

News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 22, 2013

Contact: Vicky Waters
Vicky.Waters@parks.ca.gov
916-653-5115

Agencies Announce Yosemite Slough Mudflat Clean Up *Public meeting of restoration project to be held on Wednesday*

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif. (Aug. 22, 2013).—This week, members of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the California Department of Parks and Recreation (State Parks), and the California State Parks Foundation discussed the proposed Yosemite Slough mudflat clean up, which is part of the Slough's restoration project.

This is an important project for State Parks, as the Yosemite Slough is within the Candlestick Point Recreation Area.

"We are very pleased with the progression of the restoration of the Yosemite Slough, as well as the cooperation of federal, state and local agencies to ensure this wetland is restored and improved for the citizens of the City of San Francisco," said Gary Smith, Project Manager of the Yosemite Slough Restoration Project for California State Parks.

The restoration of Yosemite Slough will create the largest contiguous wetland area in the County of San Francisco. The project will help restore essential wildlife habitat, improve water quality, and prevent erosion along the shoreline of the City of San Francisco—an area of the bay where tidal wetlands have been most impacted and suffered the greatest loss due to urbanization. Subsequent phases will restore wetlands on the south side of Yosemite Slough and add capital improvements. Design work on the south side has begun, and complete construction drawings are expected to be complete in the fall.

The first phase of the restoration project, the restoration of seven acres along the north shore of Yosemite Slough, broke ground in June 2011 and was completed in June of 2012, one year ahead of schedule.

This is a multi-agency, multi-faceted project which involves a coordinated effort. There is an on-going comment period. The next public meeting will take place next Wednesday August 21, 2013 at the Bret Harte Elementary School in San Francisco from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Comments on the proposed plan are due to EPA by September 6, 2013.

The Yosemite Slough restoration plan was developed in accordance to the General Plan. It offers the most comprehensive recreational, educational and clean up opportunities for this area.

The Candlestick Point State Recreation Area is located in the southeast part of San Francisco. The state purchased this project area, including Yosemite Slough, because it recognized the historical nature of the tidal marshes and mudflats.

The two-phase restoration of Yosemite Slough will create the largest contiguous wetland area in the County of San Francisco. The project will help restore essential wildlife habitat, improve water quality, and prevent erosion along the shoreline of the City of San Francisco—an area of the bay where tidal wetlands have been most impacted and suffered the greatest loss due to urbanization.

For more information, [view the General Plan](#).

###