



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION IX
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

September 1, 2006

Clyde Morris
Refuge Manager
Don Edwards San Francisco Bay NWR
P.O. Box 524
Newark, California 94560

Subject: Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Bair Island Restoration and Management Plan, San Mateo County, California (CEQ #20060314)

Dear Mr. Morris:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the above-referenced document pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508) and Section 309 of the Clean Air Act.

The FEIS analyzes the proposal to restore to tidal action 1,400 acres of former salt ponds on Bair Island in South San Francisco Bay. The document analyzes five alternatives, including the proposed action of tidal marsh restoration with intermediate public access. EPA supports this project and the environmental benefits that will be achieved by restoring the island complex to its natural state. EPA has no objections to the proposed action described in the FEIS.

We appreciate the opportunity to review this FEIS. When the Record of Decision is signed, please send one copy to the address above (mail code: CED-2). If you have any questions, please contact me at (415) 972-3988 or Ann McPherson, the lead reviewer for this project. Ann can be reached at (415) 972-3545 or mcperson.ann@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

/S/

Duane James, Manager
Environmental Review Office
Communities and Ecosystems