

ISP Coordination Efforts

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Talking Points

A. Initiate and maintain contact with landowners

The ISP has worked extensively with regional landowners to develop Site Specific Control Plans, conduct seasonal workshops, identify issues associated with proposed control work, address comments for the Draft EIR/S, survey infested properties Estuary-wide, assure permitting compliance, identify matching funding or resources, develop safety, efficacy, and QA/QC protocols, support genetic research activities, collaborate on conference presentations, and many other *Spartina*-related activities. The relationships thus cultivated will serve to further the goals of the *Spartina* project, namely to reach out Estuary-wide to foster and coordinate a collaborative atmosphere toward the goal of eradicating non-native *Spartina* Species from the Estuary, as well as participating in an facilitating regional efforts to restore native wetland habitat.

All landowner contacts have been entered in to a database for reference and future outreach efforts. The ISP will continually update and expand this database as new contacts with regional landowners are cultivated. The scope of the program will eventually involve extensive education of and partnership with individual private landowners as part of an effort to control *Spartina* infestations in areas of numerous, small, concentrated residential parcels. The continued development and maintenance of a landowner contacts database will be essential to the success of this portion of the ISP's outreach efforts.

B. Identify demo sites and site selection processes

In 2003 the ISP identified 16 sites to include as potential pilot sites for control in the 2004 Control Season based on a detailed matrix of weighted criteria and involving extensive input from knowledgeable land managers in the Estuary. From this initial site list, 12 sites and Complexes (geographic areas that lend themselves to being included in a single site plan approach) were developed by the ISP for inclusion into the 2004 suite of Site Specific plans. The demo site selection process involved several stakeholder meetings to receive input on priorities, focus and integration into Estuary-wide restoration efforts already underway or in planning.

The attached matrix was developed to identify selection criteria for the proposed sites. Each criterion was given a weighted value in order to parse out those sites most appropriate for control. Criteria included relative size of invasion, species eradication feasibility, site eradication feasibility, outlier population, presence of endangered species,

adjacent habitat susceptibility to invasion and associated risk, and landowner partnerships among others.

C. Identify site partners and establish contracts.

Following the completion of 12 Site Specific Plans for Spartina control Estuary-wide, the ISP in conjunction with the California Coastal Conservancy developed contracts for the 7 landowning agencies or groups that would be responsible for overseeing of completing the work on the various sites. The contracts were developed to enable funds for work to flow easily to those groups most able to accomplish the work according to the standards and practices identified in the FEIS/R. For the 2004 Control Season, over 205 acres of Spartina infested lands are set to be treated, using \$186,000 in funds. This represents roughly 1/8 of the current total infestation of the Estuary.

These groups are: the East Bay Regional Parks District, Friends of Corte Madera Creek, Marin Conservation Corps, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, the City of Palo Alto, California State Parks, and the County of Alameda Public Works Flood Control District.

In addition to these partners who will be receiving funds for work within the 2004 control season, there are other Estuary-wide groups and agencies who will be working with the ISP in the future. These groups will ostensibly fit into the framework of planning, permitting, contracting, and implementation developed by the ISP for the initial suite of partners in 2004. Several meetings and workshops were held by the ISP during 2003 to organize and update current and potential partners on ISP requirements.

Some of the participants were: U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Don Edwards National Wildlife Refuge, Point Reyes National Seashore, San Mateo Mosquito Abatement District, U.S. Department of Agriculture-Agricultural Research Station, City of Palo Alto, Alameda Flood Control District, Marin County Open Space, CalTrans, California Department of Fish & Game, Marin County Department of Public Works, Alameda County Department of Agriculture, Contra Costa County Mosquito and Vector Control District, Napa County Mosquito and Vector Control District, City of Alameda, Santa Clara Valley Water District, California State Parks, LSA Associates Inc., New Dimensions + , Marin Conservation Corps, Port of San Francisco, Golden Gate Audubon Society, Aquatic Outreach Institute, San Francisco Estuary Institute, Audubon Canyon Ranch, Aquatic Environments Inc., Save the Bay, Tetra Tech Inc., and others.