

**San Diego Association of Governments  
Rare Dune Species Restoration Project  
Nature Collective  
Quarterly Progress Report  
Reporting Period: January 1, 2026 – March 2, 2026  
Submission Date: June 10, 2026  
SANDAG Contract Number: S1125507**

## **EMP Land Management Grants**

### ***Rare Coastal Dune Species Habitat Restoration Project – 2026 Q1 Progress Report***

## **Quarterly Status Report Overview**

During this reporting period Nature Collective staff continued weed management by enlisting volunteers to hand weed throughout the project boundary. Nature Collective staff also repaired fencing rope and monitored as sand was distributed to replace the toe of the dunes that had eroded with winter storms at the Cardiff Living Shoreline (CLS) project site. We also inventoried our dune species seeds to determine what our need for collection and spreading will be for the next couple of years.

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### *Rare Coastal Dune Species Habitat Restoration Project – 2026 Q1 Progress Report*

#### **Work Performed this Period:**

##### **1. Task 1- Seed Collection & Propagation**

Inventory of the seed collection.

##### **2. Task 2- Work & Monitoring Plan**

Reviewed work and monitoring plan in preparation for final site visit.

##### **3. Task 3- Seeding & Planting**

We completed the inventory of our current seed collection for the dunes to determine which seeds we will need to collect for the future since we usually seed every fall/early winter in conjunction with the winter storms to revegetate the foredune area. The front dune area is now requiring annual sand replenishment as the winter storms consistently take about the front 20 feet of the dunes. Since the foredune is considered the sacrificial zone, we only seed it to help propagate species since that is a relatively inexpensive way to vegetate the freshly placed sand.

##### **4. Task 4- Maintenance**

During this quarter staff and volunteers continued weed maintenance; the main target species continues to be annual yellow sweetclover (*Melilotus indicus*) and European searocket (*Cakile maritima*). Additionally, staff continuously maintained and repaired the existing fencing circumventing the dunes to prevent trampling of vegetation from the public.



*Photograph 1: Damaged rope fencing at CLS that was fixed on February 11, 2026.*

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#### 5. Task 5- Monitoring

We qualitatively monitored the status of public exclusionary fencing and vegetated areas to guide volunteer events and staff activities and evaluate when invasive species removal was required.

#### 6. Task 7- GOIN Program

We held our GOIN event at Cardiff Living Shoreline on February 7, 2026. We had 20 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade students and their families (46 people in total) participate in manual weeding of the dunes and outplant in areas where necessary. We completed the GOIN task this quarter.

#### 7. Task 8- Administrative

Bradley Nussbaum oversaw and participated in daily planning, project management, invoicing, monitoring and restoration tasks during this period.

### Work Anticipated Next Period

No additional work is planned for this project. This is the final quarterly progress report of this project.

### Issues to Note

As stated in previous quarterly reports- after project planning began, we determined that we will more than likely not be able to meet two of our performance measures including “*Atriplex coulteri* – 200 individuals restored” and “*Phacelia stellaris* – 200 individuals restored”. However, we anticipate restoring 400+ individuals of *Chaenactis orcuttiana ssp. glabriuscula* (Orcutt’s yellow pincushion) to replace those performance measures. Orcutt’s yellow pincushion is listed at California Rare Plant Rank 1B.1 – “Plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere; seriously threatened in California” and has only 20 presumed extant occurrences in California (CNPS, RPP 2023). We do not expect to meet the original performance measures due to the lack of seed available to ethically collect as well as the difficult germination requirements.

### Photographs & Figures

All maps are included in Appendix A following this report.

### Performance Measures

[EMP11\\_2026 Q1 Performance Measures.xlsx](#)

## Appendix A: Maps



# Map B: Photo Monitoring Points



Photo Monitoring Points

# Map C: Transect Monitoring Locations



Transect Monitoring Locations

# Map D: Planting and Seeding Areas



Planting and Seeding Areas