

# Coyote Creek Watershed

## Southern Marin Flood Protection & Watershed Program



### Meeting 1

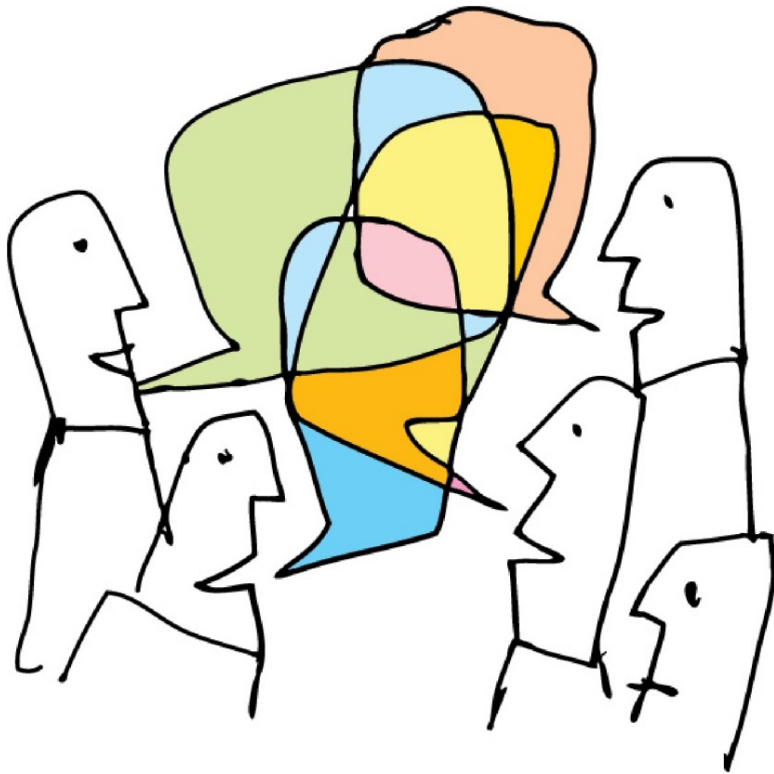
*introduction to  
the program...*

April 29, 2015

# Tonight's meeting...

- Overview of the watershed
- Our approach for planning and collaboration
- Infrastructure and potential needs
- Shoreline Study overview
- Watershed Guide introduction
- FEMA program update

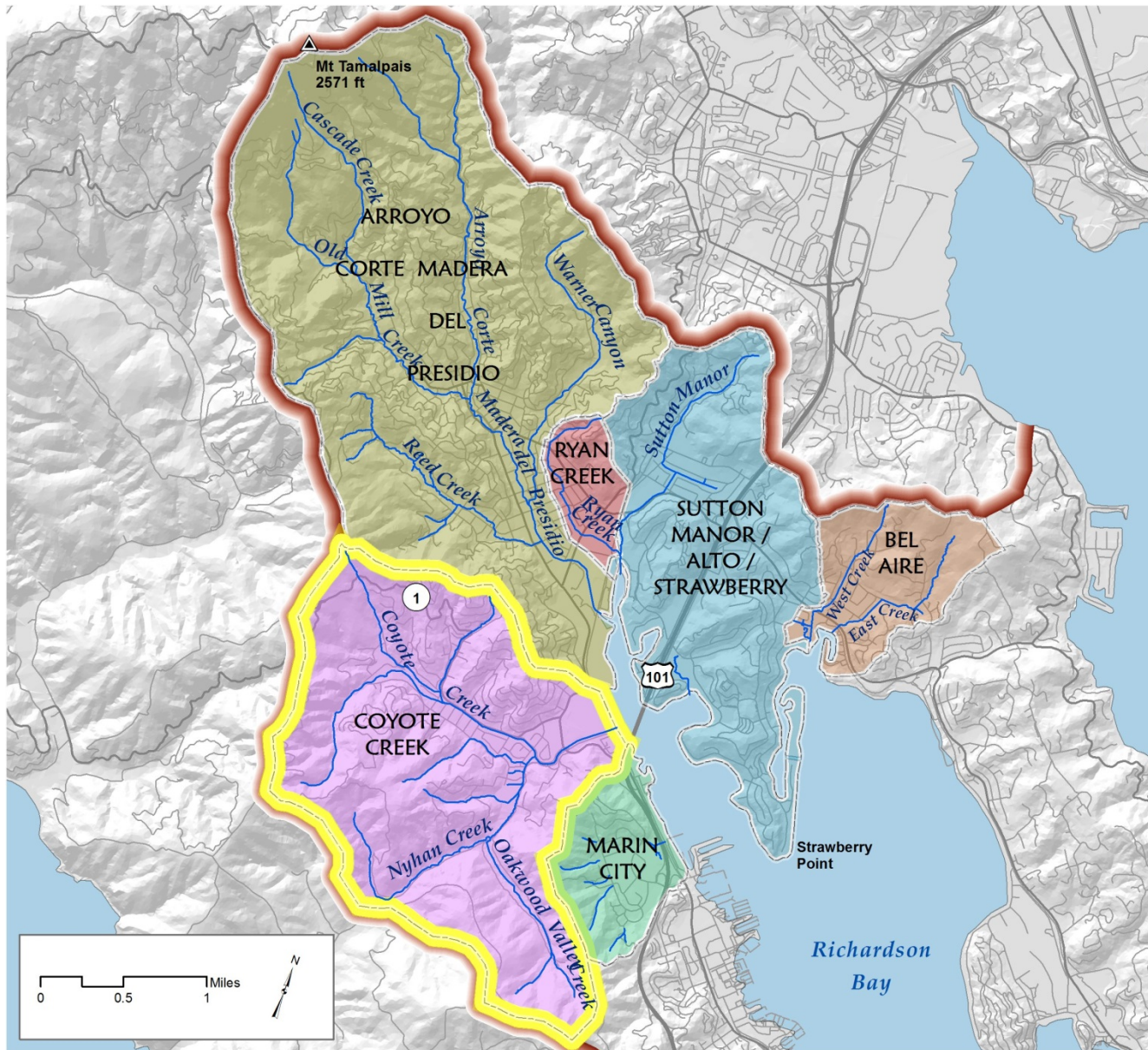
# Providing feedback...



- Question and answer period
- Breakout to stations
- Comment cards
- Email

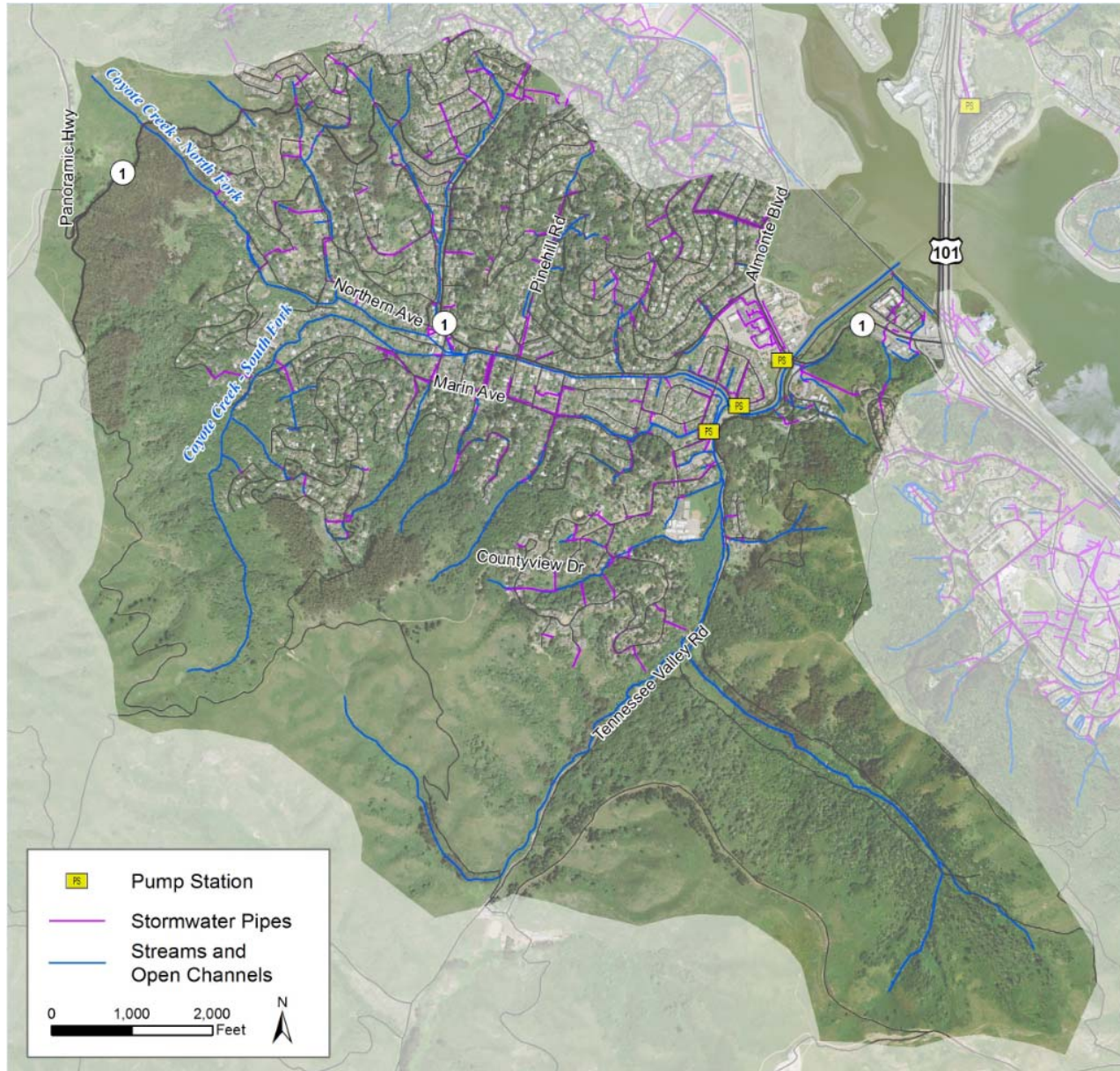


# Our watershed...





# Our watershed...

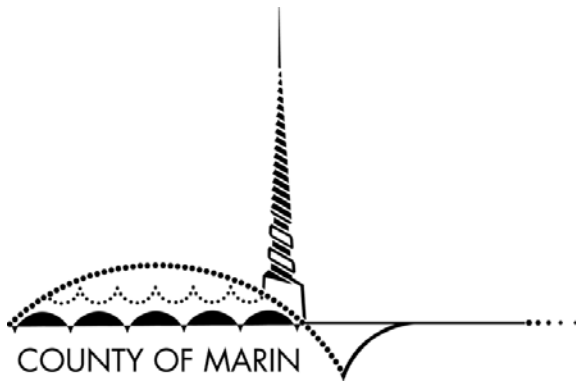


# Our purpose...

## Working at the Watershed Scale

- Encourages collaboration across jurisdictions
- Combines flood protection and habitat restoration elements
- Supports cost effective solutions
- Incorporates local knowledge
- Encouraged and supported by state and local agencies

# Our partners...



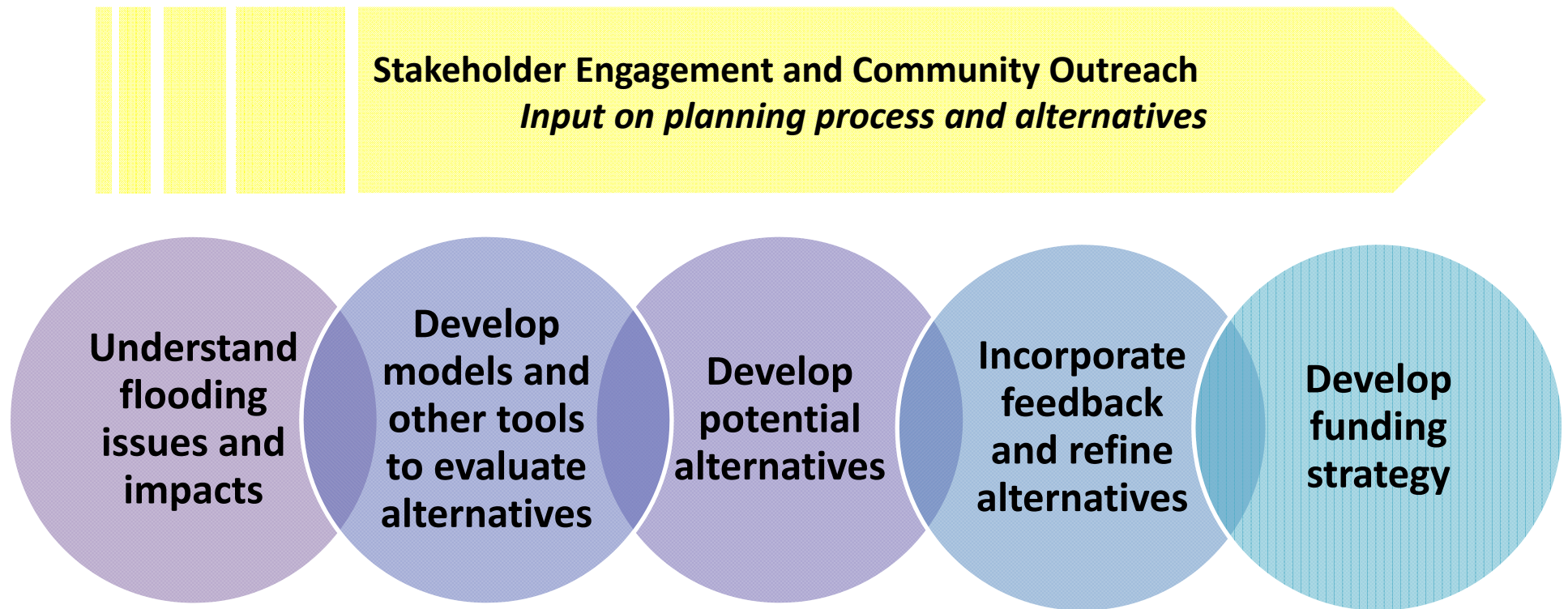
Marin County Flood Control &  
Water Conservation District

Zone 3 & Zone 4





# Our approach...



# Our approach...

**Stakeholder Engagement and Community Outreach**  
*Input on planning process and alternatives*

## Phase 1

Understand  
flooding  
issues and  
impacts



Develop  
models and  
other tools



Develop  
potential  
alternatives



Incorporate  
feedback and  
refine  
alternatives

Develop  
funding  
strategy

## Phase 2

Revenue  
measure?

Feasibility,  
engineering,  
environmental  
review

Construction

Operations &  
Maintenance

# Our schedule...

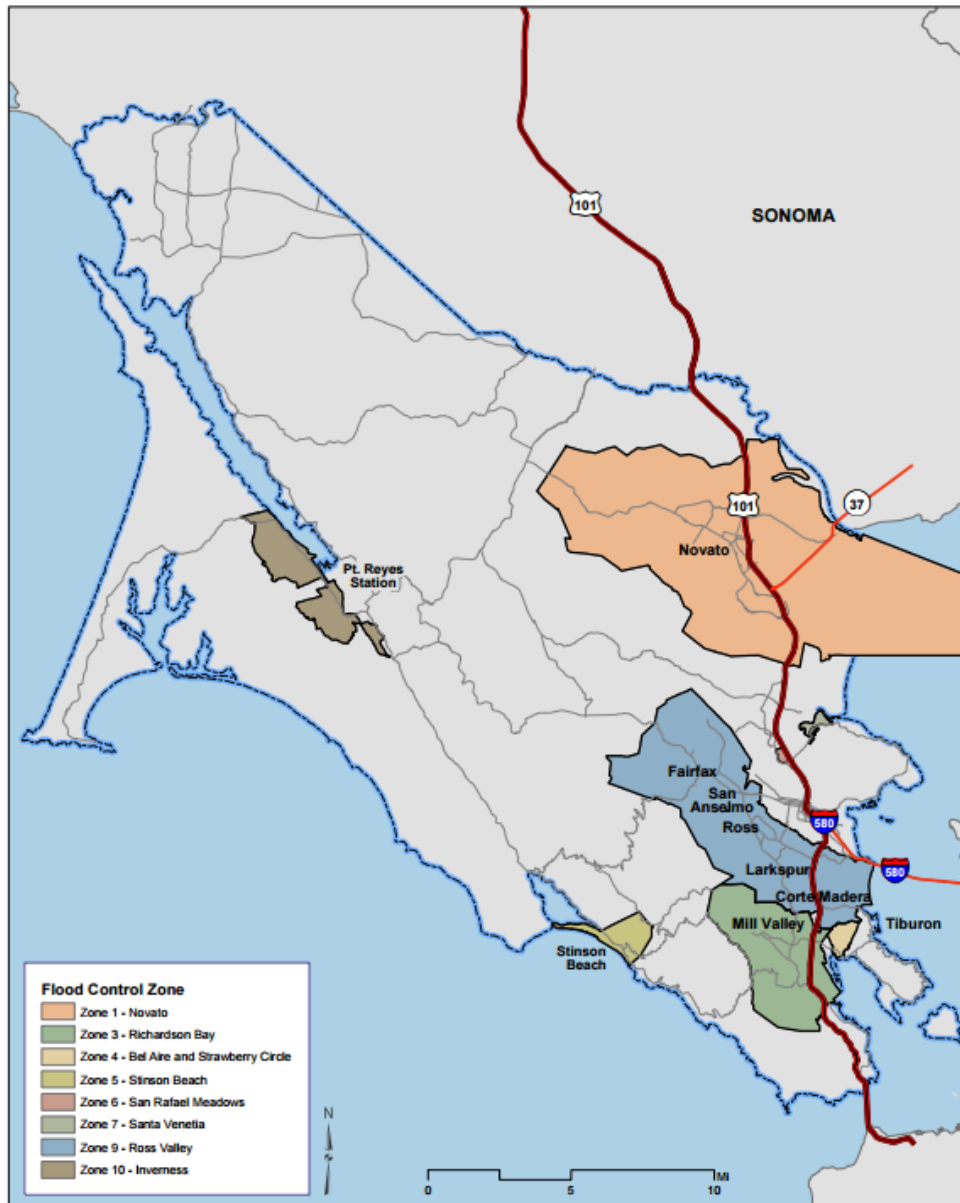
Deliverable	Description	Date
Community Meetings: Meeting 1	Introduce the Program and Watershed Guide. Identify potential flood and watershed alternatives	April through July
Meeting 2	Review riverine and tidal flood issues and considered alternatives. Input on the Guide.	July through September?
Meeting 3	If needed to refine alternatives by watershed	Fall/Winter
Shoreline Study	Introduce sea level rise scenarios and potential options	Fall
Watershed Guide	Finalizing text and then will begin draft layout and graphics	Final expected in 2015
Funding Needs	Funding needed for considered alternatives	Late 2015?





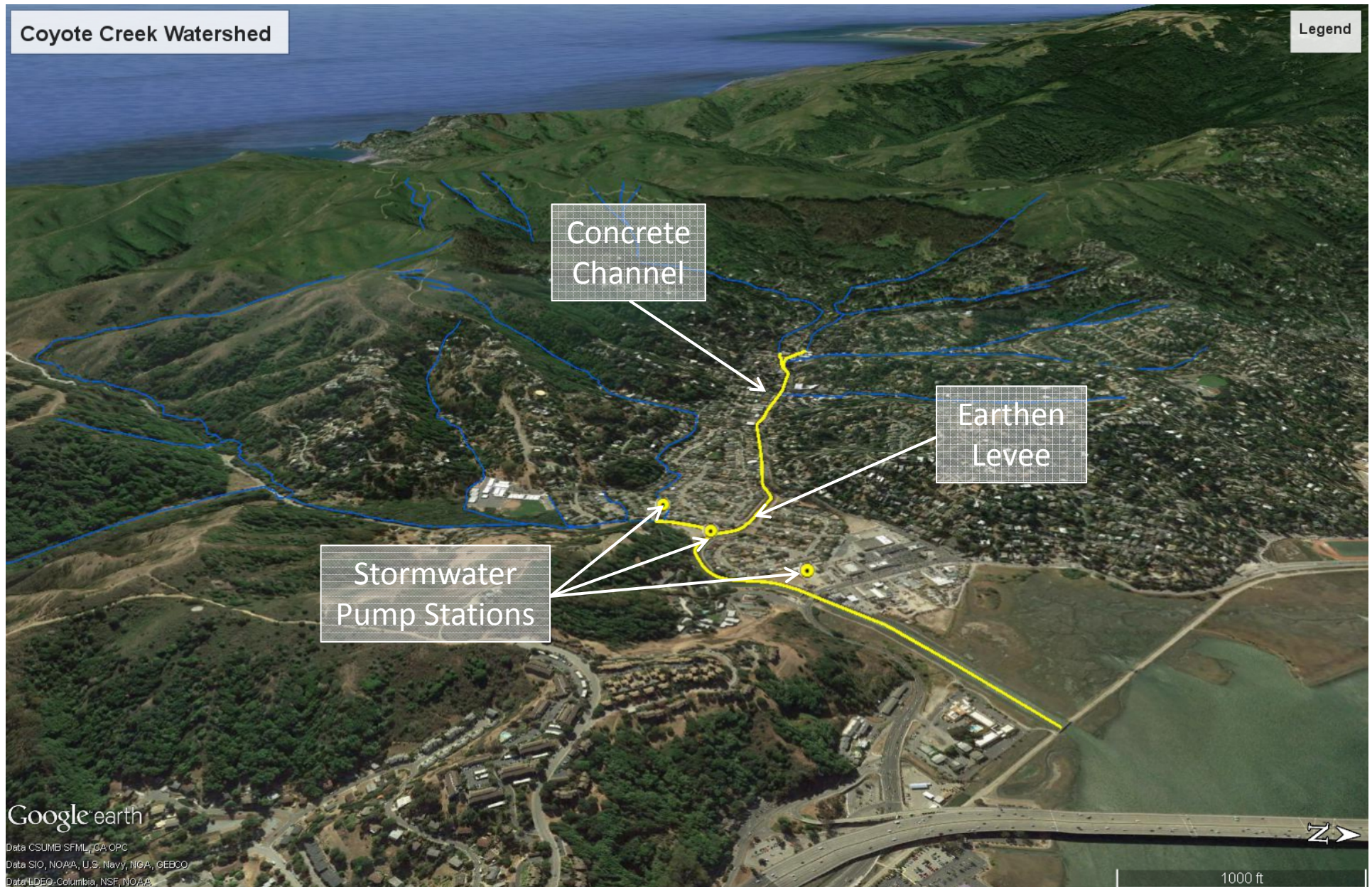


# What is Flood Control Zone 3?



- Helps fund infrastructure designed to reduce flood risk
- Regular source of revenue from ad valorem property tax
- Supplemental tax measure could provide additional revenue source; requires 2/3 approval of voters

# Existing infrastructure & potential needs...



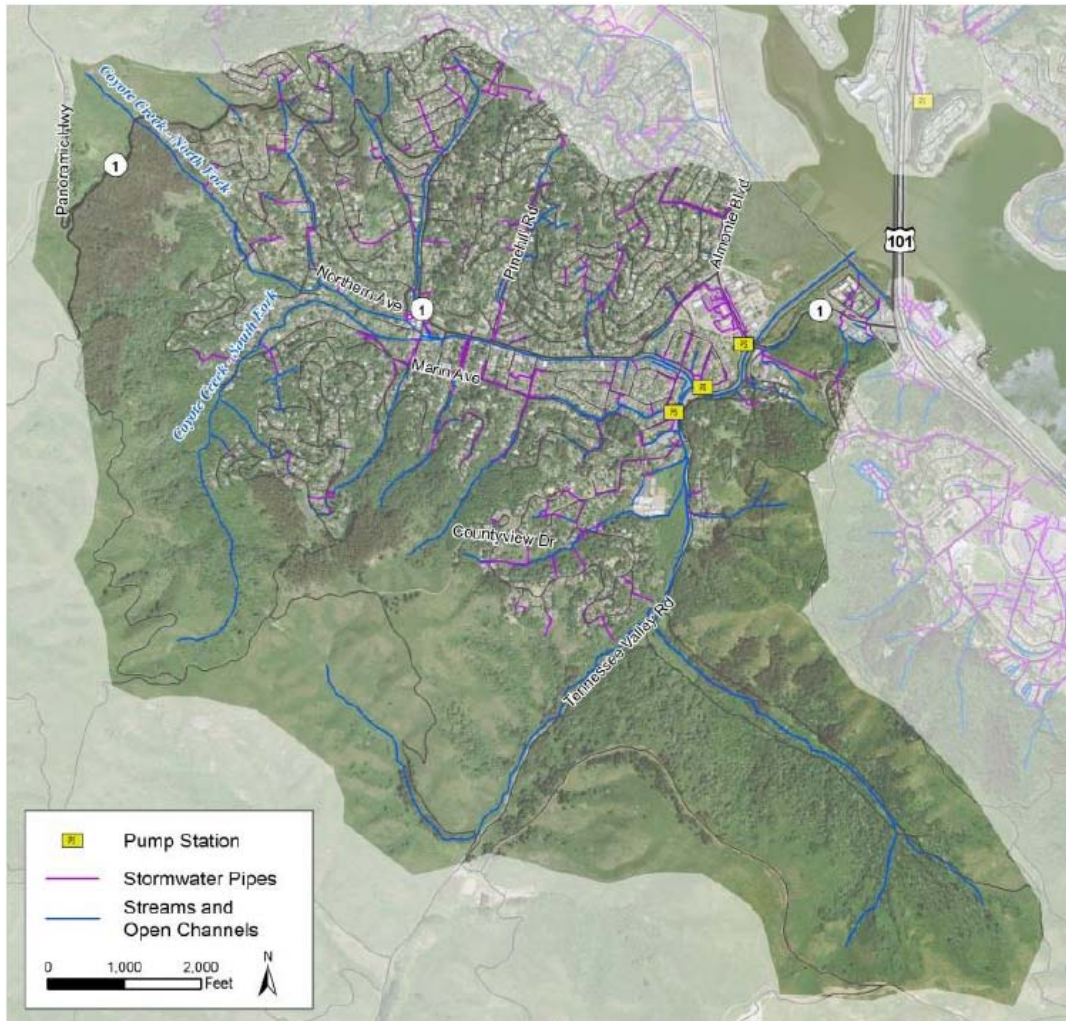


# Existing infrastructure & potential needs...

## STEP 1

### IDENTIFY FLOODING ISSUES

- Creek Overflow
- Storm Drain Overflow
- Stormwater Ponding
- Tidal Inundation



# Existing infrastructure & potential needs...

## **STEP 2**

### **ASSESS POTENTIAL PROJECTS**

- Bypass
- Channel Restoration
- Creek Maintenance
- Drainage Improvements
- Fish Passage Barrier Removal
- Floodwalls/Levees
- Habitat Restoration
- Structure Elevation
- Increase Conveyance
- Stormwater Pump
- Shoreline Adaptation
- Stormwater Detention

# Existing infrastructure & potential needs...

## **STEP 3**

### **DEVELOP COST ESTIMATES**

- Conceptual, appraisal level
- For planning purposes only
- Would need to be refined for design and construction
- For projects which have not already been the subject of a prior and recent report or study
- For projects which have been the subject of a recent report or study, prior cost estimates will be included where available





# Shoreline Study goal...

Provide the education and engineering basis  
for future **Adaptation Planning**

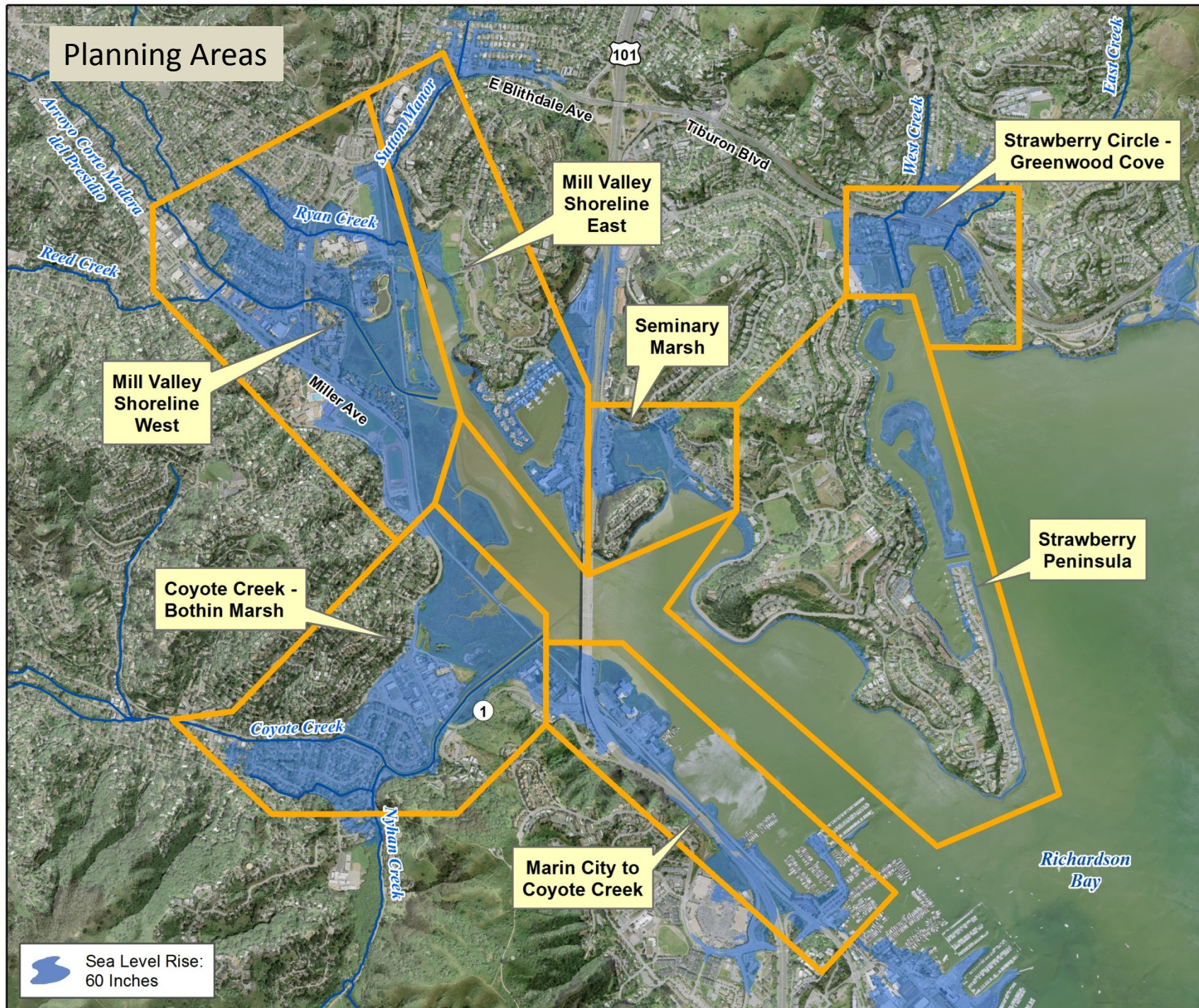


*Make it Real*

- Makes no final recommendations or ranking
- Concept level only



## Planning Areas



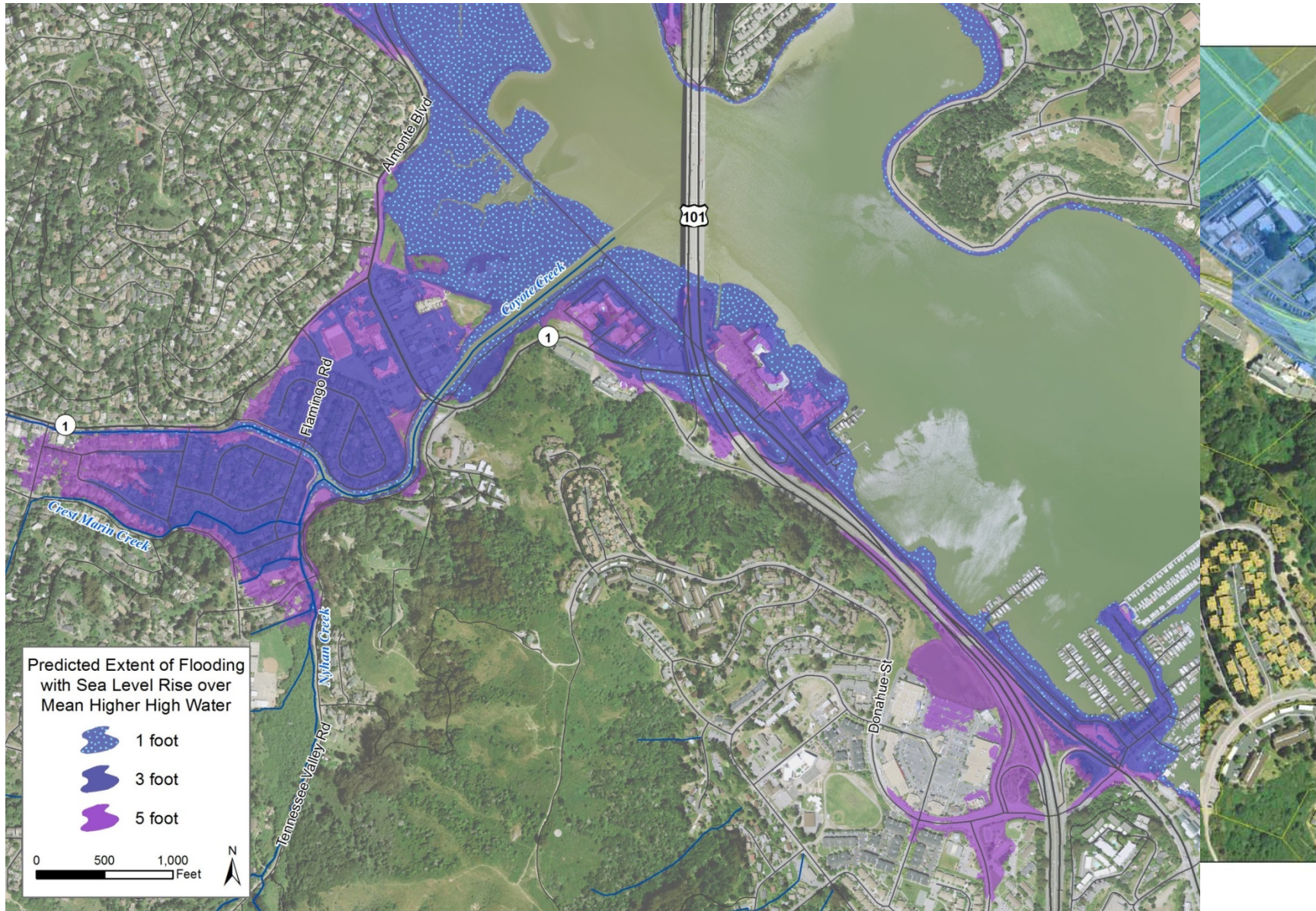


# Study parts...

1. Develop sea level rise scenarios, inundation maps and limited vulnerability assessment
2. Describe adaptation alternatives
  - Hard/soft, pros/cons, impacts, typical cost ranges
3. Adaptation approaches and trade-offs
  - Limit of direct coastal flooding, phasing
4. Order of magnitude example cost estimates
5. Next steps and pilot projects for grant funding

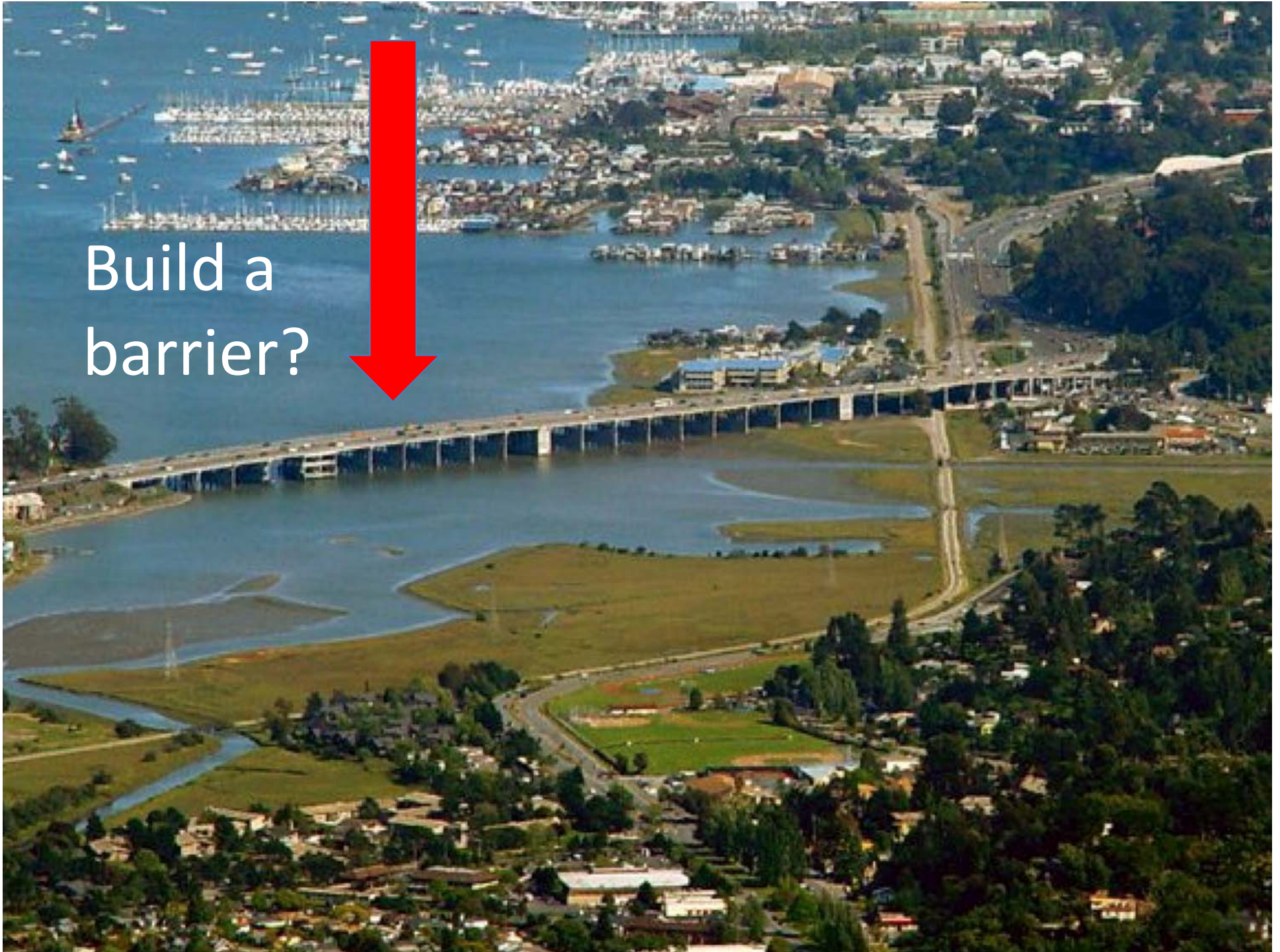


# Sea level rise extents... still water only





Build a  
barrier?







Raise and  
extend the marsh?

# FEMA Community Rating System

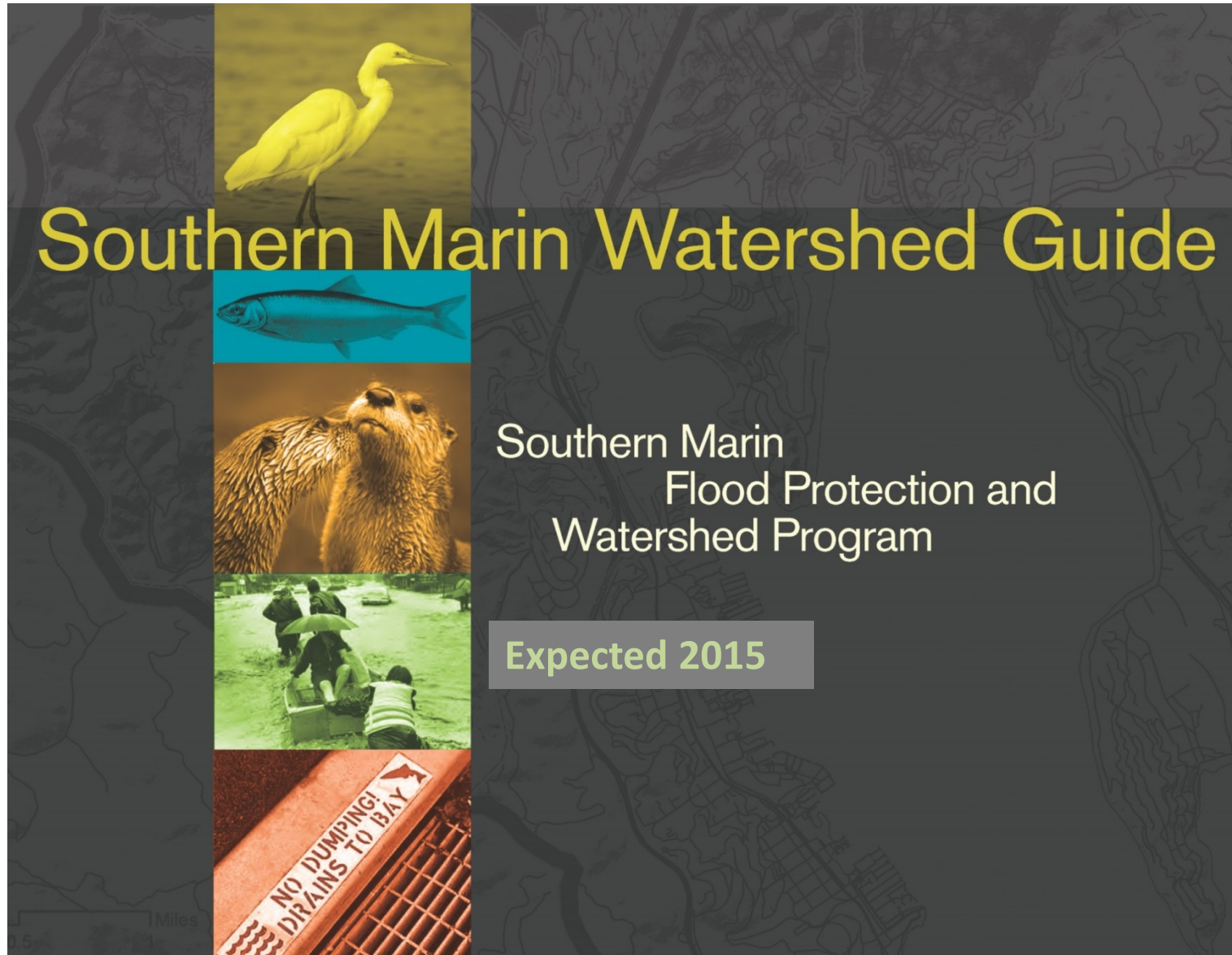
## Discounts for Flood Insurance

- Voluntary incentive program
- Implemented by the County and would affect unincorporated areas only
- CRS score by Oct 2015; Discounts in flood insurance costs would be applied as insurance policy is renewed after May 2016
- Difficult to predict the exact amount of the discount, but current estimation is for a reduction of either 5% or 10%
- Future implementation of additional community floodplain management activities may result in additional discounts





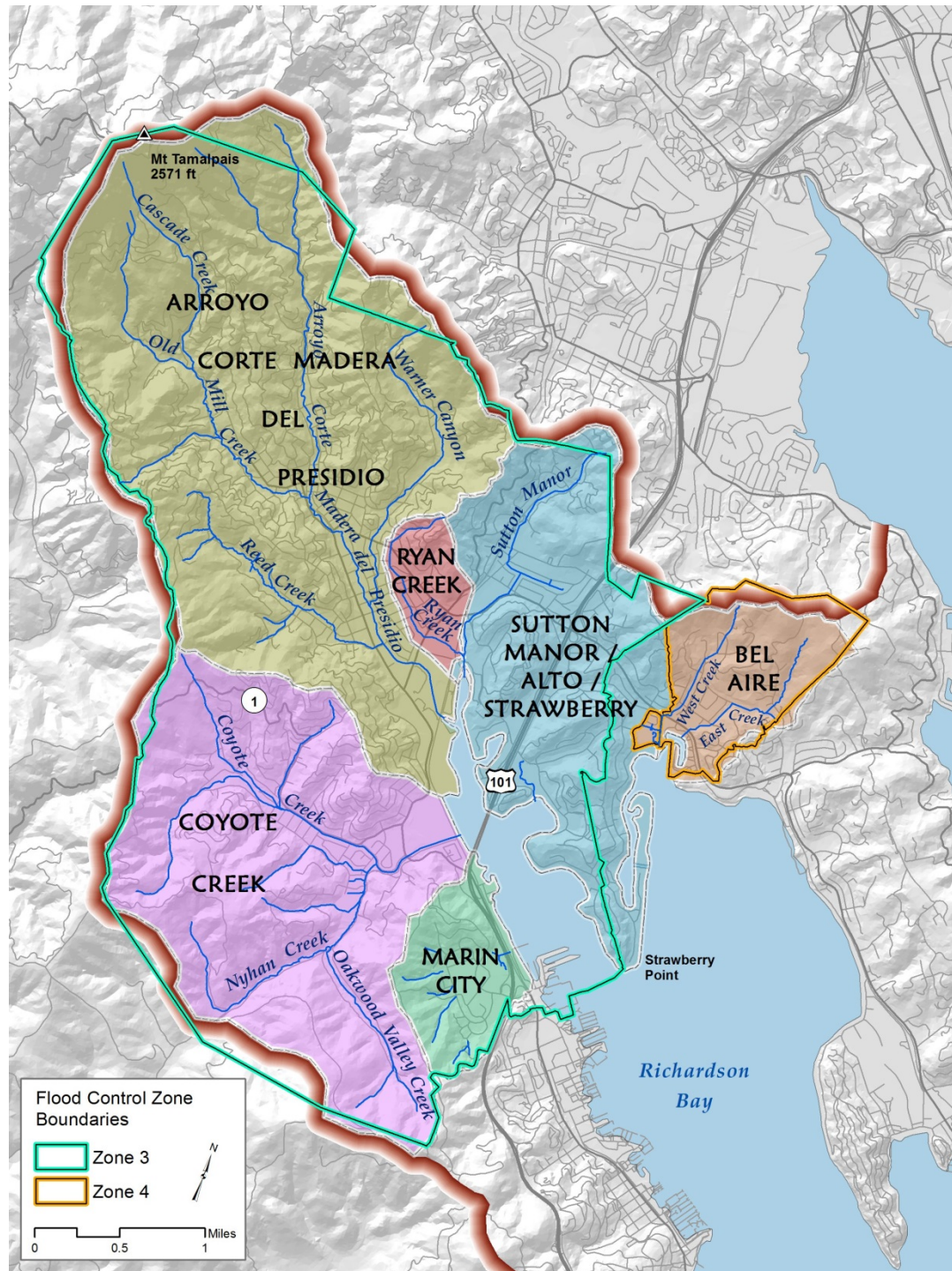
# Watershed Guide: Introduction



# Watershed Guide: Purpose

- Describe the watershed, where we live, and the habitat for other species
- Define existing conditions for the creeks and flood history
- Explain how current flood protection facilities function
- Show future sea level rise conditions, tidal impacts, and possible adaptation measures
- Describe completed and potential projects







# Flood History

# Draft



**As early as 1889, a surveying crew camped near Throckmorton and Miller Avenues in present-day Mill Valley described having to move camp due to excessive water flowing from Cascade Canyon (Murray 2006). Between 1907 and the present, 17 major floods have inundated significant portions of southern Marin (Stetson 2012 and Murray 2006).**

In 1925, floodwaters in Mill Valley moved upright redwood trees from Marion Avenue to Cascade Drive and washed a warehouse into Arroyo Corte Madera del Presidio Creek (Murray 2006).

In the quarter century between 1938 and 1963, eight floods, including three of the five most severe, created havoc and damaged infrastructure. As was true through the Bay Area, a combination of frequent storms and unchecked urban development lead to unanticipated flood damages. During the 1955 flood, 80 mile per hour winds ripped off the roofs of houses after 12 inches of rain fell in two days (Murray 2006).

In 1982, intense rains pelted the watershed and massive mudslides killed five people. The worst flooding, however, occurred in 2005. Twenty-five inches of rain fell in the wettest December in half a century saturating the ground and filling creeks with water.



(above) Mill Valley resident Bill Kier remembers the flooding of Arroyo Corte Madera del Presidio that resulted from a combination of high tide, a stiff wind out of the Golden Gate, and the debris blocking culverts. "I wake up on New Year's Day 2006 and it just looks like an ocean out there." (left) Flooding in 1982.



# Draft



## Potential Projects

1

Bothin Marsh



Habitat Restoration



Floodwalls

- Maintain or improve existing level of protection provided by concrete channel, levees, and floodwall



Shoreline Adaptation

2

Tamalpais Valley



Drainage Improvements

- Abandon gravity storm drain pipe outfalls at creek subject to tidal inundation and reroute stormwater to pump station
- Realign/resize existing stormwater pipes
- Assess need for new stormwater inlets and pipes



Stormwater Pumps

- Increase capacity of existing stormwater pump stations



Floodwalls

- Maintain or improve existing level of protection provided by concrete channel, levees, and floodwall



Creek Maintenance

- Vegetation removal
- Sediment removal

3

Tennessee Valley Marsh



Habitat Restoration

# Our schedule...

Deliverable	Description	Date
Community Meetings: Meeting 1	Introduce the Program and Watershed Guide. Identify potential flood and watershed alternatives	April through July
Meeting 2	Review riverine and tidal flood issues and considered alternatives. Input on the Guide.	July through September?
Meeting 3	If needed to refine alternatives by watershed	Fall/Winter
Shoreline Study	Introduce sea level rise scenarios and potential options	Fall
Watershed Guide	Finalizing text and then will begin draft layout and graphics	Final expected in 2015
Funding Needs	Funding needed for considered alternatives	Late 2015?





Please visit [marinwatersheds.org](http://marinwatersheds.org) to  
follow progress on the Watershed Program

Neal Conatser, Assistant Engineer for Zone Nos. 3 and 4  
[nconatser@marincounty.org](mailto:nconatser@marincounty.org)

Chris Choo, Watershed Planner for Southern Marin  
[cchoo@marincounty.org](mailto:cchoo@marincounty.org)

Liz Lewis, Principal Planner  
[lizlewis@marincounty.org](mailto:lizlewis@marincounty.org)

Roger Leventhal, Senior Civil Engineer  
[rleventhal@marincounty.org](mailto:rleventhal@marincounty.org)

CONTACTS



# Thank You!

