

# San Francisco District Overview US Army Corps of Engineers

*Building the Future: Solutions to Ensure  
Sustainable Growth of the Bay Area  
Industrial Economy – “A Regulatory  
Perspective”*

**Thursday, April 9<sup>th</sup>**

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District Commander/Engineer



®

US Army Corps of Engineers

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**and Taking Care of People!**

**San Francisco District**



# San Francisco District – Overview

## Oldest USACE district on the Pacific Coast

- Providing Value to the Nation since 1866

## Strategically significant district

- **Navigation energizes the economy** – we support 22 Federal ship channels, SF Bay Area's \$70B annual maritime industry and \$585B GDP (22<sup>nd</sup> in world), and are the only government agency with debris removal mission in SF Bay (>1200 tons/yr)
- **Reducing disaster risk for 6.5 million people and economies of SF Bay Area, Silicon Valley, Sonoma, Napa, and Central Coast** – 99% chance of big earthquake in next 30 yrs (per USGS); additional risks of flooding, sea level rise, tsunamis, and wildfires
- **Largest wetlands restoration projects in California** – leading effort to beneficially reuse dredged material
- **District “owns” and is recovering the last viable population of an endangered species** - Coho salmon on Russian River (per 2008 NOAA-NMFS Biological Opinion); in 2012, recognized by NOAA as a “Habitat Blueprint for Success”
- **Large and influential U.S. Congressional delegation** – 4 Senators, 21 Representatives
- **Regulatory Actions for Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act**

Diverse, talented workforce with a culture of teamwork and innovation



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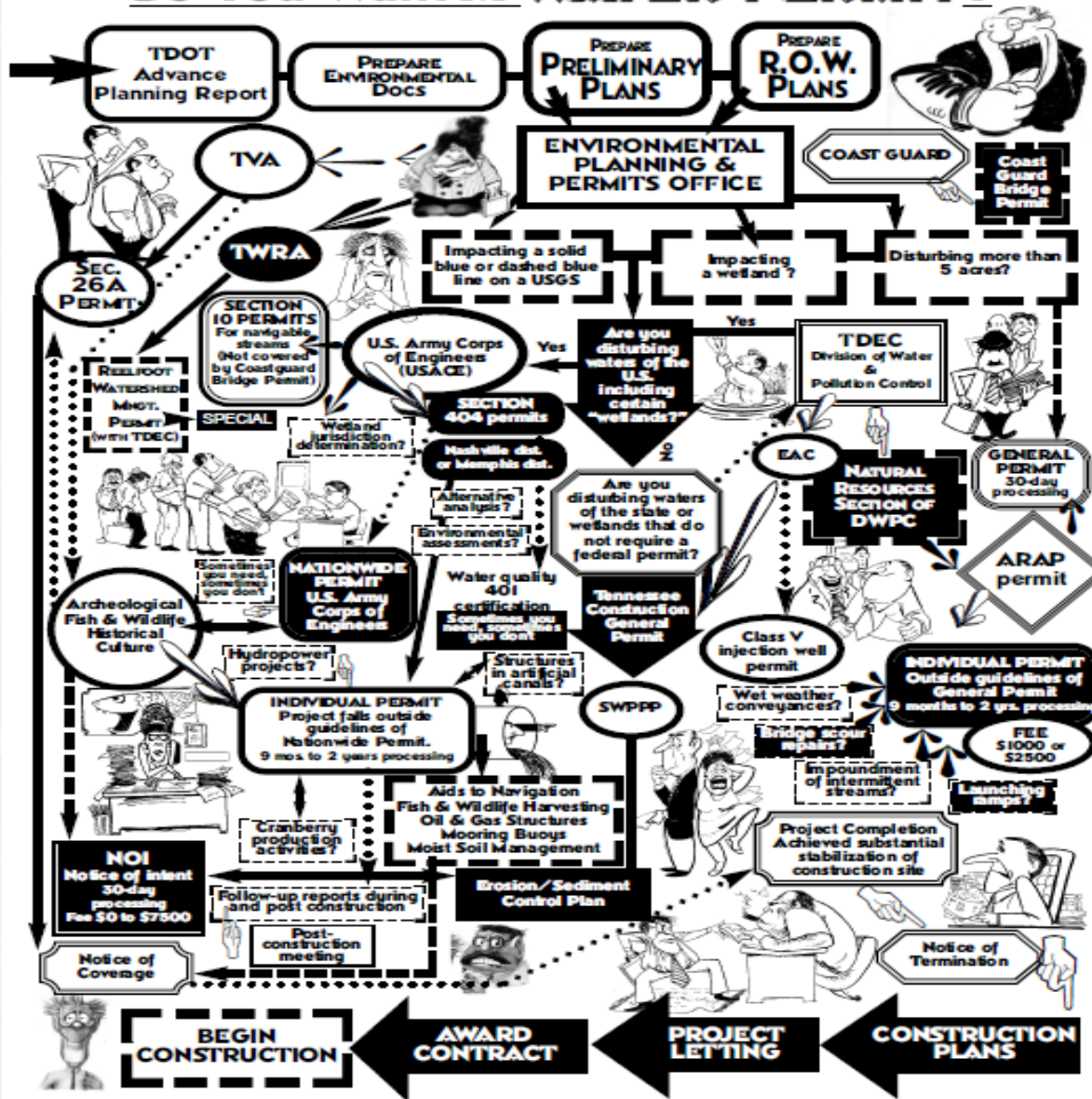


# Thoughts About the Present/Future?

- Climate Change Impacts (i.e. Sea Level Rise, Drought, etc.)?
- Continued National Policy of No Net Loss of Wetlands?
- The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Process can be Very Complex and Time Consuming.
- Least Environmentally Damaging Practicable Alternative.
- “All of the Easily Permitted Land has been Developed?”
- Continued/Increased Focus on Renewable Energy Projects?
- Proposed Rule for the Waters of the US – will it Slow Down the Permit Process?
- Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014
  - Codifies Civil Works Transformation and “3x3x3” Planning.
  - Fully utilizes the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund.
  - Passed in June 2014 but still waiting for most of the Implementation Guidance.
- Are there too many environmental related laws/regulations (Federal, State, Local)?



# So You Want A WATER PERMIT?



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# Questions

*We the People*  
insure domestic Tranquillity, provide for the common  
and our Posterity, do ordain  
and establish this Con-

