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E-News Update | December 2015

Los Peñasquitos Lagoon Bridges Replacement Project

Crews Continue Pile Installation on New Rail Bridge

Work has progressed to replace the northernmost, wooden trestle rail bridge over the Los Peñasquitos Lagoon. Crews have placed 22 of the 33 Cast-in-Steel-Shell (CISS) piles, or support columns. The installation of a CISS pile includes pre-drilling a hole, dropping the CISS pile in, and then filling the pile with concrete. Over the next few weeks, daytime work will continue on the outside CISS piles, and the remaining center piles will be installed during planned weekend rail closures in January 2016. Also during December, falsework, which is a temporary wood/steel support structure, will be erected in preparation for installing bent caps – the horizontal components that rest on top of the piles.



A temporary structure is being constructed on one of the center bridges. It will be used as a platform for machinery and to stage/move materials to build the new rail bridge.

During construction, residents can expect daytime noise and intermittent overnight work and lights. Current construction hours are **Monday - Friday, 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.** Intermittent nighttime work will occur during scheduled freight windows, at which time there will be no freight train service. Work schedules are subject to change. The contractor will take all reasonable steps to minimize noise and other impacts to nearby residents and businesses. We appreciate your patience during construction.

Plan in Place to Protect Lagoon During El Niño and High Water Events

Construction in the lagoon presents additional challenges. Considering the potential for water levels to rise, especially during predicted El Niño storms, SANDAG worked with resource agencies and the local community to establish a High Water Action Plan. Proactive measures will be implemented in advance of high water events to ensure the health of the lagoon is maintained.

TRAIN HORN RULES

Federal regulations require train conductors to sound the horn when approaching an active construction site, even in a quiet zone. Train horns serve as a warning system to ensure the safety of railroad workers. More information and rules governing the use of train horns can be found on the Federal Railroad Administration's website at www.fra.dot.gov.

About the Project

SANDAG is working in collaboration with the North County Transit District (NCTD) to replace the four aging, wooden trestle railway bridges in the Los Peñasquitos Lagoon with modern concrete bridges. The lagoon bridges were built between the 1910s and 1930s and have aged beyond the average operating life of 75 years. The bridges require frequent and costly maintenance by NCTD, making replacement the most cost-effective solution. The new single-track bridges will help meet current/future demand for intercity, commuter, and freight rail services. Construction began in August 2015 and is expected to last approximately two years.

Si desea obtener información en español por favor comuníquese al (619) 699-1950 o pio@sandag.org.

Project Map



Did You Know?

Crews install a silt fence, or temporary barrier, around each bridge to protect the water quality of the lagoon.

Silt fences are a temporary sediment control device to protect the water quality of nearby water bodies – such as streams, lagoons, rivers, and the ocean – from sediment.

Project Photo Album

Check out more photos of the lagoon bridges and construction



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