





# Ravenswood Working Group Meeting

 South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project   

Ravenswood Working  
Group Meeting

*Onetta Harris Community Center*

*January 17, 2008*

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 South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project   

Today's Working Group Meeting

- Welcome and Introductions
- Working Group Charter
- Final EIS/R Overview
- Refuge Public Use Compatibility Determinations
- Phase 1 in the Ravenswood Pond Complex
- Funding Opportunities
- SBSP Project Schedule
- Next Steps

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 South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project   

Ravenswood Working  
Group Charter

*See Handout*

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# Ravenswood Working Group Meeting



## Overall Project Schedule

- Final EIS/EIR – Federal Register Notice December 28, 2007
- Record of Decision (including Compatibility Determinations) and Permitting – Early 2008
- Phase 1 Implementation – 2008 thru 2010
- Future actions and phases – the next 30+ years

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## Final EIS/EIR and Overview of Changes

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## Basic Elements of Final EIS/R

- Project approach is unchanged.
- Alternatives B (50:50) and C (90:10) have only minor changes.
- Phase 1 has only minor changes.
- Funding has been and will continue to be key to implementation.

3,395 pages

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# Ravenswood Working Group Meeting

**South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project**

## Major Comment Areas (from 114 total commenters)

- Relationship to the South San Francisco Bay Shoreline Study;
- Scope of the EIS/R;
- Preferred Alternative;
- Adaptive Management Plan Funding;
- Aircraft Bird Strikes;

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**South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project**

## Major Comment Areas (continued)

- Public Access and Impacts to Wildlife;
- Wildlife Impact Significance Thresholds;
- Flooding;
- Impacts of Sea Level Rise;
- Hunting; and
- Invasive Spartina and Other Invasive Species.

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**South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project**

## Changes in Final EIS/R

- The Corps no longer a co-lead agency.
- A Public Access Adaptive Management staircase diagram added.
- A figure displaying the DESFBNWR acquisition area included.

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# Ravenswood Working Group Meeting

 South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project   

## Refuge Public Use Compatibility Determinations

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 South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project   

## National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997

- Requires completing Compatibility Determinations for public uses
- Recognizes that wildlife-dependent recreational uses involving *hunting, fishing, wildlife observation and photography, and environmental education and interpretation*, when determined to be compatible, are legitimate and appropriate public uses of the Refuge System

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 South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project   

## Factors Considered in Making a Compatibility Determination

- Impacts to Biological and other Resources
- Consistency with the Refuge Purpose and the Mission of the Refuge System
- Potential for Conflicts Among Uses
- Availability of Funding, Personnel and Facilities
- Public Safety
- Quality of the Experience

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 South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project   

## How Will Compatibility Determinations Work for this Project?

- EIS/R describes proposed public use facilities and areas
- EIS/R lists "Preliminary Phase 1 Action Compatible Uses"
- FWS will perform a compatibility determination for each potential use, including restrictions on those uses
- Compatibility determinations will feed into the Record of Decision for the SBSP Restoration Project

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 South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project   

## Ravenswood Preliminary Phase 1 Action Compatible Uses

- Wildlife Observation
- Wildlife Photography
- Environmental Education
- Environmental Interpretation
- Hiking
- Jogging

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 South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project   

## Phase 1 in the Ravenswood Pond Complex

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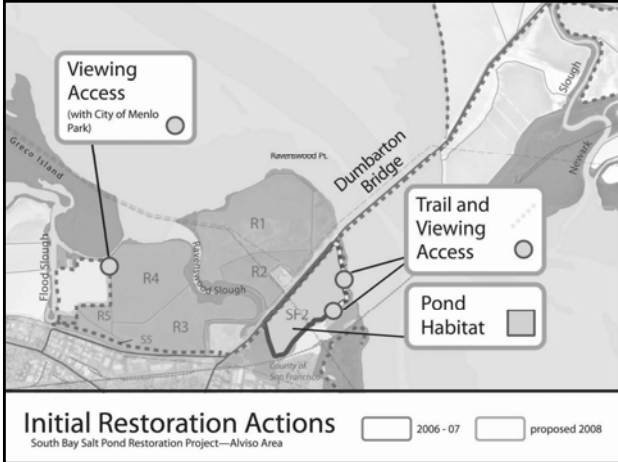
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# Ravenswood Working Group Meeting




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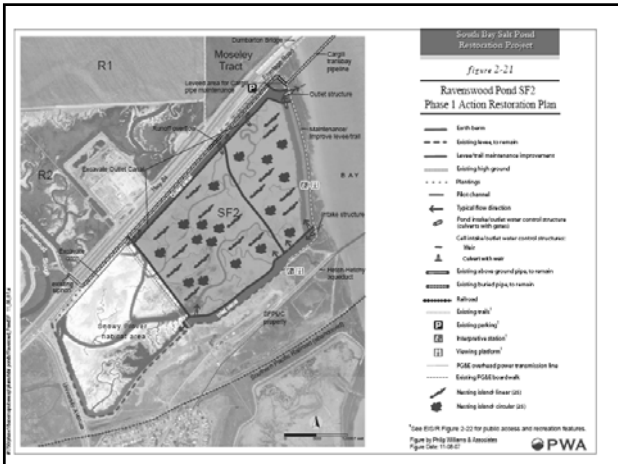
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**South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project**

Phase 1 Applied Studies

- Will pond reconfiguration to include numerous islands, and water-level management, result in a high density of nesting and foraging shorebirds within Pond SF2?
- Does island shape and density affect nesting success?
- Does vegetation type and density affect nesting success on the islands?
- Does passive human activity on trails affect nesting success on nearby islands?

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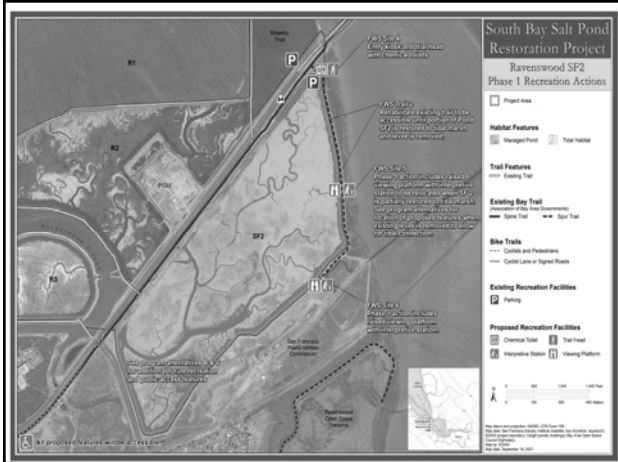
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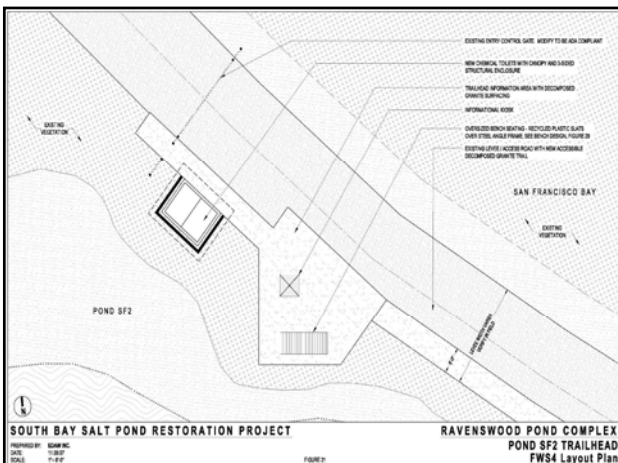
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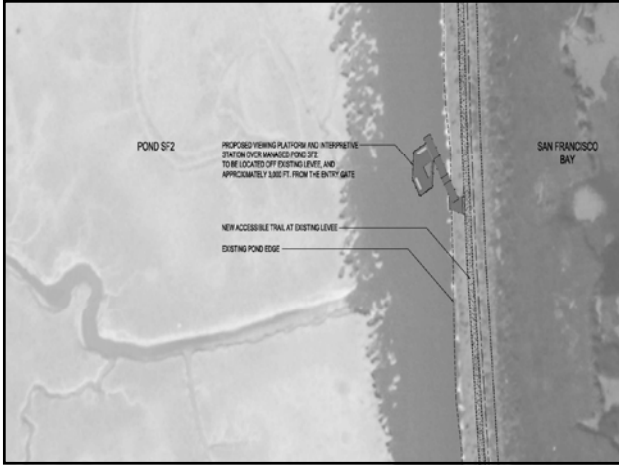
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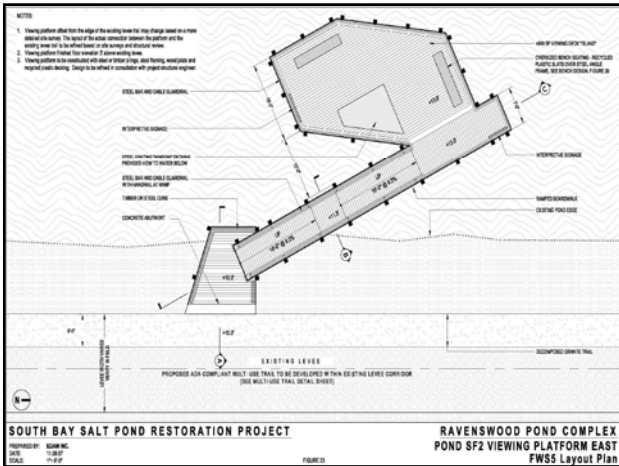
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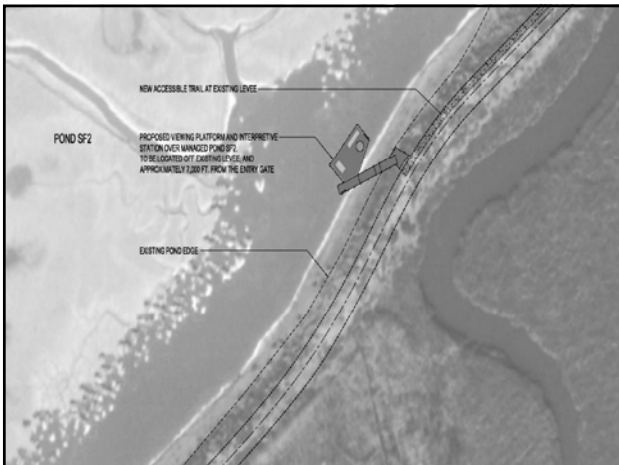
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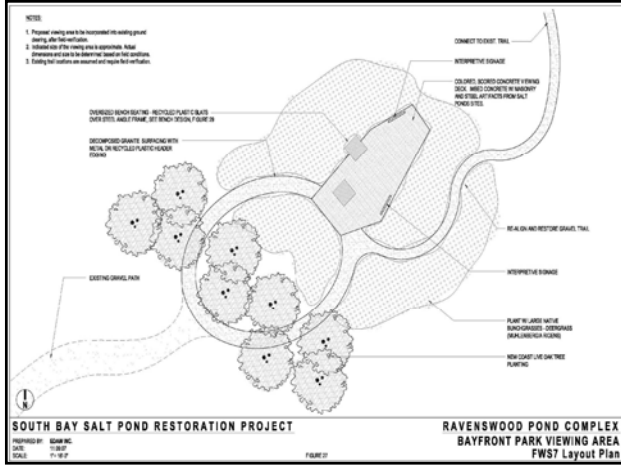
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## South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project

QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION

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## South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project

### Funding Opportunities

- USFWS carryover funds
- USFWS FY '08 appropriation
- Menlo Park Bay Account
- Caltrans mitigation
- Coastal Conservancy grant(s)

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# Ravenswood Working Group Meeting



## Ravenswood Schedule

- BCDC – First Design Review Board December 10, 2007; Second Design Review Board March 11, 2008
- BCDC and Water Board hearings – April or May, 2008
- CDs and Record of Decision – April or May 2008
- Phase 1 Design completion – May 2008
- Start construction – Summer 2008

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## Questions & Discussion

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## Next Steps

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