

Service Matters

Association of Bay Area Governments

AUGUST 2014 • E-NEWSLETTER

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Letter from Editor:

This is a special e-letter edition of Service Matters, a quarterly publication of the Association of Bay Area Governments. The next print issue of Service Matters will be mailed in September.

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Launch of New Bay Area Water Trail Web Map

Looking to spend some time this summer on the Bay in your kayak or other small watercraft and don't know where to go? The San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail is launching a new web-based interactive map! This trip planning tool for non-motorized small boat users showcases Water Trail launch and destination sites. Boaters can view information about each designated Water Trail site, complete with description, photos, directions, and a link for more detailed information about each site. [View the map at http://sfbaywatertrail.org/map/.](http://sfbaywatertrail.org/map/)

The nine-county Water Trail program is intended to promote recreational water access opportunities and increase an appreciation of the Bay and its unique resources. Trip planning resources give boaters information about where they can go to access the Bay. This valuable information is featured on the Water Trail website, which also includes links to real-time water and weather conditions, information about the Bay's wildlife, and a list of outfitters and clubs where people can rent boats, take classes, or go on guided trips. The Water Trail web map complements the information already provided and is designed to grow as more Water Trail sites are added. Future updates could include the location of waterfront lodging, camping, or boat rental locations.

The base map used to create the Water Trail web map is the same one created and used by the San Francisco Bay Trail Project. The Water Trail map has bay-side details that

are of interest to both Water Trail and Bay Trail users and having both trails share the map is a good example of different programs working together to leverage funds and share resources. The State Coastal Conservancy provides funding for both trail programs. For more information, visit the San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail website at <http://sfbaywatertrail.org>.



SAN FRANCISCO
BAY AREA
WATER
TRAIL



The San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail program is a four agency partnership led by the State Coastal Conservancy, in close collaboration with the Association of Bay Area Governments, San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission, and Division of Boating and Waterways (now part of the Department of Parks and Recreation).

Drought Highlights Critical Bay Delta Watershed Needs

Bay Delta Water: Better Together

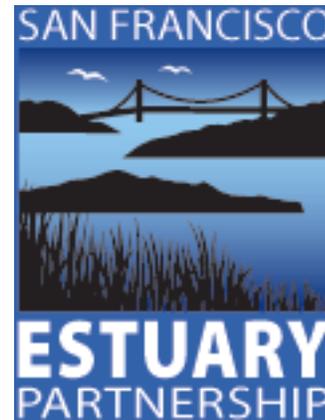
Conference on Fresh Water in Our Bay-Delta Estuary

September 24, 2014

Fresh water flows through the Bay-Delta Estuary are critical, especially in this year's drought. Stretching from the Sierra Nevada foothills to beyond the Golden Gate, the San Francisco Bay-Delta Estuary watershed is the largest estuary on the west coast of the Americas. The Bay-Delta Estuary provides drinking water, and supports productive commercial and sport fisheries, recreational opportunities, beautiful vistas, wildlife, and natural open spaces. Current drought conditions highlight the importance of freshwater to the Bay-Delta Estuary and the importance of regional planning for current and future water needs.

Elected officials and staff, legislators, and non-governmental organizations are invited to attend the **Bay Delta Water: Better Together conference on Wednesday, September 24, 2014**, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Antioch Community Center at 4703 Lone Tree Way, Antioch. During the conference, state, federal, and local government representatives will examine what needs to be done to protect the environmental, economic, social, and health benefits of the San Francisco Bay-Delta Estuary. Attendees will learn about a variety of solutions to meet both current and future human water needs and provide freshwater flows to the Estuary. Conference presenters will discuss the importance of fresh water to the Bay-Delta Estuary and the impact of the current planning processes on fresh water flows.

The economic and environmental vitality of the Bay-Delta Estuary depends on a healthy and dynamic balance between ocean water and fresh water; however, this balance has been lost, with devastating impacts. Our Bay-Delta Estuary



needs fresh water to prevent decline. Increasing freshwater flows through the Bay and Delta is essential to restoring the health of the Estuary and maintaining the economic vitality of our area. The goal of the Bay-Delta Water Conference is to increase regional collaboration and representation to influence current planning efforts to improve the health of the Bay-Delta Estuary.

This conference is presented by the Association of Bay Area Governments, Delta Counties Coalition, and Friends of the San Francisco Estuary. Funding for the Bay Delta Water conference was provided by the Rose Foundation for Communities and the Environment, Friends of the San Francisco Estuary, and the San Francisco Estuary Partnership. For more information, contact Darcie Luce • Friends of the San Francisco Estuary • (510) 282-1254 • friendsofsfestuary@gmail.com.





2014 California Adaptation Forum Addresses Climate Risk August 19th – 20th, 2014

Elected officials and staff are invited to attend the first California Adaptation Forum in the state capitol from August 19th – 20th, 2014, at the Sheraton Grand Hotel, 1230 J Street in Sacramento. This forum was organized by the Local Government Commission and the State of California to create a comprehensive network of multi-disciplinary adaptation leaders who have a strong commitment to addressing climate risks in California. The program is reflective of the diverse needs and challenges that California is facing. Confirmed keynote speakers include California Air Resources Board Chairman Mary Nichols, California Natural Resources Agency Secretary John Laird, and GreenBiz Group Chairman and Executive Editor Joel Makower.

Who Will Be There

The Forum will engage a diverse mix of more than 600 California policymakers, practitioners and leaders. The audience will include elected officials, public- and private-sector leaders, nonprofits and researchers addressing public health, energy, water, emergency management, agriculture, biodiversity conservation and coastal management issues associated with climate change and adaptation.

Why You Should Attend

The California Adaptation Forum can help you be more effective in your work: What challenges are your neighborhood, community, city or region currently facing? With sessions in seven different tracks, you will be able to discover and attend numerous sessions that will help you address your community's most pressing challenges – no matter your discipline or background.

The California Adaptation Forum will provide a valuable opportunity for face-to-face networking: In addition to the cutting-edge tools and resources, best practices, current research and ideas examined in the breakout sessions, the opportunities to network will also be invaluable. Share ideas and solutions with adaptation leaders and colleagues from around the state in a dynamic and inspirational learning environment.

To register and for more information, visit the Forum website at <http://www.californiaadaptationforum.org/>.

This two-day forum will build off last year's successful National Adaptation Forum in Colorado. The attendance of many California leaders there underscored the need for a California-focused event, which will be held every other year to complement the biennial national forum.

Save the Date

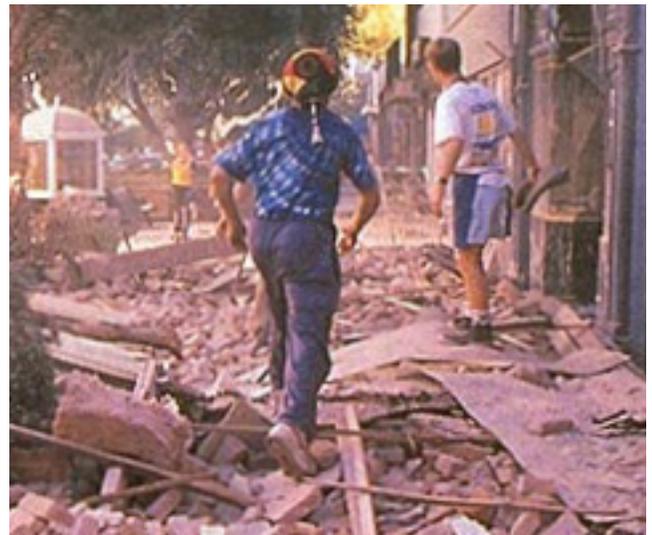
Loma Prieta 25: Still on Shaky Ground

Building Bay Area Resilience Conference on October 16, 2014

The Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG), the United States Geological Survey (USGS), and the Structural Engineering Association of Northern California (SEAONC) will convene the Loma Prieta 25 conference on October 16, 2014, to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Loma Prieta earthquake. This public policy symposium will be held at the Kaiser Center in Oakland. Expert speakers will include panelists from local Bay Area jurisdictions, and state, federal and regional agencies. Critical analyses about strengthening Bay Area communities, lifeline systems, and policies since the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake will be presented.

Speakers—policy experts, community leaders and local, state, and national elected officials, and engineering and mitigation/resilience experts—will examine resilience progress accomplished in the last twenty-five years; discuss infrastructure interdependence; review best ways to finance community safety; and explore how cities apply implementation for a safer, smart future, as well as recommendations for community resilience building for future regional earthquakes.

More information and conference registration will be available at www.abag.ca.gov in mid-August.



CALENDAR OF ABAG MEETINGS

AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER 2014

AUGUST 6

Regional Planning Committee 12 noon
MetroCenter Auditorium

AUGUST 27

San Francisco Estuary Implementation Committee 9:30 a.m.
Elihu M. Harris State Building, Room 10
MetroCenter, Auditorium

AUGUST 28

ABAG POWER Executive Committee 12 noon
ABAG Conference Room B

SEPTEMBER 2014

SEPTEMBER 11

Bay Trail Steering Committee 1:30 p.m.
ABAG Conference Room B

SEPTEMBER 12

Bay Area Regional Prosperity Plan Steering Committee 12 noon
MetroCenter, Auditorium

SEPTEMBER 18

Legislation & Governmental Organization Committee 3:30 p.m.
ABAG Conference Room B

Finance & Personnel Committee 5:00 p.m.
ABAG Conference Room B

ABAG Executive Board 7:00 p.m.
MetroCenter, Auditorium

SEPTEMBER 19

ABAG/BAAQMD/MTC Joint Policy Committee 10 a.m.
MetroCenter, Auditorium

SEPTEMBER 24

San Francisco Restoration Authority Governing Board 1:00 p.m.
MetroCenter, Conference Room 171

SEPTEMBER 26

Regional Airport Planning Committee 9:30 a.m.
Elihu M. Harris State Bldg., Room 10, Oakland

MEET ABAG'S SUMMER INTERNS

Bobby Lu who is originally from China has a Masters degree in City and Regional Planning from the University of Pennsylvania, and is working on a Housing Element data and analysis project.

Yeni Magana has a Masters degree in City Planning from CalPoly San Luis Obispo. She is originally from Southern California with a stop in Davis for her undergraduate degrees. Her work this summer includes the San Pablo Corridor Study and a Housing Study.

Bjorn Gripenburg is in between his first and second year in a Master's degree program at the University of Oregon in Community Regional Planning. He is conducting research for the State of the Region Report, specifically on employment and trends.

Brian Tyler has a Masters in Urban Planning from San Jose State University and his undergraduate work in economics and international business is being put to good use, since he is working on a Building Data Management Project, real estate rental data analysis, and a data mapping project.



ABAG has a tradition of hiring a group of highly qualified summer interns to work on various Planning and Research projects and this year is no exception: From left to right: Bobby Lu, Yeni Magana, Bjorn Gripenburg, and Brian Tyler