

UC Santa Barbara

Newsletters

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UC SANTA BARBARA

North Campus Open Space Restoration Project

NCOS NEWS

October 2018



Rain! Runoff from the first rainfall of the season flows into NCOS from Phelps Creek. [Click here](#) or the image to see a video!

UPDATES & EVENTS

United Way Day of Caring Highlights

Many, many thanks to the 90-plus volunteers who attended last month's United Way Day of Caring event at NCOS to learn about the restoration project and help install up to 1,800 plants and collect 100 pounds of trash and 10 gallons of golf balls!







United Way Day of Caring volunteers helped install plants (top image), collect trash and golf balls (middle image) last month.

Walk and Bike to School Day - October 10

Join us next Wednesday morning (October 10) for Isla Vista Walk and Rolls - part of an annual international walk and bike to school event organized by the Coalition for Sustainable Transportation (COAST). CCBER staff will help guide groups of Isla Vista Elementary students to school on the new trail at NCOS, starting at 7:40. See the COAST map below for information on meeting locations and times ([click here to download a copy](#)).

Here are some interesting statistics about walking and other alternative ways of commuting to/from school and work:

- Thirty years ago, more than 66% of all children walked to school. Today, only 13% of American children walk or bike to school.
- Watching less than 10 hours of TV weekly and engaging in brisk walking at least half an hour daily reduces the risk of obesity by 30% and diabetes risks by 45%.
- If just one out of every 10 commuters who now drive to work switched to walking, we'd save 2 billion gallons of gas a year and reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 25.4 million tons.



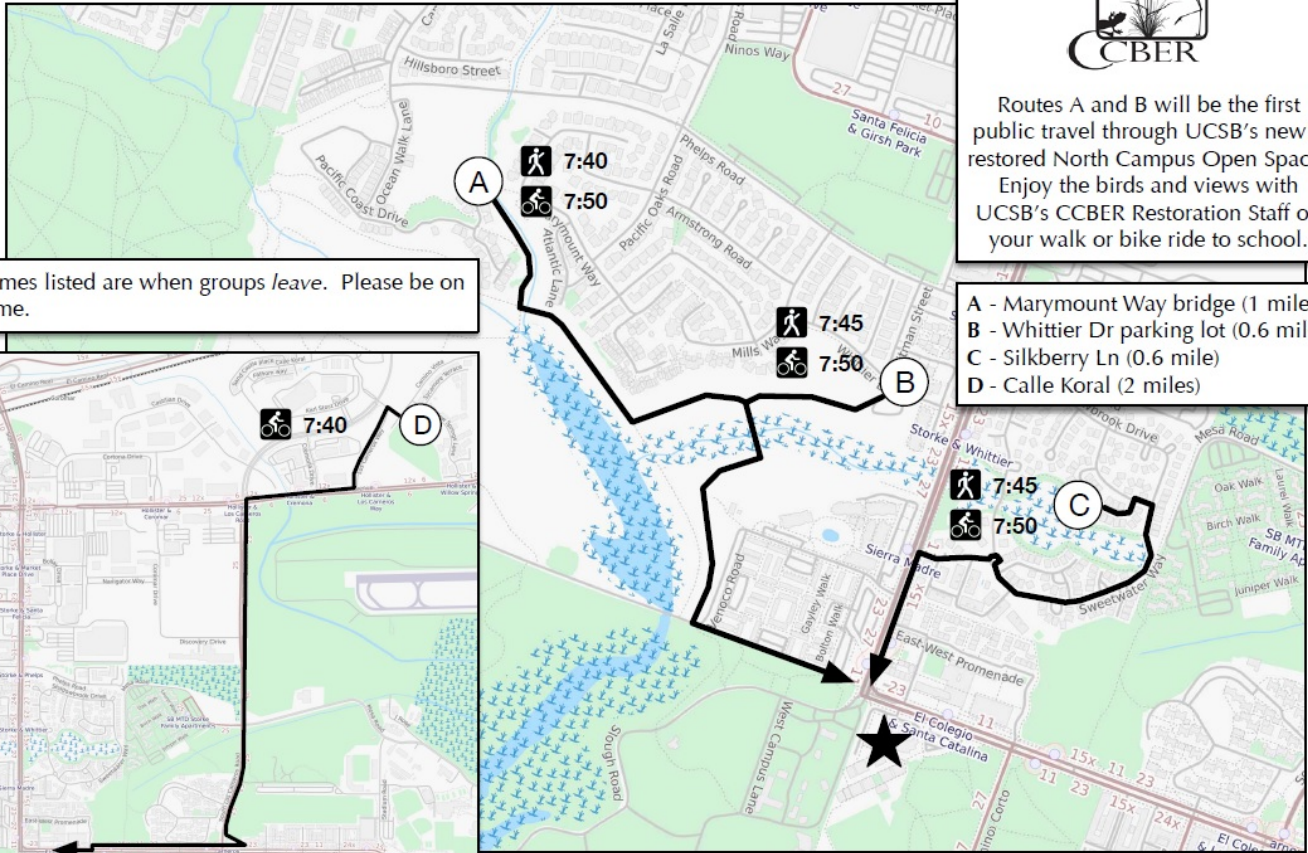
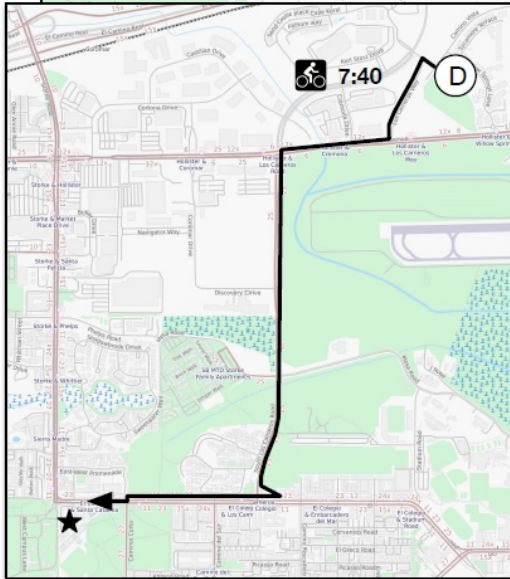
Isla Vista Walk & Rolls October 10!



Routes A and B will be the first public travel through UCSB's newly restored North Campus Open Space! Enjoy the birds and views with UCSB's CCBER Restoration Staff on your walk or bike ride to school.

Times listed are when groups *leave*. Please be on time.

- A - Marymount Way bridge (1 mile)
- B - Whittier Dr parking lot (0.6 mile)
- C - Silkberry Ln (0.6 mile)
- D - Calle Koral (2 miles)



Prepared by COAST Safe Routes to School **COAST**
COAST FOR NATURAL REGENERATION

Trail Opening, Open House and Bird Festival - Saturday October 13

The opening of the Wells-Elings Marsh trail on NCOS is almost here! Come join us Saturday, October 13th to celebrate the opening of the trail at the NCOS open house. This event is co-sponsored by the UCSB Associated Students [Coastal Fund](#) and the [Santa Barbara Audubon Society](#), and will include the [First Annual NCOS Kids Bird Festival](#). See the flyer below for more information, or [click here to download a copy](#). Please also read the short Feature Story in this newsletter about how important you are

Trail Opening!

North Campus Open Space Marsh Trail is opening!
Celebrate the restoration of the historic upper arms of Devereux Slough
and Coastal Access trails connecting the community to nature.

Open House
FREE! Sat. Oct. 13th 9AM-1PM
 6969 Whittier Drive, Goleta

Music • Nature Walks • Q&A • Planting
 Kids Activities • Refreshments • Live Raptors!




Activities:
 9:30-11:30am
 Audubon-CCBER
 Collaborative Kids Bird
 Festival

10am - 1pm
 Audubon Eyes in the Sky
 Hawk and Owl
 Encounters on the trail

9:30am-12:30pm
 Volunteer Planting - Plant
 1 plant or 100 plants!

CCBER Staff will be available
 along the Marsh Trail
 to answer questions.
 Come anytime to walk
 and enjoy the site!

Info available about the project & opportunities to get involved.



THE CHEADLE CENTER FOR BIODIVERSITY AND ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION

Construction Updates - Gator Barn and Fence

Construction of the "Gator Barn" has begun in earnest this week with the contractor preparing the site for laying the foundation. This building will be in the same location where the golf course cart barn once stood, and it will serve as a more permanent maintenance and work vehicle shed.



The construction site for the "Gator Barn" at the northeast corner of NCOS.

The construction fence around the perimeter of NCOS will be removed next week. Since construction and restoration work are ongoing, a shorter fence is being installed along parts of the site to help minimize disturbance to wildlife and sensitive habitats.



A portion of the habitat fence being installed along some areas of NCOS.

FEATURE STORY

The Success of NCOS Depends on You



Map of the Wells-Elings Marsh trail at NCOS and connections to other trails and the surrounding area.

We are excited to open much of the restored North Campus Open Space, trails and bridges to the community. And we are also a bit nervous since construction and restoration work is still in progress. There will be vehicles on site, and the newly planted seedlings as well as the wildlife are sensitive to disturbance.

As we celebrate the opening of the Wells-Elings Marsh Trail, we look forward to sharing information with you about the project and how you can play an important role in making it a success. On October 13th we will host an Open House to celebrate the opening of the trail with refreshments, a kids birding festival, encounters with Audubon's Eyes in the Sky hawks and owls, planting along the trail edge, and CCBER staff and affiliates will be available to answer all of your questions! This event is co-sponsored by our partners, the Santa Barbara Audubon Society and the Associated Students Coastal Fund. Surprise gifts will be available to NCOS ambassadors and volunteers.

Once the party is over, we hope that users will understand that we are opening the site while restoration is still very much in progress: Construction of the visitor plaza and maintenance "gator" barn will be underway through the winter, so the parking lot will not be available until the Spring. Restoration over the next year will focus on the Mesa, so only the Marsh Trail will be open at this time. We plan to open the Mesa next year once planted seedlings are well established.

You can help by:

Being Mindful - Construction and restoration vehicles will be on the trail regularly moving plants, weeds, tools and workers around the site. Please stay aware and safe so we can keep the trail open.

Staying on the Trail - Newly planted seedlings are fragile and vulnerable to trampling, and wildlife are sensitive to disturbance. Please don't take short cuts.

Keeping dogs on a leash - Please allow the wildlife to feel safe so they can enjoy the newly created habitat, and so we can all enjoy watching them. Off leash dogs, even on the trail, can disturb wildlife. Just in the past week we've had dramatic displays by Peregrine falcons, Cooper's and Red-tailed hawks as

well as sightings of the secretive Sora. Sightings like these could be reduced if there is too much disturbance.

Pick up after your pets and selves - Trash is unsightly and can harm wildlife and the environment. Please help us keep the site looking great, natural and healthy.

There are still many opportunities to support NCOS by volunteering and contributing to the endowment for the long term maintenance and use of the site for education and research. Please contact us by email - ncos@ccber.ucsb.edu, or chat with us at the site on October 13th or any day.

Thank you, and we look forward to sharing the project and the open space with you.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



Second Saturdays at NCOS

SATURDAY - October 13th

Come to the NCOS Open House and Trail Opening event and be a part of the restoration story by helping us plant. Meet at 6975 Whittier Drive at 9:00 am. Bring water, sunscreen, and wear a hat, clothes and shoes suitable for garden work. Please RSVP to ncos@ccber.ucsb.edu



Group Volunteer Opportunities

We gladly welcome local business, non-profit, school and other community groups to come out to NCOS to help with planting and other activities. For more information, please send an email to ncos@ccber.ucsb.edu.

Thursdays - CCBER Greenhouse Associates

Come help transplant seedlings of native plants with the CCBER team from 9:00 - 12:00. To join, please send an email to ncos@ccber.ucsb.edu.



COMMUNITY PHOTOS

There's food aplenty at NCOS

Wildlife are exploiting the food resources at NCOS, and we've been fortunate to capture some birds in the act, such as a Killdeer snatching a worm and a Red-tailed Hawk enjoying a rabbit lunch (see photo below and [click here for a short video](#)). Starting next week, we hope that you will also be able to observe and experience similar wildlife activity.



A Killdeer tugs on an earthworm at NCOS. Photo captured by Jeremiah Bender.



A Red-tailed Hawk protects its freshly caught meal of rabbit by the east channel bridge at NCOS.

Have a plant, wildlife, or other photo of the NCOS project site you'd like to share? We welcome submissions of photos of the project site and/or the adjacent Ellwood-Devereux area to share with NCOS News readers. Please email a photo you would like to share along with a brief description to ncos@ccber.ucsb.edu.

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**For more information on the
North Coast Open Space Restoration Project, [Click here](#), or email ncos@ccber.ucsb.edu**



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