

Whose Trail is it Anyways?

Planning, Designing, and Maintaining Trails in Collaboration



Whose Trail is This Anyways?

- Why this question surfaces
- Case Studies
 - San Vicente Redwoods Public Access Plan
 - Saratoga to Sea Trail Feasibility Study
- Tips for Developing Clear Plans for Complex Projects

Whose Trail is This Anyways?

Because trails are not as Straight-Forward as they Seem

- Whose **design standards** apply?
- Whose **regulations** are enforced?
- Who **maintains**?
- Who **manages**?
- Who is **liable**?



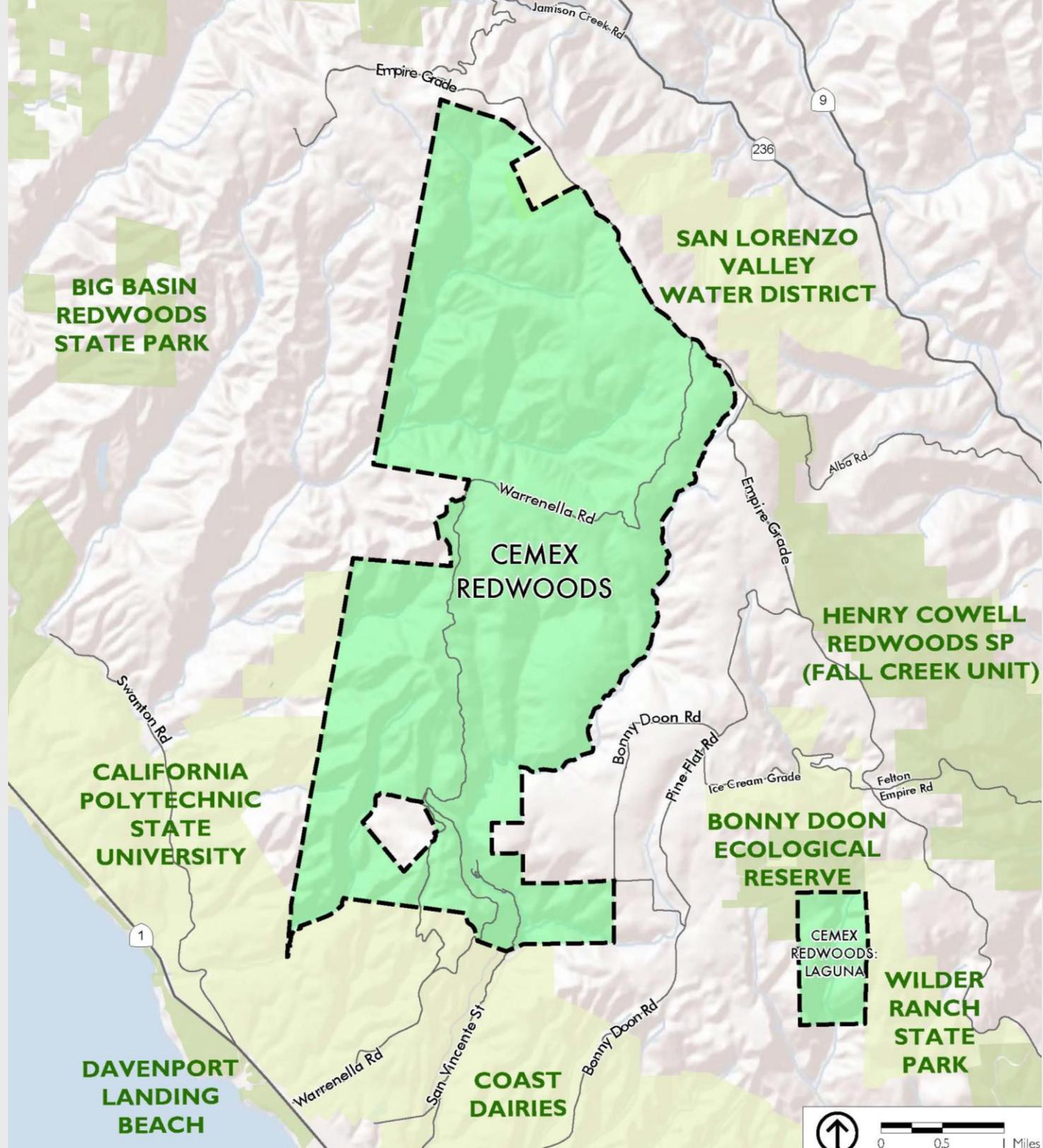
Whose Trail is it Anyways?



San Vicente Redwoods Public Access Plan: Proactive Planning to Address Dynamic Property

Land Trust of Santa Cruz County and its Conservation Partners

San Vicente Redwoods Project Context



Whose Trails and Roads are they?

MULTIPLE PARTNERS

- Land Trust of Santa Cruz County
- Save the Redwoods League (Planned Easement Holder)
- Peninsula Open Space Trust (Owner)
- Sempervirens Fund (Owner)

MULTIPLE PLANNING EFFORTS

- Public Access Plan
- Conservation Plan
- Management Plan
- Timber Harvest Plan

MULTIPLE ROAD/TRAIL USES

- Recreation
- Research
- Education
- Restoration
- Timber Harvest
- Land Management
- Fire Management

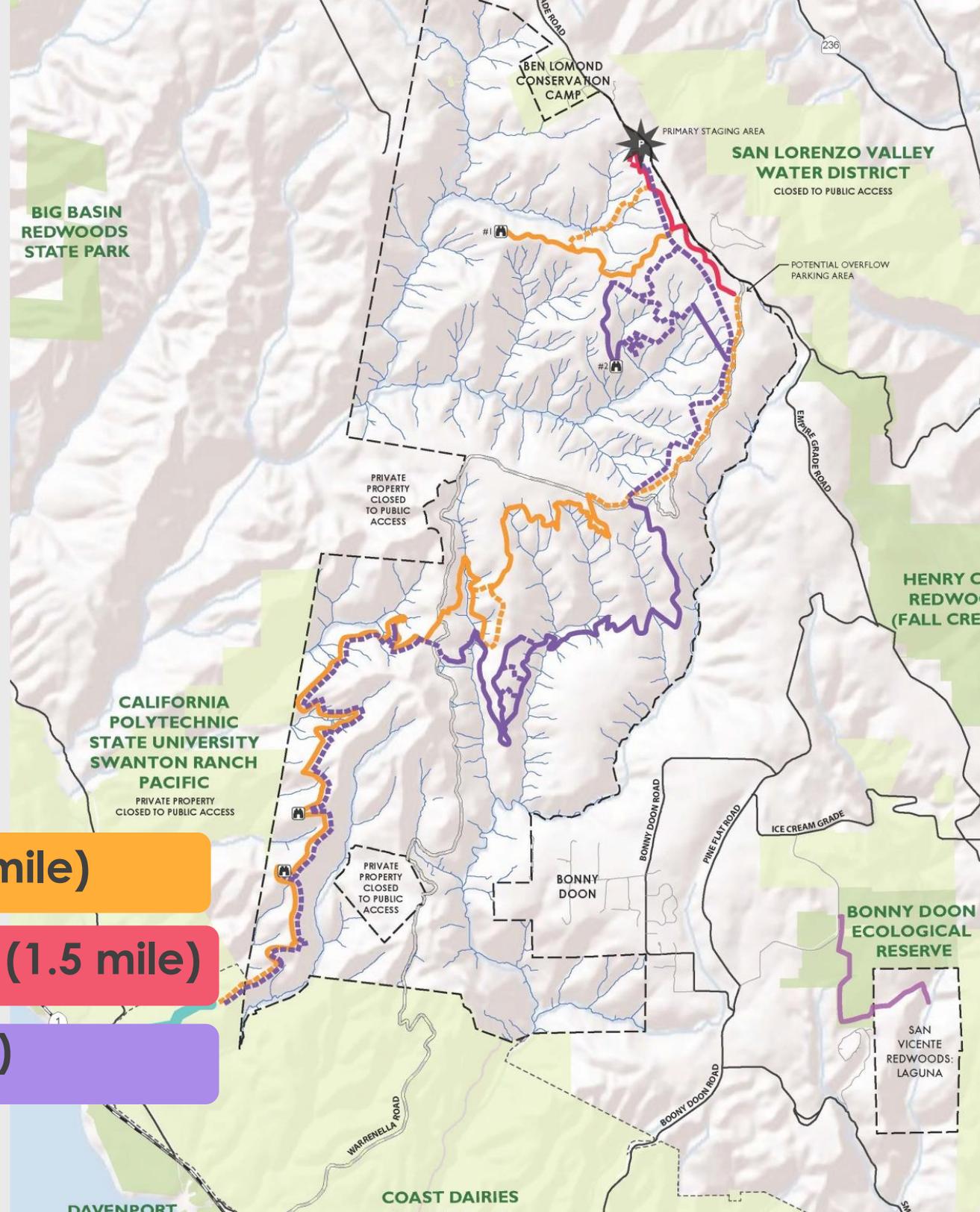
Vision

- Over 38 miles of trails
- ~46% located on existing roads
- Trail Connections

Equestrian/Hiking (16.5mile)

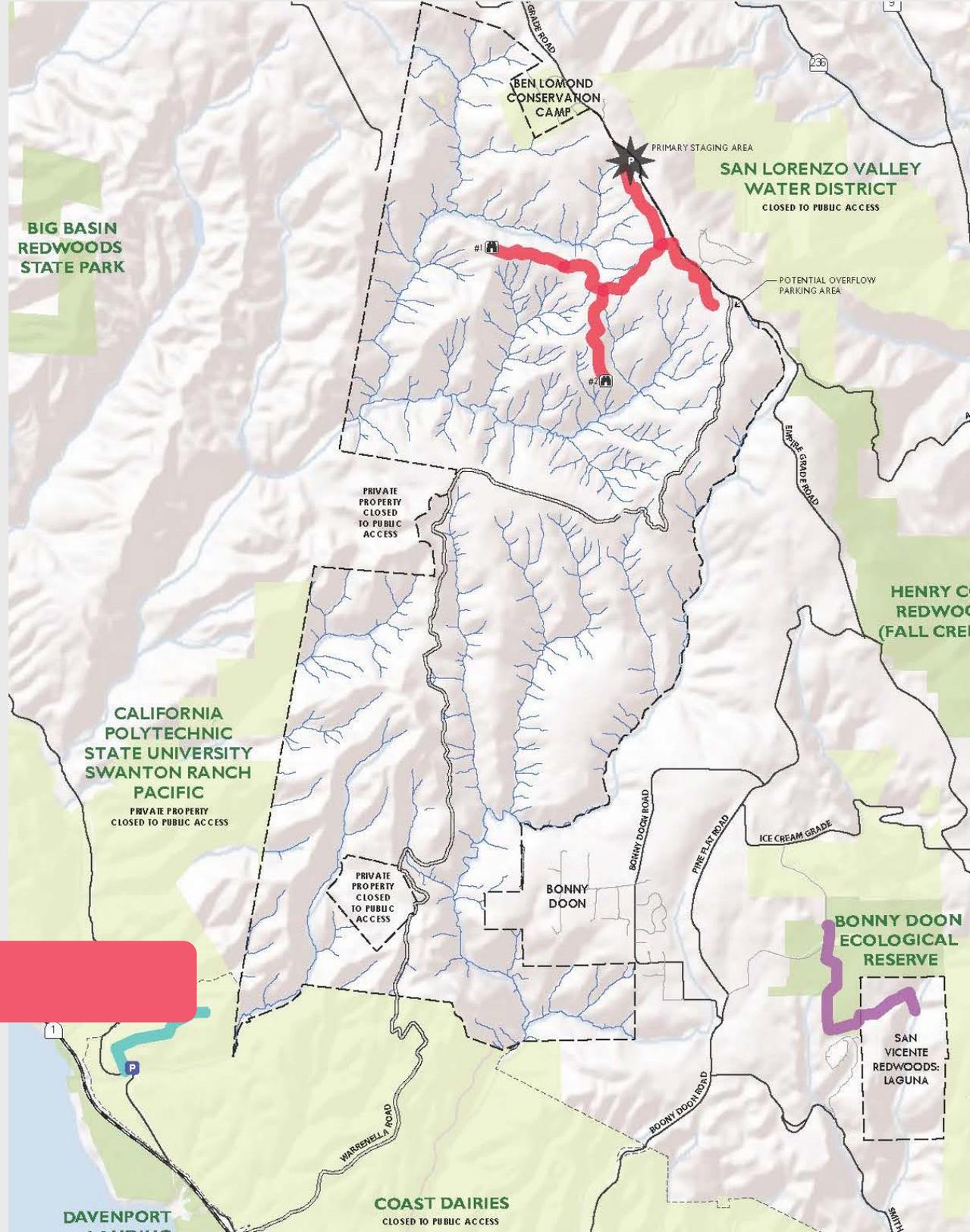
Eq/Hiking/Dog Walking (1.5 mile)

Biking/Hiking (21.5 mile)



Tools: Phasing Plan

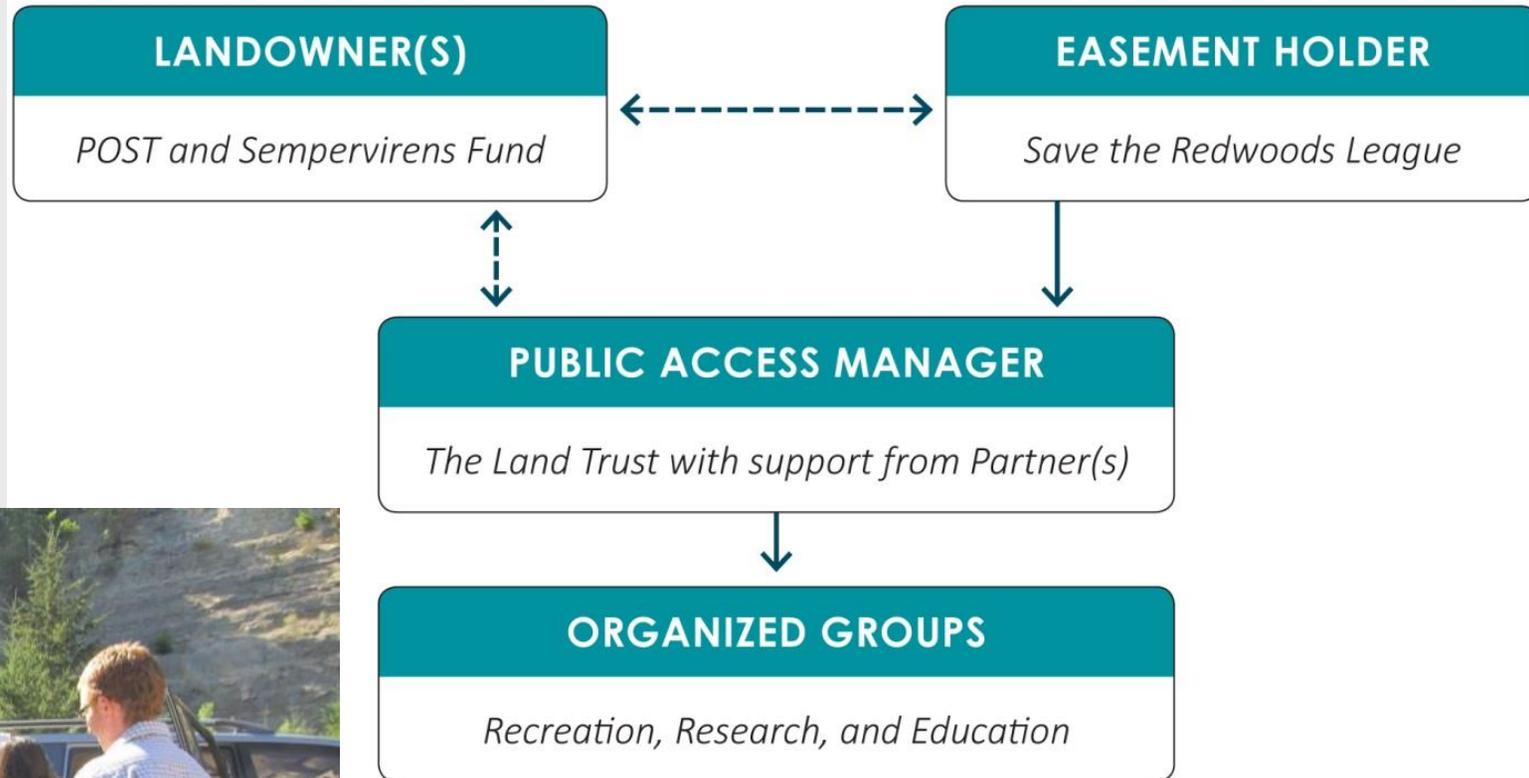
- “Baseline Access”
- ~4 miles of trail



Multi-Use Trail

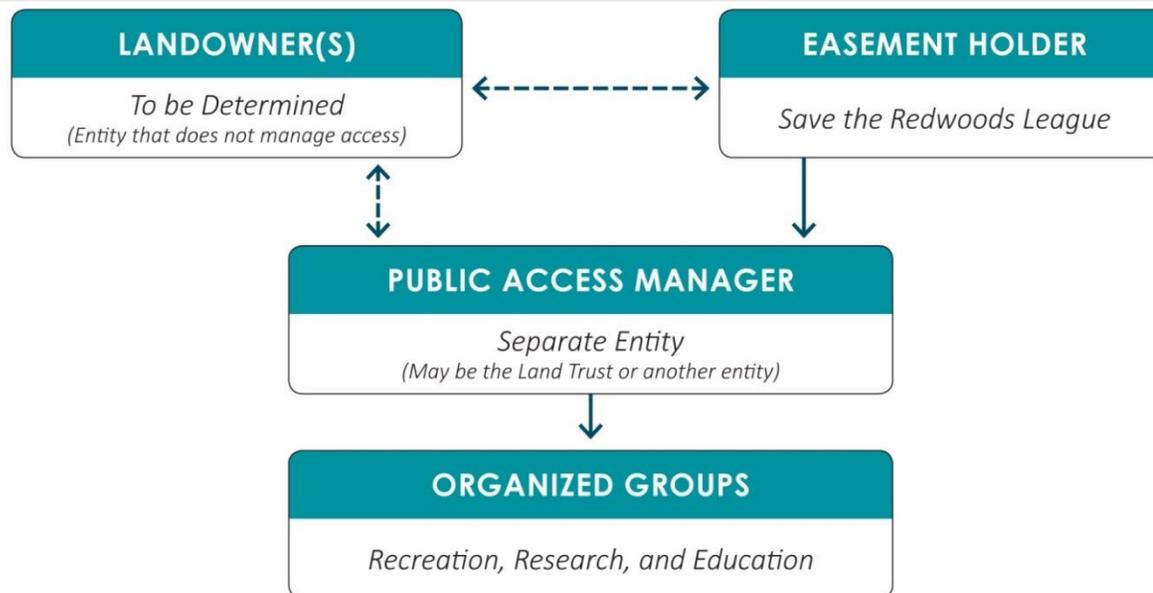
Tools: Management Framework

Interim Access

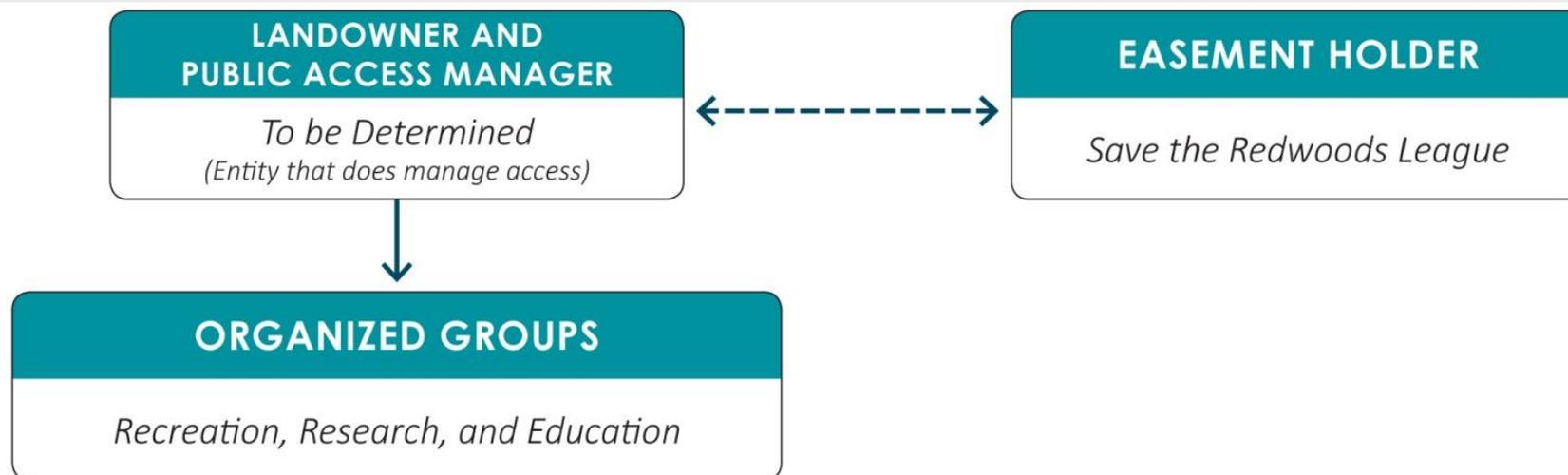


Tools: Management Framework

Future Access (Scenario #1)



Future Access (Scenario #2)



Tools *Underway*

Strategies for Reducing Liability

- Recreational use Statute
- Other

Enforcement Strategies

What?

- Preventative
- Patrol and Response
- Follow-Up

Who?

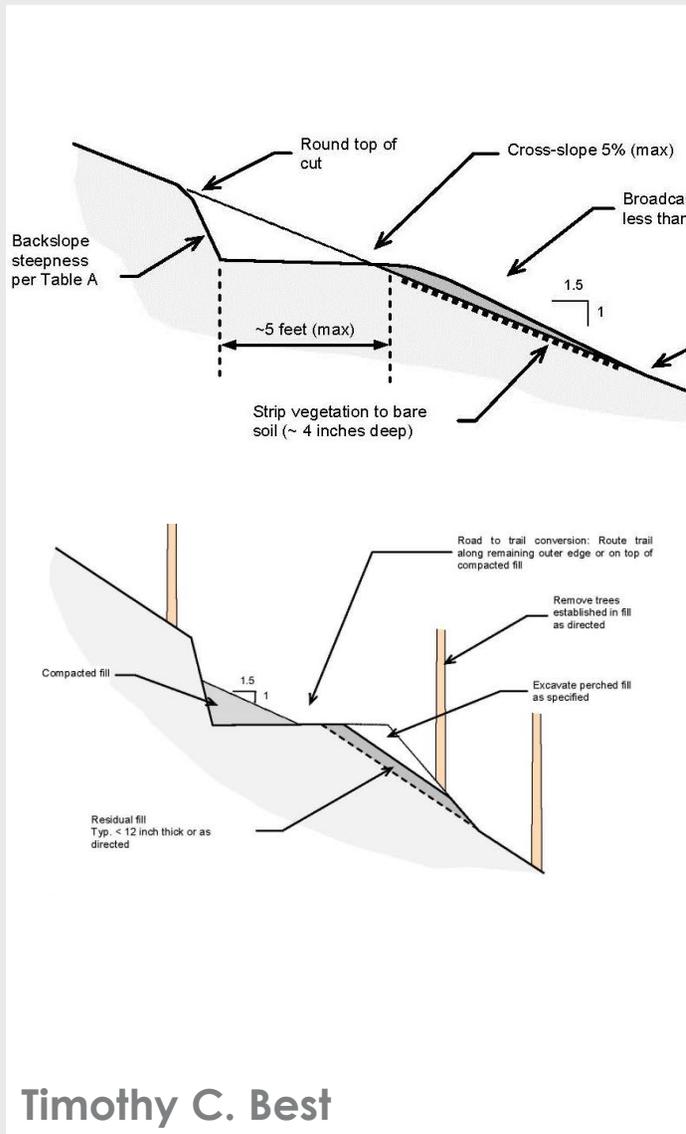
- Volunteer
- Staff
- Contracted Security
- Sherriff

Implementation Strategies for Shared-Use Roads

Concerns?

- Seasonal/ Short-term Use
- Construction Phasing
- Design
- Maintenance

Tools: Design Guidelines



Guidelines by Planned Use

- Accessible
- Multi-use
- Equestrian/
hiking
- Mountain
biking/ hiking

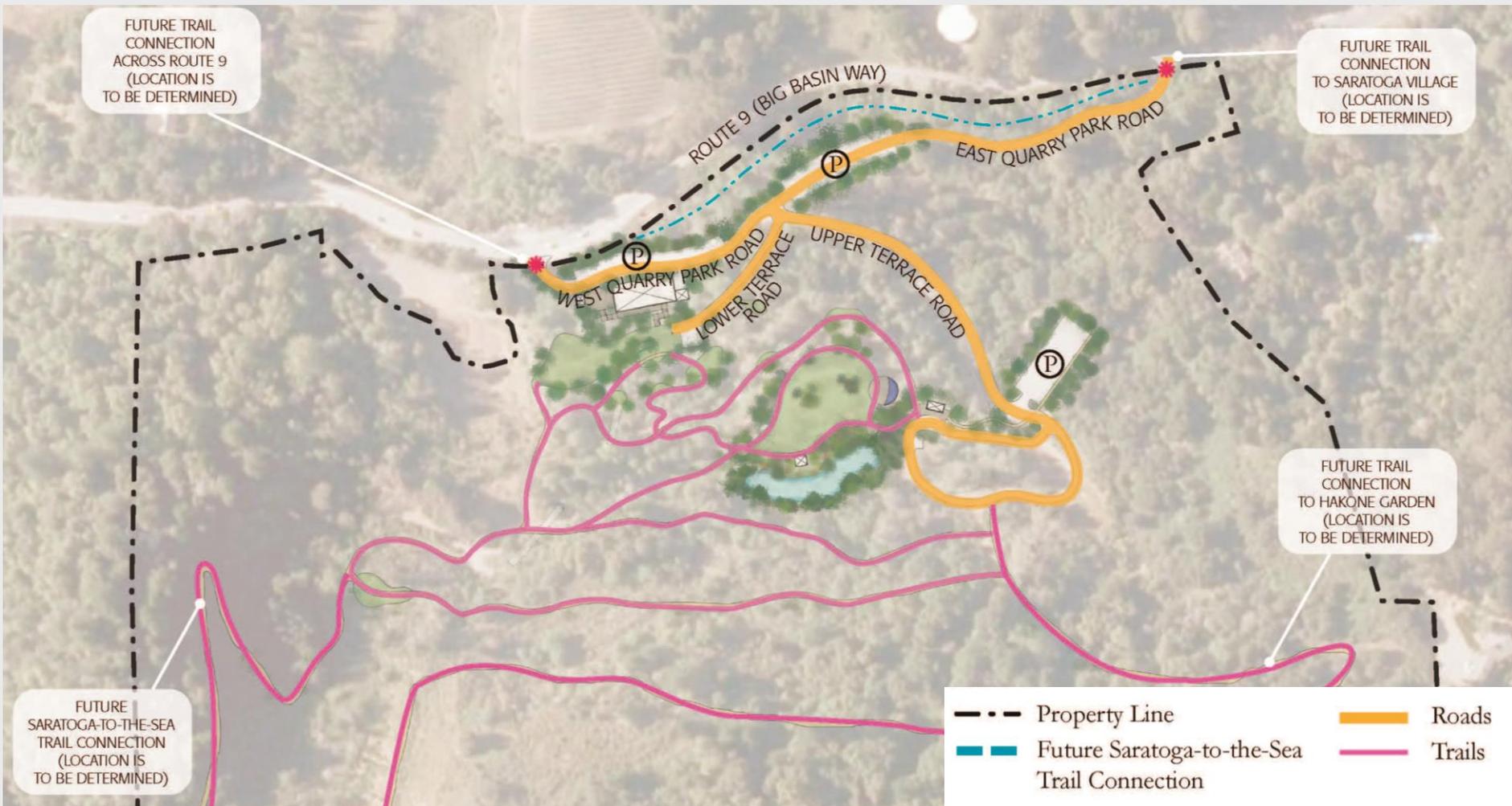
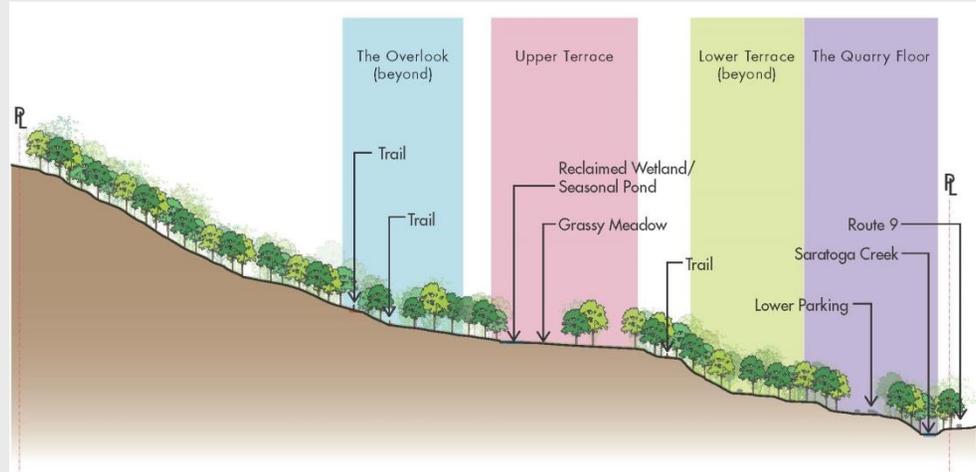
Guidelines by Construction Type

- Existing Roads
(vehicles/trails)
- Roads (trail use only)
- New construction



Saratoga to Sea Trail- Feasibility Study: Engaging Partners on-the-ground

Saratoga Quarry Park Master Plan





Project Considerations

MULTIPLE PARTNERS and STAKEHOLDERS

- City of Saratoga
- Santa Clara County Parks
- MROSD
- San Jose Water Company
- Private Land Owner
- PG&E

MULTIPLE PLANNING EFFORTS

- Saratoga Quarry Park Master Plan
- Sanborn County Park Trails Master Plan
- SJWC Feasibility Study

MULTIPLE INTERESTS

- Recreation
- Water Quality
- Winery Operations
- Utility Corridor Access

Feasibility Study Process

- Coordination
- Field Work

● GIS Analysis/ Field Work

→ PRELIMINARY ALIGNMENTS

● Partner Meeting

● Field Work

● Partner Site Visits

● Field Work

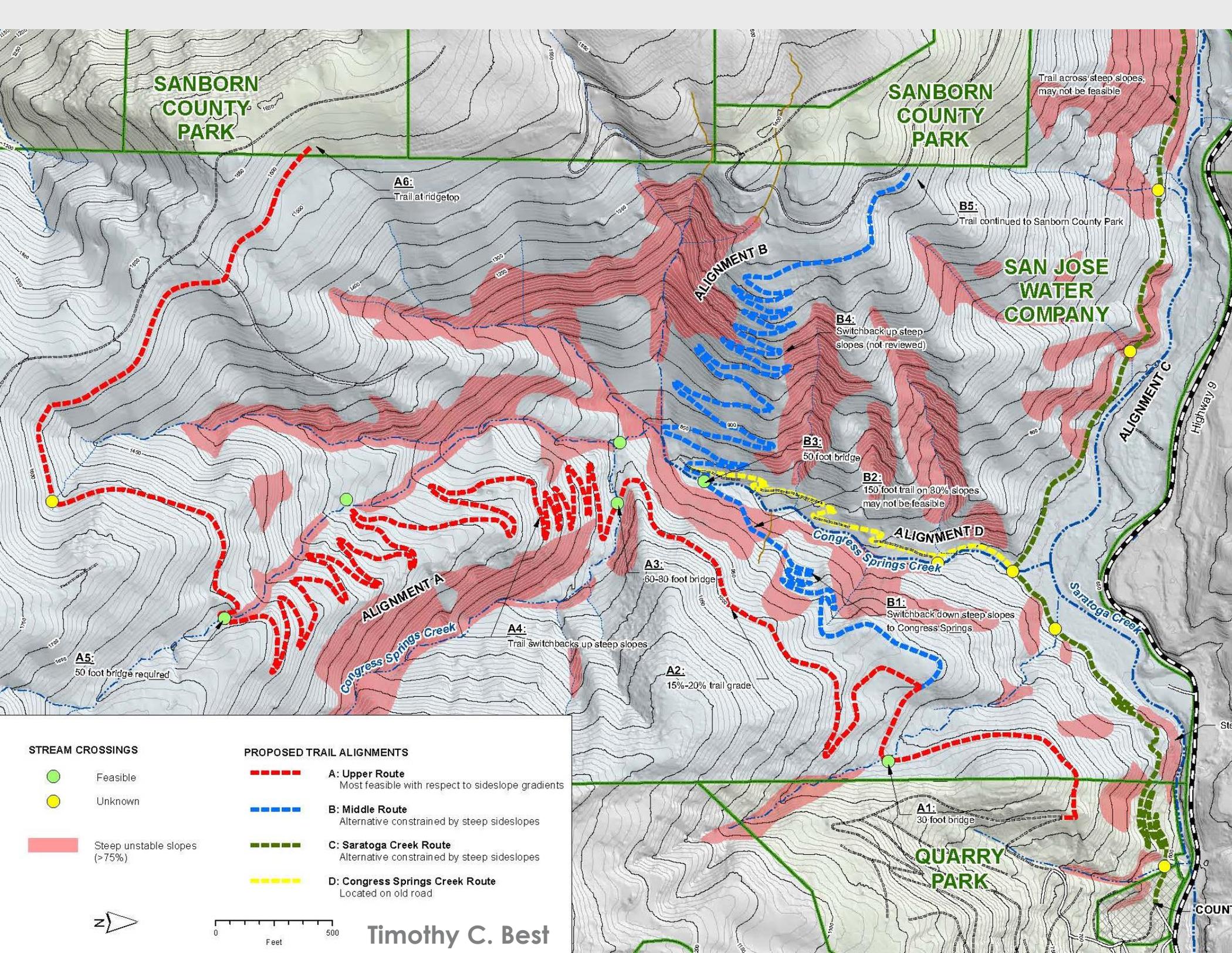
● Partner Alignment Walk/ Biological Assessment

● Additional Coordination (Winery)

→ PREFERRED ALIGNMENTS

● Partner Coordination





SANBORN COUNTY PARK

SANBORN COUNTY PARK

SAN JOSE WATER COMPANY

QUARRY PARK

Highway 9

A6:
Trail at ridgetop

B5:
Trail continued to Sanborn County Park

Trail across steep slopes, may not be feasible

ALIGNMENT B

B4:
Switchback up steep slopes (not reviewed)

B3:
50 foot bridge

B2:
150 foot trail on 80% slopes may not be feasible

ALIGNMENT D

A3:
60-80 foot bridge

B1:
Switchback down steep slopes to Congress Springs

ALIGNMENT A

A4:
Trail switchbacks up steep slopes

A2:
15%-20% trail grade

A5:
50 foot bridge required

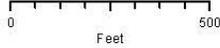
STREAM CROSSINGS

- Feasible
- Unknown

Steep unstable slopes (>75%)

PROPOSED TRAIL ALIGNMENTS

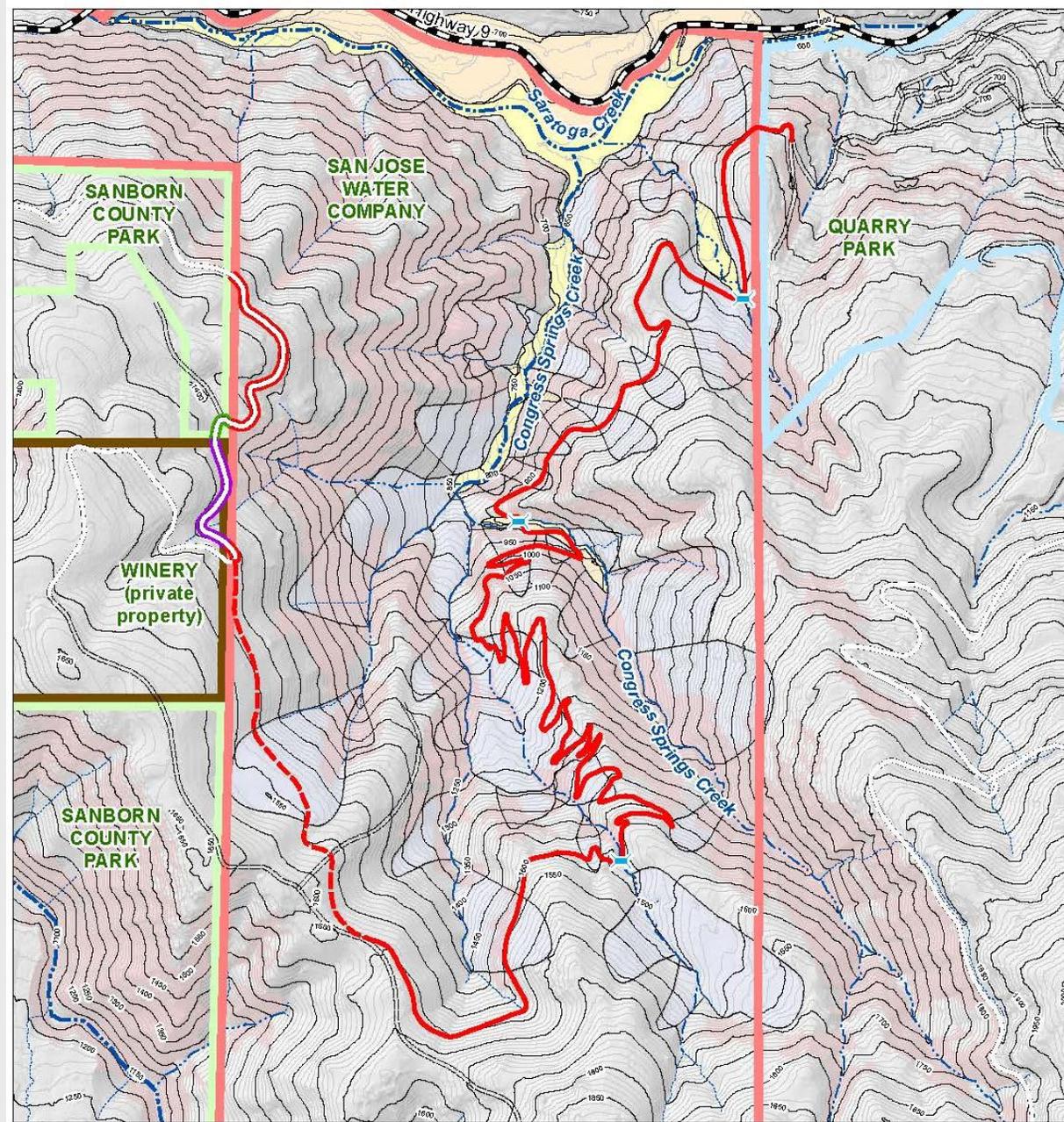
- - - **A: Upper Route**
Most feasible with respect to sideslope gradients
- - - **B: Middle Route**
Alternative constrained by steep sideslopes
- - - **C: Saratoga Creek Route**
Alternative constrained by steep sideslopes
- - - **D: Congress Springs Creek Route**
Located on old road



Timothy C. Best

Next Steps

- Easement through SJWC Property
- Connection to/through Sanborn County Park
 - Easement through private property
 - Use of Existing Road
- Coordination with Partners
 - Design and construction
 - Trail maintenance and management
 - Allowable uses
 - Project funding



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SITE MAP

QUARRY PARK - SANBORN CONNECTOR TRAIL

FIGURE 1

Job: PW-SARATOGA TO SEA-685
 Date: 3/8/2015



Preparing a Clear Plan for a Complex Project

Whose Trail is it Anyways?

Tips for Preparing a Plan

- ❑ State (and Illustrate) the Obvious
- ❑ Identify complexities of the trail
- ❑ Define questions

	LENGTH	SURFACE	PHASE
West Quarry Park Road	900 feet	Paved	Phase 1: Gravel parking lot Phase 2: Paved two-way road (20-foot wide) with perpendicular parking stalls Phase 3: One-way road
East Quarry Park Road	500 feet	Paved	Phase 1 and 2: No access Phase 3: Paved one-way road (12-foot wide) with diagonal and (potentially) equestrian trailer parking
Lower Terrace Road	350 feet	Paved	Phase 1: Trail Phase 2: Paved road (12-foot wide) with ADA parking and hammerhead turn at the end
Upper Terrace Road	500 feet	Paved	Phase 1: Trail Phase 2: Paved two-way road (20-foot wide)
Upper Terrace Road (drop-off loop)	900 feet	Paved	Phase 1: Trail Phase 2: Paved one-way road (12-foot wide) with ADA parking and drop-off zone
Trails	2 miles	Unpaved	Phase 1: 0.8 miles Phase 2: 1 mile Phase 3: 2 miles





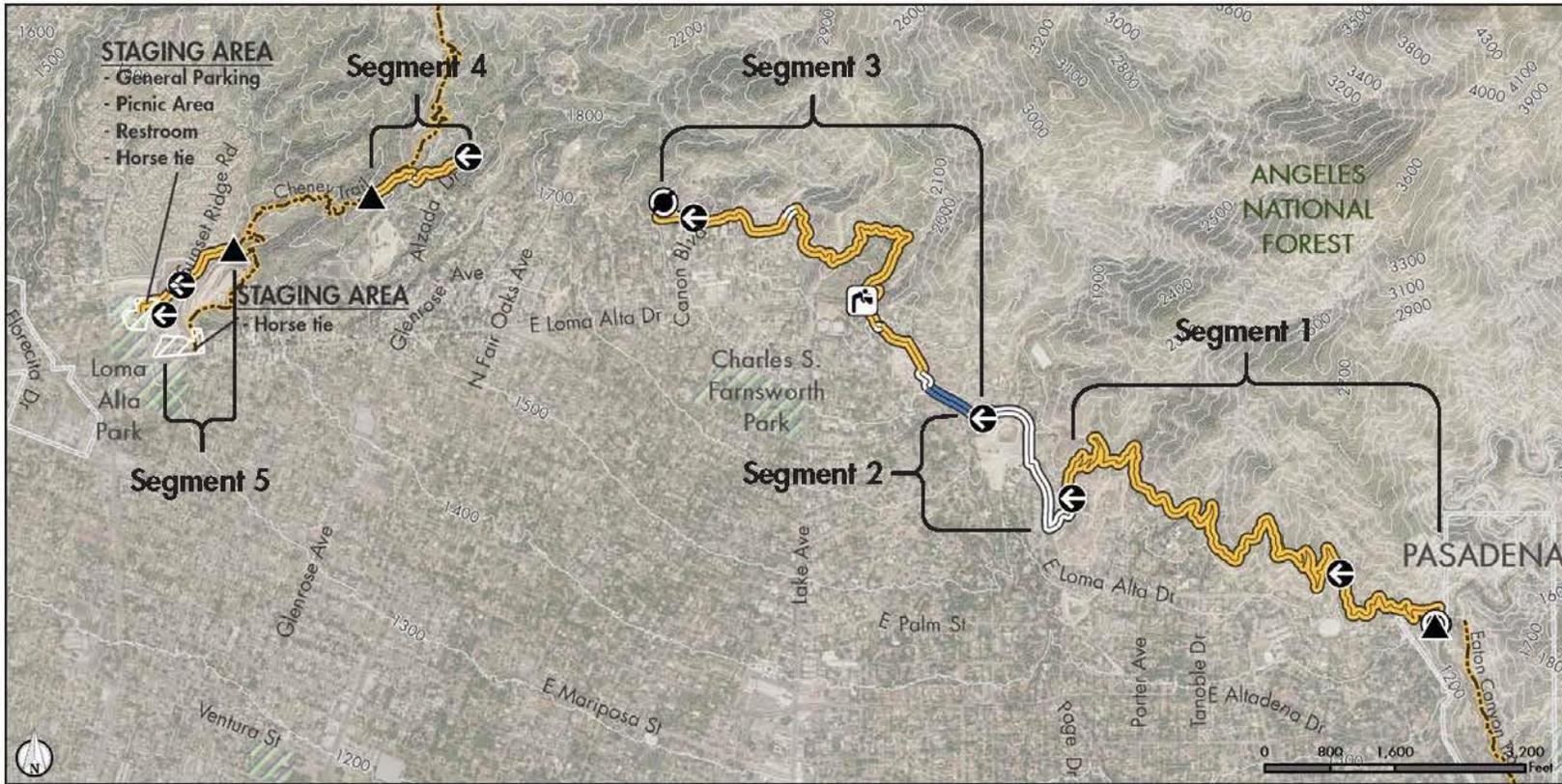
SUMMARY REPORT ALTADENA CREST TRAIL



Trail ID Number: 1
Length: 5 miles
Avg. Width: 5 feet
Elevation Gain: 724 feet
Difficulty Level: Moderate

DESCRIPTION: The Altadena Crest Trail traverses a number of different environments, including rural roadways and chaparral hillsides, and is accessible from a number of different streets. The trail includes a fair amount of steep slopes, and is recommended for seasoned hikers. The trail provides great views to Los Angeles and the Ocean and is adjacent to the Angeles National Forest, which offers a number of additional hiking opportunities.

DIRECTIONS: Exit the 210 freeway at N Altadena Drive, go 2.7 miles. Turn right onto Crescent Drive. Make the next right on Pinecrest Drive. Go .1 miles and the entrance is on the right.

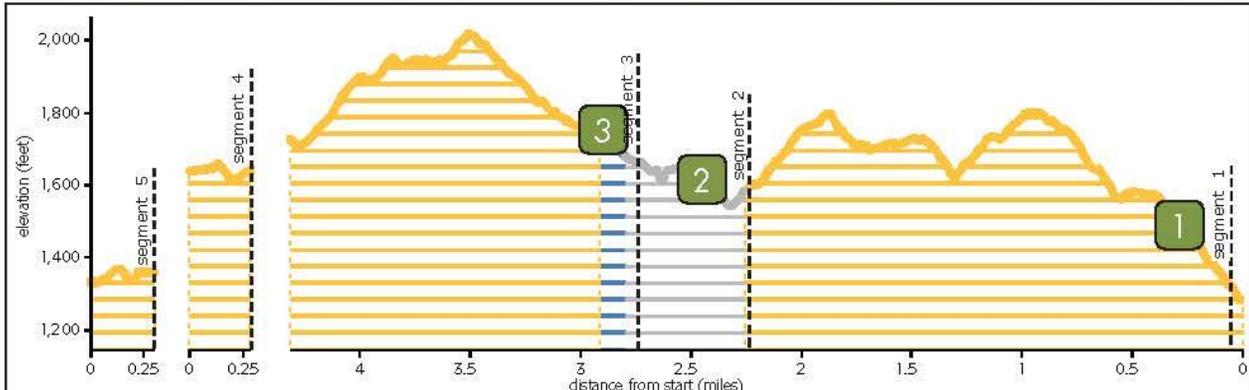


Access & Features

- Trailhead
- End of Public Trail
- Trail Access Point
- Trail Junction
- Water Fountain

Trail Type

- Natural Trail
- Flood Control Channel
- Street/Sidewalk Trail



Tips for Preparing a Plan

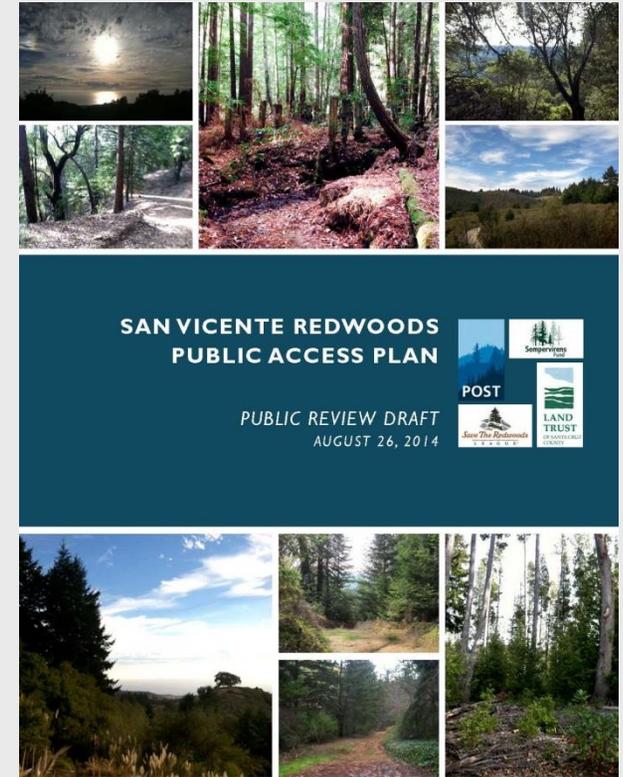
- ❑ Don't let trails get lost amidst other planning concerns/features
- ❑ When there are unknowns, **PLAN** for them
- ❑ Coordinate *before, during, and after* plan preparation



What should go in your Plan?

Sample Outline:

- Existing Conditions
 - Context
 - Ownership and easements
 - Resources
- Vision
 - Goals and/or Policies
 - Connections
 - Alignments
 - Allowable Uses
- Implementation Strategies
 - Maintenance
 - Management
 - Financial Considerations
- Design and Construction standards



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