

Year 2006 Projects

Project Name	Activity	Project Description	Habitat Type	Acreage	Linear Miles
Ballona Dunes Restoration Project	Rehabilitation	Non-native, invasive flora will be removed and replaced with native plants specific to the Ballona ecosystem. The dunes provide habitat for the endangered El Segundo Blue Butterfly, Belding's Savannah Sparrow, California Legless Lizard, and others.	Dune	5.50	0.00
Ballona Wetlands Ecological Reserve Invasive Plant Removal	Rehabilitation	The Ballona Wetlands Land Trust ("Land Trust"), founded in 1994, is a non-profit community organization dedicated to facilitating the public acquisition, restoration, and preservation of the entire 1,087 acre Ballona Wetlands ecosystem, including salt and fresh water wetlands, dunes, bluffs, and upland habitat. Since December 2000, the Land Trust has held its monthly "Ballona Stewards" Restoration Day to bring this acreage back to life. The Land Trust is also an active member of an interim restoration committee overseen by the California Coastal Conservancy (a State agency). In FY06, they continued clearing non-native invasive vegetation, including castor bean, pampas grass, Brazillian pepper tree, and sweet fennel from a 66-acre parcel of the Ballona Wetland Ecological Reserve known as Area C.	Tidal Wetland	16.50	0.00
Bluffs Park Habitat Restoration	Enhancement	This park burned in 1996 resulting in an almost total invasion by non-native plant species ranging from small sunflowers to large eucalyptus trees. Only a few coastal bluffs have not been developed. Arundo donax dominates a section of Marie Canyon and will be removed.	Riparian	2.00	0.00
Calabasas Motorway Sensitive Species	Enhancement	Remove Spartium junceum from Hemizonia minthornii (a State-listed endangered species) along the Calabasas/Cold Creek trail. More specifically, Spartium junceum is spreading along the fireroad and negatively impacting the endangered species on the site. There are three locations of Hemizonia minthornii in the area in question. The Mountains Restoration Trust and Los Angeles County acquired one site in 2005.	Other	0.00	2.28
Cold Creek Canyon Preserve	Enhancement	Iris pseudacorus was planted in the 1940s and has spread downstream, effectively eliminating native wetland species. The goal of the project is to allow for the expansion of two locally-rare species (giant chain fern and stream orchids) and the spread of native wetland species, reeds, and rushes.	Forested Wetland	3.00	0.00
Cold Creek High Trail Sensitive Species	Enhancement	Centaurea solstitialis is a newcomer to the Santa Monica Mountains and its control is imperative as it can out-compete all native species in scrub, chaparral and riparian buffers. The goal is to increase native plant density to reduce impact of yellow star thistle.	Field/Meadow	0.00	1.80
Cold Creek Preserve	Enhancement	The goal of this on-going restoration project is to control invasive non-native species throughout the Cold Creek Preserve. The areas of focus are disturbed areas, trail corridors, and fuel reduction zones. A combination of weeding, mowing, and planting will lead to sustainable landscapes.	Other	2.00	0.00
Commemorative Oaks	Reestablishment	The project entails planting portions of Malibu Creek State Park, where oak woodlands, oak forests, and riparian woodlands were extirpated, using native trees, shrubs, grasses and forbs. The project also entails controlling invasive non-native species.	Field/Meadow	65.00	0.00
La Sierra Canyon Preserve	Enhancement	The goal for this newly acquired preserve made up of a combination of chaparral, woodland, riparian and, grassland is to restore native plant communities, protect sensitive species, create sustainable fuel modification zones, and enhance wetlands.	Other	2.00	0.00
La Sierra Preserve Sensitive Species	Enhancement	Pentachaeta lyonii, a small member of the sunflower family, can easily be eliminated from known sites by aggressive invasive species such as tocalote. The goal of the project is to increase the Pentachaeta by controlling the spread of invasive Centaurea melitensis in mapped areas of the Federally-listed Pentachaeta lyonii.	Other	9.90	0.00
Malibu Creek Enhancement	Reestablishment	The lowest reach of Malibu Creek (before the dam) supports steelhead trout. However, this reach was being overtaken by an expanding population of Arundo donax and would have formed a monotypic culture in under ten years without intervention. The project includes GIS mapping, monitoring, and removal of invasive species. Eradication of Arundo donax will lessen its further establishment in Malibu Creek, the Malibu Lagoon wetlands, and along the shoreline and beaches of Santa Monica Bay.	Riparian	0.00	4.20
New Millenium	Protection/Maintenance	The completion of a regional loop trail required permission to go through private property because of	Grassland	0.00	0.61

Trail Easement		topographic considerations, so a trail easement had to be negotiated. The goal was to designate a portion of the property to be used for construction of a 5' wide trail in order to complete the loop.			
Old Topanga Conservation Easement	Protection/Maintenance	It is the desire of the present land owners to protect in perpetuity the oak woodland on their property that is adjacent to a State park by increasing the total acreage of an existing conservation easement.	Forest/Woodland	0.50	0.00
Redondo Beach Bluffs Restoration	Reestablishment	The Redondo Beach Bluffs Restoration has been a pilot project to determine the effectiveness of replacing non-native plants with those native to a coastal dune ecosystem. The project marks the start of creating a habitat corridor for a variety of dune organisms, including the endangered El Segundo blue butterfly. In addition to creating new native habitat, signage has been installed to educate the public about their local landscape and the benefits of planting native plants.	Dune	3.50	0.00
San Nicholas Canyon Stream Restoration	Reestablishment	The purpose of this Proposition 12 bond project is to restore the lower section of Nicholas Canyon Creek in Malibu to a highly functional riparian ecosystem, while enhancing the area's scenic beauty. A Restoration Plan was developed, including GIS mapping of the area, detailed identification of plant species, and historical data and hydrology. Habitat maps were created to show denigration of area by invasive species. The project has mobilized community volunteers and underserved, at-risk youth program members to remove trash and debris and non-native plants from the creek bed and bank. Heavy equipment was required for larger trees and shrubs. Native plant seeds were harvested the prior year from the project area, sprouted and cultivated at a restoration nursery, and re-planted at the site using the most appropriate density and planting techniques. Alkali Heath, Juncus, and Atriplex were identified on the site. Although not endangered, they are rare and a significant indicator of remnant wetlands. There is an assemblage of sycamore woodland, which will be enhanced once myoporium is eradicated. Removal areas were mulched to keep weeds from colonizing and trails were cleared to allow for easy access by educational tour groups. Ongoing maintenance and oversight of native plants is performed. The native plants help prevent erosion and sedimentation and their establishment will prevent non-native propagation and improve stream health. They provide a garden of vegetation that represents the area's cultural and historical resources, utilized for centuries by Chumash Native Americans who lived there, providing for food, medicine, basketry, clothing, tools, utensils and shelter. The project's environmental education programs increase the public's understanding of the riparian ecosystem and its relationship to the sustainable practices and values of an historic Native American culture.	Riparian	3.20	0.00
Santa Monica Baykeeper Kelp Restoration and Monitoring Project	Reestablishment	Giant kelp canopies in Santa Monica Bay have been reduced by approx. 70% over the past 100 years. In 1997, the Kelp Project began monitoring and restoring the kelp beds in Santa Monica Bay. Subtidal rocky reefs that previously supported lush kelp forest ecosystems had become "sea urchin barrens" due to a variety of factors, including pollution, overhunting, and El Niño events. Volunteer and staff SCUBA divers completed biological and physical surveys to assess community structure, including invertebrate, fish, and algal densities, as well as substrate. To date, one acre of giant kelp, <i>Macrocystis pyrifera</i> , has been restored off of Escondido Beach in Malibu and continues to be monitored annually. Within the kelp restoration sites, increases in fish abundance of 10 to 100 times have resulted within one year of restoration efforts. From October 2005 through September 2006, over 370 dives (more than 275 hours of bottom time) were spent monitoring and restoring the restoration areas. An additional restoration area was established off Long Point in Palos Verdes in 2005. Baseline surveys (invertebrate, fish, algal and substrate) were completed and restoration efforts commenced in October 2005. Sea urchins were cleared by hand from the restoration area to reduce over-grazing of young kelp recruits. By August 2006, over 101,114 sea urchins had been relocated from the Long Point restoration area. Additionally, young kelp plants were transplanted from a nearby healthy kelp forest into the restoration site. The upcoming reproductive/growth season is expected to yield new kelp recruitment throughout the restoration area. Please Note: The coordinates shown in fields 14 and 15 are for work off Escondido Beach. The coordinates for Long Point are different: 33.73512 N and -118.39872 W.	Other	1.75	0.00
Solstice Canyon	Reestablishment	The National Park Service has been using Proposition 12 bond funding to restore steelhead habitat by eradicating false caper and other invasive perennial weeds, while at the same time restoring native plants along five kilometers of Solstice Creek. The project has involved removing invasive wetland plants and riparian plants to create a supportive habitat that will reduce erosion.	Riparian	0.00	3.10
Solstice Creek	Reestablishment	Solstice Creek in Malibu is one of the last remaining streams in southern California with the ability to harbor	In-Stream	0.00	1.80

Fish Passage and Riparian Restoration		endangered runs of steelhead trout. The National Park Service and its many partners have either provided funding or assisted the National Park Service in removing migration barriers and restoring riparian vegetation. By the end of 2006, all migration barriers from the Pacific Ocean to the Solstice headwaters will have been removed.			
State Parks, Angeles District, Malibu Sector	Enhancement	Parkland in southern California has been used by man for two centuries and has left behind many changes. Non-native invasive plants have established themselves in many areas, but once removed, most areas self-restore to natural habitat.	Other	15.00	0.00
Stream Team	Reestablishment	This 2-year, Prop. 12 bond-funded project involves removing 1.65 acres of exotic invasive riparian vegetation and then replanting that same area with appropriate native riparian vegetation. All species of native vegetation are locally grown and harvested by the CA Department of Parks and Recreation (State Parks) nursery personnel to ensure the plant stock is of the appropriate genetic type. In addition, four large debris/dump sites located w/in the riparian zone were removed. The bulk of these were concrete structures that impacted stream flow. One fish barrier on Solstice Creek was also removed.	Riparian	0.00	2.80
Trancas Creek Amphibian Habitat Restoration	Protection/Maintenance	Pepperdine University had studied the decline of amphibians in Trancas Creek. To test the hypothesis that crayfish were a major cause, a project was designed to eliminate crayfish from portions of the creek over a 3-year period and restore the in-stream freshwater habitat. The goal is to allow sensitive native amphibian species to survive and reproduce by removing the invasive crayfish.	In-Stream	0.00	0.28
Winding Way Conservation Easement	Protection/Maintenance	Human development in the Santa Monica Mountains is on the rise, with many housing subdivisions increasing density. In order to extinguish building rights on this large parcel, a conservation easement was recorded.	Other	7.00	0.00
Zuma Creek Restoration Project	Establishment	The project is located at the entrance to Zuma Canyon, adjacent to Zuma Creek in Malibu. Zuma Canyon is one of the most diverse and most intact canyons within the Santa Monica Mountains. This 5,000 acre drainage contains coastal sage scrub, chaparral, and riparian vegetation types. In CalTrout's Steelhead Plan, Zuma Creek was listed as one of the top ten sites for restoration and reintroduction of Federally-endangered southern steelhead trout. The entrance to the canyon is disturbed and dominated by non-native vegetation due to past human activities, including fuel reduction, pasture grazing, and other activities. The restoration work involved removal of non-native plants using repeated mowing, spot spraying of herbicide, mulching, and tarping. Native plants were then restored to the area through planting of 1-gallon native plants grown by a National Park Service nursery. All restoration work was performed by Los Angeles school children on field trips.	Riparian	1.20	0.00
Total				138.05	16.87