

Dubai Star Oil Spill

NATURAL RESOURCE DAMAGE ASSESSMENT

SPRING 2019 UPDATE





BACKGROUND



On October 30, 2009, a re-fueling accident resulted in the discharge of over 400 gallons of Intermediate Fuel Oil (IFO) from the oil tanker *Dubai Star*. State and federal natural resource trustee agencies assessed the injuries to wildlife, habitat, and recreational uses with \$850,000 allocated for natural resource restoration. The trustee agencies and

the East Bay Regional Park District identified five restoration projects to address natural resource injuries from the spill. Of the five projects, the sand replenishment project was completed in December 2013 and highlighted in our Summer 2016 *Dubai Star* Oil Spill Update. This project provided additional shoreline recreation and erosion protection for the adjacent Alameda community. The status of the four other projects are presented in this report.



FISHING OUTREACH PROGRAM

Since 2013, the East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) has offered fishing programs for the public in partnership with the City of Alameda Recreation and Park Department, Girls Inc. of Alameda County, and several local elementary schools.

From May 7 - December 14, 2017, EBRPD served approximately 500 fishing participants. EBRPD also hosted the 2nd annual *Alameda Catch of the Day Fish Festival* on September 2, 2017. Approximately 700 attendees enjoyed a day of fishing, casting games, knot tying, local sustainable seafood education and preparation, behind the scenes aquarium tours, and a chance to visit the mobile fish exhibit. Because of the continued success with the *Catch of the Day Fish Festival*, the Park District plans to make this an annual event.



On December 14, 2017, Alameda adults and seniors enjoyed a chartered fishing trip in the San Francisco Bay. Crab Cove Supervising Naturalist James Frank, and Recreation staff provided interpretation and instruction during the trip. Every participant walked away with the experience of catching multiple fish.



During the entire 5-year period of the grant, EBRPD provided fishing instruction and education to over 2,200 participants. To aide in transporting equipment and supplies, an electric trailer caddy, a mobile fishing trailer, and a trailer cover were purchased and used to facilitate fishing programs for larger groups at more locations.



EXTENSION OF THE PARK STREET GROIN WALL

On February 17, 2017, the EBRPD completed the extension of the Park Street Groin Structure. The groin consists of a rigid hydraulic structure built on the ocean shore that interrupts water flow and limits the movement of sediment, and prevents the beach from being washed away. The extension of the Park Street Groin increased the existing groin further shoreward by approximately 100 feet to the toe of beach dunes along Shoreline Drive. The placement of this structure stops sand movement around the groin, thereby preventing sand from entering the marsh area, and aids in the restoration of marsh habitat which is frequently used by many species including birds. The photograph above shows the completed structure.



ELSIE ROEMER MARSH RESTORATION

In addition to completing the extension of the Park Street Groin Wall, the EBRPD removed 0.75 acres of invasive weeds and planted *Grindelia* along 6.23 acres of the Elsie Roemer Marsh. Construction and planting was completed during the 2017 wet season. This type of restoration is beneficial because the presence of native plants provides habitat for birds and other marsh animals and prevents the encroachment of nonnative species. As previously discussed, areas of accumulated sand in the marsh, adjacent to the groin wall, were also removed and those areas were replanted with native vegetation.



ROCKY INTERTIDAL RESTORATION ALONG ALAMEDA SHORELINE

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife is working with scientists at the University of California, Santa Cruz to enhance rocky intertidal habitat along shoreline near the San Leandro Marina. This is done by transplanting cuttings of rockweed (*Fucus* sp.) and anchoring them to rocks. Initial transplants were not successful in 2018; however, a new and improved anchoring system for transplants is expected to be completed this year (2019). Macroalgae, such as rockweed, provide an important food source for invertebrate animals; they in turn provide food for shorebirds and other species that live in mudflats, marshes, and rocky shores.

DUBAI STAR NRDA RESTORATION BUDGET

USE/HABITAT	RESTORATION PROJECT	EXPENDITURE	STATUS
Recreational Use	Sand Replenishment at Crown Beach	\$300,000 ¹	Complete
	Fishing Outreach Program	\$50,000 ²	Complete
Bird and Marsh Habitat	Park Street Groin Extension	\$317,500 ³	Complete
	Wetland Restoration at Elsie Roemer Marsh	\$38,500 ⁴	Complete
Rocky Intertidal Habitat	Rockweed Restoration along Alameda County Shoreline	\$44,000	In Progress
TOTALS			
Restoration Sub-total		\$750,000	
Administration & CDFW Oversight		\$100,000	
Total Funds Received \$850,000			

¹ An additional \$6,177 accumulated from interest, and also used to complete the project.

² An additional \$1,970 accumulated from interest, and also used to complete the project.

³ East Bay Regional Parks District provided matching funds of \$300,000.

⁴ CDFW-OSPR's Small Spill NRDA Restoration Fund provided matching funds of \$36,500.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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