



PROSPECT ISLAND TIDAL HABITAT RESTORATION PROJECT

Solano County

TIDAL WETLAND & SUB-TIDAL HABITAT

Historically, the Prospect Island site was tidal marshland, with Prospect Slough to the west and north, and Miner Slough to the east and south. Levees were constructed during the late 19th century to convert the land for agricultural uses. Prospect Island is part of the Yolo Bypass floodplain; however construction of the Deep Water Ship Channel (DWSC) in the 1960s isolated Prospect Island from the main reach of the Bypass.

The proposed project would restore tidal action to the interior of Prospect Island, partially fulfilling the 8,000-acre tidal habitat restoration obligations contained within the Reasonable and Prudent Alternative (RPA) 4 of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Delta Smelt Biological Opinion for long-term coordinated operations of the State Water Project (SWP) and the federal Central Valley Project (CVP). Because restoration of tidal habitat would provide access for salmonid rearing at Prospect Island, the project would also be consistent with RPA 1.6.1 of the 2009 National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Salmonid Biological Opinion for SWP/CVP. The project would result in a suite of overarching long-term ecosystem benefits, including enhancement of primary productivity and food availability for fisheries in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (Delta); an increase in the quantity and quality of salmonid rearing habitat and habitat for other listed species; enhancement of water quality, recreation and carbon sequestration in tidal marshes; promotion of habitat resiliency; and promotion of habitat conditions that support native species. Current design of the project includes breaching the external Miner Slough levee and removing a portion of the internal cross levee to open the site to daily tidal inundation. The Department of Water Resources (DWR) is the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Lead Agency for this project.

RESTORATION GOALS / TARGET

- Between 1,000 and 1,500 acres of tidal and sub-tidal restoration
- Specific project objectives:
 - ▶ Enhance productivity and food availability for Delta Smelt and other native fishes
 - ▶ Increase salmonid rearing habitat

- ▶ Increase habitats to support other listed species
- ▶ Provide ecosystem benefits including water quality enhancement, recreation, and carbon sequestration
- ▶ Promote future habitat resiliency to threats such as land use conversions, climate change, sea level rise, and invasive species
- ▶ Avoid establishment or spread of exotic invasive species

LOCATION AND LANDOWNER

Prospect Island is a 1,600-acre property located in southeast Solano County, in the northwestern part of the Delta. The site is bound on the east by Miner Slough, on the west by the DWSC, on the south by the confluence of the DWSC and Miner Slough, and on the north by an east-west levee that runs from Arrowhead Harbor Marina to the DWSC. It is located just east of the naturally restored 4,500-acre Liberty Island.

Both the northern, 1,300-acre portion and the southern, 300-acre portion of Prospect Island are owned by DWR.

FUNDING

Fully funded by the SWP Contractors for all phases of the effort

ESTIMATED TIMELINE

- ▶ CEQA (final): Mid-2017
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- ▶ Permitting completed: Late 2017
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- ▶ Construction design completed: Late 2017
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- ▶ Site preparation: Early 2018
- ▶ Begin construction: Mid-2018
- ▶ Construction complete: 2020

PERMITTING

- US Army Corps of Engineers:
 - ▶ Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 404/River Harbors Act Section 10
- NMFS:
 - ▶ Endangered Species Act Section 7
- USFWS:
 - ▶ Endangered Species Act Section 7
- CA Department of Fish and Wildlife:
 - ▶ Section 1602 Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement
 - ▶ Incidental Take Permit 2081
- California State Historic Preservation Office:
 - ▶ Letter of concurrence with USACE via the National Historic Preservation Act Section 106
- Central Valley Flood Protection Board:
 - ▶ Title 23 CCR Division Encroachment Permit
- Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board:
 - ▶ CWA Section 401 Water Quality Certification
 - ▶ Section 402 National Pollution Discharge Elimination System
 - ▶ Porter Cologne Water Quality Control Act Waste Discharge Requirement
- California State Lands Commission (CSLC):
 - ▶ State Lands Lease Amendment CSLC approval
- Solano County:
 - ▶ DWR would apply for all legally applicable local permits from Solano County

PROJECT PROPONENT

- ▶ Department of Water Resources
Division of Environmental Services, Fish Restoration Program
Dan Riordan, Chief
dan.riordan@water.ca.gov
(916) 376-9738

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- ▶ DWR website:
http://www.water.ca.gov/environmentalservices/frpa_prospect_restoration.cfm

