San Francisco Bay:

Natural Processes & Cultural Impacts

Doris Sloan and Tod Fletcher, editors

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STATEMENT ABOUT THE AUTHORS

This study has been completed by seniors in the Environmental Sciences group major at the University of California, Berkeley. The Environmental Sciences major offers three fields of specialization -biological science, physical science, and social science -- from which each student selects an area of concentration. In their senior year, students in the major participate in a year-long group study. Preparing this report provides Environmental Sciences students with the opportunity to examine practical environmental problems while gaining experience in field work, general research practices, and group dynamics.

This year's analysis of San Francisco Bay is particularly timely. There is now a growing awareness that the heath of the Bay is directly threatened by a variety of human activities, including water diversions, discharges of toxics, and development of wetlands. These activities are taking place within and affecting a complex environment which is not yet well-understood scientifically--the Bay "system," with its broad bays, narrow straits, high tidal fluctuations, highly seasonal river flows, and diverse marginal habitats. Through selected site studies, analyses of water quality, soil toxicity, sedimentation, and investigations of economic and regulatory issues, this report provides an overview of natural processes within the Bay and the impacts of our culture upon it.

The report was edited by Doris Sloan and Tod Fletcher, and the frontispiece was prepared by Jeff Dhont. The following students contributed to this report:

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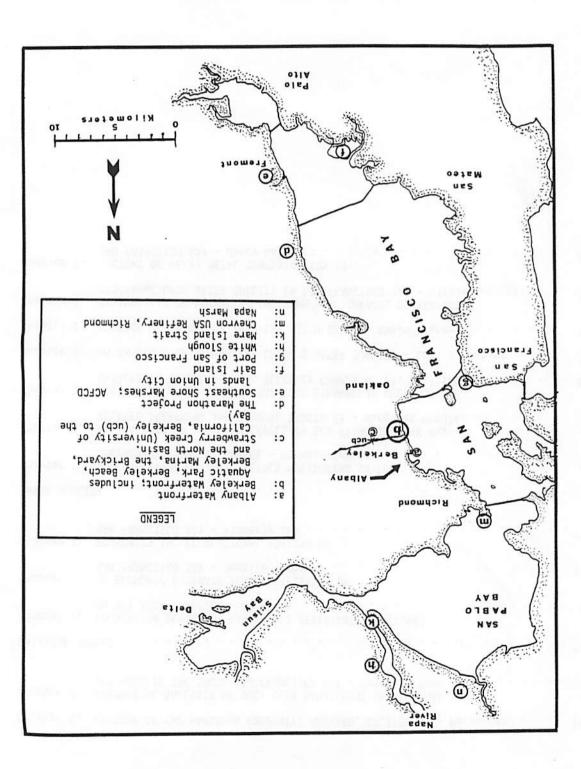
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Map of San Francisco Bay System and study locations for this report. Source: U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey Map, 1:125,000.

SECTION I

REGULATORY ISSUES

- Chapter 1. THE CORPS OF ENGINEERS SAN FRANCISCO DISTRICT'S REGULATORY ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM: A CASE FOR LEGAL ACTION - John Thomas Bentivoglio
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