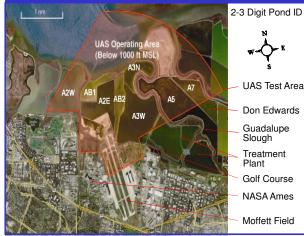


# The Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge: A Natural Laboratory for Federal Agencies and Partners

Robert Dahlgren, CSUMB/NASA-Ames Research Center, Moffett Field, California Laura Valoppi, State and Federal Contractors Water Agency, Sacramento, California Cheryl Strong, Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge, Fremont, California John Bourgeois, State Coastal Conservancy, Oakland, California Jonathan Stock, US Geological Survey, Western Regional Science Center, Menlo Park, California Matthew Fladeland, NASA-Ames Research Center, Earth Science Div., Moffett Field, California

## Salt Ponds in the NASA Ames UAS Test Area



### Don Edwards SF Bay National Wildlife Refuge

- The Refuge encompasses a rich mosaic of habitats and is a fecund and convenient field site for Earth science research.
- Tidal salt marsh, open ponds, shallow water, mudflat habitat
- Variety of tide, salinity, elevation, slope, and other conditions
- Proximity to the UAS test area creates a unique natural laboratory that can support a variety of research and benefit the Refuge in monitoring wildlife changes and habitat evolution over time.
- Attractive locale for citizens science and crowdsourcing.

## Working with NASA Ames

- Direct costs for NASA civil servant labor and travel if any.
- Typical flight crew: Pilot and Range Safety Officer (RSO).
- \$2,000 for airworthiness and flight readiness review boards.
- Inter-agency agreement (IAA), military interagency purchase request (MIPR), or reimbursable space act agreement (SAA).

# NASA Ames UAS Test Area (red outline)



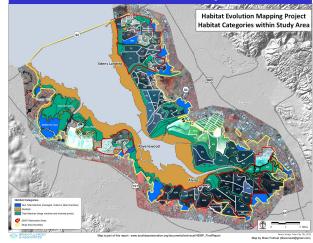
### **NASA Ames Services**

- UAS operations and training in this area since 2013.
- Access to sUAS fleet (AeroVironment, DJI, etc.) and flight crew.
- Access to world class airborne science and operations expertise.
- Engineering evaluation of platforms, payloads, and integration.
- Statements of airworthiness and flight readiness.
- Support of complex deployments and proposal development.
- Coordinated remote sensing satellite data and/or in situ data.

#### Working with the Don Edwards Refuge

- .No costs are associated with working on the Refuge. The PI must comply with FAA regs and obtain a Refuge Special Use Permit.
- The PI must work with the Refuge on NEPA clearance and comply with all endangered species and other wildlife issues.
- Areas open to public access, including seasonal waterfowl hunting, must be taken into account.

### Habitats in South San Francisco Bay



Science Collaboration Opportunities	
<ul> <li>Natural Hazards         <ul> <li>King tide studies</li> <li>Inundation studies.</li> <li>Coastal subsidence</li> <li>Storm response</li> </ul> </li> <li>Wildlife Management         <ul> <li>Bird disturbance study</li> <li>Waterbird census</li> <li>Mudflat biofilms</li> </ul> </li> <li>Land Use Management         <ul> <li>Salt pond management</li> <li>Land use decisions</li> <li>Climate change / sea level rise</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Estuarine Science <ul> <li>Vegetation mapping</li> <li>Mudflat quality, transport</li> <li>Mudflat extent, response</li> <li>Marsh restoration</li> <li>Marsh erosion</li> </ul> </li> <li>Ecological Research <ul> <li>Water sampling, quality</li> <li>Blue carbon, coastal carbon</li> <li>Greenhouse gas</li> <li>Halophiles, HABs</li> <li>Subsurface imaging</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Contact Information	
Robert Dahlgren, Ph.D. (6	50) 604-0130 robert.p.dahlgren@nasa.gov