

San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail Implementation Meeting #29 – March 8, 2019

10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Location

Elihu M. Harris State Office Building
1515 Clay Street, 2nd Floor, Room 10
Oakland, California

Attendees:

- **Staff:** Ben Botkin (MTC/ABAG)
- **Project Management Team:** Maureen Gaffney (MTC/ABAG), Todd Hallenbeck (BCDC), Avra Heller (SCC)
- **Advisory Committee:** Lynn Cullivan (NPS), Jeff Manley (EBRPD), Ted Choi (City Kayaks), Wendy Proctor (Port of SF – ADA), Barbara Salzman (Marin Audubon), Joy Dryden (ADA representative), Penny Wells (BASK), Michelle Squyer (CA State Parks),
- **Public:** Larry Moss (BASK), Bo Barnes (Kayaks Unlimited), Daniel Hossfeld (SCC), Eloy Martinez (Canoe Journey), Manny Lieras (Canoe Journey), Andrew Sullivan (kite boarding representative), Kyle MacDonald (Foth Engineering), Alexandra Roddy (Canoe Journey), Jeff Rasmussen (EBRPD)

Outcomes of Meeting:

- Project Management Team conditionally designated Point Pinole Regional Shoreline.
- Attendees were informed of Tribal Canoe Journey – Alcatraz Island, and offered planning suggestion and support.
- Attendees discussed prioritization of Water Trail Strategic Plan actions for 2019.

Agenda Items

Updates and Announcements (PowerPoint linked here) from Water Trail Staff, Project Management Team, and Advisory Committee Members

- Design Guidelines Published ([linked here](#))
- Sonoma County Regional Park + Sonoma Land Trust – planning study for Sonoma Creek – Skaggs Island, Sonoma Creek, landscape level study for restoration and public access
- Public Access HWY 37 corridor study underway – for both Bay and Water Trail
- Meeting with Mayor of Vallejo - Mare Island former submarine berth, and small beach at end of jetty – looking to reopen access – opening the gate.
- China Camp – Meeting with Board of Directors Friends of China Camp
- Living Shorelines Workshop – How water access could be incorporated into or support future living shoreline projects

- GRANTS:
 - Point Isabel completed! – New rigging area, ramp, and ADA ramp to high tide line
 - one member of the public mentioned that they felt an opportunity was lost in design consultation as a kiteboarding launch vs. windsurfing impacts

BEFORE:





AFTER:

Convergence of ADA and windsurfing ramps to cobble beach access



Ramps to beach



Side view of ADA ramp and staging area



- Berkeley Marina Gangway – supposed construction summer 2019 – ADA gangway
- Petaluma Small Craft Center – docks in place, building boat racks, continued fundraising for floathouse
- OTHER SITES
 - Richmond Marina Bay Launch (mitigation for Richmond Ferry) – handrails for SUP, gangway lights at night, transfer bench, ladder,
 - Albany Beach – nearing completion – 2 high-tide firm service paths, restrooms, riprap changes at the end – challenge for kiteboarders – need to continue to work with Park District and kiteboarding – additional community consultation needed if final designs change, attempt to ensure continued access
- OUTREACH
 - Mare Island – Flyway festival – potential kayak campground post munitions clean up
 - Western Sea Kayakers membership meeting - based in South Bay – want to circumnavigate all the islands in the Bay
 - Colombia Promotion + Bay Trail non-profit
- UPCOMING OUTREACH
 - American Planning Association National Conference in SF – April 13
 - Leading a workshop out of city kayak at pier 40
 - Canoemobile in the Bay April 15-19
- Safety Update: 15 U.S. Coast Guard responses to small craft incidences in the Bay
 - LABEL YOUR GEAR – treat each unmarked equipment as if person is missing – BASK sends out orange ID stickers to all members – adding emergency contact information line to the stickers
 - Call Local Fire Department – most local departments have shallower draft rescue boats – generally faster response time
 - BASK + Kiteboarding orange sticker pass off
 - Kiteboarder safety-led campaign – The 411
- UPCOMING SITES
 - China Camp State Park – June 2019 mtg
 - Candlestick Point State Recreation Area – challenges improving ADA restrooms, future undergoing major redevelopment of entire park – delaying interim work (1-2 years) – 1st step – shoreline stabilization study
 - Cullinan Ranch – June 2019 mtg
 - Sears Point / Dickson Ranch – destination, group program site ~3/4mile from parking area to launch
 - Dunphy Park / Sausalito Community Boating Center – permits in hand, fundraising to construct ADA gangway to low freeboard, also some future improvements to the beach launch within the Park.
 - Point San Pablo Yacht Harbor – no specific launch/landing, restaurant out there – working towards more specific dedication site – keeping our eye on it

- Baywinds Park Scoping Meeting – near future
- ADDITIONAL UPDATES:
 - Foster City Levee's Project in BCDC permitting – analyst concerns re. eroding beach – welcome updates/input from group, beach area not part of current phase of levee project
 - Islais Creek – Port of SF - piling removal, new composting toilet – good spot for a surf ski / outrigger canoeing
 - BCDC Planning – [ART Bay Area Vulnerability Assessment](#) – sub regional workshops – looking at the Water Trail Network – information about Water Trail sites potential vulnerability – ready for review via focus areas – transitioning to adaptation discussions

Trailhead Designation Consideration: [Point Pinole Regional Shoreline](#) (site description linked)

[Presentation and Site Description](#) (PowerPoint linked)

- SE of San Pablo Bay – 2-3 mile paddle from McNears Beach
- Campground beach access on Eastern Side
- New Atlas Road Staging Area - new restrooms and facilities
- Some Kiteboarding use there as well
- Restrooms at point adjacent to the campground – planned improvements along eastern shoreline
- Popular fishing pier – sturgeon
- Existing path to West Beach Access
- Campground opened a decade ago, 2012 kayaking sojourn
- Atlas Road Trailhead parking – can reserve overnight in addition to campground reservation – EBRPD shuttle service to get from parking to fishing pier/campground
- Beautiful park – views, baytrail, etc.
- Accessibility – paved trails, parking spaces, ADA, picnic tables – no current ADA access to high tide line
- This georegion currently does not have any ADA access – Upcoming Point Pinole Shoreline Access Project would create ADA route from high tide line to restrooms near campgrounds
 - Consider shuttle drop off point relative to selected location
 - Shoreline development – hazard removal (potential to include piling removal as part of project scope)
 - Challenges – steep bank and exposed mudflat at low tides, existing old pilings and The Watershed Project's reef ball experiment
 - Considering 3 locations out by point:
 - Option 1 – closest to pier and reef balls – navigational obstacles/hazards, PROS: least steep shoreline – closest to fishing pier restrooms, existing pathway

- Option 2 – overgrown beach – no known navigational hazards, closer to campsite, CONS – steeper shorelines, no existing pathway
- Option 3 – furthest south – nice beach, steep eroded bank, CONS: would require long path to get to water and further from restrooms and campground

Advisory Committee

- Coming up through old pier seems to be easiest – running parallel to fishing pier – part of option 1 (least mud)
- Want to be kept closely in the loop re. ADA design process – EBRPD leading the design process with Foth Engineering, there is no detailed schedule yet, still in early discussion and scoping stage. Project timeline will be fleshed out in the next few months. Staff will provide updates at upcoming meetings and between meetings as needed.
- Fishing line + paddling hazards to add warning

Public comments

- Advocate to include on trail – gateway to Napa and Martinez, and would be an very important link on a linear trip from SF Bay to Richardson Bay
- Kiteboarding beach by Giant – good launch spot – submerged pilings Northern Beach

Advisory Committee unanimous consensus guidance to conditionally designate Project Management Team on trailhead designation

The required conditions consist of installation of Water Trail informational and ID signs at appropriate locations to be determined associated with the planned project improvements at the site. The Water Trail educational sign will contain the standard educational language and text to be agreed upon with District staff. In addition, the Water Trail Advisory Committee recommended ongoing coordination with Water Trail staff and interested Advisory Committee members through site planning and design for the proposed ADA water access path project.

Project Management Team discussion and decision on conditional designation

- Encourage completion of project – with continued Water Trail ADA comments and input
- Install Water Trail Signs – emphasize navigational safety: mudflat safety information, shipping channel
- Only landing at designated sites
- Note to pay attention to fishing lines

Tribal Canoe Journey– Alcatraz Island – [Presentation](#) (linked) by Eloy Martinez and Manny Lieras

Overview

- VISION Summer 2019 – canoes and tule boats on 50th anniversary of the Occupation of Alcatraz – one of the organizers, Eloy Marinez, was part of the Alcatraz 1969 Occupation, want this event to bring the canoe journey to the Bay Area to emphasize the power and importance of accessing water and what the water represents to native community
- Manny Lieras – Committee Member – Oakland USD – Indigenous Water Work in CA + connections with Hawaii, indigenous community severed from water for generations – working to reengage Bay Area Indigenous Community with their cultural heritage and protection of water quality and natural resources
- Vision: “In the summer of 2019, canoes and tule boats take to the Bay to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Occupation of Alcatraz. Participants come in peace and prayer. We represent for Indigenous rights and values, the water, the land, the air, future generations, inclusion and a diverse humanity.”
- Sharing culture from a point of practice
- Partnered and training with O Kalani Outrigger Canoe Club in Alameda
- Looking for insight and support – BASK, Kayaks Unlimited, etc.
- Building Hawaiian style outrigger canoe 20ft long in the Bay

Planning activities and potential Bay Area itinerary

- **Proposed dates August 13-18**
- Intensive planning regarding tides and winds
- “INDIGENOUS value system” –
 - Inclusion - All are equal in this effort.
 - Non-violence - We come in peace and prayer to heal legacies of violence and loss.
 - Diversity - A broad range of perspectives leads to deep insights and strong decisions.
 - Impact - Actions will be prioritized on impact and alignment with our vision.
 - Gratitude - We are thankful for all who make this momentous occasion possible.
 - Engagement - Without relatives, allies and supporters, we are all diminished.
 - Nothing is impossible - We can do this
 - Our children are our future - Put them first
 - Unity - No one of us is will ever be greater than all of us.
 - Storytelling - Our words and histories are powerful and can guide us to a better future.
- Focused on Tribal inclusion connect with other local Ohlone, Bay Miwok, other California Tribes, Coastal Oregon and Washington Tribes, group from New York Area
- Others welcome to join in support and participation
- 6 member planning committee
- Coordinating with Beverly Ortiz EBRPD
- Schedule – see linked [presentation](#)
- Dugout canoes from Pacific NW, Plank Canoes from Santa Barbara, opportunities for folks to interact and build Tule boats

- Anticipating 200 – 1000 on water participants, potentially more participating in Protocol
- Goal to always be off water by 1pm – will have master skipper organizing / making calls
- Coordinating with Coast Guard – BayKeeper, GreenPeace Boats, to provide safety support
- Engage with committees – share with ETC – youth paddling....
- Contacts:
 - Manny Lieras – manny@aicrc.org
 - Eloy Martinez – 510 290 3490
 - Alexandra Roddy - alexandraroddy94618@gmail.com

[Water Trail Strategic Plan Discussion](#) (PowerPoint linked)

Staff reviewed the [Enhanced Water Trail Plan](#) (2011) which outlines 28 strategies for implementation and management. Each strategy was discussed in order to frame prioritization of activities for coming years.

Staff and AC members propose to PRIORTIZE the following strategies/considerations IN 2019:

- SLR PLANNING at top of list out of existing 44 sites – 30 sites lost with 12” SLR – opportunity to link to BCDC’s ART BAY AREA ASSESEMENT
- Start thinking about new sites being further inshore / higher elevation – emphasis on adaptable until end of century
- Tracking erosion and flooding issues at various sites
- As other landscape scale adaptation projects are in planning phase – emphasis on thoughtful input – linking water trail access in larger projects – adaptations if levee built and a beach lost – how to continue to provide access in that area
- EEJ community engagement in access decision making – engaging nontraditional boating – include in outreach focus
- Use Counts – continue to think through how Water Trail designation creates impacts use patterns – justifying strategic initiatives
- Connect with Delta folks – Delta Conservancy Planning Process + Carquinez Straights Loop Trail – Randy Anderson Trail People Planning
- Review sites designated and where signs have been posted as conditionally required.