

How the East Bay Hills Trails Benefit Ride and Hike Will Support the Trails

Over the past 5 years the East Bay Hills Trails Benefit Ride has raised over \$85,000 to support trails in the East Bay and beyond. This has been made possible by the generosity of our donors and volunteers, by the matching funds made available by the Bay Area Barns and Trails Trust, and by the participation of hundreds of riders. The 2008 ride celebrates the 20th Anniversary of the Bay Area Ridge Trail, and is being held in conjunction with the first-ever group through-hike of the Bay Area Ridge Trail from Castro Valley to Martinez.

2/3 of the funds raised have been donated to the Bay Area Ride Trail Council, a coalition of volunteers and agencies, that plans, promotes, builds, acquires and maintains the more than 550-mile Bay Area Ridge Trail, a multi-use trail that, when complete, will connect over 75 parks and open spaces on the ridgelines surrounding the San Francisco Bay. Recognizing the growing recreational needs of the Bay Area's diverse populations, along with the desire of individuals to connect their communities with the outdoor environment, the Council creates links between parks, people and communities.

Over the past 5 years, the East Bay Hills Trails Benefit Ride has contributed to the following Bay Area Ridge Trail projects:

- ◆ Signage of the entire route of the Ridge Trail through the East Bay.
- ◆ Volunteer work parties that helped prepare Crockett Hills Regional Park, with 4.5 miles of Ridge Trail, for its 2006 opening
- ◆ Funding for a crew to help resolve drainage issues on the Ridge Trail in Crockett Hills in 2007
- ◆ Planning, advocacy and meetings that helped open 7.5 miles of Ridge Trail in the Pinole Watershed
- ◆ Planning and advocacy funds for Ridge Trail staff to help open Ridge Trail in Vargas Plateau in Fremont, on Feeder Trail #1 and on Fernandez Ranch in Martinez
- ◆ Financial support for building 2 miles of new trail at Muir Heritage Land Trust's Sky Ranch in Martinez that will become Ridge Trail
- ◆ Financial support earmarked for a new section of Ridge Trail in San Mateo County
- ◆ Additional planning and construction of Ridge Trail segments elsewhere

In addition the East Bay Hills Trails Benefit Ride has donated to these other East Bay trail projects:

- ◆ The Volunteers for Outdoor California trail maintenance and rebuilding project in Joaquin Miller Park in 2007
- ◆ The Volunteers for Outdoor California upcoming trail construction project at Brushy Peak near Livermore
- ◆ Installation of a water tank at Corral Camp at Las Trampas Regional Preserve, making it possible for horse groups to camp there
- ◆ Full financial support of a trail maintenance weekend co-sponsored with the Student Conservation Association on Mt. Diablo in 2007
- ◆ Save Mt. Diablo's project to build a 60 mile Diablo Loop Trail around the perimeter of Mt. Diablo
- ◆ Maintenance work to preserve and maintain fencing at Sequoia Arena in Joaquin Miller Park
- ◆ Funding set aside for improvements to Es Anderson Equestrian Camp in Tilden Park