



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Pacific West Region
1111 Jackson Street, Suite 700
Oakland, California 94607-4807



IN REPLY REFER TO:
L2623 (PWR-PR)

8. June 2009

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger
State Capitol
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger,

We are aware that severe budget shortfalls are forcing you to consider the indefinite closure of units of the State Park system that will result in cessation of recreation opportunities available to both state residents and visitors alike. The purpose of this letter is to alert you that closures affecting state park facilities that have received assistance from the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) State Grant Program could jeopardize future reimbursements and funding under this program. Likewise, closures effecting properties conveyed to the State under the Federal Lands to Parks Program (FLP) could result in reversion of the property to federal ownership for re-disposal.

My office is willing to work closely with you and your staff as you consider budget cuts and park closures. Often, measures exist short of park closures which will allow a State to remain in LWCF and FLP program compliance. We are willing to explore these options should the need arise. Early coordination and the identification of mutually acceptable cost reduction measures for LWCF-assisted and FLP conveyed sites will ensure the successful continuation of our long-standing partnership and, more importantly, assure the continued availability to the recreating public of quality outdoor recreation facilities and resources.

The LWCF State grant program is a long-standing State-Federal-Local partnership program administered by the National Park Service and by State Departments of Parks and Recreation. Since 1965, this program has provided almost \$3.7 billion in financial assistance to States, Territories, the District of Columbia and local units of government for the acquisition and development of public outdoor recreation areas and facilities. This has amounted to over 40,400 grants to state and local governments. California has received approximately \$286 million in LWCF assistance, affecting 67 of the state parks listed on the potential closure list.

The State's commitment under the Land and Water Conservation Fund program is reflected in each grant agreement it executes with NPS, in which it agrees to preserve, protect and increase the quality and quantity of public outdoor recreation facilities and resources, consistent with the intent of the LWCF, as amended.

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The State also provides assurances as to its ability to effectively operate and maintain the facilities acquired or developed by the LWCF project, that (1) it shall not convert any Fund-assisted areas to other than public outdoor recreation use without the approval of the Secretary of the Interior as set forth in Section 6(f)(3) of the Act (P. L. 88-578, 16 U.S.C 460l-8), and, (2) such areas shall be maintained in public outdoor recreation use in perpetuity. Compliance responsibilities are specified in Federal Regulations at 36 CFR §59.

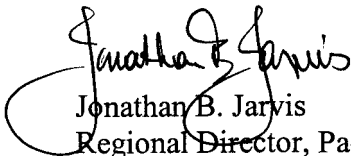
Should Fund-assisted State park sites be closed resulting in the cessation of recreation activities, a significant decrease in both the quality and quantity of public outdoor recreation facilities available will result. Such a reduction is inconsistent with the intent of the Act and in conflict with the provisions of the contract between the State and the Federal Government. Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar is requesting that the Land and Water Conservation Fund be restored to its full funding level of \$900 million, half of which would be for the state assistance side of the program. The closure of State Parks will jeopardize the State's future apportionment. As you are aware, your state parks also support local business activity and generate tax revenues.

Lands conveyed to the State under the Federal Lands to Parks Program (Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, as amended (63 Stat. 377; 40 USC §550), must be open for public park and recreation use in perpetuity as a condition of the deed. Any parkland thus conveyed, if it is found to be unavailable to the public for park and recreation use, may revert to federal ownership for re-disposal. We have identified 6 such park areas on the proposed closure list, including the recently transferred Fort Ord Dunes State Park.

The National Park Service stands by the Land and Water Conservation Fund and Federal Lands to Parks Programs as important extensions of our core mission, and will work with you to protect the public's recreation estate in these challenging times. The public has no less need for recreational opportunities and access to open space in times of economic hardship. If anything, the need for such recreational opportunities is greater now, not only due to leaner economic times but also because of the increasing personal, community, and environmental health issues associated with more sedentary lifestyles and lack of contact with nature.

By working together we can find ways to insure that the LWCF and FLP program requirements are being met and still provide you with as much flexibility as possible to deal with shortfalls in funding short of park closures. If we can be of further assistance, feel free to contact me or the NPS project manager for California, David Siegenthaler at 510-817-1324.

Sincerely,



Jonathan B. Jarvis
Regional Director, Pacific West Region

Enclosure: State Park Closure List

Federal Protection Status of State Park System Units To Be Placed in Caretaker Status

Park Units Subject to the Federal Lands to Parks Program Restrictions

DistrictName	UnitName	LWCF	FLP
Angeles District	Point Mugu SP	x	x
Diablo Vista District	Mount Diablo SP	x	x
Marin District	Angel Island SP	x	x
Monterey District	Fort Ord Dunes SP		x
Monterey District	Point Sur SHP		x
San Diego Coast District	Border Field SP		x

Projects listed above acquired land through the "Federal Land to Parks" program, whereby surplus federal land was donated to the state for park purposes. These lands are subject to reversion to the federal government if not maintained as parks.

Park Units with LWCF Funded Projects in Progress

DistrictName	UnitName	LWCF	FLP	LWCF In Progress
Diablo Vista District	Bothe-Napa Valley SP			x
Channel Coast District	Carpinteria SB			x
Channel Coast District	El Capitan SB			x
Monterey District	Point Sur SHP		x	x
Russian River District	Salt Point SP	x		x
San Luis Obispo Coast Dist	Hearst San Simeon SP	x		x

Parks listed above have active LWCF funded projects which would need to be halted if the unit was placed in caretaker status.

Park Units Protected by LWCF (6)(f)(3)

Units listed below have complete projects funded by the LWCF program, and have (6)(f)(3) status. Units are sorted by district, protected status, unit name.

DistrictName	UnitName	LWCF	FLP	LWCF In Progress
Angeles District	Leo Carrillo SP	x		
Angeles District	Point Mugu SP	x	x	
Angeles District	Robert H. Meyer Memorial SB	x		
Angeles District	Topanga SP	x		
Angeles District	Los Angeles SHP			
Angeles District	Los Encinos SHP			
Angeles District	Malibu Creek SP			
Angeles District	Malibu Lagoon SB			

Angeles District	Pio Pico SHP		
Angeles District	Rio de Los Angeles SP		
Angeles District	Santa Susana Pass SHP		
Angeles District	Verdugo Mountains		
Angeles District	Will Rogers SHP		
Capital District	California State Capitol Museum		
Capital District	Governor's Mansion SHP		
Capital District	Leland Stanford Mansion SHP		
Capital District	Railtown 1897 SHP		
Capital District	State Indian Museum SHP		
Capital District	Sutter's Fort SHP		
Central Valley District	Calaveras Big Trees SP	x	
Central Valley District	Bethany Reservoir SRA		
Central Valley District	California Mining & Mineral Museum		
Central Valley District	Caswell Memorial SP		
Central Valley District	Columbia SHP		
Central Valley District	George J. Hatfield SRA		
Central Valley District	Great Valley Grasslands SP		
Central Valley District	Indian Grinding Rock SHP		
Central Valley District	McConnell SRA		
Channel Coast District	Emma Wood SB	x	
Channel Coast District	Carpinteria SB		x
Channel Coast District	Chumash Painted Cave SHP		
Channel Coast District	El Capitan SB		x
Channel Coast District	Gaviota SP		
Channel Coast District	La Purisima Mission SHP		
Channel Coast District	McGrath SB		
Channel Coast District	Point Sal SB		
Channel Coast District	Refugio SB		
Channel Coast District	San Buenaventura SB		
Colorado Desert District	Anza-Borrego Desert SP	x	
Colorado Desert District	Cuyamaca Rancho SP	x	
Colorado Desert District	Indio Hills Palms	x	
Colorado Desert District	Picacho SRA	x	
Colorado Desert District	Salton Sea SRA	x	
Colorado Desert District	Palomar Mountain SP		
Diablo Vista District	Annadel SP	x	
Diablo Vista District	Benicia SRA	x	
Diablo Vista District	Candlestick Point SRA	x	
Diablo Vista District	East Shore SP State Shoreline	x	
Diablo Vista District	Mount Diablo SP	x	x
Diablo Vista District	Robert Louis Stevenson SP	x	
Diablo Vista District	Bale Grist Mill SHP		
Diablo Vista District	Benicia Capitol SHP		
Diablo Vista District	Bothe-Napa Valley SP		x
Diablo Vista District	Jack London SHP		

Diablo Vista District	John Marsh Home SHP		
Diablo Vista District	Petaluma Adobe SHP		
Diablo Vista District	Sonoma SHP		
Diablo Vista District	Sugarloaf Ridge SP		
Gold Fields District	Brannan Island SRA	x	
Gold Fields District	Delta Meadows		
Gold Fields District	Folsom Powerhouse SHP		
Gold Fields District	Franks Tract SRA		
Gold Fields District	Marshall Gold Discovery SHP		
Gold Fields District	Stone Lake		
Inland Empire District	Chino Hills SP	x	
Inland Empire District	San Timoteo Canyon	x	
Inland Empire District	California Citrus SHP		
Inland Empire District	Mount San Jacinto SP		
Inland Empire District	Wildwood Canyon		
Marin District	Angel Island SP	x	x
Marin District	Mount Tamalpais SP	x	
Marin District	Olompali SHP	x	
Marin District	China Camp SP		
Marin District	Samuel P. Taylor SP		
Marin District	Tomales Bay SP		
Mendocino District	Manchester SP	x	
Mendocino District	Navarro River Redwoods SP	x	
Mendocino District	Russian Gulch SP	x	
Mendocino District	Caspar Headlands SB		
Mendocino District	Caspar Headlands SNR		
Mendocino District	Greenwood SB		
Mendocino District	Hendy Woods SP		
Mendocino District	Jug Handle SNR		
Mendocino District	MacKerricher SP		
Mendocino District	Mailliard Redwoods SNR		
Mendocino District	Mendocino Headlands SP		
Mendocino District	Montgomery Woods SNR		
Mendocino District	Point Cabrillo Light Station		
Mendocino District	Schooner Gulch SB		
Mendocino District	Van Damme SP		
Mendocino District	Westport-Union Landing SB		
Monterey District	Andrew Molera SP	x	
Monterey District	Julia Pfeiffer Burns SP	x	
Monterey District	Carmel River SB		
Monterey District	Fort Ord Dunes SP		x
Monterey District	Fremont Peak SP		
Monterey District	Garrapata SP		
Monterey District	Hatton Canyon		
Monterey District	Henry W. Coe SP		

Monterey District	John Little SNR		
Monterey District	Marina SB		
Monterey District	Monterey SB		
Monterey District	Monterey SHP		
Monterey District	Moss Landing SB		
Monterey District	Pfeiffer Big Sur SP		
Monterey District	Point Lobos Ranch		
Monterey District	Point Lobos SNR		
Monterey District	Point Sur SHP	x	x
Monterey District	Salinas River SB		
Monterey District	San Juan Bautista SHP		
Monterey District	Zmudowski SB		
North Coast Redwoods Dist	Benbow Lake SRA	x	
North Coast Redwoods Dist	Humboldt Redwoods SP	x	
North Coast Redwoods Dist	Jedediah Smith Redwoods SP	x	
North Coast Redwoods Dist	Richardson Grove SP	x	
North Coast Redwoods Dist	Sinkyone Wilderness SP		
North Coast Redwoods Dist	Tolowa Dunes SP	x	
North Coast Redwoods Dist	Admiral William Standley SRA		
North Coast Redwoods Dist	Azalea SNR		
North Coast Redwoods Dist	Del Norte Coast Redwoods SP		
North Coast Redwoods Dist	Fort Humboldt SHP		
North Coast Redwoods Dist	Grizzly Creek Redwoods SP		
North Coast Redwoods Dist	Harry A. Merlo SRA		
North Coast Redwoods Dist	Humboldt Lagoons SP		
North Coast Redwoods Dist	John B. Dewitt Redwoods SNR		
North Coast Redwoods Dist	Little River SB		
North Coast Redwoods Dist	Patrick's Point SP		
North Coast Redwoods Dist	Pelican SB		
North Coast Redwoods Dist	Prairie Creek Redwoods SP		
North Coast Redwoods Dist	Reynolds WC		
North Coast Redwoods Dist	Smithe Redwoods SNR		
North Coast Redwoods Dist	Standish-Hickey SRA		
North Coast Redwoods Dist	Trinidad SB		
Northern Buttes District	Bidwell-Sacramento River SP	x	
Northern Buttes District	Ahjumawi Lava Springs SP		
Northern Buttes District	Anderson Marsh SHP		
Northern Buttes District	Bidwell Mansion SHP		
Northern Buttes District	Castle Crags SP		
Northern Buttes District	Colusa-Sacramento River SRA		
Northern Buttes District	McArthur-Burney Falls Memorial SP		
Northern Buttes District	Shasta SHP		
Northern Buttes District	Weaverville Joss House SHP		
Northern Buttes District	William B. Ide Adobe SHP		
Northern Buttes District	Woodson Bridge SRA		
Oceano Dunes District	Pismo SB	x	

Russian River District	Salt Point SP	X		X
Russian River District	Sonoma Coast SP	X		
Russian River District	Armstrong Redwoods SNR			
Russian River District	Austin Creek SRA			
Russian River District	Fort Ross SHP			
Russian River District	Kruse Rhododendron SNR			
San Diego Coast District	Carlsbad SB	X		
San Diego Coast District	Torrey Pines SNR	X		
San Diego Coast District	Border Field SP		X	
San Diego Coast District	San Pasqual Battlefield SHP			
San Diego Coast District	Silver Strand SB			
San Diego Coast District	Torrey Pines SB			
San Luis Obispo Coast District	Hearst San Simeon SP	X		X
San Luis Obispo Coast District	Limekiln SP	X		
San Luis Obispo Coast District	Los Osos Oaks SNR	X		
San Luis Obispo Coast District	Montaña de Oro SP	X		
San Luis Obispo Coast District	Estero Bluffs SP			
San Luis Obispo Coast District	Morro Bay SP			
San Luis Obispo Coast District	Morro Strand SB			
San Luis Obispo Coast District	William Randolph Hearst Memorial SB			
Santa Cruz District	Año Nuevo SNR	X		
Santa Cruz District	Big Basin Redwoods SP	X		
Santa Cruz District	Burleigh H. Murray Ranch	X		
Santa Cruz District	Butano SP	X		
Santa Cruz District	Castle Rock SP	X		
Santa Cruz District	Henry Cowell Redwoods SP	X		
Santa Cruz District	Montara SB	X		
Santa Cruz District	Pescadero SB	X		
Santa Cruz District	Portola Redwoods SP	X		
Santa Cruz District	The Forest of Nisene Marks SP	X		
Santa Cruz District	Twin Lakes SB	X		
Santa Cruz District	Año Nuevo SP			
Santa Cruz District	Bean Hollow SB			
Santa Cruz District	Castro Adobe (Rancho San Andres)			
Santa Cruz District	Gray Whale Cove SB			
Santa Cruz District	Half Moon Bay SB			
Santa Cruz District	Lighthouse Field SB			
Santa Cruz District	Manresa SB			
Santa Cruz District	Natural Bridges SB			
Santa Cruz District	New Brighton SB			
Santa Cruz District	Point Montara Light Station			
Santa Cruz District	Pomponio SB			
Santa Cruz District	San Gregorio SB			
Santa Cruz District	Santa Cruz Mission SHP			
Santa Cruz District	Seacliff SB			

Santa Cruz District	Sunset SB				
Santa Cruz District	Thornton SB				
Santa Cruz District	Wilder Ranch SP				
Sierra District	Bodie SHP				X
Sierra District	Burton Creek SP				X
Sierra District	Donner Memorial SP				X
Sierra District	Ed Z'berg Sugar Pine Point SP				X
Sierra District	Kings Beach SRA				X
Sierra District	Tahoe SRA				X
Sierra District	Ward Creek				X
Sierra District	D. L. Bliss SP				
Sierra District	Emerald Bay SP				
Sierra District	Empire Mine SHP				
Sierra District	Grover Hot Springs SP				
Sierra District	Lake Valley SRA				
Sierra District	Malakoff Diggins SHP				
Sierra District	Mono Lake Tufa SNR				
Sierra District	Plumas-Eureka SP				
Sierra District	South Yuba River SP				
Sierra District	Washoe Meadows SP				
Tehachapi District	Antelope Valley CA Poppy Reserve (SNR)				X
Tehachapi District	Colonel Allensworth SHP				X
Tehachapi District	Antelope Valley Indian Museum				
Tehachapi District	Arthur B. Ripley Desert Woodland SP				
Tehachapi District	Fort Tejon SHP				
Tehachapi District	Providence Mountains SRA				
Tehachapi District	Red Rock Canyon SP				
Tehachapi District	Saddleback Butte SP				
Tehachapi District	Tomo-Kahni SHP				
Tehachapi District	Tule Elk SNR				
		Count = 220	63	6	6