

Trails and Greenways Conference 2014

Working Trails and Greenways into Master Plans

April 8, 2014

Sapphos 
environmental inc.

Marie Campbell, President

Eric Charlton, Senior Environmental Compliance Specialist

Laura Male, Environmental Compliance Coordinator



Introductions

- Sapphos Environmental, Inc.
 - Worked in over 200 parks in California
 - Strategic Asset Management Plan
 - Los Angeles River Master Plan of Trails and Mitigated Negative Declaration
 - County of Los Angeles Trails Guidelines
 - California Trails and Greenways Award
 - National Association of Environmental Professionals Award
 - Vasquez Rocks Sensitivity Guidelines
 - Santa Susana Mountains Trails Master Plan
- Panelists
 - Marie Campbell, President
 - Eric Charlton, Senior Environmental Compliance Specialist
 - Laura Male, Environmental Compliance Coordinator



Introductions

Marie Campbell, President

- Worked in over 200 Federal, State, Regional, Community, Local, and Neighborhood parks in California
- Served as Expert Witness in Support of County of Los Angeles Denial of Lease for Oil Development in the Puente Hills Habitat Conservation Area
- Served as Expert Witness to Support County of Los Angeles Securing Easements for Two Trails from the La Vina Homeowners Association
- Project Manager for County of Los Angeles Strategic Asset Management Plan
- Project Manger for Los Angeles River Master Plan of Trails
- Strategic Advisor to County of Los Angeles Trails Guidelines, Vasquez Rocks Sensitivity Guidelines, and Santa Susana Mountains Trails Master Plan



Workshop Outline

- Trails Master Planning
 - Learning Objectives
 - Benefits of Trails/Greenways Master Planning
 - Process for Developing a Trails/Greenways Master Plan
 - Criteria for Successful Plans



Learning Objectives

- Benefits of Master Planning Trails
- Process for Developing a Trails Master Plan
- Criteria for a Successful Trails Master Plan
- Tools for Addressing Challenges Inherent to the Trails Master Planning Process



Benefits of Trails/Greenways Master Planning

Key Issues

- Value of Trails/Greenways to Perceived Quality of Life
- Ability of Trails/Greenways to Accommodate Demand for Recreation and Open Space
- Relation to Land Use Law and General Plan Process
- Use of Plan to Facilitate Land Acquisition, Access, and Development
- Impact on Property Values
- Land Use Compatibility
- Quality of Recreation Experience
- Long-Term Maintenance and Safety



Benefits of Trails/Greenways Master Planning

Value of Trails/Greenways to Perceived Quality of Life

- U.S.: 54 to 80 percent of Americans engage in recreation
- California:
 - Recreation and Access to Open Space ranked among primary factors to quality of life
 - Population estimated at 38.2 million in 2013
 - Largest increase since 2003-2004
 - Greatest increase in Bay Area counties



Benefits of Trails/Greenways Master Planning

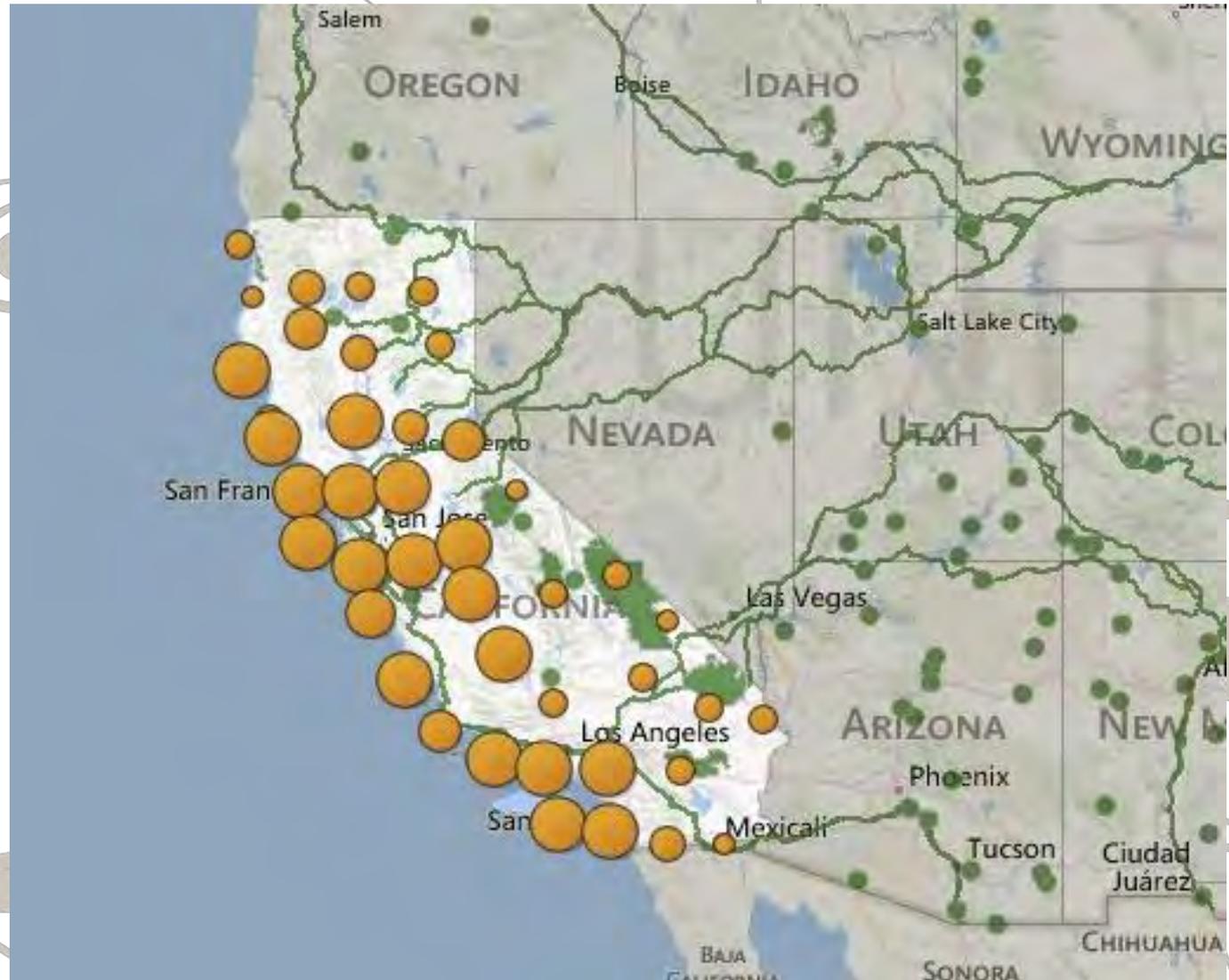
Value of Trails/Greenways to Perceived Quality of Life

- National Park Service Facilities in California
 - 26 National Parks
 - 35,575,100 visitors to California National Parks in 2013
 - \$1,533,700,000 in economic benefit from 2012 National Park tourism
 - 2,605 National Register of Historic Places listings
 - 1,151,832 hours donated by volunteers
 - 36 National Natural Landmarks
 - 144 National Historic Landmarks



Benefits of Trails/Greenways Master Planning

Value of Trails/ Greenways to Perceived Quality of Life



Benefits of Trails/Greenways Master Planning

Value of Trails/Greenways to Perceived Quality of Life

- Bureau of Land Management Facilities in California
 - 41 trail areas that provide access for hiking, equestrian, and/or mountain biking
 - 100 miles of public land along eight national wild and scenic rivers
 - 580 miles of public land on four Scenic and Historic Trails
 - 9.4 million recreation visits and 3.2 million campers and picnickers

<http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/prog/recreation.html>



Benefits of Trails/Greenways Master Planning

Value of Trails/Greenways to Perceived Quality of Life



Benefits of Trails/Greenways Master Planning

Value of Trails/Greenways to Perceived Quality of Life

- US Forest Facilities in California
 - 18 National Forests
 - National Scenic Trails – 100 miles or longer
 - Pacific Crest Trail, est. 1968, 2,638 miles
 - National Historic Trails
 - Juan Bautista de Anza (est. 1990) 1,200 miles
 - California (est. 1992) 5,665 miles



Benefits of Trails/Greenways Master Planning

Value of Trails/ Greenways to Perceived Quality of Life



Benefits of Trails/Greenways Master Planning

Value of Trails/Greenways to Perceived Quality of Life

- California Department of Parks and Recreation Resources
 - One-Third of State Coastline
 - 280 parks, beaches, trails, wildlife areas, open space
 - 1.59 million acres
 - 4,456 miles of non-motorized trails



Benefits of Trails/Greenways Master Planning

Value of Trails/Greenways to Perceived Quality of Life



Benefits of Trails/Greenways Master Planning

Value of Trails/Greenways to Perceived Quality of Life

California State Parks

California Recreational Trails Plan (2002)

- Benefits of Trails
- How to Acquire Funding
- Effective Stewardship
- Encouraging Cooperation among User Groups

California Recreational Trails Plan Progress Report (2011)

- 27 Routes in State's Recreational Trails System
- 85% of Californians live within 10 miles of one of the routes

http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=23443



Benefits of Trails/Greenways Master Planning

Ability of Trails/Greenways to Accommodate Demand for Recreation and Open Space

- California growth coupled with recreation trends is expected to exacerbate deficiencies in recreation opportunities
- Required trail supply to accommodate anticipated population
 - National Park and Recreation Association Goal
 - 11 percent of people use trails
 - 1 mile per thousand people



Benefits of Trails/Greenways Master Planning

Relation to Land Use Law and General Plan Process

- State of California General Plan Guidelines for Recreation
 - Land Use Element
 - Distribution of recreation facilities and opportunities
 - Describe existing public and private parks and recreation facilities
 - Identify potential future sites
 - Review federal, state, and local plans for acquisition and improvement of public parks
 - Inventory areas of outstanding scenic beauty and scenic vistas
 - Identify programs for protecting, conserving, and acquiring open space



Benefits of Trails/Greenways Master Planning Relation to Land Use Law and General Plan Process

- State of California General Plan Guidelines for Recreation
 - Open Space Element
 - Inventory areas of outstanding scenic beauty
 - Inventory historical and cultural resources
 - Assess the demand for public and private parks and recreational facilities
 - Inventory points of public access
 - Inventory scenic highway corridors
 - Inventory recreational trails and assess related demand
 - Inventory trails proposed by and developed under California Recreational Trails Plan of 1978 (PRC § 5076 and §7070)

http://opr.ca.gov/docs/General_Plan_Guidelines_2003.pdf



Benefits of Trails/Greenways Master Planning

Use of Plan to Facilitate Land Acquisition, Access, and Development

- Trails/Greenways classified as parks in General Plan can be used to meet requirements for parkland dedications for development
- Proposed development
 - Compensate for adversely affected or removed trails and greenways
 - Provide easements of trails and greenways in adopted land use element
 - Provide feasible mitigation or alternatives to easements in adopted land use elements



Benefits of Trails/Greenways Master Planning

Impact on Property Values

Three Trails in Metropolitan Denver

- 72% of homeowners adjacent to trails believed that the existence of the trail had a positive effect or neutral effect on the value of their home
- 57% of residents felt that the trail would make the home easier to sell
- 29% of homeowners were positively influenced by the trail in their decision to buy the home
- 55% of real estate agents agreed that the home would sell for more than a comparable home from a different neighborhood
- 82% of real estate agents used the trail as a selling point

<http://www.americantrails.org/resources/adjacent/sumadjacent.html>



Benefits of Trails/Greenways Master Planning

Land Use Compatibility

- Open Space
 - Opportunity: Experience natural and cultural amenities
 - Constraint: Degradation of environmental resources
- Residential
 - Opportunity: Ease of access to recreational amenities
 - Constraint: Security/privacy for property owners
- Commercial/Industrial
 - Opportunity: Ease of access to recreational amenities
 - Constraint: Aesthetics/lighting/safety concerns for users



Benefits of Trails/Greenways Master Planning

Quality of Recreation Experience

- Trails/Greenways Master Plan
 - Plan for sufficient recreation resources to meeting existing and future demand
 - Provide equitable distribution of resources
 - Experience natural and cultural amenities, including areas of outstanding scenic quality
 - Facilitate land acquisition strategies
 - Ameliorate land use compatibility issues



Benefits of Trails/Greenways Master Planning

Long-Term Maintenance and Safety

- Planned trails can be designed with appropriate grades to accommodate a wide range of users
- Erosion control measures can be integrated into design
- Avoid *de facto* generation of trails by recreation enthusiasts
 - Conflicts with private property ownership
 - Risks and hazards to people and property from faulty design and workmanship
 - Unauthorized and unmitigated impacts to sensitive natural and cultural resources



Introduction

- Eric Charlton, GISP, AICP
 - Over 25 years of urban planning and GIS experience
 - SAMP
 - Altadena Crest Trail
 - Santa Susana Mountains Trails Master Plan



Trails Master Plan Process

Goals and Objectives

- Existing Conditions
 - Administrative
 - Physical
- Stakeholder Identification and Engagement
- Project Definition / Circulations Plan
- Land Acquisition Strategy
- Environmental Process



Trails Master Plan Process

Goals and Objectives

- What is the service area of the plan?
- What is the estimated population growth of the service area?
- What types of users will be accessing the trails – e.g., hikers, mountain bikers, equestrians?
- Based on current population and population growth, how many miles of trail will you need?
- What types of trails need to be built?
- What are the needs and desires of the jurisdiction creating the plan?



The Trails Master Plan Process

Preliminary Conceptual Plans

- Use a Geographic Information System (GIS)
 - Excellent tool for decision-makers that allows one to see the relationship between many things at once
 - Provides tremendous flexibility as the plan evolves and changes
 - Acquire internal staff or external help knowledgeable in GIS to ensure proper design and maintenance



Trails Master Plan Process

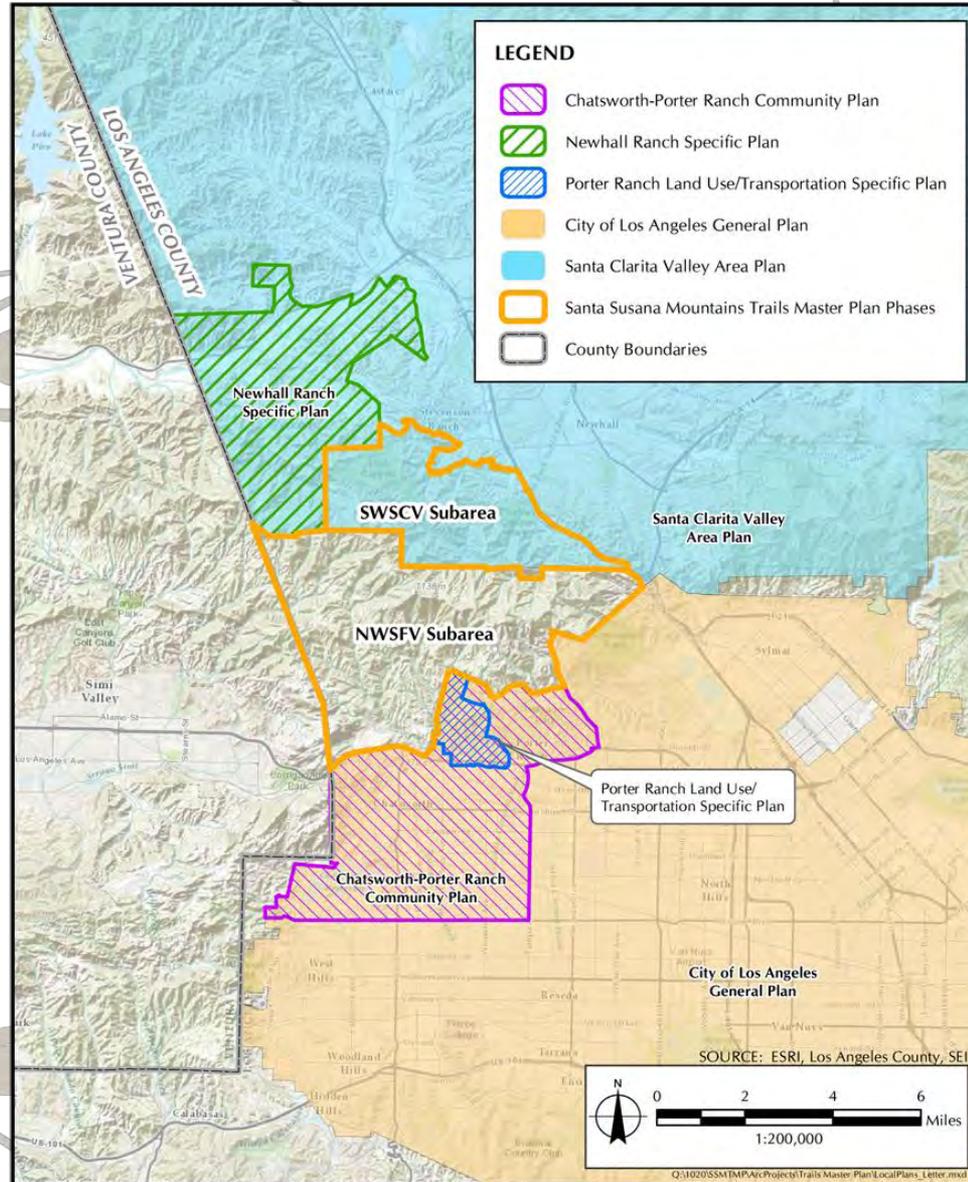
Existing Conditions

- **Define Administrative Boundaries / Resources**
 - General plan activity centers
 - Trails plans for adjacent jurisdictions
 - Parks and open space areas
 - Land ownership
 - Proposed trails to potentially connect to



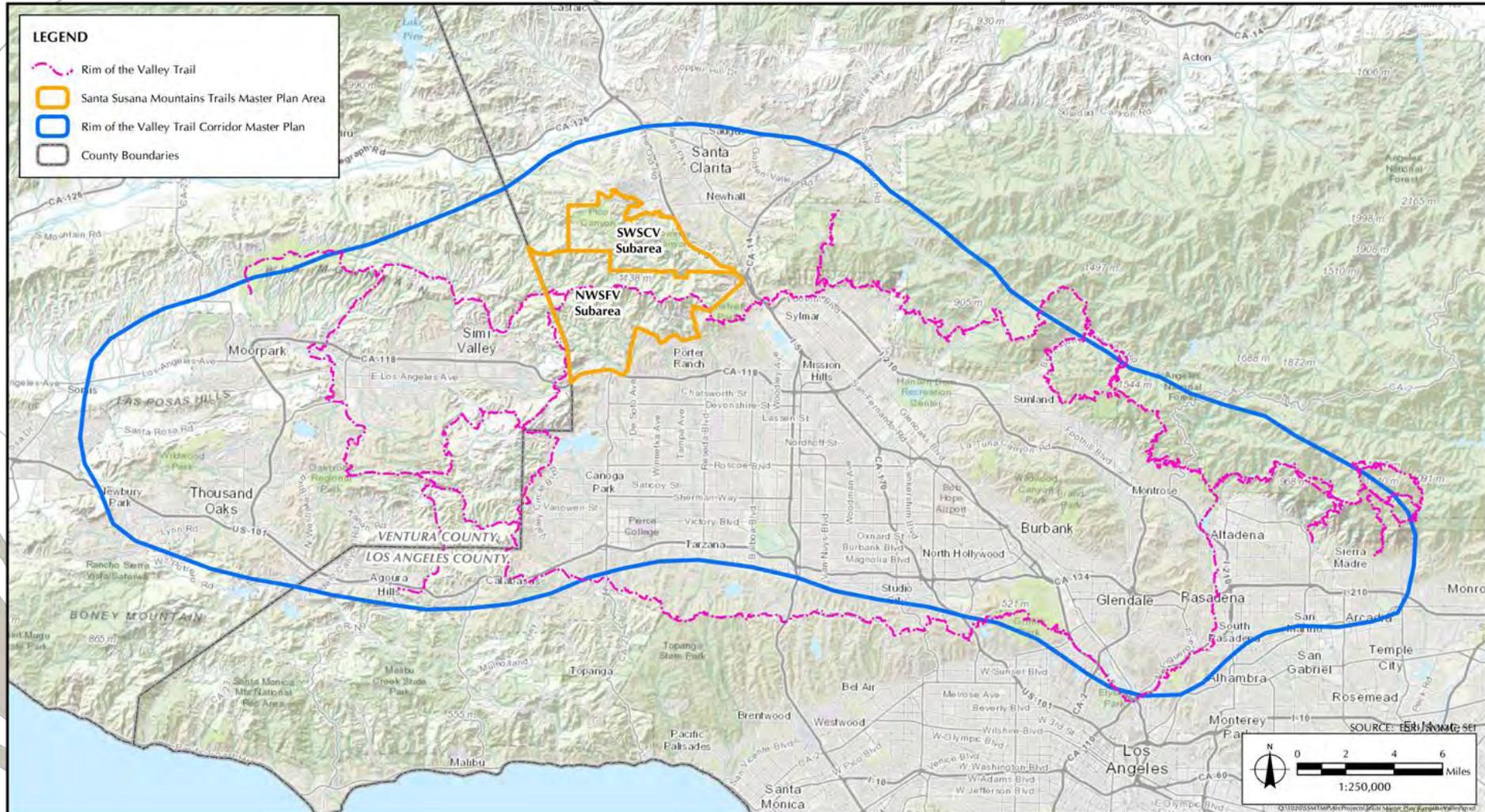
Trails Master Plan Process

- Existing Conditions – Political – Local Plans



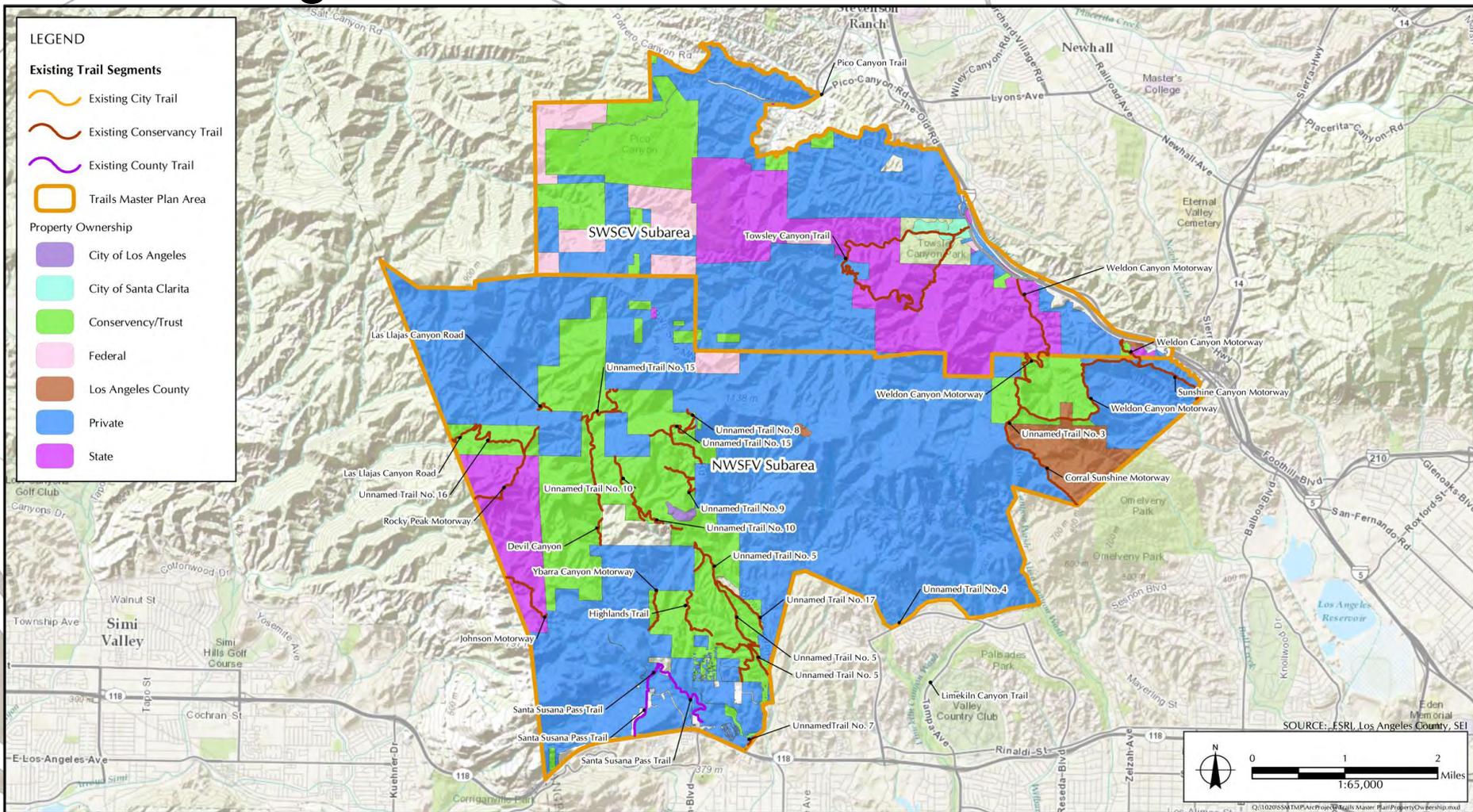
Trails Master Plan Process

- Existing Conditions Political – Regional Trail



Trails Master Plan Process

- Existing Conditions - Administrative



Trails Master Plan Process

Characterize Physical Conditions

- **What are the potential opportunities?**
- **Examples:**
 - Existing parks and other activity centers
 - Existing trails in the planning area
 - Existing trails adjacent to the planning area
 - Points of interest – e.g., vistas, waterfalls, unique places



Trails Master Plan Process

Characterize – Physical Condition

- **Existing Conditions – Physical**

- What are the potential constraints?

- Topography (<15%)
- Rock outcrops
- Protect natural reserve
- Sensitive prehistoric and historical resources
- Tree dripline
- Stream crossings
- Adjacent land use



Trails Master Plan Process

Stakeholder Identification and Engagement

- Plan the public participation process
- Invite agencies and other jurisdictions to participate early in the process
- Focus the public participation efforts on existing and potential users, e.g., trail advocacy groups, mountain bike groups, equestrian groups
- Use volunteers
- Don't promise to the public what can't be delivered



Trails Master Plan Process



Points of Interest



Trails Master Plan Process

Greenways and Trail Plan Development

- Develop a Circulation Plan
 - What are the gaps in existing trail routes?
 - Prioritize proposed trails to close gaps
 - Provide connections to points of interest
 - Provide connections to adjacent recreational resources



The Trails Master Plan Process

Acquiring Trail Right-of-Way

Land Acquisition Method	Range of Uses	Time to Complete	Complexity	Legal Exposure	Expense
Fee Simple Acquisition	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Acquisition by Nonprofit Foundation or a Conservancy Trust	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Negotiated Sale	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Purchase of Tax Default Property	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Bargain Sale	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Option/First Right of Refusal	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Easement Purchase	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shared Easement	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Donation of Property	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Required Dedication of Property or Easements	<input type="checkbox"/> /☉	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Eminent Domain of Property or Easements*	<input type="checkbox"/> /☉	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

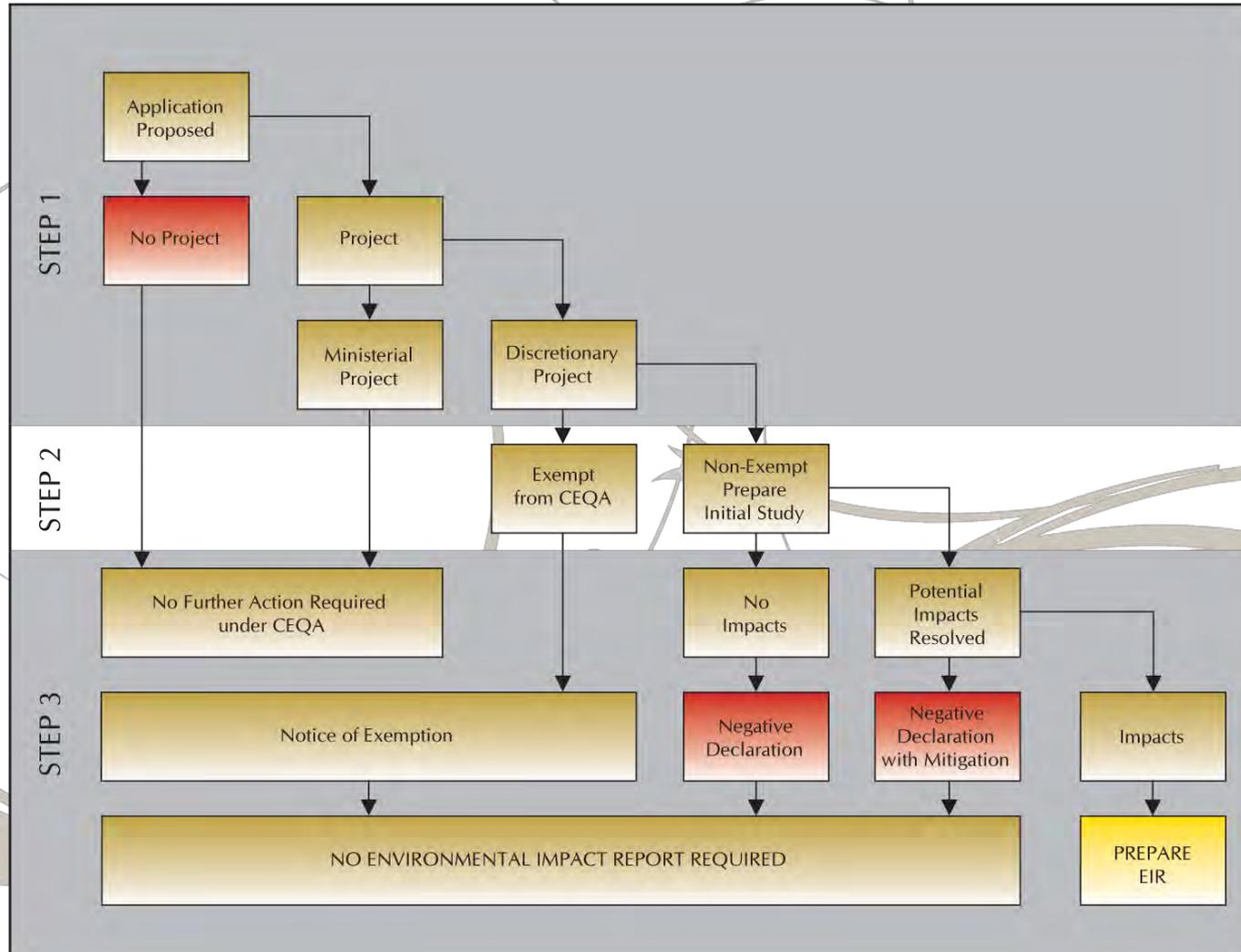
KEY: ● = Poor/Difficult; ☉ = Moderate; ☐ = Good/Favorable.

NOTE: * Use of eminent domain is not proposed or recommended as a tool for trail acquisition



The Trails Master Plan Process

- Determine Environmental Baseline Conditions
 - Build the CEQA process into your planning effort



The Trails Master Plan Process

- Environmental Review
- Government loss of hazards or hazardous materials
- Threatened and Endangered species
- Significant / Unique cultural resources
- State-designated scenic highway
- Unusual environmental circumstances



Criteria for Successful Plans

Laura Male, MLA

Recreation Experience

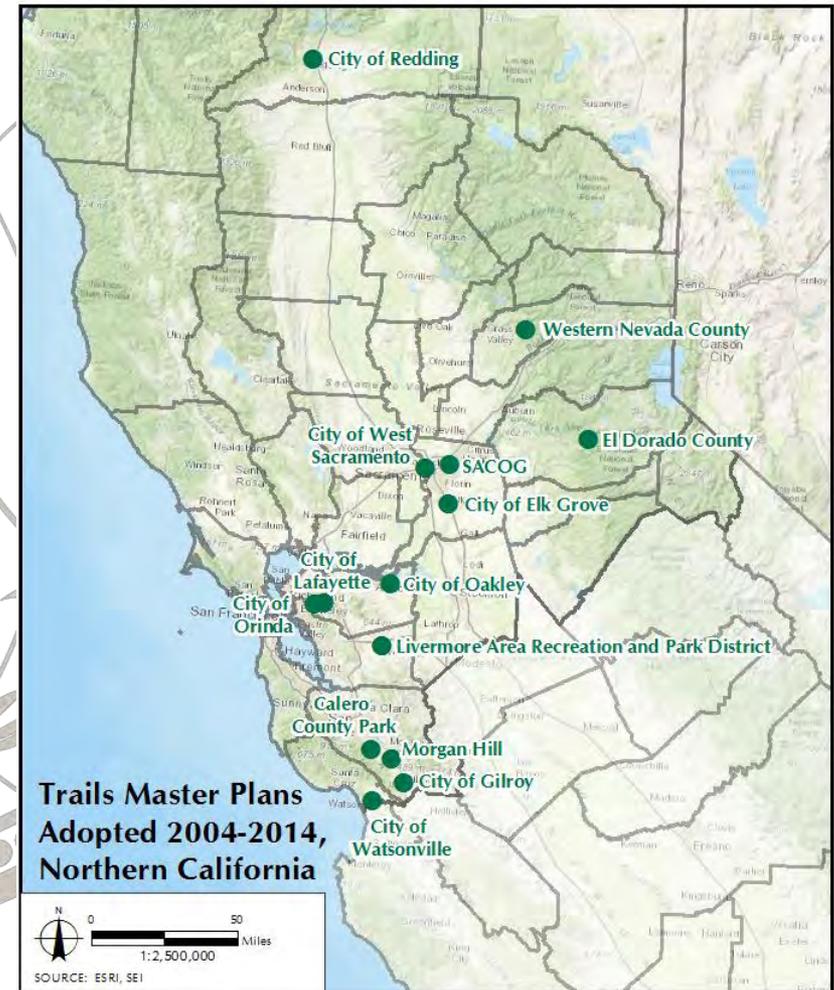
- Santa Susana Trails Master Plan, 2013-2014
 - Aesthetics Technical Report
 - Trails Master Plan
 - Existing Conditions section
 - Proposed Trails Plan section
- *Sustainable Recreation and Ecological Restoration Pilot Project Workshop: Big Tujunga*, 2013
 - Reestablishment of sensitive wildlife and recreational trails after 2009 Station Fire
 - Focus on recreation solutions in “overloved” areas of Angeles National Forest
- Descanso Gardens, 2012
 - Planting design and installation along high-traffic areas of the gardens
 - Building trails in the natives garden from fallen tree branches
 - Participation in discussion about the expansion of the natives garden



Criteria for Successful Plans

Leveraging the Experience of Others

- Between 2004 and 2014, 14 trails master plans were adopted in Northern California
- Range from local (city) to regional (Sacramento Area of Governments/SACOG)
- Range from 2.2 miles to over 100 miles of proposed trails



Criteria for Successful Plans

Leveraging the Experience of Others

Recently Adopted Trails Master Plans in Northern California

- Sacramento Area of Governments' (SACOG) Regional Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Trails Master Plan – 2013
<http://www.sacog.org/bikeinfo/pdf/masterplan/Bicycle-Pedestrian-Trails-Master-Plan-2013-06-20.pdf>
- City of West Sacramento Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Trails Master Plan – 2013
<http://www.cityofwestsacramento.org/civica/filebank/blobdload.asp?BlobID=9388>
- Calero County Park Trails Master Plan – 2013
<http://www.sccgov.org/sites/parks/PlansProjects/Documents/Calero/calero-tmp-adopted-100813.pdf>
- El Dorado County Parks and Trails Master Plan – 2012
<https://www.edcgov.us/Government/Parks/MasterPlan.aspx>
- City of Watsonville Trails & Bicycle Master Plan – 2012
http://cityofwatsonville.org/download/Public%20Works/Final%20Watsonville%20Trails%20and%20Greenways%20Master%20Plan_v6.0.pdf
- City of Orinda Bicycle, Trails and Walkways Master Plan – 2011
http://www.altaprojects.net/files/2813/1464/1886/Orinda_BTW_Master_Plan_04-21-2011.pdf
- Western Nevada County Non-Motorized Recreational Trails Master Plan – 2010
<http://www.mynevadacounty.com/nc/cda/planning/docs/Planning%20Projects/Advance%20Planning%20Projects/Western%20Nevada%20County%20Non-Motorized%20Recreational%20Trails%20Master%20Plan/Western%20Nevada%20County%20Non-Motorized%20Recreational%20Trails%20Master%20Plan/Trails%20Plan.pdf>
- Livermore Area Recreation and Park District's Parks, Recreation and Trails Master Plan – 2008
http://www.larpd.dst.ca.us/board/LARPD_Master_Plan/LARPD_Master_Plan.pdf
- City of Oakley Parks, Trails, and Recreation Master Plan – 2007
<http://www.ci.oakley.ca.us/UserFiles/file/planning/Parks%20Master%20Plan%202020.pdf>
- City of Morgan Hill Trails Master Plan – 2007
<http://www.morgan-hill.ca.gov/index.aspx?nid=367>
- City of Elk Grove Trails Master Plan – 2007
<http://www.elkgrovecity.org/trails-committee/printables/trails-master-plan.pdf>
- City of Lafayette Trails Master Plan 2006
<http://www.ci.lafayette.ca.us/modules/showdocument.aspx?documentid=1666>
- City of Gilroy Trails Master Plan – 2005
http://www.cityofgilroy.org/cityofgilroy_files/city_hall/boards_commissions/bpab/Trails_Master_Plan_full.pdf
- Redding Parks, Trails, and Open Space Master Plan – 2004
<http://www.ci.redding.ca.us/CommunityServices/masterplan.html>



Criteria for Successful Plans

Leveraging the Experience of Others

- Between 2004 and 2014, 4 trails master plans were adopted in Central California
- Range from localized (i.e., Dragon Gulch in City of Sonoma) to local (city)
- Range from 7.2 miles to 95 miles of proposed trails



Criteria for Successful Plans

Leveraging the Experience of Others

Recently Adopted Trails Master Plans in Central California

- Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail (MBSST) Network Final Master Plan – 2013, being amended in 2014 <http://www.sccrtc.org/projects/multi-modal/monterey-bay-sanctuary-scenic-trail/mbsst-master-plan/>
- Dragoon Gulch Trails Master Plan, Sonora, CA – 2013 <http://www.sonoraca.com/Master%20Plan%20-%20final%202013-05-28%20for%20web.pdf>
- Town of Mammoth Lakes Trail System Master Plan – 2011 http://ca-mammothlakes.civicplus.com/documents/10/45/50/193/TSMPL_ADOPTED_111103_with_maps_print_FINAL.PDF
- City of Fresno Bicycle, Pedestrian, & Trails Master Plan – 2010 <http://www.fresno.gov/NR/rdonlyres/5DBFAA2D-5352-47D2-84BA-3A9BEDC99351/0/FresnoBMP.pdf>



Criteria for Successful Plans

Leveraging the Experience of Others

- Between 2004 and 2014, 11 trails master plans were adopted in Southern California
- Range from localized (i.e., Tahquitz Creek in Palm Springs) to regional (county)
- Range from 1.5-mile-long study area to 120 miles of proposed trails



Criteria for Successful Plans

Leveraging the Experience of Others

Recently adopted Trails Master Plans in Southern California

- Salinas River Trail Master Plan – 2014 <http://salinasrivertrail.com/>
- Perris Trail Master Plan – 2013 <http://www.cityofperris.org/city-hall/trails-masterplan/TrailsMP-FinalAdoptedPlan.pdf>
- City of Lancaster Master Plan of Trails and Bikeways – 2012 <http://www.cityoflancasterca.org/index.aspx?page=920>
- Northern San Luis Obispo County Coastal Trail Master Plan – 2012 <http://scc.ca.gov/webmaster/pdfs/CCT-SLO-masterplan-final-opt.pdf>
- Santa Ana River Trails Master Plan – 2011 <http://www.discovercorona.com/City-Departments/Parks---Community-Services/Park-Development-%281%29/Trail-Projects.aspx>
- City of Temecula Trails and Bikeway Master Plan – 2011 <http://laserfiche.cityoftemecula.org/weblink8/2/fo1/239735/Row1.aspx>
- Tahquitz Creek Trail Master Plan – 2010 <http://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=1&ved=0CCkQFjAA&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.palmsprings.ca.gov%2FModules%2FShowDocument.aspx%3Fdocumentid%3D28379&ei=OThCU6-MHKK92gWL5YCWdQ&usg=AFQjCNHPKijUEU7DuerL84YOc08-gy2hw&sig2=Xkr01xT7cUnJUXShXgclidA&bvm=bv.64367178.d.b2l>
- San Diego County Community Trails Master Plan – 2009 http://www.co.san-diego.ca.us/reusable_components/images/parks/doc/toc09.pdf
- City of Calabasas Trails Master Plan – 2007 <http://www.cityofcalabasas.com/pdf/trails-masterplan/trails-master-plan-final.pdf>
- City of Dana Point Bicycle and Pedestrian Trails Master Plan – 2006 http://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=1&ved=0CCkQFjAA&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.danapoint.org%2Findex.aspx%3Fpage%3D616&ei=0jtCU_mKtPC2gXjuoEI&usg=AFQjCNGENAKXcPUYAt8wkyBhC4M3_15YBw&sig2=FDuzISb-D8gBGRvtrUJOgA&bvm=bv.64367178.d.b2l
- City of La Canada Flintridge Trails Master Plan – 2006 https://ac0afc1d-a-bebe420d-sites.googlegroups.com/a/lcf.ca.gov/city-of-la-canada-flintridge-site/pdf-file/adm_na_mis_101209_094504.pdf?attachauth=ANoY7crZ4ZJZIR1z8W18dMignMBjoaFjaan53FBxxaUSiWiYDhdE3j3nw0-xjxhnmNo2T6cbhpa8dudDUxpp3HIAqPINdHd5bRy3k-X9ExH3po5yTQ-EBFveYdLubKue8SSYeBe3Aw8OCE1X9cRaTcVvqX1mnHrEm6wamEj_Wuk17RnlMdBojaFLrMvORyEG12hXSZP-d5WHvA9OzljcBKGrWtnEZxZlpB9C9dd-dB9aamb9P8tBYZBDgl-T0N1mT2Ys1lQpe9XF871GVwx7tRdaZANM4sgDoQ%3D%3D&attredirects=1



Criteria for Successful Plans

Leveraging the Experience of Others

- At least 8 trails master plans in California are in progress
- Range from local (e.g., Presidio within the Golden Gate National Recreation Area in San Francisco) to regional (e.g., Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area)



Criteria for Successful Plans

Leveraging the Experience of Others

Trails Master Plans in California – in progress

- 1985 Mission Trails Regional Park Master Development Plan Update:
https://www.mtrp.org/master_plan.asp
- Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area (SMMNRA) Interagency Trail Management Plan:
<http://parkplanning.nps.gov/projectHome.cfm?projectID=13510>
- Mount Shasta Master Trails Plan :
<https://www.imba.com/blog/anna-laxague/100-miles-multi-use-trail-planned-mount-shasta-ca>
- Draft Santa Clara River Trail Master Plan:
<http://developmentservices.cityofoxnard.org/Uploads/Planning/SCRTMP%20Final.pdf>
- Draft Tahoe Donner Trails Master Plan:
http://www.tahoedonner.com/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/TRAILS-MASTER-PLAN-2013.FINAL_.pdf
- Presidio Trails and Bikeways Master Plan:
http://www.nps.gov/goga/parkmgmt/prsf_trails-bikes_masterplan.htm
- Big Bear Valley Pedestrian, Bicycle, and Equestrian Master Plan:
<http://bbarwa.org/visitors/Draft-BigBearValleyPedestrianBicycleEquestrianMasterPlan-June2013.pdf>
- Santa Susana Mountains Draft Trail Management Plan

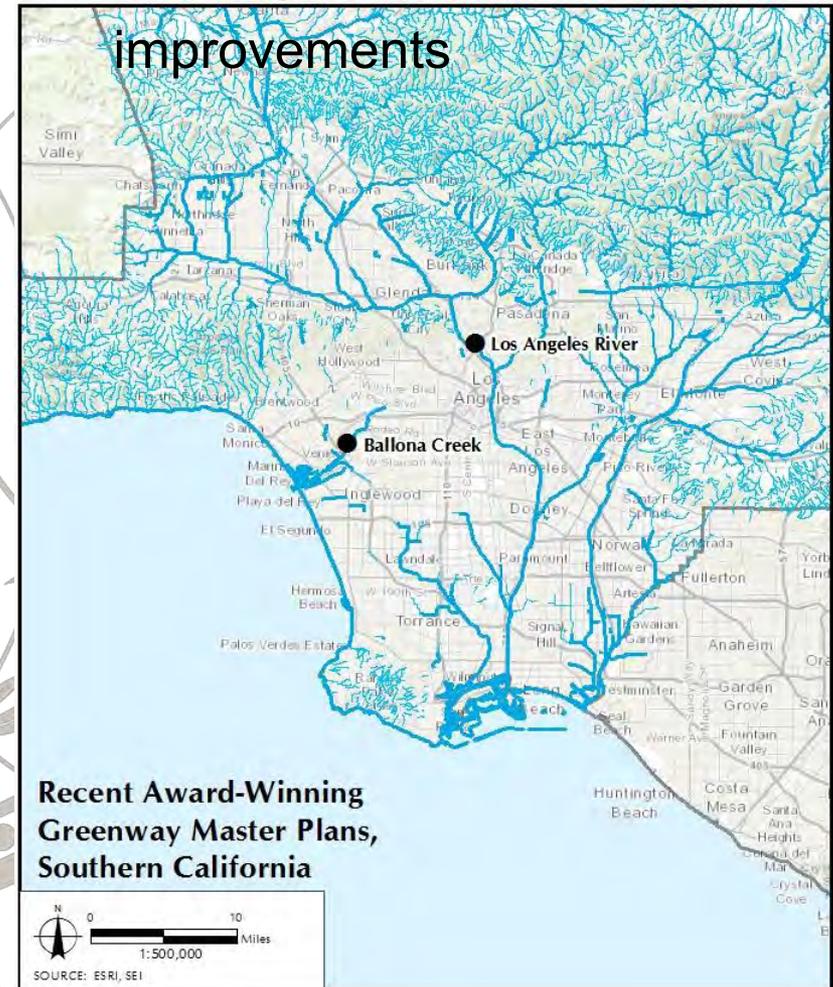


Criteria for Successful Plans

Award-Winning Greenway Master Plans in California

Two recent award-winning Greenway Master Plans in California

- Ballona Creek Greenway Plan
 - 8.5 miles of Ballona Creek
 - 4 reach-out locations into mid-city Los Angeles, Culver City, Mar Vista, and the Ballona wetlands
- Los Angeles River Revitalization Master Plan
 - 32 miles of Los Angeles River
 - 25-50 year blueprint for



Criteria for Successful Plans

Leveraging the Experience of Others

Award-Winning Greenway Master Plans in California

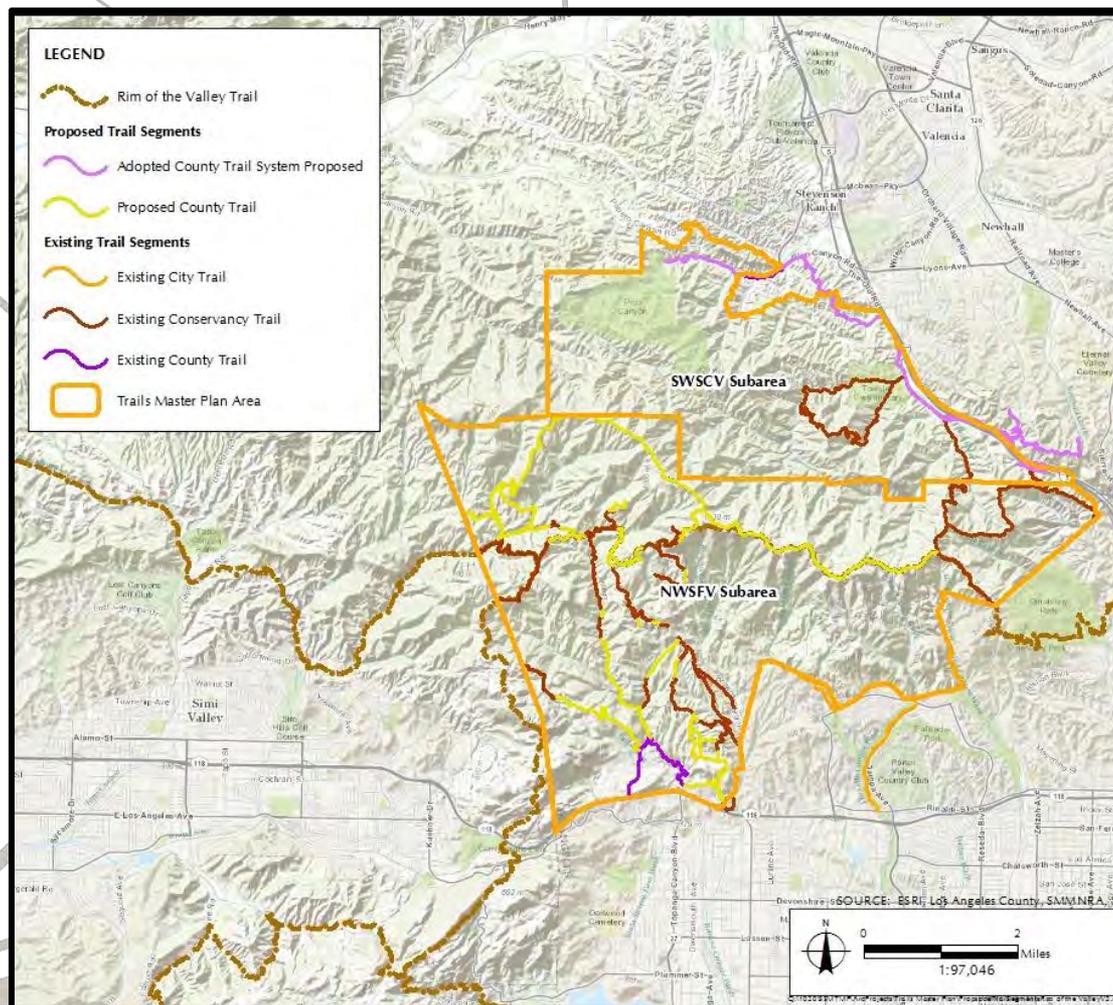
- Ballona Creek Greenway Plan, California – 2011
http://www.santamonicabay.org/Documents/BGP_3_GreenwayPlans.pdf
 - 2011 Westside Urban Forum Design Award
- Los Angeles River Revitalization Master Plan – 2007
http://boe.lacity.org/lariverrmp/CommunityOutreach/pdf/LARRMP_Final_05_03_07.pdf
 - American Institute of Architects' Honor Award for Urban Design in 2008
 - American Society of Landscape Architects' Honor Award for Planning and Urban Design in 2009



Criteria for Successful Plans

Case Study: Santa Susana Mountains Trails Master Plan

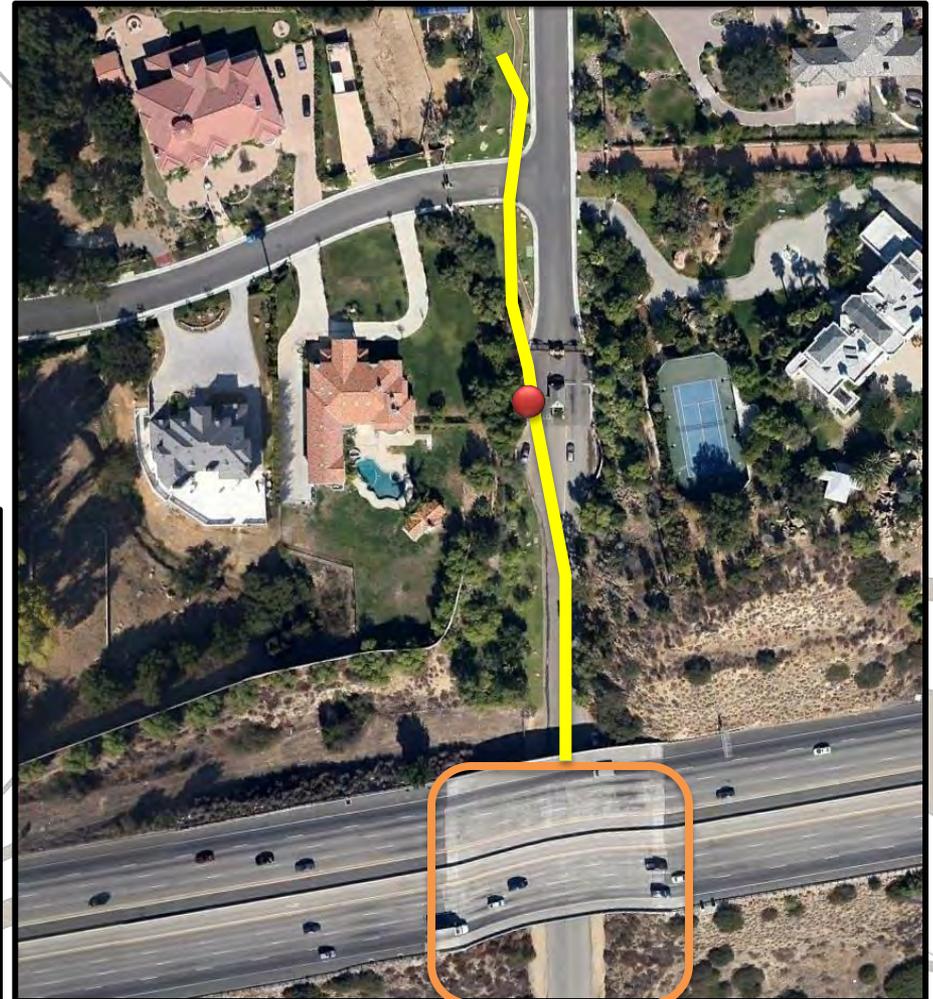
- 24,122.5 acre study area
- 35.65 miles existing trails
 - 28.5 miles managed by Conservancy/Trust
 - 4.0 miles managed by City of Los Angeles
 - 2.8 miles managed by LA County Parks
- 35.9 miles proposed trails
 - Multi-use trails to be managed by the County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation
 - Connection to Rim of the Valley Trail



Criteria for Successful Plans

Soliciting Input from Stakeholders

- Balanced needs from local and regional user groups
 - Parking
 - Traffic
 - Private Property



Criteria for Successful Plans

Soliciting Input from Stakeholders

- Balanced needs from local and regional user groups
 - Respect for neighbors and the neighborhood



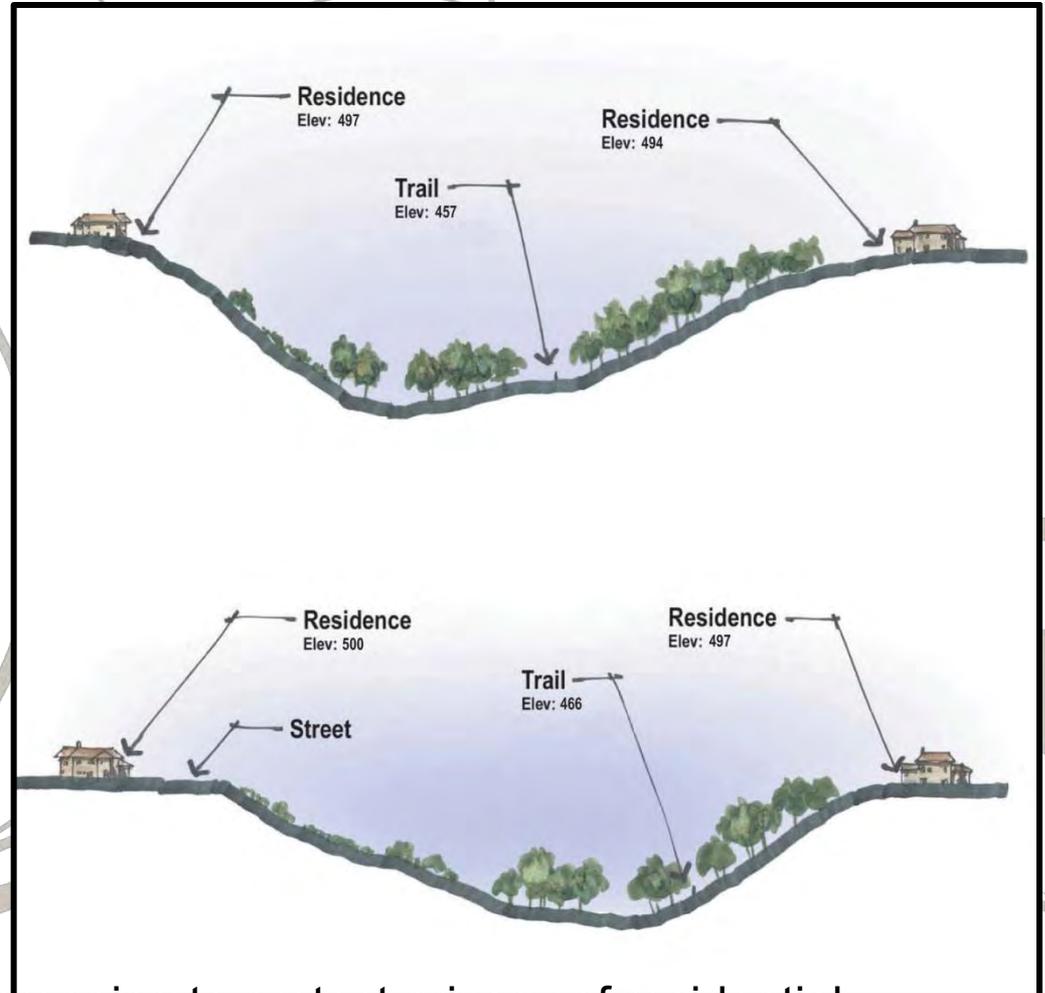
Unscreened view lines into residential property



Criteria for Successful Plans

Soliciting Input from Stakeholders

- Balanced needs from local and regional user groups
 - Respect the privacy of people living near trailheads and greenways
 - Vegetative screening



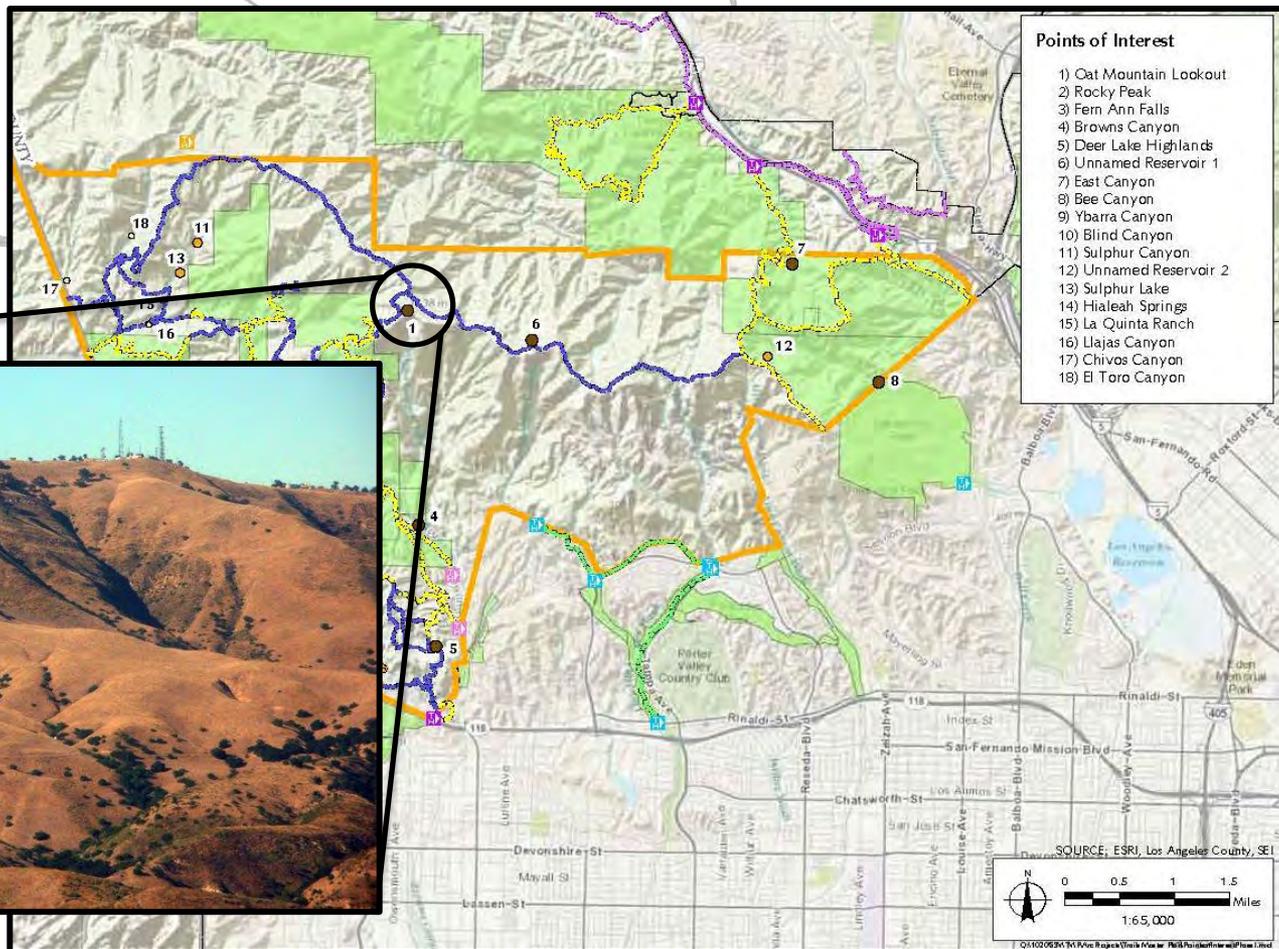
Vegetative screening to protect privacy of residential properties



Criteria for Successful Plans

Acknowledging User Goals & Objectives

Points of Interest

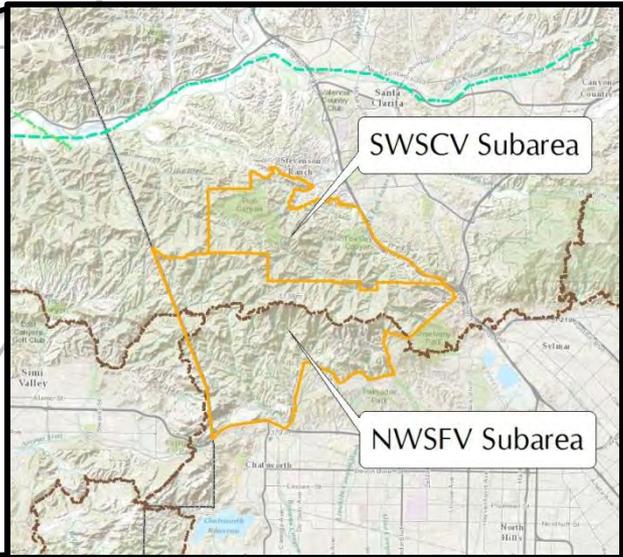
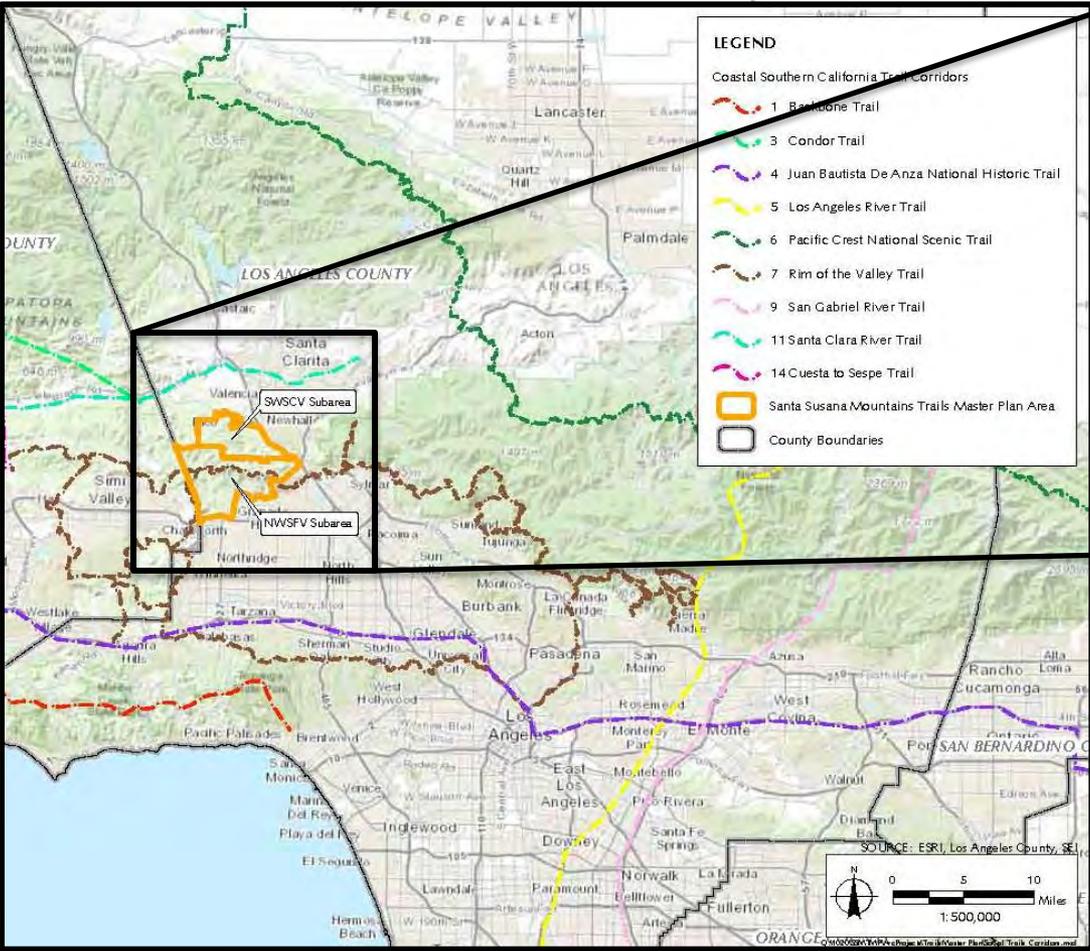


1) Oat Mountain Lookout



Criteria for Successful Plans

Connectivity

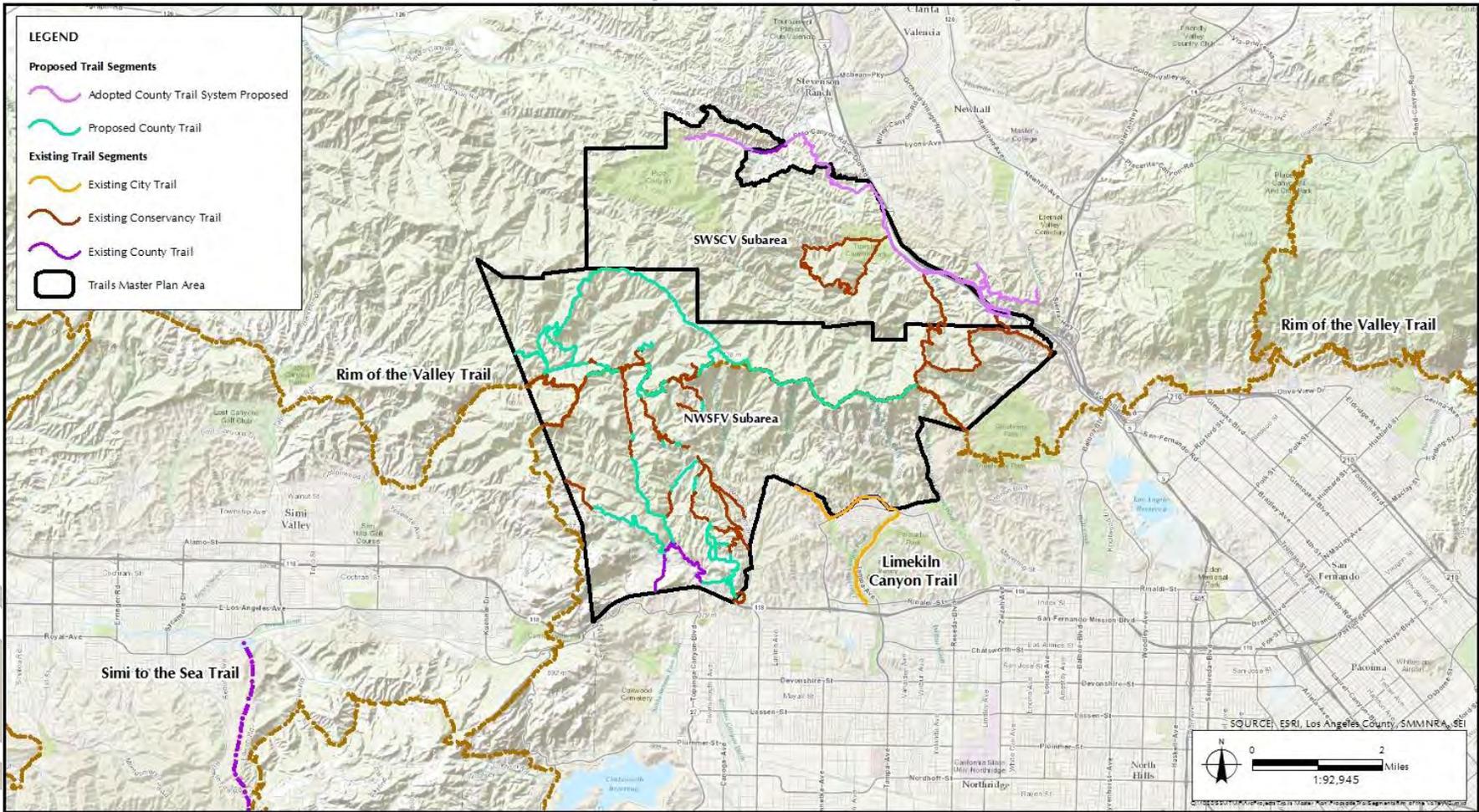


Rim of the Valley Trail passes through the Master Plan Area



Criteria for Successful Plans

Connectivity



Criteria for Successful Plans

Access Points/Trailheads and Wayfinding

Predefined with a trails or greenways master plan, therefore clearly marked, easily accessible, with ample parking & amenities, etc.



Criteria for Successful Plans

Access Points/Trailheads and Wayfinding

- Consider traffic capacity
- Can the area accommodate the drivers?



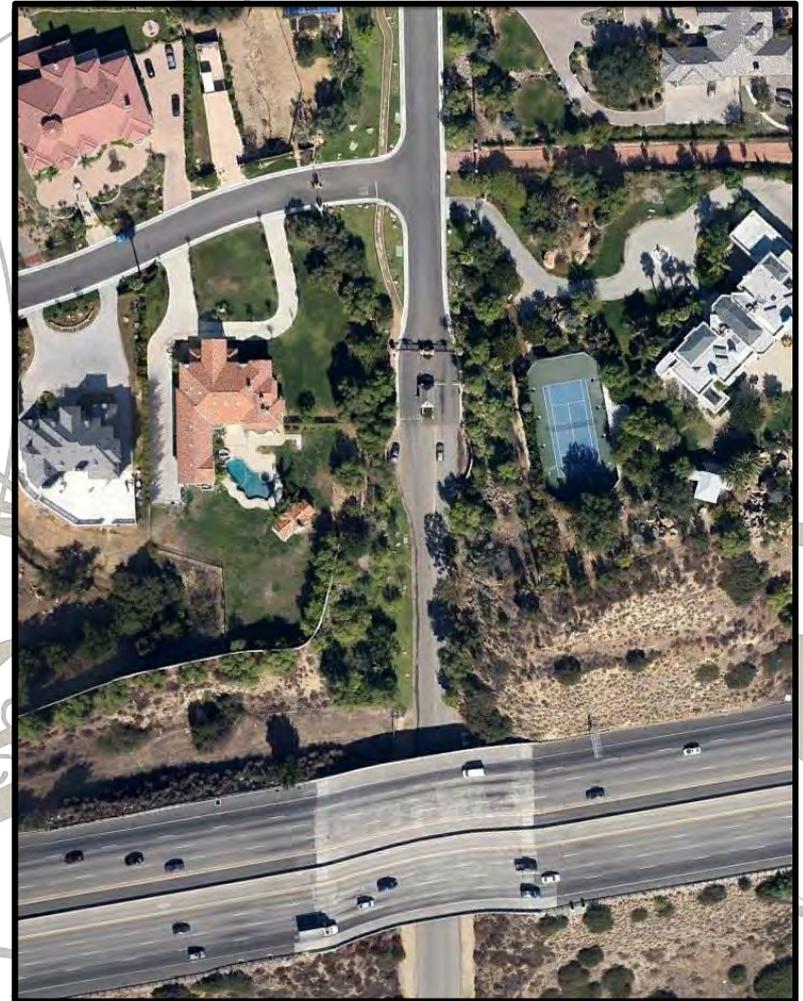
Towsley Canyon
Trailhead



Criteria for Successful Plans

Access Points/Trailheads and Wayfinding

- Also need to be respectful to neighborhood
- Avoid ongoing operation conflicts



Iverson Road - Santa Susana Pass Trailhead



Criteria for Successful Plans

Access Points/Trailheads and Wayfinding

- Wayfinding & interpretive signs are constructed at key points as trail alignments are developed
- Visibility of signs
 - Short & concise language



Criteria for Successful Plans

Access Points/Trailheads and Wayfinding

- Multi-jurisdictional areas
 - Need to post locations transitions from multi-use to single-use trails at trailhead signs and where jurisdiction changes
 - E.g., at mile marker 5, this trail doesn't allow biking within this city
- Signage relieves liability

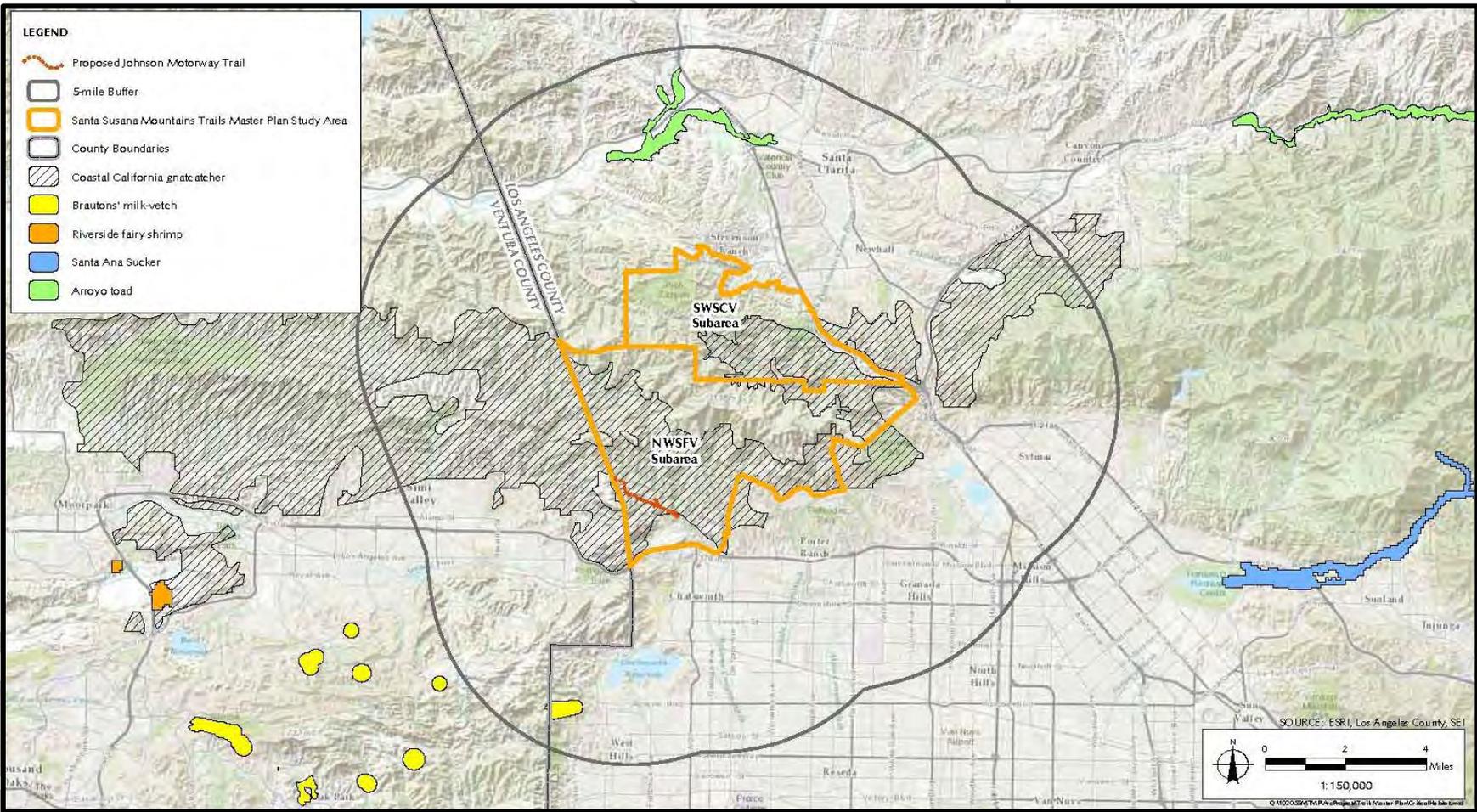


Pacific Crest Trail sign at Vasquez Rocks



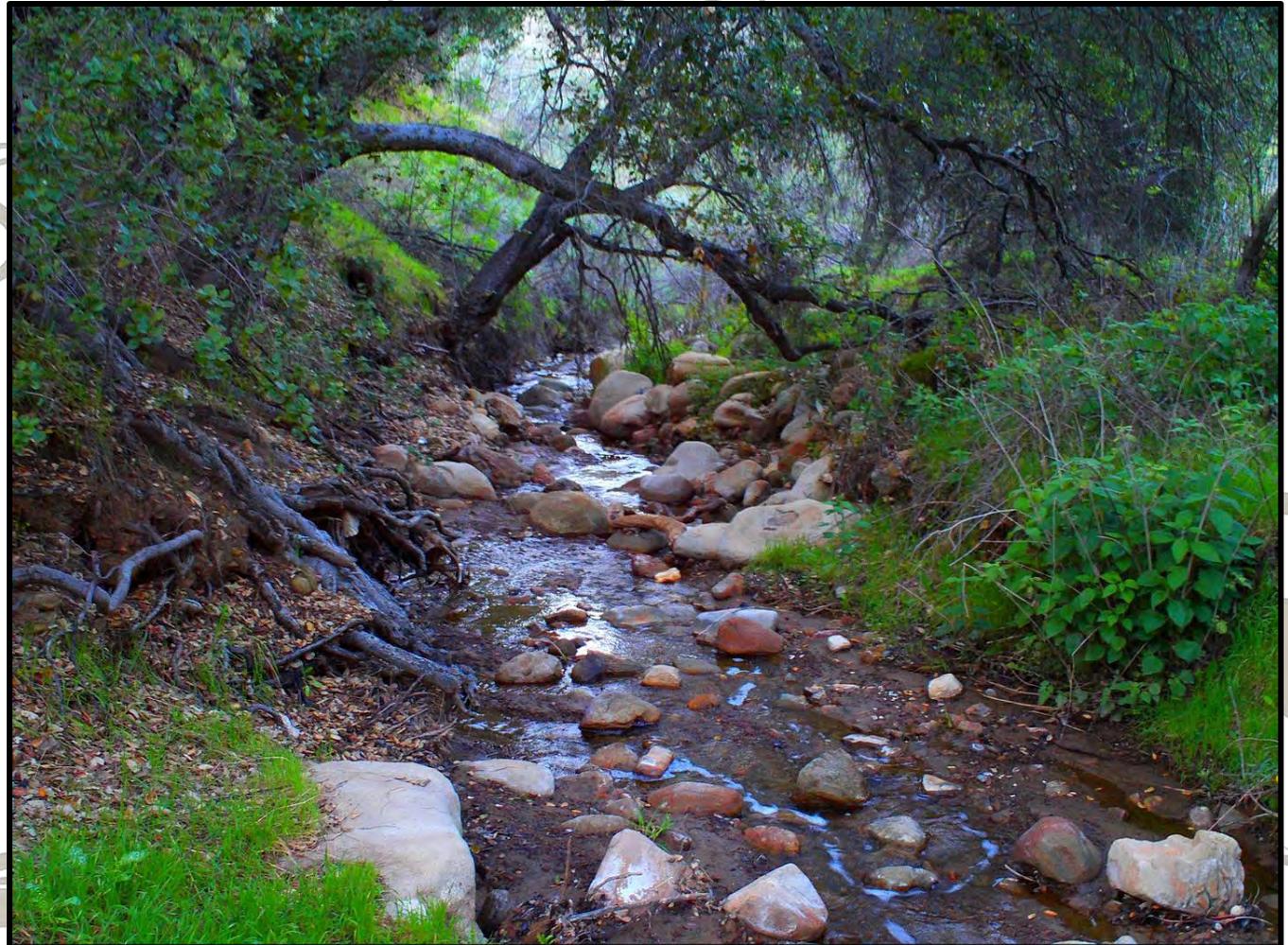
Criteria for Successful Plans

Sustainability



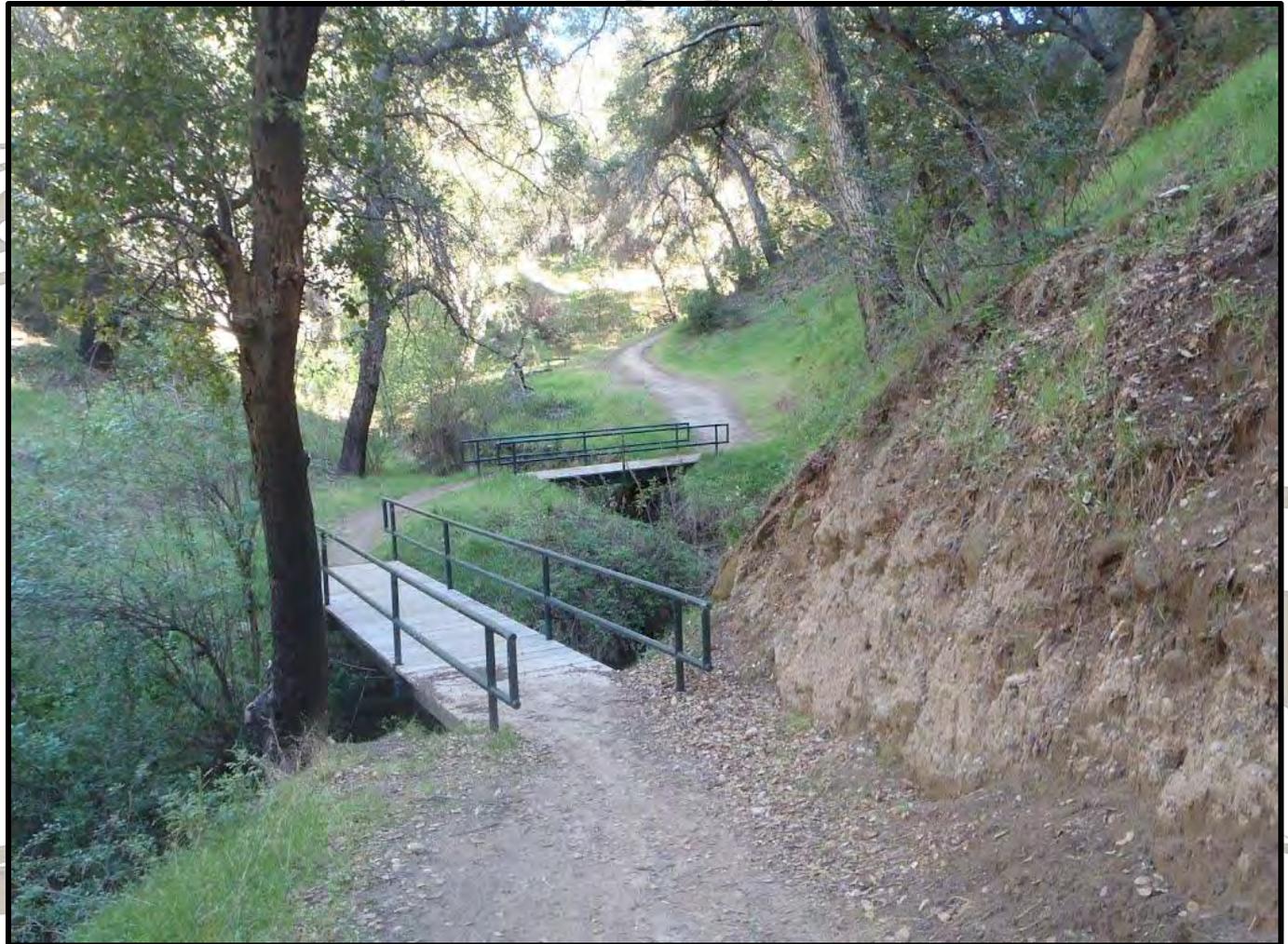
Criteria for Successful Plans

Sustainability



Criteria for Successful Plans

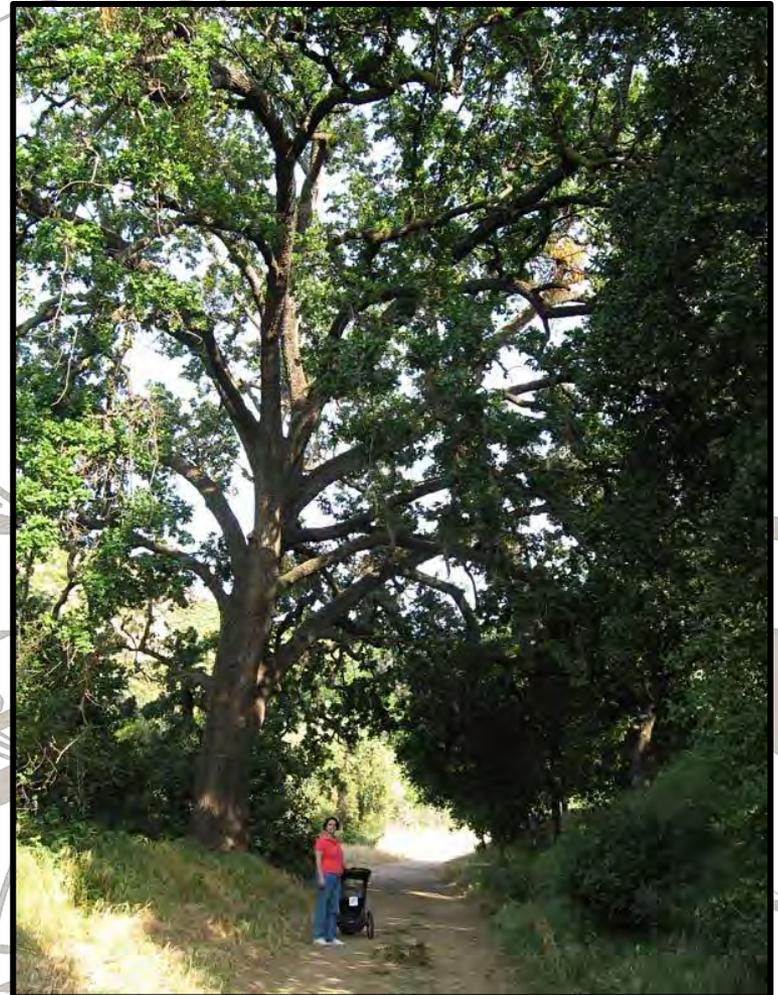
Sustainability



Criteria for Successful Plans

Sustainability

- Minimize trampling under drip line of trees to avoid compacting the soil
- Trees disrupt trails as they grow
- E.g., Arroyo Seco Trails Master Plan, need to trim trees to 12 feet high for equestrians



Criteria for Successful Plans

Sustainability

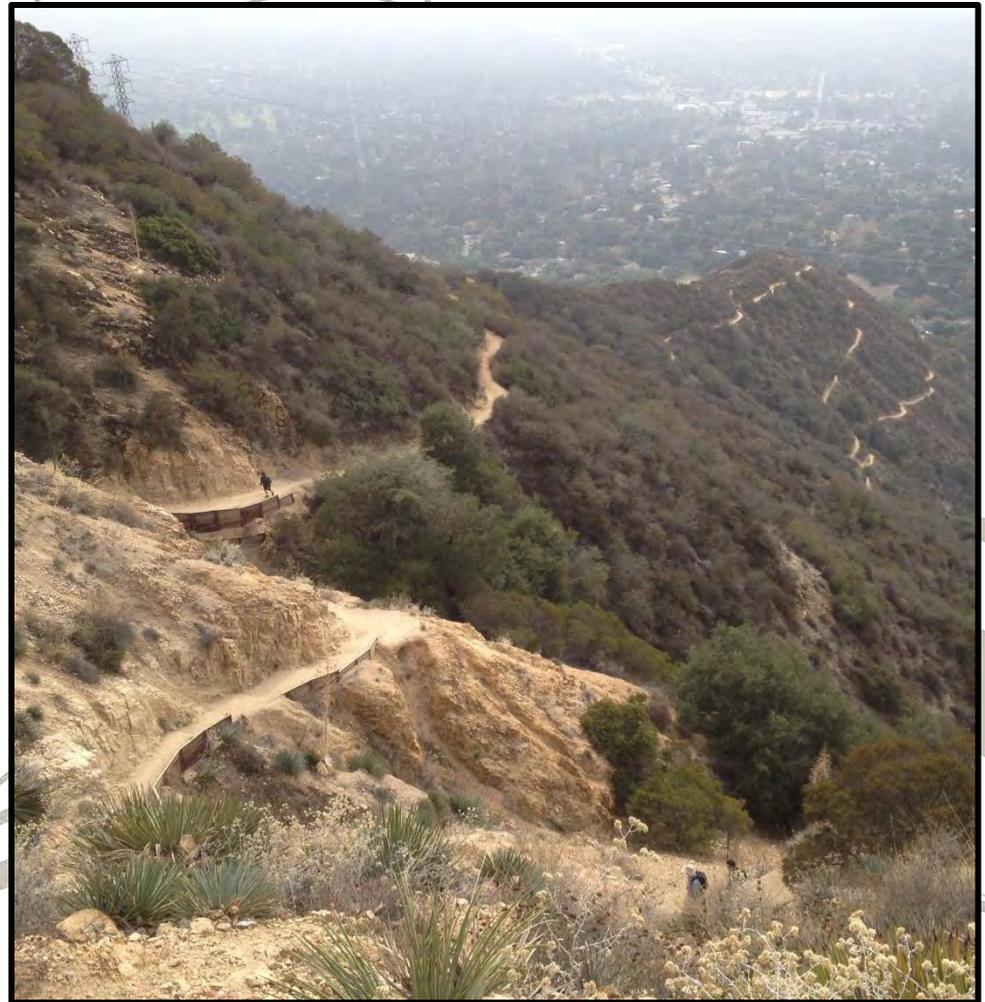
- Important to identify points of interest
- A kiosk or sign at beginning of trail can show map with points of interest
- Signage near points of interest can provide for appropriate interpretation of resources



Criteria for Successful Plans

Safety and Trail Alignments

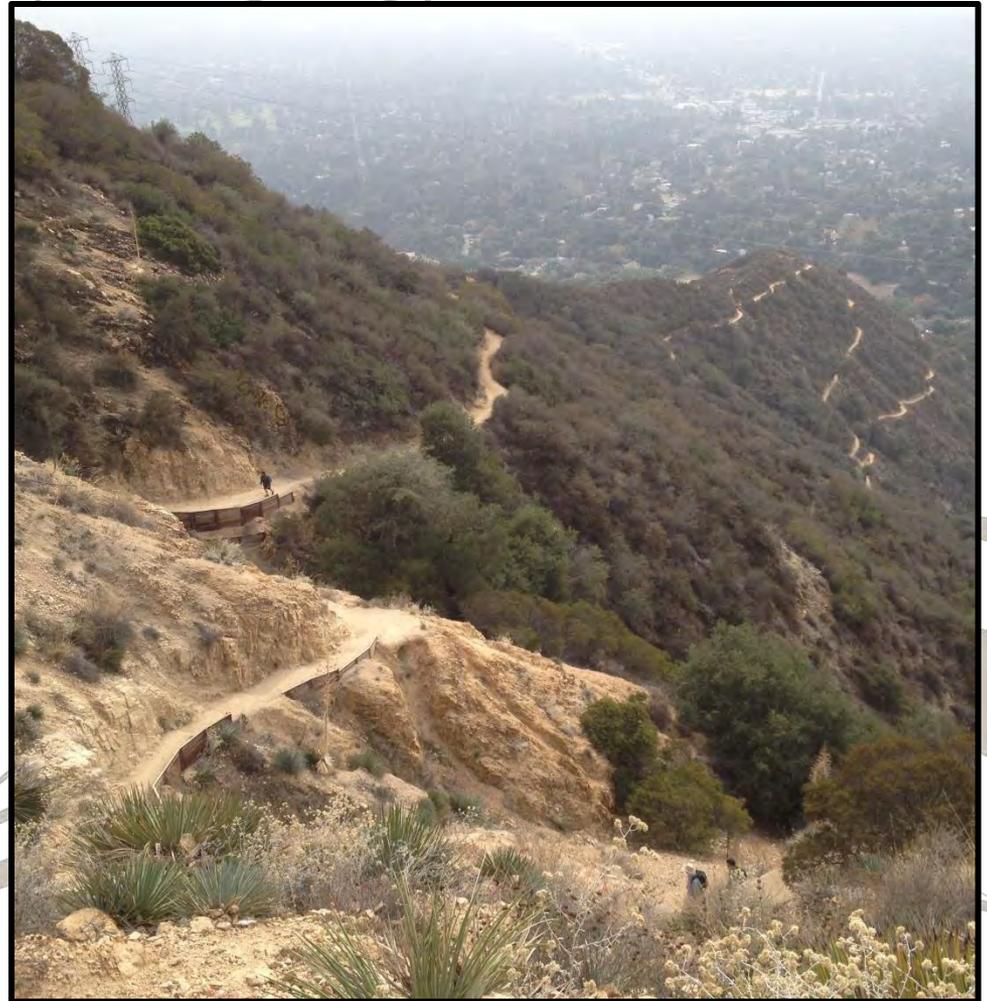
- Example - Federal Trail Planning, Design & Implementation Standards
- AASHTO, *Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities*, 1999
- U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Technology & Development Program in cooperation with USDOT, *FHWA, Equestrian Design Guidebook for Trails, Trailheads and Campgrounds*, 2007
- U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service Trail Accessibility Guidelines, 2006



Criteria for Successful Plans

Safety and Trail Alignments

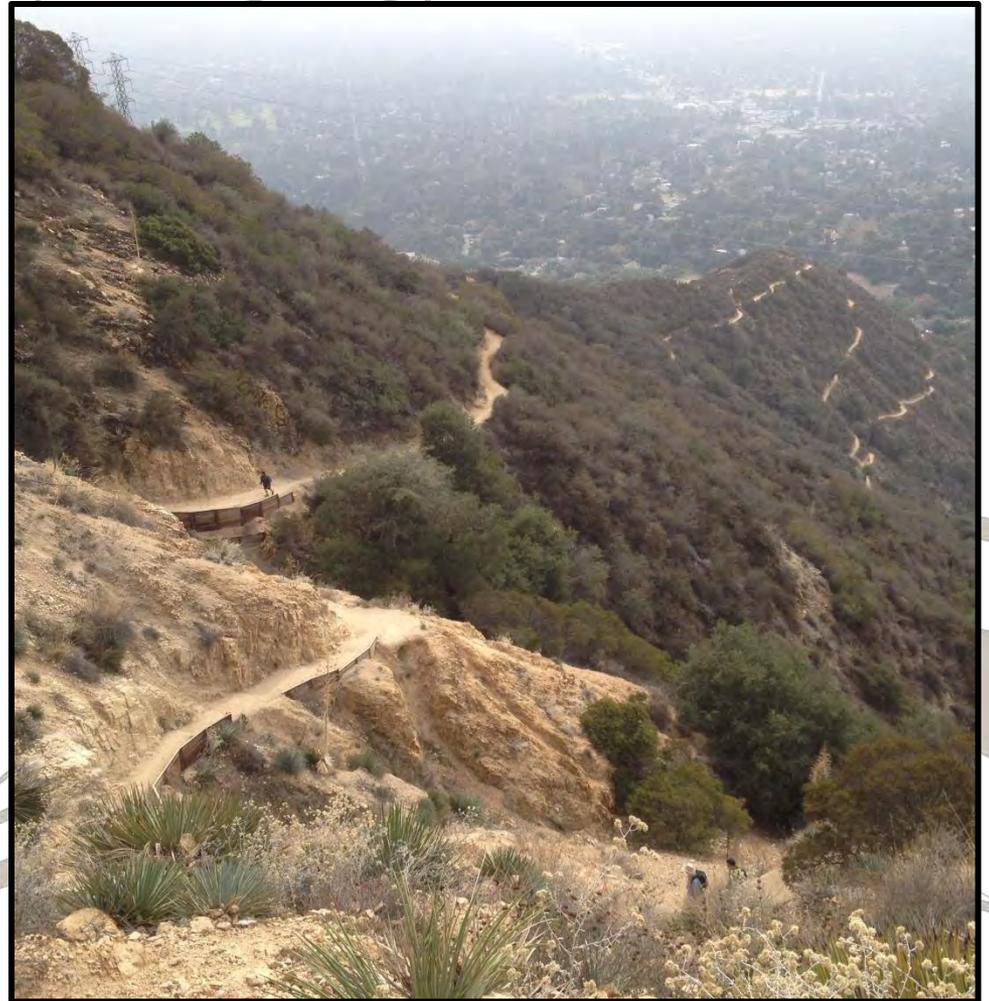
- Example - State Trail Planning, Design & Implementation Standards
 - Caltrans: Highway Design Manual (Chapter 1000: Bikeway Planning and Design), 2006
 - California Equestrian Trails & Land Coalition, Generic Safety Guidelines for Multi-Use Trails, 2005



Criteria for Successful Plans

Safety and Trail Alignments

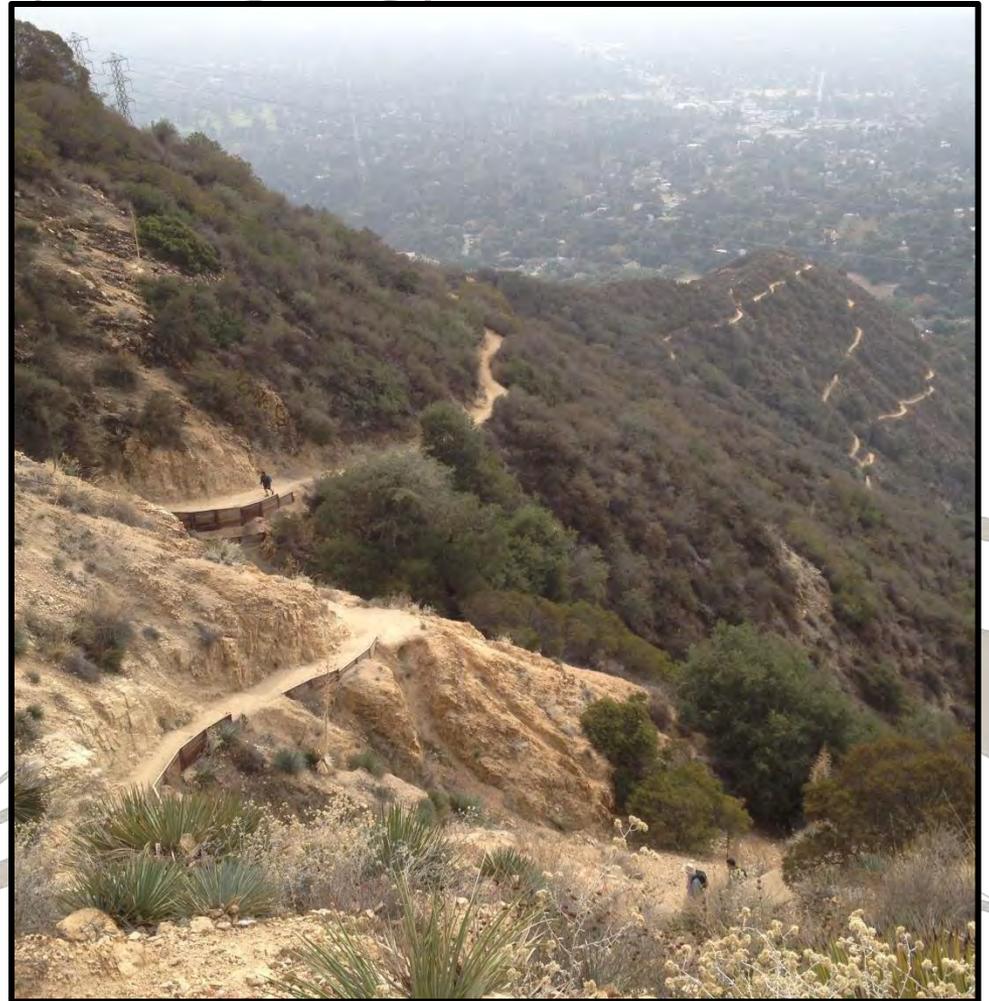
- Example - Local Trail Planning, Design, & Implementation Standards
 - Town of Apple Valley, Adopted Multi-Use and Equestrian Trails Standards, 2005
 - County of Los Angeles Trails Manual, 2011



Criteria for Successful Plans

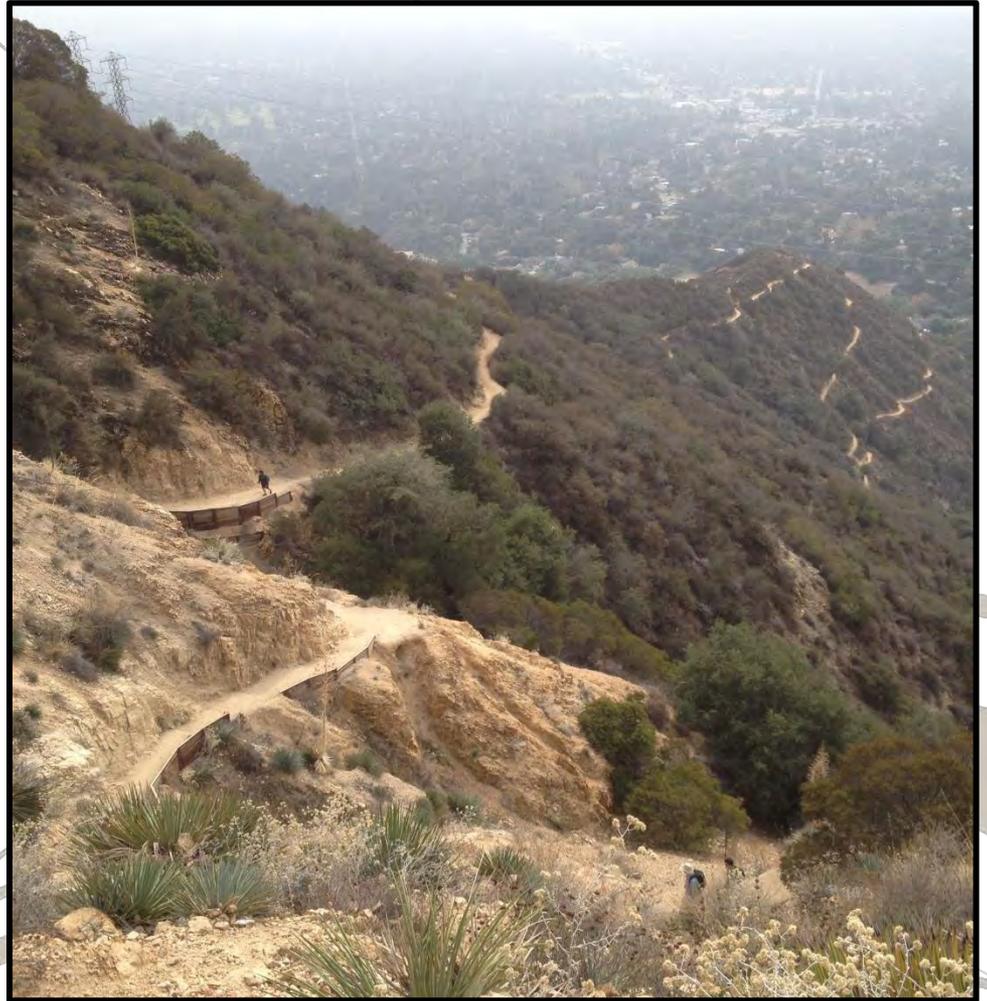
Safety and Trail Alignments

- New trails are pre-planned locations, but trail alignments are constructed safely within the planned areas pursuant to guidelines described in the Trails Master Plan or a jurisdictional Trails Manual (e.g., County of Los Angeles Trails Manual, 2011)
- Steep areas versus switchbacks



Criteria for Successful Plans

Safety and Trail Alignments



Criteria for Successful Plans

Lessons Learned

Santa Susana Mountains Trails Master Plan

- Education of the public about constraints
- Focus on the trails master plan at the conceptual level to accommodate flexible easements



Criteria for Successful Plans

Trail Planning Exercise

- Please divide into two groups



Criteria for Successful Plans

Thank you for your time!

Any Questions?

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