

Seymour

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look at the world a little more like scientists would."

The \$6.25 million Seymour Center was financed almost entirely with private funds, including a \$2 million contribution from the Seymour family of San Francisco.

It is one of five facilities that will be built on the Long Marine Laboratory site on Santa Cruz's Westside.

Next door, the Center for Ocean Health, which will provide lab and office space for marine scientists, is under construction.

Heffington estimates there will be 80,000 to 100,000 visitors to the Seymour Center annually. The center's activities will include public tours, school programs, teacher workshops, field trips, lectures, public events and research and scientific education awards.

The center's opening has been so anticipated that school field trips are already booked for the year, Heffington said.

One of the classrooms is a wet lab with running sea water, where students can examine live sea creatures. Another is a dry lab, with pelts and bones of marine mammals.

Ocean water flows through the tanks from the Monterey Bay a stone's throw away. That means that visitors will be seeing ocean conditions as they really are. Cloudy water will fill the tanks after storms, for instance.

The educational program extends beyond the indoor exhibits to include the natural environment of the site and adjacent Monterey Bay.

Docents will lead tours to the Long Marine Lab facilities, the nearby Younger Lagoon Natural Reserve and the shores of the sanc-

More research facilities

The Seymour Center is one of five research facilities planned for the Long Marine Laboratory property on Santa Cruz's Westside.

- The California Department of Fish and Game in 1997 opened a Marine Wildlife Veterinary Care and Research Center, the nation's largest and most advanced facility for research and care of wildlife injured by marine oil spills.

- The National Marine Fisheries Service laboratory is under construction. The \$19.4 million center is designed primarily for research on salmon and rockfish and will replace a facility in Tiburon.

- UC Santa Cruz's Center for Ocean Health is now under construction and expected to be completed by mid-year. The 23,000-square-foot facility will replace the aging trailers that previously housed the Long Marine Lab staff, and will include offices and laboratories for UCSC faculty, researchers and graduate students.

- Construction will begin this year on a new facility to house the Santa Cruz Predator Bird Research Group. It will be next to the Marine Wildlife Veterinary Care and Research Center.

tuary.

In keeping with the natural environment, Brussels sprouts that once grew on the Seymour Center site have been replaced with indigenous coastal bluff plants and a wetland.

Long Marine Lab is located at the end of Delaware Avenue in Santa Cruz, just past Natural Bridges State Beach.