43 years after the original survey, one member of the team returns on the Resurvey of San Pablo Bay.

In the time he's been gone, that marsh has expanded by nearly a mile, built up on dirt washed from new mines, furrows, and building sites.

From the base camp, he recollects the weeks of tramping through the marsh, navigating its sinuous ponds and hidden sloughs.

But the job is easier: now his team can walk on dry, firm levees that keep the water out.

As they head inland, he records a row of small trees—and wonders whether they might shade the next survey team.

Ninety-nine years later the marsh has built out again.

This time the survey is done from the air; no feet touch the ground.