

Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority

Date: May 7, 2020

To: Governing Board Members

From: Mark Stanley, Executive Officer

Subject: Item 8: Consideration of a resolution ratifying acceptance a grant from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for the Southern Los Cerritos Wetlands Restoration Project

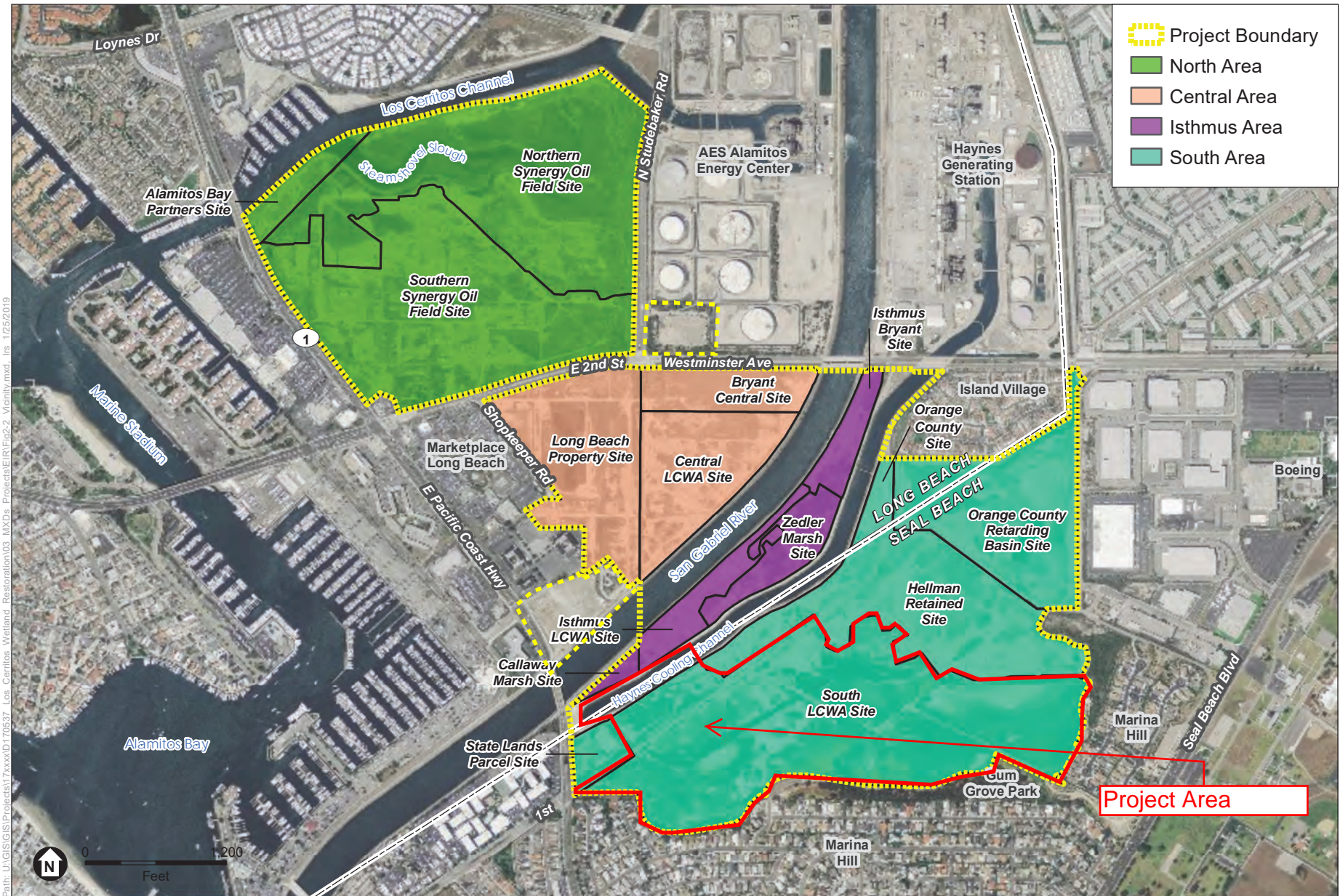
RECOMMENDED ACTION: That the Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority (LCWA) ratify acceptance of a grant from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for the Southern Los Cerritos Wetlands Restoration Project.

BACKGROUND: The Southern Los Cerritos Wetlands Restoration Project is the next phase in the restoration of the Los Cerritos Wetlands (LCW) (Exhibit A). It will build off conceptual designs for the 100-acre LCWA owned Hellman site developed as part of the LCW Restoration Plan Program EIR, and complete 65% restoration designs, compliance with CEQA, and preparation of permit applications.

In November 2019, the LCWA submitted an application for the Southern Los Cerritos Wetlands Restoration Project in response to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's (CDFW's) 2020 Proposition 1 and Proposition 68 Grant Opportunities Proposal Solicitation Notice. The LCWA was notified in March 2020 that an award of up to \$405,828 has been allocated toward this project under their Proposition 1 Watershed Grant Program.

The project area is the first priority for detailed planning because no additional land needs to be acquired to implement restoration. The restoration of the planning area will provide critical tidal salt marsh and transitional habitat for migratory birds along the Pacific Flyway. Conceptual restoration designs call for tidal marsh, transition zone, and upland shrublands and grasslands on the site. Planning for public trails would also be included. The LCWA will continue to engage with the Technical Advisory Committee, our stewards, and the public in the development of the restoration design.

FISCAL: The FY 19/20 budget revisions will reflect the \$405,828 in grant funds from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.



SOURCE: Mapbox, LCWA

Los Cerritos Wetlands Restoration Plan Program EIR

Figure 2:
Site and Local Vicinity

Project Area

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RESOLUTION 2020 – 02

RESOLUTION RATIFYING ACCEPTANCE OF A GRANT FROM THE
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE FOR THE
SOUTHERN LOS CERRITOS WETLANDS RESTORATION PROJECT

WHEREAS, the Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority (LCWA) has been established between the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy, the State Coastal Conservancy, the City of Long Beach and the City of Seal Beach to facilitate the acquisition, protection, conservation, restoration, maintenance and operation, and environmental enhancement of the Los Cerritos Wetlands; and

WHEREAS, the Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority has further been established to focus on projects which will provide open space, habitat restoration, and watershed improvement projects within the Los Cerritos Wetlands; and

WHEREAS, the Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority desires to accept Grant Funds from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for the Southern Los Cerritos Wetlands Restoration Project; and

WHEREAS, the Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority desires to enter into an Agreement with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to provide funds for the Southern Los Cerritos Wetlands Restoration Project; and

WHEREAS, This action is exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA); and NOW

Therefore, be it resolved that the Board of the LCWA hereby:

1. FINDS that the actions contemplated by this resolution is exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act.
2. FINDS that this action is consistent with the purposes and objectives of the LCWA.
3. ADOPTS the staff report dated May 7, 2020.
4. APPROVES to ratify acceptance of grant funds from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for the Southern Los Cerritos Wetlands Restoration Project and amends the LCWA Budget FY 19/20 as necessary.
5. APPOINTS the Executive Officer, or designee, to execute and submit all documents including, but not limited to, applications, agreements, amendments, payment requests and so forth, which may be necessary for the completion of the aforementioned grant agreement.

~ End of Resolution ~

Passed and Adopted by the Board of the LOS CERRITOS WETLANDS AUTHORITY on
May 7, 2020.

Sam Schuchat, LCWA Chair

ATTEST: _____
David Edsall, Jr.
Deputy Attorney General