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Summary Form for Electronic Document Submittal

Form F

Lead agencies may include 15 hardcopies of this document when submitting electronic copies of Environmental Impact Reports, Negative Declarations, Mitigated Negative Declarations, or Notices of Preparation to the State Clearinghouse (SCH). The SCH also accepts other summaries, such as EIR Executive Summaries prepared pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15123. Please include one copy of the Notice of Completion Form (NOC) with your submission and attach the summary to each electronic copy of the document.

SCH #: _____

Project Title: Sycuan-Sloane Canyon Trail

Lead Agency: County of San Diego, Department of Parks and Recreation

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Project Location: Unincorporated community of Crest-Dehesa San Diego County
City *County*

Project Description (Proposed actions, location, and/or consequences).

The project proposes to implement the Sycuan-Sloane Canyon Trail, which upon completion, would include six segments totaling approximately five miles. Implementation of the trail would provide a critical regional and community trail connection between the Sweetwater River Loop Trail and the California Riding and Hiking Trail.
The trail alignment is divided into segments, numbered as Segments 1 through 6. Each trail segment has options and the preferred alignment for this project would include the following segments: Segment 6a, Segment 1, Segment 2a, Segment 3, Segment 4a, and Segment 5a. In all cases, the preferred alignment is the one closest to, meandering in and out of, or completely within County right-of-way. This preferred alignment is intended to be built in phases. The first phase would construct Segment 1 and 2a. The second phase would construct Segment 4a and 5a along Sloane Canyon Road. The third phase would construct Segment 3, connecting with trails on the San Diego National Wildlife Refuge (SDNWR). The fourth phase would construct Segment 6a along Dehesa Road.

Identify the project's significant or potentially significant effects and briefly describe any proposed mitigation measures that would reduce or avoid that effect.

Biological Resource impacts include potential impacts to habitat for California Species of Special Concern, Group 1 and 2 species and County List A and B species; up to 12.7 acres of impacts to sensitive habitat; and potential to impact nesting success of sensitive animals if brush clearing occurs during the breeding season. Proposed mitigation was provided consistent with the County's Biological Mitigation Ordinance; as well as avoidance of vegetation removal or ground-disturbing activities during the bird breeding season, defined as January 15 to September 15, which includes the tree-nesting raptor breeding season. If removal cannot be avoided during this time period, a nesting bird survey would be conducted no more than 72 hours prior to ground-disturbing activities or vegetation removal by a qualified avian biologist through the area to be cleared.

Cultural Resources impacts could potential occur during construction of the proposed project. The proposed trail segments are designed to avoid historic resources; however, if impacts to unknown cultural resources are encountered during construction or if adjustments must be made to the trail alignment in the future, impacts to historic resources could occur. Mitigation for these potential impacts include the requirement for a cultural monitor for all ground-disturbing activities, and field checks by a qualified archaeologist to ensure that any new trail segments or the ADA trail would indeed avoid known cultural resources. Proposed mitigation would potential reduce impacts to a level less than significant.

If applicable, describe any of the project's areas of controversy known to the Lead Agency, including issues raised by agencies and the public.

N/A

Provide a list of the responsible or trustee agencies for the project.

United States Fish and Wildlife Service
Bureau of Indian Affairs