



A Vision Achieved

In 1928 a heavy storm rolled through Oakley and took out a large section of the levee that was protecting asparagus farmland. The river rushed in, and by the time local farmers could pay for levee repairs the area was declared part of the river. Nature's legacy is remembered in the simple but accurate naming of the park, Big Break.

Long before Big Break was used for farming, this complex system of waterways was home to Native American tribes, who lived in harmony with the ecosystem that supported abundant wildlife, plants, and fish. After the Gold Rush, settlers began building and changing the landscape, which profoundly altered this diverse habitat.

Restoring wetlands in the Delta gained attention in the 1970's and is still important today. Many people volunteered time and effort to preserve the shoreline, restore habitats, and provide access for education and recreation within the Delta. Local leaders envisioned a place where visitors could discover the beauty of this unique watery landscape, resulting in the creation of the Big Break Regional Shoreline.

Today, East Bay Regional Park District partners with several organizations to preserve the Delta for future generations. These efforts help secure funding to provide science and education programs for children and adults.



East Bay 
Regional Park District
www.ebparcs.org



Photo courtesy of Kevin Damsrta