

**You can Help Establish Tesla as a State Reserve -**  
**Email State Parks supporting**  
**A Tesla Reserve**

Dear Friends of Tesla Park,

**Tesla needs you.**

We continue to work to have Tesla classified as a State Reserve and for the General Plan to be built around Reserve Classification. As a Reserve, the management priority will be to protect Tesla's abundant and sensitive natural and cultural resources, while allowing low-intensity public access.

California State Parks has now combined the planning process that will decide the Classification and General Plan and EIR. There was already a year-long round of workshops, meetings and tours in 2023/2024 that showed overwhelming support for a Reserve. But State Parks wants a different plan and is now starting another round of workshops, stakeholders meetings, and more in Fall 2024 with the process extended until 2027.

Through more meetings and decision points, we will continue to need your help to call on the State Parks and Recreation Commission to build the General Plan and EIR around Tesla classified as a State Reserve.

**Email State Parks to classify Tesla as a Reserve.**

Even if you have emailed State Parks before, you can email again.

A sample email follows which you can use or customize your own message. Even if you have emailed before or attended a meeting, please email again (and again as needed).

Local Indigenous leaders have given Tesla the name "*Hismet Warep*" meaning "*Sacred Earth*" in the Chochenyo language of the Ohlone people. It is a call to action to protect this sacred land.

Thank you for your continued help to establish Tesla as a State Reserve.

## Sample Email to Send to State Parks Commission

**TO:** California State Park and Recreation Commission Chair and Commissioners and Armando Quintero, Director, California State Parks

**EMAIL TO:** [SPR.Commission@parks.ca.gov](mailto:SPR.Commission@parks.ca.gov); [Armando.quintero@parks.ca.gov](mailto:Armando.quintero@parks.ca.gov); [info@alamedateslapan.com](mailto:info@alamedateslapan.com);

**SUBJECT: Classify Tesla as a Reserve – Please distribute to each Commissioner**

Dear Chair Ginsburg, Commissioners and Director Quintero:

I am writing to ask that State Parks classify Tesla as a State Reserve and build the General Plan and EIR around Reserve classification. Classification as a Reserve is needed to best protect Tesla's exceptional and irreplaceable biodiversity, ecological values and cultural resources.

Tesla has natural, cultural and scenic values of statewide significance exceeding the statutory requirements for Reserve classification.

- It has at least 53 threatened, endangered and other protected special-status wildlife animals.
- Tesla is Federally Designated Critical Habitat for the Alameda Whipsnake and California Red-legged frog and part of an Audubon Important Bird Area.
- There are 45 rare plants and 74 locally rare/watch list plants identified thus far in Tesla's varied habitats.
- It is part of an East Bay California Native Plant Society Botanical Priority Protection Area.
- Tesla spans a Critical Linkage Habitat Corridor and is home to golden eagles, mountain lions and tule elk.
- It has been identified as a top conservation target in multiple assessments and research. It holds the site of the historic Tesla coal mine and town.
- It is ancestral lands for Indigenous tribes including the Ohlone and Northern Valley Yokut people with numerous archeological features and sacred ceremonial sites.

Local Indigenous leaders have given Tesla the name "*Hismet Warep*" meaning "*Sacred Earth*" in the Chochenyo language of the Ohlone people. The name is a call to ensure Tesla is durably protected and the Reserve classification is the only way.

There are over 20 other local, regional and state parks in the area that provide a wide range of active recreation opportunities and developed facilities. But there are no State Reserves in this district. State Parks also has other adjacent property and Carnegie SVRA where high-intensity uses are located.

Tesla is a unique natural and cultural landscape and intact ecosystem that is irreplaceable because of its specific wildlife, plants and habitats and because of its geographic location and

associated biological functions. The biotic and cultural values that Tesla holds cannot be replicated, moved or replaced.

If State priorities for achieving 30x30 conservation goals, biodiversity preservation and Native American restorative justice are to be real, then Tesla is the place where words must be put into action.

Classifying Tesla as a Reserve with the associated General Plan/EIR organized around its natural and cultural heritage is an incredible opportunity for State Parks that should not be minimized or passed by. Please classify Tesla as a State Reserve and ensure the General Plan and EIR support a Reserve so this vital and iconic part of our State can be protected forever.

Name, City