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Forest Service
Pacific Southwest Region
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Los Padres National Forest

Land Management Plan Monitoring and Evaluation Report for 2019



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Los Padres National Forest Stakeholders,

I am pleased to present the Los Padres National Forest's (LPNF) fiscal year 2019 Monitoring and Evaluation Report. Included within the report is a summary of specific program accomplishments for the year, and evaluation of whether plans, projects and activities are implemented as designed and in compliance with the 2005 Los Padres National Forest Land Management Plan (LMP), as amended.

The LMP emphasizes and identifies monitoring as a key element in all programs to assure the achievement of desired conditions over time. Recently implemented projects are monitored as well as ongoing activities, programs, and resource status. Through monitoring, evaluation, and adaptive management, we aim to further increase management effectiveness and resource protection.

It is important to me to keep you informed of the results of our monitoring. If you are interested in becoming involved in a project or other planning activity, please see our national website <http://www.fs.fed.us/sopa/>. Additional information and opportunities on the Los Padres National Forest may be found on our Forest website <http://www.fs.usda.gov/lpnf/>.

Sincerely,



KEVIN B. ELLIOTT
Forest Supervisor
Los Padres National Forest

July 29, 2021

Date

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Introduction

Monitoring is a means for confirming the sufficiency and adequacy of guidance in the Land Management Plan (LMP), and for tracking the status of and trends in changing resource conditions. It facilitates the process for adapting to change and documents the need to update, amend and eventually revise land management plans to achieve desired conditions while ensuring healthy National Forests exist for future generations. Monitoring requirements are found in all three parts of the LMP, and a summary of these requirements are in Appendix C in Part 3 of the LMP.

Part 1 monitoring assesses resource conditions and movement towards desired conditions over the long-term. This is completed by measuring the change over time to environmental indicators and outcome evaluation questions identified in the LMP. The status of the trend relative to the desired resource condition serves as the basis for determining when a need for change in land management planning is indicated.

Part 2 monitoring focuses on program implementation through accomplishments tracked in Forest Service corporate databases. The annual accomplishment indicators determine if the program areas are implementing the objectives and strategies established in Part 2 of the LMP.

Part 3 monitoring is conducted at the project level to evaluate the effectiveness and application of design criteria established in the LMP. Projects that were completed or were in ongoing implementation in FY 2019 were selected for monitoring from representative functional areas and districts. Selected projects were then visited by an interdisciplinary monitoring team to review the application and effectiveness of the design criteria.

The FY 2019 LMP Monitoring and Evaluation Report documents the evaluation of selected projects and programs where activities occurred during October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019.

Part 2 Monitoring

Monitoring identified in Part 2 of the Southern California Land Management Plans is focused on program implementation including inventory activities. The National Forests currently use attainment reporting for tracking program accomplishments as discussed in Part 2 of the LMP. The attainment measures are linked to the National Strategic Plan and report accomplishments through a national reporting system. Although the system will evolve over time as management needs change, Table 1 represents the type of measures that are currently reported on an annual basis. These attainments reflect current budget and staffing.

Table 1: FY2019 Accomplishments generated from geo-enabled Performance Accountability System (gPAS)

Indicator	Units	2019 Accomplishment
Terrestrial Habitat Enhanced	Acres	5,323
Aquatic Habitat Enhanced	Miles	6.8
Noxious Weeds Treated	Acres	584.2
Forestland Vegetation Improved	Acres	127
Watershed Improved	Acres	2,852
Land Ownership Adjusted	Acres	0
Heritage Programs Managed to Standard	Number	43.5
Recreation Special Use Authorizations Administered to Standard	Number	28
People At One Time (PAOT) Days Managed to Standard	Days	0
Recreation Sites Managed to Standard	Number	83
Land Use Authorizations Administered to Standard	Number	212
Mineral Operations Administered to Standard	Number	67
Grazing Allotments Administered to Standard	Acres	172,859
Hazardous Fuel Reduction	Acres	4,272
Passenger Car Roads Maintained to Objective Maintenance Level	Miles	25.9
High Clearance & Back Country Roads Maintained to Objective Maintenance Level	Miles	18.8
Road Decommissioned	Miles	0
Trail Operated and Maintained to Standard	Miles	39.8

Part 3 Monitoring

Implementation and effectiveness monitoring for Part 3 of the LMP is conducted at the project level and is completed for new projects and ongoing activities and sites. A sample of projects and ongoing activities are selected, evaluated for compliance with the LMP, and visited by an interdisciplinary team (IDT) to review the application and effectiveness of design criteria. If the LMP design criteria are determined to be ineffective, then the IDT recommends possible corrective actions, and any required adjustments to the design criteria are documented in this report and updated in the LMP in accordance with Forest Service procedures.

The following questions are investigated for each reviewed project or ongoing activity:

- Is the project consistent with the LMP, and were LMP goals, desired conditions, and standards incorporated into the decision document?
- Were mitigations or design criteria identified from the LMP, consultations, and public input included in the decision, and implementation documents?
- Was the project implemented effectively?
- Were mitigations or design criteria effective?
- Were monitoring requirements identified and followed?

The following projects were chosen from a stratified sample of projects representing program areas and districts on the Los Padres National Forest. The LMP monitoring appendix calls for a 10% random sample of new and ongoing projects. Technically, an ongoing project is one that is either implemented over a long span of time, a routine ongoing activity, or is part of a long-term permitted activity such as livestock

grazing on a range allotment, but which still requires National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliant environmental review for reauthorization. A new project is one which is planned, implemented, or completed within a recent period. The Los Padres National Forest strives to select projects covering a range of program areas geographically distributed over the Forest. When possible, at least one project per District is selected while striving to have several major program areas represented.

Table 2: Projects Selected for Review

Ranger District	Project Name	Functional Area	Documentation Reviewed
Santa Barbara	Davy Brown and Munch Creek Aquatic Barrier Removal	Resource Management	Decision Memo
Forest-wide	Los Padres Tamarisk Removal	Resource Management	Record of Decision
Monterey	Pine Ridge Trail Reroute	Public Use and Enjoyment	Decision Memo
Santa Barbara, Ojai, Santa Lucia, and Mount Pinos	Sierra Club Outfitter & Guide Special Use Permit	Commodity and Commercial Uses	Decision Memo
Forest-wide	Special Use Authorization Issuance for Existing Communications Uses	Commodity and Commercial Uses	Decision Memo
Mt. Pinos	Tecuya Ridge Shaded Fuelbreak Project	Resource Management	Decision Memo
Forest-wide	Southern California Edison and Pacific Gas & Electric Master Authorization Renewal	Commodity and Commercial Uses	Decision Memo
Santa Barbara	Cold Spring Trail (26W10) Reroute	Public Use and Enjoyment	Decision Memo

Davy Brown and Munch Creek Aquatic Barrier Removal Project

Project Description

Munch Creek flows to Davy Brown Creek that is tributary to Manzana Creek in the Sisquoc River watershed. Manzana Creek is a tributary to the Sisquoc River that flows to the Santa Maria River connecting to the Pacific Ocean. Munch and Davy Brown Creeks are federally designated critical habitat to endangered Southern California steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) and also support federally threatened California red-legged frog (*Rana draytonii*). Both Munch and Davy Brown Creeks provide key spawning and rearing habitat for aquatic organisms and were important refugia during the Zaca Fire (2007). Three low-water crossings have been identified on Davy Brown and Munch Creeks as impediments to aquatic species migration. The crossing at Munch Creek will be removed and remain a natural stream crossing; however, the two concrete crossings on Davy Brown Creek will be removed and replaced with free span bridges. These restoration efforts will improve and restore aquatic organism passage within and between watersheds,



Figure 1. Munch Creek crossing that will be removed (facing upstream).



Figure 2. Munch Creek crossing facing downstream.

especially migratory species, and improve safety for vehicles and all recreationists. Once completed, this project will provide approximately 5.5 miles of unimpeded habitat for aquatic organisms, including Southern California steelhead and California red-legged frog.

The Los Padres National Forest is in partnership with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, National Marine Fisheries Service, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to fund and/or support this project.

Monitoring

This project was analyzed under a categorical exclusion and documented in a Decision Memo in July 2019. The applicable category of actions is identified in agency procedures as “Restoring wetlands, streams, riparian areas or other water bodies by removing, replacing, or modifying water control structures such as, but not limited to, dams, levees, dikes, ditches, culverts, pipes, drainage tiles, valves, gates, and fencing, to allow waters to flow into natural channels and floodplains and restore natural flow regimes to the extent practicable where valid existing rights or special use authorizations are not unilaterally altered or canceled” 36 CFR 220.6(e)(18).



Figure 3. Davy Brown Creek crossing on Upper Sunset Valley Road, 1/8 mile below the Davy Brown Campground. Crossing will be replaced with a bridge.

Monitoring for physical, chemical, and biological parameters began in summer 2017 and has been performed annually. This monitoring includes surveys for Southern California steelhead, California red-legged frog, and avian surveys for nesting birds. Monitoring will also take place before construction and resource protections will be implemented during construction, which is anticipated during summer 2021. Monitoring will continue following crossing removal and replacement for treatment effectiveness.

Conclusion

The Davy Brown and Munch Creek aquatic barrier and removal project will help restore ecological conditions, augment important habitat for threatened and endangered species, and foster ecosystem resilience in the backdrop of changing climate conditions and disturbance. This project is consistent with Goal 6.2 as identified in the LMP:

- Goal 6.2 - Provide ecological conditions to sustain viable populations of native and desired nonnative species



Figure 4. Lower Sunset Valley Road crossing on Davy Brown Creek that will be replaced with a free-span bridge.

This project also conforms to LMP direction Part 2 Watershed Function 1 and Wildlife 1:

- Watershed Function 1 - to protect, maintain and restore natural watershed functions. This can be accomplished in part by achieving and maintaining natural stream channel conductivity, connectivity and function.
- Wildlife 1 - Threatened, Endangered, Proposed, Candidate, and Sensitive Species Management with the strategy to manage habitat to move listed species toward recovery and de-listing. The conservation strategy further emphasizes habitat restoration and improvement through, among other things, stream channel and streambank restoration and stabilization.



Figure 5. Lower Sunset Valley Road log jam during 2018 storms at lower Davy Brown Creek.

Los Padres Tamarisk Removal **Project Description**

The invasive weed, tamarisk (*Tamarix* spp.), is spreading within Piru Creek, Lockwood Creek, Cuyama River, Santa Ynez River, Sisquoc River, Sespe Creek, and Arroyo Seco River watersheds of the Los Padres National Forest. The Tamarisk Removal Project was designed to eradicate current tamarisk infestations and prevent further spread. The project area is located along riparian zones of the above-mentioned waterways and covers approximately 368 linear miles along perennial and intermittent streams for a total area of approximately 4,247 acres. Currently, the infestations are composed of scattered tamarisk within riparian habitat conservation areas, congressionally designated wilderness areas, and wild and scenic rivers. The project is located on all five ranger districts of the Los Padres National Forest.

Tamarisk is an invasive non-native tree-shrub that can grow in dense patches, outcompete native riparian vegetation, such as willows (*Salix* spp.) and cottonwoods (*Populus* spp.), change soil chemistry by depositing salts from deep ground water onto the soil surface, and remove large amounts of water from streams and riparian areas via foliage evapotranspiration. By removing tamarisk before it becomes the dominant vegetation component within riparian landscapes, native plant communities will be maintained and can continue providing habitat to species dependent on healthy, properly functioning riparian ecosystems.

Herbicide application along with mechanical removal treatments are effective and efficient control methods for tamarisk. Herbicide applications for the project are restricted to ground-based, hand applications. Invasive tamarisk removal treatments will occur through 2021 as part of the project. Monitoring and maintenance treatments will continue thereafter to re-treat existing infestations and to treat new infestations discovered within the project area. It is anticipated that most of the project will be implemented within ten years (from 2016 to 2026) with the most intensive treatments occurring during the first five years.



Figure 6. Picture of a volunteer manually removing tamarisk

Monitoring

The Tamarisk Removal Project was approved under a Record of Decision signed in November of 2016 and was implemented in spring 2017. In 2019, approximately 555 acres of tamarisk were chemically or manually treated. Since the start of implementation in 2017, a total of 915 acres have been treated to remove tamarisk.

Conclusion

The tamarisk removal treatments conducted in 2018 were a success for the Tamarisk Removal Project. Every acre treated removes numerous plants and prevents those plants from reproducing and spreading into surrounding environments.

Herbicide use for the project is consistent with the Forest Service Pesticide Use Policy; is in compliance with state and federal regulations; and follows Region 5 Best Management Practices for Vegetation Manipulation, the Region 5 Supplement for Pesticide-Use Management and Coordination, and the Los Padres National Forest Land Management Plan guidance including the Supplement to Soil and Water Conservation Practices FSH 2509.22-2005-1.

This project is consistent with the following goals as identified in the LMP (2005):

- Goal 2.1 - Reverse the trend of increasing loss of natural resource values due to invasive species
- Goal 6.2 - Provide ecological conditions to sustain viable populations of native and desired nonnative species

Pine Ridge Trail Reroute

Project Description

A section of the Pine Ridge Trail suffered a catastrophic slope failure in the winter of 2017. The area was damaged from the 2016 Soberanes Fire and subsequent rains created a landslide that removed approximately 75 feet of trail above the Big Sur River. Due to the extent of the damage and instability of the slope, the trail could not be restored to the required standard. The Forest Service proposed to construct a 0.4-mile reroute around the failed section to reconnect the trail.

Monitoring

The Pine Ridge Trail Reroute was analyzed under a categorical exclusion and documented in a Decision Memo in September 2019. The applicable category of actions is identified in agency procedures as “Construction and reconstruction of trails” 36 CFR 220.6(e)(1).

The reroute was completed in November 2019. Routine monitoring and trail maintenance will occur as needed and subsequent maintenance activities shall comply with resource protection measures. The reroute has since been successfully used by pack stock to support trail crews based at Sykes Camp and Redwood Camp for other trail maintenance.

Conclusion

The Pine Ridge Trail Reroute is consistent with the place-based program emphasis for Big Sur and conforms to the 2005 LMP direction Part 2, Transportation 3 – Improve Trails, including the objective to construct and maintain the trail network to levels commensurate with area objectives, sustainable resource conditions, and the type and level of use. This project follows LMP direction to connect trails to enhance trail opportunities and minimize resource damage and is consistent with Goal 3.1 as identified in the LMP:

- Goal 3.1 - Provide for Public Use and Natural Resource Protection

Sierra Club Outfitter and Guide Special Use Permit

Project Description

The Los Padres Chapter of the Sierra Club requested a five-year outfitter and guide special use permit to teach wilderness basics courses on the Santa Barbara, Ojai, Santa Lucia, and Mount Pinos Ranger Districts of the Los Padres National Forest. The wilderness basics courses consist of a mix of classroom and field exercises about equipment, wilderness ethics, wilderness first aid and safety, weather, water filtration, cooking, map and compass, and other topics. Participants gain experience with day hikes, car camps, and backpacking trips on designated National Forest System trails. The permitted group size is 15 people or less and field trips occur over three weekends in late winter/spring. This request replaces an expired temporary, annual permit.

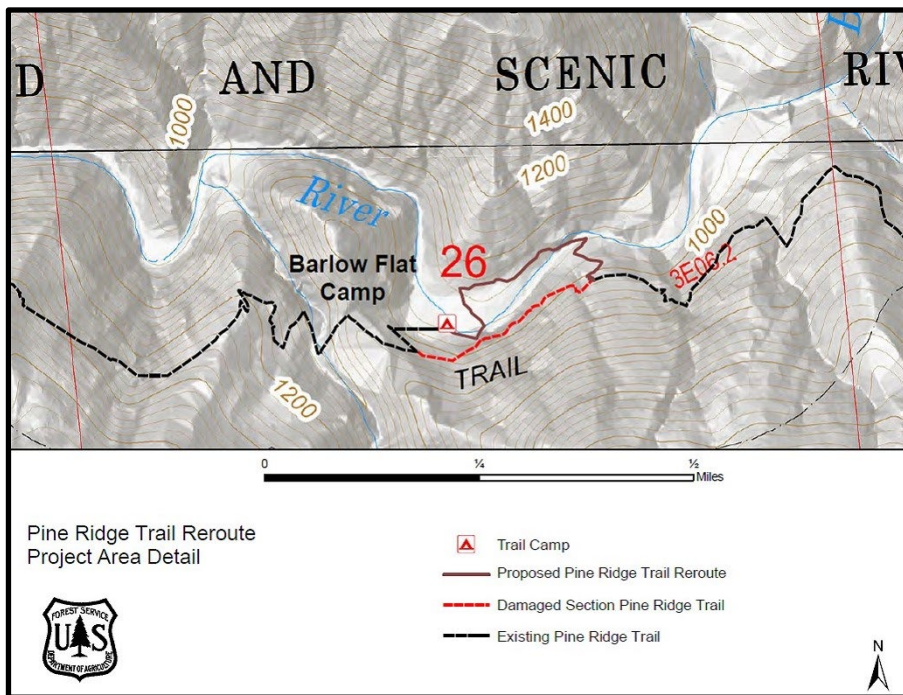


Figure 7. Map of the Pine Ridge Trail Reroute.

Monitoring

The Sierra Club Outfitter and Guide Special Use Permit was analyzed under a categorical exclusion and documented in a decision memo in June 2019. The applicable category of action was identified in agency procedures as “Issuance of a new special use authorization for a new term to replace an existing or expired special use authorization when the only changes are administrative, there are not changes to the authorized facilities or increases in the scope or intensity of authorized activities, and the applicant or holder is in full compliance with the terms and conditions of the special use authorization” (36 CFR 220.6(e)(15)). Resource protections are incorporated into the special use permit. Periodic monitoring will ensure continued compliance.

Conclusion

This action authorizes a five-year outfitter and guide special use permit to the Los Padres Chapter of the Sierra Club to continue teaching wilderness basics courses. This action is consistent with Goal 3.1 as identified in the LMP:

- Goal 3.1 - Provide for Public Use and Natural Resource Protection

Special Use Authorization Issuance for Existing Communications Uses

Project Description

The Los Padres National Forest has over 100 communications facilities with special use authorizations on National Forest System land. These facilities provide communication services to the greater California central coast for the purposes of public safety, emergency response, education, entertainment, information services and general communication. These facilities support communication uses such as microwave, AM/FM radio, television, cellular service, internet service, private and commercial radio services, air traffic control, amateur radio, natural resource monitoring and others. With many of these special use authorizations expired or set to expire, this project analyzes all existing facilities at one time to authorize renewals for a new term.

Monitoring

The action was analyzed under a categorical exclusion and documented in a decision memo completed in April 2019. The applicable category of actions is identified in agency procedures as “Issuance of a new special use authorization for a new term to replace an existing or expired special use authorization when the only changes are administrative, there are not changes to the authorized facilities or increases in the scope or intensity of authorized activities, and the applicant or holder is in full compliance with the terms and conditions of the special use authorization” (36 CFR 220.6(e)(15)). No extraordinary circumstances were identified for the project.

A total of 81 new special use authorizations were issued to holders for the continued use and maintenance of the facilities for up to a 30-year term. The authorizations included either a communications site management plan if located at designated communication sites, or an operation and maintenance plan. These plans stipulate resource protection and fire prevention measures. All



Figure 8. Example of a communication facility

facilities were inspected, and any non-compliance issues were resolved prior to issuance of new authorizations. Ongoing annual field inspections and annual use reports ensure continued compliance and any non-compliance situation is resolved in a reasonable timeframe.

Conclusion

The Special Use Authorization Issuance for Existing Communications Uses project reauthorizes the use of communication facilities across the Los Padres National Forest. These facilities meet desired conditions, applicable standards, have adequate resource protection measures, and are a suitable land use. This project is consistent with Goal 7.1 as identified in the LMP:

- Goal 7.1 - Retain natural areas as a core for a regional network while focusing the built environment into the minimum land area needed to support growing public needs

Tecuya Ridge Shaded Fuelbreak Project

Project Description

The Tecuya Ridge Shaded Fuelbreak Project consists of 1,626 acres of natural timbered stands and brush fields that were identified as priority treatment areas by the Mt. Pinos Community Wildfire Protection Plan and the Los Padres National Forest Strategic Fuelbreak Assessment. The project area currently exhibits stand structures conducive to stand-replacing wildfire events that threaten the well-being of the surrounding communities in Pine Mountain Club, Pinon Pine Estates, Lake of the Woods, and Frazier Park, California. This project aims to create a variable-width shaded fuelbreak along Tecuya Ridge. Treatment areas are strategically placed within the wildland urban interface around these communities and connect with the broader landscape to strengthen treatment effectiveness on adjacent public and private lands. A variety of fuels reduction methods will be used in this project based on the existing conditions of the stands. Such methods may include mechanical and hand thinning, mastication, machine or hand piling, and pile burning.

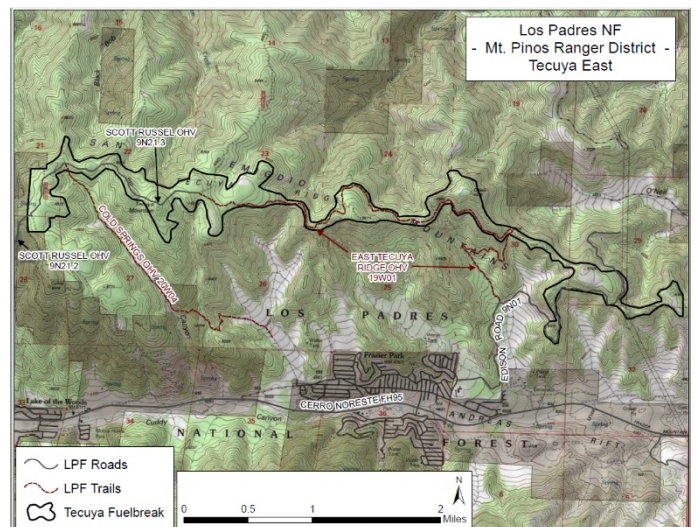


Figure 9. Map of the Tecuya Ridge Shaded Fuelbreak Project

Monitoring

This project was analyzed under a categorical exclusion and documented in a decision memo in April 2019. The applicable category of action is identified in agency procedures as “Timber stand and/or wildlife habitat improvement activities that do not include the use of herbicides or do not require more than 1 mile of low standard road construction 36 CFR 220.6(e)(6)”. Project design features for implementation monitoring are developed from site specific evaluations and based on LMP direction to mitigate or avoid negative impacts. This project is under litigation and a decision from the Ninth Circuit Court is expected sometime in 2021 or 2022.

Conclusion

The Tecuya Ridge Shaded Fuelbreak Project will create a variable-width shaded fuelbreak along Tecuya Ridge to alter existing stand structure, reduce fuel loading, protect local communities, and provide for firefighter safety. This project is consistent with the following goals as identified in the LMP:

- Goal 1.1 - Community Protection. Improve the ability of southern California communities to limit loss of life and property and recover from the high intensity wildland fires that are a natural part of this state's ecosystem.
- Goal 1.2 - Restoration of Forest Health. Restore forest health where alteration of natural fire regimes has put human and natural resource values at risk.

Southern California Edison and Pacific Gas and Electric Master Special Use Authorization Renewal Project Description

Over 140 miles of infrastructure are operated and maintained by Southern California Edison (SCE) and Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) on National Forest System lands across the Pacific Southwest Region. The infrastructure includes poles, towers, buried and overhead distribution and transmission lines, various ancillary equipment, and access roads. Because most of the special use authorizations expired throughout the Pacific Southwest Region, this project coordinated analysis to reissue and administratively combine SCE and PG&E master permits and easements on over 22,000 acres of National Forest System lands.

Monitoring

This project was analyzed under a categorical exclusion and documented in two separate decision memos for SCE and PG&E in February 2019 by the Regional Forester. The applicable category of actions is identified in agency procedures as "Issuance of a new special use authorization for a new term to replace an existing or expired special use authorization when the only changes are administrative, there are not changes to the authorized facilities or increases in the scope or intensity of authorized activities, and the applicant or holder is in full compliance with the terms and conditions of the special use authorization." (36 CFR 220.6(e)(15)). No extraordinary circumstances were identified for the project.



Figure 10. SCE transmission line tower near Montecito Peak

The Regional Forester issued new authorizations for SCE and PG&E facilities and implemented a routine operation and maintenance plan across the entire service area within the Pacific Southwest Region. For the Los Padres National Forest, master special use easements and special use permits for transmission and distribution lines were issued in March 2019 to each company for a new 30-year term. This replaces 17 previous authorizations for SCE and 25 previous authorizations to PG&E. The operation and maintenance plan stipulates resource and fire prevention measures and specifies classes of activities and normal Forest Service response time for reviewing maintenance proposals. All parties emphasize the need for maintenance activities to decrease the likelihood of utility-related fire starts and to protect communities most at risk of a wildfire. Ongoing field inspections and discussions at annual meetings with each company ensure continued compliance and any non-compliance situation is resolved in a reasonable timeframe. As any shortcomings in the operation and maintenance plan are recognized, the plan is updated and implemented region wide.

Conclusion

The renewal and analysis of existing authorizations resulted in a consistent approach to an important business sector across the Pacific Southwest Region and locally on the Los Padres National Forest. This project is consistent with Goal 7.1 as identified in the LMP:

- Goal 7.1 - Retain natural areas as a core for a regional network while focusing the built environment into the minimum land area needed to support growing public needs

Cold Spring Trail (26W10) Mono Jungle Reroute

Project Description

A 1.6-mile section of the Cold Spring Trail crossed a riparian flood plain and created continuous challenges such as, flooding, erosion, trail obstruction, rapid vegetation overgrowth, unnavigable conditions, and additional erosion and sediment deposition from the 2007 Zaca Fire. These challenges required repeated maintenance in sensitive riparian and aquatic habitat.

The Santa Barbara Ranger District partnered with the Los Padres Forest Association to strategically reroute 1.5 miles of trail to a more stable site and reduce human activity in the sensitive flood plain. The reroute is designed to meet Class 3 Pack and Saddle standards, which provide shared use of the trail by pedestrians, equestrians, and mountain bike riders.



Figure 11. Before (left) and after (right) photos of the trail

Monitoring

The Cold Spring Trail Mono Jungle Reroute was analyzed under a categorical exclusion and documented in a decision memo in November 2019. The applicable category of actions is identified in agency procedures as “Construction and reconstruction of trails” 36 CFR 220.6(e)(1).



Figure 12. Before (left) and after (right) views from the reroute. The new trail provides views into Mono Creek, the Santa Ynez River drainages, and the cottonwood forest

The reroute was completed in November 2019 and monitoring occurred throughout the project to ensure resource protection. The Santa Barbara Ranger District resource officer surveyed the trail section before implementation and found a new population of mesa horkelia (*Horkelia cuneata* var. *puberula*), a Forest Service sensitive species that was not previously detected. This monitoring allowed for adaptive trail construction to avoid the mesa horkelia population. Continued monitoring and routine trail maintenance will ensure the trail is sustainable. The historic 1.6 mile section of the trail in the riparian floodplain will now naturally revegetate without human activity.

Conclusion

The Cold Spring Trail Mono Jungle Reroute improved the long-term sustainability of the trail, public safety and protected sensitive riparian and aquatic habitats. The new trail location provides scenic views of the surrounding landscape including one of the most intact cottonwood forests in southern California.

This project conforms to LMP direction Part 2, Transportation 3 - Improve Trails, including the following objectives:

- Construct and maintain the trail network to levels commensurate with area objectives, sustainable resource conditions, and the type and level of use.
- Maintain and/or develop access points and connecting trails linked to surrounding communities and create opportunities for non-motorized trips of short duration.

This project also supports the following Forest Goals:

- Goal 2.1 - Reverse the trend of increasing loss of natural resource values due to invasive species
- Goal 3.1 - Provide for Public Use and Natural Resource Protection
- Goal 5.1 - Improve watershed conditions through cooperative management
- Goal 5.2: Improve riparian conditions
- Goal 6.2 - Provide ecological conditions to sustain viable populations of native and desired nonnative species



Figure 13. Photo of the first section of the reroute moving out of the riparian zone



Figure 14. Photo of the reroute outside of the riparian zone providing outstanding views of the surrounding landscape

Land Management Plan Amendments

The LMP is a dynamic document that can be amended in response to:

- Errors and or discrepancies found during implementation;
- New information;
- Changes in physical conditions;
- New laws, regulations, or policies that affect National Forest management;
- New guidance indicated by application of adaptive management principles.

Significant LMP amendments change guidance or management zoning which, because the LMP is a NEPA document, requires NEPA. This is completed through a project-level NEPA decision that requires an LMP amendment to make the project consistent with the LMP, or directly in a supplemental EIS. Non-significant changes not requiring NEPA include corrections; clarification of intent; changes to monitoring questions; and refinements of management area boundaries to correct GIS inaccuracies. These are simply updates that are posted to the LMP and made public through such means as publishing on the Forest website, as is the case for this document. From the evaluation of monitoring results, no amendments are needed.

Public Participation

The 2019 Los Padres National Forest Land Management Plan Monitoring and Evaluation Report is posted on the Forest website.

List of Contributors

The following individuals participated in the completion of this report either as Part 2 contributors of program area assessments, or as team members in Part 3 project field reviews:

Laura Brown	Steve Galbraith	Valerie Hubbartt
Vicki Collins	Heidi Guenther	Kristie Klose
Diane Cross	Michael Heard	Esther Morgan