



Public Scoping Notice

Prisoners Harbor Coastal Wetland and Stream Corridor Restoration Project



The National Park Service (NPS) is considering restoration of a 5-acre coastal wetland and a 45-acre stream corridor at Prisoners Harbor and lower Cañada del Puerto on Santa Cruz Island, Santa Barbara County, California. The NPS will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for this project proposal in accordance with the provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.)

Proposed Project

To protect and enhance the natural and cultural resources, visitor experience, and operational capability at Prisoners Harbor the park will develop reasonable alternative actions that consider impacts to natural and cultural resources, the visitor experience, and other environmental values.

The park is seeking public input to assist with identifying environmental issues and developing a suitable range of alternative methods for ecological restoration, removing fill from the former coastal wetland, reconnecting the stream with its floodplain, removing non-native eucalyptus in the lower Cañada del Puerto, protecting archeological resources, preserving the integrity of the

historic landscape, maintaining operational capabilities, and providing a compatible visitor experience.

The project extends over 50 acres of land owned by Channel Islands National Park and The Nature Conservancy. Action is needed because prior modifications to the site degraded the ecosystem function of coastal wetlands and the riparian corridor. This resulted in diminished habitat quality for the island species including the endangered Island barberry, Santa Cruz Island fox, bald eagle, and the endemic Island scrub-jay, Santa Cruz Island silver lotus, and Santa Cruz Island gooseberry; migratory waterfowl and passerine birds.

Public Input

The NPS is beginning public scoping for the EIS. Scoping is a process by which the public comments on important issues and values and the range of alternatives that should be examined in the EIS. Interested individuals, organizations, and agencies should submit comments online at www.parkplanning.nps.gov or in writing to:

Prisoners Harbor Coastal Wetland
and Stream Corridor Restoration Project
1901 Spinnaker Drive
Ventura, CA 93001

Questions to consider when preparing scoping comments include:

- What issues and values should be considered and why?
- How do you use the project area and

would this project affect how you use the park?

- Are there alternative approaches and ideas for accomplishing project goals?

Comment forms will also be provided at the two open houses that are being held as part of the scoping process:

July 1, 2008
5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Channel Islands National Park Visitor Center
1901 Spinnaker Drive
Ventura, CA 93001

July 2, 2008
5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Santa Barbara Public Library
40 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

For More Information

For more information on this proposal visit www.nps.gov/chis, www.parkplanning.nps.gov or contact Paula Power at (805) 658-5784.

If you would like to [remain on the mailing list](#)

for this project, please send your name, address, and phone number to paula_power@nps.gov. Write “Mailing List” in the email subject heading.

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