



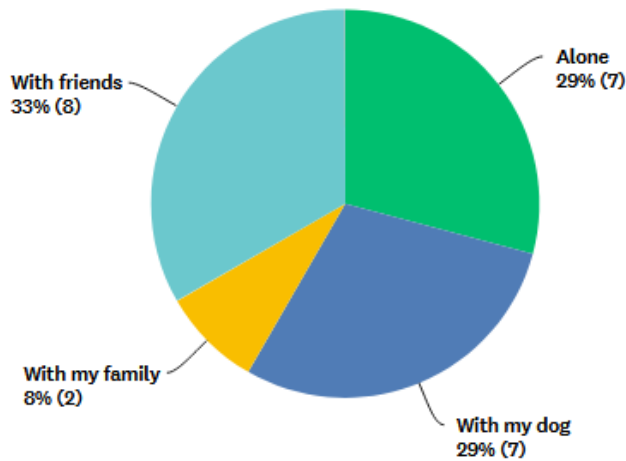
DATE: December 1, 2020

SUBJECT: Trail User Working Group Member Survey Response

Overview: The 24-question survey on SurveyMonkey was sent to 31 Trail User Working Group members. The intent of the survey was to gauge the trail use experience of each of the members and compile the perspectives of all trail users within the group. A total of 25 responses were collected. The following are summary graphs, figures and text.

When visiting the East Bay Regional Park District, do you typically visit:

Answered: 24 Skipped: 1



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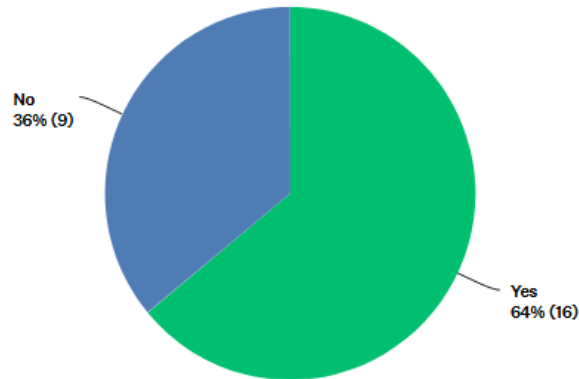
Dennis Waespi
Ward 3

Ayn Wieskamp
Ward 5

Robert E. Doyle
General Manager

Are you satisfied with the current trail system within the East Bay Regional Park District?

Answered: 25 Skipped: 0



Reasons for YES:

- Proximity of trails to urban areas, but also quick escape from urban
- Rustic and natural trails
- Clean and well maintained trails
- Scenic views and plant sightings along narrow trails
- Accommodating multi-use trails
- Variety of trail experiences
- Safety, consistency, signage, designation
- Trails allow dogs
- Transportation links for riding
- Solitude, various landscapes, and nature experiences

Reasons for NO:

- Could accommodate many more trails
- Increase the amount of narrow trails to reduce user density
- Increase narrow trail access to bikes
- Increase narrow trail loops, connectivity, and narrow trails away from trailheads for user separation
- Better connectivity to adjacent lands (EBRPD and EBMUD)
- More segments of Bay Area Ridge Trail open to bikes
- Narrow trails cannot be multi-use
- Better information for bathrooms and parking accessibility at trails
- More pictures/videos showing disabled accessibility
- Excess numbers of bicyclists ruining experience of open space for other users
- Need more single track trails for pedestrian and equine use

What is your favorite trail and access point and why?

- Tilden access point: Steam Trains water trough. Many trails: Vollmer/Gillespie/Redwood/Grizzly Peak Loop. Seaview/Big Springs/Quarry/Meadows/Wildcat Gorge Loop.
- The Diablo Regional Trail, from Round Valley to Walnut Creek.
- Mott Peak Trail, Vaca Creek Road
- Several of the trails in Redwood Park. Several of the trails in Black Diamond, especially the narrow trails that reveal rich and varied plant diversity. Morgan Territory because of its remote feel. Wildcat Canyon because it is nearby and has wonderful views and a feeling of openness from the high ridges. Huckleberry because of the natural beauty and intimacy of the slope-hugging trails. Sobrante Ridge Preserve because of the unique, rare, and dramatic Pallid Manzanita.
- Morgan Territory - lots of trails to choose from and great loops. I like the viewpoint at the northern end.
- After the rains, I like to enter Coyote Hills from Alameda Creek Staging Area. I like running on the platforms over the marsh when the water level is high and the cattails overgrown. For a brief moment, I feel like I'm running on water and it makes me feel happy.
- Lone Oak Trail. A good hike -- not too short, not too long, not too arduous but not nothing. Close to civilization but a feeling of being out in Nature. Dog-friendly.
- Huckleberry Botanic
- Morgan Territory, Finley Road Trail
- Volmer peak to Inspiration point in Tilden; Buckeye Ranch access in Briones
- Prairie Falcon in Morgan Territory from parking lot near top of hill.
- Tilden Park because of the views
- Tree Frog Trail, Crockett Hills Regional Park. It is close to my home. The trail is about 4 miles from the trailhead so it provides an opportunity for solitude and separation from crowds. The trail provides enjoyable flow, is open to bikes, has areas of shade and sun, provides stunning views, and has a variety of wildlife.
- Coyote Hills; Red hill.
- My favorite access point is the one that is nearest to my house: bottom of Meadow Trail in Tilden Park. I like this spot because it provides easy access to a wide variety of trail users.
- I love all the trails at the Redwood Regional Park. I like the trees, little creeks and vegetation. Also, I found these trails not too busy during the weekdays in the morning.
- Ohlone Wilderness Regional Preserve because the habitat value and trails are well-maintained and the Preserve supports abundant wildlife viewing opportunities.
- No favorite, but I favor Wildcat Canyon Regional Park because it's close to my home and I can just run or bike to get there
- SF Bay Trail from Pt Isabel. Great access to San Rafael Bridge & Marin County.
- The trails at Sibley and Huckleberry.
- No single favorite. French Trail, Huckleberry Trail, Diablo Vista, Castleridge at Pleasanton Ridge, Arroyo, Upper Wildcat Gorge and Pack Rat in Tilden, I could go on and on...
- Point Pinole-easy to get to, accessible bathrooms, a variety of experiences. Coyote Hills-a variety of experiences, good bird watching, often not very crowded. Redwood Regional, Redwood Gate access point. Lovely wooded experience. For all of these they are my favorites because I can hike a good distance whereas other parks have shorter wheelchair accessible trails.
- Trails (plural) emanating from the dam at Lake Chabot. Access point: Chabot Park (City of San Leandro)
- My favorite trail is the Graham Trail in Reinhardt Redwoods Regional Park. I like to access it by parking at Skyline Ranch equestrian center and walking up the hill through the redwood forest to Redwood Peak.

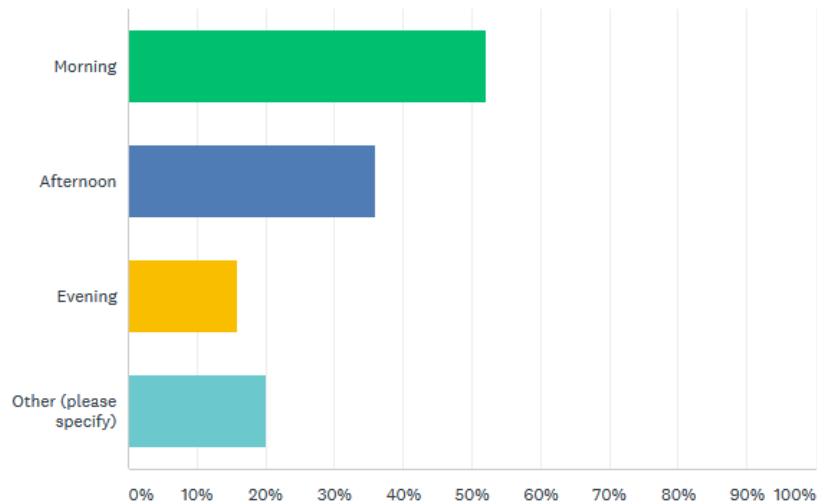
- Pt. Isabel, when I owned a dog, because of off-leash dog use; Inspiration Point, beautiful views, easy grades

What is your most often visited trail and access point (if different from above)?

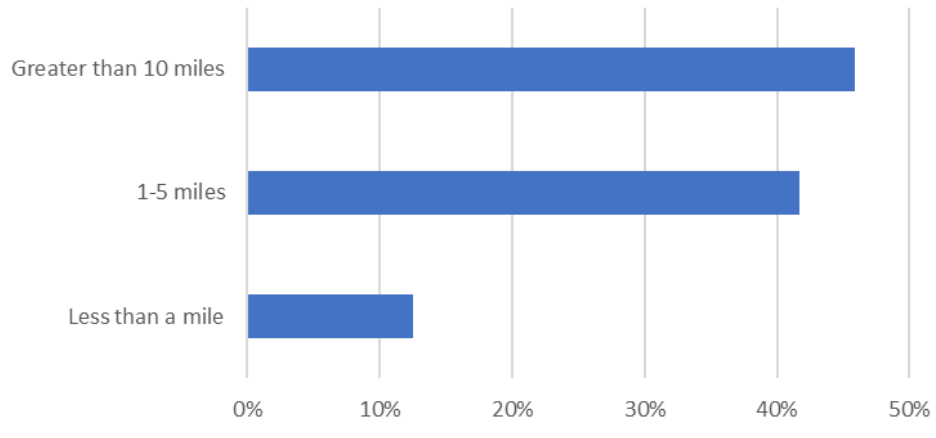
- Morgan Territory
- Lafayette Moraga Trail
- Wildcat Canyon
- Alvarado Park
- Sunol Regional, trails up Flag Hill
- Quarry Lakes from Isherwood parking lot
- Pt. Isabel or Albany waterfront
- Tilden, Inspiration Point
- Las Trampas, Old Bollinger Canyon Road
- Sibley Loop
- Tilden
- Carquinez and Crockett Hills
- Lone Oak Wildcat Gorge Curran Meadows Canyon Loop
- Wildcat Canyon
- Trails in Reinhardt Redwood
- Steam Trains Parking Lot in Tilden
- Reinhardt Redwoods, Stream Trail entrance
- Inspiration Point, Nimitz Way

What time of day do you prefer to enjoy EBRPD trails?

Answered: 25 Skipped: 0

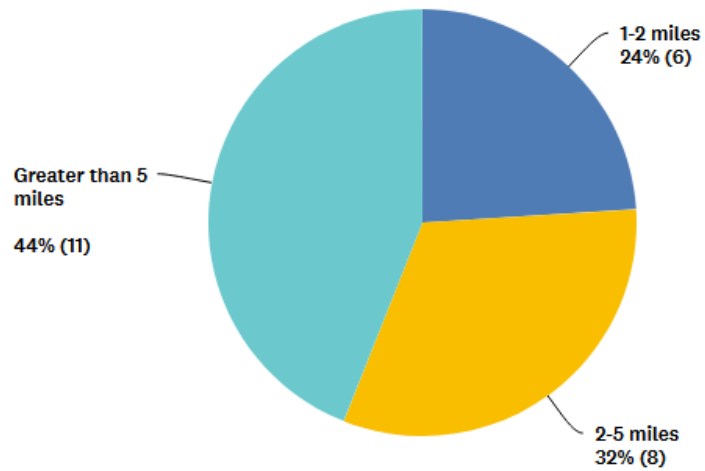


What distance do you typically travel to get to an EBRPD trail entrance and how do you get there?



What distance do you typically travel on EBRPD trails?

Answered: 25 Skipped: 0



What aspects of your trail use experiences keep you coming back again and again?

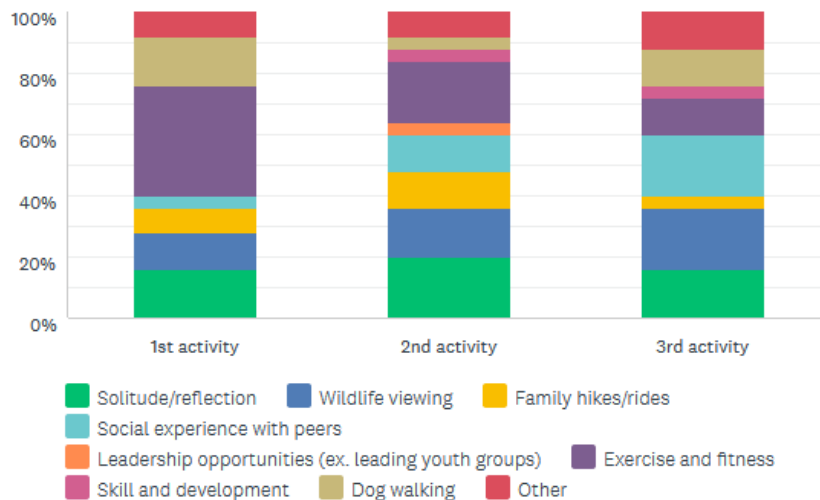
- Beauty, company, solitude, gratitude, exercise
- Viewing nature, and natural anomalies when I find them.
- Being outside
- The openness, a get away from everyday traffic noise and work and home to-do lists, good aerobic exercise, a relaxed time walking and talking with friends, and enjoyment of the rich native plant community diversity, and the associated and varied avian, amphibian/reptile, insect, and mammal species that depend on park habitat.
- Clean trails. Available parking
- I enjoyed running with friends and being in nature.
- Even at crowded Point Isabel, there is room to be by oneself and connect with the beauty of the bay, the water, the sky, the panorama. On other trails, it's similar. As one progresses, vistas open up and then close again as one moves deeper into "the woods." The smell of the dirt and trees, forgotten between visits, comes flooding back. Nature is both very busy with subtle sounds and, compared to our urban lives, very quiet. It's renewing.
- Healing natural landscapes
- The natural beauty
- easy safe exercise, wildlife, just the experience of being in nature
- Love to walk and look at nature. Like to explore, ways want to see what is in the next drainage over.
- Birds , just the scenery-and being one with nature with no other distractions gives you clarity and peace of mind
- Narrow trails, cycling, reasonable trail grades, exercise, solitude, shade, landscape views, wildlife, the smell of the trees.
- The natural environment
- I am an outdoor enthusiast and will always seek opportunities to get outside. What I love the most about being on EBRPD lands is the opportunity to see wildlife and to be away from the built environment.
- I love nature
- Birding and experiencing the natural world.
- I like dirt!
- Access to great road bike rides (Livermore Hills, Contra Costa Canal Trail, San Rafael Bridge)
- Ability to be on a trail and not run over by a mountain bike.
- Looking at the flora, birds and as a place to slow down and to take in natures bounties with all of my senses
- Exercise, meditation, forest bathing, views, streams,
- Challenging legal mountain biking, off leash dog walking. Our parks have low traffic levels.
- The experience of open space - wilderness, even - is fundamental to sanity. Breathing clean air amid the natural environment is necessary for all people in all times. And the aerobic exercise of huffing up a trail is more affordable than a gym membership.
- Beautiful views and scenery Sense of solitude Park District has well-developed network of trails Good amenities like rest rooms Good access to parks Feeling of well-being while hiking

What aspects of your trail use experiences have given you moments of concern?

- User conflicts (infrequent)
- None I can think of. I'm pretty adaptable
- Few to none in the East Bay Parks.
- Lack of shade, hot and dusty if you don't go early enough
- COVID has really changed my experience. Everything is crowded and running in the park brings me less satisfaction. I now avoid Fremont parks and choose harder routes with less people.
- Sometimes the parking lots feel a little dodgy. There are sometimes large family groups not wearing masks, although it's not hard to spot and avoid them. Some newbies don't know some basics, like what poison oak looks like...
- Poorly educated park visitors - no use of Leave No Trace, improper trail etiquette due to lack of education
- Lack of mask wearing by park goers during the pandemic
- Dangerous interaction with speeding mountain bike and with cattle
- Trails near cliffs, high edges
- Overcrowding, steep fire road grades, lack of narrow trails, lack of trails, poison oak, rutted fire roads, cattle feces, poorly maintained and degrading trails
- Knowing the visitor center is closed
- Primarily, the steepness of many trails, the fact that cows are allowed to graze and trample many of the trails that I am allowed to ride and the impassability of many trails when they are overly wet (due to soil type and lack of proper drainage). In some locations, the number of trail users is challenging along with the number of dog poop bags left on the trail.
- When the bikes are too close to people and they do not have consideration for hikers
- Noisy and fast-moving trail users such as mountain bikers, e-bikers, or runners with noisy uncontrolled off-leash dogs, especially users on rogue or undesigantated trails.
- Off leash dogs jumping in front of me.
- Mountain bikers traveling at fast speeds.
- Erosion at bridges that prevents passage in a wheelchair. Being too crowded
- Crowded this year, especially early with Covid, but people are masking up more now. Occasionally dogs have attacked my horse when I was riding, and very rare bicyclists have been dangerous.
- Bad behavior (stupid bikers, dogs not controlled by leash or voice command).
- After years of serving on the Volunteer Mounted Patrol, I was shocked to discover that as a hiker I was not constantly being harassed by off-leash dogs any more. Rude and reckless bicyclists, alas, are equally troublesome to the hiker and to the equestrian.
- Sometimes when I'm on a single track trail I'm surprised by a cyclist coming the other way or in the same direction and have to move over. Such an event causes stress and breaks sense of solitude.

Many enjoy trails for different activities and in different ways. When you enjoy EBRPD trails, select in order the top three activities you engage in:

Answered: 25 Skipped: 0

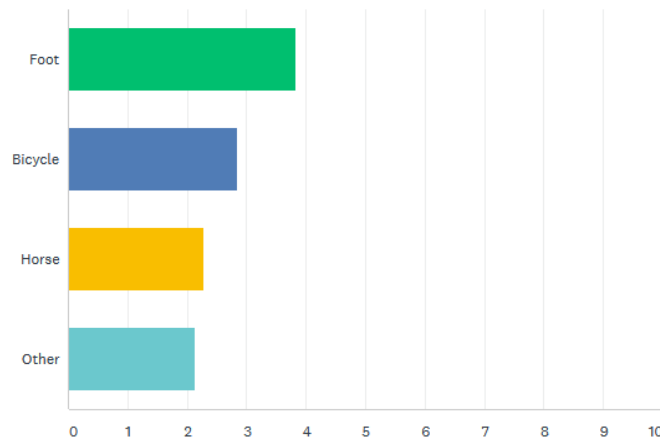


If "Other," what activities?

- Enjoying of native plant beauty and variety
- Running
- Horseback riding
- Doing work on trails
- Cycling/mountain biking on narrow trails
- Walking or hiking
- Get into nature
- Identifying flora
- Scenic views and glimpses of wildlife

There are different modes/methods of travel when enjoying EBRPD trails.
Rank your top three:

Answered: 24 Skipped: 1



If “Other,” what is your top mode/method of travel when enjoying EBRPD trails?

- Wheelchair (2)
- E-bike
- Stand-up paddle board

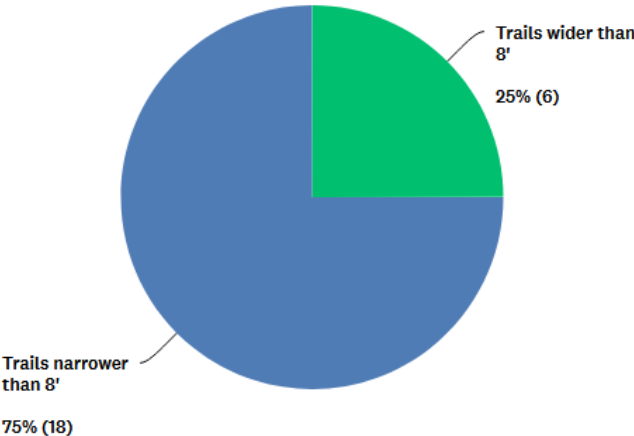
What is your primary concern on the trails today? Do you have any ideas, or would you suggest any management strategies as a solution?

- Trail safety cooperation between cyclists and equestrians
- The impact on natural resources with so many users.
- Having visited other areas where there seemed to be no proactive planning for mountain bikes' impacts on the parks and on the trail experience, I'm concerned about how we sustain a safe, enjoyable trail experience for the highest and most accessible trail use, park constituents who primarily walk, run, and hike, as well as minimize impacts on plants, wildlife, and the trails themselves. I think that a full data picture on current trail use impacts, the user experience, user access by percent trails in the District is a start to management strategies, including accounting for the overall results of the Ordinance 38 trail design framework that has been serving park users for many years.
- How to manage the new influx of people of the trails. The EBRPD needs to create more trails and expand the network.
- Signage could be better. It tends to be English-only, for example. I appreciate that EBRPD likes its signage to blend in, but possibly it does that too well! If ALL the signs are brown with white letters, it's easy to tune them out. Maybe signs with specific user info (dogs on-leash, bikes give way to horses, whatever) should have their own color scheme.
- Competing interests in the parks. Clear signage, sustainable trail development, increased education on trail etiquette
- All park goers should be wearing masks

- Before new trails are developed, thorough current environmental evaluation of route. Acknowledgment that ALL travels cannot be safe for all people, nor are they appropriate for all modes of travel and that a consistent set of standards be used to differentiate. Experiencing the parks should not be one of discomfort worrying about danger coming at you around a corner or by excess speed!
- I am very happy with the trails as they are today. I would like to see the new acquisitions open to off-leash dog-walking where appropriate, as most of the trails are today. Strategy would be to identify areas of special interest, e.g. marshes, where dogs should not be allowed, and allow the rest of the particular park to be opened to dogs, with proper signage and education.
- Encounters with unsafe animals or sketchy people on trails
- Lack of narrow trail capacity to meet user needs is my primary concern. Raise the priority to develop and construct additional narrow trails for all user types using trail management options and trail design to manage possible user conflict while meeting user demand. Trail management options include segregated use by trail, by direction, or by day, the use of bells by users, maintenance by park staff and volunteers. Trail design includes reasonable grades, good sight lines, features of interest to the varied users, distribution of users by design, stacked trail loops, trails with destinations, trail connectivity among other things. Trails are the top amenity I and I believe many users would like to see more of in the parks. During Covid the trails have served users very well while other developed amenities such as visitor centers, swimming facilities, museums, and other traditional capital improvement / constructed amenities have been closed. Trails and particularly narrow trails as a developed asset have not been developed in adequate proportion to user demand or in comparison to other capital improvements or in proportion to added properties as evidenced in the trails workshop memorandum. Lack of trail capacity is most severe in parks that are closer to higher population densities.
- To have reliable visitor centers open
- Need for more sustainably built trails to accommodate increased visitation and to provide more dispersed recreation opportunities.
- Trail and habitat damage by mountain bikes and dogs. Patrol mountain bike and dog use. Require: signed mountain bike and dog use code of ethics; mountain bike and dog classes and licenses; fines or loss of license for abuse of privilege.
- Litter
- Dogs off leash and pedestrian who don't understand "Walk right, pass left." Suggest signs promoting trail courtesies.
- The ability to enjoy nature and observe wildlife without worrying out off leash dogs and mountain bikers breaking the ambience and creating dangerous and unsafe situations.
- My biggest concern is seeing something that was once accessible become inaccessible due to a lack of maintenance or even something new being installed that isn't accessible. For example, the newish bathrooms at Sunol on a concrete pad that have a 3" threshold that makes them inaccessible. It would be great if the public had an easy way to report these barriers because my experience has been that EBRP is very responsive to the issue, but I know who to call.
- Trail maintenance, erosion, user conflict
- More roving ambassadors/volunteers. Guardian Angels?
- Primary concern: reckless bicyclists. End most multi-use trails; put the bikes on their own engineered trails and let hikers and horses have safe passage on bike-free trails.
- My primary concern is that a top priority for the Park District is to allow trails for all on multiuse trails. I'm concerned about possible conflicts between pedestrian, equestrian and cycling uses on trails. It may be necessary to have trails for mountain bikes only.

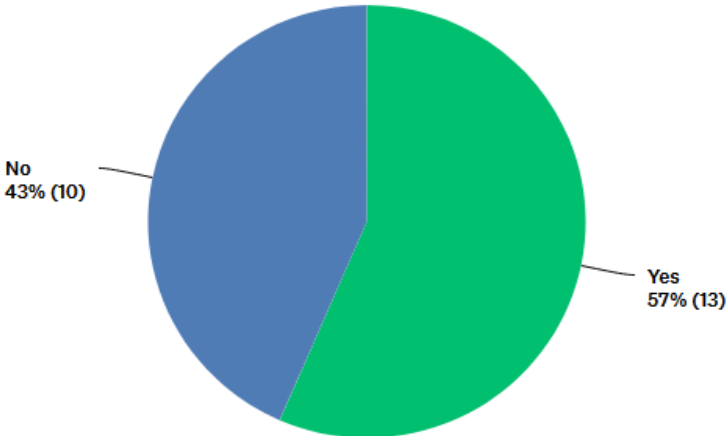
Do you prefer using trails that are designated on fire roads that have a width of 8' or more or do you prefer trails off fire roads that are 8' or less?

Answered: 24 Skipped: 1



Do you feel like most trail users are familiar with trail etiquette?

Answered: 23 Skipped: 2



Do you find the current signage on EBRPD trails (directional, informational, and regulatory) to be clear and welcoming in the parks?

- More right-of-way signs and “What to do if you meet a horse” signs at trailhead
- Maps in panels and as brochures at the entrance parking lots, staging areas help to orient the user to the distance and terrain of trails in that park.
- However, individual Park Managers could let BARTC replace our signs.
- sometimes signs are a little preachy. But the signs blend into the background a bit too easily, maybe. Mixing it up a little -- different looks, different colors -- might be a good idea
- Often signage is clear but it is not clear or explicit in areas where certain users (i.e. bikes or horses) are not allowed
- Signs have inconsistency as to usage allowed on trail
- I would like to see explanations and educational information in the kiosks or near the beginning of trails to explain the rules e.g. education about the value of marshes and why the sign says "no dogs" or the presence of a species of interest etc.
- Often the signage conflicts with the map information or does not exist. As long as there is a decent map I can generally navigate and I don't mind getting lost now and then so the current signage situation works for me.
- Most signs do not indicate the steepness of trails in an easy to understand manner and, thus, you see many people on trails that are not appropriate for their fitness/abilities.
- Too many negative statements; confusing information/rules about dogs and mountain biking
- Signs are removed or damaged. Signs don't provide sufficient information. Signs are not accurate.
- Better accessibility info
- Occasionally a lack of signage, would welcome more interpretive signage.
- Great branding/graphics. Good enough for trail ID
- In some cases signage could be improved.

Do you feel safe on EBRPD trails? (Use your own personal definition of “safety”)

- I feel safe in some parks and those are the parks I frequent the most. I'm mostly likely to run alone in parks where I have a clean line of sight and options to escape. For me safety is reducing my probability of getting assaulted or witnessing illicit activity. East Creek Slough and MLK, Jr are not safe parks. The corridor of parks in Oakland hills have had murders and questionable suicides since the 80s, so I run with friends or in a group. I don't feel EBRPD is transparent with crime that takes place in the parks. If something happens it's in the news cycle for a quick minute. There has been a few bodies found in the marsh area in Coyote Hills and there were a few suicides Chabot. I'd like reassurance that the cases have been solved and the trail is safe.
- I mostly visit the parks with my dog. Although the dog is nothing very scary, without it I would be more circumspect and cautious. Other than people, I'm alert, of course, for coyotes, rattlesnakes, poison oak, cougars, and tripping hazards. That's part of visiting parks. It's all good.
- Yes on fire roads, no on narrow multi-use trails because of chance of speeding biker. Also Bear Creek trail in Briones often has trees blocking trail for long periods, and the stream crossing is VERY DIFFICULT.
- Buggier signs on routes
- Trail user demand exceeds the trail capacity resulting in crowding on trails. Bikes have very limited access to narrow trails particularly in parks near high populations and the result is some cyclists

ride narrow trails anyways. If bikes had some access then they might be less likely to ride trails closed to them resulting in greater separation of various users. Bike access could be predominantly more remote narrow trails further away from trailheads taking advantage of cyclists capability to travel further distances to achieve varied user separation and distribution.

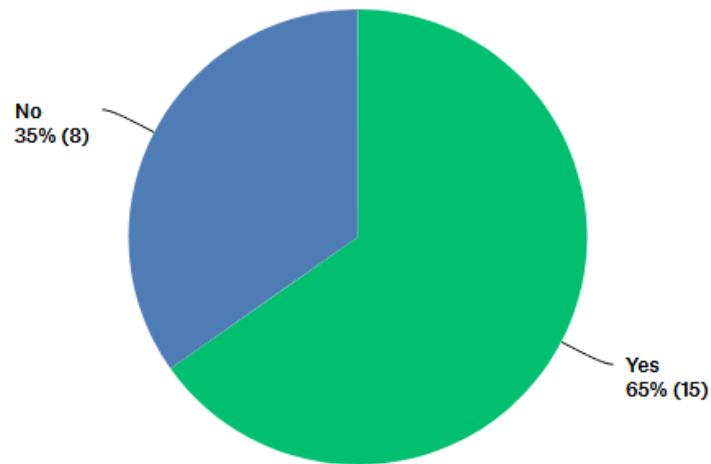
- More rangers guarding
- Enforce against racing mountain bikers, especially on intersecting undesigned rogue mountain biking trails; and running, jumping dogs.
- I am only answering "No" because this is a poorly worded question. I feel safe from criminal attack but I do not feel safe from a mountain biker barreling down at 20 miles an hour or an uncontrolled dog whose owner will verbal or physically assault me or pull the same stunt that woman did in Central Park and call the police to make a maliciously false claim of physical assault.
- As mentioned above, I'm sometimes concerned as a pedestrian meeting mountain bikers on narrow trails. It may be necessary to have some trails designated for mountain bikers only.
- Separate different user groups.

Do you feel EBRPD trails are well maintained?

- More frequent brush trimming at equestrian height. TWHA is willing and eager to help, but maintenance for equestrians does not appear to be a priority.
- Overall, the trails are better maintained than the city parks. However, there is erosion on trails that have become popular like Mission Peak and erosion from the storm damage in Redwoods.
- I do! An acquaintance of mine became a paraplegic after an EBRPD trail he knew well was unexpectedly altered. (He was mountain biking and there was a shallow drop that had been formalized into some kind of step. When he got there, he went head over handlebars.) Even way out there on remote-ish trails, I think maybe new hazards like that should be flagged better. (Maybe his situation was very unusual, I don't know.)
- I think steep fire roads that are designated as trails often have significant ruts from water erosion. Narrow trails and trails in grassland areas are sometimes impacted by overgrown vegetation. Poison oak is frequently impinging on the trail corridor on many trails. Make more use of volunteers for trail maintenance. Partner with trail user groups to adopt trails or parks to facilitate more frequent basic trail maintenance. Park crews are not staffed adequately to keep up with basic trail maintenance.
- While I have seen improvements over the past few years and was inclined to answer "yes" to this question, I want to stress that I think it is very difficult to maintain extremely steep and erosive trails. I think many of the main trails are over-maintained resulting in wide "freeway" type trails
- Too many rogue trails - some are big enough for motorcycles to enter (e.g. Loop Road to Tilden Nature Area.) Wildcat Gorge Trail - Fencing is rotted/fallen; deep ruts from mountain biking during rainy/muddy conditions.
- MLK Regional Shoreline-thresholds at bridges are too high for some wheelchair users to get over
- In general, yes --and I have worked on a lot of them. But there are some places where some trails are more like Sierra trails than urban trails; some of the trails in Las Trampas come to mind.
- I have seen a 180-degree turnaround in recent years at Anthony Chabot. For the better!
- In general trails are pretty well maintained although in individual cases some trails could be better maintained.

Have you discussed trail etiquette with others?

Answered: 23 Skipped: 2



Would you like to share any positive memorable interactions you have had with other types of trail users while in the parks?

- Groups of equestrians (TWHHA), cyclists (NICA, BTCEB), and hikers (BARTC) came together in 2017 and signed a joint agreement on trail sharing. I hope this becomes part of TUWG's resources.
- The casual hello to fellow walker/hikers/runners on the trail is really nice.
- No
- People are very friendly and polite. No complaints. It's good to be out there among the park-going community.
- Groups of mountain bikers being communicative while passing, letting you know how many other bikes to expect on a section of trail, using bells as a friendly 'heads up'.
- I enjoy seeing the horses and riders on the trails. We always exchange pleasantries
- No
- Many positive interactions, can't think of something that stands out.
- Experience new things with my friends seeing different wild life
- Many hikers have mentioned they like hearing the timber bell on my bike as I approach so that they are not suddenly surprised. Hikers also like when I pull off the trail while cycling and allow them to continue and pass going the opposite direction.
- There are too many to share! For the most part, my experiences with others have been positive. I have had many experiences as a cyclist coming upon equestrians who have appreciated me stopping and peacefully speaking with their horses.
- Young families with happy kids share a lot of joy for all of us on the trails! When a toddler reaches toward a butterfly and squeals with delight, that's the best day ever!
- I generally don't seek or want interactions with other trail users. I am on a trail and in the park for other reasons. If I want to socialize with people I don't know, I don't go on a trail in the parks. This is a ridiculous question.

- My wheel fell off my motorized wheelchair by Dotson Marsh in Point Pinole and everyone that passed me asked if I needed help. A ranger and a friend eventually came to my rescue
- Last night I was peaking a hill and heard a shout, "bikes ahead", and as I ducked to the side of the trail they peaked, and one said to the other, "wow, that worked!" In general bicyclists have become a lot more considerate on the trails over the years.
- Countless - helping kids with bike repair, meeting a group of kids from Juvenile Hall on their first hike; watching the growth of prep mountain bike competition including coeds; nature hikes with botanists.
- It is always a pleasure when other types of trail users grant the right of way to equestrians and speak kindly about the beauty of our beloved horses.
- I have often met a group of equestrians on service roads with no problem.

Would you like to share any negative memorable interactions you have had with other types of trail users while in the parks?

- Not in EBRPD parks, but only negative memorable interactions have been from speeding mountain bikes coming from behind on narrow trails, not from dogs, horses, or other pedestrian users. Have never had this experience on wider service/fire roads even with all these uses taking place simultaneously.
- No
- There are always some people who scold other park users, believing they know the "rules" when they don't. Even at Point Isabel one day, there was this guy who told me my dog had to be on a leash. (His companion was mortified.) That's life. Whatcha gonna do?
- Any negative experience came down to poor trail management. For example, in Crockett Regional Park I had to step to the side for bikers to pass but the trail was more single track (in an area where bikers were allowed) and I had to step in poison oak. Other examples are dog owners leaving poop bags on the trails - this is so prevalent in Redwood Regional. These are more maintenance/park design issues than user conflicts though
- Professional dog walkers who walk together and therefore had 12 dogs together.
- I have not personally had any to speak of. Very minor things- I saw some guys playing Frisbee in a sea of poison oak and told them, and they looked at me as if I were annoying. I did see a woman in the ER as a patient whose horse had been spooked by a bicyclist and she fell off and had mild to moderate injuries.
- From time to time while hiking I will be surprised when a bike comes up to me from behind without announcing either by voice or by bell. Bikes can be very quiet and surprising even when moving at walking pace if coming from behind.
- My negative interactions come mainly from people who either give me the "stink eye" or do not hear my bell or polite call-out as they are wearing earbuds and listening to their cell phone. Many times I have been told I am not allowed to be on a bicycle on a trail that is definitely open to bikes.
- I was hit by a mountain biker - a negative memorable interaction.
- Well, I have had mountain bikers nearly run me over. I have had dogs of different breeds threaten me. I have seen an off-leash dog knock the cane from a senior citizen and then that person fell to the ground, and the dog owner blamed the senior citizen for not being careful with dogs around.

- The unleashed Russian Wolfhound that lunged at my horse's neck was one, getting run off the trail by mountain bikers while hiking or riding (though neither happened in EBRPD but rather in local state parks).
- Once on the Graham Trail a courteous bicyclist stopped to let our horses pass. After we were ahead, the bicyclist starting to pedal spun up a cloud of leaves. This spooked my well-trained horse, and she jumped down the cliff. Fortunately, I was able to ride it out. The bicyclist was not at fault - he was completely good. This taught me that good intentions and good behavior are not enough - incompatible user groups need to be separate.
- I know I've had negative interactions with mountain bikers but can't remember specifically the exact narrow trail.

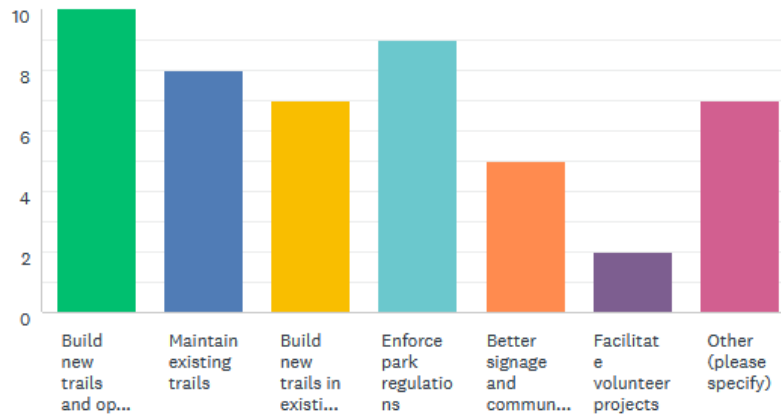
What management strategies would you suggest to minimize user conflict?

- EBRPD sponsorship of periodic meetings between user groups.
- The Board Trails Workshop last year only presented one direction, narrow trails for all. Conclude whether in highly populated areas if mountain biking and the other pedestrian or equestrian-based uses are incompatible on a narrow trail. Therefore, begin a discussion of alternatives starting with baseline data on trail use by user, existing trail miles by user, trail impacts by use, user accident data by user, and options that are being tried or investigated in other similar highly-populated areas.
- Honestly, I wish there were awareness days at parks with issues. For example, a bike awareness day with fun activities - so everyone could learn about biking and hiking safety.
- More trails to spread park users out more thinly.
- Not that there can be a sign to address every single thing, but signs or a campaign to remind people to tolerate each other wouldn't hurt. People who've been using the parks for years sometimes have a bit of a tendency to think they own them and to give users who aren't their ideal visitors (boisterous users, running kids, people with dogs, people making noise) the stink-eye. Parks are not cathedrals. We should cut each other slack.
- Proper trail design for the designated uses.
- Trash cans located further from the entrance of the trail.
- Keeping mountain bikes to trails more that 8' wide and/or designating some trails for bikes only would go a long way toward eliminating conflicts. Park police phone number on more signs. Rangers and park supervisors need to be more visible for concentrated time when infractions occur.
- I actually don't think there is that much conflict. Maybe clearer signs and explanations on right-of-way and speed limits. Build a couple of new single-use trails for bicyclists only perhaps. I would hate to lose the use of an existing trail, but think it would be great for the bicyclists to have a challenging single-track. (I personally do have a mountain bike but do not do anything even mildly challenging). Biking is so popular, maybe they could have a way to fund some trail construction. Of course this would be controversial, would have to find a place with interesting terrain but without any species of special interest, etc. and construct trail to minimize erosion.
- Increase trail volume particularly narrow trail volume to closer meet demand, build multi-use trails as possible, provide narrow trail access when possible to all user types in a park, consider bike uphill only on some trails, consider bikes only being allowed on odd/even days on some narrow trails, consider bikes only, hiker/horse, bike/hiker only trail designations, revise the change in use review process such that it is more functional (ref trail workshop).
- Improved trail signs

- New trail construction to disperse users. Creative trail management utilizing one-way, uphill and bike only trails in some locations. More education of all trail users.
- Require trail etiquette classes and signed codes of ethics for all trail uses. Enforce trail etiquette.
- Signs promoting trail etiquette between users.
- This is very broad question. First, different narrow trails need to accommodate different users. Hikers and Horses seem to do all right together. Mountain bikers and hikers/horses don't. So there should be some trails available for bikers to minimize conflict. Second, both mountain bikers and dog owners should have a license to use the trails for enforcement purposes. Third, the Park District needs better and beefed up enforcement. Fourth, the Park District has to formulate policies as to e-Bikes that raise major questions that cannot be addressed in this survey.
- Conflict resolution and compassionate communication trainings for rangers
- Education of users, including meet and greets for dog-owners, bicyclists and equestrians, has to be key. Better enforcement of speed limits where speed is an issue. Trail modifications to limit speed (pinch points, grade reversals, line of sight improvements).
- More 'branding' of Ordinance 38, rules of the road etiquette enforcement
- Separate bike trails and horse/hiker trails.
- Keep mountain bikes off narrow trails; make these trails open only to pedestrians and equestrians.

What are the biggest challenges related to trails facing the East Bay Regional Park District in the next ten years? Pick your top two choices.

Answered: 22 Skipped: 3



“Other” responses:

- Rethinking trail development with new approaches to avoid conflicts on the trails and in their design for safety and environmental protection, which includes harm to wildlife.
- Provide additional narrow trail access to bikes. Bikes are nearly banned from narrow trails in most parks. If bikes had some access it may reduce riding on trails closed to bikes and create a more predictable experience for all users. Narrow trail access could be in the form of odd/even days.
- Protect habitat and wildlife. Balance recreational access with adequate habitat and wildlife protection.
- Educate trail users to avoid user conflicts
- Lack of public transit to trails
- My third would be to expand volunteer activities to give people a sense of involvement.
- Get a handle on management of e-bikes before they kill us all - require licenses and insurance

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