



BIKE OPTIMIZED TRAIL STUDY – WILDCAT CANYON PUBLIC WORKSHOP #1

SUMMARY PACKET April 25, 2023, via ZOOM

Approximately 285 members of the public joined a public meeting held online from 7pm to 8:45pm on April 25, 2023. The meeting was noticed on the project website on April 11th and was added to the Park District's home page and event calendar. The meeting was also posted on Facebook and other social media platforms. Targeted emails were sent to former members of the Trail Users Working Group (TUWG) whose members represent larger audiences of hikers, bikers, and equestrians. Notices of the meeting were posted onsite at the following park entrances:

1. Alvarado Staging Area
2. Rifle Range Rd.
3. Inspiration Point
4. Clark St. neighborhood access
5. Upper Wildcat neighborhood access on Monte Cresta Ave.
6. Bonita Rd neighborhood access

The meeting consisted of a brief presentation followed by a comment and Q&A session. After welcoming participants Park District staff provided some background on the challenges the Park District faces regarding mountain bike access and trail user conflict and the history of how this project was proposed. Staff gave an overview of the proposed project and location of the study area and described the current trail system in Wildcat Canyon. Nomad Ecology summarized the findings of the Biological Resources Assessment and wetland delineation completed for the study area.

Two polls were launched during the meeting: The first consisted of 9 questions and captured information about the participants attending the meeting; the second consisted of 2 questions that captured participant's level of support and identified general concerns about the project.

Over 25 people raised their hands to comment on the project, and 19 questions were asked and answered in the Q&A. More than half of the comments came from members of the youth mountain bike teams in the surrounding area. Many participants expressed support for the Park District to develop a bike optimized trail at Wildcat. A minority of attendees felt this type of facility was not appropriate at Wildcat Canyon. There were one or two comments regarding the legality of the planning process, adequacy of the studies completed thus far, and a minority of attendees expressed general concerns about how this project will affect the surrounding trail system, environment, and other trail users. Some people expressed that additional public outreach and feedback is needed.

This summary packet includes a summary of the polling results and the presentation given at the meeting.

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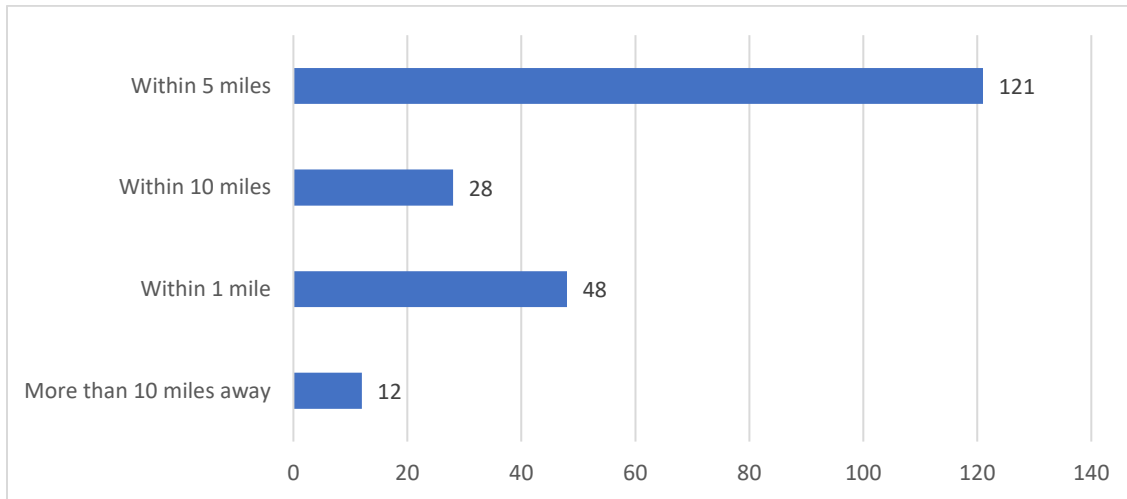
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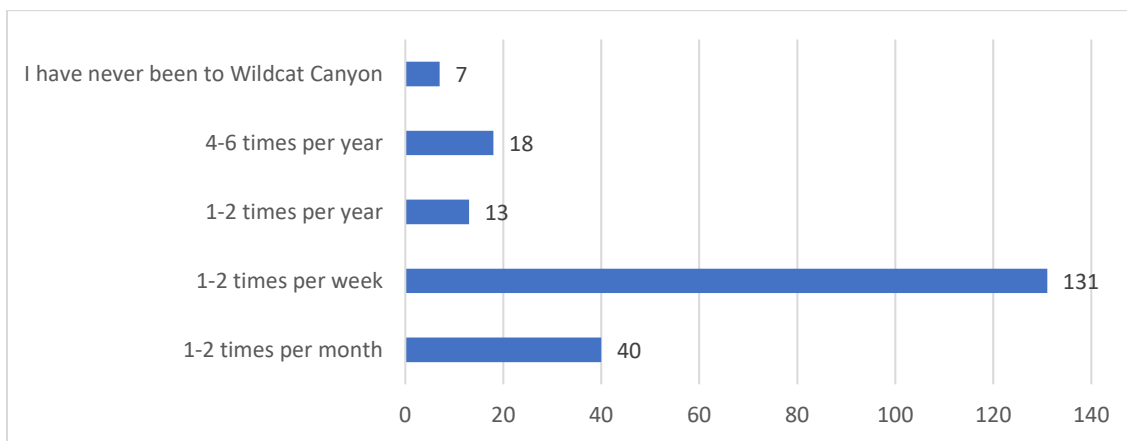
Polling Results: Who's Here

The results of the poll that was launched towards the beginning of the meeting and presentation are below.

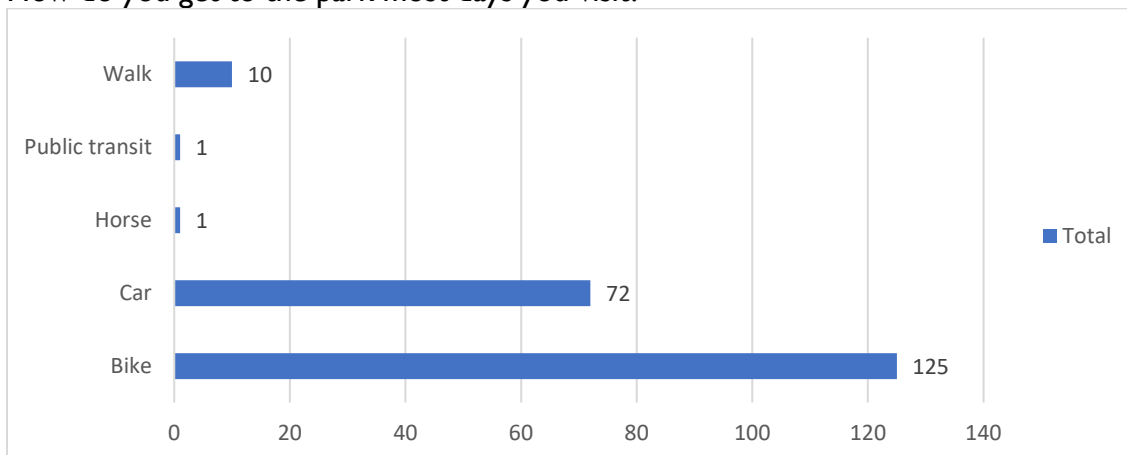
1. How far away do you live from Wildcat Canyon Regional Park?



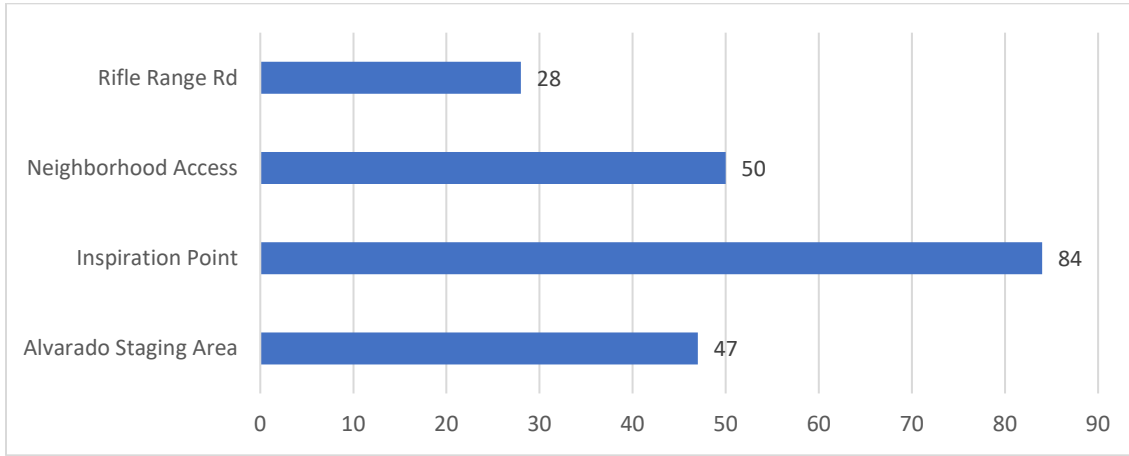
2. How frequently do you visit Wildcat Canyon?



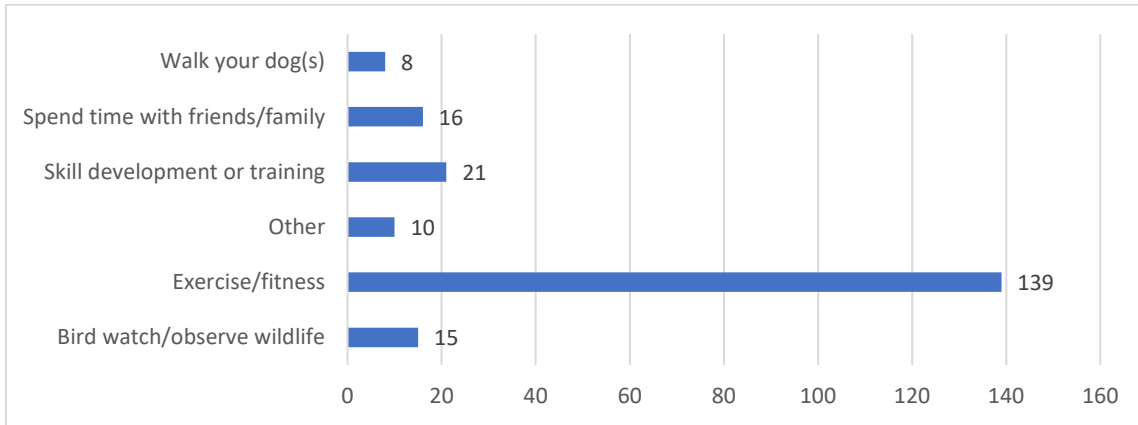
3. How do you get to the park most days you visit?



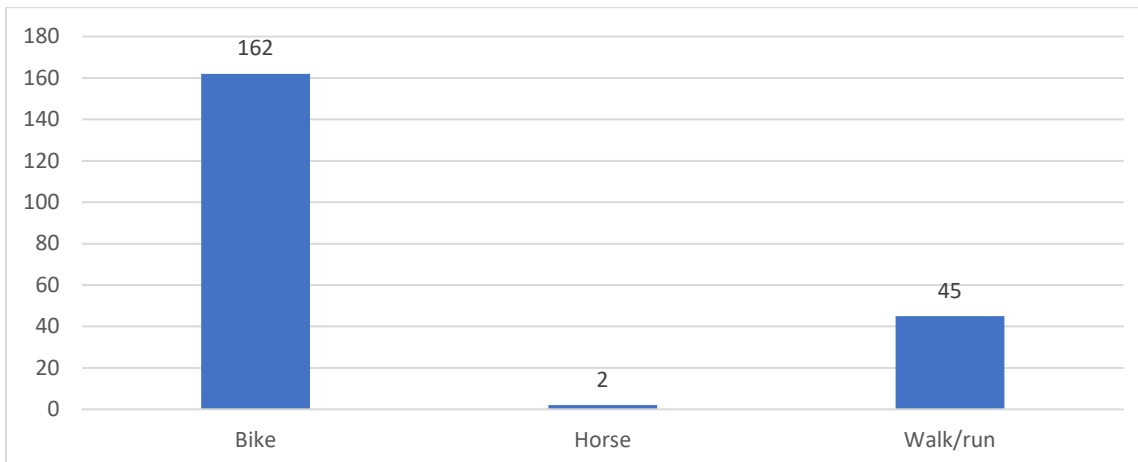
4. Which entrance do you most frequently use?



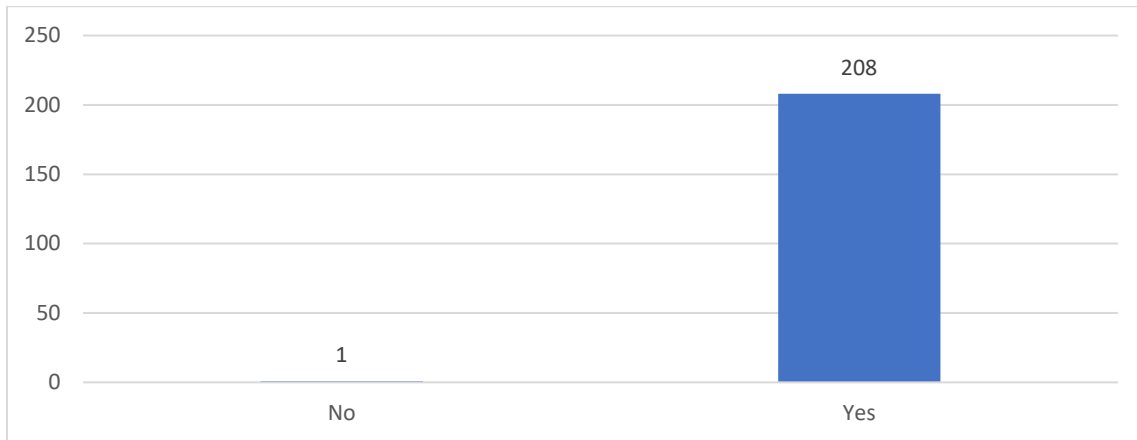
5. What do you prefer to do in Wildcat Canyon?



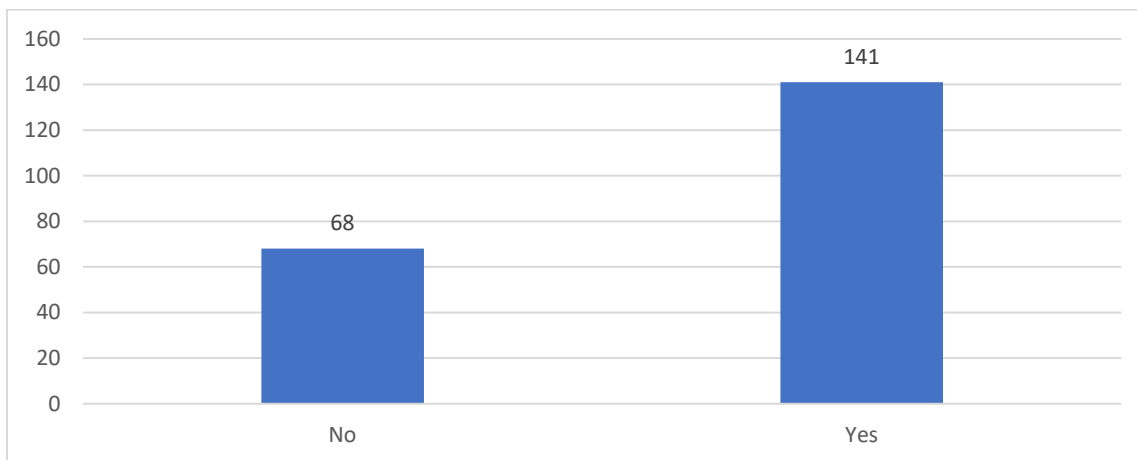
6. What is your preferred mode of travel within our Parks?



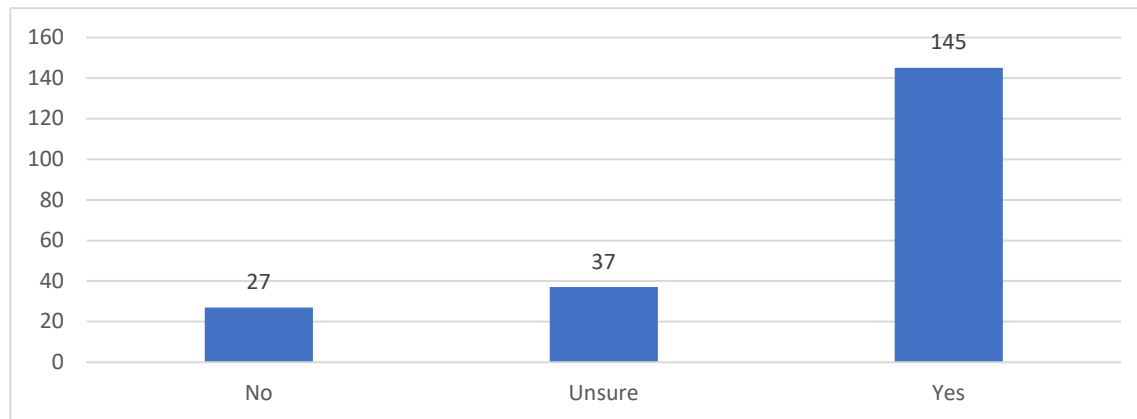
7. Are you generally familiar with the term trail etiquette?



8. Do you, or a member of your family, participate on a school or club mountain bike team?



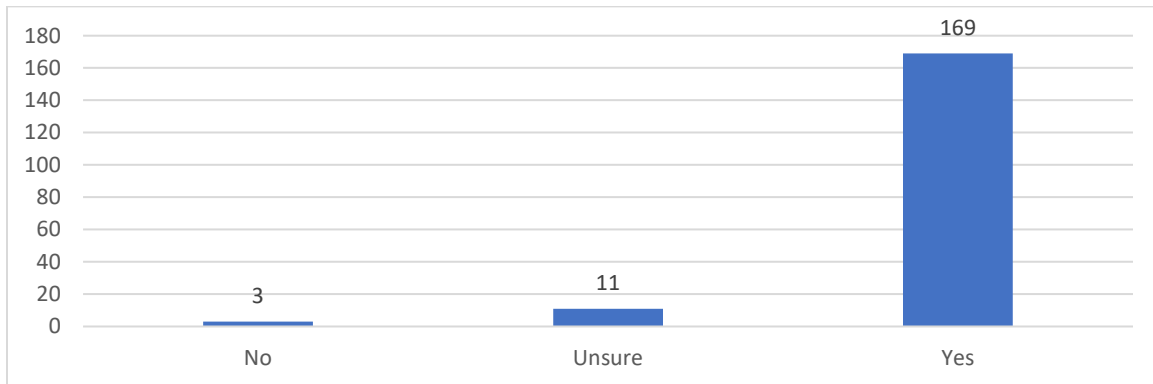
9. Are you familiar with the Mezue trail?



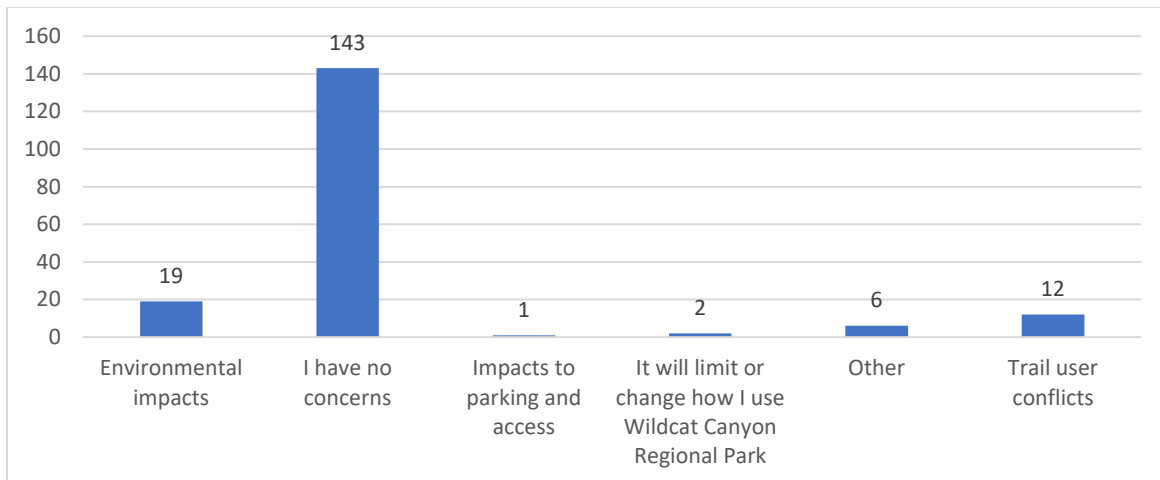
Poll Results: What Do You Think?

This poll was launched at the end of the presentation, but prior to hearing public comments, to capture the general opinions about this type of a project.

10. Do you support the Park District's efforts to explore single-use trails and/or separating uses as a management strategy to address trail user conflict?



11. What generally sums up your concerns about the development of a bike optimized trail in Wildcat Canyon?





Wildcat Canyon Regional Park Bike Trail Project



Tuesday, April 25th, 2023
East Bay Regional Park District

www.ebparks.org/wildcat-comments



Overview

The Park District is considering options to develop a bike optimized trail in Wildcat Canyon Regional Park. Potential features include:

- Flow trail alignment (max grades 5-10%)
- Rock gardens
- Berm turns

We are conducting surveys within a specific corridor to better understand existing conditions.

This is the first public engagement opportunity; there will be more.



History

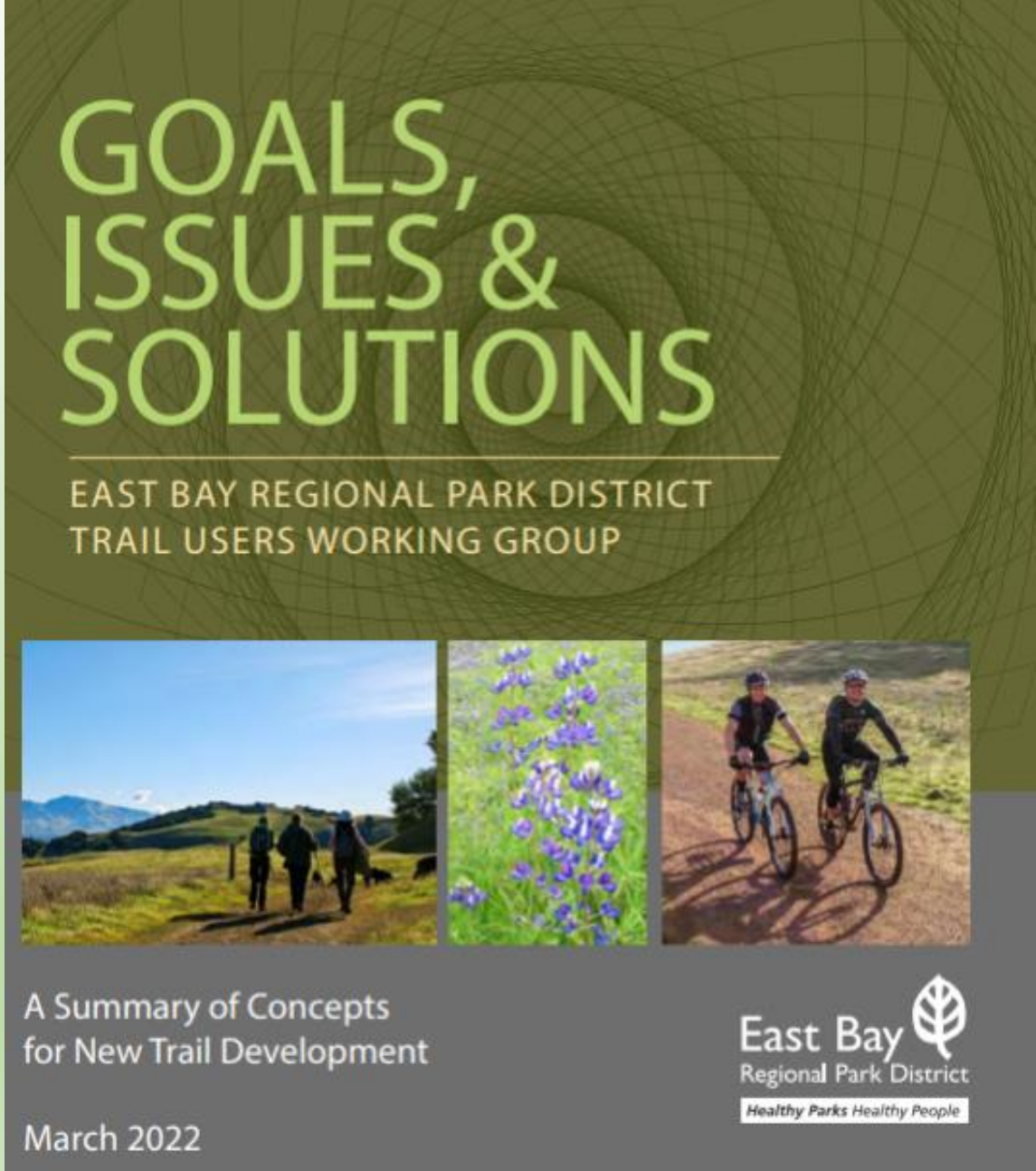
2020 Park District formed Trail User Working Group (TUWG). TUWG met several times throughout 2020-2022.

Some Key Issues Identified:

- Increased demand for a variety of uses, including mountain biking and dog walking, and **trails that are open or designed for such use.**
- Establishment of bootleg trails causing resource damage.
- Over-crowded trails, parking lots, and facilities that impact safety, resource protection, and user experience on multi-use trails.

Some Outcomes:

- Use scientific studies to determine trail development.
- Support for separating uses because shared use of natural surface trails remained a concern.



**GOALS,
ISSUES &
SOLUTIONS**

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT
TRAIL USERS WORKING GROUP

A Summary of Concepts
for New Trail Development

March 2022

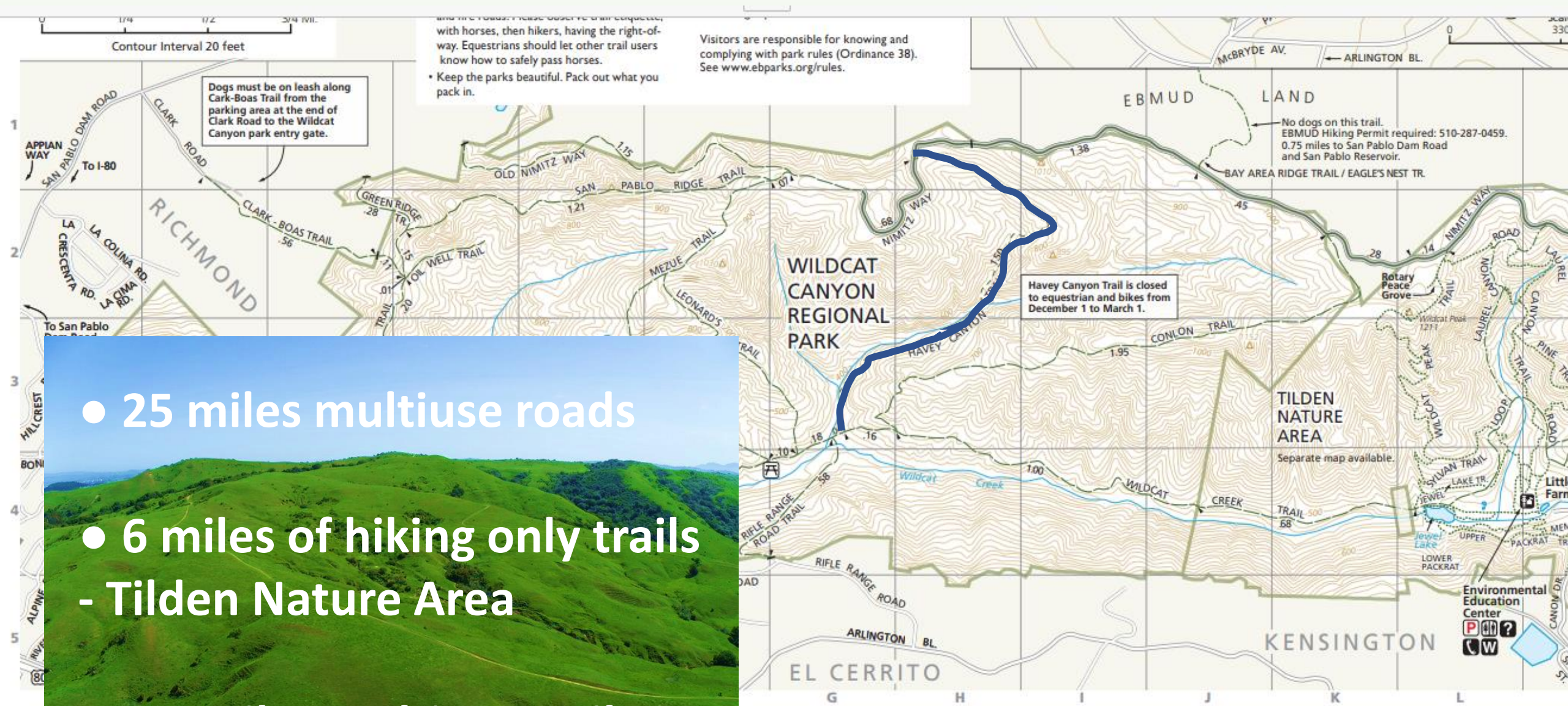
East Bay
Regional Park District
Healthy Parks Healthy People



National Interscholastic Cycling Association (NICA)



- Building strong bodies, minds, community, and character through the inclusive sport of interscholastic cycling
- Started in Bay Area
- The largest East Bay teams are the Berkeley High School and Wildcat Composite (6th-8th grade) teams



with horses, then hikers, having the right-of-way. Equestrians should let other trail users know how to safely pass horses.

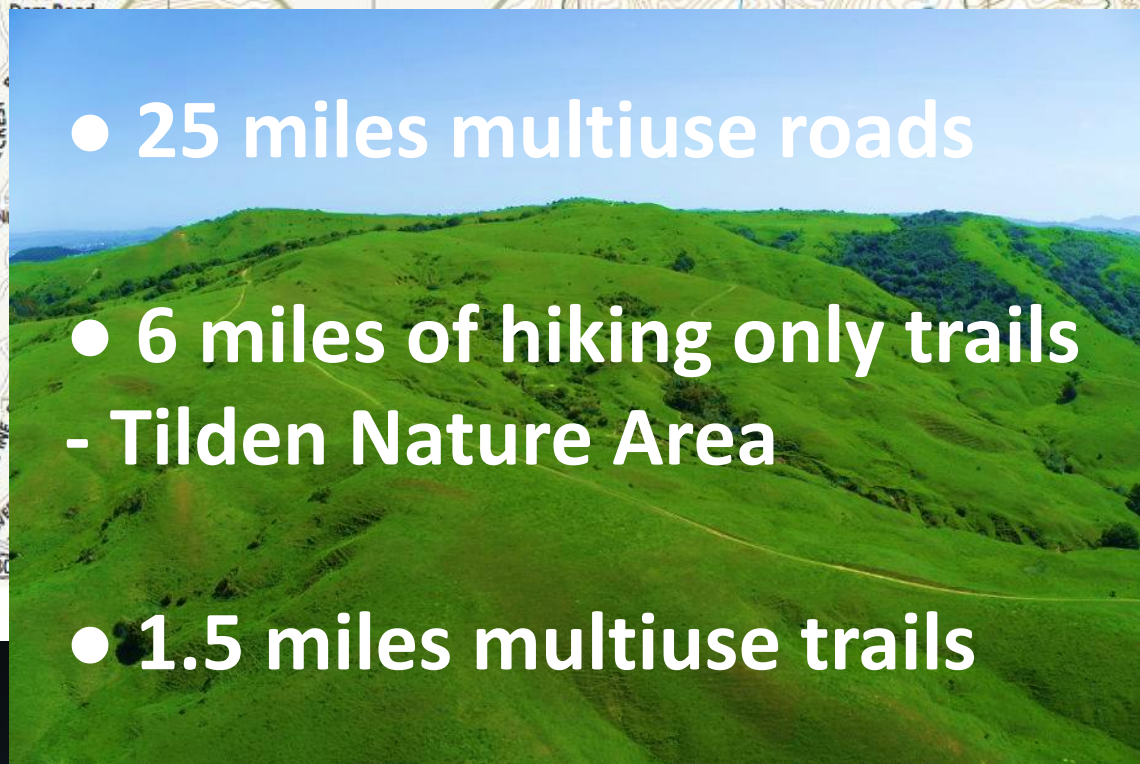
- Keep the parks beautiful. Pack out what you pack in.

Visitors are responsible for knowing and complying with park rules (Ordinance 38). See www.ebparks.org/rules.

Dogs must be on leash along Clark-Boas Trail from the parking area at the end of Clark Road to the Wildcat Canyon park entry gate.

No dogs on this trail. EBMUD Hiking Permit required: 510-287-0459. 0.75 miles to San Pablo Dam Road and San Pablo Reservoir.

Havey Canyon Trail is closed to equestrian and bikes from December 1 to March 1.



- 25 miles multiuse roads
- 6 miles of hiking only trails - Tilden Nature Area
- 1.5 miles multiuse trails

Wildcat Canyon Regional Park Trail System

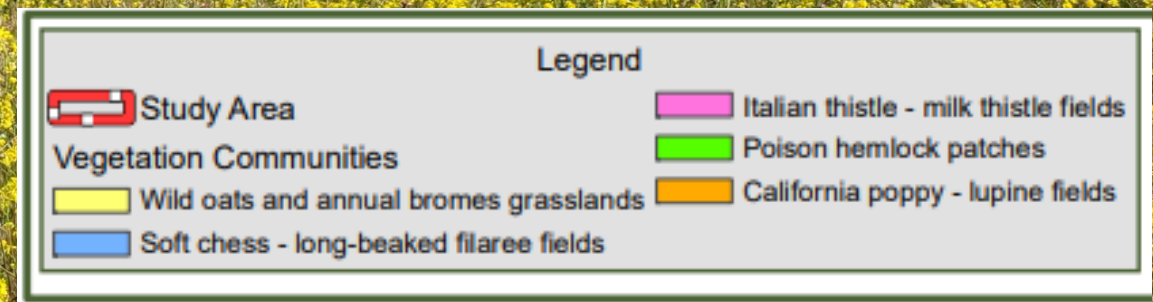
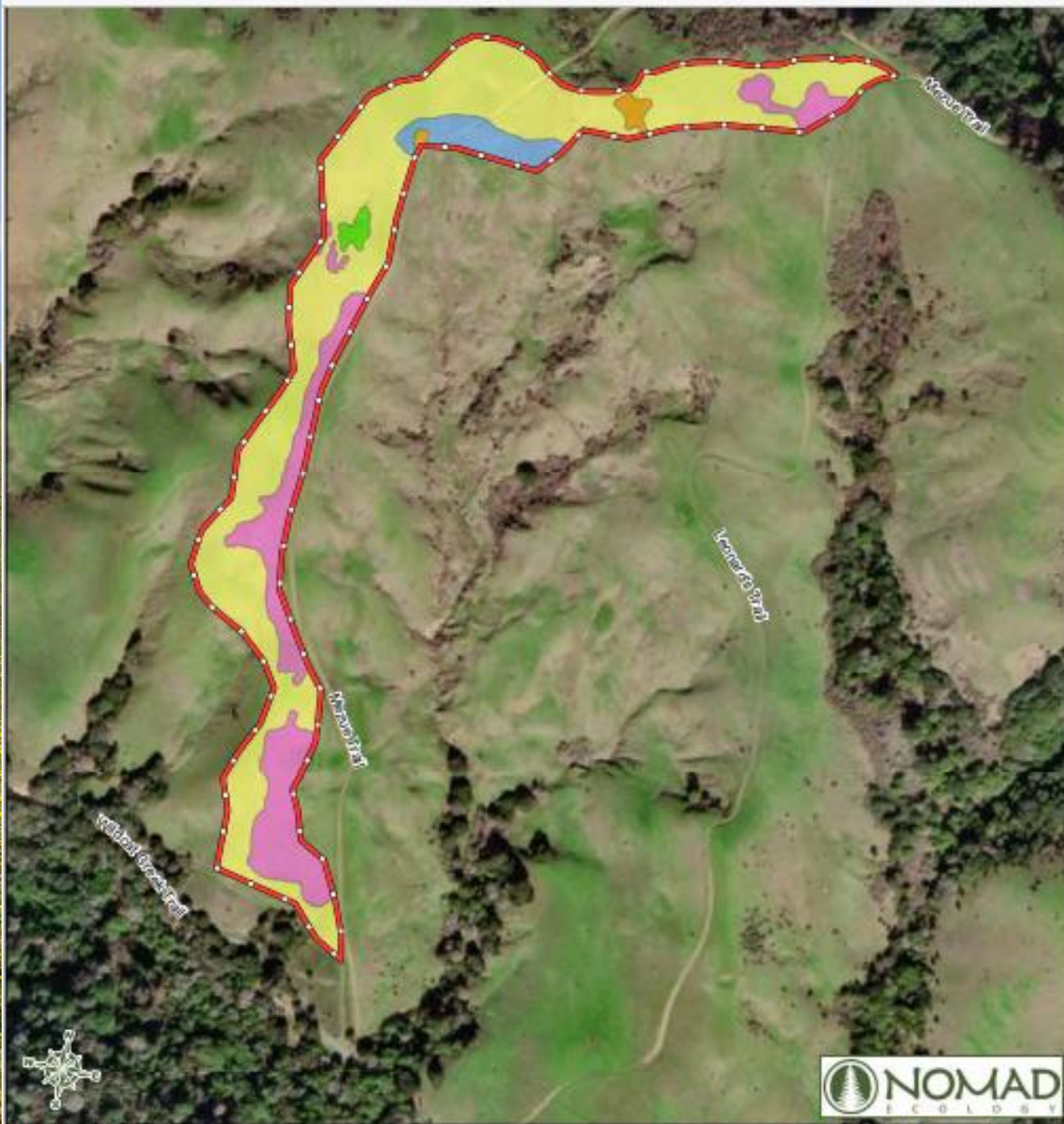
What Have We Learned and What Are We Considering?



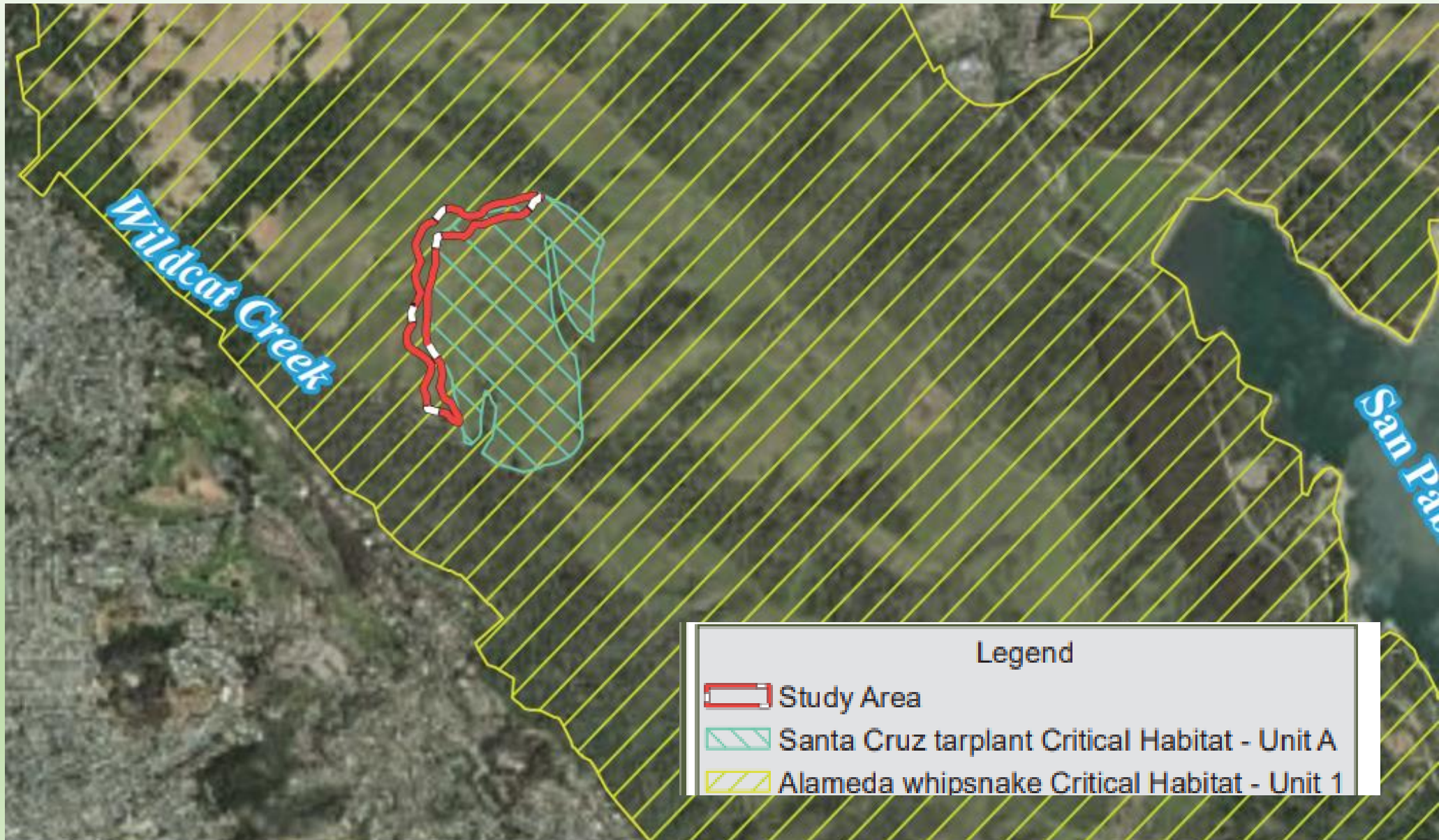
- **Consulted with Stewardship staff to identify an appropriate corridor**
- **Consulted with Park Operations**
- **Completed initial cultural records review**
- **Conducted Biological Resources Assessment**
- **Completed wetland delineation**

Wildcat

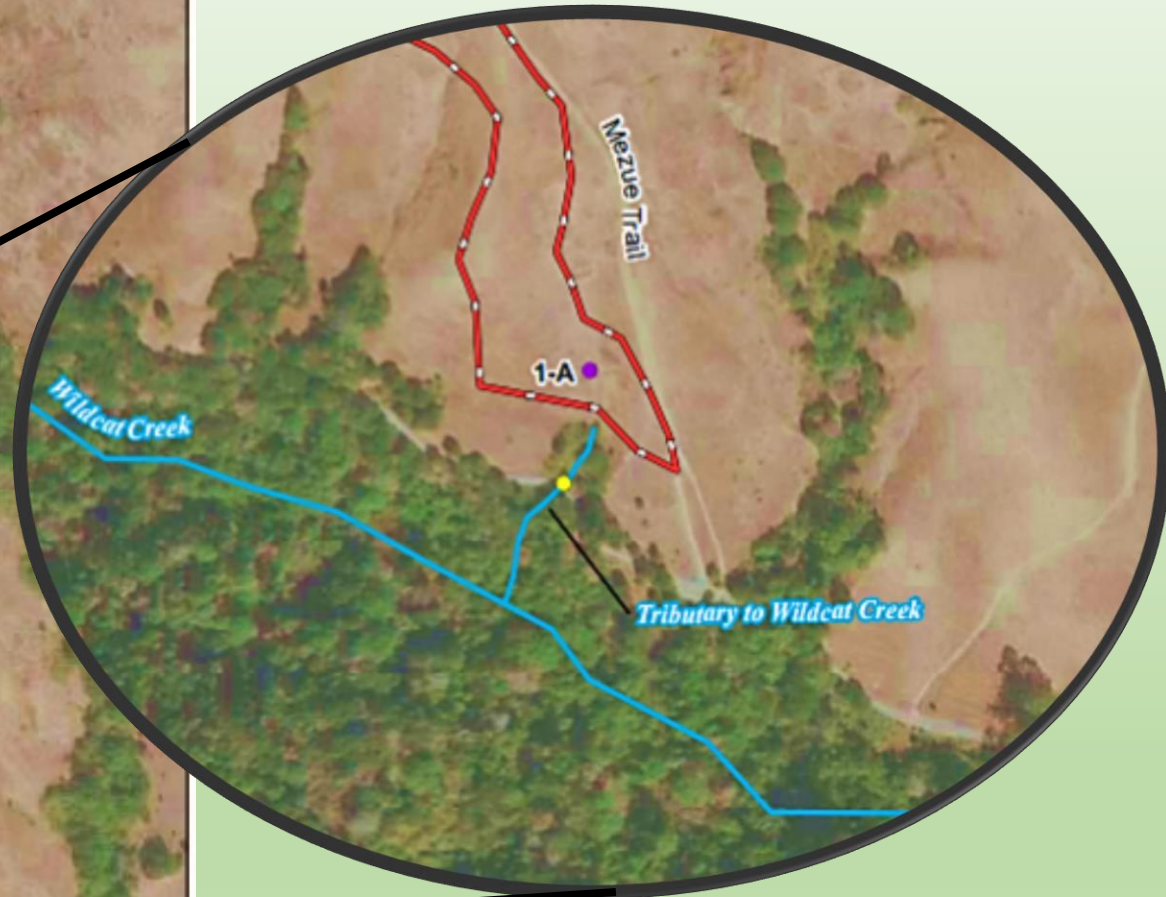
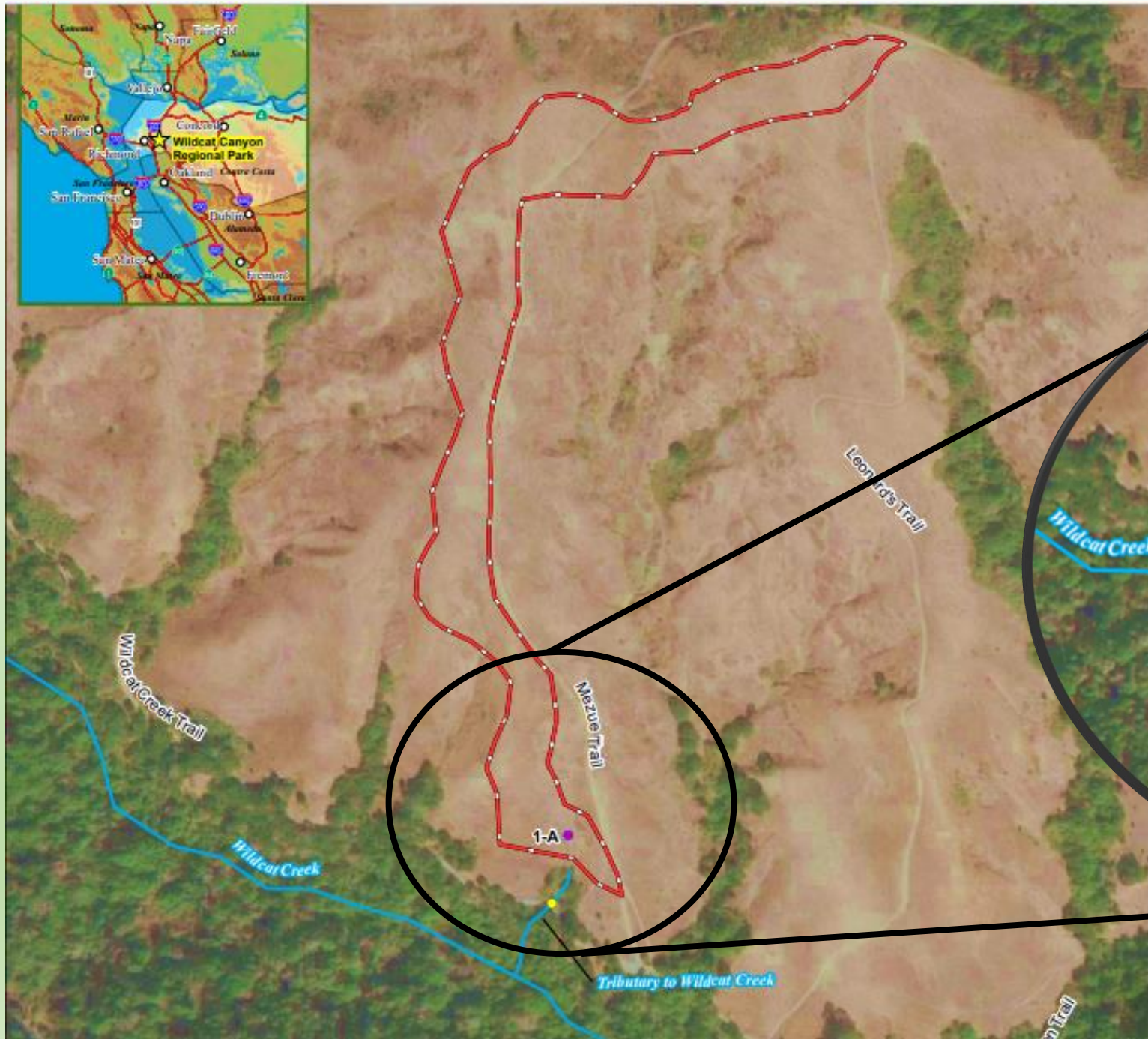
Vegetation Communities within the Study Area



Critical Habitat



Wetland Delineation



Www.ebparks.org/projects/wildcat-canyon-regional-park-wildcat-bike-trail

Process and Next Steps

- We want to hear from you!
 - **Comment form on website**
 - www.ebparks.org/wildcat-comments
- Develop design concepts to be reviewed by public and approved by EBRPD Board
- Continue to study proposed corridor
 - Geotechnical studies
 - Cultural and natural resource studies
- Analyze preferred option under CEQA

