

# Designing Tidal Restoration Projects for Physical Processes

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**nhc**

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water resource specialists

# Restoration Body of Knowledge

## Foundational Outcomes

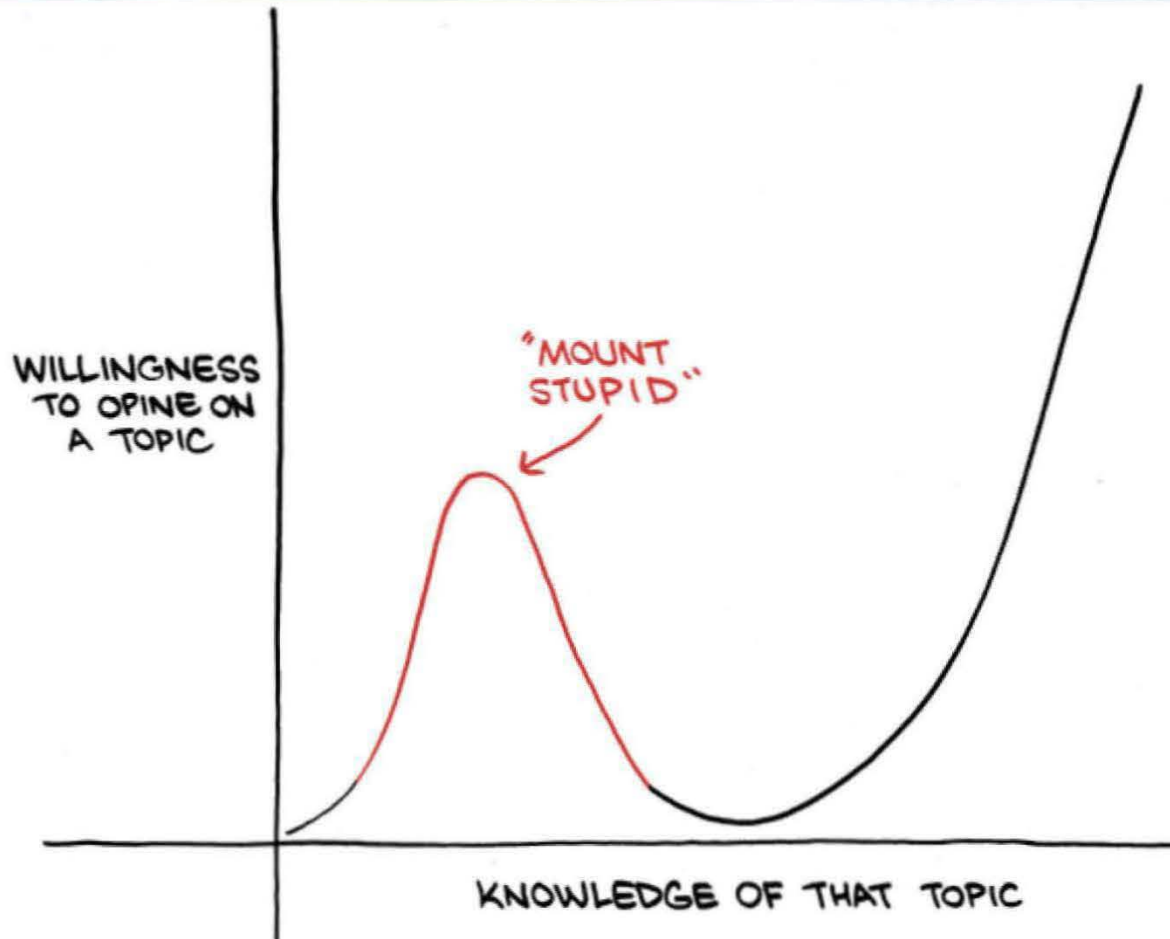
- Hydrology
- Hydraulics
- Fluvial Geomorphology
- Sediment Transport
- Stream Ecology
- Habitat Structure and Function
- Fish Biology
- Plant Ecology and Riparian Dynamics
- Surveying/Hydrometry
- Watershed Analysis
- Geomorphic and Habitat Assessment
- Biomonitoring/bioassessment
- Alternatives Analysis
- Analytical Techniques
- Restoration Design
- Uncertainty and Risk
- Project Development
- Restoration Policy (codes and regulations)
- Communication and information management
- Construction Inspection
- Professional and Ethical Responsibility

## Level of Learning

- L1 Knowledge
- L2 Comprehension
- **L3 Application**
- L4 Analysis
- L5 Synthesis
- **L6 Evaluation**

Niezgoda et al (2004).

"Defining a Stream Restoration Body of Knowledge as a Basis for National Certification."  
*J. Hydraulic Eng.* Vol. 140, 12.



<http://www.smbc-comics.com/comic/2011-12-28>

# Overview

- Case Study: Tule Red Tidal Mitigation Site
- Project Site
- Objectives
- Channel Sizing and Layout
- Conceptual Design
- Sustainability



# Tule Red Tidal Mitigation Site

- SFCWA project to meet goals outlined in BDCP and OCAP.
- Westervelt Ecological Services led design team
- Started Construction in September 2016, bulk of construction in 2017, final breach in 2018 or 2019



# Project Site

400 ac site  
8,000 ft of  
Shoreline  
Currently  
Managed  
Marsh  
Natural Marsh  
Berm Currently  
Protects Site  
from Inundation



# Project Site-Historically



Warner et al (2004). "Floodtide pulses after low tides in shallow subembayments adjacent to deep channels." *Estuarine, Coastal and Shelf Science* 60. p213-228

# Objectives

- **Overall Objective** is to **sustainably** restore natural tidal marsh processes while meeting objectives of Suisun Marsh Plan.
  - Restore 5,000+ ac. Tidal Marsh
  - Protect and Enhance Existing Managed Wetland
  - Improve Ecological Processes and Reduce Stressors
  - Maintain Waterfowl Heritage and Improve Sporting Opportunities
  - Maintain and Improve Marsh Levee System



# Design Objectives

- Full tidal exchange
  - Sediment Delivery
  - Nutrient Export
- No impact to neighbors
- Strengthen existing levee
- 14-day mean residence time
- Balanced cut/fill
- Minimize footprint
- Constructability



# Empirical Channel Sizing and Layout

- Tide Marsh Morphology
  - $f$ (tidal regime, freshwater inputs, vegetative and sediment characteristics)
- Values Published in Literature (Odell et al., 2008)
  - Channel order v. drainage basin area
  - Channel bifurcation ratio v. channel order
  - Sinuous channel length v. channel order
  - Channel top width vs. drainage basin area
  - Channel geometry v. channel top width
- Analog Sites
  - Odell et al. based on mature salt marshes in San Pablo and South San Francisco Bay
  - Honker Bay compared to Odell et al. values

# Honker Bay Analog

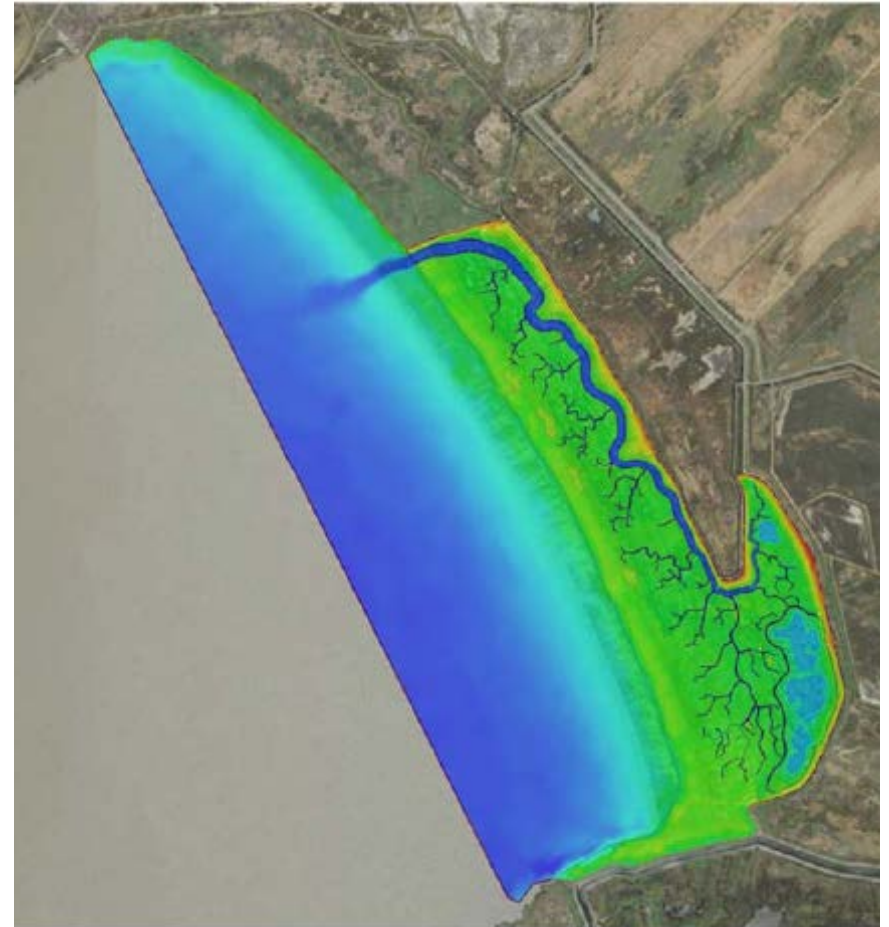


# Odell vs Honker Bay

| Parameter              | Odell et al (2008)  | Honker Bay Analog   |
|------------------------|---|---|
| Channel Order          | 4   | 4   |
| Bifurcation Ratio      | 1 <sup>st</sup> order – 3 - 5<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> order – 3 - 6<br>3 <sup>rd</sup> order – 2 - 10<br>4 <sup>th</sup> order – 2 - 4                         | 1 <sup>st</sup> order – 1 - 3<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> order – 2 - 3<br>3 <sup>rd</sup> order – 2 - 4<br>4 <sup>th</sup> order – 10                 |
| Channel Length         | 1 <sup>st</sup> order – 0.9m – 60m<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> order – 20m – 110 m<br>3 <sup>rd</sup> order – 40m – 300 m<br>4 <sup>th</sup> order – 100 m – 600 m | 1 <sup>st</sup> – 8.9 m – 36.5 m<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> – 14.9 m – 116.9 m<br>3 <sup>rd</sup> – 77 m – 131.3 m<br>4 <sup>th</sup> order – 683.3 m |
| Main Channel Top width | 15 m  | 12 m-15 m   |
| Sinuosity              | 1 to 2  | 1.04  |
| Channel Pattern        | All   | All   |

# Numerical Verification

- 2D AdH Model
- Resolved major features (low-order channels, berms)
- Applied tidal boundary condition
- Evaluate tidal muting and channel stability



# Numerical Model Channel Stability

- Determine if channel hydraulics will result in channel deposition, erosion, or if channel will be stable.
  - Erosion occurs if applied shear stress,  $\tau$ , exceeds shear strength of soil
  - Deposition will occur if shear velocity,  $u_*$ , is less than sediment fall velocity
- Depth,  $H$ , and Velocity,  $U$ , computed in ADH used to determine shear stress and velocity
- USGS published values of Grizzly Bay sediment used for sediment values

$$c_f = \frac{gn}{\phi H^{1/3}} \quad u_* = \sqrt{c_f U} \quad \tau = \rho u_*^2$$

| Variable    | Value      | Unit                   | Description                                  |
|-------------|------------|------------------------|--|
| $\tau_{cr}$ | 0.05       | Pa                     | Critical Shear Stress (Warner et al 2004)    |
| $\rho$      | 1000       | kg/m <sup>3</sup>      | Fluid Density                                |
| $g$         | 9.81       | m/s <sup>2</sup>       | Acceleration due to gravity                  |
| $\gamma$    | 9810       | N/m <sup>3</sup>       | Specific Gravity                             |
| $\Phi$      | 0.9        | -                      | Porosity (Warner et al 2004)                 |
| $E_0$       | 0.000<br>1 | kg/(m <sup>2</sup> -s) | Bed erodibility constant (Warner et al 2004) |
| $w_s$       | 0.000<br>5 | m/s                    | Settling velocity (Warner et al 2004)        |

# Concepts

- Pull Tide Gates-No Grading
  - Tidal muting, insufficient flow to naturally create channels, affected neighbors
- South Entrance
  - Constructability concerns
- Central Entrance
  - Maintenance concerns
- North Entrance
  - Increased residence time, allowed for maintenance berm



# Secondary/Distributary Channels

- Important to sediment delivery and nutrient export
- Layout based on Odell et al (2008) and scaled channels from nearby marshes
- Evaluated letting channels naturally form, short “starter” channels, and full excavation





# Secondary Channels

- Followed methodology of D'Alpaos (2007) for channel development
- Coupled 2D model results with sediment information- neglected vegetation.

| Increase in Channel Length (ft/yr) |                |                       |                        |
|------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| As-Built Geometry                  | Final Geometry | Wallace et al. (2005) | D'Alpaos et al. (2007) |
| 3                                  | 10             | 4-20                  | 10-54                  |

- Final design includes full channel dimensions due to concerns of growth rate, vegetation

D'Alpaos, et al. (2007) "Spontaneous tidal network formation within a construction salt marsh: Observations and morphodynamic modeling." *Geomorphology* 91. pp 187-197

# Residence Time

- Tidal Ponds and Pannes intended to increase residence time.
- Excavated material placed as marsh ridge at MHW surrounding ponds
- Reactor based model following Lionberger et al (2004) used to evaluate residence time, evaporation, and salinity.

| Residence Time | Including Evaporation and Infiltration | No Infiltration | No Evaporation or Infiltration |
|----------------|--|-----------------|--------------------------------|
| Minimum        | 38 hours                               | 45 hours        | 45 hours                       |
| 5 Percentile   | 63 hours                               | 91 hours        | 93 hours                       |
| Median         | 105 hours                              | 202 hours       | 211 hours                      |
| 95 Percentile  | 210 hours                              | 430 hours       | 466 hours                      |
| Max            | 297 hours                              | 677 hours       | 717 hours                      |

$$T_i = \frac{(V_{i-1} - E\Delta t - I\Delta t)(T_{i-1} + \Delta t) + \Delta V \left(\frac{\Delta t}{2}\right)}{V_i}$$

$$V_i = V_{i-1} - E\Delta t - I\Delta t + \Delta V$$

Lionberger et al. (2004). *Salt-Pond Box Model (SP00M) and its application to the Napa-Sonoma Salt Ponds, San Francisco Bay, Ca.* USGS Water Resources Investigation Report

# Marsh Accretion

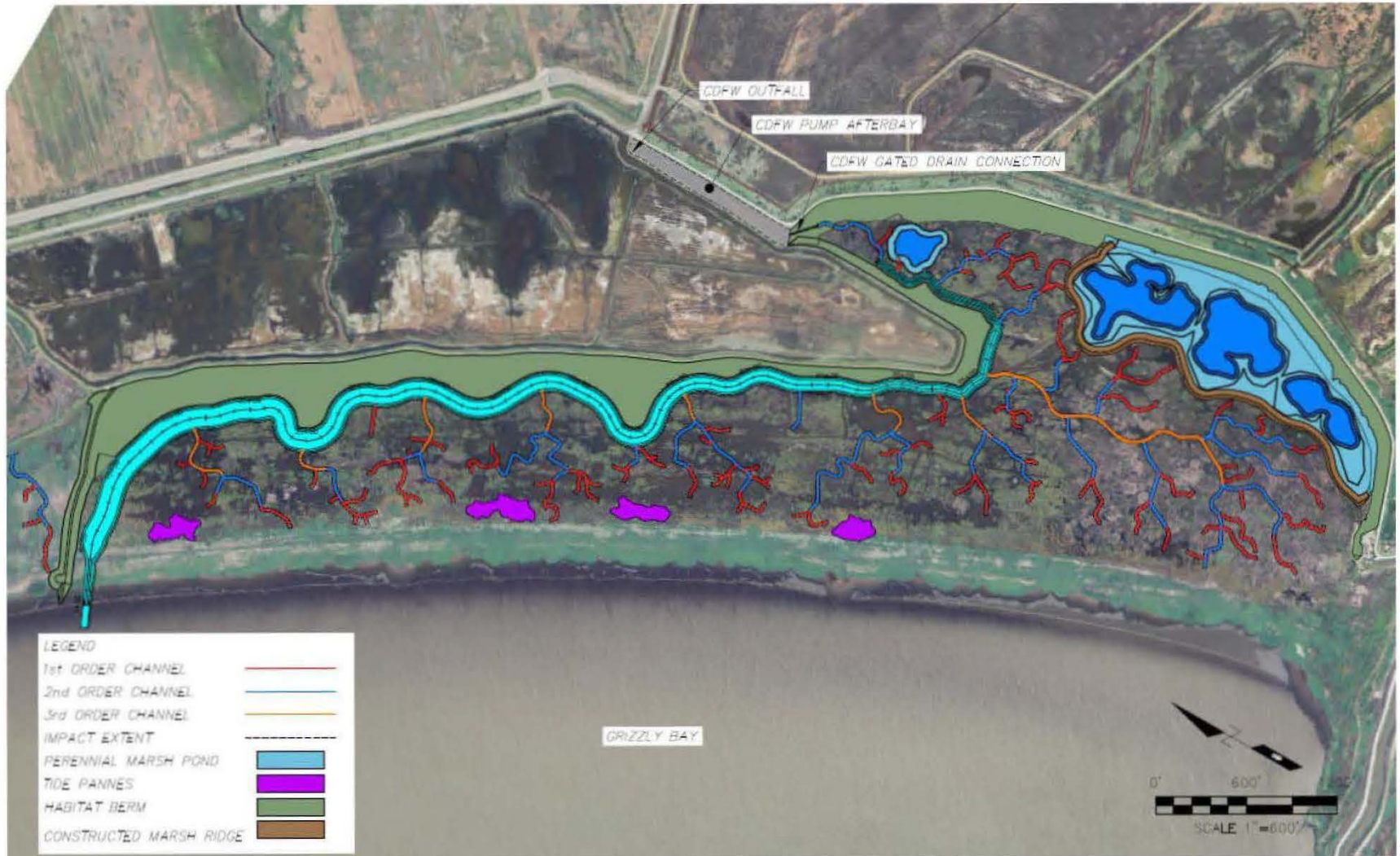
- Krone (1971) model used to evaluate mineral accretion utilizing Warner (2004) measured sediment values in Grizzly Bay.
- Mineral accretion is expected to exceed projected sea level rise over the next 50 years.

| Marsh Elevation<br>(feet above MSL) | Average Accretion Rate (in/yr) |       |        |        |        |        |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
|                                     | C*=50                          | C*=75 | C*=100 | C*=125 | C*=200 | C*=400 |
| 0                                   | 0.54                           | 0.81  | 1.08   | 1.35   | 2.16   | 4.31   |
| 0.5                                 | 0.42                           | 0.63  | 0.84   | 1.05   | 1.68   | 3.35   |
| 1                                   | 0.29                           | 0.44  | 0.59   | 0.73   | 1.17   | 2.34   |
| 1.5                                 | 0.17                           | 0.26  | 0.34   | 0.43   | 0.69   | 1.37   |
| (MWH) 2                             | 0.08                           | 0.12  | 0.16   | 0.20   | 0.33   | 0.65   |
| (MHHW) 2.5                          | 0.03                           | 0.04  | 0.05   | 0.06   | 0.10   | 0.21   |
| 3                                   | 0.00                           | 0.01  | 0.01   | 0.01   | 0.02   | 0.04   |

NRC (2012) predicted SLR in San Francisco relative to 2000

- 2030 – 5.7 in +/- 2 in (0.19 in/yr)
- 2050 – 11.1 in +/- 3.6 in (0.27 in/yr from 2030-2050)
- 2100 – 36.3 in +/- 10 in (0.5 in/yr from 2050-2100)

# The Design!



# Questions?

