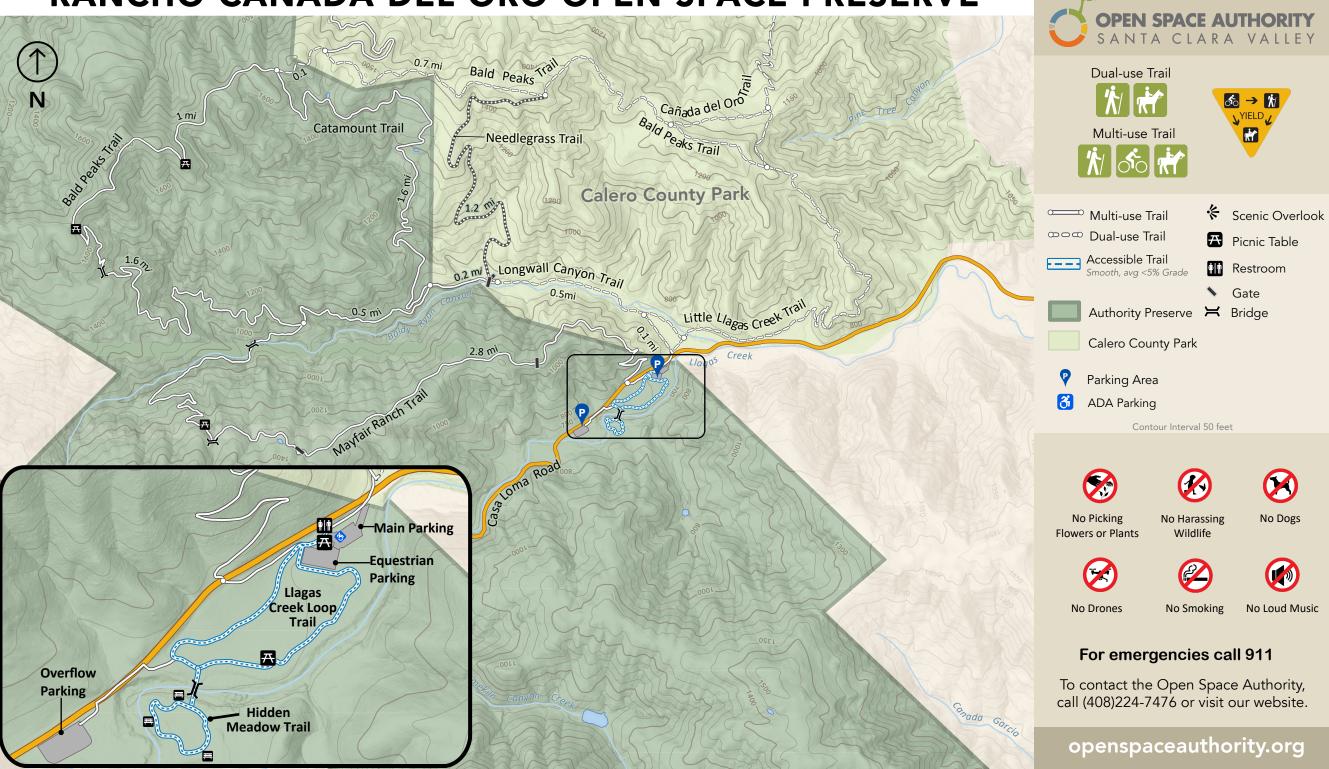
## RANCHO CAÑADA DEL ORO OPEN SPACE PRESERVE



#### **RECOMMENDED HIKES**

### Whole Access Llagas Creek Loop Trail

#### Level: Easy Distance: 0.5 mile

Description: Perfect for beginning hikers and families with young children, the trail begins at the parking area. The trail meanders through a meadow teeming with wildlife such as wild turkeys and deer. Look up and you may see circling turkey vultures and red-tailed hawks, Western bluebirds, and acorn woodpeckers. Enjoy a picnic or watch the glistening creek at a wheelchair-accessible picnic table. A bit further along, you will view huge oaks and California walnut trees, and in the spring months, abundant wildflowers.

#### **Mayfair-Longwall Canyon Loop Trail**

#### Level: Moderate

#### Distance: 4.3 miles

Description: The 3.1-mile Mayfair Ranch Trail starts at the parking area and gently climbs through Blue Oak woodlands and grasslands to join with the Longwall Canyon Trail. As you hike 0.7 miles along the Longwall Canyon Trail you'll gain 500 feet in elevation and take in sweeping vistas of the Santa Cruz Mountains. The hike continues with a 0.5 mile stretch on the Longwall Canyon Trail which crosses over into Calero Park and takes you back to the parking area.

#### **Mayfair-Catamount Big Loop Trail**

#### Level: Challenging

#### Distance: 8 miles

Description: From the Mayfair Ranch Trail, take the fork for Longwall Canyon/Bald Peaks Trail. This two-mile trail takes you to the summit with panoramic views of Almaden Valley, Diablo Range, and surrounding ridges. Take a rest stop at a picnic table and then continue on the 1.0-mile Bald Peaks Trail to the 1.7-mile Catamount Trail with steep and moderate stretches as it rejoins the Longwall Canyon Trail. The hike continues with a 0.5 mile stretch on the Longwall Canyon Trail which crosses over into Calero Park and takes you back to the parking area.

#### **TRAIL RULES & SAFETY**

- From April 16 to Sept. 15, hours are 6 a.m. to sunset. From Sept. 16 through April 15, hours are 7 a.m. to sunset.
- Mountain biking, hiking, and horseback riding are permitted only on designated trails.
- Pets are not permitted in the preserve at any time.
- Fires, fireworks and smoking are strictly prohibited.
- Do not feed, disturb, molest, or kill wildlife. Hunting, trapping and fishing are not allowed.
- Do not collect, remove, destroy or deface any natural or human-made object.
- No water is available at trailheads, at the parking lot or along the trails.
- If you see grazing cattle on the trail, give them a few minutes to move. Don't chase or harass them; they will move on their own.

#### **BE PREPARED**

Always carry water and for maximum comfort, dress in layers for a range of weather conditions. Pack snacks or lunch, especially if you're hiking with children. Bring a hat, sunblock and a simple first aid kit. Horseback riders and cyclists should also plan for the care and maintenance of their transportation. Finally, be aware of your fitness level and abilities, especially when venturing out alone or on especially challenging hikes or rides.

#### DIRECTIONS

#### Rancho Cañada del Oro Open Space Preserve

- From Hwy 101 or Hwy 85
- West on Bailey Avenue
- Left on McKean Road
- Right on Casa Loma Road

Rev June 2024 Photo Credits: Rancho Cañada del Oro and Mayfair Ranch Trail, Derek Neumann; Buck, OSA Wildlife Cam



SPACE AUTHORIT

# Welcome

The 5,432-acre Rancho Cañada del Oro Open **Space Preserve** opened to the public in 2004 with the dedication of the Bald Peaks Trail (1.0 mile) and the Longwall Canyon Trail (2.0 miles).

#### Multiple upgrades to the preserve include:

2005 – A paved parking area with space for horse trailers, a restroom and picnic tables

2007 – The Mayfair Ranch Trail (3.1 miles) and the Catamount Trail (1.7 miles), which connect to the higher-elevation trails and enable mountain bike use. Also, the paved, whole access Llagas Creek Loop Trail (0.5 mile) which offers a nature experience for visitors with limited mobility.

2024 – The Llagas Creek Bridge and Hidden Meadow Trail (0.15 miles), which includes an accessible trail, seating areas and interpretation about the surrounding riparian environment.

#### **ABOUT THE OPEN SPACE AUTHORITY**

Since 1993, the Open Space Authority has protected over 30,000 acres of open space, natural areas, watersheds and wildlife habitat-providing outdoor recreation opportunities and preserving the natural beauty and environmental health of Santa Clara County. Our open space preserves are open 7 days a week, 365 days of the year.

> Learn more about the Open Space Authority at openspaceauthority.org

