

Santa Clarita Annexes First Movie Ranches

By MARK MADLER Friday, April 19, 2013

The city of Santa Clarita has annexed into its boundaries three movie ranches that will be included in a new planning zone for the ranches.

Sable Movie Ranch, Rancho Maria and A Rancho Deluxe total about 692 acres, with about 540 acres used for feature film and television production. The acreage was annexed by the City Council at a Tuesday meeting.

The Movie Ranch Overlay Zone was created by the city in 2011 as a zoning designation that eliminates property owners from having to receive a conditional use permit for filming activities, lowers the cost of filming permits and streamlines the permitting process.

Santa Clarita is the first city in Los Angeles County to create a special zoning designation for filming. It is one of the more popular places for feature film, television and commercial production with recent projects including television shows "Justified," "Vegas," and "Franklin & Bash."

There are other ranches now going through the approval process, said Russell Sypowicz, a city economic development associate.

"We are expecting by the end of the year three additional movie ranches coming into Santa Clarita," he said.

http://www.sfvbj.com/news/2013/apr/19/santa-clarita-annexes-first-movie-ranches/