

San Dieguito River Park Accomplishments in 2014

Awards/Grants

- \$227,431 for the Santa Ysabel Gorge pond rehabilitation, Engelmann oak restoration, Bernardo Mountain habitat restoration, and Arundo removal funded by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).
- \$155,000 for the “Birdwing” shade structure on the Lagoon Open Air Classroom and interpretive panels at the Piedras Pintadas Trail funded by the San Diego County Neighborhood Reinvestment Act at the recommendation of Supervisor Dave Roberts.
- \$45,000 awarded by the San Diego County Neighborhood Reinvestment Act at the recommendation of Supervisor Dave Roberts for improvements at Sikes Adobe including restoration of a well, construction of an entryway and footbridge.
- \$25,000 awarded by the San Diego County Neighborhood Reinvestment Act at the recommendation of Supervisor Dianne Jacob for repairs and reroofing of a ranch house on River Park Property in the East County.
- \$6,090 contributed by twelve individual private donors (as of 9/10/14).
- \$4,000 contributed by the Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI) for ArcGIS desktop software licenses.
- \$2000 awarded by the Eco Ambassador for Connecting People with Nature Program.

Lagoon Wetland Restoration

- “Birdwing” Open Air Classroom at the San Dieguito Lagoon construction completed and received San Diego American Institute of Architects (AIA) “Urban Solutions Award”.
- Received City of San Diego permit for Coastal Ranger Station and submitted permit application to the California Coastal Commission.
- Continued participation in W19 wetland restoration planning with SANDAG and initiated CEQA process.
- Coordinated with the 22nd Agricultural District project to complete the first restoration phase of the South Overflow Parking Lot.

Trails

- Operated a volunteer mountain bike trail patrol organization which received recognition at the California Trails and Greenways Conference with a merit award.
- Completed a Del Dios Gorge project that included trail restoration, invasive plant removal, shade structure construction, and aquatic species management.
- Submitted permit application to City of San Diego for Pamo Trail link of the Coast to Crest Trail.
- Initiated trail bridge feasibility study for river crossing east of Polo Field with SDRVC.
- Completed and began implementation of a Piedras Pintadas and Bernardo Bay Trail Management Plan including directional signage, habitat management, trail maintenance and education.

- Opened the San Dieguito Lagoon Staging Area.
- Coordinated with the SDRVC and the City of Del Mar to establish a trail along the lagoon from Jimmy Durante Blvd. to the Grand Avenue Overlook.

Habitat Conservation and Restoration

- Completed 5-year monitoring requirement for Cloverdale Creek and Heritage Restoration projects.
- Planted over 3,400 native plants and 110 pounds of seed on eleven habitat management projects.
- Monitored over 120 acres of native habitat and treated 20 acres for invasive weeds on fourteen project sites.

Community Outreach and Education

- Initiated: Connecting People with Nature Program
Citizen Science Program
Watershed Explorer Program
- Hosted: 19 public educational programs at the Birdwing Open Air Classroom
Lagoon Days for 700 3rd graders from local schools
Apple Computers Event for 300 educators from 32 countries
High Tech Elementary Family Days with over 100 attendees
On-site and in-classroom education programs for several local schools
- Managed over 20 habitat restoration projects for Scout groups, Kids Korps, Teen Volunteers In Action, Muir Environment Corps, UC San Diego Alumni, and Teradata.
- Directed over 200 volunteers in the California Coastal Cleanup Day, removing over 2,500 pounds of trash.
- Presented at the California Trails & Greenways Conference and Watershed Summit.
- Developed web films and interpretive panels highlighting the River Park.
- Increased the River Park Volunteer Program by 35% and completed six internships.
- Continued the monthly bird count program, volunteer water quality testing program, monthly ranger-led hikes, and trail maintenance.

Institutional

- Celebrated the 25th year of the San Dieguito River Park Joint Powers Authority and renewed the Joint Powers Authority agreement for the next 50 years.

Sikes Adobe

- Hosted fifteen events and group/individual visits totaling over 2,000 visitors including the Halloween “Sikes Spooktacular” with participation of over 200 families.
- Celebrated completion of the replicated adobe creamery.
- Completed landscaping of first phase of the Sikes Adobe Farmstead Vision Plan.
- Continued participation with a weekly on-site Farmers Market.