

California Ridgway's Rail Surveys for the San Francisco Estuary Invasive *Spartina* Project 2016

Report to:

The State Coastal Conservancy
San Francisco Estuary Invasive *Spartina* Project
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1. Introduction

Annual monitoring for the endangered California Ridgway's rail (*Rallus obsoletus obsoletus*; formerly California clapper rail, *Rallus longirostris obsoletus*) is an essential component of the State Coastal Conservancy's Invasive *Spartina* Project (ISP). California Ridgway's rails are year-round residents of the tidal wetlands of the San Francisco Estuary and co-occur with native and non-native *Spartina*. The ISP requires information on the number of rails at each site for the planning and permitting of *Spartina* treatment. Additionally, annual breeding-season surveys provide a standardized measure of Ridgway's rail presence and distribution in *Spartina*-invaded marshes throughout the Estuary.

The California Ridgway's rail is classified as endangered by both the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Federal Register 50 CFR 17.11) and the State of California (California Code of Regulations Title 14, Section 670.5). The most recent analysis from Point Blue Conservation Science (PBCS) estimates that the average total population was about 1,167 individuals between 2009 to 2011 (Liu, et al., 2012). The present range of the California Ridgway's rail is limited to the tidal marshes of the San Francisco Estuary, with the exception of occasional observations along the outer coast in Tomales Bay.

California Ridgway's rails occur only in salt and brackish tidal marsh habitat and require vegetative cover suitable for both nesting and refuge during high tide events (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 2013). Marshes where they occur are characterized by unrestricted daily tidal flows through a network of well-developed channels. Channel density has been shown to be the most important landscape feature to positively influence Ridgway's rail density (Liu, et al., 2012). Additionally, large continuous marshes with a low perimeter-area ratio support higher densities of California Ridgway's rail (Liu, et al., 2012).

In collaboration with partner organizations, including Point Blue Conservation Science (PBCS), Don Edwards National Wildlife Refuge (DENWR), Avocet Research and Associates (ARA) and San Pablo Bay National Wildlife Refuge (SPBNWR), Olofson Environmental, Inc. (OEI) conducted surveys for California Ridgway's rails to inform the ISP about rail populations at sites slated for *Spartina* treatment in 2016. Trained and permitted biologists performed standard-protocol surveys at 129 *Spartina*-invaded sites between January 15 and April 15, 2016. The data were gathered in a geodatabase for analysis and summarized on a site-by-site basis.

The results of surveys conducted in 2016 by OEI are presented in this report. The ISP relies on partner organizations to conduct surveys and report results collected at other *Spartina*-invaded sites that are not surveyed by OEI. The summary data presented here represent unique detections of Ridgway's rails within the areas surveyed by OEI. These data should not be misinterpreted to be a range-wide population estimate or a comprehensive count of Ridgway's rails at all *Spartina*-invaded sites. For a complete list of ISP subareas and associated survey organizations, see **Appendix I: Complete List of 2016 *Spartina* Treatment Sites and Ridgway's Rail Survey Plans by Site.**

Where available, data from 2010 to 2015 are also included in this report. However, caution should be used when comparing survey results between years. Rails are difficult to detect and survey results can be highly variable even when there is a stable population. Weather, timing, observer, and survey effort can all bias results. The best way to understand Bay-wide trends is through rigorous statistical analysis, which is beyond the scope of this report.

2. Study Area

OEI conducted surveys for California Ridgway's rail within 129 tidal marsh sites in the San Francisco Estuary. To facilitate presentation and evaluation of rail survey information, these sites were grouped into nine reporting regions: Bay Bridge North, San Leandro Bay, Hayward, Union City, Dumbarton South, San Mateo, San Francisco Peninsula, Marin, and San Pablo Bay (**Figure 1**). The study area spanned the counties of Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Solano, and Sonoma.

All of the 129 sites surveyed contained non-native *Spartina*, and all but 11 sites are slated for full treatment by the ISP in 2016. The remaining 11 sites (shown in red on Figure 1) were surveyed to track local trends in rail populations even though *Spartina* treatment is restricted at these sites in 2016. Partner organizations surveyed an additional 50 ISP sites that will be treated for non-native *Spartina* in 2016. Rail survey data from these sites are not included in this report. The results from these surveys will be reported on by the survey organizations. For a complete list of all ISP sites and associated survey organizations, see **Appendix I: Complete List of 2016 *Spartina* Treatment Sites and Ridgway's Rail Survey Plans by Site**.

Twenty-four sites surveyed by OEI in previous years were not surveyed in 2016 because they no longer contained invasive *Spartina*. Recent *Spartina* inventory from 2015 reported no non-native *Spartina* remaining to require treatment, and rail surveys at the sites in recent years had not documented any rails, so rail surveys were deemed unnecessary.

A summary of survey information is presented in **Table 1**, and includes information on the number of stations surveyed at each site, the proportion of the site surveyed, as well as the type of survey conducted. For a complete list of OEI survey stations and their geographic coordinates in UTM, see **Appendix II: 2016 Survey Station Coordinates**.

2. Study Area

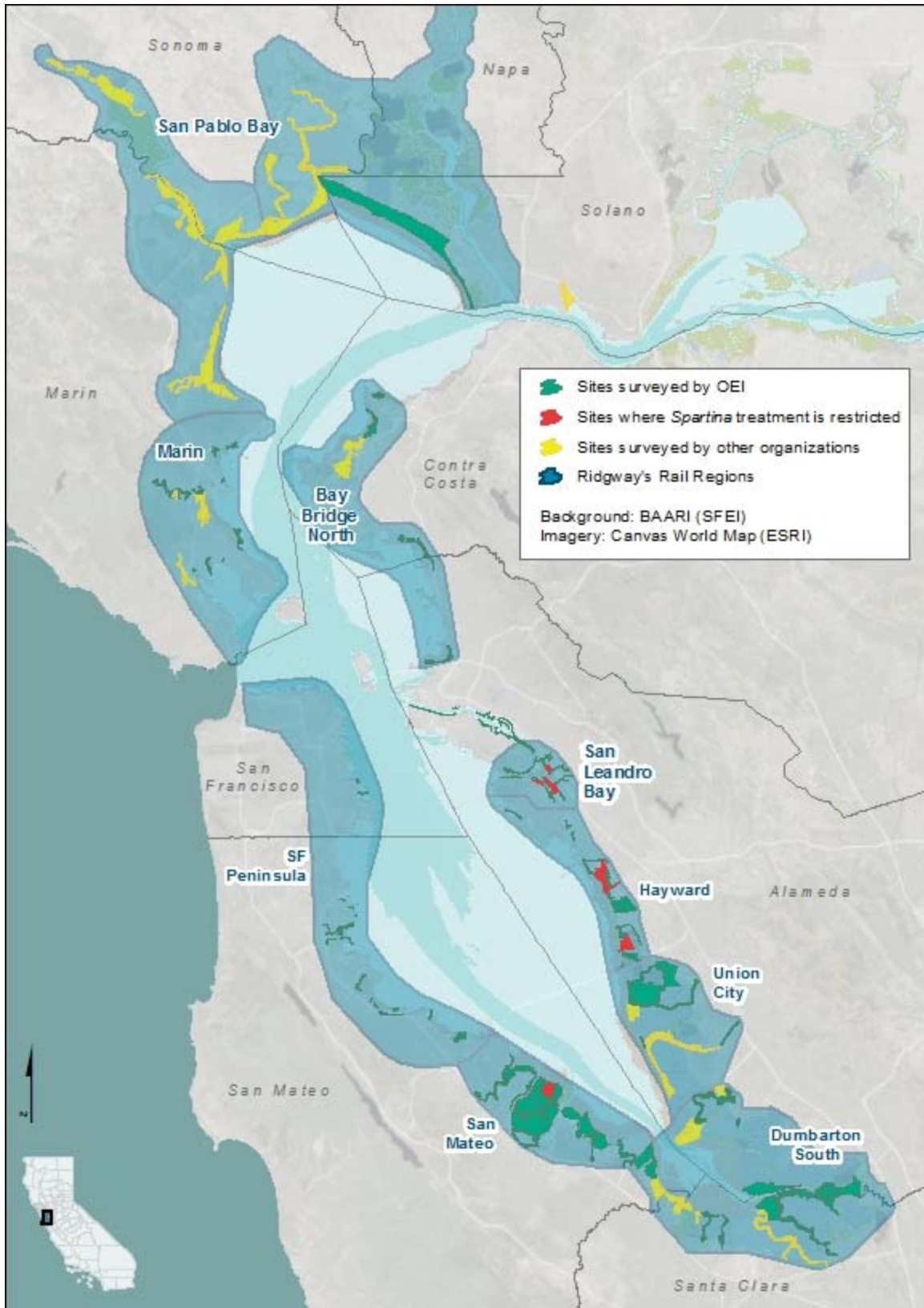


Figure 1. Regional boundaries of ISP sites surveyed for California Ridgway's rail by OEI and others in 2016.

Table 1. Summary of site information grouped by region. Survey protocols are described in detail in Section 3.1. Site areas were defined in GIS based on the intersection of *Spartina* treatment sub-areas and areas where rails could potentially be found (generally excluding areas such as large mudflats and riprap shorelines). Survey area and the proportion of site surveyed were calculated assuming a 200-meter detection area around each survey station, though rails were frequently detected beyond this threshold. Survey area was considered null for sites lacking suitable breeding habitat during the initial F-survey site assessment.

REGION: Bay Bridge North						
Site Name and ID	Survey Protocol	Number of Stations	Station Placement	Site Area (ha)	Survey Area (ha)	Proportion of Site Surveyed
Emeryville Crescent - East (06a)	C	2	marsh edge	21.93	5.89	27%
Emeryville Crescent - West (06b)	A	7	road	12.75	12.75	100%
Whittell Marsh (10a)	A	4	footpath	18.16	17.37	96%
Southern Marsh (10b)	F	-	-	3.09	-	-
Giant Marsh (10c)	A	4	footpath	11.75	11.49	98%
Wildcat Marsh (22a)	A	8	boardwalk	117.14	53.56	46%
San Pablo Marsh (22b)	A	5	boardwalk	65.60	40.90	62%
Rheem Creek Area (22c)	A	4	footpath	10.04	8.99	89%
Stege Marsh (22d)	A	2	footpath	11.46	10.65	93%
Meeker Slough (22d)	A	2	footpath	9.70	8.54	88%
Hoffman Marsh (22e)	A	3	footpath	14.58	13.55	93%
Albany Shoreline (22f)	F	-	-	5.30	-	-
REGION: San Leandro Bay						
Site Name and ID	Survey Protocol	Number of Stations	Station Placement	Site Area (ha)	Survey Area (ha)	Proportion of Site Surveyed
Elsie Roemer (17a)	C	7	footpath	7.19	7.06	98%
Bay Farm Island (17b)	F	-	-	3.07	-	-
Arrowhead Marsh (17c) ¹	B	1	marsh edge	17.77	5.95	33%
Arrowhead Marsh - West (17c.1)	-	-	-	9.19	4.31	47%
Arrowhead Marsh - East (17c.2)	-	-	-	8.58	1.65	19%
Airport Channel - Fan Shore (17d.1)	F	-	-	3.04	-	-
MLK Regional Shoreline - Damon (17d.4)	A	3	footpath	4.09	4.09	100%
San Leandro Creek (17e)	A	7	footpath	2.99	2.99	100%
Oakland Inner Harbor (17f)	F	-	-	13.02	-	-
Coast Guard Is (17g)	F	-	-	1.26	-	-
MLK New Marsh (17h)	A	7	footpath	13.89	13.86	100%
Coliseum Channels (17i)	F	-	-	5.43	-	-
Fan Marsh (17j)	A	3	road & levee	5.05	4.99	99%
Airport Channel (17k)	F	-	-	1.64	-	-
Doolittle Pond (17l)	C	2	footpath	1.34	0.84	63%
Alameda Island - East (17m)	F	-	-	2.36	-	-

¹ Site is split according to treatment permissions (treatment is only permitted on a portion of the overall site).

(Table 1 continued on next page)

2. Study Area

Table 1. Summary of site information, continued from previous page.

<i>REGION: Hayward</i>						
Site Name and ID	Survey Protocol	Number of Stations	Station Placement	Site Area (ha)	Survey Area (ha)	Proportion of Site Surveyed
Oro Loma - East (07a)	A	8	old levee	79.74	51.73	65%
Oro Loma - West (07b)	A	16	old levee	52.90	42.97	81%
Oyster Bay Regional Shoreline (20a)	F	-	-	4.61	-	-
Oakland Golf Links (20b)	F	-	-	0.78	-	-
Dog Bone Marsh (20c)	F	-	-	2.85	-	-
Citation Marsh (20d) ¹	A	7	levee	45.09	27.65	61%
<i>Citation Marsh - South (20d.1)</i>	-	-	-	17.95	7.95	44%
<i>Citation Marsh - North (20d.2)</i>	-	-	-	27.14	19.69	73%
East Marsh (20e)	A	0	footpath	15.04	4.55	30%
North Marsh (20f)	A	6	footpath	35.99	33.71	94%
Bunker Marsh (20g)	A	4	footpath	14.49	13.71	95%
San Lorenzo Creek (20h) ¹	A	8	marsh edge	10.93	10.61	97%
<i>San Lorenzo Creek - North (20h.1)</i>	-	-	-	5.47	5.38	98%
<i>San Lorenzo Creek - South (20h.2)</i>	-	-	-	5.46	5.17	95%
Bockmann Channel (20i)	F	-	-	1.01	-	-
Sulphur Creek (20j)	A	3	footpath	3.33	3.33	100%
Hayward Landing (20k)	C	1	footpath	1.24	1.24	100%
Johnson's Landing (20l)	F	-	-	4.10	-	-
Cogswell - Sec A (20m)	A	7	footpath	14.11	14.06	100%
Cogswell - Sec B (20n)	A	7	footpath	40.53	37.28	92%
Cogswell - Sec C (20o)	A	7	footpath	20.15	20.11	100%
Hayward Shoreline Outliers (20p)	F	-	-	1.57	-	-
San Leandro Shoreline Outliers (20q)	F	-	-	4.68	-	-
Oakland Airport (20r)	C	3	road	7.66	5.23	68%
HARD Marsh (20s)	A	5	footpath	26.65	21.32	80%
San Leandro Marina (20t)	F	-	-	3.93	-	-
Estudillo Creek Channel (20u)	F	-	-	5.81	-	-
Hayward Landing Canal (20v)	F	-	-	4.79	-	-
Triangle Marsh - Hayward (20w)	C	2	footpath	5.00	3.67	74%

¹ Site is split according to treatment permissions (treatment is only permitted on a portion of the overall site).

(Table 1 continued on next page)

Table 1. Summary of site information, continued from previous page.

REGION: Union City						
Site Name and ID	Survey Protocol	Number of Stations	Station Placement	Site Area (ha)	Survey Area (ha)	Proportion of Site Surveyed
AFCC - Upper (01c)	G	13	levee	30.47	29.61	97%
AFCC - Strip Marsh (01e)	F	-	-	2.94	-	-
OAC - North Bank (13a)	A	6	levee	10.87	10.11	93%
OAC - Island (13b)	A	9	footpath	37.94	34.99	92%
OAC - South Bank (13c)	A	6	footpath	9.75	8.98	92%
Whale's Tail - North (13d)	A	8	footpath	56.89	26.63	47%
OAC - Upstream 20 Tide Gates (13g)	F	-	-	10.14	-	-
Eden Landing - North Creek (13h)	F	-	-	14.51	-	-
Eden Landing - Pond 10 (13i)	F	-	-	87.46	-	-
Eden Landing - Mt Eden Creek (13j)	C	6	footpath	50.52	24.95	49%
Eden Landing Reserve - South (13k)	C	4	footpath	96.98	16.21	17%
Eden Landing Reserve - North (13l)	C	4	levee	92.99	32.41	35%
Eden Landing - Ponds E8A, E9, E8X (13m)	F	-	-	272.71	-	-
REGION: Dumbarton South						
Site Name and ID	Survey Protocol	Number of Stations	Station Placement	Site Area (ha)	Survey Area (ha)	Proportion of Site Surveyed
Ravenswood Open Space Preserve (02j)	F	-	-	9.19	-	-
SF2 (02n)	F	-	-	98.18	-	-
Calaveras Marsh (05a.2)	A	8	levee	184.41	28.86	16%
Dumbarton/Audubon (05b)	A	7	levee	201.34	72.00	36%
Newark Slough (05c)	A	7	bay trail	97.27	21.25	22%
Mayhew's Landing (05e)	C	2	footpath	11.31	8.51	75%
Cargill Pond (W Suites Hotel) (05g)	C	1	footpath	7.36	7.09	96%
Plummer Creek Mitigation (05h)	C	3	footpath	6.73	6.55	97%
Palo Alto Baylands (08)	A	7	footpath	47.02	29.92	64%
Palo Alto Harbor (08)	A	6	footpath	51.94	35.68	69%
Charleston Slough (15a.1)	A	2	footpath	14.66	10.72	73%
Mountain View Slough (15a.1)	A	2	levee	29.94	8.85	30%
Stevens Creek to Long Point (15a.2)	A	5	levee	23.03	14.52	63%
Guadalupe Slough (15a.3)	A	8	levee	127.96	35.92	28%
Alviso Slough (15a.4)	A	8	levee	176.58	25.39	14%
Coyote Creek South East (15a.5)	A	8	levee	84.34	42.01	50%
Knapp Tract (15a.6)	F	-	-	154.94	-	-
Faber Marsh (15b)	A	5	footpath	46.87	40.63	87%
Laumeister Marsh (15b)	A	6	footpath	36.54	22.43	61%
Stevens Creek (15c)	C	2	levee	11.27	8.42	75%
Cooley Landing (16)	A	8	footpath	70.86	45.07	64%

(Table 1 continued on next page)

2. Study Area

Table 1. Summary of site information, continued from previous page.

<i>REGION: San Mateo</i>						
Site Name and ID	Survey Protocol	Number of Stations	Station Placement	Site Area (ha)	Survey Area (ha)	Proportion of Site Surveyed
Belmont Slough (02a.1)	A	8	footpath	72.08	27.44	38%
Redwood Shores (02a.3)	A	6	footpath	52.25	23.58	45%
Redwood Shores Mitigation Bank (02a.4)	F	-	-	35.96	-	-
Corkscrew Slough (02b.1)	A	7	boat	92.03	33.08	36%
Steinberger Slough (02b.2)	C	6	footpath	42.74	16.61	39%
B2 North Quadrant (02c) ¹	A	7	boat	211.71	86.32	41%
<i>B2 North Quadrant - NW (02c.1a)</i>	-	-	-	<i>60.85</i>	<i>28.59</i>	<i>47%</i>
<i>B2 North Quadrant - NE (02c.1b)</i>	-	-	-	<i>58.98</i>	<i>42.36</i>	<i>72%</i>
<i>B2 North Quadrant - S (02c.2)</i>	-	-	-	<i>91.88</i>	<i>23.80</i>	<i>26%</i>
B2 South Quadrant (02d)	A	6	levee	76.12	35.51	47%
West Point Slough - NW (02e)	A	1	road	2.15	2.15	100%
Greco Island - North (02f)	A	8	boardwalk	206.85	63.84	31%
West Point Slough - SW / E (02g)	A	4	road	16.12	10.44	65%
Greco Island - South (02h)	A	6	old levee	96.28	40.35	42%
Ravenswood Slough (02i)	A	7	footpath	47.68	27.61	58%
Middle Bair N (02k)	A	5	boardwalk	89.68	46.83	52%
Middle Bair SE (02k)	A	3	boardwalk	81.05	26.90	33%
Inner Bair Island Restoration (02l)	C	4	footpath	24.13	15.73	65%
Pond B3 Bair Island Restoration (02m)	F	-	-	166.67	-	-
Middle Bair West (02o)	F	-	-	273.24	-	-

¹ Site is split according to treatment permissions (treatment is only permitted on a portion of the overall site).

(Table 1 continued on next page)

REGION: San Francisco Peninsula						
Site Name and ID	Survey Protocol	Number of Stations	Station Placement	Site Area (ha)	Survey Area (ha)	Proportion of Site Surveyed
Pier 94 (12a)	F	-	-	1.68	-	-
Pier 98/Heron's Head (12b)	A	2	footpath	4.42	4.13	93%
Yosemite Channel (12e)	F	-	-	1.34	-	-
Candlestick Cove (12f)	F	-	-	0.75	-	-
Crissy Field (12g)	F	-	-	5.76	-	-
Colma Creek (18a)	F	-	-	2.81	-	-
Sam Trans Peninsula (18e)	C	1	footpath	5.78	1.66	29%
Confluence Marsh (18f)	F	-	-	2.92	-	-
San Bruno Marsh (18g)	C	4	footpath	11.53	9.04	78%
San Bruno Creek (18h)	F	-	-	2.06	-	-
Brisbane Lagoon (19a)	F	-	-	4.19	-	-
Sierra Point (19b)	F	-	-	0.98	-	-
Oyster Point Marina (19d)	F	-	-	0.67	-	-
Oyster Point Park (19e)	F	-	-	0.96	-	-
Point San Bruno (19f)	F	-	-	1.06	-	-
Seaplane Harbor (19g)	F	-	-	1.67	-	-
SFO (19h)	A	4	road	10.18	6.60	65%
Mills Creek Mouth (19i)	F	-	-	1.11	-	-
Easton Creek Mouth (19j)	F	-	-	2.50	-	-
Sanchez Marsh (19k)	F	-	-	6.14	-	-
Burlingame Lagoon (19l)	F	-	-	2.16	-	-
Coyote Point Marina (19n)	F	-	-	4.85	-	-
Seal Slough (19p)	A	5	marsh edge	27.74	22.36	81%

(Table 1 continued on next page)

2. Study Area

Table 1. Summary of site information, continued from previous page.

REGION: Marin						
Site Name and ID	Survey Protocol	Number of Stations	Station Placement	Site Area (ha)	Survey Area (ha)	Proportion of Site Surveyed
Blackie's Creek (03a)	F	-	-	0.22	-	-
Blackie's Creek Mouth (03b)	F	-	-	0.40	-	-
Corte Madera Ecological Reserve (Heerdt Marsh) (04a)	A	6	marsh	31.21	31.17	100%
College of Marin (04b)	A	1	footpath	1.79	1.00	56%
Piper Park - East (04c)	A	2	marsh edge	4.09	4.06	99%
Piper Park - West (04d)	A	3	footpath	5.60	5.60	100%
Larkspur Ferry Landing Area (04e)	F	-	-	0.42	-	-
Riviera Circle (04f)	F	-	-	1.56	-	-
Creekside Park (04g)	A	4	footpath	8.40	8.40	100%
CMC - Upper (04h)	A	5	footpath	5.53	5.20	94%
CMC - Lower (04i)	A	2	footpath	6.44	2.55	40%
CMC - Mouth (04j)	A	5	footpath	7.35	6.94	94%
Boardwalk No. 1 (04k)	A	0	-	3.42	3.42	100%
Pickleweed Park (09)	A	3	footpath	5.73	5.73	100%
Brickyard Cove (23a)	F	-	-	16.97	-	-
Beach Drive (23b)	F	-	-	3.51	-	-
Loch Lomond Marina (23c)	F	-	-	1.86	-	-
San Rafael Canal Mouth (23d)	A	2	road	2.71	2.71	100%
Martas Marsh (23e)	A	5	levee	8.02	7.96	99%
San Clemente Creek (23e)	A	1	levee	7.59	3.77	50%
Muzzi Marsh (23e)	A	6	levee	56.03	39.68	71%
Paradise Cay (23f)	F	-	-	9.05	-	-
Greenwood Beach (23g)	F	-	-	1.60	-	-
Strawberry Point (23h)	F	-	-	5.57	-	-
Strawberry Cove (23i)	F	-	-	4.27	-	-
Bothin Marsh (23j)	A	8	footpath	42.96	32.53	76%
Sausalito (23k)	F	-	-	2.22	-	-
Starkweather Park (23l)	F	-	-	3.36	-	-
Triangle Marsh - Marin (23n)	C	2	road	7.73	5.87	76%
REGION: San Pablo Bay - Vallejo and Petaluma						
Site Name and ID	Survey Protocol	Number of Stations	Station Placement	Site Area (ha)	Survey Area (ha)	Proportion of Site Surveyed
Petaluma River - Upper (24a)	A	3	footpath	55.91	25.64	46%
Grey's Field (24b)	A	3	footpath	43.94	13.08	30%
Ellis Creek (24c)	A	2	footpath	218.28	8.44	4%
San Pablo Bay NWR Shoreline (26b)	C	5	levee	1043.14	19.60	2%

3. Methods

3.1 Field Methods

California Ridgway's rail surveys were conducted between January 15 and April 15, 2016, using standardized survey protocols approved by the USFWS (**Appendix III: Standard Survey Protocols for Ridgway's Rails in the San Francisco Estuary**). Surveys were conducted by the following trained and permitted field biologists at Olofson Environmental, Inc.: Jen McBroom, Jeanne Hammond, Stephanie Chen, Tobias Rohmer, Whitney Thornton, Anastasia Ennis, Simon Gunner, Pim Laulikitnont, Nate Deakers, and Kevin Eng.

In 2016, OEI surveyed 129 *Spartina*-invaded sites for Ridgway's rails or for presence of rail habitat. Call count surveys were conducted at 75 sites; 44 sites were surveyed using Protocol A, 30 sites were surveyed using Protocol C, and one site was surveyed using Protocol B. The remaining 54 sites were evaluated for the presence of habitat only (F-survey) and were deemed unlikely to be used by breeding rails. Two additional ISP sites were surveyed using Protocol G in support of a project outside of the ISP for another agency; results from these surveys are also included in this report. A description of each survey protocol employed by OEI biologists in 2016 is summarized below and the full protocol descriptions are included in **Appendix III: Standard Survey Protocols for Ridgway's Rails in the San Francisco Estuary**

3.1.1. Protocol A: Passive Call Count Survey

Protocol A is the standard survey protocol developed by USFWS biologists and used by researchers throughout the San Francisco Estuary. This survey type is used at sites where Ridgway's rails have been observed within the past two years. Typically, survey stations are placed at 200-meter (m) intervals on peripheral paths around the site. The number of survey stations established at each site varied due to site size, configuration, and accessibility. **Table 1** shows the number of survey stations at each site. The locations of the survey stations were entered into a GIS and navigated to in the field using a tablet GPS unit. For consistency and repeatability, all efforts were made to use the same survey station locations that were established during the previous survey seasons. For a complete list of OEI survey stations and their geographic coordinates in UTM, see **Appendix II: 2016 Survey Station Coordinates**

Sites were visited at least three times during the season, with at least two weeks between visits. During the first two rounds, a trained observer stood at each point for 10 minutes, recording all rails detected visually or aurally. For each bird or pair of birds detected, the observer recorded on a datasheet: (1) the number of birds, (2) the call type, (3) the minute in which the bird(s) called, and (4) distance and direction to the calling center. Additionally, the approximate locations of each rail or pair were plotted on a field map of the site.

If no Ridgway's rails were detected within 200-meters of a survey station during the first two rounds, pre-recorded Ridgway's rail vocalizations were broadcast from that station during the third round. During the ten-minute visit to the station, recordings were broadcast during the sixth minute to elicit a response from rails. The standardized, pre-recorded vocalizations were provided by USFWS and were played from an mp3 player or the tablet GPS in

conjunction with portable speakers. If a Ridgway's rail responded during the broadcast call, the speakers and player were immediately turned off to avoid harassment of rails.

3.1.2. Protocol C: Active Call Count Survey

A modified protocol for call count surveys was developed by USFWS and ISP staff to maximize the chances of detecting rails at sites that have a low probability of supporting Ridgway's rails. Protocol C is identical to the standard survey (Protocol A), except that it allows permitted biologists to play pre-recorded rail vocalizations during all three visits to a site. If a rail is detected, the recording must be immediately switched off and cannot be played again within 200 meters of the detection for the remainder of the season.

Sites that are surveyed using Protocol C are typically isolated, small marsh patches that provide marginal or low-quality rail habitat and where Ridgway's rails have not been detected during the prior two years. To determine whether Protocol C is appropriate to use, sites are first evaluated by a rail biologist using Protocol F. However, if a site was surveyed using Protocol C in previous years, it will continue to be surveyed using active call counts until either (1) the site is reevaluated using Protocol F and habitat is determined absent, or (2) a Ridgway's rail is detected, at which point the site will be surveyed using passive surveys (Protocol A).

3.1.3. Protocol B: Stationary Call Count Survey

Protocol B is a stationary call count survey, used infrequently and generally only at sites where Ridgway's rails occur at a high density. Listening stations are established along a grid or transect, with stations set apart by 200 meters or more. Observers are present at each station for the entire 2-hour survey period. When calls are recorded, the observer must take care to record the exact time and direction, and best estimate of the distance to the call, so that the data can be reconciled with other observers' data. Reconciliation of data from multiple observers must be planned and closely supervised by a scientist with expertise in field data interpretation. Protocol B will typically produce higher rail counts than Protocol A or C surveys.

The Protocol B stationary survey is a passive listening survey, and does not include playing of recorded calls. Currently only two sites in the Estuary are surveyed using Protocol B: Arrowhead Marsh (surveyed by both ISP and East Bay Regional Park District) and La Riviere (surveyed by DENWR).

3.1.4. Protocol F: Habitat Assessment Survey

This protocol was developed for the ISP in 2005, with guidance from Jules Evens (ARA) and Joy Albertson (USFWS), to determine whether apparently-marginal habitat meets a suggested minimum set of criteria for likely Ridgway's rail use. These criteria include restoration status, salinity, tidal regime, marsh size and configuration, levee configuration, marsh elevation, presence of high marsh vegetation, degree of non-native *Spartina* invasion, distance from the nearest marsh with known Ridgway's rails, degree of channelization, and amount of open water (ponding). If at least four criteria related to Ridgway's rail presence were met, the site was deemed to have sufficient probability that Ridgway's rails were present, and a recommendation was made for further call count surveys, usually Protocol C. If these criteria were not met, the site was assumed to not support Ridgway's rails, and no

further rail surveys were recommended. Marginal and low-quality sites are (re)evaluated in this fashion every year.

3.1.5. Protocol G: Stationary Survey with Broadcast to Determine Absence

In 2009, the USFWS developed a draft survey protocol for consultants to determine Ridgway's rail absence from a marsh. This protocol was created in order to help biologists determine rail absence from a marsh when construction activities are planned in or adjacent to tidal wetlands during rail breeding season (February 1 to September 1) and surveys are recommended by USFWS staff to assess potential impacts to rails.

Similar to Protocol B, Protocol G is a stationary survey conducted by multiple observers stationed at 200 meter intervals around the survey area. Surveys are conducted for four rounds between January 15 and April 15, with broadcast of vocalizations played during the third and fourth rounds. Because this protocol is used to establish rail absence, if rails are detected at any time during the four rounds of surveys, surveys can cease and presence is established at the site.

OEI conducted Protocol G surveys at two ISP sites in 2016: AFCC – Upper in the Union City Region and Bockmann Channel in the Hayward Region. OEI was contracted to survey these sites using Protocol G for the Alameda County Flood Control District (ACFCD). Results from these surveys are included in this report.

3.2 Data Management

Staff at OEI used ArcGIS 10.3 (Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI), Redlands, CA) to create a versioned geodatabase to store and manage call count survey data in 2016. The design of the database was based on a preexisting Access database developed by Point Blue Conservation Science in 2005, but has been modified to suit the needs of the ISP. All table elements of the Access database were preserved in the new geodatabase, along with the spatial components of the data.

Data were recorded in the field on paper datasheets (**Appendix IV: Survey Forms**), on paper field maps, and in Yuma GPS units with ArcPad 10.2 mapping software (ESRI). The GPS units were used both to navigate to survey stations and to digitally record data in the field. During a survey, stations and site boundaries were updated in ArcPad with current visit information, such as weather data and other environmental variables.

Each rail observation was recorded on a paper datasheet with time detected, call type, number of rails, distance, confidence interval for estimated distance, and direction to the observed rail. Additionally, each rail was assigned a unique map reference identifier and the approximate location of each detected rail was recorded on a paper field map allowing for interpretation of repeat detections of any individuals/pairs. Compass and rulers were used to accurately plot rails on paper maps. At sites with overlap between other observers, birds were plotted together on a single map to determine which detections were unique. All other bird species observed at the site were recorded at the bottom of the datasheet. Potential predators of rail nests, young, or adults were also noted.

In the office, data were uploaded from the GPS units and checked in to the geodatabase. Each observer maintained his/her own data in the geodatabase during the field season. Data entered into ArcPad in the field were added to the geodatabase and reviewed for quality and accuracy. Additionally, rail observation data that were recorded on a datasheet in the field

were entered into the geodatabase. OEI staff used the Direction/Length tool in ArcGIS 10.3 to enter the direction (in degrees) and distance (in meters) in order to create a line feature, which were called ‘offsets’. A point feature, called ‘location,’ was created at the end of each offset line to represent the location of each unique rail or pair. When a rail was detected from more than one station, the location point feature was moved toward the intersection of the offset lines, to triangulate a more precise position of the observed rail.

At the end of the field season, all data were proofed against original datasheets for accuracy before analysis. For sites requiring multiple concurrent surveyors, the data for each round were re-evaluated to minimize duplicate counting of rail or rail pairs when detected by multiple surveyors.

3.3 Data Interpretation

2016 Survey Data

The minimum number of detected Ridgway’s rails was summed at the end of each round to estimate the total number of rails detected at each site on each round. Birds that were detected from more than one station or by more than one observer during a single round were counted only once toward the total number of rails detected. Birds that were detected outside of survey time were included in the summary and counted toward the total. Once all data were summed for each round at each site, we used the round with the highest count to report the number of rails detected for each site. This metric is called the “highest minimum count” in the following tables of this report.

To visualize these data in maps, survey results were transformed into a density calculation. First, we estimated the survey area, which is based on an assumed detection threshold of 200 meters, beyond which our ability to detect Ridgway’s rails is diminished. Survey area for each site is reported in **Table 1**. We then divided the minimum number of rails detected during the highest survey round by the survey area to estimate the density at the entire site. Because we are often surveying only a portion of the site, we make the assumption that density is similar across the entire site in the map representations that follow.

Seven-year Trends

In order to estimate the direction of change in rail data over time, we calculated a linear trend at each site and for each region over the past seven years. We assigned a simple up (↗), down (↘), or straight/stable (→) arrow based on the direction indicated by the slope of the line, rounded to a whole number. This does not imply statistical significance, nor that a straight line is the best fit for the data. Instead it offers a quick, simple, and repeatable method to quickly evaluate change in rail data over time. Additionally, we calculated the average number of Ridgway’s rails detected over the past seven years and calculated the change from the average in 2016.

There are few data gaps over the last seven years at a subset of sites included in this report. The sites where they occur are dealt with in one of two ways: sites with data missing at the beginning of the time series are excluded from the regional summary and are given a trend line at the site level based on the years where data are available; alternatively, data gaps from the middle of the time series are assigned an average from the year preceding and the year following the gap. These data gaps are included in the regional trends and noted in the tables by brackets.

4. 2016 Survey Results

A minimum of 474 California Ridgway's rails were present at 48 of the 129 sites surveyed by OEI for the ISP in 2016. No Ridgway's rails were detected in 2016 at the remaining 81 sites, 54 of which were deemed unsuitable to support breeding rails (surveyed using Protocol F only). Detailed survey results from each round are included in **Appendix V: 2016 OEI Survey Results for Each Round**.

Because most sites have been continuously surveyed for the past seven years, we are able to compare 2016 results with data collected since 2010. Some sites are excluded from the regional summary because they were not surveyed at the beginning of the time series. These sites include Calaveras Marsh (05a.2), Coyote Creek SE (15a.5), Coyote Creek (05f), and Guadalupe Slough (15a.3) in the Dumbarton South Region, and represent an additional 58 Ridgway's rails detected in 2016 that are excluded from the graph on the following page (**Figure 2**).

Over the past three years, the number of detected Ridgway's rails has increased rapidly at the eleven sites where *Spartina* control has been restricted since 2011 (**Figure 2**). Ten of the eleven sites are limited to just two regions: San Leandro Bay and Hayward Regions. The only restricted treatment site beyond these two regions, B2 North – NE (02c.1b), is partially treated with a sublethal dose of herbicide to prevent seed set and expansion of non-native *Spartina*. Rail detections in these untreated areas are up by over 100 rails from 2010, most of that gained during the last two breeding seasons. The relatively stable trend from 2010 to 2014 implies a lag effect, as the rail numbers followed the growth and expansion of non-native *Spartina* in the absence of treatment.

In contrast, at the sites where *Spartina* treatment has continued, the number of Ridgway's rails detected at sites surveyed by OEI has been relatively stable during the study period. Initial reports from partner organizations indicate that this stable trend might be increasing when other sites from partner organizations are included in the analysis, however that is beyond the scope of this report. In general, at sites where *Spartina* treatment has continued, hybrid *Spartina* has been so greatly reduced that it no longer provides significant benefits in the way of rail habitat. For this reason, the continued treatment of non-native *Spartina* at these sites is not expected to have much impact on the resident rails.

4. Survey Results

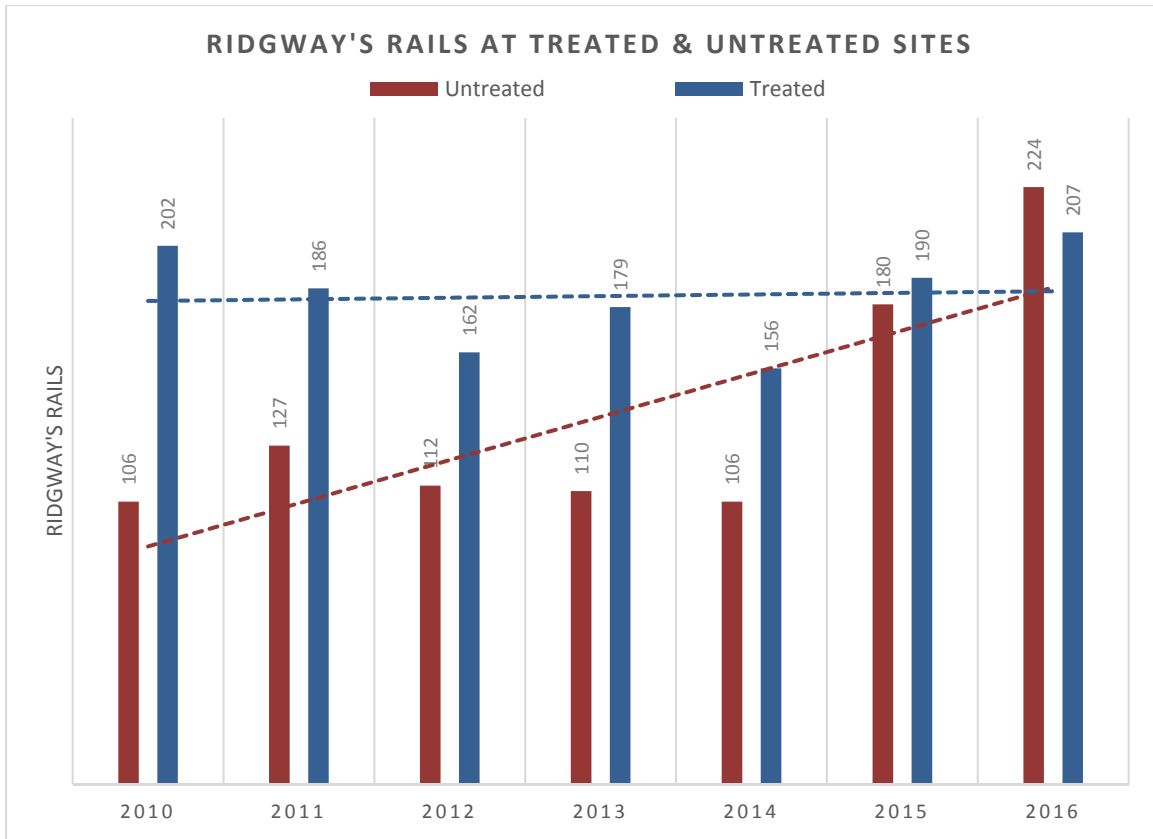


Figure 2. Survey results from 2010 to 2016 at 79 sites without restrictions on *Spartina* treatment (shown in blue) and at the eleven sites where treatment of non-native *Spartina* has been restricted since 2011 (shown in red). Note that this subset of sites only includes those surveyed by OEI; this does not represent a range-wide population estimate nor is it comprehensive for all ISP sites (many of which were surveyed by partner organizations).

4.1 Bay Bridge North Region

The Bay Bridge North Region is located in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties, extending from the Bay Bridge in Emeryville to Point Pinole north of the City of Richmond (**Figure 3**). This shoreline is heavily urbanized: the southern half is predominantly commercial, industrial and high-density residential developments; the northern half is lined with single-family residential communities and the one of the largest and oldest oil refinery on the West Coast operated by Chevron Corporation. The northern portion of this region, which hosts some large remnant tidal marshes, was surveyed by PBCS, while the smaller isolated marshes in the southern portion were surveyed by OEI.

The region includes 13 ISP rail sites, eleven of which were surveyed by OEI in 2016 (**Table 2**). Passive call count surveys (Protocol A) were conducted at five sites and active call count surveys (Protocol C) at three sites. Three more sites were evaluated for Ridgway's rail habitat (using Protocol F), which was determined to be absent from the sites, and so no further surveys were conducted at those locations.

The trend in the Bay Bridge North is continuing to slowly rise. OEI detected 17 Ridgway's rails in the region this year. Early results from PBCS indicate a similar positive trend. Although OEI did not detect any rails in Giant Marsh this year, staff at WRA Environmental Consultants detected two Ridgway's rails in Giant Marsh when conducting surveys using Protocol G adjacent to the site.

Table 2. Summary survey results from 2010-2016 at the Bay Bridge North Region.

Site Name (ID)	Highest Minimum Count							Average	Change from Average	Trend
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016			
Emeryville Crescent - East (06a)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Emeryville Crescent - West (06b)	8	4	0	1	2	0	1	2	-1	↘
Whittell Marsh (10a)	1	0	1	2	0	3	3	1	2	→
Southern Marsh (10b)	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	→
Giant Marsh (10c)	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	→
Breuner Marsh Restoration (10d)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Rheem Creek Area (22c)	1	6	9	11	4	4	7	6	1	→
Meeker Slough (22d) ¹	2	[1.5]	1	3	2	7	2	3	-1	→
Stege Marsh (22d) ¹	0	[1]	2	6	4	7	4	3	1	↗
Hoffman Marsh (22e)	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	→
Albany Shoreline (22f)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Bay Bridge North Region TOTAL	13	12.5	14	24	13	22	17	16.5	0.5	↗

¹ Data gaps in the middle of the time series were assigned data based on the average of the preceding and subsequent years and are noted in brackets.

4. Survey Results

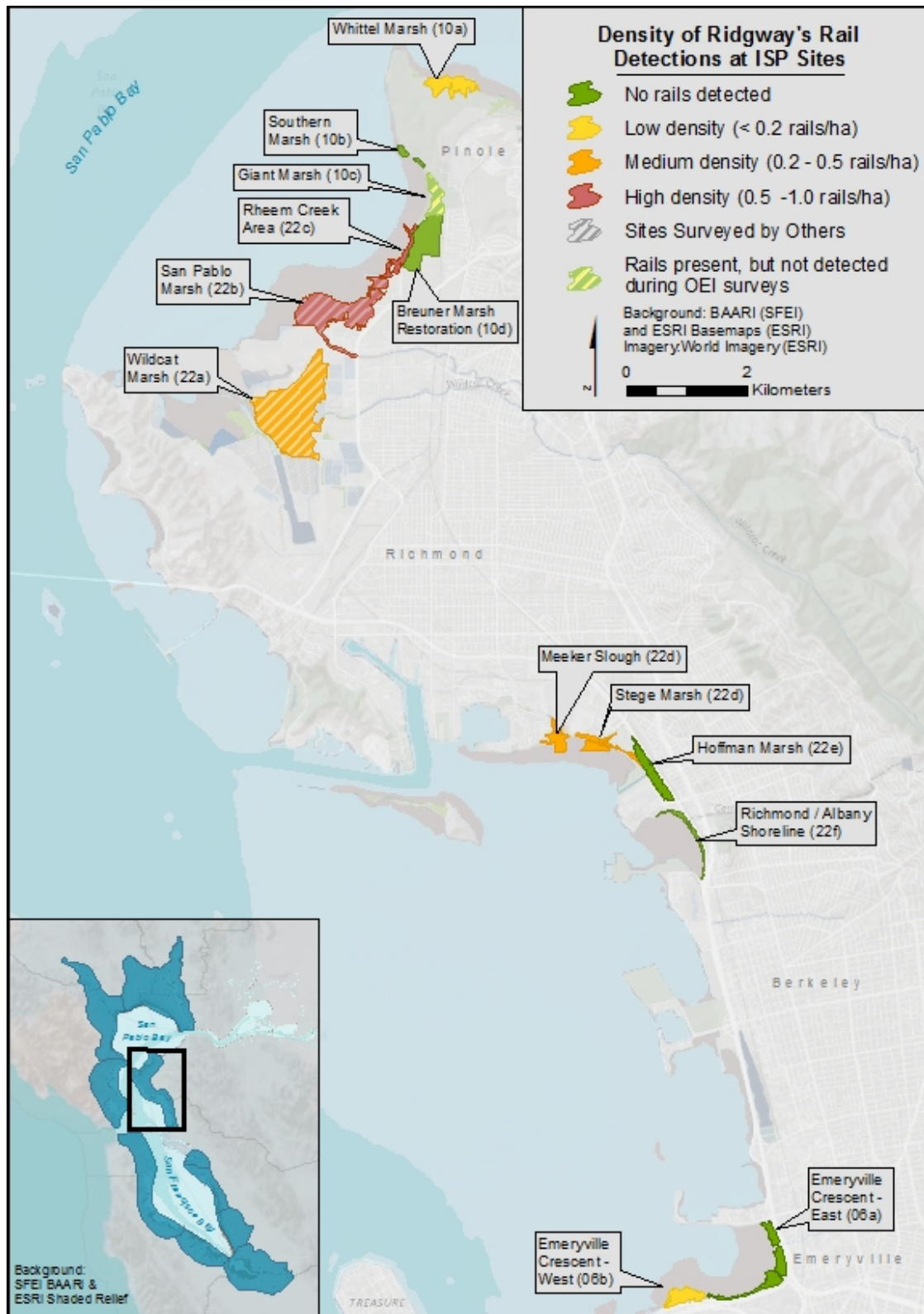


Figure 3. Density of Ridgway’s rails detected in 2016 at sites in the Bay Bridge North Region. Density was calculated based on the highest minimum count within the survey area. Wildcat Marsh and San Pablo Marsh were surveyed by PBCS. WRA detected Ridgway’s rails at Giant Marsh during Protocol G surveys at an adjacent site.

4.2 San Leandro Bay Region

The San Leandro Bay Region in Alameda County is bounded by the cities of Oakland and Alameda (**Figure 4**) and is surrounded by commercial development, landfills, highways, and the Oakland International Airport. It is a highly urbanized tidal estuary ringed mostly by rip-rap levees, with a few fragmented parcels of small tidal wetlands that developed in recent decades in places where sediment has accumulated along the shoreline. Most of the marshes in the region have few if any natural tidal channels and high edge-to-area ratios. An exception is Arrowhead Marsh, which formed when the earthen dam at Lake Chabot ruptured in the 1860's, and has networks of tidal channels and is mostly surrounded by water rather than upland edge.

The region includes 14 ISP rail sites, all of which were surveyed by OEI in 2016 (**Table 3**). Passive call count surveys (Protocol A) were conducted at four sites and active call count surveys (Protocol C) at one site. One site, Arrowhead Marsh, was surveyed using the stationary survey (Protocol B), where all rails are recorded for a full two-hour period. Though the method is not comparable with other sites, Arrowhead Marsh has been surveyed using this method for the past seven years to maintain consistency between years. Eight of the 14 sites were evaluated for Ridgway's rail habitat (using Protocol F), which was determined to be absent from the sites, and so no further surveys were conducted at those locations.

The San Leandro Bay Region has some of the largest remaining stands of non-native hybrid *Spartina* in the entire estuary. Four of the fourteen sites in the region have been left untreated since 2011 due concerns over rails dependent on the cover provided by the hybrid *Spartina*. In 2016, nearly all of the rails detected in the region were detected within the four sites where *Spartina* treatment is restricted, and they were detected at very high densities. To note, Arrowhead Marsh is surveyed using Protocol B, which may result in over-counting birds. However, the density of rails at this site likely would still qualify as very high even if it were surveyed using standard protocols.

The rising trend and the high densities of rails in the region are attributable to the increasing hybrid *Spartina* cover at the sites with treatment restrictions. Hybrid *Spartina* provides taller and thicker vegetative cover than native *Spartina foliosa* and it is likely that the Ridgway's rail population in this region currently exceeds what a native condition could support. Additionally, native *Spartina foliosa* is nearly absent from the region, having been outcompeted and extirpated by non-native *Spartina*. The only location where native *Spartina* can be found is where it has been planted at Elsie Roemer by ISP, and far upstream in the Coliseum Channels.

ISP and its partners implemented a restoration plan in the region in an effort to improve the native habitat for Ridgway's rails before *Spartina* control resumes at the restricted sites. Several years ago, the Conservancy funded the installation of five high tide refuge islands and plantings of both *Grindelia stricta* and native *Spartina foliosa* within the region. Unfortunately, the combination of the expansion of hybrid *Spartina* and the limited availability of tidal marsh habitat has inhibited restoration efforts in the region. As non-native *Spartina* grows and spreads, there are fewer and fewer suitable areas to reintroduce native plants and ISP has tabled revegetation efforts in the area until there is better control of hybrid *Spartina*.

Ridgway's rail populations in the region are likely to decline when *Spartina* control work is permitted to resume, especially since this region will not have any *Spartina*, native or

4. Survey Results

otherwise, to provide that necessary component of rail habitat. This region presents a unique opportunity to identify creative solutions to the competing management of endangered species and the eradication of a noxious weed.

Table 3. Survey results from 2010-2016 in the San Leandro Bay Region. Sites that were split according to treatment permissions in 2011 are shown in grey italic font (and are not included in the region totals). Sites where *Spartina* control work has been suspended since 2011 are noted in grey shading.

Site Name (ID)	Highest Minimum Count							Average	Change from Average	Trend
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016			
Elsie Roemer (17a)	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	→
Bay Farm Island (17b)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Arrowhead Marsh (17c)	41	31	32	34	35	45	31	36	-5	→
<i>Arrowhead Marsh (17c.1)</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>-2</i>	<i>↘</i>
<i>Arrowhead Marsh (17c.2)</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>31</i>	<i>32</i>	<i>33</i>	<i>33</i>	<i>43</i>	<i>29</i>	<i>33</i>	<i>-4</i>	<i>↗</i>
Airport Channel - Fan Shore (17d.1)	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	→
MLK Regional Shoreline - Damon (17d.4)	5	4	1	2	2	2	6	3	3	→
San Leandro Creek (17e)	3	1	0	0	0	2	1	1	0	→
Oakland Inner Harbor (17f)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Coast Guard Island (17g)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
MLK New Marsh (17h)	14	13	18	21	25	30	51	25	26	↗
Coliseum Channels (17i)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Fan Marsh (17j)	12	8	2	2	4	9	20	8	12	↗
Airport Channel (17k)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Doolittle Pond (17l)	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	→
Alameda Island - East (17m)	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	→
San Leandro Bay Region TOTAL	79	59	53	59	66	88	109	73	36	↗

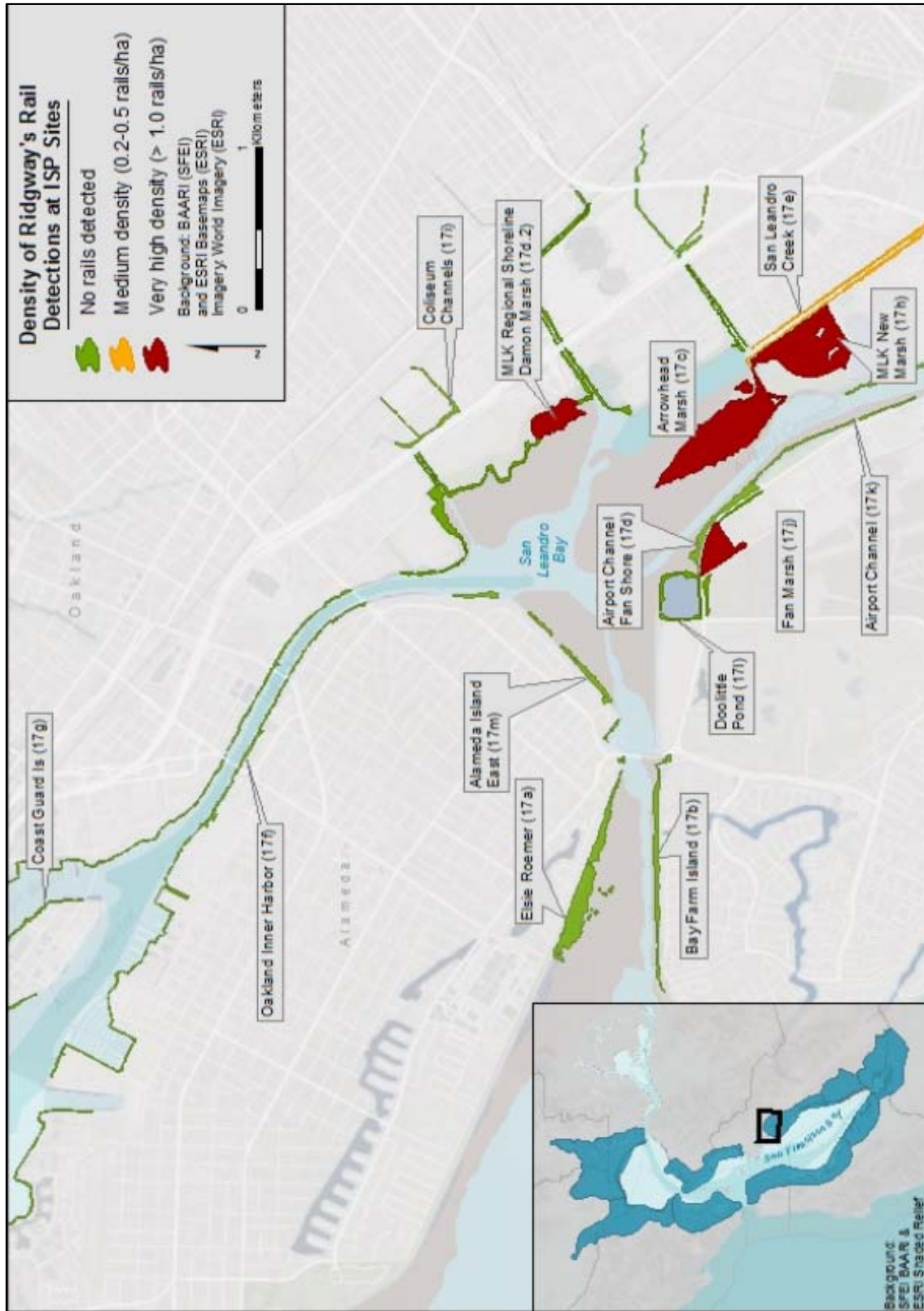


Figure 4. Density of Ridgway’s rail detected in 2016 at ISP sites in the San Leandro Bay Region. Density was calculated based on the highest minimum count within the survey area.

4.3 Hayward Region

The Hayward Region in Alameda County extends from the Oakland International Airport south to the San Mateo Bridge (**Figure 5**). Most of the sites within the region are mid-sized marshes that were restored to tidal flow in recent decades. These young restoration sites exhibit a lack of channel density and vegetative structure and thus provide mediocre habitat for Ridgway's rails. However, as in the case of San Leandro Bay, the Hayward Region still has large stands of hybrid *Spartina* remaining at the six sites in the region where treatment is prohibited. The cover provided by non-native *Spartina* offers protection from predators, which are particularly abundant in the region.

OEI surveyed all 24 sites within the region and detected a minimum of 111 Ridgway's rails at half of the sites surveyed; no rails were found at the remaining 12 sites (**Table 4**). The total number of rails detected at the six sites with treatment restrictions has increased rapidly in the past three years. In 2014, we detected 37 rails at those six sites; in 2015, the number rose to 77; this year, we detected 99 rails at those six sites. One of the largest increases has been at North Marsh (20f) within the Robert's Landing Complex, which increased from six rails detected in 2014 to 41 rails detected this year. Of the six sites where treatment is prohibited, the only site to show a decreasing trend is the split site of San Lorenzo Creek – North (20h.1).

The Coastal Conservancy has invested heavily in revegetation and other habitat enhancements in the region, particularly at the Cogswell Complex. They funded the installation of six high tide refuge islands at Cogswell and an additional two islands at Bunker Marsh in the Robert's Landing Complex. Additionally, thousands of *Grindelia stricta* seedlings have been planted in the region over the past four years.

Similar to San Leandro Bay, this region lacks native *Spartina foliosa*, which was lost to the invasion of hybrid *Spartina*. Over the past three years, native *Spartina foliosa* has been reintroduced at several carefully selected sites where hybrid *Spartina* is nearing eradication: Oro Loma - East (07a), Johnson's Landing (20l), Cogswell – Sec A (20m), HARD Marsh (20s), and Triangle Marsh – Hayward (20w). Unfortunately, some of these efforts were put on hold when hybrid *Spartina* propagules from adjacent untreated sites began invading revegetation plots. Still, based on early successes with native *Spartina* plantings, this region remains a good candidate for revegetation efforts when treatment of hybrid *Spartina* resumes at the six sites where it is currently prohibited.

Table 4. Survey results from 2010 to 2016 in the Hayward Region. Sites that were split according to treatment permissions in 2011 are shown in grey italic font (and are not included in the region totals). Sites where *Spartina* control work has been suspended since 2011 are noted in grey shading.

Site Name (ID)	Highest Minimum Count							Average	Change from Average	Trend
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016			
Oro Loma - East (07a)	4	6	4	1	1	1	3	3	0	↘
Oro Loma - West (07b)	0	0	1	3	0	1	1	1	0	→
Oyster Bay Regional Shoreline (20a)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Oakland Golf Links (20b)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Dog Bone Marsh (20c)	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	→
Citation Marsh (20d)	5	20	6	2	9	7	12	9	3	→
<i>Citation Marsh - South (20d.1)</i>	1	3	1	0	0	2	2	1	1	→
<i>Citation Marsh - North (20d.2)</i>	4	18	5	2	9	7	12	8	4	→
East Marsh (20e)	0	1	0	1	2	0	2	1	1	→
North Marsh (20f)	12	14	8	5	6	27	41	16	25	↗
Bunker Marsh (20g)	4	8	8	5	6	6	14	7	7	↗
San Lorenzo Creek (20h)	3	4	2	1	1	0	1	2	-1	↘
<i>San Lorenzo Creek - North (20h.1)</i>	2	4	2	1	1	0	1	2	-1	↘
<i>San Lorenzo Creek - South (20h.2)</i>	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	→
Bockmann Channel (20i)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Sulphur Creek (20j)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Hayward Landing (20k)	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	→
Johnson's Landing (20l)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Cogswell - Sec A (20m)	6	3	0	1	0	2	2	2	0	↘
Cogswell - Sec B (20n)	20	9	17	18	13	26	24	18	6	↗
Cogswell - Sec C (20o)	3	2	8	1	2	11	7	5	2	↗
Hayward Shoreline Outliers (20p)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
San Leandro Shoreline Outliers (20q)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Oakland Airport (20r)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
HARD Marsh (20s)	0	0	1	0	1	0	2	1	1	→
Estudillo Creek Channel (20u)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Hayward Landing Canal (20v)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Triangle Marsh - Hayward (20w)	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	→
Hayward Region TOTAL	57	69	55	38	41	81	111	65	46	↗

4. Survey Results

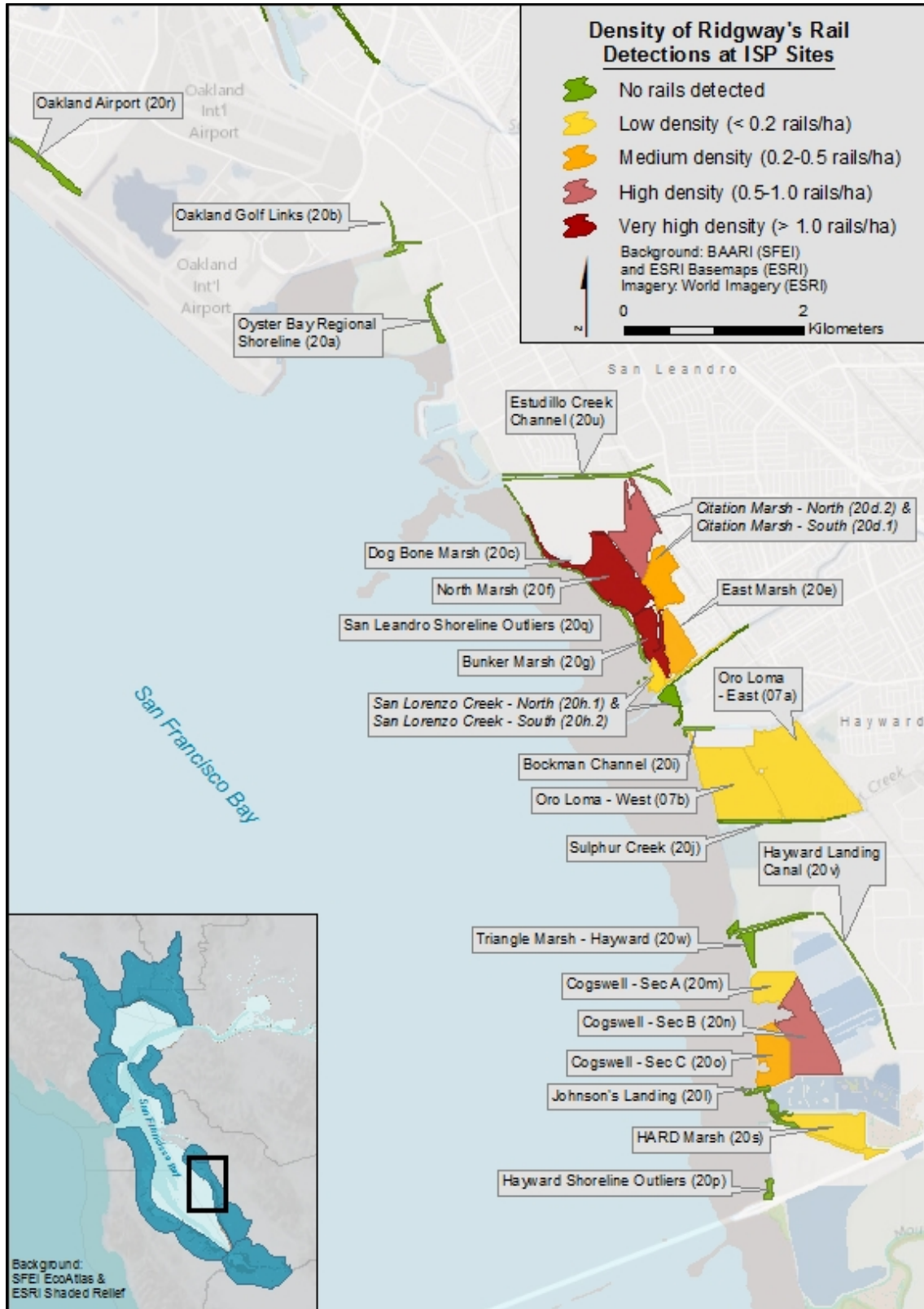


Figure 5. Density of Ridgway's rail detected in 2016 at ISP sites in the Hayward Region. Density was calculated based on the highest minimum count within the survey area.

4.4 Union City Region

The Union City Region in Alameda County extends from the San Mateo Bridge to the Dumbarton Bridge (**Figure 7**). There are a variety of habitats in this region, including mature restoration marshes, flood control channels, young restoration sites with little vegetation, and mudflats. The region includes the Eden Landing Ecological Reserve, which is an important component of the larger South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project. Although the Union City Region was the epicenter of the original *Spartina* invasion, it now has one of the lowest remaining infestations in the Estuary.

OEI surveyed 12 of the 20 sites in the region in 2016 and detected a minimum of nine Ridgway's rails (**Table 5**). One of these 12 sites, AFCC Upper, was surveyed by OEI for the Alameda County Flood Control District (ACFCD) using Protocol G, which is used to determine if rails are absent from the site. The other eight sites in the region were surveyed by staff at DENWR, who detected an additional 19 Ridgway's rails within the region in 2016 (R. Tertes, personal communication, April 27, 2016).

The number of Ridgway's rails detected in the region by OEI is currently at the seven-year average, though the overall trend is slightly negative. In general, the marshes in the region have a low density of rails, in part due to a deficiency of *Spartina* in the region. Because the initial hybrid *Spartina* invasion began here, much of the native *Spartina foliosa* in the region was swamped and extirpated by the expansion of non-native *Spartina*. The subsequent treatment and successful removal of much of the hybrid *Spartina* has left the region bereft of *Spartina*.

In response, the ISP Restoration Program has been reintroducing native *Spartina*, as well as *Grindelia stricta*, to the region over the past five years. As these plantings continue to mature, more rail habitat will become available and the region's rail population is expected to increase in both size and density. Point Blue Conservation Science has begun a multi-year research project to identify the response of rails to revegetation efforts using call count data.



Figure 6. Photo of a *Spartina foliosa* revegetation plot at AFCC at the time of initial planting in 2012 (left) and after two years of growth and maturation (right). These plantings are now mature enough to provide habitat for Ridgway's rails present at the site.

4. Survey Results

Table 5. Survey results in the Union City Region from 2010 to 2016 at sites surveyed by OEI this year.

Site Name (ID)	Highest Minimum Count							Average	Change from Average	Trend
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016			
AFCC - to I-880 (01d)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
AFCC - Strip Marsh (01e)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
OAC - North Bank (13a) ¹	[1]	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	→
OAC - Island (13b) ¹	[5]	2	3	5	4	2	4	4	0	→
OAC - South Bank (13c) ¹	[0]	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Whale's Tail - North (13d) ¹	[5]	8	8	2	3	2	2	4	-2	↘
OAC - Upstream 20 Tide Gates (13g) ¹	[0]	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Eden Landing - North Creek (13h)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Eden Landing - Mt Eden Creek (13j)	2	2	0	0	0	0	3	1	2	→
Eden Landing Reserve - South (13k)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Eden Landing Reserve - North (13l)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Eden Landing - Ponds E8A, E9, E8X (13m)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Union City Region TOTAL	13	12	11	8	8	4	9	9	0	↘

¹ Data gaps from 2010 in the Union City Region were assigned data based on the average of 2009 (not shown) and 2011 survey results and are noted in brackets.

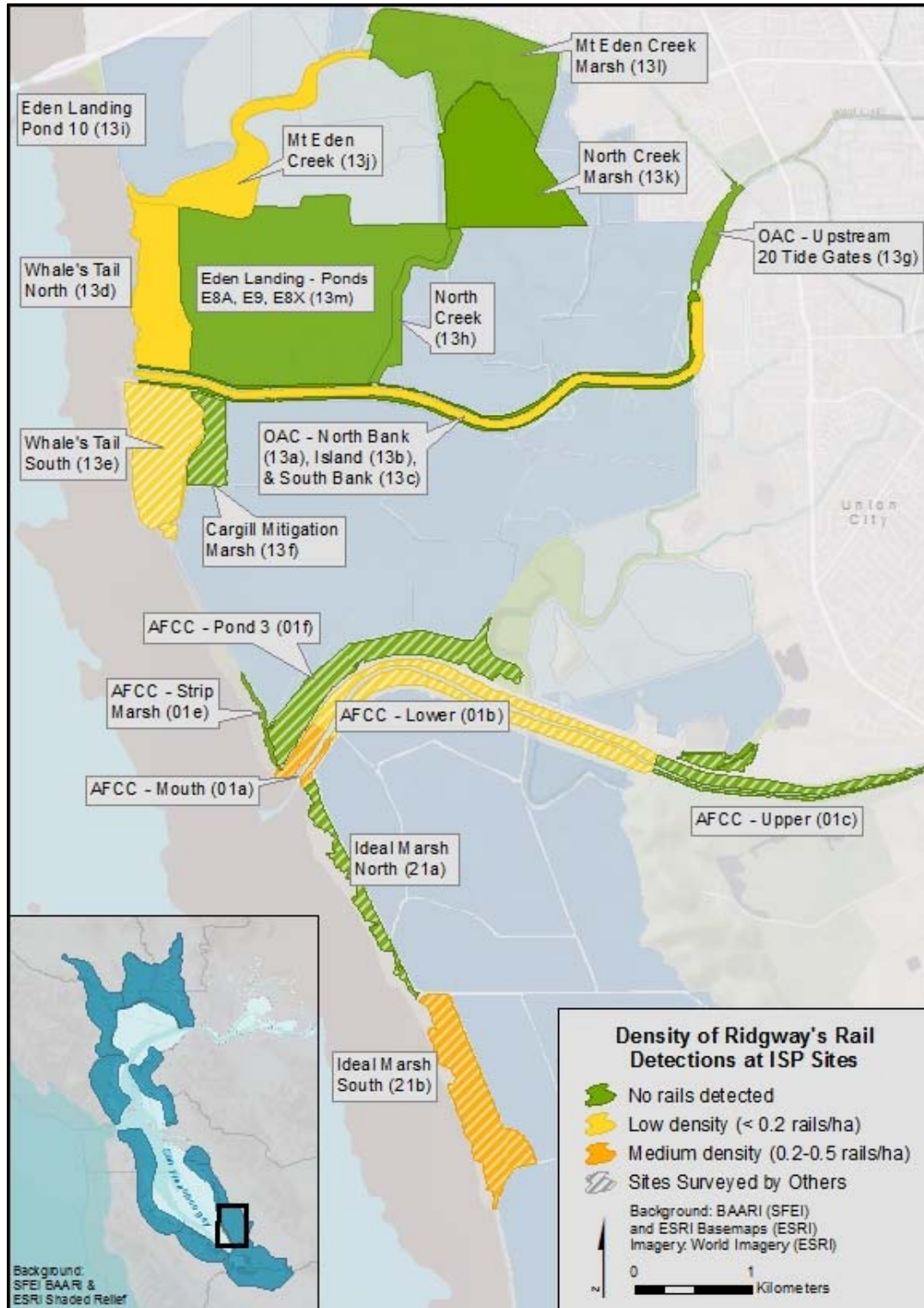


Figure 7. Density of Ridgway’s rail detected in 2016 at ISP sites in the Union City Region. Density was calculated based on the highest minimum count within the survey area. Sites not surveyed by OEI were surveyed by biologists at the Don Edwards National Wildlife Refuge (DENWR).

4.5 Dumbarton South Region

Dumbarton South includes all marshes south of the Dumbarton Bridge, from Newark to Mountain View (**Figure 8**). Sites in this region are generally large parcels of mature marshes on managed and protected lands. They include a variety of habitat types, including freshwater creeks, restored salt ponds, tidal and brackish sloughs, creek deltas, fringing tidal marsh benches, and historic tidal marsh plains. The complex vegetative structure and channel networks of the tidal marshes in the region provide excellent habitat for Ridgway's rails. Accordingly, the region supports large numbers of Ridgway's rails and has some of the most densely occupied sites in the Estuary.

In 2016, OEI conducted surveys at 16 of the 34 ISP rail sites in the region (**Table 6**). DENWR surveyed three sites in the region [(LaRiviere Marsh (05d), Guadalupe Slough (15a.3), and Dumbarton/Audubon Marsh (05b)] and PBCS surveyed an additional five sites [Palo Alto Baylands (08), Palo Alto Harbor (08), Faber Marsh (15b), Laumeister Marsh (15b), and Charleston Slough (15a.1)]. The remaining sites in the region were not surveyed in 2016. One of the unsurveyed sites, Mowry Marsh (05a.1), was intended to be surveyed by airboat during winter high tides by DENWR, however the tides and weather did not allow for these surveys to be completed as planned.

OEI conducted a thorough survey at Island Pond A21 for the first time in 2016 and detected three Ridgway's rails within the site boundary. This site was rapidly colonized by native vegetation since it was restored to tidal action in 2006. Ridgway's rails have, in turn, responded quickly to the restoration. Now that they are established at the site, it is expected that the Ridgway's rail population will continue to grow in response to the high quality habitat at A21.

Rail numbers are increasing in the Dumbarton South Region. This region represents one of the largest Ridgway's rail population centers in the Estuary. OEI detected a minimum of 30 rails in the region, while DENWR detected an additional 23 rails and PBCS detected over 100 more rails in the Dumbarton South Region. There are likely many more rails than that in the region since there are many large tracts of tidal wetlands that are not included in the survey effort or are beyond our threshold of detection.

The region's extensive native tidal wetlands are also being expanded with the restoration of several large tracts of former salt evaporator ponds to marsh. In addition to the restoration of the former salt ponds, the Coastal Conservancy has funded the installation of high tide refuge islands over the past several years at Cooley Landing, Palo Alto Baylands, and Dumbarton Marsh. These restoration and enhancement efforts will enable the continued support of the large rail population center in this region.

Table 6. Survey results in the Dumbarton South Region from 2010 to 2016 at sites surveyed by OEI this year.

Site Name (ID)	Highest Minimum Count							Average	Change from Average	Trend
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016			
Cooley Landing (16)	3	2	1	16	5	4	10	6	4	↗
Ravenswood Open Space Preserve (02j)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
SF2 (02n)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Calaveras Point (05a.2) ¹	-	-	37	19	16	13	21	21	0	↘
Newark Slough (05c)	5	5	8	5	3	3	8	5	3	→
Mayhew's Landing (05e) ¹	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Coyote Creek (05f) ¹	-	-	0	0	0	0	16	3	13	↗
Cargill Pond (W Suites Hotel) (05g) ¹	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Plummer Creek Mitigation (05h) ¹	-	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Island Ponds – A21 (05i)	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	3	→
Mountain View Slough (15a.1) ²	2	[2.5]	3	0	1	2	2	2	0	→
Stevens Creek to Long Point (15a.2)	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	→
Alviso Slough (15a.4)	9	4	1	3	2	9	8	5	3	→
Coyote Creek South East (15a.5) ¹	-	9	6	6	8	18	19	11	8	↗
Knapp Tract (15a.6)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Stevens Creek (15c)	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	→
Dumbarton South Region TOTAL	19	13.5	13	25	11	18	33	19	14	↗

¹Sites missing data from the beginning of the time period are excluded from the regional total. The trends and averages for these sites represent less than seven years of data.

²Data gaps in the middle of the time series were assigned data based on the average of the preceding and subsequent years and are noted by brackets.

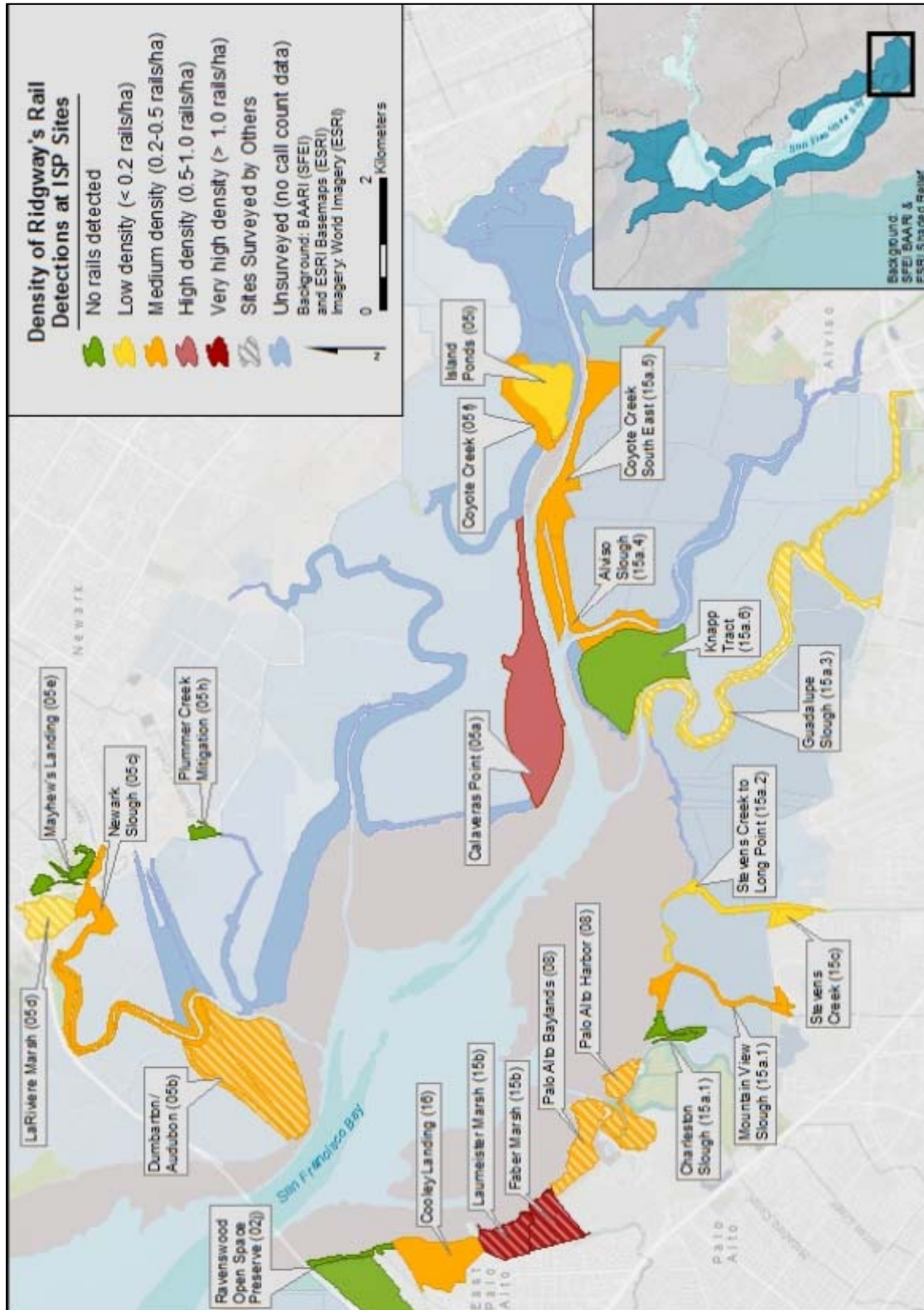


Figure 8. Density of Ridgway’s rail detected in 2016 at ISP sites in the Dumbarton South Region. Density was calculated based on the highest minimum count within the survey area. LaRiviere Marsh, Dumbarton Marsh, and Guadalupe Slough were surveyed by DENWR. Faber, Laumeister, Palo Alto Baylands, and Palo Alto Harbor were surveyed by PBCS.

4.6 San Mateo Region

The San Mateo region extends from the San Mateo Bridge to the Dumbarton Bridge on the west side of the Bay (**Figure 9**). This region contains a variety of wetland habitats, including marsh islands, active and inactive commercial salt ponds, large tidal channels, and bayfront strip marshes. The older marsh parcels in the region support a diverse vegetative community and extensive dendritic channel complexes. These large marshes have a low perimeter-area ratio and are disconnected from the urban mainland by wide sloughs. They provide high-quality habitat for Ridgway's rails.

The region includes 20 ISP rail sites, seventeen of which were surveyed by OEI in 2016. The other sites that were not surveyed either did not support any *Spartina* in 2015 or were part of a larger ISP treatment subarea that was surveyed by an adjacent transect, and so rail surveys were deemed unnecessary. OEI detected a minimum of 128 Ridgway's rails in the San Mateo Region in 2016, a continuation of the positive trend in the region (**Table 7**). Most sites had small to moderate increases, indicating a steady upward trend.

A portion of one site within the region, B2 North (02c), is unique in the Bay in that it is being experimentally treated for invasive *Spartina* using a sub-lethal dose of herbicide (seed suppression) in order to prevent seed set and clonal expansion while still retaining vegetative structure for Ridgway's rails. Rail numbers at this site have been increasing, both within the experimental portion of the site in the north-east and in the fully treated remainder of the site. However, non-native *Spartina* remains a significant component of the overall habitat in the marsh.

Also, the recently restored Pond B3 was surveyed using call counts for the first time this year. However, after repeated visits to the site at mid-to-higher tides, it became apparent that there is too little vegetation and not enough cover to support breeding rails at this site yet. OEI plans to revisit the site using call-count surveys in 2018.

Several avian predators and their nests were observed at Middle Bair (AKA Deepwater Slough) again this year, including red-tailed hawks, peregrine falcons, and common ravens. These observations were reported to DENWR, who planned to remove some of these nests. Several breeding raptors were also observed and reported in 2015, however the Refuge was not able to remove the peregrine falcon nest which probably fledged young last summer. A successful falcon nest last year could be implicated in the decline in detections at this site in 2016. In fact, over the course of the year, rail body parts were found along the boardwalk under the PG&E towers where the falcons and other avian predators were often observed.

The Coastal Conservancy has invested in rail habitat enhancements in the region, including the construction of high tide refuge islands at B2 North, Bird Island, Belmont Slough, Corkscrew Slough, Middle Bair (Deepwater Slough), and Greco Island North. Additionally, the ISP Restoration Program has planted thousands of *Grindelia stricta* seedlings in the region, particularly at Greco North and B2 North. The size of the marshes within the region and the potential habitat available through the restoration of salt ponds should continue to support a stable rail population in the years to come.

4. Survey Results

Table 7. Survey results from 2010 to 2016 in the San Mateo Region. Sites that were split according to treatment permissions in 2011 are shown in grey italic font (and are not included in the region totals). *Spartina* control work has been restricted to a low dose of herbicide (seed suppression) in B2 North – NE (02c.1b) since 2011; this site is noted in grey shading.

Site Name (ID)	Highest Minimum Count							Average	Change from Average	Trend
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016			
Belmont Slough (02a.1)	3	4	3	3	5	7	6	4	2	↗
Redwood Shores (02a.3)	2	2	6	1	0	0	0 ¹	2	-2	↘
Redwood Shores Mitigation Bank (02a.4)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Corkscrew Slough (02b.1)	22	12	17	13	16	15	16	16	0	→
Steinberger Slough (02b.2)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
B2 North Quadrant (02c)	14	22	12	20	5	18	28	17	11	↗
<i>B2 North Quadrant - NW (02c.1a)</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>↗</i>
<i>B2 North Quadrant - NE (02c.1b)</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>↗</i>
<i>B2 North Quadrant - South (02c.2)</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>↗</i>
B2 South Quadrant (02d)	7	6	4	9	3	6	6	6	0	→
West Point Slough - NW (02e)	1	2	0	1	0	0	2	1	1	→
Greco Island - North (02f)	9	3	10	6	6	8	5	7	-2	→
West Point Slough - SW/E (02g)	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	→
Greco Island - South (02h)	24	22	22	22	32	31	38	27	11	↗
Ravenswood Slough (02i)	3	9	1	2	2	12	8	5	3	↗
Middle Bair N (02k)	10	14	19	24	28	37	19	22	-3	↗
Middle Bair SE (02k)	8	9	2	7	7	0	0 ¹	5	-5	↘
Inner Bair Island Restoration (02l)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Pond B3 Bair Island Restoration (02m)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Middle Bair West (02o)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
San Mateo Region TOTAL	104	105	97	108	104	134	128	111	14	↗

¹ No rails were detected at these sites (Redwood Shores and Middle Bair SE) during surveys; however, rails were incidentally detected during *Spartina* surveys later in the year. These detections fell outside of breeding season (after September 1).

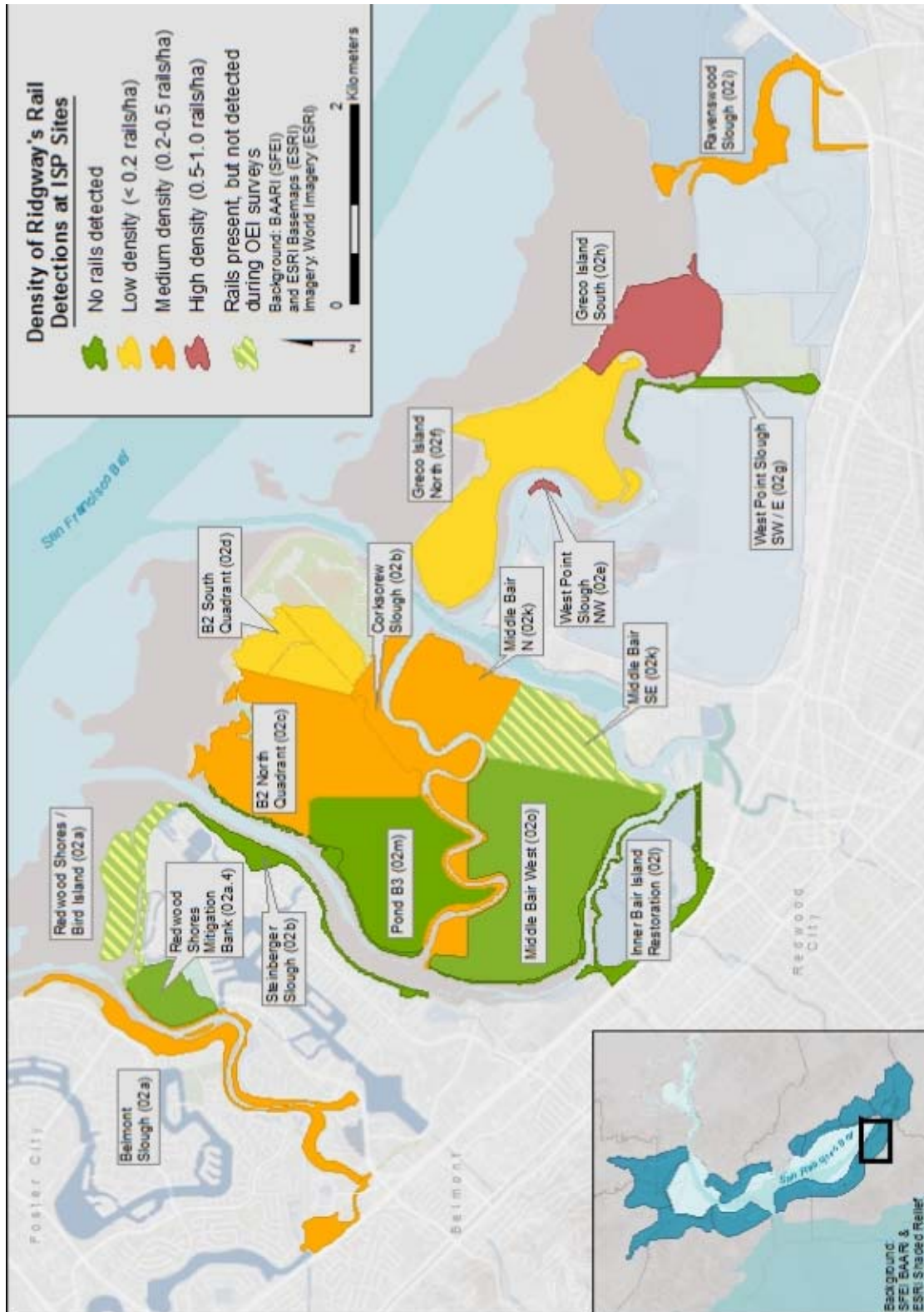


Figure 9. Density of Ridgway’s rail detected in 2016 at ISP sites in the San Mateo Region. Density was calculated based on the highest minimum count within the survey area. Rails were not detected at Redwood Shores and Middle Bair SE during regular surveys; however, rails were incidentally detected during *Spartina* surveys later in the year, though these detections fell outside of breeding season (after September 1).

4.7 San Francisco Peninsula Region

The San Francisco Peninsula Region extends from the Golden Gate Bridge to the San Mateo Bridge (**Figure 10**). This urban region is highly developed and includes several marinas, tidal lagoons, flood control channels, small fragmented patches of remnant marsh, invaded mudflats, and the mouths of several creeks and sloughs. A wide range of land uses can be found here, from San Francisco International Airport (SFO) and shipyards, to light and heavy industry, to commercial and residential development. It includes the cluster of sites within the Colma Creek Complex, as well as the scattered sites along the length of the Peninsula.

The region includes 34 ISP rail sites, 19 of which were surveyed by OEI in 2016 (**Table 8. Survey results from 2010 to 2016 in the San Francisco Peninsula Region**). No non-native *Spartina* was detected at the remaining 15 sites in 2015 so surveys were deemed unnecessary in 2016. OEI conducted passive call count surveys (Protocol A) at one site and active call count surveys (Protocol C) at four sites. The remaining 14 sites were assessed for the presence of Ridgway's rail habitat (Protocol F), which was determined to be lacking and no further surveys were necessary.

Once again in 2016, Ridgway's rails were detected at only one site in the region: SFO. The vast majority of the sites in the region are smaller than 10 hectares with high perimeter-to-area ratios. Additionally, the sites are mostly isolated, so dispersal to and from these marshes would be a challenge for juveniles. The absence of rails is expected with the lack of habitat availability in the region.

There are very few opportunities for habitat enhancement along this urban shoreline. Portions of the Colma Creek complex were experimentally planted with native *Spartina foliosa* (Whitney Thornton, Romburg Tiburon Center, SFSU) and San Mateo County has continued to plant along the upland transition zone within the Colma Creek Complex. The remaining marsh fragments in the region offer little opportunity for enhancement and are unlikely to sustain rail populations in the future.

Table 8. Survey results from 2010 to 2016 in the San Francisco Peninsula Region.

Site Name (ID)	Highest Minimum Count							Average	Change from Average	Trend
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016			
Pier 94 (12a)	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Pier 98/Heron's Head (12b)	1	1	1	3	1	0	0	1	-1	→
Colma Creek (18a)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Navigable Slough (18b) ¹	0	1	0	0	0	[0]	0	0	0	→
Sam Trans Peninsula (18e)	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	→
San Bruno Marsh (18g)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
San Bruno Creek (18h)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Oyster Cove (19c) ¹	0	0	0	0	0	[0]	0	0	0	-
Oyster Point Park (19e)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Point San Bruno (19f)	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	→
Seaplane Harbor (19g)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
SFO (19h)	1	2	3	2	3	3	1	2	-1	→
Mills Creek Mouth (19i)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Easton Creek Mouth (19j)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Sanchez Marsh (19k)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Burlingame Lagoon (19l)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Coyote Point Marina (19n)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Seal Slough (19p)	1	3	0	1	0	0	0	1	-1	→
Anza Lagoon (19r) ¹	0	0	0	0	0	[0]	0	0	0	-
San Francisco Peninsula Region TOTAL	6	7	4	6	4	3	1	4	-3	↘

¹ Data gaps in the middle of the time series were assigned data based on the average of the preceding and subsequent years and are noted by brackets.

4. Survey Results

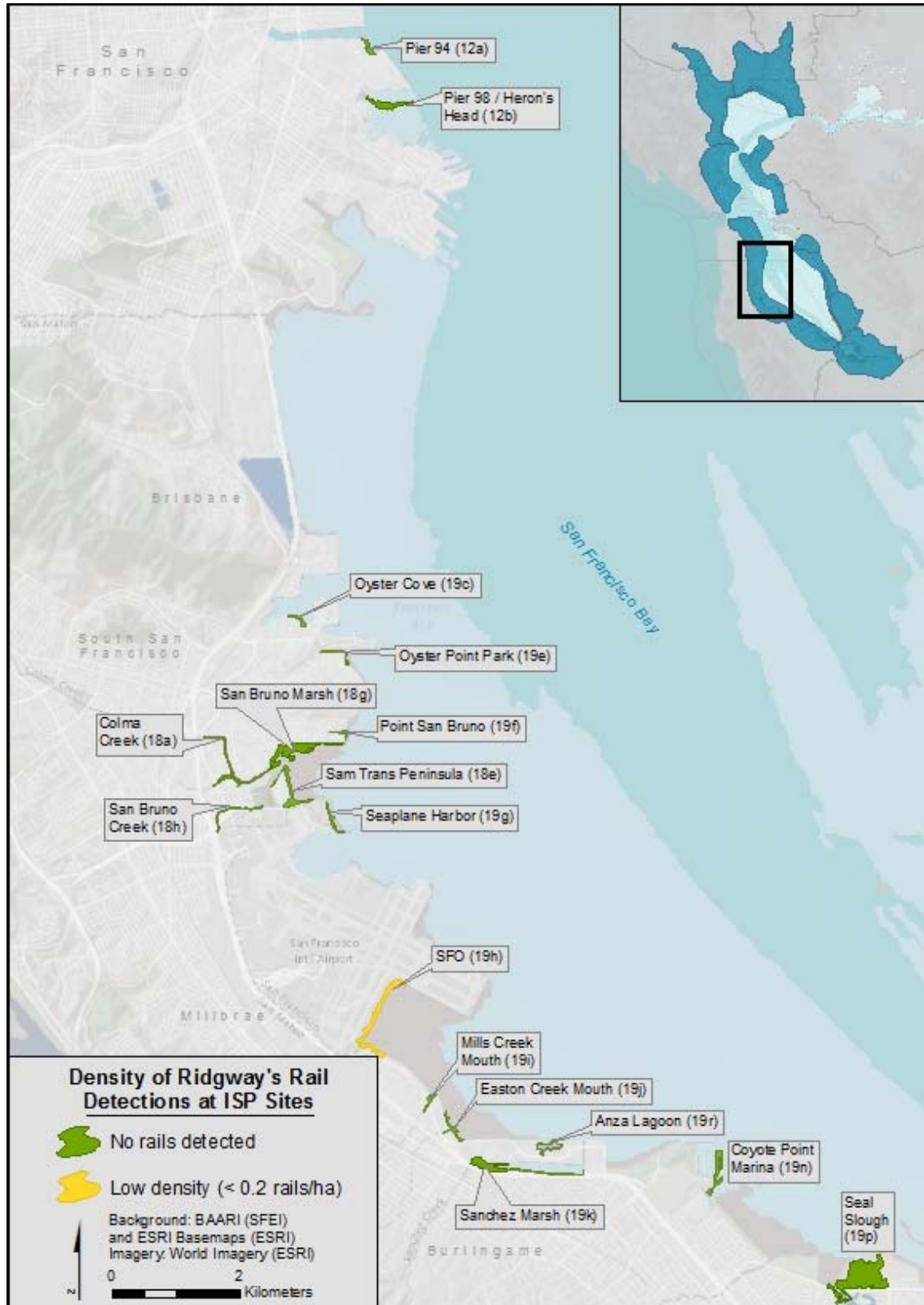


Figure 10. Density of Ridgway's rail detected in 2016 at ISP sites in the SF Peninsula Region. Density was calculated based on the highest minimum count within the survey area. Crissy Field (12g) is located in northern San Francisco and is not displayed on this map; the site does not provide habitat for Ridgway's rails.

4.8 Marin Region

The Marin Region extends from the Golden Gate Bridge to the Richmond Bridge in Marin County (**Figure 11**). The region contains many small, disconnected sites scattered along the shoreline and some larger, older marshes at the mouth of Corte Madera Creek. The shoreline is fairly developed, with a variety of wetland habitat types, including several marinas, tidal lagoons, flood control channels, small fragmented marshes, large restored marshes, invaded mudflats, and several creeks and sloughs. The Marin Region has had relatively little impact from hybrid *Spartina*, which never gained a substantial foothold in the area. The Corte Madera Creek Complex, however, has been the epicenter for the invasive *Spartina densiflora* invasion in the Bay.

The region includes 30 ISP rail sites, 17 of which were surveyed by OEI in 2016 (**Table 9**). PBCS surveyed an additional eight sites, including the more densely occupied tidal marshes in the Corte Madera Complex. OEI detected a total of 13 rails in the Marin Region in 2016 and PBCS detected approximately 50 Ridgway's rails during their surveys there.

The sites that OEI surveys within the region are small tidal wetlands in Marin's residential neighborhoods along the Bay. Overall, the number of rails detected has declined over the past seven years at sites surveyed by OEI in the region. However, we did see a return of rails to a site where they have been absent for several years: Pickleweed Park (AKA Tiscornia Marsh). This site historically had a consistent rail population for many years, surprising considering the small size of the marsh (less than 6 hectares). However, rails had not been detected at the site since 2012. The return of rails to this site is likely from the dispersal of rails at the larger, more densely occupied marshes in the Petaluma Region to the north and could indicate population increases there.

Table 9. Survey results in the Marin Region from 2010 to 2016 at sites surveyed by OEI this year.

Site Name (ID)	Highest Minimum Count							Average	Change from Average	Trend
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016			
Pickleweed Park (9)	10	8	1	0	0	0	6	4	2	↘
Blackie's Creek (03a)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Blackie's Creek Mouth (03b)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Larkspur Ferry Landing (04e)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Riviera Circle (04f)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Creekside Park (04g)	8	9	12	3	9	4	5	7	-2	↘
CMC - Upper (04h)	4	8	3	2	2	2	0	3	-3	↘
CMC - Lower (04i)	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	-
CMC - Mouth (04j)	4	5	2	2	1	1	0	2	-2	↘
Beach Drive (23b)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Loch Lomond Marina (23c)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
San Rafael Canal Mouth (23d)	2	2	2	1	1	0	2	1	1	↘
Paradise Cay (23f)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Greenwood Beach (23g)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Strawberry Point (23h)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Strawberry Cove (23i)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Starkweather Park (23l)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Marin Region TOTAL	28	32	20	9	13	7	13	17	-4	↘

4. Survey Results

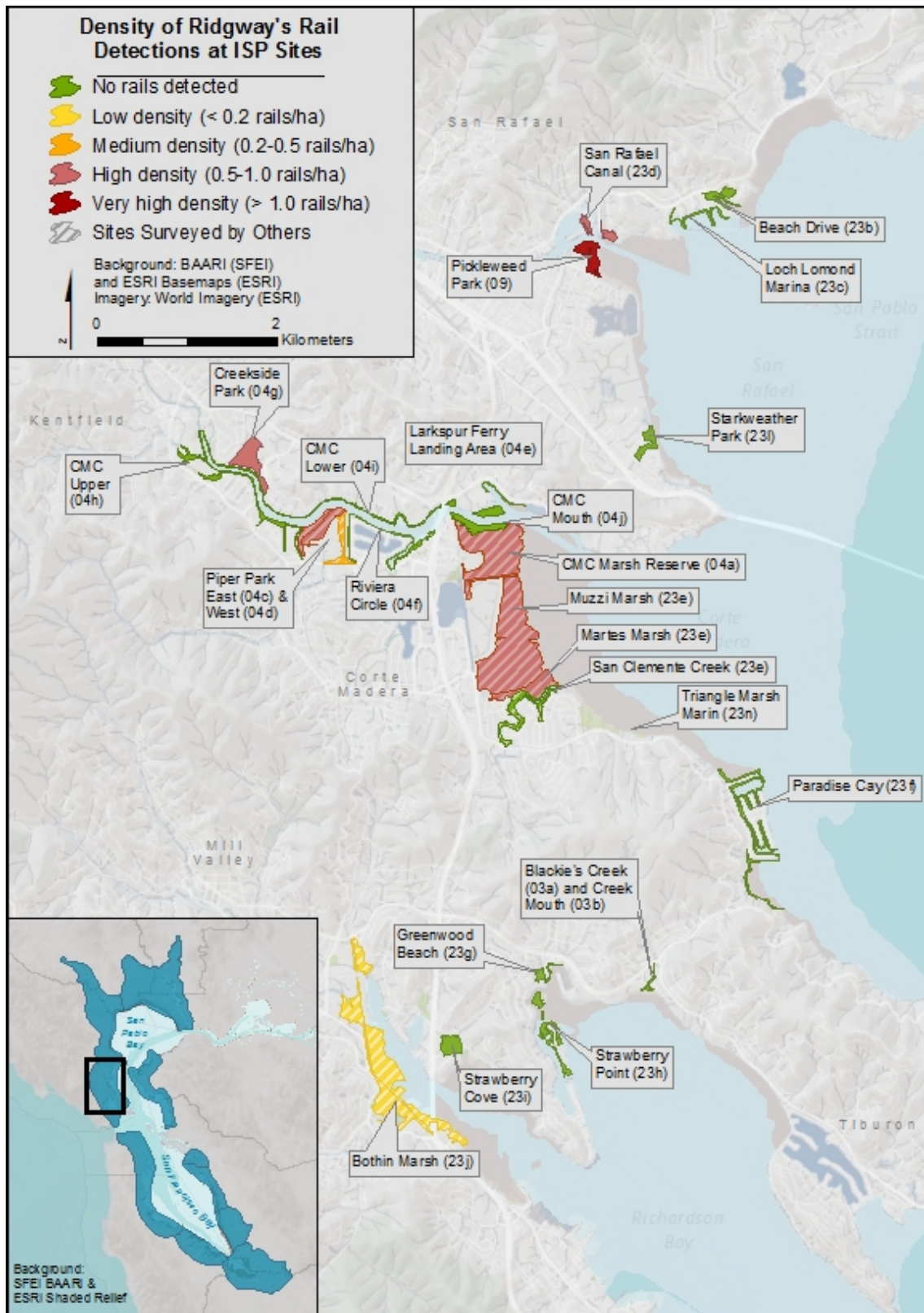


Figure 11. Density of Ridgway's rail detected in 2016 at ISP sites in the Marin Region. Density was calculated based on the highest minimum count within the survey area.

4.9 San Pablo Bay – Vallejo and Petaluma Regions

San Pablo Bay includes both the Vallejo and Petaluma Regions (**Figure 12**). The Petaluma Region includes some of the largest and most densely occupied marshes in the North Bay, including McInnis Marsh, Gallinas Creek, and the marshes along the Petaluma River. Most of the sites within the San Pablo Bay regions were surveyed by other organizations: PBCS surveyed 19 sites, SPBNWR surveyed three sites, DENWR surveyed two sites, ARA surveyed two sites, and Len Liu surveyed one site. Invasive *Spartina* has a very small presence in the area and the survey effort by OEI in the Petaluma and Vallejo Regions was minimal.

In 2016, OEI only surveyed a small portion of one marsh within this large region: San Pablo Bay NWR Shoreline (AKA Mare Island Shoreline) (**Table 10**). No rails were detected in the portion of the site that OEI surveys. However, OEI only surveys 2% of this very large site, so the lack of rail detections by OEI does not indicate an absence of Ridgway's rails at the site. Although OEI did not detect any rails in this region this year, the Ridgway's rail population is actually quite substantial in the San Pablo Bay regions. In fact, PBCS detected over 250 Ridgway's rails in the area in 2016 (M. Elrod, personal communication, June 24, 2016). Survey results from other organizations are still being tallied, but it is clear that these regions contain a substantial portion of the Estuary-wide population of Ridgway's rails.

Table 10. Survey results from 2010 to 2016 at the only site surveyed by OEI in the San Pablo Bay Region this year.

Site Name (ID)	Highest Minimum Count							Average	Change from Average	Trend
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016			
San Pablo Bay NWR Shoreline (26b)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-

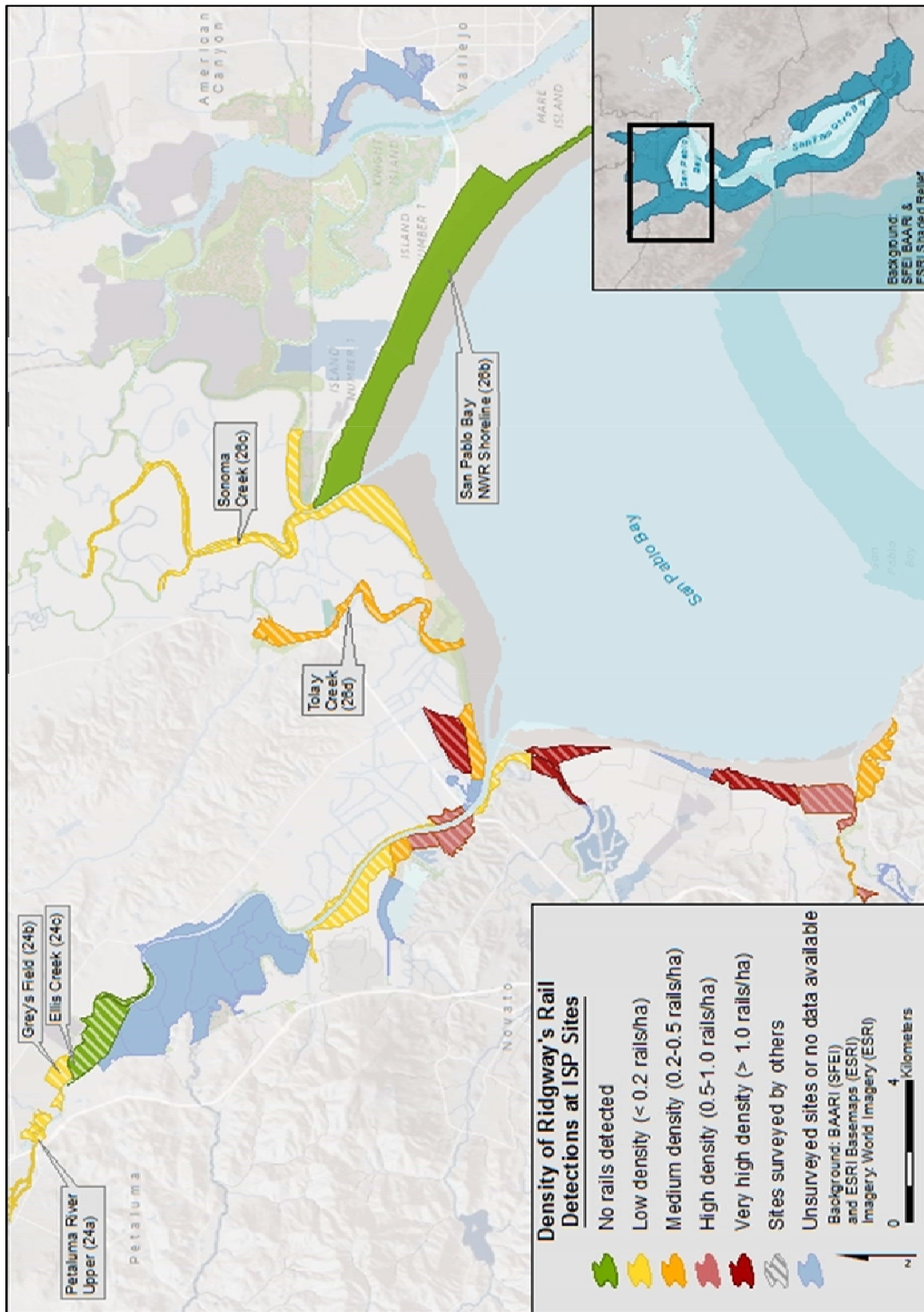


Figure 12. Density of Ridgway's rail detected in 2016 at ISP sites in San Pablo Bay (Petaluma and Vallejo Regions). Density was calculated based on the highest minimum count within the survey area. Sites not surveyed by OEI were surveyed by PBCS and DENWR.

5. Discussion

The number of California Ridgway's rails detected at sites surveyed by OEI in 2016 is at its highest over our seven-year study period. In 2016, OEI biologists detected a total of approximately 420 rails, which is an increase of about 100 detections over the seven-year average. However, over 75% of the increase in detections at the subset of sites surveyed by OEI are from the eleven sites where *Spartina* treatment is currently restricted.

In 2011, USFWS indicated that full treatment of hybrid *Spartina* would not be permitted at these eleven sites until rail numbers increased by 80 rails bay-wide over 2010 numbers for three consecutive years. A subset of ISP sites surveyed by OEI and partners at DENWR, PBCS, and SPBNWR are included in the 2010 baseline and subsequent analysis. Preliminary results from partners indicate that the past two years each exceed 80 rails above the 2010 baseline and the average of the past three years also exceed 80 rails over the 2010 baseline. If and when USFWS has agreed that the goal has been met, phased *Spartina* treatment will resume at some of the restricted sites through careful coordination and planning with USFWS to minimize impacts to rails.

It is clear that the increased hybrid *Spartina* cover at the eleven restricted-treatment sites is providing added habitat value and the rail numbers are positively responding to the expansion of *Spartina* and the resumption of treatment at these sites will result in local declines to rail numbers. Mechanisms to reduce these losses must be identified and enacted. Habitat enhancement and restoration may ameliorate the effects of the temporary loss of cover due to *Spartina* removal. However more extreme solutions, such as translocation, should be considered, particularly at sites where the native condition cannot support the number of rails currently present.

The ISP is working to rapidly reestablish native vegetation and high tide refuge to support and increase the bay-wide Ridgway's rail population. These efforts include extensive revegetation of both *Grindelia stricta* and *Spartina foliosa* plantings. Additionally, the Coastal Conservancy has invested in the construction of high tide refuge islands. Approximately 60 islands have been installed to date. The efficacy of these enhancements for Ridgway's rails remains to be determined. Currently PBCS is working on a multi-year analysis of call-count data to identify the response of rail populations at sites with habitat enhancements. However, it will take several more years before the magnitude of the rail response can be identified.

Ultimately, the most effective means to increase the Ridgway's rail population in the Estuary in the long term will be to increase the amount of salt marsh habitat available through the restoration of large tracts of tidal wetlands. Many of these efforts are already well on their way through the South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project and the restoration of the Napa-Sonoma Baylands. As more of these newly-breached sites mature and become vegetated, biologists expect to see Ridgway's rails colonize and increase in numbers in response to the restored habitat. Island Pond A21 is an example of the positive response by rails to restoration.

6. Permits

Surveys were conducted under the authority of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service permit TE118356-3 and a Memorandum of Understanding with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. Surveys were required by and conducted pursuant to conditions of the Programmatic Formal Intra-Service Endangered Species Consultation on the San Francisco Estuary Invasive *Spartina* Project and subsequent additional formal intra-Service consultations on implementation of the San Francisco Estuary Invasive *Spartina* Project. Permission for site access was granted by East Bay Regional Park District, the City of San Leandro, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Cargill, City of Mountain View, Mid-Peninsula Regional Open Space District, Redwood City Marina, Westpoint Harbor, SFO International Airport, and Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge.

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Appendix I: Complete List of 2016 Spartina Treatment Sites and Ridgway's Rail Survey Plans by Site

Appendix I: Complete list of 2016 *Spartina* treatment sites and associated Ridgway's rail survey plans by survey organization (key to acronyms of survey organizations follows) and survey type (see Appendix II for complete descriptions of survey protocols). Sites noted by asterisks (*) no longer support non-native *Spartina*

Complex Code	Complex Name	Site Code	Site Name	Survey Organization	Survey Type
1	Alameda Flood Control Channel	01a	AFCC - Mouth	DENWR	C
		01b	AFCC - Lower	DENWR	C
		01c	AFCC - Upper	DENWR	C
		01d	AFCC - to I-880	ISP	F
		01e	AFCC - Strip Marsh	ISP	F
		01f	AFCC - Pond 3	DENWR	C
2	Bair / Greco Islands	02a.1	Belmont Slough North	ISP	A
		02a.2	Belmont to Steinberger	ISP	A
		02a.3	Redwood Shores / Bird Island	ISP	A
		02a.4	Redwood Shores Mitigation Marsh	ISP	F
		02b.1	Corkscrew Slough	ISP	A
		02b.2	Steinberger Slough	ISP	C
		02c	B2 North Quadrant	ISP	A
		02d	B2 South Quadrant	ISP	A
		02e	West Point Slough - NW	ISP	C
		02f	Greco Island - North	ISP	A
		02g	West Point Slough - SW / E	ISP	C
		02h	Greco Island - South	ISP	A
		02i	Ravenswood Slough/Mouth	ISP	A
		02j	Ravenswood Open Space Preserve	ISP	C
		02k	Middle Bair N	ISP	A
		02k	Middle Bair SE	ISP	A
		02l	Inner Bair Island Restoration	ISP	C
		02m	Pond B3 Bair Island Restoration	ISP	C
02n	SF2	ISP	F		
02o	Middle Bair West	ISP	F		
3	Blackie's Pasture	03a	Blackie's Creek	ISP	F
		03b	Blackie's Creek Mouth	ISP	F
4	Corte Madera Creek	04a	CMC Marsh Reserve	PBCS	A
		04b	College of Marin*	none	-
		04c	Piper Park - East	PBCS	A
		04d	Piper Park - West	PBCS	A
		04e	Larkspur Ferry Landing Area	ISP	F
		04f	Riviera Circle	ISP	F
		04g	Creekside Park	ISP	A
		04h	CMC - Upper	ISP	A
		04i	CMC - Lower	ISP	C
		04j	CMC - Mouth	ISP	A
		04k	Boardwalk No. 1	PBCS	A
		04l	Murphy Creek *	none	-

*These sites no longer support non-native *Spartina*.

Appendix I: Survey Plans

Complex Code	Complex Name	Site Code	Site Name	Survey Organization	Survey Type
5	Coyote Creek / Mowry	05a.1	Mowry Marsh North [‡]	None	-
		05a.2	Calaveras Point	ISP	A
		05b	Dumbarton/Audubon	ISP	A
		05c	Newark Slough	ISP	A
		05d	LaRiviere Marsh	DENWR	B
		05e	Mayhew's Landing	ISP	C
		05f	Coyote Creek	DENWR	A
		05g	Cargill Pond (W Suites Hotel)	ISP	C
		05h	Plummer Creek Mitigation	ISP	C
		05i	Island Ponds	DENWR	C
6	Emeryville Crescent	06a	Emeryville Crescent - East	ISP	C
		06b	Emeryville Crescent - West	ISP	C
7	Oro Loma Marsh	07a	Oro Loma - East	ISP	A
		07b	Oro Loma - West	ISP	A
8	Palo Alto Baylands	08	Palo Alto Baylands	PBCS	A
		08	Palo Alto Harbor	PBCS	A
9	Pickleweed Park	09	Pickleweed Park	ISP	C
10	Point Pinole Marshes	10a	Whittel Marsh	ISP	A
		10b	Southern Marsh	ISP	F
		10c	Giant Marsh	ISP	C
		10d	Breuner Marsh Restoration	ISP	F
11	Carquinez Straits	11	Southampton Marsh	ARA	A
12	Southeast San Francisco	12a	Pier 94	ISP	F
		12b	Pier 98/Heron's Head	ISP	C
		12c	India Basin *	None	-
		12d	Hunters Point Naval Reserve *	None	-
		12e	Yosemite Channel*	None	-
		12f	Candlestick Cove*	None	-
		12g	Crissy Field*	None	-
		12h	Yerba Buena Island *	None	-
		12i	Mission Creek *	None	-
13	Whale's Tail Complex	13a	OAC - North Bank	ISP	A
		13b	OAC - Island	ISP	A
		13c	OAC - South Bank	ISP	A
		13d	Whale's Tail - North	ISP	A
		13e	Whale's Tail - South	DENWR	C
		13f	Cargill Mitigation Marsh	DENWR	C
		13g	OAC - Upstream 20 Tide Gates	ISP	F
		13h	Eden Landing - North Creek	ISP	F
		13i	Eden Landing - Pond 10*	None	-
		13j	Eden Landing - Mt Eden Creek	ISP	C
		13k	Eden Landing Reserve - South	ISP	C
		13l	Eden Landing Reserve - North	ISP	F
		13m	Eden Landing - Ponds E8A, E9, E8X	ISP	F

[‡] This site was slated to be surveyed by DENWR using an airboat during the highest winter tides (Protocol E). However, tides and weather were not suitable to conduct the survey and this portion of site 05a was not surveyed in 2016 by any organizations.

* These sites no longer support non-native *Spartina*.

Complex Code	Complex Name	Site Code	Site Name	Survey Organization	Survey Type
15	South Bay Marshes	15a.1	Charleston / Mountain View Slough	PBCS	A
		15a.2	Stevens Creek to Long Point	ISP	C
		15a.3	Guadalupe Slough	ISP	A
		15a.4	Alviso Slough	ISP	A
		15a.5	Coyote Creek South East	ISP	A
		15a.6	Knapp Tract	ISP	F
		15b	Faber/ Laumeister Marsh	PBCS	A
		15c	Stevens Creek	ISP	C
16	Cooley Landing	16	Cooley Landing	ISP	A
17	San Leandro Bay	17a	Elsie Roemer	ISP	F
		17b	Bay Farm Island	ISP	F
		17c	Arrowhead Marsh	EBRPD/ISP	B
		17d	MLK Regional Shoreline – Damon Marsh	ISP	A
		17e	San Leandro Creek	ISP	A
		17f	Oakland Inner Harbor	ISP	F
		17g	Coast Guard Is	ISP	F
		17h	MLK New Marsh	ISP	A
		17i	Coliseum Channels	ISP	F
		17j	Fan Marsh	ISP	A
		17k	Airport Channel	ISP	F
		17l	Doolittle Pond	ISP	C
		17m	Alameda Island - East	ISP	F
		18	Colma Creek / San Bruno	18a	Colma Creek
18b	Navigable Slough			ISP	F
18c	Old Marina*			None	-
18d	Inner Harbor*			None	-
18e	Sam Trans Peninsula			ISP	F
18f	Confluence Marsh*			None	-
18g	San Bruno Marsh			ISP	C
18h	San Bruno Creek			ISP	F
19	West San Francisco Bay	19a	Brisbane Lagoon*	None	-
		19b	Sierra Point*	None	-
		19c	Oyster Cove	ISP	F
		19d	Oyster Point Marina*	None	-
		19e	Oyster Point Park	ISP	F
		19f	Point San Bruno	ISP	F
		19g	Seaplane Harbor	ISP	F
		19h	SFO	ISP	A
		19i	Mills Creek Mouth	ISP	F
		19j	Easton Creek Mouth	ISP	F
		19k	Sanchez Marsh	ISP	C
		19l	Burlingame Lagoon	ISP	F
		19m	Fisherman's Park*	None	-
		19n	Coyote Point Marina	ISP	F
		19o	San Mateo Creek*	None	-
		19p	Seal Slough Mouth	ISP	C
		19q	Foster City*	None	-
19r	Anza Lagoon	ISP	F		
19s	Maple Street Channel*	None	-		

*These sites no longer support non-native *Spartina*.

Appendix I: Survey Plans

Complex Code	Complex Name	Site Code	Site Name	Survey Organization	Survey Type
20	San Leandro / Hayward Shoreline	20a	Oyster Bay Regional Shoreline	ISP	F
		20b	Oakland Golf Links	ISP	F
		20c	Dog Bone Marsh	ISP	C
		20d	Citation Marsh	ISP	A
		20e	East Marsh	ISP	A
		20f	North Marsh	ISP	A
		20g	Bunker Marsh	ISP	A
		20h	San Lorenzo Creek & Mouth	ISP	A
		20i	Bockmann Channel	OEI	G
		20j	Sulphur Creek	ISP	A
		20k	Hayward Landing	ISP	C
		20l	Johnson's Landing	ISP	F
		20m	Cogswell - Sec A	ISP	A
		20n	Cogswell - Sec B	ISP	A
		20o	Cogswell - Sec C	ISP	A
		20p	Hayward Shoreline Outliers	ISP	F
		20q	San Leandro Shoreline Outliers	ISP	F
		20r	Oakland Airport	ISP	C
		20s	HARD Marsh	ISP	C
		20t	San Leandro Marina*	None	-
20u	Estudillo Creek Channel	ISP	F		
20v	Hayward Landing Canal	ISP	F		
20w	Triangle Marsh - Hayward	ISP	C		
21	Ideal Marsh	21a	Ideal Marsh - North	DENWR	C
		21b	Ideal Marsh - South	DENWR	C
22	Two Points Complex	22a	Wildcat Marsh	PBCS	A
		22b	San Pablo Marsh	PBCS	A
		22c	Rheem Creek Area	ISP	A
		22d	Meeker Slough	ISP	A
		22d	Stege Marsh	ISP	A
		22e	Hoffman Marsh	ISP	A
22f	Richmond/Albany Shoreline	ISP	F		
23	Marin Outliers	23a	Brickyard Cove*	None	-
		23b	Beach Drive	ISP	F
		23c	Loch Lomond Marina	ISP	F
		23d	San Rafael Canal Mouth North	ISP	C
		23e	Muzzi Marsh	PBCS	A
		23f	Paradise Cay	ISP	F
		23g	Greenwood Beach	ISP	F
		23h	Strawberry Point	ISP	F
		23i	Strawberry Cove	ISP	F
		23j	Bothin Marsh	PBCS	A
		23k	Sausalito*	None	-
		23l	Starkweather Park	ISP	F
		23m	Santa Venetia	PBCS	A
		23m	McInnis Marsh	PBCS	A
23n	Triangle Marsh – Marin*	None	-		
23o	China Camp	PBCS	A		

*These sites no longer support non-native *Spartina*.

Complex Code	Complex Name	Site Code	Site Name	Survey Organization	Survey Type
24	Petaluma River	24a	Petaluma River - Upper	PBCS	A
		24b	Grey's Field	PBCS	A
		24c	Petaluma Marsh	PBCS	A
		24d	Black John Slough North	PBCS	A
26	North San Pablo Bay	26a	White Slough Marsh*	none	-
		26b	San Pablo Bay NWR Shoreline	ISP	F
		26c	Sonoma Creek	SPBNWR	A
		26d	Lower Tubbs Island	SPBNWR	A
		26d	Tolay Creek	SPBNWR	A
		26d	Sonoma Baylands East	SPBNWR	A

*These sites no longer support non-native *Spartina*.

KEY to Survey Organizations:

- **ARA** = Avocet Research Associates (contact Jules Evens)
- **ISP** = Olofson Environmental, Inc. for the Invasive *Spartina* Project (contact Jen McBroom)
- **OEI** = Olofson Environmental, Inc. for an outside agency or company (contact Jen McBroom)
- **PBCS** = Point Blue Conservation Science (contact Julian Wood)
- **DENWR** = Don Edwards National Wildlife Refuge (contact Rachel Tertes)
- **SPBNWR** = San Pablo Bay National Wildlife Refuge (contact Meg Marriott)

**Appendix II: 2016 Survey Station Coordinates in UTM
(NAD83, Zone 10)**

Appendix II: Survey stations by site and their geographic coordinates in UTM (NAD83, Zone10)

REGION: BAY BRIDGE NORTH

Sub-area Code	Site Name	Point ID	X Coordinate	Y Coordinate
06a	Emeryville Crescent - East	EMCR07	560954	4186746
06a	Emeryville Crescent - East	EMCR14	561702	4187997
06a	Emeryville Crescent - East	EMCR15	561891	4187888
06b	Emeryville Crescent - West	EMCR02	560250	4186896
06b	Emeryville Crescent - West	EMCR03	560177	4186720
06b	Emeryville Crescent - West	EMCR04	560358	4186670
06b	Emeryville Crescent - West	EMCR05	560565	4186723
06b	Emeryville Crescent - West	EMCR06	560742	4186744
06b	Emeryville Crescent - West	EMCR01	560433	4186905
10a	Whittel Marsh	PTPN01	556260	4206711
10a	Whittel Marsh	PTPN02	556460	4206771
10a	Whittel Marsh	PTPN03	556645	4206685
10a	Whittel Marsh	PTPN04	556830	4206771
10c	Giant Marsh	PPF01	556238	4205274
10c	Giant Marsh	PPF05	556420	4205053
10c	Giant Marsh	PPF06	556443	4204834
10c	Giant Marsh	PPF07	556234	4204657
22c	Rheem Creek Area	RCRA03	555821	4203918
22c	Rheem Creek Area	RCRA04	555895	4204106
22c	Rheem Creek Area	RCRA05	555917	4204343
22c	Rheem Creek Area	RCRA12	555741	4203735
22d	Stege Marsh	MEEK03	558280	4196127
22d	Stege Marsh	MEEK04	558463	4196076
22d	Stege Marsh	MEEK05	558183	4195946
22d	Stege Marsh	MEEK06	558770	4195989
22d	Stege Marsh	MEEK07	559080	4195902
22e	Hoffman Marsh	HOM06	559640	4195672
22e	Hoffman Marsh	HOM07	559818	4195374
22e	Hoffman Marsh	HOM08	560031	4195055

REGION: SAN LEANDRO BAY

Sub-area		Point ID	X Coordinate	Y Coordinate
Code	Site Name			
17c	Arrowhead Marsh	ARHE01	569510	4177535
17d	MLK Regional Shoreline	MLKS09	569336	4178901
17d	MLK Regional Shoreline	MLKS10	569456	4178741
17d	MLK Regional Shoreline	MLKS11	569515	4178546
17e	San Leandro Creek	SLEA01	569805	4177557
17e	San Leandro Creek	SLEA02	569923	4177386
17e	San Leandro Creek	SLEA03	570046	4177211
17e	San Leandro Creek	SLEA04	570174	4177030
17e	San Leandro Creek	SLEA05	570298	4176856
17e	San Leandro Creek	SLEA06	570418	4176690
17e	San Leandro Creek	SLEA07	570529	4176533
17h	MLK New Marsh	MLKR01	569671	4177003
17h	MLK New Marsh	MLKR02	569622	4177196
17h	MLK New Marsh	MLKR03	569706	4177372
17h	MLK New Marsh	MLKR04	569712	4177546
17h	MLK New Marsh	MLKR05	569837	4177413
17h	MLK New Marsh	MLKR06	569948	4177254
17h	MLK New Marsh	MLKR07	570046	4177104
17j	Fan Marsh	FANM01	568582	4177668
17j	Fan Marsh	FANM03	568635	4177820
17j	Fan Marsh	FANM04	568768	4177689
17l	Doolittle Pond	DOPO03	568130	4177879
17l	Doolittle Pond	DOPO04	568396	4177885

REGION: HAYWARD

Sub-area Code	Site Name	Point ID	X Coordinate	Y Coordinate
07a	Oro Loma - East	ORLW17	574749	4168949
07a	Oro Loma - East	ORLW18	574912	4169047
07a	Oro Loma - East	ORLW19	575313	4169028
07a	Oro Loma - East	ORLW20	575474	4168815
07a	Oro Loma - East	ORLW21	575441	4168567
07b	Oro Loma - West	ORLW01	574936	4168382
07b	Oro Loma - West	ORLW02	575023	4168204
07b	Oro Loma - West	ORLW03	574972	4168062
07b	Oro Loma - West	ORLW04	574771	4168057
07b	Oro Loma - West	ORLW05	574584	4168057
07b	Oro Loma - West	ORLW06	574382	4168054
07b	Oro Loma - West	ORLW07	574308	4168235
07b	Oro Loma - West	ORLW08	574215	4168393
07b	Oro Loma - West	ORLW09	574150	4168521
07b	Oro Loma - West	ORLW10	574098	4168723
07b	Oro Loma - West	ORLW11	574095	4168866
07b	Oro Loma - West	ORLW12	574302	4168857
07b	Oro Loma - West	ORLW13	574495	4168854
07b	Oro Loma - West	ORLW14	574661	4168784
07b	Oro Loma - West	ORLW15	574739	4168633
07b	Oro Loma - West	ORLW16	574840	4168558
20c	Dogbone Marsh	DOGB01	572695	4170847
20d	Citation Marsh	CITA01	573661	4170466
20d	Citation Marsh	CITA02	573555	4170639
20d	Citation Marsh	CITA03	573435	4170800
20d	Citation Marsh	CITA04	573314	4170961
20d	Citation Marsh	CITA05	573318	4171265
20d	Citation Marsh	CITA06	573316	4171466
20d	Citation Marsh	CITA07	573314	4171666
20f	North Marsh	NORT01	573097	4171251
20f	North Marsh	NORT02	572949	4171118
20f	North Marsh	NORT03	572920	4170920
20f	North Marsh	NORT04	572877	4170757
20f	North Marsh	NORT05	572997	4170591
20f	North Marsh	NORT06	573168	4170488
20f	North Marsh	NORT08	573588	4170397
20g	Bunker Marsh	BUNK01	573456	4170331
20g	Bunker Marsh	BUNK02	573507	4170104
20g	Bunker Marsh	BUNK03	573561	4169912
20g	Bunker Marsh	BUNK04	573631	4169725
20h	San Lorenzo Creek	SLRZ01	573737	4169556
20h	San Lorenzo Creek	SLRZ03	573943	4169633
20h	San Lorenzo Creek	SLRZ04	574138	4169774
20h	San Lorenzo Creek	SLRZ05	574277	4169889
20h	San Lorenzo Creek	SLRZ07	573896	4169503
20h	San Lorenzo Creek	SLRZ08	573955	4169323

REGION: HAYWARD (continued)				
Sub-area	Site Name	Point ID	X Coordinate	Y Coordinate
20h	San Lorenzo Creek	SLRZ09	573951	4169136
20j	Sulphur Creek	SULF04	575178	4168030
20j	Sulphur Creek	SULF05	575382	4168032
20j	Sulphur Creek	SULF06	575580	4168049
20l	Johnson's Landing	JOLA02	575064	4164736
20l	Johnson's Landing	JOLA04	574909	4165104
20m	Cogswell - Sec A	COGS01	574738	4166041
20m	Cogswell - Sec A	COGS02	574713	4166250
20m	Cogswell - Sec A	COGS03	574862	4166363
20m	Cogswell - Sec A	COGS04	575059	4166368
20m	Cogswell - Sec A	COGS05	575218	4166336
20m	Cogswell - Sec A	COGS06	575158	4166170
20m	Cogswell - Sec A	COGS07	575043	4166004
20n	Cogswell - Sec B	COGS15	575367	4165223
20n	Cogswell - Sec B	COGS16	575572	4165228
20n	Cogswell - Sec B	COGS17	575710	4165373
20n	Cogswell - Sec B	COGS18	575620	4165538
20n	Cogswell - Sec B	COGS19	575531	4165722
20n	Cogswell - Sec B	COGS20	575436	4165912
20n	Cogswell - Sec B	COGS21	575340	4166092
20o	Cogswell - Sec C	COGS08	574984	4165788
20o	Cogswell - Sec C	COGS09	575124	4165612
20o	Cogswell - Sec C	COGS10	575138	4165412
20o	Cogswell - Sec C	COGS11	575105	4165165
20o	Cogswell - Sec C	COGS12	574791	4165248
20o	Cogswell - Sec C	COGS13	574779	4165542
20o	Cogswell - Sec C	COGS14	574781	4165740
20p	Hayward Landing	HALA01	574524	4166812
20r	Oakland Airport	OAKA01	566746	4175486
20r	Oakland Airport	OAKA02	566898	4175357
20r	Oakland Airport	OAKA03	567055	4175234
20s	HARD Marsh	HARD01	575252	4164654
20s	HARD Marsh	HARD02	575438	4164560
20s	HARD Marsh	HARD03	575619	4164493
20s	HARD Marsh	HARD04	575816	4164414
20s	HARD Marsh	HARD05	575988	4164619
20w	Triangle Marsh - Hayward	TRMA01	574647	4166655
20w	Triangle Marsh - Hayward	TRMA02	574714	4166471

REGION: UNION CITY

Sub-area Code	Site Name	Point ID	X Coordinate	Y Coordinate
13a	OAC - North Bank	ALCK11	577774	4161008
13a	OAC - North Bank	ALCK12	577954	4160949
13a	OAC - North Bank	ALCK13	578133	4160880
13a	OAC - North Bank	ALCK14	578290	4160821
13a	OAC - North Bank	ALCK15	578491	4160791
13a	OAC - North Bank	ALCK16	578684	4160842
13a	OAC - North Bank	ALCK17	578837	4160946
13a	OAC - North Bank	ALCK18	578983	4161058
13a	OAC - North Bank	ALCK19	579146	4161152
13a	OAC - North Bank	ALCK20	579342	4161159
13a	OAC - North Bank	ALCK21	579538	4161155
13a	OAC - North Bank	ALCK22	579723	4161150
13a	OAC - North Bank	ALCK23	579901	4161149
13a	OAC - North Bank	ALCK24	580056	4161217
13a	OAC - North Bank	ALCK25	580098	4161389
13a	OAC - North Bank	ALCK26	580095	4161571
13a	OAC - North Bank	ALCK27	580088	4161744
13a	OAC - North Bank	ALCK10	577579	4161047
13c	OAC - South Bank	OACS01	576227	4160905
13c	OAC - South Bank	OACS02	576429	4160900
13c	OAC - South Bank	OACS03	576629	4160907
13c	OAC - South Bank	OACS04	576829	4160914
13c	OAC - South Bank	OACS05	577029	4160921
13c	OAC - South Bank	OACS06	577225	4160925
13c	OAC - South Bank	OACS07	577426	4160925
13d	Whale's Tail - North	WTN10	575754	4162376
13d	Whale's Tail - North	WTN4	575865	4161341
13d	Whale's Tail - North	WTN5	575886	4161530
13d	Whale's Tail - North	WTN6	575813	4161676
13d	Whale's Tail - North	WTN7	575771	4161849
13d	Whale's Tail - North	WTN8	575767	4162027
13d	Whale's Tail - North	WTN9	575762	4162212
13f	OAC - South Bank	WTS37	576032	4160957
13j	Eden Landing - Mt Eden Creek	EDEN01	576480	4163098
13j	Eden Landing - Mt Eden Creek	EDEN02	576489	4162896
13j	Eden Landing - Mt Eden Creek	EDEN03	576430	4162704
13j	Eden Landing - Mt Eden Creek	EDEN04	576379	4162512
13j	Eden Landing - Mt Eden Creek	EDEN05	576179	4162480
13j	Eden Landing - Mt Eden Creek	EDEN06	575980	4162529
13j	Eden Landing - Mt Eden Creek	WTN11	575778	4162563
13k	Eden Landing Reserve - South	ELRS01	578202	4163533
13k	Eden Landing Reserve - South	ELRS02	578057	4163383
13k	Eden Landing Reserve - South	ELRS03	577994	4163189
13k	Eden Landing Reserve - South	ELRS04	578001	4162988
13k	Eden Landing Reserve - South	ELRS05	578422	4163525
13k	Eden Landing Reserve - South	ELRS06	578540	4163362
13k	Eden Landing Reserve - South	ELRS07	578657	4163200
13k	Eden Landing Reserve - South	ELRS08	578777	4163039

REGION: DUMBARTON SOUTH

Sub-area Code	Site Name	Point ID	X Coordinate	Y Coordinate
16	Cooley Landing	COLA05	576891	4148770
16	Cooley Landing	COLA06	576956	4148944
16	Cooley Landing	COLA07	577129	4149051
16	Cooley Landing	COLA08	577293	4149164
16	Cooley Landing	COLA09	576775	4148568
16	Cooley Landing	COLA10	576825	4148373
16	Cooley Landing	COLA11	576961	4148238
16	Cooley Landing	COLA12	577112	4148090
05a	Calaveras Point	CAPT09a	586275	4146957
05a	Calaveras Point	CAPT10	586088	4146915
05a	Calaveras Point	CAPT11	585877	4146873
05a	Calaveras Point	CAPT12	585689	4146818
05a	Calaveras Point	CAPT13	585492	4146774
05a	Calaveras Point	CAPT15	584921	4146583
05a	Calaveras Point	CAPT08	586510	4147007
05a	Calaveras Point	CAPT14a	585333	4146717
05c	Newark Slough	NEW02	581705	4154094
05c	Newark Slough	NEW03	581878	4153982
05c	Newark Slough	NEW04	582059	4153878
05c	Newark Slough	NEW05	582040	4153642
05c	Newark Slough	NEW06	582159	4153474
05c	Newark Slough	NEW07	582333	4153544
05c	Newark Slough	NEW09	581635	4154254
05e	Mayhew's Landing	May-3	582878	4154195
05e	Mayhew's Landing	May-5	583046	4153879
05g	Cargill Pond (W Suites Hotel)	May-1	582737	4154617
05h	Plummer Creek Mitigation	PLCM01	583615	4152372
05h	Plummer Creek Mitigation	PLCM02	583484	4152202
05h	Plummer Creek Mitigation	PLCM03	583517	4152021
05i	Island Ponds	A21-1	589676	4146880
05i	Island Ponds	A21-3	590549	4147430
05i	Island Ponds	A21-5	590110	4147286
05i	Island Ponds	A21-6	590276	4147430
05i	Island Ponds	A21-7	590658	4147236
05i	Island Ponds	A21-8	590646	4147026
05i	Island Ponds	A21-4	589991	4147127
05i	Island Ponds	A21-2	589855	4146992
15a.1	Charleston Slough	CHSL03	580657	4145153
15a.1	Mountain View Slough	MVSL04	581043	4145153
15a.1	Mountain View Slough	MVSL05	581422	4145011
15a.2	Stevens Creek to Long Point	LONG09	582630	4144724
15a.2	Stevens Creek to Long Point	LONG10	582401	4144385
15a.2	Stevens Creek to Long Point	LONG11	582369	4144019
15a.4	Alviso Slough	MAL01	586761	4146451
15a.4	Alviso Slough	MAL02	586668	4146281
15a.4	Alviso Slough	MAL04	586898	4145918
15a.4	Alviso Slough	MAL06	586942	4145527

REGION: DUMBARTON SOUTH (continued)				
Sub-area Code	Site Name	Point ID	X Coordinate	Y Coordinate
15a.4	Alviso Slough	MAL07	587021	4146548
15a.4	Alviso Slough	MAL08	587328	4146607
15a.4	Alviso Slough	MAL09	587646	4146656
15a.4	Alviso Slough	MAL10	587905	4146704
15a.5	Coyote Creek South East	COYE6B	590413	4145832
15a.5	Coyote Creek South East	COYE6C	590265	4145968
15a.5	Coyote Creek South East	COYE6D	590121	4146110
15a.5	Coyote Creek South East	COYE6E	589970	4146243
15a.5	Coyote Creek South East	COYE6F	589817	4146372
15a.5	Coyote Creek South East	COYE5C	588689	4146707
15a.5	Coyote Creek South East	COYE5A	588951	4146466
15a.5	Coyote Creek South East	COYE5E	588312	4146686
15c	Stevens Creek	STEV01	582431	4143425
15c	Stevens Creek	STEV02	582421	4143224

REGION: SAN MATEO

Sub-area				
Code	Site Name	Point ID	X Coordinate	Y Coordinate
02a	Belmont Slough	BELM01	566369	4156426
02a	Belmont Slough	BELM02	566069	4156168
02a	Belmont Slough	BELM03	565966	4155996
02a	Belmont Slough	BELM04	565882	4155814
02a	Belmont Slough	BELM05	565895	4155614
02a	Belmont Slough	BELM06	565938	4155419
02a	Belmont Slough	BELM07	566028	4155239
02a	Belmont Slough	BELM08	565828	4155213
02a	Redwood Shores	RESH01	568179	4155891
02a	Redwood Shores	RESH02	567964	4155983
02a	Redwood Shores	RESH03	567751	4156006
02a	Redwood Shores	RESH04	567545	4156002
02a	Redwood Shores	RESH06	567118	4156026
02a	Redwood Shores	RESH07	566894	4156065
02b	Corkscrew Slough	CORK01	569367	4153611
02b	Corkscrew Slough	CORK03	568904	4152988
02b	Corkscrew Slough	CORK04	568894	4152635
02b	Corkscrew Slough	CORK05	568642	4152904
02b	Corkscrew Slough	CORK06	568356	4153005
02b	Steinberger Slough	RESH16	567956	4155133
02b	Steinberger Slough	RESH15	567780	4154559
02b	Steinberger Slough	RESH17	568105	4155282
02b	Steinberger Slough	RESH18	568239	4155444
02b	Steinberger Slough	RESH13	567756	4154757
02b	Steinberger Slough	RESH14	567816	4154983
02b	Corkscrew Slough	CORK02a	569244	4153305
02c	B2 North Quadrant	OBE06	569311	4154036
02c	B2 North Quadrant	OBE09	568814	4154381
02c	B2 North Quadrant	OBE11	568471	4154620
02c	B2 North Quadrant	OBE12	569256	4154869
02c	B2 North Quadrant	OBE14	569206	4154429
02c	B2 North Quadrant	OBE16	568775	4154924
02c	B2 North Quadrant	OBE19	568408	4155098
02d	B2 South Quadrant	OBE04	569963	4154250
02d	B2 South Quadrant	OBE22	569611	4154402
02d	B2 South Quadrant	OBE23	569663	4154619
02d	B2 South Quadrant	OBE25	569779	4155053
02d	B2 South Quadrant	OBE26	569843	4154667
02d	B2 South Quadrant	OBE27	569990	4154545
02d	B2 South Quadrant	OBES24	569733	4154871
02e	West Point Slough - NW	WPSN03	571586	4151985
02f	Greco Island - North	GRIN17	571635	4152418
02f	Greco Island - North	GRIN18	571800	4152305
02f	Greco Island - North	GRIN11	570647	4153106
02f	Greco Island - North	GRIN12	570811	4152993
02f	Greco Island - North	GRIN13	570976	4152877

REGION: SAN MATEO (continued)

Sub-area				
Code	Site Name	Point ID	X Coordinate	Y Coordinate
02f	Greco Island - North	GRIN14	571140	4152762
02f	Greco Island - North	GRIN15	571306	4152647
02f	Greco Island - North	GRIN16	571471	4152533
02g	West Point Slough - SW / E	WPSS09	572707	4150059
02g	West Point Slough - SW / E	WPSS10	572706	4149686
02g	West Point Slough - SW / E	WPSS11	572704	4149455
02g	West Point Slough - SW / E	WPSS12	572561	4149237
02h	Greco Island - South	GRIS01	573018	4150394
02h	Greco Island - South	GRIS02	573016	4150596
02h	Greco Island - South	GRIS03	573015	4150799
02h	Greco Island - South	GRIS04	573014	4150998
02h	Greco Island - South	GRIS05	572969	4151193
02h	Greco Island - South	GRIS06	572825	4151345
02i	Ravenswood Slough	RAV02	575826	4149650
02i	Ravenswood Slough	RAV03	575665	4149768
02i	Ravenswood Slough	RAV04	575468	4149813
02i	Ravenswood Slough	RAV05	575260	4149863
02i	Ravenswood Slough	RAV06	574884	4150110
02i	Ravenswood Slough	RAV09	574950	4149885
02i	Ravenswood Slough	RAV10	574806	4150724
02k	Middle Bair N	MBE01	569714	4153286
02k	Middle Bair N	MBE02	569544	4153178
02k	Middle Bair N	MBE03	569366	4153061
02k	Middle Bair N	MBE04	569249	4152883
02k	Middle Bair N	MBE05	569153	4152697
02k	Middle Bair SE	MBSE06	568955	4152326
02k	Middle Bair SE	MBSE02	568726	4151546
02k	Middle Bair SE	MBSE04	568800	4151947
02l	Inner Bair Island Restoration	IBI11	567713	4150454
02l	Inner Bair Island Restoration	IBI13	567298	4150636
02l	Inner Bair Island Restoration	IBI15	567004	4150939
02l	Inner Bair Island Restoration	IBI17	566763	4151267
02m	Pond B3 Bair Island Restoration	OBW02	567997	4154227
02m	Pond B3 Bair Island Restoration	OBW03	568180	4154348
02m	Pond B3 Bair Island Restoration	OBW01	567882	4154015
02m	Pond B3 Bair Island Restoration	OBW04	568467	4154287
02m	Pond B3 Bair Island Restoration	OBW05	568469	4154054
02m	Pond B3 Bair Island Restoration	OBW06	568470	4153817
02m	Pond B3 Bair Island Restoration	OBW07	568471	4153575
02m	Pond B3 Bair Island Restoration	OBW08	568471	4153347

REGION: SAN FRANCISCO PENINSULA

Sub-area			X	Y
Code	Site Name	Point ID	Coordinate	Coordinate
12b	Pier 98/Heron's Head	HEHE01	555235	4176946
12b	Pier 98/Heron's Head	HEHE02	555429	4176923
18g	San Bruno Marsh	SBMA06	553599	4166863
18g	San Bruno Marsh	SBMA01	553847	4166947
18g	San Bruno Marsh	SBMA02	554049	4166950
18g	San Bruno Marsh	SBMA03	554248	4166959
19h	SFO	SFO04	555438	4163237
19h	SFO	SFO05	555203	4162889
19h	SFO	SFO06	555111	4162711
19h	SFO	SFO07	555019	4162530
19k	Sanchez Marsh	PAF01	556703	4160468
19k	Sanchez Marsh	SANC05	556844	4160430
19k	Sanchez Marsh	SANC03	557028	4160398
19k	Sanchez Marsh	SANC04	557215	4160382
19p	Seal Slough	SEAL01	562560	4158484
19p	Seal Slough	SEAL03	562728	4158450
19p	Seal Slough	SEAL04	562857	4158548
19p	Seal Slough	SEAL05	562861	4158725
19p	Seal Slough	SEAL07	562432	4158448

REGION: MARIN

Sub-area				
Code	Site Name	Point ID	X Coordinate	Y Coordinate
9	Pickleweed Park	PIPK01	544265	4202286
9	Pickleweed Park	PIPK02	544239	4202484
9	Pickleweed Park	PIPK03	544183	4202641
04b	College of Marin	CMER03	540053	4200235
04g	Creekside Park	CRPA01	540284	4200157
04g	Creekside Park	CRPA04	540477	4200115
04g	Creekside Park	CRPA05	540583	4199940
04g	Creekside Park	CRPA06	540535	4200305
04h	CMC - Upper	UCMC01	539765	4200265
04h	CMC - Upper	UCMC02	539978	4200186
04h	CMC - Upper	UCMC03	540142	4200079
04h	CMC - Upper	UCMC04	540358	4200046
04h	CMC - Upper	UCMC05	540500	4199902
04i	CMC - Lower	LCMC11	540632	4199553
04i	CMC - Lower	LCMC12	540831	4199466
04j	CMC - Mouth	CMCM12	542958	4199629
04j	CMC - Mouth	CMCM13	543185	4199682
04j	CMC - Mouth	CMCM14	542814	4199523
04j	CMC - Mouth	CMCM15	543007	4199427
04j	CMC - Mouth	CMCM16	543234	4199447
23d	San Rafael Canal Mouth	SRCM01	544244	4202876
23d	San Rafael Canal Mouth	SRCM02	544370	4202758

Appendix III: Standard Survey Protocols for Ridgway's Rails in the San Francisco Estuary

San Francisco Estuary Invasive *Spartina* Project
California Ridgway's Rail Survey Protocols

General Survey Requirements:

- 1) *Permits*. Obtain required survey permits: USFWS Endangered Species Permit, ESA Section 10(a)(1)(A); California DFG permit (i.e. Memorandum of Understanding); site-specific permissions (e.g., Special Use Permit from a NWR).
- 2) *Training*. Observers must be trained to identify Ridgway's rail calls and distinguish RIRA calls from other marsh bird species (see Rail Training document, April 2004). Observers must also be trained to minimize disturbance while conducting surveys (see Walking in the Marsh document, April 2004).
- 3) *Tides and moon phase*. Conduct surveys when tidal sloughs are less than bank full, <4.5-ft NGVD at the nearest tide station. Tide height at bank full will vary by site. Avoid high (flood) tides. Full moon periods should be avoided during active surveys when tape playback is utilized, as birds may be attracted out of cover or a response may be elicited, increasing the likelihood of predation. There is also evidence of reduced calling rates during full moon periods.
- 4) *Survey Timing*. Morning surveys should be initiated 1 hour before sunrise and extended no more than 1.5 hours after sunrise; evening surveys should begin 1 hour prior to sunset and extend no more than 1 hour following sunset. Surveys at a particular location should be spaced at least 1 week apart and should be conducted at both sunrise and sunset.
- 5) *Weather*. Record wind velocities and weather; conduct surveys at winds <10 mph; do not conduct surveys during heavy rainfall.
- 6) *Seasonality*. Conduct surveys between January 15 and mid-April.
- 7) *Survey Stations*. Stations should be spaced approximately 200m apart. Stations should be placed on boardwalks or levee tops when possible to minimize disturbance. When surveys are conducted within a marsh, stations should be placed away from slough/channel edges to minimize disturbance to rail species.
- 8) *Data collection*. All rail vocalizations should be recorded, noting the call type, location, and time. Locations where rails are detected should be plotted on a map during the survey with numbered reference codes that correspond to detections on the datasheet. The call types should be coded as follows:

Call Code	Call Description	Number of Birds Indicated
C	Clapper/clatter by one individual	1 bird
D	“Duet”- two individuals clattering simultaneously	2 birds
K	“kek”	1 bird
KH	“kek-hurrah”	1 bird
B	“kek-burr”	1 bird
V	Visual sighting	1 bird per sighting
SK	“squawk”	1 bird
SC	“screech”	1 bird
CH	“chur”	1 bird
P	“purr”	1 bird

If the bird was definitely or possibly previously detected, e.g., as part of a pair, make this clear on the datasheet. Make a note when birds were detected simultaneously or nearly so, to verify that they were separate individuals. Calls of other rail species should also be recorded as above, with species clearly marked.

- 9) *Disturbance*. Record all information on disturbance (e.g., predator sightings or boats) detected during surveys.
- 10) Review the WRMP CLRA protocol (Evens 2002) for other general information (<http://www.wrmp.org/docs/protocols/Wetland%20Birds.pdf>, p.21 Rails). Defer to the requirements listed above if they are more restrictive than the WRMP protocol.

Survey Specifics – Standard Protocol Types

Type	Common Protocol Name	Description
A	Standard USFWS Transect Survey	<i>As described in Albertson & Downard, 2004 and Spautz 2005.</i> Used for most sites where rails are expected to occur. An observer moves to stations along a transect, remaining at each station for 10-minutes. Three rounds of surveys are conducted over the course of the season, with recording played at end of 3 rd round if no prior detections.
B	Standing or Stationary Survey	<i>As described in Albertson & Downard, 2004 and Spautz 2005.</i> Used at two sites in the Bay: Arrowhead Marsh and LaRiviere Marsh. Requires one person at each station for 1½ hour. Typically, 3 survey rounds, with recording played at end of 3 rd round if no prior detections.
C	ISP-Modified Transect Survey	<i>Originally described in Zaremba & Albertson, 2004;</i> modified in Spautz & Albertson 2006. Used to determine presence or absence of RIRA at sites with low potential for RIRA presence, where <i>Spartina</i> control activities are planned. Same as Type A, except recording is played from first survey round. Recordings are discontinued upon detection and surveys proceed using Protocol A.
E	Winter High Tide Survey	<i>Described by EBRPD pers. comm.</i> RIRA are flushed out of marsh habitat by airboat and counted during winter high tide.
F	Preliminary Habitat Suitability Assessment	Quick assessment by RIRA biologist to determine if suitable RIRA habitat is present; if habitat is suitable, a call count survey is conducted (typically using protocol C).
G	Standing or stationary survey to determine absence (AKA consultant protocol)	<i>As described by USFWS Draft Survey Protocol, 2009;</i> modified in January 2015 to include broadcast. Used to determine absence of RIRA at sites where proposed construction activities may impact any rails present at the site. Similar to Protocol B, but with four survey rounds, with recording played during the 3 rd and 4 th round if no prior detections.

Protocol A. The Protocol A transect survey is the standard method of survey for most marshes in the Bay. Listening stations are established at approximately 200-meter intervals along a transect, preferably along the edge of the marsh. The first two of three surveys are passive (listening) for 10-minutes at each station. On the third survey, if a Ridgway’s rail was not previously detected within 200 meters of a listening station during the two previous passive surveys or incidentally within the season, recorded calls are played, according to the “*Recorded Call Playback Procedure*” described below. If a Ridgway’s rail has been previously detected within 200 meters of a listening station, the third survey should also be passive. There should be a minimum of 2 weeks between surveys.

Protocol B. The Protocol B stationary survey is only used at two sites in the Bay: LaRiviere Marsh and Arrowhead Marsh.

The Protocol B stationary survey requires a sufficient number of observers to have one person at each listening station. Listening stations are established along a grid or transect, with stations set apart by 200 meters or more. Observers are present at each station for an

entire 1.5-hour survey period. When calls are recorded, the observer must take care to record the exact time and direction, and best estimate of the distance of the call, so that the data can be reconciled with other observers' data. Reconciliation of data from multiple observers must be planned and closely supervised by a scientist with expertise in field data interpretation. The Protocol B stationary survey is a passive listening survey, and does not include playing of recorded calls. Protocol B surveys are typically conducted for three rounds.

Protocol C. Protocol C (ISP modified transect survey) was developed to more efficiently confirm presence or absence of California Ridgway's rails at certain non-native *Spartina*-invaded sites, so that *Spartina* control could be undertaken at sites with no rails during rail nesting season. Protocol C surveys are implemented only at sites where the probability of Ridgway's rail presence is relatively low, i.e., at sites where Ridgway's rails have not been previously detected, but where marginally suitable habitat or other conditions suggest that rails may be present. Protocol C differs from Protocol A (USFWS standard transect survey) in that it allows the broadcasting of pre-recorded Ridgway's rail vocalizations beginning on the initial round of surveys in order to elicit responses from birds in the marsh. If a Ridgway's rail responds, the broadcast is immediately discontinued and not repeated on subsequent survey rounds at that station, and *Spartina* control at that location is postponed until times authorized by the USFWS Section 7 Biological Opinion. If Ridgway's rail presence is determined using Protocol C, the survey is completed using Protocol A in order to determine the number of birds present at the site.

The suitability of using Protocol C is determined based on whether Ridgway's rails have been previously detected at the site, and whether conditions at the site suggest that Ridgway's rails may be present. The ISP regularly reviews Ridgway's rail records from all known sources to identify locations where Ridgway's rails have been detected in the past. Also, the ISP evaluates all planned *Spartina* treatment sites for potential habitat, and conducts habitat assessment surveys (Protocol F) at any locations that are thought to be potentially, albeit marginally, suitable Ridgway's rail habitat. If the ISP plans to do *Spartina* control at a location where (1) the collective records do not indicate Ridgway's rails have been detected for the prior two years, and (2) the habitat at the site is determined to be at least marginally sufficient for Ridgway's rails, then a Protocol C survey would be performed. If the ISP requires Ridgway's rail data at locations where Ridgway's rail presence was previously confirmed within the prior two years, it would use Protocol A (Standard USFWS transect), rather than Protocol C. Generally speaking, Protocol C surveys are conducted at sites that have a low probability of Ridgway's rail presence.

Protocol F. Protocol F was developed to assess the quality of the Ridgway's rail habitat at marginal sites where rails have not been previously documented and are not likely to occur so that a determination of rail absence could be made without call count surveys where habitat is obviously lacking. Sites requiring *Spartina* control exhibit a continuum of habitat characteristics, many of which are documented Ridgway's rail habitat requirements (e.g., extensive channels for foraging and vegetated upper marsh for refuge during high tides). This makes it difficult in some cases to determine whether the habitat at the site is of sufficiently high quality to require a call count survey. In 2005, the ISP developed a standardized method to document the decision as to whether or not a Ridgway's rail survey was required (Protocol F).

ISP staff consulted with Joy Albertson and Jules Evens to develop a list of required habitat elements for Ridgway's rails based on field knowledge and published sources. This information was used to develop a field checklist to assess the habitat using multiple criteria and to document the decision as to whether the marsh will require a formal Ridgway's rail call count survey. The habitat assessment is typically completed at sites where Ridgway's rails have previously not been documented. Protocol F may also be employed in sites with historic Ridgway's rail presence, but where there have been no detections over the prior two years of formal survey. This scenario has become more prevalent as marshes once fully invaded by hybrid *Spartina* have been treated and the resulting landscape is no longer suitable to support rail populations.

The process of determining whether the site is of sufficient quality to require a call count survey is based on a cumulative score of positive characteristics. Patches with no necessary habitat elements are considered very poor habitat in which Ridgway's rail use is "highly unlikely," and require no further Ridgway's rail survey; such sites are determined to be available for early non-native *Spartina* treatment. If the site is poor but is geographically near enough to good habitat or known rail habitat to potentially provide habitat for at least some Ridgway's rail activities (such as foraging or shelter), it will require a call count survey. Potentially good habitat with at least two positive characteristics will also be likely to require a call count survey, but this will be site-dependent. Possibly good habitat or likely good habitat (with at least four or six characteristics, respectively) will require a call count survey (Protocol A or C).

Habitat characteristics documented to be associated with California Ridgway's rails and included on the habitat assessment datasheet include the following:

1. Young or mature restoration site (at least 50% vegetated)
2. Upper marsh vegetation present
3. Vegetated levee slopes
4. Marsh patch size > 10 ha
5. Closer than 500 m to nearest marsh with documented Ridgway's rail presence
6. Fully tidal
7. Saline
8. High proportion of *Sarcocornia pacifica*, tall hybrid *Spartina* clones, and/or *Grindelia stricta* cover
9. At least a few second and third order channels, or highly channelized

Habitat characteristics associated with California Ridgway's rail absence and included on the habitat assessment datasheet as negative characteristics include the following:

1. New restoration site < 50% vegetated
2. Upper marsh vegetation absent
3. Levee slopes unvegetated
4. Small marsh patch size (< 1 ha)
5. Distance to nearest known marsh with Ridgway's rails > 1000 m
6. Sparse vegetation in rip-rap
7. Highly muted tidal regime or non-tidal
8. Freshwater

Protocol G. In 2009, the USFWS developed a draft survey protocol for consultants to determine Ridgway's rail absence from a marsh. This protocol should be employed if construction or other impactful activities are planned in or adjacent to a tidal marsh during rail breeding season (February 1 to September 1) and surveys are recommended by a USFWS staff assisting with a Biological Opinion or other permit to assess potential impacts.

Similar to Protocol B, this is a stationary survey conducted by multiple observers stationed at 200 meter intervals around the survey area. Surveys are conducted for four rounds between January 15 and April 15. In the most recent protocol, recorded vocalizations are broadcast for the third and fourth rounds if no rails have been previously detected within 200 meters of the station. Because this protocol is used to establish rail absence, if rails are detected at any time during the four rounds of surveys, surveys can cease and presence is established at the site.

Recorded Call Playback Procedure

A standardized recording of Ridgway's rail calls should be obtained from USFWS. The recording should include a combination of clatter and duet calls, and there should be at least four complete calls with at least 5 seconds of silence between calls. The recording should be of good quality, and should be played at a volume of 80-90 dB at 1-meter distance from the speaker. A digital sound level meter should be used to calibrate the playback device.

The survey should begin with an initial 5-minute passive listening period, followed by 1-minute of Ridgway's rail calls, and completed with a 4-minute passive listening period (10-minutes/survey). Tape playbacks should be broadcast in all directions over the marsh at a station. Assume rails can hear tapes at distances of ≤ 200 m.

Note: Only play recorded Ridgway's rail calls at stations when you are certain rails have not yet been detected within a 200-m radius. As soon as a Ridgway's rail is detected, stop the recording.

Appendix IV: Survey Forms

ISP RIDGWAY'S RAIL HABITAT ASSESSMENT (F-SURVEY) 2016

Site Name (& ID): _____ Photo? _____

Surveyor: _____ Date: _____ Time: _____ Tide: _____

<p>Channels</p> <p>0 Invaded shoreline or only 1st order</p> <p>1 2nd order</p> <p>2 3rd order</p> <p>3 4th order +</p>	<p>Marsh Size</p> <p>0 0 - 5 ha</p> <p>1 5 - 25 ha</p> <p>2 25 - 50 ha</p> <p>3 > 50 ha</p>
<p>Distance from Bay*</p> <p>0 >500m</p> <p>1 20-500 m</p> <p>2 1-20 m (outboard levee)</p> <p>3 0 m (direct connection)</p> <p>*or major channel/creek/river</p>	<p>Perimeter:Area Ratio</p> <p>0 > 8%</p> <p>1 4 - 8%</p> <p>2 2.5 - 4%</p> <p>3 < 2.5%</p>
<p>Distance from nearest known CLRA</p> <p>0 > 1000 m</p> <p>1 500 - 1000 m</p> <p>2 200 - 500 m</p> <p>3 1 - 200 m</p> <p>4 Recently detected at site</p>	<p>Vegetative Structure</p> <p>0 <50% vegetated</p> <p>1 >50% vegetated, but ceiling is <15cm</p> <p>2 >50% vegetated, and ceiling is 15-30cm</p> <p>3 >50% vegetated, and ceiling is >30cm</p>
<p>Hydrology</p> <p>0 Extremely muted (dry or ponded)</p> <p>1 Slightly muted</p> <p>2 Fully tidal</p>	<p>Overall Marsh Quality</p> <p>0 Poor</p> <p>1 Fair</p> <p>2 Good</p> <p>3 Excellent</p>
<p>Salinity</p> <p>0 Freshwater</p> <p>1 Brackish</p> <p>2 Salt marsh</p>	<p>Final Determination</p> <p>F Unlikely to support any CLRA</p> <p>F May support migrant CLRA, but not a breeding pair</p> <p>C May support breeding CLRA</p> <p>A Breeding CLRA likely present</p>

Raptors: _____ Surrounding Land Use: _____

Mammals: _____ Disturbance: _____

Site Notes: _____

Datasheet for habitat evaluation using Protocol F.

Appendix V: 2016 OEI Survey Results for Each Round

REGION: Bay Bridge North												
Site Name and ID	Site Quality	Survey Type	Round 1			Round 2			Round 3			Notes
			Date	Observer	# RIRA Detected	Date	Observer	# RIRA Detected	Date	Observer	# RIRA Detected	
Emeryville Crescent - East (06a)	Poor	C	2/5/2016	ND	0	2/29/2016	KE	0	3/29/2016	SG	0	
Emeryville Crescent - West (06b)	Good	C	1/19/2016	WT	0	2/11/2016	JM	0	3/10/2016	PL	1	
Whittel Marsh (10a)	Good	A	2/4/2016	AE	1	2/24/2016	AE	2	3/17/2016	JM	3	
Southern Marsh (10b)	Poor	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Insufficient habitat
Giant Marsh (10c)	Fair	C	2/4/2016	SG	0	2/24/2016	JM	0	3/17/2016	SG	0	
Breuner Marsh Restoration (10d)	Poor	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Insufficient habitat
Rheem Creek Area (22c)	Good	A	1/20/2016	JM	0	2/22/2016	SG	6	3/25/2016	ND	7	
Meeker Slough (22d)	Good	A	1/19/2016	JM	0	2/11/2016	JH	0	3/8/2016	SG	2	
Steger Marsh (22d)	Good	A	1/19/2016	JM	3	2/11/2016	JH	4	3/8/2016	SG	2	
Hoffman Marsh (22e)	Fair	A	1/19/2016	JM	0	2/11/2016	JH	0	3/8/2016	SG	0	
Albany Shoreline (22f)	Poor	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Insufficient habitat

REGION: San Leandro Bay												
Site Name and ID	Site Quality	Survey Type	Round 1			Round 2			Round 3			Notes
			Date	Observer	# RIRA Detected	Date	Observer	# RIRA Detected	Date	Observer	# RIRA Detected	
Elsie Roemer (17a)	Poor	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Insufficient habitat
Bay Farm Island (17b)	Poor	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Insufficient habitat
Arrowhead Marsh (17c)	Good	B	2/2/2016	JM	20	2/23/2016	JM	31	3/24/2016	JM	30	Partial treatment at site
Arrowhead Marsh – West (17c.1)	Good	B	2/2/2016	JM	2	2/23/2016	JM	2	3/24/2016	JM	3	Treatment permitted
Arrowhead Marsh - East (17c.2)	Excellent	B	2/2/2016	JM	18	2/23/2016	JM	29	3/24/2016	JM	27	No treatment allowed
Airport Channel - Fan Shore (17d.1)	Poor	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Insufficient habitat
MLK Shoreline - Damon (17d.4)	Fair	A	2/2/2016	TR	4	2/24/2016	TR	6	3/21/2016	JH	3	No treatment allowed
San Leandro Creek (17e)	Poor	A	2/8/2016	TR	0	2/25/2016	AE	1	3/17/2016	TR	0	
Oakland Inner Harbor (17f)	Poor	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Insufficient habitat
Coast Guard Is (17g)	Poor	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Insufficient habitat
MLK New Marsh (17h)	Good	A	2/8/2016	JM	33	2/25/2016	JH	38	3/18/2016	SC	45	No treatment allowed
Coliseum Channels (17i)	Poor	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Insufficient habitat
Fan Marsh (17j)	Good	A	2/3/2016	WT	4	2/22/2016	JM	15	3/22/2016	AE	20	No treatment allowed
Airport Channel (17k)	Poor	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Insufficient habitat
Doolittle Pond (17l)	Poor	C	2/3/2016	WT	0	2/22/2016	JM	0	3/22/2016	AE	0	
Alameda Island - East (17m)	Poor	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Insufficient habitat

Appendix 5: 2016 Survey Results

REGION: Hayward												
Site Name and ID	Site Quality	Survey Type	Round 1			Round 2			Round 3			Notes
			Date	Observer	# RIRA Detected	Date	Observer	# RIRA Detected	Date	Observer	# RIRA Detected	
Oro Loma - East (07a)	Fair	A	2/2/2016	SC	0	2/22/2016	JH	0	4/6/2016	PL	3	
Oro Loma - West (07b)	Fair	A	2/2/2016	KE	0	2/22/2016	ND	0	4/6/2016	ND	1	
Oyster Bay Regional Shoreline (20a)	Poor	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Insufficient habitat
Oakland Golf Links (20b)	Poor	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Insufficient habitat
Dogbone Marsh (20c)	Poor	A	1/18/2016	WT	0	2/10/2016	SC	0	3/25/2016	JH	2	
Citation Marsh (20d)	Good	A	1/18/2016	SC	12	2/10/2016	JM	11	3/25/2016	JM	5	Partial treatment at site
<i>Citation Marsh – South (20d.1)</i>	Good	A	1/18/2016	SC	0	2/10/2016	JM	0	3/25/2016	JM	2	Treatment permitted
<i>Citation Marsh – North (20d.2)</i>	Good	A	1/18/2016	SC	12	2/10/2016	JM	11	3/25/2016	JM	3	No treatment allowed
East Marsh (20e)	Fair	A	1/18/2016	PL	0	2/10/2016	PL	2	3/25/2016	SG	0	
North Marsh (20f)	Good	A	1/18/2016	WT	37	2/10/2016	SC	27	3/25/2016	JH	39	No treatment allowed
Bunker Marsh (20g)	Good	A	1/18/2016	JM	10	2/10/2016	WT	14	3/25/2016	SG	8	No treatment allowed
San Lorenzo Creek (20h)	Poor	A	1/18/2016	PL	1	2/10/2016	PL	0	3/25/2016	SG	0	Partial treatment at site
<i>San Lorenzo Creek – North (20h.1)</i>	Poor	A	1/18/2016	PL	1	2/10/2016	PL	0	3/25/2016	SG	0	No treatment allowed
<i>San Lorenzo Creek – South (20h)</i>	Poor	A	1/18/2016	PL	0	2/10/2016	PL	0	3/25/2016	SG	0	Treatment permitted
Bockman Channel (20i)	Poor	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Insufficient habitat
Sulphur Creek (20j)	Poor	A	2/2/2016	KE	0	2/22/2016	KE	0	4/6/2016	PL	0	
Hayward Landing (20k)	Poor	C	2/2/2016	WT	0	2/19/2016	ND	0	3/10/2016	ND	0	
Johnson's Landing (20l)	Poor	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Insufficient habitat
Cogswell - Sec A (20m)	Fair	A	2/3/2016	SG	0	2/26/2016	KE	0	4/5/2016	PL	2	
Cogswell - Sec B (20n)	Good	A	2/3/2016	JM	8	2/26/2016	TR	22	4/5/2016	KE	24	No treatment allowed
Cogswell - Sec C (20o)	Good	A	2/3/2016	SC	7	2/26/2016	JM	5	4/5/2016	JM	6	No treatment allowed
Hayward Shoreline Outliers (20p)	Poor	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Insufficient habitat
San Leandro Shoreline Outliers (20q)	Poor	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Insufficient habitat
HARD Marsh (20s)	Fair	C - A	2/3/2016	ND	0	2/26/2016	PL	2	4/5/2016	ND	0	
Estudillo Creek Channel (20u)	Poor	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Insufficient habitat
Hayward Landing Canal (20v)	Poor	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Insufficient habitat
Triangle Marsh - Hayward (20w)	Fair	C	2/2/2016	WT	0	2/19/2016	ND	0	3/10/2016	ND	0	

Appendix 5: 2016 Survey Results

REGION: Union City												
Site Name and ID	Site Quality	Survey Type	Round 1			Round 2			Round 3			Notes
			Date	Observer	# RIRA Detected	Date	Observer	# RIRA Detected	Date	Observer	# RIRA Detected	
AFCC – to I-880 (01d)	Poor	G	1/25/2016	JM*	0	2/19/2016	JM*	0	3/22/2016	JM*	0	Surveyed using protocol G; *observer is lead surveyor with assistants at each station
AFCC - Strip Marsh (01e)	Poor	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Insufficient habitat
OAC - North Bank (13a)	Fair	A	1/27/2016	SC	0	2/10/2016	JH	0	2/24/2016	KE	0	
OAC - Island (13b)	Good	A	1/27/2016	WT	0	2/10/2016	SG	0	4/5/2016	JH	4	
OAC - South Bank (13c)	Fair	A	2/4/2016	WT	0	2/23/2016	ND	0	4/5/2016	JH	0	
Whale's Tail - North (13d)	Good	A	2/12/2016	JM	0	3/1/2016	AE	0	3/16/2016	JM	2	
OAC - Upstream 20 Tide Gates (13g)	Poor	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Insufficient habitat
Eden Landing - North Creek (13h)	Poor	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Insufficient habitat
Eden Landing - Mt Eden Creek (13j)	Fair	A	2/8/2016	KE	3	2/25/2016	TR	0	3/23/2016	JM	0	
Eden Landing Reserve - South (13k)	Fair	C	2/8/2016	ND	0	2/25/2016	SC	0	3/23/2016	SG	0	
Eden Landing Reserve - North (13l)	Poor	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Insufficient habitat
Eden Landing - Ponds E8A, E9, E8X (13m)	Poor	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Insufficient habitat

Appendix 5: 2016 Survey Results

REGION: Dumbarton South												
Site Name and ID	Site Quality	Survey Type	Round 1			Round 2			Round 3			Notes
			Date	Observer	# RIRA Detected	Date	Observer	# RIRA Detected	Date	Observer	# RIRA Detected	
Ravenswood Open Space Preserve (02j)	Poor	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Insufficient habitat
SF2 (02n)	Poor	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Insufficient habitat
Calaveras Point (05a.2)	Excellent	A	2/4/2016	JM	4	3/1/2016	TR	9	3/16/2016	TR	21	
Newark Slough (05c)	Good	A	2/8/2016	SC	0	2/23/2016	SG	6	3/24/2016	SC	8	
Mayhew's Landing (05e)	Poor	C	1/22/2016	WT	0	2/10/2016	KE	0	3/9/2016	KE	0	
Coyote Creek (05f)	Good	A	1/28/2016	JM	2	3/1/2016	JM	0	3/16/2016	JM	14	
Cargill Pond (W Suites Hotel) (05g)	Poor	C	1/22/2016	WT	0	2/10/2016	KE	0	3/9/2016	KE	0	
Plummer Creek Mitigation (05h)	Fair	C	1/22/2016	WT	0	2/10/2016	KE	0	3/9/2016	KE	0	
Island Ponds (05i)	Fair	A	1/28/2016	JM	2	3/1/2016	JM	0	3/16/2016	JM	2	
Mountain View Slough (15a.1)	Good	A	2/8/2016	SG	0	3/9/2016	SG	0	3/24/2016	SG	2	
Stevens Creek to Long Point (15a.2)	Fair	A	2/8/2016	PL	1	2/25/2016	PL	1	4/6/2016	AE	0	
Alviso Slough (15a.4)	Good	A	1/28/2016	SG	8	2/16/2016	AE	5	4/7/2016	JM	4	
Coyote Creek South East (15a.5)	Excellent	A	1/28/2016	JM	4	2/16/2016	JM	19	4/7/2016	TR	1	+1 BLRA in round 1
Knapp Tract (15a.6)	Poor	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Insufficient habitat
Stevens Creek (15c)	Fair	C	2/8/2016	PL	0	2/25/2016	PL	0	4/6/2016	AE	1	
Cooley Landing (16)	Fair	A	1/22/2016	TR	5	2/10/2016	TR	5	3/8/2016	PL	10	

REGION: San Mateo												
Site Name and ID	Site Quality	Survey Type	Round 1			Round 2			Round 3			Notes
			Date	Observer	# RIRA Detected	Date	Observer	# RIRA Detected	Date	Observer	# RIRA Detected	
Belmont Slough (02a.1)	Good	A	2/4/2016	TR	0	2/23/2016	PL	2	3/21/2016	PL	6	
Redwood Shores (02a.3)	Fair	C	2/3/2016	TR	0	2/22/2016	TR	0	3/24/2016	TR	0	
Redwood Shores Mitigation Bank (02a.4)	Poor	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Insufficient habitat
Corkscrew Slough (02b.1)	Excellent	A	2/5/2016	SC	13	2/29/2016	SC	10	3/15/2016	KE	2	
Steinberger Slough (02b.2)	Good	C	2/3/2016	AE	0	2/22/2016	AE	0	3/24/2016	AE	0	
B2 North Quadrant (02c)	Good	A	2/15/2016	TR	13	3/2/2016	TR	25	3/31/2016	TR	26	Partial treatment at site
<i>B2 North Quadrant – NW (02c.1a)</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>A</i>	<i>2/15/2016</i>	<i>TR</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3/2/2016</i>	<i>TR</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>3/31/2016</i>	<i>TR</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>Treatment permitted</i>
<i>B2 North Quadrant – NE (02c.1b)</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>A</i>	<i>2/15/2016</i>	<i>TR</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>3/2/2016</i>	<i>TR</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>3/31/2016</i>	<i>TR</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>No treatment allowed</i>
<i>B2 North Quadrant – S (02c.2)</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>A</i>	<i>2/15/2016</i>	<i>TR</i>	<i>2 (1)</i>	<i>3/2/2016</i>	<i>TR</i>	<i>0 (8)</i>	<i>3/31/2016</i>	<i>TR</i>	<i>0 (16)</i>	<i>Treatment permitted; detections from adjacent sites included in parenthesis</i>
B2 South Quadrant (02d)	Good	A	2/5/2016	AE	1	2/29/2016	AE	6	3/15/2016	JH	0	
West Point Slough - NW (02e)	Good	C	1/25/2016	AE	2	2/18/2016	AE	0	3/9/2016	PL	1	
Greco Island - North (02f)	Good	A	2/5/2016	PL	5	2/29/2016	JM	0	3/15/2016	SC	0	
West Point Slough - SW / E (02g)	Good	C	1/25/2016	AE	0	2/18/2016	AE	0	3/9/2016	PL	0	
Greco Island - South (02h)	Excellent	A	1/21/2016	TR	38	2/9/2016	TR	29	3/23/2016	TR	31	
Ravenswood Slough (02i)	Good	A	1/28/2016	TR	3	2/23/2016	KE	8	4/8/2016	KE	1	
Middle Bair N (02k)	Excellent	A	2/5/2016	JM	13	2/29/2016	TR	14	3/15/2016	TR	7	
Middle Bair SE (02k)	Good	A	2/5/2016	JM	0	2/29/2016	TR	0	3/15/2016	TR	0	
Inner Bair Island Restoration (02l)	Poor	C	2/5/2016	SG	0	2/26/2016	AE	0	4/5/2016	AE	0	
Pond B3 Bair Island Restoration (02m)	Poor	C	2/15/2016	JM	0	3/2/2016	JM	0	3/31/2016	JM	0	
Middle Bair West (02o)	Poor	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Insufficient habitat

Appendix 5: 2016 Survey Results

REGION: San Francisco Peninsula												
Site Name and ID	Site Quality	Survey Type	Round 1			Round 2			Round 3			Notes
			Date	Observer	# RIRA Detected	Date	Observer	# RIRA Detected	Date	Observer	# RIRA Detected	
Pier 94 (12a)	Poor	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Insufficient habitat
Pier 98/Heron's Head (12b)	Fair	C	1/29/2016	TR	0	3/18/2016	AE	0	4/5/2016	TR	0	
Colma Creek (18a)	Poor	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Insufficient habitat
Navigable Slough (18b)	Poor	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Insufficient habitat
Sam Trans Peninsula (18e)	Poor	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Insufficient habitat
San Bruno Marsh (18g)	Poor	C	2/3/2016	PL	0	2/22/2016	PL	0	3/25/2016	PL	0	
San Bruno Creek (18h)	Poor	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Insufficient habitat
Oyster Cove (19c)	Poor	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Insufficient habitat
Oyster Point Park (19e)	Poor	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Insufficient habitat
Point San Bruno (19f)	Poor	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Insufficient habitat
Seaplane Harbor (19g)	Poor	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Insufficient habitat
SFO (19h)	Fair	A	1/21/2016	AE	0	2/10/2016	AE	1	3/8/2016	AE	1	
Mills Creek Mouth (19i)	Poor	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Insufficient habitat
Easton Creek Mouth (19j)	Poor	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Insufficient habitat
Sanchez Marsh (19k)	Fair	C	2/9/2016	AE	0	3/4/2016	AE	0	4/7/2016	TR	0	
Burlingame Lagoon (19l)	Poor	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Insufficient habitat
Coyote Point Marina (19n)	Poor	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Insufficient habitat
Seal Slough (19p)	Fair	C	1/26/2016	AE	0	2/23/2016	ND	0	3/24/2016	PL	0	
Anza Lagoon (19r)	Poor	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Insufficient habitat

REGION: Marin												
Site Name and ID	Site Quality	Survey Type	Round 1			Round 2			Round 3			Notes
			Date	Observer	# RIRA Detected	Date	Observer	# RIRA Detected	Date	Observer	# RIRA Detected	
Blackie's Creek (03a)	Poor	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Insufficient habitat
Blackie's Creek Mouth (03b)	Poor	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Insufficient habitat
Larkspur Ferry Landing Area (04e)	Poor	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Insufficient habitat
Riviera Circle (04f)	Poor	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Insufficient habitat
Creekside Park (04g)	Good	A	1/20/2016	SC	1	2/11/2016	AE	0	4/4/2016	SC	5	
CMC - Upper (04h)	Fair	A	1/20/2016	KE	0	2/11/2016	ND	0	4/4/2016	SG	0	
CMC - Lower (04i)	Poor	C	1/20/2016	KE	0	2/11/2016	ND	0	4/4/2016	SG	0	
CMC - Mouth (04j)	Good	A	1/20/2016	TR	0	2/11/2016	WT	0	4/4/2016	AE	0	
Pickleweed Park (09)	Good	C	1/19/2016	PL	0	2/23/2016	AE	2	3/25/2016	AE	3	
Beach Drive (23b)	Poor	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Insufficient habitat
Loch Lomond Marina (23c)	Poor	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Insufficient habitat
San Rafael Canal Mouth (23d)	Good	C	1/19/2016	PL	0	2/23/2016	AE	2	3/25/2016	AE	0	
Paradise Cay (23f)	Poor	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Insufficient habitat
Greenwood Beach (23g)	Poor	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Insufficient habitat
Strawberry Point (23h)	Poor	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Insufficient habitat
Strawberry Cove (23i)	Poor	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Insufficient habitat
Starkweather Park (23l)	Poor	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Insufficient habitat

REGION: San Pablo Bay												
Site Name and ID	Site Quality	Survey Type	Round 1			Round 2			Round 3			Notes
			Date	Observer	# RIRA Detected	Date	Observer	# RIRA Detected	Date	Observer	# RIRA Detected	
San Pablo Bay NWR Shoreline (26b)	Fair	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Survey in alternate years

KEY to Observers:

- **AE** = Anastasia Ennis
- **JH** = Jeanne Hammond
- **JM** = Jen McBroom
- **KE** = Kevin Eng
- **ND** = Nate Deakers
- **PL** = Pim Lulikitnont
- **SG** = Simon Gunner
- **SC** = Stephanie Chen
- **TR** = Tobias Rohmer
- **WT** = Whitney Thornton