



# Tide Rising

2022 Volume IV, Special Edition



Publisher & Editor: [San Francisco Bay Wildlife Society \(SFBWS\)](#).

SFBWS is a not-for-profit Friends Group for the San Francisco Bay NWR Complex, working along with many Refuge volunteers to keep our public lands sustainable for you and wildlife.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

### SFBWS News:

- [35 years together \(p. 8-9\)](#)
- [Walk for the Wild \(p. 9\)](#)

### Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge 50th Anniversary

- [Past, Present & Future \(p. 2\)](#)
- [Past, Present, Future Revisited \(p. 3\)](#)
- [Refuge Manager Memories \(pp. 4-5\)](#)
- [Waterfowl Hunting \(p.6\)](#)
- [50th Anniversary Celebration \(p. 7\)](#)

### SFBWS Info

- [Membership Information \(p. 12\)](#)

### San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory

- [Bird Photo Big Day](#)

## Celebrating Anniversaries

50 years: Don Edwards SFB NWR

35 years: San Francisco Bay Wildlife Society

Enjoy this San Francisco Bay Wildlife Society **Special Edition** Newsletter!

- Don Edwards SFB NWR is **celebrating 50 years** this year. Read perspectives and memories of current and former Refuge Managers, learn about the history of hunting on the Refuge, and more
- San Francisco Bay Wildlife Society celebrates its 35th year. Read memories of past staff and BOD President
- Join us and celebrate the 50th anniversary of DE SFB NWR (10/8)
- Participate in Walk for the Wild to benefit the SFBWS (10/8-10/15)
- Be part of the Bird Photo Big Day (SFBBO event) on 10/1

Share your ideas for future articles! What interests you? [Write us.](#)

### San Francisco Bay Wildlife Society

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*Masthead:* Don Edwards SFB NWR View (Ambarish Goswami)



50th Anniversary  
Don Edwards  
San Francisco Bay  
National Wildlife Refuge

### Partners for 35 Years

The San Francisco Bay Wildlife Society seeks to nurture in the public a sense of understanding, appreciation, and stewardship of the San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuges, their natural and cultural history, and to conserve, preserve, and restore bay lands as essential wildlife habitat.

The San Francisco Bay Wildlife Society (SFBWS) has been assisting the SFB NWR Refuge Complex since 1987.

35th Anniversary  
San Francisco Bay  
Wildlife Society



## Don Edwards San Francisco Bay NWR ([more info](#))

*Formed in 1972, these 30,000 acres are an oasis for millions of migratory birds & endangered species*

### Past, Present, and Future

*by Matt Brown, Complex Manager, San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge Complex, US Fish & Wildlife Service*

As we get ready to celebrate 50 years of conservation at *Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge*, I can't help but reflect on the famous Margaret Mead quote, "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has." It was indeed a small group of thoughtful and committed citizens who initially dreamed of a National Wildlife Refuge in the San Francisco Bay, and then worked tirelessly to turn that dream into a reality. We are all so grateful for the vision and passion of conservation champions like Art Ogilvie, Dr. H. Thomas Harvey, Florence LaRiviere and of course Congressman Don Edwards. It is humbling to see what they accomplished...

- 30,000 acres of public lands surrounded by almost 5 million people, making Don Edwards San Francisco Bay our nation's largest Urban National Wildlife Refuge, both in acreage and size of neighboring population.
- 38 miles of trails, kiosks and overlooks that help over 800,000 visitors a year connect with the natural world.
- Thousands of acres of former salt-production ponds restored to native tidal marsh through the South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project, the largest wetland restoration project on the West Coast.
- Multiple generations of families that have been inspired by the Refuge's nationally recognized environmental education and interpretive programs. These programs have been delivered on the Refuge and in schools and community centers from East Palo Alto, to Alviso, to Newark and nearly all the communities in between.
- The founding of the *San Francisco Bay Wildlife Society* in 1987 with a mission to nurture in the public a sense of understanding, appreciation, and stewardship for the San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuges.

- Species have been saved from the brink of extinction. Don Edwards San Francisco Bay protects the habitats for nine species of Federally-listed threatened or endangered species and is now home to more than 340 plant species and 280 species of birds.
- The establishment of *Don Edwards San Francisco Bay NWR* paved the way for the establishment of 6 more Bay-area National Wildlife Refuges; *Antioch Dunes, Ellicott Slough, Farallon Islands, Marin Islands, Salinas River* and *San Pablo Bay NWRs*.

As we look back on all that has transpired over the last 50 years, one can't help but wonder what the next 50 years will bring. In some ways the challenges the Refuge faces are more complex and global than they were when the Refuge was established, with sea level rise and a changing climate already impacting Refuge resources. Sadly, we also see the impacts of climate change having the greatest impact on traditionally underserved and economically disadvantaged communities.

But in these challenges, there is hope. The restoration work taking place is making the Refuge more resilient to our changing world. Perhaps more importantly, the Refuge is committed to working with and for those traditionally underserved communities, to not only minimize the daily impacts of climate change on their homes and families, but to inspire and grow the next generation of thoughtful and committed citizens who will continue to shape and change the world. The San Francisco Bay Wildlife Society plays a critical role in the Refuge's restoration and engagement efforts. The Society has been an invaluable partner to the Refuge for 35 years – and is a key part of our vision for the next 50 years.

Many thanks to all of you, I look forward to celebrating with you on October 8, 2022.

## Past, Present, and Future, another perspective

Don Edwards San Francisco Bay NWR ([more info](#))

by Chris Barr, Deputy Complex Manager, San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge Complex, USFWS

As we continue to make progress on Phase 2 of South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project at the Ravenswood unit of Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge, I can't help but reflect on past restoration success most notably the efforts to restore Bair Island. I find it fitting to reshare the speech former Refuge Manager Clyde Morris's gave during the Inner Bair Island breach event in December 2015.

**Clyde Morris:** *Bair Island Restoration, a Long Time Coming*

"I am so happy to be here today with all of you to celebrate the final breach of Bair Island. It has been a long time coming and most everyone here has played a part in this victory. Thank You. Like most of the vast tidal wetland complex in the South Bay, Bair Island provided what the natives needed to have a fine life with plenty of food and clean water.

In the late 1800s, early 1900s, Bair was diked for agricultural purposes with Fred Bair diking it for cattle and building a house here. It was what we did to tidal wetlands in those days and he got the place named after him. In the 1940s, Leslie Salt re-diked it and for the next 20 years made it part of their salt production complex. Again, it is what we did back in those days. In 1973, Leslie Salt sold it to Mobile Oil's real estate arm who in 1982 won Redwood City's approval to build 20,000 homes, a shopping center and corporate offices as was becoming the popular thing to do to wetlands in those days.

But that thinking was changing in the Bay Area. A local group formed to lead a referendum to overturn the City's approval of the vote. Ralph and Carolyn Nobles leading the Friends of Redwood City joined by the Citizens to Complete the Refuge, Save the Bay, local chapters of the Audubon. They went to bed the night of the vote, thinking they had lost but woke the next morning learn they had won by a scant 42 votes.

The fight wasn't over yet. Mobil sold the property to a Tokyo-based developers. The same groups mobilized once again, with Florence flying to Japan to meet their local environmental groups. Our groups placed a large ad, an open letter to the president of the company, with a photo of him in the western edition of the New York Times asking him to sell Bair at a reasonable price promising that it would be restored to its previous glory.

POST entered the picture and within 3 weeks talks were begun that ended up with them purchasing most of the remaining privately owned parts of Bair to be turned over to California Department of Fish and Game and the Don Edwards San Francisco Bay NWR to be managed as a part of the Refuge.

We thought the hard part was over when Marge Kolar hired me as the first manager of Don Edwards Refuge 17 long years ago. At our first meeting she gave

me a number of assignments but said my #1 priority was to restore Bair Island. Once that was done, by next year, she would reset my other priorities. We thought, no sweat because we had heard that a duck hunter during a high tide had restored a portion of Outer Bair by kicking hole in the dike. We would just do the same with the rest of Bair Island. Little did we know.

We hired H.T. Harvey, Phil Williams and later Ducks Unlimited to develop a restoration and public use plan and learned that there were a few issues. Most important was the fact that Steinberger Slough had silted in with all tidal wetlands flowing out through Redwood Creek and Inner Bair Island had sunk by several feet. If we just breached the levees, the increased tidal flow would carry the large ships and most of Pete's Harbor Marina out to the Middle of the Bay, while Inner Bair Island would become a giant duck pond making it unsafe to fly into and out of with San Carlos Airport and South Bay System Authority's sewer pipe would be undermined releasing most of Redwood City's untreated sewage into the wetlands.

This time another set of partners worked together to find the solution to all these issues. The most expensive of which was finding the Million cubic yards of fill material to bring Inner Bair up to an elevation that when breached it would quickly become a vegetated wetland used by few birds that would cause problems of the airport. That's when we discovered that local builders were taking their unneeded fill material to landfills. It has never been done before, but we developed a process that they would pay to bring their clean fill to Bair where along with dredge material from the Port of Redwood City, would provide us with our needs.

Outer Bair got restored first with Middle Bair following and today we complete the breaching with Inner Bair. I do have to thank my fellow co-workers at the Refuge for doing their part of carrying the torch to overcome the constant challenging details that came up over these 17 years.

Today, all of us can celebrate this restoration of Bair Island. Many contributors/partners doing their part to bring us to this point. A long time coming and I want to thank each and every one of you for doing your part. Thank You."

Thank you indeed to everyone in our rich past, all who support the restoration work currently taking place, and to all those working urgently for its future as a resilient San Francisco Bay Estuary that continues to thrive.

To learn more about Bair Islands history from the words of the community members who helped protect it watch [Bair Island: A Noble Cause](#). I invite you to visit Bair Island, walk the trail and reflect on the rich 50 year history of community led Conservation.

## Refuge Manager Memories of Don Edwards San Francisco Bay NWR ([more info](#))

*Compiled by Winnie Chan, Refuge Planner, USFWS*

### The first breach - island ponds 2006



My favorite memory from my time as the Refuge Manager was the day in 2006, when the Island Ponds (A-19, 20, & 21) were breached. This allowed the first tidal flows back into the South Bay salt ponds after the historic acquisition of 16,500 acres from Cargill in 2003. My heart and mind swelled with pride and tears came to my eyes when we had finally accomplished a goal set so many years ago by the Citizens to Complete the Refuge who had sat around a kitchen table. The Citizens discussed how to restore the South Bay back to what the Indigenous people had maintained under their stewardship. So many non-governmental organizations, private citizens, elected officials and governmental agencies had come to support the Citizen's vision and that day was a huge step forward in what has become a slow but successful fulfillment of the restoration dream.

-- Clyde Morris, former Refuge Manager



I remember it being a crisp summer morning as we shuttled partners and stake holders in boats out to pond A21 levee. I needed to put boards down in order to get folks from the boats over the sticky bay mud up onto the levee. We stood on the levee waiting for the rising tide looking at the huge amphibious excavator floating in the water ready to perform the breach. After years of designing, planning, permitting, and dealing with someone taking the amphibious excavator for a joy ride down the slough the night before we were ready to breach the levee and start restoration process of former salt ponds. Seeing the San Francisco Bay finally flow back into Pond A21 after over 100 years of being diked was one of the most enjoying experiences of my career. I felt grateful for the opportunity to make landscape level changes in the Bay to fight climate change and create habitat for a variety of species for decades to come. Happy 50th anniversary to Don Edwards San Francisco Bay NWR!

-- Eric Mruz, former manager, 2004 - 2014

### Recent Years



I was refuge manager for the Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge from 2017-2019. During that time frame, many long-planned projects began in earnest. Some of these projects included Phase II of the South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project and the South San Francisco Bay Shoreline Project near the Environmental Education Center in Alviso. To be a part of such large-scale habitat restoration projects was certainly a highlight of my time at the refuge. But the best part of working at the refuge was working with all the refuge staff and partners. Meeting regularly with Florence LaRiviere, who at ninety plus years young was still active in the conservation of the refuge, was inspiring. The support provided to the refuge by its friends group, the San Francisco Bay Wildlife Society, to further education and understanding about the refuge was so important and wouldn't have been possible without their efforts. The many federal, state, and local agency personnel who worked on and supported conservation efforts for these unique marshlands made it feel like a real community effort. The refuge is a special place with a special community that cares for it. It is a model for how conservation and restoration should be done. |

-- Jared Underwood, former manager, 2017-2019



## Refuge Manager Memories of Don Edwards San Francisco Bay NWR ([more info](#))

*Compiled by Winnie Chan, Refuge Planner, USFWS*

### Recent Years



I served as the Refuge Manager for Don Edwards San Francisco Bay NWR from 2019-2021. I had spent most of my career before coming to the San Francisco Bay managing National Wildlife Refuges and Marine National Monuments in the Pacific Islands...places with incredible natural/cultural resources...but places thousands of miles from urban centers. What stands out to me about Don Edwards San Francisco Bay NWR is how engaged the Refuge is with our surrounding communities. I love saying “hi” to the early morning walker/joggers in Fremont, I love the story of Rachel Tertes sharing her binoculars with a family at Bedwell Bayfront Park so that the kids can help her survey for plovers. I have been moved to tears watching Tia Glagolev connect with her Habitat Heroes (students who return year and year to support our summer camps and other environmental education programs), and have been inspired watching our visitor services, planning, maintenance and law enforcement staff spend the day fishing with a group of families from Latino Outdoors. Everything we do on National Wildlife Refuges we do FOR the American people... and there is no better place in the FWS for us to connect with the American people and truly demonstrate how our Refuges are an asset to their communities.

-- Matt Brown, former manager, 2019-2021



Don Edward San Francisco Bay NWR (both photos)  
(Ambarish Goswami)

### Today



I have been the Refuge Manager for Don Edwards San Francisco Bay NWR for only a short time - I started July 2022. The first time I visited the refuge was shortly after being awarded the position, and before starting the job. I walked the marsh trails in Alviso and Fremont and was immediately struck by the beauty of the marsh and how it felt isolated from the megalopolis that surrounded it. Right in the middle of this populated region the birds are varied and numerous, the rabbits and ground squirrels are busy running about, and occasionally a grey fox may be seen. I was also struck by the enormity of the work that has been done in the past 50 years here, and the many hands that have had a role in conserving this land and restoring it so that it benefits both native wildlife and the American public. In my short time, I’ve learned that I have very big shoes to fill and while I look to the past to learn from those that have preceded me, I am excited for the future. I have enjoyed the opportunity to engage with the community thus far, be it school groups or the individual biker or walker that visits the refuge on a regular basis, and I look forward to many, many more such opportunities. It is one of my greatest desires that there will come the time when this location is a common stop for Bay Area residents and visitors alike, and when it is rare to hear from people that they lived in the Bay Area their whole life and never knew this refuge existed. This land is your land, and while we are here to provide areas for conservation of natural resources, a significantly important part of our focus is to support visitors through offering opportunities for a variety of outdoor activities including photography, wildlife watching, fishing, hunting and environmental education.

-- Ann Spainhower, 2022 - now



## Don Edwards San Francisco Bay NWR ([more info](#))

Formed in 1972, these 30,000 acres are an oasis for millions of migratory birds & endangered species

### Waterfowl Hunting at Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge

by Melisa Amato, Refuge Manager, Antioch Dunes, Marin Islands, and San Pablo Bay National Wildlife Refuges, USFWS

Waterfowl hunting is an important wildlife-oriented recreational activity at Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge. Hunting occurred on this land years before it was a national wildlife refuge. Centuries prior we know that hunting was an important resource for survival and recreation for the Ohlone and Miwok people. We have hunters who recall hunting this land when it was a private duck club owned by Cargill and previously owned by the Leslie Salt Company.



Gordon Gun Club 1920s to 1976  
(USFWS)



Gordon Gun Club 1995  
(Bob Kleinbrahm)

The National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 established hunting, fishing, wildlife observation, photography, environmental education, and interpretation as priority wildlife-dependent recreational uses. The Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge offers the public all six of these priority recreational uses understanding that

it's important to respect all the ways people enjoy to recreate on the bay and the history and role it has played in culture and economic impact to the bay area.

Today, the refuge has more than 10,000 acres of tidal areas and salt ponds that are open to waterfowl hunting. We view waterfowl hunters as important conservationists and stewards of national wildlife refuges throughout the country. Waterfowl hunting at Don Edwards provides people in an urban setting an opportunity to experience wildlife with friends and family while supporting programs that help maintain waterfowl populations and protect habitat.

Every year, waterfowl hunters purchase a Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp (AKA a Federal Duck Stamp) to help protect and restore habitat for migratory waterfowl and other birds and wildlife. The stamp is required as a license for waterfowl hunting and for every dollar spent on Duck Stamps, ninety-eight cents go directly to purchase vital habitat and acquire conservation easements within the National Wildlife Refuge System. Since 1934, almost 6 million acres of habitat have been conserved with the help of Duck Stamp funds.

One of the easiest ways that anyone can support bird habitat conservation is by buying a Federal Duck Stamp - among the most successful conservation tools ever created to protect habitat for birds and other wildlife. You do not need to be a waterfowl hunter! You can support your national wildlife refuges and get your Federal Duck Stamp by visiting [here](#).



Mohammad Al Sadder  
(provided by hunter)



Decoy placement by John Davenport  
(Miles Harris)

Andrew Hernandez at Don Edwards SFB NWR  
(provided by hunter)

Kevin Cheng with child  
(provided by hunter)





# San Francisco Bay Wildlife Society: 35th Anniversary

Not-for-profit Friends Group supporting SF Bay NWR Complex, and specifically: Don Edwards SFB NWR, Farallon Islands NWR, Salinas River NWR, and Ellicott Slough NWR ([more info](#))

Interview by Ceal Craig, Editor

Dr. Chris Kitting is the current President of SFBWS. He recently shared memories of his 35-years as a Board of Directors member.

1. How did the initial BOD members get together? Share your memories of this time.

In the beginning, the originator and brainchild of San Francisco Bay Wildlife Society was the Refuge chief naturalist, John Steiner (an expert on insects and their associated plants). John soon earned his masters degree with me at California State University East Bay. He retired several years later (after decades at the refuge) and became an instructor at College of Alameda, where he recently retired. John Steiner then recruited (from contacts) members of the board to include a lawyer (who became our 1st president, Jud Sommit), an experienced treasurer, and a representative from Eastbay Parks Admin: a shark expert, Bob Tasto. For prompt 501(c)(3) status, originally we were a branch of Point Reyes Bird Observatory nonprofit. Our board remained active together as a group for over a decade

We had discussions, then quarterly board meetings, up in the original visitor center, which was the scenic, northern-most corner of the Refuge administration building in Fremont.

2) What was/were the original goal(s) for the group?

Original goals were simply to manage the funds from the new small bookstore that we established there in the visitor center. I recall that one of our first purchases for the refuge needs was modern radio communication for their security officers, when the federal government apparently wasn't authorized to buy such portable units at the time. Our original newsletter (in black & white newsprint) called *Tideline*, as wildlife events news around the Refuge, was probably John's idea and was begun about that time, distributing it to SFBWS donors/members and local schools.

3) Remembering those first years, what challenges did you all meet and overcome? What outcomes do you remember? Any stories? How the Society has changed over these decades?

Soon John Steiner learned that the great old wooden building over the water (originally, a Leslie Salt pumphouse to flood those old salt ponds) below the visitor center was slated to become a carpenter shed for

the Refuge but asked me if I could instead raise funds to actually make it into an equipped field laboratory. Soon I was able to do that through a cooperative agreement with CSUEB and a variety of my new research grants. Visiting school groups and CSUEB advanced ecology field classes used it throughout the years, until policies changed at the Refuge. (That great building currently is empty now.)

A decade later, as SFBWS President Somit was preparing to retire from law and move to Hawaii, he found a way to use funds from Peninsula Open Space Trust through the Society, to conduct the first restoration at the refuge, which became called Bair Island ecological preserve, something that seems to be forgotten at times.

4) Help us understand what has fueled your consistent passion for the Society and its goals.

As a trained wildlife professional who also teaches ecology, conservation, and habitat restoration classes as a biology professor at the University, my passion for wildlife and the wildlife aspects of the Society have continued, as the last remaining, founding board member.

5) Share your hopes for the Refuge and the Society for its future.

My major hope for the Society in the future is that we will help the refuge recall that a wildlife refuge is for wildlife, whereas a park is for people, and trying expand mixing the two often has terrible consequences for wildlife.



Christopher L. Kitting, Ph.D. Professor of Biological Sciences, California State University, East Bay, and charter member of Board of Directors of San Francisco Bay Wildlife Society, currently President. Multidisciplinary Restoration and Monitoring of Aquatic Environments, especially w/ plants and small animals in non-destructive sampling with imagery analyses, to improve refugia, food resources, bio-filters, climate adaptation, and ecosystem restoration, especially in shoreline habitat impacts and restoration.





# San Francisco Bay Wildlife Society: 35 years

## Memories from SFBWS Staff

My memories from the late '90s we're as a staff person for the Society and the new program established in cooperation with the San Jose WPCP as the first "Slow the Flow" coordinator. Who knew I would be giving tours of the treatment plant while driving a tram and supporting middle and high school students to understand the impact of long showers !?! Developing the curriculum has rewarding and meaningful and was such a direct connection to having people understand their own choices and meaningful conservation outcomes from changed behaviors.

Flash forward to becoming a board member for SFBWS in 2016 (date??) and serving several years in support of new and different challenges and opportunities for both USFWS and SFBWS. The full circle of experiences with SFBWS has made me value the collective impact that community collaborations can leverage.

Congrats SFBWS for 35 years of making a difference and bringing great partners together !!

-- Renée Fitzsimons

## Walk for the Wild ! Join Team Don Edwards SF Bay NWR

*by Mary Deschene, Program Administrator, SFBWS*

The Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge is celebrating its 50th anniversary, and San Francisco Bay Wildlife Society its 35th! We hope you will join and support us as we celebrate these momentous occasions by participating in 5K Walk for the Wild and that you will help us spread the word! Please register by clicking "Join Team" on the website to participate. Sign up or donate [HERE](#):

Learn more about the National Campaign to elevate public awareness of National Wildlife Refuges at the National website [Link](#)

**Walk for the Wild: Ranger-Guided 5K Walk, Refuge Headquarters Visitors Center, Fremont**

**When:** Sunday, October 9, from 10 am - 12 noon.

**Where:** Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge, Visitor Center, 2 Marshlands Rd, Fremont, CA 94555

**What:** Walk for the Wild with Refuge Ranger Miguel and explore the sights and sounds of Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge. Walk with us along the LaRiviere Marsh and Tidelands trails through tidal marsh, slough, and upland habitat. Learn about when and where you might see the wildlife that calls the Refuge home. Join us to walk for Habitat and Health.

**Contact:** miguel\_marquez@fws.gov

[Sign up here](#)



### Options for Walking, Biking, Strolling, Meandering

Ranger-Guided, Refuge Headquarters, Fremont, Oct. 9th, 10 am - 12 pm.

Self-Guided Environmental Education Center, Alviso, Oct. 8-14.

Self-Guided Alviso Slough Trail, Alviso Marina County Park, Oct. 9-15.

Self-Guided Walk Anywhere!, and let us know (option coming soon) Oct. 8-15.

**Walk for the Wild: Self-Guided 5K, Option 1, from the Environmental Education Center.**

**When:** Saturday, October 8th-Friday, October 14

**Where:** Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge, 1751 Grand Blvd, Alviso, CA 95002

**What:** An independent 5K route that gives you a full tour of the out-and-back trails currently open at the Environmental Education Center (EEC). Route will be marked with Walk for the Wild signage and will provide extra fun facts about the Refuge, the incredible wildlife that calls it home, and how you can help to protect it via urban runoff pollution prevention, and much more! The best times to go are evenings and weekends due to construction activity.

**Notes & Accommodations:** There are ADA-compliant trails, parking, and restrooms on-site at the Alviso Unit. Need a recommendation for a 5K route that is fully ADA-accessible? Please email us at watershedwatchers@sfbayws.org for more information. Make sure to bring plenty of water, snacks, and sun protection with you.

## Walk for the Wild *(continued)*

Walk for the Wild: Self-Guided 5K, Option 2, Alviso Slough Trail

**When:** Sunday October 9-Saturday October 15  
(NOTE: Oct. 8 is reserved for the annual Day on the Bay. Please avoid walking on that Sunday. Parking will be very limited.)

**Where:** from the Alviso Marina County Park, 1195 Hope St, Alviso, CA 95002.

**What:** No signage, on your own, along the open sections of the Alviso Slough trail. Walk westward from the parking lot entrance. See the construction in progress to raise the height of the levee and help prevent flooding due to the impending impacts of climate change.

In Alviso: a self-guided un-mapped walk on the Alviso Slough Trail



A Google Maps image of the Alviso Slough Trailhead that starts at the Alviso Marina County Park. Once you are out on the levee trail, you have entered the Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge.

The best times to go are evenings and weekends due to construction activity.

Walk for the Wild: Self-Guided 5K, Option 3, Walk Anywhere!

**When:** Saturday, October 8-Saturday, October 15

**Where:** Anywhere that you want. Feel free to talk a walk, ride, or stroll, and sign up for this option, anywhere you like.

**What:** An independent route of your choosing. Hopefully somewhere in nature that you enjoy!

Then let us know the details at [Watershed Watchers Email](#)

Sign up or donate [HERE](#)

## Walk for the Wild

Self-Guided events are supported by the *Watershed Watchers Program* and the *Santa Clara Valley Urban Runoff Pollution Prevention Program*



**Santa Clara Valley Urban Runoff Pollution Prevention Program**

## San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory

Bird Photo Big Day: October 1, 2022

*How Many Birds Can We Get?*

*Join our next Bird Photo Big Day!*

**SATURDAY, October 1, 2022**

*Theme: A Day in the Life*

**Photo Contest Categories:**

- Best Day in the Life of a Bird
- Best Bird In Flight
- Most Extraordinary Photo of an Ordinary Bird
- Birds of a Feather Flocking Together
- Funniest Photo

**FIND out more [HERE](#)**

Walk for the Wild Oct 8-15



Walking and signing up benefits the San Francisco Bay Wildlife Society's support of the Don Edwards SF Bay NWR. Please Sign up or Donate [HERE](#)



THANK YOU!  
Our Refuges appreciate your support

Help Us Protect Your San Francisco Bay Wetlands!

Mail your donation to: San Francisco Bay Wildlife Society, P.O. Box 234, Newark, CA 94560.

You may also become a member at <https://sfbayws.org/>

For a gift membership, call 510-792-0222 ext. 364.

[LINK here](#)

San Francisco Bay Wildlife Society is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization, a Friends group for the San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge Complex.

**YES! I want to support San Francisco Bay Wildlife Society and its programs.** My membership will help the *San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge Complex* and its south Bay and Outer Bay Refuges

(Don Edwards, Salinas River, Ellicott Slough, and the Farallon Islands)

Enclosed is my contribution of:

<input type="checkbox"/> \$20 Student/Senior	<input type="checkbox"/> \$200 Corporation
<input type="checkbox"/> \$35 Individual	<input type="checkbox"/> \$250 Sponsor
<input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Family	<input type="checkbox"/> \$500 Sustainer
<input type="checkbox"/> \$75 Supporter	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000 Leader
<input type="checkbox"/> \$100 Participant	
<input type="checkbox"/> Check Enclosed	<input type="checkbox"/> Credit card payment, use PayPal at <a href="http://www.sfbayws.org/donate">www.sfbayws.org/donate</a>

For more than 30 years, the San Francisco Bay Wildlife Society has:

- Introduced the refuge to tens of thousands of students of all ages
- Helped fund the Bair Island restoration and Management Plan, restoration work at Antioch Dunes NWR, and uplands restoration at the Environmental Education Center (EEC)
- Provided Saturday staff in EEC through long-term partnership with the Santa Clara Valley Urban Runoff Pollution Prevention Program
- Provided funding for a new boardwalk at the New Chicago Marsh Trail at the EEC.
- Funded a new greenhouse
- Provided funds for a native plant nursery
- And much more....

**Help continue this tradition by becoming a Supporting Member of the Society.**

Benefits include:

- Tax deduction to the extent permitted by law
- Free book - Exploring Our Baylands
- 15% discount at SFBWS Nature Stores
- The joy of helping protect this important environment
- Free subscription to *Tide Rising* newsletter

<https://sfbayws.org/>



Thank you for your support!