

EXHIBIT A
PROPOSED PROJECT
Survey & Design

Project Number: US-CA-464-1
Project Name: VIANSA SEASONAL WETLAND ENHANCEMENT

Joint Venture
Status: JV Code: SFBJV
Area Name: San Francisco Bay Joint Venture

Location: County: Sonoma
Section: 8 Township: 4N Range: 5W
UTM: 10Z 548359E 4229670N

Ownership and Management: The Viansa Seasonal Wetland is an approximately 90-acre seasonal wetland site that is managed primarily to provide habitat for migrating and wintering waterfowl with directly adjacent uplands (the entire property is approximately 175 acres). Water is retained in some wetland areas through spring and early summer to provide foraging and brood rearing habitat for waterfowl.

Size: Project site:
Total Wetland Area: approx. 90 acres
Total Upland Area: approx. 5 acres
Total Project Area: approx. 95 acres

Project Activities: This project will consist of conducting a topographic survey and preparing an engineering design for enhancement of the Viansa seasonal wetland. Ducks Unlimited, Inc. (DU) will develop the engineering design for habitat improvement in close coordination with Viansa's Project Officer and staff. This survey and design effort is the first step in a habitat improvement project planned for the site. That project will maximize the area of high quality waterfowl nesting and brood habitat in this wetland, for which DU would seek to develop a water management plan and a vegetation management plan. DU plans to submit a proposal in early August 2009 for North American Wetlands Conservation Act funding for wetland conservation work in the San Pablo Bay region. Funding to enhance the seasonal wetland at Viansa will be included in that grant request. Ultimate habitat improvement work in this area will include renovating existing levees and ditches, recontouring the land, constructing an internal levee to improve management capability for water levels, constructing swales and potholes, and replacing degraded water control

structures and installing new water control structures to improve water distribution and provide water and vegetation management capabilities to wetlands, and planting native wetland trees and shrubs to provide structural diversity and seeding native grasses to provide upland nesting cover.

History and Management:

Viansa seasonal wetland was constructed by San Sebastiani and Ducks Unlimited staff in 1994. The wetlands are managed primarily to provide feeding and resting habitat for migrating and wintering waterfowl and other waterbirds. Water is retained in some wetlands through late spring and early summer to provide feeding and resting habitat and escape cover for waterfowl broods. However, the condition of that habitat has degraded, most likely due to siltation and limited water and vegetation management capabilities. The project area is currently far below its potential to provide high quality wetland and upland habitats.

Wildlife Values

Ancillary Benefits:

Viansa seasonal wetland provides important habitat in the North Bay of the San Francisco Estuary for a variety of wildlife. The wetlands are extremely important for wintering waterfowl in the Pacific Flyway. Viansa is located along the tidal wetland to upland transition in the northern reaches of San Pablo Bay within the San Francisco Estuary and is among the most important privately-owned wetland areas for waterfowl in the region. The survey and design work that will be conducted is the first step toward enhancing approximately 90 acres of wetlands and wetland-associated uplands on this property.

Waterfowl species that will benefit from this project include mallard, canvasback, gadwall, cinnamon teal, and Canada geese, and tundra swans. Other birds that will benefit include egret, heron, American avocet, black-necked stilt and tri-colored blackbirds.