

2023 - 2024

ANNUAL REPORT

RIVERSIDE COUNTY REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN-SPACE DISTRICT



Board of Directors

Kevin Jeffries, District 1, Chair
Karen Spiegel, District 2, Vice Chair
Chuck Washington, District 3
V. Manuel Perez, District 4
Yxstian Gutierrez, District 5

County Executive Leadership

Jeff Van Wagenen, County Executive Officer
Juan Perez, Chief Operating Officer
Charissa Leach, Assistant County Executive Officer – Public Works & Community Services

District Executive Leadership

Kyla Brown, Parks Director/General Manager
Dustin McLain, Chief - Parks & Resources
Robert Williams, Chief - Business Operations
Gaby Adame-Algrim, Chief - Planning, Development & Interpretation
Michael Alferrez, Fiscal Manager

District Advisory Commission

Patricia "Trixie" Anderson, District 1
Mark Balys, District 1, Chair
Daniel Hake, District 2
Bart Moreno, District 2
Anthony Migliore, District 3
Robin Reid, District 3
Bob Grady, District 4, Colorado River Valley
Daniel "Hugh" Van Horn, District 4
Rudy Cruz Gutierrez II, District 4, Vice Chair
Derrel Thomas, District 5
Thomas Giedroyce, District 5

Historical Commission

Philip Falcone, District 1
Deborah Newton, District 1
Don Williamson, District 2
Joyce Hohenadl, District 2
Kim Jarrell Johnson, Member-at-Large, Vice Chair
Bette Martland, District 3
Stacia Deutsch, District 3
Steve Lech, District 5, Chair



AWARDS

2023 California Park & Recreation Society
2023 Community Award of Excellence
Environmental Stewardship
Knee-High Naturalist Program
Marketing & Communications Award of Excellence
SARBShare.org

2024 California Trails And Greenways Award
Merit Award - Program:
Santa Ana River Bottom x RAID Unit Task Force

SHINING STARS

Employee of the Year
Freddy Salazar
Park Maintenance Supervisor
MSHCP

Volunteer of the Year
Yesenia Villagomez
Adopt-A-Trail

GENERAL MANAGER'S AWARDS

Employee
Anthony Miller
Facilities Project Manager
Planning

Volunteer
Rob & Brandy Phillips
Harford Springs Reserve

A.C.T.I.O.N.S AWARDS

A - Shawna Allison & Christina Sanchez
C - Christian Sanchez & Beatriz Mancillas
T - Bridget Lawlor & Liam Hawkins
I - Joshua Rivera & Ryan Mark
O - Nathan Hearn & Richard Aguilera
N - Ariannah Romo & Oscar Serrato
S - Jonathan Reinig & Andrew Mick

MESSAGE FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

RivCoParks Supporters and Friends,

At the kick-off of the 2023-24 fiscal year, we were celebrating the opportunities afforded to us through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) program. Time and again, our elected leaders chose RivCoParks' projects to support, helping us address deferred maintenance in many of our operational areas. This past year, our Planning & Development team worked tirelessly through the design and bidding process to ensure we could maximize our use of this one-time funding. Due to the team's hard work, and with the help of our consultants and County partners, we finished the fiscal year on track to deliver quality projects.

In the pages of this Annual Report, you'll see the outcomes of our collective dedication, creativity, and tenacity reflected in the numbers of community members served, amount of volunteers and hours of work contributed, and the wide variety of measured results. Highlights of the past year's work include:

Trails: Our team installed trail counters to help capture trail use across the County at some of our most popular hiking locations. The results were astounding, with nearly 164,000 hikers, cyclists, and equestrians documented on many of our 185 miles of trails.

Park Visitors: RivCoParks locations remain popular destinations for quality outdoor time, including camping, fishing, and picnicking. Attendance increased by 7% at our regional parks, with over 200,000 campers and more than 100,000 day-use visitors investing in their physical and mental well-being by spending time in nature.

Safety and Engagement: Our Santa Ana River collaboration work continued to expand through partnerships and funding. Investment in this team led to successful trends with over 100 encampments cleared, 255 tons of trash removed, more than 150 vehicles recovered, and more than 8,000 hours of patrol and maintenance work completed. In addition, our open-space and natural resource teams cleared 9 acres of illegal marijuana, added 3,138 acres to the management inventory, and deterred nearly 500 illegal off-highway vehicles from accessing protected lands.

Fiscal Sustainability: Through prudent spending and increased revenues, we ended the year in a net positive, adding to our operational and capital reserves for the fourth consecutive year and bringing our total operational reserve balance to nearly \$14M. This is an important step in ensuring we have the operational bandwidth to weather any economic uncertainties and crucial funding to address the maintenance needs of our aging sites.

Our successes over the past year are the direct results of our dedicated staff, passionate volunteers, committed partners, and supportive community members. As a token of our appreciation, we added ACTIONS awards to our annual recognition program and recognized more than 45 individuals and teams throughout the year for their outstanding contributions.

I encourage you to read through the full Annual Report to learn more about our specific accomplishments and welcome your feedback about our performance. Enjoy!

Respectfully,



Kyla Brown

General Manager | Parks Director



GUEST SERVICES



97% satisfaction rating on surveys



14,043 calls received



729 contact us inquiries

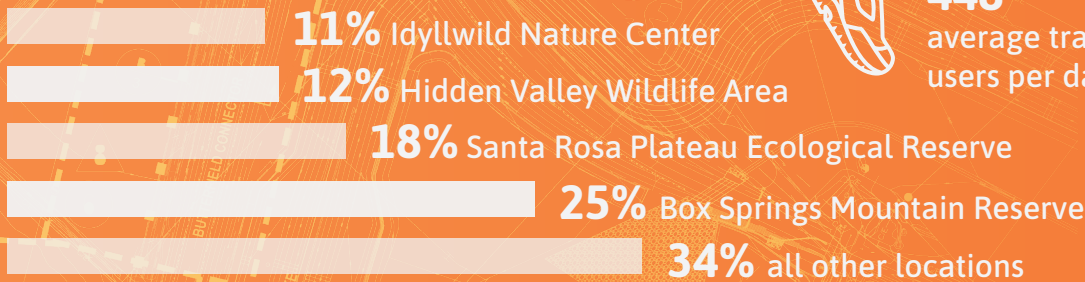


268 external events permitted



\$32,746 collected via Iron Ranger QR codes

TRAILS ATTENDANCE



448 average trail users per day

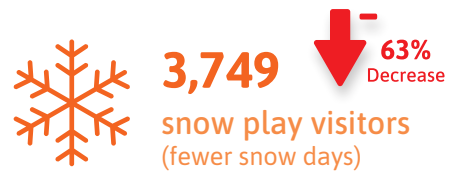
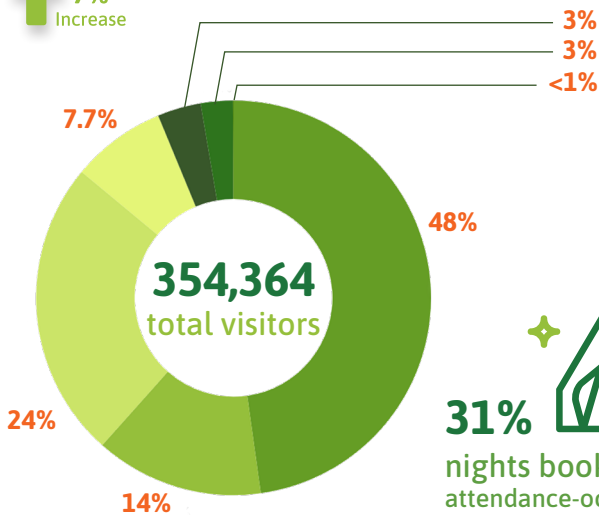
163,566 total trail users



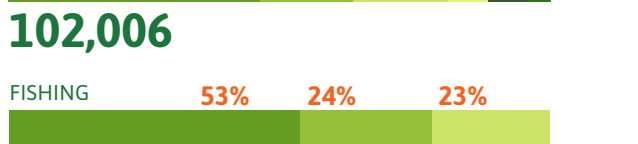
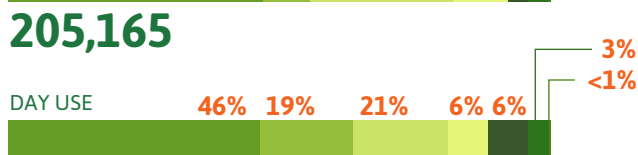
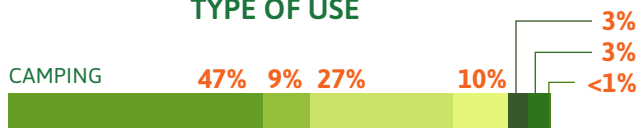
REGIONAL PARKS

+ PARK ATTENDANCE

7% Increase



TYPE OF USE



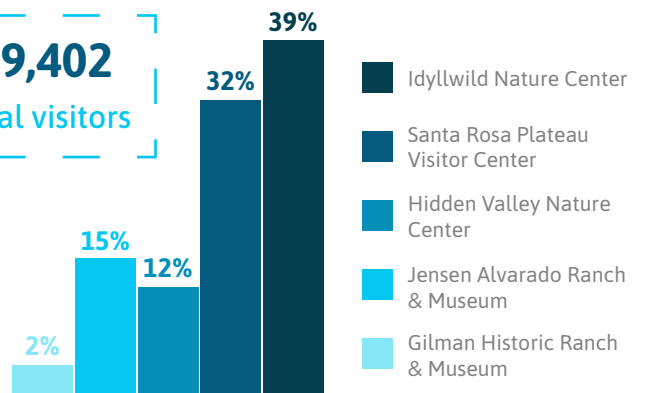
205,165

102,006

47,193

- Lake Skinner Recreation Area
- Lake Cahuilla Veterans Regional Park
- Rancho Jurupa Regional Park
- Hurkey Creek Park
- Idyllwild Regional Park
- Mayflower Regional Park
- McCall Equestrian Campground

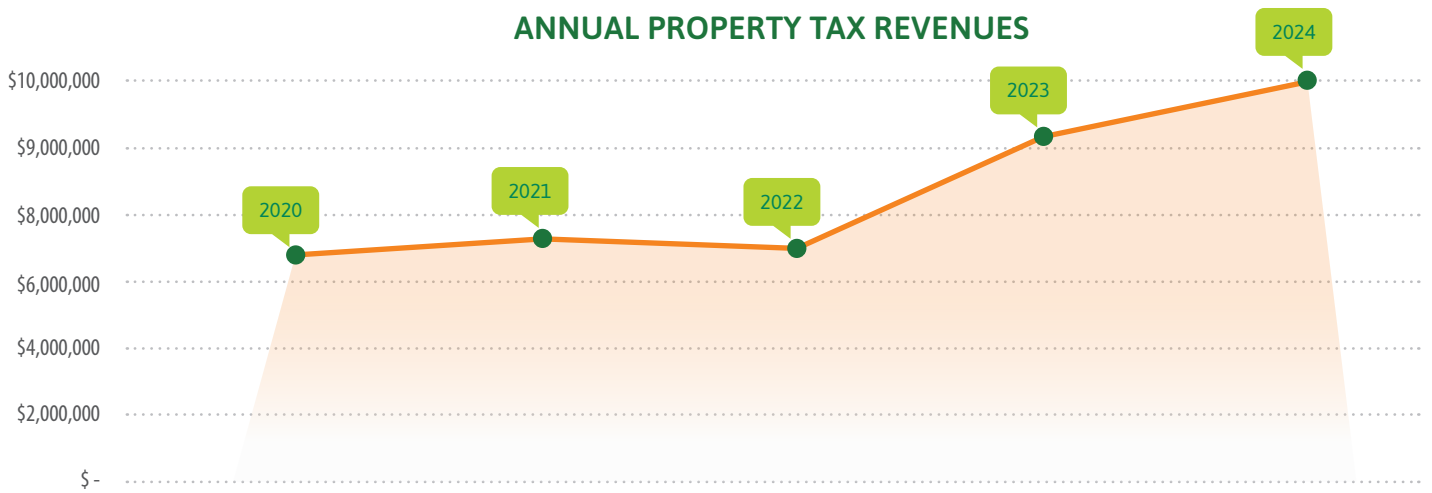
INTERPRETIVE SITES



Key

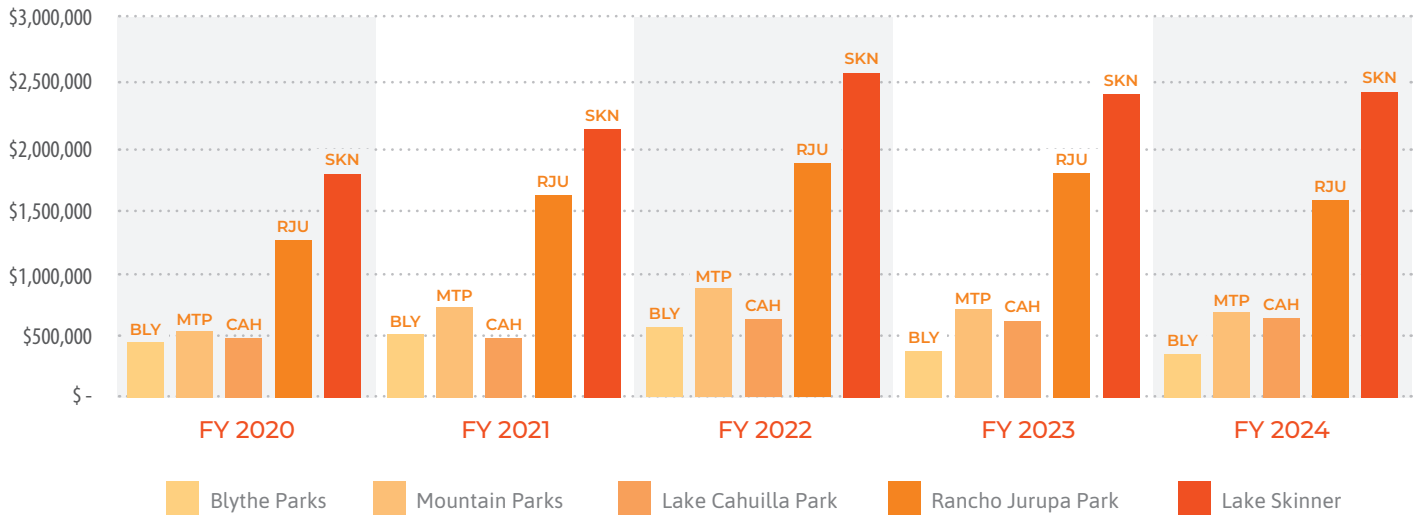
FINANCE

ANNUAL PROPERTY TAX REVENUES

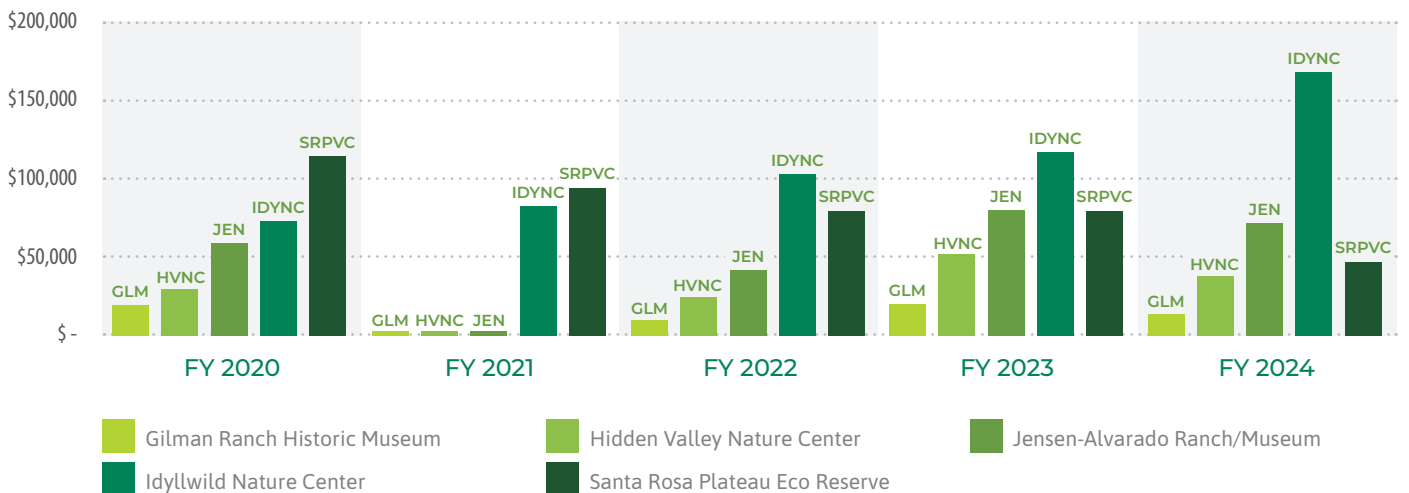


Property Tax Revenue has shown steady growth over the last five years, funding core services of the District.

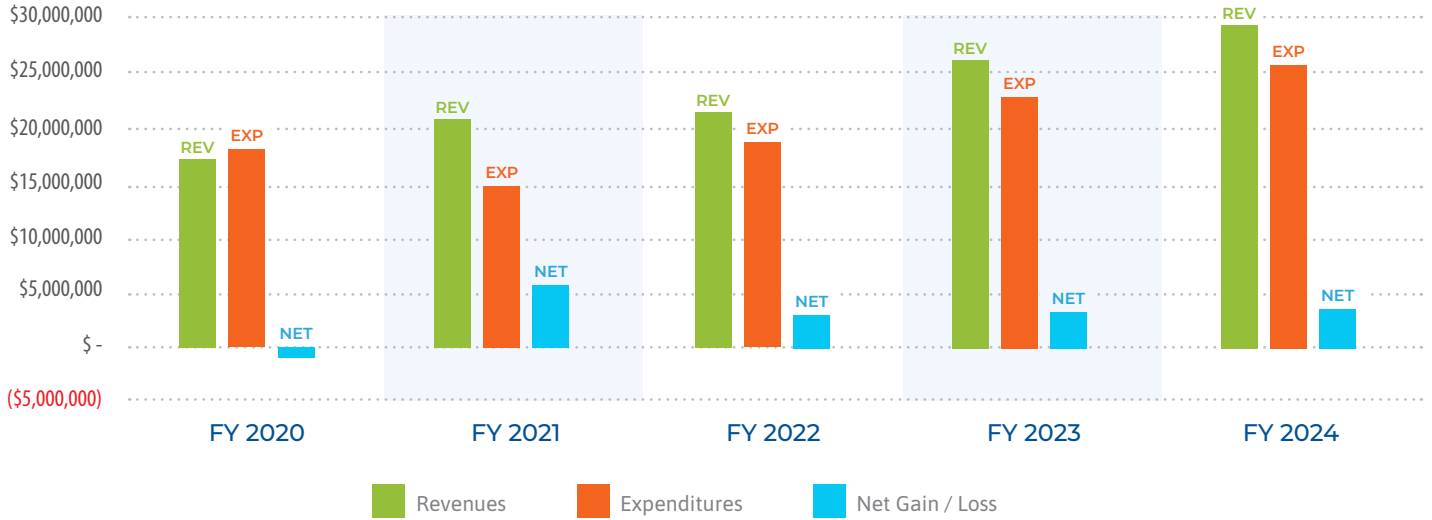
REGIONAL PARK ANNUAL REVENUES



NATURE & HISTORIC SITE REVENUES



REVENUES vs EXPENDITURES ANNUALLY



RESERVE FUND BALANCE BREAKDOWN YEAR-END 2023-2024



RIVCOPARKS



■ Nature Centers
 ◆ Historic Sites
 ● Wildlife Areas (open-space)
 ▲ Campgrounds
 ■ Other Park Facilities

- | | | | | |
|--|---|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| 1 SANTA ANA RIVER WILDLIFE AREA | 7 GILMAN HISTORIC RANCH & WAGON MUSEUM | 13 KABIAN RESERVE / PARK | 19 IODINE SPRINGS RESERVE | 25 SANTA ROSA PLATEAU VISITOR CENTER |
| 2 JENSEN-ALVARADO HISTORIC RANCH & MUSEUM | 8 HIDDEN VALLEY WILDLIFE AREA | 14 DOUBLE BUTTE RESERVE | 20 MULTI-SPECIES RESERVE | 26 SYLVAN MEADOWS |
| 3 PARK HEADQUARTERS | 9 HIDDEN VALLEY NATURE CENTER | 15 LAWLER ALPINE CABINS | 21 McCALL MEMORIAL PARK | 27 ALAMOS SCHOOLHOUSE NATURE CENTER |
| 4 BOX SPRINGS MOUNTAIN RESERVE | 10 CRESTMORE MANOR | 16 LAWLER LODGE | 22 HURKEY CREEK PARK | 28 LAKE SKINNER RECREATION AREA |
| 5 SAN TIMOTEO CANYON SCHOOLHOUSE | 11 RANCHO JURUPA REGIONAL PARK | 17 IDYLLWILD NATURE CENTER | 23 LAKE CAHUILLA VETERANS REGIONAL PARK | 29 JOHNSON RANCH RESERVE |
| 6 NORTON YOUNGLOVE RESERVE | 12 HARFORD SPRINGS RESERVE | 18 IDYLLWILD REGIONAL PARK | 24 SANTA ROSA PLATEAU ECOLOGICAL RESERVE | 30 MAYFLOWER REGIONAL PARK |

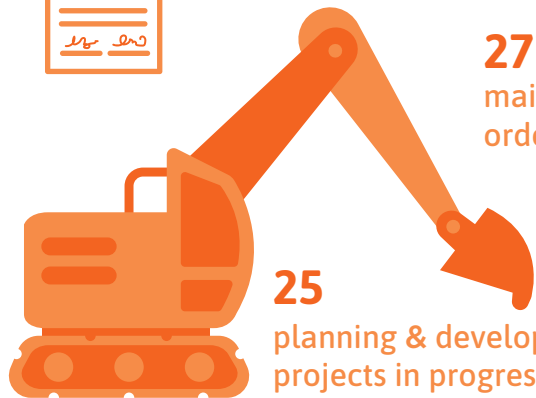
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT



23
projects contracted



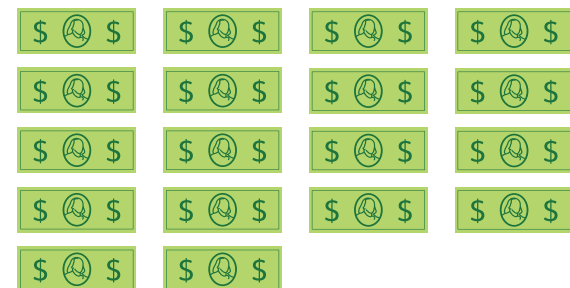
277
maintenance work orders completed



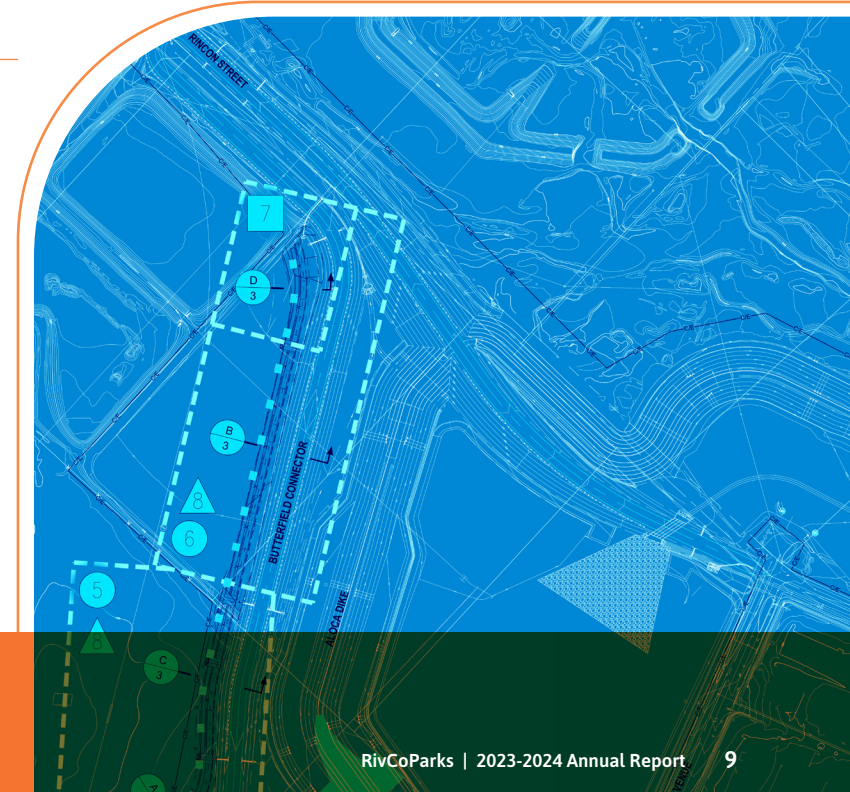
25
planning & development projects in progress

\$46M

project funding received



18 active grants



SANTA ANA RIVER BOTTOM



8,028
SARB patrol
& cleanup hours



20%
Increase



199 OHV contacts

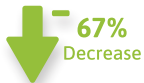


157
stolen & abandoned
vehicles recovered



175

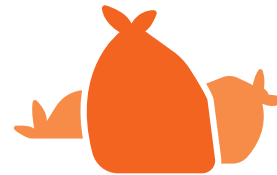
warning citations issued



67%
Decrease



6 wildfires were responded to



255 tons of trash & debris removed

2,939 SARB acres managed



231
encampments
documented

109
encampments
cleared

204
Multi-Disiplinary
Team engagements

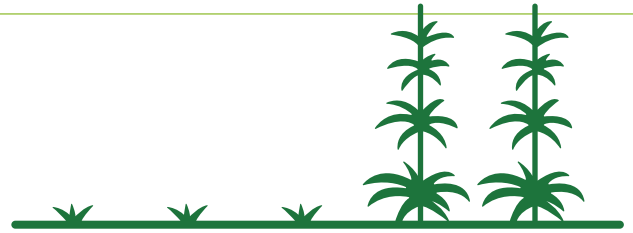
OPEN-SPACE / NATURAL RESOURCES

MULTIPLE SPECIES HABITAT CONSERVATION PLAN MANAGEMENT

29%
Decrease



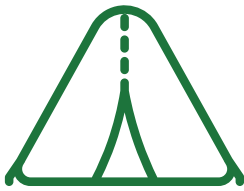
297	OHV contacts
5	abandoned vehicles towed



9 acres of illegal marijuana groves cleared



3,138 acres added

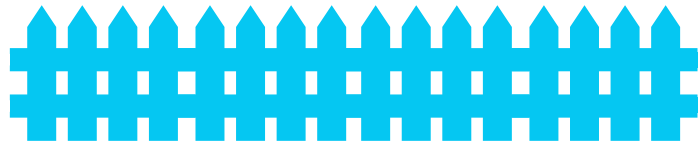


28 encampments cleared



22 tons of trash & debris removed

144 fence repairs 129 breached gates repaired



0.73 miles of new fence installed 3 gates installed

OPEN-SPACE

MSR

74% Decrease

463	turnarounds afterhours
203	vehicle contacts on roads



150 non-native grassland acres mowed

6.6 acres of invasive species removal

21.5 miles of roadside mowed

43 warning citations issued



21 vehicles removed from SAR

113 miles of trails patrolled

57% Decrease



172 OHV contacts

200 prescribed burn acres

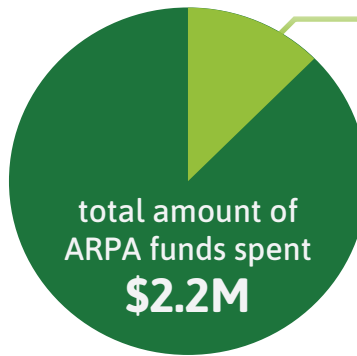
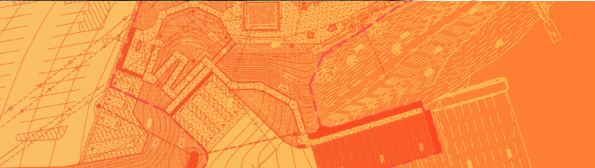


1200 patrol hours



BUSINESS OPERATIONS

SPECIAL EVENTS



ARPA funds used for special events
\$280K



9,315 special event participants

22 special events

OUTDOOR EQUITY INITIATIVE	
4	fishing clinics
1,300	fishing clinic participants



MARKETING

LIBRARY PASS PROGRAM	
48	new passes
85	library pass uses



388
work order tickets completed



7,519,900
marketing touchpoints



30,210 social media followers

VOLUNTEER SERVICES



67% Increase  **732** District volunteers



10 cleanup projects completed



value of volunteer hours

\$2.2M

 total District volunteer hours  volunteer hours for events & Adopt-A-Trail



TACTICS / NARRATIVE

“Tactics” are the specific adopted goals, or items, to be achieved during the year.



Accomplished

- + Identify grant readiness and opportunities to support replacement of aging infrastructure
- + Continue to implement financial strategy for project funding
- + Continue to enter into agreements with cities and agencies to manage maintenance of trails
- + Continue County-wide Community Engagement Plan
- + Improve transparency by adding project updates to District website
- + Implement District-wide special events program
- + Develop District-wide mapping application to enhance user experience
- + Implement cashless system at reserves and trailheads
- + Implement updated website in support of RivCo website project
- + Adapt and respond to customer surveys (internal and external)
- + Continue to implement SARB-focused unit to help promote active uses and address public health and safety as well as habitat conservation
- + Continue Comprehensive Plan update and include a needs assessment
- + Update policies and ordinances to maximize District effectiveness
- + Update District Strategic Plan in alignment with County Strategic Plan
- + Implement recommendations from DEI Working Group
- + Complete CAPRA updates and apply for reaccreditation
- + Enhance and expand Employee Retention Plan
- + Expand and enhance employee cross training program
- + Develop RivCo Talent training modules for District classifications



In Progress

- Complete Interpretive Plan for nature centers/historic sites
- Update and expand internal staff development/training program, including a regional Park Ranger Academy

BALANCED SCORECARD

YEAR	FY 21-22	FY 22-23	FY 23-24		DASHBOARD
			TARGET	RESULTS	
FINANCIAL PERSPECTIVE					
Fee Based Revenue	\$8,100,000	\$9,108,849	\$11,090,000	\$12,267,289	●
Capital Improvement Program Met	90%	65%	80%	100%	●
Operations Reserve	25%	94.9%	30%	77%	●
Budget vs Actuals	100%	85%	100%	75%	●
Value of Volunteer Hours	>\$2,250,000	\$2,074,992	\$2,280,000	\$2,200,000	●
Change in Net Position	*	*	\$500,000	\$5,200,000	●
Deferred Maintenance Projects Completed	*	*	5	7	●
CUSTOMER PERSPECTIVE					
Customer Satisfaction Rating	95%	96%	95%	97%	●
Marketing Touchpoints	5,500,000	37,082,587	4,000,000	7,519,900	●
Satisfaction Surveys Collected	2,000	2,416	5,000	5,389	●
Occupancy Rate of Campgrounds	26%	31%	30%	31%	●
Annual Education Program Participants	>18,600	21,314	37,000	23,318	●
Regional Trail Miles	185	185	185	185	●
INTERNAL BUSINESS SUPPORT PERSPECTIVE					
Active Partnership Agreements	4	4	4	4	●
Acres Under Management	100,000	102,581	102,400	105,700	●
FTE Per 10,000 acres	*	*	11.3	11.1	●
CAPRA Standards Current	154	154	154	154	●
Tactics Completed	21	14	21	19	●
Staff Readiness Index	90%	86%	>90%	87%	●
Outdoor Equity Participants	*	*	2,000	9,315	●
LEARNING & GROWTH PERSPECTIVE					
Preventable Employee Accidents	<5	2	<5	3	●
Performance Evaluations on Time	100%	97%	100%	92%	●
Training Hours	2,000	2,430	2,100	2,208	●
Recognition Events	5	5	6	6	●

● 90% or better than target ● 80% to 89% of target ● 79% or less than target * Not previously recorded

MISSION STATEMENT

To preserve land with sensitive habitat or rich heritage within Riverside County and provide opportunities for the community to enjoy equitable access through recreation and education.

VISION

Serving our community through thoughtful and sustainable actions to inspire lifelong connections with RivCo parks, places, and programs.

VALUES

A

ADAPTABLE

C

COMMUNITY-CENTRIC

T

TEAMWORK

I

INCLUSION

O

OUTSTANDING

N

NETWORKING

S

STEWARDSHIP



RIVCOPARKS.ORG

Parks Headquarters

4600 Crestmore Road, Jurupa Valley, CA 92509
800.234.7275