

The Dyer Property is 408 acres of open grassland on gently rolling hills in northeastern Alameda county at the southern end of the Brushy Peak Regional Preserve. In August of 2000, the East Bay Regional Parks District (District) added the property to the Brushy Peak Regional Preserve, thus expanding the preserve to a total of 2,035 acres. The Dyer Ranch site was acquired specifically to create and preserve habitat for local endangered species that were impacted by development:

California red-legged frog, California tiger salamander, and San Joaquin kit fox. Other sensitive species also benefit, such as golden eagle and burrowing owl.



Example of three ponds providing amphibian habitat.

Project Activities

Funding for the purchase and property enhancement was provided by Shapell Industries. The purchase serves as partial mitigation for the loss of wetlands, creeks, and habitat that occurred with development of its San Ramon Gale Ranch Project. Shapell provided approximately \$2.4 million for the purchase of a conservation easement, initial improvements, monitoring of

project success, and a perpetual property management and maintenance endowment. Three new ponds were constructed to serve as amphibian breeding habitat. New fencing and gates were provided for

Quick Facts

Action: Land acquisition
Acres: 408
Funding: \$2,395,950
Provided by: Shapell Industries
Constructed: 2001
Target habitats: Riparian, grassland, ponds
Target species: Red-legged frog, tiger salamander, kit fox
Improvements: Constructed three habitat ponds, restored riparian vegetation and fencing

property security. A tributary of Altamont Creek passing through the property's northwest corner was fenced to allow for natural restoration of riparian trees. Invasive non-native species such as red fox and bullfrogs will be removed as necessary. A trail will eventually be extended through the site, connecting to the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District trails from the south and to the District (Brushy Peak) trails to the north.



Golden eagles forage in the grasslands of the Dyer property.

Importance

The acquisition of the Dyer property provided protection for a portion of the upper watershed of Altamont Creek, which contains abundant populations of the California red-legged frog and California tiger salamander. It protects almost the entire watershed of Frick Lake, a unique vernal lake containing exceptionally large populations of the rare tiger salamander and fairy shrimp.

Preservation of the Dyer property as permanent open space created an urban-growth boundary in northeastern Livermore. It also linked the lands between I-580 in Livermore to Mt. Diablo State Park, providing an uninterrupted wildlife corridor to be used by numerous species, including San Joaquin kit fox, golden eagles, and prairie falcons.



Rare California tiger salamander was found through searches similar to the one above.