

Walking and Hiking Guide



A walk in the park is...
fun,
social,
inexpensive,
healthy for your body,
healthy for your mind,
helps you sleep,
enhances concentration,
and
connects you to nature.

So why not walk in parks?

sonomacountyparks.org

MAP LEGEND



Cloverdale River Park

Until 1999, Cloverdale was the only incorporated city in Sonoma County without a regional park. In cooperation with the City of Cloverdale, the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation & Open Space District (SCAPOSD), and Sonoma County Regional Parks (SCR), the dream of a regional park along the Russian River in Cloverdale has become a reality.

Cloverdale River Park is comprised of 72 acres lying along the western bank of the Russian River. The City of Cloverdale owns 30 acres in the southern area of the park, and SCR owns the northern 42 acres, which were purchased by the SCAPOSD and deeded to the County. A conservation easement has been placed on the property to assure that it stays in a natural condition for public benefit and use.

The only publicly owned, developed, and operated Russian River access facility between southern Mendocino County and the Town of Healdsburg, Cloverdale River Park offers the only public multi-use trail along the entire 100-mile stretch of the Russian River. We ask visitors to follow park rules and regulations to help us protect this precious environmental resource for the use and enjoyment of everyone.

Mixed Riparian Forest

The most predominant plant community in the park is populated by tall, dense deciduous forest consisting of a canopy of cottonwoods casting shadows onto the shorter species of California walnut, vine maple, buckeye and California bay scattered throughout the forest with various species of willow and box elder in the sub canopy. The shrub strata has saplings of many trees as well as spice bush, California blackberry and to a lesser extent, Himalayan blackberry. The ground cover is predominantly the invasive periwinkle with lesser amounts of California foywort and ivy.

North Coast Riparian Scrub

This winter-deciduous thicket is primarily composed of cottonwoods, arroyo willow, red willow and sandbar willow. It exists on gravel bars and on the sandy banks of the river and is subject to flooding which frequently uproots the trees causing the succession cycle to begin again and again. As a result, more permanent woodland cannot survive. The willow species are short (10 - 15 feet) and are often separated by larger stretches of sand or patches of Himalayan blackberry. Infestations of Arundo Donax, a member of the Giant Grass family, have invaded these areas and are in the process of being removed. The sandy soils and steep slopes of this community are at risk of erosion from foot-traffic so we ask that park visitors stay on the trails to protect this delicate environment.

Oak Woodland

Oak woodlands are highly valued for their diversity, providing important refuge and foraging opportunities for almost 200 species of wildlife. Large, native trees include coastal oak, valley oak, cottonwood, box elder and California bay. Most of the trees in this area are not especially old and are typically species that recolonize floodplain areas between major disturbances. The largest and oldest of these are the valley and coast live oak that occur in the main dry-area where the river doesn't normally rise to flood levels. Because of long term livestock grazing there are few young trees, but that will change now that this area is protected.

Non-Native Grassland/Meadow

The presence of non-native grassland in the disturbed areas of the park is a result of man made activities, such as clearing & grading, as well as cattle grazing. These open meadow areas support a variety of non-native annual grasses, thistles, and weeds, with a few scattered native wildflowers such as California poppy, annual lupine, and fiddleneck. The long term plan for these areas is to restore them to a more natural state of native grasses and oak woodland habitat.

THREATENED & ENDANGERED SPECIES

The Russian River is the 15th most threatened river in North America. As part of the Sonoma County Regional Park's development of this site, great care is being taken to restore plant, animal and fish habitats through the removal of invasive species and the planting of native species to enhance existing natural communities within the park. Fishermen are advised to check with Fish & Game for current regulations and limits.

Steelhead

Steelhead live in cool, clear streams and rivers for two to three years until they are old enough to go to sea where they reside until they are ready to return to the rivers to spawn between November and April. Within their lifetime they will spawn two to three times, usually once a year, and can live as long as nine years. The juveniles are very similar in color to the adults who can grow up to 25 inches and weigh as much as 10 pounds. Gravel riffles in rivers and streams are essential to their spawning needs as well as territories where young fish grow protected until they are old enough to go to sea. Steelhead are known to aggressively protect feeding territories and will defend them from other fish, including fellow steelhead. These are very social fish when they are young, then develop clearly defined hierarchies as they mature where large fish dominate over small. In fresh water, steelhead feed upon terrestrial and aquatic insects as well as amphipods, snails and small fish. At sea they dine on estuarine invertebrates and other fish.

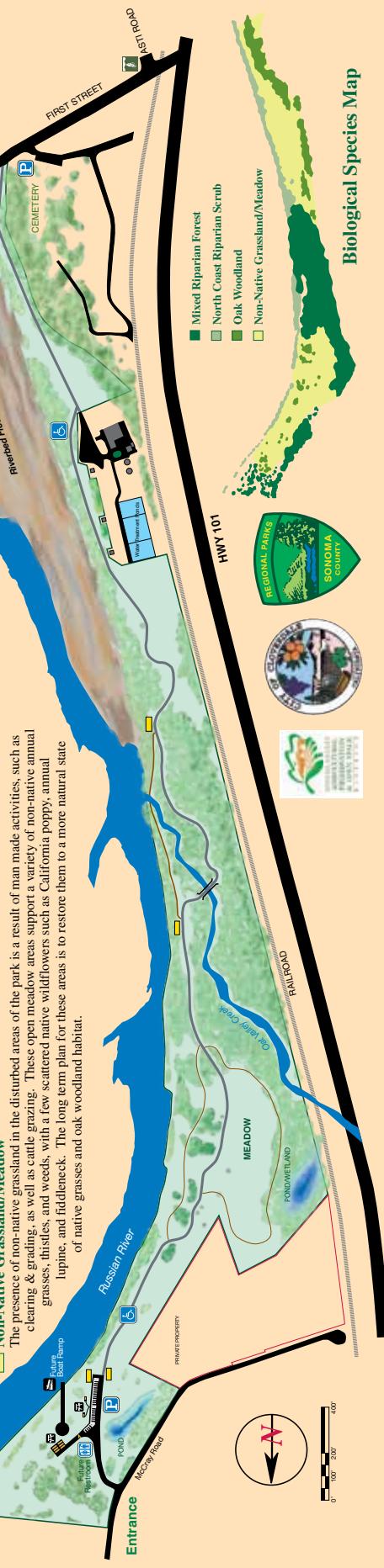
Coho Salmon

Also known as Silver Salmon, these fish vary widely in appearance. They can grow up to 38 inches and weigh on average from 6 to 12 pounds, but have been found as heavy as 22 pounds. Males are darker and richer in color than females, and also feature a hooked jaw and slightly humped back. Spawning males are dark greenish on the back and head, dull brown to brown with a bright lateral stripe on the sides and gray to black on the belly. Both sexes have small black spots on the back, dorsal fin and top of the tail. At sea they become metallic blue on the back with silver bellies.

Coho have very short lives, lasting from two to five years. They spend the majority of their life in the ocean but spend their first year in fresh water and return to cool coastal streams to spawn from mid-October through March with the majority of spawning during December through January. The female chooses the redd (nest) site at the head of a riffle in small to medium-sized gravel. Frequently more than one male will spawn simultaneously with the female.

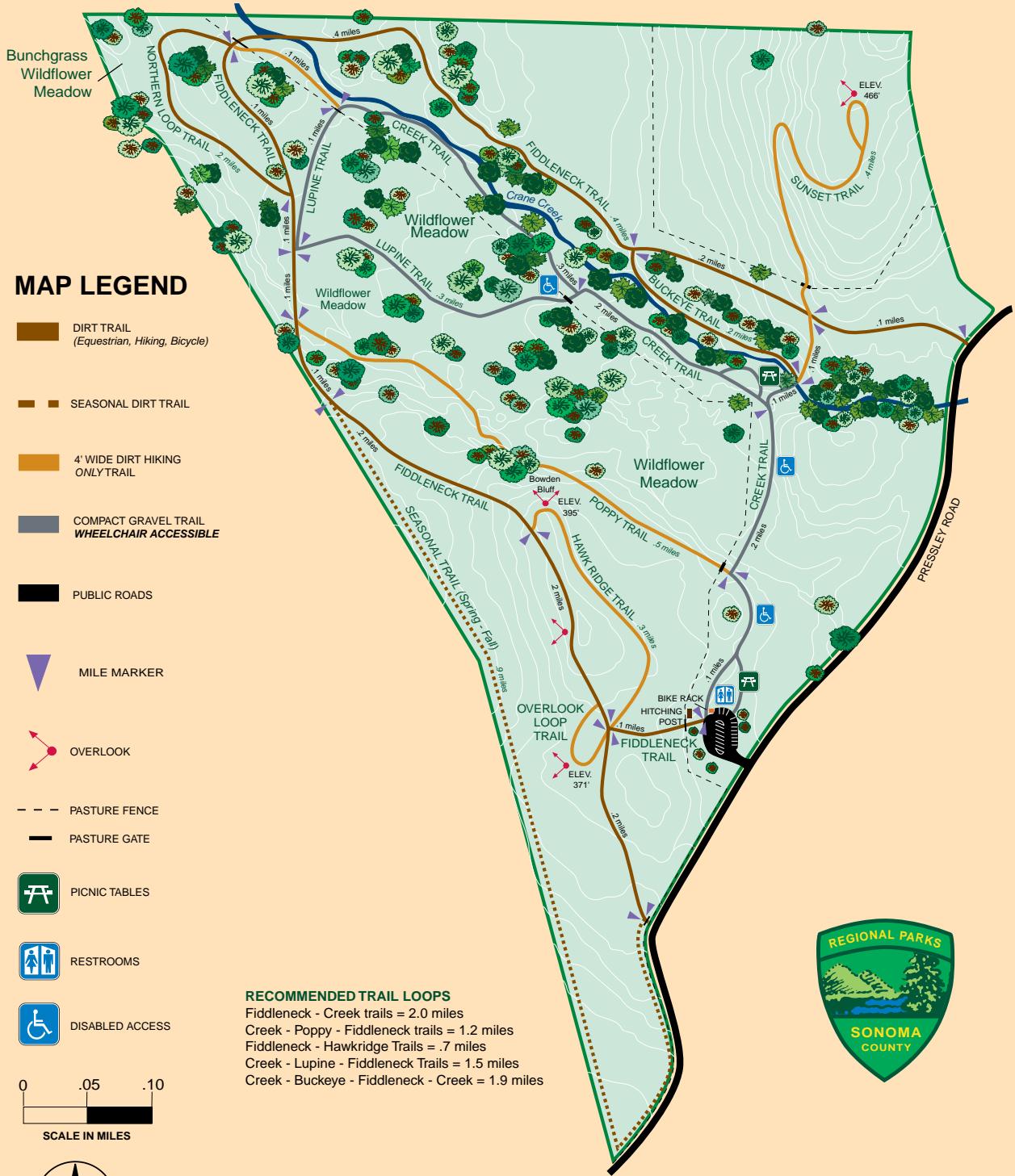
Russian River Tule Perch

Confined exclusively to the Russian River and its tributaries in Sonoma and Mendocino Counties, these perch are known to live from Ukiah downstream to Monte Rio. The tule perch is a small, deep bodied fish and is the only freshwater species in the marine family Anchoicidae. This subspecies requires clear, flowing water and abundant cover such as beds of river plants, submerged tree branches and overhanging plants. Although they sometimes feed in riffles, they require deep pools and generally spend most of their lives in slower moving water. These perch are intolerant of turbid conditions and extreme flow variations, making their invulnerability rates high. Mating occurs from July through September and sperm is stored in the temple until January when fertilization takes place. Young are born in May-June when food is abundant. Except when feeding, the perch are gregarious, feeding on aquatic invertebrates and swimming in schools.



Biological Species Map

Crane Creek Regional Park

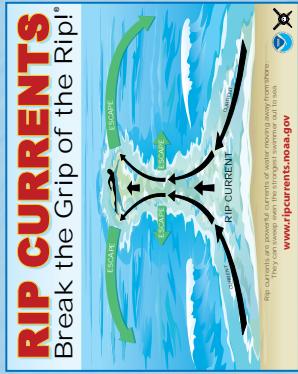


Gualala Point Regional Park



Please note:

Dogs must be on leash at all times.
No fires are allowed on beaches.



- PAVED PATHWAY (ADA ACCESSIBLE)
- UNPAVED PATHWAY
- PARK BOUNDARY
- GATE
- VISTA POINT
- MAINTENANCE YARD
- VISITORS CENTER
- PARKING
- RESTROOMS
- FEES STATION
- CAMPGROUND
- DUMP STATION
- FISHING (Catch and Release)

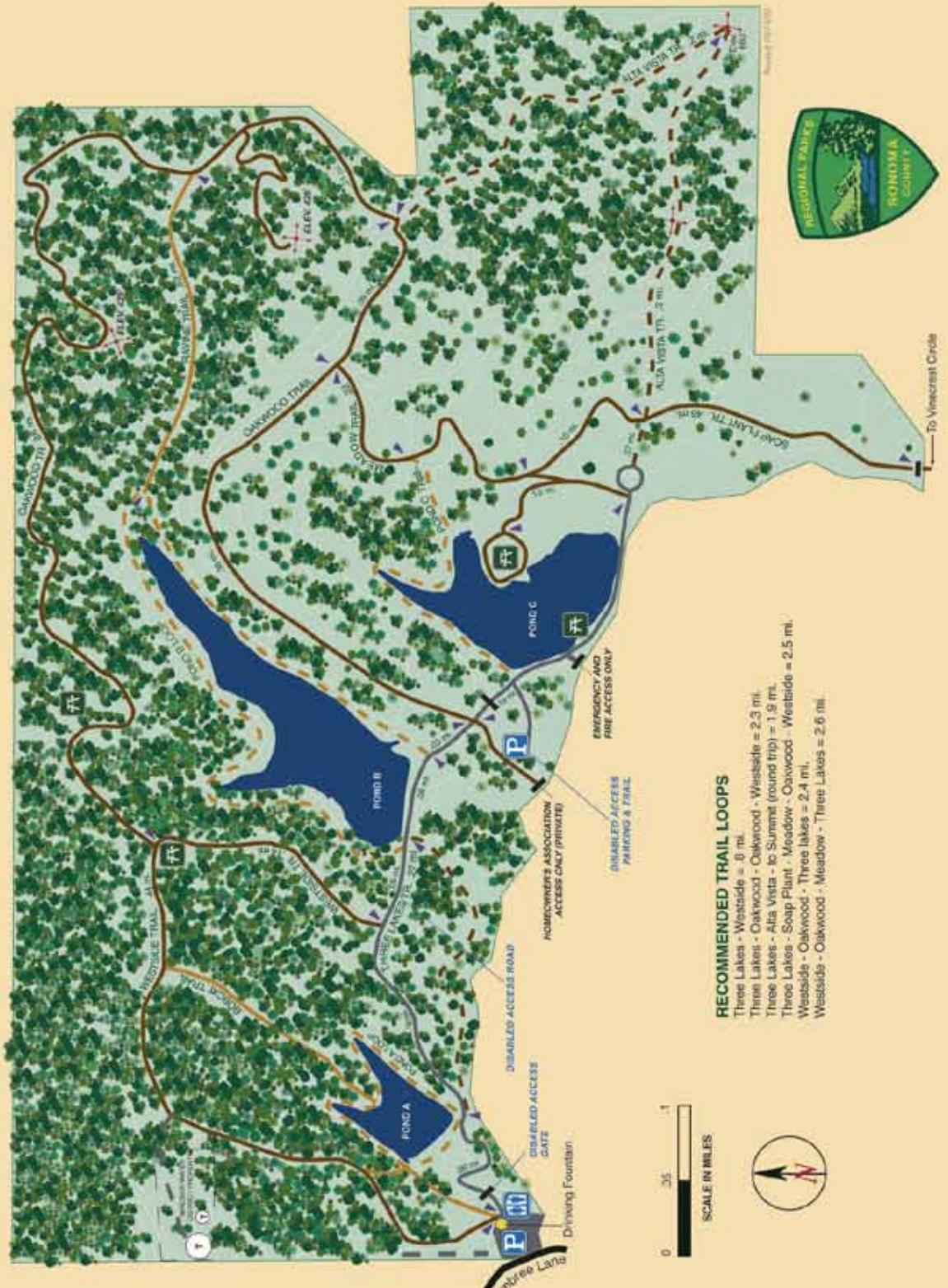
0 3 Miles

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Foothill Regional Park

MAP LEGEND

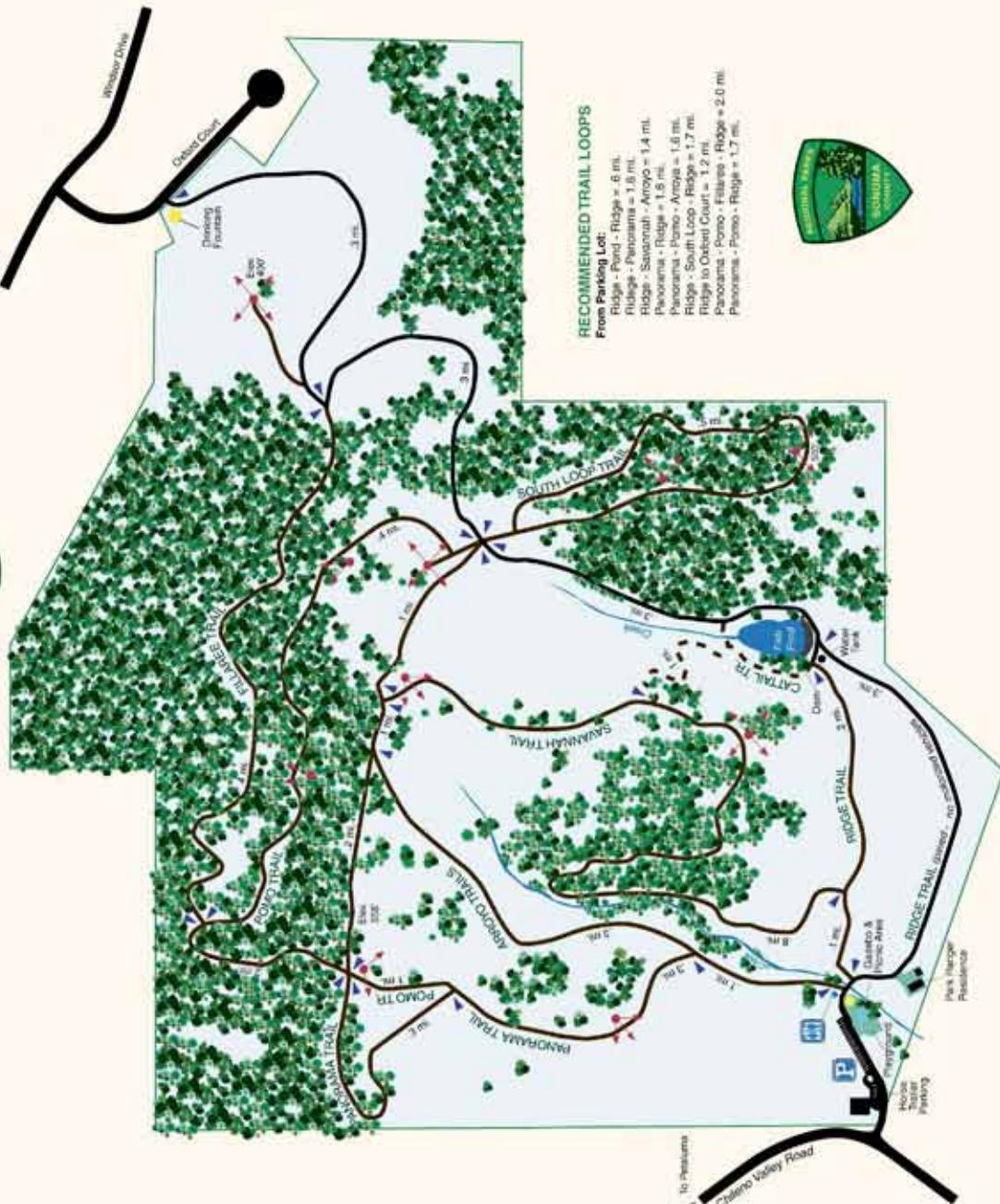
- DIRT TRAIL
(Equestrian / Hiking, Bicycl.)
- SEASONAL TRAILS
- WIDE DIRT HIKING
ONLY TRAIL
- COMPACT GRAVEL TRAIL
NO MOTORIZED VEHICLE ACCESS
- PUBLIC ROADS
- SERVICE ROADS
No Public Access
- MILE MARKER
- ▼ OVERLOOK
- FENCE
- GATE
- PICNIC TABLES
- RESTROOMS
- P PARKING LOT
- DRINKING FOUNTAIN



Helen Putnam Regional Park

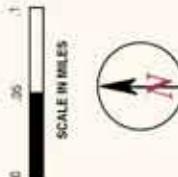
MAP LEGEND

- DIRT TRAIL (Equitation, Hiking, Bicycles)
- SEASONAL DIRT TRAIL
- PUBLIC ROADS
- PAVED TRAIL
- OVERLOOK
- ▼ MILE MARKER
- PICNIC TABLES
- RESTROOMS
- DISABLED ACCESS
- PARKING
- DRINKING FOUNTAIN

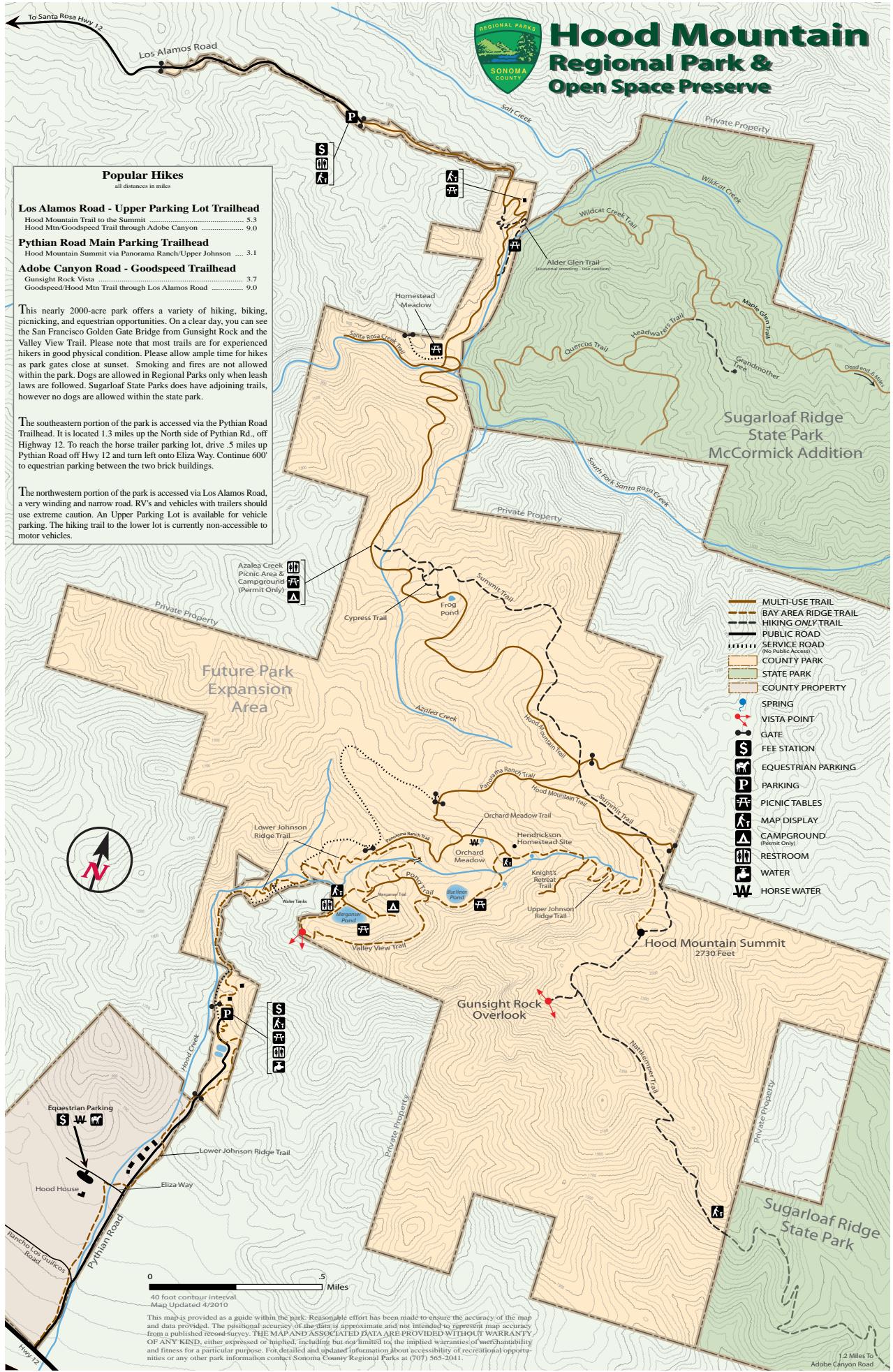


RECOMMENDED TRAIL LOOPS

- Front Parking Lot:
Ridge - Pond - Ridge = .6 mi.
Ridge - Panorama = 1.6 mi.
Ridge - Sunnyside - Ridge = 1.4 mi.
Ridge - Ridge = 1.6 mi.
Panorama - Pomo - Antoya = 1.8 mi.
Panorama - Ridge = 1.6 mi.
Ridge - South Loop - Ridge = 1.7 mi.
Ridge to Devil's Court = 1.2 mi.
Panorama - Pomo - Ridge = 2.0 mi.
Panorama - Pomo - Ridge = 1.7 mi.



Hood Mountain Regional Park & Open Space Preserve





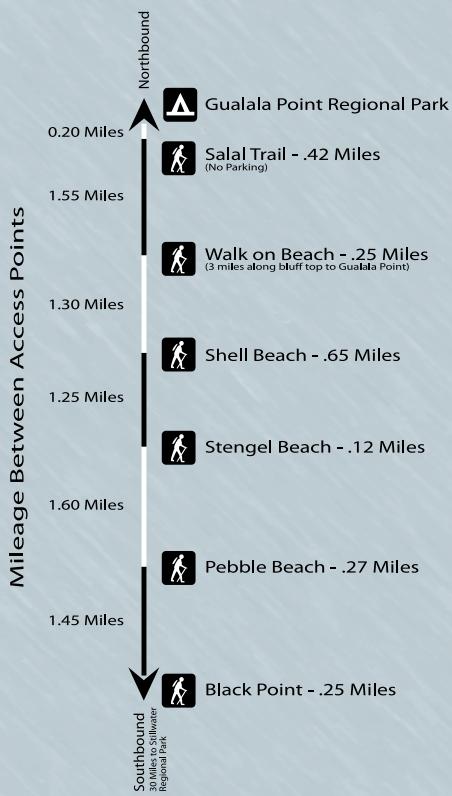
Maxwell Farms Regional Park





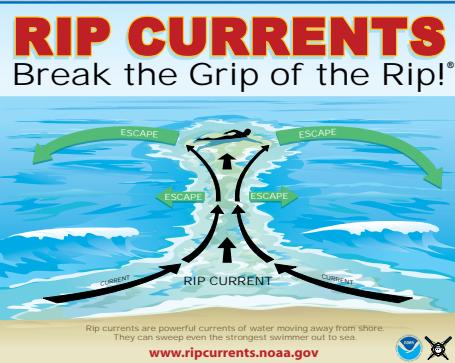
Coastal Access

North Coast Access Trails



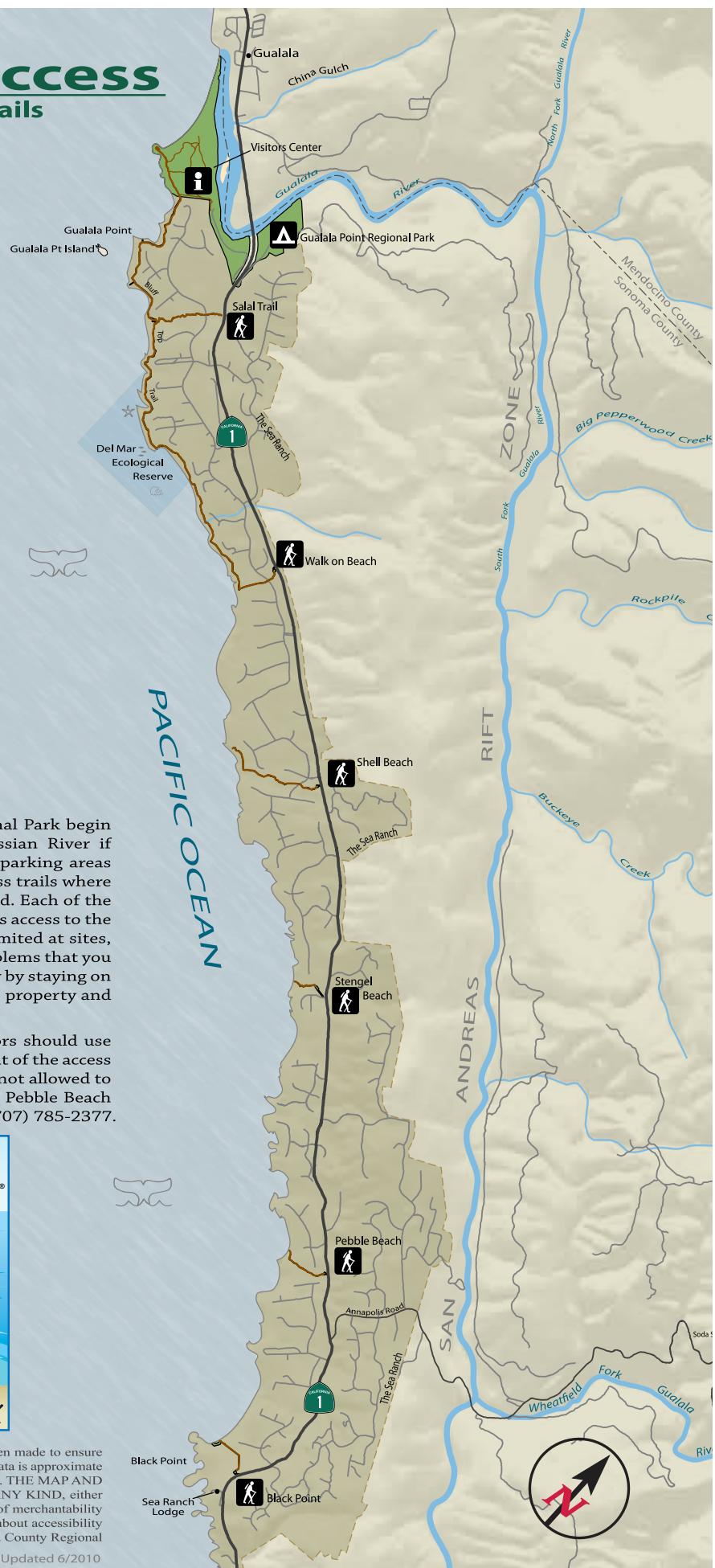
Six Sea Ranch access trails and Gualala Point Regional Park begin about 45 miles north from the mouth of the Russian River if following California State Highway One. Trailhead parking areas and restrooms are available at five of the coastal access trails where a short hike to outstanding coastal views can be found. Each of the six access trails & Gualala Point Regional Park provides access to the beaches by footpaths or staircases. Maintenance is limited at sites, so please carry out your own litter and report any problems that you may see. Visitors are urged to respect private property by staying on marked county trails. The Sea Ranch trails are private property and trespassing is illegal.

The trails are clearly marked from Highway 1. Visitors should use caution while turning off of Highway 1 to get in and out of the access trails' parking lots. RV's and vehicles with trailers are not allowed to use the parking areas. Parking is limited at Shell and Pebble Beach parking lots. For additional information, please call (707) 785-2377.



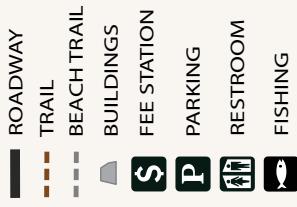
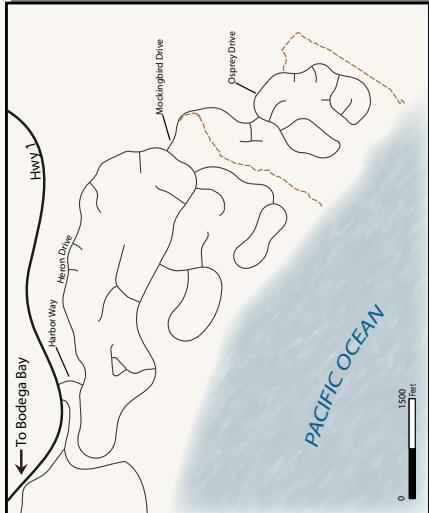
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Map Updated 6/2010



Pinnacle & Shorttail Gulch

Coastal Access Trails



NOTE: Check tides before hiking loop

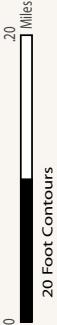
Trail Length (in Miles)

Pinnacle Gulch	0.55
Shorttail Gulch	0.52
Beach Walk	0.40
Loop Hike	1.89

Take State Highway 1 to Bodega Bay, turn onto Harbor Way just south of downtown Bodega Bay and follow the signs to the trail head parking lot.

A steep half-mile trail leads to a spectacular view of hidden coves and rock formations. Fishing is excellent but challenging. A perfect place to spend an enjoyable day for picnicking, sightseeing and relaxation.

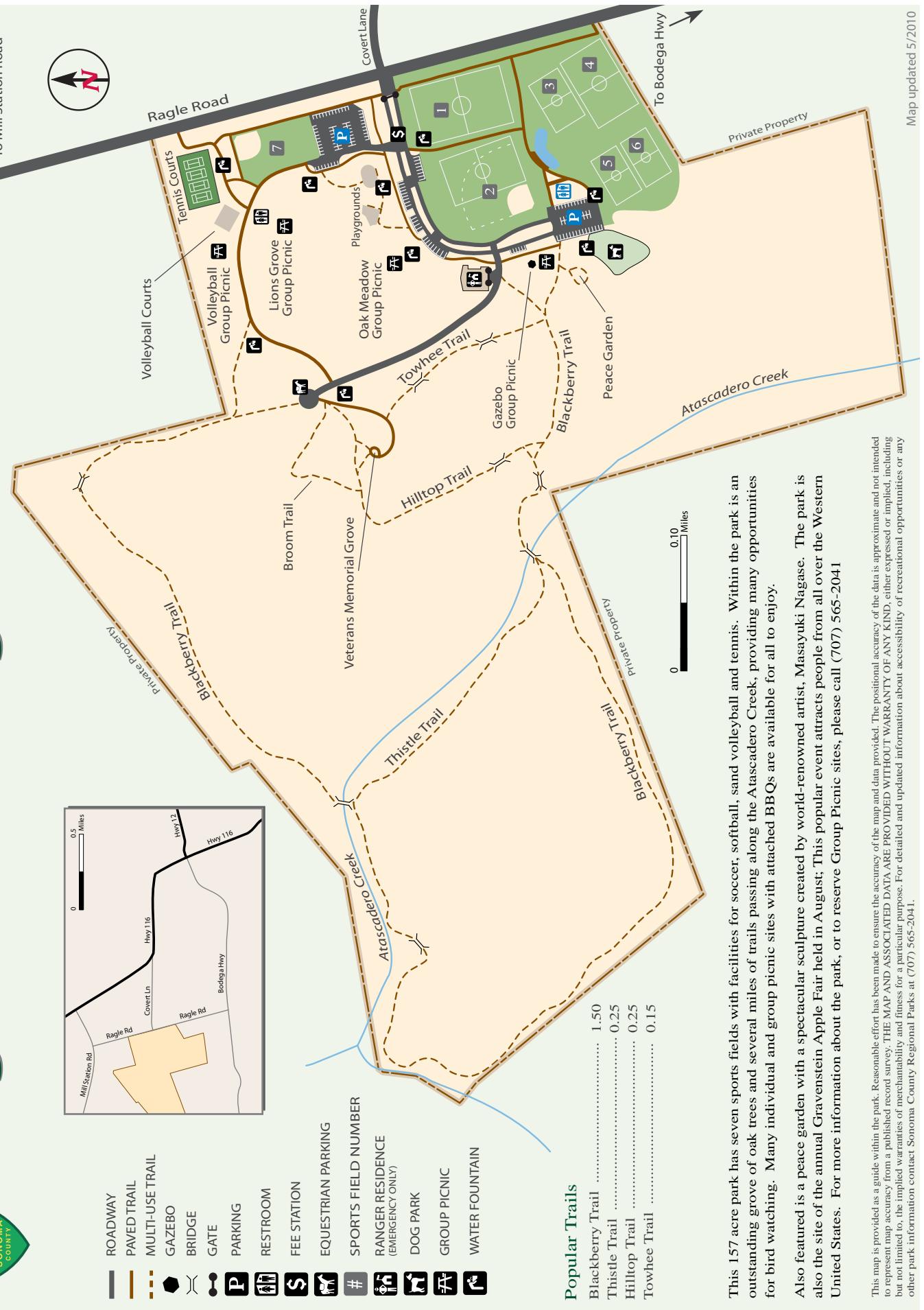
Get a park pass and save money on the daily use fee for each vehicle. 100% of the purchase price goes back to Regional Parks to help us protect these beautiful parks for generations to come. Information about a park pass can be found at sonomacountyparks.org or call 707-565-2041.



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Ragle Ranch Regional Park



This 157 acre park has seven sports fields with facilities for soccer, softball, sand volleyball and tennis. Within the park is an outstanding grove of oak trees and several miles of trails passing along the Atascadero Creek, providing many opportunities for bird watching. Many individual and group sites with attached BBQs are available for all to enjoy.

Also featured is a peace garden with a spectacular sculpture created by world-renowned artist, Masayuki Nagase. The park is also the site of the annual Gravenstein Apple Fair held in August; This popular event attracts people from all over the Western United States. For more information about the park, or to reserve Group Picnic sites, please call (707) 565-2041

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Riverfront Regional Park



Located adjacent to the Russian River, Riverfront Regional Park is just minutes from downtown Windsor. The main attractions within the park are two former gravel pits which have been reclaimed as lakes. Amenities include two day use picnic areas, a two mile multiuse trail around Lake Benoit and a half mile long trail over Redwood Hill. Dogs are allowed in Sonoma County Regional Parks, be sure to obey all leash laws to ensure the enjoyment for all park visitors.



Russian River

Lake Benoit Loop Trail

Lake Benoit

No Public Access

Lake
McLaughlin

Lake Wilson

Park Boundary

Private Property



Private Property

0.1 Miles

Map Updated 10/2010

- NATURE TRAIL
- MULTI-USE TRAIL
- ROADWAY
- RESTROOM
- BENCH
- GARBAGE
- VOLLEYBALL
- FISHING
- BBQ PIT
- BRIDGE
- GATE
- FEES STATION
- PARKING
- PICNIC TABLES
- DRINKING FOUNTAIN
- HORSESHOES
- EQUESTRIAN SERVICES

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Shiloh Ranch Regional Park

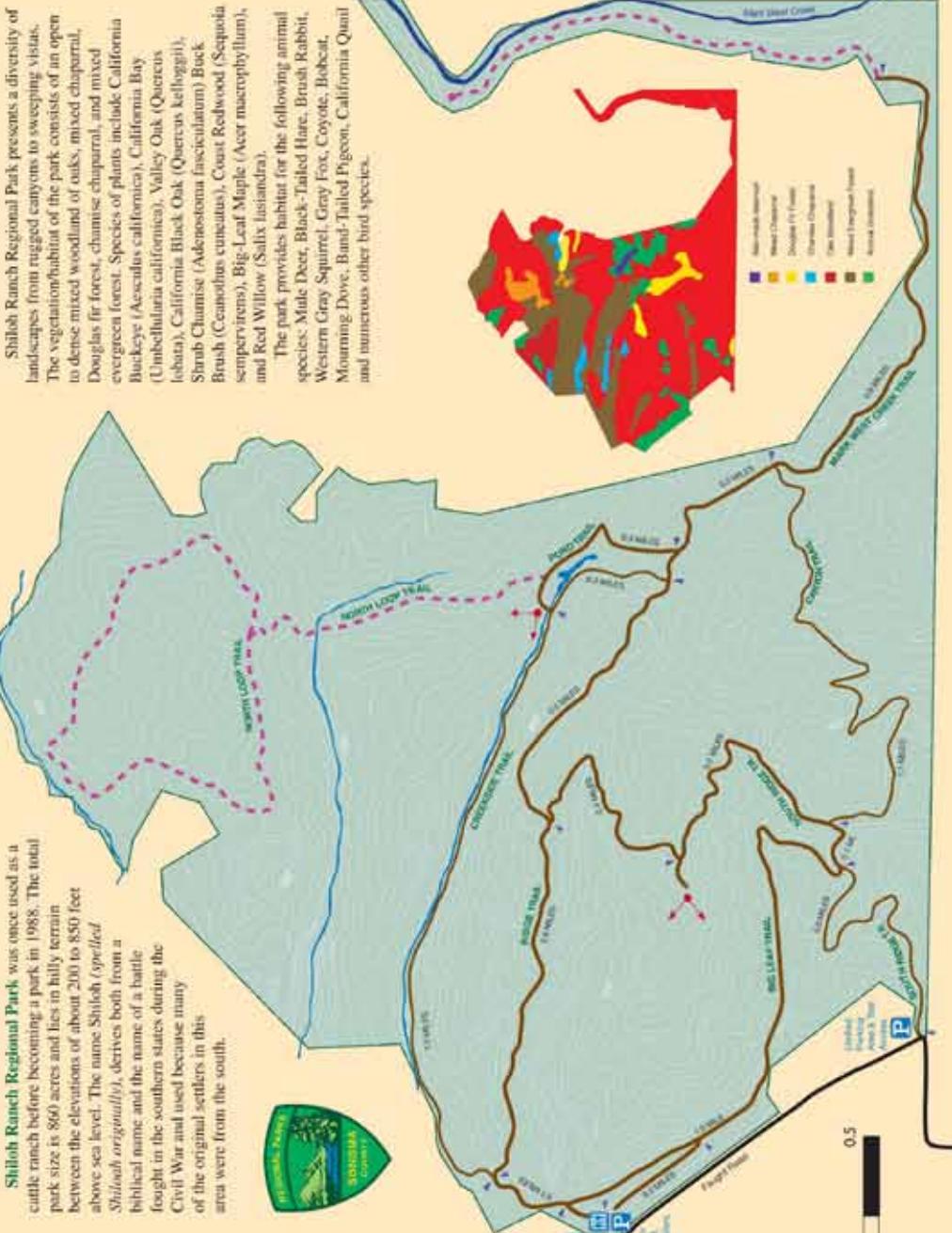
MAP LEGEND

- DIRT TRAIL
(unpaved trail along drybed)
- FUTURE TRAIL
- PUBLIC ROAD
- ▲ CHECK
- ▼ TRUE LOOKOUT
- △ OVERLOOK
- PICNIC TABLES
- RESTROOM
- DISMABLE ACCESS
- P PARKING LOT
- A FIRE PIT AREA
- F FISHING AREA
- H HIKING AREA
- R RIDE AREA
- W WALK AREA

Shiloh Ranch Regional Park was once used as a cattle ranch before becoming a park in 1988. The total park size is 869 acres and lies in hilly terrain between the elevations of about 200 to 850 feet above sea level. The name Shiloh (spelled *Shiloh original/vi*) derives both from a biblical name and the name of a battle fought in the southern states during the Civil War and used because many of the original settlers in this area were from the south.

Shiloh Ranch Regional Park presents a diversity of landscapes from rugged canyons to sweeping vistas. The vegetation/habitat of the park consists of an open to dense mixed woodland of oaks, mixed chaparral, Douglas fir forest, chaparral, chaparral, and mixed evergreen forest. Species of plants include California Buckeyes (*Aesculus californica*), California Bay (*Umbellularia californica*), Valley Oak (*Quercus lobata*), California Black Oak (*Quercus kelloggii*), Shrub Chamise (*Adenostoma fasciculatum*), Buck Brush (*Ceanothus cuneatus*), Coast Redwood (*Sequoia sempervirens*), Big Leaf Maple (*Acer macrophyllum*), and Red Willow (*Salix lasiandra*).

The park provides habitat for the following animal species: Mule Deer, Black-Tailed Deer, Brush Rabbit, Western Gray Squirrel, Gray Fox, Coyote, Bobcat, Mourning Dove, Band-Tailed Pigeon, California Quail and numerous other bird species.



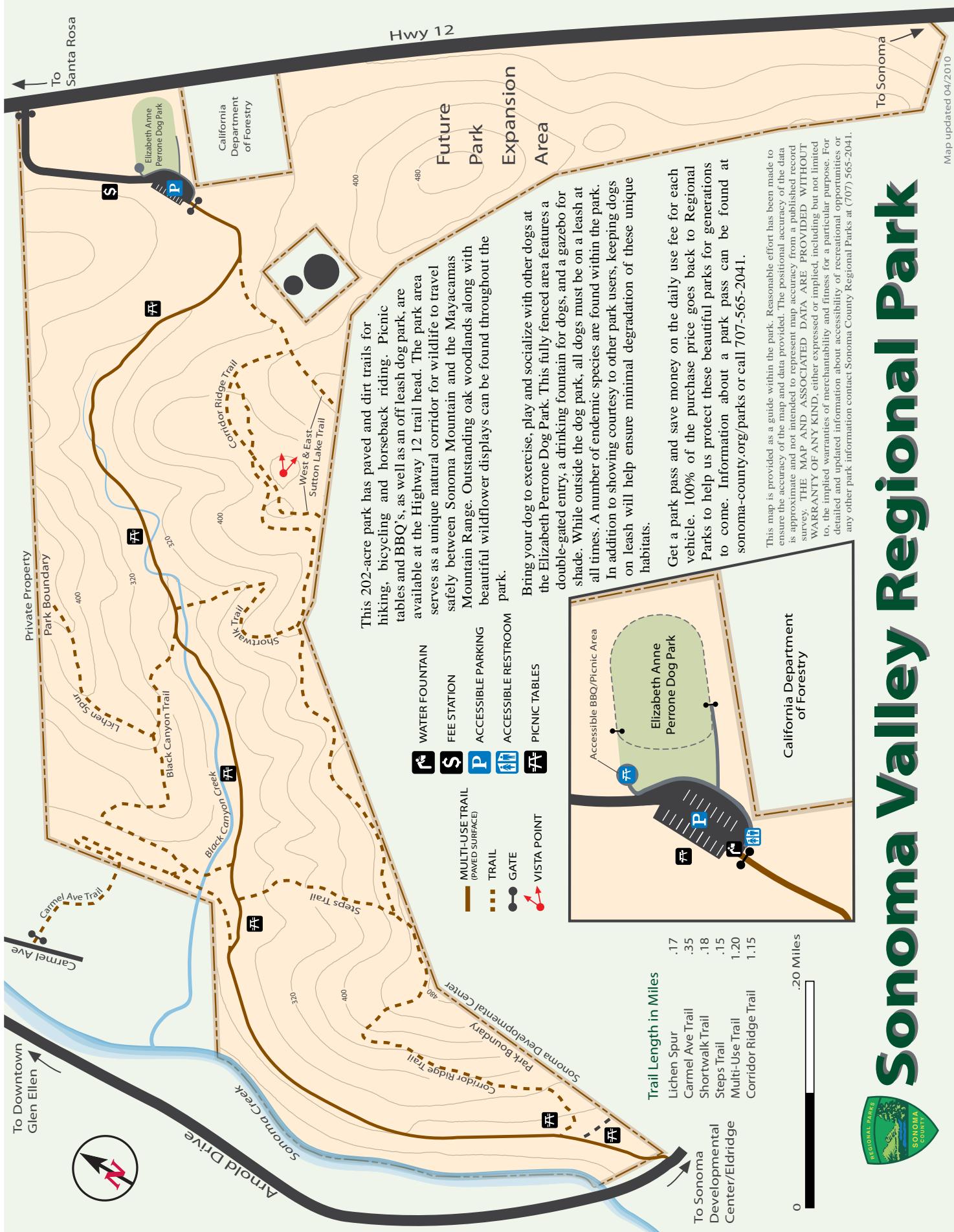
Shiloh Ranch Regional Park
Regional Park District
1000 N. Main Street, Suite 100
Salinas, CA 93901
(831) 425-2222

Sonoma Valley Regional Park



To Sonoma

Map updated 04/2010



Spring Lake Park

ENVIRONMENTAL DISCOVERY C E N T E R

of Sonoma County

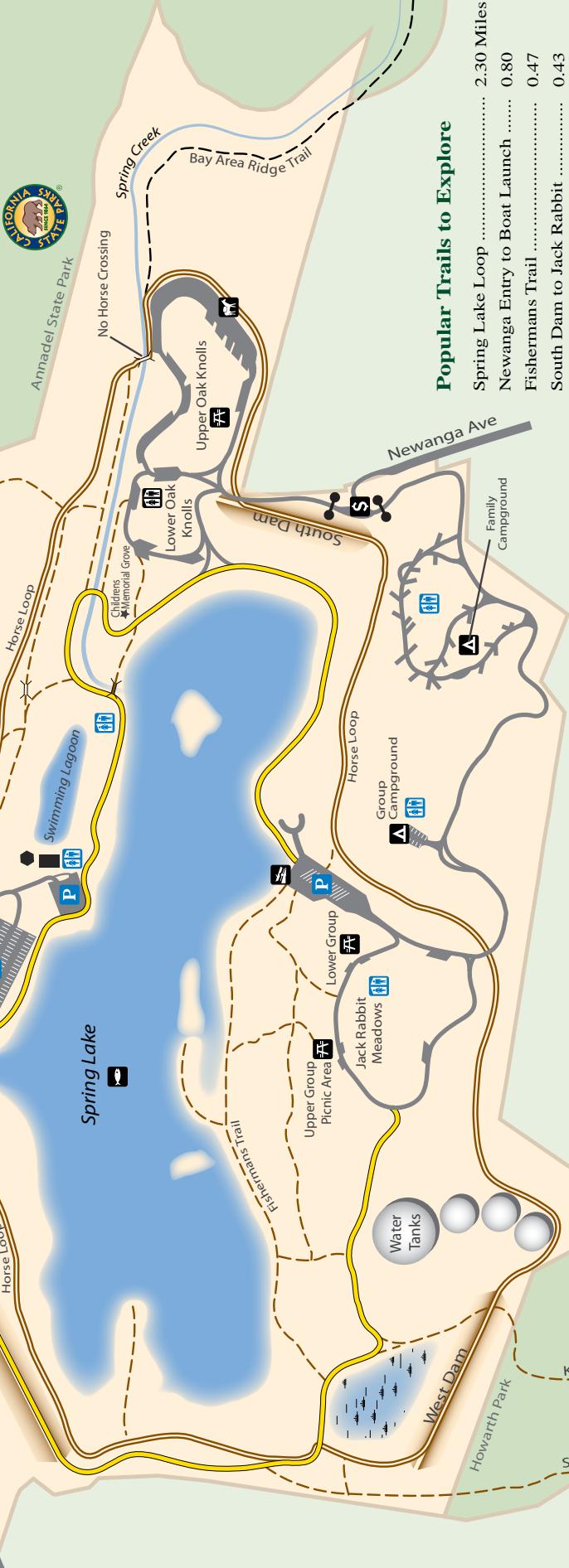


Annadel State Park

- \$ FEE STATION
- ▲ EQUESTRIAN PARKING
- △ CAMPGROUND
- BOAT LAUNCH
- RANGER STATION
- MULTI-USE TRAIL
- HORSE AREA RIDGE TRAIL
- ROADWAY
- BRIDGE
- GATE
- VISTA POINT
- ◆ CONCESSIONS
- EDC ENVIRONMENTAL
DISCOVERY CENTER

This 320-acre park features camping, fishing, picnic areas with barbecues, and four group picnic areas. Trails are available for walking, hiking, bicycling and horseback riding. The park also includes a 3-acre swimming lagoon and a 72-acre lake. Don't forget to visit the Environmental Discovery Center at Spring Lake for a wonderful educational experience for all ages. Although dogs are allowed within both Spring Lake and Howarth Park, they are not allowed at the swimming lagoon or within Annadel State Park. Please follow all dog leash laws while visiting the parks.

Get a park pass and save money on the daily use fee for each vehicle. 100% of the purchase price goes back to Regional Parks to help us protect these beautiful parks for generations to come. Information about a park pass can be found at www.sonoma-county.org/parks or call 707-565-2041.



Popular Trails to Explore

Spring Lake Loop	2.30 Miles
Newanga Ave to Boat Launch	0.80
Fishermans Trail	0.47
South Dam to Jack Rabbit	0.43
Horse Loop Trail	2.60
Kerfoot Trail to Howarth Parking	0.15



.20 Miles

Map Updated 6/2010

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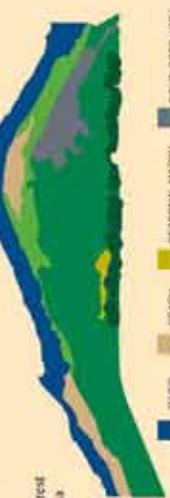


CITY OF
SANTA ROSA
Recreation & Parks Dept.

Steelhead Beach Regional Park

The Russian River is the 15th most threatened river in North America. With this in mind, Steelhead Beach Regional Park and River Access has been designed to protect both wildlife and plant species within the 26 acres of our park boundaries. This natural stretch of the river is relatively rare because much of the area adjacent to the river has been developed for agricultural uses. In addition, this significant acreage has had little disturbance, except for a gravel mining operation near the entrance to the park many years ago, creating a unique example of an intact ecosystem that has largely disappeared from the middle to lower Russian River. We ask that visitors follow park rules and trail designations out of respect for this rare section of the river and help us protect the environment that supports our endangered coho salmon and threatened steelhead fish population.

NATURAL COMMUNITIES OF STEELHEAD BEACH



Mixed Riparian Forest

The most predominant plant community in the park is populated by tall, dense deciduous forest consisting of a canopy of coastwoods casting shadows onto the shorter species of California willow, big leaf maple, Oregon ash and California bay scattered throughout the forest with various species of willow and box elder in the sub canopy. The shrub strata has saplings of many trees as well as American dogwood, California blackberry and to a lesser extent, Himalayan blackberry. The ground cover is predominantly willow dock with lesser amounts of California foyser, ivy and English plantain.

North Coast Riparian Scrub

This broad-derived, winter-deciduous thicket is primarily composed of arroyo willow, red willow and sandbar willow. It exists on gravel bars and on the sandy banks of the river and is subject to flooding which frequently uproots the trees causing the succession cycle to begin again and again. As a result, more permanent woodland cannot survive. The willow species are short (10 - 15 feet) and are often separated by larger stretches of sand or patches of Himalayan blackberry. Infestations of Arundo Donax, a member of the Giant Grass family, have invaded these areas and are in the process of being removed. The sandy soils and steep slopes of this community are at risk of erosion from foot-traffic so we ask that park visitors stay on the trails to protect this delicate environment.

Alluvial Redwood Forest

At Steelhead Beach, this forest exists as a stand of large redwoods between River Road and the riparian forest. It occurs on the bottom face of the river's floodplain where it is subject to periodic flooding in winter and fog in summer.



THREATENED & ENDANGERED SPECIES

Coho salmon are an endangered fish and steelhead (rainbow trout) were put on the threatened list of the Endangered Species Act by the National Marine Fisheries Service, thus preservation and restoration of the Russian River are vital to the continued survival of these fish. As part of the Sonoma County Regional Park's development of this site, great care is being taken to restore plant, animal and fish habitats to protect these and all other species of the river community. Fishermen are advised to check with Fish & Game for current limits.

Steelhead

Steelhead live in cold, clear streams and return to them each year until they are old enough to go to sea when they are three to three years, usually four to five, and spend life at sea for one to two years. The juvenile are very similar in color to the adults who can grow up to 40-45 inches and weigh up to 10 pounds. Growth rates are dependent on feeding resources available where they are living. Coho salmon are primarily found in rivers where they are fed mostly by insects. Steelhead are known to aggressively predate young stickleback and adult steelhead prey on smaller, non-spawning adult salmon. There are very few steelhead returns over road, in rock cuts, through river channel, from river mouth and estuary, roads and fields. As a result, there are massive environmental and habitat losses.

Coho Salmon

Also known as the Silver Salmon, these fish are very widely distributed. They can grow up to 30 inches and weigh up to 12 pounds but have been found in sizes up to 22 pounds. Males are darker and lack a dorsal fin while females are bright greenish-yellow. Spawning occurs in late spring and early summer. Spawning males are bright reddish-orange on the sides and grey on the belly. Females have small black spots on the back, dorsal fin and top of the tail. At maturity, they become mottled, then on the back with dark blotches. Coho have very short life spans from two to six years. They spend the majority of their life in the ocean but spend time from mid-fall to spring and return to coastal streams to spawn in rivers flowing downstream through Marin and the majority of spawning occurs in the fall. The female chooses the most ideal site in the head of a tributary to construct her nest. The nest is called a redd and is surrounded by gravel. Females can lay over 10,000 eggs which will hatch immediately with the female, fertilizing 1,000 to 1,000 eggs. Adults die after spawning and typically last 12 weeks.





Tolay Lake Regional Park



Popular Hikes

Parking lot to Three Bridges Point	2.5 Miles
Parking lot to South Creek Vista Point	1.8 Miles
Causeway Trail→Pond Trail→Burrowing Owl Trail→	
West Ridge Trail→Parking Lot	3.8 Miles

Day Use Permit Program

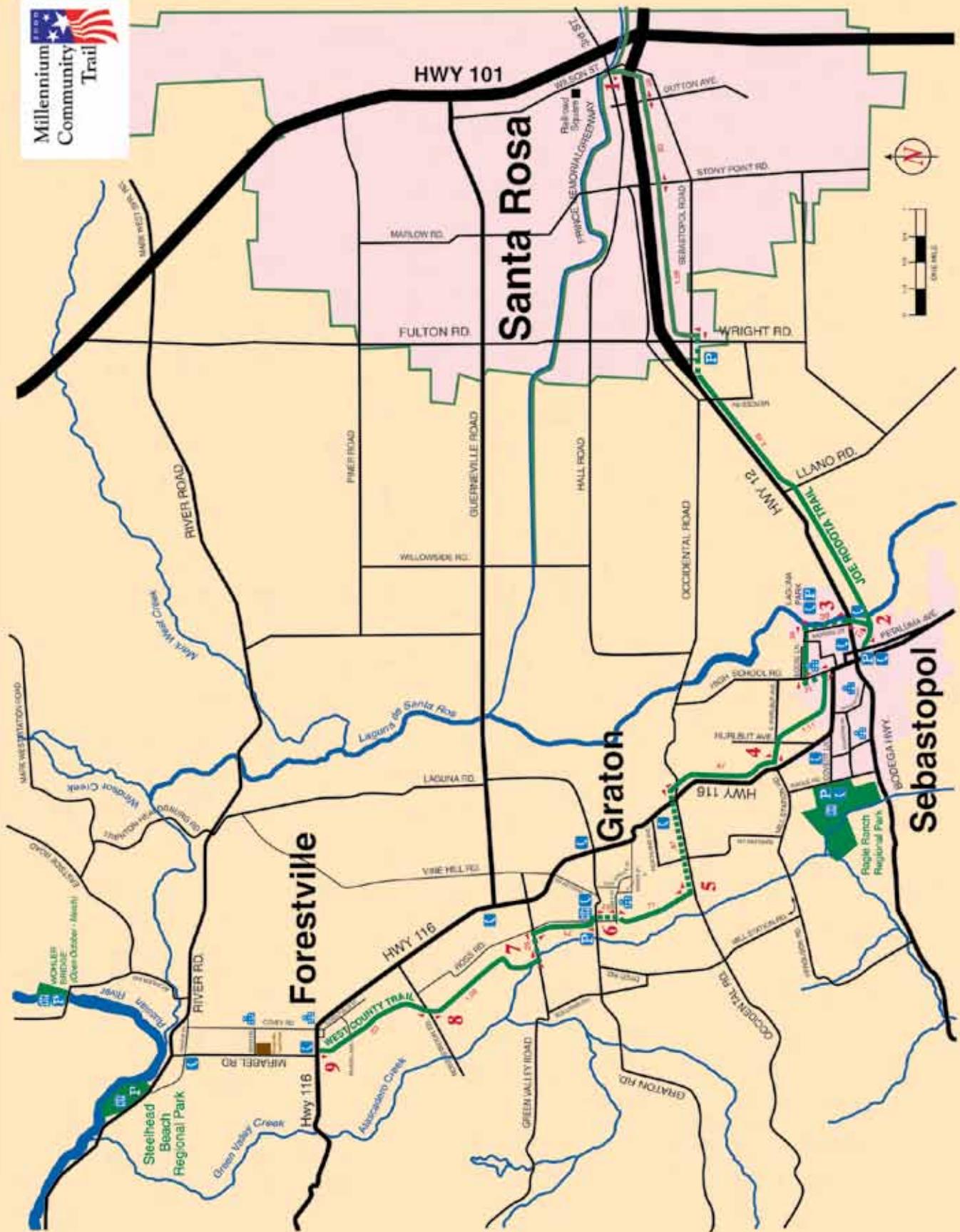
The Day-Use Permit Program allows the public to visit the park during posted hours once they've completed an hour-long orientation and obtained a permit. Regional Parks is offering these mandatory one-hour orientations, free of charge, which cover permit procedures, rules & regulations. After the orientation, participants receive Tolay Day-Use Permits, along with maps, park rules & regulations, and gate access cards. Permit holders may use the park for a variety of activities, including hiking, bicycling, picnicking, or horseback riding. Current park hours for permit holders are Saturday and Sunday from 8 am to sunset. Regular day-use parking fees apply.

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Map Updated 4/2010



Millennium
Community
Trail



MAP LEGEND

- TRAILS
- ■ ■ ON-STREET CONNECTION
- ■ ■ COUNTY PARKS
- WATERWAYS
- PUBLIC ROADS
- CITY LIMITS
- P PARKING
- T TELEPHONES
- H RESTROOMS
- S PUBLIC SCHOOL

