



Los Cerritos Wetlands

Friends of Belmont Shore

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Presented by

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History



Habitat Mapping, late 1880s



Late 1880s vs. Present



Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority



- Formed in 2006
- Promotes protection, restoration, conservation, and management of the Los Cerritos Wetlands
- Initiated comprehensive planning in 2011
- Comprised of:
 - City of Seal Beach
 - City of Long Beach
 - Rivers and Mountains Conservancy
 - CA State Coastal Conservancy



Los Cerritos Wetlands Oil Consolidation and Restoration Project

Upper Los Cerritos Wetlands Restoration Project



LCW Oil Consolidation and Restoration Project

- CA Coastal Commission approval December 2018
- Phased removal of oil operations from the wetlands over time
- Oil operations consolidated to two offsite parcels, with a new oil pipeline connection
- Comprehensive wetlands and habitat restoration, via mitigation bank
- Establishment of a Visitor Center



Land Swap, LCWA Site and Synergy Site

- CA State Coastal Conservancy approved land transfer February 2024
- 150-acre Synergy Site with 5-acre LCWA Site
- No new oil drilling on LCWA site, no connecting pipeline on City Site
- Substantially quicker oil removal (by Dec. 2028 vs. within 20 years)
- More comprehensive wetlands restoration



Upper Los Cerritos Wetlands Restoration Project

Land Exchange Update: Benefits

LCWA

- Acquire 154 acres
- Inherit fully-funded mitigation bank restoration
- Endowment for long-term management of bank property
- Acquire building for office and visitor center
- Expand stewardship program opportunities and increase public access

BOMP

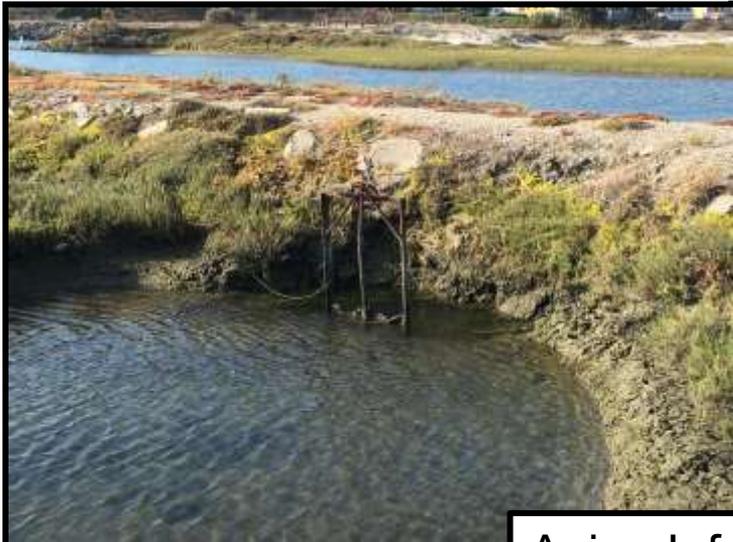
- Streamline oil operations from 105 acres to 5 acres
- Move oil operations out of wetlands
- Operate with modernized oil production technologies
- Build new office building
- Receive credits from mitigation bank

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Existing Habitat & Recreational Value
On Synergy Site





Aging Infrastructure





Electrical Fire Hazards





Southern Los Cerritos Wetlands Restoration Project



LCWA and Project Boundaries



Project Boundary



State Lands Commission
(3.5 acres)

Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority
(~100 acres)

Scope of Work

- Produce 90% and 100% construction design plans
- Finalize permits
- Implement Phase 1 restoration
- Conduct public outreach



Grant Funding

- \$25.85 million award from CA State Coastal Conservancy
- \$6 million award from Ocean Protection Council
- \$675,000 award from AES



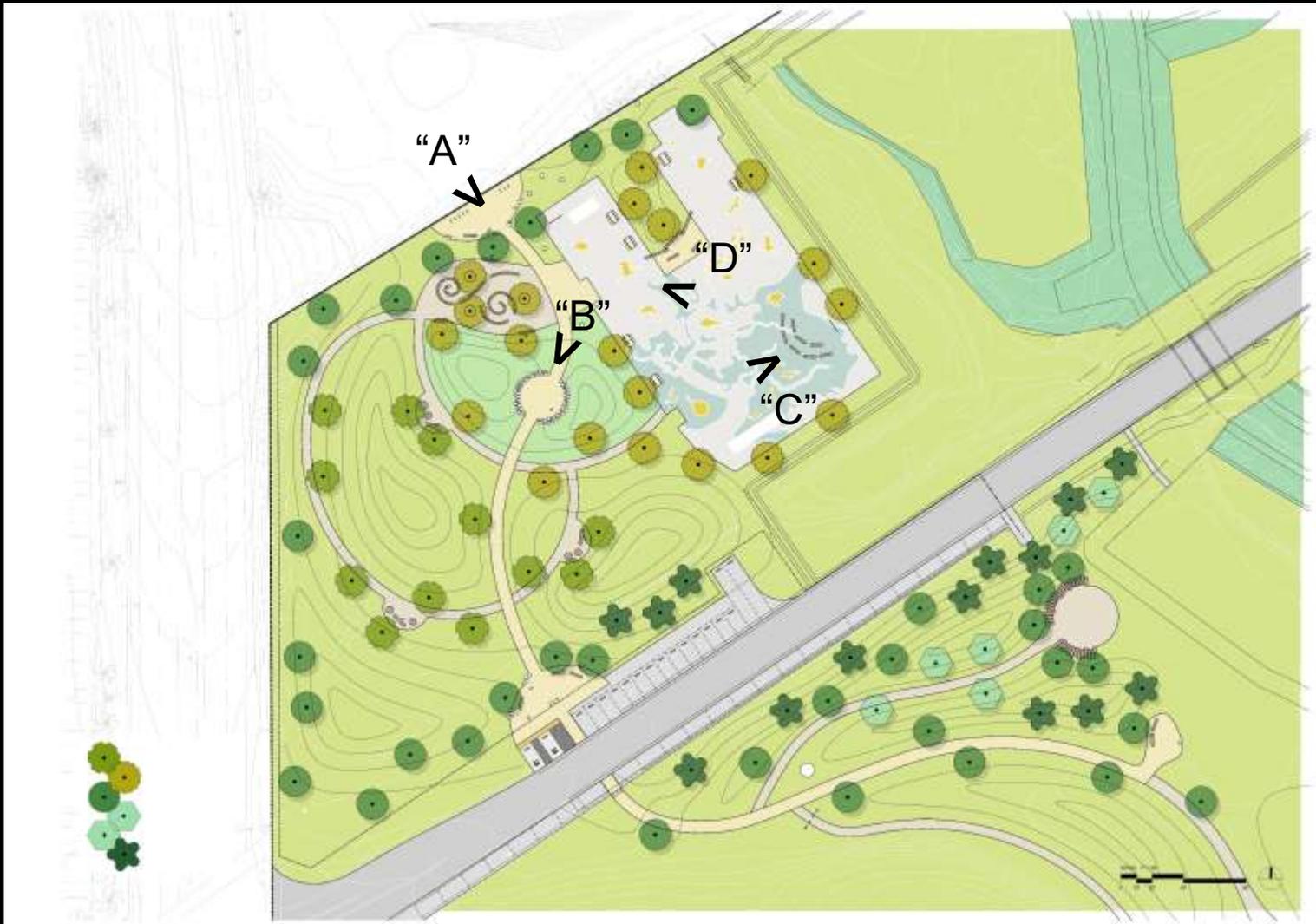
Southern LCW Restoration Project



State Lands Property



Community Hub Viewsheds



Viewshed "A"

Looking southwest from the north entry



Viewshed "B"

Looking south towards the mulefat habitat feature



Viewshed "C"

Looking east from the Visitor Plaza

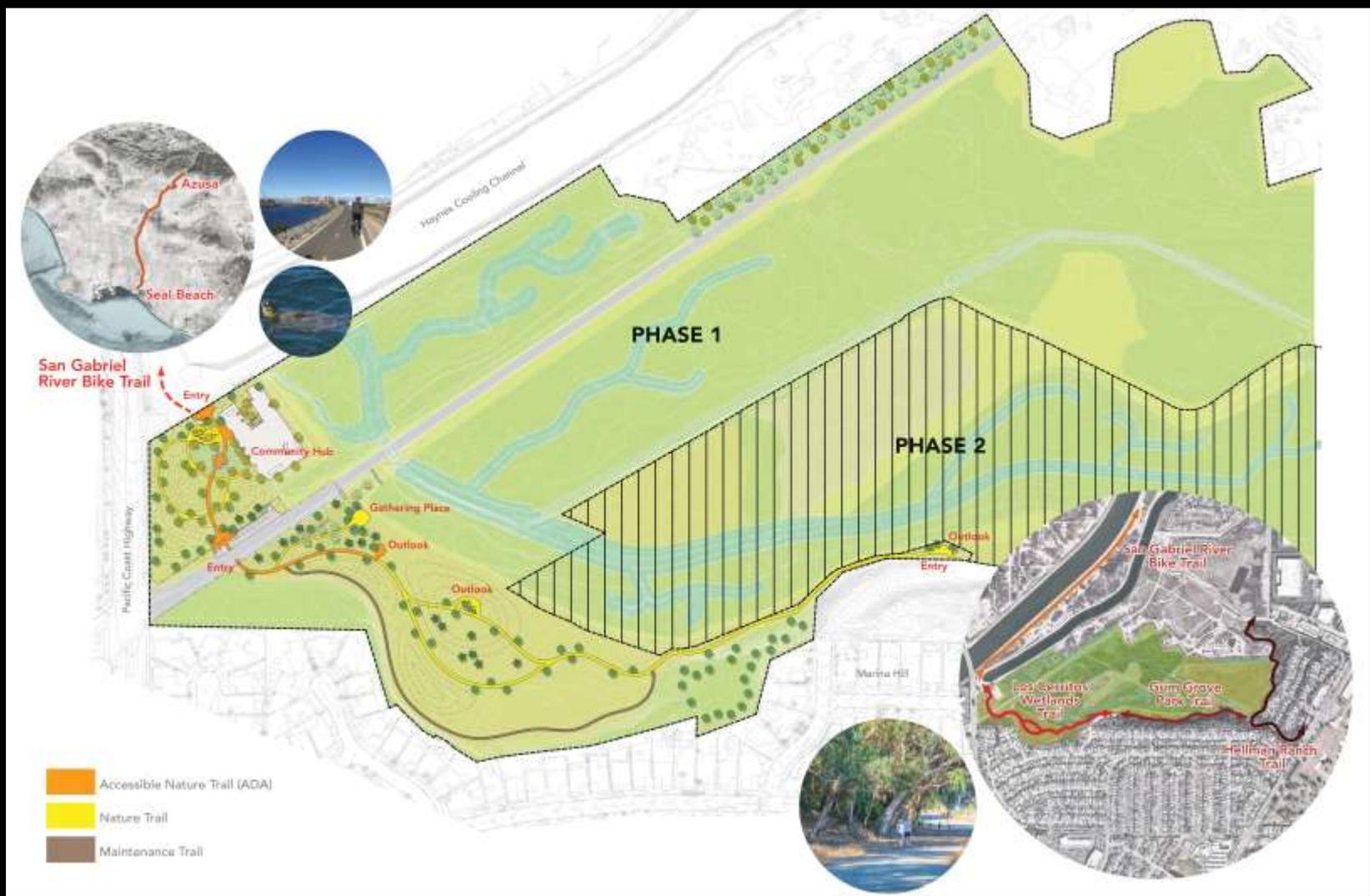


Viewshed “D”

Looking northwest from the Visitor
Plaza



Connecting Community



Schedule

- ~~December 2024: 90% Design Completed~~
- June 2025: 100% Design Completed
- Summer 2025: Contractor selected
- Fall 2025: Restoration Commences
- Spring 2027: Restoration Concludes



Community Events

- ~~Virtual Meeting : Past, Present, Future (December 2024)~~
- ~~Public Workshop: Envisioning Public Access for the Southern LCW (March 2025)~~
- Unveiling of Final Design (August - September 2025)
- Groundbreaking Ceremony (October 2025)
- 3 mixers (during restoration)
- 1 Virtual Meeting (during restoration)
- 3 tabling opportunities (during restoration)
- Ribbon Cutting Ceremony (post-restoration)

Project Merits

- ✓ Coastal Resiliency
- ✓ Tribal Wetlands Preservation
- ✓ Tribal Access & Engagement
- ✓ Scientific Research
- ✓ Regional Ecological Monitoring Program
- ✓ Youth Workforce Development
- ✓ Public Stewardship & Education Programs
- ✓ Community Connectedness
- ✓ State Funding



Stay Informed

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**LC
WA**
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THANK YOU

