

# KNOWLAND

## Priority Conservation Area APPLICATION

The proposed Natural Landscape PCA Knowland contains Knowland Park, which runs from the border of Oakland to Interstate 580 in the southern portion of the hills, but also stretches across the highway to include important open space and riparian area of Arroyo Viejo.

As a Natural Landscape, it benefits **Terrestrial Ecosystems, Water Supply & Water Quality** and **Aquatic Ecosystems**. Co-benefits include Recreation, Climate & Resilience and Compact Growth.

Nearly all of Knowland PCA is considered a Bay Area Protected Area by the Bay Area Open Space Council (BAOSC), private land and parks with conservation easements. Within this, a large part of the Knowland PCA is designated as a Botanical Priority Protection Area by the California Native Plants Society. Such areas have been identified as high priority due to opportunities, threats, and constraints to the botanical zone. Partly overlapping this is a Resource Conservation Area, land zoned as open space on the City of Oakland zoning maps. This PCA also captures parcels designated as Open Space by the City's Open Space, Conservation, and Recreation Element of the General Plan (OSCAR parcels). All of which demonstrate how the area benefits Terrestrial Ecosystems by protecting unique habitat and botanical areas of high priority, and co-benefits Recreation, Compact Growth and Climate & Resilience.

Knowland protects Essential and Fragmented Habitat, determined by BAOSC's Conservation Land Network, and includes Bay Area Critical Linkage land, as demonstrated by mapping from Science and Collaboration for Connected Wildlands. Knowland consists of a patch of Serpentine Soil, which provides critical habitat for the *Clarkia franciscana*/presidio population (Source: US Geological Survey). The Oakland Museum also shows that in the center of Knowland Park lies an important site that is habitat for the Brittle Leaf Manzanita. Because of its protection of critical habitat, including areas supporting a rare natural community, Knowland benefits Terrestrial Ecosystems. Co-benefits include Climate & Resilience and Compact Growth.

Open Creeks, determined by the City of Oakland's Public Works Agency, flow through Knowland, gathering to form the headwaters of the Arroyo Viejo. Close to Highway 580 lies a Priority Creek Restoration Site, identified by Measure DD as a key priority for Oakland. Also within the Knowland boundaries are Priority Acquisition Creek Parcels that the City of Oakland has identified for watershed preservation. All these water features benefit Aquatic Ecosystems by protecting targeted streams, they benefit Terrestrial Ecosystems by protecting critical riparian corridors and the diversity of animals using them, and they benefit Water Supply & Water Quality by supporting watershed health and protecting downstream water uses. They provide co-benefits of Climate & Resilience and Recreation.