



# Marin Audubon Society

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October 1, 2019

Zack Wasserman, Chair  
San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission  
375 Beal Street, Suite 510  
San Francisco, CA 94105

ATT: Megan Hall

RE: PROPOSED BAY PLAN POLICY CHANGES ON BAY FILL

Dear Chair Wasserman and Commissioners:

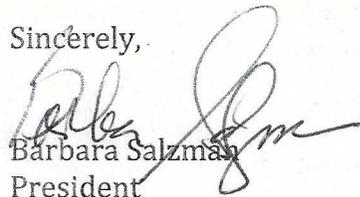
The Marin Audubon Society strongly supports the proposed changes to Bay Plan policies that will allow use of increased quantities of sediments to restore Bay habitats.

With sea level rise upon us, it is a critical time for BCDC to ensure its policies provide for maximum expansion of habitats for fish, wildlife, fish and other organisms both in the bay and along the shoreline. Without the proposed allowance for increased deposition of sediments in the Bay and encouragement for natural approaches to stabilizing shorelines, tidal marsh and adjacent transition zone habitats will be flooded and permanently lost, and the stability of the Bay shorelines will decrease.

Marin Audubon is in the process of planning a nature-based shoreline protection and tidal marsh habitat restoration project along the San Rafael shoreline with a Measure AA grant. We are depending on BCDC's policy changes to allow us to restore eroding marsh and create ecotone habitat for endangered and many other species, improve a levee to protect San Rafael and provide public access. We trust that our project will be the first of many habitat restoration-shoreline stabilization projects in the Bay with the encouragement of BCDC.

We urge the Commission to adopt the proposed Bay Plan policy changes.

Sincerely,

  
Barbara Salzman  
President