

Carquinez Strait and Crockett Hills

VEGETATION The major plant communities that exist in Carquinez and Crockett Hills Regional Parks are composed of plant species typical of annual grassland, oak woodland, and coastal scrub vegetation. Localized wooded communities with oak and oak/bay woodland and buckeye can be found in protected east-facing slopes and ravines.

WILDLIFE The two parks' grasslands provide habitat to western meadowlark, horned lark, house finch, western bluebird, and American goldfinch. Valley oaks offer perches and nest sites for the red-tailed hawk, American kestrel, golden eagle, northern harrier, great horned owl, and barn owl. Cooper's hawks depend on the riparian ravines for nesting and for providing cover for ambushing prey. Mammals include the gray fox, mule deer, raccoon, eastern fox squirrel, Botta's pocket gopher, and other species. Small rodents are prey to gopher snakes, sharp-tailed snakes, and western garter snakes.

HISTORY AND TOPOGRAPHY Carquinez Strait Regional Shoreline comprises 2,843 acres of bluffs and shoreline along Carquinez Scenic Drive between the town of Crockett and the hillsides overlooking Martinez. This parkland provides a gateway to the river delta region along the northern edge of Contra Costa County. The coastal hills rise steeply to 750 feet above Carquinez Strait. From the highest elevations, the view includes the marshland of Benicia State Recreation Area to the north across Carquinez Strait. From along the Franklin Ridge Loop Trail and the California Riding and Hiking Trail, hikers can view Mt. Tamalpais to the west and Mt. Diablo to the southeast. Looking south from this high point are the ridges of Briones and Las Trampas Regional Parks. Eckley Pier is accessible from the Bull Valley Staging Area. No fishing license is required for fishing; striped bass and sturgeon are caught from the pier. Please note that **dogs and barbecues are not allowed on the pier.**

Located outside of the town of Crockett, the 1,300 acres of Crockett Hills Regional Park were likely hunting and gathering grounds for Native Americans, later were nineteenth century ranchlands, and more recently

played a role in the industrial history of the region. The original ranch barn, milkhouse, and corrals can still be seen in the Crockett Ranch staging and picnic area. The park ranges in elevation from 150-800 feet, offering views of San Pablo Bay, the Delta, Mount Tamalpais, and Mount Diablo. Trails include a 4.5-mile segment of the Bay Area Ridge Trail.

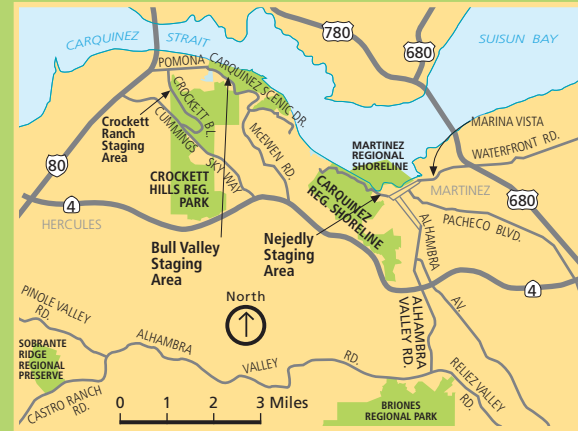
The topography of these two parks consists of open, rolling grasslands, wooded ravines, eucalyptus-shaded meadows, and river shoreline. Multi-purpose trails provide access to canyon views and ridgetop vistas. At the shoreline area of the Bull Valley Staging Area the remnants of a brickworks, grain wharf, and resort, dating back to the late 1800s, recall the historic character of the site. The sights and sounds of tugboats along this broad waterway are also part of the charm and excitement of Carquinez Strait Regional Shoreline.

PARKLAND RULES

- PARK GATES ARE OPEN** to the public during hours posted at the park entrance. Unless otherwise posted, CURFEW is between the hours of 10 p.m. and 5 a.m., except for persons possessing a permit to remain on parklands.
- MOTOR VEHICLES** are restricted to paved public roads and designated parking areas only. Vehicles must exit at posted gate closure hours.
- BICYCLES** may be ridden on designated bicycle trails, and on fire or service roads, unless otherwise posted. Bicycles are not permitted, either ridden, walked or carried, in areas posted "No Bicycles," or on narrow hiking or narrow equestrian trails. State law requires that all bicyclists under age 18 wear an approved helmet while riding on trails and roadways. Riders should call out or sound a warning when overtaking other trail users.
- DOGS** must be leashed (six-foot maximum) and under control at any posted area, parking lot, picnic site, lawn or developed area. No dogs or other animals are permitted at any swimming pool, beach, wetland, or marsh. Owners must always carry a leash (six-foot maximum). Dogs may be off-leash in open space and undeveloped areas of parklands, provided they are under control at all times. Dangerous animals are not allowed in the parks. Please dispose of your dog's waste by placing it in a garbage can. Persons who walk more than three dogs at a time on Regional Parks trails must obtain a permit; commercial dog walkers are required to obtain a permit regardless of how many dogs they walk at one time (limit of six). Please call (510) 690-6508 for information.
- SWIMMING, WADING** and other water contact activities are permitted only in designated areas. **DIVING** is permitted only from designated diving boards and swim platforms. **SCUBA diving** is prohibited in any District lake or inland waters unless authorized by the District.
- PLANTS, ANIMALS, GEOLOGIC, ARCHAEOLOGIC OR HISTORIC OBJECTS** are protected by law. Please do not disturb or remove any of these features.
- HELP PROTECT OUR PARK WILDLIFE** by not releasing or feeding ducks, cats, or other animals. Do not feed wild park animals; enjoy them from a distance.
- FIREWORKS** are not permitted in any regional park.
- FIRES** are permitted in barbecue pits or personal cooking equipment in designated picnic areas or irrigated turf areas only, placed at least 30 feet from flammable materials. Please do not place hot coals on the ground or in a garbage can. Dispose of hot coals or other burned fuel in barbecue pits or in designated hot coal disposal receptacles.
- CAMPING** is not permitted within District parklands without a permit.
- FISHING** requires a state fishing license, and a District Daily Fishing Access Permit is required when posted.
- ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES** are not permitted at pools, swim beaches, or within 50 feet of paved roads or parking lots, or in posted areas. Otherwise, beer and wine are permitted at picnic areas and elsewhere on parklands.
- GAMES AND ACTIVITIES**, including model rockets, model airplanes, hang gliding, golf, and other activities with potential risk to property or park visitors are not permitted.
- ASSEMBLIES, PERFORMANCES, SPECIAL EVENTS** or similar gatherings require a permit. Please be considerate of other park visitors if you use a **RADIO**. A permit is required for **AMPLIFICATION** of voice, music or other sounds.
- FIREARMS** or **BOWS AND ARROWS** are not permitted on Regional Parklands except at established ranges. Crossbows, spears, slingshots, air pistols or rifles, and other dangerous weapons are prohibited anywhere on Regional Parklands.
- PARK VISITORS** are responsible for knowing and following park rules.

If you would like this information in an alternative format, please contact the EBRPD Public Affairs Department at (510) 544-2200, fax (510) 635-3478, TDD (510) 633-0460, or info@ebparks.org.

POLICE, FIRE, MEDICAL EMERGENCY9-1-1
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PARK OFFICE 1-888-EBPARKS,
 option 3, ext. 4514
WEB SITE www.ebparks.org
TDD (510) 633-0460



To Reach the Nejedly Staging Area: From Hwy. 4 in Martinez, exit at Alhambra Ave. and turn north into Martinez. In downtown Martinez, turn left onto Escobar Street, drive three blocks and turn right onto Talbart Street. Drive three blocks again and bear left onto Carquinez Scenic Drive. Drive to the Nejedly Staging Area entrance on the left.

To Reach the Bull Valley Staging Area: From Hwy. 4, exit at Cummings Skyway and drive north. Turn right onto Crockett Boulevard and drive to Pomona Street in Crockett. Turn right onto Pomona Street, which becomes Carquinez Scenic Drive. Follow Carquinez Scenic Drive to the staging area entrance on the left.

To Reach the Crockett Ranch Staging Area: From Hwy. 4, exit at Cummings Skyway and drive north to Crockett Boulevard. Turn right onto Crockett Boulevard and drive to the staging area on the left, about 1/2 mile from Pomona Street in Crockett. From I-80, exit at Cummings Skyway and drive south-east to Crockett Boulevard. Turn left onto Crockett Boulevard and drive to the staging area on the left.

Carquinez Strait Regional Shoreline Crockett Hills Regional Park

East Bay
Regional Park District



East Bay Regional Park District

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