



THE NATURAL HABITAT on the Sky Ranch, Dutra Ranch and Gustin properties consists of mixed oak woodland, annual and perennial native grasslands, live oak/bay laurel woodland and coastal scrub. The properties hosts four kinds of oak trees—blue oak, coast live oak, valley oak and California black oak. The many native wildflowers include poppies, lupines, yarrow, monkeyflower and Mt. Diablo sunflowers. This area embraces the upper reaches of Alhambra and Rodeo Creeks, supporting many reptiles and amphibians, such as the California red-legged frog and Alameda whipsnake, both threatened species. Many large and small mammals, songbirds and raptors thrive here, as well as other threatened, endangered and special status animal species, including the Golden eagle and Cooper’s hawk. These lands are traversed by the Bay Area Ridge Trail, adding protection to an important segment of its 500 miles.

THE MUIR HERITAGE LAND TRUST (MHLT) purchased the 242-acre Sky Ranch in 1997, the 80-acre Gustin Ranch in 2002 and the 158-acre Dutra Ranch in 2004. Previously, this land had been under threat of development and the purchase of these lands by MHLT ensured that it would be permanently protected and forever remain as it looks today.

MUIR HERITAGE LAND TRUST is a community-based non-profit organization that acquires, restores, and permanently protects open space and wildlife habitat in Contra Costa County. It also provides hiking, wildlife-viewing, and environmental education opportunities to the community on our protected lands. Since 1988, MHLT has preserved nearly 2,000 acres through acquisition and conservation easements. We welcome hikers, bikers and equestrians to enjoy the natural beauty of Dutra Ranch, Sky Ranch and Gustin. If you would like to join us for one of our guided hikes, please contact us at 925-228-5460 or info@muirheritagelandtrust.org.

DIRECTIONS

From Highway 4 eastbound

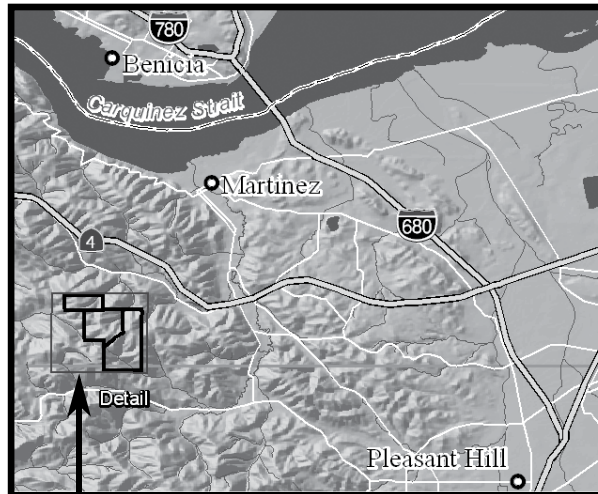
- Exit Alhambra Ave.
- Turn right onto Alhambra Avenue
- Make your first right onto Franklin Canyon Road

From Highway 4 westbound

- Exit Alhambra Ave.
- Turn left onto Alhambra Avenue
- Turn right onto Franklin Canyon Road

Then...

- Continue on Franklin Canyon for one mile
- Turn left onto Dutra Road
- The trailhead, marked “Contra Costa County Feeder Trail #1” is on the left about one-tenth mile up the road. Watch for the yellow “END” sign on the left just before the stables.
- Park on the left side before the trailhead and stables. There is room for about three cars here.
- The feeder trail leads up about one mile to the gate at the entrance of the Sky Ranch property. There is a kiosk here with signs and a map.



MUIR HERITAGE LAND TRUST
Sky Ranch, Dutra Ranch & Gustin Properties



Dutra Ranch, Sky Ranch & Gustin Properties

TRAIL GUIDE

MUIR HERITAGE LAND TRUST
works to ensure a lasting quality of life for future generations by preserving and stewarding open space and fostering environmental awareness.

