



RESOURCE PROTECTION AREA.
ACCESS BY RESERVATION ONLY.
CONTACT LIVERMORE AREA
RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT
(925) 373-5707.

Brushy Peak
1707

LEGEND

- Unpaved Multiple Use (Hike, Horses & Bicycles)
- Mileage Between Points
- Paved Road
- Seasonal Stream
- Seasonal Pond, Lake
- Parking, Disabled Accessible
- Restroom, Disabled Accessible
- Information
- Gate

North



0 1/4 1/2 Mi.

Contour Interval 20 feet

DOGS MUST BE KEPT ON LEASH AT ALL TIMES WHILE IN THE PRESERVE.

BRING DRINKING WATER. DRINKING WATER IS NOT AVAILABLE AT THE PRESERVE.

IN ORDER TO REDUCE OR PREVENT THE RISK OF SERIOUS HEAD INJURY OR DEATH, STATE LAW REQUIRES THAT ALL BICYCLISTS UNDER AGE 18 WEAR AN APPROVED HELMET WHILE RIDING ON TRAILS AND ROADWAYS. THE DISTRICT ALSO STRONGLY RECOMMENDS THAT ALL EQUESTRIANS AND BICYCLISTS WEAR HELMETS AT ALL TIMES.

Laughlin Ranch Staging Area

PRESERVE NATURAL FEATURES

Brushy Peak Regional Preserve's wide variety of wildlife species is supported by a similarly broad range of plant communities, among which California annual grassland is dominant. Non-native herbaceous plants and annual grasses (ryegrass, wild oats, soft chess, etc) predominate—a consequence of the land's continued cultivation in the past. Native perennial grasses (purple needlegrass, creeping wildrye, etc.) are sporadic and widely scattered; saltgrass is found in the alkali seasonal wetlands, such as in the main valley drainage within which the staging area lies. Common native wildflowers include the California buttercup, Johnny jump-up, lupine, blue-eyed grass, fiddleg-rass, and many others. These and non-native wildflowers provide forage for numerous insect—an important link in the food chain. The most obvious grassland wildlife species is the ground squirrel, whose burrows are inhabited by amphibians, reptiles, badgers, burrowing owls, and the San Joaquin kit fox. Squirrels and cottontails are prey to red-tailed hawks, ferruginous hawks, and golden eagles. Western meadowlarks nest and feed in the grasslands, and fill the air with beautiful song. Sandstone rock outcrops provide nest sites for a variety of raptors and rock wrens. Woodland habitats range from pure stands of coast live oak and California buckeye to intermixed habitats of valley oak, bay laurel, and sagebrush. Shrubs include poison oak, monkeyflower, gooseberry, and elderberry. The oak woodlands support deer, bobcats, rodents, and many bird species such as hummingbirds, cedar waxwings, orioles, robins, woodpeckers, and various raptors. Several spring-fed ponds, constructed by ranchers in the past, lie along the seasonally wet drainages and provide habitat for federally protected California red-legged frogs and California tiger salamanders. Other native amphibian species that breed in the ponds include the Western toad and Pacific tree frog. The Preserve's shrublands are dominated by California sagebrush, with some bush monkeyflower. The south-facing slopes of Brushy Peak support this coastal sage plant community, which represent a habitat that typically supports the state and federally threatened Alameda whipsnake.