

San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program

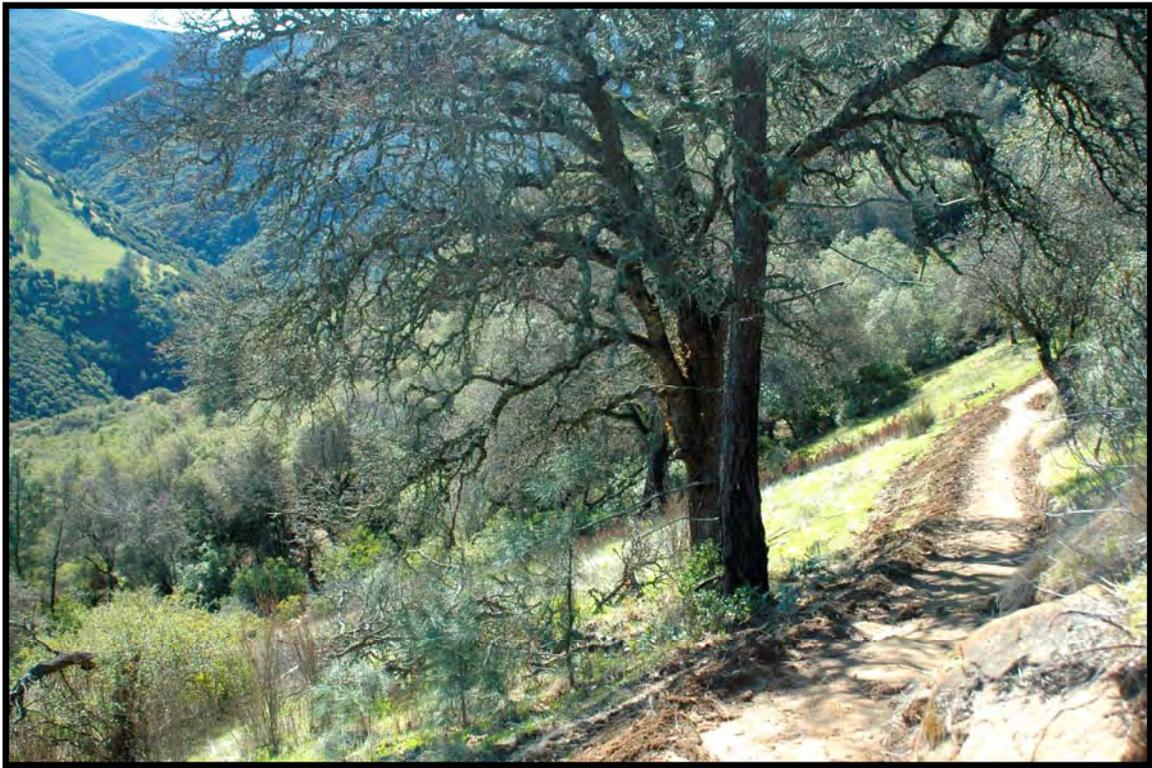


Photo: Stebbins Cold Canyon Reserve, U.C. Davis Natural Reserve System

The
Seventh Year Report

FY 2005-2006

prepared by the
Bay Area Open Space Council and State Coastal Conservancy
July 1, 2009

ABOUT THIS REPORT

The San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program (Bay Area Conservancy Program) was established in 1997 through state legislation authored by Senator Byron Sher. The Bay Area Conservancy Program is administered by the California State Coastal Conservancy and received its first funding in July of 1999.

The Bay Area Conservancy Program provides a regional perspective and a coordinated funding approach. This report describes the projects that have been awarded funds in the seventh year of the Bay Area Conservancy Program. Grants have been awarded in all nine Bay Area counties that are within the jurisdiction of the Program, and for the full range of program responsibilities – regionally significant public parks, trails, natural habitat preservation and restoration, farmland protection, and hands-on environmental education. All acquisitions have been with willing sellers and have included public agencies and nonprofit organizations. All dollar amounts listed in this report are approximate and are subject to change as augmented with additional funds or reduced through cost-saving measures. Additionally, not all projects approved by the Conservancy will be implemented due to unforeseen design, funding, or acquisition-related complications.

Despite the diversity of grant recipients and project purposes, all of the funded projects share several characteristics: they are regionally significant; each achieves multiple goals; all are cooperative ventures bringing together many different agencies, organizations, and interests. They close institutional gaps and bring coherence and comprehensiveness to individual efforts. This report is not meant to be an exhaustive accounting of project financing. For more detailed project information please visit the Coastal Conservancy Board archives for FY 2005-2006 online at: <http://www.coastalconservancy.ca.gov/Meetings/boardpdfs.htm>.

This Report was produced by the Bay Area Open Space Council and the State Coastal Conservancy. Special thanks go to Matthew Isles, Elizabeth Adam, Suzanne Beahrs, and Ryan Branciforte for report preparation and to Conservancy project managers for review.



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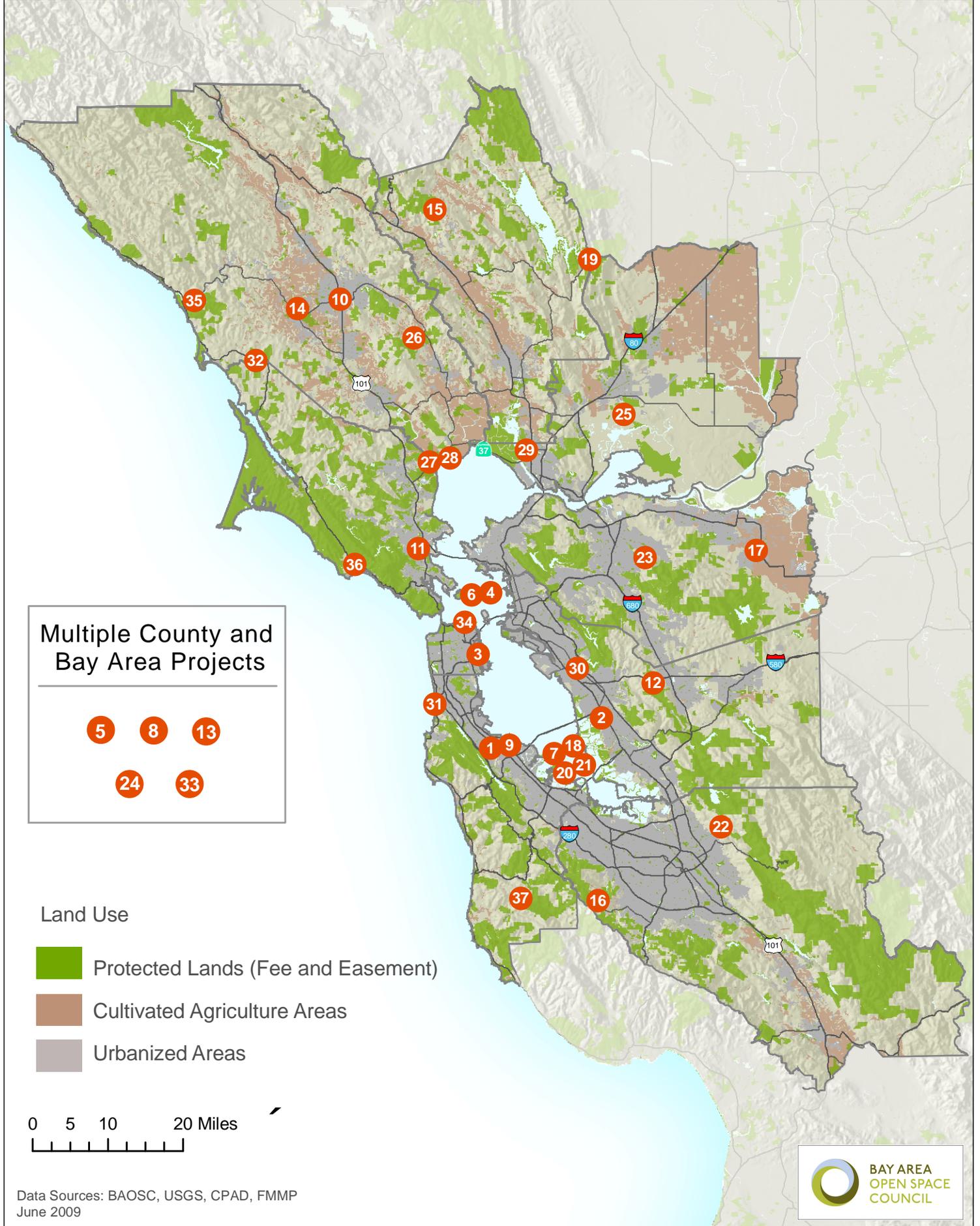
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Map of Bay Area Conservancy Projects (FY 05/06)

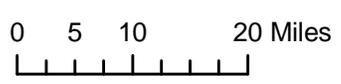


Multiple County and Bay Area Projects

5 8 13
24 33

Land Use

- Protected Lands (Fee and Easement)
- Cultivated Agriculture Areas
- Urbanized Areas



Data Sources: BAOSC, USGS, CPAD, FMMP
June 2009



Funding Summary of Bay Area Conservancy Program Projects (FY 2005-2006)

* = Multiple-County or Bay Area-Wide Project

Grant Recipient/Project Sponsor

<u>Grant Recipient/Project Sponsor</u>	Bay Area Conservancy Program (a)	Additional Conservancy Funding (b)	Matching Funds (c) (some estimated)
<i>Association of Bay Area Governments</i>			
1) San Francisco Bay Trail Project Approval, Bay Marshes Trail	\$142,837 ^d		\$200,000
2) San Francisco Bay Trail Project Approval, Eden Landing	\$163,558 ^d		\$801,877
3) San Francisco Bay Trail Project Approval, Illinois Street Bridge	\$392,837 ^d		\$22,200,000
<i>Bay Access, Incorporated</i>			
* 4) San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail Education and Partnership Development	\$50,000		\$40,800
<i>California Department of Water Resources</i>			
* 5) Watershed/Habitat and Flood Protection/Stormwater Management Components of the Bay Area Integrated Regional Water Management Plan	\$350,000		\$451,200
<i>California State Coastal Conservancy</i>			
* 6) Invasive <i>Spartina</i> Project (ISP) Phase II - Control Program 2006 Treatment, Mapping and Monitoring	\$1,949,695 ^f		\$0
* 7) South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Planning	\$3,000,000		\$6,398,600
<i>Center for Ecosystem Management and Restoration</i>			
* 8) San Francisco Estuary Fish Passage Improvement Program	\$200,000		\$35,000
<i>City of San Mateo</i>			
9) Bay Marshes Trail	\$395,000		\$200,518
<i>City of Santa Rosa</i>			
10) Prince Memorial Greenway Pierson Reach Restoration	\$400,000		\$4,163,581
<i>County of Marin</i>			
11) Corte Madera Creek Flood Protection and Environmental Enhancement Project	\$100,000		\$496,000
<i>East Bay Regional Park District</i>			
12) Pleasanton Ridge Regional Park Acquisition	\$400,000		\$550,000
<i>Greenbelt Alliance</i>			
* 13) San Francisco Bay Area Upland Habitat Goals Report	\$100,000		\$50,000
<i>Laguna de Santa Rosa Foundation</i>			
14) Laguna de Santa Rosa Restoration	\$200,000		\$240,000
<i>Land Trust of Napa County</i>			
15) Wildlake Ranch Acquisition	\$2,000,000		\$17,000,000
<i>Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District</i>			
16) Stevens Canyon Ranch Acquisition	\$500,000		\$6,600,000
<i>Natural Heritage Institute</i>			
17) Marsh Creek Watershed Stewardship Program	\$116,000 ^f		\$3,000
<i>Point Reyes Bird Observatory</i>			
* 18) South Bay Salt Pond Restoration – <i>Habitat Evolution Monitoring</i>	\$50,000 ^d		
<i>Regents of the University of California</i>			
19) Stebbins Cold Canyon Reserve Acquisition	\$46,000		\$9,700
<i>San Francisco Estuary Institute</i>			
* 20) South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Planning- <i>Planning Public Outreach Support</i>	\$261,000 ^d		
* 21) South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Planning- <i>South Bay Mercury Investigation</i>	\$146,000 ^d		\$169,000
<i>Santa Clara County Open Space Authority</i>			
22) Milpitas-Berryessa Ridge Trail Planning	\$50,000		\$50,000

Funding Summary of Bay Area Conservancy Program Projects (FY 2005-2006)

* = Multiple-County or Bay Area-Wide Project

Grant Recipient/Project Sponsor

<i>Save Mount Diablo</i>	
23) Mangini Ranch Acquisition	\$905,000
<i>Save San Francisco Bay Association</i>	
* 24) San Francisco Bay Community-Based Habitat Restoration Projects	\$100,000
<i>Solano Land Trust</i>	
25) Rush Ranch Nature and Education Center	\$500,000
<i>Sonoma Ecology Center</i>	
26) Mill Creek Headwaters Restoration	\$173,707 ^e
<i>Sonoma Land Trust</i>	
27) Sears Point Habitat Restoration	\$1,000,000 ^e
28) Sonoma Land Trust Invasive Plant Management Program	\$50,000
<i>Southern Sonoma County Resource Conservation District</i>	
29) Sonoma Creek Enhancement: Phase II	\$757,000
<i>Urban Ecology</i>	
* 30) East Bay Greenway	\$115,000
Total Funds	\$13,460,402

Bay Area Conservancy Program (a)	Additional Conservancy Funding (b)	Matching Funds (c) (some estimated)
		\$591,750
		\$200,000
		\$908,042
		\$24,200
		\$1,245,000
		\$50,000
		\$642,000
		\$229,000
\$13,460,402	\$0	\$40,175,391

Program Funding Leverage: BACP Funds/Matching Funds

25%

75%

Bay Area Projects Funded with Additional Coastal Conservancy Funds (FY 2005-2006)

Grant Recipient/Project Sponsor

<i>City of Pacifica</i>	
31) Pacifica Esplanade Acquisition	\$250,000
<i>Gold Ridge Resource Conservation District</i>	
32) Estero Americano Ranch Implementation	\$250,000
<i>KTEH-TV Foundation</i>	
33) Saving the Bay Documentary	\$100,000
<i>Maritime Museum of San Diego</i>	
34) Tall Ships Exposition 2008	\$100,000
<i>Stewards of the Coast and Redwoods</i>	
35) Willow Creek Docent Program	\$60,000
<i>Sustainable Conservation</i>	
36) Pine Gulch Creek Watershed Enhancement: Instream Flow Enhancement Project	\$50,000
37) San Mateo County Coastal Fish Barrier Removal	\$140,000

Bay Area Conservancy Program (a)	Additional Conservancy Funding (b)	Matching Funds (c) (some estimated)
	\$250,000	\$250,000
	\$250,000	\$265,000
	\$100,000	\$520,000
	\$100,000	
	\$60,000	\$45,000
	\$50,000	\$75,000
	\$140,000	\$379,000

Notes:

- a) Funds directly appropriated or granted to the Bay Area Conservancy Program
- b) Funds appropriated to the State Coastal Conservancy as an agency, of which some may be used in the Bay Area
- c) All other matching funds
- d) Funds previously authorized by the Conservancy (not counted towards totals to avoid double counting)
- e) Funds provided by a grant from the Wildlife Conservation Board to the Bay Program
- f) Funds provided by a grant from the California Bay-Delta Authority to the Bay Program

DESCRIPTION OF PROJECTS FUNDED BY THE BAY AREA CONSERVANCY PROGRAM (FY 2005–2006)

Association of Bay Area Governments

The San Francisco Bay Trail Project is a non-profit that works with ABAG to plan, promote, and implement the Bay Trail. The Conservancy provides block grants to ABAG for Bay Trail projects. Below are Bay Trail implementation projects approved by the Conservancy using these previously authorized block grant funds; Bay Trail planning projects using the block grant do not need additional Conservancy authorization and are not included in this report.

1) San Francisco Bay Trail Project Approval, Bay Marshes Trail

Location: City of San Mateo's bay shoreline, between Seal Point Park and Tidelands Park, San Mateo County

- Bay Program Funds: \$142,837
Matching Funds: \$200,000

ABAG and the Bay Trail Project will provide funds to the City of San Mateo to complete construction of a 335-foot long boardwalk extending from the Bay Trail spine into and along a degraded wetland area. The boardwalk will be built over an existing berm, thereby providing improved public access without creating additional fill. The berm itself will be broken into sections to allow improved tidal circulation and movement of wildlife. An interpretive observation platform at the end will provide excellent views over the wetland. Combining wetland restoration and controlled public access provides benefits for both wildlife and visitors and offers a great opportunity for a spur trail off the main alignment of the Bay Trail. This funding is in addition to a Conservancy Grant of \$395,000 to the City of San Mateo for this project (see Project #9).

2) San Francisco Bay Trail Project Approval, Illinois Street Bridge

Location: Illinois Street Bridge in San Francisco and the City of San Mateo's bay shoreline, between Seal Point Park and Tidelands Park.

- Bay Program Funds: \$392,837
Matching Funds: \$22,200,000

ABAG and the Bay Trail Project will fund the Port of San Francisco to make improvements to the Illinois Street Bridge including a 4-foot-wide bicycle lane on the western side of the bridge and a shared 10-foot-wide bicycle and pedestrian sidewalk on the eastern side. The bridge will be multi-modal and include vehicle, train, bicycle, and pedestrian use. It will extend over Islais Creek, and will bridge a gap in the San Francisco Bay Trail between the Southeastern neighborhoods of Bayview and Hunters Point and the rest of the city north of Pier 70. The City is undertaking a wetland restoration project at the site, and the boardwalk will control pedestrian access in the area. An interpretive observation platform at the end will provide excellent views over the wetland. Combining wetland restoration and controlled public access provides benefits for both wildlife and visitors and offers a great opportunity for a spur trail off the main alignment of the Bay Trail.

3) San Francisco Bay Trail Project Approval, Eden Landing

Location: Eden Landing, City of Hayward

- Bay Program Funds: \$163,558
Matching Funds: \$801,877

ABAG and the Bay Trail Project will provide funds to East Bay Regional Park District to construct the Bay Trail along the Eden Landing Ecological Preserve. The EBRPD owns an easement through the Preserve and will construct and manage the trail. The trail segment will be 2.94 miles long and 10 feet wide, and will run along the perimeter of the Preserve. Included in the project are a 24-car parking lot and a 1,200 square foot viewing platform to provide views of the Eden Landing pond complex, part of the South Bay Salt Ponds restoration project. In conjunction with the proposed Oliver Gap Bay Trail segment (to be constructed in 2007-8), this Eden Landing Bay Trail segment would extend the existing Bay Trail spine southward from Highway 92 and 9.3 miles of continuous Bay Trail spine extending from San Leandro to Union City. As a result, this project would connect all the communities along this stretch of Bay Trail while providing an alternative travel option for bicycle commuters and access to a unique area with restored bay wetlands and wildlife.

Bay Access, Incorporated

4) San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail Education & Partnership Development

Location: San Francisco Bay Area counties

- Bay Program Funds: \$50,000
Matching Funds: \$40,800

Bay Access, Incorporated (Bay Access) will develop an outreach and communications plan and initiate the development of an environmental education and stewardship program in support of the newly conceived and legislatively mandated San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail (Water Trail). The proposed work will complement and expand



Photo: Bay Access, Inc. 2005

upon the work of the Bay Conservation and Development Commission, the Conservancy, and the Association of Bay Area Governments, who are working with a steering committee of stakeholders (including Bay Access) to create the San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail Plan by January 2008. The project will bring additional expertise and members of the public into the planning process, will begin the process of educating Water Trail users about environmental and safety issues, and will help lay the foundation for the implementation of the Water Trail, which the Conservancy will coordinate. Implementation of a formal Water Trail after the current planning process is completed is expected to advance navigational safety; avoid or minimize impacts to sensitive wildlife; promote stewardship; achieve greater public education about wildlife protection issues; and increase opportunities for overnight stays at trail heads by improving camping and lodging nearby.

California Department of Water Resources

5) Watershed/Habitat and Flood Protection/Stormwater Management Components of the Bay Area Integrated Regional Water Management Plan

Location: San Francisco Bay Watershed, including portions of each of the nine Bay Area counties.

- Bay Program Funds: \$350,000
Matching Funds: \$451,200

The Conservancy obtained \$451,200 from the Department of Water Resources to complete the development of the Watershed Management and Habitat Protection and Restoration Plan (WMHPRP) and the Flood Protection and Stormwater Management components of the Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP) for the San Francisco Bay Area region and to integrate those components into the IRWMP. The Bay Area IRWMP is a multi-stakeholder, nine-county effort to coordinate a strategic approach to regional water management. The Plan builds on water resources needs and planning strategies identified throughout the Bay Area, leveraging regional cooperation to more effectively address the needs identified. The Conservancy and seventeen other Bay Area entities have signed a Letter of Mutual Understandings with respect to their joint efforts towards developing an IRWMP. Given the complexity of the IRWMP planning process and the associated environmental compliance, the Conservancy allocated an additional \$150,000 for technical assistance with these matters.

The IRWMP and its components were completed in November 2006. Completion of the Bay Area IRWMP enables the Conservancy to ensure that habitat and watershed resources are a priority consideration and to allow the Bay Region to be eligible for IRWMP project implementation funding, made available by provisions of Propositions 50 and 84.

The WMHPRP (also known as the Watershed Functional Area Component of the IRWMP) is also a stand alone

document that assists the Conservancy in meeting the San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program requirements to identify long-term resource goals and guide future funding of projects that protect, restore, and enhance natural habitats and watersheds. An additional allocation of \$200,000 was made by the Conservancy to enable refinement of the WMHRMP.

California State Coastal Conservancy

6) Invasive *Spartina* Project (ISP) Phase II-Control Program 2006 Treatment, Mapping and Monitoring

Location: The baylands and lower creek channels of the nine counties that bound the San Francisco Bay.

- Bay Program Funds: \$1,949,695

Note: Bay Program funds are from a grant by the California Bay-Delta Authority.

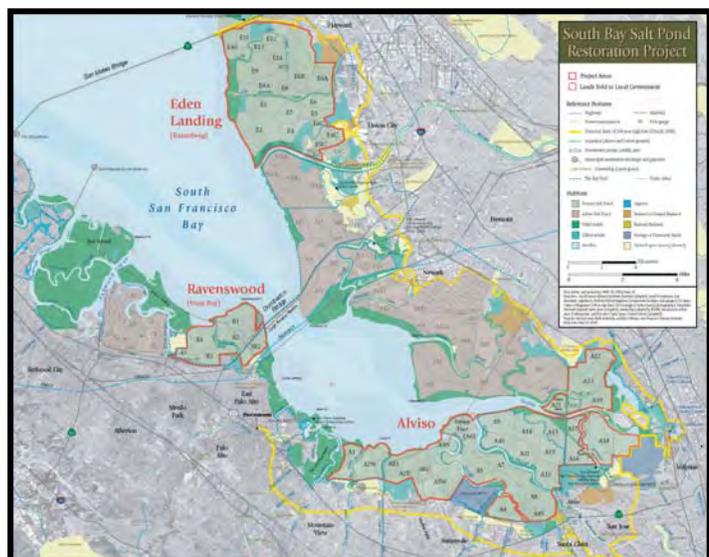
Since 1999, the Conservancy has managed the regionally coordinated effort to treat and control invasive *Spartina* and its hybrids within the San Francisco Bay Estuary, which is critical to the long-term health of the Estuary and to the species which inhabit and rely upon the salt marshes and tidal flats along its perimeter. Building upon partnerships and successful regional coordination in 2005, ISP will continue to pursue the same aggressive strategy for 2006. This will involve re-treating the same sites where partial infestation may have returned, and adding a majority of the remaining phased sites for initial treatment. These activities are already incorporated into the existing Site-Specific Plans, covering 2005 and 2006, but work for 2006 will include some treatment work that was originally planned to take place in 2005. The Conservancy was awarded a grant from the California Bay-Delta Authority Ecosystem Restoration Program (ERP) to continue and expand monitoring associated with the ISP Control Program through 2009. This includes 1) annual surveys for non-native *Spartina* in the San Francisco Estuary and the outer coast marshes lying in proximity to the mouth of the Estuary; 2) monitoring marsh areas treated to control invasive *Spartina* to determine if treatment was effective, including genetic analysis of *Spartina* samples, and 3) surveys of endangered species, with special emphasis on the California clapper rail (collectively, the “Monitoring Program”). The Conservancy will disburse ERP funds as an augmentation to existing ISP management contract(s) for monitoring and mapping. The Monitoring Program will also involve a new interagency agreement to the University of California at Davis or to an environmental services contractor, for the genetic analysis of *Spartina* samples.

7) South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Planning

Location: San Francisco Bay, south of the San Mateo Bridge, in Alameda, Santa Clara, and San Mateo Counties

- Bay Program Funds: \$3,000,000
Matching Funds: \$6,398,600

The Conservancy, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the California Department of Fish and Game are working with consultants, non-governmental organizations, universities, and public agencies to plan the restoration of 15,100 acres of formerly commercial salt ponds to a mix of tidal marsh, mudflat, managed ponds and other wetland habitats over a projected five-year restoration planning effort. This planning stage involves data collection, alternatives formulation, environmental analysis, and extensive public input. When the planning process is completed, restoration alternatives



Source: San Francisco Estuary Institute

will be outlined in a South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Plan and Environmental Impact Report/Statement. The planning process also includes initial design and permits for the first of several phases of restoration implementation. In addition to working on the Restoration Plan, the Conservancy, Santa Clara Valley Water District and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will begin work on the South San Francisco Bay Shoreline Study once all three agencies have entered into a cost-share agreement. The Shoreline Study will identify specific flood management, habitat restoration and public access improvements projects in the South Bay. The Shoreline Study encompasses a larger area of the South Bay than the Salt Pond Restoration Project, including areas adjacent to the salt ponds in Santa Clara Counties. This study will facilitate the restoration of the South Bay Salt Ponds because it will complete the required analysis for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to cost-share significant portions of future environmental restoration, public access, and tidal and creek flood protection projects identified in the South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Plan.

Center for Ecosystem Management and Restoration

8) San Francisco Estuary Fish Passage Improvement Program

Location: Watersheds within the San Francisco Estuary

- Bay Program Funds: \$200,000
Matching Funds: \$35,000

The proposed San Francisco Estuary Fish Passage Improvement Program will produce designs for well-engineered fish passage projects which can then be used for subsequent permit applications and project construction, thus making the project a vital step for the restoration of steelhead trout in the Bay Area's most important steelhead streams. Steelhead fisheries in the San Francisco Estuary are part of the Central California Coast Evolutionary Significant Unit, which is listed as "threatened" under the Endangered Species Act. To build on the information in its 2005 *San Francisco Estuary Steelhead Status Report*, CEMAR is currently working to complete a San Francisco Estuary Watershed Fisheries Evaluation. This project, which received Conservancy funding, will provide an evaluation of the potential of San Francisco Estuary's streams to provide habitat for restored steelhead runs and identify restoration projects in at least seven high priority watersheds. The Fisheries Evaluation project is nearing completion and, as the next step, CEMAR will now conduct engineering analyses, prepare conceptual designs, and develop detailed cost estimates to modify at least four of the fish migration barriers identified as key barriers in the Fisheries Evaluation report. The proposed San Francisco Estuary Fish Passage Improvement Program will conduct technical analyses to define the ecologically-preferred alternative for barrier modification, will verify the technical feasibility of the projects, and will help to solidify political support for these projects. This project will expedite the recovery of habitat for steelhead, as well as other anadromous fish and aquatic species, in the streams of the San Francisco Estuary.

City of San Mateo

9) Bay Marshes Trail

Location: City of San Mateo's bay shoreline, between Seal Point Park and Tidelands Park, San Mateo County

- Bay Program Funds: \$395,000
Matching Funds: \$343,355

The City of San Mateo will complete construction of a 335-foot long boardwalk extending from the Bay Trail spine into and along a degraded wetland area. The boardwalk will be built over an existing berm, thereby providing improved public access without creating additional fill. The berm itself will be broken into sections to allow improved tidal circulation and movement of wildlife. An interpretive observation platform at the end will provide excellent views over the wetland. Combining wetland restoration and controlled public access provides benefits for both wildlife and visitors and offers a great opportunity for a spur trail off the main alignment of the Bay Trail. This funding is in addition to an initial Conservancy Grant of \$142,837 to the City of San Mateo for this project, which was made under a previously approved block grant to ABAG (see Project #1).

City of Santa Rosa

10) Prince Memorial Greenway Pierson Reach Restoration

Location: City of Santa Rosa, Sonoma County

- Bay Program Funds: \$400,000
Matching Funds: \$4,163,581

This project includes the removal of grouted concrete and non-native vegetation, planting with native riparian species, bank stabilization, and construction of stream habitat structures along a 1,900-foot stretch of Santa Rosa Creek called Pierson Reach. The City has undertaken restoration of the creek through a multi-year effort known as the Prince Memorial Greenway Project, the last segment of which is the proposed Pierson Reach Project. The City of Santa Rosa proposes to restore this last segment in a similar manner as was successfully done for the previous five phases of the Greenway Project, transforming the creek from a concrete channel built in the 1960s to a meandering healthy stream with riparian habitat. In addition to enhancing habitat conditions for fish and wildlife, the overall Greenway Project creates stream-side trails and overlooks, establishes alternative transportation pathways, improves water quality, maintains the flood capacity, revitalizes the downtown area, and provides educational opportunities for the citizens of Santa Rosa. While Conservancy funding will assist with creek restoration, other funding sources will allow the City to build access improvements and educational signage in conjunction with the stream restoration of the Pierson Reach stretch. Steelhead trout and Chinook salmon, both threatened fish species, were once abundant here. The endangered California yellow-billed cuckoo and California freshwater shrimp also once inhabited the Santa Rosa Creek, but are no longer present. Completion of the project will increase the chances for return of these species, and recovery of the steelhead trout and Chinook salmon because it will provide access to 14 miles of excellent spawning and rearing habitat upstream, and connect to the existing riparian canopy downstream.



County of Marin

11) Corte Madera Creek Flood Protection and Environmental Enhancement Project

Location: Ross Valley, including the towns of Fairfax, San Anselmo, Ross, Larkspur, and Corte Madera, and the unincorporated communities of Kentfield and Greenbrae, Marin County

- Bay Program Funds: \$100,000
Matching Funds: \$496,000

This project is designed to provide the hydraulic and fish passage studies and analysis needed by the County of Marin to complete the County's flood protection and environmental enhancement plan (Plan) for the Corte Madera Creek watershed in Ross Valley, Marin County. The objective of the Plan is to reduce flood threats while addressing long-standing concerns about diminishing salmonid populations and degraded riparian habitat. After the plan is completed, the County will proceed with efforts to establish a local assessment district to help fund implementation. The County will also investigate the potential for federal participation in flood management and fish barrier modification for portions of Corte Madera Creek, and will seek future funding for Plan implementation



from other interested agencies and organizations, including the Coastal Conservancy. The Corte Madera Creek watershed is one of the few drainages in San Francisco Bay still supporting a viable population of California steelhead trout. Within the last few years, several pair of Chinook salmon were also found in the creek, although these fish may have been strays from the Sacramento River. Resource agencies have determined that the creek historically contained a significant run of Coho salmon and would be a good candidate for reintroduction of this species. Four bridges, two culverts, and an antiquated fish ladder represent the primary constrictions to the high-water flows that cause extensive overbank flooding, and are also among the worst barriers to fish passage. A primary goal of the Plan will be the development of non-structural approaches to flood management, providing adequate protection for property owners while improving fish passage and water quality in the watershed. The planning process will include the completion of hydraulic and fish passage studies and analysis; the development of a hydraulic model of relevant portions of the creek; identifying key flow constraints; preparation of floodplain maps; and identification of conceptual solutions to resolve flood issues and enhance in-stream and riparian habitat.

East Bay Regional Park District

12) Pleasanton Ridge Regional Park Acquisition



Photo: Susan Canale, East Bay Regional Park District

Location: Pleasanton Ridge, Alameda County

- Bay Program Funds: \$400,000
Matching Funds: \$550,000

The East Bay Regional Park District will acquire the 106-acre Vinson property, which is adjacent to the Pleasanton Ridge Regional Park in unincorporated Alameda County, just west of the City of Pleasanton. Acquisition of the Vinson property is a priority for Conservancy assistance because it will protect wildlife habitat and a wildlife corridor from development, provide the opportunity for a trail linkage between the northwestern quadrant of the regional park and a proposed staging area, complete the protection of the Hedd Creek watershed, and provide a future link to the Calaveras Ridge Trail.

Greenbelt Alliance

13) San Francisco Bay Area Upland Habitat Goals Report: Phase I

Location: San Francisco Bay Area counties

- Bay Program Funds: \$100,000
Matching Funds: \$50,000

The *Upland Habitat Goals* report will be a conservation plan recommending types, acreage, and configuration of habitats needed to maintain regional biodiversity. The report will be a decision-support tool that the Conservancy and others will use to prioritize funding and project development for the acquisition, preservation, and enhancement of upland habitat and riparian corridors in the nine-county Bay Area. Phase I, which will take about one year to complete, will include analysis and integration of existing data, peer-reviewed identification of conservation targets and methodology, an initial analysis of plant community protection in the San Francisco Bay Area, and a web page describing the project and making data layers available to the public. Greenbelt Alliance will produce briefing papers on the work products produced in Phase I so that the results may be immediately used while the second (final) phase is underway. Greenbelt Alliance will administer this project under the direction of the Bay Area Open Space Council (BAOSC). The BAOSC will lead the *Upland Habitat Goals* project using a science-based process and the scope of work developed with a 2004 grant from the Coastal Conservancy. Creation of the report will be approached in two phases because funding to carry out all the details of the scope of work is not yet available. The approach for the *Upland Habitat Goals* project is to bring together scientists and resource managers representing all or the majority of the agencies and organizations responsible for protecting, restoring, and enhancing Bay Area upland habitats to recommend habitat goals. The *Upland Habitat Goals* report will be designed to be a guide for action and project implementation. This design acknowledges that scientists and conservation practitioners are not always in agreement about what is most important to protect, or how to evaluate habitats. The project is thus structured to develop goals based on a broad-based assessment of what is important, why it is important, where the threats are, and how those threats can most effectively be addressed.

Laguna de Santa Rosa Foundation

14) Laguna de Santa Rosa Restoration

Location: Surrounds the main channel of the Laguna de Santa Rosa located in western Sonoma County south of the Russian River. Riparian habitat restoration will take place along the main channel in unincorporated Sonoma County and the City of Sebastopol, and oak savannah restoration will be undertaken in the City of Santa Rosa.

- Bay Program Funds: \$200,000
Matching Funds: \$240,000



Stretching 14 miles south of the Russian River, the Laguna de Santa Rosa is the largest tributary to the Russian River and the second largest freshwater wetland in coastal Northern California. The Laguna's wetlands and surrounding upland areas are home to a wide variety of wildlife and provide an important stopover for thousands of birds migrating along the Pacific Flyway. Endangered coho salmon and steelhead trout inhabit the Laguna, and its main channel is surrounded by a biologically diverse expanse of oak woodland, annual grassland and seasonal wetlands, which are home to a variety of state and federally listed plant and animal species. Laguna de Santa Rosa Foundation will restore habitat for these species along the main channel of the Laguna. This project will restore approximately one continuous mile of riparian habitat, restore an additional 1,500 linear feet of riparian

habitat, and restore 10 acres of an historic oak savannah habitat complex that slopes towards the main channel.

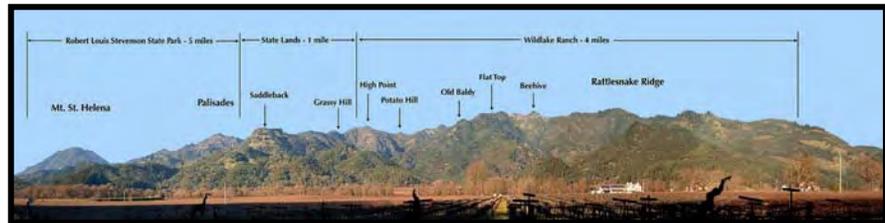
Land Trust of Napa County

15) Wildlake Ranch Acquisition

Location: East of Calistoga and northwest of Angwin in the Eastern Mountains in unincorporated Napa County

- Bay Program Funds: \$2,000,000
Matching Funds: \$17,000,000

Acquisition of Wildlake Ranch is a priority for Conservancy assistance because it is a large, scenic, biologically rich and diverse, strategically located property that is threatened by development. The sprawling ranch climbs eastward up the slopes of the Eastern Mountains from an elevation of approximately 600 feet near the floor of the Napa Valley to over 2,800 feet at the summit of Three Peaks, and down into remote canyons, encompassing the upper reaches of three major watersheds and dominating the landscape east of Calistoga. Its rugged landscape supports over a dozen different types of vegetation communities, and at least two state-listed rare plants. Wild Lake, a 4-acre impoundment, adds to the habitat diversity. A 2003 study of Napa County conducted by The Nature Conservancy in cooperation with the Land Trust identified Wildlake Ranch as a “core conservation area” by virtue of its natural resources and connectivity with other protected areas. The property also presents great potential for trails that could extend some 15 miles from the southern end of Wildlake Ranch to the northern end of Robert Louis Stevenson State Park. Over the long-term, the Land Trust hopes to transfer title and management to the California Department of Parks and Recreation.



Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District

16) Stevens Canyon Ranch Acquisition

Location: Stevens Canyon Road, adjacent to Saratoga Gap Open Space Preserve, west of the City of Saratoga in western Santa Clara County

- Bay Program Funds: \$500,000
Matching Funds: \$6,600,000

Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District will acquire from the Peninsula Open Space Trust the 238-acre Stevens Canyon Ranch for inclusion within the 1,305-acre Saratoga Gap Open Space Preserve owned and managed by the District. Readily accessible from nearby communities, Stevens Canyon Ranch lies at the heart of over 6,720 acres of public land in the upper Stevens Creek watershed.



Photo: Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District

The property’s strategic location along Stevens Canyon Road between Saratoga Gap Open Space Preserve, Monte Bello Open Space Preserve, and the County of Santa Clara’s Stevens Canyon Park make it an ideal site for a public staging area. The property provides excellent opportunities for visitors to access regional trails. The partially-completed and heavily-used Stevens Creek Trail will eventually connect the Bay Area Ridge Trail with the San Francisco Bay Trail. The second, new trail would connect with the chain of parks and preserves along Skyline Boulevard and the California State Parks’ “Skyline to the Sea” trail through Castle Rock and Big Basin State Parks. The property’s outstanding recreational, natural, and cultural resources also make it an attractive destination in itself. Stevens Canyon Ranch is made up of a mix of riparian habitat, redwood forest, oak woodland, grassland, and mixed evergreen forest, and provides habitat for two special status plants.

Natural Heritage Institute

17) Marsh Creek Watershed Stewardship Program

Location: Marsh Creek Watershed, Contra Costa County

- Bay Program Funds: \$119,000

Note: \$116,000 in Bay Program funds are from a grant by the California Bay-Delta Authority.

Natural Heritage Institute (NHI) will design and implement a data collection and monitoring program to collect information about water quality and sediment loads in Marsh Creek, including a mercury sampling program, as well as coordinate outreach activities and work on riparian corridor planning efforts. NHI will select and manage a data and water quality monitoring consultant to complete this task. The final product of the data collection and water quality monitoring component will be a data report; the data report will help in the development of the final design report for restoration of lower Marsh Creek. This data collection and monitoring work is being done as a part of a larger Marsh Creek Watershed Outreach and Restoration Project that was originally funded in FY 03-04. The restoration planning portion of the project, of which the water quality monitoring program is a vital component, will produce a restoration plan for 100 acres of wetlands and hundreds of linear feet of floodplains along the urbanizing reaches of Marsh Creek. In addition, one of the main goals of the restoration planning of lower Marsh Creek is to integrate the project into the adjacent Dutch Slough Wetland Restoration Project. It is anticipated that the lower Marsh Creek restoration project will provide approximately 750,000 cubic yards of fill material for the Dutch Slough Wetland Restoration Project, which will reduce the cost of the project. The restoration of lower Marsh Creek and the Dutch Slough Wetland site would restore habitat for several endangered species, including Sacramento splittail, Chinook salmon, delta smelt, and western pond turtle.

Point Reyes Bird Observatory

18) South Bay Salt Pond Restoration – *Habitat Evolution Monitoring*

Location: San Francisco Bay, south of the San Mateo Bridge, in Alameda, Santa Clara, and San Mateo Counties.

- Bay Program Funds: \$50,000
Matching Funds: \$0

Funds are being provided to the Point Reyes Bird Observatory for habitat modeling work required to complete the South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project (noted in project number 7). This grant will use funds that the Conservancy previously authorized for work associated with the South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Planning.

Regents of the University of California

19) Stebbins Cold Canyon Reserve Acquisition

Location: Above the southeast shores of Lake Berryessa and Highway 128, in Napa and Solano Counties.

- Bay Program Funds: \$46,000
Matching Funds: \$9,700



Photo: U.C. Davis Natural Reserve System

University of California will acquire two parcels totaling approximately 59 acres above the southeast shores of Lake Berryessa in Napa and Solano Counties. The property will be included within the Stebbins Cold Canyon Reserve, a 576-acre reserve that is part of the University of California Natural Reserve System (UCNRS) and managed by the UC Davis Natural Reserve System (UC Davis NRS). The property, currently in private ownership, is adjacent to the Stebbins Cold Canyon Reserve. The Reserve is comprised of State Department of Fish and Game (DFG) land to the east, U.S. Bureau of Land Management land to the south, and UCNRS land to the southeast. Primary access to the property is a narrow public use hiking trail leading from Highway 128 up through DFG lands. Acquiring the property will provide for continued and improved public access on the

Blue Ridge Loop Trail, the most popular hiking trail in the 785,000-acre Blue Ridge-Berryessa Natural Area. Purchase of the property by the University will allow the UC Davis NRS to restore the existing trail, including trail realignment, revetment, and installation of steps. The proposed trail work will reduce erosion, restore affected areas, and make the trail safer for the public. The UC Davis NRS will coordinate improvement of the trail and will provide management of the Reserve in perpetuity. Stebbins Cold Canyon Reserve, one of the few natural reserves in the UCNRS that serves the dual purposes of academic research and public use, hosts about 7,000 to 8,000 visitors annually. There are significant habitat values on the property, including specialized rock outcrop flora and a peregrine falcon aerie.

San Francisco Estuary Institute

20) South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Planning – *Planning Public Outreach Support*

Location: San Francisco Bay, south of the San Mateo Bridge, in Alameda, Santa Clara, and San Mateo Counties

- Bay Program Funds: \$261,000
Matching Funds: \$0

For this project, Conservancy funds are being provided to the San Francisco Estuary Institute for two years of managing data collected as part of the South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project (see project number 7), principally in a Geographic Information System (GIS), hosting and managing the South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project web site, (www.southbayrestoration.org), as well as creating and managing a new web site for the South San Francisco Bay Shoreline Study (www.southbaysshoreline.org). This grant will use funds that the Conservancy previously authorized for work associated with the South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Planning and the South San Francisco Bay Shoreline Study.

21) South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Planning – *South Bay Mercury Investigation*

Location: San Francisco Bay, south of the San Mateo Bridge, in Alameda, Santa Clara, and San Mateo Counties

- Bay Program Funds: \$146,000
Matching Funds: \$169,000

This study is part of San Francisco Estuary Institute's (SFEI) investigations of San Francisco Bay's ecosystems and also an important element of the South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project (see project number 7) that the Conservancy is undertaking in cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the California Dept. of Fish and Game, the Santa Clara Valley Water District (SCVWD), and others. The degree of risk posed by mercury to wildlife and human health in the South Bay was identified as one of the key uncertainties requiring further investigation in the Shoreline Study. The study consists of an investigation on the bioavailability of mercury in the South Bay Salt Ponds and adjacent sloughs to determine the degree of threat to wildlife and human health both under existing conditions and as environmental conditions change subsequent to habitat restoration as part of the South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project. The study is a combined effort of SFEI, U.S. Geological Survey, and SCVWD.

Santa Clara County Open Space Authority

22) Milpitas-Berryessa Ridge Trail Planning

Location: Northeast of the City of San Jose, in unincorporated Santa Clara County

- Bay Program Funds: \$50,000
Matching Funds: \$50,000

Santa Clara County Open Space Authority (SCCOSA) will plan and design a new 6-mile multi-use segment of the San Francisco Bay Area Ridge Trail in the Milpitas-Berryessa area. SCCOSA will complete planning and environmental review of: 1) completion of the Ridge Trail through the Kirk, Furtado, and Vilas properties, which SCCOSA owns in fee title, as well as the Frankel property, on which SCCOSA recently acquired a conservation and trail easement, and 2) a staging area on Sierra Road, which would allow access to the trail from the uphill portion of the properties. The proposed segment of trail will cover approximately half of the distance of a strategic gap in the Ridge Trail between Alum Rock Park and Joseph D. Grant Regional Park to the south. When completed, the trail on SCCOSA lands will allow hikers to walk from a beautiful low elevation riparian corridor within Alum Rock Park, to spectacular vistas above 2,500-feet in elevation. This is a regionally significant trail segment, providing new trail experiences to South Bay communities. The project site is located east of downtown San José and is convenient from a large number of population centers and recreation facilities. The planning will include CEQA analysis and documentation for review and possible adoption by the SCCOSA Board of Directors.



Photo: Santa Clara County Open Space Authority

Save Mount Diablo

23) Mangini Ranch Acquisition

Location: The Mangini Ranch property is located in an unincorporated area of Contra Costa County, north of Walnut Creek, and south of Concord and Clayton

- Bay Program Funds: \$905,000
Matching Funds: \$591,750

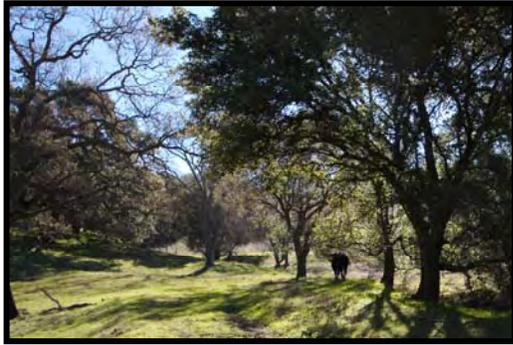


Photo: Abe Doherty

This project funds Save Mount Diablo's acquisition of an approximately 208-acre portion of the Mangini Ranch property, an undeveloped property in unincorporated Contra Costa County. The property is located on the north side of Mount Diablo, close to the Crystyl Ranch subdivision in the City of Concord, and adjacent to Lime Ridge Open Space. This project is a priority for the San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program because it will preserve important habitat, recreation, scenic, and open space resources that are under threat of development. Of the entire 233 acre Mangini Ranch property, Save Mount Diablo will acquire approximately 208 acres. The remaining 25 acres will be retained by the Mangini family and they will provide a permanent access easement to the larger

parcel. The acquisition of the Mangini Ranch property by Save Mount Diablo and its protection as open space will provide for the protection of diverse wildlife habitats and rare and threatened plant and animal species, will enable the expansion of the public's natural lands, and will extend two regional trails, the Lime Ridge Ridgeline Trail and the California State Riding and Hiking Trail.

Save San Francisco Bay Association

24) San Francisco Bay Community-Based Habitat Restoration Projects

Location: Alameda, Santa Clara, San Mateo, Marin, and Sonoma Counties

- Bay Program Funds: \$100,000
Matching Funds: \$200,000

Save San Francisco Bay Association (Save The Bay) will carry out six community-based habitat restoration projects. Each of the projects has been developed in cooperation with the corresponding public agency landowner and other stakeholders, and each will be carried out as part of Save The Bay's environmental education and community-based restoration programs for students in grades K-12 and adult volunteers. The six high marsh and transitional area restoration projects have regionally significant fish and wildlife habitat and are a cost-effective, low-impact way to accomplish removal of non-native species and replacement with native species and constitute an investment in long-term stewardship through environmental education and volunteer participation. With Conservancy funding and 2:1 matching funds from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Save the Bay will work to accomplish habitat restoration at the six project sites. Within approximately one year, Save the Bay will hire a landscape architect to refine existing planting plans; propagate plants for each site, mostly in its existing on-site nurseries; schedule school and volunteer groups purchase equipment; manage field operations, including removal of non-native plants, installation of natives, and monitoring plant establishment; and coordinate with project participants in advance of and throughout the project periods.



Photo: Save The Bay

Solano Land Trust

25) Rush Ranch Nature and Education Center

Location: Unincorporated Solano County on the northern edge of the Suisun Marsh.

- Bay Program Funds: \$500,000
Matching Funds: \$908,042

Solano Land Trust will construct a nature and education center at Rush Ranch in Solano County. The center will include a classroom with multimedia capability and views of Suisun Marsh, educational displays, basic kitchen facilities, decking, and a garden patio area featuring native plant species from the ranch. A series of interpretive



Photo: Solano Land Trust

signs will be posted along the wetland trail, funded by a matching grant from the San Francisco Estuary Project. These improvements to the existing infrastructure at Rush Ranch will increase public access to educational programs at the ranch, increase the number of school groups that will be able to use the site, expand the content of the programs that can be offered, and allow casual ranch visitors to learn about Suisun Marsh and other important natural resources and conservation work at Rush Ranch without being part of a formal program. Rush Ranch is a federally designated site for the San Francisco Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, which is a partnership among the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Solano Land Trust, California Department of Parks and Recreation, San Francisco State University, and the Bay Conservation and

Development Commission. Solano Land Trust will incorporate “green design” into the building to reduce energy demands and conserve water, and will use recycled building materials. The ranch is open to the public five days a week and is managed for the enhancement of wetland and wildlife habitat, public education and recreational opportunities, and continued agricultural production. Approximately 2,000 elementary school children and perhaps an equal number of other visitors come to Rush Ranch on an annual basis. Horse-drawn carriage rides around the ranch are offered at no cost to persons with disabilities by Access Adventures. The Rush Ranch Educational Council schedules educational programs for school children one day a week in the summer and fall.

Sonoma Ecology Center

26) Mill Creek Headwaters Restoration

Location: The proposed project is located in Jack London State Historic Park on the northeast side of Sonoma Mountain in the unincorporated Sonoma County.

- Bay Program Funds: \$173,707
Matching Funds: \$24,200

Note: Bay Program funding for this project is from a grant by the Wildlife Conservation Board.

In this project, Sonoma Ecology Center (SEC) will restore high value spring/channel headwaters of Mill Creek to prevent 7500 cubic yards of sediment from polluting 18 miles of habitat consisting of the Mill Creek tributary to its confluence with Sonoma Creek and along Sonoma Creek to the San Francisco Estuary. This project will contribute to the efforts to achieve recovery of the federally and State listed steelhead and Chinook salmon that utilize Sonoma Creek’s rearing and spawning habitat. Together with California Department of Parks and Recreation (State Parks), SEC proposes to reduce the excess sediment by restoring 2 acres of the headwaters of Mill Creek where the two badly failed stream crossings occur. SEC and State Parks will remove excess fill and two collapsed culverts from the two degraded stream crossings, re-establish natural flow patterns between source springs and three headwater channels, and install a single new crossing using State Department of Fish and Game-approved protocols. The project also entails reconstruction of a 1500-foot long trail to minimize impacts to the restored riparian area.

Sonoma Land Trust

27) Sears Point Habitat Restoration

Location: Due west and south of Sears Point (Infinion) Raceway, with some areas north of Highway 37, east of Lakeville Highway and south to San Pablo Bay, Sonoma County

- Bay Program Funds: \$1,000,000
Matching Funds: \$1,245,000

Note: Bay Program funding for this project is from a grant by the Wildlife Conservation Board.



Photo: John Brosnan, Sonoma Land Trust

Sonoma Land Trust will complete feasibility studies, preliminary and final restoration plans, environmental documents, engineering designs and specifications, and permit applications for the Sears Point Restoration Project. This restoration project provides the Bay Area's sole opportunity to reconnect the historic gradient from tidal marsh and seasonal wetlands, to alluvial fans, and upland hill slopes up to 400' above sea level. The project will restore 1,400 acres of diked agricultural baylands to a mix of tidal and non-tidal marsh. Another approximately 900 acres of uplands will be restored to a mosaic of habitats including riparian, native grassland, vernal pools and plunge pools. The project's ecological goals are based on the recommendations of the 1999 *Baylands Ecosystem Habitat Goals Report for the San Francisco Estuary*. Specifically for the project area, the

Goals Report recommends restoring tidal marsh and enhancing seasonal marsh on the diked baylands and creating a natural transition from the restored marsh to uplands. Building upon these ecological goals and existing site conditions, the project vision includes management, enhancement and restoration of wetland and upland habitats consistent with the watershed's natural landscape. On the upland slopes, drainages, and alluvial fan grasslands, the emphasis will be low-intensity management and targeted enhancement. On the diked baylands north of the railroad tracks, the focus will be to limit engineering features and promote effective use of available water supplies while maintaining flood protection from storm runoff for the roads and rail line. Finally, on the diked baylands south of the railroad tracks, restoration will involve the greatest amount of design efforts to restore tidal action while protecting the railroad track from flooding. The Sears Point project will provide roughly 2.5 miles of new Bay Trail in an area not previously included in the San Francisco Bay Trail Plan. This trail will link up with the native plant nursery and headquarters of the San Pablo Bay National Wildlife Refuge as well as spur trails into the uplands, north of Highway 37. The project also seeks to preserve agriculture by continuing cattle grazing under coordinated, resource-focused means; current efforts include the development of a grazing plan that manages for control of noxious weeds and non-native species and enhances riparian vegetation and existing vernal pool complex.

28) Sonoma Land Trust Invasive Plant Management Program

Location: The invasive plant management program will encompass six properties owned by SLT located throughout unincorporated Sonoma County.

- Bay Program Funds: \$50,000
Matching Funds: \$50,000

Sonoma Land Trust (SLT) will utilize technical and stewardship staff and contract for assistance to conduct property assessments, in order to develop a comprehensive invasive plant management program for the protection of 3,775 acres, consisting of six of SLT's key conservation lands. These properties, located in the Russian River watershed and Sonoma Baylands, are threatened with habitat degradation due to the spread of invasive plants, yet contain a wealth of sensitive wildlife habitats, and, on most properties, agricultural operations. Creating a permanent program to control the invasive weeds will protect the natural landscapes and viable agricultural operations on these properties and prevent the spread of exotics to adjacent properties. SLT strives to develop model land management practices to protect these high value conservation lands. SLT proposes to create a comprehensive management approach as follows: 1) survey and identify invasive plants on key SLT properties; 2) assess and document the occurrences by location, size, health and distribution; 3) use the surveys and documentation to complete site-specific management plans, including strategies, alternative treatment methods for effective control, and monitoring protocols; and 4) utilize and expand SLT's existing volunteer stewardship program into a strategy for permanently managing invasive species.

Southern Sonoma County Resource Conservation District

29) Sonoma Creek Enhancement: Phase II

Location: Sonoma Creek, which flows through Sonoma County to San Pablo Bay about five miles south of the town of Sonoma.

- Bay Program Funds: \$757,000
Matching Funds: \$642,000

The Southern Sonoma County Resource Conservation District will refine hydrologic modeling, analyze sediment transport, prepare NEPA/CEQA and design documents, and conduct public involvement and outreach related to the restoration of lower Sonoma Creek, Sonoma County. This project will fund studies that are necessary before proceeding with habitat restoration and environmentally sensitive flood-management measures for the portion of Sonoma Creek that flows through the Schellville area. The proposed studies would provide the basis for a project design or a series of measures that would restore habitat and lessen flooding on lower Sonoma Creek. The project will address the underlying physical processes involved in sediment transport and thus may provide valuable information in the resolution of the impairment of the Creek. The proposed scope of work includes: hydraulics, sediment transport analysis, surveying, topographic mapping, development of feasible alternatives, project design and permitting, and continued stakeholder outreach.

Urban Ecology

30) East Bay Greenway

Location: Alameda County northwest from the City of Fremont to 15th Avenue in Oakland, along the corridor beneath the elevated track of the Bay Area Rapid Transit system.

- Bay Program Funds: \$115,000
Matching Funds: \$229,000



Source: Urban Ecology

Urban Ecology will prepare a conceptual plan for a proposed East Bay Greenway, an open space and public access corridor along the right-of-way beneath the elevated Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) track that runs for approximately 30 miles in a northwest direction from Fremont to 15th Avenue in Oakland. The planning process would cover 12 of the 30 miles between Hayward and 15th Avenue in Oakland and would be completed by late 2008. It will include all feasibility studies, right-of-way research, mapping, conceptual designs with linkages to San Francisco Bay and Ridge Trails and neighborhood locations, cost estimates for construction, a schedule of operation and maintenance, agency negotiations, public hearings, and environmental analysis and documentation. The project is similar in concept to the scenic and heavily used Ohlone Greenway, a 25-year old multi-use trail with greenway that was created along the right-of-way under the raised BART tracks in Berkeley, Albany and El Cerrito. Residents of and visitors to these communities utilize this open space corridor as a crucial link between job centers, housing and schools, and for a variety of recreational experiences, including hiking and bicycling. The East Bay Greenway project has the additional benefit of contributing significantly to quality of life improvements within traditionally underserved urban communities.

DESCRIPTION OF BAY AREA PROJECTS FUNDED WITH ADDITIONAL CONSERVANCY FUNDS **(FY 2005–2006)**

City of Pacifica

31) Pacifica Esplanade Acquisition

Location: 400 Esplanade Drive, northern Pacifica, San Mateo County Coast

- Other Conservancy Funds: \$250,000
Matching Funds: \$250,000

The City of Pacifica will acquire 2.170 acres of ocean-front property, located at 400 Esplanade Drive in Pacifica. The City will manage this property for public use as the Esplanade Open Space project. This project will protect valuable coastal recreational and scenic resources and provide a new segment of the California Coastal Trail. In addition to providing scenic ocean vistas, the property may be used to provide for beach stairway access in the future. The City will permanently dedicate the property for open space, recreation and public access and will offer to dedicate an easement over the property for a segment of the California Coastal Trail.

Gold Ridge Resource Conservation District

32) Estero Americano Ranch Implementation: Phase II

Location: Estero Americano watershed, Sonoma County

- Other Conservancy Funds: \$250,000
Matching Funds: \$287,750

Gold Ridge Resource Conservation District (RCD) will implement ranch resource restoration projects in the Estero Americano watershed in Sonoma County. These projects will lead to improved water quality and habitat restoration. The ranch restoration projects and monitoring procedures will impact three ranches that total roughly 750 acres. Each ranch has been evaluated for natural features, environmental assessment of its land and operations, roads, and other facilities. The resulting ranch management plans recommend specific restoration measures and a monitoring approach for each ranch. Some of the management practices suggested throughout the watershed include: water quality and temperature measurements, water conservation practices, riparian corridor restoration, road design and grading, and, recommendations for the location of future roads and facilities. The RCD ranch-implementation planning process for the Estero Americano watershed addressed 13 ranches. Plans and restoration projects for eight of the ranches were implemented in Phase I of the implementation process. The proposed project comprises Phase II of the implementation and will provide for restoration activities on the remaining three ranches. The restoration activities will be in accordance with the “Best Management Practices” adopted by the RCD in September 2004.

KTEH-TV Foundation

33) Saving the Bay Documentary

Location: All Bay Area Counties *Bay Area Conservancy Program – The Seventh Year Report (2005-2006)*

- Other Conservancy Funds: \$100,000
Matching Funds: \$520,000

KTEH-TV Foundation will produce a public educational documentary about the history and development of San Francisco Bay, with Robert Redford as the narrator. A televised documentary about the history of the bay will have wide public appeal, and be a very useful tool for educating viewers about the



Photo: Chris MacDonald

environmental issues confronting the bay now. While not exclusively focused on Conservancy projects, this documentary will nevertheless significantly increase the public's understanding of the importance of the Conservancy's efforts to expand public access and recreation and to preserve and restore bay habitats. KTEH-TV Foundation is producing a 4-hour public television program that will be aired in the Bay Area and nationwide in 2006. Production of the program includes interviews with key individuals, historical research to find vintage photographs and film clips, filming current footage of the bay shoreline and landscape, and finally, editing it all into four one-hour segments that follow specific themes. Conservancy funds will be used for the final editing tasks.

Maritime Museum of San Diego

34) Tall Ships Exposition 2008

Location: The Maritime Museum of San Diego is located on North Harbor Drive along the waterfront. Festivals will be held at waterfront locations within various California ports, including San Francisco, Los Angeles and San Diego.

- Other Conservancy Funds: \$100,000
Matching Funds: \$140,000

The Maritime Museum of San Diego will plan and sponsor Tall Ship Exposition festivals for 2008 at various California ports, including San Francisco, Los Angeles, and San Diego. The events will be held for four to five days during the summer and will feature visits from historic tall ships and working craft from around the world in conjunction with multi-cultural waterfront educational and recreational activities. Previous Tall Ship Exposition festivals in these cities were highly successful, providing a unique waterfront educational and recreational experience for both children and adults. The festivals draw upon the romance, history, and ambience of waterfronts as attractive venues. Because of their compelling imagery, newsworthy quality and evocations of heritage, tall ship festivals energize perceptions of waterfronts as desirable destinations to wide audiences. The festivals host a variety of tall ships and incorporate many waterfront themes and amenities including a parade of tall ships, onboard visits by the public, live entertainment, folk heritage demonstrations, day sails and mock battles, boat races, maritime educational programs, theatrical performances, food and merchandise sales; and parking, security and first aid arrangements. The festivals to be held during the summer of 2008 are expected to significantly stimulate economic activity in the waterfront areas of the participating cities and, in keeping with prior years, are expected to draw between 300,000 to 500,000 visitors to each waterfront during a four to five day period in the summer.

Stewards of the Coast and Redwoods

35) Willow Creek Docent Program

Location: Sonoma Coast State Park, Jenner, Sonoma County

- Other Conservancy Funds: \$60,000
Matching Funds: \$45,000

This project will continue and expand the Willow Creek Docent Program for a period of four years, and add new docent and stewardship programs for the Willow Creek State Park facility thereby helping Stewards of the Coast and Redwoods and California Department of Parks and Recreation to ensure that access to the property is consistent with the State-approved operation and management plan. There are several existing programs that will be continued and expanded, including Sonoma Coast Watershed Education Program, Sonoma Coast Environmental Living Program, and the Willow Creek Citizen Action Team. New programs to be implemented include Willow Creek Interpretive Docents, Redwood Ecology Teachers Guide, Mounted Assistance Units, Interpretive Signage, and Volunteer Recruitment.



Photos: Stewards of the Coast and Redwoods

Sustainable Conservation

36) Pine Gulch Creek Watershed Enhancement: Instream Flow Enhancement Project

Location: Pine Gulch Creek, a tributary to Bolinas Lagoon, Marin County

- Other Conservancy Funds: \$50,000
Matching Funds: \$75,000



Photo: Ron Miska

Sustainable Conservation seeks to assist a variety of partners with the planning for development of offstream water storage facilities to ensure the protection of instream flows in Pine Gulch Creek, an important steelhead and coho salmon stream tributary to Bolinas Lagoon. Currently, as in many coastal streams, farmers exercise riparian water rights, drawing water throughout the year directly from the stream for irrigation purposes. This practice frequently renders instream habitat inhospitable for juvenile salmon and other aquatic species. By facilitating the development of offsite storage for these farmers, and concurrently transferring riparian to appropriate rights, both the continued availability of an agricultural water supply and the protection of instream flow during low flow periods, typically from April through December, can be accomplished. One of

the most notable aspects of the instream flow enhancement effort is the coherent and comprehensive approach to addressing instream flow matters. The partners have addressed diversions comprehensively and coherently to guarantee instream flow for fishery habitat protection. The instream flow enhancement effort has received extensive support and project development assistance from the Point Reyes National Seashore staff, the County of Marin, the California Department of Fish and Game, National Marine Fisheries Service, and others. The instream flow enhancement effort components needing Conservancy funding include planning and design for the offsite storage facilities, development of a Safe Harbor Agreement to farmers in the event Red Legged Frogs begin utilizing new pond, negotiation of water rights permits, and preparation of the environmental analysis and permit terms.

37) San Mateo County Coastal Fish Barrier Removal

Location: Pescadero Park and greater San Mateo County

- Other Conservancy Funds: \$140,000
Matching Funds: \$379,000

Sustainable Conservation will construct a potable water well in San Mateo County's Memorial County Park (part of the County's Pescadero Park complex), which will enable San Mateo County Parks to undertake planned and funded fish barrier removal projects in Pescadero Creek. The proposed project would replace the existing in-stream water diversion that currently supplies water to thousands of Memorial County Park visitors and park users year-round. The barrier removal projects will enhance and restore threatened steelhead and endangered coho habitat in the middle reaches of Pescadero Creek by improving sediment transport and removing the remaining migration obstacles within Memorial County Park. The removal of the flashboard dam structure as described in the barrier removal project cannot proceed until the well is developed to replace the existing pipeline water diversion. This project should result in a healthier sediment transport regime, opening of additional spawning gravels, fostering additional rearing habitat, and removal of barriers affecting both juvenile and adult migration. Removal of the dam structure and modification of the Sequoia Flat crossing in Memorial County Park will address factors limiting juvenile and adult salmonids migration, facilitate the natural development of rearing habitat upstream and downstream of the existing structures, help restore spawning riffles and complex pools, and allow for the downstream mobility of spawning gravels.

Funding Summary of Bay Area Conservancy Program Projects Years One Through Seven

	Bay Area Conservancy Program (a)	Additional Conservancy Funding (b)	Matching Funds (c) (some estimated)
Year One: FY 1999-2000 (42 Projects)			
Total Conservancy Funds	\$9,722,126		\$17,990,159
	\$9,722,126		

Program Funding Leverage: BACP Funds/Matching Funds 35% 65%

Year Two: FY 2000-2001 (51 Projects)	\$20,286,027	\$21,715,000	\$80,948,268
Total Conservancy Funds	\$42,001,027		

Program Funding Leverage: BACP Funds/Matching Funds 20% 80%

Year Three: FY 2001-2002 (41 Projects)	\$16,082,196	\$5,130,000	\$57,034,781
Total Conservancy Funds	\$21,212,196		

Program Funding Leverage: BACP Funds/Matching Funds 22% 78%

Year Four: FY 2002-2003 (26 Projects)	\$15,672,185	\$5,000,000	\$66,852,488
Total Conservancy Funds	\$20,672,185		

Program Funding Leverage: BACP Funds/Matching Funds 19% 81%

Year Five: FY 2003-2004 (35 Projects)	\$17,256,585	\$544,381	\$52,371,386
Total Conservancy Funds	\$17,800,966		

Program Funding Leverage: BACP Funds/Matching Funds 25% 75%

Year Six: FY 2004-2005 (35 Projects)	\$24,327,875	\$1,500,000	\$76,987,574
Total Conservancy Funds	\$25,827,875		

Program Funding Leverage: BACP Funds/Matching Funds 24% 76%

Year Seven: FY 2005-2006 (37 Projects)	\$13,460,402	\$950,000	\$40,175,391
Total Conservancy Funds	\$14,410,402		

Program Funding Leverage: BACP Funds/Matching Funds 25% 75%

Sum Total for Years One Through Seven

	Bay Area Conservancy Program (a)	Additional Conservancy Funding (b)	Matching Funds (c) (some estimated)
Year One - Year Seven: FY 1999-2006 (256 Projects)			
Total Conservancy Funds	\$116,807,396	\$34,839,381	\$392,360,047
	\$151,646,777		

Program Funding Leverage: BACP Funds/Matching Funds 23% 77%

Notes:

- a) Funds directly appropriated or granted to the Bay Area Conservancy Program
- b) Funds appropriated to the State Coastal Conservancy as an agency, of which some may be used in the Bay Area
- c) All other matching funds