

From: SYVR Mail Manager <info@santaynezvalleyriders.org>
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 3:46 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Live Oak Trail "Pilot Project" Update & Santa Barbara Countywide Recreational Master Plan Concerns
Attachments: 1 12 2021 NOE Trail Opening.pdf; LOTMP.4.15.21.pdf

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June 7, 2021

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
c/o Office of the Clerk of the Board
105 East Anapamu St., Rm 407
Santa Barbara CA. 93101

RE: Live Oak Trail "Pilot Project" Update & Santa Barbara Countywide Recreational Master Plan Concerns
(VIA EMAIL)

Mr. Chair and Honorable Supervisors:

My name is Kathleen Rosenthal representing the Santa Ynez Valley Riders. We wish to thank your Board and the Parks staff for continuing to hear our reports and consider our comments on issues surrounding the Live Oak Trail and ties to the Santa Barbara Countywide Recreational Master Plan currently being prepared via a consultant for the County Park Division. We look forward to working with you into the future.

We are happy to report that on National Trails Day, Saturday, June 5th, 2021, **32 vehicles + trailers and 38 horseback riders** attended a trail ride at Live Oak Trail. Day riders filled out the payment envelopes, indicated that they were riding a horse, and deposited the envelope with their day use fee (\$10.00/vehicle) in the iron ranger available on site. In addition, all **ANNUAL PASS HOLDERS ALSO SUBMITTED AN ENVELOPE** with their pass number and number of rides to ensure that an **ACCURATE COUNT** of trail users for National Trails Day would be recorded. I personally delivered several envelopes to the kiosk at Cachuma's main gate as there was no room for all the envelopes in the iron ranger at the Live Oak Trail head. There were no hikers using Live Oak Trail on this day.

Also, we were joined by representatives of the County Parks Division's consultants, who are preparing the Santa Barbara Countywide Recreational Master Plan. Following the trail ride, the representatives and the equestrians held a productive discussion of what we wish to see at Live Oak Trail and Camp. This includes keeping Live Oak as a hiker/equestrian trail, prohibiting dogs, reverting to the locked gate/gate code method of check in for accountability and security purposes and re-establishing the Horse Camp (individual and group type camping) at Live Oak Camp as shown in the Cachuma Recreation Master Plan EIS (CRMP) Figure 3.9-3.

One item discussed was particularly troublesome to hear. The representative told us the environmental baseline for analysis at Live Oak Trail will be defined as the equestrian trail that is also open to hikers. We disagree with this determination.

The environmental baseline for the Live Oak Trail analysis for the Santa Barbara Countywide Recreational Master Plan must be defined as the existing setting at the time the project was initiated. This is consistent with other Comprehensive, and Master Plans developed anywhere else and at any other time in the County. The Recreation Master Plan was initiated in 2020 when the Live Oak Trail was for equestrian use only. This is the

environmental baseline at Live Oak Trail for purposes of evaluation in the Santa Barbara Countywide Recreational Master Plan

Impacts from hikers and other trail users, mechanized, or otherwise must be evaluated. The Notice of Exemption (NOE, 1/12/2021, Attached) for the "Pilot Project" is misleading and inadequate. The Parks Division told the SYVR and the US Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) that the project was to study trail use by counting the number of users for 18-months and evaluating the trail and trails users at the end of that period. We asked several times for a written description for the "Pilot Project" and the date the project was authorized by the USBR but have not received it to date. Because the USBR's approval date of the project is not available, it has been difficult to determine the dates available to challenge the NOE, especially during the pandemic when normal filing channels and processes have been disrupted.

According to the NOE's project description, "the Project" is for a permanent project that includes equestrians, hikers, and mountain bikes although no significant impacts have been evaluated as noted in the CRMP and **NO MITIGATIONS** identified as mandatory in the CRMP have been implemented as part of the "Pilot Project". Therefore, impacts are not reduced to a less than a significant level.

For example, the CRMP requires that measures to reduce impacts to the nesting colony of Bald Eagles must be included in a required Trail System Master Plan (Page 4-39). A Draft Trail System Master Plan (Attached) provided to us by Jeff Lindgren at the time the trail was opened to hikers (April 15th, 2021). No such measures or mitigations are included in the Trails System Management Plan to protect the eagles or their nesting habitat in Santa Cruz Canyon. The same can be said for other impact areas that were identified in the CRMP as potentially significant, but the required mitigation measures are not part of the current "Pilot Project".

We are in the 8th week of the "Pilot Project" and to date there is no accurate way to account for all users at the Live Oak Trail. This has plagued the "Pilot Project" from the start and the project should not have gone forward until all necessary elements of the project were identified, equipment installed and ready to collect data. Mr. Lindgren and Mr. Menzies of the Park Division assure me that a trail counter is on order. Our riders with Annual Passes continue to put their information on collection envelopes and place them in the iron range, so our equestrian riders are with at least some accuracy counted. On Saturday, I learned that the Ranger who monitors the Live Oak Trail parking lot and collects the envelopes is throwing our Annual Pass envelopes away. Apparently, they never make it to Todd Sapien, Cachuma Lake Supervisor, who is entering the numbers into a database for analysis. Please ensure our equestrian Annual Pass Holders are counted!

Given the current misrepresentation of the "Pilot Project", lack of mitigations in place to protect sensitive resources in compliance with the CRMP, and lack of credible data to accomplish the purpose of the "Pilot Project", the entire project is in violation of the NOE and must be put on hold until the required mitigations and an accurate accounting of trail users can be put into place. Only then can the actual "Pilot Project" be re-started to accomplish its stated purpose. This should bump the 18-month completion date out to January 2023 if all project elements come together in July.

In addition, we request that your Board direct the Parks Division to define the environmental baseline at the Live Oak Trail with equestrian trail riders and the existing grazing permittee as the only uses approved by the USBR. Without your direction, the Santa Barbara Countywide Recreational Master Plan will be set up for invalid evaluation and waste tax-payer money. The document will be invalid even before it even gets published.

A County agency cannot pre-engineer a desired existing setting (environmental baseline). The "Pilot Program" inconsistencies, switching the NOE's Project Description from the "Pilot Project" to a permanent project, implementing the "Pilot Project" without any way to accurately count trail users and accomplish the goal of the project or including all mitigation measures required by the CRMP all point to an engineering of the policies and a project at Live Oak Trail for a preconceived outcome. This type of contrived circumventing of the public process, ignoring well-established County protocols and the CRMP requirements cannot stand.

We will continue to voice our concerns and inform your Board of the inconsistencies with the "Pilot Project", its approval and the methods (or lack thereof) to implement the project's stated purpose - accurate data gathering. We believe this project is only the first phase to introduce mountain bikes on the Live Oak Trail which we remain steadfastly against. Without fair and consistent baseline definition we believe the vehicle to achieve this objective is the Santa Barbara Countywide Recreational Master Plan. The environmental baseline at Live Oak cannot arbitrarily be changed based on six months of focused, biased out-come project planning.

We thank you for your time and attention to our concerns.

Best Regards,

Kathleen Rosenthal
2021 President
Santa Ynez Valley Riders

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

FROM: Community Services Department, Parks Division

Based on a preliminary review of the project, the following activity is determined to be exempt from further environmental review requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) of 1970, as defined in the State and County Guidelines for the implementation of CEQA.

APN(s) 145-160-073

LOCATION: Cachuma Lake Recreation Area, 2225-4600 Highway 154, Santa Barbara, CA

PROJECT TITLE: Live Oak Trails Multi-Use Program

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The Live Oak trails system consists of approximately 15 miles of existing dirt roads and trails on the North Shore of Cachuma Lake. These trails are on leased grazing land within the Cachuma Lake Recreation Area in Santa Barbara County which is owned by the Bureau of Reclamation ("BOR") and managed by the Santa Barbara County Community Services Department Parks Division ("Parks"). The lease has allowed horses and cattle to graze the land. Historically, the BOR and Parks have allowed equestrians to access the trail system which is approximately 90% dirt service roads. The purpose of the program will be to allow hikers and mountain bikers on these roads and trails, in addition to equestrians (multi-use).

EXEMPT STATUS: (Check One)

- Ministerial
- Statutory
- Categorical Exemption**
- Emergency Project
- No Possibility of Significant Effect

Cite specific CEQA Guideline Section: Section 15301 (g)

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 CLERK OF THE
 BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Reasons to support exemption findings (attach additional material, if necessary):

The proposed action is categorically exempt from environmental review pursuant to Section 15301 [Existing Facilities] of the Guidelines for Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The CEQA Existing Facilities exemption at Section 15301 allows for the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of use. The proposed Live Oak Trails Multi-Use Program does not involve an expansion of use under the reasonably same parameters that currently exist, therefore, change in signage indicating this usage is exempt from CEQA in accordance with Section 15301 (g).

With regard to the proposed project, the exceptions to the Existing Facilities categorical exemption that must be considered pursuant to Section 15300.2 of the State CEQA Guidelines are :

- (a) Location. Classes 3,4,5,6, and 11 are qualified by consideration of where the project is to be located - a project that is ordinarily insignificant in its impact on the environment may in a particularly sensitive environment be significant. Therefore, these classes are considered to apply in all instances, except where the project may impact on an environmental resources of hazardous or critical concern where designated, precisely mapped, and official adopted pursuant to law by federal, state, or local agencies.*

The Section 15301 is a Class 1 Categorical Exemption, therefore, this exception is not applicable.

- (b) Cumulative Impact. All exemptions for these classes are inapplicable when the cumulative impact of successive projects of the same type in the same place, over time is significant.*

There are no successive projects of the same type in the same place anticipated for this location. There is only an expansion of mode of usage on existing ranch roads. There is no cumulative impact and, therefore this exception does not apply.

- (c) Significant Effect. A categorical exemption shall not be used for an activity where there is a reasonable possibility that the activity will have a significant effect on the environment due to unusual circumstances.*

The expanded trail use on an existing road/trail system will not result in any physical changes or have significant impacts to the environment and therefore will not result in a significant effect on the environment.

- (d) Scenic Highways. A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project which may result in damage to scenic resources, including but not limited to trees, historic buildings, rock outcroppings, or similar resources, within a highway officially designated as a state scenic highway. This does not apply to improvements, which are required as mitigation by an adopted negative declaration or certified EIR.*

This proposed project is on existing roads and trails, and as such this exception does not apply.

- (e) Hazardous Waste Sites. A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project located on a site which is included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code.*

This proposed project is not located on a site which is included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code. Therefore, it is not located on a hazardous waste site and this exception does not apply.

- (f) Historical Resources. A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project which may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource.*

This proposed project does not involve any impact to historical resources. Users must stay on existing ranch roads and trails. This exception does not apply.

As described above, none of the exceptions to the categorical exemptions contained within Section 15300.2 of the State CEQA Guidelines apply to this project.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Jill Van Wie Phone: (805) 568-2470

Date filed with Clerk of Board

J. Cameron 1/12/2021
Department/Division Representative Date
for Jill Van Wie

NOTE: A copy of this document must be filed with the County Clerk of the Board



Live Oak Trails

Trail Management Shared-Use Access Plan

Background

The Live Oak Trails are on the north eastern portion of Cachuma Lake. The Live Oak trails include 15 miles of trails on 3,000 acres of leased grazing land with existing trails consisting of mostly ranch service roads (90% ranch roads / 10% non-vehicular trail). Public access is currently restricted to equestrians on horseback only. Hiking is not currently permitted.

A 25-year lease with the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) was adopted in by the Board of Supervisors in 2012 and authorizes County Parks to manage recreation within the Cachuma Recreation Area. Guidance is through the BOR Resource Management Plan, 2010 (RMP) which, among other recreational opportunities, allows for hiking and biking under a similar system currently used by the equestrians. Providing hikers access to Live Oak Trails is specifically identified as the preferred alternative presented in the BOR's Cachuma Lake Resource Management Plan (as is biking).

In 2019, Santa Barbara County Parks (Parks) received a request by the County Riding and Hiking Trail Advisory Committee (CRAHTAC) to explore hiking and biking on Cachuma's north shore. CRAHTAC has stated that many conversations had occurred over the years with no action taken by Parks to date.

The shared use for Live Oak Trails will allow hiking in addition to existing equestrian use starting April 15, 2021. Bikes and e-bikes will not be allowed on the Live Oak trails for a period of 18 months. If biking is considered in the future, it would involve an expansion of the trail network and/or maintaining restrictions on biking to create user separation.

Live Oak Trails Goals

- The primary goal of the land manager, Parks, is to consider and pursue all allowable activities as specified by the RMP.
- Balance natural resource protection and recreational opportunities within the Cachuma Recreation Area.
- Ensure a safer trail network. Rangers to routinely monitor trails / parking area to address and document violations and incidents. Spearhead area familiarization with EMS Responders, Search and Rescue and County Parks Rangers.
- Receive input from the equestrian community that have utilized this public land for over 30 years.
- Maintain excellent communication with grazing leaseholder. The ranching and grazing operation consist of nearly 20 competition rodeo horses occupying the property year-round and around 300 head of cattle grazing from Fall to Spring.
- Improve Parks communication with the public. Revisit the intensive and confusing registration process. Update the website and improve / replace outdated signage.
- Consider future infrastructure and facility improvements including equestrian amenities.

Public Involvement and Feedback

The Bureau of Reclamation has considered comments on the Draft EIS which included hiking and biking on the Live Oak Trails during the public review period that concluded on October 31, 2008, and included public hearing on August 26, and October 8, 2008. The final EIS includes editorial and technical changes, factual corrections, and clarifications made in response to public comments.

Additional comments from the public can be provided regarding Live Oak Trail at trails@sbparks.org. Emails may be used to build a user database of interested parties for further outreach. The registration process and signage will direct trail users to the Parks email to encourage continued public feedback.

The County Riding and Hiking Trail Advisory Committee (CRAHTAC) includes Live Oak trails as a standing agenda item for discussion.

Trail Access

Currently, equestrians must be holding a County Parks day-use or annual permit and make a reservation with Rangers each day they visit. Although no limits are specified by Parks on the number of equestrians that can visit Live Oak, visitation is extremely low. County Parks has been tracking data on equestrian registration which averaged around 2.4 registered riders per day (from July 2020 to December 2020) and increased to six registered riders per day with some promotion of the trail in late Winter 2020 and early Spring 2021. According to equestrian groups, organized group trail rides have been attended by nearly 100 equestrians at one time at Live Oak.

Once hiking is introduced, new users will need to be educated on the registration process as the current process is confusing. Live Oak access will be managed similar to Forest Service trail access. Users will simply park at the trailhead, register their vehicle in the parking lot, pay a \$10 fee or display their valid pass and access the trails for the day.

Users must have one of three Cachuma Lake passes or pay a \$10 fee on site. Acceptable passes include:

1. A valid County Parks annual pass,
2. A valid Cachuma day use permit,
3. A valid Cachuma overnight camping permit, or
4. Onsite registration with a \$10 day-use fee paid at the "fee tube/iron ranger" at the trail head gate.

The Cachuma Lake front gate will no longer register users for Live Oak Trail. Rangers will open the Live Oak gate before 8:00 am and close the gate before sunset seven days per week and patrol the parking lot and trails as needed.

Trail access ongoing tasks to be reviewed periodically:

- Improve sign clarity.
- Consider installing cameras to monitor the parking area and front gate.
- Consider developing a parking lot plan.
- Work with grazing leaseholder on gates, fences and any issues.
- Work with the equestrian community on equestrian and hiker etiquette.

- Perform supervised site visits with all user groups and interested parties.

This registration system should limit confusion and allow for better public compliance. This will allow Parks to assess demand and continue to improve the process. Parks should revisit this process often to ensure it is the appropriate public access strategy.

Restrictions and Violations

All Parks Chapter 26 Ordinances (Appendix C) apply to Live Oak trails.

Noteworthy rules

- Dogs are prohibited due to cattle and horses on the property.
- Camping is not allowed at Live Oak trails, no overnight parking at the trailhead parking lot.
- No bicycles, ebikes or motorized vehicles.
- No swimming in Cachuma Lake or the Santa Ynez River.

Parking Area Modifications

Parking is restricted to the lower Live Oak lot from 8:00 am to one hour before sunset, year-round. Warnings (with trail access rules) will be placed on any cars found in the lot after that time and their information will be logged. Repeat violators can be ticketed. A gate at the far end of the parking lot before Live Oak Camp has been installed to prevent trespassing into the camp area facilities.

- Portable restroom added to Live Oak trail head parking area.
- Pack it in/Pack it out; no trash services available. Monitor for issues.
- Consider a designated equestrian staging area with horse tie ups/water trough.
- Replace existing front entry signs and "Please Close the Gate" signs. Signs should address Hours of Operations, Registration Procedures, No Hunting, Close Gates, Stay on the Designated Trails, No Feeding of Horses/Cattle, No Swimming, Horse/Hiker Etiquette including General Trail Etiquette (https://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/fseprd553395.pdf).

Trail Maintenance

Trail maintenance is the process of keeping a trail at its intended standards while ensuring that the trail is safe for public use. The maintenance of a trail includes numerous efforts ranging from mowing, brush removal, the replacement of damaged signs, or even to reconstruct the trail. Trail maintenance includes keeping the trail free from obstructions as well as ensuring proper drainage and tread maintenance, and addressing social trails. A well-maintained and constructed trail will provide visitors with a safe, pleasant, and memorable nature experience.

The grazing leaseholder is currently responsible for trails and associated trail maintenance, fencing, and gates throughout the Lease 1 area which includes Live Oak. Parks, along with approval from the grazing leaseholder, will perform, or supervise, routine maintenance and trail projects on public access trail corridors and is responsible for all trail maintenance activities.

Parks has general Ranger and maintenance staff that can be utilized for limited trail related projects and is interested in becoming more involved at Live Oak. For over fifty years, Parks has partnered with 501(c)(3) not-for-profit trail organizations to improve and maintain the County's extensive trail system.

Experienced trail crews supplemented by volunteers organized by non-profit organizations will perform most routine maintenance with permission from Parks.

Trail Maintenance Standards

U.S. Forest Service Design Parameters:

Tread Width (inches): 18" - 48"

Target Grade (%): 3% - 12% max (ideally, no more than 8%)

Switchback Radius (feet): 5 - 8 feet

Target Cross-Slope (%): 5% - 10%

Clearing Width (inches): 72" - 96"

Clearing Height (feet): 12' clearance (ideally, no less than 10')

Short Pitch Maximum (%): 20% (up to 200' lengths)

Reference: USFS Trail Standards, Gaviota Coast Plan-Trail Construction Specifications

Social Trails

Social trails are trails that are made by users to shortcut or visit a desirable area where an actual trail does not go. These trails are not on the official map and are not part of the trail network. These social trails will be addressed to avoid erosion issues and to prevent damage to resources.

Live Oak has an extensive network of social/cattle trails. Parks will monitor and address these social trails while considering sustainability and impacts to the environment. Parks will consider closure of these social trails to allow the trail to heal. Some social trails may be adopted in the future with environmental review.

Trail Conditions and Access

Historically, the trails and roads are either graded by the grazing leaseholder or they are only there because of equestrian use. Additional trail maintenance standards should be employed to meet modern day trail maintenance best practices. Trail maintenance is commonly accomplished by volunteer trail work days led by a certified trail maintenance lead. Poorly designed and maintained trails can erode more from water than a well-designed trail that receives heavy (*RMP, Sec 3.10.2.2*).

Protocol to Close Off Trails During Wet Conditions

When precipitation reaches around 0.25 inch/hour in any 24-hour period trails will be closed for a minimum of one day. When the water level is high on the river crossing at the parking lot, the trail system will be closed.

Livestock Considerations

Live Oak is as an active cattle and horse grazing area. Trails through or near grazing lands exist throughout Santa Barbara County. Ranching, grazing and agriculture are generally considered compatible with trails and public access.

Trail users can expect to encounter horses throughout the year and cattle from approximately November to June. The grazing leaseholder has indicated that livestock should not bother people. Good communication with the leaseholder must be maintained.

Some considerations are necessary to keep the public safe and the livestock secure. Gates can be modified to spring loaded and self-latching with proper signage telling visitors to keep gates closed. Any

modifications to gates or trails should be equestrian friendly. Visitors will be notified with proper signage to stay away from animals during their visit. Current signs say “This trail is also used for grazing, you may encounter horses or cattle. Proceed at your own risk.” Additional signage is in Appendix A and will remind visitors to close the gates or not to feed livestock.

Property Ownership

The Cachuma Recreation Area is owned by the Bureau of Reclamation:
South-Central California Area Office
1243 "N" Street
Fresno, CA 93721-1813
559-262-0300

Recreation Management

The Cachuma Recreation Area is managed by the County of Santa Barbara Community Services
Department, Parks Division
123 East Anapamu Street, 2nd Floor
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
805-686-5055

List of Appendices

- Appendix A – Signage
- Appendix B – Maps
- Appendix C – Santa Barbara County Parks Chapter 26, Relevant Trail Ordinances
- Appendix D – Emergency Response Plan

Appendix A – Signage (more updated sign plan by summer of 2021)



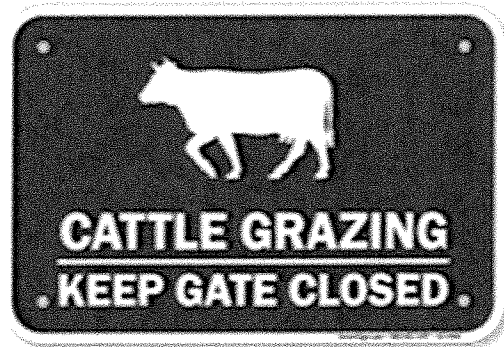
Current Parking Lot Entrance Signage – October 9, 2020



Current Equestrian Gate Signage – October 9, 2020



Livestock Sign (NHE-50529)



Keep Gate Closed Sign (K2-4605)

Appendix B - Maps



Figure 3-9-6 Road and Trails at Cachuma Lake

BOR Road and Trails at Cachuma Lake – RMP, 2008

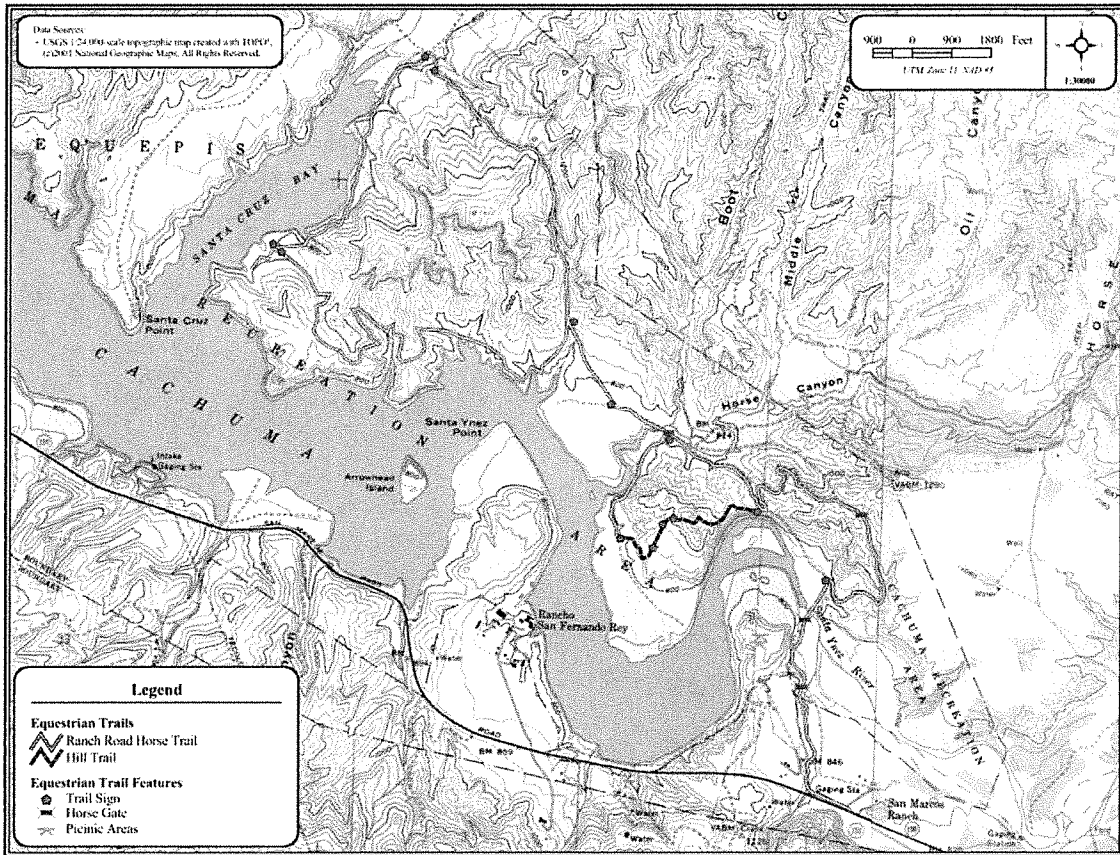


Figure 3.9-7. Equestrian Trails at Cachuma Lake

BOR Equestrian Trails at Cachuma Lake – RMP, 2010

Appendix C – Relevant Trail Ordinances

County Parks Rules and Regulations as they affect all County Managed Trails

- **Sec. 26-11. - Prohibited area.**

The personnel of the community services department may declare an area within a county recreation area to be a restricted area, not open to public use, not open for vehicle use, or may close facilities, to protect against contact with sanitary hazards, construction activities, maintenance activities, dangerous or unsafe conditions; to protect recreational features or facilities; to conserve resources; or for other cause. It shall be unlawful for a person to enter an area signed, posted or marked as restricted, not open to public use, closed to public use or closed; or to operate a vehicle within an area in violation of posted restrictions.

(Ord. No. 3708, § 1; Ord. No. 4833, § 1, 4-10-2012; Ord. No. 4965, § 1, 5-10-2016)

- **Sec. 26-15. - Trespassing.**

No person shall enter or remain in any portion of a county recreation area that is demarcated with signs stating "No Entry," "Keep Out," "No Trespassing," "Closed" or other prohibition of entry. No person shall enter or remain in any portion of any county recreation area outside of the hours of operation posted at or in such recreation area.

(Ord. No. 3708, § 1; Ord. No. 4965, § 1, 5-10-2016)

- **Sec. 26-25. - Gathering plants, wood, or any other vegetation is prohibited.**

No person shall gather flowers, foliage, berries, herbs, fruit, seeds, or cut, break, dig up or in any way mutilate, injure, or transplant any tree, shrub, plant, fern, grass, turf, landscaping, natural feature, railing, seat, fence, equipment, structure or other object or device within any county recreation area, except by permit of the director of community services, or deputy director.

(Ord. No. 3708, § 1; Ord. No. 4781, § 1, 3-12-2011; Ord. No. 4833, § 1, 4-10-2012; Ord. No. 4965, § 1, 5-10-2016)

- **Sec. 26-26. - Injuring, killing or molesting animals.**

No person shall injure, take, kill or molest any bird, mammal, reptile or other animal or disturb its habitat in any county recreation area except by permit of the director of community services, or deputy director.

(Ord. No. 3708, § 1; Ord. No. 4833, § 1, 4-10-2012; Ord. No. 4965, § 1, 5-10-2016)

- **Sec. 26-27. - Campfires and open fires.**

No person shall build, use or maintain any open fire within any recreation area that is deemed to be unsafe by individuals defined in [section 26-3](#). This includes any fire within any county recreation area during a period of time declared to be a time of high fire hazard by park division personnel, except as specifically permitted by the director of community services, or deputy director. Public notices of high fire hazard shall be posted within the recreation area when applicable. Bonfires/open flames, BBQs are prohibited on county beaches, unless approved by the director of community services or designee or it is a camping park designated fire pit.

(Ord. No. 3708, § 1; Ord. No. 4833, § 1, 4-10-2012; Ord. No. 4965, § 1, 5-10-2016)

- **Sec. 26-29. - Littering prohibited.**

No person shall dump or deposit any trash, refuse, garbage, litter or other kind of waste materials in any county recreation area except in approved containers specifically placed and designated to receive such waste material.

(Ord. No. 3708, § 1; Ord. No. 4965, § 1, 5-10-2016)

- **Sec. 26-30. - Water pollution prohibited.**

No person shall contaminate or pollute the waters of, or introduce any noxious, flammable, hazardous, poisonous or offensive substance within any lake, slough, creek, stream or other body of water within or adjoining any county recreation area.

(Ord. No. 3708, § 1; Ord. No. 4965, § 1, 5-10-2016)

- **Sec. 26-37. - Firearms, weapons, etc.**

Except as may be required of peace officers, or as may be authorized in writing by the director of community services for purposes of allowing bow fishing in accordance with state law, no person shall bring any firearm, air powered, gas- or spring-propelled weapon, slingshot, bow, cross-bow, blowgun or other device designed, intended or customarily used to harm, threaten or damage any person, animal or thing into any county park or county beach. Cutlery, utensils, saws and hatchets, properly used in context with the preparation of food, shall be excepted from this prohibition. The community services director or designee may issue permits authorizing the possession of bow fishing equipment and use of such items under conditions and limitations deemed appropriate by the director.

(Ord. No. 3708, § 1; Ord. No. 4760, § 1, 9-28-2010; Ord. No. 4833, § 1, 4-10-2012; Ord. No. 4965, § 1, 5-10-2016)

- **Sec. 26-38. - Camping prohibited.**

No person shall camp; conduct any housekeeping; or stay overnight in any county recreation area except in designated camp sites in accordance with the rules, regulations and entry requirements required for said campsites.

(Ord. No. 3708, § 1; Ord. No. 4965, § 1, 5-10-2016)

- **Sec. 26-38.1. - Unlawful use of vehicle/recreation vehicle.**

(a)

It is unlawful for any person to use any vehicle or recreational vehicle or trailer for the purposes of sleeping or human habitation or camping purposes in any county recreation area unless otherwise provided for or pursuant to a valid lease from the county or by specific written permission or authorization from the board of supervisors;

(Ord. No. 4965, § 1, 5-10-2016)

Appendix D – Emergency Response Plan

Emergency Response

Currently, there are few incidents on the Live Oak Trails. County Parks is aware of the possibility of an increase in accidents or medical emergencies when hiking is introduced. Heatstroke, injuries from the loose terrain and even animal encounters all have potential to require emergency response.

Nearly all of the trails are accessible with a 4X4 County Parks or Fire Pickup Truck. Additionally, Cachuma Lake Rangers have two patrol boats which could provide quickest access to some trails. Cell reception throughout the trails is generally good but should not be relied upon when in the backcountry, particularly in low lying valleys.

Response Agencies

Santa Barbara County Parks Rangers – Monitor 2 times / day, response, purposeful trail patrols 2 times / week
Santa Barbara County Fire Department – Response, site inspections
Santa Barbara County Sheriff – Response
Santa Barbara County Search and Rescue – Response
California Highway Patrol – Response
United States Forest Service – Response
CalStar 7 - Response

Cachuma Lake County Park is a staffed campground six miles away from the Live Oak trailhead. County Parks will provide periodic patrols of the Live Oak trails. Additionally, Santa Barbara County Fire Department Station 32 is 12 miles away.

The Cachuma Lake Recreation Area is a mandatory helicopter medical evacuation area for serious emergencies. This means that CalStar 7 is 'automatically dispatched' for any serious emergency and will respond without being specifically requested. There are many areas on the property where a helicopter can land throughout the trail system. CalStar 7 air ambulance (helicopter) is located in Santa Maria.

Local Medical Facility

Santa Ynez Valley Cottage Hospital
2050 Viborg Rd.
Solvang, Ca 93463
(805) 688-6431

Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital ER
West Junipero St. and Castillo St.
Santa Barbara, CA 93105
(805) 682-7111

Emergency Response Provisions

Call 911. Cell phone service is generally good but can be poor in low lying valleys. There are no facilities or on-site responders. Rangers are six miles away at Cachuma Lake.

Emergency Response Equipment

- First Aid Kit
- Fire Extinguishers
- County cell phones
- Hand tools for possible utility shut-off

Emergency Response to:

FIRE

- Call 911
- Evacuate area
- Provide first aid if injuries and respond accordingly
- Shut off utilities if possible
- Utilize fire extinguishers
- Remove vehicles and flammable/combustible items from area if possible

EXPLOSION

- Call 911
- Evacuate area
- Provide first aid if injuries and respond accordingly
- Check for fire
- Shut off utilities if possible

SPILL

- Call 911, if necessary
- Stop source
- Attempt secondary containment
- Seal off area

EARTHQUAKE

- Move to open areas away from structures, trees, power lines, etc.
- Shut off utilities if possible
- Evacuate to predetermined location
- Evacuate to Calle Real / Trailhead
- Secure heavy or dangerous items
- Check systems

FLOOD

- Evacuate to safe area as necessary
- Make sure that hazardous materials are stored out of flood zone / creek
- Move sensitive equipment to a higher location
- Sandbag where possible to protect facility & equipment

Evacuation Procedures:

- Evacuate area: clear grounds and exit to Highway 154.

- Call 911.
- Staff to meet at Live Oak front gate or prearranged location for roll call.
- Front gate is to be kept clear.

Emergency Contact List for Live Oak Trails **-- as of 3/16/2021

NAMES / TITLES	PHONE / EMAIL
1. Jon Menzies Trails Coordinator Parks Division	Cell: 729-7508 Email: jmenzies@sbparks.org
2. Jeffery Lindgren Superintendent Parks Division	Work: 568-2475 Cell: 896-7002 Email: jlindgren@sbparks.org
3. Todd Stepien Mid-County Operations Manager Parks Division	Work: 686-5076 Cell: 698-9932 Email: tstepien@sbparks.org
4. Gregory Milligan Safety Officer Risk Management	Work: 884-6864 Cell: 705-0454 Email: gmilligan@countyofsb.org
5. SB Ranger District US Forest Service	Phone: 448-3648

****CONTINUE CALLING UNTIL YOU HAVE TALKED TO ONE OF THE PEOPLE LISTED ABOVE. ALWAYS NOTIFY YOUR SUPERVISOR AFTER AN EMERGENCY.**

Trail Maintenance Fire Precautions

The Live Oak trails are located in a high fire danger area. To limit the potential for a fire occurring as a result of trail maintenance being conducted, extreme vigilance is required, especially if the project involves the use of power tools or machinery that could start a fire. These guidelines were provided by Santa Barbara County Fire in regards to trail maintenance.

- County Fire should be contacted prior to work start, especially during periods of high fire danger or while power tools.
- An accessible fire extinguisher or water can must be on hand during the course of the project.
- Start work in the early hours of the morning and cease when the humidity drops below 20% and/or wind gusts above 15 mph arise. Humidity can be determined with a hygrometer or by referencing the nearest Project Activity Levels (PAL).
- Work shall end 90 minutes prior to anticipated fire weather activity.

- Crews shall monitor the probability of ignition, or similar calculation, to determine when work shall cease.
- Crews shall stay in the area for at least 30 minutes to ensure sparks do not start a fire.
- Call 9-1-1 at the earliest moment a significant injury or fire occurs.

Santa Barbara County Fire Contact List – as of 1/12/2021

- Battalion Chief Garrett, Deputy Fire Marshall / Huff Garrett.Huff@sbcfire.com
- Captain Jason Sweet, Vegetation Management / Jason.sweet@sbcfire.com
- Captain Glenn Fidler, Planning & Engineering (access standards) / glenn.fidler@sbcfire.com
- Battalion Chief Anthony Stornetta, Air & Wildland (Air Support Unit) / Anthony.stornetta@sbcfire.com

Preventing Fires while Performing Trail Maintenance

Task-Procedure	Hazard	Mitigation actions
Using Power Tools	Fire hazard from sparking in rocky terrain or where the brush is dry.	Power trimmers or weed whackers with any type of metal blade or other cutting blade will not be used without permission from County Fire.
Spark Arrestors	Sparks from exhaust.	All chainsaws and other machinery that have exhaust outlets will have Forest Service approved spark arrestors on them.
Brush cutting with chain saw.	Sparks.	Chain saw cutting should be limited to a minimum of 12” above any ground surface or rocky areas where sparking may occur. Chain saws shall be limited to use in the mornings before noon or when conditions exist that minimize the potential for a fire (such as foggy weather, shade, lack of flammable vegetation such as dry grasses).
Extinguishing smoldering areas or embers.	Wildfire spread.	In any location where power tools or machinery are being used there shall be a shovel and fire extinguisher present and available should a fire begin.

Fueling

Fire from gas spilled on
muffler or other ignition
source

Crew members shall patrol the work area regularly to ensure that any spot fires that may be starting can be identified and put out. Crew member will stay a minimum of 30 minutes at the end of the work day or if moving to another work site to ensure that any fire starts or smoldering material is not allowed to escape.

Let saw cool before refueling

Fuel up on bare ground, prevent spillage during fueling

NO SMOKING DURING REFUELING

Move at least 10 feet away from fueling area before starting saw

Stay 20 feet away from ignition sources when fueling

Replace excessively gas/oil-soaked gloves

Read, and be familiar with MSDS

Mix fuel in well ventilated area

Clean up spills promptly

Use labeled containers