

Hungry Valley State Vehicular Recreation Area General Plan Update

Overview of the Draft General Plan and Final EIR

The Hungry Valley State Vehicular Recreation Area (SVRA) General Plan Update (General Plan) will offer a comprehensive management strategy for the park's roughly 19,625 acres. It serves as a blueprint for future decisions about land use, facilities, recreational opportunities, and the management of natural and cultural resources. The Update considers changing conditions, reviews the latest information and data, and includes lands added to the park since the 1981 General Plan was adopted.

Following the public review of the Hungry Valley SVRA Preliminary General Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) from August 18 to October 2, 2025, California State Parks (CSP) staff made minor changes to the Preliminary General Plan based on received comments. Additionally, the planning team prepared a Final EIR (FEIR) in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), including all comments and responses. The proposed changes to the Preliminary General Plan are reflected in the documents provided for review (Hungry Valley SVRA Draft Final General Plan and Final EIR). To accommodate any further changes staff may initiate or that may be directed by the Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation (OHMVR) Commissioners at the February 26, 2026, hearing, the General Plan will not be finalized until after the Commission adopts resolutions approving the General Plan and certifies the FEIR.

This primer provides a summary of existing and future documents, revisions to the General Plan and EIR, and where to find descriptions of these revisions in the Draft Final General Plan and the Final EIR.

Hungry Valley SVRA General Plan and EIR Timeline

The following is the timeline for the preparation of the General Plan and EIR:

- The Notice of Preparation for the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) was distributed to relevant agencies from November 2 to December 1, 2023. A virtual public meeting was held on November 15, 2023, from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.
- The Preliminary General Plan and Draft EIR were available for public review from August 18 to October 2, 2025, on the State Clearinghouse website, the General Plan Project website, <https://www.planhungryvalley.com/>, at the Great Basin District Office, and at the California State Library.
- The Department and OHMVR Commission held a public tour of the SVRA on February 25, 2026.

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- The Final EIR was prepared from October 2025 to January 2026 and made available for review starting January 23, 2026, on the project website, the State Clearinghouse website, at the Great Basin District Office, the California State Library in Sacramento, and the OHMVR Commission Meetings page.
- The OHMVR Commission hearing to consider certifying the Final EIR and approving the General Plan Update is scheduled for February 26, 2026.
- The Final General Plan Update and Final EIR will be published on the California State Park General Plan webpage and the project website after the Commission hearing and adoption of resolutions.
- A Notice of Determination will be filed with the State Clearinghouse after certification of the Final EIR on February 26, 2026, at the OHMVR Commission hearing.

Draft General Plan content

The Draft General Plan consists of the following sections:

- Chapter 1 provides an introduction to Hungry Valley SVRA and the General Plan Update.
- Chapter 2 presents a summary of existing conditions, facilities, and important resources.
- Chapter 3 summarizes and analyzes key issues identified during the planning process.
- Chapter 4 contains the proposed General Plan components: SVRA classification, purpose, vision, goals and guidelines, and land use management.

Final EIR content

The Final EIR document consists of the following:

- Chapter 1, "Introduction," provides a brief overview of the public review process of the Preliminary General Plan and DEIR and describes the organization of the FEIR.
- Chapter 2, "Comments and Responses," provides a list of agencies, tribes, organizations, and individuals that submitted comments during the public review period; verbatim text of the comments; and comment responses.
- Chapter 3, "Revisions to the DEIR," provides a reproduction of portions of the DEIR with proposed revisions to text made by State Parks and in response to comments.
- Chapter 4, "List of Preparers," identifies all preparers and contributors to the FEIR.
- Chapter 5, "References," lists all references used during the preparation of this FEIR.
- Appendix A, "Comment Letters", provides copies of the original comment letters, forms, or emails provided during the DEIR comment period, reproduced in their entirety.
- Appendix B, "Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program", provides a list of mitigation measures identified in the DEIR (as modified following receipt of public comments), timing for implementation for all mitigation measures, and responsibilities for tracking and reporting.

Per CEQA, a Final EIR was prepared to respond to comments received on the Preliminary General Plan and Draft EIR and to present corrections, revisions, and other clarifications in response to these comments and as a result of the ongoing planning effort. The Final EIR contains comments received on the Hungry Valley SVRA Preliminary General Plan and Draft EIR during the public review period and responses to those comments. California State Parks received 14 comment letters on the Preliminary General Plan and Draft EIR, including letters from public agencies (6), tribes (1), organizations (5), and individuals (2).

Chapter 2 of the Final EIR includes the comment letters and their written responses. The responses led to minor updates and corrections to the Preliminary General Plan and Draft EIR. These changes are included in Chapter 3. It is advised that commissioners review the comment letters to gain insight into public support and concerns regarding the General Plan. To understand the differences between the Draft and Final EIR, it is recommended to read Chapter 3, "Revisions to the DEIR," in the Final EIR. These minor revisions are listed below.

Revisions after the Preliminary General Plan and Draft EIR

Public comments were received from August 18 to October 2, 2025, for the Draft Preliminary General Plan and Draft EIR. Staff carefully considered all comments received when formulating the final Draft General Plan. Throughout the planning process, some changes were made in response to the comments listed below. The revisions to the General Plan and Draft EIR have been made for clarification purposes or, where needed, to add information or correct minor errors. Deletions are shown in strikeout (~~strikeout~~) and additions are shown in underline.

Changes to Draft Preliminary General Plan Update

The following text of Chapter 2, Existing Conditions, Section 2.7.3, on page 139 was revised as follows:

Stormwater General Permit for Construction Activity (~~Order 2009-0009-DWQ~~) (Order 2022-0057-DWQ)

The following text of Chapter 2, Existing Conditions, Section 2.3.12, Table 2-7, on page 100 was revised as follows:

- Scientific Name: *Athene cunicularia hypugaea*
- Common Name: Western burrowing owl
- USFWS, CDFW Status: ~~SSC~~ SE or ST Candidate Species

Changes to Draft EIR

The following text of Chapter 3, Section 3.3, Biological Resources, Table 3.3-2, on page 3.3-

21 was revised as follows:

- Scientific Name: *Athene cunicularia hypugaea*
- Common Name: Western burrowing owl
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), CDFW Status: ~~SSC~~ SE or ST Candidate Species

The following text of Chapter 3, Section 3.2, Air Quality, SJVAPCD Rules and Regulations, on page 3.2-14 was revised as follows:

SJVAPCD adopts rules and regulations to limit the generation of emissions from a range of sources and activities. All projects are subject to SJVAPCD rules and regulations in effect at the time of their construction. The following specific rules could potentially be relevant to the Proposed Project:

- Regulation II, Rule 2010: Permits Required
- Regulation II, Rule 2201: New and Modified Stationary Source Review
- Regulation III, Rule 3135: Dust Control Plan Fee
- Regulation IV, Rule 4002: National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants
- Regulation IV, Rule 4101: Visible Emissions
- Regulation IV, Rule 4102: Nuisance
- Regulation IV, Rule 4601: Architectural Coatings
- Regulation IV, Rule 4641: Cutback, Slow Cure, and Emulsified Asphalt, Paving and Maintenance Operations
- Regulation VIII: Fugitive PM10 Prohibitions, including the following rules:
 - Rule 8011—General Requirements
 - Rule 8021—Construction, Demolition, Excavation, Extraction, and Other Earthmoving Activities
 - Rule 8041—Carryout and Trackout (of dirt and other materials onto paved public roads)
 - Rule 8051—Open Areas
 - Rule 8061—Paved and Unpaved Roads (construction and use)
 - Rule 8071—Unpaved Vehicle/Equipment Traffic Areas
- Regulation IV, Rule 9110: General Conformity
- Regulation IV, Rule 9510: Indirect Source Review (ISR)

The following text of Chapter 3, Section 3.2, Air Quality, Mitigation Measure (MM)-AQ-2, on page 3.2-30 was revised as follows:

All diesel off-road equipment rated 25 horsepower or more shall have engines that meet, at a minimum, the CARB-certified Tier 4 Interim or Tier 4 Final off-road emission standards (as specified by project site element below) during construction activities of the following project elements:

- New Group Campground (Tier 4 Interim)
- New RV Campground (Tier 4 Interim)
- Paving of Hungry Valley Road (Tier 4 Final)
- Paving of Quail Canyon Road (Tier 4 Final)

This requirement shall be verified through submittal of an equipment inventory to State Parks that includes the following information: (1) Type of Equipment, (2) Engine Year and Age, (3) either a photo of the CARB- or EPA-issued engine emission control label or written engine specifications confirming that the equipment meets the Tier 4 Interim or Tier 4 Final standard, ~~(3)~~ (4) Number of Years Since Rebuild of Engine (if applicable), ~~(4)~~ (5) Type of Fuel Used, and ~~(5)~~ (6) Engine HP, ~~(6)~~ (7) Verified Diesel Emission Control Strategy (VDECS) information if applicable and other related equipment data prior to the start of construction.

An exemption from these requirements may be granted by State Parks in the event that the contractor documents that equipment with the required tier is not reasonably available and corresponding reductions in criteria air pollutant emissions are achieved from other construction equipment. Before an exemption may be considered by State Parks, the contractor shall be required to demonstrate that two construction fleet owners/operators in the region were contacted and that those owners/operators confirmed Tier 4 Interim/Final equipment, as applicable, could not be located within Ventura County. If an exemption is granted by State Parks, the contractor shall use, at a minimum, Tier 3 equipment with a CARB-certified Level 3 diesel particulate filter in place of Tier 4 Interim/Final equipment.

EIR Summary of Impacts and Mitigation Measures

The EIR provides a detailed analysis of the potential significant environmental effects resulting from the implementation of the General Plan Update. The environmental analysis found that, with the incorporation of the project design features, implementation of goals and guidelines as directed by the General Plan Update, and adherence to regulatory requirements (e.g., State Parks and Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation [OHMVR] Division requirements and guidelines, and requirements from regulatory agencies), implementation of the General Plan Update would result in no impact or less than significant environmental impacts to:

- Aesthetics, Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Energy, Geology, Soils, and Paleontological Resources, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Hazards and Hazardous

Materials, Hydrology and Water Quality, Land Use and Planning, Noise, Public Services, Recreation, Transportation, Tribal Cultural Resources, Utilities and Service Systems, Wildfire.

No mitigation measures are required for the above resource areas because the impacts were found to be less than significant or have no impact. However, as identified in Section 3.2, Air Quality of the EIR, implementation of the Proposed Project would result in the significant air quality impacts listed below:

- Fugitive dust emissions in exceedance of applicable air district thresholds (San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District and South Coast Air Quality Management District).
- Valley Fever (*Coccidioides immitis*) risks associated with increased fugitive dust emissions.

Even with the implementation of feasible mitigation measures (Mitigation Measures MM-AQ-1, MM-AQ-2, MM-AQ-3, and MM-AQ-4), impacts from operational fugitive dust emissions and associated health risk impacts would be significant and unavoidable due to the exceedance of local air pollution control district thresholds, the infeasibility of providing dust control in all areas of the park, and the infeasibility of controlling fugitive dust emissions through other methods.

Findings and Statement of Overriding Considerations

Pursuant to Section 15093 of the CEQA Guidelines, the Commission may adopt a Statement of Overriding Considerations, determining that the project's significant and unavoidable air quality impacts, as detailed in the EIR, are acceptable due to the legislative mandate to operate Hungry Valley SVRA as an OHV recreation facility; its proximity to urban centers, which reduces travel emissions, the inclusion of air quality goals, guidelines, and mitigation measures in the General Plan Update and MMRP; and the infeasibility of additional mitigation measures after thorough evaluation and consultation with local air districts.

All feasible mitigation measures have been incorporated to substantially reduce significant effects on the environment, as described in the findings, and the legal, social, and other benefits of the General Plan Update outweigh the unavoidable air quality impacts and are, therefore, acceptable.

Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting Program

Pursuant to Section 15097 of the CEQA Guidelines, a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program has been prepared for the General Plan Update. The MMRP identifies proposed construction and operational avoidance measures to be implemented by State Parks or its

contractors. Mitigation Measures MM-AQ-1 (Implement Fugitive Dust Reduction Measures during Construction), MM-AQ-2 (Require Tier 4 Interim/Final Construction Equipment), MM-AQ-3 (Additional Fugitive Dust Reduction Measures to Minimize Valley Fever Risk during Construction), and MM-AQ-4 (Increase Awareness of Valley Fever) are established to minimize construction and operational air quality effects to the maximum extent feasible. The MMRP identifies responsible parties for implementing these measures, the timing, reporting requirements, and performance criteria. All other environmental effects from the General Plan Update would be avoided or minimized through implementation of the goals and guidelines described in the plan or by adherence to existing regulatory programs.

Potential Areas of Concern and Issues to be Resolved

No areas of known controversy related to this project have been identified. The OHMVR Division of State Parks is the CEQA lead agency for this project. The lead agency must consider community needs and desires, long-term planning, and the OHMVR Division's mission to determine the appropriate uses and management of Hungry Valley SVRA. The General Plan Update included an extensive public outreach program and stakeholder coordination to inform the proposed alternative and proactively resolve issues.

Content of the Final General Plan Update

This document will include a revised reprint of the Draft Final January 2026 document, along with copies of the Resolutions approving the General Plan, certifying the EIR, and designating the new reserves, inserted at the front of the document. The Final General Plan and EIR will look the same as the January 2026 Draft Final General Plan.

Next Steps

The Final EIR and Draft EIR together constitute the EIR, which the Commission will review for certification before deciding whether to adopt the General Plan. California State Parks is required by CEQA Guidelines (Section 15090) to certify that the EIR was completed in accordance with CEQA, has been reviewed and considered by Department decision makers, and reflects its independent judgment and analysis before approving the General Plan.