

From: [Susanne Cumming](#)
To: [Hutzel, Amy@SCC](#)
Cc: [SCC Public Comment](#); ben.allen@sen.ca.gov; tina.mckinnor@asm.ca.gov
Subject: 9-14-23 Meeting - Update RE: Ballona Wetlands
Date: Thursday, September 7, 2023 4:14:56 PM

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To: amy.Hutzel@scc.ca.gov

CC: publiccomments@scc.ca.gov, ben.allen@sen.ca.gov, tina.mckinnor@asm.ca.gov

Subject: Please provide an update on the Ballona Wetlands at your 9/14 meeting

Dear Executive Officer Hutzel,

The State Coastal Conservancy has been funding the Ballona Wetlands Restoration Project since December of 2004.

When the Conservancy allocated an additional \$1.5 million for the project in September of 2007, the staff report stated that "[s]taff expects that final planning, environmental review and permitting for the restoration of the site will take approximately three years."

However, it has been sixteen (16) years and many more millions of dollars - yet there does not seem to be any timeline, budget, or roadmap for these wetlands.

Very recently, an injunction was granted, and a new EIR is needed.

Now it looks like your money planning for the project is only going to be used to consume additional time and money -- money that could be used instead, now, to improve the current conditions of the wetlands by way of the most basic stewardship: promoting native vegetation, removing trash, and creating additional educational opportunities for students around greater Los Angeles.

In light of the court's ruling granting the Injunction, please look at this again, and please plan to spend your time and money wisely.

There has been no substantive discussion of the Ballona Wetlands by Conservancy staff since March of 2022, almost 18 months ago.

Please provide a detailed update on this important ecosystem during your Executive Officer's report at the September 14th meeting of the Conservancy Board.

Thank you.

Susanne Cumming

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