# Santa Cruz Island Prisoners Harbor Proposed Campground – Final Project Description & Compliance Documents

### **Purpose and Need**

Santa Cruz Island, at 61,971 acres (96 square miles) and 22 miles long, is the largest and most visited island within the park. The eastern 24% of Santa Cruz Island (~14,500 acres) is owned by the Park Service, while the western 76% is owned by The Nature Conservancy. Santa Cruz Island offers many opportunities for hiking, swimming, snorkeling, diving, and kayaking, but camping is currently limited to only two areas: Scorpion Ranch and Del Norte. The park's General Management Plan (GMP) and Environmental Impact Statement, approved on September 14, 2015, calls for the development of a small, 24-person, "primitive campground" near Prisoners Harbor on Santa Cruz Island, to enhance camping opportunities and accommodate visitors wanting to stay overnight and explore this portion of the island.

### **Project Description**

This project will develop a small, 24-person, primitive campground, in a previously disturbed area at Prisoners Harbor on Santa Cruz Island. The campground will consist of seven sites, including one for visitors who will benefit from accessibility features (e.g., easier access, level ground, etc.). Six sites will include an 8' x 20' pad composed of crushed granite. Each site will include picnic table and a wildlife-proof food storage box. The seventh site will include a 16' x 24' pad composed of crushed granite, an accessible picnic table and a wildlife-proof food storage box. Smoking and campfires will be prohibited.

In addition, to protect resources and support visitors, a new toilet will be constructed.

The campground will be located approximately 0.20 miles from the base of the Prisoners pier and will be accessed by an existing unimproved road. The sites will be out of wetland areas and above the 100 year flood plain, on a gentle slope, partially shaded by oak trees, and connected by a walking path. The campground will not be visible from the pier or ocean due to a dense and tall stand of willows and other wetland vegetation.

Limited vegetation removal will be required to develop the campground. Approximately 600 feet of foot paths to connect campsites to each other will be created, mostly to remove non-native grasses. As with other campgrounds in the park, within the immediate vicinity of each campsite (typically less than 10 feet), potentially hazardous fuels will be reduced using hand tools or chainsaws. This will include the limbing of nearby trees of ladder fuels, the removal of ground litter around each campsite, and the thinning of brush. This will result in the decreased possibility of ignition or the spread of wildfire.

The size and scope of the proposed campground is consistent with the park's General Management Plan.

In June and July 2020, the park solicited feedback for this project. This updated plan incorporates suggestions from this public comment period. A second civic engagement happened during June 2021. This document represents the final project description. Clarifications and updates since June 2021 are shown in Appendix A.

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### Location

Although the GMP stated that the campground will be located above Prisoners Harbor along the Navy Road (Figure 1), the park proposes a different location adjacent to the GMP-proposed housing area (Figure 2). This change was based on the following:

- -Original GMP location was in an area that was not previously developed.
- -Original GMP location was on sloped terrain that was highly visible from land and water, resulting in a negative visual impact on view shed and natural and cultural landscape.
- -Original GMP location was located .75 miles from the landing and bathroom with a 300-foot elevation gain.
- -Original GMP location offered no shade and was along the main transportation route, factors that would negatively affect visitor experience.
- -New proposed location is in an existing developed area that has been heavily impacted by historic agricultural use
- -New proposed location has limited visual impact on natural and cultural landscapes since it is off the main road and hidden by dense vegetation.
- -New proposed location is close to the pier (0.25 miles from the landing) along a flat path of travel and has shade.

Figure 1: Original General Management Plan map

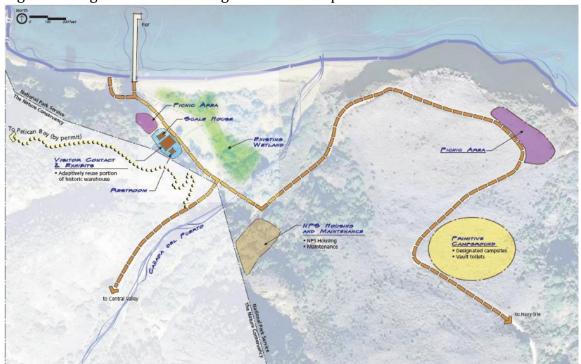


Figure 2: Campground location (circled in green)



### **Campsites**

Six campsites were selected that provided the following characteristics:

- Privacy
- Visitor safety from potential oak tree limb fall
- Away from oak root zones to protect tree health
- Away from road
- Level or semi-level ground with no more than 8-10% grade
- Within previous eucalyptus grove footprint
- Avoids impacts to archeological site
- Away from wetland/riparian plants and low-lying areas that may accumulate water in heavy rain years.

One additional Accessible/Administrative campsite was selected adjacent to the road and restroom.

See Figures 3 and 4 for campsite layout.

### **Campsite Improvements**

Each of the six sites will be constructed as an 8' x 20' pad framed with 6" x 6" timbers that are held in place by rebar driven 2' into ground. Decomposed/crushed granite will be used as the fill for the pads. Each pad will support 2 tents and a picnic table. The food storage box and campsite number stake will be bolted to the 6" x 6" timbers.

The accessible site will larger than the other six sites. It will be constructed as a  $16' \times 24'$  pad, filled with decomposed granite.

Where the grade is the steepest, two or three 6" x 6" timbers will be stacked on top of each other and tiered to create a step. Therefore, maximum height of the frame will be 18 inches. To successfully attach these to the ground, shallow scrapes (up to 6" deep maximum) may be made to nest the tent pad timbers in place along the slight slope.

See Figures 5, 6 and 7 for tent pad layouts. See Figures 8 and 9 for photos of picnic table and food storage box.





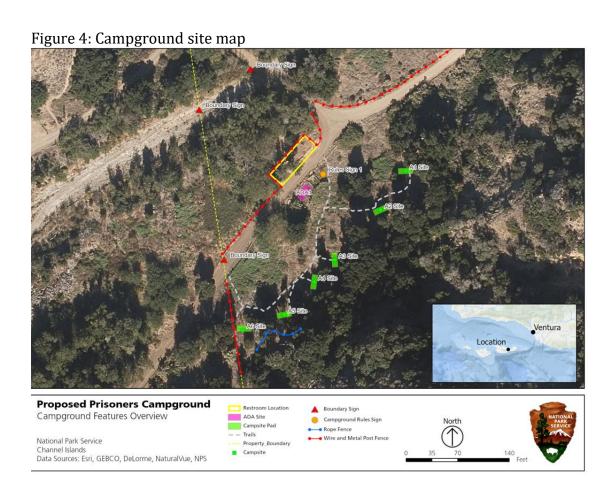


Figure 5: Campsite pad design

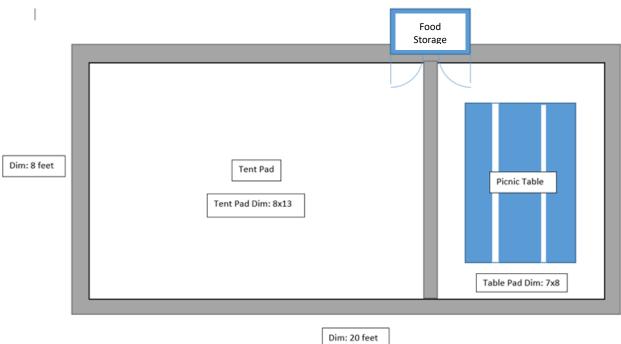


Figure 6: Accessible pad design

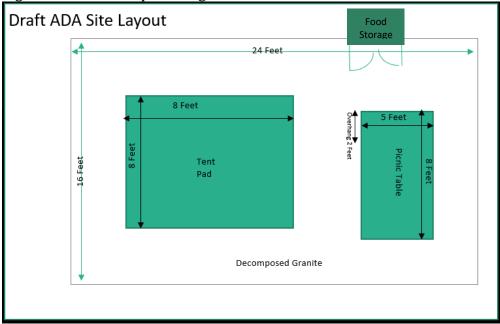


Figure 7: Campsite pad design on slope

## PRISONERS CAMPGROUND

## TENT/ PICNIC TABLE ELEVATION

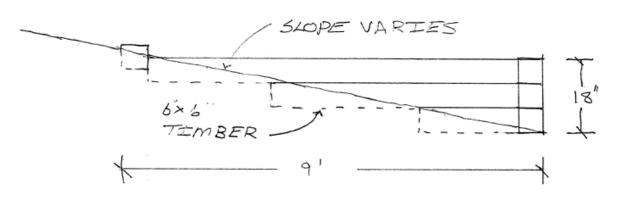


Figure 8: Picnic table and food storage box (example from Del Norte campground)



Figure 9: Picnic table and food storage box (example from Del Norte campground)

### **Signs**

One new sign with campground regulations will be installed at the campground entrance. This sign will include all campground regulations with emphasis on no trespassing onto The Nature Conservancy Property. See Figure 10 for sign design.

This sign will be installed near the campground entrance in an area that has been surveyed and determined to not disturb cultural resources. It will also be located 10 yards away from the historic cattle trough. Monitoring will occur during sign installation. See Figure 11 for photo trough, fence, and concrete pad.

New directional signage along Navy road and Navy well road to direct campers to beach and existing routes will also be installed. To avoid unnecessary ground disturbance, these signs will be driven into the ground by a fence post driver.

Figure 10: Example campground regulation sign design

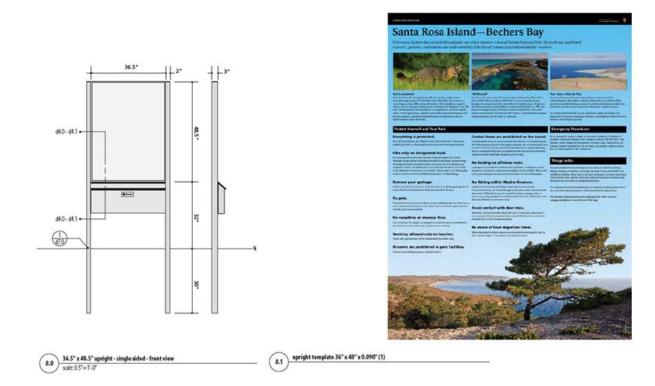


Figure 11: Fence, trough, and concrete pad Sign will be located 10 yards away from the historic fence, cattle trough, and concrete pad.



### **Fencing**

Several new sections of fence will be installed to mark the property boundary and protect sensitive resources. All fencing will be compatible with the historic ranch fencing (metal post and wire) that is currently on the island. See Figure 12 for fence locations. See Figure 13 for fence design. Note that wood will not be used to avoid excavation. Only metal posts will be used that will be driven into the ground.

A fence of approximately 350 feet in length will be constructed along The Nature Conservancy boundary and a gate will be installed to allow access to the Navy well. Ten no trespassing signs will be placed on this boundary fence (Figure 14).

The same type of fence will cross the road and run parallel to the Navy well road (for approximately 325 feet) to keep visitors from traveling into the riparian area and wetland. Ten "Area Closed Plant Restoration" signs will be placed along this section of fence (Figure 15).

Approximately 1200 feet of fencing will also be constructed near the helicopter landing spot along the Navy Road to protect rare plants (gallium) on the bluff nearby. Fence design and clearance around helicopter landing pad will be the required diameter to ensure safety. Ten "Area Closed Plant Restoration" will be posted on this fence as well (Figure 15).









Figure 14: No trespassing sign mounted to fence



IS-24.0, IS-37.0 - Warning - 12" x 8"

Figure 15: Closed for sensitive habitat protection sign mounted to fence



IS-40.0 - Warning - 12" x 8"

### **Campground Trails**

National Park Service

Channel Islands
Data Sources: Esri, GEBCO, DeLorme, NaturalVue, NPS

A short trail route into the selected campground location from the road will be constructed. In addition, short trail routes between each site will be constructed as well. All trail locations were chosen to avoid and provide the minimal amount of disturbance and paths through the campground area. It allows campers to enter on the north side and exit on the south with spur trails leading to individual sites.

See Figure 16 for trail locations.

Figure 16: Trail locations

| Condamy Star | Condam

Campsite Pad Trails

Campsite

Property\_Boundary

Wire and Metal Post Fence

### **Restroom**

A new, accessible restroom and access ramp will be constructed adjacent to the campground. The gold rectangle in Figure 17 represents the approximate location. The restroom will be in the northern end of the gold rectangle outlined below with the access ramp extending parallel to the road.

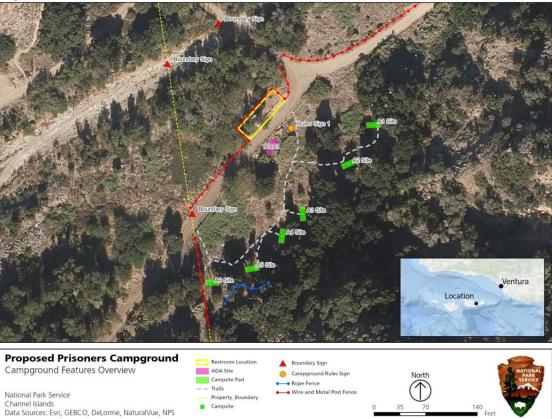


Figure 17: Accessible restroom location

Figure 18: Accessible restroom draft plan

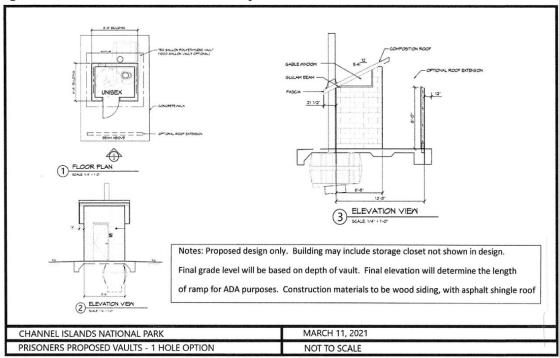
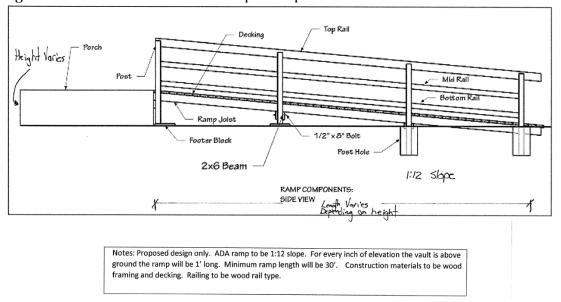


Figure 19: Accessible restroom ramp draft plan



### Water

The campground will be a dry campground similar to park campgrounds on Anacapa, Santa Barbara, and San Miguel Islands. Campers will carry in their own water. Any future plans to provide water will be subject to separate compliance review and designed and constructed to avoid impacts to sensitive park resources.

### **Campground Management**

Due to its remote location, the campground will be managed in a fashion similar to backcountry camping at Del Norte campground which includes: 1) The information on the upright sign, recreation.gov website and camper's printed reservation confirmation will provide them with the rules and regulations with emphasis on no trespassing onto The Nature Conservancy Property; 2) Each camper receives an orientation from park or concessioner staff that reinforces the rules and regulations; 3) Restroom cleaning and campground checks will occur periodically throughout the week depending upon the number of campers. This work will be coordinated between the park concessioner, park guides, maintenance, and law enforcement.

Campers will be required to place tents on the decomposed/crushed granite tent pads and utilize food storage boxes.

Campground management will be informed and adapted, as necessary, from the results a visitor use and resource condition monitoring plan that is currently being developed and will be complete before implementation of this action. As part of that plan, indicators will be developed for key resources that are sensitive to changes in visitor use and monitored to ensure that unacceptable changes are not occurring.

### Reservations

The campground will be set up in recreation.gov and each campsite will be able to be reserved in advance. Therefore, campsites will not need to be assigned at check in. Total fee including recreation.gov admin fee (\$10) will be the current fee as the other campgrounds \$15 per night per site, subject to change. The information on the recreation.gov website and visitor's printed reservation confirmation will provide them with the rules and regulations with emphasis on no trespassing onto The Nature Conservancy Property.

The accessible/administrative campsite will only be reservable by visitors with a disability or otherwise limited physical mobility. All other visitors will be required to reserve a non-accessible site. The park may also use this site for administrative purposes when not in use by visitors.

### **Regulatory Compliance**

The Environmental Screening Form (ESF), Categorical Exclusion (NEPA) Form, Other Compliance/Consultations Form, and NHPA Section 106: Determination of No Adverse Effect are in the appendix of this document.

One of the purposes of this public review is to provide notice and information to the public of this undertaking specific to its potential for effects to historic properties (cultural and historic resources eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places). This notice is provided pursuant to 36 CFR 800.2 (d), the implementing regulations of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (as amended). The views of the public are essential to informed Federal decision making in managing the important cultural and historic resources of Channel Islands National Park. For more information on the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations, see <a href="https://www.nps.gov/subjects/historicpreservation/laws.htm">https://www.nps.gov/subjects/historicpreservation/laws.htm</a>

### Additional Cultural Resources Compliance Details

The National Park Service (NPS) has surveyed the general area and the specific proposed location for cultural resources (a.k.a. Historic Properties). The NPS has identified two island-wide national register districts and several contributing elements to these districts in the project's area of potential effects. These are the Santa Cruz Island National Register Archeological District (listed in the National Register of historic Places) and the Santa Cruz Island Ranching Historic District (determined eligible for listing). The archeological district contains hundreds of archeological sites that reflect the entirety of human occupation on the island, extending from the recent past into the late Pleistocene/early Holocene. The ranching historic district contains buildings, structures, objects and landscape features from the 19th and 20th century agricultural development, including the Prisoners Magazine (Warehouse), lookout building, historic tree plantings, roads and trails. More information on these important cultural resources can be found on the park's website here: https://www.nps.gov/chis/learn/historyculture/index.htm

The NPS obtained more detailed information and analysis of the cultural resources through several means. Park officials consulted with tribal partners (Federally recognized Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Mission Indians and the traditionally associated Barbareño/Ventureño Band of Mission Indians) regarding this project, both to ensure the information factored into planning is complete and to discuss questions and listen to any issues and concerns regarding the proposed development. NPS conducted specific archeological investigations in the area proposed for development and sought the input of other specialists in the historical architecture and historical landscape architecture fields. Results of the archeological investigation and tribal consultation are retained in confidential files at Channel Islands National Park, The NPS has taken all the available information into account into the planning and design for the proposed campground. The NPS has determined that the proposed campground will not result in any adverse effects to historic properties. This analysis is based on the procedural steps and substantive criteria presented in 36 CFR 800, the implementing regulations for Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. The campground has been designed and situated to avoid any direct or indirect adverse effects to the either the Santa Cruz Island Archeological District or the proposed Santa Cruz Island Ranching Historic District. Ground disturbance necessary to establish and use the campground is localized and will not disrupt any archeological deposits. Archeological resources

in the vicinity will be protected from the minimal new public use associated with the campground. The campground will not be visible from the primary historic developed area at Prisoners Harbor and will not alter or remove any contributing elements in the historic district. New facilities (e.g., restroom, access ramp) will be designed to be compatible with the historic setting. (See Figure 20 and 21 below for more specific information and images of historic resources.)

Figure 20: Historic resources at Prisoners Harbor

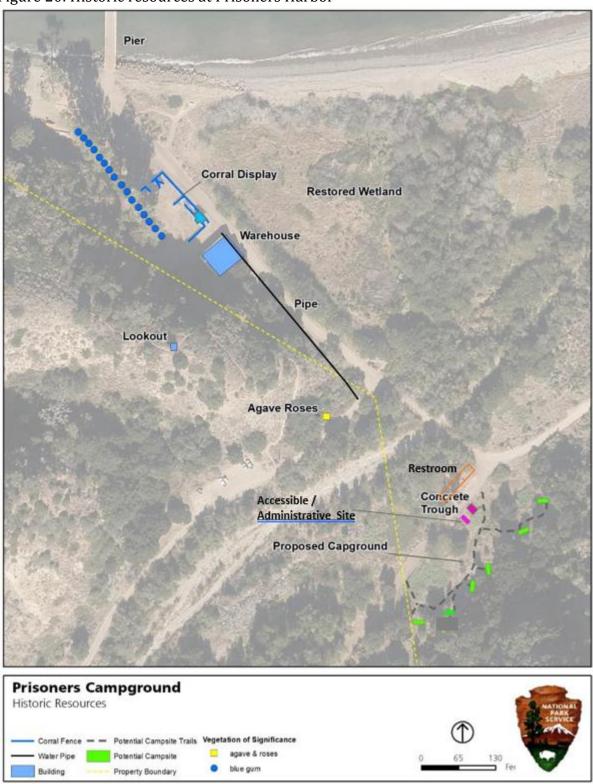


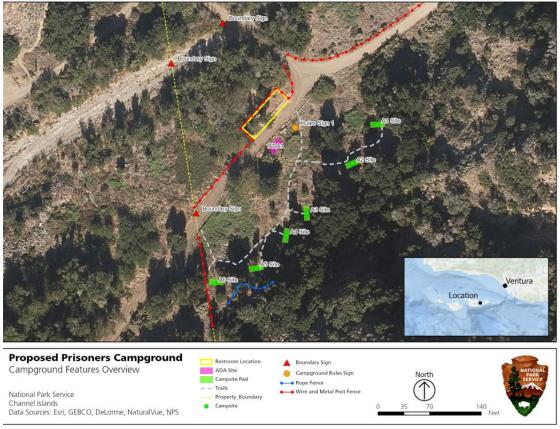
Figure 21: View from Historic District looking toward Southeast. The proposed campground area is not visible due to vegetation.



### Appendix - A Project Clarifications & Updates

- The accessible site will run parallel to the road (see figure 22 for the final site map)
- o As with other campgrounds, at least one extinguisher will be placed in the campground.
- As with other campgrounds, within the immediate vicinity of each campsite, potentially hazardous fuels will be reduced using hand tools or chainsaws. This includes the limbing nearby trees of ladder fuels, the removal of ground litter around each campsite, and the thinning of brush. Individual campsites will be assessed for adequate vegetation removal with consideration to species, quantity, proximity, and location. This will result in the decreased possibility of ignition or the spread of wildfire.

Figure 22: - Site layout



### Appendix - B Environmental Screening Form



Channel Islands National Park Date: 02/24/2022

### ENVIRONMENTAL SCREENING FORM (ESF)

### Updated Sept 2015 per NPS NEPA Handbook

#### A. PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title: Develop a New Campground at Prisoners Harbor

PEPC Project Number: 86793

PMIS Number:

Project Type: Development Concept Plan/Site Plan\_(DCP)

Project Location:

County, State: Santa Barbara, California

Project Leader: Sean Pickton

#### B. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

### Purpose and Need

Santa Cruz Island, at 61,971 acres (96 square miles) and 22 miles long, is the largest and most visited island within the park. The eastern 24% of Santa Cruz Island (~14,500 acres) is owned by the Park Service, while the western 76% is owned by The Nature Conservancy. Santa Cruz Island offers many opportunities for hiking, swimming, snorkeling, diving, and kayaking, but camping is currently limited to only two areas: Scorpion Ranch and Del Norte. The park's General Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement, approved on September 14, 2015, calls for the development of a small, 24-person, "primitive campground" near Prisoners Harbor on Santa Cruz Island, to enhance camping opportunities and accommodate visitors wanting to stay overnight and explore this portion of the island.

#### Project Description

This project would develop a small, 24-person, primitive campground, in a previously disturbed area at Prisoners Harbor on Santa Cruz Island. The campground would consist of seven sites, including one for visitors who would benefit from accessibility features (e.g., easier access, level ground, etc.). Six sites would include an 8' x 20' pad composed of crushed granite. Each site would include picnic table and a wildlife-proof food storage box. The seventh site would include a 16' x 24' pad composed of crushed granite, an accessible picnic table and a wildlife-proof food storage box. Smoking and campfires would be prohibited.

In addition, to protect resources and support visitors, a new outhouse would be constructed.

The campground would be located approximately 0.20 miles from the base of the Prisoners pier and would be accessed by an existing unimproved road. The sites would be out of wetland areas and above the <u>100 year</u> flood plain, on a gentle slope, partially shaded by oak trees, and connected by a walking path. The campground would not be visible from the pier or ocean due to a dense and tall stand of willows and other wetland vegetation.

Limited vegetation removal would be required to develop the campground. Approximately 600 ft of foot paths to connect campsites to each other would be created, mostly to remove non-native grasses. As with other campgrounds in the park, within the immediate vicinity of each campsite (typically less than 10 feet), potentially hazardous fuels would be reduced using hand tools or chainsaws. This would include the limbing of nearby trees of ladder fuels, the removal of ground litter

around each campsite, and the thinning of brush. This would result in the decreased possibility of ignition or the spread of wildfire.

The size and scope of the proposed campground is consistent with the park's General Management Plan.

## F. RESOURCE IMPACTS TO CONSIDER:

| Resource  | Potential<br>for<br>Impact | Potential Issues & Impacts  |
|---|----------------------------|---|
| Air<br>Air Quality  | None                       |   |
| Biological<br>Nonnative or Exotic<br>Species                    | Potential                  | Issue: Overnight visitors may bring non-native species, including seeds, to the island in their camping gear.  Impact: If nonnative species were to be introduced, the possible effect on island ecosystems and native wildlife habitat and populations would vary, depending on the species. Any introduction of a non-native species would be considered negative. The park maintains a robust biosecurity program, which includes a program full-time Integrated Pest Management (IPM) coordinator/specialist. The potential for the introduction of non-native species would be reduced with continued implementation of biosecurity measures, including visitor education efforts and providing visitors with brushes and boot scrapers to rid their boots and clothing of nonnative plant seeds before they set foot on the islands. Regular monitoring of the area for non-native species would allow for rapid response to address newly introduced threats.  |
| Biological<br>Species of Special<br>Concern or Their<br>Habitat | None                       | Impact: There would be no effect on federally listed species or other species of special concern. Two federally-listed species are known to occur on NPS property in the vicinity of Prisoners Harbor: Malacothamnus fasciculatus var. Nesioticus and Galium buxafolicum. Neither of these species is present within the footprint of the campground. Two occurrences of Malacothamnus fasciculatus var. nesioticus occur nearby and are completely surcounded by dense, native vegetation including willows and baccharis scrub. These occurances are inaccessible to the public due to thick vegetation. A newly constructed fence and educational signage would further reduce the potential for impacts. Galium buxafolicum, also known as island bedstraw, grows on steep coastal bluffs near Prisoners Harbor. Because this species grows on steep and unstable bluffs visitor impacts would not occur. Newly installed fencing and educational signage along bluffs would further reduce the potential for impacts on this species. Rare and protected species on TNC property would be protected by existing access restrictions. Smoking is prohibited except on the beach and campfires are and will continue to be prohibited. |
| Biological<br>Vegetation<br>Herbaceous species -<br>Trampling   | Potential                  | Issue: Vegetation may be trampled by campers walking off of established paths. Unapproved "social trails" may form.  Impact: Social trails may lead to erosion, soil compaction, and loss of vegetative cover. Because the proposed project site is immediately adjacent to a dirt road and steep slopes, social trails, if they develop, are likely to be few in number, short in length, and have minor, highly localized adverse impacts.  |

| Biological                              | Potential         | Issue: Some pruning and management of trees to mitigate potential hazards (i.e.,  |
|---|-------------------|---|
| Vegetation                              |                   | falling branches) and fire may be required.   |
| Trees & Shrubs                          |                   |   |
|   |                   | Impact: Pruning actions associated with hazard tree management will be limited  |
|   |                   | to trees which pose an imminent danger to visitors or immediate threat to park<br>resources. Sites would be located to minimize the risk of falling vegetation and    |
|   |                   | the need to maintain trees for safety. Impacts to vegetation from this activity   |
|   |                   | would be negligible and highly localized. All hazard tree management will be  |
|   |                   | done in compliance with Pacific West Region Directive: PW-062 "Hazard Tree  |
|   |                   | Management" and will not have the potential to significantly impact the health<br>or viability of the forest. Hazardous fuels reduction activities will occur only    |
|   |                   | within the immediate vicinity of each campsite and as such will affect less than  |
|   |                   | 1 acre of the <u>67,971 acre</u> island.  |
| Biological                              | Potential         | Issue: Improper food storage and feeding of wildlife in could attract some  |
| Wildlife and/or<br>Wildlife Habitat     |                   | animals such as fox, mice and ravens. Animals may become habituated.  |
| including terrestrial                   |                   | Impact: Animals occasionally accessing human food may result in localized   |
| and aquatic species                     |                   | negligible adverse impacts on individual animals. There would be no population  |
| Wildlife                                |                   | level impacts on the park's wildlife. Wildlife proof boxes at each campsite   |
|   |                   | would minimize likelihood of unintentional food provisioning and associated impacts.  |
| Biological                              | Potential         | Issue: Fuels management and pruning activities could impact nesting birds.  |
| Wildlife and/or                         | rotential         | issue. I deis management and pruning activities could impact nesting offus.   |
| Wildlife Habitat                        |                   | Impact: Changes in vegetation structure could affect habitat quality for some   |
| including terrestrial                   |                   | species. Maintenance activities could disturb breeding birds. Impacts will affect   |
| and aquatic species Wildlife - Breeding |                   | less than 1 of 61,971 acres on the island. As with all non-emergency tree work in<br>the park, any fuels treatment would occur outside of the breeding bird season or |
| Birds                                   |                   | conducted with biological monitors and following strict stop work protocols if  |
|   |                   | active nests are discovered, greatly reducing potential impacts.  |
| Cultural                                | Potential         | Issue: Some visitor activities and ground disturbance may disturb archeological   |
| Archeological<br>Resources              |                   | resources.  |
| Resources                               |                   | Impact: Archeological resources are sensitive to ground disturbance and surface   |
|   |                   | collection. Conducting archeological and tribal monitoring where necessary will   |
|   |                   | minimize the likelihood of impacts.   |
| Cultural                                | Potential         | Issue: New development in the Santa Cruz Island Historic District could   |
| Cultural Landscapes                     |                   | diminish the historical qualities of the area.  |
|   |                   | Impact: Modern development can detract from visitor appreciation of a historic  |
|   |                   | setting and affect the integrity of these resources. Ensuring the new facilities are  |
|   |                   | small scale, of rustic design, and located away from the historic buildings and<br>features will avoid or minimize the potential for these impacts.                   |
| Cultural                                | Potential         | Issue: Santa Cruz Island and the historic Chumash villages there are important to   |
| Ethnographic                            | 2 0 1 2 1 1 1 1 1 | today's Chumash peoples. These connections are mostly invisible to the visiting   |
| Resources                               |                   | public.   |
|   |                   | Impact: Without meaningful information, the public may not understand deep  |
|   |                   | traditional associations of the Chumash peoples. Ensuring that their story is told  |
|   |                   | helps visitors understand these connections and reinforces the Chumash peoples'   |
|   |                   | cultural and historical ties to the land.   |

| Cultural  | None      |  |
|---|-----------|--|
| Museum Collections                              | None      |  |
| Cultural<br>Prehistoric/historic<br>structures  | None      |  |
| Geological<br>Geologic Features                 | None      |  |
| Geological<br>Geologic Processes                | None      |  |
| Lightscapes<br>Lightscapes                      | Potential | Issue: Post-sunset camping could create temporary increase in lighting associated with lanterns, headlamps/flashlights.  |
|   |           | Impact: Slight increase in lighting in the immediate area, likely for only a few hours after sunset when visitors are present.   |
| Other<br>Human Health and<br>Safety             | Potential | Issue: Overnight use may lead to increased risk of fire threat (human behavior, cooking, etc.)   |
| Fire  |           | Impact: Some increased risk of fire would mitigated by campground design and management practices. The lighting or maintaining of fires, including campfires, is prohibited. Only enclosed gas stoves are allowed. Campsite improvements such as picnic tables, food storage boxes and decomposed granite surfaces are designed to minimize fire risk. Fuels reductions actions in the immediate vicinity of sites will also reduce fire risk. Smoking is prohibited except on the beach near Prisoners Harbor. Further, there are numerous national, state, and local agreements regarding wildfire management that support wildlife planning and response. |
| Other<br>Human Health and<br>Safety             | Potential | Issue: Some campers may not always use the provided restroom facilities and may deposit organic waste and toilet paper in natural areas.   |
|   |           | Impact: Occasional improperly deposited human waste and toilet paper would be uncommon and unlikely to be a threat to human health or safety. Park staff would monitor occurrence of waste. A visitor use and resource impacts plan would describe a monitoring protocol and potential actions to address this issue, if appropriate. A nearby restroom would be available for park guests and would reduce improperly deposited waste.  |
| Paleontological<br>Paleontological<br>Resources |           |  |
| Socioeconomic<br>Land Use                       | None      |  |
| Socioeconomic<br>Socioeconomic                  | None      |  |
| Soundscapes<br>Soundscapes                      | Potential | Issue: Sounds and noise from the overnight campers within the immediate local area.  |
|   |           | Impact: Noise from campers talking, cooking, etc., may result in long-term, minor changes to ambient sound conditions in the localized area. Quiet hours would be designated.  |

| Viewsheds<br>Viewsheds                                | Potential | Issue: The campground may affect the quality of views from nearby walking trails, roads, and a few higher elevation areas.   |
|---|-----------|--|
|   |           | Impact: The project site is situated within Prisoners Harbor in a wooded area just above sea level, away from the beach and not visible from the ocean. The campground would be visible from only a few vantage points outside the immediate area.   |
| Visitor Use and<br>Experience<br>Recreation Resources | Potential | Issue: Up to 24 persons would be allowed stay overnight in the campground. This would increase from the number of visitors in this area in the morning and evening hours, when typically only private boaters are ashore. As described in the General Management Plan, this action could also increase the total number of visitors ashore during the daytime hours, when Island Packers provides opportunities for day visitors.  |
|   |           | Impact: Long-term benefit for visitors (up to 24 at a time) who want to camp and enjoy increased recreational opportunities on this part of the island. Impacts on day visitors would be negligible and would result from increased human presence in the vicinity.  |
| Visitor Use and<br>Experience<br>Visitor Use and      | Potential | Issue: This project would enhance visitor experience by providing new activities at Prisoners Harbor, including camping.   |
| Experience  |           | Impact: This may facilitate overnight camping in other areas of the park, such as Del Norte, by providing a base camp <u>either at</u> the beginning of ending of a trip. Further, some users may choose to utilize sea kayaks and other watercraft, not commonly used in this area. Overall, this project would provide a long-term moderate benefit for visitors who want to camp and enjoy increased recreational opportunities available on this part of the island. |
| Water<br>Floodplains                                  | None      | Impact: The proposed project site is above the 100 year floodplain.  |
| Water<br>Marine or Estuarine<br>Resources             | None      |  |
| Water<br>Water Quality or<br>Quantity                 | None      |  |
| <b>Water</b><br>Wetlands                              | Potential | Issue: The proposed project site is located outside of wetlands, however some campers may walk through some wetland areas, especially when dry. As a result, some social trails could develop and some wetland associated plants could be trampled.  Impact: Social trails may lead to erosion, soil compaction, and loss of vegetative cover. Because the proposed project site is immediately adjacent to a dirt road,   |
|   |           | social trails, if they develop, are likely to be few in number and short in length, and have only minor, highly localized adverse impacts. A newly constructed fence with informational signage will be installed and will limit access and minimize impacts to wetland areas.   |
| Wilderness<br>Wilderness                              | None      | Impact: The proposed project site is located outside of proposed wilderness, and therefore would have no effect on wilderness character.   |

### D. ESF ADDENDUM QUESTIONS:

| Question | Answer | Notes |
|----------|--------|-------|
|          |        |       |

### Appendix - C NEPA Categorical Exclusion



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Channel Islands National Park Date: 02/16/2022

### Categorical Exclusion Documentation Form (CE Form)

Project: Develop a New Campground at Prisoners Harbor

PEPC Project Number: 86793

Description of Action (Project Description):

Purpose and Need

Santa Cruz Island, at 61,971 acres (96 square miles) and 22 miles long, is the largest and most visited island within the park. The eastern 24% of Santa Cruz Island (~14,500 acres) is owned by the Park Service, while the western 76% is owned by The Nature Conservancy. Santa Cruz Island offers many opportunities for hiking, swimming, snorkeling, diving, and kayaking, but camping is currently limited to only two areas: Scorpion Ranch and Del Norte. The park's General Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement, approved on September 14, 2015, calls for the development of a small, 24-person, "primitive campground" near Prisoners Harbor on Santa Cruz Island, to enhance camping opportunities and accommodate visitors wanting to stay overnight and explore this portion of the island.

#### Project Description

This project would develop a small, 24-person, primitive campground, in a previously disturbed area at Prisoners Harbor on Santa Cruz Island. The campground would consist of seven sites, including one for visitors who would benefit from accessibility features (e.g., easier access, level ground, etc.). Six sites would include an 8' x 20' pad composed of crushed granite. Each site would include picnic table and a wildlife-proof food storage box. The seventh site would include a 16' x 24' pad composed of crushed granite, an accessible picnic table and a wildlife-proof food storage box. Smoking and campfires would be prohibited.

In addition, to protect resources and support visitors, a new outhouse would be constructed.

The campground would be located approximately 0.20 miles from the base of the Prisoners pier and would be accessed by an existing unimproved road. The sites would be out of wetland areas and above the 100 year flood plain, on a gentle slope, partially shaded by oak trees, and connected by a walking path. The campground would not be visible from the pier or ocean due to a dense and tall stand of willows and other wetland vegetation.

Limited vegetation removal would be required to develop the campground. Approximately 600 ft of foot paths to connect campsites to each other would be created, mostly to remove non-native grasses. As with other campgrounds in the park, within the immediate vicinity of each campsite (typically less than 10 feet), potentially hazardous fuels would be reduced using hand tools or chainsaws. This would include the limbing of nearby trees of ladder fuels, the removal of ground litter around each campsite, and the thinning of brush. This would result in the decreased possibility of ignition or the spread of wildfire.

The size and scope of the proposed campground is consistent with the park's General Management Plan.

| Project Loc  | ations:       |        |    |  |
|--------------|---------------|--------|----|--|
| Location     |               |        |    |  |
| County:      | Santa Barbara | State: | CA |  |
| Mitigation(s | s):           |        |    |  |

- Soil disturbance shall be minimized to the greatest extent possible to reduce disturbance to native plants and reduce
  the potential for the introduction or spread of invasive non-native plant species.
- Assessment of Effect Archaeology: Archeological monitoring required (select project phases)
- Inspect hazard trees for potential nest sites. Fall hazard trees that may contain nests outside the breeding season, if
  possible, unless there is an imminent threat to human health and safety.
- BIOSECURITY The park biosecurity manager shall be consulted prior to materials being transported to the islands.
- BIOSECURITY All project equipment and materials shall be clean and free of organic materials, including dirt, vegetation, seeds, and insects.
- Comply with the Migratory Bird Act of 1918. Ensure that the nest of migratory birds are not damaged by timing the
  project outside of nesting period and/or visual inspection of vegetation before it is treated or removed.

CE Citation: 3.3.C.18 Construction of minor structures, including small improved parking lots, in previously disturbed or developed areas.

#### CE Justification:

This project involves the construction or installation minor structures including picnic tables, tent pads, wildlife-proof food storage boxes, and and a vault toilet in a previously disturbed area. The project site has a history of over 100 years of disturbance and was most recently (2011) used as a fill disposal area for the Prisoners wetland restoration project. The proposed action is consistent with NPS NEPA Categorical Exclusion C.18 and will not have a significant effect on the environment, nor do extraordinary circumstances apply.

Decision: I find that the action fits within the categorical exclusion above. Therefore, I am categorically excluding the described project from further NEPA analysis. No extraordinary circumstances apply.

| Signature       | KENNETH          | Digitally signed by<br>KENNETH CONVERY |       |           |
|-----------------|------------------|--|-------|-----------|
| Superintendent: | CONVERY          | Date: 2022.02.16 15:39:10<br>-08'00'   | Date: | 2/16/2022 |
|                 | Acting for Ethan | McKinley                               |       |           |

### **Extraordinary Circumstances:**

| Extraordinary Circumstances:   |        |   |
|--|--------|---|
| If implemented, would the proposal   | Yes/No | Explanation   |
| A. Have significant impacts on public health or safety?  | No     | This action would not have significant impacts on public health or safety. While there may some increased risk of fire with increased overnight visitation there is not a history of wildfire caused by campers within Channel Islands NP. The lighting or maintaining of fires, including campfires, is prohibited. Only enclosed gas stoves are allowed. Campsite improvements such as picnic tables, food storage boxes and decomposed granite surfaces are designed to minimize fire risk. Fuels reductions actions in the immediate vicinity of sites will also reduce fire risk. Smoking is prohibited except on the beach near Prisoners Harbor. Further, there are numerous national, state, and local agreements regarding wildfire management that support wildlife response. |
| B. Have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation, or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (Executive Order 11990); floodplains (Executive Order 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas? |        | This action, the installation of a small, primitive campground, would not have significant impacts natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation, or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands; floodplains; national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas. Adverse impacts, if they occur at all, would be expected to be minor and localized.   |
| C. Have highly controversial environmental effects or<br>involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of<br>available resources (NEPA section 102(2)(E))?  | No     | This project does not involve highly controversial<br>environmental effects or unresolved conflicts, as<br>described in NEPA 102(2)(E).   |
| D. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant<br>environmental effects or involve unique or unknown<br>environmental risks?   | No     | There are no significant environmental effects or<br>unknown environmental risks of establishing a small,<br>primitive campground, such as the one described here, in<br>a National Park. See notes for A, which may be related.  |
| E. Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects?   | No     | This action, the establishment of a small, primitive campground, would not establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects. This project was identified in the park's General Management Plan (GMP); the Record of Decision (ROD) for the EIS states: "small primitive campground(s) will be established nearPrisoners Harbor on Santa Cruz Island."  |
| G. Have significant impacts on properties listed or eligible<br>for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, as<br>determined by either the bureau or office?  | No     | This action would not have significant impacts on historic properties listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The campground location is outside the primary historic developed area and avoids impacts to archeological cultural deposits. It is designed as a small-scale, rustic campground that is compatible with the historic and cultural setting. Protection measures are in place to ensure nearby highly sensitive resources are protected from direct and indirect visitor impacts. The NPS has completed consultations with the California SHPO and Tribal partners, and has  |

|   |    | arrived at a determination of "no adverse effect" to  |
|---|----|---|
|   |    | historic properties.  |
| H. Have significant impacts on species listed or proposed to be listed on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species? |    | This action would have no significant impacts on threatened or endangered species or on designated critical habitat. No critical habitat exists in the area. Two federally-listed species are known to occur on NPS property in the vicinity of Prisoners Harbor, but neither of these species is present within the footprint of the campground. Occurrences outside campground are protected by dense vegetation, steep hillsides, and/or of fencing, to prevent impacts. Newly constructed educational signage would further reduce the potential for impacts. |
| I. Violate a federal, state, local or tribal law or   | 1  | This action would not conflict with any federal, state,   |
| requirement imposed for the protection of the   |    | local or tribal law nor other regulations or policies   |
| environment?  |    | imposed for the protection of the environment.  |
| J. Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on   | No | This action would provide an opportunity for all park   |
| low income or minority populations (EO 12898)?  |    | visitors who wish to camp and would not not   |
|   |    | disproportionally impact low income or minority   |
|   |    | populations.  |
| K. Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred  | No | The NPS has completed consultation with Tribal partners   |
| sites on federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or   |    | regarding this action. This action would not limit access   |
| adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (EO 130007)?   |    | to Indian sacred sites on Federal Lands or adversely<br>affect the physical integrity of any sacred sites.  |
| L. Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or  | No | The park maintains an active and effective biosecurity  |
| spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species  |    | and integrated pest management (IPM) program designed   |
| known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the  | 1  | to prevent and quickly respond to the introduction of non-  |
| introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such   | 1  | native species. The park will monitor the area for  |
| species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and   |    | introduced species and will treat new invasives if  |
| Executive Order 13112)?   |    | discovered.   |
|   |    |   |

### Appendix - D

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

### **DRAFT - Other Compliance/Consultations Form**

Park Name: Channel Islands National Park

**PEPC Project Number:** 86793

Project Title: Develop a New Campground at Prisoners Harbor

Project Type: Development Concept Plan/Site Plan

**Project Location:** 

County, State: Santa Barbara, CA

Project Leader: Sean Pickton

### **ESA**

Any Federal Species in the project Area? Yes

If species in area: No Effect

Was Biological Assessment prepared? No If Biological Assessment prepared, concurred?

Formal Consultation required? No

**Formal Consultation Notes:** 

**Formal Consultation Concluded:** 

Any State listed Species in the Project Area?

**Consultation Information:** 

**General Notes:** Determined that no T&E species would be affected by this project, given final site selection, fire restrictions, educational signage, and fencing keep visitors out of sensitive areas.

| Data Entered By: | Kenneth Convery | Date: | May 20, 2021 |                        |
|------------------|-----------------|-------|--------------|------------------------|
|                  |                 |       |              | <b>ESA Mitigations</b> |

**Channel Islands National Park** 

Date: May 20, 2021

No ESA mitigations are associated with this project.

### Floodplains/Wetlands/§404 Permits

| Question   | Yes | No | Details  |
|--|-----|----|--|
| A.1. Is project in 100- or 500-year floodplain or flash flood hazard area? |     | No | Not in floodplain or flash flood hazard area.        |
| A.2. Is Project in wetlands as defined by NPS/DOI?                         |     | No | Not in wetland as defined by NPS/DOI.                |
| B. COE Section 404 permit needed?  |     | No | No placement of fill in waters of the United States. |
| C. State 401 certification?  |     | No |  |
| D. State Section 401 Permit?   |     | No | Issue Date:<br>Expiration Date:                      |

| E. Tribal Water Quality Permit?                 | No |  |
|---|----|--|
| F. CZM Consistency determination needed?        | No | Date Review Requested: Date Reply Received: Date State Concurred: Mar 12, 2020 |
| G. Erosion & Sediment Control Plan<br>Required? | No |  |
| H. Any other permits required?                  | No | Permit Information:  |
| Other Information:                              |    | California Coastal Commission Negative Determination -<br>June 26, 2020        |

| Data Entered By: Kenneth Convery | <b>Date:</b> May 20, 2021 |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|

### Flood Plains & Wetlands Mitigations

No Flood Plains & Wetlands mitigations are associated with this project.

### Wilderness

| Question  | Yes | No |   |
|---|-----|----|---|
| A. Does this project occur in or adjacent to Designated, Recommended, Proposed, Study, Eligible, or Potential Wilderness?   |     | No |   |
| B. Is the only place to conduct this project in wilderness?   |     |    | NA  |
| C. Is the project necessary for the administration of the area as wilderness?   |     | No |   |
| D. Would the project or any of its alternatives adversely affect (directly or indirectly) Designated, Recommended, Proposed, Study, Eligible, or Potential Wilderness? (If Yes, Minimum Requirements Analysis required)   |     | No |   |
| E. Does the project or any of its alternatives involve the use of any of the Wilderness Act Section 4(c) prohibited uses: commercial enterprise, permanent road, temporary road, motor vehicles, motorized equipment, motorboats, landing of aircraft, mechanical transport, structure, or installation? (If Yes, Minimum Requirements Analysis required) |     |    |   |
| If the answer to D or E above is "Yes" then a Minimum Requirements<br>Analysis is required. Describe the status of this analysis in the column to the<br>right.   |     |    | Initiation Date:<br>Completed<br>Date:<br>Approved<br>Date: |
| Other Information:  |     |    |   |

| Data Entered By: | Kenneth Convery | Date: | May 20, 2021 |
|------------------|-----------------|-------|--------------|
|                  |                 |       |              |

### **Other Permits/Laws** Questions A & B are no longer used.

| Question  | Yes | No |
|---|-----|----|
| C. Wild and scenic river concerns exist?  |     | No |
| D. National Trails concerns exist?  |     | No |
| E. Air Quality consult with State needed?   |     | No |
| F. Consistent with Architectural Barriers, Rehabilitation, and Americans with Disabilities Acts or not Applicable? (If N/A check Yes) | Yes |    |
| G. Other:   |     | No |

### Other Information:

Data Entered

**By:** Kenneth Convery **Date:** May 20, 2021

Other Compliance/Consultations Form - Develop a New Campground at Prisoners Harbor - PEPC ID:

86793

Page 36 of 46



National Park Service U.S. Department of the Interior Channel Islands National Park Date: 12/09/2021

# ASSESSMENT OF ACTIONS HAVING AN EFFECT ON HISTORIC PROPERTIES

A. DESCRIPTION OF UNDERTAKING

1. Park: Channel Islands National Park

2. Project Description:

Project Name: Develop a New Campground at Prisoners Harbor

Prepared by: Laura Kirn Date Prepared: 12/08/2021 Telephone: 805-658-5752

PEPC Project Number: 86793

Locations:

County, State: Santa Barbara, CA

Describe project:

This project will create a new primitive campground at Prisoners Harbor on Santa Cruz Island. The Park's General Management Plan (EIS) included this activity in the preferred/selected alternative. The small campground will include 7 sites, including an ADA accessible site and vault toilet, and would be limited to a maximum total of 24 campers.

Area of potential effects (as defined in 36 CFR 800.16[d])

Santa Cruz Island

3. Has the area of potential effects been surveyed to identify historic properties?

|   | No                   |
|---|----------------------|
| X | Yes                  |
|   | Source or reference: |

4. Potentially Affected Resource(s):

Archeological Resources Present: Yes

Property Name: Santa Cruz Island Archeological District LCS:

Historical Structures/Resources Present: Yes

Property Name: Santa Cruz Island Ranching District LCS:

Location: Santa Cruz Island

Cultural Landscapes Present: Yes

Property Name: Santa Cruz Island Ranching District LCS:

Location: Santa Cruz Island

Ethnographic Resources Present: Yes

| 5. The proposed action will: (check as many as apply)  |
|--|
| No Destroy, remove, or alter features/elements from a historic structure   |
| No Replace historic features/elements in kind  |
| No Add non-historic features/elements to a historic structure  |
| No Alter or remove features/elements of a historic setting or environment (inc. terrain)   |
| Yes Add non-historic features/elements (inc. visual, audible, or atmospheric) to a historic setting or cultural landscape  |
| No Disturb, destroy, or make archeological resources inaccessible  |
| No Disturb, destroy, or make ethnographic resources inaccessible>  |
| No Potentially affect presently unidentified cultural resources  |
| No Begin or contribute to deterioration of historic features, terrain, setting, landscape elements, or archeological or ethnographic resources   |
| No Involve a real property transaction (exchange, sale, or lease of land or structures)  |
| Other (please specify):  |
| 6. Supporting Study Data: (Attach if feasible; if action is in a plan, EA or EIS, give name and project or page number.)  B. REVIEWS BY CULTURAL RESOURCE SPECIALISTS  The peak of coordinates requested assign by the peaking of the p |
| The park 106 coordinator requested review by the park's cultural resource specialist/advisors as indicated by check-off boxes or as follows:   |
| [ X ] 106 Advisor Name: Laura Kirn Date: 12/08/2021 Comments: Tribal and SHPO review are complete  |
| Check if project does not involve ground disturbance [ ]  Assessment of Effect:No Potential to Cause EffectNo Historic Properties AffectedX_No Adverse EffectAdverse EffectStreamlined Review  Recommendations for conditions or stipulations: Archeological & cultural monitoring during ground disturbance; regular monitoring of sensitive cultural sites in the vicinity to ensure preservation thresholds are met   |
| or adaptive management actions are implemented.  Doc Method: Standard 4-Step Process   |
|  |
| Doc Method: Standard 4-Step Process  [ X ] Archeologist Name: Kristin Hoppa  |

| Name: Vida Germano Date: 03/18/2020 Comments: This project will have no adverse effect on the cultural landscape because the camp sites will be tucked into existing vegetation, the sites will be minimal in design, and the campground will be located away from the main developed area. No contributing landscape characteristics or contributing resources will be altered by this proposed design. |
|--|
| Check if project does not involve ground disturbance [ ]  Assessment of Effect:No Potential to Cause EffectNo Historic Properties AffectedX_No Adverse EffectAdverse EffectStreamlined Review  Recommendations for conditions or stipulations:   |
| Doc Method: Standard 4-Step Process  |
| No Reviews From: Curator, Historical Architect, Historian, Other Advisor, Anthropologist   |
| C. PARK SECTION 106 COORDINATOR'S REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS   |
| 1. Assessment of Effect:   |
| No Potential to Cause Effects  |
| No Historic Properties Affected  |
| X No Adverse Effect  |
| Adverse Effect   |
| 2. Documentation Method:   |
| [ X ] A. Standard 36 CFR Part 800 Consultation<br>Further consultation under 36 CFR Part 800 is needed.  |
| [ ] B. Streamlined Review Under the 2008 Servicewide Programmatic Agreement (PA) The above action meets all conditions for a streamlined review under section III of the 2008 Servicewide PA for Section 106 compliance.   |
| Applicable Streamlined Review Criteria (Specify 1-16 of the list of streamlined review criteria.)  |
| [ ] C. Undertaking Related to Park Specific or Another Agreement The proposed undertaking is covered for Section 106 purposes under another document such as a park, region or statewide agreement established in accord with 36 CFR 800.7 or 36 CFR 800.14.   |
| [ ] D. Combined NEPA/NHPA Process Process and documentation required for the preparation of an EA/FONSI or an EIS/ROD to comply with Section   |

[X] Historical Landscape Architect

106 is in accord with 36 CFR 800.8.c.

[ ] E. Memo to Project File

3. Consultation Information

### 39

| SHPO Required: Yes<br>SHPO Sent: Nov 9, 2021<br>SHPO Received: Dec 7, 2021   |
|--|
| THPO Required: No THPO Sent: THPO Received:  |
| SHPO/THPO Notes:   |
| Advisory Council Participating: No Advisory Council Notes: Additional Consulting Parties: No   |
| 4. Stipulations and Conditions: Following are listed any stipulations or conditions necessary to ensure that the<br>assessment of effect above is consistent with 36 CFR Part 800 criteria of effect or to avoid or reduce potential<br>adverse effects. |
| Archeological & tribal cultural monitoring during ground disturbance. Regular monitoring of sensitive cultural resources in the vicinity to ensure preservation thresholds are met or adaptive management actions are implemented.                       |
| <b>5. Mitigations/Treatment Measures:</b> Measures to prevent or minimize loss or impairment of historic/prehistoric properties: (Remember that setting, location, and use may be relevant.)   |
| No Assessment of Effect mitigations identified.  |
| 6. Assessment of Effect Notes:   |
| Tribal consultation has been ongoing since 2019. SHPO and Tribal Partners have confirmed that project design and cultural monitoring will avoid potential for adverse effects.   |
| D. RECOMMENDED BY PARK SECTION 106 COORDINATOR:  |
| Compliance Specialist:  NHPA Specialist LAURA KIRN Digitally signed by LAURA KIRN Date: 2021.12.09 09:44:36 -08'00' Date:  |

### E. SUPERINTENDENT'S APPROVAL

The proposed work conforms to the NPS Management Policies and Cultural Resource Management Guideline, and I have reviewed and approve the recommendations, stipulations, or conditions noted in Section C of this form.

|                 | Signature  |  |  |
|-----------------|--|--|--|
| Superintendent: | STERLING HOLDORF Digitally signed by STERLING HOLDORF Duth: 2021.12.10 17:87:45 - 08'00' Date: |  |  |
|                 | Ethan McKinley   |  |  |

### Appendix - F California Coastal Commission Negative Determination

STATE OF CALIFORNIA - NATURAL RESOURCES AGENCY

GAVIN NEWSOM, GOVERNOR

### CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

45 FREMONT, SUITE 2000 SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94105-2219 VOICE (415) 904-5200 FAX (415) 904-5400



June 26, 2020

Ethan R. McKinley Superintendent Channel Islands National Park 1901 Spinnaker Drive Ventura, CA 93001

Subject: Negative Determination ND-0015-20 (Prisoners Harbor Campground Development, Santa Cruz Island, Channel Islands National Park, Santa Barbara Gounty)

### Dear Superintendent McKinley:

The Coastal Commission staff has reviewed the above-referenced negative determination. The National Park Service (NPS) proposes to develop a small primitive campground at Prisoners Harbor on Santa Cruz Island, located within Channel Islands National Park (CINP). The purpose of this project is to enhance recreational opportunities and access on Santa Cruz Island by expanding the limited camping opportunities for overnight visitors. In 2015, the Commission's Executive Director concurred with Negative Determination ND-0005-14 for the CINP General Management Plan (GMP) which called for increased opportunities for public access in the park, including the development of campsites. In concurring with ND-0005-14, the Executive Director requested that the NPS coordinate with Commission staff on the need for federal consistency review of specific future development projects as part of the GMP. The NPS agreed to undertake such coordination.

The proposed campground would be located 0.20 miles from Prisoners Pier with access provided by an existing road. The campground would consist of six sites to allow for a total of 24 campers at one time. Sites will be constructed as 8' x 20' pade framed by 6" x 6' timbers and filled with decomposed granite. Each campsite would contain a picnic table and wildlife-proof food storage box.

The campground would be constructed on a previously disturbed site located outside of any wetland or environmentally sensitive habitat; and the site is not visible from the ocean. Vegetation removal would consist of mostly non-native grasses and be limited to footpaths and campsites within the campground. The NPS is working with the California State

### ND-0015-20 (National Park Service)

Historic Preservation Officer, the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Mission Indians, and the Barbareño/Ventureño Band of Mission Indians to ensure that the project does not create any adverse effects to cultural resources.

The Commission staff agrees with your conclusion that the proposed improvements would enhance public access and does not adversely affect coastal resources. We therefore <a href="mailto:concur">concur</a> with your negative determination made pursuant to 15 CFR 930.35 of the NOAA implementing regulations. Please contact Alexis Barrera at <a href="mailto:Alexis.Barrera@coastal.ca.gov">Alexis.Barrera@coastal.ca.gov</a> should you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

(for) JOHN AINSWORTH Executive Director

cc: CCC - South Central District

 From:
 Teufel, Cassidy@Coastal

 To:
 Convery, Kenneth M

 Cc:
 Barrera, Nexis@Coastal

Subject: RE: GUIDANCE REQUESTED: Fw: [EXTERNAL] 0015-20 (NPS, Santa Cruz Island Campground)

Date: Tuesday, December 21, 2021 11:39:06 AM

#### Hi Ken -

Thank you for providing the requested letter and information. We will include these in the project file. Please accept this email as confirmation that the slightly expanded project remains consistent with the California Coastal Management Program and the scope of Negative Determination ND-0015-20.

Best of luck with the project and we look forward to the completion of the new campground.

Regards, Cassidy

Cassidy Teufel
Manager
Energy, Ocean Resources
and Federal Consistency
California Coastal Commission
455 Market Street, Suite 228
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219
(805) 585-1825
http://www.coastal.ca.gov/

From: Convery, Kenneth M < Ken\_Convery@nps.gov>

Sent: Monday, December 20, 2021 3:25 PM

To: Teufel, Cassidy@Coastal <Cassidy.Teufel@coastal.ca.gov> Cc: Barrera, Alexis@Coastal <Alexis.Barrera@coastal.ca.gov>

Subject: RE: GUIDANCE REQUESTED: Fw: [EXTERNAL] 0015-20 (NPS, Santa Cruz Island Campground)

Hi Cassidy,

As per our previous discussions, please see two attached documents:

- Official correspondence from the park describing updates to the Prisoners Harbor campground project, and
- 2. A map/site plan that illustrates the location of the accessible campsite and outhouse.

I'm assuming that providing this documentation, as requested, is sufficient to begin project implementation from the Commission's perspective. Can you please confirm?

Thank you to you and your staff for your continued helpful guidance on this and other projects.

### Appendix - G

### Santa Barbara County Water District

RE: [EXTERNAL] FW: Thanks - Campground Project on San Cruz Island, SB County

Roques, Dominic@Waterboards <Dominic.Roques@waterboards.ca.gov>

Mon 8/24/2020 11:49 AM

To: Convery, Kenneth M < Ken\_Convery@nps.gov>

Ken:

The project description suggests there is less than an acre of disturbance for this project. If that's the case, no Construction Stormwater Permit is required. Let me know please. Thanks,

Central Coast Water Board staff are teleworking due to a directive from the CalEPA Agency Secretary on COVID-19. However, we are available via email and voicemail. We are responding to emails throughout the workday.

Dominic Roques, P.G. | Senior Engineering Geologist | Stormwater Program Manager Central Coast Water Board | 895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101 | San Luis Obispo, CA 93401 P: (805) 542-4780

www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/

Think before you print

From: Convery, Kenneth M <Ken\_Convery@nps.gov>

Sent: Monday, August 24, 2020 9:20 AM

To: Riordan, Jerilynn@Waterboards <Jerilynn.Riordan@Waterboards.ca.gov>; Roques, Dominic@Waterboards <Dominic.Roques@waterboards.ca.gov>

Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] FW: Thanks - Campground Project on San Cruz Island, SB County

### EXTERNAL:

Hi Dominic,

Thanks so much for your guidance.

Please let me know if you'd like to discuss the project. I can be reached at 805-451-1620.

Ken

Sent: Friday, August 21, 2020 10:04 AM

To: Roques, Dominic@Waterboards < Dominic.Roques@waterboards.ca.gov>

Cc: Convery, Kenneth M < Ken\_Convery@nps.gov>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] FW: Thanks - Campground Project on San Cruz Island, SB County

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#### attachments, or responding.

Hi Dominic – Please see Ken's email below. Phil has responded to Ken and mentioned that a construction stormwater permit may be needed if more than one acre is disturbed during construction.

Thanks, Jerilynn

Jerilynn Riordan Central Coast Water Board 895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101 San Luis Obispo, CA 93401-7906

Phone: 805-549-3705

From: Riordan, Jerilynn@Waterboards Sent: Thursday, August 20, 2020 9:22 AM

To: Hammer, Phillip@Waterboards <<u>phillip.hammer@waterboards.ca.gov</u>o; Epp, Jennifer@Waterboards

<jennifer.epp@waterboards.ca.gov>

Cc: Ken\_Convery@nps.gov

Subject: FW: Thanks - Campground Project on San Cruz Island, SB County

Hi Ken, Absolutely and stay well too. I have included Phil Hammer and Jennifer Epp to further assist you.

Hi Phil and Jennifer,

Please see attached and Ken's note below.

Thanks, Jerilynn

From: Convery, Kenneth M < Ken\_Convery@nps.gov>

Sent: Thursday, August 20, 2020 8:59 AM

To: Riordan, Jerilynn@Waterboards <u>«Jerilynn Riordan@Waterboards ca.gov»</u> Subject: Thanks - Campground Project on San Cruz Island, SB County

#### EXTERNAL:

Hi Jeri,

Thanks for returning my call and for directing my inquiry.

Please see attached project description. According to our hydrologist, the campsites are "well above the estimated level of the 100-year flood."

I'd like to learn whether any permits or other consultations are required with your agency to implement this project, as is. Further, we may consider adding an above ground vault toilet. Would this change anything?

Stay well. Thanks again for passing my inquiry along.

Ken

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