

*How you can help: Stay informed, Speak out at meetings, Participate,
Write letters to editors of local newspapers & elected officials.*

**Ask for an Essential Freshwater Seasonal Wetland Alternative for Wildlife Neighbors
& a comment period extension to March 24, 2018.**

JOIN THE SIERRA CLUB Ballona Bus Tour . . .

What: Ballona Wetlands Sierra Club Bus Tour*

When: 9 am – 1pm Saturday, December 2nd

Where: Park / Board Bus at Dock 52, on Fiji Way just off Lincoln Blvd.

Why: Come tour and meet our Wildlife Neighbors in Areas A, B (via the Audubon Open Wetlands event), C, the Riparian Corridor and Freshwater Marsh.

Ballona Photographers & Naturalists, [Bev-Sue Powers](#) and [Jonathan Coffin](#), will be our guides.

Email to reserve a bus seat: Jeanette@saveballona.org \$5.00 recommended contribution

**The Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) says the Ballona Wetlands Ecological Reserve
is 97% degraded and needs bulldozers. WE SAY THAT'S 'ALT' FACTS!**

**The Bus Tour will show that the Wetlands are teeming with life. Our goal is a restoration that's mindful of
our existing wildlife neighbors and regenerates even more of our native biodiversity.**

BACKGROUND

[Draft Environment Impact Report](#)

Meet Our Ballona Wildlife Neighbors



By Bev-Sue Powers, www.BallonaPhotography.com

All life, including humans, possess an innate tendency to seek connections with nature and other forms of life. Conservationist E. O. Wilson coined the term *Biophilia* as "the urge to affiliate with other forms of life". In the past 100-150 years, during the buildup of cities, very little consideration was given to accommodating natural habitats and ecosystems, even as most "neighborhoods", business districts, and transportation centers were built on key migration stop-overs. Even parks were designed for beautification and human recreation, not wildlife. The result was that most wildlife was pushed out of cities and we became more disconnected with and isolated from the nature and rhythms of life,

itself.

Biophilia acknowledges cities as human-designed ecosystems and studies how to design urban ecosystems to meet both human needs and indigenous flora, fauna/wildlife needs. Strong drivers of this relatively new framework are climate change, sea level rise, an unprecedented rate of wildlife species collapse, and people increasingly feeling an intense sense of isolation from the pulse of life.

Imagine what the Ballona Wetlands area was like 100-200 years ago. I imagine it was teeming with wildlife, including a much wider variety of land and sea mammals, shore, marsh, and riparian birds, and many other species and flora. Only a handful of the original species have managed to endure, even as challenges to their very survival continue to mount.

Ironically wildlife can no longer survive without us. I hope for all our sakes we can make sure their progeny still has a home among ours a hundred years hence. We have the opportunity to influence the design of Ballona Wetlands – an urban, coastal wetland – in a way that protects and preserves our existing wildlife neighbors and will gently regenerate more of our native biodiversity.

*Airport Marina Group

Information Courtesy www.SaveBallona.org
For feedback and more information, contact Jeanette@saveballona.org

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KEY REFERENCES

Meet your Wildlife Neighbors

- See Jonathan Coffin's vast photo collection of Ballona Wetlands' wildlife on flicker: [Stonebird](https://www.flickr.com/photos/stonebird/)
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/stonebird/>.
- Visit www.BallonaPhotography.com to see many of our wildlife neighbors I've been lucky enough to photograph.

Alternative 1 is Flood Control Project, not a restoration.

JohnTommy Rosas explains with overlays on the Ballona Wetlands Ecological Reserve (BWER) how Alternative 1 is not a restoration when you compare how things were in the 1860-1870's. **John-Tommy also explains how to restore Area's A and C to fresh water wetlands.**

- TATTN VIDEO OF BWER EIS ALTERNATIVE 1 VS Documented Wetlands. https://youtu.be/3_BB1VmryiQ(link is external)
- JohnTommy Rosas Discussing Many Aspects of the Ballona Wetlands Ecological Reserve Restoration Alternative #1 <https://vimeo.com/172464044> 94 Minutes 6.21.15
- **Legal Implications of Draft Report**
Rex Franke, the Ballona Wetlands Ecological Reserve hasn't been Full Tidal for 2000 years.
 - https://youtu.be/l1g_ZPa77AE 58 Minutes 10.17.17
 - <https://youtu.be/NiVjksxwafo> (Excerpt 3.5 minutes)Walter Lamb, Ballona Wetlands Land Trust Lawsuit Update
 - <https://youtu.be/ul5RTV6S8wY> 32 Minutes 4.19.16
- **The Ballona Natural/Original Wetlands.** Travis Longcore, Ph.D., "Implications of Restoration", an explanation of Ballona's opening and closing to the ocean. Full-Tidal is not natural.
 - <https://youtu.be/1viLaZaVhQY> 61 Minutes 8.2.12
- **Who Has Voice & Vote on Ballona Restoration?** Margot Griswold's Talk on Ballona Wetlands Ecological Reserve Restoration & lack of adequate public participation in the process.
 - <https://vimeo.com/182608145> 24 Minutes 8.27.16
 - **EIR Feedback, BALLONA WETLANDS:** Demand to see height of proposed levees and depth of dredge. Story Poles (Pipes & Mesh) & 3D Models. <https://vimeo.com/179805132> 1 Minute
- **Fly over of Marina Del Rey, CA and Ballona Wetlands** March 3, 2016 AERIAL.
<https://youtu.be/PQVHGOZeNEY> 7 Minutes 3.3.16
- **Seven Ballona Wetlands** Power Point Presentations by Patricia McPherson, President of Grassroots Coalition <http://saveballona.org/presidents-presentations.html>