

# Batiquitos Lagoon Double Track



## The Project

The project will add 0.75 miles of second mainline rail track from Avenida Encinas in Carlsbad to La Costa Avenue in Encinitas across the Batiquitos Lagoon. The project also includes replacing a wooden trestle bridge, built in the 1930s, with a modern, double-track concrete rail bridge. As a result of the bridge replacement, lagoon tidal flow will be improved due to a wider channel underneath the bridge.

## The Need

The primary purpose of this project is to replace the wooden trestle bridge, which will improve overall lagoon health, and provide an area for trains to pass. Additionally, the double tracking in this segment directly supports the objectives of SANDAG, North County Transit District (NCTD), Amtrak, and BNSF Railway to increase the efficiency and reliability of the Los Angeles-San Diego-San Luis Obispo (LOSSAN) coastal rail corridor, not only to accommodate existing train volumes, but also to provide for future passenger and freight demand.

This project is a critical part of the 351-mile LOSSAN rail corridor and serves as a vital link for passenger and freight movements in the San Diego region. The LOSSAN corridor is the second busiest intercity passenger rail line in the United States and is the only viable freight rail link between San Diego and the rest of the nation.

The project is also a critical component of the North Coast Corridor (NCC) Program, which includes rail double tracking projects over the Batiquitos and San Elijo lagoons, extending the carpool lanes on Interstate 5, and environmental protection, lagoon restoration, and coastal access improvements.

## Corridor Strategy

Over the next 15 years, SANDAG has approximately \$1 billion in planned improvements for the San Diego segment of the LOSSAN coastal rail corridor, including a primary effort to double track the corridor from Orange County to Downtown San Diego. To date, approximately two-thirds of the county's LOSSAN coastal rail corridor is double tracked, with more than 20 rail improvement projects in design or under construction. By 2050, more

## Project Schedule and Funding

**Current Budget:**  
 \$52.9 million

**Status:**  
 Design

**Estimated Completion:**  
 Anticipated in Phase 2 of  
 The North Coast Corridor Program



-  [SDCaltrans | SANDAGRegion](#)
-  [D11caltrans | SANDAGRegion](#)
-  [SDCaltrans | SANDAG](#)
-  [SANDAGRegion | CaltransDistrict11](#)

June 2022



than 97 percent of the corridor is expected to be double tracked, which allows trains traveling in opposite directions to pass without slowing down or stopping. Other infrastructure improvements include bridge and track replacements, new platforms, pedestrian crossings, and other modernization and operational enhancements.

The rail enhancements are part of a strategy to improve all modes of transportation within the congested I-5 NCC. The NCC Program is a balanced set of transportation, environmental, and coastal access projects to improve the quality of life for residents, create a stronger local and regional economy for the future, and enhance the coastal environment.

## Project Budget

The estimated cost for the project is \$52.9 million. Funding sources include \$5 million from the Federal Transit Administration and \$47.9 million from TransNet, the regional half-cent sales tax for transportation administered by SANDAG.

## Project Status

The project is currently in the design and environmental review phase. Construction is scheduled to begin in Phase 2 of the North Coast Corridor Program.



Batiquitos Lagoon lies between Carlsbad and Encinitas

**For More Information [KeepSanDiegoMoving.com/BLDT](https://www.KeepSanDiegoMoving.com/BLDT)**

June 2022