

July 21, 2023

Greetings park supporters,

On June 26th, the East Bay Regional Park District hosted a tour and discussion of the [Briones Pilot Zone](#) with Sonoma County, Marin County, Santa Cruz Mountain Trail Stewardship, Marin Water District, and the City of Santa Cruz. EBRPD project managers Jim O'Connor, Sean Dougan, and Brian Holt led the group through a discussion and tour of some of the trails that have been opened during the pilot project and observed some of the illegal bootleg trails that have been restored by a variety of methods. We had a productive conversation about the trail issues that face all public land managers, their experiences with management strategies, and shared ideas for how to manage these issues in the future. The Briones Pilot Project is being followed by many public agencies throughout the Bay Area for potential successes and lessons-learned from the project's trail management strategies and community dialogs. The knowledge and experience gained will likely affect how trail management is approached in the Bay Area in the years to come.

Like any program, the Briones Pilot Project's success depends on the support and cooperation of all park visitors. One of the benefits of the program is the inclusion of several bikes-only trails which provide an intimate experience for riders. Another benefit is the Odd/Even weekend user strategy, which allows equestrians to enjoy a bike-free experience on *even* weekend dates and bikers to enjoy a horse-free experience on *odd* weekend dates. There are no user restrictions in the "Pilot Zone" during the week, and hikers are permitted on all weekend dates. This weekend, for example, horses and hikers are permitted on Saturday, July 22 (even) and bikes and hikers are permitted on Sunday, July 23 (odd). Please check the [project website](#) which posts upcoming weekend schedules.

Thank you for supporting the Briones Pilot Project, and here are some helpful program links:

- [Briones Pilot Project](#) page with general information, FAQs, upcoming weekend odd/even dates
- *How Trail Designers Build Good Hikes* [Video](#)
- Briones Pilot [Zone Map](#); you can also [Download Briones Pilot Project Map](#) available in Avenza ([Apple App Store](#) / [Android App Store](#))
- Briones Pilot [Schedule](#)
- Briones Pilot [Dig Days](#) (space available on Sep 9)

www.ebparks.org/BPP

