



News Release

For Immediate Release
March 9, 2015

Contacts:
Tina Robinson, General Plan Project
Manager
info@planocotillowells.org

California State Parks and the Bureau of Land Management Seek Public Input for Ocotillo Wells State Vehicular Recreation Area General Plan

Borrego Springs, CA – California State Parks and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) will host two public input meetings on the upcoming joint General Plan/Recreation Area Management Plan/California Desert Conservation Area Land Use Plan Amendment (GP/RAMP/LUPA) and Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS) for Ocotillo Wells State Vehicular Recreation Area (SVRA). The meetings will provide the public with opportunities to comment on the [Draft Preferred Alternative/Proposed Action](#), as well as the potential environmental effects of the project. The meetings will be conducted as open houses with staff available at each session to answer questions and take input at any time.

The meetings are as follows:

Temecula Meeting

Wednesday, March 18, 2015
3:30-8:30 p.m.
Temecula Conference Center
41000 Main Street
Temecula, CA 92590

Meeting at Ocotillo Wells SVRA

Saturday, March 21, 2015
12:00-4:00 p.m.
Ocotillo Wells SVRA
Discovery Center
5172 Highway 78
Borrego Springs, CA 92004

As part of the California State Parks General Plan process, a Draft Preferred Alternative is presented for public comment prior to the development of more detailed management policies and the Preferred Alternative proposed in a California State Parks General Plan. The [Draft Preferred Alternative/Proposed Action](#) will serve as the foundation for the Ocotillo Wells SVRA GP/RAMP/LUPA, and was generated based on evaluation of different planning alternatives by California State Parks and the public. It outlines the initial management approach for Ocotillo



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Wells SVRA and includes specific discussion of off-highway vehicle (OHV) recreation, camping, concessions, special events, and facility development, as well as opportunities to balance resource management and recreation. The Draft Preferred Alternative/ Proposed Action, as well as detailed information on this project, is available at www.planocotillowells.org.

California State Parks issued a [Notice of Preparation](#) (NOP) on March 6, 2015 that informs agencies and the public that an EIR/EIS is being prepared to address potential environmental impacts resulting from implementation of the proposed General Plan/RAMP/LUPA for Ocotillo Wells SVRA. The final filing date for comments on the NOP will be Monday April 6, 2015.

Comments may be provided in-person at the scoping meetings or via any of the following methods:

- Mail
 - Contact: Tina Robinson, General Plan Project Manager
California Department of Parks and Recreation
Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division
Ocotillo Wells District
5172 Highway 78, # 10
Borrego Springs, CA 92004
- Phone: (760) 767-1302
- Email: info@planocotillowells.org
- Project website: www.PlanOcotilloWells.org
- Online comments: www.PlanOcotilloWells.org/comment

After the environmental scoping phase is complete, the Preliminary General Plan/RAMP/LUPA will be prepared along with a separate Draft EIR/EIS, which will address the potential environmental impacts of the plan, alternatives, and proposed mitigation to avoid or minimize those impacts that are deemed potentially significant.

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To provide for the health, inspiration and education of the people of California by helping to preserve the state's extraordinary biological diversity, protecting its most valued natural and cultural resources, and creating opportunities for high quality outdoor recreation.

