

The California Resources Agency Secretary Mike Chrisman

This document was prepared by the California Coastal Management Program:

The California Coastal Commission

The San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission

The State Coastal Conservancy

with assistance by the three National Estuarine Research Reserves in California and NOAA

For more information concerning the CELCP and the California CELCP Conservation Plan contact the Coastal Conservancy at 510-286-1015

CELCP@scc.ca.gov

Cover Photo: National Park Service

# California CELCP Conservation Plan



COASTAL AND ESTUARINE LAND CONSERVATION PROGRAM (CELCP) GRANT APPLICATION AND EVALUATION PROCEDURES September 1, 2005

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# Introduction

HE COASTAL AND ESTUARINE LAND CONSERVATION PROGRAM (CELCP) is a federal program authorized by Congress in 2001 and administered by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). If fully funded, the program would provide \$60 million per year for grants that would be awarded on a nationally competitive basis to public agencies for land acquisition. In each eligible state, the CELCP would be administered through that state's coastal management program.

The principal requirement for California projects to be eligible to compete for future CELCP grants is the preparation of a "conservation plan", a term derived from the federal guidelines for the program. Each state conservation plan is required to describe the types and extent of resource lands eligible for CELCP land acquisition grants, including the resource and policy information that would make these lands state priorities for public acquisition. These state conservation plans are subject to approval by NOAA, and NOAA will also establish national criteria for grant awards that would be applied in evaluating future grant applications.

To prepare a CELCP Conservation Plan for California that will be adequate to meet the NOAA requirements, a working group was established consisting of representatives of the three agencies comprising the California Coastal Management Program (the California Coastal Commission, San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission, and State Coastal Conservancy), the three National Estuarine Research Reserves in California, and NOAA. The draft CELCP plan was presented at public hearings of the Coastal Commission (date), the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (date) and the State Coastal Conservancy (date).

The California CELCP Conservation Plan has no force of law and it is intended solely for use in conjunction with the evaluation of future CELCP grant applications. The Conservation Plan may be revised whenever necessary in accordance with further federal mandates for the CELCP or to reflect changes in California law or policies.



Coastal and estuarine lands of California eligible for funding under the Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program of 2002

Sources: Eligible lands from NOAA Coastal Assessment and Data Synthesis System (CADS), Coastal Zone boundary courtesy of California Coastal Commission. County boundaries and roads from California Spatial Information Library. Cartography by Tim Reed, SF Bay NERR GIS, August, 2005.

# Overview

HIS DOCUMENT HAS BEEN PREPARED pursuant to the *Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program Final Guidelines* issued by NOAA in June 2003. In order to qualify to receive federal funds under CELCP, a state must prepare and receive approval from NOAA for a "Conservation Plan that provides an assessment of priority conservation needs and clear guidance for nominating and selecting land conservation projects within the state." The California Conservation Plan has been prepared for the purpose of establishing eligibility so that California projects may compete for future CELCP grants.

The California Conservation Plan consists of two parts:

Part I describes the basic grant application procedures, including eligible applicants, processes and requirements for application solicitation, submission, evaluation and selection, and the required contents of approved grant agreements. This section contains a CELCP California Conservation Plan application form.

Part II describes the criteria that California will utilize in the solicitation, evaluation, ranking and selection of grant applications for submittal to NOAA, in the form of coastal recreation and resource land conservation priorities that have been approved by public agencies within the geographic scope of CELCP.

# PART I.

# Application Procedures for California CELCP Grants

# Relationship Between State and Federal Processes

Administration (NOAA) Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management and by the California Coastal Management Program. The federal role has two principal parts: (1) the review and approval of state CELCP "conservation plans" (like this one) that establish state eligibility to participate in the process; and (2) the evaluation, selection and funding of project grant applications submitted by the states pursuant to future Congressional appropriations.

After the California CELCP Conservation Plan has been approved by NOAA, the State, acting through the State Coastal Conservancy (one of the California Coastal Management Program agencies) will solicit applications for CELCP land acquisition grants. The process of State review and evaluation is described in detail in this plan. Following that evaluation process, the State will submit a consolidated grant application proposal to NOAA. The Coastal Conservancy will issue, execute and administer grant agreements to implement each of the CELCP grants awarded by NOAA for California land acquisition projects.

# Outline of the California CELCP Application Process

- Each year, upon notification by NOAA of the availability of CELCP funds in the federal budget, the Coastal Conservancy will provide public notice, including publication on its website, of the timeline for solicitation and evaluation of CELCP grant applications.
- For at least 60 days prior to the deadline for the submittal of applications, the CELCP application form for California grant proposals will be distributed through the Conservancy website at <a href="https://www.coastalconservancy.ca.gov">www.coastalconservancy.ca.gov</a> and other means.
- Applications may be prepared and submitted by any public agency or nonprofit conservation organization, and shall include: (1) an acknowledgment by an authorized representative of the public agency proposed to hold the property interest to be acquired; (2) a description of the source of non-federal funds proposed to match the CELCP grant; and (3) documentation that the current landowner intends to be a "willing seller" in accordance with the terms of sale described in the grant application.

- Within 60 days following the deadline for receipt of applications, the Coastal Conservancy, as lead agency for the California CELCP process, will notify each applicant of whether its application has been accepted as complete. If an application is determined not to be complete, the applicant may be permitted to provide additional non-substantive materials necessary to complete the application. A list of the CELCP applications that are accepted for evaluation will be posted on the Conservancy website.
- All completed applications will be reviewed and evaluated in accordance with the priorities described in the California CELCP Conservation Plan, by the California CELCP Evaluation Committee representing the California Coastal Management Program agencies and the California National Estuarine Research Reserves.
- Within 120 days following the deadline for receipt of applications, the Coastal Conservancy will notify each applicant of the results of the evaluation process. A list of the applications selected to be submitted to NOAA will be posted on the Conservancy website.
- Selected applicants may be required, within a limited period of time, to prepare additional information for submittal to NOAA.
- At the conclusion of the NOAA selection process, the results will be posted on the Conservancy website.

# Scope of Participation: Eligible Projects and Applicants

HE FEDERAL CELCP STATUTE (Public Law 107-77) describes the scope of the program as being ". . . for the purpose of protecting important coastal and estuarine areas that have significant conservation, recreation, ecological, historical, or aesthetic values, or that are threatened by conversion from their natural or recreational state to other uses."

# GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE

Public land acquisition projects may be considered for CELCP grants if they would be located within ". . . the state's coastal zone, as designated in the state's federally approved coastal management program . . . or within the state's coastal watershed boundary as described in NOAA's Coastal Zone Boundary review (October 1992)." The geographic scope of eligibility for CELCP grants within California is described in the Eligible Lands map, page 4.

# National (NOAA) Criteria

HE CELCP FINAL GUIDELINES establish national eligibility criteria. Each project must: (1) protect important coastal and estuarine areas that have significant conservation, recreation, ecological, historical, or aesthetic values; (2) give priority to lands that can be effectively managed and protected and that have significant ecological value; (3) directly advance the goals, objectives, or implementation of the state's coastal management plan or program, a National Estuarine Research Reserve management plan approved under the federal Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA), the national objectives of the CZMA, or a regional or state watershed protection plan; and (4) be consistent with the state's approved coastal management program.

# REQUIRED PROJECT COMPONENTS

In addition to meeting the limits established by the geographic and national programmatic mandates, each CELCP project must: (1) match the CELCP grant with an equivalent amount (or more) of nonfederal funds; (2) acquire a public property interest that will provide for permanent conservation of the specified land resources; (3) provide that the acquired property interest (whether fee simple or conservation easement) will be held in public ownership; and (4) provide for access to the subject property by the general public, as appropriate and consistent with protection of the specified land resources.

### IMPERMISSIBLE PURPOSES

The CELCP grants may not be used for any of the following: (1) long-term operations, maintenance or management of the acquired property interest; (2) construction of facilities; (3) research; (4) property interests that restrict access by specific persons or classes of persons (e.g., non-residents); (5) property interests that are required to comply with mitigation requirements or other regulatory requirements; (6) property interests acquired solely for enforcement of a regulatory program; (7) property interests acquired for development of active recreation facilities (e.g., sports fields, water parks, playgrounds) or that will be used for active agriculture or aquaculture production; or (8) property interests acquired through eminent domain or by any means other than agreement with a willing seller.

# Submittal and Review of California Grant Applications

# SUMMARY OF APPLICATION CONTENTS (SEE ALSO APPLICATION FORM)

- property location including site map, specific APNs and Assessor's Parcel Maps covering all parcels
- if fee or easement would take less than whole existing parcel, a map indicating the future property interest area
- preliminary title report dated within 60 days of application
- description of source and minimum amount of proposed nonfederal matching funds, including the status of those funding approvals
- description of intended public benefits of proposed acquisition and specific CELCP Plan priorities that would be accomplished
- basis for estimate of acquisition cost
- timeline to project completion
- letters of intent from landowner, proposed management agency

# PROCESS FOR EVALUATION OF APPLICATIONS

- 1. determination of application eligibility and completeness
  - eligibility criteria met (location, national criteria, required components, not impermissible purposes)
  - all documentation submitted (maps, landowner interest, management agency approval, application form completed)
- 2. transmission of applications to California CELCP Evaluation Committee
  - summary spreadsheet of complete applications posted

### BASIC EVALUATION CRITERIA

- 1. project supports implementation of coastal resource priorities described in California CELCP Plan: spreadsheet indicates which ones
- 2. maximum amount of funds and/or number of proposals to be submitted to NOAA for a specific cycle—this will be announced by the Coastal Conservancy at the time of project solicitation

# ADDITIONAL EVALUATION AND RANKING CONSIDERATIONS

The California CELCP Evaluation Committee will consist of representatives of the California Coastal Management Program (State Coastal Conservancy, California Coastal Commission and the Bay Conservation and Development Commission) and the three California National Estuarine Research Reserves; San Francisco Bay,

Elkhorn Slough and Tijuana River—all complete applications will be transmitted to each member of the committee

- 1. project characteristics and public benefits
  - public support
  - need (project will not occur without the grant)
  - greater-than-local interest
  - urgency (threat to a coastal resource from development, natural or economic conditions; pressing need or a fleeting opportunity)
  - resolution of more than one issue through the project
  - leverage and cooperation (contribution of funds or services from other programs; extent to which multiple organizations and the public will contribute to the project)
  - conflict resolution
  - readiness (ability of the grantee to complete the project in a timely manner)
- 2. NOAA specified emphases (if any) for the subject grant cycle
- 3. overall strength and balance of State grant application package to NOAA

Each member of the Evaluation Committee will prepare notes evaluating the complete applications including a draft ranking. The Committee members will convene, confer and collaborate to determine the final application ranking by consensus.

# NOTIFICATION AND PUBLIC INFORMATION

- 1. Receipt and initial review of applications will be posted on the Conservancy website, www.coastalconservancy.ca.gov.
- 2. Following completion of the proposal selection process by the California CELCP Committee, a summary of the application rankings will be posted on the Conservancy website, indicating the grant proposals selected for submittal to NOAA.
- 3. Following the completion of the first year cycle of project solicitation, evaluation, submission to NOAA and CELCP grant selection, a public hearing will be held to review the adequacy of the California CELCP process prior to the commencement of the second year cycle.

# **CELCP Grant Agreements**

- Standard Format of State Grant Agreement
- Sample Conservation/Access Easement and Commentary

# APPLICATION OF CEQA

In general, the submittal of an application for a CELCP grant, whether by a public agency to the California CELCP Evaluation Committee or by the State to NOAA, will be exempt from the requirements for analysis under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). A CELCP grant proposal could not have any impact on the environment within the scope of CEQA requirements, and would be akin to a "feasibility study" for a future action not yet approved; such studies are exempt from CEQA review as described in Section 15262 of the CEQA Guidelines. Further CEQA analysis may be required prior to approval of specific land acquisition projects, although land acquisition for conservation purposes is typically subject to a categorical exclusion under CEQA.

# **DEFINITIONS**

**Public Agency**. PRC 31010 + state incl colleges; indians **Nonprofit Conservation Organization**. PRC 31013

# **Application Form**

# **CALIFORNIA CELCP GRANT APPLICATION FORM**

1. Applicant Name:				
2. Address:				
Email:				
3. Telephone: Fax:				
4. Authorized Representative:  Telephone:				
5. Proposed Public Agency Titleholder name and contact info:				
6. Attach Authorization from Public Agency (see Exhibit 1)				
7. Amount of CELCP Grant Request:				
8. Matching Funds Proposed Amount:				
9. Source(s) and Status of Approvals:				
10. Subject Property Name (i.e., "Project Name"):				

11. Location: Address, Jurisdiction(s):			
12. Assessor's Parcel Numbers:			
13. Maps: Site Location, Assessor's: (attach)			
14. Preliminary Title Report: (attach)			
15. Project Description: (Specific Interests to be Acquired)			
16. Substantiation of Fair Market Value: (attach)			
17. Substantiation of Willing Seller & contact info: (attach) (see Exhibit 2)			
18. Proposed Timeline to Project Completion:			
19. Description of Subject Property Site Resources: (brief summary incl. reference citations)			
20. Description of California CELCP Conservation Plan Priorities to be accomplished through the proposed project:			

1. (	Other Project Proponents, Interested Parties (list only)	

# PART II.

# Description of California CELCP Priorities

### STATEWIDE PRIORITIES

Protecting California's Natural Heritage Steelhead Restoration and Management Plan California Outdoor Recreation Plan 2002 Natural Community Conservation Planning Local Coastal Programs Farmland Mapping & Monitoring Program California Critical Coastal Areas Program Forest & Range Assessment 2003 Completing the California Coastal Trail California Coastal Conservancy Strategic Plan

# SAN FRANCISCO BAY/DELTA PRIORITIES

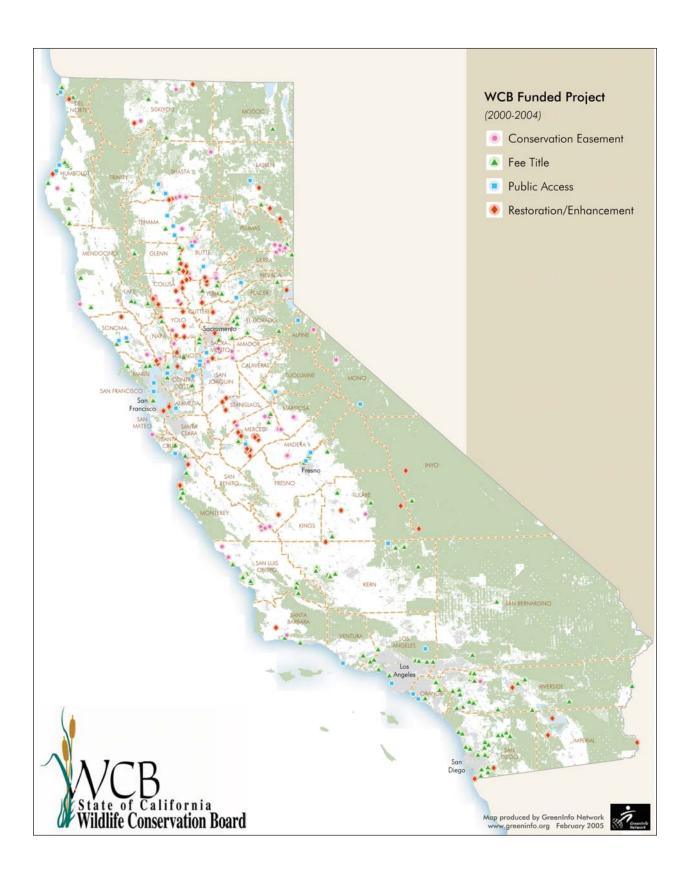
San Francisco Bay Priorities:
Restoring the Estuary: An
Implementation Strategy
Bay Area Regional
Open Space Visions
San Francisco Bay Plan
San Francisco Bay NERR
San Francisco Estuary Comprehensive
Conservation and Management Plan
San Francisco Bay Trail Plan

# REGIONAL PRIORITIES

Recovery Strategy for Coho Salmon Coastside Protection Program Elkhorn Slough at the Crossroads Morro Bay Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan State of the Bay 2004 Green Visions Plan Tijuana River NERR PART II OF THIS CELCP CONSERVATION PLAN provides a description of the California priorities for future use of CELCP funds. As described in Part I of this plan, these priorities will guide the evaluation of future grant proposals submitted during the annual solicitation process and will guide the selection of proposals to be submitted by the State to NOAA for further evaluation.

The California CELCP land acquisition priorities reflect existing public planning processes through which local, State and federal agencies have collaborated to provide information about the sites at which further public action is needed to protect, restore, enhance or utilize coastal resources. Part II specifies those existing resource analyses that will provide guidance to the CELCP. Each of the studies described in Part II would provide a basis for future CELCP applications for land acquisition grant funds, and each CELCP grant application will be required to identify the degree to which the proposed acquisition would implement the provisions of one or more of these studies.

Part II provides a brief description of each study included among the California CELCP priorities, a graphic example that illustrates the conclusions of each study, and information about how to obtain the entirety of each subject report. It is intended that these descriptions will provide both: (1) a summary of the California CELCP priorities adequate to inform any interested party; and (2) a complete reference work sufficient for any prospective grant applicant to analyze their own proposal and develop the project justification required as part of the California CELCP application form. A set of digital files accompanies this printed plan. The files include all the material presented here, as well as files and links providing additional information about each of the studies. The files in the Appendix provide information on the NOAA Environmental Sensitivity Index (ESI). The ESI contains extensive environmental information that may be useful as a reference for those preparing a CELCP application.



# Protecting California's Natural Heritage

### SUMMARY

Protecting California's Natural Heritage, published by the Wildlife Conservation Board in 2004, summarizes the Board's achievements from 2000 to 2004 in protecting wildlife and habitat, and their success in providing public access to natural lands in California. The Board works in cooperation with other agencies, primarily the Department of Fish and Game, to provide funding and authorization for land acquisition, habitat restoration and enhancement, public access and riparian habitat conservation.

# APPLICATION TO CELCP

Land acquisition is a component of all Wildlife Conservation Board programs and there is overlap between the areas targeted by these programs and the areas eligible for CELCP funding. Similarly, the objectives of Board programs are generally compatible with CELCP criteria.

# GEOGRAPHIC EXTENT

California statewide

# REPORT FORMAT

*Protecting California's Natural Heritage* is brief report containing explanatory text, photos, allocation charts and a map of funded projects in 2004, presented on the accompanying disc in digital format. The map shows general locations of conservation easements, fee title, public access, and restoration or enhancement projects undertaken by the Board.

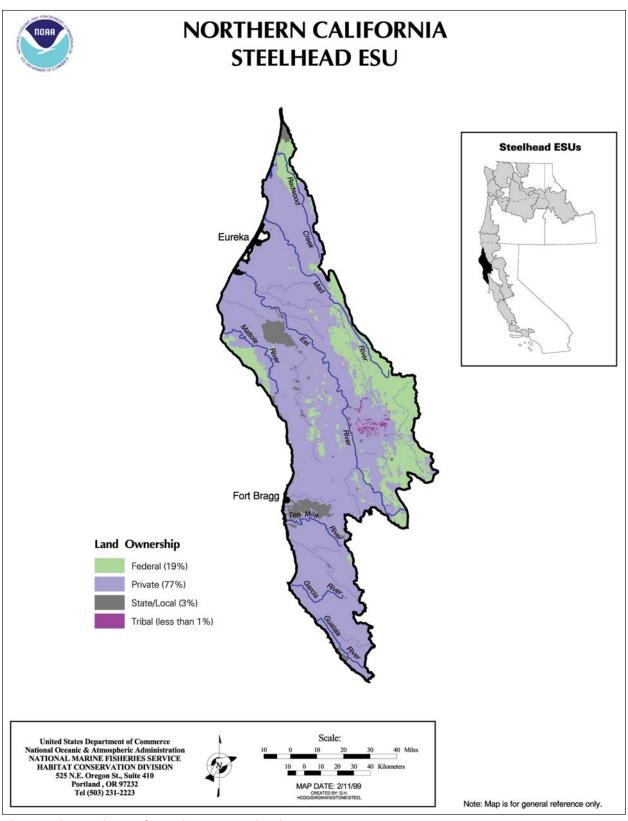
# TIMELINESS

This report was published in 2004. The programs are ongoing, however, and new progress reports are issued periodically.

# CONTACT INFORMATION

Wildlife Conservation Board 1807 13th Street, Suite 103 Sacramento CA 95814

Phone: 916-445-8448 URL: www.wcb.ca.gov



This map shows only one of several areas covered in the report.

# Steelhead Restoration and Management Plan

### SUMMARY

The Steelhead Restoration and Management Plan for California was developed by the Department of Fish and Game in 1996 in an effort to protect and recover the severely declining steelhead populations. Objectives of the plan are to increase wild stocks and to enhance the fishery, as mandated by the Salmon, Steelhead Trout, and Anadromous Fisheries Program Act of 1988. The plan outlines five strategies to achieve these objectives.

# APPLICATION TO CELCP

According to the *Steelhead Restoration and Management Plan*, acquiring lands and easements to protect critical habitats is a high priority, along with watershed protection and stream restoration. Lands to be acquired could be potential areas for CELCP funding.

# GEOGRAPHIC EXTENT

Coastal areas and the Central Valley of California

# REPORT FORMAT

The report contains extensive text supplemented with basic maps and photographs, which are presented together on the accompanying disc in digital format. The map showing the listing status of steelhead on the Pacific Coast was produced by the National Marine Fisheries Service.

# TIMELINESS

The report was published in 1996 and no updates are currently scheduled.

# CONTACT INFORMATION

Larry Weeks, Branch Chief Native Anadromous Fish and Watershed Branch 830 S Street Sacramento, CA 95814

Phone: 916-327-8840

Email: lweek@dfg.ca.gov • URL: www.dfg.ca.gov/nafwb/steelhead.html

# California Outdoor Recreation Plan 2002

# SUMMARY

The *California Outdoor Recreation Plan 2002* is the master planning document for statewide public outdoor recreation programs in California, prepared by the Department of Parks and Recreation. The 2002 edition, updated from *California Outdoor Recreation Plan 1993*, is designed to meet the program responsibilities of the



federal Land and Water Conservation Fund Act, including outdoor recreation, land acquisition and facility development, and others. The plan's main objective, however, is to address critical outdoor recreation issues and to provide guidelines for recreation programs and policies in the state. In conjunction, the Department of Parks and Recreation's Natural Resource Acquisition Program and the general plan for each individual park unit provide more detailed planning criteria.

# APPLICATION TO CELCP

These plans underscore the importance of land acquisition in providing additional outdoor recreational areas and resource protection but they do not identify specific acquisitions. A special section in the *California Outdoor Recreation Plan 2002* emphasizes the need for conserving wetlands, both by land acquisition and protection from development. Similarly, the Natural Resource Acquisition Program targets specific habitats that are under-protected in California. The general plan for each park unit outlines priorities specific to that unit.

# GEOGRAPHIC EXTENT

California statewide

# REPORT FORMAT

The *California Outdoor Recreation Plan 2002* is primarily a text document that includes occasional photographs but no maps. Two maps from other reports are presented on the accompanying disc: the California Trail Corridors 2000 map excerpted from the California Recreational Trails Plan, and a map of underprotected habitats from the Natural Resource Acquisition Program website. General plans for individual park units are not included. To ascertain the status of a specific general plan or to obtain a copy, consult the General Plan website.

# TIMELINESS

The California Outdoor Recreation Plan 2002 is current and is scheduled for revision every five years. The Natural Resource Acquisition Program is ongoing. Park unit general plans are updated as necessary.

# CONTACT INFORMATION

Department of Parks and Recreation Statewide Planning PO Box 94289 Sacramento, CA 95426

Phone: 916-653-9901

Email: info@parks.ca.gov • URL: www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page\_id=796



Sample map showing southern area.

# Natural Community Conservation Planning

# SUMMARY

Natural Community Conservation Planning is a program for ecosystem-level conservation planning in California coordinated by the Department of Fish and Game. Habitat Conservation Plans developed under this program are regional cooperative efforts between public and private interests to protect wildlife, habitats and ecological communities.

# APPLICATION TO CELCP

Some approved Habitat Conservation Plans identify land acquisitions for conservation or restoration purposes in areas that are eligible for CELCP funding, and their conservation objectives are generally consistent with CELCP criteria.

# GEOGRAPHIC EXTENT

California statewide

# REPORT FORMAT

Individual Habitat Conservation Plans are not included on the accompanying disc; however, the list of plans shows their current approval status and provides Internet links to many of the plans and maps.

# TIMELINESS

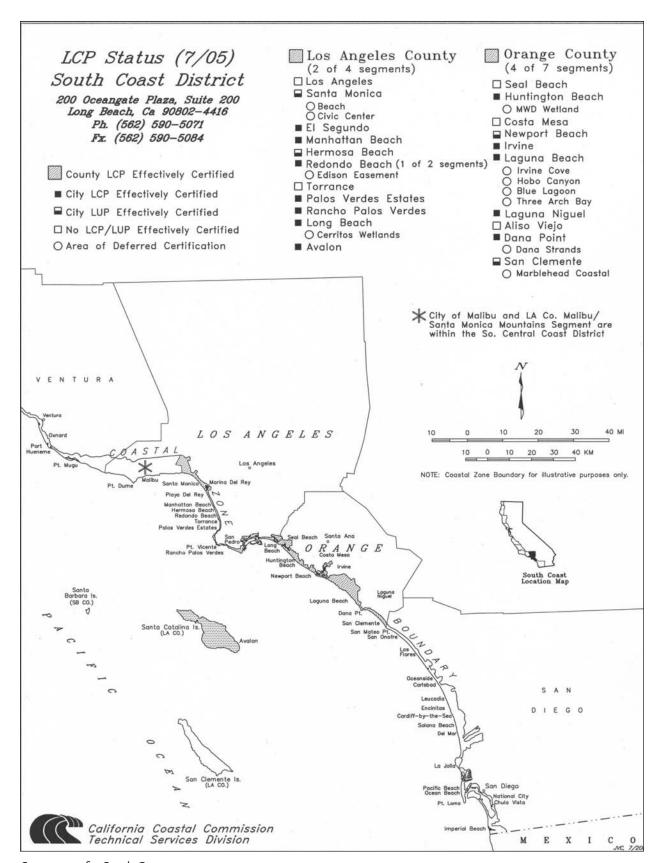
The Natural Community Conservation Planning program started in 1991. Currently there are 32 Habitat Conservation Plans active, of which 12 are approved.

# CONTACT INFORMATION

Department of Fish and Game Habitat Conservation Division 1416 Ninth Street, 1208 Sacramento, CA 95814

Phone: 916-653-1070

URL: www.dfg.ca.gov/nccp/index.html



Status map for South Coast area

# Local Coastal Programs

### SUMMARY

Local Coastal Programs are long-range planning documents that represent a local government's expression of the provisions of the California Coastal Act. Once certified by the California Coastal Commission, local governments assume most direct permit review authority for development in their portion of the Coastal Zone. The Local Coastal Programs and their specific policies for future development, resource conservation and land use, are in large measure the "blueprint" for what development will occur in the State's Coastal Zone.

# APPLICATION TO CELCP

Many of the land uses and resource conservation policies set out in the Local Coastal Programs complement the objectives of CELCP. Most of the programs identify specific areas of environmental sensitivity that may be strong candidates for conservation and/or acquisitions. In addition, application of Local Coastal Program policies to development results in the generation of broad information that appears to fit well with the CELCP model.

# REPORT FORMAT

There are 128 Local Coastal Program segments covering 75 coastal jurisdictions. The full text documents are not available as part of this report, but the status maps on the accompanying disc show those coastal segments that have certified Local Coastal Programs. More detailed information is available in the summary chart on the Commission's website.

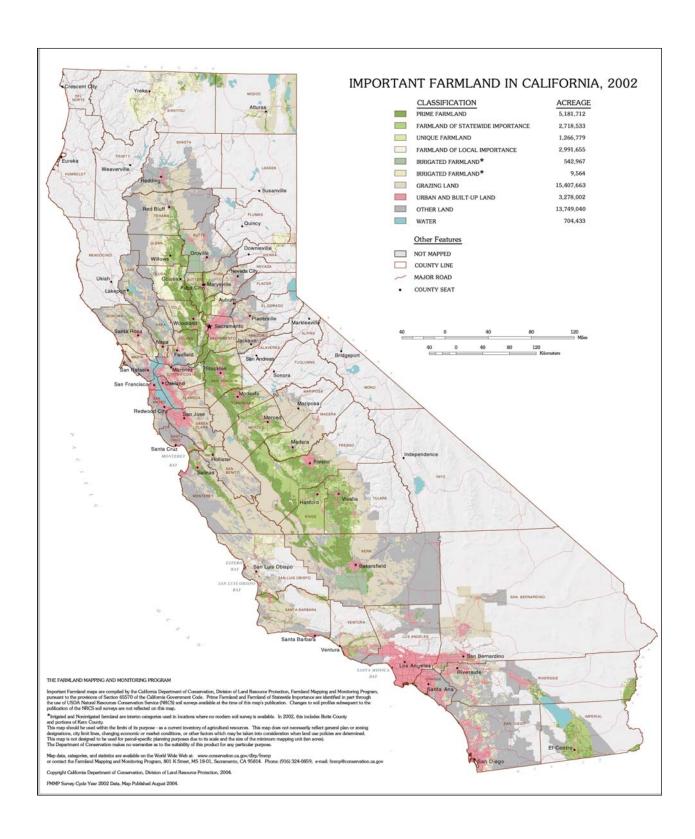
### TIMELINESS

Local Coastal Programs are to be reviewed every five years pursuant to the Coastal Act, though this may require a longer period.

# CONTACT INFORMATION

For further information on the Local Coastal Program for any given geographic area, contact the appropriate district office of the Coastal Commission at one of the addresses or phone numbers listed under 'Contact' in the navigation bar.

URL: www.coastal.ca.gov/address.htm



# Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program

# SUMMARY

The Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program was established by Department of Conservation, Division of Land Resource Protection in 1982 in order to provide accurate data to decision makers for planning the best use of California's agricultural lands. The program delivers maps and statistical information on changes in agricultural land use in the California Farmland Conversion Report.

# APPLICATION TO CELCP

The program does not recommend specific acquisition but documents current and historical distributions of farmland and grazing land in California, as well as trends in changing land use. The maps also provide information about coastal lands under the threat of conversion from farmland to other uses.

# GEOGRAPHIC EXTENT

California statewide

# REPORT FORMAT

The Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program is outlined in the program guide, presented on the accompanying disc along with a map showing important farmland in California for 2002. Individual county maps and statistical reports of farmland conversion are available from the website.

### TIMELINESS

The program guide and the map were published 2004 using data from the 2000 cycle. *The California Farmland Conversion Report 2000–2002*, which is the main summary and analysis report containing regional and county land use conversion information, will come available later in 2005.

# CONTACT INFORMATION

Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program California Department of Conservation 801 K Street, MS 18-01, Sacramento, CA 95814

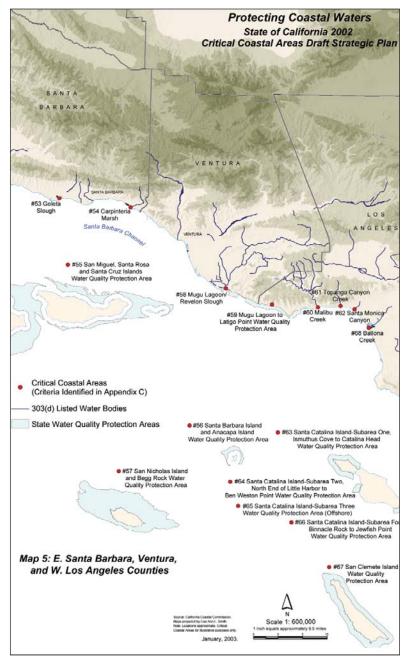
Phone: 916-324-0859

Email: fmmp@consrv.ca.gov • URL: www.conservation.ca.gov/dlrp/fmmp

# California Critical Coastal Areas Program

# SUMMARY

The Critical Coastal Areas Program is an ongoing effort to preserve and enhance water quality in coastal waters, especially in areas threatened by polluted runoff and areas adjacent to Marine Managed Areas. The program identifies coastal areas of nonpoint source pollution where land use practices adversely impact water quality, and then coordinates restoration and protection efforts among local, state and fed-



One of the seven maps included in the Critical Coastal Areas Plan.

eral stakeholders. Critical coastal areas, and strategies for improving their water quality, are identified in the draft Strategic Plan and Plan Maps, produced in 2003 by the California Coastal Commission. The Watershed Action Plan Outline, published in December of 2004, provides an overview of the implementation.

### APPLICATION TO CELCP

The Critical Coastal Areas Program does not recommend specific land acquisitions. Both the Critical Coastal Areas and the Marine Managed Areas, however, receive special attention from government agencies, other stakeholders, and the general public for protection of water quality, sensitive habitats, cultural resources, and recreational use. These criteria are compatible with CELCP guidelines.

# GEOGRAPHIC EXTENT

California coastal watersheds and San Francisco Estuary watersheds (divided into 7 regions).

# REPORT FORMAT

The draft Strategic Plan identifies designated areas with descriptive text and a series of 7 maps, which are available in digital format. Criteria for each area represented on these maps are identified in Appendix C of the draft Strategic Plan. The Watershed Action Plan Outline is a brief text document available in digital format. The draft Strategic Plan, the 7 regional maps, and the Watershed Action Plan outline are included on the accompanying CD.

# TIMELINESS

The Draft Strategic Plan and Plan Maps were published in 2003 and the Watershed Action Plan Outline was published in 2004. Currently, the program is incorporating information from a series on public workshops, and further information is available on the website.

# CONTACT INFORMATION

North Coast and Overall Program Management

Vanessa Metz—Phone: 707-445-7873 • Email: vmetz@coastal.ca.gov

San Francisco Bay

Lisa Sniderman—Phone: 415-904-5270 • Email: lsniderman@coastal.ca.gov

Central Coast

Ross Clark—Phone: 831-427-4873 • Email: rclark@coastal.ca.gov

South Coast

Tracy Duffey—Phone: 805-585-1809 • Email: tduffey@coastal.ca.gov

URL: www.coastal.ca.gov/nps/cca-nps.html



# Forest and Range Assessment 2003

### SUMMARY

The Forest and Range Assessment 2003 was prepared by California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection in cooperation with other agencies for the period between 2000 and 2003. It provides an overview of status and trends of forest and rangeland resources in California. The goal of the Forest and Range Assessment is to provide comprehensive information that will enable optimal use of the forest and rangelands, and lead to long-term sustainable management of these resources.

# APPLICATION TO CELCP

The *Forest and Range Assessment 2003* suggests options for habitat acquisition to maintain biological diversity and forest health based on ecological values such as long-term maintenance of the land and other criteria compatible with CELCP guidelines.

# GEOGRAPHIC EXTENT

California statewide

# REPORT FORMAT

The Forest and Range Assessment 2003 comprises a series of technical reports and a comprehensive summary as text interspersed with photos. The Assessment website provides access to a watershed database, numerous statewide maps, and computer-based analytical tools. The report and a sample map showing Direct Protection Areas are presented on the accompanying disc.

# TIMELINESS

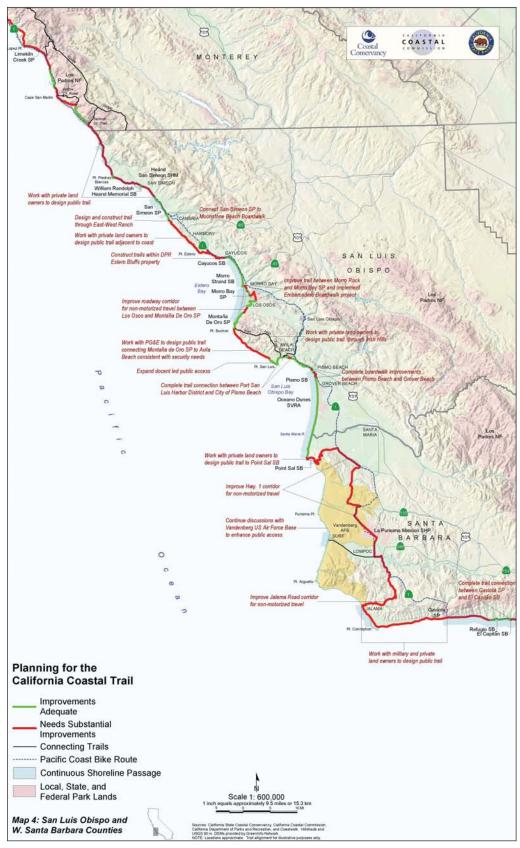
Previous assessments have been published in 1979, 1988, and 1996. The 2003 version will be updated when new information becomes available.

# CONTACT INFORMATION

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, Fire and Resource Assessment Program (FRAP) 1920 20th Street Sacramento, California 95814

Phone: 916-227-2651

Email: Dean.Cromwell@fire.ca.gov • URL: www.frap.cdf.ca.gov/assessment2003



Map 4: San Luis Obispo and W. Santa Barbara Counties, one of seven maps from the 2003 Coastal Trail report.

# Completing the California Coastal Trail

### SUMMARY

Completing the California Coastal Trail, published by State Coastal Conservancy in 2003, lays out a plan for a continuous public trail system along the California coast-line. The plan identifies missing segments of the California Coastal Trail and makes specific recommendations on how to connect the completed segments.

# APPLICATION TO CELCP

Completing the California Coastal Trail supports the acquisition of trail easements in areas where Coastal Trail right of way is discontinuous. Inclusion of a Coastal Trail easement in a specific acquisition proposal would increase its public recreation benefit under CELCP.

# GEOGRAPHIC EXTENT

California coastal zone

### REPORT FORMAT

The Coastal Trail report includes descriptive text, numerous photographs and six detailed maps and is available in digital or paper format. The maps subdivide the coastal zone into six regions, north to south, and show the conditions and types of existing trails as well as discontinuous segments. The full report and all the maps are presented on the accompanying disc.

# TIMELINESS

Completing the California Coastal Trail was published in January 2003 and no updates are currently scheduled.

# CONTACT INFORMATION

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Phone: 800-550-6854 or 707-829-6689

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Strategic Plan maps cover the entire California coastline. This section shows Ventura County areas.

#### STATEWIDE PRIORITIES:

## Strategic Plan of 2003 (CA Coastal Conservancy)

#### SUMMARY

The State Coastal Conservancy's *Strategic Plan of 2003* sets out the agencies goals and objectives for the next several years in the areas of public access, coastal resource protection, land acquisition and others. It outlines the agency's statutory authority, basic structure, function, and policies, and documents their current and historical resource allocations. The *Strategic Plan* is accompanied by the *California Coastal Atlas*, which is an extensive series of maps showing Conservancy project locations and areas of interest for conservation.

## APPLICATION TO CELCP

Land acquisition is a significant part of the Conservancy's public access and coastal protection programs. While the *Strategic Plan* does not identify specific parcels for acquisition, the *Coastal Atlas* does locate specific local areas of interest. The Conservancy's coastal protection objectives are closely aligned with CELCP criteria.

#### GEOGRAPHIC EXTENT

California coastal watersheds and San Francisco Bay watersheds.

#### REPORT FORMAT

The Strategic Plan contains mostly text with some photos. The *Coastal Atlas* contains extensive maps linked to clickable index maps. Both are included in the accompanying disc, in digital format.

#### TIMELINESS

The *Strategic Plan* was published in 2003. Goals and objectives of the plan are intended to be completed in 2008. Maps were made from various sources published in 1997, 2000, and 2002. No updates are currently scheduled.

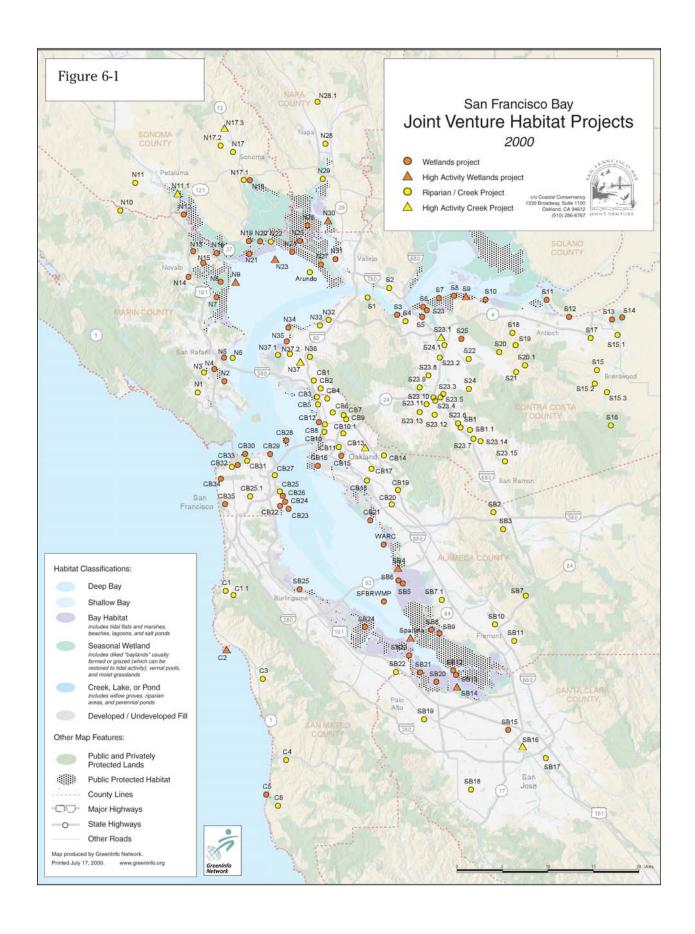
## CONTACT INFORMATION

Neal Fishman 1330 Broadway, Suite 1100 Oakland, CA 94612

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## Restoring the Estuary: An Implementation Strategy

#### SUMMARY

Restoring the Estuary: An Implementation Strategy is a document prepared by the San Francisco Bay Joint Venture in 2001 based on the information from San Francisco Bay Area Wetlands Ecosystem Goals Project. It is a vision and plan for San Francisco Bay Joint Venture partners to protect, restore and enhance wetlands, riparian habitat and wildlife through their collaboration in San Francisco Bay Estuary.

## APPLICATION TO CELCP

The report recommends acquisition of specific acreages in each subregion to restore and enhance seasonal wetlands and their associated habitats which provide ecological significance, economical benefits, recreational opportunities and cultural characteristics. Acquisition implementation plans for each subregion are discussed in greater detail in Chapter 4.

#### GEOGRAPHIC EXTENT

San Francisco Bay

#### REPORT FORMAT

The *Strategy* is an extensive report with maps and photographs describing the implementation plans, significant values of the Estuary, associated projects and related issues. The Habitat Projects 2000 map, included on the accompanying disc, was excerpted from the *Strategy*. The report is available in digital and paper format.

## **TIMELINESS**

The report was published in 2001. San Francisco Bay Joint Venture is currently developing an Internet map service showing updated information.

#### CONTACT INFORMATION

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# Bay Area Regional Open Space Visions

## SUMMARY

The Bay Area Regional Open Space Vision maps were created by the State Coastal Conservancy and the Bay Area Open Space Council in 2002. The maps identify areas in need for their long-term protection and sustainable stewardship in terms of habitat and recreational interests and farmland preservation priorities in the San Francisco Bay Area. The maps were intended to assist decision making process in



land use planning for the Bay Area Conservancy Program and land conservation partners, and they were not intended to designate compulsory land use types.

#### APPLICATION TO CELCP

The Bay Area Regional Open Space Vision maps are useful for identifying the areas with conservation and preservation values relevant to CELCP. The first map, *Open Space, Habitat, and Recreational Areas of Interest,* presents information relevant to CELCP land acquisition criteria, which are significant conservation, ecological, recreational, and aesthetic values. The other map, *Regional Priorities for Agricultural Preservation,* also shows the areas of interest for preservation and under the threat for conversion.

#### GEOGRAPHIC EXTENT

San Francisco Bay Area counties

#### REPORT FORMAT

The project information is delivered in two maps under the titles: 1) *Open Space, Habitat, and Recreational Areas of Interest* and 2) *Regional Priorities for Agricultural Preservation.* The first map shows regional and sub-regional scale areas of interest for habitat protection and recreation, including Bay Area Trails (Ridge, Bay, and other regional trails, which are on-going high priority projects for the Bay Area Conservancy Program) and habitat corridors (e.g., river corridors). The second map delineates the areas of regional priorities for farmland preservation, existing farmlands, grazing lands and urban areas. Both maps also show public or privately already protected lands.

#### **TIMELINESS**

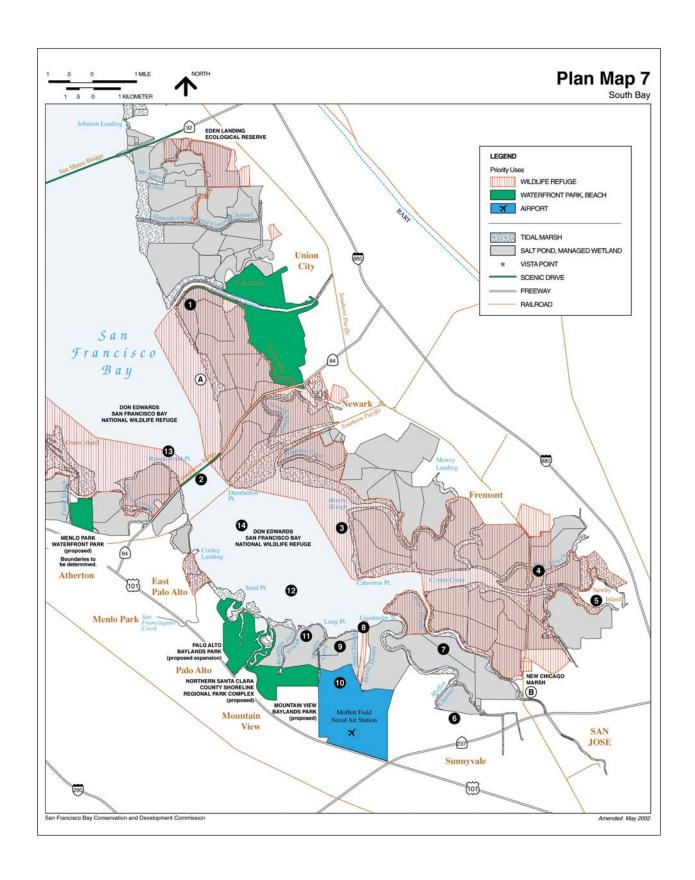
The two maps were published in 2002.

#### CONTACT INFORMATION

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## San Francisco Bay Plan

#### SUMMARY

The San Francisco Bay Plan, published in 1968, sets forth guidelines used by the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission to regulate natural resource protection and future use of the San Francisco Bay. The plan advocates a long term, regional approach to shoreline development, public access, recreation, conservation and other uses that will reduce impact and ultimately enhance the bay.

## APPLICATION TO CELCP

The plan does not recommend specific acquisitions but instead mandates specific land uses based on attributes of significant conservation, recreational, and aesthetic values, as well as other criteria compatible with CELCP guidelines.

## GEOGRAPHIC EXTENT

San Francisco Bay (subdivided into seven subregions)

## REPORT FORMAT

The San Francisco Bay Plan contains two important parts: the written policies, which direct future uses of San Francisco Bay and shoreline; and the plan maps, which illustrate how to apply the plan policies to the Bay and shoreline. Explanatory text accompanies each plan map.

#### TIMELINESS

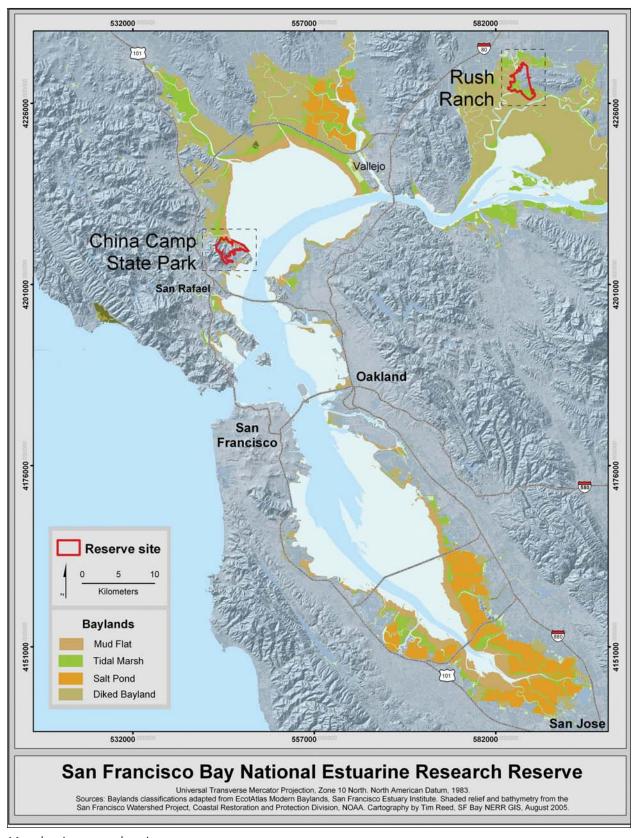
The report was created in 1968 and is updated periodically.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Jeffry Blanchfield Chief Planner, BCDC 50 California Street, suite 2600 San Francisco, CA 94111

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Map showing reserve locations.

## San Francisco Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve

#### SUMMARY

The San Francisco Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, designated in 2003, is part of a network of protected areas established for long-term research, education and stewardship in cooperation with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. At present, the reserve comprises two sites in the San Francisco Estuary: China Camp State Park in Marin County and Rush Ranch in Solano County. The SF Bay NERR promotes restoration science and protection of estuarine habitats.

#### APPLICATION TO CELCP

Land acquisition is an important strategy used by the SF Bay NERR to further its conservation objectives, with land areas adjacent to existing reserve sites, or in close proximity, considered the most valuable.

#### GEOGRAPHIC EXTENT

San Francisco Bay

#### REPORT FORMAT

The Reserve's acquisition plan is integrated into the Final Management Plan, which is presented on the disc along with a map showing the reserve sites in context. The Final Management Plan and the map are available in digital format.

#### **TIMELINESS**

The Final Management Plan was adopted in 2003 and is scheduled for revision in 2008.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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# San Francisco Estuary Comprehensive Conservation

## and Management Plan

## SUMMARY

The Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan is a report published in 1993 and developed as a cooperative effort among state and federal agencies and various organizations brought together by San Francisco Estuary Project. The plan lists 145 specific actions and the strategies to restore and maintain the chemical, physical and biological health of San Francisco Estuary. The objectives are to improve and sustain water quality, native habitats and species populations, recreational spaces, and other beneficial uses of the San Francisco Estuary.

#### APPLICATION TO CELCP

The report does not identify specific parcels but supports the acquisition of wetlands and wildlife habitat. The parcels which contain suitable habitats would be potential areas under CELCP funding to support plan goals.

#### GEOGRAPHIC EXTENT

San Francisco Estuary

#### REPORT FORMAT

The *Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan* is available on the accompanying disc as an HTML document that does not contain any maps.

#### TIMELINESS

The plan was adopted in 1993 and has a 20-year cycle.

#### CONTACT INFORMATION

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Existing and proposed trails for the San Francisco Bay Region

## San Francisco Bay Trail Plan

## SUMMARY

The *Bay Trail Plan* is the guiding document adopted by Association of Bay Area Governments in 1989 for increasing regional trails and expanding their connectivity to both existing and proposed open spaces, recreational facilities and public transportation systems around the San Francisco Bay shoreline. It is also designed to avoid undesirable impact on environmentally sensitive areas when the trails are developed and maintained.

#### APPLICATION TO CELCP

The *Bay Trail Plan* does not recommend specific land acquisitions. However, the *Bay Trail Plan* is included in many San Francisco Bay county and city general plans as a model for shoreline use based in conservation, recreation, ecological and historical values, and protection from over-development. Existing and future trails are potential land acquisition sites under CELCP.

## GEOGRAPHIC EXTENT

San Francisco Bay shoreline (subdivided into six regions)

#### REPORT FORMAT

The report and six maps are presented on the accompanying disc, and they are also available from the Bay Trail home page.

#### **TIMELINESS**

The plan was published in 1989 and no updates are currently scheduled.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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Historic and present ranges of coho salmon in California, from the 2004 plan.

# Recovery Strategy for California Coho Salmon

#### SUMMARY

The *Recovery Strategy for California Coho Salmon* presents an extensive plan for restoring Coho Salmon populations and habitats in the coastal watersheds from northern to central California. The objective of this plan, which was prepared by the Department of Fish and Game in 2004, is to return Coho salmon populations to sufficient health and genetic diversity so that they can be removed from the endangered list and so that the fishery is restored.

#### APPLICATION TO CELCP

The plan recognizes land acquisition as one component of an effective strategy for habitat conservation and restoration, and identifies several coastal watersheds where this can be implemented. It does not target specific land areas for acquisition.

#### GEOGRAPHIC EXTENT

Oregon border to western Santa Cruz county.

#### REPORT FORMAT

The *Recovery Strategy for California Coho Salmon* includes extensive discussion and detailed maps, and is available in paper and digital format. The entire digital plan is presented on the accompanying disc, with low-resolution maps integrated with the text. The maps are also presented separately as high-resolution images.

#### **TIMELINESS**

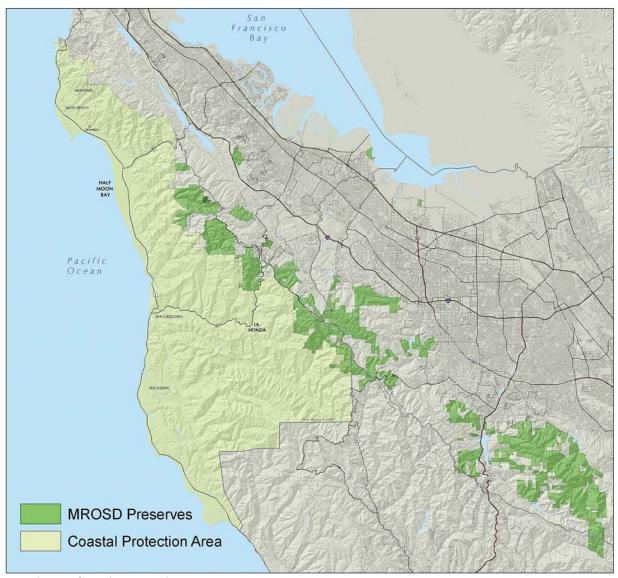
The plan was published in 2004 and progress reports are scheduled annually, with a complete evaluation expected after 2025.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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Sample map from the Coastside Protection Program

## Coastside Protection Program

## SUMMARY

The Coastside Protection Program serves to preserve coastal areas between the city of Pacifica and the Santa Cruz County line as public open space and agricultural land. The program is outlined in the Service Plan for the San Mateo Coastal Annexation Area, which was prepared by the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District in 2004, pursuant to the extension of the district's boundary to the Pacific Ocean.

#### APPLICATION TO CELCP

The program recommends specific acquisitions. The land acquisition policy and implementation actions are stated in the Service Plan. The parcels which meet their policy to support plan goals would be potential areas under CELCP funding.

#### GEOGRAPHIC EXTENT

San Mateo County Coast (extends from the southern border of Pacifica to the San Mateo/Santa Cruz County line)

#### REPORT FORMAT

Summary information on the Coastside Protection Program is available as an HTML document on the website. The Coastside Protection Program map is available for download from their home page. The Service Plan for the San Mateo Coast Annexation Area contains further information and contains two maps; (1) Coastal Annexation Area map and (2) Proposed Annexation Area and Existing District Wards.

### TIMELINESS

The program was adopted in 2004 and is in effect until 2019.

#### CONTACT INFORMATION

Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District 330 Distel Circle Los Altos, CA 94022-1404

Phone: 650-691-1200

Email: info@openspace.org • URL: www.openspace.org



Regional context map from Elkhorn Slough at the Crossroads report.

# Elkhorn Slough at the Crossroads

#### SUMMARY

Elkhorn Slough at the Crossroads profiles the Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve, part of the network of protected estuarine areas established for long-term research, education and stewardship sponsored by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. This report and the accompanying maps identify key natural resources of the slough and suggest strategies for conserving them.

## APPLICATION TO CELCP

Land acquisition is a designated strategy of the Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve to further conservation in their local watershed. They specifically target areas adjacent to the slough, buffer zones around watersheds, agricultural lands on steep slopes and others.

#### GEOGRAPHIC EXTENT

Carneros Creek watershed, Monterey and San Benito Counties.

#### REPORT FORMAT

Elkhorn Slough at the Crossroads comprises text, photos and maps and is available in digital and paper format.

### **TIMELINESS**

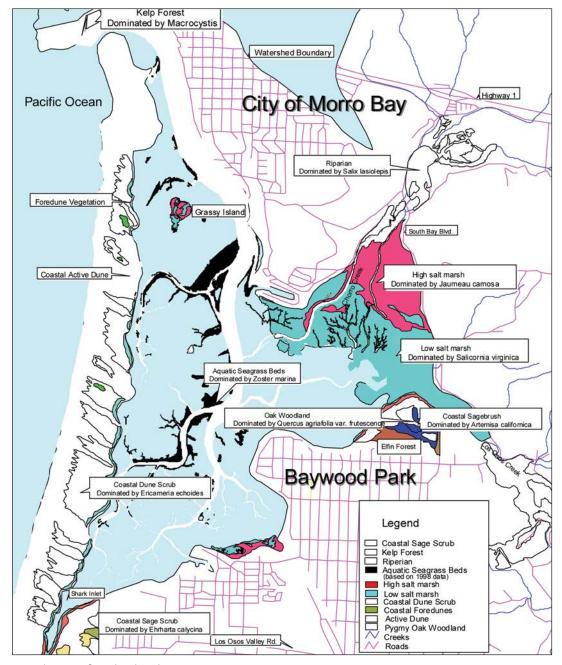
*Elkhorn Slough at the Crossroads* was published in 2002 and there are no updates currently scheduled.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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Distribution of Wetland Habitats in Morro Bay

# Morro Bay Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan

## SUMMARY

The Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan is a report published by Morro Bay National Estuary Program in 2000. This plan was created by the estuary program and the communities of Morro Bay, Los Osos, Baywood, Cuesta-by-the-Sea and Chorro Valley to improve seven priority environmental issues (rapid sedimentation, increased bacterial concentrations, increased nutrient concentrations, freshwater flow reductions, increased heavy metal and toxic pollutant concentrations, habitat loss, steelhead loss) in Morro Bay through 61 Action Plans, which are specific recommendations for each problem.

## APPLICATION TO CELCP

The program recommends habitat acquisition to protect lands that contain ecologically significant habitats or habitats which reduce nonpoint source pollution going into the Bay. It seeks cooperation from public and private land owners to accomplish this goal; therefore, proposing land acquisitions which can support this program will meet an objective of CELCP.

#### GEOGRAPHIC EXTENT

Morro Bay watershed

## REPORT FORMAT

The report and its maps (study area, watershed, bathymetry, wetland habitat, tideland jurisdiction, and land use in watershed area) can be downloaded from Morro Bay National Estuary Program home page. No map illustrating specific potential acquisition sites is available.

## TIMELINESS

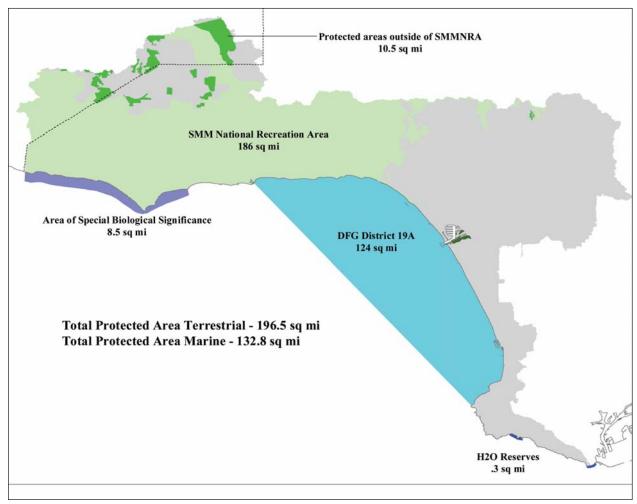
The report was published in 2000.

#### CONTACT INFORMATION

Dan Berman, Program Director Morro Bay National Estuary Program 601 Embarcadero, Suite 11 Morro Bay CA 93442

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State of the Bay 2004: Map of protected areas

## State of the Bay 2004, Santa Monica

#### SUMMARY

State of the Bay 2004 is a report prepared by Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission to assess the health of Santa Monica Bay and the Commission's effort and progress implementing its Bay Restoration Plan of 1995. Their main goals include pollution prevention, habitat restoration, regional monitoring, and public education about the Bay's problems.

## APPLICATION TO CELCP

Land acquisition is a part of the Commission's effort to protect and restore ecologically significant areas in the Santa Monica Bay watershed, which in turn improves the health of the Santa Monica Bay. Their priorities for land acquisition coincide with the CELCP criteria, such as ecological values and land threatened by conversion.

#### GEOGRAPHIC EXTENT

Santa Monica Bay watershed

#### REPORT FORMAT

State of the Bay 2004, which is included on the accompanying disc in digital format, addresses the topics of Pollutant Loads, Health Risks, Resource and Habitats, and Progress. It contains several maps, including Bay Watershed Open Areas (open undeveloped, agriculture, and developed), Benthic Habitats, major subwatersheds, Percent Impervious Surface of Watershed, Quality of Beaches (wet and dry weather), Protected Areas (Significant Ecological Areas and Significant Natural Areas), and Nearshore Kelp Distribution/Loss.

### TIMELINESS

The report was published in 2004 and no update is currently scheduled.

#### CONTACT INFORMATION

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URL: www.santamonicabay.org

## Green Visions Plan

## SUMMARY

The Green Visions Plan is being developed as a guide and decision-support tool for southern California's habitat conservation, watershed protection, and recreational open space improvements. Phase I of the plan was developed in 2004 as a joint venture between University of Southern California and the leading conservancies in the region, including San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy and California Coastal Conservancy. This report includes the description of the Green Visions Online Plan Library, which is the main product of the Phase I.



#### APPLICATION TO CELCP

The Green Visions Online Plan Library serves as a information delivery system, whose information is directly related to CELCP. It helps identify and evaluate the areas for potential land acquisition in southern California region by providing related plans (City and County General Plans, Local Coastal Plans, Watershed Plans, and Habitat Plans). The plan addresses land acquisitions as a part of habitat restoration and preservation processes. Phase II of the plan is expected to include the identification and assessment of opportunities for open space acquisition.

#### GEOGRAPHIC EXTENT

Continuous areas from approximately eastern half of Ventura county, Los Angeles county (except for the north and northwestern section), and northern and northeastern portion of Orange county

#### REPORT FORMAT

The Green Visions Plan is a website that provides map-based access to the Online Plan Library. The map in the online library is a clickable map of the Green Visions study area and the area boundaries of each conservancy associated with the Green Visions Project. The map also shows additional base information such as county boundaries, major highways and natural features (e.g., rivers and floodplains).

## TIMELINESS

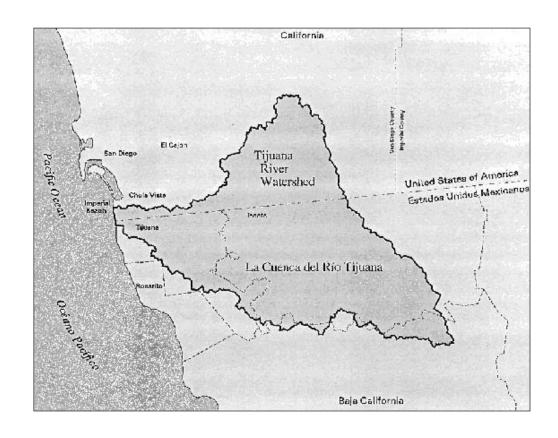
Phase I of the plan was completed in December 2004, and Phase II is in progress.

#### CONTACT INFORMATION

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# Tijuana River National Estuarine Research Reserve

## SUMMARY

The Comprehensive Management Plan presents the visions and guidelines for estuarine conservation of the Tijuana River National Estuarine Research Reserve, which is part of the network of protected estuarine areas established for long-term research, education and stewardship sponsored by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. This is an update, completed in 2000, of the original 1986 plan and it addresses more recent issues and reiterates the Reserve's commitment to estuarine stewardship.

### APPLICATION TO CELCP

The *Comprehensive Management Plan* outlines a specific program of acquisitions compatible with Reserve objectives. Targeted parcels include core wetland areas, habitat areas of strategic importance for management, and parcels that add to an ecological buffer zone for the Reserve.

## GEOGRAPHIC EXTENT

The Tijuana River watershed.

#### REPORT FORMAT

The *Comprehensive Management Plan* is presented on the Reserve's website as a text document in digital format without figures or maps.

## TIMELINESS

The plan was completed in 2000 and is currently undergoing revision.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Tijuana River National Estuarine Research Reserve 301 Caspian Way Imperial Beach, California 91932