



CITIZENS COMMITTEE TO COMPLETE THE REFUGE

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ENDORSERS

Acterra
Baylands Conservation Committee
California Hawking Club, Inc.
California Waterfowl Association
California Wildlife Federation
Citizens for Alameda's Last Marshlands
Citizens for Open Space in Alvarado
Friends of Foster City
Save our South Bay Wetlands
Save Wetlands in Mayhews
Whistling Winds/Pintail Duck Clubs
Committee for Green Foothills
Communities for a Better Environment
Defenders of Wildlife
East Bay Green Alliance
Federation of Fly Fishers
Friends of Charleston Slough
Friends of Redwood City
Golden Gate Audubon Society
Green Belt Alliance
League of Women Voters of
the Eden Area
League of Women Voters of
the Fremont Area
League of Women Voters of
Palo Alto
League of Women Voters of
South San Mateo County
Mission Creek Conservancy
Loma Prieta Chapter, Sierra Club
Madrone Audubon Society
Marin Audubon Society
Mission Creek Conservancy
Mono Lake Committee
Mount Diablo Audubon Society
Napa-Solano Audubon Society
Native Plant Society, Santa
Clara Valley Chapter
Ohlone Audubon Society
Planning and Conservation League
San Francisco Chapter, Sierra Club
Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society
Save San Francisco Bay Association
Sequoia Audubon Society
Sportsmen for Equal Access
Trout Unlimited
United Anglers of California
Urban Creeks Council

NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY MAY 21, 2009 7:30 P.M. the home of Dean and Margaret Lewis, 36102 Spruce Street, Newark, (510) 792-8291.

Special thanks to Margaret and Dean Lewis for making us welcome at their home once again.

Plans are underway to establish a new Fish and Wildlife Service group in our region, to be named the Bay Delta Field Office. We are requesting a meeting with Regional Director Lohofener to talk about the structure of this move and its impact on oversight of our South Bay species.

Remember our distress over the planned golf course on Torroges Creek in Fremont? That's the project that would scoop the tops off hills, dump the dirt into the creek, build a miniature Niagara Falls, all for a championship golf course. Well, *The Argus* quotes developer James Tong as saying: 'It's not going to happen because the golf industry went down the tubes...No bank will loan anything.'

Not only that, the Wilder project in Orinda has been set aside for now. This multi-use project, planned on 1,600 beautiful acres in Gateway Valley has been placed in receivership as a result of a lawsuit filed by the loan agent.

However...

The largest project in fifty years reared its head this week. Cargill/DMB has displayed grandiose plans for its 1,433 acres of crystallizers and salt ponds on West Point Slough in Redwood City. Interestingly enough, Friends of Redwood City at the same time delivered to all local residences a strikingly beautiful and effective brochure on the wonderful possibilities of restoration of natural habitat on this site.

Compare the specter of 12,000 houses subject to sea level rise, questionable sources of water, sewage disposal problems, and transportation nightmares, to the opportunity of marsh restoration, flood control, water purification, the return of wildlife species, and a hedge against sea level rise. The battle lines are drawn.

My special thanks to those of you who prepared excellent grant requests on my behalf. Let's look at opportunities next year.

See you the 21st.

Florence LaRiviere

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CCCR Minutes, April 16, 2009

Attendees: Evelyn Cormier, Linda Patterson, Eileen McLaughlin, Arthur Feinstein, Ruth Vose, Libby Lucas, Margaret Lewis, Carin High, Wayne Miller, Florence LaRiviere

Like I sorta remember what happened at the meeting; that could be a good thing or a bad thing.

Correction to March minutes: Audubon wants the BART area mowed and not disked.

Alameda not-yet-a-Refuge: Report on latest back and forth between the Navy, FWS and the maker of Ouija boards to determine the fate of the proposed Alameda Refuge. Meanwhile, least terns are ready to set up housekeeping for the 2009 nesting season.

News Notes: We do not know who purchased the small Newark parcel near the head of Newark Slough. Alex McInturff is walking from the Bay Area to Yosemite retracing John Muir's footsteps. He began the walk April 6 and expects to complete the trip in about 32 days. Discussion on ESA status for species letters to Interior Secretary Salazar is asking him to reverse decisions made by the Bush administration. Secretary Salazar on a tour including west coast destinations to discuss off-shore energy exploration.

Carin is working on the poster contest; posters to be displayed at Coyote Hills visitor center in mid May.

She is hoping for a large turnout. Waiting to hear preliminary results from the Purpose Prize. PEER and the Blue Goose Alliance have filed suit against the Annual Funding Agreement at the National Bison Range. Trial to begin in Oakland on the Headwaters agreement.

Friends of Charleston Slough: Still no vegetation after all these years. Should we have a pickleweed planting party?

Citizens for Alameda's Last Marshland: The Alameda NWR situation was discussed. Welcome Home party planned for least terns.

Fremont: Fremont is updating its general plan. Do you think they would like to take over Newark?

Patterson Ranch (sounds like a new salad dressing). EIR due out at the end of April. End of April in what year?

Friends of Redwood City: Working on a wetlands brochure.

Save Wetlands in Mayhews: Gosh, I can't remember what I reported. Probably due to brain damage from having the flu. Still waiting for the draft EIR on Areas 3 and 4. Want to guess what year it will appear?

Baylands Conservation Committee: Emily still monitoring composting station in Palo Alto. She needs a new hobby.

Save our South Bay Wetlands: No draft EIR on Newby Island yet. Smaller satellite sewage treatment plants may be in the future. Newspaper article about plans for ferry service and enhanced port in Alviso. Want to guess what year?

Respectfully,

Margaret