



# STATE OF THE SAN FRANCISCO ESTUARY MAY 28 – 29, 2024 CONFERENCE

OAKLAND SCOTTISH RITE CENTER, 1547 LAKESIDE DRIVE, OAKLAND, CA

## MORNING PLENARY PROGRAM TUESDAY, MAY 28, 2024 – MAIN THEATER - 4TH FLOOR

### The State of the San Francisco Estuary

- 9:30 AM** Welcome and Land Acknowledgement  
**Caitlin Sweeney**, Director, San Francisco Estuary Partnership
- 9:45 AM** Keynote Address  
**Yana Garcia**, Secretary for Environmental Protection,  
California Environmental Protection Agency
- 10:00 AM** 35 Years of Partnership in Action  
**Thomas Mumley**, Assistant Executive Officer,  
San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board
- 10:30 AM** Outstanding Environmental Awards and Creative Environmental Awards
- 10:50 AM** Break

### Youth Vision for the Estuary

- 11:10 AM** Youth Poetry Reading  
**Poet: Aniya Bulter**, Hip Hop & Climate Justice Initiative Coordinator, Youth vs Apocalypse
- 11:25 AM** Youth Vision Panel Discussion  
**MODERATOR**  
**Diana Fu**, Environmental Planner, San Francisco Estuary Partnership  
**PANELISTS**  
**Charis Guerzo**, Youth Programs Coordinator, Little Manilla Rising  
**Alijah Mestayer-Orallo**, Eco-Technician, Literacy for Environmental Justice  
**Rohan Tyagi**, Water Justice Fellow, The Rose Foundation  
**Claire Wong**, California Climate Action Corps Fellow, Grassroots Ecology
- 12:20 PM** Lunch - Grand Ballroom - 1st Floor

#### Walking Workshop: Phones for Field Photography

**Ben Botkin**, San Francisco Estuary Partnership

Join this walking lunchtime workshop to learn useful tips and techniques to help you determine what and how to document a project or event, whether it's a new levee breach, a team kickoff, or just some beautiful settings. The workshop will begin on the front steps of the venue at approximately 12:40 PM.



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## AFTERNOON CONCURRENT SESSIONS

TUESDAY, MAY 28, 2024

### MAIN THEATER - 4TH FLOOR : RESILIENCE

#### Shaping the Future of Bay Area Adaptation through BCDC's Regional Shoreline Adaptation Plan (RSAP)

**1:35 PM** Creating Consistent RSAP Guidelines for Local Sea Level Rise Adaptation Plans

**Jaclyn Perrin-Martinez**, San Francisco Bay Conservation  
and Development Commission

**1:45 PM** Equity Strategy in Practice through the Regional Shoreline Adaptation  
Plan Guidelines

**Phoenix Armenta**, San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission

**1:55 PM** Expert Panel Discussion on the RSAP Guidelines:  
Perspectives from Community, Environment, and Infrastructure

#### **MODERATOR**

**Jaclyn Perrin-Martinez**, San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission

#### **PANELISTS**

**Emily Corwin**, Fairfield-Suisun Sewer District

**Miyko Harris-Parker**, San Francisco Bay Joint Powers Authority

**Anthony Khalil**, Bayview Hunters Point Community Advocates

**Jeremy Lowe**, San Francisco Estuary Institute

**2:35 PM** Interactive Activity on Shaping Equitable Guidelines  
for Local Adaptation Planning

**3:20 PM** Break



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### MAIN THEATER - 4TH FLOOR : RESILIENCE

#### **State Route 37 and Habitat Restoration: Chasing the Nature-Imposed Deadline for Climate Adaptation**

- 3:40 PM** Introduction  
**Jessica Davenport**, State Coastal Conservancy
- 3:45 PM** The Big Picture: San Pablo Baylands Overview  
**Jeremy Lowe**, San Francisco Estuary Institute
- 4:00 PM** State Route 37 Planning and Environmental Linkages Study and Partnership Agreement  
**David Ambuehl**, California Department of Transportation  
**Larry Goldzband**, San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission
- 4:20 PM** State Route 37 from Sears Point to Mare Island: A Compromise to Relieve Congestion and Restore Marshes  
**Kevin Chen**, Metropolitan Transportation Commission  
**Xavier Fernandez**, San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board
- 4:35 PM** Novato Creek Baylands Strategy: Working Together to Achieve Infrastructure Resilience and Environmental Restoration  
**James Muller**, San Francisco Estuary Partnership  
**Jeanette Weisman**, Metropolitan Transportation Commission



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## BANQUET ROOM - 3RD FLOOR : LIVING RESOURCES

### Wetland Restoration in the Estuary: The Long and Very Bumpy Road to Success

- 1:35 PM** Introduction  
**Evyan Borgnis Sloane**, State Coastal Conservancy
- 1:40 PM** Multi-Objective Restoration Projects: If Everyone Wants Them...  
Why Are They So Hard?  
**Dave Halsing**, State Coastal Conservancy
- 2:05 PM** Rising from the Mud: Restoration of North Bay Wetlands  
**Linda Tong**, State Coastal Conservancy
- 2:30 PM** Lessons from the Upper Estuary: Restoration Progress in the Delta  
and Suisun Marsh  
**Dylan Chapple**, Delta Stewardship Council
- 2:55 PM** Recorded Presentation - Evaluating Vegetation Communities and Elevation Capital  
in Some of the San Francisco Bay's Oldest Restoration Projects and Comparison  
with West Coast Results  
**Chris Janousek**, Oregon State University
- 3:20 PM** Break

### Navigating the Waters:

#### Exploring the Nexus of Fish, Habitats, and Humanity across the San Francisco Estuary

- 3:40 PM** Introduction  
**Alison Weber-Stover**, NOAA Fisheries
- 3:45 PM** Beneath the Surface, Below the Delta: Expanding Our Knowledge of Aquatic  
Wetland Ecosystems Across the San Francisco Estuary  
**Levi Steele Lewis**, University of California, Davis
- 4:10 PM** Leveraging Open Science, Synthesis, and Collaboration to Advance Fisheries  
and Food Web Knowledge in the Estuary  
**Denise Colombano**, Delta Stewardship Council
- 4:35 PM** Recognizing Indigenous Knowledge as a Foundational Principle of Fish  
and Fish Habitat Conservation  
**Anecita Agustinez**, Department of Water Resources



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## RED ROOM - 4TH FLOOR : STEWARDSHIP

### Culture is Ecology: Native Hands on the Landscape

- 1:35 PM** Introduction  
**Brandon Chapin**, Delta Stewardship Council
- 1:40 PM** Culture is Ecology: Native Hands on the Landscape  
**Dr. Don Hankins**, California State University, Chico
- 2:15 PM** **PANEL DISCUSSION**  
**MODERATOR**  
**Brandon Chapin**, Delta Stewardship Council  
**PANELISTS**  
**Chairwoman Quirina Luna Geary**, Tamien Nation  
**Dr. Don Hankins**, California State University, Chico  
**Vice Chair Malissa Tayaba**, Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians  
**Ivan Senock**, Restore the Delta
- 3:20 PM** Break

### Water Infrastructure, Flooding, and Inequities in Frontline Communities: A Cross-Generational Panel

- 3:40 PM** **RECORDED PANEL DISCUSSION WITH LIVE Q&A**  
**MODERATOR**  
**Nzinga Hamilton**, Estuary Youth Council  
**Jessica Gonzalez**, Estuary Youth Council  
**PANELISTS**  
**Tess Byler**, San Francisquito Creek Joint Powers Authority  
**Heleine Grewe**, Estuary Youth Council  
**Miyko Harris-Parker**, San Francisquito Creek Joint Powers Authority  
**Moana Kofutua**, Estuary Youth Council  
**Kristian Morales**, Estuary Youth Council  
**Glenn Prasad**, San Joaquin Area Flood Control Agency  
**FACILITATOR**  
**Deborah Itzel Castillo**, Estuary Youth Council



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## GOLD ROOM - 4TH FLOOR : WATER

### **Baneful Blooms: Investigating Harmful Algal Blooms in the San Francisco Estuary**

- 1:35 PM** Introduction  
**Keith Bouma-Gregson**, U.S. Geological Survey
- 1:40 PM** Emerging Insights From the 2022 Bay Harmful Algal Bloom Event and the Relevance for Water Quality Management  
**Dave Senn**, San Francisco Estuary Institute
- 2:05 PM** Harmful Algal Bloom Monitoring and Response in the Sacramento River Basin  
**Zach Gigone**, Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians
- 2:30 PM** Recorded Presentation - Monitoring for Harmful Algal Blooms as an Effort to Keep the Public Informed of Risks in Our Waters  
**Spencer Fern**, Restore the Delta
- 2:55 PM** Delta Harmful Algal Blooms Monitoring Strategy: Where are We Going Next?  
**Ellen Preece**, California Department of Water Resources
- 3:20 PM** Break

## Tribal Water Rights and Beneficial Use

- 3:40 PM** **PRESENTATIONS AND PANEL DISCUSSION**
- MODERATOR**  
**Charlie Toledo**, Suscol Intertribal Council
- PANELISTS**  
**Emily Moloney**, (Formerly) Buena Vista Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians  
**Krystal Moreno**, Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians  
**Sherri Norris**, California Indian Environmental Alliance  
**Sarah Ryan**, Big Valley Band of Pomo Indians

### **5:00- 7:00 PM Evening Reception – Grand Ballroom**

The evening reception will include a poster session, community tables, and an interactive Exploratorium exhibit entitled “Changing Coastlines: Engaging Public Audiences on Sea Level Rise Through Art and Science.”



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## MORNING PLENARY PROGRAM WEDNESDAY, MAY 29, 2024 – MAIN THEATER - 4TH FLOOR

### From Policy Shifts to Placement Pilots: Navigating Resilience through Strategic Sediment Management in San Francisco Bay

- 9:00 AM** Welcome and Land Acknowledgement  
**Liz Juvera**, Environmental Planner, San Francisco Estuary Partnership
- 9:10 AM** Introduction  
**Brenda Goeden**, Sediment Program Manager, San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission
- 9:15 AM** Sustaining Sediment for Survival: Considerations for Supporting Bayland Resilience  
**Scott Dusterhoff**, Senior Scientist and Managing Director of the Resilient Landscapes Program, San Francisco Estuary Institute
- 9:30 AM** Sediment for the Future: Shifting Army Corps Policies and Planning to Facilitate Beneficial Use  
**Tessa Beach**, Chief of Planning and Environmental Services Branch, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
**Arye Janoff**, Senior Project Planner, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- 9:45 AM** Strategic Shallow-Water Placement Pilot Project Using Dredged Sediment in San Francisco Bay  
**Julie Beagle**, Environmental Planning Section Chief, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
**Jessie Lacy**, Research Oceanographer, U.S. Geological Survey
- 10:00 AM** PANEL DISCUSSION
- 10:20 AM** Jean Auer Award
- 10:40 AM** Break

### How to Protect Your Community: Case Studies in Community Resilience

- 11:00 AM** PANEL DISCUSSION
- MODERATOR**  
**Victor Flores**, Resilience Manager, Greenbelt Alliance
- PANELISTS**  
**Keta Price**, Principal Planner, Hood Planning Group  
**Naama Raz-Yaseef**, Senior Manager, Climate Ready Watersheds, The Watershed Project  
**Artie Valencia**, Flood and Land Restoration Manager, Restore the Delta  
**Violet Wulf-Saena**, Executive Director, Climate Resilient Communities



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## PLENARY PROGRAM WEDNESDAY, MAY 29, 2024

**12:00 PM** Lunch – Grand Ballroom - 1st Floor

**12:15 PM Green Stormwater Infrastructure Tour**

Join this walking tour of green stormwater infrastructure projects along the shores of Lake Merritt to learn how GSI investments manage stormwater, reduce pollution, and green cities. The walking tour will leave from the front steps of the venue at approximately 12:15 PM.

**12:15 PM Mentorship Lunch**

Join the Mentorship Lunch where mentees and mentors will have the opportunity to meet, greet, and eat at a variety of sector-based tables that are intended to address questions and provide advice on environmental career pathways.

## SPONSORS

### VISIONARY

Delta Stewardship Council

### CHAMPION

San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority

### CATALYST

Bay Area Clean Water Agencies  
Metropolitan Transportation Commission

### LEADER

Bay Area Regional Collaborative  
ESA

### SUPPORTER

Anchor QEA  
Cargill  
Citizens Committee  
to Complete the Refuge  
Contra Costa County  
Flood Control & Water  
Conservation District  
Ducks Unlimited

East Bay Municipal  
Utility District  
East Bay Regional Park District  
H.T. Harvey & Associates  
NOAA Office for  
Coastal Management  
San Francisco Bay Trail  
San Francisco Estuary Institute

Santa Clara Valley Water District  
Save The Bay  
Sonoma County Water Agency  
Sonoma Land Trust  
West County  
Wastewater District  
WRA, Inc.





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## AFTERNOON CONCURRENT SESSIONS

WEDNESDAY, MAY 29, 2024

### MAIN THEATER - 4TH FLOOR : RESILIENCE

#### Funding the Future:

#### New Opportunities for Advancing Climate Resilience in the San Francisco Bay

- 1:20 PM** Introduction  
**Sam Schuchat**, State Coastal Conservancy (retired)
- 1:30 PM** California Resilience Bond  
**Elizabeth Forsburg Pardi**, The Nature Conservancy
- 1:45 PM** The New EPA San Francisco Bay Program  
**David Lewis**, Save The Bay
- 2:00 PM** Emerging Regional Strategies  
**James Cameron**, Sonoma County Transportation Authority  
**Amy Hutzel**, State Coastal Conservancy
- 2:30 PM** PANEL DISCUSSION
- 3:05 PM** Break

#### Horizontal Levees:

#### Partnering with Wastewater Treatment Plants for the Next Wave of Nature-based Innovation

- 3:25 PM** Introduction  
**Heidi Nutters**, San Francisco Estuary Partnership
- 3:30 PM** Scaling up the Horizontal Levee Concept: The First Mile Project  
**Jackie Zipkin**, East Bay Dischargers Authority  
**Anthony DeSalvo**, UC Berkeley  
**Jonathan Uhler**, UC Berkeley
- 3:55 PM** Nature-based Solutions, Climate Resiliency, and Equity: How One Medium Sized Clean Water Agency in the Bay is Trying to Address all Three!  
**Emily Corwin**, Fairfield Suisun Sewer District
- 4:20 PM** Five Years of Evaluation and Studies of Nature-Based Solutions for Reverse Osmosis Concentrate Treatment  
**Medi Sinaki**, Santa Clara Valley Water District  
**Nasi Basiri**, Santa Clara Valley Water District



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## BANQUET ROOM - 3RD FLOOR : LIVING RESOURCES

### Integrating Knowledge and Best Practices into Scaling Up: Regionally Advancing Living Shoreline Projects

- 1:20 PM** Introduction  
**Evyan Borgnis Sloane**, State Coastal Conservancy
- 1:25 PM** Leading Edge Approaches in Collaborative Design and Implementation  
**Marilyn Latta**, State Coastal Conservancy
- 1:45 PM** Science, Experimentation, and Workforce Development in Nature-Based Adaptation  
**Chela Zabin**, Ecologist, Smithsonian Environmental Research Center
- 2:05 PM** Engineering with Nature to Advance Nature-Based Adaptation in SF Bay  
**Julie Beagle**, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- 2:25 PM** Linking Invasive Eradication with Native Plantings in a Changing Climate  
**Jeanne Hammond**, Olofson Environmental, Inc.
- 2:45 PM** **PANEL DISCUSSION**
- 3:05 PM** Break

### Restoration Permitting: Collaboration is Key

- 3:25 PM** Introductory Remarks: Bay Restoration Regulatory Integration Team  
**Luisa Valiela**, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- 3:40 PM** Meeting Indigenous Responsibilities in a Different World  
**Gregg Castro**, t'rowt'raahl Salinan / rumsen and ramaytush Ohlone
- 4:00 PM** Cutting the Green Tape  
**Peter McHugh**, California Department of Fish and Wildlife
- 4:10 PM** Water Board Statewide Restoration Order  
**Keith Lichten**, San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board
- 4:20 PM** **PANEL DISCUSSION**  
**MODERATOR**  
**Sahrye Cohen**, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency



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## RED ROOM - 4TH FLOOR : STEWARDSHIP

### Collaborative Engagement and Best Practices with Community-Based Organizations

#### 1:20 PM PANEL DISCUSSION

##### MODERATOR

**Violet Wulf-Saena**, Climate Resilient Communities

##### PANELISTS

**Juliana Gonzalez**, The Watershed Project

**Sara Medina**, Restore the Delta

**Edgardo Vazquez**, Canal Alliance

**Miriam Yupanqui**, Nuestra Casa de East Palo Alto

#### 3:05 PM Break

### Native Plant Nurseries around the Bay: Hubs for Community Engagement and Workforce Development in Habitat Restoration Projects

#### 3:25 PM Introduction

**Linda Tong**, State Coastal Conservancy

#### 3:30 PM Beyond Plants: How Nurseries Add Meaning to Our Lives

**Leia Giambastiani**, Point Blue Conservation Science

**Alycia Matz**, Point Blue Conservation Science

#### 3:40 PM Growing Together: Restoration, Nurseries, and Community Engagement

**Eric Lynch**, San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory

#### 3:50 PM Connecting with Plant Nurseries through Affinity Groups

**Millie Calzada**, Save The Bay

#### 4:00 PM Local Plants and Local People

**Dr. Hollis Pierce-Jenkins**, Literacy for Environmental Justice

**Nina Omomo**, Literacy for Environmental Justice

#### 4:10 PM PANEL DISCUSSION

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## GOLD ROOM - 4TH FLOOR : WATER

### Contaminants of Emerging Concern in the Estuary

- 1:20 PM** Introduction  
**Karin North**, City of Palo Alto
- 1:25 PM** State of Contaminants of Emerging Concern in the Estuary  
**Maggie Monahan**, San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board
- 1:50 PM** Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) in the San Francisco Bay  
**Kimberlee West**, San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board
- 2:15 PM** Microplastic Monitoring in San Francisco Bay and Statewide to Inform Management Actions  
**Christine Sur**, Ocean Protection Council  
**Diana Lin**, San Francisco Estuary Institute
- 2:40 PM** California Safer Consumer Products Program: Advancing Chemically Safer Products for People and the Environment  
**Anne-Cooper Doherty**, Department of Toxic Substances Control
- 3:05 PM** Break

### Estuary Cleanup:

#### Successful Strategies and Key Opportunities for Reducing Trash in the Bay

- 3:25 PM** Trash Sources, Pathways, Threats, and Solutions for the San Francisco Bay  
**MODERATOR**  
**Chris Sommers**, EOA, Inc.
- 3:30 PM** Working Towards 100% Trash Reduction: Protecting Surface Water Quality in San José  
**Rajani Nair**, City of San José
- 3:45 PM** It Takes a Village (of Programs): Oakland's Journey to Protect Local Waterways  
**Kristin Hathaway**, City of Oakland
- 4:00 PM** Trash Management in Unsheltered Communities: Scaling Programs to Engage and Support Unhoused Populations  
**Chris Richardson**, Downtown Streets Team
- 4:20 PM** **PANEL DISCUSSION**

**Thank you for attending the conference!**

Please complete our post-conference survey in the conference app, or through the link at this QR code.

