

Opportunities with the advancement of tidal marsh restoration in the San Francisco Bay Area

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Abstract

The San Francisco Bay Area is a dynamic region where environmental stewardship is championed. It is not only home to the largest tidal wetland restoration project on the West Coast, but also has an unprecedented nine-county parcel tax which was approved with a 70% voter majority. Measure AA, the San Francisco Bay Clean Water, Pollution Prevention and Habitat Restoration Measure, will raise approximately \$25 million annually, or \$500 million over twenty years, for the restoration, enhancement, protection, and enjoyment of wetlands and wildlife habitat in the San Francisco Bay and along its shoreline, including associated flood management and public access infrastructure. As the Bay transitions from dumping grounds to a revitalized resource, there are many opportunities to reaffirm the importance of water management that reduces mosquito breeding potential. New restoration design techniques are focused on creating an adaptive shoreline which is both resistant to rising sea levels and provides habitat by expanding the horizontal footprint of a levee creating a gradual vegetated slope to break the waves. With a new funding resource, available wetland restoration will continue to progress in the Bay Area and the Alameda County Mosquito Abatement District is fostering partnerships to keep the public health perspective included.
