



# Bay Point Regional Shoreline



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**Project:** Bay Point Restoration and Public Access Project

**Location:** Bay Point, Contra Costa, CA

**Size:** 27 acres

**Cost:** \$3-5M

**Schedule:** 2017-2019

**Abstract:** Tidal marsh restoration, transition zone and upland enhancement. Restoration is expected to create approximately 17 acres of wetlands and 10 acres of transition and coastal grassland and coastal scrub. Public access improvements to trail accessibility, drinking faucets, restroom upgrades, shade structures, site security and safety features.



Bay Point Regional Shoreline: Proposed wetland restoration area infested with invasive weeds

**Description:** The Bay Point Regional Shoreline consists of 150 acres of marsh and upland at the waterfront of the Bay Point community. The site is at the approximate midpoint of the SF Bay and Delta. 124 acres are designated for preservation and enhancement of habitat values. Approximately 27 acres of this area is diked former marshland historically used for sand dredging operations. This area is the main focus of restoration and is currently marginal quality seasonal wetlands, tidal marsh, upland and bare earth.

The restoration site is contiguous with the existing tidal wetlands to the north, east and west thereby increasing the area and the value of this wetland habitat. Habitat design will provide long term habitat value for key species by taking an adaptive retreat approach to sea level rise.

**Benefits:** The project would remove imported fill restoring Bay surface and reconnect the site to high value habitat at adjacent brackish tidal marsh areas. Creation of aquatic, tidal and upland habitats will benefit a large number of species, including waterfowl, shorebirds, passerine birds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians and invertebrates. Native wetland and upland vegetation will be planted to provide new cover, forage and nesting habitat for wildlife. Habitat design will ensure a mix of diverse habitat types to help offset sea level rise impacts to key species including salt marsh harvest mouse and ridgeway rail.

The project will improve a key node in the Great California Delta trail. It will enhance the public's enjoyment of the park and provide new and enhanced opportunities for wildlife viewing and interpretive programs.

**Project Status:** Park land use planning is complete and a small parking lot, restroom and loop trail through the marsh is currently open to the public. A preliminary restoration plan and park improvements are included in the land use plan and analyzed under CEQA. Public access improvements include trail accessibility enhancements for persons with disabilities, overlook points, shade structures, drinking water, flush toilets and future kayak launch.

**Funding:** The project is partially funded for planning, design and permitting. The District is seeking funding for habitat restoration and public access elements of the project. Additional funding is required for long term maintenance and monitoring.

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# Bay Point Restoration and Public Access Project Concept Plan

