

**CITY OF MONROVIA
HILLSIDE WILDERNESS PRESERVE AND
HILLSIDE RECREATION AREA
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN**



LSA

AUGUST 21, 2008
REVISED JANUARY 20, 2009

**CITY OF MONROVIA
HILLSIDE WILDERNESS PRESERVE AND
HILLSIDE RECREATION AREA
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

Submitted to:

City of Monrovia
Community Services Department
119 West Palm Avenue
Monrovia, California 91016

Prepared by:

LSA Associates, Inc.
157 Park Place
Point Richmond, California 94801
(510) 236-6810

LSA Project No. CNV0601

LSA

August 21, 2008

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.0 INTRODUCTION.....	1
1.1 PROJECT OVERVIEW	1
1.1.1 Project Purpose.....	1
1.1.2 Project Area.....	3
1.2 DOCUMENT FORMAT	3
1.3 COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT	6
2.0 POLICIES AND ORDINANCES	7
2.1 MEASURES A AND B	7
2.2 GENERAL PLAN	7
2.2.1 Land Use Element	7
2.2.2 Circulation Element.....	10
2.2.3 Recreation and Open Space Element.....	10
2.3 ORDINANCES REGULATING HILLSIDE LAND USE.....	11
2.3.1 Ordinance No. 2000-06	11
2.3.2 Ordinance No. 2000-07 (A).....	11
2.4 GRANT REQUIREMENTS FOR PROPERTY ACQUISITIONS	12
3.0 PROPERTY DESCRIPTION.....	16
3.1 LAND USE.....	16
3.1.1 Ownership, Jurisdiction, and Easements	16
3.1.2 Land Use Definitions.....	16
3.2 AESTHETIC RESOURCES.....	18
3.2.1 Vista Points.....	18
3.2.2 Scenic Resources	18
3.3 PHYSICAL RESOURCES	18
3.3.1 Topography.....	18
3.3.2 Geology and Soils.....	18
3.3.3 Hydrology and Water Supply.....	19
3.3.4 Fire Hazard Conditions.....	21
3.4 NATURAL RESOURCES	21
3.4.1 Vegetation Communities	24
3.4.2 Exotic Species	27
3.4.3 General Wildlife	28
3.4.4 Sensitive Habitats	30
3.4.5 Special Status Species	31
3.4.6 Wildlife Movement Corridor.....	32
3.5 CULTURAL RESOURCES	35
3.5.1 Cultural Setting.....	35
3.5.2 Existing Archaeological Resources	36
3.5.3 Paleontological Resources.....	37
3.6 RECREATIONAL RESOURCES	37
3.6.1 Trail System/Setting	38
3.6.2 Existing Trails	38
3.6.3 Existing Utility Access	40
3.6.4 Existing Recreation Facilities.....	41
3.7 EDUCATION AND OUTREACH PROGRAMS	41
3.7.1 Education Programs.....	41

3.7.2	Guided Hikes	42
3.7.3	Conservation Programs.....	42
3.7.4	Volunteer Program	42
3.7.5	Information, Signs, and Brochures	42
4.0	KEY ISSUES AND MANAGEMENT ZONES	44
4.1	KEY ISSUES AND POTENTIAL IMPACTS TO NATIVE HABITAT	44
4.1.1	Habitat Fragmentation	46
4.1.2	Invasive Plant Species	46
4.1.3	Urban Edge Effect	47
4.1.4	Public Use.....	47
4.1.5	Erosion.....	47
4.1.6	Existing Fuels and Fire Hazard Conditions	49
4.2	BIOLOGICAL CONSTRAINTS AND MANAGEMENT ZONES	49
4.2.1	Hillside Wilderness Preserve.....	51
4.2.2	Hillside Recreation	53
5.0	MANAGEMENT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES	54
5.1	MISSION, CORE VALUES AND GOALS	54
5.1.1	Mission	54
5.1.2	Core Values	54
5.1.3	Goals.....	55
5.2	MANAGEMENT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES	55
5.2.1	Natural Resources Element	56
5.2.2	Outdoor and Natural Education Element.....	60
5.2.3	Fire Safety Element	61
5.2.4	Passive Recreation Element.....	62
6.0	NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT	67
6.1	INTRODUCTION	67
6.2	BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT	67
6.2.1	Management Strategies to Protect and Maintain Existing Vegetation Communities of Special Interest.....	67
6.2.2	Habitat Enhancement and Restoration.....	70
6.2.3	Wildlife Habitat and Corridor Maintenance	73
6.2.4	Managing Wildland Urban Interface Zones	74
6.2.5	Biological Monitoring and Adaptive Management	76
6.2.6	Biological Resource Data Keeping.....	77
6.3	CULTURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT	78
6.3.1	Management Strategies for Identifying Cultural Resources.....	79
6.3.2	Management Strategies for Recording Cultural Sites and Artifacts.....	79
6.3.3	Management Strategies for Managing Cultural Collections.....	80
6.3.4	Restoration and Construction Monitoring	80
6.3.5	Paleontological Resource Strategies.....	82
6.4	VIEWSHED AND AESTHETIC PROTECTION.....	82
7.0	OUTDOOR AND NATURE EDUCATION PROGRAMS.....	84
7.1	INFORMATIONAL SIGNS AND BROCHURES	84
7.1.1	Informational Signs - Management Strategies	84
7.1.2	Recommended Near-Term (1–5 years) Educational Sign Components	85
7.1.3	Recommended Information Media	87
7.2	RESOURCE STEWARDSHIP	87
7.2.1	Resource Stewardship - Management Strategies.....	87

7.2.2	Recommended School Curriculum Programs	90
7.2.3	Recommended Near-Term (1–5 Years) Family Hikes and Campouts	90
7.2.4	Recommended Conservation Programs	91
7.3	STAFFING	91
8.0	FIRE SAFETY	93
8.1	EXISTING FIRE SAFETY PROGRAMS	93
8.2	STRATEGIES FOR FIRE MANAGEMENT	93
8.2.1	Assessing and Quantifying Community Wildlife Risk	93
8.2.2	Community Wildfire Protection Plan	94
8.2.3	Fire Management	95
8.2.4	Guidelines for Future Projects	96
8.2.5	Neighborhood Policies	96
8.2.6	Emergency Preparedness	97
8.2.7	Outreach	98
9.0	PASSIVE RECREATION	99
9.1	REASONABLE PUBLIC ACCESS	99
9.1.1	Criteria for Determining Public Access	99
9.1.2	Reasonable Public Access Defined	100
9.2	TRAILS AND PUBLIC ACCESS	101
9.2.1	Recommended Public Trails	101
9.2.2	Future Trails	107
9.3	PUBLIC ACCESS MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES	114
9.3.1	Context Sensitive Development	114
9.3.2	Public Access and Project Area “Image”	115
9.4	MAINTENANCE	115
9.4.1	Erosion Control	117
9.4.2	Road and Trail Maintenance	118
10.0	REFERENCES	121
11.0	ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS	128

FIGURES

Figure 1:	Regional Location	4
Figure 2:	Project Location	5
Figure 3:	Land Ownership	17
Figure 4:	Geology and Major Faults	20
Figure 5:	Hydrology and Water Reservoirs	22
Figure 6:	Fire Hazard Classification	23
Figure 7:	Vegetation Communities	25
Figure 8:	Distribution of Exotic Species	29
Figure 9:	Communities of Special Interest	33
Figure 10:	Key Wildlife Corridors	34
Figure 11:	Existing Trails, Roads and Access	39
Figure 12:	Fuel Modification Zones	48
Figure 13:	Biological Constraints	50
Figure 14:	Management Zones	52
Figure 15:	Restoration and Enhancement Priorities	71
Figure 16:	Recommended Public Trails	102
Figure 17:	Recommended Future Trails and Connectors	113

TABLES

Table A: Hillside Wilderness Preserve and Hillside Recreation Area Establishment Process	2
Table B: Existing Vegetation Communities within the Project Area.....	26
Table C: CNPS Rare Plant Categories	32
Table D: Analysis of Main Issues and Potential Impacts.....	44
Table E: Recommended Public Trails	103
Table F: Evaluation of Future Trails	109
Table G: Evaluation of Trail Connectors	111
Table H: Summary of Major Maintenance Recommendations	116

APPENDICES

A: Summary of Survey Results.....	A-1
B: Specific Plan Trail Maps.....	B-1
C: Existing Conditions.....	C-1
D: Plant Species List.....	D-1
E: Animal Species List.....	E-1
F: Sensitive Species List.....	F-1