

PROGRESS REPORT

Progress has been made in the following areas:

Continued Restoration:

- Non-native removal: Eight truckloads of invasive, non-native species, primarily grasses, have been removed from the site.
- Trash removal: Two truckloads of trash have been removed from the site.
- Fence building: A fence was built to protect the sensitive salt marsh area of the wetland.
- Over 200 salt marsh species, *Salicornia virginica*, *Salicornia subterminalis*, *Frankenia salina*, and *Jaumea carnosa*, were planted in the marsh.

Interpretive Signs:

- Kiosks: Final posters with interpretive materials were added to two kiosks at trailheads.
- Interpretive signs: Twenty-five signs were installed along the trails with species names and drawings.
- Pamphlet: A pamphlet for a self-guided tour has been added to kiosks for visitors to the wetland.

Community Involvement/Education Element

- Friends of San Diego River Mouth: The Friends of San Diego River Mouth has met four times to complete various projects at the wetland site. In total, 175 volunteers have participated in Friends of San Diego River Mouth projects.
- Adult Education: Informational tours and materials are provided at each event describing the benefits of wetlands, local species, and threats to the area.
- Youth Education: During the projects, youth groups have participated in wetland tours and educational activities. During tours, youth use binoculars, refractometers, and other scientific equipment to learn about wetlands and why they are important. After learning about wetland species, they create posters aimed at protecting endangered species. Youth also participate in restoration efforts.

Upcoming projects include:

- Friends of San Diego River Mouth projects aimed at removal of non-native, invasive plants and trash, and maintenance of the interpretive trail. In addition, newly planted species will be cared for.
- Education tours and activities for youth groups at each project.
- Three wetland alert plantings in the upland and sand dune communities will occur after periods of rain.
- February 22, 2003 demonstration garden will be planted near the site to further educate the public about a variety of native species.