



May 19, 2023

Greetings park supporters,

The Briones Pilot Project has now been active for about one month. Staff and volunteers have been out on weekends speaking to park visitors, and although most people we have spoken to have heard of the Pilot Project, many still have not. Please help spread the word by talking to your friends, family, coworkers, and neighbors! This weekend, horses and hikers will be allowed on Saturday, May 20 (EVEN date) and bikes and hikers will be allowed on Sunday, May 21 (ODD date).

While the Pilot Project allows some new access on bikes-only and hiker-only trails, and manages access to the [Pilot Zone](#) on weekends by allowing bikes on odd dates and horses on even dates, an especially important element of the Pilot Project is managing and restoring sensitive habitat. Over the years, unsanctioned, illegally built “bootleg” trails have caused extensive damage to the landscape and the Park District will restore many of these as part of the Briones Pilot Project.

For the past several weeks, Park District staff and the Civilian Conservation Corps have been hard at work restoring habitat that has been damaged by these unsanctioned trails (pictured below). Many sections of bootleg trails cut through sensitive habitat and nesting sites for threatened & endangered species including Alameda whipsnakes (*Masticophis lateralis euryxanthus*), California red-legged frogs (*Rana draytonii*), San Francisco dusky-footed woodrats (*Neotoma fuscipes annectens*), and golden eagles (*Aquila chrysaetos*). “Illegal Trail No Entry” signs have been posted. **Please do not access closed trails that are being restored.**

How can I help? Please report any illegal trail use to park staff at 510-544-3120 or to EBRPD Public Safety at 510-881-1833. Also, thank you to everyone who helped at our first “Dig Day” on Saturday, May 13! You can also volunteer at one of our upcoming Dig Days to help maintain trails and restore habitat. The [July 9\\* date is available for registration](#) with registration coming soon for August 13, September 9, and October 15. (\*changed from July 8.)

Please visit our project website at [www.ebparks.org/BPP](http://www.ebparks.org/BPP) and thank you for supporting your Regional Parks!





