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 MONICA MOUNTAINS
COASTAL ZONE
RURAL STUDY AREA PROFILE

RURAL STUDY AREA ID #13
» 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 Monica Mountains Coastal Zone Study Area is located in the Santa Monica Mountains Regional Study Area. The Study Area spans from the edge of the metropolitan Los Angeles area to the east, to the western border of Los Angeles County to west. The Study Area includes most of the Santa Monica Mountain Range and is bordered on the north by the unincorporated areas of Calabasas, Agoura Hills and Westlake Village and the northern portion of the Santa Monica Mountains. Coastal cities like Malibu and the Pacific Ocean are adjacent to the south. The Study Area encompasses approximately 81 square miles.

STUDY AREA CONSIDERATIONS
The Study Area has major constraints, including natural hazards like wildfire, limited pedestrian and ADA facilities, lack of a centralized public transit service, and limited water supply. It is critical that existing rural communities and biological and natural resources remain protected. The communities here are scenic and desirable. Residents in the Study Area have access to nature and many recreational areas, including beaches and open spaces.

KEY ANALYSIS TAKEAWAYS
» Transportation barriers is the most prevalent dimension of population vulnerability in the Study Area.
  » 18% of residents live within walking distance of a rural recreation site.
  » No 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.
» Study Area residents live in lowest proximity to general recreation facilities (37.1%) and health and fitness facilities (37.1%).
» This Study Area has access to few recreation opportunity types.

KEY COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TAKEAWAYS
» Distance, safety, limited shade at parks, lack of accessibility, vegetation overgrowth and limited facilities maintenance are identified barriers to park use for residents who live in the Study Area.
» Residents say they need more outdoor recreation areas, better facilities maintenance and repair, shaded play and seating areas, and protected pedestrian and bike access to parks.
» Greatest needs are for places to play and bring animals to exercise; gather with friends and family; and to be surrounded by nature.
SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS COASTAL ZONE RURAL STUDY AREA

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Population</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>12,018</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>84.72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black or African American</td>
<td>1.72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Indian and Alaska Native</td>
<td>0.33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>5.57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some Other Race</td>
<td>3.25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two or More Races</td>
<td>4.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ethnicity</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic or Latino</td>
<td>10.58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Hispanic or Latino</td>
<td>89.42%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
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<table>
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<th>Income</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than $25,000</td>
<td>11.27%</td>
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<tr>
<td>$25,000-$49,999</td>
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<td>$50,000-$74,999</td>
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<td>$75,000-$99,999</td>
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<td>$100,000-$150,000</td>
<td>21.25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>$150,000</td>
<td>40.73%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100%</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Under 5 years</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 to 9 years</td>
<td>4.87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 to 14 years</td>
<td>6.12%</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 to 19 years</td>
<td>9.95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 to 29 years</td>
<td>12.17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 to 39 years</td>
<td>7.75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40 to 49 years</td>
<td>13.08%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50 to 59 years</td>
<td>18.78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60 to 69 years</td>
<td>12.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70 to 79 years</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80+ years</td>
<td>3.77%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100%</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Education Level</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High School Diploma</td>
<td>10.67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some College, No Degree</td>
<td>17.93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associates Degree</td>
<td>6.75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor’s Degree</td>
<td>31.17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master’s Degree</td>
<td>28.05%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>5.47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### 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.
Appendix B  |  Santa Monica Mountains Coastal Zone

POPULATION VULNERABILITY DIMENSIONS

Social Barriers Dimension

Indicators:
» High Poverty Rate
» High Unemployment Rate
» Majority-Minority Population
» High % of Young Children

Transportation Barriers Dimension

Indicators:
» High % of Elderly Residents
» High % of Non-English-Speaking Residents
» Low % of Two-Parent Households

Health Vulnerability Dimension

Indicators:
» Low Park Access
» Low Tree Canopy
» High % Impervious Surface

Environmental Vulnerability Dimension

Indicators:
» High Number of Excessive Heat Days
» High Urban Heat Island Index Score

» Reduced Life Expectancy at Birth
» High Pollution Levels

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

30,141
TOTAL ACRES OF RURAL RECREATION AND CONSERVATION AREA LAND LOCATED WITHIN THE STUDY AREA

57.9%
OF THE TOTAL LAND AREA WITHIN THE STUDY AREA IS RURAL RECREATION AND CONSERVATION AREA LAND

2,489
ACRES OF RURAL RECREATION AND CONSERVATION AREA LAND PER 1000 STUDY AREA RESIDENTS
RURAL RECREATION SITE ACCESS

Walking Distance (0.5 miles from entry)

18% of study area residents live within walking distance of a rural recreation site.

Cycling Distance (2.5 miles from entry)

88% of study area residents live within cycling distance of a rural recreation site.

Driving Distance (5 miles from entry)

99% of study area residents live within driving distance of a rural recreation site.

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

0% of rural recreation sites are served by public transit.

Maps source: ArcGIS StreetMap Premium, 2021; 2021 RRE Inventory
RURAL RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES

Gathering Spaces

Proximity to Sites With Gathering Spaces

57.2% OF RESIDENTS LIVE WITHIN A 5-MILE DRIVE

Legend
- Rural Recreation Sites with Gathering Spaces
- Santa Monica Mountains Costal Zone
- Rural Study Area
- Los Angeles County
- Major Roads

Sports Facilities

Proximity to Sites With Sports Facilities

92.2% OF RESIDENTS LIVE WITHIN A 5-MILE DRIVE

Legend
- Rural Recreation Sites with Sports Facilities
- Santa Monica Mountains Costal Zone
- 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 Monica Mountains Coastal Zone
- Rural Study Area
- Los Angeles County
- Major Roads

Proximity to Sites With Water-Based Recreation

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 Monica Mountains Coastal Zone
- Rural Study Area
- Los Angeles County
- Major Roads

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

64.1% of residents live within a 5-mile drive

83.4% of residents live within a 5-mile drive

Legend
- Rural Recreation Sites with Overnight Accommodations
- Santa Monica Mountains Coastal Zone
- Rural Study Area
- Los Angeles County
- Major Roads

Proximity to Sites With Overnight Accomodations

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 Monica Mountains Coastal Zone
- 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

Proximity to Sites With Trails and Pathways

Legend
- Rural Recreation Sites with Trails and Pathways
- Regional Trails
- Regional Bikeways
- Santa Monica Mountains Costal Zone
- Rural Study Area
- Los Angeles County
- Major Roads

92% OF RESIDENTS LIVE WITHIN A 5-MILE DRIVE

Experiential Learning Opportunities

Proximity to Sites With Experiential Learning Opportunities

Legend
- Rural Recreation Sites with Experiential Learning Opportunities
- Santa Monica Mountains Costal Zone
- Rural Study Area
- Los Angeles County
- Major Roads

86% OF RESIDENTS LIVE WITHIN A 5-MILE DRIVE

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

General Recreation Facilities

Proximity to Sites With General Recreation Facilities

37.1% of residents live within a 5-mile drive

Legend
- Rural Recreation Sites with General Recreation Facilities
- Santa Monica Mountains Costal Zone
- Los Angeles County
- Major Roads

Health and Fitness Facilities

Proximity to Sites With Health and Fitness Facilities

37.1% of residents live within a 5-mile drive

Legend
- Rural Recreation Sites with Health and Fitness Facilities
- Santa Monica Mountains Costal Zone
- 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 Monica Mountains Coastal Zone
- Rural Study Area
- Los Angeles County
- Major Roads

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

Proximity to Sites With Support Facilities

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 Monica Mountains Coastal Zone
- Rural Study Area
- Los Angeles County
- Major Roads

98.5% of residents live within a 5-mile drive.
## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT THEMES

### BARRIERS RESIDENTS EXPERIENCE TO USING PARKS AND FACILITIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Theme</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>LACK OF SHADE</strong></td>
<td>Not enough shade in parks and at facilities, especially near gathering spaces and seating areas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DISTANCE</strong></td>
<td>Many residents and families have to travel long distances to parks and facilities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LACK OF TRANSIT</strong></td>
<td>Many parks and trails are not accessible by public transit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PARKING</strong></td>
<td>Parking fees and lack of adequate parking at trailheads and at parks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SAFETY</strong></td>
<td>Concerns about unhoused people and wildfire dangers in parks in the region, as well as pandemic safety precautions like social distancing in parks and along popular trails.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LACK OF INFORMATION</strong></td>
<td>Residents do not know where parks are located, what facilities are available, or how to use and get to amenities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LIMITED ADA ACCESSIBILITY</strong></td>
<td>Facilities are not always accessible to disabled and older residents.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LACK OF PRIVACY AND ACCESS FOR NATIVE PEOPLES</strong></td>
<td>Tribal members do not have access and/or do not feel safe gathering for ceremony and other activities, and do not have privacy in park spaces.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NOT ENOUGH MAINTENANCE AT PARKS AND FACILITIES</strong></td>
<td>Park facilities and trails need repairs, maintenance and restoration.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LACK OF FACILITIES AND PROGRAMMING</strong></td>
<td>Nearby parks lack outdoor recreation areas, sports fields, skate parks, gathering and open spaces, and places to exercise animals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LACK OF CONNECTIVITY</strong></td>
<td>Not enough safe biking and pedestrian options to get to parks.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

"Shade is essential in this hot area. Most people who frequent parks are families with young children who would really like the shade."

"Neglect is a big issue now in Tapia Park. Overgrown, many dead and dying brush and trees…. Big wildfire danger."

"I don’t own a car, the parks I like most are not safe to bike to."

"There is no restroom in our local park."
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT THEMES

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

MORE SHADE
More shade structures and trees in gathering and playground spaces.

ACCESS TO WATER
Water fountains for users and animals in parks and along trails.

ADDRESS HOMELESSNESS
Expand services to support unhoused people who use parks.

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

EXPAND NATIVE AMERICAN ACCESS AND FACILITIES
Respect privacy and provide access to ceremonial spaces for gatherings and events.

BETTER ACCESS TO INFORMATION
More information about events at parks and available amenities.

IMPROVED MAINTENANCE AND INFRASTRUCTURE
Clean restrooms and trails, bike parking and electric vehicle charging areas, and more wildfire mitigation and removal of dead vegetation.

MORE RECREATION FACILITIES
Extend facilities hours, provide more bike paths, and build tennis and pickleball courts, sports fields, skate parks, playgrounds, gathering spaces, and places to exercise dogs.

IMPROVED INFRASTRUCTURE
More restrooms, shaded places to sit and gather with friends and family, and walk dogs.

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

ENHANCE PRESERVATION AND STEWARDSHIP
Organize stewardship and restoration activities at parks.

“We need more and safe bicycle trails to get to parks.”

“I would really like if it would be more explicit how to reach parks with public transportations and bike routes.”

“Allow nature to be protected, like mountain lions and deer.”

“[We need] greenbelts with plants, trees, shade, and protected bike and walking paths that connect communities and other parks.”

“Water fountains that provide a [separate] place for dogs to drink.”
RURAL RECREATION PRIORITY ANALYSIS

Areas Experiencing the Highest Levels of Overall Population Vulnerability

- Areas of Moderate to High Vulnerability Across All Four Dimensions
- Santa Monica Mountains Coastal Zone
- Rural Study Area
- Los Angeles County
- Major Roads

Map source: HPI, 2021; 2021 RRE Inventory

Areas Located in Low Proximity to Rural Recreation Sites

- 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)

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

Areas With Access to the Fewest Recreation Opportunity Types

- Areas in proximity (5-mile driving distance) to THREE OR FEWER Rural Recreation Opportunity Types

Map source: ArcGIS StreetMap Premium, 2021; 2021 RRE Inventory
RURAL RECREATION PRIORITY AREAS

Areas with:

- High Levels of Social and Transportation Barriers
- High Levels of Health and Environmental Vulnerability
- Areas of High Rural Recreation Priority
- Low Proximity to Rural Recreation Sites
- Proximity to Fewest Recreation Opportunity Types

Legend

- Areas with ONE Indicator of Rural Recreation Need
- Areas with TWO Indicators of Rural Recreation Need
- Areas with THREE Indicators of Rural Recreation Need
- Rural Site Inventory
- Santa Monica Mountains Coastal Zone Rural Study Area
- Los Angeles County
- Major Roads

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

- Acquisition of Open Space
- Improvements and Expansion of Trails and Trailheads
- Addition of Interpretive Signage and Displays at All Parks
- Splash Pad
- Picnic Shelters
- Fitness Zones

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.