



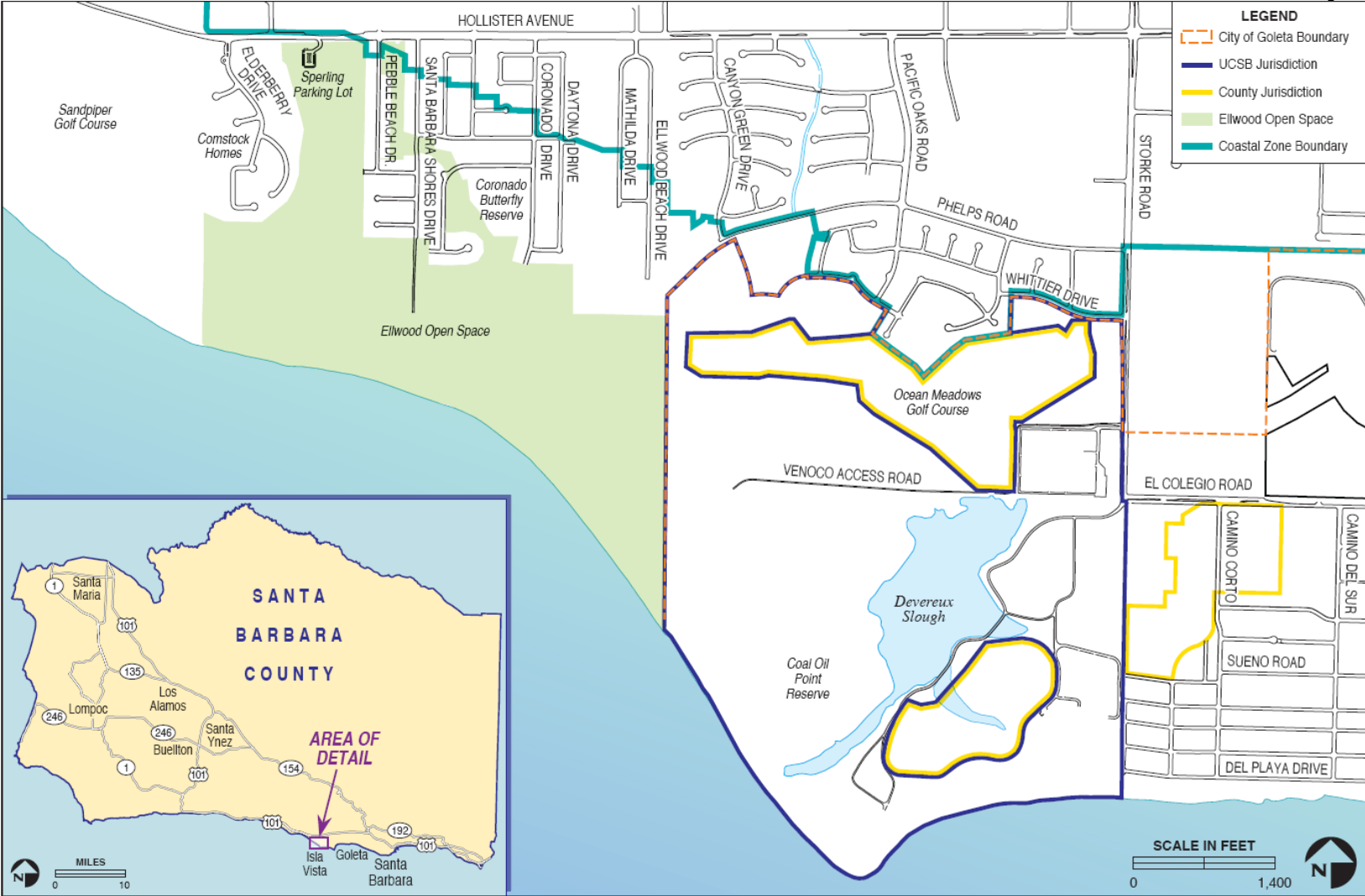
**Ellwood Mesa Coastal Trails
and Habitat Restoration Project
Case No. 13-039**

**Planning Commission Hearing
June 16, 2014**

Application

A request for a Development Plan for:

Ellwood Mesa Coastal Trails and Habitat Restoration Project



Project Description

- Improvements to 2.1 miles of coastal trail
- Construction of 3 drainage crossings
- Improvements to 2 beach access points
- Habitat restoration along the trail corridor

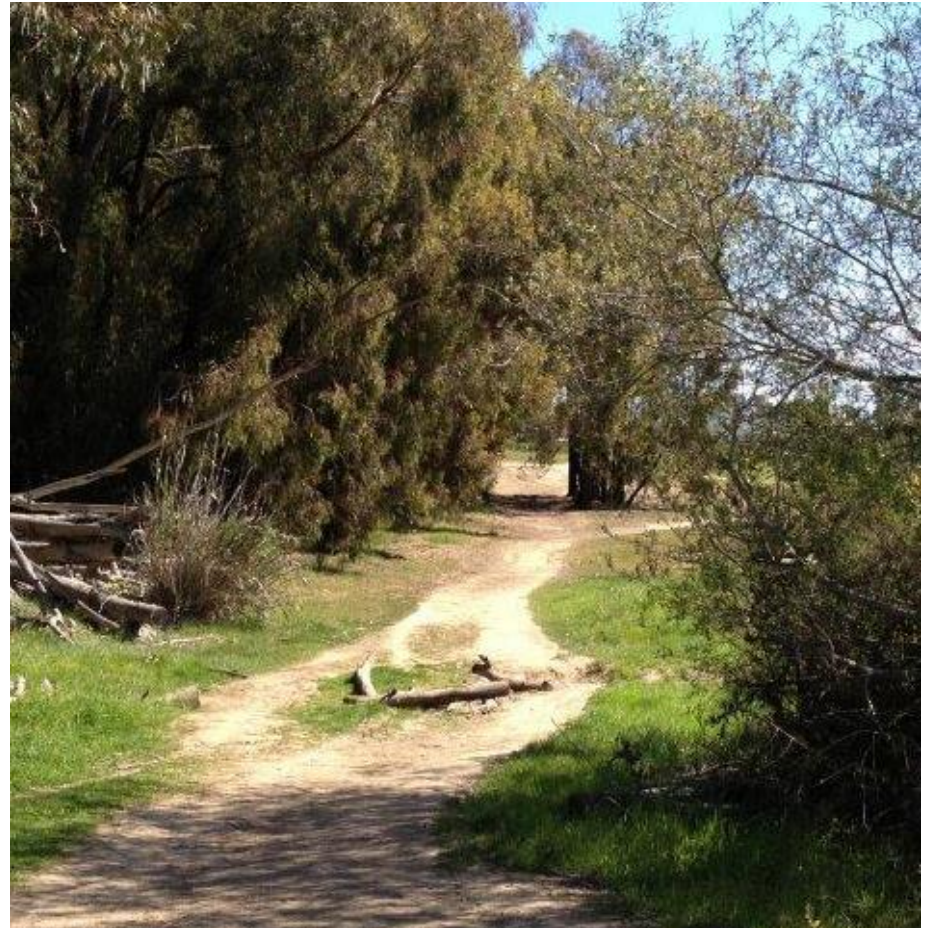


Previous Public Outreach

- Two public outreach meetings helped shape the Project
- Goals included: Review of Project Goals
 - 1) Trail should be natural, with varied width
 - 2) Borders should be natural and include native plants
 - 3) Trail design should complement existing parallel trails
 - 4) Restoration should improve natural setting
 - 5) Gully and creek crossings should include designs that allow safe passage
 - 6) Alternatives should include options that require the least amount of change

Trail Improvements

- Regrade to address trail braiding, gullies, and potholes
- Narrow and in some cases widen the trail corridor, as appropriate
- Include erosion control measures (e.g., grade dips, water bars, check dams, etc.)



Drainage Crossings

- Drainage crossings would be low profile and would not include railings
- Gully A – Culvert Crossing
- Drainage A – Boardwalk Bridge
- Devereux Creek – Boardwalk Bridge



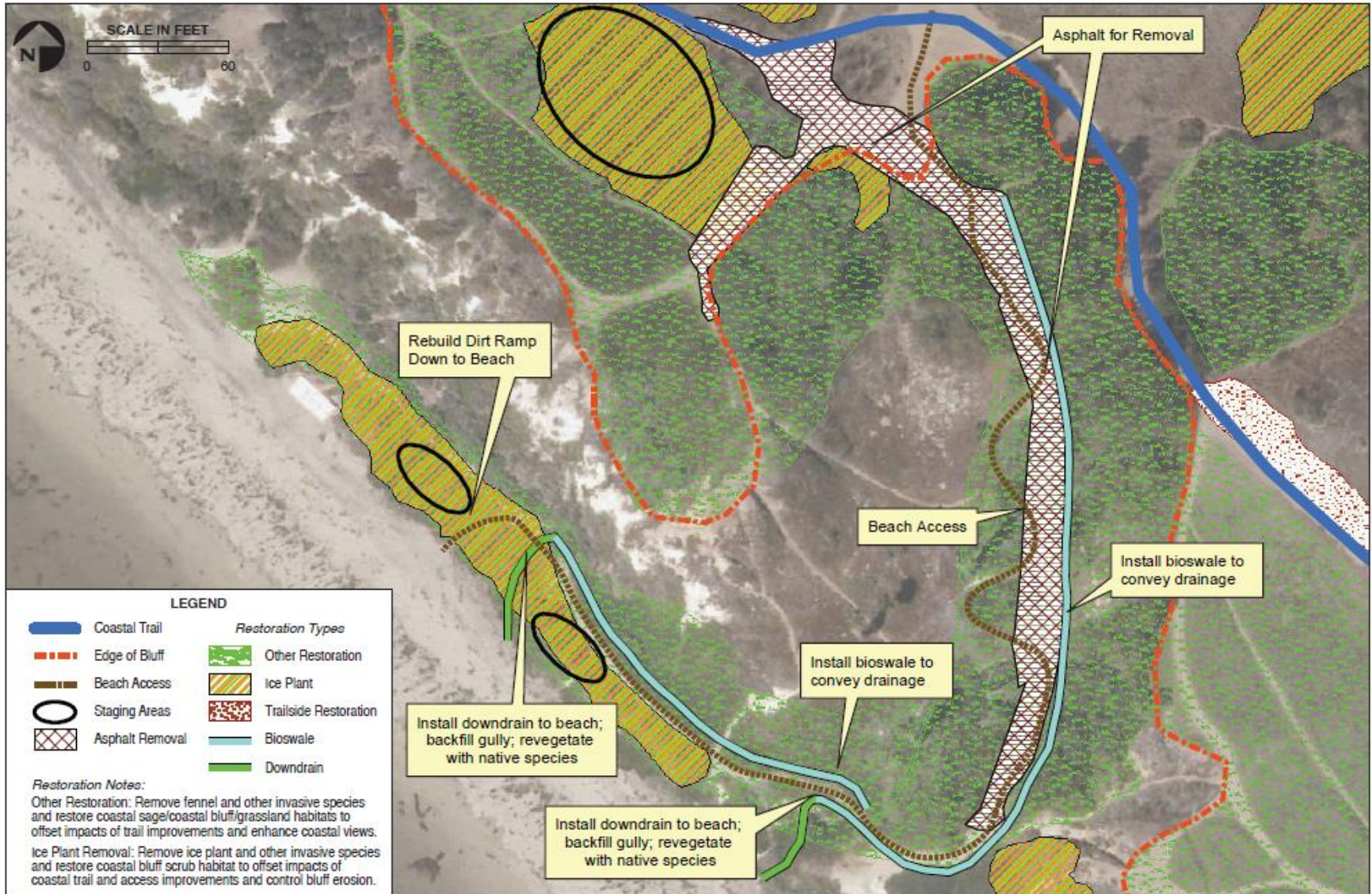
Devereux Creek Crossing



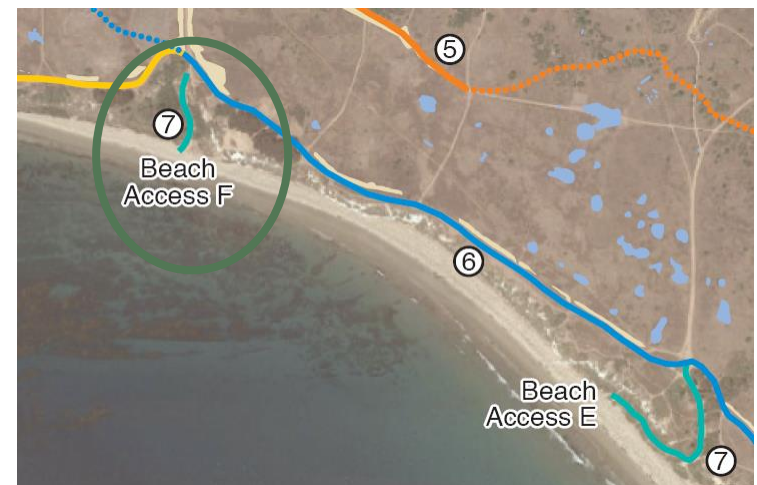
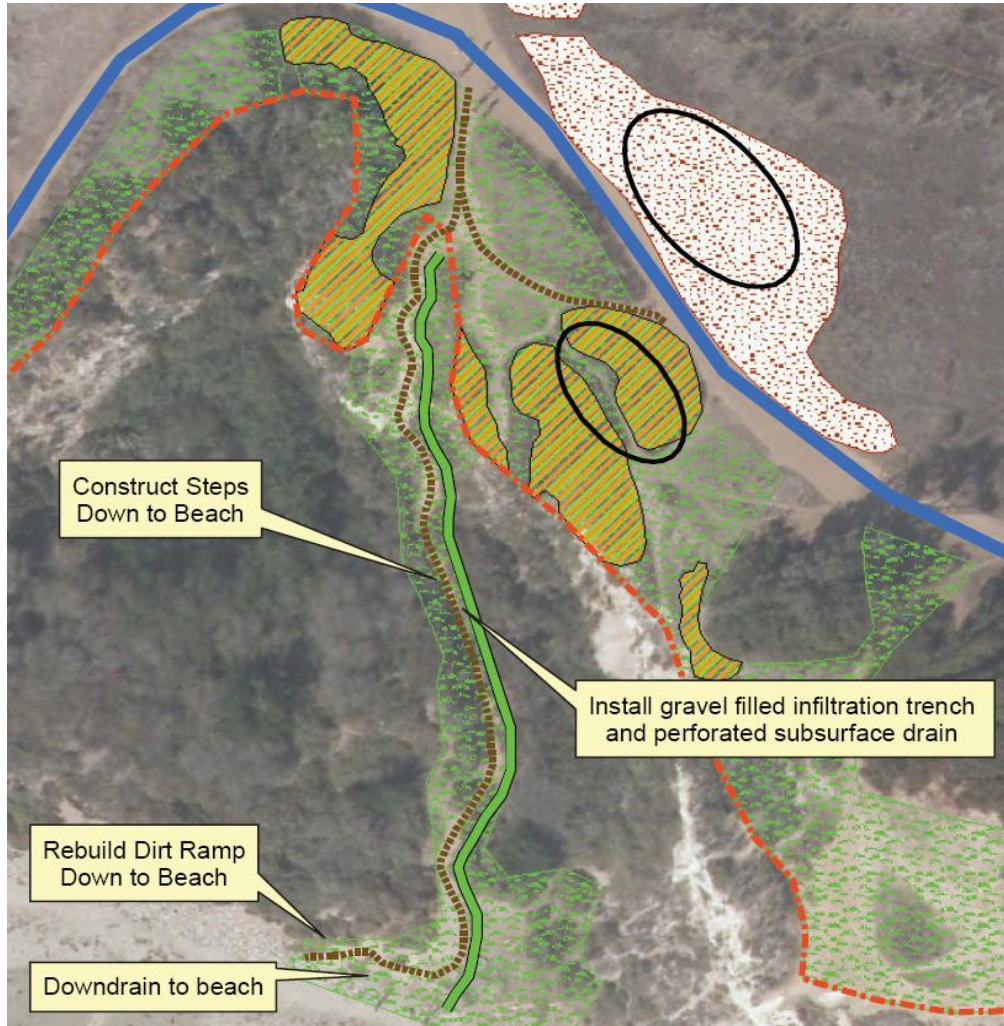
Beach Access Improvements: Access Point E



Beach Access Improvements: Access Point E

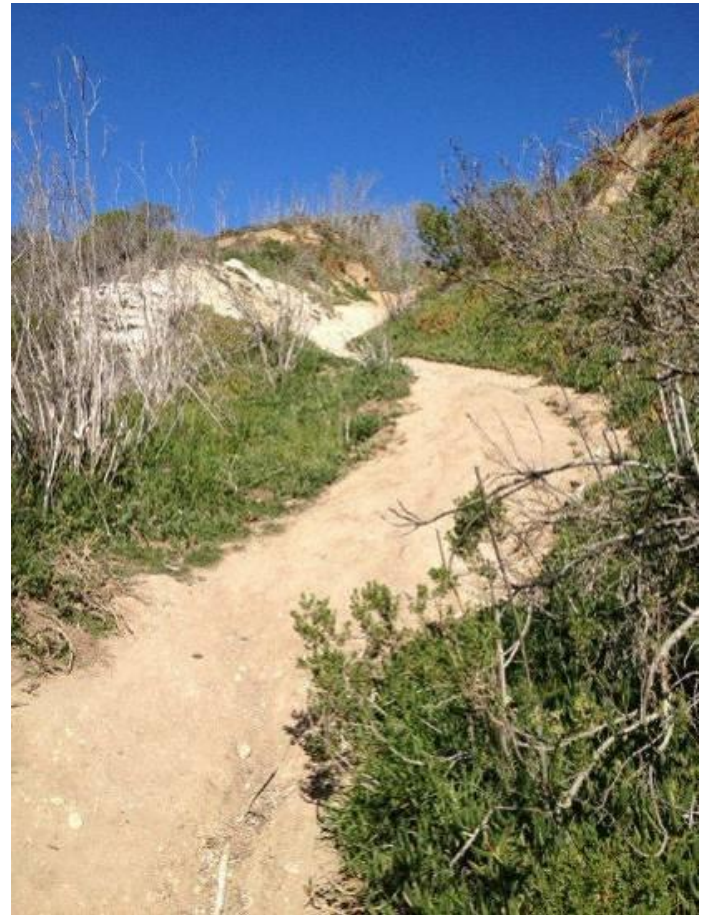


Beach Access Improvements: Access Point F



Beach Access Point Improvements (Continued)

- Stairs at Beach Access Point F
- Removal of remnant asphalt at Beach Access Point E
- Drainage improvements
- Erosion control measures



Habitat Restoration

- Approximately 13 acres of restoration
- Restoration would be focused at the drainage crossings, beach access points, and along the trail corridor
- Project monitoring and maintenance activities would occur on a quarterly basis for period of 3 years



General Plan & Zoning Ordinance Consistency Analysis

- The General Plan land use designation is Open Space / Passive Recreation, allowing public access and restoration
- The Zone District is Recreation, allowing public access and restoration

The Project improves public access to and through a public open space and is therefore consistent with and implements the General Plan and Zoning.

CEQA Analysis

Mitigated Negative Declaration

Potentially significant areas that can be mitigated:

- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Geology and Soils
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Noise
- Recreation
- Transportation

Adverse Project impacts would largely be temporary impacts due to construction with beneficial impacts occurring over the long-term

Air Quality

- Trail construction would not have potentially significant impacts
- Temporary minor impacts would be associated with dust generation and construction emissions
- Project would comply with all applicable SBCAPCD requirements for particulate matter minimization and equipment exhaust minimization

Biological Resources Impacts

- Trail construction would occur within wetland habitat for Drainage A and Devereux Creek
- Minor removal of native vegetation
- Trail construction could indirectly impact sensitive wildlife (e.g., sensitive bird species)
- Impacts would be mitigated by construction restrictions, preconstruction surveys, and native habitat restoration



Cultural Resources

- Project area surveyed in 1991
- No sensitive resources are located within areas of proposed ground disturbance
- Grading activity would be stopped immediately or redirected until a qualified Registered Professional Archeologist and Native American representative are retained



Geology and Soils & Hydrology and Water Quality

- Potential for short-term erosion impacts, particularly within drainages and at beach access points
- Mitigation includes standard best management practices for grading and stormwater pollution prevention
- Project would result in overall beneficial impacts associated with trail erosion and drainage



Hazards and Hazardous Materials

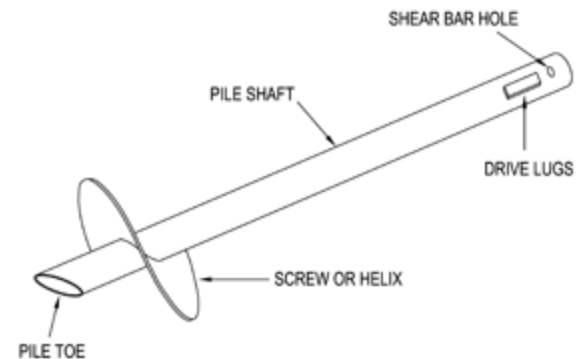
- Hazardous materials would be limited to heavy construction equipment and limited herbicide use
- Changes in trail width could affect emergency access
- Coordination with SBCFD and limitation of heavy equipment operation

Santa Barbara Shores
Drive Emergency Access



Noise

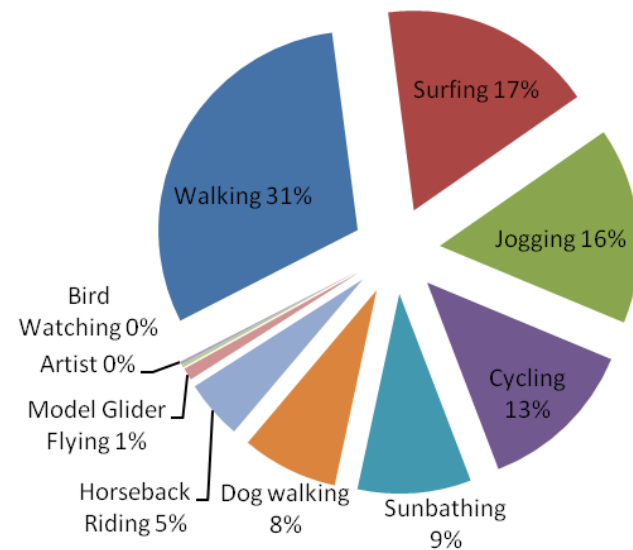
- Construction of beach access points and drainage crossings would generate the most noise
- Techniques (e.g., screw piles) would not generate substantial ground borne vibration or noise
- Mitigation would include construction timing, shielded equipment, and standard best management practices (e.g., mufflers, staging, etc.)



Recreation

- Would result in short-term construction related impacts
- Long-term impacts would be **beneficial** as a result of **trail improvements** and increased **trail access** and **safety**
- Temporary trail closure plan would be implemented

Ellwood Mesa Recreational Activities (2001)



Transportation/Traffic

- Short-term incremental increase in traffic along Hollister Avenue
- Minor short-term reduction in parking spaces at Sperling Parking Lot
- Construction schedule and traffic and pedestrian management plan



City of Goleta Project Partner

Santa Barbara County Trails Council (Trails Council) is a non-profit advocacy group that supports nature-based recreation and enhancement of the Santa Barbara County trail system for safe shared use by everyone.

Board of Directors

Otis Calef, President
Dan Gira, Vice President
Paul Herning, Treasurer
Mike Lunsford, Secretary

George Amoon
Allison Biskner
Ben Botkin
Curt Cragg

Natalie Hodges
Susan Keller
Kerry Kellogg
Bob Nagy



SANTA BARBARA COUNTY
Trails Council

Project Funding

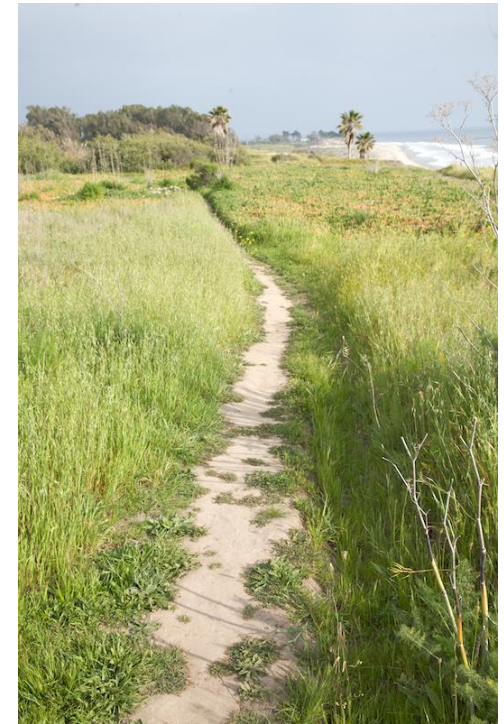
The Santa Barbara County Trails Council has obtained four grants for the Ellwood Mesa Coastal Trails and Habitat Restoration project:

- Goleta Valley Land Trust \$50,000
- California State Coastal Conservancy \$100,000
- Coastal Resource Enhancement Fund (CREF) \$35,000
- UCSB Associated Students Coastal Fund \$9,220



About Trails Council

- Manages trail planning, construction and design projects for public agencies
- Advocates for conservation of natural spaces to create opportunities for provision of multi-use recreational trails
- Collaborates with community organizations to achieve their goals
- Organizes volunteers to perform trail maintenance projects



Example of Trails Council Projects

- Gaviota Coastal Trail and Access Study
- Baron Ranch Trail- Proposal to construct 3.5 mile trail in Santa Ynez Mountains
- Franklin Trail- Completed 1 mile of new trail in steep foothills of Carpinteria
- Midland School Trails- Rebuilt/constructed 10 mile trail system
- Lake Los Carneros Park- improved over 2 miles of trails for city of Goleta
- Jesusita Trail- Rerouted and obtain easements for 1,800 feet of foothill trail



Planning Commission Recommendation

Adopt Resolution 14-__ approving the Ellwood Mesa Coastal Trails and Habitat Restoration Project, adopting the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program, and Approving the Development Plan

