



Item 13

**Morro Bay National Estuary Program
1997 Consent Decree Implementation Fund**

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Morro Bay National Estuary Program



What is the Morro Bay National Estuary Program?

- » Non-regulatory, not-for-profit program
- » Bring citizens, government, non-profits, and landowners together to protect and restore Morro Bay
- » Clean Water Act Section 320 - Network of 28 national estuary programs
- » Established in 1995
- » Technical and financial assistance from the USEPA

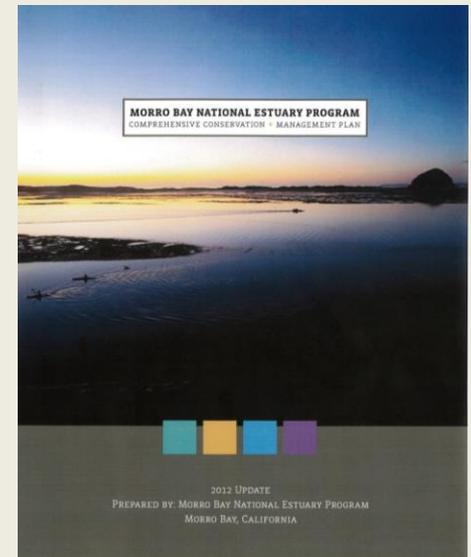
Estuaries of “National Significance”





National Estuary Programs

- » Assess trends in water quality, natural resources, and uses of the estuary
- » Collect data to identify the causes of environmental problems
- » Develop comprehensive management plan with corrective actions to restore water quality & wildlife populations in the estuary and to protect designated uses of estuary
- » Develop plan for coordinated implementation by state, federal, and local agencies
- » Monitor effectiveness of actions taken

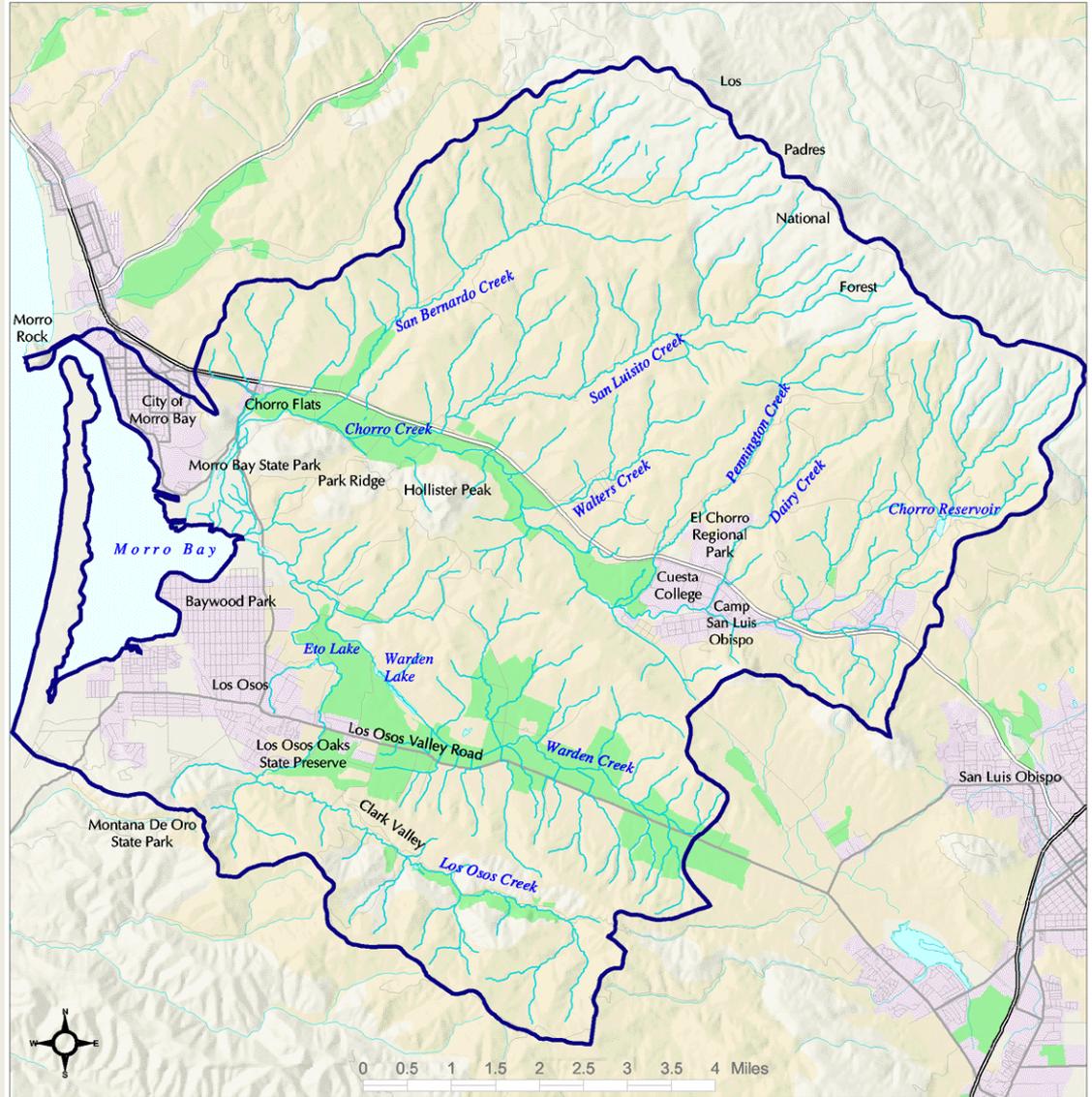
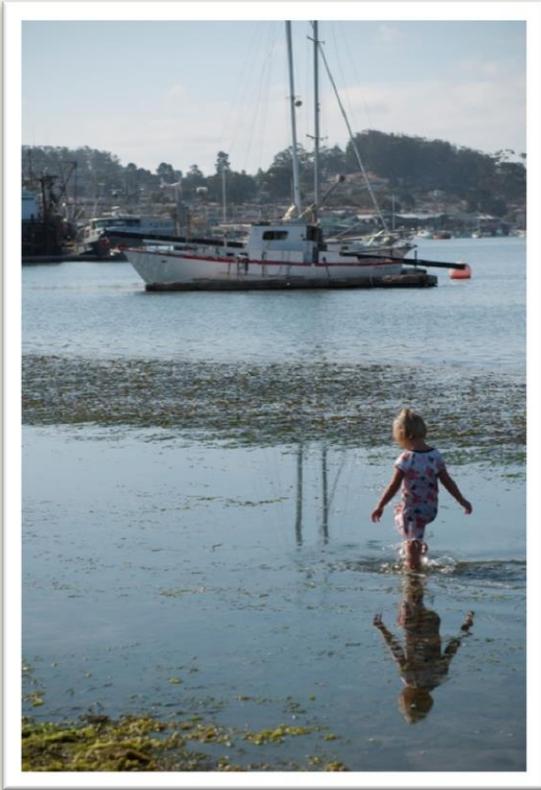


What we do

1. Conduct monitoring and research
2. Restore natural habitats
3. Educate residents and visitors on how to keep the bay healthy



Where we work





Who we work with

- » Local municipalities
- » County government
- » State agencies
- » Federal agencies
- » Local, state and national non-profits
- » Local business
- » Landowners
- » Interested community members



1997 Consent Decree

- » United States District Court issued a consent decree to PG&E for NPDES Permit violations
- » \$ 3.66 million provided to the Bay Foundation of Morro Bay
- » Purpose - implementing the final conservation and management plan for Morro Bay and/or implementing early action items pursuant to the Consent Decree's MOA



Signatories to the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA)

- » USEPA
- » Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
- » Bay Foundation of Morro Bay
- » Local Policy Committee of the Morro Bay NEP
(currently referred to as the Executive Committee)



Consent Decree Funds and Interest

Impact of Consent Decree in Dollars

Consent Decree and Interest Spent to Date	Dollars Leveraged	Federal Dollars Leveraged
\$ 4.05 million	\$ 9.35 million	\$ 6.9 million

Current Value of the Restoration Fund

(i.e. remaining interest) as of July 31, 2014

Approx. Total Restoration Fund Value	Total Current Obligations	Approx. Remaining Unobligated Funds
\$ 1,821,000	\$ 561,000	\$ 1,260,000

Types of Projects Funded

- » Land Conservation
- » Harbor Pollution Prevention
- » Creek Restoration
- » Agriculture BMPs
- » Erosion Control
- » Community Grants
- » And many more...

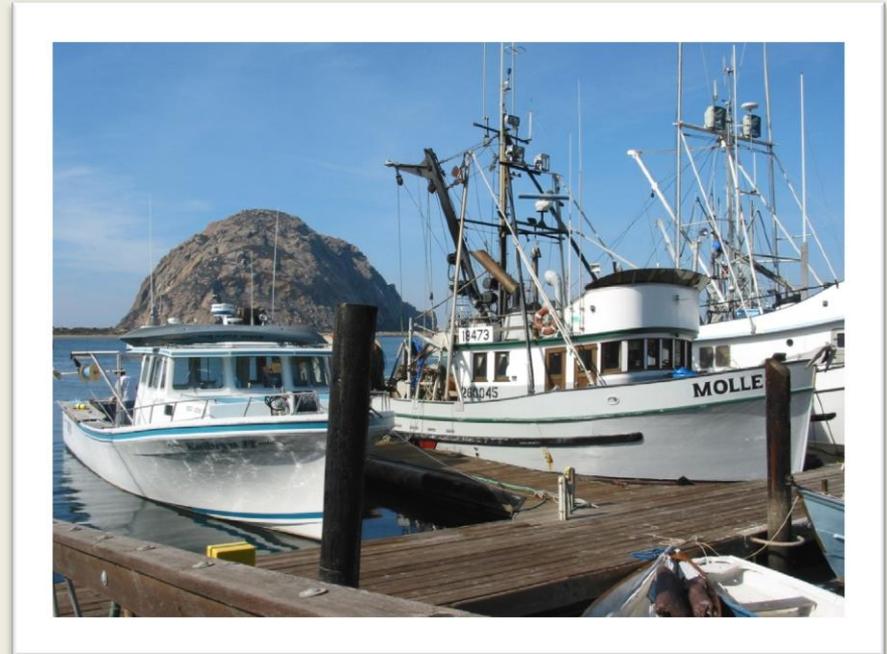


Photo by Sue Lichtenbaum



*Organizations Who Have **Benefited from Funding***

Local organizations, landowners, local businesses, and contractors have benefited from this funding for conservation work.

Some of these include...

- » California Conservation Corps
- » Cal Poly
- » City of Morro Bay
- » Coastal San Luis RCD
- » County of San Luis Obispo
- » Morro Coast Audubon
- » Central Coast Parks Assoc.
- » Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo
- » Los Osos CSD
- » Small Wilderness Area Preservation



Future Plan for Remaining Interest

Approximate Funds Available for Morro Bay Management Plan Implementation

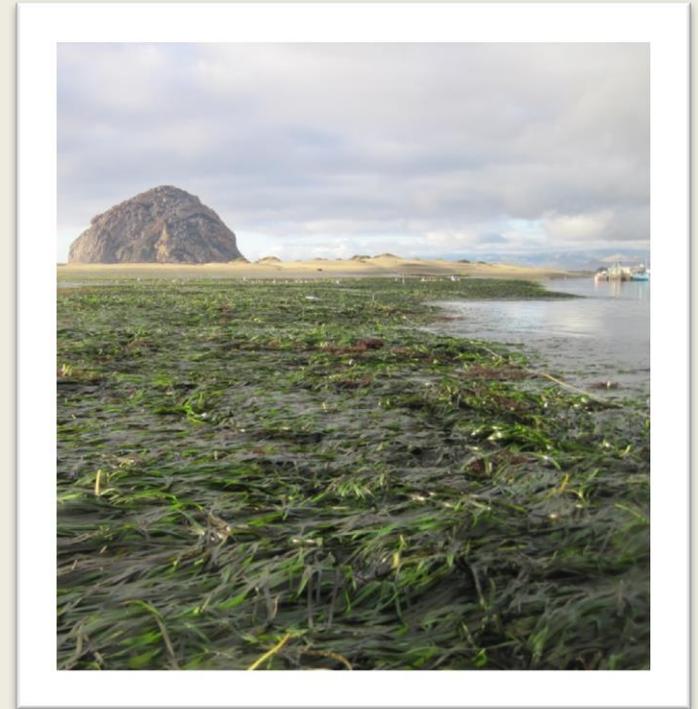
(estimates are based on current market projections, reasonable per year spending rates, and an average inflation rate)

Category of Spending	Percentage of Fund	Approx. 20-year Plan Total Funds Available	Approx. 10-year Plan Total Funds Available
Research and Monitoring	30%	\$925,000	\$630,000
Restoration	37%	\$1,141,000	\$777,000
Land Conservation	25%	\$771,000	\$525,000
Small Community Grants Program	8 %	\$247,000	\$192,000
Estimated Total	100 %	\$3,084,000	\$2,100,000



Future Projects

- » Land Conservation
- » Eelgrass Recovery
- » Floodplain Restoration
- » Rural Road Improvements
- » Water Conservation
- » Strategic Monitoring Support
- » Stormwater Management
- » Harbor Pollution Prevention





Support for Plan

3 of the 4 MOA signatories support this proposal

- » USEPA
- » Bay Foundation
- » Morro Bay NEP

Executive Committee

Multiple partner organizations support this proposal, including:

- » CA Coastal Conservancy
- » CA Dept. of Fish and Wildlife
- » City of Morro Bay
- » SLO County Supervisor District 2 Bruce Gibson
- » Land Conservancy of SLO
- » Coastal San Luis RCD



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