

Arcata Marsh & Wildlife Sanctuary Timeline

1949 – First wastewater treatment plant discharges primary-treated effluent into Arcata Bay.

1957 – Oxidation ponds constructed.

1966 – Chlorination added to treatment system.

1969 – Wastewater aquaculture project started by Humboldt State University professor George Allen. Pacific salmon and cutthroat trout raised in a mixture of partially treated wastewater and seawater.

1970 – Main parking lot and boat ramp constructed on South I Street.

1974 – New California State policy prohibited discharge of wastewater into bays and estuaries, unless "enhancement" was proven.

1975 – Humboldt Bay Wastewater Authority proposes a regional wastewater treatment plant at an initial estimated cost of \$25 million.

1978 – Arcata citizens rally for an integrated wastewater treatment plant that utilizes the natural treatment processes of marshes.

1979 – The State authorizes Arcata to demonstrate "enhancement" with a two-year pilot project of a 10-cell marsh, which treated 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 covering 75 acres along South I Street completed.

1983 – State Water Resources Control Board permits Arcata to upgrade its wastewater treatment plant, including wetland treatment enhancement units.

1986 – Butcher's Slough Wetlands Restoration Project completed.

1986 – With completion of Butcher's Slough Wetlands Restoration Project, funded by California Coastal Conservancy, Marsh boundaries expand to 154 acres.

1987 – Arcata receives grant from Ford Foundation/Harvard University Kennedy School of Government and \$1 million to build the Arcata Marsh Interpretive Center.

1989 – Friends of the Arcata Marsh (FOAM) fund drive raises \$56 thousand to help build Interpretive Center.

1993 – Arcata Marsh Interpretive Center opened.

1998 – Arcata obtains funds to purchase 75 acres of diked agricultural lands located west of the Marsh.

2003 – Butcher's Slough Enhancement Project constructed on City-acquired lands north of Log Pond.

2004 – South I Street Pond constructed.

2007 – McDaniel Slough Project to restore and enhance up to 250 acres of former tide lands started.

2013 – McDaniel Slough Project completed, including breaching dikes, removing tidegates, and restoring connectivity to Janes Creek