

San Dieguito River Park Accomplishments in 2012

Awards/Grants

- \$377,294 grant awarded by the San Diego County Neighborhood Reinvestment Program for the Outdoor Classroom at the San Dieguito Lagoon, development of a Lagoon smart phone application and purchase of a ranger truck. Recommended to the Board by Supervisor Pam Slater-Price.
- \$40,000 awarded by the San Diego Foundation Ariel W. Coggeshall Fund to the San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy to work with the River Park to develop a Citizen Scientist Environmental and Wildlife Monitoring Protocol for the San Dieguito River Valley
- \$27,000 awarded by SDG&E and REI to establish a Lagoon Interpretive Walk mobile phone application in English and Spanish along with a data entry application for the Citizen Scientist Program.
- \$10,000 grant provided by the Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation to purchase an equipment trailer and hydraulic dump trailer for habitat restoration and trail projects. Recommended by Supervisor David Roberts.
- \$5,000 granted by the American Society of Landscape Architects to implement a site development plan for the Sikes Adobe. The site development plan was designed and donated by Tim Jachlewski of In-Site Landscape Architecture, Inc.
- \$15,000 donated by Ron Hall for the River Park and Friends of Sikes Adobe.
- \$1,500 donated by the Rancho Cycling Club for the Trails Fund.
- \$1,000 donated by Jeffrey Barnouw for the Trails Fund.
- \$1,000 provided by Southern California Edison to purchase a kayak and canoe to help maintain the Lagoon restoration.

San Dieguito Lagoon Wetland Restoration

- Southern California Edison authorized a \$4,000/month, ten-year revenue stream to be paid to the River Park to establish a ranger station/utility building to serve the Wetland Restoration Project.
- Plans and construction documents were developed for the Lagoon Outdoor Classroom.

Trails

- The 1.7 mile Dust Devil Nature Trail on the southeast section of the Wetland Restoration Project was completed and opened to the public.
- The one half mile Horse Park Trail was completed and opened to the public.
- The Reach the Beach Trail Feasibility Study including public meetings and workshop was completed and accepted by the JPA Board on April 19, 2012.
- River Park monument signs were constructed and installed in Del Mar and Escondido.
- The first trail mile-markers were installed along the lagoon trail. The mile markers were donated by the San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy and Friends of the San Dieguito River Valley and will be installed along the entire 55-mile Coast to Crest Trail as it is developed.

Habitat Restoration

- Eucalyptus Removal Del Dios Gorge – The second phase of eucalyptus removal began downstream of the Del Dios Gorge Bridge. Over two million pounds of non-native trees were removed and are being replaced with native trees and shrubs in and along the riverbank.
- Partnered with more than ten corporations and fifteen local organizations to restore habitat throughout the River Park.
- 67 acres of native habitat in 17 locations throughout the River Park were treated to control weeds.
- 15 acres of native habitat in 13 locations throughout the River Park were restored with over 17,500 native plantings and 165 pounds of native seed.

Community Outreach and Education

- The River Park cooperated with various non-profit groups including the San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy and Save Our Heritage Organisation (SOHO) in the planning and acquisition of the 1884 historic Santa Ysabel General Store which opened on October 6, 2012 as a Backcountry Interpretive Center. The River Park established a monthly lecture series and Children's Nature Program at the facility.
- Partnered with University of San Diego, Cal State San Marcos, Cal State San Diego, and Bishop's School to host research projects throughout the River Park.
- Hosted education events for over 1000 children and managed over 20 Scout projects.
- River Park staff and volunteers participated in the "I Love a Clean San Diego" program removing over 3,000 pounds of greenwaste and 510 pounds of trash.
- The River Park Volunteer Program increased by 25% and four internships were completed.
- Established monthly ranger-led hikes and bird-watching walks.

