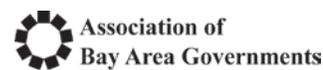




San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail
 Site Description for
Eden Landing Ecological Reserve



Location, Ownership, and Management: The Eden Landing Ecological Reserve (ELER) launch site is located in the northern portion of the ELER in the City of Hayward. The launch is owned and managed by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. The main parking area, located approximately 0.25 miles north of the launch, is operated by the East Bay Regional Park District.

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<p>High-freeboard dock with low-float attachment</p>	<p>Eden Landing Ecological Reserve Launch Site</p>	<p>Rigging area adjacent to loading/unloading zone</p>

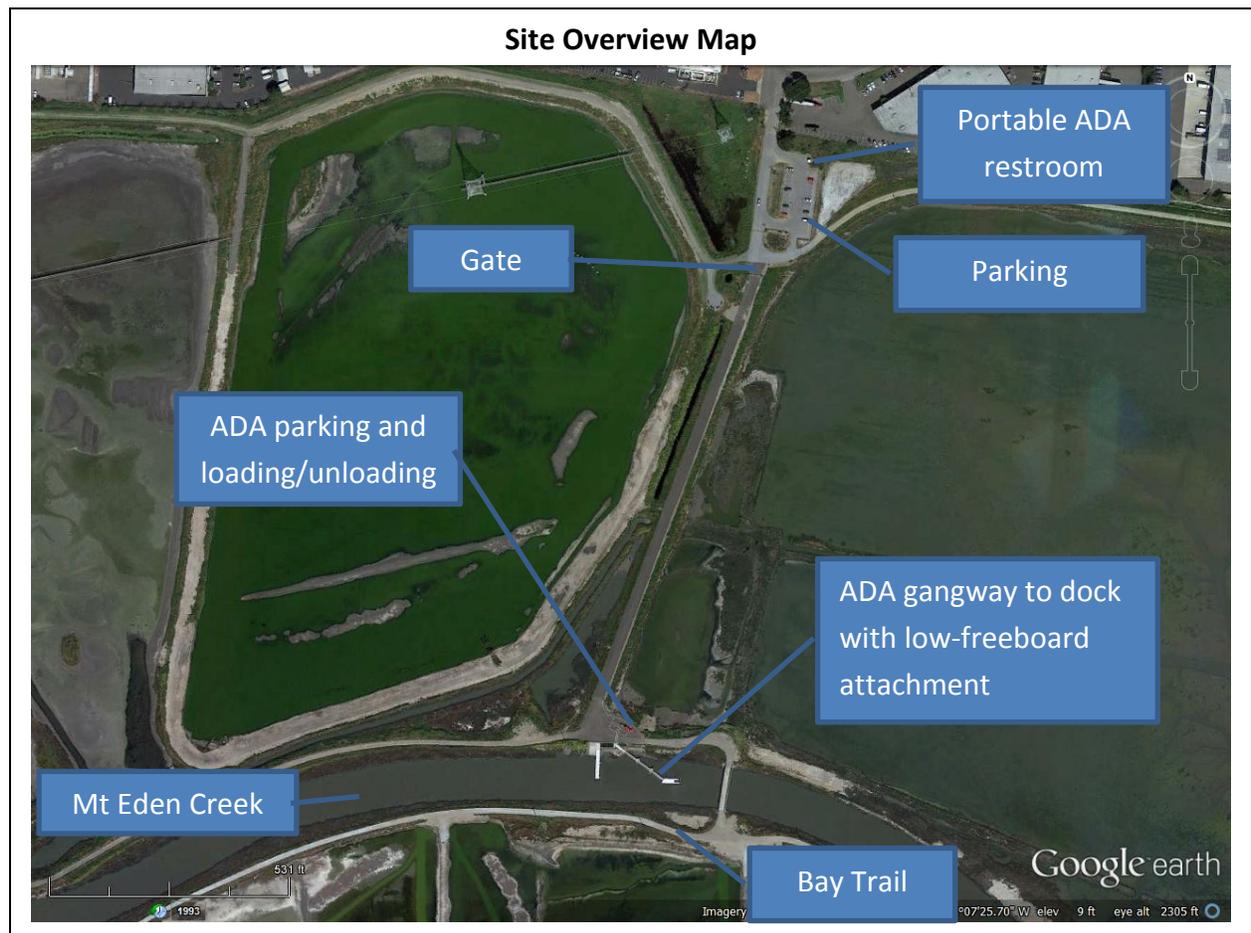
Facility Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) recently installed a high-freeboard dock and gangway on Mt Eden Creek in the northern portion of the ELER. Water access facilities include an ADA gangway that leads to a high-freeboard dock with a low-float attachment for use by non-motorized small boats. There is also a cement boat ramp with a high-freeboard dock, which is intended for launching powered craft for reserve management, monitoring, and emergency response.

Eden Landing Ecological Reserve's launch facilities are located approximately 0.25 miles from the primary parking area. During daylight hours, the gated road to the boat launch is open and visitors can drive to a loading/unloading zone adjacent to the launch. A turf rigging area is located in this area near the top of the gangway.

Four ADA parking spaces are located at the launch and one is located within the parking area. Parking within the main lot is free and does not close; however, no overnight parking is allowed. One ADA-accessible portable restroom is located in the main parking area.

Other Identifying or General Information:

<p>Site ID: <u>A22</u> In WT Plan: <u>Yes</u> Existing or Planned: <u>Existing</u> Ownership: <u>Public</u> County: <u>Alameda</u> Geo-Region: <u>Southern Alameda County</u> SF Bay Plan Region: <u>Central Bay</u> Launch or Destination: <u>Launch</u> Home of a Club: <u>No</u> Used by a Program that Assists Persons with Disabilities: <u>No</u></p>	<p>Appreciated for Windy Conditions: <u>No</u> Near Food or Drink: <u>No</u></p> <p>Proximity to Other Sites: The closest sites are the San Leandro Marina, located approximately 6.3 miles north as the crow flies and Jarvis Landing located approximately 7 miles south as the crow flies. Beaches on the Bay in Foster City is located approximately 7.5 miles west across the San Francisco Bay.</p>
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Description of Launch/Landing:

<p>Fixed Dock/Pier Launch/Landing: <u>No</u> Float: <u>Yes</u> Freeboard Level: <u>High (9" and above)</u> Transfer/Launch Assistance System: <u>Yes</u> Gangway: <u>Yes</u> Gangway Length (feet): <u>108</u> Gangway Width (inches): <u>60</u> Gangway Slope Description: The gangway is gently sloped and designed to meet ADA requirements with two rest platforms. Boat/Trailer Ramp: <u>Yes</u> Mudflats Affect Site Usability: <u>No</u> Beach Wheelchair Available: <u>No</u> Stair Water Entry: <u>No</u> Beach: <u>No</u> Firm-Surface Beach Crossing: <u>No</u> Fee for Launch or Parking: <u>No</u></p>	<p>Other Launch/Landing Notes: Adjacent to the main small boat launch is a high freeboard dock and corrugated cement boat ramp not for public use. These facilities are intended for use by motorized boats for CDFW management and emergency response, including training and water rescue by the Hayward Fire Department.</p> <p>Restrictions: A gate located near the parking lot is locked from sunset to sunrise and monitored by a security camera. Users would not be able to drive to the dock to load/unload during these hours; however, the gate is remotely operated and will allow users to exit after the gate has closed.</p>
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Public water access facilities include an ADA gangway that leads to a high-freeboard dock with a low-float attachment.

Site Appears to be Suitable For:

Kayak: <u>Yes</u> Windsurfer: <u>No</u> Kiteboard: <u>No</u> Whaleboat: <u>No</u> Stand Up Paddleboard: <u>Yes</u>	Canoe: <u>Yes</u> Outrigger Canoe: <u>No</u> Sculling: <u>No</u> Rowboat/Dinghy: <u>No</u> Dragonboat: <u>No</u>
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The low-float attachment provides a stable launching and landing for kayakers on Mt. Eden Creek. Ropes assist paddlers with pulling boats into and out of the water.

Transportation and Parking:

General Spaces (number): <u>30 paved, with similar sized adjacent gravel overflow parking area. Overflow parking is typically closed.</u> ADA Parking Spaces (number): <u>4</u> ADA Parking Description: One ADA space within the main parking area and three ADA spaces located near the launch including one for a car with a trailer. Duration: <u>Sunrise - Sunset</u> Overnight Parking Allowed: <u>No</u> Loading/Unloading Area: <u>Yes</u> Bay Trail: <u>Yes</u>	Public Transportation: The site can be accessed from AC Transit bus line 83, which stops at Eden Landing Road/Investment Boulevard, approximately 0.25 miles from the parking area. Overnight Parking Description: Overnight parking is not allowed. The parking lot is regularly visited by Hayward Police and East Bay Regional Park District staff and Police, as well as CDFW Law Enforcement.
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Path of Travel:

Distance to Launch from Parking Area (feet): 1,140
Distance to Launch from ADA Parking (feet): 40
Distance to Launch from ADA Restrooms (feet): 1,200
Distance from ADA Restrooms to ADA Parking (feet): 10
Path of Travel Exists: Yes
Path of Travel Description: Through paved parking lot



A marked path of travel is available from the three ADA parking spaces located adjacent to the launch ramp. The path of travel also occurs from the loading/unloading area near the launch.

Other Site Amenities:

Total Restrooms: 1
 Total ADA Restrooms: 1
 Restroom Description: Portable accessible restroom.

 Boat Washing: No
 Rigging/Staging Area: Yes
 Picnic Tables: No
 Benches: Yes
 BBQ: No
 Boat Storage: No



One portable accessible restroom is located in the main parking area.

Overnight Accommodations:

Hotel: <u>No</u>	Hostel: <u>No</u>	Ship: <u>No</u>	Camping: <u>No</u>	Other: <u>No</u>
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Additional Notes Related to Accessibility:

The dock, gangway, and path of travel are designed to be ADA accessible. The low- float dock attachment aids in accessibility. The site has three ADA parking spaces next to the launch. An accessible portable restroom is located at the main parking lot.



The ADA gangway features two resting platforms and transition plates.

Additional Notes on Use of Site (Boating and Non-Boating) and Existing and Planned Management:

The site was constructed in 2016 as part of the ELER restoration project; therefore, use of the site is new. It is anticipated that most use will be by kayakers, canoers, and SUPs to explore Mt. Eden Creek, adjacent sloughs, and to access the Bay. The Bay is located approximately 1.7 miles west along Mt. Eden Creek from the boat launch. Paddlers are discouraged from paddling upstream due to shallow and narrow slough conditions.

Waterfowl hunting is allowed at ELER on specified hunting dates during the year (approximately 10 days in November-January). On these dates, access to ELER is closed to the public, except registered hunters. These dates are announced at the beginning of the year and posted on CDFW's website. It is anticipated that on these days hunters will use the launch for canoes, kayaks, or other craft to access hunting areas.

Safety and Security, including Parking:

Paddlers in distress should contact 911. The boat launch ramp at ELER is used by the Hayward Fire Department to launch their swift rescue boat.

There is also a stormwater overflow pipe that releases adjacent to the south of the ELER boat launch. After storm events this pipe can discharge substantial quantities of water that could create a hazard to paddlers.



A stormwater overflow pipe can release substantial quantities of water during and following storm events. Paddlers should use caution and avoid any potentially hazardous conditions when stormwater is being discharged. Additionally, there is a bridge just upstream of the launch that paddlers may be unable to navigate at the highest tides; however, most paddlers are anticipated to paddle downstream towards the Bay.

Wildlife and Habitat Considerations:

The ELER is approximately 6,400 acres of restored salt ponds, adjacent diked marshes, and transitional areas to uplands that are managed for resident and migratory waterbirds and tidal marsh habitats and species. Waterfowl species commonly seen in the area include mallard, Northern shoveler and pintail, ruddy duck, canvasback, widgeon, gadwall, scaup and Canada goose, among many others. In marsh areas, egrets, herons, stilts, avocets and sandpipers rest and prey on invertebrates in the shallow water and exposed mud flats. Managed salt ponds and diked areas also support wintering ducks. Tidal marsh habitat also acts as a significant nursery habitat for species of anadromous fish such as salmon and steelhead.

ELER also provides important nesting habitat for snowy plover. Nesting habitat occurs within salt pan areas that are located away from navigable sloughs and waterways. Ridgway's rails have been observed along Mt Eden Creek and adjacent marsh areas. Area rules and signage specify that boaters are restricted from landing on marshes or accessing levees from the water.



ELER provides important habitat to a wide variety of bird species, including several species of tern. Signage and education programs are important to ensure appropriate interaction with wildlife.

Education, Outreach, and Stewardship, Including Signage:

There are 10 interpretive signs located near the boat launch and along the nearby segments of Bay Trail. These signs highlight the unique species and habitats as well as the history of salt production. CDFW also partners with several groups on stewardship projects including: community based restoration projects with Save the Bay; birdwatching groups with Hayward Shoreline Interpretive Center; and cultural tours of the Oliver Salt Works with USFWS.

The Hayward Shoreline Interpretive Center is located two miles (driving) from the ELER boat launch. This center features exhibits, programs, and activities to educate the public, particularly youth, about the habitats and history of the San Francisco Bay Estuary.



Existing interpretive signage at the boat launch has been modeled after Water Trail educational signage, but also includes a map of the area.

Other Existing or Anticipated Water Trail-Related Issues and Opportunities:

Boaters are advised to consult local tide charts before launching and should be aware that extensive mud flats may be exposed and even shallow draft vessels can be subject to hidden underwater hazards during low tides. Although Mt. Eden Creek remains navigable at all tides, extensive mudflats at the Bay can become unnavigable at lower tides.

The proximity of the launch to the Hayward Shoreline Interpretive Center could offer opportunities for partnerships with kayak groups for interpretive paddles or programs.

Accessibility of Sites within the Southern Alameda County Geo-Region:

There are three potential/existing Water Trail sites identified within this geo-region: San Leandro Marina, ELER, and Jarvis Landing. Of these, only ELER currently provides broadly accessible facilities.

The experiences that are available in the Southern Alameda County Geo-Region are a mixture of urban and more rural experiences in slough environments. As detailed above, the ELER Launch provides a low-freeboard dock attachment, accessible parking, an accessible restroom, and a loading and unloading area. The San Leandro Marina is planned for major redevelopment by the City of San Leandro to include new ADA water access facilities, including low-freeboard and high-freeboard docks, an aquatic center and/or vendor, storage, and public ADA restrooms.

**Summary of Environmental Review
based on the
San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail Plan Final Environmental Impact Report**

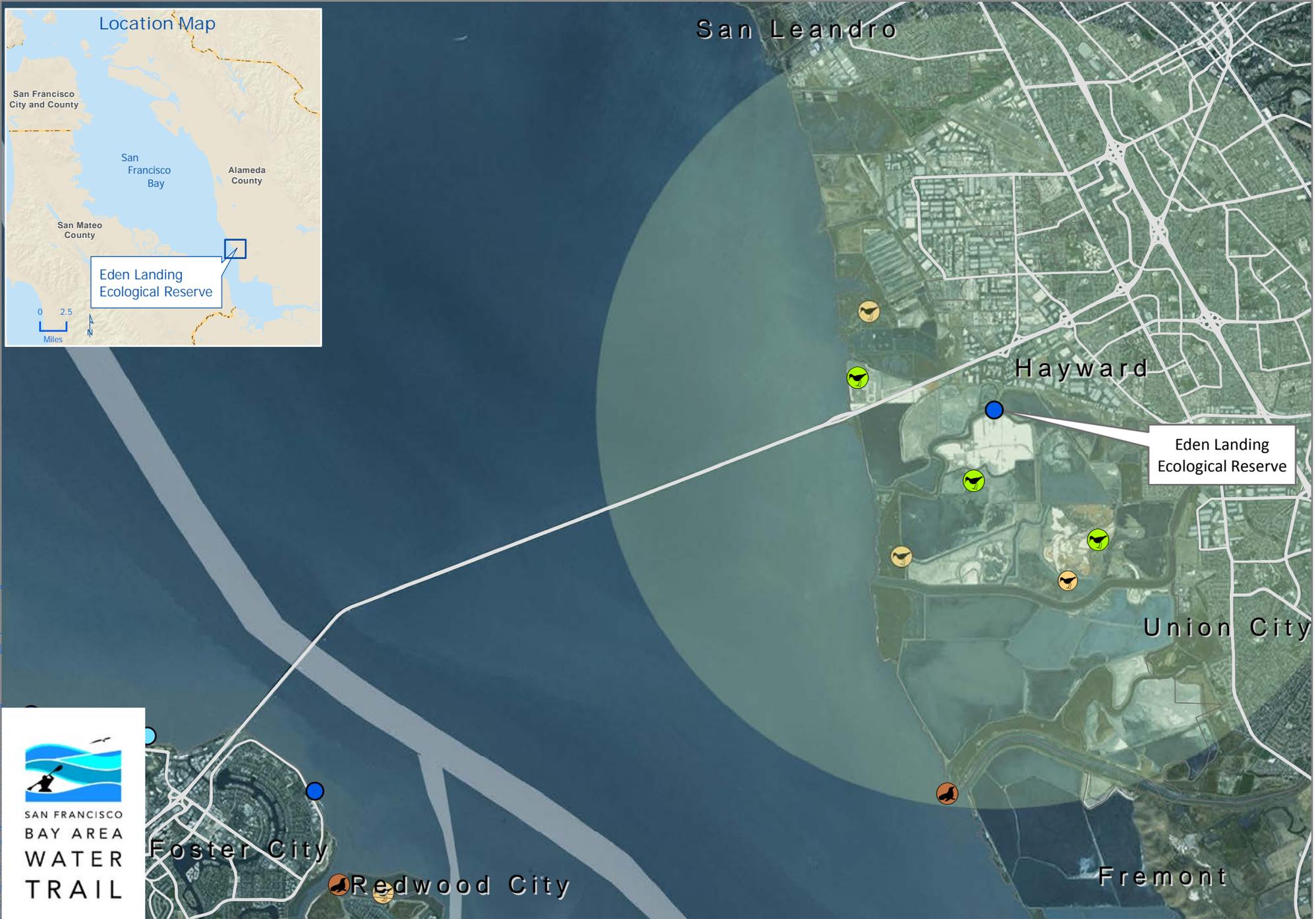
**Eden Landing Ecological Reserve
September 16, 2016**

Resource Area	Impacts Analysis	Notes
<p>Recreation References: WT DREIR, pp. 3-32 to 3-37.</p>	<p>Eden Landing has one boat ramp and two high freeboard docks, a low-freeboard attachment, parking, restroom, and a rigging area. Facilities are well maintained and have sufficient capacity to accommodate increased levels of use.</p> <p>Hunting is allowed in many the marshes within four miles of the site, although hunting is only allowed on certain dates during the year. The boat launch is closed to non-hunters during these hunt days.</p>	<p>Water Trail users may submit comments to Water Trail staff through the website if they witness or experience recreational conflict at any designated site. The Water Trail educational sign would include warnings about seasonal hunting in the Bay (Oct – Jan) and includes the California Department of Fish and Wildlife website for specific information.</p>
<p>Navigational and Personal Safety References: WT DREIR pp. 3-38 to 3-51, and Figures 3.4.2-1 and 3.4.2-2.</p>	<p>Small boat users should be aware of tides, winds, and currents. Extensive mud flats may be exposed and even shallow draft vessels can be subject to hidden underwater hazards during low tides. Although Mt. Eden Creek remains navigable at all tides, extensive mudflats at the Bay can become unnavigable at lower tides. There is also a stormwater outfall pipe that releases water adjacent to the southwest of the Eden Landing Ecological Reserve boat launch. After storm events this pipe can discharge substantial quantities of water that could create a hazard to paddlers.</p>	<p>The Water Trail educational sign that would be installed provides safety information related to navigational and personal boating safety.</p>

Resource Area	Impacts Analysis	Notes
<p>Aesthetics References: WT DREIR pp. 3-56 to 3-68.</p>	<p>Eden Landing Ecological Reserve is considered an urban/wildland interface site, characterized by the public boat launch within an Ecological Reserve, outside of a business park in the City of Hayward. Eden Landing has interpretive signage in the Reserve and there are sign boards and parking signs near the parking lot.</p>	<p>The Water Trail will require the inclusion of a Water Trail identification sign. A sign that contains much of the Water Trail Education Sign information has already been placed near the launch so another education sign may be redundant. A “sign plan” will be developed with CDFW to ensure that the I.D. signs and educational signs do not result in sign clutter at the site.</p>
<p>Biology-Vegetation References: WT DREIR pp. 3-69 to 3-92 and Table 3.7.2-1 and Table 3.7.2-2.</p>	<p>There is marsh habitat along Mt Eden Creek. Boaters could explore the Mt Eden Creek and the sloughs surrounding it. Endangered and rare plant species have been found in the area.</p>	<p>Preventing the inadvertent spread of exotic, invasive plant species is important at all launch sites. The WT educational sign and website ask WT users to help prevent the spread of invasive species by rinsing boats and equipment immediately after use and by not landing in marshes or on levees.</p>
<p>Biology – Birds <i>References: WT FEIR text and map</i></p>	<p>Eden Landing Ecological Reserve provides important habitat to a wide variety of bird species. Ridgway’s rail are known to occur in the marshes throughout the year. Snowy plovers are known to nest within the Reserve.</p>	<p>Existing CDFW educational signs include information about how to paddle responsibly around wildlife and to maintain a buffer distance from birds, and to avoid landing in the marsh or on levees. The WT website and brochure include more detailed information about not disturbing nesting birds.</p>
<p>Biology – Rafting Waterfowl References: WT DREIR pp. 3-93 to 3-131 and Table 3.8.2-1, Figure 3.8.2-1.</p>	<p>This site provides access to areas where rafting waterfowl may congregate.</p>	<p>Avoiding disturbance of rafting waterfowl is addressed in the existing CDFW educational sign, and will be supported by the Water Trail brochure, and website.</p>

Resource Area	Impacts Analysis	Notes
<p>Biology – Ridgway’s rail and California black rail and high tide refugia References: WT DREIR pp. 3-93 to 3-131 and Figure 3.8.2-2 Personal Communication with CDFW</p>	<p>Black rail and Ridgway’s rail are present in the Eden Landing Ecological Reserve.</p>	<p>Signage emphasizes the importance of keeping a buffer from rail habitat and staying clear of high-tide refugia, and that landing in marshes and on levees is prohibited. The Water Trail educational sign, brochure and website include this information.</p>
<p>Biology –Western Snowy Plover and California Least Tern References: WT DREIR pp. 3-93 to 3-131 and Figures 3.8.2-3, Personal Communication with CDFW</p>	<p>California least terns have attempted to nest in Eden Landing Ecological Reserve, but no nests have been successful due to depredation. Western snowy plovers are known to nest within the Reserve on emergent or dry salt pond beds, or sometimes levee roads.</p>	<p>Signage emphasizes the importance of keeping a buffer from snowy plover habitat and staying clear of high-tide refugia, and that landing in marshes and on levees is prohibited. The Water Trail educational sign, brochure and website include this information.</p>
<p>Biology – Harbor Seals References: WT DREIR pp. 3-132 to 3-156, Figure 3.9.2-1, and Tables 3.9.2-1, 3.9.2-2, 3.9.5-1, and 3.9.5-2</p>	<p>There is one secondary harbor seal haul-out site within four miles of the launch.</p>	<p>The educational sign, brochure, and website all advise boaters not to land at haul-out sites and to always stay away from hauled-out harbor seals.</p>
<p>Biology – Other Species References: WT DREIR pp. 3-132 to 3-156 San Francisco Estuary Institute Salt Marsh Harvest Mouse Data</p>	<p>The salt marsh harvest mouse is found throughout the Eden Landing Ecological Reserve. Large areas of suitable marsh habitat occur within the Reserve.</p>	<p>Boaters are advised through the WT brochure and website to not disembark in any undesignated areas or trample sensitive habitats, including marshes. The educational sign emphasizes that boaters should not land in marshes or on levees.</p>
<p>Cultural Resources References: WT DREIR pp. 3-163</p>	<p>No WT-related construction is planned at this time. NMSB users are not allowed to land in adjacent wetland habitat, which would prevent potential disturbance of cultural artifacts.</p>	<p>The WT website includes information about avoiding disturbance to cultural artifacts.</p>

Resource Area	Impacts Analysis	Notes
Hydrology	No WT-related construction is planned at this time.	No hydrological changes would occur from existing conditions.
Transportation, Circulation, and Parking	The site has a large parking lot that can accommodate users. Roadways are not anticipated to experience substantial increase in traffic.	Increased use by non-motorized small boat users is not expected to overwhelm parking or road capacity.



Path: N:\GIS\WaterTrail\2012_WaterTrail_Maps\Sites\Alameda\Eden_Landing\Eden_Landing_Sep2016Designations.mxd



SAN FRANCISCO
BAY AREA
WATER
TRAIL

Eden Landing Ecological Reserve, California Department of Fish and Wildlife

- Designated Water Trail Site
- Potential Water Trail Site
- 4 Mile Buffer (from Potential Sites)
- Shipping Channel
- 🦆 Ridgway's/Black Rail
- 🦢 Western Snowy Plover
- 🦈 Primary or secondary harbor seal haul out site



CA Harbor Seal data from Water Trail FEIR. Ridgway's and black rail, Western snowy plover, and heronry data generalized from 2015 California Natural Diversity Database