

FINAL

**DRAFT POGONIP MASTER PLAN
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT**

Volume One

■ **Comments**



submitted to the:
**CITY OF SANTA CRUZ
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION**

submitted by:
B R A D Y / L S A
PLANNERS AND LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

JUNE 1998

B R A D Y / L S A
PLANNERS AND LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

Volume One
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Chapter I INTRODUCTION

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A. Purpose of the Final EIR

This report has been prepared in the form of an addendum to the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the proposed *Draft Pogonip Master Plan*. The DEIR identifies the likely environmental consequences associated with the project, and recommends mitigation measures to reduce or eliminate significant impacts.

During the public review period (February 23 to April 8, 1998), comments were made on the DEIR, both in writing and verbally. Volume One of this addendum contains the comments (verbal and written). Volume Two includes the responses to comments on the DEIR and changes to the text of the DEIR. Changes to the text of the original DEIR are shown by underlining for new text and ~~strikeout~~ for deleted text.

This document, together with the DEIR, will constitute the Final EIR if the Santa Cruz City Council certifies the Final EIR as complete and adequate under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

B. Environmental Review Process

According to CEQA, lead agencies are required to consult with public agencies having jurisdiction over a proposed project, and to provide the general public and project applicant with an opportunity to comment on the DEIR. For this project, the City of Santa Cruz is the lead agency. This Final EIR has been prepared to respond to comments received on the DEIR and to clarify any errors, omissions, or misinterpretation of the analysis or findings in the DEIR.

The DEIR was made available for public review on February 23, 1998 and distributed to local and State responsible and trustee agencies. The general public was advised of the availability of the DEIR through public notice in the newspaper

and by mail (to owners of property located within 300 feet of the project site). Notification was also posted at Pogonip.

A City Council hearing to receive comments on the *Master Plan* and DEIR was held on March 31, 1998, with members of the Parks and Recreation Commission also in attendance. The CEQA-mandated 45-day public comment period on the DEIR ended on April 8, 1998.

This Final EIR will be presented to the Santa Cruz City Council at a public hearing scheduled for July 1998 at that time the City Council may take action regarding certification of the Final EIR as a full disclosure of potential impacts, mitigation measures and alternatives.

C. Report Organization

This Final EIR consists of the following chapters:

Volume One

- *Chapter I: Introduction.* This chapter discusses the use and organization of the Final EIR.
- *Chapter II: Comments.* This chapter contains reproductions of the letters received from the public on the DEIR, and the names of individuals and agencies commenting on the DEIR. The minutes from the public hearing on the DEIR are also included. The comments are numbered in the margins of the comment letters and minutes from the public hearing, and responses (Chapter III) are keyed to the comment numbers. Comment letters addressing only the *Draft Pogonip Master Plan*, as compared to the DEIR, are contained at the end of this chapter with "Master Plan" in the upper right corner of each letter. No responses to these letters are included herein, as CEQA does not require responses to comments that do not address the DEIR. For letters that contain comments on both the DEIR and the *Master Plan*, the letters are included at the beginning of Chapter II and comments on the *Master Plan* are noted as such in the response.

Volume Two

- *Chapter III: Responses to Comments.* This chapter contains the responses by the DEIR authors to the verbal and written comments contained in Chapter II. Where revisions to the DEIR are appropriate, these are summarized and the actual text changes are shown in Chapter IV. Each response is numbered to correspond to the comment numbers identified in Chapter II.

- *Chapter IV: Revisions to the Draft EIR.* Corrections or clarifications based on comments received on the DEIR are contained in this chapter, including language that has been added or deleted from the DEIR. Underlined text represents language that has been added to the DEIR; text in ~~strikeout~~ has been deleted from the DEIR. The summary table of impacts and mitigation measures is also included in its entirety. Errata are also shown in this chapter.
- *Chapter V: Mitigation Monitoring Program.* This chapter identifies mitigation measures referenced in the DEIR as necessary to avoid or reduce potentially significant impacts, and provides a program for implementation and monitoring. In addition, any changes made to mitigation measures (compared to the Draft EIR) are shown by underlining for new text and ~~strikeout~~ for deleted text.

Chapter II

COMMENT LETTERS AND PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES

■ ■ ■

This chapter includes a reproduction of each letter received during the public review period that addressed the DEIR, and the minutes from the public hearing held before the City Council and Parks and Recreation Commission on March 31, 1998. Comment letters received on the *Draft Pogonip Master Plan* are also included at the end of this chapter but are marked with "MP" in the upper right corner. No responses to these letters are included in Chapter III because they did not specifically address the DEIR. For letters that contain comments on both the DEIR and the *Master Plan*, the letters are included at the beginning of Chapter II and comments on the *Master Plan* are noted as such in the response.

Comments on the DEIR were received from federal, state, regional, and local agencies and the public, as follows:

Federal Agencies

Comment Number

U.S. Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers	A1
U.S. Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service	A2-A8

State Agencies

University of California, Santa Cruz	B1-B4
California Office of Planning and Research	B5
California Department of Parks and Recreation	B6
California Department of Transportation	B7-B9

Regional and Local Agencies

Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission	C1-C10
City of Santa Cruz Water Department	C11
City of Santa Cruz Mayor, Celia Scott	C12-C37

Public and Citizens Groups

Steve Moran	D1-D19

Board of Directors, Homeless Garden Project	D20-D122
California Native Plant Society	D123-D127
Richard Stover	D128
George Jammell, Sierra Club	D129-D157
Homeless Garden Project	D158-D163
Richard Schmale (2/20/98 letter)	D164
Richard Schmale (2/24/98 letter)	D165-D166
Cathy Puccinelli	D167
Richard Stover	D168
Richard Schmale (3/13/98 letter)	D169
John Coha	D170-D171
Ann Stanislawsky	D172
David Green Baskin	D173-D188
Nan Tunison Ogawa	D189
John Swift	D190
Mildred Bourriague	D197
Patricia Doler	D198-D201
Bruce Engelhardt	D202-D208
James Felich	D209
Stuart Howell	D210-D212
Tony Morel	D213-D214
Bruce A. McDougal	D215-D218
Karena Pushnik	D219-D222
Sandra G. Henn	D223-D231
Ted M. Coopman; Stephanie J. Coopman; Craig Meriweather;	D232-D238
Rennie Saunders; Virginia Saunders; Kristina Wulbern	D239-D241
Douglas Deitch	D242-D247
Mark Primack	D248-D265
Keith Kelsen	D266
Lawrence M. Cuprys	D267-D270
Jane Walton	D271-D272
Steve Miller	D273
Chuck and Vivian Beebee	D274
Fritzi Nelson	D275-D286
Cathy Puccinelli	D287-D290
Susan and Kenneth Coale	D291-D302
Deborah A. Malkin	D303
Becky Johnson	D304
Ron Stillman	D305-D309
Salem Magarian	D310
Doug Landauer	D311-D312
David Silva, Green Party	D313-D314
Robert Pollie	

Richard Schmale	D315
Jacquelyn Griffith	D316-D319
Gillian Greensite	D320
Erik Schmidt	D321-D322
Terrence Willit and Jennifer Cross	D323-D328

Oral Comments Made at Public Hearing - March 31, 1998

Celia Scott	D329-D330
Peter Katzlberger	D331-D337
Mark Primack	D338
Peter Scott	D339-D340
Rick Gladstone	D341
Ken Dickerson	D342
Richard Schmale	D343-D344
Steve Robins	D345
Jacquey Griffith	D346-D347
Steve Williams	D348
Bruce Engehardt	D349-D350
Robert Polly	D351
Jonathan Scheuer	D352-D354
Larry Moore	D355
Jim Moran	D356
Sally Ross	D357
Chuck Beebe	D358
Jane Friedman	D359
Ali Edwards	D360
Bob Culbertson	D361
Celia Scott	D362
Bob Culbertson and Celia Scott	D363
K. Beiers and Bob Culbertson	D364
Liz Matoza, Amy Courtney, Shani O'Neill, Andrea Lopez	D365
Marlin Humble	D366
Gillian Greensite	D367
Ed Davidson	D368
Chris Brewer	D369
Karen Pushing	D370
Barbara McCrary	D371
Mark Michael	D372
Don Roth	D373
Nadine Golden	D374
Cathy Puccinelli	D375
Stuart Howell, Woody Carroll, Sandy Henn	D376

David Carnaghe	D377
Patricia Dollar and D. Malkin	D378
Michael Rotkin	D379-D382
K. Beiers	D383-D389
C. Mathews	D390-D392
Celia Scott	D393-D402
E. Schick	D403-D404
M. Herrera	D405

Each comment is labeled with a reference number in the margin. Each letter is reproduced in its entirety, and is followed by a response to the numbered comment in Chapter III. Letters are organized by commentor, with agencies comments followed by public comments.

The following letters, listed alphabetically by author name, are included at the end of Chapter II, but do not include responses or numbered comments because these letters addressed only the *Draft Pogonip Master Plan* and included no comments on the adequacy of the Draft EIR.

Diana Adams
Diana Adams
Jim De Alba
Jeff Alford
K. Winona Hubbard/A. Anderson
Mary and David Barter
Jana Baumann
Sandia Belgrade
Jeff Bernhardt
Frances du Bois
Nancy Brown
Evy Cambridge
Maria Cardona
Nancy Carlisle
William Codiga
James Crum
Mark and Kathleen Dammann
Suzanne Aston Davis
Jean Doerr
Allison Edwards
Gloria Ellis
Charles Faulkner
Jane Friedman
Tim Gilbert

Isabel Gilman
Mark Gladden
Russell Habecker
Ginger Hedrick
Lawrence and Susan Herzberg
Elisabeth Hiatt
Sheri Holms
Lyn Hood
Nikki Julian
Linda Rose Kaminar
Douglas Kellogg
Tom Killion
Christopher Krohn
Jim Langley
Carol Latta
Ron Lau
Howard and Virginia Law
Ron Lyons
Liz Maitoya
Emma McCrary
Virginia McDermott
Marcia McDougal
Debra Means
A. Mills

L. Kelly Mitter
Robert Mueller
Robert Norse
Nan Ogawa
Cathy Puccinelli
Steve Richmond
Linda Richmond
Elizabeth Riehl
Phil Rosenthal
Sally Ross
Juliana Rousseau
Iris Sanders
Sara and Robert Sanderson
Maya Sapper
Joe Schirmer
Richard Schmale
Richard Schmale
Richard Schmale

James Schwartz
Scott Seery
Stephen Shaw
Bettianne Shoney Sien
George Simons
Heather Skomsvold
Shelly Sleighel
Geoffrey Smith
Kate Stafford
Nadja Stanchfield
Gene Stevens
Gabrielle Stocker
Michael Stokes
Judyth Suttle
Jeane Ulwelling
S. Williams and A. Vladimirskaia
Patsy Wilkes
Joan Zimmerman



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
SAN FRANCISCO DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
333 MARKET STREET
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94105-2197

MAR 17 1998

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

REC'D MAR 25 1998

Regulatory Branch

SUBJECT: File No. 23363S

Ms. Susan Harris
Parks & Recreation Department
City of Santa Cruz
323 Church Street
Santa Cruz, California 95060

Dear Ms. Harris:

Your request for comments on the Draft Pogonip Master Plan was received on March 3, 1998, by your undated notice. This proposed project involves new and expanded recreation-related uses on the 640-acre Pogonip site located in the northwestern portion of the City of Santa Cruz in Santa Cruz County, California.

All proposed discharges of dredged or fill material (including the movement of material associated with excavation or extraction) into waters of the United States must be authorized by the Corps of Engineers pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) (33 U.S.C. 1344). Waters of the United States generally include tidal waters, lakes, ponds, rivers, streams (including intermittent streams), and wetlands.

Your proposed work appears to be within our jurisdiction and a permit may be required. Application for Corps authorization should be made to this office using the application form in the enclosed pamphlet. To avoid delays it is essential that you enter the File Number at the top of this letter into Item No. 1. The application must include plans showing the location, extent and character of the proposed activity, prepared in accordance with the requirements contained in this pamphlet. You should note, in planning your work, that upon receipt of a properly completed application and plans, it may be necessary to advertise the proposed work by issuing a public notice for a period of 30 days.

If an individual permit is required, it will be necessary for you to demonstrate to the Corps that your proposed fill is necessary because there are no practicable alternatives, as outlined in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Section 404(b)(1) Guidelines. A copy is enclosed to aid you in preparation of this alternative analysis.

A1



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Ventura Fish and Wildlife Office
2493 Portola Road, Suite B
Ventura, California 93003

April 15, 1998

Susan Harris
Parks and Recreation Department
City of Santa Cruz
323 Church Street
Santa Cruz, California 95060

Subject: Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Pogonip Master Plan, City of Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz County, California

Dear Ms. Harris:

This letter responds to a request from the City of Santa Cruz (City), which was received by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) on February 23, 1998, for comments on the draft environmental impact report (DEIR) for the proposed Pogonip Master Plan. The proposed project would involve new and expanded recreation-related uses on the 640-acre Pogonip site, located in the northwestern portion of the City of Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz County, California. The following activities are proposed in the draft Pogonip Master Plan: rehabilitation of the historic 8,000 square foot clubhouse; development of the Pogonip Garden; creation of an outdoor education camp; dedication of the Sycamore Grove Nature Area; evaluation of three trail use alternatives; protection and enhancement of resource management areas; fire management; preservation of historic sites; expansion and improvement of maintenance and support facilities; improvements to transportation and circulation; and extension of existing utilities to the clubhouse. The proposed project area supports a diversity of natural habitats and plant communities ranging from grasslands to scrub and forests. Several sensitive plant and animal species have been identified from, or are believed to have the potential to occur at, Pogonip including the federally endangered robust spineflower (*Chorizanthe robusta* var. *robusta*), federally threatened California red-legged frog (*Rana aurora draytonii*), the proposed threatened Santa Cruz tarplant (*Holocarpha macradenia*), and the Ohlone tiger beetle (*Cicindela ohlone*). We have the following comments and recommendations on the DEIR.

We recommend that the City choose the trail alternative that would have the fewest effects on sensitive species. We support the proposal to limit the use of trails near Gairdner's yampah (*Perideridia gairdneri* ssp. *gairdneri*), robust spineflower, and ohlone tiger beetle populations to pedestrians. Bicycle and equestrian use should be prohibited in areas where sensitive species

A2

A3

Susan Harris

2

occur. We also support the proposal to align trails to avoid impacts to coastal terrace prairie to the greatest extent practicable.

We are concerned about the potential loss of coastal terrace prairie habitat associated with the development of the Pogonip garden facility, Outdoor Education Camp, and Lower Meadow parking lot. Although the construction of these facilities may not directly affect any of the sensitive species dependent on the coastal terrace prairie habitat found on the proposed project site, suitable unoccupied habitat for these species may be affected. The DEIR should address this, including providing an estimate of the acreage to be affected. In the DEIR, the City proposes to develop management and mitigation plans for the coastal prairie habitat on-site prior to the implementation of the Master Plan's proposed improvements. We look forward to reviewing and providing comment on these plans to aid the City in developing measures to preserve and promote the occurrence of native coastal prairie species.

A4

At present, the Pogonip site is one of six areas known to support the Ohlone tiger beetle. You should be aware that the Service is currently re-evaluating the need to list this species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act). If this species is listed, it would receive the protections provided by the Act, including the prohibition against take as described in section 9 of the Act. Therefore, we encourage the City to avoid affecting known and potential habitat for the Ohlone tiger beetle and to implement conservation and management measures that would ensure the survival of the Ohlone tiger beetle population in the Pogonip area. We agree with the determination made in the DEIR that focused surveys should be conducted for the Ohlone tiger beetle to confirm its presence or absence on the Wavecrest lands and other potentially suitable habitat areas onsite.

A5

Management of riparian habitat and the Sycamore Grove Natural Area could affect potential California red-legged frog habitat. We recommend that you complete a habitat assessment for California red-legged frogs prior to any construction activity in the Sycamore Grove Natural Area. The assessment should be done in accordance with the Service's February 18, 1997, *Guidance on Site Assessment and Field Surveys for California Red-legged Frogs*. We have enclosed a copy of the Guidance for your use. The guidance is intended to help you accurately assess the potential for California red-legged frogs to occur on the project site. The results of your assessment should be submitted to the Service's Ventura Fish and Wildlife Office for review. After reviewing your habitat assessment, we will determine what the potential is for California red-legged frogs to occur on the site and will recommend measures that could be implemented to reduce the potential for take to occur. If take cannot be avoided, the City would need to apply for a section 10(a)(1)(B) incidental take permit pursuant to the Act.

A6

The DEIR states that the upland area in the Sycamore Grove Natural Area is an unlikely movement corridor for California red-legged frogs. During dry periods of the year, the California red-legged frog is rarely encountered far from water. However, during periods of wet, mild weather, some individuals of this species make overland excursions through upland habitats. Most of these overland movements occur at night, usually during or following rains. Therefore,

A7

Susan Harris

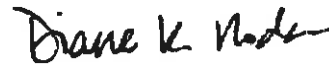
disturbance to uplands has the potential to take California red-legged frogs. In the dry season, most frogs retreat to ponds, marshes, streams, and other perennial or seasonal wet places. Such areas may also be used for refuge during overland dispersal.

Several corrections are necessary within the DEIR regarding the status of sensitive plant species found at Pogonip. On March 30, 1998, the Service published a rule to propose threatened status pursuant to the Act for the Santa Cruz tarplant. The DEIR should reflect this change. The DEIR (page IV. B-17) states that fewer than a dozen populations of the robust spineflower have been documented in the region. We are only aware of three other populations of the robust spineflower outside of Pogonip.

A8

The Service appreciates the opportunity to comment on the DEIR and looks forward to coordinating with the City to minimize or avoid adverse effects to the sensitive biological resources in the project area. If you should have any questions, please contact David Pereksta of my staff at (805) 644-1766.

Sincerely,



Diane K. Noda
Field Supervisor

Enclosure

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

VENTURA FIELD OFFICE
2493 PORTOLA ROAD, SUITE B
VENTURA, CALIFORNIA 93003



PHONE: (805)644-1766

FAX: (805)644-3958

DATE: APRIL 16, 1998

TO: Amy Skewes-Cox

____ Please confirm receipt of fax

FAX #: 510-540-7344

FROM: DAVID PEREKSTA

SUBJECT: POGONIP MASTER PLAN

OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER SHEET 4

COMMENTS:

1 copy
K. Lynn

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA CRUZ

BERKELEY • DAVIS • IRVINE • LOS ANGELES • RIVERSIDE • SAN DIEGO

Post-It Fax Note	7671	Date	4/7/98	# of pages	2
To	Susan Harris	From	Frank Zwart		
Co/Dept.	City Parks	Co.	UCSC		
Phone #	429-3206	Phone #	459-2703		
Fax #	469-9253	Fax #			

PHYSICAL PLANNING AND CONSTRUCTION

SANTA CRUZ, CALIFORNIA 95064

April 7, 1998

Susan Harris
Associate Planner
Department of Parks and Recreation
City of Santa Cruz
323 Church Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

REC'D APR 07 1998

Dear Ms. Harris,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the Pogonip Master Plan. As you know, UCSC submitted a letter in response to the Notice of Preparation (NOP) for the DEIR. Many of UCSC's NOP comments were addressed in the Draft Master Plan and DEIR (e.g., identification of an appropriate Connector Trail segment on UCSC land, analysis of the impacts of the Connector Trail segment on UCSC property, and not designating campus parking lots for public use by park users). Some of UCSC's comments, however, were not fully addressed in the DEIR, and we would like to request that they be fully addressed in the Final EIR. Those comments (in bold), with some elaboration, are provided below.

1. The University requests that the Coolidge Drive overlook not be identified by the City as a trailhead.

- The Pogonip Master Plan maps and text identify the Coolidge Drive overlook as a trail entrance. The text states: "A segment of Lookout Trail connects from Spring Trail up to the Lookout area on UCSC property at Glen Coolidge Drive. (Pogonip Master Plan, pp. iii, 3-5, etc. and 3-4) Moreover, the DEIR traffic and circulation section states that the Lookout Trail is accessible from Coolidge Drive. The DEIR text also states: "Technically this turnout is not considered a long-term parking area or trailhead area for Pogonip." (DEIR, p. IV.G-4)

The University requests that the Coolidge Drive Overlook not be identified or referenced in any way as a trailhead or entrance to the park. In fact, the campus would prefer that the segment of "Lookout Trail" between Spring Trail and Coolidge Drive not be shown on Pogonip maps, since we do not want the lookout to be considered either a destination or departure point for park access.

2. The University requests that the intersection of Rincon Road and Coolidge Drive not be identified as a primary access point to the Pogonip. The intersection has serious safety problems resulting from very short sight lines and relatively high traffic speeds.

- Pogonip Master Plan maps and text identify the Rincon Connection at Coolidge as a trail entrance and kiosk site. The DEIR traffic and circulation section states that the Rincon Trail is accessible from Coolidge Drive, and acknowledges that stopping sight distances are below standards at the intersection. (DEIR, p. IV.G-4) The Master Plan text also states that "Traffic safety measures to provide safe bicycle and pedestrian access at this entrance will require

B1

B2

Pogonip Master Plan EIR NOC: UCSC Response
Page 2

coordination with Santa Cruz County and UCSC. (Pogonip Master Plan, p. 3-3) DEIR Mitigation Measure TRANS-5c states that bicycle and equestrian trail users accessing Pogonip from UCSC should be encouraged to enter from the UCSC Connector located in the northern area of Pogonip. (DEIR, p. II-36) DEIR Mitigation Measure TRANS-5e states that the City should work with the County of Santa Cruz to improve site distance at the Rincon Trail intersection (through tree thinning and limbing and possibly through cutting the toe of the slope and installing a crib wall). The mitigation also states that the City should coordinate with the County and UCSC to reduce traffic speeds on Coolidge (with speed humps or other means). (DEIR, pp. II-37 and IV.G-19)

B2

The Master Plan and DEIR do not fully support a conclusion that a safe Rincon/Coolidge trail entrance can and will be developed or that such a trail entrance would be logical with respect to circulation. (No bike lane or pedestrian walkway exists on Coolidge Drive west of the Coolidge curve to provide an east-west cross-campus route for pedestrians or bicyclists using Rincon to access the park.) The University requests that a mitigation measure be adopted ensuring that the Rincon/Coolidge trail entrance not be provided with a kiosk and not be identified as a park access route on Pogonip maps unless and until a safe and conforming entrance is actually developed, in consultation with the University and County of Santa Cruz.

3. The University and the City jointly hold an option for a relocatable easement for an eastern access road through the Pogonip. The Master Plan should acknowledge this fact, and the EIR should assess the impacts of any Master Plan elements that would preclude the exercising of this option.

- The Pogonip Master Plan mentions the possibility of constructing either an eastern access road or an eastern access cog railway between Santa Cruz and UCSC through the Pogonip. (Pogonip Master Plan, p. 7-2) However, the DEIR does not appear to address the eastern access road option.

The University requests that the following changes/additions be made in the DEIR:

The DEIR planning history should mention the eastern access easement purchase option. (DEIR, p. III-3)

The DEIR Land Use section describes the UCSC LRDP; it should also describe the eastern access and the easement purchase option. (DEIR, p. IV.A-10)

B3

The DEIR Land Use section includes the following significance criteria: would the project "introduce new land uses that conflict with established and/or proposed uses on the project site." The City General Plan identifies the construction of an eastern access as a potential roadway project in the Arterial Streets Master Plan, and the UCSC NOP comment letter also describes the eastern access easement option. Possible conflicts between proposed park uses and a future eastern access should be identified and evaluated, including conflicts from proposed uses that could preclude the exercising of the easement option. (DEIR, p. IV.A-11) Appendix D of the LRDP EIR, which shows three possible alignments for an eastern access, could provide a basis for this analysis. If the City determines that the Master Plan could preclude exercising the easement, the University requests that the EIR identify a significant adverse impact in the Land Use category, evaluate the secondary effects of such a land use conflict on traffic, and recirculate the EIR.

The DEIR Traffic and Circulation section should discuss the eastern access, where it addresses traffic and circulation plans and policies. (DEIR, p. IV.G-10)

The DEIR Cumulative Impact analysis indicates that under Alternative 4 of the SCCRTC Major Transportation Investment Study, a rail alignment could pass through Pogonip.

Pogonip Master Plan EIR NOC: UCSC Response
Page 3

(DEIR, p. VI-5) A discussion of a possible eastern access roadway should also be provided.

B3

Other Pogonip Master Plan Comments:

1. The boundary between UCSC and Pogonip appears to be incorrect north of the Coolidge curve. (Pogonip Master Plan, pp. iii, 1-5, 3-5, etc.)
2. Chinguapin Road is mislabeled "East Road" on Pogonip Master Plan maps that include UCSC. (Pogonip Master Plan, pp. iii, 1-5, 3-5, etc.)

Other EIR Comments:

1. UC should be identified in the EIR as a Responsible Agency with respect to subsequent approval of the short segment of trail or any other improvements on UC property. (DEIR, p. I-7)
2. The summary of NOP concerns provided in the EIR should report the more important UCSC concerns, as set forth in the UCSC NOP letter dated July 24, 1997.
3. The C. Aldecoa quote on DEIR page VI-5 should be corrected to indicate that the drainage from the new campus developments would not pose problems for the Pogonip area.

B4

Thank you again for the opportunity to review the DEIR on the Pogonip Master Plan. The University supports the development of a Master Plan for the park and has appreciated the opportunity to work with Parks Department staff in the identification of a feasible Connector Trail alignment to the north campus. Please let us know if we can provide additional information in support of collaborative resolutions to the planning challenges faced by the University and the City.

Sincerely,



Frank Zwart
Assistant Vice Chancellor
Physical Planning and Construction

cc: C. Aldecoa
M. Fusari
J. Lang
L. Pageler
Santa Cruz City Council
T. Vani

Governor's Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814



April 7, 1998

SUSAN HARRIS
CITY OF SANTA CRUZ PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
323 CHURCH STREET
SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060

Subject: POGONIP MASTER PLAN SCH #: 97062099

Dear SUSAN HARRIS:

The State Clearinghouse submitted the above named environmental document to selected state agencies for review. The review period is closed and none of the state agencies have comments. This letter acknowledges that you have complied with the State Clearinghouse review requirements for draft environmental documents, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act.

Please call Kristen Derscheid at (916) 445-0613 if you have any questions regarding the environmental review process. When contacting the Clearinghouse in this matter, please use the eight-digit State Clearinghouse number so that we may respond promptly.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Antero A. Rivasplata".

ANTERO A. RIVASPLATA
Chief, State Clearinghouse

BRADY AND ASSOCIATES
APR 15 1998

B5

State of California

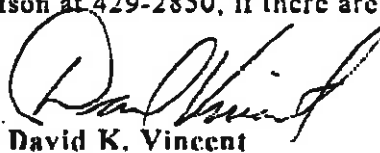
Memorandum**Date** : March 19, 1998**To** : Nadell Gayou, Projects Coordinator
The Resources Agency**From** : Department of Parks and Recreation
Santa Cruz District (408) 429-2850**Subject**: Pogonip Master Plan, City of Santa Cruz
Draft Environmental Impact Report - SCH# ~~7062099~~

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on the "Draft Pogonip Master Plan, Environmental Impact Report". The Santa Cruz District of the California State Parks has an interest in this project as it could impact public access on two park units adjacent to the project, namely Henry Cowell Redwoods State Park and Wilder Ranch State Park.

The District supports either Master Plan Trail alternatives A or B: allowing multiple use of existing service roads in Pogonip. Use of the service roads will facilitate establishment of compatible trail circulation from Henry Cowell Redwoods State Park to the Santa Cruz City, the University of California at Santa Cruz, and beyond to Wilder Ranch State Park. This will provide the public some outstanding recreation opportunities.

The establishment of equestrian and bicycle trails complies with Coastal Zone Management Goals and is a goal supported by the Santa Cruz County General Plan, Sections 7.7.6 and 7.7.8.

Please contact me, or Bob Culbertson at 429-2850, if there are any further questions or concerns.



David K. Vincent
District Superintendent

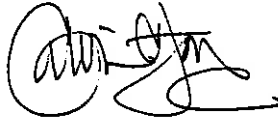
cc: Bob Culbertson
Richard Rayburn

MAR 26 1998

B6

If you have any questions, please call the South Section Chief, Mr. Ed Wylie, at telephone 415-977-8464. Please address correspondence to Regulatory Branch, and refer to the File Number at the head of this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Calvin C. Fong', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Calvin C. Fong
Chief, Regulatory Branch

Enclosures

REC'D MAY 15 1998

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

50 HIGUERA STREET
SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA 93403-5114
TELEPHONE: (805) 549-3111
TDD (805) 549-3258



BRADY AND ASSOCIATES
BRADY AND ASSOCIATES
MAY 15 1998
MAY 05 1998

April 27, 1998

5-SCr-09-4.2
DEIR for POGONIP EIR

Susan Harris
City of Santa Cruz
Department of Parks and Recreation
323 Church Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Dear Ms. Harris:

Caltrans District 5 staff has reviewed the Draft Environmental Impact Report for the POGONIP Master Plan. The following comments were generated as a result of the review:

Page 1-5: The placement of kiosks, picnic tables and portable toilets in the Sycamore Grove Nature Area will increase the demand for parking at this location. State Route 9 may not be suitable for this type of use without improvements to the highway facility and/or within the highway right of way. Staff recommends that off street parking be provided as mitigation to accommodate park users prior to opening of this proposed site. Although it is legal to park along many state highways, it is important that it not create safety or operational problems. If parking becomes a public safety problem, Caltrans may be forced to initiate action restricting it.

B7

Pages II-35, TRANS 3: Caltrans has concerns with any future park facilities that immediately impact the operation of State Route (SR) 9 or that could impact its future widening. The intersection of State Route 9 and Golf Club drive should be improved to current standards. This includes providing adequate decision site distance for turning movements (Ref. 201.7 *Highway Design Manual*).

B8

Pages II-36, IV-4 & 5: An encroachment permit must be obtained before any work can be conducted within the Caltrans right-of-way. Please be advised that prior to obtaining an encroachment permit, all design plans must be reviewed by this office accompanied by an approved environmental document. Biological and archaeological surveys must specifically address impacts in the state right-of-way. Should you have further questions regarding encroachment permits, please contact Mr. Steve Senet, Permits Engineer, at (805) 541-3152.

B9

The placement of any sign within the State right of way requires an encroachment permit. Pedestrian trails should cross the highway at locations where there is adequate sight distance to determine when it is safe to cross. This may necessitate the removal/maintenance of sight distance obstructions such as vegetation.

Ms. Susan Harris
April 27, 1998
Page 2

I hope this letter gives your agency a better understanding of Caltrans' concerns with this project. We would appreciate the opportunity to meet with you to discuss mitigation for the impacts to State Route 9 mentioned above. Thank you for consideration of our comments on the proposed project. If you have any questions or need to contact us, please call me at (805) 549-3131.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charles Larwood". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Charles" being more prominent than the last name "Larwood".

Charles Larwood
District 5
Intergovernmental Review Coordinator

cc: C Belsky, SCH
L. Wilshusen, SCCRTC
N. Papadakis, AMBAG



SANTA CRUZ COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

1523 PACIFIC AVENUE, SANTA CRUZ, CALIFORNIA 95060-3911 (408) 460-3200 FAX (408) 460-3215 OR (408) 471-1290

SERVICE AUTHORITY
FOR FREEWAY
EMERGENCIES
(SAFE) ☐

April 8, 1998

BRADY AND ASSOCIATES

APR 13 1998

CONGESTION
MANAGEMENT
AGENCY ☐

Susan Harris, Department of Parks and Recreation
City of Santa Cruz
323 Church Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

COMMUTE
SOLUTIONS ☐

RE: Draft Pogonip Master Plan Environmental Impact Report

Dear Ms. Harris,

TRANSPORTATION
POLICY COMMITTEE ☐

Thank you for the opportunity to review the Draft Pogonip Master Plan Environmental Impact Report (EIR). Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission (SCCRTC) staff have reviewed the draft EIR and have the following general comments and the attached specific comments to offer:

RAIL OVERSIGHT
COMMITTEE ☐

1. SCCRTC staff supports the transportation and circulation mitigation measures and has specific comments on two of the measures relating to Golf Club Drive and its intersection with Highway 9.

BUDGET &
ADMINISTRATION
PERSONNEL
COMMITTEE ☐

2. In the past, the possibility of providing access to the University through the Pogonip area has been investigated ("Eastern Access"). While the preservation of the Pogonip area is important, it is also important to take efforts to protect the rest of our natural environment by providing adequate and convenient infrastructure for alternative modes of transportation. In this regard, we appreciate the draft EIRs discussion of the Major Transportation Investment Study Alternative 4 rail transit alternative under the "Cumulative Impacts".

C1

INTERAGENCY
TECHNICAL
ADVISORY
COMMITTEE ☐

BICYCLE COMMITTEE ☐

3. The draft EIR mentions the possibility of providing multi-use trails for pedestrians, bicycles and equestrians as an expanded use of the Pogonip area. SCCRTC staff supports an expanded use of the Pogonip through multi-use trails including access to the University for bicyclists through the Pogonip. However, the multi-use concept should be planned and implemented in ways which avoid conflicts among the various modes of transportation.

C2

ELDERLY & DISABLED
TRANSPORTATION
ADVISORY COMMITTEE ☐

Thank you again for the opportunity to review this document at this time. If you have any questions regarding these comments, please feel free to contact me at (408) 460-3200.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Linda Wilshusen', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Linda Wilshusen
Executive Director

cc: Commissioner Katherine Beiers
Commissioner Scott Kennedy
Commissioner Mike Rotkin
Commissioner Mardi Wormhoudt
Larry Newland, Caltrans District 5
Nick Papadakis, AMBAG

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Attachment: Specific Comments on the Draft Pogonip Master Plan Environmental Impact Report

enclosure

**Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission
Specific Comments on the
Draft Pogonip Master Plan Environmental Impact Report**

1.	SCCRTC staff supports mitigation measure TRANS-3a to widen Golf Club Drive from the railroad trestle to the park entrance to provide two travel lanes. SCCRTC staff suggests that the roadway also include facilities to accommodate bicyclists and pedestrians.	C3
2.	Mitigation measure TRANS-3b recommends leaving Golf Club Drive at the railroad trestle as a one way road with allocation of right-of-way being self-regulated. It also states that this section will be monitored for possible implementation of traffic controls should they be required. It is suggested that if additional traffic controls are required, the City of Santa Cruz should coordinate with SCCRTC staff to ensure that the traffic controls will not hamper possible future use of the rail line.	C4
3.	SCCRTC staff supports mitigation measure TRANS-6, which provides for monitoring of multi-use trails and calls for adjustments in the Pogonip Master Plan to accommodate the various uses should that prove necessary.	C5
4.	On page IV G-3 the draft EIR explains that the sight distance at the intersection of SR9/Golf Club Drive is currently deficient; therefore, the draft EIR does not offer any mitigations for the deficiency. While it may not be required for this project to provide a solution to the deficiency, the project will contribute additional traffic to this intersection increasing the safety hazards created by the deficiency. The draft EIR should offer the possibility of working with the City of Santa Cruz and Caltrans to correct this deficiency.	C6
5.	Page IV.G-10 of the draft EIR states that the Santa Cruz County Congestion Management Program (CMP) was adopted in 1992. It should also be stated that the CMP is updated every two years and that the existing CMP was adopted in June 1996.	C7
6.	Page IV.G-12 of the draft EIR states that if bicyclists are allowed on the Pogonip area they will primarily use the Pogonip as a through connection. SCCRTC staff supports the provision of additional infrastructure for alternative modes of transportation including provision of a bicycle connection through the Pogonip to the University. If that bicycle connection is provided, the facility should conform to Caltrans guidelines for such a facility.	C8
7.	Page VI-5 states that the Major Transportation Investment Study (MTIS) has been completed; however, the MTIS is not yet complete. The MTIS is divided into tasks, which are being completed one by one and various reports have been issued. Most recently Task 11, the Environmental Screening, was completed. A technical report was issued and a copy is enclosed.	C9

8. Page VI-11 of the draft EIR mentions that Alternative 4 of the Major Transportation Investment Study (MTIS) includes a rail line that would cross the Spring Trail and the proposed Harvey West Trail. As the draft EIR states, provisions would have to be made for these trails to cross the rail line or they may have to be closed or realigned. It is the SCCRTC staff opinion that any rail transit alignment in this vicinity would be constructed in such a manner so as to preserve trail access consistent with safety considerations.

C10

CITY OF SANTA CRUZ
WATER DEPARTMENT

April 8, 1998

TO: Associate Planner, Susan Harris

FROM: Water Director, Bill Kocher

Jimmy Longman for BK.

SUBJECT: Draft EIR for Draft Pogonip Master Plan

During the initial stages of this process the Water Department provided general information in response to requests from the Parks and Recreation Department. These exchanges, however, preceded the development of specific proposals and were well ahead of the Draft EIR. Now that several alternatives have been identified we are able to provide substantive comments for consideration. These comments focus on water quality issues and are submitted separately from comments forthcoming from our Water Engineering section.

Our interest is based on the project area's location near the City's major water intake facility on the San Lorenzo River at Tait Street. This diversion is in use year around and provides approximately 50 percent of the City's annual water supply. Even though it appears that some portion of the property drains into Redwood Creek, which enters the river upstream of this intake, the DEIR does not address this possibility.

Accordingly, the DEIR should fully evaluate existing and planned drainage features with respect to the City's Tait Street Intake and identify impacts associated with each of the various project alternatives. Of particular concern are land uses and activities which would cause soil erosion or introduce chemical or microbiological contaminants that could subsequently enter the river in storm runoff, irrigation drainage, etc. If negative impacts on the water supply are identified, appropriate mitigation measures should be developed and included in the DEIR.

The Department appreciates the opportunity to provide these comments. We will be pleased to supply additional information or answer questions you might have.

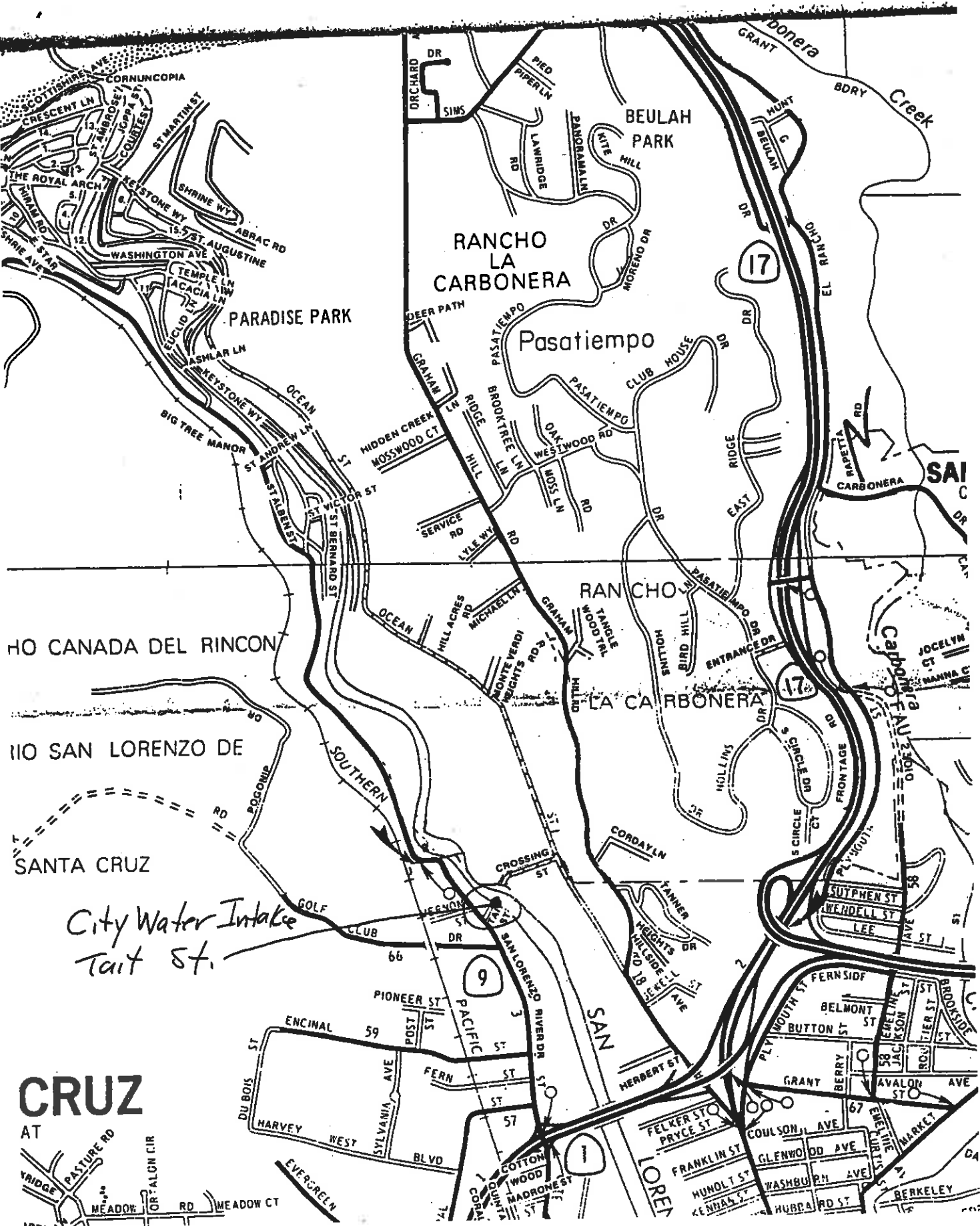
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BRADY AND ASSOCIATES

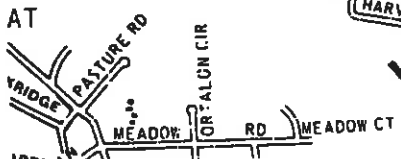
APR 13 1998

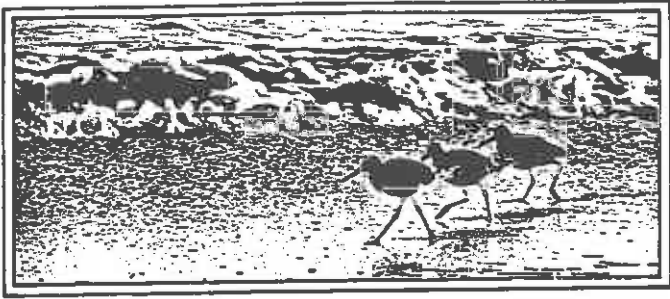
C 11

In 2



CRUZ





City of Santa Cruz

CITY HALL - 809 CENTER STREET - ROOM 10
SANTA CRUZ, CALIFORNIA 95060
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
TELEPHONE (408) 429 - 3550

April 8, 1998

Ms. Susan Harris
Parks and Recreation Department
City of Santa Cruz
323 Church Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Dear Susan:

Please include the attached comments on the Draft Pogonip Master Plan EIR for response in the Final EIR. Thank you.

Yours truly,

Celia Scott
Mayor

Attachment

cc: Councilmembers
Jim Lang

Susan Harris
Parks & Recreation Dept.
City of Santa Cruz
323 Church St.
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Dear Susan:

In addition to the oral comments made at the March 31 public hearing before the City Council on the Draft Pogonip EIR, I would like to submit the following written comments for response in the Final EIR.

1. CEQA Required Assessment Conclusions(Chapter VI)

*The EIR states (p. VI-1) that the proposed sewer line extension is not expected to be growth inducing because the capacity provided would not induce development more intense than allowed by existing zoning. However, no data is provided to support this conclusion, e.g., the actual capacity of the line, how many dwelling units it could serve, the number of du's allowed by the existing zoning, etc. Data should be developed to support the conclusion stated.

C12

*The EIR states that recreation issues have not been found to be significant (p. VI-2-4), and claims that increased usage from multi-use trails would not have a significant adverse impact. However, there is no data to support this conclusion, since there is no data in the EIR which estimates the increased number of users, especially bicyclists and equestrians, if multi-use were allowed on Pogonip. The issue of increased use was specifically raised in the scoping session (Intro., p.1-8). There is also no analysis provided as to the differential impacts of the three different trail alternatives with regard to increased numbers of users and their impacts. The EIR does not serve the required purpose of guiding decision-makers in the absence of such information.

C13

*The EIR states (p.VI-9) that regional impacts associated with increased use of a multi-use trail network is beyond the scope of the EIR. However, the EIR makes no effort to estimate the increased number of users on the Pogonip that would result from linking the Pogonip with a regional multi-use trail system, and the resultant impacts on geology, soils, vegetation, wildlife, or on management resources of the City of Santa Cruz.

C14

2. Alternatives to the Proposed Project (Chapter V)

*The range of alternatives analyzed in the EIR does not adequately describe a reasonable set of alternatives, given the combinations made possible if each trail alternative is combined with either the Reduced Lower Meadow Use Alternative or the Off-Site Garden Alternative. In fact the EIR as a whole suffers from failing to provide a summary of the differential impacts of the different trail alternatives.

C
15

*The Reduced Lower Meadow Use alternative needs more specificity as to how the homeless garden site would be altered. What would the footprint be if the garden were limited to areas of less than 10% slope and with wetland impacts eliminated, and what would the acreage be of the revised footprint? Could the greenhouses and accessory buildings be accommodated on the reduced footprint, with recommended mitigation

C
16

measures for visual impacts included? The predicted increase in employee vehicular trips for off-site support facilities should be precisely quantified to support the conclusion that it would not be significant. How much would the water demand be reduced if the garden footprint were reduced, i.e., provide quantified data to support the conclusion.

C17

*The Off-Site Garden/Relocated Parking alternative also needs more specificity. Where would the parking be relocated to, on-site or off-site? The off-site location for a garden should be identified if this alternative is to be meaningful under CEQA, i.e., feasible.

C18

*All of the alternatives fail to examine a reduction in the proposed width of Golf Club Drive (28' with bike lanes) to either a narrower road (e.g., 22') that could easily accommodate bicycle travel safely given the low number of vehicles likely to use the road, or a design (12' with turnouts) consistent with the proposed roadway from the garden site to the Pogonip Clubhouse.

C19

*The statement that the Off-site Garden and Relocated Parking Alternative is the environmentally superior alternative is not a meaningful statement without indicating which of the trail alternatives would be part of that alternative. It is also not clear why the No Project Alternative would not be considered environmentally superior since project impacts would be reduced even further.

C20

3. Vegetation and Wildlife (Chapter IVB)

*The EIR is silent as to whether California red-legged frog habitat exists on Pogonip Creek, Redwood Creek, or other areas of Pogonip. Apparently no detailed surveys have been done anywhere on Pogonip. Mitigation Measure BIO-1d should be expanded to include required surveys in other potential frog habitat, especially Pogonip Creek, unless there is definitive evidence that it is unnecessary.

C21

*On p.IV-B-26, the EIR states that impacts on biological resources would be considered significant if the project would substantially affect wildlife migration corridors. The EIR does not contain any information, however, as to wildlife migration corridors on Pogonip. This is a significant omission, given that the proposed multi-use trail alternatives would potentially cut across all wildlife migration corridors. A recent wildlife monitoring study in relation to bicycle use done at the Blue Sky Ecological Reserve in San Diego suggests impacts on wildlife from such use (study submitted by Richard Stover to the City Parks Dept. on April 4). The EIR fails to consider this, or any other literature pertaining to such impacts.

C22

*This section fails to analyze or discuss potential impacts from any resource management actions or fire hazard reduction measures proposed in the Pogonip Master Plan (compare Ch.IVC, p. C-17). If the impacts are considered beneficial that also should be stated. Recommended consultations (w/USFWS and DFG) are not a substitute for analysis.

*The EIR indicates that the proposed access route to the Homeless Garden Project site may contribute to displacement of white-tailed kites (p. IVB-27). The EIR does not investigate, however, the possibility of an alternative access to the site from a higher elevation on the clubhouse access road (from the existing gate).

C23

*The summary of mitigation measures by topic added to the EIR at the public hearing still does not adequately distinguish between the different trail alternatives as to potential impacts. There should be a summary section for the three alternatives that clearly indicates, for each alternative, anticipated impacts. This should be done in the context of adequate data as to predicted number of users, and total increase in users, for each alternative.

C24

*The mitigation measures proposed to avoid, reduce or compensate for impacts on wildlife (BIO-3) are insufficient, and not based on any detailed evidence as to actual wildlife corridors. The EIR claims that it is not known whether wildlife reacts differently to different users, although there is literature directly on that point (see above for one example). Monitoring of illegal bicycle use on trails (which already occurs) should not be limited to the three trails mentioned in BIO-3, and evidence as to the efficacy of such monitoring discussed. Monitoring is not mitigation.

C25

4. Geology and Soils (Chapter IVC)

*On p. C-13, the EIR suggests that all trails users have an equal probability of causing soil erosion, reducing vegetative cover, etc. There is no factual evidence to support this statement. Given that Pogonip has had primarily only one user group for the last nine years, the EIR should make a comparison between impacts on Pogonip of pedestrian use and impacts of multi-use on nearby State parklands such as Wilder Ranch and Nisene Marks. The level of use from each group is also relevant, and absent from the EIR as noted elsewhere.

C26

*As a mitigation measure, the EIR suggests limitations on multi-use volumes through trails use permits for special events (GEO-11). Such permits already exist, and for Pogonip have been issued to equestrians for special events. However, the long-term cumulative effect of high volumes on a weekly basis is not mitigated by the proposed permit system, and the EIR fails to analyze either the long-term impacts of such volumes, or even to estimate the volumes themselves.

C27

*Mitigation measure GEO-1m indicates that additional detail is needed for proposed new trail routes. This is not a mitigation measure but a lack of specificity in the project description itself, i.e., in the Pogonip Master Plan. The details should be provided now for review in this EIR, or it should be stated that prior to any construction of new trails an addendum or supplement to the current EIR will be necessary.

C28

5. Water Resources (Chapter IVD)

*On p. D-2, reference is made to two named creeks on Pogonip. From personal observation it would appear that there is perennial flow in more than two creek areas. A map of water courses and springs should be included in the EIR.

C29

*Mitigation measure WAT-1c suggests that monitoring of unauthorized use by cyclists is an adequate mitigation measure. In general,

C30

*monitoring is not considered mitigation under CEQA. Furthermore, there is no evidence to support the suggestion that monitoring in fact reduces unauthorized use and its associated impacts.

C31

*The proposed trail construction on slopes over 30% should be analyzed for consistency with the City General Plan policy 3.2.2 in the environmental quality element of the Plan.

6. Transportation and Circulation (Chapter IVG)

C32

*The absence of a trip generation survey to determine the number of vehicle trips generated by current park use is a significant omission from the EIR data base, especially since the trail use survey is out of date, and based on personal observation it is evident that trail use has increased since 1994.

C33

*Similarly, the factual basis for the estimate of current vehicle use on Golf Club Drive is absent, and is apparently not based on a survey. Given that there is no public vehicular access to Pogonip from Golf Club Drive, no public parking area, and only a few houses beyond the railroad trestle, the estimate of 150 weekday vehicles and 200 weekend vehicles is not substantiated by any evidence.

C34

*Similarly, the estimates of new vehicle trips to the park under the proposed Master Plan are defective, based on no factual data. Since no equestrian staging areas are proposed for Pogonip, it is not at all clear that any new vehicle trips would result from that use. There is also no evidence that a 200 person event would be held on a daily basis at a rehabilitated Pogonip Clubhouse.

C35

*The EIR assumes the need for a 28' wide road with 4' bike lanes on the lower segment of Golf Club Drive within Pogonip. However, the estimate of increased vehicle use is not substantiated to support the widening, which will significantly alter the visual appearance of the park at that entrance. The EIR also fails to note that bike lanes are not present on Highway 9 approaching Golf Club Drive.

C36

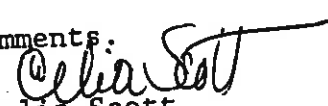
*Mitigation measure TRANS-6 suggests once again that monitoring is an adequate mitigation. The EIR goes on to suggest that further mitigation such as trail widening, or creating a separate parallel trail for bike-horse use might be needed in the future. Such "mitigation" would in fact be a further project needing CEQA review. The EIR completely fails to indicate which multi-use trails might be suitable or feasible for widening, or what the impacts would be of such widening. This measure suggests that the potential impacts of multi-use trails in Pogonip have been inadequately analyzed in the EIR as a whole.

7. Service Systems and Utilities (Chapter IVH)

C37

*Recycling bins are needed to mitigate solid waste at all proposed parking and entrance areas. Current bins are inadequate and often overflow after weekend use.

Thank you for consideration of these comments.


Celia Scott

REC'D APR 08 1998

STEVE MORAN
311 TREVETHAN AVE.
SANTA CRUZ, CA 95062.

April 8, 1998

Susan Harris
Dept. Of Parks and Recreation
Santa Cruz
Draft Environmental Report For Pogonip

RE: E.I.R. For Pogonip

Please enclose my comments for the Draft EIR in the following enclosed letter.

Thank You

Steve Moran

132

Dear Ms. Harris:

Set forth below are my comments on the Draft EIR. Comments are identified by specific reference to the section in the report where items are discussed, with the exception of comments at the end which address issues that impact on a number of sections.

BIO-1a: Garden Project (and related Garden Project items) - another alternative to be considered is locating the garden off Pogonip on vacant land owned by the County of Santa Cruz which is located closer to the SC County Emeline Health facility. The report generally does not state strongly enough that the Garden Project does not belong on this site at all. There are too many SU (significant unavoidable) impact designations that go with this part of the project, with no adequate mitigation measures to reduce the adverse impact. It should be noted that the garden project calls for 12.5 acres of predominately row crops, with small areas of orchard, perennials, greenhouses, and a parking lot. None of this is visually, aesthetically or used consistent with the rest of the Pogonip or the guidelines for the Master Plan which emerged from the initial *Pogonip Land Use Options Assessment*. The Garden project is less consistent with the rest of the site than other alternatives, such as a golf course or playing fields, which were rejected as suitable alternatives.

D1

Section V.D. of the Draft EIR considers locating the Garden Project off-site, at a location other than Pogonip, an Environmentally Superior Alternative to having the Garden at Pogonip. I support this finding.

Trails Related Items

Section V.A. considers the possibility of just keeping things as they are, and identifies that not having multi-use has the adverse environmental impact of having trails remain limited to pedestrian use only and not improved. This finding is supported and should be augmented. Not opening the fire roads to multi-use significantly restricts recreational opportunities and also forces cyclists onto existing paved roads such as S.R. 9 where there are no bicycle lanes. The S.R. 9/Rincon/Spring Trails to Spring Street connection provides a route from the San Lorenzo Valley to West Santa Cruz which avoids the S.R. 9/Hwyway 1 intersection and transition to Mission Street, which is not bicycle friendly. It should be emphasized that trails Alternative B, while providing a regional connection between UCSC, Wilder/Gray Whale and Henry Cowell, does not provide bicycle access to Central Santa Cruz or the Westside, which is only accomplished through Pogonip by inclusion of Brayshaw and Spring Trails (Alternative A). This should be stated

D2

more clearly.

D2

BIO-1j: Protection of existing wood rat nests should not be a problem when routing the UCSC connector trail. There is adequate habitat for the wood rat so that this is not important, especially as compared to the need to locate the trail so as to minimize erosion and maintenance as suggested elsewhere in the report.

D3

BIO-3: There is no reason to believe that bicycle or equestrian use on the Harvey West, Lookout and Pogonip Creek trails needs to be monitored any more than hiking on those trails in order to avoid or reduce impacts to denning bobcats.

D4

GEO-1i: Any limitations on traffic volumes to minimize trail impacts should be administered without prejudice to any particular use. It should not be assumed that bicycle or equestrian use should be limited while hiking use is not limited. For example, group hikes which purport to be educational take large groups into sensitive areas during periods of inappropriate conditions. For example, the Sierra Club (of which I am a member) recently sponsored an educational hike with a hydrologist in Pogonip during a period of heavy rains. Approximately 30 people were led off trail into sensitive creek and spring areas. Review of trail use permits for special events should include group hikes and not discriminate between user groups.

D5

GEO-1n: Any limits on wet season use should be applied non-discriminately between user groups. Being on a bike adds only 25-30 lbs. of weight to a person. The cyclists will be limited to areas that are less sensitive, steep, and are service roads being maintained for motorized vehicle access. The slopes of the multi-use trails are not excessive (with the exception of the proposed walking only section on Brayshaw). If, due to wet conditions, limitations on trail use must be established, they should not discriminate against any user group.

D6

WAT-1b: Voluntary trail closures during wet seasons should be minimized to the extent possible. Daily or weekly closures should be preferred to seasonal closures whenever adequate to minimize adverse impacts to water quality and reduce trail maintenance requirements. Seasonal closures should only be used when it is clear that daily or weekly closures will not suffice.

D7

WAT-1c: Concerns about users going off of authorized trails should not be limited to concerns about cyclists and equestrians going on trails limited to pedestrians. There is already significant evidence of unauthorized trails created by pedestrians hiking off of established trails. Of particular concern are organized "nature walks"

D8

by a variety of organizations, which, under the guise of education, frequently go off trail in sensitive areas, causing trail widening, creating unauthorized trails, and increasing the potential for erosion. Monitoring unauthorized trail use should be done in a manner that does not discriminate against user groups, without assumptions that cyclists and equestrians present a greater risk or incidence of unauthorized trail access.

D8

WAT-1e: While gradients of 8% or less may be preferred on multi-use trails, gradients up to 15% or more should be considered acceptable when, considering issues other than water alone, such gradients provide the best routes (i.e. New UCSC Connector). As noted in WAT-1f, trail gradients of over 30% are allowed for hiking trails. Experience at Wilder Ranch and Gray Whale Ranch State Park demonstrates that the issues of slope gradients, erosion, drainage, etc., are not related to the type of user on the trail. Drainage structures such as those identified in Wat-1d can be implemented on trails where needed, whether pedestrian only or multi-use.

D9

WAT-1m: While proposed trail grades of less than 12% and widths of 4-6 feet may be preferred for the UCSC connector trail, these should not be absolute limits when all considerations for trail routing are considered. There may be sections of trail which, in order to minimize the impact of trail installation, erosion, etc., should be in excess of 12% grade and narrower than 4 feet, especially in areas where visibility is adequate. The remote location of the UCSC connector will result in limited pedestrian use, as compared to cyclists and equestrians, who tend to cover more territory and access more remote trails such as this one.

D10

TRANS-5a: Warning signs at SR 9 and Coolidge Drive at the Rincon Trail, Rincon Connector Trail and Sycamore Trail crossing/intersections should not only say "Pedestrian Crossing" and "Equestrian Crossing," but also "Bicyclist Crossing."

D11

TRANS-5c: Bicycle users should be encouraged and able to access the trail system from UCSC not only at the new connector, but at Spring Trail at the top of Spring Street. The Spring Trail/Spring Street connection goes not only to the upper West Side of Santa Cruz, but also to a UCSC dirt service road that connects to the lower campus bike lanes and bike paths.

D12

TRANS-6: It is appropriate to monitor multi-use trails for conflicts between users. However, additional mitigation measures should not include closing trails to multi-use, since most trails in the park will be closed to multi-use in any event. Multi-use trails should be seen as essential for providing recreational opportunities for all

D13

segments of the population and essential trail connections. Mitigation measures could include widening trails or creating parallel trails for different user groups, but not closing trails to multi-use. The suggestion that trails be closed to multi-use reflects a prejudice in favor of pedestrian use. If pedestrians wish to avoid interactions with cyclists and/or equestrians, there is access to exclusively pedestrian trails without use of multi-use trails, i.e., at Harvey West Park. There should be no discrimination against multi-use, especially since experience at other parks indicates that conflicts frequently exist as a result of the unwillingness of pedestrians to share the trails with other users. If pedestrians do not see closing trails to multi-use as an alternative, then they will learn to work cooperatively to minimize conflicts and share the trails.

D13

SER-1c: Volunteer patrols should be encouraged, but should not be a condition of trails being open for multi-use.

D14

SER-1d: As reflected in the recommendations of the Pogonip Focus Groups, there is no need for posted speed limits. Posted speed limits sometimes result in the erroneous beliefs that one is traveling at a safe speed as long as one is below the limit, or that one is traveling at an unsafe speed when one is traveling above the limits. As experienced at locations like Wilder and Gray Whale, multi-use can operate safely without speed limits, by requiring that all users travel at a safe speed, depending upon all relevant conditions. Speed limits are difficult to enforce, are not enforced consistently, and can encourage a game mentality that we frequently see among motorized travelers, that one is not speeding if one does not get caught. As reflected in numerous studies, including those provided by Parks and Rec staff during the Focus Groups, it is better to try less intrusive and oppressive management techniques first before trying more heavy handed approaches. Speed limits should only be considered at those locations specifically identified as problematic after significant use and study, as a last resort when other techniques for reducing user conflicts have failed.

D15

Section IV.G - Transportation and Circulation - There is a basic prejudice against cycling displayed in the way the Draft EIR proposes mitigation measures for dealing with inappropriate trail use. The multi-use trails do not significantly go through or near sensitive areas as compared to the hiking trails. There is already a proliferation of numerous unauthorized hiking trails, created by hikers. The Draft EIR recommends removal of these unauthorized trails, but no regulatory scheme to fine those pedestrians who go off-trail into unauthorized areas. The Draft EIR recommends an ordinance with fines for cyclists who speed or go in unauthorized areas. There is no suggestion of fines for pedestrians who go in unauthorized areas

D16

or otherwise act inappropriately. Any ordinance to be adopted to regulate unauthorized use should not discriminate against any user group. If there are to be fines for users accessing unauthorized areas or other inappropriate conduct, they should apply to all users and be enforced equally as to all users.

D16

Table IV.G-5 Compares Multi-Use Trails Standards for a variety of Jurisdictions. Listed are the East Bay Regional Parks District, Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District, California State Parks (Santa Cruz District), Soquel Demonstration State Forest and the Marin Municipal Water District. Within the State Parks Santa Cruz District, Henry Cowell Redwoods and Nisene Marks State Parks are discussed. Notable by its omission is Wilder Ranch (including Gray Whale Ranch) the one State Park in the area where all fire roads and trails are open to multi-use, and where, coincidentally, land use managers recognize that multi-use works well. A comparison to Wilder Ranch should have been included.

D17

Similarly, Section IV.H, which discusses Service Systems and Utilities, purports to compare to nearby similar areas, but omits a comparison to Wilder Ranch, where there are minimal reported conflicts between users and no speed limits. Wilder Ranch should be considered a model for enforcement policy in Pogonip, especially given its proximity and that it will be linked by connecting trails if any of the multi-use alternatives are adopted.

D18

The combination of a number of the above items (willingness to close the trails to multi-use; discriminatory ordinance proposed; omission of comparison to Wilder Ranch, etc.) demonstrates a bias in the report against multi-use and cycling in particular. This should be revised to take a more balanced approach to the various user groups. The user groups cannot be expected to learn to share the trails in a non-discriminatory manner if the system is set up to be biased against a particular group. Instead, the system as proposed will encourage discrimination against cyclists and potentially a campaign to create conflicts in hopes that it will result in termination of multi-use.

D19

Very truly yours.



Steve Moran

**Board of Directors
Homeless Garden Project**

**Comments on the Pogonip Master Plan
Draft Environmental Impact Report**

General

On the most basic level, this draft EIR fails to acknowledge that the project at hand is implementation of the General Plan. The General Plan established a policy that a master plan be prepared consisting of the mixed use alternative in the Pogonip Land Use Options Assessment Report. This was the product of a long planning process involving the Pogonip Task Force and the General Plan Update.

D20

Had the draft EIR appreciated this purpose, it would have taken a more constructive and positive approach, and focused on the bigger picture of the Master Plan, without getting lost in details which are not obtainable at this level.

Figure III-1 needs to be changed in the Final EIR to acknowledge City Council adoption of the General Plan policy regarding the Pogonip Master Plan

The following comment goes more to the Master Plan, but it is also relevant here. The Master Plan and EIR would benefit from a reorganization of the plan components. Rehabilitation of the Clubhouse is not of the order of magnitude that it should occupy the first subject in either the Master Plan or the EIR. The order of discussion of both documents should be Trail System, Clubhouse Complex, Pogonip Garden, Outdoor Education Center, and others. This would put Master Plan and EIR discussion into a context of importance of uses.

D21

The EIR should have a consistent sequence of discussion, both in terms of plan components and EIR subject matter. In several instances, the EIR ignores plan components in its environmental review. Maintenance and support facilities, fire management and transportation are examples of this oversight.

D22

The draft EIR also discusses impact areas out of sequence. Whereas it starts the environmental setting section with a discussion of vegetation, it starts the impacts section with a discussion of wildlife.

D23

It would also be useful to separate the impact analysis from the mitigation section. This would help the draft EIR focus on factual analysis and help avoid premature judgments about the significance of impacts.

D24

The Final EIR should revisit the standards of significance. Many go considerably beyond the standards established by CEQA Guidelines. This results in finding impacts where there are none under normal significance criteria.

D25

Table II-2, Summary of Level of Impacts for Master Plan Components, makes no sense. The table purportedly presents impacts before mitigation. If there is a question, it is not about impacts prior to mitigation but impacts with mitigation. This table is also conceptually flawed. There is no project component without mitigation. Every single project component includes mitigation. Each of the plan components was located with consideration of where they would be appropriate, i.e. with mitigation in mind.

Even the substance of the table is wrong. Throughout the draft EIR, the report talks about the erosion and vegetation impacts of the trail system. Yet the trail system is characterized as having less than significant impact prior to the mitigation in the report.

D26

We find it ironic but not surprising that the table identifies significant impacts from the Pogonip Garden in the subject area of Transportation and Circulation, when the body of the report contains no such conclusion. The footnote regarding archeological resources should be attached to all plan components.

The draft EIR exhibits a fundamental lack of understanding of the Homeless Garden Project, its mission and its approach to sustainable agriculture. Without this background, it is impossible to understand the impacts of the Garden. Since the Garden is not yet on Pogonip, we have pointed to the UCSC Farm and Garden as good examples of how uses can successfully be established in areas where otherwise reports like this draft EIR would find issues.

D27

Our comments follow the subject matter of the draft EIR. For the most part we looked only at the references to the Pogonip Garden. However, many of our comments are equally applicable to other plan components. We do not make comments on the Summary of Impacts, as this is a compilation of the impacts stated in the report. However, this Summary table also needs to be updated in the Final EIR.

D28

A. LAND USE AND PUBLIC POLICY

Discussion

1. Environmental Setting

This section misses the most relevant policy in the General Plan. That is Policy 3.4.1 - "Develop and implement the master plan for Pogonip per the mixed-use plan in the Pogonip Land Use Option Assessment Report". With this policy in mind, the draft EIR should have had a different approach to the Master Plan. It should have taken a more constructive approach to facilitate achievement of this policy.

D29

2. Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Last paragraph (page IV.A-11). Despite the CEQA requirement that evaluations be based on scientific and factual data, the draft EIR begins to set a tone, based on speculative and unsubstantiated suggestions, that the Pogonip Garden may not be appropriate for the site. "Some may perceive the Pogonip garden as incompatible with the Greenbelt Overlay designation ...due to the introduction of developed features associated with the garden."

This is an entirely prejudicial and irrelevant statement. It is fair to say that there are many who perceive the Pogonip Garden as being entirely compatible. The evidence is in the long planning process which included the Pogonip Garden in the Mixed Use Alternative of the Pogonip Land Use Options Assessment Report. This alternative was the consensus of the task force studying future uses of Pogonip. Furthermore, the mixed use alternative was included in the General Plan after a long planning process. And today there continues strong support for the Homeless Garden Project garden on Pogonip.

The Greenbelt Overlay District may no longer be in place. However, it was when the Pogonip Task Force considered future uses for Pogonip, and the Task Force found Pogonip Garden consistent with the regulations in effect at the time.

The Greenbelt Overlay was patterned after Measure "O", the Greenbelt Initiative and reflects the uses allowed in the greenbelt. The Initiative recognized certain "greenbelt" lands at the periphery of the City, and mandated that they be kept essentially undeveloped by limiting their use to certain open space uses. These uses included, among others, agriculture.

To further clarify the greenbelt and its intentions, the Initiative included a map. Agricultural lands on the west side of the City comprise a major part of the Greenbelt. The Initiative also included the upper UCSC campus, and DeLaveaga Park was described as "existing greenbelt".

DeLaveaga is informative in terms of the kinds of uses the Greenbelt would allow. It contains active park facilities, a golf course with its attendant parking and structures, and other major buildings. Since the adoption of the Greenbelt, the City has made numerous improvements without questions raised about their appropriateness in the Greenbelt or the Greenbelt Overlay District. In the larger context of the park, facilities such as the communications center or a new large golf driving range were not significant issues.

Table IV.A-1 describes the relationship of the project to policies in the Land Use Element (although half of the policies are from other elements). Most significantly it fails to include Land Use Policy 3.4.1 - Develop and implement the master plan for Pogonip per the mixed-use plan in the Pogonip Land Use Options Assessment Report.

D30

D31

(We will not comment on policies for which no mitigation measures are noted.) In discussion of PR 1.6, the draft EIR places the emphasis on the wrong use. The policy speaks to "recreational use". It is intended to implement a Goal 1 of the Parks and Recreation Element which is concerned with adequate parks and recreation lands. Therefore this policy applies more appropriately to the trails component of the plan. The reference to Pogonip Garden should be deleted.

There are other policies which bear on the uses of Pogonip and merit mention. The Pogonip Garden furthers two additional General Plan themes. One is special employment opportunities; the other is promotion of organic and sustainable agriculture.

The Homeless Garden Project is a unique employment and training program consistent with a variety of General Plan goals and policies. Economic Development policy 1.3 - Support and prioritize the development of locally owned, small and cooperative businesses recognizing the special character and recirculation of capital they bring to the community.

The General Plan has a number of policies encouraging organic agricultural practices and sustainable agriculture. Land Use policy 3.1.3.1 - Encourage organic farming practices on agricultural lands and community gardens within the City. ED 1.6.5 - Promote protection of significant agricultural lands and sustainable agricultural programs throughout the City and County. Safety element 6.5.2 - Emphasize the City's role as an organic agricultural center and work with appropriate agencies to develop demonstration projects on non-chemical pest control and soil management practices.

As a general comment, this section of the draft EIR could be better organized. In the environmental setting section, City General Plan, the draft EIR only discusses land use designations and fails to include General Plan policies. Zoning regulations for surrounding areas for the City and County, and general plan policies for the county are largely irrelevant

The policies in table IV.A-1 should be part of the setting section. There are other policies which bear on the Master Plan.

Recommendation

The Final EIR should:

1. Delete the last paragraph on page IV.A-11.
2. Add to Table IV.A-1

Land Use Policy 3.4.1 - Develop and implement the master plan for Pogonip per the mixed-use plan in the Pogonip Land Use Option Assessment Report.

D31

Describe that the project is intended to implement the policy, and note that no mitigation is necessary

3. Change the discussion in Table IV.A-1 policy PR 1.6 to read:

Relationship of Project to Policy.

Recreational uses proposed in the Pogonip Master Plan are generally compatible with the character of the Pogonip. Management plans for various use components will ensure that the resources of Pogonip are protected.

Mitigation Measures:

None necessary.

4. Add the following policies, indicate that the Pogonip Garden contributes to these policies, and no mitigation measures are necessary:

Economic Development policy 1.3 - Support and prioritize the development of locally owned, small and cooperative businesses recognizing the special character and recalculation of capital they bring to the community.

Land Use policy 3.1.3.1 - Encourage organic farming practices on agricultural lands and community gardens within the City.

Economic Development policy 1.6.5 - Promote protection of significant agricultural lands and sustainable agricultural programs throughout the City and County.

Safety Element policy 6.5.2 - Emphasize the City's role as an organic agricultural center and work with appropriate agencies to develop demonstration projects on non-chemical pest control and soil management practices.

D31

B. VEGETATION AND WILDLIFE

Comments

1. Environmental Setting

f. Coastal Terrace Prairie.

The draft EIR does an inadequate job in describing the extent of this plant community and does not give an adequate description of relative value as a result of disturbance or presence of rare and endangered species.

D32

The vegetation map and text discuss coastal terrace prairie in various parts of Pogonip but do not describe the acreage. While the map shows areas, the narrative gives is an incomplete list of areas where coastal terrace prairie is purportedly found (Top of the page IV.B-14).

The draft EIR makes repeated comments about the disturbance of the coastal terrace prairie, and invasion by non-native plants. "In 1995, these areas, such as the level terraces on either side of Golf Club Drive, included non-native species such as rattlesnake grass and annual ryegrass, with the native species constituting a minor floristic component" (page IV.B-14); "...some of these communities at Pogonip are degraded by large amounts of invasive non-native species." (page IV.B-16). "The grassland (at Pogonip Garden) has a higher incidence of non-native grasses than some of the other coastal terrace prairie areas within Pogonip" (page IV.B-36).

D32

It would be informative for the draft EIR to discuss past development and uses of Pogonip, as this would provide a context for the disturbed nature of the coastal terrace prairie. For example most of the Lower Main Meadow was an irrigated golf course into the 1930's. Later it was fenced as pasture and training area for horses. It is impossible for this type of disturbance not to permanently alter the value of this coastal terrace prairie. The draft EIR states that the non-native vegetation has increased over the last ten years.

g. Freshwater Marsh

The narrative is incomplete in describing the areas containing wetlands. The draft EIR singles out the area where the Pogonip Garden is located and Pogonip trail. There are several other areas, including a major wetland area and four lesser areas in the Upper Meadow where horses are currently kept.

As in the case of the coastal terrace prairie, the draft EIR gives no sense of how these wetlands came to be. It is apparent that the wetland in the Lower Meadow has emerged in recent history. Aerial photos from the thirties and forties do not show the wetland. There may be a good chance that it is a product of human alterations to the land. While this does not mean that the wetland is not important, it does suggest that it is a robust plant community that could very well coexist with the Pogonip Garden and be managed successfully, particularly since it will be retained and buffered.

D33

m. Special Status wildlife Species

(7) White-tailed Kite

The draft EIR gives an inadequate description of the white-tailed kite. It notes that the kite is protected during the breeding season. It also notes that the kite's population and range has expanded.

D34

It would be informative to describe the range of the kite. The report indicates that a kite nesting near Fern trail was seen foraging in the Lower Meadow. This is a distance of approximately .7 miles. Assuming this is the outside limit, it suggests that the kite's range consists of 900+ acres.

D34

2. Impacts and Mitigation Measures

It is difficult to address this section since the environmental setting section is weak and gives no good context.

The Environmental Setting section states that the white-tailed kite is protected during the nesting season under the Federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act and California Department of Fish and Game Codes. There is presumably a reason why it is protected during the breeding season and not other times. Yet the Impact section ignores this aspect. If protection during the breeding season is the issue, it may be entirely possible to protect the kite during the nesting season.

What evidence is there that there will be prey loss as a result of the Pogonip Garden? The report describes the white-tailed kite as eating mostly meadow mice, but having a diet consisting of a wide array of mammals, lizards, insects and birds. The Homeless Garden Project, in its current and past locations, grows a variety of crops and plantings, and encounters mice, gophers, insects and other potential food sources for the kite. Unless the draft EIR can paint a more convincingly different picture, a likely scenario may have the garden provide as varied a food source as grassland does. The white-tailed kite may not be so fragile a species as evidenced by the statement that its population and range has been expanding. We have recently come across a publication Hawks in Flight which describes white-tailed kites taking up habitats in the grassy center medians of freeways.

D35

The draft EIR appears to characterize the Pogonip Garden as a mechanized commercial agricultural operation. Not so. The Homeless Garden Project is a multi-faceted program involving employment, training, education and community involvement. It uses the organic garden to achieve its purpose. Most of the garden work involves hand cultivation. The Garden values the tranquil setting as a therapeutic context for the workers.. (page IV.B-27).

To the extent the draft EIR continues to see the white-tailed kite as significantly impacted, the draft EIR should not single out the Pogonip Garden. It notes elsewhere that the Outdoor Education Camp may contribute to the impact, as will the parking lot on the lower meadow. This parking lot is primarily for visitors, i.e. hikers. Therefore the trails should be included as potentially impacting the kite.

In its discussion of impact on plant communities, the draft EIR does great damage to the Garden by vague hints at impacts and little substantiating data. "The proposed Pogonip

is not lifted even when the draft EIR acknowledges, in the next sentence, that the garden will avoid direct impacts on the wetland by preserving it and by buffering it with setbacks. The draft EIR is not satisfied with innuendo. It speculates that the Garden may have indirect impacts on the wetlands without any substantiating data. It further prejudices the reader against the Garden by stating that the setback is not consistent with the City's requirement for setbacks to wetlands. It equates the garden plots with construction of buildings. The General Plan does not include agriculture in the definition of "development". In any case, the normal setback requirement may be reduced if a management plan for the area is in place (as there will be).

D35

If there is an issue with inconsistencies of setbacks from wetlands, it is in the trail system. Trails are more in the character of "development" than is gardening. Several trails encroach on wetlands, yet the draft EIR does not raise the issue of inconsistency with City policy.

As a practical matter, the wetlands in the Pogonip Garden are so located that they are easily separated from any impact of the Garden. The Garden Management Plan can readily accommodate the protection of wetlands. The Garden has strong incentives to be a miserly water user because of the cost of municipal water.

D36

The draft EIR seems overly concerned about the wetland in the Pogonip Garden. Yet it makes no mention of the wetland in the vicinity of the ranger facility, and potential impacts. It is here that horses (up to 12) will be stabled. It is safe to say there is likely to be a greater impact on water quality from this plan component than from the Garden operation.

Following the impacts of the Garden, the draft EIR discusses trails. It fragments the impacts by discussing each trail individually. It should begin with a general impact statement about the entire trails system. This will bring into focus the fact that the trails system is the major plan component with the biggest (even if not significant by CEQA definition) impacts.

D37

The draft EIR overstates the impact on the Coastal Terrace Prairie in two ways. For one, it flatly states that the garden will impact approximately 12.5 acres of coastal terrace prairie.

The draft EIR's own maps (Plant Community and Sensitive Habitats and Wetlands figures IV.B-1 and IV.B-2) show most of the garden plots on the north (far) side in non-native grasses. This area is approximately 4 acres.

D38

The existing wetland and buffer in the southern garden plot area will leave roughly one half acre undisturbed. The setback buffer around the perimeter of the garden will leave about 1 acres undisturbed. Roughly 1 acre of land behind the greenhouses are likely to be planted in native grasses.

about 1 acres undisturbed. Roughly 1 acre of land behind the greenhouses are likely to be planted in native grasses.

Thus the net impact on the coastal terrace prairie is roughly 6 acres (as against the 12.5 suggested in the draft EIR).

Unlike other uses, the area affected by the Pogonip Garden does not impact on significant plants in the coastal terrace prairie (San Francisco Popcorn Flower, robust spineflower, Santa Cruz clover, and Gairdner's yampah).

In light of the disturbed nature of the coastal terrace prairie, the relatively small amount affected, no impact on rare plants, and the expectation that the Garden will contribute to the enhancement of degraded resources, the overall impact of the Garden on vegetation can hardly be called significant.

As an aside, it should be noted that the draft EIR does not evaluate the effect of the support facilities (maintenance building, caretaker home, horse corrals and arena) near the Clubhouse, despite the fact that there is a wetland and other sensitive plant communities in the area.

Recommendation

1. It is useful for the Final EIR to revisit the standards of significance. The impact is significant if the project "Substantially affects..."
2. The Final EIR should quantify the degree of disturbance of the coastal terrace prairie. It should document the historic uses in the lower meadow which have altered the natural plant community.
3. The Final EIR should be more specific in its treatment of the white-tailed kite. What is the effect if the kite is protected during the nesting season? What is the kite's range? How will the Garden impact the kite's foraging area in terms of percentage, and by providing forage by its own presence?
4. The Final EIR should discuss how the white-tailed kite can be protected during the nesting season. The Pogonip Garden will not immediately come into being in its final form. It will be created slowly as the program evolves. It appears entirely possible to phase the Garden in ways that will minimize impacts during the nesting season.

Change Mitigation Measure BIO-2c: first bullet:

If nesting of the white-tailed kite is observed in the spring, new garden activities should be timed to avoid impacting nesting activity (i.e. schedule additional garden work until after young have fledged).

D38

D39

D40

D41

D42

5. The Final EIR should discuss the Garden in the context of the kite's range and the ability of the garden to serve as forage area. The Final EIR should correct the acreage taken out of the kite's potential forage area. Instead of 12.5 acres, about 9 acres will be converted from grassland to garden use.	D42
6. Unfortunately the draft EIR singles out the Garden as the use posing significant and unmitigatable impacts. The fifth paragraph on page IV.B-31 should be deleted in the Final EIR.	D43
7. The Final EIR should change the language regarding the wetland impact in Impact BIO-2 (2) "...significant but mitigatable". At worst it is "potentially significant but mitigatable". The Final EIR should delete its reference to any inconsistency with the City General Plan regarding setbacks to the wetland.	D44
8. Given that the document for which the Final EIR is prepared is a Master Plan which therefore can not be expected to address details appropriate to a more detailed plan, given the location of the wetland, and given the stated intention of the Homeless Garden Project to respect the land and work towards a plan that minimizes impacts, the Final EIR would be better off establishing the concerns to be addressed and providing guidance in the range of mitigation to be considered, rather than to prescribe specific requirements. This goes for setbacks to the wetland, setback from the wooded ravine to the garden, or distance between deer fencing. The Final EIR could be a positive guide for future activities rather than a rigid prescription.	D45
9. The Final EIR should state the correct acreage for the affected coastal terrace prairie (approximately 6 acres). It should also acknowledge that the coastal terrace prairie in the lower meadow is disturbed because of past uses and describe the degree of disturbance.	D46
10. Social and economic issues do not normally come into play in environmental review, unless they have an impact on the physical environment. In this case, it is useful to acknowledge that the type of programs carried on in the Pogonip Garden will be conducive to the restoration and conservation of natural resources of the Pogonip.	D47
11. Mitigation measure BIO-1a needs to be reevaluated in light of necessary additional information. It appears entirely possible to protect the kite during its nesting season. Considering the range of the kite, and the nature of the Pogonip Garden, it is entirely likely that the kite will not see a significant decrease in its forage area.	D48
If the Final EIR continues to take a conservative view of the impact on the kite, then it should address the impact of other uses on the kite.	
12. Impact BIO-2. The Final EIR should change the language regarding Pogonip Garden to state that the impact is <u>potentially</u> significant, considering that it is mitigatable. The Master Plan does not set forth a specific buffer to the wetland. It is unclear where	D49

the draft EIR comes up with 20 feet. In a written proposal for Master Plan language, the HGP stated that planting around the wetland and drainage course would be done in a way that protected their integrity. The lay of the land is such that the wetland is close to the edge of the garden plot area. It will be easy to buffer the wetland without impacting the garden area significantly. In any event, garden use is unlikely in an area that exhibits high water levels. The last sentence on the page IV.B-35 should be deleted as it is false. The General Plan does not include agriculture/gardening in its definition of development.

D49

The second paragraph on page IV.B-36 should be corrected to say that the Garden would impact approximately 6 acres of coastal terrace prairie. The Final EIR should delete the reference to the access road through the garden. The Final EIR isn't sure that the access road would impact native grasses, but suggests that it could impact "some". If the Final EIR establishes "some" as a criteria of significance, it will need to do this in all other plan components. If this is a concern, then the widening of Golf Club Drive, for example, will need to address the impact on "some" native grasses. As it is it only discusses the impact and removal of invasive (acacia) trees.

13. Mitigation Measure BIO-2c: Considering that the impact on the coastal terrace prairie can be mitigated (more so since the revised evaluation will show a much diminished impact), the mitigation measure needs to be rewritten.

The Pogonip Garden is prepared, even insisting, to participate in resource conservation and restoration. The issue is not in the precise acreage. The garden sees itself as a long term participant in environmental restoration and caretaking of Pogonip. The Pogonip Garden is uniquely able to participate in this work on account of the available labor resources and propagation facilities. In any event, the numbers need to be changed to indicate the actual impact on the coastal terrace prairie, in terms of acreage and degree of disturbance.

D50

14. Mitigation Measure BIO-2d: Considering that the impact can be mitigated, the Final EIR should delete the prejudicial introduction regarding relocating the Garden. Alternatively, if it chooses to keep this language, for consistency sake it should make the statement about all other uses which may have a potentially significant impact.

The HGP could probably live with the details in the bullets (mostly specific setback requirements). However, here the draft EIR misses the point. In the second bullet it states that the Pogonip Garden Facility should be re-designed... As a practical matter, the Master Plan is a schematic outlining a general area for the Garden, and the Garden has not been designed in any specific way. The Master Plan language for the Garden starts out "The garden site shown on the schematic plan totals approximately 12.5 acres; however, all of this acreage may not be cultivated given site and environmental constraints." The Final EIR could take a more constructive approach and suggest issues to be addressed in the design (not re-design) of the Garden.

D51

Instead it provides arbitrary and baseless standards. The draft EIR did not/could not have a basis in wetland/garden design evaluation on which to make these suggestions.

Suggested Mitigation Measure BIO-2d:

Garden design shall include a land management component which addresses and mitigates impacts on wetland resources. The wetland shall be preserved and potential indirect impacts mitigated through buffer zones, including native grasses and forbes. Depending on the distance from the wetland, Garden plantings should be of a type which avoid indirect impacts. The wetland shall be delineated before any garden activity occurs which could impact the wetland.

D51

15. Impact BIO-3: The Final EIR should document the conclusion in the last sentence of the first paragraph on page IV.B-42. While the Pogonip Garden will obviously bring changes to the area, it is not demonstrated that the indirect impacts will be significant. Structures will occupy approximately 4,800 square feet of land. In the context of hundreds of acres, what basis does the draft EIR use to conclude that the removal of .1 acre of land for buildings has a significant indirect impact?

D52

16. It is true that deer fencing could (rather than would) interfere with wildlife movement. The schematic plan for the Garden made a mistake in showing deer fencing basically at the perimeter of the entire garden. The reality is that deer fencing will not be so extensive, nor will it be so excluding. For example, the area between the ravine and the access road should not have been shown as fenced. Realistically, the Garden will not be created in one step. It will take several years to grow into the final arrangement. It is therefore likely that deer fencing will be erected over time and allow for wildlife corridors through the Garden.

D53

C. GEOLOGY, SOILS AND SEISMICITY

Discussion

1. Environmental Setting

The environmental setting section ought to be a factual presentation of the subject, not judgment about the importance of particular soil for particular uses. The last sentence on page IV.C-5 should be deleted.

It appears that the soil type for the major part of the Pogonip Garden is misidentified on Figure IV.C-2, Soils. The soil type should probably be "179" not "178". The final EIR should acknowledge that the General Plan does not consider this soils type to exhibit high erosion potential.

D54

2. Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Why is it that the draft EIR needs to invent additional significance criteria in addition to those found in the CEQA Guidelines? Standards of significance in this subject area typically address geologic hazards. It is unclear why alteration of land forms are an issue if they do not contribute to geologic hazard conditions. Further, erosion typically is an issue addressed in the hydrology section.

D55

Before presenting any factual information, the draft EIR reveals its biases. The trail system is OK in terms of its impact on soils, and the Pogonip Garden is not. "Existing erosion problems associated with the trail system may appear significant on the site, yet when viewed against regional erosion conditions, the Pogonip site contributes a minor sediment yield to area streams and wetlands" Yet two paragraphs down "The one element with the greatest potential impact to topography, slope stability, and soil conservation is the Pogonip Garden.....it is not anticipated that the impacts of the 10-acre Pogonip garden project, as proposed, can be mitigated to a less-than-significant level."

It is entirely possible that the trail system will not have a significant impact. However, the trail system has a far greater impact on soils than does the Pogonip Garden. Consider this:

- * The trail system is 9.4 miles long.
- * The design guidelines for widths produce a trail surface area of roughly seven (7) acres.
- * Trails traverse the entire Pogonip property. They impact creeks, meadows, riparian areas, woodlands, significant vegetation.
- * Trails traverse flat land and steep in excess of 25 percent grade.
- * The 9.4 miles of trails present 18.8 miles of edge between trail surface and adjacent natural area (potential conflict).
- * The trail system will see use by an more than 100 persons a day.
- * The trail system is supported by a widened road and a 25 car parking lot.

D56

Trails will be devoid of natural cover. They will be in use year round, including the rainy season. They will be used by thousands of people during the year. People will access and use trails in largely uncontrolled ways. There will be an opportunity for erosion and trampling of adjacent natural land for an 18 mile edge that includes some significant slopes. If you assume a two foot strip on either side of a trail impacted by trail traffic, some 4.5 acres will be affected. Together with the trails, this results in 11.5 acres of land altered in ways that make them susceptible to erosion and other degradation. It is probably fair to say that the actual impact will be much greater. There will undoubtedly be areas where the impact on adjacent areas will not be limited to the adjacent two feet.

The Pogonip Garden involves roughly the same area as the trails in its active garden plot area, and overall less than the trail system and the immediate impact area. In contrast

with the trails system, the Pogonip Garden will not have seven acres of unexposed surface, involving miles of potential conflict between used and natural areas. For the most problematic part of the year, the rainy season, the Garden will be winterized with cover crops and reduced activity, while the trails system remains exposed to rains. The Garden does not extend its impact throughout all of Pogonip but confines its impact to the south east corner of the property.

D56

The most active area, the garden plots are located on flat or near flat land. Fifteen percent plus slopes occur only at the uppermost edge of the garden towards the clubhouse, and can be easily avoided. Far more people will be using and impacting the trail system than will the Garden. Pogonip Garden represents a managed facility much more so than will the trails system.

The Master Plan envisions a maintenance staff of 1 (FTE) Maintenance Worker, 1 Maintenance Worker (Limited Term), and 1 Maintenance Worker (Temporary), although in terms of hours, this represents less than two full time persons. And this staffing is for maintenance of Phase I and Phase II.

In contrast, the Pogonip Garden will employ more than 20 workers. While growing produce to recover a portion of the cost of the program is important, the Homeless Garden Project is primarily an employment and training program. It is a labor intensive undertaking by design, and obviously the resources will be in place to ensure good Garden management, i.e. erosion, run-off, compost handling, watering, etc.. It is actually possible and reasonable that Garden workers could play an important role in the conservation and restoration of resources for the entire Pogonip property.

D57

There is an irony, although not surprising, to read in the draft EIR a statement about the problem of existing gully erosion, in the absence of any Garden activity. The Pogonip Interim Management Plan documents the inadequacy of City maintenance of Pogonip. The Homeless Garden Project sees itself as a positive presence in the area and a means of abating problems such as this.

The discussion in the draft EIR must be changed to reflect more accurately the actual impacts of the Garden. To provide a context, the greater impact of the trails system must be acknowledged.

D58

If the draft EIR wants to continue the language about the need to reduce the Garden in order to mitigate impacts, it should similarly couch its discussion of the trails system in terms of the benefit resulting from a reduced trails system.

The draft EIR states that design guidelines in the Master Plan serve to minimize impacts. It then goes on to take the section on the Pogonip Garden to task for design criteria which fall short of fully mitigating possible soil erosion and slope stability impacts.

The Pogonip Garden section in the Master Plan does not include design guideline per se. It makes a commitment to Land Management and Implementation (the Garden actually made a somewhat more specific proposal for language which was deleted by staff). This was done in recognition that the project is a Master Plan and therefore general. The "design guidelines" in other elements of the Master Plan do not automatically reduce impacts. In fact they may contribute to significant impacts. For the most part they are development standards. For example, they specify trail widths which may or may not be appropriate in particular locations. Any suggested mitigations are general. They rely on, for example, appropriate drainage improvements designed by technical specialists. This is entirely appropriate. The Master Plan is a concept for use, a context for subsequent actions. A management plan is the best approach to dealing with impacts once their general degree and range of mitigations are identified, as their solution can not be known until more detailed information is known.

D58

The draft EIR states that the trail network will likely have a less-than-significant impact because it is "widely dispersed". An opposite argument is more persuasive. A wide spread project which potentially affects a wide variety of natural areas, with miles of potential conflict between used areas and natural areas, covering a variety of terrain, including very steep, with little control over use and limited maintenance, with characteristics including acres of uncovered surface, would seem to hold a great potential for adverse impact.

Why is there a difference between the draft EIR's view of trails and the Pogonip Garden? We suspect the difference lies part in the fact that the impacts of the trails can already be seen, while the Garden so far is intangible. We can take a look at Pogonip and realize that whatever the impacts of the trails are, they have not significantly deteriorated the quality of the environment (definition of significant). The Garden does not yet exist, and the draft EIR is free to conjure up impacts of the most serious nature.

D59

Why does IMPACT GEO-1 only address "New developed features..."? Why does it not speak to the project as a whole, including all features and uses?

The section on the Pogonip Garden (2) on page IV.C-11 should begin with a factual presentation:

The overall Pogonip Garden area encompasses approximately 12.5 acres. The Master Plan does not expect all of the land to be cultivated.

The active Garden plot area encompasses approximately 6 acres. This entire area is located on flat land, or on slopes of less than 10 percent. Initial preparation of the garden plots will involve the use of a tractor, while use of mechanized equipment will be rare in the normal Garden work. For the most part, garden plots will be hand cultivated. Irrigation is by a drip system. The garden plots will be used to grow vegetables, flowers and herbs of various types. In late fall, cover crops are planted to protect and replenish

D60

the soil. This legume/grass foliage is harvested and the nutrients recycled and increased via microbial composting in the spring.

The area contemplated for orchard involves approximately 2 acres, located in two areas. One is at the perimeter of the portion of the Garden near Golf Club Drive. Slopes vary from flat to some slopes between 10 and 15 percent, and a small area over 15 percent.

The second area lies along the boundary uphill from the greenhouses, and between the access road and the ravine. The slopes at the uphill area transition from less than 15 percent to over 15 percent. The area between the ravine and the access road is less than 15 percent.

The "orchard" is not expected to function like a commercial orchard. It is expected to be a non-intensive, diverse grouping of dwarf stock trees and vines to provide a learning opportunity in different horticultural practices associated with perennial fruit production. Plantings of this type are normally maintained within a grassland cover.

Approximately 1 acre is planned for perennials.

A wetland, buffer and the downstream drainage account for approximately .5 acres.

Approximately 3 acres (exclusive of the wetland) remain in native vegetation or grassland, in the area of the perennials/orchard, or in buffers around garden plots.

The first paragraph on page IV.C-12 should be corrected to acknowledge that 16 percent plus slopes occur mostly at the edge of the property in the direction of the Clubhouse, and that only fruit trees are proposed in this location.

In the second paragraph, the project under review is a Master Plan with a level of detail that is general in a way that does not yet allow for a meaningful plan of Best Management Practices. As for the extreme erosion hazard and the poor management suggested by the draft EIR, the UCSC Farm and Garden are examples of diverse, permanently sustainable land management practices. They involve similar geologic formations and soil types, and more severe slopes, yet these similar uses are a model of environmentally responsible land use.

In the following paragraph, why does the draft EIR raise an issue with wet season use of Pogonip Garden? The natural planting cycles will minimize activity on Pogonip garden during the wet season.

In the following paragraph, why does the draft EIR raise an issue with tillage and seedbed preparation during the fall and rainy season? The normal garden cycle sees very little activity during these periods. As previously stated, Pogonip Garden by its nature uses equipment conservatively.

D60

D61

The access road in the particular location was directed by the staff. The drainage swale crossed by the road will need to be addressed in a manner different from a crushed rock base access road. It is possible to gain vehicular access to the far section of the garden in a different way.

D62

Regarding Impact GEO-1. The Homeless Garden Project Board of Directors is not in a position to undertake a factual analysis of the Garden's impact on soils and geology. However, it is clear that the draft EIR exaggerates the impact. The draft EIR states that erosion is a direct function of slope. The independent evaluation which the Homeless Garden Project has been able to perform suggests that the Garden plot area is either flat or less than 10 percent slope; the only areas over 15 percent occur at the boundary toward the Clubhouse and in a small area at the periphery of the garden plots near Golf Club Drive. Both of these areas could readily be removed from the proposed use of trees, if indicated.

But it is clear, on a comparison basis, that the trails will have a greater impact on soils and geology. Since the draft EIR finds the trail impacts to be mitigatable, the Garden impacts should be mitigatable as well.

If the draft EIR continues to call the impact significant, it must apply the same language to the trails: To reduce the likelihood of excessive erosion and slope stability, the Pogonip trails should be sited at an alternative off-site location. However, because the trails are considered a key element of the project...

D63

The suggested additions to the Pogonip Garden Operations and Management Plan on page IV.C-19 are doable. However, it would be useful for the draft EIR to document the impacts of the suggestions. It would reveal that the Garden already includes the proposed recommendations. The Garden as proposed already provides the buffer suggested to the steeper area of the ravine. The Garden already contemplates trees planted in the existing grass cover.

Mitigation Measure GEO-1e is unnecessarily specific. It need only call for avoiding the impact to the unstable soil conditions. There may be other alternatives to deal with access to the far side of the Garden.

In a similar vein Mitigation Measures GEO-1f through 1k are measures which would be taken routinely as a matter of good management practices.

Recommendation

1. Delete the last sentence in the last paragraph on page IV.C-5.
2. Correct Figure IV.C-2 Soils, and indicate that soils type 179 is not highly erodible.

D64

D65

3. The Final EIR should revisit the Significance Criteria.

D66

4. The Final EIR should not jump to the conclusions. "The one element with the greatest potential impact to topography, slope stability, and soil conservation is the Pogonip Garden." (page IV.C-9). No factual data are provided before this conclusion is drawn. As a matter of fact, topography will not be altered significantly. Slope stability is not affected. Active garden plots occur on essentially flat land. Land in slopes over 10 percent are used for plantings consistent with the slope constraints. Grass cover and buffers are maintained.

D67

The Final EIR should quantify the impact of the Garden, and the impact of other uses, including the trails system. The previous discussion provides a beginning point.

5. Delete the second to last paragraph on page IV.C-9.

D68

6. The Final EIR should modify the last paragraph on page IV.C-9 and first paragraph on page 10). The draft EIR gives no details of the Garden. As a practical matter, as proposed with buffers, protection of wetlands, setbacks and inclusion of native planting, the actual Garden is a reduced Garden. The Master Plan states that the 12.5 acres would not all be used depending on site and environmental constraints.

D69

7. The Final EIR should recognize the nature of the project, a Master Plan, and the level of detail associated with a Master Plan. Without being prejudicial to the Garden, it can then lay out performance criteria for future steps. This applies not only to the Garden, but other uses as well. It is illusory to assume the Final EIR can answer the questions of mitigation in detail at this point.

D70

8. Delete IMPACT GEO-1 or modify it to be more consistent with significance criteria normally associated with geology and soils. In any event, the impact should not be limited to new features but include all components of the project including uses. Rewrite as:

D71

The proposed project has the potential for impacts on geology and soil conditions(SU).

9. Change the discussion for Pogonip Garden (page IV.C-11 (2)). Before drawing a conclusion, present the factual basis. See above information.

D72

10. On page IV.C-12, correct the information about slopes. Change second paragraph on page IV.C-12 to state that Best Management Practices can address soil instability issues. The reference to farming in Santa Cruz County and Monterey County is inappropriate. The Homeless Garden Project does not practice commercial agriculture. Correct description of impacts of ancillary facilities and wet season activities.

D73

11. Delete Mitigation Measure GEO-1a. This is basically a prejudicial statement about the Garden; no mitigation is offered. Substantively, the analysis will point to mitigations which make the impact on soils less than significant.

D74

12. Change Mitigation Measure GEO-1d to read:

The Pogonip Garden shall develop a management plan which relies on Best Management Practices to mitigate potential impacts on soils (LTS).

If the Final EIR wants to get more specific, it may want to include the following:

No ground disturbance other than native species planting shall occur in slopes over 15 percent. Garden plots shall include appropriate vegetated buffers to adjacent slopes, wetlands and other sensitive areas such as seeps. Orchard and peripheral plantings should minimize disturbance of soils and vegetation. The Operations and Management Plan shall describe management of run-off and maintenance of Facilities (LTS).

D75

Any reference to 30-50 percent slopes must be deleted. There are no slopes of this magnitude in the vicinity of the Garden.

13. Modify Mitigation Measure GEO-1e to read:

The service road shall be designed in a way which does not compromise the function of the drainage swale (LTS).

D76

14. Delete mitigation measures GEO-1f through 1h. The earlier mitigation measure makes these redundant. Construction impacts do not need mitigation measures as City procedures for erosion control are already in place. The wet season does not need mitigation measures as Garden activity is naturally curtailed during wet weather. In any event the Final EIR should delete references to 50 percent slopes, as there are none in the area.

D77

D. Water Resources

Comments

As a general comment (page IV.D-1), there does not appear to be an issue with increased turbidity affecting water treatment process, as the treatment pumping plant is upstream of the two creeks draining Pogonip.

D78

1. Environmental Setting

The last paragraph on page IV.D-4 should be deleted or reworded. A more general statement of where wetlands are found may be more appropriate. The comment about

D79

having to address the occurrence of groundwater is meaningless. In any event there are other locations of wetlands which may be more impacted, such as the wetland just to the west of the support facilities and stables behind the Clubhouse.

D79

2. Impacts and Mitigation Measures

The draft EIR should revisit the significance criteria. The CEQA Guidelines, Appendix G (1) refers to traffic impacts.

The draft EIR acknowledges that existing formal and informal trails, and runoff from UCSC, currently have adverse impacts on local water resources. It goes on to say that increased trail impacts resulting from multi-use designation and increased visitor use would require ongoing mitigation. Oddly, it does not make the statement that the trail system has the potential for a significant adverse impact.

D80

The draft EIR has no such trouble with the Pogonip Garden. It notes, prior to any presentation of information or analysis, that the Pogonip Garden can be anticipated to have a significant impact on hydrology and water quality. Other uses are given the benefit of the doubt, assuming they follow guidelines, Management Actions, local zoning and building codes, and appropriate erosion control strategies. Why is it that the same can not be expected of the Pogonip Garden?

Impact WAT-1 is stated too narrowly. Why is the impact limited to new developed features, and why does the analysis not include all plan components and uses?

On page IV.D-8 (2), the draft EIR discusses the Pogonip Garden. This section needs to be reworked in light of comments made in the last section. The slopes involved in the Garden are overstated. The nature of the Garden operation is misrepresented. The information on water use needs to be reduced based on information in the Services section.

D81

Fortunately, the draft EIR acknowledges that Garden impacts could be mitigated to a less than significant level.

The report then discusses other uses and finally trails. It acknowledges that trail construction and use present the potential for impacts to local hydrological resources and water quality. It does not present this as a potentially significant impact. Moreover it notes that the impact of trails is insignificant in the larger scheme of things in the watershed of the San Lorenzo. Then it goes on to say that the potential exists for significant impact of use of existing and new trails.

D82

In light of the subsequent conclusion that the Pogonip Garden has such severe impacts that it should be considered for relocation, and the trails, despite their obvious greater potential damage to water quality than the Garden, are basically OK, the Final EIR should present the factual basis for its conclusion regarding the Garden, and the trails system.

The Final EIR should acknowledge that the land in active gardening use involves slopes of less than 10 percent, and that land in over 15 percent slopes occurs only at the margin of the site. These slopes are located in an area designated for perennial plant beds, native vegetation restoration and orchards. These are low impact uses. As a practical matter, these uses are tangential to Garden production, and, if detailed investigations indicate, could be modified.

D82

The Final EIR should further discuss how erosion and water quality are an issue, given the management capacity for the Garden.

The Final EIR should then quantify the impact of the trails system, including the areas involved in trails, and their slopes.

Recommendation

1. Delete the last sentence on page IV.D-4.
2. The second part of page IV.D-6 should be rewritten to give similar treatment to all uses.
3. Impact WAT-1 should be restated:

D83

The project could result in substantial degradation of water quality (including siltation from erosion). (S)

D85

It is unclear why only "new features" should be addressed. Clearly all existing facilities, as well as current and future uses should be included here.

4. The following language should replace the section on the Pogonip Garden in the Final EIR (page IV.D-8):

(2) Pogonip Garden and Related Facilities. The development of the Pogonip Garden could significantly impact the hydrology and water quality of the Pogonip by disturbing vegetative cover and periodically exposing soils. Initial garden planning, Best Management Practices (BMP) and the existing topography can reduce impacts to less-than significant level.

D86

The actively worked garden bed areas will occur on flat land or on slopes of less than 10 percent. The only areas in slopes of greater than 15 percent lie to the west of the greenhouses at the edge of the Garden, planned for perennial/native plantings and scattered orchard, and in a small area adjacent to the Garden plots near Golf Club Drive, planned for fruit trees.. Specific locations will be evaluated to determine the appropriateness and location for beds and trees. Appropriate buffers will be established to slopes, and around

the wetland and significant vegetation. Undisturbed areas will be planted with appropriate plant materials, including native species.

The Homeless Garden Project's practices in existing locations involve reliance on hand cultivation and cover cropping during the winter. Garden activity is necessarily restricted during the wet winter rainy season.

The Garden uses sustainable organic agricultural practices. Water quality will therefore not be impacted by insecticides and pesticides. Microbial composting is done in locations and ways that avoid impacts on groundwater or wetlands.

Water use is estimated at less than 13 acre feet per year. The irrigation regime varies depending on season and crop type. Most water use involves drip irrigation in the Garden plots. They are located on the most level and most central area of the garden. Buffers and setbacks mitigate runoff impacts. Irrigation water may increase local groundwater and increase the flow of water into emergent marsh habitats and downstream riparian habitats. A garden management plan is proposed to integrate the various garden activities with advanced sustainable land management practices.

Normal construction impacts associated with ancillary facilities are mitigated by established erosion control requirements, if necessary.

5. Mitigation measure WAT-1a should be rewritten as follows;

To mitigate potential water quality impacts, the Pogonip Garden shall prepare an operations and management plan. The management plan shall include measures to mitigate possible impacts. They include garden plot layout to avoid surface runoff, planted vegetation buffers between garden areas, and among all garden plots and slopes requiring a setback, drainage facilities, if necessary, with appropriate energy dissipators and retention basins, design and management of compost areas to divert runoff and avoid leaching, and water conservation practices. (LTS).

Considering that an impact is mitigatable, it is entirely inappropriate to start the mitigation measure with a proposition that the Garden location should be changed, only to then acknowledge that it is a key element of the Plan. This creates a prejudicial reaction in the reader and is unnecessary since the following mitigation measures reduce the potential water impact to less than significant. It appears that if an impact is mitigated, there is no reason to suggest that the project element should not be carried out.

If the Final EIR chooses to continue this language, it stands to reason that it be used in similar circumstances in the discussion of other plan components, including the trails

D86

D87

system. Trails have greater potential impacts than the Garden. They affect a greater area, in more sensitive habitats and terrain. They are used by more people and in winter when water impacts are more severe.

6. Mitigation Measures WAT-1o through 1q can be deleted as their substance is included in the revised Mitigation Measure WAT-1a.

D88

F. VISUAL QUALITY AND AESTHETICS

Discussion

1. Environmental Setting

The draft EIR begins by giving the environmental setting. (Figure IV.F-1 view IV-F-4(a) is wrong). Then it recites relevant policies in the General Plan. Prior to any analysis it finds inconsistencies between the Garden and City policies, and, before any analysis, it states mitigation measures.

The inconsistencies of the Pogonip Garden and City policies are exaggerated:

Policy 2.1 Preserve natural features providing visual definition to an area within the City.

How will Pogonip Garden affect the definition of an area within the City?
Pogonip Garden first becomes visible from Golf Club Drive well into the park.

In any event, this general policy is amplified by five programs, four of which are listed in the table. Their interpretation is qualified by the general policy. The operative purpose is to "provide visual definition to an area within the City". Pogonip Garden has no impact on this policy regardless of any other impact it may have.

The General Plan recognizes the importance of Pogonip as a background to the City. But Map CD-3: Scenic Views, correctly identifies the important backdrop to be the hillsides sloping up to UCSC.

Policy 2.1.2 Minimize the impact of grading and development on important natural features such as bluffs and foothills.

Pogonip Garden will not impact the visual definition of any area within the City. In any case, there is no significant grading suggested for the Pogonip Garden. Working garden plots is not tantamount to grading (excavation and filling).

D89

Policy 2.1.5 Protect and enhance unique natural areas including but not limited to Jessie Street marsh, Pogonip, Arana Gulch Flood Plain, Neary Lagoon, Antonelli Pond, Arroyo Seco, and Moore Creek Canyon.

As noted, Pogonip Garden will have no impact on policy 2.1. The visual definition of any area in the City will not be affected by the Pogonip Garden. The Pogonip Garden lies on an elevated plateau only the edges of which are visible from the City. Nevertheless it is useful to point out: All of the listed examples have construction and altered conditions associated with them. Jessie Street Marsh exists in an urban context; Pogonip includes other project components such as trails, a Clubhouse complex of several buildings and utility structures, parking, and other uses. Neary Lagoon accommodates developed park facilities, to say nothing of the sewage treatment plant. Antonelli Pond, Arroyo Seco and Moore Creek Canyon all involve alterations.

Furthermore, why is the Pogonip Garden singled out for relocation? Why not the Clubhouse, the maintenance building, and the caretaker house? Why not the parking lots which will definitely introduce more glare than any other use?

Policy 2.2 Preserve important public views and viewsheds by ensuring that scale, bulk and setback of new development does not impede or disrupt them.

The policy is amplified by two programs. As program 2.2.1 suggests, the policy operates on a large scale. It looks for various design guidelines for larger areas, such as Beach Hill, Mission Hill, San Lorenzo River, and, yes, Pogonip. It speaks to larger areas, not individual sites.

If there is an issue for this policy, it is with the Clubhouse. It is the single built structure on Pogonip of community-wide impact. It is located on probably the most visually prominent spot on Pogonip and is visible from many vantage points. While the Draft EIR states that "the proposed scale, bulk, and setback of new features associated with the Clubhouse renovation, Pogonip garden, and Outdoor Education Camp could impede or disrupt important public views and viewsheds....", it focuses on the Garden and ignores the Clubhouse. Could it be that the clubhouse is an example of a significant large building fitting into the landscape because it has an appropriate design. Could it be that Garden facilities can do the same.

The draft EIR references Mitigation Measure VIS-1. This mitigation measure addresses only the Pogonip Garden and the Outdoor Education Camp. The draft EIR does not appear troubled by the parking lot at the Clubhouse, or the construction of two new buildings, the 8,000 sq. ft. Clubhouse building in the most prominent location of Pogonip, or the construction of a 20,000 gallon water tank.

D89

Policy 6.1 - Protect existing significant vegetation and landscaping that provide scenic as well as wildlife habitat and forage value.

This policy is inappropriately cited here. The Goal supported by this policy has to do with landscaped quality of the City, mostly the streetscape.

Program 6.1.1 - Protect heritage Trees and shrubs by reviewing all construction plans to determine their impact on Heritage Trees and Shrubs and providing technical information to assist owners in maintaining Heritage Trees and Shrubs on private property.

This policy is inappropriately cited here. The Goal supported by this policy has to do with landscaped quality of the City, mostly the streetscape.

Program 6.2.2 - Protect Maintain high quality landscaping on City-owned land, parking lots, schools, and parks.

This program is inappropriately cited here. The Goal supported by this policy has to do with the landscaped quality of the City, mostly streetscape. The policy aims to create a more coherent visual environment in the urban part of the City.

2. Impacts and Mitigation Measures.

The draft EIR finds that new developed features would be added to the Pogonip site that would be visible from public viewpoints and that would alter the natural features of the project site. The impact is found to be Less Than Significant.

Nevertheless, the draft EIR feels the need for mitigation measures. It suggests that construction of the greenhouses be of "natural stained, board and batten design. Rigid glazing materials shall be used for the south wall and roof, and shall be framed with wood to be compatible with the historic features of the site. Roof slope shall be 4:12." And it goes on. It specifies screening and mandates that it be placed in the location where it is already proposed.

This is entirely unnecessary. Since no potential significant impact is identified, no mitigation measures are required.

There are other processes besides environmental review which bear on the establishment of the Pogonip Garden. As called for by the Master Plan, Homeless Garden Project representatives, City staff and others will work together to design a Garden which is complementary to its setting (A commitment made in the master Plan). What sense does it make to require board and batten for a building 800+ feet from the Golf Club Drive? Obviously the greenhouses will have to be harmonious with the landscape. But there may be varied approaches. Why are we to be limited to board and batten?

D89

D90

(Anyone who is familiar with Bedazzled will understand it is impossible to specify any specific result).

The draft EIR exhibits a curious duality in approach. Existing improvements regularly (though not always) get a lighter treatment than proposed plan components. In the visual analysis, the draft EIR takes the stance that the existing improvements such as the Clubhouse or trails have no impacts. The Garden facilities, on the other hand, are highlighted as visually intrusive, without a basis and the obvious minor presence they represent.

This is evidenced by the Impact statement which limits consideration to "new developed features". Why? All project components, facilities and uses, need to be subject to analysis.

The Clubhouse and Golf Club Drive, and other existing developed features are part of the project and must be evaluated.

The Pogonip Garden proposes some 4,800 sq. ft. of building, in several small structures. The draft EIR calls the greenhouses (2 totaling 2,800 sq. ft.) "some of the most visually prominent features due to their proposed size and design."

To the contrary. It is likely that the Clubhouse and surrounding uses are the most visually prominent features of the Pogonip. They occupy the most visible spot on Pogonip. They are visible from UCSC, from downtown and other way out locations. They cover more area and include more square footage than the greenhouses of the Garden. The greenhouses are visible only intermittently along Golf Club Drive.

By way of a graphic illustration. When the City Council hears the Master Plan in the City Council Chambers, it will be looking at a rear wall of approximately 400 sq. ft.. The cross section of the greenhouses are roughly 200 sq. ft., 50 percent of that area. This side elevation is 800+ feet from Golf Club Drive. Imagine standing outside of the Council Chambers and looking at an area half the size of the rear wall of the council chambers located some 800 feet away near Pacific Avenue. Realize that the greenhouses will only be seen intermittently, and will be screened.

The draft EIR completely ignores the Clubhouse complex. The clubhouse consists approximately some 8,000 sq. ft. and is two stories high. The area also includes an 1,800 sq. ft. maintenance facility and a 1,600 sq. ft. (maximum), not to exceed 2 stories, caretaker facility. In addition the complex includes a 3,600 sq. ft. covered corral, equestrian training area, vehicle turnaround, parking lot, and a 20,000 gallon steel water tank in the vicinity of the ranger facility area (but not shown in any plans).

It is safe to say that the impact of structures at the Pogonip Garden is minor in comparison to the Clubhouse Complex. What makes the difference? The reason is in

D90

D91

the design of the Clubhouse. We can all look at and appreciate that it fits into the landscape.

Is it possible that the Pogonip Garden buildings will fit equally well into their setting?

While the Clubhouse is the most prominent feature, it does not have an adverse visual impact. Perhaps one of the more significant adverse impacts will result from the widening of Golf Club Drive from the gate to the parking lot. This stretch of road presently traverses a very pleasant "tunnel" of trees, albeit non-native acacia. Nevertheless, this is a great entrance. The walker enters the cool shade of this tunnel; the view is confined but there are glimpses of the landscape until it finally unfolds to a broad vista. This experience will be inevitably changed for the worse when the trees are removed as part of the road widening.

D91

Regarding Impact VIS-2, the draft EIR should demonstrate how the Pogonip Garden is inconsistent with City of Santa Cruz Community Design Element policies. As noted earlier, this policy (CD 2.1) and programs work on a much larger level than the Pogonip Garden. The Pogonip Garden does not involve grading, at least not by the generally accepted definition. There are limited views of the garden and greenhouses. General views are available only from far distances. No City policy prohibits building in the greenbelt area. The buildings associated with the Garden are consistent with their use and setting. No vegetation of concern to the policies is removed, and the landscaping policies do not apply.

D92

Regarding IMPACT VIS-3, The draft EIR should document how light from the Pogonip Garden will produce a significant adverse impact. The greenhouses will not include reflective materials, except glass in the southern exposure. This side of the greenhouses faces away from Golf Club Drive, the clubhouse, and other locations in Pogonip. Greenhouses are not planned on being lighted for growing plant material.

The draft EIR should acknowledge that cars parked at the two visitor parking lots are probably the greatest glare producing facilities in the park.

D93

During the winter months, very little activity occurs at the Garden. CSA pickup does not occur in the winter.

The Pogonip Garden does not see itself carrying out grading in the sense of excavation and filling. The garden activities contemplated will not alter the terrain in a significant way.

Recommendation

Rewrite the Final EIR as follows:

1. Rewrite the "Relationship of Project to Policies" (Table IV.F-1) and Mitigation Measures as follows:

Policy 2.1 Preserve natural features providing visual definition to an area within the City.

The Pogonip Master Plan preserves the essential natural and open space character of Pogonip Park

Delete the following policies/programs, (or if you must, substitute the following:

Policy 2.1.2 Minimize the impact of grading and development on important natural features such as bluffs and foothills.

The various uses such as trails, Clubhouse use, Pogonip Garden, Outdoor Education Camp, and others include design guideline and management actions to minimize grading.)

Policy 2.1.5 Protect and enhance unique natural areas including but not limited to Jessie Street marsh, Pogonip, Arana Gulch Flood Plain, Neary Lagoon, Antonelli Pond, Arroyo Seco, and Moore Creek Canyon.

The Pogonip Master Plan protects and enhances unique natural areas through management plans which include conservation and restoration components.

Policy 2.2 Preserve important public views and viewsheds by ensuring that scale, bulk and setback of new development does not impede or disrupt them.

The Pogonip Master Plan preserves important public views and viewsheds. The most visible structure, the Pogonip Clubhouse, is of a design and appearance which makes it compatible with the surrounding natural landscape.

Delete Policy 6.1 (misidentified as 6.1.1) and programs 6.1.1 and 6.2.2.

2. Reword Impact VIS-1 to read:

The proposed project includes facilities and uses which would be visible from public viewpoints and that would alter the natural features of the project site.
(LTS)

D94

D95

3. Rewrite the impact section (page IV.F-12) Describe the new development around the Clubhouse, the Outdoor Education Camp, Golf Club Drive widening, and other features. As for the Pogonip Garden, note that the greenhouses are located at the far side of the Garden, approximately 800 feet from the Garden entrance. They are only intermittently visible from most vantage points along Golf club Drive. They will be screened and constructed with materials compatible with their use and setting. They will not have interior lighting for growing purposes. They present a small elevation, roughly 200 square feet, to the main view from the Garden entrance. As noted in the Master Plan, accessory structures will be compatible with their setting (although the visual quality of the area will probably be most affected by the visitor parking lot).	D96
4. Delete Mitigation Measure VIS-1a. The identified impact is less-than significant, and no mitigation measures are required. Besides, among the two listed, one is arbitrary, and the other restates what the Plan already contains.	D97
5. Identify the impact of VIS-2 as Less-Than-Significant, and delete Mitigation Measure VIS-2. As noted earlier, policy 2.1 of the Community Design element speaks to preservation of the definition of areas in the City, and 2.2 to a larger scale which is satisfied by the Pogonip Master Plan. Policy 6.1, and policies 6.1.1 and 6.2.2 do not apply as they support the goal of enhancing the landscaped quality within the City.	D98
6. Delete language on page IV.F-13 regarding grading in the Garden area.	D99
7. Delete Impact VIS-3 or state that the impact is less than significant. There has been no suggestion that the greenhouses will be constructed of reflective materials, or that they will be lighted for growing purposes, or that lighting will be required for Community Supported Agriculture pickup (there is none now). There is no CSA program during the winter. (If anything, the Final EIR should evaluate the impact of lights and glare from automobiles parked on two parking lots which are for the purpose of clubhouse visitors or trail users.)	D100
8. Delete Mitigation Measure VIS -3. It is not required as the impact is LTS. In any case, the mitigation measure repeat what the plan already proposes.	D101
9. Impact VIS-4 should be deleted. There has been no suggestion of terrain modification of the degree that it could conceivably have a significant visual impact.	D102

H. SERVICE SYSTEMS AND UTILITIES

Comments

2 Water Supply

a. Setting

The draft EIR acknowledges that historically water to the clubhouse has come from a spring. It also notes the existence of a well near the Clubhouse. It then drops the matter.

There may be a number of questions about this water source for domestic consumption or fire safety purposes. However potable water or fire flow requirements are not issues for the Pogonip Garden. As a matter of fact, a non-municipal water source would be much more preferable. The Garden could avoid the use of treated water, and the water would likely be much cheaper. The use of on-site water is much more in keeping with the Homeless Garden Project's view of sustainability. The Garden is a flexible water user and can probably live with even a low flowing supply if it is constant.

The Final EIR should elaborate on the on-site water supply for the Garden.

b. Impacts and Mitigation

Why does the draft EIR feel the need to establish significance criteria different from the CEQA Guidelines (page IV.H-9)? Especially since they don't make sense. Why do projects need to "encourage" the use of...? What do developments outside the planned water boundary have to do with the significance criteria?

The proposed Pogonip Garden can be expected to use less than 13 acre feet of water. The garden at includes about 6 acres of garden plots, 2 acres of orchards, and 1 acre of perennials.

The average water consumption over the last two years at both the Pelton Garden and Natural Bridges Farm averaged 1.4 acre foot per acre. The acreage involved is the entire site of both facilities. If the acreage is adjusted to just the area irrigated, the water use is 2 acre feet per acre. Thus the draft EIR could apply the 1.4 factor to the gross area, or the 2.0 factor the net area. It can not apply the net unit factor to the gross acreage and be accurate.

Water use at Pogonip is expected to be reduced, as the current operations involve temporary watering arrangements which could be made more efficient in a permanent Garden. Orchard and perennial/native plantings are expected to use much less water than regular crops.

Allowing for the historic water use, net additional water demand is roughly 7 acre feet.

D103

D104

This is not a significant impact. Review of other environmental documents for development in the City reveals that water demand of this magnitude has not been considered significant.

In any case, the Pogonip Garden will be more able to respond to drought conditions than will most other uses in the City. Human consumption and commercial industrial need will be much less able to reduce water consumption than will the Garden. Besides, the Pogonip Garden will have economic incentives to reduce water use as much as possible in order to reduce expensive water bills. However, it should be said that even with on-site water the Garden will practice water conservation, consistent with its environmental ethic.

D104

The mitigation measure is unnecessary. Aside from the fact that the impact is not significant, normal City procedures will bring water systems to the Water Department for review. No mitigation measure is required to cause compliance with water conservation ordinance. Similarly, a water conservation program will affect the Garden without this mitigation ordinance.

While the subject matters of Solid Waste, Gas, Electric etc. does not involve the Garden, a comment is in order, because it demonstrates the nit-picking and undisciplined nature of the draft EIR.

The Significance Criteria for Solid Waste is "Increase the generation of solid waste". There is no threshold. Under this criteria a single house, a single additional anything will result in a significant impact. This is absurd. Common sense tells us that the solid waste generated by the Pogonip Master Plan will not reduce the useful life of the City's landfill capacity. The draft EIR should document the impact if it feels that the impact is significant.

D105

This does not mean that the City should not make efforts to recycle.

The same goes for the impact related to Clubhouse rehabilitation.

In regards to IMPACT SER-9, it's hard to imagine how interference with access to a utility box can be considered a significant impact on the environment.

Recommendation

1. Correct the Final EIR to show an accurate picture of Pogonip Garden water demand, as outlined above.
2. Indicate that the water demand does not represent a significant impact. Other projects with similar or greater water demands have not been found to have a significant impact (except possibly in a cumulative way as all projects may).

D106

D107

3. Delete Mitigation Measure SER-3a.

D108

4. The Final EIR should allow for an on-site water source for the irrigation of Pogonip Garden.

D109

Chapter V ALTERNATIVES TO THE PROPOSED PROJECT

Discussion

The Final EIR should not characterize these alternatives as feasible, unless it can describe scenarios which make them so. As far as the Garden is concerned, the Off-Site Alternative is not feasible. The Final EIR acknowledges that there is no other public land for the Garden. A land task force of the Homeless Garden Project has looked for sites and has not come up with any private lands which would meet the Garden's needs. In any event the Garden does not have the resources to buy land and make the necessary improvements to operate a facility.

D110

A. No Project Alternative

The Final EIR should note that this alternative is inconsistent with the General Plan. The General Plan directs that a Pogonip Master Plan be developed according to the Mixed Use Alternative (L 3.4.1).

B. Reduced Lower Meadow Use

The Reduced Lower Meadow Use Alternative is irrelevant. It is not a significant change from the proposed project. The proposed project already locates garden plots on land with less than 10 percent slopes and outside wetlands areas.

Slopes are a non-issue. There is a slope behind the greenhouses as the ground rises up to the Clubhouse. The only steep part of this slope occurs at the very upper end of the Garden. The area is so small and at the edge of the project, it simply will be left undisturbed if a closer evaluation indicates. It is not critical to the project. A good part of the area, by the way, is an extension of the steep area in which a trail is proposed.

D111

There is another small area of slope at the periphery of the garden area nearest Golf Club Drive, where the land begins to dip into the wooded ravine. If this area is thought problematic for use, it won't be disturbed.

In any case there was a reason for proposing particular plantings in the more sloped areas. Proposed is orchard use or perennial/native planting. These plants are contemplated because the management of permaculture crops such as bush berries, vines and small

trees do not require yearly cultivation and can be planted within an existing grassland cover.

As presented earlier, the greenhouses and support facilities do not have a significant impact on the environment, and if they do, their impact is less than other facilities, such as the trails, the Clubhouse, parking lots and road widening.

The greenhouses are modest in size. They are located hundreds of feet off the main view from Golf Club Drive. They present a small elevation to the road, and they will be designed to blend in with the setting. They only become visible as the viewer approaches the entrance to the Garden. Then the view becomes intermittent until the viewer arrives at the road by the Clubhouse.

D111

The main visual impact of facilities from the lower meadow is undoubtedly the parking lot and the widening of Golf Club Drive. The parking lot is located thirty feet from Golf Club Drive (as against 800 feet for the greenhouses); it is four times bigger than the proposed garden center, and will undoubtedly be an intrusive source of glare from parked cars. Widening of Golf Club Drive will radically change the approach to Pogonip, and not for the better. Yet these facilities remains while the Garden facilities are suggested for removal.

In the analysis of the Reduced Lower Meadow Use Alternative, the Final EIR should demonstrate the impact of the alternative vis-à-vis the proposed project. Show the areas in under 10 percent slope and over 15 percent. Discuss the impacts of the visitor parking lot in terms of ground alteration and visual impact.

IMPACT VEG-1 is not affected by the alternative, although the Garden's comments earlier question the thoroughness of the evaluation.

D112

IMPACT VEG-2 comment is erroneous. The Garden Plan schematic and plan text indicate that the wetlands would not be impacted.

IMPACT GEO-1 and IMPACT WAT-1 are grossly misleading. The actual garden plots are already limited to areas of slopes of less than 10 percent. The Garden does not contemplate cultivation of land in the 16-30 percent slopes identified as a severe erosion problem. The planting of fruit trees, berries, perennials and native vegetation is planned to occur with leaving the natural ground cover essentially intact.

D113

IMPACT VIS-1. This comment is true enough, except that the visual impacts of garden buildings are insignificant to begin with, considering their remote location (greenhouses) and design. It is hard to believe that the Final EIR finds the greenhouses intrusive, and is not at all troubled by the visitor parking lot. The parking lot disturbs more land, is closer to the road, and is built to accommodate cars which will definitely be the biggest source of glare.

D114

IMPACT VIS-3 is bogus. There has never been a suggestion that the greenhouses be lighted to grow plants (although even if they were, what leads to the conclusion that they would produce glare?). Lighting may include minimum security illumination.

D115

IMPACT TRANS-1 may be true enough. But behind this comment lies a logistical nightmare in terms of ferrying between the garden and greenhouses. Has the Final EIR evaluated alternative locations for the greenhouses?

D116

IMPACT SER-3 is misleading. The main water use, the garden plots, would remain on the lower meadow. There might be a minuscule reduction of water as a result of some minor reduction in garden area contemplated for low water demand planting.

The main adverse result of this alternative would be a convoluted, much more difficult and complicated garden facility without any real benefits in terms of environment impacts, as shown in earlier comments, and in the comments above. It also raises questions about the whole viability of a garden, unless the Final EIR can make suggestions about off-site greenhouse location and transportation.

D117

The reduced garden alternative can be responded to in terms of the incremental changes from the proposed project.

C. Off-Site Garden and Relocated Parking

Rebutting the Off-Site Garden Alternative becomes a tedious exercise in rehashing all the problems in the main body of the report. Therefore the following comments do not go into great depth.

Impact BIO-1 remains unclear. Impacts during the breeding season can be avoided by the timing of garden establishment. The report does not document the actual impacts of the Garden on the kite.

Impact BIO-2 is overstated. The garden would protect wetlands. The report does not establish the degree of disturbance of the coastal terrace prairie, and the context in the region. The garden area once accommodated a part of a golf course and was extensively used for horses. What is the impact of 6 acres of coastal prairie terrace in Pogonip Garden

D118

Impact BIO-3 is accommodated by the garden. It is possible to locate deer fencing in ways which will provide for corridors. The garden may also provide a whole new food source, cover and foraging for local wildlife.

Impact GEO-1 has already been demonstrated as much overblown in the report. The garden is located for the most part on level ground or land of under 10 percent slopes.

D119

Impact WAT-1 This has been addressed. The garden is located for the most part on level ground or land of under 10 percent slopes.

No comment on transportation impacts.

D120

Impact VIS 1,3,4 have been extensively discussed as being of no consequence. The Final EIR vastly overstates visual impacts and provides no factual basis for its conclusion

D121

Impact SER-1 is correct only if it assumes that the Garden will cease to exist in Santa Cruz.

The Final EIR must acknowledge that the Off-site Garden alternative is inconsistent with the General Plan. The General Plan directs that a Pogonip Master Plan be developed according to the Mixed Use Alternative.

The Final EIR consultant may not feel there is a legal responsibility to find an off-site location for the Homeless Garden Project. But the City Council must make a realistic decision. This decision is not realistic if the Final EIR does not include viable alternative sites.

D122

At some level it is not surprising that the Pogonip Garden has become the focus of the alternatives. Throughout the draft EIR, the Pogonip Garden is treated more harshly than other uses. As noted, the proposed Pogonip Garden is very much similar to the reduced land alternative. Keep in mind that the Pogonip Garden is called for in the General Plan.

The reality of proposed uses, as well as public testimony, go in the direction of the trails system as the most potentially significant plan component. It would have made sense to make the variations to the trails system the alternative analysis. As it is the Final EIR is virtually uninformative on the implications of the various choices.

D. Environmentally Superior Alternative

This conclusion obviously has to be changed based on the revisions to the Final EIR, and the reconsideration of more relevant alternatives.

California Native Plant Society
Santa Cruz County Chapter
Grey Hayes, Conservation Committee Member
2817 Smith Grade Santa Cruz, CA 95060

REC'D APR 08 1998

4/8/98

To Whom it May Concern,

I write this letter concerning the Pogonip Draft Master Plan and EIR on behalf of the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) which includes 250 members in its local, Santa Cruz County chapter. CNPS has been actively involved with the preservation, monitoring, and mapping of Pogonip's plant diversity for more than a decade. We would like to applaud the city for embarking on the process of planning for this important ecological area. However, we have some strong concerns regarding the present Draft Master Plan and the Draft EIR that accompanies it.

CNPS' concerns fall under four headings:

- 1) unfeasibility of proposed measures for mitigation of habitat loss;
- 2) inadequacy of habitat management protocol;
- 3) inadequacy of habitat impact analysis, and;
- 4) inadequacy of species impact analysis.

Please consider our attached document carefully. Pogonip contains precious biological resources that are threatened elsewhere and are becoming increasingly difficult to preserve as development pressures escalate and funding for land preservation becomes more scarce. CNPS and the citizens of the City of Santa Cruz clearly prefer the greenbelt areas to be managed and maintained as ecologically important open spaces that will, in this way, serve the greatest number of individuals through time. It is important to remember that, once lost, ecosystems can not be recreated.

Sincerely,



Grey Hayes
California Native Plant Society

Cc: Deborah Hillyard, CDFG
Constance Rutherford, USFWS
Kim Touneh, USFWS

Prairie Destruction Mitigation Measures Unproven

It is the policy of the CNPS, as adopted by our state organization with the consultation of California's most prominent botanists, that the revegetation actions suggested (IV. B-40) in mitigation measure BIO- 2c are infeasible. The management actions (IBID) suggested are potentially more beneficial and are encouraged. However, these management actions should be thought of as experimental as there is no documentation of success of these measures in similar habitat in California. Consequently, the proposed 1:1 replacement ratio (IV B-39, mitigation measure BIO- 2c) of destroyed to mitigated habitat is unwarranted. The quality of the mitigated habitat may very well never approach that which was destroyed. Furthermore, the proposal to mitigate the prairie loss by managing already protected habitat within Pogonip seems to be inequitable. This inadequacy is compounded by the stated goal of 50% increase in diversity and density of native species which, without reference to the proposed mitigation sites is meaningless.

- * Please reconsider inclusion of revegetation as a mitigation measure.
- * Please increase mitigated prairie ratios to greater than 1:1.
- * Please identify proposed mitigation sites.
- * Please include meaningful goals for mitigation at mitigation sites.

Chapter volunteers have analyzed all mitigation projects involving prairie restoration in Monterey and Santa Cruz County. We have found these projects to be unsuccessful as there has been little or no seedling recruitment at these sites; therefore, the projects do not meet the basic criterion for restoration: self sustaining biological diversity. These projects have focussed primarily on the reestablishment of grasses which are the easiest and least expensive to grow horticulturally. Native grasses, however, make up a very small percentage of prairie diversity which includes a wide array of annual and perennial wildflowers. These wildflowers support the vast assemblage of insects which provide the protein to support a diverse food web.

- * Please consider removing any impacts from coastal prairie plant community as current mitigation measures are unproven.
- * Please include mention of wildflower diversity in any mitigation measures involving prairie restoration or re-creation.

Finally, mitigation measures are very expensive. Even the relatively simple and not yet successful restoration in our area averages \$15,000 an acre. The total expense, then, depending on the ratio of replacement would be from \$240,000 to \$720,000 for the 14 acres described in the EIR.

D123

Inadequacy of Habitat Management Measures

Note that in the period that the city has managed Pogonip, the coastal prairie has degraded (IV B-14, first paragraph). This is primarily due to the decrease in horse grazing on the meadows. We are concerned that there is little or no recognition of this correlation in the reports. Whereas there are locally several documented cases of grazing benefits to prairie biodiversity (birds and plants), there are no instances of the feasibility of other management techniques suggested- mowing or prescribed burning (p. 5-4, Draft Master Plan). We are concerned that grazing may be restricted due to perceived use conflict (as with 8-2, first sentence), so we suggest rerouting said uses to allow grazing in all grassland areas to allow recovery of the prairie habitat. We are also concerned about the priority given to the management of the majority of the grasslands: e.g., "as resources and funding becomes available (5-4 bullet 7) without placing such management in Phase I or Phase II priorities.

- * Please recognize that cessation of grazing as contributing to prairie degradation.
- * Please note the record of success of prairie habitat management measures suggested.
- * Please analyze the potential use conflicts per area with grazing.

As the City has experienced at Arana greenbelt lands, what appears to be non-native grassland may contain a seedbank of endangered species. This seedbank may be short lived necessitating immediate action. The resources and funding required to initiate the only proven prairie management action- grazing- has been proposed by Norm Levy, City Parks employee, for Pogonip.

- * Please include grazing program cost estimate and initiation in Phase I implementation in the master plan.
- * Please assess the risks to soil seed bank without grassland management.

The management goal in mitigation measure BIO-1j, third bullet, is inappropriate for annual species whose populations vary widely from year to year.

- * Please apply more appropriate specifications for annual plant habitat, reduction of thatch, and weed abatement for this mitigation.

The invasive, non-native species list on 5-4 (2nd bullet) should be annotated to include more, very important prairie weeds.

- * Please include velvet grass, tall fescue, Bermuda grass, and kikuyu grass for control as invasive, non-native weeds in grassland areas.

Oak woodland in our area is undergoing succession to the less biologically ..

D124

oak areas will succumb to this succession, leading to significant losses for many plant and wildlife species. Typically, this succession would have been arrested with natural fires which will not be allowed to burn in Pogonip.

* Please include measures to arrest forest succession and preserve coast live oak communities.

The management goal of removing pedestrian pathways from meadow areas is not encouraged. In particular, the Haunted Meadow pedestrian pathways have been responsible for the existence of important and listed rare prairie species. The fencing of the habitat could discourage entrance of deer and meandering foot traffic that has proven important to the sensitive species.

* Please analyze the importance of foot traffic as habitat management for meadow areas.

D124

Inadequacy of Habitat Impact Analysis

Although the clubhouse improvements and creation of the Upper Meadow Parking area will require widening of the road into coastal prairie habitat, there is no mention of this impact.

* Please analyze loss of coastal prairie associated with road widening to clubhouse.

CNPS volunteers have surveyed the proposed Pogonip garden sites and note that there are significant areas of native, spring wildflowers and prairie species within areas mapped as non-native grassland.

* Please resurvey the non-native grassland designated areas of the proposed garden site and delineate areas of native vegetation.

D125

The County holds a list of locally unique species that it requires be analyzed during the EIR process. This report recognizes the existence of such species without surveying for or analyzing impacts to these species.

* Please include locally unique species in the impact analysis.

The assessment of reduction to insignificance of cumulative impacts to coastal prairie (VI-7, 2a) is unsubstantiated. Management actions to promote native prairie species were already under way or were planned for the Pogonip grassland habitats as mandated by voters and funding agencies which allowed Pogonip's purchase. Furthermore, as these management actions are fundamentally experimental, they cannot be said to reduce significance of impact. It is also difficult to reduce the cumulative impacts to prairie species which have specific micro-topographic habitat requirements

ignore the cumulative impacts to species such as raptors that require a large prey base.

* Please include in the analysis, information on cumulative impacts to grassland habitats and species with regard to the aforementioned types of species.

Currently, a significant proportion of the grassland habitats in the vicinity of Pogonip have plans for development. For example, UCSC's inclusion areas D, E, and A and areas of the grassland above the Agroecology Project. Additionally, plans for placement of the City museum at Lighthouse Field, development of portions of the Bombay property, and development plans for Arana Gulch will impact grassland. Also, current State Parks policies will eliminate up to a quarter of all grasslands along the North Coast of the County.

* Please enumerate (in terms of acreage and effects to species) the cumulative impacts to existing coastal prairie or other grassland habitats.

The use of bicycles along trails through meadows and other sensitive plant communities has resulted in a 5 - 10 fold increase in trail width in adjoining natural areas. Bicycles have been noted as a key threat to the Ohlone Tiger Beetle.

* Please include an impact analysis of bicycle use on sensitive habitats and species.

* Please provide mitigation measures commensurate with the predicted damage of bicycle use at Pogonip.

Horses which move great distances through a variety of habitats can spread weed seeds into new areas. This impact differs from grazing animals which are used in one area for habitat management as this latter use only moves existing weed seeds within the habitat.

* Please analyze the risks involved to Pogonip with the allowance of equestrian use.

* Please provide mitigation measures commensurate with the predicted damage of equestrian use.

As noted above, areas mapped as non-native grassland often contain seedbank of a diverse assemblage of native, annual plant species which can persist for an unknown period of time. The Draft Management Plan notes a decline in the health of the prairie following decreasing grazing during the last 10 years. It is expected that, therefore, a seedbank may exist in areas now mapped as non-native grassland.

Rare annual species such as the Santa Cruz Clover and San Francisco Popcornflower are adversely affected by the increased density of perennial species of grass, including native species. This should be strongly considered concerning habitat analysis and management.

* Please assess the risks to seedbank in what is now mapped as non-native grassland due to proposed projects including revegetation proposals.

D125

Inadequacy of Species Impact Analysis

Neither the Draft Master Plan or the EIR contain adequate quantitative measures of the following species of concern: Ohlone Tiger Beetle, Robust Spineflower, Santa Cruz Clover, San Francisco Popcornflower. Likewise, the reports do not provide quantification of locally unique species. Without these data, the public and CNPS cannot make informed comment on the impacts of the proposed projects at Pogonip.

- * Please provide currently applicable data for the sensitive species at Pogonip.

The EIR (IV B-23, last paragraph) is mistaken. There have been submitted to USFWS reports regarding Ohlone Tiger Beetle burrow requirements and larvae. It might be expected that the Ohlone Tiger Beetle can be recovered to sustainable population numbers at this site with correct habitat management. Because the species is only protected on public land at Pogonip and two other locations, it is important to note potential cumulative impacts with proposed use changes at Pogonip. The placement of signs advertising the life cycle, rarity, and distinguishing characteristics of this rare beetle is predicted to pose a threat to the beetle which is in a group that is coveted by insect collectors. Although the Ohlone Tiger Beetle is the most endangered of all species at Pogonip, there is no inclusion of management for it in the Phase I or II priorities.

- * Please include an analysis of potential Ohlone Tiger Beetle habitat at Pogonip.
- * Please provide an analysis of cumulative impacts to the Ohlone Tiger Beetle due to proposed projects or project alternatives at Pogonip.
- * Please analyze the threat to the Ohlone Tiger Beetle of collection if signs are placed near the species.
- * Please consult with experts in insect species protection before proposing sign placement near the Ohlone Tiger Beetle.
- * Please add Ohlone Tiger Beetle management and protection to the priorities outlined in the Phase I or II sections of the Draft Master Plan.

In General

The documents developed for Pogonip appear to be at odds with the original purpose of the Pogonip which was to protect the biological diversity and beauty of the area. A survey was taken (perhaps referred to on p. 1-8, Draft Master Plan?) early in the process of planning for the greenbelt in which the citizens of Santa Cruz chose first and foremost to protect the ecological integrity of the open spaces.

- * Please include the survey data showing Santa Cruzans preferences for the greenbelt lands in the Draft Master Plan or EIR.

D126

D127

The Phasing of priorities in the Draft Master Plan does not specify funding to protect some of the most important ecological areas of Pogonip. For instance, although shown to be affordable, there is no priority for general grassland management nor mention of what will happen to the current horse grazing. There is no funding for spineflower monitoring or management. Also, there is no specific funding for invasive exotic removal. Once some invasives, such as French Broom and Fennel, enter a habitat it can be many years and a many fold increase in funding to recover that habitat.

- * Please place general grassland management on the Phase I funding priorities.
- * Please place spineflower and other sensitive plant species management and monitoring on the Phase I priorities.
- * Please place invasive, non-native plant removal on the Phase I funding priorities.

D127

TO: SUSAN HARRIS

Mayor Celia Scott and City Council Members
Santa Cruz City Council
809 Center Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

April 4, 1998

Dear Mayor Scott and City Council Members,

Unfortunately the Pogonip Master Plan Draft EIR did a very poor job of analysis. One of the topics which the DEIR failed to analyze in any meaningful way was the impact of bicycles on the Pogonip. In an effort to educate myself on the bicycle issue I've been investigating sources of real research on the subject. Enclosed are copies of two studies done at the Blue Sky Ecological Reserve in San Diego County. The Reserve is similar in size to the Pogonip and had the same sort of demands for access from an active bicycle lobby as you have at the Pogonip. The issues confronting the managers of the Reserve were essentially identical to the issues you now face with regard to bicycles on the Pogonip.

To help resolve the issues the Reserve established a six-month bicycle trial period and the two studies were carried out during that period. The *User Observation Study* looked at the behavior of all users (pedestrians, cyclists, and equestrians) at selected locations in the Reserve. In summary, the study found that cyclists were about **10 times** more likely than pedestrians to violate the rules established for usage of the Reserve. The *Wildlife Monitoring* study looked at the impact of bicycle use on the Reserve's wildlife population. This study revealed a significant drop in wildlife sightings on days when bicyclists were present compared to days when bicyclists were not present.

I talked personally with Doug Ruth, who manages the Reserve for the San Diego County Department of Parks and Recreation. He told me that during the study period a voluntary bicycle patrol (formed by bike advocates) tried hard to educate the local biking community regarding proper use of the Reserve and even warned bikers entering the Reserve that they were under study. A copy of a pamphlet is included at the back of the *User Observation Study*. Even with this intensive peer-based education effort the proper behavior of the bicyclists could not be achieved. Doug Ruth also told me that he felt the *Wildlife Monitoring* program was not extensive enough to determine whether or not the Reserve's wildlife was actually harmed by bicycling activities. Nevertheless, there were clear results from both studies: bicyclists are far more likely to violate established usage rules than are pedestrians and bicyclists do have an impact on wildlife. Also, the effectiveness is uncertain of peer-based education and patrols, trail signage, and other efforts used by the Reserve and biking advocates during the trial period. **The Reserve is now permanently closed to bicycles.**

The final Pogonip EIR should take these study findings into account in an effort to make a full analysis of the impact of bicycles on the Pogonip.

Sincerely,



Richard Stover
1603 King Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

cc: Susan Harris, Parks and Recreation Dept.

D
128

SIERRA CLUB



Santa Cruz Regional Group of the Ventana Chapter

P.O. Box 604, Santa Cruz, California 95061 (408) 426-4453

April 8, 1998

Ms. Susan Harris
City of Santa Cruz
Department of Parks and Recreation
323 Church Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

RECD APR 08 1998

The Santa Cruz Regional Group of the Sierra Club would like to offer the following comments relating to the Draft Environmental Impact Report covering the Draft Master Plan for the Pogonip.

Some general remarks regarding trail uses

It is particularly disturbing to us that the EIR consultants appear not to have made any effort to distinguish the impacts of different types of trail users in this DEIR, in spite of the fact that a considerable literature exists on this point, and in spite of the fact that this was a key hoped-for result of undertaking this environmental analysis. Throughout the United States there are documented examples of serious conflicts between pedestrians and mountain bicyclists in the use of trails in natural areas, and of the environmental impacts of various types of users, but no reference appears to be made in this DEIR to such examples. Repeatedly, throughout this DEIR it is asserted that impacts from trail users of all kinds are insignificant, in spite of the fact that considerable evidence exists to the contrary. Furthermore, no real attempts appear to have been made to determine even the numbers of such users on the Pogonip trails. Finally, the inevitable conflicts between different classes of trail users is treated as a minor concern not worthy of any analysis.

We offer the following references as recent examples of thorough studies undertaken elsewhere in the United States: (1) Alan W. Bjorkman, May 1996, *Off-Road Bicycle and Hiking Trail User Interactions: A Report to the Wisconsin Natural Resources Board*; (2) Lawrence A. Beck and Gene G. Lamke, September, 1995, *Blue Sky Ecological Reserve User Observation Study During the Bicycle Trial Period*; (3) Robert Patton, September 1995, *Wildlife Monitoring During the Bicycle Trial Period at Blue Sky Ecological Reserve February to July 1995*. Further information on these references is given at the end of this letter. Reference (2) includes a brief literature review and the EIR consultants are urged to read some of these references to educate themselves on the issues. However, it is particularly important to rely on recent documents, since the use of mountain bicycles has increased extremely rapidly in the past five years, when the most serious conflicts have become increasingly apparent. Old data dating from over five or six years ago is not likely to be of much use. Of the older studies available, we recommend R. L. Moore, 1994, *Conflicts on Multiple Use Trails: Synthesis of the Literature and State of the Practice*. Although based on older literature, this report gives a good general overview of multi-use trail issues. The Wisconsin report (reference (1)) discusses many of the issues in a specific

"...to explore, enjoy and protect the wild places of the earth."

D129

setting.

We expect that in the preparation of the Final EIR, much greater attention will be given to addressing this main point, about which we clearly need more information.

D129

Furthermore, the Sierra Club values natural lands in an undeveloped state and we believe that such lands close to urban centers are especially valuable both for the wildlife and for the people in those urban areas. Changes to the Pogonip that move it further from an undeveloped state degrade these valued natural conditions. Therefore we very strongly object to the DEIR's overuse of the term "improvement" to describe the projects addressed in the DEIR. For instance, it is certainly an unfounded, biased assertion that putting a 28-foot wide road in Pogonip is an "improvement." We request that the term "improvement" be stricken from the EIR and terms such as "project" or "change" or "modification" be used instead.

D130

Estimates of trail use on the Pogonip are needed.

Basic data relating to the number of current users of trails on the Pogonip do not seem to have been gathered. On page IV.G-6 reference is made to an informal survey conducted in the summer of 1994 by "Santa Cruz Circle Trails", which is therefore nearly four years old. Nevertheless this old, unsubstantiated and informal data is used to estimate that the Pogonip currently generates approximately 65 vehicle trips on a weekday and 100 trips on a weekend day. It is stated on page IV.G-7 that "a trip generation survey to determine the number of vehicle trips currently generated was not conducted". Why not? Was any more recent data regarding trail use used in the environmental analysis? Without such basic data, in reliable form, it would seem impossible to evaluate relevant environmental impacts that might be engendered by trail users generally, either now or in the future.

D131

When evaluating impacts to vegetation and wildlife (Section IV.B), it would seem essential to know how many persons travel each day on each of the Pogonip trails. Without such data it would seem impossible to evaluate such impacts. Yet the DEIR makes unsubstantiated statements on many occasions like that on page IV.B-37: "No impacts to sensitive habitats are anticipated from trail alternatives for the Rincon Connector Trail". Is this statement made because there are no sensitive habitats at that location, or because it is not known how many users would travel along the Rincon Connector, or what? There is no clue.

D132

Potential impacts due to unauthorized bicycle use have not been evaluated.

In many sections there are statements such as that on page IV.B-29: "...this trail is designated as pedestrian only", with the unstated conclusion that no impacts from bicycle (or equestrian) use are expected. Yet it is well known that many mountain bicyclists ignore mandates to stay off of particular trails, so that impacts from mountain bike use will surely occur. These should therefore be evaluated. Reference (1) provides data on trail damage from mountain biking and reference (2) provides some data on likely mountain biker behavior. Also the EIR must estimate the number of trail users in order to quantify impacts from all types of users.

D133

Other pages where such evaluation is lacking include, at the least, page IV.B-30, where the impacts by usage of the Spring Box, the Lower Main Meadow, the Limekiln, the Ohlone and the Lookout trails are evaluated, and on page IV.B-37, where the impacts by usage of the Pogonip Creek, Fern and Prairie trails are evaluated, and on page IV.B-38, where the impacts by usage of

D134

the Spring Box, Lower Main Meadow, Limekiln, Ohlone, Lookout and Harvey West trails are evaluated.

D134

Data on the impacts of unleashed dogs should be obtained.

On page IV.B-29 it is stated that Gairdner's yampah and robust spineflower occur in the vicinity of the Pogonip Creek Trail, and that trail users, including dogs, might have an impact on these listed plants. In addition, there is a statement implying that use of the trail by pedestrians and dogs is not known owing to "a lack of updated census data". Given the presumed concern regarding possible impacts, such census data should surely be obtained.

D135

Impacts by usage of the Fern Trail are incompletely analyzed.

On page IV.B-29 there is discussion of the impacts on endangered species from usage of the Fern Trail, but only in the vicinity of the Haunted Meadow. There is no discussion of potential impacts by usage of this trail farther to the south, where the trail descends through several small areas of coastal prairie before descending further into the sensitive habitat of Redwood Creek. These parts of the trail should be analyzed and discussed. We have similar comments regarding the trail's impacts on sensitive habitats on page IV.B-37.

D136

The impact of mountain bike and equestrian use on the Ohlone tiger beetle is incomplete.

It is stated on page IV.B-29 that Ohlone tiger beetles occur on the Prairie Trail. These beetles are particularly vulnerable at the edge of the trail tread, and so can be easily crushed by any bicyclist, even if that bicyclist is riding at normal speed. Although this trail is designated for pedestrian only, it is quite likely (see above) that it will be used by some fraction of the bicyclists using the Pogonip, especially if Alternate A or B is chosen. Impacts from such use should be evaluated and discussed. This is also true for the Harvey West Trail, where the beetle may also be found (page IV.B-30).

D137

Unsubstantiated assertions are made regarding a fence recently erected near a spring.

On page IV.B-37 it is stated that "potential indirect impacts to wetlands have been reduced by the City's recent fencing of the spring area". How is this concluded? It is our observation that the fence being referred to has done very little, if anything, toward reducing traffic in the vicinity of the spring mentioned in this statement. One may still walk to the spring on surrounding wetlands without crossing the fence, just as one could before the fence was erected, since the fence does not surround the spring. This assertion must be substantiated with real data.

D138

Existing data relating to the impact of the presence of bicycles and equestrians on wildlife do not seem to have been used or searched for in this DEIR.

On page IV.B-42 it is stated that "it is not known whether wildlife react differentially to bicycle use and equestrian use. However, fast-moving bicycles and equestrians are expected to startle wildlife more so than pedestrians". Was any attempt made to validate this statement? Data do exist that relate to such impacts, so that they might be more quantitatively evaluated than by such statements of pure speculation. Reference (3) is an example of one such set of data showing that wildlife does experience impacts from mountain bike activity. In fact these data suggest that mountain bike activity will interfere, not only with wildlife, but also with any human

D139

user whose goal is to observe wildlife at Pogonip. The EIR should evaluate the impact on such goals, including the goals of the proposed Education Camp.

D139

Analysis of what will happen to impacted species is incomplete.

On page IV.B-42 it is stated that bobcats, mountain lions and white-tailed kites may retreat to "less-used portions of the Pogonip or to adjacent less-used lands, such as remote areas of Henry Cowell Redwoods State Park". Where are the less-used lands? They should be identified. If they don't exist, the impact on these species could be greater than suggested by the existing analysis.

D140

Estimates of the numbers of homeless encampments are needed.

On page IV.B-42 it is asserted without reference that "forested habitats of Pogonip are now occupied by numerous homeless encampments located in the forested and edge habitats of the Lower Main Meadow", which is a situation that "may be of special concern for animals that move at night". However, without knowing the source of these data, and without knowing what "numerous" means, it is impossible to evaluate the extent of impact on wildlife that this particular homeless camping engenders.

D141

Where is the citation to the trail user survey?

On page IV.B-43 reference is made without citation to "the Trail Survey previously conducted for the City". What was this survey, and when was it conducted, and by whom? Were the numbers of dogs off-leash evaluated? The impact on sensitive species cannot be evaluated without quantitative data. These data should be obtained.

D142

Further analysis is warranted regarding impacts of trail use on soils.

In Section IV.C there appears to be no trail-by-trail discussion of impacts of trail users—as there is in Section IV.B in two different places—even though there are significant differences between these trails in terms of soil types and gradients. Some trails are much more susceptible to erosion, for example.

D143

The assertion that proposed multi-use designations have insignificant geologic or erosion impacts is not substantiated.

On page IV.C-15 it is asserted that "it is not anticipated that significant geologic or erosion hazards would result from the designation of the service roads as multi-use trails", and it is also stated that the "Trail Design Guidelines outlined in the Draft Pogonip Master Plan provide adequate mitigation for the potential impacts associated with the proposed multi-use trail designations for the existing service roads under consideration in Trail Alternatives A and B". Neither of these assertions is substantiated. There is only a vague reference to a "survey of regional multi-use trail impact literature". What survey is being referred to here? What literature citations are there? In fact, there is ample evidence to the contrary, especially on steep service roads in friable soils, such as exists on the Brayshaw Road. For example, on the Wilder Ranch State Park Roads one has only to go look to see the extensive damage caused by mountain bike use in eroding a steep slope, erosion that has occurred only during the past few years, since mountain bicycle use began on the Wilder Ranch. Especially for the Brayshaw Road, with its

D144

very narrow base and steep (25 per cent) slope this is a concern that seems to have been overlooked entirely. To lose this road through serious erosion would clearly be a significant impact. It should be analyzed in detail.

D144

Apparently no attempt was made to determine differences in impacts on soils between pedestrians, bicyclists and equestrians.

D145

There is a considerable literature on this point which seems to have been completely ignored in this DEIR. We refer particularly to more recent studies, such as reference (1) mentioned at the start of this letter.

The EIR must address the potential conflicts between bicyclists and pedestrians and include a real analysis that addresses the effectiveness of management actions alleged to minimize conflicts arising from such shared use.

On page IV.G-20 and IV.G-21 are listed, from the Draft Master Plan, several design guidelines and trail management actions intended to "minimize potential conflicts created by multi-use". However, no evidence is provided as to the extent to which such measures are actually effective. The studies cited at the start of this letter may well provide useful information related to this point. This defect in the EIR should be corrected.

D146

The DEIR fails to evaluate pedestrian, bike and equestrian use separately from each other.

This failure has resulted in some important options being overlooked. In particular, the EIR should look at the Rincon trail for bikes and the UCSC connector trail for equestrian and pedestrians only. This option could reduce the necessary width for the new connector trail which in turn could reduce environmental concerns and maintenance costs.

D147

Traffic on Golf Club Drive: The discussion starting on page IV.G-7 appears to be based largely on assertions and conjecture lacking any basis in real data.

On Page IV.G-8 it is stated that Golf Club Drive west of the railroad trestle currently carries an estimated 150 vehicles per day on weekdays and 200 vehicles per day on weekends. These figures seem grossly inflated because there are only a few homes that might be destinations for such vehicles, and furthermore, essentially none of these vehicles travel on to the Pogonip clubhouse/ranger station at the end of the road since there is a locked gate preventing such travel. How were such estimates derived? When and where were actual counts made? The numbers quoted in the DEIR, however, seem to have been used to arrive at the assertion that the existing road within the Pogonip is too narrow and should be widened to at least 22 feet.

D148

If the road within the Pogonip were widened to accommodate this supposed traffic, what would be the impact on the narrow section of road outside the Pogonip, between the trestle and the entrance gate to the Pogonip?

On page IV.G-12 130 trips generated by a 200-person clubhouse event is added to a supposed 64 trips to the garden plus 12 trips to the outdoor education camp to total 206 trips, which is then displayed in Table IV.G-2 as the "estimated project daily trips" (on Golf Club Drive). However, it does not seem to be realized that there will be neither daily clubhouse events, nor will there be daily outdoor education camp events, so the "data" displayed in Table

IV.G-2 is complete nonsense. Nevertheless, this false conclusion is then used to argue that new vehicle trips associated with trail usage by bicyclists and equestrians are minor in comparison to those generated by non-trail users. Was any estimate made for how many equestrian and bicycle (and pedestrian) trail users might enter the Pogonip via Golf Club Drive on an average day?

D148

The EIR should correct these serious mistakes and unfounded conclusions. We suspect that a proper analysis of the situation would reveal that the entire length of Golf Club Drive could be declared a "driveway" with a 5 MPH speed limit and left at its current width. The EIR should properly evaluate this alternative.

The Brayshaw Trail should not be paved.

On page IV.D-19 the paving of the upper portion of the Brayshaw Trail is recommended as a mitigation measure. Historical use of this trail/service road shows that this is not necessary. The DEIR provides no contradicting evidence and therefore the EIR should not include this proposal.

D149

Some general remarks regarding the homeless garden project

As with trail use issues, the DEIR seems to provide little in the way of substantiated analysis. The most significant issue identified by the DEIR was with the protected white-tailed kites nesting and foraging in the area of the proposed garden. The conclusions in the DEIR regarding the white-tailed kites appear to be backed up by little or no data and the DEIR provides no indication of any understanding of the environmental needs of the white-tailed kites.

D150

The DEIR fails to investigate white-tailed kite environmental requirements.

The DEIR fails to provide any data or literature references to substantiate the claims of unavoidable impacts to the white-tailed kite. The EIR must review the literature relating to the environmental needs of the white-tailed kite before making such claims. According to The Birder's Handbook the white-tailed kite is "...probably the only raptor to have benefited from agricultural expansion." The EIR needs to investigate what types of agricultural activities actually benefit the white-tailed kites and the EIR needs to evaluate these activities in relation to the proposed garden project. We've seen some literature that suggests that the white-tailed kite can tolerate some level of habitat disruption. The EIR must evaluate this fully.

D151

Our investigation shows that typically a 250-foot protected boundary is required around a white-tailed kite nesting site although this needs to be determined on a site-by-site basis. The EIR should provide this analysis.

The EIR needs to detail what types of night-time human activities impact the white-tailed kites.

Wetlands impact may be greater than stated in DEIR.

The recent heavy rains have helped to highlight the true extent of the wetlands in the area of the proposed garden project. On a recent site visit we found the wetlands area to be much larger than the area indicated on the DEIR maps. The EIR consultants should determine the true extent of the wetlands. The proposed access road runs through much of the actual wetlands and the proposed road "improvement" of crushed rock would probably sink into the mud

D152

immediately. The EIR needs to make a better evaluation of this issue.

A smaller garden project should be evaluated.

We believe the EIR should evaluate a smaller garden project. The proposed full garden encompasses about 12 acres on the Pogonip Lower Meadow. The lower meadow is divided roughly in half by a small grove of live oak trees in a deep drainage. A possible reduced garden is about 5 acres and is located away from Golf Club Drive on the far side of the lower meadow and is largely hidden by the live oaks. This smaller garden would seem to have these advantages: (1) Impact on white-tailed kite foraging area is reduced by at least a factor of two. (2) Coastal terrace prairie impact is greatly reduced. (3) Wetlands impacts are greatly reduced or eliminated. (4) Problems with wildlife corridor disruption are eliminated. (5) Erosion problems, gully intrusion, and slope instability problems are reduced. (6) Water quality degradation and water demand are reduced. (7) Visual impacts from greenhouses, glare, visibility, and terrain modification are greatly reduced.

D153

Additional garden mitigation measures are needed.

Assuming a garden is established, the EIR should require the following additional mitigation measures: (1) A white-tailed kite monitoring program must be established to document what, if any, impacts occur on the white-tailed kite population. (2) A protected, site-determined boundary around the white-tailed kite nest be established. (3) The Garden Operations and Management Plan include a plan for rodent control which takes into account the requirements of the white-tailed kite. (4) The Garden Operations and Management Plan include an environmental monitoring plan with performance standards and contingency plans to deal with environmental problems. (A performance bond might also be appropriate.) (5) The Garden Operations and Management Plan is open for public comment and is required to be reviewed by a qualified wildlife biologist (for white-tailed kite mitigation issues) and by a qualified environmental expert (for review of the environmental monitoring plan) in addition to the proposed review by the Santa Cruz Parks and Recreation Department. (6) The Resource Conservation District (formerly the Soil Conservation Service) be requested to coordinate a water management analysis of what size garden would work and an erosion reduction plan.

D154

D155

The access road should be relocated.

As part of the evaluation of a smaller garden project, the EIR should evaluate relocating the garden access road. The original access road follows an existing roadbed that runs through the lowest, and wettest part of the lower meadow. A second old roadbed exists some distance uphill. It intersects Golf Club Drive just beyond the sharp bend in the Drive as it turns toward the clubhouse. On the recent site visit we walked the entire length of this old road and found it drier than almost anywhere on the proposed road. This uphill road is apparently above most of the water seepage sites. Despite the recent heavy rains there were no signs of slope instability. Based on these observations the EIR should examine the possibility of moving the proposed access road to the uphill location. This potentially could reduce further the environmental impacts by the garden project on wetlands and water quality. It also moves the road traffic further away from the white-tailed kite nesting areas. It might even reduce road maintenance costs.

D156

On-site water options should be evaluated.

We recommend that the EIR evaluate the option of on-site water use, to reduce demand for City water and reduce the amount of chlorinated water put into the nearby streams and wetlands.

D157

Reference information

1) Copies of the Wisconsin report are available from:

Dave Hummer
Wisconsin bureau of Parks and Recreation.
101 S. Webster Street
P.O. Box 7921
Madison, WI 93707-6034
At executive summary can be found on-line at:
<http://www.genevaonline.com/~abjorkm/execsum.html>

2) The San Diego studies are available from:

Doug Ruth
County of San Diego Dept of Parks and Recreation
5201 Ruffin Road, Suite P
San Diego, CA 92123
The Blue Sky Ecological Reserve has a web page at
<http://users.abac.com/bluesky>

3) The Moore report can be found on-line at:

<http://uog2.uog.edu/marc/conflict.html>

Thank you for your consideration of the above remarks.

Sincerely,



George Jammal, Chairman
Santa Cruz Regional Group
of the Ventana Chapter

cc: Santa Cruz City Mayor and City Council members

HOMELESS GARDEN PROJECT

April 8, 1998

Susan Harris
Parks and Recreation Department
City of Santa Cruz
323 Church Street
Santa Cruz CA 95060

REC'D APR 08 1998

Subject: Comments on Draft EIR for Pogonip Master Plan.

Dear Ms. Harris:

Attached are the Homeless Garden Project Board of Directors comments on the draft EIR.

The Board is disappointed with the draft EIR's evaluation of impacts for the Pogonip Garden. We believe it misrepresents and overstates impacts. It does this through broad suggestions, speculations and assumptions, and conclusions with little basis in facts. The draft EIR sees the Pogonip Garden differently from its actual operation, and it fails to deal with the project as a master plan document.

D158

While we generally only looked at the EIR analysis of the Garden, we can not help but note the uneven treatment the draft EIR gives the Garden as compared to other uses, especially the trails system. It is clear that the trails system is the major plan component, and has the biggest impact. While it may well be that the trails will not have a significant impact on the environment, the draft EIR cannot conclude that it has a lesser impact than the Garden. The trails system involves more area than the Garden. It impacts a greater variety of vegetation and terrain, during all seasons including rain. It is used by more people than the Garden and probably in a more uncontrolled way.

It is interesting to note that the draft EIR comes to different conclusions for project components which are already partially in place, and a use which is not. While the draft EIR states repeatedly that existing trails are a notable source of erosion and sedimentation, it views the trail system impacts as acceptable.

D159

What seems to be at work here is the actual intuitive analysis we all can make by going to Pogonip and appreciating that the trails are an appropriate use of the land, as compared to a use which is not yet in place, and for which the draft EIR can paint a picture of great impact that is difficult to rebut.

This factor comes into play in other areas. The visual analysis is a prime example. The draft EIR calls the greenhouses "...some of the most visually prominent features due to their size and design." The draft EIR completely ignores the Clubhouse complex which

D160

APRIL 8, 1998

involves five times the area of the greenhouses, and is located on probably the visually most prominent location on Pogonip.

It is safe to say that the impact of structures at the Pogonip Garden is minor in comparison to the Clubhouse Complex. What makes the difference, we think, is the fact we can go look at the Clubhouse and appreciate that it fits into the landscape. We can not do this with the Garden facilities which leave the draft EIR free to overstate the impact. It is entirely possible to make the modest Garden buildings harmonious with the landscape.

This undisciplined approach of the draft EIR stems in part from a lack of understanding of the project at hand. That is the implementation of the General Plan through preparation of a Master Plan for Pogonip along the lines of the mixed land use alternative. Had the draft EIR kept this task in mind, it would have focused environmental review at the Master Plan level and charted a course for implementing its components. As it is, the draft EIR faults the Garden for insufficient detail which is not appropriate in the Master Plan

Of course the damage is done. Readers are likely to give credence to a lengthy document presumably prepared by professionals. You should consider reprinting the Final EIR in its entirety. As it is, the normal practices of the City would call for a separate section on responses to comments. Thus the prejudicial language remains while any correction is buried in the back in a difficult to read response format.

The draft EIR process continues to do damage even beyond the document. Transparencies shown during the public hearing on March 31 continue the prejudicial attitude toward the Garden. The Lower Meadow was highlighted as a foraging area for the white tailed kite, while the larger upper meadow was not. The erosion hazard transparency similarly focused on the Garden.

The draft EIR thoroughly failed to understand the type of activities carried on by the Homeless Garden Project. It leaves the impression of a mechanized commercial agricultural business. There was no recognition of projects similar to the Garden, located not far away in areas probably not too dissimilar from the Pogonip Garden. These are the UCSC Farm and Garden.

We hope these comments help. Included is a disc with our recommendations to facilitate making changes to the Final EIR.

Sincerely,



Peter Katzlberger

cc City Council
cc Parks and Recreation Commission

D160

D161

D162

D163

February 20, 1998

Richard Schmale
414 Pennsylvania Av
Santa Cruz, CA 96062

Amy Skewes-Cox
Brady and Associates
2215 Fifth Street
Berkeley, CA 94710

SUBJECT: POGONIP PARK DRAFT MASTER PLAN & EIR (Santa Cruz, CA)

Dear Ms. Skewes-Cox:

Section IV, page G13 of the Pogonip Draft EIR shows tables as to the number of daily vehicle trips to be expected at Pogonip. Page 10 of section 2 of the Pogonip Master Plan states that retail produce customers will travel to Pogonip Garden to pick up prearranged allotments of produce as contracted by subscription. Should not some daily average of these retail produce customer trips to Pogonip be listed among other daily projected vehicle trips to Pogonip?

D164

I must say that I found the Pogonip EIR to be very interesting and readable.

Sincerely,

Richard Schmale

ADDENDUM: I would also like to know if agricultural run off water at Pogonip Garden would pose any danger of weakening the escarpment below the lower meadow, any danger of creating a creeping landslide by oversaturating the ground? Would catch basins or sediment basins exacerbate soil saturation?

BRADY AND ASSOCIATES

FEB 23 1998

February 24, 1998

Richard Schmale
414 Pennsylvania Ave.
Santa Cruz, CA 95062

Susan Harris
Associate Planner
Santa Cruz Parks and Recreation Department
323 Church Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

SUBJECT: POGONIP MASTER PLAN & EIR

Dear Ms. Harris:

I grew up on a third generation family farm and, although I am NOT an expert, I see what I feel are potential problems with erosion and with seasonally wet soils were the full 12.5 acre Pogonip Garden to be installed at Pogonip. Parenthetically, these problems are mentioned on page IV.C-7 of the EIR. Again, I am NOT an expert, but I feel that my growing up on a farm does give me some awareness and some experience with farming practices. The following is my personal non-expert opinion.

After reading the soil and geology section of the Pogonip EIR I went out to look at the lower meadow site. I saw what I took for evidence of present active erosion within 50 feet of the upper end of the arroyo that bisects most of the meadow. Two natural looking runoff channels carry rainwater drainage from the upper part of the lower meadow into the arroyo at its head. One channel comes from the general direction of the Old Stables Trail, and the other channel comes from the general direction of the clubhouse. Both of these channels seem to have "ditched out" somewhat, dug themselves lower into the terrain recently within 50 feet of the head of the arroyo. The north channel seems to be tunneling underground and reemerging and I feel it could undermine the terrain. A third new channel seems to be eroding at a site between the two established channels this year. My opinion is that without grassland cover, with tillage, that the meadow could now have rampant erosion. The EIR says on page IV.C-9 that a 10 acre project on site could not be mitigated to less than significant impact.

The service road could also be a potential problem as it crosses what appears to be a seasonal wetland near the head of the arroyo. The roadway is now wet and mushey and is now colonized by what look like irus-form sedges, a water loving plant. The road could be mushey into summer and limit access to the eastern portion of the meadow. The eastern portion of the meadow has regular sedges growing indicating to me that the upper portion of the eastern section of the meadow may stay wet late into the season so the ground couldn't be worked early. Wet areas may have low pH, be acidic and not good for truck crops. The EIR says that there is sandstone bedrock below the upper part of the lower meadow suggesting that the sandstone impedes drainage. It has been my observation that vehicles straying offroad onto wet ground can cause instant ruts and that these ruts in sloping terrain can become new watercourses that begin erosion fairly rapidly even in grassland but especially on tilled land. It is perhaps interesting that Pogonip's lower meadow has never been farmed historically, unlike most other accessible clearings of any size in the Santa Cruz Mountains. If rampant erosion were to occur I would worry about reaching an erosion site with trucks and equipment and fill material during the wet season when it would be most needed as the ground may be impassable. I would like to see the expert opinion of the Central Coast Resource Conservation and Development District, informally referred to as the Soil Conservation Service on Pogonip as an agricultural site. My opinion is that about 3-4 acres on the southeast portion of the lower meadow is probably flat and well drained enough for farming, but that would still leave the problem potential of the access road staying wet relatively late. Again, I do not present myself as an expert; I have some experience and awareness with farming practice and the above is only my personal opinion. I feel that the questions I raised might best be reviewed by the "Soil Conservation Service". I feel the questions I raise are reasonable.

Sincerely,

cc: Mike Rotkin

Richard Schmale

D165

D166

Fight for What You Love

Dear Reader,

Pogonip was purchased by citizens with the intent to preserve a pristine undeveloped environment of natural beauty. The community vision was to preserve this land with its view, rolling and sweeping across uplands and lowlands, green belting our City.

A draft Master Plan has been released by the City that will change the face of Pogonip forever. The development of Pogonip will elicit controversy from the environmental preservationists and the politically charged Homeless Garden Project and Campground advocates. This letter is written to inform all of you who are enjoying Pogonip that now is the time to speak out.

The Homeless Garden Project would entail the complete development of all the Lower Meadows, expanding sewer and plumbing, outdoor lighting (III-13 eir). Expanded parking (45 car lot), and turnouts every 400 feet would encourage vehicular traffic far exceeding any traffic experienced in the past umpteen years (refer to Master Plan 2-10).

The Project proposes two locations of buildings: a 1500 sq.ft. multi-purpose building for kitchen/bathroom/offices, 2800 sq.ft. of greenhouses (two at 20x70) and some 500 sq.ft. storage shed buildings. The plan requests some exterior lighting for security purposes at the Garden Center (Master Plan 2-10). From the trestle to the existing park gate, Golf Club Drive would be expanded to 28 feet in width creating a super park access and maintenance road (see draft eir IV.G16-17).

This lovely old road with its sweeping vistas would disappear forever.

The meadows and terraces are for the kite hawks to hunt, coyotes to prowl, and humans to marvel. Although we may be sympathetic to the Garden Project, Pogonip is not the appropriate site. Pogonip is not agricultural land. The garden project does not preserve land; instead, it creates environmental disturbance, initially and ongoing. Pogonip is was not intended to be for a project, self-managed by a small, select, politically vocal group heralding good intentions.

The ambitious Homeless Garden Project does not conform with the preservation of Pogonip. Any break of the ground to row crop is not in keeping with the intent and effort of preserving this open space. To disturb this land in order to establish a minor agricultural operation catering to the needs of a few is irresponsible and short sided.

D167

According to the draft EIR, the City considers the Homeless Garden Project a key element of the Master Plan, a key element which the draft EIR says "causes harm to equally or greater value habitat," and further states "the impact remains significant and unavoidable." The draft EIR is filled with "unavoidable significant impacts" including, but not limited to, "slope instability, major erosion damage, and hydrology problems." The draft EIR suggests another place off-site be found for the Homeless Garden Project (draft eirV-7).

Project defenders will tell you that these impacts can simply be mitigated away.
Tell that to the next kite hawk you see.

Regarding the one acre campground and restroom facilities proposed for the Lower Meadow at the existing Kiosk, across from the proposed garden project, this again is another bad idea. The draft EIR notes this would increase the demand for ranger services beyond what is currently available and lists reasons why the increased need (draft eir IV.H-4). Can you guess why?

Preserve the meadows; don't spoil Pogonip. Fight for what you love.
All runners in the Firecracker 10K, daily walkers and hikers speak out 'Save Pogonip'.

Call any member of the council at 429-3550.
The next public meeting is Tuesday, March 31, at 7pm at City Hall.
(Call 429-3206 to confirm.)

Sincerely,


Cathy Puccinelli
335 Golf Club Drive
425-8679

D167

To Mayor Celia Scott and City Council Members
City of Santa Cruz
City Council
809 Center Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

March 2, 1998

Dear Mayor Scott and City Council Members,

I was disappointed that the Pogonip Draft Master Plan EIR offered **no new information** to assist council members regarding allowing bicycles on the Pogonip.

Enclosed is the most recent and complete research that I could locate about the biophysical impacts and social implications of hikers and bikers using the same trails. Methodology included user surveys, trail use surveys, a hiker/biker interaction survey, trail transects to evaluate biophysical impacts, focus groups, and a professional mediation process to identify issues of agreement and concern between bikers and hikers.

The issues of this Wisconsin study are nearly identical to those you face on the Pogonip and may help you evaluate the situation with data rather than emotion. Having been a member of the City's Pogonip Trails Focus Group, I found the participant comments from the Wisconsin focus groups (Appendix B in the report) remarkably familiar.

I hope you will have the time to study the Wisconsin research and arrive at your own conclusions. However, having carefully read the report, these are my conclusions.

- Biking is a legitimate form of recreation and travel, but because of the existing circumstances it is inappropriate on most or all of the Pogonip. The research shows unequivocally that trails shared by hikers and bikers will result in conflict, the hiking experience will be degraded, and some hikers will be displaced from the Pogonip.
- If bikes are allowed on the Pogonip, hikers and bikers should have separate corridors.
- Prohibit bike trails with greater than 15% slope. Such trails are subject to greatly increased erosion.
- Prohibit trail beds with sandy or high organic content that create loose riding surfaces that bikers avoid through trail widening and route proliferation. Slope and content are especially important considerations for any new trails.

Given all of the potential impacts at the Pogonip, I think the City should restrict bike use at the Pogonip and should work to find alternate locations to satisfy biking opportunity demands. I have attached a two-page executive summary of the research for your convenience.

Sincerely,

Richard Stover

Richard Stover
1603 King Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

3/3/ Council Agenda Item
CITY COUNCIL

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MAR 4 1998

COUNCIL AND
CITY MANAGER

D168

(Signature)

**Research Summary of
Off-Road Bicycle and Hiking Trail User Interactions: A Report to the
Wisconsin Natural Resources Board**

The fundamental implication of the social science research in the Wisconsin report is that hiker/biker conflict *will occur* on shared trails and this will result from a number of factors:

1. Changed experience: "The designation of an attractive trail near population centers as open to bikes will likely lead to large volumes of users within a short time. The result will be a changed trail experience for traditional users." *p. 31 Section 1*
2. Displacement: "The opening of an existing hiking trail to bikers, near population centers will cause hikers to abandon the trail." *p. 31 Section 2*
3. Different goals: "The hikers' goal of enjoying quiet, undisturbed, nature study is incompatible with a high-use off-road bike trails." *p. 31 Section 3*
4. Environmental degradation: "As bike use increases, hikers notice soil erosion and other biophysical effects." *p. 32 Section 4*
5. Speed: "Bikers move at a faster pace than hikers; thus bikers often pass hikers. Of the 28% of hikers who reported being passed by bikers, 44% reported feeling it decreased their enjoyment of the trails." *p. 25*
6. Right of way: Regarding this study and a cited Utah study, "In both studies most bikers gave no notice of their imminent passing. Not giving notice may be a source of surprise to hikers, particularly when bikers are coming up from behind. During on-trail observations it was the hikers that invariably moved out of the way when encountering bikers." *p. 26*
7. Value differences: "A sure formula for conflict is the designation of a trail for off-road biking that has a large, historically active group of hikers already in place on land that is perceived to have sensitive, rare plant and animal communities." "... there is a relatively small core of bikers who desire to see all trails opened up to bike use. For them, nature is merely a convenient and scenic backdrop against which to challenge their bodies and nature. This hard core biker group is the youngest, male, most frequent riding group, riding with greatest speed and intensity. This group is also the least likely to accept any type of surface management which reduces the technical challenge." *p. 32 Section 5*

Excerpts regarding biophysical impact:

1. Funding: "In short, if the resources are not available to apply to the design, building, rehabilitation, and maintenance of a heavily used off-road bike trail corridor, serious consideration should be given to halting the project." *p. 75*
2. Monitoring: "The best defense [against biophysical damage] is a monitoring system set up *BEFORE* impacts are obvious or use is high." *p. 75*

3. Research: "In addition to trail monitoring, attention must be given to impacts beyond the immediate trail corridor." . . . "Particular attention must be given to impacts on species and landscapes that are rare, occur at low frequencies, and are scattered in abundance. These species and plant communities are particularly vulnerable, and must be protected from all trail users whether they travel by foot, tire, or hoof." p. 75
4. Trail widening: "Soil textures were also a factor in trail widening. Any soil texture that provides a loose uncompacted surface results in trail widening. Bikers tend to go around (and thus widen) any loose soil surface." p. 52
5. Maintenance: "One of the strongest conclusions from this study is that a very high use off-road bike trail system will require constant maintenance and monitoring during the entire bike season . . . if trail standards are to be kept." p. 78

**BLUE SKY ECOLOGICAL RESERVE
USER OBSERVATION STUDY
DURING BICYCLE TRIAL PERIOD**

**LAWRENCE A. BECK
GENE G. LAMKE**

**Principal Investigators
Department of Recreation, Parks and Tourism
San Diego State University**

*Doug Ruth
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Department of Parks and Rec.
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September 6, 1995

Acknowledgements

Students enrolled in Recreation 485 - Outdoor Planning and Policy, and Recreation 570 - Administration of Recreation Systems, did the lion's share of the work in making this study a reality. Their objectivity and dedicated hours of data collection are the basis for everything that is included in this study's written report. As principal investigators, we are indebted to their willingness to learn outside of the classroom and their contributions to linking San Diego State University with the community in such a symbiotic relationship.

The principal investigators are also indebted to the Bicycle Advisory Committee and its members for their positive feedback throughout this study and their willingness to include the university and its expertise in their deliberations. Additionally, the principal investigators would like to personally thank Ranger Robert Patton for his time in working with the entire study team and his patience with and guidance of students involved with the project.

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Introduction

Cycling has become increasingly popular as a recreational activity in the past two decades. Spurred by the Olympics in Los Angeles and increased media coverage of the Tour de France, cycling has shown steady growth in overall numbers since the early 1980's. The fitness craze of the late '70's and early '80's also fueled the increase in cyclists in America and other industrialized countries. In the late 1970's and early 1980's, cycling enthusiasts who were looking for increased adventure in road cycling, took their bikes off-road into the mountains and hills. Mountain or off-road biking became a popular sport for those who wanted more beautiful surroundings for their daily rides, as well as a diversity of terrain to ride on. The bicycle equipment industry created new cycles with flat handlebars and fat tires to increase cycling enjoyment on the trails and in the hills. The challenge of mountain biking including its physical demands attracted a significant population of enthusiasts (currently estimated between 2.5 and 3 million cyclists by the International Mountain Bicycling Association) who wanted increased access to trails and off-road sites. This demand for increased venues and access to trails on which to participate in their sport of choice created conflicts with other traditional users of mountain areas and trails. The Blue Sky Ecological Reserve which connects Lake Poway with the Ramona Dam by trails and the Green Valley Truck Trail, and serves the nearby community of Poway from Espola Road, is one of the areas where this conflict over usage has developed.

The Blue Sky Ecological Reserve is jointly owned by the County of San Diego and the California State Department of Fish and Game. The area, located within the community of Poway, serves a large percentage of the City of Poway's residents. The reserve encompasses 470 acres of public land set aside as a natural habitat for several threatened and rare plant and animal species.

Mountain bike enthusiasts see it as a prime site for participating in their sport because of the diverse terrain and the connection that the Green Valley Truck Trail permits with other trails not located in the reserve. Traditional users including hikers, dog walkers, joggers, youth groups, nature enthusiasts, and horseback riders also enjoy the area but believe that mountain cyclists will significantly detract from their satisfactory use of the area. In December of 1994, the City of Poway and the California State Department of Fish and Game entered into an agreement for a six

4

month trial period for bicycle access in order to study the multiple use of the Green Valley Truck Trail in the Blue Sky Ecological Reserve by traditional users and mountain bike enthusiasts. To facilitate the analysis of this trial period by both sets of users, an advisory committee was established and two separate studies were commissioned to measure the impacts of the users on the reserve and also their behavior while using the area.

The primary purpose of this study was to examine the adherence of mountain cyclists to rules established for usage of the Blue Sky Ecological Reserve by the Advisory Committee. In general, traditional users have complained about the failure of cyclists to adhere to established regulations regarding usage of trails and the creation of conflicts among users of the same trails. Common complaints against mountain cyclists are grouped into three general categories: user safety, natural resource protection, and quality user experiences. The secondary purposes of this study were to compare data between cyclists and non-cyclists relative to rule adherence, to determine if significant differences existed between user groups relative to rule adherence, and to collect descriptive data about user populations. The remainder of this study is organized into a section reviewing some of the available literature related to mountain bike use of outdoor areas, a description of the methodology utilized in this study, a presentation of the results of the study, and a discussion of the results of the study with recommendations for future studies.

Review of the Literature

The development of the sport of mountain biking has created the opportunity for authors and researchers to write and publish a variety of articles and studies about mountain biking. Given the purpose of this study, this review will focus on publications related to user conflicts associated with mountain bike usage of outdoor trails, management strategies associated with multiple users of outdoor trails, and articles and newsletters associated with mountain bike use of outdoor areas. The sport of mountain biking is relatively young, and, therefore, an abundance of literature about mountain biking is clearly lacking. There does exist though several publications supporting the growth and development of the mountain biking movement, as well as several studies about usage and user conflicts.

The International Mountain Bicycling Association (IMBA) "promotes mountain cycling opportunities through environmentally and socially responsible use of the land." The association continues to promote responsible riding through education and fosters cooperative relationships with all users of all trail types. At the core of the IMBA is a grassroots network of individual members, clubs, retailers, land managers, and manufacturers of bicycle equipment. The IMBA publishes a newsletter and an annual report. The 1994 Annual Report (IMBA, 1995) included an article on model advocacy programs. This article described such programs as a low impact mountain cyclist program that centered around use of extensive trail work, hang tags, and innovative management solutions to problems involving cyclists; the development of a single track in a National Park Service Unit; the work of a recreation officer for the U.S. Forest Service to keep trails open to all until every reasonable alternative had been explored; and the work of a retailer to fund a project titled the IMBA-Sierra Club Mediation Project. The latter project includes a variety of action initiatives, one of which focuses on local assistance to employ conflict resolution processes to help resolve local trail disputes.

Blumenthal (1995), Executive Director of the IMBA, in a paper entitled "Continental Divide National Scenic Trail Summit User Conflict Resolution," detailed three common approaches to reducing trail user conflicts: 1) trail user education, 2) designating specific trails for particular uses, and 3) restricting or eliminating the use of a particular group. Blumenthal urged the use of the first two approaches as opposed to the third in almost every instance, although he notes that the third approach seems to be the preference of most land managers. This paper did an excellent job of reviewing strategies to eliminate conflicts among trail users.

A national study conducted by Chavez (1995) examined issues related to mountain bike use in national forests throughout the United States. This study reviewed levels of activity, management plans, and management issues such as user conflicts, resource damage, and safety concerns. This study identified that the greatest percentage of user conflicts existed between equestrian groups and mountain bikers (41 percent) or between mountain bikers and hikers (31 percent). Included in this study were several methods utilized by managers to reduce conflicts, some of which were the

provision of information to users, the separation of user groups, the stressing of user ethics, changing trails to meet needs of user groups, discontinuing the allocation of permits for events to user groups, and law enforcement.

Local associations also publish materials to encourage safe and courteous use of trails by mountain cyclists. The San Diego Mountain Biking Association (SDBMA) publishes a newsletter which advocates sound trail tactics. SDBMA's (1995) May newsletter contained an article which described instances of horses and bikes meeting on the trail. The article detailed important horse sense that every mountain biker should know and utilize for safe trail encounters.

Padilla and Loheit (1995) published a course syllabus on basic trail maintenance which included a succinct unit on trail assessment. This syllabus included a detailed discussion of possible maintenance conditions to look for when assessing the need for work in an area. The syllabus also included units on trail safety during maintenance and trail volunteers.

Probably the most definitive synthesis of literature and research on trail usage and conflicts was produced by the Federal Highway Administration at the request of the National Recreational Trails Advisory Committee. Moore's (1994) technical report included an analysis of 102 articles, reports and research studies on multiple-use trails and conflicts among users. The synthesis is extremely complete and based sufficiently on research findings. Probably the most noteworthy information in the report relative to this study deals with "the environmental and social impacts of outdoor recreation in general" and the development of principles to deal with impacts and conflicts. Three of the most important principles identified were 1) tolerance to impacts vary, 2) impacts are activity specific, and 3) impacts are site specific.

The IMBA (1995) has published a collection of Mountain Bike Success Stories. This collection summarizes the efforts of the IMBA and local clubs to insure that trails remain open to mountain bikers and that the mountain bike community is active in maintaining trails and promoting adherence to proper standards of conduct in using trails with other users groups. Much of this

Sky site. Students selected times for their observations from a calendar which identified randomly selected slots during the study period. Students signed up in pairs on the calendar to facilitate transportation to the site but were assigned different collection points within the reserve. Due to the use of students for data collection in the study, the study period began the first weekend of March (March 4) and concluded with the last weekend in May (May 28). Students were instructed on use of the "User Observation Form" on two separate occasions in each class. The second training session on the usage of the form included a video tape of the area and discussion of the positioning of students at the various sign posts for data collection (see Map in Appendix B). Data collectors were instructed to record the date, time, location, and weather conditions at the time of data collection. Collectors were told to identify the type of user observed by writing the number in each observed group in the appropriate space for type and number of user. If user behavior violated the established rules of conduct (see Appendix C) for that user type, collectors noted the behavior and the user(s) involved. Space was included on the form for a description of the user behavior. Questions related to data collection were answered during class by the principal investigators as they arose from the students for future data collection. Data collection ethics were discussed by the investigators to enhance accurate collection of data by the students. Students were credited with points toward their final grade in each class as a technique for motivating students to fulfill their data collection time assignments. Some rainouts occurred for data collectors early in the study period and those individuals were reassigned times based on random selection of additional collection periods. Rainouts that occurred in the last two weeks of the study were canceled and no additional time periods were assigned.

Upon completion of the data collection, the data was categorized and coded for input into a Macintosh computer utilizing a Microsoft Office and Excel software programs. The data was then analyzed with calculations resulting in total numbers for various categories and their corresponding percentages. The data was analyzed for two categories using the Chi Square statistic to measure significance of difference. The .05 level of confidence was selected as the measure of significance for this test.

collection is devoted to promotion and educational materials which can be used to promote adequate co-use of trails by a variety of user groups which includes mountain bikers.

In summary, a somewhat limited but useful collection of literature existed about mountain biking and trail use in America. A sufficient number of research studies and papers existed to identify the potential conflicts that currently exist between users and the methodologies which can be utilized to reduce such conflicts. For the purposes of this study, information existed which supports the type of data to be collected and analyzed and the selected analysis techniques.

Methodology

The purpose of this study was to analyze the adherence of mountain bike users to the rules and regulations established by the Blue Sky Ecological Reserve Bicycle Advisory Committee for use of the Green Valley Truck Trail by mountain bikers during the course of a six month study period. To facilitate the collection of data pertinent to the study's purpose, the principal investigators met with the Advisory Committee to delimit the study and structure the investigation methods. The primary question the committee wished answered was "can the mountain bike users follow the rules established in using the area's resources?"

Upon completion of the initial meeting with the committee, the investigators modified a "User Observation Form" prepared by Doug Ruth of the committee, for review by the committee. Upon review by the Advisory Committee, the form was again modified to its final version (see Appendix A). The form was duplicated for distribution to the data collectors.

Data collection was the next area to be addressed. The investigators chose to use students in two classes of the Department of Recreation, Parks and Tourism at San Diego State University as data collectors. Students enrolled in Recreation 485 - Outdoor Recreation Planning and Policy, and Recreation 570 - Administration of Recreation Systems were assigned responsibilities for user observations at the site. Each student in the classes (16 in Recreation 485 and 21 in Recreation 570) was responsible for completing three, three hour observations (nine hours total) at the Blue

Results

Data collectors submitted 109 "User Observation Forms" related to this study. Of the 109 forms submitted, 100 of the forms contained usable data for this study. The nine forms that were not utilized contained no data because of rainouts. Of the 100 usable forms, 89 forms contained data from three hour blocks of time while the remaining 11 forms contained data collected from time periods ranging from one hour and thirty minutes to three hours and thirty minutes. The total amount of data observation time totaled 295 hours. Table 1 summarizes the length of time for data observations.

Table 1
Length of Time of Data Observations

Amount of Time	Number of Observations	Total Time
1 hour 30 minutes	1	1.50 hours
2 hours 15 minutes	3	6.75 hours
2 hours 30 minutes	3	7.50 hours
2 hours 45 minutes	2	5.50 hours
3 hours	89	267.00 hours
3 hours 15 minutes	1	3.25 hours
3 hours 30 minutes	1	3.50 hours
TOTAL	100	295.00 hours

Table 2 summarizes the data collection periods related to time of the day and day of the week. Fifty-seven percent of the data collection was done on the weekend and 53 percent of the data collection occurred during the late afternoon hours (after 2:30 p.m.).

Table 2
Data Collection Periods

Day of Week	AM	AM-PM	Early PM	Late PM	Total
Monday	4	0	1	3	8
Tuesday	0	0	0	7	7
Wednesday	0	0	1	8	9
Thursday	0	2	0	7	9
Friday	1	0	0	9	10
Saturday	7	1	14	9	31
Sunday	7	1	8	10	26
TOTAL	19	4	24	53	100

AM = Data collection began and ended in the morning hours.

AM-PM = Data collection began in the morning and extend into the early afternoon.

Early PM = Data collection occurred in the afternoon and began before 2:00 p.m.

Late PM = Data collection occurred entirely after 2:30 p.m.

Table 3 summarizes the location of the data collection within the Blue Sky Ecological Reserve. The map in Appendix B identifies the location of posts in the reserve where the data was collected. The majority of data was collected at sign post 3 within the reserve (33 percent). Seventy percent of the data was collected at or between sign posts 3 and 4.

Table 3
Location of Data Collection

Location	Number of Observations	Percent of Observations
Entrance	2	2
Post 1	7	7
Post 2	9	9
Between Posts 2 & 3	1	1
Post 3	33	33
Between Posts 3 & 4	8	8
Post 4	29	29
Roving Observations	10	10
TOTAL	100	100

Table 4 contains the data relative to total number of users in each user category. It identifies the total of all users observed during the course of this study and recorded on the forms.

Table 4
Number of Users

Type of User	Number of Users	Percent of Users
Hikers	1851	54.9
Dog Walkers	352	10.4
Joggers	265	7.9
Interpretive Program Participants	248	7.4
Bicyclists	592	17.5
Equestrians	25	0.7
Cars/Vans	4	0.1
Pick-up Trucks	23	0.7
Heavy Trucks/Tractors	7	0.2
Other	7	0.2
TOTAL	3371	100

Table 5 identifies the total of observations recorded by the data collectors in this study. For example, three hikers walking together would have been recorded as the number three on the "User Observation Form," but would have been identified as a single observation (sighting occurrence) on the form. Likewise, a group of five cyclists riding together in the study area would have been recorded as the number 5 on the form but listed as a single observation on the form. If a group of two dog walkers were walking one dog who was off his leash, this group would be identified as a number 2 on the form but represent only one observation. Additionally, since dogs must be on a leash in the reserve, this would have been identified as a violation. Is this one violation for each person in the group of two (hence, two total violations), or one violation for the single observation? Both numbers were recorded and are presented in this study. Since the data collectors recorded violations with a specific reference to the observation and not specifically to each number in a group

who actually were committing violations, the violations were singularly tabulated and, therefore, the best data to utilize when comparing violations is the number of observations, not total number of users within a category. Thus, the information in Table 5 should be considered more valid than the information presented in Table 4 and should be the main comparative statistic when dealing with violations.

Table 5
Number of Observations

Type of User	Number of Observations	Percent of Observations
Hikers	954	50.9%
Dog Walkers	222	10.8%
Joggers	218	10.6%
Interpretive Program Participants	32	1.5%
Bicyclists	397	20.2%
Equestrians	13	0.7%
Cars/Vans	4	0.2%
Pick-up Trucks	23	1.2%
Heavy Trucks/Tractors	6	0.3%
Other	6	0.3%
TOTAL	1875	99.9%

Table 6 shows the type and number of violations recorded by users in the reserve. It also includes the percentage that each number represents of the total violations observed.

Table 6
Type and Number of Violations

Type of Violation	Number Observed	Percent of Violations
Bike/Dog	1	0.8
Bike Off-Trail	7	5.5
Bike Speed	40	31.5
Bike Time	25	19.5
Bike Vandalism	1	0.8
Bike Yield	8	6.3
Bike Questionnable Use	11	8.7
Equestrian Dog	1	0.8
Pedestrian/Dog	26	20.5
Pedestrian Off-Trail	3	2.3
Pedestrian Vandalism	2	1.6
Vehicle Off-Trail	1	0.8
Vehicle Speed	1	0.8
TOTAL	127	100.0

KEY

Bike/Dog - bicyclist with unleashed dog.

Bike Off-Trail - bicycle operation on trail other than those trails allowed.

Bike Speed - bicycle speed in excess of 10 m.p.h.

Bike Time - bicycle operation during a time when the reserve was closed to bicycle operation.

Bike Vandalism - bicyclist deliberately causing damage to the reserve.

Bike Yield - failure of a bicyclist to slow down and permit other users the right-of-way.

Bike Questionnable Use - bicycle operation in the reserve when rainy conditions caused closure.

Equestrian/Dog - horseback rider with unleashed dog.

Pedestrian/Dog - dog walker with unleashed dog.

Pedestrian Off-Trail - hiker or dog walker off trails in the reserve.

Pedestrian Vandalism - hiker, dog walker or jogger deliberately causing damage to the reserve.

Vehicle Off-Trail - unauthorized vehicles off trails designated for vehicular use.

Vehicle Speed - vehicles traveling faster than safety permits in the reserve.

Table 7 shows the total number of users for combined user groups (all non-cyclists versus cyclists), number of violations, and violations per observation among these user groups. Included in the total for the violations is questionable use of the reserve when the grounds were too wet for bicycle usage. Signs were posted indicating that the reserve was closed to bicycles but 11 such violations were included in this total for this table.

Table 7
All Non-Cyclists Versus Cyclists
Observations and Violations

Type of User	Number of Observations	Number of Violations	Violations Per Observation
Non-Cyclists	1478	34	.023
Cyclists	397	93	.234
TOTAL	1875	127	.068

Table 8 shows the total of observations for the selected combined user groups (non-cyclists contains hikers, dog walkers and joggers), number of violations and violations per observation among these user groups. The violations for use of the reserve when closed due to weather were dropped from totals for the cyclists in this table. Graph 1 utilizes the information in Table 8 to illustrate the relationship between violations per observation of the selected non-cyclists and cyclists groups.

Table 8
Selected Non-Cyclists Versus Cyclists
Observations and Violations

Type of User	Number of Observations	Number of Violations	Violations Per Observation
Non-Cyclists	1394	31	.022
Cyclists	397	82	.207
TOTAL	1791	113	.063

Graph 1
Selected Non-Cyclists Versus Cyclists
Using Violations Per Observation

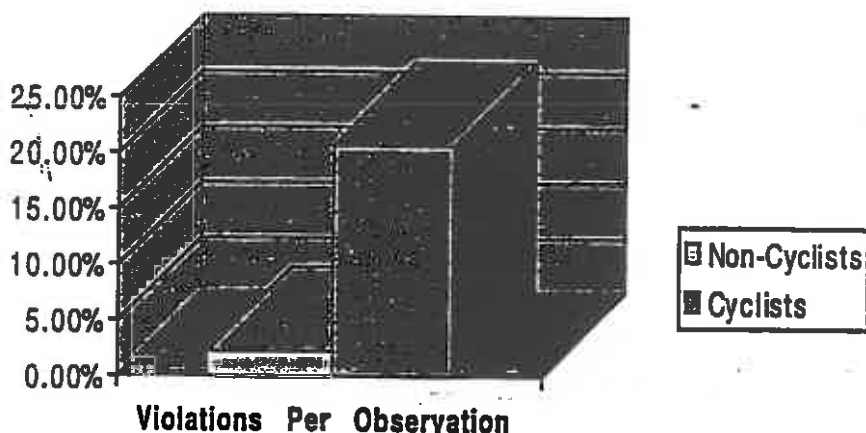


Table 9 breaks down the information in the previous table and graph according to the month in which the observations and violations were recorded. The rationale for including this data as both a table and Graph 2 is to analyze any trends with regards to violations per observation during the study period. The graph allows the reader to visually see the relationship between the numbers and any trends which may exist.

Table 9
Selected Non-Cyclists Versus Cyclists
Violations Per Observation By Month

Type of User	March			April			May		
	OB	VIO	VIO/OB	OB	VIO	VIO/OB	OB	VIO	VIO/OB
Non-Cyclists	295	14	.0475	681	10	.0147	419	7	.0167
Cyclists	76	16	.2105	217	35	.1613	104	31	.2981
TOTAL	371	30	.0809	898	45	.0501	523	38	.0727

Graph 2
Selected Non-Cyclists Versus Cyclists
Violations Per Observation By Month

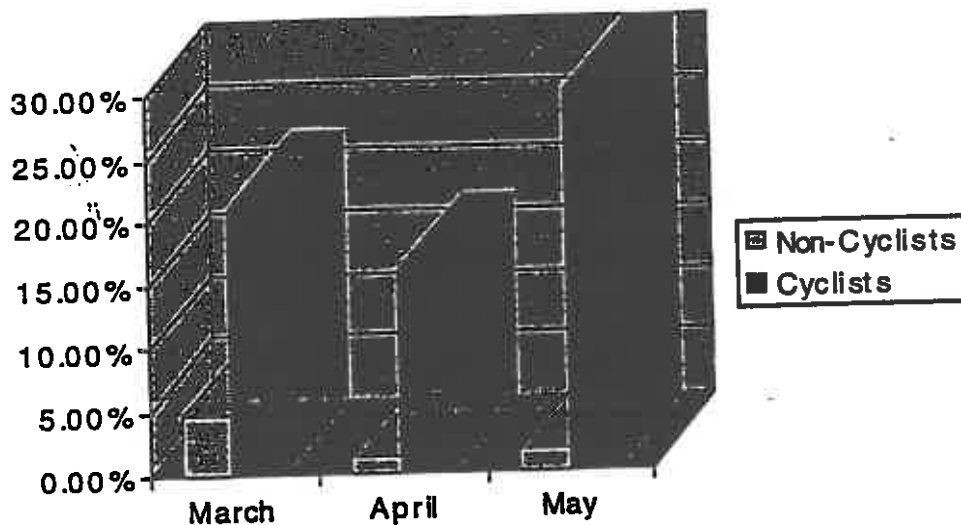


Table 10 is the Chi Square distribution for the comparison of the selected non-cyclist group and the cyclists utilizing number of observations and number of violations as the key data. Given the observed distribution of data and comparing it with the expected theoretical frequencies yields a chi square of 143.639 which is well beyond 3.841 necessary for significance of difference at the .05 level of confidence.

Table 10
Chi Square Distribution
Selected Non-Cyclists Versus Cyclists
Based Upon Number of Observations and Number of Violations

Type of Users	Number of Observations	Number of Violations	TOTAL
Selected Non-Cyclists	1394 (1340.4)	31 (84.6)	1425
Cyclists	397 (450.6)	82 (28.4)	479
TOTAL	1791	113	1904

() - Denotes Theoretical Frequencies [what normally should have occurred]

Degrees of Freedom = 1

Chi Square = 143.639 (this is significant beyond the .05 level of confidence for d.f 1)

Discussion

The total number of users, observations, and violations in this study may appear higher than those reported in anecdotal evidence collected in the Blue Sky Ecological Reserve, but this is due to the dual collection of data during observation periods at different locations in the reserve. Study reviewers should also realize that this occurs for all types of users and should not focus so much on the absolute numbers but, rather, the comparison of the numbers between the user groups. Additionally, study reviewers should ascertain which groupings of users best represents the data to be compared. The principal investigators believe that the use of pedestrians in informal groups (hikers, dog walkers and joggers) are the best overall grouping to compare with the mountain bicyclists. The rationale underlying this formation of comparison groups is simple – vehicular users or equestrian users are significantly different from people afoot in the reserve. Likewise, although interpretive program participants are afoot, they are under the control of group leadership and, therefore, are primarily subject to the controls of the person in charge and are less likely to break the rules. Hence, pedestrians (hikers, dog walkers and joggers) and cyclists are the most logical groupings to compare. The principal investigators also encourage the use of data identified as observations as opposed to total numbers of users. The reason for this is that when data collectors identified violations for groups, they omitted in most instances whether all of the group were in violation of the rules, or just a portion or a single member of the group. Therefore, observation data and observed violations probably comes closer to the reality of what occurred when it was observed and recorded.

With reference to the results, a substantial difference exists between the numbers of violations that occurred per observation in the non-cyclist and cyclist groups. The extraordinarily high chi square value resulting from the data in Table 10 substantiates the difference at a very high level of confidence. Table 6 demonstrates the type of violations that have occurred with speed representing nearly half of the violations for cyclists while bicycle time (prohibited during certain times of operations) represents another 25 percent of the violations. Readers should note that no out-of-the-ordinary time prohibitions existed for the other user groups which should probably be taken into account when reviewing this comparison.

Also of interest to the reader should be graphs 1 and 2 which graphically summarize the data observations and violations. Graph 1 depicts a comparison of violations per observation and shows a large difference between the non-cyclists and cyclists. This graph suggests that out of 100 observed users in each group, non-cyclists will have approximately two to three violations while cyclists will have 20 violations. Table 9 shows a comparison of data for observations and violations on a monthly basis for the three months of the study period. Graph 2 shows the relationship of violations per observation on a monthly basis. It should be noted that the bicyclists had fewer violations per observation during April than they did in March, but that number increased substantially in May to a level much higher than existed in March.

In attempting to decide whether these results should substantiate the exclusion or inclusion of mountain bicyclists in the Blue Sky Ecological Reserve, one must ask some very important questions. First, can additional educational efforts bring increased compliance with the established rules of use in the Reserve? Secondly, are mountain cyclists compatible with the overall goals of the Reserve? Third, will the mountain bicycle patrol continue its efforts to maintain adherence to the rules of the Reserve for cyclists? Fourth, what are the additional impacts of mountain bicycle use on the resources of the reserve? Fifth, can all current user groups achieve a high quality experience from the Reserve given a continuation of inclusionary practices? Sixth, can user safety be insured if mountain cyclists are permitted to use the Reserve without rule enforcement? And lastly, have all other management strategies been exhausted to resolve user conflicts that make restriction or elimination the final solution?

If future studies of this nature are undertaken, the following recommendations are offered to improve the results. One, engage data collectors in training sessions at the site. Technology provides the ability to bring the site to the classroom, but a thorough examination of the site is desirable to simulate problems and identify issues related to data collection. Second, extend the data collection time period so that the maximum amount of data can be collected for analysis. This

should bolster the results and, therefore, improve the recommendations emanating from the data collected. And finally, input the data into the computer as it has been collected rather than waiting until all of the data has been collected before input and analysis has been conducted. This recommendation has a two-fold purpose. One, to improve the collection of data throughout the study. And two, to speed the ability to analyze the data and complete the writing of the final report in a more timely manner. Given the limitations of the study which included the use of students for data collection without the direct supervision, the unpredictability of the weather during data collection, and the doubling of data collection during the same time periods, the results provide ample evidence of user behavior to aid the Bicycle Advisory Committee in making recommendations about bicycle usage in the Blue Sky Ecological Reserve.

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Appendix A
USER OBSERVATION FORM

Appendix A

USER OBSERVATION FORMBicycle Trial Period
Blue Sky Ecological Reserve

Date: _____ Time: _____

Location: _____

Weather Conditions:

Cloud Cover (circle one): Heavy Medium Light Clear

Precipitation (circle one): Heavy Medium Light Clear

Type and Number of User:

Hiker _____

Dog Walker _____ Jogger _____

Interpretive Program Participant _____

Bicyclist _____

Equestrian _____ Car/Van _____ Pickup Truck _____

Heavy Truck/Tractor _____ Other (describe): _____

User Behavior: (respond as appropriate)

Legal Time/Open Hours?

On Designated Trail?

Speed, at or below 10 m.p.h.?

Speed, slower when passing others?

Courteous/considerate of other users?

User Conflict (describe all incidents):

User Conflicts continued (describe all incidents):

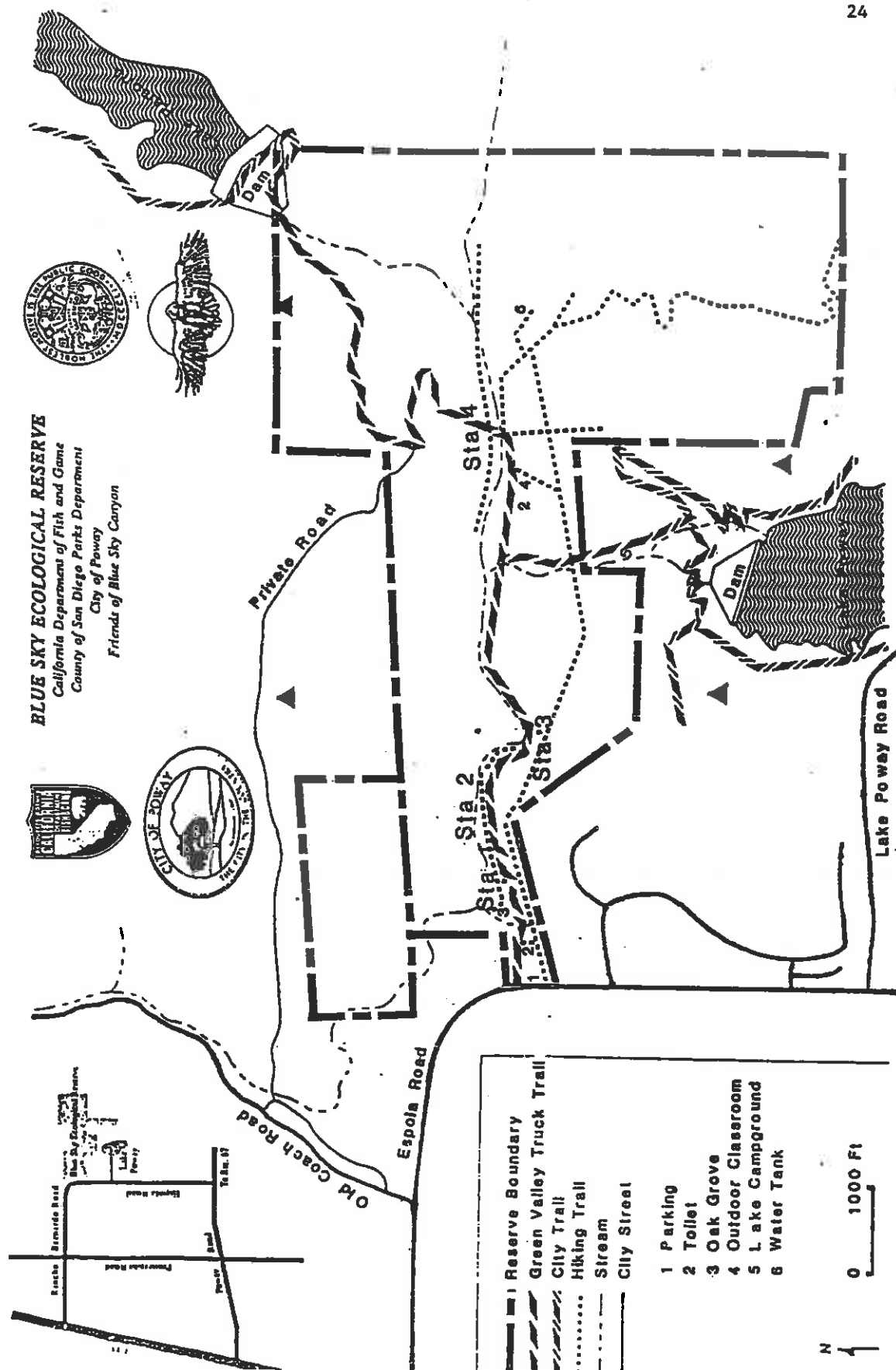
This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Observer - Name (print):_____ **Telephone#:**_____

Signature: _____

Appendix B**BLUE SKY ECOLOGICAL RESERVE MAP
INCLUDING DATA COLLECTION SITES**

Figure 1. Map of Blue Sky Ecological Reserve.



Appendix C
MOUNTAIN BICYCLIST RULES
AND GENERAL RULES
FOR BLUE SKY ECOLOGICAL RESERVE

Welcome to
BLUE SKY ECOLOGICAL RESERVE

California Department of Fish and Game
County of San Diego Parks Department
City of Poway
Friends of Blue Sky Canyon

Whatever your reasons for visiting, please remember that this area exists first to provide a sanctuary for wildlife and to protect critical habitat. The public can also enjoy recreational use of the area as long as visitors remain sensitive and thoughtful.

Please make time to read and follow the posted regulations. They exist to protect a fragile resource and to protect you from dangers inherent in such natural areas, not to inhibit your enjoyment.

GENERAL REGULATIONS

- Trails are open from sunrise to sunset, except during authorized, guided evening hikes.
- Stay on designated trails.
- Bicycles and horses are prohibited, except on the Green Valley Truck Trail (main designated access road between Espola Rd. and Lake Ramona and the Lake Poway Campground) during a six-month trial period from Feb. to July 1995.
- Keep your pet on a leash.
- Do not disturb or collect plants, animals, archaeological or geological objects, or disturb signs or structures.
- Camping and fires are prohibited, except at the adjacent Lake Poway Campground by permit only.
- Do not attempt to feed wild animals.
- Releasing wild or domestic animals or plants is prohibited.
- Firearms, hunting equipment, fireworks, or paintball guns are prohibited.
- Motor vehicles are prohibited except for authorized maintenance or emergency vehicles on designated access roads.

BICYCLISTS

- Bicycles are permitted on the Green Valley Truck Trail only (main designated access road from Espola Rd. to Lake Ramona and Lake Poway Campground) for a six-month trial period Feb. to July 1995.
- The Reserve is closed to bicycles all-day Fridays and until noon on Saturdays.
- Speed limit is 10 m.p.h. Slow to 5 m.p.h. or dismount when encountering hikers or horses.
- Yield to hikers and horses.
- Be alert and courteous. Warn others of your approach but keep noise down so as not to disturb wildlife or those watching wildlife.
- Ride single-file when passing or being passed.
- Stay on the trail and maintain traction. Skidding can damage the trail and accelerate erosion.
- Do not ride on the trail when it is muddy. Tire ruts can be hazardous to other trail users and accelerate erosion.
- Helmets are recommended.

EQUESTRIANS

- Horses are permitted on the Green Valley Truck Trail only (main designated access road from Espola Rd. to Lake Ramona and Lake Poway Campground).
- Travel at a safe speed and slow to a walk when approaching or passing other trail users or blind curves.
- Do not ride on the trail when it is muddy. The trail may be slippery and hoof ruts are hazardous to other trail users and accelerate erosion.
- Grazing is prohibited.
- Helmets are recommended.

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS for multiple-use trails.

- Stay on trails and keep pets leashed. Dangers inherent in natural areas such as this include poison oak, loose rocks, ticks, rattlesnakes, skunks, coyotes, and mountain lions.
- Be courteous. Be respectful of other trail users, regardless of their mode, speed, or level of skill.
- Be predictable. Travel in a consistent and predictable manner and let others know before passing or changing position on the trail.
- Do not block the trail. Use no more than half the trail, whether alone, in a group, or with a pet.
- Keep right. Stay as near to the right side of the trail as is safe, except when passing.
- Pass on the left. Look ahead and behind before passing and give the other user plenty of room.
- Slower traffic has the right-of-way. Yield to slower or oncoming traffic. Hikers and bicyclists yield to horses, and bicyclists yield to hikers.
- Keep the trail clean. Remove all that you bring in with you.





ATTENTION MOUNTAIN BIKERS

OUR FUTURE ACCESS TO BLUE SKY ECOLOGICAL RESERVE DEPENDS ON YOUR RESPONSIBLE BEHAVIOR AND ADHERENCE TO THE FOLLOWING GUIDELINES:

- **RIDE ON MAIN ROADS ONLY:** Green Valley Truck Trail from Espola Rd. to Lake Ramona and Lake Poway access road. Off-road bike use is prohibited.
- **Speed limit is 10 m.p.h. (5 m.p.h. when passing hikers and equestrians).**
- **Yield to hikers and equestrians.**
- **Be alert and courteous. Warn others of your approach.**
- **Reserve is closed to bicycles all day Fridays and until noon on Saturdays. Bikes allowed all other days sunrise to sunset.**

Bicycle access has been approved for a six-month trial period from February 1 to July 30, 1995. For questions or comments, call the Reserve office at 486-7238.

BLUE SKY ECOLOGICAL RESERVE

California Department of Fish and Game

County of San Diego Parks Department

City of Poway

Friends of Blue Sky Canyon

Study Site and Background

Blue Sky Ecological Reserve is located on the northwestern slopes of Mt. Woodson, in the northeastern portion of the City of Poway. The Reserve consists of an approximately 583-acre canyon, including an approximately 20-acre inholding in the east-central Reserve, containing pump and storage facilities of the Ramona Water District (RWD). The original 475 acres were purchased by the State of California and County of San Diego in 1989, with support from the City of Poway. Peripheral parcels and inholdings have been purchased as recently as 1994.

Landuse prior to acquisition consisted of low-density cattle grazing on native vegetation open space with residence, pens, and outbuildings at the east end of the canyon. The property was prioritized for acquisition due to high quality habitats of species and natural communities that have been reduced by over 80 percent in Southern California. The canyon slopes are comprised of sage scrub and chaparral, with coast live oak and riparian woodlands along the drainages. These plant communities are home to several obligate resident species on the endangered species list or considered as candidates for listing.

The dirt-surfaced Green Valley Truck Trail (GVTT) runs the length of the Reserve, from the main western trailhead at Espola Road to the northeast approximately three miles to Lake Ramona (Figure 1). This maintenance road is gated and closed to public vehicular traffic, and posted with Reserve regulations at both ends.

Additional maintenance roads continue along the canyon bottom to the RWD inholding, and turn off to the south midway through the Reserve to access the Lake Poway campground and connect with city-maintained multi-use trails around the lake and Mt. Woodson. A gated and posted maintenance easement along an underground water line runs parallel to, and south of, the GVTT, from Espola Road to the RWD facilities. Due to topography, surface, and exposure, it receives much less use than the GVTT and public use is discouraged due to nesting by federally threatened California Gnatcatchers and the presence of several candidate species, including San Diego horned lizards and orange-throated whiptails.

Blue Sky Ecological Reserve is managed by the California Department of Fish & Game (DFG) and County of San Diego Parks Department with support from the City of Poway and

non-profit Friends of Blue Sky Canyon. A volunteer naturalist program has been established to conduct environmental education programs, including school field trips, reservation group tours, guided public hikes, and special events such as campfire programs.

The California Code of Regulations, Title 14, section 630, addresses regulations in ecological reserves and limits bicycle and vehicle use to public access roads and parking areas. Operation outside of these areas is seen as incompatible with the environmental conservation mission of reserves. Conflicts with this regulation arose at Blue Sky Ecological Reserve due to the previous landowner not excluding bicycles from the property and lack of enforcement following the initial purchase. Continued bicycle use in the Reserve led to concerns of negative impacts to natural resources and to education programs. Subsequent enforcement was met with an outcry from the growing local bicycle community, a petition drive, and lobbying of City and State legislators.

This led to an agreement between the City and DFG to establish a bicycle advisory committee and allow a six-month trial period during which bicycles would be allowed on the GVTT and impacts monitored. Concerns of potential impacts are outlined in Table 1. No long term environmental monitoring has been done other than non-intensive inventorying of species and habitats, and time was not allotted, nor bicycles effectively excluded, to allow a baseline study to document pre-existing conditions.

The advisory committee set regulations for conditional bicycle access during the trial period to minimize impacts (Table 2). Bicycle access was limited to the GVTT and campground access road, where most maintenance vehicles traveled and the road was widest, to minimize impacts to wildlife, programs, and trails. A speed limit was set to minimize disturbance to other trail users. Speed and trail etiquette regulations were consistent with those of the adjoining City multi-use trails. Bicycles were excluded on Fridays to limit the amount of disturbance to school field trips. They were excluded from Saturday mornings to limit disturbance to the busiest public educational programs, and to provide a control period for wildlife monitoring so that comparisons could be drawn between days with bicycles and days without. Limitations on trail-use hours were pre-existing for all users to limit disturbance to wildlife. Regulations were posted on 2'x3' signs at each trailhead.

Staff of San Diego State University Department of Recreation, Parks, & Tourism were

solicited to monitor GVTT usage and regulations compliance. A voluntary bicycle patrol was established to contact bicyclists and keep anecdotal usage and compliance records. Not assigned to law enforcement nor regularly patrolling, staff kept anecdotal records and filed incident reports for violations observed during educational programs and their time in the Reserve. Signs were erected at trailheads and trail junctions, brochures placed at the trailhead kiosk, city and county offices, local bike shops, and distributed by staff and the volunteer bicycle patrol. A sub-committee was established to design this study to monitor wildlife and to assess bicycle impacts.

Methods

Wildlife and human activity was documented along the Green Valley Truck Trail during the six-month trial period through weekly paired samples. One sampling was conducted during a period when bicycles were not to be present and a second during a period with bicycles present. Following the trial period, the data for each sampling period were compared to detect if there were any differences in the number of wildlife sightings (wildlife view-ability), wildlife abundance, species diversity, wildlife behavior, or distance from the GVTT relative to the presence or absence of bicycles.

Four stations were selected at intervals along the GVTT adjacent to each habitat type (Figure 1). Each monitoring station was marked by a 4"x4"x3' wooden post set in the ground on the north side of the trail, with the top of the post numbered and painted yellow. Station 1 was located adjacent to oak woodland and sage scrub, with chaparral visible within 100 feet to the east. Station 2 was adjacent to chamise chaparral and oak-riparian woodland, with several sycamores extending above the canopy. Sage scrub slopes were visible to the north. Station 3 was adjacent to oak-willow riparian woodland and sage scrub, with chaparral slopes visible to the south. Station 4 was adjacent to sage scrub and oak-willow-sycamore riparian woodland.

One to two monitors spent thirty minutes at each station on two consecutive weekend mornings from approximately 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Regulations provided experimental control by excluding bicycles on Saturday mornings. This monitoring period was preceded by approximately 36 hours of bicycle exclusion (from sunset Thursday) for wildlife to habituate to

foot and occasional equestrian and vehicle traffic. The second sample was taken on Sunday, when bicycles were allowed. Weekends were chosen on the assumption that trail usage would be similar on both days. A simple comparison of the difference of the means between the two sample days for each observer was anticipated to yield results of whether impacts from bicycles had occurred or not.

Observers documented vertebrate wildlife within view of the station and human activity passing by the station post during each thirty minute monitoring period. Data were entered on standardized forms, and data sets collected are listed in Table 3. All data were collected by volunteers, so identification ability varied. Broad categories and classifications as large-scale as "passerine species" (perching song birds) were accepted to accommodate all levels of ability. All participants were briefed on the methodology, habitats and species anticipated, and shown the area and monitoring station locations. Completed monitoring forms were compiled by the study coordinator.

Data forms were proof-read and standardized, entered to computer file in Microsoft Excel, proof-read again, then tabulated and analyzed. Standardization of data forms included replacing the monitors' names with numerical codes to protect their identities, converting temperature readings to fahrenheit, and converting all distances to feet.

Standardization of wildlife observation data included deleting observations of invertebrates. To reduce the differences in species identification abilities between monitors, only visual sightings were retained; records relying only on auditory cues were deleted. If observation numbers included a range, the average was taken and rounded to the lower whole number. Species names were standardized to currently accepted full names, for example, flickers were entered as "Northern Flickers", western flycatchers as "Pacific Slope Flycatchers", brown towhees as "California Towhees", etc. Sightings of locally rare or uncommon species that could not be confirmed were lumped into broader categories, for example, Least Bell's Vireos were entered as "vireo species". Sightings for which the monitor only gave a description, but did not identify to species, were entered into the most discernible broad category, such as "sparrow species", or even "passerine species". Behaviors were standardized from descriptions to one of five broad categories:

Foraging, including hunting, stalking, chasing prey, or ingesting;

This is also reflected when comparing overall Saturday and Sunday observations, with the average number of species observed decreasing slightly on Sunday, as did the average number of sightings, but the average number of animals increasing slightly (Figure 3, Table 6). However, if observation periods were separated not by day of week, but by presence or absence of bicycles, there were more pronounced percentage differences between the average number of species observed, average number of sightings, and average number of animals. Average species diversity decreased by 17 percent, animal abundance by 16 percent, and number of sightings by 21 percent when bicycles were present. This is also reflected if comparisons are made between periods of low bicycle usage (four or fewer bikes, that is, an average of one per station) and high bicycle usage (five or more bikes during the monitoring period). Species diversity decreased 22 percent, statistically significant at a ten percent level and illustrated in Figure 4. Animal abundance decreased by 9 percent and number of sightings by 11 percent during periods of high bicycle usage. This suggests that the presence of bicycles had a negative impact on the presence, abundance, and diversity of vertebrate wildlife viewable from the GVTT.

Assessment of observations by station also reflected this trend (Table 10). Though Station 3 showed some inconsistencies, overall averages decreased with the presence of bicycles.

Values recorded on 2/25-2/26 and 4/1-4/2 were significantly lower than others (five percent level of significance)(Table 8). In addition, values recorded on 7/8-7/9 were significantly higher than others. If these samples are excluded from the dataset, little changes in the comparison of Saturday and Sunday observations. However, decreases in diversity, abundance, and the number of sightings are more pronounced and are statistically significant when bicycles are present and during periods of high bicycle usage (Table 11).

Wildlife observations.

Two amphibian, nine reptile, seven mammal, and 74 bird species were recorded during the monitoring periods (Table 12). A speckled rattlesnake was observed between monitoring stations, tracks of several species of mammals were noted, and auditory and unconfirmed records of several additional bird species were documented.

No clear conclusions can be drawn from the behavioral data (Tables 13 & 14). There were

slight increases in foraging, sedentary behavior, and interactions on days of higher bicycle use, but fewer observations of singing or courtship behavior, or transit locomotion. Disturbance may influence cessation of singing, result in ambivalent behavior interpreted as foraging, and cause wildlife to "freeze" or flee, the latter possibly not detected due to the amount of vegetative cover.

Most direct observations made of changes in behavior as a result of human presence were generalized cessation of calling by treefrogs when vehicles, bicycles, or groups of people passed. In most cases, these were auditory records and thus not included in the final data set since only visual records were relied upon. There were several cases of birds continuing foraging or soaring overhead as hikers, vehicles, or bicycles passed by.

There were four incidents observed that documented direct negative impacts from human presence. A California Gnatcatcher adjacent to the GVTT flew away as bicyclists passed (2/4, sta. 4). A noisy group of 11 hikers "silenced all birds" (3/4, sta. 1). A cottontail ran across the GVTT, "spooked by two hikers" (4/8, sta. 1). An unleashed dog flushed a covey of quail (4/9, sta. 2).

Distance of animals from the GVTT was also inconclusive, with average distances apparently less when bicycles were present (Table 14). Discrepancies in recording distances were discovered during data standardization which could not be easily resolved. When wildlife were above the GVTT, some monitors recorded distance from GVTT as "0", others recorded vertical distance above the GVTT, and others included both vertical distance and horizontal distance after it passed from above the GVTT.

Study participants.

Concern had been voiced by committee members of observer bias of certain participants in the study, particularly Observer #8. Participants included two members of the committee, a biology teacher from Poway High School, a professional biologist, a professional nature photographer, a County Parks Department volunteer naturalist, and four volunteer biologists from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Though there is wide variation among data sets, the percentage differences between days for each category of data are not consistently extreme for any observer. In addition, further reduction of the small sample size could make statistical

analysis of the data less accurate. Averages resulting from the elimination of the three data sets with high and low extremes in each category were discussed earlier. Those data sets eliminated included that of observer #8.

The average number of species observed (species diversity) each sampling period per observer ranged from seven to 34, with an average of 19 (Table 10). Percentage differences between Saturdays and Sundays ranged from zero to 28, with an average of 10. The average number of sightings (view-ability) ranged from 10 to 145, with an average of 45. The percentage differences ranged from three to 22, with an average of 11. The average number of animals (wildlife abundance) ranged from 12 to 218, with an average of 74. The percentage differences ranged from one to 33, with an average of nine. The average number of bicycles sighted ranged from zero to 20, with an average of eight. The percentage differences ranged from 62 to 100, with an average of 81.

Though the numbers of species observed, sightings, and animals reported by Observer #8 were above average and at the upper end of the range, the numbers of bicycles recorded on Saturday were below average (though more than the "low" classification of four) and those recorded for Sunday were above average. Therefore, the high wildlife numbers are offset by corresponding high bicycle numbers. The percentage differences between Saturday and Sunday wildlife data were well within the range of the other participants, and the percentage differences of the number of sightings, animals, and bicycles were well below average. However, the raw numbers of sightings and animals were significantly higher than the remainder of the data set. Likewise, observer #3 had significantly lower numbers of sightings and animals. The resulting averages from elimination of both data sets was discussed earlier.

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OCT 17 1995 ITEM 4

Abstract

Wildlife and human activity was documented at four stations along the Green Valley Truck Trail (GVTT) during a six-month period through weekly paired samples. One sampling was conducted on Saturday when bicycles were not to be present and the second on Sunday with bicycles present. Following the trial period, the data for each sampling period were compared to detect if there were any differences in the number of wildlife sightings (wildlife view-ability), wildlife abundance, species diversity, wildlife behavior, or distance from the GVTT relative to the presence or absence of bicycles.

Several sampling periods were not completed due to weather, illness, or schedule conflicts. Of the 19 Saturday samples when bicycles were to be excluded, only eight recorded no bicycles during the monitoring period, and seven Saturdays had from five to 16 bicycles present during the two-hour monitoring period. Thus, Saturday was invalidated as an experimental control. Of the 18 Sunday samples when bicycles were to be present, there were two sample days when no bikes were present, due to heavy rain. There were from seven to 31 bicycles present on the remaining Sunday mornings. Overall, this yields an average of eight bicycles per monitoring period (sample size 37 days). There was an average of 12 bicycles per morning when bicycles were present (if days without bicycles are excluded, sample size of 27 days).

Comparing Saturday and Sunday observations, the average number of species observed decreased slightly on Sunday, as did the average number of sightings, but the average number of animals was slightly higher. No clear conclusions can be drawn from behavioral or distance data. However, if observation periods were separated not by day of week, but by presence or absence of bicycles, the percentage difference between the average number of species observed, average number of sightings, and average number of animals was more pronounced. Average species diversity decreased by 17%, animal abundance by 16%, and number of sightings by 20% when bicycles were present. This is also reflected if comparisons are made between periods of low bicycle usage (four or fewer bikes, that is, an average of one per station) and high bicycle usage (five or more bikes during the monitoring period). Species diversity decreased 22%, abundance by 9%, and number of sightings by 12% during periods of high bicycle usage. Elimination of extreme high and low sample values from the dataset yielded even more pronounced results, with species diversity, abundance, and number of sightings decreasing significantly when bicycles were present. This indicates that the presence of bicycles had a negative impact on the presence, abundance, and diversity of vertebrate wildlife viewable from the GVTT.

Wildlife Monitoring
During the Bicycle Trial Period
at Blue Sky Ecological Reserve
February to July 1995

Draft Report to the
Bicycle Advisory Committee
California Department of Fish & Game
County of San Diego Department of Parks & Recreation
City of Poway Department of Community Services
Friends of Blue Sky Canyon

by
Robert Patton, Supervising Park Ranger
Blue Sky Ecological Reserve

6 September 1995

Attachment 3

OCT 17 1995 ITEM 11

Figure 1. Map of Blue Sky Ecological Reserve.

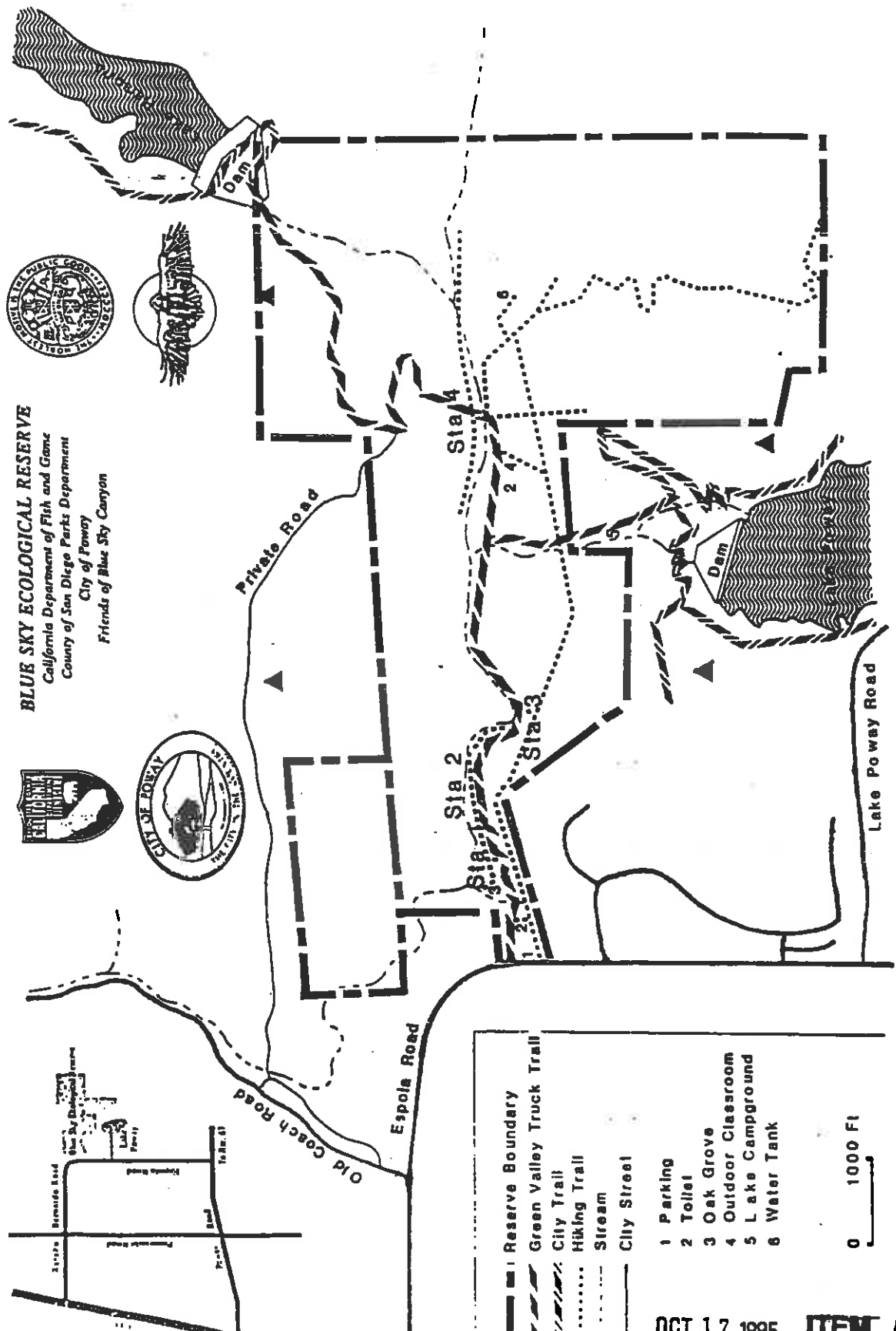
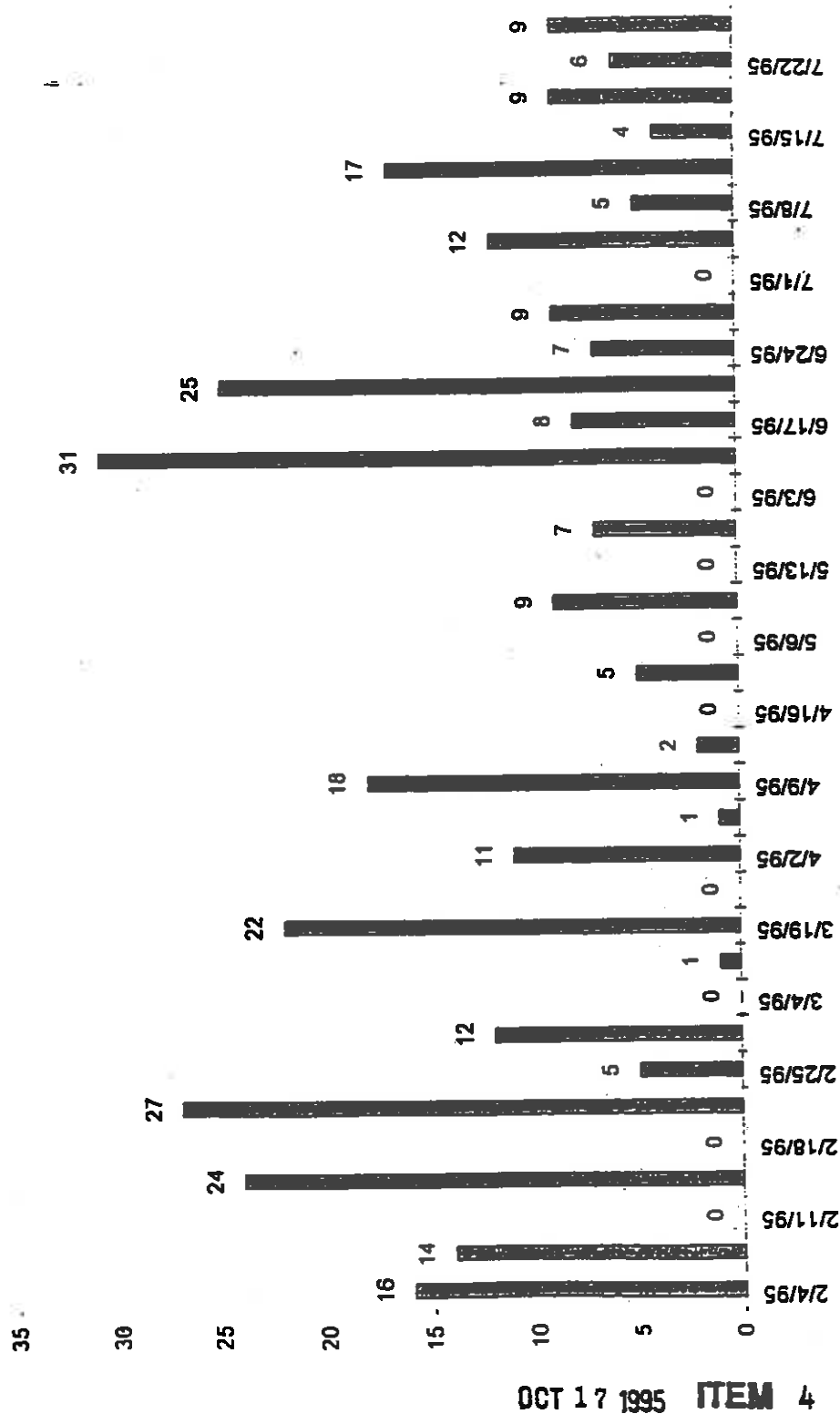


Figure 2. Numbers of bicycles by date.



Blue Sky Ecological Reserve
Bike Study Report

9/3/95

Figure 3. Averages of observations by day and usage.

Average Observations By Day

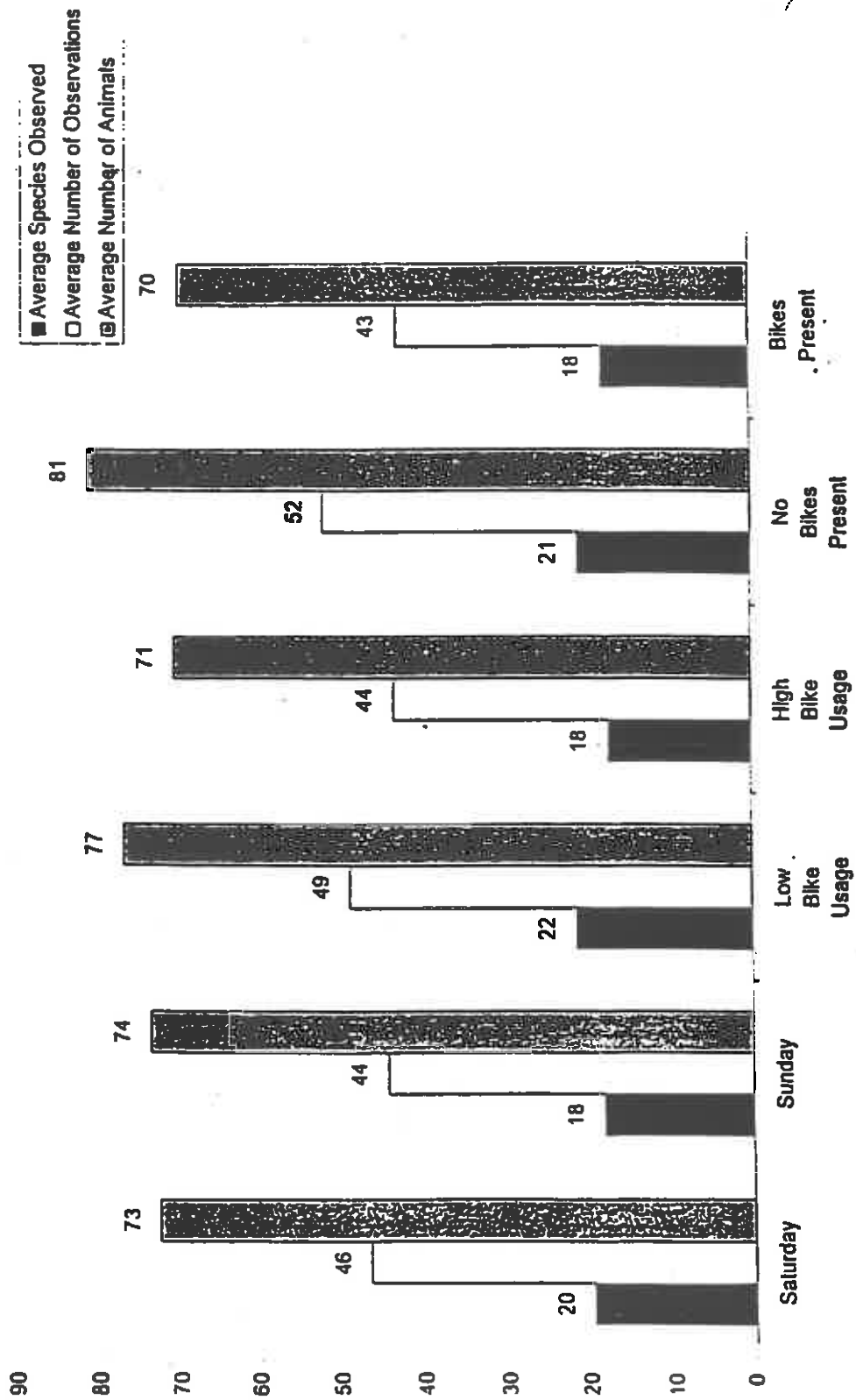


Figure 4. Numbers of bicycles x numbers of species.
Number of Bikes vs Number of Species

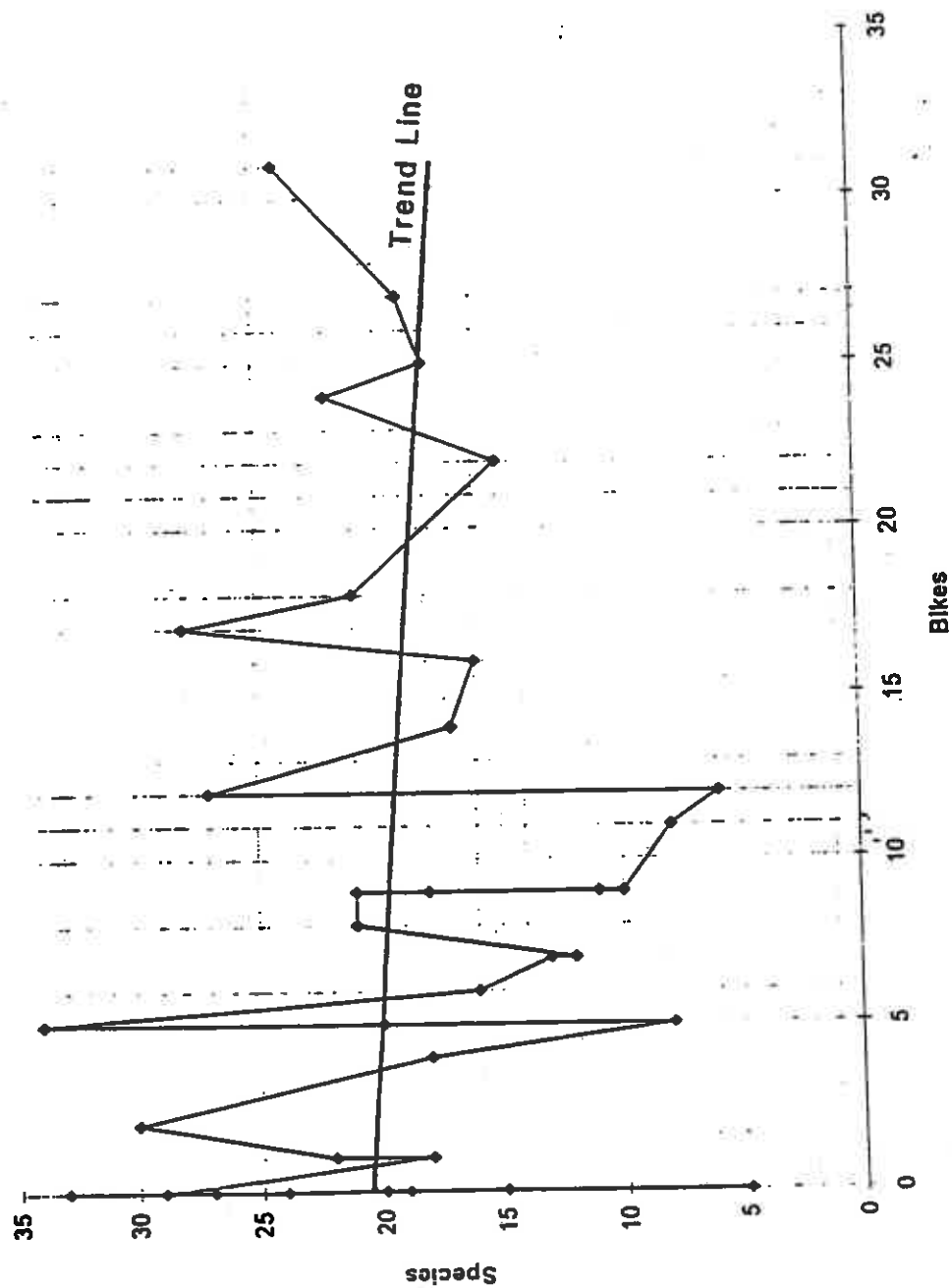


Table 1. Concerns about impacts from bicycle use of the Green Valley Truck Trail.

BLUE SKY ECOLOGICAL RESERVE

California Department of Fish and Game

County of San Diego Parks Department

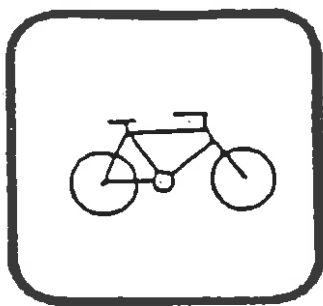
City of Poway

Friends of Blue Sky Canyon

Concerns about Impacts from Bicycle Use of Green Valley Truck Trail (GVTT)

1. Impact to existing interpretive/educational programs
 - a. Disturbance to wildlife by bicyclists, decreasing possibility of wildlife presence near GVTT and sightings by students
 - b. Threat (or perception of threat) to public safety by increased possibility of bicycle-pedestrian near-misses and/or collisions
 - c. Destruction of wildlife sign/interpretive aids (eg/ animal tracks) by bicycle tracks
 - d. Distraction to students/interruption of program by passing bicyclists
2. Decrease in quality of experience of other trail users due to above impacts, noise, and congestion (or perception of congestion) from increased frequency and abundance of bicyclists.
3. Impact to wildlife habituated to current levels of human use of GVTT
 - a. Disturbance to wildlife by noise and presence of increased frequency, abundance, and speed of trail users
 - b. Disruption of natural routines of wildlife, such as feeding, roosting, moving through reserve, with cumulative impact of weight loss and susceptibility to predators, disease, and temperature extremes
 - c. Increased possibility of "bike kills" in small animal populations
4. Increased possibility of off-trail and off-GVTT bicycle use with impacts to habitats, plants, and wildlife, including sensitive, threatened, and endangered species and habitats
 - a. above impacts (see #3)
 - b. Disruption of natural drainage and exacerbation of erosion, sedimentation, and soil compaction
 - c. Damage and destruction to native plant species with cumulative impacts on local populations
 - d. Habitat fragmentation, disruption, and degradation from increased human presence, plant and soil impacts
 - e. Disturbance and/or destruction of nests and young
 - f. Introduction of non-native invasive plant seeds and increased possibility of their establishment due to

GVTT 10-10-88 ITEM 4



ATTENTION MOUNTAIN BIKERS

OUR FUTURE ACCESS TO BLUE SKY ECOLOGICAL RESERVE DEPENDS ON OUR RESPONSIBLE BEHAVIOR AND ADHERENCE TO THE FOLLOWING GUIDELINES:

- RIDE ON MAIN ROADS ONLY:** Green Valley Truck Trail from Espola Rd. to Lake Ramona and Lake Poway access road. Off main road bike use is prohibited.
- Speed limit is 10 m.p.h.** (5 m.p.h. when passing hikers and equestrians).
- Yield to hikers and equestrians.**
- Be alert and courteous.** Warn others of your approach.
- Reserve is closed to bicycles all day Friday and until noon on Saturday.** Bikes allowed all other days sunrise to sunset.

Bicycle access has been approved for a six-month trial period from February 1 to July 31, 1995.

BLUE SKY ECOLOGICAL RESERVE

**California Department of Fish and Game
County of San Diego Parks Department
City of Poway**

Table 3. Data categories collected.

Observer

Date

Day of week

Time start

Time end

Weather conditions (each recorded for start, middle, end)

Cloud cover (heavy, medium, light, clear)

Precipitation (heavy, medium, light, none)

Air temperature

Reserve usage (each recorded for stations 1, 2, 3, 4, and total)

Numbers of:

Bicycles

Horse and rider

Cars and vans

Pickup trucks

Heavy trucks and tractors

Walkers

Joggers

Dogs

Wildlife observations (recorded for each sighting)

Station number

Species

Number of animals

Behavior

Distance from GVTT

Time

Table 4. Weather conditions.

Blue Sky Ecological Reserve
Bike Study Report
9/3/95
Weather Conditions

Date	Start time	End time	Cloud Cover - Start		Precipitation - Start		Temperature - Start		Cloud Cover - Middle		Precipitation - Middle		Temperature - Middle		Cloud Cover - End		Precipitation - End		Temperature - End	
			Start	End	Start	End	Start	End	Start	End	Start	End	Start	End	Start	End	Start	End	Start	End
2/4/95	908	1124	CLEAR		NONE		66 F		CLEAR		NONE		72 F		CLEAR		NONE		75 F	
2/5/95	900	1127	CLEAR		NONE		55 F		CLEAR		NONE		71 F		CLEAR		NONE		72 F	
2/11/95	900	1130	HEAVY		NONE		55 F 77		MEDIUM		NONE		60 F 77		MEDIUM		NONE		68 F 77	
2/12/95	900	1145	MEDIUM		NONE		80 F EST		MEDIUM		NONE		63 F EST		MEDIUM		NONE		65 F EST	
2/18/95	915	1138	CLEAR		NONE		64 F		CLEAR		NONE		68 F		CLEAR		NONE		75 F	
2/19/95	900	1115	CLEAR		NONE		68 F		CLEAR		NONE		79 F		CLEAR		NONE		85 F	
2/25/95	945	1215	HEAVY		NONE		65 F		HEAVY		NONE		65 F		HEAVY		NONE		65 F	
2/26/95	930	1145	HEAVY		NONE		60 F		HEAVY		NONE		62 F		MEDIUM		NONE		65 F	
3/4/95	900	1120	HEAVY-MED		NONE		52 F		HEAVY-MED		NONE		54 F		HEAVY		NONE		59 F	
3/18/95	910	1150	HEAVY		NONE				HEAVY		NONE				MEDIUM		NONE			
3/19/95	900	1120	HEAVY		NONE				HEAVY		NONE				MEDIUM		NONE		75 F	
4/1/95	915	1130	CLEAR		NONE		70 F		LIGHT		NONE		75 F		MEDIUM		NONE		72 F	
4/2/95	920	1145	MEDIUM		NONE		68 F		MEDIUM		NONE		68 F		MEDIUM		NONE		65 F EST	
4/8/95	900	1145	MEDIUM		NONE		58 F EST		MEDIUM		NONE		62 F EST		MEDIUM		NONE		62 F EST	
4/9/95	900	1125	LIGHT		NONE		57 F EST		HIGH LIGHT		NONE		60 F EST		HIGH LIGHT		NONE		75 F	
4/15/95	939	1234	MEDIUM		NONE		61 F		MEDIUM		NONE		70 F		MEDIUM		NONE		52 F	
4/16/95	915	1147	HEAVY		HEAVY MED		48 F		HEAVY		MED LIGHT		50 F		MEDIUM		LIGHT NONE			
4/29/95	907	1147	LIGHT		NONE				LIGHT		NONE				LIGHT		NONE		60 F	
5/6/95	900	1120	HEAVY		LIGHT		56 F		HEAVY		LIGHT		56 F		MEDIUM		NONE		60 F	
5/7/95	845	1115	MEDIUM		NONE		60 F		HEAVY		LIGHT		60 F		HEAVY		LIGHT		60 F	
5/13/95	918	1130	HEAVY		LIGHT		60 F		MEDIUM		LIGHT		55 F		MEDIUM		NONE		60 F	
5/14/95	918	1130	MEDIUM		NONE		65 F		MEDIUM		NONE		70 F		MEDIUM		NONE		60 F	
6/3/95	850	1130	HEAVY		NONE		58 F		HEAVY		NONE		60 F		MEDIUM		NONE		65 F	
6/4/95	850	1125	HEAVY DARK		NONE		57 F		HEAVY BRITE		NONE		60 F		MEDIUM		NONE		65 F	
6/17/95	900	1140	MEDIUM		NONE		60 F EST		MEDIUM		NONE		64 F EST		LIGHT		NONE		68 F EST	
6/18/95	900	1135	CLEAR		NONE		64 F EST		CLEAR		NONE		68 F EST		CLEAR		NONE		74 F EST	
6/24/95	946	1214	CLEAR		NONE		85 F		CLEAR		NONE				CLEAR		NONE		85 F	
6/25/95	1002	1225	CLEAR		NONE		70 F		CLEAR		NONE		80 F		CLEAR		NONE		85 F	
7/1/95	835	1110	MEDIUM		NONE		68 F		CLEAR		NONE		70 F		CLEAR		NONE		80 F	
7/2/95	837	1108	CLEAR		NONE		62 F		CLEAR		NONE		80 F		CLEAR		NONE		80 F	
7/8/95	930	1202	CLEAR		NONE		75 F		CLEAR		NONE		77 F		CLEAR		NONE		80 F	
7/9/95	900	1154	CLEAR		NONE		68 F		CLEAR		NONE		76 F EST		CLEAR		NONE		80 F EST	
7/15/95	900	1125	CLEAR		NONE		72 F EST		CLEAR		NONE		68 F EST		CLEAR		NONE		75 F EST	
7/16/95	900	1140	HIGH HEAVY		LIGHT		66 F EST		HIGH MEDIUM		LIGHT		80 F		HIGH LIGHT		NONE		90 F	
7/22/95	902	1137	CLEAR		NONE		80 F		CLEAR		NONE		80 F		CLEAR		NONE		90 F	
7/23/95	900	1126	CLEAR		NONE		80 F		CLEAR		NONE		80 F		CLEAR		NONE		90 F	

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Table 5. Reserve usage.

Blue Sky Ecological Reserve
Bike Study Report
9/3/95
Reserve Usage Data

Date	Day of Week	Bikes	Horses	Cars	Pickups	Dogs	Joggers	Walkers	Heavy Trucks
2/4/95	Saturday	16	1	0	4	3	5	58	0
2/5/95	Sunday	14	0	0	1	13	5	63	0
2/11/95	Saturday	0	0	0	2	4	0	62	0
2/12/95	Sunday	24	0	0	0	5	2	35	0
2/18/95	Saturday	0	1	0	0	1	2	47	0
2/19/95	Sunday	27	0	0	2	13	12	67	0
2/25/95	Saturday	5	0	0	0	3	7	26	0
2/26/95	Sunday	12	0	0	0	1	5	26	0
3/4/95	Saturday	0	0	2	1	4	2	92	0
3/18/95	Saturday	1	0	0	0	5	0	42	0
3/19/95	Sunday	22	0	0	0	4	2	33	0
4/1/95	Saturday	0	0	0	0	2	2	133	0
4/2/95	Sunday	11	2	0	0	7	3	47	0
4/8/95	Saturday	1	0	0	1	2	5	44	0
4/9/95	Sunday	18	2	0	0	6	0	26	0
4/15/95	Saturday	2	0	0	0	4	4	41	0
4/16/95	Sunday	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0
4/29/95	Saturday	5	0	0	1	5	6	44	0
5/6/95	Saturday	0	0	0	0	1	1	7	0
5/7/95	Sunday	9	0	0	0	6	14	34	0
5/13/95	Saturday	0	0	0	1	0	0	5	0
5/14/95	Sunday	7	0	0	0	2	1	37	0
6/3/95	Saturday	0	0	1	1	7	3	63	0
6/4/95	Sunday	31	0	0	1	11	6	49	0
6/17/95	Saturday	8	0	0	0	5	2	45	0
6/18/95	Sunday	25	0	0	0	11	6	69	0
6/24/95	Saturday	7	5	0	0	3	2	43	0
6/25/95	Sunday	9	1	0	0	4	3	43	0
7/1/95	Saturday	0	0	0	1	4	3	43	0
7/2/95	Sunday	12	5	0	0	6	7	33	0
7/8/95	Saturday	5	0	0	2	1	0	23	1
7/9/95	Sunday	17	0	0	1	5	3	54	0
7/15/95	Saturday	4	11	0	1	1	4	82	0
7/16/95	Sunday	9	0	0	0	6	5	18	0
7/22/95	Saturday	6	0	0	1	9	4	52	0
7/23/95	Sunday	9	0	0	1	7	7	38	0
Total		316	28	3	22	171	133	1628	1

Table 6. Averages of observations by day and usage - pedestrian.

Day of Week	Av. Species Observed	Av. No. Observations	Av. No. Animals
Saturday	20	46	73
Sunday	18	44	74
Percent Change	11 → -	4.5	-1.3

Pedestrian Usage

Low	19	42	68
High	18	45	76
Percent Change	.9	8	10

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Table 7. Averages of observations by day and usage • dog.

Blue Sky Ecological Reserve
Bike Study Report
9/3/95
Average Observations By Day - Dogs

Day Of Week	Average Species Observed	Standard Deviation	Average Number of Observations	Standard Deviation	Average Number of Animals	Standard Deviation
Saturday	20	7	46	32	73	50
Sunday	18	7	44	32	74	51
Percent Change	11.11%		4.55%		-1.35%	

Dog Usage	Average Species Observed	Standard Deviation	Average Number of Observations	Standard Deviation	Average Number of Animals	Standard Deviation
Low	18	8	47	32	67	50
High	20	5	44	32	80	51
Percent Change	-10.00%		6.82%		-16.25%	

Dogs Present	Average Species Observed	Standard Deviation	Average Number of Observations	Standard Deviation	Average Number of Animals	Standard Deviation
No	24	9	49	20	68	31
Yes	19	7	45	32	74	52
Percent Change	26.32%		8.89%		-10.81%	

Number of Days Counted:	Saturday:	Sunday:	Low Usage:	High Usage:	No Dogs Present:	Dogs Present:
	19	17	19	17	2	34

Table 8. Summary of observations by day.

Blue Sky Ecological Reserve
Bike Study Report
8/3/95

Summary Observations By Day

Date	Day Of Week	Number of Species Observed	Percentage Difference Saturday vs. Sunday	Number of Observations	Percentage Difference Saturday vs. Sunday	Number of Animals Observed	Percentage Difference Saturday vs. Sunday
2/4/95	Saturday	16		36		44	
2/5/95	Sunday	17	6.25%	37	2.78%	48	9.09%
2/11/95	Saturday	20		35		100	
2/12/95	Sunday	22	10.00%	34	-2.86%	102	2.00%
2/18/95	Saturday	19		61		72	
2/19/95	Sunday	19	0.00%	33	-45.90%	41	-43.06%
2/25/95	Saturday	8		12		13	
2/26/95	Sunday	8	-25.00%	11	-8.33%	19	46.15%
3/18/95	Saturday	18		25		34	
3/19/95	Sunday	15	-18.87%	22	-12.00%	35	2.94%
4/1/95	Saturday	5		8		11	
4/2/95	Sunday	8	60.00%	12	50.00%	16	45.45%
4/8/95	Saturday	22		35		49	
4/9/95	Sunday	21	-4.55%	33	-5.71%	56	14.29%
4/15/95	Saturday	30		67		98	
4/16/95	Sunday	33	10.00%	69	2.99%	97	-1.02%
5/6/95	Saturday	24		51		80	
5/7/95	Sunday	21	-12.50%	55	7.84%	90	12.50%
5/13/95	Saturday	15		29		35	
5/14/95	Sunday	13	-13.33%	25	-13.79%	27	-22.86%
6/3/95	Saturday	27		85		131	
6/4/95	Sunday	24	-11.11%	79	-7.06%	129	-1.53%
6/17/95	Saturday	21		39		68	
6/18/95	Sunday	18	-14.29%	38	-7.69%	77	13.24%
6/24/95	Saturday	12		28		38	
6/25/95	Sunday	11	-8.33%	26	-7.14%	44	15.79%
7/1/95	Saturday	29		92		156	
7/2/95	Sunday	27	-6.90%	87	-5.43%	150	-3.85%
7/8/95	Saturday	34		145		218	
7/9/95	Sunday	28	-17.65%	140	-3.45%	216	-0.92%
7/15/95	Saturday	18		39		89	
7/16/95	Sunday	18	0.00%	38	-7.69%	63	-29.21%
7/22/95	Saturday	16		28		48	
7/23/95	Sunday	10	-37.50%	19	-32.14%	44	-8.33%

Table 9. Averages of observations by day and usage - bicycle.

Blue Sky Ecological Reserve
Bike Study Report
9/3/95
Average Observations By Day

Day Of Week	Average Species Observed	Standard Deviation	Average Number of Observations	Standard Deviation	Average Number of Animals	Standard Deviation
Saturday	20	7	46	32	73	50
Sunday	18	7	44	32	74	51
Percent Change	11.11%		4.55%		-1.35%	

Bike Usage

Low	22	7	49	24	77	39
High	18	7	44	35	71	56
Percent Change	22.22%		11.36%		8.45%	

Bikes Present

No	21	8	52	26	81	43
Yes	18	7	43	33	70	53
Percent Change	16.67%		20.93%		15.71%	

Number of Days Counted:

Saturday: 19
Sunday: 17
Low Usage: 13
High Usage: 23
No Bikes Present: 9
Bikes Present: 27

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Table 10. Averages of observations by stations.

Blue Sky Ecological Reserve
Bike Study Report
9/3/95

Average Observations By Station/Day

Station #	Bikes Present	Average Number of Species	Average Number of Observations	Average Number of Animals
1	No	9	14	21
	Yes	7	11	20
	Percent Change	28.57%	27.27%	5.00%
2	No	10	14	22
	Yes	9	11	19
	Percent Change	11.11%	27.27%	15.79%
3	No	8	10	15
	Yes	8	11	18
	Percent Change	0.00%	-9.09%	-16.67%
4	No	11	16	25
	Yes	7	9	17
	Percent Change	57.14%	77.78%	47.06%
All Stations	No	9	14	21
	Yes	8	11	19
	Percent Change	12.50%	27.27%	10.53%

Table 11. Modified averages of observations.

<u>Day of Week</u>	<u>Av. Species</u> <u>Observed</u>	<u>StDev</u>	<u>Av. No.</u> <u>Observations</u>	<u>StDev</u>	<u>Av. No.</u> <u>Animals</u>	<u>StDev</u>
Saturday	20	7	46	32	73	50
Sunday	18	7	44	32	74	51
Percent Change	11		4.5		-1.3	
<u>Bike Usage</u>						
Low	22	5.6	82	37.4	52	22.28
High	17	4.6	63	33.8	37	18.2
Percent Change	22		23		27	
<u>Bikes Present</u>						
No	23	6	90	40	57	23
Yes	18	5	64	33	38	18
Percent Change	20		28		33	

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Table 12. Species observed.

California Treefrog

Alligator Lizard
Granite Spiny Lizard
Side-blotched Lizard
Whiptail species

Audubon's Cottontail
Coyote
Woodrat species

Acorn Woodpecker
American Kestrel
Bewick's Wren
Black-headed Grosbeak
California Gnatcatcher
California Towhee
Common Bushtit
Cooper's Hawk
Downy Woodpecker
Gnatcatcher species
Greater Roadrunner
House Finch
Hutton's Vireo
Loggerhead Shrike
Northern Flicker
Orange-crowned Warbler
Passerine species
Purple Finch
Red-tailed Hawk
Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Say's Phoebe
Song Sparrow
Swallow species
Turkey Vulture
Warbler species
Western Kingbird
White-throated Swift
Wren species
Yellow-breasted Chat

Pacific Treefrog

California Kingsnake
Lizard species
Skink species

California Groundsquirrel
Mule Deer

American Crow
Anna's Hummingbird
Black Phoebe
Blue-grey Gnatcatcher
California Quail
Cassin's Kingbird
Common Raven
Costa's Hummingbird
Flycatcher species
Goldfinch species
Hawk species
House Wren
Lazuli Bunting
Mallard
Northern Mockingbird
Osprey
Phainopepla
Red-naped Sapsucker
Rock Wren
Rufous-crowned Sparrow
Scrub Jay
Sparrow species
Swift species
Violet-green Swallow
Warbling Vireo
White-crowned Sparrow
Wilson's Warbler
Wrentit
Yellow-rumped Warbler

Treefrog species

Gopher Snake
Orange-throated Whiptail
Western Fence Lizard

Cottontail species
Valley Pocket Gopher

American Goldfinch
Ash-throated Flycatcher
Black-chinned Hummingbird
Brewer's Blackbird
California Thrasher
Cliff Swallow
Common Yellowthroat
Dark-eyed Junco
Gadwall
Great Egret
Hooded Oriole
Hummingbird species
Lesser Goldfinch
Mourning Dove
Nuttall's Woodpecker
Pacific Slope Flycatcher
Plain Titmouse
Red-shouldered Hawk
Rough-winged Swallow
Rufous-sided Towhee
Sharp-shinned Hawk
Starling
Towhee species
Vireo species
Western Bluebird
White-tailed Kite
Woodpecker species
Yellow Warbler

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Table 13. Animal behavior observed.

Blue Sky Ecological Reserve
Bike Study Report
9/3/95
Summary Observations By Day

Date	Day Of Week	Number of Species Observed	Number of Observations	Number of Animals Observed	Average Distance of Observation	Number of Animals By Type of Behavior				
						Foraging	People or Other Animals	Perching / Sitting	Singing / Reproductive	Transiting the Area
2/4/95	Saturday	18	38	44	60	18	1	2	2	21
2/5/95	Sunday	17	37	46	73	27	1	4	0	16
2/11/95	Saturday	20	35	100	345	4	5	5	0	86
2/12/95	Sunday	22	34	102	180	2	0	15	0	85
2/18/95	Saturday	19	61	72	49	28	0	18	18	18
2/19/95	Sunday	19	33	41	66	10	0	10	8	13
2/25/95	Saturday	8	12	13	62	4	0	3	1	5
2/26/95	Sunday	8	11	18	55	1	9	8	2	1
3/4/95	Saturday	20	39	61	51	21	0	11	10	9
3/18/95	Saturday	18	25	34	70	5	2	6	5	18
3/19/95	Sunday	15	22	35	50	3	0	4	8	20
4/1/95	Saturday	5	8	11	20	0	0	2	0	8
4/2/95	Sunday	8	12	18	15	3	0	10	0	3
4/8/95	Saturday	22	35	49	40	1	1	20	2	25
4/9/95	Sunday	21	33	58	42	5	8	13	2	28
4/15/95	Saturday	30	67	98	85	15	2	23	21	37
4/16/95	Sunday	33	89	87	97	21	0	16	33	27
4/29/95	Saturday	20	29	48	90	12	0	10	8	16
5/6/95	Saturday	24	51	80	117	23	4	8	25	20
5/7/95	Sunday	21	55	90	150	1	4	23	38	24
5/13/95	Saturday	15	29	35	193	5	2	10	3	15
5/14/95	Sunday	13	25	27	347	5	0	4	3	15
6/3/95	Saturday	27	85	131	308	7	1	21	79	23
6/4/95	Sunday	24	79	129	194	5	8	7	81	30
6/17/95	Saturday	21	39	68	130	8	2	18	1	36
6/18/95	Sunday	16	36	77	99	31	0	18	2	28
6/24/95	Saturday	12	28	38	273	15	0	7	0	16
6/25/95	Sunday	11	28	44	440	23	0	4	2	15
7/1/95	Saturday	29	92	158	229	8	2	10	68	68
7/2/95	Sunday	27	87	150	451	26	6	4	59	55
7/8/95	Saturday	34	145	218	27	37	23	66	59	33
7/9/95	Sunday	28	140	216	28	40	14	73	59	30
7/15/95	Saturday	18	39	89	226	28	0	7	8	48
7/16/95	Sunday	18	38	83	114	18	2	12	2	29
7/22/95	Saturday	18	28	48	168	17	2	5	0	24
7/23/95	Sunday	10	19	44	164	20	2	4	2	16

Table 14. Averages of observations of animal behavior and distance. F = foraging, I = interaction with other animal or people, P = perched or sedentary, S = singing or courtship, T = transit locomotion, Distance = average distance in feet from the Green Valley Truck Trail.

<u>Day of Week</u>	<u>Average Number of Animals</u> <u>- Displaying Behavior</u>					<u>Distance</u>
	<u>F</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>T</u>	
Saturday	13	2	13	16	28	135
Sunday	15	3	14	19	27	160
<u>Bike Usage</u>						
Low	13	1	11	21	31	156
High	15	4	15	15	25	140
<u>Bikes Present</u>						
No	13	2	10	26	31	177
Yes	15	3	14	14	26	134

Table 15. Averages of observations by observer and day.

Blue Sky Ecological Reserve
Bike Study Report

9/3/95

Observations By Observer Code/Day

Observer	Day Of Week	Days Counted		Total Species		Total Bikes		Average Bikes		Average Species		Standard Deviation		Average Number of Observations		Standard Deviation		Average Number of Animals		Standard Deviation	
		Observed	Counted	Observed	Counted	Observed	Counted	Observed	Counted	Observed	Counted	Observed	Counted	Observed	Counted	Observed	Counted	Observed	Counted	Observed	Counted
1	Saturday	33	3	16	5	18	2	45	11	56	12										
1	Sunday	24	2	41	21	18	1	35	2	45	4										
2	Saturday	38	4	13	3	20	1	37	2	77	20										
2	Sunday	35	4	76	19	20	2	35	1	75	18										
3	Saturday	11	2	5	3	7	2	10	2	12	1										
3	Sunday	11	2	23	12	7	1	12	1	18	2										
4	Saturday	36	3	12	4	18	2	27	2	43	6										
4	Sunday	21	2	31	16	13	3	21	2	40	5										
5	Saturday	30	1	2	2	30	0	67	0	98	0										
5	Sunday	33	1	0	0	33	0	69	0	97	0										
6	Saturday	36	3	0	0	27	2	76	16	122	32										
6	Sunday	37	3	52	17	24	2	74	14	123	25										
7	Saturday	21	2	7	4	14	2	29	1	37	2										
7	Sunday	19	2	16	8	12	1	26	1	36	9										
8	Saturday	34	1	5	5	34	0	145	0	218	0										
8	Sunday	26	1	17	17	28	0	140	0	216	0										

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INFORMATION OF
PAGES 4, RECREATION

March 13, 1998

Richard Schmale
414 Pennsylvania Ave.
Santa Cruz, CA 95062

ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS RECEIVED

Mayor Celia Scott
City Hall
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

RECEIVED

MAR 13 1998

COUNCIL AND
CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: POGONIP GARDEN, A WIN-WIN COMPROMISE?

Dear Mayor:

I would like to make the case that a homeless garden project at Pogonip would have minimal visual impact if it were confined to a six acre site in the eastern section of Pogonip's lower meadow. That six acre portion of the lower meadow, east of the large gully that bifurcates the meadow, and south of the designated service road, is fairly flat and would probably be less subject to erosion than the rest of the lower meadow. Please see attached map. If one walks up Golf Club Drive from Pogonip's entrance, the trees growing in the central gully visually screen off the view of the six acres suggested for the reduced garden project until one reaches the dog-leg bend in the road. From the bend in the road to the clubhouse, the six acre plot is far enough away from the road to reduce the visual impact of farming activity and the changes it imposes on the landscape.

Yesterday I toured the UCSC farm to get an idea of how farming might change the visual ambiance of the western section of Pogonip's lower meadow, the section which is right next to the road on the lower part of Golf Club Drive in Pogonip. Paranthetically, I would suggest all interested parties go see the UC farm to see how farming might visually affect Pogonip. After visiting the UC farm, I became certain that any farming in the western section of the lower meadow would drastically change the present peaceful and natural ambiance of Pogonip. Please see enclosed newspaper photo of western section of lower meadow. Farming in this area, because it is so close to Golf Club Drive would change the identity of the entranceway of Pogonip from park to farm. Visit the UC farm and then imagine farming right up to the fence along the lower section of Golf Club Drive in Pogonip. Farming (the homeless garden would be on the scale of a farm) farming is a quasi-industrial activity and not all aspects are attractive, especially in a park. UC farm is set back from roads and screened by trees. The above mentioned six acres at Pogonip would also be distanced and screened by trees if a few trees were planted by the service road in eastern lower meadow.

The City Council has exercised a keen sense of design and proportion in oversight of the rebuilding of the downtown with truly wonderful result. I hope the City Council will also closely scrutinize the aesthetics of the homeless garden and other projects at Pogonip. Given that Pogonip cost \$15 million it would be a shame if it visually became a backdrop to an over-large homeless garden farming project. Pogonip, in fact, will have cost nearly 30 million by the time all interest is paid on State bonds. Pogonip's original acquisition was "sold" to the public on the basis of open space esthetic values. Mid-Penninsula Open Space District is now beginning eminent domain proceedings to acquire land and prevent four buildings from being built by a religious order because the buildings would visually impact on open space. A full 12.5 acre Pogonip garden would impact on de facto open space. Scale it back to six acres for a "win-win".

Sincerely,

3/31 Council Agenda Item
on Pogonip Garden Project

enclosures (2)

Richard Schmale

cc: City Council

D169

133

LOWER MAIN MEADOW ~~PROPOSED USES~~ Suggested Reduced Site

SERVICE DRIVEWAY
(12 FOOT WIDTH)

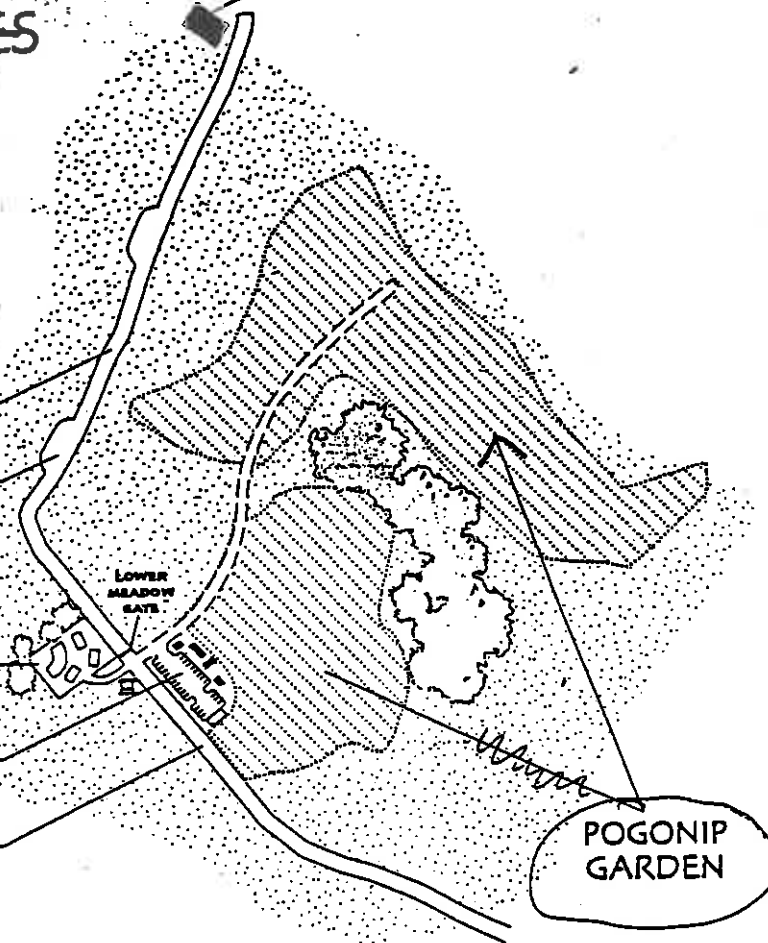
VEHICLE TURNOUT

OUTDOOR
EDUCATION CAMP

LOWER MEADOW
PARKING

GOLF CLUB DRIVE
(28 FOOT WIDTH WITH
BICYCLE LANES)

CLUBHOUSE



0 200 400

SERVICE DRIVEWAY
(10 FOOT WIDTH)

MOWED SERVICE ROAD

TRAIL KICK

POGONIP CREEK TRAIL

GUARDRAIL

make o site

rate.

porters also said that the mu-
could serve as a "gateway to
nip." Several sites have been
d at but a specific site has not
picked. One near the edge of
ark would make sharing any
e parking built by at the park
r, Prentiss said.

e three council members on
all said the idea was a good
but details would have to be
ed out.

s unbelievable that a city like
a Cruz has a resource like this
s boundaries," said Council-
Scott Kennedy. "But there's a
f issues to be resolved that
to be worked out."

nnedy, Lane and Councilman
Mahaney agreed that a natu-
history museum would have
least adverse environmental
ect of any development.

would depend on where they
roads and how it's designed,"
aney said. "But I think there's
to fit buildings in and still
e big areas."

masterplan for Pogonip has
developed and overseeing the
will be a challenge for the
F



Shmuel Thaler/Sentinel

Museum Task Force Chairman Robert Stephens leads a tour of the Pogonip property.

WESTERN PORTION OF POGONIP'S LO-ER MEADOW ALONG GOLF CLUB DRIVE.
Should homeless garden's farming activities replace this section
of open meadowland?

March 25, 1998

Santa Cruz City Council Members
Parks and Recreation Department

Dear People,

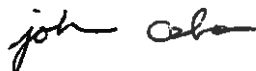
My name is John Coha. I am a resident of the City of Santa Cruz. I was a participant in the focus group led by Susan Harris that studied Pogonip Park back in March, April, and May of 1997. I heartily support Alternative A as defined in the Draft Master Plan for Pogonip Park, as did two thirds of the participants of that process. The Draft Master Plan states that the mixed land use option was supported by the City Council in 1993 and that there would be no negative impact to rare and endangered plants and animals by opening up Rincon Trail, Brayshaw Trail, and Spring Trail to multiple use. These trails, which are actually old roads, are well established and wide enough to be shared safely by all user groups.

ER → I would like to comment on two points in the Draft Master Plan. Both points involve concerns about the safety of people using the top of Rincon Trail where it meets Coolidge Drive as an entrance and exit point to the park. On page II-37, under section TRANS-5e, there is no mention of changing the speed limit sign in that area from 45 MPH to 25 MPH. On page A-31, there is a letter from Frank Zwart of UCSC. He writes that this intersection "has serious safety problems resulting from very short sight lines and relatively high traffic speeds." Again, these concerns could be mitigated by simply changing the posted speed limit from 45 MPH to 25 MPH. Also, I don't know what he means by very short sight lines, since he does not state exactly how long the sight lines are, but a visit to that intersection would show that one can see for a couple hundred feet in either direction. When this was brought up at the Council meeting where the focus group presented its report, Mike Rotkin said he thought Coolidge Drive was a dangerous place for bicycling. However, Coolidge Drive is a very safe road for bicycling because it has very wide bike lanes on both sides of the road.

The letter from Frank Zwart goes on to mention that Rincon Road has no connection to any trails at its intersection with Coolidge Drive. However, to connect with Chinguapin Road, one only has to go up Coolidge Drive until it turns into McLaughlin Drive, then continue up McLaughlin Drive until it meets Chinguapin Road. Chinguapin Road is the main "trail" through the upper campus.

Finally, I ask all of you to not take too narrow of an environmental view and miss the very real environmental benefits of getting people to use their cars less by riding their bikes more. Every safe route opened to bikes makes it easier and more convenient to leave the car at home and pollute the air less.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter.



John Coha
209 Mountain Way
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

D170

D171

To Whom It May Concern: 3-25-98
In regards to the EIR on trail use in
the Pogosip Park, I would like to keep
the trails as they are for use by
walkers and runners but NO mechanical
devices such as bicycles. The Pogosip
is such a jewel. We need to be very
careful to keep it as pristine as
possible. Thank you for considering my opinion.
Cinn Stanislawsky
117 Goss Ave.
S.C. CA 95065
425-0757

D172

DAVID GREEN BASKIN

633 Highland Avenue
Santa Cruz, Ca 95060-2035

March 30, 1998

ATTN: Susan Harris
Parks and Recreation Department
City of Santa Cruz
323 Church Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Re: Comments on Pogonip Draft EIR

Dear Ms. Harris:

Set forth below are my comments on the Draft EIR. Comments are identified by specific reference to the section in the report where items are discussed, with the exception of comments at the end which address issues that impact on a number of sections.

BIO-1a: Garden Project (and related Garden Project items) - another alternative to be considered is locating the garden off Pogonip on vacant land owned by the County of Santa Cruz which is located closer to the SC County Emeline Health facility. The report generally does not state strongly enough that the Garden Project does not belong on this site at all. There are too many SU (significant unavoidable) impact designations that go with this part of the project, with no adequate mitigation measures to reduce the adverse impact. It should be noted that the garden project calls for 12.5 acres of predominately row crops, with small areas of orchard, perennials, greenhouses, and a parking lot. None of this is visually, aesthetically or use consistent with the rest of the Pogonip or the guidelines for the Master Plan which emerged from the initial *Pogonip Land Use Options Assessment*. The Garden project is less consistent with the rest of the site than other alternatives, such as a golf course or playing fields, which were rejected as suitable alternatives.

D173

Section V.D. of the Draft EIR considers locating the Garden Project off-site, at a location other than Pogonip, an Environmentally Superior Alternative to having the Garden at Pogonip. I support this finding.

Trails Related Items

Section V.A. considers the possibility of just keeping things as they are, and identifies that not having multi-use has the adverse environmental impact of having trails remain limited to pedestrian use only and not improved. This finding is supported and should be augmented. Not opening the fire roads to multi-use significantly restricts recreational opportunities and also forces cyclists onto existing paved roads such as S.R. 9 where there are no bicycle lanes. The S.R. 9/Rincon/Spring Trails to Spring Street

D174

connection provides a route from the San Lorenzo Valley to West Santa Cruz which avoids the S.R. 9/Hwyway 1 intersection and transition to Mission Street, which is not bicycle friendly. It should be emphasized that trails Alternative B, while providing a regional connection between UCSC, Wilder/Gray Whale and Henry Cowell, does not provide bicycle access to Central Santa Cruz or the Westside, which are only accomplished through Pogonip by inclusion of Brayshaw and Spring Trails (Alternative A). This should be stated more clearly.

D174

BIO-1j: Protection of existing wood rat nests should not be a problem when routing the UCSC connector trail. There is adequate habitat for the wood rat so that this is not important, especially as compared to the need to locate the trail so as to minimize erosion and maintenance as suggested elsewhere in the report.

D175

BIO-3: There is no reason to believe that bicycle or equestrian use on the Harvey West, Lookout and Pogonip Creek trails needs to be monitored any more than hiking on those trails in order to avoid or reduce impacts to denning bobcats.

D176

GEO-1l: Any limitations on traffic volumes to minimize trail impacts should be administered without prejudice to any particular use. It should not be assumed that bicycle or equestrian use should be limited while hiking use is not limited. For example, group hikes, which purport to be educational, take large groups into sensitive areas during periods of inappropriate conditions. For example, the Sierra Club (of which I am a member) recently sponsored an educational hike with a hydrologist in Pogonip during a period of heavy rains. Approximately 30 people were led off-trail into sensitive creek and spring areas. Review of trail use permits for special events should include group hikes and not discriminate between user groups.

D177

GEO-1n: Any limits on wet season use should be applied non-discriminately between user groups. Being on a bike adds only 25-30 lbs. of weight to a person. The cyclists will be limited to areas that are less sensitive, steep, and are service roads being maintained for motorized vehicle access. The slopes of the multi-use trails are not excessive (with the exception of the proposed walking only section on Brayshaw). If, due to wet conditions, limitations on trail use must be established, they should not discriminate against any user group.

D178

WAT-1b: Voluntary trail closures during wet seasons should be minimized to the extent possible. Daily or weekly closures should be preferred to seasonal closures whenever adequate to minimize adverse impacts to water quality and reduce trail maintenance requirements. Seasonal closures should only be used when it is clear that daily or weekly closures will not suffice.

D179

WAT-1c: Concerns about users going off of authorized trails should not be limited to concerns about cyclists and equestrians going on trails limited to pedestrians. There is already significant evidence of unauthorized trails created by pedestrians hiking off of established trails. Of particular concern are organized "nature walks" by a variety of organizations, which, under the guise of education, frequently go off-trail in sensitive areas, causing trail widening, creating unauthorized trails, and increasing the potential for erosion. Monitoring unauthorized trail use should be done in a manner that does not discriminate against user groups, without assumptions that cyclists and equestrians present a greater risk or incidence of unauthorized trail access.

D180

WAT-1e: While gradients of 8% or less may be preferred on multi-use trails, gradients up to 15% or more should be considered acceptable when, considering issues other than water alone, such gradients provide the best routes (i.e. New UCSC Connector). As noted in WAT-1f, trail gradients of over 30% are allowed for hiking trails. Experience at Wilder Ranch and Gray Whale Ranch State Park demonstrates that the issues of slope gradients, erosion, drainage, etc., are not related to the type of user on the trail. Drainage structures such as those identified in WAT-1d can be implemented on trails where needed, whether pedestrian only or multi-use.

D181

WAT-1m: While proposed trail grades of less than 12% and widths of 4-6 feet may be preferred for the UCSC connector trail, these should not be absolute limits when all considerations for trail routing are considered. There may be sections of trail which, in order to minimize the impact of trail installation, erosion, etc., should be in excess of 12% grade and narrower than 4 feet, especially in areas where visibility is adequate. The remote location of the UCSC connector will result in limited pedestrian use, as compared to cyclists and equestrians, who tend to cover more territory and access more remote trails such as this one.

D182

TRANS-5a: Warning signs at SR 9 and Coolidge Drive at the Rincon Trail, Rincon Connector Trail and Sycamore Trail crossing/intersections should not only say "Pedestrian Crossing" and "Equestrian Crossing," but also "Bicyclist Crossing."

D183

TRANS-5c: Bicycle users should be encouraged and able to access the trail system from UCSC not only at the new connector, but at Spring Trail at the top of Spring Street. The Spring Trail/Spring Street connection goes not only to the upper West Side of Santa Cruz, but also to a UCSC dirt service road that connects to the lower campus bike lanes and bike paths.

D184

TRANS-6: It is appropriate to monitor multi-use trails for conflicts between users. However, additional mitigation measures should not include closing trails to multi-use,

D185

since most trails in the park will be closed to multi-use in any event. Multi-use trails should be seen as essential for providing recreational opportunities for all segments of the population and essential trail connections. Mitigation measures could include widening trails or creating parallel trails for different user groups, but not closing trails to multi-use. The suggestion that trails be closed to multi-use reflects a prejudice in favor of pedestrian use. If pedestrians wish to avoid interactions with cyclists and/or equestrians, there is access to exclusively pedestrian trails without use of multi-use trails, i.e., at Harvey West Park. There should be no discrimination against multi-use, especially since experience at other parks indicates that conflicts frequently exist as a result of the unwillingness of pedestrians to share the trails with other users. If pedestrians do not see closing trails to multi-use as an alternative, then they will learn to work cooperatively to minimize conflicts and share the trails.

D185

SER-1c: Volunteer patrols should be encouraged, but should not be a condition of trails being open for multi-use.

SER-1d: As reflected in the recommendations of the Pogonip Focus Groups, there is no need for posted speed limits. Posted speed limits sometimes result in the erroneous beliefs that one is traveling at a safe speed as long as one is below the limit, or that one is traveling at an unsafe speed when one is traveling above the limits. As experienced at locations like Wilder and Gray Whale, multi-use can operate safely without speed limits, by requiring that all users travel at a safe speed, depending upon all relevant conditions. Speed limits are difficult to enforce, are not enforced consistently, and can encourage a game mentality that we frequently see among motorized travelers, that one is not speeding if one does not get caught. As reflected in numerous studies, including those provided by Parks and Rec staff during the Focus Groups, it is better to try less intrusive and oppressive management techniques first before trying more heavy handed approaches. Speed limits should only be considered at those locations specifically identified as problematic after significant use and study, as a last resort when other techniques for reducing user conflicts have failed.

D186

Section IV.G - Transportation and Circulation - There is a basic prejudice against cycling displayed in the way the Draft EIR proposes mitigation measures for dealing with inappropriate trail use. The multi-use trails do not significantly go through or near sensitive areas as compared to the hiking trails. There is already a proliferation of numerous unauthorized hiking trails, created by hikers. The Draft EIR recommends removal of these unauthorized trails, but no regulatory scheme to fine those pedestrians who go off-trail into unauthorized areas. The Draft EIR recommends an ordinance with fines for cyclists who speed or go in unauthorized areas. There is no suggestion of fines for pedestrians who go in unauthorized areas or otherwise act inappropriately. Any

D187

ordinance to be adopted to regulate unauthorized use should not discriminate against any user group. If there are to be fines for users accessing unauthorized areas or other inappropriate conduct, they should apply to all users and be enforced equally as to all users.

Table IV.G-5 Compares Multi-Use Trails Standards for a variety of Jurisdictions. Listed are the East Bay Regional Parks District, Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District, California State Parks (Santa Cruz District), Soquel Demonstration State Forest and the Marin Municipal Water District. Within the State Parks Santa Cruz District, Henry Cowell Redwoods and Nisene Marks State Parks are discussed. Notable by its omission is Wilder Ranch (including Gray Whale Ranch) the one State Park in the area where all fire roads and trails are open to multi-use, and where, coincidentally, land use managers recognize that multi-use works well. A comparison to Wilder Ranch should have been included.

Similarly, Section IV.H, which discusses Service Systems and Utilities, purports to compare to nearby similar areas, but omits a comparison to Wilder Ranch, where there are minimal reported conflicts between users and no speed limits. Wilder Ranch should be considered a model for enforcement policy in Pogonip, especially given its proximity and that it will be linked by connecting trails if any of the multi-use alternatives are adopted.

The combination of a number of the above items (willingness to close the trails to multi-use; discriminatory ordinance proposed; omission of comparison to Wilder Ranch, etc.) demonstrates a bias in the report against multi-use, and cycling in particular. This should be revised to take a more balanced approach to the various user groups. The user groups cannot be expected to learn to share the trails in a non-discriminatory manner if the system is set up to be biased against a particular group. Instead, the system as proposed will encourage discrimination against cyclists and potentially a campaign to create conflicts in hopes that it will result in termination of multi-use.

Very truly yours,



DAVID GREEN BASKIN

D187

D188

3.31.98

Dear Santa Cruz City Council:

My thanks to all for the Pogonip Draft and E.I.R.
a key statement applies (IV,A-2)

Way
to!
go!

"The majority of the site is designated as a Natural Area, which includes land that for reasons of safety, habitat protection and aesthetic and recreational purposes should remain in an underdeveloped state."

With more planning in the offing, activities must be spelled out. How else can impacts be mitigated.

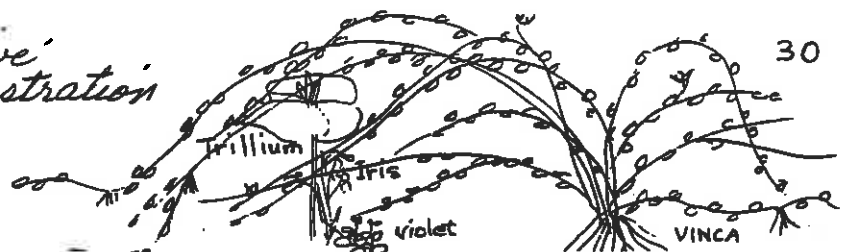
It is obvious that this community asset has been diminished by dogs, (IV,B-29) horses and pedestrians. The Homeless Garden presents a serious erosion problem and if Outdoor Camp means a ball field (VI,C-18), tent platforms, litter, busy work of macaroni plaques and hand holding ghost stories, we're in serious trouble. The Club House repair, traffic, noise, mowers and blowers could bring sound levels to a hurtful proportion.

Pogonip has much to offer. I can only hope we will meet its challenge of stewardship. How can I help?

Sincerely,

Nan Tunison Ogawa

-invasive
demonstration



D189

April 3, 1998

Susan Harris
Santa Cruz City Parks & Recreation Dept
343 Church Street
Santa Cruz, Ca. 95060

RE: Pogonip EIR Comments

Dear Ms. Harris:

Following are my comments on the Draft EIR on the Pogonip Master Plan. I own property at 336 Golf Club Drive. The Pogonip Park is a wonderful public resource. The park was created with the primary purpose of creating a green belt of open space that would define the limits of urban growth. Having limited the expansion of the City at the periphery, the City recognized the importance of efficient infill development within the remaining urban land that would provide housing, employment and other needs of the community. With this in mind it is critical that the primary purpose of providing open space and an environmental refuge for a more intense level of infill development not be jeopardized.

At the same time, however, the development of the park should not be undertaken without evaluating the effects and impacts on the surrounding properties that have been previously designated as appropriate for a more intense level of infill development.

- 1) The discussion of cumulative impacts is incomplete. The discussion does not consider the cumulative impacts of the build out of the Golf Club Drive Specific Plan area.

On Page VI-4 the EIR states that when evaluating cumulative impacts, CEQA allows the use of a list of reasonably anticipated relevant projects. The General Plan provides a specific range of residential units which will be allowed on these properties. Table IV.A-1, pg. IVA-13, of the EIR identifies the relationship of the Pogonip project and policy L2.2.6 which requires a specific plan for the Golf Club Drive area and specifies a residential development of between 20 and 100 units.

Analyzing the cumulative impacts of this reasonably anticipated range of development intensity in the Golf Club Drive Specific Plan Area should be completed to comply with CEQA.

D190

Susan Harris
April 3, 1998
Page 2

2) The evaluation of the need to widen Golf Club Drive below the gated entrance to the Pogonip Park and the effects of the tressle on the constriction of traffic must be considered in light of the reasonably anticipated development in the Golf Club Drive Area.

D191

3) If the widening of Golf Club Drive is required above the entrance gate, it is certainly required between the gate and the tressle. The EIR appropriately recognizes the need for this consistency.

D192

4) The existing tennis courts are a wonderful low impact recreational resource in a magnificent setting. Parking for the clubhouse should be located elsewhere in the Clubhouse area and the tennis courts repaired and preserved. Additionally basketball nets should be installed on the courts, similar to the County park at Brommer and 30th to allow more mixed use recreational activities.

D193

5) A bicycle connection from the downtown area to UCSC should be allowed if bicycles are limited to the main fire roads and the speeds are controlled. The EIR should evaluate the feasibility and practicality of enforcing these limitations. General Plan Policy L.2.2.6 states that the Golf Club Drive Specific Plan should provide bicycle access to the Pogonip area.

D194

6) The costs and the sources of funding to develop and maintain the Garden should be made explicit in the plan. Significant public funds have been spent for the land and will be spent for the infrastructure. These costs should be part of the public discussion of the Garden project.

D195

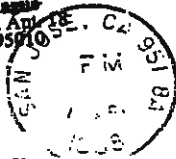
7) Currently there is insufficient patrol of the Pogonip area to control camping in the park. This uncontrolled camping presents fire hazard, safety, sanitation and nuisance issues. The establishment of the lower campground must be strictly controlled to prevent its misuse and a potential for unintended impacts.

D196

John Swift
211 Pennsylvania Ave.
Santa Cruz, CA 95062



Mildred Bourgeois
912 Capitola Ave. Apt. 18
Capitola, CA 95010



REC'D APR 06 1998

Parks Recreation Dept.
323 Church St.
Santa Cruz, CA, 95060

Att: Susan Harris

Dear Santa Cruz Council,
April 4, 1998
I have a few comments
to report as a 70 year resident
of Santa Cruz, pertaining to
the draft environmental report
for the Pogoip master plan.
As a girl used to hike all
over Pogoip - consequently
my wish is that the
trails would remain as
hiking trails only.
Perhaps, the Homestead Garden
Project can be checked again
for any possible impacts.
As for the use of the Clubhouse
best remain an historical
bldg. of early Santa Cruz.
Sincerely, Raymond Bourgeois

D197

April 2, 1998

Santa Cruz City Council Members
Santa Cruz Parks and Recreation Commission Members
Attn. Susan Harris
Parks and Recreation Department
323 Church St.
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

SUBJECT: Written Comments - Pogonip Draft Master Plan and Draft EIR

Dear Council Members and Commissioners,

My name is Patricia Doler and I would like to take this opportunity to comment on the proposed plan for Pogonip. My family owns 33 acres adjacent to the northern park boundary, which my grandfather purchased in the early 1950's. I was born and raised in Santa Cruz and resided on the above mentioned property from the age of 6 until just a few years ago, approximately 35 years. Pogonip was my backyard. I learned my love of nature and local history from hiking and researching this area with my family. In addition, my family had a membership at the Pogonip Club for approximately 20 years. To this day, I cannot think of any place in Santa Cruz, more special than Pogonip - it is truly magical! I currently run, or hike with my 5 year old daughter, an average of 3 to 4 times a week there. My daughter is now the 4th generation Doler/Mariner family member to enjoy the peaceful serenity and extreme beauty of this invaluable piece of property!

As I stated, several areas of the proposed Pogonip Master Plan and EIR concern me, they are as follows:

1. Although I support the Homeless Garden Project, I do not think re-location to Pogonip is the solution. This would be the first thing you see from the entrance at Golf Club Dr., thus changing the whole ambiance of the Pogonip experience. In addition, historically Pogonip was used for grazing/pasture land not agricultural farming. And the particular proposed location for the garden is an area where incredible natural seepage occurs year round, not just during El Nino years. I know people have suggested this location is similar to the UCSC Arboretum, but I think the hydrology of the proposed sight is more extreme and the impact due to erosion may be quite extensive.
2. I am opposed to a Multi-Use trail system for Pogonip. I am unique in that I am a cyclist, an equestrian, and a runner, and therefore can speak from an uncharacteristic view point on this subject. I have seen the damage due to erosion, as well as personally feared for my life on the trails at both Wilder Ranch and Nisene Marks State Parks due to cyclists. Also, it should be taken into consideration the number of UCSC cyclists immediately adjacent to Pogonip, of which a large number are "short-term residents" of Santa Cruz. These individuals may not have the same sense of "ownership" that other city residents

D198

D199

45

have for this property, thus jeopardizing pedestrian safety, trail construction/condition, and the current peaceful "Pogonip experience". I am in favor of a northern equestrian connector trail between Henry Cowell and UCSC property. The erosion caused by horses is not as extensive as cycling, due to ever changing hoof placement and a broader area of coverage.

D199

3. I would like to suggest re-locating the educational center to the clubhouse area. The area currently suggested for the outdoor educational center/camp is "hydrologically challenged". It is wet all year round and although the polo stables were located there in the 1930-40's, old-time members of the Pogonip Polo Club found this site sloppy and unsafe, due to the natural seepage in this area. I think restoring the clubhouse and designating a portion of this existing facility, or finding a location near the current ranger station would be a better choice. Both the visual impact and the development of the park land would be minimized.

D200

4. I am supportive of the historic clubhouse restoration. This is a historically significant building due to its age, as well as its varied use. I believe the road should not be widened, but the water, sewer, and power lines should be brought up. I am also concerned, that the clubhouse restoration is recommended for the second phase of implementation of the Master Plan. Delaying this work may jeopardize the building. I would hate to see another historical building in Santa Cruz lost to fire!

In addition, I would like to see further historical review conducted of the Pogonip property, and to this end I would like to offer my services. As I stated before, my family spent many years, both as trespassers and invited guests on the Cowell Foundation property. We knew the ranch manager(s) when cattle grazed the property, and the tenants of the McCormick Estate. (The house did not burn down until the late 1960's or early 1970's, although the Master Plan reflects otherwise.) I am currently researching the Pogonip land and surrounding areas as a personal project. I have spent many hours and continue to spend time pouring over historical documents at the City of Santa Cruz Library; the Special Collections Division of the McHenry Library; and the County Records Office. I would be glad to share any information I have with anyone who is interested!

D201

Thank You for your time and consideration on this very important matter!

Sincerely,



Patricia Doler
215 Allerton St.
Santa Cruz, CA 95065
(408) 426-4640s

REC'D APR 06 1998

708 Riverside Ave. Apt. 2
Santa Cruz, CA. 95060
April, 1998

City of Santa Cruz
Dept. of Parks and Recreation
323 Church St.
Santa Cruz, CA. 95060
Attn: Susan Harris

Dear Ms. Harris,

Pogonip OpenSpace Preserve is a wonderful island of tranquility within the small but ever more energetic city of Santa Cruz. It also provides an opportunity to observe nature in a variety of environments and habitats as well as exhibiting breathtaking views from a number of locations. The trail system provides access to redwood groves, oak-dotted hillsides, broad meadows and historical monuments. The trails also provide opportunities to observe the wildlife which occupies these various ecological niches in a relatively compact area, conveniently located within moments of downtown Santa Cruz.

To preserve the peaceful, one might say "meditative", ambience of this Preserve as well as its ecological integrity, I recommend that bicycles be excluded from Pogonip or confine to the upper Rincon Trail and its potential connection to U.C.S. (Alternative B). The number and speed of mountain bike careening through nearby State parks such as Wilder Ranch, as well as other parks around the Bay Area, in pursuit of the "extreme" sports experience has increased to the point
(1)

D202

of being a physical threat to the hikers who must share the trails with them. They also destroy peaceful ambience of a natural environment and, as indicated in the Environmental Impact Report, stimulate erosion and gullying in the trails where they ride. This is already evident on the single track trails where "outlaw" bicyclists have been riding illegally in Pogonip and in some places on the Spring Trail. As far as safety is concerned, horses seem to be less of a problem as they are generally ridden more slowly and can be heard approaching, however, their erosive impact must be studied. There needs to be one park in the area where hikers and observers of nature can stroll, jog or study in a relaxed way without having to fear a potentially dangerous encounter with a mountain bike flying down a hill and appearing suddenly and without warning from around a blind curve. Pogonip, by is best suited to be that place. This would be less of a problem if the City were in a position to hire more rangers to provide adequate supervision over the expanse of the trail system, but, unfortunately, the city's budgetary constraints greatly limit the amount of supervision possible.

D203

Regarding the Homeless Garden Project, there are a number of concerns which make locating it at Pogonip inadvisable. The meadow which the site occupies is made up of a soil formation called "The Santa Margarita formation"

(2)

D203

which is very porous and highly subject to erosion as evidenced by the soil's mushy, almost marsh-like, texture and growing gullies extending uphill from the arroyo or ravin which splits the proposed site into two sections. Both the E.I.R. and the Draft Master Plan show that tilling this soil, removing its grassy cover, building access roads and a number of structures will increase surface runoff which, in combination with shallow groundwater would increase erosion at the site which would then require constant time, labor and money-consuming efforts to mitigate that problem. Even then it is questionable as to whether such mitigations would hold. Historically, the meadow's best agricultural use has been as a pasture rather than as a place to plant row crops.

D204

Aside from erosion problems and the marshy quality of the soil at that site, there is the concern that the presence of the Garden Project at that location would destroy a wildlife habitat occupied by ~~hawks~~^{hawks} and white-tailed Kites and their prey as well as foxes and deer (which would probably turn their attention from grass to planted crops).

D205

Aesthetically, the growing collection of buildings planned for the site (including two greenhouses 20x70 ft. ^{each} the length of a big-rig trailer and almost twice the width, tractor barns, tool sheds and a 1500 sq.-ft. classroom with kitchen) places
(3)

D205

a small village in a spot that voters thought was to be open meadow when they supported the Greenbelt in city elections. Viewed from above, it would appear almost industrial, filled with structures, parked cars and bustling activity rather than a peaceful scene of broad meadows dotted with trees and overflowed by a variety of birds. Approaching along Golf Club Dr., the view would be even worse as the parking lot, sheds and classroom would be right adjacent to the road. Grading that area and the upper area where the greenhouses are planned will also result in increased runoff as identified by geologists in the E.I.R. draft. This may also affect the Nature study area, planned across Golf Club Drive from the Garden Project site, which is also somewhat marshy in texture.

D206

D207

I recommend that any structures that are necessary to be built (eg. outdoor education area, future museum, etc) should be located in the already built area adjacent to the Clubhouse, leaving the rest of Pogonip in as natural a state as possible. All structures should be designed to harmonize with the environment and with the architecture of the clubhouse which would be the "anchor" structure at that location.

D208

The master plan needs to include a means for adequate supervision of the entire area to prevent degradation of the park and its trails, discourage illegal camping which already

(4)

D208

has caused several fires and considerable littering and to generally promote safe and responsible use of the Park. Trails need to be marked frequently with signage reminding users of proper trail etiquette; especially, in multi-use trails. Trash cans should be also present at various points on trails with benches at various sites, particularly where great views are afforded (such as along Spring Trail).

Thank you for your patience and attention.

Respectfully,
Bruce M. Engelhardt
Bruce M. Engelhardt
429-8823

(S)

From: Jim Felich <felich@consultus.com>
Subject: Response to Draft Pogonip Master Plan and DEIR
To: citycncl@cruzio.com

23:29

We would like this document to be considered our response to the Draft Pogonip Master Plan and the Draft Environmental Impact Report.

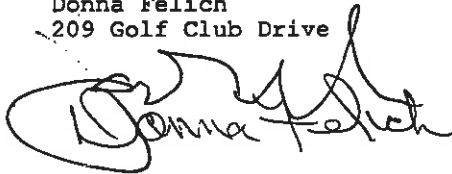
As 17 year residents of Golf Club drive, we wish to register our outrage at some of the proposed uses for the Pogonip.

For many years much energy has been directed toward preserving the parkland and keeping it from being exploited. We feel strongly that a campground and a farm are not uses that are consistent with preserving the parkland. The council would never consider putting this campground and/or a farm on Light House Field because it would be considered an atrocity. How then can you consider putting that kind of development on pristine Pogonip meadows? Is Pogonip less significant?

We adamantly oppose any new development on the Pogonip property and will do everything in our power to fight it.

When we voters approved the monies to purchase Pogonip, we intended it to be Greenbelt lands. We hope that the council will honor that intent and preserve the natural parkland that is the Pogonip.

James Felich
Donna Felich
209 Golf Club Drive



3/27/98

RECEIVED

1 APR - 6 1998

COUNCIL AND
CITY MANAGER

Future
Council Agenda Item
Council Council Council



APR - 6 1990

COUNCIL AND
CITY MANAGER

To The City Council:

The City Council of Santa Cruz are stewards of the voters and taxpayers of Santa Cruz. If one appreciates the timeless wisdom found in the Bible, one can read Matthew: 25 and discern solutions to the controversy that is surrounding this land called Pogonip.

First I would like to point out to all that the Pogonip is not Pristine. It is not a wilderness. It is not a "magical place. It has been a golf course and a polo field. It has been clear cut of timber and hardwoods at least twice. The original inhabitants of this land (the Indians) burned it to the ground with regularity to promote particular growths in the meadows for their food needs and also to drive the wildlife out to be harvested for their meat and pelts. These Native Santa Cruzans made varied and profitable use of the land using diverse methods.

I have been hearing from people of all different interests that wish to have exclusive use of the Pogonip. These special interest groups claim their rightful uses are incompatible with other uses. I find all their arguments in this genre specious and defeatable. There is not time now to point out their fallacies.

I contend that as Stewards of this property the City Council Members have the obligation to use the property in the manners which benefit the ones who OWN the property; The hard working people of Santa Cruz. THE PEOPLE WHO PUT UP THEIR TAX MONEY TO COMPLETE THE PURCHASE . THE PEOPLE WHO WILL HAVE TO PAY EVER INCREASING TAXES, IN PART, BECAUSE THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN TAKEN OFF THE TAX ROLLS.

Future
Council Agenda Item
City Manager Council City

(61)



Right now it costs over \$300,000.00 per year just to administer the property in its underdeveloped state. For the last ten years, by the culpable inaction of the city council, we as taxpayers have been burdened with a WHITE ELEPHANT. Do the math. Ten years of no taxes coming in on the property and 10 years Spending over \$300,000.00 just to hold it. This same pattern of criminal waste has been done before and is soon to be repeated. I am speaking of the Arana Gulch property and soon to be the Kinsley property and Bombay properties on the west side of town.

Which brings up a salient point. Any use whatsoever of the Pogonip property MUST take into account the Promised Eastern access to the University. I have copies of documents here, going back as far as 1960, that demonstrate that the Eastern access to the University was promised by the City and County of Santa Cruz. The Eastern access was to be completed within a "few" years of the opening of the University 24 years ago!! In my gracious, estimation a few years should have been by 1970!

Right now there is an urgent need for an eastern access, even a temporary one perhaps using Golf Club Drive, because Cal-Trans is going to tear up Mission Street this December for a two to three year project widening Mission Street. There has been no new transit streets created to carry the burdensome traffic created by 24 years of University growth. City Councils' solutions to the traffic congestion on the west side is ONE WAY STREETS, SPEED BUMPS, AND THOSE STUPID ROUNDABOUTS ON KING STREET!

With this kind of planning, what makes me think there will be intelligent circumspect decisions made regarding the Pogonip?

D210

The Santa Cruz Politically Correct want to be noted for their sensitivity to diversity. Well, the uses of the Pogonip should be as diverse. The uses of the Pogonip should be those uses wanted and needed by those who paid for it. The hard working people of this County. The reason people work harder than is necessary for their sustenance is so they can do fun exciting activities with their spare time. Many hard working people have to venture out of this City and the County to engage in simple diversions because there is no room here at home.

I propose the Pogonip become a recreation Mecca for ALL the hard-working children and adults of Santa Cruz. I urge this body to take with a grain of salt, the selfish ranting of people with 2 thousand dollar mountain bikes, 2 thousand dollar horses, 2 hundred dollar hiking boots and, 2 dollar bottles of wine. Each of them want to exclude the others from using the property. Some of them didn't even help pay for the property, and don't contribute financially to its current level of maintenance through their taxes. Those people are not to whom you are stewards.

This town desperately needs huge expanses of lawn for soccer, touch football, ultimate Frisbee, rugby, softball, field hockey, etc. We need more basketball courts. We need a place for our young people to utilize their energies in a constructive manner. These fields will drive down the juvenile crime rate in our county.

The wooded areas could be used for Frisbee golf, hiking, nature walks, cross country running, and other uses. A par course could be designated. A place to skate is needed. A location suitable for weddings or memorial services or other special outdoor ceremonies

D211

could be designated in both the wooded area and in a meadow with a vista over the town and ocean. Two buildings like the Jade Street Center in Capitola could be constructed and rented out for income to defer some of the costs of administrating the park. Each building site could have different ambiance; forest and meadow. Such facilities currently go for upwards of \$400.00 per use! Let's get fiscally responsible about the Pogonip. Annual athletic events like rugby, soccer, basketball and Frisbee tournaments will produce income for the entire town.

D211

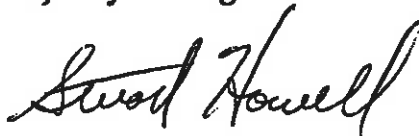
All the uses I have suggested are possible. None are mutually exclusive as advocates of other uses would have you believe about their proposals. There will still be ample space in the park to be left in its current state to be enjoyed by those who prefer no development in these areas.

There are many more suitable places for the homeless garden project: The Arana Gulch property, The former Kinsley Property above the Yacht Harbor, Antonelli Pond Area on the west side, Wilder Ranch and the old sprout fields above 4-mile Beach.

D212

Remember: Pogonip is not sacred ground. Eastern Access consideration is paramount at this time. And you must remember Matthew: 25, and be good stewards to the OWNERS who paid for and entrusted you with their purchase. The citizens own so much open space in this town with more on the way vis-a-vis the West side properties. Let a majority of us get to use it in a way that actually benefits us!

Stuart Howell
Santa Cruz



I, and the people I know, go to the Pogonip for its relative lack of development, so I'm writing in opposition to all the proposed developments. I think each would detract from what's best about the Pogonip.

The proposed developments would bring more motorized, mechanized, and high impact traffic to the park, in a place that's now a precious refuge from these. The proposed widening and development for cars and trucks would detract from the charm of the current road. Like the proposed municipal sewer and water service, the proposed parking lots are emblematic of exactly what we don't want on the land we've set aside. Refurbishing the clubhouse would bring traffic and exhaust fumes in proportion to the planned parking lots, and spoil a large portion of the Pogonip as a retreat from cars.

Pogonip roads currently suffer from unesthetic, unprofessional repairs, and unnecessary use by park staff in wet weather. Ironically, maintenance either sufficient or insufficient to prevent erosion of dirt roads impacted by proposed mountain bike traffic would detract from their charm -- portions of the UCSC fire roads demonstrate both ways of achieving that result. The upper campus also demonstrates the impact of the sheer numbers of bikers, the widespread damage to the forest caused by the proportion of bikers who break the rules and ride off the roads, and the large proportion of bikers who ride at high speed, without consideration for the safety or comfort of people sharing the road on foot.

D213

The lower meadows are alive with native species of plants and animals that should not be pushed aside for row crops. The Homeless Garden, perhaps in multiple smaller sites, and in an urban setting, might be an asset. But as now proposed, it would detract from the Pogonip's main asset, which is its measure of serenity, fresh air, and lush wildness, so appealing to people and to wildlife.

I'm concerned about the thoroughness of the draft EIR's inventory of animal life in the lower meadow, especially with respect to nocturnal animals, and their numbers there throughout the year. For example, the draft EIR mentions burrowing owls as a possible inhabitant. Has sufficient study been done to insure that these, and other species wouldn't be displaced by tilling and developing the meadow?

D214

I began to have concerns about Pogonip's current planning and maintenance with the heavy-handed removal of the redwood tree from the lime kiln. Once an esthetic treasure, it clearly evoked the charm of the past, and of nature transforming the past into a future of beauty, grandeur, and hope. Now there's just the dull disappointment at the lack of resourcefulness and imagination, and lack of esthetic judgment shown. I'm writing in the hope that Santa Cruz's citizens will demand a better outcome for the rest of the Pogonip.

Tony Morel

Santa Cruz

Bruce A. McDougal
PO Box J
Davenport CA 95017
April 6, 1998

Parks & Recreation Department
City of Santa Cruz
323 Church Street
Santa Cruz CA 95060

Attn: Susan Harris

Subj: Draft Environmental Report - Pogonip Master Plan

As owners of property adjacent to the Pogonip, we have been in complete support of all the efforts to acquire and preserve the Pogonip area for the use and enjoyment of the people of Santa Cruz. Throughout this process, the unique and special beauty of the place was central to the reasons given for saving it. It is clear that some improvements are necessary to provide for public access, but these must be designed and sited to have the least impact on the property as a whole and not destroy the very thing which is being protected.

Any improvements should be located together, in an area where the views and vistas can be appreciated without imposing development into the viewshed itself. Those that cannot be so located have no place in the Pogonip, and should be built in another location.

D215

The proposed location of the Homeless Garden and the Youth Camp is just such an intrusion, and the EIR should flatly state that for visual reasons alone they constitute an unacceptable impact. This, in conjunction with the other impacts reported which cannot be mitigated, (erosion, runoff and the endangered habitat) clearly calls for a complete reexamination and rejection of these proposals.

Aside from the above, there is disagreement about the feasibility of the Garden proposal anywhere in the Pogonip area. The land there appears to be marginal, and not the kind that would support the kind of agriculture proposed. Even if an appropriate site could be found, a separate EIR on the Garden Project is called for, and a review by a competent authority to establish agricultural viability.

D216

I urge you to stand by the recommendation in the Draft EIR, and declare the Garden an unacceptable environmental intrusion which must be located in some place other than the Pogonip.

D217

The Youth Camp should be removed from the viewshed and made a part of the clustered development in the area of the Clubhouse, sharing the parking, utilities and public-serving amenities at that location.

The EIR should also address the lowest meadow areas adjoining the private properties to the south, and potential impacts on the Golf Club Drive area itself (runoff, auto and pedestrian traffic impact, road capacity and overpass restrictions, utility needs for future buildout, etc.).

D218

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bruce A. McDougal", written in a cursive style.

Bruce A. McDougal

RECEIVED

APR - 8 1998

COUNCIL AND
CITY MANAGER

April 7, 1998

Celia Scott, Mayor
City of Santa Cruz
809 Center Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Dear Mayor Celia and City Council:

I feel I must relate my concern with specific elements of the Pogonip Master Plan. In particular, I strongly oppose to locating the Homeless Garden Project within the Pogonip Park.

I visit the Pogonip Park a minimum of once per week. I enjoy the park for meditative runs, frolicking walks with my dog, and picnic/kite flying adventures with my family. My two children love the park and I've found it a wonderful "forum" to teach them about something important, nature.

There are three main reasons why I feel that the park and the Homeless Garden are a *gross mismatch*:

① **Soil and Hydrology**

According to page II-15 of the Environmental Impact Report, Section GEO-1a states "to reduce the likelihood of *excessive erosion, severe gully advancement, and slope instability*, the Pogonip garden should be sited at an alternative off-site location." Under the Water Resources section on page 11-22, Section WAT-1a of the EIR states "to reduce *water quality impacts*, the Pogonip garden should be sited at an alternative off-site location." The consultants that the City has hired to review the impacts of the plan have determined that the impacts of the garden are significant. Even though the consultants provide ways to mitigation the impacts, I urge the city to follow their recommendation and "site the garden at an alternative off-site location."

D219

② **Illegal Campers and their Trash**

Already there is a problem with illegal campers in the Pogonip. Within the last four years there have been two murders, one rape due to homeless encampments. In addition, those out to enjoy nature are continually finding the aftermath of campers in the Pogonip. Needless to say this aftermath is not a pretty site. The campers leave behind trash, drug paraphernalia, personal belongings and their excrement in a decidedly "unecological"

D220

130

Justice
— Council Agenda Item
— Council Agenda Item

(36)

fashion. With the enlargement of the River Street homeless facility, the temptation to camp in the nearby woods will be even stronger. I believe it's a big mistake to magnify that temptation by locating a homeless activity within the park next to the woods.

D220

③ **Limited Use**

As much as I like the idea of providing job training to the homeless, the reality is that this function serves only a limited segment of the Santa Cruz population. A park, especially a publicly funded park, should be open to the widest segment of the population (which do not degrade the park). Frankly, I don't see why offering a part of the Pogonip Park for use by the homeless is much different from offering it to golfers or another small segment of the population.

D221

To a lesser degree, I feel that bicycle riding within the Pogonip should be limited to transportation connector routes. A prime example of the way the network could function is the proposed bicycle/pedestrian bridge which looks like it will be included in the Highway 1/17 interchange project. If constructed, this bridge will provide an excellent link for bicyclists coming from the east side of Santa Cruz (and beyond). They could use the river levy bike path, cross over the river at proposed Highway 1/San Lorenzo Bridge, pass under Highway 1, cross River Street at the signal at Encinal and use a direct path up to the university. The most logical route for this path is the same as the proposed rail route in Alternative 4 of the Major Transportation Investment Study. The alignment from the Harvey West area skirts a very small edge of the Pogonip Park, has the best (most bikable) slopes and would provide a great connection to Hagar Drive or the bike path, both major bike routes into the University of California, Santa Cruz.

D222

Again, I strongly urge the City of Santa Cruz council members NOT to overcompensate for what happened at the Pelton Street property by locating the Homeless Garden Project within the Pogonip. There are many other better suited agricultural sites within Santa Cruz County.

Sincerely,



Karena Pushnik

Santa Cruz City resident/citizen

408/429-6346

Sandra G. Henn
227 North Avenue
Aptos, California 95003

April 8, 1998

REC'D APR 08 1998

Parks and Recreation Department
323 Church Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

RE: Pogonip Master Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Report

Attention: Susan Harris

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Master Plan and the DEIR for the Pogonip. While I have many concerns regarding both, I will limit my comments to an area of greatest concern.

Multi-Trail Use:

The DEIR fails to address potential pedestrian/biker problems such as those that occur in other area parks. A thorough analysis of the potential impacts of bikes on hikers/walkers in the Pogonip should be completed. I have read the Wisconsin Study and believe its findings and those of other studies should be considered in evaluating the potential impacts of bikes on the Pogonip. I direct my initial comments to the Wisconsin Study's findings of some of the impacts of bicycles sharing trails with pedestrians.

(1) Displacement: "The opening of an existing hiking trail to bikers, near population centers will cause hikers to abandon the trail."

I can attest to this statement. I have lived near the entrance to Nisene Marks Park for 25 years and run or walk in the Park several days a week. The lower reaches of the Park nearest the entrance were once a popular hiking area for families, especially those with small children because the distance is relatively short. Today these same single-track trails have been taken over almost exclusively by cyclists, some of which

D223

pay no heed to speed limits or foot traffic. These same speeding cyclists will, all too often, blaze new trails up and down steep slopes. Many of the trails and much of the terrain in the lower reaches of Nisene Marks Park have been negatively impacted by mountain bikes.

D223

(2) Maintenance: "One of the strongest conclusions from the Wisconsin Study is that a high use off-road bike trail system will require constant maintenance and monitoring during the entire bike season.....if trail standards are to be kept." Note: The bike season in Santa Cruz is year round.

D224

Again, I can attest to the declining condition of single track trails in the Forest of Nisene Marks Park due to heavy bicycle use. Bikers are not deterred by foul weather and seem content to ride into wet, muddy areas leaving behind deep ruts and scarred terrain. Later these channels erode into small gullies. How will you keep this from happening in the Pogonip? Who will safeguard the trails in the Pogonip? How will trail maintenance and monitoring be financed?

(3) Speed: "Bikers move at a faster pace than hikers; thus bikers often pass hikers. Of the 28% of hikers who reported being passed by bikers, 44% reported feeling it decreased their enjoyment of the trails. Again, I can attest to the adrenalin charged fear that's felt when a speeding cyclist bursts from the brush and is immediately upon me. I've been quick enough to leap off the trail out of harm's way, but what of the slower pedestrian who hasn't time to react, much less leap out of an oncoming bicycle's path? Who is liable when such an accident is unavoidable and someone is injured? The cyclist, the City?

D225

On page IV.C-15 of the DEIR it is stated that "it is not anticipated that significant geologic or erosion hazards would result from the designation of service roads as multi-use trails."

The problem, as I have observed it in Nisene Marks State Park, is that once bicycles are admitted to use an area such as service roads, as is the case in Nisene Marks State Park, they do not stay in these designated locations. They feel free to attack the trails in any area of the Park once they gain access. I have found bicyclists in the most sensitive areas of Nisene Marks State Park - on the steep and slippery trails to Maple Falls, and on the trail to the fragile habitat of Five Finger Falls.

D226

The DEIR states that the "Trail Design Guidelines outlined in the Draft Pogonip Master Plan provide adequate mitigation for the potential impacts associated with the

D227

proposed multi-use trail designations for the existing service roads under consideration in Trail Alternatives A and B." Where do you substantiate this information? What is a "survey of regional multi-use trail impact literature"? Who performed the study? You have only to visit our local state parks to see that this information is inaccurate. Nisene Marks Park and Wilder Ranch Park contain damaged and degraded service roads due to extensive mountain bike use in recent years.

D227

The DEIR does not address or evaluate separate use of trails by bikes, pedestrians and equestrians. This should be explored in the EIR.

D228

In addition, there is no information in the DEIR directed to impacts on different soils by multi-use of horses, pedestrians and bikers. The DEIR does not substantiate the assertion that proposed multi-use designation will have insignificant geologic or erosion impacts on trails. The DEIR does not address differences in soil types or gradients of trails. Trails in steep areas will most assuredly be more prone to erosion.

D229

Finally, there does not appear to be any information in the DEIR as to the impacts of bicycles and horses on wildlife in the Pogonip. It is mentioned that "it is not known whether wildlife react differently to bicycle use and equestrian use. However, fast-moving bicycles and equestrians are expected to startle wildlife more than pedestrians." Isn't there data to substantiate this statement? The EIR should contain quantitative data showing impacts of bicycles and horses on wildlife.

D230

The EIR should contain data relating to impacts on pedestrians who are visiting the Pogonip to observe wildlife, meditate on nature and experience the calm, and serene landscape. Pedestrians should be able to continue to experience the Pogonip without the interruption of pounding hooves or the squeal of bicycle brakes and the adrenalin-pumping fear that they are about to be clobbered.

D231

Thank you for the opportunity to express my concerns and direct my comments.

Sincerely,


Sandra G. Henn

1135 N. Branciforte Ave
Santa Cruz, CA 95062
408-429-1852

REC'D APR 08 1998

April 6, 1998

Santa Cruz Parks and Recreation
Attention: Susan Harris
323 Church Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

re: Public Comment on The Draft Pogonip Master Plan and Draft EIR.

Dear Ms. Harris:

We have serious reservations about the proposed Master Plan for Pogonip and the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR). We outline our specific concerns below.

1. Infrastructure and Access Improvements

We oppose the construction of a paved parking area of any size or the improvement of roads in Pogonip. Pogonip was purchased in 1988 to preserve the existing condition of this property and protect it from development. Trail improvements, trail signs, and erosion control are necessary; paving this property is not. Allowing or encouraging increased vehicle traffic does not serve Pogonip's purpose. Moreover, infrastructure and access improvements will unfairly impact residents near the lower entrance.

D232

2. Restoration of the Historic Pogonip Club House

Although we agree that preservation of the club house is historically important, we oppose any use of this facility that will cause modification of the access road or vehicle access by the general public.

D233

3. Sycamore Grove or Other Proposed Camping Access and Picnic Facilities

We oppose the establishment of any camp sites or picnic facilities within Pogonip. There are permanent facilities at Harvey West Park for those who want the use of picnic tables and other improvements. Camping should be prohibited in Pogonip as it brings an increase of trash, human waste, and other debris that will degrade the open space experience.

D234

4. Trail Use

We oppose opening the trails to cyclists and equestrians beyond a by-pass trail to allow access to other areas where these activities are allowed. There is very little open space dedicated solely to hikers. Pogonip's pedestrian-only policy must be preserved. Horses destroy the trails and leave fecal matter scattered where hikers must walk. Equestrians comprise a very small percentage of the population and have numerous venues (including Henry Cowell) in which to ride. Bicyclists contribute significantly to trail erosion and their speed can cause a danger to hikers. Cyclists presently have access to a majority of local open spaces and we respect the efforts of cycling groups in acquiring these spaces. However, prohibiting bicycles in one local open space preserve, Pogonip, is fair and reasonable.

D235

5. Homeless Garden

Great concept, bad location. We support the Homeless Garden Project; however, Pogonip is not the appropriate location. It would be easy to let emotions carry the argument, but there are just too many problems with putting the garden in Pogonip. These problems include:

D236

- a. Drainage problems, cited in the EIR, due to the proposed location of the farm. Surrounding agricultural land is on level ground; the garden would be on a slope. The EIR recommends that the garden not be placed here. We agree.
- b. The construction of ANY structures in Pogonip violates the concept of an open space preserve or greenbelt.
- c. Breaking the ground for farming does not preserve it as a greenbelt.
- d. The increased vehicle traffic and infrastructure (see #1) will unacceptably degrade the park.
- e. The land is not zoned for agriculture. The proposed Homeless Garden Project is an agricultural facility, not a "garden." Who runs the agricultural project and benefits by it are irrelevant.

D236

6. Precedence

If the development of Pogonip is allowed to happen, it will set a precedent concerning open space use. What happens when the next "important," "needy," or "just" project comes up or requires a home? Who decides what is in the public's interest or the proper use of open space? If the city uses Pogonip for its personal agenda and projects, it will do so to other open spaces in the future. This is not the purpose for which Pogonip and other greenbelt areas were purchased.

D237

7. Preservation

The public supports the cost and concept of open spaces such as Pogonip to preserve this land for the future. The Pogonip land deal was presented and agreed to by the public as an open space preserve. It is unethical to change the terms because it might be politically expedient. We have a contract with the city concerning these areas and the proposed development would violate this contract. These properties were bought "as is" as time capsules to preserve what our city and county looked like before development and to serve as buffers in preventing urban and suburban sprawl. Sites such as Pogonip create open space for everyone to enjoy; Pogonip was not meant for agricultural development, a home for "worthy" organizations, or a parking lot and campground. The idea of a preserve is to protect the natural environment while doing as little as possible to allow low-impact basic access. Paving and construction do not meet these requirements.

D238

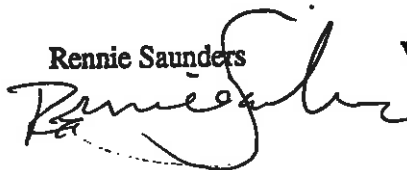
We hope these comments prove helpful in the administration of the Pogonip Open Space. There are so few areas near town, especially on the east side, where people can walk in a peaceful, beautiful setting and enjoy the vistas around Monterey Bay. Pogonip helps us to remember why we all make sacrifices to live in Santa Cruz. Please keep this paradise preserved for us and future generations.

Sincerely,


Ted M. Coopman


Stephanie J. Coopman


Craig Meriwether


Rennie Saunders


Virginia Saunders


Kristina Wulbern

Douglas Deitch
501 Mission Street
Santa Cruz, California, 95060
(408) 476-7662
www.pogonip.org
April 8, 1998

Santa Cruz Parks and Recreation Department
ATTN: Ms. Susan Harris
323 Church Street
Santa Cruz, California, 95060
Fax 458-2642

Re: Comments on Pogonip DEIR

Dear Sirs,

Below, please find my comments on the Pogonip Draft EIR

I. No Extension of Urban Services

The Master Plan and DEIR contemplate an unnecessary and improper extension of urban services to Pogonip (i.e. water and sewer) which will be growth/use intensity inducing and ultimately and irretrievably disruptive to the cultural landscape on Pogonip. This extension of urban services into a natural/open space/greenbelt area is further counter to General Plan Goals, Policies, and Objectives contained specifically in CD1.3.2 and L 3, and elsewhere in the Plan. The Master Plan should instead require that all activities conducted on the largest Open Space/Natural Area in the city acquired with CALPAW funds for specific purposes will be serviced by available on-site and self sustainable resources (as they always traditionally have been) in keeping with the legislative intent and purposes and provisions of the General Plan, California Public Resources Code Sections 5902(k), 5905, and 5907(a)(L) and other provisions of the California Wildlife, Coastal, and Park Land Conservation Act, and the terms and intent of the State Parks Operating Agreement.

The City of Santa Cruz must make exceedingly prudent use of its limited and precious water resources. The water supply situation in the city and county can most accurately be described as being in a crisis state. In any new development (particularly one such as replacing a natural greenbelt grassland area with a new water intensive use, as the Homeless Garden Project aspires to do), self sustainable use of on site resources should be incorporated into the project as a conditional first priority. However, in spite of the environmentally conscious and natural/organic orientation of the garden project (and their probable desire to utilize on site, self sustainable water), there is no analysis or discussion of the adequacy or possibility of on site services.

D239

The new garden development anticipates using around 15 acre feet per year. The DEIR indicates a consistent yearly flow in Pogonip Creek (for the period indicated) of about .5 c/f/s, which extrapolates to a daily yield of around one acre foot per day. This indicates a potential for an abundant sustainable water resource which should properly be utilized to service needs on Pogonip.

The California Wildlife, Coastal, and Park Land Conservation Act defines "stewardship" as "the development and implementation of major programs for the protection, rehabilitation, restoration, and enhancement of the basic natural systems" of the properties acquired under the Initiative. As noted in the DEIR, "the abundant spring flow available on site has historically served as the water source for the property" which included the water intensive uses of a golf course, pastures, polo fields, and clubhouse. This self sustaining water resource and system which has so well always served this property is such a natural system.

Properly designed and managed, the abundant naturally occurring water on the property, in conjunction with a gravity flow distribution and storage system (such as the historic reservoir/lake which is pictured in the Master Plan on page ii-additionally please see Exhibit A), can service the property's supply and fire needs, enhance the cultural landscape and historic integrity of the site, be a model of proper and responsible resource management in our natural/open space greenbelt areas, and increase wetlands habitats at the same time.

To responsibly proceed in this matter, the city's and any others' riparian and other legal rights relative to this resource and the resource's full potential should first be investigated and defined. Why this analysis has not already been undertaken in this process (nor at any other time during the ten year tenure of ownership of the city) is baffling. To mitigate any possible effects to the creek environments on site, water from the creek might be extracted at the property's boundary at the creek's exit point and pumped to the storage site. Waste services can be adequately handled by natural on site septic systems (including outhouse-type toilet facilities such as are used in Nisene Marks Park) and portable toilets when a heightened demand arises.

It should be noted that the clubhouse restoration project (please see Exhibit B-POGONIP CLUBHOUSE TIMELINE), which has already been once approved by the city in 1992 (App. #90-186), was to be provided water and waste services by a new 11 g/p/m on site well (which had been specifically drilled for this purpose and is in place) and septic system (please see Exhibit C-National Testing Laboratories Water Testing Report #9570680 on new well and Exhibit D-Letter of 7/18/90 from Ray Toshitsune, R.E.H.S., County of Santa Cruz to Steve Homan, R.E.H.S. concerning new Pogonip Clubhouse septic system).

If a new development project needs extension of urban services for its needs, how can it not be considered an be an urban development. Urban development in open space/natural areas of CALPAW properties is not a proper use of the property under the operation agreement with the State of California (please see Exhibit E). The \$480,000 estimated to extend water and sewer to the clubhouse essentially to serve the new demands created by the new garden project development should better be utilized to develop the on site and sustainable water and waste resources.

D239

II. Master Plan/DEIR Compliance/Coordination With Provisions of Sale and Purchase Agreement (Cowell) and Agreement To Locate Right Of Way and Right of Way Option Agreement contained in Sale and Purchase Agreement (Eastern Access-UCSC), GB-0 Expired

There is no analysis and discussion of the status and possible effects or constraints created, if any, by the provisions of the Sale and Purchase Agreement and reversion with Cowell Foundation (through which the property was originally acquired) and/or the Agreement To Locate Right Of Way with UCSC and the Right of Way Option (concerning eastern access to UCSC through Pogonip). In that many possible routes and modalities for Eastern Access have been discussed (please see Exhibit F) and that the legal right to access across Pogonip is a legal, though perhaps maybe only a hypothetical possibility, analysis and discussion should be conducted. Additionally, under Public Policy and Regulation (IV. A-2b), I believe that the Green Belt Overlay District (GB-0) expired in 1994.

D240

III. Trails Alternatives

Through the lengthy, proper, well attended public process conducted in the course of the development of the Pogonip Land Use Options Report which was adopted by council on 1/26/93 (please see Exhibit G), a community consensus was established which incorporated the concept of multi-use trails in Pogonip. However, essentially multi-use "trails" are no longer being considered at all. The alternatives now are mainly comprised of presently existent, long established, and in some cases perhaps even historic multi-use roads.

Pogonip represents a potential for a needed and viable route for purposes of bicycle access to and through UCSC from the Santa Cruz's urban center. As a commute cyclist and owner for many years of the office building located at the corner of Mission/King/Union Streets, I can personally attest to the high speed and volume of traffic, high accident and violation rate, and inadequacy of safe bike lanes. The current bike route from UCSC which goes down High Street to King Street and then Mission Street is a dangerous route.

To address serious and real health and safety issues presented by the other aforementioned bike route, a reasonable, safe, minimal and non obtrusive year round bicycle commute access through Pogonip to UCSC on an already existing road surface/route for UCSC students, employees, and visitors should be established. The new "Connector Trail" at the top of Pogonip and UCSC cannot serve this function as one would be required to go to the top of UCSC to end up way up Highway 9 via Rincon. To address and mitigate health, safety, and environmental concerns, such a route might be designated as an access with either prioritized or exclusive bicycle use. UCSC's concerns about this route's exit point on Coolidge Drive can be easily addressed by appropriate traffic control devices. In any event, speed control on all fire road surfaces should be controlled with earthen speed bumps.

D241

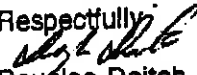
Respectfully,

Douglas Deitch

EXHIBIT A

The Pogonip property was originally part of a land grant called *Rancho de la Canada del Rincon*. It was awarded by the Mexican government to Pierre Sanson in 1843. A lumberman by trade, Sanson operated a successful mill on the San Lorenzo River. In 1849, entrepreneurs Albion P. Jordan and Isaac E. Davis purchased 160 acres of the ranch to develop the plentiful limestone into the western world's largest lime industry. The kilns they constructed to fire the limestone can still be seen on the Ridge Trail above Sunspot Meadow and the entrance to UCSC. The company imported a water and schooner ship the lime to San Francisco and was very successful because of booming construction there.

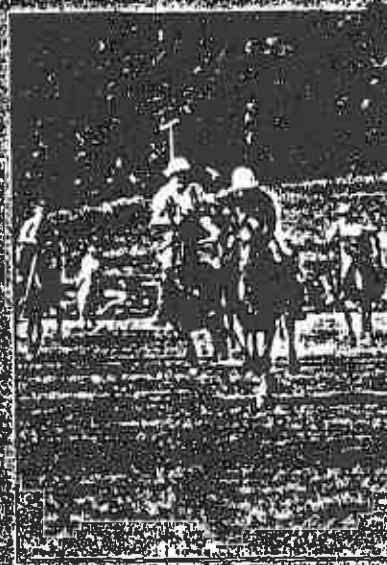
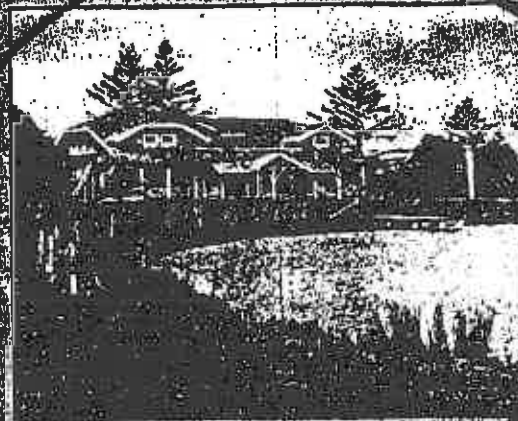
Around 1865, the partners purchased the 72 additional acres of the ranch.

The firm, Sanson, purchased 160 acres of the ranch in 1865 due to Jordan's falling ill. The Cowell-Davis firm's business exported approximately one million and 200 lb barrels of lime a day to the Horn of Africa. The kilns were built to fire the lime. The record of wood per dozen barrels of lime in the industry is between 10,000 and 15,000 cords of redwood each year from 1860-1884.

In 1884, Davis sold his interest to Henry Cowell in 1885, and the firm's name was changed to the Cowell Lime and Cement Company. Demand for lime began to decline by the turn of the century, and in the 1900s, a fire in San Francisco changed public attitude about brick construction. Lumber adjacent to the kilns and quarries was so depleted that the business was forced to import expensive oil to operate the kilns. Competition from the Portland Cement Company and Devonport, founded in 1905, eventually forced the closure of the declining lime company in 1946.

The Cowell Ranch livestock operations continued under the direction of Henry Cowell after the death of Henry Cowell Sr. in 1903. Henry Cowell bred race horses and managed herds of cattle on family ranches. In 1955, Henry Cowell gave a large part of the Ranch to the State of California for the development of Henry Cowell Redwoods State Park. Before Henry Cowell's death in 1955, he established the philanthropic S.H. Cowell Foundation, which governed Pogonip until its sale to the City of Santa Cruz in 1989.

The Cowell Ranch was the site of the first golf course in Santa Cruz. The first clubhouse was built in 1903.



Club and Golf Links at Pogonip. With financing through friends from Martin and the Southern Pacific Railroad, Swanton built an 18-hole golf course and the stately clubhouse. Swanton is also known for establishing Santa Cruz County's first power company, providing the first incandescent lighting in California. He developed the Santa Cruz Oil Company, built the place, the Casino, and the Casa del Rey Hotel. Fred Swanton also served as Mayor of Santa Cruz from 1902-1908.



The clubhouse was built by Dorothy Deming Wheeler, who was born in the Pogonip Polo Club. The clubhouse was well known in the polo world of the 1920s and 1930s. The clubhouse was a magnificent facility, and wonderful view of Monterey Bay. Professionals were attracted from all over the world and South America. World War II brought a end to polo at Pogonip and for a brief period the clubhouse served as a rehabilitation site for servicemen. After a brief closure, the clubhouse reopened in 1948 as the clubhouse it is today.

POGONIP CLUBHOUSE TIMELINE

- (89-297) Amendment to the Historic Building Survey by way of adding the Pogonip Clubhouse building to the Survey.
- 8/16/89 HPC recommended approval to City Council
- 9/20/89 HPC directed staff pursue designating the Clubhouse as a local landmark based on several requests from the public.
- 10/10/89 CC adopted Resolution No. NS-18,871
- 11/15/89 Staff recommended denial of the landmark listing. HPC passed a motion to conduct a public hearing to determine whether or not the Pogonip Clubhouse should be recommended to the City Council as a candidate for a landmark building.
- (90-003) Amendment to the Historic Building Survey by way of designating the Pogonip Clubhouse building as an historic landmark.
- 1/17/90 HPC continued the hearing until 2/12/90
2/12/90 HPC terminated the proceedings to designate the Pogonip Clubhouse as a landmark.
- (90-186) Historic Demolition Permit to demolish the Pogonip Clubhouse that is listed on the Historic Building Survey. Design and Special Use Permit to construct a new clubhouse structure and site improvements.
- 9/11/90 Chief Building Official declares the Clubhouse structure a dangerous structure with limited entry.
- 9/19/90 HPC continued the item indefinitely.
- 9/27/90 ZB continued the item until no later than 27 December 1990.
- 1/8/91 CC approved Resolution No. NS-19,632 directing the city manager to notify the Pogonip club of the extension of dates pursuant to Paragraph 9 G of the Lease Agreement between the City and the Club as follows: Submission of financial plan: March 31, 1991; submission of project plans and specifications: June 30, 1991; obtain all necessary permits and approvals for construction: September 30, 1991; and construction to begin November 1, 1991, complete May 1, 1993.
- 1/11/91 Time extension granted for 90 days—extension to 4/12/91
- 3/1/91 A second environmental review was done. An initial study was completed around this date. A Mitigated Negative Declaration was prepared.
- 3/20/91 HPC approved the Historic Demolition Permit.

- 3/28/91 ZB denied the Design and Special Use Permits.
- 4/1/91 Appeal of HPC decision filed.
- 4/5/91 Appeal of ZB decision filed.
- 5/14/91 CC continued the public hearing and did not take final action on either of the appeals. Council gave staff direction to prepare additional information for the initial study and Negative Declaration and reopen the public review period for these environmental review documents. The Council also referred the new environmental information back to the HPC and ZB for further review and action.
- 6/11/91 Third party contract for environmental studies was entered into with John Gilcrest/Habitat Restoration.
- 11/26/91 CC adopted Resolution No. NS-20,202 transferring funds and amending the 1991-1992 budget in the amount of \$12,850 to fund an EIR on the Pogonip Clubhouse proposal.
- 12/12/91 Third party contract for an EIR was entered into with Stephanie Strelow.
- 7/28/92 CC continued the Lease Agreement Amendment discussion for the evening session at a later date. Staff was directed to provide a full history on this item and to negotiate stronger language with respect to city access.
- (90-186 new proposal) Historic Alteration Permit to reconstruct the Pogonip Clubhouse. Design and Special Use Permits to construct a new clubhouse structure and site improvements. The building will be reconstructed at the same size, location and style as the existing building. Proposed site improvements consists of relocation of the parking area to the rear of the building with an increase of spaces from 40 to 72 spaces; construction of three (3) road turnouts along Golf club drive; construction of a new septic tank and leachfield; and drilling a new well.
- 9/8/92 CC adopted Resolution No. NS-20,687 authorizing the manager to execute an amended lease with the Pogonip Club, including changes noted in the staff report.
- 9/30/92 HPC approved the Historic Alteration Permit and certified the EIR.
- 10/9/92 ZB approved the Special Use and Design Permits and certified the EIR.

Beyond this last action I do not have a record of what has happened with the Lease Agreement or the status of the Club. Since no building permit application was submitted and no permit issued, the Historic Alteration Permit, Special Use Permit and Design Permit is void.



NATIONAL TESTING LABORATORIES, INC.

6555 WILSON MILLS ROAD CLEVELAND, OH 44143



Date: 09/24/93 Report #: 9570880

Laboratory ID #: 1456

 Client: POGONIP
 JEREMY LEZIN
 217 SHERMAN RD

 Date Collected: 09/16/93
 Time Collected: 05:00
 ID: LOCATION: WELL

SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060-

Date received at lab: 09/17/93

Time received at lab: 09:00

NOTE: "*" INDICATES THAT MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL (MCL) HAS BEEN EXCEEDED.
 "nd" INDICATES THAT NONE OF THIS CONTAMINANT HAS BEEN DETECTED AT OR ABOVE OUR DETECTION LEVEL.

ANALYSIS PERFORMED	MCL (mg/l)	DETECTION LEVEL	LEVEL DETECTED
ORGANIC CHEMICALS- TRIHALOMETHANES			
Bromoform	---	0.0005	ND
Bromodichloromethane	---	0.0005	0.005
Chloroform	---	0.0005	0.020
Dibromochloromethane	---	0.0005	0.001
Total THMs (sum of four above)	0.1	0.0005	0.026
ORGANIC CHEMICALS- VOLATILES			
Benzene	0.005	0.0005	ND
Bromobenzene	---	0.0005	ND
Bromochloromethane	---	0.0005	ND
Bromomethane	---	0.0005	ND
n-Butylbenzene	---	0.0005	ND
sec-Butylbenzene	---	0.0005	ND
tert-Butylbenzene	---	0.0005	ND
Carbon Tetrachloride	0.005	0.0005	ND
Chlorobenzene	0.1	0.0005	ND
Chloroethane	---	0.0005	ND
Chloromethane	---	0.0005	ND
2-Chlorotoluene	---	0.0005	ND
4-Chlorotoluene	---	0.0005	ND
Dibromomethane	---	0.0005	ND
1,2-Dichlorobenzene	0.6	0.0005	ND
1,3-Dichlorobenzene	---	0.0005	ND
1,4-Dichlorobenzene	0.075	0.0005	ND
Dichlorodifluoromethane	---	0.0005	ND
1,1-Dichloroethane	---	0.0005	ND
1,2-Dichloroethane	0.005	0.0005	ND
1,1-Dichloroethane	0.007	0.0005	ND
cis-1,2-Dichloroethane	0.07	0.0005	ND
trans-1,2-Dichloroethane	0.1	0.0005	ND
1,2-Dichloropropane	0.005	0.0005	ND
1,3-Dichloropropane	---	0.0005	ND
2,2-Dichloropropane	---	0.0005	ND
1,1-Dichloropropane	---	0.0005	ND
cis-1,3-Dichloropropene	---	0.0005	ND

EXHIBIT C P.2
NATIONAL TESTING LABORATORIES INC.

5655 WILSON MILLS ROAD CLEVELAND, OH 44114

Page 2 Sample code: 9570800

ANALYSIS PERFORMED	MCL (mg/l)	DETECTION LEVEL	LEVEL DETECTED
trans-1,3-Dichloropropene	---	0.0005	ND
Ethylbenzene	0.7	0.0005	ND
Hexachlorobutadiene	---	0.0005	ND
Isopropylbenzene	---	0.0005	ND
4-Isopropyltoluene	---	0.0005	ND
Dichloromethane	0.005	0.0005	ND
Naphthalene	---	0.0005	ND
Propylbenzene	---	0.0005	ND
Styrene	0.1	0.0005	ND
1,1,1,2-Tetrachloroethane	---	0.0005	ND
1,1,2,2-Tetrachloroethane	---	0.0005	ND
Tetrachloroethene	0.005	0.0005	ND
Toluene	1.0	0.0005	ND
1,2,3-Trichlorobenzene	---	0.0005	ND
1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene	0.07	0.0005	ND
1,1,1-Trichloroethane	0.2	0.0005	0.0005
1,1,2-Trichloroethane	0.005	0.0005	ND
Trichloroethene	0.005	0.0005	ND
Trichlorofluoromethane	---	0.0005	ND
Trichlorotrifluoroethane	---	0.0005	ND
1,2,3-Trichloropropane	---	0.0005	ND
1,2,3-Trimethylbenzene	---	0.0005	ND
1,2,4-Trimethylbenzene	---	0.0005	ND
1,3,5-Trimethylbenzene	---	0.0005	ND
Vinyl Chloride	0.002	0.0005	ND
Methyl-Tert-Butyl-Ether	---	0.005	ND
o-Xylene	---	0.0005	ND
m-Xylene(1)	---	0.0005	ND
p-Xylene(1)	---	0.0005	ND
Xylenes (Total)	10		

EPA APPROVED METHODS WERE USED IN ALL OF THE ANALYSES AND A LISTING IS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST. THESE TEST RESULTS MAY BE USED FOR COMPLIANCE PURPOSES AS REQUIRED.

(1) DUE TO LIMITATIONS OF EPA METHOD 502.2, m AND p ISOMERS OF XYLENE ARE REPORTED AS AN AGGREGATE.


 Jerome Tene, President

HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY



COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICE
701 OCEAN STREET, ROOM 312
SANTA CRUZ, CALIFORNIA 95060
(408) 425-2341

July 18, 1990

Stephen D. Homan, R.E.H.S.
55 Gleason Way
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

RECEIVED
JUL 24 1990
CITY PLANNING DEPT

RE: Pogonip Club, 333 Golf Club Drive, Santa Cruz
Assessor's Parcel Number 61-321-35

Dear Mr. Homan:

The septic system design submitted by you, for the Pogonip Club, can be approved under current septic regulations contingent upon the following conditions:

- 1) Submit revised plot plans showing the expansion area for the clubhouse equal to its proposed leachfields.
- 2) An agreement from the City of Santa Cruz to readjust the leased boundary line to encompass the leachfields and expansion area.

Also, the following areas will require Environmental Health review and approval:

- 1) Submit the restaurant/bar remodel plans.
- 2) Submit the plans for the proposed spa.
- 3) Apply for a well construction permit and an individual water system permit.
- 4) The existing swimming pool needs to be upgraded to meet current disinfection and turnover rates.

If there are questions regarding the sewage disposal system, please contact the District EH Specialist, Patrick Gill, at 425-2574 from 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., Monday through Thursday.

Questions regarding food service or the swimming pool/spa, please contact Cynthia Miller at 425-2705 from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., Tuesday through Friday.

Very truly yours,

RAY TOSHITSUNE, R.E.H.S.
Environmental Health Program Manager

RT:ljb

cc: Thomas Thacher, AIA
City of Santa Cruz
Pat Gill
Bob Carey
Cynthia Miller

SENT BY: DEPT. OF PARKS & REC : 3-28-91 : 9:38AM :

0163226377-

408 50881461# 5

3. Failure of the Applicant to comply with the terms of this agreement shall not be cause for the suspension of all obligations of the State hereunder if in the judgment of the State such failure was due to no fault of the Applicant. In such case, any amount required to settle at minimum cost any irrevocable obligations properly incurred shall be eligible for reimbursement under this agreement.
4. Because the benefit to be derived by the State, from the full compliance by the Applicant with the terms of this agreement, is the preservation, protection and net increase in the quantity and quality of parks, public recreation facilities and/or historical resources available to the people of the State of California and because such benefit exceeds to an immeasurable and unascertainable extent the amount of money furnished by the State by way of grant moneys under the provisions of this agreement, the Applicant agrees that payment by the Applicant to the State of an amount equal to the amount of the grant moneys disbursed under this agreement by the State would be inadequate compensation to the State for any breach by the Applicant of this agreement. The applicant further agrees thereto, that the appropriate remedy in the event of a breach by the Applicant of this agreement shall be the specific performance of this agreement, unless otherwise agreed to by the State pursuant to Section 5819 (b), Public Resource Code.
5. Applicant and State agree that if the Project includes development final payment may not be made until the Project conforms substantially with this agreement and is a usable public recreation facility.

F. Hold Harmless

1. Applicant agrees to waive all claims and recourse against the State including the right to contribution for loss or damage to persons or property arising from, growing out of or in any way connected with or incident to this agreement except claims arising from the concurrent or sole negligence of State, its officers, agents, and employees.
2. Applicant agrees to indemnify, hold harmless and defend State, its officers, agents and employees against any and all claims demands, damages, costs, expenses or liability costs arising out of the acquisition, development, construction, operation or maintenance of the property described as the Project which claims, demands or causes of action arise under Government Code Section 805.2 or otherwise except for liability arising out of the concurrent or sole negligence of State, its officers, agents, or employees.
3. Applicant agrees that in the event State is named as codefendant under the provisions of Government Code Section 805.2 et seq., the Applicant shall notify State of such fact and shall represent State in the legal action unless State undertakes to represent itself as codefendant in such legal action in which event State shall bear its own litigation costs, expenses, and attorney's fees.
4. Applicant and State agree that in the event of judgment entered against the State and Applicant because of the concurrent negligence of the State and Applicant, their officers, agents, or employees, an apportionment of liability to say such judgment shall be made by a court of competent jurisdiction. Neither party shall request a jury apportionment.
5. Applicant agrees to indemnify, hold harmless and defend the State, its officers, agents and employees against any and all claims, demands, costs, expenses or liability costs arising out of legal actions pursuant to items to which the Applicant has certified. Applicant acknowledges that it is solely responsible for compliance with items to which it has certified.

G. Financial Records

1. Applicant agrees to maintain satisfactory financial accounts, documents and records for the Project and to make them available to the State for auditing at reasonable times. Applicant also agrees to retain such financial accounts, documents and records for three years following project termination or completion.

Applicant and State agree that during regular office hours each of the parties hereto and their duly authorized representatives shall have the right to inspect and make copies of any books, records or reports of the other party pertaining to this agreement or matters related thereto. Applicant agrees to maintain and make available for inspection by the State accurate records of all of its costs, disbursements and receipts with respect to its activities under this agreement.

2. Applicant agrees to use any generally accepted accounting system.

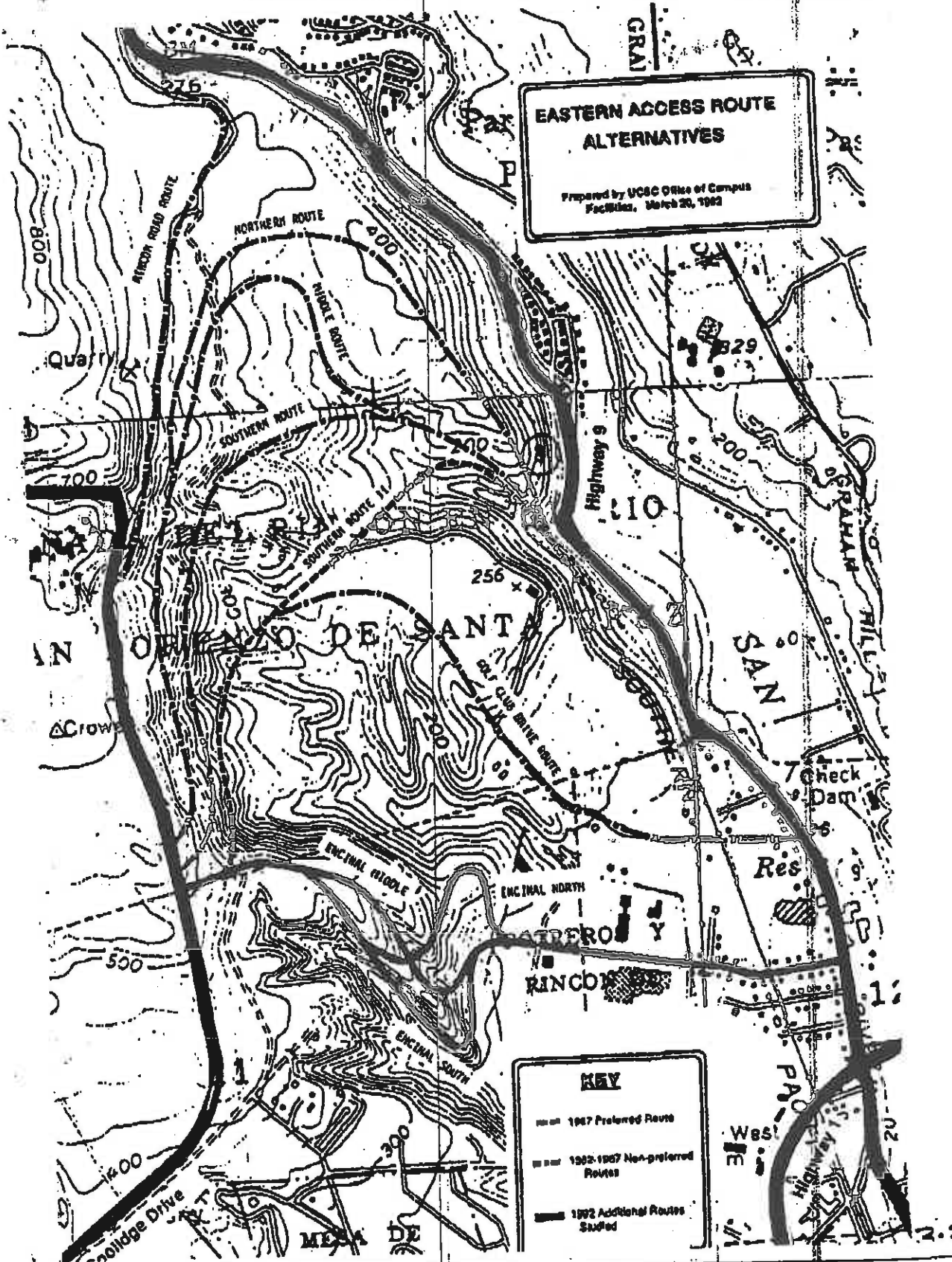
H. Use of Facilities

1. Applicant agrees that the property acquired or developed with grant moneys under this agreement shall be used by the Applicant only for the purpose for which the State grant moneys were requested and no other use of the area shall be permitted except by specific act of the Legislature.
2. Applicant agrees to maintain and operate the property acquired, developed, rehabilitated or restored with grant monies in perpetuity subject to the provisions of Public Resource Code Section 5017. With the approval of State, the applicant or its successors in interest in the property may transfer the responsibility to maintain and operate the property in accordance with Section 5019.

I. Nondiscrimination

1. The Applicant shall not discriminate against any person on the basis of sex, race, color, national origin, age, religion, ancestry, or physical handicap in the use of any property or facility acquired or developed pursuant to this agreement.
2. The Applicant shall not discriminate against any person on the basis of residence except to the extent that reasonable differences in admission or other fees may be maintained on the basis of residence and pursuant to law.

02:01 PM L12/14
APR 08 '98 12:16



587

CITY COUNCIL MEETING
January 26, 1993
7:00 P.M. SESSION

FILE COPY

PUBLIC HEARINGS

740-20

32. Pogonip Land Use Options Assessment Report (continued).

Lori Felton, environmental educator and naturalist, supports preservation of open space

Mayor Coonerty closed the public hearing at 10:18 p.m.

Planning Director Peter Katzberger, City Attorney John Barisone, and Parks and Recreation Jim Lang responded to questions from Council.

Action

Councilmember Rotkin moved, seconded by Councilmember Kennedy, to:

1. Designate the mixed-uses alternative recommended by the Pogonip Task Force as the preferred alternative for the Pogonip Master Plan; direct that this alternative be thoroughly evaluated in the environmental impact report for its impact on Pogonip as a "natural area" as defined in the City General Plan.
2. Make a finding that the uses in the mixed-uses alternative consistent with the City General Plan are multi-use trails, a natural history museum, a homeless/community garden, access improvements and a Sycamore Grove Campground. Any expansion of the Pogonip Club shall be evaluated considering the General Plan designation of "natural area".
3. Approve the recommendation of the Pogonip Task Force that a golf course and sports fields (the intensive recreation option) are not suitable uses for the Pogonip site, and that at this location are not consistent with the City General Plan.
4. Direct City staff to develop a cost analysis and a budget impact analysis of all approved uses, and to return to the City Council at the time of the completion of the EIR.

588

CITY COUNCIL MEETING
January 26, 1993
7:00 P.M. SESSION

PUBLIC HEARINGS

740-20

32.

Pogonip Land Use Options Assessment Report (continued)

5. Accept the recommendation of the Pogonip Task Force that a sports field needs assessment and siting study be undertaken by the city, and direct staff to return to the City Council with a work plan and budget to carry out this study within 60 days.
6. Direct the Parks and Recreation Department to work with user groups (such as Friends of the Pogonip, Sierra Club, Santa Cruz Bird Club, Natural History Museum, etc.) to develop a volunteer maintenance program to reduce costs of maintenance of the Pogonip lands.
7. Direct the Parks and Recreation Department to submit all maintenance and physical improvement proposals to the City Parks and Recreation Commission during the interim prior to the completion of the Pogonip Master Plan. Any such improvement must be evaluated for its consistency with the designation of Pogonip as "natural area".

The issue of disabled parking and access at the Spring Street entrance as recommended by the Parks and Recreation Commission was taken into the motion for consideration.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmember Beiers, Rotkin, Yokoyama, Mathews, Kennedy; Mayor Coonerty.
NOES: Councilmember Rittenhouse.
ABSENT: None.
DISQUALIFIED: None.

MARK PRIMACK
ARCHITECT
CALIC NO C-20131

111 1/2 COOPER ST
SANTA CRUZ CA 95060
(408) 426-9340
FAX 426-9308

ATTN. SUSAN HARRIS

REC'D APR 08 1998

~~REC'D APR 01 1998~~

Questions and comments on the draft Pogonip EIR

BIO-1a

Kite:

What is meant by 'presumed nesting site' on page IV.B-27?
To what extent does organic gardening reduce small mammal populations?

Noise. The parking lot will reduce vehicular traffic and noise on Golf Club Drive by diminishing the number of trips up to the clubhouse. What vehicular noise is anticipated within the garden? What evidence is there that organic gardening will force the kite to leave its nest? As opposed to a pedestrian trail?

If kites live for 15 years, will this nest be used again by other kites? Will a displaced kite move to the nearest comfortable spot in its territory and build a new nest? Will it leave the area entirely?

Mitigations. IV.B-31. The Parking lot, serving both the clubhouse and education area, would have a potentially significant impact on the kites presumed to be nesting near the lower meadow. How relevant, or even quantifiable, then is the inclusion of the garden to an already potentially significant impact?

D242

BIO-2c

Coastal Prairie:

Was this area originally forested?

Were these meadows the result of human intervention?

Most of the 'prairie' of the lower meadow was an irrigated, Bermuda grassed golf course up into the 1930's and was then fenced as a pastureland/training area for polo ponies through the 1940's. It continued to serve equestrian uses for many years thereafter. To what extent does this well documented history affect the integrity and sensitivity of this biozone?

Non-natives seem to be competing vigorously throughout most of the lower meadows. How current (accurate) is the mapping provided in this document?

What is the actual area to be gardened? And what part is on bona fide pristine 'coastal prairie' (with a broad seed bank)?

D243

102

BIO-2d
Wetland

Do the maps provided to the Garden designers accurately locate the wetland?

No gardening will take place below the wetland.

The wetland begins at what appears to be the termination point of the golf course irrigation system. An 18 inch deep concrete footing/slab sits at the uphill head of the wetland. Metal conduit for power and control valves are in evidence in the vicinity. Aerial photos show no signs of this 'wetland' until the 1980's. Could this wetland be the temporary manifestation of ruptured underground water pipes? Might this 'wetland' disappear if the pipes were removed?

What constitutes 'intensive' row crop cultivation? Tractors? Deep furrow cultivation?

D244

BIO-3
Wildlife corridor

To what extent does organic gardening reduce small mammal populations?

Is the enlarged buffer zone proposed in anticipation of homeless encampments springing up in the wooded area below and between the two meadows of the Garden site (IV.B-42)? To what extent might a successful training and employment program reduce the ranks of homeless campers in the area?

In the absence of human encampments in the wooded area bisecting the garden, what justification exists for maintaining a 50 ft. setback from the tree drip line? A minimum 225 ft. corridor is already planned. A road has historically crossed the wildlife corridor in its proposed location.

What constitutes a 'drainage structure'?

D245

GEO-1d
Erosion

What is the 'Likelihood' of slope instability based on (IV.C-1)?

Does organic gardening always lead to slope instability? What slope instability and erosion have been caused by the UCSC Chadwick Garden in it's 25 years, on slopes greater than any planned on this site?

How might the presence of the Garden and trained personnel help stem the present problem of gully erosion?

How would the 'proposed Pogonip Garden....substantially change the topography and ground relief features'(IV.C-11)?

Terraced permaculture crops were never planned for 16 to 30

D246

percent slopes. Please alter analysis to reflect this fact. The 30-foot buffer from slopes and wetlands proposed on page IV.C-19 seems reasonable. However, it contradicts other, generalized, setbacks suggested elsewhere in the EIR. Which parts of the Garden are planned for slopes in excess of 15%?

VIS-1a

Figure IV.F-1 View F-4 is shown Incorrectly.

Greenhouses

The visibility of Garden greenhouses, as described in the draft EIR, appears to be based on an earlier plan. The current location would be all but invisible from Golf Club Drive, and completely invisible from the Outdoor Education Camp, the Clubhouse, and from the City.

Aluminum was never proposed for the greenhouses. The actual proposed materials (Primack, 1997) are included in the mitigation language (IV.F-13)? Why portray our intentions as your mitigations?

If the actual proposed location of the Garden greenhouses is of insignificant visibility, should their design be addressed in this EIR, or should it be dealt with adequately through the city's design permit process?

What was the visual character of the stables that stood until recently in the vicinity of the Garden site, on the other side of and along Golf Club Drive? Did these 'agricultural' structures, and the clubhouse itself, have an adverse impact on the environment that would have been improved by screening?

Isn't a widened road the single most significant negative impact of the entire Pogonip Master Plan?

D247

Additional references: UCSC Map Library at McHenry Library:

1931-A7

1940-A. 2-6

1943 CJA-1B-74

1948 CDF5.2.86

1982-F 4-1

Archives of the McPherson Center for Art and History.

ATTN: Susan Harris
 Parks and Recreation Department
 City of Santa Cruz
 323 Church Street
 Santa Cruz, CA 95060

REC'D APR 6 1998

April 4, 1998

Re: Comments on Pogonip Draft EIR

Dear Ms. Harris:

Set forth below are my comments on the Draft EIR. Comments are identified and referenced to the section in the report where items are discussed with additional comments at the end.

Trails Related Items

Section V.A. considers the possibility of just keeping things as they are, and identifies that not having multi-use has the adverse environmental impact of having trails remain limited to pedestrian use only and not improved. This finding is supported and should be augmented. Not opening the fire roads to multi-use significantly restricts recreational opportunities and also forces cyclists onto existing paved roads such as S.R. 9 where there are no bicycle lanes. The S.R. 9/Rincon/Spring Trails to Spring Street connection provides a route from the San Lorenzo Valley to West Santa Cruz which avoids the S.R. 9/Hwyway 1 intersection and transition to Mission Street, which is not bicycle friendly. It should be emphasized that trails Alternative B, while providing a regional connection between UCSC, Wilder/Gray Whale and Henry Cowell, does not provide bicycle access to Central Santa Cruz or the Westside, which are only accomplished through Pogonip by inclusion of Brayshaw and Spring Trails (Alternative A). This should be stated more clearly.

Furthermore under the Coastal Act Section 30210 Objective 7.6 is "to establish a countywide system of hiking, bicycling and equestrian trails..." City of Santa Cruz will get closer to meeting this objective by opening Pogonip to the public for multi-use.

The fire roads requested for opening do not effect the protection of the property's natural or cultural resources. There is no evidence of endangered species that would be effected by the opening of these fire roads during daylight hours. These fire roads are not trails, but are roads.

BIO-1j: Protection of existing wood rat nests should not be a problem when routing the UCSC connector trail. There is adequate habitat for the wood rat so that this is not important, especially as compared to the need to locate the trail so as to minimize erosion and maintenance as suggested elsewhere in the report.

BIO-3: There is no reason to believe that bicycle or equestrian use on the Harvey West, Lookout and Pogonip Creek trails needs to be monitored any more than hiking on those trails in order to avoid or reduce impacts to denning bobcats.

D248

D249

D250

GEO-11: Any limitations on traffic volumes to minimize trail impacts should be administered without prejudice to any particular use. It should not be assumed that bicycle or equestrian use should be limited while hiking use is not limited. For example, group hikes which purport to be educational take large groups into sensitive areas during periods of inappropriate conditions. For example, the Sierra Club (of which I am a member) recently sponsored an educational hike with a hydrologist in Pogonip during a period of heavy rains. Approximately 30 people were led off trail into sensitive creek and spring areas. Review of trail use permits for special events should include group hikes and not discriminate between user groups.

D251

Mountain bikes will exert downward force through their tires, although the "mean ground contact pressure", which comprises the wheel load divided by the contact area (Soane et al. 1981, Smith and Dickson 1990) is likely to be less than that of heavier motorized vehicles, horses and heavily laden hikers. Weaver and Dale (1978) noted that motorcycles had least impact on downhill slopes, due to exerting lesser downward forces than hikers or horses. With the lower wheel loadings of mountain bikes, their impacts upon downhill slopes are likely to be much less than those from motorbikes. This does assume that the wheels continue to turn rather than skidding with hard braking. Such skidding can loosen track surfaces and move material downslope, and most significantly, promote the development of ruts which channel water-flow. The development of such ruts, which can promote erosive water-flows to a greater extent than by foot-step puddling, is the most distinctly unique "wheeling" impact. However, where skidding does not occur, impacts from the normal rolling effects of wheels would likely be less than those of foot steps.

GEO-1n: Any limits on wet season use should be applied non-discriminately between user groups. Being on a bike adds only 25-30 lbs. of weight to a person. The cyclists will be limited to areas that are less sensitive, steep, and are service roads being maintained for motorized vehicle access. The slopes of the multi-use trails are not excessive (with the exception of the proposed walking only section on Brayshaw). If, due to wet conditions, limitations on trail use must be established, they should not discriminate against any user group.

D252

WAT-1b: Voluntary trail closures during wet seasons should be minimized to the extent possible. Daily or weekly closures should be preferred to seasonal closures whenever adequate to minimize adverse impacts to water quality and reduce trail maintenance requirements. Seasonal closures should only be used when it is clear that daily or weekly closures will not suffice.

D253

WAT-1c: Concerns about users going off of authorized trails should not be limited to concerns about cyclists and equestrians going on trails limited to pedestrians. There is already significant evidence of unauthorized trails created by pedestrians hiking off of established trails. Of particular concern are organized "nature walks" by a variety of organizations, which, under the guise of education, frequently go off

D254

trail in sensitive areas, causing trail widening, creating unauthorized trails, and increasing the potential for erosion. Monitoring unauthorized trail use should be done in a manner that does not discriminate against user groups, without assumptions that cyclists and equestrians present a greater risk or incidence of unauthorized trail access.

D254

WAT-1e: While gradients of 8% or less may be preferred on multi-use trails, gradients up to 15% or more should be considered acceptable when, considering issues other than water alone, such gradients provide the best routes (i.e. New UCSC Connector). As noted in WAT-1f, trail gradients of over 30% are allowed for hiking trails. Experience at Wilder Ranch and Gray Whale Ranch State Park demonstrates that the issues of slope gradients, erosion, drainage, etc., are not related to the type of user on the trail. Drainage structures such as those identified in Wat-1d can be implemented on trails where needed, whether pedestrian only or multi-use.

D255

WAT-1m: While proposed trail grades of less than 12% and widths of 4-6 feet may be preferred for the UCSC connector trail, these should not be absolute limits when all considerations for trail routing are considered. There may be sections of trail which, in order to minimize the impact of trail installation, erosion, etc., should be in excess of 12% grade and narrower than 4 feet, especially in areas where visibility is adequate. The remote location of the UCSC connector will result in limited pedestrian use, as compared to cyclists and equestrians, who tend to cover more territory and access more remote trails such as this one.

D256

TRANS-5a: Warning signs at SR 9 and Coolidge Drive at the Rincon Trail, Rincon Connector Trail and Sycamore Trail crossing/intersections should not only say "Pedestrian Crossing" and "Equestrian Crossing," but also "Bicyclist Crossing."

D257

TRANS-5c: Bicycle users should be encouraged and able to access the trail system from UCSC not only at the new connector, but at Spring Trail at the top of Spring Street. The Spring Trail/Spring Street connection goes not only to the upper West Side of Santa Cruz, but also to a UCSC dirt service road that connects to the lower campus bike lanes and bike paths.

D258

TRANS-6: It is appropriate to monitor multi-use trails for conflicts between users. However, additional mitigation measures should not include closing trails to multi-use, since most trails in the park will be closed to multi-use in any event. Multi-use trails should be seen as essential for providing recreational opportunities for all segments of the population and essential trail connections. Mitigation measures could include widening trails or creating parallel trails for different user groups, but not closing trails to multi-use. The suggestion that trails be closed to multi-use reflects a prejudice in favor of pedestrian use. If pedestrians wish to avoid interactions with cyclists and/or equestrians, there is access to exclusively pedestrian trails without use of multi-use trails, i.e., at Harvey West Park. There should

D259

be no discrimination against multi-use, especially since experience at other parks indicates that conflicts frequently exist as a result of the unwillingness of pedestrians to share the trails with other users. If pedestrians do not see closing trails to multi-use as an alternative, then they will learn to work cooperatively to minimize conflicts and share the trails.

In several studies regarding multi-use areas, one in particular sites the actual data in user conflicts as Follows:

"Safety was the primary concern in the Los Padres Study, particularly because of a few rogue bikers with the habit of starting at the top of the trail and coasting down at kamikaze speeds. The obvious safety hazard was dealt with via a combination of education (a biking brochure) and trail design (rocks and other natural objects used as speed barriers in the trail). Yet of the 1400 trail users surveyed, most had encountered mountain bikes on the trail and found bikers to be polite and not a safety hazard." (Grost 1989: 76)

D259

Jacoby (1990) provided more detail from the same study, noting that 67 percent of non-riders did not feel mountain bikes were a safety hazard. 89 percent characterized riders as being "polite", and only 11 percent cited "meeting mountain bikes" as being a source of dissatisfaction when hiking. From this study, Jacoby (1990) also noted that only 15 bike-related incidents were perceived by walkers as being hazardous, and the only accident actually reported involved bikes hitting each other while making way for a walker.

These types of findings suggest that while potential hazards do exist from irresponsible riding, cases of actual accidents or injuries are not common. From a sample of 40 resource managers, Chavez et al. (1993) noted that only one case was known which had resulted in injury. And Coughlan (1994) found that although 38 percent of walkers considered mountain bikes "compromise safety", only 10 percent reported safety concerns as a negative outcome from actual encounters with mountain bikes. Most mountain bike riders in Cessford (1995) considered the safety hazard to others from bikes was over-estimated, and that the actions of a few irresponsible riders caused most problems. It appears that in most cases, the "safety" concerns relate more to an anticipation of potential threat than any actual experiences of hazardous riding. As noted by Horn (1994):

SER-1c: Volunteer patrols should be encouraged, but should not be a condition of trails being open for multi-use.

D260

SER-1d: As reflected in the recommendations of the Pogonip Focus Groups, there is no need for posted speed limits. Posted speed limits sometimes result in the erroneous beliefs that one is traveling at a safe speed as long as one is below the limit, or that one is traveling at an unsafe speed when one is traveling above the limits. As experienced at locations like Wilder and Gray Whale, multi-use can operate safely without speed limits, by requiring that all users travel at a safe speed, depending upon all relevant conditions. Speed limits are

D261

difficult to enforce, are not enforced consistently, and can encourage a game mentality that we frequently see among motorized travelers, that one is not speeding if one does not get caught. As reflected in numerous studies, including those provided by Parks and Rec staff during the Focus Groups, it is better to try less intrusive and oppressive management techniques first before trying more heavy handed approaches. Speed limits should only be considered at those locations specifically identified as problematic after significant use and study, as a last resort when other techniques for reducing user conflicts have failed.

D261

Section IV.G - Transportation and Circulation - There is a basic prejudice against cycling displayed in the way the Draft EIR proposes mitigation measures for dealing with inappropriate trail use. The multi-use trails do not significantly go through or near sensitive areas as compared to the hiking trails. There is already a proliferation of numerous unauthorized hiking trails, created by hikers. The Draft EIR recommends removal of these unauthorized trails, but no regulatory scheme to fine those pedestrians who go off trail into unauthorized measure. The Draft EIR recommends an ordinance with fines for cyclists who speed or go in unauthorized areas. There is no suggestion of fines for pedestrians who go in unauthorized areas or otherwise act inappropriately. Any ordinance to be adopted to regulate unauthorized use should not discriminate against any user group. If there are to be fines for users accessing unauthorized areas or other inappropriate conduct, they should apply to all users and be enforced equally as to all users.

D262

Table IV.G-5 Compares Multi-Use Trails Standards for a variety of Jurisdictions. Listed are the East Bay Regional Parks District, Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District, California State Parks (Santa Cruz District), Sequel Demonstration State Forest and the Marin Municipal Water District. Within the State Parks Santa Cruz District, Henry Cowell Redwoods and Nisene Marks State Parks are discussed. Notable by its omission is Wilder Ranch (including Gray Whale Ranch) the one State Park in the area where all fire roads and trails are open to multi-use, and where, coincidentally, land use managers recognize that multi-use works well. A comparison to Wilder Ranch needs to be included. Further more it is also stated that in Nisene Marks State Park that fire roads are only open to mountain bikers. This is not true and in fact single track use is legal on trails below the steel bridge. This needs to be clarified.

D263

Similarly, Section IV.H, which discusses Service Systems and Utilities, purports to compare to nearby similar areas, but omits a comparison to Wilder Ranch, where there are minimal reported conflicts between users and no posted speed limits (although the speed limit in state parks is 15mph). Wilder Ranch needs to be considered a model for enforcement policy in Pogonip, especially given its proximity and that it will be linked by connecting trails if any of the multi-use alternatives are adopted.

D264

The combination of a number of the above items (willingness to close the trails to multi-use; discriminatory ordinance proposed; omission of comparison to Wilder Ranch, etc.,) demonstrates a bias in the report

D265

against multi-use and cycling in particular. This should be revised to take a more balanced approach to the various user groups. The user groups cannot be expected to learn to share the trails in a non-discriminatory manner if the system is set up to be biased against a particular group. Instead, the system as proposed will encourage discrimination against cyclists and potentially a campaign to create conflicts in hopes that it will result in termination of multi-use.

Multiple use trails help build a trail community by increasing the need for all users to cooperate to preserve and protect a common resource. Encountering other users on a trail offers the opportunity to meet and talk. Without that opportunity, it's difficult establish mutual respect and courtesy. Separate trails breed ill will, territoriality and rivalries. Multiple use trails are most cost effective for land managers with less signage and monitoring and enforcement is simplified.

Multiple use trails enable responsible experienced users to educate outlaws and novices. Because they share the same trail system the opportunity for peer regulation is enhanced.

With all the best, I am sincerely,

Keith Kelsen
President
MBOSC
123 Burlwood Drive
Scotts Valley, CA 95066

D265

REC'D APR 08 1998



8520 East Zayante Road
Felton, California 95018
(408) 335-5063
April 8, 1998

Santa Cruz Parks and Recreation Department
323 Church Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Dear Sirs:

It was with great trepidation that I listened to the presentation of the draft Environmental Impact Report given at last Tuesday's City Council meeting. I am seriously concerned about several directions that the Council is going with the development and use of Pogonip. For each of my concerns I will provide my opinion and a mitigation plan.

Draft Master Plan

Homeless Garden Project

Opinion: The presentations by the people who support the Homeless Garden Project were very impressive and on their behalf, it appears that they are looking for an appropriate site to continue business. I sympathize and support their efforts and the underlying philosophy behind their work. My concern is with the City Council. Whether you want to believe it or not, the Homeless Garden Project will have an unalterable effect on the environment in the lower meadow. I believe that the City Council is taking the easy way out in allowing the project to use part of Pogonip. The City Council has a responsibility to support the citizens of this community and that includes the homeless. By virtue of the fact that Pogonip was bought by the City, the City Council is also responsible for the proper use and protection of that legacy. In effect the wild life (both flora and fauna) are also citizens of this community. How can you be so presumptuous as to place man's needs above those of nature simply because you have the power to destroy. I completely disagree with allowing the Homeless Garden Project to use any part of Pogonip.

Mitigation: Remove the Homeless Garden Project from the Draft Master Plan and appoint a special council or commissioner who is given the responsibility of finding an alternate site that will fulfill the needs of all concerned. Please, think of the legacy you are leaving our grandchildren and not your own political well being. The latter is transient. The former will last forever.

Overnight Camping

Opinion: To me the issue of overnight camping falls in the same category as the Homeless Garden Project. The act of developing the tent sites, providing for parking, piping in water, and other modifications will have an unalterable effect on the environment. I strongly request that you do not allow overnight camping in Pogonip.

Mitigation: Since you are already renovating the clubhouse, why not provide a bunkroom in the floor plan. Use the clubhouse for the nature training and allow the children to sleep in the bunkroom. This maximizes the use of the renovated clubhouse and minimizes the effect on the environment of the park.

Draft Environmental Impact Report

Trail use:

Opinion: It is clear that the Draft Environmental Impact Report did not fully address the alternate use of trails by bicyclists and horsemen. I have very little concern with the use of trails by horses. For the most part they are well mannered and do not go off the trail and destroy vegetation. I must however vehemently disagree with the people who spoke in favor of multiple use trails by bicyclists. I have hiked in Wilder Ranch and I have also hiked in the Forest of Nicene Marks and have almost been run off the trail by bicycles. Multi-use trails are not working. By nature, bicycling is a sport of greater speed than either hiking or horse back riding. They dig ruts in the trails and tend to go off the trail for no apparent reason. Furthermore, they ride on trails where they are not permitted. I can only assume that this is because if they go fast enough they believe they can not get caught. There is no easy way to police them, nor would I want to. I no longer hike in either Wilder Ranch or Nicene Marks because of bicycles.

Mitigation: Require that the Environmental Impact Report provide real data regarding the use of trails by hikers, horsemen and bicyclists. Please be clear that by data I mean scientific facts that will support a valid recommendation and not the allusion to facts that are not presented, as is the case in the present draft of the report. Finally, I strongly recommend that the use of bicycles in Pogonip be removed from the Draft Master Plan.

D266

Thank you for listening to my opinion. I hope you will take it to heart.

Sincerely,


Lawrence M. Cuprys

cc:
City Council

841 Charkay St
Santa Cruz 95060-5925

8 April 1998

Susan Harris, SC Parks & Rec.
323 Church St.
Santa Cruz 95060

Re: Pogonip Master Plan DEIR

Dear Ms. Harris:

Proposals in the Pogonip Master Plan suggest a very large number of vehicles, people, structures and construction projects (i.e., temporary presence of heavy machinery) that will impact Pogonip both significantly and permanently.

Among specifics:

① Proposed rehabilitation of Clubhouse: DEIR gives "no project" as the alternative. How about "rebuilding Clubhouse at another site" as an alternative, thereby eliminating infrastructure improvement expenses and use impact. The Clubhouse could be taken apart and "recreated" from some or all of the existing materials at a site already served by roads, etc., or built in conjunction with some other project (UC faculty club? "Restaurant" element in Marine Research Facility? Community Center in South of Laurel Park?)

D267

② Proposed Garden anticipates extensive use by people, vehicles with potential serious damage to wildlife balance

The Master Plan refers to school groups, classes and events, volunteers, employees, CSA members as regular visitors to the Garden. These people—most of whom will arrive and leave in motor vehicles—are not coming to the Property for an "open space"

D268

WALTON

experience. They are coming to the site to observe agricultural work and/or shop for food (pick-up prepaid food shares). Although some of these visitors may also take a walk or ride on the property, their main objective is not seeking a tranquil outdoor experience. Will these users have a different kind of impact than the more traditional open-space user?

D268

The Garden mentions probable deer-protection fencing. Will the Garden be a deer attractant? If so, what impact will this have on wildcat/bobcat population? Is this safe for potential young campers?
 (potential wildcat/bobcat hazard)

D269

It is also clear that the proposed garden site is not flat. Certainly, ^{the possible acquisition of} a flat site near existing infrastructure (roads, sewers, buildings) argues for the "no build" alternative. Also note that the proposals for buildings in the Plan will require 1-story buildings, thereby increasing required footprint, putting more meadow under concrete.

D270

The fact that the proposed Garden is COF-certified is small mitigation in light of the potential impact its presence will create.

Thank you very much.

Jane WALTON

REC'D APR 6 7 1998

April 5, 1998

To: Susan Harris, Santa Cruz Parks and Recreation Department,
and Brady/LSA.

Re: February 1998 Draft Pogonip Master Plan EIR.

At the scoping meeting July 24, 1997 I requested that the EIR include an estimate of amount of mountain bike use likely at Pogonip if multi-use is attempted. I again request this, as I find the treatment of this subject on pages IV H 4-6 to be lacking because (a) it doesn't project numbers based on data from the other parks in the area, and (b) it doesn't report impacts mountain bike use has had on local parks. I suggest that you interview long-time users of state parks in Santa Cruz County, as well as interpretive, maintenance, and ranger staff from these parks. A few of the rangers who have in my opinion the greatest breadth of experience in the largest number of Santa Cruz area state parks are Jeff Jones, Jerry Waggoner, Cris Sanguino, and Eric Bloom. Their boss, Dave Vincent, should also have a good picture of the current local mountain bike situation in local state parks.

D271

Another request I have is in regard to the impact to wildlife by trail use described on page IV B 42. I would like to see added to this section a mention of mortality of reptiles from mountain bike use. Reptiles often use temporarily warm parts of trails and roads for thermoregulation. Any regular bike traffic on Pogonip trails is bound to kill many basking reptiles. At Pogonip this could include Western Fence Lizards, Western Skinks, Northern Alligator Lizards, Rubber Boas, Racers, Ringneck Snakes, Gopher Snakes, Sharp-tailed Snakes, Santa Cruz Garter Snakes, and Coast Garter Snakes. Since mountain bike use began at local parks, many hikers have reported finding crushed lizards, snakes, and newts on heavily biked trails and dirt roads. Wilder Ranch SP generates most of such reports, including one from a local herpetologist who actually saw a mountain bike rider unknowingly run over a garter snake. A confirmed kill of a gopher snake by a mountain bike has been reported by a professor at UCSC. At Nisene Marks SP a co-worker of mine saw a line of bike riders run over a Ringneck Snake. Hikers and runners also inadvertently kill reptiles on trails but at a much lower rate than mountain bikers because (a) they can see and avoid crushing reptiles better than bikers, (b) they impact far fewer miles of trail per park visit, and (c) they are outnumbered by mountain bikers by a substantial ratio.

D272

Feel free to call me if clarification is needed.

Steve Miller (408) 688-7507
220 Cloister Ln.
Aptos, CA 95003



REC'D APR 07 1998

April 6, 1990
Re: Pogonip

D273

The E.D.R. report did not hit upon any adverse environmental impacts in allowing multi-use for trails that could not be completely corrected with a minimal amount of volunteered work on our parts, so let's get on with multi-use on Pogonip! We're not likely to away!!

This large group has been waiting for some ten years plus to share in some of the trails that were left to all of us. (ridiculous!) Primarily, all we're asking is to connect Cowell State Park to Gray whale on Wilder Ranch via Pogonip and UC SC.

There is a combination of mountain bikers and horse people who are waiting to assist in whatever it takes to achieve this as soon as possible. To delay any longer is not fair to the majority who are anticipating that which is rightfully theirs.

During the recent opening of Gray whale, the multi-users have provided:

1. Fund raising (\$40,000 to date)
2. Trail and road repair
3. Signage for multi-use trails
4. Uniformed patrolling on horseback
5. Planned programs of courtesy on trails

Now is the time for opening a few of the

trails and service roads to multi-use

The SCCHA, the mountain bikers of Santa Cruz and ACT will help wherever possible toward a successful (and enjoyable by the majority) opening of these trails in Pajonip.

Respectfully submitted,

Chuck Beebe, SCCHA, a.s.g.,

Ulvian Beebe Mt. Biker Ass.

cc: Mayor

Council members

April 7, 1998

REC'D APR 07 1998

Susan Harris
City of Santa Cruz
Parks and Recreation Department
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Dear Ms. Harris.

I would like to share my opinions about the proposed Pogonip land use proposal, which the city is currently considering. Two areas of the report are of particular interest—the bicycle access and the garden project.

I have lived in Santa Cruz for 28 years and have frequented Pogonip. We now live in the Westlake neighborhood and I walk or run the trails 3-4 times a week so I feel fairly familiar with its current use and status.

I think a link for bicycles from HWY 9 to town would be good. But, due to the nature of the sport, it would be very dangerous to expect foot traffic and bikers to share the road. They have a hard time on West Cliff and Wilder—why expect them to be any different in Pogonip. The bikers that use Pogonip now are wild, even if they are ducking the law. Build a path parallel to the Spring Trail and dedicate it to bikes.

The homeless garden project does not belong in Pogonip. The park is already blighted with illegal campers and campsites. A huge grass fire threatened the upper Westside in Nov. 1996, which was started from a campfire built by some transients. Unsavory campers regularly startle me on my trips into the park. And now we want to move the garden project into the heart the park that is the gem of the city! I know it is not politically correct to criticize our sizable and ever increasing homeless population, but why can't we save Pogonip for all the citizens to enjoy without allowing faction to have a stronghold on the park? I understand the positives and the scope of the project because I used to be a neighbor of the Pelton Ave. garden. I also understand the negatives, which can include destruction of adjacent property and an increase of unsavory people in the vicinity. Some of these people can be frightening and intimidating to children, too.

In terms of land use, I think the garden project will markedly change the appearance of Pogonip. The lower meadow is highly visible from UCSC, HWY 1, the beach and many other places in town. Farmland vs. open space—we bought the park to be the latter. The serious erosion problems need to be addressed. Using organic farming methods does not prevent erosion. The impact to the gently sloping meadow could be significant and disastrous to the ecosystem. How many countless projects have been delayed or permanently shelved in this county because they would disrupt an endangered plant or animal habitat. Why do we think the garden project could work around this issue as outlined in the E.I.R. My last gripe is the size of the project. A 2-acre garden seemed adequate. A 12.5-acre garden seems unnecessarily huge. Again, let's keep the open space open for all.

I appreciate the opportunity to voice my feelings which some will consider insensitive and politically incorrect. I know many citizens in the community who pay taxes and contribute back to their town feel under represented and under served. It is time to change that sentiment and give our town back to the people who really are the heart and soul of Santa Cruz — making Pogonip a true community open space is the first step in that direction.

Sincerely,

Fritzi A. Nelson

Fritzi A. Nelson
850 Highland Ave.
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

D274

REC'D APR 07 1998

April 6, 1998

City of Santa Cruz
Parks and Recreation Dept.
Attn.: Susan Harris
Park and Recreation

Dear Ms. Harris,

Please forward these comments on the Pogonip draft EIR to whom it concerns.

(1) The draft EIR cites unavoidable and significant impacts with regard to the Homeless Garden Project. Wildlife issues were cited. It is my understanding the small white tail Kite hawk is a shy bird. It spends its day hovering over meadows hunting for unlucky field mice, crickets and such. The draft EIR states that of all the Pogonip land, the specific site the Homeless Garden Project wants dug up is right where the Kite hawks concentrate to hunt and to nest. The Kite hawk rarely eats prey bigger than a mouse or little snake. The Homeless Garden Project has cheerfully offered its displaced gophers to help mitigate the hawks supper. What if a plump gopher is not on a hawks menu? Could it be the gopher is too big or too hard pluck from its underground burrow? A professional ornithologist should be consulted.

D275

(2) The draft EIR predicts another significant environmental issue. That has to do with the major amount of erosion that will occur on "Honey-Moon" meadow and gulch. What is the actual plan the Homeless Garden Project has designed to mitigate these major problems? On page 2-11 of the Pogonip Draft Master Plan, a sketch is provided. On this sketch there is one identified "drainage feature", there are five other similar looking symbols, two of which cross a proposed service road. What is that "drainage feature"? Where does it go? How big is it? What is its capacity? What is it made of? Does it go underneath or over the road or both? What does it look like? How much does it cost? These extremely important questions need definitive answers. (A recent development in Scotts Valley had a system designed which failed, and caused irreparable damage to a creek and gulch. The development is called Fione Estates, off La Madrona Road. Its drainage capacity was severely underestimated.)

D276

(2A) The draft EIR also establishes the fact that the Pogonip terraces are natural watersheds capable of handling immense amounts of water flows. What is the Homeless Garden Project plan for this watershed terrace? What happens when large waterflows are channeled off the Garden site? Where will the water go? Could it flood through the Lower Golf Club Drive neighborhood? Will the city build culverts and an underground drainage system to empty through the new proposed sewer system? If so will it carry all this water which once naturally drained and percolated? A detailed plan for watershed management is needed.

D277

(3) Imposing agriculture on land distinctly inappropriate for agriculture of this nature can be environmentally devastating. This soil is not arable farm loam. Have the soils been studied by a professional soils engineer? My limited understanding of French Intensive Gardening is that 4 foot deep beds are used for production. The soil on the Pogonip terraces are barely 2 inches deep. Do you carve out the growing beds, or do you build boxed beds? Would it be that truckload upon truckload of organic matter will have to be trucked in to get enough soil to a depth to support plant and root growth? What is proposed for the above? What if it does not work?

D278

(3A) I think the EIR staff should interview existing organic farms for their opinion. Council member Mike Rotkin thought this would not be a mechanized garden operation. That implies no tractor or farm equipment. The master plan proposes structures for equipment. This Homeless Garden Project proposal calls for 12.5 acres under cultivation. All by hand? During the meeting on March 31, Ali Edwards, an organic farmer from the "Dirty Girls" spoke out against this project site because of its soils and geology. She said Wilder Ranch has organic farmland for lease. Has anyone pursued this site? I know it is not up to the EIR staff to find another site, however in the mitigation section of the draft EIR, the team recommends an off site be found.

D279

(4) Water to the site. If the city pays for a water connection to the site, who then pays for city water to irrigate the Homeless Garden Project site? A resident is charged per cubic foot after a certain limit a higher fee is paid. How much water use is projected for this site? Will it be metered? Who pays for the water used? What happens during a drought year? The proposed site of 12.5 acres is in full sun. Greenhouses require vast amounts of watering. (Similar questions remain around the proposed sewer connection. How much will that cost relative to what the Campground fee will bring in?)

D280

(5) I'm not sure who to address this question to, so please forward it to the proper entity. If the city gives land to the Homeless Garden Project, a non-profit organization, what happens if the organization is poorly managed, expectations not met, or disbands. What happens to the site (a site that was once a beautiful meadow terrace)? Does the Garden Project have a plan? A 6 month, 1 year, 2 year plan for review by the City Council and Parks & Recreation would be appropriate.

D281

(5A) From a recent article in the Santa Cruz Sentinel I learned the Homeless Garden Project has an operating budget of \$300,000 per year. The article said there are five paid directors/staff and 6-20 homeless workers. Where will the money come from to build the buildings and parking lots proposed by the Homeless Garden Project? Whose budget covers the drainage system? What if the project is reduced or abandoned for any reason? What would that look like? Do we need a back up plan?

D282

(6) Regarding the Lower Golf Club Drive neighborhood. This area is zoned for future housing. How will development of the park lands effect development in this area?. I believe planning needs to take place for this 21 acre pocket. The Lower Golf Club Drive neighborhood is the entrance to Pogonip Park. The neighborhood has a potential, according to the General Plan, of 20-100 housing units. Considering the General Plan requirements, if the development of the park land proceed, what are the consequences to future housing and traffic flow? Will the size of trucks for pick^{up} farm delivery or building materials be limited in size and weight to the presently existing use on the road? Will Golf Club Drive be overburdened with service and public vehicles? Traffic is almost non existent now?

D283

(7) The Pogonip Land Use Options Assessment prepared by Callander Associates for the Pogonip Task Force in 1992, had recommended that a natural history museum and community/homeless garden be developed in close proximity to each other. The garden would serve as an education center for organic gardening techniques (pg.12-13). No buildings or structures were included in the development of a garden site. The Museum has since changed its mind and is no longer interested in Pogonip as a future site. It is too costly and environmentally unsound. Structural developments for a garden site were never included in the Homeless/Community Garden Policies (pg.13). Two 25x90 foot greenhouses, a 1500 foot kitchen, bathrooms, office/administrative building, sheds, and parking lots, were never part of the original intent. Only "adequate toilet facilities should be provided" (pg. 13 point 10). These matters should be carefully reviewed.

D284

(8) In the same assessment document, the "Overnight Campground" was proposed as a seasonal camp located off HWY 9 at Sycamore Grove (pg. 21). No other site was identified. Is it appropriate for a campground to be near a neighborhood with a possible 20-100 houses? Existing ranger personnel should be interviewed comparing the current cleanup manpower it needs with needs in the future should a campground be developed. The proposed Campground and bathroom facilities, etc., is right across from the proposed "Homeless Garden".

D285

Perhaps the current task force and EIR team should review the 1992 assessment report accepted by Council in 1992.

(9) It was not clear to me at the meeting whether the City Council agreed with Peter Katzlebergers' opinion as to the "nit picking" and "non-objectivity" of the draft EIR- or if the Council was asking for a more detailed analysis and conclusions from the EIR. If there are real concerns on anyones part as to possible prejudice, bias, or imbalance in anyway then we certainly need to address those concerns. It is my understanding the environmental team was hired to do a job, paid for by City money. Perhaps a second objective environmental agency should be brought in to review the present draft EIR, and to determine if in fact there are "nit picking" issues, or are these objective conclusions about the impacts in the Pogonip.

D286

It is my opinion it is possible to love the places we can see, touch, smell and experience. Pogonip is "rooted" in many human souls. People love Pogonip the way it is. Currently without worry, one can walk up the middle of the narrow historic beautiful road which winds it way up to the top of a hill overlooking our bustling city. With this development that peaceful walk will cease forever. In its place will be activity, buildings, turnouts, parking, camping, lighting and vehicles. Do we want that? Really?

Please slow down the time line on this plan. An urge to create a beautiful, sustainable, educationally oriented, garden site is a wonderful goal! We do need more small scale farms, ideally powered by sunshine. Please be mindful of the high cost we could pay in watershed and wildlife damage in exchange for capital improvement.

Thank you for this opportunity to address my concerns. Call me if you have any questions or need clarification on any of these issues.

Respectfully,

Cathy Puccinelli
(408) 425-8679,
335 Golf Club Drive
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

To whom it concerns,

Please know the email
for the city council has not
been working or forwarding letters
written from concerned citizens
regarding the logging Master Plan.

The city clerk has been notified,
and assures me they will try
to rectify the problem. Several
letters 'were lost' that were directed
to Council before the March 31
meeting. Sincerely, Cathy



CATHY M. PUCCINELLI, REALTOR®

VANGUARD REALTORS • 541-A CAPITOLA RD. EXTENSION • SANTA CRUZ, CA 95062
PHONES (408) 462-3110 • FAX (408) 462-9583

Susan and Kenneth Coale
1121 Western Dr.
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

REC'D APR 07 1998

Susan Harris
Santa Cruz Department of Parks and Recreation
323 Church St.
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

April 5, 1998

Dear Susan:

We are writing to urge that the Master Pogonip Plan, include trail use by equestrians. As members of the Sierra Club, Nature Conservancy, Land Trust of Santa Cruz and as biological/environmental scientists, we feel that preserving the habitats and natural beauty of Pogonip deserves consideration as the highest priority. After reviewing the DEIR, it appears that equestrian use of some Pogonip trails would not compromise these goals. We also feel that preservation of the historic use these trails is of value. Horses played an important role in the development of some of the Pogonip trails and traveled these trails in the past. There are very few historic roads left for equestrians to safely use. It would be a thrill to travel these trails as those who came a hundred years before us did. In addition, the main trail would provide an invaluable connector to Henry Cowell.

D287

Locally, the contentious issue of trail use has typically pitted hikers against bikers and equestrians, where equestrians are subject to the same criticism as mountain bikers. We would like for the committee to consider that there are important differences between the two groups. Horses generally travel at a much slower pace. In particular, when traveling down steep grades, horses go slow, whereas bikes go fast. Steep trails are particularly subject to erosion and speed is an aggravating factor.

In terms of the impact on wildlife, we like to offer our own experiences as equestrians and as bicyclists to illustrate some other important differences between the two groups. We are continually impressed by the number wildlife sightings that occur when we are on horseback, far more than even on foot. Being large prey animals themselves, horses do not have the smell or dietary habits that are threatening to most other animals. We regularly encounter bobcats (even with cubs), coyotes, birds of prey and once a mountain lion. They rarely run from us but to the contrary pause to view us with mild interest before resuming their activities. This is in contrast to when we are on foot where we occasionally catch fleeting glimpses of these animals before they dash out of sight. When on bikes we rarely see these animals at all. On horseback and foot, we've observed that the trails in Wilder are favored sunbathing sites for a variety of reptiles. A fast moving bicyclist often has no time to stop even if he or she sees the animals. All too often these animals become roadkill. Horses and humans are reluctant to step on these creatures. (Our horseback riding experience has made us more considerate bicyclists).

D288

There are also real safety concerns when it comes to having equestrians share the trails with bicyclists. Few things are more frightening to a horse than to be surprised by a speeding bike from behind. On steep, winding, single track trails, the mix of horses and bikes can be disastrous. The Wagon Wheel trail in Wilder, is designated one-way, uphill only. We have rarely gone up it without encountering a bicyclist coming down, in blatant violation of park rules. For these reasons, many equestrians avoid Wilder Ranch all together.

D289

Access to Pogonip by equestrians would greatly expand the places we could ride and would allow many of the horse owners on the westside of Santa Cruz to get to relatively bicycle free Henry Cowell without trailering.

In many ways, equestrians have more in common with hikers than with bicyclists. We travel at speeds more comparable to hikers and for similar reasons-to enjoy the solitude, to observe wildlife and for exercise. Speed is not generally part of the equation for our enjoyment of the trails.

In terms of absolute numbers, equestrians are few, however, we ask that the committee consider that we, especially, depend on public lands. Riding on city streets is not a safe option, and as development of privately owned acreage continues, we are losing places to ride at an alarming rate. Although we are relatively few in number, we believe that our "sport" contributes significantly to the local economy by supporting feed and tack stores, veterinarians, trainers, etc. Furthermore, many among our ranks contribute generously to preservation/conservation and maintenance of local open space through trail building and maintenance, volunteer horse patrol, sponsorship of fundraising events and monetary contributions.

D290

To reiterate, preservation of the habitats and natural beauty of Pogonip should be the committee's highest priority in determining trail use. Based on the DEIR, it appears that at least some of the Pogonip trails are suitable for equestrian use. Please consider that equestrian use is somewhat different from bicycling use and that for equestrians, Pogonip represents an extremely important link to the "horse friendly" trails of Henry Cowell as well as good opportunity to preserve historic use of one of Santa Cruz' early roads.

Thank you for your hard work on the Pogonip Master Plan and for your consideration of trail use by equestrians.

Sincerely,

Susan Coale

Kenneth Coale

Susan and Kenneth Coale

REC'D APR 07 1998
Rcvd pf

April 4, 1998

Susan Harris
Department of Parks and Recreation
323 Church Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Re: Pogonip Draft Master Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Report

Dear Ms. Harris:

Please accept this letter as my comment on the Pogonip Draft Master Plan Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR).

The way the DEIR is organized, it is difficult for a reader to tell which impacts come from which specific part of the project. For example, if I wanted to know how much impact the "Pogonip Garden" Support Facilities and Infrastructure would have, there is no section in the DEIR to which I could turn for this information. The problem is alleviated somewhat by the Draft Table 1 "Summary of Mitigation Measures by Topics" but this table has not been distributed to the public. Furthermore, there is no way the reader can tell whether a certain aspect of the project was actually analyzed. For example, the maintenance and support facilities includes a six-car parking lot at the caretaker's residence and ranger facilities. The Draft Master Plan suggests that the service driveway and parking spaces be paved to minimize erosions and maintenance problems. But did the DEIR take into account the impact of the proposed paving on down-slope erosion or on the plant communities in that location? Even if the answer is yes, it is very difficult if not impossible for the reader to learn this from the DEIR itself.

D291

Where is the analysis of the impact of the proposed "Maintenance and Support Facilities?" The Draft Table 1 "Summary of Mitigation Measures by Topics" notes an impact listed under BIO-3 but I do not see any discussion of that in the DEIR under BIO-3, or under BIO-1 or BIO-2 for that matter. Surely the 1800 square foot two-story "accessory maintenance" building, 1600 square foot two-story caretaker house, access driveway, paved six-car parking lot, 60-foot by 60-foot covered corral, re-located equestrian training area, supply storage area (would this be a building?), and fencing can not be ignored.

D292

The DEIR does not state whether the supply storage area (part of Maintenance and Support Facilities) would be a building and, if so, does not reveal the size of this proposed building.

D293

The DEIR refers to a shuttle from the proposed Upper Meadow parking lot to "off-site parking" for events that result in a parking demand that exceeds the lot capacity. Where would that off-site parking be located? How would the shuttle negotiate narrow Golf Club Drive between the railroad trestle and the entrance to Pogonip?

D294

The DEIR missed a significant impact under the category of Visual Quality and Aesthetics for Trail Alternative A and B. The DEIR addresses only the issue of view, but aesthetics also includes the sound and the "feel" of a place. If bicycles are permitted in Pogonip, the quiet and serenity will be lost. The presence of groups of fast-moving cyclists coming around corners will change Pogonip and will change the experience of the place for hikers and for the wildlife who live there. The DEIR should address this impact.

D295

The DEIR never explicitly states how many bicyclists, horses, or pedestrians are envisioned by the authors of the document. Because the numbers that were anticipated by the authors of the DEIR are not stated, the information in the DEIR is unreliable and potentially inaccurate. The true environmental impacts may not be accurately represented by the DEIR at all. For example, if the DEIR as an underlying presumption assumes one to two cyclists per day, but the actual use turns out to be eighty to one hundred cyclists per day, the real environmental impacts will be very different, and vastly underestimated.

D296

Proposition 70 (Wildlife, Coastal, and Park Land Conservation Bond Act) (hereafter the "Act") provided the funds whereby Pogonip was purchased. The "Pogonip Garden" project does not fall into any of the uses included for Pogonip by the Act and is, in fact, inconsistent with the uses set out in the Act and for which funds were provided. (See Text of the Act, sections 5901(a), (b); 5902(g), (i), (k); 5903; 5905.)

For example, Section 5905 of the Act states "Wildlife, coastal, and park land conservation is in the public interest and is necessary to keep these lands in open-space, natural, and recreational uses, to provide clean air and water, to protect significant environmental and scenic values of wildlife and plant habitat, riparian and wetland areas, and other open-space lands, and to provide opportunities for the people of California to enjoy, appreciate, and visit natural environments and recreational areas."

D297

Section 5903 of the Act states "For the purposes of the State General Obligation Bond Law, "state grant" or "state grant moneys" means moneys received by the state from the sale of bonds authorized by law for the purposes of this division which are available for grants to counties, cities, cities and counties, districts and nonprofit organizations."

"Historic use" should not carry any type of persuasive weight for making any decision. I cringe every time I hear someone make that argument during a public hearing. Many terrible things occurred during history and just because something happened at some point in history does not make it acceptable for us to do today. "Historic use" is not a reason to abandon responsibility for independent thinking and present-day analysis.

D298

This project as proposed contains many components that are unacceptable and that will change Pogonip drastically. There are the big questions such as the Pogonip Garden and whether bicycles and/or horses should be permitted on trails. But there are also the other issues, each of which is a considerable question in itself, as to whether it is appropriate to do in Pogonip: widening of Golf Club Drive with huge 90-foot paved vehicle turn-around; 1800 square foot "accessory maintenance" building; 1600 square foot

D299

caretaker house; 60-foot by 60-foot covered corral; re-location of equestrian training area; supply storage building; new fencing; rehabilitation of the Clubhouse; 45-car parking lot; 30-car parking lot; 6-car parking lot at maintenance/support facilities area; 5-car parking lot at Spring Street. Each component must be looked at individually. Is it necessary or desirable to widen Golf Club Drive? Is it necessary or desirable to pave a huge 90-foot vehicle turn-around? Is it necessary or desirable to build an 1800 square foot "accessory maintenance" building? Etc.

D299

My point is that it is important not to overlook anything or allow "little things" to slide by. We must start from Pogonip as it is now and think from there, rather than start from the perspective of the entire project and scale down to a "compromise" from there. For example, three years ago, if someone would have proposed a forty-car parking lot on Pogonip, the community would have been scandalized. There would have been shouts of "Inappropriate!" and "Unacceptable!" and "No paving on Pogonip!" from all sides. Instead, now, looking at the project as proposed, it might be tempting to scale back the combined 75-car capacity (45-car lot at Upper Meadow and 30-car lot at Lower Meadow) to, say, 40 spaces total and feel really good about it. But that is still too much paving on Pogonip.

D300

In the Alternatives section, I don't see how Alternative C could possibly cause an increase in parking demand. In the case of Alternative C, the Lower Meadow parking lot would be decreased from the proposed 30 spaces to 15, which should be more than enough for the day-use-only Outdoor Education Camp. The Draft Master Plan, on page 7-5, states that it will require users of the Outdoor Education Camp to carpool, use a bus or shuttle system, or utilize alternative modes to access the camp. Surely Alternative C does not anticipate building a 15-car parking lot in the middle of Pogonip meadow to service visitors who come there to enjoy its natural beauty.

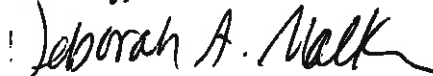
D301

In the Cumulative Impacts section, there is no analysis of the environmental impacts of bicycle use at Wilder Ranch. Indeed, Wilder Ranch should be studied in-depth as a model for what is likely to happen on the trails at Pogonip if bicycles are allowed. There is no need to guess. We have the real-life true experience right up the road. That analysis should be included in the DEIR, both in the Cumulative Impacts section (regarding opening yet another open-space area to bicycle use) and in Part IV regarding predicted impacts.

D302

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Deborah A. Malkin
Resident, City of Santa Cruz

Homeless United for Friendship & Freedom **RECEIVED**

309 Cedar St. #14B -- Santa Cruz, Ca. USA 95060 (408)423-HUFF fax(408)429-8529

APR - 7 1998

Tue, Apr 7, 1998

To: Santa Cruz Parks & Rec
re: Pogonip Master Plan-EIR report

COUNCIL AND
CITY MANAGER

Attention Susan Harris,

I understand the master plan includes 12 acres near the old clubhouse for the *Homeless Garden Project* (HGP). HUFF supports the relocation of the HGP to the Pogonip site. We believe the project is worthy of public support, and the use of the land for organic farming would enhance the value of the Pogonip property to the greater Santa Cruz community, and favorably impact the lives of homeless clients. HUFF opposed the decision of City Council to sell the Pelton Street property before a new site was found. HUFF supports the expansion of the *Homeless Garden Project* to beyond 20 homeless persons, and urges the *Homeless Garden Project* to provide nutritious, organic fruits and vegetables for feeding homeless people, as well as for sale to shareholders and local markets.

Not included in the Master Plan is any reference to a campground, for tourists or for homeless persons. The Sycamore Grove area, the site of traditional campgrounds earlier this century, is the ideal location for a homeless campground:

1. It could be "Grandfathered in" as it appears on old maps as a campground
2. It is 3/4 of a mile from existing services for homeless people
3. It is located in an area where it would visually impact few residents or tourists

A campground for homeless people should be a high priority to the Santa Cruz Community because existing shelter space for homeless people is grossly inadequate at the same time laws exist prohibiting camping and sleeping. Illegal camping by homeless persons in the Pogonip is a current reality. Designating an area for legal camping would greatly enhance available shelter for homeless people while having the effect of decreasing illegal camping. Problems such as fire danger and littering could be more adequately dealt with.

D303

Please Respond to these questions:

1. What, if any, environmental concerns would affect or prohibit a campground for homeless persons at Sycamore Grove?
2. What other sites exist in the Pogonip which would be compatible with a walk-in, low cost, homeless campground?
3. Didn't the City, in applying for money from the State Park Bond Act of 1988, explicitly state a campground was an integral part of the use to which the Pogonip would be put?

Sincerely,


Becky Johnson
Member/Spokesperson

cc: SC City Council
Citizens Committee for the Homeless
Homeless Community Resource Center
Community Action Board
Housing Now! Santa Cruz
Homeless Garden Project
California Senate Natural Resources Committee

would be controversial, if multiple use did not prove compatible there could be a return to the present use.

Here are my specific comments from reading the plan:

- Too much vehicular access from Golf Club Drive
 - Keep road narrow and small
 - Have only parking for park vehicles and a couple spaces for special needs
 - Have a small Disability Compatible Park or City Transit vehicle that would fit on the existing road available for event transport for those in need.
 - Have Clubhouse as a walk-in event center (this would be very unique and appropriate for Santa Cruz)
 - If there is a garden the vehicular impact should be decreased from what was outlined
- Concerning the Trail use A, B, C question as reported in the EIR:
 - The EIR discussion has very little negative opinion about the potential for trail erosion and degradation associated with mountain bikes on approved trails.
 - Table IV.G5 states that every jurisdiction surveyed in the Bay area allows multiple use on non-paved roads.
 - Page IV.H-5 demonstrates the successful track record for safety and user group conflict that other local jurisdictions have had with multiple use. This is important data.
- The garden project is too high impact from the EIS, better located elsewhere
 - Would be more acceptable with less actual building and mechanical development associated with the project. The concept of sustainable organic gardening is vital and central to our region.
 - The community commitment to increased reentry opportunities for the homeless is strong and should be supported
 - The EIR water use report sounds like a significant concern. IV.H-9
- The outdoor educational area sounds OK if it is walk-in and without the overnight component
- The trails that exist from the Sacred Oak Tree all the way down the Redwood Canyon are not mentioned in the Master Plan. These trails are well developed in most areas and could connect across the railroad tracks to the proposed Nature loop in the Sycamore Grove with a further connection back to the trails leading to the Clubhouse. I know that this must be a very environmentally sensitive zone. This is, in my opinion, the most scenic area in the park. Is it meant to become illegal for hiking? Currently it does have a high density of illegal transient camps. I would like to have this be an official trail with rerouting as needed for environmental concerns.
- The University Connector Trail looks like a tremendous addition for either hiking and biking access
- The importance and critical opportunity to have a contiguous outdoor human corridor from Wilder Ranch to Henry Cowell, Scott's Valley and connecting to points throughout the county for hiking and biking should be a very high priority. This is a world class opportunity.
- The current illegal camps have a very high environmental and public safety costs. Every future plan should address this in some way.
- Any decisions in phase one about new trail use opportunities should be implemented as soon as possible given environmental mitigation work that may be needed. This has been long delayed.

D306

D307

D308

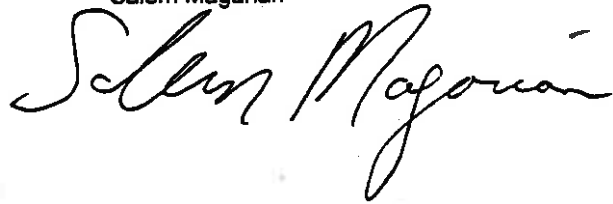
D309

- The finances of phase 1 should be devoted first to trail preparation and later to the water, sewer, roadwork associated with the Clubhouse / Golf Course Drive area. The relative cost to community and user benefit is much greater for the trails in the early phase.

Thank you for the enormous amount of effort and careful thought that has gone into the Master Plan. I appreciate your dedication and concern for the Pogonip and its future.

Best regards,

Salem Magarian

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Salem Magarian". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the printed name.

REC'D APR 08 1998

**GREEN PARTY
OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY
144 BELMONT ST.
SO CA 95060**

2 APR 98

**ParksAndRecreation
City of Santa Cruz**

**ATTN: Susan Harris
RE: EIR on Pogonip**

To Whom It May Concern:

We find the Environmental Impact Report on the Pogonip Master Plan lacking in facts and details and fear the report is biased in many regards.

It is our strong concern that the evaluation of the impact of a Homeless Garden Project has not taken into fair and full consideration the type of operation that Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) provides in general or in specific as regards this location.

It is our position that if the original thinking in the Pogonip Master Plan had an understanding of CSA's and had included the concept of the Garden in the area then the EIR should not employ the bias against all "farming" in this instance.

We fear the incursion of multiple use, especially bike ruts into the area.

We oppose parking lots and would rather see some creative alternatives.

Although we would rather see the Homeless Garden Project meet the General Master Plan's call for urban agricultural zones we concede that the Pogonip Master Plan can accommodate the Homeless Garden Project.

As regards to campsites, we are concerned that legal obligations to the state be met. However, we are more concerned that the promise to our own homeless population that some form of campsite, preferably and educational ecovillage type minimal impact campsite be given priority.

It appears to us that the EIR is aimed at converting Greenbelt land to tourist attraction rather than comply with the original concept of the Greenbelt.

for The Green Party of Santa Cruz.

David Silva

D311

D312

ROBERT POLLIE

635 Hillcrest Dr.
Felton, CA. 95018

April 8, 1998

To: Susan Harris, Santa Cruz City Parks and Recreation
Re: Pogonip Draft EIR

I understand that you are currently accepting public comments on the draft environmental impact report for Pogonip. I reviewed the EIR recently and have several concerns:

- The report gives scant attention to the impact of bicycles (or at least I couldn't find many mentions of this issue). This strikes me as a remarkable oversight, given that bicycle use is one of the major changes being contemplated for Pogonip, and certainly one of the most contentious questions under consideration. I should note that any realistic assessment of this impact will have to take account of the potentially large numbers of bicycle riders who will visit Pogonip. (Pogonip not really comparable in this regard to other local parks such as Wilder Ranch and Gray Whale Ranch. Pogonip is much more accessible, being directly adjacent to both the city center and to the UCSC campus--each area home to a large and growing population of bicyclists.) The study should likewise weigh not only bicycle use on authorized trails, but also the inevitable effects of some unauthorized trail and off-trail use, which may be considerable. I believe the overall toll taken by bicycles--on pedestrian safety, erosion, wildlife and the atmosphere of the park--would be heavy.
- Speaking of atmosphere, the EIR appears to overlook this very important aspect of Pogonip. While giving some attention to aesthetics and "viewsheds," the EIR (as far as I can see) neglects to address the "feel" of the place. Pogonip happens to be one of the most quiet, placid and idyllic environments in Santa Cruz county--a place where the city ends and nature takes over. It feels, in many places, completely wild, or at least pastoral: no cars (other than the very infrequent passing of the ranger's truck), no car radios, no crowds, few buildings. No wonder the city's Pogonip task force concluded that "Pogonip is a place to be appreciated for its natural beauty, habitat value and serenity, in contrast to the built environment." With those values in mind, I think the EIR does an inadequate job of addressing the impacts of several options under consideration, such as the expansion of park maintenance facilities and the siting of parking lots in the central area around the now-unused clubhouse, as well as the use of Golf Club Drive for general automobile access. All of these changes, I believe, will detract severely from Pogonip's uniquely serene and "wild" character.

D313

D314

I think these are serious omissions affecting the overall usefulness of the report.

Sincerely,

Robert Pollie

April 8, 1998

Richard Schmale
414 Pennsylvania Avenue
Santa Cruz, CA 95062

Susan Harris
Parks Department
323 Church Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

CITY MANAGER
COUNCIL AND
APR - 8 1998

SUBJECT: POGONIP DRAFT EIR, PUBLIC COMMENT

RECEIVED

Dear Ms. Harris:

I would like to suggest that the Pogonip Environmental Impact Report should directly address the viewshed impacts of the Homeless Garden Project as seen from Golf Club Drive. I believe the Garden Project, at Pogonip, would visually degrade a scenic near-natural meadow. I believe my April 4, 1998 comments on the Pogonip Draft Master Plan also apply to the Draft Eir, and I have attached a copy of my April 4 comments to be part of the record.

If given a free choice, I believe that few landscape designers or planners would elect to tear up Pogonip's scenic, near-natural lower meadow. I believe another site should be found for the Homeless Garden Project which I feel is a worthy social endeavour.

Sincerely,



attachment

D315

cc: City Council & Parks Board

April 4, 1998

Richard Schmale
414 Pennsylvania Ave.
Santa Cruz, CA 95062

Susan Harris
Parks Department
323 Church Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

SUBJECT: POGONIP MASTER PLAN PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING "HOMELESS GARDEN PROJECT"

Dear Ms. Harris:

I have been reviewing State (California) Proposition 70, the act which provided funding for the purchase of Pogonip Park, and I feel that the Pogonip Draft Master Plan does not conform to the intent of Proposition 70.

Chapter one (1) of Proposition 70 states in 5901 (a& b): "The people of California find and declare all the following: Parks, wildlife habitat, beaches, and open-space lands are vital to maintaining the quality of life in California. As the state's population increases, it is of growing importance to provide parks and recreational opportunities to the residents of California. Preservation of California's unique natural heritage is in the interest of all Californians."

Subsection designated "g" defines natural lands: " 'Natural lands' means an area of relatively undeveloped land which (1) has substantially retained its characteristics as provided by nature or has been substantially restored, or which can be feasibly restored, to a near-natural condition, and which has outstanding wildlife, scenic, open-space, or park resources, or a combination thereof..." I would submit that Pogonip's lower meadow amply meets scenic and near-natural criteria as above and should be preserved as is, without agricultural developement, according to the mandate of the voters of California as expressed in Proposition 70.

Subsection designated "i" defines Park: "Park means a tract of land with outstanding scenic, natural, open space, or recreational values, set apart to conserve natural, scenic, cultural, or ecological resources for present and future generations to be used by the public as a place for rest, recreation, education, exercise, inspiration, or enjoyment." I would submit that agricultural developement on the scale of 10-12 acres would degrade scenic open space and be against the intent of Proposition 70; construction of several sustantial buildings would also degrade scenic open space and that the net changes would have far more than incidental impact. Whereas existing agriculture is sometimes accommodated within parks or open space preserves, I do not believe the intent of Proposition 70 contemplated downgrading of scenic open space into a substantial agricultural operation with a number of substantial ancillary structures. The subsection designated as "i", as quoted above, states that a park is, direct quote, "to be used by the public". I feel that the agricultural operation known as the "Homeless Garden" would not be "used by the public" as would be, for example, a community garden wherein all City residents might apply for plots. As I understand it, the Homeless Garden is a privately run training facility which I feel should apply for grant of land under a schools bond rather than a "Wildlife, Coastal, and Parkland Conservation Act" like Proposition 70. I feel that granting the garden project, for example, a thirty year lease at one dollar per year, or roughly equivalent arrangement, would essentially amount to a gift of public land, something that I feel should require the direct approval of the voters. Whereas a small plot of land might have an incidental effect on Pogonip as a garden project, I feel that all the above considerations apply to a 10-12 acre project and large buildings.

REC'D APR 08 1998

COMMENTS ON THE POGONIP MASTERPLAN DRAFT EIR
By Jacquelyn Griffith, 239 Calvin Place, Santa Cruz.

4/8/98

I feel very rushed about getting these comments in in this period of time. There is much more to be said than time to comment permits. Please advise of any further opportunity. As a disabled person this is inadequate for me. My arm is cramping these days making writing difficult and I would like more time.

Spring Street Trail: The definition of "hiker" is too all-inclusive. The Spring Street trail has many kinds of users. It is the most accessible nature trail due to its lack of elevation gain. People who are only capable of a short stroll can use it. The "hikers" using the Spring Street trail include: people walking dogs on various lengths of leashes; hikers; joggers; families(adults) with small children walking; families carrying small children; walking meditators; elderly people and people with the following disabilities: sight impaired; hearing impaired; osteoporosis; knee and hip problems; arthritis; nervous disorders and chronic fatigue to name a few. This trail should be considered separately for its unique nature. You can't lump us all together as "hikers" without losing the above groups if either bicycles or horses are added to this trail. Imagine the dangers of dogs on leash with bicycles; or of horses shying at dogs with children on the trail; or the calm walk of a nerve-affected, sight or hearing impaired person shattered by bicyclists whizzing past; or mixing families with small children with speeding cyclists. None of these are "insignificant impacts". They are enough to keep these versions of "hikers" from using the trail.

D316

Trail Materials: Natural dirt trails are pleasing to the eye and easiest to walk on for those people with knee, hip, and back cartilage deficiencies. Please use them wherever possible.

Horses: Horses have a very significant affect on trails. I have experienced walking on a mountain trail ankle-deep in dust due to horses. I have experienced trails in ok shape; had a group on horse-back pass and then had the trail be unpassable (mud in wet weather, choking dust in dry) . The number of horses in a group is significant. The number of horses overall is significant, too. As large animals, horses urinate in great volume. It is unsanitary to have children around horses on a trail who may play in the puddles, unknow, or simply get splashed and put their hands on their faces. We ask dog owners to clean up dog poop. Would we expect less of horse-owners? Horse poop is much larger and has a greater impact on the trail. If horses and people share a trail, someone has to wait off to the side, causing trail widening. Assuming that would sometimes be horses, their damage to the trailside would be substantial. People on horses (or bikes) are much noisier, disturbing the quiet and wildlife viewing of walkers. The fact that "Lockemup Creek" was a horsetrail shows the effect of horses on trails.

Bicyclists: Bikes to damage trails. People cannot safely or enjoyably share with speeding , noisy cyclists.

Lime kilns: The efforts to restore the lime kilns did result in several trees besides the intended trees being destroyed by being caught in each others' branches and being pulled down. This was very significant destruction and should be addressed in the EIR.

D317

Parking and Traffic: Noise, pollution and eyesore for hikers and wildlife.

Fireplan: Going in to cut trees and taking in equipment has a significant effect on wildlife.

Garden: Garden employees could come fromm offsite in a van.

Parking: Put any parking at the very bottom of Pogonip.

D318

Campground: Even with only dry season use the plants in the campground area and any other areas in close proximity where groups will be running around : the plants will be wiped out. It will be a dusty area.

Wildlife: I doubt if wildlife will survive around the campground. I don't think the EIR considers adequately the noise level of kids in a campground and its affect on wildlife. Birds don't nest when they are continuously disturbed.

D319

PARKS & RECREATION DEPT
RE: POGONIP EIR
4/8/98

RECD APR 08 1998

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

I feel the EIR does not adequately address the impact of erosion caused by mountain bikes if they are allowed access into Pogonip.

The extent of erosion at Wilder Ranch in particular is alarming given the good condition of all the trails prior to access by mountain bikes. All trails are now deeply rutted; some are unusable. The trails were used by horses, cattle and wagons for more than a century with little if any damage to the trails. Within 5 years of mountain bike use the damage is huge and irreversible. Furthermore, many mountain bike riders ride anywhere they please, leaving ugly scars across meadows. Even the fifth marine terrace is showing scarring down its steep face from those who leave the trails. Collisions between horses and mt. bikes are documented.

Gray Whale Ranch has hardly been open for a few months and erosion from mt. bikes is visible.

There is no way to enforce a limited access policy with such a huge recreational population who ignores the law.

I request that the EIR address this issue thoroughly with field surveys; analysis of before and after photos; careful documentation of mt. bike impacts on our existing parks and research into experiences of other communities. I request that the concept of multi-use trails be analyzed with respect to legal liability for the city. I request that the impact of mt. bikes on the ability of others to have safe and enjoyable access be considered. Pogonip is a smaller and even more sensitive and fragile ecosystem. Located next to UCSC, the potential for abuse is enormous.

Horses, hikers and joggers are relatively light on the land. Mt. bikes have caused more erosion at UCSC in 10 weeks than was caused in the past 10 years from all other sources, according to UCSC grounds crew.

Thank you for responding to these issues. Feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Gillian Greensite
Gillian Greensite 427-2174

D320

Erik Schmidt
138 Mentel Street
Santa Cruz CA 95062

RCVD APRIL 8, 1998

April 8, 1998

Susan Harris
Department of Parks and Recreation
City of Santa Cruz
323 Church Street
Santa Cruz CA 95060

Dear Ms. Harris:

After reading through the Pogonip Draft EIR, please allow me to make the following comments:

1. I would like to commend the EIR document itself. The report appears to be well-considered, fair, and comprehensive in its assessment of the environmental impacts of and mitigation for the proposed alternatives.
2. As a Santa Cruz citizen, frequent Pogonip recreational user (hiking and running), and active Sierra Club member, I want to express my strong support for the multiple-use recreational opportunities on Pogonip trails detailed in the EIR. Multiple-use trail policies for open space/parks throughout the state have proven successful and workable, and there are numerous reasons for opening Pogonip trails to mountain bike and equestrian users as part of this master plan. I believe that potential conflicts have been adequately addressed in this plan, and that the Santa Cruz recreational community can and should share the natural beauty and recreational resources of Pogonip.
3. Regarding the proposed Homeless Garden Project in the Pogonip lower meadow, I want to express my opposition to this development, and my support for the Off-Site Garden and Relocated Parking Alternative. I regret the need to oppose a potential site for this laudable and very positive project, but developing Santa Cruz' open space with such substantial facilities is not an appropriate use of the beautiful parkland comprising Pogonip's lower meadow. If, however, the Garden Project does go forward, the Reduced Lower Meadow Use is greatly preferable to the current Master Plan proposal, the environmental and aesthetic impacts of which are unacceptable.

D321

D322

Thank you very much for considering my opinion.

Sincerely,



Erik Schmidt

April 7, 1998

To Susan Harris,

We are writing in regards to the Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Pogonip lands.

We have enjoyed Pogonip for many years of minimal management and would like to see this continued as outlined by either the No Project Alternative or Alternative C as a second choice, and the trail Alternative C consisting of primarily pedestrian use.

One major concern with the proposed Pogonip plan that leads me to these alternatives is the agricultural project in the lower meadow. This project is identified as causing unmitigatable significant impacts on the habitat of the protected White Tailed Kite (*Elanus caeruleus*) (Bio 1A) and on soil stability (Geo 1A). There have been claims by garden advocates that the methods proposed for the garden site will not cause erosion or have significant impacts because their techniques are "organic" or "environmentally sensitive." These claims have not been substantiated to the degree they are stated nor has the formal management plan for the garden even reached a draft stage for the public to comment on so that we cannot even see specifically what these methods are. While methods approved by California Certified Organic Farmers and other such practitioners certainly attempt to reduce erosion and synthetic chemical use and in general their impact on the land, there is no indication that any of these methods are anything short of intensive manipulation of the land for the purpose of agriculture. Native communities are displaced, at least in part, and soil is disturbed, at least in part. This is especially evident when the structures and parking lots and sewer and water extensions are added to the garden plot itself.

In addition, the report outlines significant impacts to coastal prairie communities (Bio 2C) that would only be mitigated with restoration, or really a recreation, that did not specify in detail whether such restoration projects have been successful in the past and if so with what estimated likelihood of success. We would also like to know what unique aspects the soil arthropod and mycorrhizal communities in coastal prairie habitats we are risking and whether these are restorable. Given this lack of information, we are not convinced that this impact on coastal prairie communities can be successfully mitigated to a less than significant level.

Further, Pogonip was purchased with funds from a State bond measure (Cal-PAW) specifically allocated for Open Space acquisition. Agriculture is a commercial enterprise and not a use consistent with the intent or letter of the proposition. Placement of an agricultural project in open space is not what we had in mind when we voted to allocate these funds and we fear also that such a project would jeopardize these funds.

D323

D324

D325

While we fully support community supported agriculture, we also fully support open space and it is unfortunate to see them come into conflict. However, they have and so we must be strongly opposed to the siting of the garden and its buildings and parking lots in Pogonip.

D325

With respect to trails, we would enjoy bicycle access on the fire roads to connect to Henry Cowell and the University but would like to see most of the trails remain pedestrian to reduce erosion impacts already present in part due to runoff from the University.

D326

The clubhouse project appears generally workable although we would like not to see a parking lot and instead have bike racks. If a party rented it for an event, there exists enough parking for caterers and such and others could walk or shuttle up to the clubhouse. Sewer extensions should be avoided and appear to me to be a growth inducing impact perhaps not adequately addressed in the draft.

D327

Cumulative impacts on biotic resources did not seem adequately addressed. As stated in the draft, Pogonip is habitat for 38 protected species or species of concern. These do not include the perhaps hundreds that we don't know from soil bacteria and nematodes to mites and fungi. California organisms in general have been impacted by human activity from recreation to development and any increase in these activities in Pogonip, especially if it harbors rare or protected species, should be considered in the broader context of developments planned at the University and elsewhere. The University is planning on constructing Colleges 10, 11, and 12 in the next year to several years as outlined in their Long Range Development Plan. The cumulative impact of these projects was not addressed in the report. Developments are also being planned or actively discussed at other Open Space sites such as Arana Gulch and the Bombay Property. These also were not addressed in the report, although these plans may not be in a sufficiently formal state for them to have to be included though we feel they should be discussed.

D328

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Terrence Willett
Jennifer Cross

Terrence Willett
Jennifer Cross
510 36th Ave
Santa Cruz, CA 95062

SPECIAL JOINT MEETING OF THE
CITY COUNCIL AND PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MARCH 31, 1998

POGONIP
PUBLIC COMMENT
DRAFT
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

- E. Schick In terms of things that I didn't see included, I read at the very end of this that members of the public had submitted questions at the initial meeting last year in July. And one of the questions was on the public, the scoping meeting, and one of the questions that I thought was particularly interesting was the question of horses on the trails and I was wondering if there had been any kind of study, just as there had been of the traffic of the estimate of equestrian users on the trails and whether there was any... I didn't see too much in terms of um the kinds of erosion that would be caused by intensifying the use by equestrians and bicycles.
- Amy Skewes-Cox Let me answer the first part of your question, there was not a study to estimate the increased number of equestrian users for the EIR. The overall analysis for your second question addressed all proposed uses for that particular topic, for example geologic soils analysis would look at both pedestrian use as well as bicycle use and equestrian use for those trails where that use was proposed. But oftentimes we did not specifically call out equestrian use if the impact was the same.
- E. Schick So there is no idea, whether we open the trail up to equestrian use if it means the Ranger and a couple of people riding through once a week or whether there will be rides through there of 20 horses every weekend.
- Amy Skewes-Cox True, at this point we do not know and I know that it is something that has been of concern, and we can try to make some estimates as part of the final EIR. However data for the past use of Pogonip has been very limited, and when you look at other parks, each park is so unique it's very difficult to extrapolate park usage from one park to another park, but it is something we can try to do as part of the final EIR.
- E. Schick Thank you, I would like to see that because I know that the horse people would like to see this as a link between Cowell and Wilder, so I think it would be important to take note of that. Another question I had and perhaps it is only that I am not hydrologically versed, there was a comment that the Pogonip Clubhouse members had dug a well that pumps

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PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

March 31, 1998

Pogonip - Public Comment - Draft Environmental Impact Report

- E. Schick eleven gallons a minute, that has a potential for eleven gallons a minute, and I was wondering if there was any kind of a study in terms of using that water for irrigation purposes of the garden instead of using two acre feet per day?
- Gary Kittleson Thank you, we were not directed to look specifically at the onsite supply because the Plan as proposed, the Master Plan assumed the extension of services and that is how we were presented. The yield of that well probably would not be sufficient to supply all of the water use for the agriculturally uses during a peak moment or irrigation period. We could certainly revisit that, but because the assumption was that the water line was going to be extended into that, we didn't look at alternative supplies. That was not an alternative option. It was precluded prior to our analysis.
- Amy Skewes-Cox The only thing that I wanted to add to that is that we were looking not only at the Homeless Garden Project use for irrigation water, we were also looking at the Clubhouse restroom. One of the issues with rehabilitation of the Clubhouse is fire protection, providing pressurized water, having an adequate supply for peak demand in the summer season. You have events at the Clubhouse, fire season, you have your highest irrigation needs, when you look at that total demand we wanted to ensure a reliable supply. There were some concerns about environmental impacts of using the spring water, which was the historic use. Certainly there could be some very extensive tests of the ground water, we don't have the complete data. I think that that can be a fairly expensive study and that if the city were to direct us to do so we would certainly do it. But that was the assumption we began with, and gave direction to the environmental consultants.
- K. Beiers I just want to clarify from the Consultant, my understanding is that you said that um, where it is, there is significant is the definition you used, and if we follow the mitigation measures, all the significant environmental constraints can be reduced to less than significant.
- Amy Skewes-Cox That would be true for all of them except the two identified, the white-tailed kite impacts from the garden activities, or the geologic impacts from the garden activities also.
- C. Scott I have a number of questions, which kind of merge into comments, but I will just try to focus them as questions. One is on the summary sheet you handed out to us that on the back side says Fire Resource Management Areas, no impact on vegetation and wildlife. When I looked at the EIR in the section on vegetation and wildlife, no analysis whatsoever exists of the

D329

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C. Scott standards for fire hazard reduction treatments that are in the Appendix E of the Pogonip Master Plan. Among other things those fire reduction treatments recommend things like selective thinning of stands, by removal of trees, talks about hall roots, talks about limbing trees, talks about extensive management proposals for fire hazard reduction and in the text of the Plan itself there is a limited set of management actions, which are also proposed for fire hazard reduction and there is just no analysis in the EIR, whatsoever in the area of vegetation and wildlife. What the impacts of those would be, either on sensitive habitats or on the biological systems of the mixed Evergreen Forest or Redwood Forest. So I really don't understand how you could come to a conclusion that there is no impact when there is nothing in the text of the EIR that analyzes it.

D329

Amy Skewes-Cox It is something that we can definitely check again, but it, my understanding is that based on our significance criteria that we identify prior to the analysis for each topic, that there were not significant impacts related to the proposed fire management plan. But it is something that we will reevaluate in the final.

C. Scott All I can say is that without something in the text of the EIR, the conclusion just has nothing to support it. No language, no wording, nothing at all. I have a great concern about that. We'll get into that more when we get into the Plan but um I think we have a wildlife management reduction plan for one of our other parks, Delaveaga Park, we have a full EIR on all of the impacts of doing wild fire management in that park and this has nothing, so I think one of the questions I am going to have is whether we here a program EIR or a project EIR, because there are also a lot of details that are missing. In the EIR you recommend for example, with the number of trails, that far more construction details will be needed before the trails, if those trails are actually built, but that suggests that we have a program document here and not a specific focused document. So I think that is one of the issues and others that may need to be addressed. I am going to make some more comments later, but I would like to get to public testimony so I will hold my questions and comments.

D330

Peter Katzlberger Board of Directors of the Homeless Garden Project and was a member of the Cowell Foundation Pogonip Committee which had a role in putting the Pogonip property onto the Proposition 70 on the ballot. I am going to talk primarily about the draft EIR and give some general comments and specific examples. We are in the process of preparing a letter which we will submit, so a lot of the details will come in that way. There will be some other people speaking, but since we thought this was largely a

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Peter Katzlberger

meeting of the EIR, we did not make an effort to get more people out to speak more generally about the Pogonip Master Plan. Also, we mostly focused on the EIR and the garden impacts so I think there are also some comments to be made on some of the others. In general, the Board of Directors is pretty disappointed in the EIR, because I think it does damage to the garden for no good reason. I think a lot of the analysis in the EIR is based upon pretty flimsy information, there are a lot of generalizations, assumptions, speculations and there is also an element I find particularly odd in the sense that the garden receives attention that the other aspects of the plan absolutely do not get. I don't want to get into other parts of the plan particularly, but by way of comparison, and relativeness, I think there are a couple of examples to be made on that. Even some of the comments that were made here and something that I think that is important, we tend to associate a great credibility to this draft EIR because it has been done by experts, it is long, it is weighty, it is hard to read. And you tend to give it credibility which I think in this case you ought to question, ask yourself when you read this, what is the basis for these conclusions, what are the factual reasons that lead to a particular point. I have a couple of examples, it starts out in land use. The draft EIR starts out by suggesting that maybe the garden isn't vital at Pogonip, because some think it doesn't fit in the Greenbelt Overlay. I think this is insulting basically. The Pogonip garden is in the general plan for Pogonip. It is a product of the Pogonip Task Force that studied this, and the Pogonip Task Force studied this in the context of the Greenbelt Overlay. And the Greenbelt Overlay goes back to Measure O, which talks about preserving open space at the periphery of the land. The map in Measure O included agricultural land. The Greenbelt Overlay District includes agriculture as a use, so it is hard to imagine how you can come to a conclusion that maybe it is not appropriate for that site. In the next section on vegetation and wildlife, the EIR overstates the garden's impact on coastal terrace by at least 50 percent and probably more. On this slide you should ask the EIR consultant how it is the white tail kite only selects the lower main meadow as a foraging area and not the upper main meadow. It wasn't shown in this area, and I think with respect to water, it doesn't make sense for the Homeless Garden Project to look to using municipal water, but your staff told us basically not to go there for particular reasons that I do not need to go into. So I ask you when you look at this EIR to ask yourself what is the argument and basis for this particular conclusion that it comes to. And one more final comment, in trails, if you look at the trails collectively, they have a much greater impact on Pogonip than does the Homeless Garden Project, and we will provide some of that information in our comments.

D331

D332

D333

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Mark Primack

something that I hope the EIR consultants will look at when they deal with the wetland on the Homeless Garden site is that they study the source of the head of that wetland, because in all probability a remnant of that irrigation system remains in that area. We may have a manmade wet land that is perhaps less than 30 years old there, and that might go away once that irrigation system is removed. The next photograph shows an aerial from the forties when the area, from the thirties and forties when the area was a polo ground. You can see the area next to the Clubhouse has turned into a polo field, stables have been built at the educational area, the proposed educational area and the garden site is used for horse training and corralling of horses and you can see where there are many unvegetated areas where horses were most active in trails leading across there. To summarize I would just like to say that in 1976, this has to do with the Master Plan, I did the art work for a poster that illustrated the various aspects of Pogonip and the Greenbelt. We got a two hundred dollar grant from the California Land Trust, we printed the poster, it sold at Bookshop Santa Cruz, it began an effort that culminated a year or so later in the Greenbelt initiative. That poster said "Behold Pogonip, Support the Greenbelt", I have been dedicated to that fruition of the Greenbelt, saving of Pogonip, I've shared the vision of this community, of Pogonip becoming a place of great beauty, healing and coming together of this community and to that extent I am here tonight as Board Member of the Homeless Garden Project, representing that vision and hoping that the EIR will do it justice.

D338

Peter Scott

I am here in part representing the Sierra Club, but also I was a member of the nine member Pogonip Task Force a few years ago that led to the land use options assessment document, which has been referred to. And I am also a member of Friends of the Pogonip, it is a group that leads walks every month, on the second Saturday morning of every month, and just by way of mentioning, two months ago, we were led by Bob Curry in what was probably the wettest day of the year. It was probably the most wonderful excursion inspite of the rain, almost 30 people came along, to explore the hydrology of the Pogonip, It was fascinating. And last month Todd Newbury with birds came along with us, a group of 35-40 people, watching the birds on the Pogonip. I learned for the first time of Hutton's Vireo and Red Shouldered Hawks. It was a wonderful bird display out there. On April 11 Gray Hayes will give a walk with us, that is the second Saturday in April and you are all invited to come to that to explore the wildflowers and the endangered species, including the San Francisco Popcorn Flower, for example in the Haunted Meadow. So everyone is invited to come on the walk, although I hope you don't come. Anyway,

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Peter Scott

the Pogonip is a refuge and a sanctuary and is full of magic. The committee in the Sierra Club is reviewing the EIR, will submit a few pages of comments by April 8 deadline. Those comments are not yet in hand and I am not going to speak in any detail about those, but I will speak that we do have some concerns. In addition to a concern that we had over a year ago which is already part of our policy. We have been circulating a petition as many of you know to please no bikes on the Pogonip. On that petition we have gathered several hundred signatures to date and we expect to gather more and we expect to turn those in at the appropriate moment. So that is an official policy of the Sierra Club to discourage bicycle use on the Pogonip; I know it is a concern of ours that the EIR does not really address in any substantive way the impact that bicycle use has on the Pogonip, both in terms of impact on the landscape but also the impact on the sociological psychological, there may be others who will speak to that issue tonight. We also have an issue of concern regarding the width of Golf Club Drive that is being proposed, it seems that that may be based on some kind of false assumptions of what kind traffic may be on that road. I know that there are other members of the Sierra Club who may come to speak here tonight. We may have some concern about fire hazard techniques and so on.

D339

D340

Rick Gladstone

I am the Project Director for the Homeless Garden Project. My remarks are mainly going to address the Homeless Garden in the Pogonip Master Plan, the appropriateness of the garden being in Pogonip. But I would like to begin by just mentioning that like Peter Katzberger, I believe that the EIR paints the Homeless Garden Project with rather broad brush strokes and portrait is rather incomplete or perhaps malformed. The Homeless Garden Project is a development and training program that uses nationally acclaimed organic gardens that teach skills to homeless men and women. Skills that can be used and adapted to transition into the job market. Homeless Garden Project does not engage in commercial agriculture in any traditional sense. Machines are rarely used, we use no chemicals, we use no pesticides, we use no fungicides, we use no toxic substance in our gardening. All the techniques from biodynamics to feng shui that are used and taught at the garden enrich the earth, improve the soil and increase the wealth and health of our commons and benefits the entire community. In other words, we practice sustainability. The Homeless Garden Project is among the pioneers nationally a community supported agriculture. The CSA provides organic food for sale of shares, of harvest share, including scholarship donations, shares to low income citizens, thereby contributing to healthy diets and local food security. By the way, I would like to interject here we are a truck garden, but this has nothing to do with trucks.

D341

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Rick Gladstone

Those of you who can remember your high school French, it is from the word *Truque* (?) which means to exchange, which is what we do. We grow, we sell and we donate, we exchange. Senior citizens often volunteer to work in our Gardens, children from the local schools benefit from mentoring and getting advise on their school gardens and from visits to our garden. Students from the University through the intern program learn and mentor at the Homeless Garden Project, training in our techniques and practicing skills they acquire through Agroecology and gardening programs at the University. At the heart of all of this is the Homeless Garden Project mission of job skill training, a service to the homeless people of Santa Cruz. This is crucial, we work with homeless and disenfranchised men and women every day. Men and women who live in our community, and need pathways and avenues for pursuing the task of entering the daily milieu. This is really all about hope and renewal, I would like to sum up by saying, given our expertise, plant and soil skills, community involvement, I can think of no other organization that reflects so many aspects of our local society and culture.

D341

Ken Dickerson

I am a member of the Santa Cruz Service Corp., I work with the Homeless Garden two days a week. I am really glad I am following Rick, because I think that the comments that I want to make have to do with pointing out that a greater in-depth understanding of the work that the Homeless Garden does, and the methods that it uses are important when considering the EIR. My looking at the report revealed that the Homeless Garden was labeled as row crops and I don't think that is an accurate description of the methods and I think Rick spoke to that. But I think I would like to speak to the general idea of what the concern is and the role of the environmental impact report. I think that these are tools that can become guides and provide oversight and guidance and point out concerns on what the issues are so that things can be done in a way that takes care of the concerns that people have. In the Pogonip there is a unique open space preserve and in the Homeless Garden there is a unique working with both the land and the community. The plan to put those two things together offers the chance to look at impact, not necessarily only in the negative light. It also offers the chance to look at significant impact in terms of what sort of positive roles and changes can be made by bringing these two fabrics together, the social fabric and the ecological fabric. The Pogonip and the Homeless Garden Project. There are issues in the Pogonip as it exists right now just left on it's own after years of use, perhaps some might say misuse. There are erosion problems, the coastal prairie terrace is degraded as far as the environmental impact report reads. There is a unique opportunity to see the role of the Homeless Garden to mend some of those issues in it's

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Ken Dickerson presence, and I think that the tools, the issues that have been raised by the environmental impact report are there to guide the garden through that process. In terms of specific things such as the effect on the white tailed kite, I think that there is an opportunity to bring in through the unique resources that exist in this community the ways to consider the best placement, the best use, the best of everything for the Homeless Garden on the Pogonip site, and to bring in the kind of considerations that provide solutions. I saw mentioned in the report great concern about the Homeless Gardens and I would like to ask everyone to look at that in the light of the benefits of the mutual exchange that can happen, because the ecological fabric and the human fabric needs to be rewoven, and if it doesn't the Pogonip isn't safe from degradation and neither is the human community.

D342

Richard Schmale He spoke about the inappropriateness of putting the Homeless Garden Project in Pogonip due to poor soils and erosion as well as the detracting caused by green houses and tractor sheds. Criticism of EIR: I didn't see anything about the view shed as seen from Golf Club Drive, I saw the view shed from Spring Trail, here and there and everywhere, but the main view shed as you enter that and the impact on the Garden on the view shed is not discussed. I would also like the geologist to illustrate exactly where he thinks there would be significant erosion and where it wouldn't be.

D343

D344

Steve Robins Spoke about the serenity and beauty of Pogonip and in support of the Homeless Garden Project also would support bicycles in Pogonip to be able to have access to the University and points beyond.

D345

Jacquy Griffith Spoke to keep Pogonip as natural as possible. She would like to see the parking lots eliminated, the Clubhouse allowed to go back to a natural state, the use of burros by the homeless garden people instead of vehicles, city workers to either carry on their backs or wheel barrel tools to work sites. Helicopters and airplanes should be used in cases of fire, roads should not be made wider to accommodate fire trucks.

D346

I also would like to address the human environment that I did not think was addressed properly in the EIR. Horse poop on hiking trails has to be addressed. The quality of experience of human beings walking down a trail is not the same. Hikers leaves out runners and dog walkers who have leashes tangling with bicycles or horses.

D347

Steve Williams Owner of 711 Spring Street. He does not see how the multi-use trail can be integrated into present day use as a hiking trail. He does not see how this can be compatible with how hundreds of people use the park now.

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Steve Williams

I have another concern about fire and that kind of goes to the EIR. Fire can spread quickly and they are proposing overnight camping. I have to wonder has that really been looked at, I mean I own a house next to this thing, if a fire comes up my house could burn down and I am not convinced that has been adequately studied. That is a big risk taker from my perspective.

D348

Bruce Engehardt

He prefers to keep bikes out of Pogonip, but if not he would prefer to limit them to the Rincon trail and its connector to UCSC as in alternative B.

Regarding the EIR, I would say that I've also seen where the bike tracks on a lot of those trails have stimulated erosion and gullyng on the trails where bikes have ridden. I think the equestrians pose less of a problem, because they generally ride slower and can be heard to approach. So I don't perceive horses as a threat on the trails. Regarding the Homeless Garden Project as far as the EIR is concerned, the soil in the Santa Margarita formation which a good part of that area is made up of is extremely porous, partly due to the presence of a lot of gophers and so on. It is also highly subject to erosion, which you can see, the soil has a very mushy sort of a texture, because of water collecting from rainfall and that surface water which just stays there, and also underground water which is close to the surface, and it's resulting in gullies which are extending uphill from the arroyo which bisects the site. Both the EIR and the Draft Master Plan show tilling the land and removing the grass cover, building access roads as well as building structures will increase the runoff, which in combination with shallow ground water would create erosion problems, which would require constant time labor and money consuming efforts to mitigate. The problems, and even then it is a questions of how long the mitigations would last. Historically it's agricultural best use has been for pasture, where it just remains a cover crop. I am also concerned about the level of construction on the land. We were told that maybe there would be a tool shed on the site, now it has grown to green houses that are 70x20. They are not small, 70 feet is as long as a big rig tractor, 20 feet is almost as wide as this building. Two of them as well as any number of other buildings. You are talking about a small village located on that site. That is going to have a tremendous impact on the wildlife in that area. We don't need to build on every meadow and open space, you know untreed portion.

D349

D350

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ore than eye and ears for Rangers, but also
t or not people can get lost in a Park that is only
ocean is at one end. But they do get lost.
ed the roads, we have Emma to thank for that, I
d the roads. The bicycle people have had a
month rain or shine. We have another work
h, the 5th or April. They are bringing in some
rail development and maintenance. So we
s that I have say have happened.

ian's Association, member of the Monterey Bay
red in draft driving club. Spoke in support of

, keep development where it already exists.
a sanctuary. Kites do live in the lower
bout the ground water investigation concerning
wet. No on the campground, no on the parking
ould go where the Clubhouse already is, no on
it to the Homeless Garden Project to secure
e all know it is a fabulous, fabulous merit to this
/ Swenson property out by Natural Bridges for

Golf Club Drive, I live on Golf Club Drive, the
walk it everyday all year round. There is a
ater that moves on the meadow during the
streams. There is all kinds of water percolating
I would do some pretty intense hydrology
plow that up. Cover crop can do a certain
it it is a lot of water. Spoke against use of
velop Pogonip, look for alternatives to where the
moved, opposed to the campground, and make
l center.

a Cruz District Parks, we are the neighbors to the
Cowell State Park as well as Wilder are under my
ve been used for years for multiple use. Want to
ads for connectivity as well as general use.

D358

D359

D360

D361

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port

0 signatures a few years ago to keep
nted it preserved as a nature
ns. Two things disturb him on the
posed more or less for the center of
lly harms him is the bicycles even
restricted to the connecting link only
to have a couple of bicycles, it is

D351

seven years, I am also an
li e ways that I can with protecting
all when I was an undergraduate student
ie great meadow from Meyer Drive.
en oace protection. I also have a
al udies, a Masters Degree and am
Studies right now in addition of
at C Santa Cruz with another
iat l with the Homeless Garden Project,
night with the effect of the
w, it is considered in the
y neral comment is that I think that the
es actually satisfy CEQA fairly
ital Impact Reports, it is a fairly
ssment practice. I want to make a
al significant impacts that are
roject. First, that the EIR comments
uue impact report is erroneous, that
hey do not consider the Homeless
urming in enough detail. I think the
r e ad to look at is the garden at UC
v should not plan a garden, it is on a
and down the hill, and yet even in
t a / significant erosion there. I don't
ro do feel that the finding that there is
hite tailed kite is correct. I think
however, I want to draw to your
in , in the CEQA itself, they do not say
ificant impact if there is a 5% chance
th there is potentially a significant
are here is a potentially significant
I think that in accordance with that it

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- C. Scott I had a question. Not too long ago I was out on the Wilder Ranch after the rains with a member of the Coastal Commission staff inspecting the area and there is an existing road that leads up to the Gray Whale Ranch. That road is now about forty feet wide, it is so badly eroded right down to bedrock, that I do not know how you are going to fix it. It is very clear that most of the impact on that road has been done by bicyclists on much to steep a slope and I know that you are aware of it, I know that your resource ecologist is aware of it, and I know that Mr. Vincent is aware of it, but I really feel that it is important to acknowledge that those impacts if not properly managed on steep slopes can be very very serious. I have never seen anything like it anywhere. How are you planning to repair that?
- Bob Culbertson The repairs for Wilder Ranch, the main problem right now is Ingleman's trail, I believe that is the one that you are referring to, is closed at the bottom of the trail where there is a washout from a culvert that failed. We are bringing our heavy equipment operators in, we are having some geologists come in, we are taking a look at the slope and redesigning that section. There was a steep drop off from the upper marine terrace to get down to the lower marine terrace.
- C. Scott So I guess my concern is that there has been twenty years of management there, over twenty years since Wilder Ranch has been open as a State Park, and I have never seen such degradation on a trail, on a road. And it is just a deep concern, so I am not clear why you are recommending that we open our roads, when we have another alternative to create a connector trail, which would be a specific connection to allow connection between Cowell and the University and Wilder Ranch State Park.
- Bob Culbertson I am not sure, I know the you in your own head just articulated the erosion is solely the result of bicycles. We operate 250 miles of trails in this County and after El Nino we have many hiking trails that have slippage's and are completely impassable at this point, erosion is terrific. I would be happy to take you to Big Basin and show you some of the trail damage that we have, there is a lot of erosion and other kinds of impacts on trails all over this County. On those particular trails there were no bicycles on them. We have damage to the trails and I will be happy to acknowledge that, we have over \$65,000 worth of YCC crew needed to repair our trail system, but it is not just because of bicycles. I agree with you that any time you have a steep slope, whether it is a hiking trail, bicycle trail or a

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Bob Culbertson	horse trail you have a problem and we are looking at that in terms of maintenance, but it is not because of bicyclists.	D363
C. Scott	Well, that is a slope on which you had to walk your bikes, signs posted for a long time, because of its severe erosion problems. I brought it up because I have never seen anything like it, a forty foot wide road now where there was once maybe a twenty foot road.	
K. Beiers	I had a questions on Nisene Marks State Park. Are the bicycles just on the fire trail roads there?	D364
Bob Culbertson	Bicycles are allowed on the fire road beyond the steel bridge so that the majority of the 10,000 acres there is only open to bicycles on the road, but the lower connector trails where, below the steel bridge there is a connection to the Safeway Parking Lot, and there are some single track trails where some bicycles are allowed, only on the lower part of the park.	
Liz Matoza	I am a member of the Santa Cruz County Horseman's Association. Spoke in support of multi-use trails for horses.	D365
Amy Courtney	Spoke to the issue of everyone in Santa Cruz keeping a perspective on the Homeless Garden Project. Environmentalists and the garden project are both in favor of the ecology.	
Shani O'Neill	I ride horses, mountain bikes and hike and jog at Wilder. Spoke in support of multi-use trails.	
Andrea Lopez	Mountain bikes and horses do not mix. Spoke in support of horses at Pogonip. Bicycles cause extreme erosion.	
Marlin Humble	Representing the Sierra Club. In addition to our position mentioned earlier that we do not favor bicycles on Pogonip, in addition we have another concern that we want to touch on this evening briefly, and then we will submit detailed arguments for the deadline on the 8th, that is about the Homeless Garden. The Sierra Club supports the idea of having a much smaller Homeless Garden on Pogonip. We think that the concerns that are expressed in the EIR about the bird either called the white tailed kite or the black shouldered kite, there is a dispute about the name, but anyway a bird called a kite, it is special, the bird needs to be protected and it is its home and simply putting a fence around its nesting tree isn't going to protect it from the loss of its natural feeding ground. There is talk about poisoning the rodents in the, of course I don't know, they don't use poison I imagine,	D366

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Marlin Humble

but anyway, the kite feeds on gophers and if the garden manages to eliminate the gophers or change its habitat, it is a threat. But in addition, the natural open space of the meadow is a natural habitat that the Sierra Club feels should be protected. For that reason we are advocating a smaller, maybe half the size for the homeless garden as proposed now.

D366

Gillian Greensite

I want to focus only on one issue and that is the issue I want to separate the issue of horses and mountain bikes. I want to focus on the issue of erosion caused by mountain bikes and ask two things. One that you seriously consider that Pogonip never be open to mountain bikes. Secondly, that the environmental impact report do a thorough study of erosion that has been caused by mountain bikes just in general, but a very good place to look would be at Wilder Ranch. Just a couple of small comments, I have only been in Santa Cruz 23 years, but for the last 15 years have become very well acquainted, I know it as well as the back of my hand. Gray Whale Ranch, Pogonip, Wilder Ranch and the University trails and I have to say my love is horse riding and walking. I have been totally squeezed out of every one of these places. Pogonip is left for hiking. Wilder Ranch, I am sorry I totally disagree with Mr. Culbertson, we tried to bring the question of erosion to the attention of the State Parks people seven years ago, five years ago it became heavily concentrated. The erosion that the mayor describes is caused vastly and hugely by mountain bike usage. Why mountain bikes cause so much erosion and why horses don't is really basic physics. The destructive groove or channel that is caused by a mountain bike's tire, light frame vehicle that creates that channel, increasing ground to torque on the vehicle and you have a 150-180 pound person on that, the wheels lock up going down hill and are able to spin freely with 20 plus gears going uphill and the effect of that on the ground is demonstrable over a year period. I looked at erosion in Wilder Ranch for the past seven years and my academic background is fluvial morphology, I have talked about streams before and also geomorphology, the effects of erosion on land forms. So I tend to notice these things. You will see there a horse print and also the distinctive channel made by mountain bikes. The physics of both are very very different, let alone that mountain bikes outnumber hikers and horses about 500 to 1. This is a major trail, it is a fire trail and you can see that distinctive pattern once again. I should emphasize that before mountain bikes these trails were flat, level, no erosion whatsoever. Slides shown with the distinctive pattern of the grooving at Wilder Ranch.

D367

Ed Davidson

Spoke about the fact that it was State Bond Park money which bought Pogonip for all of the people of the State of California to enjoy, not just

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Santa Cruz. I think that by not providing access through available parking lots the people in the State who paid for this, this is the wrong direction to be going. I think there is responsibility to take into consideration the fact that this is a facility for all of the people of the State of California. Toward that end I will remind you the eastern access to the campus, the UC campus which was an agreement between the State and the County of Santa Cruz has not been abrogated and it is not included in this Master Plan. That agreement needs to be analyzed in terms of best area to place it, that it would have the least environmental impact. Now you may think that this road is never going in, but you cannot have an accurate legal plan that does not accommodate it.

D368

Chris Brewer

I am the present Garden Director at the Homeless Garden Project. I would like to specifically direct my comments toward the wildlife part of the EIR, specifically the kite nesting grounds. We are currently gardening two acres out at the end of Delaware on Shaffer Road and almost every morning when I go to work there is a red tailed hawk on a light post, overlooking the garden. That is his hunting ground, and I have seen kites hunting out there, I have seen numerous predatory birds, I have seen a great many different birds out there and I wanted to say right now, they can have all the gophers they want on the new site at Pogonip. There are, I think that the birds and a garden can live harmoniously, there are plenty of feeding critters out there for the birds to be able eat. I also wanted to say that there are many animals that are out there, like tadpoles that are in our streams and frogs that are in our garden, and they are there primarily because we have an organic garden where there are no pesticides or aren't any ingredients that are harmful that will kill their eggs and cause them not to breed. There can be a harmonious venture of wildlife animals, birds and a garden.

D369

Karen Pushing

I am a Santa Cruz resident. I use Pogonip at least once a week. I feel strongly that cultivation of the land for the garden would be a big mistake, the land is such that there is a steep hill behind it, it is flat and then a steep hill below it, I feel it would expedite erosion and cause problems there. It doesn't take a rocket scientist to read this environmental impact report where it says that to reduce the likelihood of excessive erosion and severe gully advancement and slope instability the Pogonip garden should be sited at an alternative off-site location. It goes on in the water impacts to say the same thing. I am not sure why the city feels such a responsibility to locate a garden in such a place when it could be sited elsewhere. I understand the situation that happened with the Pelton property, but I encourage the city not feel like they should bend over backwards to

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Karen Pushing

accommodate something in a site where it doesn't seem to be a good fit. I would also like to caution that there is a spillover from the River Street Shelter into the Park. Much as I would like to say that the people who camp there are good custodians of the earth, they are not. They leave messes and don't use proper sanitation facilities. I am garden proponent and I really advocate organic farming, and I think it is a good project in and of itself, but I really feel strongly that the site is a miss-match, and I am not sure why there is such an insistence to have it there. I really like the idea of having a nature center, a place where people can come, learn about it and go out into the park. I really strongly agree with that.

D370

Barbara McCrary

My family has lived in Santa Cruz County since 1890. A lot of concerns I had to address have already been addressed. One thing is Pogonip was bought with public funds obviously paid for by the taxpayer. Originally that is where the money must have come from, and if the taxpayers paid for it then I think they have a right to use the land that they paid for. I am in support of multi-use on the trail system, wherever the trail is suitable for multi-use. I am a hiker, and a rider, I don't ride bicycles, but I respect people who do that as their form of recreation, and I don't think any of us has the right to exclude any other group, just on basis of their own preference. I could say, no I don't want bicycles on the trail, but then bicyclists might say I don't want horsemen on the trail. We don't have the right to exclude each other just because we have difference of opinion, and I think we can all get along if we work at it. The second point here is the woman who proceeded me by about three people showing that nice little collection of slides of erosion, it is possible the bicycles are responsible for that, but I live in the north coast area, I am here as living proof to tell you that there is erosion up there that has never seen the wheel of a bicycle. There have been trees that have simply not be able to hang onto the liquefied soil and have slide down the mountains or toppled over and they have never seen a bicycle and have never seen a horse and have never seen a foot print of man. The destruction this year is unimaginable and has nothing whatsoever to do with what has been on the ground other than the fact that there has been over 60 inches of water on it right now and as far as the trails are concerned, I find the wildlife truly like the trails. We built a number of trails on our own property, through wilderness areas so we could hike and ride and the first thing that moves in is raccoons, the wild pigs, the deer, they love it. It is just a regular thorough fare for them. Anyway I support multi-use for trails that are suitable for supporting multi-use.

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Mark Michael

I am involved with the Association for Concerned Trail Riders for ten years. I wanted to comment on a couple of things, I have a couple of things to say. I am kind of shocked that people are engaging in smear tactics and if anybody remembers 1982, the last storm that was as severe as the storm we just experienced. Mountain bikes have been around maybe in small custom clumps, not the phenomenon that it is now, Nisene Marks had 50 massive slides on the fire road, which I personally hiked my bike through. I think the water damage she showed on those trails is the culprit. Some of the water bars may not have been put in very well, by inexperienced volunteers and created a particular situation, really to blame it on bikes is really an egregious example of smear tactics. At any rate, Santa Cruz is an area well known for respecting diversity. Our City parks system in my view has an obligation to provide as many opportunities for enjoyment as this diverse community deserves without putting stressful demands on our publicly held open spaces. Which brings me to the multi-use trail component of our draft environmental impact report. After reading it pretty thoroughly I can see critical environmental concerns precluding multi-use trails on at least historically used fire roads. And there is a wealth of knowledge and committed individuals in our trail use community to come up with the resources to make a connected trail system to work for everyone. The social issues have been discussed in these forums for the 15 years all have to do with sharing, whether people can or are willing to share for their mutual enjoyment. Well people if we in an enlightened Santa Cruz can't share a public park, doing environmentally benign activities, there is not a lot to look forward to is there.

D372

Don Roth

I am a Santa Cruz County resident. Spoke about his personal experiences with multi-use trails and how positive it has been.

D373

Nadine Golden

I am a Santa Cruz resident and a CSA shareholder in the Homeless Garden Project and an employee of CCOF, California Certified Organic Farmers. As a model of the CCOF operation, the Homeless Garden Project meets certification standards that require annual documentation of sustainable practices for the immediate time and for the future. I recommend that an evaluation of soil impact consider that the Homeless Garden Project has a perfect record of increasing soil fertility, as well as bring other benefits to wildlife and the environment.

D374

Cathy Puccineli

I live on Golf Club Drive, on the Dirty Girls Farm, and they have spoken earlier. Does not support the Homeless Garden Project at this site.

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Stuart Howell	I live on the west side of town for 29 years. There are lots of lands lying fallow in this town. Gave an overview of the fact that the city and county had promised an eastern access back in the 1960s which has never happened, and that he thinks all users should have access to Pogonip, including such things as soccer, rugby, etc.
Woody Carroll	The less development the better. The Homeless Garden should be somewhere, but not Pogonip and some trails should be multi-use, not all trails.
Sandy Henn	She lives at the entrance to Nisene Marks for 25 years. Her experience is that the bicyclists do not stay on the fire roads, they tear up the trails and cause erosion, and destroy riparian habitat and this is in contrast to what Bob Culbertson says.
David Carnaghe	Section on Archeology and Historic Resources and is directed toward the people who did the EIR. As other people have talked about it here this evening, there are parts of it that are really vague, there hasn't been a lot of research. Especially this section here on our historic resources. It is only 14 pages of the whole EIR. "There are no known prehistoric archeological resources in Pogonip"; on page 5 based on topographic and hydrological features, "there are areas where archeological resources could occur, such resources are likely to be prehistoric archeological site which could potentially yield important information to history or prehistory". There is one paradox there. I can go on to the area that they talk about the lime kilns, the quarries and associated features, down at the bottom they say lime production facilities have not been fully documented. We can go to page 9, well anyway I will skip that, basically what I am saying is that they are even saying that they have not fully documented and they do not have all the information on what the resources are, what they mean to us as a community so I. Then I can go down to the McCormick house, they say in one instance it is considered an archeological property, then on another page it said unimportant cultural resource. And on the trails and roads, it is not clear if any original elements of the road have been preserved, historical elements that have not been documented. None of the historic transportation features have been previously evaluated. So I think we need to really do a little bit more research when it comes to our resources out there, archeological-historic resources. I know there are great things in the future for the Pogonip Clubhouse, but some of these other unknown historic elements within the property before we can determine what to do with them and impacts there might be, we need to have a little bit more background and a little bit more understanding of

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David Carnaghe	what these sites are, you know, what they bring to the community here. Myself and a few other people, we are getting this in writing, but I figured I would come here and get it out verbally.	D377
Patrician Dollar	Gave a brief history of growing up in the Pogonip area and living next door for 35 years. She supports some development, very minimal, wants to see the Clubhouse restored, would like to see some equestrian trails, no bicycles, leave Pogonip pristine and for the hikers.	D378
D. Malkin	I would like to thank everybody for coming out, I think it is really important to hear what people have to say, so thank you.	
M. Rotkin	I want to thank people for coming and sharing their thoughts, this is clearly, judging by the applause, pretty evenly divided at this particular meeting. Perhaps pretty divided in the community as well. I think that the Parks and Recreation Commission and the city are going to have to make our best attempt to try and figure out, reading the EIR and getting the information that we have, what we think makes the most sense in terms of trying to respond to the issues that people have raised. I don't think that this is simply going to be a popularity contest, you know how many people sent us a letter or call. Their opinion obviously makes a difference, but trying to figure out what we think is rational, will be useful in this. I just have the following quick observations. I thought it was interesting that someone made the comment that this is not rocket science and then went on to make some comments. It is clear that rocket science is so much simpler than ecology, and so much more predictable and understandable, so I think that we have to get rid of that phase when we are talking about the Pogonip. Rocket science would be easy compared to what we are facing. Secondly, several people made the argument that the taxpayers either locally and of the state have been involved in the process and that therefore we should let all the taxpayers get access to it. The logic of that is that we should obviously set roads through this place so that people could enjoy it in their cars. Needless to say that is not my position, there were two people that supported that idea who spoke tonight. That at least one road should go through there. The argument is, what will the people from the state best benefit from? I think it is not just a matter of what counts for local people but, I think it is true the what the people around the state need, I doubt what they think they need is another parking lot. That is not to say that we might need some parking, this we probably do, but the argument that somehow the people from the state have paid for it we need t turn this into a mass experience so that everybody can quickly digest and experience Pogonip in 15 minutes on	D379

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M. Rotkin

your way to somewhere else is not very logical or reasonable. And the people from the state will probably benefit from whatever our final decisions are about what will benefit the people in this community. Whatever mix of things we finally decide we are going to do. Third, the, I just have to say that my experience of Wilder Ranch, I ride a mountain bike over there and I hike the Pogonip and stuff, I just must live in a different world that everybody, when people talk about these respectful mountain bike riders because I'm not a respectful mountain bike rider when I am on my mountain bike over in Wilder. Because I have learned what to do at Wilder from my friends and other people who say come with us and I said come on to Wilder Ranch, we'll take our mountain bikes and stuff and I borrowed a mountain bike the first time and now I own one. You go to Wilder Ranch to get muddy, I have mentioned this before at another hearing, if you didn't fall off you bike two or three times you didn't have a good experience. And that means, you know you go as fast as you can down as many big hills as you can, you hit your brakes and skid sideways and fall off you bike and that is what mountain biking unfortunately is all about at Wilder Ranch and that is what would happen, I have every reason to believe even more so, when you hook up my students at UCSC to the road right below. I think the connector trail, as I said earlier makes some sense, and I don't think we should deny that to either bike riders or horse riders, but I think if we could find a way, and I think this is what the EIR helps us address as well as our own experience to separate out a connector trail or a way to pass through it, from the idea of whether we want to turn Pogonip into Wilder Ranch. I don't want to do that. I still want to ride my mountain bike over in Wilder, but there ought to be some place that is not the same as what happens over in Wilder. I've hiked in Nisene Marks and have never ridden my bike there, but every time I have gone to Nisene Marks I have been literally driven off the trail by bike riders. So I don't know what world people live in when they tell me mountain bike riders are respectful. I do see them respectful of horses, to be clear about that. I think there is something about it, we do not respect other people, but horses we kind of like slow down or you know try and not scare them or something. Maybe we think we will get trampled, I don't know what causes it, but when it comes to people, I just see people tearing by on their bikes and they don't care if they run over you. As I say, if I hadn't been doing some of it myself I think of it as something evil about these people. I think it is something about their bikes and not these people that makes it happen. I do think in terms of the EIR there needs to be some more specific work done around the Homeless Garden Project. The reference to tractors just somehow misses what the Homeless Garden Project does and the way the place works. There may

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be some problems with greenhouse scale, is a real issue to be concerned about, the erosion issues, things that are in the EIR are definitely worth talking about and there are both comments in the EIR and from the public that suggest that you need to get more, and this has to do more with Peter Katzlberger's initial comment, more specific analysis of what kind of a garden this is. What the actual environmental impacts are likely to be from this, from this particular project. I also will add, I don't mean to be defensive about this, but we planned to put, I think the majority of the Council, I think several Councils now planned to put the Homeless Garden Project in the Pogonip way before there was an issue about when the Pelton Ave site was being sold or not being sold or something else, because the Pelton Ave site was not big enough for the Homeless Garden Project. It was a temporary site, there are arguments pro or con around the Pelton Ave site. The Pelton Ave site would not have been a site for the garden to live out it's full scale, it just isn't big enough, and when people look at 12 acres out of 614 being used for the garden project I don't know, and they talk about it like it is going to destroy the total Pogonip experience, I think that is a little out of scale in terms of what is going on. Not to say that we don't need to look at this issue and maybe scale what is being planned in terms of the greenhouses and or other issues needs to be looked at closely, Bbut the idea that this thing is going to be a mechanized farm or something, is just missing what the Homeless Garden Project is going to be throughout it's entire.. You know its whole philosophy in essence is totally counter to that. I didn't understand the comments on the archeological issue, the person near the end raised. There is no paradox there, the report says there is no known stuff and there are possibly lots of sites, that is not a paradox, that is two facts that go well together. I don't know what else, people should understand what a master plan is and also goes back to the Homeless Garden Project, it is a general idea of what we are going to do with this area and it needs to be followed up by lots of other things. It is not the end of all planning for the Pogonip, it sets the framework of what is possible there, but it doesn't tell us how we will rebuild the Pogonip club, even if we do that, even if it is in the plan it doesn't tell us the details, somebody pointed out exactly where the plots go in the Homeless Garden Project, you don't have that in the Master Plan and you wouldn't expect it. You need to do further work, and some of it may require additional environmental review when you actually get to it. Certainly that is true of the archeological and historical resources up there. We are going to be studying that forever. This does not exhaust the archeological issues on the site, it just tells us what we do know now in terms of the Master Plan, and since we are not planning to do anything to those resources, I don't know what level of detail we really need at this

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point. I do feel this is an issue where people disagree and feel strongly passionate. I am sure that whatever decision we make as a Council will leave a lot of people very unhappy and I just hope that people can, it is hard to do, listen to people with another point of view. There is about a 50-50 split generally on the issue of whether we should have any issues on whether we should "leave it natural". We'll talk about what that means vs allowing some development, either the garden or some trail use or whatever. Just appreciate that we are going to do our best to represent the citizens of this community and of the state in that sense indirectly. It is not going to be an easy thing to do because we are going to make half the people here tonight unhappy, no matter what the heck we do with this. All we can do is try and do what we think is best for the city as a whole, for the future. I am sure every member of this Council and every member of the Commission are going to make their best effort to make that in a rational way. I just hope the people will have some room for understanding that the outcome cannot possibly please everybody in the community, it is just impossible.

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K. Beiers

Just a few comments for the final EIR when addressed. I think that they have been raised but I want to make sure they are addressed. One is looking at the slopes, especially the use of bicycles on the slopes and what the impact could be, particularly looking at the garden and not the row crop idea but understanding the type of gardening they do and what impact they will have on the slope. That will be an important one for me when it comes back. The other thing is use of pesticides in our current maintenance has been brought up. I think we should be looking at what kind of impacts any pesticides have, how that could reduce other things to less than significant impacts if we look at that impact as well. I think I am reminded that it is more and more of a program EIR than a project EIR and I think that the last speaker raised that as well. I am interested at some point in cataloguing all of the historic matters that are there whether its fencing or fence posts, there are just some wonderful things up there that haven't been really researched and catalogued and we need to do that and the people of the community need to know what those are as well. Again I see this more as a program EIR and that is a special project that at some point we are going to need to do. Some of my comments are all over the place but I do want to address them. One was Sally Ross who talked about the Delancy Street project, could we look at that at this site. Well, I would not support having to look at something else at this site at this time, but I do want to tell her and other people that almost all of the homeless projects that are really happening in our community, they know about Delancy Street Project in San Francisco and they have adopted little pieces

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of it. I often see in the Homeless Garden Project where we have the women's organic flower project is almost like a component of the Delancy Street Project. The Above the Line that will soon be providing shelter for homeless teenagers has visited that project and have adopted little pieces of it. So it is a wonderful project and I want to thank her for bringing it forward. I think it is very educational for all of us. The one thing the person brought of the idea of the state use and all of the people of the state voted for it and therefore we must make it accessible, well it is a city park it is not a state park, and it is accessible. I don't know what accessible means but anyone anywhere can go on that park at any time. One thing that the city can do, or the state can do, the county parks can do is set limitations. I just don't go with the argument that everyone has the right to do what they want. I don't think we are looking at having motorcross trails up there or motorcycle trails up there. That is one thing that the city can do is put limitations of some uses up there and I think that is what we are all here about tonight. I think that the other one in the EIR that wasn't, it wasn't developed enough, and I want to go back to the garden project, where in one of the um, someone else brought this up, will in fact destroy the wildlife that the birds will need to feed on or does it enhance it. Again I am so familiar with Pelton and the wildlife that has been living there all along, now of course won't be, as well as the Natural Bridges, so that is another one that could be looked at. I think it was in the educational camp, somewhere in here is talked about in the winter time it probably shouldn't be used because of the potential for erosion and the consultant probably knows exactly where that is in there, and I just wonder if we should be looking at other uses which should not be used in the winter time, for instance bicycles or horse trails. Maybe it is in there but there is so much here to read and I may have missed that, but I noticed the mitigation for the education camp as well. I think other than things I like and don't like about it that will come at a later time, I do want to endorse one speaker talking hopefully about the need not to widen Golf Club Drive, it is a beautiful historic asset and it will be important that the mitigations that you have addressed there don't go beyond that.

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C. Mathews

Again in no particular order, I want to acknowledge the points that Mark Primack made particularly that this is not a pristine site although it is a very beautiful one. It has had a rather dramatic and very human impact over time. Another, the value of the Homeless Garden Project does not exempt it from CEQA, but it did seem to me in the first reading that the EIR was particularly strict in its examination of that use. It seemed to me that just from what was said that there perhaps does need to be better communication or understanding of the nature of the Homeless Garden

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C. Mathews

Project and that may influence the analysis of the impacts. I had a similar question to what Elizabeth brought up and it may be in the report and that was whether horse uses, the impact of horse uses could be segregated out from bicycles. It seems to me that multi-use was just always multi-use and there has been some testimony that in fact they are rather different. I don't have an opinion on this, I am just asking the question. Also in terms in mitigation and management policies, my tendency all along has been to favor some kind of connections without making the whole park a multi-use thing. But there are obviously so many serious considerations that need to be dealt with in terms of enforcement so I am wondering if the consultants can discuss what might be enforceable and effective mechanisms and penalties in making that decision. Whether in fact bike use is appropriate at all. It is probably a level of detail but something that isn't appropriate in the EIR but that we will need to deal with at some point and that is the nature of the agreement between the city and the Homeless Garden Project. If this goes through as I hope it does, regarding performance standards, responsibilities for those who deal with both environmentally and supervisionally aspects, because a lot of the success of that and appropriate environmental concerns hinge on those kinds of issues.

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C. Scott

I first would like to say that the Pogonip Plan is a very detailed plan and it is very hard to talk about it in a very short period of time. This will not be the last time that we will be discussing it obviously, before we make any final decisions. There are a lot of aspects and points in this plan that have not been touched on in public testimony. I would first like to address, I will kind of go back and forth between the Plan and the EIR, but I would like to start out about some concerns on the Environmental Impact Report. I believe a question was raised about the, Elizabeth Schick raised it, about the estimate of the increased number of users. I think that is one fundamental flaw in the EIR, and it was alluded to also by Mr. Katzlberger's testimony, in saying that the overall possible increase of users on the whole park might be more significant than the impacts of the garden project. There simply is not any estimate of increased use that might occur if each of the two multi-use trail alternatives was implemented. I think this is a real defect in the EIR. If you look back to the scoping session on page C-2 on the EIR it specifically called out in terms of mountain bikes the impact of mountain bikes in terms of the estimated increase in the number of bicyclists based on nearby park information. I think that is a fundamental piece of information we need in order to think about what the impact would be to opening up the trails to bicycle use, either of the alternatives. It is important to realize that the

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thrust of creating a regional connection is to allow a large number of users to go from one state park through Pogonip through the university to another state park. We have from Wilder Ranch State Park lots of information about how many bicycles use Wilder Ranch and I agree with someone who said Wilder Ranch should not have been left out of the comparative analysis. It was quite amazing to me that the state parks in Santa Cruz County were not used for comparative analysis. They were just left out, although the university has a lot of information about the number of bicyclists that use the university roads and I know they have a lot of concerns about that, and they are developing their own plan. So I think we need some kind of estimate of the increased number of users that might occur. One gentleman testified that not many people use Pogonip. I think actually a lot of people use it, but use is always relative and the quality of the experience that people have on Pogonip now is par to the function of the number of users. That overall quality will change significantly with the number of users, say quadrupled, and we just don't have any data on that. I think we need that information in order to do responsible park planning. So that is one thing that I think was unfortunately not provided. Also sort of a synthesis of the impacts was not provided until we got the most recent table, was something that was requested by the Greenbelt Committee. I think it is useful that we have that, but I think we ought to use that information to look at the differences between the trail alternatives and unfortunately the EIR doesn't take the trail alternatives as a group and summarize the differential impacts between those three alternatives. I think that is also something that needs to be corrected. Another concern I had with the EIR was the prediction for traffic use of Golf Club Drive, in fact there was no survey done of existing use on Golf Club Drive. The only surveys, the only information we have is actually traffic use on Highway 9 and the intersection of Highway 1 and Highway 9. I think the figures are not really accurate or complete unless we know exactly what is the existing use on Golf Club Drive. I bring this up because the Plan proposes widening Golf Club Drive in a significant way and I think it will have significant impacts if not in the technical sense, it will certainly have significant impacts in the contrast between the way it looks now and the way it might look if it was a 28 foot road with bike lanes. One big problem with the failure to do some full traffic analysis is to look at the question of connections. I don't think there are any bike lanes on Highway 9, there isn't any proposal to widen Golf Club Drive up to the entrance of Pogonip, so basically we just have this little short segment that is proposed for widening, 28 feet with bicycle lanes, just on this one little segment without any connection. Then beyond the 28 feet we suddenly go to 12 feet with turnouts. I think we ought to look

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at the alternative of the section of Golf Club Drive between the entrance and where the 12 foot width turnout section is proposed of having that also be 12 feet or maybe a little bit wider with turnouts. And particularly not going beyond the existing fence lines, which is where the big impacts will occur. 28 feet with bike lanes will require moving those fences and is a significant widening. I don't think the EIR has done an adequate analysis of that. With regard to, it is hard to summarize because there is too much and I plan to do my best to get something in writing. I think we had one very important communication from a member of the public, Richard Stover, regarding once again multi-use, particularly bicycles, he submitted a study that was made for the Wisconsin Natural Resources Board, I think that the type of information that is provided in that document ought to be reviewed and included in the final environmental impact report, but I would note that on page 4 section 4 which is Transportation Circulation G23, there is a mitigation measure proposed for multi-use trails which does make me quite uneasy. First of all, it is about monitoring, we all know that monitoring, those familiar with EIRs know that monitoring is technically not a mitigation measure. But then it proposes additional mitigation measures, closing the trail to multi-use providing a separate parallel trail for bicycle and equestrian use or widening the trail. And all these mitigations that are not analyzed in this EIR, what would be the consequences of a further widening, what would be the consequences of a separate parallel trail, where would that trail be? There is not even any suggestion as to where that might be. The reason I am bringing these up is that if you propose mitigation measures which in and of themselves have significant environmental impacts, that has to be analyzed in the EIR itself, and it has simply not done there. In other places the statement is made that we should not widen the historic roads at all. I think that there is some kind of internal inconsistency here. With regard to the 30% slope issue, if we put trails on 30% slopes, I think we do need to look at the General Plan policy which does not allow for development over 30%. At least we need to look at the General Plan policy and see if it is applicable here. I am not sure whether it is or not, but it is not mentioned in the environmental impact report. There is some aspects of the Plan which we have not thought about too clearly and I think I would suggest that we look at some of these in the ongoing process here. One is that in light of the proposal for selective thinning of trees to reduce fire hazard, which I earlier indicated I don't think has any, there was no analysis in the EIR that was devoted to that idea, I think we should consider outright prohibiting commercial timber harvesting on Pogonip. I am sure that no one in this room thinks that we would ever do such a thing, but I think it is very important considering that there are other jurisdictions in this County

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that have in fact done commercial timber harvesting on their open space land and their water shed lands. I am thinking of the City of Watsonville. I think it is really important that we have a policy that makes it very clear that we are not going to do that in the city on the Pogonip. I think the use of chemicals and pesticides for management purposes is something that we should look at simply eliminating and not allowing on the Pogonip. A few small points, in the Plan there is a map that shows the outdoor education camp, but the size of that camp is not really indicated, how many acres it is, exactly what the footprint would be, whether or not night time lighting would be necessary. There are a lot of details about that I don't think are fully fleshed out in the plan and not fully analyzed in the environmental impact report. Those are some of my main concerns, there are a lot of other details, I think we need more recycling cans, we don't have enough even at the Spring Street entrance right now that those cans are constantly overflowing and we certainly don't have recycling cans anywhere. So those are just a few of my concerns. Finally with regard to the garden, I have been a strong supporter of the Homeless Garden Project and I am still a strong supporter of it. I think it is a real misfortune that the garden is now in this very difficult situation of not having a permanent home and having a site which has long been considered a site for the garden and now the environmental analysis has suggested that there is some serious problems. I think that the critiques that were made of the EIR with regard to its comments to the garden project should be looked at quite thoroughly. If you compare this garden site with the original garden site at the University of California, which was on very steep slopes where there is in fact no erosion, it has been quite successful. I think it raises a questions as to whether or not some of the analysis that has been done on the Homeless Garden Project site for the Pogonip is really thorough and complete and in fact overlooks some possible mitigations from the nature of the garden itself, the organic gardening and the various techniques they use to minimize soil erosion. The possibility of scaling it back is something I think we may have to look at seriously, but I think we need to be sure that for example the kite habitat is going to be threatened in terms of foraging, and that we can't adequately protect the nesting from any impacts from the garden. I having walked out there just recently and looked at the site, I think it is quite true there is a significant amount of ground water on that site, that has to looked at very very carefully, but I think there is a difference from the area that is farthest from the road and the area that is closest to the road in terms of the amount of ground water and in terms of the slope and a number of other factors including visibility. So I would hope that we could have in the final EIR some analysis that would not just focus on either leaving it on with its large footprint on the

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Pogonip or taking it off Pogonip when we would have no idea where it would go, despite that some other sites have been mentioned, we have no idea on the feasibility of those sites. Look at the possibility of scaling it back to reduce the impacts. The last point I would like to make is with regard to the costs of the Plan. There are very significant costs, a million and a half with the costs of the Clubhouse rehabilitation, the Pogonip garden, which by the way is not supposed to be funded out of city funds. And finally the mitigation measures. I think we need some estimate of the costs of the measures. Just to take an example, if there is going to be for example bicycle use on the Rincon Trail, the cost of improvement of the site, distance, where to intersect with Coolidge Dr, we have to have some idea of what that is going to cost. I can't go through all of the mitigation measures because there are too many of them here, but there are a lot of them that I think we really need to know, for example, the EIR says we should have a Coastal Prairie Management Plan before we do any trail improvements. What is that going to cost? Is that going to be a significant consideration in terms of whether any of the trail improvements are particularly feasible. Without that information I think we are kind of groping in the dark as to whether we can even carry out this plan. I think we need to do a little more work on the cost impacts of the various proposals in the plan.

D401

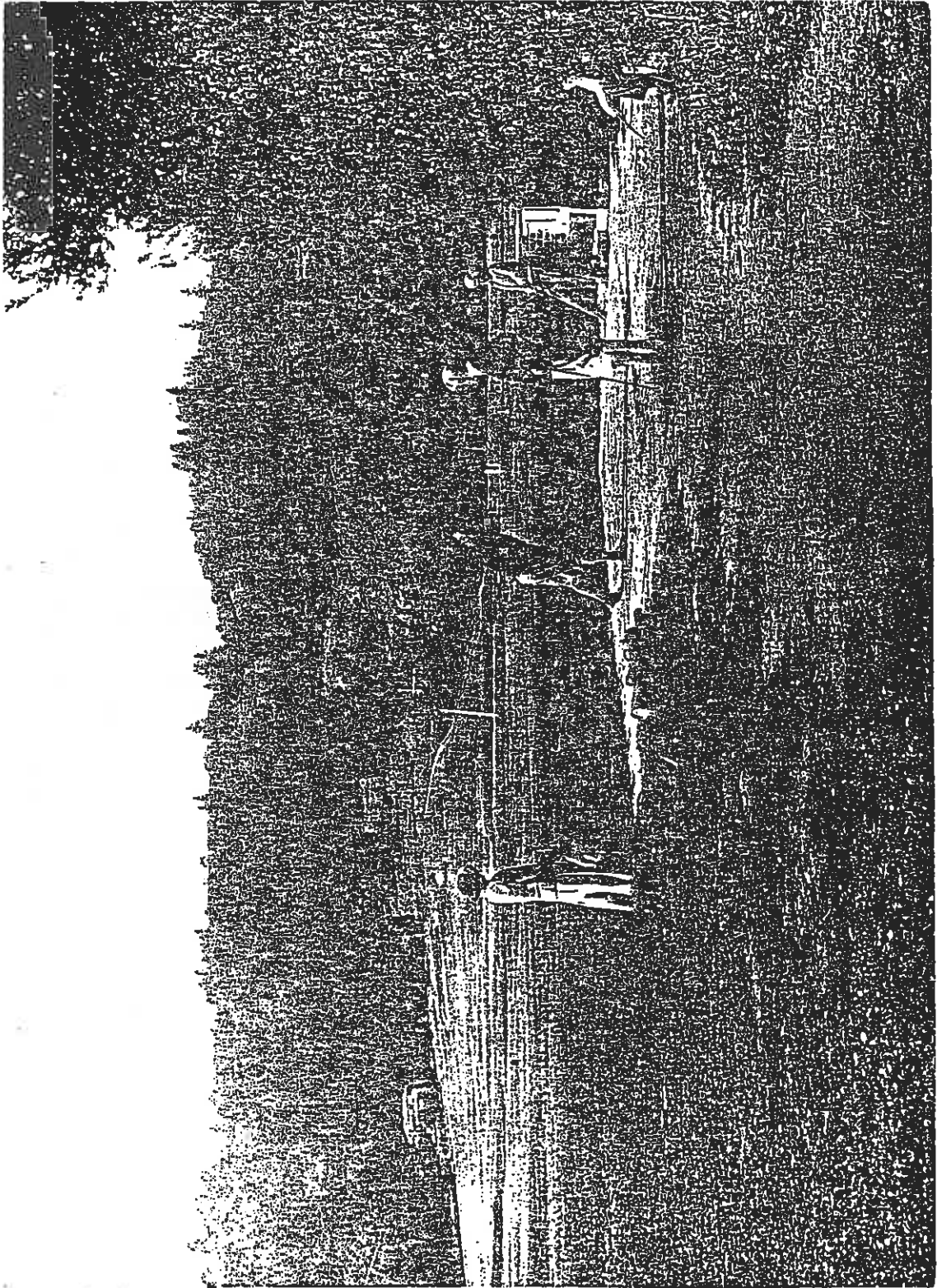
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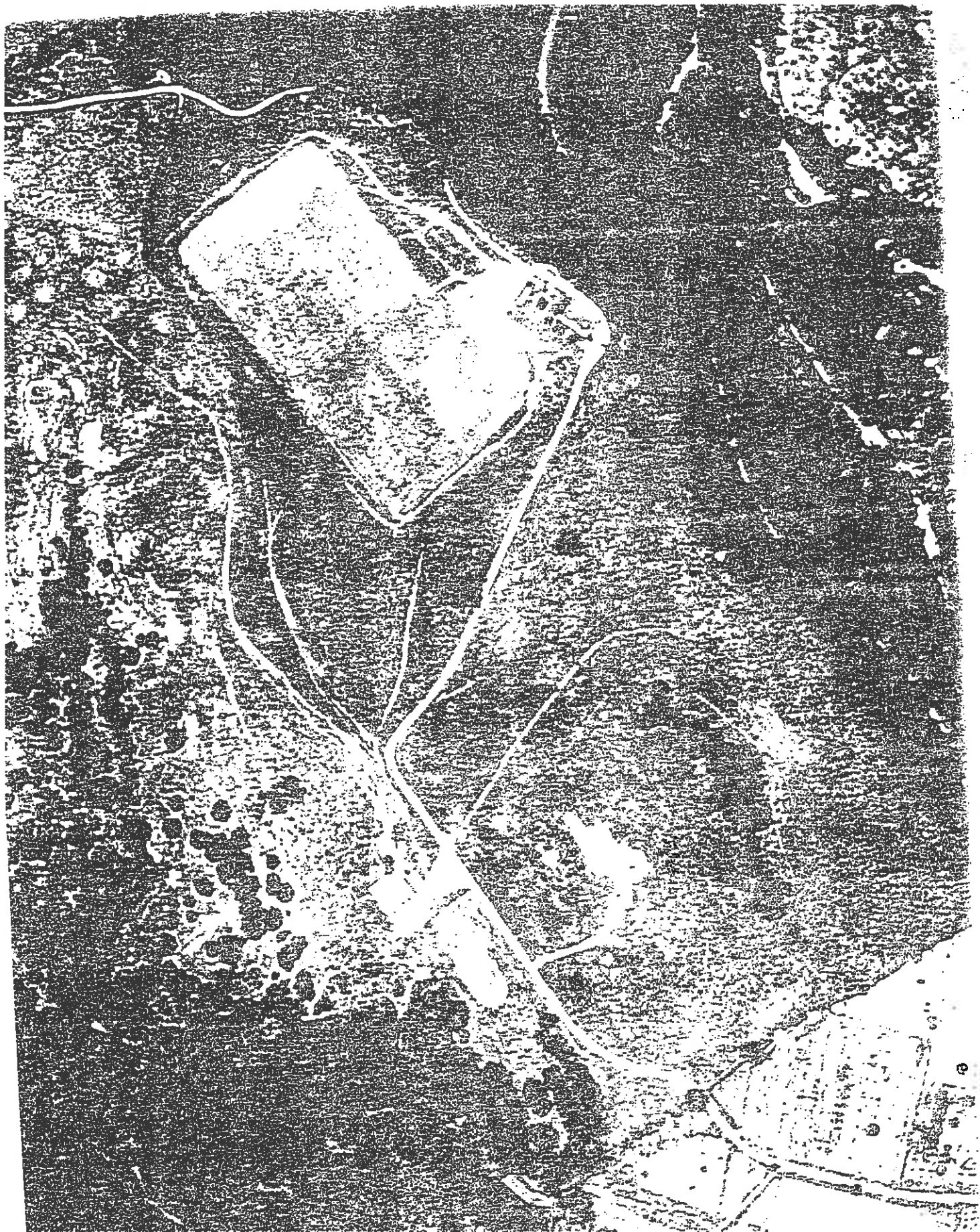
E. Schick

I had two comments that were brought up by your comments, the first comment I had was I wonder why the Homeless Garden should it be situated there would be obligated to use city water for watering their crops and why they weren't able to use well water or water from the springs that exist at Pogonip, I am kind of surprised that they didn't include that kind of an option in the EIR since it doesn't contain chlorine, the way the city water does and it would seem to be a cost saving measure for the city not having to pay for it. And it also wouldn't be as polluting or have any kind of effect on the San Lorenzo. The second comment I would like to make involves the siting of the study center. I wondered what prompted it to be placed right there, and why it couldn't be closer to the Clubhouse and in a more inconspicuous place so that kids coming up to do day study groups couldn't be up and move out, walk out from that spot. Why there couldn't be some kind of annex to the Clubhouse to couldn't be appropriately designed and not have it sit out there in that meadow, because if we are going to talk about view lines, I think it is something to consider.

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*Ms. Herrera
565 Santa Cruz
Santa Cruz CA 95060*

RECEIVED

MAR 19 1998

COUNCIL AND
CITY MANAGER

Future
Council Agenda Item
03-18-1998



03 18 1998



*C. Scott
MAYOR / City Council / M
809 Center Street
Santa Cruz CA 95062*

D405



Dear Mayor & Council Members
The City of Santa Cruz has
owned Pogonip for approx.
10 years, bought and paid for with State
Bond money... The DEIR
is finished, it recommends
multi-use trails! Please
accept this at the
March 31st meeting.
Thank-you



MASTER PLAN

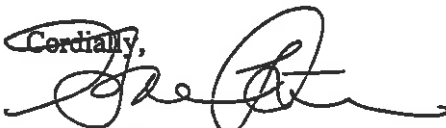
Dear Sir/Madam:

I'm writing as a very concerned citizen about the use of Pogonip. I am opposed to allowing mountain bikes in this valuable preserve.

Having seen how the allowance of mountain bikes has impacted the Forest of Nisene Marks (myself and my family, which includes a five year old, were at risk for serious injury when a pair of mountain bikers descended suddenly upon us at a high rate of speed on a trail that I later discovered sanctioned their presence; not to mention the horrible rutting and erosion of trails there as a result of heavy bike usage), I want to see Pogonip preserved as a mountain bike free area in perpetuity.

By the way, I am a frequent visitor along with the rest of my family to Pogonip for the hiking, beautiful views, and observation of nature.

Cordially,



Gene L. Stevens
Capitola



Gene L. Stevens, LM FCC
138 Wesley Street
Capitola, CA 95010



Santa Cruz City Dept. of Parks & Recreation
323 Church St.
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

95060/3211



MASTER PLAN

Body Awakening

500 Endlich Drive, Santa Cruz, Ca. 95060

408-427-1458 fax 408-427-2601

Robert Sanderson, M.B.A., Ph.D. Sara Sanderson, M.Div., M.A.

Feb 26, 1998

Dear Friends,

We love Pogonip, & are heart-sick to
think that bikes may be allowed there!!
I know I speak for hundreds of walkers &
hikers when I say that we want
to preserve Pogonip without bikes!

There are plenty places bikes are allowed.
If they come to Pogonip, it will ruin it for
the rest of us!

Thanks.

Sincerely,

Sara Sanderson

Robert Sanderson

MASTER PLAN

February 25, 1998

Santa Cruz City Dept. of Parks and Recreation
Pogonip EIR Response
323 Church Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Dear Sir or Madam:

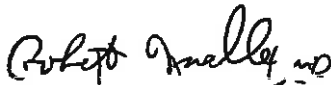
I am a life member of the Sierra Club, a member of the local Ventana Chapter, and I strongly support the use of mountain bikes in the proposed Pogonip Park.

Organizations such as the Mountain Bikers of Santa Cruz (MBOSC) and the International Mountain Bicycling Association (IMBA) teach and encourage the use of all trails in a safe, responsible and respectful fashion. These principles are absolutely not in conflict with the enjoyment of nature by other users.

Additionally, trail impact studies have shown that bicycles have no more soils impact than that of hikers if certain precautions are followed.

The responsible use of trails that respects multi-use recreation can make an experience in nature enjoyable for everyone. We should not be excluded from that experience.

Sincerely,



Robert Mueller, MD
3070 Aptos Hill Lane
Aptos, CA. 95003

MASTER PLAN

3-2-98

We are opposed to Mtn Bikes in
Pogonip because they crowd out
other users & disturb
the tranquility of passive
users & wildlife.

Please no Mountain Bikes
in Pogonip -

Sincerely -

Ann & Rod Mills
392 W. Camel Valley Rd
Camel Valley 93924

MASTER PLAN

National Audubon Society



2/28/98

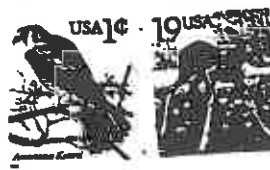
Dear Folks,
 "Please, no bikes
 on the Pajonip.
 Being overwhelmed
 by mountain bikers
 at Wilder Ranch
 convinced me that's
 not the way to go.
 and they usually
 ride in groups!
 Thanks, Fran Ulwelling

California sea otter in Monterey Bay

A California sea otter is one of the thousands of fascinating
 species of wildlife you'll find in Monterey Bay.

Michael & Jeanne Ulwelling
 725 Cadillac Drive
 Scotts Valley, CA 95066

ca's wildlife by
 Audubon Society



Santa Cruz City
 Dept. of Parks & Recreation
 323 Church St.
 Santa Cruz, CA
 95060

REC'D MAR 03 1998

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MASTER PLAN

MAR 16 1998

COUNCIL AND
CITY MANAGER

March 15 1998

To the City Council Members:

I just read the article on Pogonip by Cathy Puccinelli in the Sentinel. I agree with her completely. It is an insult to us the taxpayer to consider putting the Homeless Garden in a beautiful meadow in our precious Pogonip Park. I ask the City to use common sense and better use of our tax dollar. It makes absolutely no sense to commercially garden with expensive City water unless it is subsidized by us, the taxpayer. We perhaps have the illusion that we are helping the poor homeless, by teaching them farming, and making money selling this expensive product which has been subsidized. These individuals can learn farming by getting employed in real farms, which now rely upon foreign man power. This in turn creates more poverty. We should realistically perhaps subsidize a month of apprenticeship for the worker in an already working farm, and then, when they are in shape and know the work, can be hired by the farmer. Why do we import farm workers, and at the same time allow people to roam the streets by subsidizing their needs? Is farm work not a good enough job for them? If that were so, it would also be not good enough in Pogonip. The soil in Pogonip is also not adequate, nor the slope downhill... Lets get some sense into us!

Maria Cardona

Maria Cardona
Santa Cruz.

3/31 Council Agenda Item
COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM 13





MASTER PLAN

March 13, 1998

City of Santa Cruz
Attn: Mayor's Office
809 Center Street
Santa Cruz, Ca 95060

Dear Mayor,

I am writing as a member of California State Horseman's Association and Santa Cruz County Horseman's Association to let you know how important the opening of the Pogonip trails are to the members of the horse associations which I belong to. Opening the Pogonip trails can provide trail users the last link needed to allow us to ride from Graham Hill to Wilder Ranch.

This issue is important and serious to us. We continue to assist in the maintenance and upkeep of exiting trails to which we have access to, and would be willing to continue that support for the Pogonip trails.

We are steadily being squeezed out and limited to a few small areas in one of the largest state's in the United States and any opportunity to expand access in such a beautiful area would be greatly appreciated.

Please don't prohibit equestrians from enjoying nature the way it was meant to be enjoyed--on horseback!

Sincerely,

Shelly M. Sleighel
A stout supporter of equestrian trail riders
(510) 937-6648

cc: City Council Members

3/31 Council Agenda Item
City of Santa Cruz

MASTER PLAN



REDWOOD COAST MORTGAGE CORPORATION

MORTGAGE
BANKERS

3/21/98

S.C. Parks + Recreation
323 Church St
S.C., CA 95060



Ron Lyons

re: Paganip -
No Bikes
Please

Based on my
encounter with
bicyclists in Muir Woods while I
was on foot, I strenuously
do NOT want bikes in Paganip.
I'm a former bicyclist, but
today's cargo ride on the trails
terrifying pedestrians frequently.
May believe they are kings of the
Road and let you know you'll
get run over if you fail to jump
out of the way. Please, no bikes on
the Paganip!

Ron Lyons

P.O. Box 268 • Aptos, CA 95001-0268

(408) 688-8191 or 475-6302
FAX: (408) 475-2249

MASTER PLAN

March 26, 1998

MAR 26 1998

Mayor Celia Scott
Santa Cruz City Council
809 Center St.
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

COUNCIL AND
CITY MANAGER

Dear Mayor Scott:

As a long term resident of this beautiful city, frequent hiker in Pogonip, and registered voter, I am writing to express my overwhelming dismay at the proposed development of Pogonip. I can understand that some changes may be appropriate. I can appreciate the desire to restore and put to beneficial use the collapsing clubhouse or to upgrade trails. But the massive development of the lower meadow complete with giant greenhouse, numerous other large building, roads and parking areas, in order to house the Homeless Garden Project makes no environmental sense whatsoever.

I live on Pelton Ave. where the Homeless Garden Project resided and prospered for years with no infrastructure at all. It was a pleasure to see and I supported it. Why does it need to metamorphose into a monster destroying open space that has never been agricultural?

Pogonip is a small treasure; a piece of coastal wilderness inside our city. Leave it be. This proposal is nothing more than development run amok much like the R. V. park and recreational facilities recently proposed for Wilder Ranch. Why spend scarce monies fixing something that is not broken? Leaving Pogonip as it is, essentially perfect, costs nothing at all. If you are counting votes, let me add that I have not spoken to an a single friend, acquaintance, or neighbor who believes that the proposal is appropriate.

Sincerely,



ISABEL GILMAN
825 Pelton Ave.
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

3/31 Council Agenda Item 3
CITY MANAGER

(216)

RECEIVED

MASTER PLAN

MAR 26 1998

COUNCIL AND
CITY MANAGER

101 Pasture Road
Santa Cruz CA 95060
March 26, 1998

Santa Cruz City Council
809 Center Street
Santa Cruz CA 95060

RE: POGONIP PARK MASTER PLAN

Dear Council Member:

In considering a Master Plan for Pogonip Park, please remember the two greatest hazards to the park are fire and erosion, both dangers are greatly increased by human activities.

Wildfires are often caused by campfires. A campfire caused the last serious fire in the Pogonip -- a roaring blaze that brought in firefighters from surrounding counties.
PLEASE DO NOT ALLOW ANY OVERNIGHT CAMPING IN THE PARK

Experience in other parks in this county shows that mountain bikers frequently go off trails, causing serious erosion. Please look at what mountain bikes have done in Wilder Ranch. Its steep slopes and erodible soils make the Pogonip especially vulnerable to this mistreatment.
PLEASE DO NOT ALLOW BIKES WITHIN POGONIP PARK.

Thousands of walkers and runners enjoy and love the Pogonip just as it is.
PLEASE DO NOT AUTHORIZE ANY INCREASED USE OF THE POGONIP PARK WITHOUT ADEQUATE FUNDING FOR INCREASED PARK STAFF TO MONITOR AND PROTECT THIS BEAUTIFUL PARK.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments.
I am a Santa Cruz resident and frequent user of the park.

Juliana Rousseau
Juliana Rousseau
426-8568.

3/31
Council Agenda Item
3/31/98

March 27/99

MASTER PLAI

Dear Mrs. Harris:

I strongly urge the City Council to refrain from placing a Homestead Garden on the meadow below the Clubhouse. Reasons:

- 1) Because no special group should use a special place exclusively. No favoritism. The private Club was displaced, and even though they would pay the City ~~transmurely~~ for retaining the privilege to stay (or come back) they are not given the chance. The poor should not be given the chance either, just because they are poor. Plenty of flatland elsewhere, and plenty of other communities who could absorb the problem we have here.
- 2) Using city water for agriculture is much too expensive. It does not teach anyone common sense agriculture.
- 3) Land is not flat enough to hold the expensive water.
- 4) Soil is not good enough for agriculture.
- 5) Too much traffic.
- 6) Totally messes up view and quiet space for those of us who so enjoy walking in nature.

Thank you.

Maya Sapper
129 Raliburn Way.

REC'D MAR 30 1998

MASTER PLAN

Susan Harris
Parks and Recreation Dept.
323 Church St.
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

March 27, 1998

Dear Susan,

Friday's *Sentinel* mentioned the upcoming Pogonip-plan meeting, and advised readers to write with comments. I'm writing to bring up an important point.

Currently, bicycles are not allowed in Pogonip. I can understand why bicycles might be prohibited from trails, which are narrow and fragile. It's makes little sense however, to prohibit bicycling on the fire road that travels from the Spring Street entrance gate to Hwy. 9.

As I'm sure you know, most parks, such as Nisene Marks and Wilder Ranch allow bicyclists to ride on all fire roads --- in fact, that's often the *only* legal place to ride. So, making it illegal in Pogonip is at the very least confusing to cyclists; as they may assume the rules are the same as in other parks. Also, because cars use the road occasionally (mostly rangers), there's obviously plenty of room for a bicyclist to ride without bothering other users and certainly no risk of road damage.

But the most important reason to allow cycling on Pogonip's main fire road is to provide a safe route to scenic spots along Hwy. 9. As it is now, west-side families who want to bicycle to Hwy. 9 to get to Henry Cowell Redwood State Park for example, can only do so by riding down toward Harvey West and all the way up Hwy. 9, an incredibly dangerous proposition thanks to the traffic congestion by Harvey West/Costco and narrow roads, blind corners, speeding drivers and nervous tourists on Hwy. 9.

In striking contrast, by pedaling along the Pogonip fire road, most of the ride is car free and thoroughly enjoyable. Plus, the return trip is a much more gradual climb.

There's no sensible reason to prevent bicyclists from riding on what for all intents and purposes is a wide dirt road. Please consider allowing bicycles to use the road so we can get where we want to more safely.

Sincerely


Jim Langley

member of The Santa Cruz Traffic Safety Coalition
239 Sheldon Ave.
Santa Cruz, CA 95060
423-7248 home
462-5698 work

MASTER PLAN

March 30, 1998

Richard Schmale
414 Pennsylvania Avenue
Santa Cruz, CA 95062

RECEIVED

MAR 30 1998

COUNCIL AND
CITY MANAGER

Scott Kennedy
Vice Mayor
City Hall
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

SUBJECT: SEASONAL PARK INTERNSHIPS AS POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVE TO HOMELESS GARDEN AT POGONIP?

Dear Mr. Kennedy:

I have a management degree, and I can't escape my recurring intuition that perhaps the process has gone backwards in studying whether to put the Homeless Garden at Pogonip. If the City were, as a hypothetical example, studying whether we wanted to own an airport we would study cost, location, noise, safety, and so forth and proceed to a conclusion as to whether the project was feasible. With the Homeless Garden we have sort of started with the conclusion and worked backwards. We say there must be a homeless garden and it must be at Pogonip. I think we should de-link the two assumptions; I agree the homeless garden has been a good thing, but I am ever less sure that it should be at Pogonip. People assume that there is no cost to locating the garden project at Pogonip; but actually there is a large social cost because meadowland open space would disappear to be replaced by row crops, greenhouses, implement sheds, etcetera. The full 12.5 acre garden project would change the peaceful poetic feel of Pogonip into something else. I often visit the giant redwood grove at Henry Cowell State Park off Highway 9. As you know, the entranceway at Henry Cowell winds through two large open meadows which are aesthetically part of the Park and which are essential to the park experience. Imagine these meadows converted to row crops and tool sheds and greenhouses; the park would be a different and a poorer place — this sort of conversion of open meadow into farming project is exactly what is being contemplated at Pogonip. I would submit that it is a noble idea but probably not a good idea. Open space, natural open space, serves a spiritual need for persons of all ethnic, gender, and class backgrounds.

Perhaps the homeless garden should use the eastern portion of Pogonip's lower meadow on a temporary basis until a free-standing homeless garden could be created. I remind myself that the premise of the garden is training and rehabilitation of the homeless. Each cohort of "trainees" should graduate and go on to other pursuits. I have heard that 20-30 clients would be served at the garden which I assume would operate on a seasonal basis. Creation of 20-30 seasonal park aide "C.C.C." type positions might be an alternative until permanent homeless garden site was found. Perhaps the City could create an annuity to lease farmland for a homeless garden. It might be good for those City Councilmembers who are board members of the garden to recuse themselves to avoid the appearance of conflict of interest. I do not believe we have exhausted all alternatives; there may well be a way to preserve Pogonip's meadows and have a free-standing homeless garden elsewhere. I would really and seriously suggest that everyone go visit the UCSC farm and then decide if it is really a good idea to replace Pogonip's lower meadow with a similar operation; I don't think people fully appreciate what a very drastic change it would be. Please go see UCSC farm.

cc: City Council

Sincerely,

Richard Schmale

3/31 Council Agenda Item 3
Richard Schmale

MASTER PLAN

March 30, 1998

MAR 31 1998

Mayor Celia Scott
City of Santa Cruz

COUNCIL AND
CITY MANAGER

Dear Mayor Scott:

Please save Pogonip!

We are writing to ask you to save Pogonip in its current form, as a peaceful and safe getaway for hikers and runners of all ages. If bicyclists and/or equestrians are allowed to share Pogonip's beautiful trails with pedestrians, the result will inevitably be injuries to and desertion by pedestrians, particularly the young children and older citizens who currently enjoy Pogonip's trails.

While we sympathize with bikers' desires to ride in Pogonip, and we are bikers ourselves, we feel strongly that Pogonip's peaceful trails should be preserved for hikers. Numerous beautiful bicycle and equestrian trails already exist in and around the City of Santa Cruz.

Once any park's trails are taken over by bicyclists, many pedestrians become too afraid of the high speeds and often careless and obnoxious attitudes demonstrated by some bikers, and stop using the trails. If bicyclists or equestrians are invited to join Pogonip's trails, many hikers will be forced out of Pogonip permanently. (This problem will not be solved by limiting bicyclist/equestrian access to certain trails; many bikers already ignore the current regulations barring them from all of Pogonip, and will certainly ignore future regulations limiting them to specific trails.)

Please save Pogonip for our youngest and oldest citizens, and also for the rest of us who love Pogonip's safe and quiet trails.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Mark P. Dammann *Kathleen M. Dammann*

Mark & Kathleen Dammann (and our three young sons)
224 Ross Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Thank you!
3/31
Council Secretary
3

ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

23 *(50)*

115 Pasture Rd.
Santa Cruz CA 95060
March 30, 1998

MASTER PLAN

Celia Scott, Mayor
City of Santa Cruz
809 Center St.
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Dear Mayor Scott,

We understand that you will be considering the Pogonip Master Plan in April. The future of the Pogonip is of great interest to us. We have lived on Pasture Road for nineteen years, enjoyed membership in the Pogonip Club for some ten years, hiked and biked the Spring Trail — and endured the traumatic prospect of being burned out of our home because of an illegal campfire.

While commending the staff of the City of Santa Cruz, Parks and Recreation Department, for a thorough and often enlightening document, we urge you to give more consideration to enforcement of illegal camping restrictions and even more consideration to fire containment and prevention than this plan details. "Because there has not been a major fire in the Pogonip in the last 80 years, the wildland fuels are at an unnaturally high level of accumulation....Ignitions and rapid fire spread in the annual grass is possible almost every day, from May to November." (P.6-5.) These statements inform us that we are in more danger than we have been led to believe. We do not ever want to go through the frightening experience we underwent in October 1996. That fire was a "major" incident in the lives of the people who live in the Upper Spring Street neighborhood.

Please give fire mitigation and enforcement of illegal campfire regulations more attention and more dollars.

In addition, as recreational users of the Pogonip Park, we would like to argue for Plan B for the trails.

Spring Trail is a wonderful trail for families with small children, for elderly people, for handicapped people, for those who love the peace and quiet of the forest — and it is the only place in the redwood forest that is easily accessible in Santa Cruz. While you might post speed limits for bikers, will those limits be enforceable? It is disconcerting and sometimes dangerous for bikers to come from behind, and horses can be unpredictable. Bikers do not need access to every trail. It does seem fair, however, that bikers and equestrians should have the advantage of a trail circle encompassing the city, provided for by the Rincon Trail and the UCSC Connector Trail.

Thank you for your consideration of our viewpoints.

Sincerely,

H.C. Law Virginia Law
Howard and Virginia Law

Attachments: (2)

Cc: Council members

3/31
Council Agenda Item
3

ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS AND BOARD

51

Illegal campfire ignited October Pogonip blaze

Sentinel staff report

SANTA CRUZ — The wildland fire that whipped through Pogonip on Oct. 27 and forced the evacuation of several homes along Spring Street was not caused by high winds and arcing power lines after all.

An illegal campfire has been blamed for the fire that charred four acres but destroyed no homes, said Santa Cruz Fire Marshal Mark Latham. While the high winds hindered firefighters' progress in controlling the blaze, they were not the cause as investigators originally believed.

An unattended campfire on the edge of Pogonip and private property at the bottom of a small canyon touched off the blaze. The fire got out of control and swept up the canyon, threatening several homes along Pasture Drive and Spring Street. Latham said many people camp out in Pogonip, and while park rangers do their best to chase them away, the area is large and the task is difficult.

Saturday, Nov 9, 1996
Series Sentinel A-2

Firefighters douse Pogonip blaze

By ROBERT GAMMON
Sentinel staff writer

SANTA CRUZ — Firefighters battled a wildfire Wednesday in the Pogonip area that apparently started at a homeless encampment, fire officials said.

The blaze broke out about 12:30 p.m., just west of Highway 9 and below UC Santa Cruz, and quickly spread into the redwood canopy, said Santa Cruz Deputy Fire Chief Jerry Ochoa.

"It had a potential to be much bigger, but we got lucky with the

wind," Ochoa said.

The fire was in a remote area, however, and fire crews had to string water hoses about a third of a mile into the forest. Firefighters were able to contain the blaze to an estimated 2,500-square-foot area.

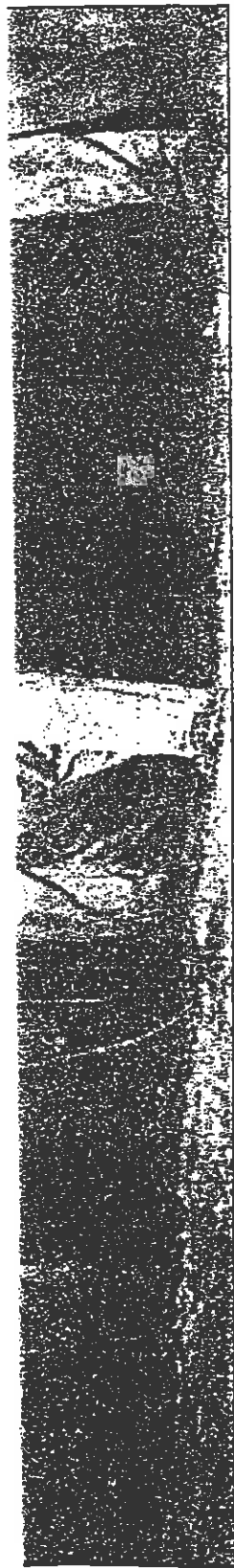
Boulder Creek firefighters, crews from California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection and city park rangers helped fight the blaze.

Meanwhile, CDF crews continued to fight a 90-acre wildland fire just north of Mount Madonna in Santa Clara County.

The blaze was first reported Tuesday at 1:36 p.m., and it's believed to have been started by a vehicle spark on Redwood Retreat Road, said CDF spokesman Chris Morgan.

Firefighters, air tankers and helicopters fought the fire Tuesday afternoon and crews declared the blaze contained as of 6 a.m. Wednesday.

CDF estimated that the fire, which burned through oak trees and manzanita in a steep ravine, would be under control by 8 a.m. today.



Bill Loveloy/Sentinel photos

Weary firefighters leave the Pogonip after fighting a wind-whipped wildfire that threatened several homes Saturday.

Residents flee wind-driven Pogonip blaze

Four firefighters injured; outages keep PG&E busy

By ERIN K. QUINN
Sentinel staff writer

SANTA CRUZ — High winds snapped power lines like whips Saturday, touching off a spate of wildfires all over the county.

The county emergency-dispatch center had received 86 calls, ranging from downed power lines to smoke sightings, by 5 p.m. Saturday. But the worst of the fires began shortly after 1 p.m. in Pogonip just below Heller Drive.

Residents in the upper Spring Street area were evacuated from their homes as the fire raced through the dry grass less than 100 yards away. The first fire crew on the scene reported that the fire was moving faster than they could run.

An S-2 airplane flew just a few hundred feet above the neighborhood dropping brick-red fire retardant on the smoking fields. A strike team from Santa Clara County was called in to aid local fire crews, many of whom had worked non-stop since 7 a.m.

"We don't want another Oakland Hills thing if this gets out of hand,"



A firefighter is treated for a minor injury Saturday.

said Sgt. Tom Watson of the Santa Cruz Police Department, who was helping to evacuate people from the neighborhood.

Resident Maryann Dunlap, clutching a ceramic giraffe, was hurriedly putting paintings into her car. "I'm scared," she said.

Other residents loading their belongings into their cars said the wind whipped the flames toward the homes but then shifted direction, sending the flames into a canyon.

"I was just praying to God nothing burned down," said Michelle Mondo, who drove all the way from Monterey when she heard her parents' home on Spring Street had been evacuated. Mondo wiped tears from her eyes and praised the firefighters who kept the flames at bay.

Three firefighters were injured in the Pogonip blaze and another Central District firefighter was injured in a fire in Soquel. Their injuries ranged from second-degree

Winds hamper firefighters in Big Sur area — Page A3

burns to a dislocated shoulder. All four were said to be in stable condition Saturday.

An arcing and sparking power line is being blamed for the blaze, which claimed no homes or lives, said Santa Cruz Fire Department Capt. Jerry Ochoa. The fire charred four acres of steep brush- and timber-covered hillside and left oak trees looking like charcoal briquettes, Ochoa said. The gusty winds were no help to the firefighters and they remained on watch all night.

The National Weather Service clocked winds of up to 25 mph Saturday afternoon at the Fordwink. Meteorologist John Burkhardt said the predominantly northeasterly winds will become northeasterly by today. Those winds are "drier and more prone to fire," Burkhardt said. By Monday, the weather system will have passed, bringing only light winds and warmer temperatures, he predicted.

The day was also a long and hard one for PG&E crews, who were kept hopping from one trouble spot to the next.

Please see FIRES — BACK PAGE

To Santa Cruz Park & Rec
Concerning Paganip

MASTER PLAN

PLEASE — NO BIKES
ON POGONIP

Hi there — I find bikes
on trails absolutely terrible.
Last year I tripped & hurt
my knee on a mountain trail
where bikes had gouged deep
ruts into the trail. When the
mud dried, the trail was left
uneven & dangerous because of
the bikes. If you allow bikes
on these trails, your department

would bear responsibility for
accidents such as mine.

Regards

Joan Zimmerman

Joan Zimmerman
507 Woodrow Avenue
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

MASTER PLAN

March 30, 1998

Parks and Recreation Department
City of Santa Cruz
323 Church Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060
Attn: Susan Harris

RECEIVED

MAR 31 1998

COUNCIL AND
CITY MANAGER

RE: Comments on the Pogonip Draft Master Plan

Dear Ms. Harris:

My family owns a vacation cabin a few miles north of town on Highway 9, built by my grandfather around 1927. I have spent numerous weekends over the years cycling about the Santa Cruz area, and have been frustrated by the lack of good, safe connectors to and from UCSC, Wilder Ranch and Henry Cowell State Parks, and Highway 9. I see one trail use alternative presented in the Pogonip Master Plan as a way to satisfy this problem.

Following are comments regarding the Draft Pogonip Master Plan.

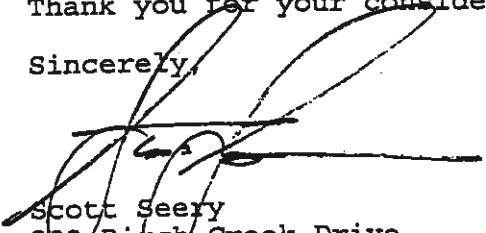
Trail Use Alternatives

Of the 3 proposed alternatives, "Alternative A" provides most of the preferred regional multi-use connections in the City of Santa Cruz. The trails identified under this alternative (Brayshaw, Rincon, Spring and new UCSC connector) are (or will be) of appropriate size and slope to accommodate such multi-use, and to facilitate their use as "service roads."

As a resident of the San Francisco East Bay, home of the largest network of urban multi-use trails in California, I can attest that multi-use trail systems work. In fact, they work well, and have for years. Locally, Wilder Ranch State Park effectively demonstrates how successful a multi-use philosophy can be. The city should learn from that example and apply the lessons learned at Wilder to the benefit of all who enjoy the natural beauty of the area. No one group should be excluded.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,


Scott Seery
282 Birch Creek Drive
Pleasanton, CA 94566

3/31
Council Agenda Item 3
Council Manager





MASTER PLAN

CLARK AND
CITY MANAGER

TO: CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS, SANTA CRUZ

FROM: VIRGINIA K. MC DERMOTT
108 CLARK AVENUE
SANTA CRUZ, CA. 95060

DATE: 3/27/98

RE: POGONIP & HOMELESS GARDEN

I am concerned with the proposal for the homeless garden being included at the Pogonip site. The land provided for the homeless garden in the EIR is over 10+ acres. This lease changes the makeup of the property and removes its' preservation and use by local citizens with no revenue for the city.

I understand the "feeling" of the garden and the "aide" it provides to the homeless population of Santa Cruz. However, in reality it has little to no return on investment either in ensuring the people "aided" become self sustaining or as a skills training unit. It has weak measurement instrumentation other than personal observations. I am told the "value is intangible" which is described with a few cases of individuals being "helped".

The cost of a garden of this size will be in excess of \$500,000 in funds in addition to the property donated for use. The homeless garden is funded additionally through private donations and government funding at approximately 66%. It produces only one-third of its revenue.

This cost, excluding land cost, land conversion, and elimination of the natural habitat, is excessive for the results reported. The larger garden will employ approximately 20-25 people, at \$8/per hour for up to a three year period. Yet, on cable television one worker cited he had been working in the garden for 5 years. In other words, management practices are sloppy, record keeping poor, and results are unquantifiable. Yet funds continue to be directed toward this as a opportunity for the city's homeless.

The question the city council should be asking is: If \$500,000 in funds were available to the local community resources working with the homeless, with previous measured results, what would the benefit to the community be? There are programs

27

Address: 108 Clark Avenue
Santa Cruz, California 95060

33 Council Agenda Item 3
CLARK AND

Phone/fax: 408-426-2887
Phone/fax: 408-426-4439

MASTER PLAN

March 31, 1998

DELIVERED VIA FAX TRANSMISSION
(408)459-9359

MAR 31 1998

COUNCIL AND
CITY MANAGERSanta Cruz City Council
809 Center Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

RE: Pogonip EIR

Dear City Council Members:

I am unable to attend this evening's meeting concerning the future use of Pogonip Park, and wish to express my support for multi-use trails in limited portions of Pogonip Park.

I have been involved in the recreational use of Pogonip following the City of Santa Cruz' acquisition of that property with funds supplied it by the State of California for park acquisition and maintenance purposes.

Although I am an avid hiker and have fully enjoyed the hiking experience in Pogonip, I am also an equestrian and enjoy riding in Wilder, Grey Whale and Cowell State Parks, all of which are in close proximity to Pogonip.

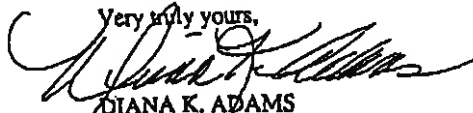
I was also a member of the focus group who studied the possible uses of the Pogonip property and provided input to the City as to how Pogonip could be used and what trails might be amenable to multi-use. This project took a number of months and considerable time, effort and commitment on the part of everyone who participated in the focus groups.

Although there were varied opinions on how the Pogonip property should be used, it was my understanding that at least portions of the upper part of the property, consisting of sections of the Spring and Rincon Trails, and possibly a connecting trail via the Brayshaw trail would be amenable to multi-use. A multi-use trail along the upper portions of the Pogonip property, as it adjoins UCSC on its northwesterly boundry, is particularly important to equestrians, as it would serve as a vital link between the Grey Whale State Park, UCSC and Cowell State Park. Without that link, equestrians would be forced to trailer their horses from the Grey Whale to Cowell, which essentially defeats the idea of having a continuous link between those parks for equestrian users. I assume that this vital link would be open to hikers, the majority of whom would be much less likely to make the entire loop anyway, due to the extensive distances involved.

Although I consider myself an environmentalist, and certainly appreciate the pristine beauty of our area, I believe designating a multi-use trail in Pogonip to facilitate access to state parks for equestrian users, would not constitute such an adverse environmental or esthetic impact to warrant prohibiting such use. Therefore, I encourage you to adopt a multi-use trail alternative in the proposed EIR for Pogonip.

Thank you for taking the time to consider this letter. I would appreciate your advising me of your decision concerning this important issue.

Very truly yours,

DIANA K. ADAMS
340 Soquel Avenue, Suite 215
Santa Cruz, CA 950623/31
Council Agenda Item
3
Council Agenda Item

Pretty Promises & Raw Realities Pogonip Campground—Lost, Strayed or Stolen? Speech to Santa Cruz City Council by Robert Norse 3.31.98

In the fall of 1985, Jane Inter fasted for 33 days in front of the County Building to establish a cold-and-rainy-night-shelter for homeless people, to lift the camping and sleeping bans, and to establish a small low-income campground for poor people in the Pogonip up at Sycamore Grove. Her direct actions and the peaceful demonstrations and protests from hundreds in the years that followed led to the formation of the Citizens Committee for the Homeless, the purchase of the River Street Mini-Shelter, the Interfaith Satellite Shelter Program, A Free Meal program, the Homeless Community Resource Center, and the Community House trailer project.

As the El Nino spring rains resume and the Winter Armory Shelter program ends, we have 500-1500 homeless and legal places to sleep for less than 50 of them. Yet of the hundreds of acres that have been city property in the Pogonip for a decade, not an acre, not half an acre, is being considered for homeless use. How many hundreds of thousands is this Council considering spending for "historic clubhouse rehabilitation"? Yet not a penny to keep faith with the poor.

Instead we have Parks and Recreation, Jim Lang's special preserve, apparently content with its horse patrol harassment of the homeless in the Pogonip, apparently desirous of denying them any legal existence up there. "Lebensraum" Lang, as I call him, has recently overseen the illegal denuding of trees on the Pelton St. property and headed the fight (in collusion with renegade city council members) to slaughter still more of them. This is the same Lang who moved to close off first the neighborhood parks, then San Lorenzo, then Scribner Scope Park, then the Town Clock, then the River Levy to people at night. This affects, most particularly, homeless people.

City Councilmembers have beat their breasts and wrung their hands on this issue in the past. Council members Scott and Beiers—excellent and courageous in their fight to demand a democratic process in the Pelton Street sell-out—both served as stooges on the Citizens Committee for the Homeless when it sold out the Coral Street Open Air Shelter campers in December of 1995 and under the leadership of Kennedy and Rotkin, drove them into the bushes—where deaths and injuries increased.

Both Scott and Beiers were either on the City Council subcommittee supposedly searching for a campground or on the Citizens Committee for the Homeless Board of Directors. The subcommittee wandered here and there, but of the hundreds of acres of city-owned property, could not find one to allow homeless women and children a legal place to sleep in a vehicle or put up a tent at night. CCH closed its eyes as their "negotiators" used Scott Kennedy and then Mayor Mike Rotkin to drive the homeless away. CCH fenced off the Coral Street

property and barred the homeless people from a traditional camping area—in fact, the only such legal area in Santa Cruz. All this on property originally purchased with homeless federal moneys.

Kennedy's interest in securing a Safe Haven for homeless people flared briefly in 1996 when the abrasive City Hall Sleepers Protest was still in progress outside these chambers. Perhaps embarrassed by being seen in public tearing down a "Legalize Sleep" sign in 1994 and championing "Sparechange Twice After Dark; Go to Jail" laws as Mayor in 1994, Kennedy encouraged CCH to look into a campground plan—such as the one Father Marini set up at his church in 1996—which was destroyed with the collusion of Mayor "Riot Act" Rotkin.

Those of us circulating the Initiative to Repeal the Sleeping Ban do so knowing that every night homeless people continue to live in fear, receive tickets, and flee outstanding "sleep" warrants. This Council and the Parks & Recreation Commission have the power to consider a walk-in homeless campground, but until the community reminds the Council of its real priorities—this is unlikely. This Council has the power to suspend the Sleeping Ban portions of the Camping Ban tomorrow, but will not. I spoke with Councilmember Rotkin today—he affirmed he would be breaking yet another promise, by refusing to bring forward a proposal to ticket homeless sleepers only after warning them—as he promised a UCSC student audience in late February.

Meanwhile the City is watering the Citizens Committee for the Homeless with money for its fund-magnet Community House trailer project. Within the last week, both the City and the CCH Board were served with lawsuits for their disgraceful treatment of Frank Pucelik, a rarity among CCH staffers, who actually went to bat for homeless people and was roundly smeared for it.

To watch this process in action, join the Citizens Committee for the Homeless at its Board of Directors meeting on April 1st at 4 PM at Trinity Church as it moves to merge with the Homeless Community Resource Center [HCRC]. The two groups have apparently adopted a process of hiring-without-hearings, where the only applicant to be considered is reigning political favorite Karen Gillette, who has presided over closed meetings of the HCRC, in violation of the spirit of the Brown Act.

Councilmember Matthews, the head of the merger committee, is apparently uninterested in having the public oversee this process. She has repeatedly refused to return phone calls, forward agendas, or pass on minutes. Doorhanger shenanigans and midnight budget-passing meetings are apparently part of a larger pattern of disrespect for public process.

The last legal campground in Santa Cruz—Bob's Pinegrove Campground—closed several months ago, displacing a dozen poor families. The law makes it illegal to sleep at night. Isn't it clear that a homeless campground is vital?

Flyer by HUFF (Homeless United for Friendship & Freedom) 408-423-4833

MASTER PLAN

Sally Ross
609 Frederick St., #116
Santa Cruz, CA 95062

March 30, 1998

To All Members of Santa Cruz City Council
To Susan Harris and members of the City Planning and Parks & Recreation Dept.
To Doug Deitch, Pogonip Foundation
To Paul Lee, Homeless Garden Project

RE: PROPOSAL FOR A POSITIVE POGONIP PROJECT

Dear Planners,

Most of us are by now familiar with the Delancey Street program of San Francisco and its long-term and far-ranging success. To me and many others it has proved to be the very best organization in the USA for rescuing, training, educating and motivating thousands of ex-prisoners and drug addicts and sending them on their successful ways. It has been running for about twenty years and without any government funding, as you will see when you have read the enclosed *Hitting Bottom Can Be the Beginning*.

There are now several "Delancey Street" type places in other cities around the country, some of them about our size.

I am proposing that you consider Pogonip as an absolutely ideal site for a local Santa Cruz "Delancey Street" project. It occurs to me that we have in this area, just as in San Francisco, the need to train, house, educate for a G.E.D., teach manners and responsibility and otherwise assist thousands of our own people: juvenile delinquents, ex-offenders, addicts and misfit homeless. These people could greatly benefit from learning to do a "Delancey Street" style turn-around of their lives.

Except for its original space, this plan is not tax supported. It is a self-supporting, self-sustaining project, fueled by the channeled energies of those in the program. In the beginning Delancey Street was staffed by volunteers to teach and train the residents, but today the older residents teach and train the newcomers and oversee the small businesses that finance the project.

I can see us starting as small as they did and gradually enlarging. What is so exciting to me is that we can literally save so many human beings because we have so many talented Santa Cruzans who love to be active in such fine causes.

In case you don't know much about it and how it works, I am enclosing a small packet about Delancey Street, although I would much prefer to take all of you up to their handsome dining room for a delicious lunch of well-served fine cooking, all done by the current resident ex-offenders and addicts. There you could meet Delancey Street's remarkable founder and director, Mimi Silbert, and take a tour of the combined living quarters and business places. It would be wonderful to bring Mimi Silbert down here to see Pogonip and hear of this dream.

In any case, I urge you to consider this idea seriously. It would make such a huge contribution to our society to have the Positive Pogonip Project in operation here.

Sincerely,

Sally Ross

Stressing mutual support, self-discipline and responsibility, Mimi Silbert's Delancey Street program turns hard-core criminals into upstanding citizens.

Hitting Bottom Can Be The Beginning

IN HIS TEENS, ROBERT ROCHA was selling drugs night and day to survive. He was a street kid in San Francisco—using and pushing heroin, sleeping wherever he could. His mother had been in and out of jail for robbing banks ever since he could remember, he says. He had been sent to foster homes from the age of 8. He lived on the edge, hustling and stealing.

Rocha carried a gun to pull holdups. He stabbed people too; and while still a juvenile, he was arrested and charged with 27 armed robberies.

His dream, to go to a big-time prison, came true at age 19, when he was sent to San Quentin. "I'd lost touch with everything," Rocha says, "and had no belief in myself. No hope. No trust in nothing or nobody. The reason I wanted to go to prison was because that's where I could be somebody. But when I got there, nothing in prison excited me, because I'd done everything by then. When I got back out on the street, I thought about changing my life. Then I got busted again—for selling heroin to an undercover cop."

That was in 1987. Today, at 26, the same young man is well-groomed, wears a business suit and carries himself with quiet pride. He has the warm, confident smile of a person with solid ground under his feet along with a future. In the four years since he went on parole, he has learned eight construction trades. He takes college courses in criminology. He tutors other ex-convicts in geometry, helping them earn high school diplomas. He has transformed his life on every level—not in some magical way, but through a painful process of taking one small step after another.

Robert Rocha is one of 10,000 men and women with similar stories of tragedy and triumph. Over the last two decades, these former felons, drug abusers and prostitutes have helped each other survive to become healthy, productive citizens. Each of them has spent an average of four years as part of the Delancey Street Foundation, based in San Francisco, which has received worldwide acclaim for its ability to mend

Delancey Street's founder, Mimi Silbert, with the residents (l-r) Conrad Laran, Robert Greenaway, John Ridley and Abe Krizary at the Embarcadero Triangle complex in San Francisco. The residential as well as commercial center, built almost entirely by residents, houses Delancey Street-run ventures and other businesses.



B Y H A N K W H I T T E M O R E

even the most broken of lives.

At the heart of this unique "extended family" is the spirit and unswerving resolve of Dr. Mimi Silbert, 49, a criminologist who has dedicated her life since 1972 to keeping Delancey Street open and growing. An elfin woman weighing less than 100 pounds, she stands toe-to-toe with the meanest, toughest ex-felons until the shouting turns to laughter, tears and hard work, and deep wounds gradually heal.

"You want to quit?" she challenged Robert Rocha and other Delancey Street residents while they were building their new San Francisco complex on the waterfront. Despite their lack of experience, they were doing the job by themselves. "Well," Silbert told them, "that's what you've always done—given up every time it has gotten difficult! I know you're hammering away and thinking that this isn't worth it, but you're hammering away on your lives."

"You're building your own foundation. If you make a mistake with that wall, tear it down and rebuild it! That's what we're doing at Delancey Street, for ourselves—tearing down bad things and making good things to replace 'em. And if you're too guilty and angry and hopeless to fight for yourself, then do it for the next guy. Because he's counting on you. Meanwhile, you're learning new skills. You're getting something that nobody can take away from you. You're building your lives."

There are 500 current residents at the San Francisco complex that opened in late 1990. About 500 others are going through this same rigorous program in Brewster, N.Y.; in Greensboro, N.C.; and in San Juan Pueblo, N.M. With neither funding nor a permanent staff other than Silbert herself, Delancey Street is almost entirely self-supporting. Its business enterprises, run by residents, net \$3 million a year.

"We're trying to prove that the 'losers' in our society can, in fact, be helped," Silbert says, "and also that they, in turn, can help. Essentially they make up an underclass. A third of our population was homeless. The average resident is four or five generations into poverty and two or three generations into prison. They've been hard-core dope fiends. They're unskilled and functionally illiterate. They've had horrible violence done to them, and they've been violent."

"Most people would rather see them locked up for the rest of their lives, but our point is the opposite—that they can be taught to help themselves. They can learn to be responsible and self-reliant. And we believe that helping these same people is a critical part of turning around all the rest of society."

Last fall Silbert was among six recipients of the second annual America's Awards, sponsored by the Positive Thinking Foundation, of which Dr. Norman Vincent Peale is co-founder. "These

unsung heroes personify the American character and spirit," Dr. Peale says. "They are ordinary people who are extraordinary examples of values that make our country great."

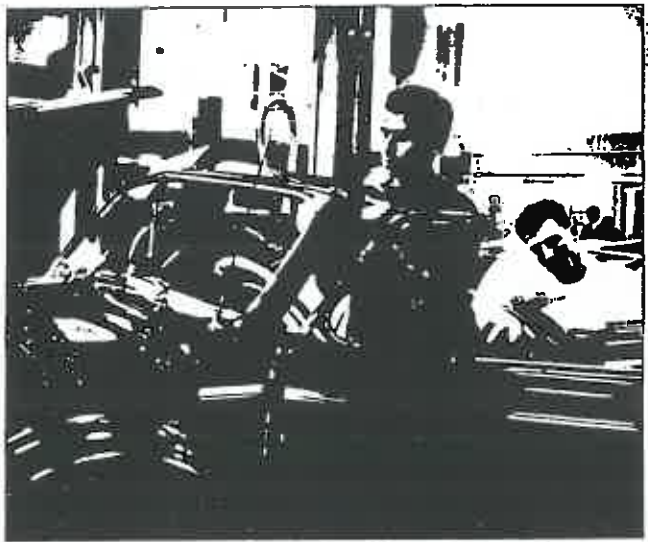
Over the years, Silbert has been besieged by requests from groups around the country wanting to learn about Delancey Street in order to duplicate it. Now, with typically large vision, she plans to create a "training institute" that would include up to several months of internship. Delancey Street could become a model for the nation.

"There's no way I'd go back to my old life," says Shirley LaMarr, 43, a resident for nearly three years. "I went through the whole siege of drugs and prostitution, getting beat up and having

guns drawn on me, getting raped and carried out on pills, you name it. I've robbed people, all kinds of stuff, and each year I'd feel more disgusted. I lived on the street, with my own space on the sidewalk. When I was arrested, I sent a letter to Delancey Street. I was at the bottom, with a choice of coming here or going back out to die."

Those who enter Delancey Street invariably are filled with bitterness and despair. Having lost all trust and hope, they are angry and defensive. To be admitted, however, they must go through the motions of writing and asking to be let in.

Although they must promise to stay at least two years, the doors are not locked—so they can leave at any time.



Y Delancey's body shop. Right, Robert Rocha and Shirley LaMarr: Through "The Street," they transformed their troubled lives.

"You want to quit?" Dr. Silbert challenged a group of ex-felons. "That's what you've always done—given up when it got difficult. If you're too angry and hopeless to fight for yourself, then do it for the next guy."

and few believe they will remain longer than a couple of months.

"But we already know that," Silbert says, laughing because the pattern is repeated so often, "and we're up front about it right away. I tell a new person who's scowling at me with utter contempt, 'Hey, we know you're trying to manipulate us. Our job is to out-manip-

ulate you! And we're better at it than you are."

"They always play the victim: 'It wasn't my fault.' We ask them to explain: 'Somebody tied you down and injected a needle into your arm? Someone forced you to take a gun and hash that old lady on the head? Is that what happened? Who actually did those things?' Finally they admit, 'Well, yeah, it was me, I did it.' We don't care that they don't mean what they say, just as long as they say it. Then we remind them of it every day that they're here!"

New arrivals at Delancey Street are given maintenance chores at the bottom of a long, intricate chain of command that includes every resident. A drug addict who wakes up in the lobby is given a broom to push and told, "Now you're no longer an addict. Why? Because we don't allow drugs in here. So the question for you is how you're going to live your life without drugs."

This "outside-in" approach is central to the Delancey Street process. "Image is important to them, so we start there," Silbert says. "They have to cut their hair, get into a suit and even change the way they walk. We ask them to act as if they were upstanding citizens or successful executives, even though they feel the opposite. Through external imitation, something gets internalized."

The same person also is told to be responsible for the next arrival, and so forth up the tightly structured chain of interaction, based on the premise that people will change simply by "doing" for somebody else.

"For my first eight months here," Robert Rocha remembers, "I didn't believe in anything that Mimi and the others were saying. I had such a hard attitude that nobody could tell me nothing. I'd say, 'Get away from me,' because there was no way that I could trust anybody with my feelings. Nobody had ever cared about me, so why should I care about anyone else?"

"Then one day I saw that one of the guys was going to leave, and I found myself shouting at him. I got hysterical, trying to get him to listen to me. Some people told me, 'Hey, Robert, stop. We've taken care of it. But you know what? You're starting to

care.' And when I realized that it was true—that I did care—I almost broke into tears."

Delancey Street's rules forbid alcohol or drugs and prohibit threatening—much less committing—violence. In two decades, there has never been a violent incident, and the few residents who have

continued

DELANCEY STREET/continued

made threats were thrown out. Eighty percent have kept their promise to stay at least two years. Graduates, with an average residency of four years, today include attorneys, business people, technocrats, construction workers and others who represent an extraordinary record of transformation.

Mimi Silbert came from an immigrant neighborhood of Boston, where her father ran the corner drugstore. "Delancey Street functions the way my own family did," she says. "I've duplicated here what worked for me in that neighborhood, where everybody looked out for everybody else as we struggled upward. It was like holding hands while climbing a mountain. Together we rise or together we fall. And that's what happens here every day."

Although her family moved to the Boston suburbs when she was in sixth grade, Mimi Silbert never forgot the supportive structure of that immigrant neighborhood and its values of hard work and self-reliance. A cheerleader who was voted "nicest girl" in the class of 1959 at Brookline High School, Silbert majored in English and psychology at the University of Massachusetts. After that came a doctorate in criminology from the University of California at Berkeley.

"I interned as a prison psychologist," she recalls, "and it was clear to me that this system of punishment doesn't work. The people who wind up there are given everything, all paid for by the taxpayers, and they are responsible for nothing. And then we wonder why, when they come out, they're no different."

Silbert was approached in 1971 by John Maher, a former felon who invited her to join him in creating a center for criminal rehabilitation and vocational training. It would be for ex-cons and run by ex-cons.

When they joined forces, Maher and Silbert agreed on a system of total self-sufficiency. All residents would work to support the group, with no outside funds. They would follow strict rules of behavior and be self-governing. Each resident would develop at least three marketable skills as well as earn a high school equivalency diploma.

Named for the section of New York City's Lower East Side where immigrants congregated at the turn of the century, Delancey Street started with four addicts in a San Francisco apartment. By late 1972, about 100 former felons were jammed into that single space. Yet, by helping each other, and by working and pooling their incomes, they were able to buy an old mansion—formerly



Delancey Street Foundation businesses, among them a moving company, net \$3 million a year and keep the program almost entirely self-sufficient. Here, Zane Sinnott (l) and Fleunoy Hampton are on the job.

'Delancey Street functions the way my own family did," Silbert says. "Everybody looked out for everybody else as we struggled upward. That's what happens here every day. Together we rise or fall."

housing the Soviet consulate—in fashionable Pacific Heights.

Silbert and Maher fell in love. "We shared a life and a dream," she says. For a decade, as their work continued to gain recognition, Maher helped Silbert raise

her twin sons from an early marriage. However, personal problems took up more and more of Maher's time, and he resigned from Delancey Street in 1984. Four years later, at age 48, he died of a heart attack.

Since then Mimi Silbert has emerged not only as the driving force behind Delancey Street's continued success but also as a leader. One testament to her drive and ability is the foundation's new Italian-style complex in San Francisco. Because it was constructed almost entirely by the residents, the spacious complex—assessed at \$30 million—cost only half that figure to build.

Called the Embarcadero Triangle, it contains 177 apartments, along with meeting rooms, a movie theater, a swimming pool and space for some businesses—such as printing, picture-framing and catering—run by residents. At street level is an upscale restaurant, also operated solely by Delancey Street people, and Silbert is now getting major businesses to set up discount retail stores, which residents will learn to run.

Meanwhile she has begun a new alliance with the California Department of Corrections, through which Delancey Street people are interviewing San Quentin prisoners before their release. The purpose is to give them alternatives

to going directly back out on the street, including the option of entering Delancey Street itself—before, instead of after, they hit rock bottom.

Aside from the new programs and businesses, daily life at Delancey Street continues at an intense pace. Activities include frequent "games" held for residents to develop their interpersonal skills. For those at the one-year mark, there are marathon sessions called "dis-sipations" to help them get rid of the tremendous guilt over what they did in the past. And a final area of education involves volunteer community or social work, with residents engaged in numerous projects, from helping the elderly to working with young people in poor neighborhoods.

"We're coming together to make things happen," Silbert says, "not just with good results but also with a good process. Because life itself is a process. If you fall apart, it doesn't have to end there. Hitting bottom can be the beginning. And I think, right now, that America itself has the same problem that brings people to Delancey Street."

"At one time, we all believed we were going up as a country, but now we've started to feel like losers. There's a sense of

being powerless, an attitude of fear and distrust. We're on the way down. Maybe we have to hit bottom before we can wake up the spirit of hope in America. But there's tremendous good in being able to get excited that rebuilding is possible. Once you know it's possible, you can take the risk of starting again. Then the best part of life is the struggle."

For further information, write to: Delancey Street Foundation, Dept. P, 600 Embarcadero St., San Francisco, Calif. 94107.

Know an Unsung Hero?

Mimi Silbert was among 1520 candidates nominated by the public for a 1991 America's Award. The awards, presented annually to six "ordinary" people who are extraordinary role models, carry a \$5000 prize from the Positive Thinking Foundation. Deadline for nominations for the 1992 award is April 30. Send nominations, preferably in the form of a newspaper or magazine article, to: America's Awards, Dept. P, 66 E. Main St., Pawling, N.Y. 12564.

If you nominate someone, you will receive a free booklet featuring stories about last year's winners.

Dear Susan Harris

MASTER PLAN

I noticed, in the Sentinel, there was a recent meeting RE Pogonip. My wife and I are avid users of the park for hiking. We would love to use it for bicycling also. We believe a trail to connect to the UC should be OK'd at a minimum. As a property owner, of taxable variety, we would like to see more trails and bicycles being allowed on all trail networks. From a bicycling standpoint Pogonip is not a destination space that would draw large number of bikes. Please do not exclude bicycle trail users and allow only hiking. It's a city park and should be aloud use. We also do not want homeless garden in area. Pogonip has an illegal camping situation already, this would increase that use. Thank-you

Tim Gilbert
821 Pie St 34

MASTER PLAN

March 31, 1998

Susan Harris
Parks and Recreation Department
City of Santa Cruz
323 Church Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Dear Ms. Harris ,

I am writing you about the upcoming decision on the trails plan for the Pogonip property. As a former resident of Santa Cruz County and frequent visitor, I am concerned about what appears to me to be the undue influence of a minority faction of the hiking community on barring multi-user trails.

I too am a hiker, backpacker and mountain cyclist. I frequently visit Santa Cruz to utilize the wonderful resources of it's parks both for hiking and cycling. The addition of Gray Whale and Pogonip has provided a wonderful opportunity for residents and tourists alike to enjoy the magic of Santa Cruz's outdoors. When Pogonip's multi-use trails are established, both residents and non-residents will enjoy the opportunity to ride bikes, hike, or ride horseback through and between a large variety of terrain and several wonderful parks. This is an opportunity that should not be scuttled by a few strong opinions that trails are for hikers only.

It has been my experience that the needs of all users can be fairly and appropriately addressed in multi-use trail environments. As a hiker, I strongly feel that in environmentally sensitive areas or in unstable soil situations that it is appropriate for trail use to be limited to hiking only. However, in large single track and fire road situations there is no problem for everyone to share the resource. I along with the many people I ride with take care to ride responsibly and follow the rules to limit conflict. I have worked over the years on many projects to give back to the resource and community with my own labor to protect what I enjoy. I currently live at the base of Mt. Diablo where multi-use trails and hiking only trails exist and I would say that that policy is working smoothly. There is a great deal of respect demonstrated among the various groups. It can work!

I support the MBOSC recommendations for multi-use trails following alternative A as submitted by the Pogonip Task Force in the Draft Master Plan. This option provides a reasonable compromise between users while providing as much access as possible for all of the community and to a many parks as possible. This recommendation is good for the citizens of Santa Cruz, it's good for visitors and it's good for the tourist-based economy of Santa Cruz County. I urge you to fight for this plans adoption.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



L. Kelly Mitter

449 SOUTH CLOVERCREST LANE
SAN RAMON, CA 94583

MASTER PLAN

APRIL 1, 1998

DEAR SUSAN,

WE ARE SO BLESSED BY THE BEAUTY IN THIS COUNTY.
PLEASE, LET US PRESERVE IT AND PROTECT IT. USE POONIP
FOR HIKING ONLY AND STEP LIGHTLY.

Gloria M. Ellis

Gloria M. Ellis
1998 Glen Canyon Road
Santa Cruz, CA 95060



Dr. Douglas Kellogg
Sinsheimer Labs
Department of Biology
University of California
Santa Cruz, CA 95064
phone: 408-459-5659
email: kellogg@darwin.ucsc.edu

March 26, 1998

Santa Cruz City Department of Parks and Recreation
323 Church Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

I am writing to strongly encourage you to protect Pogonip from further development, and to preserve it as an area free of bicycles. Pogonip is currently a unique and valuable park where people can enjoy a quiet walk away from the city. There are already many parks that are open to mountain bikers, and relatively few parks where one doesn't have to deal with large numbers of bikers on the weekends speeding by on narrow trails. Also, any further development of Pogonip would destroy its unique character. Let's keep Pogonip a unique park.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Douglas Kellogg'.

Dr. Douglas Kellogg
Professor of Biology

MASTER PLAN

March 31, 1998

RECEIVED

From: Mary and David Barter
259 Chico Ave.
Santa Cruz, CA.
95060

APR - 1 1998

COUNCIL AND
CITY MANAGER

Dear Council,

In the Pogonip use debate, two facts seem very important to consider:

One that Pogonip is a very small piece of property. You can get all over it on foot in a few hours. Limiting bike riders from it's use is a small deprivation. They already have use of much larger areas at Wilder and Nisene.

The other is that bike riders are not born with wheels attached to their butts and the horse is not an appendage of the rider. Therefore limiting use to walking humans is not discriminatory. It does not prohibit access just mode of access.

Wilder Ranch and Nisene Marks have many times the bike trails Pogonip could ever have, and dangerous situations have occurred there because of mixed use. I am a mountain biker and a hiker and must admit the two experiences are very different and do not mix on the same trails. The bikes do not always stay on their trails. And it is foolish to expect that those who seek the downhill rush and physical challenge of mountain biking, with perhaps too much faith in their own abilities, will obey rules, made for the safety of hikers while flying along, wind-in-their-teeth.

To expect that the safety of all can be maintained on this small piece of property is wishful thinking. It does not work.

The Pogonip Property, on any weekend it doesn't rain, is well populated with hikers as it is. It is almost crowded on weekends. To add bikes and horses to the scene would be disastrous.

Future
Council Agenda Item
Cm. Meeting Council 10/1/98

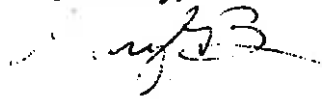
58

Just because people own bikes and horses is not a reason the city has to turn over every piece of dirt path to them. Leave tiny little Pogonip for the leisurely walk just at the edge of town. It is priceless just as it is. I for on, am willing to take my biking to Wilder or Nisene where there is access to longer, more varied and challenging trails.

No council member should allow himself or herself to vote on this issue without taking a walk this week at Pogonip. It is one of the most beautiful walks in the world, and cannot be truly appreciated at bike speed.

Please preserve this small island of serenity for humans unencumbered by recreational equipment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mary & David Barter', written in a cursive style.

Mary and David Barter

MASTER PLAN

James L. Schwartz
303 Moore Creek Rd.
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

April 2, 1998

Susan Harris
Parks and Recreation Dept.
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Dear Ms. Harris:

I am writing to comment on the plan for use of the Pogonip area.

I urge you to consider all the users of the recreational areas around Santa Cruz. Please allow this to be a multi-use area, open to all. It should be open to hikers, bicyclists, and equestrian users.

If all users treat one another with respect and consideration, there is no reason why any group should necessarily diminish the experience of another group.

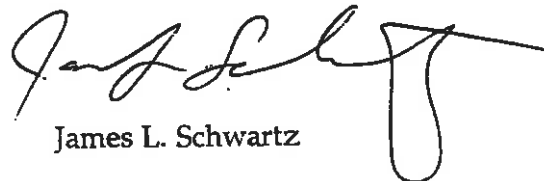
I am a bicyclist. But I also hike and run on the trails around Santa Cruz. When I encounter horses on my bike, I stop, as do all my cycling companions. We believe in giving the equestrians the space they need to continue safely. Then we move on. We don't mind doing this. It is only common courtesy. We also slow for walkers, just as I hope any bicyclist would do for me were I on foot.

I would hope bicyclists would be permitted on all trails, just as hikers and equestrians would be. The fewer restrictions the better. Let people use their good judgment in considering each other's needs.

Please allow this area to be opened as a multi-use area, and let us try to establish a tradition of sharing the land and respecting other users. Please let us try to make this work. There will be some who say it won't be possible, but we should give it a try, and see if we can't build an ethic of common courtesy here.

Thank you for your time in considering my ideas.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James L. Schwartz', with a stylized, elongated final stroke.

James L. Schwartz

MASTER PLAN

Kenneth T. and Nancy Carlisle
P. O. Box 1596
Aptos, CA 95001

April 2, 1998



THE CARLISLE GROUP
SECURITY MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS
P. O. Box 993 San Juan Bautista, CA 95045

Santa Cruz
Parks and Recreation Dept.
323 Church Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Attn: Susan Harris

Re: Pogonip

Dear Ms. Harris:

We are long-time residents and equestrians in Santa Cruz County. Over the years, we have enjoyed the many fine areas in which we have been able to horseback ride. Unfortunately, we find ourselves forced out of more and more of those areas, whether directly through development, ordinance, or practically through the increase of other types of usage.

We have always been staunch proponents of "share the trail." When on horseback approaching hikers we always courteously slow down and pass by safely. It is unfortunate that we have not been afforded the same courtesy by many of the "new" sharers of the trail, bikers. Many horses are shy of bicycles, and the rest are nervous when passed by screaming, streaming bikers who do not heed safe trail courtesies. A shy or uneasy horse makes for an uneasy rider and potential harm.

In addition, bikes have a very serious affect on the trail itself. The wheels pack down the surface of the trail, making ruts, uneven surfaces, and hard pack, all detrimental to hikers, horses, and the environment. In areas where the trails are narrow, it is difficult to find a spot to move off the trail to allow passage by bicycles. Hikers can almost always find a spot to move over and allow bikes, or horses to pass. It is more difficult for bikes or horses to pass each other on narrow trails.

We implore you to keep the trails open to all activities and all those who will safely and sanely "share the trail," and who do not have a detrimental effect on the environment. We do strongly suggest that guidelines be established for safe trail usage by all, and/or trails be set aside for certain activities which mix well.

As residents of Santa Cruz County, we appreciate the many fine outdoor activities available here. Please do not limit our ability to enjoy them. Keep Pogonip open to horses, and let's all find a way to exist together on the trail. We continue to demonstrate that we are ready, willing, and able to exhibit "share the trail" courtesies. We hope others will do the same.

Sincerely,


Nancy Carlisle

MASTER PLAN

250 Rocky Road
Soquel, CA 95073
April 2, 1998

COUNCIL AND
CITY MANAGER

Mayor Celia Scott
Santa Cruz City Council
809 Center Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Dear Mayor Scott and City Council Members:

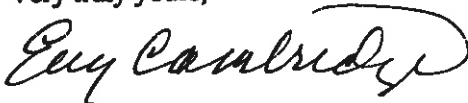
I support the Homeless Garden Project re-locating to the Pogonip property. The garden is a wonderful way of offering homeless people a chance to learn something that will help them in future employment. It also offers Santa Cruz residents a source of organic produce and flowers grown lovingly in an environmentally sensitive garden.

Personally, I think the garden is a wonderful community resource. My spouse and I have had garden workers come to our home to help with our property maintenance on a regular basis for several years. This not only benefits us but gives these workers a chance to make extra money besides what they earn at the garden. We also feel this is a way to bridge the gap between the homeless and the general population. The workers we have employed have been industrious, cheerful, and pleasant to be around. Finally, it makes us feel good to employ them.

I have visited the garden site on Pelton Ave. and found it to be well thought-out, tidy, and very productive. The neighbors that I spoke to were very happy to have the garden in their neighborhood.

It would be an asset to Santa Cruz to locate the Homeless Garden within the Pogonip property,

Very truly yours,



Evy Cambridge

Future
Council Agenda Item
41



April 3, 1998

MASTER PLAN

RECEIVED

Mayor Celia Scott
City Hall
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

APR - 3 1998

COUNCIL AND
CITY MANAGER

Dear Mayor:

I would like to retract an opinion I put forth at the April 1 Greenbelt Committee meeting. If my memory is correct the Parks Director suggested consideration be given to putting the Outdoor Education Center at Harvey West rather than Pogonip, and I ventured the opinion that it would be less fun for kids. I have reconsidered my opinion as maybe Harvey West would stimulate and hold the interest of kids because there is more "stuff" going on. Kids' "outdoor education" begins with the notion that it's fun to be outdoors and that there are lots of interesting plants and trees and birds and animals to see. The idea of the interrelatedness of a whole ecosystem comes later perhaps. (This reminds me that open meadows are part of a whole ecosystem as at Pogonip.) I am now wishing that I had heard the Parks Director's idea in more detail.

Sincerely,

Richard Schmale

cc: Jim Lang

65

4/3/98

Dear Susan,

Please allow Pogenip
open to horsebackriders -
at least on the fire road
connecting the Parks. As an
avid member of Sierra Club,
Semper Vivans, Nature Conservancy,
and Ecology Action and other
environmentally sensitive groups
I support the horse use of
the trails



Mr. Jeff Bernhardt
1801 Jarvis Rd
Santa Cruz, CA 95065

MASTER PLAN

Thank you
Jeff Bernhardt

MASTER PLAN

4-3-98

Parks and Recreation Dept.

S.C. CA

Attention: Susan Harris

Re Pogonip

I support the option of allowing
horse riders and hikers on the trails.

Bicyclists have already taken over
West Cliff Drive - a walk along that
path is dangerous now. Bicycles can
frighten horses, also.

And no garden project there.

Let's leave Pogonip alone.

Thank you,

Frances de Bois

125 Camino del Sol

Santa Cruz, CA 95065

REC'D APR 05 1998

Tom Killion & The Quail Press

Post Office Box 2876, Santa Cruz, CA 95063

408-462-5941

MASTER PLAN

March 31

Dear Susan -

I am writing regarding future use of the POGONIP park. I have been using the land for hiking & painting since I first moved to Santa Cruz in 1971. I worked hard in the campaign to "save the Pogonip" in 1978-79 and I have been enjoying it as a park since. Currently I run there about 3 times a week and take my 5-year old on nature walks there frequently. Here are my suggestions for future use (and some other issues).

- 1) Bicycles : (I ride a lot, and I am not against bikes at all, I commute on one & enjoy riding in wilder etc.) Limit Bike Use to 1 Road - that is the FIRE ROAD from UCSC (curve below Stevenson College) via Haunted Meadow to Huey. - this will enable commutes & loops. NO BIKES elsewhere (bikes have many places to ride - but we need peaceful rec. space close to town for hiking, dog walking, kids etc.) especially NO BIKES on the main Road from Spry St. to Haunted Meadow!

- 2) NO HOMELESS GARDEN. The "homeless" have colonized much of the road less Pogonip land already. Their trash & encampments litter all the canyons & forested areas, they defecate in the stream-drainages & some of them are mentally ill & incapable of taking care of things. We need to protect this PARK for all S.C. residents.

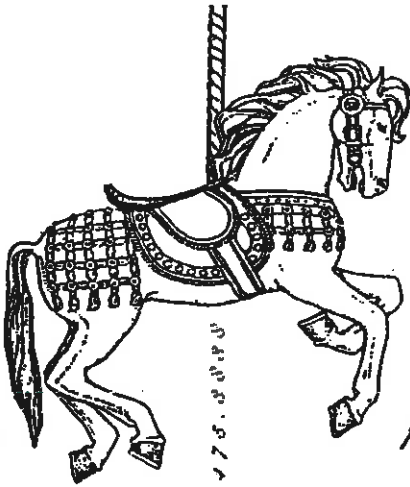
but they do frighten many female & elderly residents
& keep them from visiting more remote areas of
the park. A "garden project" will legitimize their occupation.

3) on the above point: I would like the
Parks & Rec. to sponsor me to organize
a general clean-up of remote Pogonip
sites. I know where all the trash is
(I'm not sure you Rangers even visit most
of the park - do they even get out of their cars
& hike off the main trails?) - it includes
lots of old furniture, piles of books, magazines,
clothing, cooky stuff & of course, bedding &
plastic sheeting. We could do a community
clean-up / "take back the park" thing.

4) Further point: Parks & Rec needs to
seriously think about removing the coyote
brush that is filling in the meadows. Native
~~Californians~~ ^(later) & Mexican-Spanish Ranchmen kept
these areas open for thousands of years
w/ controlled burns. Parks & Recs could
do this - or easier, sponsor some
community "meadow preservation" work
days. Again I'd be happy to help organize
this. Sierra Club & Native Plant Society.

see volunteers cut
trash & brush a point of rec
up truck w/ it.....

As I hope you can appreciate, I
care a lot about the Pogonip & I hope
we can all preserve it as the peaceful
greenbelt nature preserve it was intended
to be by the public which fought for & approved
its acquisition. Thank you Tim



Carol Pata Carousal Farm 153 Olive Springs Road Segment Ca 95073 +08.475.8888

MASTER PLAN

April 2, 1998

Susan Harris or
To Whom it may concern:

RE: POGONIP USE

I own bride horses, do mountain biking, and
love to hike.

I hope pogonip remains free of mountain bikes.
The bikers (yes metro!) take over a park & are not
a good mix for horses or hikers. Fast moving bikes
frighten horses. I can not feel safe on a horse where
bikes may pop around a corner or bend - The "fright flight"
response could throw me from my horse. I also have
been scared by bikers and nearly hit by them (too fast!)
I have hiker friends that have been hit. Hikers
avoid Wilder because of the "take over" by bikes, as with
other parks in Santa Cruz. Bikes have enough of our Parks -

I hope Pogonip remains peaceful with hikers
and horses only, or restricted only to hikers. The fast (bikers)
world out there I pray will not invade that lovely space -

Thank you
Carol Jensen Jatta

MASTER PLAN

April 3, 1998

City of Santa Cruz Parks and Recreation Department
323 Church Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060
Attention: Susan Harris

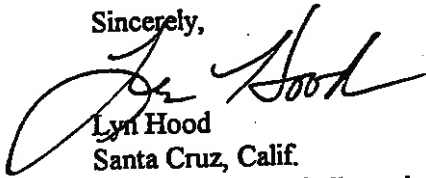
Dear Ms. Harris,

I am responding to the call for public comments on the Pogonip general use plan.

I am a strong proponent of shared access, where ever that access can be granted safely to multiple users. After speaking to both the equestrian and bicycle advocates, it seems that they have worked out a wonderful compromise that would allow them to travel through Pogonip, on a shared access trail/road, and travel all the way from Graham Hill Road to Wilder State Park. Many of the trails in Pogonip could be restricted to hikers, but it seems blatantly unfair to restrict the entire park for use by this group only.

Both the equestrian and bicycle advocates have dedicated time and effort to pursuing the use of this park on an equitable, safe and shared basis. I hope that the City council will recognize this effort and the needs of this constituent group.

Sincerely,



Lyn Hood
Santa Cruz, Calif.
(Staff at Cabrillo College since 1978)

MASTER PLAN

4-4-98

Parks & Recreation
c/o Susan Harris

Dear Susan:

Please give equal consideration to equestrians when determining use of multi-trails through Pajonip.

Access from Henry Cowell to Wilder and Grey Witches through Pajonip ^{area} is necessary and reasonable and democratic.

I am sure trail users can be shared by all in courtesy & consideration.

Thank you for your kind consideration.

Trail Rider

James K. Dunn
234 5th Ave.
Santa Cruz, CA
95062
(408) 475-5650

MASTER PLAN

REC'D APR 06 1998

Jana L. Baumann
311 Los Altos Drive, Aptos, CA 95003
(408) 689-9547

April 2, 1998

Susan Harris
Parks and Recreation
323 Church Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Re: Pogonip Park Plan

Dear Ms. Harris,

I am excited about the future possibilities of public recreational use of the Pogonip area. Please consider my opinions during this planning period:

Top Priority:

Ensure a public access link between the Pogonip and other recreation and public use areas. This includes UC Santa Cruz, Wilder Ranch, the Gray Whale area, and any other public recreation areas as appropriate.

Current thinking about mixed use of trails and projects to assist special groups may change. If links to other recreation areas are not permanently secured, the opportunity to do so could disappear in the future.

Trail Use:

I prefer mixed use trails.

In my experience, trail etiquette is quickly and easily learned, and common courtesy prevails 99% of the time. Simple signs and the availability of trash cans goes a long way in ensuring that walkers can clean up after their dogs, and that bicyclists yield to horses and walkers.

Thank you.


Jana Baumann

MASTER PLAN

REC'D APR 08 1998

April 4, 1998

Open Letter Re: the development of Pogonip

I write to oppose the development of Pogonip, specifically the use by the Homeless Garden Project. My experience as a neighbor to the project is that the homeless workers use the site after dark. They build fires, eat and sleep on the site or adjacent to it in their vehicles. The administration doesn't enforce their own rules and is adamant that they can't police the site after hours. Many homeless individuals have chosen to live outside the rules that restrict the rest of us rather than using services available to them. The Homeless Garden Project, rather than assisting them in a transition, simply facilitates and perpetuates this lifestyle. No one affiliated with the Project seems to be held accountable.

It is, of course, the law abiding taxpayer who pays for the emergency response vehicles required to put out the fires started at Pogonip by the homeless campers. It is we who can't walk ANYWHERE in this city without encountering these people sleeping in the bushes, defecating in the open, camping on the trails, littering the beaches, panhandling downtown. Who advocates for us?



Sheri Holms
220 Laguna Street
Santa Cruz, Ca 95060

future
Council Agenda Item
on March 11, 1998

40

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MASTER PLAN

'APR - 6 1998

COUNCIL AND
CITY MANAGER

Patricia Wilkes
1307 King Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060
(408) 423-3603

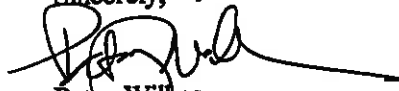
April 3, 1998

Dear Santa Cruz City Council,

I urge you to support the multi-use trail plan for Pogonip. I am experienced in riding on multi-use trails as a member of the Santa Cruz District State Parks Mounted Patrol in Wilder since before it opened to the public. Our patrol has seen the evolving education of multi-use trail users in our parks and I honestly believe that multi-use trails can and do work with proper education.

As a longtime Santa Cruz resident and longtime equestrian, I have experienced the closing of trails to horses throughout the county. Historically, horses have always been a part of that particular property (it was a polo ground for goodness sake!) and they have never caused environmental harm or created any public nuisance. Now is the time for the council to show some long-range planning in supporting a connecting trail through Pogonip for multiple-use.

Sincerely,



Patsy Wilkes

*Santa Cruz State Parks Volunteer Mounted
Assistance Unit*

Santa Cruz Co. Horseman's Assoc. Member

Future
Council Agenda Item
COUNCIL AGENDA
COUNCIL AGENDA



To Whom It May Concern:

MASTER PLAN

I am writing to address the proposed use for the Pogonip.

I have lived on Golf Club Drive since 1961, and raised my children here. I rode my horse on Pogonip even before the university was built and feel a deep affinity for the land.

I am glad that hikers are able to share the beauty of the area, and believe that equestrians should be allowed to ride on as many trails as feasible.

While I consider the Hornikes Gardens an extremely worthy project, it would be more appropriately located elsewhere.

The approach to the top of the hill past the lower meadow on the quiet road that leads to the old clubhouse gives one a special experience in tranquility. The view across the meadows is unmarred. This lower part of Pogonip is especially dear to those of us whose joints have become too rusty to venture very far into the hills above.

Once asphalt parking lots are established, the road widened, solid buildings constructed and outdoor lighting installed, the spell will be broken and the land defaced. When this is done, it cannot be undone. Not only will the major breeding ground for the white tailed kite be disturbed, but other animals will be displaced. The area is surrounded by woodlands. Deer have browsed here unprotected by people. To keep them from diving on the orchards and tramping the crops, high and unsightly fences will have to be built to keep them out of an area they have always inhabited even through the time of polo fields and golf courses. The land is inhabited by many other wild creatures whose presence would be incompatible with agriculture, so they will have to go.

I do not see even a nonprofit organic garden as fitting in with the conservation of the natural environment, nor is it a truly recreational use of the land. Once facilities are established, they are likely to expand. The proposed garden project constitutes the sacrifice of the precious lower meadows. Surely there is a better place for the project, one which would not require the decimation of a unique area enjoyed by many people who go there to feel its special place.

Future Council Agenda Item
Conservation Council

APR - 6 1998
COUNCIL AND

Jean Doherty
210 Golf Club Dr.
Santa Cruz CA 95060

9 60

From: George Simons <gsimons@euronet.nl>

Received: from mx2.boston.juno.com (mx2.boston.juno.com [207.205.100.51])
by mx2.boston.juno.com (8.8.6.Beta0/8.8.6.Beta0/2.0.kim) with ESMTP id CAAAA17143
for <puccinelli_cathy@juno.com>; Wed, 18 Mar 1998 02:01:29 -0500 (EST)

Received: from mail.euronet.nl (mail.euronet.nl [194.134.0.67])
by mx2.boston.juno.com (8.8.6.Beta0/8.8.6.Beta0/2.0.kim) with ESMTP id CAAAA19052
for <puccinelli_cathy@juno.com>; Wed, 18 Mar 1998 02:01:27 -0500 (EST)

Received: from dimension (i007.ede.euronet.nl [194.134.10.139])
by mail.euronet.nl (8.8.5/8.8.8) with SMTP id HAA14463;
Wed, 18 Mar 1998 07:57:59 +0100 (MET)

Return-path: <gsimons@euronet.nl>

To: citycncl@cruzio.com

Date: Wed, 18 Mar 1998 07:46:49 +0100

Subject: draft Master Plan for Pogonip

Message-ID: <3.0.1.32.19980318074649.006b9470@194.134.0.67>

X-Status: Read

X-Mailer: Windows Eudora Pro Version 3.0.1 (32)

MASTER PLAN

Dear City Council Members,

I am a Santa Cruz citizen (236 Plateau Avenue, 95060) who is temporarily working in The Netherlands. Having been informed of the draft Master Plan for Pogonip, I am compelled to write to you to express my horror at the ecological insensitivities and destructive features of this plan. It essentially violates the open space provisions surrounding the acquisition of the property by SC. I lived in the area of the Pogonip for many years and still find it a delightful place to visit precisely because it has preserved, as no other location in Santa Cruz has done, a pristine quality and unmarred vistas.

The location of a Homeless Garden Project and Campground in that place bespeaks what now seems to be the bankrupt nature of thought on this issue.

A city once proud of its social progressiveness would be willing to sacrifice one of its last great natural treasures and its wildlife in such an unthinking way must mean that either we have become bereft of imagination or once again allowed politics to override common sense. Santa

Cruz has done much for its homeless and yet much remains to be done. I firmly believe that the homeless would be much better served by investment in a more direct and less singular project.

Sincerely,
George F. Simons
Dr. George F. Simons
De Abdij 5
4012 EN Kerk Avezaath.
Nederland
Tel: +31-344-68-24-54
Fax: +31-344-68-24-43
Internet: gsimons@euronet.nl
<http://www.intl-partners.com>

future Council Agenda Item
City of Santa Cruz



236 Plateau Avenue
Santa Cruz, CA 95060 USA
Toll Free Voice Mail and fax 888-215-3117
Internet: gsimons@euronet.nl



62
Cathy M. Puccinelli
Realtor Associate
335 Golf Club Drive
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

4/2/98

Members of the City Council:

Please be strong and open
minded and support Measure A

in regards to Paganip Plannir

Please allow us to enjoy

the trails of Paganip too.

Stephen Shaw
155 Baltimore Dr
Aplos, CA 95003

RECEIVED

APR - 6 1998

COUNCIL AND
CITY MANAGER

Futrell
Council Agenda Item
City of Aplos, CA

MASTER PLAN

Thank you

Stephen Shaw
408-685-3476
Aplos, CA
AND Bugs

MASTER PLAN

April 2, 1998

Parks and Recreation Dept.
323 Church Street
Santa Cruz, 95060, Calif.

Dear Susan Harris:

I would like to respond to the proposal of bringing the homeless garden to the Pogonip property. My husband and I have property on Golf Club Drive, and I find it hard to believe that the property which we strongly supported acquiring as part of the greenbelt, has a proposal for a private organization to develop a commercial business. By vote, this land was committed to open space.

There seem to be two issues that need dealing with. One is the use of the Pogonip and the other, where to put the homeless garden. They do not need to occupy the same space. The Pogonip is a piece of public property that private development should not have access to. It will not withstand the impact of large greenhouses, crops, parking lots and all the heavy duty machines that farming demands. The Draft EIR has made off-sites recommendations for locating the homeless garden. My understanding from one of the homeless farmers, is that the soil is not good. Maybe, therefore, making french intensive gardening more attractive as a method? It is very a very costly technique.

There are other options. The purpose of the homeless garden is to offer work opportunity using the basic healing tools of earth and plants coupled with practical experience. This in turn creates better economic life and self esteem. But the Pogonip is not the only or best place where this can happen. French intensive gardening, in itself, is limited since it is uncommon technique that only University budgets can afford. On the other hand, there are farmers on the North coast that pay \$8-9 per hour, and offer a wider variety of experience. The jobs are already there to be filled. The Wilder Ranch is looking for organic farmers. Why not support organic farmers who support homeless gardeners? Why are we creating a group of elitist farmers whose job potential is limited. And why should we give public land to this private group.

The users of the new trail passing by would hinder the use of the areas to hide in. Then the garbage and debris they leave behind would be greatly reduced.

Many attempts were made to find the best location for a connector trail between Cowell Park and UCSC. As stated at the last council meeting, the trail route has been extensively studied. If approved, it would be built so as to minimize erosion and maintenance which reduces the environmental impact. State Park Rangers and UCSC, who own the adjacent property that the new trail would join, were in favor of the location. Since the EIR found no significant areas the trail goes near or through to keep the project from being implemented, the hope is to expediate the construction of this trail. This would help to control the misuse of illegal trails in the surrounding territory that has been quite damaging. For many years we have found that when available, a well designed trail is preferred to traveling cross-country. Let's provide that necessary connector trail. Enclosed is a letter written several years ago to explain why and how this trail would be built.

I would like to propose a name for this new trail - the Unicon Trail which is a combination of the words University, Rincon, and Connector.

MASTER PLAN

REC'D APR 07 1998

To Whom it May Concern,

Please, please, please keep at least one trail through Pogonip available to horsepeople. we cherish and appreciate all of the efforts reflected in the fine network of existing trails and we recognize Pogonip as a very essential link to our future trail availability.

My hope is that a mutually beneficial agreement could be implemented to best serve the interests of hikers, bikers and horsepeople. It seems counter-productive to eliminate any particular special interest group (although I would LOVE to see bikers prohibited!) - but perhaps an odd/even day system could alleviate most potential problems (ie - sailboats vs. motor boats). I also am strongly in favor of one way trails for bikers (like the single track trail in Wilder...)

I have lived and ridden
in Santa Cruz County for over
20 years and believe that horse
people in general are truly
conscientious and concerned about
the welfare of hikers, the
environment and the improvement
of mutual trail use and maintenance.
We will all be most grateful
for consideration in our behalf.

Sincerely,

Nikki J. J. J.
and The Brown-Bullies
408 464-2244

MASTER PLAN

April 3, 1998

REC'D APR 07 1998

City of Santa Cruz Parks and Recreation Department
323 Church Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060
Attention: Susan Harris

Dear Ms. Harris,

I am responding to the call for public comments on the Pogonip general use plan.

Both the equestrian and bicycle people have dedicated much time pursuing the use of this park on an equal and safe basis. It seems blatantly unfair to restrict the entire park for use by hikers only. There are trails in Pogonip that would be perfectly safe for all three groups to share. I realize that some of the trails would be best restricted to hikers only, but by far, not all. Pogonip is the only safe way to reach Wilder Park from Cowell park, and it would be a terrible waste not to tie the two together with a safe corridor. Shared access is the reasonable, fair and community minded thing to do!

I hope that the City council will recognize the needs of this constituent group.



Elisabet Hiatt
Felton, Ca.

MASTER PLAN

REC'D APR 07 1990

Dear Parks and Recreation,

I would like to share my ideas about what the city should do with the Pogonip. Like many people in Santa Cruz, I feel that the Pogonip is a very special place. I've spent many hours hiking and running on the fire road and trails. I've trained for seven marathons by running the Pogonip daily. I've loved the Pogonip for years, in every season, and at every time of the day and night. I spend a great deal of time in all of the parks in the Santa Cruz area and the Pogonip, though not the closest to my home, is my favorite.

During my many hours in the Pogonip I've had lots of opportunity to see and talk to the many hikers of all ages, dog-walkers, other runners, bird-watchers, rangers and all the other folk who delight in the solitude and peace of the Pogonip. I've also been delighted to see coyote, many hawks, owls, a variety of snakes, lizards, Banana Slugs and many other creatures. The wildflowers and variety of trees and plants are endless.

*What what I like to see happen with the Pogonip? Nothing new. Please let it remain the treasure it is. No bikes. No garden. No "improvements". This is the least costly, most environmentally sound plan and will make the Pogonip accessible to the most people.

Although I also love to ride my mountain bike, the Pogonip is not the right place to do this. Wilder Ranch, which is closer to my home than the Pogonip, is a place I rarely visit anymore because of the craziness of the speed and number of bikes. I don't feel comfortable running or hiking there. While many bikers are polite, there are a quite a few who are not only rude but dangerous to anyone trying to share the trail. In the last year I've been shouted at by, and almost been run over by, bikers illegally riding in the Pogonip, many of whom were cutting "new" paths through the wooded areas.

The Pogonip is too small an area for bikers to share with hikers, with trails and a fire road that are too sensitive to erosion and no one to monitor traffic. I wonder who would be responsible if someone were to be injured by a fast-moving bike? Would the city of Santa Cruz be responsible? As much as I love compromise, I don't think we can afford to let bikers into this area. Even if we designate areas for bikes, for example a connection between Hwy 9 and the university, I don't believe that bikers will restrict themselves to it.

Space like the Pogonip is very precious and rare. Once it is lost, it will be almost impossible to reclaim. It is a gift, let's treasure it.

Sincerely,
Bettianne Shoney Sien
265 Dufour Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060
429-5730

Bettianne Sien

In support: Silvia Garcia, Isis Sien

[Signature] *Isis Sien*

April 4, 1998

MASTER PLAN

Richard Schmale
414 Pennsylvania Ave.
Santa Cruz, CA 95062

Susan Harris
Parks Department
323 Church Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

REC'D APR 07 1998

SUBJECT: POGONIP MASTER PLAN PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING "HOMELESS GARDEN PROJECT"

Dear Ms. Harris:

I have been reviewing State (California) Proposition 70, the act which provided funding for the purchase of Pogonip Park, and I feel that the Pogonip Draft Master Plan does not conform to the intent of Proposition 70.

Chapter one (1) of Proposition 70 states in 5901 (a& b): "The people of California find and declare all the following: Parks, wildlife habitat, beaches, and open-space (sic) lands are vital to maintaing the quality of life in California. As the state's population increases, it is of growing importance to provide parks and recreational opportunities to the residents of California. Preservation of California's unique natural heritage is in the interest of all Californians"

Subsection designated "g" defines natural lands: " 'Natural lands' means an area of relatively undeveloped land which (1) has substantially retained its characteristics as provided by nature or has been substantially restored, or which can be feasibly restored, to a near-natural condition, and which has outstanding wildlife, scenic, open-space, or park resources, or a combination thereof..." I would submit that Pogonip's lower meadow amply meets scenic and near-natural criteria as above and should be preserved as is, without agricultural developement, according to the mandate of the voters of California as expressed in Proposition 70.

Subsection designated "i" defines Park: "Park means a tract of land with outstanding scenic, natural, open space, or recreational values, set apart to conserve natural, scenic, cultural, or ecological resources for present and future generations to be used by the public as a place for rest, recreation, education, exercise, inspiration, or enjoyment." I would submit that agricultural developement on the scale of 10-12 acres would degrade scenic open space and be against the intent of Proposition 70; construction of several sustantial buildings would also degrade scenic open space and that the net changes would have far more than incidental impact. Whereas existing agriculture is sometimes accommodated within parks or open space preserves, I do not believe the intent of Proposition 70 contemplated downgrading of scenic open space into a substantial agricultural operation with a number of substantial ancillary structures. The subsection designated as "i", as quoted above, states that a park is, direct quote, "to be used by the public". I feel that the agricultural operation known as the "Homeless Garden" would not be "used by the public" as would be, for example, a community garden wherein all City residents might apply for plots. As I understand it, the Homeless Garden is a privately run training facility which I feel should apply for grant of land under a schools bond rather than a "Wildlife, Coastal, and Parkland Conservation Act" like Broposition 70. I feel that granting the garden project, for example, a thirty year lease at one dollar per year, or roughly equivalent arrangement, would essentially amount to a gift of public land, something that I feel should require the direct approval of the voters. Whereas a small plot of land might have an incidental effect on Pogonip as a garden project, I feel that all the above considerations apply to a 10-12 acre project and large buildings.

Richard Schmale

appropriates \$414 million directly to the state and local agencies that will spend the money. Under previous bond measures, the Legislature had to approve specific spending proposals after the voters approved the bonds. Second, this measure identifies many specific projects and parks for funding. Under previous measures, state and local agencies and the Legislature generally chose where and how to spend the bond money within broad categories.

Fiscal Effect

Direct Costs of Paying Off the Bonds. For these types of bonds, the state typically would make principal and interest payments from the state's General Fund over a period of up to 20 years. Assuming all of the authorized bonds are sold at an interest rate of 7.5 percent, the cost would be about \$1.4 billion to pay off both the principal (\$776 million) and interest (about \$600 million). The average payment for principal and interest would be about \$65 million per year.

If, however, a smaller amount of bonds is issued because the voters approve other bond measures which have about the same amounts of money for some of the same purposes, the cost of this measure would be less.

Borrowing Costs for Other Bonds. By increasing the amount which the state borrows, this measure may cause the state and local governments to pay more interest under other bond programs. These costs cannot be estimated.

Impact on State Revenues. The people who buy these bonds are not required to pay state income tax on the interest they earn. Therefore, if California taxpayers buy these bonds instead of making other taxable investments, the state would collect less taxes. This loss of revenue cannot be estimated.

Operational Costs. The state and local governments which buy or improve property with bond funds would have to pay the additional costs to operate or manage those properties. These costs may be offset partly by revenues from those properties, such as entrance fees. These net additional costs cannot be estimated.

Calif. Proposition 70 Text of Proposed Law

This initiative measure is submitted to the people in accordance with the provisions of Article II, Section 8 of the Constitution.

This initiative measure adds sections to the Fish and Game Code and the Public Resources Code; therefore, new provisions proposed to be added are printed in *italic type* to indicate that they are new.

PROPOSED LAW

SECTION 1. *This act shall be known and may be cited as the California Wildlife, Coastal, and Park Land Conservation Act of 1988.*

SEC. 2. Division 5.8 (commencing with Section 5900) is added to the Public Resources Code, to read:

DIVISION 5.8. CALIFORNIA WILDLIFE, COASTAL, AND PARK LAND CONSERVATION ACT

CHAPTER 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

5900. *This division shall be known and may be cited as the California Wildlife, Coastal, and Park Land Conservation Act.*

5901. *The people of California find and declare all of the following:*

(a) *Parks, wildlife habitat, beaches, and open-space lands are vital to maintaining the quality of life in California. As the state's population increases, it is of growing importance to provide parks and recreational opportunities to the residents of California.*

(b) *Preservation of California's unique natural heritage is in the interest of all Californians.*

5902. *As used in this division, the following terms have the following meanings:*

(a) *"Conservation easement" means an interest in real property as defined in Section 815.1 of the Civil Code.*

(b) *"District" means any regional park or open-space district formed pursuant to Article 3 (commencing with Section 5300) of Chapter 3 of Division 5 and any recreation and park district formed pursuant to Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 5780) of Division 5. With respect to any community or unincorporated region which is not included within a regional park or open-space district or a recreation and park district and in which no city or county provides parks or recreational areas or facilities, "district" also means any other district which is authorized by statute to operate and manage parks or recreational areas or facilities, employs a full-time park and recreation director and offers year-round park and recreation services on lands and facilities owned by the district, and allocates a substantial portion of its annual operating budget to parks or recreation areas or facilities.*

(c) *"Fund" means the California Wildlife, Coastal, and Park Land Conservation Fund of 1988 created pursuant to Section 5906.*

(d) *"Historical resource" includes, but is not limited to, any building, structure, site areas, or place which is historically or archeologically significant, or is significant in the architectural, engineering, scientific, economic, agricultural, educational, social, political, military, or cultural annals of California.*

(e) *"Historical preservation project" means a project designed to preserve an historical resource which is either listed in the National Register of Historic Places or is registered as either a state historical landmark or point of historical interest pursuant to Section 5021.*

(f) *"Local coastal program" means any program created under Section 30108.6.*

(g) *"Natural lands" means an area of relatively undeveloped land which (1) has substantially retained its characteristics as provided by nature or has been substantially restored, or which can be feasibly restored, to a near-natural condition, and which has outstanding wildlife, scenic, open-space, or park resources, or a combination thereof, or (2) meets the definition of open-space land in Section 65360 of the Government Code.*

(h) *"Nonprofit organization" means any charitable organization described in Section 501(c)(3) of the federal Internal Revenue Code, which has among its primary purposes the conservation and preservation of wetlands or of lands predominantly in their natural, scenic, historical, agricultural, forested, or open-space condition.*

(i) *"Park" means a tract of land with outstanding scenic, natural, open-space, or recreational values, set apart to conserve natural, scenic, cultural, or ecological resources for present and future generations, and to be used by the public as a place for rest, recreation, education, exercise, inspiration, or enjoyment.*

(j) *"Riparian habitat" means lands that contain habitat which grows close to and which depends upon soil moisture from a nearby freshwater source.*

(k) *"Stewardship" means the development and implementation of major programs for the protection, rehabilitation, restoration, and enhancement of the basic natural systems and outstanding scenic features of the state park system. It does not mean the maintenance or alteration of facilities, developments, or any physical installations whose original purpose was not the protection of natural scenic resources.*

(l) *"Wetlands" means lands which may be covered periodically or permanently with shallow water and which include saltwater marshes, freshwater marshes, open or closed brackish water marshes, swamps, mudflats, fans, and vernal pools.*

5903. *For the purposes of the State General Obligation Bond Law, "state grant" or "state grant moneys" means moneys received by the state from the sale of bonds authorized by law for the purposes of this division which are available for grants to counties, cities, cities and counties, districts, and nonprofit organizations.*

CHAPTER 2. CALIFORNIA WILDLIFE, COASTAL, AND PARK LAND CONSERVATION PROGRAM

5905. *Wildlife, coastal, and park land conservation is in the public interest and is necessary to keep these lands in open-space, natural, and recreational uses, to provide clean air and water; to protect significant environmental and scenic values of wildlife and plant habitat, riparian and wetland areas, and other open-space lands, and to provide opportunities for the people of California to enjoy, appreciate, and visit natural environments and recreational areas.*

It is the intent of the People of California in enacting this division that it be carried out in the most expeditious manner possible, and that all state officials implement this division to the fullest extent of their authority.

5906. *The California Wildlife, Coastal, and Park Land Conservation Fund of 1988 is hereby created.*

Continued on page 56

IRIS SANDERS - 4300 SOQUEL DR., #92. MASTER PLAN

Voice (408) 476-1447 - E-mail iris sanders@juno.com

REC'D APR 07 1998

April 3, 1998

Santa Cruz Parks and Recreation Department
ATTN. Susan Harris
323 Church Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

POGONIP PARK TRAIL OPTIONS

I wish to support Trail-Use Alternative A, and to encourage Santa Cruz City Parks and Recreation Department to support this choice to the Santa Cruz City Council.

Our community is comprised of a variety of members who feel strongly about having access to Pogonip Park trails. I urgently request that this commission consider the fact that this park belongs to the community, and the community has a right to access. I would also like to suggest that the diversity of users; bicyclists, equestrians, and pedestrians be encouraged to build community and responsibility together, rather than divisiveness and blame of other groups.

It appears that Trail Alternative A, which includes the three types of users is a viable option. The bicycle groups have already proven their willingness to build and repair trails, as have the equestrians. Both groups have committed and very experienced individuals who have year after year given freely of time, energy, and equipment. This help in trail building and maintenance will not go away. These efforts have made a considerable difference in the State Parks for all users, not just the bicyclists and equestrians.

I personally, am unable to walk the Pogonip Park trails, or any of the State Park trails because I have bad knees. The only way that I can enjoy our beautiful natural habitats is by horseback. I use my horse for State Park Horse Patrol, and I have committed to her mannerly behavior when approaching pedestrians, bicyclists, or other equestrians.

My experience is using the multi-use trails in Wilder Ranch and Henry Cowell State Park has been that I have gotten to know a variety of trail users because invariably we stop to pass the time of day. Which by the way, rarely happens on our downtown streets. People would not dream of stopping to talk to strangers these days. I have met very few rude people out on our trails. To stop and be friendly is a community building exercise. An exercise that our world needs badly at this time.

I respectfully encourage your support of Alternative A to the Santa Cruz City Council.

Sincerely,


Iris Sanders

SC Park - Rec. Dept.
Attn: Susan Harris

MASTER PLAN

RE: Pogonip

- good to hear folk being sensible of land use. It will provide our children with vital survival information. Much potential is hidden in the peace & quiet, grand view and struggling wildlife treasure.

Cautious initial planning

consists of what NOT to do.

Moving slowly allows the land to educate us.

Do I have a plan?

yes, I have a plan!



1) Prepare the Club House and parking for small, scheduled, docent (guided tours). 2) Prepare trails and trail heads with covered log seating. Include a locked boxes for resource info, equipment is: binoculars & microscope.



3) Prepare staff, check invasive plants, and curb careless horse, bike & pedestrian traffic.

For more detailed suggestions akin to the above feel free to call me, 423-9451

Sincerely,

Wynn Tunison Ojawa

POGONIP

MASTER PLAN

Subject: POGONIP

Date: Tue, 07 Apr 1998 13:01:43 -0700

From: Ron Hirsch <rhirsch@cruzio.com>

Reply-To: rhirsch@hirschandassociates.com

Organization: Hirsch and Associates

To: scpr@cruzio.com

Hi: My name is Debra Means. I work at Henry Cowell State Park. I think it is really important for Pogonip to be open to hikers, bikers, & horseback riders, especially since it is a major thoroughfare from Henry Cowell to Wilder.

Please add these words to your consideration:

We must all must learn to co-habitate with each other, whether we mountain bike, horseback ride or hike. It's only fair. As a state park employee, I know all users have to respect what other people do in their spare time. I'm mostly a horseback rider. But I understand that mountain bikers and horseback riders can damage trails. We have to help and support our parks by participating in Trail Days or whatever necessary.

Thank You. Please feel free to call me if you need help in any way.
459-7620.

Debra Means
Senior Park Aid, Henry Cowell State Park
Horse Patrol Member, Ano Nuevo, Henry Cowell, Wilder
Santa Cruz County Horseman's Association Member

MASTER PLAN

To whom it concerns,

Please know the email
for the city council has not
been working or forwarding letters
written from concerned citizens
regarding the fogging Master Plan.

The city clerk has been notified,
and assures me they will try
to rectify the problem. Several
letters 'were lost' that were directed
to Council before the March 31
meeting.

Sincerely, Cathy



CATHY M. PUCCINELLI, REALTOR®

VANGUARD REALTORS • 541-A CAPITOLA RD. EXTENSION • SANTA CRUZ, CA 95062
PHONES (408) 462-3110 • FAX (408) 462-9583

MASTER PLAN

As an environmentalist, it's a travesty to even consider such a horrendous project. It would be heart breaking to see such a beautiful area, turn into something like the shelter on the corner of highway 1 & River Street. Where do the animals that currently reside in the Pogonip habitats go to live after this proposed project takes place? Is there a relocation plan for them too?

As a tax payer, it's a serious misuse of our tax dollars. I'd rather see my tax dollars go towards programs that get kids off herione, pan handlers get jobs, & in general clean up our city's streets. I want to see us help our own homeless become productive people in our community. Take this city money that has been proposed to build this infrastucture & repair our current community by adding programs that will help our kids stay out of gangs & prevent drug use.

I want to see Pogonip stay preserved, which was the intent at the time of it's purchase. I want to see the Firecracker run that happens there ever year. I want to see the occasionally hawk & blue heron. I want to take my kids for nature walks up that hillside as I did as a child. I want to know that mountain lions exist in those woods.

I don't want to see another homeless campground & garden go there.

Thank you,

Heather Skomsvold
City Resident

-----05BE02F9D20E08B0E50FDE6B-----

MASTER PLAN

April 7, 1998

REC'D APR 07 1998

Susan Harris
c/o Parks and Recreation Department
323 Church Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Dear Susan Harris,

POGONIP EIR PROPOSAL: SUPPORT FOR ALTERNATIVE "A"

Please include this letter in your package to the SC City Council to show my support for Alternative A in the Pogonip EIR proposal. As I understand, this would allow the opening of certain fire roads for multi-use by equestrians, hikers and mountain bikers. I participated in the community-input meetings on this matter last year where a majority in attendance supported this proposal. We also were able to list many suggestions for resolutions for any problems which might arise from user conflicts. It is time that the city council respects the wishes of the majority and open Pogonip to multi-use.

Sincerely,



Geoffrey J. Smith

173 PRYCE STREET
SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060

Susan Harris
Parks & Rec Dept
323 Church St
Santa Cruz 95060

MASTER PLAN
1415 El Dorado Ave
Santa Cruz 95062

To All Concerned:

REC'D APR 07 1998

I am writing to express my concerns about the possible development of the Pogonip. I believe the Pogonip should be preserved in its present state; a rare piece of land whose wildness and wildlife has survived adjacent to a busy crowded city.

I support the Homeless Garden Project. However, the Pogonip is a completely inappropriate place for agricultural development. The meadowlands proposed for the garden are habitat for a plethora of plants and animals. Without meadows to hunt in, how will the Black-shouldered Kite survive?

I support the city's Natural History Museum. Yet to destroy any remaining open space within the county to house a museum to educate the public about natural history is thoughtless and ironical.

I support less impactful human use of the Pogonip. We can mitigate our effects by restricting horseback and bike riders to the fireroads while maintaining trails for pedestrians only.

I have led children's nature education trips to the Pogonip. The kids and I have been consistently amazed by the wildlife we've seen: Red-tailed Hawks in aerial battle, shadowy deer grazing at

MASTER PLAN

COUNCIL AND
CITY MANAGER

Nadja Stanchfield
329 Rigg St.
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

April 8, 1998

Dear City Council:

Regarding Pogonip, please vote for Alternative C

We need every nook and cranny to stay just as it is.

Please note that my voice also represents the others in my family of 6 and my extended family which numbers 23.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nadja Stanchfield", written over a horizontal line.

Nadja Stanchfield

MASTER PLAN

Sandia Belgrade
426 Cleveland Ave
Santa Cruz, CA 950600

COUNCIL AND
CITY MANAGER

April 8, 1998

Dear City Council:

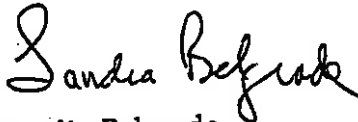
On the Pogonip issue, I urge you to vote for **Alternative C**

This is the decision that will never come back to haunt you. A voice in favor of land which has no other voice is priceless.

Since the times in England before fences, when land was open and common, humans have been continually eroding and selling out the commons--but open land shared in common is how we maintain our connection to ourselves and land, a true symbiosis. It is what sustains us; do not sell us out for a price well below rubies.

I hope that you will take into account my reasons.

Sincerely,



Sandia Belgrade
(408) 427-9729

issue of macro-climatic weather change now increasingly visible and gaining currency with insurance companies and a growing segment of the public.

Best,

A handwritten signature, likely "Ron", consisting of a stylized, looped initial followed by a horizontal line.

Ron

MASTER PLAN

April 7, 1998
Susan Harris
Parks and Recreation Department
City of Santa Cruz
323 Church Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Dear Ms. Harris;

I support Alternative A, keeping 5+ miles of trails for hikers only, and allowing 3.5 miles for multi-use. As a tax payer that helped foot the bill for this park, I would like to see multi-use access in a portion of the park, as well as between Henry Cowell Park in Felton and the other State Parks and the UCSC. I also travel by bicycle to the University and the Santa Cruz West side, and going down highway 9 is an extremely dangerous alternative.

As a member of the Ventana Chapter of the Sierra Club, I want to go on record as saying the Chapter never solicited input from its members regarding the use of Pogonip, and I do not believe the so called leadership's stance on this issue represents the Chapter members, nor does it align with other Chapter's members views or Sierra Club national policy on multi-use.

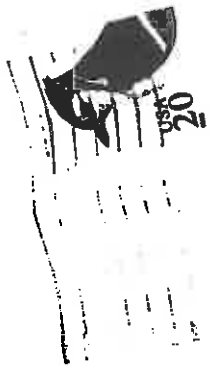
Lastly, as runner for years in the Pogonip, I believe the 5+ miles of hiker trails should be maintained as pedestrian only. However, limiting this park entirely to hikers would be an injustice to all of us who also like to ride horses and bike in nice areas. I can't stress enough the importance of linking multi-use trails. Please implement Alternative A.

Very truly yours,



Jim De Alba
255 Rancho Rio Avenue
Ben Lomond, CA 95005

MASTER PLAN



REC'D APR 19 1998
THIS SIDE IS ADDRESS

Susan Harris
c/o Parks & Recreation Dept.
Church St.
323
Santa Cruz, CA 9506C

KAT MEADS • 144 WALT STREET • SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060

Please, please, please; open
Pogonip to Multi-Use. I
used to run but permanently
injured my foot. Now I ride a ⁽¹¹⁰⁾
bike. Please let me return to
Pogonip on my bike. Phil Rosenthal
144 Walt St.
Santa Cruz

MASTER PLAN

Jeff Alford
1725 Escalona Drive
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

April 6, 1998

City of Santa Cruz
Parks and Recreation Dept.
323 Church Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

ATTN: Susan Harris

RE: Pogonip

Dear Ms. Harris:

I am writing to express my opposition to any plan for Pogonip that would allow bicycle use on the trails. The trails are not appropriate for bicycling. I enjoy bicycling elsewhere, but the trails in Pogonip should be left for calmer use. Bicycling there is too hazardous to hikers, and apart from the hazards, bicycling on the trails takes away too much from the tranquility of the place. When hiking there, one should not have to be constantly on guard and watching out for bikes zooming out from around a bend in the trail or speeding down a straight stretch. Please keep bikes out of Pogonip.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,



Jeff Alford

MASTER PLAN

WILLIAM J. CODIGA
525 High Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060
(408) 426-3322
fax (408) 426-6317

April 7, 1998

Parks and Recreation Dept.
323 Church St.
Santa Cruz, CA 95060
Attn: Susan Harris

Re: POGONIP MASTER PLAN

Ladies and Gentlemen:

It may come as a surprise, but a long, long time ago before the University came here, eastern access was promised to the people of Santa Cruz. We all love the University and everything, but we also know that the traffic burden on the surface street infrastructure in the City of Santa Cruz is, in fact, intolerable and is getting worse day by day.

What's even more intolerable is that the political bodies of this City do not seem to want to acknowledge even that there is a problem. It's almost like an alcoholic in denial. Traffic infrastructure is the *main* problem in Santa Cruz today in terms of public safety and overall well-being and enjoyment of the populace.

This City Council and other organizations have done a marvelous job on developing the commercial aspects of the Mall, and we applaud you for that. However, traffic is an issue that must be faced and, before you make a final decision on Pogonip you should decide upon a plan for eastern access. It *must* happen and you should not write off Pogonip as an option because from what I've seen and studied, it may play an important part in solving the eastern access issue.

Land is irreplaceable and that's why Pogonip's land is so crucial. Force yourselves to make the decision, folks. There is no reason why there can't be some access and still a lot of ambience and recreation at Pogonip. In reality it's a win-win situation.

I would appreciate a written response to this letter from the Planning Director.

Sincerely,


William J. Codiga



MASTER PLAN

Santa Cruz County Horsemen's Association
P.O. Box 1014 • Santa Cruz, CA 95061

Susan Harris
Parks & Recreation Dept.
City of Santa Cruz
323 Church St.
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

4-4-98

This letter is to inform you of our support of Pogonip Trails plan alternative A. Our membership, which currently consists of 600+ equestrians, is an active component of our area's trails system. We provide support financially, politically and technically in the care and maintenance of trails.

Our assistance has enabled area parks to enjoy trails at a higher level. We would like to be a helper and not a hinderer in the development of the multi-use trail system in Pogonip Park.

Sincerely,
Liz Martoya, President

MASTER PLAN

Parks and Recreation Dept
323 Church Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Attention Susan Harris:

I am a long term resident of Santa Cruz County. For the past twenty five years my friends, family and I have enjoyed the natural beauty of our county, shared it with folks from out of town and been proud to participate in advocating for protection of her natural areas. I don't believe in protecting all of our natural areas from human interaction. I know that is necessary for some sensitive areas, but not for all. I like to think that by offering access to natural areas and balancing our human need to communicate with the earth in this way, that we can heal and dissolve the excess and stresses in our lives.

Trail access to Pogonip is one of these opportunities. An expanded multi-use trail system in our county is part of our obligation as a community. It is what we can offer our community to learn to respect, value and protect our natural habitat. Healthy folks have recreational pursuits. We hike, ride bikes and horses. It has been a dream of mine to ride my horse all over this county. It keeps me healthy, productive and a good citizen. Multi-use trails work. We've seen it at Wilder and several other State Parks. Behavioral expectations posted, courtesy the rule and all users using bikes yielding to everyone else makes for good trail use.

Please consider a multi-use trail system at Pogonip. If you start out for hikers only, changing to add more uses will be a struggle. Start out multi-use and if necessary, limit use later if issues come up. Horses are not a problem, there aren't many of us and we are a respectful and thoughtful group. We also have lost many casual use trails in our neighborhoods all over the county as liability has become a concern for landowners. As a member of the Horseman's Association, my family and I have developed a respect for the natural habitat, listened to rangers and hikers talk about use of trails and would like to participate in creating a county-wide trail system by year 2000. Thank you. Vote multi-use and limit later (if it should become necessary).

Nancy and Glen Brown


458 Thayer Rd
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

MASTER PLAN

Stephen Williams
Aia Vladimirskaia
711 Spring Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060
408-420-1130

7 April 1998

TO: Susan Harris

RE: Draft Master Plan for the Pogonip

Dear Ms. Harris,

After reading the draft Master Plan proposal, we have some issues regarding things that we couldn't find in the plan or we simply didn't understand:

1. **How can young children, retired walkers, handicapped, bicycles, and horses all share the same trails?** The fire roads are the main access trails to all the Pogonip areas, and in some areas are the only access (as at Spring Street). It will not be possible for people walking to find alternative routes to avoid the bicycles or horses. Note that many of these users are not hikers, they are simply out for a stroll in the Pogonip. Your plan did not assess the risk of accidents when you combine inattentive walkers, speeding bicycles and shy horses. The proposal suggests that posting speed limit signs and offering counseling to bikers will help reduce the risk of accident, but also points out that there will be problems during the adjustment period (presumably this means until pedestrians stop using the bike trails). Those problems should be examined in more detail; if it helps prevent even one mishap to a child or elderly person it will be worth the study. Pedestrian users will remain the largest group of users of the Pogonip, and their risks to their safety and user experience should be quantified in the plan.
2. **What will it cost to develop the fire roads into full trails?** The plan does not provide detailed estimates of these costs. These are older fire roads that are not as wide or well-graded or clear as most fire roads, and in some areas the paths are being eroded. To make them into multi-use trails they will need to be widened and the erosion areas shored up. But widening may not be easy and shoring up may impact some of the natural drainage. This may be expensive work. And the mitigation of the environmental impact of "improving" these fire roads may also add to the cost. Opening these trails to multi-use without the improvements may cause environmental damage and other problems. Good cost assessment will be important in making the final decision about the plan.
3. **Does the estimated usage justify the expense?** How many bikers, equestrians, pedestrians, handicapped and hikers will be using the "new" Pogonip? Widening and shoring up the fire roads to accommodate multiple user groups would be costly; how many people would benefit? The plan provides no estimates of usage by these different groups. Some parts of the Pogonip will be more attractive to bikes and horses; from the town meeting it appeared the main interest is in crossing the northern part of the Pogonip. There appears to be little to attract bikes to the rest of the Pogonip (except to get to the parking). It would be useful to estimate how many bikers/equestrians would use only the connector, and how many would use the full Pogonip fire trail network (keeping in mind

1/2

MASTER PLAN

Christopher Krohn
526 Barson Street
Santa Cruz, Ca. 95060

Parks and Recreation Commission
323 Church St.
Santa Cruz, Ca. 95060
(attention Susan Harris)

Re: Comments concerning draft EIR report on Pogonip master plan

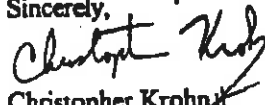
Dear Commission and City Council:

It is vitally important to this community that the Pogonip be a place only for hiking and casual walking. Bicycles currently have a place, Wilder Ranch. Please do not open up the Pogonip to bicyclists. Yes, I ride a bicycle and I am by no means anti-bicycle. Santa Cruz needs a place like Pogonip which is bike-free.

In addition, a new site for the Homeless Garden Project should be found deeper within the city of Santa Cruz, not in the more rural Pogonip. What I mean is that the Homeless Garden Project is also an urban agriculture project, therefore the garden ought to be situated within urban Santa Cruz. What about incorporating it into the current Washington Street woman's flower garden area? Use the old depot land along with the old feed store property and add a portion of other Union Pacific property which joins all of the above lands. This Project would then truly be an urban agriculture site. Another potential site is the Maynard Manson property at the corner of Laurel and Chestnut streets where the old Logo's Earthquake Emporium bookstore was situated. I am a long-time supporter and 4-year CSA-paying (Community Supported Agriculture) member of the Homeless Garden Project.

Restoring the old Pogonip Clubhouse is probably the most prudent course of action. Every measure should be taken to minimize the toll such a restoration might have on the natural environment though. The clubhouse should be open for Santa Cruzans to use as a meeting place, but the road should remain closed to vehicular traffic and any people attending clubhouse meetings should be willing to walk in to the clubhouse.

Sincerely,


Christopher Krohn

April 7, 1998

MASTER PLAN

To: Santa Cruz City Council

APR - 8 1998

COUNCIL AND
CITY MANAGER

To whom it may concern;

I am writing to comment on the city's Master Plan for the future of the Pogonip. I live and farm on Golf Club drive which serves as the southern entrance to the Pogonip - I walk in the Pogonip everyday - year-round. Needless to say, I am very well acquainted with the park + how it is currently used.

First, let me express to you how proud I am as a citizen of Santa Cruz, a busy + rapidly growing urban community, to have this unique open space so close to our town. This is what makes Santa Cruz a unique + wonderful place. What is unique about the Pogonip is that it is Open - you walk through the gate and enter a world - (a sanctuary if you will) - with no cars - and very few people. This openness must be preserved.

I firmly feel that you must keep development of the park limited to the development which already exists. Do not spend greenbelt money from the General Fund to build

John - Council Member's Name

a Campground and a nature center. No new buildings. If you want a nature center for environmental education (which is a fine idea), put it in the refurbished Clubhouse. There is no need for an overnight campground in this park. I can understand fixing up the clubhouse - its a great building which could be an excellent community resource. A parking lot where the tennis courts are now would be necessary - but, I would like to see it only be used when there was an event or for special access (i.e. wheelchair ect). Other than those instances the gate should be kept closed and cars should be kept out. If you still need another parking lot I suggest you consider buying the lot at the bottom of the park - just below the gate - which people are currently using to park their cars in - and make it the official parking lot.

As an Organic farmer and a citizen of Santa Cruz I have a lot of sympathy for the Homeless garden project - as a project.

The Pogonip is not the place for the Homeless Garden Project. The lower meadow is not good agricultural land, it is a watershed - a wildlife habitat and an open space. I have seen this meadow almost every day this winter, and the amount of water moving out of it and through it is huge. If you put the garden there - even with sustainable farming practices - you will see serious erosion.

No doubt, the Homeless Garden Project needs a home, but there are other solutions. Do not make hasty decisions in an attempt to deal with their current situation. Here are some other possible solutions. Wilder ranch is transitioning all of its farmland over to organic. This is agricultural land on the edge of this city which needs organic farmers. The Homeless Garden Project is already located on the west side of town, Wilder ranch is an accessible location for this project. This is an option which would be better for the people of Santa Cruz.

Lastly, I would like to comment on the financing of this "development" of the Pogonip. According to the Master Plan, you have three funding resources - private donations, Grants, and the General Fund. The only money which the city actually has in its hand is the General Fund. This is the only money we collectively have to purchase and maintain Greenbelt. This money needs to be spent keeping Open Space Open. Do not use this money to build parking lots in the lower meadows - or to finance the Homeless Garden Project. Please use this money to buy the Bombey Property - and keep buying Greenbelt. We must be vigilant in our work to keep some land undeveloped. Keep open space open - and keep development in the Pogonip limited to where it already exists.

Thank you, Alison Edwards
Alison Edwards
337 Golf Club Dr.
Santa Cruz, CA. 95061
454-9067

MASTER PLAN

Dear City Council members,

COUNCIL AND
CITY MANAGER

I have lived in Santa Cruz for 26 years, I was born at Dominican Hospital, I went to local public schools, attended Cabrillo college, and graduated from UCSC. During my years at UCSC I interned at the Homeless Garden Project. The HGP is an ^{important} ~~essential~~ part of Santa Cruz. Apart from the services it provides for the homeless community in Santa Cruz, it serves as a model for ecological horticulture and agriculture. They need land. Pelton was ideal. You Blew it by selling it! Now you have to find them land. The Pogonip is wrong for the project. Please leave Pogonip Alone. The future of organic farming is in the conversion of commercial fields into organic, not in plowing up and developing quiet places. The HGP needs to transform ~~the~~ abused land into a magical healful place, not invade the most unpopulated open space in Santa Cruz.

No Bikes, No Parking Lots, No Garden

Please Leave Pogonip as it is

Thank You

Joe Schirmer
206 Cypress Ave
Santa Cruz, CA
95062

6260273

17.7

MASTER PLAN

COUNCIL AND
CITY MANAGER

Dearest City Council —

As I stated at the hearing last week —
Keep Development where it All ready exists —
please don't make the same mistake as
Delton again —

I work on Golf Club Drive — I am
positive to the core of my soul — that
Watserville team, plus a ground H₂O table
that sits 2 inches below the grass surface
isn't the plan for the Homeless garden —
or a campground — would you guys please
take a step back and reconsider the
value of open space, - bird habitat — etc...
on the urban fringe —

I was the garden director for the HTP — it is
a fabulous entity to our city — really! I know
you all support and want to preserve this institution.
Yet — there is better soil, Aq land at Wilbur
for example — that could be used yet, The garden
should be within a community — a neighborhood.
Asele from this — Homeless people are isolated
enough — could you consider purchasing B.
Swensons property on Schaefer Rd before
developing the property!

Also, I would like to see the Outdoor Education

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facility located in the club house, along with
the natural history center and outdoor ed
facility — In light of trails — walking
trails would be most proper — ~~not for a horse~~
~~not for a horse~~ yet horses would
be suitable, Bikers not keep in at Wilch e

Well — remember you have to look
at your faces each morning —
do what is right — no band
aid solutions, please!

Thank you — a very concerned
citizen — Jennifer

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COUNCIL AND
CITY MANAGER

April 8, 1998

Regarding the Pogonip

from: Kate Stafford, Dragonfly Studios
1520 Seismic Dr. Folsom, CA. 95018
(408) 335-3256

Dear Ms. Harris & the City Council -

As a person who has supported the Homeless Garden Project since it began in May of 1990 & continues to deeply believe in its mission, I find myself truly torn these days. I also have loved the Pogonip for almost 30 years, and have been heartened to watch its magical lands begin to recover some of their biodiversity - and become even more beautiful for all creatures great & small, including humans.

After long deliberation & soul-searching, I have come to the conclusion that the Pogonip is best served if its wildness can be encouraged, above all. After years of many human uses that perhaps were not appropriate, the Pogonip has begun to be more ecologically healthy and a wondrous home for many wild creatures. Humans coming on foot, with their ^(one) main goal being one of appreciation & restoration of the body, mind, & spirit, seems to be the wisest relationship with this precious place.

I would expect the City Council to find another home for the Homeless Garden

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seen with my own eyes how this
incredible project has positively
affected the lives of so many people.
Personally, I feel the project should
be on land in the midst of the community
& not isolated at its edge. The entire
community (homeless & homefull) benefit
from the sharing of many kinds of
people coming naturally together in a
garden. Let us use our creativity, imagi-
nation, & deepest wisdom to find an
appropriate, permanent home site for
this extraordinary project. Let me know
how I can be of help!

Yours
Truly,

Leta K. Stafford,
Filton.

Regarding the Pagonip
please - just pedestrians
no new roads or parking lots
emphasis on encouraging biodiversity, ^{native} plants
freedom from mechanical noises
& embrace of as much wildness as possible.

MASTER PLAN

GABRIELLE STOCKER

118 LAS ONDAS COURT
SANTA CRUZ, CA
95060

April 8, 1998

Members of the Santa Cruz City Council
809 Center Street
Santa Cruz CA 95060

RECEIVED

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COUNCIL AND
CITY MANAGER

Dear Members of the City Council,

As a frequent hiker in Pogonip and a long-time supporter of the Homeless Garden Project, I wish to address two aspects of the Pogonip Master Plan, namely the trail use alternatives and the Pogonip Garden.

1. Trail Use

It's been wonderful to hike in Pogonip without dodging bicycles or stepping off the trail for equestrians. I am very concerned that if bicycles or horses are allowed **anywhere, even in limited areas of the park**, there will be a significant number of individuals who will ignore restrictive signs and use **any and/or all of the trails**, thus endangering hikers and degrading trails.

Nevertheless, I can understand the desire of bicyclists and equestrians to have a route for riding continuously from Wilder Ranch through UCSC to Henry Cowell State Park. I therefore **urge you to approve Trail Use Alternative B, on a trial basis for a designated period of time**, with trail patrols by rangers supplemented by volunteers from the biking, hiking, and equestrian communities. **If there are infractions of the conditions of Alternative B, then I urge you to apply Alternative C, trail use for pedestrians only, as is now the case.**

2. Pogonip Garden

I urge you to provide a permanent garden site for the Homeless Garden Project at Pogonip as proposed in the Pogonip Master Plan. **This successful and innovative program is something that our city can truly be proud of.** As a supporter of the Project and a member of its CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) for several years, I regret that the city sold the property on Pelton Street which these dedicated gardeners have nurtured for a number of years. With a new location at Pogonip, the Homeless Garden Project will not only be able to **continue its highly successful training of homeless persons and its production of healthy, local organic produce for local residents**; it will also **provide expanded educational opportunities for school groups and other users of the proposed Outdoor Education Camp.**

Thank you in advance for your support of my recommendations.

Gabrielle Stocker

future

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