



# Mori Point Restoration and Trail Plan

## *Environmental Assessment*

February 2006





# **Environmental Assessment**

## Mori Point Restoration and Trail Plan

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Cover photo taken by Dan Ng, Golden Gate National Recreation Area

## **Mori Point Restoration and Trail Plan Summary**

The National Park Service (NPS) has prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) that describes and analyzes alternatives for habitat restoration and development of a safe and sustainable trail system at Mori Point, a unit of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA) in Pacifica, CA. The EA presents and analyzes one No Action and three Action Alternatives. The Action Alternatives each contain a restoration, trail alignment, and trail use designation component.

Proposed restoration activities include actions such as protection of the federally protected San Francisco garter snake and California red-legged frog; removal of placed fills, trash, and debris; installation of site improvements; ensuring visitor access without compromising slope stability or sensitive habitat; improving hydrologic and habitat connectivity between upland and wetland areas; creation of up to five seasonal ponds for San Francisco garter snake foraging habitat; and reduction and repair of coastal erosion. Long-term stewardship actions include trail maintenance, restoration of native plant communities; development and implementation of a monitoring system to track progress for restoration goals; and public education.

Proposed trail alignments were developed around sensitive habitat and as a result of public input and trail use studies. The alternatives are as follows:

### Alternative 1: Preferred Alternative

This alternative includes the above restoration and trail alignment components. Hiker-only designations would be in effect on all segments through, or leading to, steep and erosion-prone areas. Multiple-use opportunities (hiking, bicycling, and equestrian uses) were identified on the California Coastal Trail (CCT) and its main connector routes.

### Alternative 2: Limited Multiple-use

Under this alternative, the same restoration and trail alignment would occur as with the Preferred Alternative, but only Mori Road, the California Coastal Trail, and California Coastal Trail Connector near the “bowl” area are designated for multiple-use. All other trails would be hiker-only.

### Alternative 3: All Multiple-Use

In addition to the restoration and trail alignment described in the Preferred Alternative, all trails would be designated multiple-use, with no restrictions on biking, hiking, or equestrian use.

### Alternative 4: No Action

Under this alternative, the GGNRA would continue with the limited restoration activities currently authorized by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. No additional restoration, trail alignments, or use designation would occur.

As part of the proposed project, the NPS has developed and incorporated measures that will avoid, minimize, or mitigate for potential environmental impacts. The Preferred Alternative best meets the NPS management objectives related to natural resource protection and public access, including the restoration of the property’s endangered species habitat and provision of a variety

of experiences for park users. Minor modifications of the proposed mitigation measures and project description may occur upon receipt of the Biological Opinion.

There will be a 30-day comment period on the EA, which is available for review online at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/goga> and at local libraries. Comments may be submitted electronically via the project website or in writing to:

Superintendent, Golden Gate National Recreation Area  
ATTN: Mori Point/Division of Planning and Technical Services  
Fort Mason, Building 201  
San Francisco, CA 94123

For more information on the project or to obtain a CD or hard copy of the EA, send an email to [moripointea@parksconservancy.org](mailto:moripointea@parksconservancy.org) or contact Jen Greene at (415) 561-3086.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER 1. PURPOSE AND NEED.....	7
1.1 Introduction.....	7
1.2 Background.....	7
1.3 Purpose and Need .....	9
1.3.1 Purpose of Taking Action .....	9
1.3.2 Need for Action.....	9
1.4 Project Objectives.....	10
1.5 Project Area Location .....	11
1.6 Scope of Environmental Assessment.....	11
1.7 Related Laws, Legislation, Management Guidelines and Constraints.....	12
1.8 Issues and Impact Topics.....	14
1.8.1 Issues and Impact Topics Identified for Further Analysis.....	14
1.8.2 Impact Topics Considered but Dismissed from Further Consideration .....	14
CHAPTER 2. DESCRIPTION OF ALTERNATIVES .....	16
2.1 Introduction.....	16
2.2 Description of Alternatives.....	16
2.2.1 Background on Alternative Development.....	16
2.3 Alternatives Considered in Detail.....	17
2.3.1 Features Common to Action Alternatives.....	17
2.3.1.1 – Site-Wide Management Actions .....	23
2.3.1.2 – Long-term Stewardship Actions .....	34
2.3.2 Alternatives .....	35
2.3.2.1 Alternative 1 (Preferred Alternative).....	35
2.3.2.2 Alternative 2 (Limited Multiple-use).....	36
2.3.2.3 Alternative 3 (All Multiple-use) .....	36
2.3.2.4 Alternative 4 (No Action) .....	37
2.4 - Alternatives and Actions Considered but Eliminated from Detailed Study .....	37
2.4.1 Trail Alignment Alternatives Eliminated from Detailed Study.....	37
2.4.2 Restoration Alternatives Eliminated from Detailed Study.....	39
2.4.3 Other Recreational Use Alternatives Eliminated from Detailed Study .....	40
2.5 Comparison of Alternatives .....	40
2.6 Environmentally Preferred Alternative.....	40
2.7 Mitigation Summary .....	41
CHAPTER 3. AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES .....	42
3.1 Introduction.....	42
3.2 General Methodology .....	42
3.2.1 Duration.....	42
3.2.2 Context .....	42
3.2.3 Intensity.....	43
3.2.4 Type of Impact .....	43
3.2.6 Significance.....	43
3.3 Cumulative Impacts .....	44
3.4 Impairment Analysis.....	45
3.3 Regulatory Background .....	46
3.3.1 Soils and Geology .....	46
3.3.2 Hydrology, Water Quality, Wetlands, and Streams .....	46
3.3.3 Vegetation, Wildlife, and Special Status Species.....	47

3.3.4 Cultural Resources .....	49
3.3.5 Public Safety .....	49
3.3.6 Air Quality.....	49
3.3.7 Visitor Use and Recreation .....	50
3.3.8 Noise .....	50
3.3.9 Visual Resources.....	50
3.4 Geology and Soils.....	51
3.4.1 Affected Environment .....	51
3.4.1.1 Geology and Slope Stability .....	51
3.4.1.2 Soils .....	52
3.4.1.3 Seismicity.....	52
3.4.2 Environmental Consequences .....	53
3.4.2.1 Alternative 1.....	53
3.4.2.2 Alternative 2.....	55
3.4.2.3 Alternative 3.....	55
3.4.2.4 Alternative 4 (No Action Alternative) .....	55
3.4.2.5 Impairment.....	55
3.5 Hydrology and Water Quality.....	56
3.5.1 Affected Environment .....	56
3.5.1.1 Site Hydrology .....	56
3.5.1.2 Groundwater Resources.....	56
3.5.2 Environmental Consequences .....	57
3.5.2.1 Alternative 1.....	57
3.5.2.2 Alternative 2.....	58
3.5.2.3 Alternative 3.....	58
3.5.2.4 Alternative 4 (No Action Alternative) .....	59
3.5.2.5 Impairment.....	59
3.6 Biological Resources .....	60
3.6.1 Wildlife .....	60
3.6.1.1 Affected Environment - Wildlife .....	60
3.6.1.2 Environmental Consequences - Wildlife .....	61
Alternative 1 .....	61
Alternative 2 .....	63
Alternative 3 .....	63
Alternative 4 .....	64
3.6.2 Vegetation and Native Plant Communities.....	65
3.6.2.1 Affected Environment – Vegetation and Native Plant Communities .....	65
3.6.2.2 Environmental Consequences – Vegetation and Native Plant Communities.....	68
Alternative 1 .....	68
Alternative 2 .....	69
Alternative 3 .....	70
Alternative 4 .....	70
3.6.3 Wetlands.....	71
3.6.3.1 Affected Environment - Wetlands .....	71
3.6.3.2 Environmental Consequences - Wetlands.....	75
Alternative 1 .....	75
Alternative 2 .....	77
Alternative 3 .....	78
Alternative 4 .....	78
3.6.4 Special Status Species .....	79
3.6.4.1 Affected Environment – Special Status Species .....	79

3.6.4.2 Environmental Consequences - Special Status Species .....	87
Alternative 1 .....	87
Alternative 2 .....	101
Alternative 3 .....	102
Alternative 4 .....	102
3.6.5 Impairment – Biologic Resources .....	105
3.7 Cultural Resources .....	105
3.7.1 Affected Environment .....	105
3.7.1.1 Historic Context .....	105
3.7.1.2 Archaeological Sites .....	107
3.7.2 Environmental Consequences .....	107
3.7.2.1 Alternative 1 .....	107
Cumulative Impacts .....	108
3.7.2.2 Alternative 2 .....	108
3.7.2.3 Alternative 3 .....	108
3.7.2.4 Alternative 4 (No Action Alternative) .....	108
3.7.2.5 Impairment .....	109
3.8. Public Safety .....	109
3.8.1 <i>Affected Environment</i> .....	109
3.8.2 Environmental Consequences .....	109
3.8.2.1 Alternative 1 .....	109
3.8.2.2 Alternative 2 .....	111
3.8.2.3 Alternative 3 .....	111
3.8.2.4 Alternative 4 (No Action Alternative) .....	111
3.9 Air Quality .....	111
3.9.1 Affected Environment .....	111
3.9.2 Environmental Consequences .....	112
3.9.2.1 Alternative 1 .....	112
3.9.2.2 Alternative 2 .....	113
3.9.2.3 Alternative 3 .....	113
3.9.2.4 Alternative 4 (No Action Alternative) .....	113
3.9.2.5 Impairment .....	113
3.10 Visitor Use and Recreation .....	114
3.10.1 Affected Environment .....	114
3.10.2 Environmental Consequences .....	114
3.10.2.1 Alternative 1 .....	114
3.10.2.2 Alternative 2 .....	115
3.10.2.3 Alternative 3 .....	116
3.10.2.4 Alternative 4 (No Action Alternative) .....	116
3.11 Noise .....	117
3.11.1 Affected Environment .....	117
3.11.2 Environmental Consequences .....	117
3.11.2.1 Alternative 1 .....	117
3.11.2.2 Alternative 2 .....	119
3.11.2.3 Alternative 3 .....	119
3.11.2.4 Alternative 4 (No Action Alternative) .....	119
3.12 Visual Resources .....	119
3.12.1 Affected Environment .....	119
3.12.2 Environmental Consequences .....	120
3.12.2.1 Alternative 1 .....	120
3.12.2.2 Alternative 2 .....	122

3.12.2.3 Alternative 3.....	122
3.12.2.4 Alternative 4 (No Action Alternative) .....	122
Chapter 4. CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION .....	123
4.1 Scoping .....	123
4.1.1 Public Involvement .....	123
4.1.1 Internal Scoping and Project Review .....	124
4.2 Regulatory Compliance .....	124
4.3 List of Preparers and Contributors.....	126
4.4 List of Recipients and Review of EA.....	130
4.5 References.....	131
Appendix A. Mori Point Site Resources Studies and Maps.....	135
Appendix B. Invasive Species Removal Techniques.....	141
Appendix C. Trail Construction Methods.....	143
Appendix D. Proposed Pond Locations .....	144
Appendix E. Best Management Practices and Mitigation Summary .....	146
Appendix F. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Letter with Species List for the Project.....	161
Appendix G. Special Status Species with Potential to Occur at Mori Point.....	173
Appendix H. Project Map for Public Scoping .....	179

**LIST OF TABLES**

Table 1. Comparison of Project Alternatives.....	40
Table 2: Summary of Vegetation Alliances at Mori Point.....	67
Table 3: Summary of Vegetation Associations at Mori Point .....	67
Table 4. Invasive species noted at Mori Point. ....	68
Table 5. Potentially Jurisdictional USACE Wetlands and Waters at Mori Point. ....	72
Table 6. Cowardin Classification Wetlands Mapped at Mori Point. ....	75
Table 8. Impacts to Cowardin Wetlands.....	76
Table 9. Temporary Impacts to Potential USACE Jurisdictional Wetlands .....	76
Table 10. Potential Net Gain of Wetland Habitat from Proposed Pond Creation.....	76
Table 7. Acres of Vegetation Alliances within the Proposed Action Area, and Estimated Acres of Impacts from the Proposed Project Actions. ....	104
Table 11. Typical Noise Levels .....	118

**LIST OF FIGURES**

Figure 1. Mori Point Project Regional Location Map.....	8
Figure 2. Mori Point General Restoration and Trail Plan .....	18
Figure 3. Alternative 1: Preferred Alternative. ....	19
Figure 4. Alternative 2: Limited Multiple-Use .....	20
Figure 5. Alternative 3: All Multiple-Use.....	21
Figure 6. Alternative 4 (No Action Alternative).....	22
Figure 7. Potential Impact Areas of Proposed Actions .....	26
Figure 8. Trail and Area Names (for Planning Purposes).....	27
Figure 9. Special Restoration Area A. ....	30
Figure 10. Special Restoration Area B. ....	31
Figure 11. Special Restoration Area C. ....	33
Figure 12. Trail Alternatives Considered but Rejected.....	38
Figure 13. Vegetation Alliances within the Project Area. ....	66
Figure 14. Potential USACE Jurisdictional Wetlands at Mori Point. ....	73
Figure 15. Cowardin Classification Wetlands at Mori Point. ....	74
Figure 16. Special Status Species Occurrences Known within the Project Area.....	84

## **CHAPTER 1. PURPOSE AND NEED**

### **1.1 Introduction**

The National Park Service (NPS), in coordination with the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy (GGNPC), is considering a management strategy for Mori Point, which is located in Pacifica, San Mateo County, on land owned and managed by the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA) (Figure 1). Mori Point is rich in natural resources, adjacent to open space, and ideally situated to provide key links to NPS lands at Sweeney and Milagra Ridges and other recreational opportunities along the San Mateo Coast.

Because the NPS recently acquired the land, Mori Point is not specifically included in any NPS or GGNRA general planning documents. A plan is needed to ensure that all uses at Mori Point are compatible and enhance both natural and visitor resources at the site. The GGNRA is proposing to improve visitor access at the 110-acre Mori Point property by implementing restoration actions including a trail system that minimizes impacts to NPS resources and enhances recreational experiences.

This environmental assessment (EA) evaluates a No Action Alternative and three Action Alternatives and analyzes the impacts of each on the environment. The Action Alternatives analyzed are: Alternative 1, Preferred Alternative; Alternative 2, Limited Multiple-use; and Alternative 3, All Multiple-use. This document also includes discussions of alternatives that have been dismissed and the rationale for their elimination. The EA has been prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 and Council on Environmental Quality (40 CFR 1508.9), and the NPS Director's Order (DO) 12, Conservation Planning, Environmental Impact Analysis, and Decision Making, and the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (NHPA).

### **1.2 Background**

Mori Point was originally part of the San Pedro Spanish Land Grant and has been the site of many enterprises over the past 120 years. The Mori family, for whom the land is now named, settled in Pacifica in the 1890's and developed a farm on Mori Point. The Mori family business included the Mori Point Tavern, which operated on the site from the 1920's to 1966 when it burned to the ground in a fire. Part of Mori Point was also used as a rock quarry and the remains of sand dredging operations are still visible.

For the past 30 years, the property at Mori Point has been threatened with development. The local community, local government, and other organizations fought to protect the area and in 2002, the Trust for Public Land outbid developers at a public auction and purchased the property. Despite being privately owned, Mori Point has historically been used by the community as an urban park for hiking, bicycling, horseback riding, and dog walking. Historic land uses such as quarrying operations, in combination with other uses related to motorbike and off-road vehicles, have resulted in an altered and eroded landscape with a large network of non-designated trails. Soon after, the NPS used funds from the California Coastal Conservancy and the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund to add the 110-acre property to the GGNRA.

**FIGURE 1. MORI POINT PROJECT REGIONAL LOCATION MAP**



This planning effort was initiated by a grant received in 2004 from the California Coastal Conservancy to identify the optimal alignment for the California Coastal Trail through Mori Point. The grant stipulates that the planning effort would also identify secondary trails linking Mori Point to local communities and formulate measures to protect, restore, and enhance sensitive habitats and the species they support at Mori Point. Over the past year, the NPS in cooperation with the GGNPC, has gathered detailed baseline information on Mori Point's endangered species habitats, vegetation communities, invasive species locations, hydrological conditions, trail alignments, cultural resources, and recreational uses in order to develop restoration strategies, including trail alignment alternatives that address stakeholder concerns.

Creation of a continuous coastal trail was originally proposed as part of visionary legislation passed by California voters and the state legislature in the 1970s that also created State agencies to both nurture and protect the fragile and beautiful coastal environment and guarantee public access to the shoreline. The Coastal Act of 1976 required local jurisdictions to identify an alignment for the California Coastal Trail in their Local Coastal Programs. In 1972, Proposition 20 provided that, "A hiking, bicycle, and equestrian trails system shall be established along or near the coast" and that "ideally the trails system should be continuous and located near the shoreline." In 1999 and 2000 the California Coastal Trail was nominated and then designated as California's Millennium Legacy Trail by Governor Davis and the White House Millennium Trail Council. Also in 2001, the State Senate passed legislation, SB908 (Chesbro) that directed the California Coastal Conservancy in cooperation with the Coastal Commission and State Parks Department, to submit to the Legislature a plan that describes how the Coastal Trail may be completed by 2008.

## **1.3 Purpose and Need**

### **1.3.1 Purpose of Taking Action**

The purpose of the project is to develop a management strategy for Mori Point that meets the following goals:

- protect and enhance habitat for the federally endangered San Francisco garter snake and the federally threatened California red-legged frog;
- preserve and restore the ecological integrity of Mori Point habitats by reducing threats to native plant communities and natural processes; and
- develop a safe and sustainable trail system, incorporating the California Coastal Trail that improves recreational experiences and reduces impacts to park resources.

### **1.3.2 Need for Action**

Past land use activities at Mori Point have resulted in accelerated erosion along the western bluffs and interior drainages, and alterations in the region's natural topography and hydrology; all of which impact natural processes, resource protection, visitor safety, public access, and visual aesthetics. The lack of a management plan at Mori Point exacerbates these conditions. Unless action is immediately taken, damage to resources would continue, increase, and worsen.

A plan is needed to protect and enhance habitat for the federally listed species at the site and develop a logical, safe, and sustainable trail system throughout Mori Point that would best provide for all visitor use, while preserving and restoring the ecological integrity of Mori Point habitats, native plant communities and natural processes. To this end, a well-defined, sustainable trail system is needed to sustainably guide visitor use and to prevent continued degradation of sensitive natural resources at the site. The ability to direct visitor use on to a defined trail system allows for the disturbed areas and potential endangered species habitat outside of the trail network to be restored and protected.

Action is being undertaken now because grant funds were received from the California Coastal Conservancy to formally designate the California Coastal Trail and secondary trail links on and through Mori Point consistent with California Coastal Trail and NPS management objectives to restore, enhance, and protect sensitive natural resources that exist at the site. Specifically, the project is needed to:

*Protect and enhance habitat for the federally endangered San Francisco garter snake and the federally threatened California red-legged frog at Mori Point. As per the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA), the NPS is obligated to “conserve the ecosystems upon which endangered or threatened species depend” and to conserve and recover listed species.*

*Preserve and restore the ecological integrity of Mori Point habitats by reducing threats to native plant communities and natural processes. This project would restore the ecological integrity of Mori Point habitats by removing impacts to habitat, improving hydrology and habitat connectivity, repairing erosion, and restoring native vegetation and wetland communities at the site.*

*Develop a safe and sustainable trail system, incorporating the California Coastal Trail, that improves recreational experiences and reduces impacts to park resources. The California Coastal Conservancy grant stipulates that the planning effort would also identify secondary trails linking Mori Point to local communities. The trail system incorporates popular destination points and existing trails, creation of multiple loop routes, and inclusion of several alternatives for north-south and east-west connector trails. An essential component of the new trail network is trail-use designation. Planned visitor use on formalized trails would reduce impacts to natural resources of the site.*

## **1.4 Project Objectives**

Described below are the management objectives guiding this effort.

- Protect and enhance habitat for the federally endangered San Francisco garter snake and the federally threatened California red-legged frog.
- Restore native California plant communities including an appropriate mix of wetland, coastal grassland, and coastal scrub to support the threatened and endangered species at

the site.

- Remove placed fills (non-native sand/gravel/rock, asphalt, cement, clay) as appropriate. Remove trash, debris, and illegal structures after assessing San Francisco garter snake habitat value. Replace structures with functional habitat equivalent as appropriate.
- Implement a comprehensive trail plan that would protect and enhance native habitats as well as provide safe visitor access.
- Install site improvements.
- Ensure access through site without compromising slope stability or sensitive habitat.
- Improve hydrologic and habitat connectivity between upland and wetland areas.
- Create ponds for San Francisco garter snake foraging habitat.
- Reduce human-caused and accelerated erosion to restore natural processes.
- Develop and implement a monitoring system to track progress for restoration goals.
- Engage community in the implementation of management objectives.
- Build public awareness on the appropriate use of the site, and protect habitat from unauthorized and/or destructive use.
- Build public awareness on the unique values and recreational opportunities at Mori Point.

## **1.5 Project Area Location**

The project area is located at Mori Point in the City of Pacifica along the Pacific Coast, west of Highway 1 and south of Laguna Salada (Figure 1).

## **1.6 Scope of Environmental Assessment**

This EA analyzes three Action Alternatives and the No Action Alternative and their impacts on the human and natural environment. It fully describes project alternatives, existing conditions in the project area, and equally analyzes the effects of each project alternative on the environment.

This EA was prepared pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4341 et seq.), as amended in 1975 by P.L. 94-52 and P.L. 94-83. Additional guidance includes NPS Director's Order 12 (NPS, 2001a) which implements Section 102(2) of NEPA and the regulations established by the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) (40 CFR 1500-1508). The project must comply with requirements of NEPA as well as other legislation that governs land use, natural resource protection, and other policy issues within GGNRA.

This EA will also serve as a Biological Assessment (BA) pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA). The ESA states that, if a federal action may adversely affect a federally listed species, consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) is required to ensure that the action will not jeopardize the species' continued existence or result in the destruction or adverse modification of critical habitat. This BA serves to initiate formal consultation with the USFWS. Its purpose is to identify any endangered species or threatened species which are likely to be affected by the project and help make the determination of whether the proposed action is "likely to adversely affect" listed species and critical habitat. For the purpose of consultation with the USFWS, the NPS property boundary at Mori Point is also considered to be the "action area" (areas to be affected by the Federal action) and the NPS is considered to be the "action agency".

The following related topics are outside the scope of this EA. The GGNRA intends to conduct separate planning for these projects.

- Habitat enhancement and re-introduction of the federally endangered Myrtle's Silverspot Butterfly. This species historically occurred in grassland habitats around Pacifica, but now is considered to be extinct south of the Golden Gate Bridge. Habitat restoration and species re-introduction efforts may be pursued in the future in coordination with USFWS under a separate planning and compliance process.<sup>1</sup>
- Dog walking. Dog walking on site will be evaluated through an ongoing federally-sanctioned Negotiated Rulemaking Process. More information on this planning process can be found at [www.nps.gov/goga](http://www.nps.gov/goga) and <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/goga>.
- Planning or construction of connector trails outside the project area, including potential future trail to Sweeney Ridge. These efforts will be addressed in the future under separate planning efforts and compliance documentation.

## **1.7 Related Laws, Legislation, Management Guidelines and Constraints**

Many regulations and Executive Orders are typically addressed in NEPA documents. The following is a summary of several relevant guidance documents and regulations and a description of their relationship to the Proposed Project. Other applicable regulations, plans, and standards that were taken into consideration in the development of this EA and the analysis of the impacts are located in Chapter 3.

### National Park Service Organic Act

The NPS Organic Act directs the NPS to manage units "to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wildlife therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such a manner as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations." (16 U.S.C. § 1). Congress reiterated this mandate in the Redwood National Park Expansion Act of 1978 by stating that the NPS must conduct its actions in a manner that will ensure no "derogation of the

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<sup>1</sup> This species was not considered to be present within the Project Area per the impact analysis in Section 3.5.2.1 and Appendix A.

values and purposes for which these various areas have been established, except as may have been or shall be directly and specifically provided by Congress.” (16 U.S.C. § 1 a-1). The Organic Act prohibits actions that permanently impair park resources unless a law directly and specifically allows for the acts. An action constitutes an impairment when its impacts “harm the integrity of park resources or values, including the opportunities that otherwise would be present for the enjoyment of those resources and values.” (Management Policies 1.4.3).

#### National Park Service Management Policies (2001)

NPS Management Policies 2001 requires the analysis of potential effects of each alternative to determine if actions would impair park resources. To determine impairment, the NPS must evaluate “the particular resources and values that would be affected; the severity, duration, and timing of the impact; the direct and indirect effects of the impact; and the cumulative effects of the impact in question and other impacts.” (Management Policies 1.4.4). The NPS must always seek ways to avoid or minimize, to the greatest degree practicable, adverse impacts on park resources and values. However, the laws do give the NPS management discretion to allow impacts to park resources and values when necessary and appropriate to fulfill the purposes of a park, as long as the impact does not constitute impairment to the affected resources and values (Management Policies 1.4.3).

#### 1980 General Management Plan for the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GMP)

The GMP (NPS, 1980), which is the guiding plan for the park, and its corresponding EA were reviewed in the development of this EA. Mori Point is not addressed in the 1980 GMP because it was not added to the GGNRA until 2002, subsequent to GMP development. However, relevant management objectives identified in the GMP that provide useful context include:

- To offer recreational opportunities to a diversity of park users and to impart knowledge necessary for full enjoyment of park resources through a particular emphasis on interpretation, education, and information programs;
- To retain opportunities for recreation activities pursued in the park today;
- Maintaining and restoring the character of natural environment lands by maintaining the diversity of native park plant and animal life, identifying and protecting threatened and endangered plant and animal species, and other sensitive natural resources, controlling exotic plants, and checking erosion whenever feasible; and
- To recognize the importance of the cultural resources within the recreation area through a positive program of their identification, evaluation, preservation, management, and interpretation.

#### 36 CFR 4.30, Federal Register, Vol. 52, No. 63 and Vol. 57, No. 239

These regulations specifically address bicycle use on NPS lands. Vol. 52, No. 63 states “Routes may only be designated for bicycle use based on a written determination that such use is consistent with the protection of a park area’s natural, scenic, and aesthetic values, safety considerations and management objectives and will not disturb wildlife or park resources.” Vol. 57, No. 239 states with regard to bicycle routes: “Any additional trails other than those mentioned in this preamble may be designated by the Superintendent in writing after holding public meetings through the Golden Gate Advisory Commission, by marking on maps which will be available in the office of the Superintendent and other places convenient to the public, and through the posting of trails which are open to bicycle use.” This EA serves as written

determination that bicycle use on Mori Road, California Coastal Trail (CCT,) CCT Bowl Connector, Fairway Trail, Upper Trail, and Bluff Trails, as described in the Preferred Alternative, is consistent with the park area's natural, scenic, and aesthetic values, safety considerations and management objectives and will not disturb wildlife or park resources.

## **1.8 Issues and Impact Topics**

Issues are related to potential environmental effects of project alternatives and were identified by the project interdisciplinary team (comprised of NPS and GGNPC staff and natural resources consultants). Once issues were identified, they were used to help formulate the alternatives and mitigation measures. Impact topics based on substantive issues, environmental statutes, regulations, and executive orders (EOs) were selected for detailed analysis. A summary of the impact topics and rationale for their inclusion or dismissal is given below.

### **1.8.1 Issues and Impact Topics Identified for Further Analysis**

Issues and concerns affecting the proposed project were identified through input from individuals, organizations, federal agencies, and NPS public scoping efforts. The Proposed Project was evaluated under the GGNRA's internal NEPA process (Project Review) which included internal scoping with staff. The NPS also conducted public scoping (see Chapter 4 for a description of the scoping process). The prominent issues raised are potential impacts to visitors using Mori Point, trail use designations, trail alignments, and impacts to federally protected species and other natural resources. In response to these issues, the following relevant impact topics are analyzed in the EA: Geology and Soils, Hydrology and Water Quality, Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Public Safety, Air Quality, Visitor Use and Recreation, Noise, and Visual Resources.

### **1.8.2 Impact Topics Considered but Dismissed from Further Consideration**

Rationale for dismissing specific topics from further consideration is given below.

#### Prime and Unique Farmlands

In August 1980, the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) directed that federal agencies must assess the effects of their actions on farmland soils classified by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) as prime or unique. Prime or unique farmland is defined as soil that particularly produces general crops such as common foods, forage, fiber, and oil seed; unique farmland produces specialty crops such as fruits, vegetables, and nuts. According to NRCS, none of the soils in the project area are classified as prime and unique farmlands. Therefore, the topic of prime and unique farmlands was dismissed as an impact topic in this document.

#### Land Use

Mori Point is federal NPS property and therefore exempted from compliance with local policies and regulations. However, the NPS seeks to be a good neighbor and manage land in a manner supportive of local policies. The proposed action would neither change local and regional land use nor impact local businesses or other agencies. Additionally, implementation of the Action

Alternatives would not affect existing land uses within the GGNRA, regardless of trail alignment or designation. Mori Point will continue to be managed as NPS land consistent with the Organic Act of 1916 "...to promote and regulate the use of the...national parks...which purpose is to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wild life therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations."

#### Environmental Justice

Executive Order 12898, "General Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low Income Populations," requires all federal agencies to incorporate environmental justice into their missions by identifying and addressing disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of their programs and policies on minorities and low income populations and communities. The actions proposed in this analysis would not have disproportionate health or environmental effects on minorities or low-income populations or communities as defined in the Environmental Protection Agency's Environmental Justice Guidance (1998). Any temporary restriction on trail use or trail realignments would be equally applied to all visitors, regardless of race or socioeconomic standing.

#### Energy Resources

This project would not place an increased burden on local or regional energy resources. The project is located on open space land and the proposed actions would not require long-term use of energy resources. Construction activities associated with the project would be undertaken in an energy efficient manner.

#### Museum Collection

Actions proposed in this would not have a direct or indirect effect on park museums collections.

#### Wilderness

There is no designated Wilderness within the project area.

#### Hazardous Materials

A Level 1 Pre-Acquisition Environmental Site Assessment Survey (Level 1 Survey) of Mori Point was completed in 2001. This Level 1 Survey included a site inspection on September 1, 2001; completion of a NPS Level 1 Survey Checklist for Proposed Real Estate Acquisitions; interviews with the previous property owner; and a review of government agency records and historical uses of the property. The survey revealed no evidence of recognized environmental conditions or contaminants on the property and there were no obvious signs of contamination. Therefore, hazardous materials was dismissed as an impact topic.

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## CHAPTER 2. DESCRIPTION OF ALTERNATIVES

### 2.1 Introduction

NEPA requires federal agencies to conduct a careful, complete and analytic study of the impacts of proposals that have the potential to affect the environment and consider alternatives to that proposal, well before any decisions are made. Federal agencies are also required to involve interested or affected members of the public in the NEPA process. The EA assists the NPS in decision-making and in the determination that the potential for significant effect does not exist and the preparation of an environmental impact statement is not required. All alternatives are consistent with the legal requirements, established standards and guidelines for the management of natural and historic resources in accordance with the mission of the NPS.

### 2.2 Description of Alternatives

#### 2.2.1 Background on Alternative Development

In order to acquire the baseline data needed to develop informed and appropriate alternatives for the Mori Point Restoration and Trail Plan, the GGNRA commissioned several studies. Study maps can be found in Appendix A and other locations noted below. These studies included:

- *Trail Use Study.* A trail use study was conducted to determine the most frequently used trail segments (Appendix A). Study results indicated that most visitors used Mori Road and the trails along the coastal cliffs near the Point. The Upper Trail south of Mori Road was also used relatively frequently. Visitors to the site were also interviewed by staff as to their trail and site preferences.
- *Vegetation Mapping.* Vegetation associations (Appendix A) and vegetation alliances (Figure 13) were mapped according to standards set forth by the NPS Inventory and Monitoring Program.
- *Invasive Plant Survey.* The locations of fifteen priority non-native plant species were mapped (Appendix A).
- *Hydrological Assessment.* Natural and manipulated drainage patterns (Appendix A), natural and artificial seeps, natural and manipulated landslides, and placed fill (Appendix A) were identified and mapped.
- *Trail Assessment.* All roads and non-designated trails were mapped (Figure 6).
- *Boundary Survey.* A boundary survey was conducted to identify and demarcate GGNRA boundaries at Mori Point (boundaries indicated on all Figures).
- *Topographical Survey.* Elevation contours at 0.5-meter intervals were mapped (Appendix A).
- *Special Status Species Occurrences.* San Francisco garter snake and California red-legged frog observations were compiled and mapped, along with historic information about both species' distributions. San Francisco fork-tail damselfly potential habitat was also mapped (Figure 16).
- *Wetland Mapping.* Wetlands throughout the project site were mapped according to Cowardin wetland classification system, according to NPS standards (Figure 15). A subset of these wetlands that would potentially be impacted by the proposed project were mapped in more detail, according to US Army Corps of Engineer protocols (Figure 14).

The GGNRA also conducted meetings and site visits with hydrological experts, endangered species experts, trail planners, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service biologists, and the Pacifica Golden Gate National Recreation Area Liaison Committee to discuss potential plans for Mori Point. Based on the information and recommendations gathered, the GGNRA created a draft trail alignment and restoration plan for Mori Point, which was open for public comment from October 7, 2005 through November 7, 2005. The draft alignment and restoration plan was revised based upon public comment and developed into the Preferred Alternative (Alternative 1).

## **2.3 Alternatives Considered in Detail**

### **2.3.1 Features Common to Action Alternatives**

The guiding objectives of all Action Alternatives are to protect and enhance habitat for the endangered San Francisco garter snake and the threatened California red-legged frog; preserve and restore the ecological integrity of Mori Point habitats by reducing threats to native plant communities and natural processes; and develop a safe and sustainable trail system, incorporating the California Coastal Trail, that improves recreational experiences and reduces impacts to park resources (Figure 2 – General Plan).

Each of the three Action Alternatives contains the same restoration and trail alignment proposal and differs only in trail-use designation. These actions are similar across all alternatives due to the need to provide the highest level of protection for the federally listed species on the site. The resulting opportunities for trails leave one system that best responds to user circulation needs. All trails were evaluated for suitability for uses over and above hiker-only. The Preferred Alternative (Alternative 1) (Figure 3) offers a variety of trail experiences to different user groups and provides for the best way to meet management objectives to protect and enhance natural resource values and provide public access. In the Preferred Alternative, hiker-only designations would be in effect on all segments through, or leading to, steep and erosion-prone areas. Multiple-use opportunities were identified on the California Coastal Trail (CCT) and its main connector routes, Mori Road, Upper Trail, CCT Bowl Connector, and Fairway Trail. The second alternative (Limited Multiple-use) (Figure 4) proposes that only the CCT be designated multiple-use, and that all other alignments be considered hiker only. In the third alternative (All Multiple-use) (Figure 5), all trails are designated multiple-use, with no restrictions on biking, hiking, or equestrian use. The fourth alternative is the No Action alternative (Figure 6). Dog walking will be determined through an ongoing federally-sanctioned Negotiated Rulemaking Process, and is not addressed in this document (see Section 2.4).

Actions common to all alternatives are divided into two categories: 1) Site-wide Management Actions and 2) Long-term Stewardship Actions. Site-wide Management Actions would be finite actions that occur for a discrete period of time over the course of the project. These Site Management Actions also includes restoration in specific areas, called Special Restoration Areas. Site-wide Management actions would occur throughout the entire site, with the exception of those concentrated in Special Restoration Areas. Long-term Stewardship Actions would occur in perpetuity on a regular basis. A description of these actions is described below.

FIGURE 2. MORI POINT GENERAL RESTORATION AND TRAIL PLAN

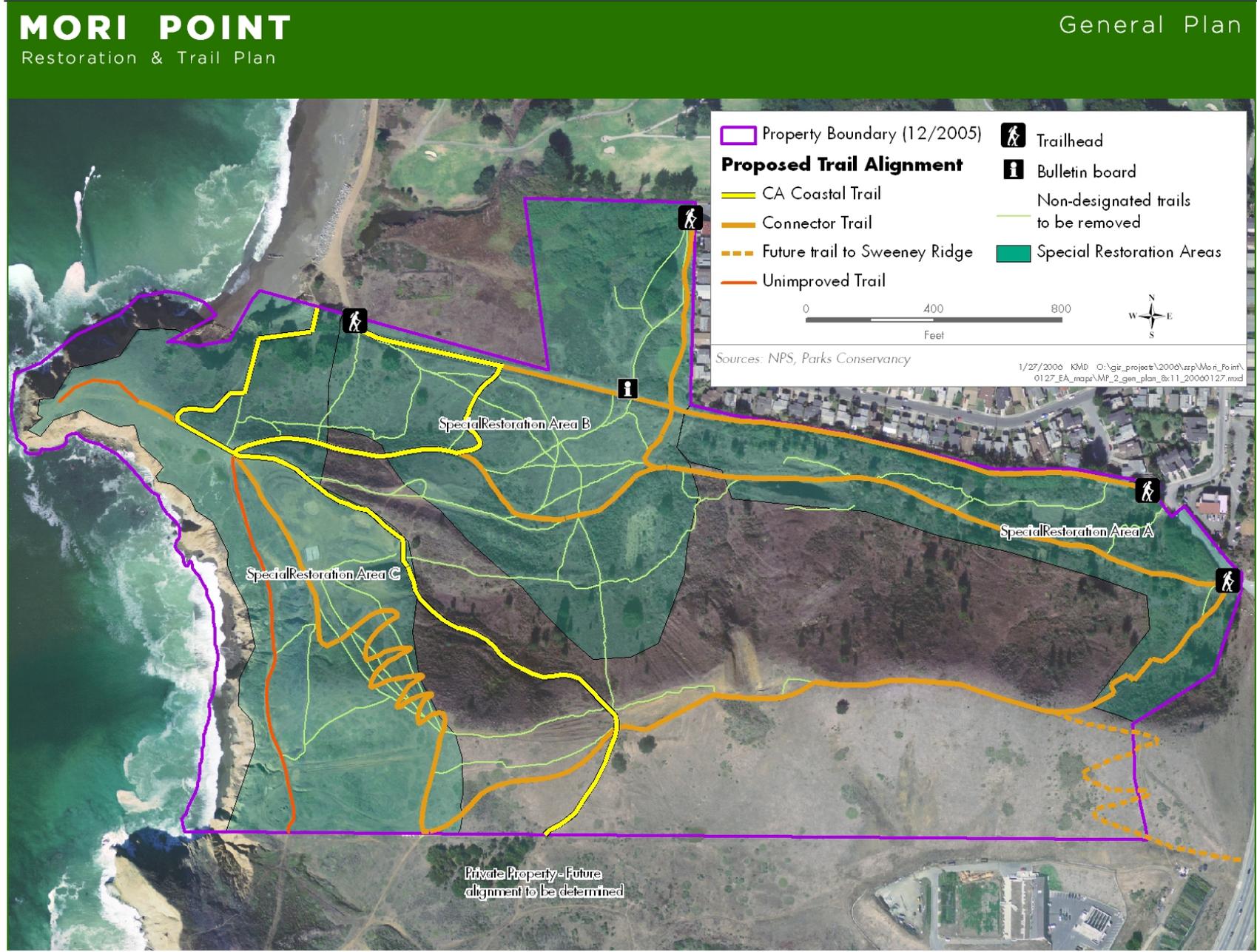


FIGURE 3. ALTERNATIVE 1: PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE.

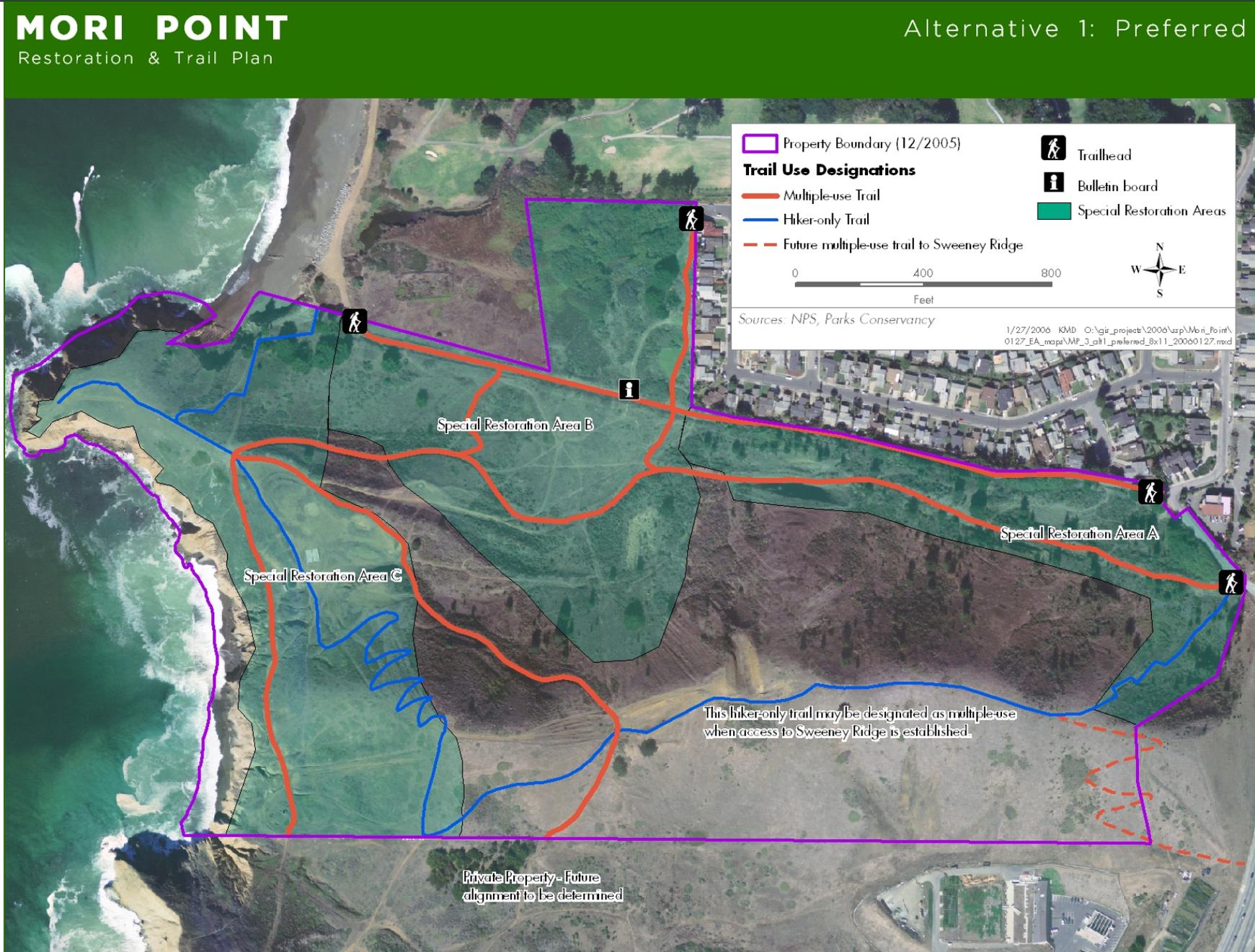


FIGURE 4. ALTERNATIVE 2: LIMITED MULTIPLE-USE

# MORI POINT

Restoration & Trail Plan

## Alternative 2: Limited Multiple-Use

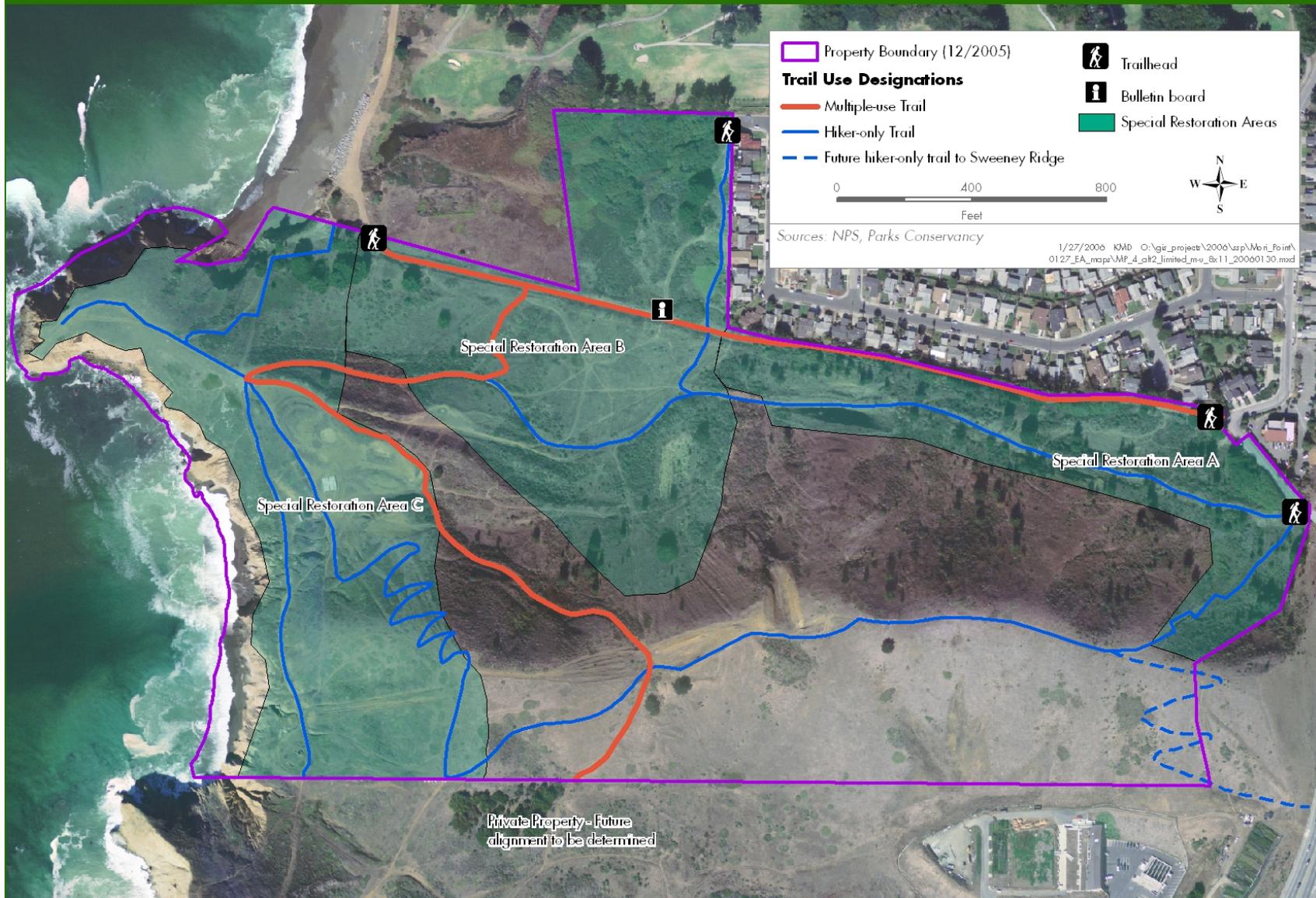


FIGURE 5. ALTERNATIVE 3: ALL MULTIPLE-USE.

