South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project Restoring the Wild Heart of the South Bay

Phase 2 Eden Landing Ecological Reserve Scoping Meeting for EIS/EIR

June 30, 2016

Today's Purpose

- Introduction to Scoping / Purpose of Meeting
- South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project

 Project Overview
- EIS/EIR
 - Programmatic and Tiering
 - Phase 2 Alternatives
- Break Out Stations and Process

Policy Framework

- NEPA:
 - Framework for environmental planning
 - Process for disclosure of potential adverse effects on environmental resources
- CEQA
 - Disclose significant effects of proposed activities
 - Requires avoiding or reducing effects by implementing feasible alternatives or mitigation measures.
- Both have opportunities for public participation

What is Scoping?

- First step in public participation
- Identify significant issues
- Use them to:
 - Refine purpose and need of the action
 - Develop/modify alternatives to be considered or not to be considered
 - Define impacts to be addressed

Purpose of Scoping

- Explain:
 - Overall project, its purpose and need, and possible actions
 - Optional methods for public / stakeholder participation
 - Steps and timing of NEPA and CEQA processes compliance
- Request public input on the scope and alternatives for EIS/EIR

Purpose of Scoping

- Open process for identifying
 - Alternatives or project components to consider
 - Issues to address in the impacts analysis
 - Information or data to include
 - Resources that may be affected
 - Topics that concern various stakeholders
 Geographic areas to study
- Inputs made available to public an appendix to the EIS/EIR

Scoping Is Not

- Your final opportunity to comment on the project
- A presentation of the preferred alternative, the actual designs, or all possible effects or impacts

How Will We Use Your Input?

- Refine alternatives as needed to capture range of possible impacts
- Make sure we address resources, issues, and potential impacts of concern to you
- Document your comments for future use or reference









Tracking our Progress: Phase One Actions





1,600 acres tidal restoration 1,440 acres muted tidal

710 acres reconfigured ponds





7 miles of new trails





Phase 2 Guiding Principles

- No actions that will increase flood risk
- Progress restoration toward 50-50 vision (from 2007 EIS/R)
- Add public access features, especially Bay Trail spine



Phase 2 Concepts

- All of southern Eden
 Landing
- Three different locations for levee enhancements
- Range of habitat restoration options
- Different trail routes



Phase 2 Concepts

- 1 No-Action/No Project Alternative
- 3 Action Alternatives
- Maps of which are preliminary
- Modified based on scoping input
- Can be recombined

Alternative A: No-Action



Alternative B: Unstaged, All Tidal



Alternative C: Mix of Marsh & Ponds



Alternative D: Staged Tidal Rest'n



Primary Evaluation Criteria

- Likelihood of progress toward Project objectives
- Opportunities for Adaptive Management studies
- Value in building Project support
- Readiness to proceed / not dependent on precedent actions
- Input from stakeholders (over many years)

NEPA/CEQA Tiering

- Joint NEPA/CEQA process
- Tiering from the Programmatic EIS/EIR uses same:
 - Objectives, Purpose and Need
 - Significance criteria
 - Mitigation measures
- Impact analysis more detailed than Programmatic EIS/EIR because it's Phase 2specific
 - Like Phase 1 actions but in a new document
 - Analogous to Phase 2 document for the Refuge

Public Participation

- Scoping comments encouraged on subjects:
 - Range of alternatives
 - Impacts to include in the analysis
 - Mitigation measures
 - Other issues, thoughts, or ideas to include
- Opportunities for input and comment
 - Scoping process (next few weeks)
 - Draft EIS/EIR (Oct/Nov 2016)
 - Final EIS/EIR (spring 2017)

Methods for Input

- Comment cards at today's meeting
- Mail comment card after meeting
- Website comment form
- Letter address in NOI and NOP
- Email address in NOI and NOP

To make your comments an "official" part of the record, they must be made in writing.

Meeting Stations – Layout

- Habitat Restoration
- Flood Control
- Public Access and Recreation