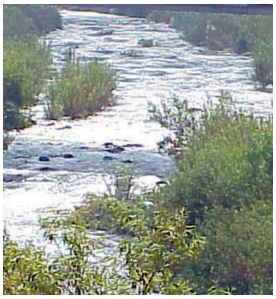
THE GREEN VISIONS PLAN

for 21st century southern california

DECEMBER 2004



2. On-line Inventory of Southern California Plans Relating to Habitat, Watersheds, and Recreation

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THE GREEN VISIONS PLAN

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The mission of the Green Visions Plan for 21st Century Southern California is to offer a guide to habitat conservation, watershed health and recreational open space for the Los Angeles metropolitan region. The Plan will also provide decision support tools to nurture a living green matrix for southern California. Our goals are to protect and restore natural areas, restore natural hydrological function, promote equitable access to open space, and maximize support via multiple-use facilities. The Plan is a joint venture between the University of Southern California and the San Gabriel and lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, Coastal Conservancy, and Baldwin Hills Conservancy.

www.greenvisionsplan.net

FUNDERS AND COLLABORATORS

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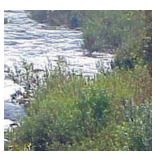
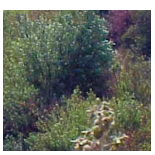

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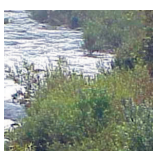
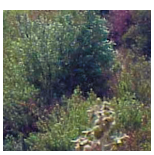



INTRODUCTION

The Green Visions Plan for 21st Century Southern California is a joint venture by the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (RMC), Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy (SMMC), Baldwin Hills Conservancy (BHC), and California Coastal Conservancy (CC) to develop a comprehensive habitat conservation, watershed protection, and recreational opportunities plan for southern California. This effort, involving academic experts, political leaders, and stakeholders from the business, government, nonprofit and community sectors, will provide a set of values and principles, and technical planning tools, capable of guiding the development of a living green matrix for southern California. The Plan's area includes the RMC, SMMC, and BHC territories, as well as CC's dual mandated territories (the Coastal Zone itself, and watersheds draining into the Pacific Ocean). Figure 1 illustrates the entire Plan area.

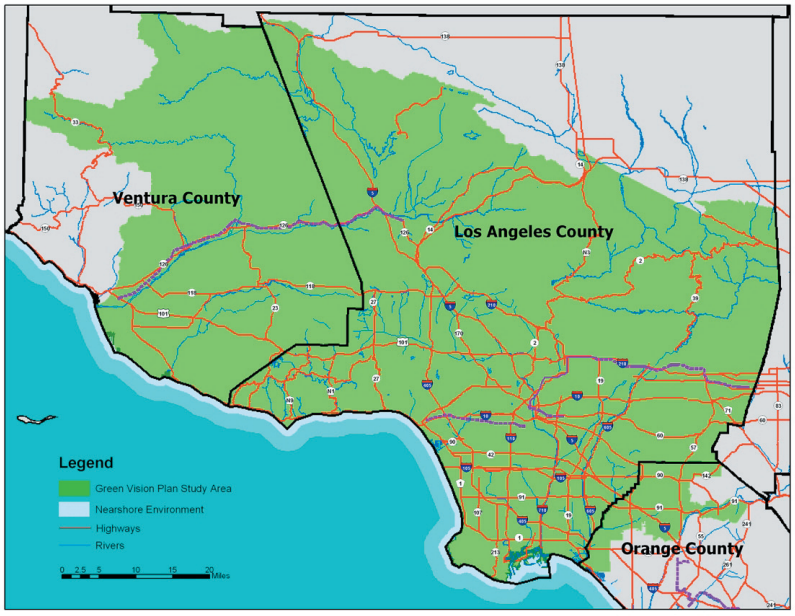


Figure 1. Green Visions Plan Area

The long-term goals of the Green Visions Plan are to:

- Protect and restore natural areas to ensure the persistence of native biodiversity and reintroduction of historically present natural communities;
- Restore natural function to the hydrological cycle to maximize groundwater recharge, improve storm water quality, and minimize flood hazards;
- Increase and ensure equitable access for residents to a range of open space types and recreational opportunities, and thereby reduce socioeconomic and geographic disparities in present-day patterns of access to these types of resources; and
- Maximize political and financial support for the Plan by proposing multiple-use facilities wherever possible to meet the goals of habitat restoration and conservation, restoration of hydroecological function, and provision of recreational open space.

Clearly, these are ambitious goals. Although they are widely shared by the many public agencies and private organizations and residents concerned with making southern California more livable, equitable, and ecologically sustainable, the Green Visions Plan is not a regulatory plan. It will thus have no power to direct local land use. The primary value of the Green Visions Plan will be to set forth a needs-based, long-

range plan designed to help the multitude of actors involved in shaping the region's future.

The Plan will highlight the opportunities and constraints that may arise as habitat conservation and restoration projects, open space acquisitions and recreation improvements, and efforts to protect watersheds are proposed and implemented. The tools and data developed as part of the Plan will also expand the analytic and planning capabilities of local agencies and organizations that seek to attract public funding or allocate their own resources, reduce the fragmented, piecemeal approach to regional resource planning, and promote projects whose collective impacts – because they are part of a larger scientifically grounded vision – are greater than the sum of their parts.

The USC Center for Sustainable Cities and GIS Research Laboratory (hereafter referred to as the Center and GIS Lab respectively) has been tasked to take the lead in development of the Green Visions Plan and the accompanying GIS planning tools and datasets. The work will be completed in two phases. Phase I involved specification of analytic frameworks to guide the work conducted for each of the three focus areas, hosting of a workshop to solicit additional ideas and feedback about these frameworks, creation of an inventory of existing plans in the Plan Area, and development of a data catalogue to identify gaps in geospatial data and other information that must be filled before more detailed plans and the GIS-based planning tools can be developed. This particular report describes the public domain GIS data that are freely available for the Plan Area. The major tasks identified in the framework – the identification and assessment of opportunities for habitat conservation and restoration, open space acquisition and recreational facilities development, watershed protection efforts, and the development of the GIS planning tools and geospatial datasets will be completed during Phase II.

The remainder of this report discusses the construction of the online Green Visions Plan Library. The Library hosts past, present, and future plans and projects (hardcopy and electronic) that concern conservation of natural resources, watershed health, and recreational open space in the Green Visions Plan area. Such a library can help construct common visions for the region's future, locate specific projects of critical importance to localities and subregions, and identify gaps in previous planning efforts.

The Planning Context

Like most other U.S. metropolitan areas, southern California lacks a history of strong regional governance. Attempts to create institutions with powers of taxation or land use control necessary for guiding regional growth and development have been repeatedly resisted.

This is not to say that there are no regional planning bodies. The Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), for example, is a voluntary organization whose members are local governments. SCAG serves as the region's Metropolitan Planning Authority with responsibility for implementation of federal transportation policy. But the agency, structurally weak due to its reliance on local government membership, has no jurisdiction over local land use. And even in the realm of transportation planning, SCAG typically defers to county priorities for infrastructure investments (Giuliano, 2004).

In addition, other regional agencies do exert substantial power – the so-called 'stealth' regional planning authorities, such as the South Coast Air Quality Management District, the Metropolitan Water District, and the Regional Water Quality Control Board (Fulton, 2001). These agencies wield substantial regulatory powers and/or play a critical role in either facilitating or constraining land development. The Water Quality Control Board, for example, is charged with developing total maximum daily load permits (TMDLs) for municipalities (as required by federal law), and such regulations have stimulated some large-scale watershed planning efforts. Moreover, the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA) has spurred the creation of a small number of large-scale integrated land-use, transportation, and conservation plans such as the

Riverside Integrated Plan (Pincetl, 2004). The latest quasi-regional agencies on the scene are the state-created conservancies, some with very large territories, charged with conserving habitat on the region's peripheries, protecting coastal-draining watersheds, and providing recreational open space opportunities through land acquisition and infrastructure investments. Lastly, federal resource agencies such as the National Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management control vast territories on the region's periphery, indirectly shaping land use and development patterns.

Nonetheless, local governments enjoy strong – and avidly protected – powers of 'home rule'. Most planning decisions that shape patterns of land consumption – planning for new homes, roads, businesses, industrial parks, infrastructure, and water/energy supply – remain in the hands of local municipal and county governments (and their enterprise districts) and a myriad of special districts. The governmental fragmentation that this system of governance creates is staggering. In the 5-county SCAG region, for example, there are 177 cities and over 1200 special districts (Musso, 2004).

Thus any attempt to create a Plan Library for southern California is to confront the fragmented, piecemeal nature of planning in contemporary U.S. metropolitan regions. Not only is this area geographically extensive, spanning three counties and a large number of cities (108), but the variety of agencies and organizations involved in preparing plans is enormous. These entities range from governments at all levels (e.g., from the National Forest Service to local municipalities), to special districts and single-purpose resource agencies (e.g., Water Quality Control Board), to nonprofit organizations (e.g., Friends of the Santa Clara River). In turn, many type of plans influence – directly or indirectly – habitat conservation, water quality, and the abundance and distribution of recreational opportunities. These categories of plan span the most ubiquitous, such as community general plans (required for every city and county), and local coastal plans (required of every coastal city or county jurisdiction), to specialized place-specific plans, such as management plans for particular stream channels or watersheds, and biological conservation plans for particular species or habitat types. Some other emerging forms of planning, such as "sustainable cities" plans, and area plans by public or private land conservancies, also play an increasingly prominent role.

In what follows, the most fundamental planning tools affecting habitat conservation, watershed health, and recreational open space are briefly described and assessed.

General Plans

General plans (also referred to as comprehensive plans), are the most basic tool used to guide the development of local communities (Levy, 2000). A general plan's main purpose is to establish a vision of the future and to outline steps to achieve that vision. In other words, the General Plan is intended to be a comprehensive, long range declaration of goals, policies and programs for development. The State of California requires that each general plan contain seven elements (California Government Code Title 7, Division 1, Chapter 3, Article 5, Section 65302):

- Land Use
- Circulation
- Housing
- Open Space
- Noise
- Safety
- Conservation

In 1937, the State of California initiated the requirement that all cities and counties adopt master plans. In 1965, the term was changed to "general plans". In 1971, the passage of "consistency law" ensured that

the general plans were to supercede zoning ordinances in cases where the two were in conflict and later legislation required zoning ordinances to be in conformance with general plans. Fulton (1999) concluded "the general plan has changed planning in California by imposing a rational process on communities".

Nevertheless, that rational process is sometimes too technical and rule-bound, with the result that plans are more about procedure than substance, and consist of lofty goals rather than implementation strategies. This occurs because the State imposes very few restrains on general plan content, providing discretion for cities and allowing them to effectively avoid producing general plans containing thoughtful visions for the community's future and ideas about implementation. Thus some general plans are little more than town-sized "site plans", while others are policy plans lacking a vision of a community's physical future in terms of land-use pattern. In addition, general plans are often fundamentally static, reflecting a community's desires at one point in time. Although plans must be periodically updated, the interval between updates is long and updates can be accomplished without engaging the community in a participatory planning process. This creates the challenge of how to create general plans that are living documents that can be constantly updated to respond to rapidly changing conditions – a challenge seldom met by local jurisdictions confronting fiscal austerity and the onslaught of day-to-day development pressures.

Recently, there have been increasing doubts about the efficiency of general plans and their utility in California (Multari, 2004). From the world of practice, some city managers do not see the general plan as particularly valuable in guiding work, but rather as distracting and divisive. Similarly, more academic critics contend that the current general plan guidelines are not flexible enough to be compatible with the dynamic, complex, and hard-to-predict context encountered in urban planning. Such criticism has provoked proposals to replace traditional general plan with "vision statements" and associated "action plans." The vision statement derives a set of planning principles that become the guides for local work. An action plan is a strategy for implementation of programs that are the most relevant or important to the community. This approach may be more likely to produce visible, prompt and economical results with less political upheaval than the preparation of a general plan (Multari 2004).

Local Coastal Programs

The California Coastal Act of 1976 requires that all local governments develop local coastal programs (LCP). An LCP is defined as "a local government's land use plans, zoning ordinances, zoning district maps, and, within sensitive coastal resources areas, other implementing actions, which, when taken together, meet the requirements of, and implement the provisions and policies of [the Coastal Act] at the local level" (PRC Section 30108.6). The common goal of all LCPs is to minimize adverse impacts to coastal resources including public access and shoreline sand supply and from hazards in accordance with California Coastal Act.

The Coastal Commission must certify LCPs before cities or counties can exert their own development permit authority. Although all LCPs were supposed to be completed and certified by 1976, approximately one-quarter of them were still not completed as of 1999. Thus the Coastal Commission still carries a heavy load of permit applications from all around the state (Fulton 1999).

Such a delay hints at the ability of local governments to exercise informal powers to resist the implementation of state legislation (Fawcett 1983). Although the State has policies that directly affect the coastal zone, California law grants no "home rule" powers to local governments when environmental externalities (e.g. coastal resources) are involved. However, the Coastal Act allows local governments to negotiate with the State during development and implementation of their LCPs. Local government

was conceived of as representing the immediate interest (e.g. economic and political health) of its local constituency far more emphatically than the interest of any "public" not represented within its political boundaries (e.g. coastal resource users). Fawcett's (1983) findings confirmed that local jurisdictions effectively used both formal and informal powers to protect their parochial interests and delay the LCP process.

Watershed Management Plans

Watershed management plans generally have the focus of improving watershed health including: creating and improving habitat, recreational improvements, managing water supply, flood control, water quality, and engaging community interest. Watershed management plans often cross over multiple jurisdictions and force many different agencies and stakeholders to work together. This benefits the people and the watershed as efforts can be better communicated and the system can be treated as a whole.

There are no regulatory requirements that specifically require the creation of a watershed management plan. However, increasing enforcement of state and federal water quality regulations has prompted a flurry of diverse watershed planning activities. These plans may be initiated by anyone with an interest in a particular watershed and involve greatly varying degrees of technical analysis. Some plans include only a river channel plus 50 feet to each side, while other plans include the entire watershed area from the headwaters to the discharge point.

A review of international watershed planning efforts (Veale, 2003) indicated watershed plans have the best chance for success when they include:

- Political endorsement
- Enabling legislation
- Co-ordination & a coordinating body at the watershed/subwatershed level
- Good data, appropriate technical & analytical skills, decision support tools
- Sustainable funding
- Integrated, interdisciplinary approach
- Clear visions, goals, objectives, & actions
- Dynamic leadership
- Public involvement & partnering
- Common language for decision-making
- Shared action plan, incentives to undertake action
- Continuum of proactive planning, monitoring & updating

Watersheds do not coincide with political boundaries and therefore watershed plans require collaboration with many jurisdictions (cities, special districts, etc.) and resource-oriented interest groups. While local support and participation has been identified as key to a successful watershed plan, the lack of overarching support, in the form of legislation and/or an implementation authority, often prevents cohesive implementation of the plan recommendations and requirements.

Habitat, Natural Community, and Species Conservation Plans

Several plan types exist that identify how particular species, habitat, or natural community might be conserved or recovered from the threat of extinction. Many of these are mandated by state or federal agencies to avoid the extinction of species that have been identified as threatened or endangered under the federal or California endangered species acts. Of these regulatory plans, the most common are species recovery plans, habitat conservation plans, and natural community conservation plans.

Species recovery plans are written by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to guide actions that will lead to the recovery of federally threatened or endangered species. These plans are proactive and are written independently of development proposals. They identify necessary recovery actions that often include geographically explicit recovery areas.

Habitat Conservation Plans, in contrast, are written as compromises under the federal Endangered Species Act to allow for "take" of endangered species while not reducing their likelihood of survival. A Habitat Conservation Plan identifies conservation actions that will be taken to offset harm to a species (or group of species) elsewhere. They were designed to resolve some of the inherent conflicts between development and conservation (Beatley 1994), but whether they have been successful is a matter of debate.

In California, Natural Community Conservation Plans (NCCPs) are the result of a joint process to provide for the conservation of natural communities through a process that is administered by the California Department of Fish and Game with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The NCCP program is currently authorized for a limited geographic area that targets a suite of species associated with coastal sage scrub. These larger scale plans also provide for some listed species to be killed in exchange for conservation of habitat elsewhere. In the Green Visions Plan study area, only the Palos Verdes Peninsula is part of an NCCP area.

Other government plans may respond to conservation needs. For example, the County of Los Angeles identifies a series of "Significant Ecological Areas" within the county. Development within these areas requires a higher level of environmental review and is constrained by environmental considerations.

Other conservation plans are not a function of regulation, but rather are created by stakeholders, agencies, and individuals. These can range from complex scientific studies being integrated into a plan, to charrettes led by community stakeholders. Planning efforts can set out to protect one species, acting as an "umbrella species" for the larger ecosystem. Conversely, plans can also focus on the conservation of a particular community, such as coastal sage scrub, to lend broader protection to a wide range of species within an ecosystem.

Successful planning efforts appear to have the common thread of being collaborative in nature. Whether regulatory or nonregulatory, those plans that are implemented are usually the result of extensive stakeholder involvement and compromise by all parties. Collaboration is often thrust upon participants after a habitat conflict has already arisen, usually in a regulatory context such as the Endangered Species Act (Porter, 1995). While collaborative plans are those that are implemented, it does not immediately follow that they are successful in achieving their conservation goals. The political give and take of a collaborative process may result in a plan that does not achieve biological goals. It is usually the responsibility of the government agencies to ensure that biological criteria are met for regulatory plans, but they too may be swayed by political considerations.

METHODS

We employed five basic steps to create the Green Vision Online Plan Library. These steps involved:

1. Creating a typology of plan types and themes;
2. Collecting physical and electronic copies of plans;
3. Reviewing each plan for content and projects;
4. Creating an Access database to catalogue plan information and reviews; and
5. Developing a 'clickable map' or web-based online tool designed to provide easy access to Plan Library information.

In the sections that follow, we detail each of these tasks.

1. Typology of Plan Type and Theme

There is an enormous variety of planning activity ongoing within the Plan territory. Plans range from those that are required by statute (for example, general plans), to more ephemeral plans developed by nonprofit conservation organizations. It was therefore essential to create a basic working typology of plan types, and relate these types to a particular function or theme (for instance, watershed management, recreation, etc.). After an initial scan of plans and their characteristics, we developed a Plan Typology to guide the organizational structure of the Library.

Our typology contains 18 Plan Types, shown below (Figure 2).

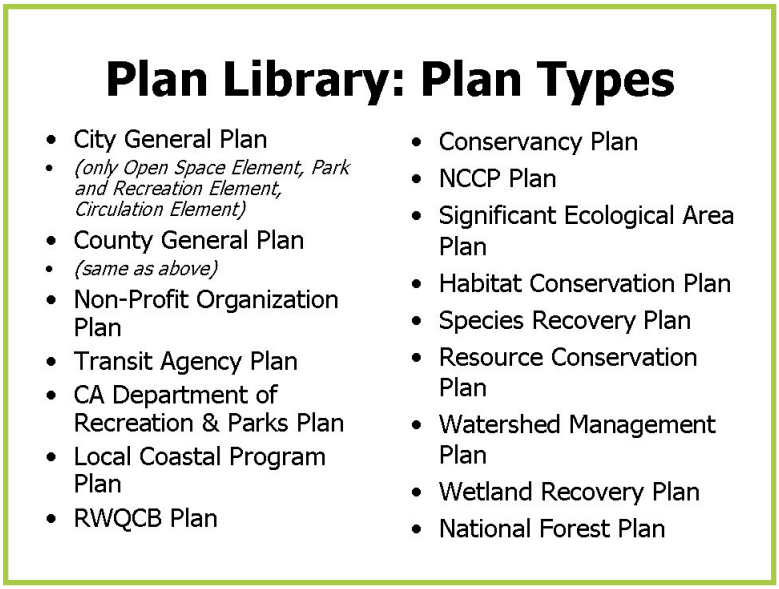


Figure 2. Plan Types

In addition, 14 Plan Themes were used to expedite future searches of plans and projects, as listed below (Figure 3).

The typology was designed so that any user of the Online Plan Library could select one Plan Type and at least one Plan Theme. If the list does not contain the type or theme the user wants, s/he can specify it by writing the content in a field called "other."

2. Plan Collection

Actual collection of the plans presented numerous hurdles. We expected that quite a few of the plans would be downloadable from agency websites. This proved not to be the case. For example, there were

Figure 3. Plan Themes

only nine (9) city general plans available online out of the 108 plans to be reviewed. Therefore, much effort was put to contacting agencies to find copies of plans, and actually purchasing plans or obtaining free copies. In a number of cases, it was necessary to physically visit the city/agency in order to secure copies of plans. One important breakthrough in the distribution of county general plans was achieved by the state, which scanned plans and then put their image online at California's Land Use Planning Information Network, allowing us to collect most county general plans and their respective elements.

Despite such resolute effort, we were unable to collect 47 city general plans, 1 county general plan element, 14 watershed management/restoration plans, and 5 habitat conservation plans. In addition, while we searched extensively for plans developed by nonprofit organizations or nongovernmental collaboratives (e.g., watershed councils), there is no doubt that many such entities either have plans or are developing plans that have not been included here due to gaps in coverage. This is particularly true for small-scale organizations and/or site-specific projects. Thus an important caveat to be kept in mind when reviewing our analysis and conclusions is that despite our extensive search efforts, the planning landscape of southern California is enormous and complex and our coverage is necessarily partial.

3. Plan Review

Each plan was reviewed and a capsule description drafted according to a specific template (Appendix A). Various fields were employed to describe the characteristics of the plan (e.g. author and/or consultant, geographic extent, summary of findings and recommendations, etc.). It is worth noting that the summary of findings and recommendations included mention of any projects with a specific geographic location identified.

4. Access Database for Plans

All plan descriptions were stored in a database created in Microsoft Access. However, the plan description inputting process was done via the Plan Library Website – a special-purpose website connected to the Access database. This website provides two interfaces for plan reviewers to input/update information:

a) *Plan Index*, which is similar to a "table of contents" (see Figure 4). The index presents basic information on all the plans in the Access database (e.g. title, date, person responsible for

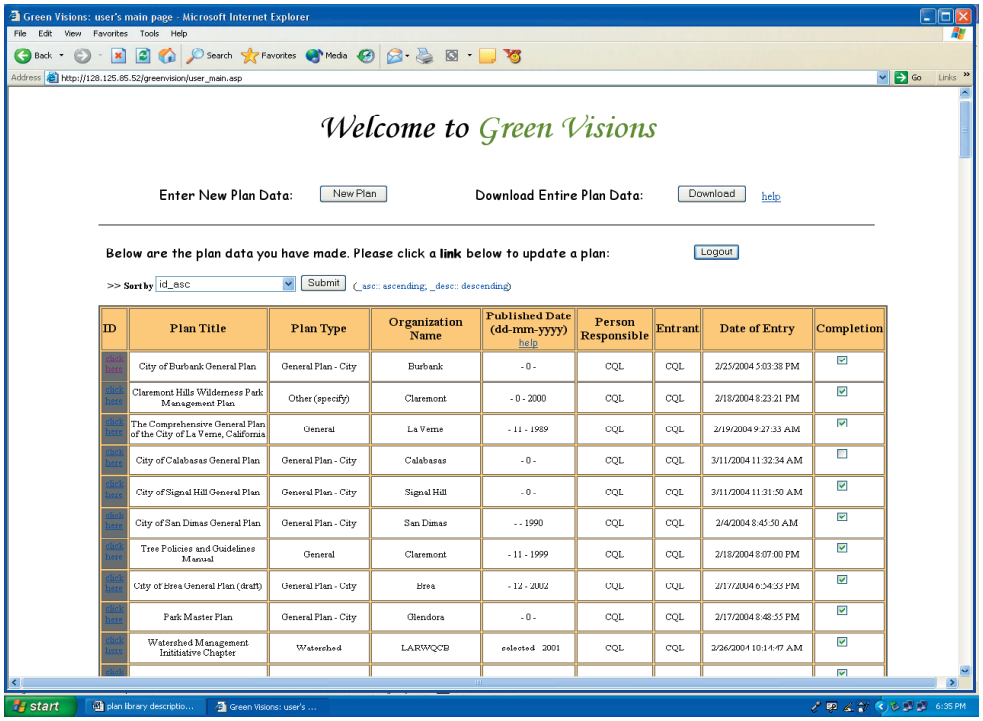


Figure 4. Plan Index Page

inputting the plan, and if completed).

b) *Plan Update Form* (See Figure 5), where the plan reviewers can enter information into each pre-defined field for individual plans.

This Plan Library Website resides on one of the web-servers at the USC GIS Research Laboratory. It allows the users to input plan descriptions from any location (e.g. home, work).

The fundamental support of the Plan Library website – the Access database – is the "back-end" of the Green Vision Plan Library infrastructure. It is intended only for internal users (plan reviewers) to update plan information. External users can get plan descriptions via the "front-end" – the Clickable Map (see section below), where a Plan Report will be generated according to the information in the Access database.

5) Clickable Plan Library Map

With the Access database as the Plan Library's "back-end", we created a Clickable Map as the "front-end" of the Library. This map is a web-based interface for external users. The purpose of this Map is to provide an interactive technique to allow users to pull up plans, proposals, and related documents from a web-based GIS map of Green Vision Plan area.

We used an ArcIMS system to host the Clickable Map on one of the web-servers in the USC GIS lab. Each plan in the Access database is linked to the Clickable map via its footprint (e.g. city boundary, county boundary, watershed boundary, etc.). Therefore, if a user wants to search for all plans related to the City of Los Angeles, s/he can click on any area within the City of Los Angeles on the ArcIMS map, and a list of plans related to the City of Los Angeles will appear in a new window on the screen. The user can then pull-up any Plan Reports from the list. A Toolbox is also provided to manipulate the base map.

As shown in Figure 6, the Clickable map is composed of three main elements: Base Layers, Search

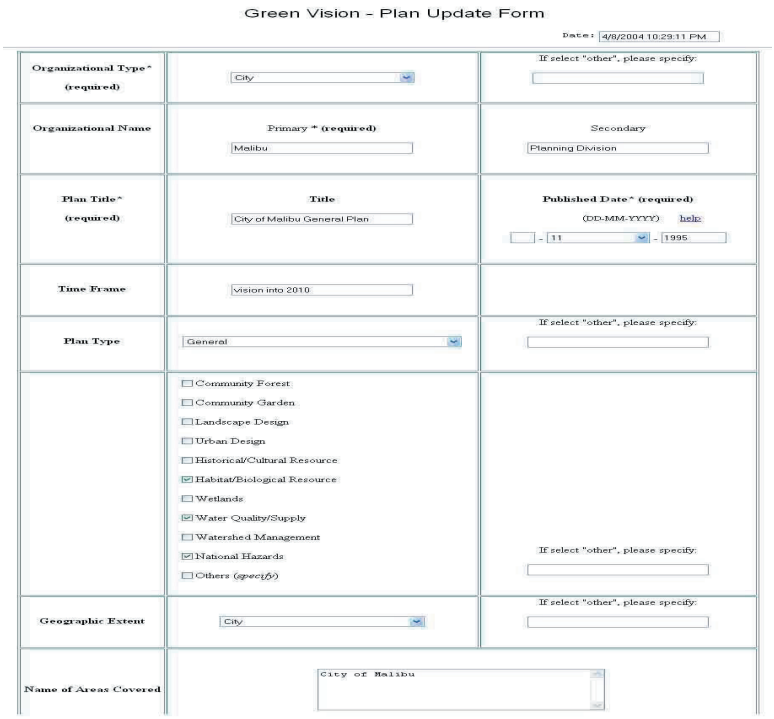


Figure 5. Plan Update Forms

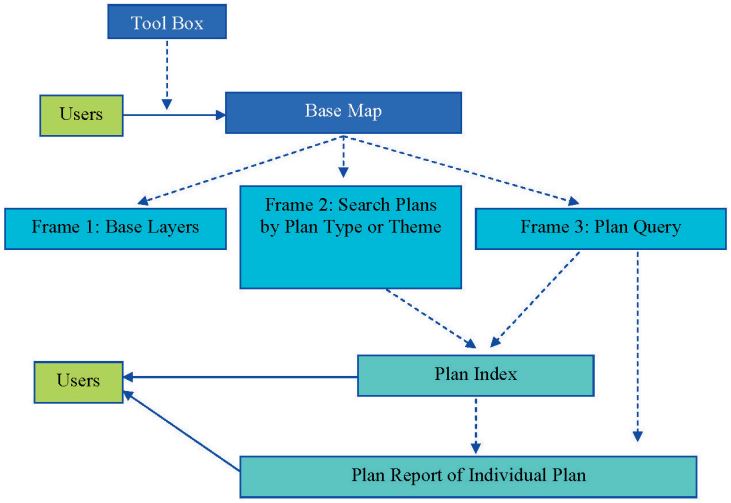


Figure 6. Architecture of Clickable Map

Plans by Plan Type or Theme, and Plan Query. Each is located in a frame next to the base map interface (Figure 7). The operation in these frames changes the visual representation in the base map.

The "Base Layer" frame controls 11 base map layers, including boundaries for conservancies, the coastal zone, cities and counties, major transportation routes, rivers, lakes, and floodplains. The "Search Plan by Plan Type or Theme" frame provides two options to users to search plans and visualize their geographic footprints on the map:

Plan Type (18 options) and Plan Theme (13 options). When users click on any of the options, the corresponding plans will all emerge as a list (i.e. Plan Index) in the frame as well as their geographic footprints on the map. Clicking on any specific plan will lead to detailed plan descriptions – or Plan Report.

For example, if users looking for general plans initiate from the "Search Plan by Plan Type or Theme" frame, they click the "Plan Type" button, select "City General Plan" from the pop-up list, then "submit". The resulting image is shown in Figure 8, with the lower left frame showing the Plan Index with all the City General Plans, while the base map shows all city "footprints" or boundaries. Then if the user then clicks on the footprint of City of Long Beach, a Plan Report will be displayed (shown in Figure 9) along with and the zoomed-in image of City of Long Beach footprint (Figure 10).

The "Search Plan by Plan Query" frame enables users to generate plan indexes and plan reports by using the following four query criteria:

1. Plan title;
2. Plan type;
3. Published date in year; and
4. Organization.

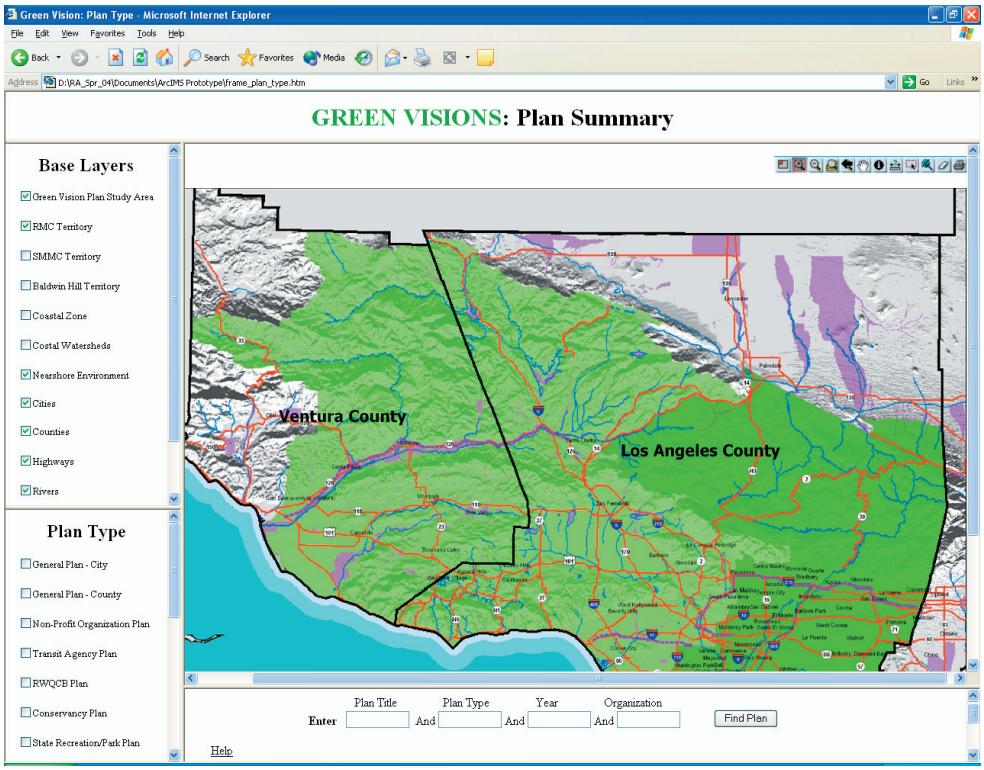


Figure 7. Three Frames and the Base Map Interface

These queries can be used either individually or combined. For example, the “Search Plan by Plan Query” frame underneath the base map (Figure 11) can be queried, “name=Long Beach.” Then the results are a zoomed-in image and a table with linkage (name in blue color) to a Plan Index like that shown in Figure 4. Clicking on any plan in the index leads to a Plan Report (Figure 12).

An another approach is to initiate from the footprints on the base map. After activating the “cities” layer in the Map Layer frame, all city footprints are displayed on the map. then users can access the “Hyperlink” icon to click on the footprint of City of Long Beach. This produces a pop-up window listing an index of the plans within City of Long Beach (Figure 13). Clicking on the name of any individual plan (in blue) will lead to the Plan Report similar to that shown in Figure 9.

Summary

In summary, Figure 14 illustrates the architecture of the entire Green Visions Online Plan Library.

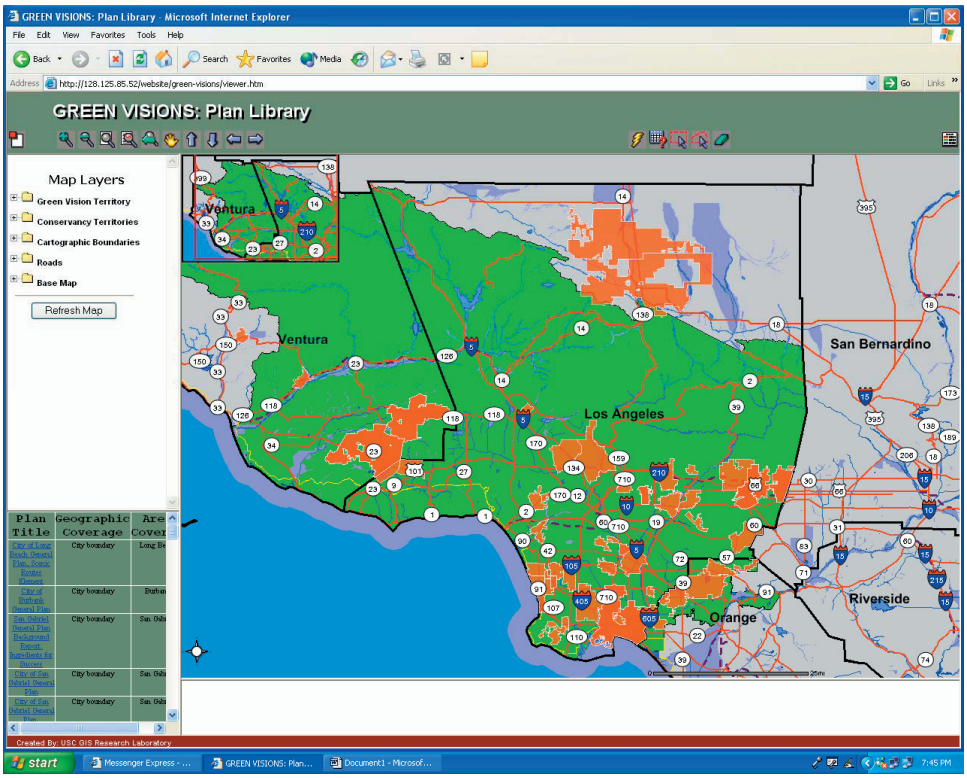


Figure 8. Clickable Map Showing General Plan Footprints and Titles

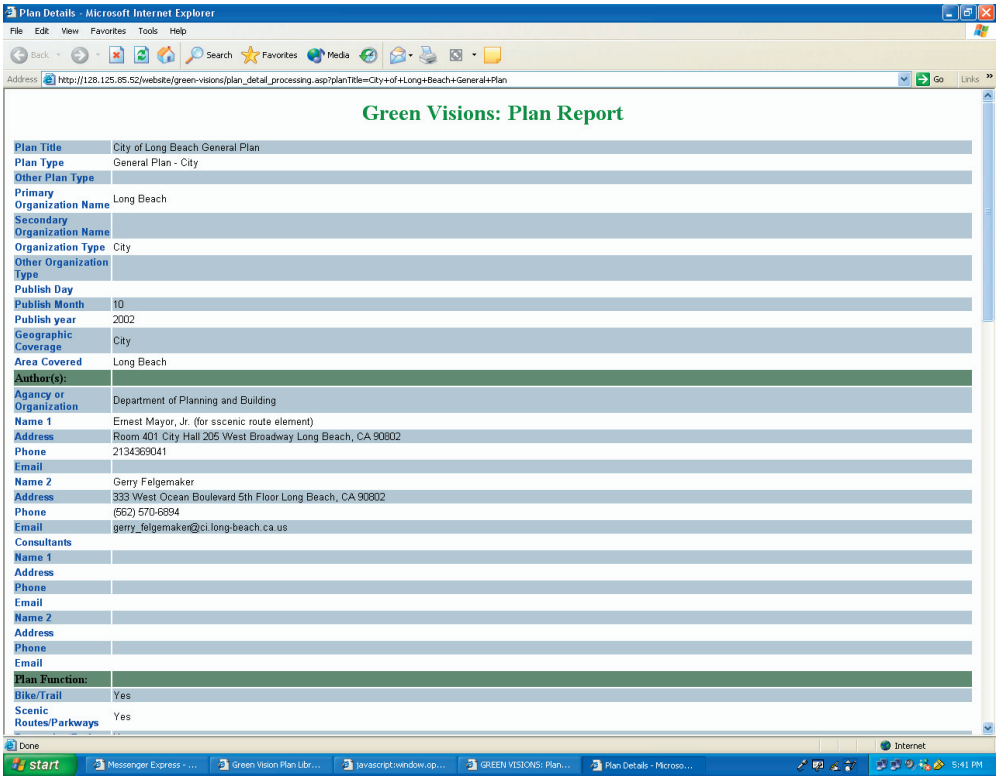


Figure 9. Plan Report Created by Clickable Map

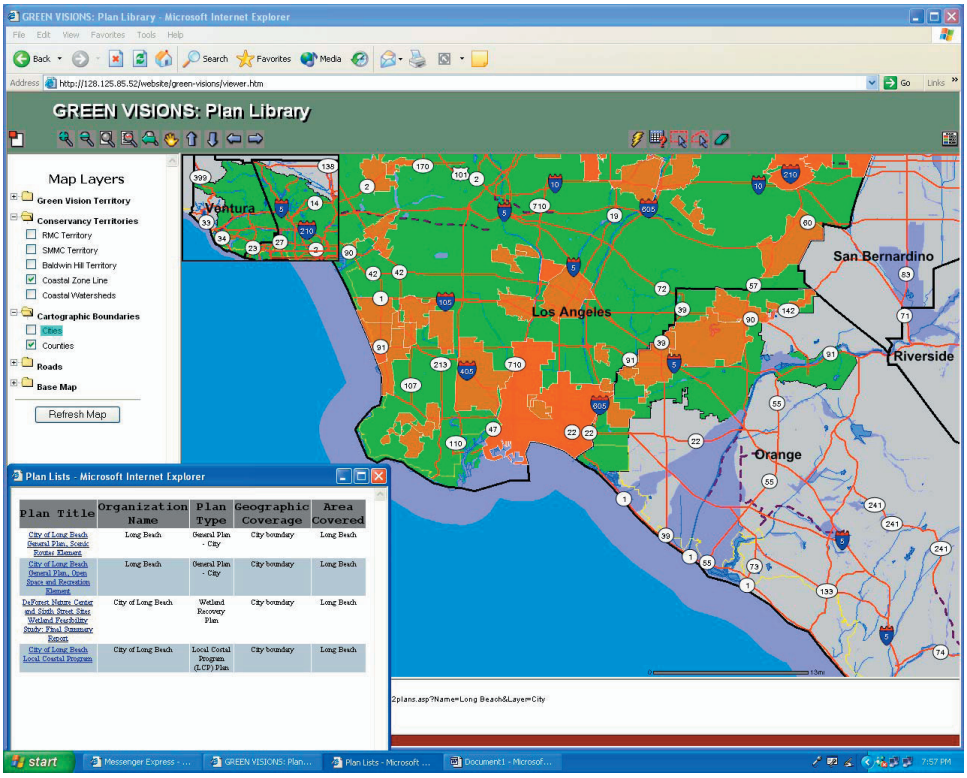


Figure 10. Zoomed-In Image of Long Beach Footprint

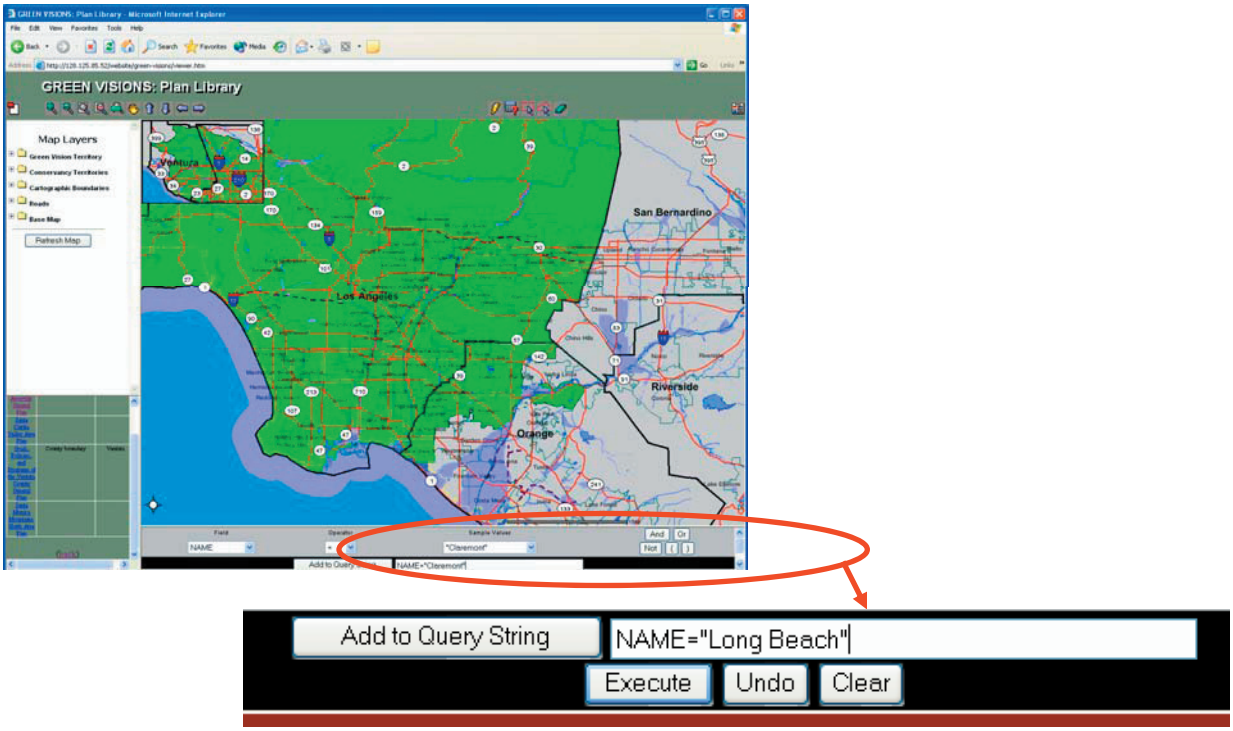
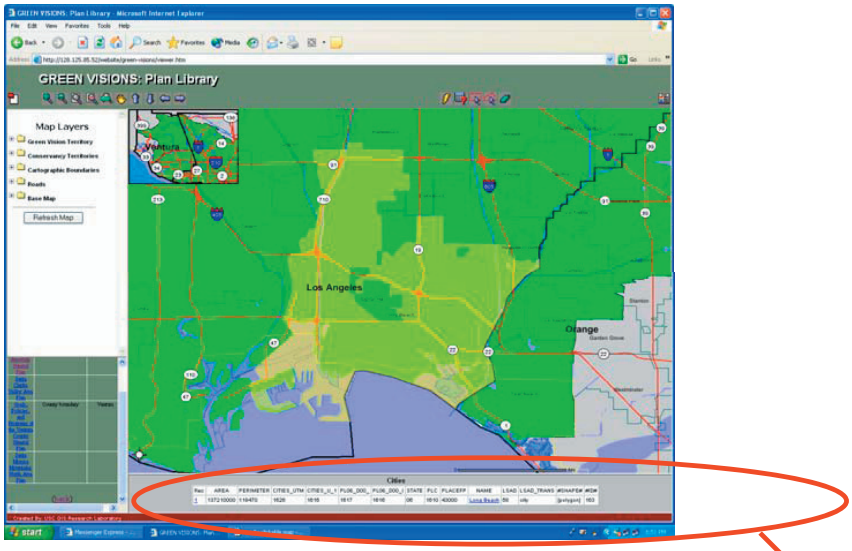


Figure 11. Zooming in to Access Plan Summary Data



Cities

Rec	AREA	PERIMETER	CITIES_UTM	CITIES_U_1	PL06_D00_	PL06_D00_I	STATE	PLC	PLACEFP	NAME	LSAD	LSAD_TRANS	#SHAPE#	#ID#
1	137210000	118470	1626	1616	1617	1616	06	1610	43000	Long Beach	58	city	[polygon]	163

Figure 12. Clicking on Plan within Index

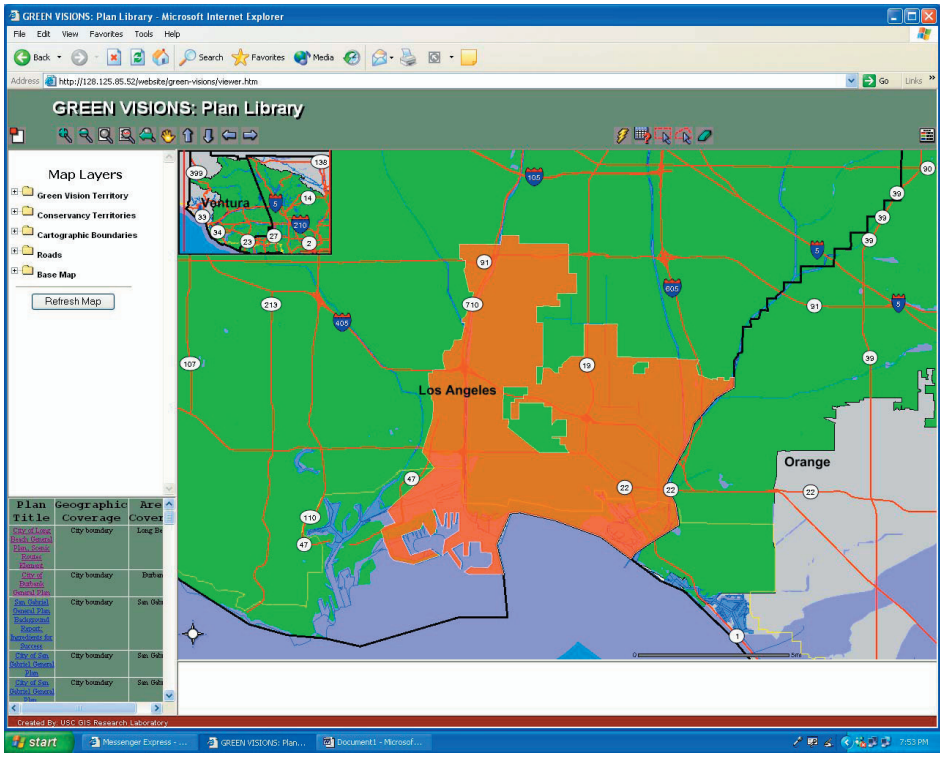


Figure 13. Plans Located within City of Long Beach

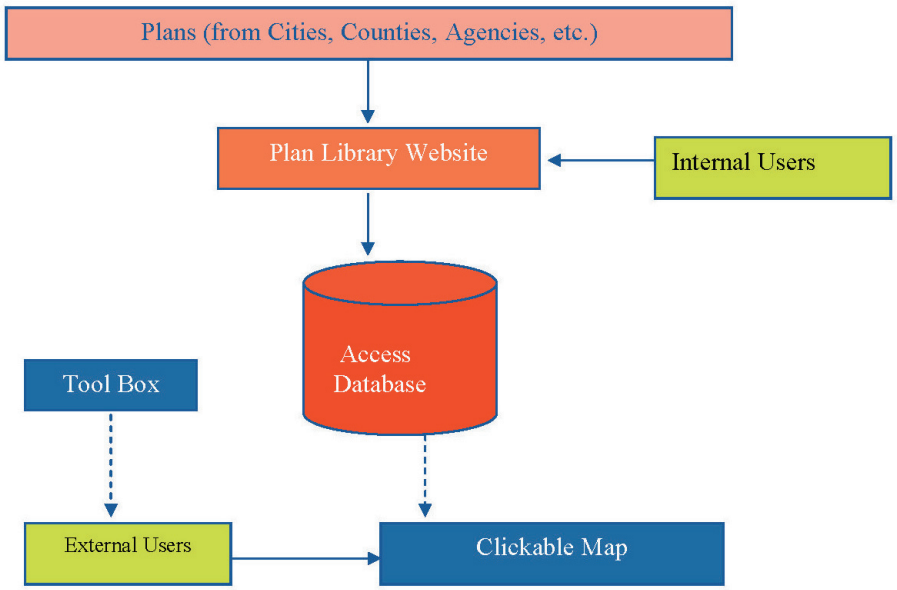


Figure 14. Architecture of the Plan Library

PLANS AND PLANNING ACTIVITY IN THE GREEN VISIONS PLAN AREA

A total of 165 plans were collected and reviewed. The most common are general plans, local coastal plans, watershed management plans, and habitat plans. Although general plans and local coastal plans are fairly standardized because of the requirements of state law, watershed and habitat plans vary dramatically with respect to type of agency responsible, scope and level of detail, and stakeholders involved. In the sections that follow, we provide summary information about plans reviewed by type.

City and County General Plans

In the Green Vision Plan study area, there are 106 cities whose general plans needed review. Some cities also developed separate Park and Recreation Master Plans or Bikeway Master Plans, as attachments to their general plans. A total of 60 city general plans were ultimately reviewed, along with eight Park and Recreation Master Plans and three Bikeway Master Plans (see Appendix B). Two of the cities also attached other related documents to the General Plan (e.g. background reports, a tree policy). The remaining 46 cities did not provide plans to us. There are a total of eight county general plans reviewed. Although the study area only encompasses three counties (Los Angeles, Ventura, Orange), the Department of Regional Planning of Los Angeles County developed several separate plans as components of the County General Plan (e.g. Santa Monica Mountains North Area Plan). And we also included the Orange County Commuter Bikeway Strategic Plan within the County General Plan category.

These plans have diverse formats; some are replete with colorful graphics, while others consist of little more than some typewritten text and a couple of rudimentary diagrams. Many are out of date (some date back to the 1980s) and/or currently being revised and updated. Thus the quality of information offered varies widely.

Local Coastal Plans

There are 16 Local Coastal Programs (LCPs) within the Green Visions Plan study area. Each LCP contains two components: the Land Use Plan (LUP) and the Implementation Plan (IP). The majority of the local municipalities elected to complete the LUP segment first; and do the IP portion after the LUP is certification by the California Coastal Commission.

Fifteen of the LCPs have been collected and reviewed: the City of El Segundo, the City of Hermosa Beach, the City of Long Beach, the City of Los Angeles, the City of Malibu, the City of Manhattan Beach, the City of Palos Verdes Estates, the City of Rancho Palos Verdes, the City of Port Hueneme, the City of Redondo Beach, the City of Santa Monica, the City of Seal Beach, the City of Torrance, and Ventura County. Among them, only eight (8) have completed an IP as well as an LUP, including the City of El Segundo, the City of Hermosa Beach, the City of Long Beach, the City of Malibu, the City of Manhattan Beach, the City of Palos Verdes Estates, the City of Port Hueneme, the City of Redondo Beach, and Ventura County. Others either have their IP pending for approval or are in the process of preparation and revision (California Coastal Commission 2001).

Land Use Plans were not received from the City of Oxnard and our collection lacks several coastal plan segments from the City of Los Angeles and Los Angeles County.

Most of the LCPs were implemented or completed by 1982 and were designed to complement the General Plan for the Cities or Counties. While a couple of the LCPs are detailed and highlight specific policies for achieving the goals of the LCP, many lacked any definitive policies or implementation plans for protecting the coastal zone.

Watershed Plans

In the Green Vision study area, we identified 42 watershed type plans. Of those 23, we located and reviewed 31 plans. Some plans were in the draft stage and not available for public review, others were still in the early planning phase and had not yet produced an actual planning document. Of the 43 plans, 12 were from State agencies (Regional Water Quality Control Boards, Coastal Conservancy, etc.), 11 were from non-profit/non-governmental organizations, four were from multiple organizations (i.e. collaboratives), one plan was from the federal government, four plans were from the county level, and 11 were from cities. The largest sectors for watershed planning efforts appeared to be at the state, non-profit/non-governmental organization, and city level.

Habitat Plans

Twenty-five (25) habitat plans were identified within the Green Visions study area, and these were reviewed. Of those plans identified, 11 plans were drafted by the federal government, 2 by state government or a state university, 4 by non-profit/non-governmental organizations, 6 plans were county, and 2 plans were completed by cities. There seem to be more planning efforts by organizations that have broader jurisdictions, such as federal and state entities, than at the local level. Of the plans identified, about half plans were drafted without a regulatory context (permit application, mitigation, etc.) motivating completion the plan, while the rest were direct regulatory requirements.

Summary

Table 1 illustrates the distribution of plans reviewed, by type. Not surprisingly, city general plans are the most numerous, followed by watershed management plans. Approximately two-thirds of the plans identified via our scanning efforts were ultimately collected and reviewed.
Among all the plans reviewed, some had detailed digital geographic footprints (or boundaries), which can be displayed on the Clickable Map., while others were digitized on the fly. For example, city general plans refer to the entire municipal jurisdiction, which thus defines the plan's footprint. Not all plans have such footprints, however. For example, the Master Plan for the White Tail Nature Preserve does not specify the exact location of the reserve. Another plan – Reconnecting the San Gabriel Valley: A Planning Approach

Plan Types	Plans Identified	Plans Collected	Plans Reviewed
County General Plans	9	8	8
City General Plans	120	73	73
Local Coastal Program Plans	17	16	16
Watershed Management Plan/ Restoration Plans	42	31	31
Habitat Plans	25	25	25
Other/Recreation Plans	17	12	12
TOTAL	230	165	165

Table 1. Types and Number of Plans Reviewed

for the Creation of Interconnected Urban Wildlife Corridor Networks – is even harder to identify with respect to its footprint since it refers to connection points/corridors, rather than an areal unit. Nonetheless, based on analysis of Clickable Map displays of plan footprints by type, along with knowledge gained from the plan review, a picture of the planning landscape in the Green Visions Plan area can be articulated. First, it is clear that due to California planning law, all cities and counties have general plans with required elements, including Circulation, Open Space, and Conservation, and those on the coast must have Local Coastal Program plans. This is reflected in their footprint patterns (Figures 15 and 16).

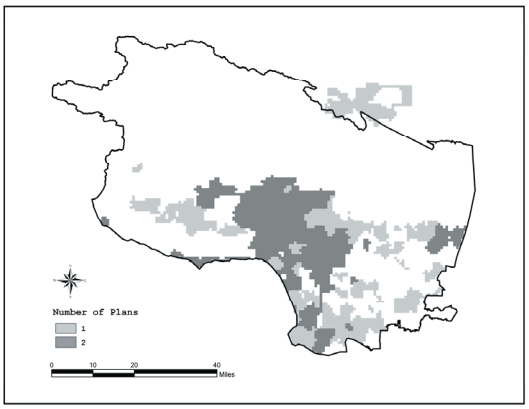


Figure 15. Density of General Plans Reviewed

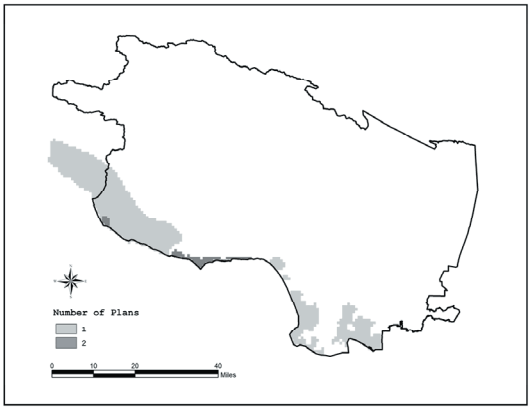


Figure 16. Density of Local Coastal Plans Reviewed

Second, most habitat-related efforts are located on the metropolitan fringe, where significant open space resources still exist and possibilities to retain linkage corridors remain available through the tools of local land use policy, as well as state and federal policies and programs for land acquisition (Figure 17). Third, watershed plans are more distributed – not surprising given the ongoing attention to urban rivers such as the Los Angeles, Arroyo Seco, and Rio Hondo, and the nonprofit organization efforts that have grown up to support partial restoration and re-engineering. The exceptions are, predictably, wetland plans that focus primarily on coastal areas (Figure 18). Lastly, bikeway and trail plans trace a regional network of hiking, biking, and alternative urban-wildland fringe, inner suburban, and central portions of the Green Visions Plan area.

What are the implications of this distribution of planning activity? One is that attention is being focused on conserving remaining metropolitan open space, restoring major river and stream channels, and coastal wetlands. The corollary is that needs (and opportunities) for habitat conservation and restoration, watershed health enhancement or mitigation, and additional recreational open space in urbanized portions of the Green Visions Plan area are left largely to city and county governments – jurisdictions that must accommodate a wide range of competing priorities, may have few staff with technical expertise in these areas, and whose resources are strictly limited (Figure 19).

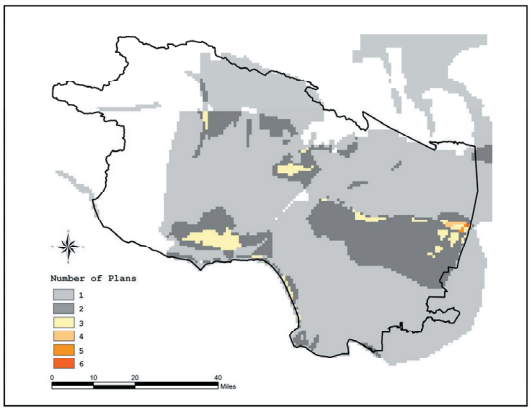


Figure 17. Density of Habitat Plans Reviewed

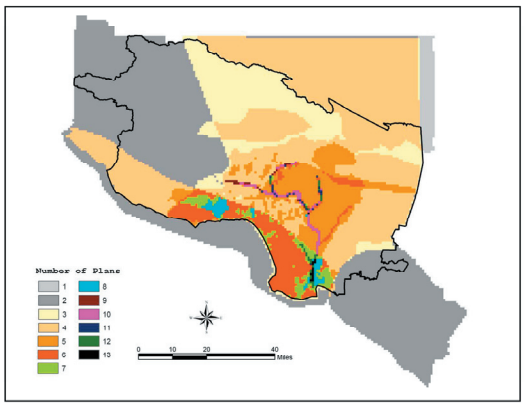


Figure 18. Density of Watershed Plans Reviewed

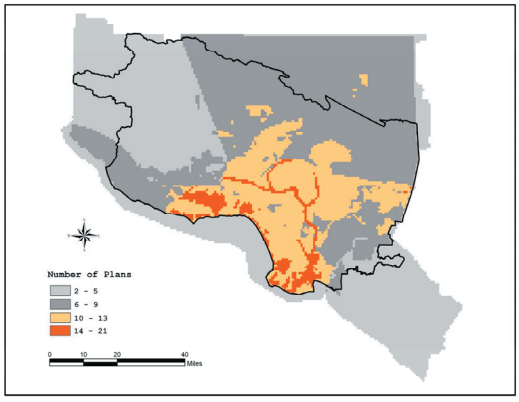


Figure 19. Density of All Plans Reviewed

PLANS AND PLANNING ACTIVITY FOR COMMON PLAN TYPES

The number and diversity of plans and planning activities ongoing within the Green Visions Plan area necessarily implies that generalizations must be made with caution. However, some commonalities emerged from the process of reviewing and summarizing plans. Moreover, some plans are noteworthy for their visions or specific proposals that must be considered as the Green Visions Plan process evolves.

In the sections below, we provide an overview of plans for the most common plan types, identifying similarities where appropriate, and highlighting those plans of most immediate concern to the Green Visions Plan effort.

General Plans

Given the scope of the Green Vision Plan effort, only three city/county general plan elements were reviewed as part of the Plan Library effort. The goal was to identify information in general plans, so that analysis of Plan Library entries could reveal gaps in the planning processes in terms of open space, watershed health, and habitat conservation. The three elements reviewed were Circulation (for bikeway and trail information), Open Space, and Conservation. In addition, optional elements are permitted under state general plan guidelines (for example, Arts or Economic Development). Among cities throughout California, the most popular optional elements of concern included Parks and Recreation and Scenic Highways (Planners Book List 1996). But among the plans obtained for review, only a relatively small subset of cities included these optional elements.

City General Plans

Although an important goal of plan review was to identify major projects with regional impact, not many such projects were found in city general plans, nor was integration with larger-scale regional efforts a primary concern. City general plans are – not surprisingly – more parochial in nature. Those larger-scale projects that were most often (although not exclusively) identified involved trail systems:

- Regional trails along the San Gabriel River and Rio Hondo River
- Regional trail network for the Santa Monica Mountains
- Regional trail network in the Conejo Valley
- Regional trails planned by Los Angeles County
- The Claremont Wilderness Park

The Claremont Wilderness Park Management Plan is a notable inclusion in a city general plan. This park is managed by the City of Claremont but extends well beyond the city boundaries, into the foothills of the San Gabriel Mountains, and is thus a regional resource. The Plan primarily concerns specific management actions that should be undertaken to protect the park, including defining permitted as well as prohibited use, developing more trails if necessary, coordinating with the Los Angeles County Fire Department for fire control, installing signs to direct users, constructing emergency facilities, conserving historic and cultural landmarks, creating an easement across the park with least impact on natural resources, and restricting use of motorized equipment. Although many of these strategies are similar to those pertaining to other types of parks, this plan does address some conservation issues at a general level, including development of a vegetation management plan, and restricting visitation to conform to the park's carrying capacity. Many cities plan to connect their local trail networks to the regional trail networks listed above. There are some other projects that could be regionally important (e.g. the preservation plan for the West Mojave Desert area in Antelope Valley, discussed in City of Palmdale General Plan), but the scope and location of the projects are not specified in the city general plans, making it impossible to determine if their extent lies with Green Vision Plan's study area.

Another goal of our general plan review was to identify local projects with defined locations, preferably at the sub-city or parcel level. Only city general plans provided information at this detailed scale, whereas the county general plans and other regional-scale plans lack this level of detail. Nonetheless, the plans reviewed provide a mixed level of picture in this regard. Some plans address specific projects and offer locational information, whereas many others only provide policy frameworks and visions.

The General Plan from City of Thousand Oaks is a typical example of a detailed General Plan, with specific watershed and habitat-related aspects. This plan not only states a geographical referenced goal – to create and maintain a connected ring of natural open space surrounding the developed portion of the City – but also inventories all the existing 34 open space sites and 17 future open space acquisition areas, both with detailed descriptions on locations and conditions. This plan also provides detailed instructions on community forest maintenance, with specified locations and planting strategies, and designated potential park sites, playgrounds, and bikeways. The plan restricts grading on slopes through a rigorous zoning ordinance. The City of Thousand Oaks also formed a joint-powers conservation agency with the Conejo Recreation and Park District, in order to conserve open space together with adjacent jurisdictions. With respect to watershed and water quality issues, the City seeks to protect the water quality of its lakes by regulating development within the lakes' watershed, encourage the use of biofiltration basins, and also to avoid impacts from the proposed Highway 23 development. In addition, the City proposes to maintain streams in as natural a state as possible through restoration and revegetation projects, and encourage the protection of native plant and wildlife through limiting consumptive land uses, preserving critical wildlife habitat resources (e.g. corridors), and reducing the incidence of wildfires.

Several other cities included relatively extensive discussion of conservation strategies in their general plans, but at varying levels of geographic specificity. The City of Claremont, for example, aims to identify and protect significant ecological areas within the City, which include San Antonio Canyon Mouth (although no specific projects are identified); preclude development of lands containing resources of regional significance; preserve canyon basin natural growth and ridge lines since they provide a sense of regional orientation and offer aesthetic open space values; and manage several distinctive habitat areas, including hillsides, areas adjacent to the National Forest, groundwater recharge basins, any coastal sage scrub area proposed for mining, etc. Neighboring La Verne plans to establish a minimum open space preservation standard of 10 acres per 1,000 persons; work with the City of Claremont to develop a natural buffer zone incorporating forest lands and LAFCO sphere of influence areas between Claremont and La Verne; improve flood control channel design to retain native plant communities along the channels; encourage landscaping with native plants; prohibit grading; and preserve remaining citrus groves, mature trees and plant communities in hillside areas. And the City of San Dimas plans to retain specific conservation overlay areas that include U.S. Forest Service lands, Puddingstone Reservoir, Bonelli Regional Park, San Dimas Canyon, Walnut Creek, Cinnamon Creek, Wildwood Canyon, Sycamore Canyon, Northern Foothills, and Puddingstone Hills.

However, only about a quarter of all City General Plans reviewed have this level of detail, and even some of these avoid the identification of specific projects. For example, the Rancho Palos Verdes General Plan sets restrictions on development within the Sea Cliff Erosion Area, only permitting projects necessary to insure public safety and to maintain physical, biologic, and scenic resources. But there are no areas designated for future habitat conservation efforts or recreational open space dedication. And while many cities promise to protect biological resources, they do so only in the most general way. For example, the City of Diamond Bar offers to recognize the significance of the County's SEA, prevent new development from impacting biologically significant areas, participate in environmental education programs, and preserve environmentally sensitive canyon areas, with their particular flora and fauna preservation. But it offers little in the way of steps to be taken to achieve these laudable but general goals.

Moreover, some general plans are extraordinarily brief. These plans only mention locations when listing existing park resources, for instance, and they typically lack specific designations for future open space acquisitions, even in a general way (such as identifying neighborhoods within the city that will be targeted for future park projects). Instead, such plans confine themselves to stating general policies, for example around open space ("Our city will try its best to acquire more parkland", or "We will encourage residents use nearby regional parks", or "We will encourage new development to build open space and recreational facilities"). The format of these general plans involves a listing of policies; cities are not required by state law to specify actual projects.

Cities with such limited general plan Circulation, Conservation, and Open Space elements are typically those that are most built out, and located in older portions of the metropolitan region. Notably, they tend to suffer from major deficits of parkland, and have few bikeways. While it is perhaps not surprising that such plans offer little in the way of habitat conservation plans or projects, since there is typically no remaining undeveloped open space to protect, these older built-out cities do not propose strategies to restore habitat or hydrological functioning via riparian daylighting or restoration projects or redesign of existing city parks (for example, to provide stormwater or nature parks), nor do they offer policies designed to protect any existing habitat (such as parks, golf courses, etc.) or increase their habitat value. In short, the reintroduction of nature into these cities is not a priority.

Park and Recreation Master Plans and Bikeway Master Plans often accompany city general plans (either as part of Open Space or Circulation elements). Although our collection efforts did not produce a large number of such plans, most are geographically referenced in fair detail. There are nine city Park Master Plans, and two City Bikeway Master Plans, providing planned acquisition sites and intended routes. For example, the Hermosa Beach Parks and Recreation Master Plan specifies the acquisition of Valley Park and Edith Roadway Friendship Park from the local school district. The Plan also states specific actions that the city should take, such as enhancing native landscaping, creating green buffers between parks and residential areas, developing habitat connections between existing parks and proposed open space areas, etc. The format of the Master Plans could be a document with maps (e.g. Simi Valley Bike Master Plan), or just a detailed map (e.g. Thousand Oaks-Conejo Open Space Conservation Trail Master Plan). Some Park Master Plans focus on the improvement of existing recreational facilities instead of open space acquisition (e.g. City of Malibu Park Master Plan), and thus involve no geographic referencing beyond listing the facility and its address.

It is worth noting that there are yet no agreed criteria for a good general plan in terms of how detailed it should be. The most common argument is that a general plan is intended to contain a set of broad policy statements about the goals for future development of the community, so the plan does not need to contain specific implementation procedures (although implementation measures could be identified). Local "specific plans" should do the work to implement the general plan and include locationally-specific projects. However, Baer (1997) did include "substance of plan alternatives" and "specific proposals" into his criteria for general plan evaluation, and it is reasonable to expect significant projects to be identified. Only a minority of the general plans reviewed met such criteria.

County General Plans

The county general plans, in contrast to individual city plans, provide more information on regional-scale projects. Again, some of these plans relate to trails. Examples of those identified are:

- Mulholland Highway (scenic highway connecting major park sites)
- Santa Monica Mountains Area Recreational Trails (SMMART) Coordination Project
- Juan Bautista DeAnza National Historic Trail
- Public trails originating from Ahmanson Ranch, and Las Virgenes Canyon Trail (proposed) that

connect Ahmanson Ranch to the Santa Monica Mountains
- Zuma Ridge Trail
- Trail at Liberty Canyon that connects Cheseboro Park with Malibu Creek State Park
- Development of Castaic Lake as a major recreation facility
- Extend the San Francisquito and Sierra Pelona Ridge trails

The county general plans reviewed usually provided maps for bikeways, scenic highways, and trails. In addition, one County Bikeway Master Plan was reviewed, from Orange County (the Orange County Commuter Bikeway Strategic Plan). Some large-scale bikeway projects are identified in this plan – for example, the plan calls for extending the current LA/Orange County Class I bikeway so that it expands from Seal Beach all the way to La Habra and developing another Class I bikeway from La Habra heading east, to Brea and Fullerton.

County general plans also identified certain areas designated under water policy, flood control policy, conservation policy sections. Associated maps can identify existing and proposed projects to some extent, however locating projects from maps provided can be challenging without detailed accompanying text. For example, the Los Angeles County General Plan provides a series of policy maps including a Conservation and Open Space Policy Map, but the areas referred can only be roughly identified, with the help of other maps (showing them to involve the Marina del Rey, El Segundo, Rolling Hill Estates, Miracle Mile Park, and Avocado Heights). On the other hand, some plans (e.g. Antelope Valley Area Plan) do not provide any maps, but instead offer extensive lists of recommended acquisition areas, accompanied with detailed description as attachments. Although such areas are noted in the written plan summaries, a significant additional level of additional effort would be required to locate these areas and include them in the Clickable Map.

Usually, county general plans define a significant part of their mission as the provision of frameworks for habitat preservation and management. Therefore, major sections of these general plans are dedicated to habitat conservation goals and policies. The typical habitat-related policy restrictions found in our review include:

- Prohibit off-road vehicles within sensitive habitat areas
- Designate SEAs, and give priorities to areas with unique species
- Limit grading on hillsides, encourage clustering of dwellings on relatively flat land in the hilly areas
- Use diverse methods to acquire open space
- Preserve habitat corridors, areas protecting streams and watersheds, etc.
- Ensure a full range of recreational opportunities with dispersed location
- Locate recreational facilities in a manner compatible with the environment
- Develop a comprehensive system of bicycle routes, use public right-of-way and open bottom flood channel when feasible
- Establish retention basins to provide groundwater recharge
- Promote comprehensive water conservation and reclamation

While useful, the county plans do not provide an integrated vision for creating bioreserves, linkage corridors, or conservation policies for areas of these counties that are urbanized but unincorporated. Moreover, like city general plans, ideas for how to restore habitat and watersheds within the unincorporated, built-up areas of the counties as a means of either improving ecological health of urban communities or re-greening the city to enhance the quality of life, are not prominent in county general plans.

Local Coastal Programs

The LCPs, as reviewed and certified by the California Coastal Commission, are not required to have common elements, only address common issues. However, the common goal of all LCPs is to provide protection of environmentally sensitive habitat areas (ESHA), coastal landforms, public access to the coastal area, and recreational opportunities. While no two plans contain the same elemental headings, most describe the area's housing, commerce, industry, open space, circulation and public access, and service systems. In addition, most address the same issues associated with the coastal zone, including an introduction outlining the background of the Coastal Zone Act legislation, identifying coastal access points and the coastal zone, delineating hazards and environmentally sensitive habitat areas (ESHA), locating planned new development (especially shoreline development), and listing coastal marine resources, recreation facilities and other marine-related land uses, seaside scenic and visual resources, coastal public works, and archaeological, paleontological, historical, and geological resources.

Each LCP contains two sections: the Land Use Plan (LUP) and the Implementation Plan (IP). The LUP is defined by PRC Section 30108.5 as " the relevant portion of a local government's general plan, or local coastal element which are sufficiently detailed to indicate the kinds, location, and intensity of land uses, the applicable resource protection and development policies and, where necessary, a listing of implementing actions." The purpose of the IP is to implement the policies of the California Coastal Act and to carry out the policies of the LUP.

For the scope of the Green Visions Plan, all available LCPs, Land Use Plans (LUP) and Implementation Plans (IP) – were reviewed and included in the Plan Library. The goal was to identify major planning efforts in the realms of recreational open space opportunities, watershed protection and habitat conservation, in so doing, helping to round out the picture of planning priorities and projects along the coastal zone of the Green Visions Plan area.

The extent and level of detail varied widely across LCPs and their associated documents. Although a goal of the review effort was to identify any projects within the plans with regional impact, almost none of the LUPs or IPs reviewed contained regional planning strategies or specific projects of regional significance. Rather, plans were policy-oriented or identified local resources to be protected.

For example, the LUP for the City of Santa Monica addressed issues regarding regional recreation and conservation efforts through the following types of LCP policies:

- Maintain the Santa Monica Pier as a recreational resource including amusements, public areas for low-cost recreational uses, fishing, and strolling, visitor-serving development and public parking.
- Maximize access to the coast and to conspicuously post the coastal access areas, which will be provided for all the people consistent with public safety needs and the need to protect public rights, the rights of private property owners, and natural resource areas from overuse.

The exception was Ventura County's LUP, which did have five larger-scale policies that would impact the region, some of which had geographical references:

- Aid State and local agencies in improving and increasing public recreational opportunities on the North Coast consistent with public health and safety, and the protection of private property rights.
- Restrict camping to areas where proper facilities are available along US Highway 101.
- Recognize and utilize the long-range potential for the extension of bus service from Ventura and Oxnard along the Rincon Parkway to reduce the additional parking burden on the area as recreational demands increase in the next few years anticipated by State Parks.

- Extend the boundaries of Emma Wood State Beach to include the Rincon Parkway.
- Provide walkways and bikeways around the Channel Islands Harbor as funds are available and minimize the placement of parking lots, walkways, bikeways or other structures on the beach areas to maintain the natural state of the beaches.

With respect to local projects or areas designated for special attention, many LCPs list Environmentally Sensitive Habit Areas or ESHAs. The purpose of an ESHA zone is to protect and preserve areas in which plant or animal life or their habitats are either rare or especially valuable because of their special nature or role in an ecosystem and which could easily be disturbed or degraded by human activities and development. All LCPs must, within the LUP document, indicate which areas in the City are ESHAs, if any.

Many of the LUPs reviewed simply state that there are no ESHA zones within the city, however. Those ESHA zones that were identified within the study area are:

- Ventura County's tidepools and beaches, coastal dunes, wetlands, and creek corridors; specifically Mugu Lagoon, San Nicholas Island, and the Santa Monica Mountains.
- City of Malibu's riparian areas, streams, native woodlands, native grasslands/savannas, chaparral, coastal sage scrub, dunes, bluffs, and wetlands
- Los Angeles County's coastal open spaces on the Palos Verdes peninsula.
- City of Long Beach's Los Cerritos Wetlands.

Of the LUPs and IPs reviewed, the City of Malibu's is most thorough and recent. It is available to the public and can be downloaded from the California Coastal Commission's website. The plans specify a policy or goal for the City, then highlight the implementation process required to realize the policy. Each section within the LUP contains an introduction highlighting the Coastal Act and Land Use Plan provisions for the issue, the policies of the Coastal Act as they apply to that issue, and the Land Use Plan policies. The City's ESHA policy states that the LUP ESHA Map will be reviewed every five years in co-operation with the Environmental Review Board and the resources agencies within the Santa Monica Mountains and updated to reflect current information, including information on rare, threatened, or endangered species. The IP restates the policies of the LUP and outlines implementation methods for these policies. Included within the IP are the ESHA zone policies, a Native Tree Protection Ordinance, scenic, visual, and hillside resources, and coastal development permit ordinance.

There are other examples of definitive policies within the plans, in which policies are identified or a goal for implementation is specified, along with a place for protection efforts, or a public resource that has not been fully utilized is described. For example, the City of Rancho Palos Verdes LCP policies included the protection of Point Vicente Beach Park and the inclusion of Point Vicente Lighthouse in the National Register of Historic Places, and the City of Manhattan Beach developed a new pier with a marine laboratory with research and education facilities, which is open to the public.

Unfortunately, most of the plans were not this detailed. The policies were vague and imprecise and the plans were broad. An example of such an indistinct policy is found in one plan's statement that "new development will minimize impacts to public access to and along the shoreline and inland trails" – a fine sentiment but one that does not indicate how the city in question plans to implement this or minimize impacts. Another such policy offered by another city, only slightly more explicit than the first, is "to work in close cooperation with other agencies and jurisdictions to provide comprehensive and biologically sound management of the coastal wetlands." Again, such broad statements do not highlight how this policy may be realized. This indistinctness could be remedied through the completion and certification of the jurisdiction's IP. Once the IPs are all certified and available for review, the policies may be more realized. In addition, some LUPs are being updated and new plans may be more detailed; they may not, however, be

available for quite some time: Port Hueneme's LUP is currently being updated with the general plan but the proposed date of completion is 2015.

Watershed Plans

In the Green Vision study area, there are total 42 watershed management plans, 31 of which were completed and/or located. These plans varied greatly in their content ranging from only a framework and a vision, to hydraulic modeling and engineered drawings.

One of the goals of the plan review is to identify large-scale conservation-related projects with regional impact. Among the reviewed plans, there was not one plan that addressed an entire watershed. Some plans included only the actual river plus 100 feet to each side, and other plans included only the watershed of a certain tributary within the watershed. For example, the Rio Hondo Watershed Plan focuses on the main stem of the Rio Hondo River but neglects to consider the rest of the watershed including the numerous tributaries (major and minor) and the uplands. The Los Angeles River Master Plan addresses only the actual river channel plus a small buffer on either side to accommodate access roads, river trails, and other small projects immediately adjacent to the channel. One good outcome of this plan is that it did recommend a master plant palette that will be used for all projects within the footprint of the master plan.

Most plans reviewed were relatively conventional, and failed to take advantage of the largest benefit of a watershed plan – the ability to consider the entire watershed. Of all the plans reviewed, only a few included detailed technical analysis as to the feasibility for restoration within the watershed. The Tujunga Wash Watershed Study, for example, included three specific recommendations for varying degrees of concrete removal and stream restoration, but most other plans were merely a list of projects supplied by stakeholders invited to participate in the watershed planning process. Issues and goals unrelated to hydrology or water quality, such as development of riparian zone trails and recreation, appeared to gain the greatest benefit from most of these plans.

A few plans were restoration strategies for specific points within a watershed. These plans did not take into account upstream or downstream influences, and how the rest of the watershed does, or ultimately will, affect the specific project. Examples of this type of planning approach include the Dominguez Gap Study and the DeForest Nature Center and Sixth Street Sites. These projects do not link up to the "bigger picture" by indicating how they fit into the watershed hydrologically, and how the hydrologic effects from this project could make other downstream projects more or less feasible. For example, when a basin is put in that retains water and alters sediment transport, downstream reaches can be greatly affected by this, either positively or negatively. The idea behind watershed planning is to coordinate ongoing efforts, along with visioning for the future to achieve a healthier watershed. Not surprisingly, given that watershed-level planning is in the early stages of development, most of the plans reviewed did not achieve – or even attempt – such a high level of technical and administrative coordination.

Some of the watershed plans did, however, provide framework for a regional approach. An example of this is the Southern California Wetlands Recovery Project Regional Strategies document. This document includes long-term regional objectives for each county under the Southern California Wetlands Recovery Project as well as their five-year plan. This type of document can be used by individual watershed-related projects to determine how they fit into the bigger picture.

In what follows, several key watershed-health planning efforts underway in the Green Visions Plan area are described.

Los Angles River – Conservation Element Policy

This plan was drafted through a large stakeholder process, led by the County of Los Angeles, including public, private, non-profit, federal and state governments, and cities. The intent of the master plan is to create a document that identifies ways to revitalize the publicly owned right-of- way along the Los Angeles River and Tujunga Wash. The plan indicates that the main function of the river is flood control, but recommendations were made to improve aesthetics, economic development, environmental quality, flood management and water quality, jurisdiction and public involvement, and recreation. The plan area covers only the main stem of the Los Angeles River and the publicly owned right of way adjacent to the river.

Santa Clara River Enhancement and Management Plan (Draft)

The County of Los Angeles, together with a large stakeholder team consisting of non-profits, citizens, business owners, local governments, and cities, has developed a draft Santa Clara River Enhancement and Management Plan. This plan covers the upper half of the river, from the headwaters to the Los Angeles – Ventura County line. The goal of this plan is to manage the resources of the river for the net benefit of native wildlife and plant species through the preservation, enhancement, and restoration of native plant communities, and aquatic and wetland habitats; protection, maintenance, and improvement of water quality parameters of the aquatic habitats; and management of water supplies to enhance prolonged seasonal flow regimes for support of anadromous and other native fish and aquatic wildlife species. This plan is slated as a 10-year vision, and is currently in draft form under public review.

Arroyo Seco Restoration Plan

The City of Pasadena initiated a plan for restoration of the Arroyo Seco, a tributary to the Los Angeles River. As part of the planning effort, various stakeholders, from non-profits to Los Angeles County became involved. The results indicated that restoration of at least part of the Arroyo Seco is feasible, according to technical experts from both consulting and public agencies. A matrix of projects and further studies/designs needed is included in this document. This matrix includes short-term projects of 1-5 years as well as medium term (5-10 years) and long term (10 years +). Funding sources are also identified, as well as the many partners that contributed to this long-term vision of a naturalized Arroyo Seco.

A series of recommendations were also made for geographical subsets of the plan study area. The recommendations are in matrix format, and the cost as well as time frame and priority for each recommendation are noted. The subset areas include the Angeles National Forest, foothill communities, Hahamonga Watershed Park, Pasadena's Central Arroyo, Pasadena's Lower Arroyo, Arroyo through South Pasadena, Arroyo through Los Angeles, and the confluence with the Los Angeles River. These recommendations include trash reduction projects, parking lot redesigns, trail improvements, and stream restoration as well as many others. "This plan is hoped to be a springboard from which multiple restoration efforts will take place".

Wetland Recovery Project Regional Strategy

The Southern California Wetlands Recovery Project is a partnership of public agencies, led by the Coastal Conservancy, with the mission to acquire, restore, and enhance southern California's coastal wetlands. This document includes long-term regional objectives for the Southern California Wetlands Recovery Project as well as their five-year plan. The six regional, long-term goals include preservation and restoration of coastal wetland ecosystems, stream corridors and wetland ecosystems in coastal watersheds; recovery of native habitat and species diversity; integration of wetlands recovery with other public objectives; education and compatible access to coastal wetlands and watershed resources; and advancing the science of wetlands restoration and management in Southern California.
Recommendations from the Five Year Implementation Plan include:

1. Develop and implement preservation, restoration, and enhancement projects.
2. Integrate wetlands recovery with other public objectives.
3. Promote educational and compatible access related to coastal wetlands and watersheds.
4. Advance the science of wetlands restoration and management.
5. Promote information exchange and dissemination.
6. Improve partner agency coordination.
7. Identify funding objectives.

Regional Water Quality Control Board Trash TMDL for LA River Watershed

The Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board is required to draft Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL) for water bodies within the state that are listed as impaired on the Federal Clean Water Act 303(d) list. Recently, the Board released the TMDL for trash within the Los Angeles River and its tributaries. The numeric target is zero (0) trash in the water. The numeric target was used to calculate the Waste Load Allocations described in the Implementation Plan. The study conducted by Regional Board Staff while preparing the TMDL indicated that the amount of plastic waste was less in residential areas, and greater in non-residential areas, that the amount of paper waste was greater in commercial areas, and the amounts of soil and yard waste were greater in residential areas and open spaces. Several studies by the Regional Board indicated that urban runoff is the dominant source of trash.

The prevention and removal of trash in the LA River ultimately will lead to improved water quality and protection of aquatic life and habitat, expansion of human recreation access possibilities, enhance public interest in rivers and restoration activities, and enhancement of the quality of life for riparian residents. The strategy for meeting water quality objective will focus on reducing the trash discharged via municipal storm drains. A monitoring program will be implemented to refine the default Waste Load Allocations preliminarily determined by staff. Monitoring data will be used to establish specific trash generation rates per land use category. All monitoring will be designed according to land use.

The first compliance report during the 10-year implementation phase will be September 30, 2006, and will be based on total load discharged to the river during the period Oct. 1, 2003 through Sept. 30, 2006. Since the TMDL does not establish water quality objectives, but is merely a plan for achieving the existing water quality objective, cost considerations required under Section 13241 were not required for this TMDL.

Water Replenishment District of Southern California Strategic Plan

The Water Replenishment District of Southern California (WRD) was formed by a ballot initiative in 1959 for the purpose of protecting groundwater resources of the Central and West Coast groundwater basins in southern Los Angeles County. In 2003, the WRD updated its strategic plan utilizing an Ad Hoc Planning Committee, comprised of myriad stakeholders, as well as a Technical Advisory Committee comprised of water rights holders from the basins. The plan lists key accomplishments on a project-specific basis, key challenges for the region in a general overview context, as well as strategic goals and top priority for the future. The four strategic goals are:

1. Protect and preserve water quality in the Central and West Coast Basins.
2. Provide basin replenishment.
3. Manage the basins through environmentally sensitive practices.
4. Develop and foster effective relationships and communications for the benefit of residents and businesses of the Central and West Coast basins.

Habitat Plans

In the Green Vision study area, 24 habitat plans were identified and reviewed. Because habitat plans can be created under so many different circumstances, the content of these plans varied greatly. Habitat plans also overlap considerably with watershed plans, which often (but not always) include habitat restoration as a goal.

Most habitat planning efforts reviewed, therefore, resulted from one of several situations. Most common are management plans for large government landowners such as the National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, or the State Parks. These plans encompass the significant proportion of the study area already in public ownership. Another set of plans with habitat implications are those plans prepared by state conservancies, which have targeted properties for habitat values. The Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan is an example of such a plan. Other larger scale plans are the result of federal or state environmental laws. For example, the Rancho Palos Verdes NCCP resulted from the presence of federally endangered species. Species Recovery Plans are available for several federally listed species within the study area. The County of Los Angeles Significant Ecological Area designations, part of the county General Plan, takes a regional approach to identifying important conservation areas, but is limited to the County lands. Private organizations have produced habitat plans at local to regional scales. They range from the Arroyo Sequit, which suggests habitat conservation actions within that watershed, to the Missing Linkages Plan, which identifies regional landscape level corridors necessary for viability of large carnivore populations.

Several observations can be made about these plans. Habitat plans, based on the best available data and planning principles, already exist for portions of the study area. These plans vary in scale, resolution, and objectives. Geographically, they are concentrated in the mountainous regions (which contain large tracts of public land), foothills adjacent to them, along watercourses, and near the coast. The large coastal plain and valleys have received far less attention for habitat planning. This is not surprising because these areas are most heavily urbanized. Nevertheless, these areas could still play a role in habitat conservation, especially for plants, insects, and smaller vertebrates.

Few plans take a regional focus. The SEAs come the closest; Los Angeles County contains the largest proportion of the region, but lacks integration with other jurisdictions that share the same watersheds. The Missing Linkages project also contributes significantly to a regional focus with the identification of major connections between wildland areas. These linkages are limited however, to the broadest scale connections between major areas of the region. Furthermore, there is little integration between local plans within watersheds, and as observed above, many watershed plans address only water channels and immediately adjacent areas, with no vision for the role, if any, of uplands for habitat or otherwise.

As expected, the geographic distribution and scale of plans is limited, and a regional approach to integrate the many efforts is lacking. The valleys and coastal plain have received relatively less attention than more topographically diverse areas, and stream restoration plans are in need of watershed level guidance.

The following examples of habitat planning, exhibit the range of resolution, focus, and scale that characterizes existing plans.

<u>National Forest Plans</u>
The National Forest Service has drafted four draft Land Management Plans (Forest Plans) and an accompanying draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Angeles, Cleveland, Los Padres, and San Bernardino National Forests, to provide a strategic framework for managing 3.5 million acres of National Forest land in southern and central California over the next several years. The current land

management plans for the southern California forests were approved between 1986 and 1989. National Forest Management Act regulations require that plans to be revised every 10 to 15 years (36 CFR 219.10). These final revised plans are expected in summer 2005.

The land management plans for the southern California national forests describe the strategic direction and provide broad program-level direction for managing the land and its resources. Land management plans do not make project-level decisions, nor do they contain commitments to implement specific projects. Those decisions are made after more detailed analysis and further public comment. Site-specific project decisions must be consistent with the land management plan unless the plan is modified by amendment.

The Forest Service identified six goals as part of this planning effort, including reducing the risk from catastrophic wildland fire and impacts from invasive species, providing outdoor recreation opportunities, helping meet energy resource needs, and improving watershed conditions. The southern California plans were developed to implement one of six available alternatives. These six alternatives range from prioritizing recreation and energy production, to the opposite spectrum of preserving wilderness and eliminating unnecessary impacts to ecosystems on forest land. Internally, the Forest Service has chosen to support alternative 2 as their preferred alternative for the Cleveland National Forest and alternative 4 for the Angeles, Los Padres, and San Bernardino National Forests. Alternative 2 maintains the current level of wilderness protection, while allowing a "phased in" increase of recreational activities (off roading, and associated infrastructure). Alternative 4 leans more toward providing recreational opportunities and infrastructure and lowering certain protections for wilderness and wildlife within those parks it is being proposed for.

Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area Land Protection Plan (1998)
While the list of parcels to be acquired by the National Recreation is already established, the 1998 update to the Land Protection Plan provided a dynamic methodology to prioritize parcels based on resource values. Linked to the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area's extensive GIS database, the plan produced maps that rank parcels by five natural resource criteria (increasing size of protected core areas, linking protected areas, high value for many species, supports sensitive species, and maintaining critical ecosystem processes), two cultural resource criteria, and three recreational resource criteria (high potential for resource-based recreation, links trails, and protects regional scenic values). The separate and joint application of these three sets of criteria result in maps ranking resource value from 'high' to 'higher' within the study area. The resulting land protection rankings reinforce the existing pattern of protected land, as would be expected by the choice of criteria that focus on acquisitions complementing existing core habitats and other existing assets.

Los Angeles County Significant Ecological Area Plans (Draft)
Los Angles County, in conjunction with their General Plan update in 2004, has defined 62 areas as ecologically significant within the county. These 62 areas will comprise an overlay that County Planning officials will use to help new developments utilize sensitive building practices to help protect these areas. Los Angeles County defines these significant ecological areas (SEA) areas as "ecologically important or fragile land and water areas, valuable as plant and animal communities. These areas are classified as one or more of the following: 1) habitats for rare and endangered species of plants and animals; 2) restricted natural communities - ecological areas which are scarce on a regional basis; 3) habitat restricted in distribution in the county; 4) breeding or nesting grounds; 5) unusual biotic communities; 6) sites with critical wildlife and fish value; and 7) relatively undisturbed habitat." There are 62 SEAs identified within the County of Los Angeles. This plan is not regulatory in nature and provides visioning and guidelines to guide developers in the planning stages of their projects.

Palos Verdes Peninsula NCCP

The only Natural Community Conservation Plan (NCP) in the Green Visions Plan study area is for the City of Rancho Palos Verdes. While the NCCP subarea extends to the other cities of the Palos Verdes Peninsula, only Rancho Palos Verdes chose to develop an NCCP. This is because only RPV had major tracts of undeveloped lands that supported endangered species and therefore could not be developed without some sort of federally sanctioned habitat planning. The RPV NCCP, now released in draft form, describes the creation of a large reserve in the Portuguese Bend area, which will connect with other conserved lands on the coast.

Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan

This plan envisions the creation of a large park across the Baldwin Hills, linked by a land bridge. This plan identifies the most sensitive lands for preservation and specifies restoration for others. While including substantial public input in its creation, the plan identifies clear habitat conservation goals and incorporates significant biological research.

Recovery Plan for Vernal Pools of Southern California

This plan was prepared by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in 1998 to addresses several Federally listed plants and invertebrates. The Green Vision area includes areas in the plan identified as “Los Angeles Basin-Orange Management Area” and “Goleta-Transverse Management Area.” Historic pool complexes are identified in Santa Monica, in coastal plain of Santa Monica Bay, Downey, and Lakewood, with pools still present at LA International Airport. Historic pools were also found in western San Fernando Valley, and existing pools are located at Carlsberg and Cruzan Mesa.

Western Snowy Plover Recovery Plan

Recovery actions for this small, coastal bird include the establishment of breeding populations along the coast of Los Angeles and Ventura counties within the Green Visions area. This would require setting aside some sandy beach areas for nesting birds. Of note is that most of the jurisdictions that would implement such actions do not appear to have habitat plans.

Other Plans

There are some other plans at the regional scale, created by state agencies, such as the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy. In their Comprehensive Plan, the regional projects identified as having significance for Green Visions planning include:

- The Rim of the Valley Trail
- The Santa Monica Mountains Backbone Trail
- The San Gabriel-Sespe-Santa Susana-Santa Monica Mountains Wildlife Corridor
- The Pacific Crest Trail
- Future recreation areas at Hansen Dam, Happy Camp, Chatsworth Reservoir and Devil’s Gate

There are many smaller projects, in terms of geographic extent, related to these larger overarching efforts (e.g. feeder trails of the above big trails, parks/camp sites along these trials,). The plans also usually include complete lists of these existing/proposed projects. For example, the Santa Monica Mountains Comprehensive Plan has a list for all the recommended acquisition sites for Phase I and Phase II.

In addition, some of these plans offer statements of policy intent. For example, the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy seeks to protect trail corridors by acquiring trail easements, integrate work on the Mulholland Highway for purposes of establishing a comprehensive scenic parkway in the Santa Monica Mountains, etc.

A variety of “sustainable city” plans was also reviewed, to explore the extent to which they incorporated habitat conservation, watershed protections, or recreational open space aspects. The Sustainable Community Plans (for the cities of Maywood, Huntington Park, South Gate, and Bell) by the Gateway Partnership Inc. were reviewed, but these plans are locally focused, and rarely touch on topics related to open space conservation directly. They only mention local parks and community centers in a fairly brief manner. The City of Santa Monica Sustainable City Program, however, presents a quite different approach, and also locally-oriented, pertains to habitat, watershed health, and recreation. The Plan derives specific indicators from the general goals, and then sets specific targets for these indicators over a specified time period. Some typical examples are:

- Reduce overall water use by 2010, increase percentage of locally-obtained potable water to 70% of total by 2010,
- Measure number of days Santa Monica beaches are posted with health warnings or closed, target for no more than 3 days;
- Reduce wastewater flows 15% below 2000 levels by 2010;
- Increase the percentage of total miles of city arterial streets with bike lanes so it reaches 35% by 2010;
- Increase the percent of households and population within ¼ and ½ mile of a park by neighborhood, target to be determined.

The City also set up a citizen’s taskforce to develop an implementation strategy for this plan, and also has an internal staff working-group responsible for implementation and achievement of indicator targets.

CONCLUSIONS

The Plan Library was created to catalogue and understand existing plans related to habitat conservation, watershed health, and recreational open space within the Green Vision Plan area. The effort helps to identify gaps in previous planning efforts, in preparation for Phase 2 of Green Vision project. Despite extensive time devoted to gathering relevant plans, however, the Plan Library does not purport to include all possible plans pertaining to the study area – but it is does contain a major share of this universe of plans. This resource will allow Phase 2 analysis, and GIS tool and scorecard development, to incorporate the collective goals, aspirations, and concrete projects planned by the many entities active in the Green Visions Plan area.

Several conclusions can be drawn from this effort. First, there currently exists no central repository for all plans for the metropolitan region. The region's metropolitan planning organization, SCAG, does not collect general plans or other sorts of plans nor does it maintain a public-access plan library; the counties do not appear to have plan libraries for cities and other entities within their jurisdictions; and the state's collection of general plans is remarkably incomplete. In the internet age, surprisingly few plans are available on-line. This situation makes it virtually impossible for community organizations, cities and counties, other public line agencies or regulatory bodies, or the general public to get a sense of what is planned for their service areas or communities. This, in turn, is apt to dampen public participation and also significantly hinder efforts to integrate local efforts into a strong fabric of regional governance.

It may therefore be in the interests of a range of stakeholders to create a central plan repository and summary service, so that everyone with an interest in the region can access planning information on the Web. While the resources needed to do so should not be under-estimated, the mere presence of this repository and service may stimulate greater intra-regional planning coordination and cooperation, allow ready scrutiny and comparison of coverage and depth of analysis, and stimulate higher quality planning efforts.

Second, the distribution of planning activity throughout the Green Visions Plan area is decidedly uneven. This is most clear in the case of habitat conservation. Habitat conservation planning efforts, mostly conducted by state or federal agencies, focus on the urban-wildland fringe zone. Such efforts seek to maintain key large-scale bio-refuges and linkage corridors through acquisition programs, while restoration efforts pertain primarily to particular endangered species or coastal wetlands. In neither realm have systematic approaches to renaturalizing the urbanized portions of the region yet been offered, in order to (e.g.) create habitat value, provide ecosystem services, or improve runoff water quality (either through source control or increasing permeability of drainage basins).

Third, while watershed planning efforts do penetrate the urbanized part of the Plan area, they are confined to major waterways rather than the entire stream hierarchies within any given watershed. Moreover, they primarily address the channel and immediately adjacent areas (rather than including upland zones), and are not integrated within an overarching regional framework that focuses on protecting watershed assets or restoring hydrological function. Rarely do they tackle the difficult challenge of either restoration of stream channels in heavily urbanized areas, or articulating the 'quilt' of projects and practices that could reduce runoff, improve its quality, or replenish aquifers while simultaneously achieving others goals such as recreation.

Fourth, city and county plans are present everywhere yet variable in terms of their attention to the issues under discussion here. Some city-level plans (either general plans or local coastal plans) are detailed and direct significant attention to regional as well as local habitat conservation, watershed protection, and open space plans and projects. Many of these jurisdictions border wildland areas (such as Thousand Oaks, Glendale, Claremont, etc.). But many older, built-out cities in the region are bereft of any habitat

conservation, watershed health, or open space plans of consequence.

Fifth and related to the point above, a majority of plans in the central portion of the Green Visions Plan area are strictly local in focus, restrict themselves to general goals and strategies, and are highly variable in terms of quality. Many are out of date and thus do not address major issues (such as watershed health) that have risen to prominence over the past two decades. They offer little in the way of strategies for protecting or regenerating biological resources or hydrological assets, except as incidental side effects of parks projects.

In all likelihood, many of these jurisdictions do not see themselves as part of 'nature' or having any role in issues such as habitat conservation or watershed protection (apart from water quality assurance and wastewater disposal). Moreover, many are struggling and face enormous challenges associated with poverty, economic development, and education. Yet these are precisely the urban places in which habitat and stream restoration, and creation of multi-function recreational open space are most critically needed to enhance residents' health and quality of life, and which are central to the region's ability to meet major environmental quality goals.

Finally, the sheer volume of planning activity – public, voluntary, community-based – is extraordinary. This richness presents both challenges and opportunities. The challenges include a perception (and likely reality) that rather than creating a template for orderly change, planning in southern California is chaotic and adds up to less than the sum of its parts. And indeed, despite the many sophisticated and high quality plans reviewed (and more still ongoing), the plethora of single-purpose agencies and districts along with the large numbers of general and coastal plans required by state statute, leaves the region a likely victim of piecemeal planning and governance. The opportunities arise from growing expertise and sophistication across the region both in large-scale vision planning for habitat conservation and watershed health, and in localized best management and restoration practices, the diversity of stakeholders that increasingly share common goals, and a spreading public awareness of the need to rethink traditional approaches to urban and regional planning that exclude nature from our midst.

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APPENDIX A: PLAN LIBRARY SUMMARY TEMPLATE

1. ORGANIZATIONAL TYPE
   - 1.1. City
   - 1.2. County
   - 1.3. Regional Agency
   - 1.4. State Agency
   - 1.5. Federal Agency
   - 1.6. Special District
   - 1.7. Nongovernmental Organization
   - 1.8. Other
2. ORGANIZATIONAL NAME
   - 2.1. Primary
   - 2.2. Secondary
3. TITLE
4. YEAR
5. TIME FRAME
6. PLAN TYPE
   - 6.1. General Plan -- City
   - 6.2. General Plan -- County
   - 6.3. Non-Profit Organization Plan
   - 6.4. Transit Agency Plan
   - 6.5. RWQCB Plan
   - 6.6. Conservancy Plan
   - 6.7. State Department Recreation/Park Plan
   - 6.8. National Community Conservation Planning (NCCP)
   - 6.9. Local Coastal Program (LCP) Plan
   - 6.10. Significant Ecological Area (SEA) Plan
   - 6.11. Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP)
   - 6.12. Species Recovery Plan
   - 6.13. Resource Conservation Plan
   - 6.14. Watershed Management Plan
   - 6.15. Wetland Recovery Plan
   - 6.16. National Forest Plan
   - 6.17. Other (*specify*)
7. PLAN FUNCTION
   - 7.1. Bike/Trail (including pedestrian/equestrian)
   - 7.2. Scenic Routes/Parkways
   - 7.3. Park/Recreation
   - 7.4. Community Forest
   - 7.5. Community Garden
   - 7.6. Landscape Design
   - 7.7. Urban Design
   - 7.8. Historical/Cultural Resource
   - 7.9. Habitat/Biological Resource
   - 7.10. Wetlands
   - 7.11. Water Quality/Supply
   - 7.12. Watershed Management
   - 7.13. National Hazards
   - 7.14. Other (*specify*)
8. GEOGRAPHIC EXTENT

8.1. City boundary
8.2. County boundary
8.3. Conservancy boundary
8.4. SCAG region
8.4.1. Subregional COG
8.5. Landform feature
8.5.1. Mountains/hills
8.5.2. Watershed/sub-watershed
8.5.3. Other (*specify*)
8.6. Other (*specify)*

9. Name Area Covered
9.1. area 1 …
9.2. area 2 …
…

10. AUTHOR (S)
10.1. Agency/Organizational Staff
10.1.1. Name 1
10.1.1.1. Address/Phone/e-mail
10.1.2. Name 2
10.1.2.1. Address/Phone/e-mail
10.2. Consultant(s)
10.2.1. Name 1
10.2.1.1. Address/Phone/e-mail
10.2.2. Name 2
10.2.2.1. Address/Phone/e-mail

11. GIS DATA
11.1. Yes
11.2. No
11.3. Maybe

12. PLAN HARD COPY
12.1. Yes
12.2. No

13. TOTAL PAGE NUMBER

14. PLAN E COPY
14.1. Yes
14.2. Not Available
14.3. Not Downloadable

15. WEB ADDRESS FOR PLAN

16. WEB ADDRESS FOR ORGANIZATION

17. ANALYSIS DESCRIPTION [identify all that apply]
17.1. Statistical
17.2. GIS
17.3. Fiscal
17.4. Survey
17.5. Qualitative
17.6. Design
17.7. Engineering
17.8. Facility Inventory
17.9. Ecological

17.10. Other *(specify)*
18. MODEL IDENTIFICATION
    18.1. Name
        18.1.1. Abstract
19. GRAPHICS [with links to PDF files]
    19.1. Maps
    19.2. Design Sketches
    19.3. Engineering Drawings
    19.4. Photographs
20. SUMMARY OF FINDINGS
21. SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS
22. INFO ENTRANT

APPENDIX B: LIST OF PLANS REVIEWED

Title	Condensed Plan Type	Original Plan Type	Organization Name
Agoura Hills General Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Agoura Hills
Arcadia General Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Arcadia
City of Artesia General Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Artesia
City of Azusa General Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Azusa
City of Baldwin Park General Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Baldwin Park
City of Bell Gardens General Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Bell Gardens
City of Bell Gardens Parks and Recreation Master Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Bell Gardens
City of Beverly Hills General Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Beverly Hills
City of Bradbury General Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Bradbury
City of Brea General Plan (draft)	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Brea
City of Burbank General Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Burbank
City of Calabasas General Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Calabasas
City of Camarillo General Plan Annual Report 2002	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Camarillo
City of Carson General Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Carson
City of Claremont General Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Claremont
City of Cypress General Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Cypress
City of Diamond Bar General Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Diamond Bar
City of Downey General Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Downey
City of El Monte General Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	El Monte
City of El Segundo General Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	El Segundo
City of Fullerton General Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Fullerton
City of Gardena General Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Gardena
City of Glendale General Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Glendale
City of Glendora Park Master Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Glendora
City of Hawaiian Gardens General Plan Update	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Hawaiian Gardens
City of Hermosa Beach Comprehensive General Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Hermosa Beach
City of Hermosa Beach Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Master Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Hermosa Beach
City of Huntington Park General Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Huntington Park

City of La Palma General Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	La Palma
City of La Puente General Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	La Puente
City of La Verne Parks and Recreation Facilities Master Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	La Verne
City of Lawndale General Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Lawndale
City of Lomita General Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Lomita
City of Long Beach General Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Long Beach
City of Los Angeles General Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Los Angeles
City of Los Angeles Bike Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Los Angeles
City of Lynwood General Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Lynwood
City of Malibu General Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Malibu
City of Malibu Park Master Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Malibu
City of Manhattan Beach General Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Manhattan Beach
City of Palmdale General Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Palmdale
City of Palos Verdes Estates General Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Palos Verdes Estates
City of Pasadena General Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Pasadena
City of Port Hueneme General Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Port Hueneme
City of Port Hueneme Parks, Recreation and Community Services Master Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Port Hueneme
City of Rancho Palos Verdes General Plan and EIR	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Rancho Palos Verdes
City of Redondo Beach General Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Redondo Beach
City of Rolling Hills Estates General Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Rolling Hills Estates
City of Rolling Hills General Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Rolling Hills
City of San Dimas Bikeway Systems Master Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	San Dimas
City of San Dimas General Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	San Dimas
City of San Fernando General Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	San Fernando
City of San Gabriel General Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	San Gabriel
City of Santa Fe Spring General Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Santa Fe Spring

City of Santa Monica Parks and Recreation Master Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Santa Monica
City of Santa Paula General Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Santa Paula
City of Signal Hill General Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Signal Hill
City of Signal Hill Park and Recreational Master Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Signal Hill
City of Simi Valley Bicycle Master Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Simi Valley
City of Simi Valley General Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Simi Valley
City of South Pasadena General Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	South Pasadena
City of Thousand Oaks General Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Thousand Oaks
City of West Hollywood General Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	West Hollywood
City of Westlake Village General Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Westlake Village
Culver City General Plan (Draft)	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Culver City
General Plan for the City of Buena Park	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Buena Park
Hawthorne General Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Hawthorne
Los Alamitos 2010 General Plan	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Los Alamitos
Maywood General Plan Update Open Space Element	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Maywood
San Gabriel General Plan Background Report: Ingredients for Success	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	San Gabriel
The Comprehensive General Plan of the City of La Verne, California	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	La Verne
General Plan for the City of Torrance	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Torrance
Tree Policies and Guidelines Manual	General Plan - City	General Plan - City	Claremont
Antelope Valley Areawide General Plan	General Plan - County	General Plan - County	Los Angeles County
Goals, Policies, and Programs of the Ventura County General Plan	General Plan - County	General Plan - County	Ventura County
LA County General Plan	General Plan - County	General Plan - County	LA County
LA County Bike Plan	General Plan - County	General Plan - County	LA County
Orange County Commuter Bikeway Strategic Plan	General Plan - County	General Plan - County	OCTA
Orange County General Plan	General Plan - County	General Plan - County	Orange County

Santa Clarita Valley Area Plan	General Plan - County	General Plan - County	Los Angeles County
Santa Monica Mountains North Area Plan	General Plan - County	General Plan - County	Los Angeles County
Angeles National Forest Land Management Plan	Habitat Plans	National Forest Plan	US Forest Service
Antelope Valley SEA	Habitat Plans	SEA	Los Angeles County
Bull Creek Restoration	Habitat Plans	Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP)	US Army Corps of Engineers
Claremont Hills Wilderness Park Management Plan	Habitat Plans	Other (specify): Wilderness Park	Claremont
Claremont Hills Wilderness Park Vegetation Management Plan	Habitat Plans	Other (specify): Wilderness Park	Claremont
Conceptual Area Protection Plan for the North Claremont Ecological Reserve	Habitat Plans	Resource Conservation Plan	California Department of Fish and Game
Cruzan Mesa Vernal Pools SEA Report	Habitat Plans	SEA	Los Angeles County
East San Gabriel Valley SEA Report	Habitat Plans	SEA	Los Angeles County
Los Padres National Forest	Habitat Plans	National Forest Plan	US Forest Service
Malibu Lagoon Habitat Enhancement Plan	Habitat Plans	Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP)	Heal The Bay
Management Concept And Recommendations For Rancho Palos Verdes	Habitat Plans	Other (specify): Open Space	Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy
Missing Linkages	Habitat Plans	Other (specify): Assessment	California Wilderness Coalition & others
Natural Communities Conservation Planning Subarea Plan for Rancho Palos Verdes	Habitat Plans	NCCP	City of Rancho Palos Verdes
Reconnecting the San Gabriel Valley: A Planning Approach for the Creation of Interconnected Urban Wildlife Corridor Network	Habitat Plans	Resource Conservation Plan	California State Polytechnic University Pomona
Recovery Plan for Six Plants from the Mountains Surrounding the Los Angeles Basin	Habitat Plans	Species Recovery Plan	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Recovery Plan for the Arroyo Southwestern Toad	Habitat Plans	Species Recovery Plan	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Recovery Plan for the El Segundo Blue Butterfly (Euphilotes battoides allyni)	Habitat Plans	Species Recovery Plan	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Recovery Plan for the Pacific Pocket Mouse (Perognathus longimembris pacificus)	Habitat Plans	Species Recovery Plan	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Recovery Plan for Vernal Pools of Southern California	Habitat Plans	Species Recovery Plan	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
San Dimas Canyon/San Antonio Wash SEA	Habitat Plans	SEA	Los Angeles County
Santa Clara River SEA	Habitat Plans	SEA	Los Angeles County
Santa Monica Mountains NRA General Management Plan	Habitat Plans	Other (specify): Park Management Plan	National Park Services
Santa Monica Mountains SEA	Habitat Plans	SEA	Los Angeles County
Southern California Forest Plans	Habitat Plans	National Forest Plan	USDA Forest Service
Western Snowy Plover (Charadrius alexandrinus nivosus) Pacific Coast Population Draft Recovery Plan	Habitat Plans	Species Recovery Plan	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
City of El Segundo Local Coastal Program	Local Costal Program (LCP) Plan	Local Costal Program (LCP) Plan	El Segundo
City of Long Beach Local Coastal Program	Local Costal Program (LCP) Plan	Local Costal Program (LCP) Plan	Long Beach
City of Malibu Local Coastal Program: Land Use Plan	Local Costal Program (LCP) Plan	Local Costal Program (LCP) Plan	Malibu
City of Malibu Local Coastal Program: Local Implementation Plan	Local Costal Program (LCP) Plan	Local Costal Program (LCP) Plan	Malibu
City of Manhattan Beach Local Coastal Program: Phase II Land Use Plan Amendment	Local Costal Program (LCP) Plan	Local Costal Program (LCP) Plan	Manhattan Beach
City of Palos Verdes Estates: Local Coastal Program: Land Use Plan	Local Costal Program (LCP) Plan	Local Costal Program (LCP) Plan	Palos Verdes Estates
City of Los Angeles, San Pedro Area, Local Coastal Program: Land Use Plan	Local Costal Program (LCP) Plan	Local Costal Program (LCP) Plan	San Pedro
Floodplain Management Plan	Local Costal Program (LCP) Plan	Local Costal Program (LCP) Plan	Santa Monica
City of Seal Beach: Local Coastal Program	Local Costal Program (LCP) Plan	Local Costal Program (LCP) Plan	Seal Beach

City of Torrance: Local Coastal Plan	Local Costal Program (LCP) Plan	Local Costal Program (LCP) Plan	Torrance
Coastal Specific Plan of the City of Rancho Palos Verdes	Local Costal Program (LCP) Plan	Local Costal Program (LCP) Plan	Rancho Palos Verdes
County of Ventura: the Coastal Area Plan	Local Costal Program (LCP) Plan	Local Costal Program (LCP) Plan	Ventura County
Hermosa Beach Local Coastal Plan	Local Costal Program (LCP) Plan	Local Costal Program (LCP) Plan	Hermosa Beach
City of Port Hueneme Local Coastal Program	Local Costal Program (LCP) Plan	Local Costal Program (LCP) Plan	Port Hueneme
Local Coastal Program Final Draft Coastal Plan of the City of Redondo Beach	Local Costal Program (LCP) Plan	Local Costal Program (LCP) Plan	Redondo Beach
Playa Vista: City of Los Angeles Local Coastal Program: Land Use Plan	Local Costal Program (LCP) Plan	Local Costal Program (LCP) Plan	La Playa Vista
City of Bell Sustainable Community Plan	Other/Recreation	Other (specify): Sustainable City Plan	Bell
City of Huntington Park Sustainable Community Plan	Other/Recreation	Other (specify): Sustainable City Plan	Huntington Park
City of Maywood Sustainable Community Plan	Other/Recreation	Other (specify): Sustainable City Plan	Maywood
City of Santa Monica Sustainable City Plan	Other/Recreation	Other (specify): Sustainable City Plan	Santa Monica
City of South Gate Sustainable Community Plan	Other/Recreation	Other (specify): Sustainable City Plan	South Gate
El Dorado Nature Center Master Plan	Other/Recreation	Other (specify): landscaping and recreation plan	Long Beach
Greenprinting LA Initiative	Other/Recreation	Non-profit Organization Plan	Trust for Public Land
Master plan for the White Tail Nature Preserve	Other/Recreation	State Department Recreation/Park Plan	Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy
Master Plan for Parks, Trails, Open Space & Facilities in Conejo Valley	Other/Recreation	Other (Specify): A Joint-power Independent Government Entity	Conejo Recreation and Park District
Rim of the Valley Trail Corridor Master Plan	Other/Recreation	Conservancy Plan	Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy

The Heritage Parkway in the Heart of Los Angeles	Other/Recreation	State Department Recreation/Park Plan	Center for Law in the Public Interest
Woodland Duck Farm	Other/Recreation	State Department Recreation/Park Plan	Rivers and Mountains Conservancy and Los Angeles County Flood Control District
A Unified Vision for Cornfield State Park	Watershed Plans	State Department Recreation/Park Plan	Cornfield State Park Advisory Committee
Alternative Approaches to Stormwater Quality Control	Watershed Plans	Other (specify): stormwater management	USC
Arroyo Seco Master Plan (Redline Version): Lower Arroyo Master Plan	Watershed Plans	Watershed Management Plan	Pasadena
Arroyo Seco Master Plans (Draft): Central Arroyo Master Plan	Watershed Plans	Watershed Management Plan	Pasadena
Arroyo Seco Master Plans (Redline Version): Hahamongna Watershed Park Master Plan	Watershed Plans	Watershed Management Plan	Pasadena
Arroyo Seco Watershed Restoration Feasibility Study	Watershed Plans	Watershed Management Plan	California Coastal Conservancy
Cornfield of Dreams: A Resource Guide of Facts, Issues, and Principles	Watershed Plans	State Department Recreation/Park Plan	University of California - Los Angeles
DeForest Nature Center and Sixth Street Sites Wetland Feasibility Study: Final Summary Report	Watershed Plans	Wetland Recovery Plan	Long Beach
Floodplain Management Plan	Watershed Plans	Other (specify): Flood control	City of Los Angeles
Hydrodynamic Study for the Restoration Feasibility of the Tujunga Wash	Watershed Plans	SEA	The River Project
Los Angeles River Cornfield Area Environmental Restoration Study	Watershed Plans	Other (specify): Restoration	Army Corp of Engineers
Los Angeles River Project	Watershed Plans	Watershed Management Plan	Pasadena City College
Los Angeles River Revitalization Plan	Watershed Plans	Watershed Management Plan	City of Los Angeles
Lower Malibu Creek and Lagoon Resource Enhancement and Management	Watershed Plans	Resource Conservation Plan	University of California at Los Angeles
Re-envisioning the LA River and Los Angeles Urban Environment	Watershed Plans	Other (specify): Revitalization	Occidental College

Rio Hondo Watershed Management Plan 2	Watershed Plans	Watershed Management Plan	San Gabriel Valley COG
San Gabriel Canyon Sediment Management Plan	Watershed Plans	Other (specify): Sediment Management Plan	Los Angeles County
Santa Clara River Enhancement & Management Plan	Watershed Plans	Watershed Management Plan	Friends of the Santa Clara River
Santa Monica Mountains Comprehensive Plan	Watershed Plans	Conservancy Plan	Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy
Southern California Water Replenishment District Draft Strategic Plan 2003	Watershed Plans	Other (specify): Water Replenishment District	Southern California Water Replenishment District
Sun Valley Watershed Management Plan	Watershed Plans	Watershed Management Plan	Los Angeles County
Taylor Yard Park Plan	Watershed Plans	State Department Recreation/Park Plan	The River Project
The Los Angeles River: Reshaping the Urban Landscape	Watershed Plans	Other (specify): Revitalization	Los Angeles River Connection
The Malibu Creek Watershed: A Framework for Monitoring, Enhancement, and Action	Watershed Plans	Other (specify): Enhancement	California State Polytechnic University, Pomona
Trash TMDL for LA River Watershed	Watershed Plans	RWQCB	LARWQCB
Water Quality Control Plan for the Lahontan Region (Basin Plan)	Watershed Plans	Watershed Management Plan	Lahontan RWQCB
Water Quality Control Plan: L.A. Region Basin Plan for the Coastal Watersheds of L.A. & Ventura County	Watershed Plans	RWQCB	LARWQCB
Watershed Management Initiative Chapter	Watershed Plans	Watershed Management Plan	LARWQCB
Watershed Management Plan Characterization Report For Coastal Southern California	Watershed Plans	Watershed Management Plan	Southern California Wetlands Recovery Project
Wetlands of the Los Angeles River Watershed: Profiles and Restoration Opportunities	Watershed Plans	Wetland Recovery Plan	California Coastal Conservancy
WRP Regional Strategy	Watershed Plans	Wetland Recovery Plan	Southern California Wetlands Recovery Project