

To include in mailing for recommendations

# Friends of the Napa River



**Agenda Item #8**

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January 15, 2013

**Board of Directors**

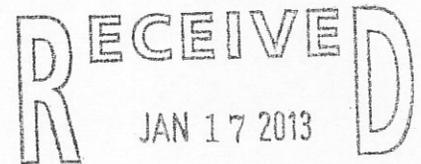
- Bernhard Krevet  
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San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission  
Larry Goldzband, Executive Director  
50 California Street, 26th Floor  
San Francisco, California 94111



**SUBJECT: Napa Plant Site Restoration Project  
(Public Access to Ponds # 9 and # 10)**

SAN FRANCISCO BAY CONSERVATION  
& DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Dear Commissioners:

Friends of the Napa River, a nonprofit community organization dedicated to the restoration, protection, and celebration of the Napa River and its watershed has eagerly supported the restoration plan for the former Cargill Salt Ponds by the California Department of Fish and Game (now Fish and Wildlife). The project has provided significant benefits to wildlife and environmental protection and a highly desirable opportunity for public access to these beautiful areas, including restoration of a mosaic of wetland and associated habitats to benefit estuarine biota including waterfowl, shorebirds, fishes, and small mammals, and has reestablished wildlife corridors and connections of habitats at the landscaped scale. The project has included public access to the site with trails, a non-motorized watercraft launch area, public restroom, benches, picnic tables, trash cans, and public parking areas.

However the delay in providing public access to Ponds # 9 and # 10 has negatively impacted an important opportunity for the Napa River Trail connecting the cities of American Canyon and Napa along the Napa River. The trail envisions a wonderful recreational opportunity for the entire region in addition to serving as an important link between the two largest cities in Napa County.

We again ask you to strongly encourage Fish and Wildlife to provide public access to this site and to creatively address the challenges (e.g. airport security & rail road crossing). Friends of the Napa River would like to remain critically involved in the project.

Thank you,

Bernhard Krevet  
President, Friends of the Napa River