Hollister Ranch Coastal Access Program Working Group



HRCAP OBJECTIVES AND DRAFT EVALUATION CRITERIA

Objective 1: Provide free and low-cost safe, equitable and inclusive access.

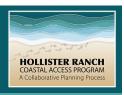
- Safe access and uses
 - Addresses natural hazards along access routes (for example, including fall hazards created by steep slopes)
 - Addresses natural daily, seasonal and annual variation of beach condition, including sand supply and sea level rise
 - Provides for safe use and crossing of ranch roads for both public visitors and other vehicles on road
 - o Provides for safe crossing of railroad tracks for all modes
 - Provides adequate on-site safety services and ability to contact emergency services
 - o Provides emergency access for medical, police or fire emergency
 - o Manages fire ignition sources and potential for fire spread
 - o Addresses information needs of public visitors in multiple languages
 - o Provides for safety for both cattle operation and public visitors
- Inclusive access
 - o Provides universal access for persons with physical-mobility challenges
 - o Provides access suitable for wide range of ages, abilities and interests
 - o Provides access for individuals, individual parties, and groups
 - o Prioritizes information and education to encourage compliance with rules rather than enforcement
 - o Incorporates elements to make program welcoming to public visitors from multiple cultures
- Equitable access
 - o Provides free or low-cost access
 - Provides multiple transportation modes for accessing the public beaches along the Hollister Ranch coast
 - Minimizes barriers to obtaining access
 - o Consistency with state and local environmental justice policies

Objective 2: Provide options for experiences that meet the interests of a broad range of Californians.

- Provides access to multiple beach experiences
- Provides access modes that recognize desire for pedestrian, bicycle, equestrian, and vehicular access
- Provides access that addresses desire to bring dogs
- Incorporates input on desired experiences obtained during the HRCAP planning from a broad range of Californians including people outside of Santa

Document date: 8/24/2020

Hollister Ranch Coastal Access Program Working Group



Barbara County and a diverse range of ages, income-status, ethnicity, and physical abilities

Objective 3: Provide increased access within one year of program approval by Coastal Commission.

- Access can feasibly be provided within one year
- See also Evaluation Criteria for Objective 8.

Objective 4: Minimize impacts in order to protect coastal resources, including natural habitats, cultural resources, and agricultural operations.

- Maintains natural habitat character and intactness of site
- Maintains wild and scenic character of site.
- Maintains visual integrity of site including beaches, bluffs, tidepools and upland areas
- Maintain auditory character of the site
- Protect ongoing scientific research along the Hollister Ranch coastline
- Minimizes displacement and disturbance of natural resources
- Minimizes removal of native trees, or non-native trees that provide shade or habitat benefits
- Minimizes alteration or crossing of drainages to protect wetland and riparian habitat
- Access routes avoid known sensitive cultural resources
- Access routes avoid environmentally-sensitive habitat areas, including habitat for special status species and publicly-designated protected areas
- Avoid impacts to cattle operations
- Implements access control measures along publicly accessed roads and trails to minimize possible conflicts with agricultural and cattle operations
- Minimizes erosion along publicly accessed roads and trails
- Educates public visitors on value of coastal and cultural resources and how to minimize impacts.
- Minimizes direct user impacts such as dropping trash and off-trail vegetation trampling

Objective 5: Respect private property rights.

- Deters trespass on railroad and Hollister Ranch private property.
- Avoids encroachment or other direct impact to private property, including visual impacts

Document date: 8/24/2020

Hollister Ranch Coastal Access Program Working Group



- Avoids disturbing private property owners' privacy
- Deters potential illegal activities by public visitors
- Enforces rules for access
- Recognizes HROA-owned "Beach Recreation Common Areas" as private property
- Minimizes confrontations between HR owners and public, and encourages respectful interactions

Objective 6: Implement the laws and policies of the State of California.

- Consistency with Coastal Act
- Consistency with Santa Barbara County development standards, laws, and regulations
- Consistency with Gaviota State Park general plan and ongoing operations
- Consistency with Americans with Disabilities Act and Architectural Barriers Act
- Consistency with California State Parks Accessibility Guidelines (2015)
- Consistency with Coastal Commission Environmental Justice Policy, State Lands Commission Environmental Justice Policy and Coastal Conservancy Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Guidelines
- Design incorporates design standards and best practices from California Department of Parks and Recreation
- Consistency with State and Federal regulatory requirements

Objective 7: Define process for assessing long-term effectiveness of HRCAP in achieving program objectives.

- Defines process for assessing effectiveness at achieving public access
 Objectives 1 and 2 over the long-term
- Defines process for assessing long-term impacts to coastal resources
- Provide a monitoring and adaptive management plan for the HRCAP

Objective 8: Assess implementation challenges of program components and identify strategies for potential solutions.

- Identifies existing access infrastructure that could potentially be used
- Identifies property interests that need to be attained
- Estimates approximate time to implement
- Estimates approximate capital cost
- Assess Operational feasibility
- Minimizes maintenance costs

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