

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.)

STEVENSON RANCH/NEWHALL RANCH RURAL STUDY AREA PROFILE

RURAL STUDY AREA ID #10 / PNA STUDY AREA ID #91

- » 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 Stevenson Ranch/Newhall Ranch Study Area is located in the Santa Clarita Valley Regional Study Area. The Study Area is bordered by the Santa Clara River to the north, Interstate 5 to the east, Santa Clarita Woodlands Park and open space to the south, and borders the western boundary of Los Angeles County to the west. The Study Area encompasses approximately 50 square miles. The unincorporated communities of Stevenson Ranch and Newhall Ranch are located in the Study Area.

STUDY AREA CONSIDERATIONS

The Study Area has several considerations, including natural hazards like wildfire and earthquakes and limited public transit service. The study area is not well connected, as the communities are high income, exurban and it is likely residents commute far distances. The desirability of rural living and the availability of affordable housing have led to population growth in the Study Area, including the proposed master planned community of Newhall Ranch, which proposes over 22,000 dwelling units on 4,835 acres. The development would include parks and schools, acreages of commercial, business park and light manufacturing, warehousing and distribution land uses, open spaces, roadways and community facilities (library and fire stations) and a new 6.9 million gallon per day water reclamation plant.

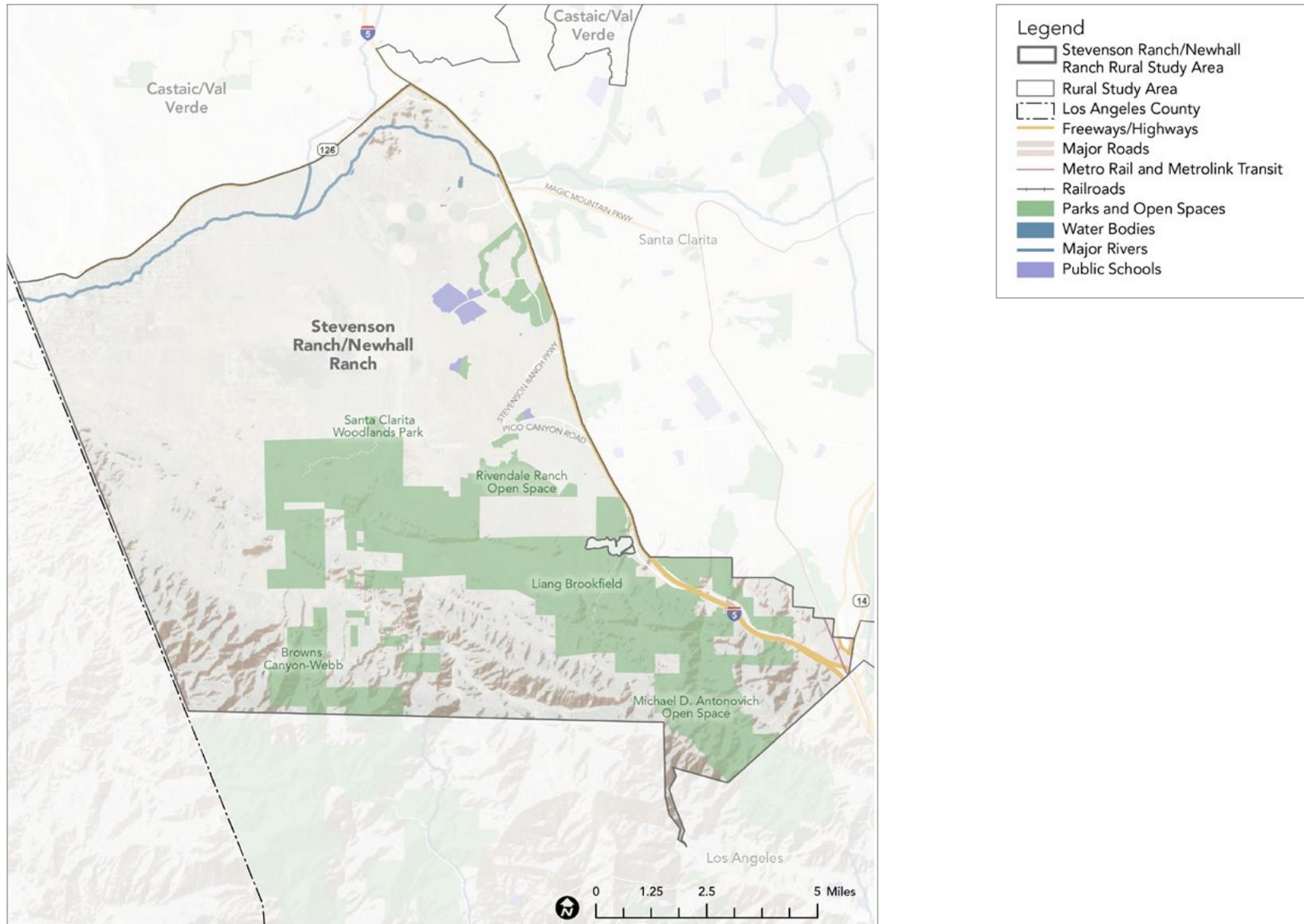
KEY ANALYSIS TAKEAWAYS

- » Transportation barriers is the most prevalent dimension of population vulnerability in the Study Area.
 - » 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.
- » The lowest percentage of Study Area residents do not live within a 5-mile drive of overnight accommodations (43.3%).
- » Low proximity to rural recreation sites and access to few recreation opportunity types are the most pronounced aspects of rural recreation priority in the Study Area.

KEY COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TAKEAWAYS

- » Distance, time, limited information and lack of nearby facilities and amenities are identified barriers to park use for residents who live in the Study Area.
- » Residents say they need more recreation facilities and green spaces nearby, safe access for pedestrians, and more information about available amenities.
- » Greatest needs are for places to play and bring animals to exercise; gather with friends and family; and to be surrounded by nature.

STEVENSON RANCH/NEWHALL RANCH 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	20,030

Race	Percentage
White	66.7%
Black or African American	4.7%
American Indian and Alaska Native	0.3%
Asian	20.63%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0%
Some Other Race	2.07%
Two or More Races	5.57%
Total	100%

Ethnicity	Percentage
Hispanic or Latino	16.37%
Not Hispanic or Latino	83.63%
Total	100%

Income	Percentage
Less than \$25,000	5.6%
\$25,000-\$49,999	11.93%
\$50,000-\$74,999	12.2%
\$75,000-\$99,999	10.97%
\$100,000-\$150,000	23.83%
\$150,000	35.47%
Total	100%

Gender	Percentage
Female	50.87%
Male	49.13%
Total	100%

Age	Percentage
Under 5 years	5.3%
5 to 9 years	8.13%
10 to 14 years	12.07%
15 to 19 years	9.27%
20 to 29 years	9.43%
30 to 39 years	9.47%
40 to 49 years	22%
50 to 59 years	13.17%
60 to 69 years	6.17%
70 to 79 years	3.5%
80+ years	1.67%
Total	100%

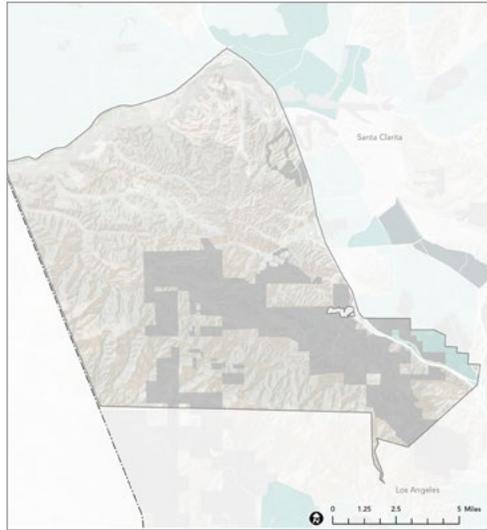
Education Level	Percentage
High School Diploma	14.83%
Some College, No Degree	21.6%
Associates Degree	8.2%
Bachelor's Degree	30.9%
Master's Degree	19.5%
Other	4.97%
Total	100%

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

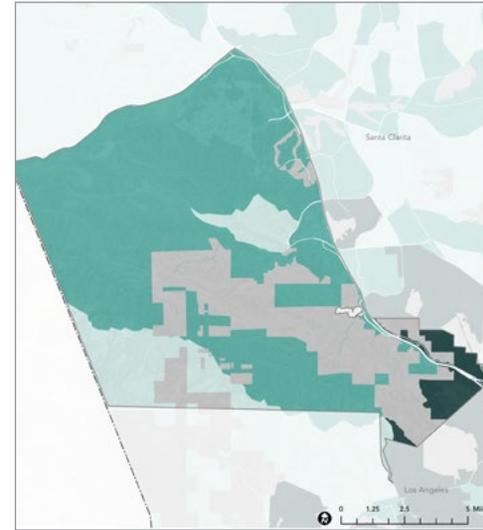
Social Barriers Dimension



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

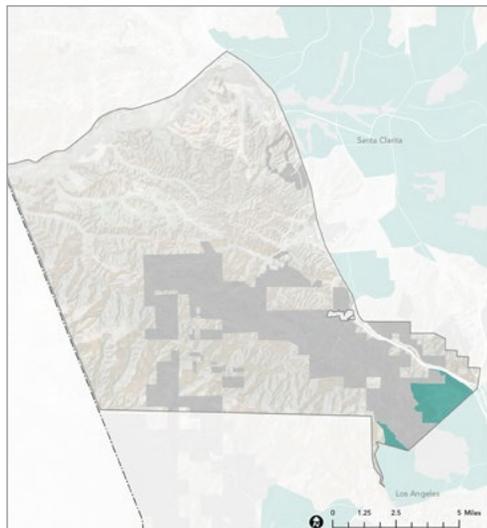
Transportation Barriers Dimension



Indicators:

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

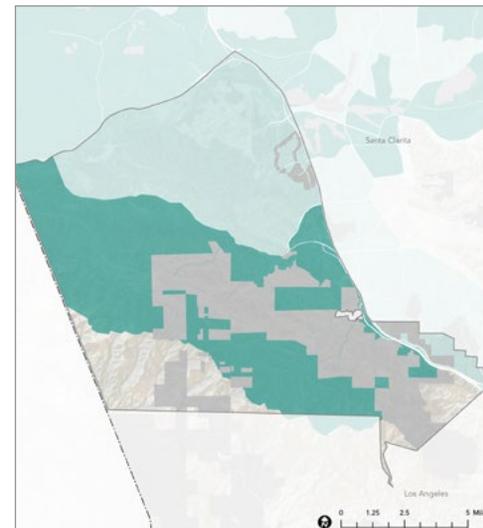
Health Vulnerability Dimension



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



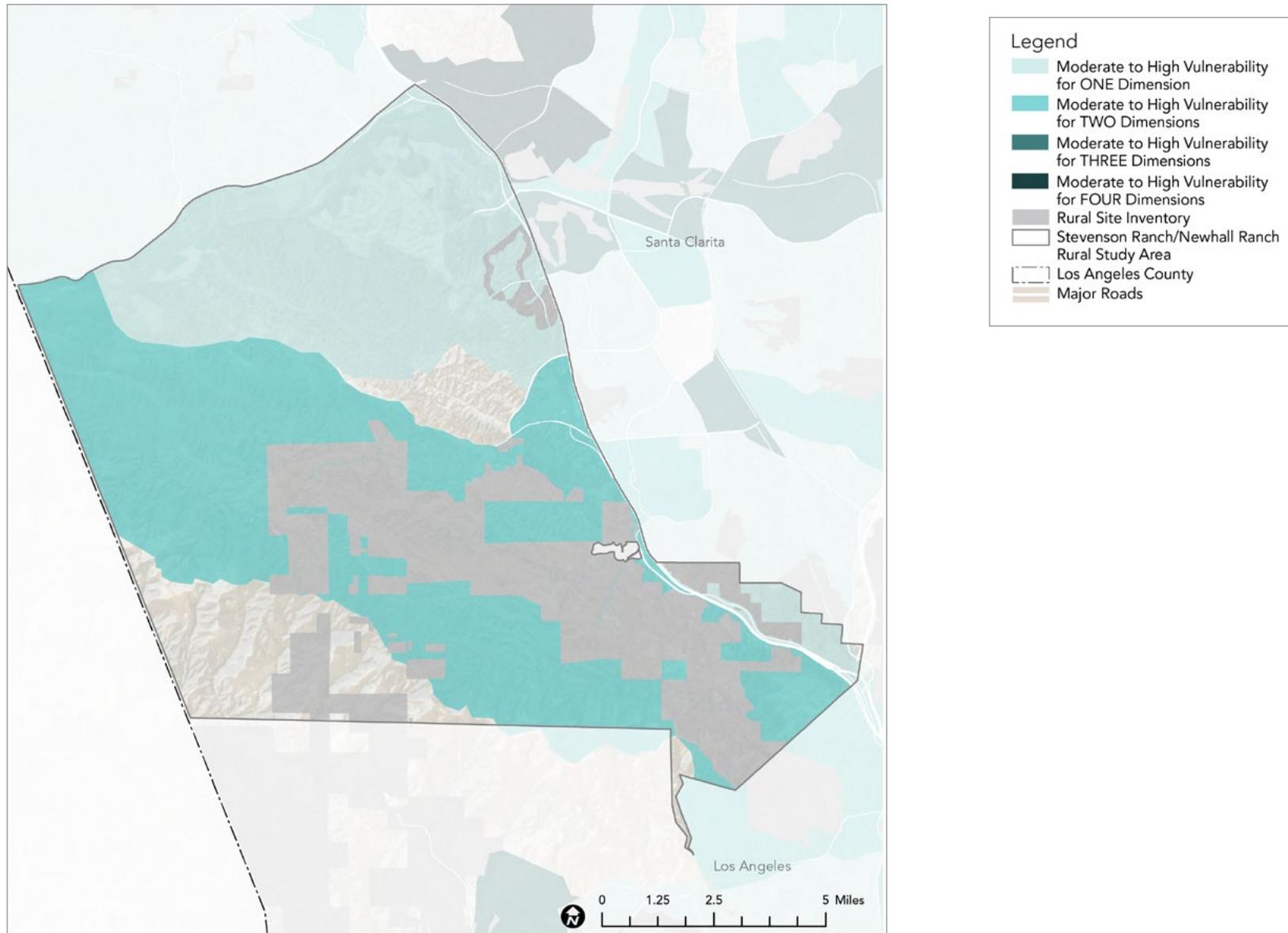
Indicators:

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



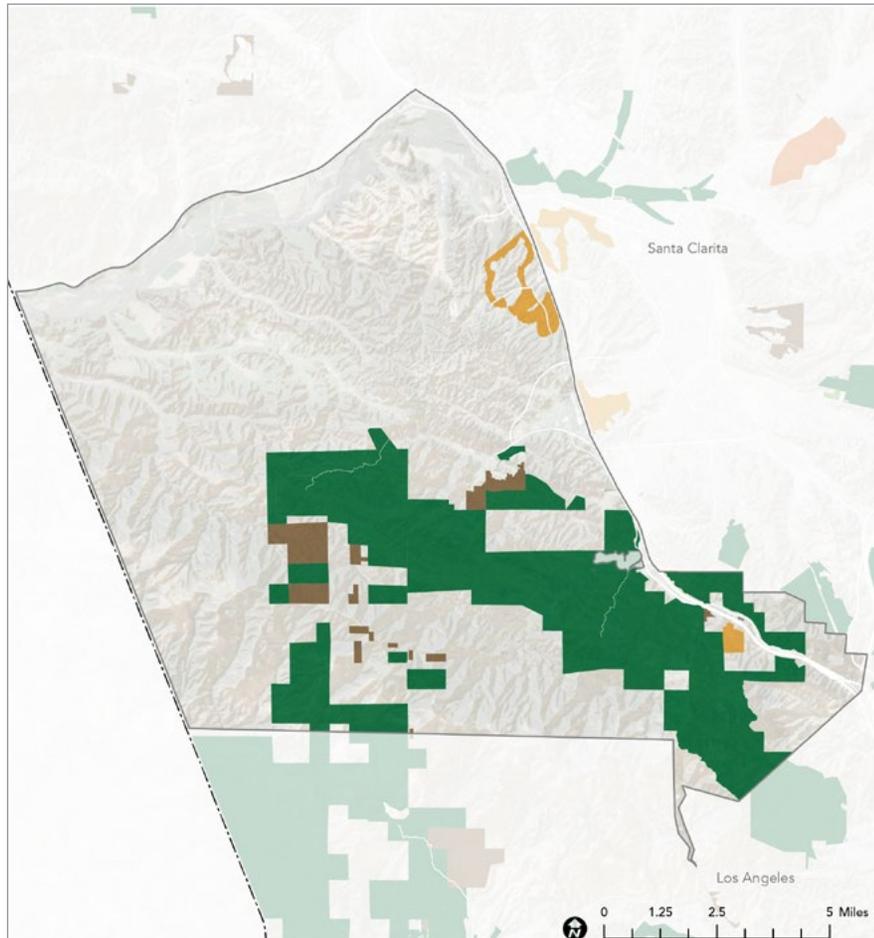
Maps source: HPI, 2021; 2021 RRE Inventory

COMPOSITE POPULATION VULNERABILITY



Map source: HPI, 2021; 2021 RRE Inventory

RURAL SITE INVENTORY



Map source: 2021 RRE Inventory

7,403

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



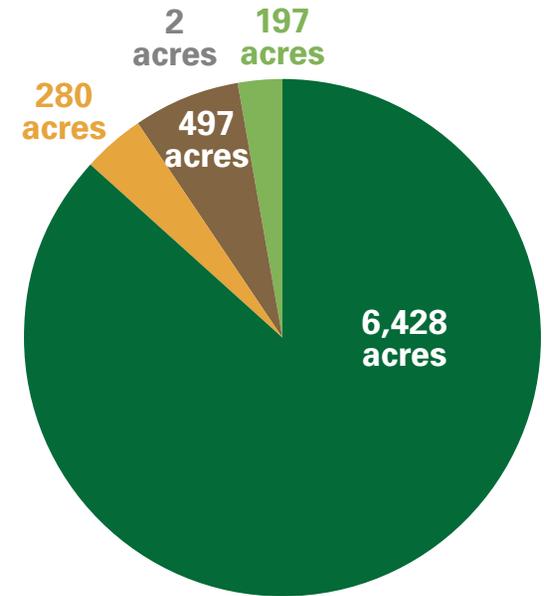
23.7%

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



360

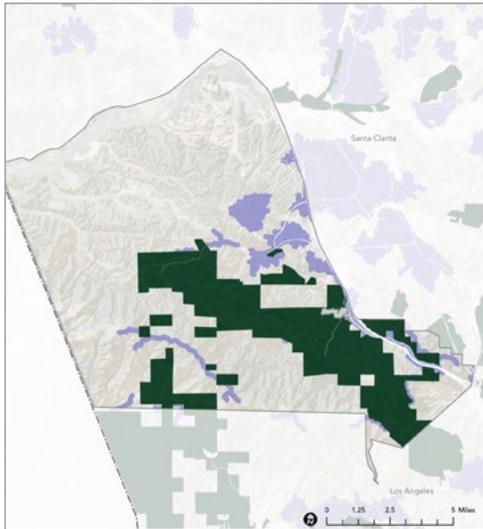
ACRES OF RURAL RECREATION AND CONSERVATION AREA LAND PER 1000 STUDY AREA RESIDENTS



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

RURAL RECREATION SITE ACCESS

Walking Distance (0.5 miles from entry)

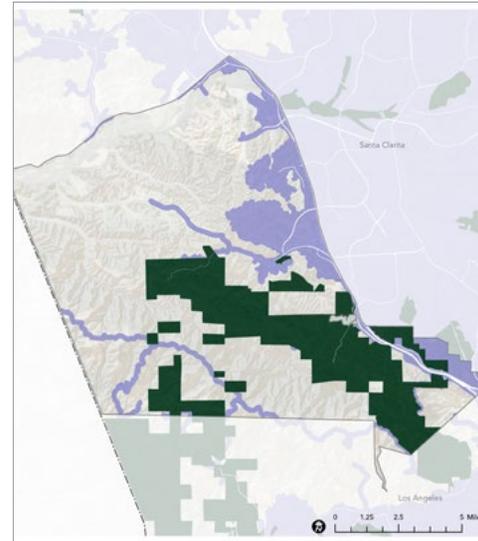


- Legend**
- Areas within a 0.5-mile walk of a Rural Recreation Site
 - Rural Recreation Site
 - Stevenson Ranch/Newhall Ranch Rural Study Area
 - Los Angeles County
 - Major Roads

32%

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

Cycling Distance (2.5 miles from entry)

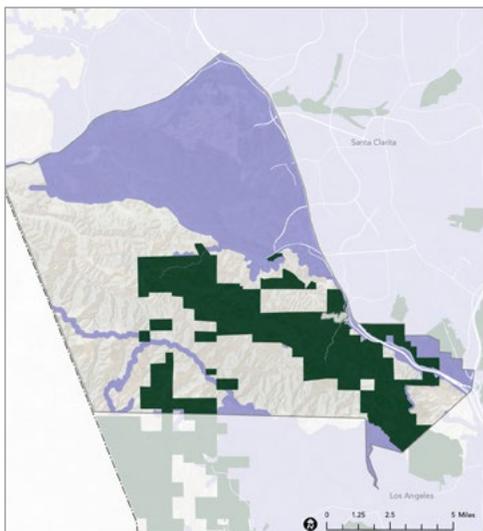


- Legend**
- Areas within a 2.5-mile bicycle ride of a Rural Recreation Site
 - Rural Recreation Site
 - Stevenson Ranch/Newhall Ranch Rural Study Area
 - Los Angeles County
 - Major Roads

56%

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

Driving Distance (5 miles from entry)

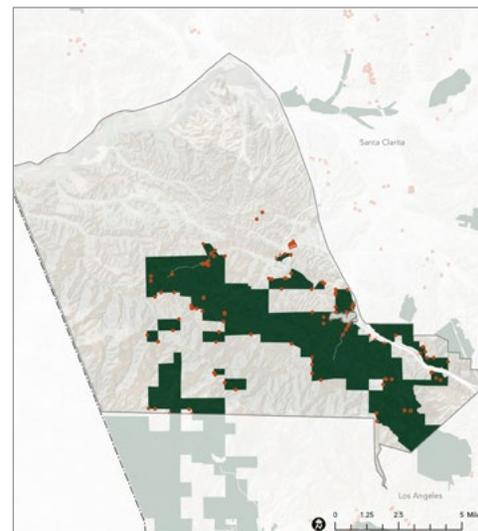


- Legend**
- Areas within a 5-mile drive of a Rural Recreation Site
 - Rural Recreation Site
 - Stevenson Ranch/Newhall Ranch Rural Study Area
 - Los Angeles County
 - Major Roads

88%

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

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)
 - Rural Recreation Site
 - Stevenson Ranch/Newhall Ranch Rural Study Area
 - Los Angeles County
 - Major Roads

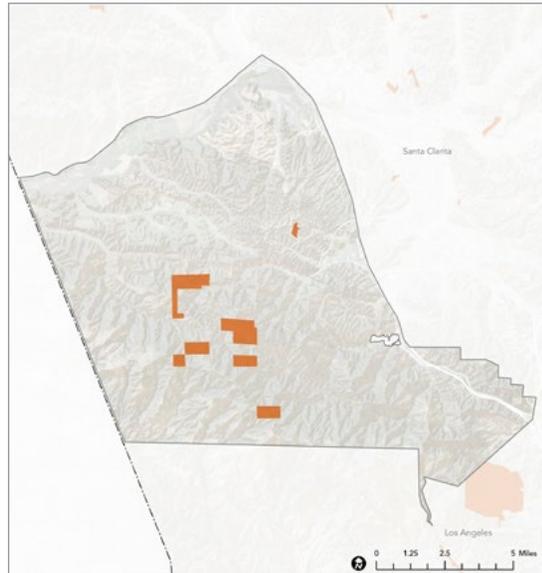
0%

OF RURAL RECREATION SITES ARE SERVED BY PUBLIC TRANSIT

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

RURAL RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES

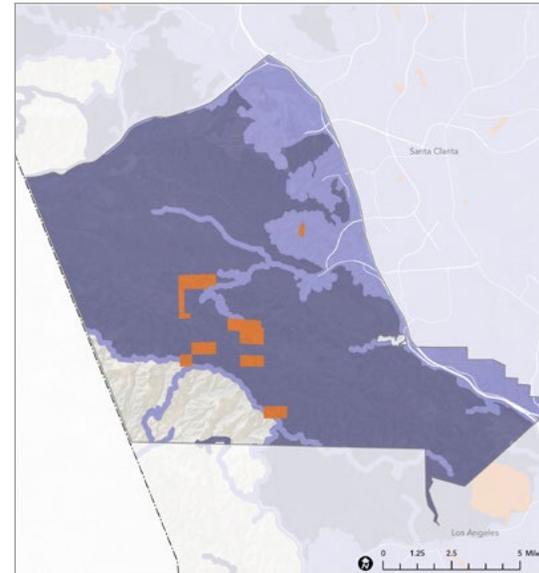
Gathering Spaces



Legend

- Rural Recreation Sites with Gathering Spaces
- Stevenson Ranch/Newhall Ranch Rural Study Area
- Los Angeles County
- Major Roads

Proximity to Sites With Gathering Spaces



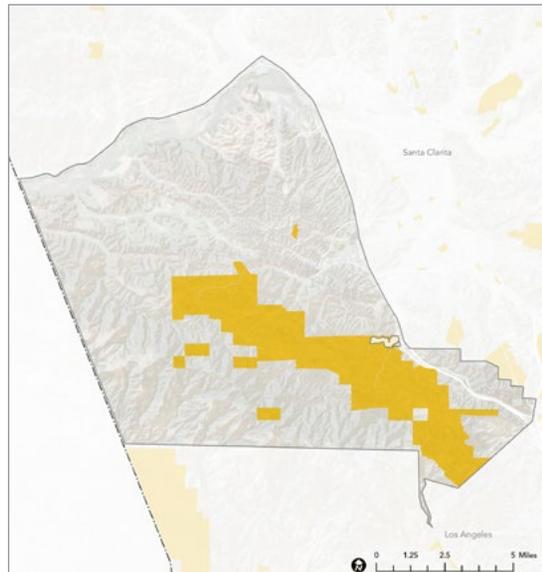
Legend

- 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
- Stevenson Ranch/Newhall Ranch Rural Study Area
- Los Angeles County
- Major Roads

61.2%

OF RESIDENTS LIVE WITHIN A 5-MILE DRIVE

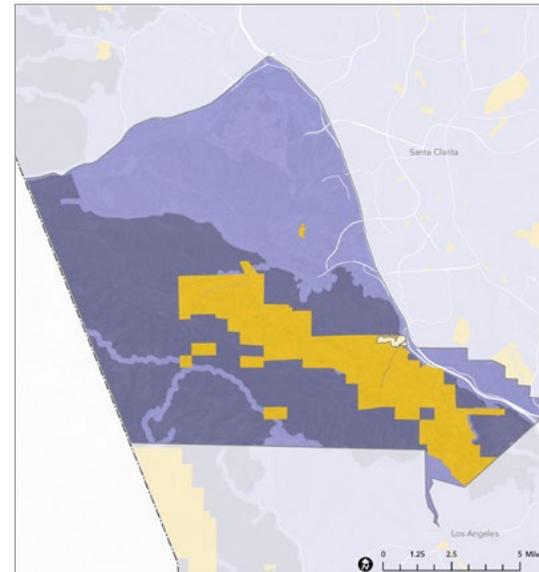
Sports Facilities



Legend

- Rural Recreation Sites with Sports Facilities
- Stevenson Ranch/Newhall Ranch Rural Study Area
- Los Angeles County
- Major Roads

Proximity to Sites With Sports Facilities



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
- Stevenson Ranch/Newhall Ranch Rural Study Area
- Los Angeles County
- Major Roads

87.6%

OF RESIDENTS LIVE WITHIN A 5-MILE DRIVE

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

RURAL RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES

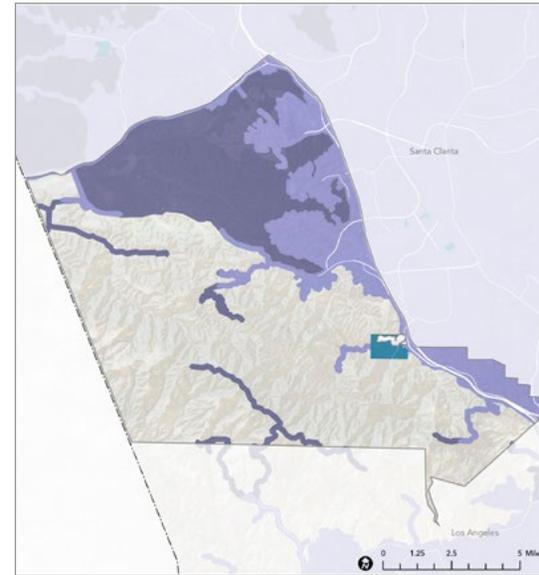
Water-Based Recreation



Legend

- Rural Recreation Sites with Water-Based Recreation
- Stevenson Ranch/Newhall Ranch Rural Study Area
- Los Angeles County
- Major Roads

Proximity to Sites With Water-Based Recreation



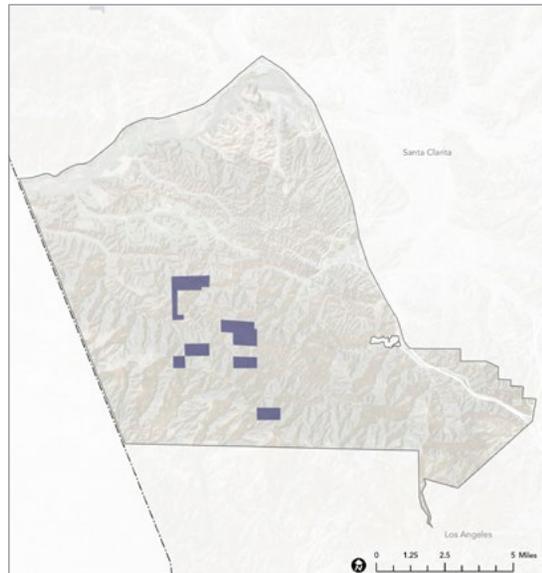
Legend

- 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
- Stevenson Ranch/Newhall Ranch Rural Study Area
- Los Angeles County
- Major Roads

60%

OF RESIDENTS LIVE WITHIN A 5-MILE DRIVE

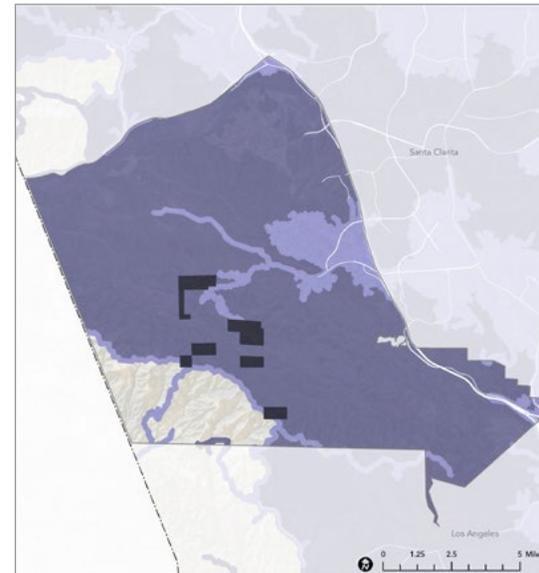
Overnight Accommodations



Legend

- Rural Recreation Sites with Overnight Accommodations
- Stevenson Ranch/Newhall Ranch Rural Study Area
- Los Angeles County
- Major Roads

Proximity to Sites With Overnight Accommodations



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
- Stevenson Ranch/Newhall Ranch Rural Study Area
- Los Angeles County
- Major Roads

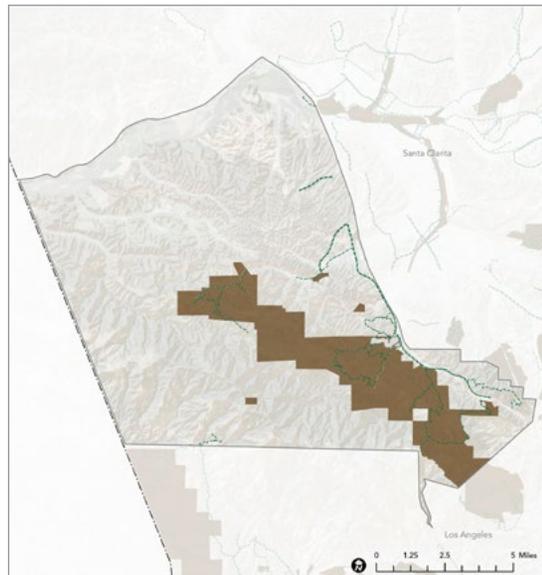
43.3%

OF RESIDENTS LIVE WITHIN A 5-MILE DRIVE

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

RURAL RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES

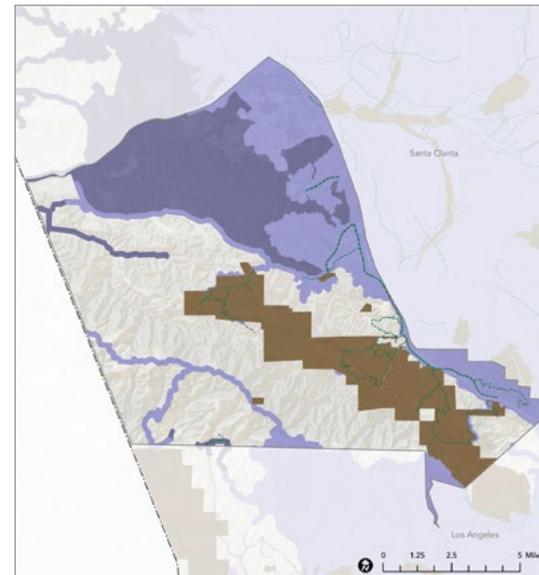
Trails and Pathways



Legend

- Rural Recreation Sites with Trails and Pathways
- Regional Trails
- Regional Bikeways
- Stevenson Ranch/Newhall Ranch Rural Study Area
- Los Angeles County
- Major Roads

Proximity to Sites With Trails and Pathways



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
- Stevenson Ranch/Newhall Ranch Rural Study Area
- Los Angeles County
- Major Roads

61.6%

OF RESIDENTS LIVE WITHIN A 5-MILE DRIVE

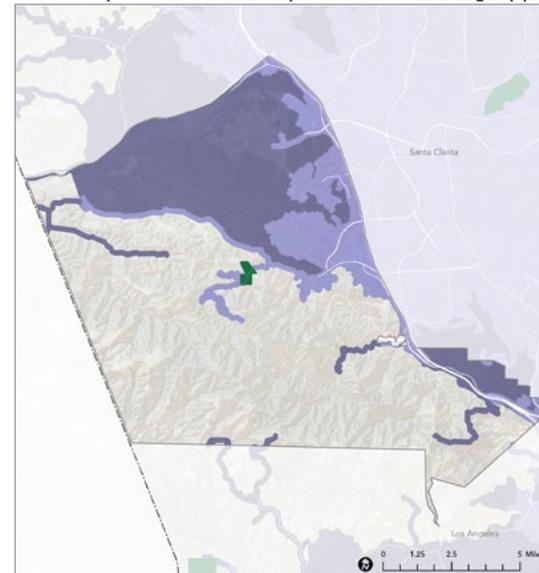
Experiential Learning Opportunities



Legend

- Rural Recreation Sites with Experiential Learning Opportunities
- Stevenson Ranch/Newhall Ranch Rural Study Area
- Los Angeles County
- Major Roads

Proximity to Sites With Experiential Learning Opportunities



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
- Stevenson Ranch/Newhall Ranch Rural Study Area
- Los Angeles County
- Major Roads

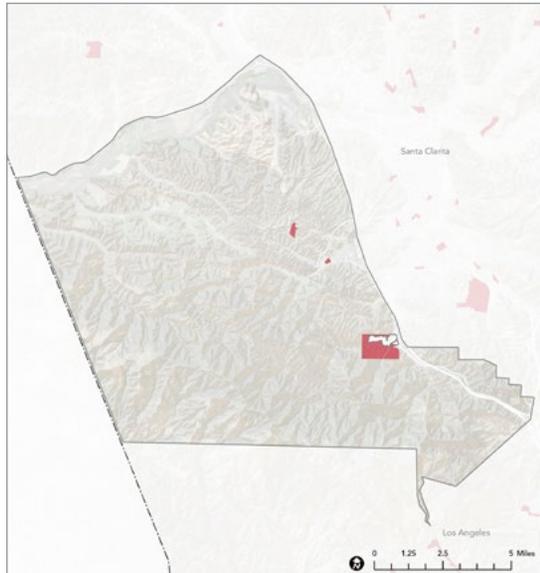
54.2%

OF RESIDENTS LIVE WITHIN A 5-MILE DRIVE

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

RURAL RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES

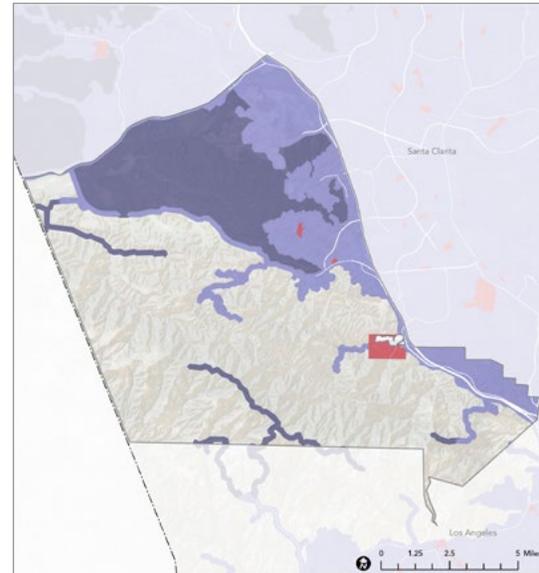
General Recreation Facilities



Legend

- Rural Recreation Sites with General Recreation Facilities
- Stevenson Ranch/Newhall Ranch Rural Study Area
- Los Angeles County
- Major Roads

Proximity to Sites With General Recreation Facilities



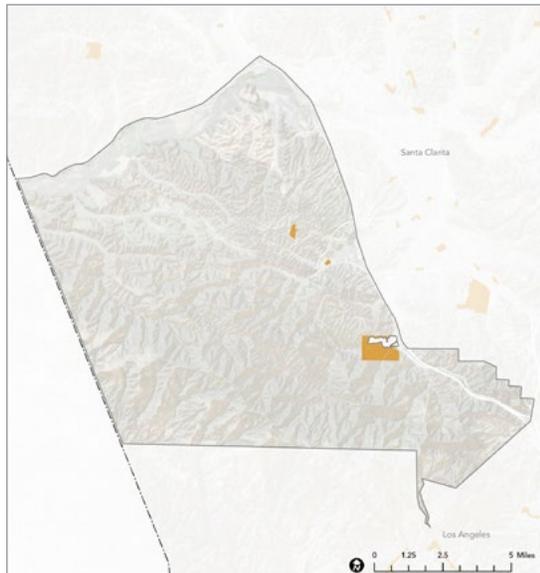
Legend

- 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
- Stevenson Ranch/Newhall Ranch Rural Study Area
- Los Angeles County
- Major Roads

62.2%

OF RESIDENTS LIVE WITHIN A 5-MILE DRIVE

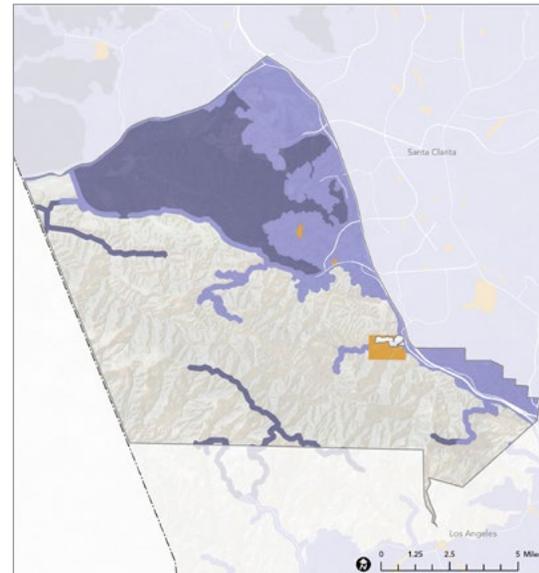
Health and Fitness Facilities



Legend

- Rural Recreation Sites with Health and Fitness Facilities
- Stevenson Ranch/Newhall Ranch Rural Study Area
- Los Angeles County
- Major Roads

Proximity to Sites With Health and Fitness Facilities



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
- Stevenson Ranch/Newhall Ranch Rural Study Area
- Los Angeles County
- Major Roads

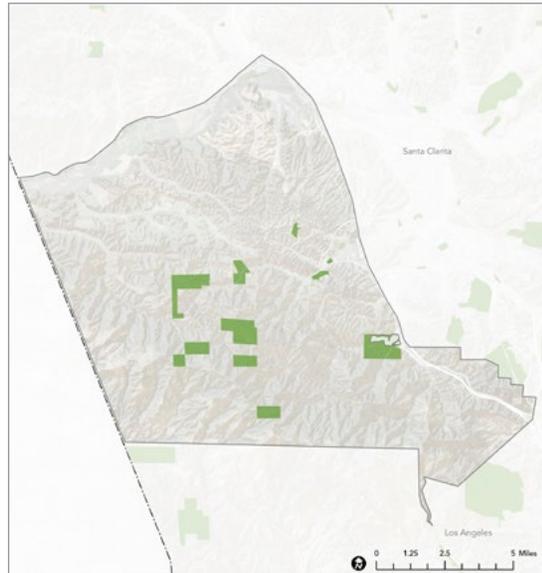
62.2%

OF RESIDENTS LIVE WITHIN A 5-MILE DRIVE

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

RURAL RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES

Support Facilities

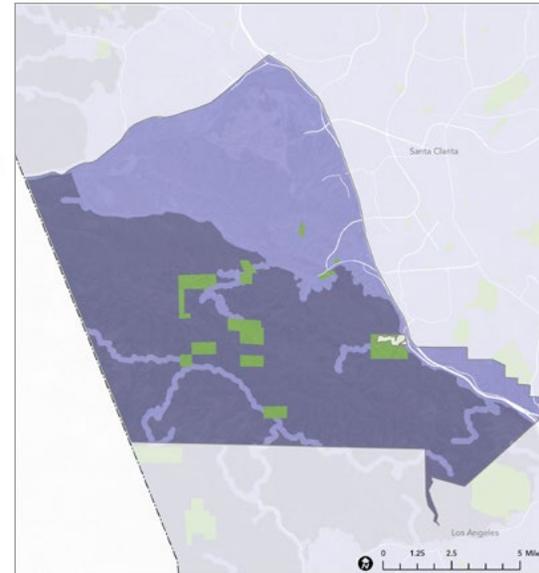


Legend

- Rural Recreation Sites with Support Facilities
- Stevenson Ranch/Newhall Ranch 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
- Stevenson Ranch/Newhall Ranch Rural Study Area
- Los Angeles County
- Major Roads

87.6%
OF RESIDENTS LIVE
WITHIN A 5-MILE DRIVE

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT THEMES

BARRIERS RESIDENTS EXPERIENCE TO USING PARKS AND FACILITIES



DISTANCE

Many residents and families have to travel long distances to parks and facilities.



TIME

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



LACK OF INFORMATION

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



NOT ENOUGH MAINTENANCE AT PARKS AND FACILITIES

Park facilities and trails need repairs, maintenance and restoration.



LACK OF FACILITIES AND PROGRAMMING

Nearby parks lack tennis courts, sports fields, gathering and open spaces, and places to exercise animals.



LACK OF CONNECTIVITY

Not enough trail networks or safe biking and pedestrian options to get to parks.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT THEMES

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



BETTER ACCESS TO INFORMATION

More information about events at parks and available amenities.



MORE RECREATION FACILITIES

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



IMPROVED INFRASTRUCTURE

More places to sit, gather with friends and family, and walk dogs.



MORE TRAILS FOR EQUESTRIAN AND PEDESTRIAN USE

Additional trails for walking and horse riding.



ENHANCE CONNECTIVITY

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

“The closest dog park is on the other side of the valley. There’s room for one at Richard Rioux Park.”

RURAL RECREATION PRIORITY ANALYSIS

Areas Experiencing the Highest Levels of Overall Population Vulnerability



- Legend**
- Areas of Moderate to High Vulnerability Across All Four Dimensions
 - Stevenson Ranch/Newhall Ranch Rural Study Area
 - Los Angeles County
 - Major Roads



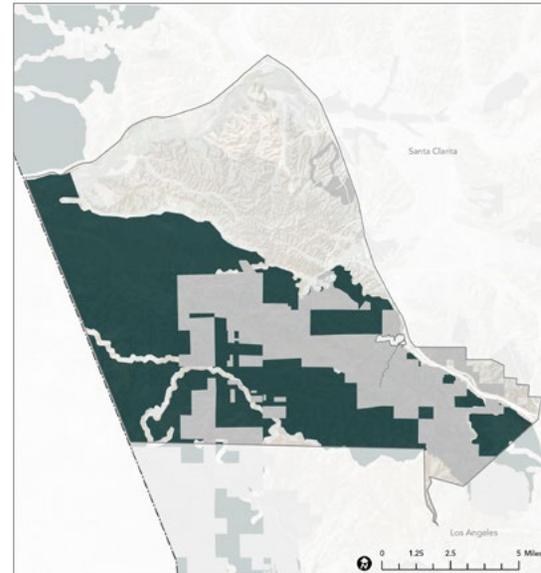
High Levels of Social and Transportation Barriers



High Levels of Health and Environmental Vulnerability

Map source: HPI, 2021; 2021 RRE Inventory

Areas Located in Low Proximity to Rural Recreation Sites



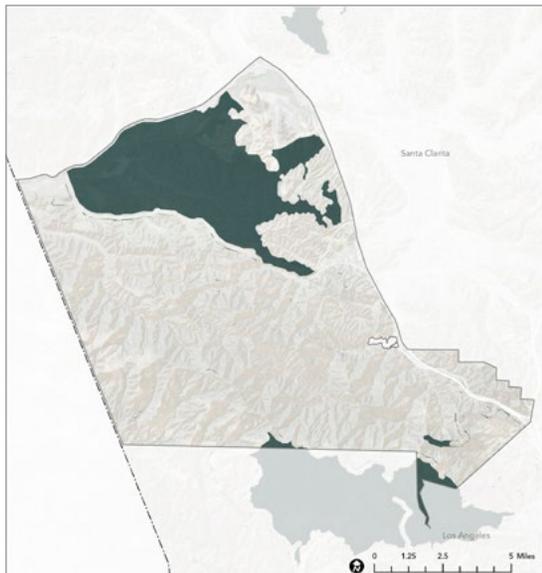
- Legend**
- Areas in Low Proximity to Rural Recreation Sites (beyond a 5-mile drive to any Regional Recreation Park Entry Points, Nature-Based Recreation Area Entry Points or Local Park Entry Points)
 - Rural Site Inventory
 - Stevenson Ranch/Newhall Ranch Rural Study Area
 - Los Angeles County
 - Major Roads



Low Proximity to Rural Recreation Sites

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

Areas With Access to the Fewest Recreation Opportunity Types



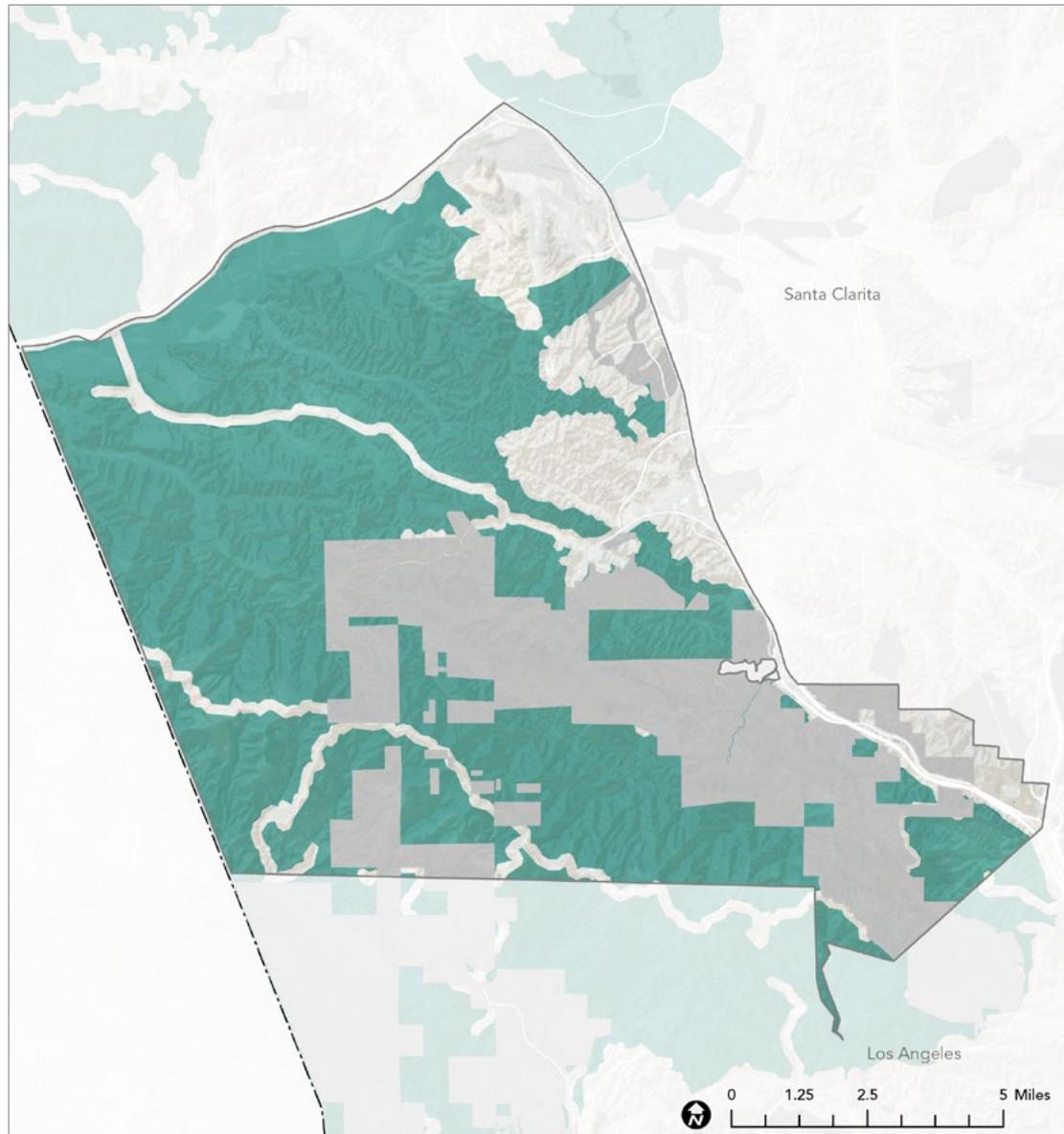
- Legend**
- Areas in proximity (5-mile driving distance) to THREE OR FEWER Rural Recreation Opportunity Types
 - Stevenson Ranch/Newhall Ranch Rural Study Area
 - Los Angeles County
 - Major Roads



Proximity to Fewest Recreation Opportunity Types

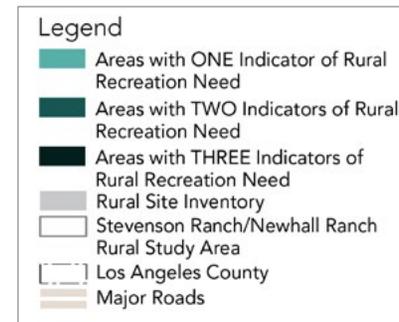
Map source: ArcGIS StreetMap Premium, 2021; 2021 RRE Inventory

RURAL RECREATION PRIORITY AREAS



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

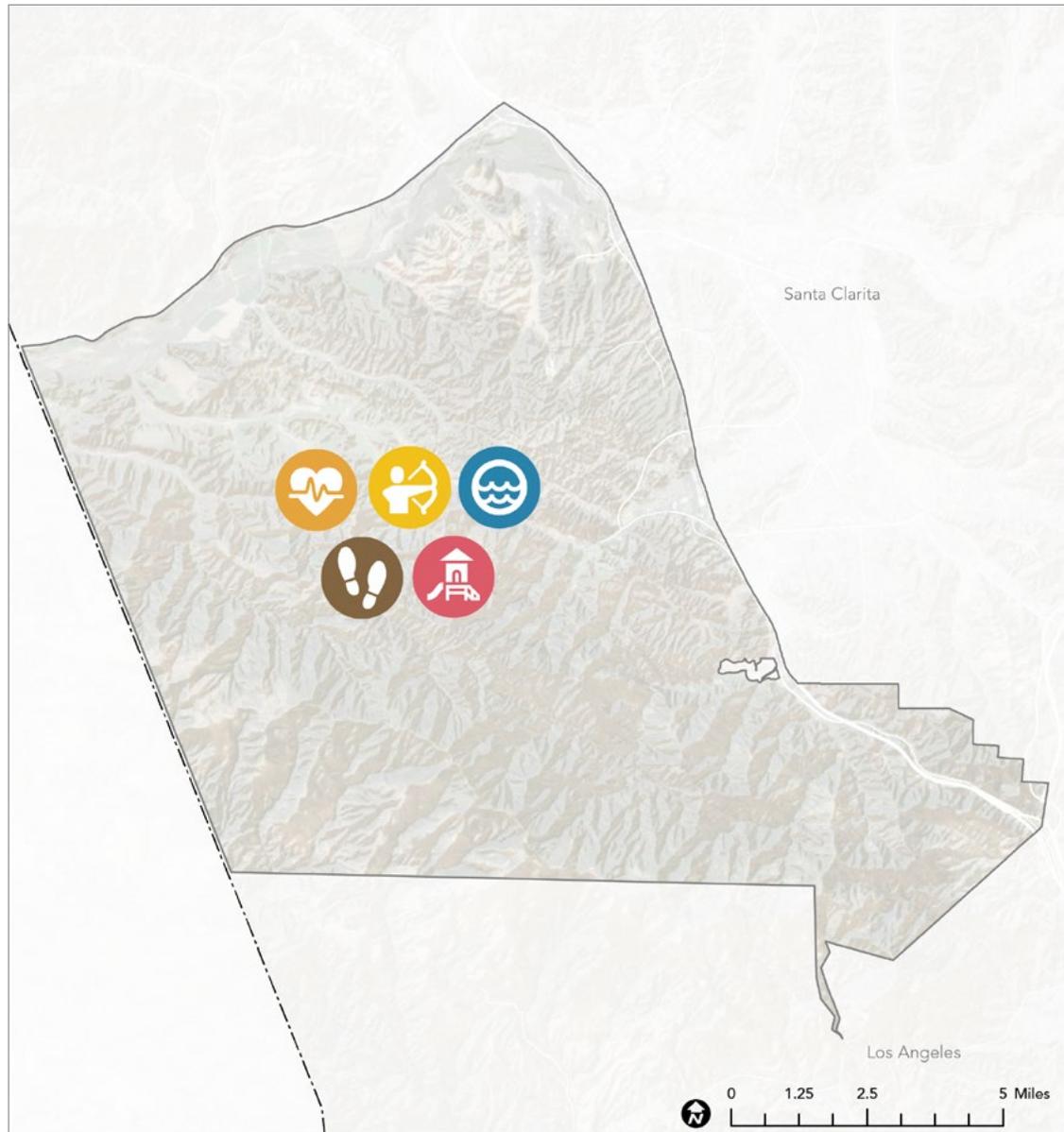
Areas with:



PRIORITY PROJECT TYPES

PRIORITY PROJECTS

- » Community/Recreation Center
- » Fitness Zone
- » Gymnasium
- » Tennis Court
- » Skate Park
- » Dog Park
- » Splash Pad
- » Trails/Walking Paths to Community Destinations



Legend

- Gathering Spaces
- Sports Facilities
- Experiential Learning Opportunities
- Water-Based Recreation
- Trails and Pathways
- Overnight Accommodations
- General Recreation
- Health and Fitness
- Support Facilities
- Littlerock/Sun Village/Juniper Hills Rural Study Area
- Los Angeles County
- Major Roads

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.