

Saddle Creek South Becomes First Purchased Property For OCTA Environmental Mitigation Program

Nestled next to the Cleveland National Forest in eastern Orange County, "Saddle Creek South," represents an iconic California landscape – rich with live oak woodlands, coastal sage scrub, chaparral and riparian habitat. It is also home of two sensitive species: the coastal California gnatcatcher and the intermediate mariposa lily.

OCTA purchased Saddle Creek South for \$3.2 million from voter-approved Measure M2 funds. OCTA's environmental mitigation program will help protect this pristine land, preserving critical habitat for endangered species. The land also will serve as open space reflecting the natural rustic character, charm and beauty of the Santa Ana Mountains.

By linking the already protected Saddle Creek North with the new acquisition of 84 acres of Saddle Creek South, two neighboring wildlife preserves will allow wildlife to move safely between existing protected areas in south and central Orange County.



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Celebrating OCTA's First Property Acquisition To Protect Wildlife & Habitat



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Saddle Creek South in Trabuco Canyon