

South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project

Local Government Forum

Thursday, July 7, 2005

10:00 am to 12:00 noon

City of Milpitas, City Hall



1

Presentation Overview

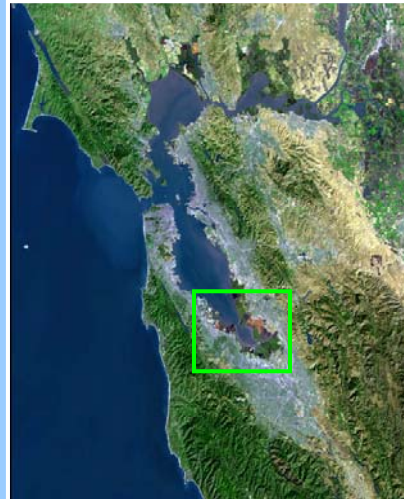
1. Provide update on restoration planning process;
2. Explain process for formulation of draft alternatives for EIS/EIR analysis and describe recent changes in draft alternatives based on input received;
3. Present status of Initial Stewardship Plan;
4. Discuss Phase 1 Action Selection Criteria;
5. Discuss upcoming project site tour opportunities; and
6. Outline next steps in planning process.



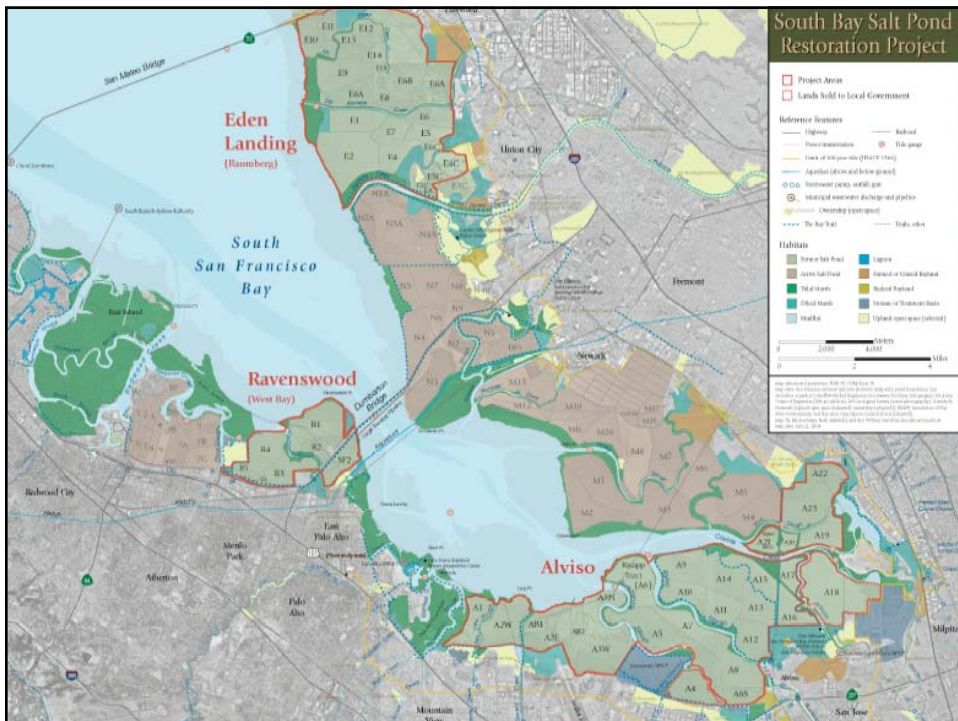
2

Restoration Planning Process – *Where are we today?*

- Restoration Planning Process Status
 - Alternatives development
 - Science activities
- So. San Francisco Bay Shoreline Study
- Project Schedule
- Initial Stewardship Activities and Issues
- Determining Phase 1



3



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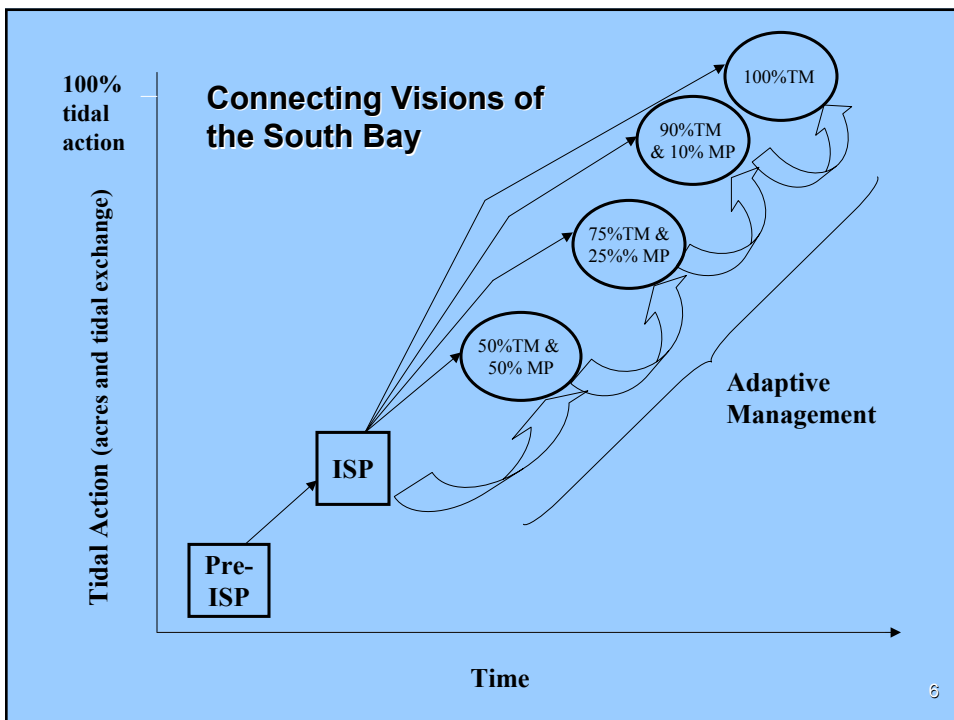


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Alternatives Development

- Identification of the range of options
 - Last fall
- Identification of Preliminary Alternatives
 - December 2004
- Analysis at landscape scale
 - Happening now
- Identification of “Final” Alternatives
 - Those for EIS/EIR review
 - December 2005

5





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Science Activities

- Sediment Workshops
- Birds and Habitats Workshops
- Fish and Aquatic Habitats Workshop
- Pond A8 Work Group
- Island Pond Work Group
- Adaptive Management Plan Development

7



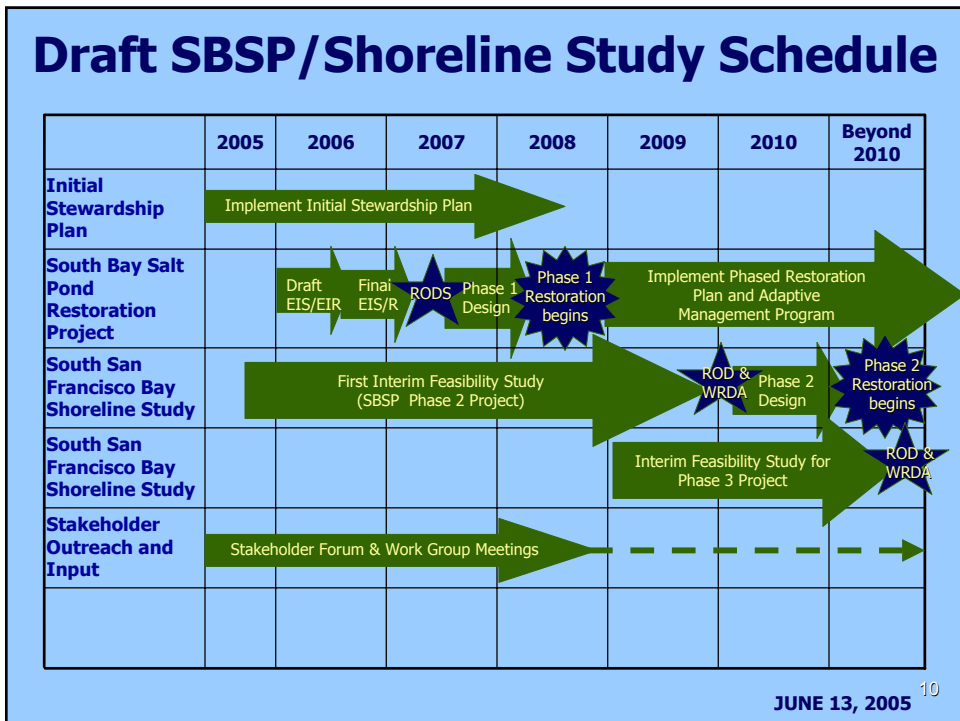
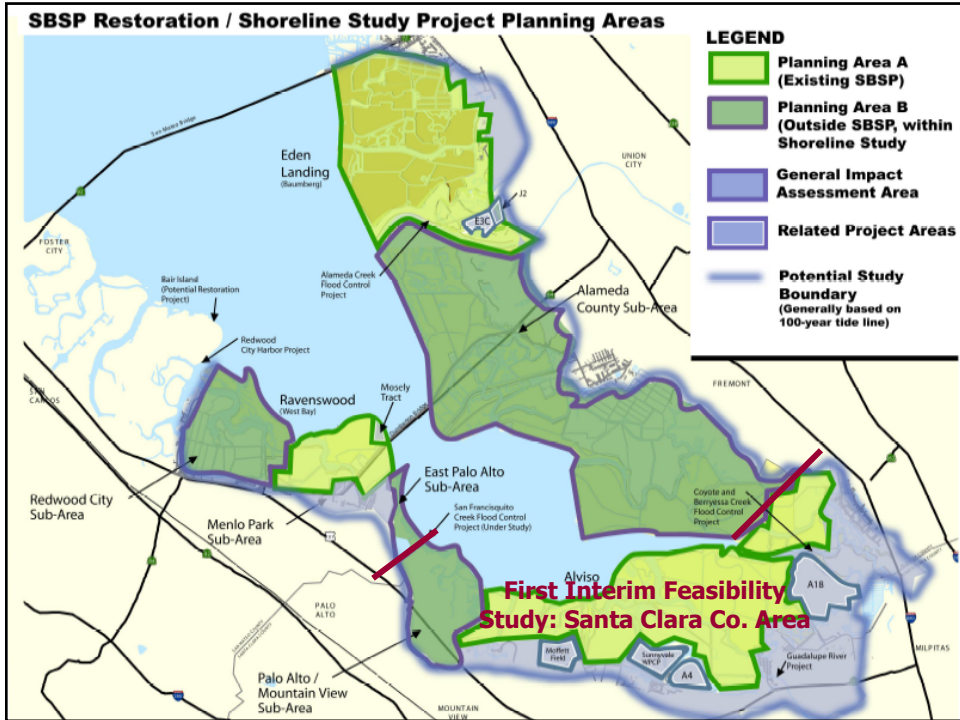
South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project

Salt Pond Project - Shoreline Study Integration: A Common Purpose

- A multi-purpose project that will provide an integrated plan for environmental restoration of the South San Francisco Bay Salt Ponds, tidal and fluvial flood protection of the South San Francisco Bay Shoreline (Redwood Creek to Highway 92), and related public access and recreation improvements.

8

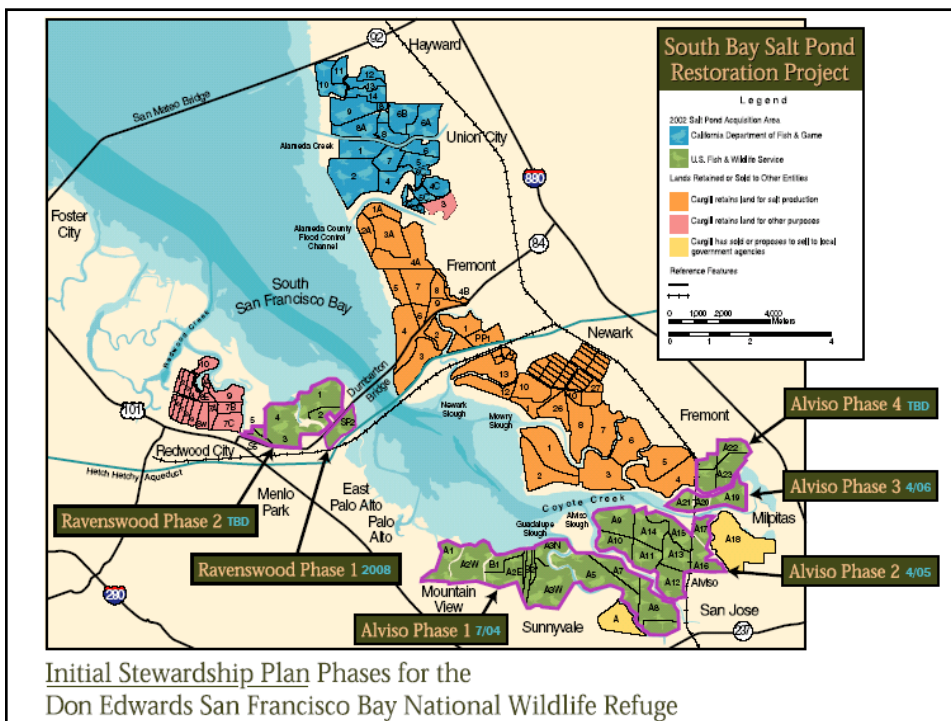
Local Government Forum (7-7-05) Presentation



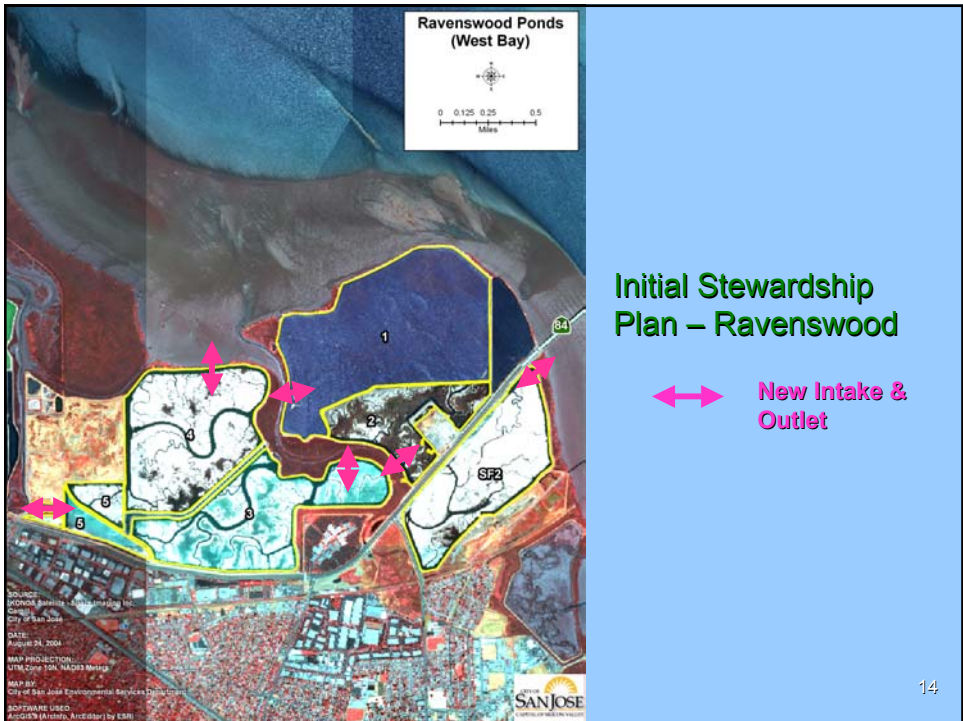
Key Dates for Public Involvement

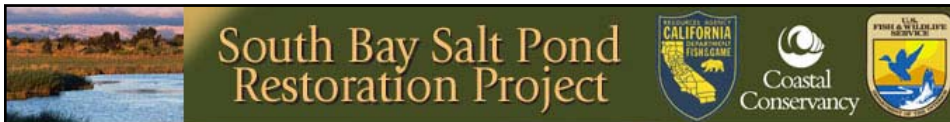
- Stakeholder Forum Meetings:
 - Project Alternatives, Adaptive Management Plan and Phase 1 Actions – July 13
 - Weighting and Ranking Exercise (Joint Meeting with Work Groups) – Oct. 13
 - Seek Consensus on Project Alternatives and Phase 1 Actions – December 14
- National Science Panel Meeting - Nov. 7-8
- Local Government Forum: Final Alternatives Development Update – December 7

11



Local Government Forum (7-7-05) Presentation





South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project

Initial Stewardship Update - USFWS

- Phase 1 executed in July 2004 to provide circulation of waters through water controls structures in Ponds A1 through A8 located in Mountain View, Sunnyvale and Alviso.
- Phase 1 resulted in a rapid decrease in pond salinity and water depth resulting in a positive response by migratory birds - Bird use increased 133%.

15

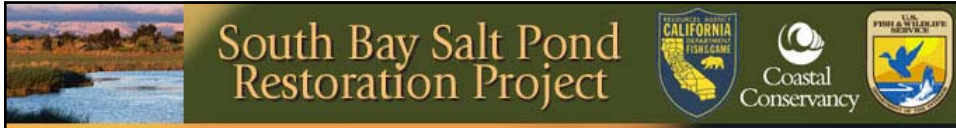


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Initial Stewardship Update - USFWS

- Phase 2 of the ISP provides water circulation through Ponds A9 through A17 located in Alviso between Alviso Slough and Coyote Creek.
- Phase 3 to be implemented in spring of 2006. This will involve breaching to Coyote Creek, the Ponds A19, 20, and 21 levees allowing tidal marsh restoration.
- All phases to be monitored to gain information that can be applied to the South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project (SBSP).

16



South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project

Initial Stewardship Update - USFWS

- Low dissolved oxygen in the ponds and slough channels has resulted from operation of the ponds.
- No negative impacts to the aquatic environment have been detected from the low dissolved oxygen.
- Changes to address low dissolved oxygen concern include additional water quality monitoring, installation of a baffle system in Pond A3W, solar aerators in Pond A7, and installation of a transmitter on Pond A7 to be able to receive water quality results 24/7 via the internet.

17

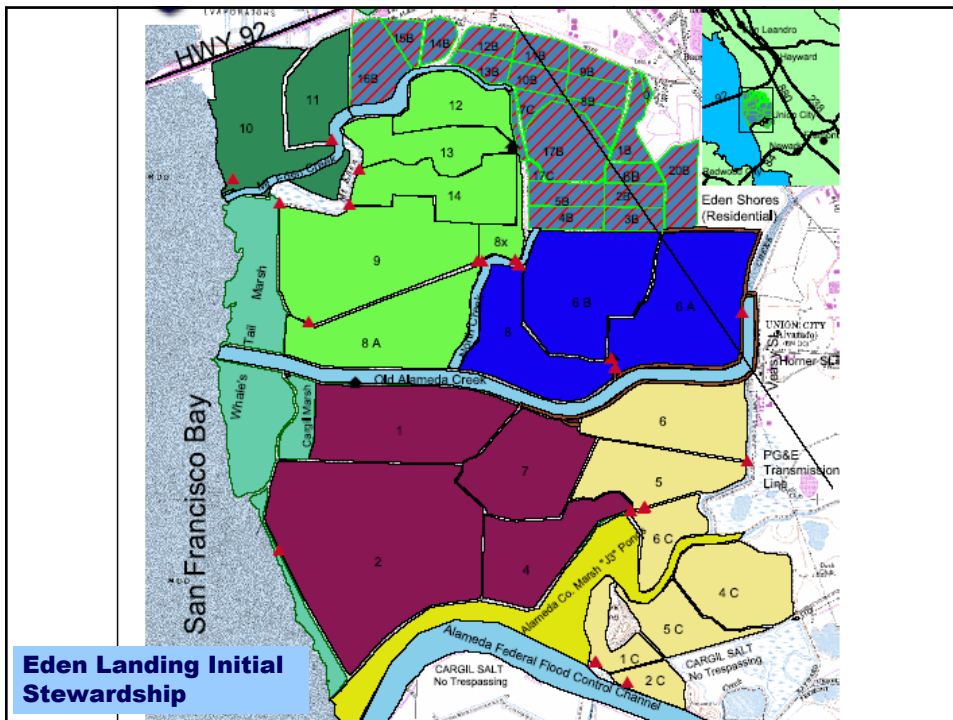


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Initial Stewardship Update - DFG

- In early 2005, work for levee maintenance operations and other associated improvements to the Pond 2 and 2c systems was initiated and is expected to be completed in July.
- In April, DFG began operating the 2c system (~950-ac) discharging to Alameda Creek Flood Control Channel.

24



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Initial Stewardship Update - DFG

- April 29, first breach for North Creek to Old Alameda Creek was implemented. This action restored approximately 1 mile of tidal channel and will be the tidal source for the southern portion of the existing Eden Landing restoration project.
- The final phase will include construction of the new water control structure for Pond 10, thereby allowing full operation of the Pond 11 system with the SF Bay breach for Mt. Eden Creek. The North Creek breach now allows operation of the ISP for the pond 8A system, which began in May.

25



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Initial Stewardship Update - DFG

- In the fall, we expect to complete construction of the water control structure into Old Alameda Creek for the operation of the pond 6A system.

26

Determining Phase 1 Actions

- **Final Alternatives will include a set of Phase 1 actions**
- **Could include restoration actions as well as applied studies**
- **What will be in Phase 1?**

27

Phase 1 Selection Criteria

- **Available funding**
 - What is the amount of funding needed to carry out the action?
 - Is that funding likely to be available?
 - Who will be providing it?
- **Likelihood of success**
 - Will the action produce the desired result?
 - Will the action be likely to demonstrate progress toward achieving the Project Objectives?

28

Phase 1 Selection Criteria - Continued

- **Ease of implementation**
 - Will it be permitted in a timely manner?
 - Can construction commence in a timely manner?
- **Visibility and accessibility**
 - Will the results be visible and accessible to the public?
 - Will the results be visible and accessible to decision makers?

29

Phase 1 Selection Criteria - Continued

- **Opportunities for adaptive management and applied studies**
 - Can we implement high priority studies to answer key questions identified in the Science Plan for Long-Term Planning and the Charette Report?
 - In particular managed ponds are important to test.
- **Value in building support for Project**
 - Do the Phase 1 actions need to be distributed throughout the Project Area?

30

Phase 1 Selection Criteria - Continued

- **Certainty of investment**
 - Is there risk that the investment in capital facilities will be lost due to adaptive management changes in subsequent years?
- **Others?**

If you have any thoughts on the criteria or particular Phase 1 actions, please submit by e-mail or letter to Steve Ritchie.

sritchie@scc.ca.gov

31



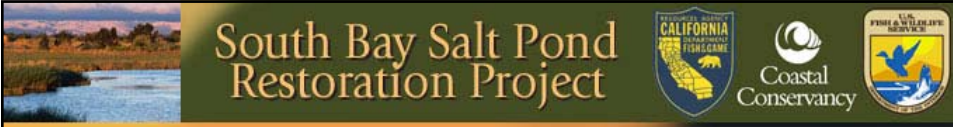
The banner features a landscape photo of a salt pond on the left. To its right, the text "South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project" is displayed in a serif font. Further right are three logos: the California Department of Fish and Game logo, the Coastal Conservancy logo, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service logo.

Upcoming Project Site Tours

- July 25 – Ponds Near Moffett Field
- August 1 – Pond A8 and the Island Ponds
- August 23 – Eden Landing

All tours to focus on potential Phase I actions, pond specific issues, and potential public access components

32



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Conclusion

- Progress continuing
- Activities proceeding in parallel
- Staying on schedule for ROD in 2007, restoration formally commencing in 2008

33