

... *Plants and Wildlife continued.*

The upland areas provide habitat for a wide variety of animal life, such as the mourning dove, Anna's hummingbird, northern flicker, Savannah sparrow, western meadowlark, coyote, and black-tailed jackrabbit. High points formed on dredge tailings are valuable as bird nesting sites isolated from predators. The white-tailed kite and the northern harrier forage throughout the area and nest on the interior islands. Other predatory birds, including the loggerhead shrike, American kestrel, and red-tailed hawk, perch and hunt in the area. The upland islands also provide high-tide refuges for the California black rail, which forages in the tidal marsh.

The brackish seasonal wetlands provide habitat for the salt marsh harvest mouse and other rodents. The tall, dense stands of cattails and bulrushes in the brackish tidal marsh support Pacific tree frogs, egrets, herons, American bitterns, soras, marsh wrens, red-winged blackbirds, and raccoons. The salt marsh common yellowthroat and Suisun song sparrow are year-round residents that forage and nest in the tidal marshes.

At low tide, the western pond turtle may be observed basking in the sun in small areas of exposed mudflat. The open mudflats are also important habitat for a variety of shorebirds, which forage on marine invertebrates between tides. The open waters of the marsh channels provide foraging and resting habitat for grebes, cormorants, dabbling and diving ducks, and river otters.

Aquatic Wildlife

This park lies within a region designated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as critical habitat for delta smelt, winter-run chinook salmon, and steelhead, and for general fisheries improvement. The shoreline access at the adjacent McAvoy Harbor leads to a point at the mouth of the J-shaped channel that is a favorite local fishing spot and one of the few public fishing spots in the area. The most abundant fish in Suisun Bay are striped bass, Sacramento splittail, inland silversides, chameleon goby, and Chinook salmon. Catfish and largemouth bass may also be found.

Ours to Explore, Enjoy, and Protect

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

Safety

- Stay on trails. Shortcuts are dangerous and damage natural resources.
- Carry and drink plenty of water to prevent dehydration.
- Be prepared for sudden changes in weather conditions.
- Trails can be slippery, rocky and steep. Proceed carefully at your own risk.
- Keep the parks clean. Pack out what you pack in.
- Inform someone where you are going and will return.
- Store our 24/7 Dispatch Center number on your cell phone: **Emergency (510) 881-1122;**
Nonemergency (510) 881-1833

Rules

- **Dogs must be leashed at all times.**
- State law requires all bicyclists under age 18 wear an approved helmet while riding on trails and roadways. Equestrians and bicyclists are strongly encouraged to wear helmets at all times.
- Bicycles are permitted on designated trails only.
- Bicyclists yield to pedestrians and equestrians. Both yield to equestrians. Call out or sound a warning when passing trail users. Speed limit is 15 mph.
- Class 1 e-Bikes are allowed on all trails where regular bikes are allowed, and Class 2 e-Bikes on all paved Regional Trails.

The following are prohibited:

- Wading and/or swimming in undesignated areas
- Access to wetland or resource protection area
- Consuming alcohol in non-designated areas/parks
- Feeding or approaching wildlife
- Releasing animals into parklands
- Damaging plants, geological, or archaeological features
- Smoking/vaping
- Graffiti
- Drones
- Skateboarding

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



Bay Point Regional Shoreline

Located at the end of McAvoy Road
in Bay Point, CA 94565

GPS Coordinates: 38.040033,-121.963216

East Bay Regional Park District

2950 Peralta Oaks Court, Oakland, CA 94605
1-888-EBPARKS or 1-888-327-2757 (TRS 711)
ebparks.org



Regional Parks Membership
RECEIVE DAY-USE PARKING, SWIMMING,
DOG PASS, AND MORE. 510-544-2220
REGIONALPARKSFUNDATION.ORG

Bay Point Regional Shoreline

BAY POINT



Bay Point Regional Shoreline

Year Opened: 2008 **Acres:** 150

Highlights: Hiking, birdwatching, picnicking, kayaking, shoreline fishing, nature study



A Marshland Restoration Story

Bay Point Regional Shoreline provides access to undeveloped open space and marsh habitat in an area surrounded by residential, military, and industrial development. You can enjoy views of Suisun Bay, hiking, birdwatching, nature study, shoreline fishing (California state fishing license required), and other recreational pastimes. The nearly 150-acre parkland is at the approximate midpoint of the San Francisco Bay Estuary and the Sacramento/San Joaquin River Delta. These saltwater and freshwater systems converge at Suisun Bay and have historically been a major influence on the Bay Point community.



The East Bay Regional Park District acquired this property in 1996 to preserve and restore the marshland and provide public access to the shoreline. In 2020, the park underwent extensive habitat restoration and trail improvements. Design features allow for anticipated sea level rise due to climate change.

History

Prior to the early 1800s the lands along the Suisun Bay shoreline were occupied by Native American tribes. The last tribe living near the Bay Point area was the Chupcan tribe, which occupied the southern shore of Suisun Bay between Port Chicago and the mouth of Marsh Creek in the Oakley area.

From the 1850s on, the site was located between two Mexican land grants—the Los Medanos grant to the east, and the Monte del Diablo grant to the south and west. From the 1950s through the 1980s, then-owners diked the southern section for settling ponds and a sand-dredging operation. In 1978, a California district court decree required digging of the J-shaped channel now present along the park's eastern edge, opening the area to tidal action as mitigation for the sand-dredging operation.

Plants And Wildlife

The tidal marshlands support brackish tidal marsh species such as bulrush, alkali bulrush, broadleaf cattail, and narrowleaf cattail. Other species include Mexican rush and annual saltmarsh aster.

Within the restoration area, the marsh is characterized by a mosaic of diverse plants including pickleweed, salt grass, alkali heath, and gumplant, among others. The northeastern corner of the restored area is dominated by cattails, bulrush, as well as common reed. The vegetation within the transition zone and upland areas includes a mix of non-native grasses and plants, as well as native species including creeping wildrye, big saltbush, gumplant, goldenrod, salt grass, and alkali heath.

