Coastal Resilience and Nature-Based Solution Projects

The Park District factors climate change into all policy and planning decisions. This is critically important as the agency seeks to best address shoreline flooding and marsh erosion.

The Park District manages 55 miles of Bay and Delta Shoreline. Providing shoreline resiliency through nature-based infrastructure projects requires multiple sources of funding, permits, and coordination across agencies. These projects not only support and protect the community, but directly bolster the local economy. These are multi-benefit investments in restoration, resilience, adaptation, and access as the state faces a more rapidly changing climate.

The Bay Area’s highly varied topography and proximity to the Pacific Ocean makes it one of the most biologically diverse places on Earth. In addition, the Bay Area has been designated the Golden Gate Biosphere Reserve by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). The California Floristic Province is one of the 35 biodiversity hot spots around the world.

On the Cover: Monarch butterflies overwintering in Ardenwood Historic Farm, Fremont

Photo: Karen Fox
Wildlife and Natural Habitat Health

It is central to the Mission and Vision of the East Bay Regional Park District to provide a diversified system of regional open space and trails that support community and ecosystem health through conservation, restoration and enhancement of natural habitat. The Park District acquires and conserves significant biologic, geologic, scenic, cultural, and historic resources within Alameda and Contra Costa counties. The Park District also manages, maintains, and restores these significant parklands in the East Bay. The work of Government and Legislative Affairs seeks to champion local, state, and Federal initiatives to protect, study, fund and restore these resources through legislation and policy.

Park District Ecosystem and Natural Habitat Projects

Public and Environmental Health
Public health is interwoven with environmental health. Healthy lakes, forests, and grasslands benefit all East Bay communities through improved air quality and biodiversity of species.

Central to our natural environment is clean water. The Park District stewards urban creeks, rivers and lakes across the East Bay. Unfortunately, water quality is being adversely affected by climate change, causing harmful algal blooms. Since 2014, the Park District has taken multiple steps to reduce the severity of blooms throughout its lakes. As the impacts of climate change continue to escalate, the Park District’s Government and Legislative Affairs work seeks to channel more resources toward watershed and lake health.

Biodiversity and Wildlife Corridors
Wildlife corridors across the East Bay benefit local rare and endangered species, as well as serving to link islands of habitat. The Park District strives to understand existing barriers and landscape gaps for all levels and types of natural corridors — including insect habitat corridors for species such as monarch butterflies, avian corridors and fish passages. By reestablishing native vegetation and caring for waterways, the District continues to improve corridors for wildlife to run, fly and move throughout the East Bay and beyond.