



# Foundation Document

## Channel Islands National Park

California

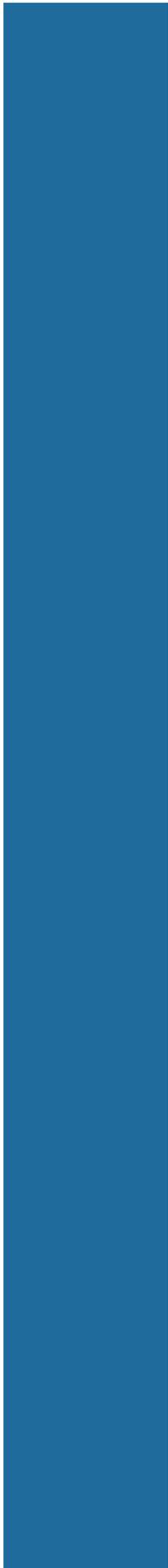
February 2017





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## Mission of the National Park Service

The National Park Service (NPS) preserves unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the national park system for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations. The National Park Service cooperates with partners to extend the benefits of natural and cultural resource conservation and outdoor recreation throughout this country and the world.

The NPS core values are a framework in which the National Park Service accomplishes its mission. They express the manner in which, both individually and collectively, the National Park Service pursues its mission. The NPS core values are:

- **Shared stewardship:** We share a commitment to resource stewardship with the global preservation community.
- **Excellence:** We strive continually to learn and improve so that we may achieve the highest ideals of public service.
- **Integrity:** We deal honestly and fairly with the public and one another.
- **Tradition:** We are proud of it; we learn from it; we are not bound by it.
- **Respect:** We embrace each other's differences so that we may enrich the well-being of everyone.

The National Park Service is a bureau within the Department of the Interior. While numerous national park system units were created prior to 1916, it was not until August 25, 1916, that President Woodrow Wilson signed the National Park Service Organic Act formally establishing the National Park Service.

The national park system continues to grow and comprises more than 400 park units covering more than 84 million acres in every state, the District of Columbia, American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. These units include, but are not limited to, national parks, monuments, battlefields, military parks, historical parks, historic sites, lakeshores, seashores, recreation areas, scenic rivers and trails, and the White House. The variety and diversity of park units throughout the nation require a strong commitment to resource stewardship and management to ensure both the protection and enjoyment of these resources for future generations.



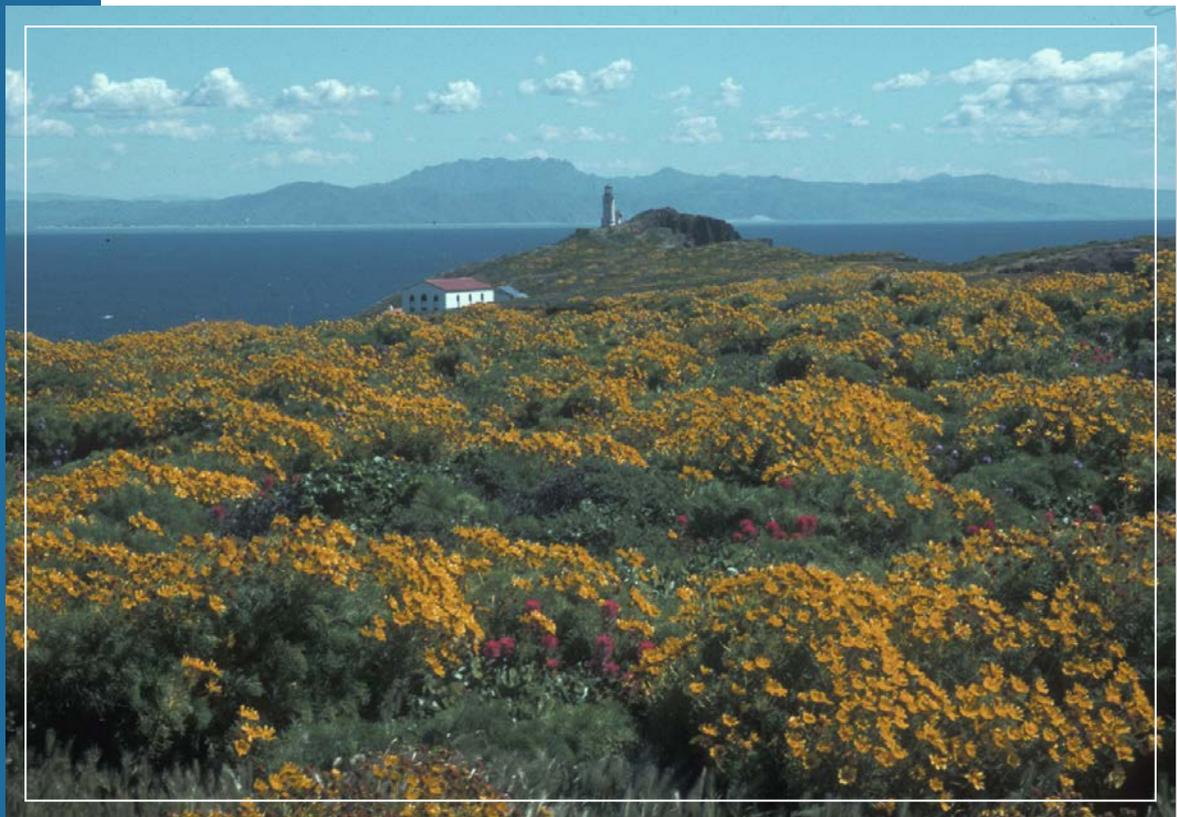
*The arrowhead was authorized as the official National Park Service emblem by the Secretary of the Interior on July 20, 1951. The sequoia tree and bison represent vegetation and wildlife, the mountains and water represent scenic and recreational values, and the arrowhead represents historical and archeological values.*

## Introduction

Every unit of the national park system will have a foundational document to provide basic guidance for planning and management decisions—a foundation for planning and management. The core components of a foundation document include a brief description of the park as well as the park’s purpose, significance, fundamental resources and values, and interpretive themes. The foundation document also includes special mandates and administrative commitments, an assessment of planning and data needs that identifies planning issues, planning products to be developed, and the associated studies and data required for park planning. Along with the core components, the assessment provides a focus for park planning activities and establishes a baseline from which planning documents are developed.

A primary benefit of developing a foundation document is the opportunity to integrate and coordinate all kinds and levels of planning from a single, shared understanding of what is most important about the park. The process of developing a foundation document begins with gathering and integrating information about the park. Next, this information is refined and focused to determine what the most important attributes of the park are. The process of preparing a foundation document aids park managers, staff, and the public in identifying and clearly stating in one document the essential information that is necessary for park management to consider when determining future planning efforts, outlining key planning issues, and protecting resources and values that are integral to park purpose and identity.

While not included in this document, a park atlas is also part of a foundation project. The atlas is a series of maps compiled from available geographic information system (GIS) data on natural and cultural resources, visitor use patterns, facilities, and other topics. It serves as a GIS-based support tool for planning and park operations. The atlas is published as a (hard copy) paper product and as geospatial data for use in a web mapping environment. The park atlas for Channel Islands National Park can be accessed online at: <http://insideparkatlas.nps.gov/>.



## Part 1: Core Components

The core components of a foundation document include a brief description of the park, park purpose, significance statements, fundamental resources and values, and interpretive themes. These components are core because they typically do not change over time. Core components are expected to be used in future planning and management efforts.

### Brief Description of the Park

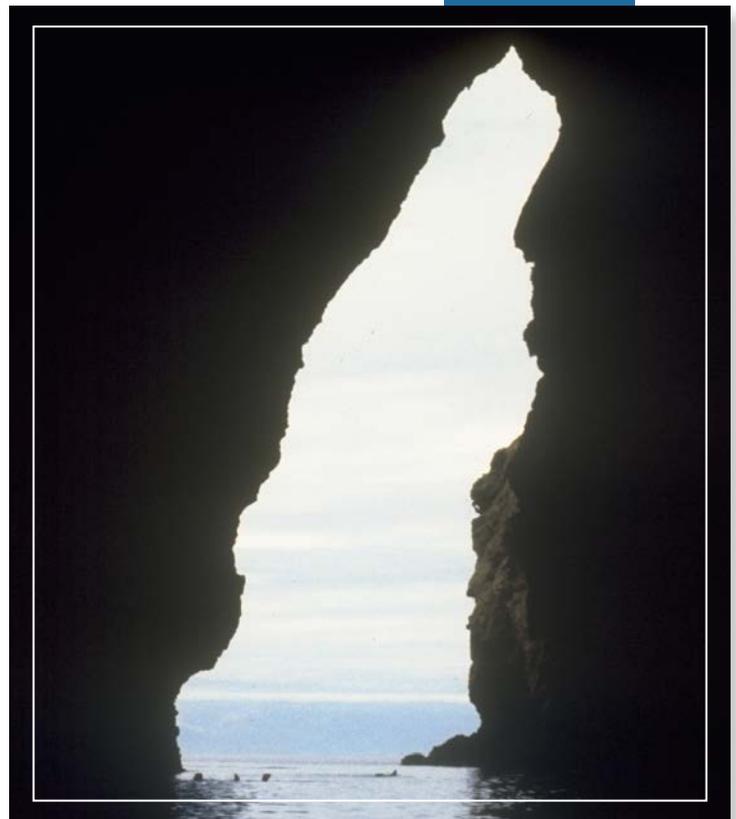
Located off the coast of southern California, the eight Channel Islands and waters of the Southern California Bight encompass a diverse and unique marine environment. Five of the islands—Anacapa, Santa Cruz, Santa Rosa, San Miguel, and Santa Barbara—and the submerged lands and waters within 1 nautical mile of each island, were designated by Congress as Channel Islands National Park on March 5, 1980 (Public Law [PL] 96-199; 16 USC 410ff). The park bridges two major biogeographical provinces within approximately 250,000 acres of land and sea, protecting a rich array of natural and cultural resources. A much larger area, approximately 1,400,000 acres of ocean, lies between the five islands.

The mild climate, with short wet winters, long dry summers, and extensive coastal fog is one of the best examples of the Mediterranean ecosystem in North America. Unique island species of plants and animals persist here, as do island plant communities. Nearly 10% of island plants exist only on these islands.

The nearby confluence of ocean currents swirling around the islands brings nutrients from cold ocean depths into warm sunlight, building one of the most productive marine environments on earth. Giant kelp forests, seagrass beds, rocky reefs, and submarine canyons in the park are populated with more than 1,000 species of fish, invertebrates, and algae. The park provides essential vital nesting and feeding grounds for more than 90% of the sea birds in southern California (some of which are very rare) on pristine sand beaches, rocky tidepools, and sheer cliffs. Twenty-six species of marine mammals (including blue whales) feed, transit, or raise their young in the park because they are near abundant food and are safe from disturbance.

The fact that the islands have never been connected to the mainland has greatly limited the number of species that have reached their shores. Isolation allowed plants and animals to evolve into new species and subspecies different in both their appearance and behavior from relatives on the mainland. The same small populations and limited island habitats that relegate many species to rarity also accelerate evolution of unique life forms. The park represents a wild remnant of coastal California that can be viewed and experienced as a standard for comparisons with other more altered parts of the region.

The park's paleontological record provides evidence of the evolution of the island fauna and the effects on this fauna of human colonization. The Pleistocene paleontological record includes several extinct species, including the Columbian mammoth, island pygmy mammoth, flightless goose, two species of giant mouse, and vampire bat. It also contains the best representation of a Pleistocene marine avifauna on the Pacific Coast.





The archeology of the Channel Islands provides a unique opportunity to understand the historical ecology of Pacific Coast environments and the interaction of maritime peoples with dynamic coastal ecosystems. The natural abundance of the rich terrestrial resources and the surrounding sea has attracted humans to the islands for thousands of years. More than 2,500 archeological resources have been identified within the park boundaries, representing a continuous occupation spanning the entire human prehistory of North America. The oldest positively dated human remains in North America were unearthed on Santa Rosa Island. A site on San Miguel Island shows evidence of occupation as much as 13,000 years ago and has yielded the remnants of a small woven child’s sandal. These native people—the Island Chumash—relied on the sea for much of their sustenance and manufactured tools and trade items from shells and stones. These islands continue to hold meaning for today’s Chumash people. During the last 500 years, Spanish and other European explorers, otter hunters, ranchers, fishers, and the military have used island resources. Historic ranches, military structures, and more than 100 known shipwrecks remain as examples of California’s rich and diverse heritage.

Today nearly 20 million people live within 100 miles of the islands. The waters of the Santa Barbara Channel provide, as well as limit, public access to the islands. Each year thousands of scuba divers explore island reefs and kelp forests. Boaters find shelter in more than 100 secluded anchorages. Thousands of day visitors and campers enjoy island vistas, trails, sea caves, natural sounds, night skies, and tidepools. Researchers and educators find the island environments to be an accessible laboratory of unequalled quality.

Human activities over the last 13,000 years altered island and marine environments. The rate of change greatly accelerated over the past 300 years. The park’s waters once were one of the best places to fish in California. These fisheries, once thought to be inexhaustible, have not been sustainable under traditional management. Keystone species, such as the California sea otter, have been eliminated from park waters. Air and water pollution from nearby metropolitan and industrial developments threaten fragile island ecosystems. Ranching on the islands introduced both nonnative animals and nonnative plants, eliminated vegetative cover, and accelerated erosion.

The introduction of nonnative species to the Channel Islands has imperiled many of the park’s unique plants and animals. For more than three decades, it has been a goal of the park staff to control or eradicate nonnative species that threaten the viability of native island species and function of ecological processes. The park and partner agencies and organizations have achieved tremendous success eliminating invasive mammals from the islands and restoring populations of native species, including the recovery of the island fox and the reestablishment of bald eagles and peregrine falcons. Additional ecosystem restoration efforts are ongoing and will continue.

## Park Purpose

The purpose statement identifies the specific reason(s) for establishment of a particular park. The purpose statement for Channel Islands National Park was drafted through a careful analysis of its enabling legislation and the legislative history that influenced its development. The park was established when the enabling legislation adopted by Congress was signed into law on March 5, 1980 (Public Law [PL] 96-199; 16 USC 410ff) (see appendix A for enabling legislation). The purpose statement lays the foundation for understanding what is most important about the park.

*The purpose of CHANNEL ISLANDS NATIONAL PARK is to protect and connect the public to the nationally significant natural, scenic, wildlife, marine, ecological, historical, archeological, cultural, and scientific values of the Channel Islands in the state of California.*

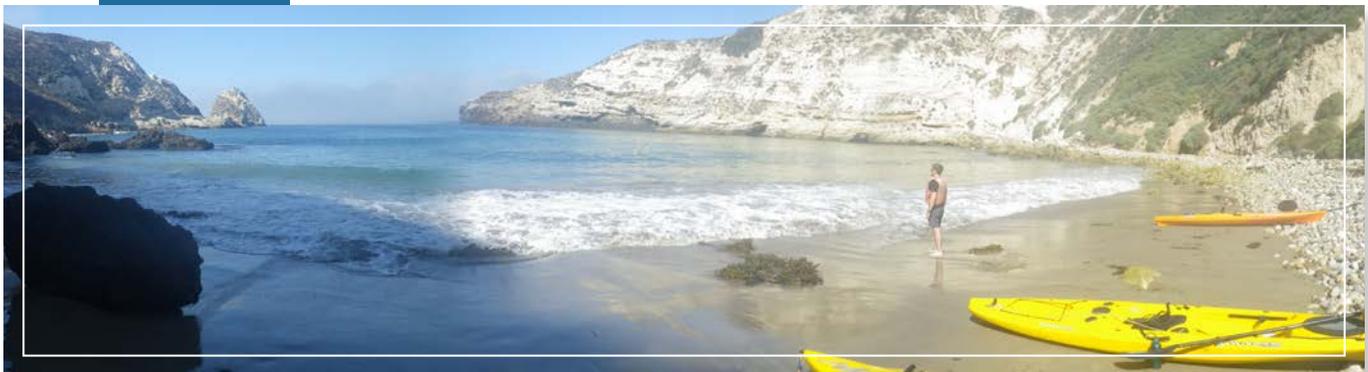


## Park Significance

Significance statements express why a park’s resources and values are important enough to merit designation as a unit of the national park system. These statements are linked to the purpose of Channel Islands National Park, and are supported by data, research, and consensus. Statements of significance describe the distinctive nature of the park and why an area is important within a global, national, regional, and systemwide context. They focus on the most important resources and values that will assist in park planning and management.

The following significance statements have been identified for Channel Islands National Park. (Please note that the sequence of the statements does not reflect the level of significance.)

- Channel Islands National Park is significant for both its natural and cultural resources. The significance of Channel Islands National Park stems from the islands’ remote, isolated position at the confluence of two major ocean currents, a region of persistent oceanic upwelling, and the border of two tectonic plates.
- The isolated and undeveloped nature of the Channel Islands makes them an exceptional laboratory for studying the processes of island biogeography. This unique setting also supports significant research and understanding on the islands’ 13,000 years of interplay between humans and their environment.
- The Channel Islands preserve some of the finest remnants of the coastal Mediterranean-type ecosystem in America. The unique suite of plants and animals that have colonized the islands and their isolation from the mainland and each other over eons has resulted in the evolution of many rare, endemic species and subspecies.
- Channel Islands National Park harbors a prolific paleontological record. A record that spans from as far back as 120,000 years to a time when humans and pygmy mammoths may have coexisted on the islands 13,000 years ago.
- Archeological resources in Channel Islands National Park record some 13,000 years of human occupation and maritime adaptation.
- Channel Islands National Park’s historic structures, landscapes, and sites represent ranching, fishing, hunting, navigation, and other endeavors from a wide variety of cultures.
- The Channel Islands have long been recognized for their scientific values. The extensive archeological record, the unique island ecosystems and taxa, and the isolation from development and human impacts contribute to creating an environment of great interest to researchers, educators, the public, and park management.
- Channel Islands National Park provides the public with almost unparalleled opportunities for solitude, tranquility, wildlife viewing, and appreciation of natural history, outdoor recreation, and education.



## Fundamental Resources and Values

Fundamental resources and values (FRVs) are those features, systems, processes, experiences, stories, scenes, sounds, smells, or other attributes determined to warrant primary consideration during planning and management processes because they are essential to achieving the purpose of the park and maintaining its significance. Fundamental resources and values are closely related to a park's legislative purpose and are more specific than significance statements.

Fundamental resources and values help focus planning and management efforts on what is truly significant about the park. One of the most important responsibilities of NPS managers is to ensure the conservation and public enjoyment of those qualities that are essential (fundamental) to achieving the purpose of the park and maintaining its significance. If fundamental resources and values are allowed to deteriorate, the park purpose and/or significance could be jeopardized.

The following fundamental resources and values have been identified for Channel Islands National Park:

- **Physical Environment and Processes.** Although the park's five distinct islands have never been connected with the mainland, they exhibit significant geological and biogeographical changes over time as the islands rise, sea level rises and falls, and the climate changes. High winds, for example, create unique windswept (eolian) landforms that dominate portions of the park's landscape. Similarly, the islands' dynamic interplay of fog, winds, marine currents, and upwellings provide habitat and food for diverse concentrations of plants and animals.
- **Island Ecology.** Islands are known worldwide for having the greatest number of endemic species. The Channel Islands are no different. Unique island endemic species, such as island chaparral and island fox, have evolved over time to adapt to this harsh and isolated environment. Floral and faunal adaptations that make these islands special also make them vulnerable to human-induced threats that can lead to extinctions.
- **Marine Ecology.** The park represents a complex marine ecosystem. Part of the reason the Channel Islands' underwater habitats are so rich with life is that they lie between two extremely diverse biogeographic provinces (the Oregonian and the Californian), and so include the myriad marine species from both. These organisms thrive here as they are fed by the upwelling of cold, nutrient-rich water, and are somewhat protected by their distance from the mainland. Despite how remote they are, harvest, invasive species, and noise and air and water pollution are still threats.





- **Island/Marine Interplay.** Surrounded by the sea, each of the Channel Islands is fringed by miles of coastal beaches, dunes, wetlands, lagoons, caves, and rocky intertidal areas. The protected shores of Channel Islands National Park host some of the most well-preserved examples of these different kinds of coastal habitats remaining in California. These borderlands offer a unique mix of essential terrestrial and aquatic habitats for sea mammals, seabirds, and invertebrates to feed, rest, and reproduce. Despite their relatively good condition, and the resilience of the creatures that live there, the park's coastal habitats are still vulnerable to human impacts such as trampling, harvest, invasive species, and air and water pollution.
- **Scientific Values.** Channel Islands National Park is a relatively untouched living laboratory that offers a baseline for more highly altered mainland environments. Islands in general are unique. Evolutionary processes work at different rates and endemism is widespread on these isolated islands, making them even more distinctive. They are also small enough to reveal processes and results too complex to interpret in mainland areas. The park is home to one of the longest-running ecological monitoring programs in the nation, which has spurred much research in the park. Decades of study, monitoring, and collections document ecological conditions and human occupation of the islands. The park is the site of much current Pacific Rim archeological research, including evidence of early coastal migration and some of the earliest human occupation of North America. Museum collections numbering 345,000 objects contain archeological, archival, and paleontological materials; botanical and zoological specimens; and objects related to maritime navigation, fishing, ranching, military, and other historic activities on the islands.
- **Ethnographic Resources.** NPS staff and park partners provide outreach to a network of living descendants of people who inhabited the islands thousands of years ago (Chumash) and who maintain a spiritual connection to the islands and its stories. The park retains valuable records and museum collections, including oral histories, diaries, and photos, from people with both recent and older island affiliations.



- **Archeological/Anthropological Resources.** Anthropology has long recognized the value of islands as insular laboratories to study population dynamics, and in this case human adaptations to the changing environmental conditions. Human occupation of the islands has an extremely long time depth, with radiocarbon dates suggesting humans occupied the islands nearly continually for at least 13,000 years. Because the islands lack burrowing animals (e.g., gophers) they have midden sequences that have not been subjected to bioturbation, and provide a fine grained stratigraphy and resolution to cultural sequences that are not available on the mainland. Additionally, the islands and this region in general provide an extraordinary opportunity to examine one of the few places in the world where complex economic systems and social organization (chiefdom level society), as observed by the Spanish explorers and missionaries, developed without the advent of agriculture.
- **Historic Resources.** The Anacapa lighthouse and its supporting structures—the last lighthouse complex to be constructed along the Pacific coast—illustrate the theme of navigational aid development to facilitate maritime transportation. The islands showcase rich historic resources that include ranching, fishing, hunting, navigation, military, and other human endeavors from a wide variety of cultures and time periods. Additionally, the park exhibits remains of shipwrecks associated with the gold rush era, maritime commerce during the period from the 1870s to the present, and the evolution of merchant shipping since the 1870s.
- **Visitor Values.** The park provides unique opportunities for visitors to experience the natural soundscape, scenic views, and dark night skies in an environment with few people present due to the park’s low-intensity, limited-entry legislative requirements. The park also provides unparalleled diving opportunities that provide immersion into little seen underwater ecosystems.

## Interpretive Themes

Interpretive themes are often described as the key stories or concepts that visitors should understand after visiting a park—they define the most important ideas or concepts communicated to visitors about a park unit. Themes are derived from, and should reflect, park purpose, significance, resources, and values. The set of interpretive themes is complete when it provides the structure necessary for park staff to develop opportunities for visitors to explore and relate to all park significance statements and fundamental resources and values.

Interpretive themes are an organizational tool that reveal and clarify meaning, concepts, contexts, and values represented by park resources. Sound themes are accurate and reflect current scholarship and science. They encourage exploration of the context in which events or natural processes occurred and the effects of those events and processes. Interpretive themes go beyond a mere description of the event or process to foster multiple opportunities to experience and consider the park and its resources. These themes help explain why a park story is relevant to people who may otherwise be unaware of connections they have to an event, time, or place associated with the park.

The following interpretive themes have been identified for Channel Islands National Park:

- **Isolation.** More than 2 million years of continuous isolation from the mainland have manifested the unique natural and cultural resources of Channel Islands National Park.
- **Restoration and Recovery.** To facilitate the preservation of natural and cultural resources of Channel Islands National Park, and to provide a dynamic balance between them, the National Park Service is actively restoring and allowing recovery of these resources.
- **Marine Resources.** The ocean currents of cold and warm tropical waters that mix in Channel Islands National Park connect the park to the whole world and produce highly diverse and prolific marine ecosystems.
- **Connections.** The resources of Channel Islands National Park are broadly connected throughout the Pacific, supporting a wide variety of interdependent land and sea animals and plants, and a long continuum of human cultures.
- **Geographic Influences.** Geographic characteristics have influenced and determined natural processes and cultural uses of Channel Islands National Park.
- **Human Attraction to the Islands.** Humans have been attracted to the islands and sea of what is now Channel Islands National Park for more than 13,000 years.



## Part 2: Dynamic Components

The dynamic components of a foundation document include special mandates and administrative commitments and an assessment of planning and data needs. These components are dynamic because they will change over time. New special mandates can be established and new administrative commitments made. As conditions and trends of fundamental resources and values change over time, the analysis of planning and data needs will need to be revisited and revised, along with key issues. Therefore, this part of the foundation document will be updated accordingly.

### Special Mandates and Administrative Commitments

Many management decisions for a park unit are directed or influenced by special mandates and administrative commitments with other federal agencies, state and local governments, utility companies, partnering organizations, and other entities. Special mandates are requirements specific to a park that must be fulfilled. Mandates can be expressed in enabling legislation, in separate legislation following the establishment of the park, or through a judicial process. They may expand on park purpose or introduce elements unrelated to the purpose of the park. Administrative commitments are, in general, agreements that have been reached through formal, documented processes, often through memorandums of agreement. Examples include easements, rights-of-way, arrangements for emergency service responses, etc. Special mandates and administrative commitments can support, in many cases, a network of partnerships that help fulfill the objectives of the park and facilitate working relationships with other organizations. They are an essential component of managing and planning for Channel Islands National Park.

#### Special Mandates

Channel Islands National Park's enabling legislation includes special mandates (16 USC 410ff-3a and b). Congress mandated that

- the park shall be administered on a low-intensity, limited-entry basis; and
- in recognition of the special fragility and sensitivity of park resources, it is the intent of Congress that visitor use within the park be limited to assure negligible adverse impact on the park resources. The Secretary shall establish appropriate visitor carrying capacities for the park.
- the park includes . . . the rocks, islets, submerged lands, and waters within one nautical mile of each island . . .
- no provision of this subchapter shall be deemed to affect the rights and jurisdiction of the State of California within the park, including, but not limited to, authority over submerged lands and waters within the park boundaries, and the marine resources therein.

## Administrative Commitments

Purpose	Agreement Type	Start Date	Expiration Date	Stakeholders	Notes
Management of San Miguel Island and Prince Island	Realty agreement and memorandum of understanding	2016	2021, renewable every 5 years	U.S. Navy	The U.S. Navy owns San Miguel and Prince Islands; however, the National Park Service manages the islands. U.S. Navy activities can take precedence over other uses. The National Park Service is authorized to acquire any federal lands within the boundary by purchase or transfer.
Management of marine waters within the park	Pending			Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration), State of California	The sanctuary overlaps the park's marine waters and extends six nautical miles beyond the mean high tide for each island. The sanctuary regulates uses and activities within the park's marine waters, including oil and mineral extraction. The State of California overlaps the park's marine waters and extends three nautical miles beyond the mean high tide for each island. The state regulates the living marine resources.
Permitting of essential national security missions and navigation aids on park islands	Special park use permits		Ongoing	U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Navy	The U.S. Navy and U.S. Coast Guard may install and maintain aids to navigation on the park's islands subject to terms and conditions by the National Park Service.
Managing tidelands, submerged lands, and submerged cultural resources	Lease agreements		Ongoing	California State Lands Commission	The commission is responsible for administering and managing the state's tidelands, submerged lands, and submerged cultural resources around the islands. The National Park Service has lease agreements for mooring buoys and piers.
Managing marine resources in the water column and seabed surrounding park islands	Interagency agreement		Ongoing	California Department of Fish and Wildlife	The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has jurisdiction and management over the living marine resources in the water column and seabed surrounding the park islands, starting at the mean high tide. In particular, commercial and sport fishing are regulated by the agency.
Microwave link between Anacapa Island and the mainland	Memorandum of agreement		Ongoing	Ventura County	Microwave link for emergency services.

Purpose	Agreement Type	Start Date	Expiration Date	Stakeholders	Notes
Santa Rosa Island field station	Memorandum of agreement and special use permit	2012 and 2015	2017 and 2020	California State University – Channel Islands	California State University – Channel Islands operates a research field station within the bunkhouse located within the historic district of Bechers Bay.
Management of Santa Cruz Island	Cooperative agreement		Ongoing	The Nature Conservancy	The Nature Conservancy owns the western 76% of Santa Cruz Island. The Nature Conservancy has various easements on NPS property such as the Prisoners Harbor pier and the Navy Road. They also have easements and 25-year use and occupancy rights for several facilities. In addition, the U.S. Navy has a lease from The Nature Conservancy at the radar site on Santa Cruz Island, which is a conservancy inholding. The Nature Conservancy also retains easement rights at several other places, including the barracks facility and associated water system.
Maintain Del Norte Cabin	Memorandum of agreement / historic lease	2016	2021	Santa Cruz Island Foundation	The National Park Service is looking to enter into a memorandum of agreement or historic lease for the use and upkeep of Del Norte.
To connect the park to the people	Memorandum of agreement			Ventura County of Education	



## Assessment of Planning and Data Needs

Once the core components of part 1 of the foundation document have been identified, it is important to gather and evaluate existing information about the park's fundamental resources and values, and develop a full assessment of the park's planning and data needs. The assessment of planning and data needs section presents planning issues, the planning projects that will address these issues, and the associated information requirements for planning, such as resource inventories and data collection, including GIS data.

There are three sections in the assessment of planning and data needs:

1. analysis of fundamental resources and values
2. identification of key issues and associated planning and data needs
3. identification of planning and data needs (including spatial mapping activities or GIS maps)

The analysis of fundamental important resources and values and identification of key issues leads up to and supports the identification of planning and data collection needs.

### Analysis of Fundamental Resources and Values

The fundamental resource or value analysis tables in a typical foundation document include current conditions, potential threats and opportunities, planning and data needs, and selected laws and NPS policies related to management of the identified resource or value. The Channel Islands National Park Final General Management Plan / Wilderness Study / Environmental Impact Statement (2015) contains thorough analysis of resource conditions, trends, threats, and opportunities in the affected environment and environmental consequences chapters, and therefore, the analysis of fundamental resources and values is not included in this foundation document.

### Identification of Key Issues and Associated Planning and Data Needs

This section considers key issues to be addressed in planning and management and therefore takes a broader view over the primary focus of part 1. A key issue focuses on a question that is important for a park. Key issues often raise questions regarding park purpose and significance and fundamental resources and values. For example, a key issue may pertain to the potential for a fundamental resource or value in a park to be detrimentally affected by discretionary management decisions. A key issue may also address crucial questions that are not directly related to purpose and significance, but which still affect them indirectly. Usually, a key issue is one that a future planning effort or data collection needs to address and requires a decision by NPS managers.

The following are key issues for Channel Islands National Park and the associated planning and data needs to address them:

- **Employee Recruitment and Retention.** Over the past several years, remote island living has begun to have a negative impact on employee recruitment and retention. Park employees who are duty-stationed on-island often need to maintain two households—one on-island and one mainland—because the islands do not have housing options that support a family. There is no daily transportation to the mainland and there are no community services such as stores, schools, and medical care. Employees in on-island positions are increasingly difficult to retain, especially when their family status changes. To compound this key issue, mainland housing costs are high and island internet and telephone services are currently sporadic or nonexistent. The park is thus severely challenged in recruiting qualified and suitable applicants and retaining a professional and diverse workforce.

*Associated high priority planning and/or data needs:* Strategic plan, Santa Cruz Island site plan – Scorpion Valley.

- **Maintaining Long-Term Fiscal Flexibility.** The average cost of salary and benefits per full-time equivalent employee have risen 22%. Appropriated base increases have not kept up with increasing salary levels, locality pay, and federally mandated benefits changes. Because of these increasing costs, the National Park Service let lapse a number of positions and has lost flexibility in spending. As unexpected needs arise, such as rapid species declines, pier damage, or major boat repairs, the park staff must absorb these costs into the current operating budget. The park staff continues to address this management challenge by diverting funding from one program area to another. However, the park's base funding, which is primarily dedicated to personnel salaries, can no longer maintain flexibility. Financial flexibility in the long term is a significant challenge that the park staff must keep in mind in planning for the future.

*Associated high priority planning and/or data needs:* Operations and safety plan, strategic plan.

- **User Capacity and Visitor Opportunities.** Access across the sea to the islands is expensive and difficult. The islands are only accessible by park concessioner boats and planes or private boats. An ongoing issue is whether more opportunities for public access and outdoor recreation should be provided to the islands. Research is needed to better understand what management actions are needed to prevent or reduce the environmental and experiential impacts of access and outdoor recreation.

To facilitate planning and management related to visitor access and opportunities the park needs:

- Social science research focused on the congressional mandate to limit visitor use with appropriate visitor carrying capacity numbers to assure negligible adverse impacts on park resources.
- Exploration of opportunities to "Connect the Park to the People." For example, continue to encourage innovation such as "Channel Islands Live" that strengthens public outreach and understanding.

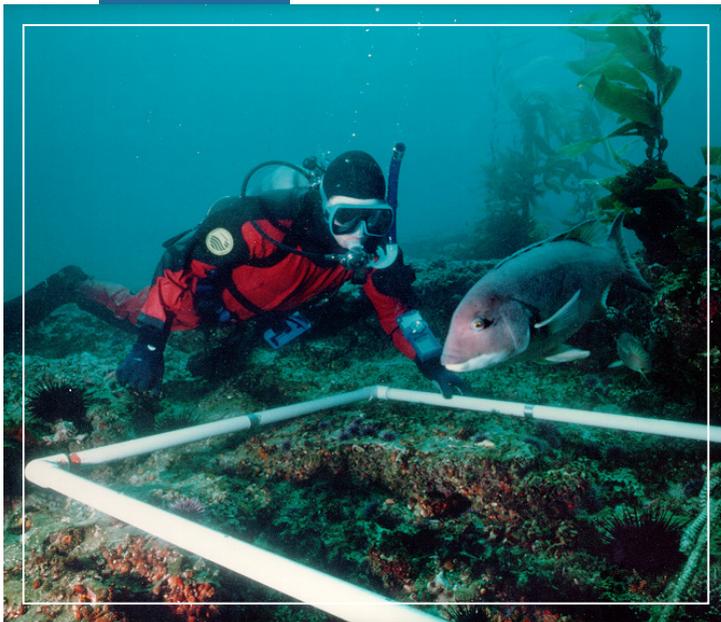
*Associated high priority planning and/or data needs:* Santa Cruz Island site plan – Scorpion Valley, wilderness and backcountry management plan, visitor use management plan, operations and safety plan, comprehensive interpretive plan, social science research.

- **Wilderness Stewardship and Backcountry Management.** To fulfill the requirements of the park's enabling legislation and the Wilderness Act, the park included a wilderness study in its 2015 final general management plan to determine if eligible portions of the park should be proposed for wilderness designation. The selected alternative proposed 1,298 acres of the park be designated as wilderness on portions of Anacapa, Santa Barbara, Santa Rosa, and Santa Cruz Islands and on assorted rocks and islets, and that 65,278 acres be designated as potential wilderness on Santa Rosa and Santa Cruz Islands. The reason the Santa Rosa and Santa Cruz areas were proposed for potential versus designated wilderness was due to several continuing nonconforming uses on those islands that would require management practices not normally allowed in wilderness areas. A potentially controversial nonconforming use is the continuation of ecosystem restoration activities that would use some existing roads for mechanized equipment to help restore the landscape. The potential wilderness designation recognizes that the use of roads and motorized or mechanized equipment would continue for many years to come. The park staff needs to develop a comprehensive map of all nonconforming uses to determine which need to be completed prior to designation of wilderness.

*Associated high priority planning and/or data needs:* Wilderness and backcountry management plan.

- **Climate Change.** With climate disruption comes uncertainty. Coupled with the processes that drive island biogeography, managing island ecosystems into the future will require an interdisciplinary team that functions in an integrated manner. Substantive issues associated with climate change include the following:
  - The interplay between sea level rise and winter storm intensity will result in accelerated coastal erosion affecting the built environment (piers, docks, etc.), coastal habitats and sensitive cultural sites.
  - Potential for major changes to the park’s flora and fauna due to the lack of connectivity and endemic nature of many of these species.
  - Changes in ocean currents, temperature, chemistry (more acidic, anoxic) and upwelling can affect the composition and distribution of marine communities.

*Associated high priority planning and/or data needs:* Resource stewardship strategy, operations and safety plan, strategic plan.



- **Science and Education for Marine Protected Areas.** Newly established marine reserves in the park provide an opportunity to rebuild fishery-depleted populations, restore integrity and resilience of kelp forests, and supply adjacent fisheries in and around the park. The park staff needs to work with partners to prevent extinction of endangered abalone, measure and improve performance of existing reserves, improve reserve designs, and connect fishing communities and others with the park by improving communication regarding resource conditions and the effects of conservation programs. Strategic and operations planning is needed to explore ways to achieve staffing levels needed to meet park goals related to marine stewardship and education.

*Associated high priority planning and/or data needs:* Resource stewardship strategy, strategic plan, comprehensive interpretive plan.

- **Law Enforcement for Marine Protected Areas.** The park includes approximately 125,000 acres of marine waters, which is where the majority of visitor use occurs. Many of these waters were recently designated as marine protected areas, but currently the park staff only has the capacity to carry out limited local patrols seasonally, which provides potential for unauthorized uses.

*Associated high priority planning and/or data needs:* Operations and safety plan, strategic plan.

- **Preservation of Cultural Resources and Museum Collections.** Only about one-third of the park’s archeological sites have been recorded, and American Indian burials, which are continually being exposed through erosion, require stabilization and reburial. Half of the park’s historic structures are in fair or poor condition, and cultural resources are not addressed sufficiently in the park’s education programs. Historic structures and museum collections require regular maintenance and specialized preservation treatment. Educational exhibits and programs would highlight the park’s cultural heritage and archeological sites.

*Associated high priority planning and/or data needs:* Comprehensive interpretive plan, resource stewardship strategy.

- **Concessions Management.** Park concessions management needs are rapidly growing in volume and complexity as new lands continue to be added to the park and visitation continues to increase. The park staff currently manages two concessions contracts for transportation services, and numerous commercial use authorizations for activities including kayak guide services, sightseeing, whale watching, multiday sailing, and educational sailing schools. Public interest and demand for increased on-island commercial services and a broader range of activities continues to create a significant concessions workload, which will increase with the implementation of the 2015 general management plan. Greater park oversight is warranted and the increasing workload requires additional specialized staffing.

*Associated high priority planning and/or data needs:* Strategic plan.

- **Boat and Pier Maintenance and Operating Costs.** The National Park Service owns three boats, which are used to transport personnel, supplies, materials and equipment to the islands. The boats and piers/docks at Channel Islands National Park are equivalent to roads in other parks. Without boats and piers/docks, only limited personnel can be transported to provide visitor protection and safety and conduct resource management and restoration activities. Currently, there is no base funding for the operation and maintenance of the vessels. This issue is compounded by predicted sea level rise and increased winter storm intensity, which will probably accelerate coastal erosion and in turn affect the built environment (piers, docks).

*Associated high priority planning and/or data needs:* Operations and safety plan, strategic plan.

## Planning and Data Needs

To maintain connection to the core elements of the foundation and the importance of these core foundation elements, the planning and data needs listed here are directly related to protecting fundamental resources and values, park significance, and park purpose, as well as addressing key issues. To successfully undertake a planning effort, information from sources such as inventories, studies, research activities, and analyses may be required to provide adequate knowledge of park resources and visitor information. Such information sources have been identified as data needs. Geospatial mapping tasks and products are included in data needs.

Items considered of the utmost importance were identified as high priority, and other items identified, but not rising to the level of high priority, were listed as either medium- or low-priority needs. These priorities inform park management efforts to secure funding and support for planning projects.

**Criteria and Considerations for Prioritization.** The following criteria were used to evaluate the priority of each planning or data need:

- Implement actions in the 2015 general management plan
- Address multiple interrelated issues
- Emergency or urgency of the issue
- Protect fundamental resources and values or prevent resource degradation
- Enhance visitor experience
- Opportunities, including interagency partnership or other assistance
- The need to be flexible and adapt priorities as conditions warrant
- Addresses operational efficiency
- Can be completed by the park without reliance on sources other than base funds

## High Priority Planning Needs

### Santa Cruz Island Site Plan – Scorpion Valley.

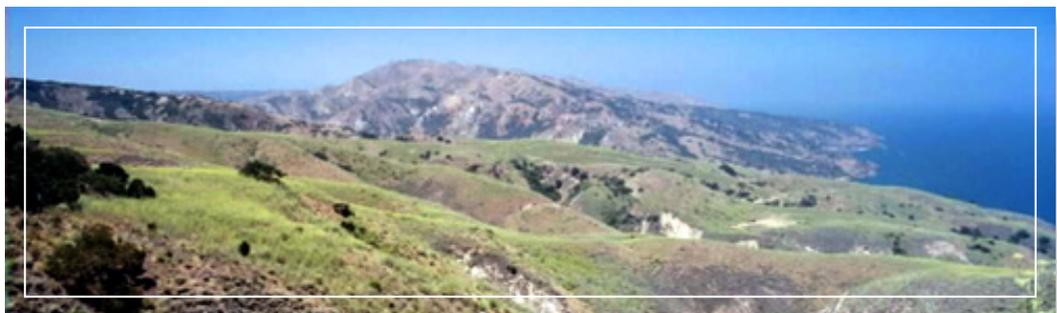
*Rationale* — The Scorpion Valley area has the highest visitor, commercial, and private use of any island in the park. Scorpion Valley also includes a cross-section of several fundamental resources and values. The recently approved general management plan proposes visitor and administrative facility improvements including employee and concessioner housing, adaptive use of historic ranch structures for exhibits and programs, maintenance facilities, and reconfiguration of the campground. The complexity of uses and resources requires a comprehensive approach to site planning.

*Scope* — The site plan would address issues such as access and transportation, facilities and siting, programmatic requirements, and community interactions at Scorpion Valley. The plan would define appropriate uses and functions for Scorpion Valley, establish a consistent, unified character for development, sustain resources and promote appropriate visitor experiences, as well as establish a road map the park staff can use for guidance on capital improvements, preservation, and development on the island.

### Wilderness and Backcountry Management Plan.

*Rationale* — Preserving wilderness character is a top priority for the park staff. The wilderness study findings in the 2015 general management plan proposed that 1,298 acres be designated as wilderness on Anacapa, Santa Barbara, Santa Rosa and Santa Cruz Islands. Another 65,000 acres on Santa Rosa and Santa Cruz Islands have been identified as potential wilderness. Areas of potential wilderness have wilderness characteristics but contain temporary nonconforming conditions or uses. A substantial amount of research and resource management activity is needed to restore the ecosystem of the potential wilderness areas including access to sites along existing roads, installation of monitoring devices, and other activities normally prohibited under the Wilderness Act that may be required to meet this need. Therefore, the park staff needs to develop a comprehensive map of all nonconforming uses to determine those that need to be completed prior to designation of wilderness and these uses need to be analyzed holistically across the park’s unique island ecosystem. Strategies addressed in the plan would have major implications for visitor use management and park operations. The wilderness and backcountry management plan is included in work planning (as of fiscal year 2016) and can be completed internally.

*Scope* — A wilderness character narrative and wilderness character assessment would need to be prepared as part of the wilderness planning effort. The plan would primarily address backcountry management issues on Santa Cruz, Santa Rosa, and San Miguel Islands. It would focus on essential visitor use considerations such as road restoration and trails management (e.g., converting old ranching roads to trails) and camping area management. The plan would also encompass nonconforming backcountry uses (e.g., road management), restoration, assisted migration of wildlife, science and research, and administrative uses. The plan would incorporate guidance and objectives from its existing road management plan for certain roads the park staff maintains.



## Resource Stewardship Strategy.

*Rationale* — Channel Islands National Park contains a wide range of natural and cultural resources. The resource stewardship strategy would provide guidance needed to address the effects of climate change and other stressors on natural resources. The resource stewardship strategy would be an important driver for several other comprehensive plans that would tier from its management strategies. The resource stewardship strategy would also help inform and organize funding proposals. It would incorporate internal flexibility in the park’s workplans and provide short- and long-term perspectives on resource management.

*Scope* — A resource stewardship strategy is a long-range planning document for a national park unit to achieve its desired natural and cultural resource conditions, which are derived from relevant laws and NPS policies identified in a park’s foundation document, general management plan, or other park plans. As part of the park’s planning portfolio, the resource stewardship strategy would serve as a bridge between the park’s foundation document and everyday management of its natural and cultural resources. The resource stewardship strategy would describe measurable desired conditions and possible pathways to achieve desired results in the context of climate change for certain fundamental resources and values.

## Visitor Use Management Plan.

*Rationale* — Park visitation is increasing and resulting resource impacts have been observed, but have not fully documented. The visitor use management plan would allow the park staff to take action on deteriorating resource condition and take an integrated look at visitor use and carrying capacity. The plan would explore a range of opportunities and solutions to improve visitor experience and ensure that sensitive resources are not inadvertently impacted by high levels of visitation. Input from the visitor use management plan could inform development of the park’s comprehensive interpretive plan, wilderness and backcountry management plan, and the Santa Cruz Island site plan—all included as high priority planning needs.

*Scope* — A visitor use management plan would evaluate current visitor use patterns and characteristics and potential increases in visitation projected under climate change. It would also identify visitor use management goals, objectives, strategies, and tools to sustain desired resources conditions and visitor experiences. Visitor use data and research, broad-based and site-specific, would be necessary to understand and guide visitor behavior in high-use areas. Additionally, congestion management opportunities would be evaluated, including potential alternative transportation strategies on the mainland.

## Operations and Safety Plan.

*Rationale* — An operations and safety plan is critical for coordinating search and rescue operations and developing an operational protocol with other agencies. The park lacks a plan that addresses a range of potential operational and safety scenarios and provides “trigger points” to guide action. The operations and safety plan would help the park staff continue its progress in recent years to build a safer work environment and further prioritize the safety of visitors and park employees. Operation safety considerations are a national priority, providing further impetus for developing this plan.

*Scope* — The operations and safety plan would assess current and projected search and rescue operations, other safety needs, and determine coordination protocol among park staff and agency partners. In addition, it would outline roles and responsibilities, knowledge and skills required by employees, and identify gaps in the park’s existing operations and safety management. Opportunities to improve communications and support among park staff and agency partners would also be considered.

**Strategic Plan.**

*Rationale* — A strategic plan is needed to help the park staff establish a clear direction, identify goals, and prioritize actions for the near future. With ongoing changes in park management and as staff jobs have become more complex, park staff need to become more strategic in their interdisciplinary roles. In addition, the plan is needed to prioritize many projects competing for limited funds and staff time. The strategic plan would generate a vision for project priorities, promote agreement among staff, and keep efforts from drifting over time. The park staff will consider whether this plan can be completed internally.

*Scope* — Strategic planning would identify the most effective and timely ways to address major operational, organizational, administrative, and resource issues. The process involves identifying the greatest challenges and opportunities for the park, establishing a clear vision and goals for the future, setting priorities, and establishing an implementation timeline. Strategic plans typically cover a period of three to five years.

**Comprehensive Interpretive Plan.**

*Rationale* — A comprehensive interpretive plan has never been completed for Channel Islands National Park. A comprehensive interpretive plan is needed to identify effective, efficient, and practical ways to address interpretation, education, and visitor experience goals and issues. The park staff started to develop a comprehensive interpretive plan, but the effort was put on hold to complete its general management plan. The comprehensive interpretive plan needs to be completely restarted.

*Scope* — The comprehensive interpretive plan would provide a vision for the future of interpretation, education, and visitor experience opportunities for the park. It would include a long-range interpretive plan (5–10 years) that identifies the park’s interpretive themes, describes visitor experience goals, and recommends a wide variety of both personal (programs, personal contacts) and nonpersonal (interpretive media and facilities) interpretive services and outreach activities that best communicate the park’s purpose, significance, and themes. A key element of the plan would be addressing communication via multiple formats to reach a diversity of audiences—web resources and social media can be leveraged for some audiences, while more traditional print and personal media can reach others. An annual implementation component would also be included.

Summary of High Priority Planning and Data Needs
Santa Cruz Island site plan – Scorpion Valley
Wilderness and backcountry management plan
Resource stewardship strategy
Visitor use management plan
Operations and safety plan
Strategic plan
Comprehensive interpretive plan
Visitor use data and research (including social science research), broad-based and site-specific

Summary of Other Planning and Data Needs (Priority Medium)	
Planning or Data Need	Notes
<b>Administration/Operations/Facilities</b>	
<b>Plans</b>	
Communications infrastructure plan	Plan would guide the development of communications from the mainland to islands for both park operations and visitor needs. This plan could be prepared internally.
Continuity of operations plan	Plan would define park operations and address emergency situations – both from natural causes and administrative issues. "Operations" would encompass infrastructure as well as law enforcement in this plan. The plan is particularly important for mainland-based staff. Plan needs to consider whether staffing is required on an island that is entirely wilderness. This plan could be prepared internally.
Commercial services strategy	
Plan to eliminate rats from San Miguel Island	
Santa Cruz Island site plan – Prisoner's Harbor	Would address housing area site plans and developed areas. Plan would provide finer level of detail than the general management plan.
Santa Rosa Island Site Plan – Becher's Bay	
Workforce management plan	Identify operational needs, including short and long-term research and development needs. Park staff could develop a tailored scope for this plan and use consultants.
<b>Data Needs and Studies</b>	
Condition assessment of all park infrastructure	Populate and implement the park asset management plan.
Unexploded ordnance surveys	Needed to ensure public safety.
<b>Visitor Experience</b>	
<b>Plans</b>	
Accessibility self-evaluation and transition plan	Comprehensive evaluation of buildings, facilities, docks and piers, programs, and media to determine accessibility levels for people with disabilities, and to identify barriers that limit access.

Summary of Other Planning and Data Needs (Priority Medium)	
Planning or Data Need	Notes
<b>Visitor Experience</b>	
<b>Data Needs and Studies</b>	
Private boating use survey	Conduct in partnership with the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary, State of California, and private marina operators.
Visitor survey (update)	Would address qualitative visitor experience.
Visitor use study (user capacity)	Park staff want to understand distribution of visitors and how visitors use park resources. Need to obtain baseline data. Support monthly reporting. Study would also include quantitative statistical analysis.
Visitor use monitoring protocol	Park staff want to understand distribution of visitors and how visitors use park resources. Need to obtain baseline data. Support monthly reporting.
<b>Natural Resources</b>	
<b>Plans</b>	
Fire management plan (update)	This plan is periodically updated. Update could be prepared internally by the park.
Biosecurity plan	Addresses biosecurity; boat groundings in potential wilderness (and appropriate removal); overflights for monitoring brown pelicans; and aerial landings and similar operations. This plan could be prepared internally.
Comprehensive water resources management plan	Addresses water use and wells withdrawal. Low priority for natural resource stewardship because specific water resources management is isolated to developed areas.
Dark sky preservation and light management plan	Preserving dark skies is important for park management. Plan would outline actions to preserve darkness (e.g., black-out curtains to support bird nesting periods).
<b>Data Needs and Studies</b>	
Air quality inventory and monitoring	Two of the greatest air quality concerns for natural resources are ozone and atmospheric deposition. Monitoring ozone and deposition within the park, in particular, can help park managers better understand air quality conditions.
Biological inventories	
Climate change projections and impacts	Need to research projections and impacts downscaled to the park level. Research multidisciplinary impacts (e.g., modeling ocean temperature, ocean acidity projections, and upwellings).
Conduct research on the slender salamander	Need to understand its distribution and preferred habitat on Santa Cruz Island.

Summary of Other Planning and Data Needs (Priority Medium)	
Planning or Data Need	Notes
<b>Natural Resources</b>	
<b>Data Needs and Studies (continued)</b>	
Eel grass assessment	Analyze the amount of eel grass in park waters and the impacts of boats anchoring in eel grass areas.
Feasibility study for restoring island song sparrows on Santa Barbara Island	Study would include evaluating habitat suitability, identifying an appropriate source population of song sparrows, and analyzing any impacts of reintroduction.
Fishery harvest data	Park staff needs this information to participate in management of this resource with other agencies. Large-scale data are managed by the State of California but the state does not have data adequate for the scale of the park.
Long-term water quality monitoring	Monitoring program needed for Santa Rosa, Santa Cruz, and San Miguel Islands, including nearshore marine waters.
Long-term ecological monitoring	Research networks that examine entire ecosystems (e.g., marine ecosystems).
Nonnative species surveys	
Parkwide inventory and mapping of soils, floodplains, and wetlands	
Population dynamics studies for the park's sensitive species	
Raven population study	
Santa Rosa Island groundwater study	Need to determine groundwater quantities to inform sustainable management.
Sea caves survey and monitoring protocol	Survey would identify human-related impacts on sea caves parkwide and help inform a monitoring protocol.
Soundscape studies	Needed to determine the nature and extent of impacts from noise on marine wildlife, terrestrial wildlife, and visitors.
Spatial study of nonconforming uses in backcountry areas	Need to know what conditions make areas not eligible for wilderness designation. Study underway as of 2016.
Townsend's big-eared bat population and ecology study	
Water resource inventory	Complete water resource inventory to assist development of the comprehensive water resources management plan.

Summary of Other Planning and Data Needs (Priority Medium)	
Planning or Data Need	Notes
<b>Cultural Resources</b>	
<b>Plans</b>	
Comprehensive Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act agreement and plan	This plan could be prepared internally.
Museum collections storage plan	
Museum management plan (update)	Key assumptions have changed.
Archives and records management plan	
<b>Data Needs and Studies</b>	
Archeological erosion and site prediction models for Santa Cruz and San Miguel Islands	
Collection condition survey	
Condition assessments for the Del Norte ranch house on Santa Cruz Island and the Anacapa Island light station	
Cultural resource condition assessment	
Cultural landscape reports	Coordinate reports with each of the site development plans to ensure compatible development—this could be built into the scope of the site development plans. Particularly applies to the Scorpion Valley site plan (i.e., the campground needs to be planned and designed).
Ethnographic studies	
National register nomination – East Santa Cruz Island Archeological District	
National register nomination – Santa Cruz Island Ranching District	
National register nomination – Santa Rosa Island Archeological District	
Treatment plans for historic structures	Includes Santa Rosa Ranch District and Anacapa Island Light Station District. Plan would provide treatment priorities.
Update archeological radiocarbon database	Conduct new analysis on selected sites and obtain radiocarbon dates from specific sites not yet tested.
Update documentation and assessments of relocated, recorded archeological sites	
Update national register nominations – San Miguel, Santa Barbara, and Anacapa Island archeological districts	
Verify existing archeological site location data	Develop a data editing protocol for the park's geographic information system.

## Part 3: Contributors

### Channel Islands National Park

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# Appendixes

## Appendix A: Enabling Legislation for Channel Islands National Park

Public Law 96-199  
96th Congress

An Act

Mar. 5, 1980  
[H.R. 3757]

National Parks  
and Recreation  
Act of 1978,  
amendment.

To establish the Channel Islands National Park, and for other purposes.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

### TITLE I

Title I applies to other areas of the national park system and has been omitted.

### TITLE II

Channel Islands  
National Park,  
Calif.  
Establishment.  
16 USC 410ff.

SEC. 201. In order to protect the nationally significant natural, scenic, wildlife, marine, ecological, archaeological, cultural, and scientific values of the Channel Islands in the State of California, including, but not limited to, the following:

- (1) the brown pelican nesting area;
- (2) the undisturbed tide pools providing species diversity unique to the eastern Pacific coast;
- (3) the pinnipeds which breed and pup almost exclusively on the Channel Islands, including the only breeding colony for northern fur seals south of Alaska;
- (4) the Eolian landforms and caliche;
- (5) the presumed burial place of Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo; and
- (6) the archaeological evidence of substantial populations of Native Americans;

there is hereby established the Channel Islands National Park, the boundaries of which shall include San Miguel and Prince Islands, Santa Rosa, Santa Cruz, Anacapa, and Santa Barbara Islands, including the rocks, islets, submerged lands, and waters within one nautical mile of each island, as depicted on the map entitled, "Proposed Channel Islands National Park" numbered 159-20,008 and dated April 1979, which shall be on file and available for public inspection in the offices of the Superintendent of the park and the Director of the National Park Service, Department of the Interior. The Channel Islands National Monument is hereby abolished as such, and the lands, waters, and interests therein withdrawn or reserved for the monument are hereby incorporated within and made a part of the new Channel Islands National Park.

Channel Islands  
National  
Monument.  
Abolishment.

16 USC 410ff-1.

SEC. 202. (a) Within the boundaries of the park as established in section 201, the Secretary of the Interior (hereinafter referred to as the "Secretary") is authorized to acquire lands, waters, or interests therein (including but not limited to scenic easements) by donation, purchase with donated or appropriated funds, transfer from any Federal agency, exchange, or otherwise. Unless the property is wholly or partially donated, the Secretary shall pay to the owner the fair market value of the property on the date of its acquisition, less the fair market value on that date of any right retained by the owner. Any lands, waters, or interests therein owned by the State of California or any political subdivision thereof shall not be acquired. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, Federal property located within the boundaries of the park shall with the concurrence of the head of the agency having custody thereof, be transferred to the administrative jurisdiction of the Secretary for the purposes of the park: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall permit the use of federally owned park lands and waters which (i) have been transferred from another Federal agency pursuant to this section or which (ii) were the subject of a lease or permit issued by a Federal agency as of the date of enactment of this title, for essential national security missions and

California lands  
or interests,  
exemption.

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for navigational aids, subject to such terms and conditions as the Secretary deems necessary to protect park resources.

(b) Notwithstanding the acquisition authority contained in subsection 202(a), any lands, waters, or interests therein, which are owned wholly or in part, by or which hereafter may be owned by, or under option to, the National Park Foundation, The Nature Conservancy (including any lands, waters, or interests therein which are designated as "Nature Conservancy Lands" on the map referred to in section 201 of this title) or any similar national, nonprofit conservation organization, or an affiliate or subsidiary thereof shall be acquired only with the consent of the owner thereof: *Provided*, That the Secretary may acquire such property in accordance with the provisions of this Act if he determines that the property is undergoing or is about to undergo a change in use which is inconsistent with the purposes of this title.

Nature Conservancy Lands, acquisition.

(c) With respect to the privately owned lands on Santa Rosa Island, the Secretary shall acquire such lands as expeditiously as possible after the date of enactment of this title. The acquisition of these lands shall take priority over the acquisition of other privately owned lands within the park.

Santa Rosa Island lands, priority acquisition.

(d)(1) The owner of any private property may, on the date of its acquisition and as a condition of such acquisition, retain for himself a right of use and occupancy of all or such portion of such property as the owner may elect for a definite term of not more than twenty-five years, or ending at the death of the owner, or his spouse, whichever is later. The owner shall elect the term to be reserved. Any such right retained pursuant to this subsection with respect to any property shall be subject to termination by the Secretary upon his determination that such property is being used for any purpose which is incompatible with the administration of the park or with the preservation of the resources therein, and it shall terminate by operation of law upon notification by the Secretary to the holder of the right, of such determination and tendering to him the amount equal to the fair market value of that portion which remains unexpired.

Right of use and occupancy not reserved by former owner, lease agreement.

(2) In the case of any property acquired by the Secretary pursuant to this title with respect to which a right of use and occupancy was not reserved by the former owner pursuant to this subsection, at the request of the former owner, the Secretary may enter into a lease agreement with the former owner under which the former owner may continue any existing use of such property which is compatible with the administration of the park and with the preservation of the resources therein.

(3) Any right retained pursuant to this subsection, and any lease entered into under paragraph (2), shall be subject to such access and other provisions as may be required by the Secretary for visitor use and resources management.

Sec. 203. (a) The Secretary is directed to develop, in cooperation and consultation with the Secretary of Commerce, the State of California, and various knowledgeable Federal and private entities, a natural resources study report for the park, including, but not limited to, the following:

Natural resources study report, development. 16 USC 410ff-2.

(1) an inventory of all terrestrial and marine species, indicating their population dynamics, and probable trends as to future numbers and welfare;

(2) recommendations as to what actions should be considered for adoption to better protect the natural resources of the park. Such report shall be submitted within two complete fiscal years from the date of enactment of this title to the Committee on Interior and

Submission to congressional committees.

Insular Affairs of the United States House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the United States Senate, and updated revisions of such report shall be similarly submitted at subsequent two year intervals to cover a period of ten years after the date of enactment of this title.

State of California cooperative agreements for law enforcement, administration.

(b) The Secretary is authorized and directed to enter into and continue cooperative agreements with the Secretary of Commerce and the State of California for the enforcement of Federal and State laws and regulations on those lands and waters within and adjacent to the park which are owned by the State of California. No provision of this title shall be deemed to affect the rights and jurisdiction of the State of California within the park, including, but not limited to, authority over submerged lands and waters within the park boundaries, and the marine resources therein.

16 USC 410ff-3.

SEC. 204. (a) Subject to the provisions of section 201 of this title, the Secretary shall administer the park in accordance with the provisions of the Act of August 25, 1916 (39 Stat. 535), as amended and supplemented (16 U.S.C. 1 et seq.). In the administration of the park, the Secretary may utilize such statutory authority available for the conservation and management of wildlife and natural and cultural resources as he deems appropriate to carry out the purposes of this title. The park shall be administered on a low-intensity, limited-entry basis.

(b) In recognition of the special fragility and sensitivity of the park's resources, it is the intent of Congress that the visitor use within the park be limited to assure negligible adverse impact on the park resources. The Secretary shall establish appropriate visitor carrying capacities for the park.

Comprehensive general management plan, submittal to congressional committees.

(c)(1) Within three complete fiscal years from the date of enactment of this title, the Secretary, in consultation with The Nature Conservancy and the State of California, shall submit to the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs of the United States House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the United States Senate, a comprehensive general management plan for the park, pursuant to criteria stated in the provisions of section 12(b) of the Act of August 18, 1970 (84 Stat. 825), as amended (16 U.S.C. 1a-1 et seq.). Such plan shall include alternative considerations for the design and operation of a public transportation system connecting the park with the mainland, with such considerations to be developed in cooperation with the State of California and the Secretary of Transportation. The Secretary shall seek the advice of the scientific community in the preparation of said plan, and conduct hearings for public comment in Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties.

16 USC 1a-7.

Hearings.

(2) Those aspects of such a plan which relate to marine mammals shall be prepared by the Secretary of Commerce, in consultation with the Secretary and the State of California.

Federal funds, approval for expenditure. 16 USC 410ff-4.

SEC. 205. The head of any Federal agency having direct or indirect jurisdiction over a proposed Federal or federally assisted undertaking with respect to the lands and waters within or adjacent or related to the park, and the head of any Federal agency having authority to license or permit any undertaking with respect to such lands and waters, shall, prior to the approval of the expenditure of any Federal funds on such undertaking or prior to the issuance of any license or permit, as the case may be, afford the Secretary a reasonable opportunity to comment with regard to such undertaking and shall give due consideration to any comments made by the Secretary and to

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the effect of such undertaking on the purposes for which the park is established.

SEC. 206. Within three complete fiscal years from the date of enactment of this title, the Secretary shall review the area within the park and shall report to the President, in accordance with subsections 3 (c) and (d) of the Wilderness Act (78 Stat. 890), his recommendations as to the suitability or unsuitability of any area within the park for designation as wilderness. Any designation of any such areas as wilderness shall be accomplished in accordance with said subsections of the Wilderness Act.

SEC. 207. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no fees shall be charged for entrance or admission to the park.

SEC. 208. The Secretary is authorized to expend Federal funds for the cooperative management of The Nature Conservancy and other private property for research, resources management, and visitor protection and use. All funds authorized to be appropriated for the purposes of the Channel Islands National Monument are hereby transferred to the Channel Islands National Park. Effective October 1, 1980, there are hereby authorized to be appropriated such further sums as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this title, but not to exceed \$500,000 for development. From the Land and Water Conservation Fund there is authorized to be appropriated \$30,100,000 for the purposes of land acquisition. For the authorizations made in this section, any amounts authorized but not appropriated in any fiscal year shall remain available for appropriation in succeeding fiscal years.

Approved March 5, 1980.

Review of  
park area;  
report to  
President.  
16 USC 410ff-5.  
16 USC 1132.

16 USC 1131  
note.  
16 USC 410ff-6.

16 USC 410ff-7.

Transfer of  
funds.

Appropriation  
authorizations.



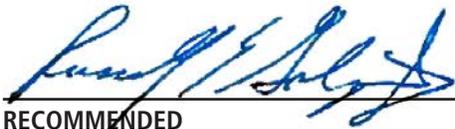
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Pacific West Region Foundation Document Recommendation  
Channel Islands National Park

February 2017

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This Foundation Document has been prepared as a collaborative effort between park and regional staff and is recommended for approval by the Pacific West Regional Director.



FEBRUARY 9, 2017

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RECOMMENDED

Russell Galipeau, Superintendent, Channel Islands National Park

Date



2/20/17

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APPROVED

Laura E. Joss, Regional Director, Pacific West Region

Date



As the nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has responsibility for most of our nationally owned public lands and natural resources. This includes fostering sound use of our land and water resources; protecting our fish, wildlife, and biological diversity; preserving the environmental and cultural values of our national parks and historic places; and providing for the enjoyment of life through outdoor recreation. The department assesses our energy and mineral resources and works to ensure that their development is in the best interests of all our people by encouraging stewardship and citizen participation in their care. The department also has a major responsibility for American Indian reservation communities and for people who live in island territories under U.S. administration.

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