

# SOUTH FORK PRESERVE



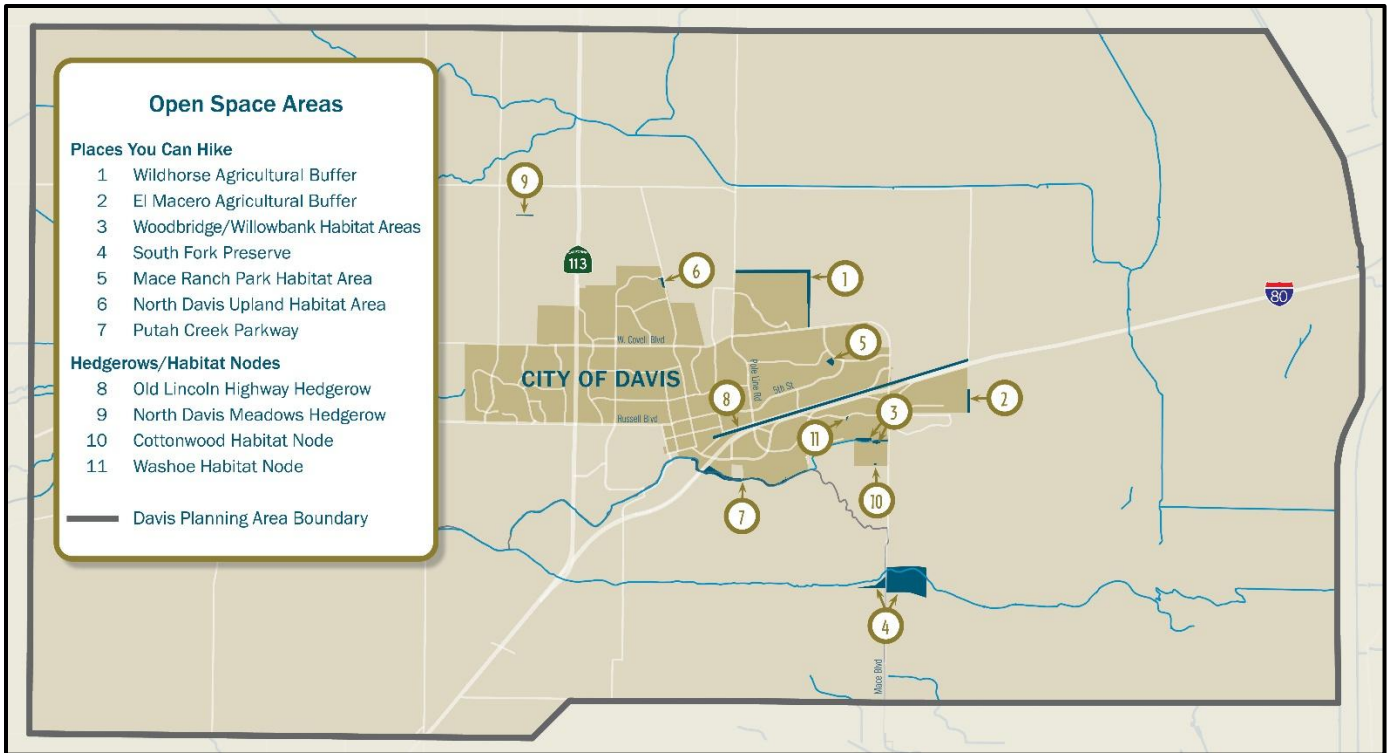
## Overview

At 120 acres, South Fork Preserve is the City's largest open space area. The City purchased the preserve in 1993, when the land was still in row crops. In 1999, the U.S Army Corps of Engineers planted thousands of native trees and shrubs to restore the land's natural riparian, upland, and grassland/oak savannah habitats. In 2017, the City bought 10 acres west of County Road 104 to expand the preserve. The City's Open Space staff manage the preserve as a habitat area and work to establish a native plant community that can successfully compete with undesirable non-native plant species. The preserve offers opportunities to enjoy riparian habitat along the South Fork of Putah Creek, take long hikes, view the creek safely from a large creek overlook, and see the fall salmon run as the fish return to spawning grounds in Winters.

### Key information:

- The preserve features rare riparian habitat, a gravel trail that is accessible to people with disabilities, a short boardwalk and large creek overlook, walking and seasonal trails through the preserve's riparian habitat, 10 interpretive panels, trail signage, trail improvements, and natural seating areas.
- Dogs are not allowed in the preserve, even on leash.
- Watercraft are not allowed to be put in/taken out of the creek at this location.
- Fishing and biking are not allowed.
- Public access is allowed on designated trails only.
- Bathrooms and potable water are not available.
- The preserve is open seven days a week, from dawn to dusk.

South Fork Preserve is part of the City's network of open space areas, maintained by City Open Space staff, as shown on the map below. The cost to maintain these precious areas is paid with funds generated by the City's special open space parcel tax, which was passed by Davis voters in 2000. This parcel tax (commonly known as Measure O) will be up for renewal in 2030. Currently, the parcel tax costs Davis homeowners \$24 per year, and generates about \$700,000 annually for the maintenance and acquisition of open space areas, including the purchase of conservation easements on surrounding farmland.



## Things you can do at South Fork Preserve

- Take a walk/hike/run.
- View birds, fish and wildlife.
- Learn about the area from the interpretive panels.
- Meditate/commune with nature.
- Take a docent-led tour offered by the Putah Creek Council.
- Access nature if you are in a wheelchair.

## Rules and Regulations

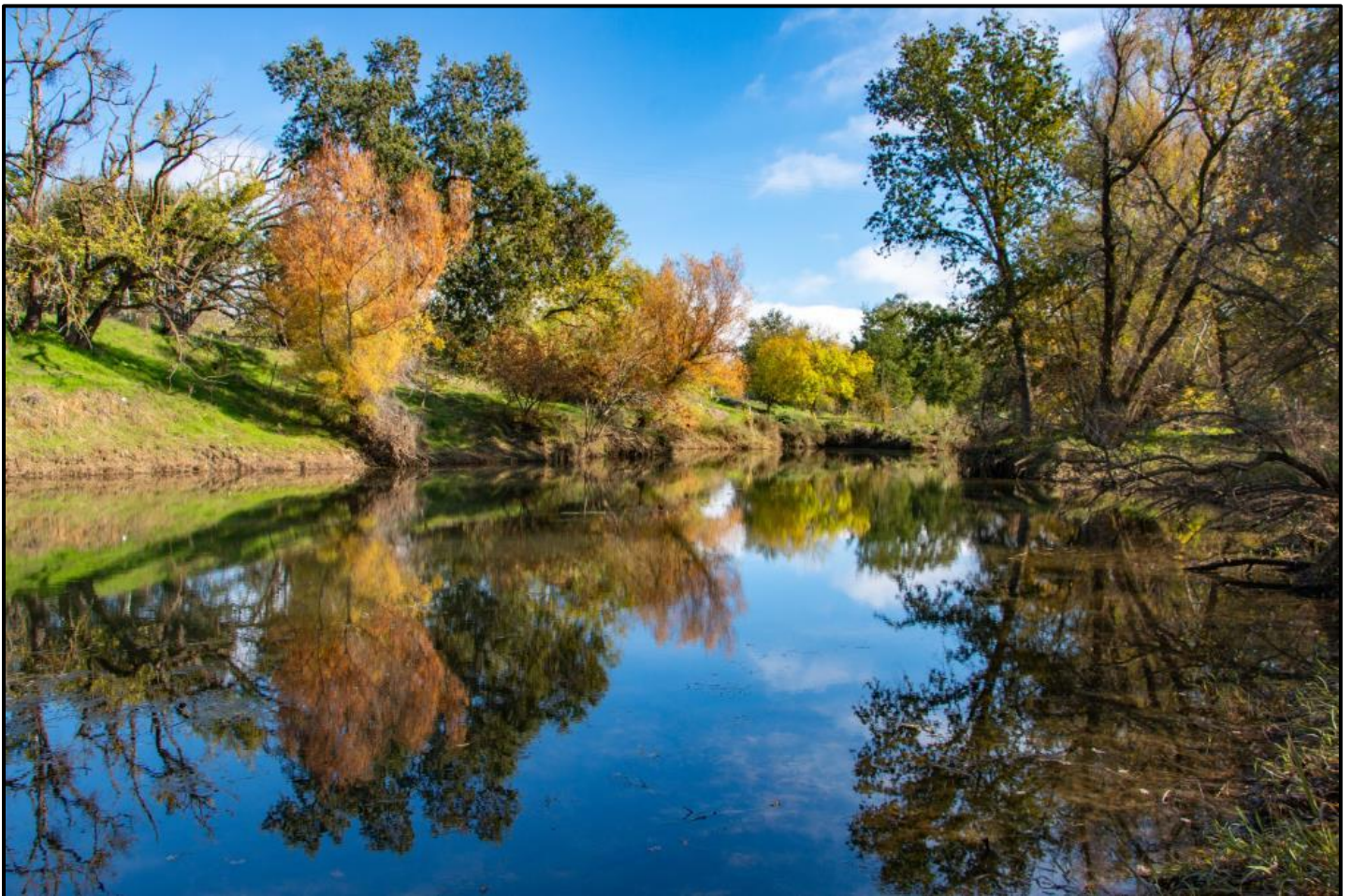
For a complete list of the rules and regulations that govern City open space areas, please see [Municipal Code Article 27.03](#). Key rules and regulations at this location include:

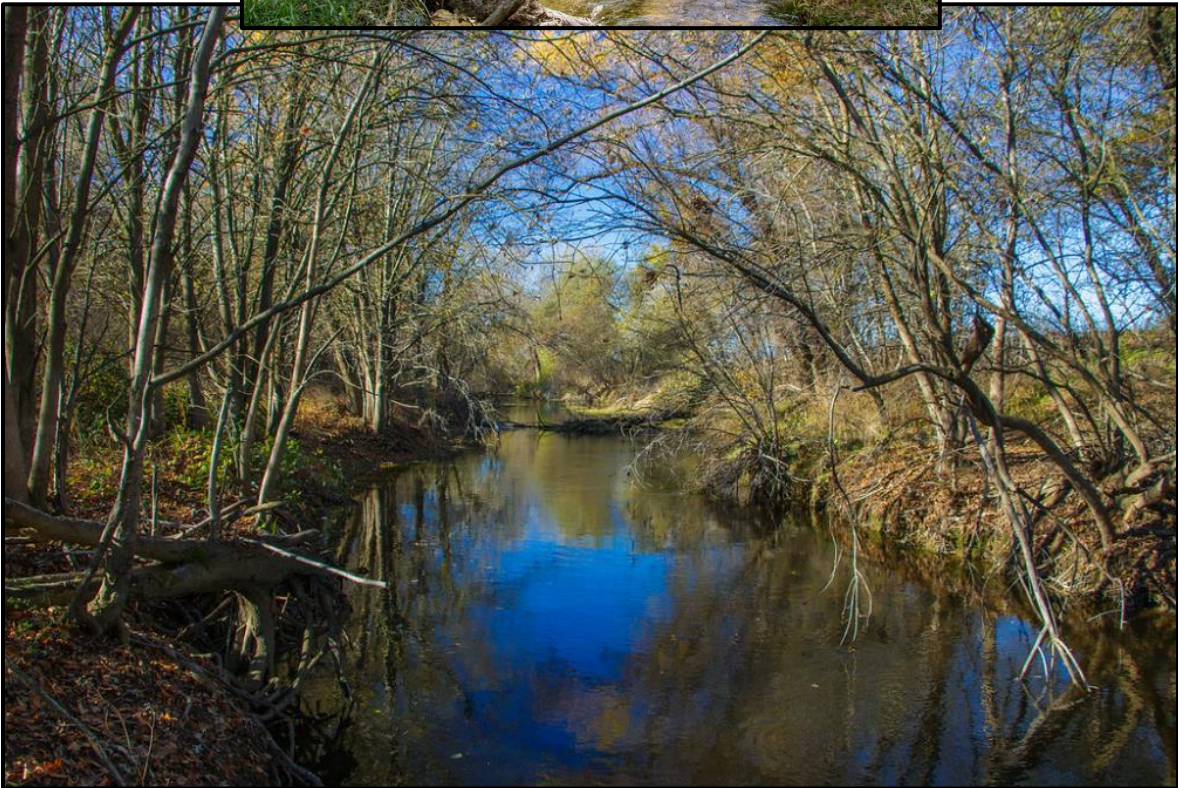
- Dogs are not allowed at this location, even on leash.
- Pedestrians must stay on trails and not walk into the habitat areas.
- No watercraft put-ins and/or take-outs.
- No biking.
- No horseback riding.
- No hunting.
- No fishing.
- No camping.
- No fires.
- No smoking.
- No drones.

## Directions

Take Mace Boulevard south until it turns into County Road 104. Travel approximately 1.5 miles from the City limit (Montgomery Avenue). The preserve will be on your left after you cross over the South Fork of Putah Creek. There is a small gravel parking lot available. Parking is also available along County Road 104.

## Photo Gallery





Some photos courtesy of Marc Hoshovsky.