

For your safety and the preservation of sensitive habitat...

- Please stay on designated trails and obey posted information.
- Dogs are welcome and must be on leash at all times. Please pick up after your pet!
- Open fires and smoking are prohibited.
- Overnight camping is prohibited and overnight parking is not permitted in staging areas.
- Possession of firearms or other weapons is prohibited.
- Motorized vehicles are not allowed on trails.
- Please help protect the special nature of the river valley... the collection of plant, animal or cultural specimens is strictly prohibited.

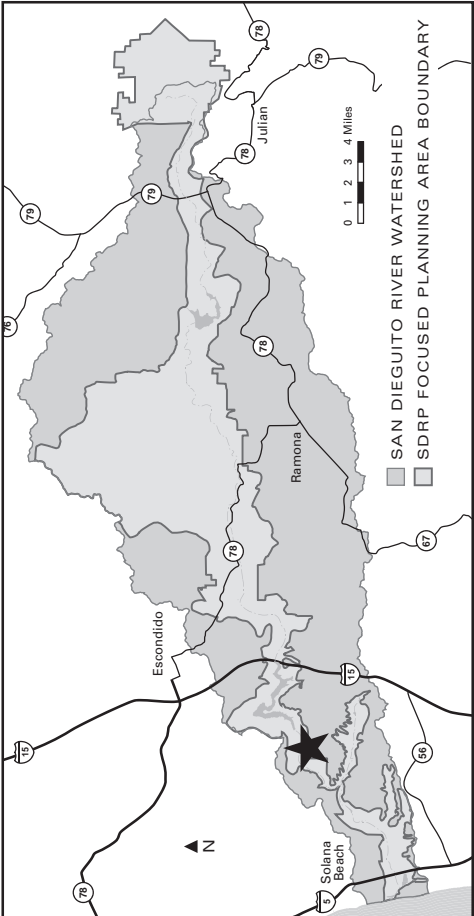
There are no facilities on the trails. Please remember to bring along enough water for you and your canine companion. The staging area and trails are open from sunrise to sunset. The Coast to Crest Trail is open to hikers, mountain bikes and equestrians.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE: San Dieguito River Park trails and activities are limited to public lands and private lands whose owners have given written consent. Inclusion in the Park's Focused Planning Area in no way affects the property rights of the owner. Private property may not be entered without the owner's permission. Trespassers may be subject to prosecution.

Established in 1989, the 92,000-acre San Dieguito River Park provides nature enthusiasts with striking examples of San Diego County's natural landscape from the Pacific Coast to the Pacific Crest. Learn more at www.sdrp.org.

Enjoy your visit!

Park Overview



With special thanks to the City of San Diego's Think Blue storm water pollution prevention program for a generous grant that made this series of trail guides possible. For more information about how you can "Think Blue!" at home and on the trail, visit www.thinkblue.org.

About the Trail

The only aspect more striking than the remarkable beauty of Del Dios Gorge and Santa Fe Valley is the area's archaeological significance. Artifacts exposed by a flood in 1927 led to excavations that later became the C.W. Harris Site Archaeological District, revealing more than 9,000 years of history belonging to the region's earliest inhabitants. Three prehistoric cultural periods characterize this area, giving a glimpse of how Native Americans might have lived as they journeyed throughout the resource-rich San Dieguito River Valley. The Harris Site is one of the most significant archaeological sites in the U.S. and is on the National Register of Historic Places.

Though the river's flow is minimal most of the year due to the Lake Hodges dam, constructed in 1918, the narrow canyon's riparian vegetation is complemented by coast live oak. The natural landscape here is made even more dramatic by the granite outcroppings covering the canyon floor. Restoration efforts in Del Dios Gorge will improve nesting and foraging habitat for the federally-endangered least Bell's vireo and southwestern willow flycatcher.

Visitors can spy the historic Hodges Flume winding along the north slope of the gorge, partially on trestles. The flume transported water by gravity from Lake Hodges to the San Dieguito Reservoir four miles to the west until 2003. Though Lake Hodges is actually higher than the San Dieguito Reservoir, an optical illusion makes it look like the water is traveling uphill!

The San Dieguito River Park's Coast to Crest Trail will stretch 70 miles from Del Mar to Volcan Mountain. The Santa Fe Valley staging area is accessible just off Del Dios Highway near Calle Ambiente in Rancho Santa Fe.

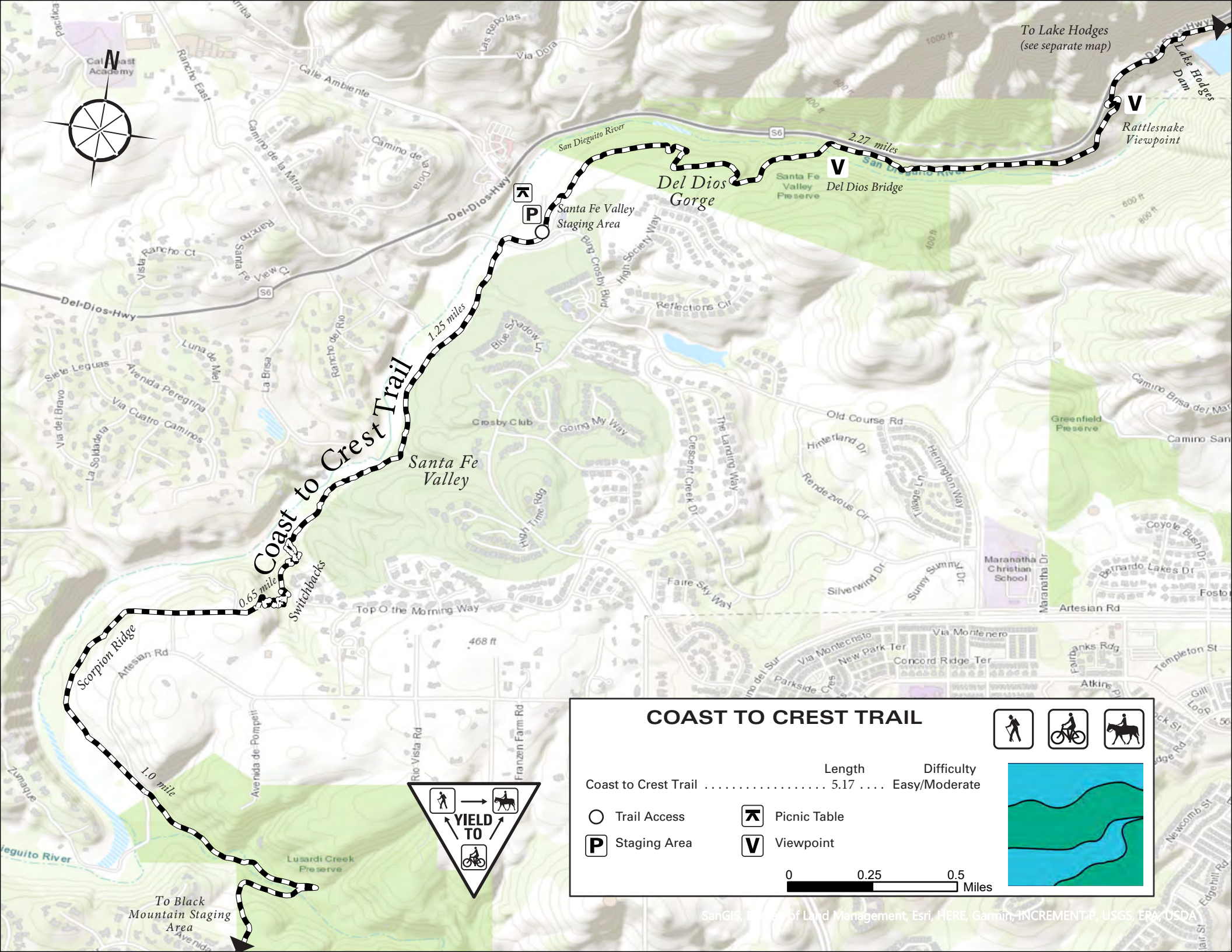
For maps and information about all the trails in the San Dieguito River Park, visit www.sdrp.org.



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sdrpmobile.org



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www.sdrp.org



To Lake Hodges
(see separate map)

V
Rattlesnake
Viewpoint

V
Del Dios Bridge

Del Dios
Gorge

Santa Fe Valley
Staging Area

Santa Fe
Valley

Coast to Crest Trail

0.65 miles
Switchbacks

1.0 mile

1.25 miles

2.27 miles

Length Difficulty
Coast to Crest Trail 5.17 Easy/Moderate

○ Trail Access
P Staging Area

⌘ Picnic Table
V Viewpoint

0 0.25 0.5 Miles

