Sanborn County Park
Trails Master Plan

Final Initial Study/
Mitigated Negative Declaration and
Responses to Comments

Prepared for
Santa Clara County
Parks and Recreation Department
Los Gatos, CA

April 2007

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Prepared for
Santa Clara County
Parks and Recreation Department
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I. Introduction

A. INTRODUCTION AND REGULATORY GUIDANCE

The County of Santa Clara, the state lead agency under CEQA, must evaluate the environmental impacts of the project when considering whether to approve the project. This Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) has been prepared by the Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation Department (County Parks). The purpose of the Initial Study is to evaluate the potential environmental effects of the proposed Sanborn County Park Trails Master Plan, Santa Clara County, California (See Map 1). This document has been prepared in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Public Resources Code §21000 *et seq*., and the State CEQA Guidelines, California Code of Regulations (CCR) §15000 *et seq*.

The Sanborn County Park Trails Master Plan defines an expanded trail system to meet the changing recreational and interpretive needs of a diverse and growing population. At present, Sanborn County Park is estimated to be operating below visitor capacity. Thus, the park provides an immediate opportunity to serve more park visitors.

An Initial Study is conducted by a lead agency to determine if a project may have a significant effect on the environment [CEQA Guidelines §15063(a)]. If there is substantial evidence that a project may have a significant effect on the environment, an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) must be prepared, in accordance with CEQA Guidelines §15064(a). However, if the lead agency determines the impacts are to a less-than-significant level, a Negative Declaration may be prepared instead of an EIR [CEQA Guidelines §15070(b)]. The Santa Clara County Parks Department has prepared this IS/MND for the project because all impacts resulting from the project that may be considered significant would be reduced to less than significant levels by implementing mitigation measures. This IS/MND conforms to the content requirements under CEQA Guidelines §15071.

B. LEAD AGENCY

The lead agency is the public agency with primary approval authority over the proposed project. In accordance with CEQA Guidelines §15051(b)(1), "the lead agency will normally be an agency with general governmental powers, such as a city or county, rather than an agency with a single or limited purpose." The lead agency for the proposed project is the Santa Clara County. The contact person for the Santa Clara County Park and Recreation Department is:

Antoinette Romeo, Planner
Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation Department
298 Garden Hill Drive
Los Gatos, CA 95032
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C. PURPOSE AND DOCUMENT ORGANIZATION

The purpose of this document is to evaluate the potential environmental effects of the Sanborn County Park Trails Master Plan Project.

This document is organized as follows:

- Chapter I – Introduction
  This chapter provides an introduction to the project and describes the purpose and organization of this document.

- Chapter II – Project Description
  This chapter describes the project location, project area, and site description, objectives, characteristics and related projects. This chapter also contains descriptions of Best Management Practices (BMPs) and other mitigation incorporated into the project.

- Chapter III – Environmental Checklist and Responses
  This chapter contains the Environmental (Initial Study) Checklist that identifies the significance of potential environmental impacts (by environmental issue) and a brief discussion of each impact resulting from implementation of the proposed project. This chapter also contains the Mandatory Findings of Significance.

- Chapter IV – References
  This chapter identifies the references and sources used in the preparation of this IS/MND.

- Chapter V – Figures and Maps
  This chapter contains all Figures and Maps identified in the IS/MND.

- Chapter VI – Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan
  The Mitigation, Monitoring and Reporting Plan (MMRP) has been prepared for this project pursuant to CEQA Guidelines. The MMRP lists the Impacts, Mitigation Measures, and Timing of the Mitigation Measure (when the measure will be implemented) related to the Sanborn County Trails Master Plan project.

- Responses to Comments Received During the Public Comment Period, February 2, 2007 through March 4, 2007

II. Project Description

A. PROJECT LOCATION AND SURROUNDING LAND USES

Sanborn County Park is nestled in the Santa Cruz Mountains between the City of Saratoga and Skyline Boulevard (See Map 1). This 3,688-acre park contains the headwaters of Los Gatos Creek, draining to the east and Saratoga Creek draining to the north.

Surrounding land uses include both State and County parklands and residential parcels. The western boundary of the park is State Highway 35 (Highway 35, also known as Skyline Boulevard), under the jurisdiction of the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), and the Caltrans' Highway 35 rights-of-way extend into Sanborn County Park lands. The Trails Master Plan adds a trail connection that would connect the Bay Area Ridge Trail with El Sereno Open Space Preserve (OSP) to the northeast. All OSPs are within the jurisdiction of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (MROSD). The California Department of Parks and Recreation owns lands within the Castle Rock State Park on both sides (west and east) of State Highway 35 north of Sanborn Park, and the City of Saratoga is to the east.

Sanborn County Park contains redwood forests, mixed evergreen forests of black oaks, tan bark oaks, madrone and Douglas fir, riparian corridors, meadows and chaparral habitats. The park elevations range from 840 feet to 3,160 feet with an overall elevation change of 2,320 feet. The San Andreas Fault extends through the park.

Two Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) bus routes go to the Saratoga Village; Sanborn County Park is 3 miles to the west (2 miles along Highway 9, and then one mile from the Highway 9 intersection of Sanborn Road, along Sanborn Road).

B. PROJECT OBJECTIVES

In keeping with the Trails Element of the Parks and Recreation Chapter of the 1995 General Plan, *Countywide Trails Master Plan Update* (Countywide Trails MP) and the *2003 County Parks Strategic Plan,* the Sanborn County Park Trails Master Plan (Trails Master Plan) provides trail opportunities for all non-motorized trail users including hikers, mountain bikers, and equestrians. It provides a comprehensive long-term plan for development and management of a multiple-use trail system. Multiple-use trails are those that offer more than one of these recreational opportunities along the same trail.

The Trails Master Plan complements the rugged, mountainous park that affords visitors a wilderness experience in Santa Clara County. The majority of the trails, both existing and proposed, identified in the Trails Master Plan are relatively narrow in width due to the challenging, physical constraints of the terrain and due to the public's desire for a sense of remoteness (2003 Strategic Plan).

Both the *1995 Countywide Trails Master Plan* and the *2003 County Parks Strategic Plan* promote an increase in multiple use trails. The Trails Master Plan identifies short-range and

long-range goals for implementing the trail vision using current land holdings and expanding the system as other lands become available.

The goals of the Trails Master Plan were derived from trail concepts generated by Technical Advisory Committee members, comments received during the public scoping meeting and trails proposed in previously completed plans including the 1995 Countywide Trails Master Plan, Bay Area Ridge Trail Plan, Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail Plan and the County Park Strategic Plan. The goals listed in Table 1 guided the planning process and the investigation of trail corridors.

Table 1
Trails Master Plan Goals

- **Develop trail routes and uses for Regional and Connector Trails identified in the *1995 Countywide Trails Master Plan*.**
- **Identify trail access for all users to meet both short-term needs as well as long-range planning consistent with all existing land agreements.**
- **Locate a mid-elevation route running northwest to southeast to provide a greater variation in trail difficulty.**
- **Develop more loop routes to provide a greater range of trail opportunities.**
- **Create a route from the Day Use Area to the Lake Ranch Area to eliminate the need for park users to walk on Sanborn Road.**
- **Introduce multiple use trails into the park to meet the regional trail goals of the Bay Area Ridge Trail and Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail and to be consistent with the 1995 Countywide Trails Master Plan.**
- **Evaluate existing trails relative to natural resources and reroute trails as necessary to enhance and preserve sensitive habitats.**
- **Evaluate opportunity for multiple use single-track trails that provide more of a wilderness experience.**
- **Evaluate the opportunity to provide more fully accessible trails for users of all abilities.**
- **Identify trail staging areas for all users: hikers, mountain bikers and equestrians.**
- **Identify partnership opportunities with landowners and agencies to implement common objectives.**

C. EXISTING FACILITIES

The current trail system includes approximately 19 miles of trails that are open to hikers and equestrians only (see Map 2, for clarity, existing trails are shown on Table 2). Large portions of the park have no existing trails. Sanborn County Park has the lowest density of trails (trail miles per acre) of all the County parks that do not include large reservoirs. The primary

areas lacking trails are the Lyndon Canyon drainage that extends from the Lake Ranch area to Lexington Reservoir County Park in the southeast and the Bonjetti Creek and McElroy Creek watersheds in the northwest. The current trail system offers spectacular vistas and tranquil landscapes, but can be quite challenging due to the steep grade encountered on many of the trails. Much of the trail system is also unsuitable for the multiple use regional trails envisioned for Sanborn County Park in the 1995 Countywide Trails Master Plan.

A persistent problem at Sanborn County Park is the prevalence of volunteer trails coursing through the park, especially between the Visitor Center situated near the Day Use Area and Walden West and the Youth Hostel located off Pick Road. These trails often do not meet the standards set forth in the Uniform Inter-jurisdictional Trail Design, Use, and Management Guidelines (1995) and were never approved by the Board of Supervisors. Additionally, these volunteer trails often occur in sensitive habitats and cause damage to natural resource areas.

The park provides 33 walk-in campsites for families and youth groups from spring through fall and a year-round RV campground that has 14 spaces. In addition, the Sanborn Park Hostel, a member of American Youth Hostels, Inc., operates from the historic Welch-Hurst home (ca. 1913) within the park (see Map 2 for the Hostel location). Water service for the park is from wells at the site.

The park also contains two environmental education centers. The Youth Science Institute (YSI) operates out of the Dyer House (ca. 1915) located near the Day Use Area (see Map 2). The Walden West Outdoor Education Center, a program of the Santa Clara County Board of Education, is located on land surrounded by Sanborn County Park. These environmental education programs use the park as their outdoor classroom. The students that attend these programs are the principle users of the trail system.

D. EXISTING PARK USAGE

Sanborn County Park served an average of 72,145 park visitors per year during 1999, 2000 and 2001 (Santa Clara County Strategic Plan, 2003). This number includes all park activities: hiking, camping, picnicking, special events such as weddings, and also includes attendance levels from the Youth Science Institute, Walden West and the Youth Hostel. Park visitation is anticipated to increase proportionally with population growth. Future projections suggest that the population in Santa Clara County will increase 23% by 2025. This would suggest that park use would increase to 88,738 visitors per year by 2025 without any additional attractions to the park.

Today, approximately 35% of the 72,145 annual visitors to Sanborn County Park are trail users. This amount equals 27,000 hiker and equestrian visits (Santa Clara County Weekly Attendance Logs, 2002-2005). Less than 1% of this number are equestrians. In other County Parks that provide trails for mountain biking such as Almaden Quicksilver, Grant Ranch, Santa Teresa and Upper Stevens Creek, mountain biking use varies from 5% to 50% of total park visitation. The variation is primarily due to the proximity of the park to population centers, other facilities available within each park and the interest and diversity of the trail system in each park.

It is expected that mountain bikers would find the Sanborn County Park trail system worthy of visitation. Visitation would likely increase as more trails are constructed. The Trails Master Plan would be implemented over many years as acquisition, easement and construction funding is secured. Thus, park visitation may increase slightly more than the population growth projections because of the trail system improvements.

In 2025, using the 23% County population growth projections, trail use at Sanborn County Park is projected to be 31,058 users without trail system improvements. If an additional 10% of visitors were attracted to the Sanborn County Park because of these improvements, trail use would be projected to rise to 34,214 upon completion of the conversion phase in 2010 and increase to 39,932 at build-out or 2025. The total park use at buildout of the Trails Master Plan is expected to be 97,612 in 2025. According to the Strategic Plan, park use at Sanborn would still be less than many other Santa Clara County Parks, some of which are substantially smaller in acreage than Sanborn County Park (e.g., Vasona Lake Park, Lexington Reservoir Park, Coyote Hellyer Park, Los Gatos Creek Park, and Rancho San Antonio Park). All of these parks listed here have annual attendance that currently ranges from 150,000 visitors to over one million visitors per year.

E. PROJECT IMPROVEMENTS

The Sanborn County Park Trails Master Plan defines an expanded trail system to meet the changing recreational and interpretive needs of a diverse and growing population. Sanborn County Park is estimated to be operating below visitor capacity, thus the 3,688-acre park provides an immediate opportunity to attract and serve more park visitors. Sanborn County Park has the lowest density of trails (trail miles per park acreage) of all the County parks that do not include large reservoirs. Expansion of the trail system makes the park more available and attractive to the park users.

The Sanborn County Park Trails Master Plan approximately doubles the length of the existing trail system. The current trail system provides 19 miles of trails for hikers and equestrians. This Trails Master Plan expands the system to approximately 38 miles of trails for hikers, dog walkers, equestrians and mountain bikers. Forty named trails are proposed ranging from short one-quarter mile loops to five-mile long distance trails.

The intent of the Trails Master Plan is to avoid all environmental impacts in all of the new trail alignments. While each of these proposed alignments has been walked, none of them have been staked and flagged and therefore final alignments may vary slightly for each route to respond to field conditions at the time of final design.

All project improvements would be phased as funding becomes available and would follow the tiered priorities listed in the Master Plan. The Conversion Phase as listed in this document would occur first, following adoption of the Master Plan. The subsequent phases would begin within three years. Many of the elements listed in the Conversion Phase could occur as soon as is practicable, depending on funding.

Regional Trail Linkages

Three regional trails are planned within Sanborn County Park: the Bay Area Ridge Trail, the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail and the Saratoga to Sanborn Trail. These trails support dual use or multiple uses. These regional routes reflect current visitor demands for multiple use trails. Trail uses within the park would be expanded based upon the changing interests of the public. The once rural and agricultural character of the "Valley of Heart's Delight" has steadily been giving way to high tech culture of "Silicon Valley." This cultural evolution has brought with it a change in desired trail uses. This plan reflects the trail use changes of the regional trail systems and of the residents of Santa Clara County.

This plan dismantles the existing trail system and weaves segments of these trails into the new routes. The majority of the existing system is integrated into this plan, but in two areas the trails are reorganized, and in some instances closed or rerouted, to better protect park resources, improve circulation and reduce visitor confusion. The two areas of trail reorganization are the Day Use Area situated between the Youth Science Institute and Walden West and the parklands located east of Sanborn Road near the confluence of Sanborn and Aubry Creeks.

The Trails Master Plan identifies alignments for three planned regional trails, improves internal park circulation between distant regions of the park, strengthens and expands the environmental education use of the trails in the center of the park, adds diversity to the trail experiences and provides both short-term and long-range solutions to trail access from the central Day Use Area.

Both the Bay Area Ridge Trail (Route R5-A) and the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail (Route R1-A) are identified in the *1995 Countywide Trails Master Plan.* These two regional trails use segments of existing and planned trails and are shown on Map 5 – Sanborn County Park Trails Master Plan Map.

The Bay Area Ridge Trail currently extends 4.8 miles through the park along the Skyline Trail. The Trails Master Plan proposes extending this route northeast to El Sereno Open Space Preserve on the Faultline Trail. The route would then exit the park property connecting with existing trails within El Sereno Open Space Preserve. In the future, this route would extend southward an additional 5.8 miles across the Trout Creek drainage to reenter County parkland at the Sycamore Property located on the shore of Lexington Reservoir County Park and cross Highway 17 on the existing Bear Creek Road Overpass.

This route varies in one area from what was described in the *1995 Countywide Trails Master Plan.* Originally, this route was proposed to remain within Sanborn County Park traversing the Lyndon Canyon drainage that lies in the southern most region of the park and is above the San Andreas Fault. The route through Lyndon Canyon was abandoned early in the planning process due to geological hazards including the fault, large active landslides and the need for numerous creek and tributary drainage crossings. The route along the Faultline Trail and through El Sereno Open Space Preserve would achieve the goals of the Bay Area Ridge Trail and would provide stunning views of the Santa Clara Valley.

The Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail is proposed to cross Highway 9 to enter the northeast corner of the park on the Mt. Eden Trail. The selection of the Highway 9 crossing location was not part of the Trails Master Plan and thus would be explored in a future study. The Juan Bautista de Anza Trail descends into the Lake Ranch Area on the John Nicholas Trail where the route shares the same trail alignment with the Bay Area Ridge Trail to Highway 17. This route would be 7.7 miles.

The Juan Bautista de Anza Northern Recreation Retracement Route was planned to use the Stuart Ridge park property in the 1995 Countywide Trails Master Plan. This previously planned route was also dependent upon other easements or acquisitions. The Trails Master Plan moves the retracement alignment fully into Sanborn County Park and uses planned trail routes to reach the El Sereno Open Space Preserve. This new route would allow the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail to be open to the public sooner than the previously proposed route. The Northern Recreation Retracement Route proposed in the *1995 Countywide Trails Master Plan* should be retained as a route for future development. In the future, this route would serve other important park connection and trail user functions.

New Trails within the Park

The Trails Master Plan would double the length of the trail system, from 19 miles to 38 miles. The Trails Master Plan adds new uses to Sanborn Park that currently do not exist: use of the trails by mountain bikers and allowing dogs on leash on trails. Many of the other Santa Clara County Parks also allow these uses.

When the trail plan is fully developed, visitors would be able to access 40 trails that offer a wide range of trail experiences (refer to Table 2). The plan includes relatively short trails with easy grades such as the San Andreas Fault Trail and portions of the Wood Rat Trail. It also provides steep, challenging routes such as the McElroy Ridge Trail that climbs to Skyline Ridge providing a more northerly route through the park. Recreationalists using the proposed hiking, mountain biking or horseback riding trails through the length of the park could cover over nine miles before leaving the park boundary to enter adjacent Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District or California State Park lands.

<u>Hiking Access</u>

The existing trail system provides 19 miles of trails for hiking. The Trails Master Plan proposes doubling the mileage to 38 miles of trails accessible to hikers *(Map 7 – Sanborn County Park Hiking Access Map).* Of the 38 miles of trails, 11 miles would be open to hiking only and an additional 5 miles would be open to hiking and equestrian use only. The plan currently proposes one half mile of fully accessible trails (e.g., trails that can be used by people with wheelchairs and/or strollers). The Native Garden Trail would be fully accessible and the Indian Rock Trail would be fully accessible from the staging area to the Tafoni rock formations.

<u>Equestrian Access</u>

The existing trail system provides 15 miles of trails for hiking and equestrians. The Trails Master Plan proposes increasing the mileage to 25 miles of trails accessible to equestrians *(Map*

8 – Sanborn County Park Equestrian Access Map). Of the 25 miles of trails, 5 miles would be open to equestrians and hikers only. The remaining mileage is on shared multiple use trails. These trails vary in width from 4 to 10 feet.

Mountain Biking Access

The existing trail system provides no mountain biking access. The Trails Master Plan proposes opening existing trails and developing new routes to provide 23 miles of trails for mountain biking *(Map 9 – Sanborn County Park Mountain Biking Access Map).* Of the 23 miles of trails, 3 miles would be open to mountain bikers and hikers only. The remaining mileage is on shared multiple use trails. These trails would vary in width from 4 to 10 feet.

Table 2
Trail Summary Chart

Trail Number	Segment Letter	Trail Name	Use	Width	Length	Average Grade
1	**ALL**	**Valley Vista Trail**	M	4-6'	8,406	19%
	A			4-6'	600	18%
	B			4-6'	2,578	12%
	C			4-6'	5,228	15%
2	**ALL**	**Sanborn Trail**	E	2-4'	12,523	7%
	A			2-4'	2,070	0%
	B			8-10'	3,105	8%
	C			2-4'	5,172	10%
	D			4-6'	912	5%
	E			2-4'	1,264	7%
3	**ALL**	**Aubry Cascade Trail**	H	2-4'	6,341	18%
	A			8-10'	1,958	22%
	B			2-4'	175	3%
	C			2-4'	263	-3%
4	**ALL**	**Walk-In Campground Road**	H	8-10'	3,854	10%
5	**ALL**	**San Andreas Fault Trail**	H	8-10'	3,989	2%
	A			8-10'	557	6%
	B			8-10'	442	-1%
	C			8-10'	2,990	-1%
6	**ALL**	**Vernon J. Pick Trail**	B	8-10'	6,606	6%
	A			8-10'	514	-3%
	B			8-10'	399	13%
	C			4-6'	1,151	-1%
	D			on road	1,182	0%
	E			8-10'	2,656	13%
	F		M	8-10'	1,617	7%
7	**ALL**	**Wood Rat Trail**	H	2-4'	6,433	7%
	A			2-4'	1,468	5%
	B			2-4'	2,036	17%
	C			2-4'	2,929	-15%
8	**ALL**	**Wood Rat Connector**	H	2-4'	421	-21%
9	**ALL**	**Lower Madrone Trail**	H	2-4'	4,743	11%

Table 2
Trail Summary Chart

Trail Number	Segment Letter	Trail Name	Use	Width	Length	Average Grade
10	**ALL**	**Upper Madrone Trail**	E	8-10'	5,895	13%
	A			8-10'	2,080	12%
	B			8-10'	1,262	13%
	C			2-4'	2,553	13%
11	**ALL**	**San Andreas Fault Connector**	H	8-10'	659	10%
12	**ALL**	**Pourroy Trail**	H	2-4'	15,265	10%
	A			2-4'	2,506	0%
	B			2-4'	3,744	-1%
	C			2-4'	3,008	19%
	D			2-4'	6,007	17%
13	**ALL**	**Partridge Farm Trail**	H	2-4'	746	7%
14	**ALL**	**Walden Pond Loop**	H	2-4'	729	0%
15	**ALL**	**Walden Pond Connector**	H	8-10'	485	13%
16	**ALL**	**Native Garden Trail**	W	2-4'	798	0%
17	**ALL**	**Welch-Hurst Trail**	H	2-4'	3,435	7%
	A			2-4'	1,415	17%
	B			2-4'	2,020	4%
18	**ALL**	**Peterson Trail**	M	4-6'	7,454	22%
	A			4-6'	1,514	-15%
	B			4-6'	1,823	7%
	C			4-6'	965	9%
	D			4-6'	3,152	6%
19	**ALL**	**Sanborn Creek Loop**	M	4-6'	2,088	3%
	A			4-6'	487	-3%
	B			4-6'	1,601	5%
20	**ALL**	**Ohlone Trail**	H	2-4'	1,570	4%
	A			2-4'	632	-6%
	B			2-4'	938	-4%
21	**ALL**	**Sanborn Narrows Trail**	H	2-4'	958	6%
22	**ALL**	**Mt. Eden Trail**	M	8-10'	3,007	10%
23	**ALL**	**Stuart Ridge Trail**	E	8-10'	7,605	7%
	A			4-6'	3,460	15%
					2,389	6%
	B			8-10'	1,756	13%
24	**ALL**	**Saratoga to Sanborn Trail**	E	4-6'	13,254	10%
25	**ALL**	**Lake Ranch Trail**	B	8-10'	2,750	13%
26	**ALL**	**Faultline Connector**	M	8-10'	619	3%
27	**ALL**	**Faultline Trail**	M	4-6'	7,201	5%
	A			8-10'	5,576	1%
	B			4-6'	1,625	20%
	C			4-6'	2,475	15%
28	**ALL**	**Trout Creek Trail**	M	4-6'	3,227	19%

Table 2 Trail Summary Chart						
Trail Number	**Segment Letter**	**Trail Name**	**Use**	**Width**	**Length**	**Average Grade**
	A			4-6'	10,321	4%
	B			4-6'	3,227	19%
29	**ALL**	**John Nicholas Trail**	M	8-10'	17,204	6%
	A			8-10'	10345	-1%
	B			4-6'	4229	17%
	C			8-10'	2630	13%
30	**ALL**	**Skyline Trail**	M	4-6'	25,693	1%
31	**ALL**	**Sunnyvale Mtn. Loop**	H	2-4'	739	1%
32	**ALL**	**Todd Creek Redwoods Trail**	H	2-4'	2,326	13%
33	**ALL**	**Springboard Trail**	M	4-6'	4,422	11%
	A			4-6'	1,685	10%
	B			4-6'	2,737	11%
34	**ALL**	**Vaqueros Sandstone Trail**	H	2-4'	1,664	16%
35	**ALL**	**McElroy Ridge Trail**	M	4-6'	11,080	11%
	A			4-6'	4,800	10%
	B			4-6'	1,712	7%
	C			4-6'	4,568	13%
36	**ALL**	**Lumberjack Trail**	H	2-4'	2,113	12%
37	**ALL**	**Indian Rock Trail** **(2 segments)**	W H	4-6' 4-6'	495 1,510	5%
38	**ALL**	**DiFiore Trail**	M	4-6'	4,129	12%
	A			4-6'	1,213	16%
	B			4-6'	2,916	11%
	C	**DiFiore Overlook Trail**		4-6'	639	10%
39	**ALL**	**Summit Rock Loop**	M	8-10'	5,925	7%
	A			8-10'	3,674	-12%
	B			8-10'	2,251	16%
40	**ALL**	**Summit Rock Trail**	M	4-6'-	966	8%

F. SPECIFIC TRAIL DESCRIPTIONS

A short description of each trail and the reason for inclusion in the Trails Master Plan is provided below for each of the 40 routes. The trails are listed by route number under the appropriate trail use category: hiking trails, hiking/equestrian trails, hiking/mountain biking trails and multiple use trails (hiking/equestrian/mountain biking/dog walking). Additional details are provided on these routes in the Trails Master Plan under Appendix F – Trail Summaries (bound separately).

Hiking Trails

- Aubry Cascade Trail (#3) – provides a new single-track hiking only route and spectacular view of creek cascade.

- Walk-in Campground Road (#4) – provides access to walk-in campgrounds from upper parking lot.

- San Andreas Fault Trail (#5) – used for interpretation and environmental education.

- Wood Rat Trail (#7) – provides new interpretive opportunities and remote wilderness experience close to environmental education centers.

- Wood Rat Connector (#8) – provides short cut between Wood Rat Trail and San Andreas Fault Trail to assist environmental education programs.

- Lower Madrone Trail (#9) – provides remote, rugged trail experience.

- San Andreas Fault Connector (#11) – provides a short cut and wooded trail experience between maintenance shop and San Andreas Fault Trail. Serves power lines in park.

- Pourroy Trail (#12) – provides connection to Pourroy residences and loop trail in northern area of the park. Completion is contingent upon future acquisitions or easements.

- Partridge Farm Trail (#13) – provides a connection to a proposed trail staging area in Castle Rock State Park.

- Walden Pond Loop (#14) – circumnavigates the pond and provides water access for environmental education programs.

- Walden Pond Connector (#15) – provides short cut for Walden West students between Pick Road and San Andreas Fault Trail.

- Native Garden Trail (#16) – provides new interpretive trail close to the Youth Science Institute, especially designed for very young children.

- Welch-Hurst Trail (#17) – provides access from western parklands to eastern parklands across Sanborn Road.

- Ohlone Trail (#20) – leads to grinding stones for interpretation.

- Sanborn Narrows Trail (#21) – provides scenic views and water access on Sanborn Creek. May be developed to provide a fully accessible trail for all users.

- Sunnyvale Mountain Loop (#31) – short loop immediately accessible from Skyline Boulevard.

- Todd Creek Redwoods Trail (#32) – area now limited to foot traffic only to provide for restoration and interpretation.

- Vaqueros Sandstone Trail (#34) – provides mid-elevation loop opportunity connecting the Sanborn Trail and McElroy Ridge Trail.

- Lumberjack Trail (#36) – provides opportunity to view historic logging area and second growth redwoods in the headwaters of McElroy Creek.

- Indian Rock Trail (#37) – provides opportunity to view Tafone formations. Intended to provide a fully accessible route, to Indian Rock from the staging area, for all users to experience these unique geologic features.

Hiking/Equestrian Trails

- Sanborn Trail (#2) – provides access at mid-elevation and connections to many other trails.
- Upper Madrone Trail (#10) – provides access to Skyline Ridge.

- Stuart Ridge Trail (#23) – provides access to Stuart Ridge property and implements Connector Trail 13 (C-13) identified in the 1995 Countywide Trails Master Plan.

- Saratoga to Sanborn Trail (#24) – provides connection to downtown Saratoga.

Hiking/Mountain Biking Trails

- Vernon J. Pick Trail (#6) – provides access from Day Use Area into the trail system. Leads to the former Pick homesite with views to Santa Clara Valley.

- Lake Ranch Trail (#25) – provides short cut from Lake Ranch to Sanborn Road.

Multiple Use Trails

- Valley Vista Trail (#1) – provides highly desired connection between Day Use Area and Lake Ranch Area. There are stunning views of the undeveloped Sanborn Park from the route. Completion is contingent upon a single acquisition or easement.

- Vernon J. Pick Trail (#6) – final segment (6F) provides a multiple-use route to the former Pick homesite and McElroy Ridge Trail.

- Peterson Trail (#18) – provides important connection between Aubry Creek and Sanborn Creek confluence area and Day Use Area.

- Sanborn Creek Loop (#19) – provides views into Sanborn Creek drainage and additional loop until lease expires on adjacent parkland parcel.

- Mt. Eden Trail (#22) – provides access across Highway 9 for Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail.

- Faultline Connector (#26) – provides short cut from John Nicholas Trail to Faultline Trail extending to El Sereno Open Space Preserve.

- Faultline Trail (#27) – serves as Bay Area Ridge Trail and Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail connection to El Sereno Open Space Preserve.

- Trout Creek Trail (#28) - serves as Bay Area Ridge Trail and Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail trial alignment and provides access to Highway 17 crossing.

- John Nicholas Trail (#29) – provides highly desired connection between Skyline Trail and Lake Ranch Area. Serves as Bay Area Ridge Trail alignment.

- Skyline Trail (#30) – provides northeast to southwest route along the ridgeline. This route is the highest point in the park and offers views of Monterey Bay. Serves as Bay Area Ridge Trail and Saratoga to Sanborn Trail alignment.
- Springboard Trail (#33) – provides mid-elevation loop opportunity with McElroy Trail.

- McElroy Ridge Trail (#35) – provides new northerly route to Skyline Ridge.

- DiFiore Trail (#38) – provides loop between Indian Rock Trail and Summit Rock Loop.

- Summit Rock Loop (#39) – provides loop from Skyline Trail and access to Tafone features found off Summit Rock Trail.

- Summit Rock Trail (#40) – provides access to Summit Rock.

G. PARK AREAS DEEMED UNSUITABLE FOR TRAIL DEVELOPMENT

A number of the trail corridors that were explored were deemed unsuitable for trail development. The entire Lyndon Canyon drainage was excluded from the Trails Master Plan due to seismic hazards, large active landslides and the need for numerous creek and tributary crossings. The tributary drainages to the west of Lyndon Canyon were explored for possible mountain biking and hiking loops off of the John Nicholas Trail. However, this entire area was also deemed unsuitable due to steep slopes and seismic hazards.

The goal of developing a mid-elevation route running the length of the park was not achieved. In those areas of the park in which suitable routes (DiFiore Trail, McElroy Ridge and Springboard Trail) were found, the elevation was much higher than previously desired. The trail loops created by these mid-elevation trails are shorter from Skyline Ridge and longer from the Day Use Area. The steep canyon walls in the headwaters of Bonjetti Creek and McElroy Creek made these areas unsuitable for trail development.

The confluence of Todd Creek and Bonjetti Creek located to the north of Walden West was explored for a route to cross Sanborn Road and access to the parklands to the east. But this area was also deemed unsuitable for trail development, as it was second only to Lyndon Canyon in the number of active landslides.

H. TRAILS PROPOSED FOR ABANDONMENT AND TRAIL BED RESTORATION

The Trails Master Plan also would abandon and restore the current web of volunteer trails between the Youth Science Institute and Walden West and clearly identify legitimate trails and abandoning others. The majority of trails proposed for closure or rerouting are within these two areas. Trails proposed for closure or rerouting are located and include segments of the existing San Andreas Trail, Nature Trail, Peterson Trail, Sanborn Road Cut-off, Pourroy Road (landslide area) and an old logging road dubbed "Heartbreak Hill." There are also many small segments of volunteer trails proposed for closure in the Aubry Creek and Sanborn Creek confluence.

A portion of the Indian Rock Trail along Skyline Ridge would be realigned and roads in the area of the former Biddles property would be closed. In addition, there are some areas throughout the park where old logging roads could be recontoured and revegetated as habitat improvements *(See Map 10 – Sanborn County Park Trail Abandonment Map).*

Trails would be abandoned and trail bed areas restored over time as per the phasing plan (see Table 3). This work would be done by hand or Sweco Trail Dozer (small, mechanized trail building tractor 4 feet in width) on 4' trails and could be done by a larger piece of equipment (tractor or backhoe) on the few road-width trails.

Table 3
Trail Abandonment Chart

Name and Park Location	Width, in feet	Length, in feet	Area, in square feet
Former Peterson Trail - Day Use Area	8	1,923	15,386
Former Nature Trail - Day Use Area	2	631	1,262
Former Nature Trail - Day Use Area	2	548	1,095
Former Nature Trail - Day Use Area	2	541	1,081
Former Nature Trail - Day Use Area	2	202	403
Former Nature Trail - Day Use Area	2	154	308
Sanborn Road Cut-off - Day Use Area	8	327	2,618
Former San Andreas Trail - Day Use Area	3	1,847	5,540
Former San Andreas Trail - Day Use Area	12	371	4,456
Lower Madrone Trail (future closure) - Day Use Area	2	4,743	9,486
Former Walden Trail - Day Use Area	5	1,083	5,415
Old Roadbed - Campground Area Site 10	8	308	2,461
Old Roadbed - Campground Area Site 25	8	178	1,427
Aubry Cascade Trail - Above Campgrounds	2	2,885	2,885
Volunteer Trail - Sanborn Road Area Crossing Aubry Creek	4	334	1,336
Volunteer Trail - Sanborn Road Area Crossing Aubry Creek	4	434	1,734
Volunteer Trail - Sanborn Road Area - Behind Pipe Gate	4	160	638
Volunteer Trail - Sanborn Road Area Between Ohlone and Peterson Trails	4	201	803
Volunteer Trail - Sanborn Road Area - Staging Area	4	119	476
Volunteer Trail - Sanborn Road Area - Along Aubry Creek	4	334	1,338

Volunteer Trail - Sanborn Road Area - Along Aubry Creek	3	366	1,099
Volunteer Trail - Sanborn Road Area - Below Culvert	4	160	641
Ohlone Trail (reroute) - Sanborn Road Area	4	30	122
Old Wood Cutting Road - Sanborn Road Area - Downslope from Mt. Eden Trail	2	1,315	2,631
Historic Roadbed - "Heartbreak Hill" - Walden West to Sanborn Road	4	929	3,717
Connector Trail from Youth Hostel to Walden Pond	2	119	239
Water Tank Road	8	161	1,288
Indian Rock Trail (reroute) - Skyline Area	12	131	1,572
Indian Rock Trail (reroute) - Skyline Area	12	402	4,823
Volunteer Trail - Skyline Area - Seagraves Site	2	331	662
Skyline Trail (reroute) - Skyline Area - The Peak	4	1,807	7,228
TOTAL		**23,074 feet**	**84,168 square feet**

I. STAGING AREAS, ROADWAY CROSSINGS AND TRAIL AMENITIES

Staging Areas

There are eight staging areas included in the Trails Master Plan. Of the eight staging areas one is new, one is modified to accommodate equestrians (Day Use Area), one is proposed for expansion (Sunnyvale Mountain) and two are proposed for reconfiguration for improved patrol and resource protection and three would remain unchanged *(See Map 5 – Sanborn County Park Trails Master Plan Map)*. The following give specific details on these staging area improvements:

1. Sanborn Road at Highway 9 (unchanged)

Informal parking for 5 or 6 cars is available on pavement along Sanborn Road near the access to the Sanborn Narrows Trail. There are no plans to modify this parking area.

2. Sanborn Road at Welch-Hurst Trail Crossing (new)

A small staging area is proposed along Sanborn Road in the vicinity of a planned pedestrian crossing down the hill from Walden West. This pedestrian crossing would provide access between the majority of the park located to the west of Sanborn Road and the acreage located to the east of Sanborn Road (See Figure 1). The Welch-Hurst Trail would bring hikers to Sanborn Road and the Sanborn Creek Loop, which connects to the Peterson Trail. A new pedestrian bridge is proposed at the historic rock bridge abutments located on Aubry Creek. The multiple use Peterson Trail would extend from the Mt. Eden Trail to the Day Use Area. A modest parking area holding five vehicles is proposed at this location. This pedestrian crossing is intended to improve upon the ad hoc crossing now used by students further down Sanborn Road where the “Heartbreak Hill Trail” terminates.

3. Youth Hostel (unchanged)

There is parking for 8 to 10 cars at the Youth Hostel. This parking area serves youth hostel visitors. There are no plans to modify this parking area.

4. Day Use Area Lower Parking Lot (modified for equestrians)

Modifications to the lower parking lot in the Day Use Area are proposed to accommodate horse trailers. At this time, there are no equestrian specific facilities within the Day Use Area . Conversion of this 10-car lot would accommodate two equestrian trailers and a hitching area, and result in the loss of all 10 parking spaces. The staging area would directly connect to the Peterson Trail and greatly facilitate equestrian access into the trail system (See Figure 2).

5. Indian Rock (reconfigured)

The Indian Rock parking area would be reconfigured to reduce tree impacts and to avoid existing drainage issues. The Indian Rock Staging Area currently extends approximately 250 feet along Highway 35. Approximately 95 feet of this area would be closed off to the public to protect existing trees and move vehicles out of standing water (large puddles which form from Highway 35 surface sheet flow). This is also the deepest/widest section of the parking area although it is poorly used because of the trees. The remaining parking area would be formalized for parking (See Figure 3). The parking area tapers to the south. This area would be widened just a few feet to match to the depth of the rest of the frontage. No trees would be removed for this slight widening. Formalizing the lot would create a more organizing parking arrangement which should improve parking access and total number of available stalls.

The current parking area holds approximately 10 cars. It is possible to add a couple more cars in between the trees if every driver parks efficiently, but typically there is a collection of parallel parking, diagonal parking and straight in parking which results in significant under utilization of the space. The configured parking lot would hold approximately the same number of cars. Improvements at Indian Rock parking area would require review by Caltrans, since the access would be changed and frontage is from Highway 35.

6. Summit Rock (reconfigured)

Improvements to the Summit Rock parking area are proposed to facilitate patrol and to provide an alignment for the Skyline Trail adjacent to the parking area. These improvements would formalize the parking area and provide the best use of limited parking space. The reconfigured parking area would accommodate approximately 20 cars (See Figure 4). Improvements at Summit Rock parking area would require review by Caltrans since the access would be changed and frontage is from Highway 35.

7. Sunnyvale Mountain (expanded for additional vehicles)

Modifications to the Sunnyvale Mountain parking area are proposed to accommodate additional vehicles (See Figure 5). Improvements at Sunnyvale Mountain staging area would accommodate 19 vehicles. While this staging area is also accessed from Highway 35, the staging

area is set back from the roadway and therefore no changes to the access driveway are proposed. No Caltrans review would be needed.

8. Black Road (unchanged)

Black Road provides parking for 3 or 4 cars in its current configuration. It may be possible to create a larger parking area off the John Nicholas Trail if needed in the future.

J. ROADWAY CROSSINGS

Two roadway crossings are proposed on Sanborn Road. A pedestrian crossing is proposed from the Welch-Hurst Trail to the new staging area on Sanborn Road. This crossing would link the Sanborn County Park land on either side of Sanborn Road. It would be an important crossing for Walden West students (See Figure 2). A second crossing is proposed on Sanborn Road in the vicinity of the park entrance. The crossing would link parkland under deed restriction to the Day Use Area. This crossing would serve the multiple-use Peterson Trail (See Figure 2). Santa Clara County Roads and Airports Department have reviewed these two crossings in concept (pers. comm. Peter Hu, P.E., Associate Civil Engineer, County Roads and Airports Department).

K. EDUCATIONAL GATHERING SPACES AND SHELTERS

Three gathering spaces and shelters for environmental education activities are proposed along the trails. The shelters which would consist of a simple pole barn structure would provide shelter from rain for students participating in environmental education activities *(See Map 5 – Sanborn County Park Trails Master Plan Map).* These shelters would have post footings, but would not have concrete pad or floors, and would require only minimal grading. These shelters would be large enough for a group of 20 kids to sit in a circle under the structure. The concept is to make them from local materials found on-site at the park. For example, the students would probably sit on cut tree rounds.

L. BACKCOUNTRY AND EQUESTRIAN CAMPING

A number of areas in Sanborn County Park were noted as excellent locations for backcountry campsites and equestrian camping facilities. Although there are no proposed sites for such camp sites in the Trails Master Plan, the potential to provide trailside camping opportunities should be revisited as the trail plan is implemented.

M. PROJECT PHASING

Conversion Phase

The conversion phase serves as a short-range plan to open portions of Sanborn County Park to new trail user groups without the advantage of capital improvement funds to build significant segments of new trail. The short-range plan allows some of the benefits of the Trails Master Plan to be realized using existing operation and maintenance funds and volunteer support

to build trails. The County expects to implement all elements listed in the Conversation Phase within the next three years.

The conversion phase includes operational changes and trail construction projects that transition from the existing trail system of dual use to multiple uses. This phase includes the elements necessary to update the network of trails to serve multiple uses. It includes modifying the trail use on some existing routes, the development of new trails as necessary to accommodate multiple use circulation in selected areas of the park, and a signage program to educate users about the changes in trail use and circulation. All trail construction projects in the conversion phase are located on parklands owned and currently open to the public. None of these projects require new land acquisition, easements or the expiration of leases.

The conversion phase proposes modifying the existing trail system sufficiently to accommodate two new uses. Dogs on-leash under control of their handlers would be allowed on trails unless a resource constraint is identified. Mountain bicyclists would be provided access to all newly designated multiple use ridgeline trails and the proposed John Nicholas Trail extending from Skyline Trail to Lake Ranch. The remaining routes, which make up the existing trail system, would be open to equestrians and hikers as currently designated. The opening of the park to these user groups provides some immediate benefits to the public.

As part of the conversion phase, the construction of the first segments of the Valley Vista Trail (Routes 1A and 1B) would be implemented to provide a connection from the Day Use Area into the trail system for hikers and, eventually for equestrians when adequate staging facilities are developed for horse trailers in the Day Use Area. The Valley Vista Trail provides an alternate route to the paved Walk-In Campground Trail, which currently serves campers and hikers.

The conversion phase also includes the extension of the John Nicholas Trail (Routes 29B and 29C), a key regional alignment of the Bay Area Ridge Trail, which would provide access to Lake Ranch from Skyline. It would lengthen the number of miles of trail and diversify the terrain accessible from Highway 35 for all trail users. As a multiple use route, the addition of the John Nicholas Trail would make the Skyline area attractive for mountain bicyclists who would be limited to this area of the park during the conversion phase. Upgrades to the Skyline Trail (Route 30) are also proposed with the conversion phase. These improvements include minor trail repairs, rerouting a short segment of trail and the abandonment and restoration of the old trail bed.

- Valley Vista Trail (Routes 1A and 1B)
- John Nicholas Trail (Routes 29B and 29C)
- Skyline Trail (Route 30)

Signage Program

An expanded signage program would be implemented and would be critical to indicate name and use changes to the existing trail system and to highlight new routes.

Staging Areas and Amenities

Modifications are proposed to the following two existing staging areas to enhance access to the multiple use trail system.

- Day Use Area Parking Lot Modifications to Accommodate Equestrians
- Sunnyvale Mountain Staging Area Development

These two improvements are beyond the scope of a volunteer trail building crew, but should be completed as grant funds or capital improvement program funds become available in future years. Each of these access improvements is associated with development triggers.

N. PERMITS AND APPROVALS REQUIRED

Prior to construction of all proposed creek crossings, the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) would require notification and a Streambed Alteration Agreement under Section 1600 of the CDFG code. CDFG Code 1602 states that "An entity may not substantially divert or obstruct the natural flow of, or substantially change or use any material from the bed, channel, or bank of, any river, stream, or lake...where it may pass into any river, stream, or lake" unless CDFG is notified and a Streambed Alteration Agreement is obtained. Although many of the drainages in Sanborn County Park are located at higher elevations and only convey water during storm events or because of a nearby spring or seep, they still fall under the jurisdiction of CDFG (D. Johnston, pers. comm.). Currently, separate notification and fee submittal is required for each work site or crossing to be installed. However, if a crossing, such as a bridge, can be installed without disturbing the creek bed, channel or bank no notification is necessary.

It is estimated that the Trails Master Plan would add 24 drainage crossings and convert to public use two existing drainage crossings. The drainage crossings are classified into six categories: large bridge (>60 feet), small bridge (15 to 59 feet), puncheon, turnpike, rock crossing and stepping stones. All bridges would be clear spans. The totals per category are:

- Large bridge = 4
- Small bridge = 6 plus 1 existing now for public use
- Puncheon = 7
- Turnpike = 4
- Rock crossing (rock ford) = 1 plus 1 existing now for public use
- Stepping stones = 2

It is possible there would be need for other small drainage crossings not captured due to the scale of this master plan effort. It is anticipated that these would be primarily puncheons across seasonal drainages only. There are many areas in Sanborn County Park where flows existing only during storm events. However, these areas would need drainage crossings to prevent the trails from washing out.

Of the large bridges, two span Aubry Creek, one spans Sanborn Creek and one spans Trout Creek (Trout Creek Trail - acquisition needed thus placement of bridge undefined). Of the small bridges, one spans Sanborn Creek, two span tributaries to Sanborn Creek, one spans

tributary to Aubry Creek, one spans Bonjetti Creek and one spans McElroy Creek or Bonjetti Creek (Pourroy Trail - acquisition needed thus placement of bridge undefined).

Best Management Practices (BMPs) Incorporated Into the Project

The County adopted the *Countywide Trails Master Plan* in 1995, and adopted the *Uniform Interjurisdictional Trail Design, Use and Management Guidelines* in 1999. Both of these documents contain guidance for trail siting, trail construction, and trail maintenance that would be used to avoid or reduce impacts to natural resources and to sensitive receptors. The Trails Master Plan contains a listing of geologic and hydrologic features that exist within Sanborn County Park. The Trails Master Plan also contains a Trail Suitability Analysis and Trail Design Guidelines that are specific to Sanborn County Park. These are listed as Appendix C of the Trails Master Plan. Application of all of these guidelines would ensure that no impacts occur.

In addition, the following BMPs have been incorporated into the project to ensure that project-related effects are minimized or avoided. Successful implementation of these design guidelines and BMPs by County Park staff would ensure the minimization of air quality impacts related to construction dust, avoidance of spread of sudden oak death syndrome, avoidance of geological hazards, and minimization of erosion and siltation of creeks and other water bodies.

Air Quality BMP

The following best management practice would be implemented at all construction sites to minimize PM_{10} emissions during construction.

1) Sweep daily if visible soil material is carried out onto adjacent public streets.

Biological BMPs

To discourage the spread of Sudden Oak Death Syndrome (SODS), the following BMPs would be used:

1) Work crews would be informed that they are working in an area with SODS, unauthorized movement of plant material would be prohibited. If some sites in the park are found to be disease-free or have a low incidence of disease, consider initiating work in these sites before moving to more heavily infested sites.

2) To the extent practical and feasible, choose trail alignments that avoid areas containing host plant and trees that have disease symptoms. Locate staging areas away from host plants, especially areas with disease symptoms.

3) Prior to equipment, tools, boots or vehicles leaving a site, they should be inspected and cleaned of host plant debris (leaves, twigs, and branches).

4) If practical, conduct work during the dry season.

5) Utilize paved and rocked roads to the extent possible.

6) After working in an infested area, remove or wash accumulations of soil, mud, and organic debris from shoes, boots, vehicles and heavy equipment, etc. before traveling to an area that is not infested with SODS. Lysol® or a bleach solution can be used to disinfect shoes and boots after cleaning.

7) If an infested tree has died, do not remove but fall and leave in place.

Geologic BMPs

The following design guidelines would be followed during detailed design of the trails so that the trails avoid geologic hazards and minimize erosion.

1) All trails should be designed in accordance with the Interjurisdictional Trail Maintenance Guidelines.

2) Trails should not follow the fall line of a slope; they should contour along side slopes. Fall-line trails become water courses, erode easily and then are difficult to maintain. Even low-slope (less than 10 percent) fall-line trails usually become the preferential flow path for water.

3) Trails should be out-sloped in most cases (except for short sections at outside bends). This encourages water to run off the side of the trail, rather than along the. Trails should be built to have about 3 to 5 percent outslope after trail compaction has occurred, so initial out-sloping should be greater than 5 percent. After a year or two, it should be expected that maintenance would be needed to return and "de-berm" sections of trail where soil compaction and displacement have exceeded the outsloping.

4) Frequent rolling dips should be built into a trail (as a backup to out-sloping), to avoid water flow along a trail. These should be placed to enhance natural grade dips. Rolling grade dips are long and gentle features (12 to 20 feet long) that avoid the short and abrupt style of traditional "water bars" (Klein, 2003; Riter and Riter, 2005).

5) Trail widths should be minimized to reduce the amount of bare soil subject to erosion. Contour trails should be cut on a full bench, rather than a combination of cut and fill. The cut material should be broad cast downslope, unless the trail is near a creek. Cut material can also be utilized for the ramp section of rolling dips if it is compacted one layer at a time.

6) For biking trails, climbing turns or switchbacks should be located whenever possible where the side slope is 10 percent or less, in order to create a sustainable, low-erosion trail. The actual trail gradient should be determined by site geology and terrain. The wider the turn and the lower the slope of the turn itself, the less braking and skidding (going downhill) is needed, and less wheel spinning (going uphill) is likely (Schmidt and Woolner, 2004).

7) Reduce locations where bicycles tend to brake heavily and or have to climb steep hills which could cause erosion. Make a conscious effort to design trails with consistent "flow" (International Mountain Bicycling Association (IMBA), 2004). Exaggerate grade reversals at outside bends. Gradual flow transitions should also reduce user conflicts.

The following BMPs would be incorporated during the construction and operational phase as appropriate:

1) If landslides or slope failure occurs, cut a temporary ramp through the edge of the scarp, have the trail traverse across the slide, and then cut another ramp to go up the scarp on the other side. This would reduce the tendency for users to create volunteer trails around the head of the landslide scarp.

2) All trails in areas with active landslides should be considered for closure during wet-weather and storm events.

3) Close more erodible trails during wet-weather and storm events per Department procedures.

4) Maintain the trail corridor by trimming encroaching vegetation; a bush leaning into a trail can cause users to widen the trail to avoid brushing against the bush.

5) If a trail area is too sandy, adding clay can help the tread be more cohesive.

Hydrological BMPs

The following design guidelines would be followed for trails in areas of steep slopes or in areas adjacent to a creek or riparian area:

1) In order to reduce erosion and maintenance problems during construction, disturbance to the soil surface should be kept to a minimum.

2) Where a potential for significant soil erosion exists along a new trail alignment, specific erosion control plans should be developed by a Registered Civil or Soils Engineer as part of the trail construction documentation. Criteria to be used in determining the erosion potential include: slope; soil type; soil composition and permeability; and the relative stability of the underlying geologic unit as identified on local General Plans or other adopted planning documents.

3) Keep "tread watersheds" small. A tread watershed is the amount of area that drains to a specific spot off of a trail (Parker, 2004). Increasing the frequency of rolling dips is an easy way to reduce the area of each tread watershed. Reducing tread width of the trail is another way to reduce the tread watershed; because compacted trail surfaces produce more runoff than the uncompacted soil next to the trail, narrow trails would produce less concentrated runoff than wide trails (with all other factors being equal).

4) Frequent grade reversals should be built into a trail (as a backup to out-sloping), to avoid water flow along a trail. Also known as "rolling grade dips", they should be placed to enhance natural grade dips. Rolling grade dips are long and gentle features (12 to 20 feet long) that avoid the short and abrupt style of traditional "water bars" (Klein, 2003; Riter and Riter, 2005).

5) Contour trails should be cut on a full bench, rather than a combination of cut and fill. The cut material should be broadcast downslope, unless the trail is near a creek. Cut material can also be utilized for the ramp section of rolling dips if it is compacted one layer at a time.

6) If trails are located in riparian zones extra precautions should be taken, such as using paving stones or other rock work (to armor the trail surface), and providing settling areas for trail drainage where water can infiltrate and sediment can settle out (such as brush boxes).

7) Rock drains and gravel surfaces should be used where trails cross seep areas. This is better than having trail users bypass the soggy area in ever-increasing arcs. Use soil amendments such as sand, crushed rock, or gravel to make a trail less prone to compaction and displacement; amendments can also help the tread drain better.

8) Constructed creek crossings should not greatly alter the cross-sectional shape of the channel or floodplain.

9) The approach to a creek crossing should slope downward toward the creek, and climb when traveling away from the creek, so that in the event of a blockage in the channel, the creek water would not be diverted to flow along the trail.

To minimize the mobilization of sediment to creeks and other water bodies, the following erosion- and sediment-control measures would be included in a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) prepared for the project after final design. These measures are based on standard County measures and standard dust-reduction measures.

1) Enclose and cover exposed stockpiles of dirt or other loose, granular construction materials that could contribute sediment to waterways.

2) Contain soil and filter runoff from distributed areas by berms, vegetated filters, silt fencing, straw wattles, plastic sheeting, catch basins, or other means necessary to prevent the escape of sediment from the disturbed areas.

3) Prohibit the placement of earth or organic material where it may be directly carried into a stream, swale, ditch, marsh, pond, or body or standing water.

4) Prohibit the following types of materials from being rinsed or washed into streets, shoulder areas, or ditches: concrete, solvents and adhesives, fuels, dirt, gasoline, asphalt, and concrete saw slurry.

5) Conduct dewatering activities according to the provisions of the SWPPP. Prohibit placement of dewatered materials in local water bodies or in storm drains leading to such bodies without implementation of proper construction water quality control measures.

6) The Parks Department and/or its contractors should implement a monitoring program to verify effectiveness of the best management practices implemented as part of the SWPPP. The monitoring program would begin at the outset of construction activities and terminate upon completion of the project.

III. Initial Study Environmental Evaluation Checklist for Santa Clara County

Project Title: Sanborn County Park Trails Master Plan **Date:** January 30, 2007

File Number: None **APN(s):** 51728011, 51702030, 54410001, 54410005, 54419011, 54407023, 54418005, 54410006, 51704062, 51704063, 51703005, 51706004, 51704034, 54410009, 54404025, 54410011, 54417002, 51737006, 51705062, 54409003, 54410010, 54404015, 54409002, 54409004, 54408012, 51706021, 51704064, 51706022, 51703034, 54409009, 54410004, 51701011, 51704061, 54408013, 54404017, 54410003, 54410012, 54420011, 54407014

500" Map #:	**Zoning:**	**Gen. Plan Designation:**
124, 125, 137, 138, 151, 152	Hillsides (HS)	Regional Parks, Existing

Project Type: Trails Master Plan **USA** (if any): N/A

Applicant's Name & Address: Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation Department, 298 Garden Hill Drive, Los Gatos, CA 95032

Telephone: Antoinette Romeo, Planner, Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation Department, (408) 355-2235

Project Location (address or description): Sanborn County Park, 16055 Sanborn Rd., Saratoga, 95070

See also Map 1 in this document.

Project Description (attach additional sheets if necessary): See Section 2 of this document

Environmental Setting / Surrounding Land Uses:

Environmental Setting

The Skyline Ridge and other portions of the park are visible to adjoining residential and open space areas. Typical of the Santa Cruz Mountains, the park is characterized by the steep slopes and dense tree growth. Views from the lowest elevations of the park near the park entrance are of the mixed redwood, Douglas fir, and oak woodlands of the Santa Cruz mountains to the south and west and grasslands in the limited open areas of the lower elevations. Views from the existing trails are limited as the dense trees block most views north and east toward the Santa Clara Valley and views south and west to the upper slopes Santa Cruz Mountains themselves. The majority of trails form a network along the valley floor off Sanborn Road, providing connections between the Sanborn Park youth hostel, picnic areas, campground and the Youth Science Institute (YSI).

The youth hostel is located in a log cabin built in 1913 and is currently on the National Register of Historic Places (Photo 1). The YSI building has a similar rustic cabin look (Photo 2). The Bay Area Ridge Trail follows Skyline Boulevard and is within the uppermost elevations of the park. Views of the valley floor are mostly limited from the Bay Area Ridge Trail by the dense vegetation. Breaks in the trees offer views toward Saratoga and the Santa Clara Valley though views downslope to the park are often obscured by trees and vegetation (Photo 3).

Other Public Agencies Whose Approval Is Required:

The California Department of Transportation will review the revised Indian Rock and Summit Rock staging areas, since these areas are adjacent to the Highway 35 (State Route 35) right-of-way.

The environmental factors checked below may be potentially affected by this project. See sheets attached to the Initial Study for a discussion of these environmental factors and any possible mitigation which may be proposed.

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED

☐ Land Use / General Plan	■ Biological Resources	■ Aesthetic
■ Geologic	■ Transportation / Traffic	☐ Energy
■ Resources / Parks	☐ Population / Housing	■ Historical / Archaeological
■ Sewage / Water Quality	■ Safety / Health	☐ Public Services / Utilities
■ Water Supply / Drainage/ Flooding	■ Air Quality	☐ Mandatory Findings of Significance
■ Noise		

WILL THE PROJECT: "Questions relating to the California Department of Fish & Game "de minimus impact finding" for the Certificate of Fee Exemption are listed in *italics.*	**IMPACT**					
		YES				
	NO	**Not Significant**	**Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated**	**Significant. No apparent Mitigation**	**Cumulative**	**SOURCES**
A. LAND USE / GENERAL PLAN						
1. Conflict with general plan designation or zoning?	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	6a,7,9a,10a
2. Conflict with applicable plans or policies adopted by agencies with jurisdiction over the project?	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	[ ]
3. Conflict with special policies?						
a. San Martin and/or South County	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	6a,b,10a,44,45
b. Los Gatos Specific Plan or Lexington Watershed	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	6a,10a,13,14
c. East Foothills Policy Area	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	6a,10a
d. New Almaden Hist. Area/Guadalupe Watershed	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	6a,7,10a
e. Stanford	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	6a,15,16
f. San Jose	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	8,10a
4. Be incompatible with existing land use in the vicinity?	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	1,2,3,12b
5. Disrupt or divide the physical arrangement of an established community?	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	2,4
B. GEOLOGIC						
1. Be located in an area designated as having a potential for major geological hazard?	☐	■	☐	☐	☐	9b,10c,11a 12a,17,18
2. Be located on, or adjacent to a known earthquake fault?	☐	■	☐	☐	☐	9c,10c,11a
3. Be located in a Geologic Study Zone?	☐	■	☐	☐	☐	9c,11a
4. Be located in an area of soil instability (subsidence, liquefaction, landslide, shrink/swell potential, soil creep or severe erosion)?	☐	■	☐	☐	☐	9c,12a,12d,20, 21

WILL THE PROJECT: "Questions relating to the California Department of Fish & Game "de minimus impact finding" for the Certificate of Fee Exemption are listed in *italics.*	**IMPACT**					**SOURCES**
	NO	**YES**				
		Not Signifi-cant	**Signifi-cant Unless Mitigation Incorpor-ated**	**Signifi-cant. No ap-parent Mitiga-tion**	**Cumu-lative**	
5. Cause substantial erosion or siltation?	☐	■	☐	☐	☐	1,2,3
6. Cause substantial compaction or over-covering of soil either on-site or off-site?	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	1,2,3
7. Cause substantial change in topography or unstable soil conditions from excavation, grading, or fill?	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	1,2,3,11c
8. Involve construction of a building, road or septic system on a slope of:						
a. 30% or greater?	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	1,3,10j,11c
b. 20% to 30%?	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	1,3,10j,11c
c. 10% to 20%?	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	1,3,10j,11c
C. RESOURCES/PARKS						
1. Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of future value to the region and the residents of the state?	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	1,2,3,19
2. Result in substantial depletion of any non-renewable natural resource?	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	2,3
3. Convert 10 or more acres of prime agricultural land (Class I to II) to non-agricultural use or impair the agricultural productivity of nearby prime land?	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	2,20,21
4. Involve lands protected by the Williamson Act (agricultural preserve) or an Open Space Easement?	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	1,9a
5. Affect any existing agricultural operations?	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	2
6. Be on, within, or near a public or private park, wildlife reserve, or trail (includes those proposed for the future), or affect existing recreational opportunities?	☐	■	☐	☐	☐	2,4,9d,10h
7. Result in loss of open space rated as high priority for acquisition in the "Preservation 20/20" report.	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	38
8. Increase demand for parks or other recreational facilities?	☐	■	☐	☐	☐	3,5

WILL THE PROJECT: "Questions relating to the California Department of Fish & Game "de minimus impact finding" for the Certificate of Fee Exemption are listed in *italics.*	**IMPACT**					**SOURCES**
	NO	**YES**				
		Not Significant	**Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated**	**Significant. No apparent Mitigation**	**Cumulative**	
D. SEWAGE/WATER QUALITY						
1. Result in a septic field being constructed on soil with severe septic drain field limitations or where a high water table extends close to the natural land surface?	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	10e,11b,12d, 20,21,22,24
2. Result in a septic field being located within 50 feet of a drainage swale; 100 feet of any well, water course or water body or 200 feet of a reservoir at capacity?	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	1,2,3,4
3. Result in extensions of a sewer trunk line with capacity to serve new development?	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	3
4. Require a NPDES permit for construction [Does it disturb one (1) acre or more?]?	☐	■	☐	☐	☐	3
5. Result in significant changes to receiving waters quality during or following construction?	☐	■	☐	☐	☐	46,47
6. Degrade surface or ground water quality or public water supply? (Including marine, fresh and wetland waters.)	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	1,3,11b,21,46
7. Be located in an area of special water quality concern (e.g., Los Gatos or Guadalupe Watershed)?	☐	■	☐	☐	☐	4,10a,13,23
8. Result in use of well water previously contaminated by nitrates, mercury, asbestos, etc. existing in the groundwater supply?	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	10e,23
9. Is the project a tributary to an already impaired water body? If so will the project result in an increase in any existing pollutants?	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	46,47
E. WATER SUPPLY/DRAINAGE/FLOODING						
1. Interfere substantially with ground water recharge or reduce the amount of groundwater otherwise available for public water supplies?	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	3,10e,11b
2. Substantially change the direction, rate of flow, or quantity, or quality of ground waters, either	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	1,3,46

WILL THE PROJECT: "Questions relating to the California Department of Fish & Game "de minimus impact finding" for the Certificate of Fee Exemption are listed in *italics.*	**IMPACT**					**SOURCES**
	NO	**YES**				
		Not Significant	**Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated**	**Significant. No apparent Mitigation**	**Cumulative**	
through direct additions or withdrawals, or through interception of an aquifer by cuts or excavations?						
3. Change absorption rates, drainage patterns, or the rate and amount of surface runoff? (Note policy re flood retention in water course and restoration of riparian vegetation for West Branch of the Llagas.)	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	3,28,45
4. Substantially alter existing drainage patterns in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on or off site?	☐	■	☐	☐	☐	46
5. Involve a surface water body, natural drainage channel, streambed or water course such as to alter the amount, location, course, or flow of its waters?	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	1,3,11c,28,45
6. Result in an increase in pollutant discharges to receiving waters?	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	46
7. Expose people or property to water related hazards such as flooding?	☐	■	☐	☐	☐	9c,12c
F. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES						
1. Affect fish, wildlife, reptiles, or plant life, by [a] change in diversity or numbers or [b] introduction of new species or [c] restrictions to migration or movement or [d] reducing habitat?	☐	■	☐	☐	☐	1,2,3,4,10b, 11d,e
2. Result in impact to an endangered, threatened or rare species or their habitat (including but not limited to plants, fish, insects, animals, and birds)?	☐	☐	■	☐	☐	10b,11d,e, 10k, & 12d
3. Impact a local natural community, such as a fresh water marsh, oak forest or salt water tide land?	☐	■	☐	☐	☐	1,2,3,10b,11d,e
4. Impact a watercourse, aquatic, wetland, or riparian area or habitat? (Subdivision includes or construction within 150 feet.)	☐	■	☐	☐	☐	2,3,12b,39,45, 46
5. Adversely impact unique or heritage trees or a large number of trees over 12" in diameter?	☐	■	☐	☐	☐	1,2,3,25

WILL THE PROJECT: "Questions relating to the California Department of Fish & Game "de minimus impact finding" for the Certificate of Fee Exemption are listed in *italics.*	**IMPACT**					**SOURCES**
	NO	**YES**				
		Not Significant	**Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated**	**Significant. No apparent Mitigation**	**Cumulative**	
G. TRANSPORTATION						
1. Cause a substantial increase in traffic or traffic congestion in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the street system? (Exceed LOS level 'D' in vicinity-GP policy C-TR 12, C-TR(i)6.)	☐	■	☐	☐	☐	4,6a,26,27,28, 29,43
2. Generate 100 or more peak hour trips? [If yes, a CMA transportation impact analysis must be prepared]	☐	■	☐	☐	☐	1,3
3. Increase traffic hazards to pedestrians, bicyclists and vehicles?	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	3,4
4. Not provide safe access, obstruct access to nearby uses or fail to provide for future street right of way?	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	3,12e
5. Cause increases in demand for existing on or off-street parking because of inadequate project parking?	☐	■	☐	☐	☐	1,3,30
6. Conflict with adopted policies supporting alternative transportation (e.g. transit, bicycles, walking)?	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	3,6a
H. POPULATION/HOUSING						
1. Reduce the supply of low-income housing or displace people or businesses?	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	3,4
2. Induce substantial growth in an area, either directly or indirectly?	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	2,3,4
I. SAFETY / HEALTH						
1. Involve risk of explosion or release of hazardous substances (including pesticides, herbicides, toxic substances, oil, chemicals or radioactive materials?	☐	■	☐	☐	☐	1,3,4,5
2. If yes to #1, be within 1/4 mile of a school [public notice]	☐	■	☐	☐	☐	40
3. Be located within 200' of a 230KV or above	☐	■	☐	☐	☐	2,4

WILL THE PROJECT: "Questions relating to the California Department of Fish & Game "de minimus impact finding" for the Certificate of Fee Exemption are listed in *italics.*	**IMPACT**					**SOURCES**
	NO	**YES**				
		Not Significant	**Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated**	**Significant. No apparent Mitigation**	**Cumulative**	
electrical transmission line						
4. Create any health hazard?	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	1,3,4,5
5. Expose people to existing sources of potential health hazards?	☐	■	☐	☐	☐	2,3,4
6. Be located in an ALUC Safety Zone?	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	31
7. Increase fire hazard in an area already involving extreme fire hazard?	☐	■	☐	☐	☐	10g
8. Be located on a cul-de-sacs over 800 ft. in length and require secondary access which will be difficult to obtain?	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	1,3,4,32,33
9. Employ technology which could adversely affect safety in case of a breakdown?	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	1,3,5
10. Proposed site plan result in a safety hazard (i.e., parking layout, access, closed community, etc.)?	☐	■	☐	☐	☐	3
11. Provide breeding grounds for vectors?	☐	■	☐	☐	☐	1,3,5
J. AIR QUALITY						
1. Violate any ambient air quality standard, contribute to an existing or projected air quality violation, or expose sensitive receptors to pollutant concentrations?	☐	■	☐	☐	☐	5,34
2. Create objectionable dust or odors?	☐	■	☐	☐	☐	1,3,5
3. Alter air movement, moisture, or temperature, or cause any change in climate?	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	2,3,4
K. NOISE						
1. Increase substantially the ambient noise levels for adjoining areas during and/or after construction?	☐	■	☐	☐	☐	1,3,5,6a
2. Expose people to high noise or vibration levels generated by the project or from the surrounding area?	☐	■	☐	☐	☐	1,2,4,3,5,31

WILL THE PROJECT: "Questions relating to the California Department of Fish & Game "de minimus impact finding" for the Certificate of Fee Exemption are listed in *italics.*	**IMPACT**					**SOURCES**
	NO	**YES**				
		Not Significant	**Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated**	**Significant. No apparent Mitigation**	**Cumulative**	
L. AESTHETIC						
1. If subject to ASA, be generally in non-compliance with the Guidelines for Architecture and Site Approval?	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	35,36
2. Create an aesthetically offensive site open to public view?	☐	■	☐	☐	☐	2,3,37
3. Visually intrude into an area having natural scenic qualities, be adjacent to a designated Scenic Highway or within a Scenic Corridor?	☐	■	☐	☐	☐	2,3,4,7,10f,37
4. Obstruct scenic views from existing residential areas, public lands, public water body or roads?	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	2,3
5. Be located on or near a ridgeline visible from the valley floor?	☐	■	☐	☐	☐	2,10f,11c,37
6. Adversely affect the architectural appearance of an established neighborhood?	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	2,3
7. Generate new light or glare?	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	1,3
M. ENERGY						
1. Use non-renewable resources in large quantities or in a wasteful manner?	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	1,3,5
2. Involve the removal of vegetation capable of providing summer shade to a building or significantly affect solar access to adjacent property?	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	2,3
N. HISTORICAL / ARCHAEOLOGICAL						
1. Disturb potential archaeological or paleontological resources?	☐	☐	■	☐	☐	3,10d,41,42
2. Disturb a historic resource or cause a physical change which would affect unique ethnic cultural values or restrict existing religious or sacred uses within the potential impact area?	☐	☐	■	☐	☐	3,25,42
3. Be located in a Historic District (e.g., New Almaden Historic Area)?	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	7,10a

WILL THE PROJECT: "Questions relating to the California Department of Fish & Game "de minimus impact finding" for the Certificate of Fee Exemption are listed in *italics.*	**IMPACT**					**SOURCES**
	NO	**YES**				
		Not Significant	**Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated**	**Significant. No apparent Mitigation**	**Cumulative**	
Almaden Historic Area)?						
O. PUBLIC SERVICES AND UTILITIES						
1. Induce substantial growth or concentration of population? (Growth inducing?)	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	1,3,5
2. Employ equipment which could interfere with existing communications or broadcast systems?	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	1,3,5
3. Have an effect upon or increase the need for or alter services in any of the following areas:						
a. Fire Protection	☐	■	☐	☐	☐	1,3,5
b. Police Protection	☐	■	☐	☐	☐	1,3,5
c. School facilities	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	1,3,5
d. Maintenance of public facilities, including roads	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	1,3,5
e. Other government services	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	1,3,5
4. Increase the need for new systems or supplies, or cause substantial alterations to the following utilities:						
a. Electricity or Natural gas	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	1,3,5
b. Local or regional water treatment or distribution facilities	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	1,3,5
c. Local or regional water supplies	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	1,3,5
d. Sewage disposal	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	1,3,5
e. Storm water drainage	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	1,3,5
f. Solid waste or litter [Would a recycling facility be appropriate?]	■	☐	☐	☐	☐	1,3,5

WILL THE PROJECT:	NO	YES
P. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE		
a. Have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	■	☐
b. Have the potential to achieve short-term environmental goals, to the disadvantage of long-term environmental goals? (A short-term impact on the environment is one which occurs in a relatively brief, definitive period of time, while long-term impacts will endure well into the future.)	■	☐
c. Have environmental impacts which are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of an individual project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probably future projects.	■	☐
d. Have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	■	☐

DISCUSSION OF ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATION

Discuss on attached sheet(s) all "yes" answers and any "no" answers that are potentially controversial or require clarification. (Must be TYPED). Describe any potential impacts and discuss possible mitigations. For source, refer to attached "Initial Study Source List". When a source is used that is not listed on the form or an individual is contacted, that source and/or individual should be cited in the discussion.

DETERMINATION On the basis of this initial evaluation:

I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be recommended.	❒
I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because the mitigation measures described on the attached are included as part of the proposed project. A NEGATIVE DECLARATION WILL BE RECOMMENDED.	■
I find the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is recommended.	❒
The project may have significant effect(s) on the environment, but they were analyzed in a prior document pursuant to applicable legal standards and such effects were addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis. For these effects that are less than significant with mitigation incorporated, the mitigation measures from the prior document are described to the extent they address site-specific conditions for the project.	❒

Signature: Antoinette Romeo Date: 4/2/2007

Print name & title: Antoinette Romeo, Planner Date: 4/2/2007

INITIAL STUDY SOURCE LIST*

1. Environmental Information Form
2. Field Inspection
3. Project Plans
4. Planner's Knowledge of Area
5. Experience With Other Project of This Size and Nature
6a. County General Plan
6b. The South County Joint Area Plan
7. County Zoning Regulations (Ordinance)
8. Second Amendment to Agreement [with San Jose] for Allocation of Tax Increment Funds
9. MAPS (various scales)
   - **a. County Zoning** (500' or 1,000')
   - b. ABAG "On Shaky Ground"-Santa Clara County Map Set (2 miles)
   - **c. Barclay's Santa Clara County Locaide Street Atlas** (2631')
   - **d. County Regional Parks, Trails and Scenic Highways Map** (10,000')
10. 5000' or one mile Scale MAPS
    - **a. County General Plan Land Use**
    - **b. Natural Habitat Areas**
    - **c. Relative Seismic Stability**
    - **d. Archaeological Resources**
    - e. Water Resources & Water Problems
    - f. Viewshed and Scenic Road
    - **g. Fire Hazard**
    - h. Parks and Public Open Space
    - **i. Heritage Resources**
    - j. Slope Constraint
    - k. Serpentine soils
11. 2000' Scale MAPS
    - a. State of California, Special Studies Zones [Revised Official Map]
    - b. Water Problem/Resource
    - c. USGS Topo Quad (7-1/2 minutes)
    - **d. Dept. of Fish & Game, Natural Diversity Data Base Map Overlays & Textual Reports**
    - e. Natural Resources [Key to map found in: Natural Resource Sensitivity Areas-Locality Data, Harvey & Stanley Associates-Contact County staff]
12. 1000' Scale MAPS/Air Photos
    - **a. Geologic Hazards**
    - b. Color Air Photos (MPSI)
    - c. Santa Clara valley Water District-Maps of Flood Control Facilities & Limits of 1% Flooding
    - **d. Soils Overlay Air Photos**
    - e. "Future Width Line" map set
13. County Lexington Basin Ordinance Relating to Sewage Disposal
14. Los Gatos Hillsides Specific Area Plan
15. Stanford University Master Use Permit and Environmental Impact Report [EIR]
16. Stanford Protocol and Land Use Policy Agreement
17. County Geologist
18. Site Specific Geologic Report
19. State Department of Mines and Geology, Special Report #146
20. USDA, SCS, "Soils of Santa Clara County"
21. USDA, SCS, "Soil Survey of Eastern Santa Clara County"
22. County Environmental Health/Septic Tank Sewage Disposal System - Bulletin "A"
23. San Martin Water Quality Study
24. County Environmental Health Department Tests and Reports
25. Santa Clara County Heritage Resource (including Trees) Inventory [computer database]
26. Official County Road Book
27. County Transportation Agency
28. County Standards and Policies Manual (Vol. I - Land Development)
29. Public Works Departments of Individual Cities
30. County Off-street Parking Standards
31. ALUC Land Use Plan for Areas Surrounding Airports [1992 version]
32. County Fire Marshal
33. California Department of Forestry
34. BAAQMD Annual Summary of Contaminant Excesses & **BAAQMD, "Air Quality & Urban Development-Guidelines for Assessing Impacts of Projects & Plans"**
35. Architectural and Site Approval Committee Secretary
36. County Guidelines for Architecture and Site Approval
37. County Development Guidelines for Design Review
38. Open Space Preservation, Report of the Preservation 2020 Task Force, April 1987 (Chapter IV)
39. Riparian Inventory of Santa Clara County, Greenbelt Coalition, November 1988.
40. Section 21151.4 of California Public Resources Code.
41. Site Specific Archaeological Reconnaissance Report
42. State Archaeological Clearinghouse, Sonoma State University
43. Transportation Research Board, "Highway Capacity Manual", Special Report 209, 1985
44. Design Guidelines for Non-residential Development in San Martin.
45. Southwest San Martin Area Interim Development Guidelines
46. 2001 NPDES Storm Water Discharge Permit
47. 2002 Clean Water Act Section 303(d)

*Items listed in **bold** are the most important sources and should be referred to during the first review of the project, when they are available. The planner should refer to the other sources for a particular environmental factor if the former indicate a potential environmental impact.

ver. 2/9/95
Revised 2/17/04

A. LAND USE / GENERAL PLAN

Would the project:

1. Conflict with general plan designation or zoning?

No Impact. The Trails Master Plan project involves trail design and construction, infrastructure modification and park improvements within an existing park within Santa Clara County's jurisdiction. These activities do not conflict with any applicable general plan designation or zoning.

2. Conflict with applicable plans or policies adopted by agencies with jurisdiction over the project?

No Impact. The Trails Master Plan project involves trail design and construction, infrastructure modification and park improvements within an existing park within Santa Clara County's jurisdiction. These activities do not conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation. While the Santa Clara County is currently developing a Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Community Conservation Plan (HCP/NCCP), Sanborn County Park is not within the HCP/NCCP project boundaries.

3. Conflict with special policies?

a. San Martin and/or South County

No Impact. The project is not located in San Martin or the South County.

b. Los Gatos Specific Plan or Lexington Watershed

No Impact. The project is not located in an area covered by the Los Gatos Specific Plan. The project also does not propose alteration or new sewage facilities as regulated by the County Lexington Basin Ordinance relating to sewage disposal.

c. East Foothills Policy Area

No Impact. The project is not located in the East Foothills Policy Area.

d. New Almaden Hist. Area/Guadalupe Watershed

No Impact. The project is not located in the New Almaden Historical Area or the Guadalupe Watershed.

e. Stanford

No Impact. The project is not located on Stanford-owned land.

f. San Jose

No Impact. The project is not located in the City of San Jose.

4. Be incompatible with existing land use in the vicinity?

No Impact. The project is the implementation of a Trails Master Plan within an existing County park. The proposed improvements do not represent a change in land use.

5. Disrupt or divide the physical arrangement of an established community?

No Impact. The project is the implementation of a Trails Master Plan within an existing County park. The proposed improvements would not disrupt or divide the physical arrangement of an established community.

B. GEOLOGIC

Photo 1. San Andreas Rift Valley at Sanborn Park. This photo was taken from the parking lot at the Mountain Winery (about 2 miles east of Sanborn Park on Eden Road - off of Highway 9). Skyline Ridge is in the distance. The valley to the left is Sanborn Creek. The vineyards of the Savannah-Channelle Winery are in the foreground. (*Source: USGS, San Francisco Bay Region 3D Image Tours* http://3dparks.wr.usgs.gov/3Dbayarea/html/Sanborn.htm.)

Affected Environment

Balance Hydrologics conducted an assessment of the hydrologic and geologic conditions of Sanborn County Park to be used to focus park trail planning and assist with the creation of the Trails Master Plan (Balance Hydrologics, 2006). They obtained baseline hydrology and geology data from maps, geology reports, and other sources, and conducted field-truthing site visits during the spring/summer of 2006. In addition to summarizing the baseline hydrologic and geologic conditions of the site, Balance evaluated the hydrologic and geologic opportunities and

constraints of the site and recommended practical guidelines for trail design in areas where there are multiple constraining physical factors. Trails would be used for hiking, horse-back riding, and biking. The results of their analysis is presented below and their full report is available as appendix C of the Trails Master Plan, or is available from the County Parks Department.

Sanborn County Park is divided in a northwest/southeast direction by the San Andreas fault zone, though most of the park lies on the western side of the fault. Consequently, the geology of the park varies significantly from one side of the fault to the other. The following section summarizes the various rock units that outcrop within Sanborn County Park, consistent with the most current stratigraphic descriptions of Brabb, Graymer, and Jones (2000), but drawing upon a rich history of local and regional published work.

Eastern Sanborn County Park

The San Andreas fault crosses the park in the northeast corner, and continues southeastward near the eastern boundary of the park, through Lake Ranch Reservoir to the southern tip of the park. East of the fault, there are two primary units exposed within the park. Nearest the fault is a strip of unnamed sedimentary units, mostly mudstone and shale with some sandstone. Given the estimated age of these units (Eocene), it is likely that they are associated with the sedimentary units across the fault, and may represent a change in location of the fault trace (a slight, local jump from east to west) within the broader fault zone.

Further east of the fault, along the eastern edge of the fault zone, a band of diabase/gabboro is exposed. This unit may represent a piece of oceanic crust that was sheared off the subducting plate and incorporated into the Franciscan mélange.

At the very eastern edge of the park, the Franciscan complex proper is exposed. Most of the Franciscan complex within the park is composed of highly sheared greywacke, siltstone, and shale, though some bands of Franciscan argillite (weakly-metamorphosed shale), and coarse-grained sandstone with interbedded shale are present as well, most notably in the northeastern corner of the park.

Western Sanborn Park

The granitic rock that makes up a large part of the basal Salinian block on the western side of the fault is not exposed at the surface within the park, though it is presumably present at depth. Therefore the geology on the western side of the fault within the park is dominated by marine and nearshore sedimentary units that were deposited on top of the granite before the Coast Range was uplifted.

The Vaqueros formation underlies most of the western side of the park. This unit is composed predominately of coarse-grained sandstone, though layers of shale and mudstone are locally present, with beds up to 3 meters thick in places. The Mindego basalt is exposed in this area as well, as tabular intrusions within the Vaqueros, however exposures are very limited.

East of the exposed Vaqueros rocks, a sliver of the San Lorenzo formation is exposed. This unit, stratigraphically below (older than) the Vaqueros, consists mainly of shale, mudstone,

and siltstone, representing a deeper depositional environment. Within the park the San Lorenzo formation is exposed only in the lower reaches of the northeastward-draining canyons along the San Andreas fault, and the unit is truncated by the fault on its eastern side.

Near the northeast corner of the park, a significant expanse of alluvial fan and alluvium is present. These sediments, predominately dense gravelly and clayey sand, were deposited within a small tectonic basin within the San Andreas fault zone.

Erodibility

The geologic units within Sanborn County Park erode at different rates due to a variety of factors. Units that are poorly consolidated, such as the artificial fill and alluvial fan/alluvial units, can rapidly erode or incise under certain conditions. Other units that are well-cemented, such as the Vaqueros sandstone, or are composed of resistant igneous material, such as the Mindego basalt, can be resistant to erosion. Geologic units such as the San Lorenzo and portions of the Franciscan, are moderately-well consolidated and have a resistance to erosion somewhere between the two extremes.

Erodibility also depends on position within the surrounding landscape. Steep-slope areas like much of the area within Sanborn Park, are also high-energy environments for erosion processes (primarily storm-water runoff and mass wasting in this case). Rilling, gullying, slumping and landsliding all contribute to higher erosion rates in these areas than on similar material in low-slope areas. Low-lying areas with low slope are typically depositional environments, though these deposits may be prone to other erosion triggers (see section 3.4 below).

Geologic Hazards

Seismic Activity

The San Francisco region is one of the more highly active seismic areas in the world, at the junction between two major tectonic plates—the North American and Pacific plates. The region is cut by several major faults, including the San Andreas, Hayward, and San Gregorio Faults, and numerous minor fault traces as well. Several major earthquakes have been recorded on these faults over the past two hundred years, including events in 1838, 1868, 1906, and 1989.

The United States Geologic Survey (USGS, 2003) estimates that there is a 21% chance that an earthquake magnitude greater than 6.7 would occur on the San Andreas Fault within the San Francisco Region sometime between 2003 and 2032. When considering all of the fault systems in the area, the USGS estimates a 67% chance of an earthquake greater than 6.7 occurring somewhere in the region by 2032. For reference, the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake was a magnitude 6.9.

Landslides and Debris Flows

The steepness of the terrain within Sanborn Park and the presence of active faults in the area contribute to the high occurrence of landslides within the park. Much of the park is prone to

landslide activity, especially near the San Andreas Fault. The unconsolidated alluvial fan and fluvial deposits within the Sanborn Creek Valley in the northeastern corner of the park, as well as colluvial deposits that fill in many of the tributary valleys in the area, are evidence of previous landslide and debris flow events. While some slides likely correspond to watershed disturbance during past logging activity, others certainly occurred pre-settlement, a reflection of the high uplift rates and tectonic activity within the region.

Landslides preferentially occur during wet periods—not just while it is raining, but throughout the entire wet season (when the ground is saturated even when it is not raining) and even more so when rainfall has been above average for a year or for multiple years. Water seeping underground at the bottom of a landslide serves to "lubricate" slip planes, decreasing a slope's resistance to slippage.

Discussion:

Will the Project:

1. Be located in an area designated as having a potential for major geological hazard?
2. Be located on, or adjacent to a known earthquake fault?
3. Be located in a Geologic Study Zone?

Response to 1), 2), and 3): Not Significant. Sanborn Park straddles the San Andreas fault zone, and therefore is likely to be affected by a major quake in the area. A major earthquake in the region could result in damage to park structures, rupture of utilities crossing the fault, earthquake-induced flooding and/or landslides (see below) and potential loss of life. However, damages would be of much smaller scale than in densely urbanized areas (where the threat of earthquake-induced fire is high), and in areas underlain by unconsolidated sediments (where ground-shaking is accentuated by the loose underlying material). All trails users would be recreating outdoors, and since it is impossible to anticipate a seismic event, there are no precautions that can be taken to avoid or reduce seismic events for recreationalists at Sanborn County Park. No structures that could expose people to loss of injury or death are proposed. Implementation of the BMPs as listed in the Project Description section of this document would ensure that no significant adverse impacts would occur.

4. Be located in an area of soil instability (subsidence, liquefaction, landslide, shrink/swell potential, soil creep or severe erosion)?

Not Significant. At several locations within the park vertical or overhanging scarps were observed at the head and sides of previous landslide and debris flow scars (specifically at the northwest end of the USGS Earthquake Trail renamed in this plan as the San Andreas Fault Trail). These over-steepened areas are prone to collapse and present a significant hazard within the park.

All Project elements would be subject to County geologic/seismic review and would conform to the County Uniform Interjurisdictional Trail Design Use and Management Guidelines to ensure none of the proposed improvements would cause instability of the project site or result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse.

In addition, implementation of the BMPs as listed in the Project Description section of this document would ensure that no significant adverse impacts would occur.

5. Cause substantial erosion or siltation?

Not Significant. Many of the small tributary valleys and drainages are partially filled with debris flow and landslide deposits, creating a relatively flat valley floor bounded by steep walls. Because of the unconsolidated nature of the material, these areas are prone to incision during larger storm events, sometimes at a very rapid rate. This incision can then leave steep-walled 'chasms' that present a real danger to hikers and other trail users, especially if the incision crosses or occurs next to an established trail. In many places these valley fill deposits are stabilized primarily by deep-rooted trees and other vegetative cover. Removal of vegetation in these areas could destabilize the deposits and induce rapid incision of the channel during storms.

The project would be constructed using the following Santa Clara Valley Water District Stream Maintenance Best Management Practices (BMPs) to protect areas from substantial soil erosion and loss of topsoil during and after construction. The Trail Guidelines also include the following policies related to soil erosion during the construction phase:

UD – 3.5.3 Soil Disturbance. In order to reduce erosion and maintenance problems during construction, disturbance to the soil surface shall be kept to a minimum.

UD-3.5.5 Erosion Control Plans. Where a potential for significant soil erosion exists along a new trail alignment, specific erosion control plans shall be developed by a Registered Civil or Soils Engineer as part of the trail construction documentation. Criteria to be used in determining the erosion potential include: slope; soil type; soil composition and permeability; and the relative stability of the underlying geologic unit as identified on local General Plans or other adopted planning documents.

6. Cause substantial compaction or over-covering of soil either on-site or off-site?

No Impact. Implementation of the proposed Trails Master Plan would not result in substantial compaction at Sanborn County Park.

7. Cause substantial change in topography or unstable soil conditions from excavation, grading, or fill?

No Impact. Implementation of the proposed Trails Master Plan would not result in a substantial change in the County Park's topography or create any unstable soil conditions from excavation, grading, or fill. No major grading, excavation or fill is proposed.

8. Involve construction of a building, road or septic system on a slope of:

a. 30% or greater?
b. 20% to 30%?
c. 10% to 20%?

No Impact. The proposed Trails Master Plan does not contain any provision to build a habitable structure, road or septic system on any slopes within Sanborn County Park.

C. RESOURCES/PARKS

1. Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of future value to the region and the residents of the state?

No Impact. Sanborn County Park is not currently mined for minerals and the proposed project does not propose any mining activities. The Trails Master Plan would not preclude future mining operations should the County decide to do so.

2. Result in substantial depletion of any non-renewable natural resource?

No Impact. The project does not propose any activities that would result in the substantial depletion of any non-renewable resources.

3. Convert 10 or more acres of prime agricultural land (Class I to II) to non-agricultural use or impair the agricultural productivity of nearby prime land?

No Impact. The proposed project would not result in the conversion of any prime farmland to non-agricultural use or impair the agricultural productivity of nearby prime farmland.

4. Involve lands protected by the Williamson Act (agricultural preserve) or an Open Space Easement?

No Impact. There are no lands protected by the Williamson Act or an Open Space Easement on Sanborn County Park land.

5. Affect any existing agricultural operations?

No Impact. There are no agricultural operations at Sanborn County Park.

6. Be on, within, or near a public or private park, wildlife reserve, or trail (includes those proposed for the future), or affect existing recreational opportunities?

Not Significant. The project is the implementation of a Trails Master Plan at an existing County park. The Trails Master Plan would increase recreational opportunities at Sanborn County Park and provide regional trail linkages.

7. Result in loss of open space rated as high priority for acquisition in the "Preservation 20/20" report.

No Impact. Implementation of the Trails Master Plan within Sanborn County Park would not result in a loss of open space.

8. Increase demand for parks or other recreational facilities?

Not Significant. Sanborn County Park is currently underutilized compared to other similar parks. It is thought that increasing trail mileage and providing access to additional types of users would increase park attendance.

D. SEWAGE/WATER QUALITY

Affected Environment

Balance Hydrologics conducted an assessment of the hydrologic and geologic conditions of Sanborn County Park to be used to focus park trail planning and assist with the creation of the Trails Master Plan (Balance Hydrologics, 2006). They obtained baseline hydrology and geology data from maps, geology reports, and other sources, and conducted field-truthing site visits during the spring/summer of 2006. In addition to summarizing the baseline hydrologic and geologic conditions of the site, Balance evaluated the hydrologic and geologic opportunities and constraints of the site and recommended practical guidelines for trail design in areas where there are multiple constraining physical factors. Trails would be used for hiking, horseback riding, and mountain biking. The results of their analysis is presented below and their full report is available as appendix C of the Trails Master Plan, or is available from the County Parks Department.

Drainages within Sanborn County Park

The watersheds and sub-watersheds within Sanborn County Park range in elevation from 840 feet to 3,160 feet. The park receives average annual rainfall that ranges from 38 inches at the lower entrance of the park to 54 inches at the highest elevations along the southwestern boundary (Rantz, 1971). The drainages tend to be steep, and the creek channels are generally filled with boulders. Sanborn Creek occupies the valley eroded along the San Andreas Fault zone (see Geology section above); the fault-zone valley serves as the master drainage way for the park. The steep tributaries drain northeastward into this valley, as is shown on Map 2. The main valley drains both to the northwest (Sanborn Creek towards Saratoga Creek) and to the southeast (Lyndon Creek towards Lexington Reservoir). Lake Ranch Reservoir is at the tipping point of these two drainage directions, with impoundment structures at both ends of the reservoir. Historically, water was diverted into Lake Ranch reservoir from the upper portions of Sanborn Creek; some of that diversion infrastructure is still in place. Lake Ranch Reservoir is managed for water production by the San Jose Water Company.

Filled Drainages

Certain sections of the drainage channels seem to have been partially filled at some point in the past by debris-flow/landslide deposits (colluvium[1]). These deposits often take on the appearance of a flat-bottomed section of an otherwise "V-shaped" valley, or a small rocky ridge in a valley bottom with alternate stream channels on both side of the ridge. Where we have observed such valley fill, it is often 5 to 15 feet in depth These deposits were observed in Todd

1 Colluvium is rock and earth that has been deposited at the base of a slope by landslides, debris flows, slumps, and other mass movement.

Creek, the west-most branch of Aubry Creek, the headwaters of Sanborn Creek above Lake Ranch reservoir, and another unnamed channel draining to Lyndon Canyon (see Map 4). Some of these deposits appear to have occurred after the slopes were logged, others seem to have occurred before logging (based on large, old, cut stumps which grew on top of the fill deposits).

The importance of noting this is that filled drainages are evidence that the steep landscape of Sanborn County Park has evolved by way of the processes of landslides and debris flows (which have filled the bottoms of the drainages). Therefore we can expect more landslides and debris flows to occur as time marches on. Also, this valley fill material can be unstable and prone to rapid erosion. Trails and stream-crossing structures built on this type of fill can be lost if the fill material erodes. This erosion can happen gradually, such as by headward migration of knickpoints, but can also happen catastrophically during a single large storm.

Braided Drainages

Either as a result of filled drainages or due to other causes, some sections of creek channels in Sanborn Park have multiple flow paths and are similar to braided stream channels. These are most common in the flat-bottomed drainages mentioned above. This braided type of channel form may be due to the creek channel working its way through old debris-flow deposits. Typically the valley bottoms in these locations are filled with boulders as well as growing redwoods or other trees.

Regardless of the cause, these braided drainages present a challenge to trail crossings, because the location of the active channel is likely to shift over time (from month to month or from year to year).

Seeps and Springs

Ground-water contribution to creek flow is important, and becomes increasingly evident toward the end of the dry season. During sites visits in September 2006 (when it had not rained appreciably since April), we observed many small drainages with active surface-water flow. These are more common lower in the watershed, where there is more uphill elevation to contribute to the groundwater flow. Persistent late-season flow is important to sustaining riparian vegetation and stream biota. It also provides potential water sources to equestrian trail users (ideally the water would be piped to fill a trough rather than drinking directly from the creek). Water year 2006[2] was unusually wet (approximately 140 to 160 percent of average annual rainfall), so these instances of late-season water will likely be less abundant after a dry year or series of dry years.

Would the project:

1. Result in a septic field being constructed on soil with severe septic drain field limitations or where a high water table extends close to the natural land surface?

2 Most hydrologic and geomorphic monitoring occurs for a period defined as a water year, which begins on October 1 and ends on September 30 of the named year. For example, water year 2006 (WY2006) began on Oct. 1, 2005, and concluded on September 30, 2006.

2. Result in a septic field being located within 50 feet of a drainage swale; 100 feet of any well, water course or water body or 200 feet of a reservoir at capacity?

Response to 1) and 2): No Impact. No facilities are proposed in the Trails Master Plan that would require construction of a septic field.

3. Result in extensions of a sewer trunk line with capacity to serve new development?

No Impact. The Trails Master Plan does not propose facilities that would require an extension of a sewer trunk line.

4. Require a NPDES permit for construction [Does it disturb one (1) acre or more?]?

Not Significant. New trails and staging areas, and the closure and obliteration of old trails will be in excess of one acre or more. The project would apply for a NPDES permit for construction as applicable.

5. Result in significant changes to receiving waters quality during or following construction?

Not Significant. Implementation of the Trails Master Plan would not cause impacts to water quality or violate waste discharge requirements in any receiving body of water, including the streams within Sanborn County Park. Implementation the County Uniform Interjurisdictional Trail Design Use and Management Guidelines and the BMPs as listed in the Project Description Section of this document will ensure that impacts are avoided or reduced to less than significant levels.

6. Degrade surface or ground water quality or public water supply? (Including marine, fresh and wetland waters.)

No Impact. Construction or operation of the proposed Trails Master Plan would not affect surface water or contaminate a public water supply. Construction Best Management Practices (BMPs) would be used to ensure that no water body is impaired.

7. Be located in an area of special water quality concern (e.g., Los Gatos or Guadalupe Watershed)?

Not Significant. The northeast corner of the park is located in the Los Gatos Creek watershed. Lyndon Canyon drains to Lexington Reservoir. The new trails in this area avoid the Lyndon Canyon drainage and are routed on higher slopes away from this tributary. The proposed trails are planned to be 4-6’ in width unless using an existing service road which are 8-10’ in width. These narrow trails situated away from the drainage in Lyndon Canyon would not affect water quality in the Los Gatos Creek watershed.

8. Result in use of well water previously contaminated by nitrates, mercury, asbestos, etc. existing in the groundwater supply?

No Impact. While Sanborn County Park does use well water for its water supply, the groundwater does not contain these elements.

9. Is the project a tributary to an already impaired water body? If so will the project result in an increase in any existing pollutants?

No Impact. The Sanborn County Parks site is not on a tributary to an impaired water body.

E. WATER SUPPLY/DRAINAGE/FLOODING

1. Interfere substantially with ground water recharge or reduce the amount of groundwater otherwise available for public water supplies?

No Impact. The Trails Master Plan would double the amount of trails. However, besides the construction of one new staging area on Sanborn Road and one expanded staging area along Highway 35, no new visitor service facilities, including new restrooms or drinking fountains, would be built. Therefore, an insignificant amount of water would be used by the new trail users. No lowering of the water table is expected.

2. Substantially change the direction, rate of flow, or quantity, or quality of ground waters, either through direct additions or withdrawals, or through interception of an aquifer by cuts or excavations?

No Impact. The Trails Master Plan would double the amount of trails. As stated above, no new visitor-serving facilities would be built, therefore no changes to the quantity or quality of ground waters as a result of implementing the Trails Master Plan is expected.

3. Change absorption rates, drainage patterns, or the rate and amount of surface runoff? (Note policy re flood retention in water course and restoration of riparian vegetation for West Branch of the Llagas.)

No Impact. Implementing new trails will not create large amounts of impervious surfaces which would change absorption rates, drainage patterns or the rate and amount of surface runoff. The Trails Master Plan also would consolidate the current web of volunteer trails between the Youth Science Institute and Walden West by clearly identifying legitimate trails and abandoning others. The majority of trails proposed for closure or rerouting are within these two areas. A total of 23,074 lineal feet, or 84,168 square feet (1.93 acres) would be restored to natural conditions using hand tools and the small Sweco tractor. Restoring almost 2 acres in the main activity area would result in a beneficial effect of increasing absorption rates.

4. Substantially alter existing drainage patterns in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on or off site?

Not Significant. The floodplain of any stream or river is an important part of flow conveyance during periods of high water. In order to protect these areas, the Trails Master Plan delineated a 30-foot buffer around all minor creeks within the park, a 75-foot buffer around

Sanborn Creek, and a 150-foot buffer around Lyndon Creek, and automatically designated these areas as "poorly-suited" on the suitability map. These buffer limits provide a useful general guide for trail suitability at a broad scale. The Trail Guidelines require the preparation of an erosion control plan where there is potential for significant erosion along a new trail alignment (refer to Geology discussion above under item b)). In addition, the following Trail Guidelines policy would apply to the project:

UD 4.1.1 Drainage Crossings. Trails crossing creeks and drainages may require a bridge or culvert. Structures over water courses shall be carefully placed to minimize disturbance. Erosion control measures shall be taken to prevent erosion at the outfalls of drainage structures.

Adherence to these policies along with the implementation of the Best Management Practices (BMPs) as listed in the Project Description section of this document would avoid or reduce potential impacts to less than significant levels.

As stated in the Biological Resources section of this document, the project proposes creek crossings. The Trails Master Plan would add 24 drainage crossings and convert to public use 2 existing drainage crossings. The drainage crossings are classified into six categories: large bridge more than 60 feet long from end to end, small bridge 15 to 59 feet long, puncheon (a sill log on either bank of the creek with two or more timbers that span the creek from one sill log to the other (stringers); sometimes decking is placed on top of the stringers), turnpike (raising the grade of a trail tread by a small amount (6 to 8 inches) above the surrounding terrain by cribbing one side of the trail with logs or rocks and then filling in the tread area with compacted rocks and soil), rock crossing and stepping stones. All bridges would be clear spans. The totals per category are:

Large bridge = 4

Small bridge = 6 plus 1 existing now for public use

Puncheon = 7

Turnpike = 4

Rock crossing (rock ford) = 1 plus 1 existing now for public use

Stepping stones = 2

It is possible there would be need for other small drainage crossings once the more detailed design phase is initiated. It is anticipated that these would be primarily puncheons across seasonal drainages only. There are many areas in Sanborn County Park where flows existing only during storm events. However, these areas would need drainage crossings to prevent the trails from washing out. Of the large bridges, two would span Aubry Creek, one would span Sanborn Creek and one may span Trout Creek (acquisition is needed for the Trout Creek Trail, thus placement of the bridge is undefined at this time). Because these bridges are proposed to be clear spans and not involve construction of footings in the creek channels, no impacts to riparian areas adjacent to these bridges would occur. Of the small bridges, one would span Sanborn Creek, two would span tributaries to Sanborn Creek, one would span a tributary to Aubry Creek, one would span Bonjetti Creek and one may span McElroy Creek or Bonjetti Creek (Pourroy Trail - acquisition needed thus placement of bridge undefined). These small

bridges would also be built so that no construction would occur within the creek channel itself; therefore, no biological impacts from placement of bridges within the new trails in Sanborn County Park would occur.

5. Involve a surface water body, natural drainage channel, streambed or water course such as to alter the amount, location, course, or flow of its waters?

No Impact. Implementation of the Trails Master Plan would not involve altering any water course.

6. Result in an increase in pollutant discharges to receiving waters?

No Impact. Implementation of the Trails Master Plan would not involve increasing any pollutant discharges to receiving waters. There are no new uses as part of the Trails Master Plan that would increase either land or water pollution.

7. Expose people or property to water related hazards such as flooding?

Not Significant. The only dam that would potentially cause flooding is the Lake Ranch Reservior Dam. The implementation of the Trails Master Plan would not add new residents or structures downstream of this dam. One existing trail is located below the dam on a service road.

F. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Affected Environment

Vegetation Communities and Special Status Plants

Vegetation Communities

Vegetation communities found within Sanborn County Park include redwood forest, mixed evergreen forest, riparian, oak woodland, chaparral and grassland. These vegetation communities exist in various amounts with the most abundant being redwood forest and mixed evergreen forest. Common plant species found within the redwood forest include coastal redwood (*Sequoia sempervirens*), California bay (*Umbellularia californica*), sword fern (*Polystichum munitum*), and common snowberry (*Symphoricarpos laevigatus*). Riparian habitat along creeks and the fringes of ponds contains plants such as willows (*Salix* spp), cottonwoods (*Populus* spp.), western sycamore (*Platanus racemosa*), rush species (*Juncus effusus* and *Juncus patens*), horsetail (*Equisetum arvense*), and marsh aster (*Aster chilensis*). Plant species found within mixed evergreen and/or oak woodland habitats include coast live oak (*Quercus agrifolia*), California buckeye (*Aesculus californica*), madrone (*Arbutus menziesii*), tan oak (*Lithocarpus densiflorus*), toyon (*Heteromeles arbutifolia*), and poison oak (*Toxicodendron diversilobum*). Grasslands, generally dominated by non-native species, occur in small areas throughout the park. Typical species found within the grasslands are wild oat (*Avena fatua*), ripgut brome (*Bromus diandrus*), purple needlegrass (*Nasella pulchra*), and California oatgrass (*Danthonia californica*). Brushy areas are found on southern facing slopes and contain California sage

(*Artemisia californica*), California coffee berry (*Rhamnus californica*), coyote bush (*Baccharis pilularis*), hollyleaf cherry (*Prunus ilicifolia*), and sticky monkey flower (*Mimulus aurantiacus*).

Special Status Plants

A search of the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) and the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) On-line Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants resulted in a total of 11 special status plants documented within a five-mile radius of the park that have some potential to occur within the park boundaries (see Table 4). No other special status plants besides those on the CNPS listing have been identified. Nine of the eleven plants require serpentine soils to grow. They are the coyote ceanothus (*Ceanothus ferrisae*), Loma Prieta hoita (*Hoita strobilina*), Metcalf Canyon jewel-flower (*Streptanthus albidus ssp. albiduss*), most beautiful jewel-flower (*Streptanthus albidus ssp. peramoenus*), Mt. Hamilton thistle (*Circium fontinale var. campylon*), Santa Clara Valley dudleya (*Dudleya setchellii*), fragrant fritillary (*Fritillaria liliacea*), smooth lessingia (*Lessingia micradenia var. glabrata*), and woolly-headed Lessingia (*Lessingia hololeuca*). Due to the lack of serpentine soils recorded in the park and the lack of field observations of serpentine soils, there is very low potential that suitable habitat exists within the park for the nine serpentine plant species. However, in the unlikely event that suitable habitat is present in the park, these plants have moderate potential of being present.

The two non-serpentine plants are the King's Mountain manzanita (*Arctostaphylos regismontana)* and the round-headed coyote-mint (*Monardella villosa globosa).* King's Mountain manzanita is found on granite or sandstone outcrops in chaparral, coniferous and evergreen forests. The round-headed coyote-mint is found in openings of oak woodland or chaparral habitats. Over 100 round-headed coyote-mint plants were recently documented in 2005 at Castle Rock State Park (CNDDB).

The majority of the 11 plant species are listed by the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) as 1B, which means they are rare, threatened or endangered in California or elsewhere. The woolly-headed Lessingia is a CNPS List 3, which serves as a review list because more information is needed about the plant. The coyote ceanothus is listed as endangered under the Federal Endangered Species Act.

Table 4.
Special Status Plant Species Documented Within Five Miles of Sanborn County Park and Their Potential to Occur Within the Park.

Species Name	Status	Habitat	Potential to Occur Onsite
Serpentine-based plants: Coyote ceanothus (*Ceanothus ferrisae*), Loma Prieta hoita (*Hoita strobilina*), Metcalf Canyon jewel-flower (*Streptanthus albidus ssp. albiduss*), Most Beautiful Jewel-flower (*Streptanthus albidus ssp. peramoenus*), Mt. Hamilton thistle (*Circium fontinale var. campylon*),	Various, from CNPS 3 to FE	Serpentine or ultramafic soils mostly in grassland habitats, chaparral, sometimes foothill woodland, open coniferous forest	No serpentine soils recorded in the park and no serpentine soils observed during field visits

Species Name	Status	Habitat	Potential to Occur Onsite
Santa Clara Valley dudleya (*Dudleya setchellii*), fragrant fritillary (*Fritillaria liliacea*), smooth lessingia (*Lessingia micradenia var. glabrata*), and woolly-headed Lessingia (*Lessingia hololeuca*).			
King's Mountain manzanita (*Arctostaphylos regismontana)*	CNPS 1B	Granite or sandstone outcrops in chaparral, coniferous and evergreen forests	**Low Potential**. One record from 1929 five miles north of park. Not documented within park, however some suitable habitat present within park.
Round-headed coyote-mint (*Monardella villosa globosa)*	CNPS 1B	Openings of oak woodland or chaparral habitats	**Moderate Potential.** Suitable habitat present within park. Documented at Castle Rock State Park in 2005.

Wildlife and Special Status Animals

Wildlife

Sanborn County Park offers large areas of relatively undisturbed habitat for a variety of wildlife species. The Park represents only a small portion of much larger tracks of protected land throughout the Santa Cruz Mountains. In that respect, Sanborn County Park provides movement corridors and foraging for wildlife such as mountain lion (*Felis concolor*), Mule deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*), and neotropic migrants including olive sided flycatcher (*Contopus cooperi*), tree swallow (*Tachycineta bicolor*), and black-headed grosbeak (*Pheucticus melanocephalus*). Reptile species either observed or expected to occur within the park include northern alligator lizard (*Elgaria coerulea*), western fence lizard (*Sceloperous occidentalis*), and gopher snake (*Pituophis catenifer*). Downed woody debris can provide a suitable micro-climate including cover and invertebrate forage for amphibian species such as California slender salamander (*Batrachoseps attenuata*), western toad (*Bufo boreas*), and ensatina (*Ensatina eschscholtzi*).

California newts (*Taricha torosa*) are abundant throughout the park and migrate after the first fall rains to their breeding grounds within the park's ponds and creeks. At the conclusion of breeding, approximately May, they will spend the summer months under rocks, bark, or rotting wood.

Special Status Animals

Results of the literature search and CNDDB search conducted for Sanborn County Park resulted in finding seven special status animal species that have the potential to be present within

the park (see Table 5). These include the federally threatened and California special concern (CSC) California red-legged frog *(Rana draytonii*), the California state fully protected white-tailed kite (*Elanus leucurus*) and the Cooper's hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*), long-eared owl (*Asio otus*), and the San Francisco dusky-footed woodrat (*Neotoma fuscipes annectens*) all of which are CSC species. Additionally, another CSC species, the western pond turtle (*Clemmys marmorata*), is known to occur within the park. The federally threatened steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) have been documented by the Center for Ecosystem Management and Restoration (2005) to have runs or populations within Saratoga Creek, Booker Creek and Bonjetti Creek, and steelhead likely occurs in McElroy Creek. However, multiple barriers on San Tomas Aquino Creek in Santa Clara and a barrier on Saratoga Creek at the confluence of San Tomas Aquino Creek and Saratoga Creek prevents passage of steelhead into the upper reaches of all these creeks. This confluence is located in the City of Santa Clara near Monroe Street and San Tomas Expressway. Genetic tests have not been done on the steelhead/rainbow trout populations found within these creeks to determine if the rainbow trout are of an evolutionary significant stock.

There is low potential for foraging and aestivation habitat for the California red-legged frog at Sanborn County Park. The creeks, Walden Pond and Lake Ranch reservoir provide only marginal breeding habitat for the frog due to the presence of bullfrogs at the pond and reservoir and the lack of or sparse aquatic vegetation found along many of the creeks. There are two records of CRLF in the vicinity of Sanborn County Park: one is located at Saratoga Creek, approximately 1.5 miles northeast of the park and the other at Los Gatos Creek, approximately 4.6 miles southeast of the park (CNDDB, 2006)

Table 5.
Special-Status Wildlife Species Reported Within Five Miles of Sanborn County Park and Their Potential to Present Within the Park.

Species Name	Status	Habitat	Potential to Occur Onsite
White-tailed kite (*Elanus leucurus*)	SFP	Low elevation agricultural, grassland, oak woodland, wetland, savannah or riparian habitats adjacent to open fields	**Moderate potential**. Suitable habitat present.
Cooper's hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*)	CSC	Nests typically found in riparian areas with deciduous trees or oaks, as in canyon bottoms on river flood plains	**Moderate potential**. Suitable habitat present.
Western pond turtle (*Clemmys marmorata*)	CSC	Ponds, creeks in woodlands, and grasslands	**Yes.** Documented at Lake Ranch Reservoir in 2003.
California red-legged frog *(Rana aurora draytonii)*	FT, CSC	Lowlands and foothills in or near permanent sources of deep water with dense, shrubby or emergent riparian vegetation.	**Low Potential.** Suitable habitat present along creeks and at Lake Ranch Reservoir. However, habitat is

Species Name	Status	Habitat	Potential to Occur Onsite
			marginal due to the presence of bullfrogs at the reservoir and lack of emergent vegetation and deep pools along creeks.
San Francisco dusky-footed woodrat (*Neotoma fuscipes annectens*)	CSC	Forest habitats of moderate canopy and moderate to dense understory. May prefer chaparral and redwood habitats	**Yes.** Woodrat nests found throughout the park during field surveys.
Long-eared owl (*Asio otus*)	CSC	Dense vegetation adjacent to more open areas such as grassland	**Moderate Potential.** Some suitable habitat found throughout the park.
Steelhead - Central California Coast ESU (*Oncorhynchus mykiss irideus*)	FT	Moderate to fast flowing, well oxygenated waters for breeding	**No Potential.** Impassable barriers on the lower section of Saratoga Creek preclude the presence of steelhead in the park.

Riparian Setback Requirements

Santa Clara County: The Santa Clara County General Plan from 1980 requires a setback of 150 feet from the top of bank of streams and 100 feet from top of bank for altered streams. If necessary, it is possible to reduce the minimum setback with approval from the County Board of Supervisors. The Santa Clara County Planning office is in the process of developing Riparian Protection regulations for integration in the County Zoning Ordinance. These regulations are intended to provide for the protection and potential enhancement of riparian habitat along designated streams in the County.

Sanborn County Park Trails Master Plan: Riparian setbacks were designated in the Master Plan. The setbacks vary according to the order of the stream. For the drainages at the headwaters of the creeks found at higher elevations throughout the park the setback would be 30 feet. Lower elevation creeks had either a 75-foot or 150-foot setback.

Santa Clara County Protected Trees

As stated in the Santa Clara County Tree Preservation and Removal Policy a protected tree within Sanborn County Park would consist of: 1) any tree present on property owned or leased by the county that is twelve (12) inches or more in diameter measured at four and one-half feet above the ground, or which exceeds twenty (20) feet in height; 2) any multi-trunk trees totaling 24 inches or more in diameter measured at four and one-half feet above the ground; and 3) any tree designated as heritage by the County Board of Supervisors.

Will the Project:

1. Affect fish, wildlife, reptiles, or plant life, by [a] change in diversity or numbers or [b] introduction of new species or [c] restrictions to migration or movement or [d] reducing habitat?

Not Significant. Rainbow trout are known to occur in Saratoga, Booker, and Bonjetti Creek and are likely to occur in McElroy Creek. Existing downstream fish passage barriers prevent steelhead from entering streams in the park. However, in order to protect potential future movement of steelhead (if downstream barriers are removed) and current movement of rainbow trout, all of the creeks which flow year-round in the park are proposed to have crossings that would span the creek (bridges and puncheons) to allow for in-stream movement of species. In a few instances high in the headwaters of streams rock crossings and stepping stones are recommended. Rock crossings would be used along trail crossings which carry only storm drainage and flow seasonally. Stepping stones would be used in very shallow flows and would be spaced so that water flows between the stones. These two stream crossings techniques would be located in the channel, but both allow for in-stream animal passage.

2. Result in impact to an endangered, threatened or rare species or their habitat (including but not limited to plants, fish, insects, animals, and birds)?

Significant unless Mitigation Incorporated. There is potential for both listed and special status species to occur at Sanborn County Park and some species could occur in areas proposed for trail construction. Mitigation Measure BIO-1 calls for preconstruction surveys for all special status plant species prior to final trail alignment. This measure includes surveying for the two CNPS-listed plants that have a higher potential for occurrence, (King's Mountain manzanita and round-headed coyote mint). If any special status plant species are found, trail segments would be rerouted around any significant populations of the plants. If re-routing proves to be infeasible, County Parks would consult with the wildlife agencies to determine if the plants could be relocated.

Mitigation Measure BIO-2 would be implemented to detect the presence of special status wildlife, including the dusky-footed woodrat. If the trail alignment is located near or would pass over water, surveys for red-legged frogs, and western pond turtles would also be part of this Mitigation Measure. The likelihood of presence of the California red-legged frog and steelhead is low. The western pond turtle is known to occur at Lake Ranch Reservoir. An existing service road parallels one side of the reservoir and is used by park visitors, park staff and water company staff. This service road is very narrow with a steep drop off into the reservoir and blind corners on either side of the reservoir. Therefore, vehicles traveling this road do not typically exceed speeds of ten miles per hour for safety reasons and could easily spot and avoid any wildlife including western pond turtle crossing, foraging, and/or basking on the road.

Mitigation Measure BIO-3 would be implemented to detect the presence of nesting raptors, including the white-tailed kite, long-eared owl, and Cooper's hawk, and the presence of nesting migratory birds. Nesting birds, including raptors, are protected by the California Department of Fish and Game Code 3503, which reads, "It is unlawful to take, possess, or needlessly destroy the nest or eggs of any bird, except as otherwise provided by this code or any

regulation made pursuant thereto." Passerines and non-passerine land birds are further protected under the Federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA: 16 U.S.C., scc. 703, Supp. I, 1989) which prohibits killing, possessing, or trading in migratory birds, except in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior. This Act encompasses whole birds, parts of birds, and bird nests and eggs. However, impacts to nesting birds would be reduced to less than significant with the implementation of Mitigation Measures BIO-3.

The Trails Master Plan adds new uses to Sanborn Park that currently do not exist: 1) use of the trails by mountain bikers, and 2) dog handlers. Both of these uses are allowed in other Santa Clara County Parks. Provided that these users adhere to Park policies and rules, for example remaining on marked trails, and dogs remaining on-leash, no impact to biological resources as a result of these uses are expected.

Since the trail construction activities would be short-term in nature, the direct impacts on the species and their habitat would also be short-term. Any vegetation disturbed by the trail construction would be restored in accordance with the 1999 Santa Clara County Interjurisdictional Trail Committee Trail Design, Use and Management Guidelines (Trail Guidelines). The Trail Guidelines include the following policies related to special status species:

Policy UD-1.3.2.1 To the maximum extent feasible, trail alignments shall avoid impacts to known special status plants and animal habitats. Trail alignments shall be evaluated on a case-by-case basis by a professional biologist to identify impact avoidance measures or mitigation measures for biotic impacts. Consideration shall be given to: rerouting the trail; periodic closures; revegetation prescriptions including replacement vegetation based on habitat acreage or plant quantity; buffer plantings; and other appropriate measures. Removal of mature native trees shall be avoided as much as possible to protect the productivity of the landscape and the aesthetics of the trail. The appropriate resource agencies will be contracted for consultation regarding any trail alignments that are identified as having potential significant impacts to special status species or their habitats.

Policy UD-1.3.2.3 Existing access routes and levees shall be used wherever possible to minimize impacts of new construction in special status species habitats and riparian zones.

Steelhead/rainbow trout could be affected by erosion or sedimentation of the creeks during construction. Adherence to the Trail Guidelines would minimize impacts on steelhead/rainbow trout. In particular the following Trail policies would minimize impacts on steelhead/rainbow trout:

UD- 3.5.3 Soil Disturbance: In order to reduce erosion and maintenance problems during construction, disturbance of the soil surface shall be kept to a minimum.

UD- 3.5.5 Erosion Control Plans: Where a potential for significant soil erosion exists along a new trail alignment, specific erosion control plans shall be developed by a Registered Civil or Soils Engineer as part of the trail construction documentation. Criteria to be used in determining the erosion potential include: slope; soil type; soil composition and permeability; and the relative stability of the underlying geologic unit as identified on local General Plans or other adopted planning documents.

Upon completion of the trail construction, there could be indirect impacts to special status species from the recreational use of the trails. New trails would provide new access to habitat that was formerly inaccessible. Thus, nests of white-tailed kites, Cooper's hawks, or other common raptors (red-tailed hawk, red-shouldered hawk), could be subject to disturbance by humans during the nesting season. Mitigation Measure BIO-3 calls for pre-construction surveys for raptors. If raptor nests are detected, trails will be rerouted to avoid close proximity to nest trees and/or nest stands.

However in the event that human presence is negatively affecting special status species (including all species listed in Tables 4and 5), the following Trail Guidelines Policy would apply:

Policy UD-1.3.2.2 In special status species habitat areas, trail use levels shall be limited as appropriate to ensure protection of resources. Techniques for limiting use may include, but are not limited to:

- *physical access controls*
- *seasonal or intermittent closures*
- *restricted use permits*
- *exclusion of domestic pets*
- *signs*

Impacts on special status species would be avoided or reduced to less than significant levels with the implementation of the following Mitigation Measures and the application of the 1999 Santa Clara County Interjurisdictional Trail Committee Trail Design, Use and Management Guidelines (Trail Guidelines).

Impact: Trail construction could affect populations or individual plants, listed by CNPS as rare, threatened or endangered. The listing covers two plants that could occur at Sanborn County Park: King's Mountain manzanita and round-headed coyote-mint.

Mitigation Measure BIO-1: If a trail alignment is within suitable habitat for either plant species, preconstruction plant surveys shall occur after the preliminary trail alignment has been flagged. If plants are found within fifteen feet of any proposed trail alignment, the alignment shall be reconfigured to ensure at least a fifteen foot buffer.

Implementation:	Qualified Natural Resource County Staff or Qualified Consulting Biologist
Timing:	During the construction phase of the project, after preliminary trail alignment has been flagged.
Monitoring:	County Parks Project Manager to schedule plant surveys and qualified County staff or biologist(s) shall submit final report to the County Parks Project Manager

Impact: If trails are present within a creek corridor or adjacent upland habitat, California red legged frog (CRLF), western pond turtle (WPT), and San Francisco dusky-footed woodrat nests could be disturbed by project activities or by vehicle or human access.

Mitigation Measure BIO-2: The following avoidance measures for WPT, CRLF, and Dusky-footed woodrat shall be implemented:

1. Preconstruction Survey**.** In the two days prior to the start of project activities, a qualified biologist or natural resource county staff shall perform one daytime survey for CRLF. The entire work area, including any burrows, rocks and woodpiles that may be disturbed by construction activities, shall be inspected for CRLF.

If CRLF is detected, work shall be delayed and the USFWS shall be contacted on how to proceed (since it is a Federally Threatened species).

If during this survey WPT is detected, the County or its representatives shall contact CDFG for guidance (since it is a State Species of Special Concern).

If during this survey a dusky-footed woodrat nest is detected, the County shall complete one of the following avoidance/minimization measures. These measures are listed in order of priority, meaning the first measure is the preferred measure to be implemented as it provides the least amount of impact to the woodrat. If the first measure cannot be implemented due to extenuating site conditions, the second shall be implemented and so forth down the list.

a. The trail alignment shall be rerouted to avoid the woodrat nest by at least 50 feet.
b. If the trail cannot be rerouted at least 50 feet from the nest, it shall be rerouted as far away from the nest as possible but not closer than 5 feet from the nest.
c. If the trail must go directly through a nest or within 5 feet of a nest, the nest shall be moved. It shall be moved no more than 15 feet from its original location as far from the trail alignment as possible. On steep slopes, the nest shall be moved upslope of the trail alignment. Nests shall only be moved in the late afternoon during the non-breeding season (October through January). Prior to nest relocation activities, the nest shall be assessed as to whether it is active or inactive. This includes searching for fresh scat or vegetation around the nest. Extra care, such as attempting to keep the nest as intact as possible, shall be taken if it is determined that the nest to be moved is active. If it is determined that a nest is active and that breeding is occurring outside of the breeding season, trail construction shall cease and a buffer shall be established around the nest until young have matured (approximately 21 days from birth).

2. Employees and Contractor Education Program**.** An employee education program shall be conducted prior to the initiation of project activities. The program shall consist of a brief presentation by persons knowledgeable in federally listed and state special status species biology and legislative protection to explain concerns to contractors and their employees. The program would include the following: a description of CRLF, WPT, and woodrat and their habitat needs; an explanation of the status of CRLF, WPT, and woodrat and their protection under state and federal laws; and a list of measures being taken to reduce impacts to CRLF, WPT, and woodrat during project activities. Crews shall be instructed that if a CRLF is found, it is to be left alone and the project foreman and the USFWS must be notified immediately. Likewise, if a WPT or woodrat nest is found in the project footprint, it is to be left alone and the project foreman must be notified immediately.

3. Daily Monitoring. During the construction phase of the project, a qualified biologist, natural resource county staff, or a trained, on-site monitor shall check the site in the morning every day before construction activities begin for the presence of CRLF, WPT, woodrat or other wildlife present within the work area. If CRLF, WPT, or woodrat is found, construction would be halted and the monitor would immediately notify the appropriate regulatory agency. Subsequent recommendations made by the USFWS or CDFG shall be followed. The monitor would not handle or try to relocate any special-status species.

4. Speed Limit. Vehicles shall not drive more than 5 miles per hour within the construction area if these species have been determined to be present. If any WPT, CRLF, or woodrat are seen in the path of a vehicle, the vehicle shall stop until the animal is out of the path. Parked vehicles shall be thoroughly checked underneath before they are moved to ensure that no WPT, CRLF or woodrat are on the ground below the vehicle.

Implementation:	Qualified Natural Resource County Staff or Qualified Consulting Biologist, project supervisor and all crew members
Timing:	Prior to construction and during construction as specified above
Monitoring:	(a) Survey biologist or natural resource county staff to submit a letter report of survey results to County Parks Project Manager. (b) Project crew to sign a sheet for receipt of CRLF, WPT, and woodrat training. Sign-in sheet held by project supervisor. (c) Biological monitor to report daily to project supervisor. (d) Project supervisor to enforce speed limit and parked vehicle check.

Impact: The removal or trimming of shrubs or trees for trail and bridge construction and trail realignment or obliteration could impact nesting birds, if present.

Mitigation Measure BIO-3: In order to avoid impacts to existing raptor and migratory bird nests, a preconstruction survey of all vegetation along the flagged trail alignment that could support nests shall be completed. Every attempt shall be made to protect trees and nests that contain raptor and migratory bird nests.

A qualified biologist or natural resource county staff member shall conduct a survey for nesting raptors and other birds within five days prior to the start of construction activities. If active nests are not present, construction activities can take place as scheduled. If more than 5 days elapse between the initial nest search and the beginning of construction activities, another nest survey shall be conducted. If any active nests are detected, a qualified biologist or natural resource county staff member shall determine the appropriate buffer to be established around the nest. CDFG generally accepts a 50-foot radius buffer around passerine and non-passerine land bird nests, and up to a 250-foot radius for raptors, however the natural resource staff or biologist member shall have flexibility to reduce or expand the buffer depending on the specific circumstances.

Implementation:	Qualified Natural Resource County Staff or Qualified Consulting Biologist
Timing:	During the construction phase of the project
Monitoring:	County Parks Project Manager to schedule removal and/or

trimming outside of nesting season. If not feasible, County Parks Project Manager shall ensure that removal/trimming is completed within five days of the completion of nest surveys. If nests are found, County Parks Project Manager and implementation biologist or natural resource staff member would ensure that buffer is maintained until chicks have fledged. The biologist or natural resource staff member would provide a memo report on the results of the nest survey to County Parks Project Manager.

3. Impact a local natural community, such as a fresh water marsh, oak forest or salt water tide land?

Not Significant. One potential impact from project activities to the oak woodlands found within Sanborn County Park is the spread of Sudden Oak Death Syndrome (SODS), which is known to occur in the park. Because the mode of spread and the possible vectors of this fungus remain unknown, it is inconclusive whether trail construction and use would contribute to its spread. However, SODS spores are known to prefer wet moist climates, cool temperatures and living plants. The risk of movement is greatest in muddy areas during rainy weather. The California Oak Mortality Task Force provides a list of Best Management Practices (BMPs) and sanitation measures that may aid in reducing the spread of SODS. These BMPs along with posting educational signs for visitors will be implemented and are included in the Project Description. BMPs include keeping equipment, boots and tools clean (i.e. removing mud and any plant material), completing work in the dry season, aligning trails away from areas that are infested, and educating work crews.

4. Impact a watercourse, aquatic, wetland, or riparian area or habitat? (Subdivision includes or construction within 150 feet.)

Not Significant. Impacts to riparian habitat would be minimized due to existing trail design and riparian setback policies in effect which require careful design of trails in or near riparian zones. According to the Trail Guidelines Policy UD-1.3.3.3.2, "trails in areas of moderate or difficult terrain and adjacent to a riparian zone shall be composed of natural materials or shall be designed (e.g. a bridge or boardwalk) to minimize disturbance and need for drainage structures, and to protect water quality." In addition, any work proposed in a riparian area would require the completion of a 1600 Stream Alteration Agreement with the California Department of Fish and Game. This Agreement would specify measures to be incorporated into trail design as well as future management actions that would minimize impacts on riparian habitat.

No federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act are located within areas of the project site where construction activities would take place. However, the project proposes creek crossings. The Trails Master Plan would add 24 drainage crossings and convert to public use 2 existing drainage crossings. The drainage crossings are classified into six categories: large bridge more than 60 feet long from end to end, small bridge 15 to 59 feet long, puncheon (a sill log on either bank of the creek with two or more timbers that span the creek from one sill log to the other (stringers); sometimes decking is placed on top of the stringers), turnpike (raising the grade of a trail tread by a small amount (6 to 8 inches) above the

surrounding terrain by cribbing one side of the trail with logs or rocks and then filling in the tread area with compacted rocks and soil), rock crossing and stepping stones. All bridges would be clear spans. The totals per category are:

Large bridge = 4
Small bridge = 6 plus 1 existing now for public use
Puncheon = 7
Turnpike = 4
Rock crossing (rock ford) = 1 plus 1 existing now for public use
Stepping stones = 2

It is possible there would be need for other small drainage crossings once the more detailed design phase is initiated. It is anticipated that these would be primarily puncheons across seasonal drainages only. There are many areas in Sanborn County Park where flows exist only during storm events. However, these areas would need drainage crossings to prevent the trails from washing out. Of the large bridges, two would span Aubry Creek, one would span Sanborn Creek and one may span Trout Creek (acquisition is needed for the Trout Creek Trail, thus placement of the bridge is undefined at this time). Of the small bridges, one would span Sanborn Creek, two would span tributaries to Sanborn Creek, one would span a tributary to Aubry Creek, one would span Bonjetti Creek and one may span McElroy Creek or Bonjetti Creek (Pourroy Trail - acquisition needed thus placement of bridge undefined).

All trails were designed to be outside of the riparian setback as described in the Master Plan. As long as actual trail alignments adhere to these setbacks there would be no impact on riparian habitats found throughout the park.

5. Adversely impact unique or heritage trees or a large number of trees over 12" in diameter?

Not Significant. According to the Trail Guideline Policy UD-1.2.3.1, the removal of mature native trees shall be avoided as much as possible to protect the productivity of the landscape and the aesthetics of the trail. The Santa Clara County Tree Preservation and Removal Policy states a protected tree consists of: 1) any tree present on property owned or leased by the county that is twelve (12) inches or more in diameter measured at four and one-half feet above the ground, or which exceeds twenty (20) feet in height; 2) any multi-trunk trees totaling 24 inches or more in diameter measured at four and one-half feet above the ground; and 3) any tree designated as heritage by the County Board of Supervisors. Conformance to these policies will ensure that no significant effects occur.

G. TRANSPORTATION

Will the Project:

1. Cause a substantial increase in traffic or traffic congestion in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the street system? (Exceed LOS level 'D' in vicinity-GP policy C-TR 12, C-TR(i)6.)

Not Significant. Short-term local impacts on traffic on Highway 9 and/or Sanborn Road during construction from construction workers would not occur, since most construction workers carpool from County offices. One of the proposed clear span bridges at Aubry Creek is adjacent to Sanborn Road, and therefore construction of this bridge could temporarily use up one of the lanes along this road. However, because this road does not experience heavy traffic, and because of the short duration (2-3 days) of this construction, no impacts are expected.

2. Generate 100 or more peak hour trips? [If yes, a CMA transportation impact analysis must be prepared.]

Not Significant. Park usage at Sanborn County Park at buildout of the Master Plan is expected to result in 96,000 user days. This number is not considered significant.

3. Increase traffic hazards to pedestrians, bicyclists and vehicles?

No Impact. No new design features, such as sharp curves or dangerous intersections are part of the proposed Trails Master Plan. The Trails Master Plan will reconfigure the Indian Rock and Summit Rock Staging Areas, which are both off of Highway 35. Reconfiguring these staging areas will decrease vehicular and pedestrian hazards by making parking lane delineations clearer. Approximately 95 feet of the swale area at the Indian Rock Staging Area will be closed off to the public to protect existing trees and move vehicles out of standing water (large puddles which form from Highway 35 surface sheet flow).

4. Not provide safe access, obstruct access to nearby uses or fail to provide for future street right of way?

No Impact. Providing safe pedestrian access is a key component in the Trails Master Plan. No future street rights-of-way are needed to implement the Trails Master Plan.

5. Cause increases in demand for existing on or off-street parking because of inadequate project parking?

Not Significant. The lower parking lot at the Visitor Center will be reconfigured to accommodate equestrians, resulting in a loss of 10 parking spaces. However, this is not considered a significant impact as the middle parking lot has a capacity of 104 spaces and the Peterson Grove has a parking capacity of 80 cars. The improvements at the three Staging Areas along Highway 35 will result in a total net increase parking capacity for 19 additional vehicles.

6. Conflict with adopted policies supporting alternative transportation (e.g. transit, bicycles, walking)?

No Impact. The project will not conflict with adopted alternative transportation plans or facilities related to alternative transportation (bus/train routes or facilities, bicycle routes, etc.).

H. POPULATION/HOUSING

Will the Project:

1. Reduce the supply of low-income housing or displace people or businesses?

No Impact. Implementing the Trails Master Plan project will not displace the local population or necessitate the construction of replacement housing.

2. Induce substantial growth in an area, either directly or indirectly?

No Impact. Implementing the Trails Master Plan would not result in substantial population growth either directly or indirectly. No new residential development will occur as a result of the project as the proposed improvements.

I. SAFETY/HEALTH

Affected Environment

A material is considered hazardous if it appears on a list of hazardous materials prepared by a federal, state, or local agency, or if it has characteristics defined as hazardous by such an agency. Chemical and physical properties such as toxicity, ignitability, corrosivity, and reactivity, cause a substance to be considered hazardous. These properties are defined in the California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 22, Sections 66261.20-66261.24. A "hazardous waste" is any hazardous material that is discarded, abandoned, or to be recycled. The criteria that render a material hazardous also make a waste hazardous (California Health and Safety Code, Section 25117). According to this definition, fuels, motor oil, and lubricants in use at a typical construction site and lead built up along roadways could be considered hazardous.

Discussion:

Will the Project:

1. Involve risk of explosion or release of hazardous substances (including pesticides, herbicides, toxic substances, oil, chemicals or radioactive materials?

Not Significant. The only hazardous materials to be used at the project site during construction are the fuels, oils and lubricants associated with various on-site vehicles and construction machinery. The implementation of BMPs listed in the Project Description would minimize the risk of reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials.

2. If yes to #1, be within 1/4 mile of a school [public notice]?

Not Significant. There are no existing or proposed schools within Sanborn County Park. However, there is a youth hostel and a youth science institute located at the park. It is anticipated that either of these facilities would be subject to the emissions of typical trail

building equipment such as Sweco tractors or trucks, but the impact would be short term and vehicles would move about the Park over time as the Trails Master Plan is implemented.

3. Be located within 200' of a 230KV or above electrical transmission line?

Not Significant. High voltage power lines (230KV) pass through the northeast and southeast corners of Sanborn County Park. Three trails may cross with 200' of these transmission lines. These trails include the Stuart Ridge Trail in the northeast and the Faultline Trail and Trout Creek Trail in the southeast. Although these trails may be within 200' of the transmission lines on the map, the actual distance is much greater due to the steep topography and dense vegetation in both of these locations. This greater distance created by the topography and the temporary nature of trail use, park visitors move through the landscape, indicate that this use is not significant to power transmission.

4. Create any health hazard?

No Impact. The project does not propose any facilities or uses that would be considered a health hazard.

5. Expose people to existing sources of potential health hazards?

Not Significant. The project is located in a seismically active area and visitors to the park would be exposed to seismic and earthquake related hazards. A variety of potential health hazards currently exist at the park such as exposure to mold spores, wild animals, poor air quality on poor air quality days, and exposure to weather. However, implementation the Trails Master Plan would not significantly increase exposure of people to these types of potential health hazards.

6. Be located in an ALUC Safety Zone?

No Impact. Sanborn County Park is not within an Airport Land Use Commission Safety Zone.

7. Increase fire hazard in an area already involving extreme fire hazard?

Not Significant. The proposed project provides additional trail mileage for travel within Sanborn County Park, which has been identified by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection as a high fire hazard zone. The Trails Master Plan was developed according to Santa Clara County General Plan Policies C-PR-12 and C-PR-32. Implementing these policies will avoid or reduce impacts to less than significant levels. The policies are listed as follows:

C-PR 12: Parks and trails in remote areas, fire hazardous areas, and areas with inadequate access should be planned to provide the services or improvements necessary to provide for the safety and support of the public using the parks and to avoid negative impacts on the surrounding areas.

C-PR 32: Parks and trails in remote areas, fire hazardous areas, and areas with inadequate access shall be planned to:

a. provide the services or improvements necessary to provide for the safety and support of the public using the parks and trails; and b. avoid negative impacts on the surrounding areas.

8. Be located on a cul-de-sac over 800 ft. in length and require secondary access which will be difficult to obtain?

No Impact. The Trails Master Plan does not propose any new staging areas on any cul-de-sac.

9. Employ technology which could adversely affect safety in case of a breakdown?

No Impact. The Trails Master Plan is pretty low on the technology scale, and there is no elements of the Trails Master Plan that would affect the safety or either humans or the environment.

10. Proposed site plan result in a safety hazard (i.e., parking layout, access, closed community, etc.)?

Not Significant. The improvements to the existing Staging Areas would reduce minor safety hazards that currently exist related to unclear parking spaces. No element of the Trails Master Plan would result in new safety hazards.

11. Provide breeding grounds for vectors?

Not Significant. Potential vectors of disease found within Sanborn County Park include species such as mosquitoes, ticks, and various mammal species. Project activities would likely not increase populations of these species due to the implementation of standard County maintenance practices (e.g. keeping trash containers sealed shut and cleaned out on a regular basis, constructing trails to avoid pooling of water, posting education signs regarding the dangers of ticks).

J. AIR QUALITY

Regulatory Setting

The California Air Resources Board (CARB) is responsible for air pollution control and setting State ambient air quality standards and allowable emission levels for motor vehicles. The State is divided into air basins governed by districts. The project site is located in the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD). BAAQMD monitors and enforces District, State of California, and Federal air quality standards. Monitored pollutants include Ozone (O_3), Nitrogen Oxides (NO and NO_2, collectively "Nox") Carbon Monoxide (CO), Sulfur Dioxide (SO_2), Hydrogen sulfide (H_2S), Particulate Matter (PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$), hydrocarbons, elemental and organic carbon, and various hazardous air pollutant compounds.

The project is located in the San Francisco Bay Air Basin. This Air Basin is an attainment area for all national pollutant standards set forth in the Federal Clean Air Act with the exception of ozone. In June 2004, the Bay Area was designated a marginal nonattainment area for the national 8-hour ozone standard. The region also exceeds State ambient air quality standards for ozone and fine particulate matter (PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$). The state standards for these pollutants are more stringent than the national standards. All other pollutants are designated as "attainment" or "unclassified" for federal and state standards.

Existing Ambient Air Quality

The District operates a network of monitoring sites in the area and maintains a database of air quality data collected from these monitoring locations. The closest monitoring stations to the project site are located in Redwood City and San Jose.

Sensitive Receptors

The closest sensitive receptors in the project vicinity are the residences that are to the east of the park, within the City of Saratoga. Sensitive receptors in this case are people that may have health problems. The most common air quality effects from construction sites are dust (PM_{10}) and increased emissions from construction vehicles. These effects can be problematic for the young or old or those with asthma or emphysema.

Discussion:

Will the project:

1. Violate any ambient air quality standard, contribute to an existing or projected air quality violation, or expose sensitive receptors to pollutant concentrations?

Not Significant. Construction equipment emits carbon monoxide and ozone precursors. These construction equipment emissions may affect localized air quality on a short term basis during construction. However, because the project consists mostly of trail building, construction emissions will not significantly contribute to violation of any air quality standard or significantly contribute to an existing or projected air quality violation. General construction emissions have been included in the emission inventory that is the basis for the regional air quality plans and are not expected to impede attainment or maintenance of ozone and carbon monoxide standards in the Bay Area (BAAQMD 1999).

The project will cause carbon monoxide and dust emissions during construction which are already included in the emission inventory that is the basis for the regional air quality plans within the Bay Area Air Quality Management District. The project is implementing the Trails Master Plan and thus will not result in urban growth or introduce new sources of air pollutants; therefore, the project will not result in cumulatively considerable air quality impacts.
The project will not result in an increase in population or result in a new source of stationary or ongoing permanent mobile emissions. Given the short duration, the nature of trail construction activities and implementation of BMPs (as listed in the project description of this document) to control dust that are consistent with BAAQMD requirements, the project will not expose

sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations. Dust created from trail users during dry summer months is not considered a significant impact.

2. Create objectionable dust or odors?

Not Significant. No release of odors is expected during either the construction phase or operation of the Trails Master Plan. Dust (PM_{10}) is the other air quality issue related to construction. The BAAQMD has identified a set of feasible PM_{10} control measures for construction activities. These measures are listed in the Project Description of this document. These BMPs, if properly implemented, will ensure that construction-related air quality impacts are minimized. No long-term air quality impacts from the operation of the new trails or new trail users are expected to occur.

3. Alter air movement, moisture, or temperature, or cause any change in climate?

No Impact. Implementation of the Trails Master Plan would not alter the site's climate in any way.

K. NOISE

Affected Environment

Sanborn County Park is located in a rural setting with mainly other open space lands adjacent to the park boundaries. The only potentially sensitive receptors are a few residences along Sanborn Road. The trails in this area are situated away from these homes.

There are two environmental education centers - Youth Science Institute and Walden West. However, these facilities, and Walden West in particular, generate relatively high noise levels and quite often use loudspeakers to communicate with the kids. The loudspeakers can be heard throughout much of the park.

Santa Clara County has a noise ordinance (Chapter VII of the code). Under the Ordinance, construction activities are allowed from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm, Monday through Saturday.

Discussion:

Will the Project:

1. Increase substantially the ambient noise levels for adjoining areas during and/or after construction?

Not Significant. There would be temporary and periodic increases in the ambient noise levels at Sanborn Park resulting from project construction. However, because the noise would be temporary, and would be limited to daytime hours per the County's noise ordinance, the impact is considered less than significant. Once construction is completed, the project would not affect ambient noise levels.

2. Expose people to high noise or vibration levels generated by the project or from the surrounding area?

Not Significant. Construction noise is considered a less than significant impact because of the temporary nature of the noise and the remoteness of the locations where the construction activity would take place. A typical piece of heavy equipment used for trail construction would generate a maximum noise of 70 dBA at 100 feet from the equipment. From 400 feet the noise would be reduced to about 58 dBA, showing a 12 dB noise attenuating effect from the addition of 300 feet distance (two doubling of source to receptor distance). Since the County intends to comply with the Santa Clara County noise ordinance which limits construction noise to the hours of 7:00 am and 7:00 pm Monday through Saturday, the effect of the machine noise would be less than significant. Construction vibration is considered a less than significant impact because of the temporary nature of the noise and the remoteness of the locations where the construction activity would take place.

L. AESTHETICS

Environmental Setting

The Skyline Ridge and other portions of the park are visible to adjoining residential and open space areas. Typical of the Santa Cruz Mountains, the park is characterized by the steep slopes and dense tree growth. Views from the lowest elevations of the park near the park entrance are of the mixed redwood, Douglas fir, and oak woodlands of the Santa Cruz Mountains to the south and west and grasslands in the limited open areas of the lower elevations. Views from the existing trails are limited as the dense trees block most views north and east toward the Santa Clara Valley and views south and west to the upper slopes of the Santa Cruz Mountains themselves. The majority of trails form a network along the valley floor off Sanborn Road, providing connections between the Sanborn Park youth hostel, picnic areas, campground and the Youth Science Institute (YSI).

The youth hostel is located in a log cabin built in 1913 and is currently on the National Register of Historic Places (Photo 2). The YSI building has a similar rustic cabin look (Photo 3). The Bay Area Ridge Trail follows Skyline Boulevard and is within the uppermost elevations of the park. Views of the valley floor are mostly limited from the Bay Area Ridge Trail by the dense vegetation. Breaks in the trees offer views toward Saratoga and the Santa Clara Valley though views downslope to the park are often obscured by trees and vegetation (Photo 4).

Photo 2. Sanborn Park Hostel.
Source: http://www.ysi-ca.org/Sanborn/SBHome.html

Photo 3. Sanborn Park YSI.
Source: http://www.ysi-ca.org/Sanborn/SBHome.html

Photo 4. View from upper elevation of the park east toward Santa Clara Valley.
Source: http://redefine.dyndns.org/gallery/sanborn_hike/DSC02890

Discussion:

Will the Project:

1. If subject to ASA, be generally in non-compliance with the Guidelines for Architecture and Site Approval?

No Impact. The Trails Master Plan is not subject to ASA.

2. Create an aesthetically offensive site open to public view?

Not Significant. The Trails Master Plan would not involve large amounts of grading and thus would not create an offensive site open to public view. Most new trail routes have been designed to follow or switchback along contour elevations so the majority of trails would be hidden or blocked by down-slope trees or vegetation.

Existing scenic outlooks at higher elevations like from Highway 35 or ridge outlooks toward San Francisco Bay and the Santa Clara Valley would not change as a result of implementing the Trails Master Plan. With an overall increase in trail mileage at the park, the number of opportunities for recreationalists to view scenic vistas would increase.

3. Visually intrude into an area having natural scenic qualities, be adjacent to a designated Scenic Highway or within a Scenic Corridor?

Not Significant. Implementing the Trails Master Plan would not substantially damage scenic visual and aesthetic resources. New trails would be limited to 8 feet in width, and many new trails would be narrower, single-track trails. Because Sanborn County Park is heavily

wooded, and because of the lack of sensitive receptors that have views into the park, any new trails would not be readily visible. The three proposed pole barn structures are small and would be constructed of rustic materials, thus they would fit in with the visual character of the wooded park.

A portion of Highway 9 between Highway 17 and Highway 35 is an officially designated scenic highway. The park entrance at Sanborn Road is located a mile from the intersection of Highway 9 and Sanborn Road. The only park land adjacent to Highway 9 is located at the intersection of Sanborn Road. As stated in the Project Description, informal parking for 5 or 6 cars is available on pavement along Sanborn Road near the access to the Sanborn Narrows Trail. There are no plans to modify this parking area. No other project improvements are planned along Highway 9 that would affect scenic resources within the scenic highway corridor. Highway 9 is heavily forested on either side.

Highway 35 south of the intersection with Highway 9 is eligible for designation as a state scenic highway, however it is not officially designated. No improvements are planned within the corridor besides upgrading the existing Summit Rock and Sunnyvale Mountain staging areas. These changes would not change the rural wooded character of the area which affects the route's eligibility as a state scenic highway.

4. Obstruct scenic views from existing residential areas, public lands, public water body or roads?

No Impact. Implementing the Trails Master Plan would not obstruct scenic views from existing areas. The Trails Master Plan does not propose to construct any structure that would obstruct any view.

5. Be located on or near a ridgeline visible from the valley floor?

Not Significant. While Sanborn County Park have acreage that is along the ridgeline, the Trails Master Plan consists of the construction of trails and three small pole barn structures to be used as gathering spaces. Because the site is heavily wooded, these elements would not be visible from the valley floor. The Staging Areas that are located on the ridgeline adjacent to Highway 35 would not be visible from the valley floor.

6. Adversely affect the architectural appearance of an established neighborhood?

No Impact. The implementation of the Trails Master Plan would not adversely affect the architectural appearance of an established neighborhood. Sanborn Park is located outside the Town of Saratoga, in a rural wooded area of the Santa Cruz Mountains. No elements of the Trails Master Plan could be considered architectural.

7. Generate new light or glare?

No Impact. There are no facilities proposed in the Trails Master Plan that would be a new source of light or glare, including at the staging areas. New day or night time lighting is not proposed. No facilities are proposed to be constructed of highly reflective materials.

M. ENERGY

Will the Project:

1. Use non-renewable resources in large quantities or in a wasteful manner?

No Impact. Diesel fuel, a non renewable resource, would be used by the small Sweco tractors for trail construction. Bulldozers and trucks would be used to reconfigure and expand the Staging Areas. However, this equipment would be only used once, during the construction phase, so large quantities of fuels would not be used. No other non-renewable resources would be used.

2. Involve the removal of vegetation capable of providing summer shade to a building or significantly affect solar access to adjacent property?

No Impact. The Trails Master Plan does not contain provisions to remove trees adjacent to buildings. Sanborn County Park is heavily wooded. While there may be a few trees removed for trail construction, this removal would not significantly affect solar access to any adjacent properties.

N. HISTORICAL / ARCHAEOLOGICAL

Affected Environment

An initial cultural resources study was conducted by Holman & Associates in January 2007. The study included a site field visit and a review of all archaeological reports and site records provided by the County Parks department and from the Northwest Information Center (NWIC). Lists and maps of historic and prehistoric sites were also reviewed. No attempt was made to search for or record additional historic or prehistoric cultural resources during the field visit.

Several historic and or prehistoric cultural resource locations were visited during the field visit: The Germaine Purroy House, former Pick homesite, Welch-Hurst House, mortars behind the house, and bedrock mortar complex. None of these resources have been formally recorded and or evaluated for their eligibility for inclusion on the California Register or the National Register of Historic Places. The review concluded that very little of the park has been systematically surveyed by professional archaeologists.

Will the project:

1. Disturb potential archaeological or paleontological resources?
2. Disturb a historic resource or cause a physical change which would affect unique ethnic cultural values or restrict existing religious or sacred uses within the potential impact area?

Response to 1) and 2): Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated. Without additional cultural resource evaluations, trail construction and other ground disturbing activities have the potential to disturb known and unknown cultural resources at Sanborn County Park. Therefore, the following mitigation measures are proposed:

Impact: Trail construction and other ground disturbing activities as part of the Trails Master Plan could result in disturbance of known or unknown historic, archaeological, or paleontological resources.

Mitigation Measure CUL-1: All known prehistoric and historic archaeological resources on Sanborn County Park property shall be formally recorded and evaluated for inclusion on the California Register and the National Register of Historic Places by a professional archaeologist. Architectural resources will be evaluated for eligibility by a qualified architectural historian.

Implementation:	Qualified archaeologists, architectural historians
Timing:	Prior to construction
Monitoring:	County Parks Project Manager

Mitigation Measure CUL-2: A focused field survey under the direction of a professional archaeologist shall be conducted in those portions of the park near future trail alignments to locate unrecorded prehistoric sites. An additional focused field survey for historic archaeological sites under the direction of a professional archaeologist will also be conducted, but the area surveyed can be restricted to those trails and areas adjacent to them which have been identified by County Parks as areas which have seen land alteration (lumbering and or agricultural) since the middle 19th Century.

Implementation:	Professional archaeologist and labor under professional direction
Timing:	After delineation of trail alignment, prior to construction
Monitoring:	County Parks Project Manager

Mitigation Measure CUL-3: If any prehistoric sites are discovered on or near the proposed trail system, a program of mechanical subsurface testing (hand-augering) shall be completed under the direction of a professional archaeologist. If midden (subsurface archaeological soil) components are discovered, the site shall be formally recorded by a professional archaeologist and maps will be produced showing the extent of the deposit area. New facilities identified in the Trails Master Plan shall be reviewed for potential impacts at the discretion of County Park staff on a case-by-case basis in consultation with a professional archaeologist.

Implementation:	Professional archaeologist with assistance from labor under professional direction as appropriate
Timing:	After delineation of trail alignment, prior to construction
Monitoring:	County Parks Project Manager

Mitigation Measure CUL-4: A baseline study under the direction of a qualified archaeologist and architectural historian shall be conducted of all prehistoric and historic sites identified. The baseline study shall consist of photo-documentation and description of each site.

Implementation:	Professional archaeologists, architectural historians with assistance from labor under professional direction as appropriate.
Timing:	After delineation of trail alignment, prior to construction
Monitoring:	County Parks Project Manager

Mitigation Measure CUL-5: Annual follow-up photo-documentation shall be conducted at all prehistoric sites identified. If subsequent photo-documentation finds opportunistic or deliberate vandalism and destruction of the resource, a cultural resource specialist will be contacted to determine adequate protection measures.

Implementation:	Park staff
Timing:	Annually after baseline study is conducted
Monitoring:	County Parks Project Manager

3. Be located in a Historic District (e.g., New Almaden Historic Area)?

No Impact. Sanborn County Park is not located in a Historic District.

O. PUBLIC SERVICES AND UTILITIES

Affected Environment

The Santa Clara County Sheriff's Department provides patrol support which augments patrols by Santa Clara County Park Rangers. Park Rangers are considered peace officers as they can issue tickets, however they are not sworn deputies authorized to carry firearms. Sanborn County Park is staffed by one Senior Park Ranger and four permanent full time park rangers who are responsible for patrolling Stevens Creek and Upper Stevens Creek County Parks in addition to Sanborn County Park. Their current area of patrol is about 6,000 acres (J. Falkowski, pers. comm. Jan 2007).

Fire stations within 5 miles of Sanborn County Park include Santa Clara County Fire Department's Quito, Los Gatos, Redwood, and West Valley Fire Stations, the Saratoga Fire Department Station, and California Department of Forestry (CDF) and Fire Protection Stevens Creek, Saratoga Summit, Alma, and Sky Londa Forest Fire Stations. In addition, the Alma Station is also a helitack (helicopter) base that supports aerial fire suppression support. The main access at the park's lowest elevations is off Sanborn Road. Much of the western boundary of the park abuts SR 35/Skyline Boulevard and this boundary could be accessed at virtually any point along the road, though steep slopes probably limit most access into the park to areas within 0.25 miles of the road. Currently, the San Andreas Trail and the Sanborn Trail provide access from Skyline Blvd. to the main activity area off of Sanborn Road. In addition, a service road extends from Black Road past Lake Ranch to Sanborn Road (See Map 2).

The densely wooded mountainside creates a high to very high wildfire threat area, though fog and rainfall are thought to decrease the incidence of fire. Average high temperatures range from the high-50s to mid-80s. Average low temperatures range from the high-30s to mid-50s. Annual average rainfall is 40-50 inches (Castle Rock State Park General Plan).

Santa Clara County General Plan Policy C-PR 12 states that Parks and trails in remote areas, fire hazardous areas, and areas with inadequate access should be planned to provide the services or improvements necessary to provide for the safety and support of the public using the parks and to avoid negative impacts on the surrounding areas. Policy C-PR 32 also states: Parks and trails in remote areas, fire hazardous areas, and areas with inadequate access shall be

planned to: a. provide the services or improvements necessary to provide for the safety and support of the public using the parks and trails; and b. avoid negative impacts on the surrounding areas.

A seismic event could cause localized flooding as a result of dam failure at Ranch Lake (refer to Geology section). Localized flooding of trail crossings is also possible during heavy storms (refer to Hydrology section).

Will the Project:

1. Induce substantial growth or concentration of population? (Growth inducing?)

No Impact. Implementing the Trails Master Plan would not result in substantial population growth either directly or indirectly. No new residential development will occur as a result of the project as the proposed improvements.

2. Employ equipment which could interfere with existing communications or broadcast systems?

No Impact. The Trails Master Plan contains no equipment which would interfere with existing communications or broadcast systems.

3. Have an effect upon or increase the need for or alter services in any of the following areas:

a. Fire Protection

Not Significant. The Trails Master Plan would not result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities or need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts. Trail siting will be planned in accordance with County General Plan Policy C-PR 12.

b. Police Protection

Not Significant. Implementation of the Trails Master Plan would not require the provision or alteration of any police protection facilities but it would likely require the need to hire additional park rangers over time as the plan is implemented.

c. School Facilities

No Impact. The proposed project does not include the construction of any new housing units or induce population growth and therefore would not increase the need for additional schools.

d. Maintenance of Public Facilities, Including Roads

No Impact. No other public facilities would be adversely affected by the proposed project.

e. Other Government Services

No Impact. No other government services would be adversely affected by the proposed project.

4. Increase the need for new systems or supplies, or cause substantial alterations to the following utilities:

a. Electricity or Natural Gas

No Impact. The Trails Master Plan does not contain new facilities that would use electricity or natural gas.

b. Local or Regional Water Treatment or Distribution Facilities

No Impact. The Trails Master Plan does not propose additional facilities that would generate water requiring water treatment or distribution facilities.

c. Local or Regional Water Supplies

No Impact. The Trails Master Plan does not contemplate new water fountains that would affect Sanborn County Parks' water entitlements.

d. Sewage Disposal

No Impact. The Trails Master Plan does not contain plans to increase restroom facilities.

e. Storm Water Drainage

No Impact. The Trails Master Plan would not create large areas of impervious surfaces which would impact local storm water drainage facilities. Thus, implementing the Trails Master Plan would not result in constructing new stormwater facilities.

f. Solid waste or litter (Would a recycling facility be appropriate?)

No Impact. Implementation of the Trails Master Plan would not affect the ability of the local landfill to serve Sanborn County Park.

P. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

Will the Project:

a. Have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?

No. The mitigation measures listed in this document will ensure that the project does not substantially degrade the quality of the environment or sensitive habitats or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory.

b. Have the potential to achieve short-term environmental goals, to the disadvantage of long-term environmental goals? (A short-term impact on the environment is one which occurs in a relatively brief, definitive period of time, while long-term impacts will endure well into the future.)

No. The project will not have environmental effects that are individually limited but cumulatively considerable because it does not cause any long term or growth related impacts.

c. Have environmental impacts which are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of an individual project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probably future projects.

No. Best Management Practices (BMPs) and/or mitigation measures contained in this document will avoid significant effects or reduce them to less then significant levels.

d. Have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?

No. Best Management Practices (BMPs) and/or mitigation measures contained in this document will avoid significant effects or reduce them to less then significant levels.

IV. References

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V. Figures/Maps

Figure 1. Staging Area and Crossing at Sanborn Road Connecting Western Regions of the Park to Sanborn Creek and Aubry Creek Confluence
Figure 2. Sanborn Road Crossing, Trial Access and Staging Area Modifications in the Day Use Area
Figure 3. Indian Rock Staging Area Improvements
Figure 4. Summit Rock Staging Area Reconfiguration
Figure 5. Sunnyvale Mountain Staging Area Development

Map 1. Regional Setting Map
Map 2. Sanborn Park Existing Trail System Map
Map 3. North Sanborn County Park Trail Suitability Map
Map 4. South Sanborn County Park Trail Suitability Map
Map 5. Sanborn County Park Trails Master Plan Map
Map 6. Sanborn County Park Day Use Area Trail Map
Map 7. Sanborn County Park Hiking Access Map
Map 8. Sanborn County Park Equestrian Access Map
Map 9. Sanborn County Park Mountain Biking Access Map
Map 10. Sanborn County Park Trail Abandonment Map

Figure 1. Staging Area and Crossing at Sanborn Road Connecting Western Regions of the Park to Sanborn Creek and Aubry Creek Confluence

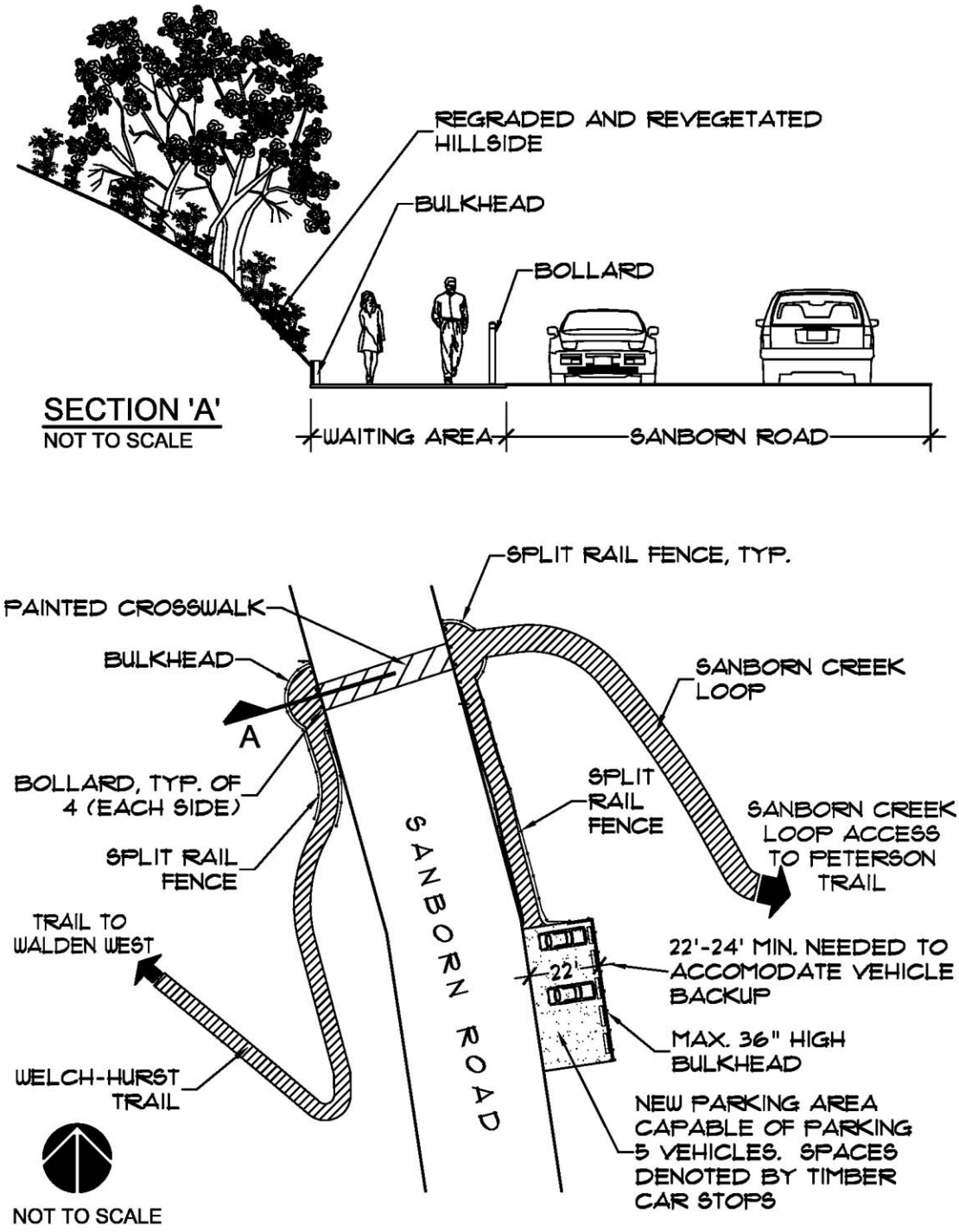


Figure 2. Sanborn Road Crossing, Trial Access and Staging Area Modifications in the Day Use Area

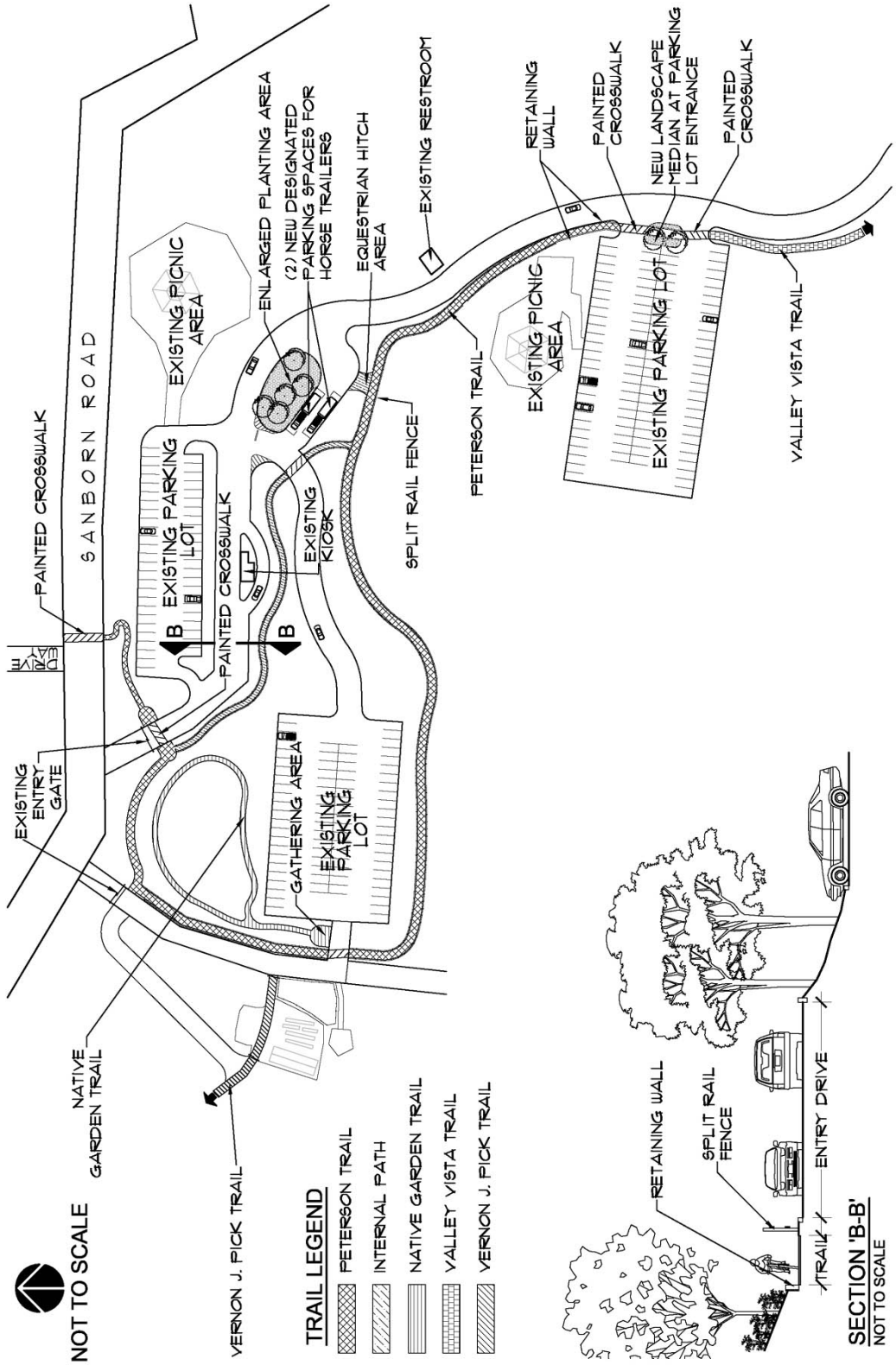


Figure 3. Indian Rock Staging Area Improvements

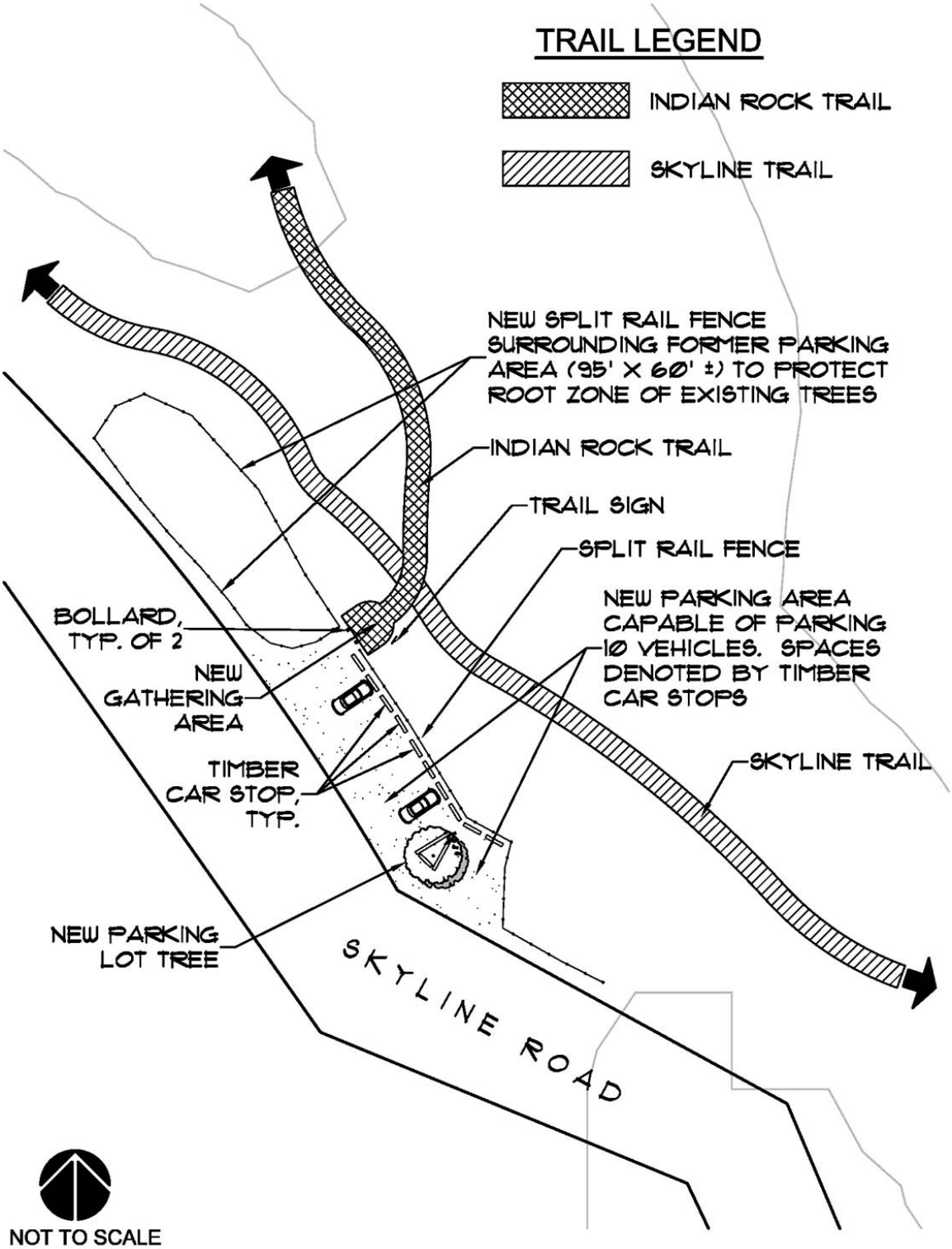


Figure 4. Summit Rock Staging Area Reconfiguration

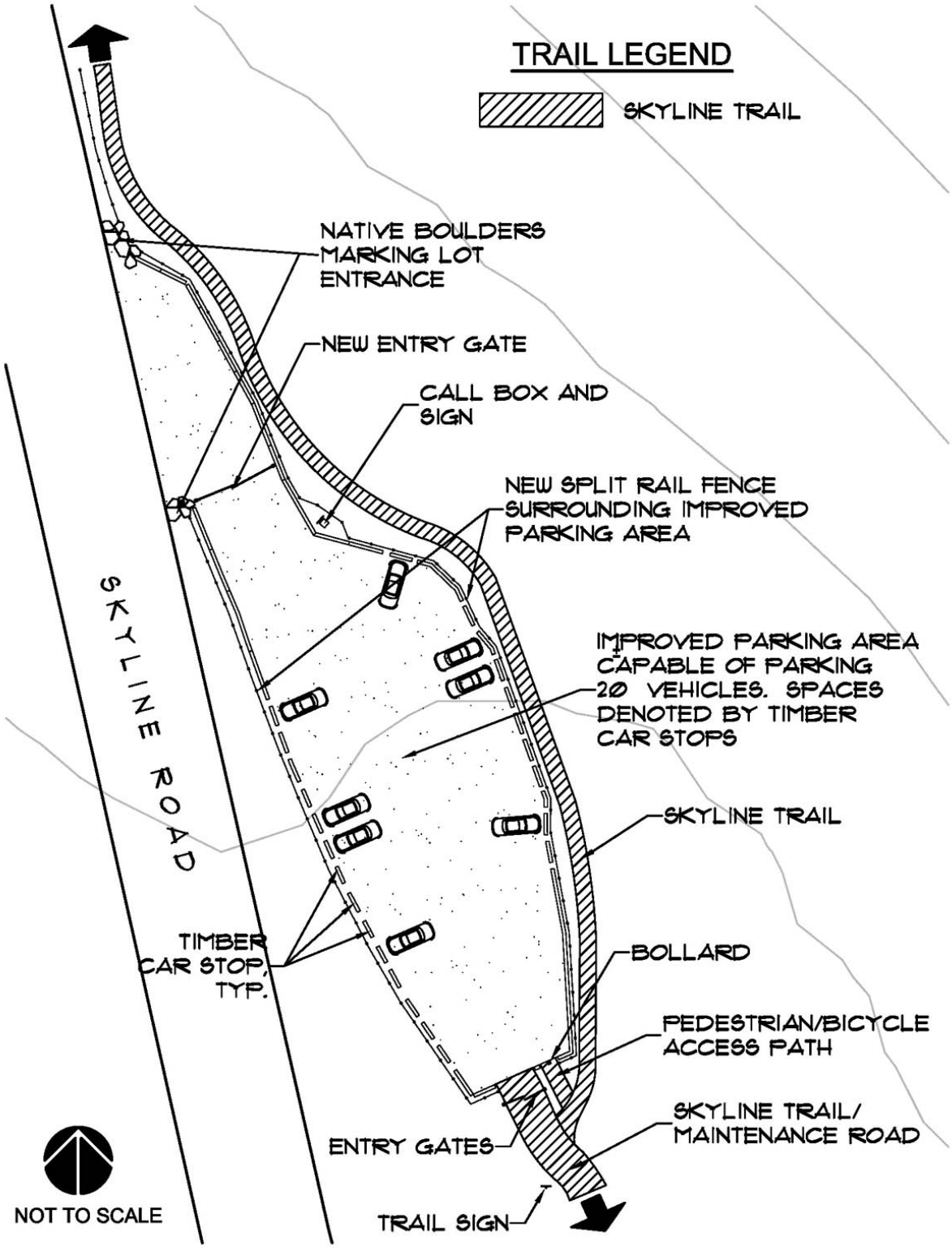
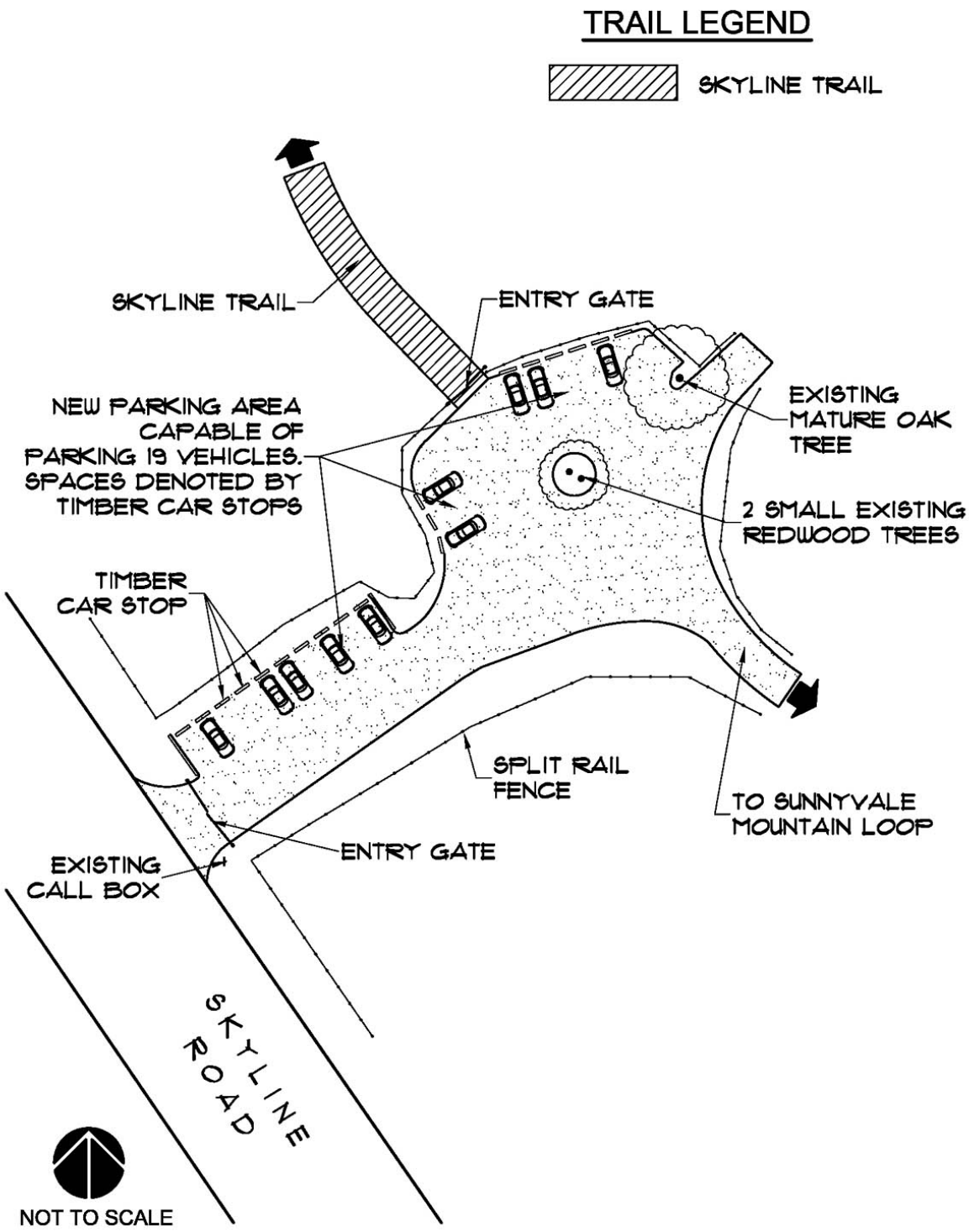
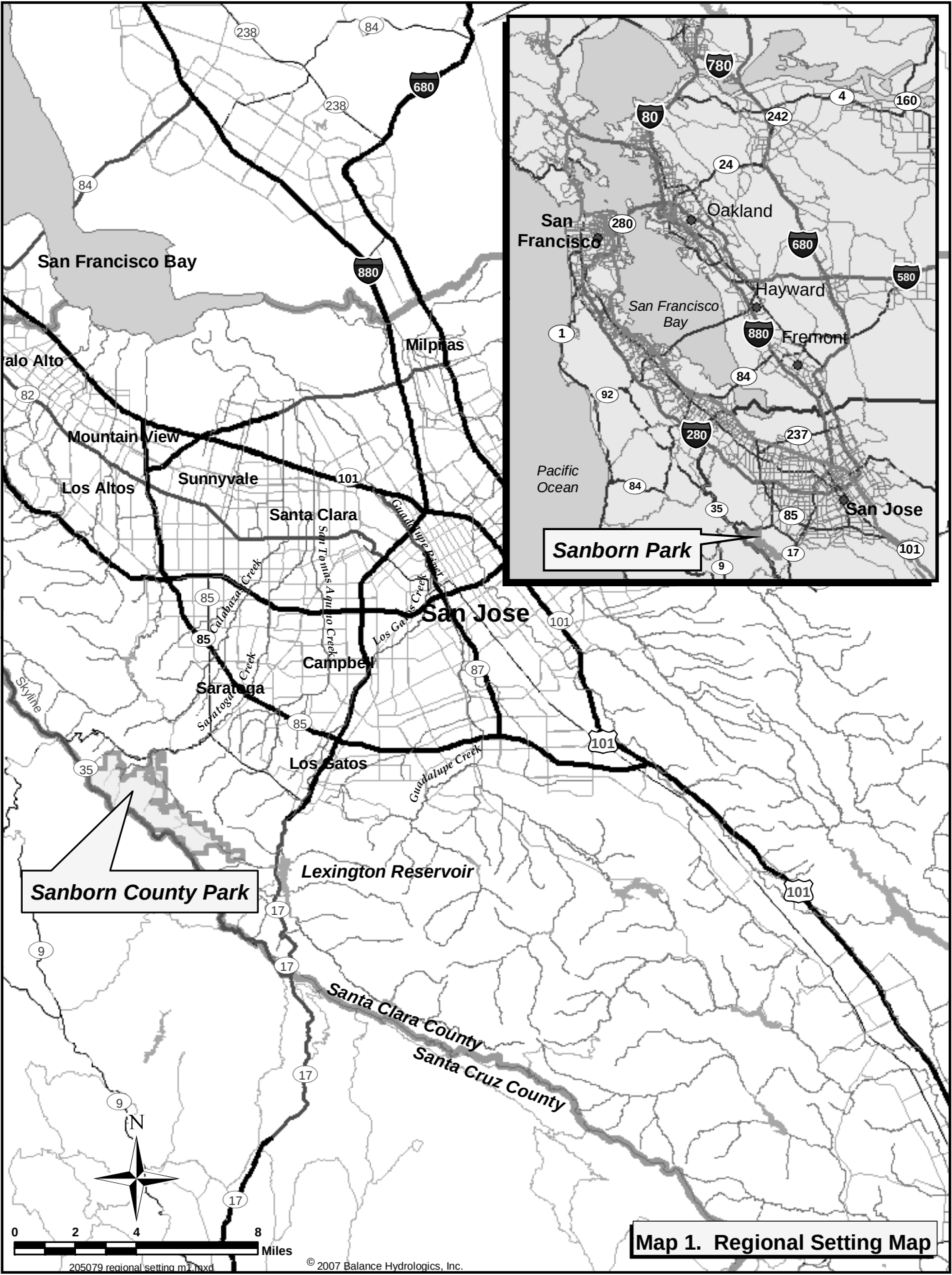


Figure 5. Sunnyvale Mountain Staging Area Development





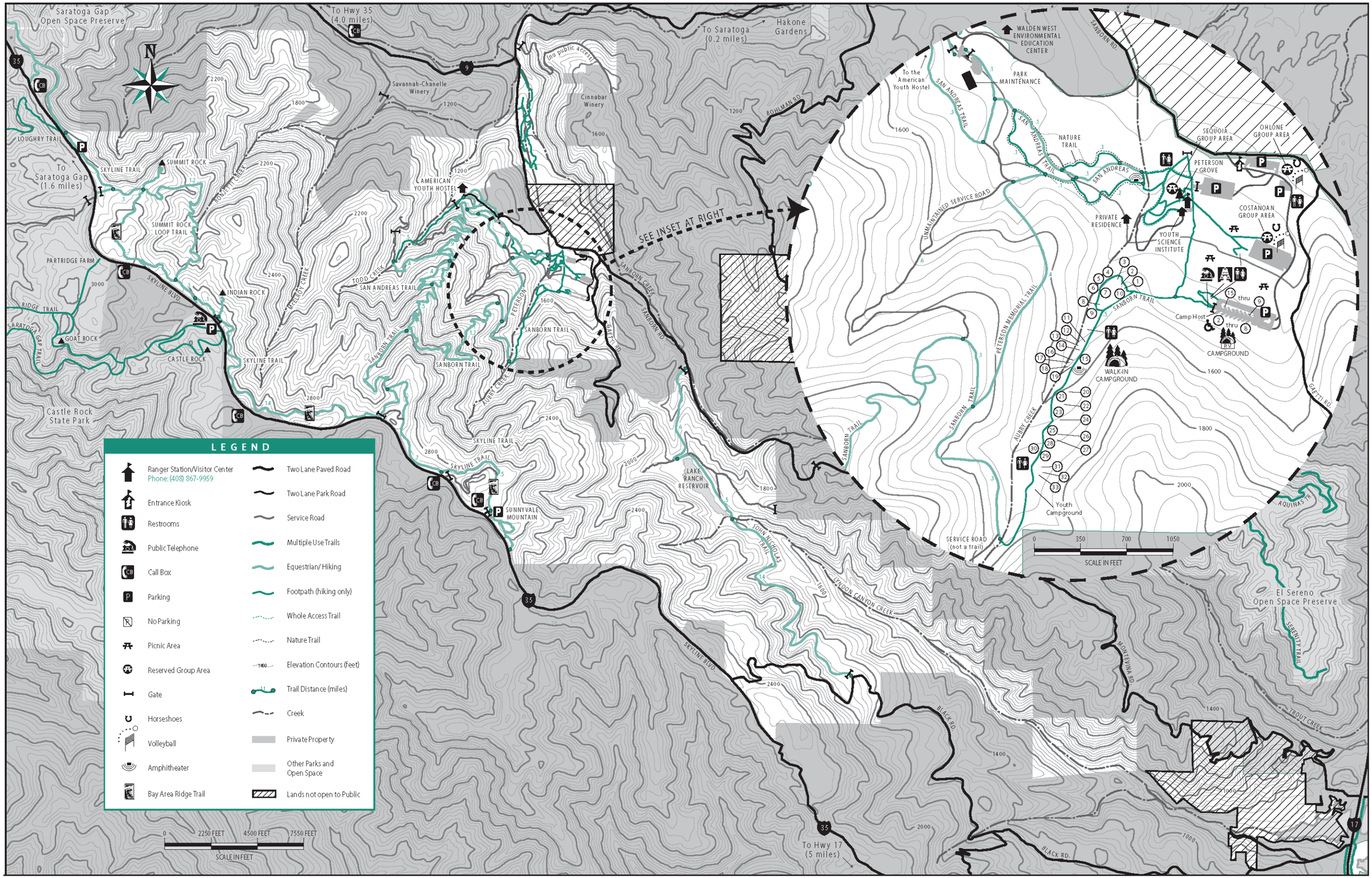
Map 1. Regional Setting Map

205079 regional setting m1.mxd

Map 2 - Existing Trail System

SANBORN COUNTY PARK

SANTA CLARA COUNTY PARKS



TAKE ONLY PHOTOGRAPHS... LEAVE ONLY FOOTPRINTS

Millions of people visit Santa Clara County's regional parks each year. Please help preserve the natural beauty of our parklands and ensure the safety of our visitors by complying with these general rules and any posted regulations.

Vehicles: Observe posted speed limits. Stay on designated roadways and in designated areas.

Garbage: Place in receptacles provided. Recycling is encouraged.

Dogs/Pets: Allowed in picnic areas and RV Parking Lot only. Must be controlled on a 6-foot (or less) leash at all times.

Fires: Permitted in designated barbecue pits and fire rings only, unless otherwise posted. No fires on open ground. No wood gathering.

Weapons: Firearms, air guns, archery equipment and paintball guns are prohibited.

Alcohol: Permitted in picnic areas. Not permitted in parking lots.

Swimming: Prohibited in all lakes, streams, and reservoirs.

Plants & Wildlife: Collection of plant specimens and feeding of birds or animals in not permitted.

SHARING THE TRAILS

Sanborn Park's trails offer recreational opportunities for hikers, joggers, and equestrians. For the safety and protection of all visitors, please adhere to the following trail etiquette guidelines.

Stay on Designated Trails:
Horses and bicycles are not allowed on the Whole Access Trail or paved trails. Bicycles allowed on park roads only.

Be Considerate:
Yield to faster trail users. Respect everyone's right to use the trail.

Be Aware of Conditions:
Hiking or riding when conditions are poor, such as shortly after a rain, should be done with caution.

Plan Ahead:
Know your equipment, your ability and where you are going. Carry necessary supplies for changes in weather or other conditions.

Map 3 - North Sanborn County Park Trail Suitability Map

Saratoga Gap OSP

Acquisition/Easement

Acquisition/Easement

Acquisition/Easement

Castle Rock State Park

Lake Ranch Reservoir

Legend

Trail Suitability Rating

- Suitable
- Marginal
- Poorly suited
- Creek and riparian buffer
- Sanborn County Park Boundary
- Lands not open to Public
- Other Parks and Open Space
- Topographic Contour (200-foot interval)
- Public Road
- State Highway

Trails

- Planned
- Existing

Planned Trail Use

- driving
- hiking
- hiking/biking
- hiking/equestrian
- multiple-use
- Water Body

Trail Suitability Ratings (1 = low, 3 = highest)

Points	***Slope***
1	0-10%
2	10-20%
3	20%+

Riparian buffer zone areas are automatically characterized as "poorly suited."

	Landslides
1	Presence? No
3	Presence? Yes

	Geology
3	af- Artificial Fill
3	Qpaf- Alluvial fan and fluvial deposits
1	Tmb- Mindego Basalt and related volcanic rocks
1	Tvq- Vaqueros SandstoneTsl- San Lorenzo Formation
2	Tsl- San Lorenzo Formation
3	Tu- Unnamed sedimentary rocks
1	fs- Franciscan Sandstone
2	fh- Franciscan Argillite
2	fsr- Franciscan Sheared rock
2	db- Diabase and gabbro

Trail Suitability Index (3 = lowest possible points, 9= highest possible points)

3-5	Suitable
6-7	Marginal
8-9	Poorly suited

N W E S

0 0.25 0.5 Miles

Data Sources: 10-meter resolution basemap derived from USGS Digital Elevation Model (DEM) aquired from www.seamless.gov. Sanborn County Park data courtesy of Santa Clara County.

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Map 4 - South Sanborn County Park Trail Suitability Map

Acquisition/Easement

Acquisition/Easement

Acquisition/Easement

Lake Ranch Reservoir

Sanborn Road

Bohlman Road

El Sereno OSP

Montevina Road

Black Road

35

Legend

Trail Suitability Rating

- Suitable
- Marginal
- Poorly suited
- Creek and riparian buffer
- Sanborn County Park Boundary
- Lands not open to Public
- Other Parks and Open Space
- Topographic Contour (200-foot interval)
- Public Road
- State Highway

Trails

- Planned
- Existing

Planned Trail Use

- driving
- hiking
- hiking/biking
- hiking/equestrian
- multiple-use
- Water Body

Trail Suitability Ratings (1 = low, 3 = highest)

Points	***Slope***
1	0-10%
2	10-20%
3	20%+

Riparian buffer zone areas are automatically characterized as "poorly suited."

	Landslides
1	Presence? No
3	Presence? Yes

	Geology
3	af- Artificial Fill
3	Qpaf- Alluvial fan and fluvial deposits
1	Tmb- Mindego Basalt and related volcanic rocks
1	Tvq- Vaqueros SandstoneTsl- San Lorenzo Formation
2	Tsl- San Lorenzo Formation
3	Tu- Unnamed sedimentary rocks
1	fs- Franciscan Sandstone
2	fh- Franciscan Argillite
2	fsr- Franciscan Sheared rock
2	db- Diabase and gabbro

Trail Suitability Index (3 = lowest possible points, 9= highest possible points)

3-5	Suitable
6-7	Marginal
8-9	Poorly suited

N W E S

0 0.25 0.5 Miles

Data Sources: 10-meter resolution basemap derived from USGS Digital Elevation Model (DEM) aquired from www.seamless.gov. Sanborn County Park data courtesy of Santa Clara County.

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Map 5 - Sanborn County Park Trails Master Plan Map

Legend

- Existing Trail
- Planned Trail

Planned Trail Use

- Hiking
- Hiking/biking
- Hiking/equestrian
- Multiple-use
- Driving
- 1995 Countywide Trails Master Plan
- Trail by Others
- Bay Area Ridge Trail
- Juan Bautista de Anza NHT
- Saratoga to Sanborn Trail

- Existing Staging Area
- Planned Staging Area
- Planned Shelters
- Topographic Contour (200-foot)
- Creek
- Sanborn County Park Boundary
- Other Parks and Open Space
- Lands not open to Public

Roads and Other Features

- Public Road
- State Highway
- Paved lots

Data Sources: 10-meter resolution basemap derived from USGS Digital Elevation Model (DEM) aquired from www.seamless.gov. Sanborn County Park data courtesy of Santa Clara County.

Route #	Trail Name	Route #	Trail Name
1	Valley Vista Trail	21	Sanborn Narrows Trail
2	Sanborn Trail	22	Mt. Eden Trail
3	Aubry Cascade Trail	23	Stuart Ridge Trail
4	Walk-in Campground Road	24	Saratoga to Sanborn Trail
5	San Andreas Fault Trail	25	Lake Ranch Trail
6	Vernon J. Pick Trail	26	Faultline Connector
7	Wood Rat Trail	27	Faultline Trail
8	Wood Rat Connector	28	Trout Creek Trail
9	Lower Madrone Trail	29	John Nicholas Trail
10	Upper Madrone Trail	30	Skyline Trail
11	San Andreas Connector	31	Sunnyvale Mtn. Loop
12	Pourroy Trail	32	Todd Creek Redwoods Trail
13	Partridge Farm Trail	33	Springboard Trail
14	Walden Pond Loop	34	Vaqueros Sandstone Trail
15	Walden Pond Connector	35	McElroy Ridge Trail
16	Native Garden Trail	36	Lumberjack Trail
17	Welch-Hurst Trail	37	Indian Rock Trail
18	Peterson Trail	38	DiFiore Trail
19	Sanborn Creek Loop	39	Summit Rock Loop
20	Ohlone Trail	40	Summit Rock Trail

N W E S

0 0.25 0.5 Miles

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Map 6 - Sanborn County Park Day Use Area Trail Map

Legend

- Existing Trail
- Planned Trail
- *Planned Trail Use*
- Hiking
- Hiking/biking
- Hiking/equestrian
- Multiple-use
- Driving
- Existing Staging Area
- Planned Staging Area
- Planned shelters
- Sanborn County Park Boundary
- 1995 Countywide Trails Master Plan
- Topographic Contour (200-foot interval)
- Other Parks and Open Space
- Lands not open to Public

Roads and Other Features

- State Highway
- Public Road
- Paved lots

N W E S

0 300 600 Feet

Route #	Trail Name	Route #	Trail Name
1	Valley Vista Trail	21	Sanborn Narrows Trail
2	Sanborn Trail	22	Mt. Eden Trail
3	Aubry Cascade Trail	23	Stuart Ridge Trail
4	Walk-in Campground Road	24	Saratoga to Sanborn Trail
5	San Andreas Fault Trail	25	Lake Ranch Trail
6	Vernon J. Pick Trail	26	Faultline Connector
7	Wood Rat Trail	27	Faultline Trail
8	Wood Rat Connector	28	Trout Creek Trail
9	Lower Madrone Trail	29	John Nicholas Trail
10	Upper Madrone Trail	30	Skyline Trail
11	San Andreas Connector	31	Sunnyvale Mtn. Loop
12	Pourroy Trail	32	Todd Creek Redwoods Trail
13	Partridge Farm Trail	33	Springboard Trail
14	Walden Pond Loop	34	Vaqueros Sandstone Trail
15	Walden Pond Connector	35	McElroy Ridge Trail
16	Native Garden Trail	36	Lumberjack Trail
17	Welch-Hurst Trail	37	Indian Rock Trail
18	Peterson Trail	38	DiFiore Trail
19	Sanborn Creek Loop	39	Summit Rock Loop
20	Ohlone Trail	40	Summit Rock Trail

Data Sources: 10-meter resolution basemap derived from USGS Digital Elevation Model (DEM) aquired from www.seamless.gov. Sanborn County Park data courtesy of Santa Clara County.

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205079_trail_day-use and sanborn rd.mxd

Map 7 - Sanborn County Park Hiking Access Map

Legend

Hiking Access

Planned Trail Use

- Hiking
- Hiking/biking
- Hiking/equestrian
- Multiple-use
- Driving
- 1995 Countywide Trails Master Plan
- Trail by Others
- Bay Area Ridge Trail
- Juan Bautista de Anza NHT
- Saratoga to Sanborn Trail

- Existing Staging Area
- Planned Staging Area
- Planned Shelters
- Topographic Contour (200-foot)
- Creek
- Sanborn County Park Boundary
- Other Parks and Open Space
- Lands not open to Public

Roads and Other Features

- Public Road
- State Highway
- Paved lots

Data Sources: 10-meter resolution basemap derived from USGS Digital Elevation Model (DEM) aquired from www.seamless.gov. Sanborn County Park data courtesy of Santa Clara County.

Route #	Trail Name	Route #	Trail Name
1	Valley Vista Trail	21	Sanborn Narrows Trail
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5	San Andreas Fault Trail	25	Lake Ranch Trail
6	Vernon J. Pick Trail	26	Faultline Connector
7	Wood Rat Trail	27	Faultline Trail
8	Wood Rat Connector	28	Trout Creek Trail
9	Lower Madrone Trail	29	John Nicholas Trail
10	Upper Madrone Trail	30	Skyline Trail
11	San Andreas Connector	31	Sunnyvale Mtn. Loop
12	Pourroy Trail	32	Todd Creek Redwoods Trail
13	Partridge Farm Trail	33	Springboard Trail
14	Walden Pond Loop	34	Vaqueros Sandstone Trail
15	Walden Pond Connector	35	McElroy Ridge Trail
16	Native Garden Trail	36	Lumberjack Trail
17	Welch-Hurst Trail	37	Indian Rock Trail
18	Peterson Trail	38	DiFiore Trail
19	Sanborn Creek Loop	39	Summit Rock Loop
20	Ohlone Trail	40	Summit Rock Trail

0 0.25 0.5 Miles

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Map 8 - Sanborn County Park Equestrian Access Map

Legend

Equestrian Access

Planned Trail Use

- Hiking
- Hiking/biking
- Hiking/equestrian
- Multiple-use
- Driving
- 1995 Countywide Trails Master Plan
- Trail by Others
- Bay Area Ridge Trail
- Juan Bautista de Anza NHT
- Saratoga to Sanborn Trail

- Existing Staging Area
- Planned Staging Area
- Planned Shelters
- Topographic Contour (200-foot)
- Creek
- Sanborn County Park Boundary
- Other Parks and Open Space
- Lands not open to Public

Roads and Other Features

- Public Road
- State Highway
- Paved lots

Data Sources: 10-meter resolution basemap derived from USGS Digital Elevation Model (DEM) aquired from www.seamless.gov. Sanborn County Park data courtesy of Santa Clara County.

Route #	Trail Name	Route #	Trail Name
1	Valley Vista Trail	21	Sanborn Narrows Trail
2	Sanborn Trail	22	Mt. Eden Trail
3	Aubry Cascade Trail	23	Stuart Ridge Trail
4	Walk-in Campground Road	24	Saratoga to Sanborn Trail
5	San Andreas Fault Trail	25	Lake Ranch Trail
6	Vernon J. Pick Trail	26	Faultline Connector
7	Wood Rat Trail	27	Faultline Trail
8	Wood Rat Connector	28	Trout Creek Trail
9	Lower Madrone Trail	29	John Nicholas Trail
10	Upper Madrone Trail	30	Skyline Trail
11	San Andreas Connector	31	Sunnyvale Mtn. Loop
12	Pourroy Trail	32	Todd Creek Redwoods Trail
13	Partridge Farm Trail	33	Springboard Trail
14	Walden Pond Loop	34	Vaqueros Sandstone Trail
15	Walden Pond Connector	35	McElroy Ridge Trail
16	Native Garden Trail	36	Lumberjack Trail
17	Welch-Hurst Trail	37	Indian Rock Trail
18	Peterson Trail	38	DiFiore Trail
19	Sanborn Creek Loop	39	Summit Rock Loop
20	Ohlone Trail	40	Summit Rock Trail

Map 9 - Sanborn County Park Mountain Biking Access Map

Legend

Biking Access

Planned Trail Use

- Hiking
- Hiking/biking
- Hiking/equestrian
- Multiple-use
- Driving
- 1995 Countywide Trails Master Plan
- Trail by Others
- Bay Area Ridge Trail
- Juan Bautista de Anza NHT
- Saratoga to Sanborn Trail

- Existing Staging Area
- Planned Staging Area
- Planned Shelters
- Topographic Contour (200-foot)
- Creek
- Sanborn County Park Boundary
- Other Parks and Open Space
- Lands not open to Public

Roads and Other Features

- Public Road
- State Highway
- Paved lots

Data Sources: 10-meter resolution basemap derived from USGS Digital Elevation Model (DEM) aquired from www.seamless.gov. Sanborn County Park data courtesy of Santa Clara County.

Route #	Trail Name	Route #	Trail Name
1	Valley Vista Trail	21	Sanborn Narrows Trail
2	Sanborn Trail	22	Mt. Eden Trail
3	Aubry Cascade Trail	23	Stuart Ridge Trail
4	Walk-in Campground Road	24	Saratoga to Sanborn Trail
5	San Andreas Fault Trail	25	Lake Ranch Trail
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8	Wood Rat Connector	28	Trout Creek Trail
9	Lower Madrone Trail	29	John Nicholas Trail
10	Upper Madrone Trail	30	Skyline Trail
11	San Andreas Connector	31	Sunnyvale Mtn. Loop
12	Pourroy Trail	32	Todd Creek Redwoods Trail
13	Partridge Farm Trail	33	Springboard Trail
14	Walden Pond Loop	34	Vaqueros Sandstone Trail
15	Walden Pond Connector	35	McElroy Ridge Trail
16	Native Garden Trail	36	Lumberjack Trail
17	Welch-Hurst Trail	37	Indian Rock Trail
18	Peterson Trail	38	DiFiore Trail
19	Sanborn Creek Loop	39	Summit Rock Loop
20	Ohlone Trail	40	Summit Rock Trail

0 0.25 0.5 Miles

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Map 10 - Sanborn County Park Trail Abandonment Map

Legend

Trail Abandoned

Planned Trail Use
- Hiking
- Hiking/biking
- Hiking/equestrian
- Multiple-use
- Driving

Staging Area
- Existing
- Planned
- No parking
- Paved lots

Roads and Other Features
- Public Road
- State Highway
- Sanborn County Park Boundary
- Topographic Contour (200-foot interval)
- Other Parks and Open Space
- Lands not open to Public
- Saratoga to Sanborn Trail
- 1995 Countywide Trails Master Plan

Saratoga Gap OSP

SANBORN COUNTY

Castle Rock State Park

Stuart Ridge

Booker Creek

Bonjetti Creek

McElroy Creek

Todd Creek

Aubry Creek

Pick Road

Sanborn Creek

Sanborn Road

Gaetti Road

Congress Springs Canyon

possible future connection

possible future connection

possible future connection

Route #	Trail Name	Route #	Trail Name
1	Valley Vista Trail	21	Sanborn Narrows Trail
2	Sanborn Trail	22	Mt. Eden Trail
3	Aubry Cascade Trail	23	Stuart Ridge Trail
4	Walk-in Campground Road	24	Saratoga to Sanborn Trail
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16	Native Garden Trail	36	Lumberjack Trail
17	Welch-Hurst Trail	37	Indian Rock Trail
18	Peterson Trail	38	DiFiore Trail
19	Sanborn Creek Loop	39	Summit Rock Loop
20	Ohlone Trail	40	Summit Rock Trail

N W E S

0 0.5 Miles

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VI. Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan

The following Mitigation, Monitoring and Reporting Plan (MMRP), has been prepared for this project pursuant to CEQA Guidelines. According to the Guidelines:

"In order to ensure that the mitigation measures and project revisions identified in the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration are implemented, the Lead Agency, Santa Clara County (County) shall adopt a program for monitoring or reporting on the revisions which it has required in the project and the measures it has imposed to mitigate or avoid significant environmental effects." (§15097(a))

"The Lead Agency may choose whether its program will monitor mitigation, report on mitigation, or both. "Reporting" generally consists of a written compliance review that is presented to the decision making body or authorized staff person. A report may be required at various stages during project implementation or upon completion of the mitigation measure. "Monitoring" is generally an ongoing or periodic process of project oversight. There is often no clear distinction between monitoring and reporting and the program best suited to ensuring compliance in any given instance will usually involve elements of both." (§15097 (c))

The MMRP lists the Impacts, Mitigation Measures, and Timing of the Mitigation Measure (when the measure will be implemented) related to the Sanborn County Trails Master Plan project. The responsibility for ensuring that the mitigation measure has been implemented would be the responsibility of the Santa Clara County Parks & Recreation Department. All of the mitigation measures listed in the MMRP would be implemented by the County or by its appointees.

According to CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.4 (a) (2), "Mitigation measures must be fully enforceable through permit conditions, agreements, or other legally-binding instruments." Therefore, all mitigation measures listed in this MMRP would be adopted by the County when the project is approved.

Impact	Mitigation Measure	Implementation Responsibility & Timing	Monitoring Responsibility	Verified Implementation
BIOLOGY				
Impact: Trail construction could affect populations or individual plants, listed by CNPS as rare, threatened or endangered. The listing covers two plants that could occur at Sanborn County Park: King's Mountain manzanita and round-headed coyote-mint.	**Mitigation Measure BIO-1:** If a trail alignment is within suitable habitat for either plant species, preconstruction plant surveys shall occur after the preliminary trail alignment has been flagged. If plants are found within fifteen feet of any proposed trail alignment, the alignment shall be reconfigured to ensure at least a fifteen foot buffer.	**Implementation:** Qualified Natural Resource County Staff or Qualified Consulting Biologist **Timing:** During the construction phase of the project, after preliminary trail alignment has been flagged.	**Monitoring:** County Parks Project Manager to schedule plant surveys and qualified County staff or biologist(s) shall submit final report to the County Parks Project Manager	**Initials**_____ **Date**_____
Impact: If trails are present within a creek corridor or adjacent upland habitat, California red legged frog (CRLF), western pond turtle (WPT), and San Francisco dusky-footed woodrat nests could be disturbed by project activities or by vehicle or human access**.**	**Mitigation Measure BIO-2:** The following avoidance measures for WPT, CRLF, and dusky-footed woodrat shall be implemented: 1. Preconstruction Survey**.** In the two days prior to the start of project activities, a qualified biologist or natural resource county staff shall perform one daytime survey for CRLF. The entire work area, including any burrows, rocks and woodpiles that may be disturbed by construction activities, shall be inspected for CRLF. If CRLF is detected, work shall be delayed and the USFWS shall be contacted on how to proceed (since it is a Federally Threatened species). If during this survey WPT is detected, the County or its representatives shall contact CDFG for guidance (since it is a State Species of Special Concern). If during this survey a dusky-footed woodrat nest is detected, the County shall complete one of the following avoidance/minimization measures. These measures are listed in order of priority, meaning the first measure is the preferred measure to be implemented as it provides the least	**Implementation:** Qualified Natural Resource County Staff or Qualified Consulting Biologist, project supervisor and all crew members **Timing:** Prior to construction and during construction as specified in previous column	**Monitoring**: (a) Survey biologist or natural resource county staff to submit a letter report of survey results to County Parks Project Manager. (b) Project crew to sign a sheet for receipt of CRLF, WPT, and woodrat training. Sign-in sheet held by project supervisor. (c) Biological monitor to report daily to project supervisor. (d) Project supervisor to enforce speed limit and parked vehicle check.	**Initials**_____ **Date**_____

Impact	Mitigation Measure	Implementation Responsibility & Timing	Monitoring Responsibility	Verified Implementation
	amount of impact to the woodrat. If the first measure cannot be implemented due to extenuating site conditions, the second shall be implemented and so forth down the list. a. The trail alignment shall be rerouted to avoid the woodrat nest by at least 50 feet. b. If the trail cannot be rerouted at least 50 feet from the nest, it shall be rerouted as far away from the nest as possible but not closer than 5 feet from the nest. c. If the trail must go directly through a nest or within 5 feet of a nest, the nest shall be moved. It shall be moved no more than 15 feet from its original location as far from the trail alignment as possible. On steep slopes, the nest shall be moved upslope of the trail alignment. Nests shall only be moved in the late afternoon during the non-breeding season (October through January). Prior to nest relocation activities, the nest shall be assessed as to whether it is active or inactive. This includes searching for fresh scat or vegetation around the nest. Extra care, such as attempting to keep the nest as intact as possible, shall be taken if it is determined that the nest to be moved is active. If it is determined that a nest is active and that breeding is occurring outside of the breeding season, trail construction shall cease and a buffer shall be established around the nest until young have matured (approximately 21 days from birth). 2. Employees and Contractor Education Program**.** An employee education program shall be conducted prior to the initiation of project activities. The program shall consist of a brief presentation by persons knowledgeable in federally listed and state special status species biology and legislative protection to explain concerns to contractors and their employees. The program would include the following: a description of CRLF, WPT, and woodrat and their habitat needs; an explanation of the status of CRLF, WPT, and woodrat and their protection under state and federal laws; and a list of measures being taken to reduce impacts to			

Impact	Mitigation Measure	Implementation Responsibility & Timing	Monitoring Responsibility	Verified Implementation
	CRLF, WPT, and woodrat during project activities. Crews shall be instructed that if a CRLF is found, it is to be left alone and the project foreman and the USFWS must be notified immediately. Likewise, if a WPT or woodrat nest is found in the project footprint, it is to be left alone and the project foreman must be notified immediately. 3. Daily Monitoring. During the construction phase of the project, a qualified biologist, natural resource county staff, or a trained, on-site monitor shall check the site in the morning every day before construction activities begin for the presence of CRLF, WPT, woodrat or other wildlife present within the work area. If CRLF, WPT, or woodrat is found, construction would be halted and the monitor would immediately notify the appropriate regulatory agency. Subsequent recommendations made by the USFWS or CDFG shall be followed. The monitor would not handle or try to relocate any special-status species. 4. Speed Limit. Vehicles shall not drive more than 5 miles per hour within the construction area if these species have been determined to be present. If any WPT, CRLF, or woodrat are seen in the path of a vehicle, the vehicle shall stop until the animal is out of the path. Parked vehicles shall be thoroughly checked underneath before they are moved to ensure that no WPT, CRLF or woodrat are on the ground below the vehicle.			
Impact: The removal or trimming of shrubs or trees for trail and bridge construction and trail realignment or obliteration could impact nesting birds, if present.	**Mitigation Measure BIO-3**: In order to avoid impacts to existing raptor and migratory bird nests, a preconstruction survey of all vegetation along the flagged trail alignment that could support nests shall be completed. Every attempt shall be made to protect trees and nests that contain raptor and migratory bird nests. A qualified biologist or natural resource county staff member shall conduct a survey for nesting raptors and other birds within five days prior to the start of construction activities. If active nests are not present, construction	**Implementation**: Qualified Natural Resource County Staff or Qualified Consulting Biologist **Timing**: During the construction phase of the project	**Monitoring:** County Parks Project Manager to schedule removal and/or trimming outside of nesting season. If not feasible, County Parks Project Manager shall ensure that removal/trimming is completed within five days of the completion of nest surveys. If nests are found, County Parks Project	**Initials**_____ **Date**_____

Impact	Mitigation Measure	Implementation Responsibility & Timing	Monitoring Responsibility	Verified Implementation
	activities can take place as scheduled. If more than 5 days elapse between the initial nest search and the beginning of construction activities, another nest survey shall be conducted. If any active nests are detected, a qualified biologist or natural resource county staff member shall determine the appropriate buffer to be established around the nest. CDFG generally accepts a 50-foot radius buffer around passerine and non-passerine land bird nests, and up to a 250-foot radius for raptors, however the natural resource staff or biologist member shall have flexibility to reduce or expand the buffer depending on the specific circumstances.		Manager and implementation biologist or natural resource staff member would ensure that buffer is maintained until chicks have fledged. The biologist or natural resource staff member would provide a memo report on the results of the nest survey to County Parks Project Manager.	
Impact: Trail construction and other ground disturbing activities as part of the Trails Master Plan could result in disturbance of known or unknown historic, archaeological, or paleontological resources.	**Mitigation Measure CUL-1**: All known prehistoric and historic archaeological resources on Sanborn County Park property shall be formally recorded and evaluated for inclusion on the California Register and the National Register of Historic Places by a professional archaeologist. Architectural resources will be evaluated for eligibility by a qualified architectural historian.	**Implementation:** Qualified archaeologists, architectural historians **Timing:** Prior to construction	**Monitoring:** County Parks Project Manager	**Initials**_____ **Date**_____
	Mitigation Measure CUL-2: A focused field survey under the direction of a professional archaeologist shall be conducted in those portions of the park near future trail alignments to locate unrecorded prehistoric sites. An additional focused field survey for historic archaeological sites under the direction of a professional archaeologist will also be conducted, but the area surveyed can be restricted to those trails and areas adjacent to them which have been identified by County Parks as areas which have seen land alteration (lumbering and or agricultural) since the middle 19th Century.	**Implementation:** Professional archaeologist and labor under professional direction **Timing:** After delineation of trail alignment, prior to construction	**Monitoring:** County Parks Project Manager	**Initials**_____ **Date**_____

Impact	Mitigation Measure	Implementation Responsibility & Timing	Monitoring Responsibility	Verified Implementation
	Mitigation Measure CUL-3: If any prehistoric sites are discovered on or near the proposed trail system, a program of mechanical subsurface testing (hand-augering) shall be completed under the direction of a professional archaeologist. If midden (subsurface archaeological soil) components are discovered, the site shall be formally recorded by a professional archaeologist and maps will be produced showing the extent of the deposit area. New facilities identified in the Trails Master Plan shall be reviewed for potential impacts at the discretion of County Park staff on a case-by case basis in consultation with a professional archaeologist.	**Implementation:** Professional archaeologist with assistance from labor under professional direction as appropriate **Timing:** After delineation of trail alignment, prior to construction	**Monitoring:** County Parks Project Manager	**Initials**_____ **Date**_____
	Mitigation Measure CUL-4: A baseline study under the direction of a qualified archaeologist and architectural historian shall be conducted of all prehistoric and historic sites identified. The baseline study shall consist of photo-documentation and description of each site.	**Implementation:** Professional archaeologists, architectural historians with assistance from labor under professional direction as appropriate. **Timing:** After delineation of trail alignment, prior to construction	**Monitoring:** County Parks Project Manager	**Initials**_____ **Date**_____
	Mitigation Measure CUL-5: Annual follow-up photo-documentation shall be conducted at all prehistoric sites identified. If subsequent photo-documentation finds opportunistic or deliberate vandalism and destruction of the resource, a cultural resource specialist will be contacted to determine adequate protection measures.	**Implementation:** Park staff **Timing:** Annually after baseline study is conducted	**Monitoring:** County Parks Project Manager	**Initials**_____ **Date**_____

County of Santa Clara

Parks and Recreation Department

298 Garden Hill Drive
Los Gatos, California 95032-7669
(408) 355-2200 FAX 355-2290
Reservations (408) 355-2201
www.parkhere.org

Memo

Subject: Responses to Public Comments, Sanborn County Park Trails Master Plan Initial Study/Negative Declaration, SCH # 2007022016

This memo contains responses to all public comments received during the Public Review for the Sanborn County Park Trails Master Plan Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND), State Clearinghouse #2007022016. The Public Review period for this IS/MND was from February 2, 2007 through March 4, 2007. Two letters were received during this time period and are listed below. This memo, combined with the IS/MND comprises the Administrative Record for the Sanborn County Park Trails Master Plan IS/MND. All comments listed here are incorporated by reference into the IS/ND. The Responses to Comments did not result in any changes to the text found in the IS/MND Text, therefore no revisions or errata to the IS/MND text are necessary.

This memo contains the following three sections:

A. Listing of Comment Letters Received

B. Responses to Comments

A. Listing of Comment Letters Received

1. James Manitakos, Jr., dated 2/7/07

2. Timothy C. Sable, California Department of Transportation, dated 2/21/07

B. Response to Comments

Comment Letter 1.

Comment 1-1: Sedimentation/erosion issues are not addressed in the IS and a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) is needed, as soil erosion could affect water bodies in Sanborn Park.

Response to Comment 1-1: Potential for erosion into water bodies was analyzed on pages 3-17 to 3-19, 3-24 and 3-32 in the IS/MND. Construction and development of the facilities identified in the Trails Master Plan would occur in phases over a 20-year period, therefore, estimating the total disturbed acreage at full build-out is unrealistic. Development of each trail segment will disturb substantially less area than all of the projects combined. BMPs intended to avoid and/or reduce soil and erosion related impacts are incorporated into the project and are

stated on pages 2-18 to 2-22 of the IS/MND. Page 2-18 states that “The County adopted the Countywide Trails Master Plan in 1995, and adopted the Uniform Interjurisdictional Trail Design, Use and Management Guidelines in 1999. Both of these documents contain guidance for trail siting, trail construction, and trail maintenance that would be used to avoid or reduce impacts to natural resources and to sensitive receptors. The Sanborn Trails Master Plan (Trails Master Plan) contains a listing of geologic and hydrologic features that exist within Sanborn County Park. The Trails Master Plan also contains a Trail Suitability Analysis and Trail Design Guidelines that are specific to Sanborn County Park. These are listed as Appendix C of the Trails Master Plan. Application of all of these guidelines will ensure that no impacts occur.”

An NPDES permit will be procured prior to construction, as stated in page 3-23 of the IS/MND. The NPDES permit that will be obtained for this project is the Construction General Permit, 99-08-DWQ. The Trails Master Plan meets the Construction General Permit criteria of disturbing one or more acres of soil or is part of a larger common plan of development that in total disturbs one or more acres. The Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation Department will prepare a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) as part of the NPDES permit process. The SWPPP will list Best Management Practices (BMPs) the project will implement to protect storm water runoff and the placement of those BMPs.

Comment 1-2: The project will increase traffic on Sanborn Road and this impact was not addressed in the IS/MND.

Response to Comment 1-2: Sanborn road is not solely used by park visitors, and these park visitors are not likely to use the road at one particular time, but rather throughout the day. Park usage is estimated to increase by approximately 10% at full build-out which may occur in 20 years, but that includes access via four staging areas from the entrance to the park to Sanborn Road/Highway 9 and another four staging areas, which can be accessed from SR 35 and not necessarily via Highway 9/Sanborn Road. Also, these visits are not likely to occur at one particular time, but rather throughout the day, therefore it would be difficult to identify what traffic is a result of the park or which is a result of other non-park users. Sanborn road is not owned nor maintained by Parks but is a County road used for other purposes other than accessing the park.

Comment 1-3: Preparation of an EIR is necessary because of significant impacts as a result of the project.

Response to Comment 1-3: All impacts, including potential impacts to biological resources, historic resources, water quality, and traffic were analyzed in the IS/MND. As is stated in Response to Comment 1-1, above, the County Parks Department will follow existing County documents that contain guidance for trail siting, trail construction, and trail maintenance. Adherance to these plans, combined with the BMPS, avoidance protocol and mitigation measures found in the IS/MND will ensure that significant impacts to natural resources and to sensitive receptors are avoided or reduced to less then significant levels.

Comment Letter 2.

Comment 2-1: Encroachment permits are necessary for work within California State Department of Transportation (Caltrans) right-of-way.

Response to Comment 2-1: The County will apply for and obtain an Encroachment permit from Caltrans prior to any work within Caltrans right-of-way.

Comment 2-2: Documentation of a current archaeological record search from the Northwest Information Center of the California Historical Resources Information System is required in the IS.

Response to Comment 2-2: As stated on page 3-47 of the IS/MND, "An initial cultural resources study was conducted by Holman & Associates in January 2007. The study included a site field visit and a review of all archaeological reports and site records provided by the County Parks department and from the Northwest Information Center (NWIC)."

The Cultural Resources Study included literature review, archaeological inventory, and recommendations. The literature review included copies of all archaeological reports and site records received by the County Parks department or sent directly to Holman & Associates from the NWIC based on an August 31, 2005 response of the NWIC (file no. 05-108). A second document review was done at the NWIC on January 2, 2007 (file no. 06-503) to ensure no reports had been omitted from the 2005 document review.

The archaeological inventory included a field visit to re-locate some of the recorded sources, assess the need to perform additional site recording, and to determine how much of the park would need to be surveyed or re-surveyed for cultural resources. No attempt was made to search for or record additional historic or prehistoric cultural resources during the field visit.

The recommendations found in the report included various measures to protect cultural resources from adverse impacts. These were listed as mitigation measures CUL-1-through CUL-5 as found on pages 3-48 to 3-49 in the IS/MND.

APPENDIX A

ARCHAEOLOGICAL LITERATURE SEARCH REPORT
PREPARED BY HOLMAN ASSOCIATES, JANUARY 2007

INITIAL CULTURAL RESOURCES STUDY OF THE SANBORN COUNTY PARK TRAILS MASTER PLAN

PRESENTED TO: TRA ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES, INC.
545 MIDDLEFIELD ROAD, SUITE 201
MENLO PARK, CA 94025

On January 18th, 2007, Holman & Associates completed a field visit of Sanborn Park in the company of Mr. John Falkowski of the Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation Department, which allowed us to complete essential parts of the scope of services presented to your firm by myself on June 14, 2007. The following report summarizes our findings and makes recommendations regarding the need to conduct further cultural resource research inside the park to respond to the proposed Trails Master Plan.

1. DOCUMENT REVIEW:

Review documents provided to the County Parks by the Northwest Information Center (NWIC) and conduct a second literature review at the NWIC if it appeared that documents had been omitted for confidentiality reasons; review any cultural resources materials in the hands of the Parks Department itself.

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY:

Conduct a field visit to re-locate recorded resources, assess the need to perform additional site recording, and determine how much of the park may need to be surveyed or re-surveyed for cultural resources.

3. REPORT OF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Complete a report of recommendations discussing the need to re-record existing cultural resources, and to complete a more thorough inspection of the park for additional cultural resources which may be impacted directly by the trail program or indirectly by the introduction of the public into areas previously not accessible.

DOCUMENT REVIEW

Archaeological document review included a copy of all archaeological reports and site records received by the Parks or sent directly to Holman & Associates from the NWIC based upon the August 31, 2005 response of the NWIC (file no. 05-108). A second document review was done at the NWIC by this author on January 2, 2007 (file no. 06-503) to insure that no reports had been omitted from the 2005 document review. In the summer of 2006 and again on January 18th, 2007, Holman & Associates received a list of historic and prehistoric archaeological sites located inside the park and mapped onto a Preliminary Trails Concept map by Mr. John Falkowski of the Parks Department. Dated June 30, 2006, there has been at least one addition to this list and map, the stone bridge abutments found near the entrance of the park.

Other than verifying that all data (with the exception of archaeological site forms in some cases) at the NWIC has been made available to the Parks Department, my 2007 archival review confirmed that very little of the park has been systematically surveyed by professional archaeologists: those sites recorded on NWIC maps (such as Scl-320, 205 and 208) were recorded as part of small archaeological field studies–there has never been a systematic survey of the park itself.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY

For a variety of reasons, the actual archaeological inventory of the park was delayed until January 18th, when a day long field visit was arranged for this author, Mr. Matthew Clark and Mr. Richard Montgomery of Holman & Associates in the company of Mr. John Falkowski.

The intent of this visit was to provide Holman & Associates with access to a number of the cultural resources recorded by outside researchers and/or the Parks Department over the years and to gain an understanding of where the proposed trail systems will run in relation to known historic and/or prehistoric cultural resources. Other areas not containing recorded cultural resources, such as Indian Rock, were also visited to gain an appreciation of where future trails are planned.

In all, a total of 6 specific historic and/or prehistoric cultural resource locations were visited. These are listed below:

1. The Germaine Pourroy House
2. Pick Labs Residence
3. Welch-Hurst House
4. Mortar holes behind house
5. The bedrock mortar complex at the entrance to the park
6. The stone bridge abutments located near the bedrock mortar complex

No attempt was made to search for or record additional historic or prehistoric cultural resources during the field visit. At each of the 6 sites visited, the discussion centered on the need for additional research to be done at each of the locations. According to Mr. Falkowski, archival research and actual recording of sites has been completed to some degree at all of the locations

(including 33 sites not visited on January 18th) listed on the park inventory, which includes all those sites recorded at the NWIC.

DISCUSSION:

The January 18th visit to the park answered many of the concerns I had initially when I produced by 2005 scope of services. These are summarized below:

- Would the actual construction of trails lead to direct or indirect impacts to historic or prehistoric cultural resources?

- Are existing historic and archaeological sites adequately recorded and understood to a degree which would allow an assessment of direct or indirect impacts the park trail program may cause?

- Would a standard archaeological field inspection of the proposed trails guarantee that any potentially significant historic or prehistoric resources would be recognized without the benefit of in-depth historical research of land uses, (something which is not commonly done as part of a phase I archaeological field study)?

- How should future cultural resources studies be done in the park to identify and assess impacts (direct or indirect) to historic and prehistoric resource areas? Is it possible (given the terrain and vegetation constraints) to conduct productive visual inspections of the trail routes?

COULD THERE BE DIRECT IMPACTS TO RESOURCES?

At least four of the locations visited on January 18th, the Pourroy House, Pick Labs Residence, the bedrock mortar complex and the entrance to the park and the stone bridge abutments nearby could be impacted either directly or indirectly by the introduction of trail systems into these areas. Damage would occur from casual use and from deliberate removal of historic and/or prehistoric materials from the areas.

ARE EXISTING HISTORIC AND PREHISTORIC SITES ADEQUATELY RECORDED?

With the exception of those structures already on the National Register and currently being used for park programs, none of the prehistoric or historic archaeological sites or historic structures have been formally recorded to a degree which would allow researchers to comment on potential effects the trails may have, or to observe the effects over time that the trails may cause to them by introducing the public into areas formally inaccessible. Photographic records showing the current state of preservation are not available for most resource areas, and no attempt has been made at the one archaeological site visited by Holman & Associates to identify the aerial extent of subsurface deposits which may be associated with it. Likewise, no formal attempt has been made to locate potential historic deposits at former settlements inside the park.

WOULD STANDARD ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD INSPECTIONS BE USEFUL?

A standard archaeological field study of the proposed trail system would consist of the archival review at the NWIC, after which a mixed strategy general and intuitive field inspection would be done of the trail alignments to search for prehistoric and/or historic resources. In practice this type of study would not result in a 100% visual inspection of the trail alignments– areas of extreme terrain, impassable vegetation and areas considered to have low archaeological sensitivity would be dropped from the actual survey. The focus would be on areas of exposed bedrock (locations of bedrock mortars and rock art), former trail corridors (found normally along ridge tops in the Santa Cruz mountains), riparian zones and clearings which could have supported prehistoric camp and/or village locations and which did support historic settlements.

Research conducted by the Parks Department to date has fortunately turned up information about historic land use practices in the park which could lead to the discovery of additional archaeological and historical architectural discoveries which would not be apparent to the archaeologist conducting the standard Phase I inventory of the park.

Two specific historic uses of the park were discussed by Mr. Falkowski, who has begun the process of developing historic land use maps: logging activities have occurred episodically in the park since the mid 19th Century–activities which have left behind remnant haul roads and which could also have left behind additional historical architectural features, landscape alterations, historic debris and perhaps camp sites associated with this activity.

The second activity which has left its mark on the park is the 19th through 20th Century development of vineyards: the Pourroy compound, also a former winery location, is a prime example of this type of use. Associated with it are former vineyards and perhaps orchards which are identifiable by the vegetation which replaced them after abandonment. These locations, primarily growing sites, could also contain historic archaeological trash deposits and remnants of camp or other special use areas.

HOW SHOULD FUTURE RESOURCE STUDIES BE DONE?

The proposed trail system has the potential of causing direct and indirect impacts to known and unknown prehistoric and historic cultural resources. The issue of updating the current inventory of resources to a useful level and the need for additional site survey inside the park will be discussed below in the recommendations section.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Prehistoric resource areas:

Only one prehistoric site, the mortar complex at the entrance to the park, was visited on January 18th. Additional prehistoric sites have been recorded inside the park, but according to Mr. Falkowski, will not be impacted by any of the proposed trails. The bedrock mortar complex however is slated to be further developed for day use, which could result in the damage of archaeological soils associated with the complex itself.

All the currently known prehistoric archaeological sites inside the park have the potential of containing subsurface components of archaeological soils (midden). It is recommended that a program of mechanical subsurface testing (hand augering) be completed at all sites which will be located on or near the proposed trail system and/or which will be made accessible by the new trails to search for midden components.

If midden components are discovered, the sites should be formally re-recorded and maps produced showing the extent of the deposit area. Park improvements, such as picnic tables, fire pits, trails and other activities which require earthmoving should be eliminated from designated midden areas.

In some cases these types of resources will have very visible evidence in the form of stone, bone and shellfish concentrations, artifacts of these materials and evidence of burning (ash, charcoal, fire affected earth or rock) which may tempt visitors to collect from the surface or actually dig for materials.

It is recommended that a base line study be done of all prehistoric sites through photo-documentation so that follow-up assessments (on an annual basis) be done to determine if public access has lead to opportunistic or deliberate vandalism and destruction of the resource. Some archaeological sites do not have a highly visible surface component, and are thus spared deliberate destruction over time. Others are much more conducive to destruction, and may require more active measures to protect them.

Additional survey:

A focused field survey should be conducted in those portions of the park near future trail alignments to locate unrecorded prehistoric site locations, based mainly upon the existence of accessible bedrock, proximity to possible trail alignments, and accessibility to water, either creeks or springs.

Historic resource areas:

Most of the historic resources, such as the Pick Labs Residence and the Pourroy complex and the historic bridge abutments near the entrance to the park have not been formally recorded and/or evaluated for their eligibility for inclusion on the California Register of Historic Resources and/or the National Register of Historic Places. These evaluations, along with the formal recording of these resources, should be completed before any of the proposed trails are finalized to eliminate and/or minimize impacts to them caused by direct or indirect impacts.

Additionally, photodocumentation of the current condition of each research should be done to allow for an annual re-assessment of impacts caused by the public to allow for the implementation of more pro-active protective measures (adaptive management) if necessary.

Additional Survey:

Additional survey for historic resources can be restricted to those trails and areas adjacent to them which have been or will be identified by the Parks Department as areas which have seen land alteration (lumbering and/or agricultural) since the middle 19th Century and which may therefore contain architectural elements or historic archaeological deposits.

Traditionally, the cultural resources study for a Master Plan such as this would take place at one time, producing a report which would inventory all the resources which may be affected by the plan. It is understood that the current plan will lead to the development of trails over the next seven years or more, ample time in which to consider a more phased and cost effective approach to the identification, evaluation and mitigation of impacts to the prehistoric and historic resources found in the park.

If it is at all possible, this report recommends that a program be developed with a local college or university archaeology program to provide the needed professional input to the trail planning process for the park: West Valley College, Cabrillo College and San Jose State University and the University of Santa Clara all have archaeology programs which train students in archival research, archaeological survey and recording. Opportunities are constantly sought for in-field training, which can be abundantly supplied by Sanborn Park and its proposal trail master plan.

The County Parks Department currently possesses sufficient information about historical and prehistoric site locations to implement the first part of the recommendations listed above: that of formally recording and evaluating for the California Register and National Register those prehistoric and historic resources known inside the park. Professionally directed student labor could also be used to provide the photodocumentation needed to provide a baseline conditions study of each resource, and to conduct future annual studies of impacts caused after the trails are in place to decide if adaptive management measures should be undertaken.

All decisions regarding the need to conduct additional surveys of trail alignments and adjacent areas which may contain resources which could be impacted should be made based upon the extant and under development historical archival research and oral interviews being conducted by the Parks Department in conjunction with a professional archaeologist. Actual field survey and site recording could be accomplished by student interns under the direction of a professional archaeologist. Actual evaluation of resources for inclusion on the California Register or National Register should be undertaken by professional archaeologists with experience in both prehistoric and historic archaeological resources; architectural resources should be evaluated for eligibility by a qualified architectural historian.