

Work Plan 2025

Southern California Wetlands Recovery Project



THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA WETLANDS RECOVERY PROJECT

PROJECT MISSION:

To expand, restore and protect wetlands in Southern California's coastal watersheds.

PROJECT VISION:

Restored and protected wetlands and rivers along the Southern California coast benefitting wildlife and people.

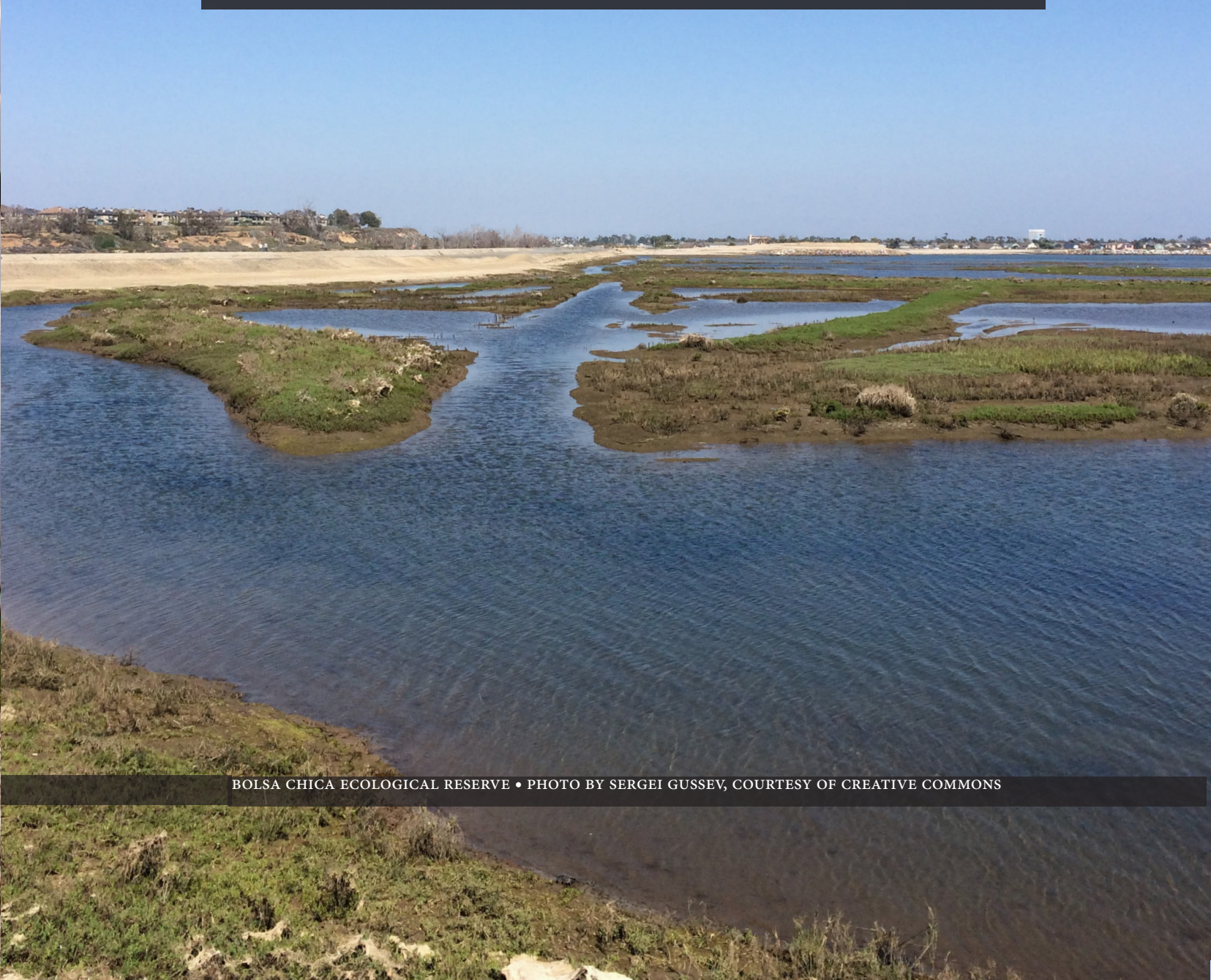
ORMOND BEACH • PHOTO COURTESY OF CALIFORNIA STATE COASTAL CONSERVANCY

INTRODUCTION

to the WRP

WHO WE ARE

The Southern California Wetlands Recovery Project (WRP) is a partnership of 18 State and Federal agencies, chaired by the California Resources Agency and supported by the California State Coastal Conservancy. Through the WRP partnership, public agencies, scientists, and local communities work cooperatively to acquire and restore wetlands in coastal Southern California. The WRP uses a non-regulatory approach by coordinating with agency partners, although many of the member agencies implement their own regulatory mandates.



BOLSA CHICA ECOLOGICAL RESERVE • PHOTO BY SERGEI GUSSEV, COURTESY OF CREATIVE COMMONS

THE REGIONAL STRATEGY

In 2018 the WRP published *Wetlands on the Edge: The Future of Southern California's Wetlands*. This report serves as the Regional Strategy for the WRP, and lays out a plan for the recovery and long-term survival of Southern California's wetlands. In the Regional Strategy, over 50 scientists and resource managers analyze how our wetlands have changed, their future potential and threats, and how we can ensure their health into the future. It provides quantitative Objectives for wetlands recovery that are based on our understanding of historical wetland location and area, current stressors on wetland ecosystems, such as development, and the future threat that is posed by sea-level rise and climate change.

The Regional Strategy will be implemented by the work of the WRP partners, through projects identified on the WRP Work Plan. The Work Plan is a list of projects that are consistent with the Goals, Objectives, Management Strategies, and Guiding Principles identified in the Regional Strategy. The Regional Strategy provides the WRP agencies with a framework to discuss, assess and provide feedback on projects. The Work Plan allows the funding agencies to agree on project design and approach, and coordinate funding for the most efficient and effective expenditure of resources.

The Work Plan identifies projects for all four of the WRP's Goals, and funding for projects will come through the unique funding sources of each WRP partner agency. Work Plan projects range from flagship tidal wetlands restoration projects to scientific studies focused on improving our knowledge of wetlands restoration and management. Stream restoration and fish passage projects are essential to the Work Plan, as is the Community Wetlands Restoration Grant Program, which focuses on education and outreach while also restoring habitat.

2025

39 WRP Projects Total

Project Cost = \$264,962,762

Total Funding Need = \$92,634,500

Wetland Acres to be Restored: 2,570

Stream Miles to be Restored: 92

The WRP currently supports 30 Work Plan projects and 9 Community Wetland Restoration Grant Program projects. The 2025 Work Plan consists of: 15 tidal wetlands projects (Goal 1), 14 stream/watershed projects (Goal 2); 9 community access projects (Goal 3), and 1 research projects (Goal 4). The total funding need for these projects is \$92,634,500. The potential restoration area is 2,570 acres of tidal wetlands and 92 miles of streams.

DIRECTORS GROUP

State Partners

California Natural Resources Agency

State Coastal Conservancy

California Coastal Commission

California Department of Fish & Wildlife

California Department of Parks & Recreation

State Lands Commission

Wildlife Conservation Board

California Environmental Protection Agency

State Water Resources Control Board

Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board

Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board

San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board

Federal Partners

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9

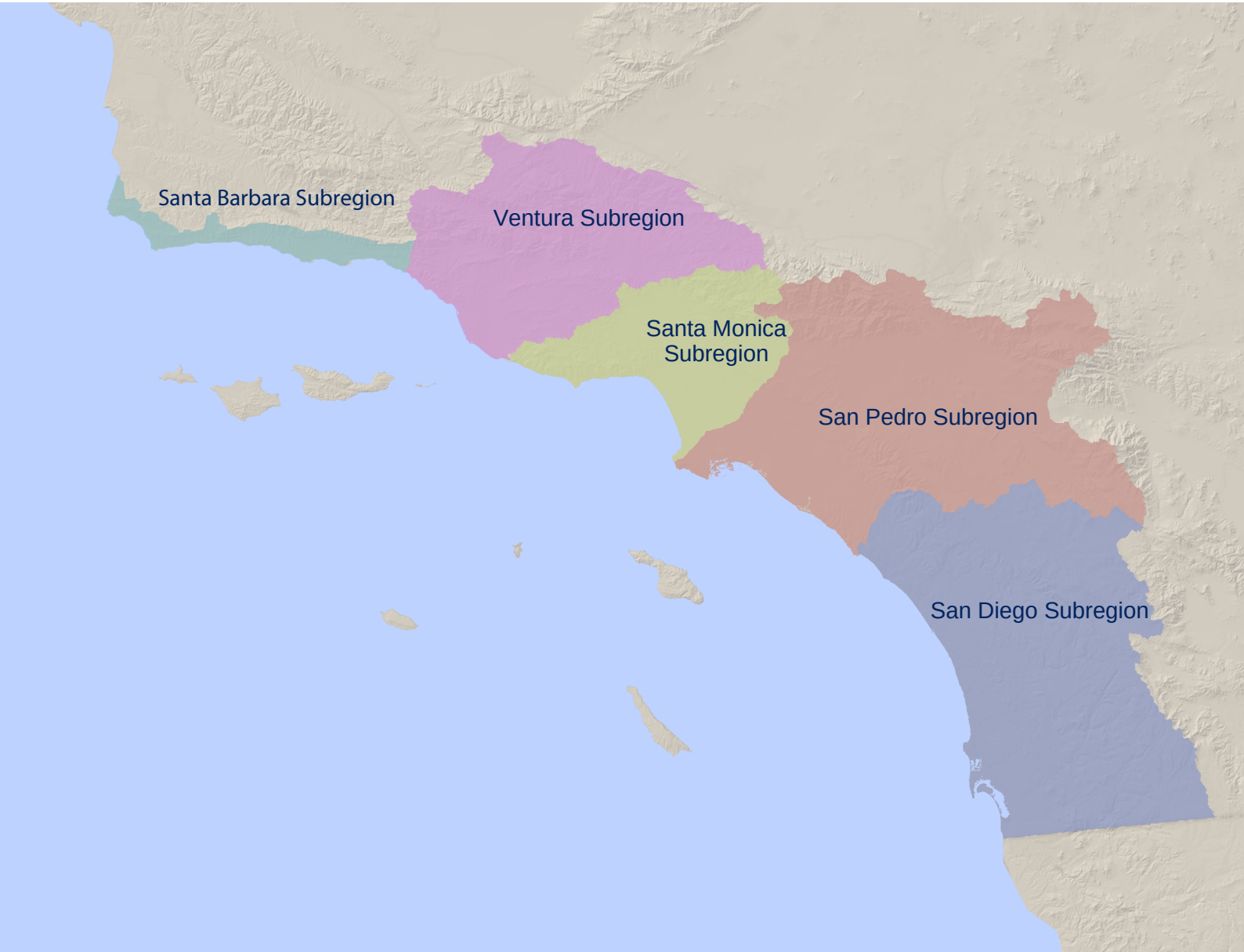
National Marine Fisheries Service

Natural Resources Conservation Service

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Pacific Southwest Region

Wetland Recovery Project Regions

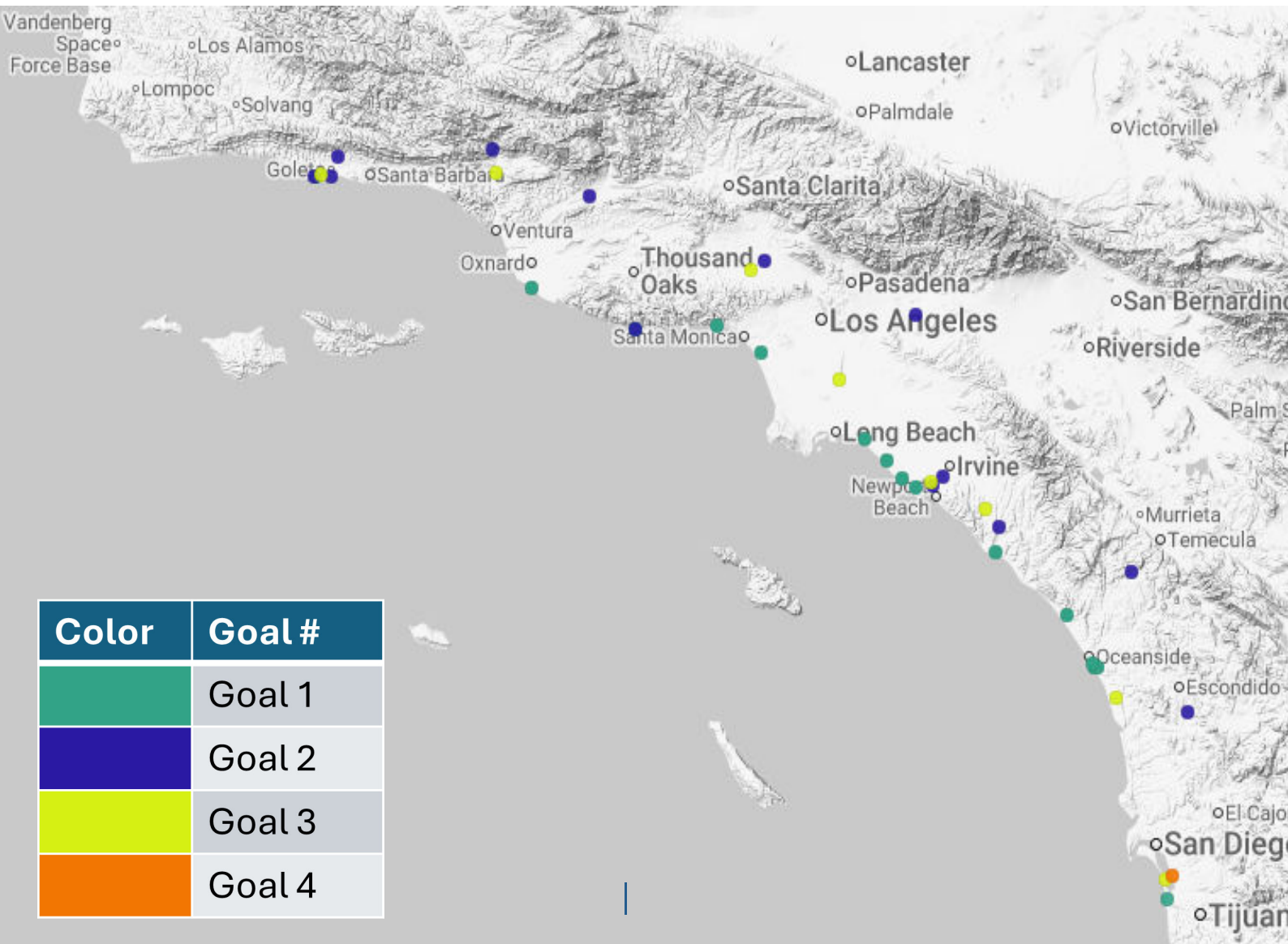


25 0 25 50 75 Miles

1:2,500,000

Service Layer Credits: Copyright: ©2013
Esri, DeLorme, NAVTEQ

Current WRP Projects



GOAL 1:

Preserve and restore resilient tidal wetlands and associated marine and terrestrial habitats

Goal 1 of the Regional Strategy presents the aspirational objective to restore 7,700 acres of tidal wetlands. Actions needed to accomplish this Goal will include facilitating wetland expansion into wetland-upland transition zones and restoring tidal action to degraded, filled, and constricted areas. Implementation of Goal 1 will also include the continued management of existing wetlands.

The following Goal 1 Work Plan projects represent a major shift in our approach to wetland recovery as they will not only protect current wetland areas, but they will also protect areas that are currently uplands but will be wetlands in the future due to sea-level rise.

The Restoration Objectives for Goal 1 of the Regional Strategy focus on these four priorities for tidal wetlands: **1) Protect and Restore Wetland Abundance and Size; 2) Protect and Restore Uplands around Wetlands; 3) Restore Wetland Connections; and 4) Protect and Restore Diversity of Wetland Types and Habitats.**

15 Current Goal 1 Projects

Total Project Cost = \$82,965,734

Total Funding Need = \$18,271,000

Wetland Acres to be Restored: 1233

Stream Miles to be Restored: 0.5

Aliso Creek Estuary Restoration Plan: 30% Design & Permitting

LOCATION: Orange County

PROJECT TYPE: Planning

STATUS: Current

COST: \$624,920

FUNDING GAP: \$221,000

ACRES: 6

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT: 70

SENATE DISTRICT: 33

CONGRESSIONAL

DISTRICT: 48

PROJECT LEAD:

Laguna Ocean Foundation

The Aliso Creek Estuary is a small, intermittently open estuary that drains a 30-square mile, mostly urbanized watershed in south Orange County. Aliso Creek once drained to the ocean through a broad estuary with expansive wetlands but has suffered habitat loss from development of a parking lot for Aliso Beach Park, modified hydrology, and poor water quality. A loss in normal seasonal fluctuations in water levels and native vegetation has led to the extirpation of the native Tidewater Goby and other native species from the estuary.

The Laguna Ocean Foundation will prepare a 30% restoration design plan, complete the CEQA environmental review process, and implement necessary studies for future permitting for the Aliso Creek estuary in Laguna Beach, Orange County, California. The restoration design and CEQA analysis will build off of the Conceptual Restoration Plan that was completed by the Laguna Ocean Foundation in 2017. Specifically, the project will develop all necessary information to perform an environmental impact assessment, including an infrastructure relocation plan and a refined grading plan. The grantee will also develop technical information necessary to support the CEQA and future permitting process such as a flooding and sea level rise analysis.

The project will also have significant scientific and community input through science advisory and stakeholder meetings. The stakeholder meetings will focus on resolving the desires of multiple landowners within the project area, particularly on the north side of the estuary, which is owned by County of Orange, South Coast Water District, and The Ranch at Laguna, a private landowner.



Ballona Wetlands Restoration Planning

LOCATION: Los Angeles County

PROJECT TYPE: Planning

STATUS: Current

COST: \$12,420,465

ACRES: 600

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT: 61

SENATE DISTRICT: 24

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 36

PROJECT LEAD:

California Department of Fish
and Wildlife



The Ballona Wetlands were once a 2,000-acre expanse of marshes, mud flats, salt pans, and sand dunes that stretched from Playa del Rey to Venice and inland to the Baldwin Hills. Today, only approximately 600 acres of open space remain of the former wetlands. A once-meandering Ballona Creek was cemented into a straight, concrete channel nearly 100 years ago and invasive plants now crowd out native plants, providing little sustenance for local wildlife. The land is owned by the State of California and comprises the Ballona Wetlands Ecological Reserve.

Rooted in years of scientific research and guided by community input, the Ballona Wetlands Restoration Project will revive critical wetland habitat and offer a remarkable natural space for the public's use and enjoyment. Restoring natural functions to the Reserve could heal this damaged landscape and create a thriving wildlife reserve and unique community asset, as has been accomplished with other wetland projects.



Bolsa Chica Lowlands Sea Level Rise Adaptation Project

LOCATION: Orange County

PROJECT TYPE: Planning

STATUS: Current

COST: \$200,000

FUNDING GAP: \$200,000

ACRES: 94

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT: 72

SENATE DISTRICT: 36

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 47

PROJECT LEAD:

California State Lands
Commission, CDFW

The project is a re-envisioned restoration of the Bolsa Chica Lowlands wetland complex to improve the self-sustaining nature of the wetland complex in light of current sea level rise predictions, not available at the time of the original restoration. This will include reduction in water management gates and pump reliance, expansion of full tidal influence, and integration of broad wetland/upland transition zones.



Buena Vista Audubon Society Wetlands Reserve Restoration Project: 60% Design and Engineering

LOCATION: San Diego County

PROJECT TYPE: Planning

STATUS: Current

COST: \$1,493,678

FUNDING GAP: \$0

ACRES: 5.94

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT: 74

SENATE DISTRICT: 38

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 49

PROJECT LEAD:

Buena Vista Audubon Society

The 5.94-acre project site is located along the northern shoreline of the Buena Vista Lagoon in the City of Oceanside. Due to its proximity to the ocean, the project site will experience sea-level rise in the future; planning is needed to ensure there are wetlands and uplands habitat in the future. Runoff pollution from nearby streets and an adjacent earthen railroad berm enters the lagoon, which is on the State list of impaired water bodies for indicator bacteria, nutrients, and sedimentation/siltation.

Additionally, the project site lies in a park-poor community in Oceanside with a lack of open spaces for residents to enjoy nature. Project components include expanding existing wetlands, removing invasive plants, conducting native revegetation, designing bioretention structures to collect and filter stormwater runoff, planning educational and recreational features, creating a long-term management plan, and engaging community members on design elements. Overall project outcomes include expanding existing wetlands, restoring native habitat to allow wildlife movement between the Buena Vista Lagoon and transitional/uplands habitat, accommodating future wetlands migration, reduction of the pollutant load to the lagoon, and the enhancement of public access to nature.



Buena Vista Lagoon Enhancement Project: 65% Design and Engineering Plans

LOCATION: San Diego County

PROJECT TYPE: Planning

STATUS: Current

COST: \$4,000,000

FUNDING GAP: \$300,000

ACRES: 282.9

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT: 77

SENATE DISTRICT: 38

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 49

PROJECT LEAD:

San Diego Association of
Governments (SANDAG)



The Buena Vista Lagoon is a State Ecological Reserve that supports eight state and federally listed threatened or endangered wildlife and plant species. Current conditions have resulted in poor water quality, increased flooding, vector-associated disease, and general ecological decline. The Buena Vista Lagoon Restoration Feasibility Study was completed in 2004, and after significant public and stakeholder input, the CEQA environmental review process was completed in 2017. The SANDAG Board of Directors adopted a resolution to accept the Modified Saltwater Alternative (MSA) in 2020.

The MSA will enhance hydrological connectivity between the lagoon and the ocean by 1) removing the existing weir, 2) constructing a new tidal inlet, and 3) expanding and constructing channels that connect the lagoon basins under the Carlsbad Boulevard, I-5, and LOSSAN bridges. The proposed design will also grade, excavate, and remove accumulated sediment, and contour within the lagoon.

The proposed project will develop 65% restoration designs and engineering plans for the MSA. In this process, SANDAG will work with other project proponents and stakeholders to further refine the MSA, and implement necessary studies, geomorphic, hydrologic and sea level rise modeling, and a carbon sequestration and release budget for future permitting.



Coal Oil Point Reserve Coastal Access and Habitat Restoration Phase 3

LOCATION: Santa Barbara County

PROJECT TYPE: Implementation

STATUS: Current

COST: \$500,000

FUNDING GAP: \$500,000

ACRES: 167

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT: 37

SENATE DISTRICT: 21

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 24

PROJECT LEAD:

Coal Oil Point Reserve



Within Coal Oil Point Reserve (COPR) is 170 acres of a variety of linked coastal habitats including a salt marsh, a vernal pool, a fresh-water pond, dune swales, an estuary, dunes, grasslands, and coastal scrub. The reserve has several rare, threatened, or endangered species such as Tidewater Goby, Western Snowy Plover, and Belding's Savannah Sparrow. Some of these have been extirpated in the past few decades by agricultural practices, habitat fragmentation, and invasive species.

This project proposes public access improvements and restoration and conservation measures in COPR. The Pond Trail will be improved to improve public access. A new educational kiosk has been installed but it needs content. There will also be a large effort to remove invasive species from the reserve such as Harding grass, Tecolote, cape ivy, and dead eucalyptus trees, and revegetate with native species. This project is Phase 3 of the WRP Work Plan proposal submitted in 2010. Phase I and II have been funded by the Coastal Conservancy and Wildlife Conservation Board and are complete.



Loma Alta Slough Wetlands Enhancement Project – Phase 2 Implementation

LOCATION: San Diego County

PROJECT TYPE: Implementation

STATUS: Current

COST: \$6,000,000

FUNDING GAP: \$1,500,000

ACRES: 5.8

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT: 74

SENATE DISTRICT: 38

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 49

PROJECT LEAD: City of

Oceanside - Water Utilities

Department

Loma Alta Slough is a small creek mouth estuary in the City of Oceanside, the third largest coastal City in San Diego County.

Intermittently tidal estuaries such as the Loma Alta Slough provide unique habitats for coastally-dependent species, such as the endangered tidewater goby, but the estuary must be in healthy condition to maintain these important functions. Loma Alta Slough was once a much larger estuary, over 40 acres in size. Since the 1960's, watershed urbanization, channelization of the creek and wetland fill has degraded water quality and reduced habitat potential at the Slough.

Phase 2 of the Loma Alta Slough Wetland Enhancement Project involves construction of restored brackish wetlands, transitional ecotones and upland habitat, including hydraulic improvements to existing wetlands. This phase also includes construction of a new public trail system north of the restored wetlands for outdoor recreation and connectivity between the beach and Coast Highway commercial corridor. The project will restore the historic conditions and ecological functions of the Slough in order to improve water quality, increase wetland coverage, restore habitat for native species and offer new recreational opportunities. The project construction involves excavation of infill on vacant lands along the northside of the Slough, including grading a new marsh plain with several tidal channels and elevated berms. These areas will be planted and maintained with a palette specific to each habitat elevation, creating coastal salt marsh, riparian and upland habitat zones.



Newland Marsh Restoration Permitting and Design

LOCATION: Orange County

PROJECT TYPE: Planning

STATUS: Current

COST: \$825,000

FUNDING GAP: \$150,000

ACRES: 44.8

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT: 72

SENATE DISTRICT: 36

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
47

PROJECT LEAD:

Huntington Beach Wetlands
Conservancy

The Huntington Beach Wetlands Conservancy will prepare 60% and final restoration design plans, complete necessary studies for permitting, and secure permits for restoration at Newland Marsh, a 44.8-acre tidal wetland. The Project will create a culvert connection to the HB Channel to convey muted tides and sea water through the marsh, create a tidal channel network to distribute water throughout the marsh, and install flood protection berms along the perimeter of the marsh, which will be planted with salt marsh vegetation.



Ormond Beach Wetlands Restoration Plan

LOCATION: Ventura County

PROJECT TYPE: Planning

STATUS: Current

COST: \$3,852,026

FUNDING GAPS: \$450,000

ACRES: 187

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT: 38

SENATE DISTRICT: 21

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 26

PROJECT LEAD:

The Nature Conservancy



At over 1,000 acres, Ormond Beach Wetlands is one of the largest wetland restoration opportunities in Southern California. Located in the City of Oxnard, Ormond Beach historically was a dumping ground for polluting industries. It is the site of a power plant and the EPA Halaco Superfund Site. South Oxnard, a poorer community, bears the brunt of this legacy. Most of the historic wetlands at Ormond Beach were drained and converted to agriculture and land use barriers such as roads and levees have hydrologically disconnected Ormond Beach wetlands from the 2,100 acres of wetlands associated with the adjacent Mugu Lagoon.

Although large areas of the wetlands have been drained, filled and degraded over the past century, this is one of the few places in coastal southern California with an intact dune-transition zone-marsh system, allowing restoration of an intact wetland ecosystem and providing a buffer against sea level rise and the impacts of climate change.

The Coastal Conservancy and its partners will prepare a habitat restoration and public access plan for the coastal wetlands, beach, dunes, and associated uplands at Ormond Beach. This plan will result in the development of 100% design plans for Phase 1 and enable the project to move forward into the permitting phase. A preferred alternative was selected, through a Restoration Feasibility Study, which proposes restoration of the historical lagoons, include related ecotones and grasslands, and allow room for shoreline transgression from sea level rise and storm erosion in accordance with complex models.



Randall Preserve Wetland Feasibility Study

LOCATION: Orange County

PROJECT TYPE: Planning

STATUS: Current

COST: \$250,000

FUNDING GAP: \$250,000

ACRES: 385.5

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT: 72

SENATE DISTRICT: 36

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 47

PROJECT LEAD:

Coastal Corridor Alliance

Banning Ranch, now called the Randall Preserve, was permanently protected in December 2022 and title is held by the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA). Coastal Corridor Alliance (CCA, formerly Banning Ranch Conservancy) has partnered with MRCA to complete a Wetland Feasibility Study for the Preserve's tidal wetlands.



San Juan Creek Estuary Restoration and Enhancement Project

LOCATION: Orange County

PROJECT TYPE: Planning

STATUS: Current

COST: \$1,616,610

FUNDING GAP: \$0

ACRES: 35

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT: 74

SENATE DISTRICT: 36

CONGRESSIONAL

DISTRICT: 49

PROJECT LEAD:

Trout Unlimited (South Coast Chapter)

The San Juan Creek Estuary Restoration and Enhancement Planning Project entails the planning and future implementation of estuarine and riparian habitat restoration and enhancement activities to address limiting factors to southern steelhead trout and tidewater goby migration within the San Juan Creek estuary and lower watershed. Potential limiting factors include high flow refugia, elevated summer water temperatures caused by the absence of shading, invasive plant species, and low dissolved oxygen / hypoxia due to eutrophic conditions caused by algae buildup and restricted tidal exchange.

This project evaluates and analyzes technical, regulatory, and financial constraints and opportunities for the eventual implementation of the preferred alternative.



Southern Los Cerritos Wetlands Restoration Project - Phase I Implementation

LOCATION: Orange County

PROJECT TYPE: Implementation

STATUS: Current

COST: \$3,852,000

FUNDING GAP: \$0

ACRES: 103.5

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT: 72

SENATE DISTRICT: 36

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 47

PROJECT LEAD:

Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority

The Los Cerritos Wetlands provide regionally significant wildlife habitat that supports a variety of rare species despite its degraded condition. The Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority (LCWA) is working to provide a comprehensive program of acquisition, conservation, restoration, and management of these wetlands. Thus far the LCWA has acquired 243 acres of the remaining 500 acres with the potential to be restored. The LCWA has conducted nearly 15 years of restoration planning with the goals of restoration of tidal marsh habitats to support special status species and expansion of public access compatible with those goals. This project is the first to tier from a Program EIR and will restore tidal wetlands, transition zone, and upland habitat in two phases in the Southern Los Cerritos Wetlands. Phase 1 restoration activities focus on enhancing existing habitat areas in closer proximity to an existing muted tidal channel connection via a culvert connected to the San Gabriel River. Phase 2 restoration activities would expand tidal wetlands throughout the site by creating a full tidal connection with the Haynes Cooling Channel.

Phase 1 broke ground in November 2025 and when complete will convert almost 10 acres of upland fill to tidal salt marsh while enhancing another 20 acres of tidal wetlands and creating a broad transition to over 15 acres of new coastal sage and bluff scrub habitat. The project will include new public trails and a new community hub for use by non-profits for public educational programs. The project will also implement a Tribal Access Plan in close coordination with the LCWA Tribal Advisory Group. This plan will install several features that will allow for continued use of the land by the local tribal community.



Tijuana Estuary Tidal Restoration

Program II: Phase I Design

LOCATION: San Diego County

PROJECT TYPE: Planning

STATUS: Current

COST: \$4,751,500

FUNDING GAP: \$0

ACRES: 85

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT: 80

SENATE DISTRICT: 18

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 12

PROJECT LEAD:

Tijuana Estuary Foundation

The Tijuana Estuary Tidal Restoration Program II (TETRP II): Phase I Design is the first phase of a multi-phase restoration of the southern arm of Tijuana Estuary, San Diego County, California. TETRP II Phase I builds upon the conceptual restoration plan developed for the Tijuana Estuary – Friendship Marsh Restoration Feasibility and Design Study.

The Tijuana Estuary has been degraded by historic land uses and excess sedimentation, but includes remnant intertidal marsh, salt-pannes, mulefat scrub and sinuous slough channels. Several unique habitats exist in the immediate vicinity of the proposed project site, including fresh and saltwater wetlands, dunes, and maritime succulent scrub. The TETRP II Phase I project has been designed to restore approximately 80 acres of salt marsh, mudflat, tidal channel, transitional and upland habitats that have been degraded over the past several decades, and to increase the tidal prism of the estuary. The current phase of the project includes final design, engineering and permitting for the restoration.



Topanga Lagoon Restoration Planning Phase 1

LOCATION: Los Angeles County

PROJECT TYPE: Planning

STATUS: Current

COST: \$26,000,000

FUNDING GAP: \$11,000,000

ACRES: 11

STREAM MILES: 1500 Feet

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT: 42

SENATE DISTRICT: 24

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 32

PROJECT LEAD:

Resource Conservation District
of the Santa Monica Mountains

The Topanga Lagoon Restoration Planning Project involves public lands associated with lower Topanga State Park (CA State Parks), Caltrans Right of Way on PCH and Topanga Canyon Blvd, and Topanga Beach (LA County). The project will advance the long-term planning effort for the restoration of Topanga Lagoon. Steelhead in the Santa Monica Bay are on the brink of extinction and Topanga Creek is the only stream with a reproducing population.

Catastrophic events such as the Palisades Fire emphasize the importance of protecting and enhancing these remnant sanctuaries for biological resources to allow the species options for survival, both naturally and through human help. Over 200 steelhead were rescued post-fire in advance of mudflows and relocated to a Santa Barbara stream where the species had become extirpated after a fire. Now breeding, these trout will be able to be relocated back to Topanga in a few years once the entrenched mud naturally clears from the stream.

All proposed project alternatives included an ~ 90-acre area, development of parking, advanced onsite wastewater management, and other visitor services along Topanga Canyon Blvd. After extensive review the three project landowners identified the preferred hybrid alternative 3A. Alternative 3A functionally retained a smaller motel footprint, did not shift the alignment of PCH, and expanded the lagoon area to 8 acres by replacing the existing 79' long bridge which is a fish migration barrier with one that is 440' long. Since the completion of the Final EIR, the Palisades Fire (January 2025) burned all of the buildings on the State Parks land. Due to this impact, State Parks will take some time to revisit the project design.



Trancas Creek Lagoon Restoration Planning Project

LOCATION: Los Angeles County

PROJECT TYPE: Acquisition

STATUS: Current

COST: \$1,000,000

FUNDING GAP: \$1,000,000

ACRES: 7

STREAM MILES: 400 Feet

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT: 42

SENATE DISTRICT: 24

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 32

PROJECT LEAD:

Resource Conservation District of
the Santa Monica Mountains



Trancas Lagoon is a seven-acre lagoon at the terminus of Trancas Creek in Malibu. In the lagoon, the creek flows through a modified channel, with riprap on the west bank and fill material vegetated with a mixture of wetland, riparian and non-native species on the east bank. Historic maps and photos of Trancas Lagoon show that the lagoon formerly extended to the west of its present configuration, but was filled in over the years and put to a variety of uses. The former lagoon area on the west was eventually paved over, and by the 1960's the remaining lagoon area was bordered by commercial development. Following the Woolsey Fire (2018), the entire lagoon area has been reconfigured due to sediment accumulation. A new 250 feet span bridge was recently constructed, which will allow for future expansion of the lagoon.

Despite the current constraints, the lagoon still functions at a level that supports seasonal colonization of brackish water fish species such as staghorn sculpin and California killifish. If restored, the lagoon has the potential to accommodate endangered tidewater gobies and southern steelhead trout. The project is currently in the acquisition phase, and future phases will complete the studies needed to produce a final design, construction plans, CEQA, and permitting documents necessary to implement restoration of Trancas Lagoon. These steps build off of the work done in the Trancas Lagoon Restoration Feasibility Study (Dagit et al. 2015).



GOAL 2:

Preserve and restore streams, adjacent habitats, and other non-tidal wetland ecosystems to support healthy watersheds

Although the primary focus of the Wetlands Recovery Project is the recovery of coastal wetlands, the health of coastal wetlands is intimately linked to water and sediment flowing from the watersheds. Therefore, achieving the Objectives of Goal 1 requires restoration and management of the streams and non-tidal wetlands. The following Objectives will guide the restoration of non-tidal wetlands within the coastal watersheds.

PROTECT WHAT WE HAVE: Maintain 160,000 acres of existing streams and non-tidal wetlands through protection, restoration and enhancement measures.

RESTORE NON-TIDAL WETLANDS: Restore almost 50,000 acres of non-tidal wetlands in watersheds, to achieve 210,000 acres of non-tidal wetlands.

RESTORE WETLAND COMPOSITION: Restore or maintain 189,040 acres of streams and associated adjacent habitat and 21,000 acres of other non-tidal wetlands (depressional, slope, etc.).

RESTORE CONNECTIVITY IN WATER AND SEDIMENT:

Ensure that there are no artificial physical barriers that obstruct water, sediment, and wildlife movement from watersheds to coastal wetlands and remove 100 percent of the total and partial barriers to steelhead passage in the high priority watersheds.

14 current Goal 2 Projects

Total Project Cost = \$179,668,000

Total Funding Need = \$74,363,500

Wetland Acres to be Restored: 1312

Stream Miles to be Restored: 91.4

Atascadero and Maria Ygnacio Steelhead Restoration Implementation

LOCATION: Santa Barbara County

PROJECT TYPE: Implementation

STATUS: Current

COST: \$11,245,000

FUNDING GAP: \$7,200,000

ACRES: 1.62

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT: 37

SENATE DISTRICT: 21

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 24

PROJECT LEAD:

South Coast Habitat Restoration

The Goleta Slough Complex is in coastal Santa Barbara County, about six miles northwest of the City of Santa Barbara. The eastern subwatershed of the complex is made up of the Atascadero watershed with Maria Ygnacio as the major tributary. Atascadero and Maria Ygnacio Creeks have consistent records of resident trout observed throughout the watershed and a few adult steelhead have been documented in the lower/mid sections of the watersheds. The Goleta Slough Complex is rated as a Core 2 watershed in the Southern California Steelhead Recovery Plan (NOAA, 2012).

There are multiple barriers to steelhead migration in this watershed, and this project aims to remediate five major barriers within the Goleta Slough Complex beginning along Maria Ygnacio Creek. The five sites include barriers on property owned by the County of Santa Barbara and City of Goleta. The barriers consist of concrete grade control structures and concrete armoring under bridges. The goal of this project is to implement the 100% Administrative Design Plans on the five major creek barriers with the focus of restoring steelhead passage and enhancing riparian habitat. Two projects were recently funded by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.



Big Canyon Creek Restoration and Estuary Adaptation Project: Phase 3 Implementation

LOCATION: Orange County

PROJECT TYPE: Implementation

STATUS: Current

COST: \$6,000,000

ACRES: 9.2

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT: 72

SENATE DISTRICT: 36

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 47

PROJECT LEAD:

Newport Bay Conservancy



The Big Canyon project is restoring the coastal wetlands and associated uplands draining to Upper Newport Bay within the 60 acre Big Canyon Nature Park in the City of Newport Beach. The overall project goal is to restore a self-sustaining coastal wetlands complex across the tidal to freshwater to uplands continuum. Phase 3 of the project is the final phase of a multi-phase project to restore Big Canyon's water quality and resilient coastal wetlands complex. Phase 3 will restore approximately 14 acres of degraded habitat impacted by dredged material placement, establishment of non-native Brazilian pepper trees and selenium impacted dry weather flows.

The project builds upon the lessons-learned and outcomes of the previous phases of restoration. Phase 1 implementation restored a 6-acre parcel including 650 feet of creek restoration, 2 acres of riparian habitat restoration, and 1-acre of wetland habitat creation and enhancement for storm water treatment. Other project phases include the remediation and restoration of a selenium impacted freshwater pond, creation of new transitional salt marsh habitat to adapt to sea-level rise, and improved public access and education. Phase 3 consists of restoration of historical salt marsh and establishment of transitional zones that will allow for upslope migration and resiliency to long-term sea level rise. This project provides an opportunity to support salt marsh areas with future sea-level rise and improve the overall resiliency of salt marsh in Upper Newport Bay.



Ellwood Marine Terminal Restoration

LOCATION: Santa Barbara
County

PROJECT TYPE: Implementation

STATUS: Current

COST: \$12,000,000

FUNDING GAP: \$1,000,000

ACRES: 19

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT: 37

SENATE DISTRICT: 21

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 24

PROJECT LEAD: Cheadle Center
for Biodiversity and Ecological
Restoration



Ellwood Marine Terminal is a 19 acre site that we hope will be restored to historic landforms after removal of tanks, pipes, buildings, and the soil is remediated and regraded. The area will restore the high point on Ellwood Mesa and reconnect the natural seep to the Dune Pond and vernal pools. Plant communities to be restored include a seasonal wetland, perennial native grassland, vernal pools, coastal sage scrub, oak woodland and mixed woodland. Benches will be installed along an overlook trail to invite the public to this open space. A working relationship with coastal members of the Chumash will be maintained to allow for ceremonies and gatherings in support of their cultural revitalization.



Matilija Dam Ecosystem Restoration Program

LOCATION: Ventura County

PROJECT TYPE: Planning

STATUS: Current

COST: \$59,800,000

FUNDING GAP: \$18,100,000

ACRES: 9.2

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT: 38

SENATE DISTRICT: 21

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 36

PROJECT LEAD:

Ventura County Watershed

Protection District



Matilija Dam, located on the Ventura River, is a 168-foot high concrete arch dam built in 1947 for water storage. The reservoir behind Matilija Dam is almost filled in with sediment, significantly reducing storage capacity to the point of rendering the dam nonfunctional. With no fish ladder or bypass structure present, it is a complete barrier to the migration of endangered Southern California steelhead. Dam removal will reconnect access to critical steelhead habitat and help with the recovery of steelhead in Southern California.

The Matilija Dam Ecosystem Restoration Program: Planning and Design project will develop restoration designs and engineering plans to remove Matilija Dam and implement associated projects in a manner that would reduce the impact of impounded sediment while minimizing costs and time associated with sediment removal. This project includes field investigations, risk management, independent technical review, 30%, 65% and final project design for dam removal and multiple downstream components, a Real Estate Plan, CEQA/NEPA compliance, a project permitting plan, technical analysis, virtual and physical modeling, and associated design oversight and stakeholder meetings. The Planning and Design Phase will be followed by implementation of necessary downstream projects before dam removal and habitat restoration.



Restoring Resilient and Connected Riparian Stream Corridor Habitat on the Santa Clara River

LOCATION: Ventura County

PROJECT TYPE: Planning

STATUS: Current

COST: \$3,500,000

FUNDING GAP: \$3,400,000

ACRES: 146

STREAM MILES: 0.93

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT: 38

SENATE DISTRICT: 21

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 26

PROJECT LEAD:

The Nature Conservancy, Santa Clara River and Coast



The Santa Clara River (SCR) flows through northern Los Angeles and Ventura Counties, at the junction of 5 Bioregions, retains much of its hydrological integrity, and sustains over 18 federally listed species. The project area is approximately 16 river miles within the floodplain of the SCR in Ventura County roughly between the confluences of Sespe and Santa Paula Creeks. This reach of the SCR is designated as Critical Habitat for southern steelhead trout and the Sespe reach is also identified as a Wild & Scenic River.

This project will restore riparian habitat on conservation properties throughout the middle Santa Clara River, Ventura County, CA. The Santa Clara River is considered one of the four largest rivers with a significant contribution to Southern California anadromous steelhead populations and thereby is important to regional and species resilience and a Core 1 priority for restoration and recovery (National Marine Fisheries Service 2012).

The project is focused on the restoration and enhancement of migratory corridor habitat supporting the recovery of Southern California steelhead including active river channel, off-channel wetlands, artesian surface water features and riparian forest. Objectives include invasive vegetation (*Arundo donax*) removal, active riparian forest restoration, and land conversion from agriculture to riparian forest to facilitate the reconnection of artesian surface water features to the active river channel.



Rio Hondo/Upper San Gabriel River Watershed Arundo Eradication Program

LOCATION: Los Angeles County

PROJECT TYPE: Implementation

STATUS: Current

COST: \$228,000

FUNDING GAP: \$33,500

ACRES: 45

STREAM MILES: 14.5

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT: 48

SENATE DISTRICT: 22

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 31

PROJECT LEAD:

Council For Watershed
Health

The Rio Hondo/San Gabriel River Watershed Arundo Eradication Program will remove 172 acres of Arundo donax from the San Gabriel River and Rio Hondo. Monitoring follow-up on treatment efficacy, missed invasives, and resprouts will continue past initial treatment for a total project duration of five years. Site surveillance will then occur on an annual basis for five years beyond the monitoring and retreatments.

The San Gabriel River serves as the primary water source for many cities along the river through recharge of the Upper San Gabriel and the Central groundwater basins. Arundo transpires water at a much higher rate than locally-native vegetation and this Arundo eradication in the San Gabriel River could provide an additional 3,440 acre-feet/year of water to the groundwater supplies (Giessow, et al. 2011). Rio Hondo, though part of the LA River Watershed, runs parallel and connects to the San Gabriel River through the Whittier Narrows Recreation Area, a popular destination with preserved riparian and upland sage scrub habitat. Removing invasives such as Arundo from this stretch of the Rio Hondo and San Gabriel Rivers will help to restore the Whittier Narrows area to natural habitat, increasing water supply and improving ecosystem functions.



San Joaquin Marsh Hydrology & Climate Adaptation Feasibility and Planning

LOCATION: Orange County

PROJECT TYPE: Planning

STATUS: Current

COST: \$350,000

FUNDING GAP: \$350,000

ACRES: 100

STREAM MILES: 1584 Feet

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT: 73

SENATE DISTRICT: 37

CONGRESSIONAL

DISTRICT: 47

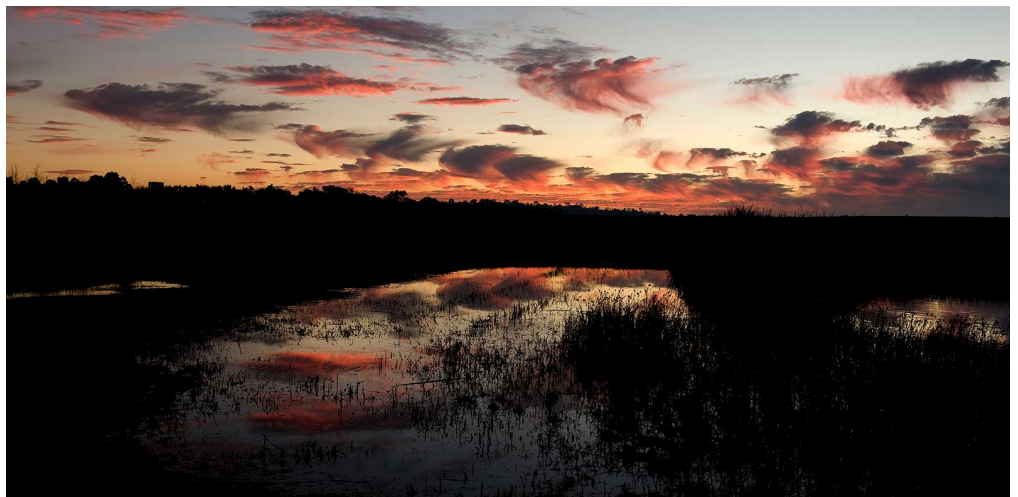
PROJECT LEAD: University

of California, Irvine



The University of California, Irvine manages the UC Irvine San Joaquin Marsh Reserve, an approximately 200-acre wetland that is a remnant of a more extensive fresh to brackish water marsh ecosystem in coastal Orange County. Agricultural and urban development in Irvine during the 20th century drained shallow water aquifers, severed hydrological connections, concentrated water drainages to form San Diego Creek, and then realigned the creek in a flood control channel. These activities altered the source, quantity, and quality of water available to the Marsh Reserve. Despite these impacts, the UCI Marsh Reserve has been a vital resource for hundreds of species of birds and supports sensitive species such as the southwestern pond turtle and Ridgway Rail.

Due to depleted groundwater levels and severed creek connections, Marsh Reserve staff and resources have been used to pump water from San Diego Creek channel to supply this critical resource to the Marsh Reserve. The project is currently seeking funding to support feasibility studies and design plans that will model and identify sustainable solutions to acquiring critical water resources from San Diego Creek and provide guidance for planning for sea level rise. Historically, the lower part of the UCI Marsh likely received brackish tidal flows.



San Jose Fish Passage Project

LOCATION: Santa Barbara County

PROJECT TYPE: Implementation

STATUS: Current

COST: \$4,500,000

FUNDING GAP: \$4,500,000

ACRES: 1.03

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT: 37

SENATE DISTRICT: 21

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 24

PROJECT LEAD:

South Coast Habitat Restoration

San Jose Creek is the largest sub-watershed within the Goleta Slough watershed, which is designated a Core 1 watershed for southern California steelhead restoration in the Southern California Steelhead Recovery Plan (NMFS 2012). The creek has perennial flows and high-quality steelhead habitat in the upper watershed, but access to the upper creek is impeded by three fish passage barriers. South Coast Habitat Restoration (SCHR) and partners have completed 100% Administrative Engineering Designs.

The project will implement the 100% administrative engineering designs by removing an obsolete dam (Barrier #1), a culverted earthen road crossing (Barrier #2) and an Arizona road crossing (Barrier #3) on San Jose Creek. This project will allow steelhead to reach over two miles of currently inaccessible, high quality spawning and rearing habitat. SCHR is currently working with landowners and funders to move into project implementation.



San Pasqual Valley Pepperweed Control Project

LOCATION: San Diego County

PROJECT TYPE: Implementation

STATUS: Current

COST: \$10,000,000

FUNDING GAP: \$8,000,000

ACRES: 847

STREAM MILES: 2

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT: 76

SENATE DISTRICT: 40

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 50

PROJECT LEAD:

San Dieguito River Park Joint
Powers Authority

The San Dieguito River Watershed headwaters flow from the Volcan Mountain north of Julian and meanders some 55 miles through conifer and oak woodlands, grasslands, and chaparral to the San Dieguito Lagoon between Del Mar and Solana Beach. Invasive non-native plant species in the watershed are displacing native habitat, depleting freshwater, causing numerous water quality impacts, and creating flood and fire threats.

This watershed-wide project will lead to the restoration of 847 acres of riparian and marsh habitat in the San Dieguito River watershed through the treatment and control of invasive species such as *Arundo donax*, perennial pepperweed, pampas grass, eucalyptus, and tamarisk, with subsequent revegetation using native species. Since 2009, over 20 river miles have been successfully restored through the removal of invasive plants and subsequent habitat restoration.

The river is designated as critical habitat by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for four endangered species: least Bell's vireo, southwestern willow flycatcher, arroyo southwestern toad, and light-footed Ridgway's rail. The invasive control program is also part of an integrated regional effort that uses proven approaches of mapping, permitting and monitoring.



Santa Margarita River Fish Passage Project: Implementation

LOCATION: San Diego

County

PROJECT TYPE:

Implementation

STATUS: Current

COST: \$21,000,000

FUNDING GAP: \$0

ACRES: 5

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT: 74

SENATE DISTRICT: 38

CONGRESSIONAL

DISTRICT: 49

PROJECT LEAD:

CALTROUT



This coastal resilience project will construct a new bridge over the Santa Margarita River to remove a barrier to fish passage for the Southern California steelhead. The project is located near the confluence of Sandia Creek and the Santa Margarita River, in northern San Diego County. Removal of the fish passage barrier at Sandia Creek Drive, and replacement with a new bridge, will allow endangered steelhead to access 12 miles of protected upstream spawning and rearing habitat. The newly constructed bridge will pass 100-yr flows and resolve a chronic flooding issue that threatened public safety. This project will restore the natural hydrology of the river, enhance riparian quality over five acres for threatened and endangered species, and ensure reliable and safe access for thousands of residents, commuters and recreational visitors who use this bridge daily.

Implementation commenced in 2023 and was halted when cultural resources were discovered on the project site. The ensuing Section 106 tribal consultation and related project design modifications are expected to be complete by Q1 of 2026. The bridge will be re-located away from the culturally sensitive site, just upstream adjacent to the existing box culvert river crossing. The bridge will be constructed over 1.5 years, with a current anticipated completion date of late 2027.



Trabuco Creek Fish Passage Project at the Metrolink and I-5 Bridges

LOCATION: Orange County

PROJECT TYPE: Implementation

STATUS: Current

COST: \$45,000,000

FUNDING GAP: \$21,000,000

ACRES: 25

STREAM MILES: 1

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT: 74 **SENATE**

DISTRICT: 36

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 49

PROJECT LEAD:

California Trout

Trabuco Creek in the San Juan Creek watershed in Orange County is a high priority steelhead recovery river identified in the National Marine Fisheries Services Southern California Steelhead Recovery Plan (2012). The project features complex technical design and large-scale construction that will a) remediate two adjacent barriers located about 0.5 miles apart in lower Trabuco Creek, b) provide steelhead passage through these barriers beneath the Metrolink railroad bridge and the I-5 bridge array, c) restore the 1/2 mile stretch of stream channel between the two structures, and d) improve infrastructure at the project site and provide access to historic spawning and rearing habitat 12 miles upstream.

The next steps are finalizing engineering plans and permits, generating bid-ready documents, obtaining agency-approved construction permits, and then phased construction. Funding has been secured from NOAA and CDFW for construction of the Metrolink fish passage structure and upstream intervening stream reach restoration. Construction start is anticipated to be March 2026.



Trancas Creek Flood Control Channel Restoration Planning Project

LOCATION: Los Angeles County

PROJECT TYPE: Planning

STATUS: Current

COST: \$1,300,000

FUNDING GAP: \$1,300,000

ACRES: 5.5

STREAM MILES: 1

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT: 42

SENATE DISTRICT: 24

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 32

PROJECT LEAD:

Resource Conservation District of
the Santa Monica Mountains

The Trancas Creek Watershed is a small coastal creek draining into the western end of the Santa Monica Bay. Prior to the Woolsey Fire in 2018, Trancas Creek had good to excellent spawning and rearing habitat for endangered southern steelhead trout and has been identified as a priority for restoration by the Santa Monica Mountains Steelhead Habitat Assessment (CalTrout 2006) and the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area General Management Plan (2002). In 2006, CalTrout identified the Los Angeles County flood control channels installed to protect the Malibu West Development in the 1960's as the keystone fish passage barrier. The county is conducting post fire analysis that will contribute to the development of restoration strategies.

The proposed project will build upon the Trancas Lagoon Restoration Feasibility Study (Dagit et al. 2015) and result in construction-ready design and environmental documents needed to set the stage for implementation of fish passage restoration. This project will complete hydrologic modeling studies to develop construction, CEQA and permitting documents for restoring fish passage through the flood control channels in Trancas Creek.



Upper Los Angeles River Watershed Arundo Eradication Program

LOCATION: Los Angeles County

PROJECT TYPE: Implementation

STATUS: Current

COST: \$12,360,000

FUNDING GAP: \$9,400,000

ACRES: 80

STREAM MILES: 72

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT: 43

SENATE DISTRICT: 27

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 29

PROJECT LEAD:

Council For Watershed Health

In partnership with parallel efforts occurring in the Tujunga Wash, the Upper Los Angeles River Watershed Arundo Eradication Program's objective is the eradication of approximately 80 acres of Arundo donax, a highly invasive riparian plant species, in the remaining areas of the Upper Los Angeles River Watershed. The project will impact an estimated 72 miles of stream. Arundo has significant negative impacts on water availability, water quality (i.e. sediment loads, temperature, pathogens, nutrient loading, flow modification), habitat, fires, and infrastructure.

The program focuses on those Arundo populations that negatively impact City of Los Angeles' water resources, both in the City's jurisdiction and upstream in the surrounding San Gabriel, Santa Susana, and Santa Monica Mountains.

The Upper Los Angeles River Watershed represents the project's geographic boundary, from the headwaters in the mountains surrounding the San Fernando Valley downstream to the Los Angeles River/Arroyo Seco confluence.



Upper Santa Ysabel Creek Tree of Heaven Eradication Project

LOCATION: San Diego County

PROJECT TYPE: Implementation

STATUS: Current

COST: \$85,000

FUNDING GAP: \$80,000

ACRES: 70

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT: 75

SENATE DISTRICT: 32

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 48

PROJECT LEAD:

San Dieguito River Park Joint
Powers Authority



Since its introduction early in the last century, the invasive tree species tree of heaven has grown to great density in select areas of this section of Upper Santa Ysabel creek, outcompeting and crowding out native riparian plants. Field staff from the County of San Diego Department of Parks and Recreation have worked intermittently over the past decade to treat this invasive species on the County's Santa Ysabel East Preserve.

This project encompasses contiguous properties owned by three entities, including two private landowners and the County of San Diego. Partnering together, the San Dieguito River Park Joint Powers Authority and the Volcan Mountain Foundation seek to begin non-native tree of heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*) treatments with a focus on creating a more resilient and sustainable riparian habitat along approximately 1.7 miles of the Santa Ysabel Creek, the headwaters of the watershed, on approximately 70 acres of land, and in the San Dieguito watershed at the base of the Volcan Mountain's range located in northeastern San Diego County near Julian, California. Success would be gauged using multiple-criteria based on percent native cover across the treatment area and percent tree of heaven and other invasive cover via GPS ground-truthing.



GOAL 3:

Support education and compatible access related to coastal wetlands and watersheds

Southern California is an urban environment and recovering wetlands will enhance the quality of life for the 30 million people who live in the region. In order to support education and public access, the WRP will pursue projects that enhance the public's enjoyment and understanding of wetlands, improve community stewardship, and better serve disadvantaged and underserved communities.

Community Wetlands Restoration Grant Program



9 active CWRGP projects
45.58 restoration acres
Total budget = \$925,000

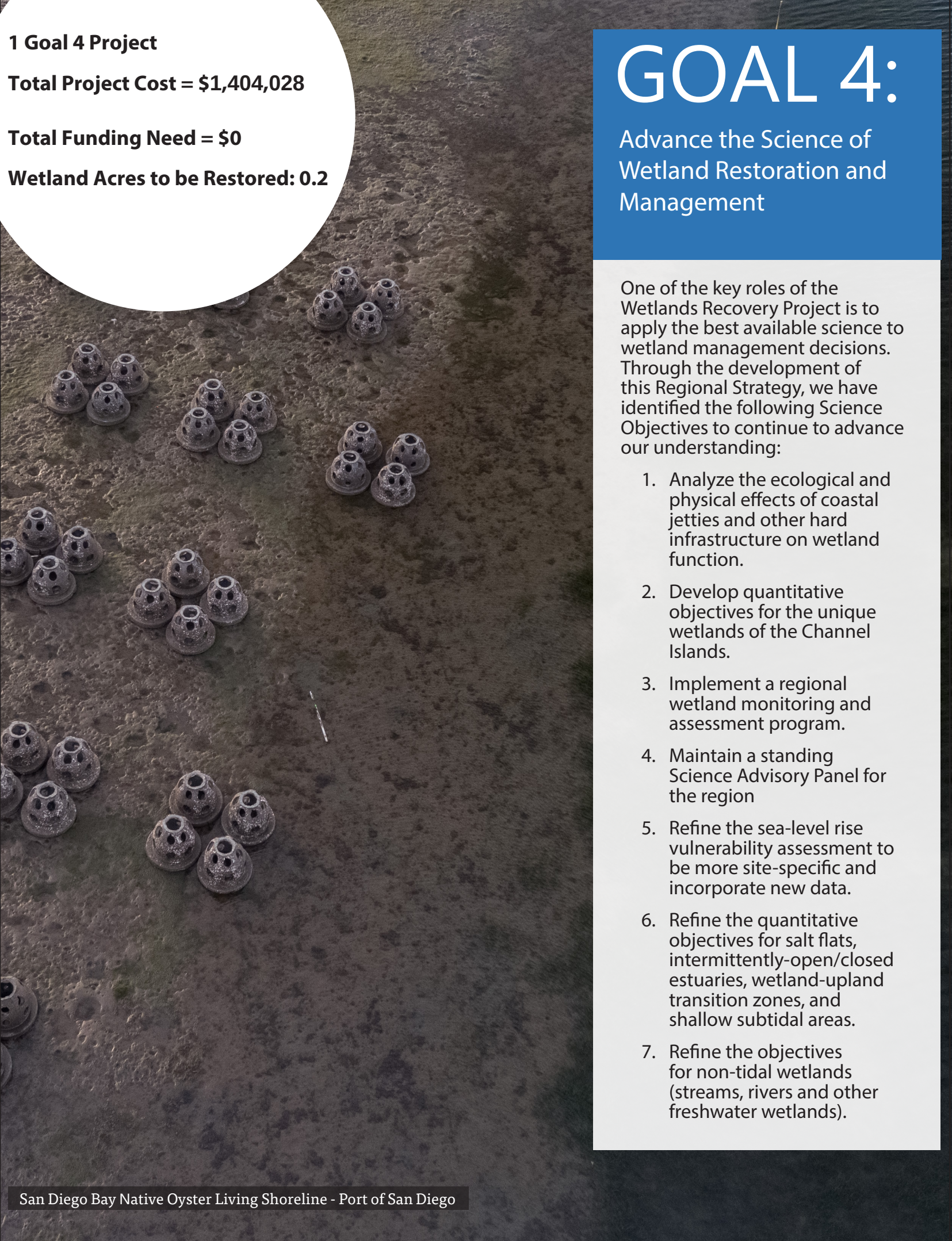
Photo Credit: City of Oxnard



Photo Credit: San Diego Bird Alliance



Photo Credit: WILDCOAST



1 Goal 4 Project
Total Project Cost = \$1,404,028
Total Funding Need = \$0
Wetland Acres to be Restored: 0.2

GOAL 4:

Advance the Science of Wetland Restoration and Management

One of the key roles of the Wetlands Recovery Project is to apply the best available science to wetland management decisions. Through the development of this Regional Strategy, we have identified the following Science Objectives to continue to advance our understanding:

1. Analyze the ecological and physical effects of coastal jetties and other hard infrastructure on wetland function.
2. Develop quantitative objectives for the unique wetlands of the Channel Islands.
3. Implement a regional wetland monitoring and assessment program.
4. Maintain a standing Science Advisory Panel for the region
5. Refine the sea-level rise vulnerability assessment to be more site-specific and incorporate new data.
6. Refine the quantitative objectives for salt flats, intermittently-open/closed estuaries, wetland-upland transition zones, and shallow subtidal areas.
7. Refine the objectives for non-tidal wetlands (streams, rivers and other freshwater wetlands).

San Diego Bay Native Oyster Living Shoreline

LOCATION: San Diego County

PROJECT TYPE: Science and
Monitoring

STATUS: Current

COST: \$1,404,028

FUNDING GAP: \$0

ACRES: 0.2

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT: 80

SENATE DISTRICT: 18

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 52

PROJECT LEAD: Port of San
Diego

San Diego Bay was historically a shallow water system composed of significant intertidal habitat. However, decades of dredging and channelization have resulted in a loss of 42 percent of San Diego Bay's shallow subtidal habitat and 84 percent of its intertidal mudflat habitat since the late 1800's. These modifications and associated shoreline armoring have resulted in the loss of most of the natural shoreline protection that marshes, oyster beds, and other intertidal and shallow subtidal habitats provided. Native Olympia oysters were a dominant native species in these areas of San Diego Bay until the early 1900's when their populations declined due to over-harvesting, pollution, and loss of wetlands. Today, viable native oyster stock still exists in San Diego Bay, but a lack of hard substrate habitat prevents oyster populations from re-establishing.



The goal of the San Diego Bay Native Oyster Living Shoreline Project is to create a biologically rich native Olympia oyster (*Ostrea lurida*) reef as a living shoreline in south San Diego Bay. As a pilot project, it will aim to serve as part of a complete marsh system that is ecologically functional and resilient to changing environmental conditions and protects bay tidelands and the adjacent shoreline. The project will aim to test baycrete elements with the goal of establishing native oyster reefs that protect shorelines from erosion while providing important habitat for wetlands, aquatic plants and ecologically and commercially important wildlife. The project will also aim to provide improved water quality via settling of sediments and pollution filtration and will increase wetland connectivity to intertidal and subtidal lands. Although the project footprint is only 0.2 acres, the project area affected by project improvements will be 10 acres.





2025-2026 Work Plan

Italicized = New project phase

#	Project Name	County	Project Type	Habitat type
1	Aliso Creek Estuary Restoration Plan: 30% Design & Permitting	Orange County	Restoration Planning	Coastal Wetlands
2	<i>Atascadero and Maria Ygnacio Steelhead Restoration Implementation</i>	<i>Santa Barbara</i>	<i>Restoration Implementation</i>	<i>Fish Passage</i>
3	Ballona Wetlands Restoration Planning	Los Angeles	Restoration Planning	Coastal Wetlands
4	Big Canyon Creek Restoration and Estuary Adaptation Project: Phase 3 Implementation	Orange County	Restoration Implementation	Coastal Wetlands
5	Bolsa Chica Lowlands Sea Level Rise Adaptation Project	Orange County	Restoration Planning	Coastal Wetlands
6	Buena Vista Audubon Society Wetlands Reserve Restoration Project: 60% Design and Engineering	San Diego	Restoration Planning	Non-tidal Wetlands
7	Buena Vista Lagoon Enhancement Project: 65% Design and Engineering Plans	San Diego	Restoration Planning	Coastal Wetlands
8	Coal Oil Point Reserve Coastal Access and Habitat Restoration: Phase 3	Santa Barbara	Restoration Implementation	Coastal Wetlands
9	Ellwood Marine Terminal Restoration	Santa Barbara	Restoration Implementation	Non-tidal Wetlands
10	Loma Alta Slough Wetlands Enhancement Project - Phase 2 Implementation	San Diego	Restoration Implementation	Coastal Wetlands
11	<i>Los Cerritos Wetlands Southern Area Implementation</i>	<i>Los Angeles</i>	<i>Restoration Implementation</i>	<i>Coastal Wetlands</i>
12	Matilija Dam Ecosystem Restoration Program	Ventura	Restoration Planning	Fish Passage
13	Newland Marsh Restoration Permitting and Design	Orange County	Restoration Planning	Coastal Wetlands
14	Ormond Beach Wetlands Restoration Plan	Ventura	Restoration Planning	Coastal Wetlands
15	Restoring Resilient and Connected Riparian Stream Corridor Habitat on the Santa Clara River	Ventura	Restoration Implementation	Riparian



2025-2026 Work Plan

Italicized = New project phase

#	Project Name	County	Project Type	Habitat type
16	Randall Preserve Wetland Feasibility Study	Orange County	Restoration Planning	Coastal Wetlands
17	Rio Hondo/Upper San Gabriel River Watershed Arundo Eradication Program	Los Angeles	Restoration Implementation	Riparian
18	San Diego Bay Native Oyster Living Shoreline	San Diego	Science and Monitoring	Living Shorelines
19	San Joaquin Marsh Hydrology & Climate Adaptation Feasibility and Planning	Orange County	Restoration Planning	Non-tidal Wetlands
20	San Jose Creek Fish Passage Project	Santa Barbara	Restoration Implementation	Coastal Wetlands
21	San Juan Creek Estuary Restoration Feasibility Study	Orange County	Restoration Planning	Coastal Wetlands
22	San Pasqual Valley Pepperweed Control Project	San Diego	Restoration Implementation	Riparian
23	Santa Margarita River Fish Passage Project: Implementation	San Diego	Restoration Implementation	Fish Passage
24	Tijuana Estuary Tidal Restoration Program II: Phase I	San Diego	Restoration Planning	Coastal Wetlands
25	Topanga Lagoon Restoration Planning Phase 1	Los Angeles	Restoration Planning	Coastal Wetlands
26	<i>Trabuco Creek Fish Passage Project at the Metrolink and I-5 Bridges</i>	<i>Orange County</i>	<i>Restoration Implementation</i>	<i>Fish Passage</i>
27	Trancas Creek Flood Control Channel Restoration Planning Project	Los Angeles	Restoration Planning	Fish Passage
28	Trancas Creek Lagoon Restoration Planning Project	Los Angeles	Acquisition	Coastal Wetlands
29	Upper Los Angeles River Watershed Arundo Eradication Program	Los Angeles	Restoration Implementation	Riparian
30	Upper Santa Ysabel Creek Tree of Heaven Eradication Project	Orange County	Restoration Implementation	Riparian



2025-2026 Community Wetland Restoration Grant Program Projects

#	Project Name	County	Acres	Project Cost
1	Batiquitos Lagoon Wetland Restoration	San Diego	2.5	\$100,000
2	Restoring the Buena Vista Lagoon Ecological Reserve with PEK	San Diego	7.4	\$100,000
3	Storke Wetland Enhancement and Engagement	Santa Barbara	2.6	\$99,100
4	South SD Bay Community Habitat Stewardship Project	San Diego	10.4	\$50,200
5	Aliso Creek Community Habitat Restoration	Orange	4	\$58,900
6	LA River Habitat Restoration: Scaling Community-Based	Los Angeles	6	\$171,484
7	Lower Constellation Coastal Sage Scrub and High Marsh Restoration Project	Orange	1.7	\$97,300
8	Once Upon a Watershed West Campus Preserve Project	Ventura	4.98	\$98,016
9	Lower LA River Pollinator Habitat Restoration	Los Angeles	6	\$150,000



To access the Regional Strategy 2018, visit <https://scwrp.org/regional-strategy-report/>

For inquiries and information on the Wetlands Recovery Project, visit scwrp.org.

