



Appendix D

Recreation Targets and Priorities Methodology

Existing Recreation Areas

An evaluation of the existing recreational areas in the GLAC region relied on the California Protected Area Database (GreenInfo Network) also known as CPAD which is an inventory of all protected park and open space lands in California.

Each public park and open space lands within the GLAC region that appeared in the database was categorized using the following categories:

- **Developed Urban Parks:** Developed lands consist of neighborhood parks, community parks, and sports complexes (including public lands)
- **Open Space:** Generally any parcel that is essentially unimproved and devoted to an open space use for the purposes of the preservation of natural resources and provides passive outdoor recreation opportunities. These parcels may include developed parking/staging areas and include trail systems and minor visitor amenity features within them. There are two types of open space areas identified as there is a relationship between these and IRWMP targets for habitat.
 - **Beach / Estuary:** Low lying habitat areas of the GLAC region
 - **Riparian/Upland /Wetland:** All other open space areas including riparian and upland habitats.
 - **US Forest Service:** Lands owned by the United States that provide open space and passive recreation opportunities, among other functions.
 - **Greenway:** Linear open spaces established along a corridor, such as a river, and that provide habitat, recreation, or alternative transportation benefits. While greenways could serve as developed urban park depending on their design, it was assumed for this analysis that greenways provided only passive recreation opportunities.

Generally if the name of the unit included the term “Open Space” or “Resource Parkland” it was categorized as open space. Many regional parks were evaluated using internet based photo and map imagery to estimate a percentage of “developed urban” vs. “open space lands” contained within that unit. That unit was then prorated appropriately

The data set is created at the parcel level (whenever possible), meaning many parks are represented by many polygons. Parks that cross major jurisdictional lines are also split into multiple pieces. Therefore, there may be more than one data entry for an individual park or open space area.

Targets

Targets were established by comparing the existing recreation areas in the GLAC Region to the following standards:

- Developed Urban Parks: 4 acres per 1,000 population;
- Passive Recreation: 6 acres of passive recreation area per 1,000 population.

The target was set as the additional acreage required to meet the standards.

Methodology

- Developed Urban Parks: Areas of need were developed using census tracts. Each tract was evaluated according to the following standards:
 - High Priority: projects within urban areas with less than 1 acre of available park and recreation area per 1,000 population.
 - Moderate Priority: projects within urban areas with between 1 to 3.9 acres of available park and recreation area per 1,000 population.
 - Low Priority: projects within urban areas with greater than 4 acres of available park and recreation area per 1,000 population.
- Passive Recreation Areas: Areas of need were evaluated according to the following standards:
 - High Priority: projects more than a 3 miles from an existing open space area or greenway or projects that help complete the County trail system
 - Moderate Priority: projects between 1 and 3 miles from an existing open space area or greenway
 - Low Priority: projects from between 0 and 1 mile from an existing open space area or greenway