

NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT  
2950 Peralta Oaks Court  
Oakland, CA

Wednesday, November 18, 2015  
12:30 – 2:30 pm, Board Room

The following agenda items are listed for Committee consideration. In accordance with the Board Operating Guidelines, no official action of the Board will be taken at this meeting; rather, the Committee's purpose shall be to review the listed items and to consider developing recommendations to the Board of Directors.

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AGENDA

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STATUS	TIME	ITEM	STAFF
(I)	12:30	Status of Sudden Oak Death in East Bay Parks	(McPherson)
(I)	1:00	Factors Influencing Stream (Lotic) Breeding Amphibians in Alameda Creek in Sunol Regional Wilderness	(Bobzien)
(I)	1:30	Wildcat Creek Riparian Restoration	(Sullivan)
(I)	2:00	Cultural Services Coordinator Update	(Ortiz)
(D)	2:15	Future Agenda Items	(Graul)
(D)	2:30	Public Comment	(Lane)
(R)		Recommendation for Future Board Consideration	
(I)		Information	
(D)		Discussion	

Board Natural and Cultural Resources Committee Members:  
Beverly Lane (Chair), Diane Burgis, Whitney Dotson, John Sutter (Alternate)  
Bob Nisbet, Staff Coordinator

Staff

Debra Auker  
Yolande Barial  
Chris Barton  
Doug Bell  
Steve Bobzien  
Julie Bondurant  
Raphael Breines  
Casey Brierley  
Diane Burgis  
Susan Chambers  
Dan Cuning  
Denise Defreese  
Robert E. Doyle  
Dave Drueckhammer  
Ron Gartland  
Matt Graul  
Kara Hass  
Michelle Julene  
Anne Kassebaum  
Hal MacLean  
Jeff Manley  
Mary Mattingly  
Paul Miller  
Mike Nolan  
Bob Nisbet  
Jim O'Connor  
Beverly Ortiz  
Meg Peterson  
Lane Powell

Mark Ragatz  
Dave Riensche  
Robin Secrist  
Jessica Sheppard  
Doug Siden  
Elmer Sorto  
Dania Stoneham  
Joe Sullivan  
Connie Swisher  
Kevin Takei  
Larry Tong  
Denise Valentine  
Carol Victor  
Dennis Waespi

Public

Judi Bank  
Bruce Beyaert  
Afton Crooks  
Rich Guarienti  
Robert Hines  
David Julian  
Ralph Kanz  
Jakki Kehl  
Norman LaForce  
Glen Lewis  
William McClung  
Peter Rauch  
Robert Wills

## AGENDA SUMMARY

1. Status of sudden oak death in East Bay Parks (McPherson)

This talk will provide an overview of the UC Berkeley SOD study, with a focus on the status of the disease in coast live oaks since 2009, including infection rates, tree mortality, and implications for the future. Researcher Brice McPherson will include an emphasis on the risks of catastrophic tree failure, focused on infected large coast live oaks that may pose elevated hazards to park users. Natural resistance to the pathogen may hold the key to long-term maintenance of these forests. The work toward understanding resistance is an encouraging focus of this work.

2. Factors Influencing Stream (Lotic) Breeding Amphibians in Alameda Creek in Sunol Regional Wilderness (Steven Bobzien)

For decades District Stewardship staff, University scientists, and other agency biologists have conducted research projects throughout Sunol-Ohlone Regional Wilderness. Alameda Creek, the largest watershed in the East Bay, encompasses all of this wilderness area and supports five stream breeding amphibians: California newt (*Taricha torosa*), Western toad (*Anaxyrus boreas*), Pacific treefrog (*Pseudacris regilla*), California red-legged frog (*Rana draytonii*) and foothill yellow-legged frog (*Rana boylii*). From 1996 to present, Stewardship has conducted focused censuses to evaluate aquatic habitat suitability using abiotic and biotic variables within three distinct stream reaches. The reproductive success and population density among a reach with natural flow variation, a reach experiencing flow diversion, and a reach with artificial flow conditions regulated by Calaveras Dam was compared. Ecological Services Coordinator, Steven Bobzien will discuss and present the time series data illustrating the adverse effects of artificial flows, resulting in negative population trajectories and high mortality of these stream breeding amphibians. These results suggest that although 85% of the District area is protected as natural parkland, the resident amphibians may remain vulnerable to anthropogenic (human related) stressors such as stream flow regulation and climate change.

3. Wildcat Creek Riparian Restoration (Sullivan)

EBRPD Fisheries Department conducted a study in 2014 that identified several highly disturbed locations along Wildcat Gorge Trail in Tilden park that were caused by human and dog traffic. In partnership with the Richmond NGO Urban Tilth (UT), EBRPD Fisheries staff will design and construct a series of Large Woody Debris (LWD) and Vegetated Woody Debris (VWD) structures to discourage entry into selected restoration sites. UT will provide project labor through its Riparian Technician Apprenticeship program. Restoring these highly disturbed areas will decrease the amount of sediment going into Wildcat Creek and protect sensitive trout and amphibian habitat.

4. Cultural Services Coordinator Update (Ortiz)

Cultural Services Coordinator, Beverly Ortiz will provide a brief informational update of projects undertaken since the previous committee meeting.