



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**
Engineer Research and
Development Center

National Erosion Control Development and Demonstration Program (Section 227)

Pickleweed Trail, Martinez, CA

Description

Pickleweed Trail is located within the Martinez Regional Shoreline Park in Martinez, CA. The trail is a recreational hiking trail and is maintained by the East Bay Regional Park District. The site includes coastal wetland habitat. This wetland provides habitat for a variety of species including the salt marsh harvest mouse, California black rail, and California clapper rail.

Issue

Pickleweed Trail is experiencing erosion due to what appears to be some combination of tidal currents, vessel wake, and wind wave action. The trail is sandwiched between the strait and the main line of the Union Pacific Railroad. As the erosion process continues, the land available for potential relocation of the trail diminishes and is limited by its proximity to the railroad. Attempts to control erosion with riprap armoring have brought limited success in adjacent areas. According to trail users familiar with the area, erosion is claiming approximately 1.5 m (5 ft) of shoreline per year in the unprotected areas.



Eroding bank at high tide

Technology

A branch box breakwater is proposed for this site.

Status

The project is in the design phase. Topographic and hydrographic surveys of the area, a coastal analysis, and ship effects measurements have all been completed. Flume tests of a branch box breakwater will be conducted in 2005.

Time Line

Construction is proposed for FY06.

Points of Contact

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Program Authorization

Water Resources and Development Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-303, 110 Stat. 3658) dated October 12, 1996.

Additional information can be found at <http://chl.erdc.usace.army.mil/section227>.