

|                                 | <b>Alternative 1 Connect</b>   | <b>Alternative 2 Coastal</b>  | <b>Alternative 3 National</b>  | <b>Alternative 4 Seamless</b>   |
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| <b>CONCEPT</b>                  | The emphasis of management concept 1 is to explore how the parks would reach out and engage the community and other potential visitors in the enjoyment, understanding, and stewardship of the parks' resources and values. The parks would be managed to attract and welcome people to connect with the resources; promote enjoyment, conservation, and health; and reinvigorate the human spirit. Visitor opportunities would be relevant to diverse current and future populations.   | The emphasis of management concept 2 would be to preserve and promote dynamic and interconnected coastal ecosystems, where marine resources are valued and prominent features. Recreational and educational opportunities would allow visitors to learn about and enjoy the coastal and marine environment, to gain a better understanding of its international significance, and its connection to regional and world history.   | The emphasis of management concept 3 is to showcase the parks' most nationally important natural and cultural resources. The fundamental resources of each showcased site would be managed at the highest level of preservation to protect their values in perpetuity and promote appreciation, understanding, and enjoyment. The NPS presence and identity would be prominent and support resource preservation and educational goals. Visitors would have the opportunity to explore the wide variety of outstanding national park experiences in one park area. All other resources would be managed to complement the showcased resources and visitor experiences. | The emphasis of management concept 4 would be to manage the two NPS parks as the backbone of a corridor of public lands that connects local and regional parks, open spaces, communities, and other resources into a seamless whole. Resource management and the provision of outdoor recreation/education would be collaborative endeavors with other land managers. Management of each area of the parks would complement the management of its surrounding natural/cultural resources and visitor opportunities. Recreational opportunities would be provided based on site characteristics and management objectives. |
| <b>RATIONALE</b>                | This management concept was developed to renew our commitment to the notion of "parks to the people." Because the parks serve a large and diverse urban population, improving the connections to people is fundamental to achieving the purposes of Golden Gate National Recreation Area and Muir Woods National Monument and maintaining the public's continued interest and support.   | Since land acquisition and protection at Golden Gate National Recreation Area in the past has been opportunistic; this concept is deliberate in setting a vision for connecting resources and systems to create contiguous habitat. The more connected the water and land base, the better the ability for ecosystems to adjust and adapt, increasing their resiliency to urban pressures and climate change. Although Muir Woods National Monument is less fragmented than Golden Gate National Recreation Area, its resources are still threatened and influenced by external factors. The integration of Muir Woods and its surrounding land base into this concept enhances the opportunity to create unfragmented habitat. This concept also responds to the public's strong interest in having more natural "wild" lands in close proximity to San Francisco. | This management concept was developed to recognize and capitalize on the fact that Golden Gate National Recreation Area and Muir Woods National Monument have a variety of nationally significant resources. By showcasing the most important of these resources and increasing the NPS identity, the parks would be able to meet the objective of bringing an exemplary national park experience to an urban population, many of them first-time visitors. This concept would also allow the National Park Service to prioritize the management of park resources, provide improved visitor experiences, and develop essential partnerships.                          | Watersheds, viewsheds, ecosystems, and trail and transportation systems all extend beyond the parks' boundaries; their management and preservation requires cooperation with other adjacent public land managers, local jurisdictions, and private landowners. This concept would allow the parks to meet the challenges of the future and create an interconnected network of resources and recreational opportunities in the San Francisco Bay area.  |
| <b>Visitor Experience Goals</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Actively seek opportunities to respond to the needs and interests of the parks' diversity of visitors.</li> <li>• Encourage visitors to engage in a wide range of opportunities and experiences in a diversity of settings.</li> <li>• Enhance outreach and access to and within the parks and make the parks welcoming.</li> <li>• Foster the visitor's deep personal connection to the parks by offering a range of relevant guided and unguided opportunities.</li> <li>• Encourage hands-on stewardship through visitor opportunities that promote personal health and responsibility.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Connect visitors with resources and the parks through expanded and diverse science and stewardship programs that are focused on preservation and restoration of coastal and marine resource and the implications of climate change.</li> <li>• Give visitors greater opportunities to explore wild areas and immerse themselves in nature.</li> <li>• Manage low-impact visitor use to emphasize qualities of solitude, quiet, and naturalness in important natural resource areas, and accommodate active recreational pursuits in other areas.</li> <li>• Increase visitor understanding, awareness, and support for coastal resources through participation in stories and programs about human interaction with and dependency on natural resources.</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide visitors with opportunities to explore, learn, and enjoy the showcased resources and stories.</li> <li>• Allow the showcased resources and associated stories to shape (and constrain) recreational opportunities.</li> <li>• Emphasize active public participation in stewardship programs focused on showcased sites.</li> <li>• Provide visitors with opportunities for understanding and enjoying a national park experience and associated traditions.</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Focus on connecting trail and transit systems between open space, parks, and communities.</li> <li>• Provide visitor opportunities and support through shared information, regulations, facilities, and visitor services.</li> <li>• Consider decisions on desired and appropriate visitor opportunities in a regional context.</li> <li>• Provide stewardship activities that support resource management in a regional context.</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Natural Resource Goals</b>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain the integrity and diversity of natural resources and systems.</li> <li>• Integrate natural resource preservation and management concepts with visitor stewardship opportunities to deepen visitor understanding.</li> <li>• Enhance the public's access to natural resources to</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reconnect fragmented habitat within and adjacent to both parks to restore landscape-level processes and increase ecosystem resiliency to climate change and urban pressures.</li> <li>• Optimize recovery of special status species and survival of wide-ranging wildlife.</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Emphasize the preservation of the fundamental natural resources that contribute to each park's significance. Manage all other resources to complement the showcased resources and experiences.</li> <li>• Protect and/or restore integrity of fundamental</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Focus on protection and management of contiguous, unbroken habitat corridors that sustain native biodiversity.</li> <li>• Ensure that management and monitoring of resources is ecosystem-based with strong agency and partner collaboration and information sharing.</li> </ul>   |

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|  | promote visitor understanding and appreciation.   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Restore natural processes and/or allow these processes to evolve unimpeded to the greatest degree feasible.</li> <li>Use partnerships to help the parks become centers for innovative coastal science, stewardship, and learning.</li> </ul>  | natural resources that support each park's significance.<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Manage showcased natural resources to ensure their ecological integrity while providing opportunities to engage the visitors in hands-on stewardship and exploration.</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preserve and connect key wildlife and plant communities across jurisdictional boundaries.</li> <li>Manage threats through coordinated best management practices and shared stewardship responsibilities.</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Cultural Resource Goals</b>           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maximize adaptive reuse and rehabilitation of cultural resources to support visitor enjoyment, understanding, and community connections.</li> <li>Work with interested groups and populations to manage those resources.</li> <li>Manage cultural resources so that visitors can connect to the parks' lands and their stories.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Emphasize sites and stories about coastal resources, including shipwrecks, archeological sites, agricultural lands and uses, coastal defense, and lighthouses.</li> <li>Use cultural resources as a platform to raise awareness of the importance of coastal ecosystem conservation.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Emphasize the fundamental resources that contribute to significance of each park, including national historic landmarks. Manage all other resources to complement the showcased resources and experiences.</li> <li>Tie all the associated cultural resources (collections) and stories to the showcased sites.</li> <li>Manage cultural resources to highlight the interpretive and educational values and provide wherever possible direct contact with the resources.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Focus on cultural landscape management, where systems, features, and patterns cross boundaries.</li> <li>Identify common thematic connections across jurisdictional boundaries (e.g., immigration, World War II, historic agriculture, Native American sites).</li> <li>Manage cultural sites in the parks to emphasize their unique individual qualities while serving as a portal to other thematic connections in other locations.</li> <li>Collaborate with others on museum collections management (acquisition, display, protection, and conservation).</li> </ul> |
| <b>MUIR WOODS</b>                        | <b>MUIR WOODS</b>   | <b>MUIR WOODS</b>  | <b>MUIR WOODS</b>  | <b>MUIR WOODS</b>   |
| <b>Area-specific desired conditions:</b> |   |  | Trails are realigned to more appropriate locations and boardwalk type that better protect creek and redwood roots. Trails are level and easily accessible (including some ADA).  | Trail along Redwood Creek is relocated to a less sensitive location within the corridor, but consistent with the historic trail. Re-creation of historic gravity car line is evaluated to provide a high use, transit corridor from visitor hub.  |
| <b>Assets not needed:</b>                |   |  |  | Removing existing parking adjacent to creek. Possible removal of unneeded creek crossing. Possible downgrading in historic buildings that may be retained   |
| <b>New assets needed:</b>                |   |  |  | New transit parking, restrooms at trailhead. Gravity car line.  |
| <b>HISTORIC IMMERSION</b>                |   |  | <b>Cathedral Grove, Camp Hillwood, Loma Lodge, trail to historic CCC area??, Ben Johnson Trail??</b>   |   |
| <b>Rationale:</b>                        |   |  | Trail to historic CCC area is mitigation for removing historic works within the sensitive zone along Redwood Creek. The Ben Johnson Trail is a historic trail.   |   |
| <b>Area-specific desired conditions:</b> |   |  | UN Plaque is found in Cathedral Grove. Interpretation focus of trail to historic CCC area is the story of conservation.  |   |
| <b>Assets not needed:</b>                |   |  |  |   |
| <b>New assets needed:</b>                |   |  |  |   |
| <b>SCENIC VALUES</b>                     |   |  |  |   |

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| <b>Rationale:</b>                        |   |   |  |   |
| <b>Area-specific desired conditions:</b> |   |   |  |   |
| <b>Assets not needed:</b>                |   |   |  |   |
| <b>New assets needed:</b>                |   |   |  |   |
| <b>WILD</b>                              | <b>Muir Woods addition</b>  | <b>Upper Conlon Avenue</b>  | <b>Remaining area outside of main trail corridor and Redwood Creek</b>   | <b>Most of monument outside of sightseeing corridors along Redwood Creek and Franks Valley-MUWO Road – includes adjacent non-NPS lands</b>  |
| <b>Rationale:</b>                        | Sensitive natural resources that have been impacted and need restoration, including removal of existing non-essential operational facilities and activities.  | This area does not support resources as significant as the other zones. However this area is still a part of a contiguous corridor of sensitive habitat and has a wild character. This area supports less use than the new zone.  | Natural area   |   |
| <b>Area-specific desired conditions:</b> | Resource conditions are improved due to the relocation of all non-essential operational uses, including the stewardship center. Various visitor services are provided at the adaptively reused Hillwood School. |   | Visitor access is limited and many opportunities for isolation can be found in this area. Trails are relocated as more appropriate locations are determined.   | Park uses (food, visitor hub) are co-located at a joint facility outside Monument to help ensure contiguous “wild” habitat. However, rustic timber and stone buildings, and some bridges are left to maintain cultural setting. |
| <b>Assets not needed:</b>                | All non-historic structures or non-essential operational structures should be removed.  | Parking lot, nursery, operation facilities, maintenance area (note: see #9 under MaHe map – need for relocation), Conlon Ave., buildings within Conlon Ave. Removing these facilities in both locations allows for restoration of natural resources and processes to the greatest extent. Remove restrooms, sewer and power infrastructure. Frank Valley Road will be downgraded. |  | Remove or downgrade use of facilities that are not needed.  |
| <b>New assets needed:</b>                |   | Shelter or transit hub to facilitate the public circulation/drop-off via shuttle.   |  |   |
| <b>SENSITIVE ZONE</b>                    |   |   | <b>Redwood Creek and tributaries</b>   |   |
| <b>Rationale:</b>                        |   |   | A 14-16 foot buffer between trails and creek in all places to protect sensitive resources.   |   |
| <b>Area-specific desired conditions:</b> |   |   | No visitor access. Bridges are present but are long enough to prevent impacts to hydrologic function to reduce impact on creek. Cultural resources are managed to complement natural area.   |   |
| <b>Assets not needed:</b>                |   |   |  |   |
| <b>New assets needed:</b>                |   |   | Main parking area is removed since it is in the sensitive zone along Redwood Creek. Lower lot would have reduced parking (maybe none) with expanded shuttle service. All non-historic buildings would be removed. Some CCC era works are removed along Redwood Creek to improve hydrological function and provide an |   |

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| <b>PARK OPERATIONS</b>                   |  |  | opportunity to message on improved understanding of the resources.<br><b>Current administrative buildings</b> |                        |
| <b>Rationale:</b>                        |  |  | Allow for administrative uses by Muir Woods staff.  |                        |
| <b>Area-specific desired conditions:</b> |  |  |   |                        |
| <b>Assets not needed:</b>                |  |  |   |                        |
| <b>New assets needed:</b>                |  |  |   |                        |
| <b>NEW ZONE</b>                          | <b>Muir Woods trails and backcountry</b>   | <b>Most of the monument, including Redwood Creek riparian corridor</b>   | <b>Area outside of sightseeing corridor from parking area to bridge 2</b>                                     |                        |
| <b>Rationale:</b>                        | High visitation combined with sensitive resources characterizes this area.             | Protects large contiguous unit of highly sensitive habitat that includes a high number of sensitive and endangered species (red-legged frogs, coho salmon, Western pond turtle), wetland and riparian habitat, and old growth forest. The resources within these areas are also a major attraction and therefore a high level of controlled use is expected.                           | Allows for high use while protecting sensitive resources  |                        |
| <b>Area-specific desired conditions:</b> |  | The riparian corridor for Redwood Creek is expanded beyond its current configuration.  |   |                        |
| <b>Assets not needed:</b>                | All non-historic structures or non-essential operational structures should be removed. | Concession, historic buildings and facilities, rip rap, ranger office, restroom, cultural resource features, asphalt on trail and Alice Eastwood Road, (consider regrading). Parking and culverts would be removed from the Redwood Creek riparian area. Frank Valley Road could be downgraded to only allow limited access for local and public transportation.                       |   |                        |
| <b>New assets needed:</b>                |  | Shuttle buses for transportation, alternative boardwalk material (current type is too noisy), trail re-alignment to further protect resources, complete trails management strategy to evaluate circulation patterns, use and duplicity of trails with the goals of removing redundant or resource-impacting trails and identifying priority riparian and woodland habitat restoration. |   |                        |