



NANPA FOUNDATION

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NANPA Foundation Announces 2011 Recipient of the Philip Hyde Grant

Award Highlights Use of Photography in Conservation Efforts

Wheat Ridge, CO (January 14, 2011) – The NANPA Foundation has announced that Beth Huning of Woodacre, CA, USA is the recipient of the 2011 Philip Hyde Grant for her project, “Turning the Tide—San Francisco Bay Area Wetland Restoration.” The \$5,000 peer-reviewed grant is awarded annually to an individual member of the North American Nature Photography Association who is actively pursuing completion of an environmental photography project. Beth will receive the award at the 17th Annual Nature Photography Summit presented by NANPA, March 9-12, 2011 in McAllen, TX.

Through her work in the San Francisco Bay area, photographer Beth Huning is developing multimedia web-based programs, exhibits, and publications as part of a campaign to raise public awareness and build a constituency for the largest wetland restoration projects on the West Coast. As a photographer, Beth documents the historical turning of tides as diked baylands, salt ponds, and urban areas are returned to their historic tidal flows, where she also oversees the San Francisco Bay Joint Venture, a program to coordinate the restoration projects. See www.bethhuning.com, <http://yourwetlands.org> and <http://sfbayjv.org> for more information about the project and restoration of San Francisco Bay and nearby coastal wetlands.

San Francisco Bay is the largest tidal estuary on the west coast of the continent. Over 80% of the historic wetlands have been lost or altered, activities that continued unabated until recently, when state and federal government and citizen groups came together to plan for and “turn the tide” through wetland restoration. SF Bay and coastal wetlands have the highest concentration of listed threatened and endangered species anywhere in the US except for Hawaii. Yet nearly 50% of Pacific Flyway diving waterfowl winter in the Bay, and the San Francisco estuary has been designated by the Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network as a “Hemispheric Reserve,” the highest designation. Two hundred thousand acres have been targeted for protection, restoration, and enhancement to bring back wetlands and habitat for wildlife. “Turning the Tide”, and affiliated outreach programs will contribute to raising public and decision-maker awareness to reach that goal. Their work is important in showing that nature is not only in wilderness, and nature can be resilient and thrive again, in altered landscapes.

The NANPA Foundation develops, supports and implements nature photography projects jointly with the North American Nature Photography Association and other organizations. It initiates, partners, operates and generates funding for projects that advance awareness of and appreciation for nature through photography. For information about the NANPA Foundation, visit its website at www.nanpafoundation.org. For information about NANPA and the Annual Summit, visit www.nanpa.org.