

# Project Portfolio Cutsheets



## Habitat Assessment and Mitigation Bank Planning

Colorado Lagoon  
Long Beach, CA

### **Client:**

City of Long Beach  
Anchor QEA  
Moffatt and Nichol

### **Project Staff:**

Eric Zahn, Megan Wolff, Christian Garcia, Mark Hannaford, Trenton McColl, Kevin Fistanic, Sebastian De Leon, Daniella Gavriel

**Focus:** Wetlands Restoration Planning and Design; Environmental Compliance; Construction Support and Biological Monitoring; Public Outreach

### **Project Overview:**

The City of Long Beach has been pursuing the restoration of Colorado Lagoon for over 15 years. Tidal Influence has been intimately involved with all aspects throughout every phase of this project. From 2009 through 2013 the City's Phase 1 made changes to the facility to improve water and habitat quality through the removal of storm drains, dredging of contaminated sediment, installation of bioswales and revegetation with native plants. Tidal Influence designed and implemented the bioswale and shoreline revegetation efforts which also included 2 years of vegetation monitoring.

Tidal Influence has been the restoration ecologist for the design team on the Phase 2 restoration planning. As a member of this team, we have produced 2 iterations of construction drawings and specifications, first for the Lagoon itself and subsequently for the open channel portion. In 2017 we supported the City of Long Beach's construction management team that oversaw the construction of Phase 2B for this project and we are currently managing the environmental compliance for the Phase 2A construction effort. For this we have been providing qualified biological monitors to oversee all in-water construction work. We attend every construction meeting to ensure the project maintains compliance with all permit conditions. Our staff have become well versed in how to communicate with contractors, juggle schedules,



and provide solutions to avoid impacts to biological resources while keeping the project active.

In 2018 the City successfully executed a Mitigation Bank Enabling Instrument designed to restore a large portion of Colorado Lagoon, including a new tidal connection through an existing recreational park area. Tidal Influence was the City's ecological consultant throughout this 7-year long process. For the mitigation bank we completed a comprehensive habitat assessment report as well as a jurisdictional wetlands delineation report. We also contributed extensively to the bank's interim and long-term management plans that outline monitoring methodologies and performance standards. This project required intensive interactions with coastal resource agencies as part of the project's Inter-agency Review Team that includes representatives from Coastal Commission, NOAA, EPA, and Army Corps of Engineers.

Finally, since 2017 we have been managing the Colorado Lagoon's maintenance program for the City. We perform monthly walkthroughs and produce quarterly maintenance memos. During quarterly meetings we help to delegate tasks to the responsible parties and ensure that actions are being completed in a timely manner. This work also includes annual surveys for eelgrass, vegetation, and tideline monitoring.

Over the years we have held various roles and worked with a variety of consulting firms, City staff, and contractors. Our long-term involvement with this project showcases our ability to cooperatively work simultaneously with numerous team members on a multifaceted project urban wetland restoration construction project.