

July 2013

About the Southwest Fisheries Science Center La Jolla Laboratory

The planning, design and construction of NOAA's Southwest Fisheries Science Center La Jolla Laboratory Replacement Project represents a unique blend of form, function and sustainability. Overlooking the Pacific Ocean, the building will be a focal point for ecosystem-based fisheries research, surveys and technological development. The new facility includes 124,000 square feet of office and laboratory space for 275 scientists and support staff from the Southwest Fisheries Science Center, Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission and California Department of Fish and Wildlife and a unique, multistory, 525,000-gallon Ocean Technology Development Test Tank. State-of-the-art laboratories include experimental aquaria, large animal necropsy, biotechnology, advanced survey technologies, ecology and life history, in addition to extensive research collections and a main library.

The design goals were to create a building that would take advantage of the natural characteristics of the site and local climate while fostering the ever-changing needs of science. The architectural team included a wide variety of innovative design and sustainable strategies covering all areas of the project: energy efficiency, rooftop photovoltaic cells, elaborate water retention systems, regionally sourced materials, terra cotta solar shading, charging stations for electric cars and green roofs planted with California coastal chaparral.

While still a work in progress, the building received an Honor Award from the San Diego chapter of the American Institute of Architects in 2008, and was nominated for a Member's Choice award in 2010. In 2012 the building won an Energy and Environmental Stewardship award from the U.S. Department of Commerce, and in the first months of 2013 the project has been awarded the San Diego Gas & Electric Energy Showcase award, the Project Achievement award by the San Diego chapter of the Construction Management Association of America, and a Merit Award for Engineering Excellence from the American Council of Engineering Companies, California.

The project is funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
Southwest Fisheries Science Center
8901 La Jolla Shores Drive
La Jolla, CA 92037
858.546.7000
<http://swfsc.noaa.gov/newlab>

Project Details:

Architect: Gould Evans, Kansas City MO
Associate Architect: Delawie, San Diego CA
Mechanical/Electrical Engineer and Prime Consultant: Gibbens Drake Scott, Raytown MO
Structural Engineer: TranSystems Corporation, Kansas City MO
Specifications, Laboratory Consultant, Security Consultant, and Sustainability Consultant: HDR Architecture, San Diego CA
Life Support Systems Consultant: MWH Americas, San Diego CA
Civil Engineer: RBF Consulting, San Diego CA
Landscape Architect: Wimmer Yamada & Caughey, San Diego CA
Vegetated Roofs Consultant: Jeffrey L. Bruce & Company, Kansas City MO
Renderings: Gould Evans

Location: La Jolla, California, USA
Project Area: 214,000 sf
Project Completion: 2013

For more information:

- Building Tour Inquiries (September 25 only) Bastiaan Bouma, bbouma@aia.sandiego.org 619.232.0109
- Architecture and Design Inquiries: Gould Evans Architects, Liz Thelen-Torres, Liz.Thelen-Torres@GouldEvans.com 415.503.1411 x 1130
- SWFSC Facility Operations and Research Inquiries: Sarah Mesnick, sarah.mesnick@noaa.gov 858.546.7000