

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

DRAFT PROGRAMMATIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT ON THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA WATER TRAIL PLAN

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the State Coastal Conservancy (Conservancy) is circulating the draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail Plan (SCH # 2007112080). The document is available for review and/or purchase for the cost of reproduction at the Conservancy's offices (see below). In addition, the draft EIR can be reviewed and downloaded from the internet at: <http://www.scc.ca.gov>. The libraries listed below will have one printed copy available for review, and all major libraries around the San Francisco Bay Area offer internet access.

County	Library Address
Alameda	Oakland Main Library, 125-14 th St. Oakland, CA 94612, (510) 238-3138, Government Documents Department.
Contra	El Cerrito Main Library, 6510 Stockton Ave., El Cerrito, CA 94530, (510) 526-7512, Reference Desk.
Marin	San Rafael Main Library, 1100 "E" St., San Rafael, CA 94901, (415) 485-3323, Reference Desk.
Napa	Napa City & County Library, 580 Coombs St., Napa, CA 94559, (800) 248-8402, Local Government Docs Reference Desk.
San Francisco	S.F. Public Main Library, 100 Larkin St., San Francisco, CA 94102 (415) 557-4400, Government Information Department.
San Mateo	Redwood City Main Library, 1044 Middlefield Rd., Redwood City, CA 94063, (650) 780-7018, Reference Desk.
Santa Clara	Palo Alto Main Library, 1213 Newell Road, Palo Alto, CA 94303, (650) 329-2436, Reference Desk.
Solano	Benicia Public Library, 150 E. "L" St., Benicia, CA 94510, (707) 746-4343, Reference Desk.
Sonoma	Petaluma Regional Library, 100 Fairgrounds Dr., Petaluma, CA 94952, (707) 763-9801, Reference Desk.

The public review and comment period for the draft EIR is from June 12, 2008 through July 28, 2008. A public meeting will be held on July 9, 2008 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Pier 1, San Francisco, CA 94101 to provide information and accept written comments on the document.

Comments on the draft EIR may also be provided in writing, addressed to: Ann Buell, Project Manager, State Coastal Conservancy, 1330 Broadway, 13th Floor, Oakland, CA 94612 Phone: (510) 286-1015; Fax: (510) 286-0470. **ALL WRITTEN COMMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE CONSERVANCY NO LATER THAN July 28, 2008, AT 4:00 P.M. Any person challenging the Conservancy's action on the EIR in**

any future court proceeding may be limited to raising only those issues which have been presented to the Conservancy in writing.

The San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail (Water Trail or WT) project, as described in the San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail Plan, would create a network of landing and launching sites, or “trailheads,” to allow people in human-powered boats and beachable sail craft (non-motorized, small boats) to enjoy the historic, scenic, and environmental richness of the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area through single and multiple-day trips on the Bay. The WT is intended to promote safe and responsible use of the Bay, while protecting and increasing appreciation of its environmental resources through education and coordinated, strategic access to the Bay.

Trailhead owners and managers would join the Water Trail network on a voluntary basis, as the Water Trail project has no regulatory powers. The vast majority of WT access sites would be designated from a starting pool of existing and planned access points around the Bay. A subgroup of these access points have been identified in the Water Trail Plan as WT “Backbone Sites,” meaning that they are thought to be potentially suitable for inclusion in the Water Trail. In the future, other currently unidentified sites may be added to the network. The environmental analysis provided in this document focuses on the 112 Backbone Sites, while establishing the framework for the consideration of inclusion of other, currently unidentified sites. Of the 112 Backbone Sites, 57 are considered High Opportunity Sites (HOS), which have minimal management issues with respect to wildlife and navigational hazards, and require minimal site improvements (i.e. signage only). This Program EIR is intended to provide full CEQA coverage for those sites. Subsequent CEQA review tiered off of this Program EIR may be conducted for the non-HOS sites.

This EIR also addresses the CEQA-mandated No-Project Alternative, and a Revised-HOS-Only Alternative, which excludes ten HOS sites proposed in the draft WT Plan because they appear to have potentially significant management issues.

The EIR identifies possible significant effects in the areas of recreation, land use, aesthetics, biological resources, public services and navigation, water quality, hazardous materials, transportation, and cultural resources. The EIR also identifies mitigation measures that will avoid, reduce, or minimize each possible effect to a level of insignificance.