Working Together for a Resilient North Bay Landscape


Photo courtesy of Sonoma Land Trust

Jessica Davenport, State Coastal Conservancy
SR 37 – Baylands Group
Presentation to State Route 37 Policy Committee
November 2, 2017

Coastal Conservancy

Presentation Outline

SR 37 – Baylands Group

- Who We Are
- Vision Statement and Guiding Principles
- Flood Control 2.0 as a Model for Collaborative Design

SR 37 – Baylands Group formed in response to accelerated action due to flooding

Photo courtesy of The Press Democrat

SR 37 – Baylands Group: Who We Are

- North Bay wetland land managers
- Ecological restoration practitioners, and
- Other stakeholders with a long-term interest in the conservation and restoration of the San Pablo Baylands

Photo courtesy of Ducks Unlimited

State Coastal Conservancy's Role

- Long-term funder of San Pablo Baylands restoration
- Coordinator of the SR 37 – Baylands Group
- Promoting collaboration with transportation and regulatory agencies
- Funded Baylands Goals Science Update 2015

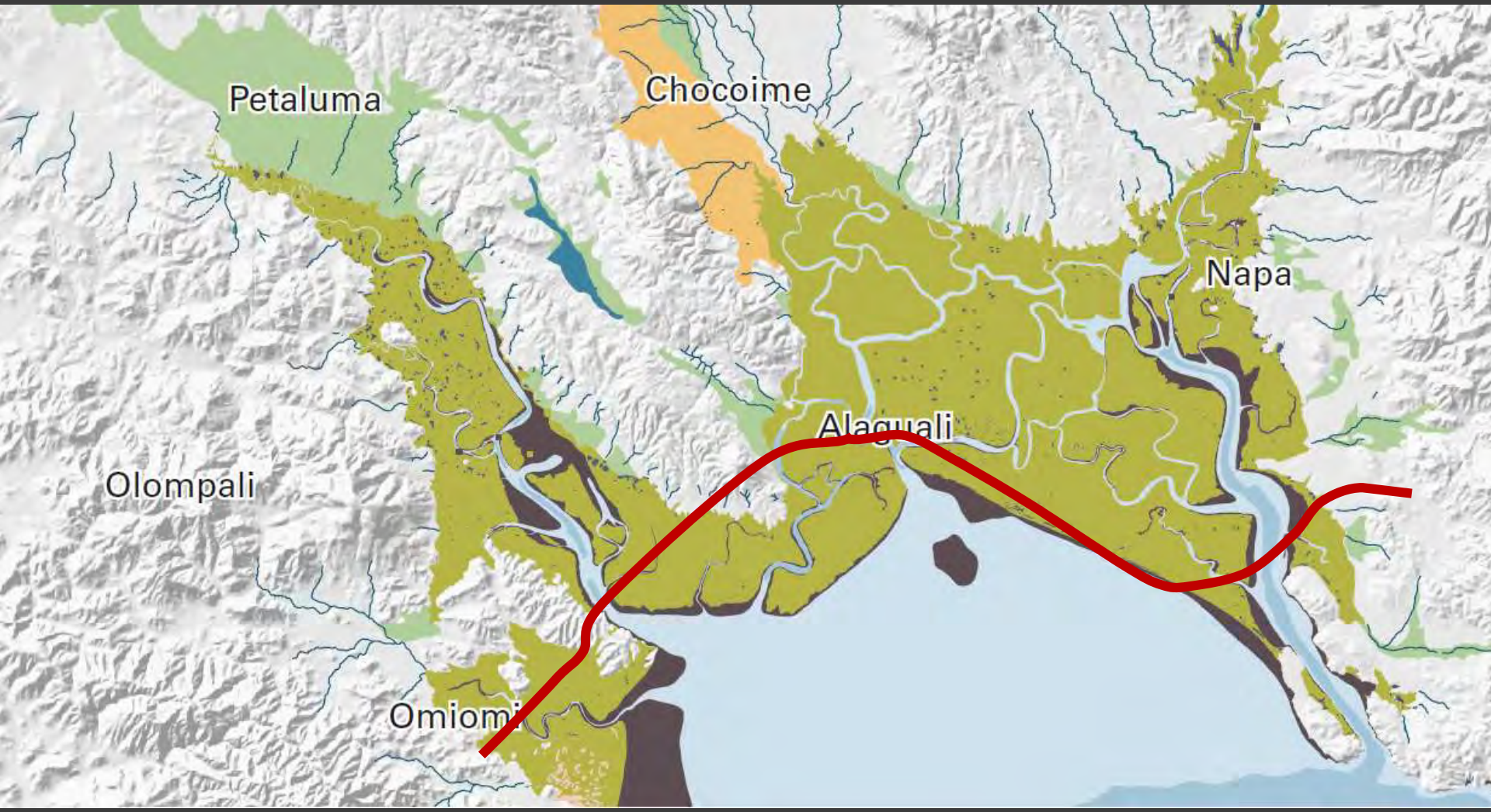
Coastal Conservancy

Image courtesy of Ducks Unlimited

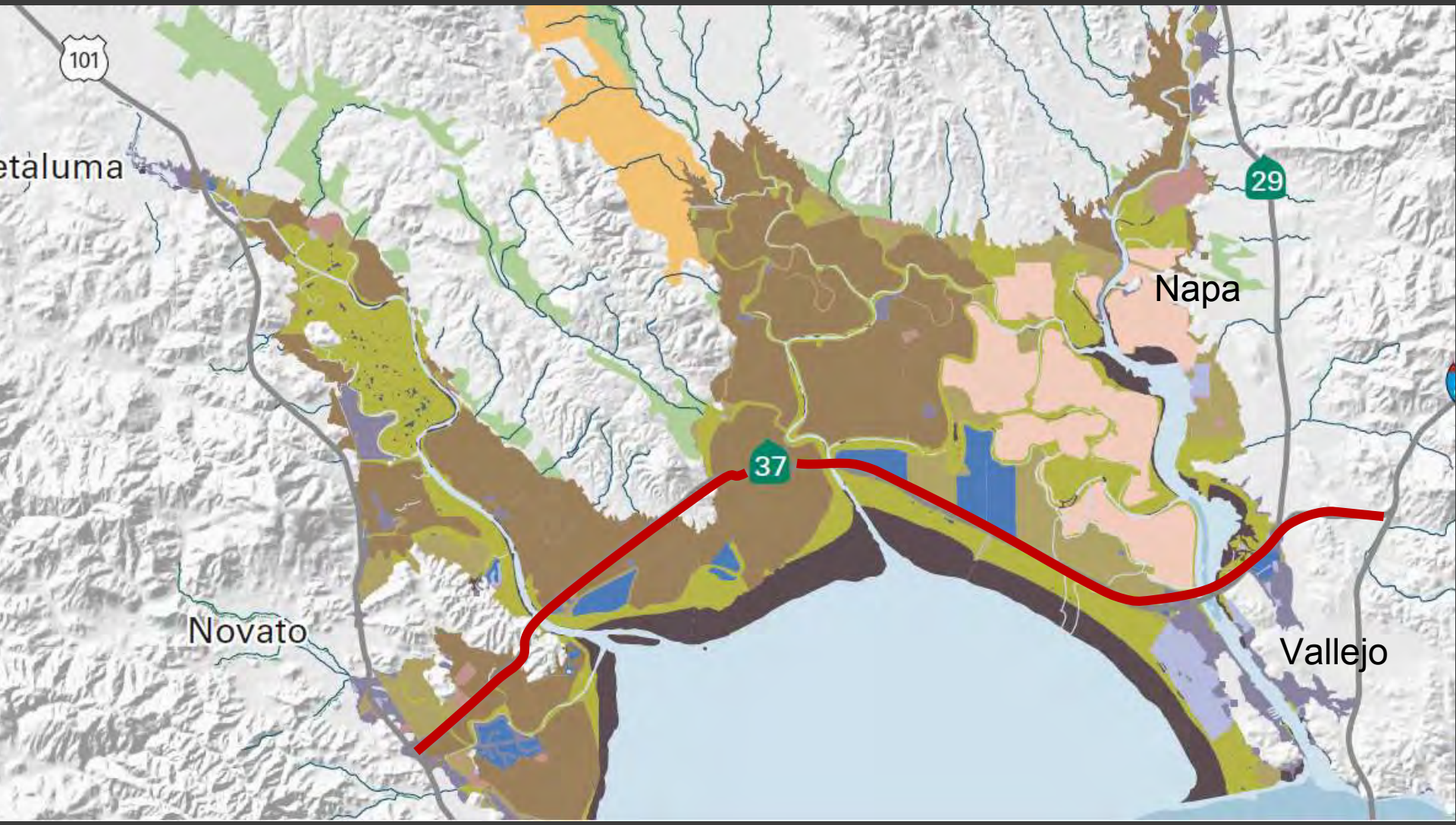
Vision: Integrate, Don’t Mitigate

Integrate **infrastructure improvements** for SR 37 with existing and future **habitat** planning, conservation and restoration to ensure **healthy ecosystem function** and **resilience** to landscape scale change of the San Pablo Bay.

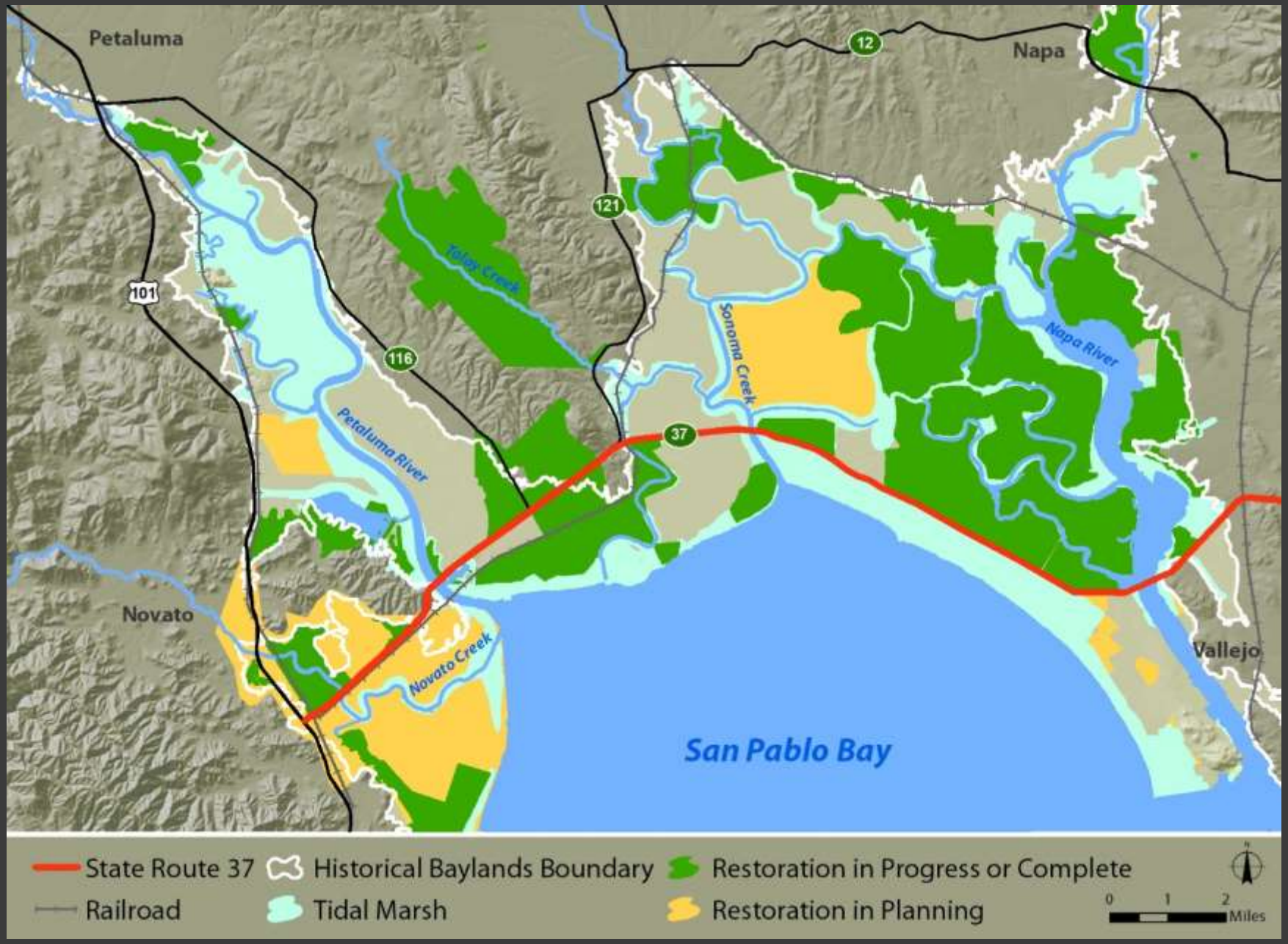
Baylands Goals are the Blueprint



Baylands Habitats, 1998



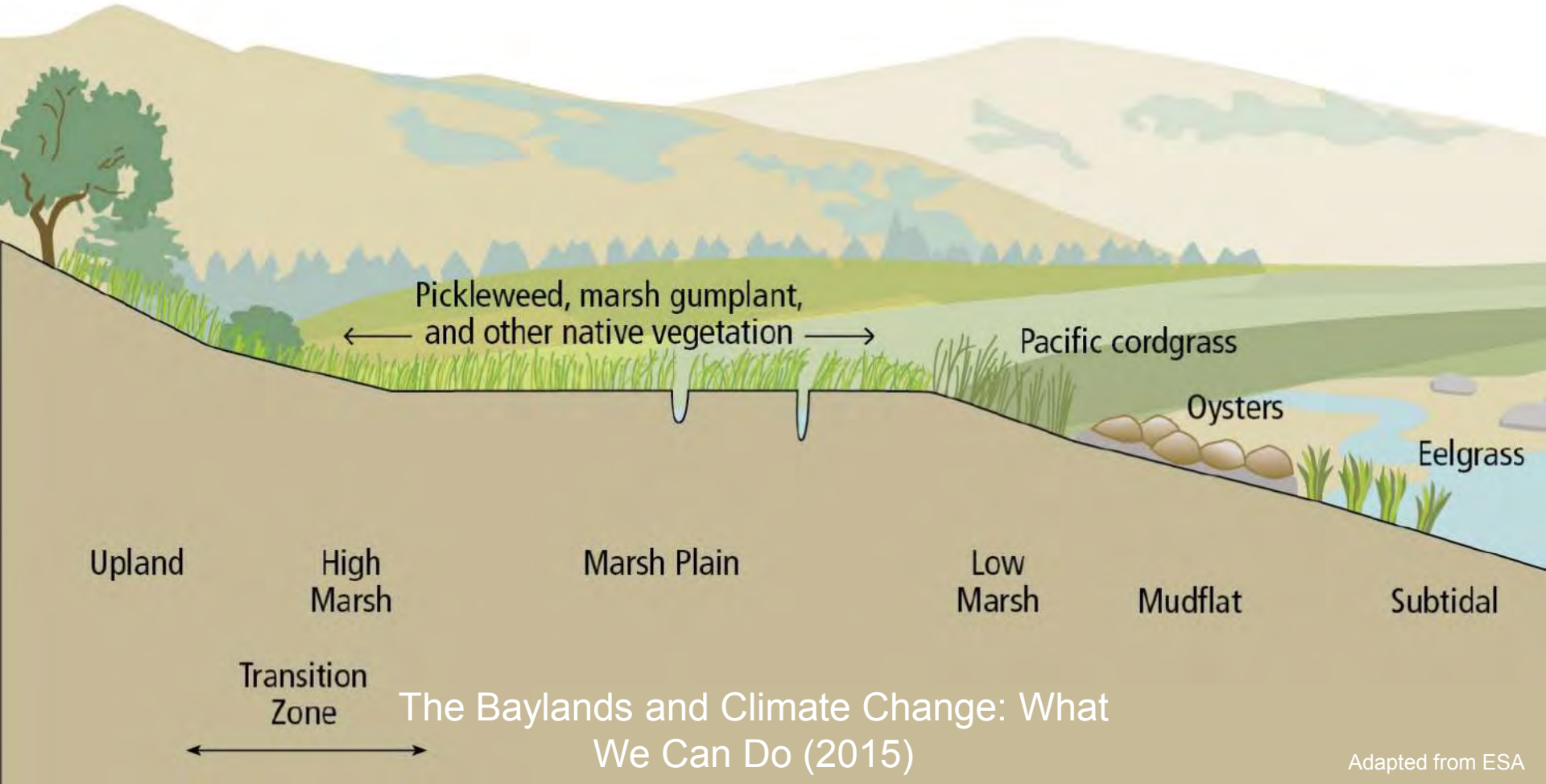
Restoration to Date and Planned



TODAY

- SR 37 elevation at or just above sea level
- Mostly within San Pablo Baylands historical marshes
- Surrounded by ~30,000 acres of protected and restored habitat
- Investment in ecosystem exceeds $600 million for conservation and restoration

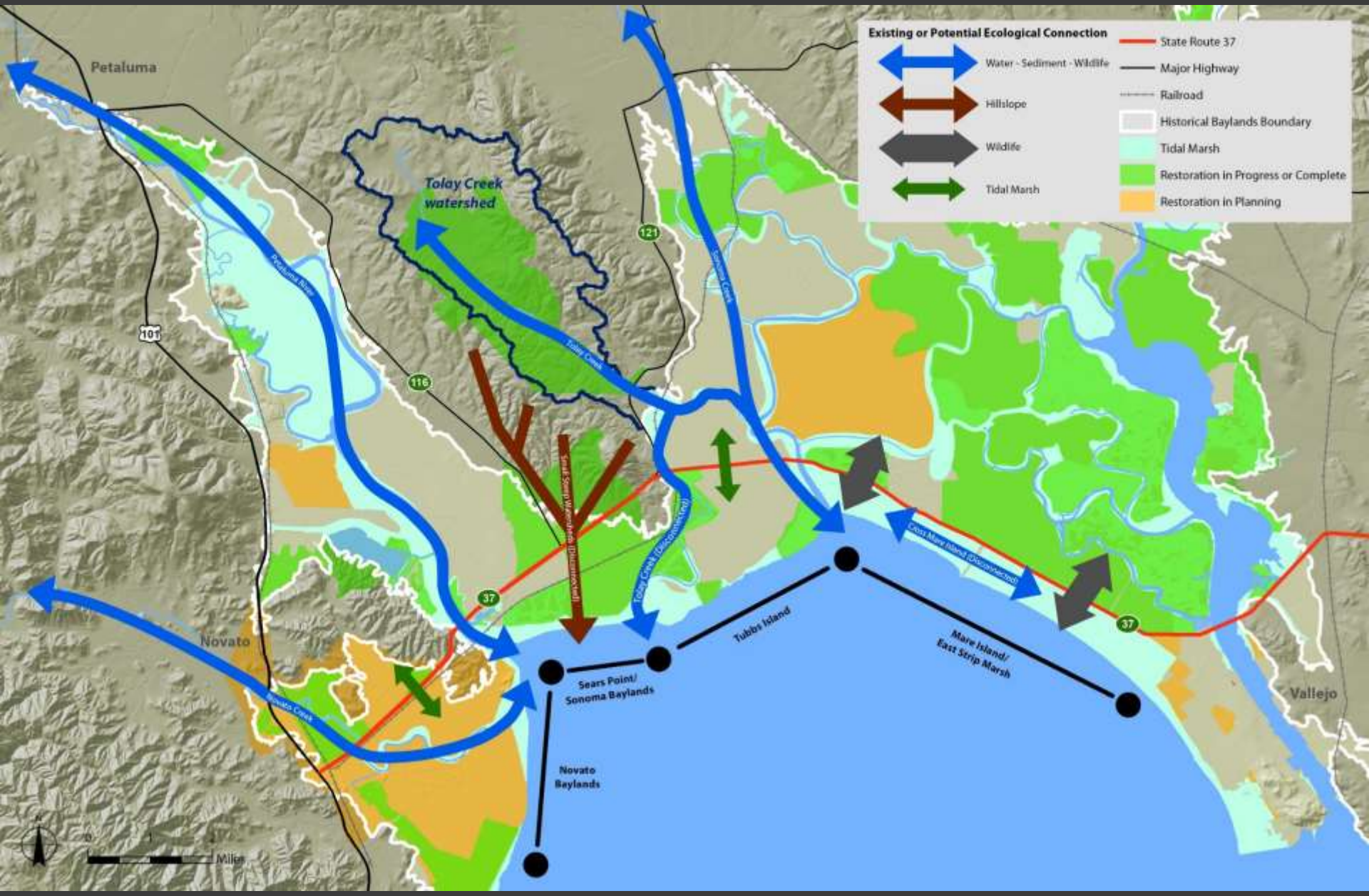
Restore COMPLETE SYSTEMS



The Baylands and Climate Change: What We Can Do (2015)

Adapted from ESA

Improve Ecological Connectivity



From Uplands To The Bay

PLAN FOR THE BAYLANDS TO *migrate*

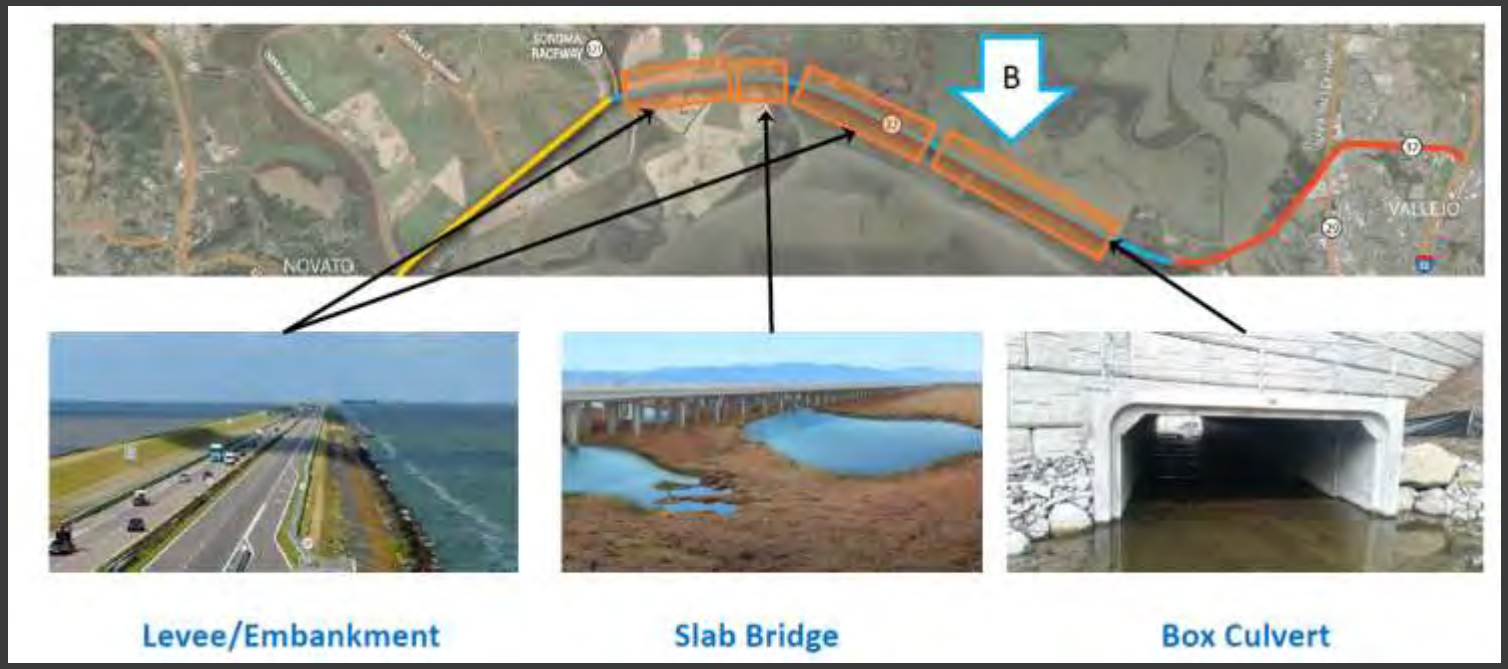
Baylands and Climate Change: What We Can Do (2015)

SFEI | AQUATIC SCIENCE CENTER

Accommodate Future Sea Levels, River Flows, and Floodplains

Avoid or Minimize
Direct Impacts To Habitats And Wildlife

Seeking solutions that elevate SR 37 and allow for full passage of sediment, water and wildlife



- Raised roadbed with a combination of embankment, box culverts, slab bridge

Images from *Draft SR 37 Transportation and Sea Level Rise Corridor Improvement Plan*

SR 37 – Baylands Group Work Plan

June 2017

Nineteen agencies and NGOs meet and form Baylands Group

Aug. – Oct. 2017

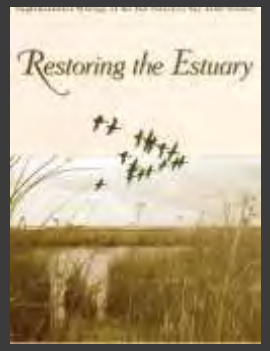
Develop white paper and comment on Draft Corridor Plan

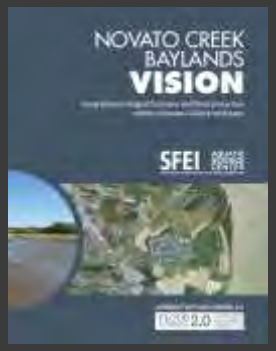
Aug. – Oct. 2017

Collaborate with MTC to design env. workshop series

Oct. 2017 –Mar. 2018

Collaboration on DAA through Environmental Working Group





Flood Control 2.0 as a Model Process:
Novato Creek Baylands Vision

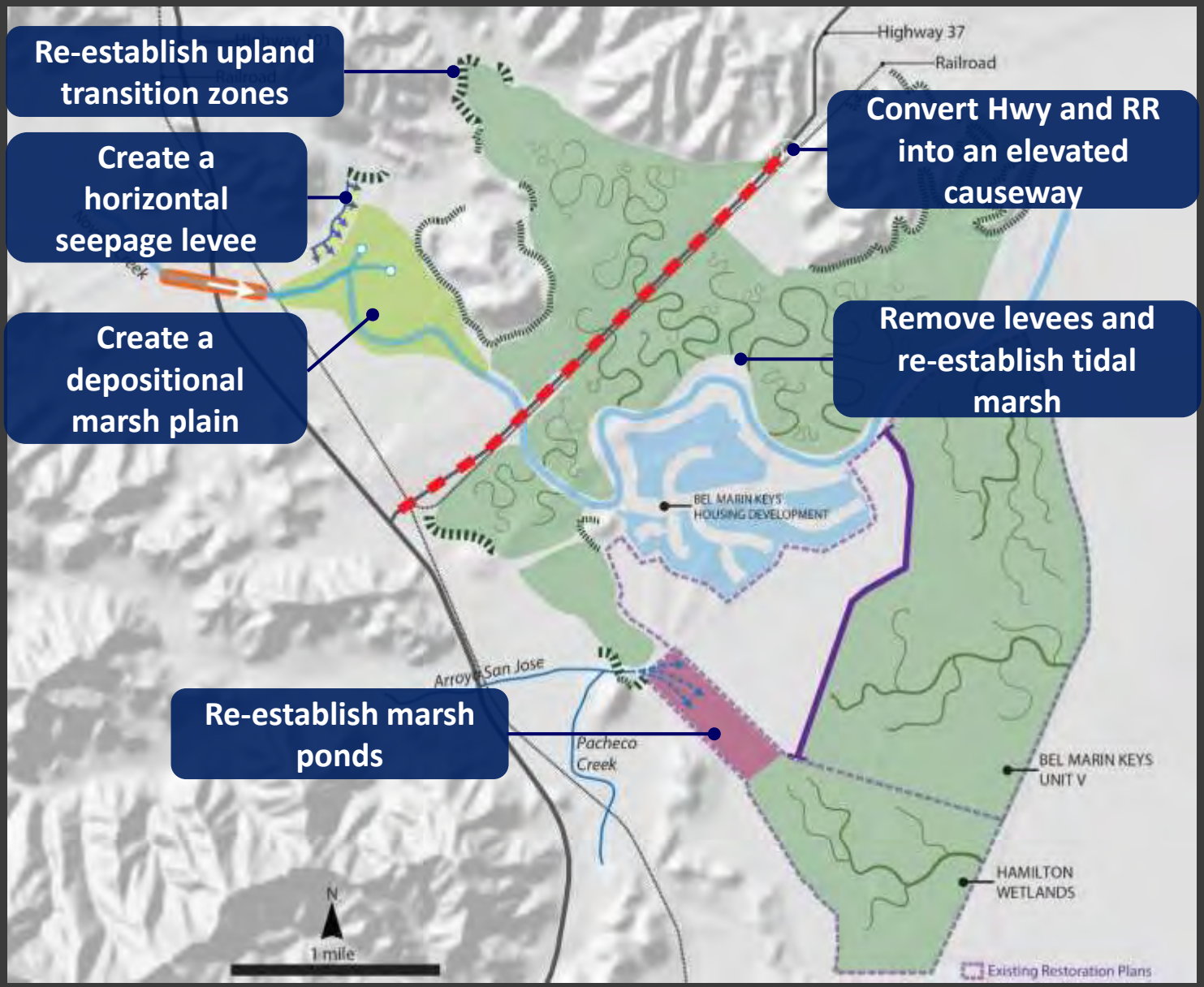
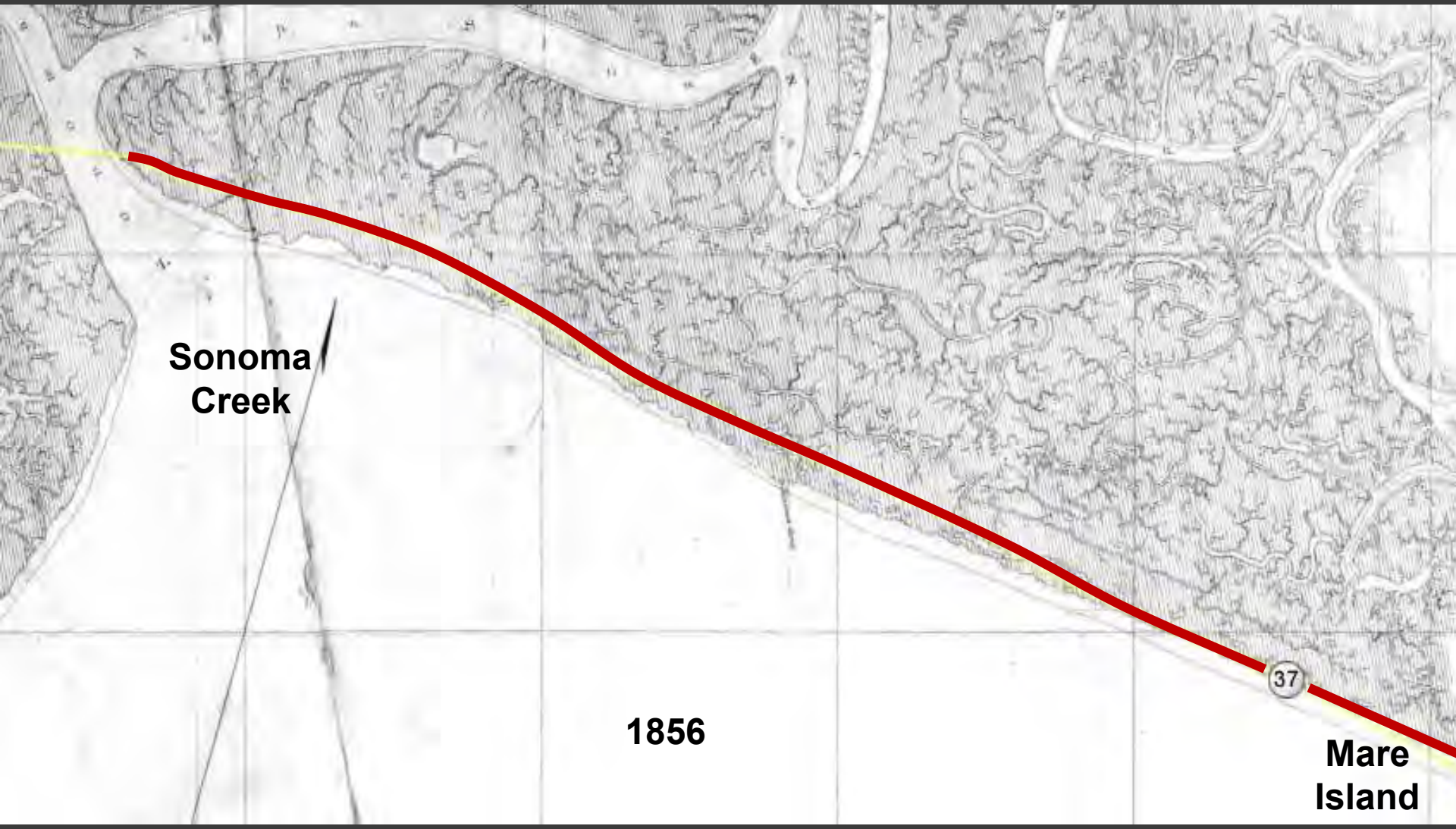
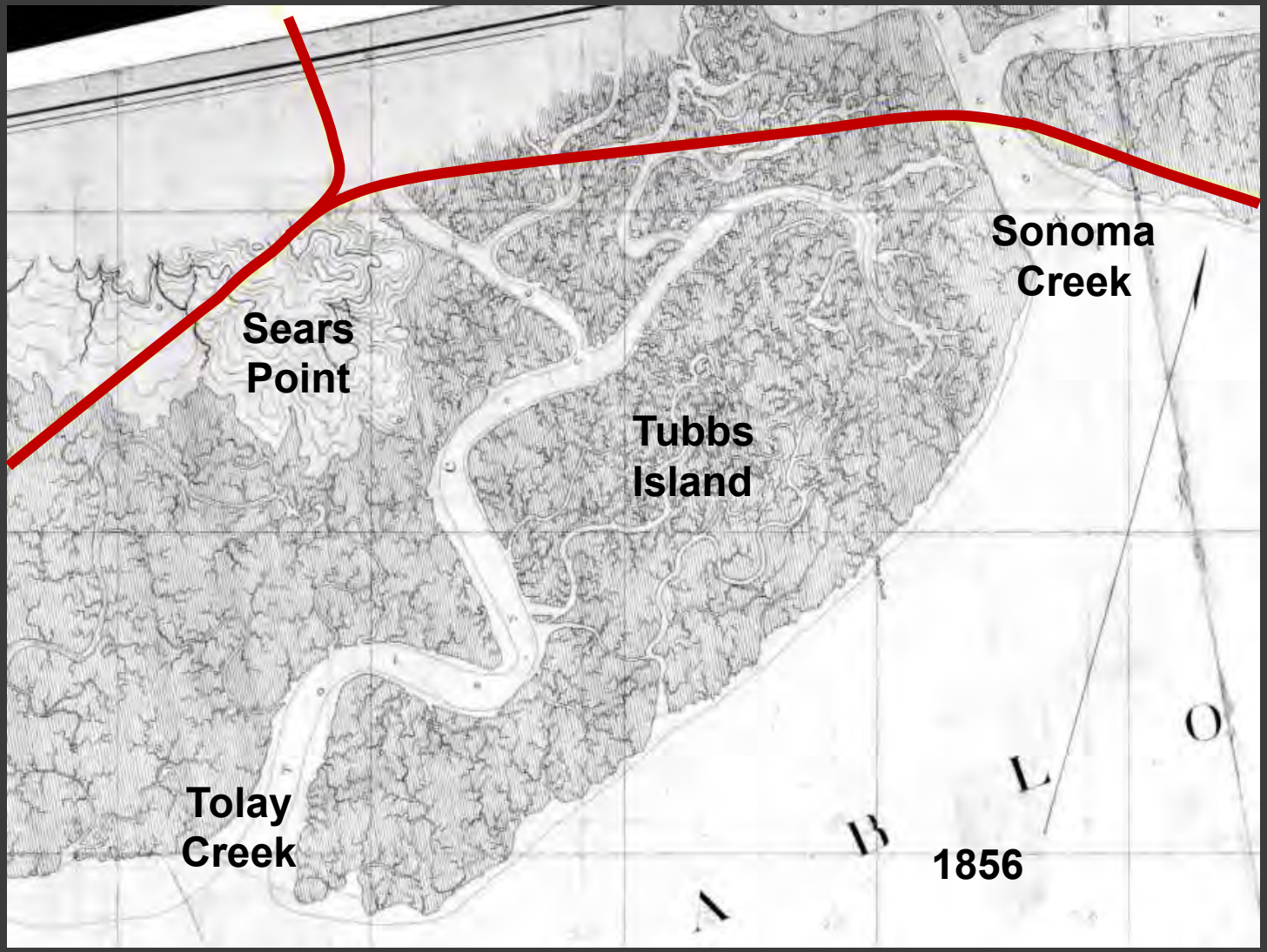


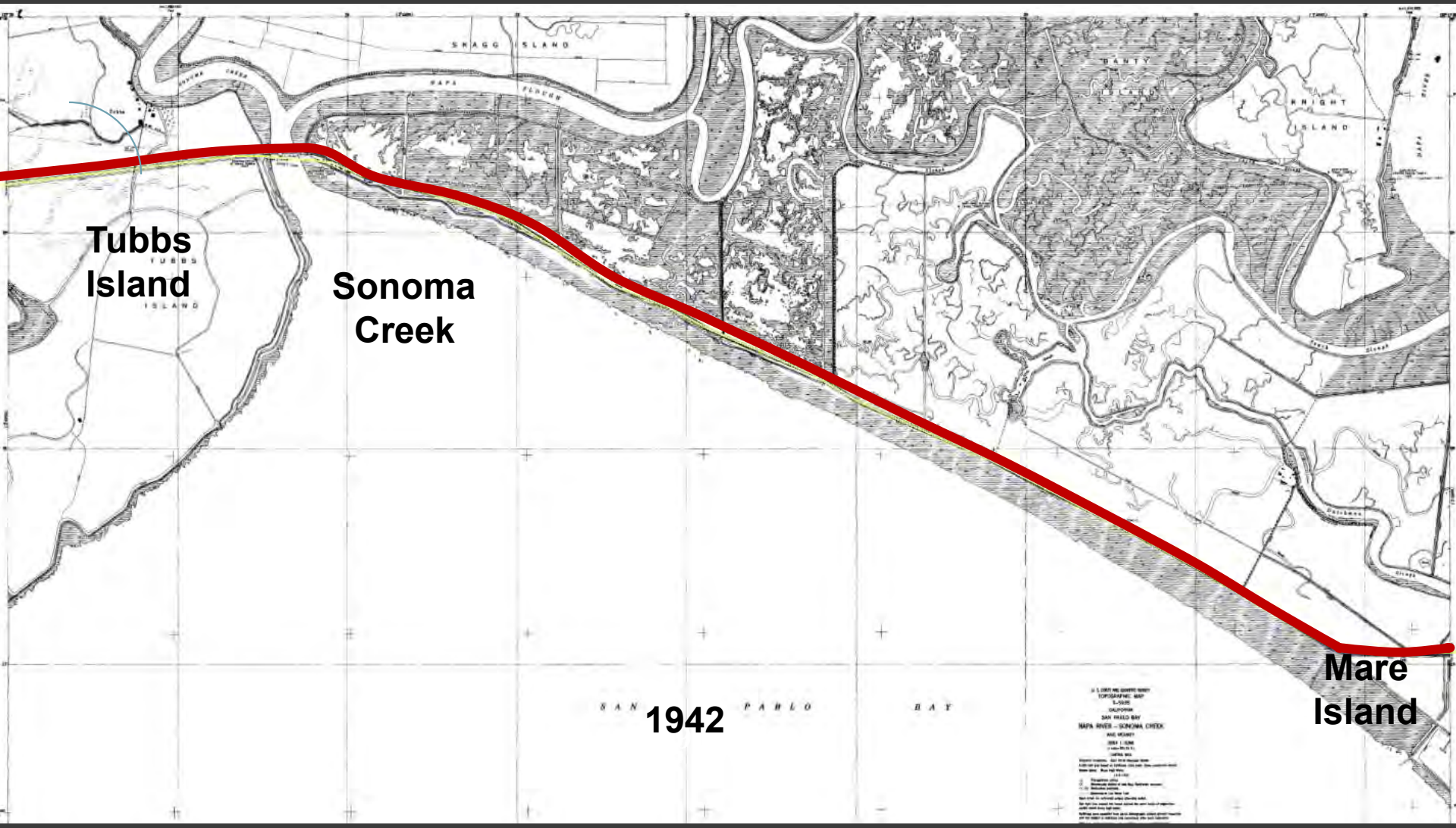
Image courtesy of San Francisco Estuary Institute

Questions?


Photo courtesy of Ducks Unlimited


Sonoma
Creek
1856
37
Mare
Island


Sonoma
Creek
Sears
Point
Tubbs
Island
Tolay
Creek
1856


Tubbs Island
Sonoma Creek
Mare Island
1942
SNAGG ISLAND
DANTY ISLAND
KNIGHT ISLAND
SAN PABLO BAY