



and continue living populations of plant and animal species covered by the Endangered Species Act. Goodan Ranch Sycamore Canyon Preserve is included in the MSCP and managed under State and Federal principles, including the Natural Community Conservation Planning Act. This ensures that the Preserve will remain pristine for generations to come.

In 2003, the devastating Cedar Fire burned the entire Preserve, destroying most of its structures and leaving much of the land a temporary moonscape. In the ensuing months and years, life emerged again and reestablished itself. A new Goodan Ranch Center, rated silver by Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) standards, was opened in 2007 across from the old ranch house. Today the preserve is operated by the County of San Diego. The Friends of Goodan Ranch Sycamore Canyon Preserve is a non-profit support group, and assists at the Preserve by volunteering their time and donations to help

maintain the high quality experiences that visitors have come to enjoy.

Sycamore Canyon and Goodan Ranch are enjoyable for their peaceful solitude, recreation opportunities, and natural beauty. Ten different vegetation habitats, including coastal sage scrub, southern mixed chaparral, oak woodlands, riparian, and native grasslands can be found in the Preserve. Within these habitats are 313 plant species including California sagebrush, buckwheat, chamise, lilac, Manzanita, lemonade berry, coast live oak, sycamores, arroyo willow, and various native grasses. Along with the plants, 73 bird species are recorded, 30 mammals, 18 amphibians and reptiles, and 46 invertebrates. Twelve of these species are specifically monitored as part of the MSCP, and 32 special-status species are listed by wildlife agencies. Animals more commonly seen are mule deer, coyote, bobcat, rattlesnakes, acorn woodpeckers, red-shouldered hawks and flycatchers.

Goodan Ranch Sycamore Canyon Preserve Interpretive Programs



Along with miles of beautiful trails and a wide variety of plants and wildlife, Preserve staff at Goodan Ranch Sycamore Canyon Preserve pride themselves on the wide array of interpretive programs offered for children and adults. As interpretive specialists, and in collaboration with other industry professionals, they provide opportunities to learn and explore all that this Preserve has to offer.

Programs cater to all ages and give each guest an opportunity to find something that interests them. Some of the more popular programs are:

Nature Hikes

- Animal tracking
- Native plants
- Edible Plants
- Local history
- Star gazing
- Birding

Informative Talks

- Geocaching
- Local wildlife
- Bats, Coyotes, Raptors, Snakes*
- Equestrians
- Mountain biking



Childrens' Programs

- Wildlife bingo
- Hike and a story
- Scavenger hunt
- 'Leave No Trace' principles

For more information on upcoming programs visit www.sdparks.org and click on 'Programs and Activities' to find the program list, or call the Goodan Ranch Center office at (858) 513-4737. We will also be adding downloadable self-guided tours in the near future, so keep an eye out for them.



Rules and Regulations for Open Space Preserves

ACCIDENTS: The County of San Diego shall not be responsible for loss or accidents.

OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLES: The unauthorized use of OHV vehicles is prohibited.

TRAILS: Stay on designated trails at all times.

BICYCLES: Bicyclists must yield right-of-way to other users. Children are required to wear helmets. Speed limit is 10mph.

LITTERING: Is prohibited.

DEFACEMENT PROHIBITED: No person shall remove, deface, or destroy trail markers, monuments, fences, trees, camp or picnic structures, or other preserve facilities.

PRESERVATION OF TRAIL FEATURES: All wildlife, plant, and geologic features are protected and are not to be damaged or removed. All historical artifacts are to be left in place.

HORSES AND OTHER ANIMALS: No horse or other animal shall be hitched to any tree, shrub, or structure in a manner that may cause damage to preserve property.

PETS: Dogs are allowed on a maximum six foot leash. Please clean up after your dog.

NO HUNTING: No person shall use, transport, carry, fire, or discharge any firearms, air guns, archery device, slingshot, fireworks, or explosive device of any kind in a preserve.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES: No beverages having more than 20% alcohol by volume are permitted.

FIRE HAZARDS AND SMOKING: No smoking. Campfires are prohibited. Stoves allowed only in primitive group camping area.

Goodan Ranch Sycamore Canyon Preserve



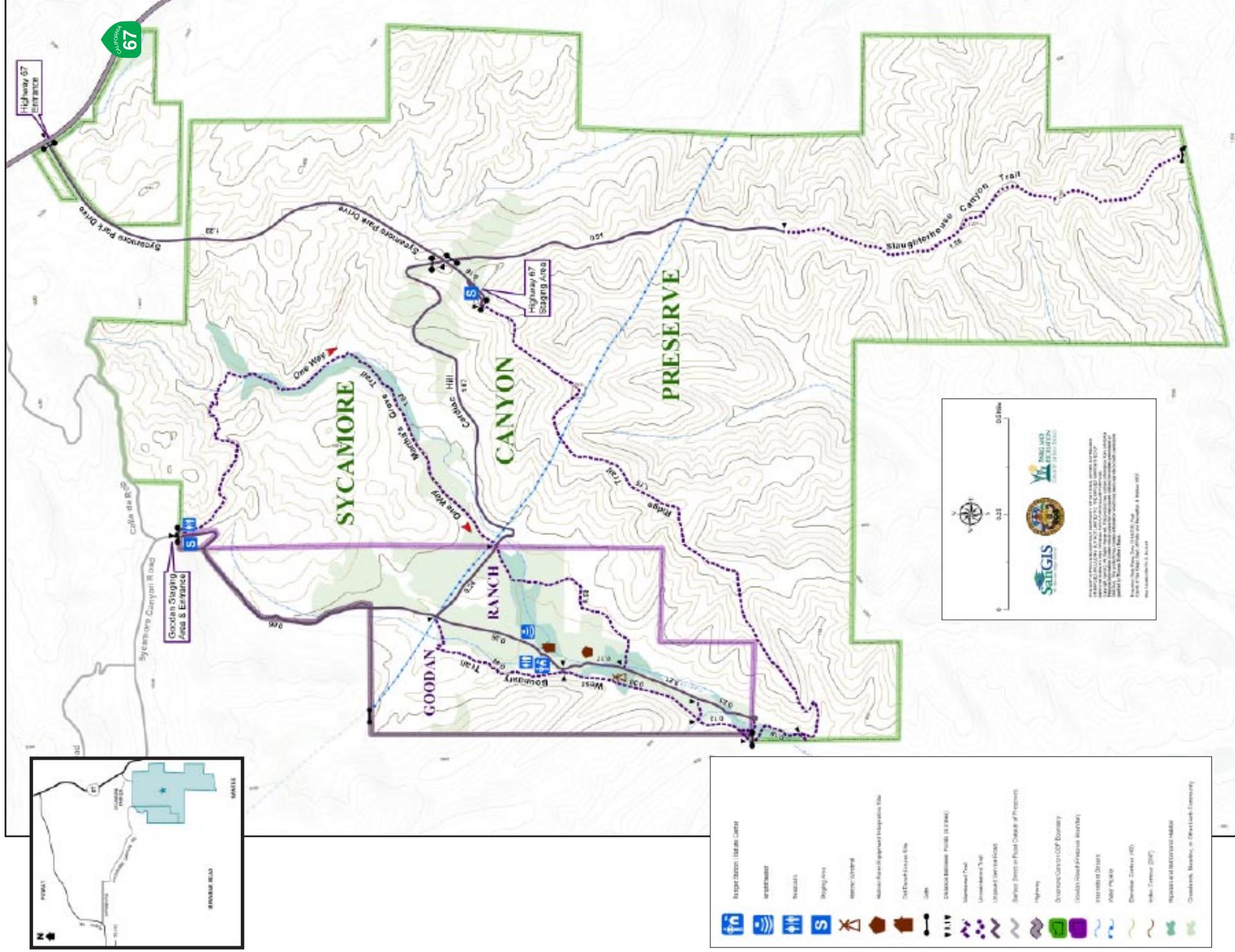
Preserve hours: 8 AM to 5 PM October-March
8 AM to 7 PM April-September



County of San Diego
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
5500 Overland Avenue, Building 201, Ste. 410
San Diego, CA 92123

Within SD County: (858) 565-3600
Outside SD County, toll free: (877) 565-3600
Information: (858) 694-3049
Ranger Station: (858) 513-4737

WWW.SDPARKS.ORG



Welcome to Goodan Ranch Sycamore Canyon Preserve

For those seeking solitude and recreation in a scenic natural setting, Goodan Ranch Sycamore Canyon Preserve has much to offer. Visitors can hike along miles of trails where they will enjoy grand vistas, abundant wildlife, and interesting reminders of the long and varied use of the area.

Thousands of years ago, American Indians, collectively known as the Kumeyaay, lived within this valley. Archaeological evidence from these tribes has linked Sycamore Canyon and Goodan Ranch to these historic camps. Milling sites, pottery remnants, and even arrowheads are some of the artifacts found in recent years.

In the late 1800's, the town of Stowe was established within Sycamore Canyon. Stowe was a small town consisting of a post office and a school house. Up to a dozen families lived within its boundaries. The original plan was for the railroad to travel through Stowe but when the railroad bypassed the town it began to close down. The school and post office closed in 1905 and by the 1920's the town was all but shut down.

In 1938, Roger and May Goodan of Los Angeles purchased land in Sycamore Canyon to build a ranch house which became their home away from home. Along with the house, a barn, a garage, a water tower, a shed and a windmill stood within their ranch property. The Goodans spent their summers and weekends at the ranch, affectionately called 'Rancho Ruidoso,' riding horses and relaxing while their children played games. At the peak of its success the ranch held as many as 100 head of cattle. Fred Allbee was the live-in ranch hand who assisted with the livestock and maintenance of the ranch while the Goodans were away. Eventually the Goodans sold the property, yet Fred Allbee stayed. He worked on the ranch up until 1991 when

it was purchased by the County of San Diego, the City of Poway, the City of Santee and the State Wildlife Conservation Board under a Joint Powers Agreement.

In 1997, the California Department of Fish and Game, US Fish and Wildlife Service, and the County of San Diego approved the Subarea Plan of the Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP). The biological goal of the MSCP is to maintain ecosystem functions



Stowe School classroom, circa 1900.