

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

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

IMPORTANT PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
CONSISTENCY DETERMINATION

CD-140-96
(NATIONAL PARK SERVICE)
San Diego County

CABRILLO NATIONAL MONUMENT RECEIVED	
01-03-97	
☒ Submittent	21-6
☒ Officer	OK 1/7
☒ Ranger	
☒ The Off. Supv	
☒ Determination	
Sam	

Consistency determination by National Park Service for tidepool protection, education, and research at Cabrillo National Monument, west side of Point Loma peninsula, San Diego, San Diego County.

HEARING DATE AND LOCATION:

DATE: Wednesday, January 8, 1997
 TIME: Meeting begins at 10:00 a.m. Item 14b
 PLACE: Crown Plaza - Holiday Inn - LAX
 5985 West Century Blvd., Los Angeles
 (310) 642-7500

HEARING PROCEDURES:

People wishing to testify on this matter may appear at the hearing or may present their concerns by letter to the Commission on or before the hearing date. Copies of all correspondence will be provided to the Commission if received a minimum of three working days prior to the public hearing. Written comments may be of any length; oral testimony may be limited to 5 minutes or less for each speaker depending on the number wishing to be heard.

No one can predict how quickly the Commission will complete agenda items or how many will be postponed to a later date. The Commission begins each session at the time listed and considers each item in order, except in extraordinary circumstances. Staff at the appropriate Commission office can give you more information prior to the hearing date and you can call the staff at the hearing location for last-minute information.

Questions regarding the report or the hearing should be directed to James R. Raives at the above address

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W 14b

STAFF REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION
ON CONSISTENCY DETERMINATION

Consistency Determination No. **CD-140-96**

Staff: JRR-SF

File Date: 11/22/96

45th Day: 1/6/97

60th Day: 1/21/97

Commission Meeting: 1/8/97

FEDERAL AGENCY: National Park Service

DEVELOPMENT

LOCATION: Cabrillo National Monument, Point Loma, San Diego
(Exhibit 1 and 2)

DEVELOPMENT

DESCRIPTION: Tidepool protection, education, and restoration program

SUBSTANTIVE FILE DOCUMENTS:

1. CD-105-95, Consistency Determination by the National Park Service for Cabrillo National Monument's Management Plan
2. General Management Plan Final Environmental Impact Statement, Cabrillo National Monument, February 1996

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The National Park Service (Park Service) submitted a consistency determination for Tidepool Protection, Education, and Research Program at Cabrillo National Monument, Point Loma. The findings of a six-year tidepool monitoring study indicate that the biological health of the tidepools has deteriorated in recent years. The monitoring study provides evidence that human visitation and exploration of the tidepools are one of the major factors affecting the biological health of the tidepools. The Park Service developed the proposed program in response to the monitoring study. The program combines increased education and on-site personnel to inform the public and enforce policies protecting resources. Additionally, the Park Service will close one third of the tidepools to general public use to allow natural restoration and scientific study.

The proposed project is consistent with the marine resource policies of the California Coastal Management Program (CCMP), because the measures proposed by the Park Service will improve habitat values to the tidepools and reduce adverse effects from public use. The project is also consistent with the access and recreation policies of the CCMP, because access restrictions are necessary to protect habitat values and the program includes measures that will minimize the access impact.

STAFF SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATION:

I. Project Description.

The Park Service proposes to implement a series of management actions, known as the "tidepool protection, education, and restoration program" at Cabrillo National Monument, Point Loma. The purpose of the program is to restore the intertidal area within this National Monument while permitting continued visitor enjoyment of these habitat areas. The National Park Service based its management actions on a six-year monitoring study of the tidepools.

The management program has three parts. Part one emphasizes educating park visitors and enforcing park regulations aimed at protecting habitat values. The Park Service plans to increase the number of park rangers and volunteers in the intertidal areas during low tides. This will enable the Park Service to educate visitors about the safest and least harmful way to explore the tidepools, and help visitors understand how the plants and animals relate to and depend on one another for survival. The increased presence of rangers and volunteers will also deter collecting and other inappropriate behavior. The second part involves continued monitoring of the tidepools. Twice a year, in the fall and spring, Park Service staff and scientist will record data from 99 separate plots in three zones in the tidepools. The Park Service will analyze the data to determine if the number