4.0 PUBLIC ACCESS AND RECREATION ELEMENT

4.1 OVERVIEW

4.1.1 Planning Context

The Open Space Plan Area contains significant undeveloped coastal acreage on the predominantly urbanized southern California coastline. It is widely recognized for its diverse natural resources, scenic qualities, and recreational opportunities. The existing system of public roads, developed trails, and informal trails provide access to coastal resources for tens of thousands of residents and visitors each year. The lands offer a range of opportunities for hiking, bicycling, horseback riding, butterfly watching, surfing, bird watching, dog walking, and sunbathing, and the enjoyment of a tranquil and unspoiled setting.

Public access and recreation are currently managed by the City of Goleta, the County, the University, and private entities including: Coronado Butterfly Preserve (Land Trust for Santa Barbara County), Ocean Meadows Golf Course (Devereaux Creek Properties), Camino Corto Open Space and Del Sol Vernal Pool Reserve (Isla Vista Recreation and Park District), and Coal Oil Point Reserve (COPR) (University of California Natural Reserve System).

In general, the visitors to the Open Space Plan Area are respectful of natural resources and other users. However, increased visitation over the years and unmanaged access have resulted in a proliferation of informal trails and localized trail and bluff erosion, which in turn have adversely affected sensitive habitat and created public safety hazards. The Open Space Plan Area and COPR contain numerous trails with a wide variety of users, designs, and conditions.

Extensive informal trails occur on the Ellwood Mesa that have been used for decades to access the butterfly groves, coastal bluffs, and the beach. Formal trails have been established at the Coronado Preserve, Del Sol Vernal Pool Preserve, and Camino Corto Open Space. Informal and continually changing trails are present on the South Parcel Nature Park. Only two public trails traverse COPR. Finally, well-worn informal trails are present at Coal Oil Point and West Campus Bluffs Nature Park providing beach access. Currently pedestrians, cyclists, and equestrians frequently use any of these trails.

The Open Space Plan provides policy guidance and a public access management plan to address these issues. The Open Space Plan is based on applicable policies and goals laid out in the Coastal Act and local planning documents.
The Coastal Act seeks to maximize public access to and along the coast, and to maximize public recreation opportunities within the Coastal Zone consistent with resource conservation and the protected rights of private property owners. The Coastal Act specifically addresses the need to distribute public access and recreation throughout an area to protect against overuse or crowding of any single area. It also focuses on the need to maintain, enhance, and, where feasible, restore the biological productivity of coastal resources. Three planning documents have been prepared that address local planning issues and implementation of the Coastal Act: the County Local Coastal Plan, the County’s Goleta Community Plan (GCP), and the University’s Long-Range Development Plan (LRDP). For the County, the Local Coastal Plan and GCP policies apply. For the University, the LRDP spells out its planning policies. The recently-incorporated City of Goleta does not yet have an adopted general plan or certified Local Coastal Program. Until such time as it does have these in place, Goleta’s planning process is governed by the Coastal Act and the regulations of the Coastal Commission.

All of the local planning documents reflect the Coastal Act goals of providing public coastal access, recreational opportunities, programs for protecting coastal resources, and programs for protecting private property rights. They include specific guidance on how these goals can be achieved locally.

The County’s Local Coastal Plan calls for new opportunities for beach access and coastal recreation in the unincorporated portion of the Goleta planning area. It also emphasizes the importance of protecting coastal resources and includes specific policies for protecting butterfly and raptor roosting sites, vernal pools, grasslands, wetlands, riparian habitats, and nesting seabirds.

The Parks, Recreation, and Trails Element of the County’s GCP contains policies, actions, and maps identifying how public coastal access and recreation can be provided to the local community. For example, outdoor and indoor recreational opportunities are encouraged to enhance unincorporated Goleta’s recreational resources and to ensure that current and future recreational needs of residents are met (PRT-GV-1). The provision of recreational opportunities requires consistency with resource conservation principles. Consistent with such principles, the GCP states adequate parking at trailheads should be provided and erosion on existing and new trails should be minimized (PRT-GV-7). Hikers, bicyclists, and equestrians are to remain on cleared pathways, designed to minimize impacts to sensitive habitats. Trails are sited to avoid significant environmental constraints and to minimize user conflicts and conflicts with surrounding land uses (PRT-GV-8).

The PRT Trail map from the GCP displays existing and proposed trails in Goleta Valley, including a proposed Coastal Trail and Anza Trail through the Open Space Plan Area.

The University’s 1990 LRDP contains a map of future coastal access improvements on the West Campus, and numerous policies regarding public access, parking, and recreation on West Campus Bluffs Nature Park, West Campus Mesa, COPR, and campus beaches. Key policies include:
- Provide for parking for coastal access at the north entrance to West Campus (Policy 30210.6)
- Maintain and improve bicycle and pedestrian access to the beach as necessary to protect sensitive habitat areas and public safety (Policy 30210.15)
- Provide for the Coastal Trail on West Campus (Policy 30210.18)
- Provide pedestrian access to the beach from Camino Majorca (Policy 30210.19)
- Maintain existing fences, signs, and information maps around the perimeter of COPR to restrict unauthorized access by pedestrians, dogs, motor vehicles, and bicycles (Policy 30240(a)2)
- Prohibit unleashed dogs on campus beaches (Policy 30240(a)15)

4.1.2 Public Access and Recreation Goals and Policies

The following Public Access and Recreation Goals and Policies will guide the implementation of the Open Space Plan. The sponsoring agencies will formally adopt these goals and policies into their local coastal programs. The City of Goleta will adopt these goals and policies as part of its initial local coastal program. Management actions and projects by each agency associated with the implementation of the Open Space Plan within its jurisdiction must be consistent with these goals and policies.

Goals and Policies

Public Access Goal 1. Provide public access and passive recreation opportunities at the Open Space Plan Area compatible with natural resource protection and the preservation of undeveloped open space, and with the management programs of existing reserves and preserves.

Public Access Policy 1.1. Disperse public access and passive recreation throughout the Open Space Plan Area in order to avoid concentrations of public uses that could conflict with natural resource protection.

Public Access Policy 1.2. Integrate the trail system with existing managed areas and with proposed residential development.

Public Access Policy 1.3. Ensure that public access and public uses in the Open Space Plan Area do not adversely affect resources, programs, and management in the COPR.

Public Access Policy 1.4. Designate public parking for the Open Space Plan Area.

Public Access Policy 1.5. Monitor and evaluate the need to modify public access, recreation use patterns, and visitation levels if the carrying capacity is exceeded and/or significant environmental impacts are occurring.

Public Access Goal 2. Maintain the natural, undeveloped, and scenic character of the Open Space Plan Area while protecting coastal resources.
**Public Access Policy 2.1.** Use trail designs that minimize environmental impacts and are consistent with the character and ambience of natural open space.

**Public Access Policy 2.2.** Prohibit commercial equestrian operations in the Open Space Plan Area (the University Horse Boarders Association at the University stables on West Campus is not a commercial organization and will continue its present functions).

**Public Access Policy 2.3.** Prohibit commercial bicycling operations or other commercial recreation operations in the Open Space Plan Area.

**Public Access Policy 2.4.** Enforce existing dog leash policies, regulations, and ordinances of each sponsoring agency in their jurisdiction.

**Public Access Goal 3.** Maintain the overall historic public access and uses, while providing a variety of passive recreation uses throughout the Open Space Plan Area.

**Public Access Policy 3.1.** Maintain historic public access points to the Open Space Plan Area.

**Public Access Policy 3.2.** Establish and maintain a trail system that recognizes historic trails and uses while managing access to protect natural resources.

**Public Access Policy 3.3.** Manage public access to the Open Space Plan Area in a manner that minimizes conflict with adjacent land uses and neighbors.

**Public Access Goal 4.** Maintain a trail system that provides continuous east-west access across the entire Open Space Plan Area and reduces conflicts among multiple uses.

**Public Access Policy 4.1.** Provide a trail system and design that reduces conflicts among multiple users through routing, physical design, and managed access.

**Public Access Policy 4.2.** Provide for establishment, designation of segments, and construction of the Anza Trail and the California Coastal Trail within the Open Space Plan Area.

### 4.2 PLANNED TRAIL SYSTEM

#### 4.2.1 Overview

The public access and recreation element of this Open Space Plan is based on an integrated trail system (see Figure 12) providing extensive public access while protecting sensitive coastal resources. The trail system is based on the existing network of formal and informal trails in the Open Space Plan Area and COPR. Formal trails have been deliberately designed and improved under the auspices of the City of Goleta, County, University, or other land managers in the open space. Informal trails are existing pathways developed through repeated public use and are not part of a formal planning process. The Anza Trail and Coastal Trail are significant features of the trail system. As discussed in Section 4.2.2, the Anza Trail is part of an overall federal initiative,
whereas the Coastal Trail is part of a state initiative. Within the Open Space Plan Area, the Coastal and Anza Trails form an east-west connection that extends from Isla Vista to Hollister Avenue in western Goleta (see Figure 13).

The trail system is primarily designed for pedestrians; however, trails to accommodate bicycles and equestrian uses are also included. Different trail types are proposed to accommodate these users (Figure 14). A variety of trails provide north-south connections across the Open Space Plan Area, extending from public roads on the north side of the Open Space Plan Area to the beach. The trail system links with trails and bike paths adjacent to the Open Space Plan Area, including the public trails on COPR (the Dune Pond Trail and the connecting trail in the northeast corner of the COPR). Portions of the proposed trail system may be inundated during periods of heavy rain. Alternatives for providing safe passage at such times are presented in Figures 15, 16, and 17 and include boardwalks, bridges, culverts, or alternative routing.

Certain trails will be closed because they traverse environmentally sensitive habitat areas (ESHAs) such as native grasslands, vernal pools, creeks, and/or dune scrub. Other trails will be closed because they are hazardous (i.e., gullies, eroding bluffs) and their continued use exacerbates these problems. In these situations, nearby parallel trails are maintained to provide similar access. In some cases, trails are closed because they are located parallel to, and in close proximity to, other trails. Two new trails are proposed within the Open Space Plan Area – a small trail that connects the southern end of the Comstock Homes Development to the Ellwood Mesa and the Anza Trail connection from the proposed Santa Barbara Shores parking facility (Figure 12).

The trail system will not reduce overall access in the Open Space Plan Area despite the trail closures. The trail closures subtly redirect users to adopt new routes; however, the new routes will be located in close proximity and convenience.

4.2.2 Trail Types by User Group

Pedestrians, Bicyclists, and Equestrians

The trail system presented on Figure 12 shows the trails to be relocated, maintained or improved, or closed. These trails are color-coded by the four user groups: (1) pedestrians only; (2) pedestrians and bicyclists; (3) pedestrians and equestrians; and (4) pedestrians, bicyclists, and equestrians. All four user groups have access to the Anza Trail and Coastal Trail described below (see Figure 13). The Coastal Trail splits around the COPR allowing multi-use to the north along
Venoco Road and pedestrian-only use along Sands Beach in order to minimize disturbances to COPR sensitive coastal resources. Trails will be designated for these user groups through the use of location and design, as well as by signs, maps, and public education. Trail closures will be indicated using a variety of possible methods depending upon the location, such as low-profile signs, vegetation, earthen berms, embedded logs or rocks, and plantings. On University lands, trail markers and low post-and-cable fencing may be used. Over time, closed trails will be restored to natural vegetated conditions either through passive restoration (i.e., natural plant colonization) or by active restoration (i.e., grading, installing plants, and reseeding). A summary of the trail lengths in the Open Space Plan Area is provided below in Table 5.

Pedestrian-only trails, totaling about 5 miles, are restricted to the Ellwood monarch grove trails, in COPR, and at the University South Parcel Nature Park.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trail Type by User Group</th>
<th>City of Goleta</th>
<th>University</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pedestrians</td>
<td>13,810</td>
<td>7,940</td>
<td>4,780</td>
<td>26,530</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pedestrians and Bicyclists</td>
<td>27,550</td>
<td>27,500</td>
<td>3,700</td>
<td>58,760</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pedestrians and Equestrians</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pedestrians, Bicyclists, and Equestrians</td>
<td>7,730</td>
<td>4,280</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>12,010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>49,090</td>
<td>40,720</td>
<td>8,480</td>
<td>98,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trails to be closed</td>
<td>28,700</td>
<td>37,710</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>66,600</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Includes Coronado Preserve; does not include trail through Comstock Homes Development or possible trail through Goleta Unified School District property.
2 Includes public trails on COPR; does not include trail through Faculty Housing or Sierra Madre student housing.
3 Includes Del Sol Vernal Pool Preserve and Camino Corto Open Space. Does not include trail connections with Ocean Meadows Residences.

Combined pedestrian-bicycle trails are the most common trails in the Open Space Plan Area, accounting for about 11 miles or 60 percent of the total. In most areas, pedestrians and bicycles will share a single tread, requiring users to accommodate one another. In other areas, bicyclists will share a wider trail or a road with pedestrians to avoid direct conflict when passing.

Bicycle access will extend from the east side of the Open Space Plan Area (Storke Road, El Colegio, and Camino Majorca) to the north side (Phelps Road) and the west end (Hollister Avenue). Bicycle trails occur along paved roads in the Open Space Plan Area on Devereux Road and Venoco Road. Bicycle trails in the Open Space Plan Area will connect to existing Class II or III bike lanes on public roads at Hollister Avenue, Phelps Road, Storke Road, El Colegio, Camino Corto, and Camino Majorca. The trail width and surface along the pedestrian-bicycle trails are described in Section 4.3. In general, trails for pedestrians and bicyclists on County and University property are improved surfaces that allow for all-weather passage. Pedestrian-bicycle trails in the City of Goleta, however, will not provide all-weather passage for bicyclists. The new trails, constructed as part of the University’s West Campus Bluffs Nature Park, will be designed for pedestrians and bicyclists.

New public access points to the Open Space Plan Area include pedestrian-bicycle trail connections through the proposed Comstock Homes Development site, the proposed
Note: 1) Refer to Figure 12 for trail names and intended use.
2) Existing trail outside Open Space Boundary shown in dashed line.
3) The portion of the Anza Trail on City of Goleta property is not currently designated as an all-weather surface trail. Two alternative trail surfaces are under consideration for this portion of the Anza Trail. Alternative 1 consists of an all-weather surface across the entire Anza Trail within the Open Space Plan area. Alternative 2 calls for the easternmost portion of the trail on Ellwood Mesa (Window Trail) to be surfaced with compacted fines, with an all-weather surface binder. The remainder of the trail, westward on the Ellwood Mesa, is to remain without all-weather surfacing. Alternative 2 also includes extending the all-weather surface south on Trail 14 to Phelps Road to allow road bikes to access Phelps Road from the Open Space Plan Area on an all-weather surface.

Legend

- **Type A** Existing Native Trails
  - Width varies. Designed for pedestrians.

- **Type B** Improved Native Trails
  - Smooth and compact existing surface. Designed for pedestrians.

- **Type C** Improved Trails – Varying Surface
  - Improved existing surface with imported compacted fines in selected areas.

- **Type D** Improved Trails – Uniform Surface
  - Imported compacted fines with or without stabilizer.

- **Type E** Existing Venoco Road

- **Type F** Public Roads
  - Class II or III bike lane.

- **Type G** Anza Trail (Goleta)
  - Imported compacted fines on main trail. Separate equestrian trail with existing native materials.

- **Type H** Anza Trail (University)
  - Imported compacted fines with stabilizer on main trail. Separate equestrian trail with existing native materials.

- **Open Space Plan Boundary**
  - Public access point
  - Proposed new seating or overlook
  - Directive and Interpretive Signs, Mutt Miti Stations, and Trash Cans*
  - Note: Additional signs and trash cans may be considered in the future

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Anza Trail Alternative 1 - all-weather surface for entire length of Anza Trail on City land

Anza Trail Alternative 2 - all-weather surface from Phelps Road south down Trail 14 to connect to Anza Trail 6 on City land

Anza Trail (all-weather surface) on University land

Anza Trail (all-weather surface) on University land

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Figure 16. Anza Trail and Phelps All-Weather Connector Alternatives
University Faculty Housing site, and proposed Ocean Meadows Residences (Figure 12). These trail connections are not part of the Open Space Plan Area and will be maintained by the homeowners associations. If feasible, the existing trail connection across the Goleta Unified School District property along Phelps Ditch will be maintained as part of any future development project on this parcel. The existing pedestrian-bicycle trail connections between West Campus and Del Sol Vernal Pool Preserve/Camino Corto Open Space will be retained.

Equestrian use of the Open Space Plan Area will continue, but the number of trails will be consolidated and relocated to protect ESHAs, remove duplicative trails, and reduce overall trail erosion from equestrian use. Trails designated for equestrians include a wide range of designs, including single tread trails with dirt surfaces and trails with a separate equestrian path. In reaches with a single tread, pedestrians, bicyclists, and equestrians will share the trail. The current equestrian access points are maintained at: (1) the parking lot at Santa Barbara Shores Park at the west end of the Open Space Plan; and (2) the stables on the West Campus Mesa. The equestrian trail system provides a trail loop on Ellwood Mesa. The existing equestrian access trail to the beach is maintained immediately west of COPR (Access Point D on Figure 12) on University property. Hence, horseback riders on the beach enter and exit the beach at the same location. A sign will be posted at Access Point D directing all equestrians to use the beach area to the northwest, and indicating horses are restricted from heading southeast into the COPR near western snowy plover breeding habitat.

The University Horse Boarders Association often cool down their horses by following a loop around the West Campus. The loop starts south from the horse stables, along the edge of West Campus Point Lane (west of University Faculty housing), down to the West Campus Bluffs Nature Park, and then returns to the stables. While this route is not designated as a formal equestrian trail in the Open Space Plan, this practice will continue under University authority as long as it is safe and there is no significant damage to natural resources.

The trail system in COPR is independently managed in accordance with its recent COPR Draft Management Plan. Three public trails will be maintained through COPR: (1) along the shoulder of Devereux Road; (2) the Dune Pond Trail that extends from Venoco Road to the beach; and (3) a small pedestrian and equestrian trail west of Devereux Road that provides access to Venoco Road (Figure 12).

New, formal trails will be established as part of the University’s South Parcel Nature Park and West Campus Bluff Nature Parks.

Seven public access trails to the beach in the Open Space Plan Area and COPR will be maintained and/or improved, as shown on Figure 12 and listed in Table 6.

**Juan Bautista de Anza Trail**

The Juan Bautista de Anza Trail (Anza Trail) is the primary east-west trail across the Open Space Plan Area (Figure 13). The trail is designated as a segment of the National Historic Trail System administered by the National Park Service (NPS).
Table 6. Summary of Beach Access Trails

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Beach Access Point</th>
<th>Jurisdiction</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Camino Majorca</td>
<td>County</td>
<td>Existing stairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;X&quot; West Campus Bluffs Nature Park (&quot;Jailhouse&quot;)</td>
<td>University</td>
<td>Informal trail to be improved with stairs or ramp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Sands Beach</td>
<td>University (COPR)</td>
<td>Informal trail to be improved with stairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Dune Pond Trail</td>
<td>University (COPR)</td>
<td>Informal trail to be improved with boardwalk at end of trail at the beach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Windrow Trail</td>
<td>University</td>
<td>Informal trail to be improved with ramp that can accommodate horses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. Elwood East</td>
<td>Goleta</td>
<td>Existing eroded paved ramp to be repaired</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F. Elwood Central</td>
<td>Goleta</td>
<td>Existing eroded earthen trail to be repaired</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Access Point "G – Elwood West" is not proposed to be improved.

Juan Bautista de Anza was a Spanish captain who, in 1775, was charged with the task of traveling to and occupying the port of San Francisco on behalf of the Viceroy of New Spain. The Spanish hoped to use this expedition to secure their outposts along the northern California Coast. Anza’s 1775-1776 expedition successfully opened an overland route for trade and emigration from Sonora, Mexico, to San Francisco. In 1990, Congress designated the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail and authorized the NPS to administer it. This trail commemorates the route Anza took and highlights the Spanish colonial influence on Arizona and California. The NPS works with national, state, and local entities to establish segments of the Anza Trail. When completed, the Anza Trail will stretch from Nogales, Mexico, to San Francisco, California, a distance of over 1,200 miles. Along the way are historic sites, including presidios, missions, adobes, and museums.

Within the Open Space Plan Area, the Anza Trail accommodates pedestrians, bicyclists, and equestrians. It will provide connections to many trails within the Open Space Plan Area, as well as to bike routes and trail designations outside of the Open Space Plan Area.

The Anza Trail extends westward from a public trailhead at West Campus Mesa across the entire Open Space Plan Area to a new parking lot at Santa Barbara Shores Park near Hollister Avenue. On University lands, the trail coincides with the existing paved Venoco Road for most of its length, which provides sufficient width on the paved surface and shoulders for multiple use without direct conflicts. At the western terminus of Venoco Road, the Anza Trail on both University and City of Goleta lands has an improved surface and a separate tread for equestrians. The surface is stabilized with a binder to allow all-weather access for bicyclists on University lands only.
The City of Goleta will monitor the use of the Anza Trail on City property to determine if an all-weather surface for bicyclists is necessary or appropriate for all or some of the trail in the future. This plan also includes an alternative that the City of Goleta will evaluate, in which an all-weather surface for bicyclists would be provided on the Windrow Trail (Trail 14 on Figure 12) and a boardwalk across Devereux Creek to provide access to Phelps Road for bicyclists (Trail 12 on Figure 16).

**The Coastal Trail**

In 1976 the Coastal Act was enacted, creating both the California Coastal Commission and the State Coastal Conservancy. The Commission and Conservancy encouraged the 1979 Coastal Public Access Program that calls for “a trail linking state parks, federal recreation areas, and other areas of significance located in coastal areas.”

The California Coastal Trail (Coastal Trail) resulted from this program and provides a network of publicly accessible trails for walkers, bikers, equestrians, wheelchair riders, and other users along the California coast. In 2001, the state legislature passed ACR20 and SB908 that provide a resolution for completing the Coastal Trail, and a mandate for mapping the existing segments and estimating the costs for completing missing segments.

Roughly 80 percent of the trail has been completed. Running about 1,200 miles from the Oregon-California border to the California-Mexico border, the trail mainly hugs the coast, except where prevented by topography or restricted property. The Coastal Trail is intended to be a network of publicly accessible trails for pedestrians, bikers, and equestrians.

The City of Goleta, University, and County have identified a Coastal Trail segment within the Open Space Plan Area as shown on Figure 13. The Coastal Trail runs east-west across the Open Space Plan Area from Hollister Avenue to the west, across Ellwood Mesa, splitting north and south around the COPR. The northern split is combined with the Anza Trail along Venoco Road and ties into the existing designated Coastal Trail at Storke Road. The southern split includes a beach segment to Sands Beach where the trail will enter the West Campus Bluffs Nature Park and tie into the existing designated Coastal Trail at Del Playa Road.

The trail is primarily designed for pedestrian use on Ellwood Mesa and on the coastal beaches. The beach portion of the Coastal Trail is intended to avoid the COPR. Signs will be posted requesting that pedestrians remain as close to the water line as possible in order to minimize disturbances to COPR sensitive coastal resources. Portions of the trail on Ellwood Mesa and West Campus Bluffs Nature Park are designed for pedestrians and bicycles. A portion of the Coastal Trail located along the West Campus Bluffs Nature Park accommodates wheelchair access.

**4.3 TRAIL DESIGN OPTIONS**

A variety of trail designs will be considered by the sponsoring agencies during the implementation of the Open Space Plan. The trail types presented here are indicative of the types of widths, surfaces, and treads that will be considered to best fit the trails into the natural
environment. In developing these trail types, careful consideration has been given to resource management and protection, location, use type, volume, visual, cost, maintenance, and safety factors. In all cases, the approach has been to avoid large unsightly stretches of asphalt or concrete foreign to the natural, scenic experience of the Open Space Plan Area. Eight trail types identified are summarized below in Table 7 and presented on Figure 14. Cross-sections of the trail designs are shown on Figure 18.

### Table 7. Summary of Trail Design Options

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Descriptor</th>
<th>Main Trail Width</th>
<th>Surface</th>
<th>Separate Treads</th>
<th>All-Weather for Bicyclists?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Existing Native Trail</td>
<td>Varies, typically 1'-3'</td>
<td>Existing surface</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Improved Native Trails</td>
<td>Varies, typically 3'-4'</td>
<td>Existing surface compacted, smoothed, and crowned</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Improved Trails – Varying Surface</td>
<td>6'-8'</td>
<td>Existing surface with selected areas of imported compacted fines – smoothed, compacted, and crowned; 2' shoulders</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Improved Trails – Uniform Surface</td>
<td>10'-12'</td>
<td>Existing surface with imported compacted fines – smoothed, compacted, and crowned; 2' shoulders</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>Existing Venoco Road</td>
<td>12' road; 2'-3' shoulders</td>
<td>Paved road; dirt or paved shoulders on one side of road, alternating sides</td>
<td>For bikes and horses</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Public Roads</td>
<td>Road varies; Class II or III lanes</td>
<td>Paved road and bike lanes; sometimes a sidewalk</td>
<td>For bikes only</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>Anza Trail (Goleta)</td>
<td>6'-8'</td>
<td>Imported compacted fines on main trail; native materials on 3'-4' equestrian tread; 2' shoulders</td>
<td>For equestrians</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H</td>
<td>Anza Trail (University)</td>
<td>6'-8'</td>
<td>Imported compacted fines and stabilizer on main trail; native materials on 3'-4' equestrian tread; 2' shoulders</td>
<td>For equestrians</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The preliminary application of the various trail designs to the trail system is shown on Figure 14. A summary of the lengths of the various trail designs is provided in Table 8. Most trails on Ellwood Mesa will be the existing 2 to 3-foot-wide dirt trails with little to no grooming (Trail Type A). The other typical trail type on the Mesa will be the existing 3 to 4-foot-wide dirt trails lightly groomed, crowned, and compacted (Trail Type B). In essence, these trails are very similar to most of the existing trails but have some light trail maintenance. Where damage is severe, these trails will be repaired by smoothing the surface, crowning the trail to promote water drainage off the trail, filling in ruts and gullies, and better defining the edge of the trail.

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Trail Type A: Existing Native Trails
Width varies. Designed for pedestrians.

Trail Type B: Improved Native Trails
Smooth and compact existing surface. Designed for pedestrians.

Trail Type C: Improved Trails - Varying Surface
Improved existing surface with imported compacted fines in selected areas.

Trail Type D: Improved Trails - Uniform Surface
Imported compacted fines with or without stabilizer.

Trail Type E: Existing Veneco Road

Trail Type F: Public Roads
Class II or III bike lane.

Trail Type G: Anza Trail (Goleta)
Imported compacted fines on main trail. Separate equestrian trail with existing native materials.

Trail Type H: Anza Trail (University)
Imported compacted fines with stabilizer on main trail. Separate equestrian tread with existing native materials.

Trails at the University may include the trail markers and post-and-cable fencing in the sensitive habitat areas.

Credit: Wallace Roberts & Todd, LLC

March 2004
Ellwood-Devereux Coast
Open Space and Habitat Management Plan

Figure 18. Cross Sections of Trail Types
### Table 8. Lengths (feet) of Trail Design Options*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trail Type</th>
<th>Descriptor</th>
<th>City of Goleta</th>
<th>University</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Existing Native Trail</td>
<td>39,330</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>39,330</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Improved Native Trails</td>
<td>320</td>
<td>7,750</td>
<td>4,780</td>
<td>12,850</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Improved Trails – Varying Surface</td>
<td>220</td>
<td>13,680</td>
<td>3,110</td>
<td>17,010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Improved Trails – Uniform Surface</td>
<td>1,250</td>
<td>6,200</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>7,720</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>Existing Venoco Road</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3,120</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3,120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Existing Public Roads Inside Open Space Plan Area</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>7,630</td>
<td>260</td>
<td>7,890</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>Anza Trail (Goleta)</td>
<td>7,700</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>7,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H</td>
<td>Anza Trail (University)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1,930</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1,930</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boardwalks</td>
<td>Two at University, one in Goleta</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>430</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Culverts or span bridges</td>
<td>Three in Goleta, one at University</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>49,140</strong></td>
<td><strong>40,530</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,490</strong></td>
<td><strong>98,160</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*The lengths of the trail design options shown on Figure 14 are presented above. Trail improvements will occur in an incremental manner as this Open Space Plan is implemented, pending available funding.

1 Includes Coronado Preserve and Goleta Neighborhood Trails. Does not include possible trail through Goleta Unified School District property or trail through Comstock Homes Development.

2 Includes public trails on COPR, South Parcel, and West Campus Bluffs Nature Parks. Does not include trail through Faculty Housing.

3 Includes Camino Corto Open Space and Del Sol Vernal Pool Preserve. Does not include Ocean Meadow trail connection.

In limited areas where use is high and there is room for expansion without harming environmental resources, trails are proposed to be 6 to 12 feet wide and surfaced with imported local material, compacted to the minimum degree necessary for proper construction (Trail Types C and D). A number of these types of trails currently exist at botanical gardens, natural reserves, and at the University's open spaces. On selected portions of University lands, trail surfaces would include a stabilizer with compacted imported material to provide an all-weather surface for bicyclists (Trail Type D). Stabilizers include biodegradable sealants that make trails durable, smooth, require less maintenance, and in some cases, accessible to wheelchairs users.

Trail Types E and F represent existing paved roads in or adjacent to the Open Space Plan Area. The most developed trails are Types G and H which are designed for the Anza Trail. They include a 6 to 8-foot-wide main trail with compacted imported fines and a separate equestrian tread. The main trail would have a stabilizer on University lands, but not in Goleta.

**Alternatives and Options**

The City of Goleta is considering three boardwalks and a stair alternative across Devereux Creek and associated wet or eroded areas in the Ellwood Main Grove, and are described in more detail in Section 4.6 (Figure 15). These boardwalks would be in addition to the proposed bridges across Devereux Creek and would provide improved public access into the butterfly...
aggregations. The need, location, design, and timing of these boardwalks would be considered as funding allows.

The portion of the Anza Trail on City of Goleta property is not designated as an all-weather surface trail. Two alternative trail surfaces are under consideration for this portion of the Anza Trail and are shown on Figure 16. Alternative 1 consists of an all-weather surface across the entire Anza Trail within the Open Space Plan Area. Alternative 2 calls for the easternmost portion of the trail on Ellwood Mesa (Windrow Trail) to be surfaced with compacted fines, with an all-weather surface binder. The remainder of the trail, westward on the Ellwood Mesa, is to remain without all-weather surfacing. Alternative 2 also includes extending the all-weather surface binder north on Trail 14 to Phelps Road to allow road bikes to access Phelps Road from the Open Space Plan Area on an all-weather surface.

The University is considering several trail design options to provide users access on the Anza Trail from Venoco Road to Devereux Road located on the northeast portion of the COPR at the edge of Devereux Slough. Currently, small, eroded trails traverse the steep bank of the northeastern portion of the slough providing a connection between Venoco Road and Devereux Road. Modifications of the existing system are required in order to accommodate the multi-use function of the Anza Trail and to repair erosion. Three options exist for connecting users between Venoco Road and Devereux Road. One option is to improve the existing dirt path by raising its grade where the trail intersects the upper margin of Devereux Slough to set it back from the salt marsh and above low flow stages. A culvert would likely be required in order to redirect runoff from the dirt path and into the slough. A second option is to construct a boardwalk across the upper margin of Devereux Slough for pedestrians and cyclists only with an adjacent dirt path for equestrians. A third option is to construct a boardwalk across the upper margin of Devereux Slough that could accommodate all three user groups (see Figure 17).

4.4 PUBLIC ACCESS POINTS

Public access to the Open Space Plan Area will occur at 21 trailheads listed in Table 9. The existing pedestrian trail connections between the Ellwood Main Grove and Coronado Preserve will be maintained.
### Table 9. Public Access Points to the Open Space Plan Area

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Access Location</th>
<th>Jurisdiction</th>
<th>Pedestrian Access</th>
<th>Bicycle Access</th>
<th>Equestrian Access</th>
<th>On-Street Parking</th>
<th>New Off-Street Parking</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Comstock Homes Development</td>
<td>City</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hollister Ave/</td>
<td>City</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pebble Beach Drive</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Santa Barbara Shores Park Trailhead</td>
<td>City</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anchor Drive</td>
<td>City</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Santa Barbara Shores Drive</td>
<td>City</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newport Drive (3 locations)</td>
<td>City</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coronado Drive (3 locations)</td>
<td>City</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canon Green Drive (Faculty Housing Trailhead)</td>
<td>University</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phelps Road (Phelps Ditch Trailhead)</td>
<td>University</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Storke Road (2) (Ocean Meadows Residences)</td>
<td>County</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>El Colegio/West Campus North Entrance</td>
<td>University</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University Stables</td>
<td>University</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coal Oil Point Trailhead (terminus)</td>
<td>University</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Del Sol Vernal Pool Preserve</td>
<td>County</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Camino Majorca Trailhead</td>
<td>County</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Campus Bluffs Trailhead</td>
<td>University</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>n/a</strong></td>
<td><strong>21</strong></td>
<td><strong>12</strong></td>
<td><strong>2</strong></td>
<td><strong>6</strong></td>
<td><strong>6</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 4.5 PARKING

Public parking for access to the Open Space Plan Area will occur either in existing on-street parking locations or in new public parking lots. Existing on-street parking is available on four residential streets north of the Ellwood Grove – Anchor Drive, Santa Barbara Shores Drive, Newport Drive, and Coronado Drive. Over 300 spaces are available on these streets during weekends. More spaces are available on weekdays. Anecdotal observations from residents
indicate that on-street parking is readily available during the peak monarch-viewing season. If the City of Goleta in the future determines to eliminate public on-street parking due to user conflicts, the City will seek options to provide replacement public parking in the area.

Six new or modified parking lots will be dedicated to the Open Space Plan Area and coastal access, as shown on Figure 14 and summarized below. Conceptual layouts for the parking lots are shown on Figures 19 through 25. The City of Goleta will construct a new public parking lot adjacent to the Comstock Homes Development site (Figure 19). It will contain 40 spaces, including three spaces for horse trailers and two for handicap vehicle parking. A restroom will be provided, as described in Section 4.6. The parking lot and restroom facility will be closed at night. The City of Goleta's new parking facility would tie into the combined Anza/Coastal Trails.

The University will construct a 12-space parking lot within the Faculty Housing Site at the end of Phelps Road (Figure 20) which will be closed at night. In addition, 12 on-street spaces are dedicated to coastal access along the main road in the Faculty Housing site. This parking facility ties into the Open Space Plan Area at Trail 12 along Phelps Road.

The existing parking lot at the north entrance to West Campus Mesa will be improved to provide 20 spaces for coastal access (Figure 21). This parking lot will tie into the Anza Trail to the north via a small connector trail and tie into Storke Road via a small trail spur. The University is proposing to modify the existing Coal Oil Point parking lot by providing 20 coastal access spaces, and 30 special permit spaces for University uses. The parking lot would be closed at night. A restroom would be provided to replace the temporary facility and would also be closed at night (Figure 22). The University is proposing an option of not providing these coastal access spaces at Coal Oil Point due to concerns about increased access to the COPR and the western snowy plover areas at Sands Beach.

A new 20- or 40-space parking lot will be constructed at the eastern edge of the West Campus Bluffs Nature Park (Figures 23 and 24) next to Camino Majorca in Isla Vista. A 20-space parking lot would be constructed if a 20-space lot is built at Coal Oil Point. If no public parking facilities are built at Coal Oil Point, the parking facility at West Campus Bluffs Nature Park would be doubled to 40 spaces to accommodate coastal users. The lot will be heavily screened from residential areas, unlighted, closed at night, and patrolled by University parking representatives and local and University law enforcement.

The County will designate the western side of Camino Majorca from Del Playa Drive to Pasado Road (perpendicular parking) and the eastern side of Camino Majorca from Del Playa Drive to Trigo Road (parallel parking) for coastal access (Figure 25). These on-street spaces are currently unregulated and used for coastal access as well as resident parking.

The total number of new off-street and on-street parking under the Open Space Plan would range from 218 spaces to 253 spaces, depending upon the alternatives selected by the City of Goleta and the University (see Table 10). At present time, about 38 off-street spaces are available in the Open Space Plan Area, so the net increase would range from 113 to 148 spaces.
Note:
This parking layout illustrates major elements and concepts. Not intended for construction purposes.

Summary of Conceptual Parking Layout Components

1. 35 public parking spaces. Access from Hollister Avenue.
2. 3 horse trailer parking spaces for equestrians.
3. 2 handicap spaces.
4. Trailhead for Anza Coastal Trail located at Hollister Avenue entrance and parking area.
5. Possible expansion including 35 more spaces.

Image Source: AirPhotoUSA, September 2002, 2' Resolution

Credit: City of Goleta and URS Corporation

March 2004  Ellwood-Devereux Coast Open Space and Habitat Management Plan  Figure 19. Conceptual Layout for Santa Barbara Shores Parking Lot
This parking layout illustrates major elements and concepts. Not intended for construction purposes.

Summary of Conceptual Parking Layout Components

1. 20 public parking spaces located to the rear of Cameron Hall. Access from Devereux Road.
2. Horse trailer parking for equestrians located at UCSB stables.
3. Barrier/fence at edge of parking area to restrict vehicular access.
4. Trailheads for Anza Coastal Trail located at Devereux Road entrance and parking area.

Credit: Wallace Roberts & Todd, LLC
Summary of Conceptual Parking Layout Components

1. 20 parking spaces located within existing parking area. 30 existing permit spaces for Cliff House to remain.
2. No horse trailer parking provided.
3. Barrier/fencing at edge of parking area to restrict vehicular access.
4. Trailhead for West Campus Bluff Trail located at parking area.
5. Restrooms provided at parking area.

This parking layout illustrates major elements and concepts. Not intended for construction purposes.

Figure 22. Conceptual Layout for Coal Oil Point Parking
Summary of Conceptual Parking Layout Components

1. 20 public spaces located to the west of existing Eucalyptus windrow.
2. One-way access aligns with existing roadways perpendicular to Camino Majorca.
3. No horse trailer parking provided.
4. Barrier/fence at edge of parking area to restrict vehicular access.
5. Heavy planting to screen parking from views.
6. Trailhead for West Campus Bluff trail located at parking area.
7. County parking plan for Camino Majorca

Note
This parking layout illustrates major elements and concepts. Not intended for construction purposes.
Note
This parking layout illustrates major elements and concepts. Not intended for construction purposes.

Summary of Conceptual Parking Layout Components
1. 40 public spaces located to the west of existing Eucalyptus windrow.
2. One-way access aligns with existing roadways perpendicular to Camino Majorca.
3. No horse trailer parking provided.
4. Barrier/fence at edge of parking area to restrict vehicular access.
5. Heavy planting to screen parking from views.
6. Trailhead for West Campus Bluff trail located at parking area.
7. County parking plan for Camino Majorca indicated on Figure 25.

Figure 24. Conceptual Layout for West Campus Bluffs Parking 40 Spaces
50 on-street perpendicular unpaved spaces posed for coastal access parking (daytime only)

15 on-street parallel spaces posed for coastal access parking (daytime only)

West Campus Bluffs Open Space Area

Proposed University West Campus Bluffs Parking Lot (20 space option). See Figure 23.

Pasado Road
Tango Road
Sabado Tarde Road
Del Playa Drive
Table 10. Summary of Open Space Parking Facilities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parking Lot</th>
<th>Jurisdiction</th>
<th>Coastal Access Parking - Existing</th>
<th>Coastal Access Parking - Proposed Off-Street</th>
<th>Coastal Access Parking - Proposed On-Street</th>
<th>Handicap Spaces(^1)</th>
<th>Horse Trailer Spaces(^2)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Santa Barbara Shores Parking Lot (Figure 19)</td>
<td>City of Goleta</td>
<td>18 off-street (to be removed)</td>
<td>40 (with up to 35 more if needed)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Parking at Faculty Housing Site (end of Phelps Road) (Figure 20)</td>
<td>University</td>
<td>20+ (unregulated off-street parking)</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>12 (within housing site)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Campus Mesa Parking Lot (Figure 21)</td>
<td>University</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conceptual Layout for Coal Oil Point Parking Lot (Figure 22)</td>
<td>University</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>20 (alternative = no coastal access parking)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conceptual Layout for West Campus Bluffs Nature Park Parking (Figures 23 and 24)</td>
<td>University</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>20 (alternative = 40 spaces if no parking at Coal Oil Point)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County On-Street Parking at Camino Majorca (Figure 25)</td>
<td>County</td>
<td>Informal on-street parking, but not dedicated to coastal access</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>50 on west side, and 15 on east side dedicated to coastal access</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

|                                    |                  | Total               | 18 | 112 | 77   | 8   | 3 |

\(^1\) Excludes on-street parking in the Ellwood Shores neighborhood.
\(^2\) Included in proposed off-street parking total.

Parking lots will be designed consistent with the rural and natural character of the Open Space Plan Area. They will have all-weather surfaces using natural materials such as compacted crushed rock with a binding agent to avoid rutting and dust. Parking areas will be restricted to daytime use; hence, street lights will not be provided. However, there will be low-intensity shielded security lighting at the two new restrooms. Parking areas will be landscaped with native vegetation to visually integrate them with the Open Space Plan Area.

The University Horse Boarders Association members are permitted to park two to three horse-trailers near the West Campus horse stables. In addition, three horse-trailer spaces will be provided for individual equestrian users at the Santa Barbara Shores parking facility.

### 4.6 OPEN SPACE AMENITIES

A limited amount of other facilities is provided in the Open Space Plan Area to better accommodate users. Low-profile signs identify permitted uses, direct people where to walk, how to protect resources, and increase their understanding of the environment. Natural barriers establish protection for sensitive plants and animals, and in some places small bridges and boardwalks will be constructed to protect sensitive habitats such as dunes and riparian areas. Benches will be located at scenic locations within the Open Space Plan Area. These public amenities will be established by the sponsoring agencies over time, as trails are improved.
throughout the area, parking facilities constructed, and the University completes the Nature Parks at the South Parcel and West Campus Bluffs. Preliminary numbers and locations of these features are shown on Figure 26.

**Signs**

A signage program will be implemented for the Open Space Plan Area as an integral component of the habitat protection, trail design, and access program. The overall intent of the signage program is to assist and inform visitors from three points of view: regulatory, directional, and informational. Some parts of the Open Space Plan Area and reserves already have signage programs that serve as good examples. For example, there are numerous signs to inform and educate visitors at COPR, Del Sol, and Camino Corto. The level of signage in the Open Space Plan Area, particularly on Ellwood Mesa, is likely to be much less than at these locations. The signage program for the entire Open Space Plan Area should be as coordinated and consistent as possible, though it need not be identical in appearance.

The number and location of signs will be developed as needed during the design of the following projects: (1) the trails and parking facilities in each agency’s jurisdiction; (2) South Parcel and West Campus Bluffs Nature Parks; and (3) habitat restoration projects.

Initially only trailhead signs will be installed, as shown on Figure 26. These signs provide general information about the Open Space Plan Area, dedicated coastal access locations, appropriate usage, and guidance about protecting the environment and respecting other users. In addition to signs, informational brochures and maps will be available at trailheads.

Other signs will be designed and installed as determined necessary by each sponsoring agency in their area of jurisdiction. Possible additional signs may include the following:

- Trail markers identifying the trail name, length, permitted uses, directional indicator, and distances
- Trail closure signs with information on detours
- “Rules-of-the-trail” that describe right-of-way rules for pedestrians, equestrians, and cyclists
- Habitat protection signs, hazardous areas, and interpretive signs

A sign will be posted at Access Point D directing all equestrians to use the beach area to the northwest and indicating that horses are restricted from heading southeast onto the COPR near the western snowy plover breeding habitat.

**Trail Markers, Barriers, and Fences**

Where it is necessary to close a trail segment, environmentally appropriate methods will be used for the given locations. These methods include low-profile signs, earthen berms, embedded logs or rocks, and plantings.
Most of the Ellwood Mesa area in the City of Goleta would remain as is. Certain trails in the Ellwood Main Grove contain low-profile rope fences with signs prohibiting horses and bicycles, and advising visitors on appropriate uses of the area. This trail fencing and signage will be maintained and possibly expanded in the Ellwood Main Grove.

On University lands, trail markers and barriers may be used to keep users on trails and avoid adjacent ESHAs and off-trail portions of the COPR. Trail markers would be short (less than 36 inches) single-post parkers (recycled material, wood, or faux wood concrete). Trail barriers to prevent access to sensitive habitat areas would include large stones, plantings, logs, and low-profile post-and-rail fencing. Post-and-rail or post-and-cable fencing may be used around the perimeter of new parking facilities.

**Restrooms**

Two permanent public restroom facilities will be constructed. One facility provided in the future by the City of Goleta at the new parking lot at Santa Barbara Shores; the other restroom at Coal Oil Point on the University jurisdiction will replace the current temporary restroom facility at Coal Oil Point. The City of Goleta restroom will be tied into existing services for power and sewage. The University restroom will be self-contained, requiring no hookups to external services. The specific designs of the restrooms have not been determined at this time; however, they will conform to the natural character of the Open Space Plan Area and generally be of the same character as is found at state and local parks. The restrooms will be closed at night.

**Boardwalks, Span Bridges, and Trail Culverts**

Bridges and/or boardwalks are proposed in some wetland and riparian areas for resource protection and public safety. A pedestrian-only boardwalk is proposed by the University west of the Devereux Slough, on the Dune Pond Trail where it crosses a wetland area near the beach terminus. This boardwalk will be designed, constructed, and maintained in careful consultation with the COPR.

The City of Goleta proposes a boardwalk or prefabricated span bridge along the Windrow Trail (Trail 14, see Figure 16) that will provide pedestrian and bicycle access to the Anza Trail in the event that there is demand for all-weather bicycle access along the Anza Trail. The boardwalk would span Devereux Creek, and connect to a multi-user trail on Goleta property at the end of Phelps Road.
The City of Goleta proposes one or more boardwalks, or prefabricated pedestrian span bridges, to traverse portions of Devereux Creek and associated wet or eroded areas in the Ellwood Main Grove where numerous visitors congregate to see the butterflies (see Figure 15). The need, location, design, and construction schedule for these boardwalks will be considered after monitoring trail use in the grove, once interpretive signs and trail barriers have been installed.

Pipe or small box culverts about 24 to 30 inches in diameter will be installed along Devereux Creek and a tributary to the creek at the west end of the Open Space Plan Area and Santa Barbara Shores in the City of Goleta (see Figure 12) to allow safe passage over the drainages in the winter and to reduce ongoing erosion.

**Boardwalk and Stair Alternatives/Options**

The University proposes two wooden boardwalk options in the Open Space Plan Area to cross wetland areas and to protect these habitats. The boardwalks shown on Figures 12, 14, and 17 include a boardwalk along the northeast corner of the Devereux Slough to provide pedestrian, bicyclist, and equestrian access from Devereux Road and a trail along the perimeter of the slough to Venoco Road. This boardwalk would be part of the Anza Trail on University lands. The City of Goleta has a wooden stair/boardwalk alternative near the Main Monarch Grove across Devereux Creek that would tie into the proposed bridge spans.

The existing twin 24-inch drainage pipes and concrete barrier over Devereux Creek (called an “Arizona” crossing that separates the creek from the Devereux Slough at the southern edge of the Ocean Meadows Golf Course) would be replaced with a 42-foot x 60-inch box culvert to restore the creek flows into the Slough, with the intention of reducing sedimentation and improving natural hydrologic function of the creek-slough system. The University proposes to construct the box culvert in coordination with the COPR.

The specific design, size, and materials of the boardwalks, span bridges, and trail culverts have not been determined at this time.

**Benches and Scenic Overlooks**

Benches are proposed along the trail routes for the public as well as to direct users to areas where there is less environmental impact. Twelve existing wooden benches are located along the bluffs at West Campus Bluffs Nature Park and Coal Oil Point, providing rest stops and scenic overlooks (Figure 26). Several other benches are located in the COPR. No benches are initially proposed on the Ellwood Mesa, but should funds become available, the City of Goleta will add some. Figure 26 suggests appropriate locations. Rustic wooden benches, such as split log benches, will be used. The overlooks at West Campus Bluffs Nature Park will be wheelchair accessible from the new parking lot.

**Amphitheater**

A simple outdoor amphitheater is planned at the University’s South Parcel Nature Park, shown on Figures 10 and 26, to provide a place for small groups (e.g., 10 to 30 persons) to gather for educational purposes and to hear talks and see demonstrations about the plants, animals, and
ecology of the Open Space Plan Area. The size, layout, and design of the amphitheater will be similar to existing facilities at the NRS Carpinteria Salt Marsh and University's Manzanita Village. These facilities are low-profile structures that blend-in with the landscape and are constructed with natural materials such as earth, rock, and wood.

**Trash Cans, Mutt Mitt Stations, Horse Tail Bags**

One of the ongoing maintenance issues related to the Open Space Plan Area will be keeping it free of trash and animal waste. Uncontained trash attracts rodents, crows, and other pests that can harm indigenous species, while the dog manure can contribute to fecal coliform levels in surface water runoff. Horse manure can spread exotic weed seeds. As the Open Space Plan is implemented, the sponsoring agencies will monitor trash and dog waste and then determine the need, if any, and location of additional trash cans and mutt mitt stations.

The following parking facilities at the Open Space Plan Area will have trash cans and mutt mitt stations: Santa Barbara Shores, Faculty Housing, West Campus Mesa, and West Campus Bluffs Nature Park (Figure 26). Trash cans are located at Sands Beach and managed by COPR as an element of its Western Snowy Plover Management Program.

The University Horse Boarders Association routinely removes and will continue to remove horse manure from the current equestrian trails on West Campus and Ellwood Mesa. If horse manure becomes a significant ecological or public health issue from these riders, the sponsoring agencies may require tail bags on horses, redirect the equestrian activities to more appropriate locations, or prohibit the use.

### 4.7 PUBLIC USES

#### 4.7.1 Allowable Uses

There are a number of uses that are compatible and others that are incompatible with the ecological, scenic, and recreational character of the Open Space Plan Area. Public information on allowable and unallowable uses will be provided on signs at trailheads, and in other educational, orientation, and publicity information. Each agency will use their existing authority to regulate incompatible uses. However, existing managed areas will continue to define allowable uses within their boundaries. In some cases, certain uses may be allowed through a permit process with the affected agency. A permit system for such uses should be established including a formal application, an evaluation process, enforceable conditions to protect natural resources,
and other users of the Open Space Plan Area. In some cases, a fee may be necessary, and in other cases only a notification would be required.

**Permitted Compatible Passive Recreation Uses**

- Hiking
- Jogging
- Surfing
- Bird watching
- Picnicking
- Sunbathing and beach play
- Meditation and yoga
- Exercise
- Bicycling on designated trails
- Horse-back riding on designated trails
- Kite flying
- Model airplane gliders
- Painting
- Photography and filming
- Playing non-amplified musical instruments
- Small educational tours
- Surf fishing, as allowed by law
- Cultural uses by Native Americans

**Uses that May Require a Notification or Permit**

- Special events such as walk-a-thons, competitive bicycle and track-and-field races, or public gatherings
- Educational tours for classrooms
- Outdoor lectures at the amphitheater
- Scientific studies, including monitoring or tagging butterflies
- Commercial filming
- Hang gliding or parasailing
- Parachute landing

**Prohibited Uses**

- Motorized vehicles or bikes
- Dumping or littering
- Camping
- Plant or wildlife collection
- Model rockets using flammable propellants
- Archery, BB guns, pellet guns, paint guns, or firearms
• Beach grooming
• Fires of any kind, including in pits or in camp stoves
• Any group activity that causes damage to vegetation or soil outside of designated trails
• Any use or activity that is prohibited by the COPR western snowy plover management plan

County Ordinance 26.49 requiring leashed dogs at County Parks (that do not have an unleashed dog area) would continue to apply to Camino Corto Open Space and Del Sol Vernal Pool Reserve. In addition, this ordinance applies to the Open Space Plan Area lands in the City of Goleta, until such time the City adopts its own ordinances. The historic level of enforcement of dog leash regulations will continue under the Open Space Plan in these areas.

The University will continue its enforcement of LRDP Policy 30240(a)15 which prohibits unleashed dogs on campus beaches. A similar prohibition will apply to West Campus Bluffs and South Parcel Nature Parks.

4.7.2 Consideration of Carrying Capacity

The sponsoring agencies recognize visitation to the Open Space Plan Area will likely increase over time due to the increasing population in the region. At this time, there is a general consensus that the current level of visitation in the Open Space Plan Area can be managed through this Open Space Plan to protect and enhance natural resources, while providing the historic public access and uses. However, if increased visitation cannot be managed to avoid significant environmental impacts through the policies and management actions in this Open Space Plan, the sponsoring agencies may need to determine the appropriate carrying capacity of the lands. The sponsoring agencies will monitor visitation and environmental conditions in the Open Space Plan Area as an ongoing element of their management responsibilities, and conduct periodic evaluations to determine if there is a need to establish a carrying capacity.
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