

# The Grand View

Redwood trees once grew across North America. As the climate changed, the natural range of the trees shrunk from the east to the west. Now, native coast redwood groves are found only in a narrow “fog belt” along the central to northern California coast. The redwood trees in the Oakland hills were the only natural stands in the East Bay. Many of these trees were veritable giants exceeding 250 feet in height and 20 feet in diameter. By 1865, all of the giant trees were cut for mill lumber to build the growing cities of San Francisco, San Jose, and Oakland. A botanist standing near here in 1865 remarked “...all that’s left is a sea of stumps.”



gray fox

EBRPD file



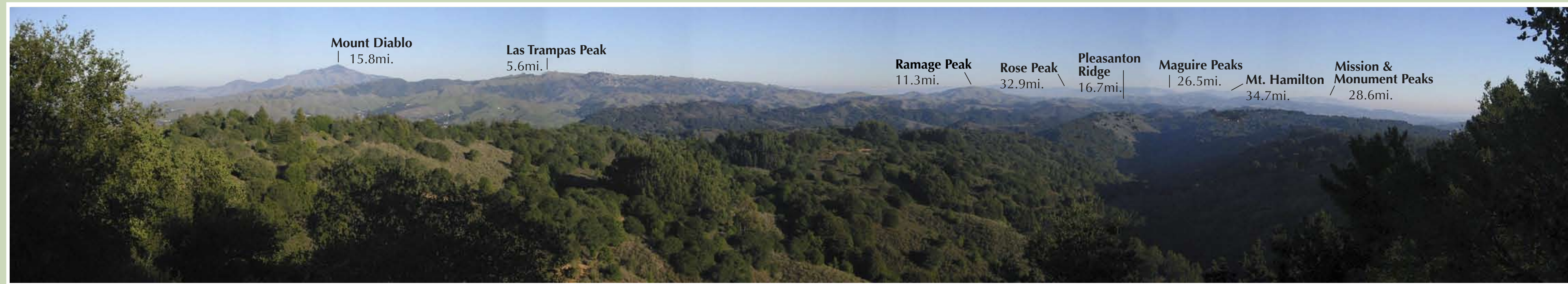
raccoon

Bates Littlehales



black-tail deer

Joe DiDonato



Paul Miller



brush rabbit

Joe DiDonato

The mileage shown above is the distance from the point where you are standing.

Now, from this vantage point, you can see a number of prominent peaks along the eastern horizon. The terrain in front of you is dominated by soft chaparral and mixed oak woodland. Deep in the canyons before you, to your right and over the next ridge there are second growth redwoods that sprouted from the stumps of the original trees. These remaining descendants are forever protected in Redwood and Roberts Regional Parks. A variety of wildlife including coyote, bobcat, weasel, gray fox, brush rabbit, and deer live in this area.



coyote

EBRPD file



bobcats  
note gray and brown phase.

Joe DiDonato