

Project Description

Coyote Hills Area Habitat Conceptual Planning for 2002-03

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Statement of Need

Land use around the Coyote Hills Park is changing and the East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) seeks a conceptual habitat plan for the Park that will inform and accommodate the changes while meeting the Park's objectives. The situation is complicated by an apparent but unplanned change in the abundance of surface water in and around the Park. This is leading to questions about the efficacy of the existing drainage system and how surface water will be managed in the future to meet the needs of the Park, its partner agencies, and its neighbors.

Project Objective

This project will produce a conceptual plan (the Plan) of wetland habitats for the Coyote Hills Park (the Park) that is reviewed by wetland scientist and planners outside SFEI and EBRPD. The plan will feature a map of preferred habitat types for the Park in the context of EBRPD objectives, expected uses for adjacent lands, and in the context of historical conditions that indicate wetland restoration potential. The Plan will be consistent with the Regional Wetland Habitat Goals of the Bay Area Wetland Recovery Program.

Overview of Scope

Based on discussions with EBRPD, SFEI (Dr. Joshua N. Collins) will work closely with EBRPD over a period of time not to exceed 1 year (Aug 1 2002 to July 31 2003) to develop the Plan for the Park through the following 4 tasks:

- (1) Work with EBRPD staff to develop a draft conceptual plan.
- (2) Serve as liaison between the EBRPD and the multi-agency Design Review Group (DRG) of the Bay Area Wetlands Restoration Program for Plan review.
- (3) Coordinate the DRG response to the EBRPD.
- (4) As needed, provide additional technical and liaison support to the EBRPD.

SFEI intends to maximize the value of this project by relying on the EBRPD for GIS support, graphics support, literature searches, outreach, meeting places, report writing, and report distribution. SFEI will help the DRG produce a written statement of its findings and recommendations to the EBRPD.