

# ***SAN ELIJO LAGOON CONSERVANCY***

## ***/SANDAG/CALTRANS NEWS***

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**Contact:** Jennifer Bright, San Elijo Lagoon Conservancy, (858) 704-4560, [Jennifer@sanelijo.org](mailto:Jennifer@sanelijo.org)  
Jessica Gonzales, SANDAG, (619) 699-1950, [Jessica.Gonzales@SANDAG.org](mailto:Jessica.Gonzales@SANDAG.org)  
Cathryne Bruce-Johnson, Caltrans, (619) 688-6723, [Cathryne.Bruce-Johnson@dot.ca.gov](mailto:Cathryne.Bruce-Johnson@dot.ca.gov)

### **Beach Sand Replenishment Project Begins Next Week in Cardiff-by-the-Sea**

The San Elijo Lagoon Conservancy, San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG), and Caltrans announced the start of a beach sand replenishment project as part of the Build NCC project to restore the San Elijo Lagoon.

This week, restoration crews completed the assembly of a dredge in the San Elijo Lagoon's central basin and will begin delivering nearly 8,000 cubic-yards of high quality sand from the lagoon to North County beaches per day.

Beginning with Cardiff State Beach, approximately 300,000-cubic yards of sand will replenish the coastline. Sands will first be placed south of the lagoon's inlet, its connection to the ocean. Sections will be filled as the operation moves south along the coastal strand to Fletcher Cove in Solana Beach.

The dredge will operate 24 hours a day, Monday through Saturday for approximately 6 weeks. Nearby residents and visitors may expect to hear noise and see nighttime lighting within the central basin of the lagoon. Additionally, beachgoers may observe a wetland scent in the beginning of dredging, which is temporary and will assimilate into the marine environment. Water quality will be monitored throughout the operation.

In later phases of the San Elijo Lagoon Restoration, crews will replace the removed sand in the lagoon's central basin with sediments transferred from the various lagoon channels to improve tidal flow and overall water quality.

The San Elijo Lagoon Restoration is part of Build NCC, or the first phase of construction of the North Coast Corridor Program, which was unanimously approved by the California Coastal Commission in 2014. The restoration project is funded through *TransNet*, the voter-approved half-cent sales tax.

**About the San Elijo Lagoon Conservancy**

*San Elijo Lagoon* CONSERVANCY is the nonprofit land trust for San Elijo Lagoon Ecological Reserve.

Its VISION is a world where biodiversity is preserved and people act to conserve nature and embrace it as central to a healthy community. Its MISSION is to protect and restore the resources of the 1000-acre reserve, its watershed, and related ecosystems for the benefit of current and future generations.

More information on the San Elijo Lagoon Restoration is available at: [sanelijo.org/revivingwetlands](http://sanelijo.org/revivingwetlands)

**About Build NCC**

Build NCC is a collaborative effort between SANDAG, Caltrans, and United States Department of Transportation. The first phase of construction in the cities of Solana Beach, Encinitas, and Carlsbad as part of the North Coast Corridor Program. Build NCC includes extending the existing carpool lane on I-5 in each direction from Lomas Santa Fe Drive to State Route 78, double tracking the rail line at the San Elijo Lagoon, replacing the highway and rail bridges at the San Elijo Lagoon, restoring the San Elijo Lagoon, and constructing nearly 10 miles of new bike and pedestrian trails. Construction on Build NCC began in early 2017 and will be complete by 2021. To learn more about NCC, visit:

<http://keepsandiegomoving.com/BuildNCC>

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