

CSU Channel Islands University Park

Needs Assessment Report



Prepared by

Rincon Consultants
Harrison & Associates

August 2013

Table of Contents

I Introduction	3
<i>Project Approach</i>	3
II Project Context	4
<i>Background – Land Transfer</i>	4
<i>Program of Utilization</i>	5
<i>National Park Service Program</i>	6
III Needs Assessment Process	8
<i>Summary of Community Outreach</i>	8
IV Analysis of Findings	12
V Evaluation of Resources	16
VI Recommendations/Conclusion	21
VII Appendices	23

I Introduction

California State University Channel Islands (CI) is a student-centered university, committed to academic excellence, civic engagement, environmental responsibility, and leadership for the 21st century. The CSU Channel Islands University Park (Park) is a regional educational and recreation area owned and operated by CI. As an extension of the academic campus, the Park embraces the mission, values and objectives of the University. The purpose of the Park is to provide educational and recreational opportunities open to all through habitat restoration activities, maintenance of open spaces, and development of ecological, cultural, and recreational facilities and programs.

The Park site is currently undeveloped and open to the public seven days a week with access by foot or bicycle. Parking permits are required and available as self-pay on site or daily permit from the CI Parking office on campus. Group use of the Park can be scheduled with the CI Events & Facilities office. There are no restrooms, water, benches or tables at the Park site.

Project Approach

The Needs Assessment project was initiated following technical assistance from the National Park Service's Rivers, Trails & Conservation Assistance Program (RTCA) which suggested a Master Plan Process. Through this process, it was envisioned that the University would be able to develop a community-driven vision for the future of the Park clarifying specific goals for Park development and identifying user needs and interests that would shape potential Park features, amenities and outdoor educational and recreational programs.

Rincon Consultants was retained by CI in December of 2012 to prepare the Needs Assessment. The objective is to provide pre-planning and community engagement prior to the development of a Master Plan. The scope of work includes refining the Park's purpose and mission, clarifying Park functions, confirming use preferences that meet both University goals and accommodate the public, and exploring alternative land management models.

II Project Context

Background – Land Transfer

Historic artifacts and studies have determined that the University campus and Park region were occupied by the Chumash people for over 9,000 years. In the aftermath of the Mexican-American War (1848), what is now the state of California was ceded to the United States. In 1873, the United States of America granted to Ysabel Yorda a portion of what was known as the Rancho Guadalupe. Over time the Rancho was further broken down and sold to investors. In 1932, PROPERTIES INC. sold a large parcel of land to the State of California in order to build the Camarillo State Hospital. The Park was a part of that parcel and once served the hospital facility by producing crops and housing livestock, which helped feed the patient community. The food production was part of patient therapy.

The parkland now known as CSU Channel Islands University Park was conveyed to the University by the County of Ventura in 2009 and represents three separate properties assembled by the County through various public grant funds and programs (*Attachment A: Park Site Map*).

- 236-acre parcel originally acquired in 1985 from the U.S. National Park Service, through the Federal Lands to Parks Program, required submission of a *Program of Utilization* to the National Park Service.
- 43-acre parcel acquired from the Operating Engineers Funds, Inc., required payment of \$150,000 to the County as reimbursement for expenditures associated with acquisition of the parcel.
- 91-acre surplus federal property parcel was purchased by the County in 1986 with funds from three Department of Parks and Recreation grants (including the Roberti-Z'berg-Harris Grant Program); this parcel was transferred to the CSU on the condition that the CSU assumed the obligations as imposed by the grant program.

When the properties were transferred from the County to the State the specific requirements about the future use of the site were transferred along with the land to the University. The primary requirement stipulated that the Park site be used for public park and recreation purposes in perpetuity.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PARK AND SURROUNDING AREA

The total Park acreage is 367-acres, located to the north of and over a ridge from the University Glen residential community and the academic campus proper. The topography of the Park is characteristic of the foothills of the Santa Monica Mountains. The Park is located along the east bank of Calleguas Creek and downstream from its confluence with Conejo Creek. Calleguas Creek is confined by flood control levees to protect agricultural lands from flooding. There are a series of three detention ponds adjacent to the Calleguas Creek

channel; these ponds are owned by Camrosa Water District. One additional pond exists to the south, separated from the other three by a road; Camrosa has been granted rights to its use as a part of a water treatment process. This pond has a fence surrounding it; it is located within Park boundaries on property owned by CI, as shown in the Park Site Map in Attachment A, and is not suitable for recreational use. Wetland and riparian habitats have developed on the upslope side of the left bank levee.

The southern portion of the Park contains the ruins of an old dairy that was part of the hospital food production facilities, including the sheet metal and steel frame remains of a barn and a one-story concrete building that was used for animal storage and feeding. South of this area is a broad expanse of flat ground, made up of fill material that was brought onsite for a proposed federal prison. This fill area now contains a paved model airplane runway and unpaved parking lot. The northern portion of the Park contains the southern detention pond identified above, which is operated by Camrosa Water District by virtue of an easement. Immediately upslope from the Camrosa ponds is an approximate 11.7-acre alkaline meadow wetland surrounded by approximately 10 acres of riparian scrub and forest habitat. Unfortunately, much of the habitat was burned in the Springs Fire of May 2013.

The Park itself does not contain any usable infrastructure improvements, other than graded dirt roadways and flood control levees. Over the past twenty years, significant development has occurred in the area. Northeast of the Park on Lewis Road, Casa Pacifica broke ground in 1993, followed by other facilities, Casa de Esperanza, Las Posadas and Villa Calleguas. To the east, in 2000, the 2,300-acre first phase of Dos Vientos Ranch (1,500 homes) project broke ground. That project is now on its final phase nearing completion. Finally, a first phase of CI-generated University Glen was developed southwest of the Park. It is currently a residential community of 658 housing units (single-family homes, townhomes and apartments) and is situated on CSU Channel Islands land. These housing developments have introduced a nearby residential population to the Park.

Program of Utilization

As part of the property's transfer application from the County of Ventura, the University submitted a Program of Utilization (POU) (Attachment B) to the National Park Service outlining a proposed concept for programming, development and recreational uses that supports the park land use requirements. CI proposed to utilize the Park property as a multi-use regional educational and recreation area. It is the University's intention to preserve portions of the property as open space and wildlife habitat while providing community access, recreation and education programs. CI will utilize the property with an eye toward protecting and restoring natural areas, monitoring and maintaining watershed health, and maximizing multiple-use recreational open space. The four core concepts addressed in the May 3, 2007, POU are summarized below.

1. **Native Habitat Program:** Portions of the Park will be left managed in their natural state, providing an opportunity to preserve and protect native species. The riparian corridor

within the Park will be restored and maintained as well. The site will be used for both research and practical, hands-on experience in wetlands restoration by CI's undergraduate program in Environmental Science & Resource Management as well as an opportunity for community and educational groups to learn more about the environment.

2. **Trailhead and Hiking Trails:** One of the key plans for this Park is a trailhead and paths with connections to the extensive existing and planned trail system within the Santa Monica Mountains region. The Park is located near the western edge of Point Mugu State Park and it is adjacent to the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area. This location will make it an attractive entry point to this protected corridor.
3. **Open Space:** The Park has several large open meadow-like areas that provide the flexibility to serve as open space for single and multi-use opportunities. The University will utilize these areas as passive spaces. These facilities will provide supportive amenities to those visiting the walking trails.
4. **Model Airplanes:** When CI acquired the property in 2009, a portion of the property was in use for the radio controlled (RC) model airplanes by a group known as the Channel Islands Condors. The POU called for the transition of that property for other uses. The Condors had operated under a month-to-month lease with the County of Ventura. Prior to CI's acquisition of the property, the County had agreed to make every effort to assist the Condors to relocate by the end of a five-year timeframe, but was under no legal obligation to provide for a new venue. RC flying was banned in the Park in July of 2012 after a fire broke out as a result of a RC plane crash. In May of 2013, the Springs Fire swept through the Park and cleared it of most vegetation. The Condors submitted an application to host a one-time special event in the park and in July hosted the "IMAC 10th Annual "Red Shoes" Classic Aerobatic Southwest Regional Competition." Currently, no RC flying is allowed pending results of the needs, noise level assessments and discussions by management.

National Park Service Program

In January of 2010, an 11 member Park Master Plan committee was convened. Membership included campus staff, students and community members. The charge to the committee was to discuss and make recommendations for a Master Plan, and to develop operational procedures, processes and fees related to use of the Park. This group met last in May of 2012. Also in 2010, CI requested and received technical assistance from the National Park Service's Rivers, Trails & Conservation Assistance Program (RTCA) for development of a concept-level Master Plan for Park property. The Program of Utilization served as the basis from which RTCA worked with the University on developing its Master Plan process, RTCA staff began working with the Park Steering Committee to develop a framework for identifying appropriate use and management activities. Ultimately, the University developed a set of Provisional Park Rules which are posted at the Park entry, as well as Park Safety and Academic Use Guidelines.

The RTCA also identified an extensive list of stakeholders to be involved in the master plan process. On February 15, 2012, the University hosted a public workshop to provide an overview of the Park Master Plan process, engage the community in the development of a shared vision for the Park, and begin to solicit input on key issues, opportunities and

constraints related to development of the site. The workshop attracted over 140 members, friends, and affiliates of the Condors model remote control (RC) flying club who expressed concern about the prospect of being transitioned off-site as proposed in the POU. Few other stakeholders attended this meeting, limiting the balance of input and ideas received on the future of the Park site.

The response to the meeting led to some questioning of the POU among members of the Steering Committee and University administration, including whether it should be amended and, if not, how to work with current user groups in the interim.

RTCA stressed that building consensus agreement on the existing POU should be a top priority for the University. Although there was strong support amongst the members serving on the Park Master Plan Steering Committee for the Program of Utilization as written, following the public outreach meeting it was determined that further community outreach work was required in order to determine if the POU should be affirmed or amended. During the May 2012 meeting the needs assessment project was discussed and it was determined that the project would be completed prior to further meetings.

This led to the University's decision to retain Rincon Consultants to initiate a needs assessment process; involving key University and community stakeholders.

III Needs Assessment Process

Summary of Community Outreach

A key component of planning for University Park is the engagement of key stakeholders representing University staff, faculty, students and community stakeholders in the Needs Assessment process. To that end several community outreach methods were utilized to obtain qualitative input from stakeholders prior to embarking on a master plan for future improvement and/or uses of the Park land.

- **Stakeholder Interviews** were held on campus and facilitated by the consultant. The interviews provided the opportunity to discuss issues, opportunity and challenges in managing University Park. The organizations represented included:
 - City of Camarillo
 - Pleasant Valley Recreation and Park District
 - University Glen
 - Ventura County Board of Supervisors (2)
 - CI's Environmental Science & Resource Management program
 - Naval Base Ventura County (NBVC). (Written Response)
- Two separate **Focus Group** sessions were held at the John Spoor Broome Library and facilitated by the consultants engaging University Stakeholders and Community Stakeholders. The **University Focus Group** included representatives of classified staff, faculty, students, police, and maintenance. Agencies or organizations represented in the **Community Focus Group** included:
 - Camrosa Water District
 - County of Ventura Watershed Protection District
 - County of Ventura Parks Department
 - Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy
 - Casa Pacifica
 - Channel Islands Condors Model Airplane Club
 - Audubon Society
 - Hiking and Mountain Biking Club
 - Ventura County Economic Development Association
 - State Coastal Conservancy (by telephone)
 - Dos Vientos Homeowners' Association

The interview questions and summary notes, Focus Group Agendas and Group Memory (meeting notes) are included in the Appendices (Attachment C). The notes from the interviews and focus groups were compiled and are presented in Table 1. The items listed include responses/comments that were made more than once.

The key Park features that stand out for those participating are the vastness and beauty of the secluded, undeveloped Park space. The general consensus on the top **opportunities** and priorities for the future of the Park are:

- Access to trails and trail linkages for connection to trails and open space areas in the Santa Monica Mountains.
- Restoring and maintaining wildlife habitat corridors, wetlands and native species.
- Developing community outreach, educational and interpretive programs about nature and open space resources for all age groups.

The top issues or **challenges** the University faces in striving to meet these opportunities are:

- Available budget and funding to implement and manage the Park development and uses.
- Evaluation of existing conditions and uses to determine what uses can co-exist safely and meet the needs of community and University; while maintaining a balance of recreation use with nature.
- Positioning the Park as a viable, positive community asset and outdoor experience for all users.

Table 1 CI University Park Needs Assessment Qualitative Input Summary					
	University Focus Group	Community Focus Group	Interviews	Occurrences	
Comments from Community Engagement Process					
Park Features That Stand Out					
Secluded, undeveloped vastness of open space	1	2	4	7	
Trail linkages and connection potential	1	2	4	7	
Nature - habitat plants and wildlife corridor value	3	2		5	
Diverse topography and Calleguas Creek riparian zone		2	2	4	
Beauty/Views	3	1		4	
Connect to campus and community and share resources	3			3	
History	2			2	
Dairy		1	1	2	
Opportunities					
Access to trail system & linkages for hiking	5	1	6	11	
Maintain/ restore wildlife habitat corridors, wetlands and values	3	1	3	7	
Shaded Areas for Outdoor Classroom/Children and Students	4	1	1	6	
Link history of dairy and therapy of State Hospital with educational programs in cooperation with Casa Pacifica, RAIN Transitional Living Center	1	2	1	5	
University use for team-building and student projects	5			5	

**Table 1 CI University Park Needs Assessment
Qualitative Input Summary**

	University Focus Group	Community Focus Group	Interviews	Occurrences
Comments from Community Engagement Process				
Passive recreation e.g. picnics, hiking	1		3	4
Athletic or exercise activities– runs, Frisbee golf, yoga	3	1		4
Mountain Biking	2	1		3
Outreach to senior adults and disabled for outdoor experience	1	1	1	3
Family or group tent camping	1	1	1	3
Revenue Generating Opportunities/programs, events, leases		1	2	3
Bikeway connection campus to Park and community			2	2
Self-guided interpretation	2			2
Native American demonstration village and workshops	2			2
Environmental Science student projects	2			2
Sustainability – Green Campus	1		1	2
Gateway Entry from West County to Santa Monica Mountains (SMM) and to Camarillo	1		1	2
Geocaching	1	1		2
Collaboration with other agencies and organizations PVRPD, SMM, City of Camarillo		1	1	2
Issues/Challenges				
Budget and Funding priorities	1	2	5	8
Existing conditions and incompatible uses that can be unsafe, noisy, unsightly and impose risk	2	2	4	8
Balance of Nature/Recreation use and determining what is passive and best resource for community	2	2	2	6
Present Park as a viable positive community asset and experience – overcome negative vibe re. current uses or misuses-make it a safe destination	1	1	4	6
Managing use, security, maintenance with limited staff-fiscal sustainability	2	1	1	4
Parking issues and permitting	1		3	4
Risk of over development if too many uses, consider environmental impacts on adjacent properties	2	1	1	4
Access to Utilities	1	1	1	3
Use or alteration of levee		1	2	3
Determine what to do with dairy - Liability or Asset	1	1	1	3
Fire Safety for all uses	1		1	2
Road Access – Single Entrance		1	1	2
Deed restrictions-federal approval		1	1	2
Restrooms	1		1	2

**Table 1 CI University Park Needs Assessment
Qualitative Input Summary**

	University Focus Group	Community Focus Group	Interviews	Occurrences
Comments from Community Engagement Process				
Lack of lighting if more use may need, yet may have negative impact on habitat	1	1		2
Solutions-Next Steps				
Develop an implementation plan and continue to vet to the public asserting University priorities for plans	2		5	7
Develop clear vision and identity for the Park	1		2	3
Work with other governmental agencies and organizations to consider options and build support		1	2	3
Share needs assessment and plans with Calleguas Management on issues of levee, natural flood plain, change in hydrology		1	1	2
Identify funding sources, fundraising campaigns, revenue fee programs/events		1	1	2
Utilize University resources to assist with site planning, design, trail blazing and interpretation	1	1		2
Collaborate with CCC, County Probation and volunteers for site preparation and other work	1	1		2
Contact NBVC to ensure Park uses are compatible with base operations		1	1	2
Funding in Phases- Short Term – Long Term	1	1		2
Vision/Priorities				
Develop a comprehensive wetlands and native habitat enhancement program		1	5	6
Develop community outreach, educational and interpretive programs about nature and open space resources	1	1	4	6
Upgrade and/or develop new trails to link with other trails in adjacent open space areas in SMM	1	1	3	5
Develop trailhead amenities and visitor serving facilities such as picnic areas, restrooms five years out			3	3
Cultural and Educational use area near the entry –history, topography, nature	3			3
Park as Gateway to the Coast, SMM and to the City	1	1	1	3
Partnerships with other non-profit and public agencies	1	1		2
Outdoor laboratory for natural science students	1	1		2
Park as an Asset for the University and Community		1	1	2

IV Analysis of Findings

The general consensus based on the qualitative input from stakeholders participating in the needs assessment process is consistent with the POU. The stakeholders' top priorities support the three core concepts of the POU: **Native Habitat Program, Trailheads and Hiking Trails**, that connect to the Santa Monica Mountains and **Open Space** for passive recreation and support amenities. Furthermore, the stakeholders support community outreach, educational and interpretive programs about nature, and open space resources for all age groups. Use of the Park for student learning and research projects and as an outdoor classroom for schools and community groups is supported. There also is an interest in possibly incorporating the history of the dairy and therapy of the State Hospital through interpretive signing or with educational programs in cooperation with other organizations. Incorporating Native American culture into interpretive programs is also supported.

Trailhead Opportunities. Current access to the Santa Monica Mountain open space system in this area is through the Satwiwa Trailhead in Newbury Park, Sycamore Canyon, La Jolla Valley, and Thornhill Broome Beach at Point Mugu State Park. There are no other trailheads located in the 18 mile stretch of the Rancho Sierra Vista portion of the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area. Trailheads located on the Park property can provide a western gateway access point for hikers, horseback riders and bicyclists to explore this recreational area.

Habitat Restoration. Restoration of the wetlands at what was then Camarillo Regional Park was recommended as one of the principal elements in the Calleguas Creek Watershed Wetland Restoration Plan, prepared for the State Coastal Conservancy and US EPA in October 2000. The restoration of the site was adopted by the Calleguas Creek Watershed Steering Committee. The conceptual restoration design for the site outlined in that plan calls for removal of the levees on river left, restoration of the interactions between the channel and floodplain, control or removal of invasive exotic plants, and vegetation of the floodway and adjacent uplands with native plant communities. Restoration of approximately 24 acres would increase the wetland functionality of the entire site. Based on the needs assessment, restoring wetlands remains a priority for stakeholders.

The stakeholders recognize the **challenge of balancing** recreational use within the open space and natural habitat. Some current uses may not be compatible with the vision of University Park as a safe, positive and viable community asset for recreational and educational use by all.

There was general consensus from the stakeholders that some of the existing conditions as well as past and current uses detract from a safe, outdoor recreation experience and may impose risk. Trespassing is a problem at night as well as occasional dumping on the property. The former dairy and other areas of the Park attract undesirable activity such as

vandalism and graffiti. The noise generated by the model airplanes flying and the risk of fire are concerns for some users and neighbors of the park.

Since CI acquired the property in 2009, the Ventura County Fire Department has responded to two fires started by model planes crashing in the Park (July 2011 and July 2012). The State Fire Marshal prohibited the flying of motorized model flying planes following a fire on the site in July 2012. Currently only non-motorized gliders weighing 2 pounds or less may be flown at the Park airfield. University Model Glider Permits are required, and gliders must be operated within the designated fly zone. This use is considered temporary through June of 2013. At the February 2012 workshop the Condors Club strongly expressed their interest in continuing to use the Park airfield for their remote-control airplanes.

Prior to July of 2012, a hobby boating group, the Camarillo Pond Rats, had been using the enclosed pond in the northern portion of the Park. The University maintains an easement agreement with Camrosa Water District for the same pond for use as part of its water treatment system. Access issues both through the Park and to the pond are currently under review. The Pond Rats were invited to attend the Community Stakeholder Focus Group but did not make it to the session.

The fourth core concept of the POU, to transition the model airplane use off the park site, is supported by the stakeholders' concerns for safety and their desire for quiet and engaging outdoor recreation and educational experiences. The interest and preferences are for outdoor learning, hiking, bicycling, picnicking; all low-intensity uses that do not require significant support facilities.

The Park is a large area and it may be possible to zone certain areas for varying uses if access, parking and safety could be provided for all users. The current glider use only policy reduces the noise factor that concerned many of the stakeholders and neighboring property owners. A site plan for habitat restoration and/or trail heads may not be compatible with the model airplane use. It depends on what areas of the Park would be restored and/or improved for greater public access. The Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) Site Layout is in the Appendices (Attachment D). It recommends the following flying site specifications¹:
Personnel Side of Flight Area:

Locations Distance Factor (measured perpendicular from edge at runway safety line)

- Runway edge is the basic Safety line or 0
- Pilot line a minimum of 25 feet from safety line
- Pit line a minimum of 45 feet from safety line
- Spectator line a minimum of 65 feet from safety line
- Parking lot a minimum of 80 feet from safety line

¹ AMA Manual

Safety Zone

An additional 250-foot safety zone, added to the OVERFLY AREA, is desirable if any major roads, buildings, or outdoor personnel activities are in the general area or if high-speed or high-performance aircraft are flown.

Should relocation on site be feasible at a minimum these specifications would be required. In addition to the runway, the Condors Club has installed portable restrooms, storage and a shaded overhang area for the flyers.

Other Model Airplane Clubs located in Ventura County are based at Lake Casitas in Ojai and Oak Park, a County Park in Simi Valley. In addition there is the Apollo 11 Club based at the Sepulveda Basin Recreation Area in the San Fernando Valley.

If the University wishes to proceed with planning for and implementation of the expanded educational and recreational uses in the POU, Park visitation and use will increase. This is a significant factor to consider in the decision-making about relocating the model airplane facilities off site.

Based on the experience of other restored wetland areas in the region, such as Carpinteria Salt Marsh Nature Park and Coal Oil Point Reserve (both located in southern Santa Barbara County), once the site is restored, park visitation increases. Visitors would likely include K-12 students on field trips, university students and researchers in the field sciences, birders, hikers, mountain bikers, senior citizen groups, both tourists and local residents interested in exploring the region's natural areas.

RELATED STUDIES ON OUTDOOR RECREATION

It is interesting to look at statewide recreation trends and preference when planning other recreation and park areas. The 2007 California State Parks Survey on Public Opinions and Attitudes on Outdoor Recreation² polled 2,780 Californians. The results revealed that 98% of the respondents indicated that viewing the natural beauty is an important part of the enjoyment of their most favorite activities. In addition, 93% of the respondents said that feeling in harmony with nature was also important to their enjoyment of the outdoors. ***Californians love the outdoors.***

CA State Parks Opinions and Attitudes Survey 2007	
Walking for fitness or pleasure	74.2%
Picnicking in Picnic Areas	67%
Driving for pleasure, sightseeing, driving through natural scenery	59.8%
Beach activities	59.2%
Visiting outdoor nature museums, zoos, gardens	58.4%
Attending outdoor cultural events	56.3%

² California Outdoor Recreation Plan, 2009

The State survey findings generally indicate Californians' strong preference for outdoor recreation activities. In the survey, 55 outdoor recreation activities were considered. When asked what activity they had participated in the last 12 months, walking for fitness and pleasure topped the list with a 74% participation rate from survey respondents.

As a representation of unmet latent demand, when asked which recreation activities they would like to participate in more often, the majority of Californians chose: 1) Walking for fitness or pleasure; 2) Camping in developed sites with facilities such as toilets and tables; 3) Bicycling on paved surfaces; and 4) Day hiking on trails.

Another local agency Pleasant Valley Recreation and Parks District (PVRPD) recently completed an ***Open Space Trails and Greenway Study***. One of the objectives for the District emerging from the study that relates to the current and future use of University Park was the need to ***coordinate with CI to secure shared use of trails and parking agreements to facilitate trailhead parking and trail connectivity during the summer months and on the weekends, when campus parking isn't in high demand***. Many of the potential trail connections could be from University Park into the National Park Service boundary.

V Evaluation of Resources

The key challenge the stakeholders perceived was the limited budget and funding that would be available for park improvement and ongoing management. Currently the campus's Operations, Planning & Construction (OP&C) department is responsible for maintaining roads, brush clearance, infrastructure, collection of garbage and servicing of the portable toilets on the Park site. The campus has sought, and plans to continue seeking, mutually beneficial partnerships with community organizations such as the Ventura County Fire Department who has helped with brush clearing.

A modest budget was developed and funding allocated for fiscal year 2012/2013. The University's OP&C department has a one-time operating fund budget of \$20,000 from the General Fund and one-time funds of \$60,000 have been allocated to mitigate safety issues. Fences have been erected around existing structures and planning and implementation is ongoing for further safety measures.

The University's Police department has budgeted one-time General Funds of \$45,000 for park patrol and police related operations. The Parking Services department will cover operating expenses through parking fees collected.

If the University proceeds to plan, restore, and improve the Park for additional recreation uses, additional maintenance and operations resources will be needed.

MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION

Additional amenities and increased visitor use will require additional upkeep and maintenance. The University has management and staff resources with operational experience and is well-equipped to maintain the property. The University currently employs over 70 operations personnel, including groundskeepers, electricians and other maintenance personnel. The University can draw on these resources to maintain the property. The University also is in partnership with the California Conservation Corp (CCC) who performs various maintenance and grounds keeping work. Depending on the scale of improvements additional personnel may be needed.

PARK PATROL

More visitor usage will likely require additional park patrol and or ranger services to provide visitors with a safe park experience.

PARTNERSHIP OPTIONS

The University might consider the option of contracting or partnering with other organizations for some park operation, patrol and maintenance support. There are public

and private organizations that specialize in managing and maintaining park and open space properties.

- **The Mountains Restoration and Conservation Authority (MRCA)** is dedicated to the preservation and management of local open space and parkland, watershed lands, trails, and wildlife habitat. The MRCA manages and provides ranger services for almost 60,000 acres of public lands and parks that it owns and that are owned by the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy or other agencies and provides comprehensive education and interpretation programs for the public. MRCA works in cooperation with the Conservancy and other local government partners to acquire parkland, participate in vital planning processes, and complete major park improvement projects.

Table 2 University Park Partners
Ventura County Parks Department
Ventura County Office of Education
Ventura County Fire Protection District
City of Camarillo
Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy
Santa Monica Mountains Trails Council
National Park Service – Santa Monica Mountains Recreation Area
California State Parks
Army Corps of Engineers
Calleguas Municipal Water District
Camrosa Water District
Watershed Coalition of Ventura County (WCVC)
Oakbrook Chumash Interpretive Center, Inc.
Pleasant Valley Recreation and Park District
Camarillo High School
Pleasant Valley School District
Ventura County Community College District
Osher Lifelong Learning Institute
Concerned Off-Road Bicyclists Association
Equestrian Trails Incorporated
Museum of Ventura County
Audubon Society
Native Plant Society
Sierra Club

- **Pleasant Valley Recreation and Park District (PVRPD)** service area is approximately 45 square miles including the City of Camarillo and adjacent unincorporated areas. The District maintains 27 parks and over 250 acres of parkland, open space and recreation areas that provide a wide array of opportunities for area residents, including a senior center, an indoor aquatic center, a community center, dog parks, lighted sports fields, tennis courts, a running track, walking paths, soccer fields, hiking trails, picnic shelters, children’s play equipment, and barbecue areas.

- **California Land Management Services (CLM)** is comprised of several companies dedicated to the operation of outdoor recreation facilities and related hospitality services. CLM Services also offers a variety of consulting services in these same areas of expertise including: visitor services, interpretation, security, janitorial, landscape maintenance, campground maintenance, retail sales hospitality services and resource management.
- **Landscape Maintenance Contractors** There are numerous private enterprises that contract with local park agencies for maintenance of community and neighborhood parks, medians and street trees.

RESTORATION, EDUCATIONAL AND INTERPRETIVE SERVICES

University faculty members are well qualified in many disciplines including teacher education, biology, and environmental science and resource management and will be able to create learning programs for the study of native habitat, wetlands and natural science. In May of 2010 a report by a faculty task force was released which identified a wide range of disciplines and specific classes that currently use or could use the park to support classroom learning. For example, faculty in the Art, Communication, and English departments have brought their classes to the Park for outdoor activities that support classroom learning. Faculty at CI have extensive experience in environmental restoration and are currently involved in restoration projects at other sites. Under the supervision of faculty, CI students have participated in cataloging and restoration of native plants at Ormond Beach, the Channel Islands National Park, and conducting water studies at a field research station in Mexico.

Over the past 10 years, the University has done an excellent job of connecting and working with the surrounding communities it serves. With the collaborative efforts of faculty, students, environmental groups and other community partners and volunteers, the University has the knowledge and capacity to manage the planning, restoration and improvement of the Park and its resources. Furthermore, it is successful at outreach to engage students, families, community organizations and other educational institutions in assisting with outdoor education and recreational experiences at University Park. Table 2 lists possible partners for the University to engage as it moves forward to improve and enhance the park.

FUNDING

The University will need to secure funding to plan and make the capital improvements needed to implement the POU. The State Coastal Conservancy has expressed interest in assisting with planning and restoration funding. There are other State and Federal funding resources available that might be appropriate for funding capital improvements or educational programs associated with University Park.

The University is fortunate to have an established non-profit foundation. The mission of the CSU Channel Islands Foundation is to support and encourage the University's strategic

agenda and institutional mission. The Foundation is the catalyst and conduit through which gifts and endowment income flow to provide immediate and long-term support of the University.

The University can increase its potential for grants by collaborating with other public agencies, local school districts and non-profit organizations. CI may not always need to be the lead agency applying for the grant. In some cases it may be the facilitator or partner in seeking funds with other agencies or non-profit organizations.

State and Federal Grants Numerous governmental agencies provide grant opportunities for local park and recreation agencies. Many grant programs are dependent on the passage of bond measures and state or federal legislative action. The availability of funds can vary from year to year. Many require matching funds from the local agency. The programs have specific project criteria that applicants must meet. Although there are some grants available for operations and recreation/educational programs, most of the state and federal programs focus on the acquisition, development and improvement of parks, trails, recreation facilities and the protection of natural resources. Some agencies such as the Department of Education, Department of Health Services and EPA provide funding for educational programs.

State agencies manage the legislative funding and voter-approved propositions that provide funds for park and recreation agencies. In addition, federal funds are often funneled through state agencies that manage the grant programs. For example, the federal Land and Water Conservation (LWCF) grants and federal transportation enhancement funds SAFETEA-LU are managed by the CA State Department of Parks and Recreation. Table 3 lists some of the potential State and Federal funding partners.

Table 3 Potential Funding Sources

State Funding Sources

California Resources Agency
California River Parkways
State Coastal Conservancy
Urban Greening/Sustainable Communities
Environmental Enhancement Mitigation Fund (EEMP)
Department of Conservation
Department of Fish and Game
Wildlife Conservation Board
Department of Boating and Waterways
Department of Forestry and Fire Prevention
Department of Parks and Recreation
Habitat Conservation Fund
Recreation Trails Fund
Land and Water Conservation Fund
Office of Historic Preservation

Table 3 Potential Funding Sources

Park Bond Funding when available
Department of Water Resources
Flood Protection Corridor Program
Urban Stream Restoration
Flood Control Protection
Proposition 1E Floodway Corridor Program
Integrated Waste Management (Prop 84)

California Conservation Corps

California Coastal Commission Whale's Tail Program

Department of Transportation (CALTRANS)

California State Library- California Cultural Heritage Endowment

California Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Department of Agriculture

Department of Education

Office of Criminal Justice Planning

Department of Health Services

California Arts Council

Federal Funding Sources

Department of Agriculture

National Endowment for the Arts

Environmental Protection Agency Estuary Program

Institute of Museum and Library Services

Department of Energy

Department of Education

NOAA Coastal Zone Estuaries

North America Wetlands Conservation Act

Health and Human Service Department

Center for Disease Control (CDC)

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Other Private or Non Profit Foundations

Trust for Public Land

Channel Islands Foundation (Endowments/Bequests)

Outdoor Company Foundations, e.g. Patagonia

Health Related Foundation, e.g. Kaiser Foundation

Other Company Foundations, e.g. Packard Foundation, Irvine Foundation

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

Corporate Giving/Sponsorships/Naming Rights

VI Recommendations/Conclusion

The Needs Assessment process conducted confirms that the POU submitted to the National Park Service by the University in 2007 was, and continues to be, appropriate to provide the framework and focus for University Park.

The purpose of the Park as set forth is to provide educational and recreational opportunities open to all through habitat restoration activities, maintenance of open spaces, and development of ecological, cultural, and recreational facilities and programs.

The POU document discussed four elements: a “Native Habitat Program”, “Trailhead and Hiking Trails”, “Open Space” and “Model Airplanes”. Results of the focus sessions reaffirmed the first three. The POU stated that the Condors will relocate by the end of five-years. Model Airplanes were mentioned during the Needs Assessment process but comments were infrequent and inconsistent. To support the POU and the Needs Assessment findings, model aircraft would need to be relocated off-site or, if feasible, allowed on-site in accordance with the flying site specifications of the Academy of Model Aeronautics (Attachment D). Furthermore, any potential on-site use of RC planes would be constrained to address stakeholder concerns about safety and noise pollution. The following Guiding Principles are recommended as the University moves ahead with planning for the Park’s future:

- Stewardship of natural resources and open space in perpetuity for public education and low-intensity, passive outdoor recreation.³
- Trails and trailheads that are accessible and connect with CI campus and residential areas and serve as the western gateway to other recreation areas.
- Habitat restoration and enhancement of the riparian corridor will provide educational opportunities, designed to address the overarching goal of restoring and improving the health of the many facets of the ecosystem.
- Partnership and outreach with a cooperative spirit that engages community partners and fosters volunteerism in ongoing maintenance, environmental education, restoration and trail related program.
- Sustainability through best practices that promote science based open space management and utilizes sustainable design to minimize future maintenance needs and extend Green Campus to the Park.

Based on the Needs Assessment Process and Analysis the following recommendations are presented in Table 4.

³ The U.S. EPA defines passive recreational activities as ones that do not require prepared facilities like sports fields or pavilions, place minimal stress on a site’s resources, and are highly compatible with natural resource protection. Examples include hiking, wildlife viewing, and bicycling.

Table 4 Recommended Actions

Action Item	Time Frame
Assess management and operations capacity and funding for current and future park plans.	Immediate
Pursue viable funding and management partners such as the Trust for Public Land and the California River Parkway Program to implement Guiding Principles.	Immediate
Initiate a process to secure professional services to work with University staff and faculty to develop a Master Plan for the Park. Key components of the plan would include: Park Vision and Phasing of Improvements. Habitat Restoration and Enhancement. Trailheads and improved access to trails that connect locally and to Santa Monica Mountains. Site plan for scale and location of support amenities and improvements i.e. access, parking, signage, restrooms Estimated costs for Park improvements and operations.	Fall of 2013
Engage community stakeholders and partners in the master planning process.	2014
Develop the Park's image as a positive, viable community asset and safe place for outdoor recreational experiences. Specific actions could include hosting public events such as guided field trips at the park and marketing recreational opportunities to community organizations.	Ongoing
In partnership with local schools and/or nonprofit organizations that promote environmental stewardship, develop and provide interpretive and educational programs.	Ongoing
Practice science-based open space management and utilize sustainable design practice to minimize future maintenance costs.	Ongoing
Balance recreation use with the preservation of native habitat and natural resources to leave a permanent legacy of open space stewardship.	Ongoing

VII Appendices

Attachment A Park Site Map



Attachment B
Part A:
Acceptance of Terms and Conditions by the Applicant

Date: 1 May 3, 2007

To: U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 2 Mr. David Siegenthaler

1111 Jackson Street, Suite 700 Oakland, CA 94607-4816

The undersigned, 3
California State University Channel Islands,

hereinafter referred to as the Applicant or Grantee, acting by and through
4 Richard R. Rush, President

CSU Channel Islands One University Drive, Camarillo, CA 93012
(805) 437-8400

hereby makes application to the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, acting for and on behalf of the Secretary of the Interior pursuant to 40 U.S.C. § 550 (e), and in accordance with the regulations and policies of the U.S. department of the Interior for the transfer of the following property which has been declared surplus by

5 Ventura County,

and which property may be transferred to another governmental agency, subject to approval by the National Park Service, pursuant to the provisions of the Quitclaim Deed, filed August 28, 1985, in Official Records of Ventura County, as Document No. 093956.

Property: 6
The City of Camarillo, Ventura County, California

Acres: 7 236

General Services Administration Control Number: _____

The property is more fully described in Part B of this application, attached hereto and made a part thereof. Enclosed herewith as Part C of the application is a resolution or certified statement showing the authority of the undersigned to execute this application and to do all others acts necessary to consummate the transaction.

PART B – Justification for Acquiring Property

1. Description of Property

(a) Narrative: The University is interested in acquiring Parcel 14, consisting of 236 acres transferred to the County of Ventura Board of Supervisors in August 1985 (Property). The Property was originally part of the Rancho Guadalupe and is currently southeast and east of the intersection of Lewis Road and University Drive. Specifically the northwest portion of the area is bounded by Calleguas Creek, with the remaining sides encircled by the foothills to the Santa Monica Mountains. The majority of the property consists of grasses, bushes and trees. The center of the parcel is relatively flat meadow area, averaging about 100 feet above sea level. There is a relatively steep and hilly terrain, particularly on the south section of the property that extends westward toward Calleguas Creek. There are three wetland areas which total 24 acres, as indicated by the Camarillo Regional Recreation area map provided by the County of Ventura.

The Property has one entrance/exit that is protected by a locked gate. There is no electricity at the site. A grass airstrip designed for model airplanes with two wind socks and three small storage sheds have been built on the Property. A gravel parking lot has been built near the airstrip. In addition a shaded overhang approximately 100 feet long has been built on the edge of the airstrip. A gravel road leads to this recreational area. Unimproved dirt roads wind through the remaining interior of the Property. The skeleton and foundation of the dairy and an animal feeding building used by the former Camarillo State Hospital are also on the Property and in disrepair.

(b) Maps:

(c) Legal Description: From description in QUITCLAIM DEED Dated May 30, 1985, and Recorded August 28, 1985 in Official Records of Ventura County, California, as Document No. 093956.

That portion of the Rancho Guadaldasca, in the County of Ventura, State of California, as granted by the United States of America to Isabel Yorba by letters of Patent dated September 1, 1873, recorded in the office of the County Recorder of said County in Book 1, Page 153, et. seq., of Patents described as Parcel 1 in the deed to the United States of America recorded April 17, 1973, in Book 4101, Page 237, of Official Records in said office of the County Recorder lying easterly of the following described line:

Beginning at a point on the First Course recited as "South 47° 23' 33" East 1661.63 feet" in said Parcel 1, said point being distant North 46° 27' 30" West 190 feet, from the southeasterly terminus of said 1st course; thence

1st – South 46° West 250 feet; thence,

2nd – South 55° West 500 feet; thence,

3rd - South 59° West 450 feet; thence,

4th – South 88° West 150 feet; thence,

5th – South 71° West 600 feet; thence,

6th – South 41° West 480 feet; thence,

7th – South 50° West 320 feet; thence,

8th – South 66° West 640 feet; thence,

9th – South 83° West 350 feet; thence,

10th – North 73° West 400 feet to the northwesterly line of that certain access easement, 60 feet wide, described in said deed to the United States of America; thence along said westerly line by the following three courses,

11th – South 30° 26' 53" West 350 feet, more or less, to the beginning of a tangent curve concave northwesterly having a radius of 770 feet; thence,

12th – Southwesterly along said curve through a central angle of 41° 06' an arc length of 552.34 feet; thence tangent to said curve,

13th – South 71° 32' 53" West 50.00 feet to the beginning of a nontangent curve concave southeasterly, having a radius of 1137.29 feet, a radial line of said curve to said point bears North 18° 32' 01" West; thence,

14th - Southwesterly along said curve through a central angle of 32° 17' 04" an arc distance of 640.83 feet, more or less, to the northeasterly terminus of the 31st Course as described in said Parcel 1.

Except from the remainder that portion thereof lying northerly of the following described line.

Beginning at the northeasterly terminus of the 27th Course recited as "South 52° 51' 18" West 3213.40 feet" in said Parcel 1; thence along the northeasterly prolongation of said course.

1st – North 53° 47' 11" East 40 feet; thence,

2nd – North 76° West 1100 feet; thence,

3rd – North 58° West 250 feet; thence,

4th – South 88° West 100 feet; thence,

5th – North 75° West 1075 feet; thence,

6th – South 54° West 175 feet; thence,

7th – North 81° West 250 feet; thence,

8th – North 86° West 300 feet; thence,

9th – South 84° West 150 feet; thence,

10th – North 50° West 300 feet, to an intersection with the first hereinbefore described line.

And including a nonexclusive access easement, 60 feet wide, from Lewis Road along a paved road known as Camarillo Road to the above described property.

But reserving to the Grantor, its successors and assigns, an undefined access easement from Camarillo Road to the parcel of land currently owned by the Grantor and lying to the east and northeast of the above described Property.

Also reserving to the Grantor, its successors and assigns, an easement to crossover that portion of the above described Property lying north and northwest of Calleguas Creek along with the right to draw water therefrom.

(d) Photographs: showing topography, roads buildings facilities and points of interest

2. Program of Utilization

- (a) Narrative: Camarillo Regional Park is located at the western base of the Conejo and Santa Monica Mountains, and south of the City of Camarillo, in southern Ventura County. The park is situated on the east bank of Calleguas Creek, immediately downstream from its confluence with Arroyo Conejo. Wetland habitats have developed on the upslope side of the left bank levee at the park, including approximately 24 acres of riparian and seasonal wetland habitat. About 200 acres of the park contain natural vegetation; developed portions of the park occupy about 30 acres.

The park has a varied landscape, including steep mountain slopes and cliff faces, as well as lowland areas with both upland and wetland habitats. The site contains two small valleys separated by a low hill and saddle that bisects the property east and west. The southern portion of the park contains the remains of an old dairy, as well as fill material that forms the base of a paved model airplane runway and unpaved parking lot. Hill slopes adjacent to the lowland areas are dominated by native coastal sage scrub and southern cactus scrub communities. Wetland and riparian plant communities on the site include willow riparian woodland, freshwater marsh, southern willow scrub, mulefat scrub and alkali meadow wetlands.

CSU Channel Islands proposes to utilize the Property as a multi-use regional educational and recreation area. It is the University's intention to preserve portions of the Property as open space and wildlife habitat while providing community access, recreation and education programs. We believe that our general plan, outlined below, supports the original Program of Utilization plan, as well as provides value through the University's academic, research, and cultural programs. CI will utilize the Property with an eye toward protecting and restoring natural areas, monitoring and maintaining watershed health, and maximizing multiple-use recreational open space.

NATIVE HABITAT PROGRAM. Portions of the Property will be left managed in their natural state, providing an opportunity to preserve and protect native species. The riparian corridor within the Property will be restored and maintained as well. The site will be used for both research and practical, hands-on experience in wetlands restoration by CSU's undergraduate program in Environmental Science and Resource Management as well as an opportunity for community and educational groups to learn more about the environment. In affiliation with the California Native Plant Society, the public may participate in public planting days to re-seed native plants, and weed removal days. Local and national organizations, such as the California Conservancy, bird watching groups, and the Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology and its museum may provide partnership opportunities with CSU Channel Islands to provide field trips for area K-12 schools, educating future generations about the history of the native peoples of the area and the importance of preserving and protecting plant and animal life in the area. A greenhouse could foster the growth of native plants and field station will help with environmental monitoring of the land as well as water quality. The State Coastal Conservancy has offered its assistance in the design and funding of habitat restoration of the park.

TRAILHEAD and HIKING TRAILS. One of the key plans for this Property is a trailhead and paths with connections to the extensive trail system within the Santa Monica Mountains Zone. The Property is located near the western edge of Point Mugu State Park and it is adjacent to the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area. This location will make it an attractive entry point to this protected corridor.

The University will be able to provide additional value to the public through its Environmental Science and Resource Management (ESRM) program and its Biology program. Docents may be able to provide bird and plant walks for the public, sharing knowledge about local wildlife and plants.

OPEN SPACE. The Property has several large open meadow-like areas that provide the flexibility to serve as open space for single and multi-use opportunities. The University will utilize these areas as passive spaces. These facilities will provide supportive amenities to those visiting the walking trails.

MODEL AIRPLANES. A portion of the property is currently used for the flying of radio controlled model airplanes by a group known as the Channel Islands Condors. The five-year development plan calls for the transition of that property to other uses. The Condors currently operate under a month-to-month lease with the County of Ventura. The County has agreed to make every effort to assist the Condors to relocate by the end of the five-year timeframe, but is under no legal obligation to provide for a new venue.

(b) Schedule of Development: CSU Channel Islands intends to maximize partnerships with various environmental and educational organizations to create the facilities and programs proposed.

The sheet metal and steel frame remains of the barn and the small, one story concrete building that was used for animal storage and feeding are an attractive nuisance and will need to be removed. The University will work with its current construction contractors to provide pro bono assistance for site clean up. This work will commence in the first year.

Faculty and students at the University are currently involved in many of the activities that are suggested for the Native Habitat Education development activities. Creation of the educational curriculum is planned to begin in the first year. The University will train teacher credential students in the curriculum, embedding them in local classrooms beginning in the 2007-08 academic year. The University intends to invite area schools to implement field trips by winter of year two.

With the assistance of students and environmental groups, initial monitoring of plants and wildlife will begin in year one. More aggressive planning and action, including restoration of the riparian and other areas will begin by the end of the second year. The greenhouse will cost \$7,500, and a plant grow-out facility is estimated to cost \$3,000. Planning for this structure will begin in year two, with completion by year four.

The University will work with the California Coastal Conservancy and the RTCA to determine the best location for the trail head, and jointly plan and create the trailhead and hiking trails. Initial conversations have already begun in this area. Planning is intended to begin in year one with construction to follow. Designs for the open space will begin in year four with completion in year five.

Upon completion of the trailheads an automated solar powered gate counter will be installed at an estimated cost of \$20,000. This will allow a more accurate count of users, which will assist the University in the future planning and maintenance of the site.

Based on the experience of other restored wetland areas in the region, such as Carpinteria Salt Marsh Nature Park and Coal Oil Point Reserve (both located in southern Santa Barbara County), we anticipate that once it is restored the site will attract significant numbers of additional visitors per year. Those visitors would include K-12 students on field trips, university students and researchers in the field sciences, birders, hikers, mountain bikers, and both tourists and local residents interested in exploring the region's natural areas.

(c) Site Plan: location of buildings and other areas

The trailhead and hiking trails will be located to best connect with existing trails in the area. The greenhouse will be located on the slab of the dairy remains. Open space and other low impact recreational uses will be created near the center of the Property, north and east of the airstrip. Existing riparian areas will be restored in their existing locations. (d) Historic Preservation Plan: Not Applicable

3. Need

The population of Ventura County is 742,000 and Camarillo is estimated to have over 61,000 residents. Even with the SOAR initiative limiting the growth of development in Ventura County it is estimated that the County will grow to 854,580 by 2010.

There are currently 27 parks in the Pleasant Valley Recreation & Park District. The District and the City of Camarillo recommend that for each 1,000 persons, a total of 5 acres of parkland be available per 1,000 residents.

Current access to the Santa Monica Mountain Zone in this area is through the Satwiwa Trailhead in Newbury Park and Sycamore Canyon at Mt. Mugu State Park. There are no other trailheads located in the 18 mile stretch of the Rancho Sierra Vista portion of the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area. Trailheads located on the Property will provide an important access point for hikers to explore this recreational area.

It is important to offer residents not only the space to interact with nature, but also to provide an educational foundation about the land and our relationship to it. There is an increased interest in environmental issues in the country and in this area. The County has an opportunity to tap the educational resources of the University to augment the type of services offered to its residents. The University is the "Green Campus" and it is proud to be affiliated with efforts to educate the public about the environment. In addition, as the "Green Campus" the University sees the need to maintain and restore native plants and the greenhouse will help meet that need.

For the purposes of educational and environmental management, we anticipate that increasing numbers of people will visit the Property, primarily through guided field trips offered to area K-12 students and hikers connecting to Santa Monica Mountains zone trails.

Summary. Restoration of the wetlands at Camarillo Regional Park has been recommended as one of the principal elements in the Calleguas Creek Watershed Wetland Restoration Plan, (prepared for the State Coastal Conservancy and US EPA by David Magney Environmental Consulting in October 2000 and available at

<http://www.calleguas.com/ccbrochure/reportId.html>). The conceptual plan for the restoration of the site was adopted by the Calleguas Creek Watershed Steering Committee. The conceptual restoration design for the site outlined in that plan calls for removal of the levees on river left, restoration of the interactions between the channel and floodplain, control or removal of invasive exotic plants, and revegetation of the floodway and adjacent uplands with native plant communities. Restoration of approximately 24 acres would increase the wetland functionality of the entire site by improving such features as surface and subsurface hydrology, sediment mobilization and storage, native plant and faunal communities, and interspersed and connectivity for animal populations.

In addition, a later study in August 2004 identified both direct and indirect effects to wetland functions resulting from implementation of four different project scenarios, including two wetland restoration project proposals. The analysis, entitled “Wetland Functional Assessments (HGM) of the Camarillo Regional Park Wetland and Golf Course Project Scenarios, Ventura County, California” by David Magney Environmental Consultants used a regional HGM model to compare changes in wetland functions of the four project scenarios compared to baseline conditions. The study is available online at www.magney.org/pdfs/CamRegParkHGMReport-final.pdf.

4. Suitability

Vegetation communities at the park include substantial acreages of coastal sage scrub, mulefat scrub, southern willow scrub and southern willow riparian forest and include several other plant species. Biological surveys have observed a wide variety of wildlife species on the property. Riparian enhancement at the Property would benefit a host of plants and animal habitats.

The Property is currently minimally used and much of the land is in its original undeveloped state. The pristine nature of the existing land provides the opportunity to maximize the use of the Property for education as well as low impact recreational uses. Through the academic programs, experienced faculty and student volunteers, the University is an enormous resource that will add to the enjoyment of the outdoor experience through the anticipated programs that will be offered to schools and the public. Residents of the county will have the opportunity to explore native habitat in a location that is literally minutes from urban areas.

The Property is easily accessible through Lewis Road. The County bus transportation route to the University passes directly by the entrance and could provide further access to County residents.

5. Capability

The University currently operates and maintains its 675-acre campus, including buildings, infrastructure, botanical areas, open space and playing fields. The organization and staff of the University have the operational experience and are well-equipped to maintain the Property. The University currently employs over 70 operations personnel, including groundskeepers, electricians and other maintenance personnel. The University will be able to draw on resources from this group for maintenance of the Property. The University also is in partnership with the California

Conservation Corp (CCC) and a team of CCC currently lives on campus and performs various maintenance and grounds keeping work.

Expert faculty in the areas of teacher education, biology, and environmental science and resource management will be able to create learning programs for the study of native habitat. Faculty at CI have extensive experience in environmental restoration and are currently involved in local efforts in this area. Under the supervision of faculty CI students have participated in cataloging and restoration of native plants at Ormond Beach, the Channel Islands, and conducting water studies at a field research station in Mexico.

With the joint efforts of faculty, students, environmental groups and other community partners, the University has the knowledge and capacity to restore native plant and riparian areas.

Part C:

**Sample Resolution/Certification of Authority to Acquire Property
[sample only; Resolution of CSU Board of Trustees to be drafted]**

Whereas, certain real property owned by the County of Ventura, located in the City of Camarillo, County of Ventura, State of California, has been declared surplus and, with the approval of the National Park Service,, may be transferred to another governmental agency, in accordance with the provisions of the Quitclaim Deed from the United States of America to the County of Ventura, and said real property is more particularly described as follows:

Parcel 14, consisting of 236 acres, as described in the attached legal description (Property)

Whereas, California State University Channel Islands (University) needs and will use the Property for open space, wildlife habitat and educational and recreational purposes as set forth in its application and in accordance with the requirements of said Quitclaim Deed and any regulations and policies promulgated thereunder;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the University shall make application to the National Park Service for its approval to secure the transfer from the County of Ventura of the Property for said use and subject to such expectations, reservations, terms, covenants, agreements, conditions, and restrictions acceptable to the University as the National Park Service and the Federal disposal agency may require in connection with the disposal of the Property under said Quitclaim Deed and the regulations and policies issued in accordance therewith.

Be It Further Resolved that the University has legal authority, and is willing and able, to properly develop, maintain, operate, and assume liability of the Property, and that Richard R. Rush, President of California State University Channel Islands is hereby authorized, for and on behalf of the California State University to do and perform any and all acts and things which may be necessary to carry out the foregoing resolution, including the preparing, making, and filing of plans, applications, reports, due diligence investigations, CEQA filings, and other documents, the executions, acceptance, delivery, and recordation of agreements, deeds, and other instruments pertaining to the transfer of the Property, including the filing of copies of the application and the conveyance documents in the records of the governing body, and the payment of fees or costs incurred in connection with the transfer of said property, and for survey, title searches, environmental site assessments, recordation of instruments, or other costs necessary for the transfer to the University of the Property.

California State University

I, ____, hereby certify that I am the ____ of the California State University; and that the foregoing resolution is a true and correct copy of the resolution adopted by the vote of a majority of the members of the Board of Trustees of the

California State University, present at meeting of said body on the ____ day of ____
_____, 20 _____, at which a quorum was present.

Acceptance by the United States of America

The foregoing application is hereby approved and accepted by and on behalf of the Secretary of the Interior for the United States of America this _____ day of _____, 20____.

(Signature)

(Title)

(Officer)

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Attachment C.1

University Park Needs Assessment

Stakeholder Interviews Summary

Introduction

CI is engaging University staff, faculty, students and community leaders in a Needs Assessment process to plan for the future uses of University Park (370 acres of land adjacent to the campus on the north). The purpose of the park is to provide educational and recreational opportunities open to all through habitat restoration activities, maintenance of open spaces, and development of ecological, cultural, and recreational facilities and programs.⁴

Community involvement is essential to an effective needs assessment process. One step in the process is community stakeholder interviews. To that end, six (6) interview sessions were held and one agency submitted response in writing. Each of the interview sessions were scheduled for 45 minutes; and included representatives from City of Camarillo, Pleasant Valley Recreation and Park District, University Glen, the County Board of Supervisors, CI Environmental Studies, and US Naval Base.

The interviews provide the opportunity to discuss, issues, opportunity and challenges, in managing University Park. These interviews lay the ground work for the Needs Assessment planning process. The interview questions are included at the end of the summary. The stakeholders' comments are summarized in topical categories derived from the interviews conducted by Barbara Harison. There is some overlap and redundancy in the different categories e.g. a response listed as an issue may also be listed as an improvement needed. This summary strived to be true to the responses from interviewees. When the same response was given more than once a (✓) check mark is used to indicate the repeated response.

Stand Out Features of the Park

People were asked what stood out for them as they visited or viewed the park property. A variety of responses were given with the several comments emphasizing the great potential of the open space and parkland particularly for trails and wetlands restoration.

- Great undeveloped resource tucked away and potential✓✓✓
- Trailhead linkages to University Glen and SMM trails and access for the community for hiking and to bikeway in the future✓✓✓
- Canvas for opportunities – University as shepherd of the park✓
- Diversity of topography and Calleguas Creek Riparian Transition Zones✓

⁴ University Park Brief, September 2012

- Potential bike path to link University with City✓
- Break levee to have more area as wetland resource✓
- Amenity for research and workshop for environmental studies
- PVRPD ready to cooperate
- Creek for education and outreach
- Historic use of Dairy
- Secluded venue for concerts
- Natural park not for recreation sports fields
- Opportunity to increase habitat value, wildlife and opens space resource for community
- Opportunity for Synergy with Casa Pacifica and Rain Shelter
- Trails with exercise benches
- Discourage motor use
- No night lighting
- Fencing an issue if access increases
- Scenic quality - no grading on hills
- Outdoor classroom
- Horrible condition of dairy

Important Values in Planning for Future Improvements/Uses

Important values cited include wetlands habitat restoration and the stewardship of the open space for passive recreation consistent with the deeds and transfer of the park from the County of Ventura to the University.

- Wetlands habitat value protect and revitalize✓✓
- Stewardship of Open Space ✓
- True to the deeds and transfer of park land✓
- Passive recreation use of open space and trails ✓
- More amenities and access for University Glen residents✓
- Tie in with PVRPD and SMM and County General Plan
- Match with desires and vision
- Highest and best use
- Possible changes to deed restrictions
- Methods to mitigate or handle nuisances such as noise from model airplanes
- Sustainability of resources and improvements
- Master Plan in manageable portions
- Opportunities for joint use and collaboration with other agencies
- Incremental budget increases
- Revenue generating opportunities
- Access to nature for disabled
- Opportunity for University to intersect and connect with the community
- Present natural areas through community education
- Bring back natural areas and foothills and educate (informal signing and teachable spaces)

- Compatibility with Naval Base Ventura County's operations. Per DOD policy, passive recreational use is compatible with NBVC's operations.

Opportunities for Future Use

The top opportunities for future use based on the interview comments are access to trails, maintaining wildlife habitat corridor and wetlands and other passive recreation uses.

- Access to trail system and linkages✓✓✓✓✓
- Maintain wildlife habitat corridors, wetlands and values✓✓
- Passive recreation e.g. hiking, picnics✓✓
- Potential impact that benefits the City of Camarillo and University Students –bikeway to ride bicycle to campus✓
- University as Gateway to Camarillo tie in with Lewis Rd. Plan
- Possible agricultural use
- Research
- Revenue enhancement opportunities
- Nice playground
- Can there be some active facilities?
- Outreach to families – one night camping example
- Senior citizens to park for walking – outdoor experience
- Concerts
- Wedding venue
- Parking
- Open space education and interpretation
- Wetlands use for water percolation (Reference Magney Study)✓
- Outdoor learning area/classroom
- Connect campus to the park other than via road
- Example of sustainable green campus with park
- Short courses on ecology with field observation

Challenges/obstacles to Future Improvement/Uses

Adequate budget and funding priorities for the park improvement and management are considered challenges. The compatibility of existing uses and or misuses with the future vision for the park will be a challenge.

- Budget and Funding priorities✓✓✓✓✓
- Existing uses: Model Airplane runway some view as negative and risk✓✓✓✓ - Will it remain?
- Parking permits and access✓✓
- University needs to present park as a viable positive community asset and experience – overcome negative vibe re. current uses or misuses of park property ✓✓

- Balance of Nature/Recreation use and determining what is passive and best resource for community✓
- Use of levee for bicycle access to Camarillo✓
- Limited faculty staff capacity to manage the park
- Time Constraints
- Water use
- County benign neglect and non-compliant uses
- Liability of Dairy Building should it stay with restoration or demolish
- Access to power and other utilities
- Deed Restrictions
- Approval process – possible litigation
- Historical Designation on old buildings (Dairy)
- Possible resistance to change from residents and/or users
- Some areas are gated-no access
- Environmental impact constraints
- Maintenance and use of pesticides from agricultural areas
- Keep as natural area less expensive
- Managing use and access via road if park becomes busier
- Improve access/connection from campus to the park
- Need to bring back ecology and make site user friendly and safe -people will come to the park as a destination

Top Priorities

Interviewees were given choices for top priorities in Question # 6 of the Interview Questionnaire included with this summary.

- Developing a comprehensive wetlands and native habitat enhancement program✓✓✓✓
- Developing community outreach, educational and interpretive programs about nature and open space resources ✓✓✓
- Developing trailhead amenities and visitor serving facilities such as picnic areas, rest rooms 5 years out✓✓
- Upgrading and/or developing new trails to link with other trails in adjacent open space areas in the Santa Monica Mountains. ✓✓
- Controlling or eradicating non-native or invasive species of vegetation✓
- Developing a wildfire/vegetation management plan
- Other
- Tie in with County Fire for planning; controlling non-native or invasive conflicts with Fire Department Plan✓
- Link trails and bikeway to City
- 5 year phase in for other programs
- Research opportunities for University
- Visitor Center

- Active wetlands – beautiful space –build capacity
- If only environmental amenities – budget drain

Next Steps

Based on the responses the University should move forward with an implementation plan or master plan and continue to involve the public and other government and community organizations.

- Develop an implementation plan and continue and vet to public ✓✓✓✓
- Work with other gov't agencies and weigh various options
- Master Plan and Vision✓
- Identify funding to cover expenses
- Share needs assessment and plans with Calleguas Management especially on issues of levee and natural flood plain
- Consider changing hydrology restore to original drainage
- Identify partners to work with and build buy-in
- Contact NBVC as plans progress to ensure that the park's future uses are compatible and do not conflict with Naval Base operations,

Other

- University is a positive for the City or Camarillo. University should be considered as part of Gateway to the City
- University brings employment to the area and enhances City tax base
- University brings cultural and educational benefits to the City
- Possible tie in of Commons with local hotels
- Growth in student population but agricultural land will remain
- Safety and Security for housing area for students and faculty important
- Measures are in place to protect Environment – CEQA
- Interviews would be more candid without University staff present.
- Collaboration important to PVRPD
- Compatibility of current use with outcome of this effort and lead in to Master Plan
- Revenue opportunities
- Proposed Camarillo Housing Development could take up agricultural land; even more important to have open space and nature
- Impressed with the process and look forward to seeing input of others

University Park Needs Assessment
Stakeholder Interviews

Introduction

The University is engaging University staff, faculty, students and community leaders in a Needs Assessment process to plan for the future uses of University Park (370 acres of land north of the campus). The intent of the interview is to facilitate an open dialogue about the opportunities for outdoor education and recreation at University Park.

The purpose of the Park is to provide educational and recreational opportunities open to all through habitat restoration activities, maintenance of open spaces, and development of ecological, cultural, and recreational facilities and programs.⁵

1. Have you visited the University Park Site?
2. What stands out for you as you view or walk around the park space?
3. What do you see as the most important values in planning for future improvements and uses within the Park?
4. What do see as the opportunities for future use at the Park?
5. What do you see as challenges/obstacles to future improvement or uses within the Park?
6. Do you feel that any of the following should be a priority for CI University Park in the next five years?
 - ___ Developing trailhead amenities and visitor facilities such as picnic area, rest rooms
 - ___ Developing community outreach, educational and interpretive programs about nature and open space resources
 - ___ Developing a comprehensive wetlands and native habitat enhancement program
 - ___ Upgrading and/or developing new trails to link with other trails in adjacent open space areas
 - ___ Developing a wildfire/vegetation management plan
 - ___ Controlling or eradicating non-native or invasive species of vegetation
 - ___ Other

⁵ University Park Brief, September 2012

7. What immediate next steps does CI need to take to prepare for the future?
8. Other comments:

NOTE: All interviews will be confidential. No statements will be attributed to a specific individual. A summary report will be produced of all salient thoughts presented.

University Park Focus Groups

AGENDA

1. Welcome
2. Introductions – Group Members
 - a. Sub question: Have you visited the Park?
3. Presentation - University Park Background and Purpose of Focus Group

Facilitated Group Discussion

4. What stands out for you as you view or walk around the park property? – Group
5. What educational or recreational opportunities do you think could be accommodated within the park property? - Group
6. What are the key issues or challenges in using the park to provide new opportunities? - Group
 - What are people concerned about?
 - What is going on in the community that impacts park usage?
- (Break)
7. What do you see as possible solutions to address the issues and expand education and recreational opportunities at the park? – Group
 - What will be different?
 - What will be the same?
8. As you think about the park, CI campus and the surrounding community as a whole; what is your vision for University Park? – Group
9. Closing Comments

University Park Focus Group Memory

February 25, 2013

1:00 p.m.

Broome Library

Facilitated Group Discussion Notes

University staff, faculty and student representatives participated in the Facilitated Focus group. The comments and ideas from the group members were recorded on flip charts that served as the Group Memory. These notes are below. If the responses were the same a ✓ mark is noted.

1. What stands out for you as you view or walk around the park property?
 - Beauty ✓
 - History ✓
 - Potential for hiking –connecting to campus, National Park adjacency
 - Beyond connecting, to land is the beauty in viewing the mountains
 - Wildlife corridor value needs to be retained
 - Nature ✓
 - Birds, bobcats
 - Connect community and University
 - Balance of preservation activities-retain research and curriculum activities
 - Access for study and recreation without over-running space
 - Enormity of space and sense of quietness is valued
 - Peacefulness-retain but share with community expose children to nature
 - Land is disturbed/modified; need to return to natural state
2. What educational or recreational opportunities do you think could be accommodated within the park property?
 - Archery
 - Hiking ✓✓✓✓
 - Mountain Biking ✓
 - Fishing?
 - Barbecue/picnics
 - Shade areas for discussions, outdoor classroom✓✓
 - Rest rooms
 - Photography
 - Environmental Science Students improvement projects
 - School children nature walks
 - Restoration ✓✓
 - Native American Demonstration Village and workshops✓
 - Sustainability
 - Team Building-Ropes Course for Students and University staff✓
 - Tent Camping and Group Camping with fire pit options
 - Geocaching
 - Adaptive walks

- Environmental Science student projects water quality sampling, wildlife measurement/sustainability
 - Use space as outdoor laboratory to educate about natural systems
 - Self-guided interpretation ✓
 - Sociology study of visitor use
 - Kiosk at entry-highlighting current research and activities
 - Use of Web Site for online presence research and interpretation
 - Team bonding opportunities✓
 - Trailheads
 - Natural habitat
 - Ethno-botanical garden
 - Native plant nursery-demonstration sites
 - Yoga, Tai Chi classes, meditation
 - Botanical Interpretation
 - Gateway entry to National Park, Conejo Open Space connection for west Ventura County to mountains
 - Classes on history and therapy of State Hospital
 - Tie in with active sports fields on campus
 - Cross Country Meets
3. What are the key issues or challenges in using the park to provide new opportunities?
What are people concerned about?
- What is going on in the community that impacts park usage?
 - Funding
 - Over regulation by State
 - Maintenance
 - Trash clean up and removal
 - Vehicular control
 - Existing Conditions, removing unsafe features
 - Restore vs. ?
 - Single entrance
 - Parking
 - Potable water, utilities and infrastructure
 - Shade Structure
 - Solar PV Site
 - Incompatible uses: model planes flying, noise and visual distraction other motorized uses
 - Environmental impact of new uses need to have peace with historic users and neighbors
 - Finding shared vision and consensus
 - Consider wildlife and botany impacts
 - Fire safety of new uses
 - Potential conflicts with various trail users
 - High school students use Old Dairy- how to connect and accommodate young people
 - Communication of new plans and programs and rules
 - Equestrian Use

- Consider various Use Zones for portions of the park
 - Risk of over development if all uses accommodated
 - Consider view and impacts of park uses on adjacent property: University Glen, Calleguas Water District, agricultural land etc. and the impacts of chemical use in agricultural operations on park and users.
4. What do you see as possible solutions to address the issues and expand education and recreational opportunities at the park? – Group
- What will be different?
- What will be the same?
- Funding in phases: short, medium and long term; realistic phasing of ultimate plan
 - Self-check in for camping use to minimize staffing challenge
 - CI assert authority if academic and recreation uses are incompatible
 - Balanced public relations with community to assert priorities but accommodate the community
 - Develop clearer identity/image for the park
 - Improve awareness and access for students, University Glen, bus stop, clear pedestrian access, bike paths, parking
 - Trail Maps
 - Permit only camping carefully regulated
 - Utilize university resources to assist with interpretation, trail blazing
 - Use California Conservation Corps, County Probation for work
5. As you think about the park, CI campus and the surrounding community as a whole; what is your vision for University Park? – Group
- Interpretive Village-Cultural Center – history, geography- use park to revive this and phased improvements
 - Cultural and educational focus 2- 3 acres near the entry ✓✓
 - Deal with levee Issue maintenance
 - Group Education – use runway area and other developed area for more intense use
 - Group activity in front entry area
 - University Students – hands on natural science programs
 - Give it back to the County !?!
 - Restore/Return to natural state, remove levee, preserve nature
 - Partnerships: Museum of VC Santa Monica Mountains, National Park Service, Pleasant Valley Recreation and Parks District, California Coastal Conservancy
 - More passive uses further into the park, trail connections to Backbone Trail
 - Park as gateway to the coast
 - Nurture Shared Vision
 - Incorporate clear identified access from athletic fields to park for programs and facilities.

University Park Focus Group Memory

April 2, 2013

3:00 p.m.

Broome Library

Facilitated Group Discussion Notes

Community Stakeholders participated in the Facilitated Focus group. The group included representatives from:

- Camrosa Water District
- County of Ventura Watershed Protection District
- County of Ventura Parks
- Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy
- Casa Pacifica
- Condors Model Airplane Club
- Audubon Society
- Hiking and Mtn. Biking Club
- Ventura County Economic Development Association
- State Coastal Conservancy by phone
- Dos Vientos Homeowners' Association

The comments and ideas from the group members were recorded on flip charts that served as the Group Memory. These notes are below. If the responses were the same a ✓ mark is noted.

1. What stands out for you as you view or walk around the park property?

- Topography
- Callegaus Creek
- Habitat- plants and animals
- Flying site – national recognition
- History (dairy)
- Ponds
- Access to open space area
- Connectivity to Santa Monica Mountains
- Trailhead
- Hot (no shade)
- Feeling of remoteness
- Undisturbed open space
- Storage for flood plain (Need to determine flood plain)
- Habitat restoration would broaden flood plain
- Ghost of Carla Bard
- Special to have unspoiled view of mountains
- Great access for West Ventura County residents
- Calleguas Creek – Coastal Trail link

- As is it is a magnet for undesirable activity (scary dairy)
2. What educational or recreational opportunities do you think could be accommodated within the park property?
- Frisbee Golf
 - Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS)
 - Education opportunity on aerial systems
 - Outdoor classroom –protection for sensitive species
 - Mountain Biking
 - Geocaching
 - Organized team sports – University Athletics and Community
 - Passive use-trails
 - Access for disabled
 - Serve people mental health (consistent with history of the site)
 - Renewable energy education and laboratory
 - Ecological studies (University and K-12)
 - Restoration and education combined
 - Model boating (access to pond borders)
 - Camping
 - Bird watching
 - Horseback riding
 - Dog walking/running
 - 3rd Round Prop 84 funding a possibility
3. What are the key issues or challenges in using the park to provide new opportunities? - Group
- What are people concerned about?
- What is going on in the community that impacts park usage?
- Night use restrictions – lighting can affect habitat
 - Safety/ liability e.g. access to ponds, old buildings✓
 - Impacts on Camrosa Water District operations
 - How would levee be breached
 - 100 year flood plain
 - Utilities – lack of water, rest rooms/facilities
 - One access road – ingress/egress
 - Funding and revenue generation for \$\$✓
 - Balancing habitat with uses✓
 - Goals vs. fiscal sustainability – security, maintenance and operations
 - Lack of connectivity to other trails
 - Federal vetting by NPS as to uses of park
 - Impacts on agricultural operations
 - Fewer buildings/infrastructure less O&M costs
4. What do you see as possible solutions to address the issues and expand education and recreational opportunities at the park? – Group

What will be different?

What will be the same?

- Use of volunteer groups /community based organizations
 - Leveraging assistance through operating leases
 - Fee programs/classes to generate revenue
 - University fund raising – capital campaign
 - Events: mountain biking, marathons
 - Use University business and marketing to develop positive public relations for the park
 - “Good use drives out bad”
 - Use history to highlight the care of mentally ill
 - Restore dairy✓
 - Interpretive opportunity
 - Sell dairy products/concession opportunity
 - Work on getting access to Edison Rd. to connect to Dos Vientos
 - Partnership with Pleasant Valley Recreation and Parks District
 - No obvious conflicts with use groups
 - Minimize infrastructure to reduce O&M costs and liability
 - Use student for park design and engineering-partner with other universities (Cal Poly Studio 606
 - Signage/way finding on Lewis Road and Camarillo St. to direct autos/bikes to the park site
 - Leverage State Coastal Conservancy funding
 - Watershed planning opportunities for funding – mitigation bank
5. As you think about the park, CI campus and the surrounding community as a whole; what is your vision for University Park? – Group
- Huge opportunity to utilize University resources-engineering, environmental studies and student involvement
 - Restored creek, trails, student study opportunities✓
 - One more great CI feature; another chapter of progressive thinking, park as an asset for university and the community✓
 - Animals and plants front and center – park is connector to community
 - Historic preservation opportunities
 - Inter connectivity of Conejo Valley and Oxnard Plain
 - Bicycle on levee to Camarillo
 - Use UAS to leverage education at model airplane site
 - Small events/concerts to attract more people

Attachment D AMA Flight Zone Map

Recommended RC Flying Site Specifications

A. Introduction:

The AMA has determined that most modelers and model clubs are careful in their selection of flying sites, site layout, and operational practices.

The suggested specifications detailed below have been developed to promote improved field management and provide added margins of safety for the ever-increasing numbers of fliers and spectators. Most clubs should be able, with reasonable effort, to comply with this suggested layout for general field arrangement and conditions for sport flying.

The suggested specifications are not mandatory requirements, and compliance with these suggestions does not, of course, guarantee that no accident will occur. The AMA recommends that individual clubs design their flying sites based not only on geographic area available but also on sound sensitivity, obstructions, proximity of neighbors, etc., while incorporating the recommendations presented below. The types of aircraft the site is anticipated to accommodate, such as Giant Scale or small electrics, may effect an increase or decrease of the overfly area. (See FIGURE 2.) When designing or redesigning any flying site the AMA should be contacted with any questions, comments, or concerns regarding specifications, layout, and safety.

The official AMA Safety Code remains the governing factor. All members and clubs should conduct their field operations in accordance with the Code.

Taxi Area:

No landings or takeoffs from this area.

- Provides additional open space between pilots and aircraft during the time when most out-of-control accidents happen.
- Allows taxi room in front of other pilots with less chance of other frequencies interfering with taxiing aircraft.

Barrier:

Designed to stop taxiing models from veering into pilots' and/or spectators' positions. (Includes plastic or chainlink fencing, hay bales, shrubbery, etc.)

Pilot Line:

Set back from runway edge to keep pilots away from aircraft.

B. Personnel Side of Flight Area:

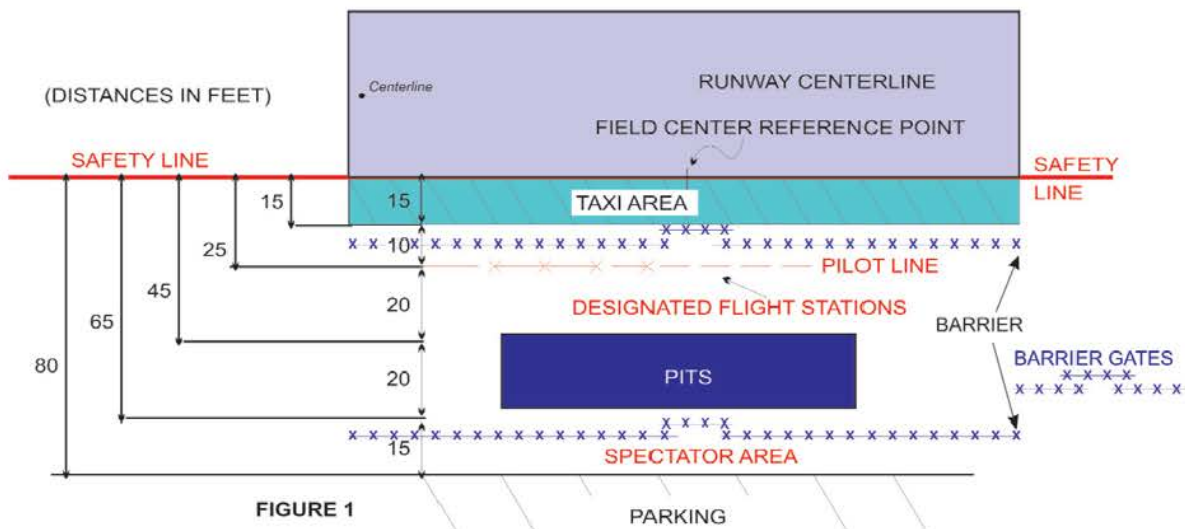
Locations

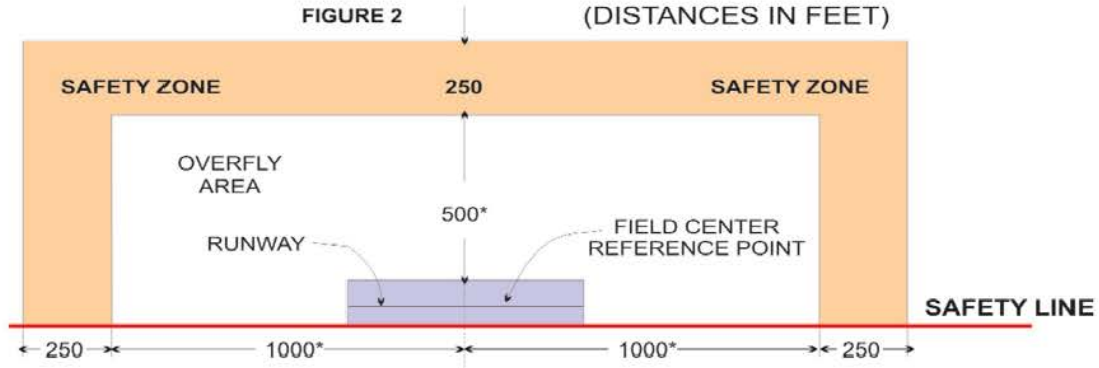
Runway edge is the basic
Pilot line a minimum of
Pit line a minimum of
Spectator line a minimum of
Parking lot a minimum of

Distance Factor (measured perpendicular from edge at runway safety line)

Safety line or 0
25 feet from safety line
45 feet from safety line
65 feet from safety line
80 feet from safety line

Safety Zone: An additional 250-foot safety zone, added to the OVERFLY AREA, is desirable if any major roads, buildings, or outdoor personnel activities are in the general area or if high-speed or high-performance aircraft are flown.





C. Flight Sector:

(Covering a 180° sweep on the flying side of the reference line)

Flight area clear of potential hazards (such as individuals working, playing, or traveling outdoors; buildings having glass surfaces facing the flying area; or a storage facility containing volatile products or compressed gasses) at least 1,000 feet left and right and 500 feet in front of pilot. Most flying is contained within 1,000 feet either end from field center reference point and 500 feet in front of reference point. Field center reference point is shown in FIGURE 1, but is essentially edge of runway at center of field. (See alternate site layouts.)

*Distances referenced may be increased or decreased according to site usage.

D. Signs: Minimum Posting Recommendations for Public Notice

- "Flying Site" (This sign may be incorporated with the field rules but should be the leading words in a larger letter size at the top of the sign. Placement of the sign should be situated so that spectators can easily read it.)
- Field rules
- Current official AMA Safety Code
- "No spectators beyond this point without escort"
- Designated parking area (signs at boundaries)
- Emergency telephone numbers
- GPS coordinates
- Location of nearest hospital or emergency medical facility

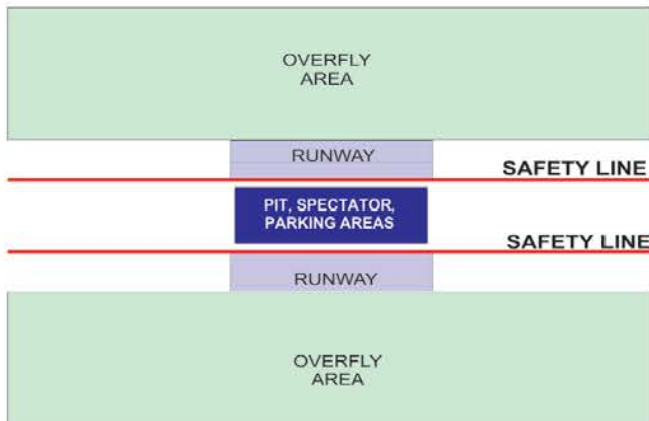
E. Equipment:

Frequency control board
First-aid kit
Fire extinguisher with appropriate ratings

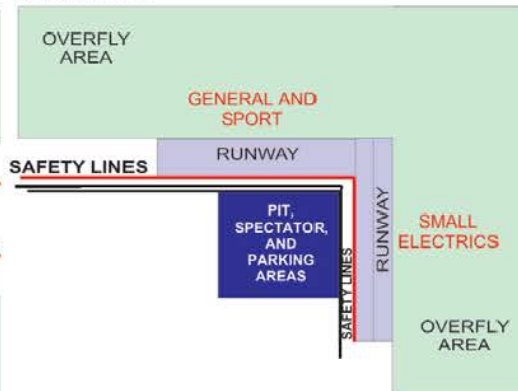
F. Alternate RC Flying Site Suggestions

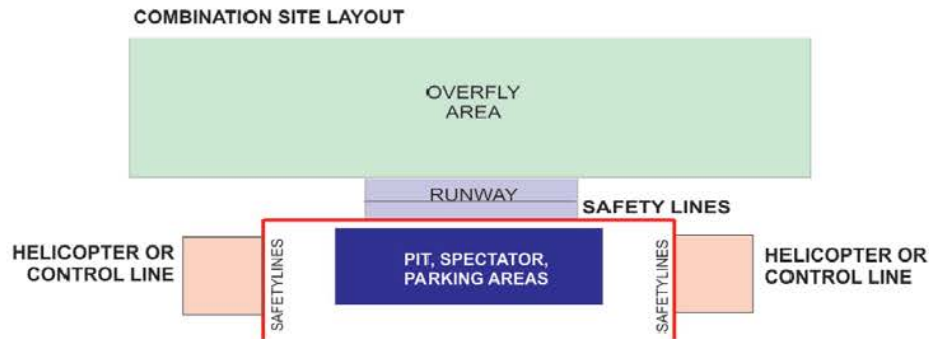
Sites may be configured in various ways to accommodate multiple flying areas for simultaneous use. Care must be taken to fulfill the requirements found in the official AMA Safety Code, including the Specialized Documents. Simplified field layouts are illustrated in the following diagrams. (Not to scale.)

PARALLEL SITE LAYOUT

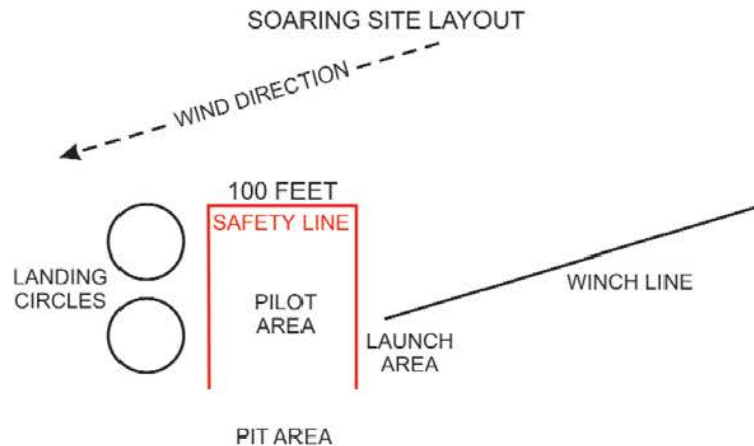


L SITE LAYOUT





Under certain conditions it may be possible to achieve a flying area covering almost 360° as long as care is taken to fulfill Radio Control items 1 and 4 of the official AMA Safety Code. This is especially true for small clubs and general sport flying in rural or low-population-density areas.



From the Official Academy of Model Aeronautics National Model Aircraft Safety Code

Radio Control Section, item 5:

I will not knowingly operate my model aircraft within three (3) miles of any preexisting flying site without a frequency-management agreement.

Frequency-management agreement may be an allocation of frequencies for each site, a day-use agreement between sites, or testing which determines that no interference exists. A frequency-management agreement may exist between two or more AMA chartered clubs, AMA clubs and individual AMA members, or individual AMA members. Frequency-management agreements, including an interference test report if the agreement indicates no interference exists, will be signed by all parties and copies provided to AMA Headquarters.

Spread spectrum technology (2.4 GHz) being sold by most RC manufacturers is completely legal for use in all RC categories. Many of the new Ready-to-Fly (RTF) airplane sets are being delivered with these systems. Spread spectrum does not itself

require keeping track of a specific frequency and will not interfere with systems already in use. Please abide by your local club's frequency-management system.

Document 923-G—AMA Frequency Management Agreements

1st Party

AMA chartered club
AMA chartered club
AMA chartered club
Individual AMA member
Individual AMA member

2nd Party

AMA chartered club
Club not affiliated with AMA
Individual AMA member*
Individual AMA member
Individual not affiliated with AMA

There can be more than two parties involved in a Frequency Management Agreement. Be sure to assign the designated frequencies to all parties and inform all involved members (i.e. post the assignments at the flying site). Please note, that only officers of the chartered club can sign the Frequency Management Agreements on behalf of the club.