

**CEQA CHECKLIST
PAMO VALLEY SEGMENT OF THE COAST TO CREST TRAIL**

1. Project title: San Dieguito River Park Coast to Crest Trail: Pamo Valley Trail Segment

2. Lead agency name and address:

San Dieguito River Park Joint Powers Authority
18372 Sycamore Creek Road
Escondido, CA 92025

3. Contact person and phone number: Shawna Anderson, AICP – Principal Planner
858-674-2275 x 13

4. Project location:

The project is located in Pamo Valley, north of State Highway 78 between Boden Canyon to the west, Lake Sutherland to the east, and the Town of Ramona to the south, in the unincorporated area of San Diego County.

5. Project sponsor's name and address:

Same as #2 above.

6. General plan designation: Agriculture

7. Zoning: AG-1-1 (Agriculture)

8. Description of project:

The San Dieguito River Park Joint Powers Authority (JPA) proposes to construct the 2.78-mile long Pamo Valley segment of the Coast to Crest Trail. The Coast to Crest Trail is a planned 71-mile-long, multi-use regional trail that is envisioned to ultimately extend from the ocean at Del Mar to Volcan Mountain, just north of Julian. Approximately 45 miles of the regional trail has already been constructed and is now in use. The section of trail currently under consideration is included in both the JPA-adopted San Dieguito River Park Concept Plan (1994, updated 2002) and the County of San Diego Regional Trails Plan. The Pamo Valley Trail would link two existing forest trails, the Lower Santa Ysabel Truck Trail (3.4 miles) and the Upper Santa Ysabel Truck Trail (6.11 miles) to create one continuous trail for a total of approximately 12 miles. The proposed project also includes two trail staging areas adjacent to Pamo Road at the north and south ends of the trail.

9. Surrounding land uses and setting:

The project is in a rural area of the County, in Pamo Valley near Ramona. Most of Pamo Valley is grassland owned by the City of San Diego, which they lease for cattle grazing. No development (structures) exists in the project area except one single-family home on an outlying private parcel on the east side of Pamo Road. Other single-family homes previously existed north of the project site but were lost or heavily damaged in the 2007 wildfire that burned much of the valley and are no longer occupied. The setting is bucolic with tree-lined Santa Ysabel Creek and its tributaries and rolling hills forming the river valley. The main creek runs north-south through Pamo Valley and then turns west and continues toward Boden Canyon. From the east, the creek comes from Sutherland Reservoir. Pamo Road runs north-south adjacent to the creek. The surrounding hillsides are also undeveloped and are covered with chaparral and sage scrub vegetation.

10. Other public agencies whose approval is required:

California Fish and Wildlife (consultation); City of San Diego (Site Development Permit); County of San Diego (encroachment permit).

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact" as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics | <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture and Forestry Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Air Quality | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation/Traffic |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Geology /Soils | <input type="checkbox"/> Utilities / Service Systems |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Greenhouse Gas Emissions | <input type="checkbox"/> Hazards & Hazardous Materials | <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrology / Water Quality | <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory Findings of Significance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use / Planning | <input type="checkbox"/> Mineral Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Noise | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Population / Housing | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation | |

DETERMINATION: (To be completed by the Lead Agency)

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.



Signature

3/16/16

Date

EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

ISSUES AREAS:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<u>I. AESTHETICS.</u> Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The project is a public trail that would not intrude on any scenic vista. No structures are proposed and the trail is designed to blend in with the rural atmosphere of the area by using native soil or decomposed granite for the trail surface and staging areas, and lodgepole and wire fencing where needed. Design techniques listed in the design guidelines of the San Dieguito River Park Concept Plan were utilized to minimize disturbance and grading of the natural terrain. These techniques include minimizing grading, following the natural contours, and using native plants to revegetate any areas temporarily disturbed by construction activities.				
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The trail is aligned to avoid (i.e., go around) rock outcroppings and trees. No trees would be removed. There are no historic buildings in the project area.				
c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The trail alignment utilizes existing dirt paths where they exist. The trail would be built according to the design guidelines contained in the San Dieguito River Park Concept Plan which addresses minimization of grading and use of native species for revegetation. The staging areas and trail would be closed at dusk and no lighting is proposed.				
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
No lighting is proposed for the trail or staging areas, and thus would not be a source of light and glare.				
<u>II. AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY RESOURCES.</u> Would the project:				
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pamo Valley is not mapped as Prime Farmland or any of the other farmland categories listed by the California Department of Conservation. However, the area is used for cattle grazing and so is used for an agricultural purpose. The proposed trail would not convert the grazing land to another use. The area would continue to be used as such and the trail is designed to allow cattle to traverse the area as currently allowed. The trail is aligned along the edge of the agricultural use and adjacent to Pamo Road and not through the middle of grazing operations. Therefore, the project would not significantly impact the existing farmland/grazing area.				

b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The trail use does not change any zoning or conflict with the current use or zone of agriculture. No Williamson Act contracts exist in the project area.				
c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The area is not zoned for forest land or timberland. The trail use is compatible with the surrounding U.S. Forest land and would link two existing forest land trails (Lower and Upper Santa Ysabel Trails).				
d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
This trail would not convert forest land to other uses.				
e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
No farmland would be converted to non-agricultural uses. The trail would be accommodated along the edge of existing grazing land in Pamo Valley without affecting its use.				
<u>III. AIR QUALITY.</u> Would the project:				
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The trail is a non-motorized facility and would have no effect on implementing the area air quality plan. The trail would not change any regional or local growth projections or land use plans which are the basis for the air quality plans.				
b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The project would not generate a substantial number of vehicular trips. It is estimated that an average of approximately 100 vehicle trips per day may be generated by the availability of a recreational opportunity in Pamo Valley. Trail users would park at one of the staging areas to access the trail. These recreational trips would likely occur regardless of the construction of this project (i.e., to access other recreational facilities in the County instead). This small number of trips is not expected to violate any air quality standards.				
c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The project, as a component of the overall San Dieguito River Park Coast to Crest Trail, would contribute some contaminants to the San Diego Air Basin, which is a non-attainment area for ozone. This cumulatively significant air quality impact was evaluated in the San Dieguito River Park Concept Plan Final EIR. The recreational trips				

associated with the project would generally occur anyway to access other recreational facilities in the County. Construction activities may create temporary and localized emissions but this is expected to be temporary and of a low level.				
d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The project would not create substantial pollutant concentrations and trail users would not be exposed to any.				
e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The project would not create any odors.				
<u>IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES:</u>				
Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The trail would impact approximately 3.28 acres of grassland and upland vegetation. However, the trail route is designed to minimize impacts and mitigation measures will be incorporated into the project to mitigate impacts to less than significant. Refer to the expanded Biological Resources discussion in the Initial Study and the project Biological Technical Report for a detailed evaluation of project impacts and mitigation measures.				
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or US Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The project would impact non-native grassland and a small amount of coastal sage scrub habitat, but the trail route is designed to minimize potential impacts and mitigation measures would be incorporated into the project to mitigate impacts to less than significant. See the expanded Biological Resources discussion in the Initial Study and the project Biological Technical Report for a detailed evaluation of project impacts and mitigation measures.				
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The project has been designed to avoid direct impacts to all wetlands. No permits would be required. See the expanded Biological Resources discussion in the Initial Study and the project Biological Technical Report for a detailed evaluation.				
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The project is not expected to adversely affect or interfere with wildlife movement. Short sections of the trail would be fenced with a lodgpole-type fence to prevent trail users from harming adjacent sensitive biological or cultural resources, but the design and minimal amount of fencing would not interfere with wildlife movement. See the				

expanded Biological Resources discussion in the Initial Study and the project Biological Technical Report for a detailed evaluation of project impacts and mitigation measures.				
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
See the expanded Biological Resources discussion in the Initial Study and the project Biological Technical Report for a detailed evaluation of project impacts and mitigation measures.				
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The project site is not located within or adjacent to an HCP or the City or County preserve. The project site is considered "conserved lands" as publicly owned open space on which trails are an allowed use. See the expanded Biological Resources discussion in the Initial Study and the project Biological Technical Report for a detailed evaluation.				
<u>V. CULTURAL RESOURCES.</u> Would the project:				
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in § 15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
There are no historical resources present.				
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to § 15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>An archaeological survey has been completed for the Pamo Valley segment of trail which resulted in the identification of multiple archaeological sites within the trail alignment area of potential effect (APE). Although the trail was designed to avoid a majority of the archaeological sites, portions of two sites cannot be avoided, and as a result, further evaluation was required to determine the potential effect associated with trail maintenance and continued use (see <i>An Archaeological Evaluation of CA-SDI-7933 and CA-SDI-8279 for the San Dieguito River Park Pamo Trail Project</i>, ASM affiliates, September 2015). This evaluation included consultation with qualified staff from the City of San Diego and tribal members from the San Pasqual Band of Mission Indians and the Santa Ysabel Band of Diegueno Indians. The consultation resulted in minor modifications to the trail alignment to provide further protection and avoidance of the archaeological sites; however, there are some segments of the trail that will require capping to further minimize impacts to the sites from trail maintenance and use. Implementation of the capping plan, along with archaeological and Native American monitoring will reduce any potential adverse effects to archaeological resources to below a level of significance.</p> <p>See the Cultural Resources discussion in the Initial Study for a detailed evaluation of project impacts and mitigation measures.</p>				
c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The trail would not involve grading or enough subsurface disturbance to affect paleontological resources or geologic features. The trail would avoid (go around) rock outcrops and geologic features.				

d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Although prior studies of the Pamo Valley did not address human remains or burial sites, the potential for encountering human remains is possible anywhere in the City and County of San Diego. The San Dieguito River Park Concept Plan provides a process for monitoring and consultation in the event that any Native American remains and/or funerary objects are discovered as a result of any park activity. Furthermore, the Mitigation, Monitoring and Reporting Program for Archaeological and Native American Resources required by the City of San Diego includes specific provisions and protocols which would be implemented should human remains be discovered during ground disturbing activities in accordance with the California Public Resources Code and the California Health and Safety Code. This process would include initiating consultation with the state designated Native American MLD, which would reduce the potential for impacts to human remains to below a level of significance. See the Cultural Resources discussion in the Initial Study for a detailed evaluation of project impacts and mitigation measures.</p>				
VI. GEOLOGY AND SOILS. Would the project:				
a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:				
i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The project does not involve the construction of any structures that would be subject to earthquake damage or exposure of people to adverse risk or effects.				
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The project does not involve any structures that would be subject to earthquake damage or exposure of people to adverse risk or effects.				
iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The project area does not include soils that would be subject to liquefaction.				
iv) Landslides?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>Most of the trail route is along a valley where landslides would not be expected to occur. Some sections of the Lower Santa Ysabel Truck Trail are adjacent to steep slopes where landslides could occur, but the project would not introduce uses where large congregations of people would be exposed to landslides. Trail users would be subject to risks associated with outdoor recreation in backcountry areas where some level of risk is accepted.</p>				
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Most of the project area is flat with little topographic change where soil erosion is not anticipated to be high. The new sections of trail would be surfaced with either compacted native soils or D.G. if needed for stability or drainage, and sloped according to design practices to stabilize the trail and minimize erosion. The San Dieguito River Park Concept Plan design guidelines would be adhered to, which require construction techniques and trail maintenance to minimize soil erosion. Topsoil will be disturbed and subject to erosion during a storm event, so best management practices will be used to contain loose soil during construction (straw wattles, silt fences, etc.) and soil that is disturbed adjacent to the trail would be planted with native plants to stabilize loose soil.</p>				

c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The trail is designed to follow the natural contours and would not cause the land surface to become unstable.				
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The area is not expected to contain expansive soils.				
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
No septic tanks or wastewater disposal systems are proposed.				
<u>VII. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS.</u> Would the project:				
a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Construction activities may cause minor emissions but this is expected to be low. Light machinery and vehicles that emit greenhouse gasses are used minimally during construction of the trail mainly for initial scraping to create the trail. Most of the trail itself would be constructed using small equipment and hand tools that do not generate greenhouse gas emissions.				
b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The project would not generate emissions to any great degree. It is a non-vehicular recreational project that would not conflict with any land use plans or projections that would impact greenhouse gas emissions.				
<u>VIII. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS.</u> Would the project:				
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The project would not transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials.				
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
No hazardous materials would be used so release would not occur.				

c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The project would not emit or involve the handling of any hazardous emissions. No schools are nearby.				
d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The trail would not be located near any site on these lists.				
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The project is not within the vicinity of an airport.				
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The project is not within the vicinity of an airstrip.				
g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The project would not impair any emergency response plan.				
h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The project area is subject to wildland fires and was in fact burned in an extensive wildland fire in 2007. The land owner (City of San Diego) and the JPA have the authority to close affected trail segments in the event of a fire, or extreme fire risk conditions.				
<u>IX. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY.</u>				
Would the project:				
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The project does not involve any discharge into any water body. The staging areas are designed with permeable surfaces (compacted soil and D.G.) and are shaped to drain away from the riparian areas. Drainage swales will also be incorporated into the edge of the parking areas to further contain any runoff.				
b) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The project does not require the use of any groundwater.				

c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>The project would have no direct impacts on a stream course, and the nature of the project would not alter any drainage patterns. The project is designed to minimize impacts to wetlands and would use Pamo Road to cross Santa Ysabel Creek in two places rather than construct new trail bridges. Construction would occur near Santa Ysabel Creek and the trail would cross tributaries and drainages; therefore the potential for erosion and siltation exists in those drainages during construction. Adherence to the San Dieguito River Park Concept Plan design standards would reduce this impact to below a level of significance.</p> <p>The staging areas are designed with permeable surfaces (compacted soil and D.G.) and are shaped to drain away from the riparian areas. Drainage swales will also be incorporated into the edge of the parking areas to further contain any runoff.</p> <p>Topsoil will be disturbed and subject to erosion during a storm event. Best management practices will be used to contain loose soil during construction (straw wattles, silt fences, etc.) and soil that is disturbed adjacent to the trail would be planted with native plants to stabilize the soil.</p>				
d) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>The portions of the trail with a compacted decomposed granite surface would minimally increase impervious surfaces in the area. However, the trail tread is designed such that runoff is directed off the trail into the adjacent vegetation without causing erosion. Surface runoff would not increase by any measureable amount.</p>				
e) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>The trail and staging areas are pervious and would not change stormwater runoff patterns in the area that drain to undeveloped grazing land.</p>				
f) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>Water quality would not be affected by the project. The trail is non-vehicular and would not generate pollutants. Most equestrian manure would be concentrated in the staging areas and not on the trail itself. Both staging areas are located at least 325 feet from the river. Manure bins will be provided in the staging areas to reduce build-up and would be regularly emptied by ranger staff. Manure would be contained to the trail and would not runoff into adjacent drainages because it generally stays on the trail and decomposes.</p>				
g) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>The project does not involve housing.</p>				
h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>No structures are proposed. The trail would be subject to inundation in a 100-year flood and would not impede or redirect flood flows.</p>				

i) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Pamo Valley is within a 100-year floodplain and portions of the trail would be located in an area that could become inundated. During large storm events and periods of high flows the crossings and portions of the trail may be inundated. The trail would be closed to all use during those periods and would not expose people to flooding hazards.				
j) Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The trail is not located in an area where these hazards would occur.				
<u>X. LAND USE AND PLANNING.</u> Would the project:				
a) Physically divide an established community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The project is not located in a populated community.				
b) Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The project would contribute to the completion of a regional trail, the Coast to Crest Trail, which is included in and consistent with the San Dieguito River Park Concept Plan and the County of San Diego Regional Trails Plan. The project would not conflict with these or any other land use plans.				
c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The project site is within the County's NCCP planning area, but is not in an identified preserve. However, trails are an allowed use in the County's MSCP and the project is designed with minimal impacts to plants and animal species and trail use would not conflict with future implementation of an NCCP.				
<u>XI. MINERAL RESOURCES.</u> Would the project:				
a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
No known mineral resources would be affected by this project.				
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
No known mineral resources would be affected by this project.				

<u>XII. NOISE</u> -- Would the project result in:				
a) Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The trail would not generate any noise nor would it expose persons to high noise levels. No residential uses are near the trail.				
b) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The trail would not generate excessive vibration nor would it expose persons to high vibration levels.				
c) A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The trail would not generate any noise nor would it expose persons to high noise levels.				
d) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Some noise would be generated during construction of the trail but the noise would not be substantial. Trail construction within 300 feet of habitat for least Bell's vireo and southern willow flycatcher would occur outside of their breeding seasons.				
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The project is not located nearby an airport.				
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The project is not located nearby an airstrip.				
<u>XIII. POPULATION AND HOUSING.</u> Would the project:				
a) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
This trail project would not induce growth.				

b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
This trail would not displace any housing.				
c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
This trail would not displace any people.				
<u>XIV. PUBLIC SERVICES.</u>				
a) Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The trail would implement the San Dieguito River Park Concept Plan, a major regional park facility in the area. No changes to existing public services are anticipated.				
Fire protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Police protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Schools?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Parks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other public facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<u>XV. RECREATION.</u>				
a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The trail would provide a new recreational facility for existing and new users of the San Dieguito River Park, a regional park. However, this increase of users is anticipated and planned and would not cause the physical deterioration of the park.				
b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The project is a new recreational facility, and its impacts are addressed in the Initial Study.				

<u>XVI. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC.</u> Would the project:				
a) Conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including but not limited to intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>The project would not conflict with any plan for the existing circulation system. The project is in a rural area adjacent to one road, Pamo Road, a rural road operated by the County of San Diego. Most of the trail would be adjacent to (and not on) Pamo Road but would utilize two existing bridges on Pamo Road to cross the river in two places. The trail would also cross the road in three places. Pamo Road is a narrow, rural road with few trips in a non-populated area and has adequate line-of-sight for trail users and drivers to allow safe crossings. Signage is proposed on the trail and road to warn drivers and trail users about shared trail use. Because the trail would not be on the road itself except in two short segments, the trail would not impact the road's performance.</p> <p>The trail would only operate during daytime hours and the project includes a parking/trail staging area to provide off-street parking for trail users so that users do not park in the shoulder of the roadway.</p>				
b) Conflict with an applicable congestion management program, including, but not limited to level of service standards and travel demand measures, or other standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
See response to XV.a. There is no congestion management program for Pamo Road.				
c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
This is not applicable since air traffic patterns are not affected by the project.				
d) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>The project does not include any new roadways or changes to existing roadways. It has been designed to minimize hazards to existing drivers and trail users through the use of trail crossing signs where the trail is proposed to cross Pamo Road in three places. The rural road serves one existing resident and a cattle leasing operation and no known hazards would be introduced. No vehicles would travel on the trail except for ranger maintenance vehicles.</p>				
e) Result in inadequate emergency access?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Emergency access would not be affected. The area is accessible from Highway 78 and Pamo Road.				
f) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The trail would not impact any alternative transportation facilities and instead would provide a non-vehicular recreational amenity.				

<u>XVII. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS.</u> Would the project:				
a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The project is a trail in a rural area and would not involve any changes to existing utilities and service systems nor create the need for new or altered systems.				
b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
See response to XVIIa.				
c) Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
See response to XVIIa.				
d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
See response to XVIIa.				
e) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
See response to XVIIa.				
f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
See response to XVIIa.				
g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
See response to XVIIa.				
<u>XVIII. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE.</u>				
a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

The trail has been designed to avoid most environmental resources and would not interfere substantially with any fish or wildlife populations. It would not eliminate any examples of California history or prehistory. Some sections of the trail would traverse known archaeology sites. However, subsurface disturbance would be minimized in these areas through implementation of a capping plan, supervised by a qualified archaeologist, to protect any potential buried resources from disturbance or erosion from trail use along with the archaeological and Native American mitigation, monitoring and reporting program outlined in the MND.				
b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The impacts to biological and cultural resources would be mitigated by adherence to the San Dieguito River Park Concept Plan design standards and the mitigation measures identified in the Mitigated Negative Declaration. The project would not contribute any cumulatively considerable impacts.				
c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
No adverse impacts to human beings would occur from the project.				

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