## February 25, 2020 Hard Hike: Diablo Foothills Regional Park Loop Hike

## The hike starts at 10:00 AM.

**Hike Description:** This is a 5 mile hike with a total elevation gain of about 800 feet. The terrain is mostly open grassland/savannah with scattered mature oak trees. The majority of the trails are wide fire roads, with some sections of single track trail. The fire roads are mostly in the open, and the single track trails are more in oak woodland habitat. This is a moderate hike with a few short sections of somewhat steep trail, mostly at the beginning of the hike, but nobody will be left behind. Most of the elevation gain is on relatively easy moderate slopes of the rolling foothills.

From the trailhead we head up Foothills Trail, from which we have views to Walnut Creek in the distance. Then we hike along the Twin Ponds Trail with views to Shell Ridge Open Space. We later join the Briones to Mt. Diablo Regional Trail (Mokelumne Coast-to-Crest Trail), with views toward Castle Rock and Mt. Diablo to the east, then head west on the Hanging Valley Trail, turning onto the Alamo Trail, which takes us back to the trailhead.

There are no restroom facilities on this hike and no poison oak on the trails.

Bring: WATER, hat, boots and trekking poles (if you use them). Dress for weather conditions.

**Directions to the Livorna Staging Area trailhead**: 1. From CA24/I680 south go south on Hwy 680 for 3<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> miles, then exit on Livorna Road East in Alamo. 2. Go East on Livorna Road for 1 mile to Stop sign, then continue for another <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> mile. 3. Turn left into the parking lot with a sign that reads Diablo Foothills Regional Park Staging Area. The hike starts at 10:00 AM.

Ride-sharing: Ride-sharing has not been set up due to the short drive to the trailhead.

**Optional Lunch**: Round Table Pizza, 150 Alamo Plaza, Alamo. 2.6 miles. Take Livorna Rd. Turn left on Danville Blvd. Right into Alamo Plaza. Round Table Pizza is in the NW corner next to the Sheriff's office and Post Office.

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