

**SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY**

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**Statement of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority regarding ruling in the case City of Malibu v. The California Coastal Commission, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy et al.**

While the Conservancy and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) are disappointed in the ruling pertaining to the Local Coastal Program Override Procedure in Malibu to allow for camping and other recreational uses of Corral Canyon Park, Malibu Bluffs, Escondido Canyon and Ramirez Canyon Parks, the Conservancy and MRCA will continue towards their goal to increase access to public parks in Malibu.

“There is nothing in the ruling that prohibits the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority from re-filing the plan that the Coastal Commission has previously approved,” said Laurie Collins, Chief Staff Counsel for the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy. “We will re-file the specific projects shortly, possibly in the next week.”

Joseph T. Edmiston, Executive Director of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy said: "Malibu can hire all the lawyers they want, but in the end the five city council members of Malibu, representing 13,000 people, can't prevent public camping and recreation use of the tens of millions of dollars worth of parkland acquired on behalf of all the people of California."

The Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy was established by the California State Legislature in 1980. Since that time, it has helped to preserve over 69,000 acres of parkland in both wilderness and urban settings, and has improved more than 114 public recreational facilities throughout Southern California.

The MRCA is a local park agency dedicated to the preservation and management of open space, urban parkland, watershed lands, trails, and wildlife habitat. The MRCA manages more than 69,000 acres of public parkland and provides natural resources and scientific expertise, critical regional planning services, park construction, operations, fire prevention and ranger services, as well as education and leadership programs for thousands of youth each year. It is one of the lead agencies revitalizing the Los Angeles River and its tributaries.

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