



Charleston Slough

- 📍 I-85-N to 101-N
- 📍 North on 101-N, ~2 miles to **San Antonio Rd.** exit.
(If coming from the north, it's called **San Antonio Rd. North** exit)
- 📍 Turn right (east) on San Antonio Rd. toward the Bay
 - go ~ 0.3 mile until the road ends at **Terminal Blvd.**
 - park along Terminal Blvd.
- 📍 meet at the trailhead at the corner of San Antonio Rd. and Terminal Blvd.

Palo Alto Baylands

- 📍 get back on 101-N
- 📍 North on 101-N, ~1.5 more miles to **Embarcadero / Oregon Expressway** exit
- 📍 take **east** Embarcadero (toward the Bay)
 - head east ~ 1 mile, past car lots, golf course, airport
- 📍 Embarcadero road ends past airport — **turn left**
- 📍 past the duck pond and across the bridge is the Baylands Nature Interpretive Center
 - parking lot is to the right
- 📍 Meet outside the Interpretive Center.
(If you get there early, use the displays to start answering the questions!)

The Edge of the Bay

Be able to define the following terms and their specific relevance to the habitats observed today.

brackish	thermocline	halocline	halophytic
euryhaline	eutrophication	euphotic zone	estuary
producer	consumer	phytoplankton	zooplankton
decomposer	detritus	slough	intertidal zonation
anoxic	mudflat	siltation	infauna / epifauna
endemic	mitigation	shorebird	Pacific flyway
pickleweed	salt grass	cordgrass	dodder

Charleston Slough: Refer to Exercise 4C. Bring copies of Table 4.7 to collect data.

Baylands: Use your fieldbook to make thorough notes and observations during the walk. Use that information and the displays at the Nature Center to answer the following questions. The answers to the questions that you turn in for credit **MUST BE TYPED** on a separate piece of paper.

1. What are the major sources of primary production for the food webs in San Francisco Bay?
Explain a detritus-based food web in this situation.
2. Why does the Bay salinity vary seasonally?
How is that variation different in the south Bay from the north Bay?
How has this pattern been altered by human development?
3. How can you visually distinguish a salt marsh from a freshwater marsh?
4. What are the three principle halophytes of SF Bay salt marshes?
What factors determine their relative distributions within this habitat?
Diagram the zonation of saltmarsh plants relative to the edge of the Bay.
5. What type of organism is dodder? How does it survive in the marsh?
6. Describe niche partitioning among charadriiform shorebirds.
Describe at least three specific examples observed here today.
7. Name a species of animal endemic to this habitat.
Name two other endangered species of animal residing in this habitat.
Why have they become endangered?
8. How was the eastern mud snail introduced to SF Bay?
Describe at least two specific ways these snails are affecting the native communities.
9. Describe another invasive species and its impacts on local native communities.
10. Describe at least four additional ways that human societies have altered the SF Bay native ecosystems.