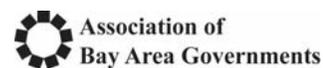




San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail
 Site Description for
Shimada Friendship Park



Location, Ownership, and Management: Shimada Friendship Park is owned and managed by the City of Richmond. It is located off of Marina Bay Parkway in a residential area on the south side of the Marina Bay. The park is also part of the Rosie the Riveter / WWII Home Front National Historical Park.

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A popular public park	Stair water entry	Upper parking lot

Facility Description: Launch facilities at Shimada Friendship Park consist of a short set of stairs that lead through the riprap from the park to the water. The stairs are approximately 50 feet from the parking lot. Free unlimited parking is offered from sunrise to sunset. There are eight spaces located adjacent to the launch. A larger parking lot with 22 spaces is located approximately 300 feet to the north of the launch, within the park.

There are ADA accessible restrooms within the park. The park also offers four picnic tables with BBQ pits, a large grass lawn, and benches that offer stunning views of Brooks Island and the San Francisco Bay.

Shimada Friendship Park is popular with windsurfers due to frequent summer winds, its convenient location, parking with no hourly time limit, and the short walk from the parking area to the water. These facilities also make the site popular with kayakers and stand-up paddlers on calm days.

Other Identifying or General Information:

<p>Site ID: <u>CC16</u> In WT Plan: <u>Yes</u> Existing or Planned: <u>Existing</u> Ownership: <u>Public</u> County: <u>Contra Costa</u> Geo-Region: <u>Richmond Area</u> SF Bay Plan Region: <u>Central Bay North</u> Launch or Destination: <u>Launch</u> Home of a Club: <u>No</u> Used by a Program that Assists Persons with Disabilities: <u>No</u> Appreciated for Windy Conditions: <u>Yes</u> Near Food or Drink: <u>No</u></p>	<p>Proximity to Other Sites: Shimada Friendship Park is located in proximity to three other launches within the greater Richmond Marina Bay complex: Barbara and Jay Vincent Park is located approximately 0.3 miles west; Marina Bay Park is located 1.2 miles to the northwest within Marina Bay and the Richmond Municipal Marina is located 1 mile to the northwest. To the southeast, Point Isabel is located approximately 1 mile away. Farther south, designated Water Trail sites at the Berkeley Marina and Small Boat Launch are 2.2 and 3.2 miles away, respectively. The designated Water Trail site at Ferry Point is located approximately 2.4 miles to the west.</p>
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Description of Launch/Landing:

<p>Fixed Dock/Pier Launch/Landing: <u>No</u> Float: <u>No</u> Transfer/Launch Assistance System: <u>No</u> Gangway: <u>No</u> Boat/Trailer Ramp: <u>No</u> Mudflats Affect Site Usability: <u>No</u> Beach Wheelchair Available: <u>No</u> Stair Water Entry: <u>Yes</u></p>	<p>Beach: <u>No</u> Firm-Surface Beach Crossing: <u>No</u> Fee for Launch or Parking: <u>No</u> Other Launch/Landing Notes: There is large boat activity in the Richmond Inner Harbor. Water Entry Path: <u>No</u></p>
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The water access location consists of concrete stairs that lead through the riprap to the water.

Site Appears to be Suitable For:

<p>Kayak: <u>Yes</u> Windsurfer: <u>Yes</u> Kiteboard: <u>No</u> Whaleboat: <u>No</u> Stand Up Paddleboard: <u>Yes</u></p>	<p>Canoe: <u>No</u> Outrigger Canoe: <u>No</u> Sculling: <u>No</u> Rowboat/Dinghy: <u>No</u> Dragonboat: <u>No</u></p>
<p><i>Scenic views and ideal wind conditions make Shimada Park a popular windsurfing launch.</i></p>	

Transportation and Parking:

<p>General Spaces (number): <u>30</u> ADA Parking Spaces (number): <u>2</u> Duration (hours): Parking is not time limited during park hours Overnight Parking Allowed: <u>No</u> ADA Parking Description: There is a lot closer to the shore with 8 spots, none of which are designated ADA spaces. There is a further lot with 22 spots and there are 2 ADA spaces in this lot. Loading/Unloading Area: <u>Yes</u></p>	<p>Bay Trail: <u>Yes</u> Public Transportation: The nearest public transportation is the 74 Bus line stop at Marina Bay, approximately 0.75 mile north of the Park.</p> <div data-bbox="824 1331 1380 1703" data-label="Image"> </div> <p><i>The upper parking area has 22 spaces</i></p>
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Path of Travel:

Distance to Launch from Parking Area (feet): 491
 Distance to Launch from ADA Parking (feet): 515
 Distance to Launch from ADA Restrooms (feet): 429
 Distance from ADA Restrooms to ADA Parking (feet): 280
 Path of Travel Exists: Yes



A paved path leads from the parking area, across the Bay Trail, to the water entry stairs.

Other Site Amenities:

Total Restrooms: 2
 Total ADA Restrooms: 2
 Restroom Description: One male and one female ADA restroom.
 Boat Washing: No
 Rigging/Staging Area: Yes
 Picnic Tables: Yes
 Benches: Yes
 BBQ: Yes
 Boat Storage: No



The picnic area provides great views.

Overnight Accommodations:

Hotel: <u>No</u>	Hostel: <u>No</u>	Ship: <u>No</u>	Camping: <u>No</u>	Other: <u>No</u>
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Additional Notes Related to Accessibility:

Access to the water is from stairs through the riprap and is not accessible. Shimada Friendship Park provides two ADA parking spaces, ADA restrooms, a paved path of travel, and picnic tables.

Additional Notes on Use of Site (Boating and Non-Boating) and Existing and Planned Management:

The ability to park for extended periods of time, for free, and the proximity of the launch make this a convenient and popular site.



This site is utilized largely by windsurfers due to ideal wind conditions and direction. Additionally, the grass lawn provides a good equipment rigging area. On calm days, the site is popular for kayakers looking to paddle along the shoreline or towards Brooks Island.

Safety and Security, including Parking:

The riprap that comprises the shoreline can be hazardous for windsurfers that get stuck too far inshore and are unable to tack back to the launch. The Santa Fe Channel is a busy shipping channel and the Richmond Marina is popular with recreational sail and motor boaters, so small boaters must be aware of larger ships and avoid collisions.

There is a 300-foot security exclusion zone around the Chevron Long Wharf, located within four miles of the site. Water Trail signage will emphasize that users need to be aware of ferry routes, shipping channels, and larger boats.

Wildlife and Habitat Considerations:

Shimada Friendship Park and the adjacent shoreline are fairly urban, with limited natural habitat occurring in the immediate vicinity. Wetlands along the Richmond shoreline are located approximately 0.5 mile to the east. The Albany Mudflats Ecological Reserve / State Marine Park, an important feeding ground for a variety of shorebirds and waterfowl, is located approximately 1.5 miles to the southeast.

In addition, Brooks Island is within four miles of the site. Brooks Island contains 18 species of nesting birds, including herons, gulls, and terns. Brooks Island is a protected site for nesting Caspian terns and California gulls, and a secondary harbor seal haul-out area. Access to Brooks Island is only allowed as part of a scheduled East Bay Regional Park District naturalist tour. Trips to Brooks Island can be scheduled through EBRPD Reservations Department at 888-327-2757, option 2 or visit EBParks.org/Register.

Education, Outreach, and Stewardship, Including Signage:

The Water Trail educational sign includes information about safety precautions, not landing on Brooks Island without authorization, how to boat responsibly near wildlife, and buffer distances from sensitive species. More detailed information about boater safety is found on the Water Trail website and in the Water Trail brochure.

Accessibility of Sites within the Richmond Area Waterfront Geo-Region:

There are eight potential/existing Water Trail sites identified within this geo-region: Point Molate Beach Park; Keller Beach; Ferry Point; Boat Ramp Street Launch Area; Richmond Municipal Marina; Barbara & Jay Vincent Park; Shimada Friendship Park; and, Point Isabel Regional Shoreline. Of these, Ferry Point and Barbara & Jay Vincent Park provide the most accessible water access.

The Richmond Area Waterfront Geo-Region provides opportunities to enjoy windy conditions, calm conditions, wildlife viewing, and urban experiences. There are two broadly accessible sites within this Geo-Region. Ferry Point offers a Water Trail Grant funded firm surface path across the beach, new accessible restrooms, accessible parking, and other accessible amenities such as picnic tables, a drinking fountain, and loading/unloading area. Barbara and Jay Vincent Park similarly provides a firm surface path across its two beaches, accessible restrooms, accessible parking, and other accessible amenities such as picnic tables, a drinking fountain, and loading/unloading area.

A Water Trail Grant-funded improved launch at Point Isabel is currently being designed by EBRPD that will include ADA access to the water. In addition, the new accessible boat launch is proposed for the Richmond Municipal. Upon completion of improvements to Point Isabel and the Richmond Marina (anticipated to be completed in 2018), this Geo-Region will have four broadly accessible sites - Ferry Point, Barbara and Jay Vincent Park, Point Isabel, and the Richmond Marina.

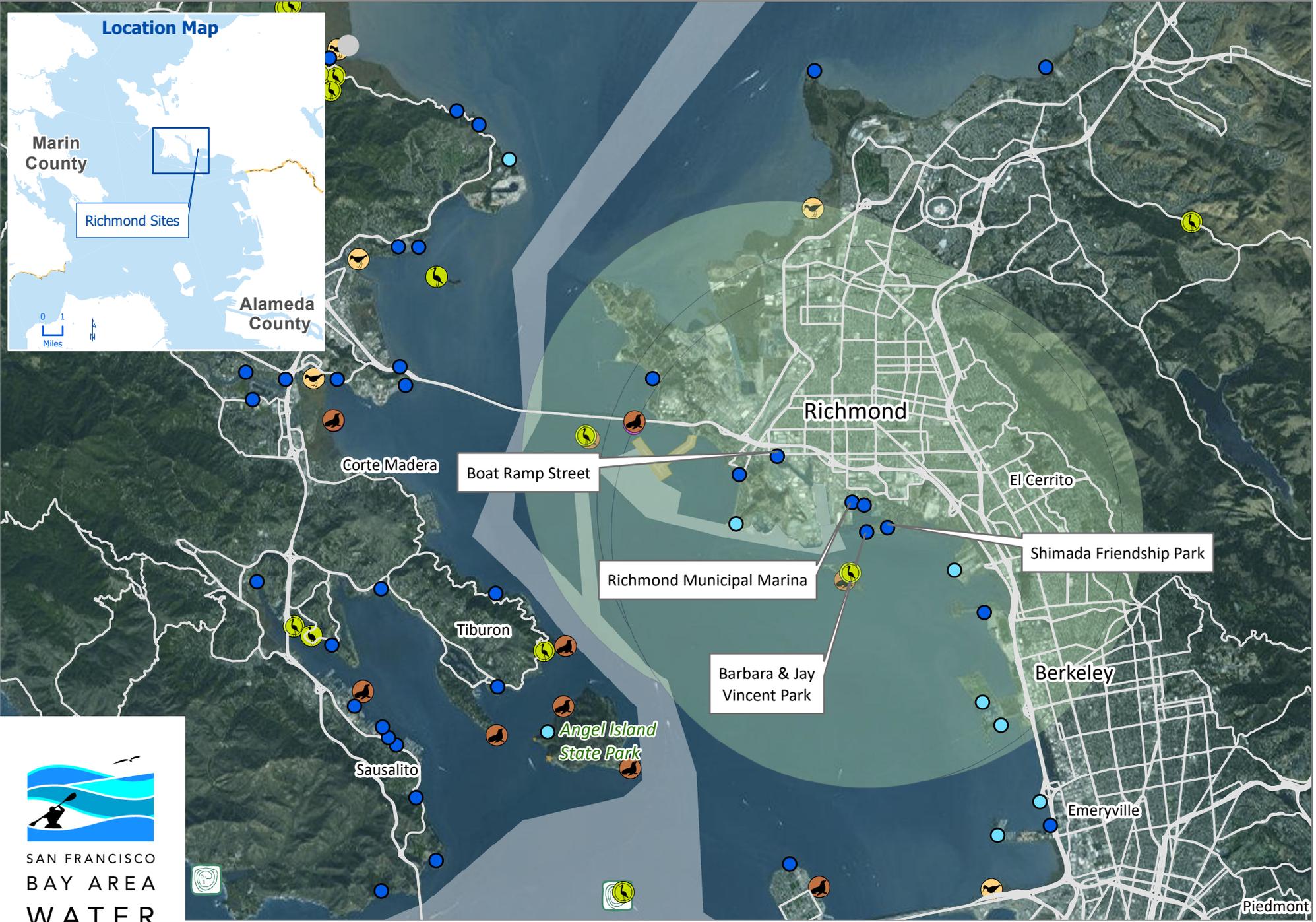
**Summary of Environmental Review
based on the
San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail Plan Final Environmental Impact Report**

**Shimada Friendship Park
March 10, 2017**

Resource Area	Impacts Analysis	Notes
<p>Recreation References: WT DREIR, pp. 3-32 to 3-37.</p>	<p>Shimada Friendship Park is a developed park with high levels of existing public use. Facilities are well maintained and have sufficient capacity to accommodate levels of use associated with the Water Trail use.</p>	<p>Regarding recreational conflicts, Water Trail users may submit comments to Water Trail staff through the website if they witness or experience recreational conflict at any designated site. In spite of the current heavy use, no user conflicts have been observed.</p>
<p>Navigational and Personal Safety References: WT DREIR pp. 3-38 to 3-51, and Figures 3.4.2-1 and 3.4.2-2.</p>	<p>Small boat users should be aware of winds and currents. Ships entering the Port of Richmond come from the Bay west of Brooks Island, approximately 0.75 miles west of Shimada Friendship Park. West of Marina Bay is an active commercial shipping channel, so boaters need to be cautious to avoid the barges and other large ships that frequent the area.</p> <p>There is a 300-foot security exclusion zone around the Chevron Long Wharf, located within four miles of the site.</p>	<p>The Water Trail educational sign provides information related to navigational and personal boating safety. Water Trail signage will also emphasize that users need to be aware of ferry routes, shipping channels, and larger boats.</p>
<p>Aesthetics References: WT DREIR pp. 3-56 to 3-68.</p>	<p>Shimada Friendship Park is considered an urban launch, characterized by the developed waterfront park adjacent to the City of Richmond.</p>	<p>The Water Trail will require the inclusion of a Water Trail identification sign. A “sign program” will be developed with the City of Richmond to ensure that the I.D. sign and additional educational sign do not result in sign clutter at the site.</p>
<p>Biology-Vegetation References: WT DREIR pp. 3-69 to 3-92 and Table 3.7.2-1 and Table 3.7.2-2.</p>	<p>The shoreline of Shimada Friendship Park is reinforced with riprap and is generally developed. Tidal mudflats occur within Albany Mudflats to the southeast of Shimada Friendship Park.</p>	<p>Boaters should keep recommended distances from sensitive habitats.</p> <p>Preventing the inadvertent spread of exotic, invasive plant species is important at all launch sites. Inclusion of a boat washdown station would be a good addition to the site.</p>

Resource Area	Impacts Analysis	Notes
<p>Biology – Birds <i>References: WT FEIR text and map</i></p>	<p>Due to the developed nature of the region, there are limited active nesting areas in the vicinity of the site. Brooks Island is within four miles of the site. Brooks Island hosts 18 species of nesting birds, including herons, gulls, and terns.</p>	<p>The WT educational sign includes information about how to paddle responsibly around wildlife and to maintain a buffer distance from nesting birds. The WT website and brochure include more detailed information about not disturbing birds.</p> <p>Landing on Brooks Island is prohibited unless as part of a tour with EBRPD in order to protect nesting bird species. Visitation to nearby sensitive shorelines is not anticipated to substantially increase. Signage will inform paddlers not to land on Brooks Island without EBPRD approval.</p>
<p>Biology – Rafting Waterfowl <i>References: WT DREIR pp. 3-93 to 3-131 and Table 3.8.2-1, Figure 3.8.2-1.</i></p>	<p>This site provides access to areas where rafting waterfowl congregate.</p>	<p>Disturbance of rafting waterfowl is not addressed in existing signs on site but is highlighted in the Water Trail educational sign, brochure, and website.</p>
<p>Biology – Ridgway’s rail and California black rail and high tide refugia <i>References: WT DREIR pp. 3-93 to 3-131 and Figure 3.8.2-2</i></p>	<p>Ridgway’s rail and black rail depend on habitat that does not exist at or in the immediate vicinity of Shimada Friendship Park.</p>	<p>Signage is needed to emphasize the importance of not entering marshes, keeping a 50-foot buffer from rail habitat (not entering channels less than 100-feet wide), importance of staying clear of high-tide refugia, and that landing in marshes and on levees is prohibited. The Water Trail educational sign and brochure include this information.</p>
<p>Biology –Western Snowy Plover <i>References: WT DREIR pp. 3-93 to 3-131 and Figure 3.8.2-3</i></p>	<p>Western snowy plover nesting in San Francisco Bay is associated with emergent or dry salt pond beds, or sometimes levee roads. These habitats are not found in the vicinity of Shimada Friendship Park.</p>	<p>The Water Trail educational sign and brochure include bird avoidance information.</p>
<p>Biology – Harbor Seals <i>References: WT DREIR pp. 3-132 to 3-156, Figure 3.9.2-1, and Tables 3.9.2-1, 3.9.2-2, 3.9.5-1, and 3.9.5-2</i></p>	<p>A secondary haul-out site is located on Brooks Island within four miles of this site.</p>	<p>The WT educational sign, brochure, and website all advise boaters not to land at haul-out sites and to always stay at least 330’ away from hauled-out harbor seals and at least 500’ away from March to July when seals are pupping.</p>

Resource Area	Impacts Analysis	Notes
Cultural Resources	No WT-related construction is proposed. No cultural resources are anticipated to occur. NMSB users are not allowed to land in adjacent wetland habitat, where they could potentially disturb cultural artifacts.	The WT website includes information about avoiding disturbance to cultural artifacts.
Hydrology	No Water Trail related construction is proposed that could result in changes to site hydrology.	There would be no potential for changes to site hydrology from site designation.
Transportation, Circulation, and Parking	Parking during weekends can become congested. The entry road has sufficient capacity for existing and foreseeable future use.	Increased use by non-motorized small boat users is not expected to be great enough to result in overuse.



Richmond Water Trail Sites

- Designated Water Trail Site
- Potential Water Trail Site
- 4 Mile Buffer (from Potential Sites)
- Shipping Channel
- Active Heronry
- Pelican Roost
- Primary or secondary harbor seal haul out site
- Ridgway's/Black Rail



CA Harbor Seal data from Water Trail FEIR. Ridgway's and black rail, Western snowy plover, and heronry data generalized from 2015 California Natural Diversity Database