

Public Meeting – December 5, 2017 Cleanup of Contaminated Sediment at San Diego Bay National Wildlife Refuge

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and San Diego Water Board want you to know about the proposed cleanup of three contaminated sediment sites in south San Diego Bay adjacent to residential/ Environmental Justice neighborhoods in National City and Chula Vista. To learn more, you are **invited to a public meeting on December 5, 2017** in National City. You are also invited to review and comment on the investigative and cleanup reports for each site. The **comment period has been extended until December 15, 2017**.

Located within the San Diego Bay National Wildlife Refuge, and home to a number of endangered and threatened plants and animals, the three proposed cleanup sites are:

- 1) **Sweetwater Marsh / Paradise Marsh / Connector Marsh**
- 2) **Gunpowder Point**
- 3) **F & G Street Marsh**

Hazardous substances have been found in the sediment at each of these sites; the result of intensive waste disposal and industrial activities conducted there during late the 1800s to mid-1900s. The ultimate goal of the proposed cleanup is to protect human and ecological health by removing the contaminated sediment and to restore each site to functional coastal wetland or upland habitat to the extent possible.

Because the cleanup process will result in the temporary disturbance of sediment at these sites and possible increased exposure to sediment contaminants, you are encouraged to become informed and comment on the proposed cleanup. The USFWS also encourages you to attend one of two Public Meetings it will conduct on December 5, at the Casa de Salud Youth Center at 1408 Harding Avenue in National City. The first meeting will be from 1-4 PM and the second from 6-9 PM. Interested parties may attend either meeting as they are the same, and, a Spanish translator will be available. For more information, contact Lisa Cox, Public Information Officer at (619) 476-9150 X 106 or Lisa_Cox@fws.gov or visit https://www.fws.gov/refuge/san_diego_bay/what_we_do/resource_management/Sweetwater_Marsh_Restoration.html. Surrounded by urban development, the San Diego Bay National Wildlife Refuge System was established in 1988 to protect threatened and endangered species and their habitats.



Paradise/Sweetwater Marsh

(Looking north from Sweetwater Flood Control Channel - USFWS photo)



Sweetwater/Connector Marsh

(Looking south from Sweetwater Flood Control Channel - USFWS photo)