



CITIZENS COMMITTEE TO COMPLETE THE REFUGE

453 Tennessee Lane, Palo Alto, CA 94306

Tel: 650-493-5540

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cccrrefuge@gmail.com

Mr. Douglas Bosco
Chair, California State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway 13th Floor
Oakland CA 94612

24 May 2016

Re: South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project

Dear Chair Bosco:

This is in response to the Final EIS/EIR for proposed Phase 2 actions of the South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project (SBSPP). The Citizens Committee to Complete the Refuge (CCCR) is writing to convey our strong support for the Conservancy Board authorization of \$14 million for Phase 2 of the SBSPP implementation on May 26, 2016.

We congratulate the Conservancy on completion of the Phase 1 actions earlier this year. These types of restoration projects are crucial if we wish to sustain the ecological biodiversity of San Francisco Bay, particularly in light of the incredible losses of tidal marsh the Bay has experienced. Looking towards the future we must also contend with losses that may continue due to sea level rise.

The South San Francisco Bay Salt Pond Restoration project is the largest wetland restoration project on the west coast of the United States. The project is working to restore 15,100 acres of former salt ponds to tidal salt marsh as well as a mosaic of other habitats for the benefit of wildlife, flood protection, and public access. Performing tidal wetland restoration at this scale in the middle of a highly-modified urban estuary has many challenges, and requires diligence to accomplishing these unprecedented goals.

This restoration project therefore, is a unique opportunity for landscape-scale restoration and to significantly contribute to the recovery of threatened and endangered species, improve water quality and strengthen the resiliency of our shorelines in San Francisco Bay.

Phase 2 will restore 980 acres of tidal wetlands, enhance over 300 acres of other wetland habitats, provide new public recreation opportunities, and improve flood protection for south San Francisco Bay residents and businesses. The Citizens Committee to Complete the Refuge believes continued funding of public outreach, website and data management, and other project support to maintain the Project's successful track record and high degree of transparency is extremely important.

Congratulations on the successful outcomes of the Phase 1 actions and thank you for your continued support of this regionally and nationally important project.

Sincerely,

Carin High
CCCR Co-Chair

Gail Raabe
CCCR Co-Chair



CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW

Office of the Mayor and City Council • 500 Castro Street • Post Office Box 7540 • Mountain View, California 94039-7540
650-903-6305 • FAX 650-903-6039

May 18, 2016

Mr. Douglas Bosco
Chair, California State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

SOUTH BAY SALT POND RESTORATION PROJECT

Dear Chair Bosco:

On behalf of the City of Mountain View, I am writing to convey our strong support for the Conservancy Board authorization of \$14 million for Phase 2 of the South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project implementation on May 26, 2016.

The South San Francisco Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project is the largest wetland restoration project on the West Coast of the United States. The project is working to restore 15,100 acres of former industrial salt ponds to tidal salt marsh and a mosaic of other habitats for the benefit of wildlife, flood protection, and public access. Performing tidal wetland restoration at this scale in the middle of a highly modified urban estuary has many challenges and requires diligence to accomplish these unprecedented goals.

This restoration project, therefore, is a unique opportunity for landscape-scale restoration and to significantly contribute to the recovery of threatened and endangered species, improve water quality, and strengthen the resiliency of our shorelines in San Francisco Bay. Phase 2 will restore 980 acres of tidal wetlands, enhance over 300 acres of other wetland habitats, provide new public recreation opportunities, and improve flood protection for south San Francisco Bay residents and businesses. The City of Mountain View also supports the funding of continued public outreach, website and data management, and other project support to maintain the Project's successful track record and high degree of transparency.

Thank you for your continued support of this regionally and nationally important project.

Sincerely,

Ken S. Rosenberg
Vice Mayor

KSR/TS/7/PWK/001-05-18-16L-E-1

RECEIVED

MAY 23 2016

COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge Complex
1 Marshlands Road, Fremont, CA 94555



April 22, 2016

To: Mr. Douglas Bosco
Chair, California State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway 13th Floor
Oakland CA 94612

Subject: South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project

Dear Chair Bosco:

The purpose of Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge (Refuge) is to preserve, manage and enhance highly significant wildlife and their habitats. The South San Francisco Bay Salt Pond Restoration project is the largest wetland restoration project on the west coast of the United States. The project is working to restore 15,100 acres of former industrial salt ponds to tidal salt marsh and a mosaic of other habitats for the benefit of wildlife, flood protection, and public access. This restoration project therefore, is a unique opportunity for landscape-scale restoration and to significantly contribute to the recovery of threatened and endangered species, improve water quality and strengthen the resiliency of our shorelines in San Francisco Bay.

Beginning May 26, 2016 and with Conservancy Board authorization of \$14 million, Phase 2 of this project will begin to restore 980 acres of tidal wetlands, enhance over 300 acres of other wetland habitats, provide new public recreation opportunities, and improve flood protection for South San Francisco Bay residents and businesses.

Performing tidal wetland restoration at this scale in the middle of a highly-modified urban estuary has many challenges, and requires diligence and coordinated teamwork to accomplish. The Service is proud to be an active partner on this project and supports the multiple goals of this project and the benefits it provides to the unique wildlife and habitats of San Francisco Bay and the people and communities surrounding it.

Thank you for your continued support of this regionally and nationally important project.

Sincerely,

Christopher J. Barr
Acting Complex Manager
San Francisco Bay NWR Refuge Complex



4/28/2016

Mr. Douglas Bosco
Chair, California State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway 13th Floor
Oakland CA 94612

Re: South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project

Dear Chair Bosco:

On behalf of the NOAA Fisheries Restoration Center, I am writing to convey our strong support for the Conservancy Board authorization of \$14 million for Phase 2 of the South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project implementation on May 26, 2016.

The South San Francisco Bay Salt Pond Restoration project is the largest wetland restoration project on the west coast of the United States. The project is working to restore 15,100 acres of former industrial salt ponds to tidal salt marsh and a mosaic of other habitats for the benefit of wildlife, flood protection, and public access. Performing tidal wetland restoration at this scale in the middle of a highly-modified urban estuary has many challenges, and requires diligence to accomplishing these unprecedented goals.

This restoration project therefore, is a unique opportunity for landscape-scale restoration and to significantly contribute to the recovery of threatened and endangered species, improve water quality and strengthen the resiliency of our shorelines in San Francisco Bay. Phase 2 will restore 980 acres of tidal wetlands, enhance over 300 acres of other wetland habitats, provide new public recreation opportunities, and improve flood protection for south San Francisco Bay residents and businesses. NOAA also supports the funding of continued public outreach, website and data management, and other project support to maintain the Project's successful track record and high degree of transparency.

Thank you for your continued support of this regionally and nationally important project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patrick Rutten".

Patrick Rutten
Southwest Region Supervisor
NOAA Restoration Center





Mr. Douglas Bosco
Chair, California State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway 13th Floor
Oakland CA 94612

Re: South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project

Dear Chair Bosco:

On behalf of Save The Bay, I am writing to convey our strong support for the Conservancy Board authorization of \$14 million for Phase 2 of the South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project implementation on May 26, 2016.

The South San Francisco Bay Salt Pond Restoration project is the largest wetland restoration project on the west coast of the United States. The project is working to restore 15,100 acres of former industrial salt ponds to tidal salt marsh and a mosaic of other habitats for the benefit of wildlife, flood protection, and public access. Performing tidal wetland restoration at this scale in the middle of a highly-modified urban estuary has many challenges, and requires diligence to accomplishing these unprecedented goals.

This restoration project therefore, is a unique opportunity for landscape-scale restoration and to significantly contribute to the recovery of threatened and endangered species, improve water quality and strengthen the resiliency of our shorelines in San Francisco Bay. Phase 2 will restore 980 acres of tidal wetlands, enhance over 300 acres of other wetland habitats, provide new public recreation opportunities, and improve flood protection for south San Francisco Bay residents and businesses. Save The Bay also supports the funding of continued public outreach, website and data management, and other project support to maintain the Project's successful track record and high degree of transparency.

Thank you for your continued support of this regionally and nationally important project.

Sincerely,


David Lewis, Executive Director
Save The Bay



May 3, 2016

Mr. Douglas Bosco
Chair, California State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway 13th Floor
Oakland CA 94612

Re: Phase 2 of the South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project

Dear Chair Bosco:

On behalf of Santa Clara Valley Water District, I am writing to convey our strong support for the Conservancy Board authorization of \$14 million for Phase 2 of the South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project implementation on May 26, 2016.

The South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project (Project) is the largest wetland restoration project on the west coast of the United States. The Project is working to restore 15,100 acres of former industrial salt ponds to tidal salt marsh and a mosaic of other habitats for the benefit of wildlife, flood protection, and public access. Performing tidal wetland restoration at this scale in the middle of a highly-modified urban estuary has many challenges, and requires diligence to accomplishing these unprecedented goals.

This Project offers a unique opportunity for landscape-scale restoration and to significantly contribute to the recovery of threatened and endangered species, improve water quality and strengthen the resiliency of our shorelines in San Francisco Bay. Phase 2 of the Project will restore 980 acres of tidal wetlands, enhance over 300 acres of other wetland habitats, provide new public recreation opportunities, and improve flood protection for San Francisco Bay residents and businesses. The Santa Clara Valley Water District also supports the funding of continued public outreach, website and data management, and other Project support to maintain the Project's successful track record and high degree of transparency.

Thank you for your continued support of this regionally and nationally important restoration Project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rechelle Blank".

Rechelle Blank, PE
Acting Deputy Operating Officer
Santa Clara Valley Water District



735 B Center Blvd
Fairfax, CA 94930
415-259-0334 phone
415-259-0340 fax

MANAGEMENT BOARD:

Bay Area Audubon Council
Bay Area Open Space Council
Bay Planning Coalition
Citizens Committee to
Complete the Refuge
Ducks Unlimited
National Audubon Society
Point Blue Conservation Science
Pacific Gas & Electric Company
Save the Bay
The Bay Institute

Ex-Officio Members:

Bay Conservation &
Development Commission
California Department
of Fish and Wildlife
California Resources Agency
Coastal Region, Mosquito &
Vector Control Districts
National Fish and Wildlife
Foundation
National Marine Fisheries
Service
Natural Resources
Conservation Service
San Francisco Estuary Project
SF Bay Regional Water Quality
Control Board
State Coastal Conservancy
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
U.S. Environmental
Protection Agency
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
U.S. Geological Survey
Wildlife Conservation Board

May 13, 2016

Mr. Douglas Bosco, Chair
State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

SUBJECT: South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project Phase 2

Dear Chairman Bosco:

I am writing on behalf of the San Francisco Bay Joint Venture (SFBJV) to convey our strong support for the Coastal Conservancy Board authorization of \$14 million for Phase 2 of the South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project implementation.

The SFBJV is a partnership of non-governmental organizations, utilities, landowners, and non-voting agencies with a goal to acquire, restore and enhance wetlands and riparian habitats and associated uplands, and sub-tidal habitats to benefit birds, fish, and other wildlife in the San Francisco Bay Area. The SFBJV is one of the eighteen federally-sponsored habitat Joint Ventures to implement the North American Wetlands Conservation Act and federal bird conservation plans. The SFBJV Implementation Plan, *Restoring the Estuary* is based on the goals established in the Baylands Habitat Goals and, targets nearly 200,000 acres of wetlands and riparian habitats for protection, restoration, or enhancement through our partners' funding and expertise. The SFVJV Management Board consists of 27 agencies and private organizations whose members agree to support and promote the goal and objectives of the Joint Venture and who represent the diversity of wetlands interests found in the San Francisco Bay Region. The Coastal Conservancy has been a major leader in the SFBJV and helping us achieve our habitat delivery goals.

Restoring the South San Francisco Bay Salt Pond Restoration project has been one of our key priorities, as this project represents a large percentage of restorable wetlands in the South Bay, 15,100 acres of former industrial salt ponds. The collaborative planning, habitat delivery, and scientific program inform and deliver an adaptive management program that will bring back habitat for important wildlife species while providing flood protection and public recreational opportunities.

The San Francisco Estuary is the largest estuary on the west coast of the continent and supports a wide variety of wildlife, even in a densely urbanized setting. The San Francisco Estuary supports the densest concentration of wintering diving ducks in the Pacific Flyway, with almost 50% of scoters, scaup, Ruddy Ducks, Bufflehead, and other species of waterfowl foraging and wintering in the Estuary. The Estuary also provides habitat for the largest concentrations of migratory shorebirds, with up to a million shorebirds spending time foraging in the ponds and along the mudflats as part of their annual life cycles. Numerous threatened and endangered species, such as the endangered Ridgway's Rail (formerly known as California Clapper Rail) and salt marsh harvest mouse) rely on estuarine habitats in the San Francisco Estuary. Recovery of these endangered species is dependent upon quality tidal marsh habitat that will be provided by the South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project.

Exhibit 8: Project Letters

Phase 2 will restore 980 acres of tidal wetlands, enhance over 300 acres of other wetland habitats, provide new public recreation opportunities, and improve flood protection for south San Francisco Bay residents and businesses. To conduct a restoration program of this magnitude, public outreach, website and data management, and other project support is needed to maintain the Project's successful track record and high degree of transparency.

We hope that the Coastal Conservancy will continue to support of this regionally and nationally important project by allocating \$14 million, which can also serve as match to leverage other funding sources. If you have any questions about the SFBJV or our support for the South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project, please contact our Coordinator, Beth Huning.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Diane Ross-Leech".

Diane Ross-Leech
Past Chair