



Anza Property (8.8 acres) FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the State Lands Commission?

The California State Lands Commission was created by the Legislature in 1938 as an independent body composed of three members – the Lieutenant Governor, the State Controller and the Director of Finance. While the Commission has some regulatory functions, principally it is a land and resource management agency, not a regulatory agency. The Commission and its staff manage the State's sovereign public trust lands, which are lands that became state property when California joined the Union on September 9, 1850 and are held by the State in trust for the people. The Commission and its staff manage these lands consistent with the Public Trust Doctrine and in the best interests of the state. The Public Trust Doctrine is a common law doctrine that ensures the State's sovereign lands are used for trust-consistent uses, such as water-related commerce, navigation, fisheries, recreation, and open space, as well as public access to these lands and resources. Commission staff negotiates leases and contracts for the Commission to consider involving the use of the State's property and resources.

What is the Commission's Jurisdiction?

The Commission's jurisdiction includes approximately 120 rivers and sloughs, 40 lakes, and tide and submerged lands along more than 1000 miles of coastline underlying the Pacific Ocean out 3 nautical miles. Tidelands are those sovereign lands between the ordinary high water mark and the ordinary low water mark, before any fill or artificial accretion. Submerged lands are sovereign lands below the ordinary low water mark. Altogether, the Commission's jurisdiction encompasses approximately 4 million acres.

Who owns the Anza Property?

In general, the State's sovereign ownership interest in San Francisco Bay is waterward of the ordinary high water mark which, before any fill or accretion, is the current Mean High Tide Line (MHTL). In the 1960's, the Anza area, consisting of 146 acres, was filled by the Anza Corporation and was subject to actions affecting this ownership, including a boundary line and land exchange agreement (BLA 131). The State retained 46 acres in fee title ownership consisting of various uses, including a hotel (Embassy Suites), restaurant (Kincaids), parking lots, bay trail segments, Anza Lagoon, a State Park, pedestrian footbridge, Sanchez Channel, public roads, and infrastructure.

What is a Public Trust Needs Assessment?

The purpose of this Assessment and our meeting is to educate the public on what uses are consistent with the Public Trust Doctrine and fit within the City's General and Specific Plan designations, and to solicit meaningful engagement on Public Trust needs and values at this location. Staff's goal is to have a robust, comprehensive, and efficient public outreach campaign and bring a recommendation on the most appropriate Public Trust uses for the Property to the Commission at the earliest opportunity. The Assessment will incorporate climate change and sea level rise data and analysis, environmental justice considerations, and other factors that may inform an analysis on what is in the State's best interests.

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