

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND RECOMMENDATIONS FORM
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
PROJECT NO. R2015-01333
COASTAL DEVELOPMENT PERMIT NO.201500061
CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. 201500055**

The planner must complete the following information:

Project Name/Number: Catalina Conservancy Trails Expansion/201500055

Project Address/Location: Santa Catalina Island

APNs for any parcels associated with the project:

7480-039-014;-012;-016;-005;-001;-011;-008;

7480-040-008;-004;-009;-012;-015;-010;-029;-003;

7480-042-013;-010;-011;-014;-023;-056;-058

7480-041-012;-001;-040;

7480-043-020;-021;-016;-013;-014;-017;-018;-019;-025

7480-044-001;-002

SEA Name/Number: Black Point, Arrow Point, Skull Canyon, Cottonwood Canyon, Parson's Landind, Upper Isthmus Canyon, Upper Descanso Canyon, Cherry Valley, Silver Peak, Sweetwater Canyon, Johnson's Landing, Little Harbor/Shark Harbor/Indian Head Point, Ben Weston Beach, Cape Canyon, Mount Orizaba, Middle Ranch Canyon, Swain's Canyon, Haypress Area

USGS Topographic Quadrangle Number: Santa Catalina North, South, West, East

Biologists conducting the environmental analysis of the project (if applicable): Marc Blain of Psomas, Julie King, Peter Dixon, and Ben Coleman of the Catalina Island Conservancy

Provide a brief project description (this should be completed in consultation with the staff biologist): The Catalina Island Conservancy is proposing to expand the officially designated trail system on the island with 31.4 miles of additional trails whose objective is create improved connections between trails and to modify existing social trails and/or old roads for improved use as trails. There will be three work staging areas located in disturbed sites for the phased work on the project. The trail work will largely consist of volunteers working with hand tools. The project proposes to install eight waterless vault toilets at trailheads throughout the island. The proposal also includes trail signage. The work will be phased over several years and done according to the season. They have submitted a masterplan of trail improvement areas and BMPs for the work to be completed.

Any proposed recommendations for SEATAC review. These can include items such as project design, structure location, etc. These recommendations should be based on best practices from a planning standpoint: There are no planning recommendations or modifications to the project at this time.

Questions or discussion topics for SEATAC review:

None

The biologist must complete the following information:

Notes from site inspection:

- Because of the size and complexity of the proposed trails program, County staff weren't able to visit the entirety of the trail network that is described in the project biological documents. As an alternative, County staff requested that Catalina Conservancy staff select examples of the range of typical situations to be addressed by the trails program. Such situations would include where drainage crossings might occur and how they would be configured; where existing wildlife and social trails and roads would be incorporated into the trails network, and where these would be abandoned; where prior uncontrolled use had resulted in redundancy among existing routes and damage to vegetation and soils; and where alternative trails had been proposed but not accepted in order to minimize further environmental damage. This tour was conducted on March 15, 2016, and County staff finds the biological report to be accurate in its description of the biological resources present on the site.

Any proposed recommendations for SEATAC review. These recommendations should be based on biologically superior practices:

- County staff agrees with the methods proposed in the Biota Report/Biological Assessment for trail alignments, improvements, and maintenance.
- County staff sees a need for greater enforceability of the requirement that dogs brought to the island are vaccinated against diseases that could adversely affect the island fox population. Greater detail is needed regarding how the requirement of dog vaccinations is enforced on the island, and how dogs are handled if their vaccinations aren't up to date. Proof of vaccination for dogs is recommended as a condition for access to the island.

Questions or discussion topics for SEATAC review:

- County staff recommends that SEATAC move that, with incorporation of Staff recommendations, no further review is needed and the project is consistent with the SEA Compatibility Criteria.