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Living Coast Discovery Center to Host 10th Annual Farm to Bay Event on Saturday, Aug. 3

Culinary event on San Diego Bay to feature Chefs Matt Gordon, Will Gustwiller, Davin Waite, and dozens more to support coastal wildlife, education and sustainability programs

SAN DIEGO (June 19, 2018) – The Living Coast Discovery Center will host its **10**th annual Farm to Bay event on Saturday, Aug. 3 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The unique tasting event, set inside a national wildlife refuge on San Diego Bay in Chula Vista, brings together more than 30 of San Diego's favorite restaurants, breweries, wineries and more to support coastal wildlife, education and sustainability programs at the nonprofit zoo/aquarium.

This year, **three featured chefs** will headline the event, including Matt Gordon (**Blue Bridge Hospitality**), Will Gustwiller (**Eclipse Chocolate Bar & Bistro**) and Davin Waite (**Wrench & Rodent Seabasstropub**). Each chef will present three of their signature tastes for the event's anticipated 450 guests.

Farm to Bay will also include sampling from dozens of other local restaurants, craft breweries, wineries and specialty purveyors. Confirmed partners include **Top of the Market**, **Tom Ham's Lighthouse**, **Busalacchi Restaurants, Sushi on a Roll, Bull & Bourbon, Dang Brother Pizza, Big Front Door, City Tacos, Seven Mile Casino, San Diego Convention Center, Cravory Cookies** and **Sprouts Farmers Market–Chula Vista and Eastlake.** Beverage partners include **Cutwater Spirits, Mike Hess Brewing, Boochcraft, Quigley Fine Wines, Wiens Family Cellars, Bay Bridge Brewery, Groundswell Brewing Co., Sierra Nevada Brewing Co., Serpentine Cider, Dojo Café** and many more. A full list of participating food and beverage partners can be found at <u>www.thelivingcoast.org/farmtobay</u>.

The event will feature musical performances, live and silent auctions and up-close encounters with the Living Coast Discovery Center's beloved animal ambassadors including endangered sea turtles, sharks, hawks, eagles, owls and more.

Farm to Bay is for guests 21+ only. Tickets are available at <u>www.thelivingcoast.org/farmtobay</u>. See website for pricing, including early-bird discounts and multi-ticket packages starting on July 1. Guests are encouraged to purchase tickets early as the event is expected to sell out.

In keeping with the Living Coast's commitment to environmental sustainability, the Farm to Bay event committee has taken the necessary steps toward producing a **Zero-Waste event** by working closely with its partners to reduce overall waste and offer reusable and earth-friendly materials. Event waste is hand-sorted and composted on-site by a team of volunteers. In 2018, **over 90 percent** of event waste was recycled or composted and diverted from landfills – the highest totals ever for the event.

This year, Farm to Bay guests will also be able to explore the Living Coast's latest seasonal exhibit, **SEA the Change**, which shines a light on critical environmental issues such as habitat destruction, ocean pollution, coral bleaching, climate change and more. SEA the Change aims to inspire new ideas for making a difference in our own communities with small changes that can have a lasting, positive impact on the planet.

The event is made possible by the generous support of its sponsors, including this year's presenting sponsor Seven Mile Casino and preservation sponsor Collins Aerospace. Additional sponsors include Chula Vista Clean, Cox Communications, Marine Group Boat Works, Mission Federal Credit Union, San Diego Gas & Electric, Baldwin and Sons, MA Engineers, Republic Services, Sprouts Farmers Market–Chula Vista and Eastlake, Wells Fargo, Jim Biddle, Hoffman Hanono Insurance and Miller Hull. Media partners for the event include San Diego Magazine, Edible San Diego, Sunny 98.1 FM and KSDY Channel 50.

Additional sponsors and food and beverage partners continue to be added to this event. For assistance with these inquires, contact Jessica LaFave at jessica@thelivingcoast.org or (619) 409-5906.

About the Living Coast Discovery Center

The Living Coast Discovery Center, a 501(c) 3 educational zoo and aquarium located within the San Diego Bay National Wildlife Refuge on Sweetwater Marsh, began operating as a non-profit in 2010 after assuming operations of the Chula Vista Nature Center. The Living Coast Discovery Center offers hands-on exhibits and up-close encounters with plant and animal species native to Southern California coastal habitats, including endangered sea turtles, sting rays, leopard sharks, jellies, shorebirds, reptiles and a large collection of raptors such as hawks, falcons, owls, American bald eagles, golden eagle, and more. More information about the Living Coast Discovery Center is available at <u>www.thelivingcoast.org</u> or (619) 409-5900.

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