

## 2.14 Recreation

This section describes and evaluates the potential impacts to recreational resources and facilities associated with the proposed General Plan Update. This section is based on review of the Conservation and Open Space Background Report (DPLU 2007b).

A summary of the recreation impacts identified in Section 2.14.3 is provided below.

### Recreation Summary of Impacts

| Issue Number | Issue Topic                                        | Project Direct Impact   | Project Cumulative Impact | Impact After Mitigation |
|--------------|----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1            | Deterioration of Parks and Recreational Facilities | Potentially Significant | Potentially Significant   | Less Than Significant   |
| 2            | Construction of New Recreational Facilities        | Potentially Significant | Less Than Significant     | Less Than Significant   |

### 2.14.1 Existing Conditions

Parks and preserves provide recreational opportunities while protecting valuable natural and cultural resources. The County of San Diego Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) maintains and enhances the quality of life for residents and visitors through a comprehensive program of acquisition, development and maintenance of recreation facilities including local and regional parks, fishing lakes, community centers, special use facilities, and preserves. In addition, a system of regional and community trails further enhances and augments public recreational opportunities and experiences throughout the San Diego region. These facilities cover more than 40,000 acres and are operated and maintained by County DPR staff, volunteers, and service contracts. The following section is organized into the following five topics that describe the existing recreational facilities, opportunities and related issues within the unincorporated County: 1) County operated recreational facilities; 2) recreational facilities managed by other non-County entities; 3) additional recreation opportunities; 4) funding/cost sharing; and 5) park and recreation needs.

#### 2.14.1.1 *County Operated Recreational Facilities*

The following section describes and discusses the types of recreational facilities within San Diego County that are owned, operated and/or maintained by County DPR. These include local parks, regional parks, preserves, and County trails.

#### Local Parks

Local parks can become the heart of a community when located within (or near) a town center or when centrally located within a community, although they are not limited to town centers. The role of local parks as community centers can also be enhanced by co-locating parks with community meeting and/or indoor recreation facilities or with schools, libraries and recreation centers. A good example of this is the Lindo Lake Park in Lakeside, which combines a library, a community center and outdoor recreation areas within Lakeside's town center. Table 4.14-1

provides a list of the existing local parks in San Diego County. Figure 2.14-1 shows the location of the local parks throughout the County.

In order to address a diverse range of conditions within various communities, the amount and type of local parks are tailored to an individual community's needs. For example, some communities may want larger, community parks while others may prefer an extensive system of smaller, neighborhood parks. The acreage goal identified for local parks in the General Plan Update is 10 acres per 1,000 residents. There are three different types of local parks within the County. These are described below.

### **Mini-Parks**

Mini-parks are small specialized facilities that serve a limited population who live, work or shop in a distinct area. They are typically less than one acre in size. Mini-parks generally offer active, child-oriented recreation, such as tot lots and picnic benches, combined with passive recreational uses.

### **Neighborhood Parks**

Neighborhood parks serve a residential area, and should be located to minimize walking distances for residents. They typically range in size from five to ten acres, and may be associated with other public use facilities such as a school. Neighborhood parks provide both active recreation areas and/or facilities, such as game courts and jogging trails, and passive recreational areas such as family picnic areas and benches.

### **Community Parks**

Community parks serve the community as a whole. They typically range in size from 20 to 50 acres and may be associated with other public use facilities such as a school. Community parks typically contain recreation areas including a community center, athletic fields, or facilities of special interest to the community. Smaller community parks may be located within or near town centers, where they can be used as common recreation and gathering areas by the community.

### **Regional Parks**

Regional parks serve all County residents and visitors. They are usually larger than 200 acres, but smaller facilities may be appropriate for specific sites of regional interest. Regional parks often include educational components, such as an interpretive center or self-guided trails, as well as a variety of passive and active recreational uses. Most regional parks contain open space, natural resources, cultural resources and multi-use trails. The County's acreage goal for regional park facilities identified in the General Plan Update is 15 acres per 1,000 residents. Regional parks in the County are listed in Table 2.14-2. Figure 2.14-1 shows the location of regional parks throughout the County.

### **Preserves**

Preserves include areas of environmental significance and beauty. The dual purpose of preserves is to protect sensitive environmental resources and to make these resources available for public recreation opportunities. However, typically only minimal improvements such as trails, parking and restroom facilities are found in preserves. Some preserves also provide

interpretive or educational amenities. Preserves vary in size depending on the resources being protected and public access can be limited according to the sensitivity of the resource. Table 2.14-3 lists the County-owned preserves located in San Diego County. Figure 2.14-1 shows the location of preserves throughout the County.

### **Trails/Pathways**

The primary purpose of trails is to provide the recreation, transportation, health, and quality of life benefits associated with walking, hiking, mountain biking, and horseback riding throughout the County's varied environments. Trails also provide accessibility and connectivity to scenic and recreational areas. Trails are typically located away from vehicular roads and are primarily recreational in nature but can also serve as an alternative route for non-motorized transportation. They are soft-surface facilities for single or multiple use by pedestrians, mountain bicyclists and equestrians. Trail characteristics vary depending on location and user types.

Pathways are non-motorized transportation facilities located within a parkway or road right of way. Typical pathway width is 10 feet with decomposed granite or natural tread surface material. Pathways are intended to serve both circulation and recreation purposes. They provide a different experience from trails and are not an equivalent substitute; however, pathways help make critical connections and are an integral part of a functional trail system.

#### ***2.14.1.2 Recreational Facilities Managed By Other Entities (Non-County)***

San Diego County is fortunate to have significant unincorporated areas of open space lands that are owned and operated by federal, State, and other local government entities and non-profit organizations. These open space areas are generally maintained as unimproved open space in order to protect important resources. The State owned parklands are generally managed for both public recreation and resource conservation, while federal agencies may have a multitude of mandates. This section is intended to provide an inventory of the various types of open space and recreational facilities within the unincorporated County that are managed by other entities (non-County). The locations of these areas are shown in Figure 2.14-1.

### **Federally Owned Lands**

The federal government owns 591,930 acres of predominantly open space land within the County. The USFS manages 291,380 acres in the Cleveland National Forest (including the Corral Canyon Park, a park that allows off-highway vehicle activities); the BLM manages 170,839 acres of land in the region; the Department of Defense manages 123,810 acres in Camp Pendleton; and the National Fish and Wildlife Service operates the San Diego National Wildlife Refuge, Tijuana Slough National Wildlife Reserve, and Sweetwater Marsh Wildlife Refuge, which collectively total 5,753 acres. The federal government provides for the management, conservation, and development of water, wildlife, forest, range, and recreational resources within these landholdings.

While Camp Pendleton functions primarily as a military base, it is also a significant open space area that provides sanctuary and habitat for plant and animal life, leased lands for crop cultivation and cattle and sheep grazing, as well as limited opportunities for recreation for

military personnel and their families including a YMCA facility and golf course. Camp Pendleton and an adjacent 1,000-acre portion of the Cleveland National Forest form the largest undeveloped landmass along the Pacific Coast between Los Angeles and the U.S./Mexico international border. It is also the only section of San Diego County coastline that remains unincorporated.

### **State Owned Lands**

While State lands offer a variety of recreational facilities and opportunities, including campsites, trails, and swimming areas, the principal reason for land acquisition by the State is natural resource protection. State lands within the County provide a total of 557,552 acres of public open space and parkland. State land holdings in the unincorporated area of the County are listed below.

- Anza-Borrego Desert State Park is California's largest and oldest desert State park. It has great variety, from eroded badlands at near-sea level to piñon-juniper woodlands at 6,000 feet.
- Ocotillo Wells State Vehicular Recreation Area consists of a desert area that is available for off-highway exploration and recreation. Located adjacent to Anza-Borrego Desert State Park, this area has desert terrain, from below sea level to 400 foot elevations. It is a motorcycle, four-wheel drive, all-terrain vehicle, and dune buggy use area.
- Cuyamaca Rancho State Park consists of meadows, mountains, and oak woodlands. It provides popular facilities for equestrians, mountain bikers, and hikers, and also offers accessible camping, parking, picnicking, and a campfire center.
- Palomar Mountain State Park has spectacular views of the Pacific Ocean from its forested vantage point. Visitors can enjoy picnicking, hiking, and fishing here. It also offers accessible camping, restrooms, parking, and a campfire center.

### **Local Government and Public Utility-Owned Lands**

Water and irrigation districts provide major open areas by means of reservoirs and protected water bodies. Many districts provide multi-use trails and staging areas such as Olivenhain Water District in the San Dieguito CPA, and the Otay Water District and Sweetwater Authority, both in the Sweetwater CPA. Recreational uses, including fishing and limited boating, are generally permitted on reservoirs owned and managed by the City of San Diego. Local government properties include lands used for a variety of primary purposes, but which also contribute to a sense of openness in the unincorporated area.

### **Privately Owned Open Space Lands**

The range of privately owned open space lands includes uses such as private parks, private nature preserves, private land banks, golf courses, club playing fields, landscaped outdoor areas, and facilities such as animal or off-road vehicle parks. Private open space also includes floodplains, steep slope areas, seismic hazard zones, and sensitive habitats over which the County has land use authority. Many of these lands are owned and managed by non-profit conservation groups.

### **Tribal Lands**

The County includes reservation lands held in trust by the federal government on behalf of 18 Native American tribal nations within its boundaries. These reservations consist of both developed and undeveloped land. However, recent casino construction on several reservations has altered the traditional use patterns and management of reservation lands. Although the County has no direct jurisdiction over these lands, it does coordinate with these agencies so that their use and management is as consistent as possible with the County's open space goals, particularly those goals related to natural resource conservation and recreation.

### **Recreational Amenities By Other Entities (Non-County)**

In addition to the County, there are numerous agencies that provide park and recreation facilities that are open to the public. These may include school districts, community service districts, park and recreation districts, as well as non-profit agencies. In many instances, the County provides funding to these agencies for the construction of recreation facilities. In exchange for receiving the funding, the agency agrees to operate and maintain the facility as a public recreation amenity. Such agreements have facilitated the construction of recreation facilities in locations where the County would not otherwise be able to construct facilities due to a lack of operation and maintenance funding.

#### ***2.14.1.3 Additional Recreational Opportunities***

San Diego County has a wide variety of recreational opportunities that are provided by cooperative efforts among federal agencies, State agencies, local agencies, tribal entities, school districts, and private entities. These include such activities and facilities as camping, hiking, golfing, trails, equestrian centers, swimming facilities, boating, recreational vehicle parks, and off-road vehicle use areas. When possible, these recreational opportunities are coordinated with appropriate agencies, community groups, and non-profit organizations to assure consistency and compatibility with surrounding land uses and to ensure appropriate levels of necessary infrastructure. This is done through the discretionary review process and inter-jurisdictional cooperation. However, many parks are provided in the unincorporated area by special districts and school districts which do not require County approval.

### **Off-Road Vehicles (ORVs)**

ORVs, also known as off-highway motor vehicles, have been increasing in popularity throughout California. ORV recreational areas are currently managed by the BLM, the U.S. Forest Service, and the California State Parks Department's Off Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation (OHMVR) Division. These authorities provide facilities management, law enforcement, and public awareness to preserve local habitats and ensure safety. The U.S. Forest Service, in cooperation with the State of California Off-Highway Vehicle Fund (Green Sticker Program), has developed ORV-friendly trails, roads, and facilities within the Cleveland National Forest (Corral Canyon). The BLM provides numerous opportunities for off-highway vehicle (OHV) recreation in the El Centro Resource Area, including Lark Canyon Off-Highway Vehicle Area. The California State Parks Department operates a State Vehicular Recreation Area at Ocotillo Wells. This facility will ultimately become a part of a State Motorized Trail System.

## **San Diego Regional Bicycle Plan**

The San Diego Regional Bicycle Plan is currently being developed as a complementary and supporting document to the SANDAG 2030 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). The bicycle plan will represent the combined efforts of SANDAG staff, the SANDAG Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Working Group (BPWG), local jurisdictions, local agencies, advocacy groups, and citizens in the San Diego region.

The goal of the plan is to encourage the development of a hard surfaced unified bicycle system throughout the San Diego region. The San Diego Regional Bicycle Plan will accomplish the following: 1) define a network of regionally significant hard surfaced bicycle routes, facilities, and necessary support programs; 2) identify gaps in the network and recommend specific improvements needed to fill the gaps; 3) develop cost estimates to complete construction of the regional network; 4) develop a funding strategy to build and maintain the regional bike network; 5) provide a design manual focusing on bicycle-friendly designs for all streets and roadways through new technologies, standards, guidelines, and innovative treatments on all new roadways; and 6) provide policy direction and identify programs to assist local jurisdictions in improving safety, education, and awareness about bicycle travel.

While all roadways are open to bicycle travel unless it is specifically prohibited, the California Highway Design Manual establishes three classifications of facilities specifically for bicycle traffic, including bike paths, bike lanes and bike routes. A bike path is defined as an 8- to 12-foot wide paved path within its own right-of-way. The purpose of a bike path is to provide a nonmotorized connection or access where it cannot be provided on the roadway. Bike lanes are defined as five-foot wide lanes striped on the outside of a roadway and identified with signs and pavement markings. Bike routes are roads designated by signs as preferred routes for bicycle travel. It should be noted that these classifications are different from those used within the County Trails Program (CTP) described below. The San Diego Regional Bicycle Plan envisions an intercommunity bikeway network that is a combination of these facility types. The San Diego Regional Bicycle Plan will be coordinated with the County Trails Program, the Regional Trails Plan and Community Trails Master Plan (CTMP) and the County's Bicycle Transportation Plan (described below in Regulatory Framework).

### ***2.14.1.4 Funding and/or Cost Sharing***

Existing sources of funding for park acquisition, development, operation, and maintenance include the Park Lands Dedication Ordinance (PLDO), federal, State and local funds, donations and Joint Powers Authorities (JPAs). PLDO funds are specifically for local park land dedication or active recreation facilities but may be used for local serving active recreation in regional parks.

#### **Park Lands Dedication Ordinance (PLDO)/Quimby Act**

The Quimby Act specifies that new subdivisions may be required to dedicate land or pay a fee in-lieu of dedication for local parks at a level of three acres per 1,000 population. Up to five acres per 1,000 population can be required if the current local park acreage exceeds the three acre level. This ordinance requires developers to dedicate land, or pay or guarantee an in-lieu fee for the provision of local park facilities. These fees may be used for local-serving active recreation in regional parks.

## **State and Federal Grants**

The California State Parks Office of Grants and Local Services and federal grant funds are available for both local and regional park acquisition and development. State grants are offered through State programs and bonds that allocate funds to specific types of project, such as the Habitat Conservation Fund, which has made \$2 million available to date to cities, counties, and districts under the California Wildlife Protection Act that was originally passed in 1990. Projects that meet the program or bond requirements can submit an application for funding. National Resource Assistance Grants are available to local governments from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to promote conservation and restore natural resources. State and federal grants are the single most important funding source for both acquisition and development of parkland.

## **Joint Powers Authorities (JPAs)**

The County participates in JPAs and other agreements that establish partnerships with public and private agencies to develop, operate, and maintain recreational facilities on land typically owned by those agencies. The California Association of JPAs (CAJPA) defines a JPA as the joining together of two or more public agencies to provide more effective or efficient government services or to solve a service delivery problem, such as a shortage of recreational facilities (CAJPA 2008). Entities participating in these agreements are usually non-profit organizations and public agencies such as school districts.

Several existing JPAs plan, manage, and operate regional parks in San Diego County resulting in sharing of costs and thus cost savings. Two of the JPAs play a significant role in preserving regional public open space: the Otay Valley Regional Park and the San Dieguito River Park. Through contractual agreements between the County and other public agencies, non-profit organizations, and private entities, these JPAs provide regional public recreation and natural resource protection along important riparian corridors. These regional river parks are located in more than one jurisdiction and are planned and managed jointly by the jurisdictions within which they are located.

### ***2.14.1.5 Park and Recreation Needs***

Perhaps the best indication of how well a community is meeting its park and recreation needs is the ratio of local or regional parkland per 1,000 residents. Table 2.14-4 below provides existing local park acreages for 2007. In this table, local parks needs are calculated using the proposed General Plan Update goal of 10 acres per 1,000 residents.

As shown in this table, some of the more urbanized unincorporated communities have higher deficiency in comparison to their rural counterpart. Currently, the County is deficient of a total of 3,966 acres of local parks, and retains a ratio of approximately 2 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents, half an acre less than was provided in 1990, and less than the County's goal of 10 acres per 1,000 residents. This total, however, does not include local and school-associated parks provided in the unincorporated area without any County involvement. Although these parks may meet some of the recreation needs of particular communities, access and use may be restricted and there is no inventory of these parks. Therefore, they were not included in this assessment. The CPAs with the highest deficiencies in local parks include Spring Valley and Lakeside, each with a local parkland deficiency of over 500 acres. The Spring Valley CPA is built out and competition for available land for new park facilities is higher in comparison to

backcountry communities such as Boulevard or Jacumba. Although the Lakeside CPA is deficient of local parks, there is an abundance of preserves including a Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP) area that borders the community of Crest, as well as three regional parks with a combined acreage of over 900 acres.

There are approximately 20,000 acres of regional parks serving County residents. About 12,000 of these acres are regional park lands located in other jurisdictions and established by JPAs or a memorandum of understanding. The ratio of the existing regional parks to the 2007 population of the unincorporated County is approximately 17 acres of parkland per 1,000 area residents, which exceeds the County's goal of 15 acres per 1,000 residents. An inventory of regional parks in other jurisdictions have not been compiled, therefore no measurement of regional parks against the region's population is included in this assessment.

The County also has a system of preserves that are distributed primarily in the western and central areas of the County with a total of approximately 26,000 acres. Figure 2.14-1 shows the location of preserves throughout the County.

The Quimby Act (Government Code Section 66477 et seq.) authorizes local jurisdictions to require developers to dedicate land or pay in-lieu fees for local parks. However, it also limits the County to a maximum of three acres per 1,000 population and up to five acres if the amount of the existing local parkland exceeds three acres per 1000 population. This represents a gap between the County goal of 10 acres per 1000 population and the developer's contribution of three acres.

## **2.14.2 Regulatory Framework**

### **2.14.2.1 Federal**

#### **National Trails System Act of 1968 (Public Law 90-543)**

The National Trails System Act of 1968 instituted a nationwide system of interstate riding and hiking trails. At the State level, the California DPR has prepared the California Recreational Trails Plan. Federal and State governments realize the importance of preserving and developing new riding and hiking trails and adopted this legislation to protect existing trails and to provide for new trails and related facilities.

### **2.14.2.2 State**

#### **California State Government Code 66477 (The Quimby Act)**

This code specifies that new subdivisions can be required to dedicate land or pay a fee in-lieu of dedication for local parks at a level of three acres per 1,000 population. Up to five acres per 1,000 population can be required if the current local park acreage exceeds the three acre level. These fees cannot be used for regional serving improvements. The County implemented the Quimby Act by adopting the PLDO. Revenues generated through the Quimby Act cannot be used for the operation and maintenance of park facilities.

**California State Government Code 831.4**

This code was amended to limit landowners' liability for persons trespassing on his/her property for recreational purposes including riding and hiking.

**California State Government Code 846**

This code establishes that an owner of any estate or any other interest in real property owes no duty of care to keep the premises safe for entry or use by others for any recreational purpose or to give any warning of hazardous conditions on their premises to persons entering for such purpose, except as provided under specific circumstances as provided by the Code.

**Government Code Section 65910**

This regulation requires that every California County must adopt an open space zoning ordinance. Section 2800 of the County Zoning Ordinance meets this regulation.

**The Landscaping and Lighting Act of 1972**

The Landscaping and Lighting Act enables cities, counties, and special districts to acquire land for parks, recreation, and open space. A local government may also use the assessments to pay for improvements and maintenance to these areas. In addition to local government agencies (i.e., counties and cities), park and recreation facilities may be provided by other public agencies, such as community service districts, park and recreation districts, water districts, etc. If so empowered, such an agency may acquire, develop, and operate recreation facilities for the general public.

**Government Code Section 50575 et seq. (The Little-Used Open Space Maintenance Act)**

The Little-Used Open Space Maintenance Act is helpful when a city or county has already acquired open space, but doesn't have a way to pay for its maintenance. Under the act, local governments may levy special assessments, based on the value of the land, to improve and maintain open space; reduce fire, flood, and erosion hazards; and perform related activities.

**Senate Bill (SB) 1685**

SB 1685 authorizes open space districts to levy special assessments for open space purposes. The enabling legislation for regional open space districts is in the California Public Resources Code commencing with Section 5500 and in the Government Code commencing with Section 56000. Pursuant to this Code, regional park and open space districts are formed when three or more jurisdictions, together with any parcel of city or county territory, organize a contiguous area with the intent for the designated space to serve the park and recreational needs in San Diego County. SB 1685 is the same authority as that for regional park districts and open space districts.

**Open Space Easement Act of 1974**

Cities and counties may acquire open space easements pursuant to the Open Space Easement Act. Land must remain within an easement in perpetuity or, alternatively, for at least ten years. An easement's term is automatically extended each year by an additional 12 months. Under

certain circumstances, open space easements may be abandoned. Privately dedicated open space easements for mitigation purposes are dedicated in perpetuity and cannot be abandoned.

### **The Conservation Easement Act of 1979**

The Conservation Easement Act enables a city, county, district, or nonprofit organization to acquire perpetual easements for the conservation of agricultural land and open space, or for historic preservation. Unlike open space easements, there is no procedure for non-renewal of conservation easements and there is no expiration date. In establishing an easement, a landowner and local agency agree upon the permitted land uses within the conservation area. The easement is binding upon successive owners of the land.

### **Chappie-Z'berg Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Law of 1971**

The Chappie-Z'berg Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Law of 1971 designated the Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation (OHMVR) Division of the California DPR as the primary authority to adopt courses of instruction in off-highway motor vehicle safety, operation, and principles of environmental preservation. The vehicle code is essential to enforcing safety and education in the recreational use of off-highway vehicles.

### **Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Act of 2003**

The Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Act of 2003 recognizes the need for effectively managed OHV areas which are essential for a well rounded recreational experience. The law authorizes the allocation of grant funds for the purpose of establishing, maintaining, managing and rehabilitating OHV areas, trails and facilities in California.

## **2.14.2.3 Local**

### **County of San Diego Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR), Strategic Plan**

The mission of the County of San Diego DPR is to provide opportunities for high quality parks and recreation experiences and to preserve regionally significant natural and cultural resources. The DPR Strategic Plan discusses what DPR does, including how it implements programs and achieves objectives.

### **County of San Diego Trails Program (CTP)**

In January 2005, the County Board of Supervisors adopted the CTP. The components of the CTP include a Community Trails Master Plan (CTMP) and Regional Trails Plan as described below. The CTP also included a General Plan Amendment, a Mitigated Negative Declaration, and a Trails Ordinance regulating the use of trails and amendments to the County Subdivision Ordinances regarding dedication and improvement of trails.

The CTP allows the County 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, and also provide health and quality of life benefits associated with hiking, mountain biking, and horseback riding throughout the County's biologically diverse environments.

### **Community Trails Master Plan (CTMP)**

The CTMP is the implementing document for the CTP and contains adopted individual community trails and pathways plans. The CTMP involves trail development, maintenance and management on public, semi-public and private lands. The main focus of the CTMP is to implement and maintain a realistic system of interconnected and continuous regional and community trails. The CTMP also includes development and management guidelines that can be applied to community level trail systems. Community trails will only be implemented in CPAs and Subregions wishing to participate in the program. The community trails maps contained in the CTMP depict corridors of general alignments. The term “general alignment” is used to describe the general location of a future trail generally within a quarter-mile wide corridor.

When an application for a specified discretionary development permit is submitted for land that includes a trail corridor, the specific location of a proposed trail within the trail corridor would be determined based on a trail route study. The route study would determine the appropriate location of the new trail in the corridor based on the trail design criteria included in the CTMP. The purpose of these criteria is to locate trails where they avoid causing impacts to sensitive habitat and other significant environmental resources. The environmental review for a proposed discretionary project would include a site-specific analysis of the trail proposed in the route study. The County may require the dedication of a trail easement and improvement of a trail on a case-by-case basis. Authority to require trail dedications is based on the established need for trails and findings relative to their public benefit and legitimate public function as described in the CTMP. Dedication is required when there is a necessary rough proportionality between the required dedication and the impacts of and/or benefits to the proposed development. Trail dedication is not required for ministerial (non-discretionary) permits, such as building permits.

### **Regional Trails Plan**

The Regional Trails Plan identifies County-approved general alignment corridors of regional trails in the County. Regional Trails have characteristics and conditions that serve a regional function by covering long linear distances, transcending community and/or municipal borders, having state or national significance, or providing important connections to existing parks and preserves.

The Regional Trails Map, shown in Figure 2.14-2, includes nine trails that provide significant north-south and east-west trail corridors that traverse the County. The nine trails included in the Regional Trails Plan are listed below.

- California Coastal Trail
- California Riding and Hiking Trail
- Coast to Crest Trail (San Dieguito River Park Trail)
- Juan Bautista De Anza Trail
- Otay Valley Regional Park Trail
- Pacific Crest Trail
- San Diego River Park Regional Trail
- Sweetwater River and Loop Trail
- Trans County Trail

Existing Regional Trail segments and proposed re-routes for portions of some of the regional trails are also identified on the Regional Trails Map. Major Regional Trail alignments can be modified through the GPA process.

### **County of San Diego Bicycle Transportation Plan**

On October 29, 2008, the BOS re-adopted the County of San Diego Bicycle Transportation Plan, originally adopted on December 10, 2003. The Plan serves as a guiding document for bicycle facilities development in unincorporated areas. It identifies existing and proposed bicycle facilities for each community. Development of the Bicycle Transportation Plan was accomplished under close consultation with bicycle groups, SANDAG, and Caltrans. This plan continues to indicate opportunities for coordination with existing trails, as well as with development of the CTP. The Bicycle Transportation Plan identifies priority projects, including off-street bicycle paths (Class I), on-street bicycle lanes (Class II) and bike route signage (Class III). All priority locations are considered equal.

### **Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP)**

The MSCP is a comprehensive, long-term habitat conservation program. The MSCP was developed to comply with the federal Endangered Species Act and the State Natural Communities Conservation Planning Act. It is a unique regional conservation effort that works across political boundaries and targets 172,000 acres of natural resource areas within 12 jurisdictions for conservation. The MSCP is important to recreation because it conserves San Diego's natural areas and quality of life and supports compatible recreation uses within the preserve areas while accommodating future growth by streamlining building regulations. MSCP documents regulate uses where sensitive biological resources occur. For example, Section 1.9 of the Subarea Plan addresses recreational uses within MSCP preserves.

### **Zoning Ordinance (ZO) Section 4900 – Usable Open Space Regulation**

These regulations promote the availability of outdoor areas for leisure and recreation throughout San Diego County by establishing requirements for minimum areas of usable open space for residential developments with three or more dwelling units per lot or building site. The provisions for usable open space include standards for surfacing, location, size and shape, accessibility, openness, screening, and maintenance of the required usable open space.

### **County of San Diego Code of Regulatory Ordinances Sections 86.601-86.608, Resource Protection Ordinance (RPO)**

The RPO protects sensitive lands and prevents their degradation and loss by requiring the Resource Protection Study for certain discretionary projects. It also preserves the ability of affected property owners to make reasonable use of their land subject to the conditions established. It is the intent of the ordinance to increase the preservation and protection of the County's unique topography, natural beauty, diversity, and natural resources and a high quality of life for current and future residents of the County of San Diego.

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**County of San Diego Code of Regulatory Ordinances Sections 810.101-810.114, Park Lands Dedication Ordinance (PLDO)**

This ordinance requires that, as a condition of approval of specified types of development, the applicant shall dedicate land, pay fees in lieu of, or a combination of both, pursuant to the provisions defined in the ordinance for neighborhood and community park or recreational purposes to serve future residents of such development, unless the development qualifies for an exemption as defined in the ordinance.

**County of San Diego Code of Regulatory Ordinances Sections 812.101-812.104, Trail Defense and Indemnification Ordinance**

The County has an existing Trail Defense and Indemnification Ordinance. This Ordinance applies to the owner of a parcel of land on which, or adjacent to which, a trail has been dedicated to, and accepted by, the County for non-motorized recreational purposes. Under County Code Section 812.103, the County will defend and indemnify an owner of land from all claims and liability for injury to person or property that occurs on the trail, or incidental to the use of the trail, when used for recreational purposes. Certain specified injuries are excluded from the defense and indemnity obligation.

**County of San Diego Code of Regulatory Ordinances Sections 812.201-812.214, Trails Ordinances**

The County's Trails Ordinances, among other things, specify the uses allowed on trails (mountain bicycling, hiking, and horseback riding) and the activities that are prohibited (motorized vehicles, tampering with or destroying trail signs, placing or constructing any obstacle on a trail, etc.). Below are several County ordinances that pertain to trails.

**Ordinance No. 9701 (N.S.): An Ordinance Amending Sections 81.312, 81.402, 81.403, 81.609, 81.703 and 81.706 of the San Diego County Code Relating to Subdivision Improvements**

In this ordinance the BOS finds and determines that there is a significant demand for recreational trails throughout the unincorporated area of the County, but that there are not enough trails to meet this demand. The Board further finds that there is a need to provide trails for recreational, non-motorized use trails and that the provision of these trails will benefit the public. The Board further finds that the Subdivision Ordinance should be amended to provide for the dedication and improvement of trails in conjunction with the approval of major and minor subdivisions and revised maps, and provides amendments to the ordinances listed above.

**Ordinance No. 9702 (N.S.): An Ordinance Adding Sections 812.201 through 812.214 to the San Diego County Code Relating to Use Of Trails**

In this ordinance the BOS finds and determines that there are County recreational trails throughout the unincorporated area of the County and that there will be more such trails in the future as a result of the County Trails Program. The Board further finds that the use of these trails should be regulated to maximize the public's use and enjoyment of the trails. The Board further finds that the County Code should be amended to include provisions that regulate the use of public recreational trails, and defines these amendments.

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**Ordinance No. 9703 (N.S.): An Ordinance Amending Section 81.102 of the San Diego County Code Relating To the Public Road Standards**

In this ordinance the BOS finds and determines that the adoption of the GPAs related to the CTP, the adoption of the CTMP and the repeal of BOS Policy I-116, "Policy for Establishing Criteria for the Development and Operation of a Regional and Community Plan Non-Motorized Trail and Pathways System," make it necessary to amend the County Public Road Standards, as described in the ordinance, and to delete references to Policy I-116 and add references to the Community Trails Master Plan.

**San Diego County Board of Supervisor (BOS) Policy F-26, Utilization of Park Fees and Interest Derived from Park Fees**

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines and procedures for the acquisition and development of parkland with fees derived from the PLDO and the maintenance and operation of County parks with the interest accumulated on Park Lands Dedication fees.

**San Diego County BOS Policy G-6, User Fees County Parks and Recreation Facilities**

The purpose of this policy is to define a policy for charging fees for the use of County operated parks and recreation facilities and to establish certain group exemptions to this policy.

**San Diego County BOS Policy G-15, Design Standards for County Facilities**

The purpose of this policy is to establish general principles and objectives for the design, construction and improvement of owned or leased County facilities.

**San Diego County BOS Policy I-4, Acquisition of Land with Federal Assistance Under the Open Space Program**

The purpose of this policy is to establish a method to be followed in the acquisition of property for use as open space as required by the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965 (Public Law 89-117) and Title VII of the Housing Act of 1961, as amended.

**San Diego County BOS Policy I-44, Procedure for Designing New County Owned Community/Local Parks**

The purpose of this policy is to establish a procedure to involve Community Planning and Sponsor Groups, County Service Area Advisory Committees, Revitalization Committees or other designated advisory groups when the DPR designs a new community/local park.

**San Diego County BOS Policy J-37, Landscape Maintenance Districts**

The purpose of this policy is to define priorities and criteria for formation of Landscape Maintenance Districts and zones utilizing Landscape and Lighting Act proceedings (Streets and Highways Code, Section 22500, et seq.) for needs other than street lighting.

## **Department of Planning and Land Use (DPLU) Policy, CP-15**

The DPLU Policy CP-15 establishes criteria to assist in the evaluation of proposals for Public Passive Park/Recreational Areas, as defined in the County Zoning Ordinance. Public Passive Park/Recreational Areas may be of any size and may include wilderness, ecological or natural preserves. These areas are classified in the Zoning Ordinance (Section 1335) as an example of the Essential Services use type.

### **2.14.3 Analysis of Project Impacts and Determination of Significance**

#### **2.14.3.1 Issue 1: Deterioration of Parks and Recreational Facilities**

##### **Guidelines for Determination of Significance**

Based on Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines, the proposed County General Plan Update would have a significant impact if it would increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facilities would occur or be accelerated.

##### **Impact Analysis**

Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would direct future population growth within the unincorporated County to the west, where the majority of infrastructure and service systems currently exist. The anticipated increase in population in this portion of the County would result in an increase in demand for recreational facilities in this area as well. An increase in population, regardless of location, would result in increased demand for recreational facilities, which has the potential to result in the deterioration of existing facilities. Table 1-4, Anticipated Increase in Population under the General Plan Update (2008-to-build-out), located in Chapter 1.0, Project Description, identifies the anticipated increase in the unincorporated County population by CPA under the proposed General Plan Update. As shown in this table, the CPAs most likely to experience substantial population growth under the proposed project include North County Metro (population increase of 39,441 persons); Valley Center (population increase of 21,051 persons); Ramona (population increase of 18,747 persons); Lakeside (population increase of 11,273 persons); Fallbrook (population increase of 16,702 persons); Bonsall (population increase of 15,940 persons); Otay (population increase of 10,909 persons); Alpine (population increase of 10,400 persons), and Jamul/Dulzura (population increase of 7,765 persons). Increases in population would result in an increased demand for recreational facilities, which would have the potential to result in the deterioration of these facilities.

Additionally, a forecasted increase in population in areas that currently do not have adequate recreational facilities would have the potential to result in the accelerated deterioration of these facilities from intensified overuse. Areas that currently have deficient facilities are especially vulnerable to accelerated deterioration because they already serve a greater population than intended. As shown in Table 2.14-4, the County is currently deficient in approximately 3,966 acres of local recreational facilities. CPAs located in the more urbanized western portion of the unincorporated County are generally already experiencing a deficiency in recreational facilities. The following CPAs have an existing acreage deficiency in local park and recreation needs: Fallbrook (384 acre deficiency); Ramona (170 acre deficiency); Alpine (164 acre deficiency);

Valley Center (126 acre deficiency); Bonsall (93 acre deficiency); Jamul/Dulzura (83 acre deficiency); and Otay (42 acre deficiency). These CPAs are more likely to experience accelerated deterioration of local recreational facilities than other areas because substantial population growth is anticipated in these areas under the proposed General Plan Update and existing facilities are considered deficient.

Another method to evaluate the potential for deterioration of recreational facilities under the proposed General Plan Update is to examine the existing recreational acreage goals and those that are proposed under implementation of the General Plan Update. Recreational acreage goals serve as the baseline level of service standard that guides the planning and monitoring of recreational facilities. Acreage goals are used as planning tools; however, recreational facilities are not automatically considered deficient if these goals are not met. The acreage goal identified for local parks in the General Plan Update is 10 acres per 1,000 residents, while the acreage goal for regional park facilities identified in the General Plan Update is 15 acres per 1,000 acres. The proposed General Plan Update has a projected build-out population of 678,270 persons, which corresponds to a greater demand for recreational facilities in the unincorporated County. Using the acreage goals for local parks and regional park facilities, implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would generate new overall acreage targets of 6,782 for local park land and 10,174 for regional park land. Currently, approximately 840 acres of existing local park facilities and 20,000 acres of existing regional parks serve the unincorporated County (see Table 2.14-2). Therefore, the current acreage of local park land would not meet the projected goal for these facilities, whereas the existing supply of regional park area is expected to adequately meet the projected goal under the General Plan Update. If additional acreages of local park land are not provided in correlation with build-out of the project, then accelerated deterioration of existing recreational facilities would occur.

The forecasted increase in population under the proposed General Plan Update is also likely to result in an increase in the need for recreational facilities located outside of the County's jurisdiction, such as within jurisdictions that border the western CPAs and on federally and State owned lands. The County does not have land use jurisdiction over these areas; however, any recreational facilities that are open to the public are available for use by County residents. An increased demand for recreational facilities in areas outside the County would potentially lead to their physical deterioration from increased usage by County residents. The planning documents for federal and State owned recreational facilities evaluate the adequacy of existing and future recreational facilities within their jurisdictions.

Substantial increases in population growth are not planned in the eastern portion of the unincorporated County. As shown in Figure 2.14-1, most of the recreational facilities located in the eastern portion of the unincorporated County are owned by the State or federal government. While population is not forecasted to substantially increase in the eastern areas of the County, the recreational facilities in these areas would be available for use by all County residents, including residents of the western portion of the County where recreational opportunities are not as abundant. As such, recreational resources in the eastern portions of the County would also have the potential to result in deterioration from increased use as a result of the proposed project.

### **Federal, State and Local Regulations and Existing Regulatory Processes**

Multiple federal, State and local regulations exist to ensure recreational facilities are adequate within the County. Federal regulations include the National Trails System Act of 1968, which

governs the California Recreational Trails Plan. State regulations include the Quimby Act, which requires recreational facilities for new subdivisions; Government Code Section 65910, which requires counties to adopt an open space ordinance; the Landscaping and Lighting Act of 1972, which enables counties to acquire land for parks and recreation; the Little-Used Open Space Maintenance Act, which allows governments to levy assessments to maintain open space; SB 1685, which authorizes open space districts to levy special assessments for open space purposes; the Open Space Easement Act of 1974, which establishes standards for cities and counties to acquire open space; the Conservation Easement Act of 1979, which enables counties to acquire perpetual easements for the conservation of open space; the Chappie-Z'berg Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Law of 1971, which gives OHMVR authority over OHV use within California; and the Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Act of 2003, which creates management standards for existing and future off-highway vehicle areas. In addition, grants from State and County bond sources are available to fund park and recreational facilities in urban areas and funding for maintenance of those facilities would be provided through property assessments and taxes.

Local regulations that exist to ensure recreational facilities are adequate within the County include the DPR Strategic Plan, which establishes objectives for managing environmental resources within the County; the MSCP, which is a regional conservation effort for habitat preservation; the RPO, which helps protect sensitive lands and prevent their degradation; Zoning Ordinance Section 4900, which promotes the availability of outdoor areas in San Diego County; DPLU Policy CP-15, which establishes criteria to assist in the evaluation of proposals for recreational areas; BOS Policies, which establish guidelines, procedures, fee rates and objectives for recreational areas within the County; the PLDO, which requires in-lieu dedication fees for new development; the CTP and CTMP, which set standards for the development and management of guidelines for regional trails, community trails, and pathways; the Trails Ordinances, which specify allowed uses and activities on County trails; the County's Bicycle Transportation Plan, which guides the development of bicycle facilities in the unincorporated area; and the Trail Defense and Indemnification Ordinance, which applies to owners of private lands that contain or are adjacent to public trails.

### **Proposed General Plan Update Goals and Policies**

The proposed General Plan Update includes goals and policies that would minimize physical deterioration of parks or other recreational facilities. Within the Land Use Element, Housing Element, Mobility Element and Conservation of Open Space Element, various goals include specific policies to ensure that existing recreational facilities would not be adversely affected by implementation of the proposed General Plan Update. In the Land Use Element, Goal LU-12 ensures that infrastructure and services exist to support development by providing sustainable infrastructure, public facilities and essential services that meet community needs and are provided concurrent with growth and development. Policy LU-12.1 supports this goal by requiring the concurrency of infrastructure and services with development. Policy LU-12.2 would also support this goal by prohibiting new development that degrades existing facilities. These policies would reduce recreational facility deterioration by requiring fees or the construction of new recreational facilities.

The Mobility Element contains goals and specific policies to ensure that existing recreational facilities would not be substantially degraded by implementation of the proposed General Plan Update. Goal M-12 would create a safe, scenic, enjoyable and interconnected non-motorized, soft-surfaced multi-use trail system meeting the needs of County residents developed, managed

and maintained according to the Regional Trails Plan and the Community Trails Master Plan. Policies that support goal M-12 include, M-12.1, M-12.2, M-12.3, M-12.4, M-12.5, M-12.6, M-12.7, M-12.8 and M-12.10. These policies set planning standards, encourage the acquisition of new recreational lands and the construction of additional trails, identify trail improvement strategies, and encourage funding opportunities for recreational facilities. These policies provide guidance for improving recreational facilities within the County, and would reduce the potential for recreational facilities to be deteriorated.

The Housing Element contains one goal and one supporting policy to ensure that existing recreational facilities would not be substantially degraded by implementation of the proposed General Plan Update. Goal H-2 would create neighborhoods that respect local character and the natural environment by requiring specific design standards. Policy H-2.2 supports this goal by requiring certain projects to include on-site common open space, which would help avoid deterioration of public recreational facilities.

The Conservation and Open Space Element contains Goals COS-21, COS-22, COS-23, and COS-24 and specific policies to ensure that existing recreational facilities would not be substantially degraded by implementation of the proposed General Plan Update. Goal COS-21 sets park and recreational facilities standards to ensure facilities enhance the quality of life for County residents. Policy COS-21.1 and Policy COS-21.2 support this goal by promoting the diversity of recreational facilities and encouraging the location of new parks into community center areas. These policies would help create additional recreational facilities in areas with greater populations, thereby reducing the potential for facility deterioration. Goal COS-22 promotes high quality park and recreation programs, while meeting the needs of a diverse and growing population. Policy COS-22.1 supports this goal by encouraging additional recreational facilities for County residents. Goal COS-23 encourages the acquisition, monitoring and management of valuable open space resources where public recreational opportunities are balanced with the preservation of natural resources. Policies COS-23.1 and COS-23.2 support this goal by providing additional public access and regional coordination so that additional recreational opportunities can be made to County residents. Goal COS-24 aims for adequate funding for the acquisition, development, maintenance, management and operation of parks, recreation facilities, and open space preserves. Policies COS-24.1 and COS-24.2 support this goal by setting park and recreation contributions for new development and establishing maximum funding opportunities.

## **Summary**

Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would have the potential to result in the deterioration of recreational facilities throughout the County. Increases in population would result in increased use of recreational facilities, which would have the potential to result in the deterioration of existing facilities. Additionally, a forecasted increase in population in areas that currently do not have an abundance of local recreational facilities would have the potential to accelerate the deterioration of existing facilities from intensified overuse. While existing County policies and regulations and proposed General Plan Update goals and policies are intended to reduce impacts associated with deterioration of parks and recreational facilities, specific measures that implement these policies and regulations are proposed ensure that the intended environmental protections are achieved. Therefore, the proposed project is concluded to result in a potentially significant impact associated with the deterioration of parks and recreational facilities and specific implementation programs are identified as mitigation.

### **2.14.3.2 Issue 2: Construction of New Recreational Facilities**

#### **Guidelines for Determination of Significance**

Based on Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines, the proposed County General Plan Update would have a significant impact if it would include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which would have an adverse effect on the environment.

#### **Impact Analysis**

Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would require the construction and expansion of new recreational facilities to serve the forecasted population growth in the unincorporated County. The proposed General Plan Update specifically states that additional trails are needed close to population centers in the western portion of the County in order to provide residents with convenient access and opportunities to enjoy the recreational, health and transportation benefits associated with these facilities. Although the proposed General Plan Update encourages the construction of such trail facilities, it does not specifically designate the location of future facilities. Additionally, under the proposed General Plan Update, the park and recreational facilities goal warrants the construction and expansion of local parks in the unincorporated County, as discussed above in Section 2.14.3.1, Issue 1.

Recreational projects that are planned for development within the unincorporated County are included in a number of comprehensive planning documents, including but not limited to: the CTP, the Regional Trails Plan, the County Bicycle Transportation Plan, and the Annual Parks Improvement Plan. While each of these recreational plans has undergone separate environmental review, the General Plan Update land uses, goals, and policies further support the need for such programs; therefore, discussion of these plans is appropriate. As described above in the regulatory framework, the CTP provides an extensive trails system that supplements the road network as an alternative off-road travel mode for County residents. The Regional Trails Plan is part of the CTP; it identifies approved general alignment corridors of regional trails in the County. The existing and proposed trails system in the unincorporated County is shown on Figure 2.14-2. The Bicycle Transportation Plan guides development of bicycle facilities in each community and in the unincorporated area overall, taking into account existing and future trails. The 2008/2009 Annual Parks Improvement Plan prepared by County DPR identifies multiple capital improvement projects proposed through the year 2012. This plan provides a roadmap to ensure the County has the necessary facilities to accomplish its vision, mission, and strategic initiatives for the future. The Annual Parks Improvement Plan identifies projects throughout the County that are fully or partially funded. It also highlights potential projects that are contemplated for future budget periods. DPR capital improvement projects detailed in this plan include land acquisition for future parks, development of new recreational facilities, and enhancement or expansion of existing facilities and programs.

Although the proposed General Plan Update does not specifically site or plan recreational facilities, it would allow for the development of future recreational facilities, including parks, trails, athletic fields, and golf courses, within the proposed open space-recreation land use designation. Other land use designations would also allow for the development of new recreational facilities, such as village residential and semi-rural residential uses. The construction of new recreational facilities would have the potential to result in physical

environmental effects. These impacts have been analyzed in other sections of Chapter 2.0 of this EIR. In addition, recreational projects under the County's jurisdiction are subject to CEQA review prior to approval.

### **Federal, State and Local Regulations and Existing Regulatory Processes**

The federal, State and local regulations listed above under Issue 1, Section 2.14.3.1, are applicable to the issue of construction/expansion of recreational facilities. Additionally, for new development required to construct or expand recreational facilities to comply with the PLDO, the County evaluates all potentially significant impacts that would result from the additional improvements. Such facilities must also comply with applicable regulations protecting environmental resources, such as the Zoning Ordinance, the Noise Ordinance, the MSCP, the Habitat Loss Permit (HLP) Ordinance, PLDO and relevant Board Policies. In addition, environmental impacts would be minimized and mitigated to the extent feasible for all such projects pursuant to CEQA.

### **Proposed General Plan Update Goals and Policies**

The General Plan Update includes goals and policies that would reduce the potential for construction and operation of new or expanded recreational facilities to have an adverse effect on the environment. Within the Land Use Element, Housing Element, Mobility Element and Conservation of Open Space Element, goals and policies are identified that pertain to the construction or expansion of recreational facilities. The Land Use Element contains Goals LU-6, LU-9, and LU-18 that encourage the development of recreational facilities in an environmentally sensitive manner. Goal LU-6 promotes a balance between development and the environment by encouraging a built environment in balance with the natural environment, scarce resources, natural hazards, and the unique local character of individual communities. This goal is supported by Policy LU-6.4, which requires residential subdivisions to incorporate sustainable design. This policy would require subdivisions, which often include on-site recreational facilities, to reduce construction impacts to the environment. Goal LU-9 promotes the creation of well-defined, planned and developed community cores, such as villages and town centers, which contribute to a community's identity and character. Policy LU-9.7 supports this goal by utilizing guidelines to maintain the unique character of a community. This policy would reduce the aesthetic and other environmental impacts associated with the construction or expansion of recreational facilities. Goal LU-18 requires adequate civic uses that enhance community centers and places. Policy LU-18.2 encourages the co-location of civic uses, which would reduce environmental impacts such as traffic and noise by promoting development with multiple-uses, rather than multiple separate developments.

The Mobility Element contains Goal M-12, which includes specific policies to ensure that future construction or expansion of recreational facilities would not adversely impact the environment. Goal M-12 would create a safe, scenic and integrated trail system. Supporting Policies M-12.5, M-12.9 and M-12.10 guide the future development of trails in the unincorporated County to minimize environmental impacts and highlight existing natural resources.

The Housing Element contains Goal H-2, which includes specific policies to ensure that future construction or expansion of recreational facilities would not adversely impact the environment. Goal H-2 would create neighborhoods that respect local character and the natural environment by creating well designed development. Policy H-2.2 supports this goal by requiring some projects to create common open space as a project amenity.

The Conservation and Open Space Element contains Goals COS-21 and COS-23 which include specific policies to ensure that future construction or expansion of recreational facilities would not adversely impact the environment. Goal COS-21 sets standards for park facilities and requires park and recreational facilities protect natural resources. Policy COS-21.2, Policy COS-21.3, and Policy COS-21.4 support this goal by requiring parks to be appropriately located, designed to incorporate natural features, and preserve special and unique natural and cultural features. Goal COS-19 would encourage the acquisition of recreational resources while preserving natural resources. Goal COS-23 would be supported by Policy COS-23.3, which encourages coordination with public safety agencies to address safety concerns when planning the acquisition and management of open space.

### **Summary**

The General Plan Update does not specifically plan or site new recreational facilities; however, land uses under the General Plan Update would allow for the development of future recreational facilities, including parks, trails, athletic fields, and golf courses. The construction of new recreational facilities or expansion of existing facilities would have the potential to result in physical environmental effects. While existing County policies and regulations and proposed General Plan Update goals and policies are intended to reduce impacts associated with construction or expansion of recreational facilities, specific measures that implement these policies and regulations are proposed to ensure that the intended environmental protections are achieved. Therefore, the proposed project is concluded to result in a potentially significant impact associated with the construction or expansion of recreational facilities and specific implementation programs are identified as mitigation.

## **2.14.4 Cumulative Impact Analysis**

The geographic scope of cumulative impact analysis for recreational resources includes the entire County, including incorporated cities, and the adjacent Counties of Orange, Riverside and Imperial.

### **2.14.4.1 Issue 1: Deterioration of Parks and Recreational Facilities**

The cumulative projects in the San Diego region would have the potential to result in a significant cumulative impact if they would, in combination, result in the deterioration of parks and recreational facilities due to increased usage. Some cumulative projects, such as build-out of general plans for adjacent jurisdictions, would have the potential to increase the demand for recreational facilities, which could result in deterioration of existing facilities. However, the deterioration that would occur to parks and recreational facilities from regional population growth may be partially offset with funding from new development such as in-lieu fees for parks or donation of parkland pursuant to the Quimby Act. In addition, grants from State and County bond sources are available to fund park and recreational facilities in urban areas and funding for maintenance of those facilities would be provided through property assessments and taxes. However, other cumulative projects, such as the Wide-West Energy Corridor Project as discussed in Section 1.14.2.3, would allow development to occur on recreational lands which would potentially degrade environmental resources. In the case of the Wide-West Energy Corridor Project, impacts would occur to resources in the surrounding park, regional trails such as the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail, and as well as impacts to air quality, aesthetics and noise. The majority of cumulative recreational projects would undergo environmental review,

and would be required to demonstrate compliance with CEQA and/or NEPA prior to project approval. However, even cumulative projects that undergo environmental review would have the potential to result in significant and unavoidable impacts that could combine to form a significant cumulative impact from the removal or degradation of recreational facilities in the region. In addition, impacts that may be mitigated to a less than significant level on an individual project level would have the potential to result in a significant cumulative impact when combined with other project impacts. Therefore, a potentially significant cumulative impact would occur.

As discussed in Section 2.14.3.1, build-out of land uses designated under the General Plan Update would have the potential to increase use of existing neighborhood and regional parks such that it could substantially degrade recreational facilities. In combination with other identified cumulative projects in the region, the proposed project would contribute to a significant cumulative impact, and mitigation would be required.

#### **2.14.4.2 Issue 2: Construction of New Recreational Facilities**

The cumulative projects in the San Diego region would have the potential to result in a significant cumulative impact if they would, in combination, require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which would have an adverse effect on the environment. In order to accommodate future demand for park and recreational facilities from population growth in the San Diego region, additional park and recreational facilities will be developed and constructed throughout the region. In many cases, demand will be met through master plans and capital improvement projects approved by adjacent cities and counties. The BLM, NFS and tribal governments would also have the authority to approve recreational projects on their lands. Both the BLM and NFS maintain a list of future projects on their land that would require construction. Many of these projects include repairs or expansions of existing facilities and would not require extensive construction. Therefore, these projects would have limited physical impacts on the environment, because they would be located in existing park and recreation areas. Other cumulative projects, such as schools or residential projects in adjacent jurisdictions, would increase the need for recreational facilities in the region. While the majority of cumulative projects would be required to demonstrate compliance with CEQA and/or NEPA prior to project approval, they would incrementally increase the need for new or expanded facilities, which would have the potential to result in adverse environmental effects. Therefore, cumulative projects would result in a significant cumulative impact associated with the construction of recreational facilities.

As discussed above, the development of future land uses as designated in the proposed General Plan Update would increase the need for new or expanded recreational facilities, which would have the potential to result in adverse environmental impacts. Therefore, the proposed project, in combination with the identified cumulative projects, would have the potential to result in a significant cumulative impact associated with construction of recreational facilities.

#### **2.14.5 Significance of Impact Prior to Mitigation**

Prior to mitigation, implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would result in potentially significant direct and cumulative impacts associated with the deterioration of existing recreational facilities and the construction or expansion of new recreational facilities.

## 2.14.6 Mitigation

### 2.14.6.1 *Issue 1: Deterioration of Parks and Recreational Facilities*

Implementation of the following General Plan Update policies and mitigation measures would mitigate potential direct and cumulative project impacts related to the deterioration of parks and recreational facilities to below a level of significance.

#### **General Plan Update Policies**

**Policy LU-12.1: Concurrency of Infrastructure and Services with Development.** Require the provision of infrastructure, facilities, and services needed by new development prior to that development, either directly or through fees. Where appropriate, the construction of infrastructure and facilities may be phased to coincide with project phasing. In addition to utilities, roads, bicycle and pedestrian facilities, and education, police, and fire services, transit-oriented infrastructure, such as bus stops, bus benches, turnouts, etc, should be provided, where appropriate.

**Policy LU-12.2: Maintenance of Adequate Services.** Require development to mitigate significant impacts to existing service levels of public facilities or services for existing residents and businesses. Provide improvements for Mobility Element roads in accordance with the Mobility Element Network Appendix matrices, which may result in ultimate build-out conditions that achieve an improved LOS but do not achieve a LOS of D or better.

**Policy M-12.1: County Trails System.** Implement a County Trails Program by developing the designated trail and pathway alignments and implementing goals and policies identified in the Community Trails Master Plan.

**Policy M-12.2: Trail Variety.** Provide and expand the variety of trail experiences that provide recreational opportunities to all residents of the unincorporated County, including urban/suburban, rural, wilderness, multi-use, staging areas, and support facilities.

**Policy M-12.3: Trail Planning.** Encourage trail planning, acquisition, development, and management with other public agencies that have ownership or jurisdiction within or adjacent to the County.

**Policy M-12.4: Land Dedication for Trails.** Require development projects to dedicate and improve trails or pathways where the development will occur on land planned for trail or pathway segments shown on the Regional Trails Plan or Community Trails Master Plan.

**Policy M-12.5: Future Trails.** Explore opportunities to designate or construct future trails on County-owned lands, lands within the Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP), or other lands already under public ownership or proposed for public acquisition.

**Policy M-12.6: Trail Easements, Dedications, and Joint-Use Agreements.** Promote trail opportunities by obtaining easements, dedications, license agreements, or joint-use agreements from other government agencies and public and semi-public agencies.

**Policy M-12.7: Funding for Trails.** Seek funding opportunities for trail acquisition, implementation, maintenance and operation.

**Policy M-12.8: Trails on Private Lands.** Maximize opportunities that are fair and reasonable to secure trail routes across private property, agricultural and grazing lands, from willing property owners.

**Policy M-12.10: Recreational and Educational Resources.** Design trail routes that meet a public need and highlight the County's biological, recreational and educational resources, including natural, scenic, cultural, and historic resources.

**Policy H-2.2: Projects with Open Space Amenities in Villages.** Require new multi-family projects in Villages to be well-designed and include amenities and common open space areas that enhance overall quality of life.

**Policy COS-21.1: Diversity of Users and Services.** Provide parks and recreation facilities that create opportunities for a broad range of recreational experiences to serve user interests.

**Policy COS-21.2: Location of Parks.** Locate new local parks and recreation facilities near other community-oriented public facilities such as schools, libraries, and recreation centers where feasible, so that they may function as the "heart" of a community.

**Policy COS-22.1: Variety of Recreational Programs.** Provide and promote a variety of high quality active and passive recreation programs that meet the needs of and benefit County residents.

**Policy COS-23.1: Public Access.** Provide public access to natural and cultural (where allowed) resources through effective planning that conserves the County's native wildlife, enhances and restores a continuous network of connected natural habitat and protects water resources.

**Policy COS-23.2: Regional Coordination.** Coordinate the planning, acquisition, protection, development, and management of open space among governmental agencies and private organizations to maximize opportunities to link regional open space lands.

**Policy COS-24.1: Park and Recreation Contributions.** Require development to provide fair-share contributions toward parks and recreation facilities and trails consistent with local, State, and federal law.

**Policy COS-24.2: Funding Opportunities.** Maximize funding opportunities for the following:

- The acquisition, expansion, and development of parks, recreation facilities, open space preserves, and trails.
- The operation, maintenance, and management of parks, recreation facilities, open space preserves, and trails.

**General Plan Update Mitigation Measures**

- Rec-1.1** Implement Board Policy I-44 to identify park and recreation needs and priorities for communities, and utilize the Community Plans when identifying park and recreation facility requirements.
- Rec-1.2** Coordinate with communities, agencies and organizations to identify, prioritize and develop park and recreation needs. This shall include pursuing partnership opportunities with school districts and other agencies to develop new park and recreation facilities; on-going support of the Park Advisory Committee and use of community center surveys to solicit input on park and recreation program and facility needs and issues; and continuing partnerships with other jurisdictions to share operation and maintenance costs for facilities via joint powers agreements.
- Rec-1.3** Prepare a design manual to provide concepts for park and recreation facility components.
- Rec-1.4** Participate in discretionary project review of residential projects with 50 or more units to identify park facility needs. Also, implement the Subdivision Ordinance to require the provision of trail and pathways shown on the Regional Trails Plan or Community Trails Master Plan. In addition, modify development standards and design guidelines to include common open space amenities, such as tot lots, and the use of universal design features that accommodate both abled and disabled individuals.
- Rec-1.5** Attain funding for land acquisition and construction of recreational facilities by taking the following actions: implement the PLDO; solicit grants and bonds to fund the operation and maintenance of park and recreation facilities; and form Landscape Improvement Districts and County Service Areas.
- Rec-1.6** Acquire trail routes across private lands through direct purchase, easements, and dedication, or by other means from a willing property owner/seller. Encourage the voluntary dedication of easements and/or gifts of land for trails through privately-owned lands, including agricultural and grazing lands.
- Rec-1.7** Prioritize the acquisition and development of trail segments in a manner to provide maximum environmental and public benefit given available public and private resources and the population served. As part of this effort, also maintain a database of information on the locations, status of easements, classifications, forms of access, management activities and land ownership relative to trail facilities.
- Rec-1.8** Implement and revise as necessary the Regional Trails Plan as well as the Community Trails Master Plan. This will ensure that community goals, policies, and implementation criteria are defined for community trails. Facilitate interjurisdictional coordination for the implementation of these plans.
- Rec-1.9** Consult with the appropriate governing tribal council to facilitate the provision of trail connections through tribal land and/or Native American cultural resources.

- Rec-1.10** Develop procedures to coordinate the operation and maintenance of pathways with similar activities for adjacent roads and road rights-of-way.
- Rec-1.11** Prioritize open space acquisition needs through coordination with government agencies and private organizations. Once prioritized, acquire open space lands through negotiation with private land owners and through MSCP regulatory requirements. The operation and management of such acquisitions will continue to be achieved by preparing, implementing, and updating Resource Management Plans and MSCP Area Specific Management Directives (ASMDs) for each open space area.

### **2.14.6.2 Issue 2: Construction of New Recreational Facilities**

The following General Plan Update policies and mitigation measures would mitigate proposed direct and cumulative impacts related to the construction of new recreational facilities to below a level of significance.

#### **General Plan Update Policies**

**Policy LU-6.4: Sustainable Subdivision Design.** Require that residential subdivisions be planned to conserve open space and natural resources, protect agricultural operations including grazing, increase fire safety and defensibility, reduce impervious footprints, use sustainable development practices, and, when appropriate, provide public amenities consistent with the applicable community plan.

**Policy LU-9.7: Town Center Planning and Design.** Plan and guide the development of Town Centers and transportation nodes as the major focal point and activity node for Village areas. Utilize design guidelines to be compatible with the unique character of a community. Roadways, streetscapes, building facades, landscaping, and signage within the town center should be pedestrian oriented. Wherever possible, locate public facilities, such as schools, libraries, community centers, and parks in Town Centers and Villages.

**Policy LU-18.2: Co-Location of Civic Uses.** Encourage the co-location of civic uses such as County library facilities, community centers, parks, and schools. To encourage access by all segments of the population, civic uses should be accessible by transit whenever possible.

**Policy M-12.5: Future Trails.** Explore opportunities to designate or construct future trails on County-owned lands, lands within the Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP), or other lands already under public ownership or proposed for public acquisition.

**Policy M-12.9: Environmental and Agricultural Resources.** Site and design specific trail segments to minimize impacts to sensitive environmental resources, ecological systems, and agricultural lands. Within the MSCP preserves, conform siting and use of trails to County MSCP Subarea Plans and wildlife agency approved MSCP management plans..

**Policy M-12.10: Recreational and Educational Resources.** Design trail routes that meet a public need and highlight the County's biological, recreational and educational resources, including natural, scenic, cultural, and historic resources.

**Policy H-2.2: Projects with Open Space Amenities in Villages.** Require new multi-family projects in Villages to be well-designed and include amenities and common open space areas that enhance overall quality of life.

**Policy COS-21.2: Location of Parks.** Locate new local parks and recreation facilities near other community-oriented public facilities such as schools, libraries, and recreation centers where feasible, so that they may function as the “heart” of a community.

**Policy COS-21.3: Park Design.** Design parks that reflect community character and identity, incorporate local natural and cultural landscapes and features, and consider the surrounding land uses and urban form and cultural and historic resources.

**Policy COS-21.4: Regional Parks.** Require new regional parks to allow for a broad range of recreational activities and preserve special or unique natural or cultural features when present.

**Policy COS-23.1: Public Access.** Provide public access to natural and cultural (where allowed) resources through effective planning that conserves the County’s native wildlife, enhances and restores a continuous network of connected natural habitat and protects water resources.

**Policy COS-23.3: Public Safety Involvement.** Coordinate with public safety agencies to address safety concerns when planning the acquisition and management of open space.

### **General Plan Update Mitigation Measures**

Mitigation Measures Rec-1.1, Rec-1.2, Rec-1.3, Rec-1.4, Rec-1.8, Rec-1.9, and Rec-1.11 as described above in Section 2.14.6.1 would also mitigate impacts from the construction of new recreational facilities and are incorporated here by reference. In addition, the following mitigation measures are proposed:

- Rec-2.1** Update Community Plans to reflect the character and vision for each individual community; to address civic needs in a community and encourage the co-location of uses; to establish and maintain greenbelts between communities; to prioritize infrastructure improvements and the provision of public facilities for villages and community cores; and to identify pedestrian routes. With these issues addressed in community plans, potential impacts to visual resources, community character, natural resources, cultural resources, and traffic will be substantially lessened should new or expanded recreational facilities be needed in a given community.
- Rec-2.2** Use community design guidelines as a resource when designing park and recreation facilities. This will help ensure that such facilities are consistent with community character.
- Rec-2.3** Amend the Subdivision Ordinance to require new residential development to be integrated with existing neighborhoods by providing connected and continuous road, environmentally-sensitive pathway/trail and recreation/open space networks. Also add new conservation-oriented design guidelines for rural lands projects as part of this amendment. These measures will assist in the planning for recreational facilities as new development is proposed while minimizing impacts to sensitive resources and community character.

- Rec-2.4** Develop procedures to consider designating trails that correspond to existing (non-designated) trails, paths, or unpaved roadbeds that already have a disturbed tread. This will minimize new impacts to the natural environment and will potentially benefit existing trail users.
- Rec-2.5** Through implementation of Resource Management Plans, monitor and manage preserves and trails such that environmental resources do not become impacted as a result of soil erosion, flooding, fire hazard, or other environmental or man-made effects. Any impacts identified to environmental resources will be restored in accordance with the management directives within the Resource Management Plans.
- Rec-2.6** Develop procedures to encourage the involvement and input of the agricultural community in matters relating to trails on or adjacent to agricultural lands and place a priority on the protection of agriculture.

## **2.14.7 Conclusion**

The discussion below provides a synopsis of the conclusion reached in each of the above impact analyses, and the level of impact that would occur after mitigation measures are implemented.

### **2.14.7.1 Issue 1: Deterioration of Parks and Recreational Facilities**

Build-out of the General Plan Update would increase use of existing neighborhood and regional parks, thereby resulting in accelerated deterioration of recreational facilities. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a potentially significant impact. Additionally, the proposed project would result in a cumulatively considerable contribution to a significant cumulative impact associated with deterioration of parks and recreational facilities. Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update policies and mitigation measures would mitigate the proposed project's direct and cumulative impacts to below a level of significance.

### **2.14.7.2 Issue 2: Construction of New Recreational Facilities**

Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which may have an adverse effect on the environment. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a potentially significant impact. Additionally, the proposed project would result in a cumulatively considerable contribution to a significant cumulative impact associated with the construction or expansion of recreational facilities. Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update policies and mitigation measures would mitigate the proposed project's direct and cumulative impacts to below a level of significance.

**Table 2.14-1. Existing Local Parks and Recreational Facilities**

| <b>Park/Facility Name</b>                 | <b>Location</b>  | <b>Park Operator</b>                      | <b>Acreage</b> |
|-------------------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>Community Parks</b>                    |                  |                                           |                |
| 4S Ranch Sports Facility                  | San Dieguito     | County DPR                                | 22             |
| Alpine Community Center                   | Alpine           | Alpine Community Center                   | 7              |
| Cactus Park                               | Lakeside         | County DPR                                | 61             |
| Clemmens Lane Park                        | Fallbrook        | County DPR                                | 1              |
| Collier Park                              | Ramona           | County DPR                                | 8              |
| Descanso Community Park                   | Descanso         | Mountain Empire Unified School District   | 4              |
| East View Local Park                      | Bonita           | County DPR                                | 6              |
| Eucalyptus Park                           | Spring Valley    | County DPR                                | 6              |
| Fallbrook Community Center                | Fallbrook        | County DPR                                | 8              |
| Fallbrook (Ingold) Sports Park            | Fallbrook        | Fallbrook Sports Association              | 18             |
| Goodland Acres                            | Spring Valley    | County DPR                                | 1              |
| Hillsdale                                 | Rancho San Diego | County DPR                                | 2              |
| Jamul/Dulzura Union School District Park  | Jamul/Dulzura    | Jamul/Dulzura Union School District       | 19             |
| Julian Museum and Park                    | Julian           | Julian Women's Club                       | 8              |
| Lincoln Acres                             | National City    | County DPR                                | <1             |
| Lindo Lake Park/Lakeside Community Center | Lakeside         | County DPR                                | 57             |
| Live Oak Park                             | Fallbrook        | County DPR                                | 27             |
| Lonnie Brewer                             | Rancho San Diego | County DPR                                | 5              |
| Nancy Jane                                | Crest            | County DPR                                | 2              |
| Old Ironsides Park                        | Harbison Canyon  | County DPR                                | 4              |
| Palomar                                   | Palomar          | County DPR                                | 4              |
| Rios Canyon                               | Lakeside         | County DPR                                | 10             |
| Robert Adams Community Park               | Valley Center    | Valley Center Parks & Recreation District | 38             |
| San Dieguito County Park                  | Rancho San Diego | County DPR                                | 125            |
| South Lane Park                           | Crest            | County DPR                                | 11             |
| Spring Valley Community Center            | Spring Valley    | County DPR                                | 6              |
| Sweetwater Lane Park                      | Sweetwater       | County DPR                                | 11             |
| Valley Center Community Park              | Valley Center    | Valley Center Parks & Recreation District | 14             |
| Ramona Wellfield Park                     | Ramona           | Ramona Municipal Water District           | 146            |
| <b>Subtotal</b>                           |                  |                                           | <b>626</b>     |
| <b>Neighborhood Parks</b>                 |                  |                                           |                |
| 4S Heritage Park                          | San Dieguito     | County DPR                                | 6              |
| 4S Homestead Park                         | San Dieguito     | County DPR                                | 2              |
| 4S Patriot Park                           | San Dieguito     | County DPR                                | 6              |
| Bancroft Park                             | Spring Valley    | County DPR                                | 4              |

**Table 2.14-1 (Continued)**

| <b>Park/Facility Name</b>                  | <b>Location</b>  | <b>Park Operator</b>                  | <b>Acreage</b> |
|--------------------------------------------|------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------|
| <b><i>Neighborhood Parks Continued</i></b> |                  |                                       |                |
| Cottonwood                                 | El Cajon         | County DPR                            | 5              |
| Damon Lane Park                            | Rancho San Diego | County DPR                            | 29             |
| Don Dussault Park                          | Fallbrook        | County DPR                            | 1              |
| Estrella Drive Park                        | Spring Valley    | County DPR                            | 7              |
| Hilton Head                                | El Cajon         | County DPR                            | 10             |
| Holly Oaks                                 | Ramona           | County DPR                            | 42             |
| Rainbow Park                               | Fallbrook        | County DPR                            | 4              |
| Ramona Community School Park               | Ramona           | Ramona Parks & Recreation Association | 5              |
| Steele Canyon Park                         | Rancho San Diego | County DPR                            | 8              |
| Woodhaven                                  | Rancho San Diego | County DPR                            | 8              |
| <b>Subtotal</b>                            |                  |                                       | <b>194</b>     |
| <b>Total Local Recreational Facilities</b> |                  |                                       | <b>820</b>     |

Note: Data has been rounded to nearest whole number.

Source: DPLU 2007b

**Table 2.14-2. Regional Parks**

| <b>Park/Facility Name</b>                      | <b>Location</b>     | <b>Park Operator</b>                                   | <b>Acreage</b> | <b>Camping</b> |
|------------------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Agua Caliente                                  | Anza-Borrego Desert | County DPR                                             | 790            | Yes            |
| Dos Picos                                      | Ramona              | County DPR                                             | 79             | Yes            |
| El Monte                                       | Lakeside            | County DPR                                             | 88             | No             |
| Felicita                                       | Escondido           | County DPR                                             | 52             | No             |
| Flinn Springs                                  | El Cajon            | County DPR                                             | 41             | No             |
| Guajome                                        | Oceanside           | County DPR                                             | 546            | Yes            |
| Heritage Park (Old Town)                       | San Diego           | Private entity                                         |                | No             |
| Lake Morena                                    | Campo               | County DPR                                             | 3,273          | Yes            |
| Louis A. Stelzer                               | Lakeside            | County DPR                                             | 371            | No             |
| Los Penasquitos Canyon Preserve <sup>(1)</sup> | San Diego           | County and City of San Diego                           | 4,000          | No             |
| Mission Trails <sup>(2)</sup>                  | San Diego           | City of San Diego                                      | 5,900          | No             |
| Otay Lake Park                                 | Chula Vista         | County DPR                                             | 78             | No             |
| Otay Valley Regional Park <sup>(3)</sup>       | San Diego           | County DPR, City of San Diego, and City of Chula Vista | 512            | No             |
| Pine Valley                                    | Pine Valley         | County DPR                                             | 17             | No             |
| Potrero                                        | Potrero             | County DPR                                             | 112            | Yes            |
| Quail Botanical Gardens                        | Encinitas           | Quail Botanical Gardens, Inc.                          | 29             | No             |
| San Dieguito River Park <sup>(4)</sup>         | San Dieguito        | San Dieguito River Park Joint Powers Authority         | 124            | No             |
| San Luis Rey River Park                        | Bonsall             | County DPR                                             | 119            | No             |
| Sweetwater Regional Park                       | Bonita              | County DPR                                             | 496            | No             |
| Sweetwater Summit                              | Bonita              | County DPR                                             | 100            | Yes            |
| Tijuana River Valley <sup>(5)</sup>            | San Diego           | County DPR                                             | 1,840          | No             |
| Vallecitos                                     | Anza-Borrego Desert | County DPR                                             | 61             | Yes            |
| William Heise Park                             | Julian              | County DPR                                             | 972            | Yes            |
| <b>Total</b>                                   |                     |                                                        | <b>20,068</b>  |                |

<sup>(1)</sup> The Preserve is jointly owned and administered by the City and County of San Diego. County owns approx. 277 acres of the 4000 total acres.

<sup>(2)</sup> Mission Trails is located in and managed by the City of San Diego. County owns approx 1560 acres of the 5900 total acres.

<sup>(3)</sup> Approx. 484.88 acres owned by the City of San Diego and City of Chula Vista. Park is currently undeveloped and in the planning stage. County owns 512 acres of the approximate 1,000 total acres.

<sup>(4)</sup> The San Dieguito River Park Joint Powers Authority is formed by the County of San Diego and the Cities of Del Mar, Escondido, Poway, San Diego, and Solana Beach

<sup>(5)</sup> City of San Diego owns approx. 120 acres within the park that are managed by the County under a Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU)

Note: Data has been rounded to nearest whole number.

Source: DPLU 2007b

**Table 2.14-3. County-Owned Preserves**

| <b>Open Space Preserve</b>          | <b>Location</b>    | <b>Acreage</b> |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Barnett Ranch                       | Ramona             | 720            |
| Borrego Springs Preserve            | Borrego Springs    | 324            |
| Boulder Oaks                        | Ramona             | 1,215          |
| Del Dios Highlands                  | Escondido          | 455            |
| Escondido Creek                     | San Dieguito       | 170            |
| Gopher Canyon                       | North County Metro | 24             |
| Hellhole Canyon                     | Valley Center      | 1,864          |
| Lawrence and Barbara Daley Preserve | Jamul              | 598            |
| In-Ko-Pah                           | Mountain Empire    | 158            |
| Lakeside Linkage                    | Lakeside           | 186            |
| Luef Pond                           | Ramona             | 88             |
| Lusardi Creek                       | San Dieguito       | 193            |
| Magdalena Ecke Preserve             | Encinitas          | 30             |
| Mason Wildlife Refuge               | Potrero            | 80             |
| Mount Gower Preserve                | Ramona             | 1,592          |
| Mountain Springs                    | Mountain Empire    | 129            |
| Mt. McGinty                         | Jamul              | 20             |
| Mt. Olympus                         | Rainbow            | 712            |
| Oakoasis                            | Lakeside           | 404            |
| Ramona Grasslands Preserve          | Ramona             | 460            |
| San Elijo Lagoon                    | Encinitas          | 566            |
| Santa Fe Valley                     | San Dieguito       | 228            |
| Santa Margarita                     | Fallbrook          | 173            |
| Santa Ysabel Open Space Preserve    | Julian             | 5,322          |
| Simon Open Space Preserve           | Ramona             | 682            |
| South Bay Biological Study Area     | Imperial Beach     | 27             |
| Sycamore Canyon / Goodan Ranch      | Poway              | 2,186          |
| Volcan Mountain Wilderness Preserve | Julian             | 2,732          |
| Wilderness Gardens                  | Pala/Pauma         | 718            |
| <b>Total</b>                        |                    | <b>22,056</b>  |

Note: These parks may contain trails, restroom facilities, and other amenities as secondary functions. Data has been rounded to nearest whole number.

Source: DPLU 2007b

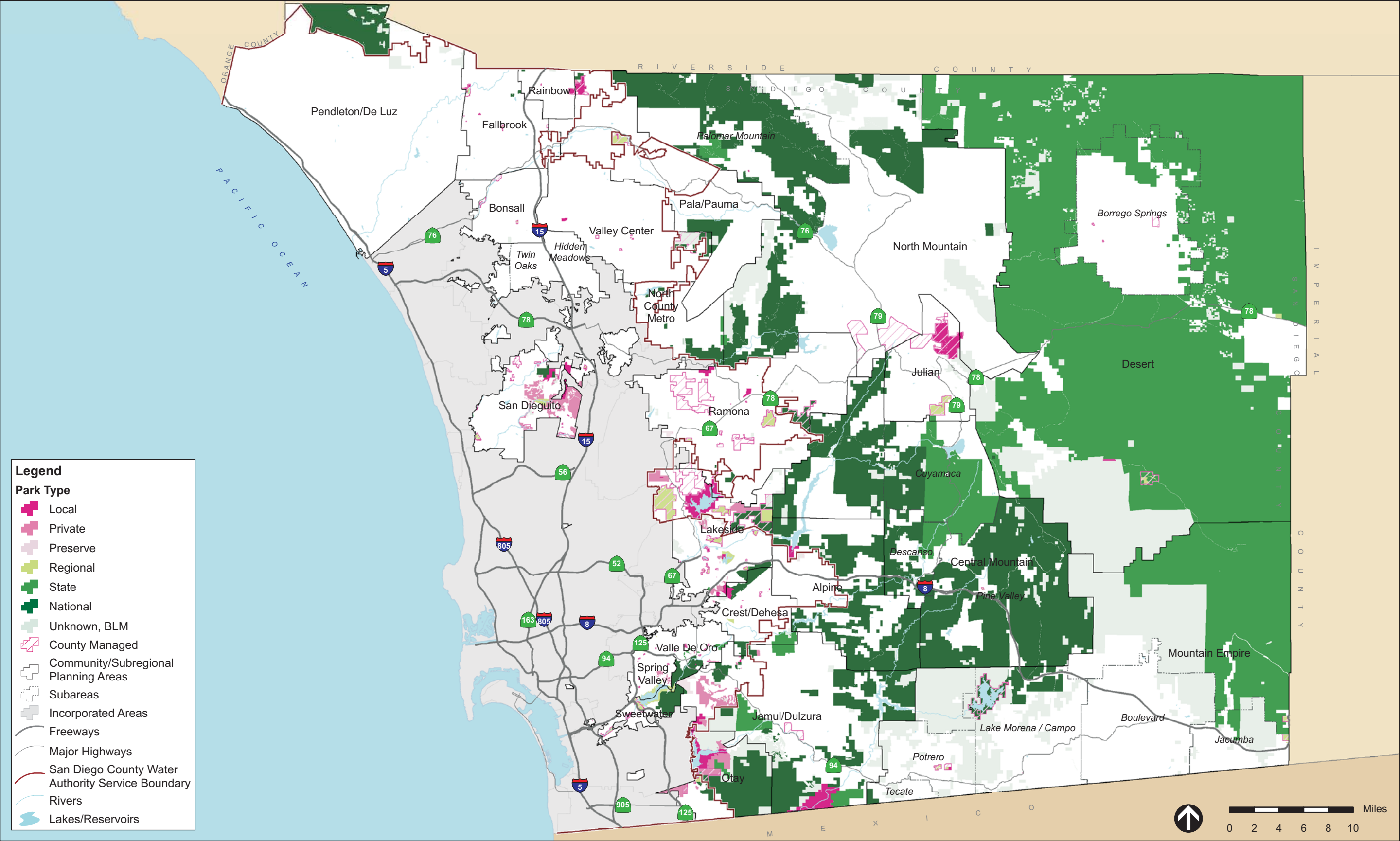
**Table 2.14-4. Existing Local Park and Recreation Needs**

| <b>Community Planning Area</b> | <b>Existing Acreage</b> | <b>Existing Population</b> | <b>Acreage Goal</b> | <b>Acreage Shortage</b> |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Alpine                         | 7                       | 17,123                     | 171                 | 164                     |
| Bonsall                        | 0                       | 9,692                      | 96                  | 93                      |
| Central Mountain               | 4                       | 4,499                      | 44                  | 41                      |
| County Islands                 | <1                      | 2,037                      | 20                  | 20                      |
| Crest/Dehesa                   | 17                      | 10,009                     | 100                 | 83                      |
| Desert                         | 32                      | 3,439                      | 34                  | 2                       |
| Fallbrook                      | 55                      | 43,990                     | 439                 | 384                     |
| Jamul/Dulzura                  | 19                      | 10,239                     | 102                 | 83                      |
| Julian                         | 8                       | 2,921                      | 29                  | 20                      |
| Lakeside                       | 128                     | 74,408                     | 744                 | 615                     |
| Mountain Empire                | 0                       | 6,356                      | 63                  | 63                      |
| North County Metro             | 0                       | 42,229                     | 422                 | 422                     |
| North Mountain                 | 4                       | 2,395                      | 23                  | 19                      |
| Otay                           | 0                       | 4,256                      | 42                  | 42                      |
| Pala/Pauma                     | 0                       | 5,598                      | 55                  | 55                      |
| Pendleton/De Luz               | 0                       | 40,165                     | 401                 | 401                     |
| Rainbow                        | 4                       | 1,825                      | 18                  | 13                      |
| Ramona                         | 200                     | 37,125                     | 371                 | 170                     |
| San Dieguito                   | 162                     | 27,615                     | 276                 | 114                     |
| Spring Valley                  | 49                      | 61,645                     | 616                 | 567                     |
| Sweetwater                     | 11                      | 13,039                     | 130                 | 118                     |
| Valle De Oro                   | 66                      | 42,234                     | 422                 | 355                     |
| Valley Center                  | 53                      | 17,970                     | 179                 | 126                     |
| <b>Total</b>                   | <b>819</b>              | <b>481,216</b>             | <b>4,797</b>        | <b>3,966</b>            |

Note: Data has been rounded to nearest whole number.

Source: DPLU 2007b

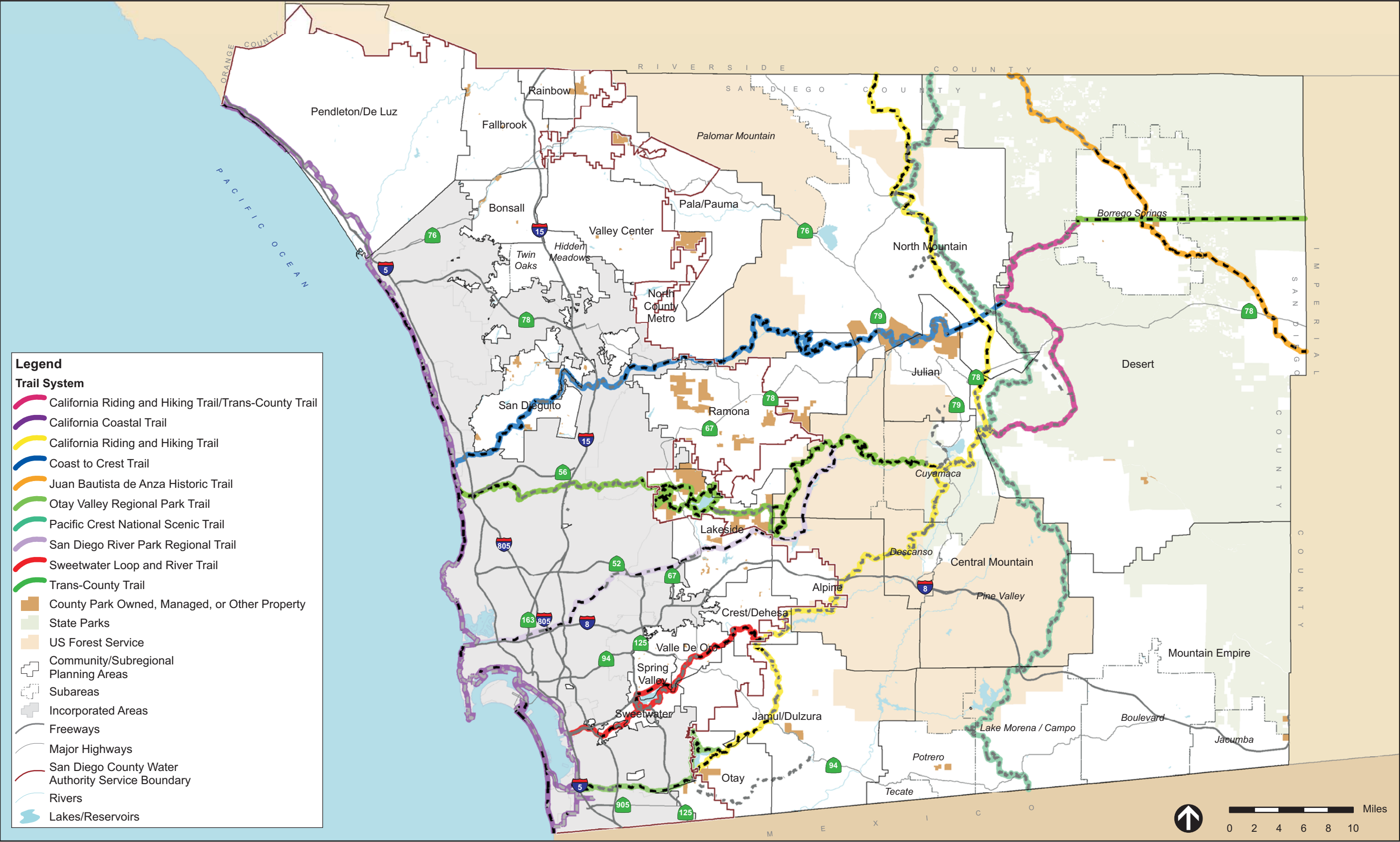
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Source: County of San Diego, 2008

EXISTING PARKS

FIGURE 2.14-1



REGIONAL TRAILS MAP

FIGURE 2.14-2