



**EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT
BOARD NATURAL & CULTURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE
AGENDA STAFF REPORT**

DATE	July 31, 2024
TITLE	Conservation Grazing Overview and Ecological Importance of Pond Management
DIVISION	Acquisition, Stewardship, and Development
FROM	Matt Graul, Chief of Stewardship Ken Wysocki, Assistant General Manager of Acquisition, Stewardship & Development
APPROVED	Sabrina Landreth, General Manager 

RECOMMENDATION

This item is for information only. With concurrence from the Board Committee, staff recommends presenting this item at a future Board meeting.

BACKGROUND

The Wildland Vegetation Program uses livestock grazing on 87,000 acres of Park District lands to meet vegetation management goals. Staff will delve into what conservation grazing means and provide an overview of the grazing program's history, agreements with ranchers, livestock infrastructure projects, budget review, and the shifts and challenges of the largest livestock grazing program in the Bay Area. Staff will also describe the District's pond restoration program and how grazing is an integral part of pond management and why these stockponds are essential to achieve long-term conservation goals in a changing climate.