

# focus

*life's essential elements*

"Harbaugh Seaside Trails will be restored for native aesthetics by San Elijo Lagoon Conservancy, which also owns and manages 60 acres of acquired habitat within the reserve," says Doug Gibson, executive director and principal scientist for the nonprofit land trust

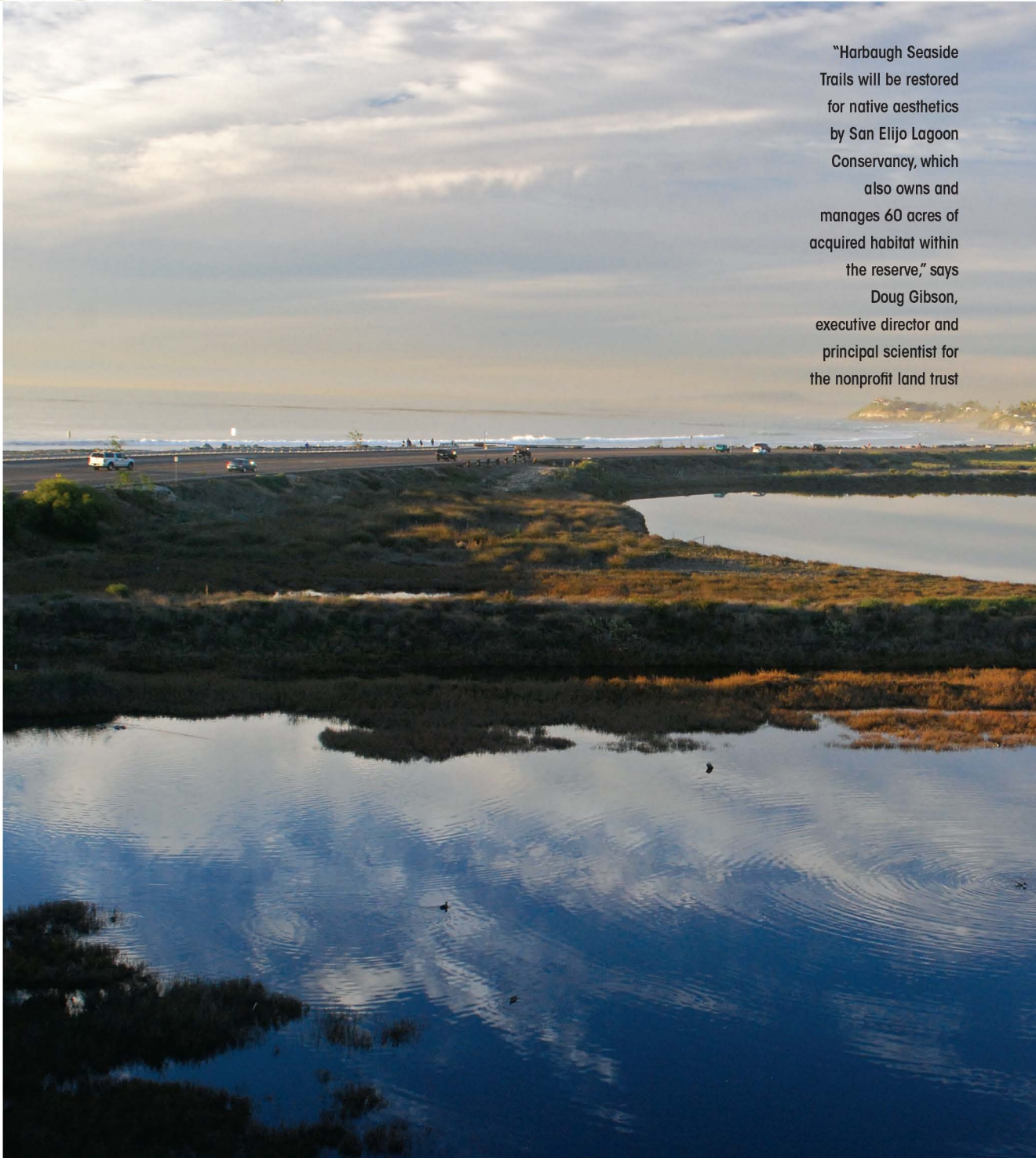


PHOTO BY JANE DECELLES

## Harbaugh Seaside Trails

Solana Beach's 3.4-acre Gateway Park has found a permanent status. Harbaugh Seaside Trails has joined San Elijo Lagoon Ecological Reserve and will continue under the guidance of the San Elijo Lagoon Conservancy. The donor of the \$1.15 million gift to preserve the site is the George and Betty Harbaugh Charitable Foundation. Heading the nonprofit is Joe Balla, who watched for years as the community rallied to stop commercial development of the property. A place for contemplation, dog walking, and a community gathering spot for stunning sunsets, the overlook creates an important buffer for protected habitat in San Elijo Lagoon and is a natural extension of the Coastal Rail Trail. (760.436.3944, [www.sanelijo.org](http://www.sanelijo.org))