Phase 1 construction enters second year

Valley Water, the State Coastal Conservancy and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) have begun Phase 1 construction of the South San Francisco Bay Shoreline Project between the Alviso Slough/Guadalupe River and Coyote Creek. Once completed, the project will protect north San José, including the community of Alviso and the San José-Santa Clara Regional Wastewater Facility, from a 100-year coastal storm and rising seas.

The USACE is constructing the first portion of the project, comprised of Reaches 1 through 3. Reach 1 begins at the Alviso Marina County Park and ends at the Union Pacific Railroad. Reaches 2 and 3 run from the railroad to the Artesian Slough. The project activities will occur primarily along Alviso Marina County Park and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Alviso Refuge lands, with work hours Monday through Friday, from 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and weekends as necessary, excluding holidays.

Reaches 1 through 3 construction began in December 2021 and is scheduled to finish in summer 2025.

Project Highlights

- Reduce coastal flood risk
- Provide FEMA certifiable coastal levees
- Restore tidal marsh habitat
- Adapt to sea level change
- Connect to regional trail system
- Provide pedestrian bridges and observation platforms

Get more information

The South San Francisco Bay Shoreline Project is the latest construction effort by Valley Water and the USACE. Over the years, the partnership has resulted in successful flood protection projects throughout Santa Clara County. Other partners in this effort include the State Coastal Conservancy and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

For more information about this work, please contact Deputy Operating Officer Bhavani Yerrapotu at 408-630-2735 or byerrapotu@valleywater.org. To learn more about this project visit https://delivr.com/2ff7v.

Thank you in advance for your patience during the construction of the San Francisco Bay Shoreline Project.
Trucks entering the construction site from the Alviso Marina County Park will use State Route 237 to Lafayette Street/Great America Parkway to the Gold Street connector to Elizabeth Street (Haul Route 1). They’ll then take Hope Street and use the easternmost county park maintenance access road. Trucks that enter and exit the construction site from the Don Edwards National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center will use State Route 237 to Zanker Road/Los Esteros Road to Grand Boulevard (Haul Route 2). Beginning late May 2023, trucks will also use State Route 237 to N. 1st Street to Nortech Parkway to Disk Drive to Grand Boulevard (Alternate Haul Route 2).

Trail closure is necessary to ensure public safety during project construction. Pedestrian access to Pond A12 or A13 from the northeasterly existing berm and Pond A16 and A17 Mallard Slough Trail is temporarily closed due to project work. Access to Ponds A9, A10, A11, A14 and A15 is only available from the northwesterly Pond A12 berm. These trail closures are in effect through summer 2025, when construction is anticipated to conclude.

When completed, this project will substantially reduce coastal flood risk for public infrastructure, businesses, and approximately 5,500 residents, commuters and businesses in North San José and Alviso. The area is at risk of flooding from extreme storms and high tides—this risk will increase as sea levels rise. In addition to improving recreational and public access along the shoreline, the project will restore 2,900 acres of tidal marsh and habitat that were lost due to former salt pond production activities.