



Mountains Recreation &  
Conservation Authority



## NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE MALIBU COASTAL ACCESS PUBLIC WORKS PLAN

**Date:** December 9, 2019

**To:** State Clearinghouse, Agencies, Organizations, and Interested Parties

The State Coastal Conservancy (SCC) and Mountains Recreation & Conservation Authority (MRCA), as the Lead Agencies, will prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the proposed Malibu Coastal Access Public Works Plan (proposed Project).

The SCC and MRCA are seeking input from reviewing agencies and the public regarding the scope and content of the EIR. In accordance with CEQA, the SCC and MRCA request that agencies review the description of the Project provided in this NOP and Initial Study and provide comments on environmental issues related to the statutory responsibilities of the Lead, Responsible or Trustee Agencies. The EIR will be used by the Lead Agencies when considering approval of the proposed Project and by other Responsible and Trustee Agencies to support their discretionary actions related to the Project, as applicable. The SCC and MRCA are also seeking comments from residents, property owners, interested citizens, and organizations regarding possible environmental impacts that should be addressed in the EIR.

The Lead Agencies completed an Initial Study identifying the potential environmental impacts from the proposed Project. The project description, location, and the potential environmental effects are included in the Initial Study, which is available at the locations listed in this NOP.

The 60-day public scoping period begins with the issuance of this NOP on **December 9, 2019** and ends on **February 7, 2020**. Comments may be sent any time during the 60-day public scoping period. Please focus your comments on issues related to the scope and content of the environmental analysis. All public and agency scoping comments must be received or postmarked by **February 7, 2020**. Due to the time limits mandated by State law, your response must be sent at the earliest possible date after receipt of this notice, but no later than February 7, 2020. Please include the name of a contact person for your agency, if applicable. All comments should be directed to:

Mountains Recreation & Conservation Authority  
RE: Malibu Coastal Access Public Works Plan  
Attn: Jessica Nguyen, Project Manager  
26800 Mulholland Highway  
Calabasas, California 91302

Comments may also be emailed to [coastalaccesspwp@mrca.ca.gov](mailto:coastalaccesspwp@mrca.ca.gov)

The Lead Agencies are providing additional opportunity to provide comments at a Scoping Meeting scheduled for **January 22, 2020 at 6:00pm** at 26800 Mulholland Highway, Calabasas, CA 91302. The Scoping Meeting discussion will be limited to understanding the proposed Project and any possible environmental impacts, reasonable alternatives, and potential mitigation measures.

### **Malibu Coastal Access Public Works Plan Project Description**

This NOP incorporates by reference the descriptions and analysis included in the Initial Study as if the Initial Study's full text were set forth in this NOP.

**Project Location:** The proposed Project encompasses a total of 17 sites located along the Malibu coast within the City of Malibu. The locations of the 17 sites are indicated in the attached figure.

**Project Overview:** In a collaborative effort to increase public access and recreational opportunities along beaches in the City of Malibu, the SCC and the MRCA are developing the Malibu Coastal Access Public Works Plan. The proposed Project will be reviewed and considered for approval by the California Coastal Commission pursuant to 14 Cal. Code of Regs. §13350 et seq. A draft of the proposed Public Works Plan will be attached to the draft EIR for public review and comment.

The proposed Project consists of development plans and policies for up to seven public beach accessways and management policies for those accessways. The proposed Project also includes ten accessways that are currently open and managed by MRCA or are in the process of being developed by MRCA for public beach access. The proposed Project includes the following elements that cover design to the implementation and management of the beach accessways:

- Site constraints and opportunities for each site that is proposed to be developed in the Public Works Plan;
- Improvements for each site proposed to be developed in the Public Works Plan;
- Objectives and policies related to development, public access and recreation, and resource protection consistent with the California Coastal Act (Coastal Act) and the City of Malibu Local Coastal Program; and
- Management policies to provide for the operation and maintenance of all the public beach accessways included in the Public Works Plan.

The proposed Project also addresses the statutory environmental elements for developing the Public Works Plan, such as those contained in Public Resources Code §30605. The 17 public beach accessways included in the proposed Project are identified in the attached figure. Accessways with site numbers preceded by the letter "D" are proposed to be improved and would be subject to the development policies and management policies in the Public Works Plan. Accessways with site numbers preceded by the letter "M" are sites that are being developed under an existing local coastal development permit entitlement or are currently open. These sites would be subject to the management policies in the Public Works Plan.

The proposed improvements and management of the public beach accessways included in the proposed PWP are described in further detail in the Initial Study.

## **Potential Environmental Impacts**

In accordance with Section 15126 of the CEQA Guidelines, the EIR will assess the physical changes to the environment that would likely result from construction and operation of the proposed Project, including direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts, as well as growth-inducing effects.

The SCC and MRCA determined that an EIR will be required to satisfy environmental review for the proposed Project. The scope of the EIR analysis would include evaluation of environmental effects associated with the following issue areas:

- Aesthetics
- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Energy
- Geology and Soils
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Noise
- Public Services
- Recreation
- Transportation
- Tribal Cultural Resources
- Wildfire

The above issue areas will be finalized after reviewing comments received during the 60-day public scoping period. The Lead Agencies determined in the Initial Study that impacts associated with Agriculture and Forestry Resources, Land Use and Planning, Mineral Resources, Population and Housing, and Utilities and Service Systems, do not have a possible significant effect and would not be further evaluated in the EIR. A summary of the Initial Study's conclusions with respect to these areas will be included in the Impacts Found Not Significant section of the EIR.

Once the potential environmental effects are identified, mitigation measures will be developed as necessary to avoid or reduce potential significant effects of the proposed Project. The EIR will also discuss alternatives to the proposed Project, including a no project alternative. The alternatives discussion in the EIR will evaluate alternatives considered as a means for lessening or avoiding any potentially significant environmental impacts of the proposed Project.

## **Availability of the Initial Study**

An Initial Study is available for review at:

- Malibu Library, 23519 West Civic Center Way, Malibu, California 90265
- King Gillette Ranch, 26876 Mulholland Highway, Calabasas, California 91302
- Los Angeles River Center & Gardens, 570 West Avenue 26, Los Angeles, California 90065
- Online at <https://mrca.ca.gov/about/land-use-planning-documents/>

Overview Map of All Public Beach Accessways Included in the Malibu Coastal Access Public Works Plan

