

Executive Director's Report

Report

Hollister Ranch Access Program Update

Following the May 2019 Coastal Commission briefing on the status of planning for public access into the Hollister Ranch beaches, staff participated with the State Agency Team members (Coastal Commission, Coastal Conservancy, State Lands Commission, and State Parks) in reviewing consultant proposals to lead the public outreach, public workshops and scope the opportunities and constraints analysis. In late July, the Coastal Conservancy selected consultant KTUA <https://www.ktua.com/about/> to conduct this work, under a \$50,000 grant provided by the Coastal Conservancy. The California Department of Parks and Recreation is providing up to \$300,000 in additional funding to support the consultant's planning and conceptual design work associated with the development of the Public Access Program. The consultant is currently finalizing the six month schedule for public and stakeholder engagement. The State Agency Team will be working closely with the consultant throughout the public engagement process.

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In addition, staff members from the State Agency Team, along with Santa Barbara County staff, Hollister Ranch Homeowners Association officials, and the consultants, toured the Hollister Ranch shoreline on July 31. This was the first time that most of the 20 state agency staffers had been on the property and the goal was to gain first-hand knowledge of the shoreline environment, walk along the six beaches and view the pre-existing facilities such as picnic areas, restrooms, pathways, parking areas, etc, that have been used by the Hollister Ranch owners and guests for decades.