



Tecolote Canyon: Environmental Report

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History

- Tecolote Canyon was originally home to an Indian tribe indigenous to the area known as the Kumeyaay. They found shelter and food in the area.
- The area was given the name Tecolote, or owl, because it was home to birds such as owls, falcons, and hawks.
- One of the first settlers who settled in Tecolote Canyon was Judge Hyde, who built a home in the area and farmed. Farming continued from 1872 until late 1953.
- Cattle usually grazed in the canyon because of its dense vegetation.



Climate of: Tecolote Canyon

- Warm and mild climate
- Average yearly temperatures range from 57.5°F low to 69.8°F high.
- Average annual precipitation: 10.4 inches.



A Protected Park

- “Protected areas” are legally reserved for conservation and recreation uses.
- Tecolote Canyon includes areas for golfing and hiking.



Flora & Fauna

Vegetation Observed: Bushes, shrubs, and trees with thick broad, evergreen leaves, typical of a chaparral biome. Some dry brush, and areas with dense flowering plants.

Wildlife Observed: Lizards, bees, birds. Larger organisms such as coyotes and owls inhabit this area, but were not seen.



Trees common to
Tecolote Canyon.



Assortment of dry leaves
and typical chaparral leaves.



Brush with a variety of plant life.



Flowering plants in a dense field



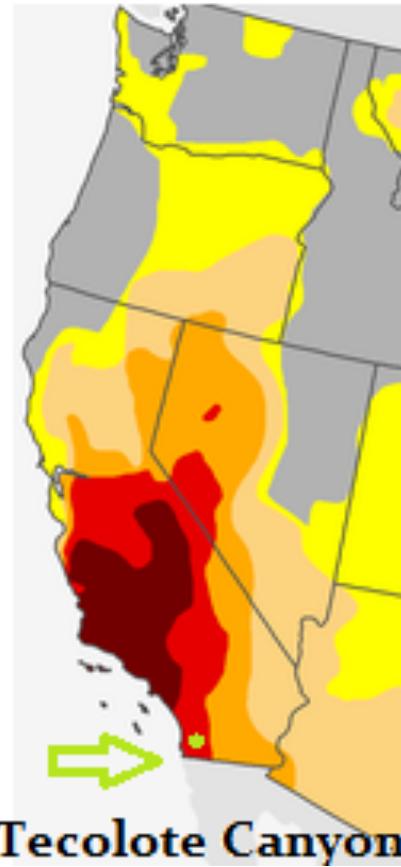
First Hand Impression of the Park

- Observations indicate that the park isn't subject to any particular immediate danger.
- Forest is thriving with life.
- Very few damaged trees, and no signs of obvious abuse.
- The park is being legally preserved, conditions should stay relatively similar.
- Overall, this park is healthy.



Possible Dangers

- Although in great condition right now, a California wide drought could cause issues and increasing temperatures could cause unwanted fires.
- Chaparrals can withstand infrequent fires, but rapidly occurring fires would cause desertification.
- In April 18, 2016, fire sparked in Tecolote Canyon burning an acre's worth of vegetation.



Tecolote Canyon

*Color intensity indicates increasing levels of drought severity.

Sources

- <http://www.usclimatedata.com/climate/san-diego/california/united-states/usca0982>
- <https://www.climate.gov/maps-data/data-snapshots/usdroughtmonitor-weekly-ndmc-2016-05-17?theme=Drought>
- Global Forest Watch for info on forest loss and government involvement (<http://www.globalforestwatch.org/>).