

**San Diego Association of Governments
Otay Ranch Preserve Enhancement Project
County of San Diego Department of Parks and
Recreation**

**Quarterly Progress Report
Reporting Period: January 1, 2024 – March 31, 2024
Submission Date: April 03, 2024
SANDAG Contract Number: S1125469**

EMP Land Management Grants

Quarterly Progress Report: January 1, 2024 through March 31, 2024

Otay Ranch Preserve Enhancement Project (SANDAG Contract Number S1125469)

Work Performed this Period:

1. Task 1- Planting

On February 13 and 21, a RECON biologist conducted site assessments to qualitatively monitor the container plants. It was noted that the plants looked healthy. The most vigorous species were chamise (*Adenostoma fasciculatum*), scrub oak (*Quercus berberidifolia*), and San Diego County viguiera (*Bahiopsis laciniata*).

Percent complete: 75%.

2. Task 2-Seeding

Monitored the previously seeded area and determined seed germination within the hard compact soil at the top of the slope was poor.

Percent complete: 80%.

3. Task 3-Watering

On March 14, a RECON biologist conducted a site assessment to determine if supplemental watering was needed. It was determined that supplemental watering was not needed at that time.

Percent complete: 54%.

4. Task 4-Erosion Control

Monitored the project site for erosion issues and observed minor erosion.

Percent complete: 90%.

5. Task 5-Bollards and Sign

On January 12, the RECON restoration crew installed the removable bollards in their bases and locked the bollards to the bases. This closed the road for Quino checkerspot season. One 24-inch by 36-inch aluminum sign stating 'Road Closed' was ordered. The sign was installed on-site on February 21.

Percent complete: 75%.

6. Task 6-Photo Monitoring

On January 25 and February 21, a RECON biologist conducted repeat photo monitoring at previously established photo monitoring locations.

Percent complete: 100%.

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7. Task 7- Reporting

The project biologist prepared the October 1 through December 31, 2023, quarterly report. On January 2024, an FTP link to the draft quarterly report and associated photos was sent to County of San Diego and ESA staff.

Percent complete: 50%.

Work Anticipated Next Period

The following activities are anticipated to occur during the next quarter (April 1 through June 30):

- Water container plants and seed to encourage plant establishment and to supplement natural rain events.
- Remove the seasonal closure sign after the second Saturday in May when Quino checkerspot butterfly flight season ends.
- If the budget reallocation request is approved by SANDAG:
 - Install 60 or more container plants to replace previously installed container plants that had poor vigor and have died.
 - Apply additional host and nectar plant seed.
 - Repair areas that show signs of minor erosion.

Issues to Note

During monitoring efforts it was observed that sixty or more container plants had poor vigor and had died and seed germination within the hard compact soil at the top of the slope was poor.

Photographs & Figures

Photographs 1 through 9 are provided in Attachment 1.

Performance Measures

Please see the attached Project Performance Measures Excel spreadsheet.

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Photos start on next page



Photo #
1

Survey Date
01/12/2024

Coordinates
32.64736309,-116.85697

Description
Bollards installed and
locked to close the road
for QCB season.



Photo #
2

Survey Date
01/12/2024

Coordinates
32.64740726,-116.85696

Description
Plantago erecta
seedlings coming up in
the planting basins.



Photo #
3

Survey Date
01/12/2024

Coordinates
32.64750015,-116.85694

Description
Bahiopsis laciniata
recovering from
herbivory.



Photo #
4

Survey Date
01/12/2024

Coordinates
32.64756763,-116.85699

Description
Erosion control
measures are
functioning as planned.



Photo #
5

Survey Date
01/12/2024

Coordinates
32.64785831,-116.85703

Description
Basins are moist from recent rains and no irrigation is needed for now.



Photo #
6

Survey Date
01/12/2024

Coordinates
32.64558839,-116.85678

Description
Site from Minnewawa Truck Trail.



Photo #
7

Survey Date
02/21/2024

Coordinates
32.64755302,-116.85702

Description
The site doesn't show obvious erosion issues or disturbance.



Photo #
8

Survey Date
02/21/2024

Coordinates
32.64753841,-116.85702

Description
The water bars are preventing ruts from forming down the road.



Photo #
9

Survey Date
02/21/2024

Coordinates
32.64744357,-116.85703

Description
A Road Closed sign was
installed.