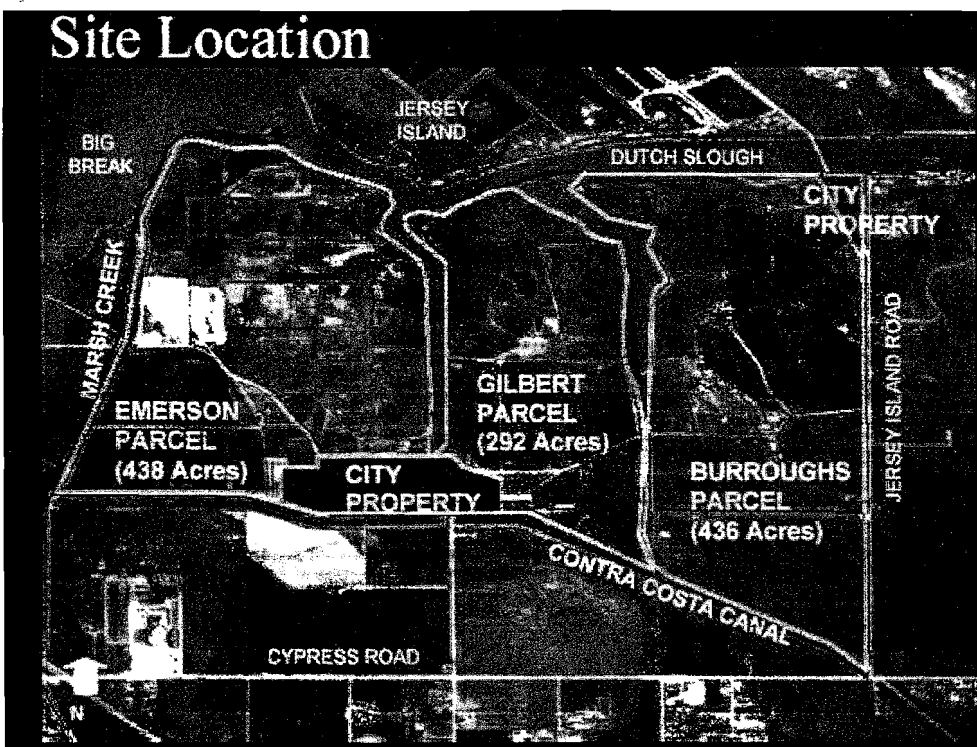


1. Background and Site Description

The Dutch Slough site is located in the western Delta, in the City of Oakley in eastern Contra Costa County. It is bounded by Dutch Slough on the north, Marsh Creek on the west, the Contra Costa Canal on the south and Jersey Island Road on the east. The site is comprised of three units, partially separated by Emerson and Little Dutch sloughs. Unlike much of the Delta, the site is not deeply subsided and retains some topographic diversity. Site elevations vary from about +10 feet to -10 feet; about half the site is below the mean tide level. For over a hundred years, the property has been used for grazing and dairy operations, and all three parcels are currently leased for grazing.



8.13.09

The Dutch Slough site offers an opportunity for large-scale tidal marsh restoration, habitat enhancement, and open space preservation in the rapidly urbanizing area of eastern Contra Costa County. The site was purchased in 2003 by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) with funds from the CALFED Bay Delta Authority and State Coastal Conservancy (SCC). The project is being implemented collaboratively by RD 2137, DWR, SCC, Ironhouse Sanitary District, and the City of Oakley. These agencies seek to create and enhance habitat to benefit native species while also creating new opportunities for compatible public access. Another important objective of the agencies is to design and implement the project to increase

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