

In accordance with the Rockaway Quarry's commitment to preserve at least 75% of the Quarry property as open space, we prepared and submitted an open space preservation and restoration plan to the US Fish and Wildlife Service, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, US Army Corps of Engineers, San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board, and the US Environmental Protection Agency. The first phase of that plan, for the establishment of a mitigation bank on about 40 acres in the northern half of the Quarry, has been preliminarily approved by the agencies and a Public Notice issued by the Corps soliciting comments on the bank proposal. The Corps' Public Notice (PN) is attached for your and your readers use. The public has 30 days from the date of the PN to comment.

Establishment of the bank will ensure the preservation of this land, its restoration for native wetlands and endangered species and its maintenance and management in perpetuity. The link below provides basic information on banks provided by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

<https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Planning/Banking>

The bank proposal required a significant effort to prepare but reflects the Rockaway Quarry owners' commitment to preserve and restore the Quarry and the assistance of local ecologists, environmentalists and others in designing the restoration project.

John Zentner