

CALIFORNIA STATE LANDS COMMISSION
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Established in 1938

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HISTORIC BOLSA CHICA LOWLANDS RESTORATION PROJECT TO CELEBRATE 10th ANNIVERSARY

(Sacramento) – On August 24, 2016, the California State Lands Commission, Amigos de Bolsa Chica, and local officials will commemorate the 10th anniversary of the historic wetlands restoration and inlet opening that rejuvenated the Bolsa Chica Lowlands in Huntington Beach. After the event, the Amigos de Bolsa Chica will host a screening of the *Saving Bolsa Chica Wetlands* at the nearby Central Library.

When: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Where: Pacific Coast Highway at Seapoint Street, Huntington Beach, CA 92648
Limited parking is available at the Heliport Lot and overflow parking is available at Bolsa Chica state Beach. A shuttle is available to transport attendees from the overflow lot.

Note: After the commemoration, the Amigos de Bolsa Chica is hosting a screening of the *Saving Bolsa Chica Wetlands* by Endless Eye Productions. The viewing will occur at 11:30 a.m. at the Huntington Beach Central Library Theater located at 7111 Talbert Avenue, Huntington Beach.

The restoration project, covering approximately 1,247 acres, restored portions of the wetland ecosystem and tidal influence from the Pacific Ocean to half of this area to reinvigorate the wetland ecosystem. The restored tidal inlet opened on August 24, 2006, marking the first time in 107 years that the tide flowed into parts of the Bolsa Chica wetlands.

"The Bolsa Chica Lowlands Restoration Project is a remarkable achievement," said Jennifer Lucchesi, Executive Officer of the State Lands Commission. "The Amigos de Bolsa Chica were foundational to the restoration and I commend them for their vigor and passionate advocacy and hard work."

The historic restoration project, the result of decades of planning and collaboration by volunteers and government entities, is the largest wetland restoration in southern California history. Post-restoration monitoring shows that the basin has meaningfully increased available bay habitat and improved fishery resources. Bolsa Chica is a critical stop for migrating shorebirds on the Pacific Flyway and with the introduction of tidal influence and resultant mudflats, provides a rich invertebrate community that is a food source to these birds.

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