

LOS CERRITOS WETLANDS STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM REPORT: OCTOBER 2025

Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority

Executive Summary

From October 1, 2025-October 31, 2025, the Stewardship Program engaged a total of 120 volunteers who participated in community-based habitat restoration programs. The 240 hours worked by these volunteers contributed \$8,349.60 of in-kind services. These volunteers propagated over 227 plants, removed 375 pounds of weeds, and planted 23 salt marsh plugs. The Los Cerritos Wetlands Stewardship Program (LCWSP), in partnership with the Los Cerritos Wetlands Land Trust and Applied Energy Services (AES), hosted four field trips for students. Additionally, the Conservation Corps of Long Beach assisted six times during this period with land management and stewardship tasks such as assisting with site preparation, solarization of invasive ice plant at Southern Los Cerritos Wetlands, and salvaging plants to be replanted during the restoration.

Monthly Habitat Restoration Events

Monthly Habitat Restoration events take place at Zedler Marsh every 1st Saturday of the month. Volunteers help with many activities from native plant installation, non-native plant removal, mulching, trash clean-ups, plant propagating, watering, site preparation, and trail clean-up.

The LCWSP hosted one monthly habitat restoration event during this period on Oct 4th, 2025 (Figure 1). A total of 40 volunteers removed 175 pounds of weeds. All this help from the community resulted in 80 hours of volunteer work contributing \$2,783.20 worth of in-kind services. This event is supported by funding from AES.

Special Events

Community and school groups regularly reach out to participate in special community-based habitat restoration events. The LCWSP hosted four additional community-based habitat restoration events with Cal State Long Beach Wetland Ecology class on October 7th, Cal State Long Beach Re:Wild club on October 11th, and CCLB Blue Shield on October 16th at Zedler Marsh and AES Values Day on October 17th at Southern Los Cerritos Wetlands during this period (Figure 2-4). In total, 200 pounds of weeds were removed, 204 plants were propagated, 23 salt marsh plugs were installed, and various plant care tasks were performed in the nursery. A total of 160 volunteer hours were contributed with \$5,566.40 of in-kind services. These events are supported by funding from AES.

Environmental Education Field Trips

The LCWSP continues to host a variety of youth groups and community members out at the wetlands. The Los Cerritos Wetlands Land Trust works each year to coordinate class field trips for underserved schools. For these field trips the Land Trust provides a bus that picks up students from their school and transports them to Zedler Marsh. At Zedler Marsh, the LCWSP Environmental Educators offer an engaging and informative curriculum of ecological activities where youth participate in hands-on learning focused on the Los Cerritos Wetlands and Zedler Marsh. Since October 2025, the LCWSP hosted four school field trips which accommodated about 120 Long Beach youth. Since

AES funding started in 2023, this program has served 3,800 students. These field trips are sponsored by the Los Cerritos Wetlands Land Trust (Figure 5 and 6).

Land Tours

Salt Marsh Stroll

In October 2025, the LCWSP hosted one land tour at Zedler Marsh for the Salt Marsh Stroll. The Salt Marsh was offered in October 2025 with 12 participants and experience Zedler Marsh trails system where they encountered many aromatic plants and several bird species while learning about ethnobotany (Figure 7). This was an opportunity to learn about all of the habitat restoration activities that have taken place over the past decade.

Youth Workforce Development

During this period, the Conservation Corps of Long Beach (CCLB) Ocean Corps dedicated six workdays to habitat restoration activities in Zedler Marsh and Southern Los Cerritos Wetlands to help expand the impact of the stewardship team (Figure 8). CCLB has helped with some of the heavy lifting to support the LCW Stewardship Program to work efficiently with a larger field team to accomplish priority tasks such weed whacking and clearing tasks for the stewardship program, leading salt marsh plug procurement and processing, assisting with propagation in the LCWA nursery, and removing nonnative plant species. The Ocean Corps team is very versatile and consistent, and they can assist with sensitive plant communities and can take on laborious tasks to complete the job at hand. Their willingness to learn from LCWSP leaders has allowed us to continue to expand the skills and tasks that they can take on.



FIGURE 1. October 4 Habitat Restoration- Iceplant removal



FIGURE 2. Habitat Restoration- Whitcraft 10.7.25 volunteers



FIGURE 3. Oct 16th Blue Shield and CCLB Habitat Restoration Event



FIGURE 4. October 17th Iceplant Removal Prep Habitat Restoration at Southern Area



FIGURE 5. Stevenson Elementary Field Trip on 10.21 bird matching



FIGURE 6. Elementary School Field Trip 10.06.25 mudballs



FIGURE 7. Oct 4th Salt Marsh Stroll of Zedler Marsh



FIGURE 8. CCLB Ocean Corps clearing space for gravel plant storage at Zedler Marsh on October 16th.