

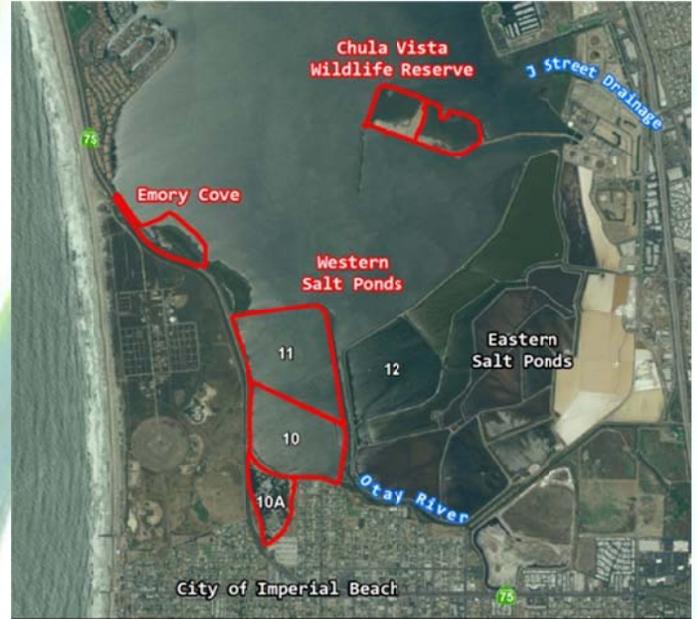


South San Diego Bay Coastal Wetland Restoration Project

Fact Sheet

Goal: Restore and enhance approximately 300 acres of coastal wetlands and uplands in San Diego Bay.

Project Benefits: Over the past 150 years, dredging and filling operations have resulted in the loss of 42% of San Diego Bay's historic shallow subtidal habitat, 84% of its intertidal mudflat habitat, and 70% of its salt marsh habitat. Most of the native upland habitat has also been lost to development. In recognition of the need to restore the Bay's historic coastal wetlands, a partnership of local, state, federal, and non-governmental agencies was formed to seek funding for and implement a significant coastal restoration project in south San Diego Bay. These projects will support: five federally or state listed threatened and endangered species, including the California least tern, light-footed clapper rail, western snowy plover, Belding's savannah sparrow, eastern Pacific green sea turtle, thousands of migratory birds that travel along the Pacific Flyway; and an array of diverse fish and other marine species. Project funding is also creating and maintaining construction-related jobs in San Diego County.



Project Leads: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (San Diego Bay National Wildlife Refuge) and the Port of San Diego.

Project Components: The salt Ponds (10, 10A, and 11) on the San Diego Bay National Wildlife Refuge will be converted from active solar salt ponds to 223 acres of tidally influenced wetland habitat. To achieve appropriate habitat conditions, material removed to create tidal channels in Pond 10 will be moved into Pond 11 where elevations will be raised to levels that will support salt marsh habitat.

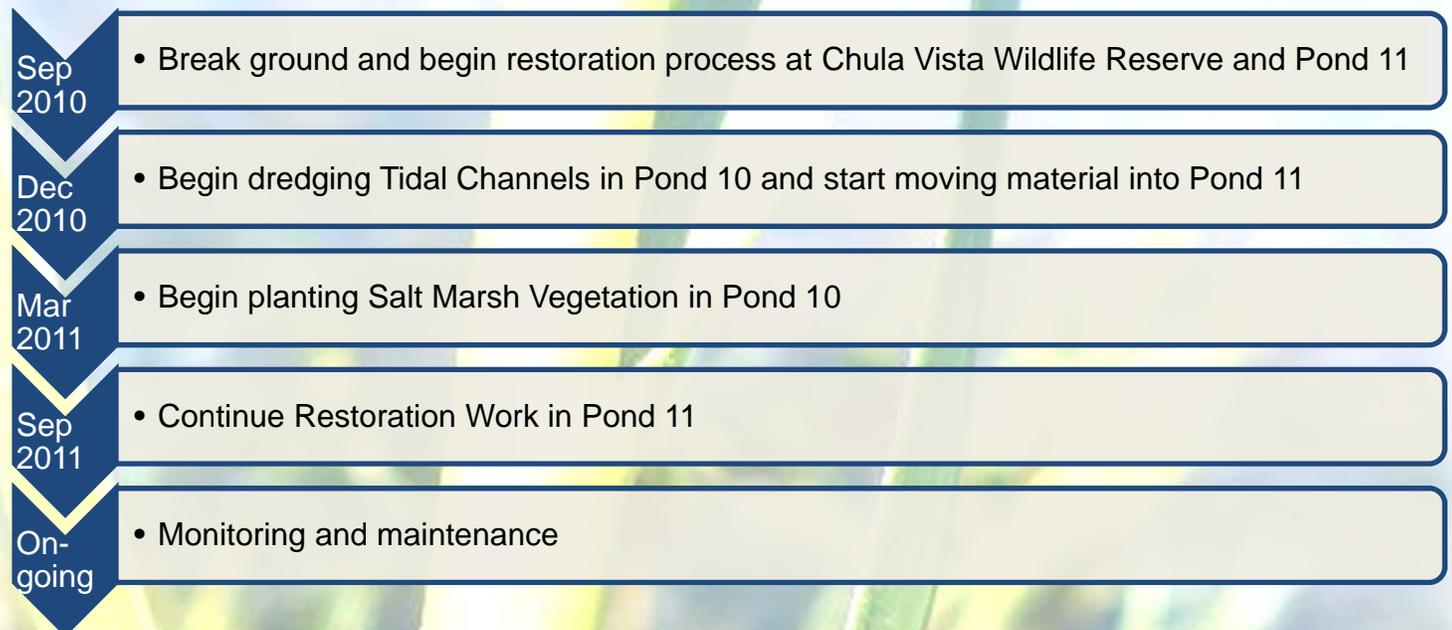
The southern portions of the 50-acre Chula Vista Wildlife Reserve will be lowered to support salt marsh vegetation. The material generated will be pumped across the bay and used in Pond 11, where a shorebird/seabird roosting area will be created.

The enhancement activities proposed at Emory Cove are ongoing and involve removing invasive ice plant and debris. Volunteers have also been assisting the Port in planting native vegetation.

Project Partners: This project would not be possible without the support of the following partners:

- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), using funding provided by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009
- California Coastal Conservancy
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (National Coastal Wetland Conservation Grant and Coastal Program)
- Port of San Diego
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- Southwest Wetlands Interpretive Association (SWIA)
- Coronado Rotary Club (assisting at Emory Cove)
- San Diego Oceans Foundation (assisting at Emory Cove and Chula Vista Wildlife Reserve)
- Ocean Discovery Institute (assisting at Emory Cove and Chula Vista Wildlife Reserve)
- San Diego Audubon (assisting at Chula Vista Wildlife Reserve)

Estimated Timeline:



Public Outreach:

For more information see our website at
<http://www.fws.gov/sandiegorefuges/new/new.html>

For immediate concerns regarding this Restoration Project, please call our

Public Information Hot Line **619-840-0587**

For general questions and inquiries, please contact

Acting Refuge Manager **Kurt Roblek 619-575-2704 ext. 334** or

Refuge Wildlife Biologist **Brian Collins 619-575-2704 ext. 318**