

Myers Property Restoration and Erosion Control Project

The City of Oceanside is conducting a habitat restoration and erosion-control project with Proposition 13 grant funding from the State Water Resources Control Board on the City-owned Myers Property along El Camino Real, south of Oceanside Boulevard.



Site Location within Oceanside, CA

The goal of the project is to improve water quality in the Loma Alta Creek watershed, reduce sediment load in the watershed and improve habitat for the federally threatened California gnatcatcher.

This 35-acre parcel of open space, protected through the City's Multiple Habitat Conservation Program, is located within the Loma Alta Creek watershed in Oceanside. The property is identified as a source of sedimentation and non-point source pollution which poses a threat to the water quality of Loma Alta Creek and, ultimately, Loma Alta Slough. However, the property has



High quality habitat onsite

valuable wildlife and open space resources as it serves as habitat for the federally threatened California gnatcatcher, and wildlife corridor link between northern Carlsbad and Camp Pendleton. However, conditions of the site bear signs of unauthorized use, trash dumping, and squatting. Erosion from slope failures and bank erosion due to loss of vegetation from illegal off-road activity (all-terrain vehicles and mountain bikes) contribute to sediment flowing into Loma Alta



Eroded gullies

Creek. During the rainy season, the Myers property also receives runoff from adjacent properties, including the surrounding Eternal Hills Memorial Park, and the combined sediment load significantly affects the water quality of Loma Alta Creek.



Erosion control using log dam, rock and fabric



Erosion control through construction of sediment traps

Restoration of the property took place between October 2006 and January 2007, starting with invasive plant eradication and the removal of almost three tons of trash. Fencing and signs were installed to cut down on unauthorized use of the property. Erosion-control measures, such as the placement of log dams, erosion-control fabric, erosion-control rock, and coir wattles were installed in critical erosion areas. Trails were closed, decompacted and revegetated with native coastal sage scrub seed mix. Wildlife surveys and follow-up water quality, invertebrate, and habitat monitoring after project installation are currently being conducted to assure that sensitive resources are protected and that the restoration and erosion-control project is successful.



Revegetation using seed imprinting

In conclusion, the Loma Alta Creek watershed is an urban/industrial watershed subject to a variety of point and non-point source pollution, discharges, sedimentation, and erosion. As identified in the Loma Alta Creek Watershed Management Plan, restoration of native plants, erosion, pollution and sediment control, trash cleanup, and public education are integral parts of improving the quality of the watershed. The Myers Property Restoration and Erosion Control Project will be the first publicly funded and community-based project to contribute to the overall health of the watershed.