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5TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

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143

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July 28, 1997

AUG 05 1997

Lester A. Snow, Executive Director  
CALFED Bay-Delta Program  
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Snow:

I am writing to express my support for the Marin Audubon Society's application for CALFED Category III funding to be used for marsh enhancement at Rush Creek and Cemetery Marshes, Burdell Island and the Redwood Landfill Marsh.

As I understand, funding from CALFED would allow for removal of sediment in the marsh channels in Rush Creek and Cemetery Marshes, thereby improving circulation and water quality in these marshes. It would also provide for the protection and restoration of Burdell Island and Redwood Landfill Marsh.

The Marin Audubon Society has an excellent history of other wetlands restoration projects it has overseen. Thank you for your careful consideration of their application for funding.

Sincerely,

  
Lynn Woolsey  
Member of Congress

LW:tf



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**Harry J. Moore**  
Fifth District Supervisor  
**Chair, Board of Supervisors**  
**County of Marin**

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July 28, 1997

Kate Hansel  
CALFED Bay-Delta Program  
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Marin Audubon Society Category III Proposal for Marsh Enhancement at Rush Creek  
and Cemetery Marshes Burdell Island, and Redwood Landfill Marsh

Dear Ms. Hansel:

As Supervisor for the District in which these marsh restoration and enhancement projects would occur, I am pleased to have the opportunity to express my support for these worthy proposals all of which are located in the watershed of the Petaluma River.

- Rush Creek Marsh and Cemetery Marsh Enhancement Project: The County owns the Cemetery Marsh and is helping to fund installation of new gates. The requested CALFED funding for removal of sediment in the marsh channels would greatly benefit circulation and water quality, and the overall management of these marshes.
- Burdell Island: Marin County has been interested and involved in attempts to protect this site for many years. An effort to purchase it fell through last year. We welcome the help of a CALFED grant to enable protection and restoration of this important site.
- Redwood Landfill Marsh: The opportunity to protect and restore such significant acreage of tidal marsh at a reasonable cost is unique. Restoration of this marsh would greatly benefit fish and wildlife that depend on the Petaluma River and the Petaluma Marsh.

The Marin Audubon Society is experienced with restoring marshes and has been a partner with the County in enhancing and restoring other marshes.

I strongly recommend your favorable consideration of these proposals.

Sincerely,

  
Harry J. Moore  
Chair of the Board

Executive Summary

a. **Project Title:** Burdell Island Feasibility Study, Acquisition and Marsh Restoration

**Applicant:** Marin Audubon Society (MAS)

b. Project Description and Primary Biological/Ecological Objectives:

The project will acquire and protect 55 acres of tidal marsh and uplands in the Petaluma River watershed and restore the maximum possible acreage of filled land to tidal action. The site lies between two areas owned by the California Department of Fish and Game, the 2,000-acre Petaluma Marsh Wildlife Area to the north and a 300-acre diked seasonal wetland to the south. There will be direct benefits to many fish species, including Chinook Salmon, Steelhead Trout, Splittail, Green Surgeon, and Tule Perch, to various special status species including Black Rail, California Clapper Rail, Salt Marsh Harvest Mouse, Salt Marsh Yellowthroat, San Pablo Song Sparrow, and to migratory birds. The project will remove the marina, boat, jet ski use, boat repair and storage and other structures on the site, thus eliminating potential pollution sources, and impacts to fish and bird populations.

The project is part of a broad effort by environmental organizations and property owners to protect diked historic baylands and tidal marshes along San Francisco and San Pablo Bays. Permanently protecting and restoring these resources is essential for the preservation and enhancement of the Bay and Estuary.

c. Approach/Tasks/Schedule The site is in Marin County north of the City of Novato. It consists of portions of Mira Monte Slough, a tributary of San Antonio Creek, and an oak-studded hill that was an island prior to filling of adjacent tidal marshes. The filled land is used for a road, boat storage, and defunct restaurant and marina facilities. All are in a state of disrepair. The site will be acquired from willing sellers. MAS will acquire the property, restore the marsh, and donate the site to the Department of Fish and Game for inclusion in the Petaluma Marsh Wildlife Area.

The Constraints/Opportunities Study will include evaluation of site conditions, a title search, preparation of a plan to demolish and dispose of structures, and a marsh restoration plan. The project will be designed by hydrologic engineers experienced in restoration of tidal marsh in San Francisco/San Pablo Bays and will be reviewed by biologists from the Department of Fish and Game and other agencies. The most cost effective way to restore the site will probably be to excavate as much of the fill as possible to lower the elevation in order to allow tidal inundation from Mira Monte Slough. The fill on the site can be used to create another island habitat.

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The schedule calls for completion of the Opportunities/Constraints study by April 1998, acquisition by June 1998, and completion of construction by October 1999.

**d. Justification for Project and Funding by CALFED**

The project will address several of the high priority stressors and actions identified by the North Bay TAC, including the lack of tidal wetlands and the acquisition of land on the Petaluma River. The project will contribute to the CALFED vision of restoring large areas of wetlands to assist in the recovery of special status fish populations and to provide high quality aquatic habitat for other fish and wildlife dependent on the Bay-Delta. It will contribute to the restoration of the historic Petaluma Marsh, the largest undiked tidal marsh remaining in the Bay. This is a limited opportunity acquisition; if action is not taken soon, the site will likely be acquired for continuing and/or expanding the present uses.

**e. Budget Costs and Third Party Impacts**

The estimated budget range is \$1,510,000 to \$1,765,000. The Marin County Open Space District has recommended a contribution of \$100,000 toward acquisition pending final approval by the Marin County Board of Supervisors. MAS will contribute in-kind administrative services, and charges no overhead, administrative or other costs.

The Project will expand the Department of Fish and Game's Petaluma Marsh Wildlife Area, enhance restoration potential for the Fish and Game seasonal marsh to the south, and eliminate uses that conflict with the adjacent landfill. There are some month to month boat leases that will have to be terminated.

**f. Applicant Qualifications**

Over the last eight years, MAS has completed has successfully completed four marsh restoration/enhancement projects involving removal of fill and restoration of tidal marshes, as well as many other restoration projects with grants from various agencies and the Marin Community Foundation.

**g. Monitoring and Data Evaluation**

A five year Monitoring Program will be implemented following completion of the restoration project. The monitoring will measure at least the following: sediment deposition, vegetation colonization, fish and bird use.

**h. Local Support/Coordination with other Programs/Compatibility with CALFED Objectives**

The project complies with applicable plans for the area. The Department of Fish and Game, which will own the marsh, supports the project as does the County of Marin. The project will advance the CALFED objective of restoring saline emergent wetlands along the Petaluma River for the support of fish and other wildlife.

II.

- a. Project Title: FEASIBILITY STUDY, ACQUISITION AND RESTORATION OF BURDELL ISLAND SITE
- b. Applicant: Marin Audubon Society,  
c/o Barbara Salzman  
48 Ardmore Rd.  
Larkspur, CA 94939  
(415) 924-6057  
Fax (415) 927-3533
- c. Non-profit 501 (c)(3) organization
- d. Tax ID number: 94-6076664
- e. Contact Person: Barbara Salzman,  
Address and phone same as above
- f. Collaborators: CA Department of Fish and Game, Marin County  
Open Space District, State Coastal Conservancy, San  
Francisco Bay Joint Venture, Sierra Club Marin Group,  
Environmental Forum of Marin, Marin Baylands Advocates  
Marin Conservation League
- g. RFP Group Type: Group 3: Planning and design  
Group 2: Real Estate Transaction  
Group 1: Construction

Support letters attached

### III. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

#### a. Project Description and Approach

The project will acquire and protect 55-acres of tidal marsh and uplands within the Petaluma River watershed and will restore to tidal action the maximum acreage possible of historic tidal marsh to tidal action. The project will have four phases:

(1) Opportunities and Constraints study of the restoration potential of the site and preparation of a preliminary plan to restore the site to tidal marsh, (2) acquisition of the 55-acre site in fee, (3) removal of structures and fill to elevations that will allow tidal inundation and tidal marsh restoration, and (4) monitoring.

The project will resolve a long-standing concern about protection and disposition of this site. A diverse collaborative partnership approach of non-profit organizations, local government, state agencies and other partners from private industry and the local community, will be used.

This project is part of a broader effort by environmental organizations as well as state and federal agencies to protect diked historic baylands along San Pablo and San Francisco Bays. Marin County forms the entire northwestern boundary of the Bay. Approximately 6,000 acres of diked baylands remain undeveloped and some are threatened with development. This has motivated Marin environmental organizations to focus on protecting baylands. The Petaluma Marsh area is particularly important because of its habitat value for fish and special status species, and the opportunity to restore marshes to the Petaluma Marsh Wildlife Area which, at 2,000 acres, is the largest undiked tidal marsh in San Francisco/San Pablo Bays.

#### b. Location and Geographic Boundaries

The site is located in Marin County, north of the City of Novato, within the Petaluma River watershed, along Mira Monte Slough, a tidal slough that crosses San Antonio Creek and extends into the Petaluma Marsh. It is a long linear site that consists of an access road with adjacent band of tidal marsh along Mira Monte Slough. The southern half of Mira Monte Slough and its tidal marsh fringe are part within the property boundary. Most of the site is tidal slough and marsh except for Burdell Island and filled baylands now used for road access and boat storage.

On the north and east, the site is bounded by the CA Department of Fish and Game-owned Petaluma Marsh Wildlife Area. On the south is an approximately 300-acre diked seasonal wetland purchased several years ago by the Department of Fish and Game; on the northwest is Redwood Landfill and on the west is the railroad right-of-way. Grazing land in private ownership is west of the right-of-way.

The site widens in the center to encompass Burdell Island, a small oak-studded hill that was an island until the adjacent tidal marshes were filled. A private residence is located at the base of Burdell island. Only a concrete slab foundation remains of a residence that once existed on the top of the hill. Boats are stored in three buildings and along the islands only road. A few docks and three other buildings are all that remain of a marina and restaurant that have been closed for several years. All structures on the site are in disrepair.

c. Expected Benefits

The project will address several high priority stressors and actions identified by the North Bay Technical Advisory Committee: Acquire land along the Petaluma River from willing private land owner; develop plans to buy specific properties that are targets for development; and restore tidal marsh (not at the expense of important seasonal wetlands). The project will also enhance existing tidal wetland habitat by removing fill and increasing circulation in existing tidal marshes. It will restore habitat in the greatest decline: saline emergent wetlands including tidal brackish wetlands. Dominant vegetation in tidal wetlands in this part of the Bay can either be Spartina or Scirpus, depending on the amount of fresh water.

The project will contribute to fulfillment of the CALFED vision of restoring large areas of wetlands supporting ecosystem processes to assist in the recovery of special status fish populations, and to provide high quality aquatic habitat for other fish and wildlife dependent on the Bay-Delta.

The project also will restore the historic tidal marsh-upland interface that now only remains in a few locations in Marin County. The Estuary landscape in Marin once had many small oak-studded hill islands within tidal marshes. Most have been connected to land by filling the adjacent marshes. This project will restore one such island, Burdell Island.

Fish Benefits: The project will protect, improve and expand habitat for many fish species of concern for CALFED. It will provide additional feeding and resting habitat for all runs of Chinook Salmon. These species use the marshes along the Petaluma River and San Antonio Creek to forage, rest and hide from predators during out-migration. Having a larger area of marsh available as a nursery will enable young salmonids to increase in size and enhance their survival rate. The restored marsh also will expand nursery habitat for Steelhead trout that are spawned in Petaluma tributaries and that are out-migrating from the Delta.

The Petaluma River is historic spawning habitat for Splittail. Splittail spawning has occurred in the upper part of the River in recent years. San Antonio Creek, where this project is located,

has a high potential for Splittail spawning in sections where there is fresh water input. Spawning may be occurring in these locations now, but no surveys are being conducted to confirm this. Expanding the brackish tidal marshes, as will occur with this project, will expand tules and rushes which are spawning habitat as well as foraging habitat for Splittail.

Green Sturgeon also use the lower Petaluma River marshes for resting and feeding. These bottom feeders will forage in the channels of restored marshes. Other resident fish species, the native Tule Perch and the non-native American Shad and Striped Bass also will benefit from the additional habitat.

Special Status Species: One of the primary species expected to benefit is the Black Rail. The Petaluma Marsh has one of the largest Black Rail populations in the Bay, estimated as high as 7,438 individuals (Evens, Page, Stenzel, Warnock, 1986). The brackish characteristics of this marsh constitute an important reason for these high concentrations. Other species expected to benefit from increased tidal marsh are the endangered Clapper Rail and Salt Marsh Harvest Mouse, and the state listed threatened and federal species of concern Saltmarsh Yellowthroat and San Pablo Song Sparrow. In a 1994 survey, Collins, Evens, and Grenwell estimated the Petaluma Marsh Clapper Rail population to be 19 pairs. The Salt Marsh Yellowthroat population would be expected to expand from the 27 breeding pairs surveyed by the San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory in 1986. The San Pablo Song Sparrow, estimated to have a breeding population of 3,500 pairs in the Petaluma Marsh, is also expected to expand to the new marsh.

Benefits for Migratory Birds: Restoration of historic marsh and removal of existing human uses will result in increased use by migratory waterfowl and shorebirds. Foraging habitat for these species will improve and expand because fish and invertebrate habitat will increase and improve. Migratory waterfowl, such as Northern Pintail, American Widgeon, and Mallard, will expand into the new shallow marshes. Migratory diving ducks, such as Canvasback and Scaup, will also forage and rest in the newly protected and restored slough. Migratory shorebirds such as Willet, Long-billed Curlew, and Whimbrel will forage and roost in the sloughs and among the vegetation.

Restoring the historic landscape, tidal marsh interface with Burdell Island, will also enhance habitat for migratory neotropical songbirds that nest and forage in the native oaks on the island.

Other Ecosystem Benefits: The project will address other stressors of concern to CALFED. Hydrologic functions, tidal flows and previously fragmented habitat will be restored by removing fill. Because the site forms the northern boundary of

seasonal wetland acquired several years ago by the Department of Fish and Game, it will provide the opportunity to expand tidal action to that site as well as to enhance tidal flows to the tidal marsh adjacent to Mira Monte Slough. This section of marsh appears to be very high and inundated only during very high tides.

Because the project will expand tidal habitat and remove uses that impact fish and wildlife resources, it will contribute to the species richness and diversity and will reduce conflicts between migratory and special status species and other beneficial uses such as boating. Removal of the access, marina, boat repair and storage will eliminate adverse impacts to fish and bird populations from fishing, boat wakes, noise, and water pollution. Increased tidal marshes will also serve to improve water quality by trapping sediments and absorbing pollutants.

Restoration of tidal marsh will also mean additional food chain support. Nutrients from the restored marshes will contribute to productivity within the marsh and will be exported to support invertebrates in River and Bay mudflats, as well as fish in the open water habitats of the Bay. This will enrich foraging for shorebirds, fish and waterfowl. Acquisition of this site will also enhance opportunities to restore to tidal action, portions of the 300-acre seasonal wetland site to the south. It will allow tidal waters to come from Mira Monte Slough.

**d. Background and Biological/Technical Justification**

This is a limited opportunity acquisition. If a successful acquisition is not accomplished in a timely manner, the site will be sold to another private developer for the purpose of continuing and expanding the marina or adding other commercial uses.

Over the last several years the site has changed hands several times. Several years ago a plan to acquire it with funds from various state and local sources fell through because of agency concerns about managing existing long-term leases on the property. The current owner has re-acquired the property through foreclosure in early July, and has offered to sell it to the public. He reports that all leases have been terminated and are now on a month-to-month basis.

The project will be a sound approach to wetland habitat protection and restoration. The restoration design will be developed by hydrologic engineers experienced with restoration of tidal marsh in San Francisco/San Pablo Bays. It will be reviewed by biologists from the Department of Fish and Game, federal agencies, adjacent property owners, and other interested parties.

The objective is to acquire the site and restore the maximum acreage to tidal action so that tidal marsh vegetation can

recolonize. The most cost effective way to restore the site would likely be to remove as much of the fill as possible in order to lower the elevation to allow tidal inundation from Mira Monte Slough and the recolonization of native marsh plants. The most cost effective means of disposing of this fill may be to pile it in on the site and use it to create an upland/island habitat. Other alternatives include transporting it to the adjacent landfill for use as daily cover, or allowing the boat ramp and access road to that point to remain for public use. The buildings will be demolished. Effort will be made to recycle as much of the material as possible. Remaining materials will be disposed of in the nearby landfill. Another option is to bury the debris on site.

Because of its location adjacent to San Antonio Creek near the Petaluma Marsh, it is logical and will be beneficial for the site to be added to the Petaluma Marsh Wildlife Area. MAS will acquire the property, restore the marsh, and donate the site to the Department of Fish and Game for inclusion in the Petaluma Marsh.

An Opportunities/Constraints study is necessary to:

- Conduct an environmental survey to determine current conditions, presence of any contaminants, etc.
- Confirm the status of leases and title search.
- Develop a plan and costs for demolition and disposal of the structures.
- Prepare a cost effective and environmentally sound preliminary plan for removal of the fill and restoration to tidal marsh of as much of the site as possible to tidal marsh.

**e. Proposed Scope of Work**

Phase 1: Implement pre-acquisition activities necessary to acquire the site including preparation of an Opportunities/Constraints Study, as described above, and preliminary plans for restoring the site to tidal action,

Phase 2: Acquire the site, conduct environmental review, obtain permits, implement restoration project, prepare monitoring plan.

Phase 3: Implement monitoring plan.

**f. Monitoring and Data Evaluation**

A five year monitoring program will be developed in Phase 2, and implemented as Phase 3 after completion of the restoration project. Monitoring objectives and indicators will be identified to measure the success of the project in restoring tidal marsh and increasing fish and bird habitat. The monitoring plan will at minimum measure sediment deposition, colonization of vegetation, fish and bird use.

If an acceptable monitoring protocol is developed by the San

Francisco Estuary Institute (SFEI), we would be prepared to use this protocol. Or, if a monitoring program is developed for the North Bay by SFEI or another organization we would be prepared to participate in that overall effort.

g. Implementability

The restoration component will be based on a hydrologic and biological study of the marshes. The Department of Fish and Game will be the recipient of the site for inclusion in the Petaluma Marsh Wildlife Area. The Wildlife Conservation Board was also part of an earlier attempt to acquire the site.

The project complies with all applicable plans and laws. The Marin County Open Space District supports acquisition of the site. The District has been involved in several efforts to acquire the property. On July 23 the Open Space Sub-committee voted unanimously to recommend a contribution of \$100,000 toward acquisition of this site. This must be approved by the full Parks and Open Space Commission and Board of Supervisors in August 1997. It is expected that the funding will be approved.

An assessment of hazardous materials will be conducted as part of the Opportunities and Constraints analysis. Any hazardous materials will be remediated as required.

The Marin Countywide Plan contains strong policies favoring the protection, enhancement and restoration of wetlands, and the protection of wildlife habitat, species diversity and special status species. The project will comply with and further these policies. Restoration of the site is also supported by goals and objectives of the San Francisco Estuary Project Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan, and other efforts of state and federal agencies including the North Bay Forum and BCDC's Wetlands Protection Plan.

There is no known opposition to acquisition and restoration of the property. The owner reports that all encumbrances have been dissolved as a result of the recent foreclosure process. Individuals currently using the site may not want to vacate.

In addition to the increased habitat value of the site after restoration, the hazardous access from Hwy. 101 where there are no acceleration or deceleration lanes. And the deteriorated condition of the buildings, roads, and marina facilities also argue for cessation of public uses.

The restoration will require permits from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the RWQCB. The lead agency for environmental review will be the SCC or the County of Marin. An Initial Study will be prepared.

The site has a historic connection with the Olompali State Park

located across Highway 101. However, no known archaeological resources exist on the site.

#### IV. Costs

##### a. Estimated Budget Costs

Table A, the Budget, is attached. The range of budget estimates reflects the preliminary nature of the project and alternatives.

MAS is requesting Phase 1 funding for an Opportunities and Constraints Study and for development of a preliminary restoration plan for the Burdell Island site. This Phase 1 request is for \$45,000 to \$50,000. Funding for Phase 1 is needed to begin the studies necessary to complete the acquisition.

It is estimated that funding for Phase 2 would be needed in January 1998. Phase 2 funding is estimated to be approximately \$1,310,000. Of this among, \$10,000 is needed to finalize construction/design drawings and for permitting. The appraisal costs were estimated \$1.3 million. Several appraisals have been obtained for the site in recent years, for \$1.2 million and for \$1.5 million respectively.

The budget ranges for the Phase 3, construction, is \$130,000 to \$275,000 if all fill is retained on site and used to restore upland habitat and if the demolished structures are disposed of at the adjacent landfill. The high range of \$205,000 to \$380,000 will apply if fill must be taken offside.

Maximizing cost effectiveness will continue to be a major interest. Construction costs may be able to be further reduced if some or all of the demolition debris can be buried on site, or recycled. These alternatives were not considered in time to obtain costs for the CALFED due date. Also, retaining the existing boat launch will be evaluated as an alternative. This will mean retaining the access road and less fill removal costs, however, it will also mean restoration of fewer acres of marsh.

Marin County has continued interest in protecting the site. The Marin County Open Space Sub-Committee has voted unanimously to approve a contribution of \$100,000 for acquisition. It is expected that this contribution will be finalized by the Parks and Open Space Commission and Board of Supervisors in August 1997. However, because this funding has not been finally approved, it has not been deducted from the budget estimates.

MAS will hire engineering and other appropriate consultants experienced with marsh restoration, to prepare the Opportunities/Constraints Study which will include a hazardous materials assessment and preliminary restoration plan.

MAS has no paid staff and no office, and charges no overhead or fees for restoration projects. MAS will contribute the following in-kind services: coordination and outreach, oversight of pre-acquisition work, project preparation and construction, participation in project design, preparation of environmental review documents, completion of permit applications, development of contracts, and coordination of monitoring and reporting.

**b. Schedule Milestones**

Opportunities/Constraints Study will be completed by April 1998.  
Preliminary restoration plans will be completed by April 1998.  
Acquisition will be completed by June 1998.  
Permits applications will be submitted by September 1998.  
Environmental Review will be completed by December 1998.  
Project construction will be completed by October 1999.  
Monitoring will extend for 5 years.

**c. Third Party Impacts**

Third party impacts will be minimized because the marina and restaurant have not been operated for several years. Because of this, it is expected that customers will not be impacted. Persons using the site on month-to-month leases would need to relocate. Other boat storage, marinas and boat launching access exist in Marin and Sonoma Counties on the Petaluma River, and in Marin at other locations on the Bay.

Protecting the site will be a benefit to all adjacent property owners. It is in the interest of Redwood Landfill not to have restaurant and marina use resumed because of possible odor conflicts. The landfill is moving its recycling facility to the south end of the site, nearest the Burdell Island site. These two uses would not be compatible because of possible occasional odors from sludge processing.

The only other adjacent owner is the Department of Fish and Game which supports protection and restoration of the marsh and will own it.

Acquisition will benefit the landowner who wants to sell the property.

#### V. Applicant Qualifications

MAS will manage the project and will provide services identified in section IV. a. above, including bidding, if necessary, and contracting with consultants and contractors.

MAS is well suited to implement this project. During the past ten years, MAS has implemented four major marsh restoration and enhancement projects over the last eight years. All involved major earth removal to restore or enhance wetlands. See list below.

Barbara Salzman, who has managed these projects, has won many awards for environmental activities including the Save the Bay Founders Award, the Marin Conservation League Marin Green Award, and the first Environmentalist of the Year award from the Marin Environmental Alliance. Ms Salzman has been an invited participant in U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and National Audubon Society seminars and conferences on watershed and marsh protection and restoration.

MAS has received grants to implement the various restoration projects from the State Coastal Conservancy, Marin Community Foundation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. In addition, MAS has received Administrative Civil Liability funds that have enabled many acres to be restored to marsh through MAS efforts. MAS has fulfilled all conditions for the grants and many successful projects have been the result.

#### HABITAT ENHANCEMENT/RESTORATION PROJECTS IMPLEMENTED BY MARIN AUDUBON SOCIETY

1. SMITH RANCH ROAD POND - Over a period of nine months, MAS volunteers manually removed a highly invasive, exotic plant, water hyacinth, which was almost completely covering this fresh water pond in San Rafael. Joint funding from the City of San Rafael, which owns the pond, MAS and the Marin County Wildlife and Fisheries Commission funded hiring a harvester to remove the remaining plants in the spring of 1987. The plants have not returned.
2. REDWOOD HIGH SCHOOL MARSH ENHANCEMENT PROJECT - In 1986, grants from the SCC and the Marin Community Foundation enabled MAS to develop and implement a plan to enhance this 12 acre diked salt marsh located at Redwood High School on property owned by the School District. The project deepened and widened channels in the marsh to improve water circulation and fish habitat, constructed a tide gate to allow improved water management in the marsh, removed invasive non-native vegetation, planted native plants on the upland adjacent to the marsh, constructed a low fence around the upland and removed invasive plants. The fifth and final year of the monitoring is 1997.

In response to vegetation damage resulting from the Mosquito Abatement District driving equipment over the marsh to apply bacillus thuringiensis to several low areas that were producing mosquito larvae, MAS widened and deepened several existing channels. The Mosquito Abatement District used its equipment to create several small channels. MAS used its own funds for this project.

3. CORTE MADERA ECOLOGICAL RESERVE ENHANCEMENT/RESTORATION PROJECT This project involved restoring tidal action to one acre of filled land and created a refuge habitat island for endangered Clapper Rails and for Black Rails, a candidate species for endangered listing at the Corte Madera Ecological Reserve. The Reserve is owned by the California Department of Fish and Game. Administrative Civil Liability fines, levied against two local jurisdictions by the RWQCB for sewage spills, funded implementation. Construction was completed in 1990. A five year monitoring requirement has been completed and found the site progressing satisfactorily. Marsh vegetation (grindelia) recolonized within 6 months, with cordgrass colonizing in the fifth year after construction.

4. GALLINAS CREEK RESTORATION - 3 Phases Phase 1 was implemented with ACL fines for sewage spills in San Rafael. MAS obtained a grant from the State Coastal Conservancy to develop a restoration/ enhancement plan for the entire site. The site is owned by State Lands and was leased by the Department of Fish and Game for the purpose of allowing this project to be implemented.

During 1992 Phase 1 removed fill and restored tidal action to about one acre of filled land. Phase 2 was implemented in 1993 with ACL funding from another sewage spill. Approximately 500 cubic yards was excavated, to restore tidal action. The third and final phase was completed in January 1997. With no ACL funds on the horizon, we applied for and received funding from the Marin Community Foundation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and completed this restoration project.

5. MILL VALLEY MITIGATION PROJECT - ACL fines for sewage spills in Mill Valley also funded this project on a site owned by the Marin County Open Space District in Richardson Bay. Part of an old levee and a collapsed culvert were removed to restore an area of tidal marsh, isolate a section of levee for a high tide refuge for shorebirds, and to improve circulation to the adjacent tidal marsh. The project was completed in August 1992.

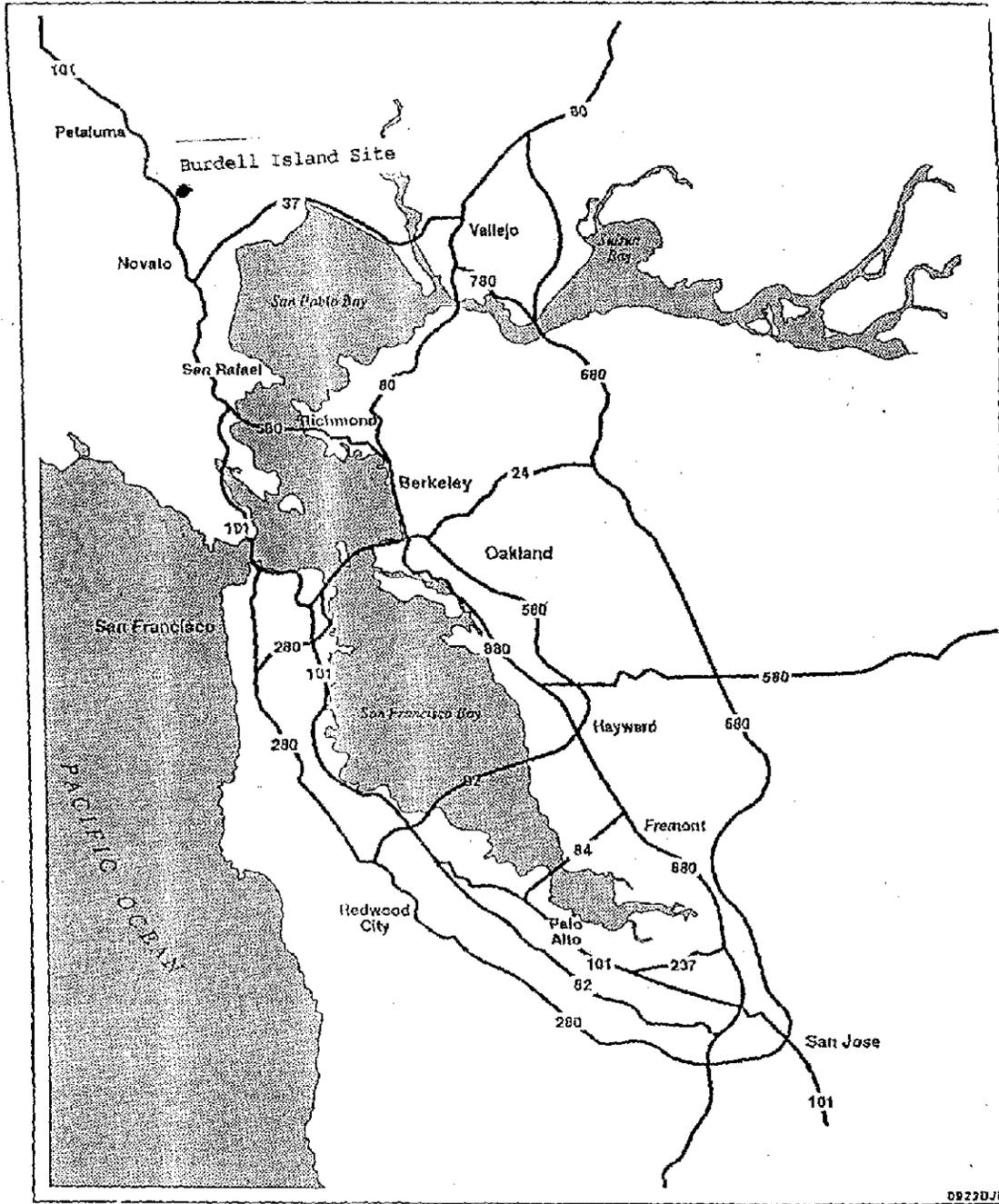
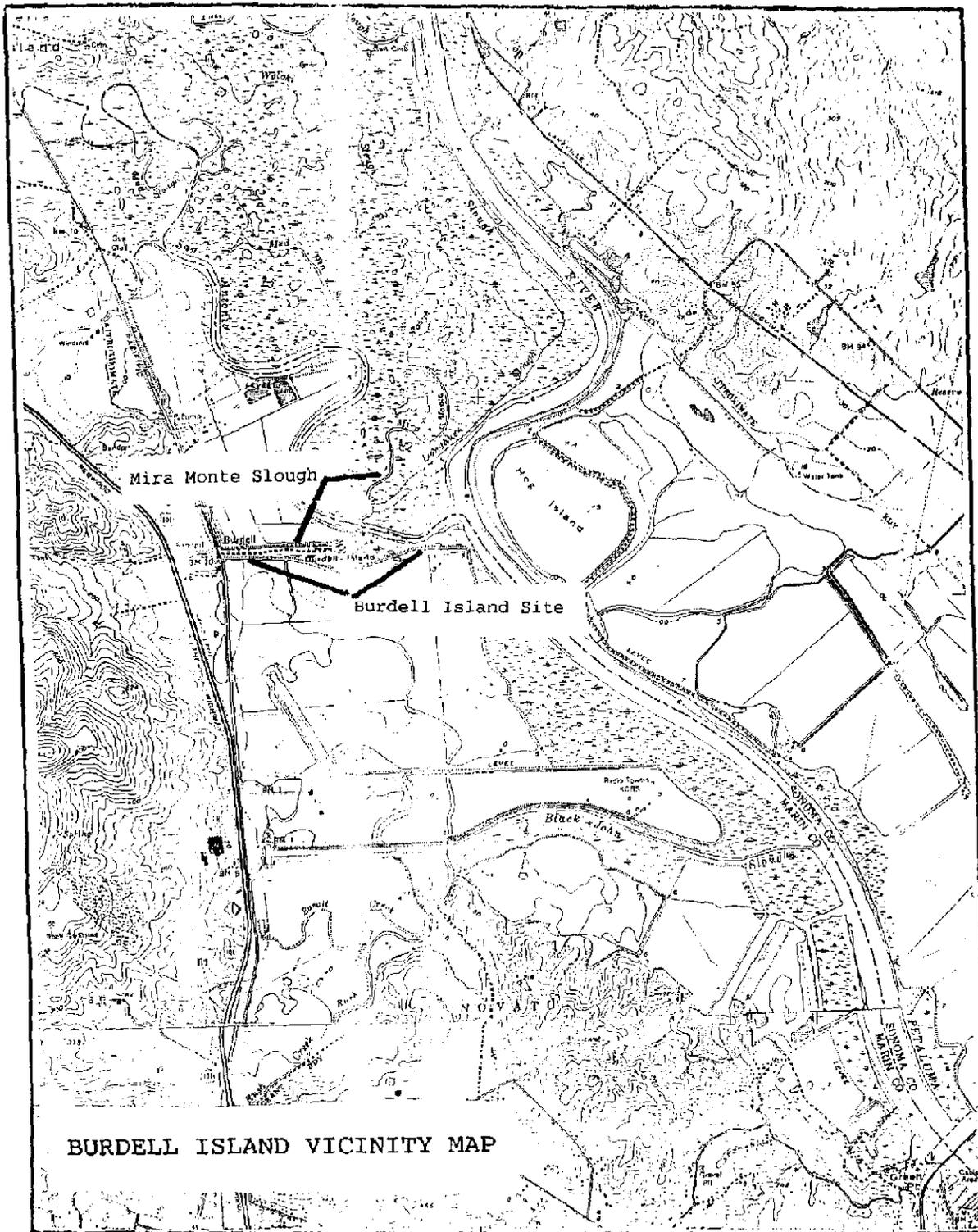
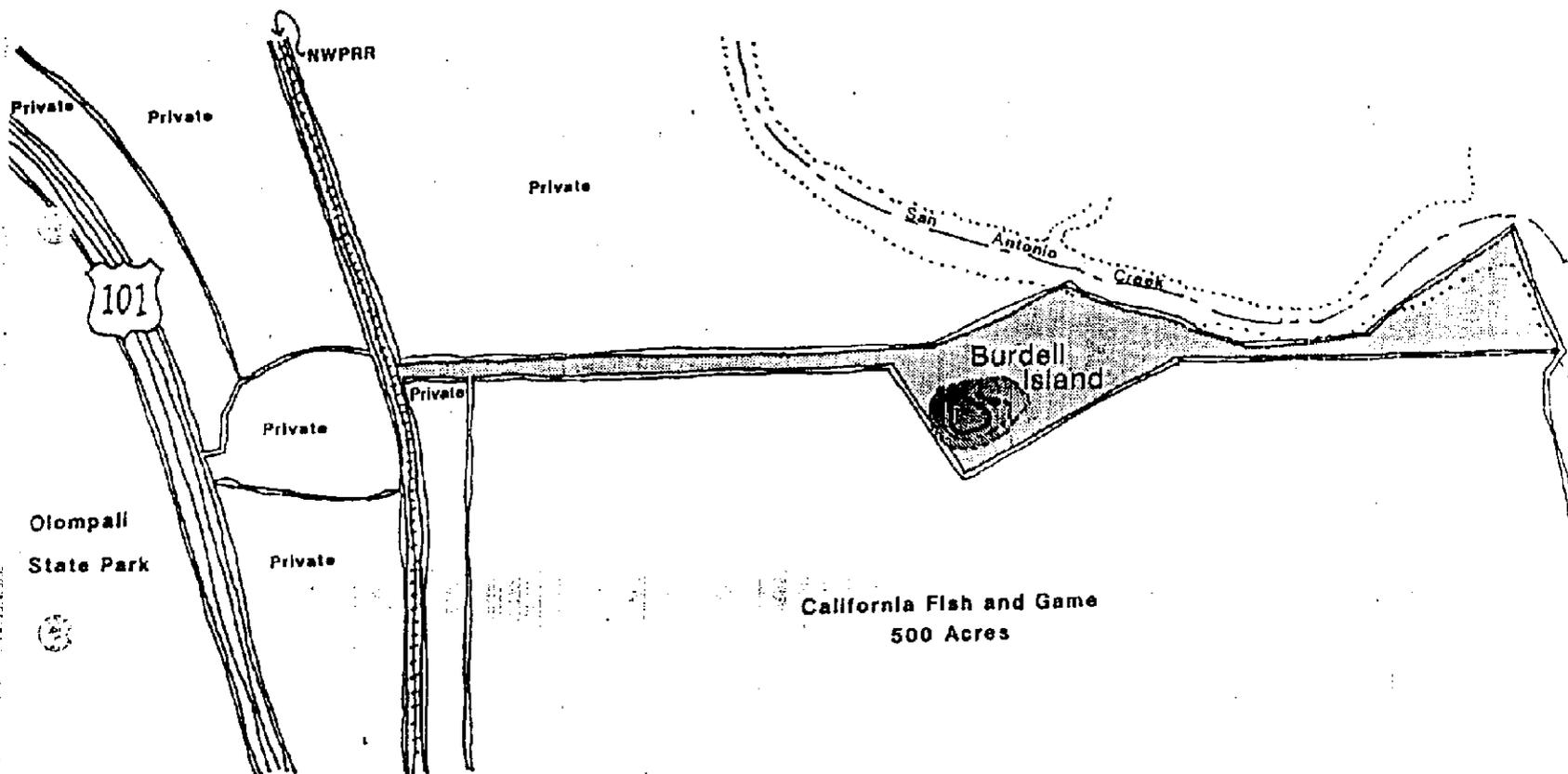


Figure REGIONAL MAP

BURDELL ISLAND



# Burdell Island Vicinity Map



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Olompali  
State Park

California Fish and Game  
500 Acres

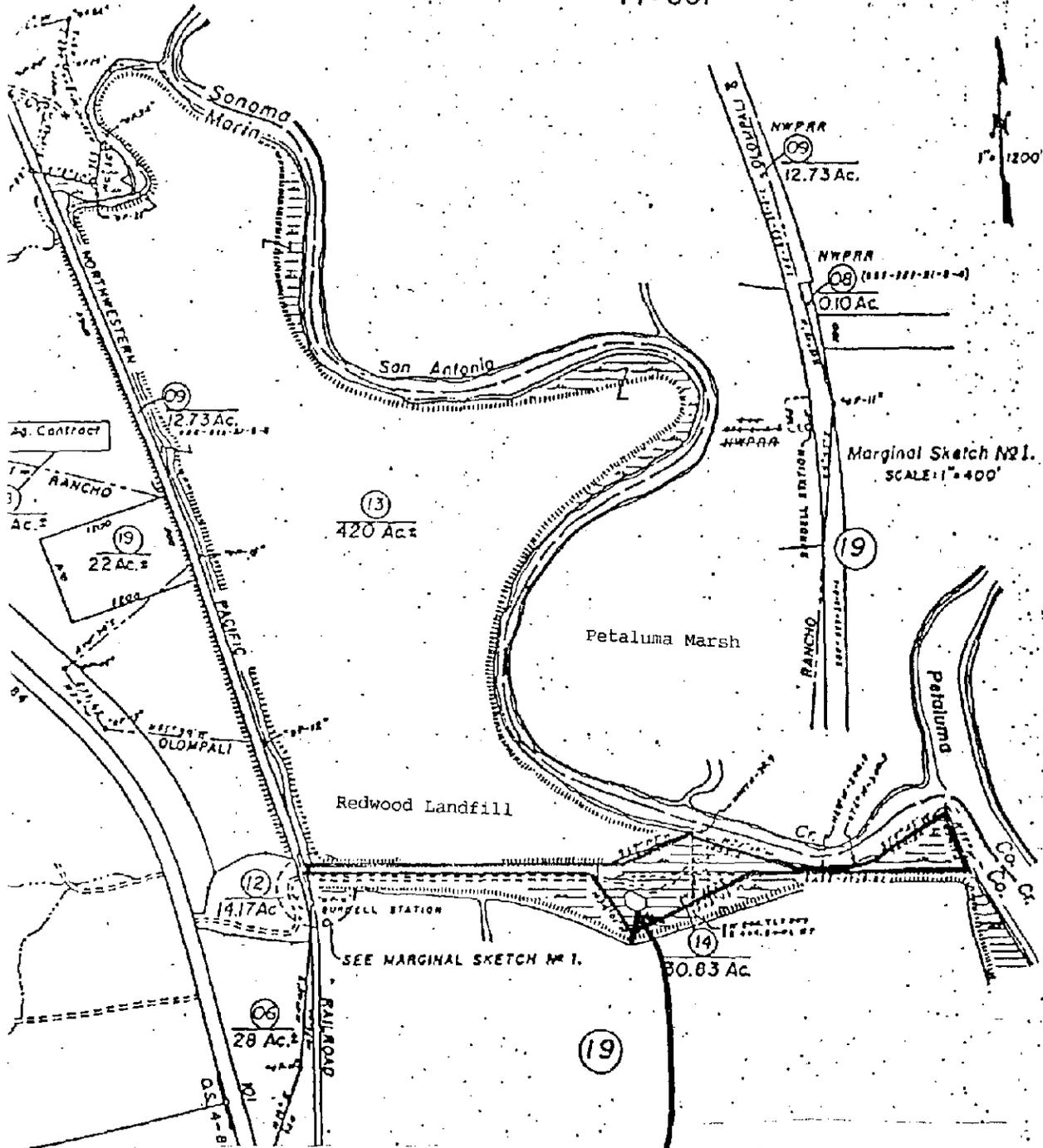
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LOMPALI

Tax Area Code  
77-007

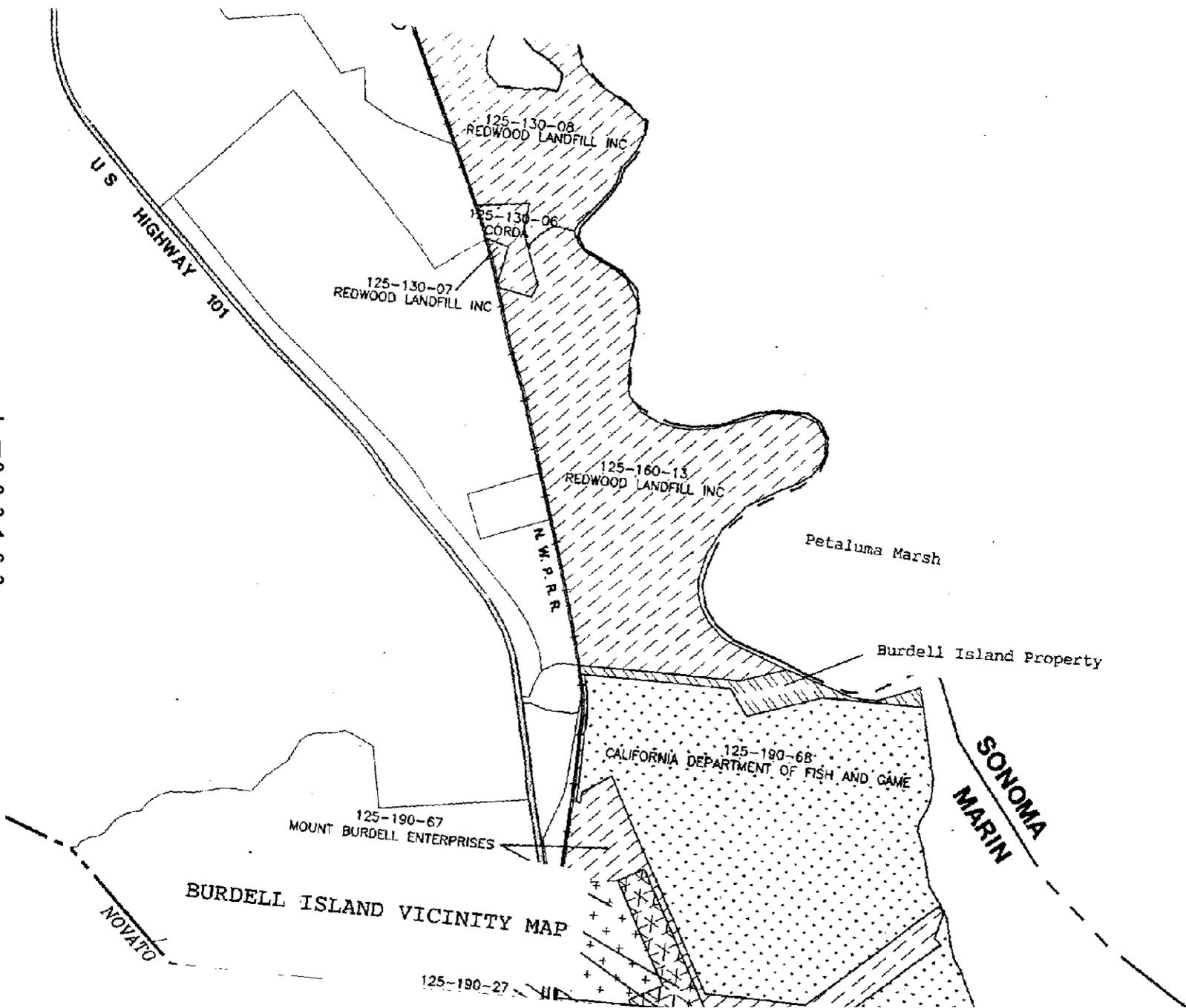
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BURDELL ISLAND PROPERTY

BURDELL ISLAND PROPERTY  
 PARCEL OF BURDELL ISLAND PROPERTY  
 IN MARIN COUNTY  
 Assessor's Map Bk. 125-Pg. 16  
 County of Marin, Calif.

1-003163



1-003163

**NONDISCRIMINATION COMPLIANCE STATEMENT**

COMPANY NAME

*Water Auditor Society*

The company named above (hereinafter referred to as "prospective contractor") hereby certifies, unless specifically exempted, compliance with Government Code Section 12990 (a-f) and California Code of Regulations, Title 2, Division 4, Chapter 5 in matters relating to reporting requirements and the development, implementation and maintenance of a Nondiscrimination Program. Prospective contractor agrees not to unlawfully discriminate, harass or allow harassment against any employee or applicant for employment because of sex, race, color, ancestry, religious creed, national origin, disability (including HIV and AIDS), medical condition (cancer), age, marital status, denial of family and medical care leave and denial of pregnancy disability leave.

**CERTIFICATION**

*I, the official named below, hereby swear that I am duly authorized to legally bind the prospective contractor to the above described certification. I am fully aware that this certification, executed on the date and in the county below, is made under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California*

OFFICIAL'S NAME

*Barbara Salzman*

DATE EXECUTED

*7/26/97*

EXECUTED IN THE COUNTY OF

*Water*

PROSPECTIVE CONTRACTOR'S SIGNATURE

*Barbara Salzman*

PROSPECTIVE CONTRACTOR'S TITLE

*President*

PROSPECTIVE CONTRACTOR'S LEGAL BUSINESS NAME

*Water Auditor Society*

Agreement No. \_\_\_\_\_

Exhibit \_\_\_\_\_

**STANDARD CLAUSES --  
SMALL BUSINESS PREFERENCE AND CONTRACTOR IDENTIFICATION NUMBER****NOTICE TO ALL BIDDERS:**

Section 14835, et. seq. of the California Government Code requires that a five percent preference be given to bidders who qualify as a small business. The rules and regulations of this law, including the definition of a small business for the delivery of service, are contained in Title 2, California Code of Regulations, Section 1896, et. seq. A copy of the regulations is available upon request. Questions regarding the preference approval process should be directed to the Office of Small and Minority Business at (916) 322-5060. To claim the small business preference, you must submit a copy of your certification approval letter with your bid.

Are you claiming preference as a small business?

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes\*                      \_\_\_\_\_ No

\*Attach a copy of your certification approval letter.



**Harry J. Moore**  
Fifth District Supervisor  
**Chair, Board of Supervisors**  
**County of Marin**

July 28, 1997

Kate Hansel  
CALFED Bay-Delta Program  
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Marin Audubon Society Category III Proposal for Marsh Enhancement at Rush Creek  
and Cemetery Marshes Burdell Island, and Redwood Landfill Marsh

Dear Ms. Hansel:

As Supervisor for the District in which these marsh restoration and enhancement projects would occur, I am pleased to have the opportunity to express my support for these worthy proposals all of which are located in the watershed of the Petaluma River.

- Rush Creek Marsh and Cemetery Marsh Enhancement Project: The County owns the Cemetery Marsh and is helping to fund installation of new gates. The requested CALFED funding for removal of sediment in the marsh channels would greatly benefit circulation and water quality, and the overall management of these marshes.
- Burdell Island: Marin County has been interested and involved in attempts to protect this site for many years. An effort to purchase it fell through last year. We welcome the help of a CALFED grant to enable protection and restoration of this important site.
- Redwood Landfill Marsh: The opportunity to protect and restore such significant acreage of tidal marsh at a reasonable cost is unique. Restoration of this marsh would greatly benefit fish and wildlife that depend on the Petaluma River and the Petaluma Marsh.

The Marin Audubon Society is experienced with restoring marshes and has been a partner with the County in enhancing and restoring other marshes.

I strongly recommend your favorable consideration of these proposals.

Sincerely,

  
Harry J. Moore  
Chair of the Board

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**Trout Unlimited  
of California**

July, 23, 1997

Mr. Lester Snow  
Executive Director  
CALFED Bay-Delta Program  
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155  
Sacramento, Cal. 95814

Re:--Burdell Island Acquisition and Restoration—Rush Creek/Cemetery Marsh  
Enhancement—Redwood Landfill Marsh Restoration Projects.

Dear Mr. Snow:

Trout Unlimited, basically a grassroots organization, has a special interest in the restoration of California's salmon and steelhead trout fishery. Many of our 8000 California members are involved in "hands on" restoration projects throughout the state.

We have had the opportunity to review the excellent projects descriptions and was impressed with the ecosystem and fishery benefits. Our members are very supportive of the projects. It is obvious that the projects will greatly improve the water quality in the San Pablo and San Francisco Bays and the adjacent Wildlife Refuge. This area is well recognized as a nursery area for the outgoing Sacramento and San Joaquin River juvenile salmon and steelhead. The improved water quality will greatly enhance their survival on their journey to the ocean.

As America's leading coldwater fisheries conservation organization, we strongly recommend your approval of the projects and will be looking forward to your accomplishing your mission to double the natural spawning anadromous fishery of the Central Valley.

Respectfully submitted

  
Stan Griffin  
Regional Vice-President  
Southwest Region

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5200 Huntington Ave. #300, Richmond, CA 94804-5416 • Phone 510-528-5390 • Fax 510-525-3664

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*Protecting and Improving Your Fishing Future*

**SAN FRANCISCO BAY JOINT VENTURE**

mailing address: Coastal Conservancy, 1330 Broadway, Suite 1100, Oakland, CA 94612  
phone: 510-286-6767 fax: 510-286-0470

July 24, 1997

**MANAGEMENT BOARD:**

*Bay Area Audubon Council*

*Bay Area Open Space Council*

*Bay Conservation &  
Development Commission*

*Bay Planning Coalition*

*Bay Area Regional  
Watershed Network*

*California Department  
of Fish and Game*

*Ciizen's Committee to  
Complete the Refuge*

*Coastal Conservancy*

*Ducks Unlimited*

*National Audubon Society*

*P G & E*

*Regional Water Quality Control  
Board, San Francisco Bay Region*

*Save San Francisco Bay  
Association*

*Sierra Club*

*U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service*

*Wildlife Conservation Board*

Kate Hansel  
CALFED Bay-Delta Program  
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155  
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Category III Proposals from Marin Audubon Society:  
Burdell Island, Rush Creek/Cemetery Marsh, Redwood  
Landfill Marsh, Bahia

Dear Kate:

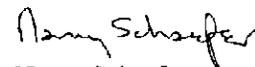
I am writing on behalf of the member organizations of the San Francisco Bay Joint Venture in support of the Marin Audubon Society's Category III proposals. Endorsement of these wetlands restoration projects was voted unanimously at the Joint Venture's Management Board meeting on July 10.

All of these projects are located in the Petaluma River watershed and their completion will greatly benefit fish and wildlife in the region by restoring both tidal and seasonal wetlands. The Petaluma River is an important watershed to several CALFED priority species including the delta smelt, Sacramento splittail and chinook salmon.

The Marin Audubon Society has a strong track record for completing good wetlands restoration projects and is a solid partner in the San Francisco Bay Joint Venture.

We urge you to consider these proposals favorably.

Sincerely,

  
Nancy Schaefer  
Coordinator

Cc: SFBJV Management Board