

Overall Project Area Proposed Interpretive Elements

Vision Statement

Tolay Lake and its surrounding landscape symbolize a story of balance and a continuum of human history. For thousands of years, people have gathered here for spiritual and healing purposes. The land is a living thing. Today, Tolay Lake unites all aspects of its story – cultural, agricultural, ecological and communal – to revive the spirit of human gathering and discovery in this place.

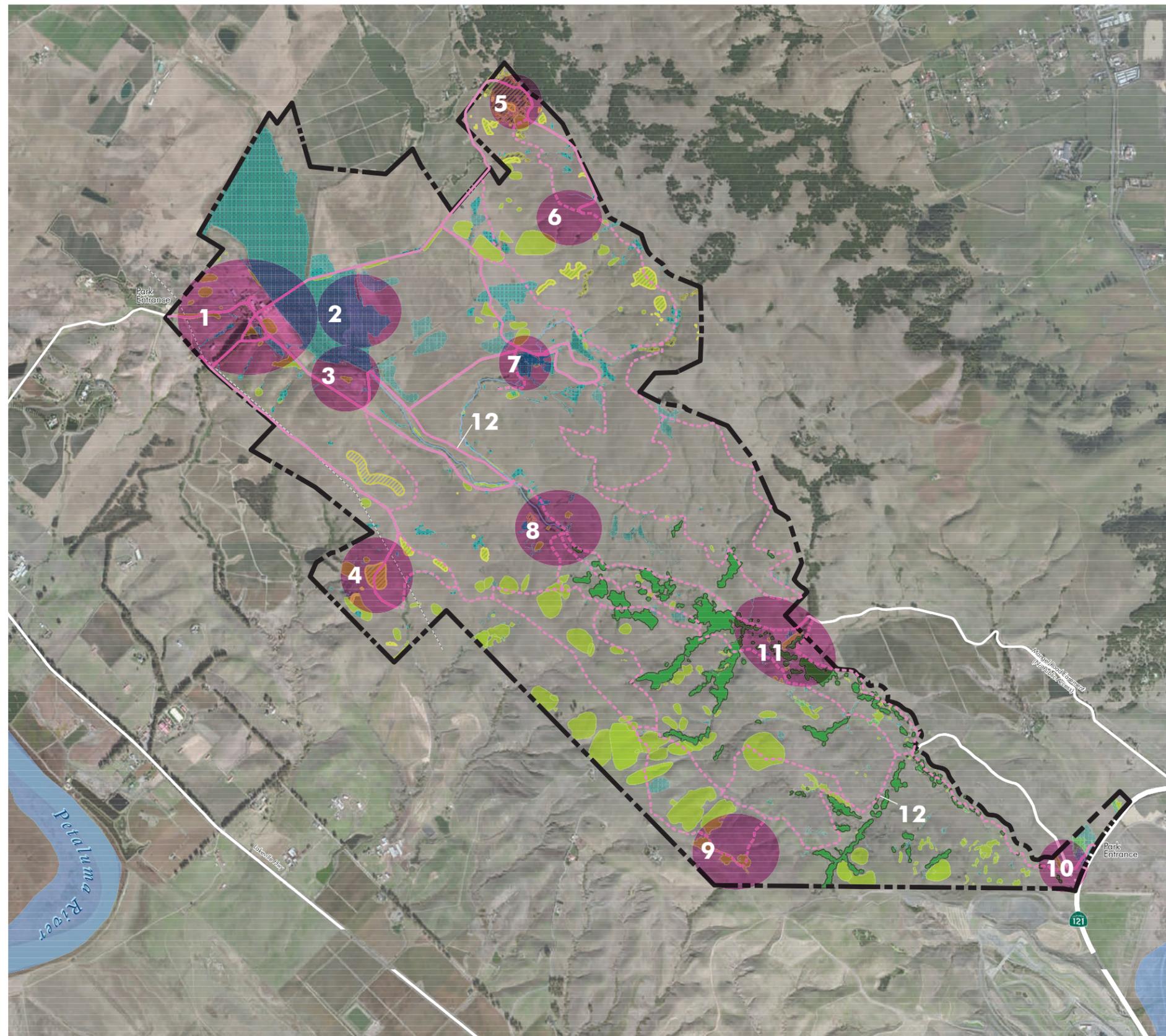
Goals

- All interpretation emphasizes connections, balance, and historic relationships between nature and culture at Tolay Lake
- Interpretation focuses on the past, present, and future of Tolay Lake
- Using a layered approach, interpretation offers a multi-sensory and interactive visitor experience allowing for different degrees of discovery and learning
- Interpretation is cutting-edge, yet reflective; bold, yet in harmony with the natural landscape
- All stories pertaining to Native American culture and heritage will be developed for public education in collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria (FIGR) and with respect to the sacred quality of the landscape and the site's cultural resources. Traditional Coast Miwok language should be featured in exhibits.
- Interpretation aspires to achieve a model of "ethics, love, and beauty" in all endeavors (FIGR proposal 4-4-11)
- Changing exhibits/installations based especially on seasonal changes ensure that visitors always find new things to explore at Tolay Lake
- All interpretive content will be developed to deepen visitors' personal, emotional connections to Tolay Lake thereby cultivating true public stewardship
- All educational efforts will align with the mission of Sonoma County Regional Parks and the County's Healthy Kids Initiative, as well as California history fourth-grade curriculum standards
- Interpretive kiosks, museum exhibits, signage and other interpretive features will be universally accessible (ADA)

Interpretive Story Field Themes (abbreviated)

- 1 - Welcome | Historic Overview (Native Americans, Cardoza Family, Portuguese Settlement + 19th-20th C. Agriculture) | Native Culture Today | Native, Historic + Ethnobotanical Vegetation | Wildlife Diversity | Preservation + Restoration
- 2 - History of Tolay Lake | Cultural Significance | 19th-20th C. Agriculture | Restoration Efforts | Seasonal Changes + Practices | Climate Change | Wildlife Diversity
- 3 - Wildlife Diversity | 19th-20th C. Agriculture
- 4 - Native, Historic + Ethnobotanical Vegetation
- 5 - Native, Historic + Ethnobotanical Vegetation | Wildlife Diversity | 19th-20th C. Site Historic Features
- 6 - Climate Change | Native, Historic + Ethnobotanical Vegetation
- 7 - Riparian Vegetation + Wildlife Diversity | 19th-20th C. Agriculture | Seasonal Changes + Practices
- 8 - Riparian Vegetation + Wildlife Diversity | 19th-20th C. Site Historic Features | Preservation + Restoration
- 9 - Native + Ethnobotanical Vegetation (rock outcrop + serpentine grassland) | Wildlife (butterflies) | Climate Change
- 10 - Welcome | Historic Overview | Native, Historic + Ethnobotanical Vegetation (wetlands) | Wildlife Diversity
- 11 - Riparian Vegetation + Wildlife Diversity (bay-oak woodland)
- 12 - Trail Self-Guided Walking Tours on different themes: Health, Healing + Spiritual Renewal | Native, Historic + Ethnobotanical Vegetation | Wildlife Diversity | 19th-20th C. Site Historic Features

Note: Locations for interpreting Native Culture and History have not yet been established. These will be determined in consultation with FIGR.



Tolay Lake Regional Park Conceptual Interpretive Plan

- Interpretive Story Field
- Self-guided Interpretive Trail Existing
- - - Self-guided Interpretive Trail Proposed
- Project Site

- Existing Conditions:
- Upland Grasslands & Wildflower Fields
 - Water Feature / Wetland
 - Woodlands
 - Sensitive Biological Resources

