

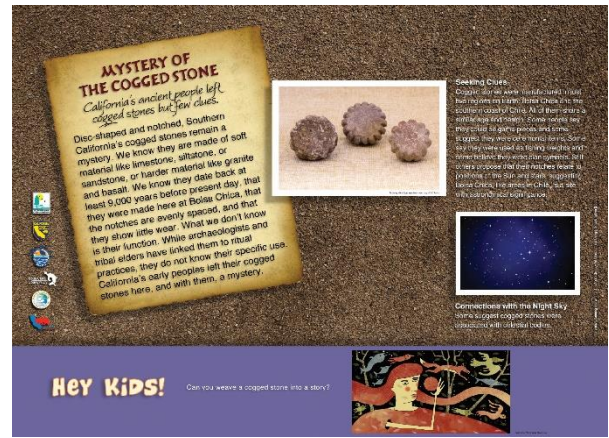
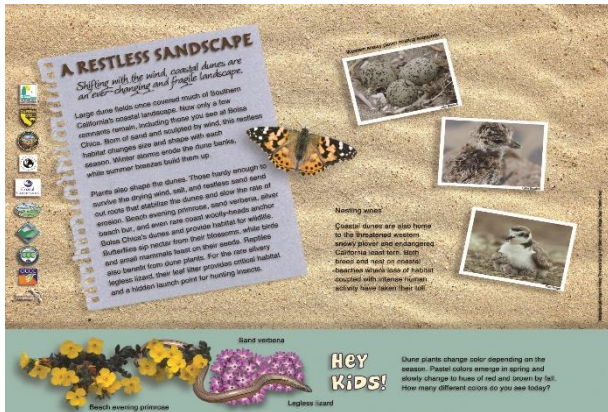
Bolsa Chica Wetlands Huntington Beach, California

The Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve encompasses nearly 1,500 acres and includes the largest saltwater marsh between Monterey Bay and the Tijuana River Estuary. Beautiful in its own right, it is also critical habitat for wildlife, including several species threatened with extinction.



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The Acorn Group has been working with the Bolsa Chica Conservancy for over a decade. In 2010 we prepared a sign master plan which defined design direction for wayside panels throughout the reserve. In 2012 we began developing them, completing the first phase in 2014. In 2016 we completed the second phase, resulting in 22 panels placed at the dunes, salt marsh, tidal basin, and mesa.



In 2021 we teamed with James Freed Design and John Murray Productions and turned our sights to the Conservancy's new interpretive center. Paying attention to heritage stories, we interviewed Indigenous People, scientists, and resource managers to make sure we accurately depicted current conservation work. We also paid attention to the needs and interests of a recreating audience. We identified a rich mix of interactive media: digital touchscreens, QR codes, microscopes, egg replicas, mudflat models, and vibrant aquaria and terraria to engage visitors young and older alike.

