

2024 District Update

Yoriko Kishimoto, Board Member, Ward 2

Karen Holman, Board Member, Ward 5

April 1, 2024

Monte Bello Open Space Preserve (Strether Smith)



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Midpen's Mission(s)



Midpen's mission: to acquire and preserve a regional greenbelt of open space land in perpetuity, protect and restore the natural environment, and provide opportunities for ecologically sensitive public enjoyment and education.

On the Coast, Midpen has an expanded mission to acquire and preserve agricultural land of regional significance, preserve rural character and encourage viable agricultural uses of land resources.



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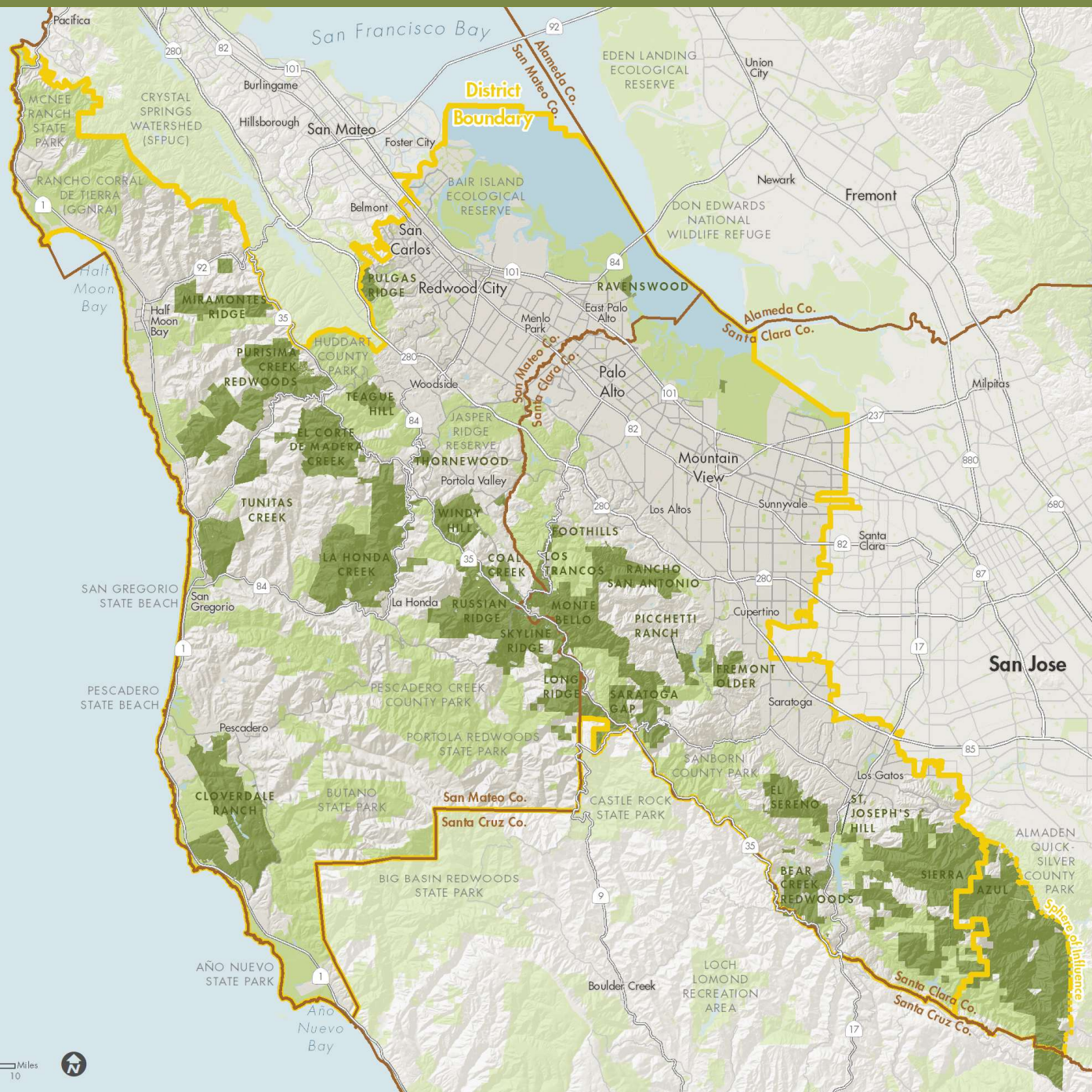
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Midpen's Lands



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Some Midpen Facts

- Public agency, created in 1972 by a grassroots voter initiative
- 763,000 constituents (2020)
- Elected board: seven directors
- Funded primarily through property tax
- 27 Preserves in Santa Clara, San Mateo and Santa Cruz counties
- Preserved over 70,000 acres, 250+ miles of trails
- Preserves are free and open to the public
- Main office in Los Altos + field offices
- 200+ employees, ~1000 volunteers
- \$300 million voter-approved general obligation bond passed in 2014 to support public priorities



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A wide-angle landscape photograph capturing a vast field of purple flowers, likely cornflowers, in full bloom. The flowers are densely packed in the foreground and middle ground, their vibrant purple hues contrasting with the green foliage. In the background, rolling green hills are covered in dense trees and shrubs, leading up to a prominent, forested ridge on the left. The sky is a dramatic canvas of sunset colors, with a bright orange and yellow glow near the horizon where the sun has set, transitioning into soft pinks and finally into a deep blue at the top. Wispy clouds are scattered across the sky, catching the low light. The overall mood is serene and picturesque, showcasing the beauty of a rural landscape at dusk.



Photo: Hongyun Liu

Ravenswood Open Space Preserve



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Russian Ridge Open Space Preserve



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Photo: Chris Toomey

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Windy Hill Open Space Preserve



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Photo: Vaibhav Tripathi

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Project Updates



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Wildland Fire Resiliency Program Implementation



CZU Lightning Complex Fire, 2020

Photo: Brad Pennington



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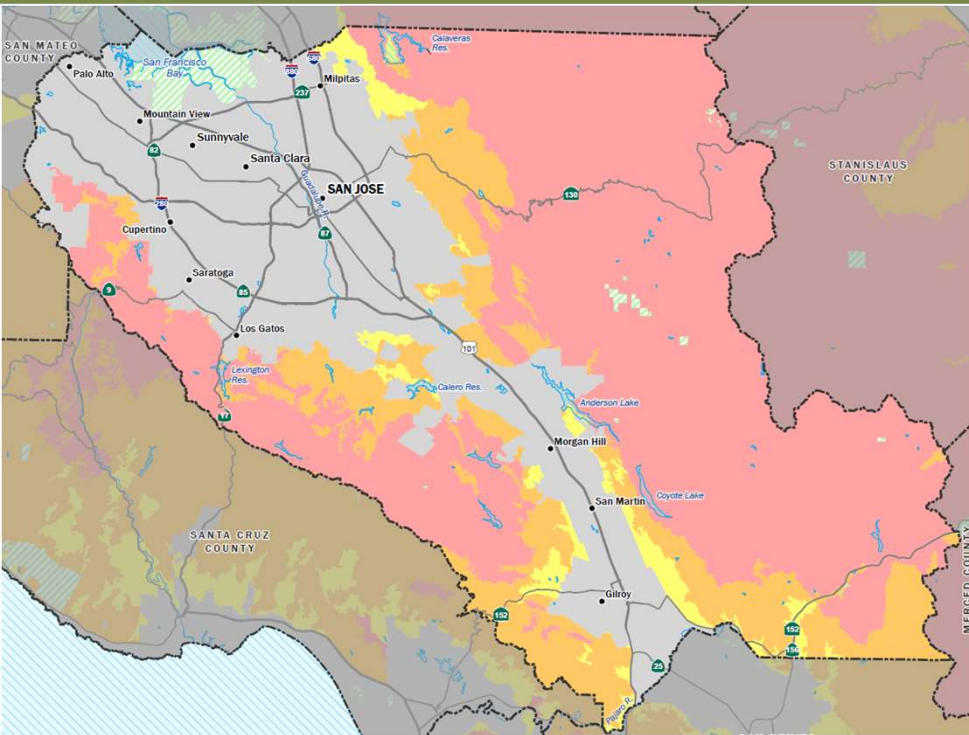
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Wildland Fire Resiliency Program



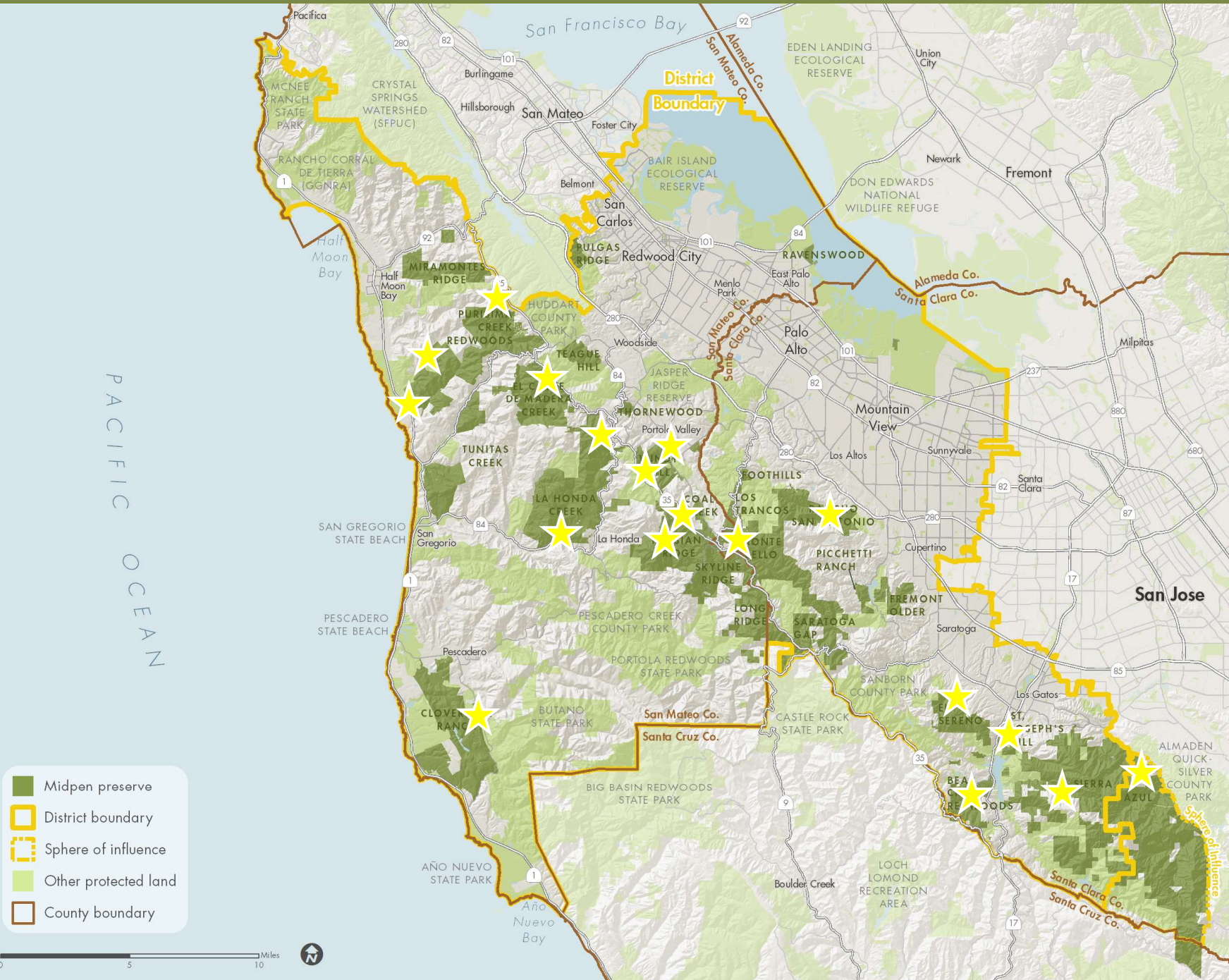
For more information visit
openspace.org/what-we-do/projects/wildland-fire-resiliency



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Wildland Fire Resiliency Program: Project Areas



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Hawthorns Area Plan

Purpose of Hawthorns Area Plan:

- Comprehensive **use and management plan** for the Hawthorns Area of Windy Hill Open Space Preserve
- Prescribe **future uses** and **management**
- Identify **resource** and **land management activities**
- Establish **public access** opportunities



Public Access Working Group (PAWG):

The purpose of the PAWG is to establish an interactive forum of local and regional perspectives to collaborate with Midpen on a plan for introducing ecologically sensitive public access at the Hawthorns Area in a manner consistent with the Board-adopted vision and goals.



For more information, please visit: <https://www.openspace.org/hawthorns>



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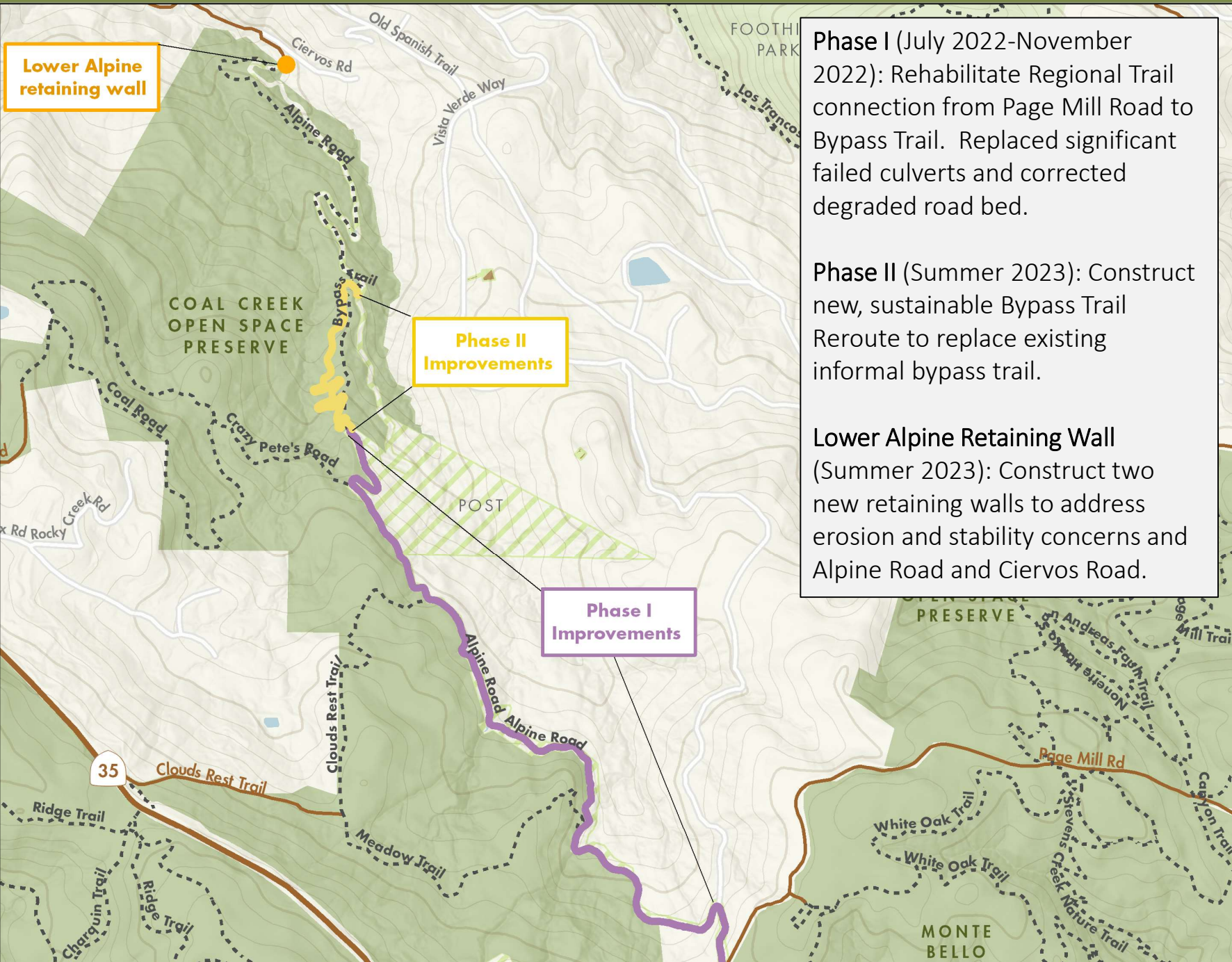
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Alpine Road Regional Trail Improvement Project



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Phase I (July 2022-November 2022): Rehabilitate Regional Trail connection from Page Mill Road to Bypass Trail. Replaced significant failed culverts and corrected degraded road bed.

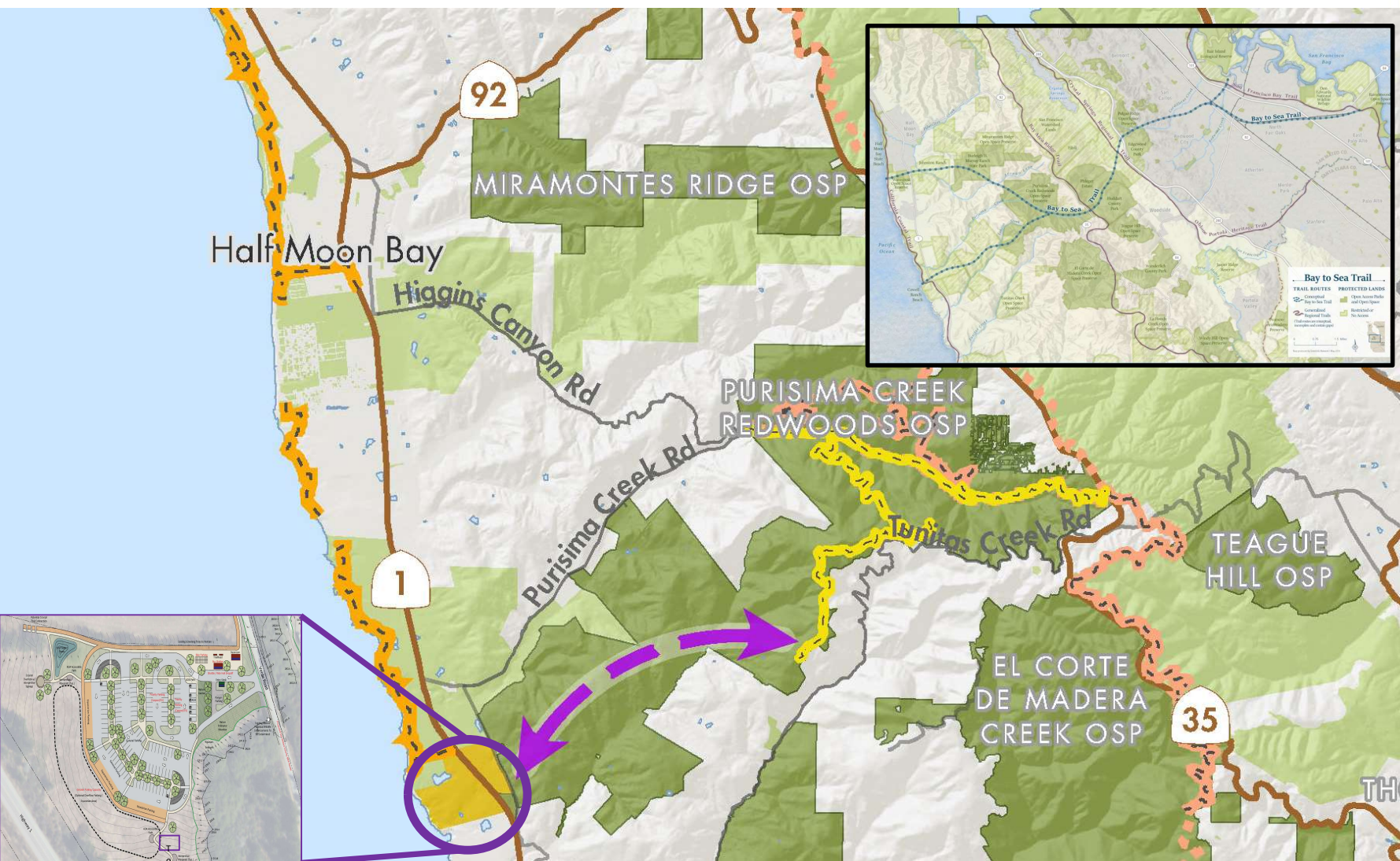
Phase II (Summer 2023): Construct new, sustainable Bypass Trail Reroute to replace existing informal bypass trail.

Lower Alpine Retaining Wall (Summer 2023): Construct two new retaining walls to address erosion and stability concerns and Alpine Road and Ciervos Road.

Purisima-to-the-Sea Trail

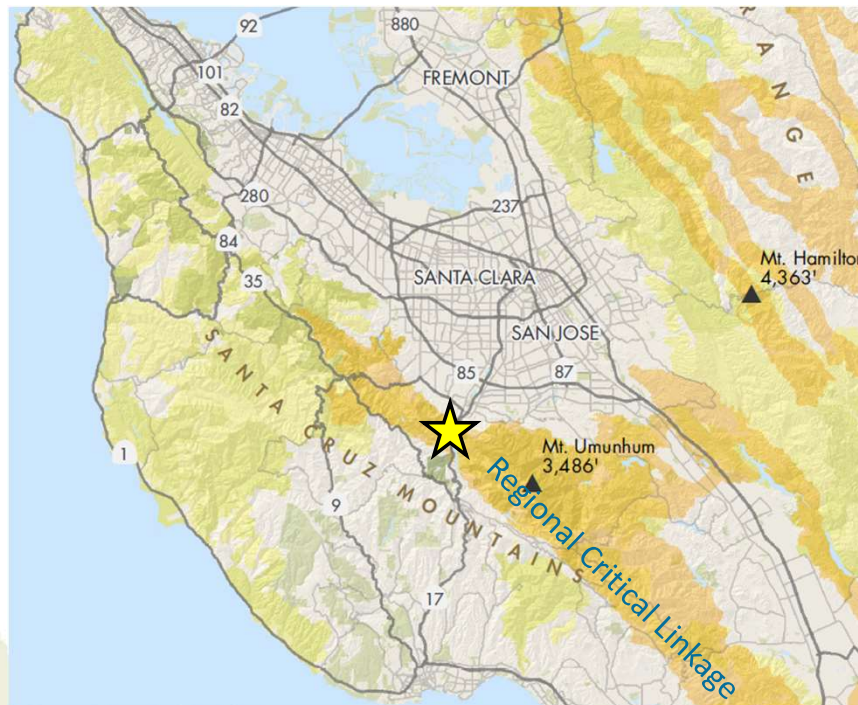
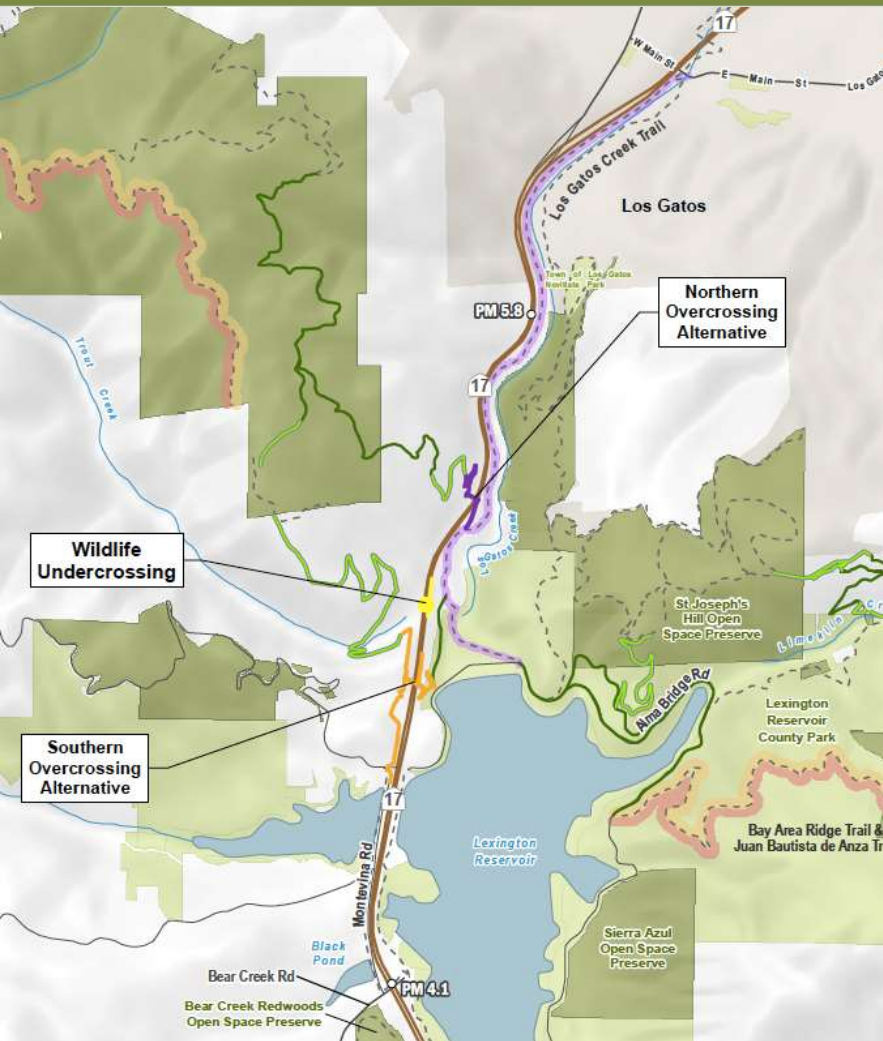
Project Description

New parking area and trails connecting the Coastal Trail on Highway 1 to the Bay Area Ridge Trail on Highway 35.



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Highway 17 Crossings



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Measure AA 10th Anniversary - 2024

Progress since 2014

- ✓ Preserved over 9,600 acres of open space
- ✓ 4,200 acres opened to the public at five preserves/preserve areas
- ✓ Opened 31.4 miles of trails to public access, with 10+ miles in construction, and 19+ miles of new trails in the planning stages
- ✓ Opened 3 new parking areas, creating a total of 126 new parking spaces



***Thank you for your
trust in us!***

(Karl Gohl)



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