



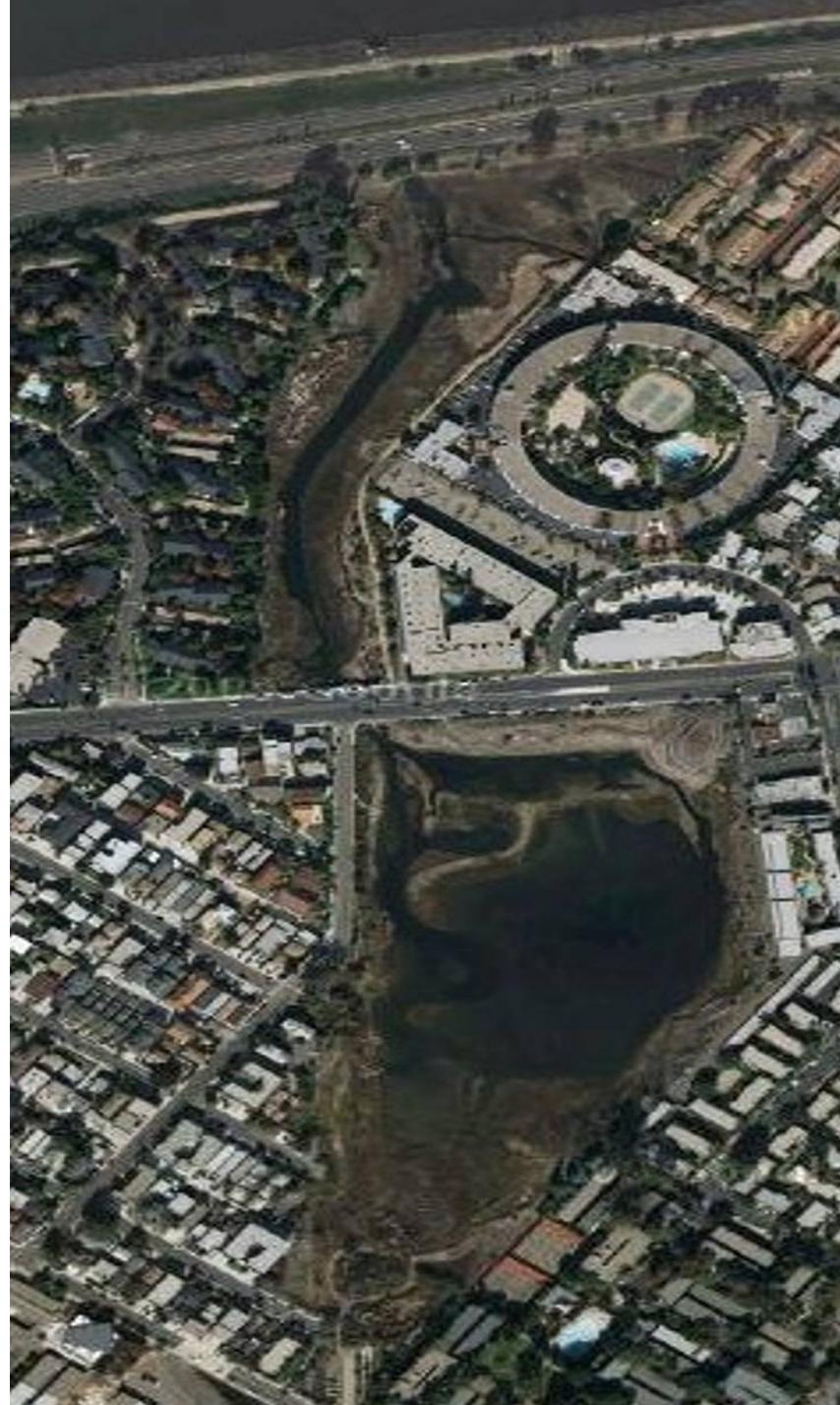
Friends of Famosa Slough
Jim Peugh

Famosa Slough, Mission Bay & San Diego River Mouth



**Famosa Slough
and Channel**

Famosa Slough and Channel



Famosa Slough

The Slough was the southern tip of Mission Bay until 1950s

37 acres overall

Has muted tidal flushing via San Diego River

Immediate watershed is about 300 acres

Also receives floodwater from San Diego River watershed during storms

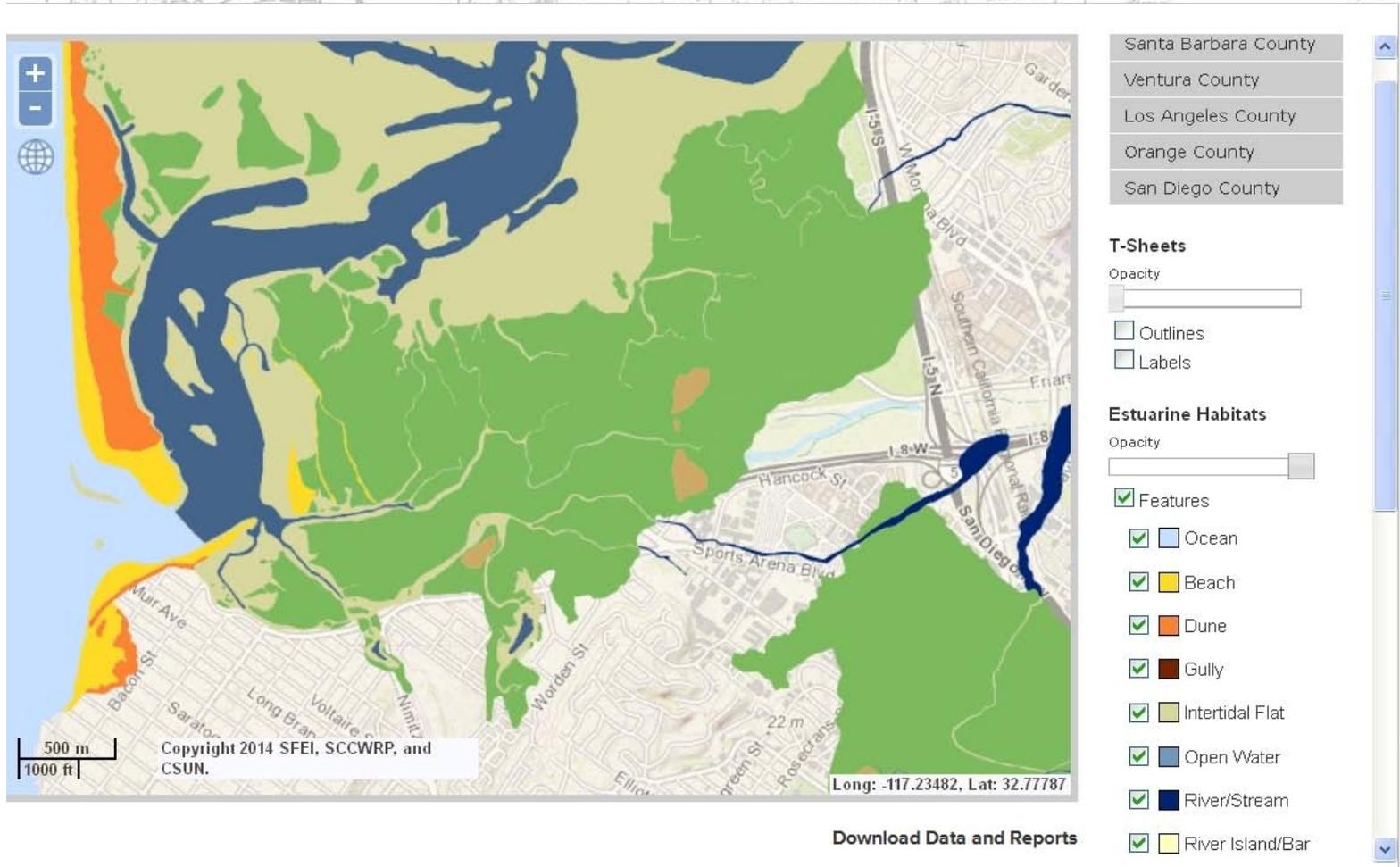
Full range of coastal wetland vegetation

Over 180 species of birds

Managed by the City of SD Park and Rec

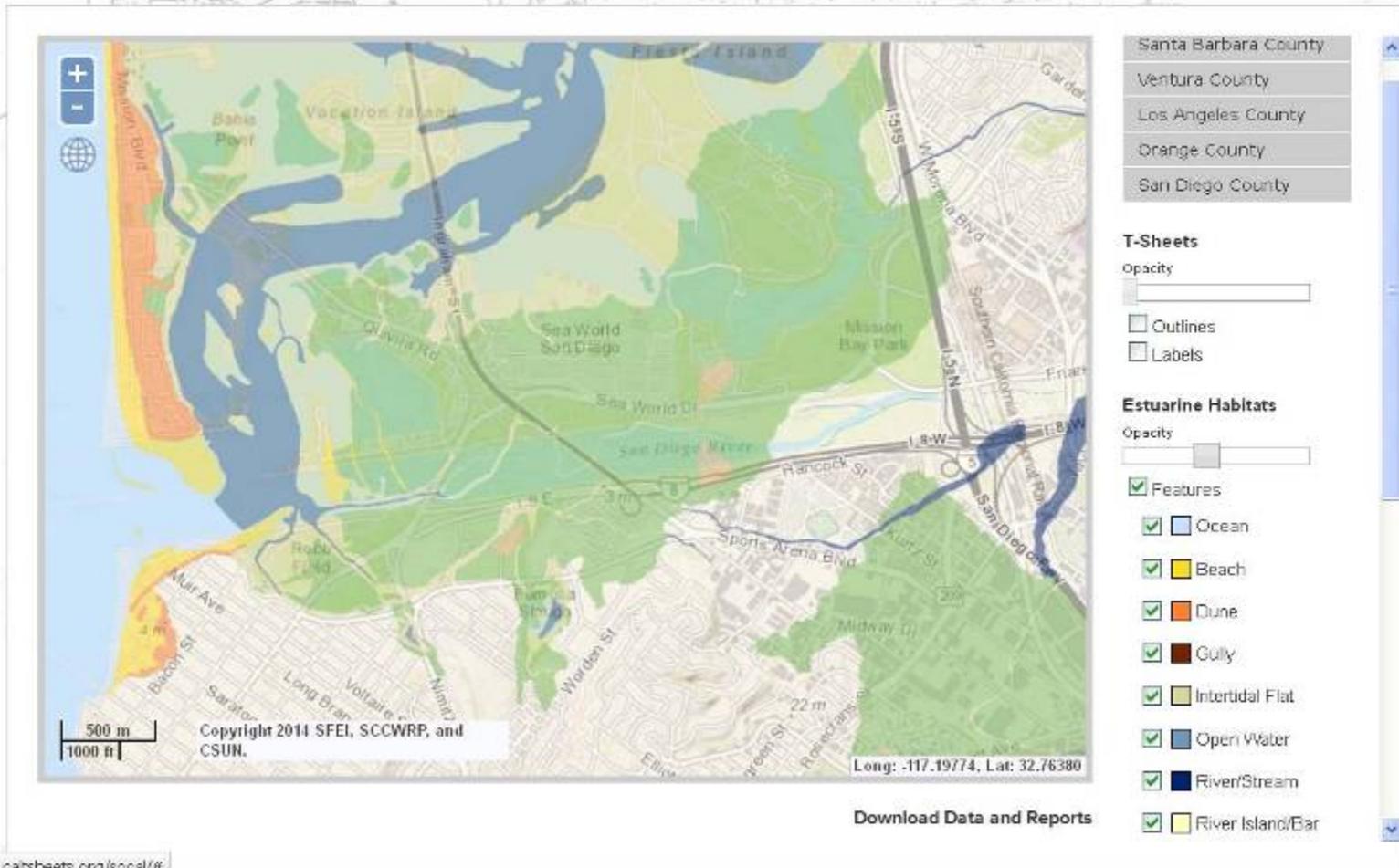
T-sheet of Mission Bay, 1860s

Southern California Coast T-Sheets (1851-1889)



T-sheet of Mission Bay, 1860s with overlay of Current Map

Southern California Coast T-Sheets (1851-1889)



Famosa Slough Status

Acquired by the City of San Diego as a wetlands preserve in 1990

Managed by the SD City Park & Recreation Department

Is part of City's Multiple Habitats Preserve Area under its MSCP

Is a Marine Conservation Area (no-take) under CA's MLPA

TMDL for eutrophication

Restoration guided by Famosa Slough Enhancement Plan, adopted by City in 1993, funded by CA Coastal Conservancy

Bird use

- Year round habitat for some birds
- Stopover site in spring and fall during migrations
- Winter habitat for many shorebirds and ducks
- Nesting habitat during spring and summer
- Occasional rarity (vagrants)

Winter residents



Spring and summer nesting birds



Light-footed Ridgway's Rail



Year round residents



More year
round
residents



Rare bird: Northern Waterthrush

September 2011



Richard Seignious

Famosa Slough Project History



Friends' Central and South Properties

Purchased July 2014

CA Environmental Enhancement and
Mitigation Fund – Resources Agency

7 lots, 0.67 acres

\$282 K

Central Property, three lots Acquired July 2014



Rare bird: Gray Thrasher

August 2015, first California sighting



South Property, four lots



South Property from top of property



North Property,
Environmental Enhancement & Mit. fund
April 2012, \$355 K, 3 lots



North Property improved trail and native plants



North Property, bench and view



Culvert Extension Project, 2008



Funded by Wildlife Conservation Board, \$180,000 –
Completed January 2008. Managed by FFS;
Design & Construction by Merkel and Associates

Extended Culvert under construction





Culvert Extension (after)



Revegetation of East Bank of Famosa Channel



East Bank of Famosa Channel



West Bank of Famosa Channel

Chet Nelson, Dennis Driscoll, and Terry Gaughan



West Point Loma Blvd. Restoration Project

- Managed by Friends of Famosa Slough with permission from the City of San Diego
- Construction from September to December, 2005
- Design and Construction by Merkel & Associates, Inc. under contract with FFS
- Additional plants and planting contributed by RECON
- Restoration is on-going by FFS

West Point Loma Blvd. Restoration Project

Benefits:

Increase wetland area by 2.2 acres

Improve water quality and fish habitat value with better tidal flow to east side of slough

Nesting island above high tides

Vegetate 1 acre of upland

ADA trail for visitors

West Point Loma Blvd. Restoration Project

Resources:

US Fish and Wildlife Service:	\$ 68,000
Proposition 13:	\$ 367,000
Friends of Famosa Slough:	<u>\$ 67,000</u>
TOTAL	\$ 502,000

Friends of Famosa Slough in kind contribution:
Project management, watering, replanting, &
invasive removal

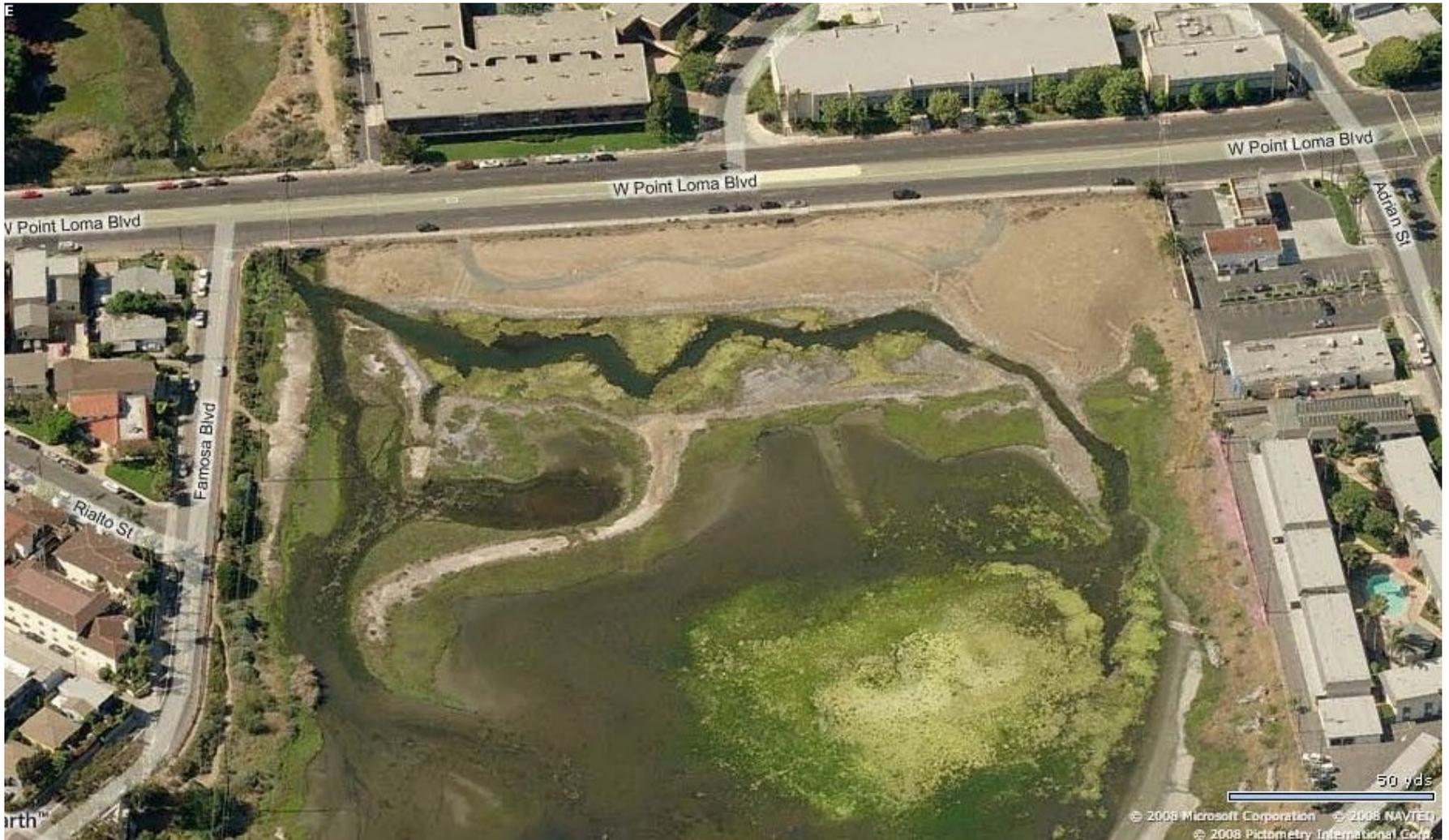
North end of Slough, Pre-restoration, ~1984



West Point Loma Blvd. Restoration Project November 3, 2005



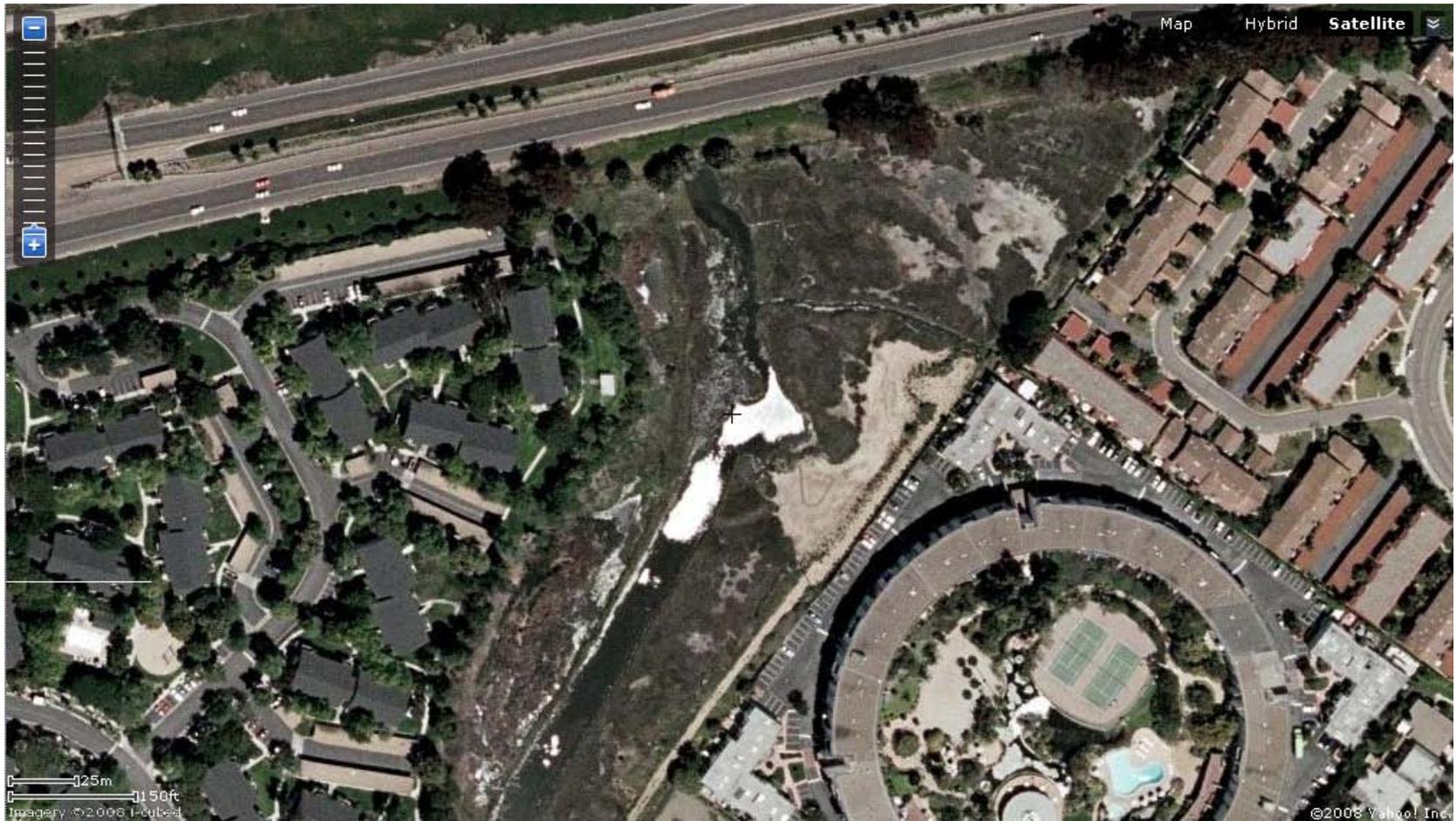
West Point Loma Blvd. Restoration Project after construction, before revegetation



West Point Loma Restoration Project Upland Revegetation



Sorrento Creek Mitigation Project, Completed 2005



Mitigation for excavation in Sorrento Creek implemented by Street Department in 2004; 0.4 acres of fill removal and restoration.

After construction

March 15, 2005



2011 Sorrento Creek Mitigation



East Bank Sediment Basin and Marsh Restoration, 2003



- **Removed sediments that had buried about 0.4 acres of saltmarsh**
- **Constructed a small sediment basin and access**
- **Intercepts runoff from about 50 acres**
- **Mitigation for Adobe Falls sewer spill**
- **Dudek did design and upland revegetation**
- **FFS did the wetland revegetation, David Kimball**

Sediment Basin and Restored Marsh, Photo ~ 2007



Sediment Basin and Restored Marsh on east side of Slough



Valeta Street Treatment Ponds



Valeta Street Treatment Ponds

- Funded by Clean Water Act 319(H) Grant of \$180,000 administered by Regional Board
- Construction completed 2000
- Intercepts runoff from ~100 acres of watershed
- Design and construction managed by City of San Diego
- Project Design Inc. designed pro-bono
- Merkel and Associates was biology and construction contractor
- FFS did grant application, revegetation, and post-construction care with Park Department

Treatment Pond 1



Path
between
treatment
ponds



Treatment Pond Refurbishment



Funded by grants from SDG&E: \$35,000

Planning, permitting, and labor by Merkel & Associates

Additional labor by FFS and California Conservation Corps

January 2011

West Bank of Slough Coached by Kay Stewart Labor by FFS and NCCC ~1994 - 1996



Looking East from Bench along Famosa Boulevard



Moveable Flap Gates between Famosa Slough and San Diego River Constructed 1992?



Moveable Flap Gates Between San Diego River and Famosa Slough



Current Worst Problem



Erosion into Slough



Future Restoration Needs



Long term needs

- Maintenance of SW treatment basins
- Adaptation to Sea Level Rise – How?
- Control of unnatural predators
- Resolve TMDL problem
- Getting people to be responsible about their pets – dogs and cats
- Eternal Control of invasive vegetation
- Write a maintenance and management plan
- Fix watershed problems that degrade the Slough
- New Famosa Slough Enhancement Plan

Black-necked Stilts

May 31, 2006











Photos by David Kimball, Jim Peugh, Jim Pea, Cliff Hewitt, Karen Straus, Scott Streit, Richard Seignious, Mark Stratton, and Google Maps



www.FamosaSlough.org
www.facebook.com/FamosaSlough