

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION

STAFF SUMMARY REPORT  
MEETING DATE: September 8, 2010

ITEM 8

SUBJECT: **The San Francisco Estuary Invasive Spartina Project: What It Is and Where It's Headed** – Update by Peggy Olofson, Project Director

DISCUSSION: The San Francisco Estuary Invasive Spartina Project (Spartina Project) is a coordinated regional effort among local, State and federal organizations dedicated to address the rapid spread of four introduced and highly-invasive species of *Spartina* (cordgrass) in the Bay. Cordgrasses are aggressive invaders that significantly alter both the physical structure and biological composition of tidal marshes, mudflats and other creeks and wetlands.

Established by the State Coastal Conservancy in 2000, the Spartina Project is progressing towards its goal of eliminating this introduced species, working in close collaboration with many partners around the Bay. The Spartina Project is comprised of a number of components including outreach, research, permitting, mapping, monitoring, and the allocation of funds for efforts to eliminate populations of nonindigenous *Spartina*. Peggy Olofson will update us on the Spartina Project's progress.

RECOMMENDATION: No action needed – information item.