

Proposed Text

4351, 4351.1- Minimum Tool Use

Title 14. Natural Resources

Division 3. Department of Parks and Recreation

Chapter 2. Vehicles, Boats, Aircraft, Horses, and Operator Propelled Devices

§ 4351. Natural Preserve.

~~No person shall drive, operate, leave, place, land, taxi, takeoff or stop a motor vehicle, motorboat or aircraft within the boundaries of a natural preserve.~~

§ 4351.4. State Wilderness, Cultural Preserves, and Natural Preserves.

This means no bicycles and no new trails

(a) Except where it is necessary in an emergency involving the health and safety of persons within the wilderness area, cultural preserve, or natural preserve, there shall be no use of motorized vehicles, motorized equipment, or motorboats, no landing or hovering of aircraft, no flying of aircraft lower than 2,000 feet above the ground, no other form of mechanical transport, and no permanent structure or installation within any state wilderness, cultural preserve, or natural preserve, and except to the extent the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation, or his/her designee makes the following findings in writing ("Findings"): **This is a very high threshold**

(1) the use of motorized vehicles, motorized equipment, or motorboats, the landing or hovering of aircraft, or flying of aircraft lower than 2,000 feet above the ground, the use of any other form of mechanical transport, or the placement of a temporary or permanent structure or installation must be temporary and meet a minimum management requirement. A minimum management requirement is defined in AB 2945 "as the minimum wilderness management actions that are necessary to administer a wilderness the area for the purposes of this Chapter as defined in PRC Sections 5093.36, 5019.71 and 5019.74.

(2) the approach proposed to perform the minimum management requirement will make use of the "minimum tool" to best preserve the wilderness, cultural or natural values under the given circumstances. The "minimum tool" is defined as "the least intrusive tool, equipment, device, regulation, action, or practice that will achieve the minimum management requirements."

Trails will be built ONLY if they protect resources

(3) the result of the work will be a condition as near as natural as possible and shall leave no permanent trace or permanent installation or structure except those necessary to protect the cultural and natural resources.

(b) Upon making the Findings required in section 4351.2 (a), the Director may authorize officers, employees or agents of the Department of Parks and Recreation to occupy and use a particular state wilderness, cultural preserve, or natural preserve within the California State Park System on a case-by-case basis to conduct a minimum management requirement.

(c) Prior to the Director making the Findings, Department of Parks and Recreation staff shall make a recommendation to the Director on the proposed Findings. The recommendation shall provide sufficient background, analysis, data and research to allow the Director to fairly and objectively evaluate the material considerations for the Findings. The staff recommendation shall include:

(1) an analysis of whether a wilderness, cultural resource or natural resource management need exists;

(2) a description of the proposed minimum management requirement and the minimum tools to be used, including when, where and the time frame for the proposed action;

(3) the alternative approaches considered, including a discussion of the pros and cons of the alternatives; and

(4) any measures that minimize the effects of the proposed activities.

(d) The process set forth in California Code of Regulations section 4351.2 shall be used only to evaluate and arrive at a project description and a proposed action and shall not replace or supplant any required analysis under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and Public Resources Code Section 5024.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 5003 and 5093.36, Public Resources Code.
Reference: Section 5093.36, 5019.71, 5019.74, 5024, and 5024.5 Public Resources Code.

4360, 4360.1- Trail Use

§ 4360. ~~Bicycles, Operator-Propelled Devices.~~ Trail use.

~~Unless designated by the Department, all trails are open to pedestrians and closed to all other uses. No person shall operate an operator or gravity propelled device in any unit, or portion thereof, when the Department has issued an order prohibiting such activity. The Department may establish speed limits for designated trail use for units or portions thereof in which these devices are used. Speed limits will be posted.~~

4360.1. Trails in Reserves and Preserves as defined in PRC Sections 5019.65, 5019.71 and 5019.74 may be designated for bicycle or equestrian use when the District Superintendent has determined after appropriate review and analysis that such use is important for public access to the area or to make important connections to other trails and where it has been determined that impacts to the special resources for which the area was established will be less than significant.

Note: Authority cited: Section 5003, Public Resources Code. Reference: Sections 5008, 5019.65, 5019.71, 5019.74, 5024 and 5024.5 Public Resources Code.

This is
worthy of
strong
support