

Rising from the Mud: Restoration of North Bay Wetlands

May 28, 2024

2:05 PM – 2:30 PM

Living Resources Concurrent Sessions

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Coastal
Conservancy

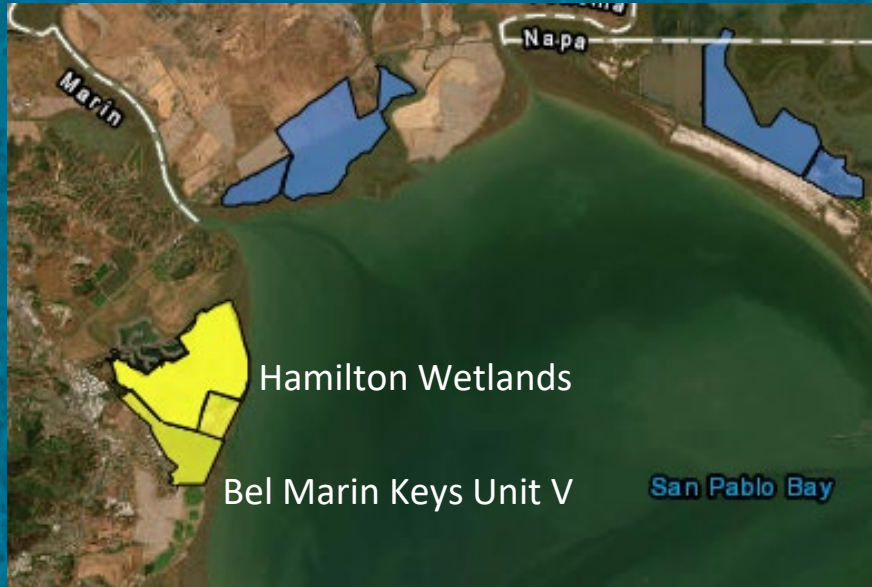
STATE of CALIFORNIA

North San Pablo Bay Wetlands



Novato Baylands (Hamilton/Bel Marin Keys)

- Nearly 2,600 acres when restored
- Owned and managed by State of CA



Hamilton Wetlands - Restoration

- 650 acres restored in 2014
- Restoration approach:
beneficial use of dredged
sediment



Sign up for
Hamilton Wetlands
Workshop on 5/30:
[www.surveymonkey.com](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7WPBTL)
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Photo from Carleton Eyster



Photo from SCC

Hamilton Wetlands – Progress

- Wetlands have evolved quickly
- Site supports marsh and upland habitat, and resident and migratory wildlife



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/r/7WPBBTL](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7WPBBTL)



Photo from Environmental Science Associates (ESA)



Photo from Avocet Research Associates

Bel Marin Keys V – Restoration

- 1900 acres to be restored
- Restoration approach: beneficial use of dredged sediment



Bel Marin Keys V – Progress

- Explore restoration scenarios
- Need to address high cost and limited availability of sediment



Photo from SCC

Novato Baylands - Stewardship

Photos from Point Blue Conservation Science STRAW Program



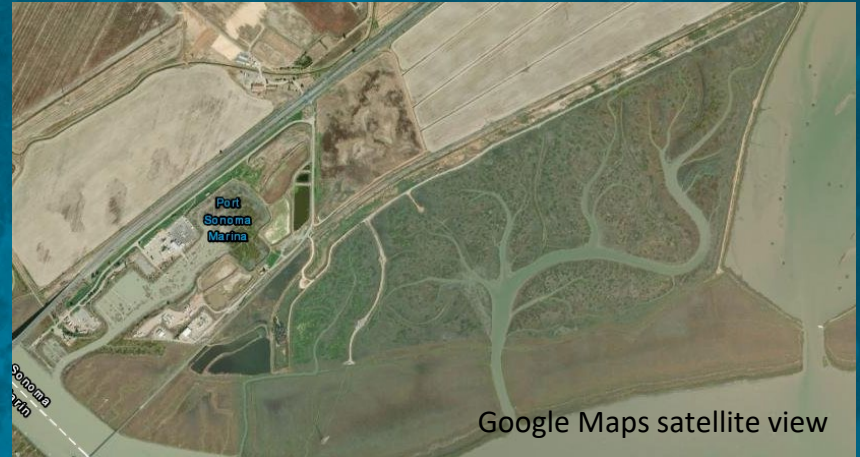
Sonoma Baylands - Restoration

- Over 300 acres restored in 1996
- Restoration approach: beneficial use of dredged sediment



Sonoma Baylands - Progress

- Wetlands now fully vegetated
- Site supports hundreds of species of waterfowl, shorebirds, fish



Sears Point - Restoration

- 960 acres restored in 2015
- Restoration approach: natural sedimentation



Sears Point - Progress

- Adaptive management to address erosion
- Site supports new wildlife as sediment accretes



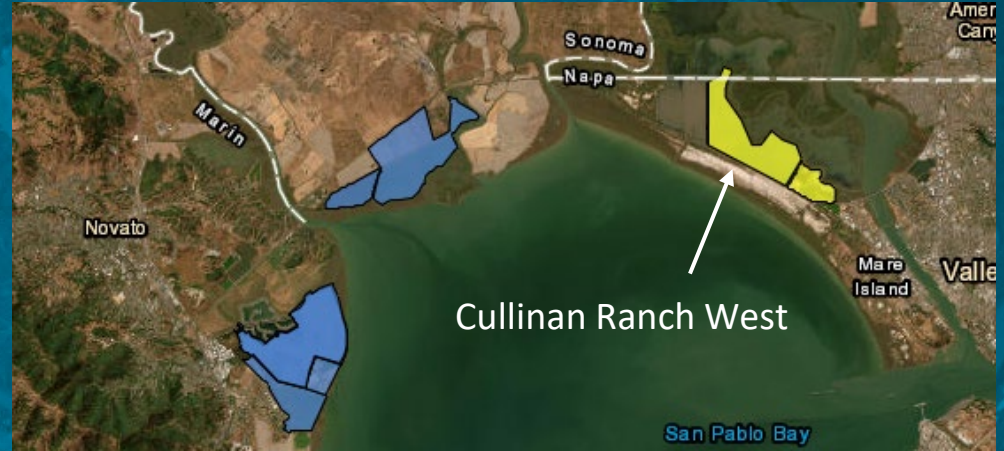
Sonoma Baylands, Sears Point – Community Benefits

- Recreational and educational opportunities
- Hikes, field trips, summer camps, bilingual programs



Cullinan Ranch West - Restoration

- Over 1,200 acres restored in 2015
- Restoration approach: natural sedimentation



Google Maps street view

Cullinan Ranch West - Progress

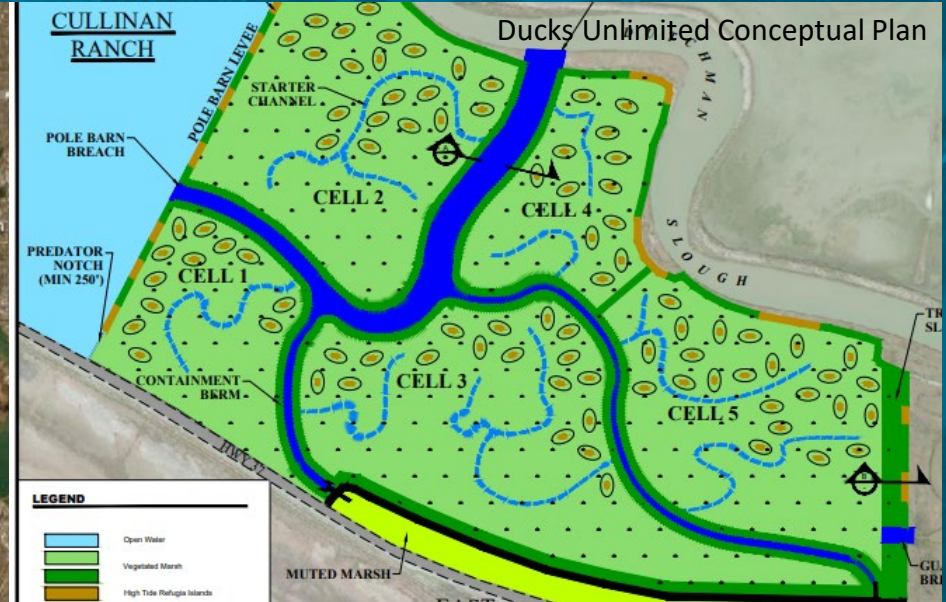
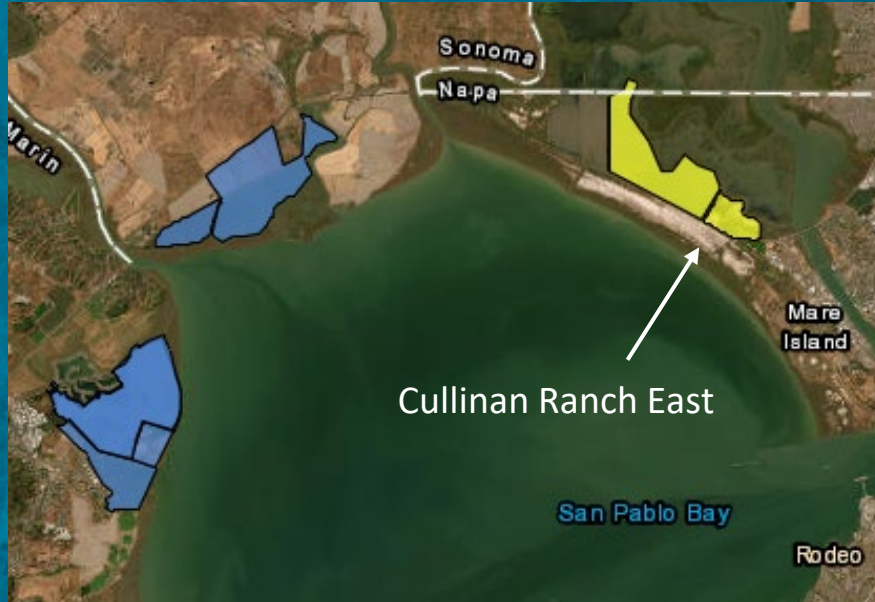
- Currently providing open water habitat
- Site will provide tidal wetland habitat in the long term



Photo from SCC

Cullinan Ranch East - Restoration

- 290 acres to be restored
- Restoration approach: beneficial use of dredged sediment



Cullinan Ranch East – Progress

- Will obtain more sediment
- Plan to restore area to tidal action within the next five years



Photo from US Fish and Wildlife Service

Cullinan Ranch - community benefits

- Environmental education, field trips
- First-time visitors,
- long-term connections



Photo from SF Bay Area Water Trail



Photo from SCC

Informing Current and Future Restoration

- Restoring wetlands with limited time and resources
- Restoring wetlands for benefits to communities and wildlife



Photo from SCC

Project Partners:

US Army Corps of Engineers
Sonoma Land Trust
US Fish and Wildlife Service
Ducks Unlimited
...
and many more

Data sources/Monitoring results:

- Hamilton Wetlands Monitoring Reports prepared for USACE (ESA)
- Draft BMKV Updated Opportunities and Constraints Memo prepared for SCC (ESA)
- Sears Point Monitoring Report prepared for SLT (Siegel Environmental LLC)
- Sonoma Baylands Monitoring Reports prepared for USACE (ESA)
- Cullinan Ranch Monitoring Report (DU)
- Staff reports prepared for SCC Governing Board

