

RESOLUTION NUMBER R- 298839ADOPTED ON FEB 02 2004

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
SAN DIEGO APPROVING THE NATURAL RESOURCES
MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE FIRST SAN DIEGO RIVER
IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT [FSDRIP].

WHEREAS, the First San Diego River Improvement Project [FSDRIP] runs along a 7000-foot section of the San Diego River in Mission Valley, is the mitigation site for a 100-year flood control project completed in 1988, and is funded through an agreement with owners of property benefiting from the flood control; and

WHEREAS, the proposed FSDRIP Natural Resources Management Plan [the Plan] provides for the future protection and sustainable management of the natural resources within FSDRIP, pursuant to the Army Corps of Engineers' permit and conditions; and

WHEREAS, upon adoption by the City Council, the Plan will become the operational document for maintenance and management of FSDRIP; and

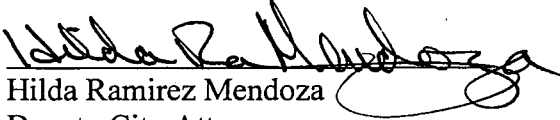
WHEREAS, on September 26, 2001, the FSDRIP Maintenance Assessment District Committee recommended adoption of the Plan by the City Council; and

WHEREAS, in September 2001, the FSDRIP Advisory Committee recommended adoption of the Plan by the City Council;

WHEREAS, in March 2002, the San Diego River Park Foundation recommended adoption of the Plan by the City Council; NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of San Diego, that the Council adopts the First San Diego River Improvement Project (FSDRIP) Natural Resources Management Plan dated September 2001.

APPROVED: CASEY GWINN, City Attorney

By 
Hilda Ramirez Mendoza
Deputy City Attorney

HRM:cfq:jp
01/20/04
Or.Dept: Park &Rec.
R-2004-737

REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION
CITY OF SAN DIEGO

1. CERTIFICATE NUMBER
(FOR AUDITOR'S USE ONLY)

TO: CITY ATTORNEY

2. FROM (ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT):
Park and Recreation Department

3. DATE:
1/24/2004

4. SUBJECT:
FIRST SAN DIEGO RIVER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (FSDRIP) NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN

5. FOR INFORMATION, CONTACT (NAME & MAIL STA.)
R. STRIBLEY MS35A / A. HIX MS 804A

6. TELEPHONE NO.
(619) 525-8230/(619) 533-6721

7. CHECK HERE IF BOX 1472A "DOCKET" SUPPORTING INFORMATION HAS BEEN COMPLETED ON PAGE 2:

8. COMPLETE FOR ACCOUNTING PURPOSES

FUND					9. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION / ESTIMATED COST:
DEPT.					None
ORGANIZATION					REPORT TO COUNCIL
OBJECT ACCOUNT					
JOB ORDER					
C.I.P. NUMBER					
AMOUNT					

10. ROUTING AND APPROVALS

ROUTE (#)	APPROVING AUTHORITY	APPROVAL SIGNATURE	DATE SIGNED	ROUTE (#)	APPROVING AUTHORITY	APPROVAL SIGNATURE	DATE SIGNED
1	DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR	P&R <i>E. Hix</i>	1/14/04	8		<i>[Signature]</i>	1-14-04
2	EOCP	<i>[Signature]</i>	1/14/04	9			
3	EAS	<i>[Signature]</i>	1/14/04	10			
4	CITY MANAGER	HERRING <i>[Signature]</i>	1-16-04	11			
5	CITY ATTORNEY	<i>[Signature]</i>	1-20-04		MGR. DOCKET COORD: <i>RW 1/21/04</i>		COUNCIL REP.
6	ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT	P&R <i>[Signature]</i>	1/21/04		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RULES COMMITTEE	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ADOPTION
7					<i>B</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> REFER TO:	DATE: <i>2-2-4</i>

11. PREPARATION OF: RESOLUTIONS ORDINANCE(S) AGREEMENT(S) DEED(S)

1. Adopt the First San Diego River Improvement Project (FSDRIP) Natural Resource Management Plan dated September 2001.

11A. MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATIONS:

Adopt the resolution.

R-298839

FEB 02 2004

CITY ATTORNEY
JAN 16 PM 12:24
CIVIL DIVISION

12. SPECIAL CONDITIONS (REFER TO A.R. 3.20 FOR INFORMATION ON COMPLETING THIS SECTION.)

COUNCIL DISTRICT(S): Frye (6)

COMMUNITY AREA(S): 22 (Mission Valley)

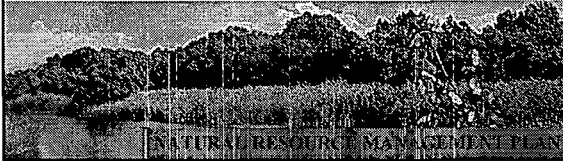
CITY CLERK INSTRUCTIONS: Send all copies of resolution via Robin Stribley, MS 35A

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT: The Natural Resource Management Plan is exempt from CEQA pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines General Rule 15307.

PLANNING/MSCP: MSCP indicated they did not need to be a sign-off on this 1472

ATTACHMENTS: 1. City Manager's Report

FIRST SAN DIEGO RIVER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (FSDRIP)



PURPOSE OF THE NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN

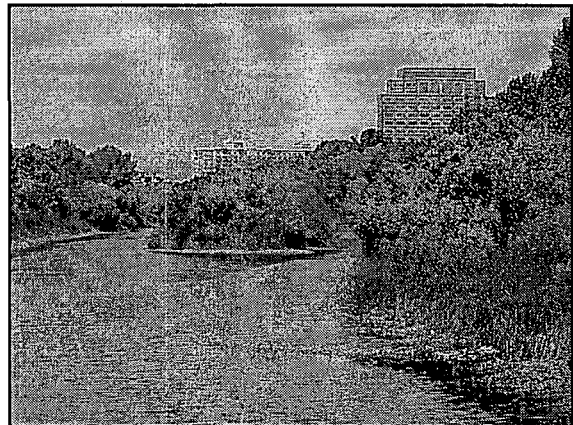
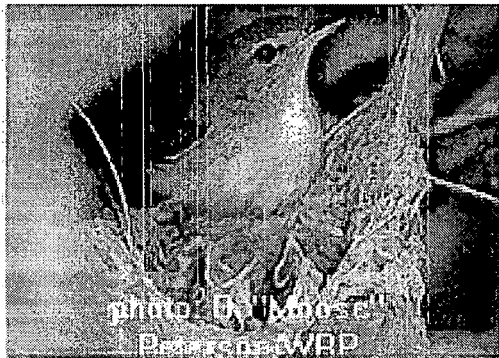
- COMPLETE LAST PERMIT REQUIREMENT
- ESTABLISH MANAGEMENT PRACTICES TO PROTECT BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES
- MAINTAIN FLOOD CONTROL CAPACITY
- PROVIDE FOR PUBLIC USES WITHOUT NEGATIVELY IMPACTING ENVIRONMENT

FSDRIP RESOURCES

- 90 RESIDENT/ SEASONAL SPECIES OF BIRDS
- ENDANGERED LEAST BELL'S VIREO NESTING ONSITE
- 2 SENSITIVE HABITATS: RIPARIAN WOODLAND AND FRESHWATER MARSH
- ACCESS FOR PASSIVE RECREATION

FSDRIP MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

- MAINTENANCE OF NATIVE HABITAT
- REDUCTION OF ADJACENT DISTURBANCES
- MAINTENANCE OF HYDRAULIC EFFICIENCY
- PROVISION FOR EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES



R - 298839



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO
MANAGER'S REPORT

DATE ISSUED: January 28, 2004 REPORT NO. 04-021
ATTENTION: Honorable Mayor and City Council
Agenda of February 2, 2004
SUBJECT: First San Diego River Improvement Project (FSDRIP) Natural Resource
Management Plan

SUMMARY

Issue - Shall City Council adopt the First San Diego River Improvement Project (FSDRIP) Natural Resource Management Plan dated September 2001?

Manager's Recommendation - Adopt the FSDRIP Natural Resource Management Plan dated September 2001.

Other Recommendations -

1. San Diego River Park Foundation - In March 2002, the San Diego River Park Foundation staff reviewed the FSDRIP Natural Resource Management Plan, found it to be consistent with their mission relative to development of the San Diego River Park, and therefore, recommended City Council adoption of the Plan.
2. FSDRIP Maintenance Assessment District Committee - In September 2001, the FSDRIP Maintenance Assessment District Committee voted unanimously to recommend City Council adoption of the FSDRIP Natural Resource Management Plan dated September 2001.
3. FSDRIP Advisory Committee - In September 2001, the FSDRIP Advisory Committee reviewed the FSDRIP Natural Resource Management Plan and unanimously recommended adoption by City Council.

Fiscal Impact - None with this action.

fc 298839

BACKGROUND

The First San Diego River Improvement Project (FSDRIP) is a 45-acre flood control and mitigation project located within San Diego's Mission Valley area along a 7,000-linear foot section of the San Diego River (Figure 1). The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (CORPS), U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) required 26.8 acres of riparian woodland, 9.7 acres of freshwater marsh, and 8.7 acres of open water as mitigation for the 100-year flood control project proposed by local land owners who needed the project in order to develop their land. The CORPS and CDFG required that the aforementioned habitat acreage be planted and maintained in perpetuity within the project limits. The City of San Diego took on the permit responsibilities for creating the project. A Maintenance Assessment District, funded by the benefiting property owners, was established to pay for monitoring, maintenance and dredging activities. The flood control project was completed in 1988.

As part of the permit process, a FSDRIP Advisory Committee was created comprised of representatives from CORPS, USFWS, and CDFG, FSDRIP property owners, and City staff to provide guidance to the City on implementation and monitoring of the FSDRIP habitat creation/restoration effort. The vegetation planted to meet mitigation requirements progressed well and, in 1995, the CORPS and CDFG agreed to sign off the project as meeting success criteria on the condition that a Natural Resource Management Plan (NRMP) be prepared. The NRMP was the last CORPS requirement for final permit approval.

The NRMP was previously docketed for City Council approval in December 1997, but was pulled at the request of the affected property owners in the Maintenance Assessment District, who wanted more time to review the document. These owners then formed the FSDRIP Maintenance Assessment District Committee (MADC) to review all matters related to the Assessment District and FSDRIP. A representative from the MADC filled the FSDRIP Advisory Committee's property owners' representative position.

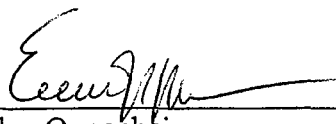
By October 2000, after extensive review, the FSDRIP Advisory Committee and MADC were in agreement on all elements of the Natural Resource Management Plan except construction noise parameters during the least Bell's vireo breeding season. For another year, between October 2000 and September 2001, the two groups worked together to develop mutually acceptable language related to this issue. The September 2001 FSDRIP Natural Resource Management Plan includes all revisions and amendments approved by the FSDRIP Advisory Committee and the FSDRIP MADC. The Plan is consistent with all FSDRIP mitigation and monitoring requirements. The both the FSDRIP MADC and the FSDRIP Advisory Committee unanimously recommended City Council adoption of the September 2001 FSDRIP Natural Resource Management Plan. The Plan was subsequently referred to the San Diego River Park Foundation for review, and was returned with a recommendation for approval in March of 2002.

ALTERNATIVES

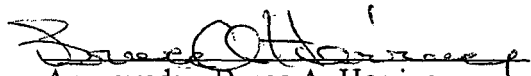
- 1 Adopt the FSDRIP Natural Resource Management Plan (September 2001) with changes.

2 Do not adopt the FSDRIP Natural Resource Management Plan (September 2001).

Respectfully submitted,



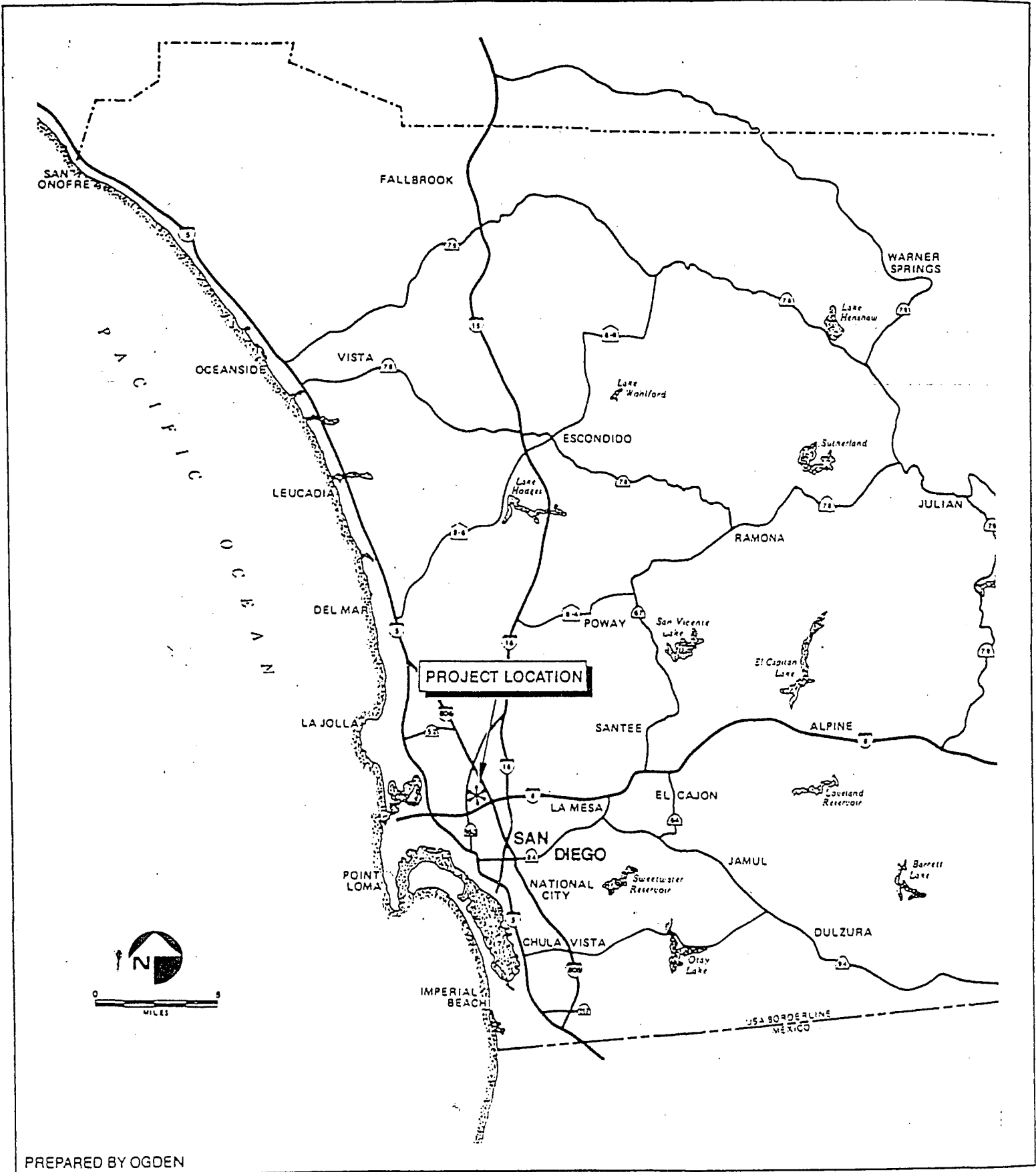
Ellen Oppenheim
Director, Park and Recreation


Approved: Bruce A. Herring
Deputy City Manager

OPPENHEIM/RS

Attachments: 1. Location Map
2. Executive Summary of FSDRIP Natural Resource Management Plan
(September 2001)

Note: Due to the size of the Plan, it is not available in electronic format. A copy is available for review in the Office of the City Clerk at 202 "C" Street, San Deigo.



PREPARED BY OGDEN

REGIONAL LOCATION MAP

CITY OF SAN DIEGO PARK & RECREATION DEPT.



FIGURE



FSDRIP NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The First San Diego River Improvement Project (FSDRIP) is located within San Diego's Mission Valley area along a 7000-foot section of the San Diego River, from Qualcomm Way west to Highway 163. FSDRIP is the mitigation site for a 100-year flood control project completed in 1988, and funded through an agreement with owners of property benefitting from the flood control. The mitigation required by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, under the Federal Clean Water Act, included replanting and permanently preserving natural riparian and upland habitat values impacted during construction of flood control improvements. Specifically, 26.8 acres of riparian woodland, 9.7 acres of freshwater marsh, and 8.7 acres of open water are required to be maintained in perpetuity within the limits of FSDRIP. FSDRIP refers to the area covered by the Army Corps of Engineers permit and conditions, which is the flood control channel, revegetated channel banks, and buffer zones. The adjacent development areas are referenced in this document as the FSDRIP Specific Plan area.

The FSDRIP Natural Resources Management Plan (NRMP) documents FSDRIP natural resources existing at the time of permit compliance as defined by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and provides for their future protection and sustainable management. Upon City Council adoption, this NRMP becomes the operational document for maintenance and management of FSDRIP and is consistent with the Mission Valley Community Plan (1985).

The Natural Resource Management Plan addresses four key areas of FSDRIP use: natural habitat; flood control; utility corridor (sewer and Mission Valley trolley); and public uses. All allowable FSDRIP uses will be consistent with preservation of the natural habitat values. Guidelines for FSDRIP use include: avoidance of damage during utility corridor and flood control maintenance; fencing of FSDRIP limits during new construction on adjacent properties; replanting of disturbed areas with appropriate native plant species; limited passive recreation use which excludes swimming, boating, hunting, and other active recreational activities within FSDRIP limits; and leashing of pets while within FSDRIP limits.

Management and maintenance guidelines are also spelled out for FSDRIP and include: maintenance of the required acreages of riparian woodland, freshwater marsh, and open water habitats; management of invasive exotic plant species and animal vectors; limited irrigation; regular trash removal; limited pruning of vegetation along walkways; monitoring of the channel for flood capacity and dredging for flood control, if required; repair of flood and vandalism impacts to native vegetation; and a FSDRIP pamphlet to inform the public regarding FSDRIP habitat goals and public use limitation in the area.

For adjacent developments which are not able to eliminate impacts to project habitats or for maintenance activities resulting in habitat disturbance, mitigation restoration guidelines are outlined in the Plan. Revegetation plant palettes for such impacts are given in Appendix D. Suggested guidelines for interpretive and research opportunities include: signage; informational kiosks at major entry points; natural resource brochures; a self-guided nature walk; a future park ranger; and research, potentially based on previous project development monitoring data.

COPY

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Agenda of

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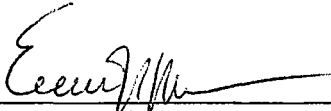
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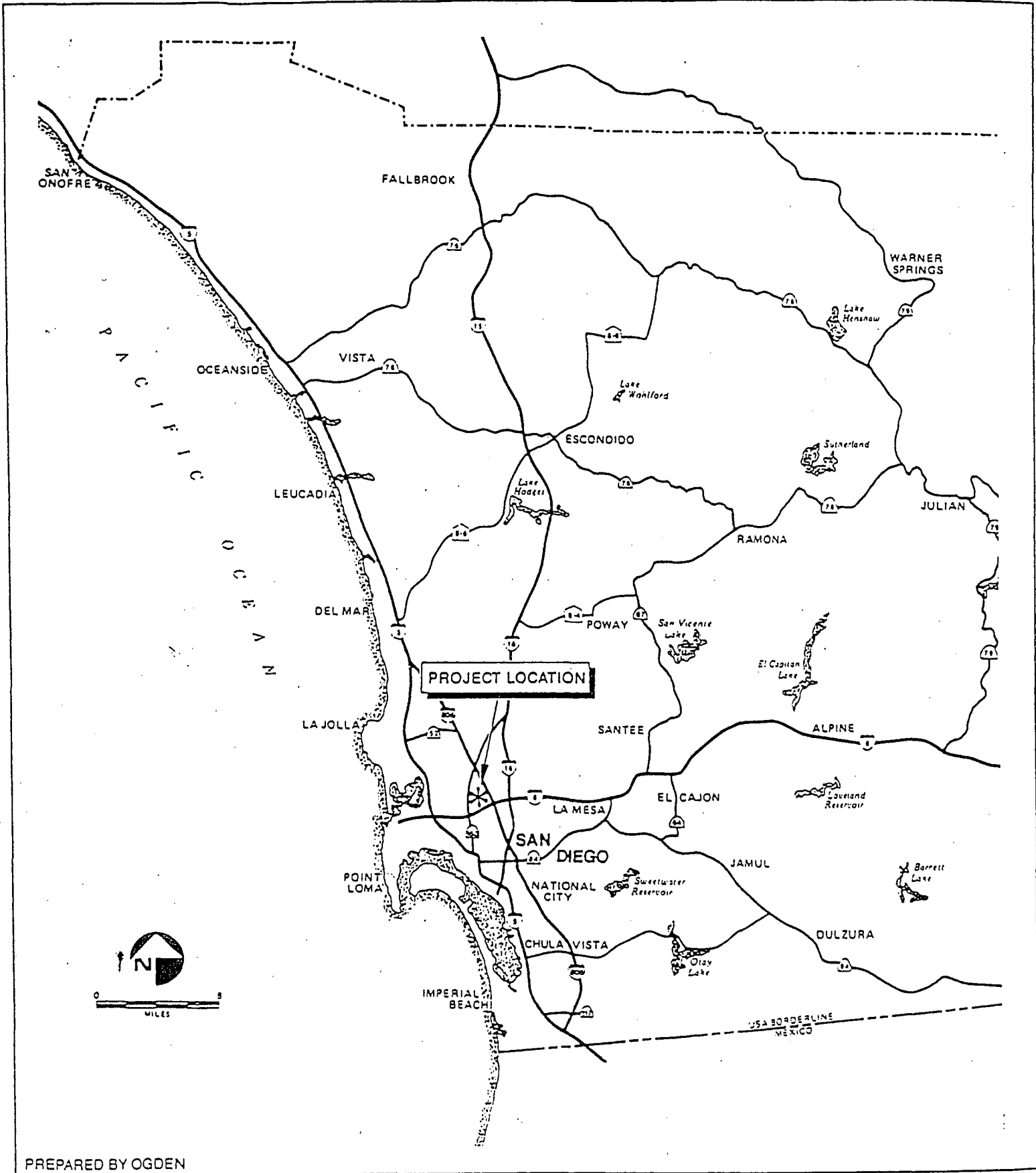
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