# BRANNAN ISLAND & FRANKS TRACT STATE RECREATION AREAS





The mission of the California Department of Parks and Recreation is to provide for the health, inspiration and education of the people of California by helping to preserve the state's extraordinary biological diversity, protecting its most valued natural and cultural resources, and creating opportunities for high-quality outdoor recreation.

#### ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER Governor

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#### www.parks.ca.gov

#### Brannan Island & Franks Tract **State Recreation Areas** 17645 Highway 160

Rio Vista, CA 94571 (916) 777-6671





he Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta—a thousand miles of rivers, sloughs, levees, old river channels and marshes—has become one of the world's outstanding year-round water recreation areas. The climate here is mild, with winter temperatures usually ranging from 45 to 55 degrees, and summer temperatures between 65 and 85. Summer breezes are cooling, but winds up to 25 miles per hour are common. Boaters and swimmers must also be aware of the tides, which can vary as much as six feet in a day.

### **BRANNAN ISLAND**

At the gateway to the Delta, the waterways of 336-acre Brannan Island State Recreation Area offer camping, picnicking, boating, fishing and swimming. Much of the Island, located on the east bank of the Sacramento River, consists of sandy peat, with gently rolling hills covered in grass, brush and trees. Willows, oaks, alders, pines and cottonwoods are among the trees planted here, and much of the lower growth consists of wildflowers such as the California poppy, bush lupin, tree tobacco, the rare Antioch primrose, sweet fennel, milk thistle and tumbleweed. Local wildlife includes jackrabbits, ground squirrels, skunks and snakes, with

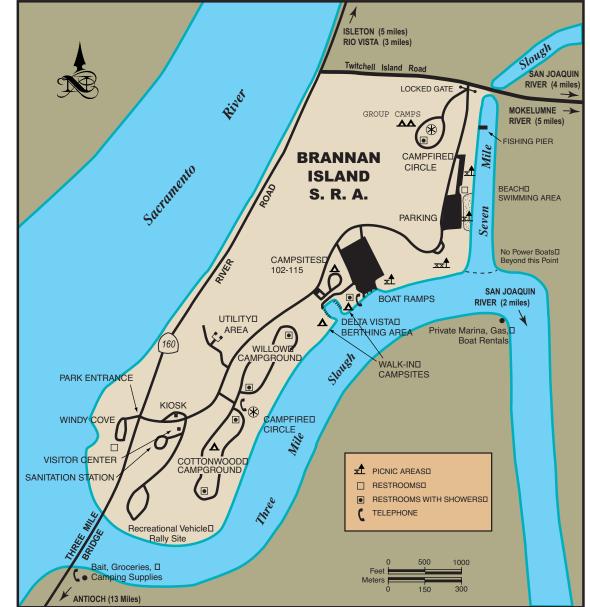
a wide variety of birds including blackbirds, meadowlarks, mockingbirds, pheasants, flickers, sparrows, doves and the burrowing owl.

## DAY USE

The park has a six-lane, accessible boat launching ramp with a large parking area and restrooms nearby. The park's swimming beach on Seven Mile Slough, which is closed to powerboats, has lifeguards on duty during the summer. The large picnic area adjacent to the beach and the group picnic area overlooking Seven and Three Mile Sloughs are generally accessible, with barbecue grills scattered among the picnic tables,

Grand Island RIO VISTA ISLETON TO LODI Brannan Island BRANNAND River **ISLAND** SRA Andrus Island Island Rd Sacramento Twitchell Island Webb Tract Bradford□ Island RIVER Sherman□ Island LITTLE FRANKS TRACTO (submerged) JOAQUIN FRANKSD TRACTD SRA Bethel□ Island SAN Jersey Island Holland Tract ANTIOCH

accessible restrooms and plenty of room for informal blanket picnicking. Restrooms have cold outdoor showers. The group picnic area can accommodate up to 200 people. Reserve it through the park office. Near the entrance, the ramped visitor center offers interpretive displays and publications on the Delta's wildlife, history and fishing tips. Rangers present programs at the Campfire center on Saturday nights in summer. Check to see what's happening during your stay.



### CAMPING

**Family Camping**—The Cottonwood and Willow campgrounds contain 102 developed sites, including five accessible sites, with tables and stoves. Piped drinking water and accessible restrooms are nearby. The sites can accommodate tents, trailers and RVs up to 36 feet, but there are only water hookups. A trailer sanitation station is near the park entrance.

**Boat-in Camping**—There are 32 slips in the Delta Vista Boat Campsite where you can berth your boat overnight. Berths accommodate boats up to 35 feet long and 10 feet wide—wider boats need two berths. One dock is fully accessible. The adjoining walk-in campsites have tables, stoves and cupboards. Drinking water and a restroom with hot showers are nearby.

**Group Camping**—Each of the park's six group campsites will accommodate up to 30 people and ten vehicles. You may reserve more than one site for larger groups. The sites offer tables, stoves, showers, toilets and drinking water, and can accommodate RVs up to 36 feet in length. There is also a campfire center and horseshoe pits in the group area.





Family and group camping reservations may be made by phone up to 7 months in advance by calling 1-800-444-7275. Reservation fees can be charged to your Visa<sup>®</sup>, MasterCard<sup>®</sup> or Discover<sup>®</sup> Card. You may also make reservations on the Internet at *www.parks.ca.gov*, or by mail. Call 1-800-444-7275 for instructions on mail reservations—allow 14 days for processing and mailing.

## FISHING

Anglers catch striped bass, sturgeon, catfish, black bass, bluegill, crappie, perch, bullhead and an occasional salmon or steelhead in the river and sloughs around the parks. Some of the striped bass taken here have weighed 30 to 40 pounds. A California fishing license is required, and may be purchased at the many marinas, bait shops and supply stores throughout the Delta.

# FRANKS TRACT

Five miles southeast of Brannan Island, Franks Tract State Recreation Area, with most of its acreage underwater, is accessible only by boat. The part that is above the water line is covered in willows, alders and cottonwoods, with a dense growth of berry vines and tules. Wildlife includes muskrats, beavers, foxes, raccoons, river otters and mink, with a variety of bird life.

Boating and waterskiing are popular here, and the flooded island provides an exceptionally productive fishing area.

## PLEASE REMEMBER

- Fires are not allowed except in the barbecues provided, or in your own camp stove or portable barbecue in the camp and picnic areas. Shrubs and grasses here become tinder-dry in summer. Make sure fires are out and cold before leaving. You can buy firewood at the entrance station or from the campground host.
- Don't dig caves in the sandy cliffs and banks they always collapse, sometimes with disastrous results.
- Drive only on designated roads and parking areas, and observe posted speed limits.
- Keep your dog on leash, and in your vehicle or tent at night. Dogs are not permitted on the swimming beach.
- All wildlife is protected. Hunting and loaded guns are not permitted.
- Alcoholic beverages are prohibited in day-use areas.
- Help keep your parks clean-don't litter.