



Creek restoration supports East Bay steelhead

Beneath the rippled surface of Pinole Creek in Contra Costa County, threatened steelhead and rainbow trout can now reach upstream habitat that's been virtually inaccessible for decades.

Last fall, alongside a rural stretch of Alhambra Valley Road where a farm stand once stood, EBMUD removed the last barrier to upstream fish migration. In place of a dilapidated culvert, we restored a boulder-lined stream bed that allows the creek to flow naturally.

The Tomato Stand Fish Passage marks the final step in a long-term effort to restore Pinole Creek's connection to the Pacific Ocean. This vital corridor now provides nearly seven miles of freshwater habitat between San Pablo Bay



and EBMUD's Pinole Valley Watershed near Briones Reservoir.

This project is especially important because Pinole Creek supports the county's only documented, self-sustaining steelhead population. Thanks to the restoration, local steelhead that migrate out to sea can access the creek's full length when they return to spawn.

EBMUD built the fish passage and a creek-spanning bridge with the support of a California Wildlife Conservation Board grant, and the

effort is already producing results. During the first spawning season since construction, EBMUD biologists observed more steelhead egg nests, called redds, upstream of the channel than ever before.

Protecting the environment is a core part of EBMUD's mission. Healthy watersheds provide clean water, support local ecosystems and benefit the entire community. That's why we're proud to support habitat restoration projects that help fish and wildlife thrive.



H2Flow en Español,
EBMUD's Spanish-language anthem celebrating the value of clean water, has tallied more than 3 million views!



Search "H2Flow en Español" on YouTube or scan the QR code to watch our music video produced in collaboration with the Oakland-based Alphabet Rockers.

Discover outdoor adventures with EBMUD

Come out and play! EBMUD's recreation areas offer hiking, boating, fishing, wildlife watching, camping, and other outdoor adventures across the East Bay and in the Sierra Nevada foothills. From local strolls to weekend getaways, there's something for everyone.

Wondering where to begin? Here are five ways to spend a day with EBMUD:



Take a scenic walk around Lafayette Reservoir

Enjoy the paved 2.7-mile Lakeside Trail for an easy, family-friendly outing, or tackle the more challenging 4.7-mile Rim Trail for panoramic East Bay views. Picnic areas and a playground make our most popular recreation area a great escape for all ages.



Go fishing at San Pablo Reservoir

San Pablo is known as one of the East Bay's favorite fishing spots. Cast a line for trout, catfish, bass or sturgeon as calm waters lap the shoreline. Take a lunch break at one of many outdoor picnic areas.



Rent a pedal boat or kayak

Lafayette and San Pablo reservoirs both offer boat rentals so visitors can enjoy a relaxing day on the water without bringing their own equipment. Keep an eye out for Great Blue Herons, Cormorants, Osprey and other waterbirds.



Explore EBMUD's watershed trails

Hikers, runners, equestrians and bird watchers can ramble among oak woodlands, redwood groves and rolling hills on more than 125 miles of trails across EBMUD lands. Purchase a trail permit, fill your water bottle and set off on an adventure.



Spend a weekend camping at Camanche Reservoir

Camanche offers camping, RV sites, cabins, hiking trails, swimming and boat rentals — ideal for families or groups looking for a Sierra foothills getaway. Horseback riders can also explore nearby Turkey Hill Equestrian Campground.



Scan here for information about EBMUD public meetings and agendas.



Find maps, purchase trail permits and plan your next outdoor excursion at ebmud.com/recreation



P.O. Box 24055 • Oakland, CA 94623
866-403-2683
ebmud.com

EBMUD Mission Statement

To manage the natural resources with which the District is entrusted; to provide reliable, high-quality water and wastewater services at fair and reasonable rates for the people of the East Bay; and to preserve and protect the environment for future generations.

Connect with us:



Printed on recycled paper

J-A 2026