

Table 5. Chronology of selected events affecting the Arcata Marsh and Wildlife Sanctuary Project as developed for an educational pamphlet prepared by the Arcata Environmental Services Department (No date).

CHRONOLOGY
of Selected Events Affecting the Arcata Marsh
and Wildlife Sanctuary Project:

- 1949 Arcata builds first wastewater treatment plant to discharge unchlorinated primary effluent into Arcata Bay.
- 1957 Oxidation ponds built.
- 1966 Chlorination added to treatment system.
- 1969 Wastewater aquaculture project started by Humboldt State University Professor, Dr. George Allen.
- 1970 Main parking lot and boat ramp constructed on South I Street.
- 1974 New State policy enacted which prohibited discharge of wastewater into bays and estuaries unless "enhancement" was proven.
- 1975 Humboldt Bay Wastewater Authority (HBWA) proposes a regional wastewater treatment plant at an initial cost estimate of \$25 million dollars.
- 1978 Citizens of Arcata rally for an integrated wastewater treatment plant which would utilize the natural treatment processes of marshes.
- 1979 State authorizes Arcata to demonstrate "enhancement" with a two year pilot project consisting of a 12 cell pilot marsh which would treat 10% of Arcata's wastewater.
- 1979 Arcata Marsh and Wildlife Sanctuary Task Force formed to oversee public usage of Arcata's wetland areas and plan new projects.
- 1981 Original Arcata Marsh and Wildlife Sanctuary completed with CA Coastal Conservancy funds, covering 75 acres along South I Street.
- 1983 State Water Resources control Board gives permission to upgrade its wastewater treatment plant, including wetland treatment/enhancement units.
- 1986 Integrated wetland wastewater treatment plant completed at a cost of \$7.1 million. Funded 75% Federal, 12.5% State and 12.5% local.
- 1986 Arcata Marsh and Wildlife Sanctuary boundaries expanded to cover 154 acres with the completion of Butcher's Slough Wetlands Restoration Project. Funded by CA Coastal Conservancy.

FLUSH WITH PRIDE



- 1987 Ford Foundation/Kennedy School of Government, Harvard Innovations in Government Award Program winner. Out of more than 1,100 entries, Arcata wins \$100,000 to begin Arcata Marsh Interpretive Center.
- 1990 Friends of the Arcata Marsh (FOAM) Arcata Marsh Interpretive Center Fund Drive. \$56,000 raised locally. For more information contact FOAM at 736 F St., Arcata, CA 95521.