

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

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DATE: March 5, 2020

TO: California Coastal Commission and Interested Persons

FROM: John Ainsworth, Executive Director
Susan Hansch, Chief Deputy Director
Sarah Christie, Legislative Director
Linda Locklin, Public Access Program Manager

SUBJECT: HOLLISTER RANCH ACCESS PROGRAM UPDATE
FOR March 11-13, 2020 CCC MEETING

Over the last year, Commission staff has periodically presented Informational Briefings to the Commission and the public regarding steps taken to update the 1982 Hollister Ranch Access Program. In addition, a State Agency Team (SAT) comprised of senior staff representing the Coastal Commission, State Coastal Conservancy, State Lands Commission and the Department of Parks and Recreation, has been convening monthly coordinating calls to oversee advance the planning effort.

The planning effort for the Hollister Ranch Coastal Access Program (HRCAP) has been actively moving along over the past four months. DPR and SCC executed an interagency agreement to bring \$300,000 of DPR funds to the effort, which is in addition to the \$50,000 contributed by SCC. Subsequently, SCC amended the consultant contract with KTUA to cover the full scope of the planning effort.

Community Engagement

Activities over the past four months have focused on community engagement. Below are the highlights.

- Stakeholder Event #1: Initial Interviews – In December 2019, the consultant team conducted approximately 18 interviews with stakeholders from a variety of different perspectives including ranch landowners, public access advocates, environmental organizations, equity and environmental justice advocates, surfers, local government staff, and elected officials. These interviews provided the project facilitator with an overview of many of the positions, interests, and concerns that the HRCAP planning process will need to address.
- Public Survey #1 (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HRCAPSURVEY1>) -- Following the initial interviews, a link to a survey was sent to the HRCAP email list

(approximately 1700 email addresses) and then further circulated to the Coastal Conservancy and Coastal Commission agency email lists. The survey was provided in English and Spanish and gathered information on activities of interest for future public access to the ranch coastline, and priorities for the anticipated tradeoffs in the planning process (e.g., maximizing access versus protecting environmental and cultural resources). Over 500 responses were received in advance of the February 20 workshop.

- Stakeholder Event #2: Public Workshop in Goleta – On February 20, 2020, we held the first public workshop for the HRCAP planning effort. Over 170 people participated at the Goleta Valley Community Center. The meeting was facilitated by the consultant team with State Agency staff support. Assemblymember Monique Limón provided opening remarks. The workshop used a participation format called a “World Café” designed to maximize input from participants and allow equal opportunity for input from all participants. Members of the public participated in three rounds of small group discussions that covered 1) potential interests of new public access to the ranch coastline, 2) concerns about new public access, and 3) ideas for public access that might address both the interests and concerns that had been raised in previous rounds. Groups then shared the key points from their discussions.
- Information Materials Developed
 - FAQ– To help address common questions, a Frequently Asked Questions document was prepared in English and Spanish (see attached).
 - Timeline – A timeline of next steps was also developed and provided to workshop participants (see attached).

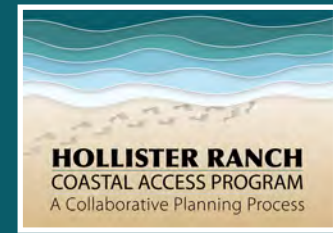
Key next steps in the project include:

- Public Survey #2 – KTUA is analyzing the information provided through Survey #1 and the public workshop and will use this to develop a second public survey. This survey will provide the larger public with an opportunity to provide input on the questions asked at the public workshop and will also include additional questions that will be shaped by the input received to date.
- Draft Vision – Based on the input received to date and the input from the second survey, the State Agency Team will work with the consultant team to develop a draft vision statement that will help guide development of the access program specifics.
- Scheduling – We will set the schedule for at least the next two public workshops so that people can reserve the dates well in advance.

Attachments:
FAQ and Timeline

Hollister Ranch Coastal Access Program

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's) February 2020



1 What is the Hollister Ranch Coastal Access Program (HRCAP)?

The Hollister Ranch Coastal Access Program (HRCAP) is a multi-agency effort that will lead to the creation of a shared vision for future public access to the coast at Hollister Ranch. The planning process will include comprehensive stakeholder and community engagement, an opportunities and constraints analysis, a list of potential recommendations, and the development of essential regulatory and operational requirements to implement the plan.

2 Which agencies are overseeing the planning process?

The following four agencies are overseeing the planning process: California Coastal Commission, California State Coastal Conservancy, California Department of Parks and Recreation, and the California State Lands Commission.

3 Will the general public have an opportunity to participate in the planning process?

Yes, the public will have several opportunities to participate in the planning process through a series of public workshops and surveys. Please sign up using the link below to ensure you receive all HRCAP notifications.

4 How can people who are interested participate in the process?

The HRCAP planning team is seeking a diverse group of people, both locally and regionally, to participate in the planning process. The planning team welcomes the participation of the general public as well as various stakeholder groups including environmental, recreation, and environmental justice groups; Hollister Ranch owners, ranch operators, and managers; local, regional, and state government agencies, and Native American representatives.

5 When will people be able to access the beach through Hollister Ranch?

Land access to the beach through Hollister Ranch is currently restricted for the general public. The HRCAP will provide guidance to the type of access to publicly owned beach areas through Hollister Ranch that is most feasible and responsive to all stakeholders' interests. General public access may not begin until 2022.

6 Will the HRCAP comply with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) guidelines?

Yes. It is a goal and requirement of the HRCAP to protect the coastal resources while still providing access to the coastline. All proposed recommendations will undergo an evaluation so that the participating agencies can determine what level of CEQA review will be needed.

7 How does ongoing litigation affect the HRCAP?

Ongoing litigation between the Hollister Ranch Owners Association (HROA) and various State agencies should not affect the collaborative stakeholder process planned for the HRCAP. The HROA is committed to participating in this process.

8 What technical studies will the HRCAP conduct?

The HRCAP agency team will use all available data to evaluate the site's physical constraints and opportunities in regards to such things as biological and cultural resources, public safety, potential recreation experiences, and other factors of interest. The studies will help the team and stakeholders make informed decisions throughout the planning process.

9 When will the planning process be completed by?

The HRCAP planning process will be completed by April 1, 2021, as mandated by California Assembly Bill No. 1680

10 Whom can I contact if I have any questions?

You can email the planning team at the following email address. Your questions will be directed to the appropriate person.

HRCAP.Stakeholders@gmail.com



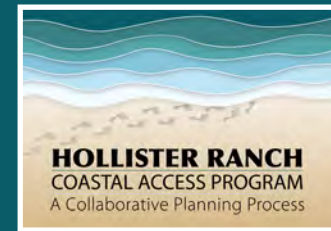
How can I receive project announcements?

You can register to receive announcements for this project by going to the link below or scanning this QR code.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HRCAPInformation>

Programa de acceso costero de Hollister Ranch

Preguntas frecuentes, febrero de 2020



1 ¿De qué se trata este proyecto?

El Programa de acceso costero de Hollister Ranch (HRCAP, por sus siglas en inglés) es un esfuerzo de varias agencias para crear de una visión compartida para el futuro acceso a los recursos costeros públicos a través de Hollister Ranch. El proceso de planificación incluirá la participación para gente interesada, un análisis de oportunidades y limitaciones, una lista de posibles recomendaciones y el desarrollo de requisitos normativos y operativos esenciales para implementar el Plan.

2 ¿Qué agencias están supervisando el proceso de planificación?

Las siguientes cuatro agencias están supervisando el proceso de planificación: California Coastal Commission, California State Coastal Conservancy, California Department of Parks and Recreation, and the California State Lands Commission.

3 ¿Tendrá el público la oportunidad de participar en el proceso de planificación?

Sí, el público tendrá varias oportunidades de participar en el proceso de planificación a través de una serie de talleres y encuestas públicas. Regístrate utilizando el siguiente enlace para asegurarte que recibas las notificaciones del HRCAP.

4 ¿Cómo puede participar la gente que está interesada en el proceso?

El equipo de planificación está buscando un grupo diverso de personas, tanto a nivel local como regional, para participar en el proceso de planificación. El equipo da la bienvenida a la participación del público, así como de varios grupos de partes interesadas tales como los grupos medioambientales, de recreación y de justicia ambiental; propietarios de Hollister Ranch, operadores de ranchos y gerentes; agencias gubernamentales locales, regionales y estatales, y representantes de los nativos americanos.

5 ¿Cuándo podrá la gente tener acceso a la playa a través de Hollister Ranch?

El acceso terrestre a la playa a través de Hollister Ranch está actualmente restringido al público. El HRCAP proporcionará la dirección sobre el tipo de acceso a las áreas de playa pública a través de Hollister Ranch que es más factible y sensible a los intereses de todas las partes interesadas. El acceso público no podrá comenzar antes del año 2022.

6 ¿El HRCAP cumplirá con las pautas de la Ley de Calidad Ambiental de California (CEQA)?

Sí. Es un objetivo y requisito del HRCAP a proteger los recursos costeros mientras siga proporcionando acceso a la costa. Todas las recomendaciones propuestas se someterán a una evaluación de modo que las agencias participantes pueden determinar a qué nivel de CEQA examen será necesario.

7 ¿Cómo afectan los litigios en curso al HRCAP?

Los litigios en curso entre la Asociación de Propietarios de Hollister Ranch (HROA) y varias agencias estatales no deben afectar el proceso colaborativas planeado para el HRCAP. El HROA se compromete a participar en este proceso.

8 ¿Qué estudios técnicos llevará a cabo el HRCAP?

El equipo utilizará todos los datos disponibles para evaluar las limitaciones físicas y oportunidades del sitio con respecto a aspectos tales como recursos biológicos y culturales, seguridad pública, posibles experiencias recreativas y otros factores de interés. Los estudios ayudarán al equipo y a las partes interesadas a tomar decisiones informadas a lo largo del proceso de planificación.

9 ¿Cuándo se completará el proceso de planificación?

El proceso de planificación se completará antes del 1 de abril de 2021, como lo marca la Ley de la Asamblea de California 1680.

10 ¿Con quién puedo ponerme en contacto si tengo alguna pregunta?

Puede enviar un correo electrónico al equipo de planificación a la siguiente dirección de correo electrónico. Sus preguntas serán dirigidas a la persona apropiada.

HRCAP.Stakeholders@gmail.com



¿Cómo puedo recibir anuncios del proyecto?

Escanee este código QR o vaya al enlace de abajo para registrarse para recibir anuncios sobre el proyecto.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HRCAPInformation>

Hollister Ranch Coastal Access Program

Next Steps

