



# MEETING SUMMARY

## Recreation Management and Visitor Use and Needs at Silverwood SRA

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### Meeting Details

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**Date:** 17 November 2017

**Time:** 10:00am

**Location:** Caltrans District 8 Offices, San Bernardino, CA.

**Objectives:** Gather information on highway management and plans for Highways 138 and 173 near Silverwood Lake.

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### Attendees

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Lisa McCandless, Stantec; Kirby Gilbert, Stantec; Ricky Rivers, Transportation Planner Caltrans District 8, Rena Tang, Caltrans District 8 System Planner, Joes Fernandez, Jr. Caltrans District 8 Traffic Operations, Afshia Karimi, Caltrans District 8 Forecasting.

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### Summary

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As recommended by the U.S. Forest Service, Mountaintop Ranger District, a recreation interview was scheduled with Caltrans District 8 staff who are knowledgeable about highway planning in the Silverwood Lake area to understand more about the management and planning for highways leading to and from Silverwood Lake SRA. The Caltrans staff provided some general observations as follows:

- Caltrans staff discussed proposed development and changes in land use that require further highway traffic analysis, known as a warrant process to identify things like when signalization might be required. There were not current warrants or other inquiries into State Highway 173 in the Silverwood area the staff where aware of.
- When traffic is constrained and studies are warranted, they look at turning volumes, crash experience, peak hours, and pedestrian volume to determine if signalization is warranted. It did not appear from what they know of the periodic back-ups on Highway 138 that the situation would justify signalization, rather having law enforcement officers present to direct traffic which is a common remedy to such peak occurrences that are fairly predictable.

## Devil Canyon Project Relicensing

- It was noted there are at least 14 paved pullouts along Highway 138's east side affording views of Silverwood Lake. Rena Tang noted she could look into what the designations of those pullouts were originally which could help determine appropriate uses since it was noted vehicles sometimes park in these pullouts to undertake recreation activities in the area including those at Silverwood Lake.
- Caltrans is sensitive to any activity that would increase maintenance, so even the placement of new signage or changes in trash receptacles at the pullouts can be problematic for them.
- Caltrans has the Adopt a Highway program that can help address maintenance concerns and they also sometimes use a Federal Land Access Program that has funding to help recreationist access Federal lands for recreation uses.
- If new facilities including signage is desired to be placed on the State right-of-way an encroachment permit should be pursued.