

California Dreaming:

East Palo Alto
Nature Center

Client:

Audubon: San Francisco
Bay Restoration Program

www.audubonsfbay.org/

UM Contact:

Josh Knox

joshknox@umich.edu



Study Purpose:

To evaluate the feasibility of a Nature center in East Palo Alto, on the shore of the San Francisco Bay

Research Overview:

Environmental Justice:

East Palo Alto: one of the Bay Area's most underserved communities
Mostly African American, Latino and Pacific Islander
Pollution: Legacy in the soil and ongoing activity in the air.

Ecological Restoration:

The SF Bay has lost over 90% of its wetlands over the last 100 years
This project will be a part of the current pioneering restoration efforts in the Bay

Social Science:

What are the community needs for: recreation and environmental education?
How can African American and other minority communities be engaged with wildlife observation, birding and other outdoor recreation?

CEMP/

Urban Planning

Can the Audubon Society create a financially viable nature center which will integrate with the planned East Palo Alto Redevelopment Plan?

Environmental Science

Is the soil and air pollution on the site a barrier to the center construction?

5. Timeline & Resources:

Winter 2004

Refine project direction and develop the research methodology
Begin data collection
Plan for Fall 2004

Summer 2004

In collaboration with client, conduct research

Fall 2004 Review collected data, identify holes and fill them
Final Results in and analysis in full swing

Winter 2005 Compose work products:

Resources: Audubon offers use of their local office space and equipment, possible staff support, including supplemental assistance in grant applications