



CHAPTER 3 PARK CONDITIONS, OPPORTUNITIES, & CONSTRAINTS

3.1 EXISTING CONDITIONS

Regional Context

TASP is located adjacent to an urban environment and provides recreation opportunities to Sonoma County residents and visitors, particularly from the large population center in the City of Santa Rosa north and west of the park. Due to surrounding developed land uses that exist around the park, TASP has a permeable park boundary and is commonly accessed from many different locations, both formal and informal.

TASP is one of many open access parks and protected lands within the Sonoma County region. State parks in the region include Sugarloaf Ridge State Park, Jack London State Historic Park, and Bothe-Napa Valley State Park. Sonoma County Regional Parks is a major landholder within the region, owning nearby Taylor Mountain Regional Park and Preserve, North Sonoma Mountain Regional Park and Preserve, Sonoma Valley Regional Park, Hood Mountain Regional Park and Preserve, and Spring Lake Regional Park.

Adjacent Land Use and Ownership

A majority of TASP lies within unincorporated Sonoma County but select areas of the park are within the City of Santa Rosa, primarily around the visitor center and northwest of the Lawndale Trailhead. Adjacent land ownership includes City of Santa Rosa, Sonoma Land Trust, and privately owned lands.

Land uses adjacent to the park within the city limit to the north and west include open space, recreation, single family and multi-family residential, public/institutional, industrial warehouse, and creek/waterway (Santa Rosa 2025a). Within unincorporated Sonoma County lands to the east and south of TASP, adjacent land uses include resource and rural development, diverse agriculture, and rural residential (Sonoma County 2025a).

Adjacent Parks and Protected Lands

Spring Lake Regional Park

Spring Lake Regional Park is a 320-acre park [adjacent to TASP to the west. The park is heavily visited and features about 10 miles of trails, camping, boating and paddling, a swimming lagoon and swim park, a café, picnic areas, fishing, a parcourse, and natural history center (Sonoma County 2025b). The park is owned and managed by Sonoma County.

Howarth Memorial Park

Howarth Memorial Park is a 138-acre community park owned and managed by the City of Santa Rosa (Santa Rosa 2025b). The park includes boating and fishing on Lake Ralphine, picnic areas, sports fields and courts, playground, and trails. The trail system connects with the trails at Spring Lake Regional Park and TASP.



Spring Lake Regional Park is adjacent to TASP and is a popular access point into the park.

Sonoma Mountain Vernal Pools

Sonoma Land Trust owns and manages the 174-acre Sonoma Mountain Vernal Pools ecological preserve to the southeast of TASP. Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District (Ag + Open Space) owns a conservation easement over the property. Although this area is not openly accessed by the public, it is accessible on a restricted basis, such as via guided outings. The property is conserved to protect rare and threatened plant species, seasonal vernal pools, and conserves a significant portion of an important wildlife corridor (Sonoma Land Trust 2025). In the future, the property may be transferred to a public agency for ownership and land management.

Closed Access Lands

TASP is bordered by various closed access protected lands that may have opportunities for public access in the future. Easements are held by Ag + Open Space over two private land areas to the south of TASP: Geary Ranch and the Gardner property. These lands are currently closed to public access. The Geary Ranch conservation easement is 412 acres of land used for cattle grazing on the southern slopes of Bennett Mountain. This property contains the 1,887-foot summit of Bennett Mountain. The Gardner property open space easement is 194 acres, and the land contains a winery, vineyards, and residential uses.

Ag + Open Space owns the 24-acre Keegan-Coppin property adjacent to the southwest corner of TASP. The property was acquired by Ag + Open Space in 1997 and is currently closed to public access.

Regional Recreational Resources

Bay Area Ridge Trail

The Bay Area Ridge Trail is a planned 550-mile multi-use trail to connect the ridgelines around the San Francisco Bay (Bay Area Ridge Trail 2025). A 10.8-mile segment of the Bay Area Ridge Trail runs through Spring Lake Regional Park and TASP (Figure 3-1). From west to east, the trail enters from Spring Lake Regional Park and follows Canyon, Marsh, Ridge, and Lawndale Trails within TASP. Future sections of the Bay Area Ridge Trail are planned through the Gardner property south of TASP to North Sonoma Mountain Regional Park and Open Space (Bay Area Ridge Trail 2020).

Active Transportation Facilities

City of Santa Rosa and Sonoma County have planned pedestrian and bicycle facilities identified in their Active Transportation Plans (ATPs) (Santa Rosa 2025c; SCTCA 2025). Existing active transportation facilities in the vicinity include Class II bike lanes and Class III bike routes along State Route (SR) 12 west of the park and along Channel Drive west of the park boundary (Figure 3-1).





The City of Santa Rosa proposes sidewalks along Channel Drive and Melita Road, a Class I path from Spring Lake Regional Park to the TASP boundary, a proposed bike boulevard along Melita Road, a proposed separated bikeway and Class I path along SR 12, and a proposed Class I path between SR 12 and Channel Drive west of Stonebridge Road. None of the facilities are identified as priority projects in the ATP.

Sonoma County identifies SR 12 and the area east of the park as active transportation corridors. The Sonoma County ATP proposes separated bike lanes along SR 12 from the City of Santa Rosa boundary to Mission Boulevard and from the city limit to Kune Winery Road. The ATP proposes a bike boulevard along Bennett Valley Road and Warm Springs Road south and east of the park, a Class I path between Lawndale Road and Warm Springs Road along Kenilworth Avenue, and a Class I path and separated bikeway along SR 12.

Park Uses

Trail Counts

TASP is a trail-oriented park with numerous formal and informal access points that create a challenge for quantifying visitation. Trail counts of designated roads and trails were conducted throughout 2025 along Canyon, Cobblestone, Lawndale, Marsh, Schultz, Two Quarry, and Warren Richardson trails. Table 3-1 shows the average daily trail use for each of the trail counter locations. Canyon and Warren Richardson trails have the highest volume of trail use, representing 71 percent of overall system trail use in the park.

Table 3-1 TASP Average Daily Trail Counts

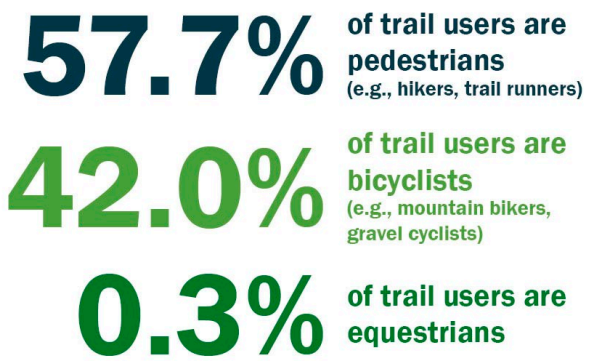
Trail Counter Location	Average Daily Pedestrian Counts	Average Daily Bicyclist Counts	Average Daily Equestrian Counts	Total Average Daily Trail Counts
Canyon Trail	307	194	1	502
Cobblestone Trail	87	9	0	96
Lawndale Trail	30	9	0	39
Marsh Trail	38	53	0	91
Schultz Trail	12	2	0	14
Two Quarry Trail	36	26	0	62
Warren Richardson Trail	121	120	1	242
Total Average Daily Trail Counts				1,046

Notes: Data collected between March 1, 2025, and December 1, 2025. Data for Canyon, Warren Richardson, and Two Quarry trails was collected for the entire period. Data for Marsh and Lawndale trails was collected from March 1, 2025 and October 1, 2025 and October 2, 2025 and October 3, 2025, respectively, to December 1, 2025.
Source: Data provided by State Parks trail counters and compiled by Ascent in 2025.

Figure 3-2 breaks down trail counts by trail user type. The trail count data shows that 57.7 percent of trail users are pedestrians (including hikers and trail runners), 42.0 percent are bicyclists (including mountain bikers and gravel cyclists), and 0.3 percent are equestrians.

Weekends feature the highest trail use, with Sunday being the most popular day overall. Saturday is the most popular day along Cobblestone, Schultz, and Two Quarry trails. Trail count raw data is included in Appendix 2.

Figure 3-2 TASP Visitation by Trail User Type



Source: Data provided by State Parks trail counters and compiled by Ascent in 2025.
Note: Data collected between March 1, 2025, and December 1, 2025.

Access and Circulation

TASP contains many formal and informal entrance locations. Formal parking areas include Cobblestone Trailhead, the visitor center, North Burma Trailhead, Warren Richardson Trailhead, and Lawndale Trailhead. Although parking at Schultz Trailhead is

The Annadel Half Marathon is held in TASP every April and attracts upwards of 300 runners across three events. The event is hosted on trails in the western half of the park, starting and ending at Spring Lake Regional Park. The half marathon is the only special event hosted in the park.

constrained, people can still access this trailhead via bicycle or on foot. Visitors also informally access the park via access points in the surrounding neighborhoods to the north, south, and west of TASP and via Spring Lake Regional Park to the northwest. Entrances with informal walk-in access and/or roadside parking include the following:

- Spring Lake Regional Park northwest of the park
- Timber Springs Drive, White Oak Drive, Oakmont Drive, Stone Bridge Road, Woodley Place, and Trail Ridge Place from the White Oak and Oakmont communities north of the park
- Woodview Drive, Skycrest Way, Annadel Heights Drive, Carissa Avenue, and Parktrail Drive west of the park
- Bennett Ridge Road and Savannah Trail south of the park

The west side of the park sees higher use than the east side of the park (Table 3-1), correlating with the closer proximity to Spring Lake Regional Park and a majority of City of Santa Rosa residents. Visitor access from the Cobblestone Trailhead on Channel Drive and the Warren Richardson Trailhead is also

popular. Visitation in the Lawndale and Schultz Zones is the lowest in the park.

Recreational Resources

Figures 3-3 through 3-8 show system and non-system trails at a parkwide scale and for each planning zone.

Cobblestone Zone

The Cobblestone Zone is 1,138 acres and includes the northwestern portion of TASP (Figure 3-4). It is roughly delineated by Spring Creek to the southwest, North Burma Trail, and the park boundary. The zone includes the visitor center, staff residence, and maintenance areas—the most developed facilities within the park. The zone also includes the only fee collection at TASP, consisting of an unstaffed kiosk outside of the visitor center as well as inside the visitor center. The zone includes the Cobblestone Trailhead, which has a parking area located on Sonoma County Water District land off Channel Drive outside of the TASP boundary. The zone also features a multitude of informal park entrances, many of which are from

Spring Lake Regional Park. These include Canyon Trail and various non-system routes along the western portion of the zone (Figure 3-3).

Natural features within the zone include False Lake Meadow, Lake Ilsanjo, Spring Creek and Spring Creek Canyon, and the seasonal wetlands and freshwater emergent wetlands north of Lake Ilsanjo. Primary vegetation communities in the Cobblestone Zone include a high percentage of



TASP is divided into five planning zones, each with a unique character.



oak woodlands and grasslands, primarily around False Lake Meadow and north of Lake Ilsanjo.

The zone contains 10.8-miles of system roads and trails, including some of the most heavily used roads and trails within TASP (Table 3-2). A high concentration of overall visitation occurs within the zone, due to its proximity to Spring Lake Regional Park and the presence of Lake Ilsanjo, which is the primary trail destination within the park. The western portion of the zone includes highly used non-system routes between Spring Lake Regional Park and Lake Ilsanjo. These trails are highly used by hikers, mainly between Spring Lake Regional Park and the Lake Ilsanjo area, though there is mountain bike use as well.



Cobblestone Trail features some of the larger rock features in the park.

Richardson Zone

The 1,261-acre Richardson Zone encompasses the north-central portion of the park and features some of the largest areas of vertical gain within the park (Figure 3-5). This zone includes the Warren-Richardson Trailhead, which is the largest developed trailhead within the park. Educational programming for K-12 students takes place in this zone as the Warren Richardson Trailhead includes the only bus parking in the park. This zone also contains the only horse trailer parking area in the park and serves as the primary public safety staging location for the east side of the park. The Richardson Zone includes many resource constraints, including sensitive cultural resources. Natural features within the zone include Buick Meadow and several ephemeral streams and

intermittent streams and freshwater emergent wetlands. The Richardson Zone includes a large amount of the Douglas fir vegetation community within the park and high percentage of tree canopy cover.

The Richardson Zone features 10.8-miles of system roads and trails, including the North and South Burma Trails, the northern portion of Warren Richardson Trail, Two Quarry Trail, and Steve's "S" Trail, one of the hiking-only trails within the park (Table 3-2). Many of the most highly used non-system routes are within the Richardson Zone, mainly between Two Quarry Trail and South Burma Trail and between Steve's "S" Trail and North Burma Trail.

These areas of non-system route development include mountain bike optimized features and downhill and flow trails. Sixty-three percent of citations issued in the park with a reported location occur in the Richardson Zone, primarily in the areas with the most highly used non-system routes.



Two Quarry Trail in the Richardson Zone was a road-to-trail conversion.

Bennett Zone

The Bennett Zone covers 1,162 acres and includes the most prominent geographic features within the park—the ridgelines Bennett Mountain and “Henry’s Knob,” which features a panoramic view of the Santa Rosa area to the north (Figure 3-6). There are no developed facilities within the zone. The Bennett Zone includes a large amount of oak woodlands. Douglas fir and redwood communities exist around South Burma Trail and Marsh Trail within the zone. The zone also includes the largest areas of California bay laurel communities, particularly along Spring Creek and the northern slopes of Bennett Mountain.

Roads and trails in the zone include Canyon Trail, Marsh Trail, and Ridge Trail, for a total of 5.9 miles (Table 3-2). The zone features large areas of very steep terrain with a network of highly used non-system routes along the north facing slopes of Bennett Mountain and to the summit of “Henry’s Knob.”



The network of non-system routes on the north slopes of Bennett Mountain includes significant erosion issues.

Lawndale Zone

The 812-acre Lawndale Zone includes the northeastern quadrant of TASP, which generally sees lower visitation than the western areas of the park (Figure 3-7). The zone is accessed via Lawndale Trailhead, which is a developed trailhead along Lawndale Road. The zone is bisected by a powerline corridor. Geographic features within the zone include Frey Canyon, which has steep topography. The Lawndale Zone includes primarily Douglas fir and redwood vegetation communities with smaller areas of oak woodlands, manzanita chaparral, vernal pool, and freshwater emergent wetlands. The zone includes the largest concentration of redwoods in the park, south of Frey Canyon.

Trails within the Lawndale Zone include Lawndale Trail and the hiking-only Rhyolite Trail. Non-system routes in the zone primarily exist between the Rhyolite Trail, Lawndale Trail, and the White Oak and Oakmont communities. Lawndale Zone features 3.9-miles of system roads and trails, the lowest of any zone (Table 3-2).



Gordenker Quarry, accessed via Rhyolite Trail, is in the Lawndale Zone.



Schultz Zone

The 773-acre Schultz Zone borders the southwestern boundary of TASP and features large areas of mildly sloping terrain, aside from the steeper Schultz Canyon (Figure 3-8). Access to the Schultz Zone is challenging due to limited parking along Schultz Road, remote location of the zone, and adjacent private landownership. Similarly to Lawndale Zone, the Schultz Zone is bisected by a powerline corridor. The zone includes Ledson Marsh, which includes habitat for many sensitive species. The zone includes a mix of vegetation communities. The Schultz Canyon area features Douglas fir and redwood communities, while the western portion of the zone is characterized by oak woodlands, chaparral, grasslands, and swamp/marsh wetlands (Ledson Marsh).

Trails in the zone include Ridge Trail, Schultz Trail, and a portion of Lawndale Trail for a total of 5.2-miles of system roads and trails (Table 3-2). The

zone features fewer non-system routes when compared to the other zones in the park; most non-system routes in the Schultz Zone appear to be created primarily by adjacent communities to access the park.



The Schultz Zone has views to Mount Diablo.

This page is intentionally left blank.



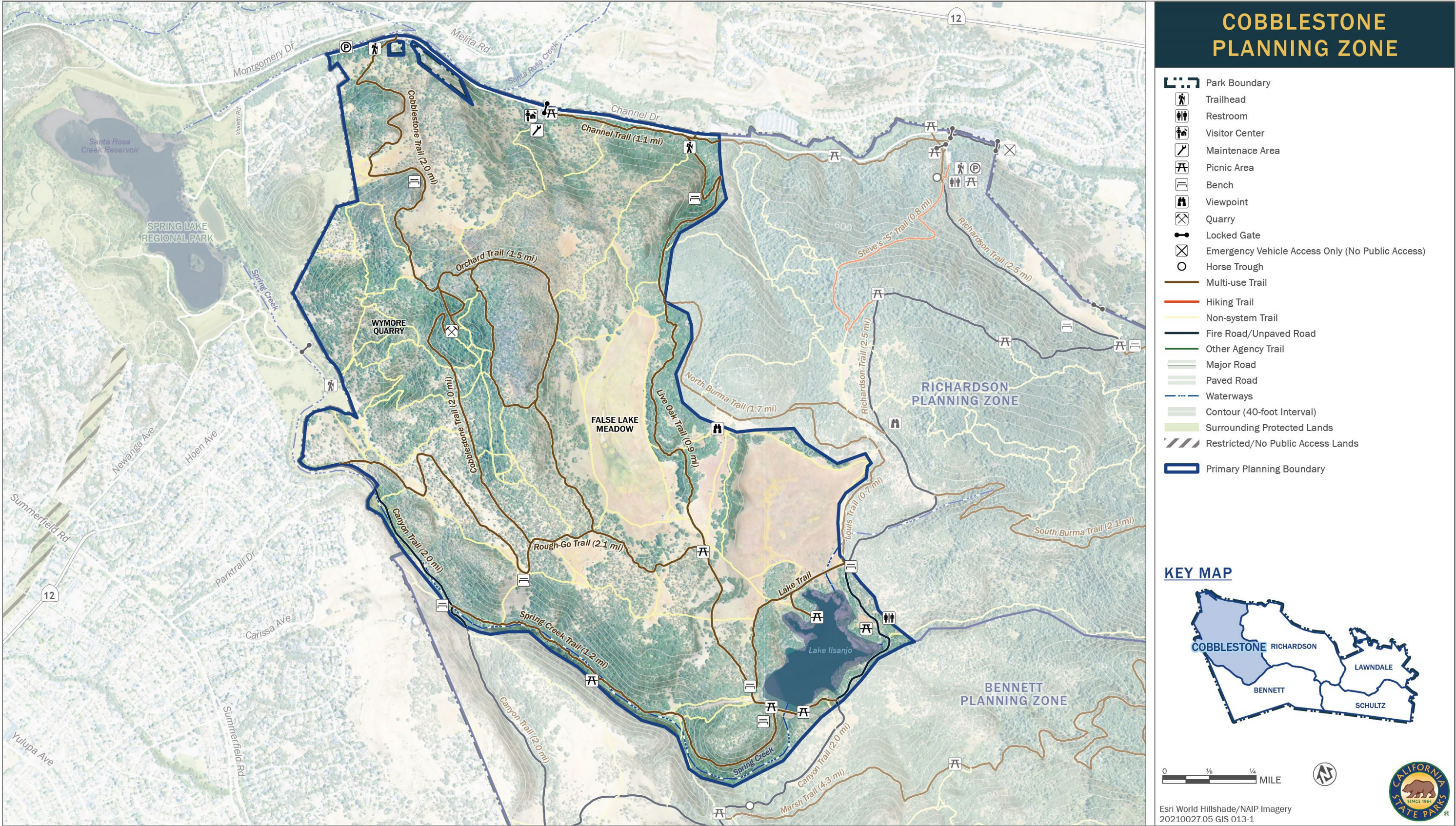
Figure 3-3 Existing System and Non-System Routes



Source: Data received from State Parks in 2025; adapted by Ascent in 2025.



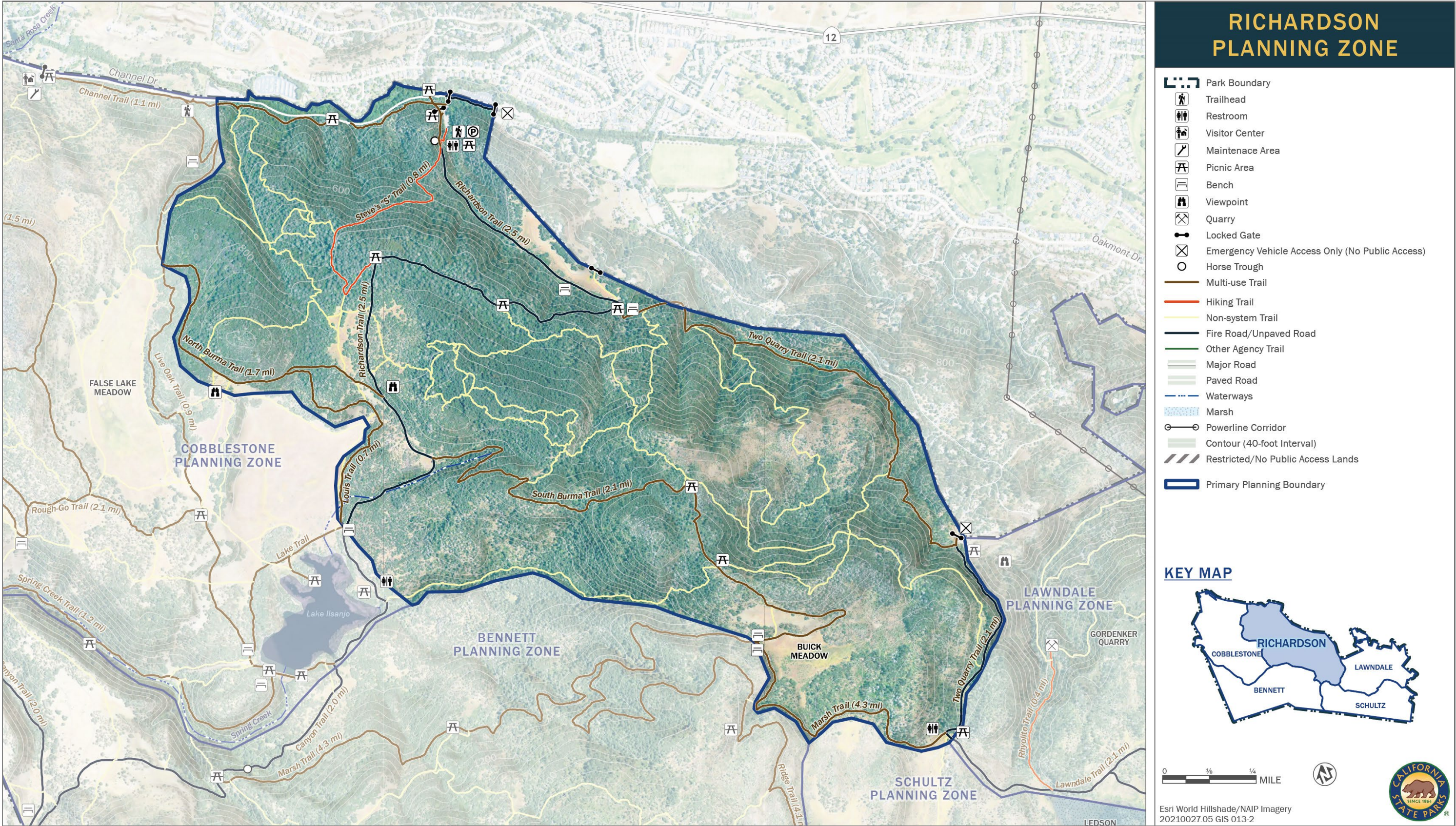
Figure 3-4 Existing Conditions - Cobblestone Zone



Source: Data received from State Parks in 2025; adapted by Ascent in 2025.



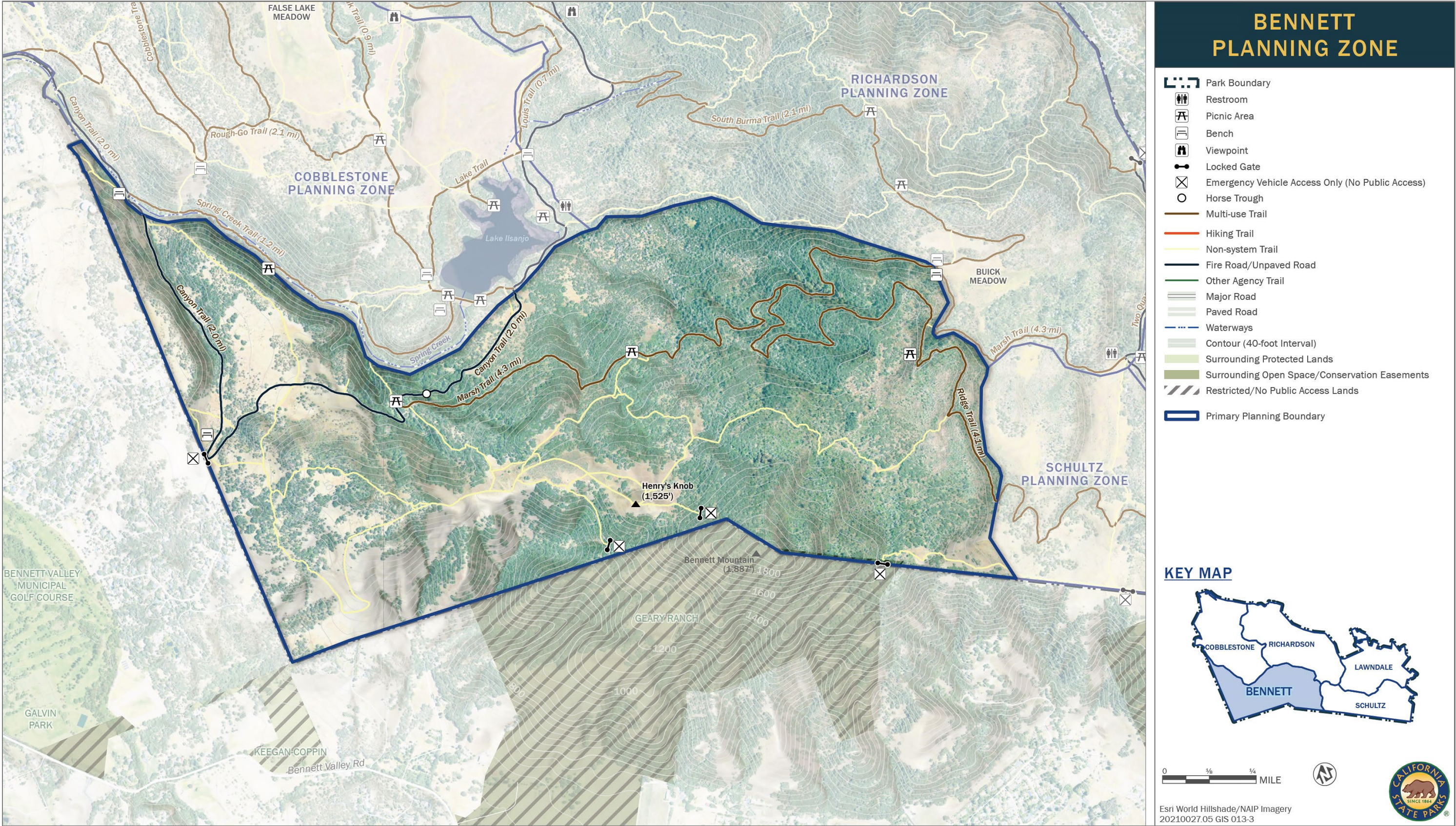
Figure 3-5 Existing Conditions - Richardson Zone



Source: Data received from State Parks in 2025; adapted by Ascent in 2025.



Figure 3-6 Existing Conditions - Bennett Zone



Source: Data received from State Parks in 2025; adapted by Ascent in 2025.



Figure 3-7 Existing Conditions - Lawndale Zone

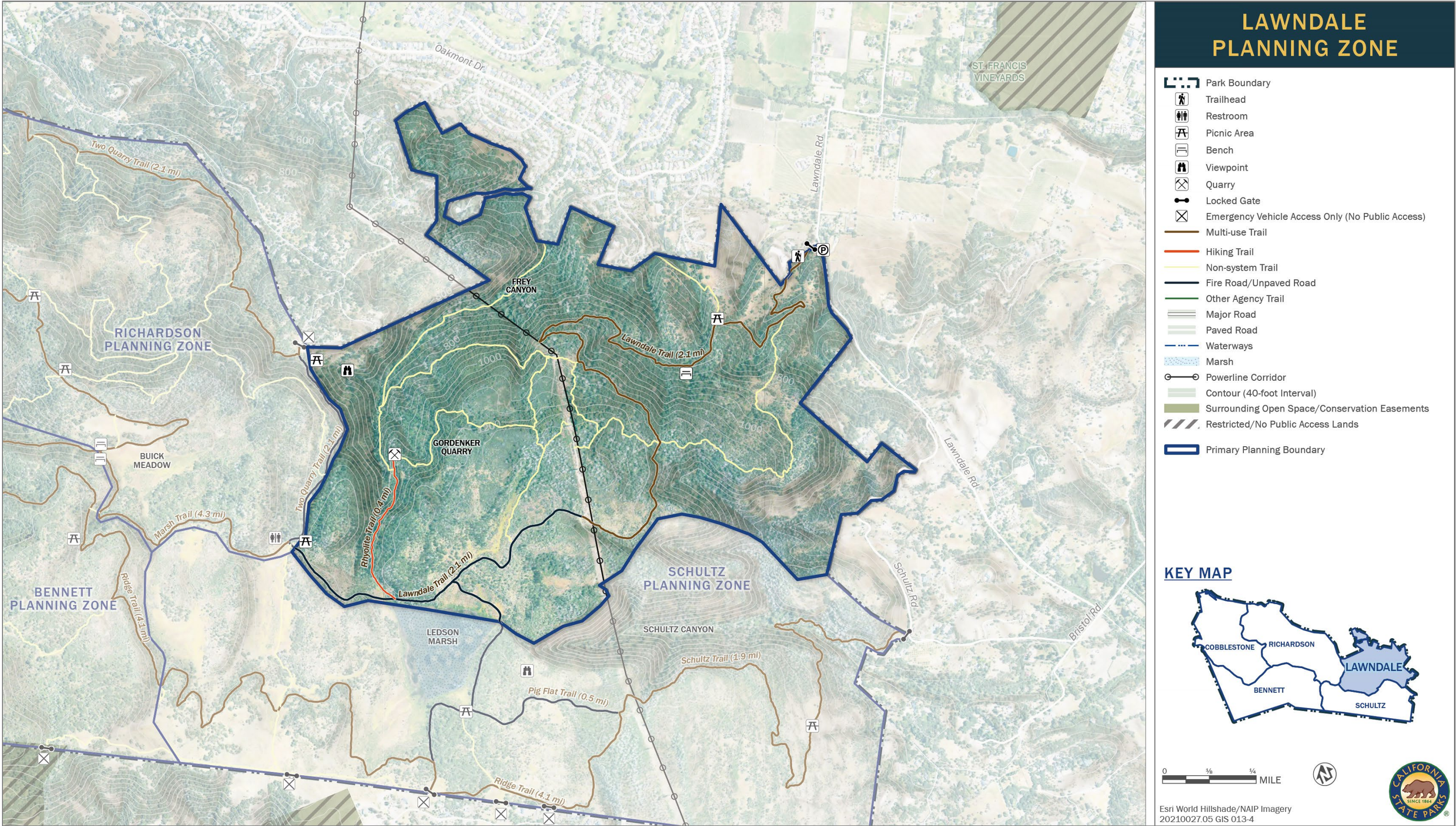




Figure 3-8 Existing Conditions - Schultz Zone

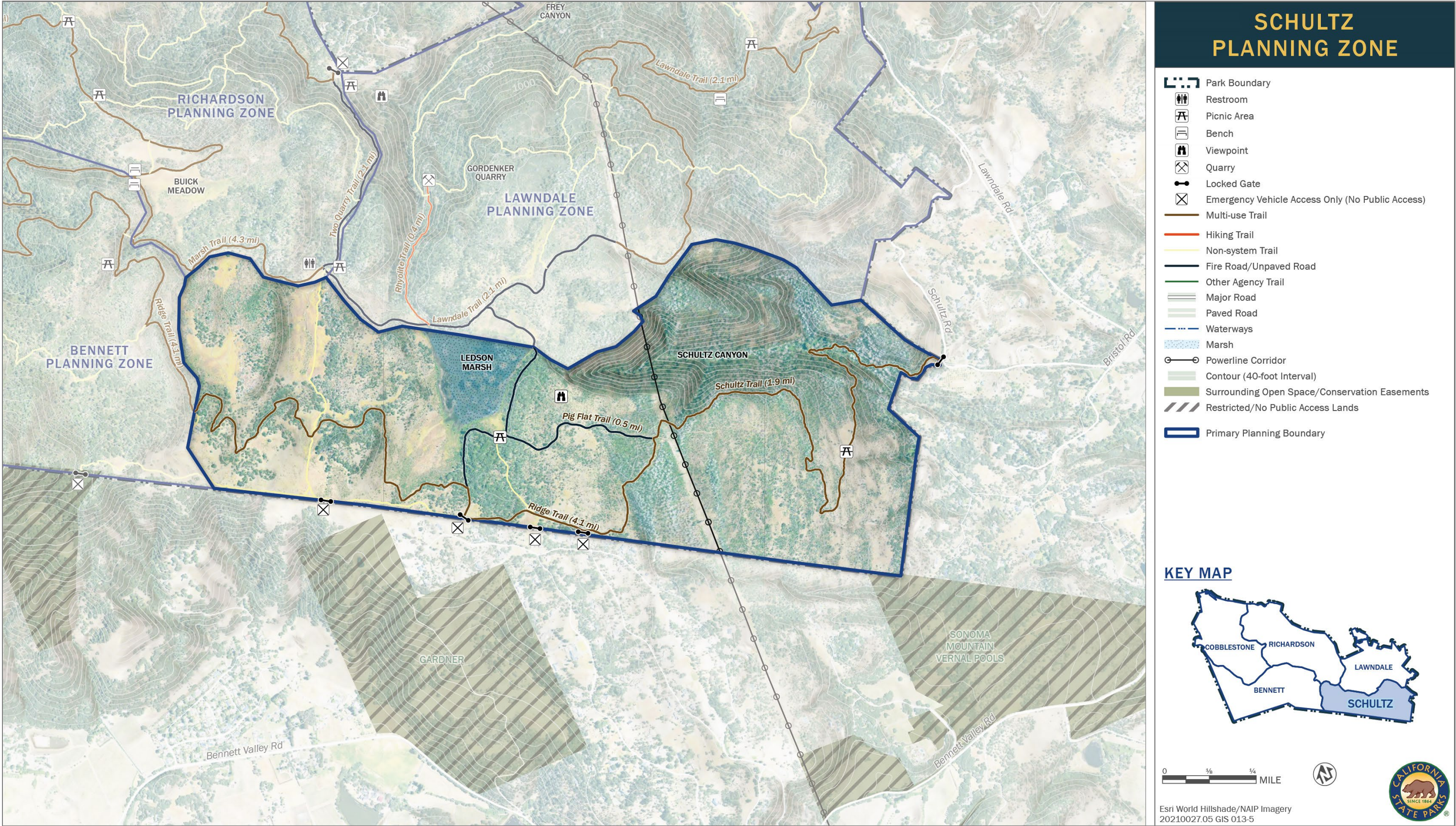




Table 3-2 Road and Trail Mileage by Planning Zone

Trail Type	Cobblestone Zone	Richardson Zone	Bennett Zone	Lawndale Zone	Schultz Zone
System Mileage					
Multi-use Trail (hike/bike/horse)	9.9	6.8	3.9	2.3	4.2
Hiking Trail (hike only)	0	0.9	0	0.5	0
Unpaved Road (hike/bike/horse)	0.9	3.1	1.9	1.2	1.0
Subtotal	10.8	10.8	5.9	3.9	5.2
Non-system Mileage					
Non-system Route	13.3	12.6	8.3	4.6	1.8
Subtotal	12.3	12.6	8.3	4.6	1.8

Source: Data compiled by Ascent in 2025.

Natural and Cultural Resources

Climate

Santa Rosa, located in the Cotati Valley, is a subregion of the San Francisco Bay Area Air Basin, where the climate is largely shaped by a high-pressure system over the eastern Pacific Ocean. Local wind patterns are heavily influenced by the Petaluma Gap, where marine air splits into northward and southward paths. The northward flow contributes to Santa Rosa's prevailing winds from the south and southwest. However, when ocean breezes weaken or high pressure dominates inland, strong easterly winds can transport pollutants from the Central Valley and Carquinez Strait into the region. During these periods, up valley flows can carry pollution as far north as Santa Rosa. The city experiences an average annual wind speed of 5 mph, with summer afternoon winds pushing contaminants inland and winter stagnant air occasionally limiting pollutant dispersion between storms.

Santa Rosa experiences a wide range of temperatures, from the mid-20s °F in winter mornings to the mid-90s °F in late summer afternoons, with August typically being the hottest month. The Pacific Ocean moderates temperature fluctuations, helping to create more stable seasonal patterns. Rainfall primarily occurs between November and April, driven by mid-latitude storm systems, which can lead to significant yearly variations depending on storm track shifts. Summers are almost entirely dry, aside from occasional light drizzles from marine stratus clouds, contributing to the region's distinct seasonal climate.

Geology, Topography, Soils, and Hydrology

Geology

The topography of TASP is like that of a plateau or mesa. Part of the North Coast Ranges, the Sonoma Mountains have very steep sides and are characterized by a flat to rolling topography in the central portion of the mountains. The plateau area features numerous rock outcrops scattered across knolls and hillsides, with deep soils accumulating in the hollows. The rolling terrain is predominantly composed of Pliocene pyroclastic rocks, while Pleistocene nonmarine rocks from the Cache Formation are present along the northeastern boundary of the park unit.

Two separate faults bisect the park and are visible in some aerial photography (Appendix 7, Figure A7-1). The faults appear to be part of the Rogers Creek fault system extending in a northwest-southeast direction, with one fault positioned on each side of Bennett Mountain.



Part of the North Coast Ranges, the Sonoma Mountains have very steep slopes and are characterized by a flat to rolling topography in the central portion of the mountains.

Soils

The primary soil series in TASP is the Goulding series, consisting of well-drained loams underlain by volcanic parent material at depths of 12 to 24 inches (Appendix 7, Figure A7-1). This series includes Goulding clay loam and Goulding cobbly clay loam. Goulding clay loam supports northern oak savanna and northern oak woodland on gentle to moderately steep slopes and coast redwood forest on the steepest slopes in canyons. Erosion hazard ranges from moderate to very high in these areas. Goulding cobbly clay loam contains as much as 25 percent cobblestones and ranges in depth from 16 to 24 inches (40 to 60 centimeters). It supports native or introduced grassland on the gentler slopes, with various proportions of oak, and generally northern oak woodland on the moderately steep slopes. The steepest slopes (Appendix 7, Figure A7-2) occupied by Goulding cobbly clay loam are on north and northeast aspects and support Douglas-fir or coast redwood forest.

Several additional soil types are also present within the park unit. Spreckels loam is found in forest openings and supports native or introduced grassland. Laniger loam, which appears in the southern part of the park, supports northern oak woodland or interior chaparral where the soil is more shallow and rocky. Pleasanton gravelly clay loam is associated with vernal pools in meadow areas. Positas gravelly loam and Kidd stony loam are both associated in some places with native Stipa grassland.



Goulding clay loam, such as this photo along Canyon Trail, has a moderate to very high erosion hazard and underpins northern oak savanna and woodland and coast redwood forest.

Soil Erosion

Soil erosion is caused by the detachment and entrainment of soil particles through the action of water and wind. Soils most susceptible to erosion are those high in coarse silt- and fine sand-sized particles. Most of the soils in the park have severe hazards related to erosion on roads and trails (Appendix 7, Figure A7-3). The road and trail erosion hazard rating represents the erosion potential from use of unpaved roads and trails. The ratings are based on soil erosion K factor, slope, and content of rock fragments. The road and trail erosion hazard for soils in the park is categorized as “slight,” “moderate,” or “severe.” These hazard ratings are characterized as follows:

- “slight” indicates that little or no erosion is likely
- “moderate” indicates that some erosion is likely, that the roads or trails may require occasional maintenance, and that simple erosion-control measures are needed
- “severe” indicates that significant erosion is expected, that the roads or trails require frequent maintenance, and that costly erosion-control measures are needed

As part of an inventory of trail conditions in the park (Appendix 3), State Parks completed field reconnaissance of available erosion data to create an inventory of erosion severity along existing system roads and trails. This data was compiled to identify erosion severity on roads and system trails in the park, including discrete locations with erosion issues (Appendix 7, Figure A7-4). Most of the system trails in the park have some moderate severity of erosion with a few areas exhibiting a high severity of erosion (e.g., Cobblestone, Rough-Go, North Burma, and South Burma trails). A short section of Two Quarry Trail contains critical erosion severity.

Hydrology

TASP contains two primary watersheds, Upper Santa Rosa Creek and Upper Sonoma Creek, each directing water flow toward distinct regional waterways (Appendix 7, Figure A7-5). The southeastern third of the park is drained by two canyons, which channel runoff into Sonoma Creek and eventually reaching San Pablo Bay. The northwestern two-thirds of the park is drained by one major canyon and several smaller, unnamed creeks, which flow into Santa Rosa Creek before continuing toward the Russian River.



Biotic Resources

Vegetation and Habitat Types

TASP supports a diverse array of native vegetation types and wildlife habitats characteristic of the North Coast Ranges. These include a mix of forest, woodland, grassland, coastal scrub, and chaparral habitat types. Oak woodland is widespread throughout the park, while Douglas fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*) forest dominates the northeastern portion. Most notably, the park supports a unique Oregon white oak (*Quercus garryana*) and California fescue (*Festuca californica*) community, found in the Oregon white oak woodland and forest vegetation type, which is considered of high ecological value due to its limited distribution and native species richness.

Other oak woodland and forest vegetation types common in the park include those dominated by coast live oak (*Quercus agrifolia*), black oak (*Quercus kelloggii*), and blue oak (*Quercus douglasii*). Additional forest and woodland types include California bay (*Umbellularia californica*) forest and woodland, redwood (*Sequoia sempervirens*) forest, and smaller patches of Eucalyptus (*Eucalyptus* spp.) groves, madrone (*Arbutus menziesii*) forest, and California buckeye (*Aesculus californica*) groves. Annual and perennial grasslands are distributed throughout the park and support a diverse assemblage of native grasses and forbs, along with nonnative annual grasses. Coastal scrub and chaparral communities are represented by stands of coyote brush (*Baccharis pilularis*) scrub, chamise (*Adenostoma fasciculatum*) chaparral and various manzanita (*Arctostaphylos* spp.) chaparral communities.

Tree canopy cover throughout the park is shown in Figure A7-7 of Appendix 7. The eastern side of the park contains more dense tree canopy cover than other areas in the park; however, there are pockets of very dense tree cover (over 80 percent) along portions of Spring Creek Trail and south of the junction between Orchard and Cobblestone Trails.

Wetland features within the park include freshwater emergent wetlands, freshwater forested/shrub wetlands, seasonal wetlands, vernal pools, swamp/marsh wetlands, Lake Ilsanjo, and a network of seasonal streams. Notable wetland areas include False Lake Meadow and areas surrounding Lake Ilsanjo on the west side of the park, and Ledson Marsh, Buick Meadow, Madrone Spring, and Lawndale

Meadow on the east side. Additional unnamed seasonal wetland features are scattered throughout the park. These wetland areas support a variety of special-status plants and wildlife.

The park also contains several developed recreational areas, including trailheads, roads, parking lots, and picnic areas, which are interspersed with natural habitat in some locations.

Figure A7-6 in Appendix 7 shows the distribution of vegetation types in the park.



Special-Status Plant and Wildlife Species

Special-status species include those listed under the federal Endangered Species Act or the California Endangered Species Act, as well as species that are otherwise protected or recognized as sensitive by federal, state, or local resource agencies. A list of special-status plant and wildlife species with potential to occur in TASP is provided in Appendix 4.

The park's habitat diversity and unique volcanic soils support numerous special-status plant species. These species are found in a variety of habitats throughout the park, particularly in seasonal wetlands, marshes, vernal pools, meadows, chaparral, and grasslands.

TASP also supports a rich diversity of wildlife. Its wide range of vegetation types—from dense forests and shrublands to open grasslands—provides essential nesting, foraging, and dispersal habitat. Located within the Pacific Flyway, the park serves as an important stopover and breeding area for migratory birds, including several special-status species. Ledson Marsh, a 30-acre freshwater wetland on the park's eastern side, provides habitat for a variety of special-status species, such as the federally threatened California red-legged frog and the northwestern pond turtle.



Prescribed burns are conducted at TASP to reduce wildfire fuels in the park.

Wildfire Risk

History

Since 1939, when the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) began recording wildfires, 44 fires have burned within the park boundary (State Parks 2022). Apart from the LNU Lightning Complex (2020), humans have caused all fires over 300 acres in Sonoma County in the last 65 years. Recent large wildfires that have impacted the park include the Nuns Fire, which started October 8, 2017 and burned approximately 60 percent of the park, as well as some of the neighboring residential neighborhoods. The vegetation type most impacted was Douglas fir stands, whereas many other vegetation types such as native, grasslands, and oak woodlands benefited from a fast-moving, low-to-moderate intensity fire. In 2020, the Glass Fire burned 67,484 acres across Sonoma and Napa counties, including 288 acres within the park unit.

Wildfire Hazards

Fire prevention areas considered to be under state jurisdiction are referred to as State Responsibility Areas (SRAs). TASP is located within an SRA (CAL FIRE 2024). CAL FIRE has mapped fire hazard severity zones (FHSZs) for the entire state. FHSZs are based on an evaluation of fuels, fire history, terrain,

housing density, and occurrence of severe fire weather and are intended to identify areas where urban fires could result in catastrophic losses. FHSZs are categorized as: Moderate, High, and Very High. According to CAL FIRE's Fire Resource Assessment Program FHSZ Geographic Information System data, the park includes Very High, High, and Moderate FHSZ areas (Appendix 7, Figure A7-8).

The Wildfire Management Plan for the park identifies maintaining existing fire roads (Warren Richardson, Canyon, and Two Quarry) to a width necessary for one-way traffic for fire protection purposes (State Parks 2022).

Fuel Management

Fuel management to reduce risk of wildfires in the park includes:

- Maintaining defensible space around State Parks' buildings and structures
- Maintaining defensible space around picnicking areas; however, there are currently no stoves, fire rings, or camping areas in the park
- Constructing and maintaining shaded fuel breaks (e.g., Bennett Ridge Shaded Fuel Break)
- Clearing vegetation around powerlines
- Prescribed burning on State Parks wildlands



Cultural and Tribal Cultural Resources

Cultural resources can be defined as physical evidence or place of past human activity. Cultural resources can be identified as sites, objects, landscapes, districts, structures, built environments or natural features of significance associated with a group of people traditionally connected with it.

Types of cultural resources include:

- Archaeological resources: The remains of past human activity and records documenting the scientific analysis of these remains.
- Historic structures (architectural resources): material assemblies that extend the limits of human capability.
- Historic districts or cultural landscapes: settings humans have created in the natural world.

Tribal cultural resources are sites, features, places, cultural landscapes, sacred places, and objects with cultural value to a California Native American tribe.



Cultural landscapes are one example of the many tribal cultural resources within TASP

Park Native American History

Southern Pomo, Coast Miwok, and Wappo people have lived near what is now the park for thousands of years (State Parks 2025).

These lands were managed by Native people and provided food and raw materials needed for subsistence, domestic life, ceremonies, and commerce. The land that is now the park was a source of obsidian, a volcanic stone used for a variety of tools and traded with other Native people as far away as Oregon and Southern California (SVC 2025).

Though contact between Native people and Europeans occurred as early as 1579 in Marin

County, it was likely later Russian and Aleutian fur trappers or Spanish missionaries who first arrived in the area of Sonoma County in the early 1800s. By the mid-1800s, many Native people in the region had been recruited by missionaries into nearby Mission San Francisco Solano, where they were used as an unpaid labor source (State Parks 2025).

Following mission secularization in the 1830s, Native mission laborers were forced into servitude by Mexican land grant owners and American settlers or moved onto reservations. Though Native people negotiated and resisted these drastic changes to their way of life, the Indian population in California had declined dramatically by the turn of the century due to the loss of homelands, European disease, mistreatment, and enslavement.

Native people continued to reside in the area throughout the 20th century, despite being deprived of a land base by non-Indians. Today, many still live within their ancestral territory as citizens of vibrant and resilient tribal nations. Tribal people continue to steward and care for the land that is now TASP.

The park contains a high concentration of archaeological resources, including documented Native American sites, primarily associated with stone toolmaking. Evidence of permanent Native American habitation in upland areas of the park exists from at least 5,000 to 3,000 years before the present.

The Annadel Obsidian Quarry is a significant resource spanning more than 80 acres. Facilities within the obsidian quarry are heavily used by park visitors, routine maintenance crews, and emergency fire and rescue personnel. It also holds great significance to local tribes.

Park Historic Era Period

Present day TASP encompass much of the land upon which Santa Rosa quarries was opened and operated in the late 19th and early 20th Centuries.

The chain of title for the land that now makes up TASP can be traced back to both Mexican and United States governance. Beginning in 1837, a large area, including most of the present-day park, was claimed as part of Rancho Los Guilicos. Although the U.S. Land Commission confirmed

title to much of this land, approximately 400 acres on the park's western side were later designated as public domain and opened to settlement after 1865 (Whatford 1993).

Sections of the former rancho were heavily used for cattle and sheep grazing. By the late 1880s, however, rising demand for paving materials in San Francisco and other Northern California cities spurred the development of quarry operations in the area, including the Sonoma Mountains. The local stone, primarily andesite and basaltic andesite, is particularly hard and dense, making it well-suited for durable paving blocks and curbstones. As a result, Sonoma County became a major source of paving materials for streets throughout the region. After quarrying declined, ranching remained the primary land use.

The name for Lake Ilsanjo is a portmanteau of two of the past landowners' first names—Ilsa and Joe.

In the 1930s and early 1940s, the property that would become TASP was purchased by Joe Coney and Ilsa V. Coney and operated as Annadel Farms. It evolved into a well-developed ranch, producing hops, fruit, exotic birds, and award-winning purebred Shorthorn and Black Angus cattle. Joseph J. Coney, an engineer and entrepreneur, also established a novel concrete production process using perlite sourced from two quarries on the property. Key developments during the Coneys' ownership included the creation of the 26-acre Lake Ilsanjo (named after Ilsa and Joe) as well as over 35 miles of jeep roads and trails, many of which expanded on former quarry access routes.

In the late 1960s, increasing taxes and financial pressures led the Coneys to begin a complex series of land transactions. These ultimately culminated in the State of California acquiring 4,100 acres of the property in 1971 for the establishment of TASP (Whatford 1993).

Henry Trione, a Santa Rosa native and successful mortgage banker and property developer, had a

strong commitment to preserving open space and wetlands. To prevent the Annadel wilderness area from being developed, Trione purchased nearby parcels and contributed over \$1 million of his own funds to help protect 5,000 acres for public use. Thanks to his efforts and support from local community fundraising, California State Parks acquired the land in 1971, officially designating it as a state park in 1974. In recognition of his contributions, the California State Legislature passed a Senate resolution in 2015 requesting the park be renamed in his honor. The following year, California State Parks officially renamed it "Trione-Annadel State Park" (State Parks 2018).

The Euro-American period sites within the park consist of quarries, rock walls, fences, homestead foundations, and access roads. During this era, landowners planted large eucalyptus groves, an almond orchard and built two lakes. Cattle grazing was prevalent until the park was established in the 1960s.

Unrecorded Cultural Resources

Based on the available documentation, there is a moderate to high possibility of unrecorded Native American archaeological resources and a high possibility of unrecorded historic-era cultural resources in TASP.



A number of historic-era period quarries are located in the park.



3.2 PLANNING OPPORTUNITIES AND CONSTRAINTS

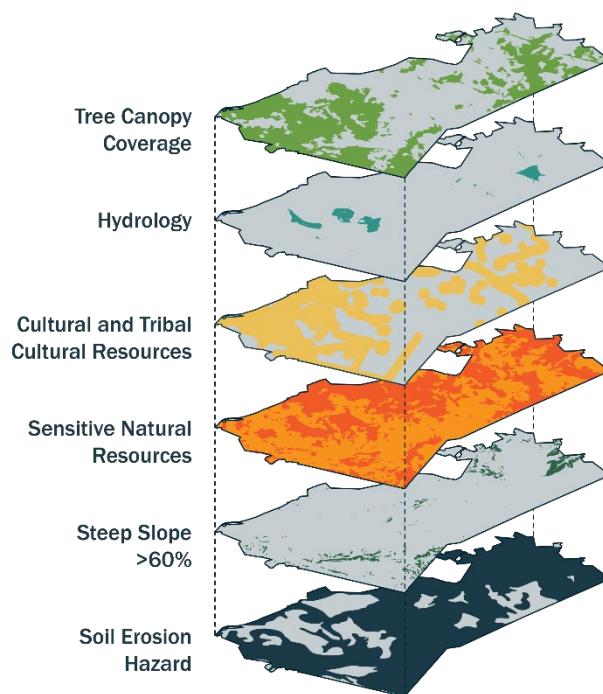
This section summarizes the primary opportunities and constraints that were evaluated and considered during the planning process. A wide range of road and trail management opportunities were considered and many of these opportunities are reflected in the planning recommendations described in Chapter 5, “Plan Recommendations.” However, as the opportunities presented in this section were unvetted, once they were evaluated, not all opportunities were incorporated as recommendations due to site and resource constraints or other operational or management considerations. As described in Chapter 1, “Introduction,” this plan is intended to improve sustainable recreational opportunities in the park while protecting sensitive resources. Achieving this vision requires careful consideration of both the opportunities and constraints for road and trail management.

Many parkwide and planning zone opportunities were identified during the initial planning stages for the RTMP, as described in this section. However, not all opportunities were carried over into the recommendations found in Chapter 5, “Plan Recommendations,” based on the evaluation of feasibility, resource sensitivity land management goals, and road and trail system planning objectives.

Parkwide Constraints

The primary constraints to road and trail development in the park include sensitive natural and cultural resources and physical attributes that affect road and trail sustainability. To evaluate constraints, the planning team gathered geospatial data on the locations and types of cultural resources; special-status species locations and habitat; sensitive natural communities; wetland locations and types; streams and other hydrologic resources; soil erosion hazard ratings; tree canopy cover; and slope. Each of these constraints were weighted based on their sensitivity, then combined using GIS to create a map of overall road and trail

suitability (Figure 3-9). This suitability analysis was used, along with other factors to guide whether or not the identified opportunities were feasible and could move forward as plan recommendations. Not all road and trail recommendations are located in the highest suitability locations, however project proposals in lower suitability areas may require specific design approaches or measures to reduce or avoid environmental impacts. In certain circumstances, if project-level planning determines resource impacts for a project proposal are unavoidable, that project may be modified or not implemented.



Site and resource data was overlaid in GIS to perform a suitability analysis for the park.

Parkwide Opportunities

The park includes numerous opportunities to improve the road and trail system to improve both the sustainability and visitor experience. Parkwide opportunities include the following:

- Improving regional trail connectivity through coordinated trail planning with nearby landowners
- Increasing trail opportunities and connectivity using non-system routes and/or creating new trails where appropriate

- Improving trail sustainability by prioritizing trail maintenance in areas of greatest need and by decommissioning, rerouting, or reengineering unsustainable non-system routes
- Providing desired trail experience and minimizing user group conflicts by constructing and maintaining a diverse system of trails with trails optimized for different user groups and skill levels
- Increasing public safety by improving and providing additional emergency access and evacuation roads within the park
- Improving wayfinding and signage throughout the park to prevent confusion relating to the navigability of the trail system and use of non-system routes
- Providing desired visitor amenities such as restrooms, enhance trailheads, potable water stations (where feasible), and overlooks
- Improving natural and cultural resource conditions
- Enhancing the efficiency of trail maintenance through expanded partnerships with non-profit organizations and other entities
- Generating revenue to fund trail management through enhanced fee collections

The following sections provide additional details on potential opportunities that were evaluated within each planning zone.

Planning Zone Opportunities

Cobblestone Zone Planning Opportunities

The Cobblestone Zone features high visitor use, with the most use occurring on trails, unpaved roads, and non-system routes between Spring Lake Regional Park and Lake Ilsanjo. Opportunities for improved trail connections and trail user experience in the zone are shown on Figure 3-10 and include:

- Add trail connections between Spring Lake Regional Park and Cobblestone Trail/Orchard Trail to create smaller trail loop opportunities,

trail connectivity between the two parks, and viewpoint/trail destination opportunities.

- Provide new public access from Parktrail Drive to Canyon Trail.
- Improve the trail experience to Lake Ilsanjo with potential user-specific trails (hike only, hike/horse, and hike/bike trails).
- Provide a trail connection north of False Lake Meadow to mitigate resource impacts from non-system routes in the meadow.
- Add shorter loop trails from the visitor center, which currently has few trail opportunities.
- Extend Channel Trail along Channel Drive to Cobblestone Trailhead to alleviate trail users within the paved road.

Zone opportunities for improved trail maintenance exist along Live Oak Trail which features biological resource impacts, Rough Go Trail which features large-scale erosion issues, Cobblestone Trail, and North Burma Trail.

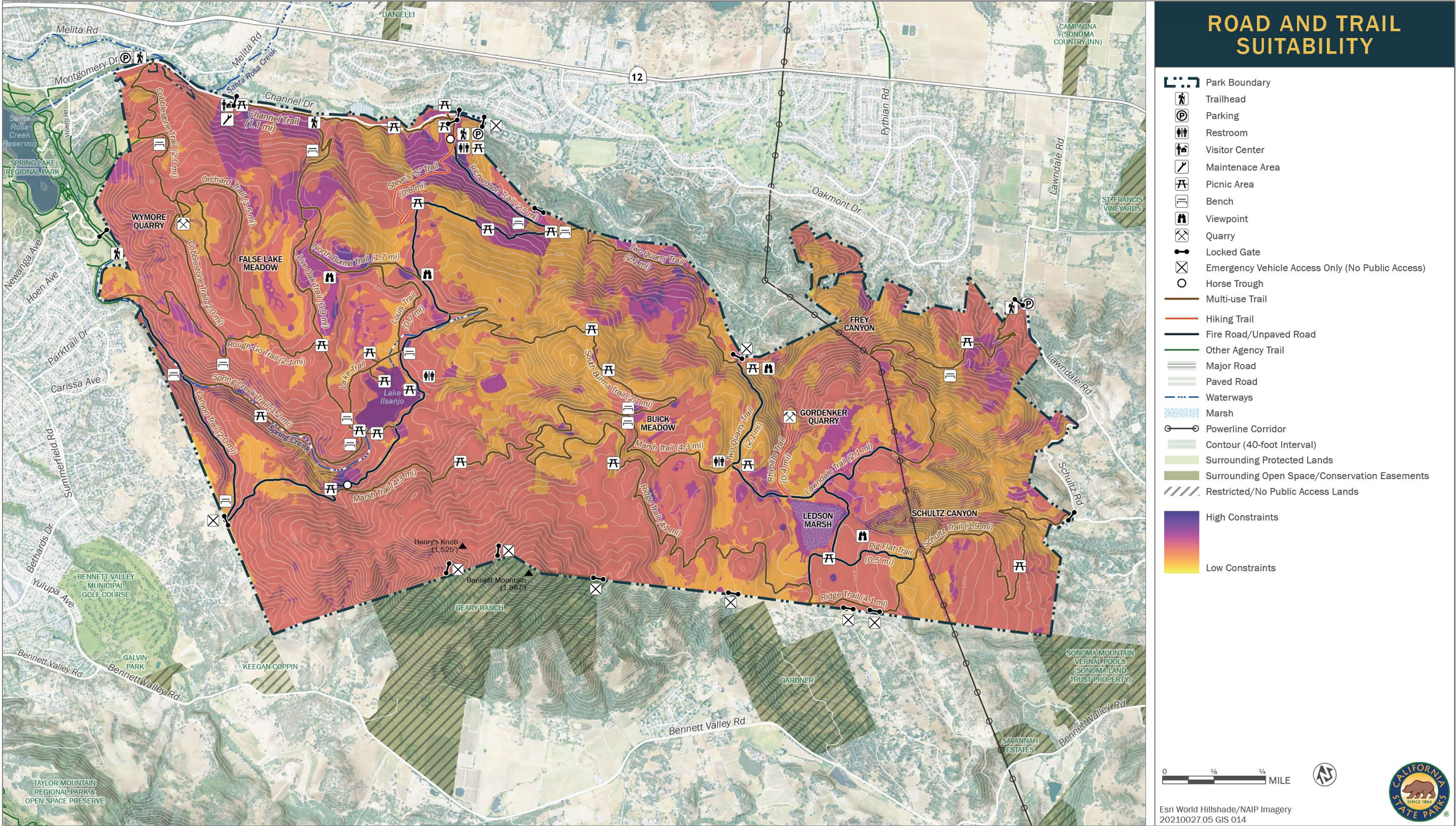
The zone features opportunities for improved amenities in Lake Ilsanjo area. There is also opportunity to improve signage and wayfinding in the vicinity of Orchard and Cobblestone trails, and provide drinking water at the visitor center. A proposed ADA project providing improved accessible parking, drinking fountain, and a ramada with tables is planned for outside of the visitor center. The parking for Cobblestone Trailhead is outside of TASP. There is opportunity to work with the landowner, Sonoma County Water District, to improve parking and install fee collection at the trailhead.



Cobblestone Zone features multiple viewpoints looking toward the City of Santa Rosa to the west.



Figure 3-9 Road and Trail Suitability



Source: Data received from State Parks in 2025; adapted by Ascent in 2025.



Other facility and amenity improvements in the Richardson Zone include improvements to formalize Frey Canyon Overlook.

Richardson Zone Planning Opportunities

Richardson Zone includes some of the highest use non-system routes used by mountain bikers, primarily in the area between South Burma and Two Quarry trails and between Steve's "S" and North Burma trails. Some of the non-system routes within these two areas are unsustainably built and unsuitable trail uses for a state park classification, such as steep fall line alignments and widely gapped, or very large bike jumps. The Richardson Zone also includes the Warren Richardson trailhead, the largest trailhead within the park. Opportunities for road and trail improvements are shown on Figure 3-11 and include:

- The area between South Burma and Two Quarry trails includes areas suitable for new trails based on the suitability analysis (Figure 3-9). This is the largest area of suitable terrain for trails within the park and provides opportunities for multi-use trails (hike/bike/horse), bicycling trails (hike/bike only), and equestrian trails (hike/horse only) and the potential for user-specific features.
- The area between Steve's "S" Trail and North Burma Trail features a high number of medical calls and unsustainable trails that have impacts on natural and cultural resources. This area includes trail decommissioning and restoration opportunities due to the terrain and resource sensitivity.

- Warren Richardson Trailhead is generally underutilized and provides an opportunity for more trail connections and improved facilities and amenities.
- Additional areas for potential amenity improvements could include hike/bike camping in the vicinity of the Two Quarry/Marsh Trail junction and amenities at the South Burma/Marsh Trail junction.
- Emergency, fire, and maintenance access between the western and eastern portions of the park is limited. There is potential to convert Two Quarry Trail back to an unpaved road to provide better emergency and administrative access.
- Additional opportunities for trail connectivity within the Richardson Zone include trail connections between Warren Richardson Trailhead and Lake Ilsanjo, with potential for additional user-specific trails.
- Other facility and amenity improvements in Richardson Zone include improvements to formalize Frey Canyon Overlook.

Maintenance priorities along existing system trails within the Richardson Zone include mitigating erosion issues along North Burma, South Burma, and Marsh trails. The Richardson Zone also features management constraints, such as unsanctioned bicycle use along Steve's "S" Trail and non-system route development throughout a majority of the zone.

Public engagement identified non-system routes within Richardson Zone as some of the most important and most concerning non-system routes within the park.

Bennett Zone Planning Opportunities

The northern slopes of Bennett Mountain provide a variety of opportunities for trails. "Henry's Knob," Bennett Mountain, and the ridgelines below the two could serve as trail destinations in TASP to offset visitation to Lake Ilsanjo. Numerous non-system routes exist in the area and there is demand for mountain bike optimized features. Opportunities within this zone are shown on Figure 3-12 and include:

- Potential new trails that connect from Marsh, Ridge, and Canyon Trails to “Henry’s Knob” and the summit of Bennett Mountain.
- There is the potential long-term opportunity to work with adjacent landowners to provide a trail connection through the Geary Ranch property to the summit of Bennett Mountain.
- Trail amenity opportunities include seating, shade, and signage at “Henry’s Knob,” a restroom at the picnic area along Canyon Trail, and non-potable water at the spring along Canyon Trail.
- There is opportunity to improve emergency and maintenance vehicle access to the eastern portion of the park via Marsh Trail.

Trail maintenance priorities include major erosion issues along Canyon Trail that could be remediated through road reconstruction, re-engineering, or rerouting.

Lawndale Zone Planning Opportunities

Lawndale Zone features a limited number of existing system trails and roads and has opportunity for additional trail connections to create trail loop opportunities and trail routes. Public access to Lawndale Zone is from Lawndale Trailhead and informally from the White Oak and Oakmont communities. Opportunities in this zone are shown on Figure 3-13 include:

- Potential trail opportunities include a trail connection from Lawndale Trail to Schultz Trail through Schultz Canyon, extending Rhyolite Trail to Lawndale Trail to make it a looped trail instead of an out-and-back, and connecting Rhyolite Trail to Two Quarry Trail and Frey Canyon Overlook.
- Lawndale Trailhead could be improved by providing additional trail opportunities from the trailhead, and providing amenities such as a restroom, drinking water, fee collection kiosk, and a picnic area.

Maintenance priorities include addressing erosion along Lawndale Trail in the section near the powerline corridor and at the wet crossing east of the junction between Two Quarry and Marsh trails.

Schultz Zone Planning Opportunities

Planning opportunities in the Schultz Zone are largely related to improving trail connectivity. Public access to the zone is limited to Schultz Trailhead, which is physically constrained and has limited parking, bicycle, and pedestrian access. Opportunities in the Schultz zone are shown on Figure 3-14 and include:

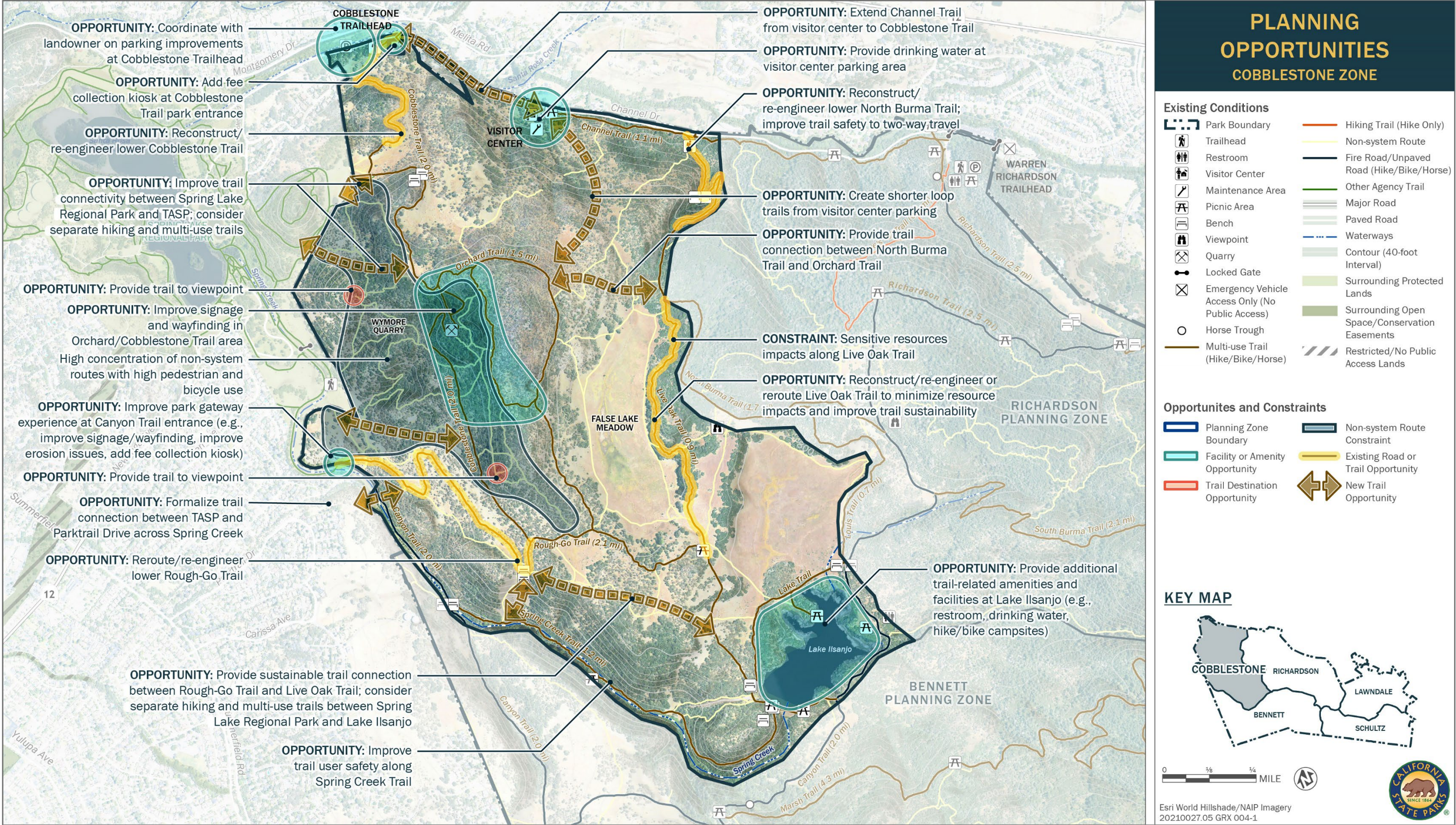
- There are long-term trail connectivity opportunities to provide additional public access into TASP from the Gardner and Sonoma Mountain Vernal Pools properties to the south of the park. A connection through the Gardner property aligns with the Bay Area Ridge Trail plan to provide a connection south the park.
- The Schultz trailhead could be relocated to provide better public access at a less constrained site.
- The zone includes two main opportunities for additional trail loops within the park—a connection between the Marsh/Two Quarry Trail junction and Ridge Trail, and a larger loop opportunity between Lawndale and Schultz Trails, mentioned in the Lawndale Zone Planning Opportunities section.
- There is also opportunity to provide an overlook trail to a waterfall in Schultz Canyon.



There is an opportunity to provide a trail connection between Two Quarry Trail and Ridge Trail.



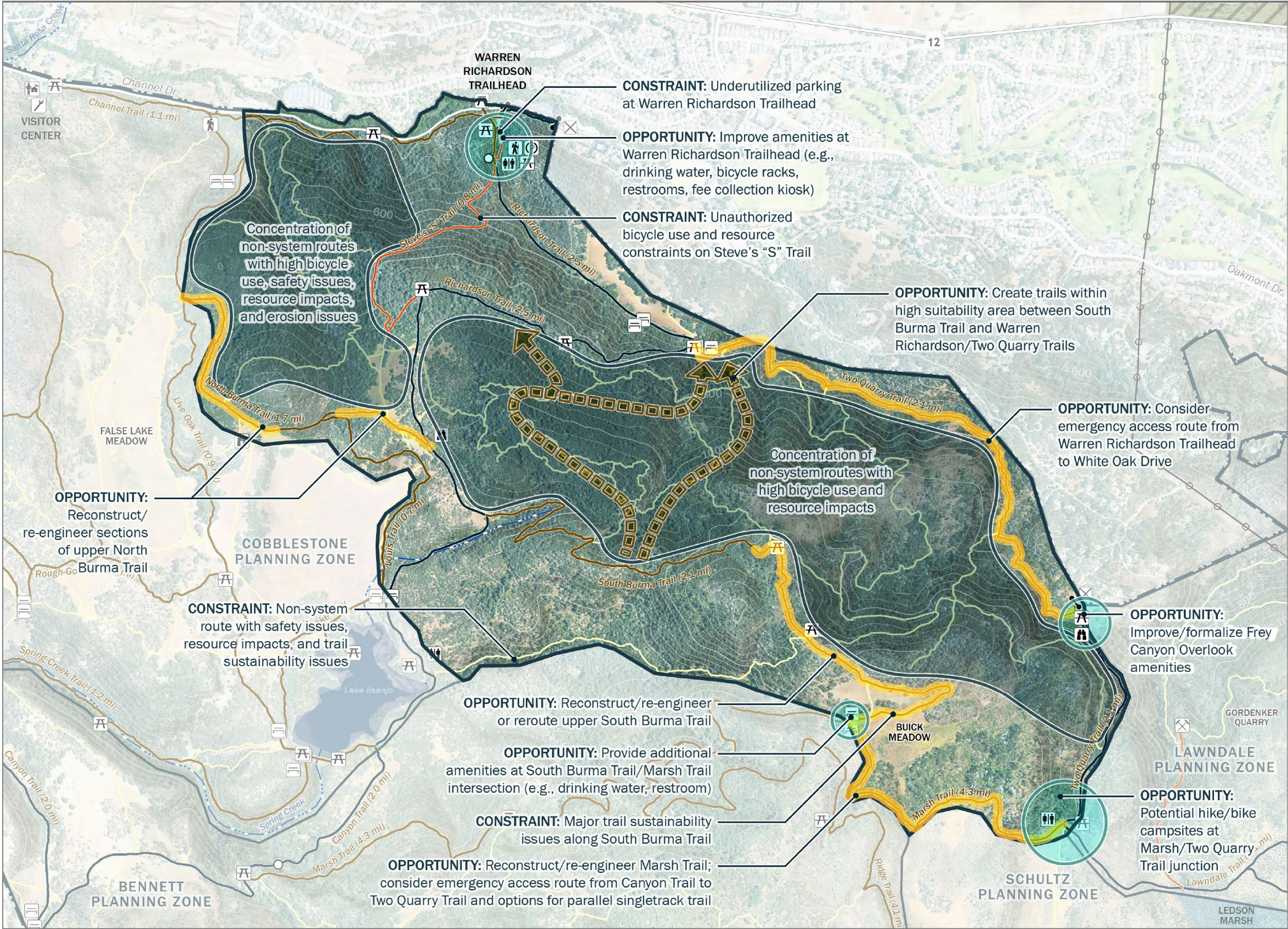
Figure 3-10 Planning Opportunities - Cobblestone Zone



Source: Data received from State Parks in 2025; adapted by Ascent in 2025.



Figure 3-11 Planning Opportunities - Richardson Zone



PLANNING OPPORTUNITIES RICHARDSON ZONE

Existing Conditions

Park Boundary	Hiking Trail (Hike Only)
Trailhead	Non-system Route
Restroom	Fire Road/Unpaved Road (Hike/Bike/Horse)
Visitor Center	Other Agency Trail
Maintenance Area	Major Road
Picnic Area	Paved Road
Bench	Waterways
Viewpoint	Contour (40-foot Interval)
Quarry	Surrounding Protected Lands
Locked Gate	Surrounding Open Space/Conservation Easements
Emergency Vehicle Access Only (No Public Access)	Restricted/No Public Access Lands
Horse Trough	
Multi-use Trail (Hike/Bike/Horse)	

Opportunities and Constraints

Planning Zone Boundary	Non-system Route Constraint
Facility or Amenity Opportunity	Existing Road or Trail Opportunity
Trail Destination Opportunity	New Trail Opportunity

KEY MAP

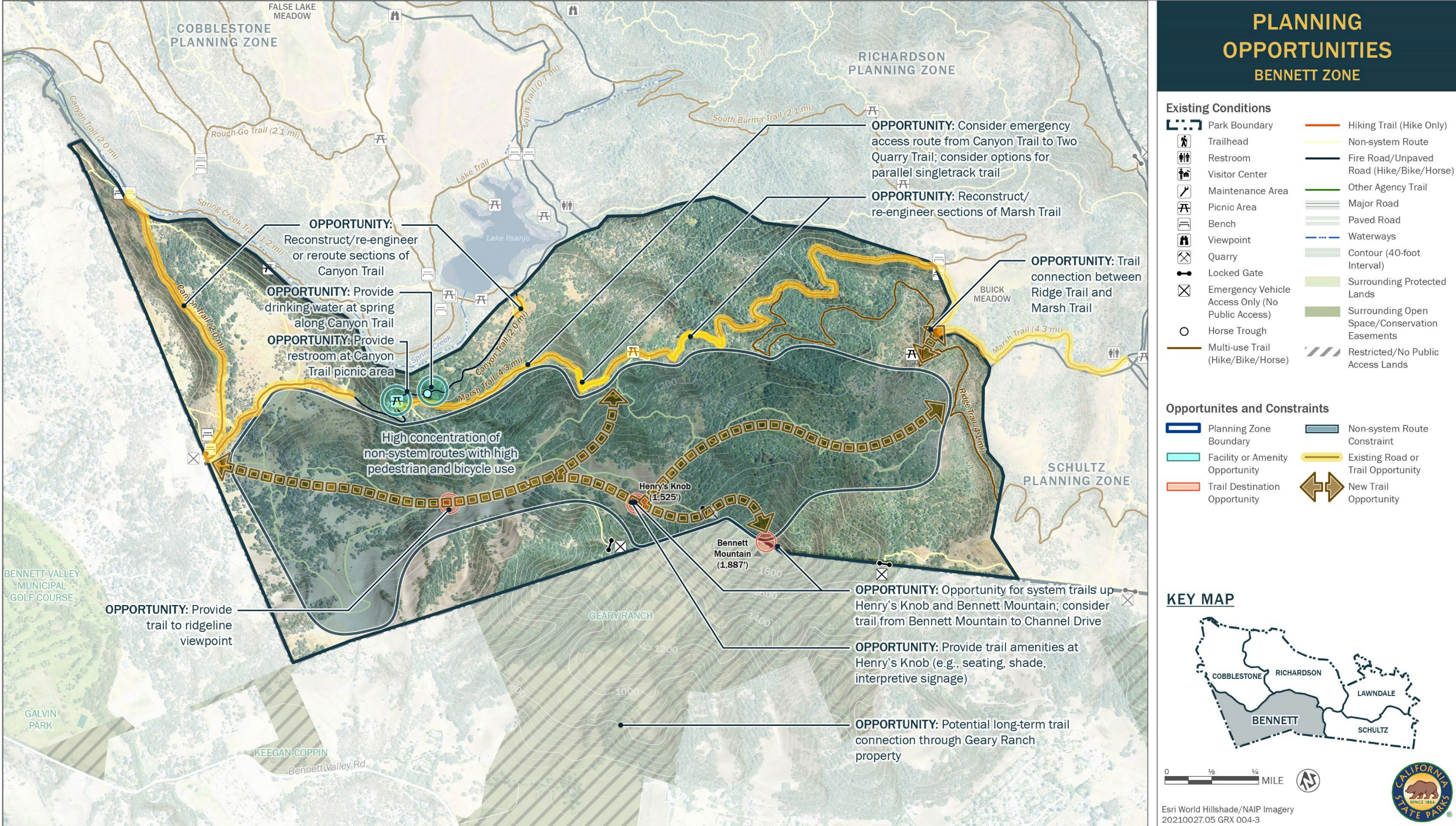
0 1/8 1/4 MILE

Esri World Hillshade/NAIP Imagery 20210027.05 GRX 004-2

Source: Data received from State Parks in 2025; adapted by Ascent in 2025.



Figure 3-12 Planning Opportunities - Bennett Zone



Source: Data received from State Parks in 2025; adapted by Ascent in 2025.



Figure 3-13 Planning Opportunities - Lawndale Zone

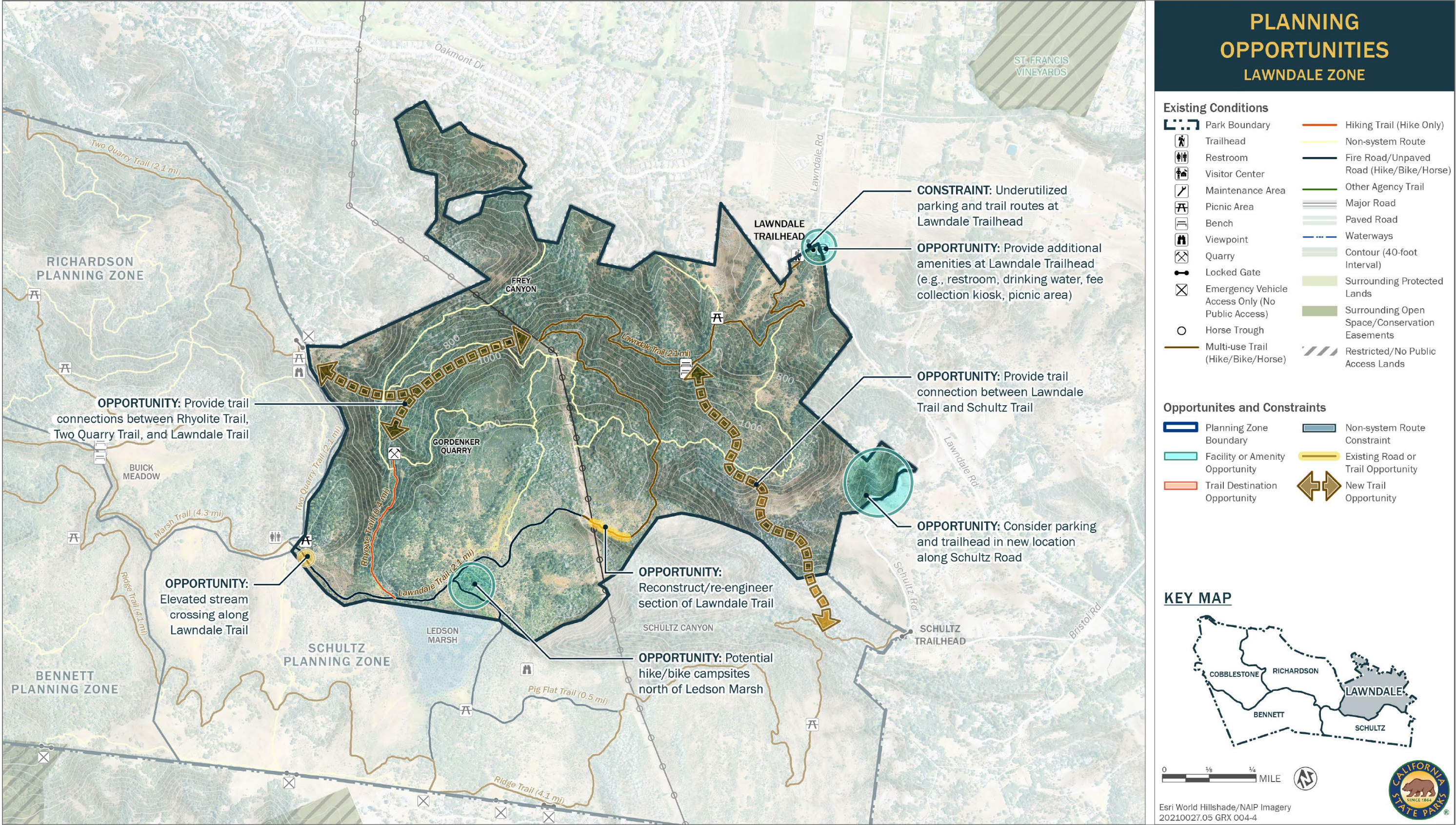




Figure 3-14 Planning Opportunities - Schultz Zone

