fourth management concept, "Collaborating Regionally," was a philosophy that applied to the overall management of the park and was applicable in all of the alternatives, rather than a specific park vision used to guide the development of one

alternative. Therefore, the park managers adopted the “Collaborating Regionally” concept as a *guiding principle* for managing the park and did not further develop a fourth preliminary alternative.

Once developed, the three preliminary alternatives were described in detail in newsletter 4 (spring 2008) and shared with the public. The planning team hosted local workshops to explain and test the alternatives with the public. Using the public comments, the planning team worked to strengthen the alternatives and identify the NPS preferred alternative. With the alternatives approved by park managers, the planning team began preparation of this draft general management plan / environmental impact statement.

This general management plan presents the draft alternatives with their zone maps and supporting narratives, including the National Park Service’s preferred alternative, for future management of Golden Gate National Recreation Area and Muir Woods National Monument. Also included is a description of current conditions, representing the management direction and trends that are based on the 1980 *General Management Plan* and its subsequent amendments. The description of the current conditions serves as a basis of comparison with the three alternatives and is referred to as the “No-action Alternative.” The other draft alternatives are referred to as “Action Alternatives.”

The next section presents the three management concepts that were used to guide the development of the alternatives for the general management plan. This is followed by an explanation of how the NPS preferred alternatives were selected. Then the reader is presented with detailed descriptions of the eight management zones.

CONCEPTS FOR FUTURE MANAGEMENT

The legislation that established the parks, the histories of the parks, and the issues and needs that were identified early in the planning process all helped to shape four general concepts for future management of the parks. While four concepts were developed, only three of them were carried forward to guide the development of distinct alternatives as the fourth applied to all alternatives. The following three concepts, then, formed the basis for developing potential management alternatives.

CONCEPT 1: CONNECTING PEOPLE WITH THE PARKS (EVOLVED INTO ALTERNATIVE 1)

The emphasis of this concept is to reach out and engage the community and other visitors in the enjoyment, understanding, and stewardship of the park’s resources and values. Park management would focus on ways to attract and welcome people, connect people with the 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 the park’s management 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 the people 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 and rehabilitation of cultural resources (structures, landscapes, and archeological sites) to support visitor enjoyment, understanding, and community connections.
- Work with interested groups and populations to 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.
- 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.

CONCEPT 2: PRESERVING AND ENJOYING COASTAL ECOSYSTEMS (EVOLVED INTO ALTERNATIVE 2)

The emphasis of this concept is to preserve, enhance, and promote dynamic and interconnected coastal ecosystems in which marine resources are valued and prominently featured. Recreational and educational opportunities would allow visitors to learn about and enjoy the ocean and bay environments, and gain a better understanding of the region's international significance and history. Facilities and other built infrastructure could be removed to reconnect fragmented habitats and achieve other ecosystem goals.

Rationale

The concept creates a vision for intentionally connecting resources and systems to form contiguous habitat from the ocean to the coastal hills. The more connected the water and land base, the better the ability for ecosystems to adjust and adapt, thus increasing their resiliency to urban pressures and climate change. This concept also responds to the public's strong interest in having more natural wild lands in close proximity to the urban communities of the San Francisco Bay Area.

Goals

Visitor Experience

- Connect visitors with resources and the park through expanded and diverse science and stewardship programs that are focused on preservation and restoration of coastal and marine resources and address the implications of climate change.
- Provide greater opportunities for visitors to explore wild areas and immerse themselves in nature.

- Manage low-impact visitor use that enhances the qualities of solitude, quiet, and naturalness in sensitive natural resource areas, and accommodate active recreational pursuits in other areas.
- Increase visitor understanding, awareness, and support for coastal resources through participation in stories and programs about human interaction with and dependency on natural resources.

Cultural Resources

- Incorporate the history and collections related to natural resources to raise awareness of America's ongoing efforts to conserve marine ecosystems.
- In park interpretation and education programs, emphasize sites and stories connected to coastal resources, including shipwrecks, archeological sites, agricultural lands and uses, coastal defense, and lighthouses, so visitors can connect with those resources.
- Maximize adaptive reuse and rehabilitation of cultural resources to support visitor enjoyment, understanding, and community connections.
- Work with interested groups and populations to 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

- Reconnect fragmented habitat within and adjacent to the park to strengthen the integrity and resiliency of the coastal ecosystem to respond to climate change and urban pressures.
- Optimize recovery of special status species and survival of wide-ranging wildlife.
- Restore natural processes and/or allow these processes to evolve unimpeded to the greatest degree feasible.
- Promote partnerships to help the park become a center for innovative coastal science, stewardship, and learning.

CONCEPT 3: FOCUSING ON NATIONAL TREASURES (EVOLVED INTO ALTERNATIVE 3)

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 the nationally significant resources and associated visitor experiences.

Rationale

The 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 the management of the park's resources, visitor experiences, 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 stories.
- Allow the park's distinctive resources and associated stories to shape recreational opportunities.
- Emphasize active public participation in stewardship programs at the showcased sites.
- Provide visitors with opportunities for understanding and enjoying national park experiences.

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 the significant resources and visitor experiences.
- Tie all the associated cultural resources, museum collections, and stories 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 the visitors in hands-on stewardship and exploration.

ACTIONS AND ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED BUT DISMISSED FROM FURTHER CONSIDERATION

During the planning process for this general management plan, five alternative concepts were developed:

- *Connecting People with the Parks,*
- *Preserving and Enjoying Coastal Ecosystems,*
- *Focusing on National Treasures,*
- *Mosaic of National Park Experiences,* and
- *Collaborating Regionally.*

A number of other concepts were developed in early brainstorming sessions: *Golden Gate National Recreation Area is a Crown Jewel, A Park for the Next Century, The Park as an Experiment/Living Laboratory, A Center of Hands-On Learning and Action, Healthy People/Healthy Parks, and Sustainability in Action.* Each of these concepts eventually evolved into ideas built into the remaining concepts, became guiding principles, or were recognized as NPS policy; therefore, they were not retained as individual alternative concepts.

As the planning team developed the five concepts into alternatives, two of the early concepts were dismissed from further consideration: *Mosaic of National Park Experiences* and *Collaborating Regionally.*

MOSAIC OF NATIONAL PARK EXPERIENCES

Mosaic of National Park Experiences envisioned Golden Gate National Recreation Area and Muir Woods as providing visitors with opportunities to explore different types of national parks within the park. Park areas would be designated to promote distinct types of national park settings and visitor experiences based on the primary natural and cultural resources and key interpretive themes. For example, one area of the park would be managed as a marine preserve, another park area managed as a national seashore, and one as a national historical park. Visitors would have the opportunity to explore the wide variety of national park experiences at one park. However, the planning team determined that this concept had more utility as a marketing strategy, rather than as a management concept. Parts of this concept are evident in *Focusing on National Treasures*, as it centers on the best that each area has to offer. Therefore, the *Mosaic* concept was dismissed from consideration and not brought forward to the public.

COLLABORATING REGIONALLY

The second dismissed concept, *Collaborating Regionally*, was shared with the public in newsletter 3 (fall 2007). The emphasis of the concept was to manage the park and monument as the core of extensive public lands, connecting all parks and open spaces and other resources as a seamless whole, regardless of land ownership and boundaries. Collaboration among land managers would integrate the NPS management of the park with that of their surrounding natural and cultural resources and visitor opportunities. The concept was eventually identified as an overall management philosophy applicable to all the alternatives. The *Collaborating Regionally* concept was therefore incorporated as a Guiding Principle for park management; integrated into all alternatives, and was not carried forward as a distinct land use alternative. Additionally, specific actions promoting collaboration among land managers are included within each alternative. A few of the many examples of these actions include trail connections to public lands and communities; multi-agency visitor centers and maintenance facilities, and collaborative ocean stewardship.

FULL RESTORATION OF BUILDINGS AND LANDSCAPES ON ALCATRAZ ISLAND

An early version of Alternative 3, “Focusing on National Treasures,” originally contained a very high level of restoration of historic resources on Alcatraz Island. Given NPS fiscal constraints, the high cost of fully restoring numerous buildings and features, and the potential for major impacts to breeding colonies of waterbirds, the planning team revised the proposal to be more financially achievable and sustainable. The result is a more focused approach, highlighting the buildings and landscape areas that contribute most to the visitor experience and national historic landmark status, while minimizing impacts to wildlife. Costs were reduced by two-thirds through this approach. The revised Alternative 3 calls for restoration of only select parts of buildings and emphasizes stabilization and rehabilitation for other historic resources.

SELECTION OF THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVES

The NPS preferred alternatives, one for planning area sites within Golden Gate National Recreation Area and another for Alcatraz Island and Muir Woods National Monument, were developed following an analysis of the advantages of each preliminary alternative, including consideration of public comments received in response to newsletter 4. The National Park Service uses a process called “Choosing by Advantages” (CBA) that allows the agency to evaluate the relative advantages of the alternatives, determine the importance of those advantages based on the park’s purpose and related public interest, and assess whether those advantages are worth their associated costs.

The topics that the planning team used to evaluate the relative advantages between the alternatives were as follows:

- Strengthen the integrity and resiliency of coastal ecosystems.
- Strengthen the integrity of resources that contribute to the National Register of Historic Places, National Historic Districts, and National Historic Landmarks.
- Support a diversity of recreational opportunities and national park experiences.
- Improve and promote public understanding of park resources, identity, and NPS values.
- Provide visitors with safe and enjoyable access and circulation to and within the park.

The evaluation of the advantages and costs of each alternative were initially identified by park managers during a weeklong workshop, with several follow-up meetings to further refine the NPS preferred alternative. The CBA process indicated the following:

Alternative 1 represents the greatest advantage for the park lands of Golden Gate National Recreation Area in Marin, San Francisco, and San Mateo counties.

Alternative 3 represents the greatest advantage for Alcatraz Island and Muir Woods National Monument.

The CBA evaluation was an important step in selecting and refining the NPS preferred alternatives. Critical changes to the NPS preferred alternatives were made to incorporate ideas from the other alternatives where they were consistent with the management concept and provided additional “advantages” to the park. The process of shaping the preferred alternatives continued well after the CBA workshop through additional public comment and consultation with the staff at the NPS Pacific West Regional Office.

MANAGEMENT ZONES

Management zones are the heart of the alternatives developed for the general management plan. Each zone defines a set of desired conditions for natural and cultural resources, visitor experiences, 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.

Table 1: Management Zones

DIVERSE OPPORTUNITIES ZONE

This management zone provides a range of natural and historic settings and facilities to welcome and support a wide variety of visitor opportunities appropriate in the park. Significant fundamental park resources would be preserved while different levels of visitor use would be accommodated. People would have a wide range of educational, interpretive, and recreational opportunities to enjoy and appreciate the park's resources.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Natural resources provide distinct visitor opportunities and experiences through a range of park settings. The natural elements of these park settings would help define and locate visitor opportunities, services, and facilities.

Geologic Resources

Natural geologic processes, including natural physical shoreline processes, would be left unimpeded except when required for safety and to protect human health. To the greatest extent possible, infrastructure would be designed or relocated to avoid paleontological resources and geologic resources and hazards. Impacted areas would be restored to the greatest extent possible. Geologic and paleontological features and resources would be protected from visitor use impacts.

Water Resources

Natural hydrologic systems and processes would be left unimpeded to the greatest extent possible. Impacted areas would be restored to the greatest extent possible. Hydrologic systems and processes would be reestablished while incorporating visitor use objectives. Potential impacts from visitor use, including erosion, surface and groundwater contamination, and alteration of natural processes, would be avoided or minimized.

PART 2: BUILDING THE MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVES

- Marine Environment* The natural physical processes of marine and coastal areas would be left unimpeded to the extent possible. Impacted areas would be restored to the greatest extent possible. Marine resources would be protected from visitor use impacts.
- Coastal Ecosystems: Vegetation* Native vegetation and vegetation communities (including aquatic vegetation) would be preserved to the greatest extent possible.
- Species that can withstand and support intense visitor use may be desired in developed areas or areas that receive high levels of trampling. Exotic invasive plants could be present, but would be suppressed and actively managed.
- Coastal Ecosystems: Aquatic and Terrestrial Wildlife* Native wildlife and wildlife habitat would be protected from visitor use impacts to the greatest extent possible and wildlife watching opportunities would be available. Exotic invasive animals would be managed to the extent feasible, with emphasis on species that have inordinate impacts on native communities or are associated with human health risks.
- Natural Sounds (Soundscapes) and Dark Night Skies (Lightscapes)* The natural soundscape would often be mixed with sounds from human activity, visitor use, and historically appropriate sounds. The soundscape would be affected by the developed landscape, and noise impacts on wildlife behavior and habitat could exist in areas. These impacts would be minimized as much as possible while providing for human uses and interpretation. During times of low visitation, including nighttime and off-peak times, the natural soundscape could predominate, with occasional noise-free intervals.
- Dark night skies and natural lightscapes would be preserved as much as possible while providing for visitor use and achieving historic preservation goals, such as re-creating historic lighting from the period of significance. Outdoor lighting would provide adequate illumination for visibility while minimizing impacts on nocturnal wildlife behavior to the extent possible.
- Threatened & Endangered (T&E) Species and their Habitat* T&E species and their habitats would be managed to support species requirements.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

Cultural resources would provide distinct visitor opportunities and experiences through a range of park settings. The cultural elements of these park settings would be the backdrop for interpretation, visitor use and activities, and other visitor services.

Historic Structures Based on their condition, national register significance, and suitability for recreational, visitor use/educational, or operational/administrative purposes, historic structures would be rehabilitated, stabilized, allowed to deteriorate naturally, or removed if they become unsafe. (See “Mitigative Measures” in part 7 for more information on the treatment of structures listed in or eligible for listing in the national register.)

Cultural Landscapes Cultural landscapes would be managed to preserve their physical attributes and their use when that use contributes to their historical significance. Elements may be adapted to accommodate visitor use or education or park and partner operations, while preserving those features that convey historical, cultural, or architectural values.

Ethnographic Resources Access for traditional activities would be preserved. The National Park Service would continue to recognize the past and present existence of peoples in the region and the traces of their use of resources as an important part of the cultural environment to be preserved and interpreted. The Park Service would consult with associated American Indian tribes to develop and accomplish the programs of the park in a way that respects the beliefs, traditions, and other cultural values of the tribes who have ancestral ties to the park lands.

Archeological Resources and Submerged Cultural Resources Archeological resources and submerged cultural resources would remain *in situ* and undisturbed, unless removal of artifacts or intervention into cultural material is justified by preservation treatment, protection, research, interpretation, or development requirements. These preserved resources would be kept in a stable condition to prevent degradation and loss of research values or *in situ* exhibit potential. Significant archeological and other scientific data threatened with loss from the effects of natural processes, human activities, preservation treatments, park operations, or development activities would be recovered, recorded, or otherwise preserved.

Park Collections Park collections (archeological artifacts, archival materials, natural history collections, and historical artifacts) would be documented, cataloged, and protected to ensure long-term preservation according to NPS standards and guidelines. Collections would be made available for research, exhibits, and interpretive programs in order to inform and

engage the public in ongoing stewardship.

VISITOR EXPERIENCE

People could participate in a range of recreational, interpretive, and educational opportunities supported by a variety of visitor services.

Types of Activities The following recreational activities could occur in this zone:

beach activities such as informal beach sports, walking, swimming, picnicking, and surf fishing

marine activities such as fishing, boating, crabbing, kayaking, surfing, and sightseeing

land-related activities such as developed camping, overnight lodging, picnicking, biking, hiking, walking, running, horseback riding, hang gliding, sightseeing, and bird and wildlife viewing

other kinds of activities: exploring historic sites and structures, participating in interpretive programs and participating in stewardship programs, nature study, photography, and artistic endeavors

In addition, special and organized events such as family events, community celebrations, and foot races could be allowed when appropriate, but measures would be taken to mitigate impacts to resources and other visitors during these events.

Interpretation/ Education/ Orientation Visitors would gain an understanding about the importance of the park's natural (including marine), scenic, and historic resources and the potential threats to those resources. Further, visitors would have diverse recreational and educational opportunities near the urban area.

A high level of visitor orientation and interpretive services would be available in this zone.

Communication of interpretive themes would occur through many interpretive methods.

Scenic Views Outstanding views of natural, cultural, and scenic resources would be an integral part of the visitor experience of this zone.

Natural Sounds (Soundscapes) and Dark Night Skies (Lightscapes) Natural sounds would be audible and would enhance the visitor experience in this zone. The natural soundscape would often be mixed with sounds from human activity and visitor use. In some areas, the soundscape would be affected by development. During times of low visitation, including nighttime and off-peak times, the natural soundscape could predominate, with occasional noise-free intervals.

Dark night skies and natural lightscapes would enhance the visitor experience in this zone. Outdoor lighting would provide appropriate illumination for safety and visitor expectation while minimizing light pollution.

Skills, Risk, Time Required Challenge, risk, and testing of outdoor skills would be generally unimportant to most visitors in this zone. Visitors of all levels of physical ability would enjoy this zone.

The time commitment needed to experience this zone would vary from a very short period of time to several hours, possibly including overnight stays.

Use Levels/ Density/ Encounters High levels of use in centralized activity nodes would be expected, leading to the likelihood of high rates of encounters among visitors. Groups of many sizes would be accommodated.

DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT

Development could include a diversity of facilities to welcome, orient, and support visitors.

Type/Character of Visitor Access Visitor access would be a dominant aspect of the zone, with a system of multiple transportation modes that are highly interconnected to allow for user-defined access to and within the zone.

Vehicular and nonvehicular access would be provided to and throughout the zone.

Types of Facilities The following types of facilities could be provided:

Interpretive: visitor centers/contact stations, amphitheaters, interpretive kiosks

Recreational: designated trails, designated activity areas, boardwalks, picnic facilities, boat docks, designated nonmotorized boat launch sites, fishing platforms, temporary boat tie-ups, horse stables, designated camping areas

Support: overnight lodging facilities, retail/rental/food outlets, large event gathering areas, restroom facilities, parking areas, transportation facilities (multimodal hubs, bike paths, roads)

Commercial Services and Nonprofit Programming

A variety of necessary and appropriate commercial services offerings that may be available include but are not limited to: equipment rentals, guides, food and beverage, recreational, equestrian, overnight accommodations, and retail.

A variety of nonprofit programming that may be available includes, but is not limited to environmental, educational, interpretive, community, and arts. Certain buildings may be leased for compatible uses.

SCENIC CORRIDOR ZONE

This management zone includes scenic trails, roads, and coastlines that provide for 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.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Visitor opportunities and park operations would be managed to maintain and restore natural resource integrity.

Opportunities that allow visitors to view high quality natural resources and their inherent scenic qualities would be provided.

Geologic Resources Natural geologic processes, including natural shoreline processes, would be left unimpeded except when human health and safety are threatened. To the greatest extent possible, infrastructure would be designed or relocated to avoid paleontological resources and geologic resources and hazards. Impacted areas would be restored to the greatest extent possible. Geologic and paleontological features and resources would be protected from visitor use impacts.

Water Resources Natural hydrologic systems and processes would be left unimpeded to the greatest extent possible. Impacted areas would be restored to the greatest extent possible. Hydrologic systems and processes would be reestablished while incorporating visitor use objectives. Potential impacts from visitor use, including erosion, surface and groundwater contamination, and alteration of natural processes, would be avoided or minimized.

Marine Environment The natural physical processes of marine and coastal areas would be left unimpeded to the extent possible. Impacted areas would be restored to the greatest extent possible. Marine resources would be protected from visitor use impacts.

Coastal Ecosystems: Vegetation Native vegetation and vegetation communities (including aquatic vegetation) would be preserved to the greatest extent possible.

Vegetation—focused on sites lacking native habitat value—could be modified in this zone to accommodate and enhance scenic views. Intact native habitat loss would be mitigated through restoration actions and result in no net loss. Species that can withstand and support high levels of visitor use and trampling may be desired. Exotic invasive plants could be present, but would be suppressed and actively managed in the park.

Coastal Ecosystems: Aquatic and Terrestrial Wildlife Native wildlife and wildlife habitat would be protected from visitor use impacts to the greatest extent possible. Exotic invasive animals would be managed to the extent feasible, with emphasis on species that have inordinate impacts on native communities or are associated with human health risks in high use areas.

Natural Sounds (Soundscapes) and Dark Night Skies (Lightscapes) The natural soundscape would often be mixed with sounds from human activity and visitor use. The soundscape would be affected by the developed landscape, and noise could impact wildlife behavior and habitat in some areas. These impacts would be minimized as much as possible while providing for human uses. During times of low visitation, including nighttime and off-peak times, the natural soundscape could predominate, with occasional noise-free intervals.

Dark night skies and natural lightscapes would be preserved as much as possible while providing for visitor experience opportunities. Outdoor lighting would provide adequate illumination for visibility while minimizing impacts on nocturnal wildlife behavior as much as possible.

Threatened & Endangered (T&E) Species and their Habitat T&E species and their habitats would be managed to support species requirements.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

The scenic qualities of cultural resources or designated cultural landscapes would be managed to preserve their visual and historic characteristics.

Historic Structures Based on their condition, national register significance, and suitability for recreational, visitor use/educational, or operational/administrative purposes, historic structures would be rehabilitated, stabilized, allowed to deteriorate naturally, or removed if they become unsafe. (See "Mitigative Measures" in part 7 for more information on the treatment of structures listed in or eligible for listing in the national register.)

Cultural Landscapes Cultural landscapes would be managed to preserve their physical attributes and their use when that use contributes to their historical significance. Elements may be adapted to accommodate visitor use/education or park and partner administration while preserving those features that convey historical, cultural, or architectural values.

Ethnographic Resources Access for traditional activities would be preserved. The National Park Service would continue to recognize the past and present existence of peoples in the region and the

traces of their use of resources as an important part of the cultural environment to be preserved and interpreted. The Park Service would consult with associated American Indian tribes to develop and accomplish the programs of the park in a way that respects the beliefs, traditions, and other cultural values of the tribes who have ancestral ties to the park lands.

Archeological Resources and Submerged Cultural Resources Archeological resources and submerged cultural resources would remain *in situ* and undisturbed, unless removal of artifacts or intervention into cultural material is justified by preservation treatment, protection, research, interpretation, or development requirements. These resources would be preserved in a stable condition to prevent degradation and loss of research values or *in situ* exhibit potential. Significant archeological and other scientific data threatened with loss from the effects of natural processes, human activities, preservation treatments, park operations, or development activities would be recovered, recorded, or otherwise preserved.

Park Collections Park collections (prehistoric and historic objects, artifacts, works of art, archival material, and natural history specimens) would be acquired, accessioned, cataloged, preserved, protected, and made available for access and use according to NPS standards and guidelines.

VISITOR EXPERIENCE

Visitors would have the opportunity to tour through the scenic corridors with multiple opportunities to stop along the route for sightseeing, wildlife viewing, picnicking, or interpretive or educational information.

Types of Activities The following recreational activities could occur in this zone:

- beach activities such as informal beach sports, walking, swimming, picnicking, and surf fishing
- marine activities such as fishing, boating, crabbing, kayaking, surfing, and sightseeing
- Land-related activities such as developed camping, overnight lodging, picnicking, biking, hiking, walking, running, horseback riding, hang gliding, sightseeing, and bird and wildlife viewing
- other kinds of activities such as exploring historic sites and structures, participating in interpretive programs and participating in stewardship programs, nature study,

photography, and artistic endeavors

In addition, special and organized events such as family events and community celebrations may be allowed, but group sizes may be limited. Measures may be taken to mitigate impacts to resources and other visitors during these events.

Interpretation/ Education/ Orientation A high level of visitor orientation and interpretive services would be available in this zone. Communication of interpretive themes would occur through a broad array of interpretive methods.

Scenic Views Outstanding views of natural, cultural, and scenic resources would be an integral part of the visitor experience of this zone.

Natural Sounds (Soundscapes) and Dark Night Skies (Lightscapes) Natural sounds would be audible and would enhance the visitor experience in this zone. The natural soundscape would often be mixed with sounds from human activity and visitor use. During times of low visitation, including nighttime and off-peak times, the natural soundscape could predominate. In areas away from roads, there could be frequent and prolonged noise-free intervals.

Dark night skies and natural lightscapes would enhance the visitor experience in this zone. Outdoor lighting would provide minimal visibility, and light pollution would be minimized. Only essential lights would be installed, and they would be operational only when needed. Nocturnal lightscapes would be preserved and restored to the extent possible.

Skills, Risk, Time Required Opportunities for challenge, risk, and testing of outdoor skills would be available in this zone. Visitors of all levels of physical ability would be able to enjoy many of the areas within this zone. The time commitment needed to experience this zone would vary from a very short period to several hours, possibly including overnight stays.

Use Levels/ Density/ Encounters Moderate to high use levels would be expected along scenic corridors, leading to the likelihood of moderate to high rates of encounters between visitors, particularly at locations such as overlooks, day use areas, and waysides. Groups would be accommodated, but group sizes could be limited based on facility capacities and/or experiential objectives.

**DEVELOPMENT &
MANAGEMENT**

Development may include road and trail corridors and associated day use facilities that support and direct visitor use.

Type/Character of Visitor Access Visitor access would be the defining element of the experience in this zone and would be interconnected and designed to encourage use of multiple transportation modes.

Vehicular and nonvehicular access would be provided to and throughout the zone.

Types of Facilities The following types of facilities could be provided:

Interpretive: visitor contact stations, interpretive kiosks, small gathering places for interpretive programs

Recreational: designated trails, designated activity areas, boardwalks, picnic facilities, boat docks, designated nonmotorized boat launch sites, fishing platforms, temporary boat tie-ups, horse stables, and designated camping areas

Support: Campgrounds and rustic overnight accommodations, retail/rental/food outlets, restroom facilities, parking areas, and transportation facilities (multimodal hubs, bike paths, roads)

Commercial Services and Nonprofit Programming A variety of necessary and appropriate commercial services offerings that may be available include but are not limited to: equipment rentals, guides, food and beverage, recreational, equestrian, overnight accommodations, and retail.

A variety of nonprofit programming that may be available includes, but is not limited to environmental, educational, interpretive, community, and arts. Certain buildings may be leased for compatible uses.

EVOLVED CULTURAL LANDSCAPE ZONE

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.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Natural resource integrity would be maintained and restored while the area would provide for historic preservation, visitor activities, and park operations.

Natural resources are often an integral component of cultural landscapes and would be managed to highlight the cultural resources and their associated values and characteristics. Natural resource objectives would be pursued in collaboration with, and where they complement, cultural resource objectives.

Geologic Resources Natural geologic processes, including natural shoreline processes, would be left unimpeded except when action is required for safety and to protect human health and important cultural resources. Impacted areas would be restored to the greatest extent possible. Geologic and paleontological features and resources would be protected from visitor use impacts.

Water Resources Natural hydrologic systems and processes would be left unimpeded, unless some alteration was required to protect cultural resources. Impacted areas would be restored to the greatest extent possible. Hydrologic systems and processes would be reestablished while incorporating cultural resource and visitor use objectives. Potential impacts from visitor use, including erosion, surface and groundwater contamination, and alteration of natural processes, would be avoided or minimized.

Marine Environment The natural physical processes of marine and coastal areas would be left unimpeded to the extent possible. Impacted areas would be restored to the greatest extent possible. Marine resources would be protected from visitor use impacts.

Coastal Ecosystems: Vegetation Native vegetation and vegetation communities (including aquatic vegetation) would be preserved in collaboration with, and where they complement, cultural landscape objectives. Nonnative species (contributing) could be desired and maintained to provide vegetation communities and patterns that support cultural landscape values and/or

tolerate high levels of visitor use. These areas would be managed to minimize potential impacts to adjacent native vegetation. Exotic invasive plants that do not contribute to the cultural resource values, could be present, but would be suppressed and actively managed with the goal of eradication in the park.

Coastal Ecosystems: Aquatic and Terrestrial Wildlife

Native wildlife and wildlife habitat would be preserved to the greatest extent possible while the integrity of cultural landscapes would be maintained. Consequently, wildlife habitat may appear more “groomed” in this zone to meet cultural landscape preservation goals. Exotic invasive animals would be managed to the extent feasible, with emphasis on species that have inordinate impacts on native communities or public safety.

Natural Sounds (Soundscapes) and Dark Night Skies (Lightscapes)

The natural soundscape would often be mixed with sounds from human activity and visitor use. Noise impacts on wildlife behavior and habitat would be minimized as much as possible while providing for visitor use. During times of low visitation, including nighttime and off-peak times, the natural soundscape could predominate. In areas away from roads, there could be frequent and prolonged noise-free intervals.

Dark night skies and natural lightscapes would be preserved as much as possible while providing for visitor experience opportunities. Outdoor lighting would provide minimal visibility, and impacts to nocturnal wildlife behavior would be minimized to the greatest extent possible. Only essential lights would be installed, and they would be operational only when needed.

Threatened & Endangered (T&E) Species and their Habitat

T&E species and their habitats would be proactively managed to support species requirements. Listed species and their habitats would be restored where such action is compatible with cultural landscape objectives.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

Cultural resources would be preserved through adaptive reuse. Historic values and characteristics would be preserved for interpretation and enjoyment.

Historic Structures

Historic structures would undergo preservation treatments ranging from stabilization to restoration based on whether they are fundamental park resources, their national register significance, condition, and interpretive value. (See “Mitigative Measures” in part 7 for more information on the treatment of structures listed in or eligible for listing in the national register.)

Cultural Landscapes Cultural landscapes would be rehabilitated for appropriate contemporary use of the landscape while preserving those features that convey historical, cultural, or architectural values.

Ethnographic Resources Access for traditional activities would be preserved. The National Park Service would continue to recognize the past and present existence of peoples in the region and the traces of their use of resources as an important part of the cultural environment to be preserved and interpreted. The Park Service would consult with associated American Indian tribes to develop and accomplish the programs of the park in a way that respects the beliefs, traditions, and other cultural values of the tribes who have ancestral ties to the park lands.

Archeological Resources and Submerged Cultural Resources Archeological resources and submerged cultural resources would remain *in situ* and undisturbed, unless removal of artifacts or intervention into cultural material is justified by preservation treatment, protection, research, interpretation, or development requirements. These resources would be preserved in a stable condition to prevent degradation and loss of research values or *in situ* exhibit potential. Significant archeological and other scientific data threatened with loss from the effects of natural processes, human activities, preservation treatments, park operations, or development activities would be recovered, recorded, or otherwise preserved.

Park Collections Park collections (archeological artifacts, archival materials, natural history collections and historical artifacts) would be documented, cataloged, and protected to ensure long-term preservation according to NPS standards and guidelines. Collections would be used to inform interpretive programs and incorporated into exhibits when feasible.

VISITOR EXPERIENCE

Visitors would have the opportunity to explore designated portions of historic landscapes and structures while participating in contemporary activities.

Types of Activities The following recreational activities could occur in this zone:

- beach activities such as informal beach sports, walking, swimming, picnicking, and surf fishing
- marine activities such as fishing, boating, crabbing, kayaking, surfing, and sightseeing

land-related activities such as overnight lodging, picnicking, biking, hiking, walking, running, horseback riding, sightseeing, and bird and wildlife viewing

other kinds of activities, such as exploring historic sites and structures, participating in interpretive programs and participating in stewardship programs, nature study, photography, and artistic endeavors

In addition, special and organized events such as family events and community celebrations may be allowed, but group sizes may be limited. Measures may be taken to mitigate impacts on resources and other visitors during these events.

Interpretation/ Education/ Orientation

Visitors would gain an understanding and appreciation of the importance of the park's historic and cultural resources and the strategy of adaptive reuse to sustain the preservation of historic structures.

A moderate to high level of visitor orientation and interpretive services would be available in this zone.

Communication of interpretive themes would occur through a broad array of interpretive methods.

Scenic Views

Outstanding views of natural, cultural, and scenic resources may be available and would enhance the visitor experience in this zone.

*Natural Sounds
(Soundscapes)*

*and
Dark Night Skies (Lightscapes)*

Natural sounds would be audible and would enhance the visitor experience in this zone. The natural soundscape would often be mixed with sounds from human activity and visitor use. The soundscape would be affected by the developed landscape. During times of low visitation, including nighttime and off-peak times, the natural soundscape could predominate, with occasional noise-free intervals.

Dark night skies and natural lightscapes would enhance the visitor experience in this zone. Outdoor lighting would provide appropriate illumination for safety and cultural resource interpretation while minimizing light pollution. Nocturnal lightscapes would be preserved and restored to the extent possible.

Skills, Risk, Time Required

Challenge, risk, and testing of outdoor skills would be generally unimportant to most visitors in this zone. Visitors of all levels of physical ability would be able to enjoy most areas of this zone. The time commitment needed to experience this zone would vary

from a very short period to a few hours, possibly including overnight stays.

Use Levels/ Density/ Encounters Moderate use levels would be expected around focused activity nodes, leading to the likelihood of moderate numbers of encounters with other visitors. Group sizes could be limited based on facility capacities and/or experiential objectives.

DEVELOPMENT & MANAGEMENT

Development may include a blend of historic and compatible modern structures to support visitor use and services.

Type/Character of Visitor Access Visitor access would blend with the historic setting and consist of multiple transportation modes that are interconnected to provide user-defined access. The transportation system would connect points of interest to facilitate storytelling related to cultural resources.

Vehicular and nonvehicular access would be provided to and throughout the zone.

Types of Facilities The following types of facilities could be provided:

- interpretive facilities such as visitor contact stations, interpretive kiosks, and small gathering places for interpretive programs
- recreational facilities such as designated trails, designated activity areas, picnic facilities, boat docks, designated nonmotorized boat launch sites, temporary boat tie-ups
- support facilities such as overnight lodging facilities, retail/rental/food outlets, restroom facilities, parking areas, transportation facilities (multimodal hubs, bike paths, roads)

Commercial Services and Nonprofit Programming A variety of necessary and appropriate commercial services offerings that may be available include but are not limited to: equipment rentals, guides, food and beverage, recreational, equestrian, overnight accommodations, and retail.

A variety of nonprofit programming that may be available include but are not limited to environmental, educational, interpretive, community, and arts. Certain buildings may be leased for compatible uses.

HISTORIC IMMERSION ZONE

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.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Natural resource integrity would be maintained and restored as compatible with historic preservation objectives.

The natural elements of cultural resources and designated cultural landscapes would be managed to highlight the cultural resources and their associated values and characteristics. Natural resource objectives would be pursued in collaboration with, and where they complement, cultural resource objectives.

Geologic Resources Natural geologic processes, including natural shoreline processes, would be left unimpeded except when action is required for safety and to protect human health and important cultural resources. Impacted areas would be restored to the greatest extent possible. Geologic and paleontological features and resources would be protected from visitor use impacts.

Water Resources Natural hydrologic systems and processes would be left unimpeded, unless some alteration was required to protect cultural resources. Impacted areas would be restored to the greatest extent possible. Hydrologic systems and processes would be reestablished while incorporating cultural resource and visitor use objectives. Potential impacts from visitor use, including erosion, surface and groundwater contamination, and alteration of natural processes, would be avoided or minimized.

Marine Environment The natural physical processes of marine and coastal areas would be left unimpeded to the extent possible. Impacted areas would be restored to the greatest extent possible. Marine resources would be protected from visitor use impacts.

Coastal Ecosystems: Vegetation Native vegetation and vegetation communities (including aquatic vegetation) would be preserved to the greatest extent possible, while cultural resource values would be supported. Nonnative species could be maintained to provide vegetation communities

and patterns that contribute to cultural resource values and/or tolerate to high levels of visitor use. These areas would be managed to minimize potential impacts to adjacent native vegetation. Exotic invasive plants that do not contribute to cultural resource values could be present, but would be suppressed and actively managed with the goal of eradication in the park.

Coastal Ecosystems: Aquatic and Terrestrial Wildlife

Native wildlife and wildlife habitat would be preserved to the greatest extent possible while cultural resource values would be maintained. Consequently, wildlife habitat may appear more “groomed” in this zone to meet cultural resource goals. Exotic invasive animals would be managed to the extent feasible, with emphasis on species that have inordinate impacts on native communities or are associated with human health risks.

Natural Sounds (Soundscapes) and Dark Night Skies (Lightscapes)

The natural soundscape would often be mixed with sounds from human activity, visitor use, and development. Noise impacts to wildlife behavior and habitat could exist in some areas. These impacts would be minimized as much as possible while providing for human uses and interpretation. During times of low visitation, including nighttime and off-peak times, the natural soundscape could predominate, with occasional noise-free intervals.

Dark night skies and natural lightscapes would be preserved as much as possible while providing for visitor experience opportunities. Outdoor lighting would provide adequate illumination for visibility and visitor expectation while minimizing impacts on nocturnal wildlife behavior as much as possible.

Threatened & Endangered (T&E) Species and their Habitat

T&E species and their habitats would be managed to support species requirements.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

Cultural sites, structures, and landscapes would be preserved, rehabilitated, or restored to reflect their period of significance, allowing people to experience these resources first-hand and learn about their associated stories and events.

Historic Structures

Historic structures would be rehabilitated or restored to their period of significance based on whether they are fundamental park resources and their national register significance, condition, and interpretive value. (See “Mitigative Measures” in part 7 for more information on the treatment of structures listed in or eligible for listing in the national register.)

Cultural Landscapes Cultural landscapes would be rehabilitated or restored for appropriate contemporary use of the landscape while preserving those features that convey historical, cultural, or architectural values.

Ethnographic Resources Access for traditional activities would be preserved. The National Park Service would continue to recognize the past and present existence of peoples in the region and the traces of their use of resources as an important part of the cultural environment to be preserved and interpreted. The Park Service would consult with associated American Indian tribes to develop and accomplish the programs of the park in a way that respects the beliefs, traditions, and other cultural values of the tribes who have ancestral ties to the park lands.

Archeological Resources and Submerged Cultural Resources Archeological resources and submerged cultural resources would remain *in situ* and undisturbed, unless removal of artifacts or intervention into cultural material is justified by preservation treatment, protection, research, interpretation, or development requirements. These resources would be preserved in a stable condition to prevent degradation and loss of research values or *in situ* exhibit potential. Important archeological and other scientific data threatened with loss from the effects of natural processes, human activities, preservation treatments, park operations, or development activities would be recovered, recorded, or otherwise preserved.

Park Collections Park collections (archeological artifacts, archival materials, natural history collections and historical artifacts) would be documented, cataloged and protected to ensure long-term preservation according to NPS standards and guidelines. Collections would be used to inform historically furnished spaces and incorporated into exhibits when feasible.

VISITOR EXPERIENCE

Visitors would have the opportunity to be immersed in a historic setting. Visitors could experience the sights, sounds, and activities that are evocative of the site's period of significance.

Types of Activities The following recreational activities could occur in this zone:
beach activities such as guided or self-guided interpretive walks, tours, or participation in historic interpretive programs

marine activities such as guided or self-guided boat/kayaking trips or tours relevant to historic interpretive programs

land-related activities such as guided and self-guided walks, hikes, tours, experiential learning (may include overnight stays), or historic study

other kinds of activities such as exploring historic sites and structures, participating in interpretive programs and participating in stewardship programs, photography, and artistic endeavors

In addition, special and organized events such as family events and community celebrations may be allowed, but group sizes may be limited. Measures may be taken to mitigate impacts on resources and other visitors during these events.

Interpretation/ Education/ Orientation Through immersion in the cultural setting, visitors would gain an understanding of the importance of the park's historic and cultural resources and the long-standing physical and spiritual connection of people to these lands.

A high level of visitor orientation and interpretive services would be available in this zone.

Communication of interpretive themes would occur through a broad array of interpretive methods.

Scenic Views Outstanding views of cultural resources would be an integral part of the visitor experience of this zone.

Natural Sounds (Soundscapes) and Dark Night Skies (Lightscapes) Natural sounds would be audible and would enhance the visitor experience in this zone. Historically appropriate sounds would also enhance the experience of this zone. The soundscape would be affected by the developed landscape. During times of low visitation, including nighttime and off-peak times, the natural soundscape could predominate, with occasional noise-free intervals.

Dark night skies and natural lightscapes would enhance the visitor experience in this zone. Outdoor lighting would provide appropriate illumination for safety and cultural resource interpretation while minimizing light pollution. Nocturnal lightscapes would be preserved and restored to the extent possible while achieving historic preservation goals, such as re-creating lighting from the period of significance.

Skills, Risk, Time Required Challenge, risk, and testing of outdoor skills would be generally unimportant to most visitors in this zone. Visitors of all levels of physical ability would be able to enjoy most areas within this zone. The time commitment needed to experience this zone would typically be an hour or more, possibly including overnight stays to provide experiential learning.

Use Levels/ Density/ Encounters Moderate use levels would be expected around focused activity nodes, leading to the likelihood of moderate numbers of encounters between visitors. Group sizes could be limited based on facility capacities and/or experiential objectives.

DEVELOPMENT & MANAGEMENT

Development would include sensitive rehabilitation or restoration of historic resources and may include nonhistoric visitor facilities if they can be blended into the historic fabric of the site.

Type/Character of Visitor Access Visitor access would be a dominant aspect of the zone, with a system of multiple transportation modes that are highly interconnected to allow for user-defined access to and within the zone.

Vehicular and nonvehicular access would be provided to and throughout the zone.

Types of Facilities The following types of facilities could be provided:

- interpretive facilities such as interpretive kiosks, and small gathering places for interpretive programs
- recreational facilities such as designated trails, picnic tables, boat docks/designated boat put-ins, and temporary boat tie-ups
- support facilities such as restroom facilities, parking areas, and transportation facilities (multimodal hubs, bike paths, roads)

Commercial Services and Nonprofit Programming Necessary and appropriate commercial services offerings that may be available include: limited food/beverage/retail, equipment rentals, guides, recreational, and equestrian.

Nonprofit programming could be focused in the areas of environmental, educational, and interpretive. Certain buildings may be leased for compatible uses.

INTERPRETIVE CORRIDOR ZONE

(This management zone is applied only to alternatives for Muir Woods National Monument.)

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.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Natural resource integrity would be maintained and restored while providing for visitor opportunities and park operations.

Geologic Resources Natural geologic processes would be left unimpeded except when action is required for safety and to protect human health. To the greatest extent possible, infrastructure would be designed or relocated to avoid paleontological resources and geologic resources and hazards. Impacted areas would be restored to the greatest extent possible. Geologic and paleontological features and resources would be protected from visitor use impacts.

Water Resources Natural hydrologic systems and processes would be left unimpeded to the extent feasible, unless some alteration was required to protect cultural resources and/or accommodate important visitor use objectives. Impacted areas would be restored to the greatest extent possible. Hydrologic systems and processes would be reestablished while incorporating cultural resource and visitor use objectives. Potential impacts from visitor use, including erosion, surface and groundwater contamination, and alteration of natural processes, would be avoided or minimized.

Marine Environment Not Applicable

Coastal Ecosystems: Vegetation Native vegetation and vegetation communities (including aquatic vegetation) would be preserved to the greatest extent possible with the goal of conserving native biodiversity. Exotic invasive plants could be present, but would be contained and actively managed with the goal of eradication in the monument.

Coastal Ecosystems: Aquatic and Terrestrial Wildlife Native wildlife and wildlife habitat would be protected from visitor use impacts to the greatest extent possible. Exotic invasive animals would be managed to the extent feasible, with emphasis on species that have inordinate impacts on native communities or public health.

- Natural Sounds (Soundscapes) and Dark Night Skies (Lightscapes)* The natural soundscape would often be mixed with sounds from human activity and visitor use. Noise impacts on wildlife behavior and habitat would be minimized to the greatest extent possible while providing for visitor use. During times of low visitation, including nighttime and off-peak times, the natural soundscape would predominate. In areas away from roads there could be frequent and prolonged noise-free intervals.
- Dark night skies and natural lightscapes would be preserved and restored to maintain and improve conditions for nocturnal wildlife behavior. Only essential lights would be installed, and they would be operational only when needed. Outdoor lighting would provide minimal visibility, and light impacts on the ecological system would be minimized to the greatest extent possible.
- Threatened & Endangered (T&E) Species and their Habitat* T&E species and their habitats would be managed to support species requirements.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

Cultural resources would be preserved by managing for adaptive reuse. Historic values and characteristics would be preserved for interpretation and enjoyment.

- Historic Structures* Based on their condition, national register significance, and suitability for recreational, visitor use/educational, or operational/administrative purposes, historic structures would be rehabilitated, stabilized, allowed to deteriorate naturally, or removed if they become unsafe. (See "Mitigative Measures" in part 7 for more information on the treatment of structures listed in or eligible for listing in the national register.)
- Cultural Landscapes* Cultural landscapes would be rehabilitated in collaboration with, and where they complement, natural resource objectives to preserve their significant features.
- Ethnographic Resources* Access for traditional activities would be preserved. The National Park Service would continue to recognize the past and present existence of peoples in the region and the traces of their use of resources as an important part of the cultural environment to be preserved and interpreted. The Park Service would consult with associated American Indian tribes to develop and accomplish the programs of the park in a way that respects the beliefs, traditions, and other cultural values of the tribes who have ancestral ties to these lands.

Archeological Resources and Submerged Cultural Resources Archeological resources and submerged cultural resources would remain *in situ* and undisturbed, unless removal of artifacts or intervention into cultural material is justified by preservation treatment, protection, research, interpretation, or development requirements. These resources would be preserved in a stable condition to prevent degradation and loss of research values or *in situ* exhibit potential. Important archeological and other scientific data threatened with loss from the effects of natural processes, human activities, preservation treatments, park operations, and development activities would be recovered, recorded, or otherwise preserved.

Park Collections Park collections (archeological artifacts, archival materials, natural history collections and historical artifacts) would be documented, cataloged and protected to ensure long-term preservation according to NPS standards and guidelines. Collections would be used in interpretive programs to help visitors understand the primeval forest and early 20th century conservation history.

VISITOR EXPERIENCE

Visitors would have the opportunity to be immersed in a natural environment (which could include historic resources) and participate in a variety of interpretive and educational opportunities to gain an in-depth understanding of these resources. Opportunities to experience natural sounds and closeness to nature would be important aspects of a visit to this area. Visitor use would be controlled to ensure that activities and their intensities are compatible with protecting resource integrity.

Types of Activities Recreational activities could include walking, hiking, sightseeing, and wildlife viewing; programs and special events could include environmental education, stewardship, history, and science.

Interpretation/ Education/ Orientation Through the opportunity to experience the natural and cultural resources of the area, visitors would gain an understanding and appreciation of the significance of the park's natural and cultural resources and the potential threats to those resources.

A moderate to high level of interpretive and education services would be available in this zone.

Communication of interpretive themes would occur through a broad array of interpretive methods.

The use of contained fires limited to interpretive and educational purposes could be

permitted by the Superintendent.

Scenic Views Outstanding views of natural, cultural, and scenic resources may be available if unobstructed views occur naturally. If available, views would enhance the visitor experience in this zone.

Natural Sounds (Soundscapes) and Dark Night Skies (Lightscapes) Natural sounds would be audible and would enhance the visitor experience in this zone. The natural soundscape would often be mixed with sounds from human activity and visitor use. During times of low visitation, including nighttime and off-peak times, the natural soundscape could predominate. In areas away from roads there could be frequent and prolonged noise-free intervals.

Dark night skies and natural lightscapes would enhance the visitor experience in this zone. Outdoor lighting would provide minimal visibility, and light pollution would be minimized. Only essential lights would be installed, and they would be operational only when needed. Nocturnal lightscapes would be preserved and restored to the extent possible.

Skills, Risk, Time Required Challenge, risk, and testing of outdoor skills would be generally unimportant to most visitors in this zone. Visitors of all levels of physical ability would be able to enjoy many of the areas within this zone. The time commitment needed to experience this zone would vary from a short period of time to several hours.

Use Levels/ Density/ Encounters Moderate to high use levels would be expected along interpretive corridors, leading to the likelihood of moderate to high rates of encounters between visitors. Groups would be accommodated, but group sizes could be limited based on facility capacities and/or experiential objectives.

DEVELOPMENT & MANAGEMENT

Development would be minimal and would be aimed at facilities that provide access, public safety, resource protection, and interpretation/education (e.g., trails, restrooms, boardwalks, fencing, interpretive gathering areas).

Type/Character of Visitor Access Access opportunities would be subordinate to the natural setting and may be highly managed (i.e., restrictions on access) to protect resources and desired visitor experiences, as necessary.

Only NPS administrative and emergency vehicular access would be permitted; nonvehicular access would be the primary mode of transportation throughout the zone.

Types of Facilities The following types of facilities could be provided:

interpretive facilities such as trailhead kiosks, small gathering places for interpretive/education programs, and waysides

recreational facilities such as designated trails, and boardwalks

support facilities such as trailhead restroom facilities, and limited parking areas

Commercial Services and Nonprofit Programming Commercial services would be minimal. Nonprofit programming in the area of education and interpretation may be available.

NATURAL ZONE

This management zone would retain the natural, wild, and dynamic characteristics and ecological functions. The 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. External threats to resources would be aggressively addressed. Modest facilities that support management and visitor use within this zone, such as a trailhead, could be placed on the periphery of the zone.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Natural resource integrity would be maintained by preserving and restoring natural resources and their processes, systems, and values.

Rare and exceptional natural resources, processes, systems, and values would be preserved and enhanced.

Natural functions and processes would be reestablished in human-disturbed areas of the park to improve and maintain the resource integrity.

Geologic Resources Natural geologic processes, including natural shoreline processes, would be left unimpeded except when action is required for safety and to protect human health. Impacted areas would be restored to the greatest extent possible. Unique geologic features would be preserved, and paleontological resources would be undisturbed.

Water Resources Natural hydrologic systems and processes would be left unimpeded. Impacted areas would be restored to the greatest extent possible. Dynamic, sustainable, hydrologic systems and processes that support the diverse native life unique to the region would be reestablished.

Marine Environment The natural physical processes of marine and coastal areas would be left unimpeded to the extent possible. Impacted areas would be restored to the greatest extent possible. Protection of marine areas that support the conservation of native species and biodiversity would be maximized.

Coastal Ecosystems: Vegetation Native vegetation and vegetation communities (including aquatic vegetation) would be preserved to the greatest extent possible with the goal of conserving native biodiversity. Exotic invasive plants could be present, but would be contained and actively managed

with the goal of eradication in the park.

Coastal Ecosystems: Aquatic and Terrestrial Wildlife Native wildlife communities and ecosystem processes would be preserved and restored to the greatest extent possible. Exotic invasive animals would be managed with the goal of eradication in the park.

Natural Sounds (Soundscapes) and Dark Night Skies (Lightscapes) The natural soundscape would be intact in this zone, and noise impacts on wildlife behavior and habitat would be minimal. Natural sounds would occasionally be mixed with sounds from human activity and visitor use.

Dark night skies and natural lightscapes would be preserved and restored to maintain and improve conditions for nocturnal wildlife behavior. Only essential lights would be installed, and they would be operational only when needed. Outdoor lighting would provide minimal visibility, and light impacts on the ecological system would be minimized to the greatest extent possible.

Threatened & Endangered (T&E) Species and their Habitat T&E species and their habitats would be proactively managed to support species requirements, including recovery actions. Natural habitat conditions and processes would be reestablished.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

Cultural resource objectives would be pursued in collaboration with, and where they complement, natural resource objectives. These cultural resources could be stabilized and preserved to maintain their integrity.

Historic Structures Based on their condition, national register significance, safety considerations, and suitability as elements of the visitor experience, historic structures would be stabilized, become “discovery sites” that are allowed to deteriorate naturally, or be removed. (See “Mitigative Measures” in part 7 for more information on the treatment of structures listed in or eligible for listing in the national register.)

Cultural Landscapes Cultural landscapes would be allowed to gradually revert to a more natural state, except where important landscape resources can be preserved without compromising natural resource values.

Ethnographic Resources Access for traditional activities would be preserved. The National Park Service would continue to recognize the past and present existence of peoples in the region and the traces of their use of resources as an important part of the cultural environment to be preserved and interpreted. The Park Service would consult with associated American Indian tribes to develop and accomplish the programs of the park in a way that respects the beliefs, traditions, and other cultural values of the tribes who have ancestral ties to the park lands.

Archeological Resources and Submerged Cultural Resources Archeological resources and submerged cultural resources would remain *in situ* and undisturbed, unless removal of artifacts or intervention into cultural material is justified by preservation treatment, protection, research, interpretation, or development requirements. These resources would be preserved in a stable condition to prevent degradation and loss of research values or *in situ* exhibit potential. Important archeological and other scientific data threatened with loss from the effects of natural processes, human activities, preservation treatments, park operations, and development activities would be recovered, recorded, or otherwise preserved.

Park collections Park collections (archeological artifacts, archival materials, natural history collections and historical artifacts) would be documented, cataloged, and protected to ensure long-term preservation according to NPS standards and guidelines. Knowledge of natural history and archeology would be expanded by documentation, and collected when appropriate, to monitor changes over time.

VISITOR EXPERIENCE

Visitors would have the opportunity to be immersed in a natural environment and could seek areas where they could experience natural sounds, tranquility, closeness to nature, and a sense of remoteness and self-reliance. Visitor use would be controlled to ensure that activities and their intensities are compatible with protecting resource integrity.

Types of Activities The following recreational activities could occur in this zone:

- beach activities such as walking, swimming, and surf fishing
- marine activities such as fishing, crabbing, kayaking, surfing, and sightseeing
- land-related activities such as primitive camping, hiking, walking, biking, horseback riding, sightseeing, and bird and wildlife viewing

other kinds of activities such as exploring historic sites and structures, nature study, photography, artistic endeavors, and participating in stewardship programs

In addition, a limited number of special and organized events (*e.g.*, running events on established trails) could be permitted, but events would be highly regulated and monitored to mitigate impacts to resources and other visitors.

Interpretation/ Education/ Orientation Through opportunities to experience a wild setting and explore natural areas, visitors would gain an understanding and appreciation of the significance of the park's natural resources (including marine) and the potential threats to those resources.

A low to moderate level of guided/unguided interpretive services would be available in this zone.

Communication of interpretive themes would most often occur outside or at the entry to this zone through printed media and information kiosks; some guided programs would occur within the zone.

Scenic Views Outstanding views of natural, cultural, and scenic resources would be available if unobstructed views occur naturally. If available, views would enhance the visitor experience of this zone.

Natural Sounds (Soundscapes) and The natural soundscape would be intact in this zone and would be an important part of the visitor experience. Natural sounds would occasionally be mixed with sounds from human activity and visitor use. Noise disturbance of wildlife would be minimal in this zone.

Dark Night Skies (Lightscapes) Dark night skies and natural lightscapes would be integral to the visitor experience in this zone. Nocturnal lightscapes would be preserved and restored. Only essential lights would be installed, and they would be operational only when needed. Outdoor lighting would provide minimal visibility, and light pollution would be minimized. This zone would provide an opportunity to demonstrate environmental leadership and to educate the public about light pollution.

Skills, Risk, Time Required Challenge, risk, and testing of outdoor skills would be important to most visitors accessing this zone. There would be limited universal access opportunities. Time commitment to experience this area would typically be an hour or more.

Use Levels/ Density/ Encounters Low to moderate use levels would be expected in this zone, with moderate use levels often found at entry points or points of interest. A moderate rate of encounters with other visitors would be expected, but opportunities for solitude might be found in certain areas if a visitor seeks it. Group sizes could be limited to protect experiential and resource protection objectives.

DEVELOPMENT & MANAGEMENT Development would be minimal and would be aimed at facilities that provide access, public safety, and resource protection (e.g., trails, restrooms, and fencing). Nonhistoric structures could be removed and the site restored.

Type/Character of Visitor Access Access opportunities would be subordinate to the natural setting and may be highly managed (i.e., restrictions on access) to protect resources and desired visitor experiences, as necessary.

Trail access may be permitted to major destinations and access points.

Types of Facilities The following types of facilities could be provided:

- interpretive facilities such as trailhead kiosks
- recreational facilities such as designated trails, designated primitive campsites, rustic huts for overnight accommodations, and designated nonmotorized boat launch sites
- support facilities such as trailhead restroom facilities, and limited parking areas and access roads (focused on the periphery of the zone to the extent possible)

Commercial Services and Nonprofit Programming Commercial services would be minimal, such as guided activities. Nonprofit programming in the area of education and interpretation may be available.

SENSITIVE RESOURCES 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.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Rare and exceptional natural resources, processes, systems, and values would be preserved and enhanced.

Natural functions and processes would be reestablished in human-disturbed areas to improve and maintain the resource integrity.

Geologic Resources Natural geologic processes, including natural shoreline processes, would be left unimpeded except when action is required for safety and to protect human health. Impacted areas would be restored to the greatest extent possible. Unique geologic features would be preserved, and paleontological resources would be undisturbed.

Water Resources Natural hydrologic systems and processes would be left unimpeded. Impacted areas would be restored to the greatest extent possible, unless specifically managing for sensitive cultural resources. Dynamic, sustainable, hydrologic systems and processes that support the diverse native life unique to the region would be reestablished.

Marine Environment The natural physical processes of marine and coastal areas would be left unimpeded to the extent possible. Impacted areas would be restored to the greatest extent possible. Protection of marine areas that support the conservation of native species and biodiversity would be maximized, unless the marine areas are specifically managed for sensitive cultural resources.

Coastal Ecosystems: Vegetation Native vegetation and vegetation communities (including aquatic vegetation) would be preserved to the greatest extent possible with the goal of conserving native biodiversity. Exotic invasive plants could be present, but would be contained and actively managed with the goal of eradication in the park.

Coastal Ecosystems: Aquatic and Terrestrial Wildlife Native wildlife communities and ecosystem processes would be preserved and promoted to the greatest extent possible. Exotic invasive animals would be managed with the goal of eradication in the park.

Natural Sounds (Soundscapes) and Dark Night Skies (Lightscapes) The natural soundscape would be intact in this zone, and noise impact on wildlife behavior and habitat would be minimal. Natural sounds would occasionally be mixed with sounds from human activity and visitor use.

Dark Night Skies (Lightscapes) Dark night skies and natural lightscapes would be preserved and restored to maintain and improve conditions for nocturnal wildlife behavior. No permanent outdoor lighting would be allowed except as needed for emergency response, critical natural resource goals, or emergency communications.

Threatened & Endangered (T&E) Species and their Habitat T&E species and their habitats would be proactively managed to support species requirements, including recovery actions.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

Cultural resource objectives would be pursued in collaboration with, and where they complement, natural resource objectives. These cultural resources would be stabilized and preserved to maintain their integrity.

Historic Structures Based on their condition, national register significance, safety considerations, and suitability as elements of the primitive visitor experience, historic structures would be stabilized, become “discovery sites” that are allowed to deteriorate naturally, or be removed. (See “Mitigative Measures” in part 7 for more information on the treatment of structures listed in or eligible for listing in the national register.)

Cultural Landscapes Cultural landscapes would be allowed to gradually revert to a more natural state, except where important landscape resources can be preserved without compromising natural resource values.

Ethnographic Resources Access for traditional activities would be preserved. The National Park Service would continue to recognize the past and present existence of peoples in the region and the traces of their use of resources as an important part of the cultural environment to be preserved and interpreted. The Park Service would consult with associated American Indian tribes to develop and accomplish the programs of the park in a way that respects

the beliefs, traditions, and other cultural values of the tribes who have ancestral ties to the park lands.

Archeological Resources and Submerged Cultural Resources Archeological resources and submerged cultural resources would remain *in situ* and undisturbed, unless removal of artifacts or intervention into cultural material is justified by preservation treatment, protection, research, interpretation, or development requirements. These resources would be preserved in a stable condition to prevent degradation and loss of research values or *in situ* exhibit potential. Important archeological and other scientific data threatened with loss from the effects of natural processes, human activities, preservation treatments, park operations, or development activities would be recovered, recorded, or otherwise preserved.

Park Collections Park collections (archeological artifacts, archival materials, natural history collections and historical artifacts) would be documented, cataloged, and protected to ensure long-term preservation according to NPS standards and guidelines. Knowledge of natural history and archeology would be expanded by documentation, and collected when appropriate, to monitor changes over time.

VISITOR EXPERIENCE

Visitors would have the opportunity to experience and understand the fundamental resources in the zone. In particular, visitors would be able to understand and value the sensitive nature of these resources. Visitor use would be highly controlled and managed to ensure that activities and their intensities are compatible with protecting resource integrity.

Types of Activities The following recreational activities could occur in this zone:

beach activities such as walking and guided tours

marine activities such as kayaking, sightseeing, and guided tours

land-related activities such as hiking, walking, sightseeing, and bird and wildlife viewing, and guided tours

other kinds of activities such as guided trips through historic sites and structures and participation in stewardship programs

No special and organized events would be permitted.

Interpretation/ Education/ Orientation Visitors would gain an understanding and appreciation of the importance of the park's sensitive resources (including marine resources) and the potential threats to those resources.

A low to moderate level of guided/unguided interpretive services would be available in this zone.

Communication of interpretive themes would most often occur outside or at the entry to this zone through printed media and information kiosks, with some guided programs within the zone.

Scenic Views Outstanding views of natural, cultural, and scenic resources may be available if unobstructed views occur naturally.

Natural Sounds (Soundscapes) and Dark Night Skies (Lightscapes) The natural soundscape would be intact in this zone and would be an integral part of the visitor experience. Natural sounds would occasionally be mixed with sounds from human activity and visitor use. Noise disturbance of wildlife would be minimal in this zone. Dark night skies and natural lightscapes would be integral to the visitor experience in this zone. Nocturnal lightscapes would be preserved and restored. No permanent outdoor lighting would be allowed except as needed for emergency response, critical natural resource goals, or emergency communications.

Skills, Risk, Time Required Challenge, risk, and testing of outdoor skills may be important for visiting this zone. There would be very limited universal access opportunities. The time commitment needed to experience this zone would typically be a few hours.

Use Levels/ Density/ Encounters Low use levels would be expected in these areas. At entry points or points of interest, a moderate number of encounters between visitors would be expected. As visitors travel away from these areas, there would be fewer encounters with other visitors. Group sizes could be limited to promote resource protection objectives.

DEVELOPMENT & MANAGEMENT There would be minimal, if any, development except for some visitor facilities such as trails to allow for the concentration and direction of visitor use and the protection of resources.

Type/Character of Visitor Access Access opportunities would be highly managed (i.e., permitted access, area closures) to protect sensitive resources.

Vehicular access may be permitted to major access points, but nonvehicular access would be the primary mode of transportation throughout the zone.

Types of Facilities The following types of facilities could be provided:

interpretive facilities such as trailhead kiosks

recreational facilities such as designated trails

support facilities such as trailhead restroom facilities, and limited parking areas and access roads (focused on the periphery of the zone to the extent possible)

Commercial Services and Nonprofit Programming Commercial services and nonprofit programming would be minimal.

PARK OPERATIONS ZONE

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.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Natural resources would be managed to accommodate operational uses/activities and to facilitate sustainable maintenance operations.

The intrusion of maintenance and operations activities on the surrounding park setting would be minimized through planning, design, screening, and noise reduction efforts. No park development actions would be taken that would preclude future natural resource protection or restoration.

Geologic Resources Natural geologic processes, including natural shoreline processes, would be left unimpeded to the extent possible. Impacted areas would be restored to the greatest extent possible. Unique geologic features would be preserved, and paleontological resources would be protected while meeting operational needs. Avoidance and mitigation would be used to minimize impacts on geologic and paleontological resources. Where impacts are unavoidable, paleontological resources would, if necessary, be collected and properly cared for.

Water Resources Natural hydrologic systems and processes would be left unimpeded to the greatest extent possible. Previously impacted areas would be restored to the greatest extent possible. Potential impacts from park operations, including erosion, surface and groundwater contamination, and alteration of natural processes, would be avoided or minimized.

Marine Environment The natural physical processes of marine and coastal areas would be left unimpeded to the extent possible. Impacted areas would be restored to the greatest extent possible. Marine resources would be protected from impacts from park operations.

Coastal Ecosystems: Vegetation Native vegetation and vegetation communities (including aquatic vegetation) would be preserved to the greatest extent possible. Impacts from park operations on these areas and on adjacent vegetation would be minimized. Species that can withstand and support operational uses may be desired. Exotic invasive plants could be present, but would be

suppressed and actively managed in the park.

Coastal Ecosystems: Aquatic and Terrestrial Wildlife Native wildlife communities would be protected to the greatest extent possible. Exotic invasive animals would be managed to the extent feasible, with emphasis on species that have inordinate impacts on native communities or are associated with human health risks.

Natural Sounds (Soundscapes) and Dark Night Skies (Lightscapes) Natural sounds would be mixed with sounds from human activity, visitor use, and park operations. Noise impacts on wildlife behavior and habitat would be minimized where possible. During those times when activity associated with park operations is low, the natural soundscape could predominate, with occasional noise-free intervals.

Dark night skies would be preserved to the greatest extent possible while operational needs and uses are accommodated. Impacts on nocturnal wildlife behavior would be minimized as much as possible while providing adequate outdoor illumination.

Threatened & Endangered (T&E) Species and their Habitat T&E species and their habitats would be managed to support species requirements.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

Cultural resources could be preserved by adaptive reuse for the purposes of park operations and administration.

Historic Structures Most historic structures would be rehabilitated for adaptive reuse. Historic structures not suited for adaptive reuse would be stabilized or, depending on condition, be removed. (See “Mitigative Measures” in part 7 for more information on the treatment of structures listed in or eligible for listing in the national register.)

Cultural Landscapes Cultural landscapes would be rehabilitated for appropriate contemporary use of the landscape while preserving those features that convey historical, cultural, or architectural values.

Ethnographic Resources Access for traditional activities would be preserved. The National Park Service would continue to recognize the past and present existence of peoples in the region and the traces of their use of resources as an important part of the cultural environment to be preserved and interpreted. The Park Service would consult with associated American Indian tribes to develop and accomplish the programs of the park in a way that respects

the beliefs, traditions, and other cultural values of the tribes who have ancestral ties to the park lands.

Archeological Resources and Submerged Cultural Resources Archeological resources and submerged cultural resources would remain *in situ* and undisturbed, unless removal of artifacts or intervention into cultural material is justified by preservation treatment, protection, research, interpretation, or development requirements. These resources would be preserved in a stable condition to prevent degradation and loss of research values or *in situ* exhibit potential. Important archeological and other scientific data threatened with loss from the effects of natural processes, human activities, preservation treatments, park operations, and development activities would be recovered, recorded, or otherwise preserved.

Park Collections Park collections (archeological artifacts, archival materials, natural history collections and historical artifacts) would be documented, cataloged, and protected to ensure long-term preservation according to NPS standards and guidelines. Collections would be stored in centralized facilities and made available for research, exhibits, and interpretive programs to inform and engage the public in ongoing stewardship.

VISITOR EXPERIENCE

Visitors would have the opportunity for limited and controlled access to these areas for purposes of orientation, organized meetings, and access to park administration.

Types of Activities The following recreational activities could occur in this zone:
stewardship activities

Special organized events would be permitted where compatible with park operations. Group sizes could be limited.

Interpretation/ Education/ Orientation Visitors would gain an understanding of opportunities in the park. A minimal to moderate level of visitor orientation would be available depending on the site.

Communication of interpretive themes would not be emphasized in this zone.

Scenic Views Outstanding views of natural, cultural, and scenic resources may be available if unobstructed views occur naturally.

Natural Sounds (Soundscapes) and Dark Night Skies (Lightscapes) Natural sounds would be audible and would enhance the visitor experience in this zone. Natural sounds would be mixed with sounds from human activity, visitor use, and park operations. During those times when activity associated with park operations is low, the natural soundscape could predominate, with occasional noise-free intervals.

Dark night skies would be preserved to the greatest extent possible while operational needs and uses are accommodated. Outdoor lighting would provide adequate illumination for visibility while minimizing light pollution. This zone would provide an opportunity to demonstrate environmental leadership and educate the public about light pollution.

Skills, Risk, Time Required Challenge, risk, and testing of outdoor skills would be unimportant to visitors in this zone. Visitors of all levels of physical ability would have some access to this zone depending on the site. The time commitment needed to experience this zone would vary from a very short period of time to several hours.

Use Levels/ Density/ Encounters Low use levels would be expected because this area is intended for staff and visitors on official business. Frequency of encounters with other visitors would be low.

DEVELOPMENT & MANAGEMENT Development patterns would include a diversity of facilities to support visitor services and park administration.

Type/Character of Visitor Access Access opportunities would be limited and controlled for purposes of orientation, organized meetings, and access to park administration.

Vehicular and nonvehicular access would be provided to administrative facilities. Trails would not likely be found in the zone, but pedestrian sidewalks and crosswalks would be appropriate in this zone. Trailheads connecting with other parks and neighboring communities would be appropriate in this zone.

Types of Facilities The following types of facilities could be provided:

administrative offices, maintenance and storage facilities, parking, pedestrian walkways, waste water and utility management facilities, and other operational needs

Commercial Services and Nonprofit Programming No visitor support services or nonprofit programming would be expected in this zone.

