John Bourgeois, Executive Project Manager
South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project
~1850
85% of Tidal Wetlands have been lost

~2000
Flood Risk and Sea Level Rise – South Bay

Economic Impact, San Francisco Bay Area
150+ completed projects

44,000+ acres Protected

12,000+ acres Restored

10,000+ acres Enhanced
- $12/year parcel tax
- $500 million over 20 years
- Passed with >70% approval
Common Policy Conflicts
“Sand In The Gears”
Type Conversion
Salt Ponds into Salt Marshes

= **No Change** in Amount of “Waters”
Public Access
~7.5 million people
Bay Fill
“horizontal levee”
San Francisco Bay Today
Uncertainty
Key uncertainties

- Wildlife use of changing habitats
- Habitat evolution and sediment dynamics
- Mercury methylation
- Water quality
- Invasive species
- Public access
- Infrastructure support
- Sea level rise and climate change
SEA LEVEL rise FOR CALIFORNIA

you are here

HIGH

PROJECTION

LOW

0 ft 2000 2020 2040 2060 2080 2100

5 ft

2.5 ft
Dumbarton Bridge concentration

Mid-depth SSC at Dumbarton Bridge, Water year median and interquartile range, 1993-2016

* 2012-2013 data gap due to bridge construction
Many Others...

- Sea Level Rise
- Single Species Management
- Monitoring Requirements
- Level of Design Completion
- Deference Between Agencies
- Short-term Impacts vs. Long-term Benefits
Federal and State Regulatory Agencies

[Logos of various federal and state regulatory agencies]
Permit Coordination Efforts

BAY RESTORATION REGULATORY INTEGRATION TEAM

• Dedicated regulatory agency staff
• Meet at Corps 2-3 days week
• Coordinated review of project information
• Pre-application meetings w/project sponsors
• Site visits as team
• Quarterly public meetings
• Identify and elevate difficult issues to Policy & Management Team
POLICY & MANAGEMENT TEAM

- Review permitting issues raised by BRRIT that require policy shifts or upper management involvement.
- Resolve long-standing “Sand in the Gears” policy issues faced by regulator agencies.
- Manage and execute inter-agency agreements, and billing for BRRIT staff.
RESOURCES

• Approximately $1.25m/year
• Dedicated regulatory staff people on BRRIT from NOAA, USFWS, BCDC, RWQCB, USACE, DFW.
• Policy and Management Team funded by regulatory agencies.
• Seeking additional funding partners: Santa Clara Valley Water District, State Coastal Conservancy, East Bay Regional Park District, MTC, Others?
NEXT STEPS

• SF Bay Restoration Authority Board: June 1, 2018
• Secure Matching Funds
• Enter into inter-agency agreements with regulatory agencies
• Assemble BRRIT staff and set up offices at Corps
• Begin processing projects/applications that have been vetted by funders
• Develop joint pre-application and application templates
• Develop “Permit and Policy Improvement List”
• 6 month assessment
John Bourgeois
California State Coastal Conservancy

Now With:
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www.southbayrestoration.org
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Step 1: Pre-Application

- Issues
  - Step 2: Pre-Application
    - Complete
      - Permit
    - Incomplete
      - Step 3: Application
        - All Good!
Phases of Project Implementation

Applied Research
- Data Collection
- Modelling Tools

Initial Planning
- Feasibility Studies
- Regional Planning
- Conceptual Planning

Project Planning
- Cost:Benefit Analyses
- Preliminary Design
- Environmental Impact Analysis
- Permitting
- Final Design/Engineering

Construction
- Bid/Contract
- Construction
- Compliance Monitoring

Monitoring
- Feeds into adaptive management and future projects...
USE OF MEASURE AA FUNDS

• Measure AA funds must be used for: “supporting the programs and priorities and other purposes set forth in this measure.”

• BRRIT would support Measure AA programs by reducing delays and project costs associated with obtaining permits for projects that qualify for Measure AA grants.

• Measure AA includes a 5% limit on general government purposes, such as staff services to manage Authority, consultants to assist with tax levy, and payments to counties to levy tax.

• The BRRIT would contribute to the permitting of specific projects and support the programs in Measure AA.

• The BRRIT can be funded as a project expenditure.
Project Delays

- Restoration practitioners have multiple examples of permitting delays, which then impact grant deadlines, derail partnerships, impact bidding and contracting, and ultimately delay benefits for SF Bay.

- In past month, two different Bay restoration projects at the Coastal Conservancy have faced regulatory delays that could have delayed implementation by one year due to construction windows.
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Partnerships

South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project
Restoring the Wild Heart of the South Bay

Coastal Conservancy
East Bay Regional Park District
USGS
Flood Control & Water Conservation District
Water Boards
Cargill
bcdc
NOAA
San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory
The Bay Institute
San Francisco Bay Joint Venture
Center for Collaborative Policy
SAVE THE BAY
Point Blue
UC Berkeley
USF
San Jose State University
WCB
Ducks Unlimited