History

Sobrante Ridge is part of the ancestral homeland of the Saclan, one of six California Native American tribes whose primary language is called Bay Miwok today. Since time immemorial these tribes have maintained a strong connection to the land.

In 1841, under Mexican government colonialism, the land was granted to Juan Jose Castro and became part of the vast Rancho Sobrante. At that time, great herds of Spanish longhorn cattle freely roamed the hills and were valued by the rancheros for their hides and tallow.

Beginning in the early 1900s, the area was known as the Cutter Ranch, and belonged to Cutter Laboratories in Berkeley through the 1970s. The lab raised horses and cattle there, using blood from the animals to produce tetanus and diphtheria vaccines.

When developers in the 1980s wanted to build homes in the area, the East Bay Regional Park District and surrounding communities advocated for the preservation of the scenic ridgeland and the rare endemic plant life. The unique natural area was donated to the Park District in 1985 after the local construction company agreed to limit the subdivision to the low-lying areas.

Visitor Information

Ours to Explore, Enjoy and Protect

Please enjoy Regional Parks safely and help protect and preserve the parklands by following all park rules and regulations.

Safety

- Stay on trails. Shortcuts are dangerous and damage natural resources.
- Bring plenty of water to prevent dehydration.
- Be prepared for sudden changes in weather conditions.
- Keep parks clean. Pack out what you pack in.
- Inform someone where you are going and when you will return.
- Save our 24/7 Dispatch Center number on your cell phone: Emergency 510-881-1121; Non-emergency 510-881-1833.

Rules

- Dogs must be leashed in parking lots, 200 feet from any trail or park entrance, in picnic areas, developed areas, where grazing animals are present, and as posted. Dogs must be under voice control at all times. Clean up after your pet: bag it, bin it.
- Bicycles are permitted on designated trails only.
- Bicycles are permitted on designated trails only. Bicyclists stay to the right side of trail and ring or call out when passing.
- Bicyclists yield to pedestrians. Both yield to equestrians.
- State law requires that all bicyclists under age 18 wear a helmet. All bicyclists and equestrians are encouraged to wear helmets at all times.
- The following are prohibited:
  - Wading and/or swimming in designated areas
  - Consuming alcohol in non-designated areas
  - Causing damage to plants, geological, or archaeological features
  - Feeding or approaching wildlife
  - Releasing animals into parklands
  - Skateboarding
  - Flying drones
  - Nighttime pier fishing

Visitors are responsible for knowing and complying with park rules (Ordinance 38). See ebparks.org/rules.

Contacts

East Bay Regional Park District
2950 Peralta Oaks Court, Oakland, CA 94605
1-888-EBPARKS or 1-888-327-2757 (TRS 711)
ebparks.org

Regional Parks Membership
receive free day-use parking, swimming, dog pass, and more. 510-544-2220
REGIONALPARKSFUNDATION.ORG

Map and Directions

Sobrante Ridge Regional Preserve
RICHMOND, PINOLE, EL SOBRANTE

Main Entrance
Located at the end of Coach Drive, Richmond, CA
GPS Coordinates
37.969765,-122.258921

Driving Directions

Driving Directions

A male red-winged blackbird

Photos: Coli Guadry unless otherwise noted

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Sobrante Ridge Regional Preserve

Year Opened: 1988
Acres: 272
Highlights: Hiking, birdwatching, nature study.

Did You Know:
Once an area known for dirt biking and loud partying, this regional preserve is now an open space in a very natural state, one of the quietest parklands in the East Bay and home to the rare Alameda manzanita.

Fees: None

California cudweed

Contour Interval 20 feet

Mileage Between Points

Parking
Drinking Water
Picnic Table
Information Panel
Horse Water

Peak

Very limited street parking

Limited street parking

To Alhambra Valley Road & Pinole Valley Road

To San Pablo Dam Road and Kennedy Grove Regional Recreation Area

To Castro Ranch Road

EBMUD Trail Use Permit required. Ebmud.com/recreation

Rain Cloud Park
City of Richmond

Manzanita Loop (.12 Mi.)

Sobrante Ridge Trail Loop

To Pinole Valley Park

Rocky Road

Hidden Springs Ct.

Heavenly Ridge Lane

Carriage Drive

Buckboard Way

Conestoga Way

Amend Road

Castro Ranch Road

Pinole Valley Road

Morningside Drive

Plum Grove

6/2023

Hiker, Horse

Hiker, Biker, Horse

Bay Area Ridge Trail

Hiker, Biker, Horse

Bay Area Ridge Trail

Mileage Between Points

Parking
Drinking Water
Picnic Table
Information Panel
Horse Water

Peak

Very limited street parking

Limited street parking

Trail into Pinole Valley Park

EBMUD Trail Use Permit required. Ebmud.com/recreation

.13 .58 .07 .05 .09 .12 .15 .11 .06 .08 .67 .12 .05 .35 .09 .707 .721 .823 .832

Basement

m"m

0 200 400 600 800 1000 Feet

North

Scale

Contour Interval 20 feet

.27

2023/8