



Santa Clara County

Open Space Authority

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PRESS RELEASE

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Open Space Authority Acquires Property in the Western Foothills

San Jose, CA January 17, 2006 – Santa Clara County Open Space Authority (OSA) finalized the purchase of 40 acres south of Loma Prieta on January 13. The property, which is adjacent to OSA lands to the east along Uvas Creek, offers the potential for expanding established hiking trails on contiguous public lands.

The property, known as Motter Ranch, is also adjacent to the proposed alignment for the Bay Area Ridge Trail and could serve as a link in that eventual 500-mile-long regional trail.

Natural features on the property include stands of Douglas fir, California bay and coast live oak trees.

“The purchase of the Motter Ranch will complement existing Authority lands in protection of the upper Uvas Creek watershed,” said OSA general manager Patrick Congdon. “It will also allow for greater flexibility in developing trail connections to Uvas Canyon County Park and lands owned by the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District.”

Purchase price for the property was \$620,000.

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The Santa Clara County Open Space Authority (OSA) is an independent special district created in 1993 to help preserve, protect and manage urban and non-urban open space in the areas of Campbell, Milpitas, Morgan Hill, San Jose, and southern Santa Clara County. The OSA has preserved over 11,150 acres of land and manages over 375 acres of conservation easements.

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