

Background



The year 2013 was a big one for restoration projects funded through the *Cosco Busan* oil spill settlement. \$11 million, allocated to over 45 projects, was at work reshaping, enhancing, and restoring beaches and habitat around the Bay Area.

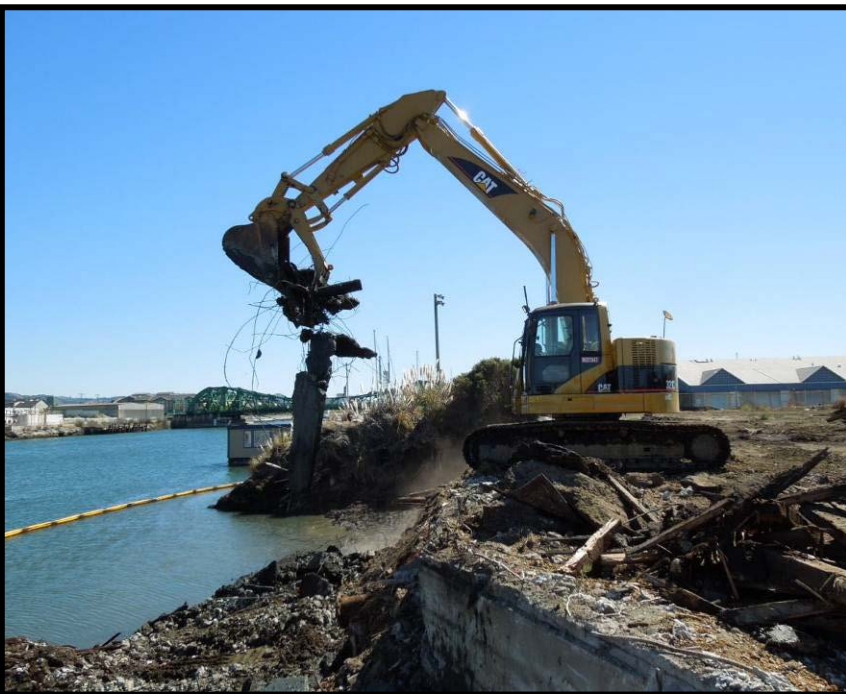
This newsletter highlights some of those projects. For more background information, see the restoration plan and other links at http://www.dfg.ca.gov/ospr/NRDA/cosco_busan_spill.aspx

Muir Beach Dunes Restoration

A project to restore dune habitat at Muir Beach in Marin County began this past summer. An existing beach access trail, which bisected and trampled the dunes, was re-routed. This will decrease damage to the dunes, increase the dune restoration footprint, and improve accessibility. In areas of degraded dune habitat, invasive weeds were reduced by flipping the soil profile and burying the surface material under clean sand. Approximately a thousand linear feet of sand fencing was installed to reestablish dune formation. Revegetation with native dune plants will continue over the next two winters. While the beach was closed during some of this work, it is now open to the public.



Oakland Estuary Enhancement

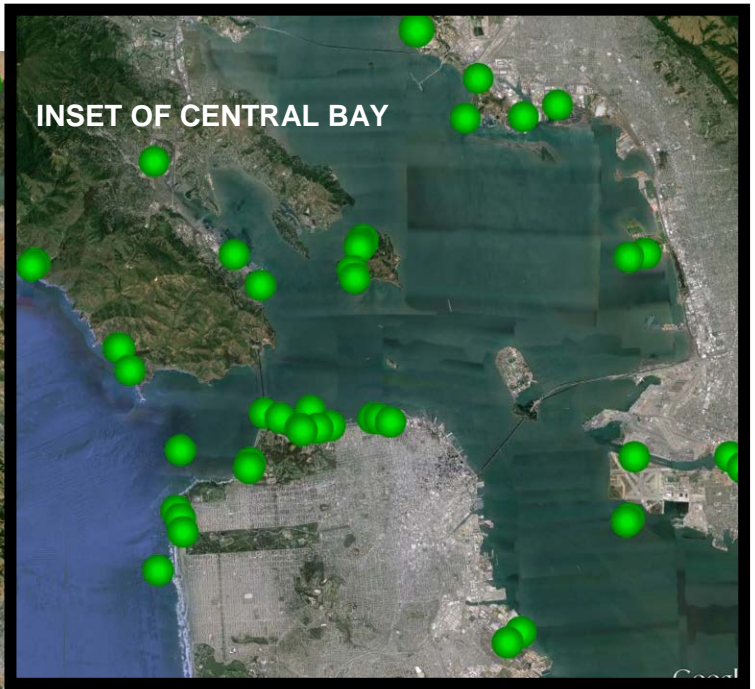
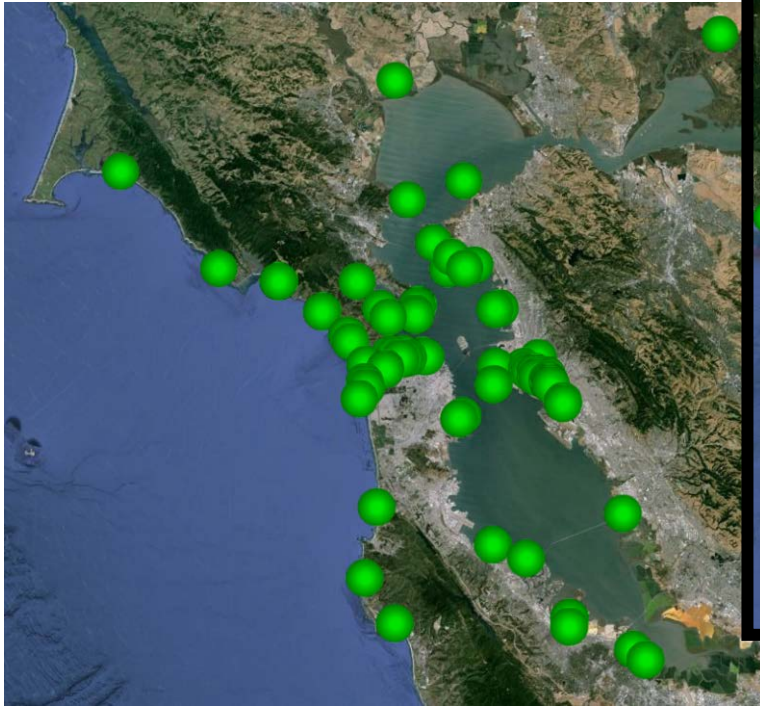


In September, backhoes began removing broken concrete, re-bar, slag metal piles, and wood debris from shorelines along the Oakland Inner Harbor. Removal of several derelict vessels is planned for 2014. By removing marine debris, abandoned vessels, old piers, and navigational hazards, this project will improve recreational enjoyment and safety of boaters and kayakers who use the estuary.

While CalRecycle began the project with \$650,000 from the *Cosco Busan* Trustee Council and matched it with their own funds, the project will be extended with significant amounts of partnering funds from the US Army Corp of Engineers, the US Environmental Protection Agency, and the US Coast Guard, as well as revenue from any recovered materials that can be recycled and sold.

Recreational Use Projects

Forty-five recreational use projects are underway or about to begin (including the Oakland Estuary project described above). The projects are being implemented through the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation grant program (25 projects), the National Park Service (15), the City of Richmond (4), and the City of San Francisco (2). All of the projects benefit recreational uses affected by the oil spill and beach and fisheries closures. For a selective list of projects, see the January 2013 News Update.



The first project to be completed was the replacement of several small boat docks at Lake Merritt in Oakland (right).



Children celebrate the joys in fishing (below). This was the first of several fishing education classes at the Hayward Shoreline Interpretive Center; it was attended by 38 youth.



Updates on Other Projects

These projects have also begun:

- Marbled Murrelet Restoration in the Santa Cruz Mountains
- Aramburu Island Restoration
- Eden Landing Salt Pond Restoration
- Eelgrass Restoration
- Rockweed Restoration

These projects are expected to begin in 2014:

- Farallon Islands Nest Habitat Restoration
- Surf Scoter Restoration
- Native Oyster Restoration



Fourteen brant geese appeared on the newly contoured beaches of Aramburu Island in April 2013. For more details, see <http://richardsonbay.audubon.org/autumn-update-aramburu-island-restoration>

Cosco Busan Trustee Council Budget

Amount Received **\$30,506,000**

Allocations to Date

Eden Landing Salt Pond Restoration	\$459,797
Marbled Murrelet Restoration	\$241,054
Aramburu Island Restoration	\$800,108
Muir Beach Dune Restoration	\$144,000
Rockweed Restoration	\$70,082
Recreational Use Projects/NPS (14)	\$3,179,099
Recreational Use Projects/state (25)	\$6,030,673

Agency Oversight \$830,000

Total Allocated **\$11,774,813**

Total Amount Remaining **\$18,731,187**

Natural Resource Trustee Agencies

- California Department of Fish and Wildlife
- California State Lands Commission
- United States Fish and Wildlife Service
- National Park Service
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

www.dfg.ca.gov/ospr/NRDA/cosco_busan_spill.aspx
www.darrp.noaa.gov/southwest/cosco/index.html
www.fws.gov/contaminants/Issues/OilSpill.cfm

