

Exhibit 3: Site Photographs



Looking north at Lower Redwood Creek and Muir Beach from the Coastal Trail on adjacent coastal hill. Note former floodplain, currently cut off from creek, which will be restored to riparian scrub and forest. Also note parking lot, which will be relocated out of a portion of the floodplain.



Looking northwest across Green Gulch Pasture, a portion of Redwood Creek's floodplain that is currently cut off from the creek by the levee road. The levee road is visible as the boundary between non-native pasture vegetation and riparian scrub and forest vegetation.

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The project will realign a portion of Redwood Creek through this pasture and remove the levee road so that the whole floodplain will be connected to the creek.



Looking southwest at freshwater emergent wetlands in the Green Gulch Pasture, with the coastal hills in the background. These wetlands are artificially sustained by the levee road and a flashboard weir, and provide habitat for the federally threatened California red-legged frog. The project will create groundwater fed emergent wetlands to provide sustainable habitat for the frog.

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Looking southwest at the levee road, inundated by a flood event, and downstream at one of the main channels of Redwood Creek. This photo shows flows moving from the creek channel onto the levee road. The channel bed (on the right in the photo) is so aggraded that it is almost as high as the levee and actually higher than the pasture on the opposite side of the levee. Consequently, it has little flow capacity and is highly unstable. This sort of flow pattern can strand fish outside the creek channel. Stranded fish have difficulty returning to the creek.

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One of two culverts under the levee road that provide the only access for salmonids stranded in the Green Gulch pasture by high flows to return to Redwood Creek. The levee road will be removed as part of the project.

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Looking north at riparian vegetation on left bank of Redwood Creek upstream of Pacific Way bridge. Note that invasive, non-native cape ivy dominates understory in the middle and background of the photo. Also note that alders have died due to prolonged inundation related to the undersized Pacific Way bridge. The project will remove cape ivy and other non-native invasives, and will restore riparian forest in this area.

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Looking northwest towards the Pacific Ocean at a portion of the tidal lagoon. Photo was taken when the beach berm was open. The project will expand and enhance the tidal lagoon, by removing fill that was placed on the landward side of the lagoon, and installing large woody debris to enhance habitat for salmonids and other fish.

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Looking west at Pacific Way (road into Muir Beach) during December 2005 flood. Note undersized bridge in background, past yellow “Narrow Bridge” sign. The project will realign the creek channel to its natural location in the foreground, and construct a bridge that will span the floodplain and will therefore not constrain flows.



Looking upstream from Pacific Way bridge during Dec 2005 flood. Alder Grove in right background has died due to prolonged inundation. The project will restore riparian forest to this area.

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Looking southeast across the kikuyu grass-dominated brackish marsh adjacent to the existing parking lot. The proposed project would remove the invasive non-native kikuyu grass from this wetland, and revegetate with native species. The parking lot, which is on a fill pad, would be removed from this area.