



**California Traffic Control Devices Committee (CTCDC)  
Agenda Item Report**



<b>Meeting Date:</b> August 03, 2023	<b>From:</b> Kathryn Kleinschmidt
<b>Item Number:</b> 23-08	
<b>Sponsored By:</b> Yue Wang, PE, Caltrans	<b>Presented By:</b> Kathryn Kleinschmidt, PE, PTOE, Caltrans
<b>Description:</b> Caltrans District 5 in partnership with the County of Monterey, California State Parks, the Community Association of Big Sur (CABS), and others, requests CTCDC recommendation for a new word message sign “NO OVERNIGHT CAMPING OR SLEEPING IN VEHICLE”	

**Recommendation:**

Motion by committee to recommend inclusion of the new word message sign “NO OVERNIGHT CAMPING OR SLEEPING IN VEHICLE” as shown per newly proposed CA MUTCD Section 2B.113(CA) “NO OVERNIGHT CAMPING OR SLEEPING IN VEHICLE” Sign.

**Agency Making Request/Sponsor:**

Kathryn Kleinschmidt, PE, PTOE (Caltrans District 5) and Randell Ishii, MS, PE, TE, PTOE; Director of Public Works, Facilities and Parks (County of Monterey) / Yue Wang, Caltrans CTCDC member

**Background:**

The area along State Highway One (State Route 1) in the Big Sur Area is a popular location for people to visit, walk, and view the beach for recreation. This attraction has created a safety problem: people ignore the existing ‘no camping’ prohibition and set up campfires. A roadside camping prohibition already exists under Monterey County Code Section 14.18.020.A, which states “No person shall camp in the right-of-way of State Highway One between the Carmel River and the Monterey-San Luis Obispo County Line at any time.” Various law enforcement agencies that are active in the Big Sur Area may issue citations under this Monterey County Code. These agencies have provided input to the Monterey County Supervisorial District 5 Office that enforcement could be strengthened by increasing the amount of the citation under the existing code and would serve as an additional deterrent to promote compliance and assist enforcement. As such, at the July 26, 2022 Board Meeting, the Monterey County Board of Supervisors adopted the Urgency Ordinance (Attachment B) that enhanced the existing prohibition from 1986, by increasing the fine to a \$1,000 fine as a civil penalty.

Different versions of the “No Camping” signage were placed throughout the years. The local community group “The Big Sur Byways Organization (BSBO)”, was established by the Monterey County Board of Supervisors through Resolution 19-127, to promote and protect public health and safety, and to ensure the continued safe



## California Traffic Control Devices Committee (CTCDC) Agenda Item Report



and efficient operation of State Highway One through the Big Sur area. They were supportive of the Urgency Ordinance. They also have a Sign Subcommittee that guides the type/placement of signs in the Big Sur area. The subcommittee discussed the different versions of the placed signs and are recommending the existing version shown as Attachment D (which has been in existence and in place for years).

### **Attachments:**

- Attachment A – Proposed New Section 2B.113(CA)
- Attachment B – Proposed Changes to Figure 2B-106(CA)
- Attachment C – Proposed Changes to Table 2B-1 (CA)
- Attachment D – Existing Signage
- Attachment E – County of Monterey Ordinance No. 5381
- Attachment F – Letters of Support



# ATTACHMENT A



## Attachment A – Proposed New Section 2B.113(CA)

### CHAPTER 2B. REGULATORY SIGNS, BARRICADES, AND GATES

#### **Proposal:**

Note:

Black text is consistent with the Federal MUTCD.

Blue text is current text as amended for use in California.

~~Struck-out red~~ text is to be deleted from the CA MUTCD.

Red text is newly proposed text.

Modify Chapter 2B as shown:

#### **Section 2B.113(CA) NO OVERNIGHT CAMPING OR SLEEPING IN VEHICLE Sign (R111(CA))**

Option:

<sup>01</sup> The NO OVERNIGHT CAMPING OR SLEEPING IN VEHICLE (R111(CA)) sign (see Figure 2B-106(CA)) may be used to inform the public that it is unlawful to camp or sleep in the vehicle along a state highway or local roadway where there is an adopted resolution or ordinance that supports the use.

<sup>02</sup> The R111(CA) sign may have a supplemental plaque installed below the sign for the applicable fine amount per the adopted resolution or ordinance (e.g., \$1000 FINE).

Support:

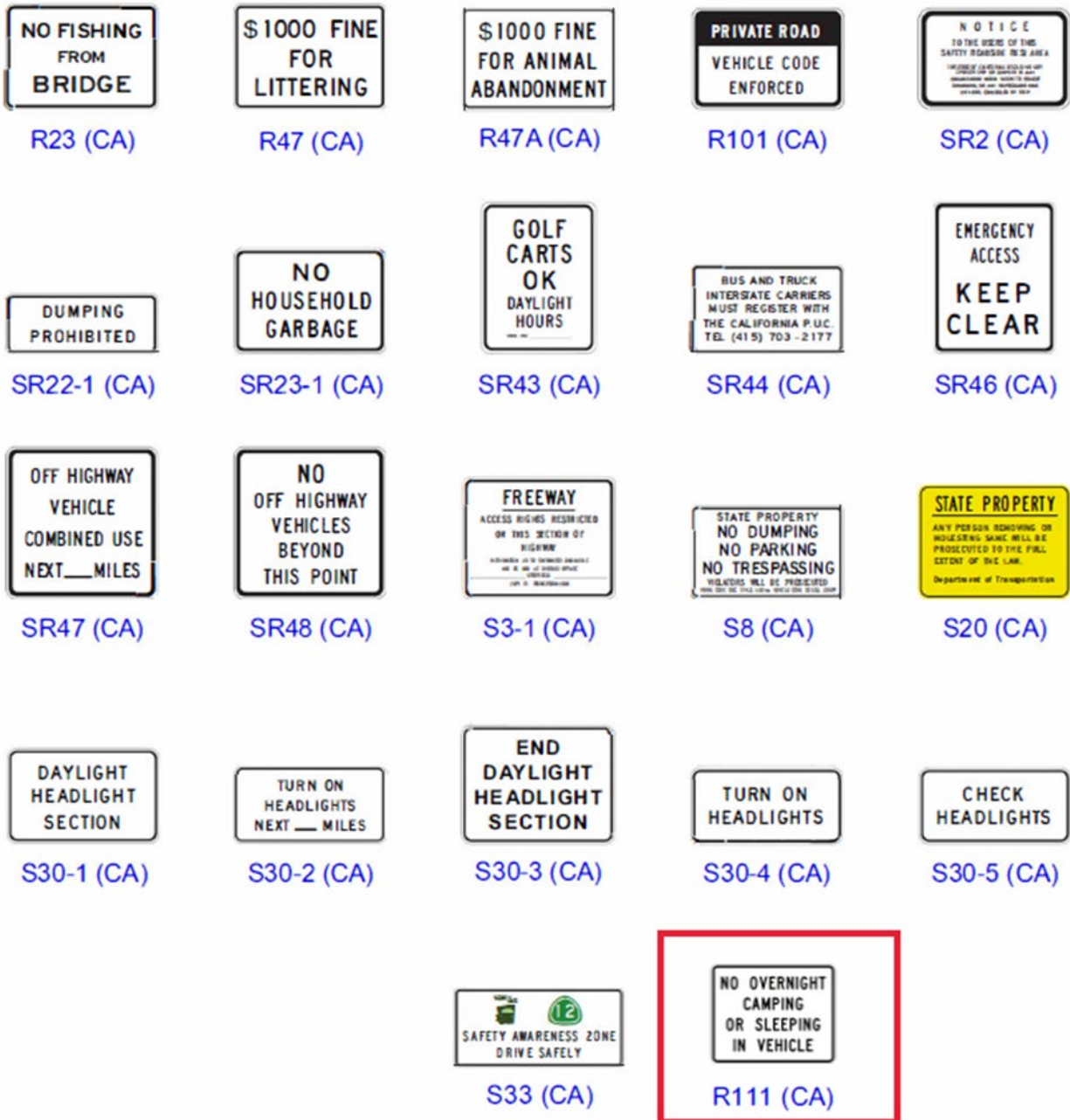
<sup>03</sup> Do not use the R111(CA) sign when there is no adopted resolution or ordinance to support its use or enforcement of the sign.



# ATTACHMENT B

Attachment B – Proposed Changes to Figure 2B-106(CA)

Figure 2B-106 (CA). California Miscellaneous Regulatory Signs





# ATTACHMENT C



**California Traffic Control Devices Committee (CTCDC)  
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**Attachment C – Proposed Changes to Table 2B-1(CA)**

**Proposal:**

Note:

- Black text is consistent with the Federal MUTCD.
- Blue text is current text as amended for use in California.
- ~~Struck-out red~~ text is to be deleted from the CA MUTCD.
- Red text is newly proposed text.

Modify Table 2B-1(CA) as shown:

*Table 2B-1(CA). California Regulatory Signa and Plaque Sizes*

Table 2B-1(CA). California Regulatory Sign and Plaque Sizes (Sheet 7 of 7)

Sign or Plaque	Sign Designation	Section	Conventional Road		Expressway	Freeway	Minimum	Oversized
			Single Lane	Multi-Lane				
DAYLIGHT HEADLIGHT SECTION	S30-1(CA)	2B.64	84 x 54	84 x 54	---	---	---	---
TURN ON HEADLIGHTS NEXT X MILES	S30-2(CA)	2B.64	108 x 54	108 x 54	---	---	---	---
END DAYLIGHT HEADLIGHT SECTION	S30-3(CA)	2B.64	84 x 66	84 x 66	---	---	---	---
TURN ON HEADLIGHTS	S30-4(CA)	2B.64	84 x 42	84 x 42	---	---	---	---
CHECK HEADLIGHTS	S30-5(CA)	2B.64	84 x 42	84 x 42	---	---	---	---
Safety Corridor Sign	S33(CA)	2B.64	102 x 48	102 x 48	---	---	---	---
<del>NO OVERNIGHT CAMPING OR SLEEPING IN VEHICLE</del>	R111(CA)	2B.113(CA)	30 X 24	30 X 24	---	---	---	---





# ATTACHMENT D

Attachment D – Existing Signage





# ATTACHMENT E



California Traffic Control Devices Committee (CTCDC)
Agenda Item Report



Attachment E – County of Monterey Ordinance No. 5381

ORDINANCE NO. 5381

AN URGENCY ORDINANCE OF THE COUNTY OF MONTEREY, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, AMENDING SECTION 14.18.040 OF THE MONTEREY COUNTY CODE TO ESTABLISH A \$1,000 CIVIL PENALTY FOR ILLEGAL CAMPING IN THE RIGHT-OF-WAY OF STATE HIGHWAY ONE BETWEEN CARMEL RIVER AND THE MONTEREY-SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY LINE

County Counsel Summary

This ordinance is an urgency ordinance for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety of the County of Monterey due to persons camping illegally in unincorporated area along State Highway One between the Carmel River and the Monterey-San Luis Obispo County Line. This ordinance amends Section 14.18.040 of the Monterey County Code to establish up to a \$1,000 civil penalty for any illegal camping in the right-of-way of State Highway One between the Carmel River and the Monterey-San Luis Obispo County Line. Roadside visitor camping along State Highway One in this area has created a consistent and increasing public health and safety concern for the community, particularly regarding campfires, disturbed habitat, and littering, and the potential for forest fires. This risk is heightened now given the current drought and increased traveling due to Covid-19 pandemic restrictions being lifted. This ordinance is an urgency ordinance pursuant to Government Code section 25123 and requires a four-fifths vote for adoption.

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Monterey ordains as follows:

SECTION 1. PURPOSE AND FINDINGS.

- A. Pursuant to Article XI, section 7 of the California Constitution, the County of Monterey ("County") may adopt and enforce ordinances and regulations not in conflict with general laws to protect and promote the public health, safety, and welfare of its citizens.
B. Monterey County Code section 14.80.020(A) states: "No person shall camp in the right-of-way of State Highway One between the Carmel River and the Monterey-San Luis Obispo County Line at any time."
C. Despite Section 14.80.020(A), residents of the Big Sur area have still reported that individuals illegally camp along portions of State Highway One between the Carmel River and the Monterey-San Luis Obispo County Line.
D. It is necessary and appropriate for the immediate protection of the public peace, health, safety and welfare of the County to establish a \$1,000 civil penalty for violation of Section 14.80.020(A). Roadside camping along State Highway One in this area has created a consistent and increasing public health and safety concern for the community, particularly



regarding campfires, disturbed habitat and littering, and the potential for forest fires. This risk is heightened now given the current drought and increased traveling due to Covid-19 pandemic restrictions being lifted.

E. The County has received multiple requests from community groups and residents advocating emphasizing and enforcing the existing no camping area along State Highway One.

F. The adoption of the ordinance is categorically exempt under the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to sections 15301(c) and 15308 of the CEQA Guidelines because the action will involve negligible changes to the existing County regulations that govern the existing County highways and streets, and the action is for the protection of the environment.

SECTION 2. Section 14.80.040 of the Monterey County Code is amended to read as follows:

A. It shall be at the discretion of the peace officer enforcing this Chapter to determine if the person sleeping or resting in his or her vehicle is doing so for health or safety purposes. The peace officer shall not issue a citation if the peace officer reasonably believes that the person sleeping or resting in his or her parked vehicle is doing so the health or safety purposes unless the area in which the vehicle is parked is specifically posted or signed as a no parking area.

B. A violation of Section 14.18.020(A) of this Chapter shall be punishable by a civil penalty of not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000).

#### SECTION 3. OTHER ACTIONS.

County staff are authorized and directed to take such other and further actions as may be necessary or appropriate to implement the intent and purposes of this ordinance including the posting of appropriate signage in and around the described locations.

#### SECTION 4. SEVERABILITY.

If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance. The Board of Supervisors hereby declares that it would have passed this ordinance and each section, subsection, sentence, clause and phrase thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses, or phrases be declared invalid.

#### SECTION 5. EFFECTIVE DATE AND TERM.

This ordinance shall take effect immediately as an urgency ordinance based on the finding of the Board of Supervisors that this ordinance is adopted in compliance with Government Code Section 25123, that it is necessary for the immediate protection of the public peace, health, and safety, and shall remain in effect until it is terminated or superseded.





California Traffic Control Devices Committee (CTCDC)
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PASSED AND ADOPTED this 26th day of July 2022, by the following vote:

AYES: Supervisors Alejo, Phillips, Lopez, Askew and Adams
NOES: None
ABSENT: None

Mary Adams, Chair,
Monterey County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

VALERIE RALPH
Clerk of the Board

By: Emmanuel H. Santos
Deputy

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
KELLY L. DONLON
Assistant County Counsel

Ordinance re: civil penalty for illegal camping
State Highway One, Big Sur area



# ATTACHMENT F

Attachment F – Letters of Support

**COUNTY OF MONTEREY**  
**PUBLIC WORKS, FACILITIES AND PARKS**



Randell Ishii, MS, PE, TE, PTOE, Director

1441 Schilling Place, 2nd Floor  
Salinas, California 93901-4527

(831) 755-4800  
www.co.monterey.ca.us

**MEMORANDUM**

**Date:** July 5, 2023

**To:** Gurinderpal (Johnny) Bhullar, PE, TE  
CA MUTCD Editor & CTCDC Secretary & Legal Liaison  
Office of Traffic Safety Systems & Devices  
Division of Safety Programs, Caltrans  
1120 N Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**From:** Randell Ishii, MS, PE, TE, PTOE; Director of Public Works, Facilities and Parks  
Taylor Price; Associate Planner in Housing & Community Development

**Subject:** Request for CTCDC Approval of New Word Message Sign

**cc:** Kathy Kleinschmidt, PE, PTOE; Caltrans District 5  
Peter Hendrix, PE; Caltrans District 5  
Supervisor Mary Adams; Monterey County Supervisorial District 5  
Colleen Courtney, Chief of Staff; Monterey County Supervisorial District 5  
Patte Kronlund, Executive Director; Community Association of Big Sur  
Marcos Ortega, Superintendent of Big Sur Sector; California State Parks  
John Olejnik; Caltrans District 5  
Rick Aldinger; Big Sur River Inn

County of Monterey, in partnership with Caltrans District 5, California State Parks, the Community Association of Big Sur (CABS), and others, requests CTCDC approval to use a new word message sign “No Overnight Camping or Sleeping in Vehicles” to replace existing non-standard word message signs.

**Purpose:**

The existing signs are located on State Route 1 in Monterey County between the Carmel River and the Monterey-San Luis Obispo County border (example included as Attachment A). They were installed to address concerns about camping along the highway shoulder between these spatial limits. This prohibition is codified in Monterey County Code (MCC) Section 14.18.020.A, which reads “No person shall camp in the right-of-way of State Highway One between the Carmel River and the Monterey-San Luis Obispo County Line at any time.”, and was passed by ordinance in 1986. Law Enforcement and community members are also requesting placement of additional signs along State Route 1 within the codified limits.

**BACKGROUND:**

State Route 1 is a two-lane undivided facility within these points of Carmel River and the Monterey-San Luis Obispo County border (approximately 72 miles). It was last estimated to have an AADT of approximately 6,800 vehicles per day in 2020 (near Yankee Point). The speed limit varies throughout its length, and it is the County’s understanding that Caltrans District 5 has performed and approved a new Engineering and Traffic Survey (E&TS) from PM 0.00 to PM 44.50 that is anticipated to place applicable speed limit signs in the near future. Bicyclists are allowed on the facility. This portion of State Route 1 is also one of the first designated “Scenic Highways” in the State.



The area along State Highway One (AKA: State Route 1) in the Big Sur Area is a popular location for people to visit, walk, and view the beach for recreation. This attraction has created a safety problem: people ignore the existing ‘no camping’ prohibition and set up campfires. A roadside camping prohibition already exists under Monterey County Code Section 14.18.020.A, which states “No person shall camp in the right-of-way of State Highway One between the Carmel River and the Monterey -San Luis Obispo County Line at any time.” Various law enforcement agencies that are active in the Big Sur Area may issue citations under this Monterey County Code. These agencies have provided input to the Monterey County Supervisorial District 5 Office that enforcement could be strengthened by increasing the amount of the citation under the existing code, and would serve as an additional deterrent to promote compliance and assist enforcement. As such, at the July 26, 2022 Board Meeting, the Monterey County Board of Supervisors adopted the Urgency Ordinance (Attachment B) that enhanced the existing prohibition from 1986, by increasing the fine to \$1,000 fine as a civil penalty.

Different versions of the “No Camping” signage were placed throughout the years. The local community group “The Big Sur Byways Organization (BSBO)”, was established by the Monterey County Board of Supervisors through Resolution 19-127, to promote and protect public health and safety, and to ensure the continued safe and efficient operation of State Highway One (AKA: State Route 1) through the Big Sur area. They were supportive of the Urgency Ordinance. They also have a Sign Subcommittee that guides the type/placement of signs in the Big Sur area. The subcommittee discussed the different versions of the placed signs, and are recommending the existing version shown as Attachment A (which has been in existence and emplaced for years).

#### **DISCUSSION:**

The County is not aware of plans to install new campgrounds along State Route 1. The County is also not aware of plans to create new or additional turnouts along State Route 1. Moreover, road shoulders along this highway segment are often narrow and constrained, with many in the southbound direction directly at a shoulder drop-off with a steep slope down to the ocean. Thus, space available for the public to park and enjoy the Central Coast coastline and Pacific Ocean, is very limited. To further emphasize, this is not a “No Parking” zone or parking prohibition; rather, it is an ordinance to prohibit camping. Therefore, it is not precluding the public’s ability to use/enjoy access to the coast, nor does it preclude road users from having that emergency access to pull over. The presence of overnight campers in these limited turnouts or shoulders causes a traffic hazard for the road users and emergency responders, by taking up space in the limited real estate. Moreover, there have been instances and concerns of campfires becoming uncontrollable and resulting in fires. In addition, there have been reports of environmental health and sanitation concerns, where human fecal matter and detritus have allegedly been left behind. Law enforcement has advocated for the signs and additional sign locations, as they will aid in the enforcement of the existing regulation with the newly-added enhanced penalty. Due to these concerns, law enforcement has submitted letters of support for the signs and additional sign locations (Attachment C). Therefore, the sign packages notifying road users on the State highway will be in place for the foreseeable future.

It is the County, with its partners of Caltrans District 5 and the local community and law enforcement, intention to notify road users of the regulation. Therefore, we are recommending that the existing word signage on the signs be adopted as new word message regulatory signs with a white background and black legends.

#### **SUMMARY:**

1. County of Monterey, in partnership with Caltrans District 5, California State Parks, the Community Association of Big Sur (CABS), and others, requests CTCDC approval to use a new word message sign “No Overnight Camping or Sleeping in Vehicles” to replace existing non-standard word message signs.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. The County and Caltrans District 5 looks forward to receiving a response from the Committee. If you have questions or comments, please contact Randell Ishii by email at [ishii@co.monterey.ca.us](mailto:ishii@co.monterey.ca.us) or Kathy Kleinschmidt by email at [Kathryn.Kleinschmidt@dot.ca.gov](mailto:Kathryn.Kleinschmidt@dot.ca.gov).

RVI/ryi

Attachments:



# California Traffic Control Devices Committee (CTCDC) Agenda Item Report



Attachment A – Sign Design Recommended by the Big Sur Byway Organization (BSBO) – Sign Subcommittee  
Attachment B – Urgency Ordinance by Monterey County Board of Supervisors  
Attachment C – Letters of Support



MONTEREY COUNTY, CALIFORNIA  
**SHERIFF'S OFFICE**  
Keeping the peace since 1850

**Tina M. Nieto**  
Sheriff-Coroner

June 21, 2023

Gurinderpal (Johnny) Bhullar, P.E., T.E.  
California Department of Transportation  
Division of Safety Programs  
1120 N Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Big Sur Byway Organization Subcommittee

Dear Mr. Bhullar,

The Monterey County Sheriff's Office is pleased to offer this letter of support for the Big Sur Byway Organization Subcommittee's request to have signage implemented along Highway 1 indicating 'No Camping' between the Carmel River and the Monterey – San Luis Obispo County line.

As Big Sur being a highly rated tourist attraction, and it being showcased worldwide by many Social Media platforms, visitation to the pristine scenery has increased immensely over the last decade along with the number of illegal roadside campers. These illegal campers may cause biohazards to not only the environment but to the tourists, and the surrounding community as they tend to leave litter and excrement along the roadside. The Monterey County Board of Supervisors, as of July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022, passed an urgency ordinance that increased the fine of illegal roadside camping to \$1,000. To ensure any prospective malefactors are made aware of the ordinance and Law Enforcement can enforce through citations, it would be essential for signage to be posted.

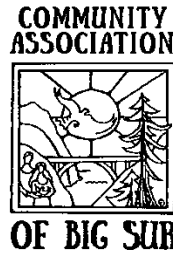
The Monterey County Sheriff's Office supports the Big Sur Byway Organization Subcommittee with their request as we believe it will be a great preventative measure in the efforts to eliminate illegal roadside camping along Highway 1 in Big Sur.

Sincerely,



Tina Nieto  
Sheriff - Coroner

1414 Natividad Road, Salinas CA 93906 ■ (831) 755-3700 ■ [www.montereysheriff.org](http://www.montereysheriff.org)



PO Box 59, Big Sur, CA 93920

**Executive Director**  
Butch Kronlund

**Executive Board**  
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Patte Kronlund, Secretary

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**Community Advisors**  
Mike Caplin  
Martha Diehl  
John Handy  
Richard "Dick" Ravich

**Websites**  
CABigSur.org  
BigSurPledge.org

**To: Monterey County Board of Supervisors: Mary Adams, Luis Aliejo, Wendy Root Askew, John Phillips and Chris Lopez.**

**From: Butch Kronlund, Executive Director CABS.**

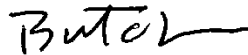
**Regarding: The agenda item #55:  
55. Adopt an urgency ordinance amending Section 14.18.040 of the Monterey County Code to establish up to a \$1,000 civil penalty for illegal camping in the right-of-way of State Highway One between the Carmel River and the Monterey-San Luis Obispo County Line.**

Dear Monterey County Supervisors,

As visitation to Big Sur has exploded over the course of the last decade, the practice of illegal roadside camping has grown in an equally explosive way. As I reported to you back in January of 2021, on any given evening, there are as many as 200 or more illegal roadside campers utilizing the coastal turnouts along Highway 1 as their personal campground. The cumulative result of this activity is the destruction and degradation of one of the world's most beautiful scenic assets. Every night, despite the efforts of law enforcement, human waste, toilet paper and trash accumulate along the Highway, creating a threat to health and a visual blight on our collective national heritage.

As you know, the current fine for illegal roadside camping is less than the cost of a campsite at any of the legal campgrounds in Big Sur, making the current fine a non-deterrent. As a result, I'm writing you today on behalf of many Big Sur residents to support the County in adopting an urgency ordinance that amends the current fine for illegal roadside camping to \$1,000 anywhere inside the Big Sur planning area.

Sincerely,



*Community Association of Big Sur is a 501 (c) 3 (EIN 77-0091132). Our shared mission is to protect and defend the rural and residential character, and to preserve the natural and aesthetic beauty of the Big Sur coast; to provide for the health, safety, and welfare of the Big Sur Community; to encourage community service and otherwise act in the interests of the residents and property owners of the community. CABS is committed to a collaborative approach towards responsible land stewardship. CABS believes that an effective partnership between private and public property owners is essential for a sustainable and healthy community.*

*Caring for the coast for over 50 years*



State of California • Natural Resources Agency

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

Gavin Newsom, Governor

Armando Quintero, Director

Monterey County Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to respectfully request that the board considers adopting an urgency ordinance amending Section 14.18.020 (a) of the Monterey County Code to increase the fine (up to \$1,000) for illegal camping on HWY 1 between the Carmel River and the Monterey – San Luis Obispo County line.

As the manager of the CA State Parks Ranger staff and as a fellow Law Enforcement Officer that lives and works on the Big Sur coast, I can attest to the increased problem of illegal camping along HWY 1 in Big Sur. Illegal camping is not the sole issue that this ordinance has the potential to prevent. Illegal camping is often coupled with other problems, such as litter. Most of the vehicles that camp on HWY 1 are not self-contained, hence violators use the areas that they are camped to use the restroom, leaving litter and human waste all along the HWY 1 corridor. Illegal campers also pose a threat to public safety with fires used for warmth or cooking. Furthermore, the sheer number of RVs, Trailers, Vans, Cab-Over Campers, vehicles, and tents spread throughout HWY 1 severely impacts the viewshed along our designated American National Scenic Byway, which has become a worldwide destination, traveled by millions each year.

I would like to note that this is not a new County Ordinance. The request is to increase the fine amount as a deterrent to potential violators. Throughout the recent years, several of the campgrounds have increased camping fees in Big Sur. Today (7/20/2022) I did a quick search for a campsite at Big Sur Campgrounds and Cabins. The nightly rate for a campsite I found was \$230/night with a \$25 resort fee. That is a fee of \$255 for one night for a campsite, not a cabin. There are two-night minimums throughout the summer, so most visitors are paying close to \$500 just to stay the minimum stay at the campground. All summer, almost every developed campsite in Big Sur is sold out.

The past couple of summers State Park Rangers have collaborated with the allied Law Enforcement agencies (USFS, MOCO Sheriffs Department, CHP, DFW Wardens) to target illegal camping on HWY 1 during peak season use, holidays and at the request of local businesses and community members. In our collaboration, we have uniformly agreed that a fine increase is needed to help curtail this widespread issue. When a citation issued by a Law Enforcement Officer is less than the actual cost of a reserved campsite, there is no incentive for any visitor to not just set up camp along HWY 1 and enjoy the ocean view campsite.

I firmly believe that if approved, the fine increase will be a great step in helping to curtail illegal camping on Big Sur's scenic byway. On behalf of the State Park Rangers that patrol Big Sur and HWY 1 every day, I thank you for your consideration. Thanks,

Marcos



**M. Ortega #1343**  
Superintendent | Big Sur Sector  
47555 Highway 1  
Big Sur, CA 93920

Cell: (831) 242-0552  
Desk: (831) 667-1101  
Fax: (831) 667-0165  
Email: [Marcos.Ortega@parks.ca.gov](mailto:Marcos.Ortega@parks.ca.gov)

## MONTEREY COUNTY

### BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

**MARY L. ADAMS**, SUPERVISOR – FIFTH DISTRICT  
1200 Aguajito Road, Suite #1, Monterey, CA 93940  
E-mail: District5@co.monterey.ca.us  
Phone: (831) 647-7755



July 7, 2023

Gurinderpal (Johnny) Bhullar, PE, TE  
CA MUTCD Editor & CTCDC Secretary & Legal Liaison  
Office of Traffic Safety Systems & Devices  
Division of Safety Programs, Caltrans  
1120 N Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

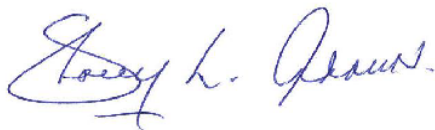
Dear Mr. Bhullar:

As the Fifth District Supervisor for the County of Monterey, I write you to request the approval of new signage in the Big Sur Region along Highway 1. This signage is needed to address health and safety concerns stemming from illegal camping along the highway. Big Sur is an incredibly popular tourist destination, with an estimated four million visitors per year. Social media has showcased the beauty and serenity of the Big Sur Coast and visitors have increased, but the number of overnight accommodations has not. Therefore, the number of illegal campers along Highway 1 has greatly increased, causing health and safety issues by such things as illegal campfires, increased human waste, litter, traffic hazards and impacts to the viewshed.

Residents, business owners, and Law Enforcement Officials in the Big Sur region contacted my office asking for help to address this issue. In response, my colleagues on the Board of Supervisors and I passed an urgency ordinance increasing the fine of illegal roadside camping to \$1,000 to deter people from camping along the highway. We now need approval for the signage to ensure visitors are aware of this ordinance.

The approval of new signage through the CA Traffic Control Devices Committee then will allow the County of Monterey and law enforcement officials to enforce the law. We feel an obligation to all who visit our area to ensure the Big Sur coast is protected and remains pristine for all.

Sincerely,



Mary L. Adams  
Board of Supervisors  
Fifth District