

Legislative Case Study - Synopsis



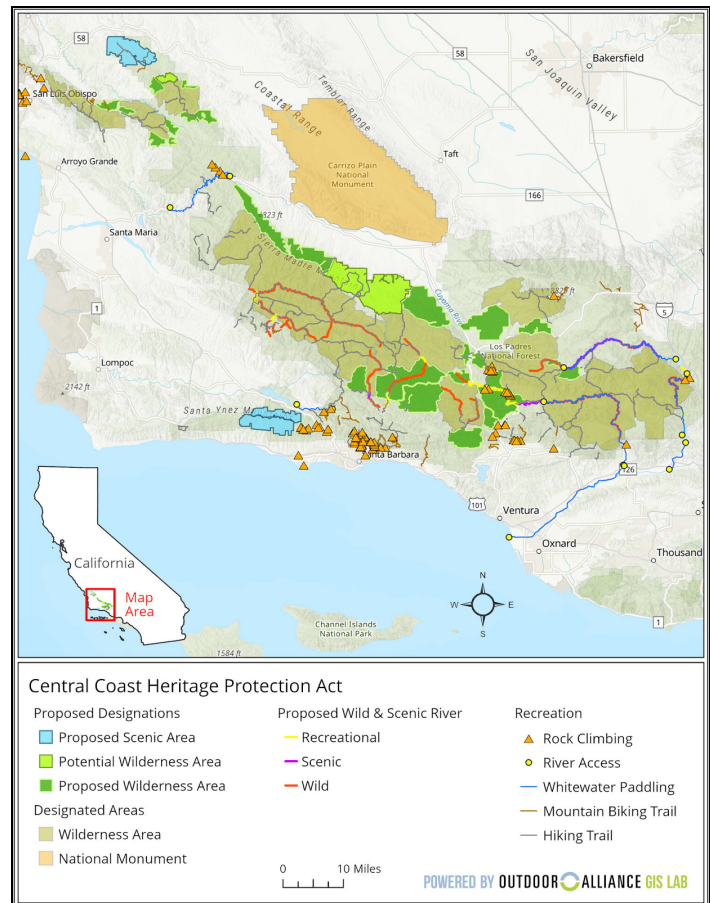
H.R.2199 - Central Coast Heritage Protection Act

Background: The Central Coast Heritage Protection Act designates specific lands in the Bakersfield Field Office of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and in the Los Padres National Forest in California as Wilderness areas, Potential Wilderness, and Scenic Areas. It includes important provisions for MTBing interests.

Check out the [Mobile Web Map](#)

Why it matters for MTBers: This bill secured the following policy wins and components:

1. Corridors: Mono-Alamar trail, McPherson Peak Trail
2. Draws out land north of Rinconada Creek to Rinconada Mine to protect mountain bike access to historic trails via an adjustment to the originally proposed Wilderness boundaries.
3. Create 20 yr. timeline for trail development in the Fox Mountain area before Wilderness boundaries are established in order to build new reroutes and establish non-Wilderness trail corridors for future Bull Ridge and Rocky Ridge trails from Aliso Park Campground.
4. Scenic Areas are created in bike friendly ways with the Black Mtn and Condor Ridge Scenic Areas equalling ~35k acres in the Los Padres NF and Bakersfield Field Office of the BLM
5. Includes previous boundary adjustments for other MTBing assets and interests.



Check out the [Agreement signed between CCCMB/IMBA/CCWH](#).

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H.R.2250 - Northwest California Wilderness, Recreation, and Working Forests Act

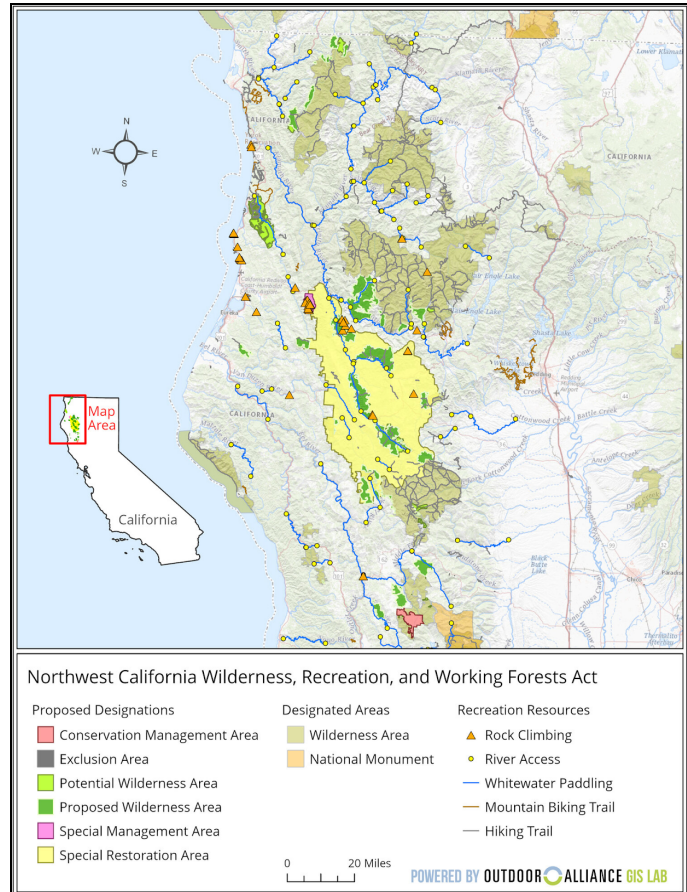
Background: The Northwest California Wilderness, Recreation, and Working Forests Act was introduced by Representative Jared Huffman and Senator Kamala Harris of California. For the last few years the Redwood Coast Mountain Bike Association has been involved along with IMBA and others in advocating for mountain bike interests across the vast landscapes this bill covers. We were invited to the table from the beginning, and most of our early suggestions remain in the bill.

This bill would preserve existing use and create new opportunities in areas that have huge potential. It would *not* close trails that see significant mountain bike use. Instead it would give a foundation of future trail and other recreation opportunities. These areas are exquisite and unique mountain ranges, special to our north coast region.

Check out the [Mobile Web Map](#)

Why It Matters for MTBers: Here is a quick summary of the parts of the bill that would affect Mountain Bike access.

- 1) The South Fork Trinity Recreation Trail has been cherry-stemmed out of the Chinquapin Wilderness addition.
- 2) It establishes the Horse Mountain Special Management Area, including the potential for new mountain bike trails.
- 3) It designates the Elk Camp Ridge Recreation Trail.
- 4) It authorizes a feasibility study for the Trinity Lake Trail, around Trinity Lake.
- 5) It directs the Secretary of Agriculture to conduct a study to improve trail based recreation on Forest Land within Del Norte, Humboldt, Trinity and Mendocino counties.



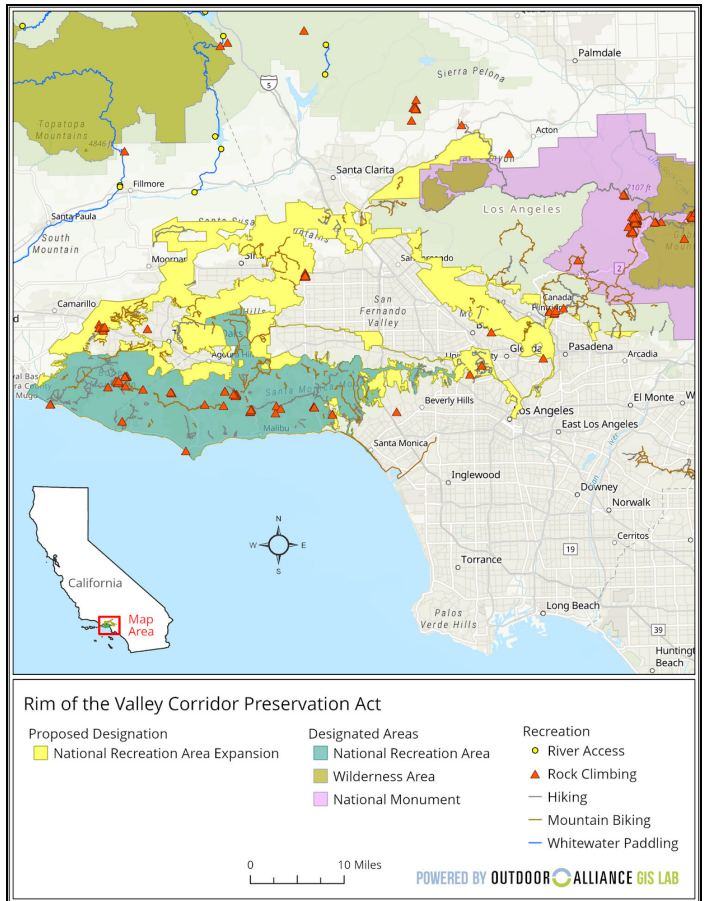
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H.R.1708 Rim of the Valley Corridor Preservation Act

Background: In 1976, Marge Feinberg did her Master's thesis describing a conceptual recreational multi use trail to encircle the San Fernando Valley, and called it the Rim of the Valley. CORBA, formed in 1987, cited the "rim of the valley" as our working territory. In 2008 Congress authorized a study to determine the feasibility of creating a new national park unit, or expanding the existing boundary of the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area. In 2015 the study findings were released, citing "significant cultural, ecological, geological and recreational resources" that met the criteria for protection. The study area included the Santa Susana Mountains and San Gabriel Mountains to the north, the Verdugo Mountains to the east, and the Santa Monica Mountains to the south, and was expanded to also include the Simi Hills and Conejo mountains surrounding the Conejo Valley, Simi Valley and Crescenta Valley.

Why It Matters for MTBers: A great deal of Los Angeles mountain biking opportunities are within the ROTV study area. The trails don't connect to form a contiguous Rim of the Valley trail, though several segments have been completed. All of the studies' proposed alternatives expand on the vision of a trail around the San Fernando Valley, and include completion of a Rim of the Valley trail as a goal. The legislation doesn't transfer any lands to the NPS, but authorizes NPS to partner with current land managers to bring more resources and expertise to the area, and help coordinate between neighboring jurisdictions to improve habitat connectivity, resource protection and recreation.



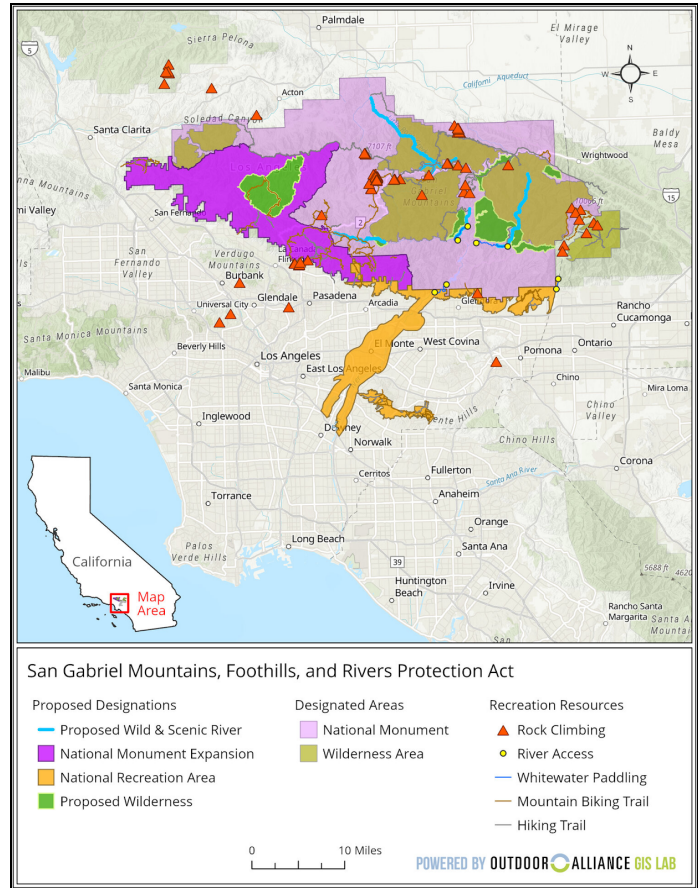
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[H.R. 2215 - San Gabriel Mountains Foothills and Rivers Protections Act](#)

Background: The San Gabriel Wilderness was designated in 1970. IMBA led its first “wild ride” in 2003 on the Condor Peak trail to showcase what mountain bikers stood to lose if new Wilderness were designated. This helped get Sen. Barbara Boxer to remove the Condor Peak Wilderness unit from her bill. In 2009, the Pleasant View Ridge and Magic Mountain Wilderness areas were designated. In it, we lost access to one of the few singletrack trails connecting desert communities to the north with the San Gabriel Mountains, the Burkhart trail. To avoid losing another long-distance backcountry singletrack to Wilderness, IMBA and CORBA worked with the Wilderness Society, Sierra Club and CalWild to define the boundaries for the new wilderness proposal and keep the Condor Peak trail open to bicycles.

In addition to new Wilderness, the current bill creates a San Gabriel Valley National Recreation Area, and authorizes the NPS to partner with existing land managers to bring additional resources to the area. It could bring multiple benefits to recreation, habitat connectivity, and will serve several underserved communities.



Check out the [Mobile Web Map](#)

Why It Matters for MTBers: Condor Peak is a ten-mile epic backcountry trail with approximately 5000' of elevation change, incredible views and extreme exposure. Most of the epic long distance trails of this type have been lost to Wilderness in the San Gabriel Mountains. The bill creates two new Wilderness areas separated by the Condor Peak trail. Other wilderness boundary expansions within the bill have no impact to existing trails open to bicycles. The San Gabriel Valley NRA could bring multiple benefits to the area and improve recreation opportunities. The NRA boundaries include several well-loved riding areas. We are seeking some boundary adjustments that would open another epic trail to bicycles, and to correct a mapping error in the San Gabriel Wilderness. Those haven't made it into the bill, so we are not supporting it, but nor are we actively opposing it.

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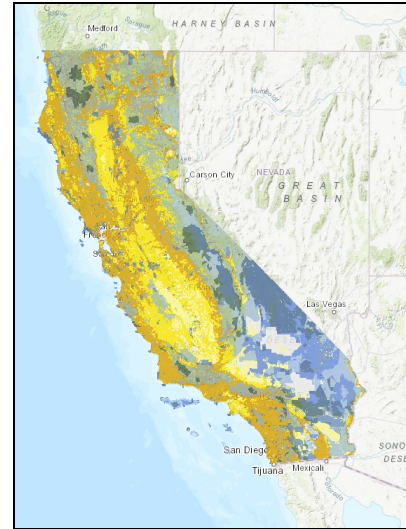


California 30 by 30 Plan

Background: Governor Newsom signed an executive order ([EO N-82-20](#)) which establishes a goal of the State to conserve at least 30 percent of California's land and coastal waters by 2030. The order directs the State to form a Biodiversity Collaborative to convene diverse stakeholders to develop and report various approaches to meeting the state's 30 by 30 goal in a manner that, among other things, "Expands equitable outdoor access and recreation for all Californians."

Engage via the Defenders of Wildlife [Interactive Web Map](#)

Why It Matters for MTBers: As mountain bikers and outdoor recreationists, we rely on public lands and natural resources in healthy protected conditions to provide the experiences we all crave. Protecting the places we ride is not only a user responsibility, and a duty in the face of climate change, but it undoubtedly serves to ensure that future generations will get to experience mountain biking as we enjoy it today. As they say, "if you are not at the table, you are on the menu".



H.R. 7626 - Bonneville Shoreline Trail Completion Act

Background: IMBA worked with UT groups to develop the **Bonneville Shoreline Trail Advancement Act**, a bicameral bill introduced in July 2020. The bill releases 326 acres of Wilderness divided over more than 20 locations, to accommodate trail connections and sustainable trail development near population centers. The bill designates 326 acres of contiguous new wilderness in Mill Creek Canyon to offset the released acres. The Bonneville Shoreline Trail (BST) is a 280 mile regional multi-use concept trail with more than 90 miles of the trail already built. Small segments of overlapping Wilderness designations prohibit biking on parts of the BST, preventing the full vision for a multi-use trail that connects dozens of Utah communities.

Why It Matters for MTBers: Most mountain bikers can name a trail(s) that dip into or where access is minimally severed by the edge of a Wilderness Area. If we can run stand alone legislation or piggyback on other legislation and offer reasonable solutions that adjust such trails out of Wilderness, then mountain bikers can return or initiate bike access to these and other trails previously off limits to biking. This is a surgical solution to complex Wilderness boundaries that can deliver local trail access solutions.

Detailed Maps information: <https://www.imba.com/bst-advancement-act>

