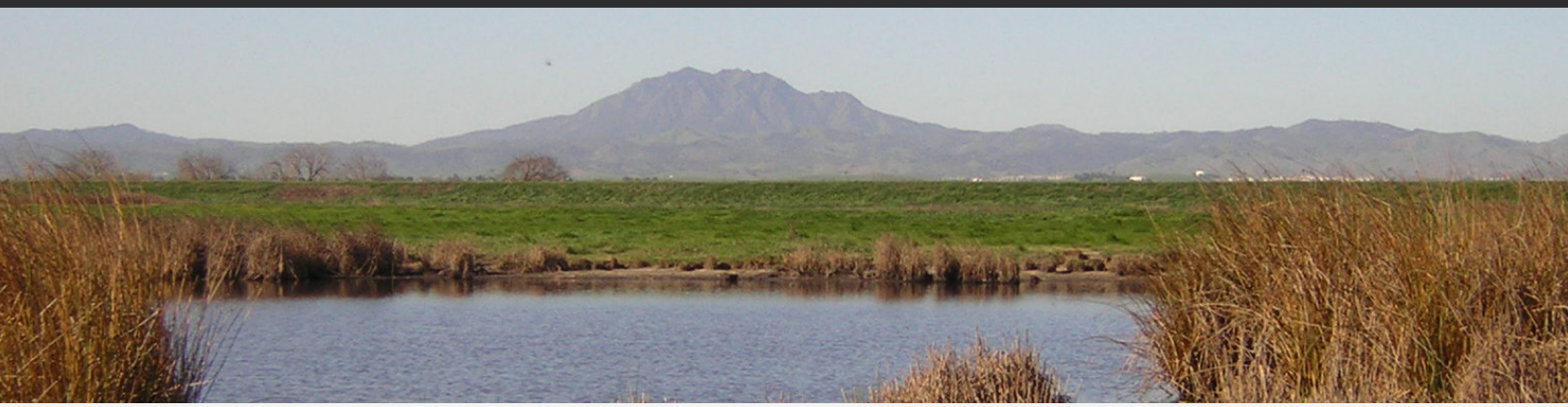


DUTCH SLOUGH TIDAL MARSH RESTORATION PROJECT

Oakley, CA

TIDAL/SUBTIDAL, RIPARIAN FOREST AND MANAGED MARSH

The Dutch Slough Tidal Marsh Restoration Project will restore natural Delta habitats to a 1,187-acre site in the western Delta city of Oakley. The site, which was formerly slated for urban development, will soon become critically needed habitat for native fish and wildlife species. The project's location in the western Delta offers the opportunity, soil types, and lack of subsidence to create a large area of tidal marsh and complex intertidal channels favored by native Delta species. Native grasslands, and riparian forests will be restored in the upland portions of the site. Tidal habitats are those that were historically prominent in the Delta, and their restoration is considered a critical action to increase the number of native sensitive species and improve the general ecological health of the Delta.

The project site consists of three leveed parcels which will be restored to a mosaic of tidal marsh, riparian woodland, open water, managed marsh, and upland habitats. Construction will consist of earthmoving to create the proper elevations for gradually sloping marsh plain, and other project features such as channel berms, and the rehabilitation of existing levees and construction of new flood control levees. The project is being implemented by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) Delta Levees Program as part of its legislative mandate to provide 'net habitat improvement' in the Delta. In addition to habitat restoration, the project will provide recreation and educational opportunities to benefit residents of the Delta, and adaptive management components to inform future Delta restorations.

RESTORATION GOALS / TARGET

Restoration of Delta habitats, primarily tidal marsh and tidal channels, as well as riparian woodland, subtidal open water, managed marsh, and uplands. The project plans to restore the following:

- 560 acres of tidal marsh
- 26 acres of riparian forest
- 48 acres of managed marsh
- 100 acres of subtidal open water

LOCATION AND LANDOWNER

The Dutch Slough site is located in the City of Oakley, eastern Contra Costa County, in the western Delta. The site encompasses 1,187 acres, and is bound by Dutch Slough on the north, Marsh Creek on the west, the Contra Costa Canal on the south, and Jersey Island Road on the east. The site is comprised of three parcels, partially separated by Emerson Slough and Little Dutch Slough. DWR owns all three parcels.

FUNDING

- Cost Estimate $63.35M

- Property Acquisition:
  Funded by CALFED Ecosystem Restoration Program and State Coastal Conservancy
- Planning and Design:
  Funded by DWR and State Coastal Conservancy
- Construction: Estimated at $32.35M:
  Funded by DWR, State Coastal Conservancy, California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), US Environmental Protection Agency, and US Fish and Wildlife Service
- Ongoing Maintenance and Monitoring:
  Funded by DWR

TIMELINE

- Property Acquisition – beginning 2003
- Planning, Design and Permitting – 2006
- Construction on parcels #1 and #2 – 2017-2018
- Revegetation of parcels #1 and #2 – 2018-2019
- Breach parcels #1 and #2 – 2020
- Construction timeline for parcel #3 is undetermined

PERMITTING

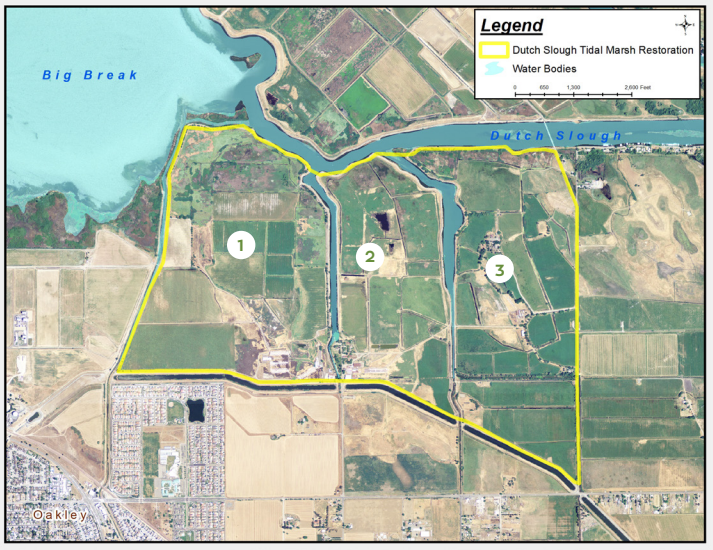
- All necessary permits obtained

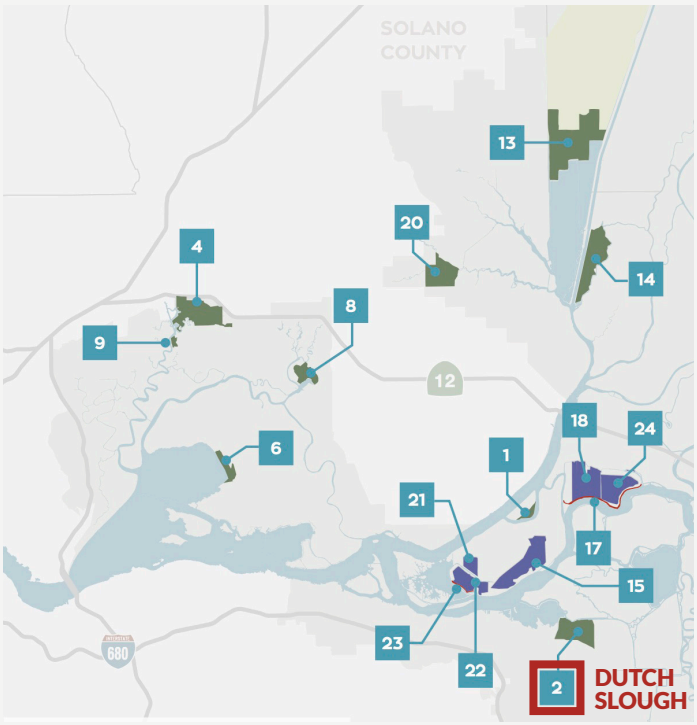
- Finalizing Incidental Take Permit with CDFW
- CEQA compliance – Complete

- The Final Supplemental EIR was certified in September 2014

PROJECT PROPONENT

- DWR Project Manager
  Patty Finfrock
  Patricia.Finfrock@water.ca.gov
  (916) 651-0851





ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- http://water.ca.gov/floodsafe/fessro/environmental/dee/dutchslough/index.cfm