

# Bonsall Community Trails and Pathways Plan

## *Trails: The Community Connection*

The Community Trails Master Plan will be utilized to develop a system of interconnected regional and community trails and pathways. These trails and pathways are intended to address an established public need for recreation and transportation, but will also provide health and quality of life benefits associated with hiking, biking, and horseback riding throughout the County’s biologically diverse environments.

Community trails serve a different function than regional trails, which are focused on the provision of long linear distances. Instead, community trails are “local public facilities” in close proximity to residents that provide transportation, recreation, access, infrastructure, linkages and safe routes throughout a community.

The Community Trails Master Plan (CTMP) involves both trail development and management on public, semi-public and private lands. The CTMP has established two forms of non-motorized facilities called “Trails” and “Pathways” that provide

passive recreational, and alternative modes of transportation.



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*Popular riding area in Bonsall*

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**Trails** are typically away from vehicular roads that are primarily recreational in nature but can also serve as an alternative mode of transportation. They are soft-surface facilities for single or multiple uses by pedestrians, equestrians, and mountain bicyclists.

**Pathways** are a non-motorized transportation facility located within a parkway or road right of way. A riding and hiking trail located in the road right of way is considered a pathway. They are soft-surfaced facilities intended to serve both circulation and recreation purposes. Pathways help make critical connections and are an integral part of a functional trail system.

## COMMUNITY TRAIL STATEMENT

The Bonsall Community Trail Plan goal is to establish and protect an enjoyable, efficient, and safe network of public riding and hiking trails. The focus of the trails is to create a interconnected "trail" system both as a recreational element, while functioning as a linear park, and to support non-motorized transportation, i.e., horseback riding, walking, hiking and bicycling.

The Bonsall area has a rural character with agriculture, estate lots, hills with steep slopes, valleys, creeks and the San Luis Rey River running through the community. The San Luis Rey River Trail South has been used by riding clubs of Bonsall since 1940 as the main equestrian trail along the south side of the San Luis Rey River. Since the early 1940's, many publications, newspaper articles, and local riding magazines have focused on the incredible equestrian experience offered by this important trail.

The Bonsall Conservancy has been working with landowners along the trail to acquire

easements and will participate in maintaining the trail. Because of the strong equestrian influences along this trail and the historic use by several riding clubs, the community desires only equestrian users on this particular trail. Articles such as "*Bonsall Center is 'like spa' for horses*" dated Sunday, August 4, 2002 North County Times, have appeared in the Union/Tribune, North County Times, and local riding magazines since 1940.

San Luis Rey River Trail South has several club rides every year with at least one per month and daily rides by several members to maintain the trail. San Luis Rey River Trail North has a linear river park designed to start at the old Bonsall Bridge and finish at Highway 15. The trail in this linear river park meanders between Highway 76 and the San Luis Rey River. This trail, on the north side of the San Luis Rey River, will be for non-motorized transportation and hiking and will complement the community's network of public trails throughout Bonsall.

It will provide connection to trails coming from Oceanside through Bonsall and to all communities east of Bonsall as a future regional trail. The Camino del Rey Trail would connect to several private training tracks and breeding facilities and provide connections with the San Luis Rey River Trail South. Old Highway 395 Trail is needed to complete the connection to county trails east of Interstate 15. Little Gopher Canyon Trail is needed to connect a large private riding club and community equestrian facilities in this part of

the community as well as connect the Gopher Canyon area with the San Luis Rey River.

## THE NEED FOR TRAILS

The community trail needs are based on an equation established by the Trails System Assessment (TSA) in 2001, which identified a minimum baseline level of service for each community by population. The Baseline Level of Service or Trail Need is 0.8 miles of trail per 1,000 people.

The “Trail Need” is the minimum length of trail miles (baseline level of service) for each Community and Subregional Plan Area. The TSA calculations for community trail needs are as follows:

- **Trail Need** = (Community Population /1,000 residents x 0.8 miles of trails)
- **2000 Trail Need** = (2000 population /1,000 residents x 0.8 miles of trails)
- **2020 Trail Need** = (2020 population /1,000 residents x 0.8 miles of trails)

Population statistics from the 2000 U.S. Census were used to determine the current trail needs in Bonsall. Based on the census, the population of the Bonsall Community Plan Area is 8,874 and there is a current need for 7 miles of community trails. In the year 2020, the population is projected to increase to 14,470 and there would be a future need for 12 miles of community trails.

For additional information about the baseline level of service and trail needs, please refer to the discussion under “**The Need for Trails**” and **Tables NT-1 and NT-2** in the CTMP.

## COUNTYWIDE TRAIL GOALS AND POLICIES

The “**Countywide Goals and Policies**” contained in the CTMP apply to all community and sub-regional plan areas. Community-specific goals and policies are intended to accommodate specific needs and they will be implemented when feasible. The Bonsall Community Sponsor Group developed Community Specific Goals and Policies for their community trails plan. The abbreviations are as follows:

SG = Community Specific Goal  
SP = Community Specific Policy

Policy: SP 1

Trails and pathways shall be developed with native soils wherever possible; slope and erosion conditions must be considered.

Policy: SP 2

New pathways are to have fencing or barriers between the traveled portion of the road and the pathway in cases where parkway widths are 15 feet or greater.

Where Community-specific goals and policies are not addressed, the “**Countywide**

**Goals and Policies**” contained in CTMP shall apply.

## DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION GUIDELINES

Countywide trail guidelines in the Community Trails Master Plan apply to all community and sub-regional plan areas. Community-specific guidelines are intended to accommodate specific community needs and they will be implemented when feasible. Where Community specific guidelines are not addressed, the Countywide **“Design and Construction Guidelines”** contained in the CTMP shall apply.

## BONSALL COMMUNITY TRAIL IMPLEMENTATION INFORMATION

Community members formed the Bonsall Conservancy in 2000. Members of the Conservancy have been working with the Bonsall Community Sponsor Group regarding the General Plan 2020 plan and the Trails Committee.

The Conservancy was founded to create a plan to acquire and maintain trails throughout the Community. The Conservancy has started discussions with property owners to acquire easements across public and private lands held by private owners (such as the privately owned golf course) to establish trails. The Conservancy would then be responsible to maintain the easements/trails. They are currently focusing

on trail San Luis Rey River Trail South and its development.

## BONSALL COMMUNITY TRAILS MAP SUMMARY

As a result of the community trails outreach process for development of the CTMP, the Bonsall Community Sponsor Group completed several tasks, and prioritized community trails and pathways as well as their special features. Each trail and pathway was labeled and recorded producing a community trails map and index.

Proposed trails shown on trails maps contained in the Community Trail Master Plan depict corridors of general alignments. The term “general alignment” is used to describe the general location of a future trail within a designated corridor so that the specific alignment can be determined during the review and approval process when a discretionary application is submitted for a development permit for land that includes a trail corridor. The designated corridor is approximately one-quarter mile wide. A general alignment is useful because it allows the trail to be located to avoid extreme topographical conditions, sensitive habit or other site-specific constraints.

COUNTY TRAILS PROGRAM  
COMMUNITY TRAILS MASTER PLAN

BONSALL COMMUNITY TRAILS  
MAP INDEX

The following community trails map index was completed by the Bonsall Community Sponsor

Group and will be used as a reference tool. Neighboring communities are italicized and where trail or pathway connections exist, the community trail name and number are included.

BONSALL TRAILS MAP INDEX

<p><b>Trail #:</b> 1</p>	<p><b>Name:</b> San Luis Rey River North Trail</p> <p><b>Trail Status:</b> ( X ) Existing ( ) Proposed</p> <p><b>Trail Type:</b> ( X ) Trail ( ) Pathway</p> <p><b>Trail Priority:</b> ( X ) 1 ( ) 2 ( ) 3</p> <p><b>Estimated Trail Length in Miles:</b> 4.20</p>	<p><b>Connections: Trail Name (Trail #)</b> <i>Oceanside Border</i> West Vista Way Pathway (18) Valle del Sol Pathway (17) Olive Hill Road Pathway (8) Camino del Rey Pathway (3) South Mission Road Pathway (20) Staging Area <i>Fallbrook/Estate Drive Trail (10C)</i> <i>Fallbrook/Linda Vista Trail (10)</i> <i>Fallbrook/San Luis Rey River North Trail (7C)</i></p>	<p><b>Trail Priority Criteria:</b> Connectivity Loop Setting</p> <p><b>Special Features:</b> Oceanside under old Bonsall Bridge, Vista, San Luis Rey River Park, Fallbrook, and I-15 connections. Staging Area</p>
<p><b>Trail #:</b> 2</p>	<p><b>Name:</b> San Luis Rey River South Trail</p> <p><b>Trail Status:</b> ( ) Existing ( X ) Proposed</p> <p><b>Trail Type:</b> ( X ) Trail ( ) Pathway</p> <p><b>Trail Priority:</b> ( X ) 1 ( ) 2 ( ) 3</p> <p><b>Estimated Trail Length in Miles:</b> 6.50</p>	<p><b>Connections: Trail Name (Trail #)</b> <i>Oceanside Border</i> Staging Area West Vista Way Pathway (18) Little Gopher Canyon Road Pathway (7) Gentle Valley Pathway (14) Camino del Rey Pathway (3) <i>Fallbrook/San Luis Rey River South Trail (19)</i></p>	<p><b>Trail Priority Criteria:</b> Connectivity Loop Setting</p> <p><b>Special Features:</b> San Luis Rey River Park connection. Used as equestrian only trail since 1940. Private property owner to give Bonsall Conservancy trail easement. Conservancy and Riding Club to maintain trail. Funding for white split rail fence along entire trail needed.</p>
<p><b>Trail #:</b> 3</p>	<p><b>Name:</b> Camino del Rey Pathway</p> <p><b>Trail Status:</b> ( ) Existing ( X ) Proposed</p> <p><b>Trail Type:</b> ( ) Trail ( X ) Pathway</p> <p><b>Trail Priority:</b> ( X ) 1 ( ) 2 ( ) 3</p> <p><b>Estimated Trail Length in Miles:</b> 3.75</p>	<p><b>Connections: Trail Name (Trail #)</b> Olive Hill Road Pathway (8) San Luis Rey River North Trail (1) San Luis Rey River South Trail (2) West Lilac Road Pathway (12) North Slope Connector Trail (9) Supplyline Trail (11) Staging Area Old Highway 395 Pathway (4)</p>	<p><b>Trail Priority Criteria:</b> Connectivity Loop</p> <p><b>Special Features:</b> Equestrian only. White wood split fence design standard for Bonsall. Large horse breeding and racing with two major training tracks.</p>

COUNTY TRAILS PROGRAM  
COMMUNITY TRAILS MASTER PLAN

BONSALL TRAILS MAP INDEX

<p><b>Trail #:</b> 4</p>	<p><b>Name:</b> Old Highway 395 Pathway</p> <p><b>Trail Status:</b> ( ) Existing (X) Proposed</p> <p><b>Trail Type:</b> ( ) Trail (X) Pathway</p> <p><b>Trail Priority:</b> (X) 1 ( ) 2 ( ) 3</p> <p><b>Estimated Trail Length in Miles:</b> 6.00</p>	<p><b>Connections: Trail Name (Trail #)</b> <i>Hidden Meadows/Welk Pathway (7)</i> South East Bonsall Trail (16) <i>Valley Center/Circle R Drive Pathway (24)</i> <i>Valley Center Staging Area</i> Camino del Rey Pathway (3) <i>Valley Center/Nelson Way Pathway (49)</i> Supplyline Trail (11) West Lilac Road Pathway (12) <i>Fallbrook/South Old Highway 395 Pathway (7B)</i></p>	<p><b>Trail Priority Criteria:</b> Connectivity Loop</p> <p><b>Special Features:</b> Equestrian and non-motorized. Supportive trail for all Planning and Sponser Groups along 15/395 corridor. County owned road with improvements would be benefit to all.</p>
<p><b>Trail #:</b> 5</p>	<p><b>Name:</b> Nelson Way Trail</p> <p><b>Trail Status:</b> ( ) Existing (X) Proposed</p> <p><b>Trail Type:</b> (X) Trail ( ) Pathway</p> <p><b>Trail Priority:</b> (X) 1 ( ) 2 ( ) 3</p> <p><b>Estimated Trail Length in Miles:</b> (2+ miles outside planning area)</p>	<p><b>Connections: Trail Name (Trail #)</b> Old Highway 395 Pathway (4) <i>Valley Center/Nelson Way Pathway (49)</i></p>	<p><b>Trail Priority Criteria:</b> Connectivity Setting</p> <p><b>Special Features:</b> Outside planning area, but important trail. Equestrian only. Agreement with water authority to use easement. Beauty and no major costs</p>
<p><b>Trail #:</b> 6</p>	<p><b>Name:</b> North Twin Oaks Valley Road Pathway</p> <p><b>Trail Status:</b> ( ) Existing (X) Proposed</p> <p><b>Trail Type:</b> (X) Trail ( ) Pathway</p> <p><b>Trail Priority:</b> (X) 1 ( ) 2 ( ) 3</p> <p><b>Estimated Trail Length in Miles:</b> 0.32</p>	<p><b>Connections: Trail Name (Trail #)</b> <i>Twin Oaks Valley/North Twin Oaks Valley Road Pathway (1)</i> Twin Oaks Valley Trail (6A)</p>	<p><b>Trail Priority Criteria:</b> Connectivity</p> <p><b>Special Features:</b> Gopher Canyon Reserve connection.</p>
<p><b>Trail #:</b> 6A</p>	<p><b>Name:</b> Twin Oaks Valley Trail</p> <p><b>Trail Status:</b> ( ) Existing (X) Proposed</p> <p><b>Trail Type:</b> (X) Trail ( ) Pathway</p> <p><b>Trail Priority:</b> (X) 1 ( ) 2 ( ) 3</p> <p><b>Estimated Trail Length in Miles:</b> 1.68</p>	<p><b>Connections: Trail Name (Trail #)</b> North Twin Oaks Valley Road Pathway (6) South East Bonsall Trail (16) Little Gopher Canyon Road Pathway (7)</p>	<p><b>Trail Priority Criteria:</b> Connectivity Setting</p> <p><b>Special Features:</b> Equestrian and non-motorized. Gopher Canyon Reserve and Twin Oaks connection.</p>
<p><b>Trail #:</b> 7</p>	<p><b>Name:</b> Little Gopher Canyon Road Pathway</p> <p><b>Trail Status:</b> ( ) Existing (X) Proposed</p> <p><b>Trail Type:</b> ( ) Trail (X) Pathway</p> <p><b>Trail Priority:</b> (X) 1 ( ) 2 ( ) 3</p> <p><b>Estimated Trail Length in Miles:</b> 3.20</p>	<p><b>Connections: Trail Name (Trail #)</b> San Luis Rey River South Trail (2) West Bonsall Pathway (15) Gentle Valley Trail (14A) Twin Oaks Valley Trail (6A)</p>	<p><b>Trail Priority Criteria:</b> Connectivity Loop Safety</p> <p><b>Special Features:</b> Equestrian only. 1940's Riding Club located here. Need clearly marked horse crossing at Old River Road connection to San Luis Rey South Trail (2). Sheppard's Heart School. Existing white wood split rail fence. Large horse breeding population.</p>

COUNTY TRAILS PROGRAM  
COMMUNITY TRAILS MASTER PLAN

BONSALL TRAILS MAP INDEX

<p><b>Trail #:</b> 8</p>	<p><b>Name:</b> Olive Hill Road Pathway</p> <p><b>Trail Status:</b> ( ) Existing (X) Proposed</p> <p><b>Trail Type:</b> ( ) Trail (X) Pathway</p> <p><b>Trail Priority:</b> ( ) 1 (X) 2 ( ) 3</p> <p><b>Estimated Trail Length in Miles:</b> 1.30</p>	<p><b>Connections: Trail Name (Trail #)</b> Camino del Rey Pathway (3) Valle del Sol Pathway (17) <i>Fallbrook/Olive Hill Road Pathway (11)</i></p>	<p><b>Trail Priority Criteria:</b> Connectivity Loop</p> <p><b>Special Features:</b> Non-motorized. Fallbrook and San Luis Rey River Park Connection. Developers creating interconnecting community trails within their projects.</p>
<p><b>Trail #:</b> 9</p>	<p><b>Name:</b> North Slope Connector Trail</p> <p><b>Trail Status:</b> ( ) Existing (X) Proposed</p> <p><b>Trail Type:</b> (X) Trail ( ) Pathway</p> <p><b>Trail Priority:</b> ( ) 1 (X) 2 ( ) 3</p> <p><b>Estimated Trail Length in Miles:</b> 1.30</p>	<p><b>Connections: Trail Name (Trail #)</b> Camino del Rey Pathway (3) West Lilac Road Pathway (12)</p>	<p><b>Trail Priority Criteria:</b> Connectivity Loop Setting</p> <p><b>Special Features:</b> Equestrian only. Alternative north/south trail connection for pathway. Existing dirt roads. Wetlands, flood plain, and Arroyo toad habitat.</p>
<p><b>Trail #:</b> 11</p>	<p><b>Name:</b> Supplyline Trail</p> <p><b>Trail Status:</b> ( ) Existing (X) Proposed</p> <p><b>Trail Type:</b> (X) Trail ( ) Pathway</p> <p><b>Trail Priority:</b> ( ) 1 (X) 2 ( ) 3</p> <p><b>Estimated Trail Length in Miles:</b> 2.50</p>	<p><b>Connections: Trail Name (Trail #)</b> Camino del Rey Pathway (3) Old Highway 395 Pathway (4)</p>	<p><b>Trail Priority Criteria:</b> Connectivity Loop</p> <p><b>Special Features:</b> Equestrian and non-motorized. Along water aqueduct line and private roads.</p>
<p><b>Trail #:</b> 12</p>	<p><b>Name:</b> West Lilac Road Pathway</p> <p><b>Trail Status:</b> ( ) Existing (X) Proposed</p> <p><b>Trail Type:</b> ( ) Trail (X) Pathway</p> <p><b>Trail Priority:</b> ( ) 1 (X) 2 ( ) 3</p> <p><b>Estimated Trail Length in Miles:</b> 3.90</p>	<p><b>Connections: Trail Name (Trail #)</b> Camino del Rey Pathway (3) North Slope Connector Trail (9) Old Highway 395 Pathway (4) <i>Valley Center/West Lilac Road North Pathway (23)</i></p>	<p><b>Trail Priority Criteria:</b> Connectivity Loop Safety</p> <p><b>Special Features:</b> Equestrian and non-motorized. Could possibly be trail along road ROW. Norm Sullivan Middle School connection.</p>
<p><b>Trail #:</b> 14</p>	<p><b>Name:</b> Gentle Valley Pathway (14)</p> <p><b>Trail Status:</b> ( ) Existing (X) Proposed</p> <p><b>Trail Type:</b> ( ) Trail (X) Pathway</p> <p><b>Trail Priority:</b> ( ) 1 (X) 2 ( ) 3</p> <p><b>Estimated Trail Length in Miles:</b> 1.61</p>	<p><b>Connections: Trail Name (Trail #)</b> San Luis Rey River South Trail (2) Gentle Valley Trail (14A)</p>	<p><b>Trail Priority Criteria:</b> Connectivity Loop</p> <p><b>Special Features:</b> Private and public roads and private lands.</p>

COUNTY TRAILS PROGRAM  
COMMUNITY TRAILS MASTER PLAN

<p><b>Trail #:</b> 14A</p>	<p><b>Name:</b> Gentle Valley Trail</p> <p><b>Trail Status:</b> ( ) Existing (X) Proposed</p> <p><b>Trail Type:</b> (X) Trail ( ) Pathway</p> <p><b>Trail Priority:</b> ( ) 1 (X) 2 ( ) 3</p> <p><b>Estimated Trail Length in Miles:</b> 0.92</p>	<p><b>Connections: Trail Name (Trail #)</b> Gentle Valley Pathway (14) Little Gopher Canyon Road Pathway (7)</p>	<p><b>Trail Priority Criteria:</b> Connectivity Loop</p> <p><b>Special Features:</b> Private and public roads and private lands.</p>
<p><b>Trail #:</b> 15</p>	<p><b>Name:</b> West Bonsall Pathway</p> <p><b>Trail Status:</b> ( ) Existing (X) Proposed</p> <p><b>Trail Type:</b> ( ) Trail (X) Pathway</p> <p><b>Trail Priority:</b> ( ) 1 (X) 2 ( ) 3</p> <p><b>Estimated Trail Length in Miles:</b> 1.24</p>	<p><b>Connections: Trail Name (Trail #)</b> West Vista Way Pathway (18) Little Gopher Canyon Road Pathway (7)</p>	<p><b>Trail Priority Criteria:</b> Connectivity Loop Safety</p> <p><b>Special Features:</b> Public roads and private lands. Sheppard's Heart School connection.</p>
<p><b>Trail #:</b> 16</p>	<p><b>Name:</b> South East Bonsall Trail</p> <p><b>Trail Status:</b> ( ) Existing (X) Proposed</p> <p><b>Trail Type:</b> (X) Trail ( ) Pathway</p> <p><b>Trail Priority:</b> ( ) 1 (X) 2 ( ) 3</p> <p><b>Estimated Trail Length in Miles:</b> 5.20</p>	<p><b>Connections: Trail Name (Trail #)</b> Old Highway 395 Pathway (4) Twin Oaks Valley Trail (6A)</p>	<p><b>Trail Priority Criteria:</b> Connectivity Loop Setting</p> <p><b>Special Features:</b> Equestrian and non-motorized. Gopher Canyon Reserve connection. Existing tunnel under I-15 connects to Hidden Meadows. Mountainous and very rural. Public roads and private lands.</p>
<p><b>Trail #:</b> 17</p>	<p><b>Name:</b> Valle del Sol Pathway</p> <p><b>Trail Status:</b> ( ) Existing (X) Proposed</p> <p><b>Trail Type:</b> ( ) Trail (X) Pathway</p> <p><b>Trail Priority:</b> ( ) 1 (X) 2 ( ) 3</p> <p><b>Estimated Trail Length in Miles:</b> 3.43</p>	<p><b>Connections: Trail Name (Trail #)</b> San Luis Rey River North Trail (1) <i>Oceanside Border</i> Olive Hill Road Pathway (8) <i>Fallbrook/San Jacinto East Circle (11D)</i></p>	<p><b>Trail Priority Criteria:</b> Connectivity Loop</p> <p><b>Special Features:</b></p>
<p><b>Trail #:</b> 18</p>	<p><b>Name:</b> West Vista Way Pathway</p> <p><b>Trail Status:</b> ( ) Existing (X) Proposed</p> <p><b>Trail Type:</b> ( ) Trail (X) Pathway</p> <p><b>Trail Priority:</b> ( ) 1 (X) 2 ( ) 3</p> <p><b>Estimated Trail Length in Miles:</b> 0.92</p>	<p><b>Connections: Trail Name (Trail #)</b> San Luis Rey River North Trail (1) San Luis Rey River South Trail (2) Staging Area Hutchison Street Pathway (19) West Bonsall Pathway (15)</p>	<p><b>Trail Priority Criteria:</b> Connectivity Loop</p> <p><b>Special Features:</b></p>

### BONSALL TRAILS MAP INDEX

<p><b>Trail #:</b> 19</p>	<p><b>Name:</b> Hutchison Street Pathway</p> <p><b>Trail Status:</b> ( ) Existing (X) Proposed</p> <p><b>Trail Type:</b> ( ) Trail (X) Pathway</p> <p><b>Trail Priority:</b> ( ) 1 (X) 2 ( ) 3</p> <p><b>Estimated Trail Length in Miles:</b> 2.04</p>	<p><b>Connections: Trail Name (Trail #)</b> West Vista Way Pathway (18) Staging Area <i>Vista Border</i></p>	<p><b>Trail Priority Criteria:</b> Connectivity Loop</p> <p><b>Special Features:</b></p>
<p><b>Trail #:</b> 20</p>	<p><b>Name:</b> South Mission Road Pathway</p> <p><b>Trail Status:</b> ( ) Existing (X) Proposed</p> <p><b>Trail Type:</b> ( ) Trail (X) Pathway</p> <p><b>Trail Priority:</b> ( ) 1 (X) 2 ( ) 3</p> <p><b>Estimated Trail Length in Miles:</b> 0.47</p>	<p><b>Connections: Trail Name (Trail #)</b> San Luis Rey River North Trail (1) <i>Fallbrook/ South Mission Road Pathway (7A)</i></p>	<p><b>Trail Priority Criteria:</b> Connectivity</p> <p><b>Special Features:</b></p>

### STAGING AREAS

- Osborne Street
- San Luis Rey River North, Pala Road
- San Luis Rey River South, off Old River Road
- Moosa Canyon, Camino del Rey and I-15