

## Point Reyes National Seashore Completes Restoration within the Phillip Burton Wilderness

This week Point Reyes National Seashore completed the Glenbrook Quarry Restoration and Dam Removal Project within the Estero de Limantour. The 15-foot high, 600-foot long Lower Glenbrook Dam was constructed in 1960 with material mined from the adjacent hillslopes. The dam failed in 1982 during a major storm event. Contractors removed approximately 19,000 cubic yards of the former dam, using that material to restore the abandoned mine land features within Wilderness.

The excavation of the remaining dam from the estuary restores a priority abandoned mine land site and removes a non-conforming structure from the Phillip Burton Wilderness. The project reestablishes the natural hydrologic and shoreline regime in Limantour Estero, part of the Phillip Burton Wilderness. Limantour Estero is a biologically rich estuary that was recently designated a Marine Reserve through the California Marine Life Protection Act.

Removal of the fill from the estuary returns natural hydrologic conditions to the estuarine habitat at Point Reyes National Seashore by removing remaining infrastructure which impedes the development and function of the tidal marshplain. The project area is subject to sea level rise and restoration of natural process within this estuary is a climate change adaptation strategy to ensure maintenance of a healthy and functional estuarine ecosystem. Funding for this project was provided through the NPS Abandoned Mine Lands program, the Bella Vista Foundation, and Point Reyes National Seashore Association. More information is available on the park web site [http://www.nps.gov/pore/parkmgmt/planning\\_glenbrook\\_restoration.htm](http://www.nps.gov/pore/parkmgmt/planning_glenbrook_restoration.htm)



**Lower Glenbrook Dam prior to removal of east arm**



**Site of former Glenbrook Dam at high tide, October 2009**