

Forrestal Nature Preserve Wetland Restoration Project

Overview

The Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy (Conservancy) continued with the second phase of work on the Forrestal Preserve wetland restoration project. This project update focuses on activities completed from September 19 to October 24, 2003.

The second phase of the non-native vegetation extraction took place in the lower draw of the quarry bowl. The lower draw, much like the upper portion of the canyon, was inundated with exotic-invasive plant species. Most prevalent were pampasgrass (*Cortaderia selloana*), myoporum (*Myoporum laetum*), and palm (*Washingtonia species*). The area was cleared using a chain saw, machete, and hand saw. Two palm trees, one myoporum, and numerous stands of pampasgrass were removed during this period. The debris was transported to the bottom of the quarry bowl where a staging area had been established. Woody debris from previous work was also stockpiled in this area.

Conservancy employees, with the aid of community volunteers, transported the debris from the quarry bowl to a green-waste container that the city of Rancho Palos Verdes provided for the project.

Budget

The expenditures from September 19 to October 24, 2003 are as follows:

<u>Date</u>	Staff	<u>Unit Performing Work</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Sept 19-Oct 24, 2003		Restoration Technicians (2) * \$20.00/hr	\$6,000.00

Hours	Wage	Accounting Fees	Workers Compensation	Social Security	Other Benefits
300	\$13.00	\$1.50	\$1.30	\$3.12	\$1.00

<u>Date</u>	Materials	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
October 1, 2003		Rope / Twine	\$10.14

<u>Date</u>	Equipment	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
October 21, 2003		Wheelbarrow Tire	\$28.11

TOTAL: \$6,038.25

Unexpended Balance to Date: \$552.40

Donated Hours/Materials

<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Total</u>
Sept 19-Oct 24	Steering Committee Meetings	40 hours
Sept 19-Oct 24	Rancho Palos Verdes City Staff	6 hours
Sept 19-Oct 24	PVPLC Project Manager	21 hours
October 11	Community Volunteer Day	12 hours
Oct 1-3, 10-15, 20-22	City Donated Materials	\$1200.00

Timeline

The wetland restoration continues to stay on track for completion by December 2003.

The Los Angeles Conservation Corps, with funding from Proposition 40, has agreed to reconstruct a portion of trail that passes through the upper draw. Heavy use, combined with erosion, has left the path in disrepair. Without immediate attention, this slope will continue to degrade and affect not only accessibility, but also the establishment of native plants in the riparian area. This particular footpath is an integral part of the trail plan that has been created for the nature preserve. It is the only connection that a large residential population has to the nature preserve. After trail completion in mid-November, a local Boy Scout troop will revegetate both riparian areas as part of an eagle project. This will take place in late November or early December 2003 when acceptable planting conditions occur.

Remaining Tasks

- Re-cut and treat woody stumps with a herbicide approved for use in wetland areas to prevent re-sprouting.
- Reconstruct portion of trail that passes through the upper draw
- Revegetate both restoration sites with locally-sourced native plants

