

Sunol-Ohlone Regional Wilderness

Year opened: 1962 Acres: 6,858

Highlights: Old Green Barn Visitor Center, wilderness hiking, picnicking, backpack camping, access to Ohlone Wilderness Trail.

Did you know? Indian Joe Creek Trail was named for Joe Binoco, who worked as a ranch hand for the Geary family and for Willis Brinker.

Fees, Parking: \$5/car; \$4/trailer; \$25/bus. Dogs: \$2/dog. Ohlone Permit: \$2/person. Camping: \$5/person/day.

HISTORY Chochenyo Ohlone-speaking Taunans lived with this land for countless generations, employing horticultural techniques that increased habitat diversity and plant and animal health and numbers. For the Taunan people, everything had a life and spirit, including waters, breezes, and rocks. For today's Ohlones, this landscape has enduring cultural and historical significance.

The park has been ranched continuously since the 1860s, with Patrick and Mary Ann Geary among the first homesteaders. In 1895 the Geary's son, Maurice, built the home and barn that would become today's Interpretive offices (rebuilt 1954) and Green Barn Visitor Center. When Willis Brinker bought local homesteads in 1939 for his JB Ranch, Geary descendants were among his ranch hands, and Geary relatives still call this area "The Ranch."

GEOLOGY Clues to the area's geologic history include sandstone outcrops with fossil bivalves deposited in what was once ancient seabed, now uplifted and tilted to form prominent ridges. Much older metamorphic boulders of greenstone, blueschist, and metachert indicate a turbulent past in a subduction zone. Cave Rocks is a massive, metamorphic outcrop. Exposures of serpentinite, provide a valuable refuge for native plants.

VEGETATION Alameda Creek harbors shady riparian woodland. Soaring hillsides host oak savannah and grassland communities. Canyons, seasonal streams, and vernal pools add to the area's plant diversity. Spring brings colorful hillsides of California poppies and lupine, while serpentine outcrops glow gold, pink, and lavender with stands of native wildflowers. The herbarium in the Visitor Center is helpful for wildflower identification.

ANIMALS Hikers may see bobcats, raccoons, and deer. Campers may observe bats catching insects at night and hear the sounds of coyotes, owls, and foxes. Mountain lions are uncommon, but occasionally sighted, as are reptiles, including western pond turtles and rattlesnakes. Late summer/fall marks the emergence of male tarantulas during the mating season. Newts breed in ponds during winter. Birding is superb along Alameda Creek, with 178 species identified in the park.

HIKING A description of some park trails is found on the other side of this brochure.

PICNICKING Picnic sites and barbecue pits are provided along Alameda Creek on the valley floor. No open fires or barbecues are allowed during high fire danger days. The Alameda Grove picnic area is available for reservation.

SUNOL BACKPACK AREA, AND HIGH VALLEY GROUP CAMP Camping is year-round by advance reservation only (5 business days); phone 1-888-327-2757, option 2. An Ohlone Wilderness Trail Permit is required at Sunol Backpack Camp. Camping fee is \$5/day per person (subject to change). Group site available. Dogs not permitted overnight. No campfires. See trail descriptions section for Ohlone Permit information.

High Valley Camp is a hike-in camp located a steep, one-mile walk from the Visitor Center.

OHLONE WILDERNESS TRAIL This trail links Mission Peak Regional Preserve, Sunol-Ohlone Regional Wilderness, and Del Valle Regional Park. Together with Sunol, the area exceeds 16,500 acres. Hikers must carry their Ohlone Wilderness Trail Permit, which includes a map of the Ohlone Wilderness.

LITTLE YOSEMITE This scenic gorge on Alameda Creek is two miles upstream from the Visitor Center. It is open to the public through a lease agreement with the San Francisco Water Department. Please do not trespass onto San Francisco Water Department lands. Swimming is not allowed in the Little Yosemite area. No alcohol.

PARK HOURS 8 a.m. to dusk year-round. Gates are locked at night. The park is subject to closure or restrictions during fire season (June through October).

WELCOME!

Please enjoy the Regional Parks safely, and help protect and preserve the parklands by complying with park rules and regulations.

SAFETY and ETIQUETTE

- Stay on trails. Taking shortcuts can be dangerous and causes erosion.
- Wading and/or swimming in undesignated areas is dangerous and may harm the watershed.
- Bring, carry, and drink plenty of water to prevent dehydration. There is no water at drinking fountains in the valley. Be prepared to treat water at backpack sites.
- Be prepared for sudden changes in weather conditions.
- Trails can be slippery, rocky, and steep. Proceed carefully at your own risk.
- Feeding or approaching wildlife is prohibited.
- Bicycles are permitted on designated trails only. Horses have the right-of-way on trails.
- All park resources are protected. Take only photo graphs.
- Keep the parks beautiful. Pack out what you pack in.

RULES

- Pets must be leashed 200 feet from any trail or park entrance. Pets must be leashed in parking lots, picnic areas, developed areas such as lawns and play fields, on some trails, and where grazing animals are present. They must be under voice control at all times.
- Smoking is prohibited.
- Drones are prohibited.
- State law required that all bicycles under age 18 wear an approved helmet while riding on trails and roadways. All bicyclists and equestrians are strongly encouraged to wear helmets at all times.

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



1895 Geary Road, Sunol, CA 94586

To Reach Sunol Regional Wilderness:

From Fremont, drive north on I-680 and exit at Calaveras Road (near the town of Sunol.) Turn right at the exit onto Calaveras Road and proceed about four miles to a left turn onto Geary Road, which leads directly into the park. (If you find yourself driving uphill on a narrow winding road you've missed the Geary Road turnoff.) To reach the Old Green Barn take the first left past the park entrance.

From the Oakland-Berkeley area, drive east on I-580 to the junction with I-680. Take I-680 south and exit at Calaveras Road/Highway 84 just south of the Sunol exit. At the bottom of the exit turn left onto Calaveras Road and proceed as noted above.

From the Walnut Creek-Danville area, drive south on I-680 and exit at Calaveras Road/Highway 84 just south of the Sunol exit. Proceed as noted above.



East Bay Regional Park District

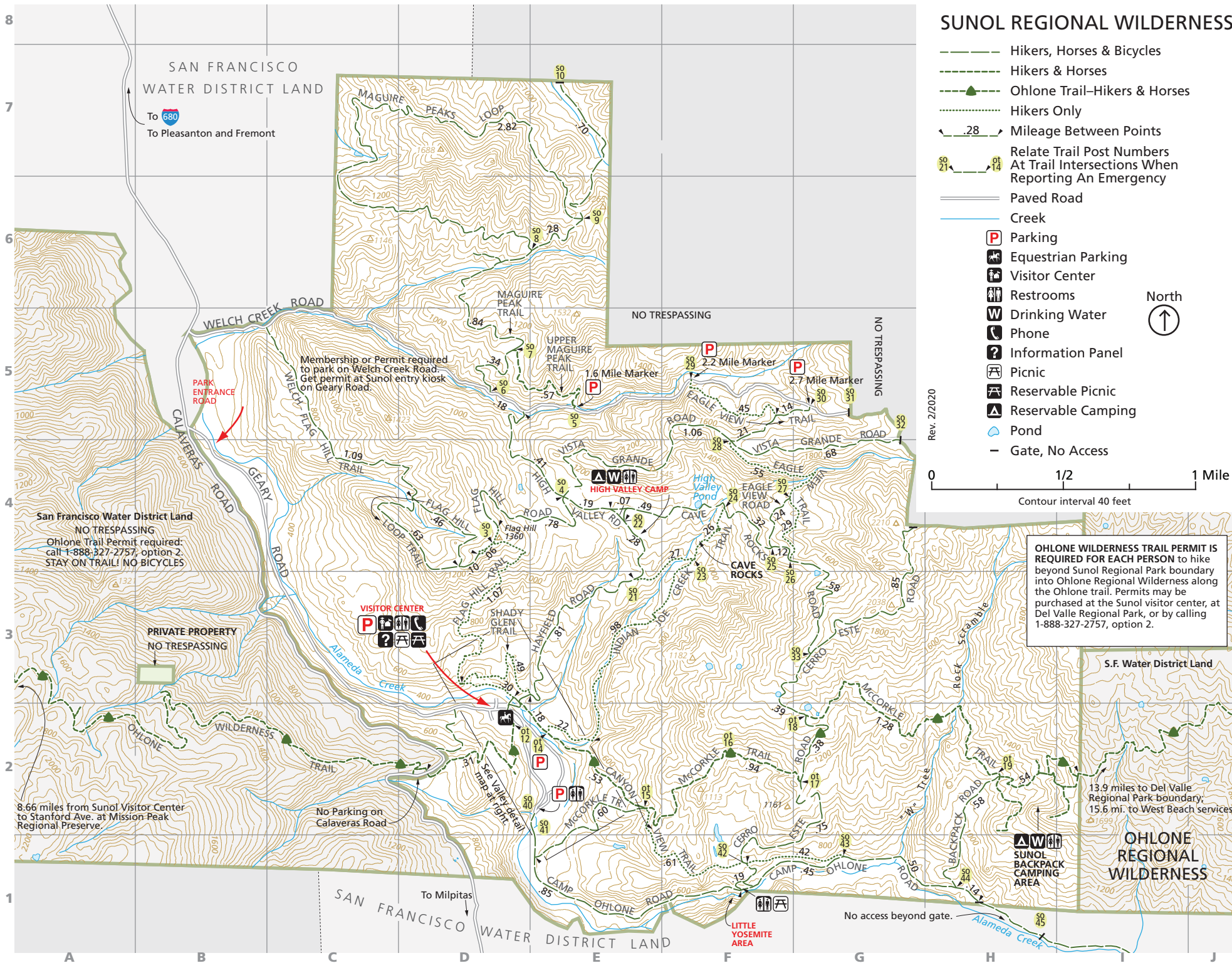
2950 Peralta Oaks Court
Oakland, CA 94605-0381
1-888-327-2757 (1-888-EBPARKS) (TRS 711)
www.ebparks.org Rev. 2/2020

Sunol Regional Wilderness

Sunol, Pleasanton, Livermore

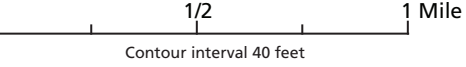
East Bay
Regional Park District





SUNOL REGIONAL WILDERNESS

- Hikers, Horses & Bicycles
- Hikers & Horses
- Ohlone Trail-Hikers & Horses
- Hikers Only
- .28 --- Mileage Between Points
- Relate Trail Post Numbers At Trail Intersections When Reporting An Emergency
- Paved Road
- Creek
- P** Parking
- E** Equestrian Parking
- V** Visitor Center
- R** Restrooms
- W** Drinking Water
- ☎** Phone
- ?** Information Panel
- ☺** Picnic
- ☺** Reservable Picnic
- ⛺** Reservable Camping
- 🌊** Pond
- Gate, No Access



OHLONE WILDERNESS TRAIL PERMIT IS REQUIRED FOR EACH PERSON to hike beyond Sunol Regional Park boundary into Ohlone Regional Wilderness along the Ohlone trail. Permits may be purchased at the Sunol visitor center, at Del Valle Regional Park, or by calling 1-888-327-2757, option 2.

DIRECTORY OF TRAILS

ONE-WAY MILEAGE	TERRAIN	NOTABLE FEATURES AND VIEWS
FLAG HILL TRAIL 1.26 miles	Steep slope; switchbacks.	View of the park, Alameda Creek watershed, and Calaveras Reservoir. Oak woodland and grassland communities; fossiliferous sandstone outcrops.
INDIAN JOE CREEK TRAIL 1.41 miles	Medium slope.	Wooded canyon; Indian Joe Cave Rocks.
CANYON VIEW TRAIL 1.39 miles	Gentle to medium slope.	Leads through Jacob's Valley to Little Yosemite. Weathered serpentine and sandstone outcrops; grassland, oak, woodland.
EAGLES' VIEW TRAIL 1.5 miles	Level to steep slope.	Chapparal, oak woodland, grassland communities. Leads through "Valley of the Giants." Excellent views of the park, Calaveras Reservoir, and south bay area.
MAGUIRE PEAKS LOOP TRAIL 3.9 miles from Welch Creek Road (.72 mile marker)	Medium slope.	Excellent views of San Antonio Reservoir and Mt. Diablo. Bay Area plants found along this trail are rare in rest of park.
MCCORKLE TRAIL 2.84 miles from park headquarters.	Medium slope.	Streamside, oak woodland, grassland communities. Good views of Calaveras Reservoir.

OHLONE PERMIT/MAP and sign-in at trailheads is required for use of the Ohlone Wilderness Trail where it crosses San Francisco Water Department lands as it connects Mission Peak, Sunol, Ohlone, and Del Valle Regional Parks. Ohlone Trail Permit/map is available for \$2 at the Sunol and Del Valle entrance kiosks, at the Coyote Hills Visitor Center in Fremont, and at the Park District administrative offices at 2950 Peralta Oaks Court in Oakland. The permit is also available by mail for \$4 (per permit): send your name, address, phone number, and a check for \$4 made out to EBRPD, East Bay Regional Park District, 2950 Peralta Oaks Court, P.O. Box 5381, Oakland, CA 94605-0381. The permit covers foot and equestrian use of the trail only. Separate arrangements should be made for overnight backpacking by phoning 1-888-327-2757, option 2.

NATURE PROGRAMS Naturalist-led activities include walks, hikes, camping, and backpack programs, and various other adventures. Visit the Old Green Barn Visitor Center for information about these programs and the self-guiding Indian Joe Trail.

