

Saddle Club Preservation Area



Background

Once slated for residential development, the property known as Saddle Club will be preserved as natural habitat in perpetuity. In 2017, the Foothill/Eastern Transportation Corridor Agency (F/ETCA) acquired the property as mitigation for future Capital Improvement Projects, like lane widenings or new interchanges. Designated as a critical habitat for the Coastal California Gnatcatcher and Arroyo Toad, the site contains oak woodlands, coastal sage scrub and riparian habitat, and provides valuable wildlife linkages for birds and animals to access a natural corridor extending to the Cleveland National Forest. The site use plan balances habitat conservation, wildlife movement and public recreational use, including hiking, biking and horseback riding.

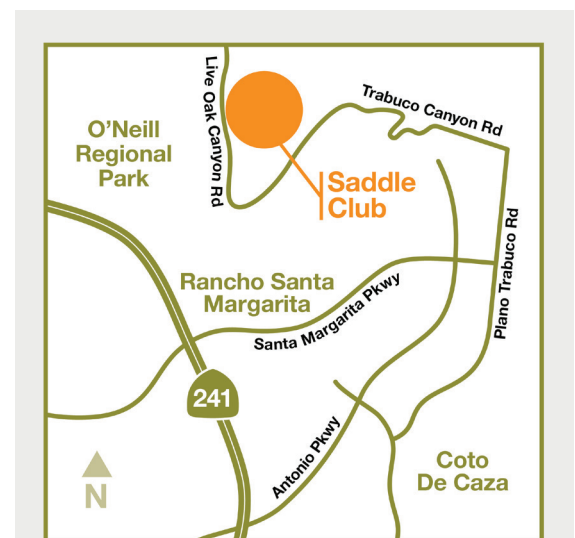
Current Activities

TCA intends to restore and enhance habitats onsite for mitigation, protect open space areas, while providing opportunities for recreational pursuits.

Species

Saddle Club is home to a variety of wildlife and plant species, including:

- California Scrub Jay
- California Towhee
- Red-Tailed Hawk
- California Ground Squirrel
- American Crow
- Mule Deer
- Acorn Woodpecker
- Peninsular Beargrass



QUICK FACTS:

- Acres:** 32.73
- Acquired:** 2017
- Agency:** F/ETCA
- Habitat:** Oak and riparian woodland, coastal sage scrub
- Location:** Trabuco Canyon, near O'Neill Regional Park