

MEMORANDUM

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR & CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

FROM: JOEL ROJAS, AICP, **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR** 

DATE: MARCH 19, 2013

SUBJECT: PALOS VERDES NATURE PRESERVE - ADOPTION OF THE PUBLIC USE MASTER PLAN (SUPPORTS 2013 CITY COUNCIL GOAL – TRAIL SYSTEM ENHANCEMENT)

REVIEWED: CAROLYN LEHR, CITY MANAGER 

Project Manager: Ara Mhrianian, AICP, Deputy Community Development Director

RECOMMENDATION

Approve, via minute order, the Public Use Master Plan (PUMP) document for the Palos Verdes Nature Preserve.

BACKGROUND

On August 31, 2004, the City Council approved the City's Natural Communities Conservation Planning Subarea Plan (NCCP) that creates a habitat Preserve and identifies how the Preserve will be assembled, managed and funded. The City's NCCP contemplates that the habitat Preserve will also be open to the public for compatible passive recreational use (multi-use trails, some picnicking, etc) and to promote the understanding and appreciation of natural resources. Furthermore, the NCCP states that the public use of the Preserve will ultimately be determined by the City Council (with concurrence from the state and federal wildlife agencies) through the preparation of a Preserve Public Use Master Plan or PUMP.

On March 5, 2013 the PUMP document was transmitted to the City Council and was released to the public for its review. The City Council is now being asked to adopt the PUMP document pursuant to the NCCP requirements.

DISCUSSION

PUMP Document

The PUMP Document (transmitted to the City Council on March 5th) was prepared by City and PVPLC Staff in concert with the Wildlife Agencies who approved the document on March 4, 2013. The PUMP document is primarily based on the 2004 Council approved NCCP, the 2011 Council approved Management Agreement between the City and the PVPLC, and the conservation easements governing the properties included in the Preserve. Most importantly, the PUMP document represents the culmination of an extensive public input process which included the involvement of a Council appointed 15-member PUMP Committee (plus one Ex-Officio member) and public input received at numerous public meetings, including seven City Council meetings. Between July 12, 2006 and January 30, 2008, the PUMP Committee held 32 public meetings with the bulk of the Committee's work focused on recommended trail routes and trail uses for the greater Preserve. The Committee also made recommendations to the City Council on the activities permitted to occur in the Preserve.

The Preserve Trails Plan (PTP) that was originally approved by the City Council in April 2008, and amended by the City Council in October 2012, is just one component of the PUMP, albeit the biggest component. Staff is not proposing any revisions to the PTP. Thus, the PTP approved by the City Council back in October 2012 has been incorporated into the PUMP document. In summary, the PUMP document encompasses the following chapters:

1. Introduction – This Chapter provides background information on the 2004 Council adoption of the NCCP and the formation of the Preserve and PUMP Document. This Chapter also discusses the PUMP Committee's involvement in preparing the Preserve Trails Plan and lists the properties (known as "Reserves") and acreages encompassing the Preserve.
2. Preserve Trails Plan – This Chapter is dedicated to the Council approved PTP for each of the 11 Reserves that make up the Palos Verdes Nature Preserve. Under each Reserve is a brief site description, a trail use designation chart that includes mileage for each trail segment, a description of trail access, existing public facilities (available water fountains and bathrooms) and biological resources, and a trails map. Additionally, this Chapter describes the general protocol for trail maintenance and repair, trail guidelines, trail surface, trail routes, and trail uses. Upon adoption of the PUMP, the PTP will be the governing trails plan for the Preserve, superseding the Conceptual Trails Plan (CTP) trail routes and uses identified for the Preserve properties.
3. Activities in the Preserve – This Chapter identifies authorized and prohibited public activities in the Preserve that were recommended by the PUMP Committee and approved by the City Council in April 2009 pursuant to the criteria set forth in the City's NCCP. Examples of authorized public activities (with certain caveats) are dogs on leash, continued farming at the Upper Point Vicente/Alta Vicente Reserve, continued operation of the archery range at Abalone Cove Reserve, commercial

filming or photography, and specimen material collection to name a few. The authorized public activities are considered conditionally compatible with the NCCP and include guidelines to minimize impacts to biological resources. Examples of prohibited public activities include installing bicycle jumps, camping, abandoning animals, open flames or smoking, motorized vehicles, paragliding, littering and reckless use of trails to name a few.

4. Preserve Amenities / Improvements – This Chapter identifies amenities and improvements that are allowed in the Preserve to enhance the public's experience and recreational use of the Preserve. Examples include the placement of overlooks and vista points, seating areas, picnic areas, fencing, trail markers and signs, drinking fountains, bathrooms, and trash bins to name a few. The amenities and improvements must be consistent with the passive recreational activities that are permitted to take place in the Preserve consistent with the City's NCCP.
5. Implementation – This Chapter describes the various protocol for implementing the PUMP document including closing trails, public involvement, trail project lists for the Preserve, and future amendments to the PUMP Document. This Chapter is primarily based on the 2011 City Council adopted Management Agreement between the City and the PVPLC which identifies the Preserve responsibilities for both entities.

Proposed Corrections to the PUMP Document

Since the transmittal of the PUMP Document to the City Council, Staff has identified some corrections to the document that will improve its readability. The corrections are either typos or wordsmith changes that do not substantially change the content of the document. Attached for the Council's review is a new PUMP document with the following corrections shown in a redline format (~~strikethrough~~ for deleted text and underline for added text):

Table of Contents

- Chapter 5 Implementation – Incorrect page numbers corrected.

Chapter 2

- Page 5 Introduction – modified text to further clarify the 2012 Council adopted PTP
- Page 6 – Grammatical correction
- Page 29 – Updated the Trails Plan for the Forrestal Reserve because certain trail names were inadvertently left out.

Chapter 3

- Page 42 – Added text to Item No. 5 clarifying that individual picnic benches are permitted in the Preserve, such as the one at Ocean Trails Reserve.
- Page 42 – Added text to Item No. 9 clarifying that night time use of the Preserve is for hiking only through a City issued permit.
- Page 46 – Added text referencing the Preserve hours of operation pursuant to Section 12.16.030 of the RPVMC.
- Page 47 – Added text under the bullet points clarifying that organized or unorganized bike races are prohibited in the Preserve.

Chapter 4

- Page 52 – Clarified permitted picnic activities in the Preserve.
- Page 53 – Deleted superfluous text under the “Signs” section.
- Page 55 – Clarified that bathroom structures are not permitted in the Preserve except for portable bathrooms.
- Page 55 – grammatical correction under the “Trash Bins” section.

Chapter 5

- Chapter 5 Implementation – Incorrect page numbers corrected.
- Page 57 – Deleted “(see attachment)” reference since the Management Agreement is not attached to this document in the event future amendments are made to the Agreement
- Page 58 – Changed “committed” to “committee”
- Page 58 – Grammatical corrections under Sections C and D.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Forrestal Management Plan

In 2001 (and amended in 2004), the City Council adopted the Forrestal Management Plan that established a trails plan and management protocol for the then 160-acre Forrestal Nature Preserve. Upon the City Council’s adoption of the PUMP document, the Forrestal Management Plan will no longer be the governing document for the Forrestal Reserve. The PUMP document will replace the Forrestal Management Plan since the Forrestal Reserve is a part of the greater Preserve.

Public Notification

In order to ensure that the public was adequately informed regarding the March 19th City Council meeting on this agenda item, a listserve message was issued on March 5th and the City’s website updated announcing tonight’s meeting with a link to the PUMP document being considered by the City Council. Additionally, once this Staff Report is made available to the public, City Staff will issue another listserve message announcing the availability of the March 19th Staff Report with a link to access the Staff Report.

Public Comments

At this time, 2 public comment letters have been received by City Staff that recommend various changes to the sections of the PUMP document. City Staff has reviewed the comments letters and incorporated some of the suggested changes. Public comments submitted after the transmittal of this Staff Report will be provided to the Council as late correspondence at the March 19th meeting.

FISCAL IMPACTS

The adoption of the PUMP document will not result in fiscal impacts on the City’s General Fund since the Plan solely establishes the management tools for the Preserve but does not actually approve any projects. Actual implementation of the various components identified

in the PUMP, such as trail improvements, signs, enforcement, etc. will require separate funding. However, approval of the PUMP increases the chances of receiving public and private grants for implementing the PUMP. It has been Staff's past experience with grant funding that projects that are a part of a City approved plan, such as the PUMP, have a much better chance of being funded. Receipt of such grant funds would help offset any future costs borne by the City with project implementation, including the construction and maintenance of such improvements.

ALTERNATIVES

In addition to the Staff recommendations, based on information considered at the meeting, including public testimony, the City Council may wish to continue the discussion on the PUMP so that further changes can be made to the PUMP document prior to rendering a decision. In this case, Staff would request specific direction on the changes that the Council believes should be made to the PUMP document.

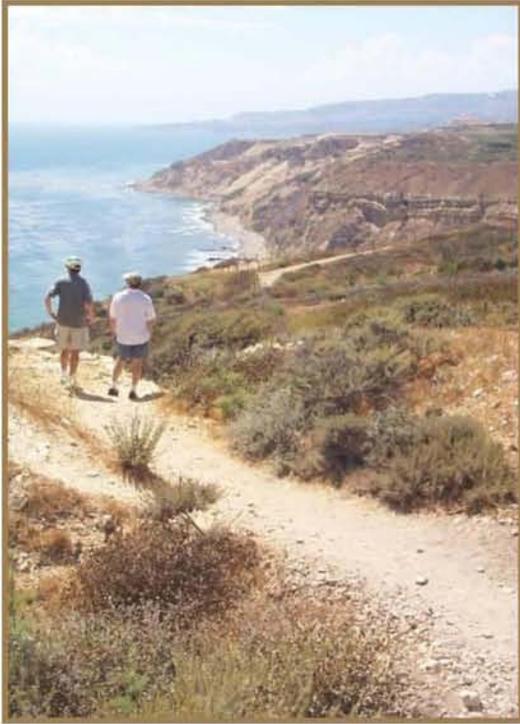
CONCLUSION

Based on the information provided herein, including the PUMP document, pursuant to the City's NCCP, Staff recommends that the City Council adopt the PUMP document for the Palos Verdes Nature Preserve.

ATTACHMENTS

- Revised PUMP Document
- Public Comments

PALOS VERDES NATURE PRESERVE



PUBLIC USE MASTER PLAN (PUMP)



PARTICIPANTS PAGE

This Palos Verdes Nature Preserve Public Use Master Plan was created with the involvement of many different individuals and organizations, including the following:

City Council 2013

Susan Brooks– Mayor
Jerry Duhovic – Mayor Pro-Tem
Brian Campbell
Jim Knight
Anthony Misetich

City Council 2009

Larry Clark – Mayor
Steve Wolowicz – Mayor Pro-Tem
Peter Gardner
Tom Long
Douglas Stern

Public Use Master Plan Committee

Donald Bell
Arlene Block
Barry Bonnickson
Troy Braswell
Eva Cicoria
Al Edgerton
Marc Jacobowitz
Cassie Jones
Gordon Leon
Kurt Loheit (ex-officio member)
Vic Quirarte
Ann Shaw
John Stevens
Paul Tetreault
John Wessel
Bill James

City Staff

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Carolynn Petru, Deputy City Manager

Joel Rojas, Director of Community Development Department

Ara Mhramian, Deputy Director of Community Development Department

Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy Staff

Andrea Vona – Executive Director

Barbara Dye – Executive Director (former)

Danielle LeFer – Conservation Director

Lily Verdone – Conservation Director (former)

Becky Harper – Conservation Director (former)



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1. INTRODUCTION

The City's Natural Communities Conservation Plan

The State's Natural Communities Conservation Planning (NCCP) Act of 1991 provides for the preparation and implementation of large-scale natural conservation plans. The purpose of these plans is to identify and provide for the area-wide protection of natural wildlife diversity, while allowing for compatible and appropriate development and growth. Because of the relatively high concentration of coastal sage scrub habitat in the City of Rancho Palos Verdes (RPV), and the growing intensity of development pressures on these areas, in 1996, the City of RPV entered into a Planning Agreement with the California Department of Fish and Game and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to develop an NCCP subarea plan that will encompass the entire City of RPV.

Between 1996 and 2004, the City of RPV worked with stakeholders, such as major landowners of open space, state and Federal agency representatives, and environmental organization representatives to create a subarea NCCP for the City of RPV. The City of RPV has also prepared a habitat conservation plan (HCP) and is pursuing an incidental take permit from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Together, the NCCP and HCP are referred to as the City of Rancho Palos Verdes NCCP-HCP (herein referenced as the "NCCP").

On August 31, 2004, the City Council approved the City's NCCP Subarea Plan. The City is currently seeking state and federal permits for the NCCP. In summary, the City's NCCP Subarea Plan will identify the creation of a proposed nature Preserve, how the Preserve will be assembled, how the Preserve will be managed and how much implementation of the Plan is going to cost and identifies a list of activities and projects that will be covered under the Plan. More specifically, the City's NCCP proposes the creation of an open space habitat Preserve made up of existing City-owned properties, properties acquired by the City for inclusion into the Preserve, and any private properties whose owners give their consent to be included in the Preserve. To provide ample opportunity for the development of active recreational uses in the City, all of the developed City parks and the developable portions of the undeveloped City parks were excluded from the Preserve.

NCCP Requirement for Development of a Public Use Master Plan (PUMP)

In addition to protecting state and federally protected wildlife, the NCCP allows the Preserve to be open to the public for passive recreational uses (as an "NCCP-HCP covered activity") that are compatible with and follow certain requirements outlined in the NCCP and habitat conservation plan (HCP). To ensure that the NCCP Preserve provides the City with recreational and educational opportunities while conserving the City's unique biodiversity and maintaining populations of sensitive resources, the NCCP requires that the City and the PVPLC prepare a Public Use Master Plan (PUMP) for the Preserve. The PUMP is intended to be a covered activity under the NCCP and address issues germane to the Preserve such as public access, trail and trailhead locations, parking, trail use, fencing,

signage, lighting to name a few. In addition, the NCCP (section 6.2.5.1) calls out a number of “Management Recommendations” that will likely be incorporated as part of development of the PUMP to obtain coverage for these activities, including the development of a comprehensive Preserve Trails Plan (PTP).

Pursuant to the City’s NCCP, preparation of the PUMP should be based on extensive public input and must be completed within 2 years of the signing of the NCCP Implementation Agreement and be approved by the City Council and the Resource Agencies to be a covered activity. The City’s NCCP Implementing Agreement has not been signed yet; however, the PUMP preparation is currently underway and well ahead of the schedule anticipated by the Resource Agencies. The basis of the Resource Agency review will be to ensure that the PUMP meets the “covered activity” requirements and is consistent with the biological conservation goals of and of the NCCP.

Upon the City Council’s adoption of the PUMP document, the Forrestal Management Plan will no longer be the governing document for the Forrestal Reserve. The PUMP document will replace the Forrestal Management Plan since the Forrestal Reserve is a part of the greater NCCP Preserve.

Preparation of the PUMP

In March 2006, the City Council endorsed the idea of creating a steering committee to assist City and PVPLC Staff with the development of the PUMP document. On June 6, 2006, the City Council appointed 15 individuals to a PUMP Committee based on their geographic relationship with the Preserve, their trail use experience and their special interest or group affiliation. Listed below (in alphabetical order) are the 15 members of the PUMP Committee:

- Donald Bell
- Arlene Block
- Barry Bonnickson
- Troy Braswell
- Eva Cicoria
- Al Edgerton
- Marc Jacobowitz
- Bill James
- Cassie Jones
- Gordon Leon
- Vic Quirarte
- Ann Shaw
- John Stevens
- Paul Tetreault
- John Wessel

The City Council also appointed Kurt Loheit as an Ex Officio member of the PUMP Committee because of Mr. Loheit's extensive professional background in trail design, construction and maintenance.

The PUMP Committee (Committee) began its tenure on July 12, 2006. The Committee met 32 times and spent countless hours familiarizing itself with background information on the NCCP Preserve, the existing conditions of the Preserve, and the historic public use of the Preserve. The Preserve, both in regards to trail routes and trail uses, was the subject of several discussions during the PUMP Committee's review because of the heavy use of the certain Reserves and habitat degradation. The Committee developed a trails plan for the Reserve that represents a balance between public access with habitat preservation and the interest of various trail user groups to provide compatible access and enjoy the Preserve. A factor considered by the Committee in its recommendation to the City Council was the historic use of the properties that now make up the Preserve by various user groups without any official trails plan or management. The incredible work effort of the PUMP Committee culminated in the formulation of a Preserve Trails Plan which was adopted by the City Council on April 29, 2008.

Preserve Map

At this time, the Preserve is approximately 1,367 acres in area, consisting of several parcels owned (or to be owned) by the City and one parcel owned by the PVPLC. For management purposes, the Preserve is broken down into the following 11 sub-areas referred to as "Reserves":

- **Vista del Norte Reserve**
 - The 16.7 acre Crestridge property
- **Agua Amarga Reserve**
 - The 20 acre Lunada Canyon property owned by the PVPLC
 - The 38.9 acre Agua Amarga Canyon property
- **Alta Vicente Reserve**
 - A 51.3 acre portion of the 73.3 acre Upper Point Vicente property
- **Vicente Bluffs Reserve**
 - A 52.6 acre portion of the 71.5 acre Ocean Front Estates property
 - A 4.5 acre portion of the 27.4 acre Lower Point Vicente property
 - A 7.5 acre portion of the 10.5 acre Pelican Cove property
- **Abalone Cove Reserve**
 - A 63.2 acre portion of the 80.0 acre Abalone Cove property
 - The 39.9 acre portion of the 45.1 coastal property formally owned by the RDA
- **Ocean Trails Reserve**
 - A 66.3 acre portion of the 78.8 acre Trump National property (eventually to be owned by the City)
 - A 47.4 acre portion of the 52.8 acre Shoreline Park property
- **San Ramon Reserve**
 - The 94.5 acre Switchback property
- **Forrestal Reserve**

- The 154.9 acre Forrestal property
- **Portuguese Bend Reserve**
 - A 398.7 acre portion of the 423.9 acre Portuguese Bend property
 - The 17.4 acre Del Cerro buffer property
- **Filiorum Reserve**
 - The 190 acre Filiorum property
- **Three Sisters Reserve**
 - The 98.5 acre Barkentine property

2. PRESERVE TRAILS PLAN

One of the actions that the City's NCCP calls for as part of the development of the PUMP is the creation of a Preserve Trails Plan (PTP). Specifically, for the PUMP to be covered under the Plan, the NCCP requires that the City and the PVPLC develop a Preserve Trails Plan (PTP) that is consistent with the City's Conceptual Trails Plan (CTP) and places an emphasis on avoiding or minimizing impacts to coastal sage scrub habitat (CSS) and covered species in such a way that the identified trails are compatible with the Preserve and avoid direct access to sensitive resource areas and major biological features. Furthermore, the NCCP states that all the trails designated as unnecessary should be closed to minimize biological impacts.



After obtaining feedback from the PUMP Committee, City Staff and the PVPLC, on a proposed Preserve Trails Plan (PTP), in April 2008, the City Council adopted a PTP that identifies the trail routes, trail names and trail uses for the Preserve, as described herein. The 2008 PTP was further amended by the City Council in October 2012. The approved PTP supersedes the trail routes and uses identified in the City's Conceptual Trails Plan (CTP), as described herein,

Trail Implementation, Maintenance and Repair

The City or PVPLC has no obligation with respect to trail maintenance and trail repair. However, at the PVPLC's discretion and when funding is available, the PVPLC may perform trail maintenance or trail repair on existing unimproved trails identified in the approved PTP. At the City's sole discretion when funding is available, the City is responsible for constructing new trails identified in the PTP which currently do not exist. Improved trails in the Preserve are maintained by the City. As a proposed covered activity (See Section 5.4.2 and Table 5-1 of the NCCP), all of the monitoring, new construction and maintenance identified in the PUMP and PTP will be consistent with the requirements of the NCCP, including the Habitat Impact Avoidance and Minimization Measures for Covered Activities and compatible public uses in the Preserve (See Sections 5.5 and 9.2.1 of the NCCP).

Ongoing monitoring of the trails and an ongoing educational effort are important aspects of trails management and may consist, but not be limited, to the following:

1. Signs at the main entry points to the Preserve showing the respective PTP and the approved uses for each trail.
2. Trail maps and informational brochures available at the main points.
3. Information on the Preserve, including the PTP on the City's website

Trail Routes

The trails identified in the PTP are located entirely within the City's Preserve and are for the most part existing paths that have been used in the past. Where possible, the trails within the Preserve connect to the trails adjacent to the Preserve. Trails within the Preserve are not intended to connect to trails that are located on private property unless appropriate public access easements are in place.

The trail alignments identified for the PTP will be covered under the NCCP and are partly based on the City's Conceptual Trails Plan, including trails that are part of, or connect to, the Palos Verdes Loop Trail. These trails are retained as the basis for the PTP. Other trails currently in use by the public were added in order to identify a functional trail system for the Preserve.

Trail Guidelines

For the most part, the trails identified in the PTP are existing trail routes that have been identified based on line-of-sight, slope, and safety factors, as well as minimal potential for erosion. Furthermore, the approved trail routes take into consideration the natural topography, the intent to provide a relatively comfortable user experience, and the intent to provide access to open areas and vistas while avoiding impacts to sensitive natural areas. Finally, the public uses and trail routes/configurations are situated to be compatible with the Preserve, avoid disruption of any native vegetation (including an emphasis on avoiding or minimizing impacts to CSS), habitat, or wildlife as identified in the Natural Conservation Communities Plan (NCCP) [See Section 9.2.1 of the NCCP (The Public Use Master Plan)].

Trail Surface

Trails in the Preserve are to be "unimproved" trails and thus should be maintained in their natural surface material. The use of mulch is discouraged because of the potential to introduce non-native seeds to the Preserve and interfere with required fuel modification. Drainage control should be provided at appropriate points in such a way that the trail is not adversely affected by water erosion. Crossings over watercourses may require separate environmental review and/or permits (e.g., federal 404 and/or state 1600) that are not covered under the NCCP.

Trail Names

The trails throughout the Preserve are identified by specific names for each segment. The trail names were selected from different sources, including but not limited to names listed in the Conceptual Trails Plan, relevant landmarks, natural elements, or historic significance. In addition, trails within the Preserve may be named after donors who make monetary contributions to the City or PVPLC toward acquisition or management of the Preserve, pursuant to the provisions of the Preserve Management Agreement between the City and the PVPLC. All trail names must be approved by the City Council.

Trail Uses

The following four trail use designations are available throughout the Preserve:

- pedestrian
- pedestrian / equestrian
- pedestrian / bicycle
- multipurpose (pedestrian, equestrian, and bicycle)

The specific trail uses for each trail segment are identified on the PTP Map and on the respective trail markers. All trail use designations must be approved by the City Council.

Preserve Trails Plan (PTP)

The following pages list the approved trails for each of the 11 Reserves that make up the entire Palos Verdes Nature Preserve. The trail mileage and user designation for each approved trail is listed by Reserve in the following sections indicated in the tables. Trails that span multiple Reserves are listed in the table for the Reserve in which the majority of the trail is located.

VISTA DEL NORTE RESERVE

The Vista del Norte Reserve is an isolated portion of the Preserve that is geographically removed from the Portuguese Bend area and located near the intersection of Crestridge Road and Crenshaw Boulevard. This Reserve is comprised of the 16.7 acre City-owned “Crestridge” property. There are 0.56 miles of trails on this Reserve as described below:



Trail Name	Pedestrian	Equestrian	Bicycle	Miles	Existing
Indian Peak Loop Trail	Yes	No	No	0.38	Yes
Vista del Norte Trail	Yes	No	No	0.19	Yes

Trail Access

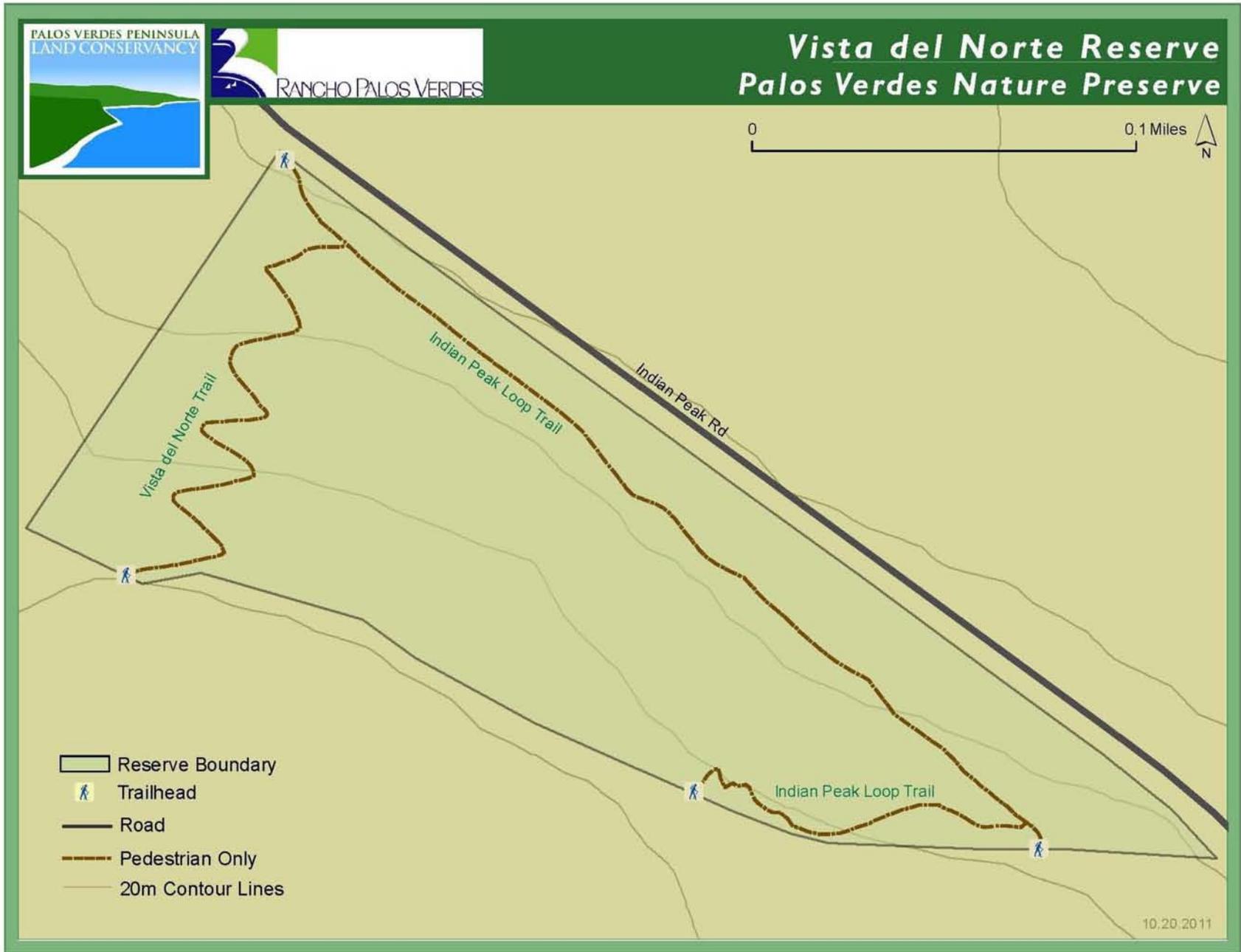
There are two identified trailheads that provide access to the trails in this Reserve, one along Indian peak Road and one along Crestridge Road via the proposed Crestridge Senior Housing Project. On-street parking is available along Crestridge Road and designated public parking is located on a portion of Indian Peak Road across the street from this Reserve.

Public Facilities

There are no public restroom facilities or drinking fountains available at this Reserve.

Biological Resources/Compatibility

This Reserve consists mainly of grassland with limited CSS located at the western and eastern ends of the property. The site currently does not contain any known populations of NCCP covered species. As shown on the trails plan, all trails are located on historically used trails in grasslands areas that avoid impacts to CSS and NCCP covered species. No focused monitoring and/or restrictions on designated trail maintenance, new construction and/or access are anticipated at this site to be consistent with the NCCP.



AGUA AMARGA RESERVE

The Agua Amarga Reserve encompasses approximately 59 acres consisting of a 39-acre parcel owned by the City and a 20-acre parcel owned by the PVPLC. The Reserve is located in the area between Crest Road and Hawthorne Blvd, extending to the City boundary line with Palos Verdes Estates. In light of the steep topography, this Reserve is limited to one 0.60 mile trail located at the northern portion of the site as described below:



Trail Matrix

Trail Name	Pedestrian	Equestrian	Bicycle	Miles	Existing
Lunada Canyon Trail	Yes	No	Yes	0.60	Yes

Trail Access

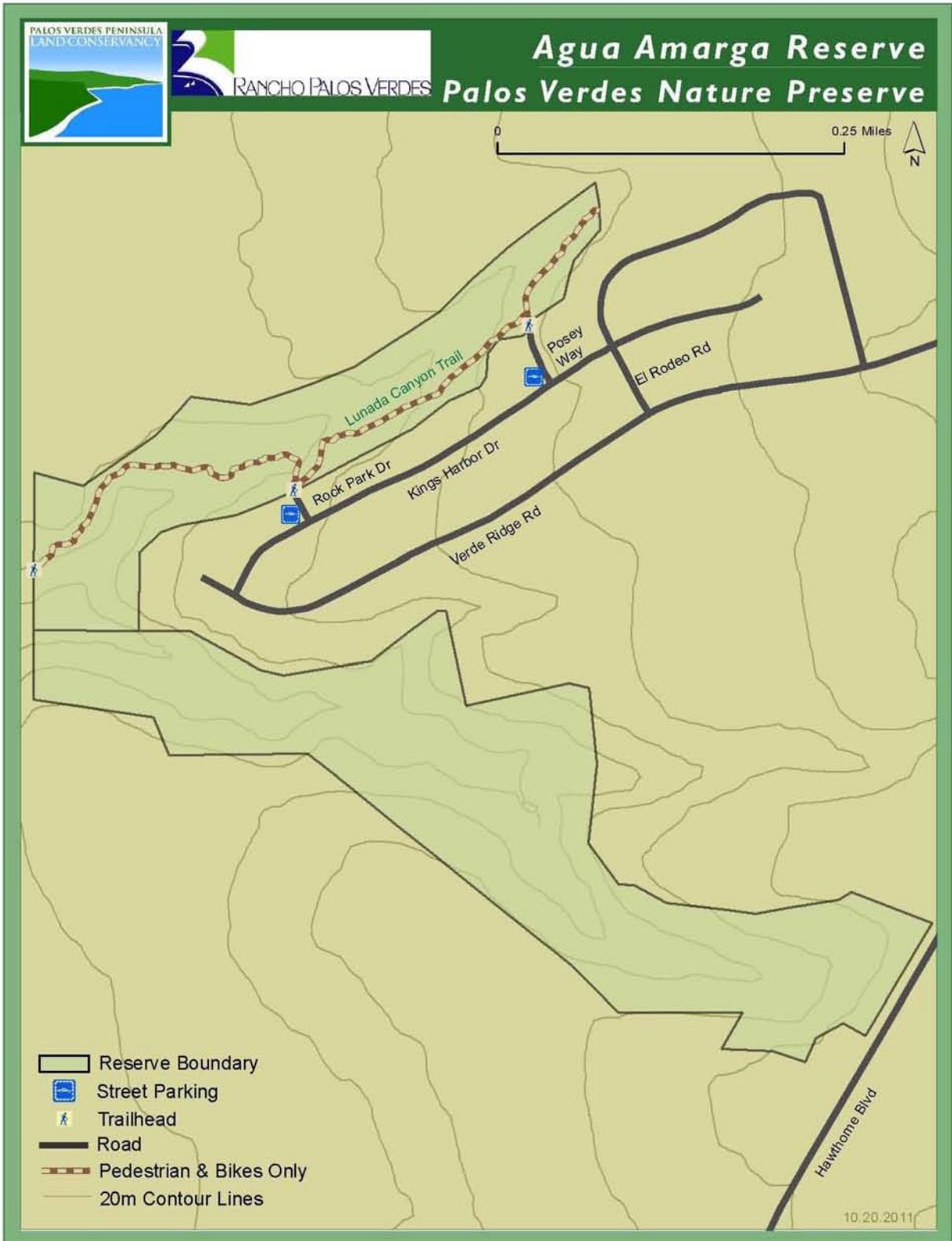
There are trailheads located on Posey Way and Rock View that provide access to the trails on this Reserve. Additionally, a trailhead is located at the lower portion of this Reserve at the boundary line with the City of Palos Verdes Estates. Public street parking is available in the surrounding neighborhood, specifically along the cul-de-sacs at the entry points to the Reserve.

Public Facilities

Restroom facilities and drinking fountains are not available at this Reserve.

Biological Resources/Compatibility

This Reserve consists of a combination of coastal sage scrub, coastal cactus scrub, grassland and disturbed vegetation. The site currently contains several known populations of NCCP covered species, including the gnatcatcher and coastal cactus wren. As shown on the trails plan, the trails are located on historically used trails located in the northerly portion of the Preserve, and minimize impacts to CSS and sensitive species. However, since the designated trails would still cross some CSS and known locations of sensitive species, focused monitoring and/or restrictions on maintenance, new construction and access may be required to be consistent with the NCCP.



ALTA VICENTE RESERVE

The Alta Vicente Reserve is located at Upper Point Vicente adjacent to the Rancho Palos Verdes Civic Center. The Reserve encompasses approximately 51 acres and is adjacent to the approximately 22-acre developable portion of the property (the relatively flat civic center campus area). Some of the trails at this Reserve are part of the PV Loop Trail system. There is a total of 1.67 miles of trails on this Reserve as described below:



Trail Name	Pedestrian	Equestrian	Bicycle	Miles	Existing
Alta Vicente Trail	Yes	Yes	Yes	1.04	Yes
North Spur Trail	Yes	Yes	Yes	0.12	Yes
South Spur Trail	Yes	Yes	Yes	0.05	Yes
Nike Trail	Yes	Yes	Yes	0.10	Yes
Prickly Pear Trail	Yes	Yes	No	0.36	Yes

Trail Access

There are four trailheads identified for accessing the trails on this Reserve. There is a trailhead that provides access to this Reserve from the existing City Hall parking lot and over-flow dirt parking lot. There is a trailhead near the Salvation Army property line adjacent to Palos Verdes Drive South. Additionally, the trails for this Reserve can also be accessed from the cul-de-sac adjacent to St. Paul’s Lutheran Church. Public parking is available at City Hall and along the cul-de-sac adjacent to St. Paul’s Lutheran Church.

Public Facilities

A public restroom facility (portable bathroom) is available at the Civic Center Campus, west of the tennis courts. During regular business hours, a public restroom facility is also available at City Hall. A drinking fountain is available at the Civic Center campus next to the south lawn.

Biological Resources/Compatibility

This Reserve consists of a combination of coastal sage scrub, coastal cactus scrub, grassland and disturbed vegetation. The site currently contains several known populations

of NCCP covered species, including the gnatcatcher, and coastal cactus wren. However, since the designated trails, although historically used trails, would still cross some CSS and known locations of sensitive species, focused monitoring and/or restrictions on maintenance, new construction and access may be required to be consistent with the NCCP.



Alta Vicente Reserve Palos Verdes Nature Preserve



VICENTE BLUFFS RESERVE

The Vicente Bluffs Reserve is comprised of three separate parcels, a 52.6-acre portion of Ocean Front Estates, a 4.5-acre portion of Lower Point Vicente, and a 7.5-acre portion of the Pelican Cove Park. Because of the high volume of walkers in this area, the trails have been designated as pedestrian only at this Reserve. Although non-related to the Preserve, the sidewalk adjacent to the Golden Cove Trail at Ocean Front Estates is designated as a bicycle path per the Council adopted tract conditions. There are three trails in this Reserve that are part of the City's segment of the California Coastal Trail. There are 2.20 miles of trails in this Reserve as identified below:



Trail Name	Pedestrian	Equestrian	Bicycle	Miles	Existing
Golden Cove Trail <small>(California Coastal Trail)</small>	Yes	No	No	0.95	Yes
Seascape Trail <small>(California Coastal Trail)</small>	Yes	No	No	0.58	Yes
Terrace Trail	Yes	No	No	0.23	Yes
Interpretative Trail <small>(California Coastal Trail)</small>	Yes	No	No	0.31	Yes
Tomevor Trail	Yes	No	No	0.14	Yes

Trail Access

Access to the trails can be made from four locations throughout this Reserve. Specifically, trailheads exist at the Point Vicente Interpretive Center at Lower Point Vicente and at Pelican Cove adjacent to the Terranea Resort and Spa. There are also trailheads at four locations within the Ocean Front Estates residential tract. Public parking is available at Ocean Front Estates off Calle Entradero, at the Lower Point Vicente parking lot, and at the Pelican Cove Parking lot.

Public Facilities

Restroom facilities are available at Lower Point Vicente at the Interpretive Center and at the Pelican Cove parking lot. Additionally, a portable bathroom is available at the north end of the Golden Cove Trail adjacent to the public parking lot at Ocean Front Estates.

Drinking fountains are available at the Point Vicente Interpretative Center and at Pelican Cove adjacent to the restroom facilities.

Biological Resources/Compatibility

This Reserve consists of a combination of coastal sage scrub, southern coastal bluff scrub, southern cactus scrub, grassland and disturbed vegetation. The site currently contains several known populations of NCCP covered species, including the gnatcatcher, coastal cactus wren, dudleya virens, wooly seablight and the El Segundo blue butterfly. Most of these species are located in the preserved lands located between Palos Verdes Drive South and Hawthorne Boulevard. As shown on the trails plan, the trails are located in the westerly portion of the Preserve, along the bluff and away from CSS habitat and west of Palos Verdes Drive South to avoid sensitive species. However, since the designated trails would still cross some CSS and known locations of sensitive species, focused monitoring and/or restrictions on maintenance, new construction and access may be required to be consistent with the NCCP.





Vicente Bluffs Reserve Palos Verdes Nature Preserve



- Point Vicente Interpretive Center
- Point Vicente Lighthouse
- Parking Lot
- Restrooms
- Street Parking
- Trailhead
- Vista Point
- Pedestrian Trail
- Road
- Reserve Boundary
- 20m Contour Lines



Updated 12.04.2012

ABALONE COVE RESERVE

The Abalone Cove Reserve is located between Palos Verdes Drive South and the coastline and consists of a 63-acre portion of the Abalone Cove Shoreline Park and 40 acres of the adjoining City-owned property formally owned by the RDA. A portion of this Reserve is designated by the State as an official Ecological Reserve. The trail routes identified for this Reserve utilize existing activities and permitted uses for an Ecological Reserve. Some of the trails in this Reserve are a part of the City's segment of the California Coastal Trail. There are a total of 15 trail routes which comprise 3.49 miles of trails extending from the neighborhood off Sea Cove Drive to the archery club to the south as identified below:

Trail Name	Pedestrian	Equestrian	Bicycle	Miles	Existing
Via de Campo <small>(California Coastal Trail)</small>	Yes	No	Yes	0.33	Yes
Chapel View Trail	Yes	Yes	Yes	0.17	Yes
Abalone Cove Trail <small>(California Coastal Trail)</small>	Yes	No	No	0.20	Yes
Beach School Trail <small>(Upper Section) (California Coastal Trail)</small>	Yes	Yes	Yes	0.13	Yes
Beach School Trail <small>(Lower Section)</small>	Yes	No	Yes	0.27	Yes
Sea Dahlia Trail <small>(California Coastal Trail)</small>	Yes	No	No	0.23	Yes
Olmstead Trail <small>(California Coastal Trail)</small>	Yes	No	Yes	0.44	Yes
Portuguese Point Loop Trail <small>(California Coastal Trail)</small>	Yes	No	Yes	0.28	Yes
Smugglers Trail <small>(California Coastal Trail)</small>	Yes	No	No	0.10	No
Cave Trail	Yes	No	No	0.07	Yes
Sacred Cove View Trail <small>(California Coastal Trail)</small>	Yes	No	No	0.47	Yes
Cliffside Trail	Yes	No	No	0.10	Yes
Inspiration Point Trail <small>(California Coastal Trail)</small>	Yes	No	No	0.18	Yes
Bow and Arrow Trail <small>(California Coastal Trail)</small>	Yes	No	No	0.55	Yes
Archery Coastal Trail	Yes	No	No	0.06	Yes

Trail Access

There are 7 trailheads located throughout this Reserve. The trailheads are located at the west portion off Seacove Drive adjacent to the neighborhood, at the parking lot to the Abalone Cove Shoreline Park, and off Palos Verdes Drive South at the entry gate to the Beach School Trail, Olmstead Trail, Sacred Cove Trail, Inspiration Point Trail and the Bow and Arrow Trail. Public parking is available, for a fee, at the Abalone Cove Shoreline Park parking lot.

Public Facilities

Restroom facilities are available at the Abalone Cove Shoreline Park at the parking lot grounds. Portable restrooms are located at Abalone Cove beach adjacent to the tide pools, along Palos Verdes Drive South adjacent to the Sacred Cove Trailhead, and at the archery club. Drinking fountains are available at the Abalone Cove Shoreline Park and off the Beach School Trail adjacent to the nursery school building.

Biological Resources/Compatibility

This Reserve consists of a combination of coastal sage scrub, southern coastal bluff scrub and grassland. The site currently contains several known populations of NCCP covered species, including the gnatcatcher, coastal cactus wren, Santa Catalina Island desert-thorn, wooly seablight, and south coast saltscale. As shown on the trails plan, the trails are located within existing paths/disturbed areas to minimize impacts to CSS and sensitive species to the maximum extent practicable and avoid having to create new trails. However, since the designated trails would still cross CSS and known locations of sensitive species, focused monitoring and/or restrictions on maintenance, new construction and access may be required to be consistent with the NCCP.





OCEAN TRAILS RESERVE

The Ocean Trails Reserve generally consists of two properties, approximately 47.4 acres of the City's 52.8-acre Shoreline Park and 66.3 acres of the Trump National Golf Course that is designated as the habitat restoration area pursuant to the property's HCP. The trail routes for this Reserve take into account the existing project conditions for the Trump National Golf Course. Some of the trails in this Reserve are a part of the City's segment of the California Coastal Trail. There are a total of twelve (12) trails including five (5) trails to the shore that provide 3.43 miles of trails as identified below:



Trail Name	Pedestrian	Equestrian	Bicycle	Miles	Existing
West Portal Trail <small>(California Coastal Trail)</small>	Yes	No	No	0.12	Yes
West Bluff Trail <small>(California Coastal Trail)</small>	Yes	No	No	0.07	Yes
Sunset Trail	Yes	No	No	0.15	Yes
Sunrise Trail <small>(California Coastal Trail)</small>	Yes	No	No	0.25	Yes
Catalina Trail <small>(West segment) (California Coastal Trail)</small>	Yes	No	Yes	0.45	Yes
Catalina Trail <small>(East segment) (California Coastal Trail)</small>	Yes	No	No	0.57	Yes
Dudleya Trail	Yes	No	No	0.08	Yes
Coastal Switchback Trail	Yes	No	No	0.19	Yes
Sagebrush Walk Trail <small>(California Coastal Trail)</small>	Yes	No	Yes	0.12	Yes
Southshore Coastal Trail	Yes	No	No	0.07	Yes
Gnatcatcher Trail	Yes	No	Yes	0.27	Yes
Shoreline Park Trail	Yes	No	Yes	0.57	Yes
East Boundary Trail <small>(California Coastal Trail)</small>	Yes	No	Yes	0.32	Yes
Access Trails to Catalina and Gnatcatcher Trail	Yes	No	No	0.20	Yes

Trail Access

Trailhead access can be made from various locations throughout this Reserve. The Trump National Golf Course provides trailhead access at Founder's Park for the Sunset Trail and the Catalina Trail, from the La Rotunda Parking Lot to the Catalina Trail, and off Twin Harbor View Drive to the Gnatcatcher Trail. There are also two trailheads off Palos Verdes Drive South providing access to the Gnatcatcher Trail and the East Boundary Trail. Public parking is available off Ocean Trails Drive near the Trump National Club House, at the La Rotunda Parking Lot off La Rotunda Drive, and on-street public parking on Twin Harbor View Drive.

Public Facilities

A public restroom facility is available at the basement level of the Trump National Club House and adjacent to the public parking lot at the end of La Rotunda Drive. A drinking fountain is available at the basement level of the Trump National Club House, at Founders Park, and next to the public restrooms at the end of La Rotunda.

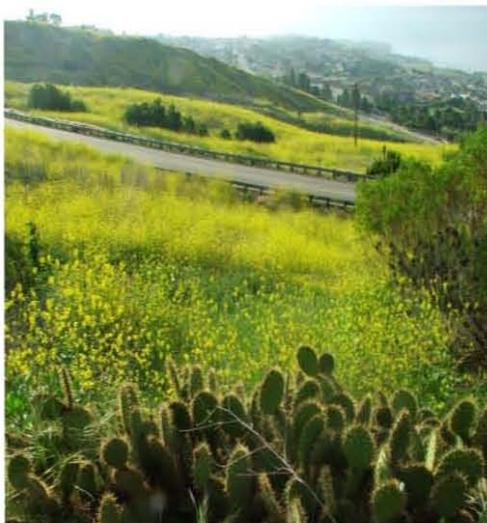
Biological Resources/Compatibility

This Reserve consists of a combination of coastal sage scrub, southern coastal bluff scrub, grassland and disturbed vegetation. The site currently contains several known populations of NCCP covered species, including the gnatcatcher, coastal cactus wren, island green dudleya, wooly seablight, and south coast saltscale. As shown on the trails plan, the trails have been located within existing paths/disturbed areas to minimize impacts to CSS and sensitive species to the maximum extent practicable and avoid having to create new trails. However, since the designated trails would still cross CSS and known locations of sensitive species, focused monitoring and/or restrictions on maintenance, new construction and access may be required to be consistent with the NCCP.



SAN RAMON RESERVE

The San Ramon Reserve is comprised of the 94-acre Switchback parcel which was deeded to the City in connection with the Sea Cliff Hills residential development project (11 acres of the site is currently a part of the Trump National project's habitat mitigation). As shown on the San Ramon trails map, a portion of the Switchback Trail and the entire San Ramon Trail are trail routes where the exact location has yet to be determined. The trails in the Reserve currently total 0.82miles as identified below:



Trail Name	Pedestrian	Equestrian	Bicycle	Miles	Existing
San Ramon Trail	Yes	No	Yes	TBD	No
Lower Palos Verdes Drive East Trail	Yes	No	Yes	0.23	Yes
Marymount Trail	Yes	No	Yes	0.23	Yes
Switchback Trail (West segment)	Yes	No	Yes	0.36	Yes
Switchback Trail (East segment)	Yes	No	Yes	TBD	No

Trail Access

There are several trailheads that provide access to this Reserve. For the Marymount Trail and the San Ramon Trail, trailheads are located at both the lower and upper portions of these trails. As for the Lower Palos Verdes Drive East Trail, trailheads exist at the lower entry point to the trail and at the junction between this trail and the Switchback Trail. There is no available public parking for this Reserve.

Public Facilities

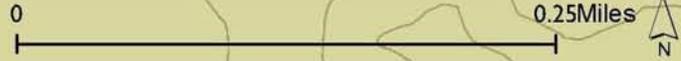
There is no public restroom facility at this Reserve. A drinking fountain is available at the lower segment of the Marymount Trail adjacent to the bicycle racks off Palos Verdes Drive South.

Biological Resources/Compatibility

This Reserve consists of a combination of coastal sage scrub, southern cactus scrub, grassland and disturbed vegetation. The site currently contains several known populations of NCCP covered species, including the gnatcatcher and coastal cactus wren. As shown on the trails plan, the designated trails are located within existing paths/disturbed areas to minimize impacts to CSS and sensitive species to the maximum extent practicable and avoid having to create new trails. However, since the designated trails would still cross CSS and known locations of sensitive species, focused monitoring and/or restrictions on maintenance, new construction and access may be required to be consistent with the NCCP.



San Ramon Reserve Palos Verdes Nature Preserve



- Reserve Boundary
- Trailhead
- Road
- Pedestrian & Bikes Only
- 20m Contour Lines



Map Updated 2.13.2018

FORRESTAL RESERVE

The 154.9-acre Forrestal Reserve is located at the end of Forrestal Drive adjacent to the Ladera Linda Community Center and the Palos Verdes Peninsula Unified School District athletic fields. There are 21 trails in this Reserve totaling 3.93 miles as identified below:

Trail Name	Pedestrian	Equestrian	Bicycle	Miles	Existing
Forrestal Trail (West segment)	Yes	Yes	Yes	0.15	Yes
Forrestal Trail (East segment)	Yes	No	Yes	0.25	Yes
Quarry Trail	Yes	No	No	0.32	Yes
Docent Trail (off Fossil Trail)	Docent Only	No	No	0.06	Yes
Docent Walk Only (Off Quarry Trail)	Docent Only	No	No	0.07	Yes
Basalt Trail	Yes	Yes	Yes	0.05	Yes
Crystal Trail	Yes	Yes	No	0.12	No
Pirate Trail	Yes	No	Yes	0.30	Yes
Coolheights Trail	Yes	No	Yes	0.06	Yes
Cristo Que Viento Trail	Yes	No	No	0.22	Yes
Mariposa Trail	Yes	Yes	Yes	0.48	Yes
Flying Mane Trail	Yes	Yes	Yes	0.45	Yes
Packsaddle Trail	Yes	Yes	No	0.07	Yes
Canyon Trail	Yes	Yes	Yes	0.14	Yes
Red Tail Trail	Yes	No	Yes	0.05	Yes
Dauntless Trail	Yes	Yes	Yes	0.13	Yes
Conqueror Trail	Yes	Yes	Yes	0.23	Yes
Cactus Trail	Yes	Yes	Yes	0.11	Yes
Vista Trail	Yes	Yes	Yes	0.19	Yes
Exultant Trail	Yes	No	No	0.15	Yes
Purple Sage Trail	Yes	Yes	Yes	0.12	Yes
Intrepid Trail	Yes	Yes	Yes	0.15	Yes

Trail Access

Trailheads are located at four different locations at this Reserve. A trailhead is located at the cul-de-sac of Coolheights Drive in the Mediterrania tract, off the Forrestal Trail (Forrestal Drive) at the trail junctions for the Quarry Trail and the Crystal Trail, and off the Intrepid Trail (Intrepid Drive) at the Purple Sage Trail junction. Public parking is available on Forrestal Drive before the entry gate to the Preserve and at the Ladera Linda Community Center parking lot.

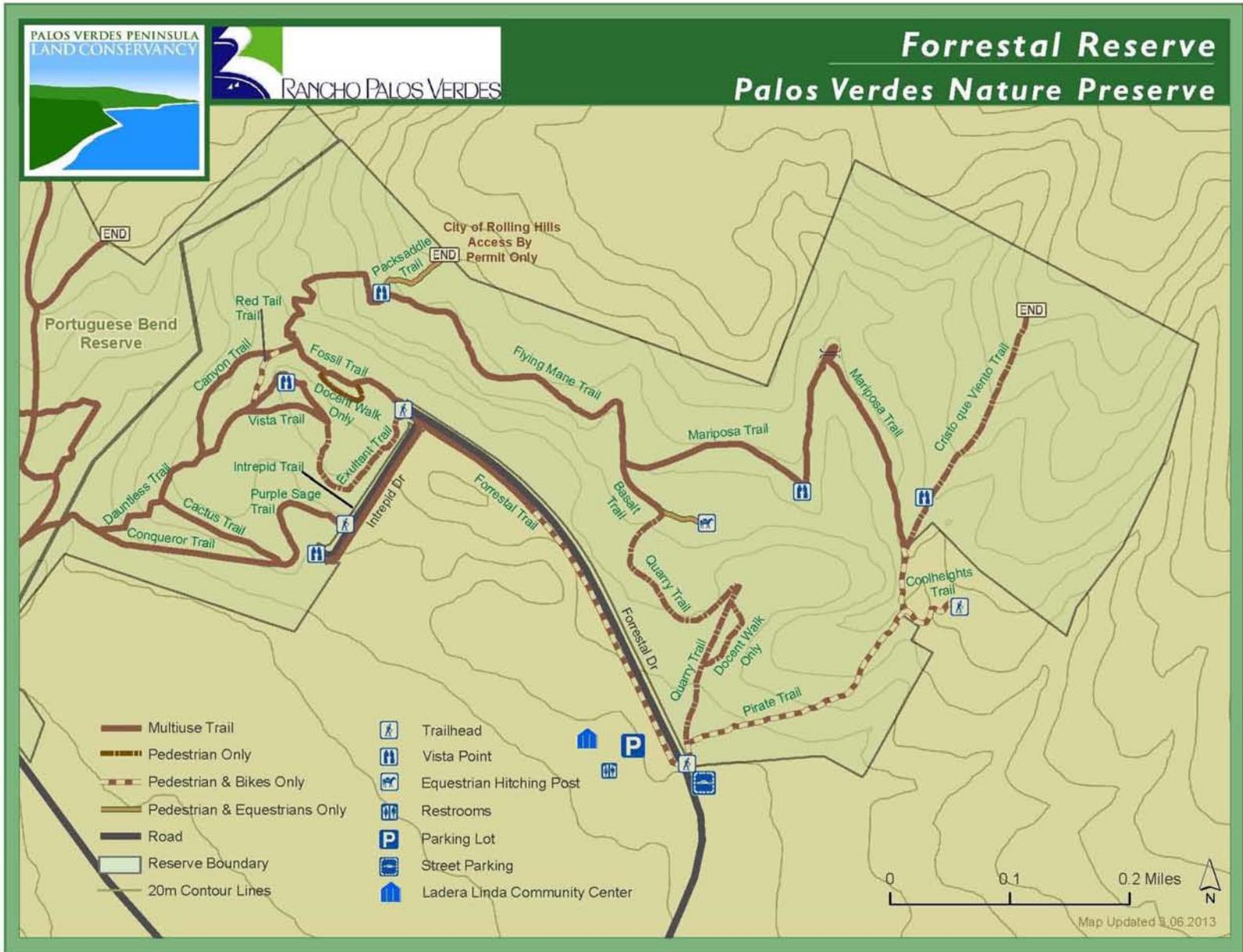
Public Facilities

Restroom facilities are available at the Ladera Linda Community Center and a port-a-potty is available at the soccer fields off Intrepid Drive. A drinking fountain is available at the Ladera Linda Community Center and off Forrestal Drive behind the entry gate across from the Quarry Bowl trail junction (adjacent to the wall enclosing the Verizon mechanical equipment).

Biological Resources/Compatibility

This Reserve consists of a combination of coastal sage scrub, southern cactus scrub, southern coastal bluff scrub, grassland and disturbed vegetation. The site currently contains several known populations of NCCP covered species, including the gnatcatcher, coastal cactus wren, and Catalina crossosoma. As shown on the trails plan, the designated trails are located within existing paths/disturbed areas to minimize impacts to CSS and sensitive species to the maximum extent practicable and avoid having to create new trails. However, since the designated trails would still cross CSS and known locations of sensitive species, focused monitoring and/or restrictions on maintenance, new construction and access may be required to be consistent with the NCCP.





PORTUGUESE BEND RESERVE

The Portuguese Bend Reserve consists of a 399-acre parcel purchased by the City in 2005 and the 17-acre Del Cerro Park buffer parcel. The trails plan for this Reserve represents a balance between public access with habitat preservation and the interest of various user groups to access and enjoy the Preserve.

This Reserve includes 23 trails, some of which that connect to the adjoining Forrestal and Filiorum Reserves. This Reserve contains 9.87 miles of trails as identified below:



Trail Name	Pedestrian	Equestrian	Bicycle	Miles	Existing
Klondike Canyon Trail	Yes	Yes	Yes	0.26	Yes
Barn Owl Trail	Yes	Yes	Yes	0.17	Yes
Panorama Trail	Yes	Yes	Yes	0.34	Yes
Sandbox Trail	Yes	Yes	Yes	0.18	Yes
North Sandbox Trail	Yes	Yes	No	0.13	Yes
Ishibashi Farm Trail (West segment)	Yes	Yes	Yes	0.27	Yes
Ishibashi Farm Trail (East segment)	Yes	Yes	No	0.20	Yes
Peppertree Trail	Yes	Yes	Yes	0.57	Yes
Landslide Scarp Trail	Yes	Yes	No	0.25	Yes
Garden Trail	Yes	Yes	No	0.25	Yes
Toyon Trail	Yes	Yes	Yes	0.15	Yes
Water Tank Trail	Yes	Yes	No	0.21	Yes
Vanderlip Trail	Yes	Yes	No	0.51	Yes
Kubota Trail	Yes	Yes	No	0.26	Yes
Burma Road Trail	Yes	Yes	Yes	2.17	Yes
Burma Road Overlook Trail	Yes	Yes	Yes	0.1	Yes
Rim Trail (upper segment)	Yes	Yes	No	0.77	Yes

Trail Name	Pedestrian	Equestrian	Bicycle	Miles	Existing
Rim Trail (lower segment)	Yes	No	No	0.23	Yes
Paintbrush Trail	Yes	Yes	No	0.34	Yes
Grapevine Trail	Yes	Yes	No	0.36	Yes
Fire Station Trail	Yes	Yes	No	0.20	Yes
Ishibashi Trail	Yes	Yes	Yes	0.88	Yes
Eagle's Nest Trail	Yes	Yes	Yes	0.50	Yes
Ailor Trail	Yes	Yes	No	0.30	Yes
Peacock Flats Trail	Yes	Yes	No	0.26	Yes

Trail Access

Trailheads are located at eight different locations at this Reserve. At the upper north portion of this Reserve, trailheads are located at the entry gate off Crenshaw Boulevard at the Burma Road Trail, and at the City boundary line adjacent to the Fire Station Trail and the Rim Trail. It should be noted that the latter of these two trailheads serve the residents of the City of Rolling Hills and visitors with access permits from the City of Rolling Hills. A Trailhead at the lower portion of the Vanderlip Trail provides access to this Reserve from the Portuguese Bend Community. This is a gated community and access is by permission only. There are three trailheads at the lower portion of this Reserve that provide access from Gateway Park to the Ishibashi Farm Trail, the Peppertree Trail, and the Sandbox Trail. Lastly, a trailhead is located at the City boundary with Rolling Hills at the lower southern portion of the Burma Road Trail that serves the residents of the City of Rolling Hills and visitors with access permits from the City of Rolling Hills.

On-street parking is available along Crenshaw Blvd. prior to the entry gate at the Burma Road Trail. Construction of a public parking lot is planned at the Gateway Park as part of the California Coastal Trail project and as part of the proposed future improvements for Gateway Park as envisioned in the City Council adopted Vision Plan.

Public Facilities

A portable restroom is available at the junction between the Fire Station and Burma Road Trails and at the Gateway Parking Lot located off Palos Verdes Drive South. A drinking fountain is not available at this Reserve.

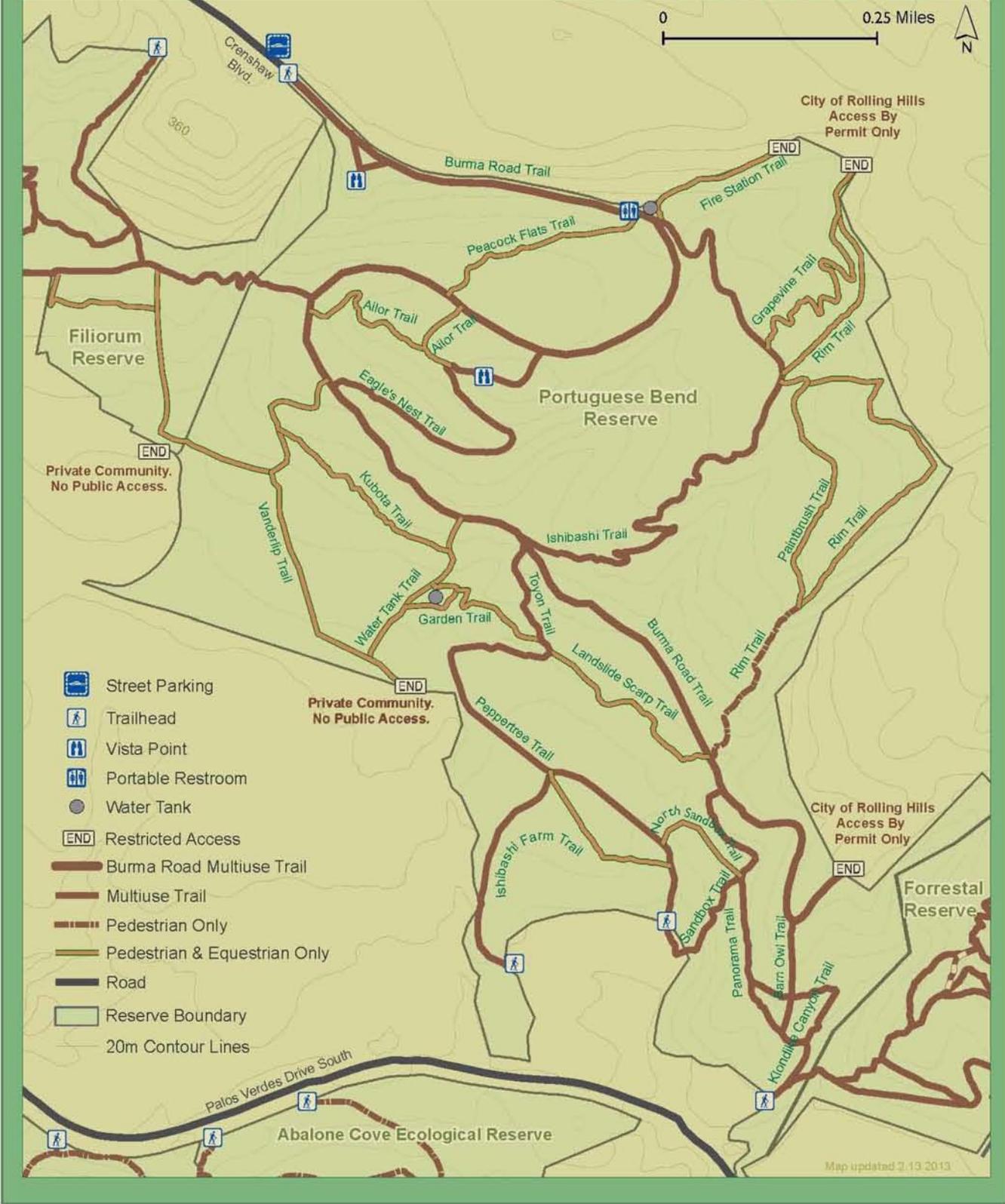
Biological Resources/Compatibility

This Reserve consists of a combination of coastal sage scrub, southern cactus scrub, grassland, exotic woodland and disturbed vegetation. The site currently contains several known populations of NCCP covered species, including core populations of the gnatcatcher and coastal cactus wren. As shown on the trails plan, the designated trails have been located within existing paths/disturbed areas to minimize impacts to CSS and sensitive species to the maximum extent practicable and avoid having to create new trails. However, since the designated trails would still cross CSS and known locations of sensitive species, focused monitoring and/or restrictions on maintenance, new construction and access may be required to be consistent with the NCCP.



Portuguese Bend Reserve

Palos Verdes Nature Preserve



FILIORUM RESERVE

The 190-acre Filiorum property was added to the Palos Verdes Nature Preserve on December 31, 2009. This Reserve links the Three Sisters and the Portuguese Bend Reserves. This reserve contains 8 trails consisting of 3.76 miles of trails as identified below:



Trail Name	Pedestrian	Equestrian	Bicycle	Miles	Existing
Jack’s Hat Trail	Yes	Yes	Yes	0.76	Yes
Pony Trail	Yes	Yes	Yes	0.61	Yes
Zote’s Cutacross	Yes	Yes	Yes	0.88	Yes
Ford Trail	Yes	Yes	No	0.33	Yes
Kelvin Canyon Trail	Yes	Yes	Yes	0.35	Yes
Rattlesnake Trail	Yes	Yes	Yes	0.32	Yes
Eucalyptus Trail	Yes	Yes	No	0.17	Yes
Gary’s Gulch Trail	Yes	Yes	No	0.33	Yes

Trail Access

Access to the trails can be made via trailheads from various locations at this Reserve. From the upper portion of this Reserve, there are three trailheads. The westernmost trailhead is located near the end of Ocean Terrace Drive, the central trailhead is located off the McBride Trail that connects to the Pacifica Street in the residential neighborhood, and the eastern trailhead is located off Crenshaw Boulevard via the access stairs that traverse the Island View residential tract common open space area.

Trailhead parking is currently not available for this Reserve. Public on-street parking is available on Ocean Terrace Drive, Pacifica Drive and Crenshaw Boulevard. Users of the public street parking should be mindful of the surrounding residences.

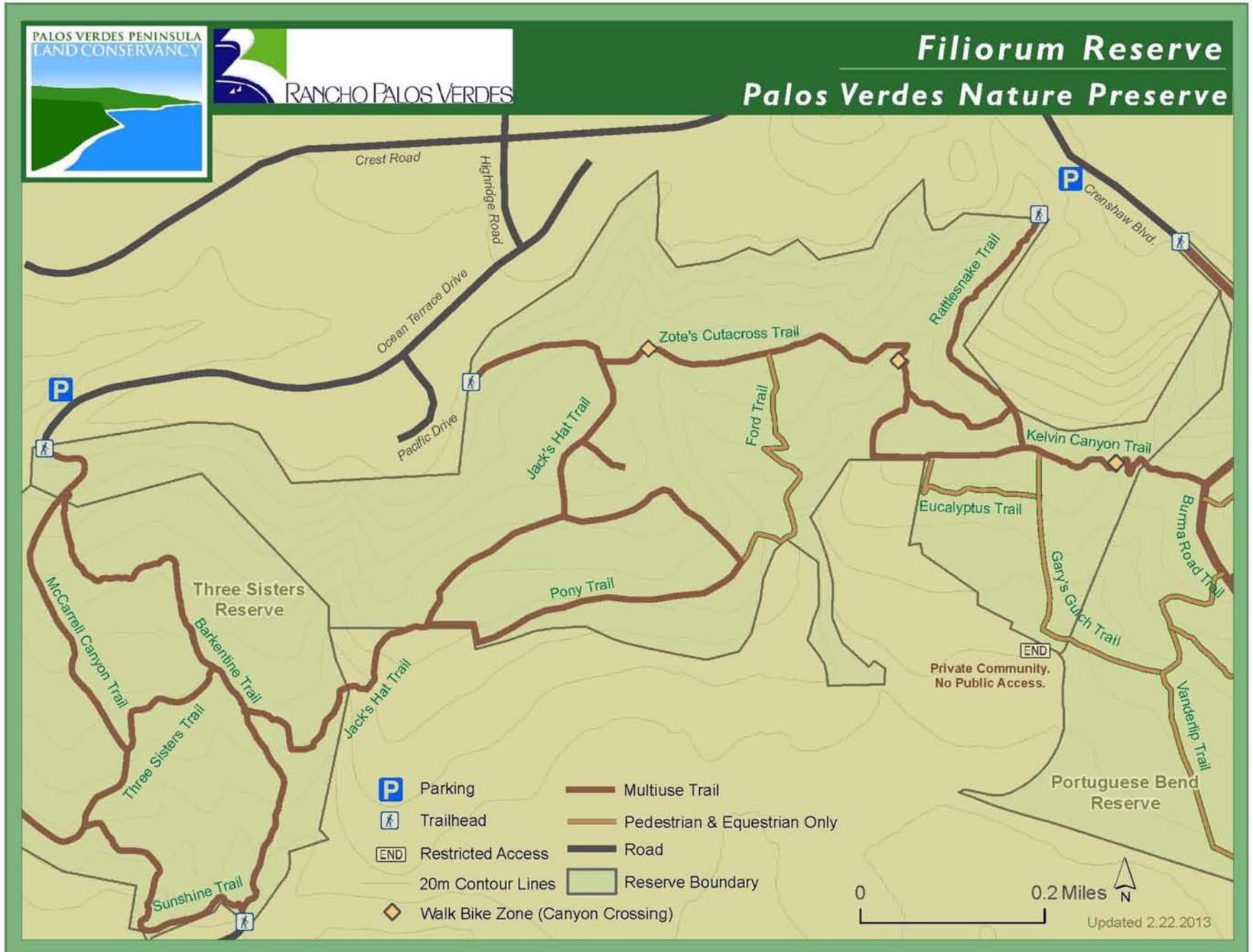
Public Facilities

Restroom facilities and drinking fountains are not available at this Reserve.

Biological Resources/Compatibility

This Reserve consists of a combination of coastal sage scrub, southern cactus scrub, grassland, exotic woodland and disturbed vegetation. The site currently contains several known populations of NCCP covered species, including core populations of the gnatcatcher and coastal cactus wren. As shown on the trails plan, the designated trails have been located within existing paths/disturbed areas to minimize impacts to CSS and sensitive species to the maximum extent practicable and avoid having to create new trails. In addition, certain existing trails will not remain open, and will be restored to provide a connected block of habitat for sensitive species. However, since the designated trails would still cross CSS and known locations of sensitive species, focused monitoring and/or restrictions on maintenance, new construction and access may be required to be consistent with the NCCP.





THREE SISTERS RESERVE

The Three Sisters Reserve consists of the 98-acre Barkentine parcel which was purchased by the City in 2001. This Reserve connects to the Filiorum Reserve to the east providing a continuous connection to the greater Palos Verdes Nature Preserve. This Reserve contains 4 trails consisting of 1.76 miles of trails as identified below:



Trail Name	Pedestrian	Equestrian	Bicycle	Length	Existing
McCarrell Canyon Trail	Yes	Yes	Yes	0.41	Yes
Three Sisters Trail	Yes	Yes	Yes	0.39	Yes
Barkentine Trail	Yes	Yes	Yes	0.66	Yes
Sunshine Trail	Yes	Yes	Yes	0.31	Yes

Trail Access

Access to the trails can be made via trailheads from various locations at this Reserve. From the lower portion of this Reserve, there are two trailheads. One trailhead is located off the Barkentine Drive cul-de-sac accessing the Barkentine and Sunshine Trails, and the other trailhead is located off the Three Sisters Trail adjacent to the common open space area for the Tramonto Tract. From the upper portion of this Reserve, a trailhead is located at the Ocean Terrace cul-de-sac.

Trailhead parking is currently not available for this Reserve. Furthermore, on-street parking on Barkentine Road or other streets in the Upper Abalone Cove Residential Tract is restricted and by permit only. Public street parking is available at the Ocean Terrace Drive cul-de-sac in the residential neighborhood. Users of the public street parking should be mindful of the surrounding residences.

Public Facilities

Restroom facilities and drinking fountains are not available at this Reserve

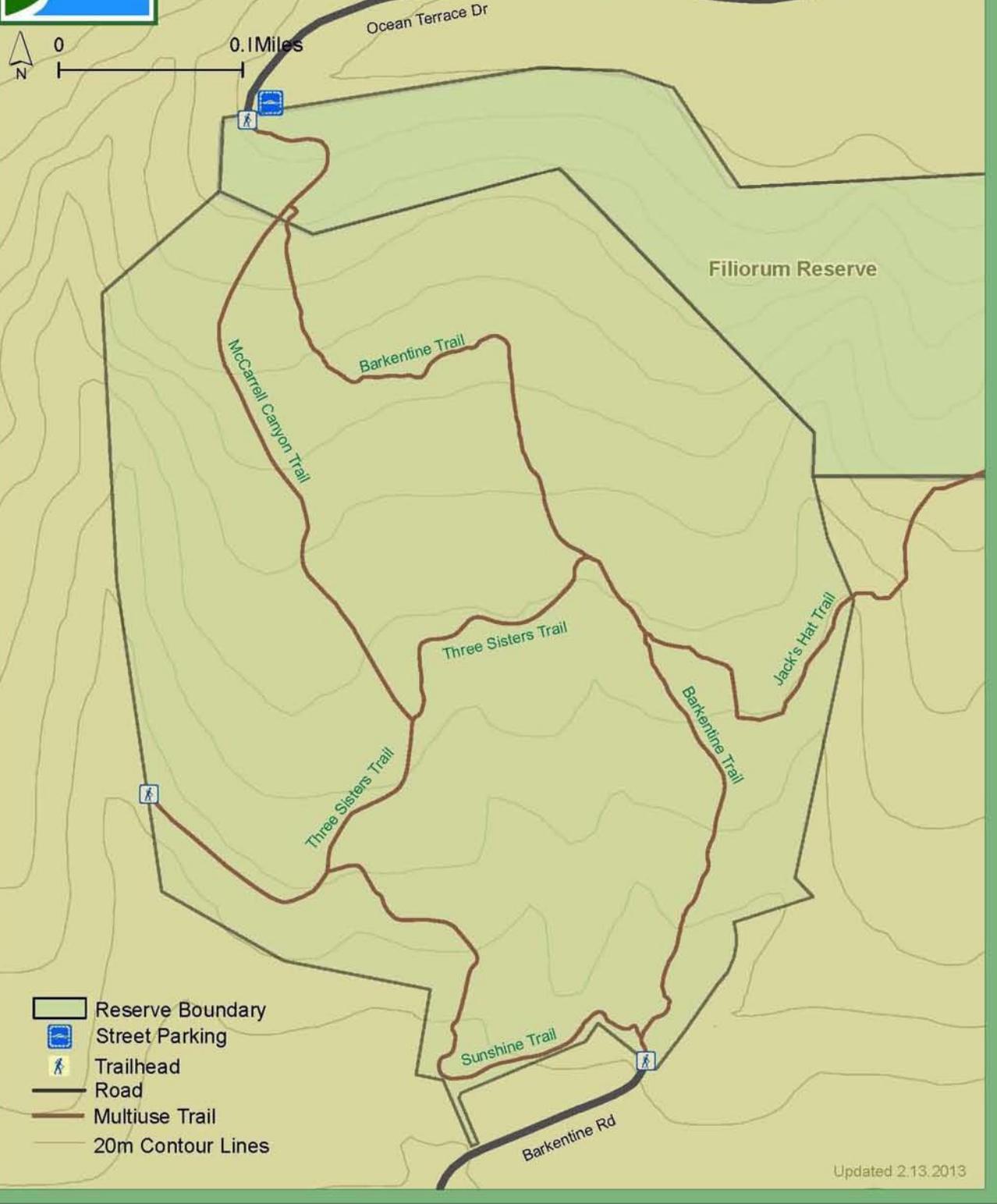
Biological Resources/Compatibility

This Reserve consists of a combination of coastal sage scrub, southern cactus scrub, grassland and disturbed vegetation. The site currently contains several known populations of NCCP covered species, including core populations of the gnatcatcher and coastal cactus wren. As shown on the trails plan, the designated trails have been located within existing paths/disturbed areas to minimize impacts to CSS and sensitive species to the maximum extent practicable and avoid having to create new trails. A connection to the Filiorum Reserve from this Preserve will have to avoid core populations of sensitive species and may also require a stream crossing with related federal/state wetland permits. However, since the designated trails would still cross CSS and known locations of sensitive species, focused monitoring and/or restrictions on maintenance, new construction and access may be required to be consistent with the NCCP.





Three Sisters Reserve Palos Verdes Nature Preserve



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3. ACTIVITIES IN THE PRESERVE

Pursuant to the NCCP (Section 6 – Preserve Management), in order to conserve the unique biodiversity and maintain sensitive resources in the Preserve while balancing public recreational opportunities, this chapter identifies authorized and prohibited public activities in the Preserve. The following public uses and activities are considered conditionally compatible uses under the NCCP (See Section 5.4.2 and Table 5-1 of the NCCP), provided these projects/activities comply with the NCCP, including the public use guidelines and habitat mitigation ratios and Habitat Impact Avoidance and Minimization Measures for Covered Activities (See Sections 5.5 and 9.2.1 of the NCCP):

PUBLIC USE GUIDELINES

The public uses and activities in the PUMP shall be consistent with the following guidelines set forth in the NCCP [Section 5.4.2 (Public Use) and 9.2.1 (Public Use Master Plan)]:

1. Development of a Preserve Trail Plan (PTP) that places an emphasis on avoiding or minimizing impacts to CSS habitat and Covered Species. Future modifications to the approved PTP that will result in additional impacts to the Covered Species or Preserve habitat will require the prior written concurrence of the Wildlife Agencies. Existing trails within the Preserve that are not included in the approved PTP will be closed.
2. Development of a PTP where new trail construction avoids direct access to sensitive resource areas and major biological features (i.e. 7.6-meter [25-foot] setback to coastal bluffs) and the following measures are taken into consideration:
 - a) Limit public use to specified trails where impacts to habitat can be minimized. If trails become degraded because of heavy use, rotate or limit use during certain seasons to minimize further degradation.
 - b) Limit trails for shoreline access to prevent extensive trampling and compaction.
 - c) Locate new trails away from sensitive resources or restrict their use.
 - d) Provide a 30-foot upland buffer along major drainages for new trails sited adjacent to drainages.
3. Determine allowable passive recreational activities within the Preserve, depending on the resources to be protected, season, and successional stage of the adjacent habitat.
4. Restrict the archery range and any passive recreational uses to areas where impacts to habitat can be avoided.
5. Develop guidelines for any passive overlook areas, benches, tie rails, portable toilets, and trash cans, so that no existing native habitat will be lost.
6. Develop litter control measures, such as closed garbage cans and recycling bins, and restrict such receptacles to access points for the Preserve.

The following public uses and activities, which conform to the PUMP, are considered allowable uses in the Preserve under the NCCP:

1. Public use and implementation of the PTP contained in the Wildlife Agency-approved PUMP. Section 9.2.1.1 of the NCCP provides the design criteria and guidelines that will be used for the PTP.
2. Closure of existing trails within the Preserve that are not included in the PTP, as approved by the City Council and Wildlife Agencies.
3. Passive recreational activities (e.g. horse riding, hiking, bicycling, wildlife viewing) as described in the PUMP and approved by the City and Wildlife Agencies.
4. Subject to the PUMP, the creation and maintenance of passive overlook or vista areas with seating benches and trail markers may be located at key vista points near existing trails in the Preserve, provided no existing habitat will be lost. The location of these overlooks shall be located to avoid or minimize direct and indirect impacts to biological resources. The location of these overlooks will be approved by City Council.
5. Installation and maintenance of benches, individual picnic tables, tie rails, portable toilets, and trash cans within the Preserve and near Preserve boundaries, provided no existing habitat will be lost. The location of these facilities shall be sited to avoid or minimize direct and indirect impacts to habitat and Covered Species. Location of overlooks shall be reviewed for consistency with the PUMP and this Plan and approved by the City Council prior to initiation of any implementation work.
6. Installation of trailhead signage/kiosks within the Preserve adjacent to existing roads or other access ways and away from sensitive resource areas. The location of trailhead signage/kiosks shall be reviewed for consistency with the PUMP and this Plan and approved by the City prior to initiation of any implementation work.
7. Operation and maintenance of the existing archery range in its current location and acreage (approximately 8 acres) within the Preserve, provided the appropriate City permits are maintained and the facility is not expanded.
8. Operation of the existing agricultural use at Upper Point Vicente (Alta Vicente Reserve) of approximately 5 acres in size provided the appropriate City lease agreement is maintained and all agricultural practices and improvements remain consistent with this NCCP. No other agricultural activities are allowed in the Preserve.
9. Night use of the Preserve for hiking only provided use is limited, controlled, monitored, and managed through a permit issued by the City. Any night use of the Preserve shall be consistent with the requirements of this Plan.

The following PUMP public uses and activities are considered conditionally compatible uses under the NCCP:

1. Ensure that public access to the Preserve is consistent with the approved PUMP to provide protection and enhancement of biological resources.
2. If unforeseen circumstances warrant it, close specific approved trails for temporary time periods to minimize biological impacts.
3. Close unapproved trails using fencing or signage to prevent the use or creation of unauthorized trails and protect sensitive plant species adjacent to established trails.
4. Monitor existing access points and trails to prevent degradation of the Preserve. Adverse effects of passive recreation such as trampling vegetation and erosion will be minimized by taking the following measures:
 - a) Establish a trail inspection and maintenance program to monitor trail conditions, and detect vandalism and habitat degradation.
 - b) Seasonally restrict access to certain trails if deemed necessary to prevent disturbance of breeding activities of Covered Species.
 - c) If trails become degraded because of heavy use, rotate or limit use as deemed appropriate. This can also be during certain seasons to minimize further degradation.
5. Prepare and maintain trail surfaces to minimize erosion. Do not use materials for trails that will be a source of seed of invasive exotic species. Prohibit use of eucalyptus chips that could suppress native plant growth adjacent to trails.
6. Install water-bars on steep trails to minimize erosion and sedimentation.
7. Locate new trails away from sensitive resources or restrict their use.
8. Construct barriers and/or signage at viewpoints or prominent features to discourage access to sensitive coastal bluff areas. This measure will be appropriate at viewpoints or prominent features along established trails.
9. Provide litter control measures, such as closed garbage cans and recycling bins, at access points within the Preserve.

AUTHORIZED PUBLIC ACTIVITIES

Consistent with the covered projects and activities set forth in the NCCP (Section 5.0) and Preserve Management: PUMP (Section 9.2), the following public activities are considered conditionally compatible uses in the Preserve:

a. Dog and Other Pet Walking

Pursuant to Section 12.16.050 of the RPVMC, dogs or other pets may be brought into the Preserve provided that the animal is restrained by a substantial chain or

leash not exceeding six feet in length and is in the charge, care, custody and control of such person. Moreover, dog walking as a commercial activity is permitted in the Preserve provided that the appropriate City business licenses are obtained and kept current, and that the proprietor complies with the leash requirements stated herein.

Pursuant to Section 6.04.010 of the RPVMC and LA County Code Section 10.40.060, It is unlawful for the owner or person having custody of any dog or other animal to permit, either willfully or through failure to exercise due care or control, any such dog or animal to commit any nuisance and to allow such nuisance to thereafter remain upon any public or private property not owned or possessed by the owner or person in control of said animal, provided that the person who owns, harbors, keeps or has charge or control of a dog (other than a sightless person who has charge or control of a guide dog) shall immediately and securely enclose all feces deposited by such dog in a bag, wrapper or other container and dispose of the same in a sanitary manner. Any person (other than a sightless person with a guide dog) who has charge or control of a dog in a location other than on the property of such person or the property of the owner of the dog, shall have in his or her possession a suitable wrapper, bag or container (other than articles of personal clothing) for the purpose of complying with the requirements of this section. Failure of such person to carry such wrapper, bag or container when in charge or control of a dog in a location other than on property of such person or the property of the owner of the dog or animal shall constitute a violation of this section

b. Farming

The City's NCCP allows the continued operation of any farming activities in the Preserve provided that such activities are not expanded. Farming currently operates as an existing agricultural use at the Alta Vicente Reserve (Upper Point Vicente / Civic Center) on the southeastern slopes along the Prickly Pear trail consisting of approximately 5 acres in size. This farming operation can continue provided the appropriate City lease agreement is maintained, no habitat restoration is scheduled for the site, and all agricultural practices and improvements remain consistent with this NCCP/HCP. No other agricultural activities are allowed in the Preserve.

c. Archery

The City's NCCP allows the continued operation of an archery club in the Preserve provided that the area of the archery club is not expanded. The Palos Verdes Archery Club has been operating a roving field archery range at the Abalone Cove Reserve (on property owned by the City's former RDA at Portuguese Bend) since 1989. Permission to use this City land was granted by the City Council in 1989 through the approval of Conditional Use Permit No. 10. The conditions adopted by the City Council in 1989 specify the parameters for using City land, including the City's ability to revoke the approval with a 30-day notice or immediately if incidents involving landslides or geologic conditions that prove to be an imminent hazard to health, safety and welfare occur. The Archery Club maintains the fire road on an

annual basis. The Archery Club is used between dawn and dusk in accordance with the City park hours and occasionally conducts special events, such as tournaments, competitions, and picnics.

On April 7, 2009, the City Council allowed the Archery Club to continue its operation under the existing Conditional Use Permit (CUP) in its current location only with the future review of the CUP, and, consideration of a lease agreement with the Archery Club. No open flames, barbecues, or smoking is permitted.

d. Commercial Filming or Photography

Pursuant to Section 9.16.020 of the RPVMC, the Preserve may be used for the purpose of producing, taking or making any motion picture or television production or engaging in still commercial photography provided a permit is first obtained from the City. Permit requests for commercial filming and/or photography in the Preserve will be considered on a case-by-case basis to ensure that potential impacts to biological resources and public safety are minimized. In considering a commercial film or photography permit in the Preserve, the following review criteria shall apply:

1. The location is in an area that does not jeopardize or adversely impact biological resources;
2. No more than 10 persons shall be allowed to participate in the filming or photography activity;
3. Vehicles are parked outside the Preserve in designated areas;
4. Such activity will not unduly interfere with the public's use of trails unless City authorization has been obtained to temporarily close a trail. In such cases, the temporary closure shall be posted a minimum of five days in advance of the film or photography shoot.
5. The conduct of such activity will not unduly interfere with normal governmental or city operations, threaten to result in damage or detriment to the Preserve, or result in the City incurring costs or expenditures in either money or personnel not reimbursed in advance by the applicant.
6. The conduct of such activity will not constitute a fire hazard and all proper safety precautions will be taken.

The decision of the City Manager to issue, conditionally issue, or not issue a film or photography permit in the Preserve shall be final unless appealed in writing within five working days of the decision by requesting a hearing of the City Council at the next available meeting.

e. Specimen Material Collection Policy

Collection of specimen material in the Preserve must be tightly controlled due to the potential impacts to biological resources. The following collection policies shall apply to the Preserve:

- Collecting of native plant material or flowers is forbidden due to potential impacts to plant reproduction and on fauna which may be dependent on the plants for food and habitat, and due to the potential impact on soil erosion and geological stability. Collecting of seeds and cuttings may be permitted only with the written permission of the City and the PVPLC, with appropriate permits/authorization from federal and state agencies.
- Research on and proposed collection of plants, insects and birds may be permitted only with the appropriate Resource Agency permits (i.e., permit under the Federal Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended and/or state scientific research/collecting permit) and the written permission of the City and the PVPLC. All entities listed herein shall receive a copy of the research results for permitted research activities conducted within the Preserve.

f. Geocaching

Placing and searching for geocaches in the Preserve is permitted, so long as activities take place on designated trails and does not impact sensitive habitat and wildlife. Geocaches placed off-designated trails and/or in sensitive areas are not allowed.

g. Preserve Management

Management of the Preserve in accordance with the provisions described in Sections 8.0 and 9.0 of the NCCP is a covered activity. Specific management covered activities anticipated to occur in the Preserve include the following:

- a) Monitoring of Covered Species
- b) Vehicular access
- c) Habitat restoration
- d) Invasive species control
- e) Predator control
- f) Reintroduction of Covered Species
- g) Photo documentation
- h) Installation of signage
- i) Trail maintenance
- j) Field research and studies designed to contribute to the long-term protection of habitats and species and other basic research of habitats and species included in the Preserve.

h. Preserve Hours

Pursuant to Section 12.16.030 of the RPVMC, no person shall be or remain in the Preserve at any time between one hour after sundown and one hour before sunrise, unless attending or participating in city authorized activities, such as City permitted night hikes.

PROHIBITED PUBLIC ACTIVITIES

Activities that may affect covered species addressed in the NCCP and are not covered activities as set for in the NCCP will be prohibited without the proper authorization from the Resource Agencies. Some, but not limited to, of the following activities are prohibited from occurring in the Preserve in order to reduce impacts to biological resources and to minimize hazards to public safety and property within or adjacent to the Preserve:

- Commercial or industrial uses
- Placement of billboards
- Introducing or dispersing non-native or exotic plant or animal species
- Altering the surface or general topography
- Paintballing
- Archery/target shooting (except as authorized herein)
- Feeding the animals
- New (or expansion) of trails or jumps (see “a.” below)
- Organized **or unorganized** bike races, including night rides
- Unauthorized fuel clearing and/or planting
- Camping/overnight stay (see “b.” below)
- Campfires and BBQ’s in non-designated areas (see “d.” below)
- Hunting or collection of wildlife (see “e.” below)
- Smoking or any kind (see “d.” below)
- Motorized vehicles (see “f.” below)
- Paragliding and Parasailing (see “g.” below)
- Motorized or Radio-Controlled Models (see “h.” below)
- Any other use deemed inappropriate or in conflict with the NCCP.

a. **Bicycle Jumps**

The creation of man-made or natural jumps, whether on designated trails or off-trails, is prohibited in the Preserve. Such features promote activities in the Preserve that directly contradict the passive recreational use intended for the Preserve as described in the NCCP. Moreover, Section 12.16.010 of the RPVMC states that no person other than authorized employees or City agents or other authorized persons in the performance of their duties shall cut, break, dig up, remove, or in any manner injure any plant, animal, public building, structure or contents therein on public property.

b. **Camping**

Overnight camping within the Preserve is inconsistent with the purpose of the Preserve for a number of reasons, including, but not limited to, lack of adequate and appropriate sanitary facilities and shelters; adverse impacts upon sensitive plant and animal communities; increased risk of wildfire due to human activity; and limited emergency access to the Preserve. As such, pursuant to Section 12.16.140 of the

RPVMC no person shall camp within the Preserve. For this purpose, “camp” shall mean to remain on site overnight, whether entirely out of doors or utilizing an enclosed or semi-enclosed temporary accommodation, including but not limited to, a tent, tarp, canopy, trailer, recreational vehicle, passenger car or truck. City or PVPLC covered activities are exempt from this provision.

c. Abandonment of Animals

Pursuant to Section 12.16.150 of the RPVMC, no person shall willfully abandon any animal on any City-owned property including the Preserve. For the purposes of this section, “willfully abandon” shall not include the release or rehabilitation and release of native California wildlife by persons or agencies so authorized pursuant to State law or regulations of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (formerly “Fish and Game”) or the NCCP.

d. Fires, Open Flames or Smoking

In consideration of reducing hazards to human safety, private property, and biological resources as part of the fuel modification program for the Preserve, fires, open flames or smoking is strictly prohibited in the Preserve. Moreover, pursuant to Section 12.16.070 of the RPVMC, no persons shall light or maintain any fire in the Preserve.

e. Hunting

According to Section 12.16.110 of the RPVMC, no person shall, by any means, hunt any animal, fowl, fish, amphibian, or reptile on city property, including the Preserve, unless expressly authorized by the City. For the purposes of this Code section, "hunt" shall mean stalk, pursue, catch, capture, kill, or attempt to stalk, pursue, catch, capture or kill.

f. Motorized vehicles

Motorized vehicles have the tendency to result in adverse impacts to sensitive environments, such as the Preserve, because of exhaust, dust, soil erosion and sedimentation into local waters, noise and habitat degradation. Disturbance from off-road vehicles can also disrupt breeding activities. For these reasons, off-road vehicle use, except for emergency, law enforcement, utility maintenance, and City or PVPLC vehicles, is not compatible with conservation goals and is prohibited in the Preserve. Moreover, Section 12.16.020 of the RPVMC indicates that no person shall park or operate any motorized vehicle in the Preserve except in designated areas, other than authorized park employees or city agents in performance of their duties.

g. Paragliding and Parasailing

According to Section 12.16.045 of the RPVMC no person shall land, release, take off in, or fly in any balloon designed to carry passengers, helicopter, parasail, hang glider, or other aircraft from any city-owned land except in areas specifically set aside therefore or with the express written permission from the city. On April 7, 2009, the City Council reviewed a request to allow paragliding in the Preserve, as well as the PUMP Committee's recommendation on this activity. After considering all information, including public testimony, the City Council agreed to prohibit paragliding and parasailing in the Preserve.

h. Motorized or Radio-Controlled Models

Pursuant to Section 12.16.040, no person shall operate any motorized or radio-controlled model in the Preserve unless written authorization is obtained from the city manager or the city manager's designee.

i. Reckless Use of Trails

Pursuant to Section 12.16.130 of the RPVMC, it shall constitute a public nuisance for any person, including pedestrians, equestrians and bicyclists, to use any trail within the Preserve in a reckless manner that demonstrates a wanton disregard for the safety of other human beings or animals or causes injury or harm to others.

j. Littering

No person should throw, place or dispose of any refuse, garbage, waste paper, bottles or cans, in any place in the Preserve other than into a garbage can or other receptacle provided for that purpose. In areas that receptacles are not available, the trash should be taken out of the Preserve and properly disposed.

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4. PRESERVE AMENITIES/IMPROVEMENTS

Public access to the Preserve is allowed for passive recreational purposes and to promote the understanding and appreciation of natural resources. The following chapter identifies amenities and improvements intended to enhance the public's experience and recreational use of the Palos Verdes Nature Preserve. The amenities and improvements are consistent with the passive recreational activities that are permitted to take place in the Preserve consistent with the City's NCCP.

Overlook Areas and Vista Points

Overlooks or vista points located in the Preserve are intended to provide trail users with a rest area and an enhanced viewing opportunity of the Preserve, including views of the Pacific Ocean, Catalina Island and the Palos Verdes Coastline. Overlooks and vista points are to be located adjacent to a designated trail to prevent impacts to natural resources that may result from walking off-trail. Overlooks or vista points are improvements that include seating areas and other amenities for the public's use. Seating areas may be in the form of an improved bench, stone seating, or other natural materials. Overlook and vista point areas are to utilize vernacular materials so as to keep with the natural setting of the site, such as decomposed granite and natural stones. Overlooks are typically larger in scale than vista points. The overlooks and vista points may consist of an identification pilaster made of Palos Verdes Stone, a stone clad bench, a low stone clad wall, stone edge paving, and low profile native planting as identified in the Council adopted Rancho Palos Verdes Coast Vision Plan. Interpretive signs may also be located at an overlook or vista point.

The City-owned Preserve properties or portions thereof, along with scenic points within the Preserve may be named after donors who make monetary contributions to the City or PVPLC toward acquisition or management of the Preserve, pursuant to the Preserve Management Agreement between the City and the PVPLC. The following are existing Council approved overlooks and vista points to recognize donors who have contributed significantly towards the acquisition of certain Preserve properties:

- Eagle's Nest
- Ridge east of Del Cerro
- Education Area
- Three sisters Overlook
- Fossil Hill Overlook
- Abalone Cove (along the existing fence line)
- Portuguese Point (at the tip near the Perry Ehlig memorial)
- Overlooking the Educational Area
- Lower Point Vicente

Seating Areas

In addition to providing public seating within overlooks and vista points, benches or other seating may be situated along designated trails. Such seating areas may be improved or unimproved provided that the seating area is designed to blend with the natural environment through the use of natural materials such as wood or stone. Benches should be designed and treated to deter potential vandalism and secured to the ground to prevent unauthorized removal or relocation.

Picnic Areas

While picnicking Picnics are permitted in the Preserve is permitted provided that it does they do not occur off designated trails. However., Ddesignated picnic areas, consisting of grouped benches and tables, are not to be located in the Preserve. However, individual lone picnic tables may be placed in the Preserve provided habitat impacts are avoided and serviceable trash cans are provided.

Fencing

Fencing can play an important role in controlling human behavior while visiting the Preserve. Fences aid in defining the boundary lines and access points in the Preserve, deterring off-road vehicles from entering the Preserve, and minimizing impacts (i.e. trespassing) to adjacent neighborhoods. Fencing, however, also can restrict normal wildlife movement and access to food and water, and guide wildlife onto roads. Although fencing should be considered on a case-by-case basis, general guidelines for Preserve fencing are as follows:

- In order to protect the scenic aspects and experience of the preserve, fencing should generally not exceed 3 feet in height except in areas adjacent to private property.
- Fencing may be used to delineate a trail and/or to close areas off from public use, such as restoration areas.
- Fencing should provide adequate barrier to prevent vehicular access to the Preserve, except for through gates to existing access roads intended to provide controlled access for emergency and service vehicles for maintenance purposes.
- The fencing system shall allow a number of convenient and safe pedestrian access points around the perimeter of the preserve.
- Fencing should be constructed of economic and durable material that is marine resistant and will require minimum maintenance. Where possible, fences should be made of natural materials that blend well with the surrounding environment such as post and cable/rope.
- Fencing should be compatible with the scenic, cultural and historical aspects of the surrounding community.
- As set forth in the NCCP (Section 9.2.3/Fencing and Signage), existing fencing inside the Preserve shall be dismantled and no new fencing shall be installed except as necessary to:

- a) Protect particularly sensitive species or habitats. For example, perimeter fencing could be used in habitat linkage areas where Preserve widths are narrower and there is greater exposure to adverse edge effects.
- b) Direct human access away from sensitive resource areas. Efforts to limit human access will involve the use of natural vegetation, topography, signs, and limited fencing.
- c) Protect from natural hazards or other public safety needs.
- d) Design and locate new fences within the Preserve so they do not impede wildlife movement or impact Covered Species.

Signs

Signs educate, provide direction, and promote the sensitive use and enjoyment of natural areas by the visiting public. As identification devices, signs should not subject the public to excessive visual competition, but rather be an appropriate identification device that naturally blends with the surrounding environment and other signs in the Preserve. The use of signs that may attract attention to sensitive species should be used minimally in the Preserve because such signs may invite disturbance of their habitat. **Signs should perform the following functions:**

The following types of informational and regulatory signs may be located in the Preserve:

- **Trail markers** as informational and identification signs that provide basic trail information to trail users. Trail markers provide identification to the trail ahead, uses allowed and not allowed on the trail route, a directional arrow, and if applicable, the City's trail system (i.e. Palos Verdes Loop Trail). Trail markers should be located at the starting point to a trail, as well as at key trail junctions where trails cross or intersect. In cases where two or more trails intersect, trail markers should be provided to identify each trail.
- **Trailhead signs** at key public access points to provide the name of the Reserve and to identify that Reserve's trail system. Additionally, City regulations should be posted on the Trailhead Sign.
- **Kiosks signs** should be located near main entrances (i.e. those adjacent to public parking areas) and include the name of the preserve/reserve, contact information for law enforcement, and management staff, educational brochures, an overview map of the preserve's trails network, and additional information about trail locations and uses.
- **Temporary signs**, as deemed necessary, may be installed to indicate habitat restoration, erosion-control areas, temporary trail closures, etc.

- **Interpretive signs** may be installed adjacent to trails when necessary to enhance public understanding of the history, geology, wildlife, habitat and special characteristics of an area. Interpretation should work in service of the visitor and the missions of the governing institutions. Interpretation is meant to increase awareness and understanding, build personal connections, and foster stewardship behaviors that help manage and protect resources.
- **Precautionary “warning signs”** may be installed at designated areas deemed to be hazardous based on concerns pertaining to geologic instability, The City’s Public Works Director and the City’s geotechnical consultants should identify the exact on-site location for each precautionary “warning sign.”

Precautionary “warning signs” relating to the temporary closure of certain trail segments should be posted at strategic and visible locations, pursuant to the City Attorney’s guidance. These signs should feature graphic representations of the potential danger, based on the nature and location of the hazard.

- **Regulatory Signs** may be installed to advise the public of rules and regulations.

Sign Installation Process

Pursuant to the Preserve Management Agreement between the City and the PVPLC, the PVPLC is generally responsible for providing trail information signs while the City is generally responsible for providing entry signs/kiosks and/or warning signs beyond PVPLC’s responsibilities. As determined necessary by the PVPLC, the PVPLC is responsible for the installation or replacement of up to 25 signs per year that provide trail direction and way finding; trail location and identification; donor recognition, trail closure, protection of habitat and species, and geologic, historic features and education. The specifications regarding signs in the Preserve, including their general placement, should be reviewed at the monthly team meetings between the City and the PVPLC prior to installation. Signs that are in a state of disrepair, vandalized, weathered or removed should be repaired immediately by the responsible entity.

Signs that explain the rules of the Preserve (e.g., hiking, bicycle riding and horseback riding) are most effective at public entrance points. Signs for educational nature trails and on roads near wildlife corridors (to reduce road kills) shall be posted at appropriate locations. As set forth in the NCCP (Section 9.2.3/Fencing and Signage), the following recommendations shall be considered in the placement of all Preserve signage:

- a) Provide educational brochures, interpretive kiosks, and signs to educate the public about the resources and goals of the NCCP and Preserve.
- b) Establish signs for access control and education at the periphery of the Preserve that are accessible to individuals. Post signs to prohibit firearms and unleashed pets.
- d) Install signs for educational nature trails.
- e) Limit the use and/or language of signs that might attract attention to sensitive species, because such designation may invite disturbance of their habitat.

- f) Install temporary signs to indicate habitat restoration or erosion-control areas.
- g) Install barriers and informational signs to discourage shortcuts between established trails.
- h) Establish road signs near wildlife corridors to help reduce road kills.
- i) Consider signs denoting reduced speed limits along roads that have relatively high incidence of road killed wildlife.
- j) Include, where appropriate, contact information for law enforcement, and management staff.

Lighting

With the exception of temporary safety or security lighting for NCCP covered activities; lighting shall not be permitted within the Preserve.

Drinking Fountains

Typically, water facilities, such as drinking fountains, are not available within the Preserve because of the lack of utilities. In cases where existing water and sewer lines are available, drinking fountains may be located at certain trailheads. In such cases, the drinking fountains should also include doggie bowls.

Bathrooms

| While Bathrooms structures are not allowed in the Preserve, portable bathrooms may be located at trailheads within the Preserve or at other appropriate locations that are easily accessible to City maintenance crews.

Trash Bins

| As a means of encouraging the public's role in the maintenance of the trails and the surrounding grounds, trash bins should be installed in the Preserve by the City at strategic locations that are accessible to the general public and City maintenance crews. The trash bins shall be wildlife proof and be constructed from materials that blend with the natural terrain and shall be placed at locations that are easily accessible to City maintenance crews. For security reasons, it is recommended that the trash bins are-be mounted to the ground or chained to a solid structure, such as a sign pole or bench, to prevent tampering. Trash bins should be designed with an enclosure to ensure that trash is not removed by humans or animals.

5. IMPLEMENTATION

a. Preserve Management

To ensure that appropriate management practices are put into place, the City's NCCP devotes an entire chapter (Chapter 6) to "Preserve Management". According to the NCCP, the PVPLC is the City's Habitat Manager for the NCCP Preserve. In this role, the PVPLC is responsible for completing specific habitat management and monitoring tasks within the entire Preserve pursuant to the NCCP. The NCCP also delegates various other responsibilities for overall Preserve management to the City and the PVPLC. Pursuant to the Preserve Management Agreement approved by the City Council on November 1, 2011 (see attachment), the City and PVPLC each have the following major responsibilities for managing the Preserve:

- PVPLC Areas of Responsibility
 - Habitat restoration/enhancement (5 acres every year), periodic biotic surveys, invasive plant control and habitat monitoring (annual reports)
 - Installation or replacement of up to 25 signs per year on an as needed basis
 - Fuel modification on PVPLC owned lands

- City of RPV Areas of Responsibility
 - Access Control to maintain City gates and other City barriers that prevent/control unauthorized access
 - Waste management on as needed basis, including maintaining and refilling pet waste bag dispensers
 - Public safety (Ranger patrols, City staff or the L.A. County Sherriff) to enforce the City's municipal code
 - Regulatory signage installation and maintenance
 - Maintenance of any roads (i.e. Burma Road)
 - Fuel Modification on City owned lands

A detailed list of specific responsibilities for both the PVPLC and the City is attached to the Management Agreement on file with the City.

b. Temporary Trail Closures

In cases where the protection of the public interest, health, welfare, or safety occurs, Section 12.16.090 of the RPVMC provides the City Manager or the City Manager's designee the authority to close from public access the Preserve or portion thereof

(including trails) on a temporary and/or permanent basis. This may include seasonal closures to protect wildlife and/or changes in use designations of trails if incompatibility among user groups exists. Likewise, pursuant to the Preserve Management Agreement between the City and the PVPLC, the PVPLC has the ability to recommend that certain trails be closed or designated trail users removed if impacts to habitat are occurring.

c. Preserve Oversight and Opportunity for Public Involvement

It is anticipated that public use issues will be encountered and brought to the City's and PVPLC's attention by Preserve users and nearby residents. When public use issues are brought to the PVPLC's attention, the PVPLC will either take the appropriate action to address the issue in accordance with its mandatory or permissive obligations under the Preserve Management Agreement or request the City to take certain action if the issue falls under the City's Preserve responsibilities described above or in the Preserve Management Agreement. If issues ~~are~~ brought to the City's attention directly falls ~~s~~ under the City's Preserve responsibilities they City will take appropriate action. These issues will be addressed at the monthly team meetings between the City and the PVPLC.

In addition, the PVPLC will use reasonable efforts to ensure public involvement and participation in the management and periodic evaluation of the Preserve. Such efforts may include, but are not limited to, PVPLC's participation in the Annual Report presentation to the City Council; involving members of the community as "keepers" to provide regular monitoring of the Preserve; soliciting public comments through outreach such as comment boxes, mailings, events and workshops; and inclusion of members of the public on committees ~~ed~~ that the PVPLC may from time to time establish.

d. Preserve Trail Improvement Projects List

Working together, the PVPLC and the City ~~may~~ will prepare an Annual Preserve Trail Project List that will identify any trail projects in the Preserve planned for the coming year. The Project List will demonstrate how it is consistent with the NCCP and may designate the priority for completing each project ranging between a high and low priority. High priority projects should include, but are not limited to, public safety projects. Projects not completed in the time period specified in the List can be continued on the following year's Project List. The project list is a best attempt at providing projects that may be conducted in the year ahead. However, lack of inclusion on a project list shall not prevent a project from occurring, as it is a permissive activity pursuant to the Management Agreement. The Project List should be submitted at the same time the Annual Report, as described above, is submitted to the City for City Council review.

The completion of trail projects as described above will be at the discretion of the City and the PVPLC and will be based on available funding opportunities, such as grants and

volunteer efforts. The majority of work will typically be conducted outside the gnatcatcher breeding season (February 15 through August 31), except for work that will not impact habitat.

e. Amendments to the PUMP Document

Pursuant to the NCCP and the Preserve Management Agreement, the City and the PVPLC are responsible for completing any amendments or modifications to the PUMP or any replacements or substitutions of the PUMP. Any amendments to the PUMP must include PVPLC advice on and consent to matters that in the reasonable judgment of the PVPLC impact biological protection, such as open space preservation, habitat preservation and restoration and species protections. The PVPLC will make any recommendations to amend the PUMP document as part of the Annual Report that the PVPLC is required to submit to the City Council every spring. This may also include recommendations to modify use access based on incompatibility with habitat conservation and protection of covered species. Any amendments to the PUMP must be approved by the City Council and the Wildlife Agencies per the NCCP (See Section 6.0), and take into account impacts to biological protection, such as open space preservation, habitat preservation and restoration and species protection.



Ara Mihranian

From: Eva Cicoria <cicoriae@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 12, 2013 11:17 AM
To: Ara Mihranian
Subject: PUMP comments

Hi Ara,

I read the draft of the PUMP that was released last week and I have a few comments that you may or may not have thought about and I hope you will consider.

PUBLIC USE GUIDELINES

One general comment regarding the Public Use Guidelines that begin on page 41 of the draft PUMP is the tendency to treat all user groups the same ignoring fundamental differences in their uses and the potential impact their uses have on the biological resources that the PUMP seeks to protect.

Preserve Hours

The general public enjoys the quiet serenity of the Preserve at sunrise and sunset without, I believe, having much, if any, greater impact on the Preserve resources at that time than during full daylight hours, so I support the current hours established for the Preserve and other City parks: open one hour before sunrise and one hour after sunset to allow time for somebody on foot to enter/exit after sunrise/sunset. The rules should be different for archery range users and bicyclists, however, because of the potential impact their uses can have in less than full daylight on biological resources (and potentially other users) and because they are able to exit the Preserve more quickly in/on their vehicles than those of us on foot.

Archery. Archers, it seems to me, should not be shooting in the Preserve at times when visibility is impaired, such as during the sunrise and sunset hours and the City should consider limiting their hours to begin one hour after sunrise and end one hour before sunset. I frequently see their vehicles exiting the Preserve after dark.

Bicycling. Similarly, bicyclists should not be riding in the Preserve at times when visibility is impaired. Much of the illegal activity by bicyclists has been documented to occur during these times. They pose a threat to biological resources as well as to other users. Moreover, the volunteer foot patrol will be at a disadvantage monitoring bicyclists at sunset, for example, when those on foot have to leave areas deep in the Preserve earlier than those on bikes would have to leave in order to comply with the existing hours. The City should consider limiting the bicyclists' hours to begin one hour after sunrise and end one hour before sunset. Of course it goes without saying that they have the opportunity to enjoy the sunrise and sunset in the Preserve on foot.

Allowable Uses

Passive Use. Please consider modifying the list of passive recreational activities by modifying "bicycling" to "slow bicycling". This modification, I believe, would reinforce the message that we want to allow access for all these user groups, but this is a preserve intended to protect biological resources--not a mountain bike playground. It's not a perfect solution--there may be quibbling over what is "slow" riding, but that doesn't matter so much as what is "not slow" which I think just about everybody will be able to "know when they see it". I (and many, many others) have always believed that fast bicycling cannot be considered a passive use. In fact, initially, City Council approved the Preserve Trails Plan on the condition that speed limits, along with other conditions such as enforcement, would be imposed. (Watch the long Saturday City Council meeting at which these concerns were raised. Without those conditions, the trails permitting bikes on them would likely have

been reduced substantially. It wasn't until a follow up meeting that Staff determined it wouldn't be feasible to set speed limits and by then City Council had acquiesced to allow bikes on many trails that they knew were inappropriate for them based on public testimony and their own observations on the trails.) We know bicyclists frequently careen off trails and into habitat; we know wildlife is killed by bikes; and we know other users have been injured by bicyclists riding fast. Slow bicycling reduces the likelihood that this particular use will adversely impact habitat as well as wildlife and other users.

Picnic tables. Item 5 of allowable uses indicates that picnic tables are allowed in the Preserve, yet later there is a paragraph discussing picnic areas that says they are not. My recollection from PUMP Committee discussions was that there would not be picnic tables because of trash concerns, so I believe picnic tables should be deleted here.

Night use. Item 9 of allowable uses refers to night use. City Council specifically allowed use by permit for hiking only and not bikes, so I believe this item should specify "Night use of the Preserve for hiking, provided"

Farming. Regarding farming, special attention should be paid to the farm's agricultural practices, for example what pesticides and herbicides are used within the Preserve lands and if there are not limitations on the types of ancillary activities allowed (such as changing and disposal of oil) in the terms of the lease there should be.

Prohibited Public Activities.

Regarding prohibited public activities, one item listed is "organized bike races, including night rides." There should be at least three separate activities prohibited here: 1) Night bike riding 2) Bike racing, whether organized, spontaneous, or otherwise, and 3) Stunt riding.

PRESERVE TRAILS PLAN

Please consider closing Ishibashi Trail to bike use. This trail, more than any other, has been the site of numerous user conflicts, in particular accidents, to the extent that many hikers and horseback riders are afraid to use the trail at all. Consequently, with the closure of the connection between Fire Station and Rim Trails (due in no small part to bicycles on these horse and hiking trails raising the homeowner's fear of an accident), there is no functional access to most of upper Portuguese Bend Reserve for those of us who want to avoid the dangers of Ishibashi Trail.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Eva

Ara Mihranian

From: SunshineRPV@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, March 12, 2013 5:28 PM
To: CC
Cc: Ara Mihranian
Subject: Draft PV Nature Preserve Public Use Master Plan hearing March 19

March 12, 2013

MEMO from Sunshine
TO: RPV City Council
RE: Draft PV Nature Preserve Public Use Master Plan

Please send Staff back to the proverbial drawing board. They have presented you with 57 pages which are of no practical use by the public. To make matters worse, the document is formatted in such a way that it need not be referenced by Staff or the PVP Land Conservancy. Like the RPV General Plan, RPV Parks Master Plan and RPV Trails Network Plan, it is likely to be put in a drawer, never updated in a timely fashion and only referenced when the public brings up something Staff doesn't like. That is the way Council approved plans are used around here.

A City Council approved "Plan" should be a directive to the future not a history lesson. It is not in the least bit helpful that several pages of the draft PV Nature Preserve Public Use Master Plan are devoted to the process which created it. And, the date when the Council last approved an amendment seems to have been omitted.

The City has a Trails Network Plan to direct us all in pursuit of the goals in the RPV General Plan. Now that the City has several miles of Category I and Category III trails, what we need is a city wide Trail User's Guide to only these trails. The PUMP is not such a thing.

Have all of the necessary State Agencies approved the RPV Natural Communities Conservation Plan? (NCCP) If so, it did not make the front page of the PV News. If not, this PV Preserve Public Use Master Plan (PUMP) has no more standing than the City's Parks Master Plan and Trails Network Plan.

What the PVP Land Conservancy is responsible for and how much they are paid to do it is totally documented in the Agreement between the City and the Conservancy. The "jist" of it or any rephrasing of said Agreement is inappropriate in the PV Nature Preserve Public Use Master Plan.

The PV Nature Preserve is special only to a certain extent. It is City owned property, the use of which should be compliant with previously approved plans or said plans should go through the established amendment processes. If the PUMP is to be of use by Staff, it should provide updates which are incorporated into the RPV Parks Master Plan and/or the RPV Trails Network Plan so that the whole City is managed consistently.

That is the big picture. On to the petty details:

Listing the members of the PUMP Committee, twice, is redundant. Do notice that the 2009 City Council never selected a Chairman for the Committee. The Committee's work product is not in the least bit "incredible". This was a very blatant use of the Delphi Technique. Lots of people got to speak but most everything they said came to naught or has been used against them.

Overall, take the San Ramon Reserve as an example. I have provided Staff with similar information about all 11 Reserves. This draft PUMP is a fraud.

The City acquired the property and did not bother to amend the General Plan Land Use Map. (Ding.)

The City stopped having the County do the fire fuel abatement which the previous property owner had paid for so the Switchback Trail (CTP SECTION FOUR F3) was fine only until San Ramon Canyon eroded away. (Ding.)

Staff has claimed there was no funding to include the design to restore the Switchback Trail in with the design to repair the San Ramon Canyon drainage. Per Amendment 22 of the RPV General Plan, the RPV Public Works Department is responsible for requesting a budget adjustment when such an opportunity presents itself. (Ding.)

Staff has changed the graphic oval location of a “conceptual” trail in the current draft from where it was on the Preserve Trails Plan map that Council approved last year. (Ding.)

The PUMP Committee was never permitted to finish recommending which amenities should be provided at which trailheads. Unlike what is shown on the Preserve Trail Plan (PTP) maps, a “trailhead” is not simply a place where a pathway crosses a property line even if a little info kiosk is provided. Friendship Park should be the primary entrance to the San Ramon Reserve. The water fountain and bike rack on PV Drive South is the closest thing to a trailhead which presently exists. Now is the time for Staff to fess up to the fact that they and the PVP Land Conservancy want as few unescorted people as possible to visit the PV Nature Preserve. That is not “passive” recreation. Per the latest draft update of the General Plan, guided tours have participation rules and Umpires. That is “active” recreation. (Ding.)

Trail graphics should indicate where both ends of a trail name are located. (The Task Force’s Open Space Subcommittee recommended a way to designate trail intersections with a reference to its GPS location.) In an emergency, people should be able to say which trail they are on. (Ding.)

The City’s “signage program” is a mess all on its own. (Ding.)

How many “dings” do you need to stop this manipulation of the City’s resources?