



# James Sisk Eagle Project





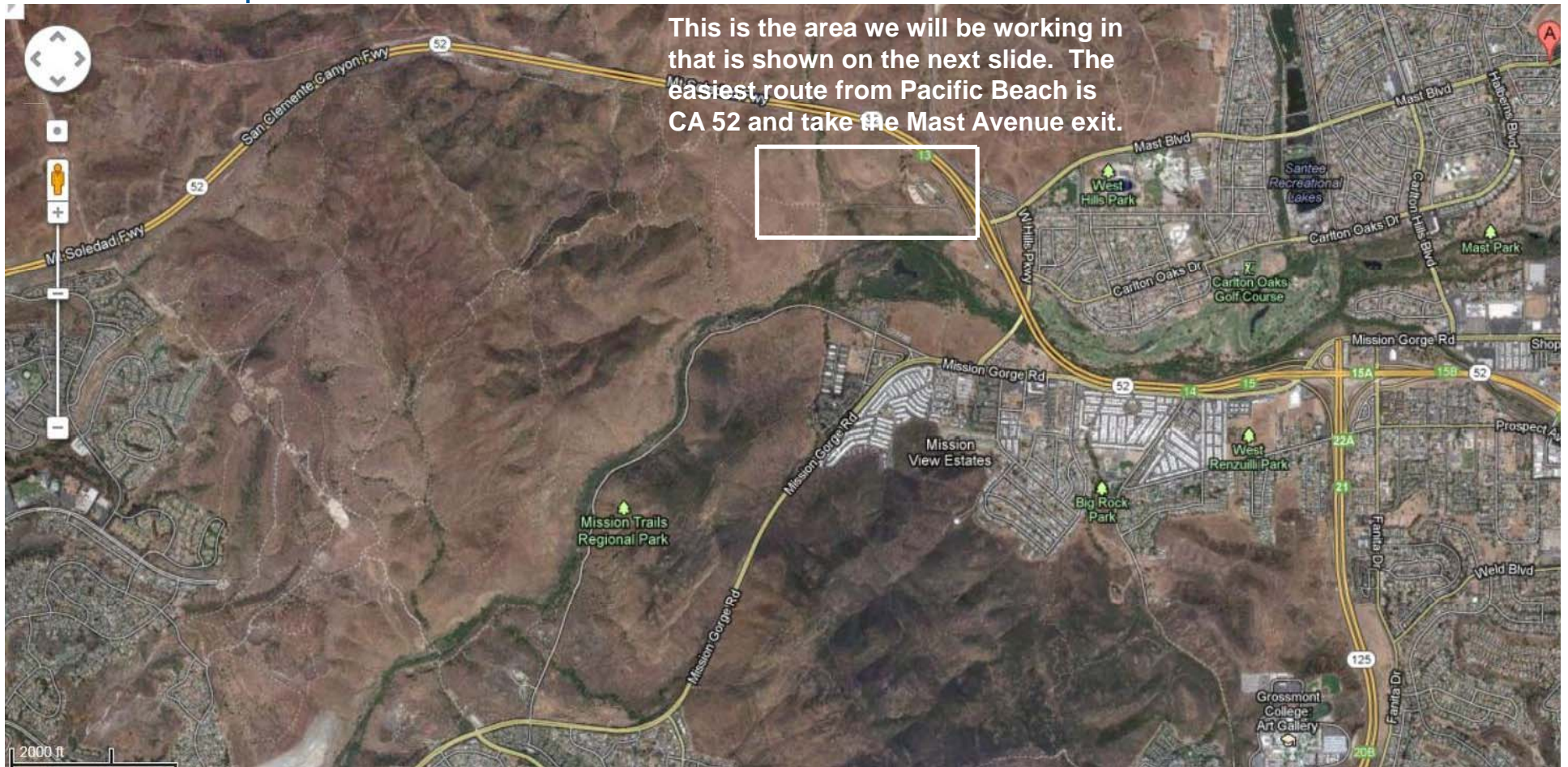
# Split Rail Fence at Mission Trails





# Where is Mission Trails Park?

This is the area we will be working in that is shown on the next slide. The easiest route from Pacific Beach is CA 52 and take the Mast Avenue exit.





# Mission Trails Regional Park





## Details

- ◆ **Who:** James Sisk, Scouts and Parents from Troop 246, Other Scouting Friends, my Family and my Friends
- ◆ **What:** Install 300 feet of new Split Rail Cedar Fence.
- ◆ **When:** Friday and Saturday, August 10-11, 2012
- ◆ **Where:** Along a trail in Mission Trails Regional Park (see next slide)
- ◆ **Why:** To replace a fence that burned in 2003 that protected the adjacent vegetation and habitat.
- ◆ **How:** By raising money from friends, neighbors, church, insurance agents, and family members and getting help from my troop, my family, and my friends.





## Background

Many of the fences in Mission Trails Park burned in the 2003 wildfires. The ruins of the old fences still exist. Split rail fences are installed to help keep hikers from leaving designated trails. Fences protect habitats that are criss-crossed with paths of deer, coyotes, mountain lions, rabbits, and other native animals. When you see paths that are wider, it is usually from human activity that destroys animal habitats; disrupts, disturbs and harasses the animals; and violates Leave No Trace principles. Hiking off the trail is illegal, subject to a \$235 fine.





# Mission Trails Regional Park

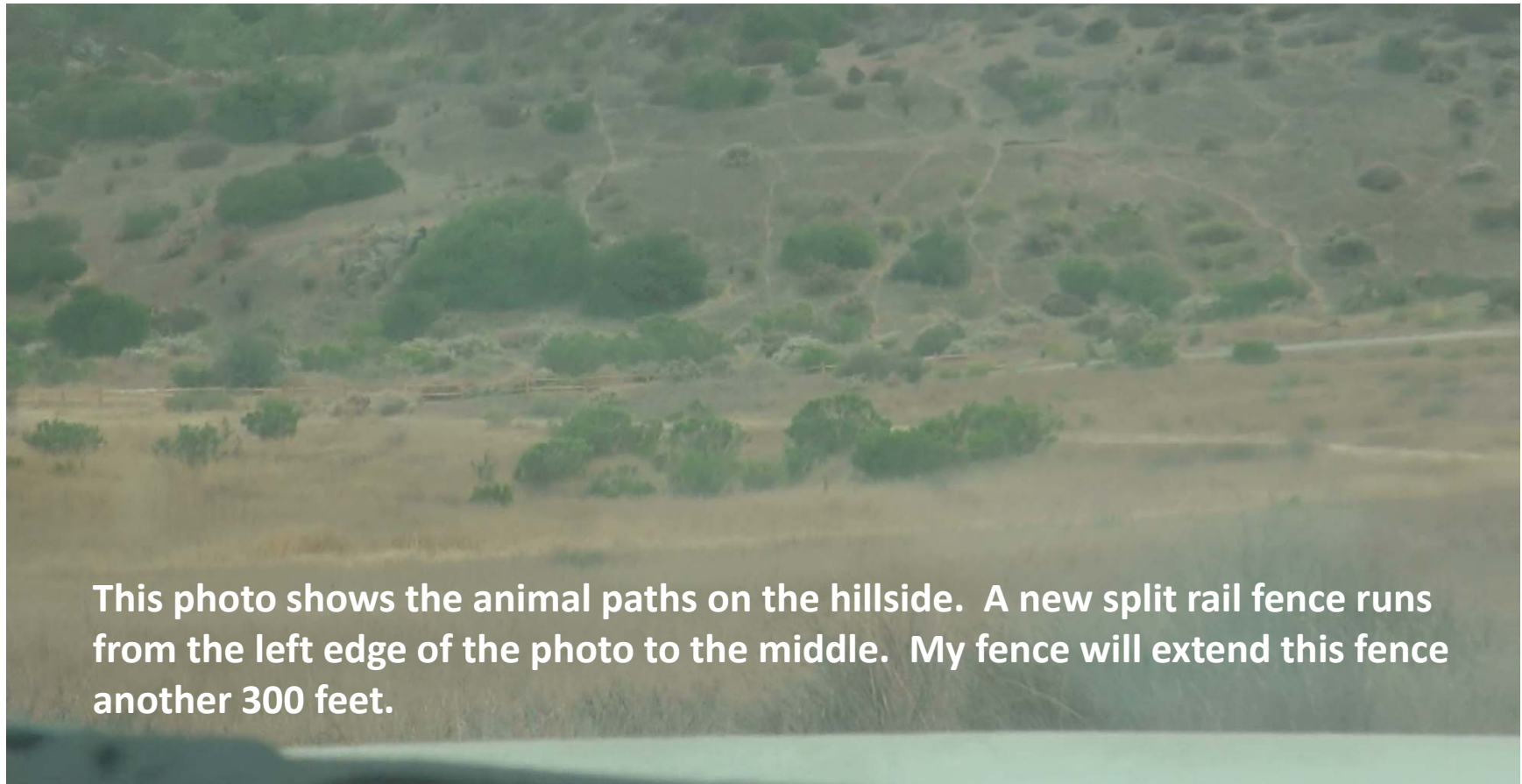


Ranger Mel Naidas stands by remains of fence burned in 2003.





# Mission Trails Regional Park



This photo shows the animal paths on the hillside. A new split rail fence runs from the left edge of the photo to the middle. My fence will extend this fence another 300 feet.







## Summary of Project

- My project is to build 300 feet of split rail fencing along a well-used trail in Mission Trails Regional Park. I will raise money to purchase 36 fence posts, 72 split rails, and at least 150 fasteners.
- This new fence will replace fencing that was destroyed by the wildfires, and it will double the amount of new fence in this area.
- The fences help keep people on the designated trail, protect the natural habitat, and help save visitors from paying expensive fines and penalties.





# Mission Trails Regional Park



This is a section of the split rail fence recently installed by another Eagle Scout candidate. My fence will look like this fence, curving along the trail.





# Mission Trails Regional Park



Ranger Mel says there are more than 400 completed Eagle Projects at Mission Trails.





# Mission Trails Regional Park



My new fence will start at this fence post. The Scout who built this fence left several extra split cedar rails and some of the aggregate rock that is used to secure the posts in the ground.





# Mission Trails Regional Park



Another view of the post where my fence will start.





# Timeline

- **Friday:**

- All volunteers will meet with Ranger Mel for a safety orientation before we begin work.
- Volunteers will transport the rocks from the rock pile to the fence site.
- The lumber yard will deliver the fence materials to the fence site.
- We will mark approximately where each post hole will be.
- Volunteers will place the posts, rails, and rocks where they will be installed.
- We will mark off our construction area, so visitors to the park are aware there is construction project going on.





# Timeline

- **Saturday:**

- We will meet at Mission Trails Regional Park at 9 AM.
- Ranger Mel will give everyone a Safety Orientation. This is a requirement, before we can start working.
- We will transport everyone to the fence site.
- We will begin digging post holes from where the existing fence stops. There will be 36 new post holes, one every 8 feet.
- We will install a post in each hole, pack the hole around the post with fill dirt, rocks, and water, and pack it down with sledge hammers. The water, fill dirt and clay, and rocks will secure the posts.
- Once the posts are installed, volunteers will install the rails.





## Specifications

- **Fence Length: 300 feet long**
- **Fence Post Height: 3 feet high from the top of the post to the ground**
- **Fence Post Material: 4 feet long (1 foot is buried in the ground, 3 feet are above ground)**
- **Fence Rails: 8 feet long**
- **Post Hole Depth: 12 inches minimum**







## Equipment

- **Gasoline-powered Auger Drill with 10” to 12” digger bits.**
- **Generator, Compressor, and Jack Hammer with 90 pound bit.**
- **Post Hole Diggers**
- **Digger Bars**
- **Shovels**
- **Hand Dolly (Bungee cords or eight (8) feet of rope)**
- **2 Wheelbarrows**
- **Hand Saw**
- **(continued on next page)**





## Equipment (continued)

- Sledge Hammers (4 LB and 1 LB)
- Hand-Held Battery-Operated Drill and Bit
- 3” wood screws
- Spray Paint or Flags to mark post holes
- String and Stakes
- Measuring Tape
- Numerous 5-gallon plastic buckets (for hauling rocks)
- The rocks being used for fill are on site at Mission Trails.
- Water containers with non-potable water are being provided by Mission Trails.





# Supplies

- **First Aid Kit**
- **Drinking Water**
- **Sun Screen**
- **Safety Glasses**
- **Ear Plugs**
- **Eye Protection**
- **Boots (Hiking Shoes, please - NO TENNIS SHOES)**
- **Hats to protect neck, head, and face from sun.**
- **Gloves – Everyone needs to bring good leather gloves!**
- **Toilet facility**
- **Trucks for hauling posts, rails, equipment, and volunteers**





# Project Costs

- **Dixieline Lumber - \$784**
  - 36 4-foot Posts
  - 72 8-foot Split Cedar Rails
  - 3-inch Wood Screws
  - Delivered to Site
- **BJ Rentals - \$103**
  - Auger and Bits = \$60 per day, plus tax
  - Generator = \$35 per day, plus tax
- **Refreshments and Lunch - \$100**
  - Pizza (donated by Pizza Hut)
  - Soft Drinks, Water
  - Ice (donated by McDonalds)
  - Chips and Snacks





# Project Costs

- **Other Items**
  - Portable Toilet
- **Total Cost: \$1,050**





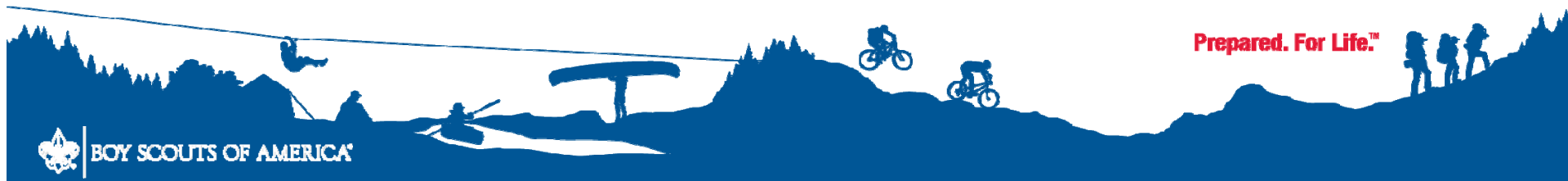
## Installing the Fence

**There will be 3 main groups working at a time:**

1st Group (**HARDEST** Strong, Bigger Boys) - digging one hole 12" deep and waiting for the post to be filled in to start the next hole. We will have an Auger.

2nd Group (**MEDIUM** Older Experienced Scouts Preferably) - placing the fence posts in the just dug hole. They will fill the area around the hole with rocks, and dirt, which came out of the hole in the first place. They will then pour water on the fill and pack it down with hammers and feet to make it secure.

3rd Group (**EASY** Younger non experienced Scouts) - attach rails to fence posts and screw them into place.





## Rules

- **We are only allowed 3 vehicles in the area at a time.**
- **4 wheel drive vehicles only! Vans and sedans won't make it to the fence site and back.**
- **Do not wander off the trail. The fine is \$235.**
- **No smoking. The fine is \$1,000.**





The existing fence is 300 feet long and uses 36 posts and 72 split cedar rails.







**My fence will be installed for 300 feet along the road in the center of this photo.**



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Each rail is inserted into the post and secured with a 3" long wood screw.





The rails are rustic looking, which suits the natural environment.





**Ranger Mel tells me that the fence should be installed approximately one foot from the edge of the trail.**





The ground is clay. The clay that we excavate will be mixed with rocks and water to secure the posts.





The existing fence connects with a section of old split rail fence that was not burned in the 2003 fire.





**Ranger Mel and I walk along the trail where my new fence will be installed. You can see the ruins of the fence that burned.**





This is where my fence will be installed.







**This is the pile of aggregate rocks we will use as fill for each post. We have to load about 20 five-gallon buckets of rocks and take them about a half a mile to the fence location.**





Ranger Mel shows me the rocks.





**The access road is locked. I will have a key for two days. We can use three vehicles, preferably 4WD trucks or SUVs. No vans or sedans.**





**Day 1 – Preparation Day Volunteers**





**Ranger Mel gives a Safety Briefing**





Fence materials and water buckets at start of Day 1.





**Our work party rakes path of new fence.**





**Volunteers put fence materials where they will be needed.**







**James, Corey, Julian, Nathaniel, and Brett unloading rocks.**

**Thank you!**





**Corey, Nathaniel, Adam staging fence materials along fence path.**



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**Mr. Barnes, Corey, and James moving fence materials.**





**Nathaniel, Mr. Barnes, Corey, James, Adam and Courtney staging fence materials along fence path.**





**Mr. Kottke and his truck really helped move things along.  
We had to haul materials up to 100 yards from where it was delivered.**





Here you can see the fence laid out along the road.



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**Volunteers at the rock pile.**





Transporting aggregate rock to the work site.







Thank you Mr. Deckard for bringing your big truck





Andrew from my church working hard.





**Andrew's mom, Christa rakes debris from fence path.**





**My cousin, Jason, a Marine officer, was a tremendous help, shuttling volunteers in his SUV and helping with fence preparations.**





**My neighbor, Mark, was very helpful, even working with a disability.**





**Thank you, Juan, and all of our friends who volunteered.**





**Thank you, Mrs. Lemme, and all of the Scout parents who volunteered.**





**Volunteers hard at work. Thank you!**







**Brett, Gaetano, Spencer, Jorge and Mr. Deckard (driving)  
unloading aggregate rocks. Thank you!**





**Brett, Gaetano, Spencer, Jorge and Mr. Deckard (driving)  
unloading aggregate rocks. Thank you!**





**In this picture the fence and rocks are all laid out and volunteers are enjoying refreshments. The tent on the right was our bathroom.**





**Mr. Barnes inspects the fence materials, water, and rocks.  
We're ready for Day 2.**





**My two heros – Mr. Kottke and Mr. Deckard – and their trucks.  
Job well done.**





**My two heros – Mr. Kottke and Mr. Deckard – and their trucks.  
Job well done.**





My mother on her way with refreshments.





Nothing better than watermelon on a hot day.







**Thank you Mrs. Brown, Mrs. Navarro, and Mrs. Sisk for the refreshments. It was nice to take a break in the shade when we got thirsty, hot, or tired.**





**Michael Kottke seems to enjoy the refreshments!  
There were lots of treats for everyone to enjoy.**





**Here's Brett, Mr. Barnes, Julian, Joseph, and James enjoying the shade and the satisfaction of a job well done.**



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**Juan was eager to start the fence and began digging holes by hand, instead of waiting for the power tools we had ordered for Day 2.**





Mr. Navarro jumped in to help.





So did my cousin, Jason.



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I had to help dig the first hole, that's for sure!







Here I am installing the first fence post.





**We completed our first segment. Only 37 to go.**





Day 1 – Preparation Day Volunteers





Day 2 - Fence Building Day Volunteers





**Getting started.  
Measure distance. Drill hole. Install post and rails.**





**Mr. Kottke and Mr. Munoz using the Auger.  
Eagle Counselor Mr. Ruppe looks on.**





James takes a turn on the Auger.





Mom and Mr. Ruppe stop for a Photo Op.







Finishing the fence.





Working on the last post hole.





Gilbert has to use Jackhammer on last hole.





**Gilbert Munoz and James Sisk**





James checks the fence posts





New section of fence





New section of fence





New fence and old fence







James and the finished fence





Enjoying a pizza lunch after the project

