



COMMITTEE FOR
GREEN FOOTHILLS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NEWS RELEASE

Public Forum on Pescadero Marsh scheduled for August 15

PALO ALTO, CA – Please join [Committee for Green Foothills](http://www.GreenFoothills.org) for a public forum to discuss “The Fate of Pescadero Marsh: Critical Coastal Resources in the Balance.” The forum will be held on Thursday, August 15 from 7-9 pm in the South Conference Room of the Miramar Lodge Conference Center, [2930 North Cabrillo Highway](http://www.GreenFoothills.org), Half Moon Bay.

Pescadero Marsh is the largest coastal estuary between San Francisco Bay and Elkhorn Slough in Monterey County, and is home to a number of endangered, threatened, or special status species. The marsh has been altered by levees, sedimentation from upstream logging, farming, streambank failures, and reduced summer stream flows. Several times a year Butano Creek floods farm fields and homes, and closes Pescadero Road. The forum will address the tension that arises between the need to address the flooding problems, especially on private property adjacent to the marsh, and the importance of finding sustainable solutions that protect the marsh’s diverse species.

Supervisor to moderate panel of leading experts

San Mateo County Supervisor Richard Gordon will moderate a panel of experts including Resource Ecologist Joanne Kerbavaz from California State Parks, Tamara Clinard of the Coastal Watershed Council, Maeva Neale of the Pescadero Municipal Advisory Council, Napa County Supervisor Mike Rippey, hydrologist Barry Hecht, Biology Professor Mike Vasey from San Francisco State University, and Committee for Green Foothills Advocate Lennie Roberts.

Why is the marsh an important and unique natural resource? What is the hydrology of the marsh? Why is it important to use a “watershed approach” when addressing community concerns? Panelists will discuss these questions as well as how Napa County met similar challenges with an inclusive stakeholder process that led to sustainable solutions.

The forum is hosted by [Committee for Green Foothills](http://www.GreenFoothills.org). The forum is cosponsored by the [Loma Prieta Chapter](http://www.GreenFoothills.org) of the Sierra Club, the [League for Coastside Protection](http://www.GreenFoothills.org), Surfrider Foundation San Mateo County, and Sequoia Audubon Society. The event is free and open to the public. This is the second in a series of three environmental forums made possible in part by a grant from the Community Foundation Silicon Valley. No reservations are required. Light refreshments will be served. Directions to the forum can be found at www.GreenFoothills.org/forum.

About the Committee for Green Foothills

Committee for Green Foothills is a regional grassroots organization working to establish and maintain land-use policies that protect the environment throughout San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties. Committee for Green Foothills, established in 1962, is a Bay Area leader in the continuing effort to protect open space and the natural environment of our Peninsula.

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