



... to protect the land forever

SEARS POINT RESTORATION PROJECT

Final Report

Prepared September 24, 2015

1. BACKGROUND

The Sears Point Restoration Project, a project of the Sonoma Land Trust (SLT) in partnership with Ducks Unlimited (DU), will restore nearly 960 acres of tidal wetlands, enhance adjacent grasslands and seasonal wetlands (including riparian), and construct infrastructure to facilitate safe public access. The project received funding from 14 grants including \$364,466 from the CA Dept. of Fish and Wildlife, Office of Spill Prevention and Response's Environmental Enhancement Fund.

2. GRANT OBJECTIVES

The objective of this grant is the successful construction of approximately 300 marsh mounds.

3. OUTCOMES

The project agreement was structured to include three tasks: project management, construction management, and construction.

a. Project Management

SLT provided general oversight of all construction activities, including the work of DU and construction subcontractors. SLT provided timely reporting and invoicing to OSPR staff. All work was done on time and within budget.

b. Construction Management

DU developed bid specification, hosted bid walks, and executed contracts related to marsh mound construction. DU provided daily oversight of all construction work by working with subcontractors on site. DU led weekly construction meetings with the subcontractor to ensure work went as planned.

c. Construction

SLT successfully constructed 300 mounds per design with EEF funds and an additional 200+ mounds with other funding. Mounds were constructed between June-December, 2014 using soils excavated on site. The site will be returned to tidal influence in October 2015. Photos of marsh mounds are provided in the following pages.



Photo 1. Channels, mounds, and levees at Sears Point. Oct. 2014 Photo by Robert Janover



Photo 2. Sears Point with Sonoma Baylands on left side of photo. Oct. 2014 Photo by Robert Janover



Photo 3. Marsh mounds prior to rainfall. Nov. 2014 Photo by Lance Kuenhe



Photo 4. Marsh mounds after major December storms filled the basin with stormwater. Thousands of waterfowl and shorebirds filled the site immediately thereafter. Dec. 2014



Photo 5. The future tidal basin at Sears Point filled with fresh stormwater. Jan. 2015



Photo 6. Aerial view of Sears Point filled with fresh stormwater. Jan. 2015 Photo by Stephen Joseph



Photo 7. Aerial photo of project area taken April 1, 2015 before water was pumped out of the site. Note the 500+ marsh mounds, 6+ miles of channels, and undulating 2.5-mile habitat levee.