

San Francisco Peninsula Watershed Interpretive Master Plan

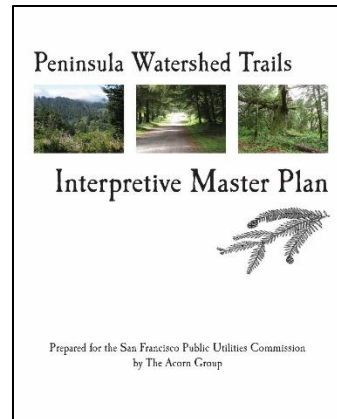
The Santa Cruz Mountains dominate the landscape south of San Francisco. Tree-studded, fog-enshrouded, the ridges create a forested skyline seen high above a string of reservoirs. The region is known as the Peninsula Watershed.

It is a place of mystery and intrigue. Most people have not stepped foot on this land. Access is permitted, but limited. The watershed has the highest concentration of rare, threatened, and endangered species in the nine-county Bay Area. It is also a critical component of San Francisco's water supply system. Its ecological integrity has direct bearing on the capacity of the SFPUC to deliver reliable supplies of water to its service areas.



In 2017, The Acorn Group began development of the interpretive master plan for the 16-mile trail system of the Peninsula Watershed. Based on background research, on-site visits, planning sessions, visitor survey, focus group session, and educator needs assessment, we put forth a series of recommendations regarding the development of interpretive media. The

essence of our work has been to establish a long-range (10-year) vision for interpretation and education on both the Fifield-Cahill Ridge Trail and Southern Skyline Boulevard Ridge Trail Extension.



Proposed trail amenities range from new interpretive panels, trailhead kiosks, directional signs, maps, and confidence markers to a seating area and tactile watershed element at the main Fifield-Cahill Ridge Trailhead to tactile panels with audio elements (via proximity beacons) along the primary accessible trail and accessible spur trail that leads to a lookout. There, people will be able to enjoy sweeping views using a viewing scope with a wheelchair access base.

