



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

DATE	May 10, 2024
TITLE	Oak Habitat Restoration in East Bay Hills
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.

BACKGROUND

Staff will provide a presentation on oak woodlands and actions the Park District is taking to protect and restore them. Oak woodlands and savannas are keystone ecosystems, providing habitat for thousands of species of wildlife, invertebrates, and plants. These ecosystems have declined throughout California due to destruction, land conversion, and poor management. The oak woodlands of the Coast Range and Diablo Range are diverse and valuable as conservation targets due to the vast range of ecosystem functions that they support. The Park District is investing in oak woodland restoration as a means of reversing the decline of oaks and restoring durable, fire-resilient native woodlands to parklands.

ANALYSIS

Protection and restoration of oak woodlands has increasingly become a central stewardship goal of the Park District. In 2018, the voting public passed Measure FF, which included specific sources of funding for native, fire-resilient vegetation. In 2020, the Park District accepted a \$100,000 gift from the East Bay Chapter of the California Native Plant Society dedicated for oak woodland restoration. The Park District encumbered a match of \$60,000 from Measure FF funds for the project. Further allocation will be made from the Stewardship Restoration Project Budget. The Park District will continue to seek funding and expand oak restoration areas as funds become available.