



CITIZENS COMMITTEE TO COMPLETE THE REFUGE

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NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY, JANUARY 20, 2011, 7:30 P.M.

Happy New Year! January is the time for our Annual Meeting , including election of Board members.

The Cargill Redwood City development proposal has entered the initial stages of public environmental review. Under the California Environmental Quality Act, review of the proposal by interested members of the public is encouraged.

The portended impacts of the project are so far-reaching, and so potentially harmful , that you may want to go to the web site to identify the impacts that seem vital to you.

<http://www.redwoodcity.org/phed/planning/saltworks/>

It's hard to choose the most damaging aspects of the development;: 1,000 acres of Bay fill, fresh water supplies and waste water treatment for an additional 25 to 30,000 people, building within the "100 year" flood plain, loss of important wildlife habitat, the horrendous impacts on traffic, and on and on and on.

This is your chance to be heard on this highly controversial attack on the Bay. Comments must be received by February 28, 2011. They may be mailed, emailed or faxed to:

Redwood City Planning, Housing and Economic Development Department

Attn: Blake Lyon, Senior Planner,

Saltworks Project Scoping Comments

1017 Middlefield Road

Redwood City, CA 94063.

Fax: (650) 780-0128

email: BLyon@redwoodcity.org.

The Ravenswood Working Group of the South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project will meet on Thursday, February 10 from 1 to 4 pm. at the Menlo Park Library on 800 Alma Street

The Santa Clara Valley Water District is 'terminating for convenience' its 2003 contract with Environmental Science Associates (ESA) to develop an environmental analysis of a draft Settlement Agreement and Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) for the Fisheries Aquatic Habitat Collaborative Effort (FAHCE), as the contract has expired. The suspension of this contract gives us grave concerns about management of critical stream flows essential for the health and survival of anadromous fishes in the creeks of Santa Clara Valley.

The Master Plan for the largest expanse of open acreage along the San Jose shoreline is in the final public phase before approval. The site includes lands that should be in the Refuge and/or maintained for habitat values. Public comment, due by January 30th, is sought at workshops at five different locations, January 19th to 29th, or in written form.

Visit www.rebuildtheplant.org for more details or contact Eileen McLaughlin at 408-257-7599 or wildlifestewards@aol.com.

See you the 20th,

Florence LaRiviere

A501(c)(3) Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation

CCCR Minutes for November 2010-

Attendees: Matt Leddy, Gail Raaabe, Linda and Virgil Patterson, Evelyn Cormier, Ruth Vose, Arthur Feinstein, Doris Dahlgren, Ralph Nobles, Florence LaRiviere, Margaret Lewis, Carin High

Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP): Winnie Chan gave a presentation on management plans for a 15-year time scale. (skimmers and least terns will have forged a territorial agreement, harbor seals will form a majority on the Newark City Council, and salt marsh harvest mice will have patented a new use for dodder). Educational outreach will include information posted on the FWS web site. Winnie is accepting additional comments.

NEWSNOTES

Newsletter articles are due like right now! If you are late Carin will camp on your doorstep...

Save Wetlands in Mayhews fundraising is progressing well...HR4347 hearing this month (November) on the Bison Range including Bureau of Indian Affairs, federal wildlife refuges and national parks...Salt Pond restoration has cut off access to the harbor seal haulout making it difficult for Norton Bell to survey the little flippers...Negative effects from the oil spill still impacting gulf coast...Update on the proposed WalMart in Suisun City Discussion on Elsie Gridley Mitigation Bank...Don't look for a home equity loan here...The Coastal Conservancy has a new Project manager, John Bourgeois...Public meetings on BCDC 1-08 Plan Amendment on climate change are continuing...Proposal for a new Southern Crossing. This project has been around since the age of dinosaurs...Comment period for spotted owls has been extended to Dec 15. Several owls have already submitted their comments...Clean Water Network update... Skaggs Island transfer to Fish and Wildlife Service before end of the year.

GROUP REPORTS

Baylands Conservation Committee Emily trying to prevent construction of an anaerobic digester on city parkland.

Friendly Charleston Slough: Meeting to discuss the history of the slough and restoration problems. Hoping to find a friendly solution.

Fremont: Patterson Ranch project approved by the city. Discussion on Cargill and the City of Fremont. School district lacking room for influx of students from proposed Ardenwood development.

Save Our South Bay Wetlands: Update on San Jose shoreline project, Coyote Creek floodplain, burrowing owl habitat, business and industrial parks, connections to Dixon Landing. The CEQA process starts Spring of 2011.

Friendly Redwood City: CEQA process started for Saltworks. Discussion on proposed water source, fill, phases of proposed development and more. Recreational waterways planned to use polluted water with a ban on human contact! Sounds like a great recreational use to me.

Citizens for Alameda's Last Marshland: Update by the famous Old Geezer (affectionate term for Frank Delfino) on cleanup at Alameda. The Return of the White Clover. New mayor in San Leandro. Bob Doyle to be new General Manager of the East Bay Regional Park District.

Save Wetlands in Mayhews: After passage of Newark's utility tax we are waiting to see what services are restored in the city. Mayor is still pushing for a golf course in Area 4.

No meeting in December. We have to go clean our rooms or Santa won't bring us anything.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret