

East Bay Watershed Trails

EBMUD/EBRPD Liaison Committee

May 17, 2021

Watershed Recreation/Trails



- In response to shelter-in-place orders:
 - Mid-March 2020 thru mid-June 2020 EBMUD closes Lafayette and San Pablo Reservoir recreation areas
 - Mid-April thru the end of May staging areas and restrooms were closed
 - Trail permits were not required from mid-March to the end of April 2020 to reduce staff contact with the public

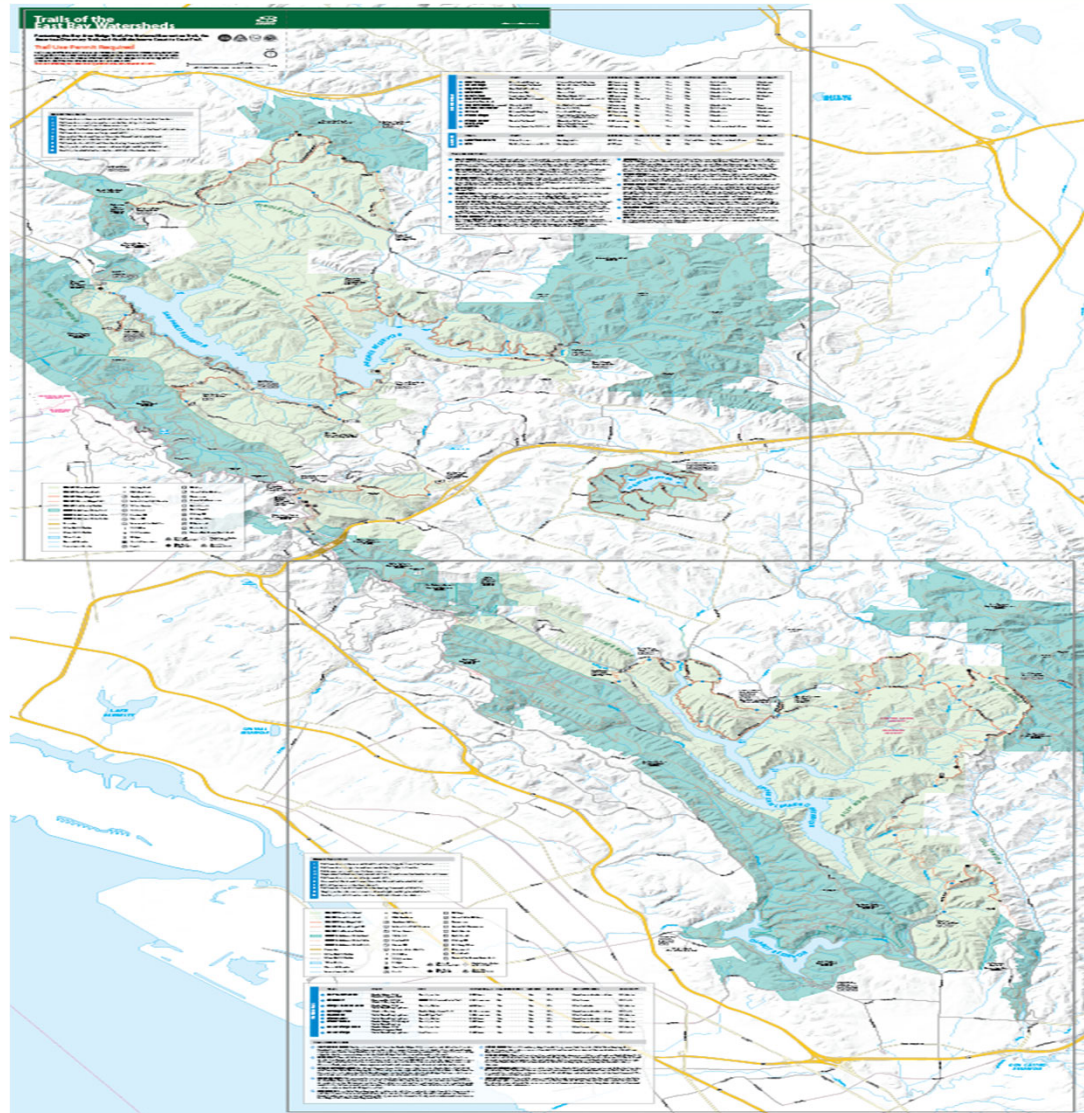
Watershed Trails Increase in Visitation



After reopening, the number of trail permits jumped from 460 permits issued in May 2019 to 2,869 issued in May 2020.



Watershed Trail System



Trail Use Increase



- Hikers and equestrians comprise most of our trail users
- The District opened two segments of trail on the north watershed totaling 8 miles for bicycles in 2018
- Currently there are 174 active bike permits, and trail sign-ins total 64 for cyclists through April 30, 2021

Trail Access



- Demand for trail access continues to be high and compliance with watershed rules and regulations is low
- Despite the increase in permits issued, the majority of trail users do not have permits
- Many trail users are not aware of the rules and complaints of misuse are high
- A group of cyclists are requesting more trails be opened to bikes

Next Steps



- Monitor trail use over the next two years to evaluate whether the pandemic surge in trail use continues
- The District will reinstate meetings of its trail user stakeholder group if considering any significant changes to trail access

Questions

