

Outcomes from Bel Marin Keys Unit V Public Workshop (September 25, 2001)

Background: The California Coastal Conservancy, in collaboration with the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission and the United States Army Corps of Engineers, held a workshop on September 25, 2001 to publicly initiate a planning process aimed at restoring wetlands on the Bel Marin Keys Unit V (BMK-V) site. The project is in the early phases of conceptual design, and the public's input is sought to help identify project opportunities and site constraints.

Questions/Concerns Raised at Public Meeting

After a brief presentation regarding the overall planning process and the status of the Hamilton Project, the formal presentation ended. Meeting attendees were asked to visit one of four stations that had been set-up to speak directly with project staff regarding a variety of topics, including: wetlands/biology, flood protection, dredging, Integration with Hamilton Project, and public access. The following comments/questions were received at the stations.

Wetland/Biology Station

- Long-term maintenance of site
- Pesticides/contaminants on site
- Desire for habitat mix
- Loss of existing habitat needs to be addressed

Flood Protection Station

- How will NSD's facilities be accommodated?
- How will existing BMK homes be protected?
- Desire for watershed level analysis

Dredging Station

- Desire to use Novato Creek/BMK Lagoon materials
- How will dredged materials be placed on site and how will smell/odor be minimized?
- Will dredged materials be "clean"?

Integration with Hamilton Project

- What about the NSD facilities?
- How is construction of the two projects phased?
- Possible contaminants on site

Public Access

- Will there be parking/staging areas?
- How will SF Bay Trail run through site?
- Desire for interpretive information
- Need to protect sensitive species