



**San Francisco Bay Joint Venture Management Board Meeting
Oro Loma Sanitary District, 2655 Grant Ave, San Lorenzo
Tuesday, January 31 10:30-1:30pm
MEETING NOTES**

In attendance: *Anne Morkill (US Fish and Wildlife Service, Chair), Donna Ball (Save The Bay), Arthur Feinstein (Citizens' Committee to Complete the Refuge), Matt Gerhart (State Coastal Conservancy), Steve Goldbeck (BCDC), Marc Holmes (The Bay Institute), Thomas Kendall (US Army Corps of Engineers), Tom Kimball (USGS, call in), Dean Kwansy (Natural Resources Conservation Service), Scott McFarlin (Wildlife Conservation Board) Chindi Peavey (San Mateo Mosquito and Vector Control District), Peter Perrine (Wildlife Conservation Board), Diane Ross –Leech (PG&E), Barbara Salzman (Marin Audubon Society), Korie Schaeffer (NOAA Fisheries), Renee Spenst (Ducks Unlimited), John Takekawa (Audubon California), Julian Wood (Point Blue Conservation Science)*
Guest: Eric Haas-Stapleton (Alameda Co Mosquito and Vector Control District)
SFBJV Staff: Beth Huning, Brenna Mahoney, Sandra Scoggin, Caroline Warner

1. Welcome and Introductions

Participants introduced themselves. Anne Morkill thanked The Oro Loma Sanitary District for generously providing the meeting space and for the field trip and tour of the horizontal levee following the meeting.

2. Coordinator's Report – Beth Huning, SFBJV

Beth highlighted a few updates:

- Drakes Estero - The restoration is wrapping up. The National Parks Service (NPS) has been removing 5 miles of plastic debris from the estuary bottom left by the Drakes' Bay oyster farm. The SFBJV helped the NPS develop a fundraising plan for the project and advocated with partners for funds to match an appropriations through the NPS Centennial Fund.
- Cullinan Ranch - The dredger for Richmond Harbor has constructed an offloader. The SFBJV hosted the annual meeting of Joint Venture coordinators, and on a site visit, they were able to board the offloader to see how it operates.
- The EPA hosted a monitoring workshop that was held on January 5th, 2017. Meeting notes will be sent out in the next few days. This workshop as a great opportunity for input on changes in monitoring and permitting.
- The Sonoma Land Trust (SLT) hosted a meeting in Santa Rosa focused on lower Sonoma Creek and prioritizing next projects for the SLT now that Sears Point is wrapping up.

This informative meeting discussed groundwater issues, salinity intrusion, and agricultural concerns. Matt Gerhart presented on the Baylands Goals, and Beth Huning shared the outcomes of both the Climate Adaptation Decision Support models and San Pablo Bay NWR climate adaptation Plans for the region. There might be a reinstatement of the North Bay Working Group of Land Managers.

- [2016 SFBJV Accomplishment Report](#) was submitted to Fish and Wildlife Service and identifies habitat and acreages accomplishments as well as matching funds that helps justify Congressional appropriations to the JV.

3. Chair's Report

Action: The meeting notes from the October 25, 2016 Management Board meeting were reviewed and approved.

4. SFBJV Implementation Plan Revision – Sandra Scoggin, SFBJV

Sandra updated the Management Board on how the Implementation Plan Revision process is going, provided an overview of the work plan, discussed the Project Charter, and presented the structure and composition of proposed Work Teams. The new Project Management Assistant, Brenna Mahoney, was introduced to the group.

Sandra presented the project schedule, including the writing and review processes. The primary writer, John Hart, has produced a draft of the introductory chapter which has gone through one round of review by SFBJV staff and is currently under revision. It is expected that John Hart will use background documents and completed plans to facilitate the writing of many sections of the revised plan.

The Project Charter, which had been reviewed and approved by the Implementation Team Chairs, was discussed by the Management Board. There were some concerns expressed about staff time for this project. Sandra, as the Project Manager, expected that time on the project will vary by week but expected it to be about 1/3 of her staff time. A discussion ensued on what drafts the Management Board will see and comment on and what the process will be if there are changes to proposed Work Team content.

Management Board members requested a few modifications be incorporated into the charter. They requested two opportunities to review the final content. These include: 1) the final draft chapters that have gone through the Implementation Plan Team review and that will allow for comments from the Management Board, 2) the opportunity to review the final document. Additionally, the Board requests review and approval to any major content changes from the approved Table of Contents.

Action: The Implementation Plan Revision Project Charter was approved.

Sandra next presented on the structure and composition of the proposed work teams. The Management Board discussed the need for clear and early communication within and between work teams. Sandra described how work teams will be base their work on already existing

information. They will update and revise drivers, goals, and strategies. The expectations of time commitment and content will be clearly laid out to work teams and chairs of work teams.

Currently the Habitats Work Team is one large group, but it is likely that this group will be split up into different habitat types. The Management Board discussed what these categories, which may be as simple as subtidal, intertidal, and uplands with one key goal being identifying any data gaps. There was a concern that riparian uplands category was included. Additional people discussed to be a part of the Habitats Work Team were Peter Baye, Sara Hutto, and representation from BLM, NPS, and the National Marine Sanctuary. The Management Board decided not to edit the work team lists at the meeting but will offer suggestions directly to Sandra.

Action: The Implementation Plan Team will discuss habitat groups, repopulate the proposed work team composition for all work teams and ask Management Board members to review names.

5. SFBJV Working Committee Reports

The committee reports were introduced in the context of the 2017 Work Plan.

Government Affairs Committee – Arthur Feinstein, Chair

Arthur began the committee report by informing the group that the Association of Joint Venture Management Boards will be meeting in Washington on February 27, 2017. This meeting will organize for congressional and administration visits and will provide a better sense of where the Joint Ventures will stand in the new administration.

Arthur Feinstein proposed that the SFBJV write a white paper detailing the state of knowledge of sea level rise and climate change processes and what the approach and priorities are for the SFBJV. The Management Board agreed on the following:

- The report should have clear objectives and specified time frame on approaches since SLR planning processes and projections are ever evolving.
- One goal of this white paper would be to reference the planning processes that are happening in the area including BCDC policies, Ocean Protection Council Sea Level Rise projections and recommendations (in April 2017, OPC will come out with new guidance based on new ice sheet melt projections), BAECC, CHARG, and others,
- It will discuss what is important for the SFBJV and partners to focus on recommend policy priorities in the next few years. This will enable SFBJV partners to better participate in these planning processes and offer the Government Affairs Committee/Policy Team recommendations to be considered for the Implementation Plan.

Arthur offered to establish and chair a committee to discuss, develop proposed content, and write a proposal for the white paper.

Steve Goldbeck mentioned that BCDC will be holding a series of workshops to consider sea level rise policies and encouraged participation of the JV partners in ideas for prioritizing

restoration and adaptation projects.

Action: Arthur Feinstein will convene a small work group to develop a scope of work for the white paper proposal and report back to the Management Board.

Peter Perrine reported that the Wildlife Conservation Board is increasing the number of voting members from 3 to 7. Information regarding appointment to these positions can be found on the Governor's webpage. SFBJV staff will distribute more information about this to the Management Board.

Science Steering Committee (SSC) – Renee Spenst, Chair

The Science Steering Committee did not meet last quarter but is planning its next meeting on February 16, 2017. Renee reported that Laura Valoppi has departed both the South Bay Salt Pond Project and the SSC, leaving a vacancy of leadership in the SSC Upland Transition Zone Working Committee. Cristina Grosso has agreed to fill the role. Renee provided an update on the efforts to produce a regional monitoring framework that Stuart Siegel is leading. She noted that the SSC is planning to evaluate sediment science priorities based on a summary of BCDC's sediment science and management workshop.

Outreach Committee – Caroline Warner, SFBJV Outreach Coordinator

The national Joint Venture Communications and Outreach team has produced a storymap on behalf of all JV's. It shows one project in each Joint Venture as represented on a map of the US. The tool will be available and distributed to the JV Coordinators in early February to share in DC and for other education efforts as a way to educate about the scope of the national JV program. This will be spotlighted in the late February SFBJV Bulletin and the link will be available upon request.

Caroline also presented the new video short on San Pablo Bay and encouraged the Management Board to share it on their social media outlets. A publishing guide with tweets and other posting ideas along with images for use can be found on the [SFBJV website](#). The video received a positive response from the Management Board. The next video short is almost complete and will feature the Redwood Creek project.

Conservation Delivery Committee – Marc Holmes, Chair

Note: an amendment to the original notes was made during the April 2017 Mgmt. Board meeting as follows:

In addition to referencing the written report in the Management Board packet, Marc focused the discussion on the importance using the new Project Tracker site to **mark progress in relation to the BEHGU goals report and the 2030 deadline.** ~~report progress of the SFBJV to policy makers and funders and to describe how projects are contributing to regional restoration.~~ Marc stressed that the SFBJV focus on priorities which will include challenging discussions regarding how produce the report and focus priorities with a limited budget and staff time

6. 2017 Work Plan – Beth Huning, SFBJV

Beth presented the draft 2017 work plan. She noted how staff had incorporated suggested changes to the format in response to recommendations made by Management Board members at the October 25, 2016 meeting. The new format identifies the primary SFBJV working committee associated with each of the goals that implement the 5-year strategic plan. A column to track accomplishments was also added. This will be populated and edited on a continuing basis throughout the year, with links updated to enable tracking of accomplishments. The Management Board requested access to the work plan, which is currently linked in the Board packet materials.

The Committee chairs each highlighted specific projects new to 2017 that were not previously presented at the October 25 meeting. These were presented in the context of budget implications as follows:

Conservation Delivery Committee – Marc Holmes

The Conservation Delivery Committee will continue to support SFBJV partners to achieve project goals (goal 1.1), and this goal will be enhanced by the new project tracking base. Marc stressed the need to focus and prioritize actions rather than being pulled in many different directions. As described above, Marc suggested that the SFBJV prepare an annual report that goes beyond project reporting and that aligns with major plan recommendations, such as BEHGU, to describe progress the SFBJV is making in a narrative way for public interest and for funding opportunities. The Management Board agreed that this report could potentially meld concepts from the proposed sea level rise white paper concept presented by Arthur Feinstein and that this report should be seen as a communications piece.

The Conservation Delivery Committee also prioritized the Implementation Plan revision.

In an updated to goal 1.6 Monitoring and Evaluation, Marc informed the group that Mike Vasey (NERR) has joined the Committee and brings specialty in sediment monitoring. Marc stressed that the SFBJV should consider its role in supporting this monitoring and how to draw public attention to sediment concerns.

Government Affairs Committee – Arthur Feinstein

Arthur Feinstein discussed his proposed sea level rise white paper and agreed to work with the Marc and the Conservation Delivery Committee to formulate a scope of work.

The 2017 committee work plan prioritizes outreach to new and relatively newly elected representatives and delegates. Beth Huning requested that Management Board members let know if any representatives are being engaged in projects, legislation, advocacy so that key messages can be coordinated. Donna Ball informed the group that Save The Bay has a communications piece aimed at Kamala Harris/

Science Steering Committee – Renee Spenst

Priorities for the SSC continue to be “net landscape change” and “species responses to JV conservation actions”. They also continuing to identify related to sediment and monitoring.

Transition zone planning and mudflat mapping are also priorities.

Midwinter waterfowl survey - John Takekawa has stepped up to facilitate the group working on the revision of the midwinter waterfowl survey.

Public Outreach Committee – Caroline Warner

Caroline agreed that creating an accomplishments report in some form as an annual report would be a good way to share the valuable information coming from our project database. She also discussed integration with the Government Affairs on who to target and which projects to include for possible tours in spring and/or fall. She noted that the 2017 fact sheet is nearly complete and will be available to SFBJV partners for use during DC visits and other venues targeting decision-makers. The video shorts will be completed on a continuing basis. She hopes to be able to secure funding for a video short each of the 6 SFBJV geographic regions. While the proposed budget includes some money, to keep the series going over time will need rely on partner support.

Action: Caroline will send out links to the completed Video Shorts as well as to the publishing guide on the [SFBJV website](#).

SFBJV Administration – Beth Huning

Beth thanked Point Blue Conservation Science for their continued support as the SFBJV fiscal agent and explained that the SFBJV will consider other fiscal agency options if the increasing overhead becomes a burden to the SFBJV.

Action: 1) JV Staff will add link to the Work Plan on the SFBJV website; 2) The Management Board approved adding the production of an annual report as described above to the work plan; 3) The Management Board approved the 2017 plan.

7. FY16 Budget Report and Proposed FY17 Budget – Beth Huning, Sandra Scoggin

Beth presented a review of the FY16 budget expenses and shared where accounts have or will soon be expended. She explained the large budget carry over in the context of those categories and the lack of expenditures to date on the Implementation Plan revision. Sandra explained the proposed 2017 budget, including a description of completed grants, carry over from FY16 to FY17, contracts, and expenses. A discussion lead by Marc Holmes and Arthur Feinstein revolved around the proposed sea level rise white paper identified in the discretionary account and the new request for an annual report. It was recommended that both papers be adopted and budget be available for both. It was suggested that the report budget be augmented with carryover funding pending a review of the scope of work. It was also requested that future budget presentations be more straightforward to interpret visually.

Action: The Management Board recommended the line item change to be a SFBJV annual report and approved the SFBJV Work Plan FY17 budget.

8. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned, and members joined the Oro Loma Sanitary District on a tour of the horizontal levee.