

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.

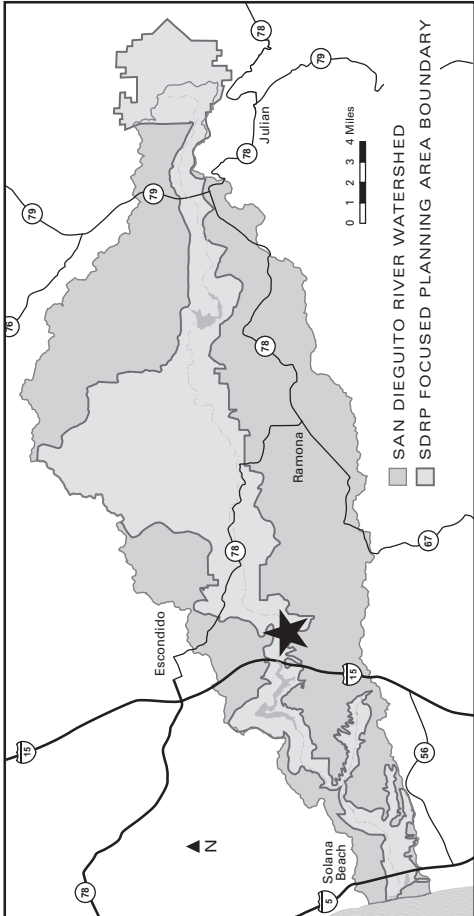
There are no facilities on the trails. Please remember to bring along enough water for you and your canine companion. The staging areas and trails are open from sunrise to sunset. All trails are open to hikers, mountain bikes and equestrians. Please do not trespass onto agricultural land.

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 Trails

The Mule Hill segment of the Coast to Crest Trail is rich with 19th century history, a time when the region was just being settled. The circa 1870 Sikes Adobe Historic Farmhouse, located near the Sunset Drive staging area, burned in the 2007 wildfires; only the adobe walls were left standing. The Farmhouse was reconstructed in 2010. The trail takes visitors past Mule Hill, an 1846 Mexican-American War battle site and State-registered landmark. Portions of the trail follow the old Butterfield Overland Stage Route, which carried mail between San Diego and Texas. The town of Bernardo, founded in the 1870s and flooded in 1918 when the San Dieguito River was dammed to form Lake Hodges, was located just to the west of Mule Hill.

Just over a mile from the Sunset Drive Staging Area, this Coast to Crest Trail begins to wind through the City of San Diego's San Pasqual Agricultural Preserve and becomes more challenging as it climbs along Raptor Ridge. The San Dieguito River Park's Coast to Crest Trail will one day stretch 70 miles from the ocean to the Pacific Crest. The Sunset Drive Staging Area is accessible just off I-15 and Via Rancho Parkway in Escondido. The North Shore Lake Hodges segment of the Coast to Crest Trail heads west from the Sunset Drive Staging Area as well.

The Highland Valley Trail follows the gentle hills on the south side of the valley, through woodland dotted with coast live oaks. The first section of the trail includes a Children's Interpretive Walk, dedicated in 1999 to Ruth Merrill who contributed greatly to open space preservation and the betterment of children through her volunteer work. Youngsters can learn about native wildlife through Discovery Points along the trail and a native plant garden. The Highland Valley Trail staging area is accessible just off I-15 and Pomerado Road in Rancho Bernardo.

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



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