



Cardiff Beach Living Shoreline



Development has had a heavy impact on the welfare of coastal dunes. In an effort to restore habitat and provide nature-based sea-level rise adaptation along the Cardiff Beach, the State Coastal Conservancy, in partnership with California State Parks, Ocean Protection Council, California Coastal Commission, City of Encinitas, San Elijo Lagoon Conservancy, and the University of California, Los Angeles, is implementing a dune restoration project. This nature-based sea-level rise adaptation strategy will reconfigure bottom layers of cobble and stone beneath a top layer of imported sand and introduce native seeds collected from nearby lagoons to protect the 2,900 feet of vulnerable Pacific Coast Highway along the beach. This living shoreline approach will produce four acres of native dune habitat and enhance the public's access to the coast. Physical and biological monitoring will be conducted before and after the project construction to provide information on how and why dune topography changes over time and which native plants and planting methods are best suited for dune restoration in the region. The planning and design processes have recently been completed, and current implementation and monitoring efforts will help ensure that the shoreline will maintain viable habitat and natural barriers against the impacts of sea-level rise in the near future.



Images provided by the State Coastal Conservancy

For more information about Safeguarding California and Climate Change Adaptation efforts in California, visit <http://resources.ca.gov/climate/safeguarding/>