



ESTUARY



YOUR BAY - DELTA NEWS CLEARINGHOUSE

WE'RE HOT OFF THE PRESS

ESTUARY's goal is to provide a single source of ongoing, up-to-date information for agencies, activists, politicians, private interests, citizens and others involved in protection of the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary, and in implementation of the Estuary Project's *Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan* for the Bay and Delta.

PLEASE

- Send us your story ideas.
- Call us with leads.
- Notify us when you or your organization is doing something we should report on.
- Put us on your mailing list.
- Correct our mistakes.
- Provide us with reader feedback on contents and coverage.

To be a useful clearinghouse, we need to stay in touch. We look forward to hearing from you!
(510) 286-4392

Watersheds Targeted

What do cattle, creeks, computers, vineyards and native fish have in common? They're key words for nine demonstration projects designed to jumpstart implementation of the S.F. Estuary Project's *Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan* (CCMP) for the Bay and Delta.

"This is how the CCMP leaps off the page and comes alive," says Tim Vendlinski of the Project. "There's been a lot of talk and research. Now it's time for action."

Action, in this case, means inventorying environmental conditions at 175 streams, identifying potential sites for native fish preserves, launching an estuarine institute to coordinate scientific research, restoring native grasslands at the headwaters of Wildcat Creek, putting Santa Clara citizens to work as volunteer surveyors, restoring seasonal wetlands along the Cosumnes River, developing new institutional arrangements to improve watershed management, working with the West Stanislaus Resource Conservation District to reduce agricultural drainage problems, controlling erosion on phylloxera-damaged Sonoma vineyards, mapping the Estuary's natural resources and environmental conditions on a computer, and then making this data base more accessible to resource managers estuarywide. All this and more for \$492,000, with an additional \$315,397 in non-federal matching funds.

On the surface, these demonstration projects may look like step-by-step efforts to implement the 150 recommended actions listed in the CCMP. But there's more here than meets the eye. SFEP made a point of choosing projects that spanned disciplines and jurisdictions, forged public-private partnerships and inter-governmental cooperation, and implemented multiple

actions in one fell swoop. More importantly, the Project singled out an overriding principle for these implementation efforts — a *watershed* approach.

"Some of our toughest remaining problems can best be solved at the watershed level," says SFEP Director Amy Zimpfer. "What we need now is geographically-targeted, locally tailored, common sense cooperative efforts."

Managing by watershed rather than jurisdiction is nothing new, but its scope is broadening as various state and federal agencies work the concept into new programs.

At the federal level, the EPA is promoting a "Watershed Protection Approach" in its efforts to address expensive and difficult-to-regulate water quality problems such as pollutant runoff and habitat destruction.

At the state and local levels, the S.F. Regional Board has been applying a watershed perspective to its basin planning process, inspired by the need to shift from pollution clean up to prevention, and by a success story concerning one of its own demonstration projects — Huichica Creek.

For years, this seven-mile-long Napa County creek — home to the endangered California freshwater shrimp — absorbed eroded sediments and agricultural runoff from adjacent vineyards and cow pasture.

"We talked to all the landowners so they could participate in planning, and so that one neighbor was doing the same as the next," says Dennis Bowker of the Napa County Resource Conservation District. "It changed their sense of the land and watershed," he added. "They began looking beyond their own parcel lines."

Huichica Creek led to the S.F. Regional Board's Napa River, Petaluma River and Corde Madera watershed planning efforts.

— continued on back page

HOW I SEE IT

PAUL HELLIKER, CAL EPA

"The CCMP is too consistent with the Governor's water policy speech last April and his work on the Upper Sacramento River Management Plan to get jettisoned. State agencies have been participating from the very beginning. Those that voted against it did so to keep their options open on the final version of the plan, not because they opposed it overall.

"The two most controversial parts of the CCMP are the Aquatic Resources Section — because the details on flows aren't fleshed out, and the Wetlands section — because of the minority report.

"In terms of flows, I think we're going to have to wait and see how the Governor's new Bay-Delta Oversight Committee handles the ESI/EIR process slated to evaluate alternatives for improving Delta hydrology. The Committee and the outcome of the Estuary Project's recent flows workshops will contribute to the debate, but whatever they recommend, it's ultimately up to the State Board.

"In terms of Wetlands, we'll need to wait until the Wetlands Consensus group presents their ideas on how to best regulate and delineate wetlands statewide. But when we finally pull it all together, I think our new statewide wetlands plan will have a lot in common with the CCMP.

"The rest of the plan is an excellent effort on the ecosystemwide level. It's not going to be a plan that sits on the shelf. We're already analyzing which parts are feasible now, which will take a few years, and which will need a longer-term legislative approach.

"We'll probably have some squabbles over the fine points of the CCMP, but I think Governor Wilson — with encouragement from both CalEPA and the Resource Agency — will get behind it."

Paul Helliker is Assistant Secretary for the California Environmental Protection Agency.

CCMP BRIEF

GETTING THE ONCE-OVER

If there ever was a plan that the public gave a thorough once-over, it has to be SFEP's *Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan* (CCMP). Following the plan's July 24 release for public review, over 700 pages of comments flooded in from all over the region and a total of 200 people turned out for the nine public meetings. Letters arrived from the Golden West Women Fly Fishers, the Gardeners' Guild, the governing boards of most of the surrounding cities and counties, many ports, various environmental organizations, and a number of large corporations. Most impressive were the private citizens who took the time to submit their own opinions on Estuary management; one man's letter included plans for his patented "Buoyant Pipe System," an invention which would attempt to transport wastewater out of the Estuary entirely.

A unifying desire for the CCMP to function as a workable, common-sense plan to protect the Estuary permeated these written comments. While acknowledging the spirit of collaboration represented by the plan, most felt that the CCMP can and should be strengthened. One man took issue with the language, criticizing it for being "bland, with weak verbs, vanilla adjectives and passive voices." Several public agencies suggested that more effort be made to better coordinate existing government programs.

Numerous letters arrived from Save San Francisco Bay Association members who urged SFEP to "gird up" the language and to make sure the CCMP was provided with "enough teeth." They focused on five key issues: that the wetlands program include protection of all 165,775 acres along the Estuary; that dredge spoils not be dumped into the Bay; that standards be adopted to protect against the toxic accumulation; that long-term fully protective standards for the amount and timing of freshwater flows to the Bay and Delta be set as soon as possible; and that red-fox predation on California clapper rails be controlled.

A number of letters focused on the CCMP's Wetlands Action Plan.

Conservation groups urged SFEP to ensure full protection for all area wetlands, and to reject the more conservative Minority Opinion (written because consensus wasn't reached). The Golden Gate Audubon Society suggested increasing the number of acres considered "high priority," claiming that "there can never be too much." The Port of Oakland, on the other hand, concurred with the Minority Report, suggesting the state institute a comprehensive wetlands program, that mitigation banking be promoted, and that a permit appeals process be established. The Port also addressed dredging issues, opposing the levying of any additional fees for regulatory activities.

Members of the Bay Area League of Industrial Associations expressed three primary reservations: that the CCMP contains gaps in knowledge, that it fails to address the costs of implementation, and that there is no mechanism for prioritizing specific actions.

Most critical of all were the farming interests, who expressed concerns about the future of California's food supply and agricultural economy. A manager for a number of Central Valley water contractors wrote that if water flows are redirected, "a good portion of some of the richest, most productive farmland in the world ... will revert to near desert conditions." The state water contractors offered their own proposals for increased conservation, statewide reclamation and construction of new water storage facilities.

Many of these comments have already been addressed through the consensus-building mechanism that produced the CCMP. New issues raised through the public comment process are now being hammered out at ongoing meetings.

Despite the fact that the means of protecting and restoring the Estuary are complex, the collaboration process has been extremely successful. The Land Utilization Alliance wrote, "We commend the spirit of consensus-seeking which has resulted in such a comprehensive product as the CCMP. Public and private should not be separate, whether in the San Joaquin/Sacramento watershed or the Golden Gate. We are all interconnected. Building consensus strengthens the quality of life for all, now and in the future." *DH*

INSIDE THE AGENCIES

NEW MASS METAL LIMITS

"Mass emissions," the latest buzzword of the water quality world, applies to the S.F. Regional Board's new strategies for reducing copper and selenium levels through a combination of innovative mass emissions limits (how many pounds of the metal can be discharged estuarywide) and conventional concentration limits (how much metal can be discharged per litre of water).

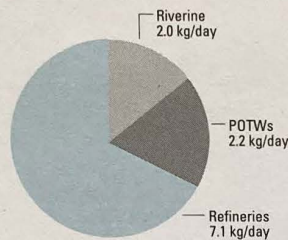
The Board's new copper program — adopted on October 21 — combines a new standard (4.9 parts per billion) with goals for a mass loading reduction from all sources (25% for riverine, 20% for stormwater, and 25% for municipal and industrial) by 2003.

Environmentalists aren't enthusiastic about what they perceive as a less stringent standard. Dischargers are concerned that complying will cost them billions more in treatment. And the Board believes its new approach will result in greater copper reduction and better implementation.

"We're not asking for costly treatment, we're asking for source reduction," says Steve Ritchie of the Board.

The Board's new selenium strategy, slated for a public hearing this November, targets refineries and seeks reductions of 44% by 1995 up to 90% by 2001. Contact: Jessie Lacy (510) 286-0702 AR

BAY SELENIUM INPUTS



DELTA ISLANDS GET COMMISSION

Heading off an explosion of cute condo projects on Delta islands, the Delta Protection Act was signed into law by the governor this October. The Act establishes a 21-member board much like the Coastal Commission and implements part of the land use section of the CCMP.

In the 1950s, only three percent of the Delta's islands were urbanized. It's now 30 percent, according to Ross Sargent, chief of staff for State Senator Patrick Johnston, who sponsored the bill. "The tendency is to proliferate upscale housing developments to the detriment of the Delta," he says.

"There was a lack of coordination," says Elizabeth Patterson with the State Lands Commission, explaining why the bill was necessary. "A good faith effort was not being made to see protection of resources."

The Delta Protection Commission, which meets for the first time this January, will produce a regional management plan identifying appropriate uses for the islands. Cities and counties must adopt the Commission's guidelines in their general plans. Agricultural use is grandfathered into the regional plan.

Agricultural interests initially opposed the plan because they feared another Coastal Commission telling them what to do, according to Sargent. "To their credit, [agricultural interests] swallowed their own self-interest," Sargent says. But at their request, the mix of local and state officials on the commission was weighted in the local's favor.

Unlike the Coastal Commission, development decisions will be made by local authorities. However, opposition can appeal local decisions to the commission. Contact: Ross Sargent (916) 445-2407 JS

BURNING ISSUE

THE LIST GOES ON

This fall, the longfin smelt will join its cousin, the Delta smelt, as a candidate for the endangered species list. Fish and Wildlife will also be asked to put the Sacramento splittail, a large and long-lived minnow, on the list. Meanwhile, a decision on the Delta smelt, due October 3, appears to be held hostage by politics.

Backed by a group of environmental organizations, the Natural Heritage Institute plans to petition the federal government to alter Delta and Estuary management practices to protect the fish.

"The whole idea is to operate the Delta as a system that gets larval and juvenile fish to the Suisun Bay during spring at a relatively low salinity [to ensure propagation]," says U.C. Davis professor Peter Moyle, who authored the endangered status petitions.

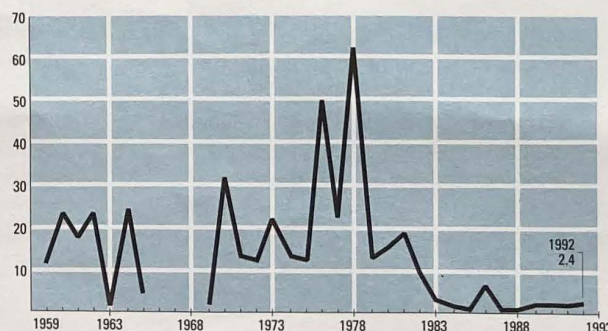
Moyle contends the longfin is in worse shape than the Delta smelt. "It's virtually disappeared from Suisun Marsh."

The Sacramento splittail, whose former habitat was the sloughs and lakes of the Sacramento and San Joaquin Valleys, is now found only in the Delta, says Moyle. Its survival is closely related to freshwater outflows into the Delta.

The change in management practices suggested to keep these populations alive is much the same as that for the Delta smelt. The key factor, according to Moyle, is to change the way the pumps work for the Central Valley and State Water Projects. "Pumping during April and May has to be curtailed or stopped."

While they wait on politicians, the Delta smelt appear to be in bad shape, but holding out against further decline. In a Fish and Game survey concluded in June, the smelt's numbers were found to be "slightly higher than last year's, but consistent with the low values since 1987." Unlike the longfin, there is no strong correlation between Delta out-flows and the health of the Delta smelt, according to Dale Sweetnam of Fish and Game. "With the environment changing so dramatically, we can't find the key." JS

DELTA SMELT ABUNDANCE INDEX 1959-1992



Source: California Dept. of Fish & Game, June 29, 1992

INSIDE THE AGENCIES

WINTER RUN



Three years after the Bureau of Reclamation began cooling down the Sacramento River with water from the depths of Lake Shasta, winter run salmon spawners have increased from 181 to nearly 1,000. That's still only one percent of the spawners that made it up the Delta in the mid-1980s and in late June, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) proposed to reclassify the run from "threatened" to "endangered."

This year's count, which culminated in July, was a cliff-hanger for biologists and fishermen. Would the small efforts of BurRec make a difference? In addition to releasing cold water, concerned agencies severely restricted the salmon's ocean-harvesting season this year and worked to keep the gates at the Red Bluff Diversion Dam open during winter months.

The fall run, since it's not on the threatened list, does not enjoy any of these special management practices. "It's either running late, or it's a horrible season," says Zeke Grader of the Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations.

If the winter run is reclassified to endangered, no additional management will result, according to Chris Mobley with NMFS. "Theoretically, we can do [more] under the Endangered Species Act, but what would help most is consensus between biologists and special interests in the Central Valley," he says. JS

MINES CLEAN UP

Abandoned mines are fouling California's waterways with heavy metal runoff. In some, ferrous sulfide in the shafts mixes with rainwater, producing deadly sulfuric acid and killing fish in bordering rivers. Out of hundreds of inactive mines, the Central Valley Regional Board has targeted 15 for priority clean up. DH

MOM, APPLE PIE AND RESEARCH

It's tough to find an opponent of San Francisco State University's plan to add six new research reserves to the National Estuarine Reserve System. The plan unanimously passed its first major hurdle, an October 15 review by the Bay Commission, and is headed for the Governor's desk.

"We want to get some kind of baseline on what condition our estuaries are in. It's for long-term research, it's not a state park," says Steve Olson of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Managed by S.F. State, under the aegis of NOAA, the six proposed sites wouldn't cost taxpayers any extra money, says Mike Vasey of the university. Seventy percent of the funds come from NOAA — about \$110,000 to start.

The six sites are all brackish tidal marshland. In the South Bay, the new reserves system would include 800 acres at Bair Island in Redwood City. Another 200 acres in Corde Madera, including Heerdt Marsh, is the North Bay component. In San Pablo Bay, there's 100 acres in China Camp State Park. The Petaluma River area would include 1,850 acres—the largest remaining natural marsh in the Estuary. Three marshes in the Suisun Bay are combined for another 2,350 acres. And Lower Sherman Island, with about 1,670 acres of channels and small marshy islands, would comprise the Delta component. Contact: Mike Vasey (415)338-1957 JS

WETLAND PERMITS ON FAST TRACK

A proposal to allow alterations to wetlands without going through the full-scale permit process will be considered at the State Water Board's meeting November 19.

"There has to be some way to determine that some alterations are minor," says Ellen Johnck, Bay Planning Coalition.

In 22 permit situations, the Board has recommended the fast track. These include maintenance dredging and the discharge of up to 25 cubic yards of dredge or fill material. The Board suggests another 12 permits, such as new water diversions and work which impacts endangered species, be sent through the traditional permit process, which can take up to a year.

ENVIRO CLIP

LAWSUITS CULMINATE OVER WATER FLOWS

Two lawsuits, one demanding Fish and Wildlife move to put the Delta smelt on the endangered species list, and one to get the EPA to promulgate federal standards for freshwater flows in the Estuary, will be filed by the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund in the next month. In addition, the Fund plans to ask the court to move on a year-old suit against the State Board over Delta water quality by the end of the year.

The primary lawsuit against the Board covers endangered species, as well as CEQA and Porter-Cologne in its 60,000 pages of record. The Fund also contends that the agency released drafts of its plan to water industry lawyers so they could influence its wording. Superior court agreed with the Fund, and in September required the agency to release annotated drafts indicating industry's involvement, says Stephan Volker, staff attorney for the Fund. The State is appealing that decision.

"The State process is not a sham," says Clifford Lee, the deputy attorney general.

Volker estimates the court will make some decisions by January. He will then ask the court to provide interim relief for the Delta by halting pumping in critical months and opening cross-channel gates. JS

One permit, known as NWP 26, has drawn the most environmental controversy. NWP 26 attempts to fast track modifications on up to ten acres of wetlands, and is supported by the business community. Environmentalists oppose the permit, and the Board's staff has recommended the fast tracking be denied. Contact: Oscar Balaguer (916) 657-1132 JS

HARD SCIENCE

THE CARBON BUDGET

When you get down to basics in the aquatic food web, you're talking about organic carbon. Organic carbon is all the carbohydrates, fats and other complex compounds that the Estuary's plants and animals need to sustain them. Evaluating the carbon budget, what its sources are, and how it changes in response to winds, tides, morphology, human activities and river discharge, can help us assess how much food is available to which higher organisms and where.

The carbon budget was the topic of a newly researched piece of the estuarine puzzle featured in SFEP's Aquatic Resources report. The research, done by Alan Jassby of U.C. Davis, compared different carbon sources for 1980, and assessed what percentage each comprised of the Estuary's total budget:

Major Sources (over 25%)

Phytoplankton (single-celled algal plants) productivity, benthic (bottom-oriented) microalgae productivity, and Delta discharge of organic matter.

Secondary Sources (over 10%)

Tidal marsh transport, point sources (sewage and wastewater discharges), and dredging transport.

Minor Sources (less than 10%)

Seagrasses, macroalgae, photosynthetic bacteria, runoff, atmospheric deposition, spills, groundwater and biotic transport.

The study also examined how the food budget changed from one Estuary sub-embayment to another. Jassby found that in S.F. Bay as a whole, and in South, Central, and San Pablo bays, phytoplankton provided 40-60% of the carbon. In the Central Bay, point sources and transport of dredge spoils from adjacent bays each provided around 10% of the budget. In Suisun Bay, the dominant carbon source (60%) was Delta rivers.

It's not only a matter of how much food there is, but also how available it is to fish and other organisms higher up the food chain. Food availability is influenced by its physical characteristics, hydraulic

residence times (how long it takes a block of water to move through an area), consumption rates by benthic organisms, and oxygen levels. Jassby suggests that most organic carbon sources in South, Central and San Pablo bays enter the food web. However, Suisun Bay's sources — particularly riverine loading — may actually be consumed downstream in San Pablo Bay or the upper Central Bay.

As a result of Jassby's research, a number of estuarine scientists have revised their views on how the Estuary

works. For example, the importance of Suisun Bay as a nursery habitat has often been attributed to high productivity in the channels, shallows and nearby marshes. Based on Jassby's findings, however, the high levels of food characteristic of this habitat appear to be brought in by rivers. Thus the importance of Delta outflow to the health of the Bay may have less to do with the direct impacts on fish, than with the transport of the organic carbon they feed on. AR

TECHNO FIXES

THE ARCHIMEDES SCREW

BurRec is screwing up at the Red Bluff Diversion Dam in a nice way. Two new experimental screw pumps, set for installation beginning this spring will soon make life easier for fish at the dam. The pumps are based on an ancient Egyptian design known as the Archimedes screw. "It's like a drill bit encapsulated in a cylinder and rotated slowly," said Jim Smith of the Fish & Wildlife Service. The screws will be 10 feet in diameter and 17 feet long. If fish get caught in the pumps, they should be carried to a canal and sent through a bypass back to the river, with a brief stay in an evaluation pond.

The project, which will include two Archimedes pumps and one hydrostall pump, is an effort to allow the diversion dam to stay open more than the current four or five months a year. The dam is infamous for its high death rate.

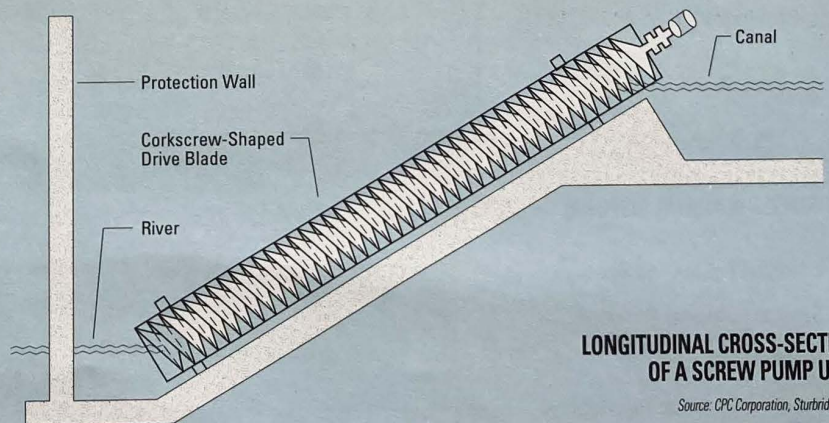
According to Smith, the project's designed to be more fish-friendly, with a minimum of hard edges and places for fish to get caught. JS

THE BUBBLE MACHINE

Lawrence Welk lives—and he's lending his champagne machine to give fall run salmon a cooler habitat.

Variouly called "Mr. Bubbles" and the "Champagne Machine," the spiral-tubed contraption was sunk at the bottom of Shasta Dam on October 1. A compressor forces air to the bottom. As the bubbles rise, they, in theory, drag colder water up to the dam's lowest spillway, 100 feet from the bottom.

"It's a desperate attempt to maintain a temperature suitable for spawning," said Harry Rectenwald of State Fish and Game. JS



LONGITUDINAL CROSS-SECTION OF A SCREW PUMP UNIT

Source: CPC Corporation, Sturbridge, MA

THE MONITOR

BAY MONITORING ROLLS

A \$1.15 million contract for environmental monitoring at sixteen backbone-of-the-bay sites three times a year should be awarded by press time through the Aquatic Habitat Institute.

In addition to toxic compounds, testing will be done for bioaccumulation and sediments. Currently, point source polluters do not test for the latter, although they are critical to the health of the Estuary.

Municipal and corporate dischargers contribute funding for the program which is budgeted at \$2.2 million in 1993. Dischargers are saving some money with the new program, as some non-critical tests, such as dissolved oxygen and coliform, won't have to be performed as often, according to Jim Salerno, laboratory manager for the City of S.F.'s Bureau of Water Pollution.

This is more of "a watershed approach to the Bay," says Salerno. "If we find urban runoff is a bigger problem than thought, then we'll address that. If we find nasty pesticides coming in from agriculture, then that should be controlled. It may add another five cents on a bag of rice."

The dischargers, such as Salerno, the Western Refineries Assoc. (WRA) and the Bay Area Dischargers Association are remarkably supportive of the program, despite the cost. "We'd much rather be regulated with the right information rather than allegations," says Dan Glaze, with the WRA.

Contact: Paul Jones (510) 286-4211 JS

DREDGE SCOOP

WETLANDS BOTTOM-UP

Putting unwanted dredged sediments to good use as raw materials for wetland creation, construction fill or landfill cover has been a major area of LTMS research spearheaded by the Bay Commission. LTMS is a cooperative, regionwide effort to produce an environmentally and economically sound 50-year plan for dredging and disposal in the Estuary.

This summer, the Bay Commission identified 60 potential sites for beneficial reuse projects in the Estuary. After rigorous screening using diverse engineering, environmental, land use and regulatory criteria, they pared the list down to the ten most promising candidates and chose six of these for more intensive study.

Conceptual engineering studies recently got underway at these North Bay candidate sites (see map below). At three sites, engineers are examining the feasibility of a rehandling facility which would dry, prepare and distribute sediments for construction and landfill use. At three others, they're exploring prospects for confined upland disposal or wetland habitat development. And this fall, Congress authorized \$15 million for design and implementation of the Sonoma Baylands wetlands/reuse demonstration project.

LTMS agencies are also developing new guidelines to screen sediments slated for wetland creation and upland disposal. In October, the Army Corps suggested the Regional Board refine their numerical chemical criteria using pollutant biological effects-based data from SF Bay. Contact: Richard Stradford (415) 744-3345 AR

HOW CLEAN IS YOUR MUD?

Cleanliness is all relative, when it comes to Bay mud dredged up in one spot and dumped in another. For years, if the material dredged up from your port or marina proved as clean as the material already at the disposal site, you got a green light for your project. The lights have turned yellow though, in the new state/federal interim guidelines for in-Bay disposal — designed to better protect Central Bay aquatic life and passers-by such as the threatened Chinook salmon.

"These guidelines may enable us to back off imposing no-work windows on dredging projects to protect the migrating salmon," says Jim Bybee of the National Marine Fisheries Service.

The guidelines require a new test — a solid phase bioassay to assess sediment toxicity effects on a Bay bottom organism. And they've changed the reference site for comparing sediment cleanliness from the disposal site at Alcatraz to its environs — which are much cleaner.

"The testing costs more now and takes longer," says Karen Glatzel of the Port of San Francisco, "and there's more uncertainty about the compatibility of our dredge material with the disposal site."

But these guidelines will remain in effect until 1995, when the LTMS is complete. Contact: Wade Eackle (415) 744-3325 AR

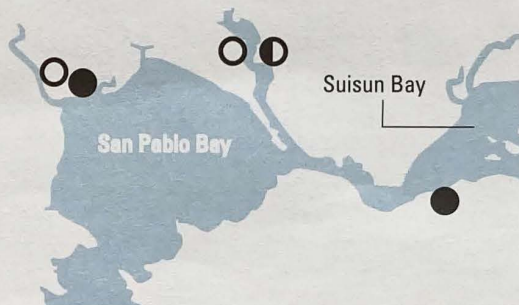
OCEAN SITE SELECTED

The search for an ocean site for dredged material disposal reached a milestone this fall, when EPA and the LTMS Ocean Work Group announced a site as their preferred alternative within the four study areas. The EPA chose Site 5 — located on the lower continental slope 54 miles from the Golden Gate — largely due to its past use for disposal, and its location outside three National Marine Sanctuaries and inside a feasibility zone mapped out by the Army Corps. Other factors in Site 5's favor were its low numbers and few types of fish and invertebrates, its distance from fishing grounds, and the sediment-retaining characteristics of the bottom topography. Site 5 will be recommended in the draft environmental impact statement slated for release in late November.

Contact: Shelley Clarke (415) 744-1162

CANDIDATE REUSE SITES FOR DREDGED MATERIAL DISPOSAL

- Potential Rehandling Sites
- Potential Sites for Confined Upland Disposal or Habitat Development
- ◐ Potential for Either Rehandling or Confined



PLACES TO GO & THINGS TO DO

MEETINGS & HEARINGS

Mass Emission Selenium Strategy

Sponsor: SFRWQCB

WEDS • 11/18 • 9:30 AM

BART Board Room, 800 Madison St., Oakland
(510) 464-1255

Bay Commission Board

THURS • 11/19 • 1PM

455 Golden Gate Avenue, Room 1194, S.F.
(415) 557-3686

SACOG Board

THURS • 11/19 • 9AM

City Hall, Merysville
(916) 457-2264

State Board

Topic: Wetland permit fast-track and more.

THURS • 11/19

901 "P" Street, Sacramento
(916) 657-1132

Napa County RCD

Topic: Process and timeline for development of a Napa River Watershed Coordinated Resource Management Plan.

THURS • 11/19 • 9AM-NOON

County Chambers, 1195 Third St., Napa
(707) 252-4188

SFEP Management Conference

Topics: Implementation, minority reports, final CCMP approval and more.

FRI • 11/20 • 9:30 AM

(Location to be determined)
(510) 464-7990

LTMS In-Bay/Upland Work Group

FRI • 11/20 • 9:30 AM

ABAG, 101 Eighth St., Oakland
(415) 744-3345

Reclamation Board

FRI • 11/20 • 10 AM

Auditorium, 1416 Ninth St., Sacramento
(916) 653-5434

Bay Planning Coalition

Topic: Annual Meeting & Luncheon

WEDS • 12/2 • 11 AM - 1:30 PM

St. Francis Yacht Club, S.F.
(415) 397-2293

LTMS Policy Review Committee

WEDS • 12/2 • 1:30 PM

Nimitz Conference Center, Treasure Island
(415) 744-3276

Central Valley RWQCB Board

FRI • 12/4 • 9 AM

State Capitol, Room 126, Sacramento
(916) 255-3039

Bay Commission Design Review Board

MON • 12/7 • 6:30 PM

30 Van Ness Avenue, S.F.
Contact: (415) 557-3686

U.S. EPA

Topic: Draft EIS Ocean Dredged

Material Disposal Site

December (to be scheduled)

(415) 744-1162

WORKSHOPS & SEMINARS

Regional Dredged Materials Assessment & Management

Sponsors: USCOE & USEPA

Topics: Description and Definition of Disposal Alternatives, Long Term Management of Navigation Projects, Water Column Evaluations, and Design Testing for Confined Disposal Areas

TUES • 11/17 • 11/19

Crown Sterling Suites, S.F. Airport
(601) 634-2803

Urban Stream Restoration Training Workshops

Sponsors: Golden State Wildlife Federation and Urban Creeks Council

Topics: Technical field tour of seven East Bay restoration projects to see innovative flood control designs, soil bioengineering, wetland restoration, unusual gabion bank stabilization, criball designs, riparian vegetation options, and stream channel recreation.

Cost: November workshop for laypeople \$10; December workshop for consultants and government personnel \$80.

SAT • 11/21 & 12/11 • 10 AM - 6 PM

(510) 848-2211

NOW IN PRINT

An Evaluation of Existing Data in the Entrapment Zone of the S.F. Bay Estuary

Kimmerer; Interagency Ecological Studies
Program PUB #33

Copies from Mary Gilleland (916) 323-7203

Long Term Trends in Zooplankton Distribution and Abundance in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Estuary

Obrebski, Orsi and Kimmerer; Interagency
Ecological Studies Program PUB #32

Copies from Mary Gilleland (916) 323-7203

Non-Aquatic Disposal and Beneficial Reuse for Material Dredged from S.F. Bay, Opportunities and Constraints, Stage I Final Report

USCOE & Moffat-Nichols

Copies from Richard Stadford (415) 744-3345

Proceedings of the Third National Citizen's Volunteer Water Monitoring Conference, March 29-April 2, 1992

USEPA, Office of Water

PUB# EPA 841-R-92-004

SFEP Regional Monitoring Program Plan

Copies from Paul Jones (510) 286-4211

S.F. Bay Wetlands, A Technical Report on Extent and Value

Bay Planning Coalition

Copies from (415) 397-2293

HANDS-ON

Verde School Planting Celebration

Sponsor: Golden State Wildlife Federation, SFEP and 14 other groups.

Activity: Plant trees to stabilize the banks of Wildcat Creek. Launch a new creek trail. Work with Richmond community. Officiated by George Miller, Bob Campell, Dan Boatwright, Tom Bates and Nick Petris.

THURS • 11/19 • 9 AM - NOON

Verde School, Richmond
(510) 848-2211



FROM PAGE ONE

"Instead of the traditional facility by facility permitting process, we're trying a watershed approach that identifies pollution sources and works with local interests to develop integrated control strategies," says Steve Ritchie of the Board.

SFEP's own inspiration for exploring the watershed approach came from its recent status and trends report on land use. The report showed that the Estuary's 60,000-square-mile watershed can be divided into 28 subwatersheds with their own distinct drainage basins. Within these watersheds, CCMP implementation efforts targeted at protecting wetlands, stemming habitat fragmentation, preventing pollution, and managing land use can all be brought together and managed in bite-sized chunks.

"There's never been a strong tether between land use planning and the health of the Estuary before," says the Greenbelt Alliance's Jim Sayer who helped research the report. Using the Geographic Information System (GIS), the report showed for the first time how computer modelling and mapping can predict the effects of future urbanization on the Estuary's ecosystem.

GIS mapping for the Estuary is just one of the nine demonstration projects that SFEP hopes will help power-up CCMP action on a grand scale. Inventorying potential sites for native fish preserves is another.

"This inventory is long overdue," says U.C. Berkeley Professor Erman, who believes that in spite of all the losses, many good remnants of native creek conditions can still be found around the Bay. "Now's the time to recognize their value and hang onto them, but most counties don't have the information they need to do so. Our research will give it to them, and help them build it into their planning documents."

Creek-by-creek, action-by-action, watershed-by-watershed, the CCMP is already getting things done around the Estuary.

"These projects will be powerful catalysts for implementation," says Zimpfer.

Contact: Tim Vendlinski (415) 744-1989

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