

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
Channel Islands National Park



Anacapa Island Dock Replacement Project

Open House
September 23, 2020

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

Project Team Members

- Ethan McKinley, Superintendent
- Sterling Holdorf, Facilities Manager
- Brian Frailey, Project Manager
- Consultant Team
 - Steve Robert, PE, Davido Consulting Group, Prime Consultant/Upland Engineering Lead
 - Dr. Joshua Burnam, Anchor QEA, Consultant Project Manager
 - Katie Chamberlin, Anchor QEA, Consultant Compliance and Permitting Lead
 - Randy Mason, PE, Anchor QEA, Consultant Marine Engineering Lead

Meeting Purpose

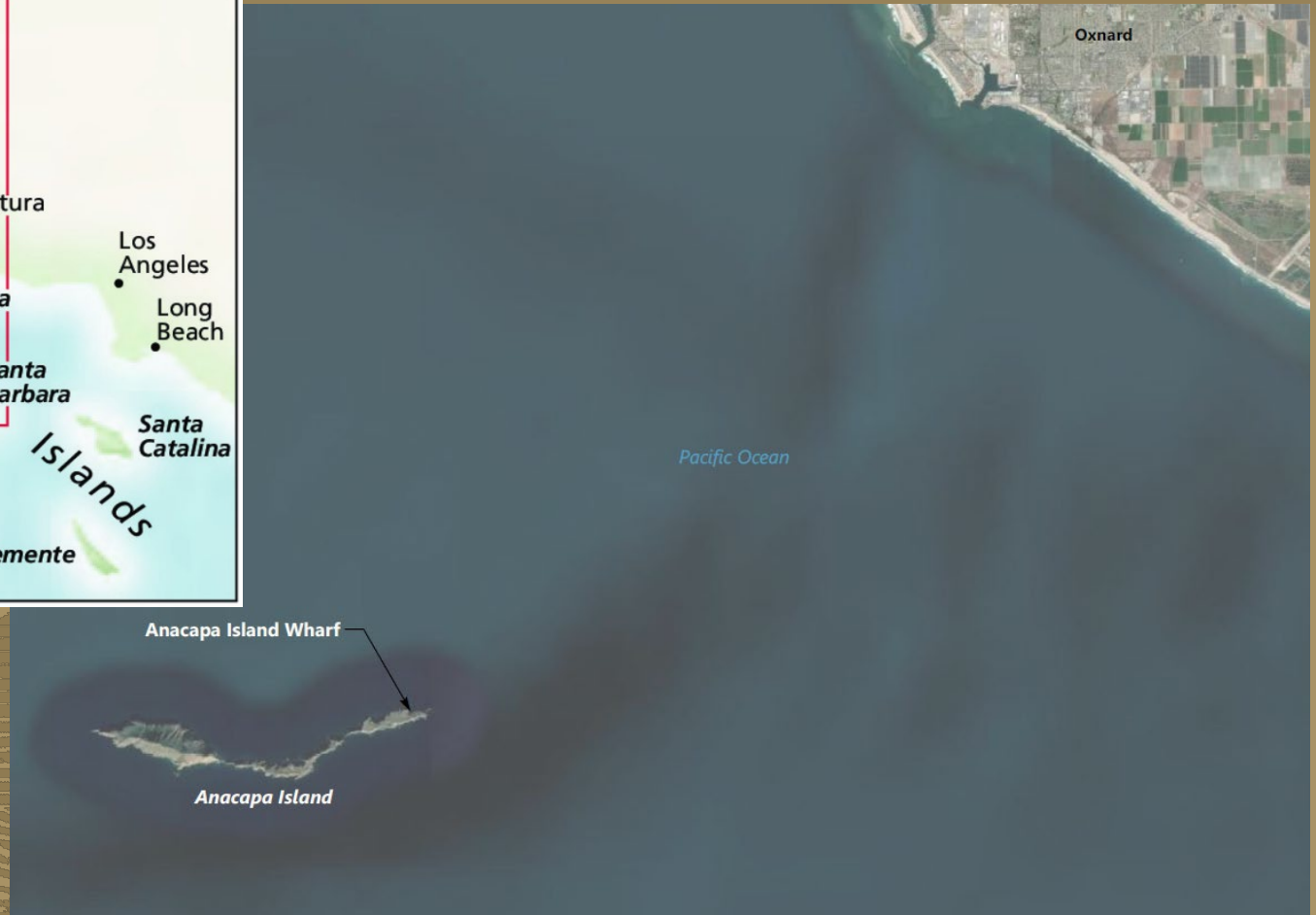
- Present the project history, scope, and objectives
- Overview the planned upgrades
- Share results of studies completed for the project
- Describe potential effects of the project and considerations for potential BMPs
- Overview regulatory compliance process
- Obtain your input

Channel Islands National Park

- Anacapa Island is the second most visited location in the park
- Visitors enjoy two miles of hiking trail, diving in the kelp forest, and observing the native plants and nesting seabird colonies on the island



Project Location



EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

History of the Project

- Current dock requires the transfer of individuals from vessels to the landing dock via a ladder
- Following a fatal incident, a Serious Accident Investigation concluded that the safety of embarkation and disembarkation could be improved
- Current dock also has other physical deficiencies
 - Broken or missing fender piles
 - Inadequate dock elevation
 - Dilapidated deck and other structures

Scope of the Project

- Project will remove the existing dock and replace it with a new dock that:
 - Incorporates a protected vertical lifting platform
 - Better responds to projected climate change (raised elevation)
 - Replaces dilapidated features including broken or missing fender piles, deck timbers, ladders, railings, and utilities

Objectives of the Project

- Improve efficiency and safety
- Enhance the visitor experience
- Improve the landing dock while protecting marine and terrestrial environments
- Allow easier access for NPS, concessioner, partner, and private vessels
- Improve passenger and cargo operations
- Preserve cultural landscape characteristics
- Increase resiliency to rising sea levels

Existing Dock



EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

Planned Upgrades

- Install a mechanical lift platform that allows passengers to step safely from a vessel to the lift (rather than an exposed ladder)
 - Lift will support passengers under their feet and on three sides as they access the pier
- Replace fender piles
- Raise the dock elevation by two feet
- Replace concrete dock deck, railings, ladders, stairs, and utilities
- Add overhead coverings to protect equipment
- Replacing deteriorated concrete on the bluff face

Proposed Dock



EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

Important historic properties: Anacapa Island National Register Archaeological District

- Important for at least 5,500 years of maritime adaptation, navigation, trade
- Continuing importance to today's Chumash peoples
- No known sites in project area
- Continuing consultation with Tribes and State Office of Historic Preservation



Island Chumash name:
'anyapax (mirage or illusion)

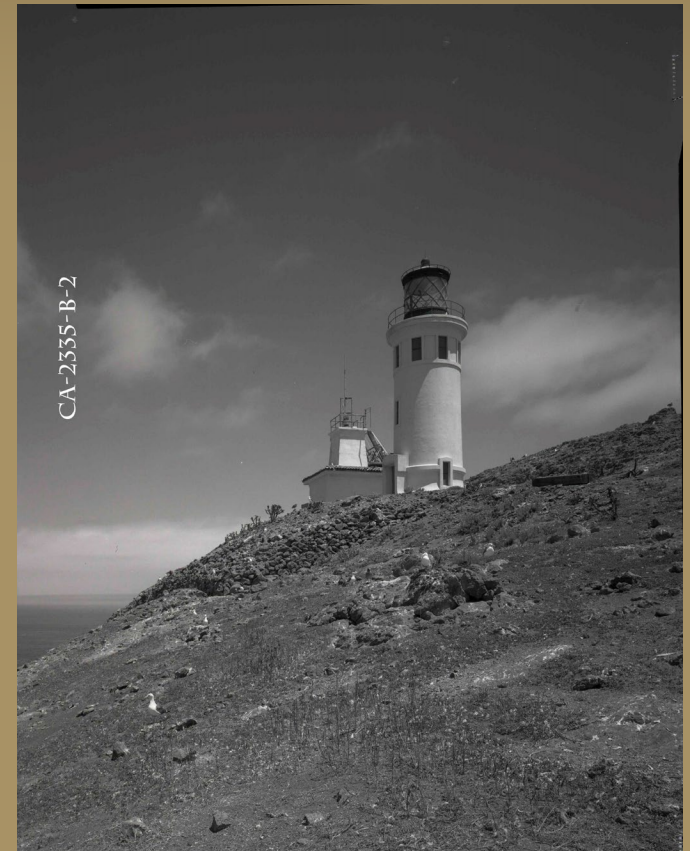
Marine Archaeological Survey



- No significant cultural materials were observed
- Minor iron fragments, modern bottle glass, and fragmented iron piping likely associated with the current dock were observed on the seafloor

Important historic properties: Anacapa Island Light Station Historic District

- Important for circa 1932-196 maritime history, transportation, architecture commerce
- Includes the iconic Light House, lower landing area
- New project design will be compatible with historic district
- Continuing consultation with State Historic Preservation Officer



Marine Biological Survey

- A scuba diver and side-scan sonar survey was conducted
- Data collected included:
 - Substrate type
 - Kelp coverage
 - Non-kelp algae
 - Fish species (water column species)
 - Benthic species
 - Black abalone
 - Bluff species
 - Dock and pile elements observations

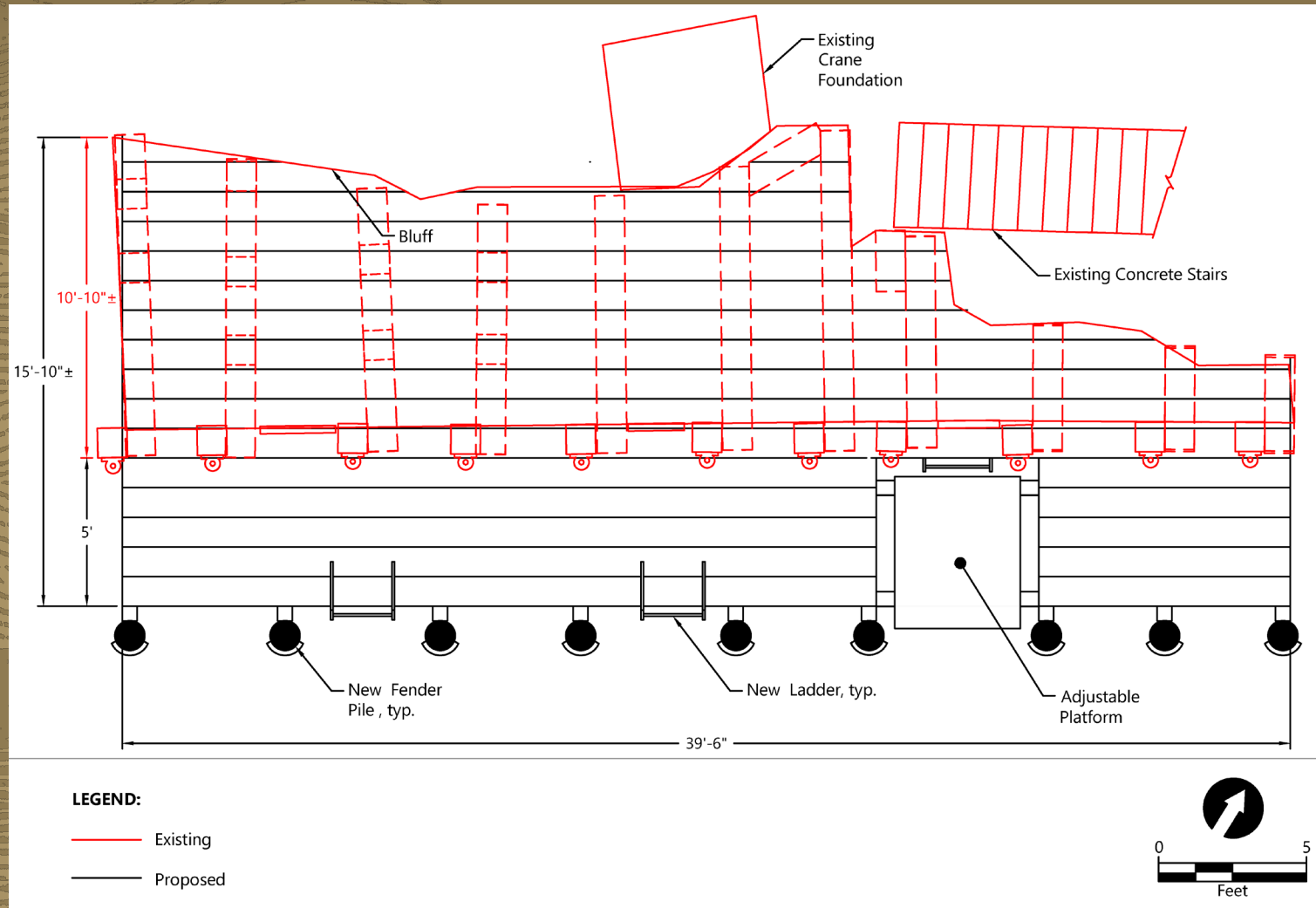
Marine Biological Survey Area



Marine Biological Survey Findings

- No black abalone located within the survey area (not typically present at the site)
- Giant kelp canopy covered approximately 91% of the project footprint
 - This amount is considered abnormal and a result of reduced operations due to COVID-19
- Typical fish and benthic species observed
- Biological communities present are typical of rocky reef kelp forest habitat in the region and not notably different from areas surveyed within the landing cove or elsewhere in the Channel Islands

Existing vs. Proposed Dock Footprint



Potential Shading Effects

- Existing dock footprint: 272 square feet
- Proposed dock footprint: 514 square feet
- Net increase: 242 square feet; needed to accommodate lift

Potential Fill and Excavation Effects

- Existing fender pile footprint: 11 square feet (11 piles, each 12 inches by 12 inches)
- Proposed fender pile footprint: 44 square feet (nine piles, 30-inch-diameter base connection to seafloor)
- Net increase: 33 square feet; necessary to properly pin fender piles to seafloor
- Installation of piles is likely to require excavating a 2-foot square by 1- to 2-foot-deep area around the base to ensure proper support
- Four to five large boulders are within footprint of new fender piles; these will be moved the shortest distance possible from the construction area to avoid impacts

Considerations for Potential Best Management Practices

- Conduct pre-construction survey for black abalone
- Adhere to seasonal seabird work window
- Conduct marine mammal monitoring

Permitting and Compliance Process

- Numerous federal and state permits and approvals are required for the project
- NPS is the lead agency
- Permitting process is anticipated to start in October/November 2020

Conclusions

- Proposed dock replacement project is:
 - Necessary to ensure ongoing safe operations at Anacapa Island
 - Responsive to a need highlighted by a Serious Accident Investigation
 - Minimum necessary to meet the purpose, need, and objectives
- Dock is being designed to:
 - Adapt to projected rising sea levels
 - Minimize to the extent feasible any environmental impact to the cove; impacts are expected to be negligible and far outweighed by the public benefit gained by the project

Your Part in the Process

- NPS is seeking your input to help inform the planning process for the project
- Submit comments by October 9 via:
 - Planning, Environment and Public Comment (PEPC) project page at <https://parkplanning.nps.gov/CHIS>
 - Email to chis_project_feedback@nps.gov
 - Mail to National Park Service, Channel Islands National Park; ATTN: Superintendent; 1901 Spinnaker Drive; Ventura, California 93001

Channel Islands National Park



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA