

# Restoring a Rare Freshwater Seep in Support of the Federally Endangered Marsh Sandwort

Organization: The Regents of the University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB)

Project Period: March 2022 – September 2023

Amount: \$48,927.26

Location: East Storke Wetland, Santa Barbara County

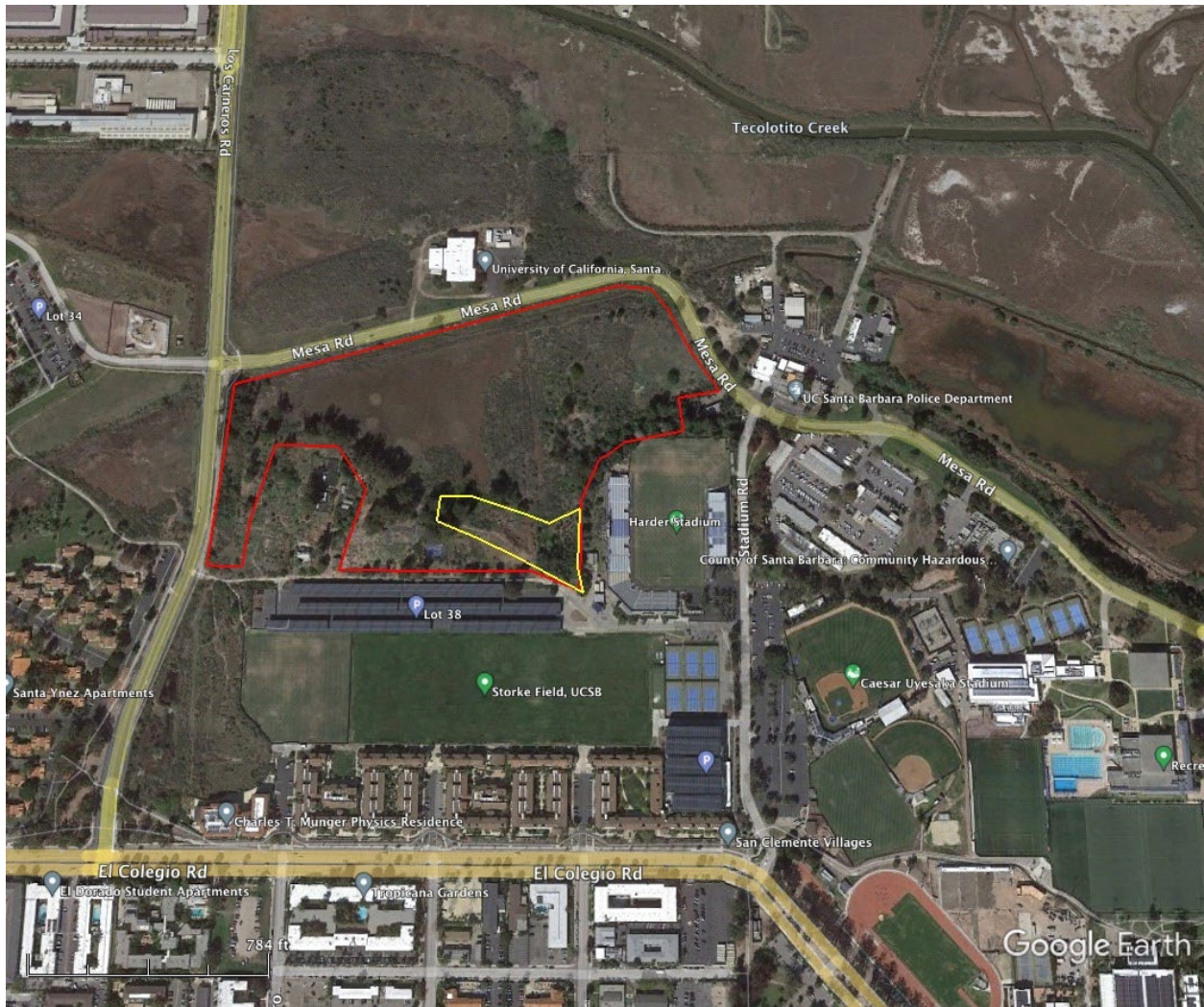
## Project Description

This project will restore a rare half-acre freshwater seep wetland plant community in order to support a new population of the federally endangered marsh sandwort. This project will build on previously funded work and will include extensive weed control and planting activities to establish a suite of species adapted to a continuously wet freshwater site below a mesa on the edge of a remnant port of the Goleta Slough salt marsh. The other goal of this project is to install an interpretive sign at the site along a public trail and adjacent to the greenhouse and classrooms. This project will include participation by UC Santa Barbara students and staff from UCSB's Cheadle Center for Biodiversity and Ecological Restoration (CCBER).

## Project Progress

A quote and contract with Bob's Backhoe and Trucking, Inc. has been initiated to implement proposed minor soil replacement of mucky, organic, saline soils with 18 cy of sandy, slightly amended (with compost) soils from Agromin. Following that work, native wetland and edge plants that are being grown for the project will be installed to form several unique and locally rare plant communities that reflect the unique nature of the continuously wet seep, the Monterey shale mesa bluff soils and the proximity to a salt marsh.

Work is currently focused in the greenhouse on propagating native species.



Red outline of 25-acre East Storke Wetland and yellow outline of approx. 2 acre seep project area.

Truck load of material removed from the site, typically several like this a week are removed during the summer months



Excavation on west side for sand addition



Three excavation holes with sand added

