

SUMMARY ACTION MINUTES
(Action Items Displayed in Italics)
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2024 — 6:00 p.m.

I. ROLL CALL

Chair Shawver, Alternate Chair Jones, and Members Webber, Browning, and Schoeck (arrived at 7:02 p.m.) were present. Members Ball and Martin were absent.

II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

At this time, members of the public may address the Subcommittee on items of public interest that are within the jurisdiction of the Subcommittee and are not contained in tonight's agenda.

No comments were received from the public.

III. CONSENT CALENDAR (ITEM A)

The following item will be approved by one motion unless a Subcommittee Member requests to pull a specific item.

A. APPROVE SUBCOMMITTEE MINUTES FOR THE JULY 11, 2024 MEETING

*Motion: Alternate Chair Jones
2nd: Member Webber
Approved 4-0*

IV. DISCUSSION CALENDAR MATTERS (ITEMS A-B)

A. ELECTRIC BICYCLE PRESENTATION

Staff will present an overview of electric bicycles and their interface with OC Parks.

Antonio Valdes, OC Parks Trails and Mapping Administrator, presented on the item and answered Subcommittee Members' questions.

Jennifer Naegele, OC Parks Natural Resources and Trails Manager, answered the Subcommittee Members' questions.

Michael Wilson, OC Parks Deputy Director of Operations, answered the Subcommittee Members' questions.

James Dinwiddie, OC Parks Deputy Director of Administration, answered the Subcommittee Members' questions.

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Jeff Currie advocated for Class 1 electric bicycles (e-bikes) being permitted on OC Parks' natural surface trails to allow more access into parks.

Mitch Baxter spoke in support of allowing Class 1 e-bikes on OC Parks' natural surface trails to allow more access into parks.

Gary Collins spoke in favor of allowing Class 1 e-bikes on natural surface trails.

Helen Mauer opposed allowing e-bikes on OC Parks trails, citing it would violate the conditions of conservation plans and easements, and noted that alternative means of park access remain available to the public.

Chris Murphy advocated for permitting Class 1 e-bikes on OC Parks' natural surface trails. He shared a hard copy presentation with the Subcommittee proposing that local government and regulatory agencies amend ordinances and conservation regulations to allow Class 1 e-bikes while maintaining restrictions on Class 2 and 3 e-bikes.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Receive and file.

Motion: Alternate Chair Jones

2nd: Member Webber

Approved 4-0

B. OC PARKS TRAILS SUBCOMMITTEE 2025 MEETING SCHEDULE

The Subcommittee's 2025 Meeting Schedule will be provided for review and approval.

Jeaniene Casiello, Executive Officer, provided background information on the item.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Approve the OC Parks Trails Subcommittee's 2025 Meeting Schedule.

Motion: Member Browning

2nd: Alternate Chair Jones

Approved 4-0

V. SUBCOMMITTEE EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

A. DEPARTMENT UPDATES

SUMMARY ACTION MINUTES
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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2024 — 6:00 p.m.

Jeaniene Casiello, Executive Officer, congratulated Member Webber on being confirmed by the OC Parks Commission to serve a third term on the OC Parks Trails Subcommittee.

VI. SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS AND REPORT

At this time, Subcommittee Members may comment on agenda or non-agenda matters, provided that no action may be taken on off-agenda items unless authorized by law.

VII. ADJOURNMENT 7:02 p.m.



Red Rock Wilderness Overview

OC Trails Subcommittee
January 9, 2025



Overview

- Background
- Planning and Improvements
- Trail System
- Public Access
- Survey Feedback

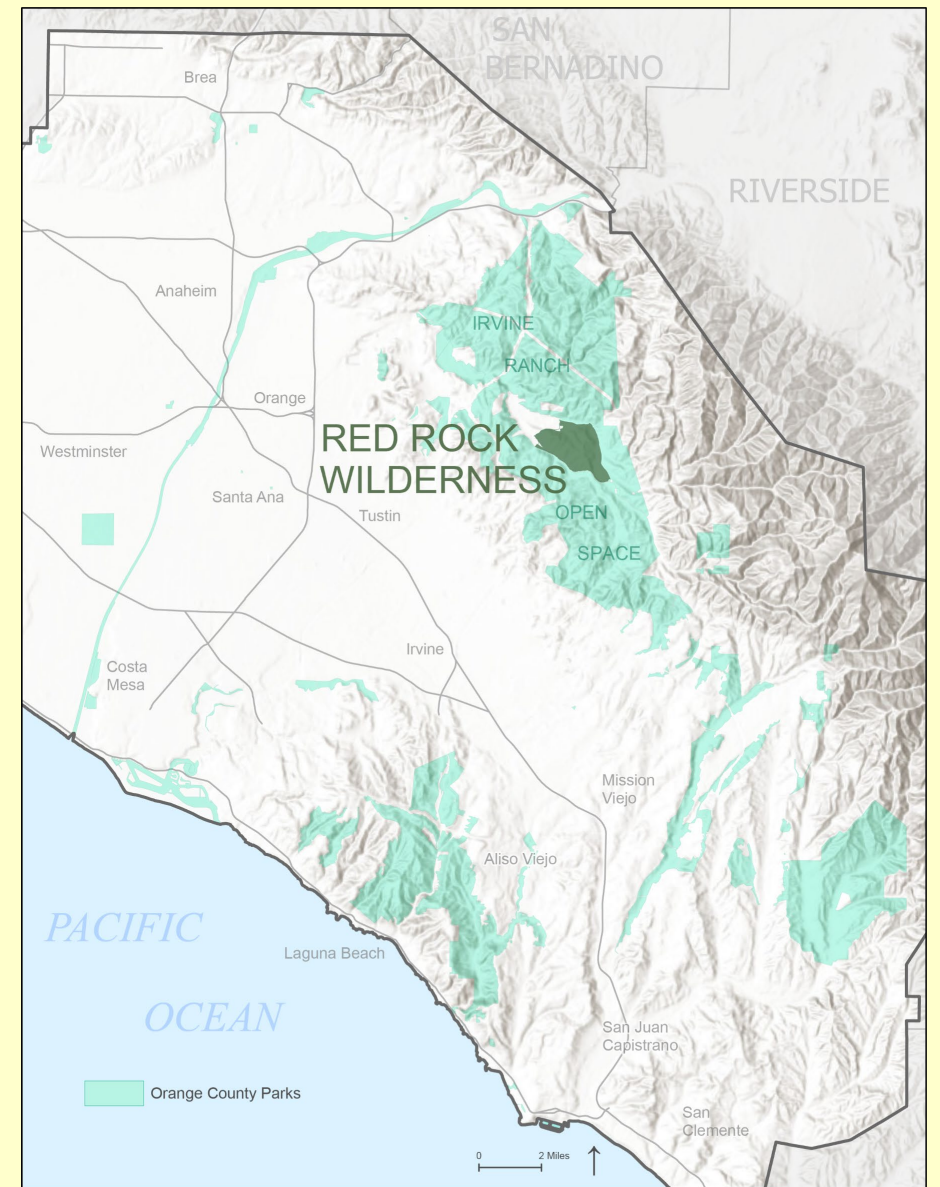


Coast live oak in Red Rock Wilderness

Background:

Location and Description

- Just southeast of Irvine Lake in the foothills of the Santa Ana Mountains along Santiago Canyon Road.
- Approximately 1,500-acres with eight miles of new trails.
- Named for its dramatic red rock faces.
- Situated on top of the 20 to 40-million-year-old Sespe Formation, the ancestors to modern rhinos and crocodile once roamed the area.
- Contains acreage covered by the Orange County Parks Foundation and The Nature Conservancy easements, as well as the NCCP/HCP
- The area offers a protected and preserved natural habitat for a variety of plants and animals, including:
 - Bobcats
 - Mule deer
 - Grey fox
 - Variety of bird species.



Background: History

- 2014: Donated to OC Parks by The Irvine Company
- 2015–2019: Developed and completed Interim Recreation and Resource Management Plan (IRRMP)
- 2020–2021: Conducted baseline biological surveys to monitor the area's flora and fauna
- 2021: Preliminary trail routing
- 2022–2023: Final trails and improvements formalized
- 2024: Open for managed public access and start of visitor surveys



Trail Network

Trail planning:

- Evaluations conducted by field personnel, along with experts from OC Parks specializing in Planning & Design, Geographic Information System (GIS), Natural Resources, and Archaeology & Paleontology



Red-tailed hawk soaring over Red Rock Wilderness



Red Rock Wilderness Overview

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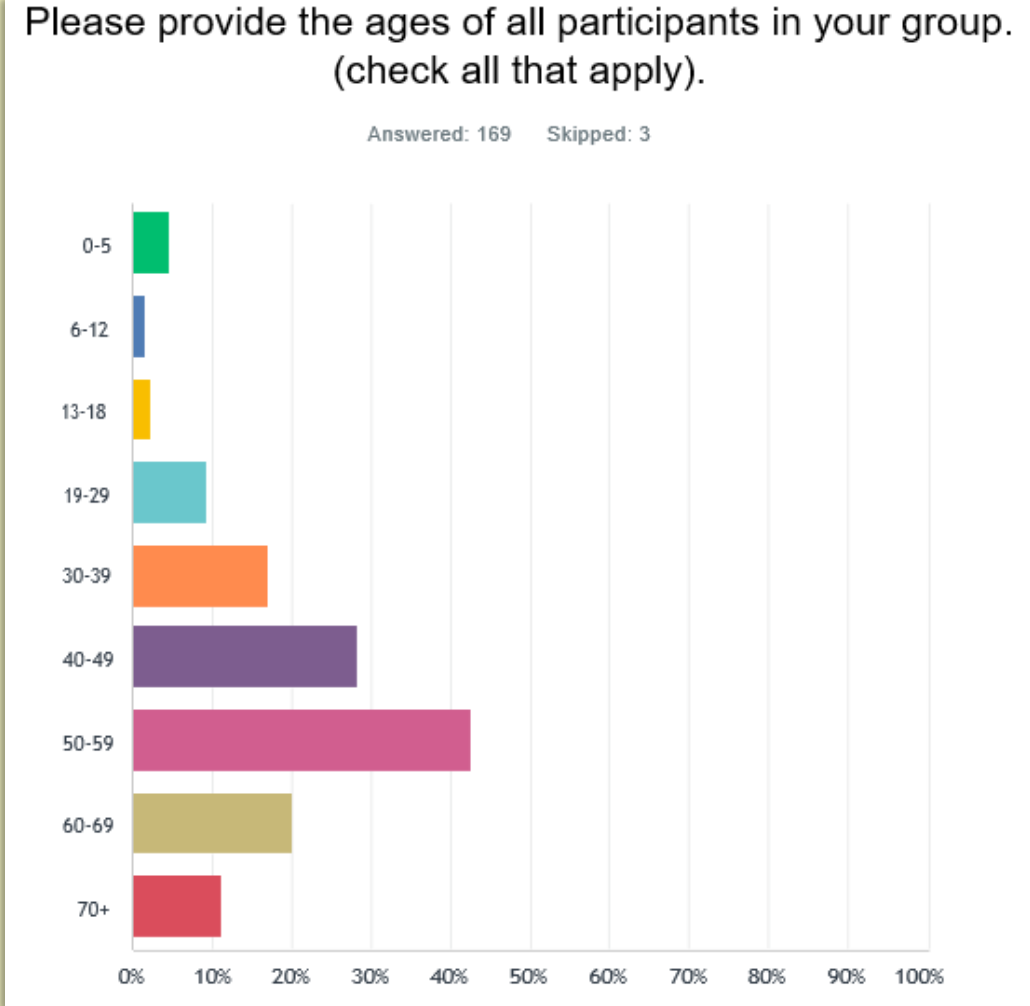
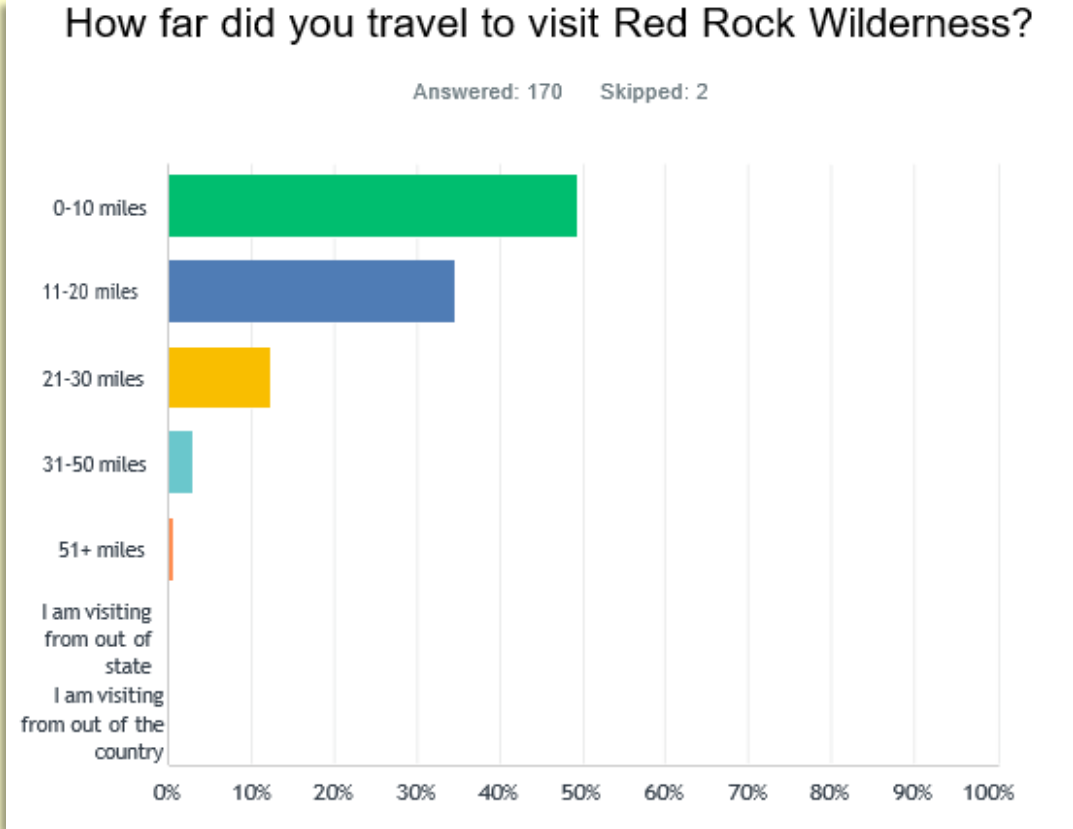
Trail Network

Trail installation:

- Collaboration between OC Parks staff and contracted services, including the Irvine Ranch Conservancy.

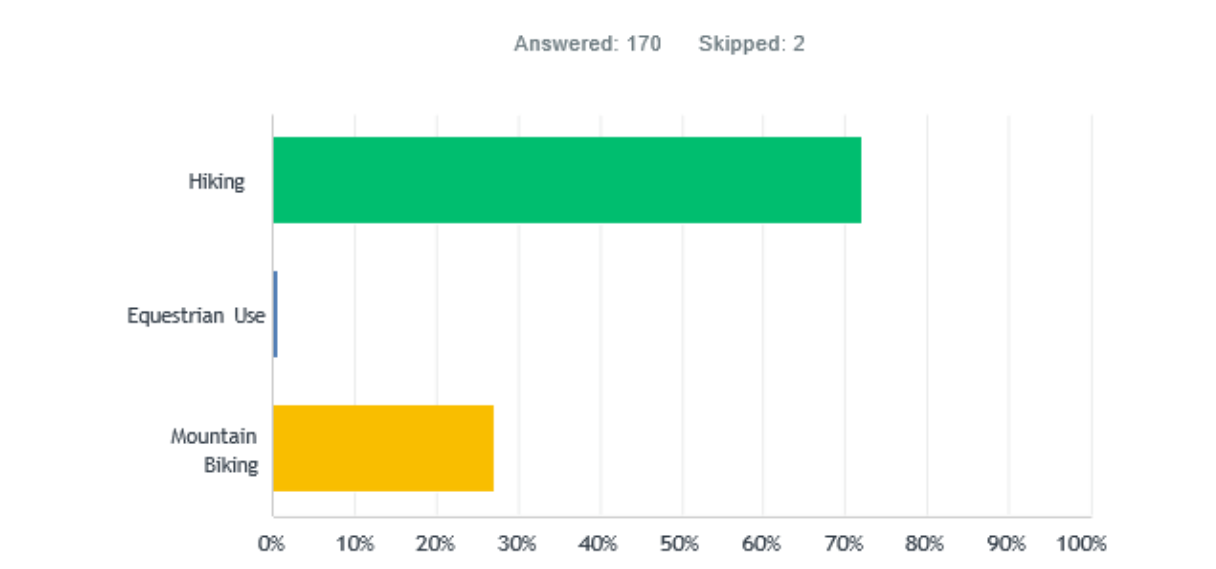


Survey Feedback

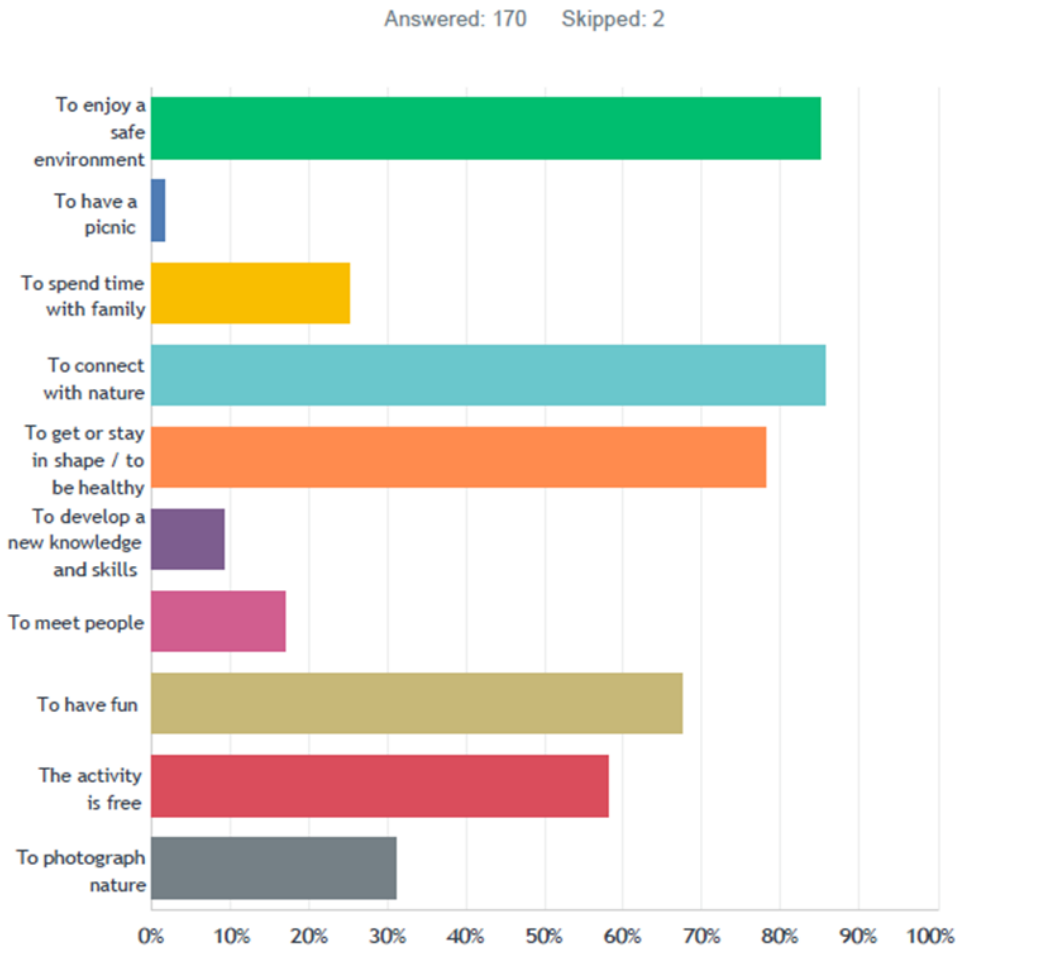


Survey Feedback

Please tell us the type of activity in which you engaged on the trail.



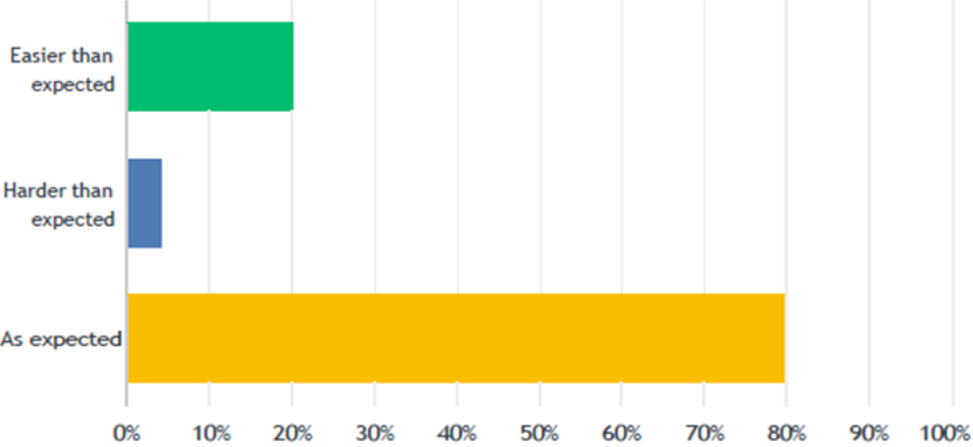
Please share with us your general motivation(s) for visiting Red Rock Wilderness (check all that apply).



Survey Feedback

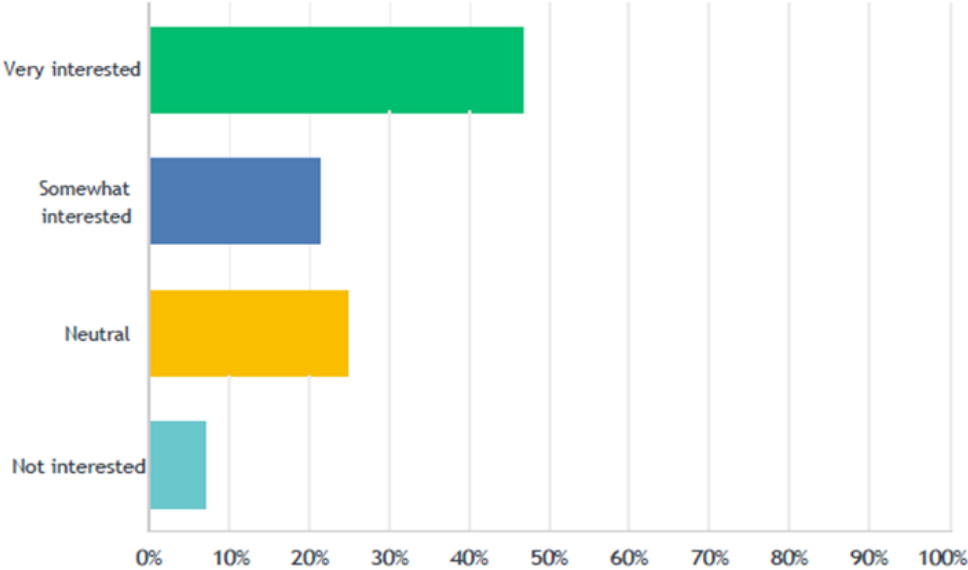
Did you find the trail categories (easy, moderate, difficult) to be accurate?

Answered: 167 Skipped: 5

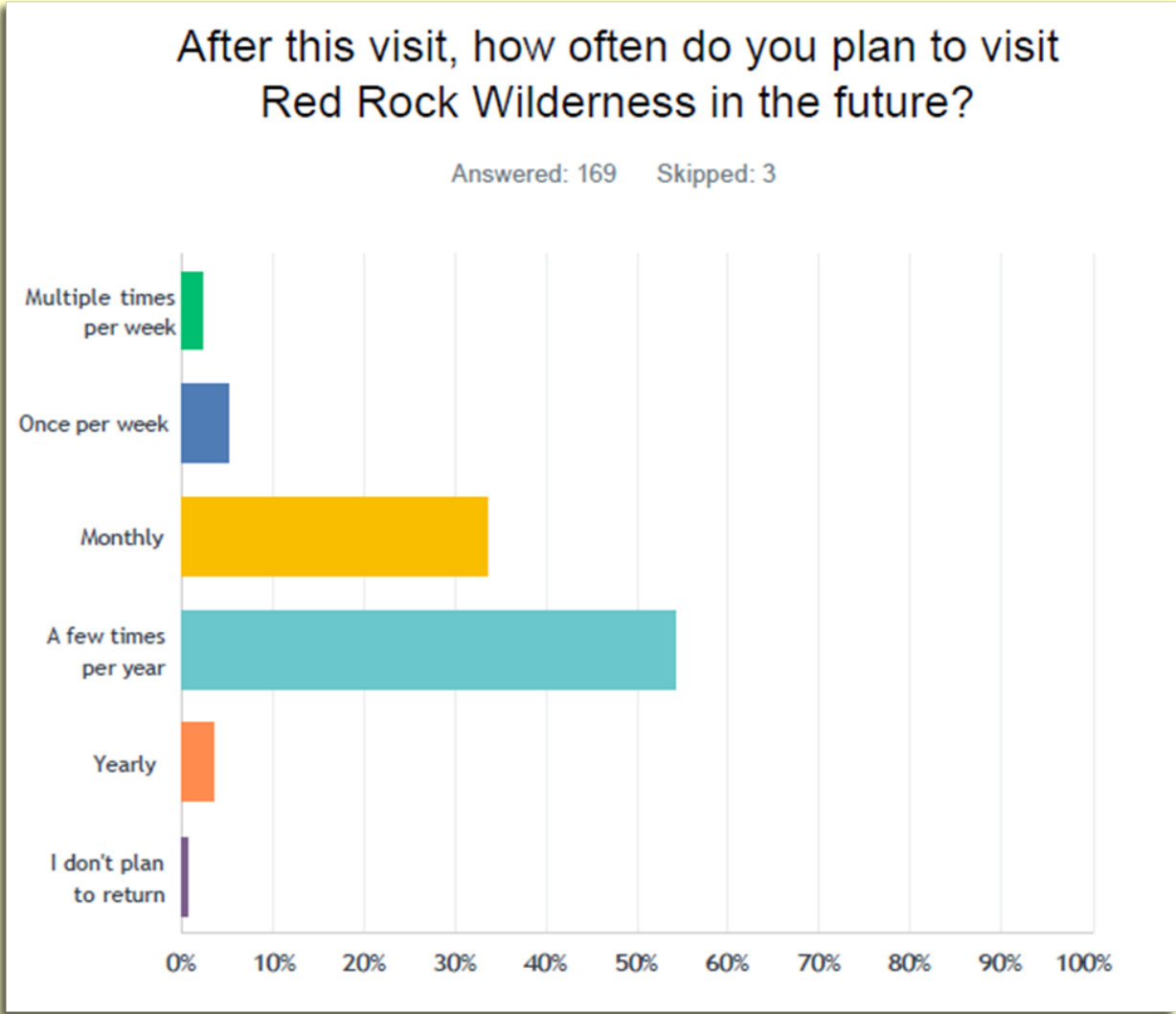
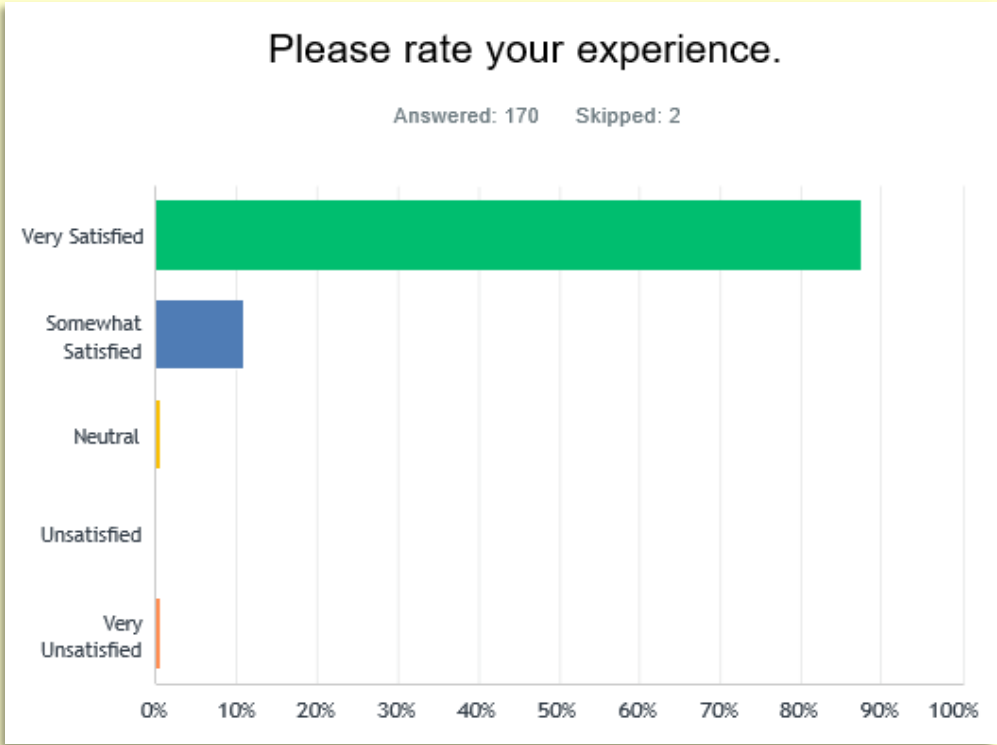


Please rate your level of interest in having user-group specific (example: mountain biking only, hiking only) self-guided access opportunities offered.

Answered: 169 Skipped: 3



Survey Feedback



Looking Ahead

- Trail naming
- Continued improvements
 - Interpretive panels
 - Habitat restoration



Turkey vultures are a common sight



Maintenance team brushing the trail network

Questions?





Red Rock Wilderness Trail Naming

OC Trails Subcommittee
January 9, 2025



Overview

- Trail Naming Process
- Trail Network
- Individual Trails & Overlook
- Recommended Action



Trail Naming Process

- Gather public surveys
- Refine feedback
- Organize feedback by individual trails

Public Survey Question:

Can you suggest any trail names or trail naming themes for Red Rock Wilderness?

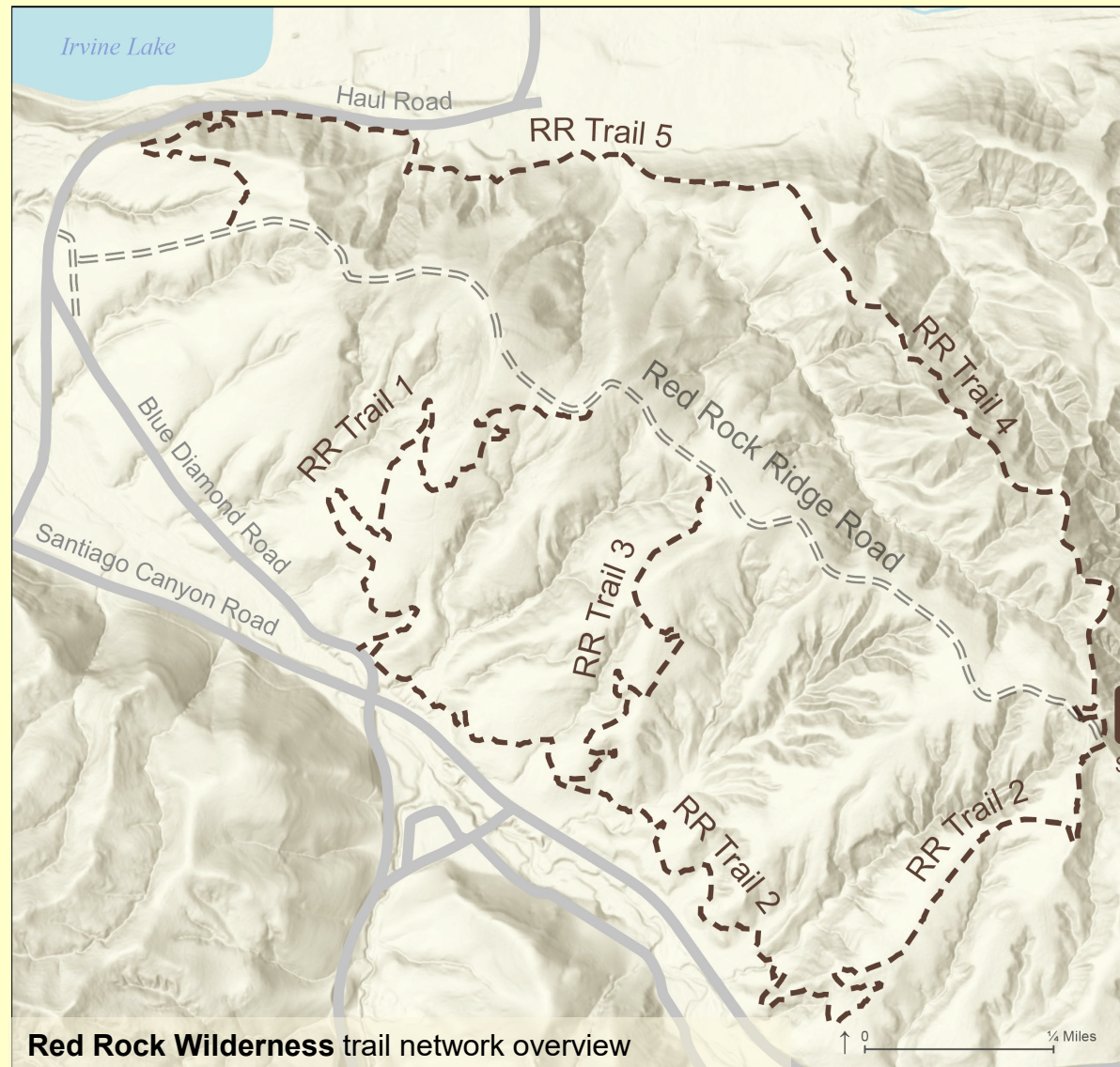


Kiosk on Red Rock Ridge Road

Trail Network

The 1,500-acre Red Rock Wilderness boasts eight miles of newly established trails for hiking, biking, and horseback riding. Five trails, ranging from moderate to challenging, meander through native habitats where gray foxes, bobcats, mountain lions, and American badgers call home. Visitors can also enjoy breathtaking views of Irvine Lake, the Santa Ana Mountains, and the surrounding canyons.

Opened to the public in May 2024, visitors were invited to contribute naming suggestions for the park's five unnamed trails and one overlook.



Trail 1: Animal/Feature

Name contenders:

- Dragonfly Trail
- Phoebe Trail
- Mesa Meadows Trail



Trail 2: Native Mammals

Name contenders:

- Tukuut Trail
- American Badger Trail
- Gray Fox Trail



Red Rock Wilderness Trail Naming

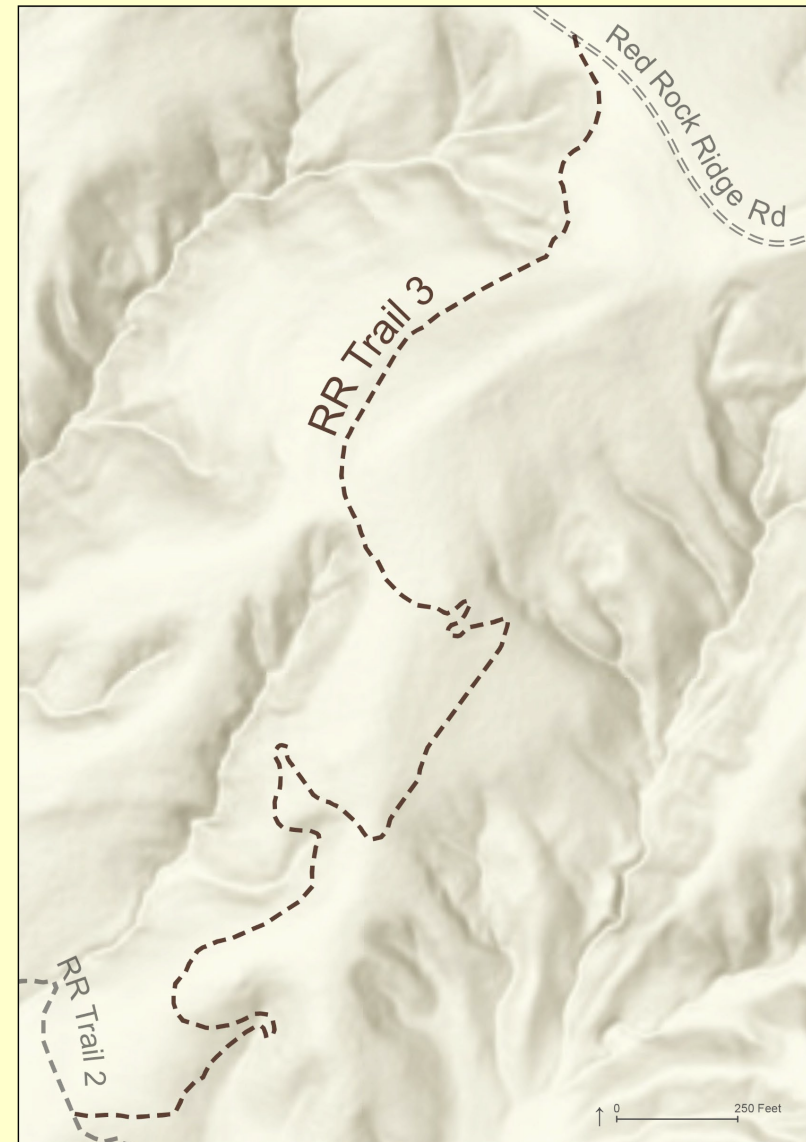
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Trail 3: Native Plants

Name contenders:

- Mallow Trail
- Chia Trail
- Doveweed Trail



Trail 4: Birds/Flight

Name contenders:

- Raven Ridge Trail
- Aviator Trail
- Harrier Trail



Trail 5: Native Plants

Name contenders:

- Paintbrush Trail
- Goldenstar Trail
- Sugar Bush Trail



Overlook

Name contenders:

- Aura Overlook
- Wild Sage Overlook
- Goldfields Overlook





Recommended Action

Select names for five trails and one lookout at Red Rock Wilderness for recommendation to the Orange County Parks Commission for approval.



Recommended Action

Trail 1

- Dragonfly Trail
- Phoebe Trail
- Mesa Meadows Trail

Trail 2

- Tukuut Trail
- American Badger Trail
- Gray Fox Trail

Trail 3

- Mallow Trail
- Chia Trail
- Doveweed Trail

Trail 4

- Raven Ridge Trail
- Aviator Trail
- Harrier Trail

Trail 5

- Paintbrush Trail
- Goldenstar Trail
- Sugar Bush Trail

Overlook

- Aura Overlook
- Wild Sage Overlook
- Goldfields Overlook

