

South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project



A San Francisco Bay project provided by
the California Department of Fish & Game,
Coastal Conservancy and
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Eden Landing Working Group

(A Subcommittee of the South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project
& the Lower Alameda Creek Stewardship Committee)

CHARTER (final)

August 10, 2007

Background

The **South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project (SBSP project)** is the most ambitious wetlands restoration on the west coast of North America. The project's 50-year vision is restoration of 15,100 acres of former salt production ponds in San Francisco Bay to tidal and managed wetlands habitats. The project offers an opportunity to restore a huge percentage of tidal marsh lost in the Bay to promote recovery of several endangered species and to manage wetlands to benefit a suite of native species, while improving flood management, public access and recreational opportunities for the South Bay's three million residents.

Phase 1 of the restoration project calls for construction of new trails, kayak access and viewing platforms in the Eden Landing ponds complex. In addition, some of the existing ponds will be re-configured to encourage increased bird use for foraging and nesting.

The Working Group will provide input and advice to the project partners on project activities proposed for the Eden Landing pond complex.

Mission

The mission of the Working Group is to:

- Provide a forum for active collaborative dialogue among community members and project managers on Phase 1 activities in the Eden Landing area **that include habitat restoration and wildlife protection, public access and recreation improvements,*** and flood protection planning
- Help develop ways to more actively engage the general public in supporting future project funding needs.

Roles and Responsibilities:

The Eden Landing Working Group is a subcommittee of both the SBSP Project's Stakeholder Forum and the Lower Alameda Creek Stewardship Committee which is convened by the Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District. (The

*text in blue added based on feedback from participants in first Working Group meeting on July 27, 2007

SBSP Project Stakeholder Forum is the principal public advisory body for the Project, and will continue to meet periodically throughout Phase 1.)

Over the next two years, Work Group members will:

- Provide input on the proposed public access improvements including new trail alignments, a kayak launch, and interpretive signage
- Provide input on the pond reconfiguration proposed for actions in Ponds E-12 and E-13
- Provide feedback on the tidal restoration proposed for Ponds E8A, E9 and E8X
- Provide feedback on proposed Phase 1 research and applied studies
- Help foster local support for funding of Phase 1 and future activities
- Help identify public outreach opportunities to raise awareness of the Project throughout the Hayward/Union City area

Membership

Work Group membership consists of interested members of the public who live, work and/or recreate within the Hayward/Union City area. Members may represent the following organizations or interests:

- SBSP Project Stakeholder Forum
- Private industry and Chambers of Commerce
- Local and State elected officials and/or their staff from Hayward, Union City, Fremont
- Neighborhood and Homeowners associations
- Environmental groups
- Municipal and county public works and planning departments/agencies
- State, Municipal, county and regional transportation and/or economic development agencies/organizations
- Private utilities, such as Pacific Gas & Electric Co. and retail water companies/agencies
- Recreational interests (e.g., fishing, boating, bicycling, hiking, birding, hunting)

The Chair of the Eden Landing Working Group is John Krause, Biologist with the California Department of Fish and Game and manager of the Eden Landing Ecological Reserve.

Meeting Frequency

The Work Group will meet about two to four times a year. The meetings will be professionally facilitated, to help participants to provide focused review, discussion and input to the South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project Management Team.

Timeframe

Phase I projects of the SBSP project are expected to be completed by the end of 2010. Work Group members are encouraged to remain active at least through completion of Phase 1.

Protocols and Decision-Making

The Working Group will provide input and feedback to the Project partners and to the Project Stakeholder Forum, and all recommendations stemming from the Working Group will be carefully considered by the project partners. Decision-making on any Phase 1 and future actions in the Eden Landing Ponds area resides with the project partners, and ultimately with the Department of Fish and Game, the landowning agency.

Working Group members will be expected to report back to their peers and constituent groups on a regular basis, and to bring forward any concerns from their communities to the Working Group.