

we all need



PNA+

APPENDIX B

RURAL 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 CATALINA ISLAND RURAL STUDY AREA PROFILE

RURAL STUDY AREA ID #14 / PNA STUDY AREA ID #53

- » Study Area Description
- » Study Area Demographics
- » Population Vulnerability
- » Rural Recreation and Conservation Sites
- » Rural Recreation Site Access
- » Recreation Opportunity Types
- » Community Engagement Themes
- » Rural Recreation Priority Analysis
- » Rural Recreation Priority Areas
- » Priority Project Types

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 Chapter 5 of the main report as well as Appendix C: Technical Resources.



STUDY AREA DESCRIPTION

PHYSICAL CONTEXT

The Santa Catalina Study Area is an island located in the Santa Catalina Island Regional Study Area approximately 25 miles southwest of Long Beach in the Gulf of Santa Catalina. The Study Area encompasses the entire island, totaling approximately 75 square miles. The City of Avalon and surrounding unincorporated areas are in the Santa Catalina Study Area.

STUDY AREA CONSIDERATIONS

The Study Area has limited access, public transit service, and water supply. The communities in the Study Area are connected to municipal utility providers in the City of Avalon and the unincorporated community of Two Harbors.

The Island has many endemic plants and animals, and biological resource conservation is managed largely by the Catalina Island Conservancy. The Island itself is a major tourist attraction and it is estimated that over one million people visit the Island each year to access hiking trails, scuba diving, beaches and boating attractions. Campsites on the island are often fully booked during high seasons during spring and fall.

KEY ANALYSIS TAKEAWAYS

- » Social barriers and transportation barriers are the most prevalent dimensions of population vulnerability in the Study Area.
 - » 22% of rural recreation sites in the Study Area are served by public transit.
- » The majority of rural recreation site area in the Study Area falls under Nature-Based Recreation Area. The Study Area contains no Regional Recreational Park area and relatively little Local Park area.
- » Many Study Area residents (over 70%) live within proximity to all types of recreation opportunities.

KEY COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TAKEAWAYS

- » Lack of transportation, cost, and limited parks, facilities and programming are identified barriers to park use for residents who live in the Study Area.
- » Residents need affordable access to recreation facilities and local parks, and the City and Island Conservancy need more funding for maintenance and upgrades to existing facilities and infrastructure.

SANTA CATALINA ISLAND RURAL STUDY AREA



Map source: PNA, 2016; US Census, 2019; Esri, 2021; MIG, 2021; LAC GIS, 2021; USGS NHD, 2021

Note: All Rural Study Area Profile maps in this chapter include and refer to the sources listed here as basemap layers.

STUDY AREA DEMOGRAPHICS

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

Population	
Total	4,189

Race	Percentage
White	82.15%
Black or African American	0.35%
American Indian and Alaska Native	1%
Asian	1.55%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	1.8%
Some Other Race	8%
Two or More Races	5.1%
Total	100%

Ethnicity	Percentage
Hispanic or Latino	51.75%
Not Hispanic or Latino	48.25%
Total	100%

Income	Percentage
Less than \$25,000	10.3%
\$25,000-\$49,999	35%
\$50,000-\$74,999	10.3%
\$75,000-\$99,999	5.55%
\$100,000-\$150,000	21.8%
\$150,000	16.95%
Total	100%

Gender	Percentage
Female	47.5%
Male	52.5%
Total	100%

Age	Percentage
Under 5 years	6.25%
5 to 9 years	5.65%
10 to 14 years	4.85%
15 to 19 years	5.6%
20 to 29 years	15.2%
30 to 39 years	15.15%
40 to 49 years	16.5%
50 to 59 years	19.1%
60 to 69 years	5.95%
70 to 79 years	3.5%
80+ years	4.15%
Total	100%

Education Level	Percentage
High School Diploma	24.15%
Some College, No Degree	32.25%
Associates Degree	7.95%
Bachelor's Degree	11.8%
Master's Degree	8.4%
Other	15.4%
Total	100%

Source: 2016 PNA, U.S. Census Bureau, 2014 ACS 5-year Estimate Subject Tables, See Technical Appendix for Census Tracts included in each Study Area.

Note: At the time that this report was prepared, 2020 Census results were not available.

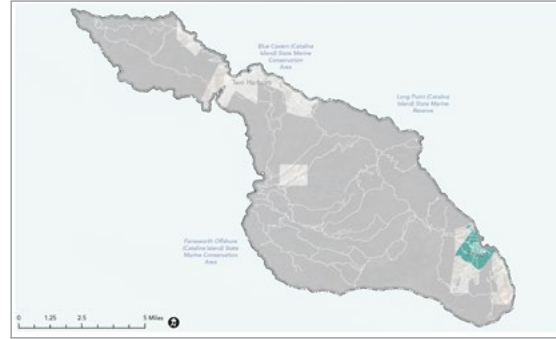
POPULATION VULNERABILITY DIMENSIONS

Social Barriers Dimension



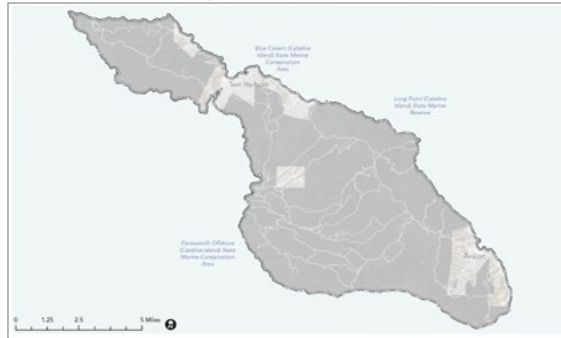
- Indicators:
- » High Poverty Rate
 - » High Unemployment Rate
 - » Majority-Minority Population
 - » High % of Young Children
 - » High % of Elderly Residents
 - » High % of Non-English-Speaking Residents
 - » Low % of Two-Parent Households

Transportation Barriers Dimension



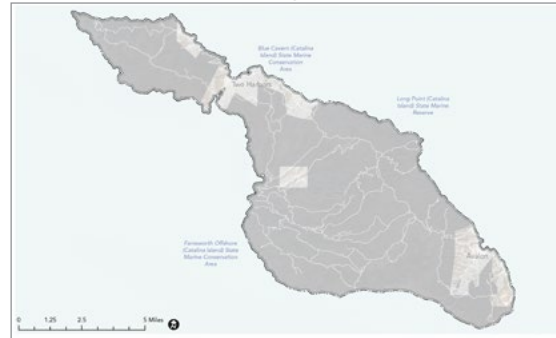
- Indicators:
- » Low Automobile Access
 - » Low Public Transit Access
 - » Low Active Commuting Rate
 - » High Traffic Density
 - » High Pedestrian Injuries

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



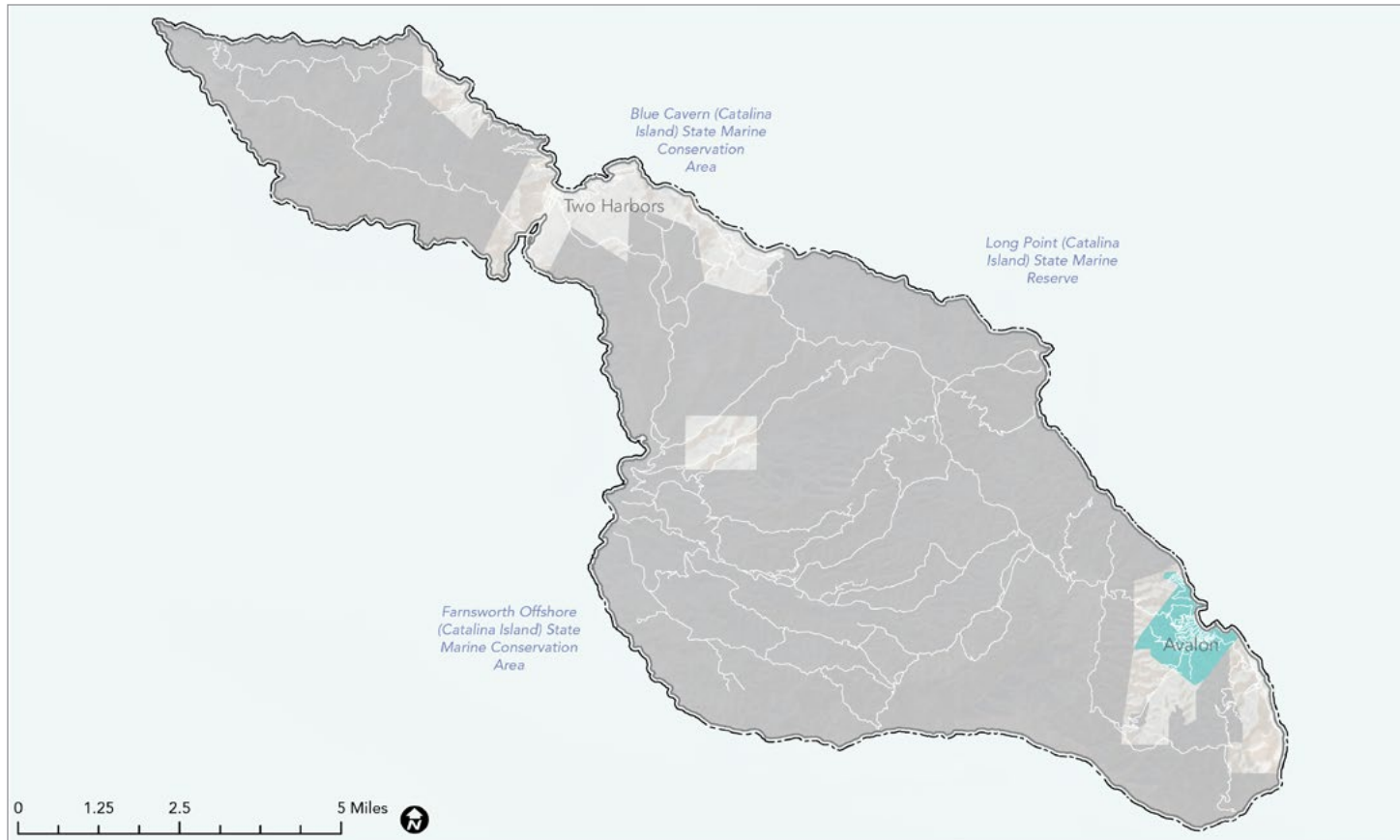
- Indicators:
- » Reduced Life Expectancy at Birth
 - » High Pollution Levels

Legend

- Low
- Moderate
- High
- Rural Site Inventory
- Northwest Antelope Valley Rural Study Area
- Los Angeles County
- Major Roads

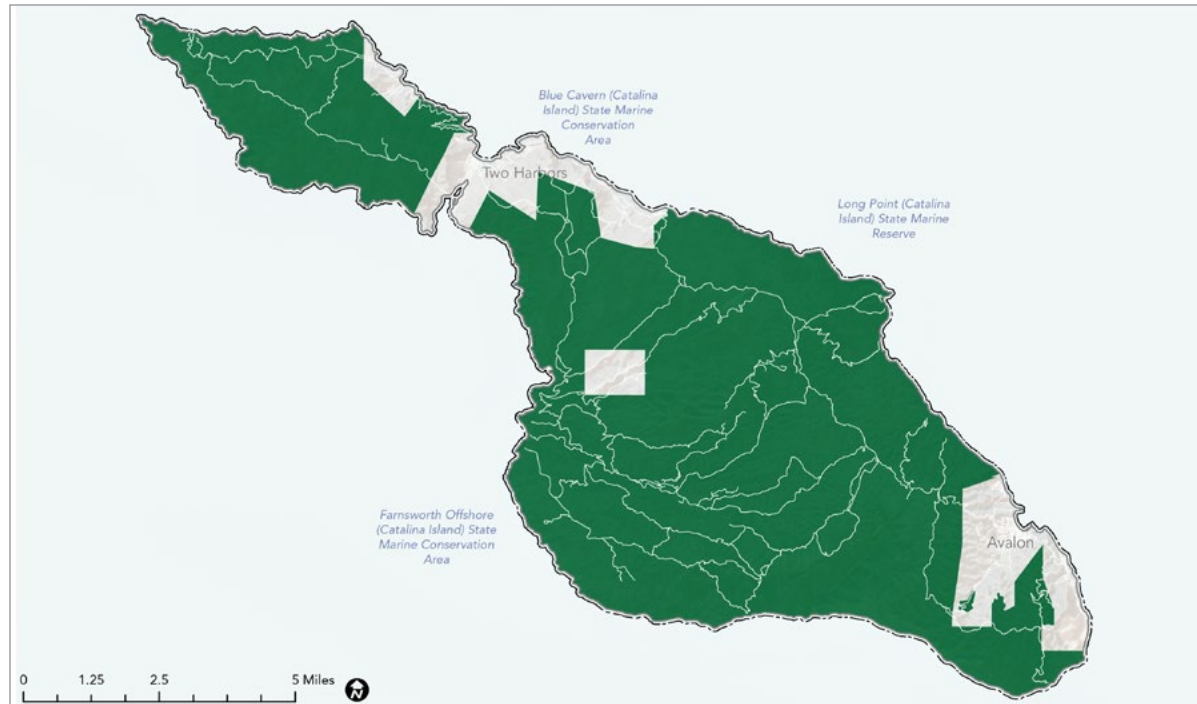
Maps source: HPI, 2021; 2021 RRE Inventory

COMPOSITE POPULATION VULNERABILITY

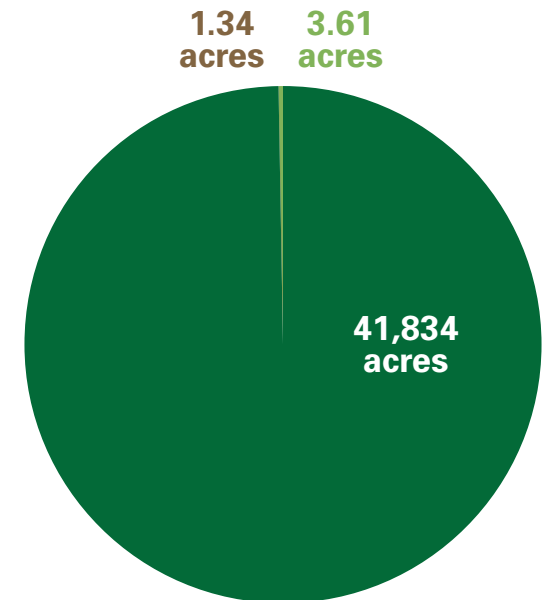


Map source: HPI, 2021; 2021 RRE Inventory


RURAL SITE INVENTORY



Map source: 2021 RRE Inventory




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




41,839

TOTAL ACRES OF RURAL RECREATION AND CONSERVATION AREA LAND LOCATED WITHIN THE STUDY AREA



87.4%

OF THE TOTAL LAND AREA WITHIN THE STUDY AREA IS RURAL RECREATION AND CONSERVATION AREA LAND



9,987

ACRES OF RURAL RECREATION AND CONSERVATION AREA LAND PER 1000 STUDY AREA RESIDENTS

RURAL RECREATION SITE ACCESS

Walking Distance (0.5 miles from entry)



39% 
OF STUDY AREA
RESIDENTS LIVE
WITHIN WALKING
DISTANCE
OF A RURAL
RECREATION SITE

Legend

-  Areas within a 0.5-mile walk of a Rural Recreation Site
-  Rural Recreation Site
-  Santa Catalina Island Rural Study Area
-  Los Angeles County
-  Major Roads

Cycling Distance (2.5 miles from entry)



71% 
OF STUDY AREA
RESIDENTS LIVE
WITHIN CYCLING
DISTANCE
OF A RURAL
RECREATION SITE

Legend

-  Areas within a 2.5-mile bicycle ride of a Rural Recreation Site
-  Rural Recreation Site
-  Santa Catalina Island Rural Study Area
-  Los Angeles County
-  Major Roads

Driving Distance (5 miles from entry)

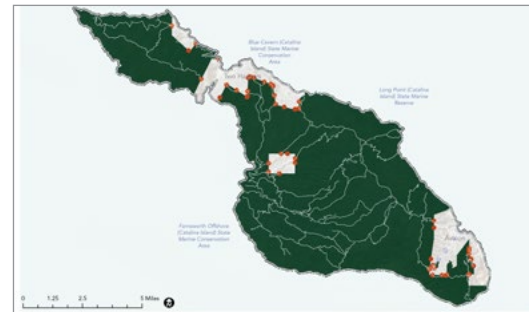


71% 
OF STUDY AREA
RESIDENTS LIVE
WITHIN DRIVING
DISTANCE
OF A RURAL
RECREATION SITE

Legend

-  Areas within a 5-mile drive of a Rural Recreation Site
-  Rural Recreation Site
-  Santa Catalina Island Rural Study Area
-  Los Angeles County
-  Major Roads

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



22% 
OF RURAL
RECREATION
SITES ARE
SERVED BY
PUBLIC TRANSIT

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)
-  Rural Recreation Site
-  Santa Catalina Island Rural Study Area
-  Los Angeles County
-  Major Roads

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

RURAL RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES

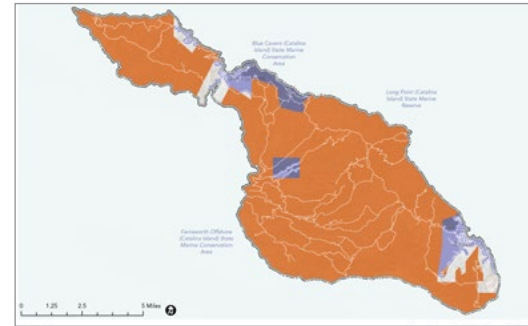
Gathering Spaces



Legend

- Rural Recreation Sites with Gathering Spaces
- Santa Catalina Island Rural Study Area
- Los Angeles County
- Major Roads

Proximity to Sites With Gathering Spaces



70.9%
OF RESIDENTS
LIVE WITHIN A
5-MILE DRIVE

Legend

- Areas within a 5-mile drive of a Rural Recreation Site with Gathering Spaces
- Areas within a 10-mile drive of a Rural Recreation Site with Gathering Spaces
- Rural Recreation Sites with Gathering Spaces
- Santa Catalina Island Rural Study Area
- Los Angeles County
- Major Roads

Sports Facilities



Legend

- Rural Recreation Sites with Sports Facilities
- Santa Catalina Island Rural Study Area
- Los Angeles County
- Major Roads

Proximity to Sites With Sports Facilities



70.9%
OF RESIDENTS
LIVE WITHIN A
5-MILE DRIVE

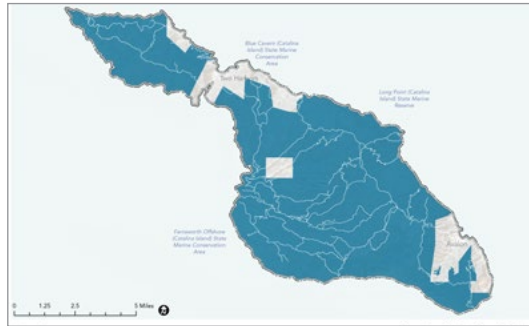
Legend

- Areas within a 5-mile drive of a Rural Recreation Site with Sports Facilities
- Areas within a 10-mile drive of a Rural Recreation Site with Sports Facilities
- Rural Recreation Sites with Sports Facilities
- Santa Catalina Island Rural Study Area
- Los Angeles County
- Major Roads

Maps source: PNA, 2016; ArcGIS StreetMap Premium, 2021; 2021 RRE Inventory

RURAL RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES

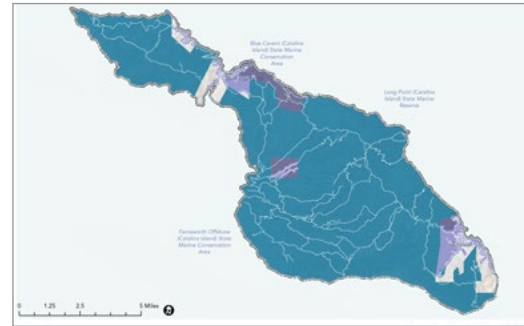
Water-Based Recreation



Legend

- Rural Recreation Sites with Water-Based Recreation
- Santa Catalina Island Rural Study Area
- Los Angeles County
- Major Roads

Proximity to Sites With Water-Based Recreation

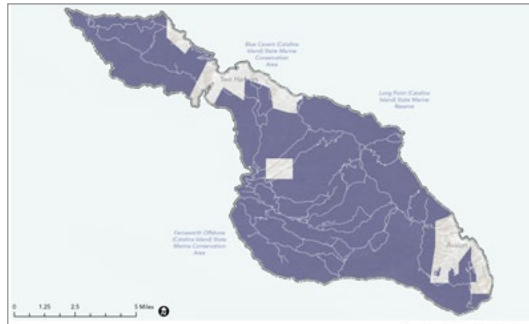


70.9%
OF RESIDENTS
LIVE WITHIN A
5-MILE DRIVE

Legend

- Areas within a 5-mile drive of a Rural Recreation Site with Water-Based Recreation
- Areas within a 10-mile drive of a Rural Recreation Site with Water-Based Recreation
- Rural Recreation Sites with Water-Based Recreation
- Santa Catalina Island Rural Study Area
- Los Angeles County
- Major Roads

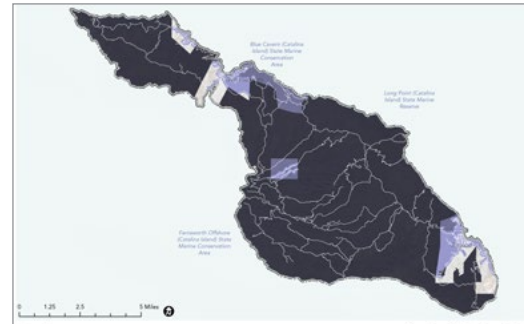
Overnight Accommodations



Legend

- Rural Recreation Sites with Overnight Accommodations
- Santa Catalina Island Rural Study Area
- Los Angeles County
- Major Roads

Proximity to Sites With Overnight Accommodations



70.9%
OF RESIDENTS
LIVE WITHIN A
5-MILE DRIVE

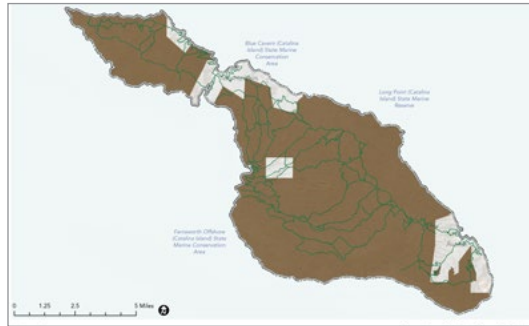
Legend

- Areas within a 5-mile drive of a Rural Recreation Site with Overnight Accommodations
- Areas within a 10-mile drive of a Rural Recreation Site with Overnight Accommodations
- Rural Recreation Sites with Overnight Accommodations
- Santa Catalina Island Rural Study Area
- Los Angeles County
- Major Roads

Maps source: PNA, 2016; ArcGIS StreetMap Premium, 2021; 2021 RRE Inventory

RURAL RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES

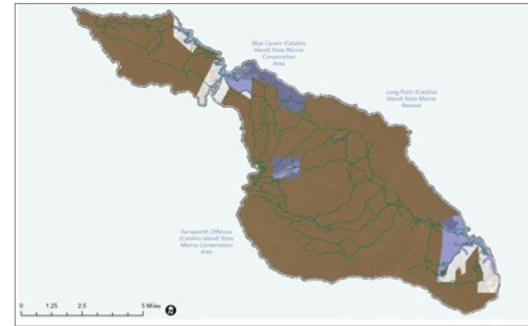
Trails and Pathways



Legend

- Rural Recreation Sites with Trails and Pathways
- Regional Trails
- Regional Bikeways
- Santa Catalina Island Rural Study Area
- Los Angeles County
- Major Roads

Proximity to Sites With Trails and Pathways



70.9%
OF RESIDENTS
LIVE WITHIN A
5-MILE DRIVE

Legend

- Areas within a 5-mile drive of a Rural Recreation Site with Trails and Pathways
- Areas within a 10-mile drive of a Rural Recreation Site with Trails and Pathways
- Rural Recreation Sites with Trails and Pathways
- Regional Trails
- Regional Bikeways
- Regional Trails
- Regional Bikeways
- Los Angeles County
- Major Roads
- Santa Catalina Island Rural Study Area

Experiential Learning Opportunities



Legend

- Rural Recreation Sites with Experiential Learning Opportunities
- Los Angeles County
- Major Roads
- Santa Catalina Island Rural Study Area

Proximity to Sites With Experiential Learning Opportunities



70.9%
OF RESIDENTS
LIVE WITHIN A
5-MILE DRIVE

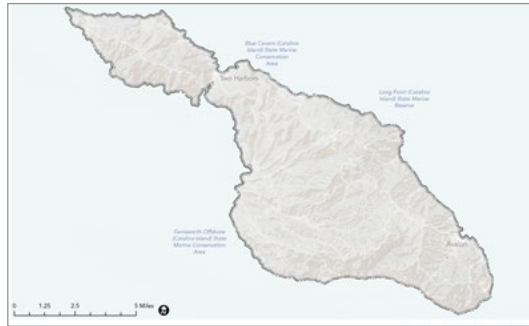
Legend

- Areas within a 5-mile drive of a Rural Recreation Site with Experiential Learning Opportunities
- Areas within a 10-mile drive of a Rural Recreation Site with Experiential Learning Opportunities
- Rural Recreation Sites with Experiential Learning Opportunities
- Los Angeles County
- Major Roads
- Santa Catalina Island Rural Study Area

Maps source: PNA, 2016; ArcGIS StreetMap Premium, 2021; 2021 RRE Inventory

RURAL RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES

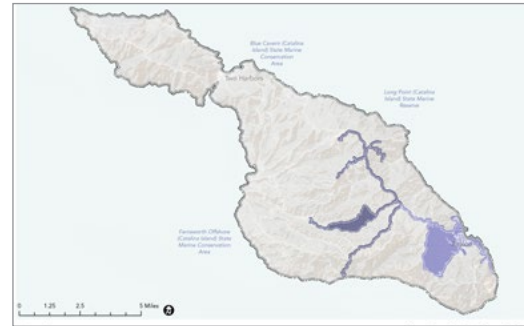
General Recreation Facilities



Legend

- Rural Recreation Sites with General Recreation Facilities
- Santa Catalina Island Rural Study Area
- Los Angeles County
- Major Roads

Proximity to Sites With General Recreation Facilities



70.9%
OF RESIDENTS
LIVE WITHIN A
5-MILE DRIVE

Legend

- Areas within a 5-mile drive of a Rural Recreation Site with General Recreation Facilities
- Areas within a 10-mile drive of a Rural Recreation Site with General Recreation Facilities
- Rural Recreation Sites with General Recreation Facilities
- Santa Catalina Island Rural Study Area
- Los Angeles County
- Major Roads

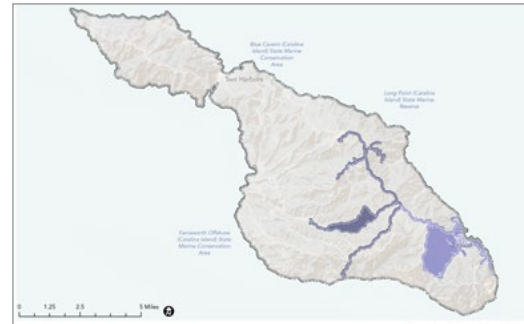
Health and Fitness Facilities



Legend

- Rural Recreation Sites with Health and Fitness Facilities
- Santa Catalina Island Rural Study Area
- Los Angeles County
- Major Roads

Proximity to Sites With Health and Fitness Facilities



70.9%
OF RESIDENTS
LIVE WITHIN A
5-MILE DRIVE

Legend

- Areas within a 5-mile drive of a Rural Recreation Site with Health and Fitness Facilities
- Areas within a 10-mile drive of a Rural Recreation Site with Health and Fitness Facilities
- Rural Recreation Sites with Health and Fitness Facilities
- Santa Catalina Island Rural Study Area
- Los Angeles County
- Major Roads

Maps source: PNA, 2016; ArcGIS StreetMap Premium, 2021; 2021 RRE Inventory

RURAL RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES

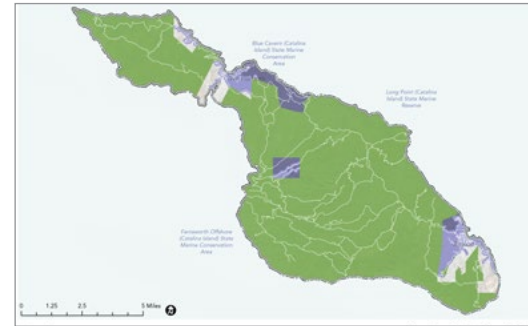
Support Facilities



Legend

- Rural Recreation Sites with Support Facilities
- Santa Catalina Island Rural Study Area
- Los Angeles County
- Major Roads

Proximity to Sites With Support Facilities



70.9%
OF RESIDENTS
LIVE WITHIN A
5-MILE DRIVE

Legend

- Areas within a 5-mile drive of a Rural Recreation Site with Support Facilities
- Areas within a 10-mile drive of a Rural Recreation Site with Support Facilities
- Rural Recreation Sites with Support Facilities
- Santa Catalina Island Rural Study Area
- Los Angeles County
- Major Roads

Maps source: PNA, 2016; ArcGIS StreetMap Premium, 2021; 2021 RRE Inventory

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT THEMES

BARRIERS RESIDENTS EXPERIENCE TO USING PARKS AND FACILITIES



LACK OF TRANSPORTATION

Most island residents do not have the option to use a vehicle.



COST

The majority of residents on the island are low income, who don't have the same access to facilities and amenities as visitors do.



TERRAIN

Elevation gain on hiking trails on the island is grueling.



WILDFIRE SAFETY

Concerns about ongoing need for fire abatement.



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.



NOT ENOUGH FUNDING FOR MAINTENANCE

Additional funding needed to repair, maintain, and restore park facilities, roads, and trails.



LACK OF PARKS AND FACILITIES

Few parks inside the City of Avalon, and few spaces on the island for programming.



LIMITED AMENITIES

Few campsites available for reservations pushes visitors to use them at inappropriate times of year, like during the heat of summer.

"The workforce who lives here is not wealthy. 80 percent of students use free lunch at schools."

"A lot of locals don't have the option to use their own vehicle."

"Catalina is looked at as part of a whole. The City [of Avalon] is always told we have plenty of parks space, but the City itself has very little."

"We don't have park spaces for programming."

"[The island has a] huge infrastructure of roads, trails and restrooms to maintain."

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT THEMES

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



ADDRESS NEEDS OF RESIDENTS

Focus on accessibility to parks and facilities for low income residents on the island.



OFFER SUBSIDIZED TRANSPORTATION

Help fund transportation vouchers provided by the conservancy for travel around the island.



IMPROVED SIGNAGE

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



ACCESS TO WATER

Need to address access to water sources to prepare for fire mitigation.



IMPROVED MAINTENANCE AND INFRASTRUCTURE

More funding to address infrastructure repairs and improvements to accommodate both locals and visitors.



ADDRESS WILDFIRE RISKS

Ongoing need for fire abatement and maintenance of vegetation on the island.



EXPAND ACCESS TO PARKS AND GREEN SPACE

Provide more parks and green spaces in City of Avalon.



EXPAND FACILITIES AND PROGRAMMING

Create spaces for programming in parks and upgrade and expand facilities like campgrounds and restrooms.

“Avalon has the best backyard you could dream of.”

“We would like to put more park furniture up at Avalon Veterans Memorial Park.”

“Islanders enjoy the challenging Catalina Trail and remote beaches.”

“More people could enjoy the island and have a better experience if we invest in infrastructure.”

RURAL RECREATION PRIORITY ANALYSIS

Areas Experiencing the Highest Levels of Overall Population Vulnerability



High Levels of Social and Transportation Barriers



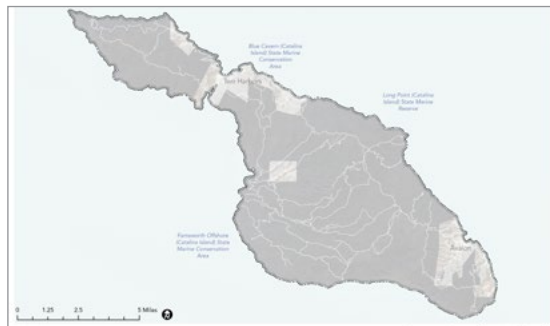
High Levels of Health and Environmental Vulnerability

Legend

- Areas of Moderate to High Vulnerability Across All Four Dimensions
- Santa Catalina Island Rural Study Area
- Los Angeles County
- Major Roads

Map source: HPI, 2021; 2021 RRE Inventory

Areas Located in Low Proximity to Rural Recreation Sites



Low Proximity to Rural Recreation Sites

Legend

- Areas in Low Proximity to Rural Recreation Sites (beyond a 5-mile drive to any Regional Recreation Park Entry Points, Nature-Based Recreation Area Entry Points or Local Park Entry Points)
- Rural Site Inventory
- Santa Catalina Island Rural Study Area
- Los Angeles County
- Major Roads

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

Areas With Access to the Fewest Recreation Opportunity Types



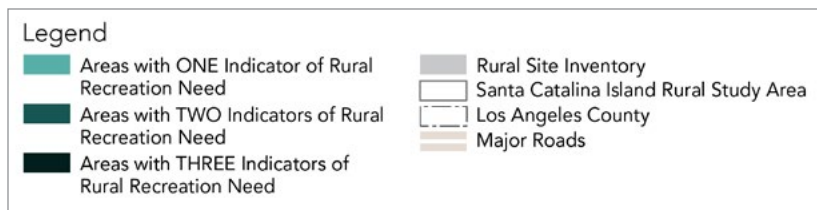
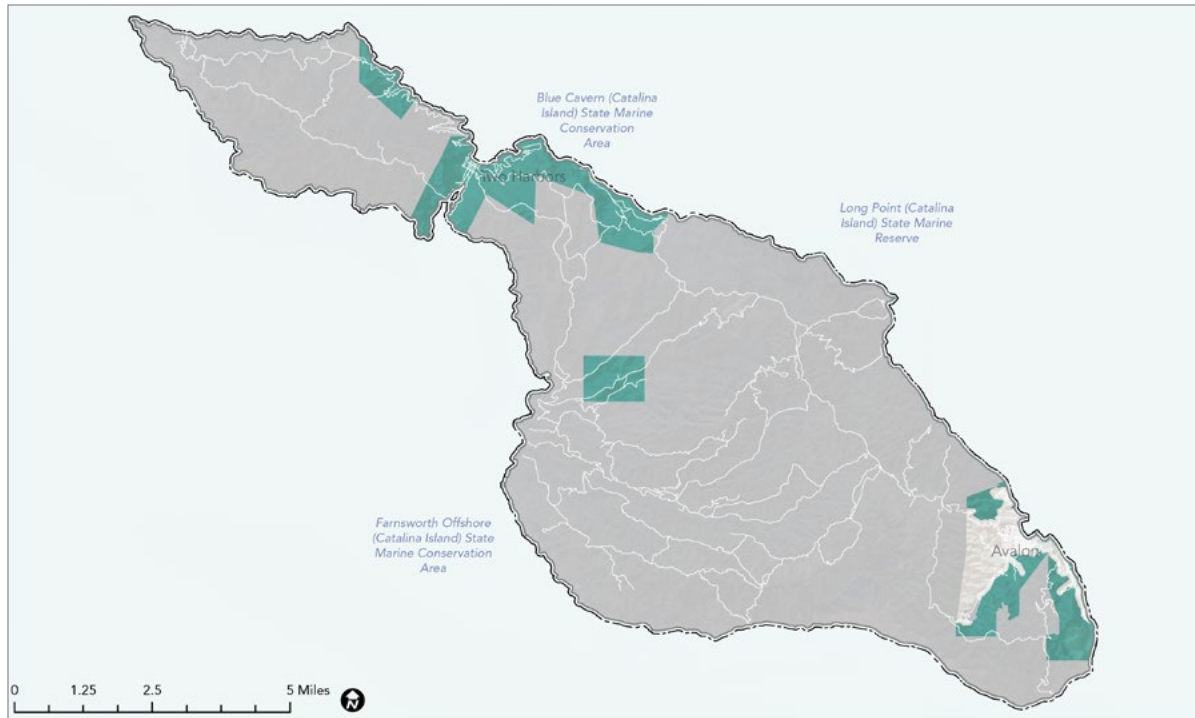
Proximity to Fewest Recreation Opportunity Types

Legend

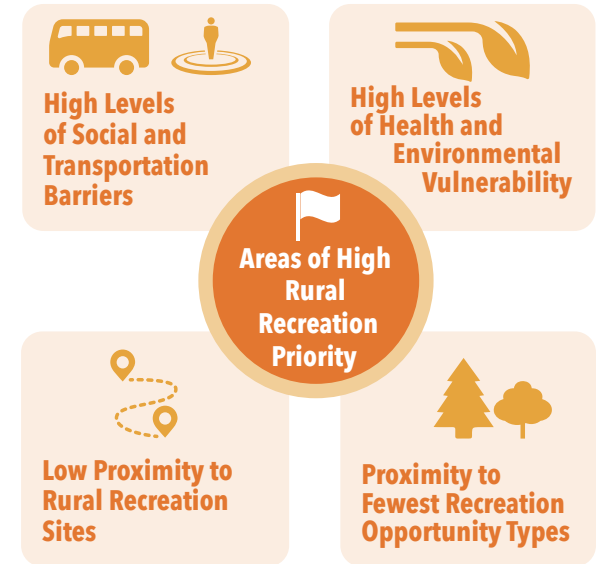
- Areas in proximity (5-mile driving distance) to THREE OR FEWER Rural Recreation Opportunity Types
- Santa Catalina Island Rural Study Area
- Los Angeles County
- Major Roads

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

RURAL RECREATION PRIORITY AREAS

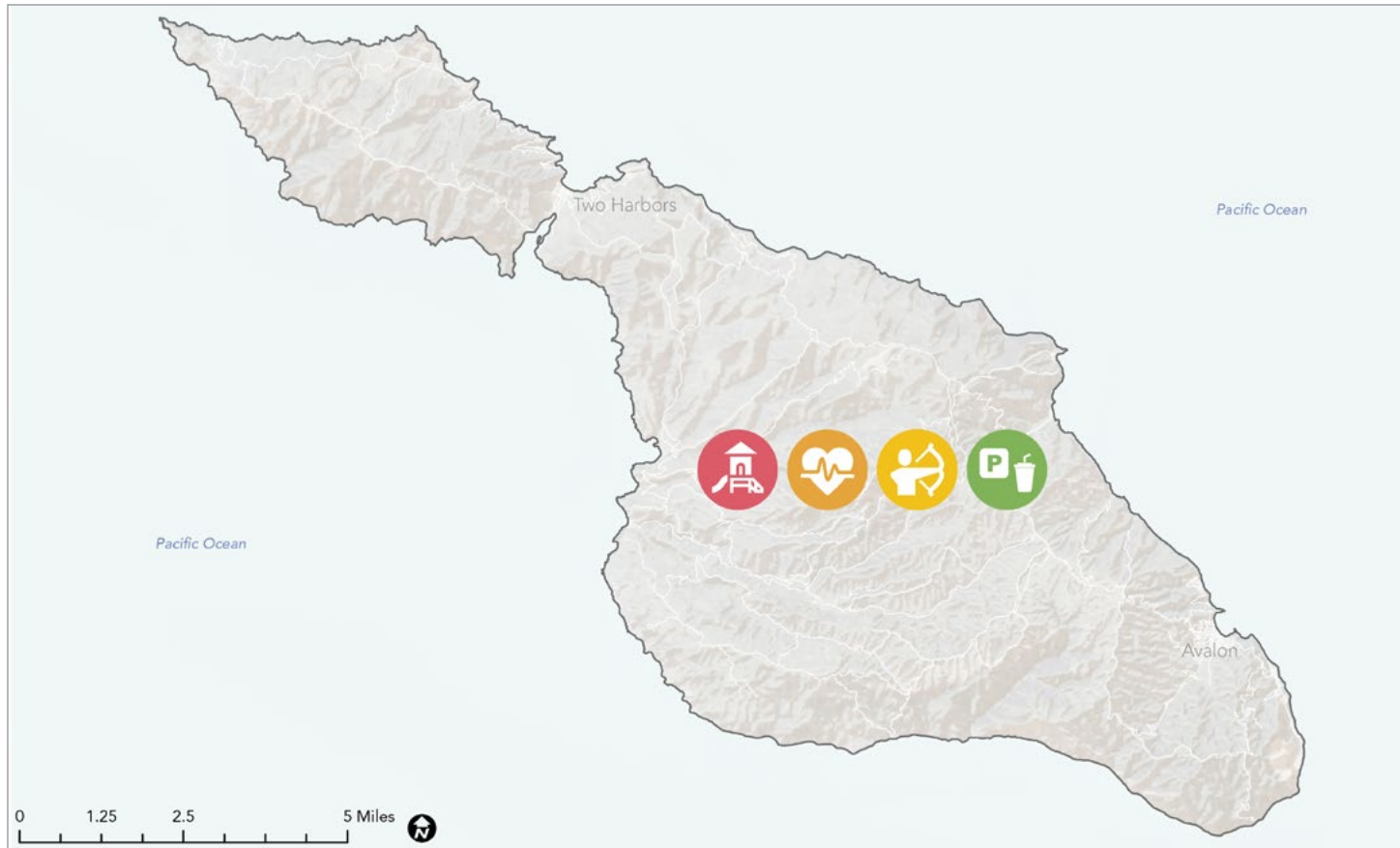


Areas with:



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

PRIORITY PROJECT TYPES



PRIORITY PROJECTS

- » Community/Recreation Center with Basketball Courts
- » Swimming Pool
- » Expansion of Campsites and Restrooms
- » Improvements at Santa Catalina Island Nature Center at Avalon Canyon

Legend

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Gathering Spaces | Overnight Accommodations |
| Sports Facilities | General Recreation |
| Experiential Learning Opportunities | Health and Fitness |
| Water-Based Recreation | Support Facilities |
| Trails and Pathways | |

Map source: PNA, 2016

Note: Priority projects are based on lists of priority projects from the 2016 PNA and updated public input gathered as part of 2022 RRE.