



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

San Diego Bay National Wildlife Refuge South San Diego Bay Unit

Restoration Update, February 2011

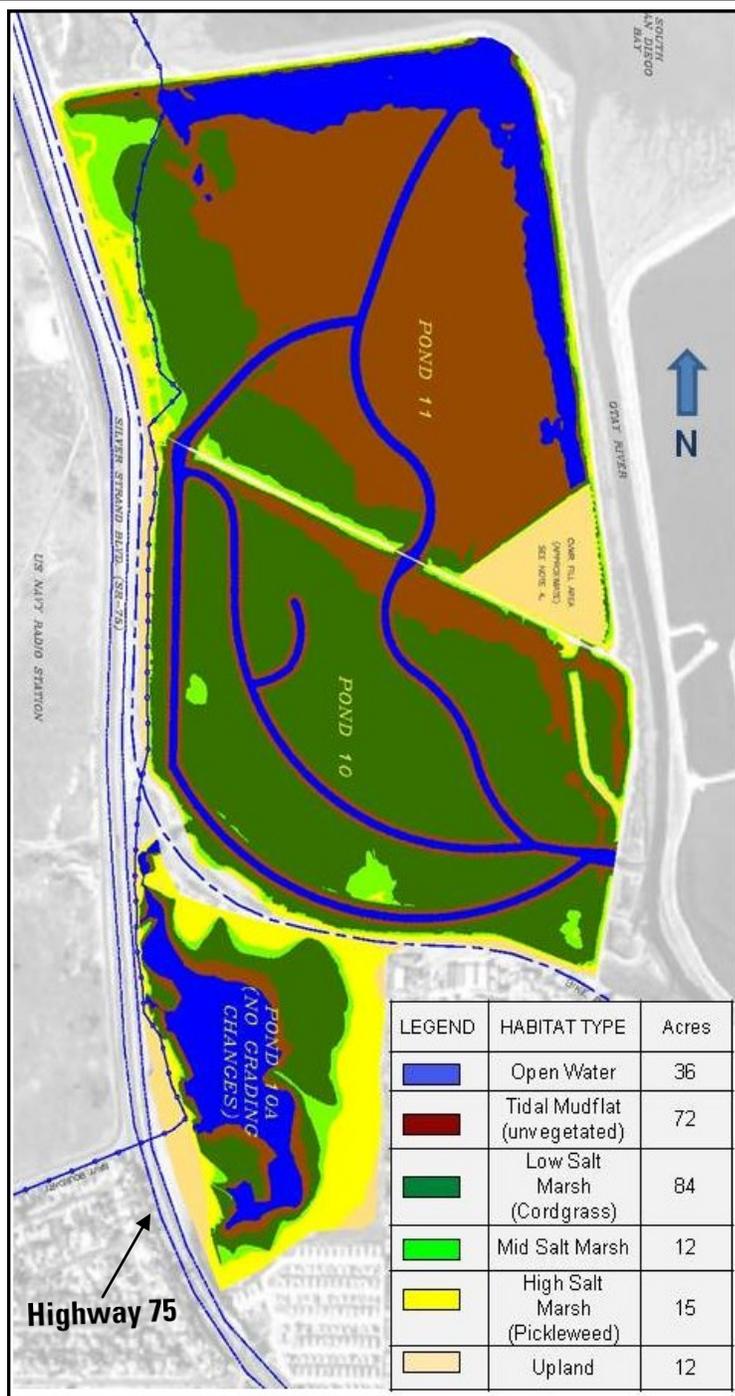
Construction Work to Begin in the Western Salt Ponds

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service San Diego National Wildlife Refuge Complex (Service) is looking forward to beginning its restoration efforts in the western salt ponds of the San Diego Bay National Wildlife Refuge (Refuge). By this summer, these ponds will be restored to tidal influence, ultimately providing habitat for fish and other marine organisms, as well as foraging areas for shorebirds, seabirds, ducks, and other waterbirds.

The Southwest Wetlands Interpretive Association (SWIA), which is managing the restoration project for the Refuge, recently awarded the construction contract for the project. With this step completed, you will begin to see construction activity in the western salt ponds located between Highway 75 and the Otay River channel. Construction access will be from 8th Street in Imperial Beach.

In the next few days, trucks and tractors will be deployed to the site to prepare for construction. This activity will be followed by the delivery of a large crane to be used to assemble a dredge that will be floating in the ponds for several months. The crane and delivery trucks will be present for several days at the beginning of the project and several days in mid to late June, when the project is scheduled to be completed. Once the dredge is in place, it will be used to create tidal channels in Ponds 10 and 11. All the mud removed to create the channels will be pumped into the northern pond (Pond 11). No construction will occur in Pond 10A. The dredge will run six days a week, 12 hours a day (7 am - 7pm). Noise from the operation once dredging begins is expected to be minimal.

The Refuge has established a **Public Information Hotline** that can be used to report concerns related to construction activity or construction noise. That number is 619-840-0587. For general questions about the restoration project, please contact Kurt Roblek, Acting Refuge Manager, at 619-575-2704 extension 334.



Restoration Plan for Ponds 10, 10A, and 11

(A partnership between the Service, Port of San Diego, California Coastal Conservancy, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration, and SWIA)



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 Fish & Wildlife Service
 San Diego National Wildlife Refuge Complex
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Restoration Timeline

- February 2011** Begin Dredging the Tidal Channels in Ponds 10 and 11 and Move the Material to Pond 11
- June 2011** Breach the Levees to Restore Tidal Influence to Ponds 10,10A, and 11
- July 2011** Begin Planting Salt Marsh Vegetation in Pond 10

*Want to get
 involved with Refuges?*

Tijuana Sloughs Beach Cleanup

**Thursday, February 17th
 @ 2:00 PM**



Please meet us at the end of Seacoast Drive in Imperial Beach to help clean up your beach, your Refuge, and home for threatened and endangered birds! Wear sunscreen, hat, and sturdy shoes. Buckets & gloves available.



Contact: Danielle Litke 619.575.6913 X 330 or volunteer@trnerr.org

