

**CASTAIC AREA MULTI-USE TRAILS PLAN
MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM**

PREPARED FOR:

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
510 S. VERMONT AVE.
LOS ANGELES, CA 90020**

PREPARED BY:

**SAPPHOS ENVIRONMENTAL, INC.
430 NORTH HALSTEAD STREET
PASADENA, CALIFORNIA 91107**

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1. Introduction

The County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation (County Parks) proposes to adopt a multi-use trails plan for the unincorporated area of Castaic.

Section 21081.6 of the Public Resources Code, enacted by passage of Assembly Bill 3180 (Cortese Bill), requires public agencies approving projects with significant environmental impacts to adopt a monitoring and reporting program. The objective of the program is to ensure that mitigation measures adopted to avoid or mitigate significant environmental impacts are implemented. Section 21081.6 of the Public Resources Code requires all state and local agencies to establish monitoring and reporting programs whenever approval of a project relies upon a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) or an Environmental Impact Report. In accordance with these requirements, this Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) has been prepared to ensure that mitigation measures identified in the MND for the Castaic Area Multi-Use Trails Plan (project) for the unincorporated area of Castaic (or subsequent revisions thereto) are implemented in an effective and timely manner, and that identified impacts are avoided or mitigated to a level of insignificance. The MMRP identifies responsible parties for the mitigation program, and includes a detailed discussion of monitoring and reporting procedures for each mitigation measure.

2. Project Description

The proposed project would work to encourage and promote new multi-use trails and recommend improvements to existing trails, providing an alignment to incorporate a transition throughout the Castaic project area to additional areas, jurisdictions, and prime destinations within and adjacent to the Castaic project area. The plan would recommend conditions for improvement of unmet local recreation demands in the 5th Supervisorial District. The proposed project would develop a complete multi-use trail system connecting user groups and local populations to desired recreation destinations and experiences, with unified transition to the trails of adjacent jurisdictions, compatibility with adjacent land uses and environmental resources, and incorporate a sustainable design that is consistent with the County Trails Manual.

The proposed project includes approximately 100 miles of proposed multi-use trails and related staging areas, bike skills parks, parking areas, and other supporting trail facilities in the Castaic Area of the Santa Clarita Valley Planning Area (Figure 2-1, *Proposed Trails Plan*). The proposed trails would provide connections to the Angeles National Forest, trails in the City of Santa Clarita, and trails in the Newhall Ranch Specific Plan. The trails would be multi-use and range from 3 to 12 feet wide based on site conditions, with adequate space for combined pedestrian, equestrian, and mountain biking use, in accordance with the County of Los Angeles Trails Manual guidelines (Table 2-1, *County Trail Types*).

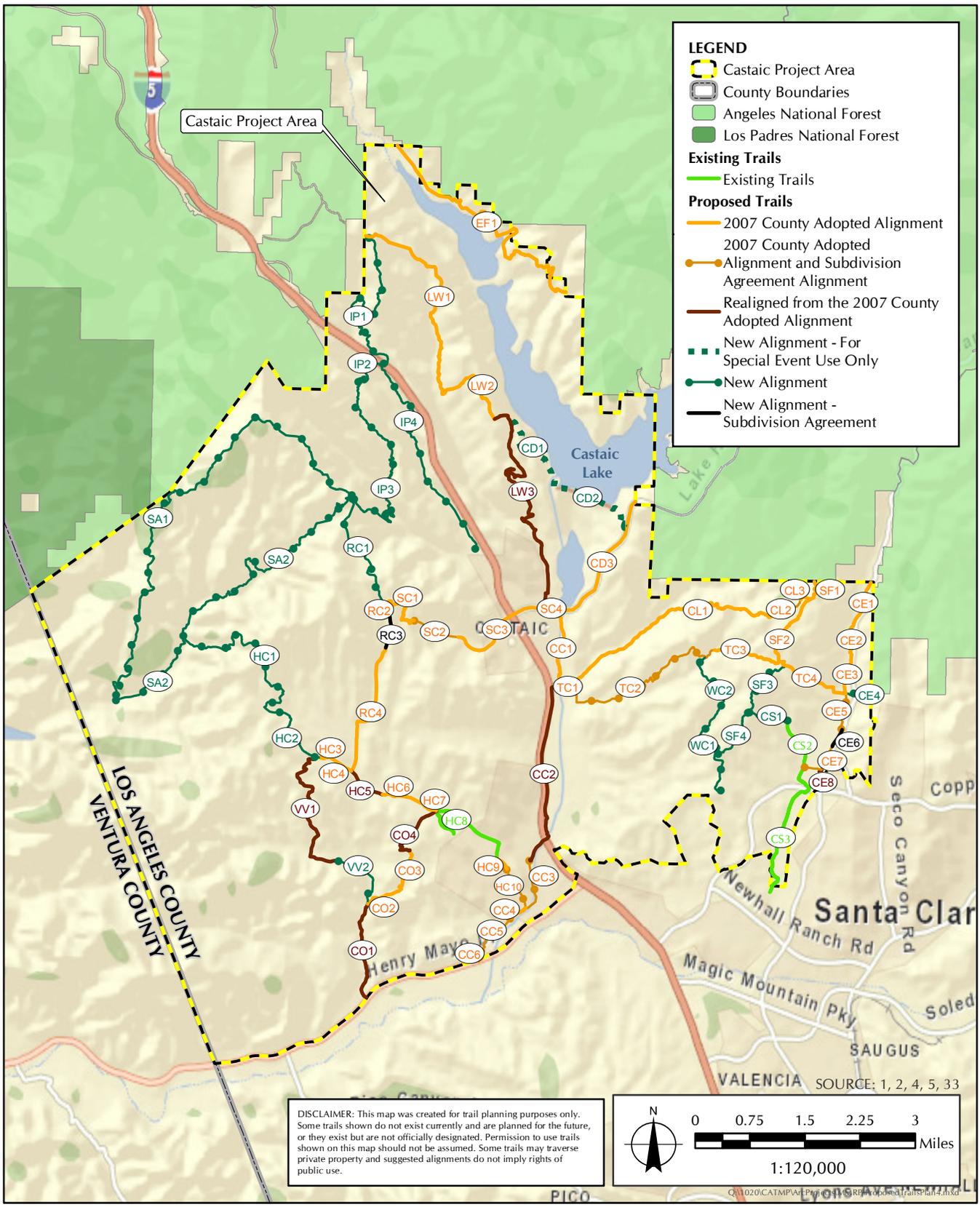


FIGURE 2-1
Trails Plan

**TABLE 2-1
COUNTY TRAIL TYPES**

| Trail Type | Tread / Trail Width | Intensity of Use | Impact | Surface Type |
|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|---------|------------------------------------|
| Pedestrian | 10–11 feet | High | High | Crusher fines / decomposed granite |
| Recreational Pathway | 8–10 feet | High | High | Natural surface |
| Natural Trail 1 | 7–10 feet | High | Medium | Natural surface |
| Natural Trail 2 | 5–8 feet | Medium to high | Low | Natural surface |
| Natural Trail 3 | 2–3 feet | Low | Minimal | Natural surface |

SOURCE: County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation. Adopted May 17, 2011. Revised June 2013. *County of Los Angeles Trails Manual*. Available at: <https://trails.lacounty.gov/Files/Documents/69/LA%20County%20Trails%20Manual%20%28Revised%2006-20-13%29.compressed.pdf>

The proposed project includes 18 trail routes, consisting of four (4) existing trail segments and 64 proposed trail segments (Table 2-2, *Existing and Proposed Trail Segments*). The proposed trail segments would provide connections to the Santa Felicia SEA, the Angeles National Forest, Newhall Ranch trails and the Santa Clara River Trail, City of Santa Clarita trails, under Interstate-5, and to Castaic Lake.

**TABLE 2-2
EXISTING AND PROPOSED TRAIL SEGMENTS**

| Route Name | Trail Segment | Length (Miles) | Trail Type | Existing Conditions of Trail Segment and Trail Design Considerations |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|------------|--|
| Castaic Creek (CC) | CC1 (Sports Complex) | 1.24 | Natural | No existing trail. Dirt road, de facto trail route along Castaic Creek. Follows 2007 County adopted trail alignment. <i>De facto</i> trail that does not cross private property. Crossing of drainage at RV park will wash out periodically unless an alternative crossing (bridge) is developed. |
| | CC2 (Pitchess) | 2.63 | Natural | No existing trail. Existing dirt road from Tapia Canyon Road along Interstate 5 and creekbed, including under the freeway bridge. Realigned from 2007 County adopted trail alignment. Potential for trailhead at southern end of segment. |
| | CC3 (Commerce Center East) | 0.76 | MUT | No existing trail. Portion of segment parallels existing dirt road. Follows 2007 County adopted trail alignment. Planned trail per developer obligations generally follows 2007 County adopted trail routes; alignment reflects subdivision plans. |
| | CC4 (Commerce Center Undercrossing) | 0.25 | Natural | No existing trail. Within Castaic creekbed and along paved utility road. Slightly modified from 2007 County adopted trail routes to meet proposed subdivision trail. |
| | CC5 (Commerce Center Bike Trail) | 0.46 | MUT | No existing trail. Along paved utility road adjacent to creekbed. Follows 2007 County adopted trail alignment. Planned trail per developer obligations follows the subdivision plan indicating proposed bike trail with 10' minimum equestrian trail. |
| | CC6 (Commerce Center – 126) | 0.48 | MUT | No existing trail. Parallels Franklin Parkway and Castaic Creek. Follows 2007 County adopted trail alignment. Planned trail per developer obligations follows the subdivision plan indicating proposed sidewalk and equestrian trail. |
| Castaic Dam (CD) | CD1 (Castaic Upper Parking) | 1.21 | Natural | No existing trail. Parking lot median, follows existing switchbacks (dirt path) leading to and along existing Pine Ridge Fire Road. New proposed alignment. Connection from 2007 County adopted trail routes to upper parking lot at Castaic Lake. When crossing within 100 feet of a transmission line tower right-of-way, a fence would be installed around the base of the tower by County Parks (at County Parks cost), or its designee. Development and maintenance of any trail segments located within the rights-of-way of LADWP transmission line boundaries shall comply with LADWP's requirements and clearances pursuant to the Federal North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) standards (Appendix J of the MND, <i>LADWP Transmission Line Rights-of-Way Requirements</i>). |
| | CD2 (Castaic Dam Crossing) | 1.76 | Natural | No existing trail. Follows paved road from upper parking lot at Castaic Lake, across Castaic Dam, to Lake Hughes Road. New proposed alignment. Dam crossing, bridging east and west sides of Castaic Lake. Currently for special event use only. Subject to further coordination with State Department of Water Resources. Any Special Use Authorization for recreational use over the Castaic Dam service road shall incorporate a safety plan including security for SWP critical infrastructure and control structures. When crossing within 100 feet of a transmission line tower right-of-way, a fence would be installed the base of the tower by County Parks (at County Parks cost), or its designee. Development and maintenance of any trail segments located within the rights-of-way of LADWP transmission line boundaries shall comply with LADWP's requirements and clearances pursuant to the Federal North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) standards (Appendix J of the MND). |
| | CD3 (Lake Hughes East) | 1.98 | ROW | No existing trail. Unpaved ROW along Lake Hughes Road. Follows 2007 County adopted trail alignment. On-street connection from potential lagoon trailhead to parking lot on the east side of the dam. Development of any trail segments that cross the rights-of-way for the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) Foothill Feeder shall be undertaken consistent with the <i>Guidelines for Developments in the Area of Facilities, Fee Properties, and/or Easements of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California</i> . When crossing within 100 feet of a transmission line tower right-of-way, a fence would be installed the base of the tower by County Parks (at County Parks cost), or its designee. Development and maintenance of any trail segments located within the rights-of-way of LADWP transmission line boundaries shall comply with LADWP's requirements and clearances pursuant to the Federal North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) standards (Appendix J of the MND). |
| Cliffie Stone Extension (CE) | CE1 (San Francisquito Wash - Upper) | 0.63 | Natural | No existing trail. Parallels existing dirt road/path along San Francisquito Canyon wash. Follows 2007 County adopted trail alignment. Passes from subdivision land into multiple private parcels. Runs adjacent to the street, but may need to enter street ROW When crossing within 100 feet of a transmission line tower right-of-way, a fence would be installed the base of the tower by County Parks (at County Parks cost), or its designee. Development and maintenance of any trail segments located within the rights-of-way of LADWP transmission line boundaries shall comply with LADWP's requirements and clearances pursuant to the Federal North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) standards (Appendix J of the MND). |
| | CE2 (Tesoro Del Valle – SF Wash) | 0.52 | Natural | No existing trail. Parallels existing dirt road / de facto route within San Francisquito Canyon wash. Minor realignment of 2007 County adopted trail to conform to the ROW. Passes through Tesoro Del Valle but is not included in subdivision plans. |
| | CE3 (San Francisquito Wash - Lower) | 0.55 | ROW | No existing trail. Parallels existing dirt road / de facto route within San Francisquito Canyon wash. Minor realignment of 2007 County adopted trail to conform to the ROW. |

**TABLE 2-2
EXISTING AND PROPOSED TRAIL SEGMENTS**

| Route Name | Trail Segment | Length (Miles) | Trail Type | Existing Conditions of Trail Segment and Trail Design Considerations |
|-------------------------|---|----------------|------------|---|
| | CE4 (Lady Linda) | 0.13 | Natural | No existing trail. Follows existing dirt road (Lady Linda Lane). New proposed alignment. Follows Lady Linda Lane to connect to proposed trailhead. |
| | CE5 (Cliffie Stone – From Lady Linda-Low Ridge) | 0.53 | ROW | No existing trail. Follows portions of existing de facto dirt path/road to the west of San Francisquito Canyon Road. Follows 2007 County adopted trail alignment. Primarily follows Cliffie Stone Extension identified in subdivision alignment. |
| | CE6 (Cliffie Stone – From Lowridge-Tesoro) | 0.26 | ROW | No existing trail. Dirt ROW exists along San Francisquito Canyon Road. New proposed alignment; subdivision agreement. Crosses road ROW but original ROW does not match existing street. |
| | CE7 (North Park – Cliffie Stone Extension) | 0.62 | Natural | No existing trail or de facto route. Follows 2007 County adopted alignment through subdivision until southern end, then branches west to meet Cliffie Stone Trail. Owned by MRCA but part of Tesoro subdivision. |
| | CE8 (North Park Trail Connector) | 0.08 | Natural | No existing trail or de facto route. Realigned from 2007 County adopted trail alignment. Connection to North Park Trail. Leaves subdivision property and enters Newhall Land parcel. |
| Charlie Canyon (CL) | CL1 (Charlie Canyon Road) | 3.61 | Natural | No existing trail. Follows existing dirt roads (Tapia Canyon Road and Charlie Canyon Road), and what appears to be a de facto ridgeline path. Minor realignment from 2007 County adopted trail routes to follow road on County property. Development of any trail segments that cross the rights-of-way for the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) Foothill Feeder shall be undertaken consistent with the <i>Guidelines for Developments in the Area of Facilities, Fee Properties, and/ or Easements of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California</i> . |
| | CL2 (Charlie Canyon – Tesoro Del Valle) | 0.37 | Natural | No existing trail. Follows existing dirt road or de facto path. Follows 2007 County adopted trail alignment. Trail enters subdivision parcels but is not on subdivision plans. |
| | CL3 (San Francisquito Connection) | 0.16 | Natural | No existing trail. Follows existing dirt road or de facto path. Follows 2007 County adopted trail alignment. Connection to San Francisquito Trail. When crossing within 100 feet of a transmission line tower right-of-way, a fence would be installed the base of the tower by County Parks (at County Parks cost), or its designee. Development and maintenance of any trail segments located within the rights-of-way of LADWP transmission line boundaries shall comply with LADWP's requirements and clearances pursuant to the Federal North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) standards (Appendix J of the MND). |
| Chiquito Canyon (CO) | CO1 (Chiquito Canyon and Creek) | 1.39 | Natural | No existing trail. Modified 2007 County adopted alignment to follow creek instead of Chiquito Canyon Road. |
| | CO2 (Jackson St) | 0.21 | ROW | No existing trail. Parallels two existing paved roads – Lincoln Avenue and Jackson Street. Follows 2007 County adopted trail alignment. Follows existing street. |
| | CO3 (Chiquito Canyon and Creek – South) | 1.04 | Natural | No existing trail. Follows portions of Jackson Street and existing de facto dirt path or road. Minor realignment from 2007 County adopted alignment to minimize parcel crossings, Requires access beyond locked gate.. |
| | CO4 (Chiquito Canyon and Creek – North) | 1.04 | MUT | No existing trail. Parallels portion of Del Valley Road. Planned trail per developer obligations - modified 2007 County adopted alignment to remain within subdivision parcels. Subdivision alignment not determined. |
| Cliffie Stone (CS) | CS1 (Cliffie Stone – San Francisquito Motorway) | 0.68 | Natural | No existing trail. Follows existing ridgeline Farmer John Lat dirt road and paved utility access road. New proposed alignment. Tesoro Del Valle Property. Requires access along utility road. |
| | CS2 (Cliffie Stone Trail [Tesoro]) | 1.16 | Natural | Existing trail |
| | CS3 (Cliffie Stone Trail [San Francisquito]) | 1.73 | Natural | Existing trail |
| Elderberry Forebay (EF) | EF1 (Castaic Lake Trail) | 4.57 | Natural | No existing trail. Parallels portions of existing roads: Goodell Road and USFS Route 6N13. Follows 2007 County adopted trail alignment.. Northern connection to USFS roads. Extends beyond Castaic project area. County Parks to install fencing on the western (water) side of trail segment within the FERC Project 2426 boundary to discourage users from leaving the trail. |
| Hasley Canyon (HC) | HC1 (Hasley – Santa Felicia) | 3.48 | Natural | No existing trail. Follows existing unpaved Ayala Road for a portion of proposed route. New proposed alignment. Connects Hasley Canyon to Santa Felicia SEA. Requires passage beyond locked gate at Hasley Canyon. |

**TABLE 2-2
EXISTING AND PROPOSED TRAIL SEGMENTS**

| Route Name | Trail Segment | Length (Miles) | Trail Type | Existing Conditions of Trail Segment and Trail Design Considerations |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------|--|
| | HC2 (Hasley – Claremont) | 0.70 | Natural | No existing trail. Follows existing de facto path or dirt road. New proposed alignment. Trail falls within subdivision area but is not included in existing subdivision plans. Avoids using street ROW. Connects to 2007 County adopted trail alignment at northern end. |
| | HC3 (Hasley Canyon End) | 0.16 | Natural | No existing trail. Minor realignment of 2007 County adopted trail alignment to meet the new proposed segment HC4. |
| | HC4 (Hasley Road West) | 0.33 | ROW | No existing trail. Parallels existing paved Hasley Canyon Road. Follows 2007 County adopted trail alignment along public ROW. Ends at road. |
| | HC5 (Hasley Road East) | 0.57 | ROW | No existing trail. Parallels existing paved Hasley Canyon Road. Realigned 2007 County adopted trail to avoid private parcel conflict, avoid a creek crossing, and to more directly connect to other trail segments. |
| | HC6 (Hasley Creek) | 0.26 | Natural | Existing de facto trail along Hasley Canyon Road. Minor realignment of 2007 County adopted trail to follow de facto trails. |
| | HC7 (Hasley-Los Valles) | 0.56 | MUT | No existing trail. Existing de facto trail along Hasley Canyon Road. Planned trail per developer obligations – slightly realigned 2007 County adopted trail to follow de facto trails. Within subdivision area a planned subdivision trail is not indicated. |
| | HC8 (Hasley Canyon Trail) | 1.68 | Natural | Existing trail |
| | HC9 (Commerce Center) | 0.21 | ROW | No existing trail. Existing paved maintenance road along channelized creek. Follows 2007 County adopted trail alignment.. Line to proposed subdivision trails. Crosses under Commerce Center Drive and uses maintenance road. |
| | HC10 (Commerce Center NW) | 0.61 | MUT | No existing trail. Parallels creek bed. Planned trail per developer obligations generally follows 2007 County adopted alignment, but realigned to avoid the creek bed where possible. |
| | Interstate Paintball (IP) | IP1 (Interstate 5 to Ridge Route) | 3.30 | Natural |
| IP2 (Paintball Site) | | 0.65 | Natural | No existing trail. Existing dirt roads and paved roads. New proposed alignment. Connects through former paintball site and proposed bike skills park. Alignment to be determined by park design. |
| IP3 (Santa Felicia to 5 Connection) | | 3.67 | Natural | No existing trail. Existing dirt roads along portions of alignment. New proposed alignment. Connection from former paintball site to Santa Felicia SEA. Undercrossing at Interstate-5 will need to be evaluated for safety. |
| IP4 (Between Interstate 5) | | 3.14 | Natural | No existing trail. Existing utility access dirt roads between I-5 North and I-5 south. New proposed alignment. Picks up from the end of Castaic Road and continues to paintball site. |
| Lake West (LW) | LW1 (Northlake North) | 3.28 | Natural | No existing trail. Existing dirt roads. Follows 2007 County adopted trail route When crossing within 100 feet of a transmission line tower right-of-way, a fence would be installed the base of the tower by County Parks (at County Parks cost), or its designee. Development and maintenance of any trail segments located within the rights-of-way of LADWP transmission line boundaries shall comply with LADWP's requirements and clearances pursuant to the Federal North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) standards (Appendix J of the MND). |
| | LW2 (Northlake Central) | 1.10 | Natural | No existing trail. Existing dirt roads. Follows 2007 County adopted trail route. When crossing within 100 feet of a transmission line tower right-of-way, a fence would be installed the base of the tower by County Parks (at County Parks cost), or its designee. Development and maintenance of any trail segments located within the rights-of-way of LADWP transmission line boundaries shall comply with LADWP's requirements and clearances pursuant to the Federal North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) standards (Appendix J of the MND). |
| | LW3 (Lagoon-Lake) | 4.08 | Natural | Existing dirt roads, including a portion of Cutler Canyon Fire Road and Vista Ridge Fire Road, and paved Castaic Lake State Recreation Area road. Includes a portion of Pro's Uphill Open Trail and Castaic Brick Trail of Castaic Lake State Recreation Area. ¹ Adjusted from 2007 County adopted trail route to avoid electrical transmission line parcel leading from Castaic Power Plant. When crossing within 100 feet of a transmission line tower right-of-way, a fence would be installed the base of the tower by County Parks (at County Parks cost), or its designee.. Development and maintenance of any trail segments located within the rights-of-way of LADWP transmission line boundaries shall comply with LADWP's requirements and clearances pursuant to the Federal North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) standards (Appendix J of the MND). |

**TABLE 2-2
EXISTING AND PROPOSED TRAIL SEGMENTS**

| Route Name | Trail Segment | Length (Miles) | Trail Type | Existing Conditions of Trail Segment and Trail Design Considerations |
|-----------------------|--|----------------|------------|---|
| North Park Trail | North Park Trail | 0.33 | Natural | Existing trail |
| Romero Canyon (RC) | RC1 (Romero-Santa Felicia) | 1.88 | Natural | No existing trail. Follows existing dirt road/path. New proposed alignment. Portions follow narrow ridgelines. |
| | RC2 (North of High School) | 0.13 | Natural | No existing trail. Currently a construction site. Follows 2007 County adopted trail alignment.. Connection to Castaic High School path. |
| | RC3 (Castaic High School) | 0.56 | MUT | No existing trail. Currently a construction site leading to Romero Canyon Road. New proposed alignment; subdivision agreement. Planned trail per developer obligations – alignment needs verification from development plan. |
| | RC4 (Romero Canyon Rd) | 1.89 | Natural | No existing trail. Parallels Romero Canyon Road. Follows 2007 County adopted trail alignment.. Follows private road. |
| Santa Felicia (SA) | SA1 (Santa Felicia Upper Loop) | 7.59 | Natural | No existing trail. Existing dirt road. New proposed alignment. Minimal constraints. |
| | SA2 (Santa Felicia Lower Loop) | 5.80 | Natural | No existing trail. Existing dirt road. New proposed alignment. Portions follow narrow ridgelines. |
| San Francisquito (SF) | SF1 (San Francisquito Motorway) | 0.33 | Natural | No existing trail. Existing dirt road: San Francisquito Motorway. Follows 2007 County adopted trail alignment.. Follows San Francisquito Motorway to the edge of the Castaic project area. When crossing within 100 feet of a transmission line tower right-of-way, a fence would be installed by County Parks (at County Parks cost). When crossing within 100 feet of a transmission line tower right-of-way, a fence would be installed the base of the tower by County Parks (at County Parks cost), or its designee. Development and maintenance of any trail segments located within the rights-of-way of LADWP transmission line boundaries shall comply with LADWP's requirements and clearances pursuant to the Federal North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) standards (Appendix J of the MND). |
| | SF2 (San Francisquito Motorway Bypass) | 1.09 | Natural | No existing trail. De facto ridgeline dirt road/path. Follows 2007 County adopted trail alignment.. Two parallel alternative routes. Single alignment pending further study. Partially inside Tapia Ranch. |
| | SF3 (San Francisquito – Tapia) | 1.15 | Natural | No existing trail. Existing dirt road: San Francisquito Motorway. New proposed alignment. Passes through Tesoro Del Valle, not included in subdivision plans. |
| | SF4 (San Francisquito – West Creek) | 0.85 | Natural | No existing trail. Existing dirt road: San Francisquito Motorway. New proposed alignment. Follows utility road. Connects San Francisquito and Cliffie Stone Trails to West Creek. Development of any trail segments that cross the rights-of-way for the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) Foothill Feeder shall be undertaken consistent with the <i>Guidelines for Developments in the Area of Facilities, Fee Properties, and/or Easements of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California</i> . |
| Sloan Canyon (SC) | SC1 (Sloan Canyon West) | 1.14 | Natural | No existing trail. Existing dirt roads and construction sites. Minor realignment of 2007 County adopted alignment to follow contours and enhance safety. Portions follow narrow ridgelines. |
| | SC2 (Homestead at Sloan Canyon) | 0.68 | MUT | No existing trail. Existing construction site and unpaved Sloan Canyon Road. Follows 2007 County adopted alignment. Planned trail per developer obligations follows existing dirt road. |
| | SC3 (Sloan Canyon Dr) | 1.52 | ROW | No existing trail. Parallels Sloan Canyon Road and Lake Hughes Road. Follows 2007 County adopted alignment On-street connection. Crosses under Interstate 5. Requires coordination with Los Angeles County Public Works. |
| | SC4 (Lake Hughes at Lagoon) | 0.19 | ROW | No existing trail. Parallels Lake Hughes Road south of Castaic Lagoon. Follows 2007 County adopted alignment. Connects Castaic Creek to Castaic Lake. |
| Tapia Canyon (TC) | TC1 (Sports Complex – Tapia) | 0.24 | MUT | No existing trail. Parallels Tapia Canyon Road. Follows 2007 County adopted alignment. Planned trail per developer obligations – Tapia Ranch development plans to build path to Castaic Road. Development of any trail segments that cross the rights-of-way for the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) Foothill Feeder shall be undertaken consistent with the <i>Guidelines for Developments in the Area of Facilities, Fee Properties, and/or Easements of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California</i> . |

**TABLE 2-2
EXISTING AND PROPOSED TRAIL SEGMENTS**

| Route Name | Trail Segment | Length (Miles) | Trail Type | Existing Conditions of Trail Segment and Trail Design Considerations |
|---------------------------|---|---------------------|--|--|
| | TC2 (Tapia Bypass) | 2.74 | MUT | No existing trail. Parallels Tapia Canyon Road and Wayside Canyon Road in between undeveloped portions of Tapia Canyon. Planned trail per developer obligations – part of Tapia Ranch development plan. Portions follow 2007 County adopted alignment. Development of any trail segments that cross the rights-of-way for the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) Foothill Feeder shall be undertaken consistent with the <i>Guidelines for Developments in the Area of Facilities, Fee Properties, and/or Easements of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California</i> . |
| | TC3 (Tapia – San Francisquito) | 1.11 | Natural | No existing trail. Appears to be a de facto trail or dirt path between Tapia Canyon Road and San Francisquito Motorway. Follows 2007 County adopted alignment. Partially within Tapia Ranch development. |
| | TC4 (Tapia – Clifffe Stone) | 1.03 | Natural | No existing trail. A portion of alignment route follows an existing dirt road/path. A portion parallels dirt roads/paths: Quail Haven Trail, Las Tunas Trail, and Lady Linda Lane. Follows 2007 County adopted alignment.. Trail would need to traverse a significant elevation change over the ridge at northern end. |
| | Val Verde (VV) | VV1 (Kensington Rd) | 2.31 | Natural |
| | VV2 (Chiquito – Val Verde) | 0.94 | Natural | No existing trail. Follows edge of Val Verde Park and drainage. New proposed alignment. Follows drainage, marked as privately owned for portions but appears to all be LA County Flood Control property. |
| West Creek (WC) | WC1 (West Creek – Tapia) | 1.49 | Natural | No existing trail. Parallels two existing dirt roads: Company Road and Wayside Lateral Road. New proposed alignment. Requires connection through cul-de-sac in West Creek. Development of any trail segments that cross the rights-of-way for the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) Foothill Feeder shall be undertaken consistent with the <i>Guidelines for Developments in the Area of Facilities, Fee Properties, and/or Easements of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California</i> . |
| | WC2 (West Creek – Tapia – Tesoro) | 1.30 | Natural | No existing trail. Follows a portion of existing de facto dirt road/paths and a portion of Tapia Canyon Road. New proposed alignment. Within subdivision property, but alignment not included in subdivision. Connects West Creek development to Tapia Ranch area. Development of any trail segments that cross the rights-of-way for the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) Foothill Feeder shall be undertaken consistent with the <i>Guidelines for Developments in the Area of Facilities, Fee Properties, and/or Easements of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California</i> . |
| TOTAL | | | | |
| Total of 18 Routes | Total of 68 Trail Segments | | Total of 93.8 Miles in Trail Planning Castaic project area | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 Existing Segments • 64 Proposed Trail Segments | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4.90 Miles Existing Trails • 88.90 Miles Proposed and Under Consideration | |

NOTES:

MUT = Multi-Use Trail

ROW = New Designation

Green highlight = Existing Trails

No highlight = Proposed County Trails (from adopted 2007 Trails Map), as shown in the Los Angeles County General Plan 2035: http://planning.lacounty.gov/assets/upl/project/gp_2035_2014-FIG_10-1_regional_trail_system.pdf

Yellow highlight = Proposed County Trails Adjusted from adopted 2007 Trails Map and Subdivision Agreement Alignment

Pink highlight = Proposed County Trails Realigned from 2006 County Adopted Alignment

Grey highlight = Proposed County Trails for Special Event Use Only (New Alignment)

Blue highlight = Proposed County Trails (New Alignment)

Purple highlight = Proposed County Trails (New Alignment – Subdivision Agreement)

Source: ¹ Friends of Castaic Lake. Accessed 12 April 2016. *Castaic Lake – Trail Map*. Available at: http://castaiclake.com/map_trails.html

Development of any trail segments that cross the rights-of-way for the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) Foothill Feeder shall be undertaken consistent with the *Guidelines for Developments in the Area of Facilities, Fee Properties, and/or Easements of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California* (Figure 2-2, *MWD Coordination Requirements*). Trail design plans for trail segments that would pass through MWD's fee property, easements, or rights-of-way for the Foothill Feeder shall be submitted to MWD's Substructures Team for review and written approval. All submitted designs or plans shall clearly identify MWD's facilities and rights-of-way. Three (3) copies of tentative and final record maps, grading, paving, street improvement, landscape, storm drain, and utility plans shall be submitted to MWD's review and written approval as they pertain to MWD's facilities, fee properties, and/or easements, prior to the commencement of any construction work.

The proposed trail segments CD1 and CD2 (Castaic Dam Crossing) would be for special event use only, and use is subject to further coordination with State Department of Water Resources (DWR) to ensure that State Water Project critical infrastructure (water intake tower, spillway, and the Castaic Dam) is protected if recreational trails are constructed at the dam crest road for Castaic Dam. DWR would not fund any trail construction costs or continuing maintenance for the proposed trails. The County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation shall:

- Coordinate with the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) to ensure that State Water Project critical infrastructure (water intake tower, spillway, and the Castaic Dam) is protected if recreational trails are constructed at the dam crest road for Castaic Dam.
- Coordinate with the DWR to ensure that the use of dam crest road for recreational trail use is according to design intent if recreational trails are constructed at the dam crest road for Castaic Dam.
- Install emergency call-boxes and first-responder emergency vehicle access if recreational trails are constructed at the dam crest roads for Castaic Dam.
- Coordinate with the DWR to ensure DWR access roads at the base of the Castaic Dam are compatible with recreational use if recreational trails are constructed at the dam crest road for Castaic Dam.

Development of any trail segments located within the boundary of the South State Water Project (SWP) Hydropower, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Project No. 2426 surrounding Elderberry Forebay and Castaic Power Plant, which is operated under a cooperative agreement between the State Department of Water Resources (DWR) and City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP), and will require coordination with both licensees (DWR and LADWP). The FERC boundary roughly extends from the southwestern edge of Elderberry Dam, around Elderberry Forebay, and northwest past the edge of the Castaic Project Area towards Pyramid Lake then Quail Lake (Figure 2-3, *FERC Coordination Requirements*).¹ LADWP facilities include the Elderberry Dam and Forebay, as well as the Castaic Pumping – Generating Plant. DWR facilities include the Angeles Tunnel, Pyramid Lake and Dam, William E. Warne Power Plant, and Peace Valley Pipeline northwest to Quail Lake. The FERC license for Project No. 2426 requires that the project provide protection for wildlife habitat and other environmental factors, “while affording

¹ California Department of Water Resources, Hydropower License Planning and Compliance Office. December 2014. *South SWP Hydropower West Branch Detail: FERC Project No. 2426*. Schematic map available at: http://www.water.ca.gov/hlpc/images/hlpc/20141124_P2426_West_Branch_Schematic.jpg Main project website: <http://www.water.ca.gov/hlpc/p2426.cfm>



FIGURE 2-2
MWD Coordination Requirements

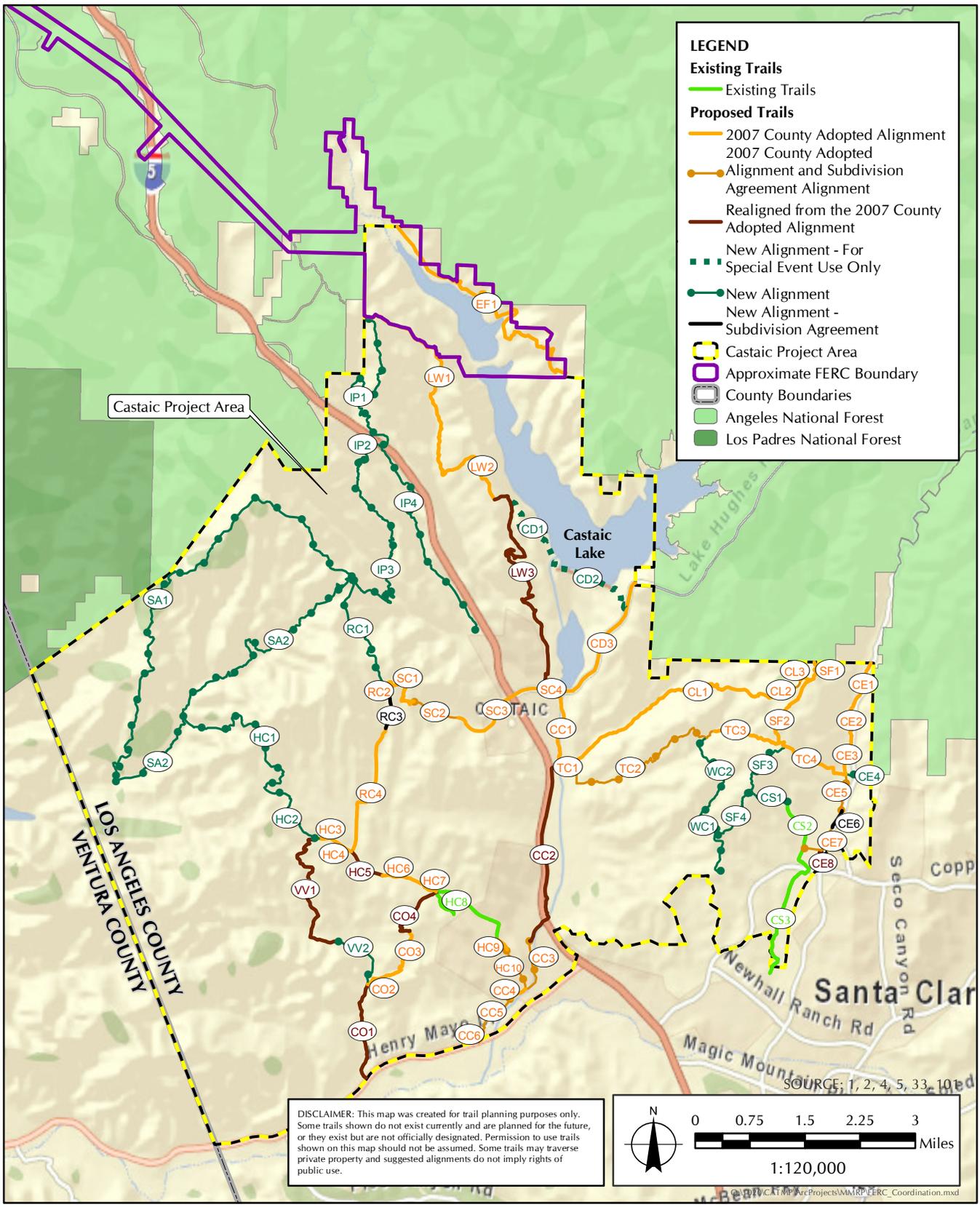


FIGURE 2-3
FERC Coordination Requirements

provision for recreational use of the affected areas” (Commission finding #9).² Article 50 of the FERC license states that the revised Exhibit R (due by 1980) “shall consider, among other things, the need for... (3) recreational development of the Upper Castaic area for camping, picnicking, and other associated recreation activities, specifically excluding any use by the public of the water surface or subsurface of Elderberry Forebay.” Article 60 of the FERC license establishes safety device installment requirements within the FERC boundary:

“Article 60. The Licensees shall, to the satisfaction of the Commission’s authorized representative, install and operate such signs, lights, sirens or other devices below the powerhouses to warn the public of fluctuations in flow from the project, and shall install such signs, lights, and other safety devices above the powerhouse intakes and spillways as may be reasonably needed to protect the public in its recreational use of the project lands and waters.”

Multiple recreation websites identify U.S. Forest Service Route 6N13 (aka Goodell Fire Road) as a de facto trail along the eastern shore of Elderberry Forebay.^{3,4,5} Due to security and safety concerns within the FERC boundary, it is important that an official trail EF1 be adopted with fencing along the western side to prevent accidents /falling into Elderberry Forebay.

The County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation shall:

- Install fencing on the western (water) side of trail segment EF1 within the FERC boundary to discourage users from leaving the trail.
- Coordinate with the City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) to ensure that Castaic Power Plant critical infrastructure (powerhouse, the Elderberry Forebay, and the Elderberry Forebay Dam) is protected if recreational trails are constructed at the dam crest road for the Elderberry Forebay Dam.
- Coordinate with LADWP to ensure that the use of dam crest roads for recreational trail use is according to design intent if recreational trails are constructed at the dam crest road for the Elderberry Forebay Dam.
- Coordinate with LADWP to ensure LADWP access roads at the base of the Elderberry Forebay Dam are compatible with recreational use if recreational trails are constructed at the dam crest road for the Elderberry Forebay Dam.

Development and maintenance of any trail segments located within the rights-of-way of LADWP transmission line boundaries would comply with LADWP’s requirements and clearances pursuant to the Federal North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) standards (see Appendix J of the MND, *LADWP Transmission Line Rights-of-Way Requirements*).

² United States of America Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. 22 March 1978. *Opinion No. 9: Department of Water Resources of the State of California and City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power – Project No. 2426*. “Opinion and Order Issuing License.

³ AllTrails. Accessed 8 August 2016. *Goodell fire road*. Available at: <https://www.alltrails.com/explore/recording/goodell-fire-road>

⁴ Trailhead Finder. Accessed 8 August 2016. *Goodell Fire Road – Hiking trail near Castaic, California, United States – Maps & GPS*. Available at: http://trailheadfinder.com/trail_editor/maps/1064#.V5fT-dIrJhF

⁵ Norton, Valerie. 15 March 2015. *Moments in Dirt and Ink*. “Elderberry Forebay (Castaic Lake).” Available at: <http://valhikes.blogspot.com/2015/03/elderberry-forebay-castaic-lake.html>

Consistent with Section 4.3.6, *Way-finding Signs*, of the County Trails Manual, the proposed project would include regular trail signs at trailheads, trail amenity locations, street and trail intersections, and the boundaries of trail easements on private property and National Forest lands.⁶ Also consistent with the recommendations of the County Trails Manual, reassurance marker signs would be posted at eye level (62 inches above the ground surface) at every quarter (0.25) mile of trail that visually mark the trail line and identify the name of the trail and quarter milepost number in order to orient trail users and search and rescue services in the case of an emergency. As each trail segment is constructed, the County Department of Parks and Recreation would be responsible for sending the Los Angeles County Fire Department and the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department the location of each quarter milepost along the trail for emergency response purposes.

The proposed project would involve the development of five (5) simple trailheads at access points, up to three (3) bike skills park amenities, four (4) equestrian amenities, and nine (9) staging areas and trail amenities (Table 2-3, *Proposed Trail Related Facilities*; Figure 2-4, *Proposed Trail Related Facility Locations*). The bike skills parks would occupy up to 45 acres.

**TABLE 2-3
PROPOSED TRAIL RELATED FACILITIES**

| Trail Related Facility Type | Related Facility Name (Size) |
|---|--|
| Trail Access Only <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trailheads only | Upper Ridge Route Road |
| | Sloan Canyon |
| | Castaic Road |
| | West Creek |
| | Hasley Canyon Equestrian Center |
| Bike Skills Park Amenities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restrooms • Drinking Fountains • Rest Areas/Seating • Shade Structures • Pump Tracks (no pedaling required) • Progressive Jumps (natural soil with compacted dirt jumps) • Balance Skills Features (e.g., wooden teeter-totter) • Rock/Technical Features (e.g., rock garden with narrow width trails) • Flow Trails (start at higher elevation for downhill ride) • Trails (over variety of terrain, for all ages) • Road Handling Skills Areas (hard-packed soil course) • Beginner, Intermediate, and Expert Skills Courses (for all ages) • Advanced Downhill Course (steep terrain, jumps, turns, obstacles) • Slalom Course (two adjacent trails for competition) | Castaic Sports Complex (up to 10 acres) |
| | Upper Lagoon (up to 5 acres) |
| | Ridge Route Road (up to 30 acres) |

⁶ County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation. Revised June 2013. County of Los Angeles Trails Manual. Available at: <https://trails.lacounty.gov/Files/Documents/69/LA%20County%20Trails%20Manual%20%28Revised%2006-20-13%29.compressed.pdf>

**TABLE 2-3
PROPOSED TRAIL RELATED FACILITIES**

| Trail Related Facility Type | Related Facility Name (Size) |
|--|--|
| Equestrian Amenities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trailheads • Parking • Restrooms • Drinking Fountains (for humans, equine, or pets) • Picnic Tables • Shade Structures • Horse Arenas • Gathering Areas • Horse Ties and Rails | Tapia Canyon Road |
| | Castaic Lake State Recreation Area Upper Lot |
| | Tesoro Del Valle |
| | Castaic Sports Complex |
| Staging Areas and Trail Amenities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trailheads • Parking • Restrooms • Drinking Fountains (for humans, equine, or pets) • Benches/Seating • Picnic Tables • Shade Structures • Wayfinding Signage • Interpretive Signage • Gathering Areas • Horse Ties and Rails • Bike Racks | Old Road |
| | Hasley Canyon |
| | Chiquito Canyon |
| | Santa Felicia |
| | Castaic Lagoon |
| | Lady Linda |
| | Ridge Route Road |
| | Castaic Sports Complex |
| | Castaic Lake State Recreation Area Upper Lot |

Restrooms would be designed and required to demonstrate compliance with the standards of the Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District or the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health for Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (OWTS), as applicable.

Trails and supporting facilities within a one-mile radius of officially designated and eligible State scenic highways would be designed, constructed, and maintained (where construction equipment is involved) to preserve scenic resources, including but not limited to trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings, within the scenic highway corridor. Where construction of trails or related supporting facilities requires cuts into the slope (which can be seen from a far distance), the visual character of the slope would be restored by planting locally native vegetation as a visual screen. Similarly, restrooms and other supporting structures would be constructed of materials that blend into the landscape, with locally native vegetative screening.

As stated in the County Trails Manual, the hours for operation for County trails are typically from dawn to dusk (County Code 17.04.330). In accordance with the guidelines in Section 4.3.18, *Lighting*, of the County Trails Manual, where lighting features are provided for safety and wayfinding reasons, lighting would be installed in a manner to be non-intrusive to adjacent uses, avoid detracting from a natural outdoors experience for trail users, and directed downward to avoid light pollution or spillover in general.⁷

⁷ County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation. Adopted by the Board of Supervisors on May 17, 2011. Revised June



FIGURE 2-4
Proposed Trail Related Facility Locations

3. Construction Scenario

The MND was based on an evaluation of the construction that would be required to build out the proposed trails in the general configurations of the conceptual plan. Proposed trail alignments are conceptual and will require additional survey, design, and engineering work to support dedication of easements and ultimately trail construction, operation, and maintenance. The final trail alignments are subject to refinement in relation to environmental, geologic, hydrologic, ownership, topology, and other factors, as specified in the County Trails Manual.

The approximately 100 miles of existing and planned trails within and adjacent to the Trails Plan include a wide variety of terrain and elevation range. The highest location of the planning area is the ridgeline between Palomas Canyon and Violin Canyon connected to Townsend Peak (elevation 3,184 feet above MSL) at 2,756 feet above MSL, and the lowest location is the Santa Clara River valley at 863 feet above MSL. This results in an elevation range of 1,893 feet. Slopes in the planning area range from 0 degrees to 83 degrees at the steepest (Figure 3-1, *Castaic Project Area Slope*). Trails would need to be constructed consistent with the provisions of the trails plan, which sets standards for slope, width, visibility, and drainage. Additionally, five of the proposed trail segments and the Santa Felicia General Staging Area cross areas of wetland identified by the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) as identified in Table 3-1, *Proposed Trail Segment NWI Crossings*. The Santa Felicia General Staging Area crosses Riverine wetland.

**TABLE 3-1
PROPOSED TRAIL SEGMENT NWI CROSSINGS**

| Proposed Trail Name | Number of NWI Crossings | NWI Wetland Types (Number of NWI Crossings) |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| Castaic Creek (CC4, CC5) | 3 | Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland (1) Freshwater Emergent Wetland (2) |
| Castaic Dam (CD1) | 1 | Lake (1) |
| Cliffie Stone East (CE4, CE5) | 2 | Riverine (2) |
| Hasley Canyon (HC1) | 1 | Riverine (1) |
| Santa Felicia (SA2) | 1 | Riverine (1) |

SOURCE: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Wetlands Inventory. n.d. Wetlands Mapper. Available at: <http://www.fws.gov/wetlands/Data/Mapper.html>

The environmental analysis for the proposed project is based on a potential worst-case scenario for construction activities, including improvements to existing trails, construction of new trails, site grading, and delivery and hauling of construction materials and equipment. Construction activities associated with the proposed project, as currently conceived, would entail improvements to and construction of approximately 100 miles of trails. Construction equipment would be limited to mini-dozers; graders; small tractors; a water truck; and hand tools including picks, hoes, shovels, and wheelbarrows. Construction would be conducted in accordance with the guidelines specified in the

2013. County of Los Angeles Trails Manual. Available at: <https://trails.lacounty.gov/Files/Documents/69/LA%20County%20Trails%20Manual%20%28Revised%2006-20-13%29.compressed.pdf>

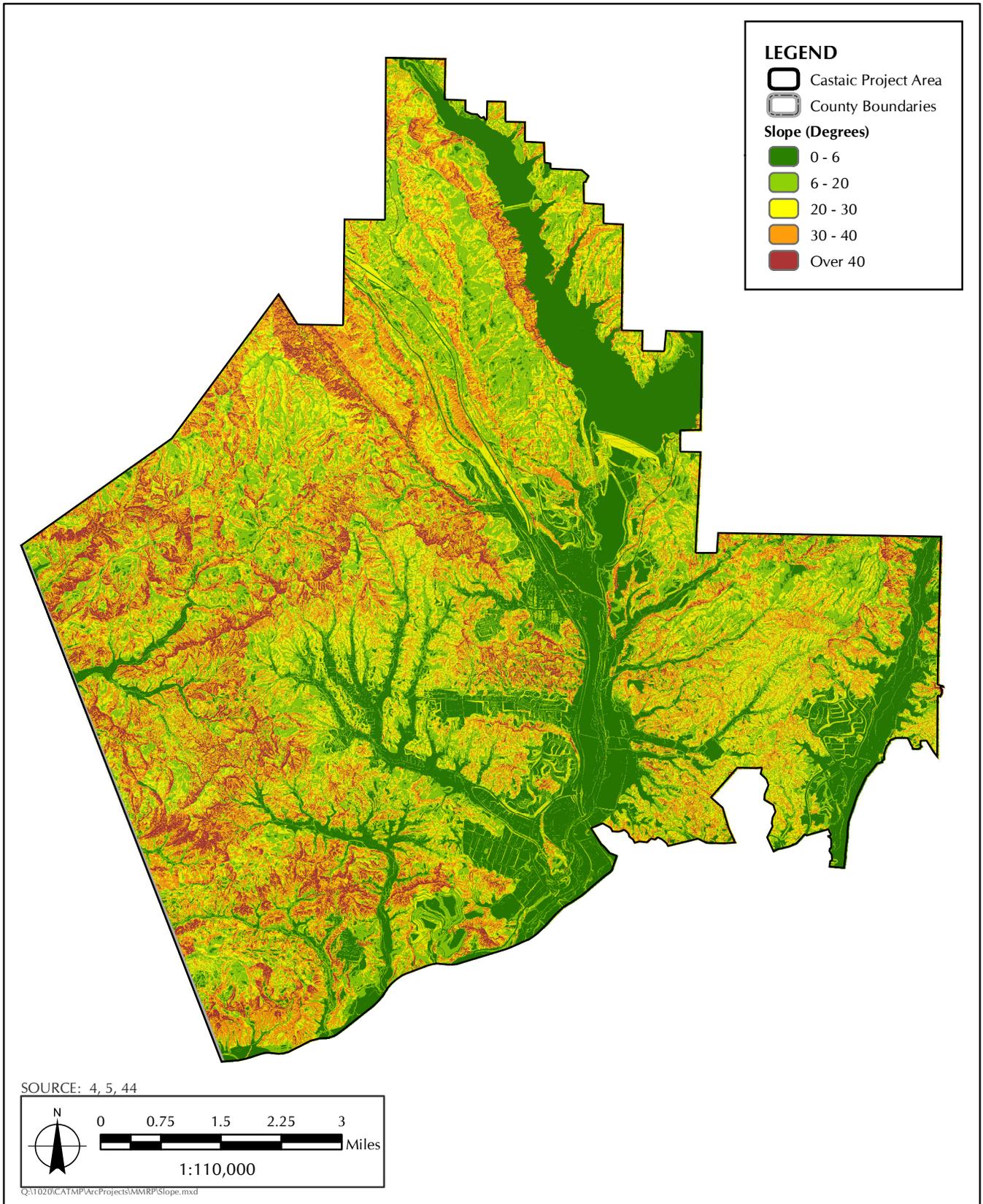


FIGURE 3-1
Castaic Project Area Slope

County Trails Manual.⁸ The County Trails Manual contains specific methods for building trails in areas with steep slopes and riparian crossings. The County Trails Manual should be referenced for further information to determine the constructability of trail segments.

The easement area should include a minimum of two feet on either side of the trail tread to provide for construction and maintenance of the trail segment(s). In areas of very steep topography, it may be advantageous to acquire an easement that is much wider than the actual trail tread width to be constructed in order to provide a greater level of flexibility for trail design and construction.

Construction activities may include excavation, grading, and construction of trails and small structures at trailheads, rest areas, and trail staging areas. The County would require preparation of a trail site plan, site-specific geotechnical investigation, survey for biological and cultural resources, and a Categorical Exemption or Initial Study (the appropriate CEQA document) in support of each trail segment before project approval and construction can commence.

Site preparation and construction of the proposed project would be in accordance with all federal, state, and County building codes. Daily construction activities would be subject to County noise regulations, which state that construction equipment may not operate between the hours of 7:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m., Monday through Saturday, or at any time on Sunday or holidays. Noise levels exceeding 75 dBA (A-weighted decibels) for single-family residences, 80 dBA for multi-family residences, and 85 dBA for semiresidential/commercial land uses are prohibited by the County Noise Control Ordinance, Title 12 of the County Code. The contractor shall conduct construction activities in such a manner that the maximum noise levels at the affected buildings would not exceed established noise levels.

The construction contractor would be required to incorporate best management practices (BMPs) consistent with the guidelines provided in the *California Stormwater Best Management Practice Handbooks: Construction*, for elimination of non-stormwater discharge from the project site; retaining eroded sediments and other pollutants on the site; retaining stockpiles of earth and other construction related materials on site; proper storage of fuels, oils, solvents, and other toxic materials to prevent spills from being washed into the drainage system; retaining concrete wastes on-site until they can be disposed as solid waste; proper covered storage of trash and construction related solid wastes to prevent contamination of rainwater and dispersal by wind; stabilization of roadways to inhibit sediments from being deposited into the public way; and stabilization of any slopes with disturbed soils or denuded of vegetation to inhibit erosion by wind and water. Should the construction period continue into the rainy season, supplemental erosion measures would need to be implemented.

Wherever possible, grading activities would be undertaken outside the normal rainy season (i.e., October 15 to April 15 for most of Southern California), thus minimizing the potential for increased surface runoff and the associated potential for soil erosion. A recommended construction period would begin in late April or early May and completed in late January, assuming the majority of the construction would be completed in this recommended 9-month period. BMPs to control surface runoff and soil erosion would be required for construction taking place during rainy periods. In

⁸ County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation. [Adopted 17 May 2011] Revised June 2013. County of Los Angeles Trails Manual. Available at: <https://trails.lacounty.gov/Files/Documents/69/LA%20County%20Trails%20Manual%20%28Revised%2006-20-13%29.compressed.pdf>

accordance with the guidelines in Section 4.5.2, *Construction Scenario*, of the County Trails Manual, in locations with steep sideslopes, loose soils and rocks, areas which are prone to destabilization, large retaining structures, or areas that require extensive annual maintenance work, grading and earthwork shall be performed under the supervision of an engineering geologist or soils engineer to ensure that appropriate recommendations are made to remediate site-specific erosion and soil stability conditions.⁹ Retaining walls would be included in the trail design to hold back the backslope where cut trails are required. Where cutting specified in the trail design requires greater disturbance of the upslope vegetation, the plans and guidelines or maintenance plan must provide for supplemental slope and erosion control measures until adequate slope vegetation exists (Figure 4.5.2.3-1 of the County Trails Manual).

Best management practices for erosion control would be implemented during trail construction and improvements in order to maintain the unique topography of designated Significant Ridgelines where trails of the Trail Planning Castaic project area traverse ridgelines that have been designated in the Santa Clarita Valley Area Plan. The proposed project proposes three trail segments within San Francisquito Canyon (segments SF1, SF4, and WC1) that would intersect with three of the County's significant ridgelines. Although trails are exempted from Community Standards District (CSD) regulations regarding protection because they are not structures, care should be taken to not re-grade the ridgelines during trail construction. No supporting facilities are proposed on these significant ridgelines (i.e., restrooms, trailhead shade structures, or bike skills parks).

Where construction of trails or related supporting facilities requires cuts into the slope (which can be seen from a far distance), the visual character of the slope would be restored by planting locally native vegetation after construction as a visual screen. Similarly, restrooms and other supporting structures would be constructed of materials that blend into the landscape, with locally native vegetative screening.

Construction equipment would be turned off when not in use. The construction contractor would ensure that all construction and grading equipment is properly maintained. All vehicles and compressors would utilize exhaust mufflers and engine enclosure covers (as designed by the manufacturer) at all times.

4. Responsible Party

County Parks or its designee will be responsible for implementing and reporting mitigation measures in this program. County Parks will have responsibility for ensuring that mitigation measures are accomplished in an environmentally responsible manner. County Parks will be responsible for ensuring that the status of mitigation measures is reported in accordance with this program. County Parks will be responsible for ensuring that the cost of mitigation is included in its budget, as appropriate.

⁹ County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation. [Adopted 17 May 2011] Revised June 2013. County of Los Angeles Trails Manual. Available at: <https://trails.lacounty.gov/Files/Documents/69/LA%20County%20Trails%20Manual%20%28Revised%2006-20-13%29.compressed.pdf>

County Parks will be responsible for program oversight and implementing construction-related mitigation measures. Mitigation measures will be included in applicable requests for proposals (RFP), specifications and procedures issued for construction of the trails and trail related facilities within the scope of this project. Other mitigation measures funded by the Contractor will be subject to oversight by County Parks. In addition, County Parks will be responsible for ensuring that mitigation measures are properly carried out by designated and qualified personnel, which may include specialty contractors. County Parks will be responsible for ensuring that applicable mitigation measures are carried forward in operational and maintenance procedures for the new trails and trail related facilities.

5. Mitigation Requirements, Schedule, and Reporting Frequency

Based on the findings of the MND, mitigation measures are not required for agriculture/forestry resources, air quality, energy, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards/hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use and planning, mineral resources, population/housing, public services, recreation, transportation/traffic, and utilities/service systems. Specific mitigation measures are required for aesthetics, biological resources, cultural resources, geology/soils, and noise. Potentially significant impacts in these environmental resource areas will be avoided or minimized with implementation of 12 specific mitigation measures summarized in Table 5-1, *Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program for the Castaic Area Multi-Use Trails Plan*.

Table 5-1 describes the method for executing the mitigation measure, organization responsible for implementing and funding the measure, estimated completion date for each measure, frequency of reporting, and significance after mitigation. Due to possible funding conditions and other external factors, facility construction and operation could be delayed. These delays may also affect the start and completion of mitigation measures.

The monitoring and accomplishment of each mitigation measure will be documented on a Mitigation Monitoring Report Form (see Appendix A). This form will be filled out by the appropriate individual in the event of an inadvertent discovery of archaeological materials, paleontological materials, or human remains as described in Table 5-1. Supplemental recordkeeping, report preparation and documentation will be required for some mitigation measures. The Mitigation Monitoring Report Form will be filled out by the appropriate individual verifying that steps to prevent or minimize environmental degradation have been completed as described in Table 5-1. Monitoring reports will be submitted to County Parks (Attn: Environmental Section Head), retained in County Parks' project files, and be available for inspection upon request. Completion of these forms will demonstrate and document compliance with Public Resources Code 21081.6.

**TABLE 5-1
MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM FOR THE
CASTAIC AREA MULTI-USE TRAILS PLAN**

| Mitigation Measure | Responsible Implementation Party | Monitoring Period | Enforcement Agency | Monitoring Agency | Documentation of Compliance | |
|---|--|-------------------------------|--|--|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| | | | | | Source | Signature/Date |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worker Education and Awareness Program to inform all construction workers of their responsibilities in regards to avoiding and minimizing impacts on sensitive biological resources. • Designation of suitable habitat as off-limits during construction on all construction drawings and diagrams. • Use of fencing and/or flagging to delineate environmentally sensitive areas as off-limits during trail construction. • Use of on-site monitors for periods when trail construction will be undertaken within 250 feet of environmentally sensitive areas. • Where temporary impacts to critical habitat may occur, the development and implementation of a habitat restoration plan shall be required. • Where permanent impacts to critical habitat may occur, compensatory mitigation such as purchasing credits at a mitigation bank, purchasing off-site lands, or similar shall be required. | | | | | | |
| <p>Mitigation Measure BIO-2: To mitigate potential impacts on riparian, state-sensitive plant communities, state protected wetlands, and federally protected wetlands and waters of the United States, the County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation shall require that plant community mapping be conducted by a qualified biologist with experience classifying plant communities in Southern California and/or a formal jurisdictional delineation be conducted by a certified wetland delineator to identify any state or federally protected wetlands, riparian areas, and state-sensitive plant communities on-site. Where state designated sensitive plant communities, riparian habitat, state or federally protected wetlands, or waters of the United States are determined to be present, mitigation measures shall be implemented such that there is no net loss of habitat functions or values. Opportunities for achieving this performance standard, consistent with the provisions of Section 1600 of the State Fish and Game Code and Section 404 of the Federal Clean Water Act, may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstration that trail segment projects have been and will be designed, constructed, and maintained to avoid disturbance of any state-sensitive plant communities or riparian habitat, or any state or federally protected wetlands or waters of the United States wherever practicable and feasible. • Conduct pre-construction habitat surveys to delineate sensitive plant communities and riparian habitats to facilitate avoidance. • Consult with CDFW with regards to trail building activities within state-sensitive plant communities. • Use of on-site monitors for periods when trail construction will be undertaken within 250 feet of oak woodlands, native woodlands, and 100 feet of the dripline of native trees. • Where temporary impacts may occur to sensitive plant communities, the development and implementation of a habitat enhancement and restoration plan shall be required. • Where permanent impacts may occur to sensitive plant communities, compensatory mitigation such as purchasing credits at mitigation bank, purchasing off-site lands, or similar shall be required. • Where impacts are located in areas subject to the jurisdiction of the CDFW pursuant to Section 1600 of the State Fish and Game Code, obtain a Streambed Alteration Agreement prior to commencing ground-disturbing activities or any other alteration of a lake or stream. • Where impacts are located in areas subject to the jurisdiction of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers pursuant to Section 404 of the Federal Clean Water Act, obtain authorization to complete the required work pursuant to a Nationwide or individual permit. • Where impacts are subject to the jurisdiction of the Regional Water Quality Control Board, obtain a Waiver of Water Quality Certification or Notice of Applicability of Waste Discharge Requirement permit. | County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation | Preconstruction, Construction | County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works | County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works | (Title of Monitoring Report) | (Signature/Date of Monitoring Agency) |

**TABLE 5-1
MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM FOR THE
CASTAIC AREA MULTI-USE TRAILS PLAN**

| Mitigation Measure | Responsible Implementation Party | Monitoring Period | Enforcement Agency | Monitoring Agency | Documentation of Compliance | |
|--|--|-------------------------------|--|--|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| | | | | | Source | Signature/Date |
| <p>Mitigation Measure BIO-3: To avoid impacts to nesting birds protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA), trail construction should take place outside of the nesting bird season, which generally occurs between February 15 and September 1. If trail construction activities cannot avoid the nesting bird season, pre-construction nesting bird surveys shall be conducted by a qualified biologist a maximum of three days prior to the start of construction. Should nesting birds be discovered within or adjacent to the construction footprint during these surveys, a non-disturbance buffer shall be placed on the active nest as determined by the biologist to prevent impacts to nesting birds. Construction shall be halted within the non-disturbance buffer of 250 feet of songbirds and 500 feet for raptors until the biologist has determined that the young have fledged and are flying well enough to avoid the proposed construction activities.</p> | County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation | Preconstruction, Construction | County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works | County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works | (Title of Monitoring Report) | (Signature/Date of Monitoring Agency) |
| <p>Mitigation Measure BIO-4: To mitigate potential impacts on oak and other native woodlands, the County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation (County Parks) shall require that for every protected tree that must be removed, the same species shall be replaced at a minimum of a 1:1 ratio. Compensatory mitigation for protected trees in the jurisdiction of County Parks may include replacement at a 3:1 ratio for trees with a diameter at breast height (DBH) of eight inches or more at an appropriate mitigation site, and replacement at a 10:1 ratio for heritage oaks. Monitoring for at least one year would be required to meet success criteria.</p> | County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation | Preconstruction, Construction | County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works | County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works | (Title of Monitoring Report) | (Signature/Date of Monitoring Agency) |
| Cultural Resources | | | | | | |
| <p>Mitigation Measure CULTURAL-1: <i>Archaeological and Historic Resources – Avoidance and Monitoring</i></p> <p>Completion of a Worker Education and Awareness Program for all personnel who will be engaged in ground-disturbing activities shall be required prior to the start of ground-disturbing activities. This shall include training that provides an overview of cultural resources that might potentially be found and the appropriate procedures to follow if cultural resources are identified. This requirement extends to any new staff prior to engaging in ground disturbing activities.</p> <p>Prior to the initiation of ground-disturbing activities, the County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation (County Parks) shall review the construction plans to ensure that any known cultural resources sites that are required to be avoided have been marked as “off-limits” areas for construction and construction staging. In addition, County Parks shall require monitoring of all ground disturbing activities by a qualified archaeologist within 100 feet of a known extant unique archaeological resources, significant historical resources, or tribal cultural resource. In addition, consultation shall be undertaken with the Most Likely Descendants designated by Native American Heritage Commission to determine if a Native American monitor shall also be present during all or a portion of the ground-disturbing activities.</p> <p>In the event that previously unknown unique archaeological resources, significant historical resources, or tribal cultural resources are encountered during construction, the resources shall either be left in situ and avoided through realignment of the trail, or the resources shall be salvaged, recorded, and repositioned consistent with the provisions of a Phase III data recovery program consistent with the provisions of a Cultural Resource Management Plan. Data recovery is not required by law or regulation. It is, though, the most commonly agreed-upon measure to mitigate adverse effects to archaeological sites eligible or listed under Section 106 Criterion D, as it preserves important information that will otherwise be lost.</p> | County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation | Preconstruction, Construction | County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works | County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works | (Title of Monitoring Report) | (Signature/Date of Monitoring Agency) |

**TABLE 5-1
MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM FOR THE
CASTAIC AREA MULTI-USE TRAILS PLAN**

| Mitigation Measure | Responsible Implementation Party | Monitoring Period | Enforcement Agency | Monitoring Agency | Documentation of Compliance | |
|--|---|-------------------|---|---|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| | | | | | Source | Signature/Date |
| <p>Mitigation Measure CULTURAL-2: <i>Archaeological and Historic Resources – Pre-Construction Surveys</i></p> <p>At the time that any new segment of trail is approved for development that would require ground-disturbing activities in soils that have been predominantly in situ during the past 50 years, records and archival information shall be reviewed to determine if there are any recorded unique archaeological resources, significant historical resources as defined in Section 15064.5 of the State CEQA Guidelines, or tribal cultural resources as defined in AB52 in the Area of Potential Effects. At a minimum, the records and archival review will include a search of the South Central Coastal Information Center, a request for Sacred Lands File from the Native American Heritage Commission, and a request for information regarding tribal cultural resources from the Most Likely Descendants designated by Native American Heritage Commission. The appropriate course of action will be undertaken in light of the results of the records search:</p> <p>(A) Where the Area of Potential Effect has been subject to a Phase I Walkover Survey within two years of the activity and no unique archaeological resources, significant cultural resources, or tribal cultural resources are known from the Area of Potential Effect, work shall proceed per the provision of Mitigation Measure CULTURAL-1.</p> <p>(B) Where all or a portion of the Area of Potential Effect has not been surveyed for cultural resources within two years of a ground-disturbing activity, a qualified archaeologist who meets the Secretary of the Interior’s professional qualification standards for archaeology and shall conduct a Phase I Walkover Survey to ascertain the presence or absence of unique archaeological and/or significant historic resources, as defined in Section 15064.5 of the State CEQA Guidelines.</p> <p>a. If the survey determines no unique archaeological resources or significant historical resources, including potential tribal cultural, then the work shall proceed consistent with the provisions of Mitigation Measure CULTURAL-1.</p> <p>b. If the survey determines potential unique archaeological resources or significant historical resources, including potential tribal cultural resources, then one of two courses of action shall be employed:</p> <p>i. Where avoidance is feasible, the trail alignments shall be realigned to avoid the potentially significant resource, and the work shall then proceed consistent with the provisions of Mitigation Measure CULTURAL-1. The new alignment will be surveyed by a qualified archaeologist. An archaeological monitor shall be present during ground-disturbing activities. In addition, consultation shall be undertaken with the Most Likely Descendants designated by Native American Heritage Commission to determine if a Native American monitor shall also be present during all or a portion of the ground-disturbing activities.</p> <p>ii. Where avoidance is not feasible, a Phase II evaluation of the cultural resources shall be undertaken to determine the significance of the cultural resource. If the Phase II investigation identifies a unique/eligible cultural resource within the area designated for ground-disturbing work, the County shall determine whether to avoid the resource through redesign or to proceed with a Phase III data recovery program consistent with the provisions of a Cultural Resource Management Plan. The work shall then proceed consistent with the provisions of Mitigation Measure CULTURAL-1.</p> | <p>County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works</p> <p>County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation</p> | Preconstruction | County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works | County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works | (Title of Monitoring Report) | (Signature/Date of Monitoring Agency) |

**TABLE 5-1
MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM FOR THE
CASTAIC AREA MULTI-USE TRAILS PLAN**

| Mitigation Measure | Responsible Implementation Party | Monitoring Period | Enforcement Agency | Monitoring Agency | Documentation of Compliance | |
|--|---|--------------------------------------|---|---|-------------------------------------|--|
| | | | | | Source | Signature/Date |
| <p>Mitigation Measure CULTURAL-3: Paleontological Resources - Paleontological Monitoring</p> <p>Impacts to cultural resources related directly or indirectly to the destruction of a unique paleontological resource from the approved project shall be reduced to below the level of significance by monitoring, salvage, and curation of unanticipated paleontological resources discovered during ground-disturbing activities in previously undisturbed native soils located five or more feet below the ground surface that would have the potential to contact geologic units with a high to moderate potential to yield unique paleontological resources. Ground-disturbing activities include, but are not limited to, drilling, excavation, trenching, and grading. If paleontological resources are encountered during ground-disturbing activities, the County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation (County Parks) shall require and be responsible for salvage and recovery of those resources consistent with standards for such recovery established by the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology (available at: http://vertpaleo.org/Membership/Member-Ethics/SVP_Impact_Mitigation_Guidelines.aspx).</p> <p>Paleontological Resources Sensitivity Training shall be required for all project personnel prior to the start of ground-disturbing activities in geologic units with a moderate to high potential to yield unique paleontological resources. This shall include a brief field training that provides an overview of fossils that might potentially be found, and the appropriate procedures to follow if fossils are identified. This requirement extends to any new staff that joins the project.</p> <p>Construction monitoring by a qualified monitor (archaeologist cross-trained in paleontology or paleontologist) shall be implemented during all ground-disturbing activities that affect previously undisturbed geologic units 12 or more inches below the ground surface and have the potential to encounter geologic units with a moderate to high potential to yield unique paleontological resources. In the event that a paleontological resource is encountered during construction, all ground-disturbing activity within 100 feet of the find shall be halted until a qualified paleontologist can evaluate the significance of the discovery. Additional monitoring recommendations may be required. If the resource is found to be significant, the paleontologist shall determine the most appropriate treatment and method for removing and stabilizing the specimen. Curation of the any significant paleontological finds shall be required with a qualified repository, such as the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County (LACM).</p> <p>Within 90 days of the completion of any salvage operation or monitoring activities, a mitigation report shall be submitted to County Parks with an appended, itemized inventory of specimens. The report and inventory, when submitted to County Parks, shall signify the completion of the program to mitigate impacts to paleontological resources. A copy of the report/inventory shall be filed with the County of Los Angeles Planning and Development Agency.</p> | <p>County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works</p> <p>County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation</p> | <p>Preconstruction, Construction</p> | <p>County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works</p> | <p>County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works</p> | <p>(Title of Monitoring Report)</p> | <p>(Signature/Date of Monitoring Agency)</p> |
| <p>Mitigation Measure CULTURAL-4: Regulatory Requirements – Human Remains</p> <p>In accordance with Section 7050.5 of the California Health and Safety Code, if human remains are encountered during excavation activities, the County Coroner shall be notified within 24 hours of the discovery. No further excavation or disturbance of the site or any nearby areas reasonably suspected to overlie adjacent remains shall occur until the County Coroner has determined, within two working days of notification of the discovery, the appropriate treatment and disposition of the human remains.</p> <p>If the County Coroner determines that the remains are or are believed to be Native American, s/he shall notify the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) in Sacramento within 24 hours. In accordance with Section 5097.98 of the California Public Resources Code, the NAHC shall immediately notify the person(s) it believes to be the most likely descendant (MLD) of the deceased Native American. The descendants shall</p> | <p>County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works</p> <p>County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation</p> | <p>Preconstruction, Construction</p> | <p>County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works</p> | <p>County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works</p> | <p>(Title of Monitoring Report)</p> | <p>(Signature/Date of Monitoring Agency)</p> |

6 References

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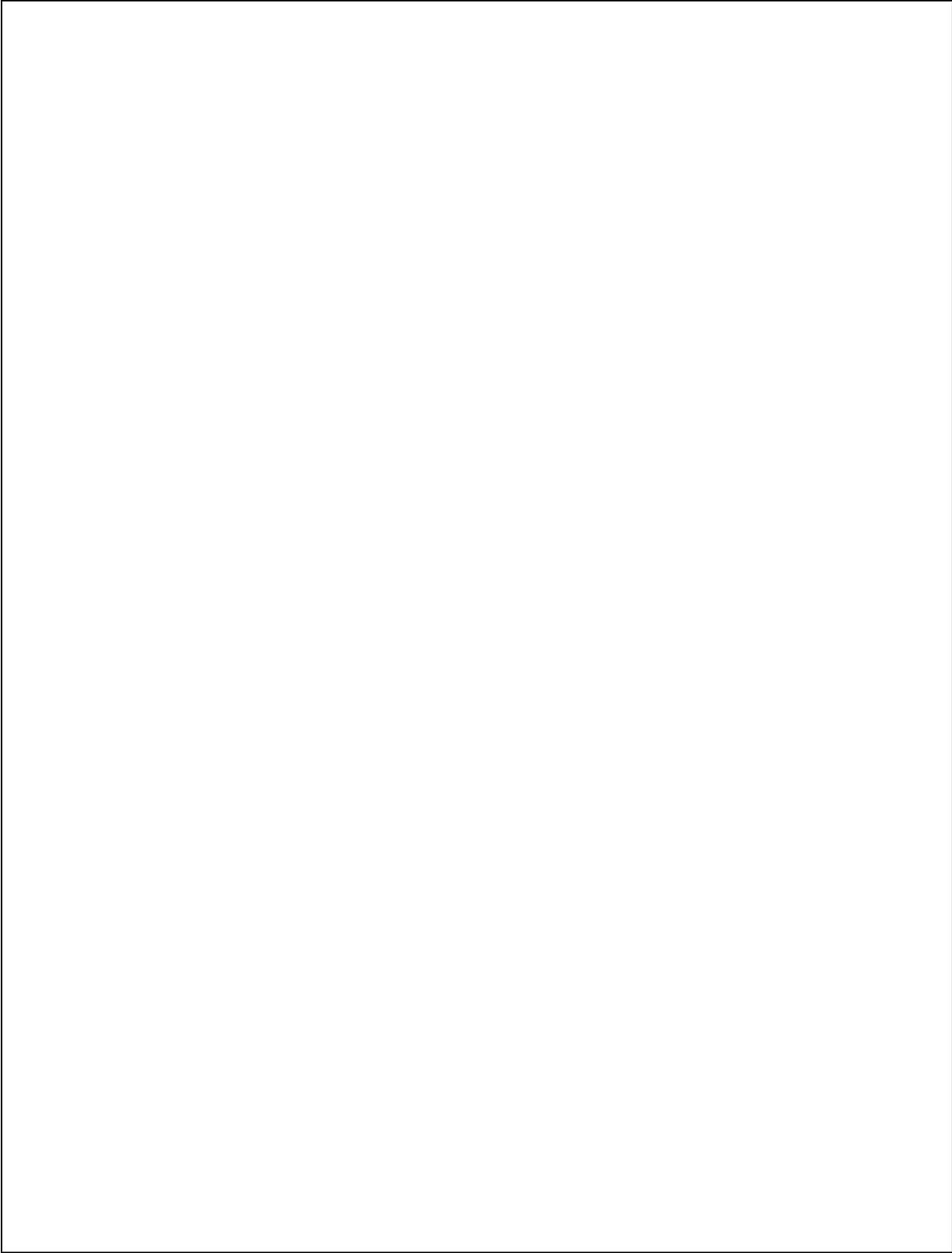
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Appendix A Mitigation Monitoring Report Form

| SECTION A: General Project Information | | |
|---|---|--|
| 1. Project Name: | 2. Trail Segment ID and Name from Castaic Area Multi-Use Trails Plan: | 3. Name of Proposed Trail to be Constructed: |
| 4. Permittee, bank or in-lieu fee sponsor name and work phone number: | 5. Permittee, bank or in-lieu fee sponsor mailing address: | 6. Permittee, bank or in-lieu fee sponsor email address: |
| 7. Agent name and work phone number: | 8. Agent mailing address: | 9. Agent email address: |
| SECTION B: Notice of Commencement/Completion of Compensatory Mitigation Project | | |
| 1. Commencement Date: | 2. Completion Date: | 3. Name and phone number of contractor (if any): |
| SECTION C: Mitigation Monitoring Status | | |
| 1. Final monitoring completed and verification requested? Y / N | 2. Date of monitoring reported: | 3. Monitoring report No. _____ of _____ |
| 4. Management and maintenance activities completed (i.e., fencing installation [included dates]): | | |
| 5. Adaptive management activities completed (include dates): | | |

| | |
|--|-------------------------|
| 1. Number: | Attach photograph here: |
| 2. Date: | |
| 3. Compass Direction Taken: Degrees: Cardinal/intercardinal: | |
| 4. Coordinates (decimal degrees): Latitude: Longitude: | |
| 5. Photographer name: | |
| 6. Description: | |
| 1. Number: | Attach photograph here: |
| 2. Date: | |
| 3. Compass Direction Taken: Degrees: Cardinal/intercardinal: | |
| 4. Coordinates (decimal degrees): Latitude: Longitude: | |
| 5. Photographer name: | |
| 6. Description: | |
| SECTION E: Map of photograph locations | Map Number: |



Instructions

General instructions:

This form should be returned annually (or per the schedule included in the County-approved final mitigation plan) to the County Parks project manager via electronic or physical mail (see County Parks website for contact information:).

Detailed instructions:

Sections A-C: Please insert the most current information available.

Section D: Color photographs should be inserted with all corresponding information completed (items 1-6). Photograph locations should be identified on a map (see Section E).

Section E: Insert photograph map(s), one per page. Portrait or landscape orientations are acceptable. Locations of photographs should be labeled by photograph number. Compass direction of each photograph should be shown using an arrow.