

Handout

Agenda Item 7A
Date January 14, 2016

NBWA Board Meeting
Jan. 2016
Judy Schriebman

Judy Kelly, new ED. Background: From SFEP. UC Berk Conservation of Nat'l Resources. Worked state, fed and regional agencies and non profits. 30+ years in water policy and planning. Importance of in-stream flows to estuary. Water Quality laws and regulations. New Health of the Bay document now finished.

Upcoming:

Feb: Game of Floods

March: Surviving the Storm

Local flood risk response. CHARG from Alameda may come

April: Conference

May: budget review and approval, review of goals and admin procedures

Ideas: monthly board e-news for the group. News and notes from members (info updates). Phone interviews w/each board member in next months.

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Report: Amy Hutzell, State Coastal Conservancy: SF Bay Restoration Authority— established by state legislation in 2008. Provided volunteer staffing to SFBRA; to do the Bay the way the open space districts do the uplands. Objectives: generate funding and disperse it to projects that restore the bay, public access, etc. Been looking at different revenue generating options. **Deciding on measure for June ballot. \$12 parcel tax-- \$25M/year for 20 years.** EMC and FM3 did Tracking polls to determine public sentiment. Resolution 13 and 14. Four programs described. Money disbursed via grants to other agencies. **Examples of projects applicable** for grant funding—list generated over many years. **Lower Gallinas Creek—coastal levees at Santa Venetia and Lower Miller Creek and McInnis are two proposed projects for North Bay.** 9 County Ballot measure; lists allocation criteria (B1a-i) to be part of local cost share for other grants. Campaign committee working on raising campaign funds. \$2M to fund ballot measure alone. Santa Clara Valley Water District paid some costs/loan; will be refunded if the measure passes. Trying to get ballot costs waived in some areas. Keith Caldwell rep. for North Bay. We receive significantly less money from feds than other large US estuaries; this is a way to speak with one voice. Concern re: Marin, smaller than the other counties. Do we get a fair share? 50% of funds generated will be allocated based on population; other 50% will be allocated via other criteria. Citizen Oversight committee as part. Revenue info transparency. North Bay gets 9% of the 50%. No more than 5% of funds can go to staffing. Minimally staffed. Funds to leverage additional funds. Think of who (non-applicant) could sit on COC. Advisory Committee has room for other people. Want to be inclusive. Feinstein very involved and supportive. Our Bay on the Brink website. SFBRA has updated their website.

Report: Letitia Grenier, SFEI. Lead scientist on State of the Bay report. Baylands Goals Report. North Bay at interesting place because of the influence of SF Bay and Delta. Baylands and Climate Change: What We Can Do report. Updating 1999 Baylands goals. Bay is the center of our entire landscape. Tidal marsh with SLR. 200K acres of tidal marsh 200 years ago. Very valuable! Tidal marsh protects from major storms, cleans water (nutrient processing), flood control (deeper water means higher waves and more erosion), food web coming back, recreation and scenery access to wild area is vital.

Most densely populated area by indigenous b/c of so much food. Lost 85% of tidal marshes. Have been restoring acreage since 1998. Looking to restore 100K acres. Acquired a lot of land; learning how to restore; a lot of land in the works. Also restoration of rocky intertidal, restored diked wetland, etc. SLR has thrown a curve into the process of what is needed. Sediment is vital. Dams and stream armoring reduces sediment flow. How can we safely move sediment to the bay through our streams? High SLR with High sediment supply REALLY makes a difference and can save us by increasing the amount of marsh buffer.

Developed Baylands Goals 2015. What we can do:

- Restore Complete Systems including processes. Need full tidal action and sediment supply. To be self sustaining. Oysters and eelgrass of subtidal area as well as mid and high marsh. Tide pushes sediment into the marsh; tidal barriers will starve the marsh. Need alluvial fan distribution of sediment. Fresh water helps the marsh grow faster. Armored channel only has habitat inside the channel; very little habitat. Need to restore stream complexity and there is a variety of ways to do this, depending on site.
- Save Sediment. It is a precious resource. Can use upland dirt.
- Restore SOON in areas that can grow best. Build up of sediment and vegetation takes time; need higher starting elevations for marshes.
- High carbon in air means marshes grow faster! 15% faster.
- Plan for Baylands to migrate upstream. Can figure out where the tidal edge will be in the future; so need to acquire and conserve that transition zone. Horizontal low slope levee planning. Planned retreat for certain places/low level ag.

Have defined practical science-based shoreline units for management; to pair them w/appropriate adaptation strategies. We can either look at a sea wall or do the work needed to preserve our bay access by protecting marshes. Working with Army Corps on safe/better ways to place sediment to build up marshlands. Local watersheds is where we get half our sediment—best way to caring for local shorelines. Need for pulsed flows and ways to have floodplains alongside for water to spread (nodes) to build up a more natural hydrograph. Starving our streams of sediment by armoring and dams.

Build out into the bay to create wetlands? On the table now. Need to do it in the right place, where it's sustainable naturally. Will be in areas where they were historically. Engaged in changing policy in order to be in alignment with the science. Long term management group working on this; beneficial dredging and moving it rather than dumping sediment on outgoing time. Maybe smaller amounts of dredging regularly vs large barges dredging every several years. Deep ocean discharge as been expensive, to make it more economical.

Website: www.BaylandsGoals.org. Getting media

Friends of Petaluma River Watershed Classroom Project: Key Tool is Watershed Atlas. Water quality testing. Working with local teachers/classrooms. Project \$20K approved.