

DRAKES BEACH

ESTUARY FACT SHEET

Location: 38.027072, -122.962163

Estuary size: 0.22 ha

Watershed area: 3.43 sq. km

Summary: The site's CRAM Index score (57) fell into the *fair* condition category. The red-legged frog is the only special status species of concern present within the estuary. Land cover within the watershed is dominated by shrub/grassland. Much of the estuary's historical open water and wettable lowland is now located behind a levee. Some of the historical wettable lowland has been covered over by a large parking lot, which was built in the 1960s.



CRAM Attribute and Index Scores

ATTRIBUTE	SITE SCORE	AVERAGE COUNTY SCORE
Buffer and Landscape	70	84
Hydrology	67	87
Physical Structure	25	52
Biotic Structure	67	78
Index Score	57	75

● Poor: 25-49 ● Fair: 50-74 ● Good: 75-100

CRAM index scores for the estuary compared to the Marin County average.

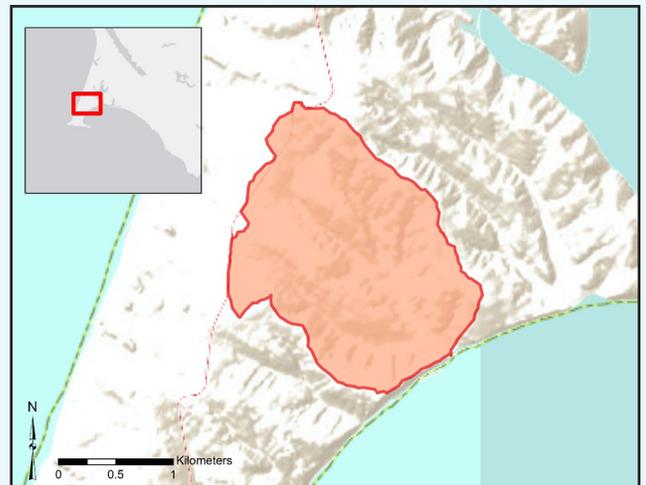
Special Status Species

Coho salmon	●
Red-legged frog	●
Saltmarsh common yellowthroat	●
Steelhead	●
Tidewater goby	●
Western pond turtle	●
Western snowy plover	●

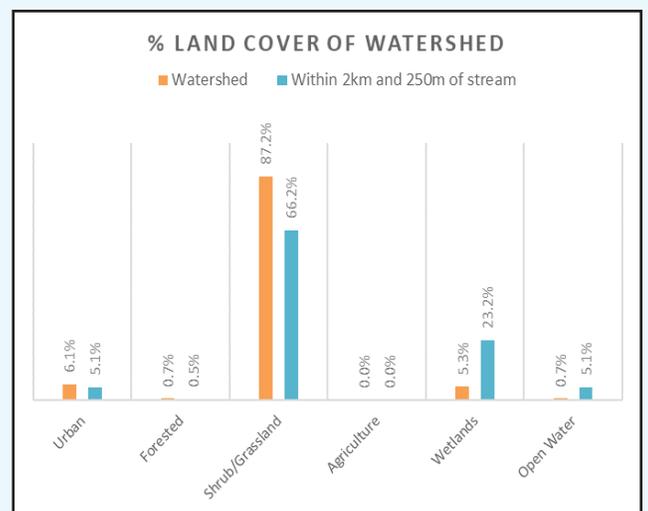
● Present in estuary ● Present in watershed
 ● Potential for habitat ● No known presence

Known presence of select special status species at site (CNDDDB 2017).

Watershed Information

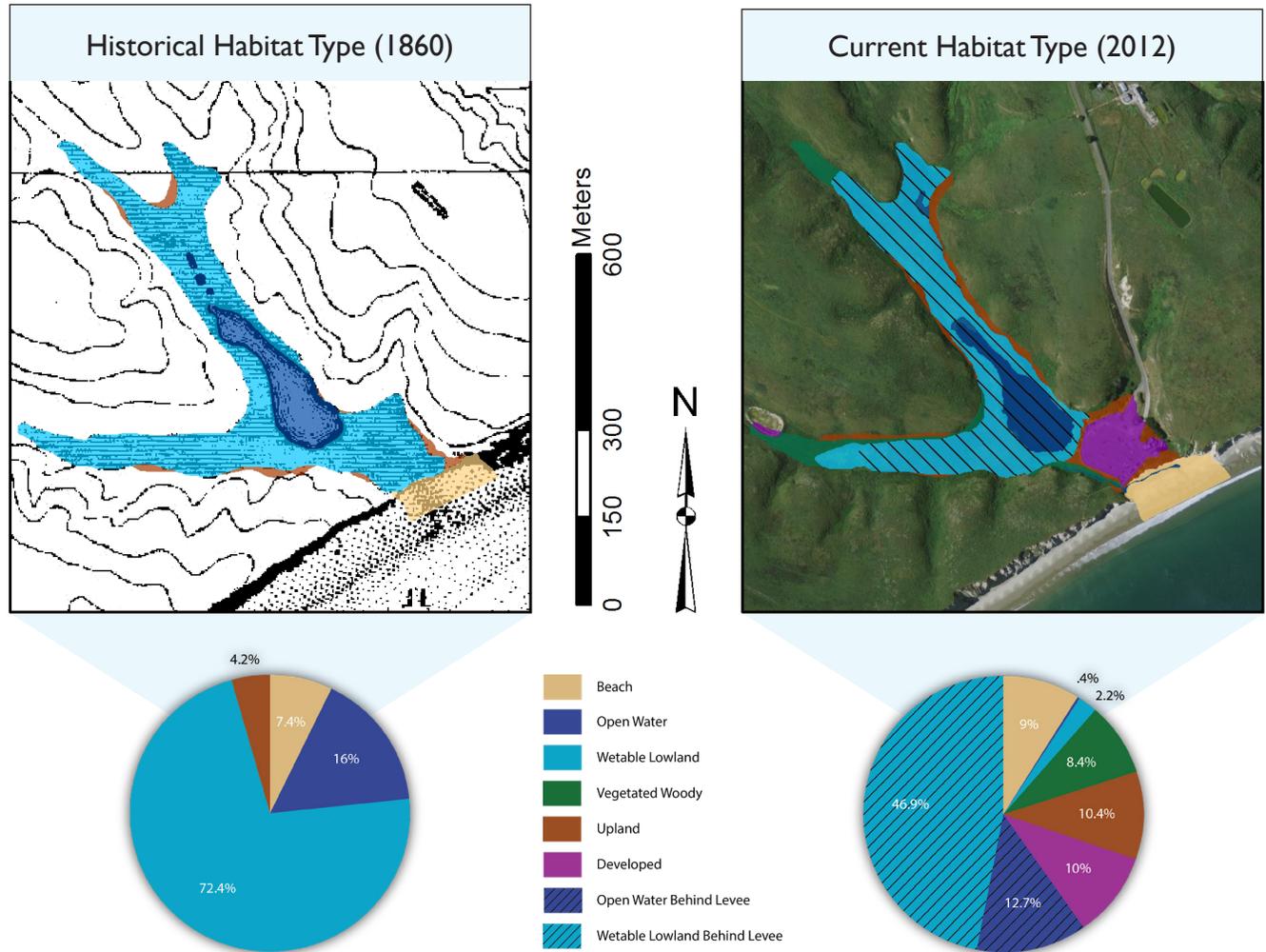


Watershed boundary and location map.



Percent land cover within entire watershed compared to within a buffer of 2km upstream of outlet and 250 meters from stream.

Habitat Change Analysis



Habitat type maps and charts for 1860 and 2012. Habitat maps uses a NOAA nautical chart (1860) for the historical map and National Agriculture Imagery Program (NAIP) imagery (2012) for the current map. Hatched areas are now located behind a levee.

Management Recommendations



The parking lot at Drakes Beach

Remove the levee and reduce the footprint of the parking lot to restore connectivity between the lagoon, beach, riparian, and wetable lowland habitats. This will enhance the hydrology and physical structure of the system which both scored poorly in the habitat assessment of the system.