

we all need



PNA+

APPENDIX A

REGIONAL STUDY

AREA PROFILES

This project was previously called the Regional and Rural Edition (RRE) to emphasize its focus on regional and rural recreation needs and priorities. This project name was used during the data collection, and community engagement and outreach phases which occurred primarily in 2021. As this report was being completed in 2022, DPR decided to rename the project the Parks Needs Assessment Plus (PNA+) to clarify and better communicate that this project complements and offers new information not previously included in the 2016 Parks Needs Assessment (PNA), such as mapping and analyses related to population vulnerability, environmental benefits, environmental burdens, and priority areas for environmental conservation, environmental restoration, regional recreation, and rural recreation. (Please note that there remains some text and graphic references to the RRE in this document because that was the project name when some components of this study were completed.)

SANTA CLARITA VALLEY REGIONAL STUDY AREA PROFILE

STUDY AREA ID #2

- » Study Area Description
- » Study Area Demographics
- » Population Vulnerability
- » Regional Site Inventory
- » Environmental Benefits
- » Environmental Burdens
- » Regional Recreation Parks
- » Regional Recreation Park Access
- » Nature-Based Recreation Areas
- » Nature-Based Recreation Area Access
- » Nature-Based Recreation Amenities
- » Regional Trails
- » Regional Trail Access
- » Regional Site Visitorship
- » Community Engagement Themes
- » Regional Recreation Priorities
- » Environmental Conservation and Restoration Priorities

Note

This profile is not intended to stand alone. For definitions of key terms and a full description of the analysis summarized within please refer to Chapters 3 and 4 of the main report as well as Appendix C: Technical Resources.



STUDY AREA DESCRIPTION

LOCATION

The Santa Clarita Valley is bordered to the west by the Ventura County line, to the north by the Los Padres National Forest and Angeles National Forest, to the east by the Angeles National Forest, and to the south by a major ridgeline that separates the Santa Clarita Valley from the San Fernando Valley. It includes the city of Santa Clarita and the unincorporated communities of Agua Dulce, Stevenson Ranch, Val Verde, and Valenica. The study area includes over 480 square miles, of which about 195 square miles are unincorporated. The study area is located approximately 30 to 40 miles northwest of downtown Los Angeles and, along with the Antelope Valley, comprises the northern portion of the County.

GEOGRAPHY

The study area is framed by the San Gabriel, Santa Susana, and Sierra Pelona mountain ranges, and the Angeles National Forest. The Santa Clara River flows from east to west from its headwaters near Acton to the Pacific Ocean. The study area contains multiple geographic constraints to development, including large swaths of land that are covered by steep hillsides, Significant Ecological Areas (SEAs), and Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones.

STUDY AREA ISSUES

The study area is one of the fastest growing areas in Los Angeles County. Due to this rapid growth, the study area faces multiple challenges related to infrastructure planning, preservation of open space and biological diversity, jobs-housing balance, management of vehicle miles traveled, and coordination of public services and facilities. Given topography and geographic constraints, development is concentrated in valleys leaving some areas isolated with limited connectivity to adjacent areas or facilities; limited transportation options add to the challenges of accessing services and amenities.

PARK AND RECREATION RELATED ISSUES

- » A rapidly growing community of mountain bikers in the region has led to increased reports of user-conflict on trails with hikers and equestrians.
- » The City of Santa Clarita and local conservancies are working to preserve a greenbelt of open space surrounding urban areas and a backbone trail along the Santa Clara River.
- » Additional public and private parks and recreational facilities will continue to be developed as part of new residential subdivisions. A challenge associated with this growth is the need for sufficient funding for the operations and maintenance of the new public parks and trails created through the subdivision process.
- » Regional Park facilities are especially needed in some of the older, under-served areas of the Santa Clarita Valley.
- » Although this study area has many miles of regional trails, there is still a need to create more trails to improve connectivity and provide additional recreational opportunities for residents and visitors alike.
- » Additional resources, including funding, staffing, and volunteers, are needed to maintain trails for improved safety and user experience.

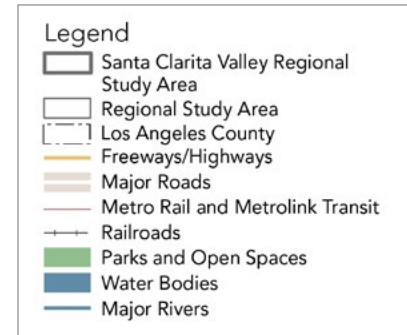
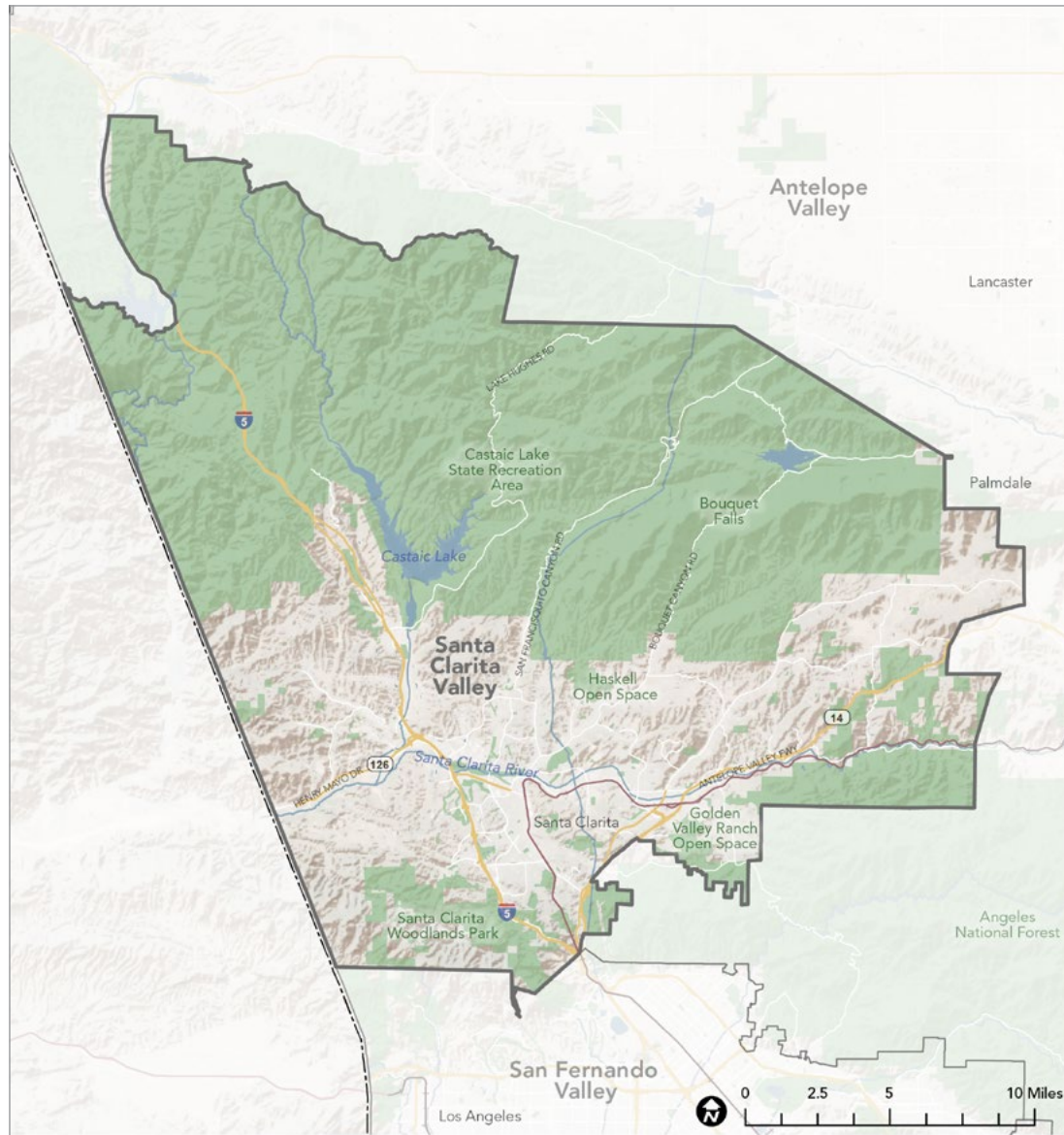
ANALYSIS FINDINGS

- » The areas with the highest concentration of vulnerable populations are located in northwest Valencia and segments of Canyon Country and Saugus.
- » Only 6% of the area's rich inventory of Nature-Based Recreation Areas and 11% of the Regional Trails are accessible by public transportation, respectively.
- » There are extremely high rates of visitorship throughout the study area due to its vast network of parks, open space, and trails.
- » The highest Regional Recreation Need is found in Wayside Canyon due to its low visitorship and low proximity to recreation sites.
- » Several areas within the study area have been identified as priority areas for conservation, including a large swath of the Santa Susana Mountains west of Interstate 5 and communities adjacent to the California State Route 14 and the Santa Clara River.
- » The northwest part of Valencia has been identified as a priority for restoration due to the relatively poor health of the environment.
- » The study area has 2.15 miles of trails per 1,000 residents which is well above the countywide average of 0.33.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT THEMES

- » Heat, cost, safety, lack of information, accessibility and limited facilities are identified as barriers to park use for residents who live in the study area.
- » Residents say they need more access to affordable facilities, better maintained parks, more trails, nature centers, open spaces and programming, enhanced safety measures and more information about parks and amenities.
- » Approximately one-third of survey respondents (36%) say they are recreating outside more often, and another one-third (34%) say they are recreating less often due the pandemic. 88% are looking for recreation opportunities closer to home because of COVID.

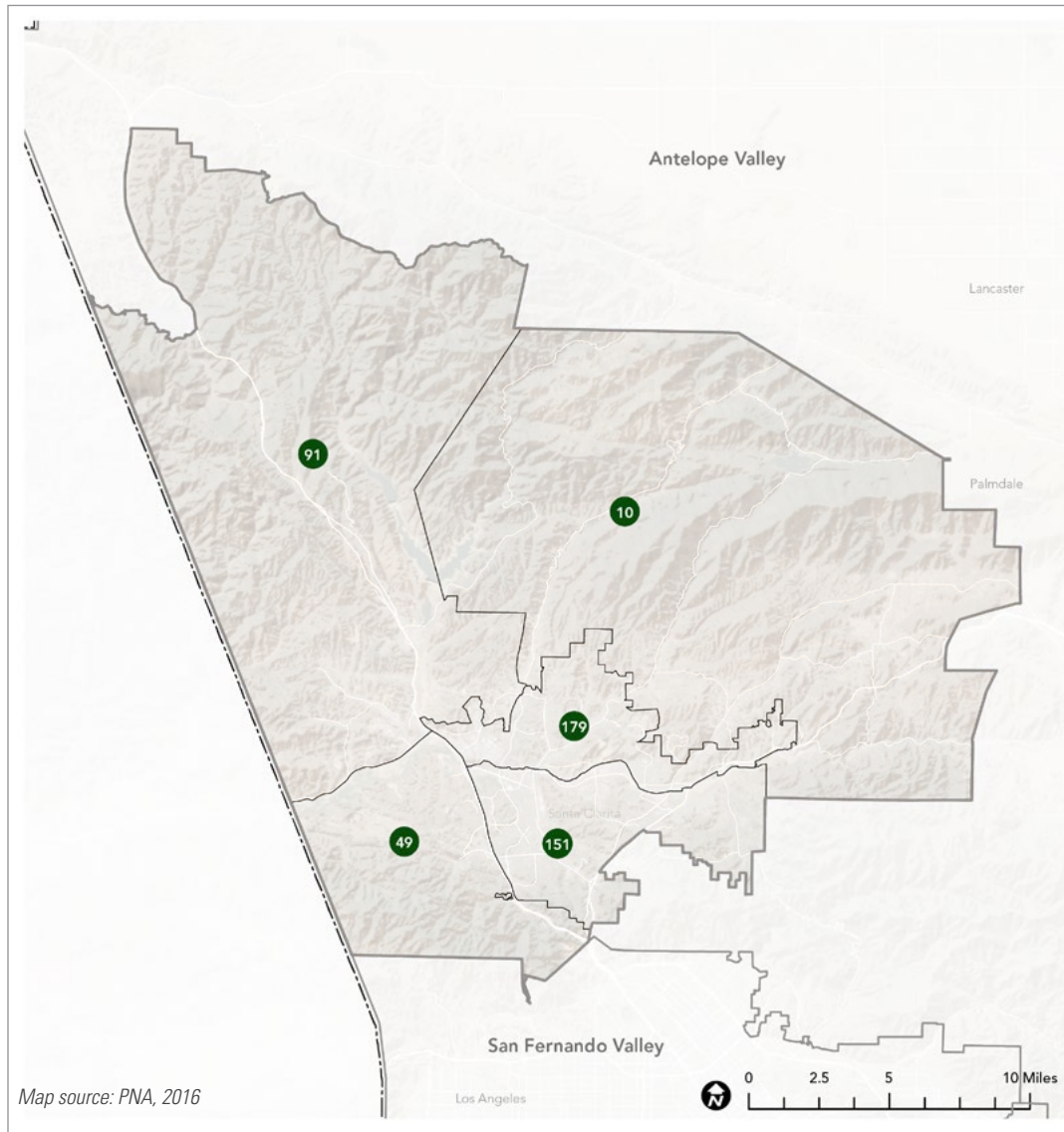
SANTA CLARITA VALLEY REGIONAL STUDY AREA



Map source: US Census, 2019; Esri, 2021; MIG, 2021; LAC GIS, 2021; USGS NHD, 2021
 Note: All Regional Study Profile maps in this chapter include and refer to the sources listed here as basemap layers.

PNA STUDY AREAS LOCATED WITHIN REGIONAL STUDY AREA

This map shows the relationship of Regional Study Area to the boundaries of the study areas that were analyzed in the 2016 PNA.



- 10 Unincorporated Agua Dulce - Angeles National Forest- Canyon Country
- 49 Unincorporated Stevenson - Newhall Ranch
- 91 Unincorporated Castaic
- 151 Santa Clarita - South
- 179 Santa Clarita - North

STUDY AREA DEMOGRAPHICS

Population, Race, Ethnicity, Gender, Income, Age, and Education Level

Population	
Total	271,227

Race	Percentage
White	72.1%
Black or African American	3.3%
American Indian and Alaska Native	0.41%
Asian	10.0%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0.13%
Some Other Race	7.2%
Two or More Races	6.7%
Total	100%

Ethnicity	Percentage
Hispanic or Latino	28.6%
Not Hispanic or Latino	71.4%
Total	100%

Income	Percentage
Less than \$25,000	10.9%
\$25,000-\$49,999	14.7%
\$50,000-\$74,999	15.2%
\$75,000-\$99,999	14.8%
\$100,000-\$150,000	22.5%
\$150,000+	21.9%
Total	100%

Gender	Percentage
Male	51.3%
Female	48.7%
Total	100%

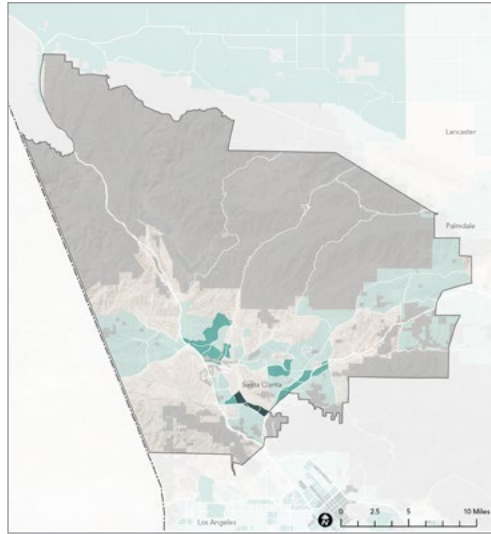
Age	Percentage
Under 5 years	5.6%
5 to 9 years	6.7%
10 to 14 years	8.0%
15 to 19 years	8.1%
20 to 29 years	12.6%
30 to 39 years	12.6%
40 to 49 years	16.9%
50 to 59 years	14.6%
60 to 69 years	8.7%
70 to 79 years	3.8%
80+ years	2.3%
Total	100%

Education Level	Percentage
Less than 9th Grade	4.4%
9th-12th grade	6.6%
HS Grad	19.6%
Some college, no degree	26.7%
Associates	9.8%
Bachelors	22.4%
Graduate or professional degree	10.6%
Total	100%

Source: Planning Area Framework, The Los Angeles County General Plan 2035.
 2014 ACS 5-Year Estimate Subject t=Tables (<https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?q=United%20States&g=0500000US06037%241400000&d=ACS%205-Year%20Estimates%20Subject%20Tables>)
 Note: At the time that this report was prepared, 2020 Census results were not available.

POPULATION VULNERABILITY DIMENSIONS

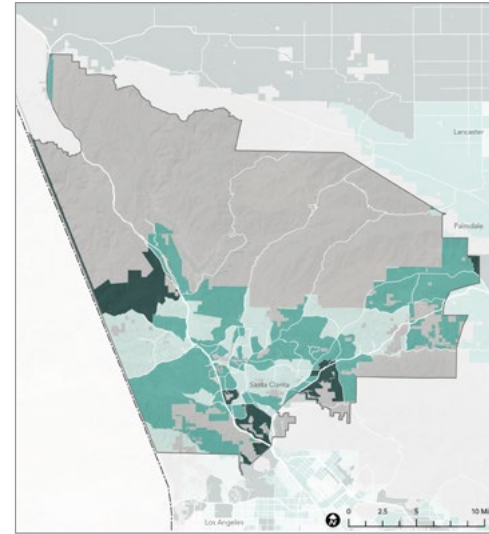
Social Barriers Dimension



Indicators:

- » High Poverty Rate
- » High Unemployment Rate
- » Majority-Minority Population
- » High % of Young Children
- » High % of Elderly Residents
- » High % of Non-English-Speaking Residents
- » Low % of Two-Parent Households

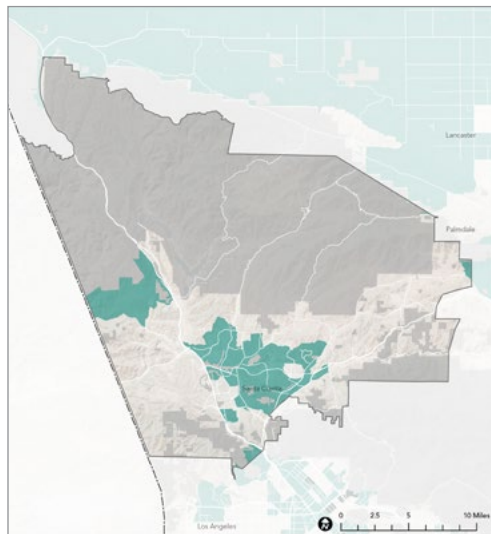
Transportation Barriers Dimension



Indicators:

- » Low Automobile Access
- » Low Public Transit Access
- » Low Active Commuting Rate
- » High Traffic Density
- » High Pedestrian Injuries

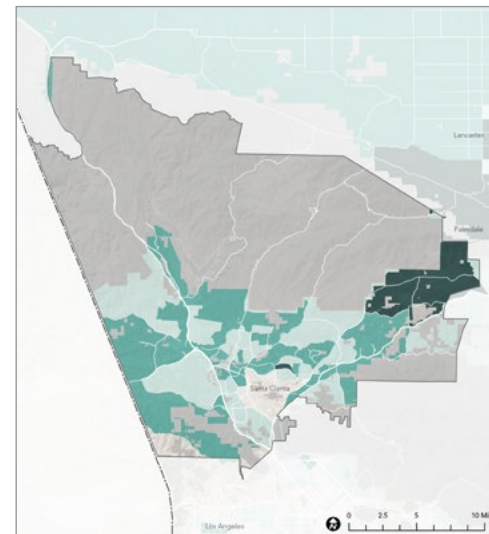
Health Vulnerability Dimension



Indicators:

- » Low Park Access
- » Low Tree Canopy
- » High % Impervious Surface
- » High Number of Excessive Heat Days
- » High Urban Heat Island Index Score

Environmental Vulnerability Dimension



Indicators:

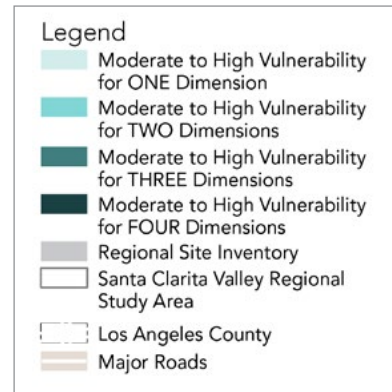
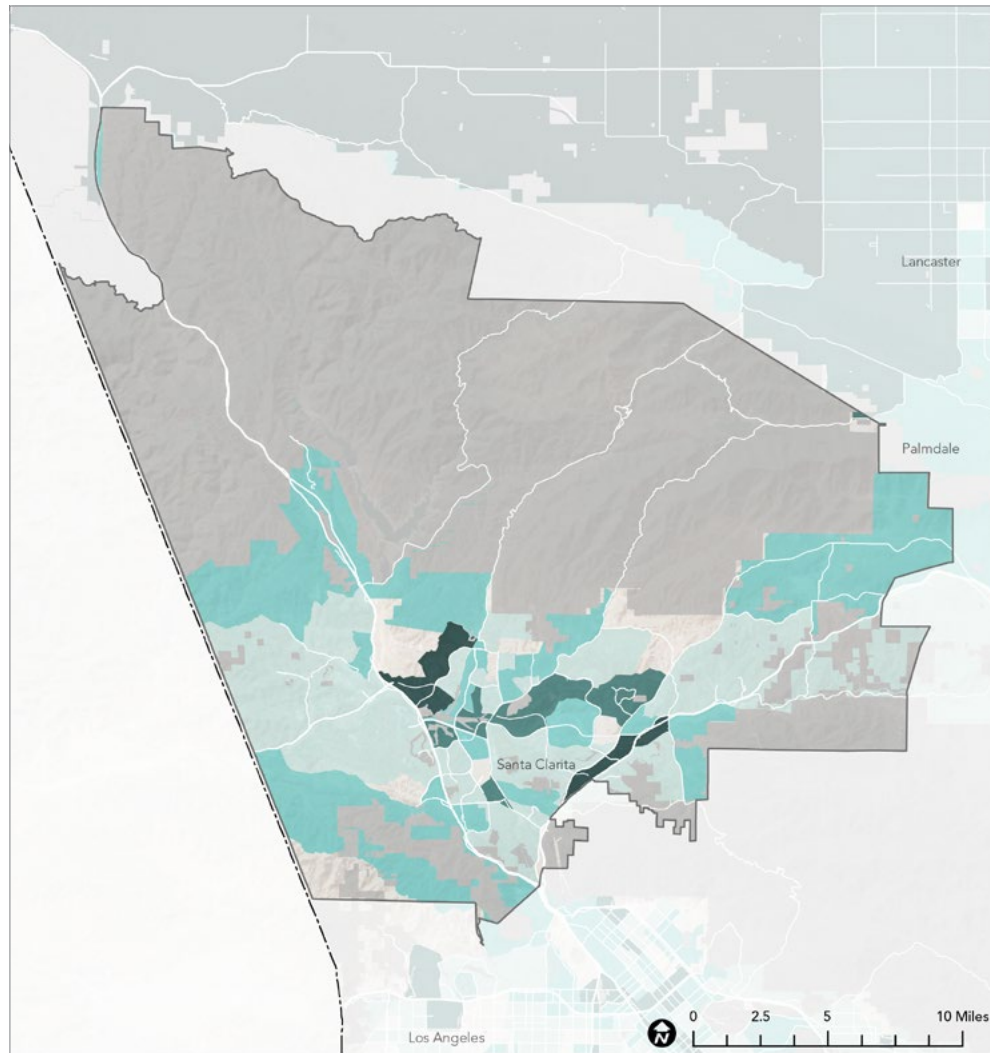
- » Reduced Life Expectancy at Birth
- » High Pollution Levels

Legend


- Low
- Moderate
- High
- Regional Site Inventory
- Santa Clarita Valley Regional Study Area
- Los Angeles County
- Major Roads

Maps source: HPI, 2021; 2021 RRE Inventory

COMPOSITE POPULATION VULNERABILITY



Dimensions of Population Vulnerability

Social Barriers Dimension: 

Prevalence of:

- » Young Children
- » Elderly
- » Non-English Speaking Residents
- » Single Parent Households
- » Poverty
- » Unemployment
- » Majority-Minority Population

Transportation Barriers Dimension: 

- » Limited Active Commuting
- » Limited Automobile Access
- » Limited Public Transit Access
- » High Traffic Density
- » High Pedestrian Injuries

Health Vulnerability Dimension: 

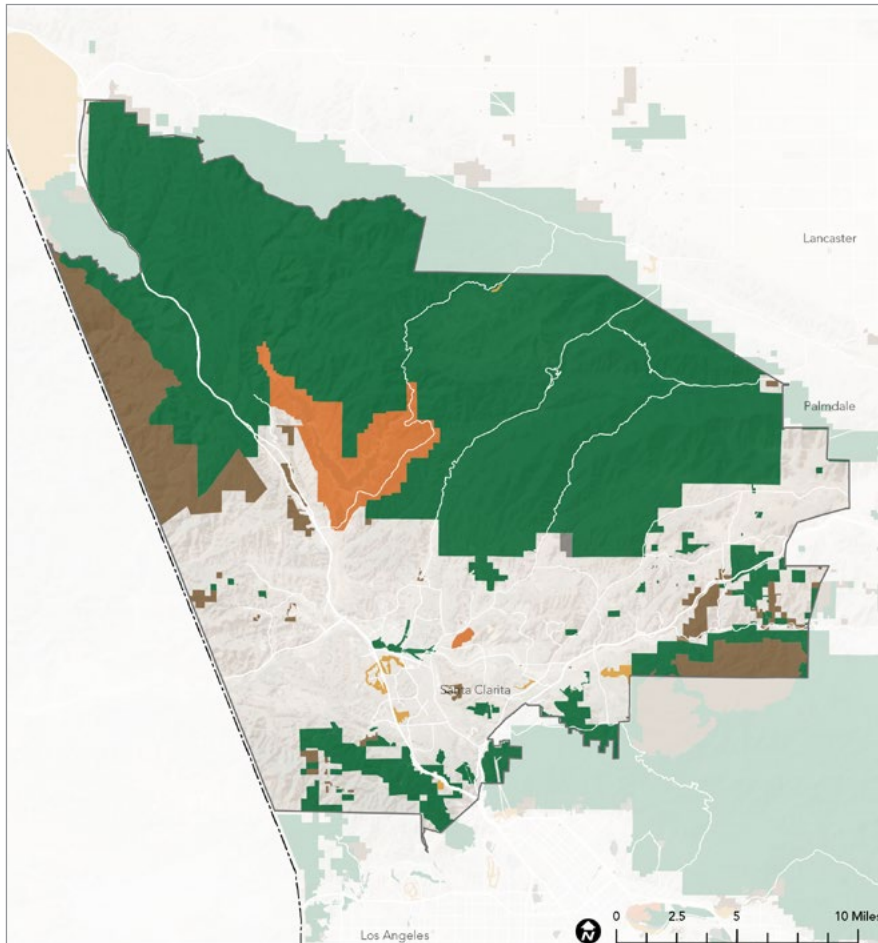
- » Reduced Life Expectancy at Birth
- » High Pollution Levels

Environmental Vulnerability Dimension: 

- » Limited Park Access
- » Limited Tree Canopy
- » High % of Impervious Surface
- » High Excessive Heat Days
- » High Urban Heat Island Index Score

Map source: HPI, 2021; 2021 RRE Inventory

REGIONAL SITE INVENTORY

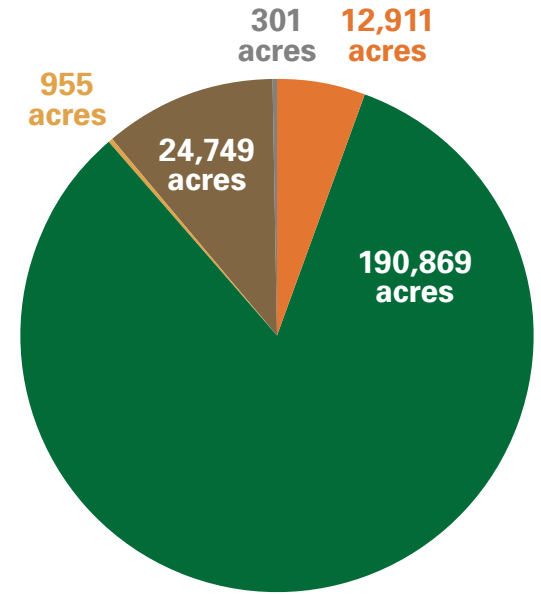


Map source: 2021 RRE Inventory


229,784
TOTAL ACRES OF REGIONAL FACILITIES

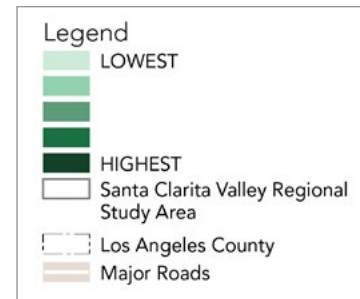
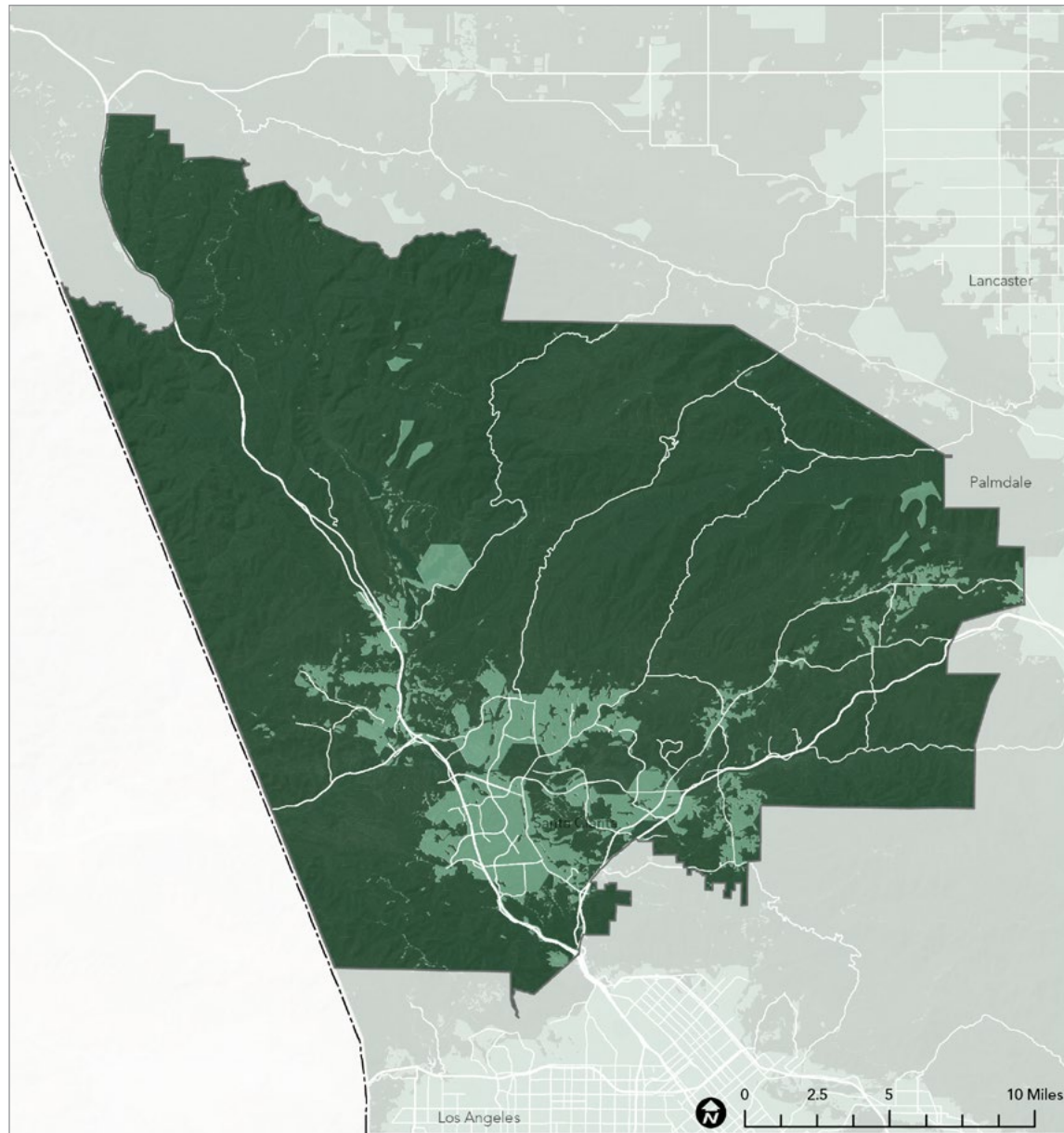

63%
OF THE TOTAL LAND AREA IS REGIONAL FACILITY LAND


847
ACRES OF REGIONAL FACILITY LAND PER 1,000 RESIDENTS



- REGIONAL RECREATION PARKS
- NATURE-BASED RECREATION AREAS
- REGIONAL SPECIALIZED RECREATION AREAS
- CONSERVATION AREAS
- OTHER PUBLIC AND SEMI-PUBLIC OPEN SPACE

ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS



INDICATORS

Species Diversity. Species diversity data represent a count of the number of different species for amphibians, aquatic macroinvertebrates, birds, fish, mammals, plants, and reptiles.

Significant Habitat. Significant habitat values represent terrestrial habitats or vegetation types that are the focus of state, national, or locally legislated conservation laws, as well as key habitat areas that are essential to the survival and reproduction of focal wildlife species.

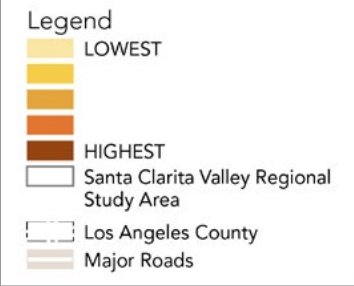
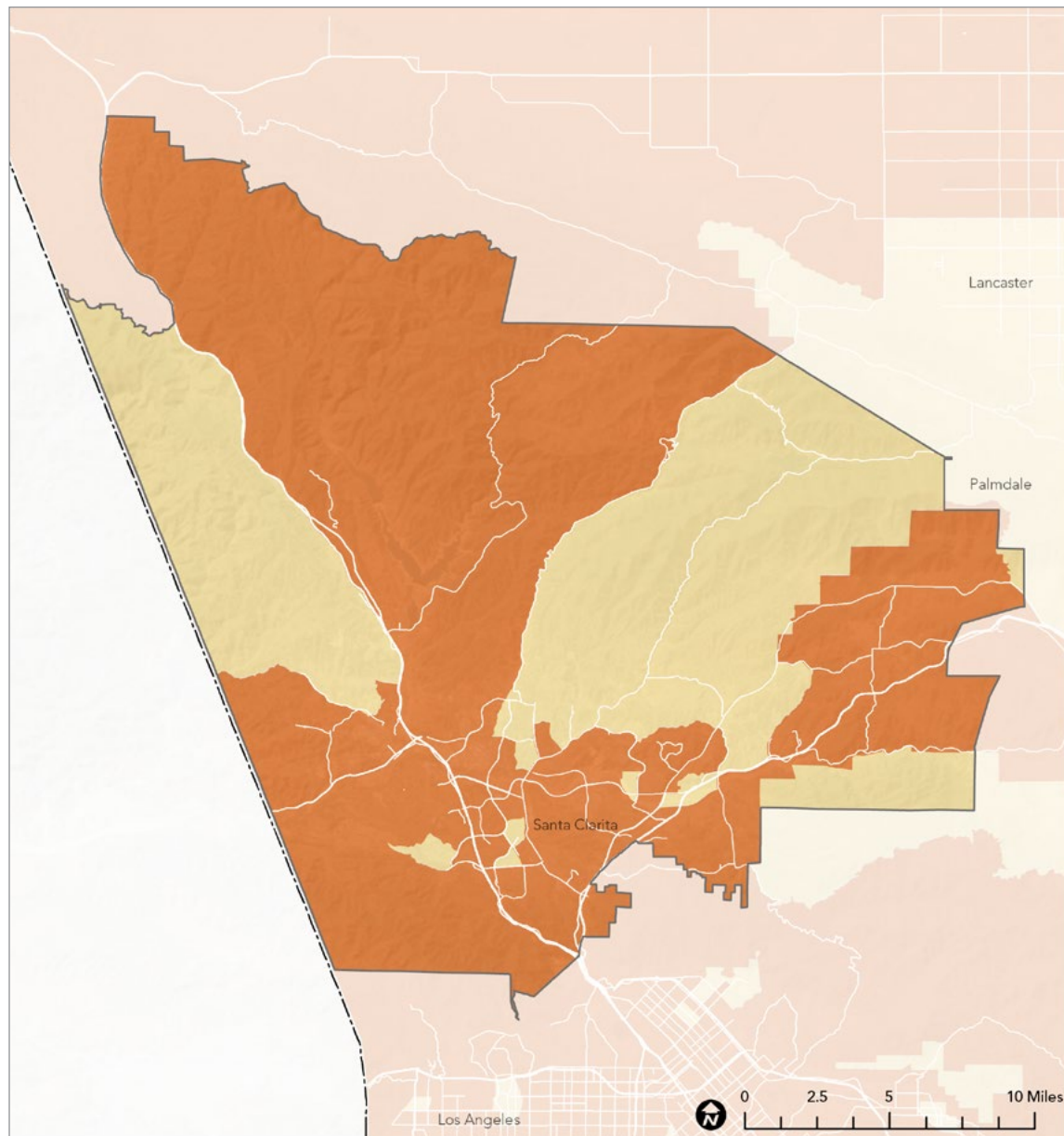
Habitat Connectivity. Habitat connectivity values summarize information on the presence of mapped terrestrial corridors or linkages and juxtaposition to large, contiguous, natural areas.

Proximity to Waterbody. Proximity to waterbody represents the distance to a water drainage network of the US. Proximity was categorized as less than 0.1 mile (highest benefit), 0.1 to 0.25 mile, 0.25 to 0.5 mile, 0.5 -1.0 mile, or greater than 1.0 mile (lowest benefit).

Habitat Type. Habitat types are divided into natural vegetation (high score), agriculture/barren/other (low score), and urban (lowest score).

Map source: CDFW ACE, 2021; USGS, 2021; COEHHA, 2021; CalFire FRAP 2015

ENVIRONMENTAL BURDENS



INDICATORS

Groundwater Threat. Groundwater threats come from many sources, including storage and disposal of hazardous materials on land and in underground storage tanks, dairy farms, concentrated animal-feeding operations, and water ponds generated for oil and gas development also pose threats to groundwater reserves.

Hazardous Waste. Hazardous waste facilities and generators pose widespread concerns for both human health and the environment from sites that serve to process or dispose of hazardous waste.

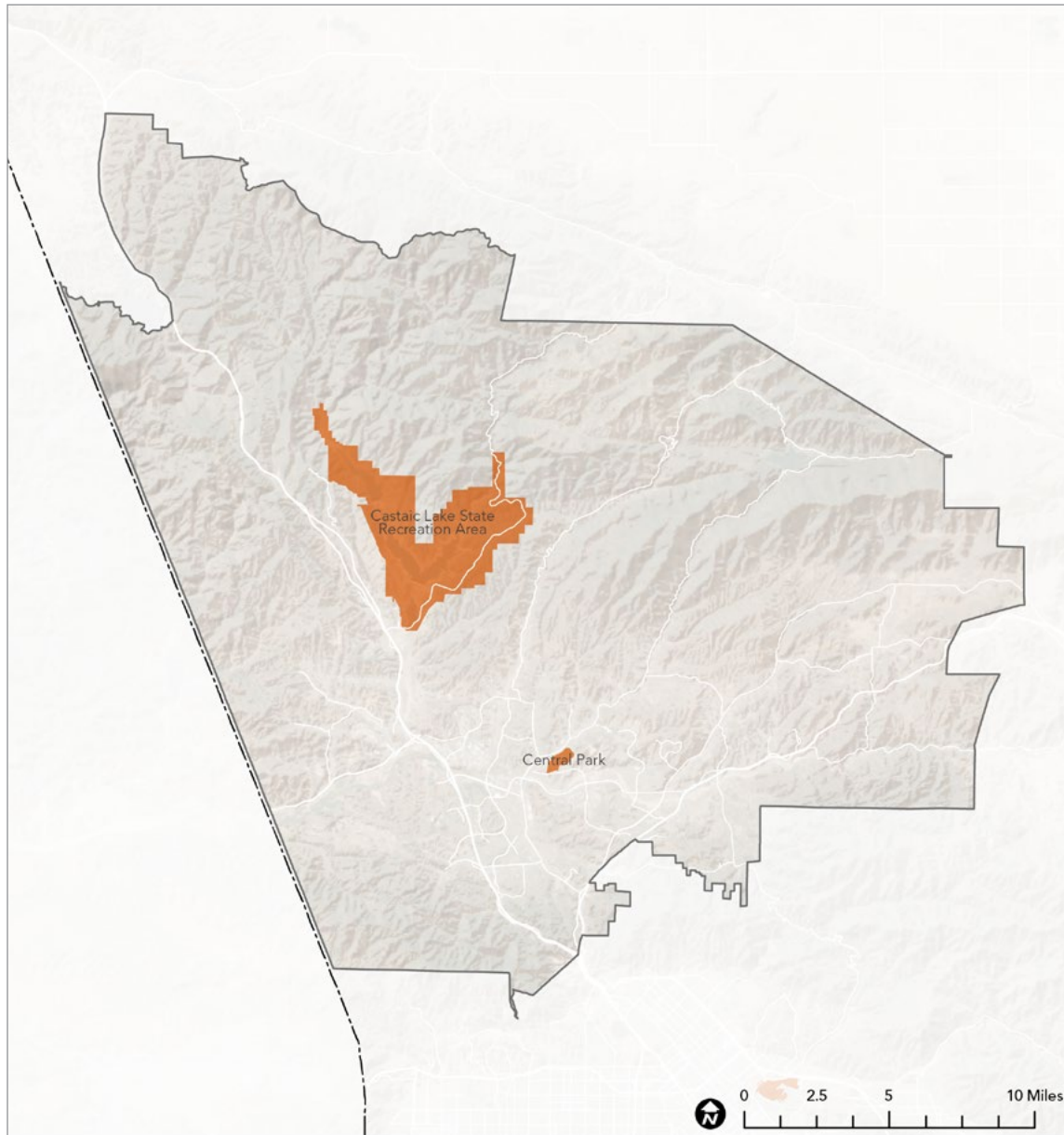
Drinking Water. Drinking water contaminants are introduced into drinking water sources in many ways, including natural occurrence, accidental discharge, industrial release, agricultural runoff and certain water disinfection methods.

PM2.5. Fine particulate matter (PM) that measures 2.5 microns or less in width represents a major contributor to air pollution and has been shown to cause significant adverse health effects, including heart and lung disease.

Pollution Burden. Pollution burden is composite indicator derived from seven exposure indicators (ozone and PM2.5 concentrations, diesel PM emissions, drinking water contaminants, children’s lead risk from housing, pesticide use, toxic releases from facilities, and traffic density) and five environmental effects indicators (cleanup sites, impaired water bodies, groundwater threats, hazardous waste facilities and generators, and solid waste sites and facilities).

Map source: CDFW ACE, 2021; USGS, 2021; COEHHA, 2021; CalFire FRAP 2015

REGIONAL RECREATION PARKS



Map source: 2021 RRE Inventory

Legend

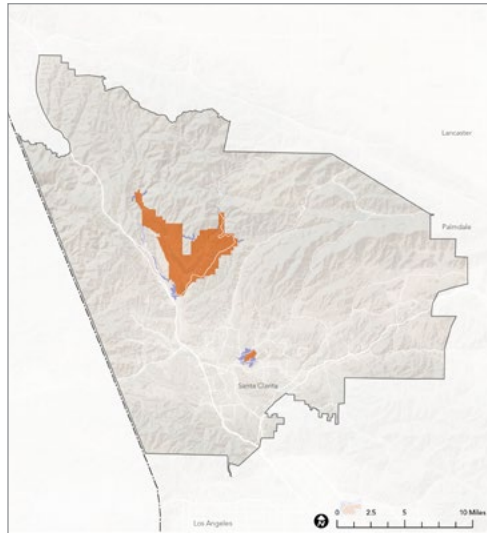
- Regional Recreation Park
- Santa Clarita Valley Regional Study Area
- Los Angeles County
- Major Roads

12,911
ACRES OF REGIONAL RECREATION PARKLAND

48
ACRES OF REGIONAL RECREATION PARKLAND PER 1,000 STUDY AREA RESIDENTS

REGIONAL RECREATION PARK ACCESS

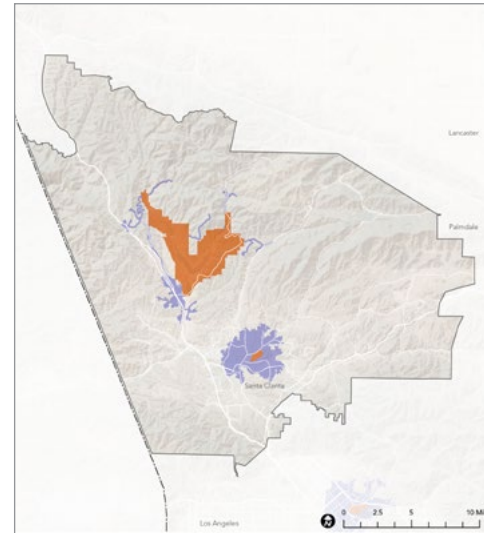
Walking Distance (0.5 miles from entry)



- Legend**
- Areas within a 0.5-mile walk of a Regional Recreation Park Entry
 - Regional Recreation Park
 - Santa Clarita Valley Regional Study Area
 - Los Angeles County
 - Major Roads

1% 
OF RESIDENTS LIVE WITHIN WALKING DISTANCE OF A REGIONAL RECREATION PARK

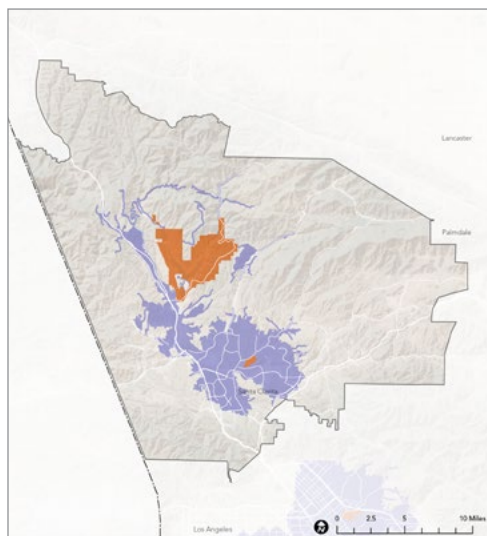
Cycling Distance (2.5 miles from entry)




- Legend**
- Areas within a 2.5-mile bicycle ride of a Regional Recreation Park Entry
 - Regional Recreation Park
 - Santa Clarita Valley Regional Study Area
 - Los Angeles County
 - Major Roads

22% 
OF RESIDENTS LIVE WITHIN CYCLING DISTANCE OF A REGIONAL RECREATION PARK

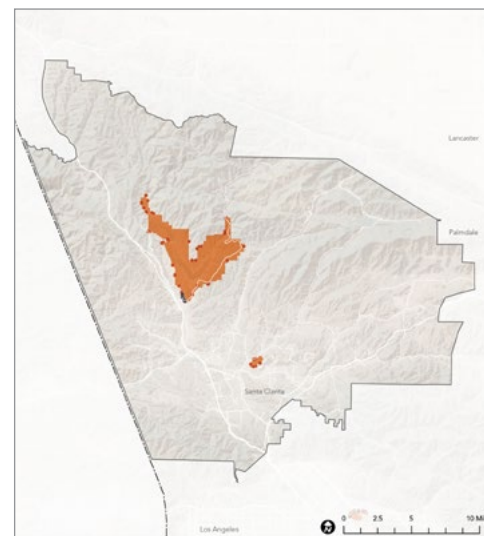
Driving Distance (5 miles from entry)




- Legend**
- Areas within a 5-mile drive of a Regional Recreation Park Entry
 - Regional Recreation Park
 - Santa Clarita Valley Regional Study Area
 - Los Angeles County
 - Major Roads

64% 
OF RESIDENTS LIVE WITHIN DRIVING DISTANCE OF A REGIONAL RECREATION PARK

Transit Service (entry is within 0.5 miles of transit stop)

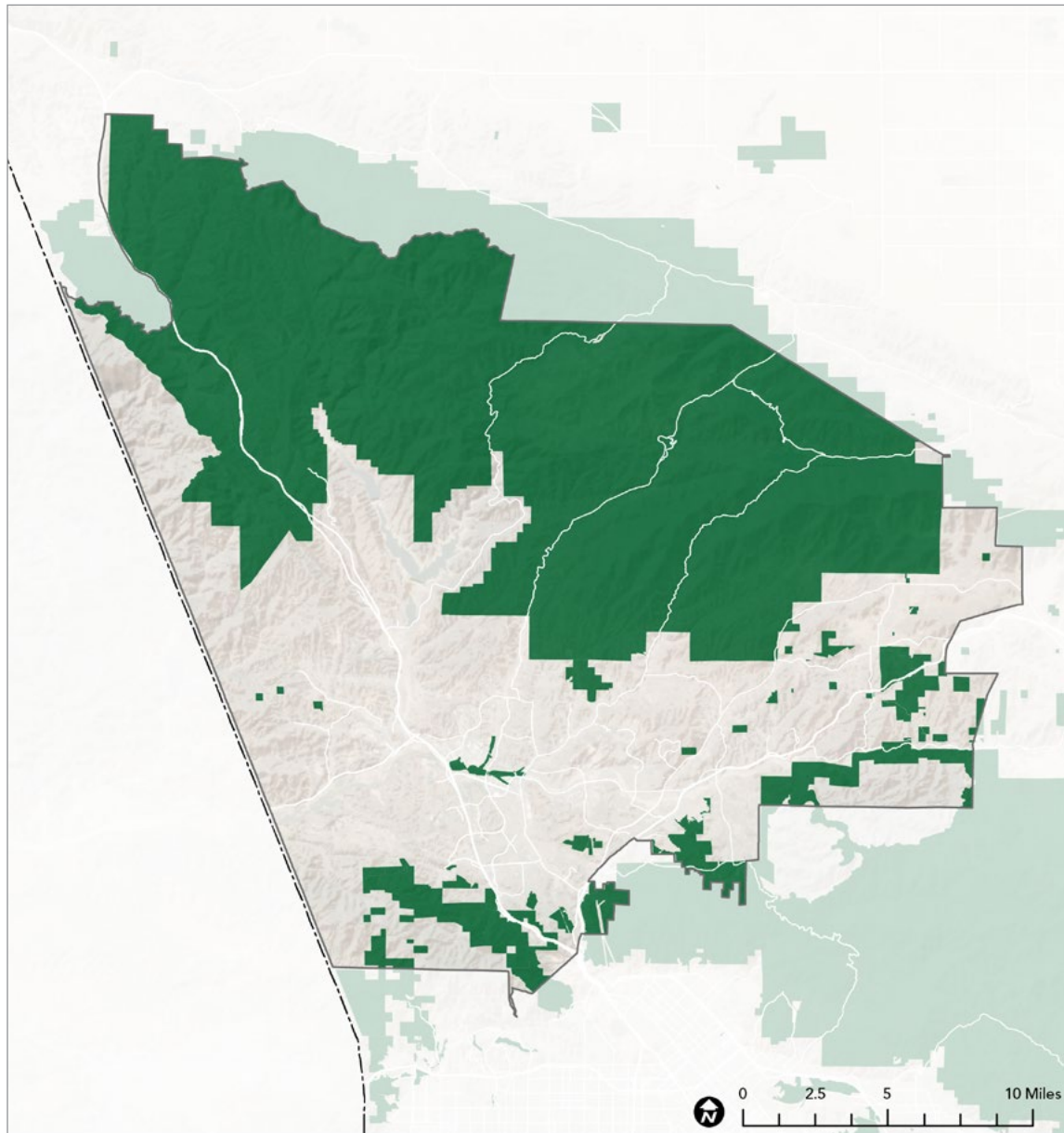


- Legend**
- Entry Point Served by Public Transit (located within a half mile of a Transit Stop)
 - Entry Point Not Served by Public Transit (not located within a half mile of a Transit Stop)
 - Regional Recreation Park
 - Santa Clarita Valley Regional Study Area
 - Los Angeles County
 - Major Roads

67% 
OF REGIONAL RECREATION PARK ENTRANCES ARE LOCATED WITHIN A HALF-MILE WALK OF A PUBLIC TRANSIT STOP

Maps source: ArcGIS StreetMap Premium, 2021; 2021 RRE Inventory

NATURE-BASED RECREATION AREAS



Map source: 2021 RRE Inventory

Legend

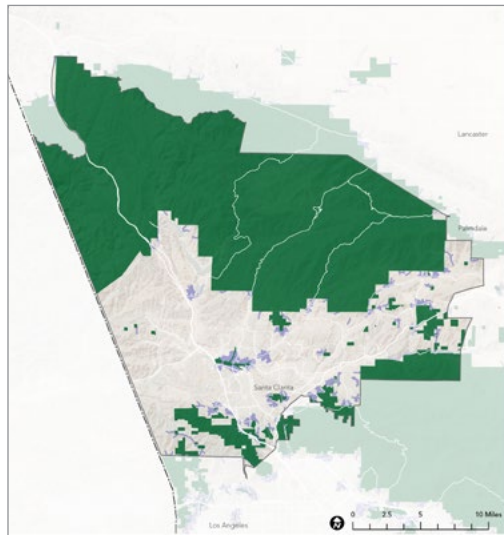
- Nature-Based Recreation Area
- Santa Clarita Valley Regional Study Area
- Los Angeles County
- Major Roads

190,869
ACRES OF NATURE-BASED RECREATION AREA LAND

704
ACRES OF NATURE-BASED RECREATION AREA LAND PER 1,000 REGIONAL STUDY AREA RESIDENTS

NATURE-BASED RECREATION AREA ACCESS

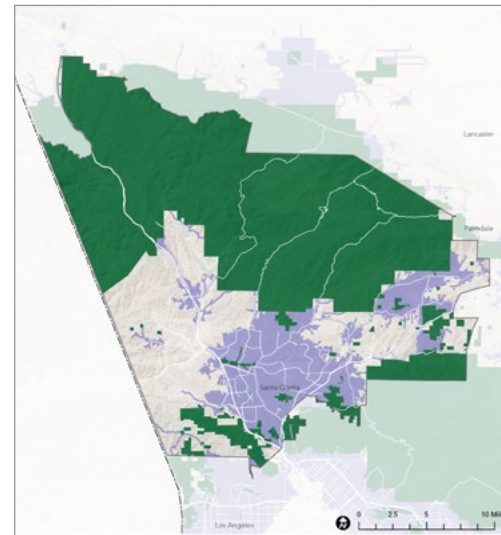
Walking Distance (0.5 miles from entry)



- Legend**
- Areas within a 0.5-mile walk of a Nature-Based Recreation Area Entry
 - Nature-Based Recreation Area
 - Santa Clarita Valley Regional Study Area
 - Los Angeles County
 - Major Roads

8% **OF STUDY AREA RESIDENTS LIVE WITHIN WALKING DISTANCE OF A NATURE-BASED RECREATION AREA**

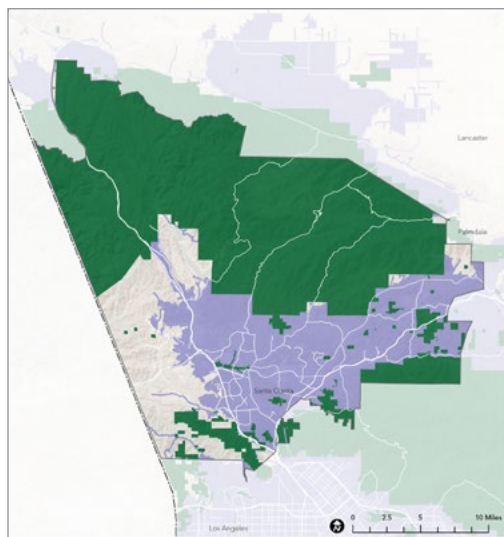
Cycling Distance (2.5 miles from entry)



- Legend**
- Areas within 2.5-mile bicycle ride of a Nature-Based Recreation Area Entry
 - Nature-Based Recreation Area
 - Santa Clarita Valley Regional Study Area
 - Los Angeles County
 - Major Roads

85% **OF STUDY AREA RESIDENTS LIVE WITHIN CYCLING DISTANCE OF A NATURE-BASED RECREATION AREA**

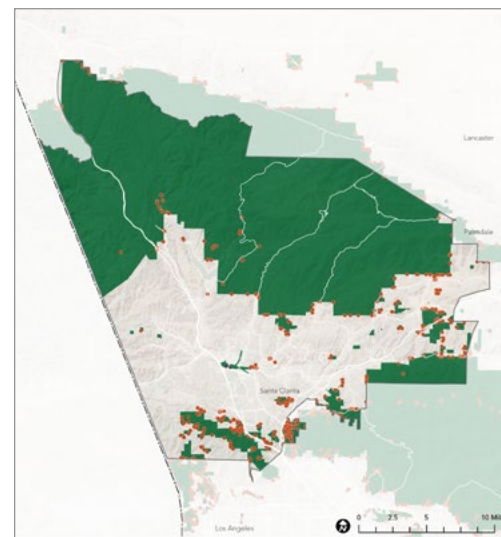
Driving Distance (5 miles from entry)



- Legend**
- Areas within a 5-mile drive of a Nature-Based Recreation Area Entry
 - Nature-Based Recreation Area
 - Santa Clarita Valley Regional Study Area
 - Los Angeles County
 - Major Roads

98% **OF STUDY AREA RESIDENTS LIVE WITHIN DRIVING DISTANCE OF A NATURE-BASED RECREATION AREA**

Transit Service (entry is within 0.5 miles of transit stop)



- Legend**
- Entry Point Served by Public Transit (located within a half mile of a Transit Stop)
 - Entry Point Not Served by Public Transit (not located within a half mile of a Transit Stop)
 - Nature-Based Recreation Area
 - Santa Clarita Valley Regional Study Area
 - Los Angeles County
 - Major Roads

6% **OF NATURE-BASED RECREATION AREA ENTRY POINTS AREA SERVED BY PUBLIC TRANSIT**

Maps source: ArcGIS StreetMap Premium, 2021; 2021 RRE Inventory

REGIONAL RECREATION AMENITIES



GATHERING SPACES



4
Group Picnic Areas



23
Individual Picnic Areas



0
Indoor Event Spaces



1
Outdoor Event Spaces



SPORTS FACILITIES



0
Shooting Ranges



20
Archery Ranges



1
Snowsport Facilities



TRAILS AND PATHWAYS



0
Rock Climbing Areas



85
Trailheads



WATER-BASED RECREATION



10
Boating Areas



5
Swimming Areas



5
Watersport Facilities



5
Waterfront Access Areas



10
Fishing Areas



OVERNIGHT ACCOMMODATIONS



96
Tent Campsites



94
RV Campsites



EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES



8
Visitor Centers



2
Environmental Learning Facilities



1
Gardens



SUPPORT FACILITIES



7
Concessions



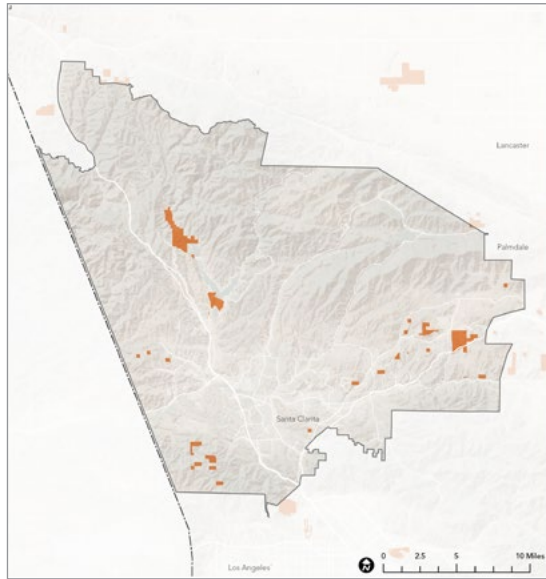
14,226
Parking Spaces



77
Restrooms

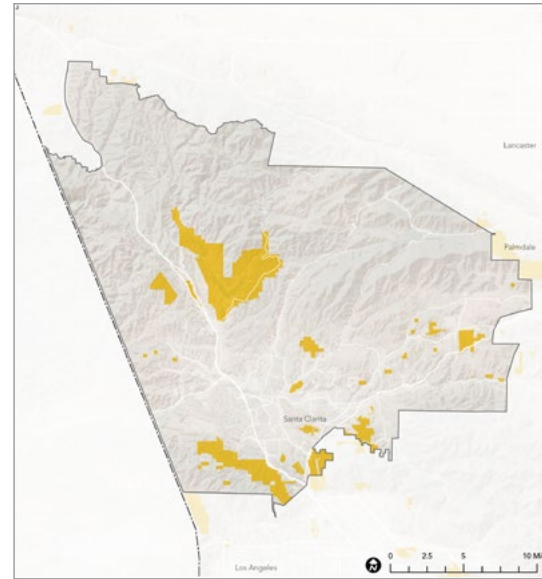
REGIONAL RECREATION OPPORTUNITY TYPES

Gathering Spaces



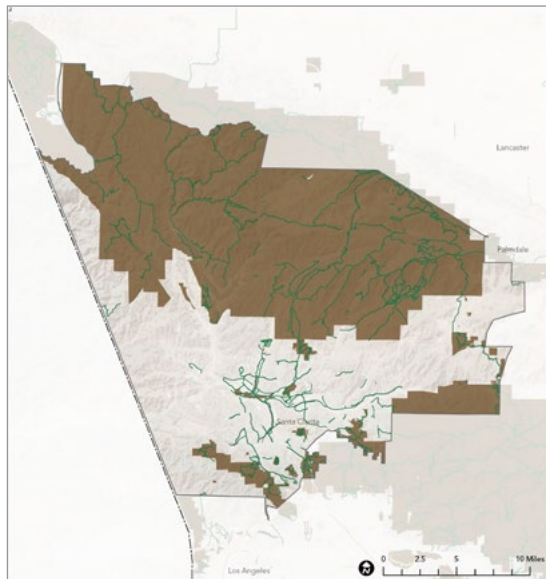
- Legend**
- Regional Sites with Gathering Spaces
 - Santa Clarita Valley Regional Study Area
 - Los Angeles County
 - Major Roads

Sports Facilities



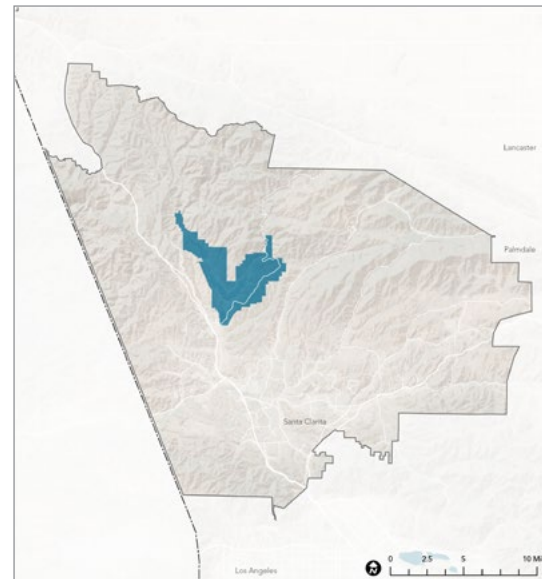
- Legend**
- Regional Sites with Sports Facilities
 - Santa Clarita Valley Regional Study Area
 - Los Angeles County
 - Major Roads

Trails and Pathways



- Legend**
- Regional Sites with Trails and Pathways
 - Regional Trails
 - Regional Bikeways
 - Santa Clarita Valley Regional Study Area
 - Los Angeles County
 - Major Roads

Water-Based Recreation

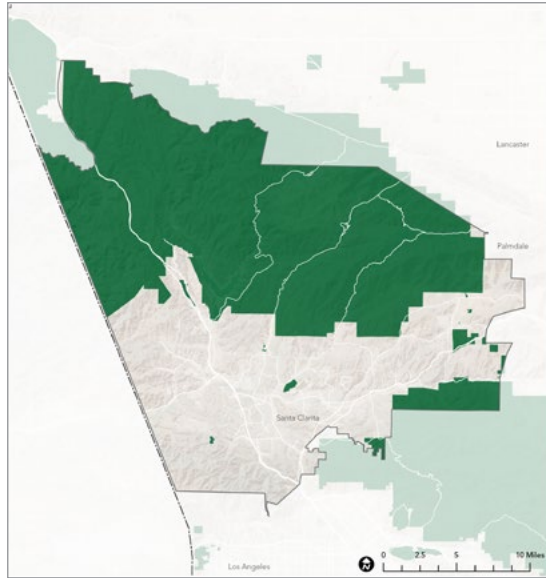


- Legend**
- Regional Sites with Water-Based Recreation
 - Santa Clarita Valley Regional Study Area
 - Los Angeles County
 - Major Roads

Maps source: 2021 RRE Inventory

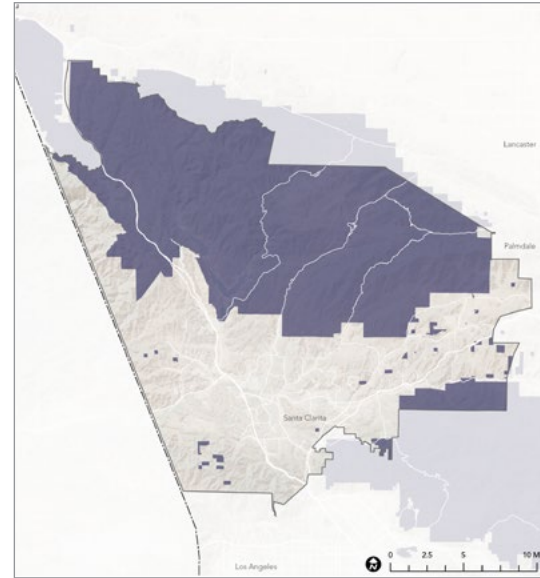
REGIONAL RECREATION AMENITY ANALYSIS

Experiential Learning Opportunities



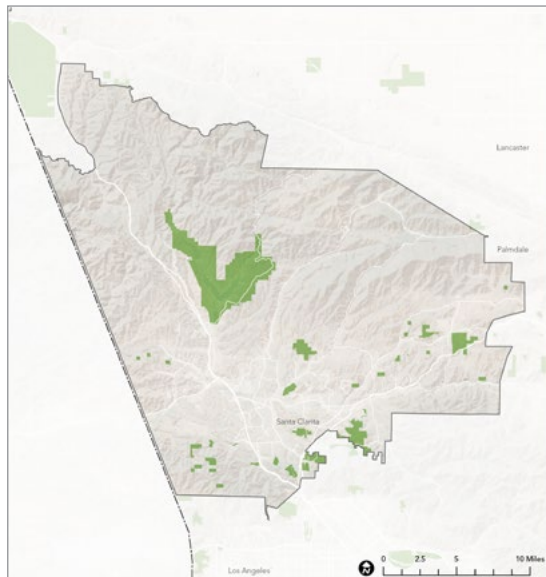
- Legend**
- Regional Sites with Experiential Learning Opportunities
 - Santa Clarita Valley Regional Study Area
 - Los Angeles County
 - Major Roads

Overnight Accommodations



- Legend**
- Regional Sites with Overnight Accommodations
 - Santa Clarita Valley Regional Study Area
 - Los Angeles County
 - Major Roads

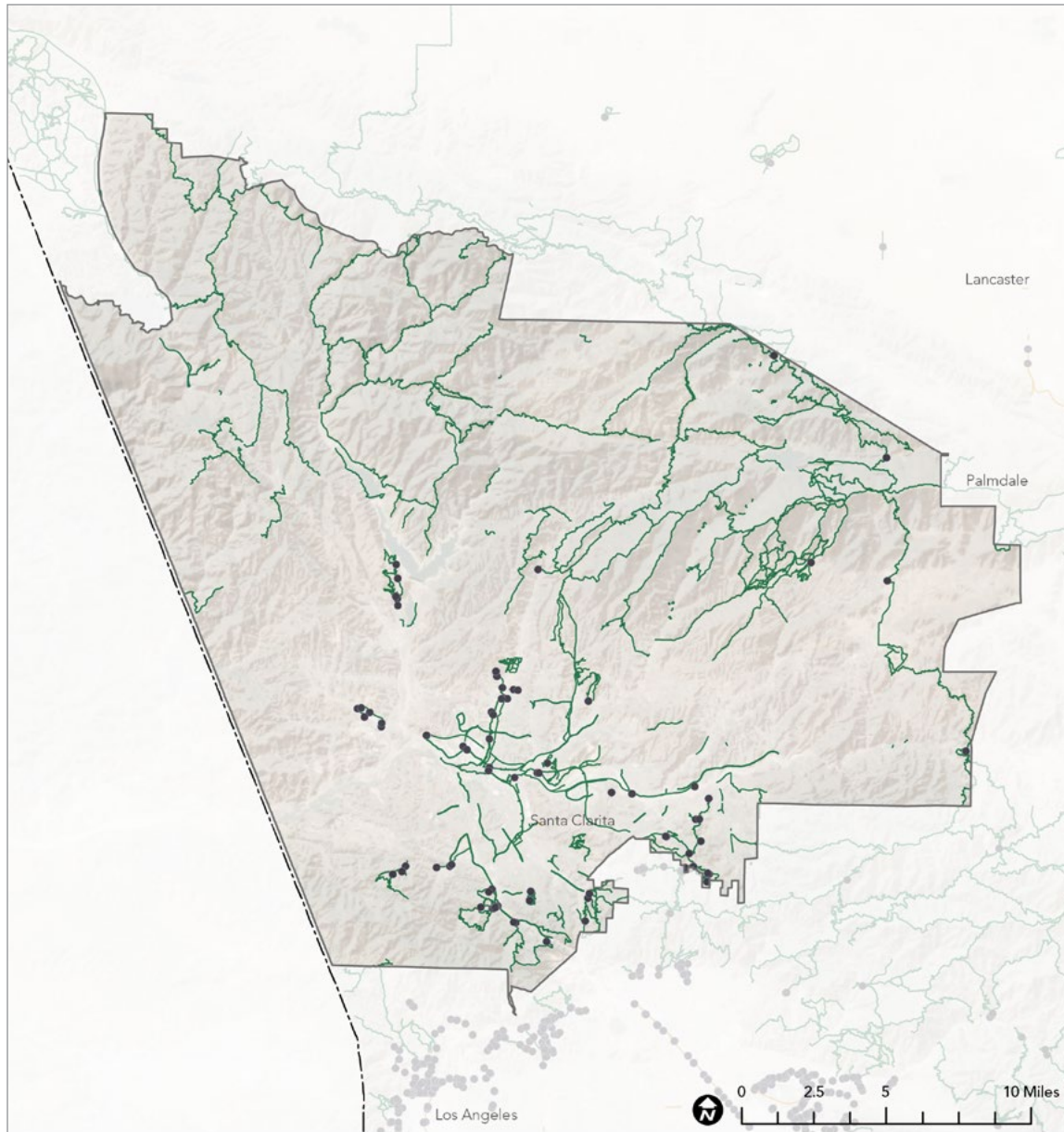
Support Facilities



- Legend**
- Regional Sites with Support Facilities
 - Santa Clarita Valley Regional Study Area
 - Los Angeles County
 - Major Roads

Maps source: 2021 RRE Inventory

REGIONAL TRAILS



Map source: LAC DPR, 2021; 2021 RRE Inventory

Legend

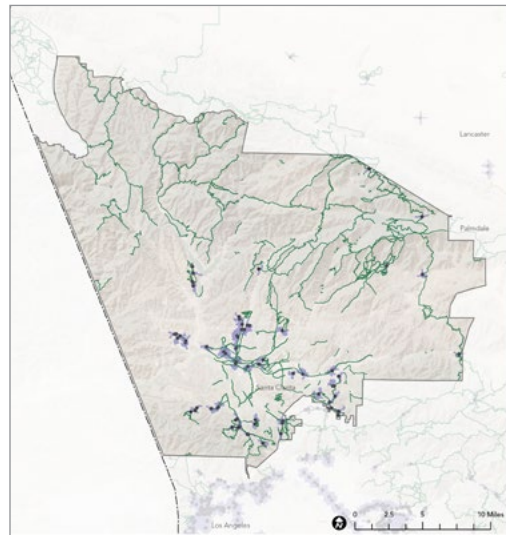
- Regional Trails
- Regional Bikeways
- Trailheads and Access Points
- Santa Clarita Valley Regional Study Area
- Los Angeles County
- Major Roads

584
MILES OF REGIONAL TRAIL

2.15
MILES OF REGIONAL TRAIL PER 1,000 STUDY AREA RESIDENTS

REGIONAL TRAIL ACCESS

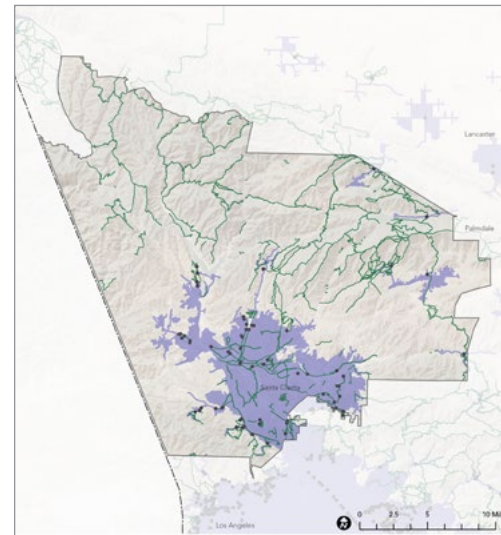
Walking Distance (0.5 miles from entry)



- Legend**
- Areas within a 0.5-mile walk of a Trailhead or Access Point
 - Regional Trails
 - Regional Bikeways
 - Trailheads and Access Points
 - Santa Clarita Valley Regional Study Area
 - Los Angeles County
 - Major Roads

8% **OF STUDY AREA RESIDENTS LIVE WITHIN WALKING DISTANCE OF A TRAILHEAD**

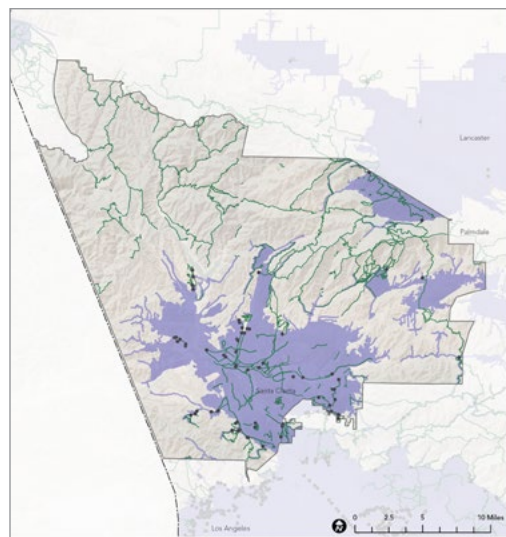
Cycling Distance (2.5 miles from entry)



- Legend**
- Areas within a 2.5-mile bicycle ride of a Trailhead or Access Point
 - Regional Trails
 - Regional Bikeways
 - Trailheads and Access Points
 - Santa Clarita Valley Regional Study Area
 - Los Angeles County
 - Major Roads

86% **OF STUDY AREA RESIDENTS LIVE WITHIN CYCLING DISTANCE OF A TRAILHEAD**

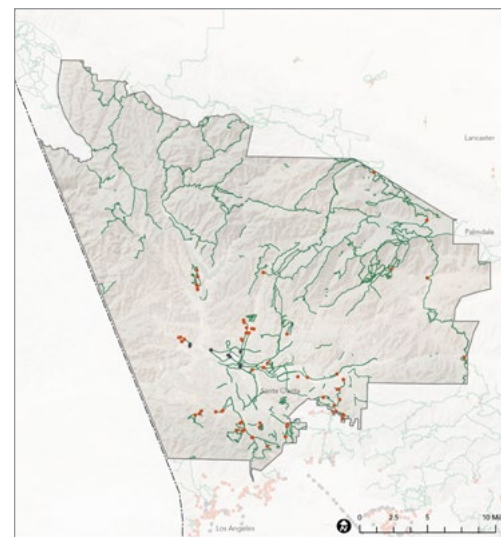
Driving Distance (5 miles from entry)



- Legend**
- Areas within a 5-mile drive of a Trailhead or Access Point
 - Regional Trails
 - Regional Bikeways
 - Trailheads and Access Points
 - Santa Clarita Valley Regional Study Area
 - Los Angeles County
 - Major Roads

97% **OF STUDY AREA RESIDENTS LIVE WITHIN DRIVING DISTANCE OF A TRAILHEAD**

Transit Service (entry is within 0.5 miles of transit stop)

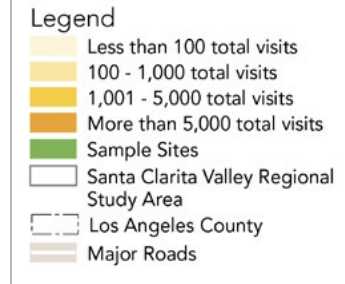
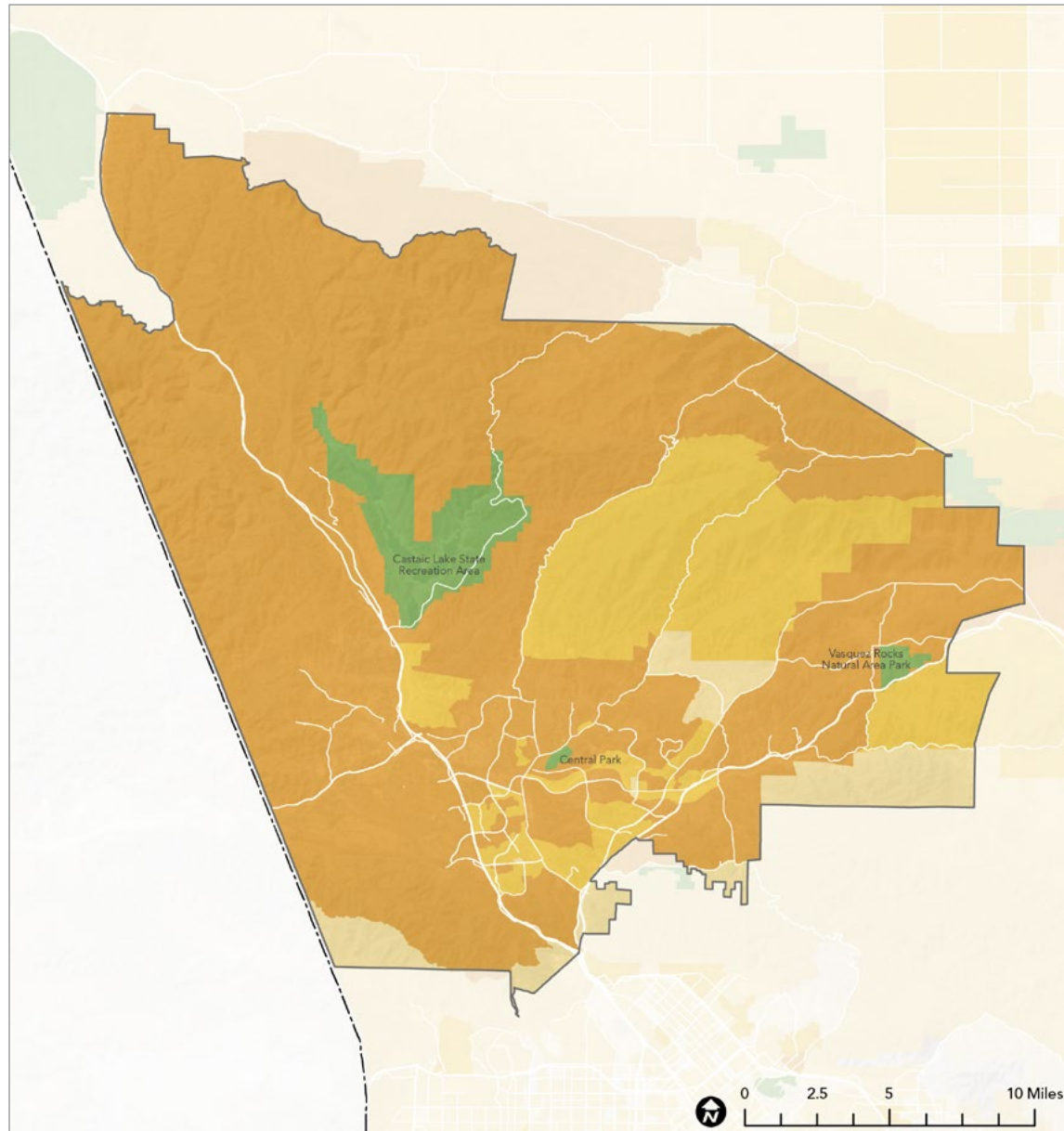


- Legend**
- Trailhead or Access Point Served by Public Transit (located within a half mile walk of a Transit Stop)
 - Trailhead or Access Point Not Served by Public Transit (not located within a half mile walk of a Transit Stop)
 - Regional Trails
 - Regional Bikeways
 - Santa Clarita Valley Regional Study Area
 - Los Angeles County
 - Major Roads

11% **OF TRAILHEADS ARE SERVED BY PUBLIC TRANSIT**

Maps source: LAC DPR, 2021; ArcGIS StreetMap Premium, 2021; 2021 RRE Inventory

REGIONAL SITE VISITORSHIP



REGIONAL SITES INCLUDED IN VISITORSHIP ANALYSIS

- » Central Park
- » Castaic Lake State Recreation Area
- » Vasquez Rocks Natural Area Park

Map source: Unacast, 2021; 2021 RRE Inventory

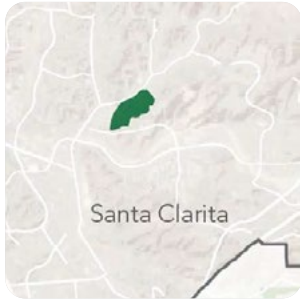
VISITORSHIP REPORT 2019 - 2020

Central Park



VITAL STATISTICS

ANNUAL VISITORSHIP / VISITOR ORIGIN



KEY PARK AMENITIES

- Children's Play Area
- Baseball Diamond
- Basketball Court
- Multi-Purpose Field
- Disc Golf
- Dog Park
- Fitness Zone
- Concession Stand
- Picnic Areas

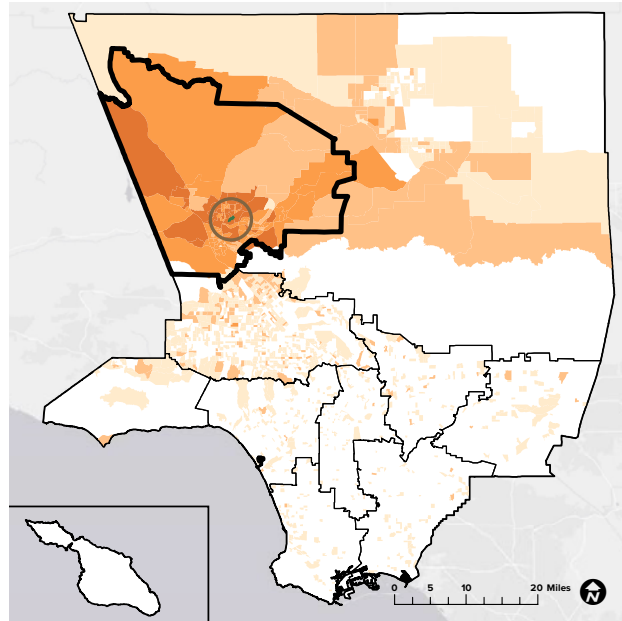
DESCRIPTION

Central Park is a large municipal park located near the geographic center of Santa Clarita. The park was developed on 105 acres of land and has numerous recreational fields that are lighted, including a baseball diamond, basketball court and a multipurpose athletic field. Visitors can enjoy the children's play area, dog park, food stands, picnic tables and public restrooms.

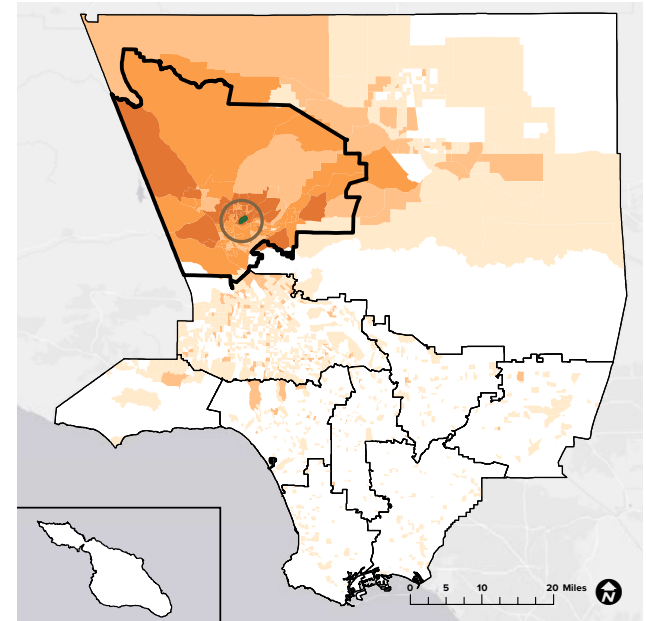
WEBSITE

www.santa-clarita.com/Home/Components/FacilityDirectory/FacilityDirectory/38/1386

2019
768,114 visitors



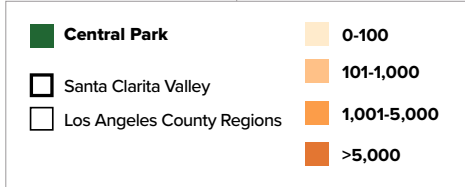
2020
538,533 visitors



87%
originated from within LA County

13%
originated from outside LA County

78%
originated from Santa Clarita Valley



92%
originated from within LA County

8%
originated from outside LA County

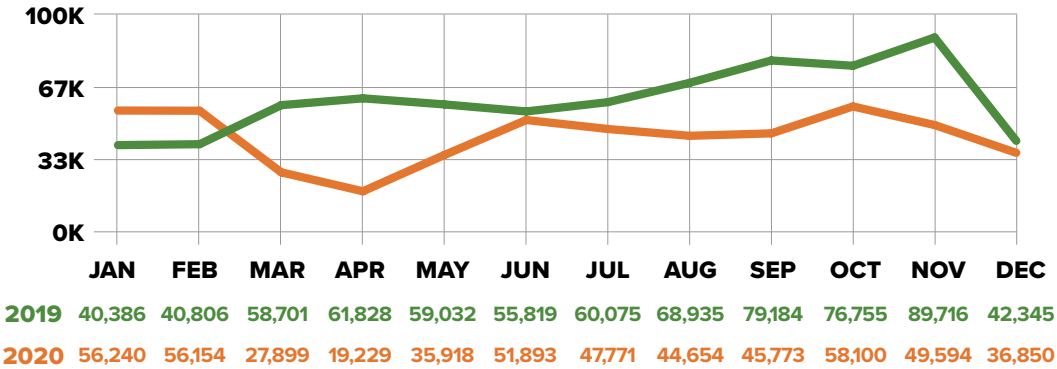
84%
originated from Santa Clarita Valley

Sources: Unacast 2021 (LA County DPR 2020, LA County PNA 2016, ESRI 2021)

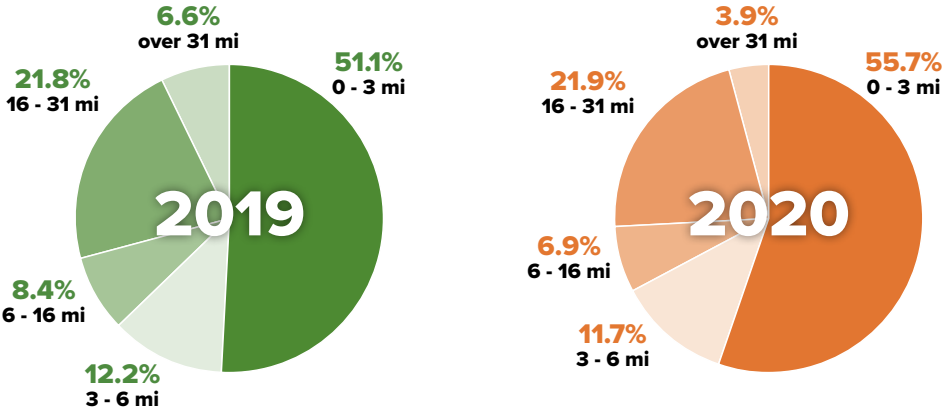
VISITORSHIP REPORT 2019 - 2020
Central Park



MONTHLY VISITORSHIP



TRAVEL DISTANCE



DEMOGRAPHICS

EDUCATION

	High School Diploma	Some College, No Degree	Associates Degree	Bachelors Degree	Masters Degree & Above
2019	14.3%	22.9%	8.9%	21.9%	8.2%
2020	14.4%	23.2%	9.0%	21.9%	8.0%

INCOME

	Less than \$24,999	\$25,000 - \$49,999	\$50,000 - \$74,999	\$75,000 - \$99,999	\$100,000 - \$124,999	More than \$125,000
2019	8.8%	10.5%	15.6%	14.2%	12.4%	38.4%
2020	8.6%	10.3%	15.5%	14.4%	12.3%	38.8%

GENDER IDENTITY

	Male	Female
2019	49.1%	50.9%
2020	49.2%	50.8%

RACE/ETHNICITY

	Amer-Indian	Asian	Black	Hispanic	White	2 or More	Other
2019	0.3%	11.1%	3.5%	28.2%	52.8%	3.7%	0.2%
2020	0.3%	11.0%	3.5%	28.0%	53.0%	3.9%	0.2%

AGE

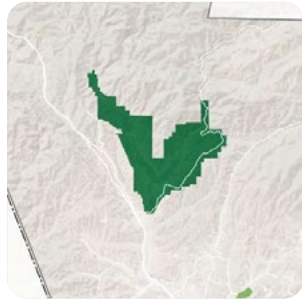
	18-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70-79	80+
2019	20.2%	15.6%	20.6%	21.1%	12.9%	6.1%	3.3%
2020	20.0%	15.9%	20.7%	21.3%	12.9%	6.0%	3.3%

VISITORSHIP REPORT 2019 - 2020

Castaic Lake State Recreation Area



VITAL STATISTICS



KEY PARK AMENITIES

- Children's Play Areas
- Swim Beaches
- BMX Track
- Boating Areas
- Camping Sites
- Civic Art
- Concession Stands
- Equestrian Facilities
- Fishing Lakes
- Group Picnic Areas
- Hiking Trails
- Mountain Biking Trails
- Horseshoe Pits
- Model Airplane Areas

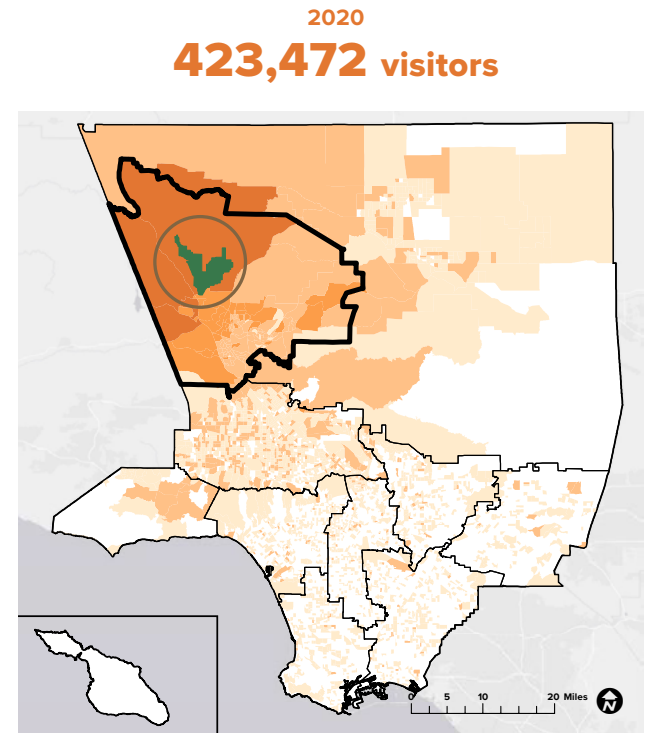
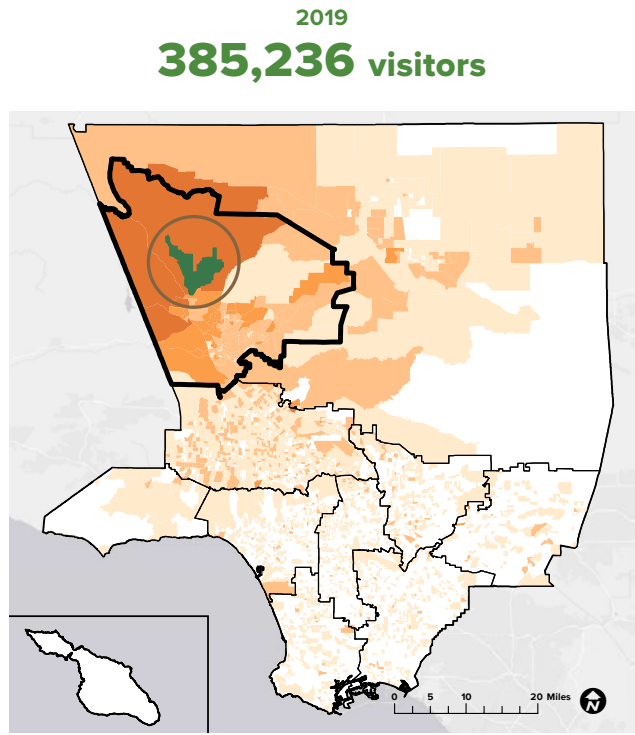
DESCRIPTION

Castaic Lake State Recreation Area is one of the largest state water reservoirs in California. Located in northern Los Angeles County, this oasis features two lakes: the Upper Lake that offers two launch ramps for boating with various waterways and coves for exploring, and the Lower Lake that includes picnic areas, launch areas for kayaks, float tubes and other non-gasoline boating and a swim beach. Visitors can enjoy horseback riding and equestrian centers, a BMX track, fishing lakes, hiking trails, swimming beaches, wakeboarding and camping at this 12,658-acre park. During the summer months, kids can participate in the Junior Lake Lifeguard Program and fishing enthusiasts can enjoy world-class fishing.

WEBSITE

www.parks.lacounty.gov/castaic-lake-state-recreation-area/

ANNUAL VISITORSHIP / VISITOR ORIGIN



70%
originated from within LA County

30%
originated from outside LA County

33%
originated from Santa Clarita Valley

Legend

- Castaic Lake State Recreation Area
- Santa Clarita Valley
- Los Angeles County Regions

0-100
101-1,000
1,001-5,000
>5,000

71%
originated from within LA County

29%
originated from outside LA County

36%
originated from Santa Clarita Valley

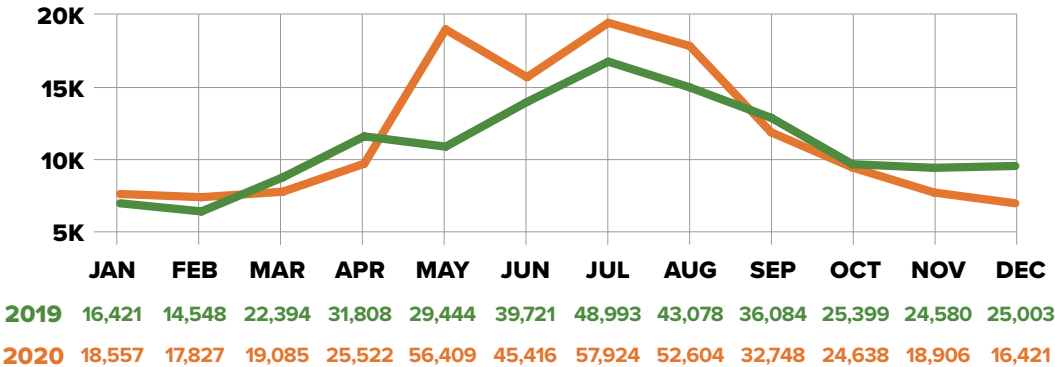
Sources: Unacast 2021 (LA County DPR 2020, LA County PNA 2016, ESRI 2021)

VISITORSHIP REPORT 2019 - 2020

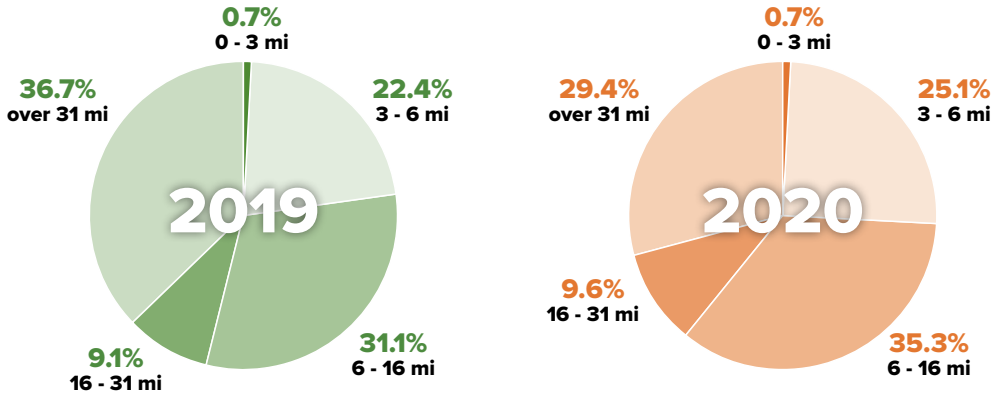
Castaic Lake State Recreation Area



MONTHLY VISITORSHIP



TRAVEL DISTANCE



DEMOGRAPHICS

EDUCATION

	High School Diploma	Some College, No Degree	Associates Degree	Bachelors Degree	Masters Degree & Above
2019	15.8%	20.7%	7.9%	20.0%	7.4%
2020	15.1%	20.7%	8.1%	21.1%	8.0%

INCOME

	Less than \$24,999	\$25,000 - \$49,999	\$50,000 - \$74,999	\$75,000 - \$99,999	\$100,000 - \$124,999	More than \$125,000
2019	13.8%	13.5%	17.9%	13.3%	11.3%	30.0%
2020	13.0%	12.5%	17.7%	13.1%	11.4%	32.0%

GENDER IDENTITY

	Male	Female
2019	49.1%	50.8%
2020	49.0%	50.9%

RACE/ETHNICITY

	Amer-Indian	Asian	Black	Hispanic	White	2 or More	Other
2019	0.3%	10.4%	4.5%	33.3%	48.0%	3.1%	0.2%
2020	0.2%	10.7%	4.2%	30.4%	51.0%	3.0%	0.2%

AGE

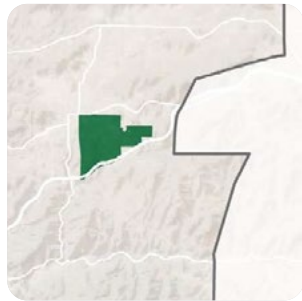
	18-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70-79	80+
2019	20.9%	16.4%	18.7%	19.6%	13.2%	7.0%	4.0%
2020	20.4%	16.6%	18.8%	19.7%	13.7%	6.9%	4.0%

VISITORSHIP REPORT 2019 - 2020

Vasquez Rocks Natural Area Park



VITAL STATISTICS



KEY PARK AMENITIES

- Nature Center
- Interpretive Exhibits
- Amphitheater
- Animal Exhibits
- Equestrian Facilities
- Hiking Trails
- Picnic Areas

DESCRIPTION

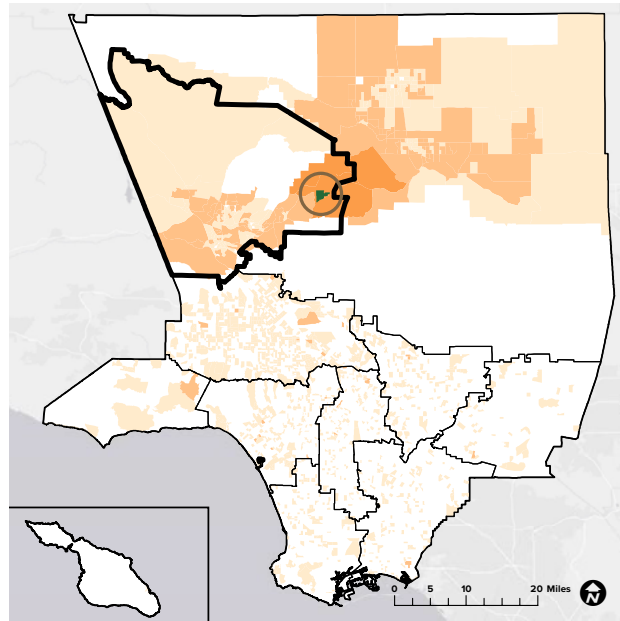
Vasquez Rocks Natural Area Park is located in the high desert near Agua Dulce Springs. The park features 932 acres of spectacular rock formations and a seasonal stream. Visitors can enjoy the park's amphitheaters, animal exhibits, hiking trails, picnic tables, nature and bird walks, camping, hiking, horseback riding and many picnic areas. The park features sandstone rocks at jagged and picturesque angles and has been used in many hit movies, television shows and commercials. The Vasquez Rocks Nature Center has restrooms and water fountains for visitors and hosts many youth programs and school field trips.

WEBSITE

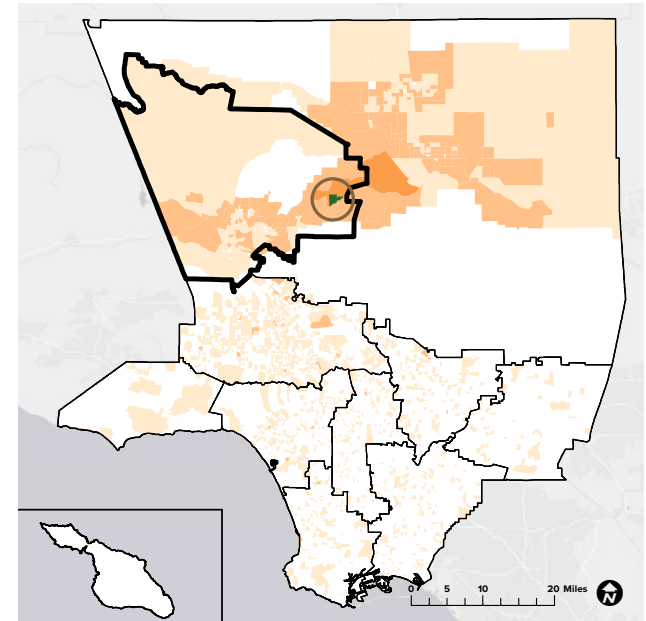
www.parks.lacounty.gov/vasquez-rocks-natural-area-and-nature-center/

ANNUAL VISITORSHIP / VISITOR ORIGIN

2019
94,597 visitors



2020
92,374 visitors



76%
originated from within LA County

24%
originated from outside LA County

23%
originated from Santa Clarita Valley



80%
originated from within LA County

20%
originated from outside LA County

18%
originated from Santa Clarita Valley

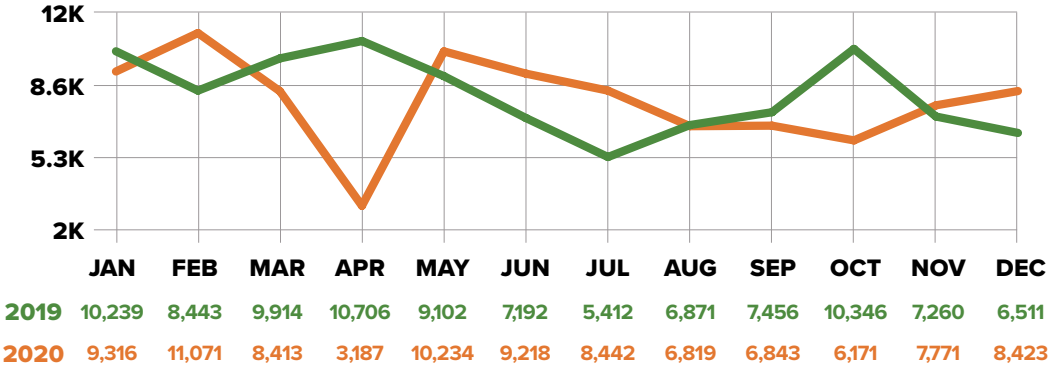
Sources: Unacast 2021 (LA County DPR 2020, LA County PNA 2016, ESRI 2021)

VISITORSHIP REPORT 2019 - 2020

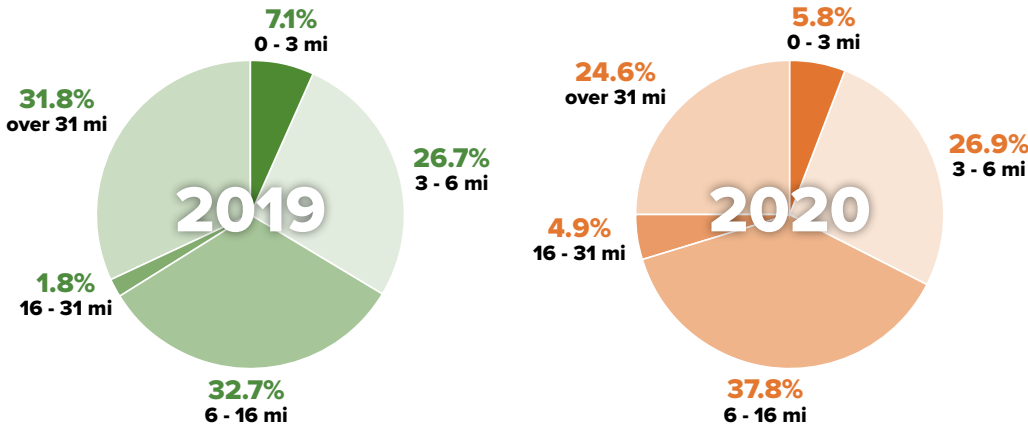
Vasquez Rocks Natural Area Park



MONTHLY VISITORSHIP



TRAVEL DISTANCE



DEMOGRAPHICS

EDUCATION

	High School Diploma	Some College, No Degree	Associates Degree	Bachelors Degree	Masters Degree & Above
2019	16.7%	20.5%	7.1%	18.1%	6.9%
2020	16.7%	20.9%	7.4%	17.2%	6.4%

INCOME

	Less than \$24,999	\$25,000 - \$49,999	\$50,000 - \$74,999	\$75,000 - \$99,999	\$100,000 - \$124,999	More than \$125,000
2019	16.1%	15.3%	19.9%	12.8%	10.0%	25.5%
2020	16.2%	15.8%	20.2%	12.8%	9.4%	25.2%

GENDER IDENTITY

	Male	Female
2019	49.2%	50.7%
2020	49.4%	50.6%

RACE/ETHNICITY

	Amer-Indian	Asian	Black	Hispanic	White	2 or More	Other
2019	0.4%	9.4%	6.4%	33.4%	46.9%	3.1%	0.2%
2020	0.3%	8.7%	6.5%	36.4%	44.9%	2.8%	0.2%

AGE

	18-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70-79	80+
2019	22.6%	16.4%	17.9%	19.2%	13.2%	6.8%	3.9%
2020	22.5%	16.6%	17.7%	19.5%	13.2%	6.7%	3.8%

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT THEMES

BARRIERS RESIDENTS EXPERIENCE TO USING REGIONAL PARKS AND FACILITIES



EXTREME WEATHER

Hot summers and cold winters make outdoor recreation activities difficult many months of the year.



COST

Facility fees make it hard for some residents to use them.



TIME

Residents don't have time to travel to and/or use parks and facilities.



LACK OF TRANSIT

Public transit to parks and trails is limited and travel times are long. There are not many affordable options to reach amenities further away.



LACK OF INFORMATION

Residents do not know where parks are located, what facilities are available, or how to use and get to amenities, like campsites.



SAFETY

Concern about unhoused people and gang activity in parks, as well as pandemic safety precautions like social distancing and mask wearing in parks.



LIMITED ADA ACCESSIBILITY

Trails and other facilities are not accessible to disabled and older residents.



NOT ENOUGH MAINTENANCE AT PARKS AND FACILITIES

Park facilities and trails need repairs, maintenance and restoration.



LACK OF CONNECTIVITY

Not enough trail networks or safe biking and pedestrian options.



LIMITED HOURS

Facilities are not open when people can use them.



LACK OF FACILITIES

There is a need for more concessions, water fountains, nature centers, sports facilities, and arboreta/botanical gardens.



LACK OF OUTDOOR RECREATION AREAS

There is a lack of trails and nature-based recreation spaces, pet-friendly areas, campsites, and affordable water-based recreation.

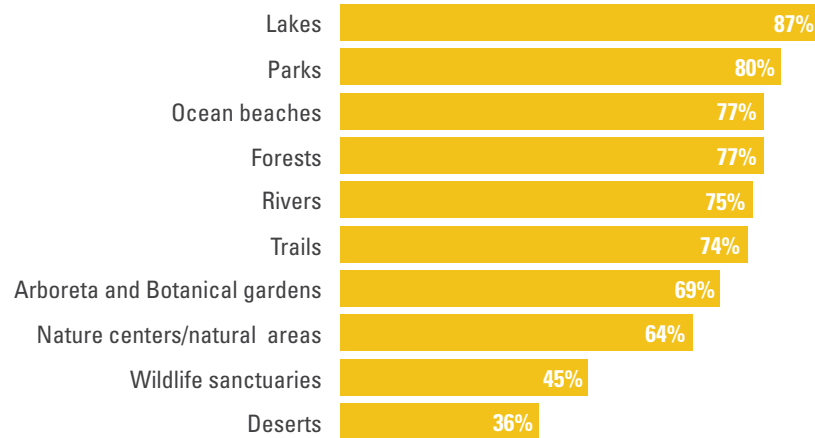
“There are a lot of routes to forest trail heads in the southern part of the forest, but we have nothing like that in our areas.”

“The fees at Castaic Lake are prohibitive for many.”

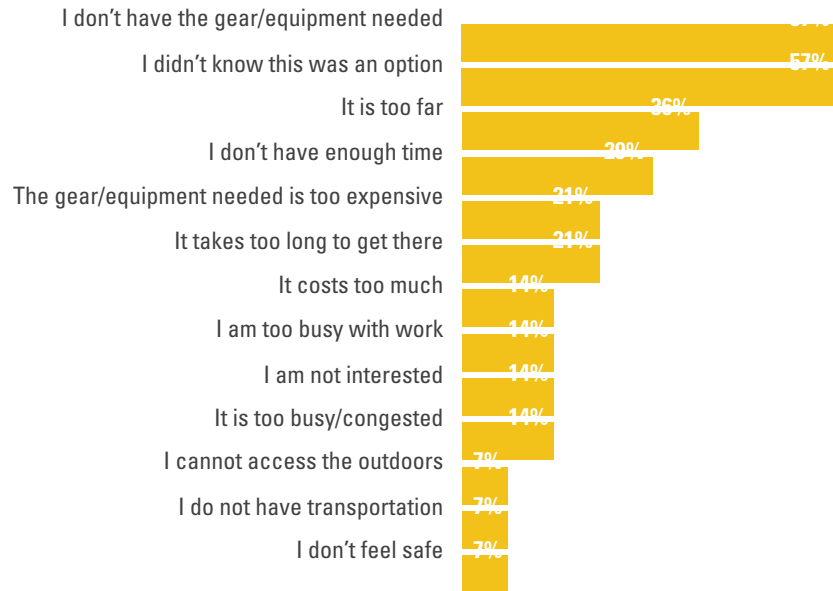
“We used to have concessions at Castaic Lake but they have been closed for a long time.”

► Residents Regional Parks Use and Activities

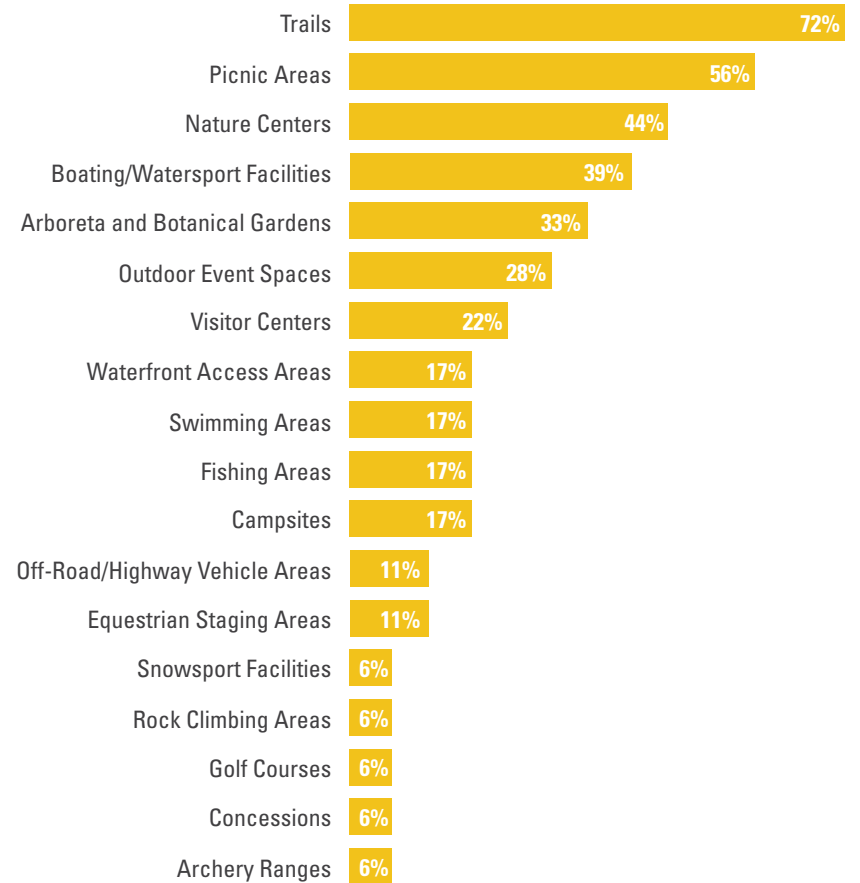
I visit these types of regional parks and facilities the most...



I can't go outside or to parks because...

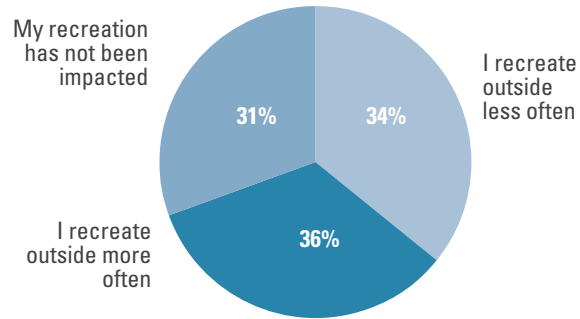


I use these regional park amenities most often:



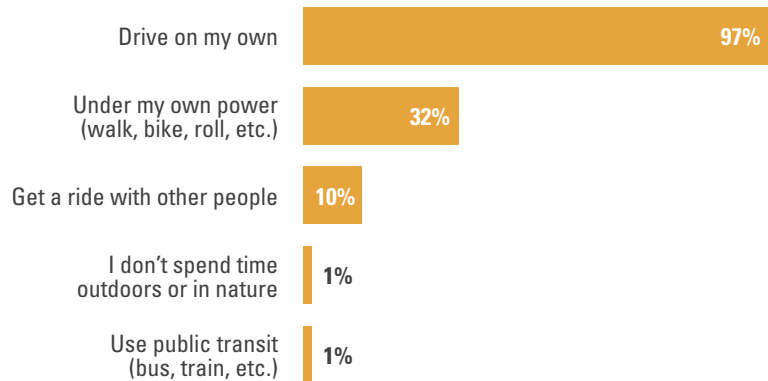
► *Covid-19 Impacts on Recreation for Residents in the Santa Clarita Valley*

COVID has affected how I recreate...

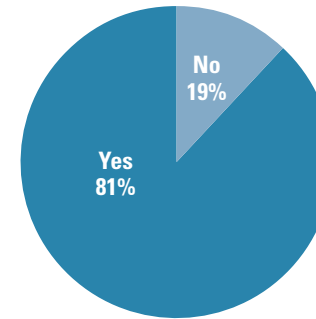


► *Travel to Parks*

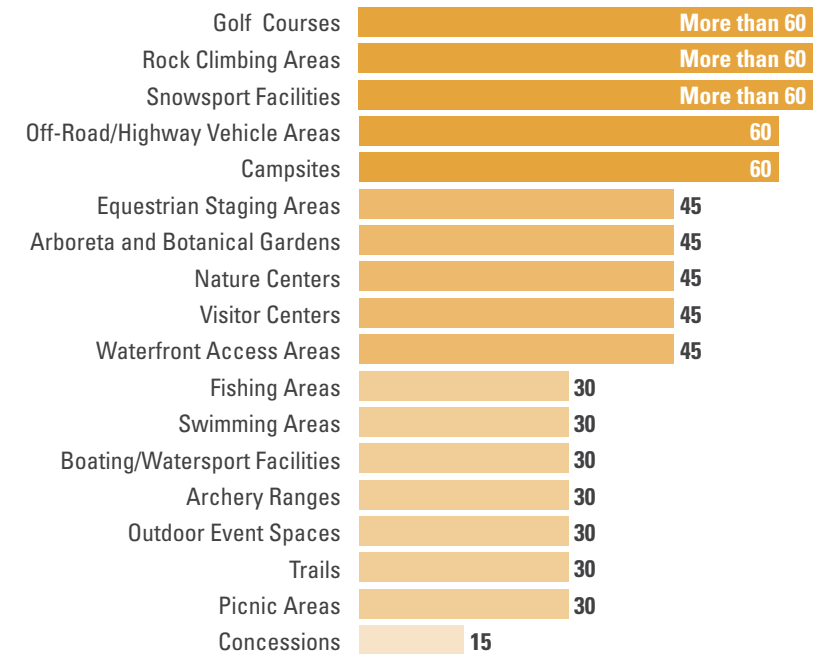
When I travel to parks, these are all the ways I get there...



Because of COVID I am looking for recreation opportunities closer to home...

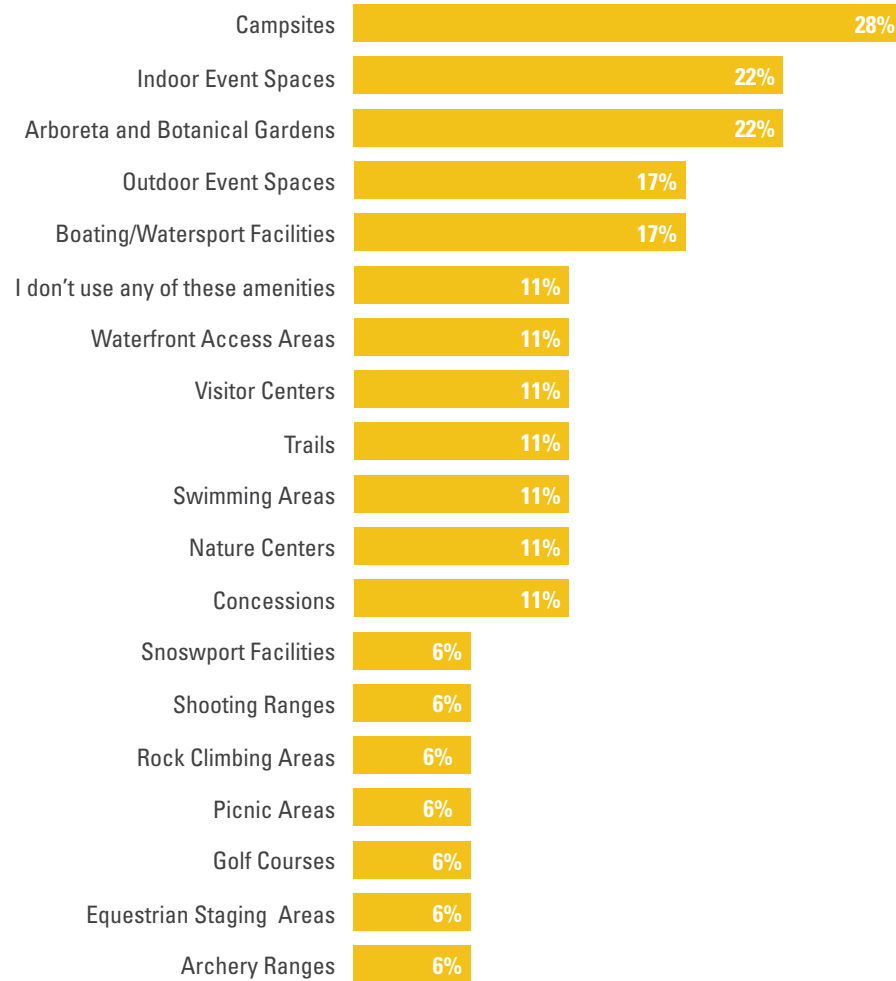


I'm willing to travel this many minutes to parks and amenities...



► *Regional Parks Needs in the Santa Clarita Valley*

The greatest parks needs in my community include...



► *Quality of Regional Park Amenities in the Santa Clarita Valley*

These amenities received the highest rate of good, fair or poor quality ratings from respondents...

Good

Outdoor Event Spaces	100%
Archery Ranges	100%
Snowsport Facilities	100%
Rock Climbing Areas	100%
Concessions	100%
Equestrian Staging Areas	100%
Golf Courses	100%

Fair

Visitor Centers	75%
Fishing Areas	67%
Boating/Watersport Facilities	43%
Swimming Areas	33%
Campsites	33%

Poor

Off-Road/Highway Vehicle Areas	50%
Swimming Areas	33%
Waterfront Access Areas	33%
Campsites	33%

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT THEMES

COMMUNITY SUGGESTIONS TO INCREASE AND IMPROVE VISITS TO REGIONAL PARKS AND FACILITIES



MORE SHADE

More shade structures and trees in gathering and playground spaces.



ACCESS TO WATER

Water fountains and filling stations for users and animals in parks and along trails, more splash pads and water features for cooling off, more affordable access to lakes and waterways.



ENHANCED SAFETY MEASURES

Provide more patrols on trails, at event spaces and visitor centers. Ensure visitors are adhering to social distancing and other protective measures during the pandemic.



ADDRESS HOMELESSNESS

Expand services to support unhoused people who use parks.



BETTER ACCESS TO INFORMATION

More information about events at regional parks, available amenities and opportunities to provide input.



IMPROVED SIGNAGE

Provide additional and interactive wayfinding, interpretive and multilingual signage in parks and along trails.



LIGHTING

Expand lighting at parks and facilities, especially at night.



ADA ACCESSIBILITY

Provide wheelchair and disabled accessible trails and facilities, including restrooms.



EXPAND NATIVE AMERICAN ACCESS AND EDUCATION

Provide access to ceremonial spaces for gatherings and events and provide spaces for indigenous-led education centers and activities.



EXPAND COMMUNITY EVENTS

Open up park spaces for the community to hold more events.



IMPROVED MAINTENANCE AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Clean restrooms, trails and campsites, provide more picnic tables and seating.



BETTER ACCESS TO PROGRAMS

Provide affordable equipment and classes for all ages, especially youth and seniors.



REDUCE FACILITIES FEES

Consider more affordable facilities and user fees for low income residents.



MORE RECREATION FACILITIES

Extend facilities hours, provide more bike paths, and build additional tennis and pickleball courts, sports fields, gathering spaces, and places to exercise dogs.



EXPAND CONCESSIONS

Provide more concessions at parks and facilities.



MORE FACILITIES FOR EQUESTRIAN USE

Parking for horse trailers at equestrian staging areas and trailheads, and places to hold equestrian events.



EXPAND TRAILS SYSTEM

Provide a diversity of trail intensities, new routes and trailheads.



DEDICATED USE TRAILS

Provide separate trails for hiking, biking, equestrian use to help mitigate conflict and increase safety for all users along trails.



ENHANCE CONNECTIVITY

Provide greenways and trail networks that connect parks and provide safe transportation corridors for bicyclists, equestrians and pedestrians.



EXPAND GREENSPACE

More trees, native habitat gardens, natural open space and wildlife sanctuaries.

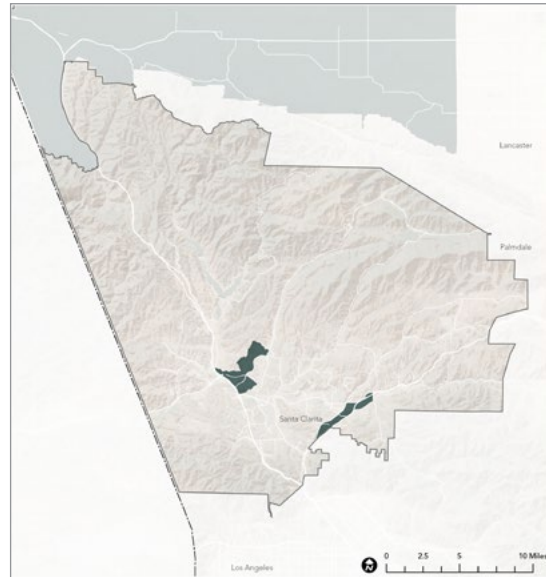
“I’d love to see more lighted areas so that some of these facilities could have longer hours... both in the summer to work around the heat and the winter to extend the available use time.”

“The water fountains at Castaic were not available during 100 degree weather. If they could add a water bottle filling station that would be helpful.”

“More rentals should be available such as kayak rentals camping gear and rock climbing gear.”

REGIONAL RECREATION PRIORITY ANALYSIS

Areas Experiencing the Highest Levels of Barriers and Vulnerability



- Legend**
- Areas of Moderate to High Vulnerability Across All Four Dimensions
 - Santa Clarita Valley Regional Study Area
 - Los Angeles County
 - Major Roads



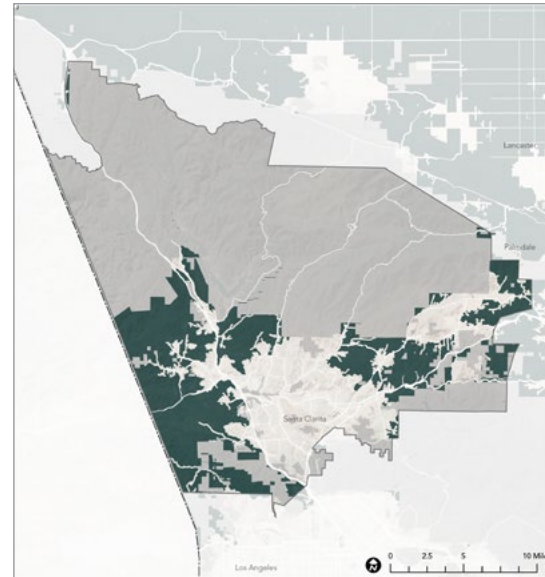
High Levels of Social and Transportation Barriers



High Levels of Health and Environmental Vulnerability

Map source: HPI, 2021; 2021 RRE Inventory

Areas Located in Low Proximity to Regional Recreation Sites



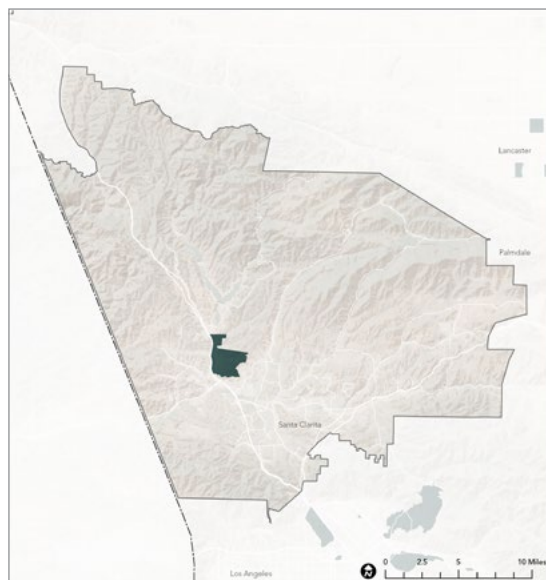
- Legend**
- Areas in Low Proximity to Regional Recreation Facilities (beyond a 2.5-mile bicycle ride to any Regional Recreation Park Entry Points, Nature-Based Recreation Area Entry Points or Trailheads and Access Points)
 - Regional Site Inventory
 - Metro Regional Study Area
 - Los Angeles County
 - Major Roads



Low Proximity to Regional Recreation Sites

Map source: ArcGIS StreetMap Premium, 2021; 2021 RRE Inventory

Areas With Low Visitorship Rates to Regional Recreation Sites



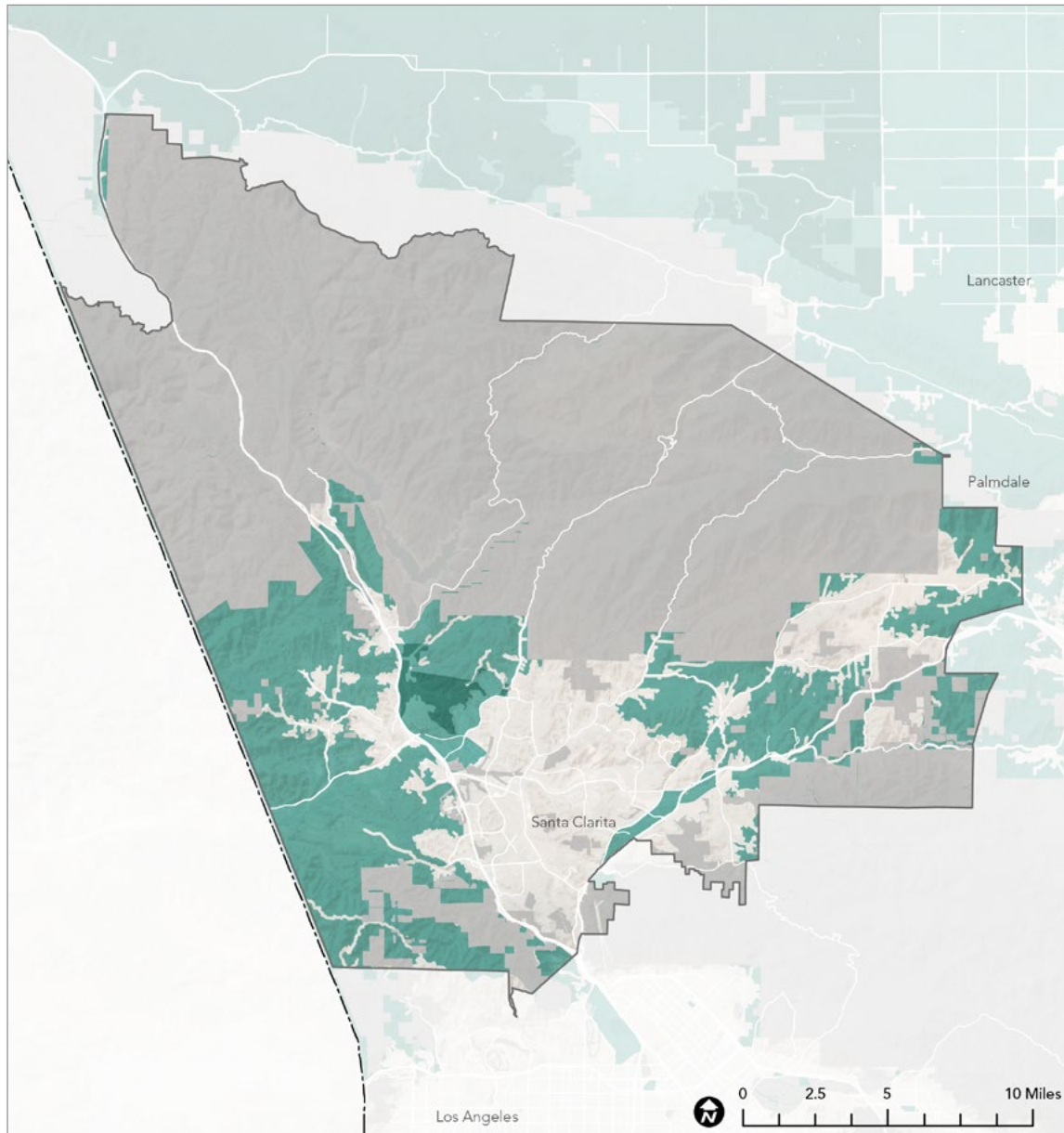
- Legend**
- Areas with Low Visitorship Rates (less than one observed visit per resident over the two-year period)
 - Santa Clarita Valley Regional Study Area
 - Los Angeles County
 - Major Roads



Low Visitorship Rates to Regional Recreation Sites

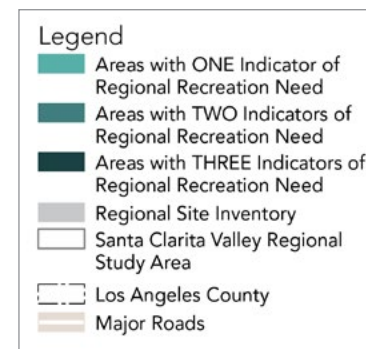
Map source: Unacast, 2021; 2021 RRE Inventory

REGIONAL RECREATION PRIORITY AREAS



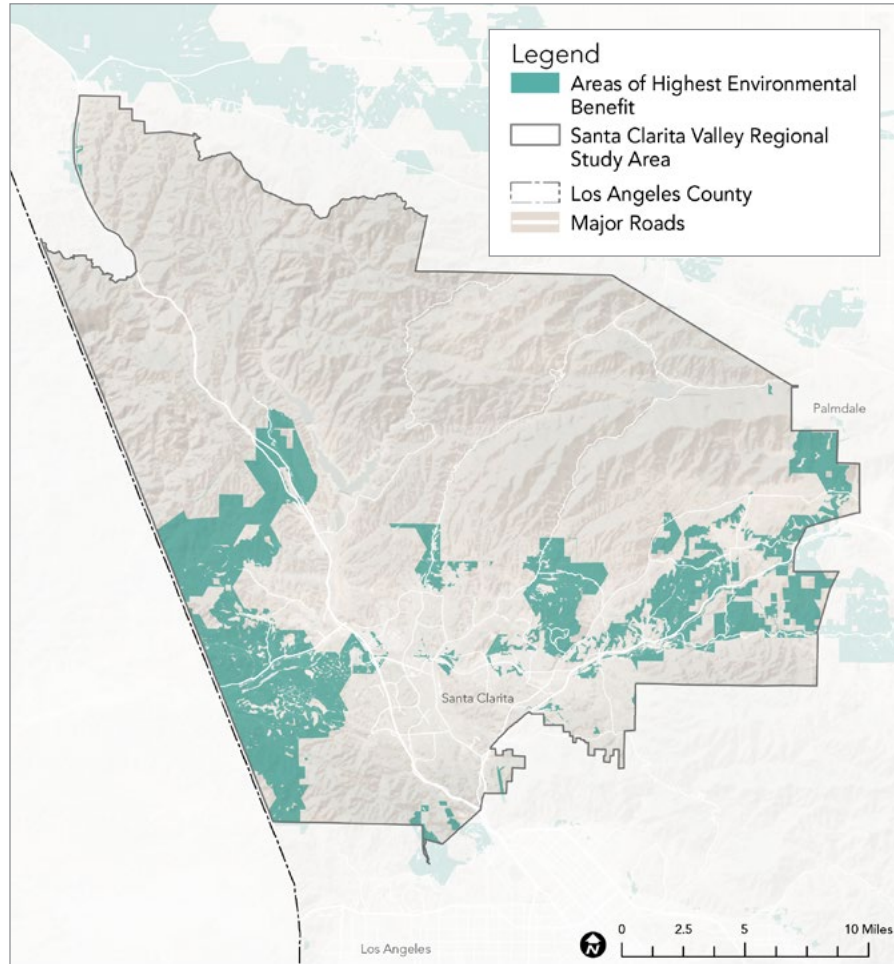
Map source: HPI, 2021; Unacast, 2021; ArcGIS StreetMap Premium, 2021; 2021 RRE Inventory

Areas with:

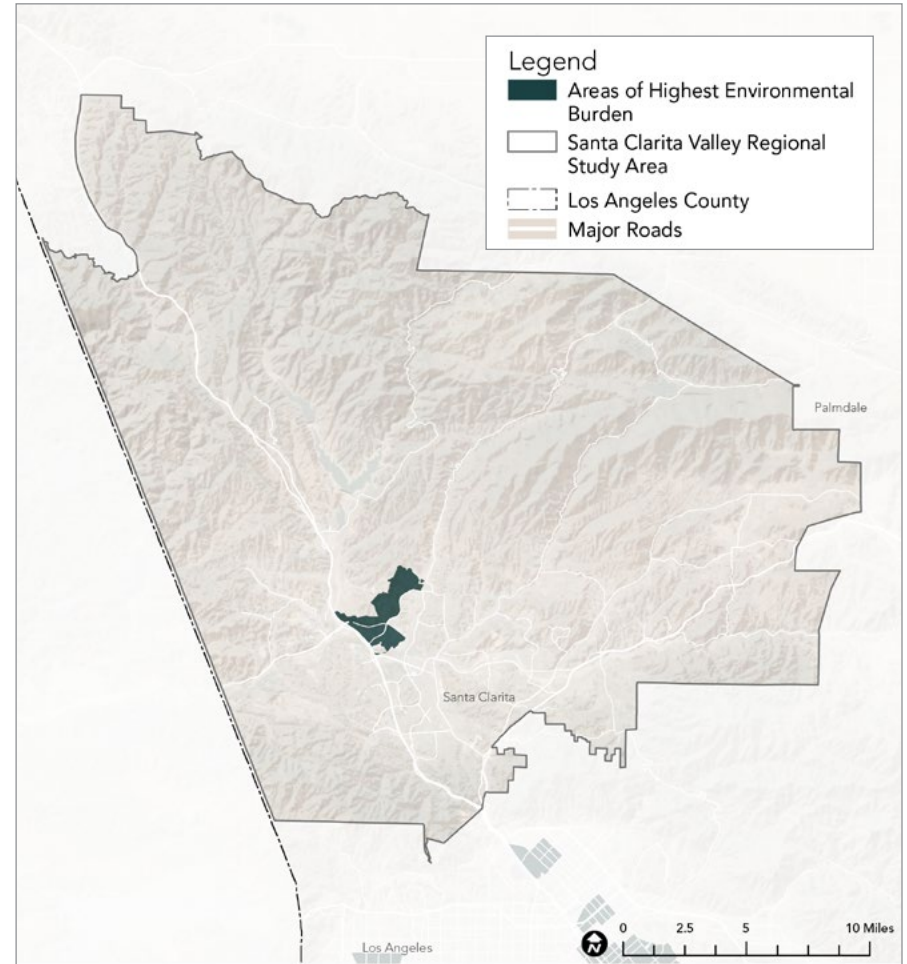


ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION PRIORITY AREAS

Priority Areas for Conservation



Priority Areas for Restoration



Maps source: CDFW ACE, 2021; USGS, 2021; COEHHA, 2021; CalFire FRAP 2015