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**PRESS RELEASE**

The Bolsa Chica Land Trust is pleased to announce the release of the Sustainable Alternatives Study for the lowland wetland system at the Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve. Prepared by Anchor QEA and three years in the making, the study outlines goals and alternative methods for the short-term, mid-range and long-term management of this environmentally critical site, and it assesses potential effects of sea-level rise on the system. Whereas high-quality habitat has been achieved within the Full Tidal Basin, the establishment of salt marsh in other areas of the system have been a challenge to achieve.

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Although it was hoped that the study would identify simple and direct measures that could be undertaken immediately to relieve the lowland’s management challenges, this exhaustive review found that in the short term, the best option is to continue both the maintenance dredging the of the full tidal basin and the current water management plan for the muted tidal basin. With that, however, several exciting mid-term and long-term options have been identified for different parts of the system, which if implemented would achieve many of the desired goals for the restoration and ongoing maintenance of these wetlands. The Bolsa Chica Land Trust is committed to supporting the State Lands Commission and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife in pursuing these mid-term and long-term options for sustainably managing this part of the Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve and increasing the biodiversity and resilience of its critical wetland habitats.

**ENDORSEMENTS**

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Surfrider Foundation

This project was paid for by a Proposition 1 grant from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and undertaken in partnership with the state and federal agencies that make up the Bolsa Chica Steering Committee.

The Land Trust welcomes the public to review the Sustainable Alternatives Study on our website at [www.BCLandTrust.org](http://www.BCLandTrust.org). Please contact BCLT Executive Director Kim Kolpin at [Kim@bclandtrust.org](mailto:Kim@bclandtrust.org) or (714) 846-1001 with any questions.

