

**CALFED Bay-Delta Program  
Ecosystem Restoration Program  
Conservation Strategy for Stage 2**

Presentation to the CALFED  
Independent Science Board  
August 28, 2007

Prepared by  
California Department of Fish and Game  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



# Purpose

- ERP biological vision
- To describe the ERP Implementing Agencies' views on ecosystem restoration goals, objectives, and priorities for moving into Stage 2 of CALFED.

# Process for Developing

- The ERP Conservation Strategy for Stage 2 is built upon information from CALFED Stage 1 evaluations, review of current ecological conditions, coordination with related programs and planning efforts, assessment of potential future actions, and input from stakeholders and public.

# Sources for Conservation Strategy

- Ecosystem Restoration Program Plan
- Multi-Species Conservation Strategy
- Strategic Plan
  - Goals and Objectives
  - Project Selection Criteria
- End of ERP Stage 1 Assessment
- Recovery Plans
- New Science and understanding
- Suisun Marsh Restoration and Management Plan
- DRERIP
- POD
- Public Policy Institute of California (PPIC) report

# ERP Goals

- **GOAL 1. ENDANGERED AND OTHER AT-RISK SPECIES AND NATIVE BIOTIC COMMUNITIES**
- **GOAL 2. ECOLOGICAL PROCESSES**
- **GOAL 3. HARVESTED SPECIES**

➤ **GOAL 4. HABITATS**

➤ **GOAL 5. NONNATIVE INVASIVE SPECIES**

➤ **GOAL 6. WATER AND SEDIMENT QUALITY**

# Focus of the Conservation Strategy

- The Entire CALFED ERP Focus Area



# Map of ERP Focus Area

DRAFT 07/13/2007



# Focus of Plan To Date

- The conservation strategy presently is limited to portions of the ERP focus area, namely the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Ecological Management Zone (EMZ) and Suisun Bay and Marsh Ecological Management Unit (EMU) of the Suisun Marsh/North San Francisco Bay EMZ.
- Due to current emphasis on Delta.

# Yet to be done

- ***Sacramento Valley Planning Area (to be developed)***
- ***San Joaquin Valley Planning Area (to be developed)***
- ***East-Side Delta Tributaries Planning Area (to be developed)***
- ***North San Francisco Bay planning Area (to be developed)***

# Uses

- Guide Implementation of ERP through Stage 2
- Serve as biological basis for input to Delta Vision, Bay Delta Conservation Plan, and Delta Risk Management Strategy

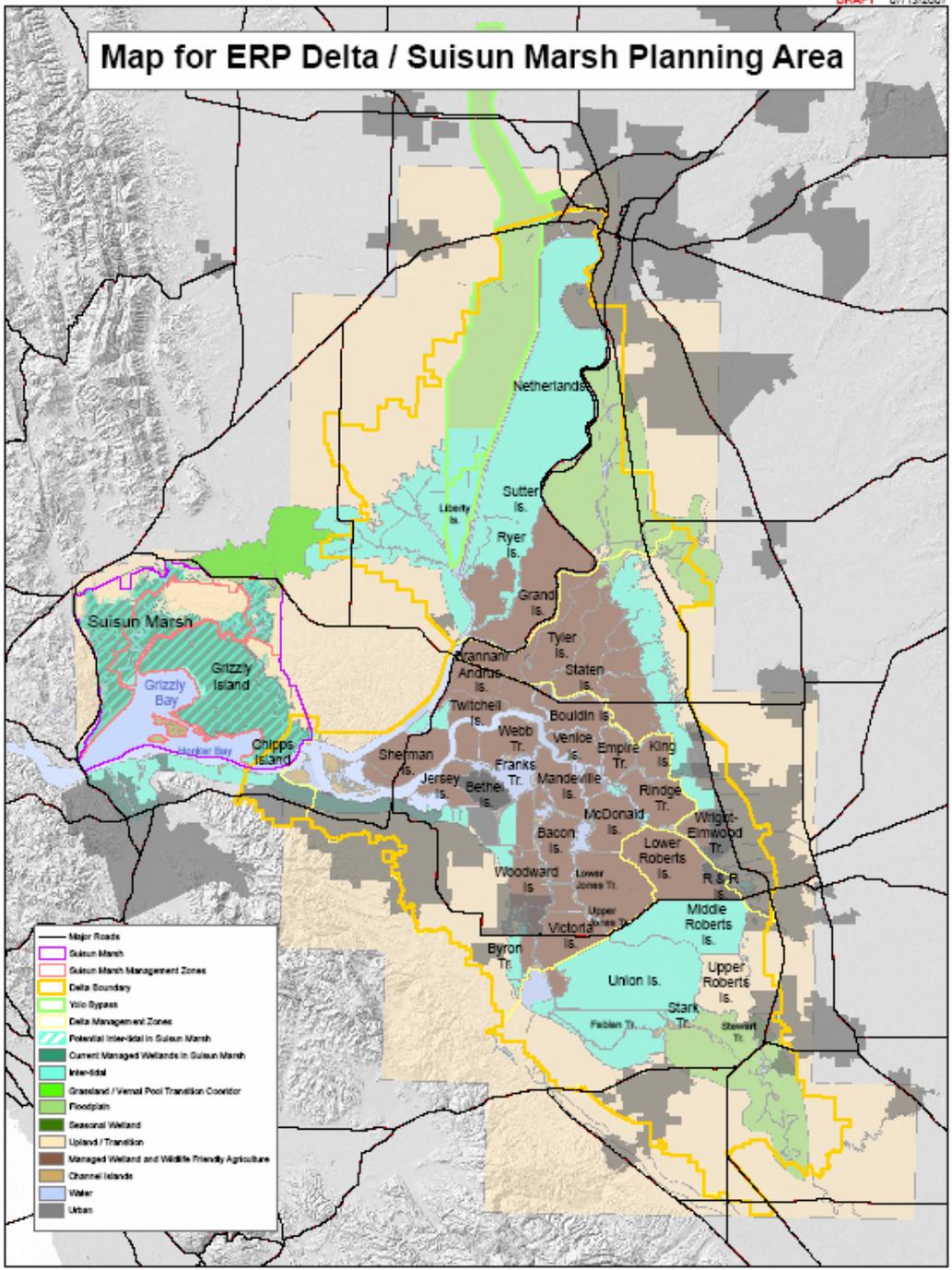
***ERP Conservation Strategy  
Map and Covered Habitats for  
the Delta-Suisun Marsh  
Planning Area***



# Basis for Current Strategy Map

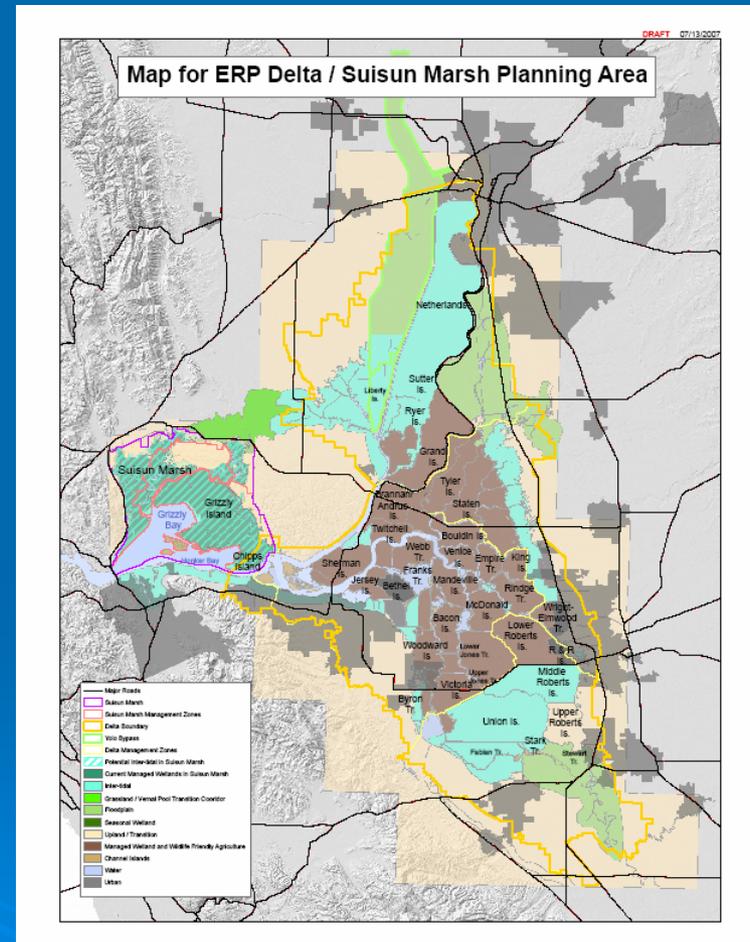
- Elevation and soil type are the drivers for this preliminary depiction that does not consider water conveyance options, infrastructure, or land use patterns other than urbanization.
- Elevation is used to identify where conditions are potentially suitable for habitat restoration.
- Subsequent versions will expound on ecosystem processes, species recovery, flow and river operations, and other important elements.

# Map for ERP Delta / Suisun Marsh Planning Area



# Habitats

- five broad land categories have been identified for restoration.
  - managed wetland and wildlife friendly agriculture,
  - inter-tidal,
  - floodplain,
  - upland transition,
  - and grassland/vernal pool transition corridor.



# Recognition of Change

- The updated conservation strategy will consider potential threats including:
  - soil subsidence (sinking to a lower level),
  - sea level rise,
  - change in climate and precipitation patterns,
  - catastrophic events (seismic)
  - invasive species and food web changes,
  - upstream and in-Delta water development,
  - upstream and in-Delta urbanization and population growth

Similar Map Based  
Strategies Will Be  
Developed For The Other  
Planning Areas Over The  
Next 6 to 12 Months



# Science

- To ensure scientific integrity of the ERP conservation strategy for Stage 2, the ERP Agencies are relying primarily on the CALFED Independent Science Board (ISB), CALFED Science Program, and the DRERIP Adaptive Management Planning Team (AMPT) (ISB 2007; Science Program 2007; DRERIP 2007).

# The AMPT and the DRERIP Models

- Will form the scientific basis for ERP planning for the Delta EMZ. Conceptual Models for Delta ecological processes, habitats, stressors, and species are being finalized. These models will to be used to evaluate restoration actions identified in the ERPP, Conservation Strategy, other planning efforts and to develop updated actions

# Monitoring, Adaptive Management, and Performance Measures

- CALFED Performance Measures Subgroup
- ERP Agencies
- IEP
- AMPT (DRERIP Conceptual Models)
- Science Program (CMARP)
- ISB

- Application of the DRERIP models in vetting actions will highlight uncertainties and form the basis for future research and hypothesis testing as part of adaptive management.

# Diagram of the adaptive management process (adapted from CALFED 2000).

