

Healthy Parks Healthy People

June 23, 2023

Greetings park supporters,

The Briones Pilot project has now been in effect for two months, and our staff and volunteers have had some time to gather feedback and begin to assess the effectiveness of the program. Largely, feedback has been positive. For example, Brandon from Orinda writes "I tried out the mountain bike only trails last week (B2 and B3). The trails were really fun and made me want to come back to Briones Park more. It's really exciting to see more mountain bike trails in the East Bay." And Samara from Pleasant Hill wrote "I love this program! Such a great idea. We came out to Briones at Alhambra creek today for a hike and learned about the pilot program. Makes so much sense and has the added benefit for us, as hikers with a dog, because we can now plan to come out and hike on bike-only days so our dog doesn't scare any horses and vice versa. Thank you!" We appreciate all levels of feedback and you can submit your comments here.

We Are Not Alone! Trails are crowded everywhere, and like many park agencies the East Bay Regional Park District faces challenges with managing passive recreation (hiking, biking, horseback riding) through protected open spaces that serve as some of the last remaining habitat for local native wildlife. One such agency that is trying different trail management strategies is Jefferson County, Colorado, where several parks have even/odd day restrictions for bikes, horses, and hikers. Please check out their pilot program webpage here: Designated Use | Jefferson County, CO (jeffco.us)

Thank you for supporting the Briones Pilot Project. As a reminder, this weekend horses and hikers will be allowed in the <u>Pilot Zone</u> on Saturday, June 24 (EVEN date) and bikes and hikers will be allowed on Sunday, June 25 (ODD date).

Here are some helpful links:

- 1. Briones Pilot Project page with general information, FAQs, upcoming weekend odd/even dates
- 2. How Trail Designers Build Good Hikes Video
- 3. Briones Pilot Zone Map; you can also <u>Download Briones Pilot Project Map</u> available in Avenza (Apple App Store / Android App Store)
- 4. Briones Pilot Schedule
- 5. Briones Pilot <u>Dig Days</u> (space available on Aug 13)

www.ebparks.org/BPP

