WHEN APPLICABLE, ENTER THE NUMBER AND DATE OF THIS DEPARTMENTAL NOTICE IN THE MARGINS OF THE MANUAL PAGE, ADJACENT TO THE SECTION(S) AFFECTED BY IT.

The Department's Native California Indian Gathering Policy was released by memorandum in September 1985. To emphasize its importance, it is restated below and will be incorporated into DCM 1600.

NATIVE CALIFORNIA INDIAN GATHERING POLICY

The Department is charged with the preservation and interpretation of California's heritage of cultural and natural resources, as well as providing recreational opportunities to visitors of the State Park System. In the State Park and Recreation Commission's preamble to its policy statements, it is stated that the function of the Department is to acquire, protect, develop, and interpret areas, held in trust, that are "irreplaceable portions of California natural and historic heritage." While such heritage preservation has generally been applied to material culture, current preservation philosophy includes folklife. Certainly folklife is part of California's cultural heritage, and the Department is charged with the preservation of that heritage.

Folklife may be regarded as a non-material aspect of culture and the behavioral ramifications of that aspect in certain contexts. Public Resources Code Section 5020.1(g)(Amendments of 1984) defines folklife as: "...traditional expressive culture shared within familial, ethnic, occupations, or regional groups and includes, but is not limited to, technical skill, language, music, oral history, ritual, pageantry, and handicraft traditions which are learned orally, by imitation, or in performance, and are generally maintained without benefit of formal instruction or institutional direction. However, 'folklife' does not include an area or a site solely on the basis that those activities took place in the area or on that site." As the Department is charged with the preservation of California cultural heritage, preservation of the State's folklife is a new dimension of this mission.

In order to preserve and interpret California's cultural traditions to the State Park System's visitor, it is necessary to foster cultural continuity by permitting certain traditional ethnic groups to use traditional resources in units of the State Park System. State Park System resource utilization nevertheless, must be in the spirit of folklife preservation, not commercialism, which is prohibited by State law. Only California Native American Indian tribes recognized by statute or treaty, even if non-ratified, as well as those California Native American Indians identified by the Native American Heritage Commission as being indigenous to that unit or general area of the State Park System, may collect with approval. The current Bureau of