



## Alameda-Tesla Classification and General Plan Project **STAKEHOLDER MEETING SUMMARY**

**Event Name:** Natural, Cultural, and Historic Resources Stakeholder Meeting

**Time & Date:** Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup> | 2:00pm-4:00pm

**Location:** Diablo Range District Office (15751 Tesla Rd, Livermore, CA 94550)

**Participating Organizations:** Mount Diablo Interpretive Association, Save Mt. Diablo/ Mt. Diablo Audubon/ Mt. Diablo Bird Alliance, Sierra Club, Northern Valley Yokuts Tribe, CA Native Plant Society (CNPS), Livermore Heritage Guild, East Bay Chapter CNPS, CCCCR, Tri Valley Air Quality Climate Alliance, NCP, Friends of Tesla Park, Friends of Open Space and Vineyards, San Joaquin Audubon Society, Alameda County Resource Conservation District, Golden Gate Bird Alliance, Ohlone Audubon Society, Society of American Indians/ Tri-Valley Native American Center

### **MEETING OVERVIEW**

On Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024, the Alameda-Tesla Plan project team met with representatives from various organizations that address natural, cultural, and historical resources in the San Francisco Bay Area. The meeting was held at the Diablo Range District Office on the Alameda-Tesla property. The goal of the meeting was for the project team to meet directly with these representatives and listen to any concerns related to the project. The meeting was the fourth of four stakeholder meetings.

At the meeting, the project team gave a brief project overview, answered participants' questions about the project, and facilitated a discussion that allowed the representatives to voice concerns, share ideas, and provide feedback on the planning process.

### **WHAT WE HEARD**

The following summarizes what the project team heard during the meeting. The team will evaluate this input as work progresses.

### **Questions**

Questions asked by participants during the Question-and-Answer session were addressed by Parks staff and touched on the following topics

- Analysis of different types of activities and intensities.
- Prioritization of flora and fauna.
- Camping at the State Park unit.
- Identification of critical habitats and corridors.
- Activities, intensities, and impacts in the classification process.
- Budget for the new State Park unit.
- Process for the public to influence/participate in the classification process.
- Balance cultural use, natural resources protection, and recreation.
- Status of the cultural resources survey.

- Communication and collaboration with Native Americans.
- Access for school groups.
- CDWF Area of Conservation and the planning process.
- Clarification on the planning process and the decision-makers involved.
- Data-driven collaborating management process.
- Property to the north of Tesla Road.

### Facilitated discussion summary

The following main themes were brought forward by participants during the facilitated discussion.

- **Role of the site in the larger context:** The Alameda-Tesla property is an opportunity to advance the 30x30 State Initiative, protect natural resources, and address climate change.
- **Preserve the landscape as a whole ecosystem and classify it as a State Reserve:** The property is a unique site with an interconnected ecosystem. There shouldn't be a focus on just one species or feature. The new State Park unit should be preserved and protected at a high level by classifying it as a State Reserve so that people can experience the natural landscape.
- **Treatment of and respect for cultural resources:** The Alameda-Tesla property is an important site for several Native American tribes. The legislation includes a directive to prioritize preserving natural and cultural resources. The new State Park unit could serve as a guide to resource protection and stewardship. Some participants recommended naming the property *Hismet Warep Horsetka*, which means "Sacred Earth in Harmony" in the California Native American Chochenyo language.
- **Protect the property's mining history:** The property has a long history of mining operations. Many of the mining resources have already been lost, and this period of history could be forgotten. Designating the site as a historical monument to commemorate this history would be valuable.
- **Allow low-intensity uses:** The new State Park unit should prioritize natural resource protection over recreation. It should have the lightest day uses possible and allow activities with the least user interference. Examples of such uses include hiking, nature observation, birdwatching, and education programs. Camping is an option; however, campsites should be kept in their most natural state. The new State Park unit should not allow mountain biking since it's hard to enforce, and mountain bikers could create conflict with hikers on trails.
- **Access to the new State Park unit:** State Parks should develop strategies for underserved groups to experience the new State Park unit. Access should also mean access for all people but not for all activities.
- **Collaboration with community partners:** There are many ways that State Parks can work with community partners. Ideas include collaborative management with the indigenous communities, developing curriculum with tribal partners, research projects with student chapters of environmental groups, and citizen science programs such as the Christmas bird count that the Audubon Society conducts with UC Berkeley.