

San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program



Hikers in Glen Canyon Park, San Francisco

The **Twelfth Year Report**

July 2010 through June 2011

prepared by the State Coastal Conservancy
September, 2011

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.

This report describes the projects that were awarded funds in the twelfth years of the Bay Area Conservancy Program, from July of 2010 through June of 2011. Grants were awarded in all nine Bay Area counties that are within the jurisdiction of the Bay Area Conservancy Program, and for the full range of program responsibilities – regionally significant public parks, trails, natural habitat preservation and restoration, agricultural protection, and hands-on environmental education. All acquisitions have been with willing sellers. 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 2010-2011 online at: <http://www.scc.ca.gov>.

This Report was produced by the State Coastal Conservancy. Special thanks go to Conservancy project managers for their work managing these grants and to all the grantees and partners who made these projects a reality.



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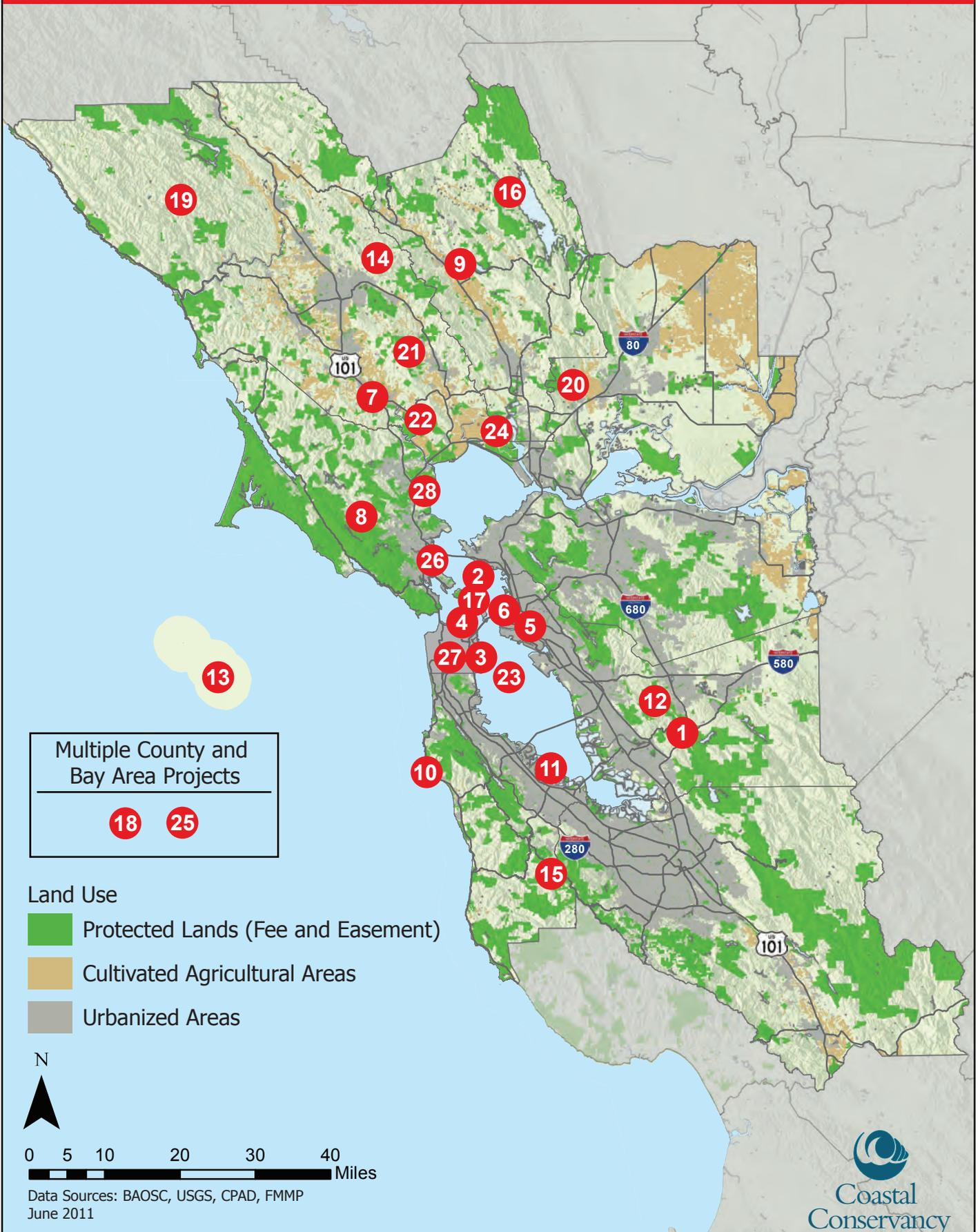
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Map of Bay Area Conservancy Projects (FY 12)



Funding Summary of Bay Area Conservancy Program Projects (July, 2010 - June, 2011)

<u>Grant Recipient / Project Sponsor</u>	Bay Area Conservancy Program (a)	Additional Conservancy Funding (b)	Matching Funds (c) (some estimated)
<i>Alameda County Water District</i> 1) Alameda Creek Flow Studies	\$30,000		\$300,000
<i>Association of Bay Area Governments</i> 2) San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail Block Grant #1	\$1,000,000		\$1,539,000
3) San Francisco Bay Trail: Cargo Way Bicycle Facility Construction (d)	\$70,000		\$360,781
4) San Francisco Bay Trail: Pier 43 Promenade (d)	\$90,000		\$6,201,000
5) State of the Estuary Conference		\$100,000	\$200,000
<i>Bay Area Toll Authority</i> 6) Gateway Park Study			\$950,000
<i>City of Petaluma</i> 7) Petaluma Trestle Rehabilitation Design	\$475,000		\$25,000
<i>County of Marin</i> 8) San Geronimo Creek Salmon Enhancement Plan Implementation, Phase 1		\$98,335	\$178,115
<i>County of Napa</i> 9) Zinfandel Land Bridge Fish Passage	\$400,000		\$666,000
<i>County of San Mateo</i> 10) Fitzgerald Marine Reserve Coastal Trail	\$250,000		\$503,600
<i>Ducks Unlimited</i> 11) Middle Bair Island Wetland Restoration			\$2,781,000
<i>East Bay Regional Park District</i> 12) Pleasanton Ridge Regional Park Acquisition	\$1,000,000		\$2,975,000
<i>Island Conservation</i> 13) Farallon Islands Restoration Project	\$150,000		\$835,641
<i>LandPaths</i> 14) Rancho Mark West Acquisition	\$750,000		\$300,000
<i>Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District</i> 15) Silva Acquisition	\$200,000	\$300,000	\$2,590,000
<i>Napa County Regional Parks and Open Space District</i> 16) Lake Berryessa Environmental Education Camp	\$1,500,000		\$250,000

Funding Summary of Bay Area Conservancy Program Projects (July, 2010 - June, 2011)

<u>Grant Recipient / Project Sponsor</u>	Bay Area Conservancy Program (a)	Additional Conservancy Funding (b)	Matching Funds (c) (some estimated)
<i>Point Reyes Bird Observatory</i> 17) San Francisco Bay Wetland Mapping and Ecological Modeling	\$100,000		\$286,236
<i>San Francisco Parks Trust</i> 18) San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program: Land Conservation and Stewardship	\$420,000		\$882,406
<i>Save the Redwoods League</i> 19) The Cedars Raiche-McCrory Property Acquisition	\$240,000		\$385,000
<i>Solano Land Trust</i> 20) Rockville Trails Estates Acquisition	\$3,100,000		\$11,544,000
<i>Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District</i> 21) Bay Area Ridge Trail: East Slope Sonoma Ridge Trail Planning	\$55,000		\$35,000
<i>Sonoma County Regional Parks</i> 22) Tolay Lake Master Plan	\$300,000		\$210,000
<i>State Coastal Conservancy</i> 23) Invasive Spartina Project	\$812,375		\$4,077,572
24) Napa River Salt Marsh Restoration Project	\$75,000		
25) San Francisco Bay Ecosystems Climate Change Adaptation Assessment	\$300,000		\$645,000
26) San Francisco Bay Living Shorelines Project	\$300,000		\$700,000
<i>Trust for Public Land</i> 27) Glen Canyon Master Plan	\$289,950		\$193,300
<i>U.S. Army Corps of Engineers</i> 28) Hamilton Wetlands Restoration Project	\$4,000,000		\$12,000,000

Total Funds Spent in Nine-County Bay Area (July, 2010 - June, 2011)

	Bay Area Conservancy Program (a)	Additional Conservancy Funding (b)	Matching Funds (c) (some estimated)
Total Funds from All Sources	\$15,747,325	\$498,335	\$45,051,870
	\$61,297,530		

Notes:

- a) Funds appropriated 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 funds, including grants provided directly to the Conservancy from the Wildlife Conservation Board, CalTrans, NOAA, Department of Water Resources, U.S. EPA, and Moore Foundation.
- d) Funds previously authorized via block grants and not counted towards totals

Description of Bay Area Projects Funded by the State Coastal Conservancy

July 2010 – June 2011

Alameda County Water District

1) ALAMEDA CREEK FLOW STUDIES

Location: Alameda Creek Watershed, in Alameda, Contra Costa, and Santa Clara Counties

Conservancy Funds: \$30,000

Matching Funds: \$300,000

The Conservancy granted \$30,000 to Alameda County Water District (ACWD) for technical studies of water flows necessary to restore steelhead fisheries to Alameda Creek, a nearly 700 square mile watershed which flows through

Alameda, Contra Costa and Santa Clara Counties.

On October 5, 2006, the Conservancy authorized \$120,000 towards these technical studies. This additional funding would cover the increased costs associated with these studies. The Alameda Creek Fisheries Restoration Work Group, made up of local flood control agencies, water supply agencies, state and federal resource agencies, and environmental groups, has been working since 1999 to restore steelhead to the creek and improve riparian resources. The work is being conducted in several phases. The first phase of the technical studies has been completed. The first phase was a scope of work by fisheries restoration consultants hired by ACWD to estimate the range, magnitude, timing, duration and



frequency and location of flows necessary to restore steelhead fisheries (as well as other native fish and riparian species) while minimizing the impacts to water supply. The second phase, data collection, has begun. The consultants have completed a base map showing the habitat created under different creek flows. The purpose of the second phase of work is to develop a common understanding of the existing conditions in the watershed that is agreed to by all the Work Group members. To date members of the Work Group, including fisheries consultants and biologists,



have participated in scoping and data collection efforts. These funds will allow for completion of the Sampling and Analysis Plan, which will provide key information on habitat quality and quantity under variable stream flows so that Work Group members can better understand how

stream flows will influence fish and riparian habitat. The third and last phase of the flow studies will consist of development and analysis of specific water management alternatives that will allow the restoration of steelhead and riparian resources while minimizing the impacts to water supplies.

Association of Bay Area Governments

2) SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA WATER TRAIL BLOCK GRANT #1

Location: San Francisco Bay, its shoreline, and tributaries, in Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Solano, and Sonoma Counties

Conservancy Funds: \$1,000,000

Matching Funds: \$1,539,000

The Conservancy: 1) certified the *San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail Plan Final Environmental Impact Report* (FEIR), and adopted the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program; 2) adopted the *Enhanced San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail Plan*; and 3) authorized a grant of \$1,000,000 to the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) for the purpose of funding and managing a variety of individual projects that will further the development of the San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail.

The Water Trail project would create a network of landing and launching sites, or “trailheads,” to allow people in non-motorized, small boats (NMSBs) to enjoy the richness of the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area through single and multiple-day trips on the Bay. NMSBs for this project are defined as any type of paddle or rowing vessel (e.g., kayak, dragon boat, rowboat, whale boat, scull, outrigger canoe) or sailboard (windsurf board or kiteboard). The Water Trail is intended to promote safe and responsible use of the Bay, while protecting and increasing appreciation of its environmental and cultural resources through education and strategic access to the Bay. The Water Trail has the potential to enhance Bay Area communities’ connections to the Bay and create new linkages to existing shoreline open space and other regional trails.



The Water Trail is expected to provide the following benefits or address the following needs:

- Create a coordinated, linked (through maps and planning) set of NMSB access locations allowing for single point, multiple point, and multi-day excursions

- Improve existing boat launch facilities and develop more overnight facilities, including camping, along the shoreline for NMSB users
- Promote placement of enhanced facilities and any new access locations in areas where they would provide the greatest recreational benefit and avoid or minimize significant adverse impacts to wildlife and habitat and/or agricultural operations
- Plan for increased NMSB use associated with regional population growth and changes in population demographics
- Promote safe boating practices for non-motorized small boat users
- Reduce impacts to sensitive wildlife and habitat and other resources through education of boaters
- Distribute and make available high quality information regarding NMSB access facilities through the development of educational and outreach materials, including, without limitation, a website, maps, brochures, and a guidebook
- Foster stewardship of the Bay and of trailhead facilities
- Increase opportunities to recreate close to home and use public transportation rather than private vehicles (through the addition of boat storage facilities, for example)
- Streamline planning and implementation of high priority site enhancements through the programmatic FEIR
- Potentially provide economic benefits to waterfront and water-oriented businesses
- Expand the connections with other regional trail systems (Bay Trail, Ridge Trail) to include the waters of the Bay
- Reduce user conflicts among recreational users of launch sites through planning and facility design
- Develop design guidelines for NMSB facilities that address the shoreline topography of San Francisco Bay and serve NMSB users with mobility limitations
- Provide funding, publicity, and, indirectly, possible economic growth to site owners/managers through a variety of business opportunities related to water-oriented recreation (e.g., boat storage, rental concessions)



The \$1 million block grant to ABAG for a two-year period is intended to begin site-specific Water Trail implementation. Among other tasks, ABAG will finish the development of the education, outreach, and stewardship program; develop the Water Trail logo, maps, guidebook and website; work with specific site owners and managers to ready sites for official designation into the Water Trail network; and manage site-specific grants for enhancement activities.

3) SAN FRANCISCO BAY TRAIL: CARGO WAY BICYCLE FACILITY CONSTRUCTION

Location: Cargo Way between 3rd Street and Jennings Street in the Bayview/Hunter's Point District, in the City and County of San Francisco

Conservancy Funds: \$70,000

Matching Funds: \$360,781

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. The Conservancy authorized ABAG to disburse up to \$70,000 of previously granted Conservancy funds to the Port of San Francisco to construct .75 miles of a Class I multi-use pathway along Cargo Way in the Bayview/Hunter's Point District of San Francisco. The project is located on Cargo Way between 3rd Street and Jennings Street and closes an important gap in both the San Francisco Bay Trail and the San Francisco and Regional Bicycle Route Network.



Specifically, the project includes reconfiguration of the existing Cargo Way roadway to include a Class I Bicycle Pathway, which is defined by CalTrans as a completely separated right of way for the exclusive use of bicycles and pedestrians with crossflow by motorists minimized. The project will move bicyclists safely out of the main stream of traffic in an industrially dominated neighborhood. The Class I bicycle facility will be a minimum of nine-feet wide and will allow bicycles to travel along a separate pathway in both directions with striping designating the two sides

of the pathway. It will run the entire length of Cargo Way between 3rd Street and Jennings Street and will offer a much-improved bicycle access route to and from the Bayview/Hunter's Point neighborhood and downtown San Francisco and Mission Bay. The improvements will include signs, lane demarcation and signal modifications to accommodate a left-turn bicycle lane, and a physical barrier, consisting of an 8" high curb with a 48" fence, that will provide protection for cyclists from the industrial freight traffic using Cargo Way. These improvements will be designed and installed in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.



This is an important gap closure for the Bay Trail for several reasons. At its southeast end, Cargo Way terminates at the entrance to Heron's Head Park and the Heron's Head EcoCenter, and at the northwest end of this

Bay Trail segment lies Islais Creek, where there is a native plant garden and a potential future launch site for the San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail. The 3rd Street end of this gap in the Bay Trail is also the gateway to downtown San Francisco. The southwesterly side of Cargo Way runs alongside India Basin Industrial Park, a redevelopment area providing many jobs for the region. In sum, this Bay Trail project improves non-motorized access from the underserved neighborhood of Bayview/Hunter's Point to areas of employment and educational opportunities.

4) SAN FRANCISCO BAY TRAIL: PIER 43 PROMENADE

Location: Fisherman's Wharf, in the City and County of San Francisco

Conservancy Funds: \$90,000

Matching Funds: \$6,201,000

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. The Conservancy authorized ABAG to disburse up to \$90,000 of previously-authorized Conservancy funds to the Port of San Francisco to install trail improvements, such as lighting, street furniture, trash receptacles and railings in connection with the Port's construction of an approximately 800-foot-long segment of the Bay Trail between Pier 39 and Taylor Street along the Embarcadero in Fisherman's Wharf, San Francisco, known as the Pier 43 Bay Trail Promenade. This proposed promenade is located within the most heavily traveled segment of the Bay Trail. It will feature spectacular views of the Bay, the historic Pier 43 Ferry Arch, and Alcatraz. The alignment of Pier 43 Bay Trail Promenade places the Bay Trail away from the street and at the Bay's edge for two blocks instead of in its current location on an inland street.

The construction of the promenade is the most important, visible element of a larger project. The larger project entails removal of most of the existing condemned Pier 43 ½, which was most recently used for parking and is now fenced off, and repair or reconstruction of about 400 feet of shoreline at the 110-year-old seawall. The closure of Pier 43 ½ includes the sidewalk and the adjacent curbside on-street parking. Currently, bicyclists on the Bay Trail share this busy stretch of road with vehicles. Rail tracks embedded in the asphalt present an additional hazard to bicyclists. The Pier 43 Promenade will mark the northern end of the three-mile-long Embarcadero Promenade. The proposed pedestrian promenade will be constructed over the water. The new promenade will provide approximately 36,000 square feet of public access and open space, and will be improved with new pavement, lighting, and street furniture, such as benches, railing, trash/recycling cans, and decorative features. It will be wide enough (25 feet) to accommodate both bicyclists and pedestrians. These trail improvements are a critical component of the Bay Trail at this location because this segment is so heavily used by bicyclists, pedestrians, and tourists.

5) STATE OF THE ESTUARY CONFERENCE

Location: The conference is held in Oakland, in Alameda County, and is focused on the San Francisco Bay-Delta Estuary.

Conservancy Funds: \$100,000

Matching Funds: \$200,000

The Conservancy granted \$100,000 to ABAG for the purpose of organizing and presenting the San Francisco Estuary Partnership's State of the Estuary Conference in the fall of 2011. ABAG administers the San Francisco Estuary Partnership, a federal-state-local program, one of 28 National Estuary Programs throughout the United States that were established under the Clean Water Act. For more than 20 years, the San Francisco Estuary Partnership has worked to protect and restore the San Francisco Bay-Delta Estuary. The Conference, which has been held every two years since 1993, provides the opportunity for scientists, managers, interest groups and the public to address challenges, provide education, and solicit feedback on Bay-Delta Estuary restoration and protection. The 2011 Conference will feature the release of a State of the Bay Report, which will evaluate the health of the San Francisco Bay using numerous criteria and will be broadly distributed to local, state and federal decision makers. The Conference provides a forum to hear about new research and monitoring data, political and scientific impacts on environmental policy, and priority ecosystem management issues, with 30-50 speakers presenting, and approximately 700 individuals attending the Conference. The two-day conference includes both plenary sessions and concurrent sessions. The conference also includes a poster session, with approximately 200 posters on display, providing an opportunity for many students, scientists, and resource managers to showcase projects and results.

Bay Area Toll Authority

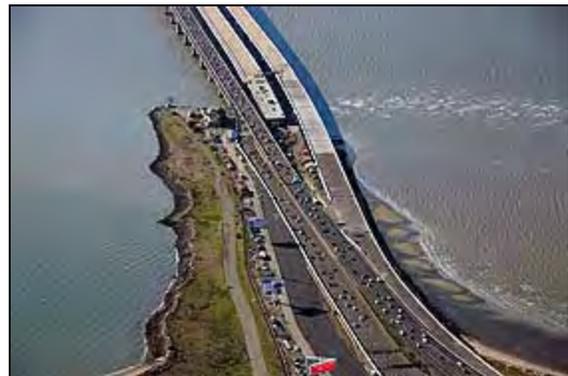
6) GATEWAY PARK STUDY

Location: At the eastern end of the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge, in the City of Oakland, in Alameda County

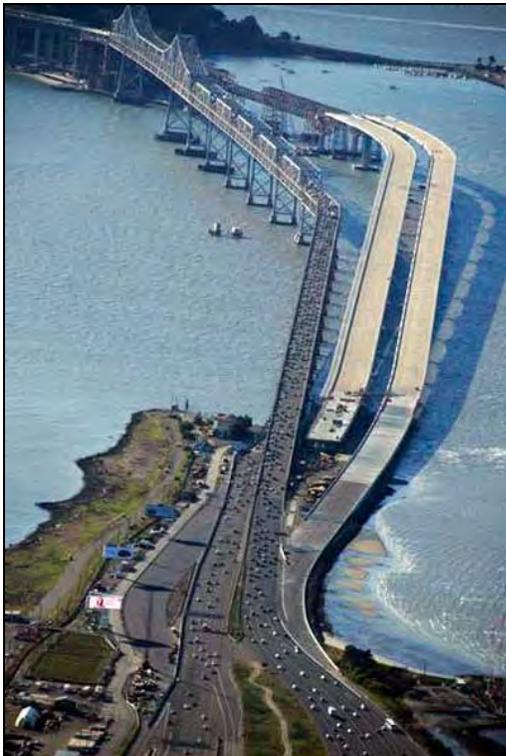
Matching Funds Granted to Conservancy: \$200,000 (CalTrans)

Matching Funds: \$750,000

This authorization would provide \$250,000 to the Bay Area Toll Authority (BATA) for the completion of the Gateway Park Project Study Report, a multi-agency planning effort to create a new shoreline park in Oakland, referred to as Gateway Park, adjacent to the eastern span of the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge. The land and funding for Gateway Park were required by the



San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC) to mitigate impacts of the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge East Span Replacement Project. The land consists of 15 acres of former Oakland Army Base property that will be transferred to the East Bay Regional Park District. The funding consists of a \$1,100,000 in-lieu fee paid by Caltrans for planning and development of Gateway Park. The Conservancy has entered into an interagency agreement with BCDC to accept and administer the in-lieu fee. BATA, EBRPD and the other involved planning agencies hope to begin construction of Gateway Park upon completion of the bridge retrofit project, currently scheduled for 2013



Located in an area with historically little to no public access, the Gateway site will open up new sections of the Bay's shoreline and improve regional trail connections while providing spectacular views of the new Bay Bridge, the Bay, and Yerba Buena Island. Recognizing this opportunity, key agencies have formed the Gateway Park Working Group to facilitate this park's development. The Working Group includes ABAG, BATA, BCDC, CalTrans, California Transportation Commission, City of Oakland, East Bay Municipal Utility District, EBRPD, and the Port of Oakland. The Gateway Park Project Study Report will be a park feasibility report addressing the purpose and need for the park, project alternatives, environmental documentation needed in future analysis, right-of-way or acquisition opportunities, preliminary cost estimates for the various alternatives and possible development and operational funding sources. Preliminary concepts for project alternatives will range from a low-development, trails and open space emphasis to a more intensively developed

boardwalk type of park with shops and restaurants. The study is currently underway and there has been extensive public participation in the park planning process to date. Once complete, the Gateway Park Project Study Report will define a scope for the park that regional and local agencies and stakeholders support.

City of Petaluma

7) PETALUMA TRESTLE REHABILITATION DESIGN

Location: Located on bank of the Petaluma River in downtown Petaluma, in the County of Sonoma

Conservancy Funds: \$475,000

Matching Funds: \$25,000

The Conservancy granted \$475,000 to the City of Petaluma to complete analysis, engineered designs and permits for the rehabilitation of the historic trestle on the Petaluma River for public access in downtown Petaluma, Sonoma County. The project will enable the City of Petaluma to complete the necessary analysis of geotechnical and structural conditions to design an effective rehabilitation of the Petaluma trestle and stabilization of the riverbank beneath. The project will include analysis of and design plans for: the trestle structure, improvement of the trestle deck, bank stabilization as identified through the analysis, replacement of the railroad tracks, interpretive panels for both the riverfront history and the storm water runoff cycle readily observed at the project site, completion of the Petaluma River Trail for safe passage of bicyclists and pedestrians; and environmental review of the proposed designs to assess any potential impacts and provide appropriate mitigation measures where necessary. The restoration design will incorporate recreational, environmental, educational and accessibility elements for public access along the approximately 500-foot long historic railroad trestle.

The Petaluma General Plan (2008), The Central Petaluma Specific Plan (2003) and The River Access and Enhancement Plan (1996) emphasize the importance of reorienting the Petaluma community toward the River and enhancing this “green ribbon” with improved public access, recreation, education and river restoration. Transportation and commerce along the river have been defining aspects of the character and identity of downtown Petaluma, and the proposed trestle restoration project offers a means of preserving the highly visible trestle boardwalk element of the urban waterfront in Petaluma. There is urgency for the proposed project as the trestle has been fenced off from public pedestrian and bicycle access for a number of years due to deterioration of the wooden structure and supports while awaiting a path forward for restoration.



County of Marin

8) SAN GERONIMO CREEK SALMON ENHANCEMENT PLAN IMPLEMENTATION, PHASE 1

Location: San Geronimo Creek Watershed, in western Marin County

Conservancy Funds: \$98,335

Matching Funds: \$178,115

The Conservancy granted \$98,335 to the County of Marin for the provision of technical assistance in salmon habitat enhancement planning to landowners in the San Geronimo Creek watershed in western Marin County. The project is the first phase in the implementation of the San Geronimo Creek Watershed Salmon Enhancement Plan, whose preparation was partially funded by a Conservancy grant in 2008.

San Geronimo Creek is an un-dammed tributary to Lagunitas Creek that provides some of the best remaining habitat for coho within the Lagunitas Creek watershed. The Lagunitas Creek watershed has been identified as one of the most important watersheds in California for coho recovery and it also supports a significant population of steelhead. The coho salmon population in the Lagunitas Creek watershed makes up 10-20% of the total population in the Central California Coast Evolutionarily Significant Unit. This watershed has been the focus of salmonid restoration efforts for over twenty years. The recently completed Plan provides guidance for restoration and enhancement actions on the private lands that make up the San Geronimo Valley floor. Many of the Plan's final recommendations describe actions and avoidance measures that private landowners can implement on their properties and many landowners in the San Geronimo Valley have shown themselves eager and willing to move forward with implementation of these recommendations, but lack the technical expertise to do so.

The San Geronimo Valley Planning Group has joined the County of Marin Public Works Department and University of California Cooperative Extension to develop a San Geronimo Valley Landowner Assistance Program to provide landowners with technical advice and preliminary conceptual designs where needed, on a range of homeowners issues related to salmon protection and restoration. The Planning Group hosted a series of public meetings related to implementation and circulated a landowner survey whose goal was to identify what property owners believe is their highest priority needs for technical assistance. Survey results showed strong landowner interest in habitat enhancement and a strong need for technical assistance for the following issues related to salmon restoration: stream bank restoration and erosion control; invasive weed removal and vegetation management for fire prevention; least toxic gardening, native plant restoration and integrated pest management; removal of fish passage barriers; woody debris management; proper disposal of chemicals and other toxic materials, and rainwater infiltration practices, managing storm water on-site and gully repair.

During the project, a third party technical team of experts will conduct site visits and make recommendations to property owners on the issues listed above as they apply to each parcel. Evaluations will be conducted at the parcel scale and each landowner will receive a completed

assessment that would include a set of recommendations, conceptual designs where applicable and estimated costs that the landowner could then use for construction. The project will also deliver conceptual designs to each landowner for streambank stabilization and erosion control projects, with a focus on biotechnical solutions (e.g. using willows rather than hard structures to stabilize banks) and incorporation of woody debris where feasible. The Planning Group is also working to identify and contact clusters of landowners with adjacent parcels who can work together to implement larger restoration projects than could be accomplished on individual parcels. The project will include the development of 30% designs, engineers' cost estimates, and permitting and funding strategies for 15-20 restoration projects determined to be high priority by the technical team. The restoration designs and other recommendations that result from this project will be used in Phase II of Plan implementation, to seek funding for actual repairs and land-based restoration actions. Property owners who participate in this initial Phase of the project will be considered for future grant funds to be solicited from a variety of sources to support Phase II of implementation.

County of Napa

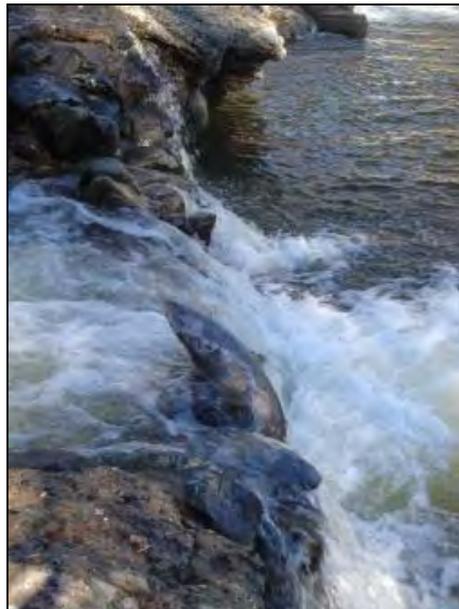
9) ZINFANDEL LANE BRIDGE FISH PASSAGE

Location: Zinfandel Lane Bridge on the Napa River, southeast of the city of St. Helena, in Napa County

Conservancy Funds: \$400,000

Matching Funds: \$666,000

The Conservancy granted \$400,000 to the County of Napa to retrofit the Zinfandel Lane Bridge in order to remove a fish passage barrier on the Napa River, located southeast of the City of St. Helena. The barrier is a severe impediment to anadromous fish passage and currently blocks approximately 50% of suitable anadromous fisheries stream habitat within the Napa River watershed. The Napa River watershed is considered an "anchor watershed" in the San Francisco Bay Area for steelhead. The Napa River Watershed was ranked as having the highest restoration potential in a regional study funded by the Conservancy and conducted by the Center for Ecosystem Management and Restoration in 2007. Repair of the barrier, through retrofit, will provide immediate access to approximately 90 miles of stream habitat. The project will have immediate benefits for Chinook salmon and steelhead trout, two special status species, and will also benefit approximately 14 other native freshwater fish species.



The objectives of the project are to: 1) re-establish salmonid access to approximately 90 miles of spawning and rearing habitat, including 13 miles of the mainstem Napa River; 2) re-establish geomorphic and hydrologic processes to support self-sustaining, continuous, and diverse aquatic

habitat; 3) retain or improve the structural integrity and historic characteristics of Zinfandel Lane Bridge, and 4) provide critical pre- and post- project monitoring information to evaluate project effectiveness and to guide adaptive management of the project site.

Zinfandel Lane Bridge is a designated historic stone masonry bridge that was constructed in 1913 and is owned and stewarded by the Napa County Department of Public Works. Since



construction, the channel bed below and adjacent to the bridge has dramatically incised. The result is a 7 to 12 foot lowering of the historic channel profile and a large scour pool immediately downstream of the bridge. Over time, various ineffective repairs have been made to protect the footings of the bridge pier and abutments from scour. One of those repairs, a concrete apron on in the channel bed beneath the bridge, creates a vertical barrier to upstream migrating fish. Retrofit of the bridge will entail reconstruction of the bridge apron. Modifications to the apron will include construction of a

new channel bottom under the bridge that is up to seven feet lower than the existing apron. Two trapezoidal notches will be incorporated into the reconstructed bridge apron. The notched channel in the eastern bay will be smooth and will function as a bypass channel to convey a larger portion of the river's flow than the roughened channel in the western bay, which is intended to meet fish passage requirements.

County of San Mateo

10) FITZGERALD MARINE RESERVE COASTAL TRAIL

Location: James V. Fitzgerald Marine Reserve, Moss Beach, in San Mateo County

Conservancy Funds: \$250,000

Matching Funds: \$503,600

The Conservancy granted \$250,000 to the County of San Mateo to build a quarter-mile segment of the Coastal Trail at Fitzgerald Marine Reserve in the town of Moss Beach in San Mateo County. This project addresses the dire need to replace the San Vicente Creek temporary bridge, which won't last another season due to erosion of the creek banks. If the creek banks further erode and the County is required to remove the temporary bridge, public access from the Reserve's parking lot to the current bluff trail system will be seriously compromised.



The project has two components: 1) Construction of a section of the Coastal Trail from San Vicente Creek to Cypress Avenue, and 2) Construction of a multiple-use non-motorized bridge over San Vicente Creek, connecting the Coastal Trail to the North Lake Street edge of the Reserve parking lot. Using the existing dirt pathway known locally as the Dardanelle Trail as the basis for the alignment, the County will improve both the trail and the bridge so that they will be fully compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act. The 1,500-foot-long trail through the Reserve will accommodate pedestrians, people walking leashed dogs, bicyclists and equestrians. Across San Vicente Creek, at the entrance to the trail, the County will install a prefabricated fiberglass clear span bridge 60 feet long and 12 feet wide to replace the temporary bridge. Coastal Trail hikers will be able to connect to the rest of the Reserve's pedestrian-only dirt trails along the bluff top, to take in views of the ocean and loop back to parking lot.

This is one of three projects that the County has undertaken in recent years to improve public access through the entire Reserve. At the southern end of the Reserve, a reconstructed stairway from the bluff top to Seal Cove Beach was opened to the public this past fall. Designs are also nearing completion for a new ramp to improve visitor access to the Moss Beach Reef, where the Coastal Trail meets the Reserve's visitor center. With more than 125,000 people coming to the Reserve each year to view the intertidal life – including about 23,000 students from more than 100 schools – there is great need for these public access improvements.

Ducks Unlimited

11) MIDDLE BAIR ISLAND WETLAND RESTORATION

Location: Bair Island, Redwood City, in San Mateo County

Matching Funds Granted to Conservancy: \$600,000 (NOAA's American Reinvestment and Recovery Act funds) and \$1,250,000 (Department of Water Resources' Integrated Regional Water Management Program funds)

Matching Funds: \$931,000

The Conservancy is providing a total of \$1,850,000 in grant funds from NOAA and the Department of Water Resources for wetland restoration at Bair Island. The South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project experienced significant project savings due to the lower than estimated construction costs and NOAA approved the use of \$600,000 of funds designated for the South Bay Salt Ponds for an additional wetland restoration project in southern San Francisco Bay. The

Conservancy granted these remaining funds to Ducks Unlimited for a wetland restoration project at Middle Bair Island. The Conservancy is also accepting \$1,250,000 from the Department of Water Resources and disbursing these Integrated Regional Water Management Program funds to Ducks Unlimited for the Middle Bair Island wetland restoration project.

The restoration of Middle Bair Island is part of a larger effort to restore the 2,634-acre Bair Island complex, composed of Inner, Middle, and Outer Bair Islands. When all of Inner, Middle, and Outer Bair are complete, approximately 1,086 acres of degraded, diked salt marsh will have been restored to tidal wetlands and associated sloughs and channels. Due to different levels of degradation, subsidence, and constraints, each island's restoration is being implemented separately. Middle Bair Island is the second phase of wetland restoration and will restore tidal action to 571 acres and enhance 307 acres of wetlands, as well as enhance tidal flow to portions of Outer Bair. Proposed actions include installing ditch plugs to block circulation through the borrow



ditches created during levee construction, breaching levees along historic slough alignments to restore tidal action, and installing a flow constrictor in Corkscrew Slough in order to restore historical hydrological patterns. When combined with \$931,000 in funds from the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, the NOAA and DWR funds will complete the amount needed to construct the Middle Bair Island project.

Restoration of Bair Island culminates a many decades-long public campaign to save the wetlands from development and restore the marshes. In addition, tidal restoration helps implement the recommendations of the *San Francisco Baylands Ecosystem Habitat Goals Report* (1999), which identifies restoration of large areas of tidal marsh as the overall goal of the South Bay subregion and specifically calls for most of Bair Island to be restored to tidal marsh.

East Bay Regional Park District

12) PLEASANTON RIDGE REGIONAL PARK ACQUISITION

Location: Pleasanton Ridge, near the City of Pleasanton in Alameda County

Conservancy Funds: \$1,000,000

Matching Funds: \$2,975,000

The Conservancy granted \$1,000,000 to the East Bay Regional Park District toward the acquisition of the 955-acre Owen property, which is adjacent to the Pleasanton Ridge Regional Park in unincorporated Alameda County. In order to respond to the seller's desire for a rapid closing date, this acquisition is being completed in two phases. The District completed Phase I which acquired 415 acres and Conservancy funding will be used for the Phase II acquisition of the remaining 540 acres.

Acquisition of the Owen property is a priority as it will add 955 acres to the Pleasanton Ridge Regional Park, a 6,532-acre regional park running from Dublin to Sunol along the hills of southeastern San Francisco Bay. This parkland is on the ridge separating the East Bay from Pleasanton and the Livermore Valley. The Owen property is a particularly key addition for the District because it will expand the existing regional park by 15%. In addition, this acquisition provides opportunities for a new staging area and new trails. Despite the surrounding rugged and steep terrain, the Owen property features areas near the Palomares Road that could be suitable for visitor parking and facilities. This would provide a new access point into Pleasanton Ridge Regional Park and its regional trails from the western, Alameda County side of the ridge. Once developed, trails on the property would provide visitors with a variety of experiences from cool, shady riparian woodlands to windswept grasslands with spectacular views. Development of the trails and staging area will take place after the District completes a land use planning process.

Acquisition also preserves a diverse mosaic of habitat types. The property contains steep slopes with coastal scrub and chaparral as well as ridge top grasslands. In addition, the property features



canyon riparian areas and oak and Bay Laurel woodlands. This mosaic provides habitats for numerous species including the special status Alameda whipsnake, California red-legged frog, and California tiger salamander. The undeveloped Pleasanton Ridge provides a critical wildlife corridor for Alameda and Contra Costa counties.

Island Conservation

13) FARALLON ISLANDS RESTORATION PROJECT

Location: Farallon National Wildlife Refuge, in the City and County of San Francisco

Conservancy Funds: \$150,000

Matching Funds: \$835,641

The Conservancy granted \$150,000 to Island Conservation to conduct planning for an invasive species project to eradicate house mice to promote restoration of the Farallon Islands ecosystem. The islands of the Farallon National Wildlife Refuge, located 28 miles west of San Francisco, host the largest seabird breeding colony in the United States outside of Alaska and Hawai`i, providing habitat for thirty percent of California's breeding seabirds (more than 250,000 individuals of 12 species). Between fifty and seventy percent of the world's population of Ashy Storm-petrels breed on the Farallon Islands. Unfortunately, the presence of introduced, non-native house mice threatens this globally significant seabird colony.

This grant would enable Island Conservation and its partners to engage in the planning that is necessary prior to the implementation of full invasive house mouse eradication efforts. House mice are known predators of Ashy Storm-petrel eggs and chicks. Every year as much as 12% of the eggs and chicks of this species are lost to predation on the Farallon Islands. By removing these invasive house mice, Island Conservation and its partners will protect the Ashy Storm-petrel and other seabirds from further population decline and restore the Farallon Islands ecosystem. Field trials to assess the efficacy



of rodenticide application methods are being funded by the Luckenbach Oil Spill Restoration Fund. Conservancy funds will be used to conduct necessary pre-implementation planning and environmental assessment. Implementation and two years of ecosystem monitoring will be funded by an existing grant award from the Luckenbach Oil Spill Restoration Fund.

LandPaths

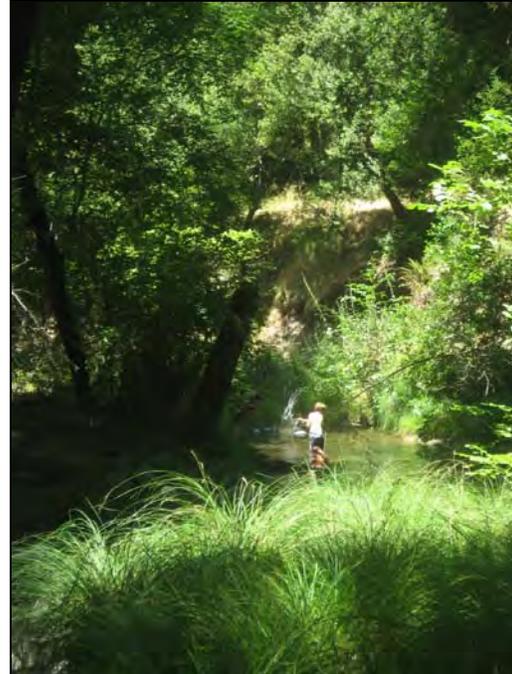
14) RANCHERO MARK WEST ACQUISITION

Location: Northeast of the City of Santa Rosa in Sonoma County

Conservancy Funds: \$750,000

Matching Funds: \$300,000

The Conservancy granted \$750,000 to LandPaths to acquire a remainder interest in the 120-acre Rancho Mark West property. The purpose of the acquisition is to permanently protect existing natural resources and provide public access and education through the creation of the Rancho Mark West Nature Center. The property is northeast of the City of Santa Rosa in central Sonoma County. Located approximately 20 minutes from downtown Santa Rosa, the property will provide an incredible opportunity for natural resource education close to Sonoma County’s urban center, in the heart of the Mayacamas Mountains and within a mosaic of protected lands.



The property is currently protected from development by a conservation easement acquired by the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District in 1993. The current



conservation easement does not require public access be allowed on the property. Thus, acquisition by LandPaths will enable the property to be used in perpetuity for public access and education. The landowner, James Doerksen, and his wife, Elizabeth Doerksen, will retain a life estate on the property, but will agree in the purchase agreement to allow for continued and expanded public use on the property during the term of the life estate. The acquisition by LandPaths of a remainder interest in the property secures the property in

perpetuity for natural resource protection, public access, and education and builds upon an existing relationship with the Doerksens to allow public access and education on the property during the term of the life estate.

Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District
15) SILVA ACQUISITION

Location: Near the town of La Honda, in unincorporated San Mateo County

Conservancy Funds: \$500,000

Matching Funds: \$2,590,000

The Conservancy granted \$500,000 grant to the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District to purchase and preserve a 97-acre private in-holding within a spectacular 5,000-acre swath of park land in the Santa Cruz Mountains near the town of La Honda. When this land is added to the surrounding Russian Ridge Open Space Preserve, visitors will have much easier access to one of the preserve's most exciting destinations, Mindego Hill, which rises to 2,143 feet above sea level as a prominent landmark visible for miles. The proposed acquisition also will ensure protection of the headwaters of Alpine Creek, which drains into San Gregorio Creek, known to support steelhead trout.

By acquiring this property, the District will: 1) eliminate the potential for additional fragmented residential development that might degrade the Alpine Creek watershed at the headwaters of San Gregorio Creek; 2)

improve its ability to manage its two preserves, which surround the property on all four sides, and 3) improve public access rights with the potential to develop a suitable site for a new public staging area along Alpine Road for the Russian Ridge Open Space Preserve, in particular the 1,047-acre Mindego Ranch addition, which was



purchased with Conservancy assistance in 2008. Mindego Hill is a four-mile hike from the main preserve staging area at the corner of Alpine Road and Skyline Boulevard (Highway 35). From the Silva property, however, the hike to the base of Mindego Hill is just 1.5 miles along an existing dirt road.

The Peninsula Open Space Trust recently acquired the Silva property, seizing the opportunity to fill in the gap between the District's Russian Ridge and Skyline preserves, and to provide better public access to Mindego Hill. POST raised private funds to cover the costs of property acquisition until the land could be transferred to District ownership.

Napa County Regional Parks and Open Space District

16) LAKE BERRYESSA ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CAMP

Location: Putah Creek arm of Lake Berryessa, approximately 30 miles northeast of the city of Napa, in Napa County

Conservancy Funds: \$1,500,000

Matching Funds: \$250,000

The Conservancy granted \$1,500,000 to the Napa County Regional Parks and Open Space District to construct the Lake Berryessa Environmental Education Camp on the Putah Creek arm of Lake Berryessa, approximately 30 miles northeast of the city of Napa, in Napa County. Conservancy funding will enable an initial phase of construction that will include the following components of the Lake Berryessa Environmental Education Camp: preparation of engineering plans and acquisition of permits; mobilization and site work for construction access infrastructure; development of access roads, trails and parking; development of water, wastewater, and electrical systems and infrastructure, facilities construction (including tent cabins, outdoor cooking facilities, toilets, showers, minor out-structures, and signage), development of recreation and outdoor education facilities, and funding for reservation system and other pre-operations start up needs.



Camp Berryessa will be the first public outdoor environmental education camp in Napa County, and will be constructed with sustainability as the guiding principle. Located on approximately 10 acres of U.S. Bureau of Reclamation land, the camp will flexibly accommodate groups of as few as 8 to as many as 120 campers in 30 tent cabins clustered in various locations on the site. Surrounded by water on three sides, the camp is well situated to provide water

recreation, including swimming, canoeing, kayaking and fishing. The camp will also connect to trails heading north along Putah Creek and south and east along the shores of Lake Berryessa, offering opportunities for hiking, riding and nature observation. As an environmental education facility, the camp will primarily target school-aged children. The camp will be available for use by school groups as well as youth-serving organizations such as the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Summer Search, Aldea Family Services and Court-Appointed Special Assistance. The service area for the camp includes Napa County, but also extends throughout the Bay Area and the northern Central Valley. Within this service area, Camp Berryessa will be unique.

Point Reyes Bird Observatory

17) SAN FRANCISCO BAY WETLAND MAPPING AND ECOLOGICAL MODELING

Location: Tidal wetland habitats along San Francisco Bay in Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Solano, and Sonoma Counties

Conservancy Funds: \$100,000

Matching Funds: \$286,236

The Conservancy granted \$100,000 to Point Reyes Bird Observatory to model ecological changes to San Francisco Bay wetland habitats based on a range of sea level rise and salinity change projections due to climate change and develop recommendations of high priority sites for wetland restoration and conservation in light of the predictions. PRBO will map current wetland plant and bird species distributions and use the maps to model wetland plant and bird species under various climate change scenarios. The modeling information is a critical aspect of planning land acquisitions and habitat restoration projects in the Bay.

San Francisco Bay is the largest estuary on the west coast of the United States and its wetlands provide crucial habitat for a wide range of wildlife species and critical services to human communities including flood control, buffering storms, and improving water quality. Research conducted by PRBO has shown that hundreds of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl use various Bay habitats including tidal flats and marshes as wintering grounds, stopover “refueling” areas during annual migration, and for breeding. Climate change is projected to affect wetlands in the Bay through a variety of factors, most notably, sea level rise and seasonal salinity increases. These changes will likely convert tidal freshwater and brackish wetlands into more saline systems and result in greater tidal inundation, thereby changing the species composition and habitat structure for birds and other wildlife. Early analyses of climate change scenarios indicate that sea level rise and seasonal salinity shifts resulting from climate change will reduce the extent of wetlands in the Bay over the next 30 to 100 years.

This Bay wetland mapping and modeling effort will provide detailed information on the likely changes in wetland habitats and the corresponding changes to the distribution of birds due to sea level rise and salinity that is necessary to planning of wetland acquisition and restoration projects. The two specific activities funded by this grant are: 1) Assess the effects of climate change on wetlands and tidal marsh bird populations and 2) Identify priority sites for wetland conservation and restoration. PRBO will identify areas of current and potential future tidal marsh habitats and associated bird populations, and recommend high priority sites for wetland conservation and restoration. PRBO will produce a report describing the analysis, findings and recommendations.

San Francisco Parks Trust

18) SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA CONSERVANCY PROGRAM: LAND CONSERVATION AND STEWARDSHIP

Location: Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Solano, and Sonoma Counties

Conservancy Funds: \$420,000

Matching Funds: \$882,406

The Conservancy granted \$420,000 to the San Francisco Parks Trust to assist with development and implementation of the Bay Area Critical Linkages Project; provide training in meeting the Conservancy’s climate change criteria for project selection; update the Bay Area Protected Areas Database; expand the Transit and Trails web-based tool; publicize the Upland Habitat Goals and their implementation; identify and develop non-traditional funding sources for Bay Area open space stewardship; and undertake activities--such as conducting workshops, informational meetings, and training--to further the natural resource and recreational goals of the San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program. The Trust will administer this project through the Bay Area Open Space Council, the members of which include over 50 non-profit conservation organizations and public land management agencies throughout the Bay Area. The Council will work with a broad array of additional organizations within and beyond the conservation community to accomplish the project objectives.

This project is a priority for the Conservancy, as it greatly expands the ability of the Conservancy’s Bay Program staff to implement the directive in the Conservancy’s enabling legislation to “participate in and support interagency actions and public/private partnerships in the San Francisco Bay area for purpose of...[identifying and adopting long-term resource and outdoor recreational goals for the San Francisco Bay area], and providing for broad-based local involvement in, and support for, the San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program.”

Save the Redwoods League

19) THE CEDARS RAICHE-MCCRORY PROPERTY ACQUISITION

Location: The Cedars in western Sonoma County

Conservancy Funds: \$240,000

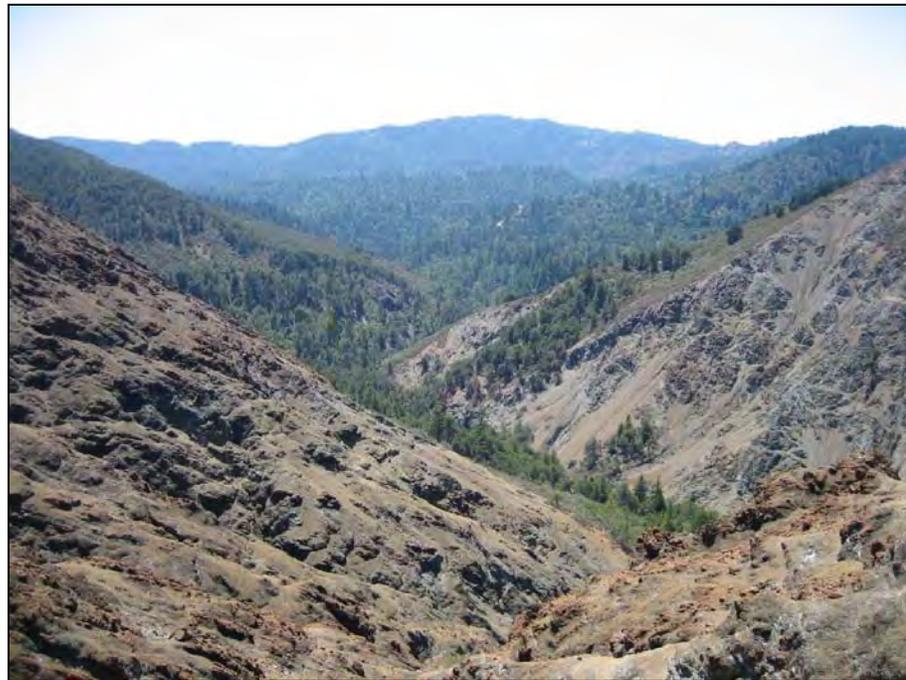
Matching Funds: \$385,000

The Conservancy granted \$240,000 to Save the Redwoods League to complete the acquisition of 500 acres of the “Raiche-McCrory Property”, add it to the Area of Critical Environmental Concern managed by the Bureau of Land Management, and create an ecological preserve within the approximately 11 square mile area known as “The Cedars” in western Sonoma County.

Additionally, this acquisition would protect a crucial habitat corridor between the ancient redwood forests inland and the protected forests on the coast. The Cedars is an area with among the highest level of rare and endemic plants in California, and an area with geo-biological features unique in the world. The Cedars is characterized by its striking serpentine rock barrens, dotted with wildflowers, scrubs, highly-alkaline springs and scattered Sargent cypress woodlands. At least eight plant species have been found nowhere else on Earth.

In 2007, the Conservancy authorized \$23,000 to the Sonoma Land Trust to develop a Conservation Plan and parcel study for the Cedars region to focus the efforts of the public and private organizations working to permanently protect The Cedars and to create an ecological preserve to provide

opportunities for scientific research, educational outreach and appropriate public access. The Cedars Conservation Plan was completed in 2009 and identifies the Raiche-McCrory property as a key acquisition due to its location adjacent to approximately 1,500 acres of Bureau of Land Management land designated as an Area of Critical Ecological Concern, and the property's



high concentration of the geological and botanical resources characteristic of the larger Cedars Conservation Region. Acquisition of the keystone Raiche-McCrory property would establish the permanent ecological preserve envisioned in The Cedars Conservation Plan.

The Cedars Conservation Plan recommends fostering a program of focused public access to provide opportunities for members of the public and other interested groups to experience The Cedars Conservation Region, while ensuring protection of the fragile natural resources. Regularly scheduled hikes will be provided by the Sonoma Land Trust and other experienced partner organizations interested in providing public access. This strategy will encourage education and scientific research and will heighten the public's understanding of the unique ecology of The Cedars. Sonoma Land Trust will also develop opportunities to involve the public in ongoing stewardship, monitoring and restoration activities. Creating a trail connection between Austin Creek Recreational Area and Sonoma Coast State Park is a long-term countywide goal. In the future, locating a portion of that trail system through non-sensitive areas of The Cedars Conservation Region will be considered.

Solano Land Trust

20) ROCKVILLE TRAILS ESTATES ACQUISITION

Location: Watersheds of Green Valley Creek and Suisun Creek in western Solano County

Conservancy Funds: \$3,100,000

Matching Funds: \$11,544,000

The Conservancy granted \$3,100,000 to the Solano Land Trust toward acquisition of approximately 1,500 acres of the Rockville Trails Estates property for the purposes of preserving open space and scenic resources, plant and wildlife communities, and other natural resources; protecting watersheds; and enabling public access that is compatible with those purposes; and for preparation of a management plan for the property. The landowner would retain approximately 80 acres (additional to the 1,500 acres) in the northeast corner of the property for development of a maximum of four homes in accordance with current zoning. The total purchase price is expected to be \$13.5 million.

Acquisition of Rockville is a priority for Conservancy assistance because it is a large, scenic, biologically rich and diverse, strategically located property on which a proposed six-mile segment of the Ridge Trail is located, and which is

threatened with development of some 370 residential units in accordance with a Vesting Tentative Map and Environmental Impact Report approved by Solano County in 2008.

Acquisition of the property will help implement the Conservancy's Strategic Plan, as well as the multi-agency vision for the Blue-Ridge Berryessa Natural Area and the multi-agency Solano Multispecies Habitat Conservation Plan and other regional plans.

The 1,580-acre Rockville Trails Estates property—1,500 acres of which is proposed for acquisition by the Land Trust—lies in the grass- and oak-covered hills of the Vaca Mountains of western Solano County, within the southern end of the 800,000-acre Blue Ridge-Berryessa Natural Area, a largely contiguous swath of open space and biologically diverse habitat that is being assembled and protected by a consortium of local, State and federal agencies and private foundations. The Rockville property rises from about 160 feet above sea level at its southern



boundary along Rockville Road to 760 feet above sea level at its highest point near its northern boundary. It lies in the watersheds of two streams with anadromous fisheries: Green Valley Creek to the west and Suisun Creek to the east. Agricultural and rural residential properties are situated along the property's eastern and western boundaries; large grazing properties abut to the north and northwest; and the 630-acre Rockville Hills Park managed by the City of Fairfield lies across Rockville Road to the south. Existing trails in the park provide sweeping views of the property.



Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District
21) BAY AREA RIDGE TRAIL: EAST SLOPE SONOMA RIDGE TRAIL PLANNING

Location: Approximately 7 miles northwest of the city of Sonoma, in Sonoma County

Conservancy Funds: \$55,000

Matching Funds: \$35,000

The Conservancy granted \$55,000 to the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District for preparation of a trail plan and environmental documentation for approximately 6,800 linear feet of Bay Area Ridge Trail on the east slope of Sonoma Mountain in Sonoma County.



The trail will extend from Jack London State Historic Park south, first across property owned in fee by the District, known as the Public Trail Parcel, and then through District-owned trail easements on two private properties. Sonoma County currently holds a trail easement on one of the private properties but has not yet accepted an offer to dedicate a trail easement on the other private property. The Public Trail Parcel has an existing trail that was constructed with District approval approximately 10 years ago. This portion of the trail is mostly unusable by the general public due to lack of maintenance as well as the presence of a steep gully. The two private properties do not have trails and a final trail alignment has not been determined for either property. Thus, the project involves planning how to improve the existing trail on the Public Trail Parcel, including potentially designing a



bridge over the gully, and determining an alignment and design of the portion of the trail on the private properties. This portion of the Ridge Trail is intended to extend farther south in the future, when a trail corridor has been established with property and/or trail easement acquisition.

This planning project will achieve the following objectives for this Ridge Trail segment: 1) Plan and design a sustainable, low-cost/low-maintenance trail segment of the Bay Area Ridge Trail that will connect District properties, private property and Jack London State Historic Park; 2) Conduct land owner outreach and coordination for final trail alignment on privately owned land; 3) Quantify greenhouse gas emissions related to implementation and maintenance; and 4) Perform environmental assessments required for trail construction.

Sonoma County Regional Parks

22) TOLAY LAKE MASTER PLAN

Location: Southern foothills of the Sonoma Mountains, between the cities of Petaluma and Sonoma, north of Highway 37 in southern Sonoma County

Conservancy Funds: \$300,000

Matching Funds: \$210,000

The Conservancy granted \$300,000 to Sonoma County Regional Parks to complete analysis, planning and final preparation for the Tolay Lake Regional Park Master Plan to improve resource management and public access in southwestern Sonoma County. The proposed project will enable Parks to complete a comprehensive Master Plan for both Sonoma County Regional Parks' 1,737 acre Tolay Lake Regional Park and Sonoma Land Trust's adjacent 1,665 acre Tolay Creek Ranch. The Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District purchased Tolay Lake Ranch in 2005 for \$18 million with \$2 million in Conservancy support, and transferred the property to Parks for operation as a regional park. The Sonoma Land Trust purchased the adjacent property (formerly Roche Ranch) in 2007 for \$13 million with \$3 million in support from the Conservancy, and anticipates transferring the property to Parks for long-term ownership and management as a part of Tolay Lake Regional Park.



The Master Plan for the combined property will provide recommendations for habitat restoration focusing on the restoration of a higher water level for Tolay Lake, closer to its historic lakebed level, and restoration of the four and a half miles of Tolay Creek on what will be a 3,402-acre regional park. The Master Plan will include recreational improvement recommendations for multi-use and hiking-only trails, a park center that may include an interpretive center and educational facilities, equestrian facilities, as well as improved restrooms and parking. The Plan will define the anticipated equestrian concession and provide resource management recommendations for continued use of cattle and improvements in fencing, boundaries and exclusion zones. In addition the Plan will provide recommendations for the protection and interpretation of the significant cultural and historical resources of the property. Current access to the park is restricted to a limited number of days per year and a permit program. Parks will be able to offer greater access to Tolay Lake Regional Park after the completion of the Master Plan.

State Coastal Conservancy

23) INVASIVE SPARTINA PROJECT

Location: The baylands and lower creek channels of Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Solano, and Sonoma Counties

Conservancy Funds: \$812,375

Matching Funds Granted to Conservancy: \$3,810,893 (Wildlife Conservation Board)

Matching Funds: \$266,679

The Invasive *Spartina* Project Control Program, the objective of which is the removal of invasive *Spartina* to restore the affected wetlands and streams of the San Francisco estuary, is comprised of 1) consulting services for planning and management needed to plan, coordinate and obtain environmental permits and approvals for its implementation, and 2) grants to existing grantees to carry out treatment activities. This authorization enables the Conservancy to implement ongoing planning, management, treatment monitoring, revegetation, and water quality monitoring needed for treatment activities through March, 2013 and to carry out treatment and eradication of invasive *Spartina* by grantees through the 2012 treatment season, as follows

- 1) Planning and Management Consulting Services from April, 2011 through March, 2013, including: environmental documentation, invasive *Spartina* and hybrid *Spartina* inventory and treatment efficacy monitoring, water quality collection and sampling, California clapper rail monitoring, refinement of lab analyses of *Spartina* samples, management of an enormous amount of monitoring data, scheduling and coordinating treatment among grantees, initiating a revegetation program, and numerous site visits to conduct the three types of monitoring and to oversee treatment, mitigation, and restoration activities. Total proposed funding for these activities is \$3,815,893.



- 2) Two years of treatment and monitoring, extending the available funding to cover the 2011 and 2012 treatment activities. Total proposed funding for these activities is \$1,074,054, via grants as follows: San Mateo Co. Mosquito Abatement District (\$136,000), California Wildlife Foundation (\$300,000), East Bay Regional Park District (\$130,000), Alameda County Flood Control & Water Conservation District (\$86,000), City of Alameda (\$60,000), City of San Leandro (\$8,000), City of Palo Alto (\$11,500), Friends of Corte Madera Creek Watershed (\$103,929), California Department of Parks and Recreation (\$20,000), and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (\$218,635).

The Conservancy first approved funding for this Project in September 2003. This invasive species eradication project has become a successful, region-wide model for treating an invasive species with multiple landowners and agency partners in all nine counties of the San Francisco Bay Area. Since the peak of invasion in 2005, the Project has successfully eliminated more than 700 net acres (nearly 90%) of invasive *Spartina alterniflora*, *densiflora*, *anglica*, and *patens*; and hybridized *Spartina foliosa x alterniflora* from more than 20,000 acres of infested tidal marsh and mudflats bay-wide. There is an estimated total of less than 100 net acres of remaining non-native and hybrids, still within thousands of acres of tidal wetland sites in San Francisco Bay.

24) NAPA RIVER SALT MARSH RESTORATION PROJECT

Location: The northern edge of San Pablo Bay, bounded in the east by the Napa River and the west by Sonoma Creek, in Napa County

Conservancy Funds: \$75,000

The Napa River Salt Marsh Restoration Project involves the restoration of nearly 10,000 acres of former commercial salt ponds to a mix of tidal marsh and managed ponds, as well as delivery of recycled water to aid in the removal of



bittern (a byproduct of salt production) that is stored in one of the ponds. The project is located along the western edge of the lower Napa River, is owned by the California Department of Fish and Game, and is managed as part of the Napa River Unit of the Napa Sonoma Marshes State Wildlife Area.

Phases I and II of the project were completed by the State in 2006 and 2007, respectively. Phase I involved opening 3,000 acres of salt ponds to full tidal action, making this the largest tidal habitat restoration in San Francisco Bay to date. Phase II involved restoration of 1,700 acres to managed ponds for waterfowl and shorebirds. Phase III, restoration of the final 1,870 acres in Ponds 6-8 and design and construction of a recycled water pipeline to aid in bittern removal, is expected to begin construction in 2012, with federal funding secured for implementation. Phase III will be constructed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. This authorization would enable the Conservancy to disburse up to \$75,000 to support the design, permitting, and other work associated with implementation of the Napa River Salt Marsh Restoration Project. Funds would be used to assist with permitting activities, completion of final design documents, preparing construction bid documents and bid solicitation, and coordination between the Corps and DFG for Phase III.

The Napa River Salt Marsh Restoration Project is a recommendation of the *San Francisco Baylands Ecosystem Habitat Goals Report* and is serving as a model for restoration of commercial salt ponds in the South San Francisco Bay.

25) SAN FRANCISCO BAY ECOSYSTEMS CLIMATE ADAPTATION ASSESSMENT

Location: All nine San Francisco Bay Area counties (Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Solano, and Sonoma Counties), the San Francisco Estuary, and the ocean to the Greater Gulf of the Farallones

Conservancy Funds: \$300,000

Matching Funds Granted to Conservancy: \$357,000 (Moore Foundation)

Matching Funds: \$288,000

The Conservancy authorized \$657,000 to further the Bay Area Ecosystems Climate Change Consortium's (BAECCC) development of climate change research priorities, adaptation practices and pilot projects, including the completion of a technical climate change update to the *San Francisco Baylands Ecosystem Habitat Goals* report. Of this dollar amount, \$357,000 is coming from a grant from the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation to the Conservancy for use in this project. Up to \$150,000 of the authorization will be granted to Point Reyes Bird Observatory to direct the science support and mapping efforts of BAECCC. The remainder will be used to contract for professional services that further the Conservancy's and BAECCC's climate change adaptation objectives. Conservancy funds will be dedicated to the preparation of the *Baylands Goals* Technical Update, while Moore Foundation funds will be expended on coordination of BAECCC's research strategy, management recommendations and communication efforts, including PRBO technical assistance.

BAECCC is a collaborative, multi-jurisdictional organization formed in 2009 for the purpose of integrating resource managers, scientists and policy makers to jointly address the impacts of accelerating climate changes to Bay Area ecosystems, including its uplands, the estuary and the ocean. The Conservancy and PRBO are both key members of BAECCC. BAECCC is currently working to secure natural ecological and economic benefits to society by reducing the negative impacts of climate change on the region's wildlife, habitats and ecosystem functions, while also enhancing the role of natural systems in mitigating those impacts. BAECCC has established the following ten-year outcomes:

- Science-based adaptive management approaches have been identified, tested, implemented, and disseminated to reduce negative impacts of climate change and variability on upland, coastal and ocean ecosystems as well as human communities;
- Natural resource management protocols, plans, policies, regulation and statutes are revised and developed to prioritize greatest ecological response to increasingly unpredictable climate and greater extremes than experienced in the past century; and
- The San Francisco Bay uplands, ocean and estuarian ecological systems have an enhanced ability to respond to rapid climate change to sustain ecological services on which our coastal communities rely.

Under this authorization, the Conservancy would contract for professional services to work with BAECCC members to guide and implement ecosystem adaptation for the region, and to meet BAECCC's two year objectives. BAECCC's work will include the following key elements:

- A research strategic plan that prioritizes the most important and urgent gaps in scientific research and monitoring needed for effective adaptation of Bay Area ecosystems to climate change;
- A technical climate change update to the 1999 *Baylands Goals* Report;
- A set of the most effective best management practices for ecosystem adaptation;
- Development of Bay Area climate change science and resource management information and communication, including improvements to long-term monitoring and informatics capacity, and;
- A case study documenting, evaluating and disseminating lessons learned from BAECCC’s experiences as an example of a consortium linking science with resource management to guide and accelerate implementation of climate change adaptation.

26) **SAN FRANCISCO BAY LIVING SHORELINES PROJECT**

Location: Up to three sites in San Francisco Bay: Corte Madera Ecological Reserve in Marin County, Eden Landing Ecological Reserve in Alameda County, and a site within Eastshore State Park in Contra Costa and Alameda Counties.

Conservancy Funds: \$300,000

Matching Funds Granted to Conservancy: \$300,000 (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency) and \$400,000 (Wildlife Conservation Board)

The Conservancy authorized \$300,000, as well as disbursement of \$400,000 of Wildlife Conservation Board funds and \$300,000 of U.S. Environmental Protection Agency funds provided through the Association of Bay Area Governments, to implement a multi-objective subtidal restoration and climate change adaptation pilot project, known as “Living Shorelines,” in San Francisco Bay.

The multi-habitat Living Shorelines project integrates subtidal habitat restoration of native oyster and native eelgrass beds with designs that test the use of natural structures to buffer and protect adjacent high priority tidal wetland sites, and areas of the San Francisco Bay shoreline vulnerable to sea level rise and shoreline erosion. “Subtidal” refers to submerged areas below Mean Low Tide in San Francisco Bay. A large percentage of the San Francisco Bay shoreline has been



stabilized with hardened structures, such as riprap, breakwaters, seawalls, and bulkheads to create dry lands for development and to prevent or minimize coastal erosion in the estuarine environment. Ironically, hardened structures often increase the rate of coastal erosion, remove the ability of the shoreline to carry out natural processes, and provide little habitat for estuarine

species. This has become an increasing concern, with the most current climate change predictions estimating a potential five feet of sea level rise over the next 100 years and increased storm surge frequency and intensity that is projected to cause increased erosion and scouring of wetland and subtidal mudflat areas in an already erosive San Francisco Bay. In addition, there is a worldwide decline of seagrasses and native shellfish, including eelgrass and oysters, related to anthropogenic activities that alter water quality or clarity. Historically, native oysters were an abundant and ecologically important part of the fauna in West Coast estuaries and an important fishery. Native eelgrass and oysters are foundation species that act as “ecosystem engineers” to support diverse communities of invertebrates, fishes, waterfowl and marine mammals.



The California Natural Resources Agency “Climate Change Adaptation Strategy” has recommended the use of Living Shorelines as an adaptation method to reduce the need for engineered hard shoreline protection devices and to provide habitat functions and values. The “State Coastal Conservancy Climate Change Policy”, adopted by the Conservancy at its meeting of June 4, 2009, also recommends implementation of Living Shorelines projects because of the ability of these projects to reduce erosion and trap sediment, allowing for buffering of tidal wetlands and migration of habitats (“estuary rollover”). These projects will further the

goal of stronger estuarine habitat resiliency, a crucial objective in light of sea level rise and other climate changes that are projected.

The Conservancy will use these funds to design and implement native eelgrass restoration, native oyster restoration, and biological and physical monitoring tasks for the project. The Conservancy will work with San Francisco State University for the eelgrass design and restoration component, and contract with specialized experts to assist with the native oyster design and restoration, and biological and physical monitoring of the oyster and eelgrass project activities.

Trust for Public Land

27) GLEN CANYON PARK MASTER PLAN

Location: Glen Canyon Park, in the south central portion of the City and County of San Francisco

Conservancy Funds: \$289,950

Matching Funds: \$193,300

The Conservancy granted \$289,950 to the Trust for Public Land to develop a Master Plan for Glen Canyon Park in San Francisco. Glen Canyon Park is a 68.8 acre park located in the south central portion of San Francisco and managed by the San Francisco Recreation and Park



Department. The Park consists of a highly used indoor and outdoor recreation area, which includes a Recreation Center with a gym, auditorium, bathrooms, and offices, as well as outdoor tennis courts, baseball/softball fields, a large sports meadow, several picnic area, and an outdoor playground. Beyond the active recreation area stretches 60 acres of riparian coastal scrub, grassland, and urban forest habitats, a mile of above ground creek, and over four miles of hiking trails.

Though heavily used, the Park is in critical need of attention and renovation. Islais Creek runs for one mile above ground and then underground in culverts; the playing fields located above the decaying wooden culverts experience shifting ground and irrigation issues. The Recreation Center was built in 1934 and is seismically unsafe, inaccessible to people with disabilities, has significant roof problems, and has a warped and sinking floor due to the underground creek that runs along one corner. The playground is also not accessible to people with disabilities and is constructed of treated wood which contains arsenic. Numerous social trails have developed over the years, creating erosion issues on the hillsides and impacting water quality in the creek. In addition, there is an ongoing effort to protect the native habitats in Glen Canyon, particularly the riparian habitats, from invasive plant species such as Cape ivy.



Recognizing the high level of public use and significant need for renovation, the City of San Francisco has committed city bond funds for improvements at Glen Canyon Park. RPD has \$900,000 designated for trail construction and \$5.8 million designated for construction of the recreation area from the 2008 Clean and Safe Neighborhood Park Bond. TPL will work closely with the RPD and the community to develop a viable Master Plan that holistically integrates the Park's historical recreational facility with its vast natural area. RPD will use the Master Plan to implement improvements at the Park. TPL's involvement and the proposed Conservancy grant will 1) enable the local bond funds to go farther and be used solely for final design and implementation, and 2) expedite the completion of the Master Plan in a cost effective manner while engaging the community.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

28) HAMILTON WETLANDS RESTORATION PROJECT

Location: Southeast Novato, adjacent to and between the Bel Marin Keys Unit V property to the north, and the Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District Property to the south, along the western margin of San Pablo Bay, in Marin County

Matching Funds Granted to Conservancy: \$4,000,000 (Wildlife Conservation Board)

Matching Funds: \$12,000,000

The Conservancy authorized disbursement of \$ 4,000,000 of Wildlife Conservation Board funds for the implementation of the Hamilton Wetlands Restoration Project by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. This authorization will allow the Corps to complete the implementation of the Hamilton Army Airfield segment of the project and move into the monitoring and adaptive management phase. Conservancy funding for the Project is critical to: 1) securing millions of dollars in federal funding for the Project, 2) ensuring beneficial reuse of sediments that will be dredged from San Francisco Bay, and 3) ensuring completion of restoration of the Hamilton Army Airfield.

The Hamilton Wetlands Restoration Project is an innovative project that is using dredged material from San Francisco Bay to raise elevations of subsided former baylands prior to breaching and restoring to tidal wetlands. The Airfield, which is approximately 900 acres, has received about 5.9 million cubic yards of sediment since 2006,



which represents about 90% of the material needed to completely fill the Airfield. The majority of this dredged material came from the Port of Oakland and other ports in San Francisco Bay. The Airfield will essentially be brought to capacity at the end of the 2011 dredging season. The Corps plans to expend federal and non-federal funds on final delivery of dredged material needed to raise the elevation of the site to allow restoration to wetlands, final grading of about 250 acres of the seasonal wetland and transition zones, planting of the seasonal wetland and transition zone with native plants, final levee work, and the construction of a 2.5-mile Bay Trail segment which runs along the perimeter of the Airfield. It is anticipated that once this work is completed, the Corps will be in a position to breach the levee separating the Airfield from the San Pablo Bay, allowing tidal water to return and for natural processes to complete the wetland restoration work. Following the levee breach, the Corps will continue to conduct native plantings for several years, as well as monitoring and adaptive management activities for 13 years, but the major construction effort at the Airfield will have been completed.

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

	Bay Area Conservancy Program (a)	Additional Conservancy Funding (b)	Matching Funds (some estimated) (c)
Year One: FY 1999-2000 (42 Projects)	\$9,722,126		\$17,990,159
Total Conservancy Funds	\$9,722,126		
Funding Leverage	35%		65%
Year Two: FY 2000-2001 (51 Projects)	\$20,286,027	\$21,715,000	\$80,948,268
Total Conservancy Funds	\$42,001,027		
Funding Leverage	34%		66%
Year Three: FY 2001-2002 (41 Projects)	\$16,082,196	\$5,130,000	\$57,034,781
Total Conservancy Funds	\$21,212,196		
Funding Leverage	27%		73%
Year Four: FY 2002-2003 (26 Projects)	\$15,672,185	\$5,000,000	\$66,852,488
Total Conservancy Funds	\$20,672,185		
Funding Leverage	24%		76%
Year Five: FY 2003-2004 (35 Projects)	\$17,256,585	\$544,381	\$52,371,386
Total Conservancy Funds	\$17,800,966		
Funding Leverage	25%		75%
Year Six: FY 2004-2005 (35 Projects)	\$24,327,875	\$1,500,000	\$76,987,574
Total Conservancy Funds	\$25,827,875		
Funding Leverage	25%		75%
Year Seven: FY 2005-2006 (42 Projects)	\$13,460,402	\$950,000	\$40,175,391
Total Conservancy Funds	\$14,410,402		
Funding Leverage	26%		74%
Year Eight: FY 2006-2007 (37 Projects)	\$12,968,588	\$2,992,468	\$17,632,696
Total Conservancy Funds	\$15,961,056		
Funding Leverage	48%		52%
Year Nine: FY 2007-2008 (57 Projects)	\$20,057,321	\$16,141,483	\$88,624,297
Total Conservancy Funds	\$36,198,804		
Funding Leverage	29%		71%
Years Ten and Eleven: FYs 2008-2010 (42 Projects)	\$24,121,405	\$9,887,685	\$216,775,388
Total Conservancy Funds	\$34,009,090		
Funding Leverage	14%		86%
Year Twelve: FY 2010-2011 (28 Projects)	\$15,747,325	\$498,335	\$45,051,870
Total Conservancy Funds	\$16,245,660		
Funding Leverage	27%		73%

Sum Total for Years One Through Twelve

	Bay Area Conservancy Program (a)	Additional Conservancy Funding (b)	Matching Funds (some estimated) (c)
Year One - Year Twelve: FY 1999-2011 (436 Projects)	\$189,702,035	\$64,359,352	\$760,444,298
Total Conservancy Funds	\$254,061,387		
Funding Leverage	25%		75%

Notes:

- a) Funds directly appropriated 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 funds, including grants provided directly to the Conservancy from the Wildlife Conservation Board, CalTrans, NOAA, Department of Water Resources, U.S. EPA, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Moore Foundation, and others.