

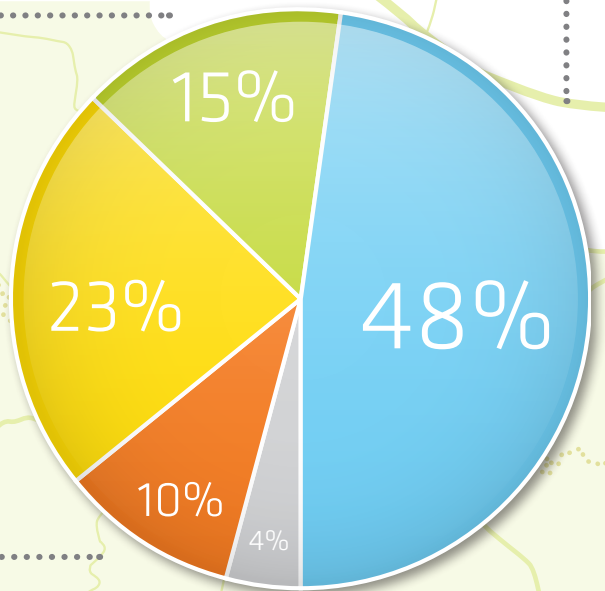


A UNIT OF THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area (SMMNRA) is the nation’s largest urban national park, encompassing more than **150,000 acres** of mountains and coastline in Ventura and Los Angeles counties.

A PARTNERSHIP PARK

SMMNRA comprises a seamless network of local, state, and federal parks interwoven with private lands and communities.

48%	Private Ownership
15%	National Park Service
23%	CA State Parks
10%	SMM Conservancy/MRCA
4%	Other



THE VISITORS

More than **35 million annual visitors** recreate at local, state, and federal beaches and mountain parks within SMMNRA. With more than **500 miles of trails**, popular activities include hiking, mountain biking, horseback riding, camping, picnicking, wildlife viewing, swimming and surfing.

SMMNRA’s outdoor recreation and public health benefits are easily accessible to more than 25 million people residing in metropolitan southern California; an ethnically diverse region significantly underserved by parklands.

A UNIQUE ECOSYSTEM

SMMNRA preserves outstanding examples of rare Mediterranean-type coastal ecosystems, found in only four other locations around the globe (portions of Chile's west coast, the cape of South Africa, South-west Australia, and the Mediterranean basin).

Characterized by warm, dry summers and cool, wet winters, these ecosystems account for

about 2% of the earth's land mass, yet are home to just under 20% of all plant species. SMMNRA's rich biological diversity includes more than 450 animal species and 26 distinct plant communities, of which there are 20 endangered plant and animal species.



TRACKING URBAN CARNIVORES

Since 1996, biologists at SMMNRA have studied the effects of urbanization and habitat fragmentation on mammalian carnivores in the Santa Monica Mountains and the surrounding area. Through the use of radio and GPS collars, remote cameras, and scat (animal feces) surveys, scientists have studied hundreds of bobcats and coyotes, as well as 29 gray foxes and more than 25 mountain lions.

MAINTAIN & PROTECT

SMMNRA is a leader among national parks in its use of partnerships to protect resources and extend services to the public. Over 450 governmental, private, and nonprofit organizations are working cooperatively to provide recreation and education services, maintain and enhance parklands, and study and protect natural and cultural resources.

Management challenges include:

- Illegal marijuana cultivation
- Private encroachment on NPS land
- Resource conservation
- Rehabilitation issues in a highly urbanized and heavily populated environment.



SMMNRA Headquarters

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