




**EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT
PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE
AGENDA STAFF REPORT**

DATE	April 28, 2025
TITLE	Special Status Plants and Wildlife and Unique Habitats in the District
DIVISION	Acquisition, Stewardship, and Development
FROM	Matthew Gaul, Division Lead of Stewardship Sabrina Landreth, General Manager
APPROVED	

RECOMMENDATION

Informational only.

BACKGROUND

The Bay Area is one of 35 biodiversity hotspots in the world; providing a home for species that occur nowhere else. Our East Bay parklands are home to over 200 species of plants and animals that have been given “special status” because they are threatened and/or at risk of extinction. The 127,000 acres we manage play a critical role in providing recreation for our Bay Area visitors and in protecting these sensitive plants and animals. Managing the lands with an environmental ethic helps to ensure this biodiversity is maintained and public recreation is consistent with protecting our natural resources.

ANALYSIS

The Park District relies on multiple sources of information to determine species location and the potential for impacts to the species or habitat. These include regular monitoring for amphibians in our over 600 ponds, a grid of cameras to help assess and document wildlife occupancy in our parks, remote sensing to map our vegetation communities throughout all our parklands, a statewide database, partnering with research institutions and local partners to leverage our understanding of habitat and species and promoting community science to engage the public and expand our wildlife and plant observations. The Park District also completed an ecological health assessment of its wildlife, NatureCheck. This landscape level of assessment and a regional approach to planning will help provide valuable information to support future park projects and land management decisions and resiliency to climate actions.

FISCAL IMPACT

Informational only, no funds are requested at this time.

ATTACHMENTS

A. Presentation – Special Status Plants, Wildlife, and Unique Habitats