



For Immediate Release:

Monday, November 24, 2003

Contact:

Dick Wayman

510-286-4182

Susan DeVico

415-434-8220

South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Appoints 28-Member Stakeholder Forum to Assist with Restoration Planning

First Meeting Scheduled for December 4, 2003

The Project Management Team for the South Bay Salt Pond Restoration, the largest tidal wetland restoration project on the West Coast, announced the appointment of a 28 member Stakeholder Forum to provide input into the restoration of 15,100 acres of industrial salt ponds along the southern edge of San Francisco Bay.

“We are honored to have such a diverse and talented group of individuals providing input into development of this historic restoration plan,” commented Nadine Hitchcock, San Francisco Bay Program Manager for the State Coastal Conservancy, one of three agencies managing the project. “The Stakeholder Forum serves as the cornerstone of our collaborative planning process.”

The Stakeholder Forum will meet regularly to provide publicly-derived input to the Project Management Team on the three major components of the plan: habitat restoration, public access and flood management.

The Stakeholder Forum includes a broad array of interested parties from around the Bay including environmentalists, recreation advocates, business and development interests, local elected officials, and representatives from public works agencies, local school districts and community organizations. Members were selected from a pool of applicants with a demonstrated interest in the restoration plan and a commitment to working collaboratively.

The first meeting of the Stakeholder Forum is scheduled for Thursday, December 4, 2003 from 1:00 to 5:00 pm at the Palo Alto Community Center at 1313 Newell Rd. in Palo Alto. Stakeholder Forum meetings will be open to the public and agenda and meeting notes will be posted on the project web site at www.southbayrestoration.org.

The South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project is managed collaboratively by the Coastal Conservancy, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the California Department of Fish and Game, with the intent of restoring and enhancing critical tidal marsh wetlands for endangered species, providing managed pond habitat for migratory birds, integrating flood management for local communities into the restoration project, and providing public access for wildlife-

oriented recreation and education. The Coastal Conservancy is a state agency that works with the people of California to protect and improve the coast and San Francisco Bay.

South Bay Salt Ponds Stakeholder Forum Members (DRAFT)

1. Phil Bobel, City of Palo Alto Department of Public Works
2. Felicia Borrego, Save San Francisco Bay Association
3. Craig Breon, Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society
4. Margaret Bruce, Silicon Valley Manufacturing Group
5. Dan Bruinsma, City of San Jose Environmental Services Department
6. Robert Douglass and Barbara Ransom, Cargill Salt Company
7. Peter Dunne, Eden Shores Homes Homeowners Association
8. Arthur Feinstein, Citizens Committee to Complete the Refuge
9. Bill Gaines, California Waterfowl Association
10. Councilmember Joseph Hilson, City of Hayward
11. Melissa Hippard, Lome Prieta Chapter, Sierra Club
12. Marc Holmes, The Bay Institute
13. Ellen Johnck, Bay Planning Coalition
14. Rochelle Johnson, Environmental Justice Coalition for Water
15. Tom Laine, Alviso resident
16. Jane Lavelle, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission
17. Mondy Lariz, Stevens and Permanente Creek Watershed Council, Cal Trout
18. Janet McBride, ABAG/San Francisco Bay Trail
19. Jim McGrath, Port of Oakland
20. Mayor Julie Miller, City of Sunnyvale
21. Sandy Olliges, NASA/Ames, Moffett Field
22. Brad Olsen, East Bay Regional Park District
23. Russ Robinson, South Bay Yacht Club, Alviso
24. Ana Ruiz, Mid-Peninsula Open Space District
25. John Rusmiser, Alameda County Mosquito Abatement District
26. Richard Santos, Director, Santa Clara Valley Water District
27. Mike Sellors, National Audubon Society
28. Denise Stevens, Principal, Mayne Elementary School, Alviso

