

Decker Island Tidal Habitat Restoration

Project Description: DWR's Fish Restoration Program (FRP) acquired approximately 140 acres on Decker Island for the purpose of tidal wetland restoration. The project will involve breaching the perimeter levee to restore tidal hydrology to the site. The project consists of restoration planning, modeling, design, permitting, construction, and monitoring. Preliminary planning, conceptual design, baseline data collection (e.g. **topography** and bathymetry), and hydrodynamic modeling were conducted in 2015. In 2016, FRP will continue with restoration planning and environmental compliance documentation preparation.

Type of Project: Tidal Wetland

Restoration Targets: Estimated or approved acreage counting toward EcoRestore acreage goal totals: 140

While we do not yet have accurate site elevations or a finalized project design, preliminary exploration suggests restoration of Decker Island would create or enhance about 105 acres of tidal wetland habitat that would count towards the 8,000 acre target required by the USFWS Delta Smelt Biop, and would also apply towards the NMFS Salmonid BiOp. About 40 acres of upland habitat on the property could be enhanced or restored as seasonal wetland or riparian habitat types, which may also count towards EcoRestore acreage goals.

Location and Landowner: The site is located in Solano County on the eastern side of Decker Island, along Horseshoe Bend. DWR became land owner in 2015.

Funding: All SWP funded

Permitting:

USACE Sect. 404 (Winter 2017) & Sect. 408, including Section 7 and Section 106 (Spring 2016) consultation

CVFPB Encroachment Permit, including USACE Section 408 review (must prepare NEPA document for this determination)

CVRWQCB: 401 and SWPPP

SLC: NOPU

CDFW: 1600, and potentially an ITP

Delta Reform Act Consistency Determination –Winter 2017

SWQCB: Aquatic Weed Control Permit, General Waste Discharge Requirements

ESA/CESA – Summer 2016

CEQA/NEPA compliance status: Preparing CEQA Initial Study to determine if MND is appropriate CEQA document (preliminary considerations are showing this is likely). NEPA document will likely be an Environmental Assessment. Spring 2016

Estimated Timeline:

May 2016: Restoration Plan complete

May 2016: Draft CEQA document filed at State Clearinghouse and permit applications submitted

November 2016: Permits obtained

June 2017: Construction specifications complete November 2017: Construction complete

Project Proponent: Department of Water Resources, Fish Restoration Program

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