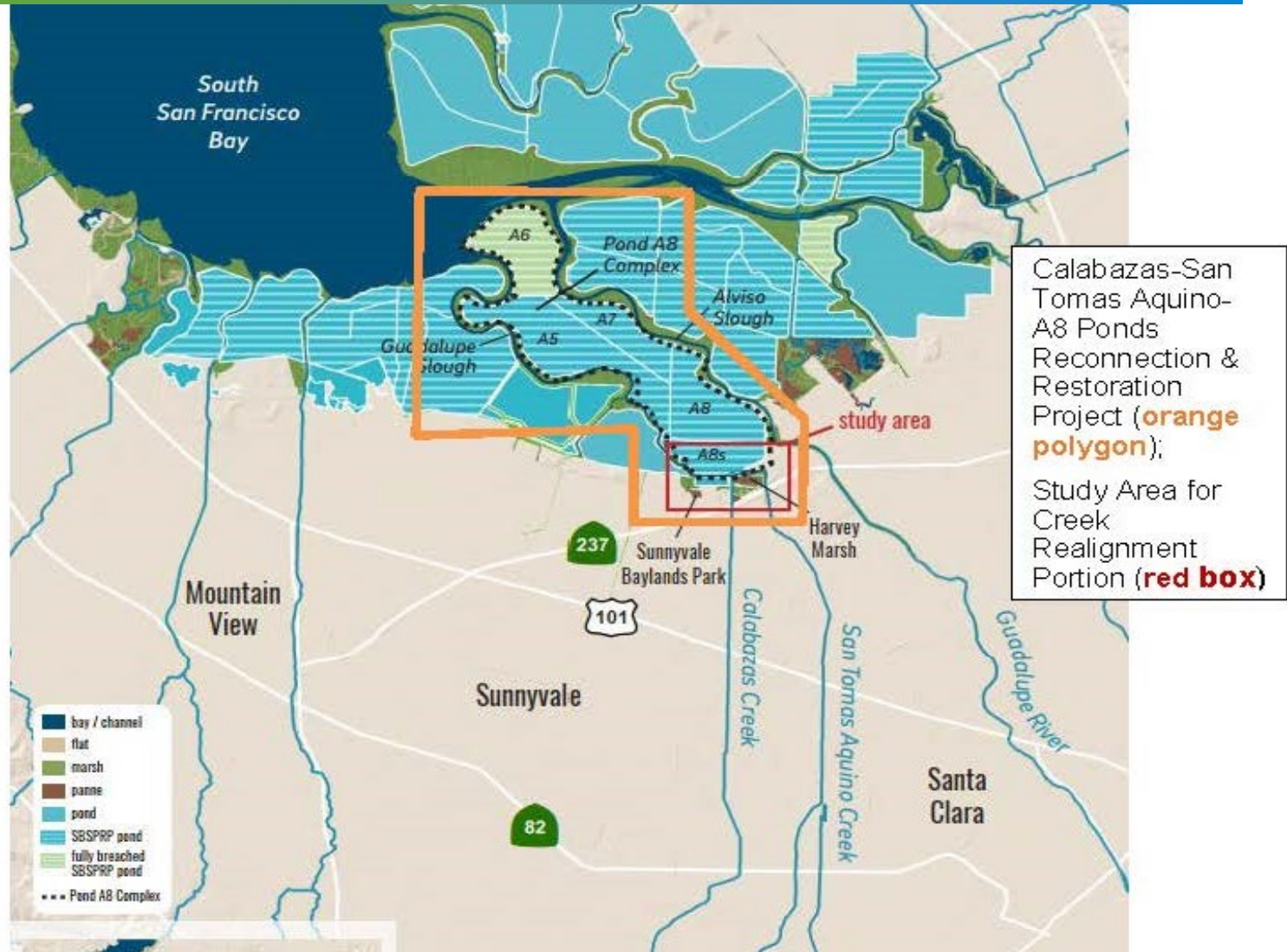


# Calabazas and San Thomas Aquino Creek Realignment Project Feasibility Study and Integration Opportunity with SBSRP

Presented by: Judy Nam, Senior Water Resources Specialist

# Calabazas and San Thomas Aquino Creek Realignment Project Feasibility Study - Integrated Project in Partnership with SBSPRP







# HISTORICAL HABITATS

## 1963: After San Tomas Aquino Realignment



1950s – 2000s

Increased Need for Flood Management and Channel Dredging due to Widespread Development & Channel Straightening Pre-Landfill & Levee

1900s – 1950s

Construction + Sinuous Channel Marsh Converted to Diked Salt Ponds

1850s – 1900s

Large-scale Clearing and Agricultural Development Began in the Early 1860s



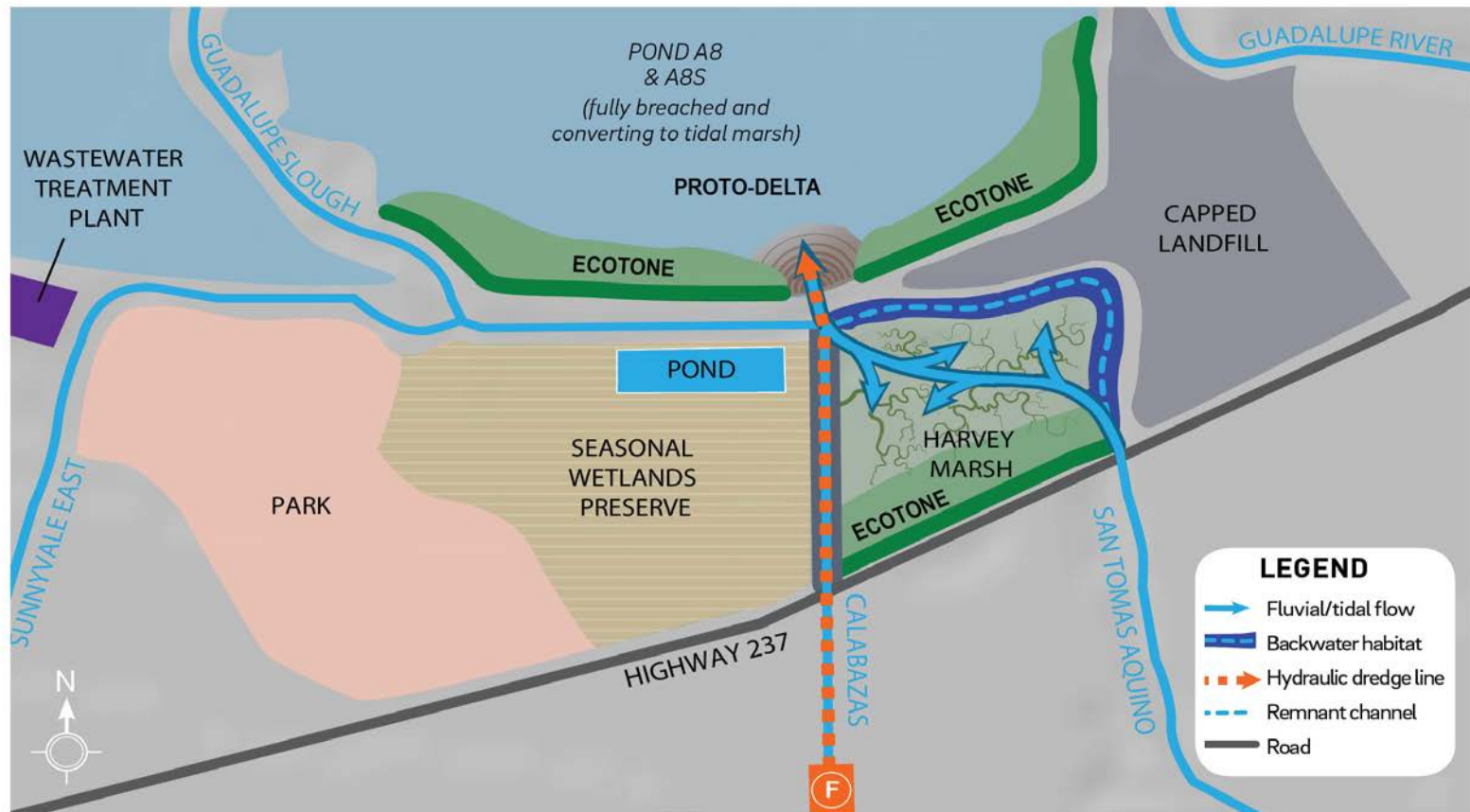
# Calabazas and San Thomas Aquino Creek Realignment Project

## Objective 1: Habitat Restoration



# Calabazas and San Thomas Aquino Creek Realignment Project

## Objective 2: Resilient Flood Protection





# Calabazas and San Thomas Aquino Creek Realignment Project

## Objective 3: Reduced Maintenance



# Calabazas and San Thomas Aquino Creek Realignment Project Option A

## Advantages

- Least Costly
- Shortly Construction Schedule
- Minimal Project Impacts  
Robust Public Outreach and  
Public Access

## Disadvantage

- Minimal Habitat Enhancement
- Does not remove artificial 90-degree bend in STA Creek
- Increased Flood Risks in the  
A8 Ponds and Alviso  
Slough/Lower Guadalupe  
River
- Schedule Dependency on  
SBSPRP Tidal Marsh  
Restoration





# Calabazas and San Thomas Aquino Creek Realignment Project Option B

## Advantages

- Habitat Improvement of Harvey Marsh
- Greater Reduction in Creek Maintenance Needs than Option A
- Relocates and Improves Collishaw Trail

## Disadvantage

- Enlarged Construction Footprint and Longer Construction Period Compared Option A
- Requires Greater Coordination than Option A
- Increased Flood Risks in the A8 Ponds and Alviso Slough/Lower Guadalupe River
- Schedule Dependency on SBSRP Tidal Marsh Restoration



# Calabazas and San Thomas Aquino Creek Realignment Project Option C

## Advantages

- Creates Largest Amount of Habitat
- Least Potential to Increase Flood Risk
- Reduces Steelhead Entrainment Risk in the A8 Ponds
- Maximum Trail Opportunities
- Schedule Dependency on SBSRP A8 Ponds Breaches

## Disadvantage

- Costliest to implement
- Largest Construction Footprint and Longest Construction Period
- Greatest Risk of Construction-Period Mercury Mobilization
- Greatest Amount of Coordination, Approval and Land Rights Negotiations with External Parties





# Calabazas and San Thomas Aquino Creek Realignment Project Successful Measure AA Grant Effort

## Recipe for Successful Grant Application

- Innovative Project with Regional Significance
- Strong Environmental Community Support
- Existing and Potential Partnerships with Multiple Entities
- Robust Public Outreach and Public Access
- Awesome Teamwork

## Next Steps

- Receive Formal Approval of \$3.37M grant funding from SFBRA Board
- Execute Grant Agreement with SFBRA with VW Board Approval
- Proceed with Competitive Selection Process for Consultant Services for Planning and Baseline Monitoring and Board Approval of Consultant Agreements.

# QUESTIONS







# Valley Water

Clean Water • Healthy Environment • Flood Protection

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