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## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** March 15, 2023

**TO:** All Park Visitors

**FROM:** Sabrina Landreth, General Manager 

**SUBJECT:** Issuance of Temporary Rules and Regulations related to the Briones Trail Pilot Project (Ordinance 38, §200.5)

*The East Bay Regional Park District is conducting a twenty-month pilot program to evaluate trail management strategies intended to reduce congestion and conflict between trail user types. These temporary rules will only apply within the specified Pilot Project Zone and two trail segments adjacent to the Pilot Project Zone (map attached) and will be enforceable by the Park District’s Police Department. The rules issued hereunder do not apply outside of the Pilot Project Zone and two adjacent trail segments.*

### 1. Definitions:

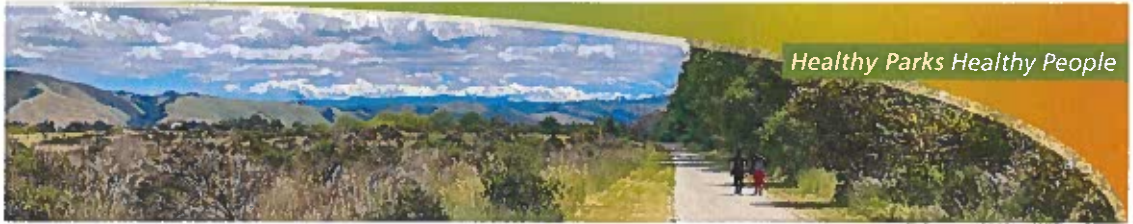
- a. **Briones Trail Pilot Project** (aka Pilot Project): Is a temporary study to evaluate various trail management strategies to reduce congestion and conflict on trails within a designated area within the northeast corner of Briones Regional Park.
- b. **Pilot Project Zone** (aka Pilot Zone): The Briones Pilot Project Zone is a designated area within the northeast corner of Briones Regional Park (see attached map) which is where the Pilot Project will be focused. The following park staging areas: Reliez Valley and Old Briones Road are within the Pilot Project Zone; and Alhambra Creek and Orchard (Park Office) are adjacent to the Pilot Project Zone.
- c. **Pilot Project Term:** The Pilot Project is a limited term project and the temporary trail use rules established by this memorandum will be enforced only during the effective period of the Pilot Project Term. The pilot project will commence on April 21, 2023 and will end on December 31, 2025, unless further modified by the General Manager.

### 2. Authority and Purpose of Rules:

- a. **Authority:** Pursuant to Section 200.5 of the East Bay Regional Park District’s Ordinance 38, the General Manager is authorized to issue temporary rules and regulations and take other such actions as are necessary to preserve parklands and public health and safety, protect sensitive habitat and threatened or endangered species, and to distribute parkland resources and facilities among competing uses.
- b. **Purpose:** Over the last decade visitation to District parks has increased significantly. This rise in visitor numbers has been primarily due to increases in the population of our District (Alameda and Contra Costa County) but also in the Bay Area as a whole. The Covid-19 pandemic also boosted visitation significantly, especially on District trails. Another impact has been the significant growth in the popularity of mountain biking. The increased number of trail users overall coupled with the greater number of bikers has increased the potential for conflict between different types of trail users. Although the Park District is seeking to open new parks and provide more trails to reduce crowding on trails, the

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trail development process takes time. The pilot project will test some new ways to safely share trails and improve the trail experience for all users while protecting habitat, wildlife, and watersheds.

3. **Chronological Separation of Trail User Types (Odd / Even Weekend Day Use Restrictions):** During the term of the Pilot Project, specific trail uses within the pilot project zone will be restricted on WEEKEND days as follows:
  - a. Even Numbered Weekend Days (2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30): Bicycles are prohibited from entering the Pilot Project Zone on even numbered weekend days.
  - b. Odd Numbered Weekend Days (1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25, 27, 29, 31): Horses (Equestrians) are prohibited from entering the Pilot Project Zone on odd numbered weekend days.
  - c. Note: on weekdays, all users are permitted within the Pilot Project Zone, but must still follow the trail specific use designations as set forth in Section 4, below.
  - d. Note: Hikers (pedestrians) are still permitted within the Pilot Project Zone on weekends but may not use those trails that are specifically designated for non-pedestrian use as described in section 4, below.
  - e. Note: The two trails, B3 and P10 are outside the Pilot Project Zone and are not subject to the Odd / Even day restrictions as listed in 3(a) and 3(b).
  
4. **Designated Trail Use:** During the term of the Pilot Project specific trails within the Pilot Project Zone (map attached) and two additional trails adjacent to the pilot zone will be limited to specific uses as follows:
  - a. Bicycle Downhill Use Only. The following trails will be designated for bicycle use ONLY and in a downhill direction of travel ONLY at all times:
    - i. B1, B2, B3, B4
  - b. Bicycle and Hiker (pedestrian) Use Only. The following trails will be designated for bicycle and hiker (pedestrian) use ONLY at all times:
    - i. PB5, PB6, PB7
  - c. Hiker (pedestrian) Use Only. The following trails will be for pedestrian use ONLY at all times.
    - i. P8, 9, P10
  
5. **Closed Areas:** The Pilot Project includes the closure and restoration of illegally built “bootleg” trails. Entering closed areas or trails is prohibited. Anyone entering areas within the Pilot Project Zone that are marked as closed will be in violation of these temporary rules and subject to citation under Ordinance 38.
  
6. **Unauthorized Trail Building:** The building of new trails by anyone other than District staff is prohibited. Anyone found constructing such illegal trails will be subject to citation or arrest under ordinance 38.
  
7. **Duration of Temporary Rules:** The pilot project is a limited term project and the temporary rules established in this memorandum will be enforced only during this limited term.
  - a. These rules shall take effect on April 21, 2023 and will be in effect until December 31, 2025, unless otherwise modified by subsequent action of the General Manager.
  
8. **All Other Park Rules Apply:** It should be noted that all existing park rules and regulations as specified by District’s ordinance code (Ordinance 38) shall apply during the term of the Pilot Project. This includes pre-existing trail use designations for trails within the Pilot Project Zone as listed on the Briones Park map.

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**CEQA Determination:** After analysis the Park District has determined that these temporary rules are exempt from CEQA. See attached Notice of Exemption.

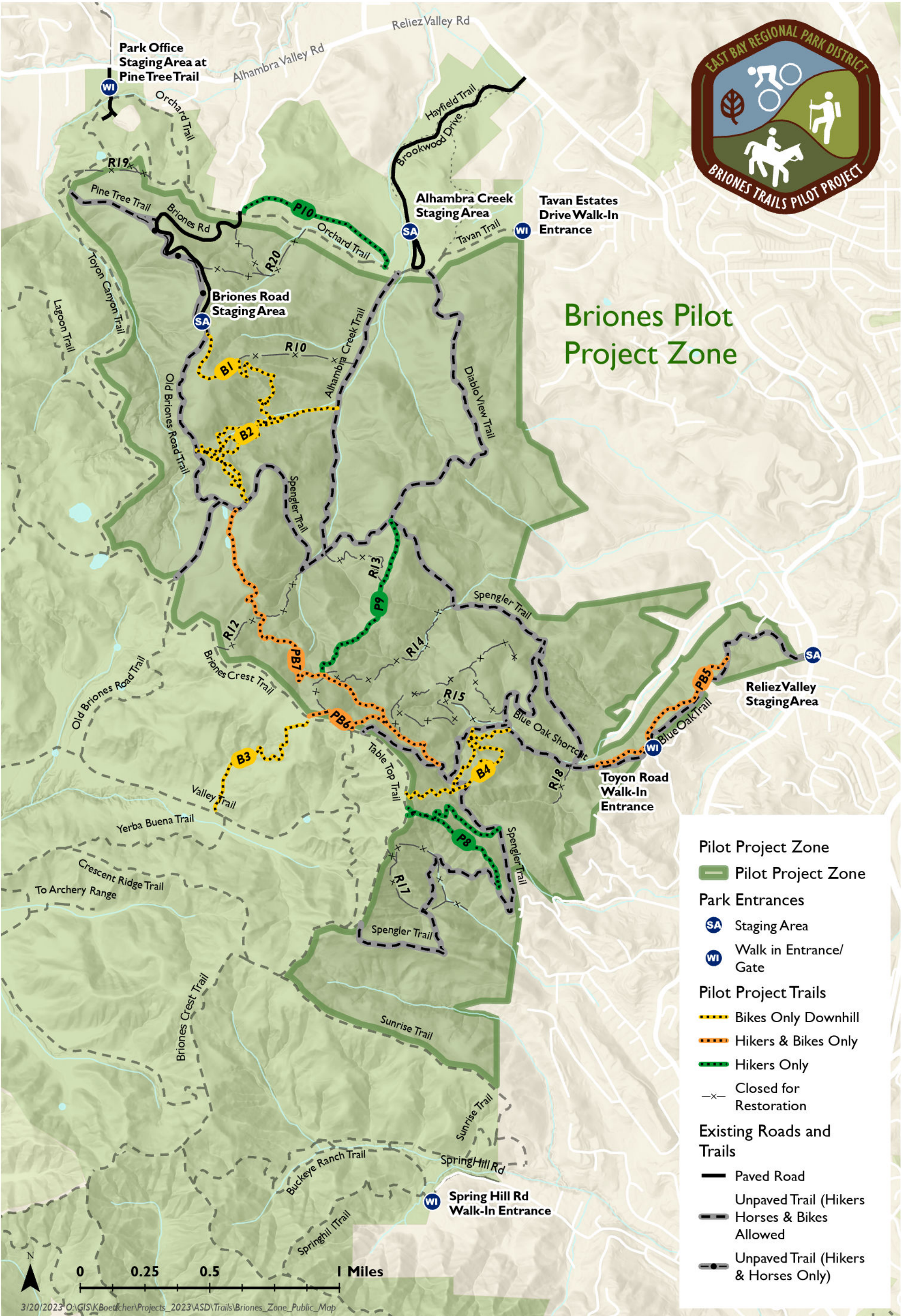
For more information regarding the Briones Trail Pilot Project please visit the project webpage using the link below:

[Briones Pilot Project | East Bay Parks \(ebparks.org\)](#)

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# Briones Pilot Project Zone

- Pilot Project Zone**
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- Park Entrances**
- Staging Area
- Walk in Entrance/ Gate
- Pilot Project Trails**
- Bikes Only Downhill
- Hikers & Bikes Only
- Hikers Only
- Closed for Restoration
- Existing Roads and Trails**
- Paved Road
- Unpaved Trail (Hikers & Bikes Allowed)
- Unpaved Trail (Hikers & Horses Only)

3/20/2023 O:\GIS\KBoelter\Projects\_2023\ASD\Trails\Briones\_Zone\_Public\_Map

# Briones Pilot Project Zone