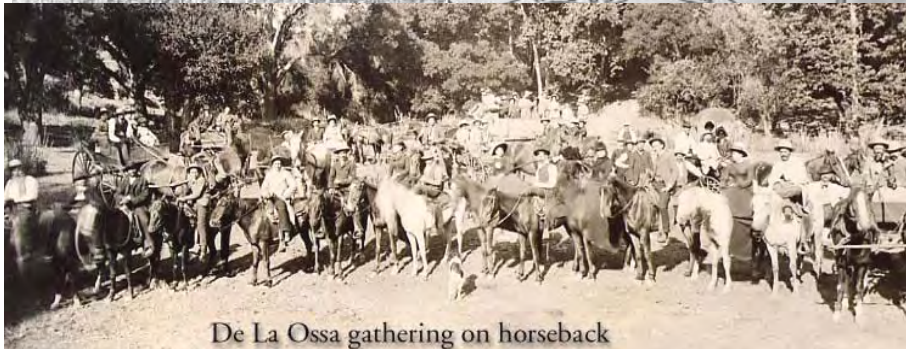
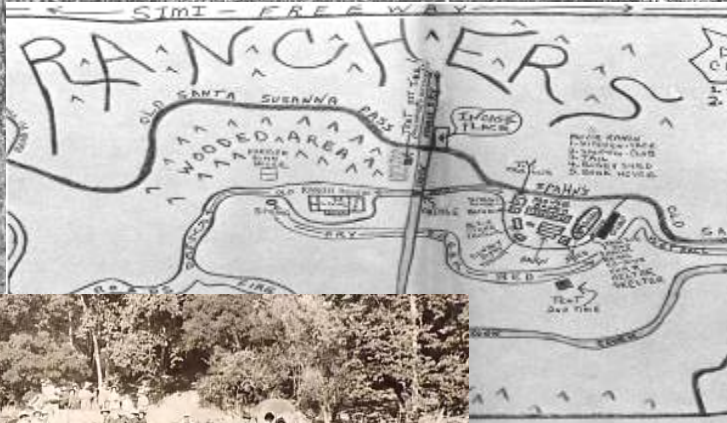
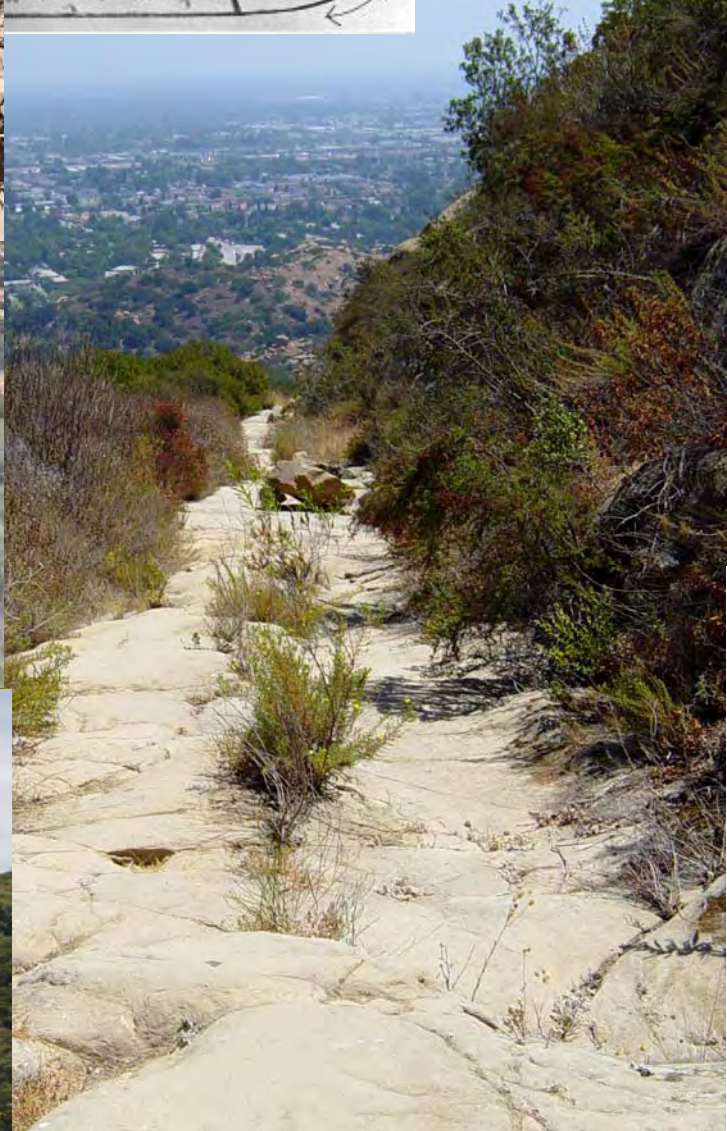


RECREATION



De La Ossa gathering on horseback



REGIONAL RECREATION, PARKS, OPEN SPACE

Map No.	PARK	Size-Acres	Mgmt Agency	Relative Distance	Notes	Hiking Trails	Biking Trails	Equestrian Trails	Trailheads	Views/Vantage Points	Parking	Restrooms	Potable Water	Picnic Facilities	Camp-ground	Visitor Center	Intrp/Edu Progrms	Historic Site	Other Recreation	
	Aliso Canyon Park			5 Mi Rad																
	Bell Canyon Park			5 Mi Rad																
	Browns Creek Canyon Park	51.9		5 Mi Rad																
	Chatsworth Oaks Park			5 Mi Rad																
	Chatsworth Park North	24	LA City	Adjacent		▼					■	■	■	■						Active Rec
	Chatsworth Park South	100+	LA City	Adjacent	1	▼		■	■		■	■	■	■		Rec Center		Hill-Palmer		Active Rec
	Chatsworth Reservoir & Nature Preserve			5 Mi. R.																
	Chumash Park			5 Mi Rad																
	Corriganville	246	RSRP	Adjacent		▼	■	■	■		■							Corriganville R.		
	Dayton Canyon Open Space			5 Mi Rad																
	Devil Canyon Open Space			5 Mi Rad		■	■	■	■											Dogs-L
	Garden of the Gods	21	SMMC	5 Mi Rad		■			■											Dogs-L
	Limekiln Canyon Park			5 Mi Rad																
	Knapp Ranch Park			5 Mi Rad																
	Marr Ranch Open Space			5 Mi Rad																
	Moonshine Canyon Park			5 Mi Rad																
	Orcutt Ranch Park			5 Mi Rad																
	Porter Ridge Park			5 Mi Rad																
	Rocky Peak Park	4,800	SMMC	5 Mi Rad		▼	■	■	■		■							Runkle R.		
	Rocky Pointe	13		5 Mi Rad																
	Sage Ranch	625		5 Mi Rad		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■					Amphitheatre
	Santa Susana Park			5 Mi Rad																
	Stoney Point Park	22.13	LA City	5 Mi Rad		■														
	Area North-Stoney Pt.	54	LA City	5 Mi Rad	?															
	Whiteface Open Space																			

▼ Trails Connect to SSPSHP

Notes: # 1: Wheelchair Sports Program

Agency

SMMC Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy

MRCA Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority

RSRPD Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District 805-584-4400

LADRP City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks

Santa Susana Pass State Historic Park
Regional Recreation

Legend

-  Santa Susana SHP
-  Parks and Open Space (in 5 mile buffer)
-  Parks and Open Space (in 10 mile buffer)
-  California Counties

Buffer Zones

-  5 Miles
-  10 Miles

Major Roads

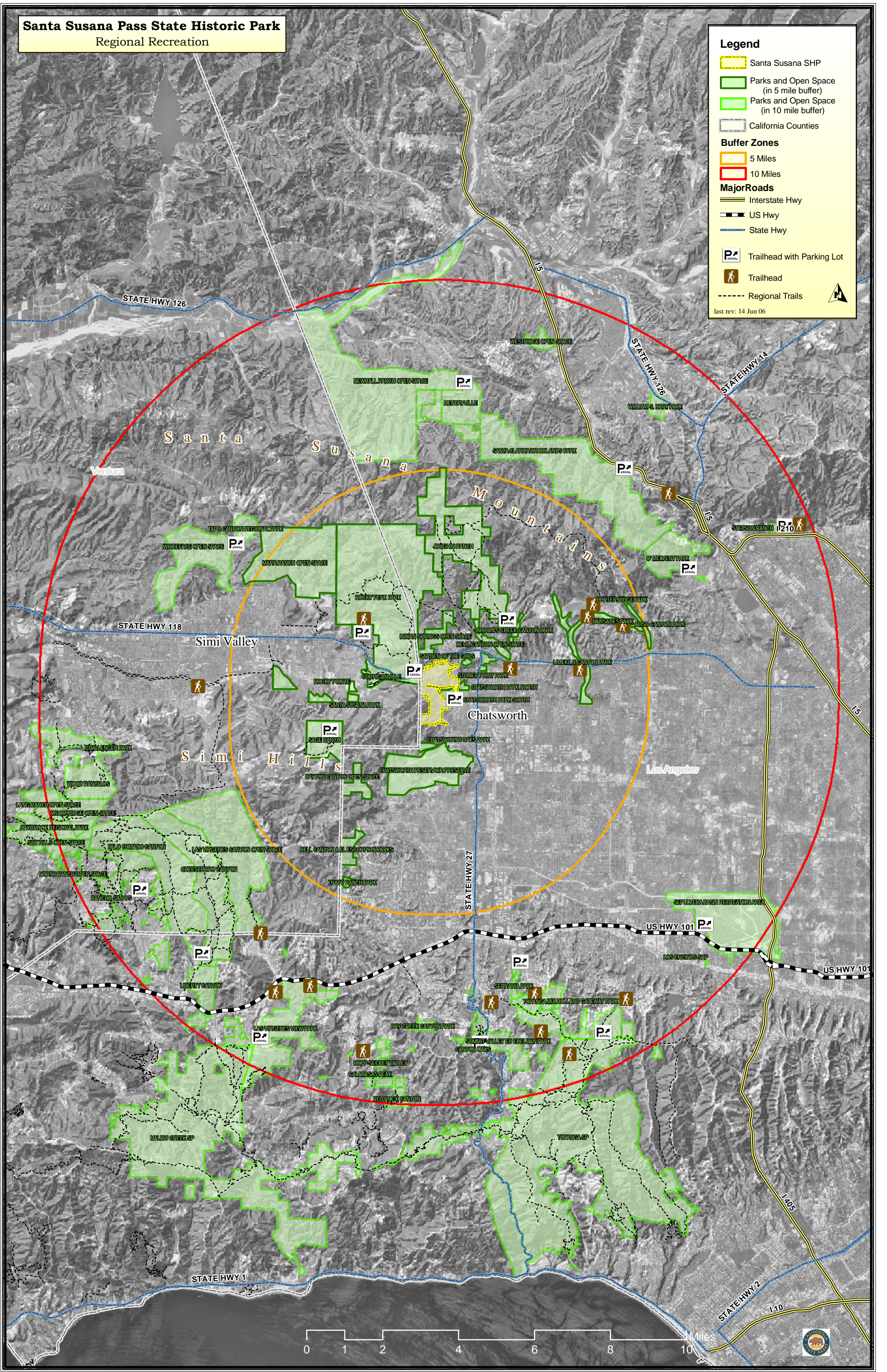
-  Interstate Hwy
-  US Hwy
-  State Hwy

 Trailhead with Parking Lot

 Trailhead

 Regional Trails

last rev: 14 Jun 06



Trails

The trails of Santa Susana Pass State Historic Park are the primary means of recreation. Consistent with its historic and prehistoric heritage, the landscape continues to provide passage from place to place, connecting valley to valley, village to village, city to city, hills to mountains. Befitting its designation as a historic park, it also connects the past to the present and threads the travel and transportation activities of humans over the past centuries. True to its historic character as travel corridor and “pass” the park and adjacent surroundings provide modern visitors a range of roads, footpaths, horse trails, and bike routes to negotiate the rugged terrain.

Assessment

The park’s existing trail complex has evolved over decades of casual use and convenience, so it has become a web of footpaths and old roadbeds. This maze is evident in aerial photographs which show faint traces of the many routes used over the years.

The park has a reputation for trail confusion, based on website comments and regional trail guides. A number of factors contribute to this. In addition to the ever-growing proliferation of “volunteer” trails, paths tend to disappear under vegetation without regular use or active maintenance. Trail maintenance to date has been accomplished by the volunteer efforts of dedicated trail users. Multiple entrances and the lack of maps or signage add to the situation, making orientation especially difficult for first-time visitors. At least a half dozen published name and route variations were found referring to the “Stagecoach Trail, Road, or Route.”

The terrain itself can be disorienting. Certainly it makes for exceptionally steep sections on some trails and encourages erosion. Some trail sections were laid out following the most direct, up and down route, rather than along the contours. Gradients of existing trail routes are shown in Exhibit _____. Years of unchecked conditions have created serious ruts and wash-outs in places.

An initial trail and road assessment was done by Frank Padilla, SPS I, in the spring of 2004 under the Angeles District Fire and Trail Management Program. An Immediate *Use Trail Repair Plan* (IUTRP) was developed to “provide safe access to park visitors.” This plan [see Appendix ____], which focused on the southern portion of the park, proposed designated routes of travel (roads and trails), outlined repair criteria, and proposed trail signage. It recommended that the Devil’s Slide area be designated for hikers only due to conditions, safety, and historic significance. Temporary rock steps were to be constructed (placed) along this section to make it safer for hikers. The plan has not been implemented. It is not known how the proposed trail names were derived.

Additional trail assessment was undertaken after considering the information gathered during the resource inventory process and in preparation for the park’s general plan. A baseline mapping of the entire park now included much of the existing trail network. A wide range of cultural features and sites, both historic and prehistoric, were mapped and identified, as well as key natural resource areas. The following exhibits, in addition to those included in the previous section (Aesthetics), reflect various aspects of the existing trail system and the landscape that supports it.

Recreation

A hierarchy of trail use was applied to the existing trail system. It considered regional trail connections, park access points, vantage points, special landscape features, and levels of trail use. These levels were identified as follows:

- *Primary Routes of Travel*—cross-terrain routes that connect one entrance to another or include key features (i.e. historic routes) or vantage points
- *Secondary Connectors*—important, but shorter routes that offer convenience or connect the primary routes of travel to additional access points and certain landscape features not on primary routes
- *Interpretive and Scenic Loops*—localized loops that allow access to special features, vantage points, or the development of focused interpretive themes or topics

Applying historic, cultural, and other resource considerations (resource protection), to the existing trail network culminates in certain trail preferences. Exhibit ___ illustrates an application of historic references or names to individual trails and proposes an initial trail network for planning consideration. The following breakdown applies the hierarchy of trail use to these trails.

Level I: Primary Routes

Old Santa Susana Stagecoach Road
El Camino Nuevo
Powerhouse Road
Mattingly Trail
Williams Trail

Level II: Secondary Connectors

Bannon Quarry Trail
Chatsworth Wagon Road
Hill-Palmer Trail
Sanchez Trail
Miranda Trail

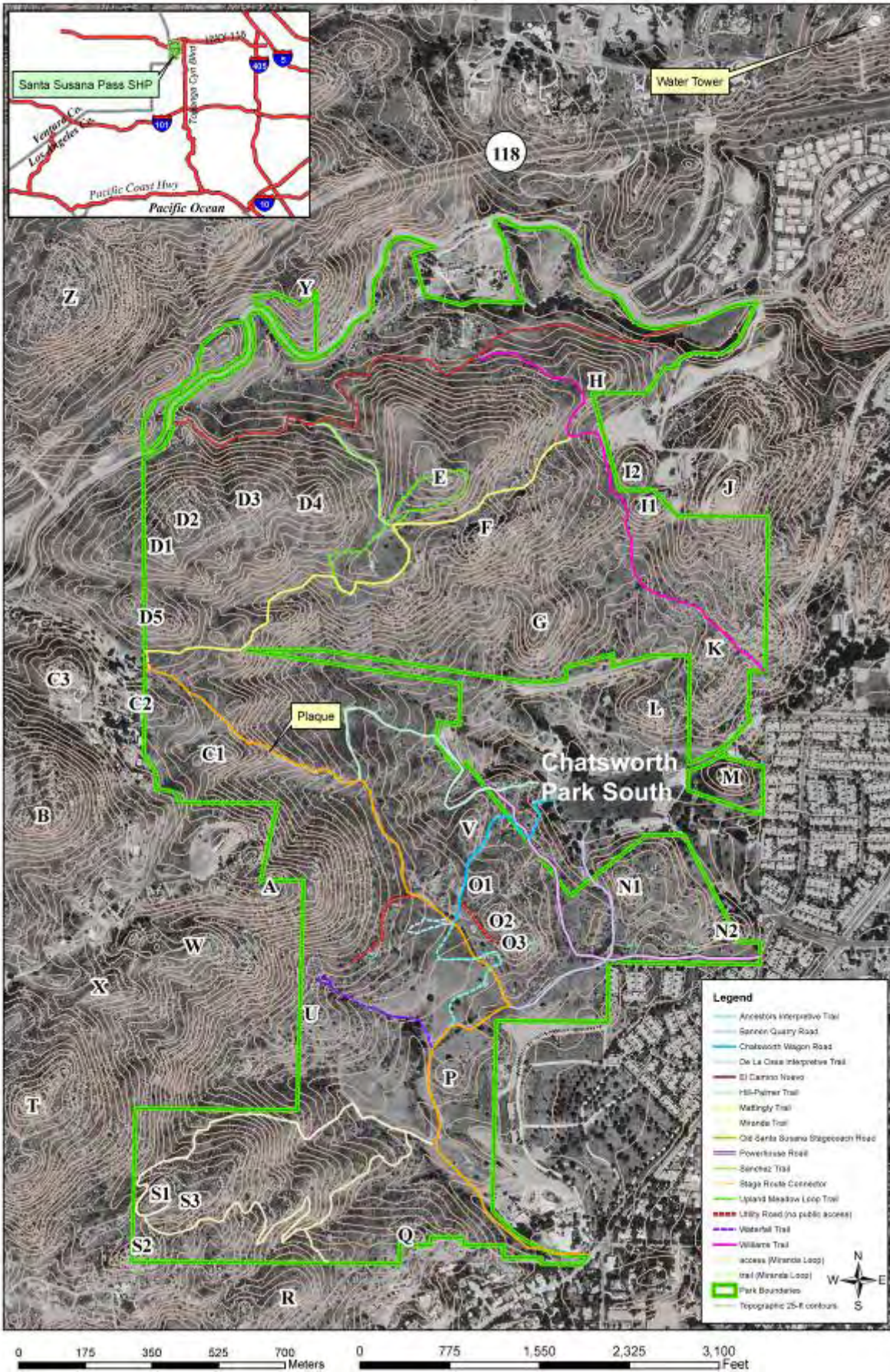
Level III: Interpretive/ Scenic Loops

De La Ossa Interpretive Trail
Ancestors Interpretive Trail
Upland Meadow Loop Trail

Retired Trails/Trail Names

Larwin Loop
Cut-Across Trail
Andora Road Trail

SANTA SUSANA PASS STATE HISTORIC PARK
Peaks and Proposed Trails



Recreation

Regional and Connecting Trails

Rim of the Valley Trail Corridor

Santa Susana Pass State Historic Park lies within the Rim of the Valley Trail Corridor, which is defined in the following excerpt from the Rim of the Valley Trail Corridor Map and Brochure.

Rim of the Valley Corridor Trail: The Rim of the Valley (ROV) Trail Corridor is the name given to the Conservancy's [...Conservancy] jurisdictional boundary encircling the edges of the San Fernando, La Crescenta and Simi Valleys to the south, and large portions of the Santa Clara River from its headwaters by Palmdale to the Santa Clarita Woodlands by the City of Newhall. The ROV Trail Corridor was designated by the Legislature to facilitate the development of an interlocking system of public parks, trails, and wildlife habitat preserves within the mountain areas. The backbone of that system—and the thread which will one day tie it together—will be the multi-use, long distance Rim of the Valley Trail .

[Discussion on current status of the ROV trail and relationship to park to be added later.]

Trail Connections

The trails of Santa Susana Pass State Historic Park connect to trails in adjacent and nearby parks, as well as to portions of the community trail system of Chatsworth. Trail connections can be made to Corriganville Park, Rocky Peak Park, Chatsworth Parks-North and South, and to Chatsworth Oaks Park (via private open space areas). Connections to the following trails should be considered:

	Corriganville Loop Trail
	Wildlife Corridor Trail
	Sagecoach Trail
Rocky Peak	Trail/Fire Road
	Hummingbird Trail
	Chumash Trail-Simi
	Johnson Mtwy
	Las Llajas Canyon Rd

Related Trail Names in Public Use

Regional trail guides and trail websites use numerous names and trail references when referring to trails within or adjacent to the park. As previously mentioned they add to some of the trail confusion. The following list offers some of these references.

Old Stage Coach Equestrian Trail
Chatsworth Park South to Lilac Lane
1.9 mi./ 700 ft.elev. change
Connections: Larwin Ave. or Jeffrey Mark Court
New Stage Coach Trail
Santa Susana Pass Road to Lilac Lane
.5 mi./ 150 ft.elev. change
Stage Coach Route
Corriganville Park to Santa Susana Pass Rd (@Box Canyon)
300 ft. elev. change
Stage Coach Trail
Corriganville Park (Wildlife Corridor Trail) to Santa Susana Pass Road
250 ft. elev. change
Wildlife Corridor Trail
Corriganville Park (Smith Road) to Rocky Peak Trail)
900 ft. elev. change
Old Stagecoach Road (Schad)

Recommendations

The following initial recommendations derive from current and anticipated trail issues.

1. Develop a preferred system of designated trails, based on the full range of trail needs and criteria.
2. Submit this proposed trail plan for review by vested parties, including resource professionals, district staff, interpretive staff, experienced trail users, and other members of the public.
3. Provide trail maps and signage consistent with the designated trail network.
4. Review trail conditions and implement recommendations for repair, rehabilitation, relocation or rerouting. Reroute overly steep sections if feasible. Repair eroded sections.
5. Provide for regular maintenance of park trails.
6. Rehabilitate landscapes degraded by past trail use.
7. Minimize trail and resource conflicts. Provide necessary resource protections and specify operational limitations.
8. Develop interpretive programs consistent with the designated trail plan. Note initial trail recommendations in the next section (Interpretive Resources).

