Successes and Lessons Learned in South San Francisco Bay Wetland Restoration

National Conference on Ecosystem Restoration
July 21, 2009
South Bay Lessons Learned

- Rely on nature
- It’s still harder than it looks
- Don’t be afraid of issues
- Cultivate partnerships
Comparing Brine Fly Mercury among Managed Ponds

Brine Flies

Ponds

Methylmercury (μg/g ww)

A5

A7

A8

Summer 2006
Comparing Brine Fly Mercury among Managed Ponds

Methylmercury (μg/g ww)

Brine Flies

A5
A7
A8

Ponds
Partnerships

- Pond acquisition in 2003
- Extensive five-year collaborative planning process
- Final EIS in December 2007 and permits in place January 2009
- Result is strong public support, which pays off in funding
Restoration Funding – First Phase

- State General Obligation Bonds
  - State Wildlife Conservation Board ($10M)
  - State Coastal Conservancy ($6M)
- Private Foundations ($1M)
- Mitigations ($3M)
Restoration Funding – First Phase

- USFWS Appropriations ($9M)
- NOAA Stimulus Funds ($6M)
- Private Foundations ($1M)
- Mitigations ($3M)