

The Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail

The Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail was authorized in August, 1990. It is one of only seven such trails in the country. Other national historic trails in the west include the Lewis and Clark, Oregon, Mormon, and Santa Fe Trails.

The Historical Event

The trail represents the route taken by Juan Bautista de Anza in 1775-76, when he led a contingent of colonists from what is now Mexico across deserts and mountains to found a colony for Spain at San Francisco. The expedition included 240 people and over 1000 head of stock.

The National Historic Trail Concept

National historic trails combine recreation and historic interpretation. The historic phenomena along the route are linked by trail and roadway marking and by maps and brochures. The marking makes it possible for persons with an intense interest in the trail to follow it from end to end. It also makes information on the trail and related historic events available to persons with a more casual interest when they happen to cross the alignment.

National historic trails, unlike national scenic trails, are not continuous recreation trails. However, most of the authorized trails do have at least some segments available for recreational trail use. In the case of Juan Bautista de Anza, trail proponents have expressed a strong desire for extended trails for retracement.

Management of the Trail

The Park Service role is primarily one of coordinator for the project rather than land manager. National historic trails require the participation of interested individuals and private organizations, as well as all levels of government.

Planning For the Juan Bautista de Anza Trail

The Park Service has begun preparation of a comprehensive plan for the trail route. This plan will identify key resources, assign responsibilities, and establish procedures for a cooperative program. It will involve close coordination with other federal, state, local, and private organizations. Persons interested in either participating in the planning effort or in being kept informed of the planning effort should contact:

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LEGEND

-  Historic Route
-  Historic Site
-  Metropolitan Area
- NHP National Historic Park
- NHS National Historic Site
- NRA National Recreation Area
- NM National Monument
- NHL National Historic Landmark
- SHP State Historic Park
- SP State Park



California

Golden Gate NRA
(Presidio)

Mission Dolores

John Muir NHS

SAN FRANCISCO
METRO AREA

San Juan Bautista SHP

Monterey SHP

Carmel Mission

Mission San Antonio

Mission San Luis Obispo

Santa Barbara Mission

Santa Monica
Mountains NRA

LOS ANGELES
METRO AREA

San Gabriel Mission

Anza Borrego SP

Yuma Crossing
Park NHL

Painted Rocks

Yuma

Casa Grande NM

TUCSON
METRO AREA

Saguaro NM

San Xavier
Mission

Tubac Presidio SHP

Nogales

Tumacacori NHP

Mexico

Horcasitas

Pacific Ocean

Baja California
Gulf of California

