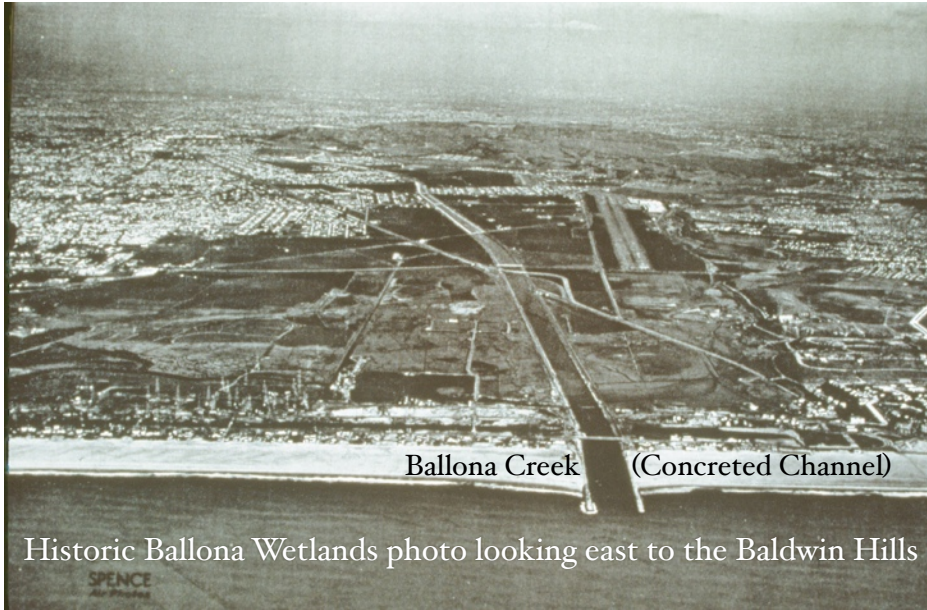


... change can come quickly.”

Chip & Dan Heath, Made to Stick



Ballona Creek (Concreted Channel)

Historic Ballona Wetlands photo looking east to the Baldwin Hills

Since even before the late 1980’s the public has been keenly devoted to the protection and restoration of Ballona Wetlands, here in Los Angeles. Hundreds of visionary volunteers have given up blocks of their lifetimes to work in the most extraordinary David and Goliath battle defending a steadfast goal to protect and preserve for all of America --a vanishing peace and wonderment found in this remnant, endangered **invertebrate** ecosystem.

The public’s lawsuits have been lost and won. In 2003, **taxpayers** paid out \$139 million to literally buy back from the developer’s ongoing destruction of Ballona- a portion of the remaining historic Ballona Wetlands. \$25 million in taxpayer approved bonds were set aside for restoration activities upon Ballona. The **message of preservation from the citizens** of California has always been clear and pure.

Today, we stand at another crossroad in the preservation of Ballona.

When Grassroots Coalition first became involved both in saving Ballona habitat and working towards full disclosure of health and safety issues, 90 per cent of California’s wetlands had already been destroyed. Today, as the letters fall upon this page, more is being staged for wipe out--only for the short term financial profit of a few... and it must stop.

“On Friday, March 26 (2010), the Los Angeles City Council sweetened Goldman Sachs’ pot—substantially. In a vote of 12 to 2, with Westside council members Bill Rosendahl and Paul Koretz opposed, the council handed the big firm significant additional development rights on 111 acres of property it co-owns at Playa Vista. The vote allows Playa Vista’s final build-out phase to dispense with land-use rules that permitted just 100,000 square feet of commercial space---about the size of a single Costco warehouse—to allow about 2.6 million square feet of



Herons in Area A