Trails of the San Diegruto River Paru

COAST TO CREST



COAST TO CREST TRAILS & OTHER TRAILS AT LAKE HODGES

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.

 Dogs are not permitted within 50 feet of the lake shore.

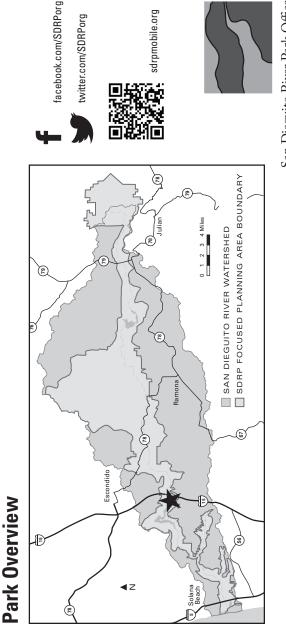
 Please pick up after your pet!
- Open fires and smoking are prohibited.
- Overnight camping is prohibited. Overnight parking is not permitted in staging areas.
- Permits are required for fishing and boating on Lake Hodges. Please contact the Lakes Office at (619) 668-2050 for more information about reservoir recreation.
- 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 areas and trails are open from sunrise to sunset. The Coast to Crest Trail and Bernardo Mountain Summit Trail are 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!



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 "Thin Blue!" at home and on the trail, visit www.thinkblue.org.

About the Trail

The Coast to Crest Trail winds its way along the north shore of Lake Hodges and part of old Highway 395, once the only major inland north-south route for motorized vehicles in the early part of the century. The 990-foot-long David Kreitzer Lake Hodges Bicycle Pedestrian Bridge that links the north and south shores of the lake is the longest stress ribbon structure in the world and was completed in 2009.

The Coast to Crest Trail provides a wonderful opportunity to observe hundreds of species of resident and migratory birds at Lake Hodges which was designated a globally Important Bird Area in 1999. The reservoir, created when the San Dieguito River was dammed in 1918, is now a critical stopover for migratory birds on the Pacific Flyway. The hillsides around the lake are dominated by coastal sage scrub and recognized as one of the largest strongholds of the federally-threatened California gnatcatcher.

Bernardo Mountain rises to over 1,100 feet on the north side of the lake and was protected from planned development with a citizen-led campaign that helped secure its purchase by the San Dieguito River Park and San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy in 2004. The Summit Trail takes visitors to the top of the mountain for breathtaking panoramic views where golden eagles once nested. At the base of the mountain is some of the last remaining habitat supporting the coastal cactus wren. The species, which nests only in mature prickly pear cacti and whose population is in sharp decline due to habitat loss, still finds a home here and in nearby San Pasqual Valley.

The San Dieguito River Park's Coast to Crest Trail will stretch 70 miles from the Coast in Del Mar to the Crest of Volcan Mountain, overlooking the Anza-Borrego Desert.

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

