CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION
SOUTH COAST DISTRICT OFFICE
301 E. OCEAN BLVD, SUITE 300
LONG BEACH, CA 90802-4325
VOICE (562) 590-5071
FAX (562) 590-5084

Click here to go to staff report

F23a-d&g

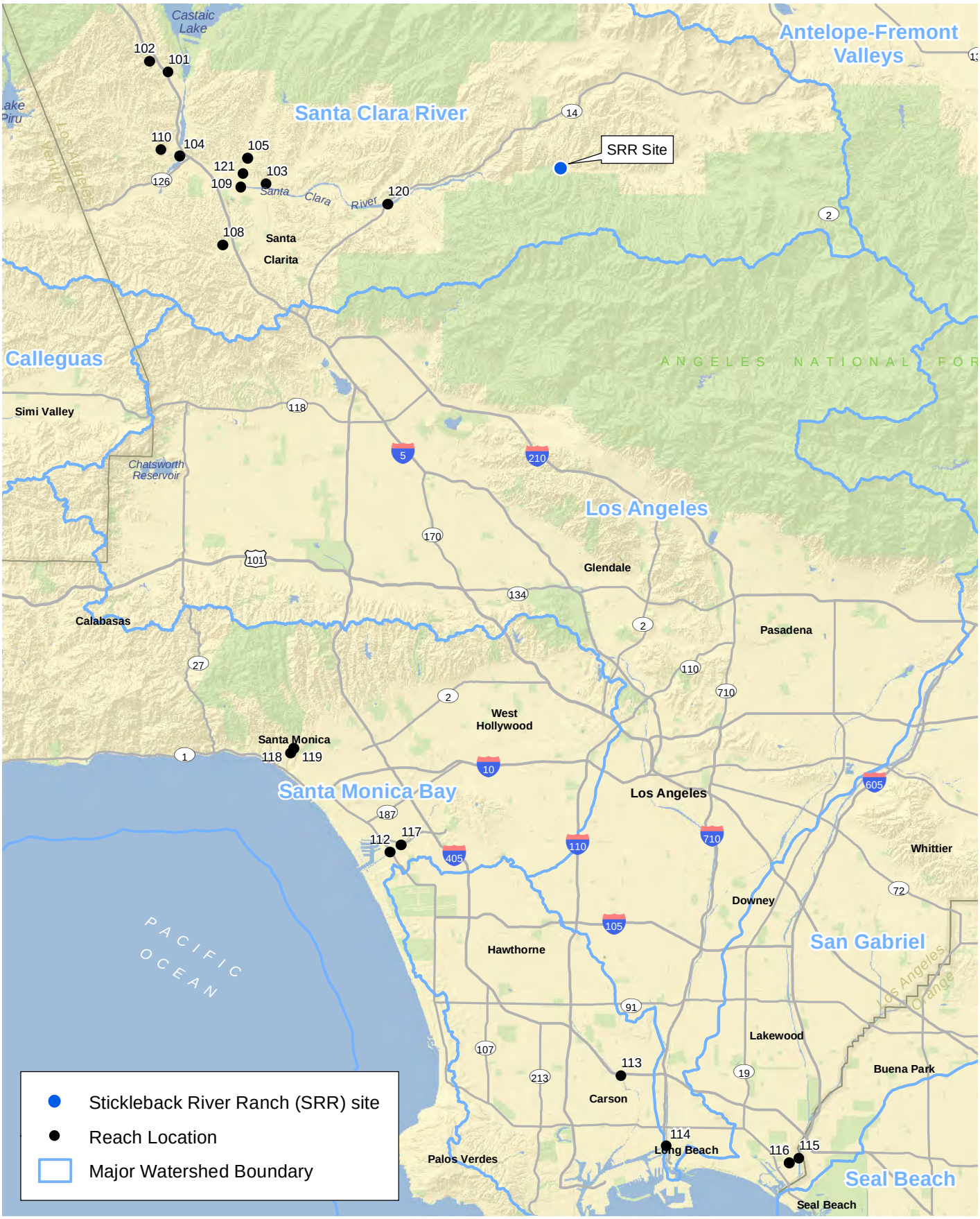
5-15-1026-A1, 5-15-1028-A1, 5-15-1029-A1, 5-15-1046-A1, 5-15-1760-A1

(LACFCD)

NOVEMBER 18, 2022

EXHIBITS

Exhibit 1 – Project Locations



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Regional Location

Attachment 1

Long-term Streambed Alteration Agreement for the Soft-Bottom Channel Maintenance Plan for Select Reaches

N W E S

6 3 0 6 Miles

California Coastal Commission
LACFCD - Reaches 113, 115, 118
Exhibit 1
Page 1 of 4


Right Bank
Left Bank
E Artesia Blvd
W Artesia Blvd
W 182nd St
S Western Ave
S Broadway
S Avalon Blvd
Central Ave
S Wilmington Ave
South St
W 190th St
Van Ness Ave
W Del Amo Blvd
E Del Amo Blvd
Del Amo Blvd
S Main St
S Santa Fe Ave
213
Torrance Blvd
E San Antonio Dr
Carson St
W Carson St
Crenshaw Blvd
Cabrillo Ave
S Vermont Ave
223rd St
W 223rd St
E 223rd St
Avalon Blvd
405
710
110
W Sepulveda Blvd
W Wardlow Rd
Pacific Pl
Long Beach Blvd
Atlantic Ave
S Normandie Ave
S Figueroa St
Wilmington Ave
E Spring St
E Sepulveda Blvd
W Willow St
E Willow St
N Pacific Ave
Lomita Blvd
E Lomita Blvd
Santa Fe Ave
47
Magnolia Ave
1
N Wilmington Blvd
N Avalon Blvd
103
E I St
W 9th St
Anaheim St
W Anaheim St
E Anaheim St
Alameda St
Palos Verdes Drive North
N Gaffey St
W Harry Bridges Blvd
W 6th St
E 7th St
E 6th St
Pacific Ave
W 3rd St
E 3rd St
Santa Clarita
Simi Valley
Los Angeles
Santa Monica
El Monte
Long Beach
Huntington
Access Point/Gate
Reach Centerline and Flow Direction
Reach Study Area
N
W
E
S
3,900
1,950
0
3,900
Feet
Aerial Source: LAR-IAC 2014
Reach 113
Exhibit 2.2j
Long-term Streambed Alteration Agreement for the Soft-Bottom Channel Maintenance Plan for Select Reaches
PSOMAS
(Rev: 09-18-2018 CJS) R:\Projects\DPW\DPW029401\Graphics\MND\
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Access Point/Gate

Reach Centerline and Flow Direction

Reach Study Area

N
W
E
S

2,100 1,050 0 2,100
Feet

Aerial Source: LAR-IAC 2014

Reach 115 Exhibit 2.2l

Long-term Streambed Alteration Agreement for the Soft-Bottom Channel Maintenance Plan for Select Reaches

PSOMAS

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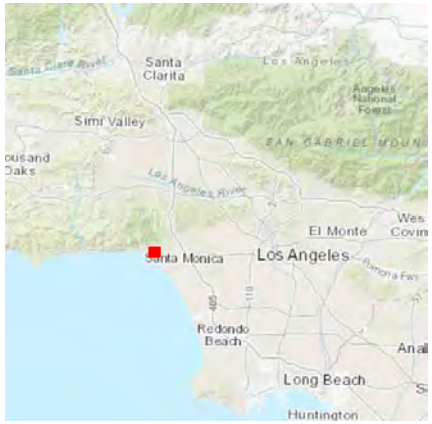

- Access Point/Gate
- Access Road
- Access Ramp
- Reach Centerline and Flow Direction
- Reach Study Area

N
W E
S

400 200 0 400
Feet

Aerial Source: LAR-IAC 2014

Reach 118 **Exhibit 2.2o**

Long-term Streambed Alteration Agreement for the Soft-Bottom Channel Maintenance Plan for Select Reaches

PSOMAS

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Exhibit 2 – Project Plans

LACFCD Easement Boundary

Coastal Zone Boundary

Annual Clearing Impact Area (0.44 acres)

Vegetation Types and Other Areas

Tidal River

Upland Mustards

Aerial Source: LAR-IAC 2014

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Project Impacts – Vegetation Types and Other Areas – Reach 113 – Dominguez Channel

Exhibit 3.1-10m

Long-term Streambed Alteration Agreement for the Soft-bottom Channel Maintenance Plan for Select Reaches

N W E S 310 155 0 310 Feet

PSOMAS

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LACFCD Easement Boundary

Coastal Zone Boundary

Annual Clearing Impact Area (0.44 acres)

Vegetation Types and Other Areas

Tidal River

Aerial Source: LAR-IAC 2014

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Project Impacts – Vegetation Types and Other Areas – Reach 113 – Dominguez Channel

Exhibit 3.1-10n

Long-term Streambed Alteration Agreement for the Soft-bottom Channel Maintenance Plan for Select Reaches

N W E S

310 155 0 310 Feet

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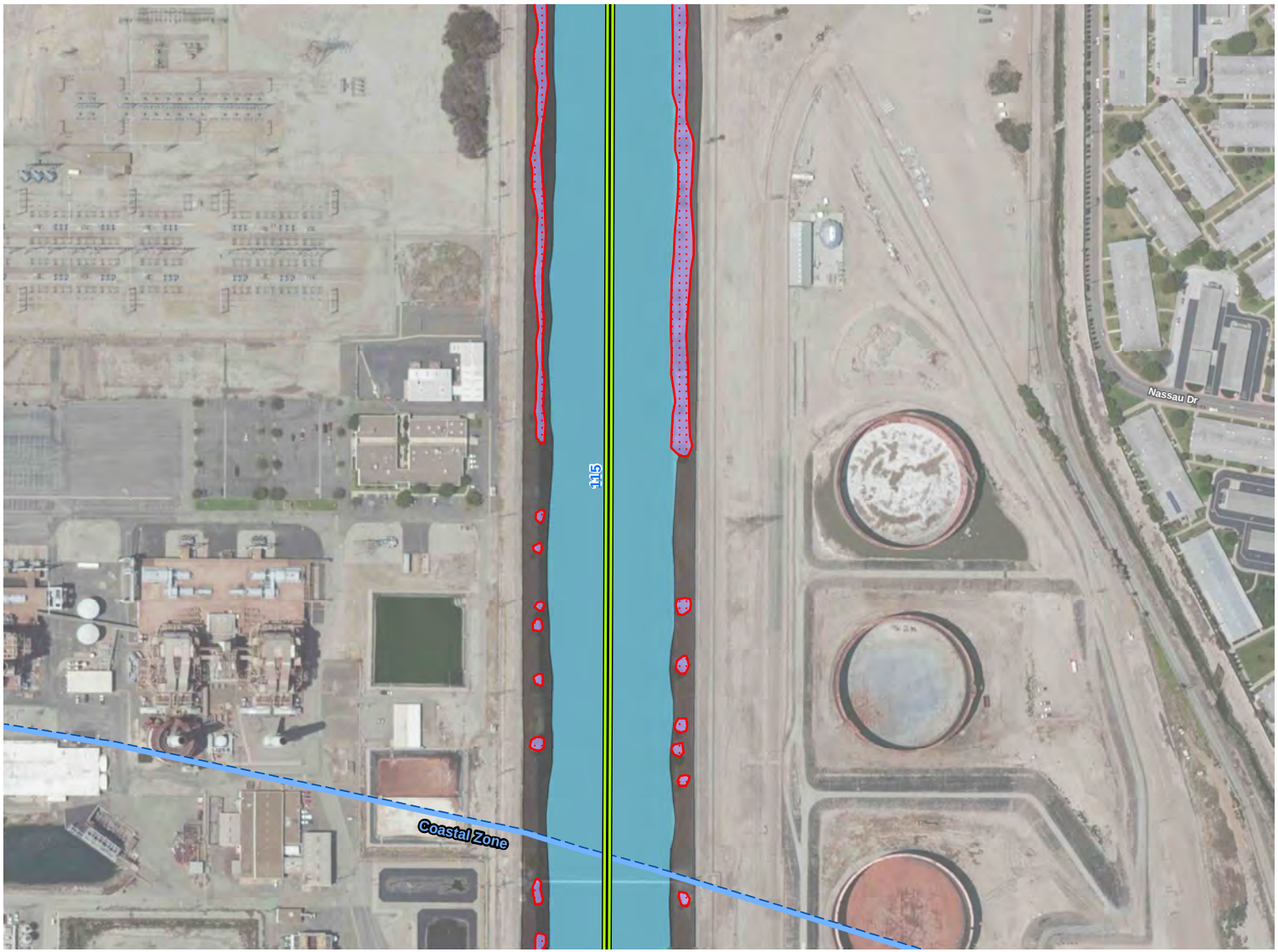

Coastal Zone Boundary

Impacts

Annual Clearing Impact Area

MCV Vegetation Types and Other Areas

Developed

Peppertree Woodland

Tidal River

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Reach 115 – San Gabriel River

Reach 115e

Los Angeles County Flood Control District – Soft-Bottom Channel Maintenance Program

N W E S

200 100 0 200 Feet

Berterra PSOMAS

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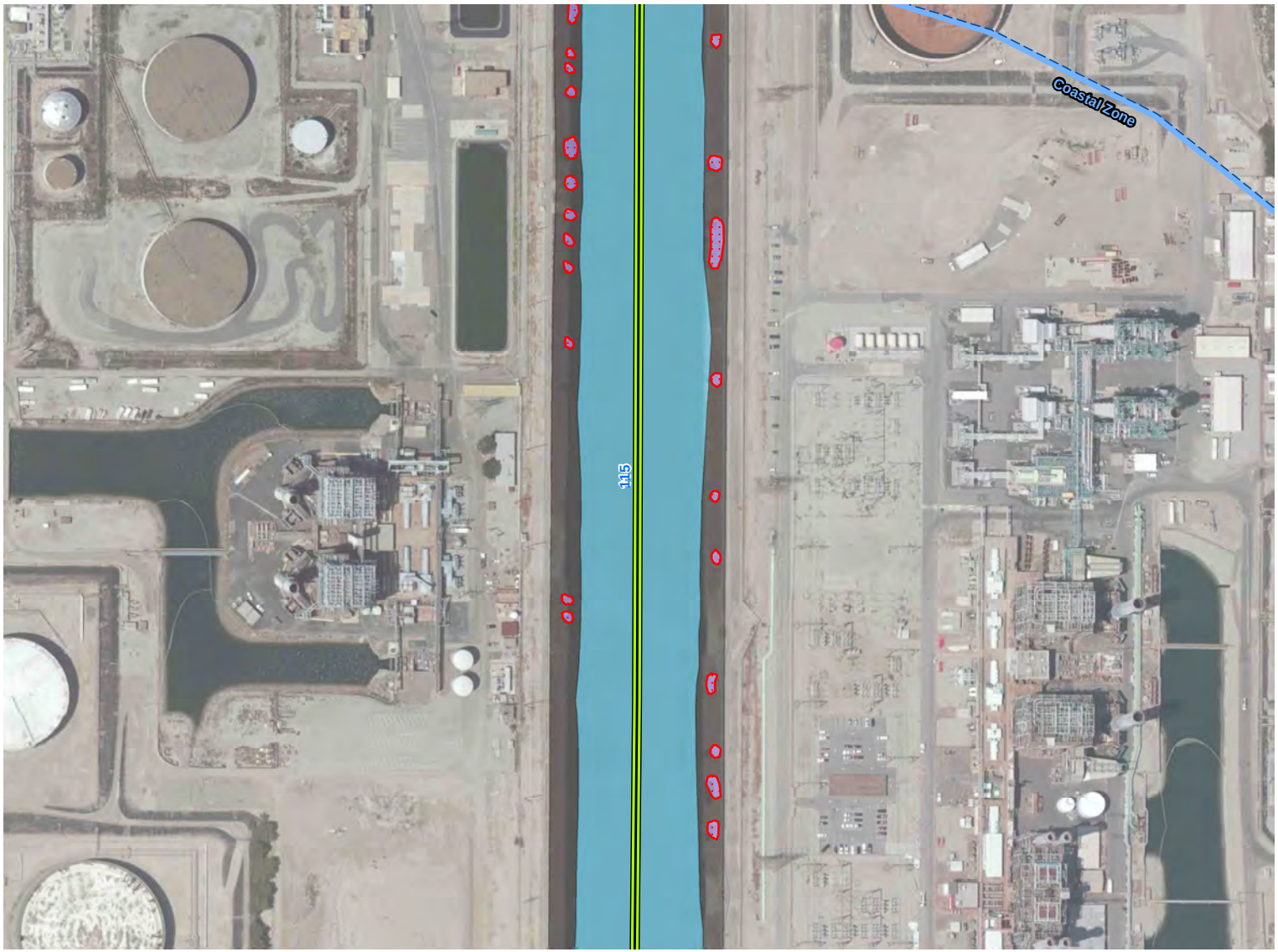

Coastal Zone Boundary

Impacts

Annual Clearing Impact Area

MCV Vegetation Types and Other Areas

Developed

Peppertree Woodland

Tidal River

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Reach 115 – San Gabriel River

Reach 115f

Los Angeles County Flood Control District – Soft-Bottom Channel Maintenance Program

N W E S

200 100 0 200 Feet

Berlerra PSOMAS

(Rev: 08-21-2015 LEW) R:\Projects\CoLADPW (DPW)\J247\Graphics\Reaches_101-119\Ex_112&115_Impacts_20150821.pdf

Impacts

Annual Clearing Impact Area

MCV Vegetation Types and Other Areas

Developed

Peppertree Woodland

Tidal River

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Reach 115 – San Gabriel River

Reach 115g

Los Angeles County Flood Control District – Soft-Bottom Channel Maintenance Program

N W E S

200 100 0 200 Feet

Bonterra PSOMAS

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MCV Vegetation Types and Other Areas

- Developed
- Tidal River

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Reach 115 – San Gabriel River

Reach 115h

Los Angeles County Flood Control District – Soft-Bottom Channel Maintenance Program

N W E S

200 100 0 200 Feet

Berlerra PSOMAS

(Rev: 08-21-2015 LEW) R:\Projects\CoLADPW (DPW)\J247\Graphics\Reaches_101-119\Ex_112&115_Impacts_20150821.pdf

MCV Vegetation Types and Other Areas

- Developed
- Tidal River

Reach 115 – San Gabriel River

Reach 115i

Los Angeles County Flood Control District – Soft-Bottom Channel Maintenance Program

N W E S 200 100 0 200 Feet

BonTerra PSOMAS

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MCV Vegetation Types and Other Areas

- Developed
- Tidal River

Reach 115 – San Gabriel River

Reach 115j

Los Angeles County Flood Control District – Soft-Bottom Channel Maintenance Program

N W E S 200 100 0 200 Feet

BonTerra PSOMAS

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MCV Vegetation Types and Other Areas

- Developed
- Tidal River

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Reach 115 – San Gabriel River

Reach 115k

Los Angeles County Flood Control District – Soft-Bottom Channel Maintenance Program

N W E S

200 100 0 200 Feet

BonTerra PSOMAS

(Rev: 08-21-2015 LEW) R:\Projects\CoLADPW (DPW)\J247\Graphics\Reaches_101-119\Ex_112&115_Impacts_20150821.pdf

Annual Clearing Impact Area (1.54 acres)

Coastal Zone Boundary

LACFCD Easement Boundary (5.19 acres)

USACE Jurisdictional Features

Jurisdictional Wetlands (0.05 acres)

Vegetation Types and Other Areas

Disturbed Riparian Woodland – Non-native Herb (1.10 acres)

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Reach 118 – Rustic Canyon Channel

Reach 118d

Los Angeles County Flood Control District – Soft-Bottom Channel Maintenance Program

N W E S 100 50 0 100 Feet

PSOMAS

(Rev: 10-29-2018 CJS) R:\Projects\PAS\CoLADPW (DPW)\J247\Graphics\Reaches_118_119\

Exhibit 3 – List of Maintenance Activities

RE: Reach 112, 113, 115, 118_CCC Amendment Applications

Khaled Alqam <kalqam@dpw.lacounty.gov>
Wed 7/20/2022 3:52 PM

To: Alvarado, Marlene@Coastal <Marlene.Alvarado@coastal.ca.gov>
Cc: Rosa Cruz <RECruz@dpw.lacounty.gov>

Hi Marlene,

Please see our responses to your questions below in red. Please let me know if you need additional information.

Also, we'd like to complete as much work as possible prior to the official start of the storm season on 10/15. Do you think it is possible to get the greenlight /approval from you prior to the scheduled start date of 9/16?

Thank you

Khaled Alqam
Senior Civil Engineer
Los Angeles County Public Works
(626) 458-4114

Minor structural repairs do not include construction of new concrete features. Any new features would need to be covered under a separate permit. Minor structural repairs are permitted by CDFW and RWQCB without prior notification. USACE requires the repairs to be included in the Annual Workplan. If they are not included, then emergency permits are required. The minor repairs do not involve new construction, expansion, or alteration of any of the reaches, but rather includes annual maintenance activities that protect persons and properties from flooding. The minor structural repairs that may be required at the four reaches depend on what maintenance requirements arise. These repairs may consist of any combination of the following activities:

Re-grading inverts to repair minor erosion and to remove ponded water
Invert and slope repairs
Storm drain outfall maintenance
Repair of minor storm damage
Erosion control structures
Vegetation removal
In-kind structural repairs
Bank stabilization (bioengineering/recontouring)
Streambed/invert repair
Minor in-kind riprap replacement
Bank stabilization (rip-rap/retaining wall/gabion)
Repair of invert access ramps, roads, and other appurtenances
Flap gate repair and/or replacement
Levee repairs

At Reach 118, minor repair work to the wooden wall structures may be conducted as necessary. Structural repairs for the wooden wall structures may include, but not be limited to, filling voids with onsite material, repairing small portions of the walls, and replacing support structures for the walls. A rubber-tracked skidsteer loader may be used to haul vegetation off the site. To move the skidsteer loader from one section of the channel to the next, temporary earthen ramps would be constructed at the drop structures with available onsite soils. The earthen ramps would be removed after vegetation is removed and the earthen material used to make the ramp would be redistributed evenly through the site where it was initially removed from. Trash, debris, and non-native vegetation would be removed by hand within easement boundaries. No machinery would be allowed in the mapped wetlands at the reach

As for the other amendment applications and 5-15-1760-A1, is the County only proposing removal of non-native/invasive vegetation?

The following vegetation types are present at the reaches:

Reach 112- Cattail Marsh, Disturbed Riparian Woodland – Non-native Herb, Upland mustards, Escaped Ornamental Species

Reach 113- Upland Mustards

Reach 115- Escaped Ornamental Species, Giant Reed Stand

Reach 118- Disturbed Riparian Woodland – Non-native Herb, Red Willow – Arroyo Willow Shrubland

Is any native vegetation proposed to be removed?

There are no permanent impacts to native vegetation at the Reaches. There are temporary impacts to native vegetation at Reaches 112 and 118. At Reach 112, the impacts are to cattail marsh from annual mowing. Reach 118 has been maintained annually and thus there is no new impact.

CCC RFI: SBC 113 Amendment App No. 5-15-1760-A1

Ahmet Tatlilioglu <ATATLILIOGLU@dpw.lacounty.gov>
Fri 4/8/2022 4:09 PM

To: Alvarado, Marlene@Coastal <Marlene.Alvarado@coastal.ca.gov>
Cc: Stevens, Eric@Coastal <eric.stevens@coastal.ca.gov>;Jolene Guerrero <JGUERRER@dpw.lacounty.gov>;Rosa Cruz <RECruz@dpw.lacounty.gov>;Rainer Globus <RGLOBUS@dpw.lacounty.gov>;Marc Blain <marc.blain@psomas.com>;Erin Ruckman <erin.ruckman@psomas.com>

5 attachments (17 MB)

SBC 113 Amendment App No 5-15-1760-A1.pdf; Reach 113 Site Plan.pdf; Reach 113 PrePost Photos.pdf; Reach 113 Appendix C.docx; Biological Survey- Reach 113.pdf;

Good Afternoon,

Please find the following supplement to the Los Angeles County Flood Control District's (LACFCD) application requesting for another 5 year authorization term for the continuation of the channel maintenance program at Dominguez Channel Soft-Bottom Channel (SBC), Reach 113.

Applicant: Los Angeles County Flood Control District (Attn: Jolene Guerrero, PE)
Project Location(s): Dominguez Channel, Soft-Bottom Channel (SBC) Reach 113
Amendment Application No. 5-15-1760-A1

1. PROPOSED PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Los Angeles County Flood Control District (LACFCD) maintains portions of SBC Reach 113 Dominguez Channel from Vermont Ave to Henry Ford. The LACFCD is proposing to perform annual vegetation maintenance and structural repairs, including clearing of all sparse woody vegetation to prevent roots from growing on the levees and weakening their structural integrity. Patches of the severely invasive grass Seashore Paspalum and other non-native and invasive vegetation will be removed within Disturbed Coastal Saltmarsh (DCSM) areas. The LACFCD will perform periodic storm damage repairs, minor structural repairs, and will clear trash and debris within the LACFCD right-of-way boundaries. Annual maintenance of this channel is necessary to protect the channel's integrity, maintain hydraulic channel capacity, and safeguard the adjacent properties from flooding during storm season.

Location: This channel is located in the cities of Los Angeles and Carson, and is surrounded by residential, commercial, and industrial development. Victoria Park and Victoria Golf Course are located adjacent to the SBC in the upper portion of the reach. The SBC starts at Vermont Avenue southwest of Highway 91 and Interstate 110 interchange, crosses under Interstate 110, continues southeast and then crosses under Interstate 405, turns south to cross Pacific Coast Highway, and ends at Henry Ford Avenue where it flows into the Leeward Bay Marina in the Los Angeles Harbor. The project site is located within T3S R12W, Torrance & Long Beach USGS 7.5-minute quadrangles. Equipment will be continually moved as work is completed, so no staging area will be necessary. The project site is 208.3 acres, 8.16 river miles, and 43,080 linear feet.

Project Activities

Annual clearing of all woody vegetation will occur along the entire reach on both banks below the access roads using mechanical equipment placed on the access road. The work to be performed includes the clearing of vegetation, debris, and brush growing on the channel right-of-way and in the riprap. Trimming and removal of non-native trees and shrubs will reduce the impact on flow in the reach as future growth occurs. No heavy equipment will be used in areas mapped as Coastal Salt Marsh (disturbed or not; generally areas with pickleweed). These areas will be avoided and not impacted in order to prevent impacts to native species and potentially sensitive species.

Seashore paspalum (*Paspalum vaginatum*) is a prostrate, perennial grass widely used as a common turfgrass on golf courses. Seashore paspalum has naturalized in coastal salt marshes where it changes the composition of vegetation and in some cases dominates, impacting on fauna communities and estuarine hydrology. It spreads rapidly by stolons and rhizomes with a very deep root system, so mechanical control is not recommended. Currently, the LACFCD is not authorizing the use of herbicides. Authorization may be allowed in the future but only in accordance with regulatory permits. If use becomes authorized, populations of Seashore paspalum will be treated annually using Aquamaster®. Seashore paspalum often grows in dense clumps adjacent to native species within coastal salt marsh. In order to prevent impacts to native species and

potentially sensitive species, herbicide drift will be avoided by spraying within six inches of the top of the grass. Areas mapped as Coastal Salt Marsh (disturbed or not; generally areas with pickleweed) will be avoided and not impacted.

Scope of Work:

Summary: All non-native and native woody vegetation will be cleared by mechanized mowing and grading as necessary. A long-reach excavator will remain on the access road or use a mow head from top down. No heavy equipment will be placed in wet areas, but hand tools will be used above the ordinary high water mark (OHWM). The excavator can utilize various attachments to perform operations from outside the Ordinary High Water Mark (OHWM) limits. For example, the excavator can use a thumb attachment to select and grasp specific trees for removal. LACFCD will clear trash and debris by hand within Right-of-Way boundaries. All trash and debris will be disposed of at Carson Transfer Station (Waste Management, 321 Francisco St. Carson CA 90745).

Tree removal will be performed with a long-reach excavator parked on the access roads on the top of the slope. It will grasp the trunk of the vegetation and will slowly pull upwards until the root system is loose to minimize soil disruption. For trees with large canopies, chainsaws and other hand tools will be used to remove branches until the trunk is exposed for the excavator or cable to grasp. A skidsteer lowered down by the excavator and placed above the OHWM may be used to help remove the vegetation.
Root material smaller than ½ inch diameter will be excavated by hand. Stums and roots greater than ½ inch in diameter will be removed through mechanized means

Voids will be filled with adjacent sediment and imported suitable fill. This sediment will be compacted with a sheepsfoot attachment on the long reach excavator. Other equipment includes a plate compactor, bucket, or packer wheel. Fill disturbance will be minimized to the furthest extent practicable. New riprap will be placed over the compacted soil according to the as-built drawings.

Currently, the LACFCD is not authorizing the use of herbicides. Authorization may be allowed in the future but only in accordance with regulatory permits. If herbicide is authorized by LACFCD, Seashore paspalum populations will be treated annually using Aquamaster®, an approved aquatic herbicide (glyphosate). It often grows in dense clumps adjacent to native species within coastal salt marsh. In order to prevent impacts to native species and potentially sensitive species, herbicide drift will be avoided by spraying within six inches of the top of the grass. Seashore paspalum will be treated anytime of the year, with a qualified biologist conducting the nesting bird surveys prior to start of work, if work is performed during the nesting season. LACFCD intends to complete the herbicide treatment before the start of the SBC work season (September to March), so the biologist that conducts the nesting bird survey can also flag the Paspalum for treatment. Herbicide will only be used on calm days (wind less than five miles per hour) to prevent airborne transfer of herbicide. Pesticide mixing sites will only be located on access roads above the channel. No impacts will occur to any native vegetation.

List of Proposed Avoidance Measures and BMPs
Pre- and post-maintenance surveys shall be conducted by a qualified biologist annually when maintenance is scheduled for the current year to identify and document maintenance activities and their consistency with the Maintenance Plan and regulatory permit conditions and other required biological mitigation measures. Sensitive plant and wildlife species observed shall be recorded during these surveys. Photographs shall be taken from identical photo stations prior to maintenance, and after maintenance is completed. Unauthorized vegetation maintenance shall be noted and reported to the Los Angeles County Flood Control District (LACFCD). The surveying qualified biologist shall prepare a report and submit to LACFCD that includes field data sheets, and pre- and post-maintenance photographs for each reach and determinations of compliance or non-compliance. LACFCD shall post the report and make it publicly available before the end of each calendar year as required by regulatory permits.

A qualified biological monitor shall conduct pre-maintenance surveys to determine the limits of coastal salt marsh, freshwater marsh, saltgrass-pickleweed vegetation, and tarplant/pickleweed occurrences. These areas shall be flagged for avoidance prior to maintenance activities. Areas mapped as coastal salt marsh, freshwater marsh, or saltgrass-pickleweed (disturbed or not) and areas with pickleweed or tarplant shall be avoided. A full-time biological monitor shall be present during maintenance activities in these marsh areas to confirm the disturbance limits. All work will take place during a five day clear forecast and at low tide to ensure minimal impacts to any aquatic species. Disturbed sediment and debris will be controlled using straw waddles, water truck, or street sweeper. A 500-foot floating boom will be attached adjacent to the work area (section) via boats. Crews will remove floating debris once work in that section has been completed, and the boom will be relocated to the next work area. A debris fence at the base of the slope along the river will be installed and sand bags, or stop logs along the base of the work site will be used to prohibit dust/debris from leaving the site that could later find its way into the watercourse.

A biologist will flag Seashore Paspalum patches in advance of work for crews to identify and treat with herbicide (currently, herbicide use is not authorized by the LACFCD). Biologists will train crews one time at the start of the project to identify Disturbed Coastal Saltmarsh (mainly saltgrass and pickleweed) so crews can avoid impacts to native habitats. Photos of all life stages (seedlings, flowers, fruits) will be provided and live specimens in the field will be exhibited with a description of the marsh habitat. Access routes will be located within pre-existing access roads or disturbed areas. Equipment will be continually moved as work is completed, so no staging area will be necessary.

Prior to initiation of Project activities, the Los Angeles County Flood Control District (LACFCD) shall obtain all necessary permits for impacts to jurisdictional areas of the following resource agencies: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), California Coastal Commission (CCC), and California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW). The LACFCD shall comply with all mitigation measures specified in the regulatory agency permits and/or agreements. Pursuant to the permit requirements, the LACFCD shall develop a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) that incorporates Best Management Practices (BMPs) for reducing or eliminating maintenance-related pollutants in the site runoff.

Mitigation for the loss of jurisdictional resources shall consist of enhancement and restoration of degraded jurisdictional resources at an appropriate mitigation site to replace impacted jurisdictional resources at a ratio of no less than 1:1 in biological value, determined through consultation with the above-listed resource agencies. Prior to the initiation of any maintenance-related activities in the soft-bottom channels, the LACFCD shall prepare and submit a Habitat Mitigation and Monitoring Program (HMMP) for USACE and CDFW approval. The HMMP shall contain the following items:

a. Responsibilities and qualifications of the personnel to implement and supervise the plan. The responsibilities of the Landowner, Specialists, and Maintenance Personnel that would supervise and implement the plan shall be specified.
b. Site selection. The mitigation site shall be determined in coordination with the USACE and CDFW. The site shall either be located in a dedicated open space area on County land, USFS land, or off-site land shall be purchased, within the same watershed as the majority of the impacted reaches of this Project.
c. Seed source. The seeds (or plantings) used shall be from local sources (within ten miles of the Project area) to ensure genetic integrity.
d. Site preparation and planting implementation. Site preparation shall include (1) protection of existing native species; (2) trash, debris, and weed removal; (3) native species salvage and reuse (i.e., duff); (4) soil treatments (i.e., imprinting, decompacting); (5) temporary irrigation installation; (6) erosion-control measures (i.e., rice or willow wattles); (7) seed mix application; and (8) container species planting.
e. Schedule. A schedule shall be developed which includes planting in late fall and early winter, between October 1 and January 30.
f. Maintenance plan/guidelines. The maintenance plan shall include (1) weed control; (2) herbivory control; (3) trash and debris removal; (4) irrigation system maintenance; (5) maintenance training; and (6) replacement planting.
g. Performance standards. Site performance shall meet or exceed written standards related to such items as 1) vegetation cover, 2) plant species diversity, and/or 3) sensitive wildlife usage. A contingency plan shall be included that outlines actions required if standards are not met.
h. Monitoring plan. The monitoring plan shall include (1) qualitative monitoring (i.e., pre- and post-maintenance photographs and general observations); (2) quantitative monitoring (i.e., randomly placed transects); (3) performance criteria, as approved by the above-listed resource agencies; (4) monthly reports for the first year and reports quarterly thereafter; and (5) annual reports, which shall be submitted to the above-mentioned resource agencies, if required, on an annual basis. The site shall be monitored and maintained for seven years, reduced to five years if performance measures are met, to ensure successful establishment of riparian habitat within the restored areas.
i. Long-term preservation. Long-term preservation of the site shall also be outlined in the HMMP to ensure the mitigation site is not impacted by future development.

Dates and Nesting Bird Surveys To avoid impacts to nesting birds, maintenance will not occur from March 15 to September 1.
a. If low impact maintenance activities (e.g. no mechanized equipment) are required during the nesting bird season (March 15 – August 31), a nesting bird sweep will be conducted and documented by trained County field staff within 72 hours prior to initiating work. Activities will be modified to avoid impacts to nesting birds if detected, including an appropriate buffer, if needed.
b. If maintenance activities are higher in potential impacts (e.g. non-chemical vegetation removal or usage of mechanized equipment) and are not included in the Annual Workplan (e.g. West Nile virus emergency), notify and coordinate with the USACE and CDFW. A nesting bird survey will be conducted by a qualified biologist with 72 hours prior to initiation of activities. Activities will be modified to avoid impacts to nesting birds if detected. (USACE, CDFW)

Minor Structural Repairs Minor structural repairs are permitted by CDFW and RWQCB without prior notification. USACE requires the repairs to be included in the Annual Workplan. If they are not included, then emergency permits are required. Examples of Non-Emergency Repair Activities: Re-grading inverts to repair minor erosion and to remove ponded water, Invert and slope repairs, Storm drain outfall maintenance, Repair of minor storm damage, Erosion control structures, Vegetation removal, In-kind structural repairs, Bank stabilization (bioengineering/recontouring), Streambed/invert repair, Minor in-kind riprap replacement, Bank stabilization (rip-rap/retaining wall/gabion), Repair of invert access ramps, roads, and other appurtenances, Flap gate repair and/or replacement, Levee repairs.

Pre-Maintenance Biological Survey A qualified biologist will review any grading plans, perform pre-clearing biological resource surveys and complete photo documentation. (USACE, CDFW, RWQCB)

Pre-Maintenance Reporting By August 1, submit to all agencies the Annual Workplan that includes a schedule of the upcoming reaches proposed for maintenance clearing and repairs and the MMP, updated with any changes to the proposed activities. (USACE, CDFW, RWQCB) The CDFW requires proposed minor structural repairs to be summarized separately and submitted to them by July 1. (CDFW)

During-Maintenance Biological Work A qualified biologist will oversee all aspects of maintenance monitoring that pertain to biological resource protection, ensure compliance with the avoidance and minimization measures, and implement and monitor the program. A biological monitoring form will be used to record all information. This biologist will ensure that all protected areas are marked properly and will ensure that no vegetation outside the specified areas is removed. The biologist will have the authority to stop work, as necessary, if instructions are not followed. The biologist will be available for consultation to all agencies within 24 hours of a request for consultation. (USACE, CDFW, RWQCB)

Post-Maintenance Reporting By May 1, submit to all agencies the Annual Maintenance and Monitoring Report that includes a final schedule, all mitigation monitoring forms, photo-documentation, water quality test results, and copies of applicable permits. (USACE, CDFW, RWQCB)

Invasive Species

a. Pre-Maintenance Invasive Species Education Program. Prior to the commencement of any project activities, conduct an Invasive Species Education Training for all persons that will conduct maintenance activities. The training will consist of a presentation designed a qualified biologist that includes a discussion of the invasive species currently present within the project site as well as those that may pose a threat or have the potential to invade the project site. (CDFW, USACE)

b. Invasive Species Spread Prevention. Conduct project activities in a manner that prevents the introduction, transfer, and spread of invasive species, including plants, animals, and microbes (e.g., algae, fungi, parasites, bacteria), from one project site and/or watershed to another. (CDFW)

c. Inspection of Project Equipment. Inspect for invasive species on all vehicles, tools, waders and boots, and other project-related equipment. Remove all visible soil/mud, plant materials, and animal remnants prior to entering and exiting the project site and/or between each use in different watersheds. (CDFW)

d. Decontamination of Vehicles and Equipment. If decontamination for aquatic invasive animal species is applicable, decontaminate vehicles and other project-related equipment too large to immerse in a hot water bath by pressure washing with hot water a minimum of 140°F at the point of contact or 155°F at the nozzle. Additionally, flush watercraft engines and all areas that could contain standing water (e.g. storage compartments) for a minimum of 10 minutes. Following the hot water wash, dry all vehicles, watercraft, and other large equipment as thoroughly as possible. (CDFW)

e. Decontamination Sites. If decontamination for aquatic invasive animal species is applicable, perform decontamination of vehicles, watercraft, and other project gear and equipment in a designated location where runoff can be contained and not allowed to pass into CDFW jurisdictional areas and other sensitive habitat areas. (CDFW)

f. Notification of Invasive Species. Notify CDFW immediately if an invasive species not previously known to occur within the project site is discovered during project activities by submitting a completed Suspect Invasive Species Report (available online at: http://www.dfg.ca.gov/invasives/inv reporting/sightingReport.html) and photos to the Invasive Species Program by email at: invasives@wildlife.ca.gov. Notification may also be provided by calling (866) 440-9530. Upon receiving notification, CDFW will provide guidance for further action as appropriate to the species. (CDFW)

Bat Roost Avoidance and Impact Minimization To avoid the direct loss of bats that could result from removal of trees and/or structures that may provide day or night roost habitat (e.g., in cavities or under loose bark), implement the following measures for all maintenance (CDFW):

a. To the extent feasible, schedule tree/structure removal between October 1 and February 28, outside of the maternity roosting season for bats.

b. If trees and/or structures are infeasible to remove outside the maternity season (March 1 to September 30), a qualified bat specialist approved by CDFW will conduct a follow up focused bat survey no less than 7

days before scheduled tree/structure removals. Each tree and/or structure identified as potentially supporting an active maternity roost or day roost should be closely inspected by the bat specialist to more precisely determine the presence or absence of roosting bats.

c. Maternity season lasts from March 1 to September 30. Trees and/or structures determined to be maternity roosts should be left in place until the end of the maternity season. Trees that are known to be bat roosts will not be sawn up or mulched immediately. Provide a period of at least 24 hours, and preferably 48 hours, to elapse prior to such operations to allow bats to escape.

d. To minimize disturbance to night roosts do not conduct tree removal activities within 100 feet of bridges between 10:00 PM and sunrise at any time of year work is conducted.

i. Bird exclusion netting will not be used on underside of bridges, unless subsequently agreed to by CDFW.

ii. Lights will not be used under bridges.

iii. Combustion equipment, such as generators, pumps, and vehicles, will not be parked or operated under bridges.

iv. Personnel will not be present under bridges from 1/2 hour before sunset to 1/2 hour after sunrise

e. No less than 15 days before scheduled tree/structure removal, a qualified bat specialist approved by CDFW will conduct a pre-construction reconnaissance survey to identify those trees and/or structures proposed for disturbance that could provide hibernacula, roosting, or nursery colony habitat for bats.

f. If bats are not detected, but the bat specialist determines that roosting bats may be present at any time of year, it is preferable to slowly push any tree/structure down under operator's control using heavy machinery rather than felling it with a chainsaw. To ensure the optimum warning for any roosting bats that may still be present, the tree should be pushed lightly two to three times, with a pause of approximately 30 seconds between each nudge to allow bats to become active. The tree should then be pushed to the ground slowly and should remain in place until it has been inspected by a bat specialist. Trees that are observed to have bats during this process should not be sawn up or mulched immediately. A period of at least 24 hours will elapse prior to such operations to allow bats to escape. Bats should be allowed to escape prior to demolition of structures. This may be accomplished by placing one-way exclusionary devices into areas where bats are entering a building that allow bats to exit but not enter the structure.

g. The qualified bat biologist will document all demolition monitoring activities, and prepare a summary report to CDFW upon completion of tree disturbance and/or building demolition activities.

Rootball Cavities Within Streambed At the completion of tree removals and their rootballs in each active work zone, areas with rootball cavities will be filled to ensure that no pits or depressions are left where fish entrapment may occur. (CDFW)

Siltation Curtain Mechanical equipment will not be operated in the streambed except as subsequently approved by CDFW. Install a siltation curtain to prevent siltation of open water beyond the immediate working area. The siltation curtain and any supportive material will be relocated to follow active work areas, and it will be removed when the work is completed. An example of the work that will require a siltation curtain includes removing root balls from levee slopes. (CDFW)

Sediment and Erosion Control Install sediment and erosion control measures and maintain the sediment control(s) in good operating condition. Maintenance includes, but is not limited to, removal of accumulated silt and/or replacement of damaged silt fencing, silt curtain, coir logs, coir rolls, and/or straw bale dikes. (CDFW)

a. Monitoring of Silt Curtain. Monitor silt curtain for wildlife entrapment. Employ corrective measures if wildlife is trapped between shore and silt curtain.

b. If the sediment barrier fails to retain sediment, employ corrective measures, and notify the CDFW, immediately. Ensure materials used in the sediment barriers will not pose an entanglement risk to fish/wildlife. If CDFW determines that turbidity/siltation levels resulting from project-related activities constitute a threat to aquatic life, activities associated with the turbidity/siltation, will be halted until CDFW-approved control devices are installed, or abatement procedures are initiated.

Spill Containment All activities performed in or near a stream will have absorbent materials designated for spill containment and cleanup activities on-site for use in an accidental spill. If a spill occurs, the Permittee shall immediately notify the California Emergency Management Agency at 1-800-852-7550 and immediately initiate the cleanup activities. Notify and consult with CDFW regarding clean-up procedures. (CDFW)

Soil Erosion and Sediment Controls During maintenance, appropriate soil erosion and sediment controls will be used and maintained in effective operating condition. Permanently stabilize all exposed soil, other fills, above and below the ordinary high-water mark or high tide line at the earliest practicable date. If rain is predicted within 12 hours after maintenance operations begin, activities will cease temporarily, and protective measures to prevent siltation/erosion will be implemented and maintained. Dust disturbance will be minimized so there will be no downstream runoff. (USACE, CDFW, RWQCB)

Sediment The need for removal of accumulated sediment or regrading of scoured areas in dry non-vegetated areas will be assessed by LACFCD on an annual basis to return the affected areas to design capacity elevations.

a. Removal of accumulated sediment. Small quantities of dry accumulated sediment ("temporary fills") will be removed in its entirety and not relocated or stockpiled in any way. It will be placed directly into a sediment transportation vehicle. (USACE)

b. Grading of scoured areas. Sediment may be graded (i.e. discharge of fill) to return the channel to its original condition, for example, due to scouring at the toe of a levee, drop structure or anywhere in the reach. If a small, dry, unvegetated area has been scoured, small quantities of adjacent accumulated sediment (adjacent, if available, or from other parts of the channel) may be graded to fill the scoured area. (CDFW)

c. A small quantity of sediment is defined as 200 cubic yards unless otherwise specified in the reach-specific conditions in Section 3.0. If accumulated sediment is more than 200 cy or if affected areas are wet or vegetated, this will be considered a separate project and separate permits will be acquired (USACE, CDFW, RWQCB)

d. Hand tools may be used in the channel, and all heavy equipment will be parked on the access roads and not in the channel. (USACE) No biological surveys or monitoring will be necessary in dry non-vegetated reaches during sediment removal. (CDFW) Impacts to remaining vegetation will be minimized as much as possible. Before and after pictures will be taken as documentation of the work and included in post-maintenance documentation. (CDFW)

Water Quality If there is a continuous flow of water that will continue beyond the reach's downstream limit, water quality monitoring will be using the Water Quality form (Attachment H). Maintenance activities will not (RWQCB):

a. degrade surface water communities and populations including vertebrate, invertebrate, and plant species beyond the permitted vegetation removal;

b. promote the breeding of mosquitoes, gnats, black flies, midges, or other pests;

c. alter the color, create visual contrast with the natural appearance, nor cause aesthetically undesirable discoloration of the receiving waters;

d. cause formation of sludge deposits; or

e. adversely affect any designated beneficial uses. See permit for details.

Stream Gauge Maintenance In order to obtain accurate flow readings from all monitoring equipment mounted on bridges and/or other structures, vegetation within monitored channels will be cleared to bank-full capacity (unless otherwise specified in the Annual Workplan) upstream and downstream of the gauges, conduits, pumps, sensors, and probes or bridge to obtain accurate readings and prevent equipment damage. In addition, maintenance may include performing repair and replacement in kind of existing monitoring equipment if inspection results require such activities. Stream gauge maintenance will occur between September 1 and March 1. If maintenance activities on this monitoring equipment is necessary during the nesting season, appropriate nesting bird surveys will be conducted prior to starting work. Routine maintenance, inspection and calibration, including clearance of accumulated sediment and/or vegetation within three feet of the water quality monitoring equipment may need to be conducted during dry weather to ensure proper operation. (RWQCB)

Water Diversion Plan All surface water will be diverted away from areas undergoing maintenance, following the approved Water Diversion Plan (Attachment I of the Maintenance Plan). (CDFW, RWQCB)

USACE Levee Guidelines Follow the USACE ETL 1110-2-583 "Guidelines for Landscape Planting and Vegetation Management at Levees, Floodwalls, Embankment Dams, and Appurtenant Structures," adopted by USACE on April 30, 2014, which generally requires that there is no vegetation within 15 feet of a levee structure. (RWQCB)

Best Management Practices Follow the "BMP Manual for Soft Bottom Clearing" developed by LACFCD in 2003 and all other necessary BMPs. (USACE, CDFW, RWQCB)

Permits Onsite Copies of the MMP and all regulatory approvals (permits) for this project should be available on site at all times during maintenance activities. (USACE, CDFW, RWQCB)

Non-Compliance LACFCD or their agents will report any noncompliance with a regulatory approval within 24 hours. See permit for details. (RWQCB)

Archeology In the event of any discoveries during maintenance of historical artifacts, notify the USACE Archeology Staff within 24 hours. (USACE)

Mitigation Compensatory mitigation is necessary for all new impacts within the channels. See permits for details. (USACE, CDFW, RWQCB)

Rain Do not conduct any operations within the reach in the water during a rainfall event. Maintain a five-day (5-day) clear weather forecast before conducting any operations within the water. (RWQCB)

Current Site Plan
Please see attachment, Reach 113 Site Plan

2. ANNUAL ROUTINE MAINTENANCE ACTIVITIES REPORT

Please see attachment, Reach 113 PrePost Photos.

3. HERBICIDE USE

Currently, the LACFCD is not authorizing the use of herbicides. Authorization may be allowed in the future but only in accordance with regulatory permits. Only herbicides approved for aquatic use can be used at the reaches. Application of herbicides will be conducted according to agency-approved methods. (RWQCB, CDFW) Post-emergent herbicide spraying would only be used in areas with dense invasive vegetation and as specified in the reaches permits. Implementation of a Water Diversion Plan and other appropriate BMPs required by the regulatory agencies would also prevent chemicals from entering the runoff. Compliance with these conditions would avoid hazardous materials impacts to waters within the reaches and avoid the creation of a significant hazard to the public or the environment. During nesting bird season, trained staff will conduct nesting bird sweeps prior to the application of herbicide in “non-avian sensitive” soft-bottom channel reaches.

4. OTHER RESOURCES AGENCIES

Agency	Approval Required	Purpose	Project Components	Agency Approval Received?
Los Angeles County Flood Control District (LACFCD) (Lead Agency)	Mitigated Negative Declaration	Approval pursuant to CEQA	101-105, 108-110, 112-121, SRR site	
California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) (Trustee Agency)	Section 1600 Long-term Streambed Alteration Agreement	To authorize impacts to biological resources under State jurisdiction	101-105, 108-110, 112-121, SRR site	Veg Removal: 1600-2019-0224-R5 Exp TBD Minor Repairs: 1600-2014-0238-R5 Exp. Sep. 30, 2035
United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)	Federal Clean Water Act Section 404 permit	To authorize impacts to surface waters resources under Federal jurisdiction	101-105, 108-110, 112-121, SRR site	SPL-2013-00723-BLR Exp Date: Mar 18, 2022
Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB)	Federal Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification	To authorize impacts to jurisdictional surface waters	112-121	

5. STAGING PLAN

Access routes will be located within pre-existing access roads or disturbed areas. Equipment will be continually moved as work is completed, so no staging area will be necessary.
All access routes, vehicle maintenance, equipment staging, trash/debris/waste storage, and dispensing of fuel will be located within existing parking areas, access roads, and access ramps. Trash/debris/waste will be relocated to a legal point of disposal. (USACE, CDFW, RWQCB)
No equipment maintenance will be done within or near any stream channel or lake margin as petroleum products or other pollutants from the equipment may enter these areas (CDFW).

6. NOTICING REQUIREMENTS

See attachment, Reach 113 Appendix C

7. BIOLOGICAL SURVEY

Please see attached document, Biological Survey-Reach 113

CCC RFI: SBC 115 Amendment App No 5-15-1026-A1

Ahmet Tatlilioglu <ATATLILIOGLU@dpw.lacounty.gov>
Fri 4/8/2022 4:10 PM

To: Alvarado, Marlene@Coastal <Marlene.Alvarado@coastal.ca.gov>
Cc: Stevens, Eric@Coastal <eric.stevens@coastal.ca.gov>;Jolene Guerrero <JGUERRER@dpw.lacounty.gov>;Rosa Cruz <RECruz@dpw.lacounty.gov>;Rainer Globus <RGLOBUS@dpw.lacounty.gov>;Marc Blain <marc.blain@psomas.com>;Erin Ruckman <erin.ruckman@psomas.com>

7 attachments (11 MB)

Biological Survey-Reach 115 .pdf; Reach 115 Appendix C.docx; Reach 115 PrePost Clearing Forms.pdf; Reach 115 Site Plan.pdf; Reach 115_PrePost_Photos.pdf; SBC 115 Amendment App No 5-15-1026-A1.pdf; Turtle Mitigation Plan-Reach 115.pdf;

Good Afternoon,

Please find the following supplement to the Los Angeles County Flood Control District's (LACFCD) application requesting for another 5 year authorization term for the continuation of the channel maintenance program at San Gabriel River Soft-Bottom Channnel (SBC), Reach 115.

Applicant: Los Angeles County Flood Control District (Attn: Jolene Guerrero, PE)
Project Location(s): San Gabriel River, Channel (SBC) Reach 115
Amendment Application No. 5-15-1026-A1

1. PROPOSED PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Reach 115 (San Gabriel River) is located in the City of Long Beach and the San Gabriel River Watershed. It begins north of Interstate 405 (I-405) approximately 1,750 feet upstream at confluence of Coyote Creek and continues downstream to end of the channel. The end of Reach 115 is just north of the Pacific Ocean at Marina Drive. The acreage for Reach 115 is 181.0 acres and the length of the reach is 18,354 feet. The entirety of the reach is lined with riprap slopes. This reach is dominated by water. Vegetation at reach 115 a mix of native and non-native tree, shrub, and weedy species that are limited, except for upstream of the San Diego Freeway, to growing as scattered individuals on the riprap. Reach 115 is listed as a sensitive reach. There is potential for southern tarplant (Centromadia parryi ssp. australis), eelgrass, and California least tern. Green sea turtles are known to occur on-site. Sediment has accrued on the riprap upstream of I-405 and supports a dense growth of primarily non-native trees with an understory of native and non-native herbaceous species. Native reed (cattail) beds are also part of this understory vegetation. A chain link fence surrounds most of the reach, which closes the reach off to the public on the right bank.

Surrounding land uses to Reach 115 include industrial, commercial, and residential uses. For air quality purposes, the nearest sensitive receptors are residential uses located east of the reach, a park and an athletic field located west of the reach.

Reach 115 is accessible through gates located at the intersection of Reach 115 and the following roads: East Atherton Road, East 7th Street, Westminster Boulevard, Pacific Coast Highway, and Marine Drive. Access roads on both sides of Reach 115 line the entirety of the reach. The access road on the left bank is known as the San Gabriel River Trail and is open to the public for bicyclists and pedestrians.

Annual vegetation maintenance for Reach 115 would occur along the entire reach on both banks below the access roads by hand and using mechanical equipment placed on the access road. The work to be performed would include: (1) removing weeds and grasses by hand or by mowing; (2) clearing vegetation, debris, and brush growing on the reach right-of-way and in the riprap; and (3) trimming and removing of trees and shrubs to reduce the impact on flow in the reach as future growth occurs. No heavy equipment would be used in areas with species that are commonly found in coastal salt marshes. These areas would be avoided to prevent impacts to native species and potentially sensitive species.

Scope of work:

- The USACE Levee Certification Vegetation Removal Project will involve removing all invasive vegetation with roots greater than ½ inch.

- Vegetation will be removed by mechanical and manual methods on both banks annually until all non-compliant vegetation is removed.

- Strips of riprap will be removed in strategic locations from the access road down to no more than halfway down the levee face. Steel track equipment will be driven on it. Riprap will be replaced before the end of the work day after work in that location is completed.

- Voids left by extracting the woody vegetation's root mass will be filled with native soil or non-native fill from other large excavation projects nearby, including non LACDPW construction projects. The soil will be tested before leaving its origin to ensure it is safe for usage within the levee material. The imported fill will be compacted with sheepsfoot attachment and the riprap replaced.

- Weeds and grasses may be controlled by mowing or hand labor.

- Annual clearing of all woody vegetation will occur along the entire reach on both banks below the access roads using mechanical equipment placed on the access road.

- The work to be performed includes the clearing of vegetation, debris, and brush growing on the reach right-of-way and in the riprap.

- Trimming and removal of non-native trees and shrubs will reduce the impact on flow in the reach as future growth occurs.

- No heavy equipment will be used in areas mapped as Coastal Salt Marsh (disturbed or not; generally, areas with pickleweed). These areas will be avoided and not impacted in order to prevent impacts to native species and potentially sensitive species.

- Clear trash, debris, and non-native vegetation by hand within easement boundaries.

List of Proposed Avoidance and Protection Measures and BMPs
Pre- and post-maintenance surveys shall be conducted by a qualified biologist annually when maintenance is scheduled for the current year to identify and document maintenance activities and their consistency with the Maintenance Plan and regulatory permit conditions and other required biological mitigation measures. Sensitive plant and wildlife species observed shall be recorded during these surveys. Photographs shall be taken from identical photo stations prior to maintenance, and after maintenance is completed. Unauthorized vegetation maintenance shall be noted and reported to the Los Angeles County Flood Control District (LACFCD). The surveying qualified biologist shall prepare a report and submit to LACFCD that includes field data sheets, and pre- and post-maintenance photographs for each reach and determinations of compliance or non-compliance. LACFCD shall post the report and make it publicly available before the end of each calendar year as required by regulatory permits.

A qualified biological monitor shall conduct pre-maintenance surveys to determine the limits of coastal salt marsh, freshwater marsh, saltgrass-pickleweed vegetation, and tarplant/pickleweed occurrences. These areas shall be flagged for avoidance prior to maintenance activities. Areas mapped as coastal salt marsh, freshwater marsh, or saltgrass-pickleweed (disturbed or not) and areas with pickleweed or tarplant shall be avoided. A full-time biological monitor shall be present during maintenance activities in these marsh areas to confirm the disturbance limits.

Prior to initiation of Project activities, the Los Angeles County Flood Control District (LACFCD) shall obtain all necessary permits for impacts to jurisdictional areas of the following resource agencies: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), California Coastal Commission (CCC), and California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW). The LACFCD shall comply with all mitigation measures specified in the regulatory agency permits and/or agreements. Pursuant to the permit requirements, the LACFCD shall develop a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) that incorporates Best Management Practices (BMPs) for reducing or eliminating maintenance-related pollutants in the site runoff.

Mitigation for the loss of jurisdictional resources shall consist of enhancement and restoration of degraded jurisdictional resources at an appropriate mitigation site to replace impacted jurisdictional resources at a ratio of no less than 1:1 in biological value, determined through consultation with the above-listed resource agencies. Prior to the initiation of any maintenance-related activities in the soft-bottom channels, the LACFCD shall prepare and submit a Habitat Mitigation and Monitoring Program (HMMP) for USACE and CDFW approval. The HMMP shall contain the following items:

a. Responsibilities and qualifications of the personnel to implement and supervise the plan. The responsibilities of the Landowner, Specialists, and Maintenance Personnel that would supervise and implement the plan shall be specified.
b. Site selection. The mitigation site shall be determined in coordination with the USACE and CDFW. The site shall either be located in a dedicated open space area on County land, USFS land, or off-site land shall be

purchased, within the same watershed as the majority of the impacted reaches of this Project.
c. Seed source. The seeds (or plantings) used shall be from local sources (within ten miles of the Project area) to ensure genetic integrity.
d. Site preparation and planting implementation. Site preparation shall include (1) protection of existing native species; (2) trash, debris, and weed removal; (3) native species salvage and reuse (i.e., duff); (4) soil treatments (i.e., imprinting, decompacting); (5) temporary irrigation installation; (6) erosion-control measures (i.e., rice or willow wattles); (7) seed mix application; and (8) container species planting.
e. Schedule. A schedule shall be developed which includes planting in late fall and early winter, between October 1 and January 30.
f. Maintenance plan/guidelines. The maintenance plan shall include (1) weed control; (2) herbivory control; (3) trash and debris removal; (4) irrigation system maintenance; (5) maintenance training; and (6) replacement planting.
g. Performance standards. Site performance shall meet or exceed written standards related to such items as 1) vegetation cover, 2) plant species diversity, and/or 3) sensitive wildlife usage. A contingency plan shall be included that outlines actions required if standards are not met.
h. Monitoring plan. The monitoring plan shall include (1) qualitative monitoring (i.e., pre- and post-maintenance photographs and general observations); (2) quantitative monitoring (i.e., randomly placed transects); (3) performance criteria, as approved by the above-listed resource agencies; (4) monthly reports for the first year and reports quarterly thereafter; and (5) annual reports, which shall be submitted to the above-mentioned resource agencies, if required, on an annual basis. The site shall be monitored and maintained for seven years, reduced to five years if performance measures are met, to ensure successful establishment of riparian habitat within the restored areas.
i. Long-term preservation. Long-term preservation of the site shall also be outlined in the HMMP to ensure the mitigation site is not impacted by future development.

Dates and Nesting Bird Surveys To avoid impacts to nesting birds, maintenance will not occur from March 15 to September 1.
a. If low impact maintenance activities (e.g. no mechanized equipment) are required during the nesting bird season (March 15 – August 31), a nesting bird sweep will be conducted and documented by trained County field staff within 72 hours prior to initiating work. Activities will be modified to avoid impacts to nesting birds if detected, including an appropriate buffer, if needed.
b. If maintenance activities are higher in potential impacts (e.g. non-chemical vegetation removal or usage of mechanized equipment) and are not included in the Annual Workplan (e.g. West Nile virus emergency), notify and coordinate with the USACE and CDFW. A nesting bird survey will be conducted by a qualified biologist with 72 hours prior to initiation of activities. Activities will be modified to avoid impacts to nesting birds if detected. (USACE, CDFW)

Minor Structural Repairs Minor structural repairs are permitted by CDFW and RWQCB without prior notification. USACE requires the repairs to be included in the Annual Workplan. If they are not included, then emergency permits are required. Examples of Non-Emergency Repair Activities: Re-grading inverts to repair minor erosion and to remove ponded water, Invert and slope repairs, Storm drain outfall maintenance, Repair of minor storm damage, Erosion control structures, Vegetation removal, In-kind structural repairs, Bank stabilization (bioengineering/recontouring), Streambed/invert repair, Minor in-kind riprap replacement Bank stabilization (rip-rap/retaining wall/gabion), Repair of invert access ramps, roads, and other appurtenances, Flap gate repair and/or replacement, Levee repairs.

Pre-Maintenance Biological Survey A qualified biologist will review any grading plans, perform pre-clearing biological resource surveys and complete photo documentation. (USACE, CDFW, RWQCB)

Pre-Maintenance Reporting By August 1, submit to all agencies the Annual Workplan that includes a schedule of the upcoming reaches proposed for maintenance clearing and repairs and the MMP, updated with any changes to the proposed activities. (USACE, CDFW, RWQCB) The CDFW requires proposed minor structural repairs to be summarized separately and submitted to them by July 1. (CDFW)

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b. Invasive Species Spread Prevention. Conduct project activities in a manner that prevents the introduction, transfer, and spread of invasive species, including plants, animals, and microbes (e.g., algae, fungi, parasites, bacteria), from one project site and/or watershed to another. (CDFW)

c. Inspection of Project Equipment. Inspect for invasive species on all vehicles, tools, waders and boots, and other project-related equipment. Remove all visible soil/mud, plant materials, and animal remnants prior to entering and exiting the project site and/or between each use in different watersheds. (CDFW)

d. Decontamination of Vehicles and Equipment. If decontamination for aquatic invasive animal species is applicable, decontaminate vehicles and other project-related equipment too large to immerse in a hot water bath by pressure washing with hot water a minimum of 140°F at the point of contact or 155°F at the nozzle. Additionally, flush watercraft engines and all areas that could contain standing water (e.g. storage compartments) for a minimum of 10 minutes. Following the hot water wash, dry all vehicles, watercraft, and other large equipment as thoroughly as possible. (CDFW)

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f. Notification of Invasive Species. Notify CDFW immediately if an invasive species not previously known to occur within the project site is discovered during project activities by submitting a completed Suspect Invasive Species Report (available online at: http://www.dfg.ca.gov/invasives/inv reporting/sightingReport.html) and photos to the Invasive Species Program by email at: invasives@wildlife.ca.gov. Notification may also be provided by calling (866) 440-9530. Upon receiving notification, CDFW will provide guidance for further action as appropriate to the species. (CDFW)

Bat Roost Avoidance and Impact Minimization To avoid the direct loss of bats that could result from removal of trees and/or structures that may provide day or night roost habitat (e.g., in cavities or under loose bark), implement the following measures for all maintenance (CDFW):

a. To the extent feasible, schedule tree/structure removal between October 1 and February 28, outside of the maternity roosting season for bats.

b. If trees and/or structures are infeasible to remove outside the maternity season (March 1 to September 30), a qualified bat specialist approved by CDFW will conduct a follow up focused bat survey no less than 7 days before scheduled tree/structure removals. Each tree and/or structure identified as potentially supporting an active maternity roost or day roost should be closely inspected by the bat specialist to more precisely determine the presence or absence of roosting bats.

c. Maternity season lasts from March 1 to September 30. Trees and/or structures determined to be maternity roosts should be left in place until the end of the maternity season. Trees that are known to be bat roosts will not be sawn up or mulched immediately. Provide a period of at least 24 hours, and preferably 48 hours, to elapse prior to such operations to allow bats to escape.

d. To minimize disturbance to night roosts do not conduct tree removal activities within 100 feet of bridges between 10:00 PM and sunrise at any time of year work is conducted.

i. Bird exclusion netting will not be used on underside of bridges, unless subsequently agreed to by CDFW.

ii. Lights will not be used under bridges.

iii. Combustion equipment, such as generators, pumps, and vehicles, will not be parked or operated under bridges.

iv. Personnel will not be present under bridges from 1/2 hour before sunset to 1/2 hour after sunrise

e. No less than 15 days before scheduled tree/structure removal, a qualified bat specialist approved by CDFW will conduct a pre-construction reconnaissance survey to identify those trees and/or structures proposed for disturbance that could provide hibernacula, roosting, or nursery colony habitat for bats.

f. If bats are not detected, but the bat specialist determines that roosting bats may be present at any time of year, it is preferable to slowly push any tree/structure down under operator's control using heavy machinery rather than felling it with a chainsaw. To ensure the optimum warning for any roosting bats that may still be present, the tree should be pushed lightly two to three times, with a pause of approximately 30 seconds between each nudge to allow bats to become active. The tree should then be pushed to the ground slowly and should remain in place until it has been inspected by a bat specialist. Trees that are observed to have bats during this process should not be sawn up or mulched immediately. A period of at least 24 hours will elapse prior to such operations to allow bats to escape. Bats should be allowed to escape prior to demolition of

structures. This may be accomplished by placing one-way exclusionary devices into areas where bats are entering a building that allow bats to exit but not enter the structure.
g. The qualified bat biologist will document all demolition monitoring activities, and prepare a summary report to CDFW upon completion of tree disturbance and/or building demolition activities.

Rootball Cavities Within Streambed At the completion of tree removals and their rootballs in each active work zone, areas with rootball cavities will be filled to ensure that no pits or depressions are left where fish entrapment may occur. (CDFW)

Siltation Curtain Mechanical equipment will not be operated in the streambed except as subsequently approved by CDFW. Install a siltation curtain to prevent siltation of open water beyond the immediate working area. The siltation curtain and any supportive material will be relocated to follow active work areas, and it will be removed when the work is completed. An example of the work that will require a siltation curtain includes removing root balls from levee slopes. (CDFW)

Sediment and Erosion Control Install sediment and erosion control measures and maintain the sediment control(s) in good operating condition. Maintenance includes, but is not limited to, removal of accumulated silt and/or replacement of damaged silt fencing, silt curtain, coir logs, coir rolls, and/or straw bale dikes. (CDFW)
a. Monitoring of Silt Curtain. Monitor silt curtain for wildlife entrapment. Employ corrective measures if wildlife is trapped between shore and silt curtain.
b. If the sediment barrier fails to retain sediment, employ corrective measures, and notify the CDFW, immediately. Ensure materials used in the sediment barriers will not pose an entanglement risk to fish/wildlife. If CDFW determines that turbidity/siltation levels resulting from project-related activities constitute a threat to aquatic life, activities associated with the turbidity/siltation, will be halted until CDFW-approved control devices are installed, or abatement procedures are initiated.

Spill Containment All activities performed in or near a stream will have absorbent materials designated for spill containment and cleanup activities on-site for use in an accidental spill. If a spill occurs, the Permittee shall immediately notify the California Emergency Management Agency at 1-800-852-7550 and immediately initiate the cleanup activities. Notify and consult with CDFW regarding clean-up procedures. (CDFW)

Soil Erosion and Sediment Controls During maintenance, appropriate soil erosion and sediment controls will be used and maintained in effective operating condition. Permanently stabilize all exposed soil, other fills, above and below the ordinary high-water mark or high tide line at the earliest practicable date. If rain is predicted within 12 hours after maintenance operations begin, activities will cease temporarily, and protective measures to prevent siltation/erosion will be implemented and maintained. Dust disturbance will be minimized so there will be no downstream runoff. (USACE, CDFW, RWQCB)

Sediment The need for removal of accumulated sediment or regrading of scoured areas in dry non-vegetated areas will be assessed by LACFCD on an annual basis to return the affected areas to design capacity elevations.
a. Removal of accumulated sediment. Small quantities of dry accumulated sediment (“temporary fills”) will be removed in its entirety and not relocated or stockpiled in any way. It will be placed directly into a sediment transportation vehicle. (USACE)
b. Grading of scoured areas. Sediment may be graded (i.e. discharge of fill) to return the channel to its original condition, for example, due to scouring at the toe of a levee, drop structure or anywhere in the reach. If a small, dry, unvegetated area has been scoured, small quantities of adjacent accumulated sediment (adjacent, if available, or from other parts of the channel) may be graded to fill the scoured area. (CDFW)
c. A small quantity of sediment is defined as 200 cubic yards unless otherwise specified in the reach-specific conditions in Section 3.0. If accumulated sediment is more than 200 cy or if affected areas are wet or vegetated, this will be considered a separate project and separate permits will be acquired (USACE, CDFW, RWQCB)
d. Hand tools may be used in the channel, and all heavy equipment will be parked on the access roads and not in the channel. (USACE) No biological surveys or monitoring will be necessary in dry non-vegetated reaches during sediment removal. (CDFW) Impacts to remaining vegetation will be minimized as much as possible. Before and after pictures will be taken as documentation of the work and included in post-maintenance documentation. (CDFW)

Water Quality If there is a continuous flow of water that will continue beyond the reach’s downstream limit, water quality monitoring will be using the Water Quality form (Attachment H). Maintenance activities will not (RWQCB):
a. degrade surface water communities and populations including vertebrate, invertebrate, and plant species beyond the permitted vegetation removal;
b. promote the breeding of mosquitoes, gnats, black flies, midges, or other pests;

c. alter the color, create visual contrast with the natural appearance, nor cause aesthetically undesirable discoloration of the receiving waters;
d. cause formation of sludge deposits; or
e. adversely affect any designated beneficial uses. See permit for details.

Stream Gauge Maintenance In order to obtain accurate flow readings from all monitoring equipment mounted on bridges and/or other structures, vegetation within monitored channels will be cleared to bank-full capacity (unless otherwise specified in the Annual Workplan) upstream and downstream of the gauges, conduits, pumps, sensors, and probes or bridge to obtain accurate readings and prevent equipment damage. In addition, maintenance may include performing repair and replacement in kind of existing monitoring equipment if inspection results require such activities. Stream gauge maintenance will occur between September 1 and March 1. If maintenance activities on this monitoring equipment is necessary during the nesting season, appropriate nesting bird surveys will be conducted prior to starting work. Routine maintenance, inspection and calibration, including clearance of accumulated sediment and/or vegetation within three feet of the water quality monitoring equipment may need to be conducted during dry weather to ensure proper operation. (RWQCB)

Water Diversion Plan All surface water will be diverted away from areas undergoing maintenance, following the approved Water Diversion Plan (Attachment I of the Maintenance Plan). (CDFW, RWQCB)

USACE Levee Guidelines Follow the USACE ETL 1110-2-583 "Guidelines for Landscape Planting and Vegetation Management at Levees, Floodwalls, Embankment Dams, and Appurtenant Structures," adopted by USACE on April 30, 2014, which generally requires that there is no vegetation within 15 feet of a levee structure. (RWQCB)

Best Management Practices Follow the "BMP Manual for Soft Bottom Clearing" developed by LACFCD in 2003 and all other necessary BMPs. (USACE, CDFW, RWQCB)

Permits Onsite Copies of the MMP and all regulatory approvals (permits) for this project should be available on site at all times during maintenance activities. (USACE, CDFW, RWQCB)

Non-Compliance LACFCD or their agents will report any noncompliance with a regulatory approval within 24 hours. See permit for details. (RWQCB)

Archeology In the event of any discoveries during maintenance of historical artifacts, notify the USACE Archeology Staff within 24 hours. (USACE)

Mitigation Compensatory mitigation is necessary for all new impacts within the channels. See permits for details. (USACE, CDFW, RWQCB)

Rain Do not conduct any operations within the reach in the water during a rainfall event. Maintain a five-day (5-day) clear weather forecast before conducting any operations within the water. (RWQCB)

A Turtle Mitigation Plan has been developed for Reach 115 at the request of California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW). Avoidance and minimization measures for the green sea turtle and western pond turtle are as follows:
a. Environmental Education Training – To increase understanding and recognition of the green turtle and western pond turtle, environmental education training shall be provided. This training shall take place during initial construction activities (i.e., during the first tailboard session) and periodically thereafter as needed. The training will focus upon detection, avoidance, and ecology of each of the two species of turtles. A brochure providing applicable information as well as representative photos of the two turtle species will be provided and should be kept on-site by construction personnel for reference.
b. Clearance Surveys – Prior to construction activities a daily clearance survey of the active work areas and their immediate surroundings shall be conducted to determine presence/absence of both species of turtles. This clearance survey shall be conducted by a qualified individual familiar with green turtle and western pond turtle, their eggs, and hatchlings.
c. Green Turtle Observations – Upon observation of a green turtle within or adjacent to active maintenance activities, all activities shall cease until the individual has moved away from the area a minimum distance of 50 feet. This determination shall be made by the qualified biological monitor present on-site. Green turtles shall not be approached, captured or relocated.
d. Western Pond Turtle Observations – If a western pond turtle is observed within or adjacent to active maintenance areas, the biological monitor shall determine whether the individual will be impacted by maintenance activities. If the biological monitor determines that the turtle is not likely to be impacted, they shall monitor the individual until it has left the area or maintenance activities are completed. If the biological monitor determines that the turtle may be impacted by maintenance activities, the monitor shall relocate the individual

within suitable habitat downstream and outside of the immediate work area as determined by the biological monitor on site.

e. Turtle Observation Notification – Should a green turtle or western pond turtle be observed the appropriate individuals representing State and federal resources agencies shall be notified at the end of the maintenance season.

f. Biological Monitoring – A biological monitor shall be present on-site during construction activities that occur within or adjacent to occupied habitat. Green sea turtles have been observed within Reach 115 and can move freely. Therefore they are always presumed to be present and the habitat occupied. While on-site a monitor with the necessary permits shall be responsible for relocating western pond turtles, conducting surveys for all sensitive species, and communicating with the crews. The biological monitor shall have the authority to stop work should the situation warrant it. The monitor will provide a daily summary email describing the day's activities and any details of pertinent observations. Special status species will be reported to the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB).

g. Turtle Relocation Reporting – Once Reach 115 maintenance activities have been completed a final report shall be prepared and submitted to the CDFW. This report will detail the number of turtles collected, relative size classes, sex ratio and the duration of time turtles were held and where they were released (including GPS points).

h. Best Management Practices – The following best management practices (BMI's), as applicable to turtles, have been required under the SAA and are summarized as follows:

i. Mechanical equipment shall not be operated in the streambed except as subsequently approved by the CDFW.

ii. Install sediment and erosion control measures and maintain sediment control(s) in good operating condition throughout the construction period and the following rainy season.

iii. Should the sediment barrier fail to retain sediment, Permittee shall employ corrective measures and notify the CDFW immediately.

iv. Materials used in the sediment barriers shall not pose an entanglement risk to fish/wildlife.

v. Remove siltation curtain and any supportive material once work is completed.

vi. Upon CDFW determination that turbidity/siltation levels resulting from project-related activities constitute a threat to aquatic life, activities associated with the turbidity/siltation shall be halted until effective CDFW-approved control devices are installed, or abatement procedures are initiated.

vii. All activities performed in or near a stream shall have absorbent materials designated for spill containment and cleanup activities on-site for use in an accidental spill. If a spill occurs the Permittee shall immediately notify the California Emergency Management Agency at 1-800-852-7550 and immediately initiate the cleanup activities. CDFW shall also be notified by the Permittee and consulted regarding clean-up procedures.

The Soft-Bottom Channel Reach 115 Turtle Mitigation Plan is attached and outlines additional avoidance and minimization measures required by CDFW. All activities included in the plan shall be performed during the appropriate phase of maintenance activities.

Current Site Plan

Please see attachment, Reach 115 Site Plan

2. ANNUAL ROUTINE MAINTENANCE ACTIVITIES REPORT

Please see attachment, Reach 115 PrePost Clearing Form and Reach 115 PrePost Photos.

3. HERBICIDE USE

Currently, the LACFCD is not authorizing the use of herbicides. Authorization may be allowed in the future but only in accordance with regulatory permits. Only herbicides approved for aquatic use can be used at the reaches. Application of herbicides will be conducted according to agency-approved methods. (RWQCB, CDFW) Post-emergent herbicide spraying would only be used in areas with dense invasive vegetation and as specified in the reaches permits. Implementation of a Water Diversion Plan and other appropriate BMPs required by the regulatory agencies would also prevent chemicals from entering the runoff. Compliance with these conditions would avoid hazardous materials impacts to waters within the reaches and avoid the creation of a significant hazard to the public or the environment. During nesting bird season, trained staff will conduct nesting bird sweeps prior to the application of herbicide in "non-avian sensitive" soft-bottom channel reaches.

4. OTHER RESOURCES AGENCIES

Agency	Approval Required	Purpose	Project Components	Agency Approval Received?

Los Angeles County Flood Control District (LACFCD) (Lead Agency)	Mitigated Negative Declaration	Approval pursuant to CEQA	101-105, 108-110, 112-121, SRR site	
California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) (Trustee Agency)	Section 1600 Long-term Streambed Alteration Agreement	To authorize impacts to biological resources under State jurisdiction	101-105, 108-110, 112-121, SRR site	Veg Removal: 1600-2019-0224-R5 Exp TBD Minor Repairs: 1600-2014-0238-R5 Exp. Sep. 30, 2035
United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)	Federal Clean Water Act Section 404 permit	To authorize impacts to surface waters resources under Federal jurisdiction	101-105, 108-110, 112-121, SRR site	SPL-2013-00723-BLR Exp Date: Mar 18, 2022
Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB)	Federal Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification	To authorize impacts to jurisdictional surface waters	112-121	
State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB)	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit (NPDES) General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with the Construction and Land Disturbance Activities	To authorize storm water discharges to jurisdictional surface waters	112-116	Gen. Permit No. CAG-990005- Weed Control, Pending Exp Date: TBD
City of Long Beach	Local Coastal Development Permit	To authorize impacts to jurisdictional surface waters	115	Renewal request of Permit #1509-29 submitted 6/20

5. STAGING PLAN

Reach 115 is accessible through gates located at the intersection of Reach 115 and the following roads: East Atherton Road, East 7th Street, Westminster Boulevard, Pacific Coast Highway, and Marine Drive. Access roads on both sides of Reach 115 line the entirety of the reach. The access road on the left bank is known as the San Gabriel River Trail and is open to the public for bicyclists and pedestrians. All access routes, vehicle maintenance, equipment staging, trash/debris/waste storage, and dispensing of fuel will be located within existing parking areas, access roads, and access ramps. Trash/debris/waste will be relocated to a legal point of disposal. (USACE, CDFW, RWQCB) No equipment maintenance will be done within or near any stream channel or lake margin as petroleum products or other pollutants from the equipment may enter these areas (CDFW).

6. NOTICING REQUIREMENTS

See attachment, Reach 115 Appendix C

7. BIOLOGICAL SURVEY

Please see attached document, Biological Survey-Reach 115

Ahmet Tatlilioglu, PE
Civil Engineer
Los Angeles County Public Works
Office: (626)458-7810

RFI: SBC 118 Amendment App No. 5-15-1028-A1

Ahmet Tatlilioglu <ATATLILIOGLU@dpw.lacounty.gov>
Fri 4/8/2022 4:06 PM

To: Alvarado, Marlene@Coastal <Marlene.Alvarado@coastal.ca.gov>
Cc: Stevens, Eric@Coastal <eric.stevens@coastal.ca.gov>;Jolene Guerrero <JGUERRER@dpw.lacounty.gov>;Rosa Cruz <RECruz@dpw.lacounty.gov>;Rainer Globus <RGLOBUS@dpw.lacounty.gov>;Marc Blain <marc.blain@psomas.com>;Erin Ruckman <erin.ruckman@psomas.com>

6 attachments (10 MB)

SBC 118 Amendment App No 5-15-1028-A1.pdf; Reach 118 Site Plan.pdf; Reach 118 PrePost Photos.pdf; Reach 118 PrePost Clearing Form.pdf; Reach 118 Appendix C.docx; Biological Survey-Reach 118.pdf;

Good Afternoon,

Please find the following supplement to the Los Angeles County Flood Control District's (LACFCD) application requesting for another 5 year authorization term for the continuation of the channel maintenance program at Rustic Canyon Soft-Bottom Channel (SBC), Reach 118.

Applicant: Los Angeles County Flood Control District (Attn: Jolene Guerrero, PE)
Project Location(s): Rustic Canyon, Soft-Bottom Channel (SBC) Reach 118
Amendment Application No. 5-15-1028-A1

1. PROPOSED PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Reach 118 (Rustic Canyon)) is located in the Pacific Palisades neighborhood of the City of Los Angeles and in the Santa Monica Bay Watershed. It is approximately 1.1 acres and 3,172 feet long. Reach 118 is a non-sensitive reach. No sensitive plant species are expected to occur within Reach 118. This narrow reach passes through a suburban area heavily planted with ornamental vegetation. As a result, a mix of native and non-native trees dominates vegetation in the reach. Native riparian growth (i.e. willows) are limited to two small clumps along the invert of the narrow reach. The slopes of the reach are lined with wood planks and are vegetated. There are no fences surrounding the reach.

Clearing of vegetation occurred with hand mowing in 2015 and was permitted by CDFW and RWQCB. The vegetation was only mowed by hand to avoid soil disturbance.

Surrounding land uses are residential uses and private property. For air quality purposes, the nearest sensitive receptors are residential uses and an athletic field located east of Reach 118.

Reach 118 would be accessed through private property located at 14470 Rustic Creek Lane, Pacific Palisades. This private property would also be the staging area location. There are no access roads surrounding the reach. Reach 118 is surrounded by residential uses on all sides.

Project Activities

All vegetation at Reach 118 would be removed using hand tools in order to minimize impacts to wildlife species. Minor repair work to the wooden wall structures would be conducted as necessary. Structural repairs for the wooden wall structures may include, but not be limited to, filling voids with onsite material, repairing small portions of the walls, and replacing support structures for the walls. A rubber-tracked skidsteer loader may be used to haul vegetation off the site. To move the skidsteer loader from one section of the channel to the next, temporary earthen ramps would be constructed at the drop structures with available onsite soils. The earthen ramps would be removed after vegetation is removed and the earthen material used to make the ramp would be redistributed evenly through the site where it was initially removed from. Trash, debris, and non-native vegetation would be removed by hand within easement boundaries. No machinery would be allowed in the mapped wetlands at the reach.

Scope of Work:

- Hand clear all vegetation.
- Mapped wetlands will be cleared by hand only and machinery will not enter these areas.

- Vegetation will be removed by hand using hand tools, such as weedeaters, hedge trimmers, chainsaws, hoes, pitch forks, loppers, machetes, and using a rubber-tracked skidsteer as necessary.

- Minor repair work to the wooden wall structures will be conducted as needed.

- These structural repairs may include filling voids with onsite material, repairing small portions of the wood walls, replacing support structures for the walls and appurtenant structures, and other miscellaneous items encountered.

- To move a skidsteer from one section of the channel to the next, temporary earthen ramps will be constructed at the drop structures with available onsite soils. The earthen ramps will be removed after vegetation is removed and earthen material will be redistributed evenly throughout the site.

- The site will be accessed through a private property, located at 14470 Rustic Creek Lane, Pacific Palisades, California 90272, that is also to be used as a staging area.

- Clear trash, debris, and non-native vegetation by hand within easement boundaries.

List of Proposed Avoidance and Protection Measures and BMPs
Pre- and post-maintenance surveys shall be conducted by a qualified biologist annually when maintenance is scheduled for the current year to identify and document maintenance activities and their consistency with the Maintenance Plan and regulatory permit conditions and other required biological mitigation measures. Sensitive plant and wildlife species observed shall be recorded during these surveys. Photographs shall be taken from identical photo stations prior to maintenance, and after maintenance is completed. Unauthorized vegetation maintenance shall be noted and reported to the Los Angeles County Flood Control District (LACFCD). The surveying qualified biologist shall prepare a report and submit to LACFCD that includes field data sheets, and pre- and post-maintenance photographs for each reach and determinations of compliance or non-compliance. LACFCD shall post the report and make it publicly available before the end of each calendar year as required by regulatory permits.

A qualified biological monitor shall conduct pre-maintenance surveys to determine the limits of coastal salt marsh, freshwater marsh, saltgrass-pickleweed vegetation, and tarplant/pickleweed occurrences. These areas shall be flagged for avoidance prior to maintenance activities. Areas mapped as coastal salt marsh, freshwater marsh, or saltgrass-pickleweed (disturbed or not) and areas with pickleweed or tarplant shall be avoided. A full-time biological monitor shall be present during maintenance activities in these marsh areas to confirm the disturbance limits.

Prior to initiation of Project activities, the Los Angeles County Flood Control District (LACFCD) shall obtain all necessary permits for impacts to jurisdictional areas of the following resource agencies: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), California Coastal Commission (CCC), and California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW). The LACFCD shall comply with all mitigation measures specified in the regulatory agency permits and/or agreements. Pursuant to the permit requirements, the LACFCD shall develop a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) that incorporates Best Management Practices (BMPs) for reducing or eliminating maintenance-related pollutants in the site runoff.

Mitigation for the loss of jurisdictional resources shall consist of enhancement and restoration of degraded jurisdictional resources at an appropriate mitigation site to replace impacted jurisdictional resources at a ratio of no less than 1:1 in biological value, determined through consultation with the above-listed resource agencies. Prior to the initiation of any maintenance-related activities in the soft-bottom channels, the LACFCD shall prepare and submit a Habitat Mitigation and Monitoring Program (HMMP) for USACE and CDFW approval. The HMMP shall contain the following items:

a. Responsibilities and qualifications of the personnel to implement and supervise the plan. The responsibilities of the Landowner, Specialists, and Maintenance Personnel that would supervise and implement the plan shall be specified.
b. Site selection. The mitigation site shall be determined in coordination with the USACE and CDFW. The site shall either be located in a dedicated open space area on County land, USFS land, or off-site land shall be purchased, within the same watershed as the majority of the impacted reaches of this Project.
c. Seed source. The seeds (or plantings) used shall be from local sources (within ten miles of the Project area) to ensure genetic integrity.
d. Site preparation and planting implementation. Site preparation shall include (1) protection of existing native species; (2) trash, debris, and weed removal; (3) native species salvage and reuse (i.e., duff); (4) soil treatments (i.e., imprinting, decompacting); (5) temporary irrigation installation; (6) erosion-control measures (i.e., rice or willow wattles); (7) seed mix application; and (8) container species planting.

e. Schedule. A schedule shall be developed which includes planting in late fall and early winter, between October 1 and January 30.
f. Maintenance plan/guidelines. The maintenance plan shall include (1) weed control; (2) herbivory control; (3) trash and debris removal; (4) irrigation system maintenance; (5) maintenance training; and (6) replacement planting.
g. Performance standards. Site performance shall meet or exceed written standards related to such items as 1) vegetation cover, 2) plant species diversity, and/or 3) sensitive wildlife usage. A contingency plan shall be included that outlines actions required if standards are not met.
h. Monitoring plan. The monitoring plan shall include (1) qualitative monitoring (i.e., pre- and post-maintenance photographs and general observations); (2) quantitative monitoring (i.e., randomly placed transects); (3) performance criteria, as approved by the above-listed resource agencies; (4) monthly reports for the first year and reports quarterly thereafter; and (5) annual reports, which shall be submitted to the above-mentioned resource agencies, if required, on an annual basis. The site shall be monitored and maintained for seven years, reduced to five years if performance measures are met, to ensure successful establishment of riparian habitat within the restored areas.
i. Long-term preservation. Long-term preservation of the site shall also be outlined in the HMMP to ensure the mitigation site is not impacted by future development.

Dates and Nesting Bird Surveys To avoid impacts to nesting birds, maintenance will not occur from March 15 to September 1.
a. If low impact maintenance activities (e.g. no mechanized equipment) are required during the nesting bird season (March 15 – August 31), a nesting bird sweep will be conducted and documented by trained County field staff within 72 hours prior to initiating work. Activities will be modified to avoid impacts to nesting birds if detected, including an appropriate buffer, if needed.
b. If maintenance activities are higher in potential impacts (e.g. non-chemical vegetation removal or usage of mechanized equipment) and are not included in the Annual Workplan (e.g. West Nile virus emergency), notify and coordinate with the USACE and CDFW. A nesting bird survey will be conducted by a qualified biologist with 72 hours prior to initiation of activities. Activities will be modified to avoid impacts to nesting birds if detected. (USACE, CDFW)

Minor Structural Repairs Minor structural repairs are permitted by CDFW and RWQCB without prior notification. USACE requires the repairs to be included in the Annual Workplan. If they are not included, then emergency permits are required. Examples of Non-Emergency Repair Activities: Re-grading inverts to repair minor erosion and to remove ponded water, Invert and slope repairs, Storm drain outfall maintenance, Repair of minor storm damage, Erosion control structures, Vegetation removal, In-kind structural repairs, Bank stabilization (bioengineering/recontouring), Streambed/invert repair, Minor in-kind riprap replacement Bank stabilization (rip-rap/retaining wall/gabion), Repair of invert access ramps, roads, and other appurtenances, Flap gate repair and/or replacement, Levee repairs.

Pre-Maintenance Biological Survey A qualified biologist will review any grading plans, perform pre-clearing biological resource surveys and complete photo documentation. (USACE, CDFW, RWQCB)

Pre-Maintenance Reporting By August 1, submit to all agencies the Annual Workplan that includes a schedule of the upcoming reaches proposed for maintenance clearing and repairs and the MMP, updated with any changes to the proposed activities. (USACE, CDFW, RWQCB) The CDFW requires proposed minor structural repairs to be summarized separately and submitted to them by July 1. (CDFW)

During-Maintenance Biological Work A qualified biologist will oversee all aspects of maintenance monitoring that pertain to biological resource protection, ensure compliance with the avoidance and minimization measures, and implement and monitor the program. A biological monitoring form will be used to record all information. This biologist will ensure that all protected areas are marked properly and will ensure that no vegetation outside the specified areas is removed. The biologist will have the authority to stop work, as necessary, if instructions are not followed. The biologist will be available for consultation to all agencies within 24 hours of a request for consultation. (USACE, CDFW, RWQCB)

Post-Maintenance Reporting By May 1, submit to all agencies the Annual Maintenance and Monitoring Report that includes a final schedule, all mitigation monitoring forms, photo-documentation, water quality test results, and copies of applicable permits. (USACE, CDFW, RWQCB)

Invasive Species
a. Pre-Maintenance Invasive Species Education Program. Prior to the commencement of any project activities, conduct an Invasive Species Education Training for all persons that will conduct maintenance activities. The training will consist of a presentation designed a qualified biologist that includes a discussion of the invasive species currently present within the project site as well as those that may pose a threat or have the potential to invade the project site. (CDFW, USACE)

b. Invasive Species Spread Prevention. Conduct project activities in a manner that prevents the introduction, transfer, and spread of invasive species, including plants, animals, and microbes (e.g., algae, fungi, parasites, bacteria), from one project site and/or watershed to another. (CDFW)
c. Inspection of Project Equipment. Inspect for invasive species on all vehicles, tools, waders and boots, and other project-related equipment. Remove all visible soil/mud, plant materials, and animal remnants prior to entering and exiting the project site and/or between each use in different watersheds. (CDFW)
d. Decontamination of Vehicles and Equipment. If decontamination for aquatic invasive animal species is applicable, decontaminate vehicles and other project-related equipment too large to immerse in a hot water bath by pressure washing with hot water a minimum of 140°F at the point of contact or 155°F at the nozzle. Additionally, flush watercraft engines and all areas that could contain standing water (e.g. storage compartments) for a minimum of 10 minutes. Following the hot water wash, dry all vehicles, watercraft, and other large equipment as thoroughly as possible. (CDFW)
e. Decontamination Sites. If decontamination for aquatic invasive animal species is applicable, perform decontamination of vehicles, watercraft, and other project gear and equipment in a designated location where runoff can be contained and not allowed to pass into CDFW jurisdictional areas and other sensitive habitat areas. (CDFW)
f. Notification of Invasive Species. Notify CDFW immediately if an invasive species not previously known to occur within the project site is discovered during project activities by submitting a completed Suspect Invasive Species Report (available online at: http://www.dfg.ca.gov/invasives/inv reporting/sightingReport.html) and photos to the Invasive Species Program by email at: invasives@wildlife.ca.gov. Notification may also be provided by calling (866) 440-9530. Upon receiving notification, CDFW will provide guidance for further action as appropriate to the species. (CDFW)

Bat Roost Avoidance and Impact Minimization To avoid the direct loss of bats that could result from removal of trees and/or structures that may provide day or night roost habitat (e.g., in cavities or under loose bark), implement the following measures for all maintenance (CDFW):
a. To the extent feasible, schedule tree/structure removal between October 1 and February 28, outside of the maternity roosting season for bats.
b. If trees and/or structures are infeasible to remove outside the maternity season (March 1 to September 30), a qualified bat specialist approved by CDFW will conduct a follow up focused bat survey no less than 7 days before scheduled tree/structure removals. Each tree and/or structure identified as potentially supporting an active maternity roost or day roost should be closely inspected by the bat specialist to more precisely determine the presence or absence of roosting bats.
c. Maternity season lasts from March 1 to September 30. Trees and/or structures determined to be maternity roosts should be left in place until the end of the maternity season. Trees that are known to be bat roosts will not be sawn up or mulched immediately. Provide a period of at least 24 hours, and preferably 48 hours, to elapse prior to such operations to allow bats to escape.
d. To minimize disturbance to night roosts do not conduct tree removal activities within 100 feet of bridges between 10:00 PM and sunrise at any time of year work is conducted.
i. Bird exclusion netting will not be used on underside of bridges, unless subsequently agreed to by CDFW.
ii. Lights will not be used under bridges.
iii. Combustion equipment, such as generators, pumps, and vehicles, will not be parked or operated under bridges.
iv. Personnel will not be present under bridges from 1/2 hour before sunset to 1/2 hour after sunrise
e. No less than 15 days before scheduled tree/structure removal, a qualified bat specialist approved by CDFW will conduct a pre-construction reconnaissance survey to identify those trees and/or structures proposed for disturbance that could provide hibernacula, roosting, or nursery colony habitat for bats.
f. If bats are not detected, but the bat specialist determines that roosting bats may be present at any time of year, it is preferable to slowly push any tree/structure down under operator's control using heavy machinery rather than felling it with a chainsaw. To ensure the optimum warning for any roosting bats that may still be present, the tree should be pushed lightly two to three times, with a pause of approximately 30 seconds between each nudge to allow bats to become active. The tree should then be pushed to the ground slowly and should remain in place until it has been inspected by a bat specialist. Trees that are observed to have bats during this process should not be sawn up or mulched immediately. A period of at least 24 hours will elapse prior to such operations to allow bats to escape. Bats should be allowed to escape prior to demolition of structures. This may be accomplished by placing one-way exclusionary devices into areas where bats are entering a building that allow bats to exit but not enter the structure.
g. The qualified bat biologist will document all demolition monitoring activities, and prepare a summary report to CDFW upon completion of tree disturbance and/or building demolition activities.

Rootball Cavities Within Streambed At the completion of tree removals and their rootballs in each active work zone, areas with rootball cavities will be filled to ensure that no pits or depressions are left where fish entrapment may occur. (CDFW)

Siltation Curtain Mechanical equipment will not be operated in the streambed except as subsequently approved by CDFW. Install a siltation curtain to prevent siltation of open water beyond the immediate working area. The siltation curtain and any supportive material will be relocated to follow active work areas, and it will be removed when the work is completed. An example of the work that will require a siltation curtain includes removing root balls from levee slopes. (CDFW)

Sediment and Erosion Control Install sediment and erosion control measures and maintain the sediment control(s) in good operating condition. Maintenance includes, but is not limited to, removal of accumulated silt and/or replacement of damaged silt fencing, silt curtain, coir logs, coir rolls, and/or straw bale dikes. (CDFW)
a. Monitoring of Silt Curtain. Monitor silt curtain for wildlife entrapment. Employ corrective measures if wildlife is trapped between shore and silt curtain.
b. If the sediment barrier fails to retain sediment, employ corrective measures, and notify the CDFW, immediately. Ensure materials used in the sediment barriers will not pose an entanglement risk to fish/wildlife. If CDFW determines that turbidity/siltation levels resulting from project-related activities constitute a threat to aquatic life, activities associated with the turbidity/siltation, will be halted until CDFW-approved control devices are installed, or abatement procedures are initiated.

Spill Containment All activities performed in or near a stream will have absorbent materials designated for spill containment and cleanup activities on-site for use in an accidental spill. If a spill occurs, the Permittee shall immediately notify the California Emergency Management Agency at 1-800-852-7550 and immediately initiate the cleanup activities. Notify and consult with CDFW regarding clean-up procedures. (CDFW)

Soil Erosion and Sediment Controls During maintenance, appropriate soil erosion and sediment controls will be used and maintained in effective operating condition. Permanently stabilize all exposed soil, other fills, above and below the ordinary high-water mark or high tide line at the earliest practicable date. If rain is predicted within 12 hours after maintenance operations begin, activities will cease temporarily, and protective measures to prevent siltation/erosion will be implemented and maintained. Dust disturbance will be minimized so there will be no downstream runoff. (USACE, CDFW, RWQCB)

Sediment The need for removal of accumulated sediment or regrading of scoured areas in dry non-vegetated areas will be assessed by LACFCD on an annual basis to return the affected areas to design capacity elevations.
a. Removal of accumulated sediment. Small quantities of dry accumulated sediment (“temporary fills”) will be removed in its entirety and not relocated or stockpiled in any way. It will be placed directly into a sediment transportation vehicle. (USACE)
b. Grading of scoured areas. Sediment may be graded (i.e. discharge of fill) to return the channel to its original condition, for example, due to scouring at the toe of a levee, drop structure or anywhere in the reach. If a small, dry, unvegetated area has been scoured, small quantities of adjacent accumulated sediment (adjacent, if available, or from other parts of the channel) may be graded to fill the scoured area. (CDFW)
c. A small quantity of sediment is defined as 200 cubic yards unless otherwise specified in the reach-specific conditions in Section 3.0. If accumulated sediment is more than 200 cy or if affected areas are wet or vegetated, this will be considered a separate project and separate permits will be acquired (USACE, CDFW, RWQCB)
d. Hand tools may be used in the channel, and all heavy equipment will be parked on the access roads and not in the channel. (USACE) No biological surveys or monitoring will be necessary in dry non-vegetated reaches during sediment removal. (CDFW) Impacts to remaining vegetation will be minimized as much as possible. Before and after pictures will be taken as documentation of the work and included in post-maintenance documentation. (CDFW)

Water Quality If there is a continuous flow of water that will continue beyond the reach’s downstream limit, water quality monitoring will be using the Water Quality form (Attachment H). Maintenance activities will not (RWQCB):
a. degrade surface water communities and populations including vertebrate, invertebrate, and plant species beyond the permitted vegetation removal;
b. promote the breeding of mosquitoes, gnats, black flies, midges, or other pests;
c. alter the color, create visual contrast with the natural appearance, nor cause aesthetically undesirable discoloration of the receiving waters;
d. cause formation of sludge deposits; or
e. adversely affect any designated beneficial uses. See permit for details.

Stream Gauge Maintenance In order to obtain accurate flow readings from all monitoring equipment mounted on bridges and/or other structures, vegetation within monitored channels will be cleared to bank-full capacity (unless otherwise specified in the Annual Workplan) upstream and downstream of the gauges, conduits, pumps, sensors, and probes or bridge to obtain accurate readings and prevent equipment damage. In addition,

maintenance may include performing repair and replacement in kind of existing monitoring equipment if inspection results require such activities. Stream gauge maintenance will occur between September 1 and March 1. If maintenance activities on this monitoring equipment is necessary during the nesting season, appropriate nesting bird surveys will be conducted prior to starting work. Routine maintenance, inspection and calibration, including clearance of accumulated sediment and/or vegetation within three feet of the water quality monitoring equipment may need to be conducted during dry weather to ensure proper operation. (RWQCB)

Water Diversion Plan All surface water will be diverted away from areas undergoing maintenance, following the approved Water Diversion Plan (Attachment I of the Maintenance Plan). (CDFW, RWQCB)

USACE Levee Guidelines Follow the USACE ETL 1110-2-583 "Guidelines for Landscape Planting and Vegetation Management at Levees, Floodwalls, Embankment Dams, and Appurtenant Structures," adopted by USACE on April 30, 2014, which generally requires that there is no vegetation within 15 feet of a levee structure. (RWQCB)

Best Management Practices Follow the "BMP Manual for Soft Bottom Clearing" developed by LACFCD in 2003 and all other necessary BMPs. (USACE, CDFW, RWQCB)

Permits Onsite Copies of the MMP and all regulatory approvals (permits) for this project should be available on site at all times during maintenance activities. (USACE, CDFW, RWQCB)

Non-Compliance LACFCD or their agents will report any noncompliance with a regulatory approval within 24 hours. See permit for details. (RWQCB)

Archeology In the event of any discoveries during maintenance of historical artifacts, notify the USACE Archeology Staff within 24 hours. (USACE)

Mitigation Compensatory mitigation is necessary for all new impacts within the channels. See permits for details. (USACE, CDFW, RWQCB)

Rain Do not conduct any operations within the reach in the water during a rainfall event. Maintain a five-day (5-day) clear weather forecast before conducting any operations within the water. (RWQCB)

Current Site Plan
Please see attachment, Reach 118 Site Plan

2. ANNUAL ROUTINE MAINTENANCE ACTIVITIES REPORT

Please see attachment, Reach 118 PrePost Clearing Form and Reach 118 PrePost Photos.

3. HERBICIDE USE

Currently, the LACFCD is not authorizing the use of herbicides. Authorization may be allowed in the future but only in accordance with regulatory permits. Only herbicides approved for aquatic use can be used at the reaches. Application of herbicides will be conducted according to agency-approved methods. (RWQCB, CDFW) Post-emergent herbicide spraying would only be used in areas with dense invasive vegetation and as specified in the reaches permits. Implementation of a Water Diversion Plan and other appropriate BMPs required by the regulatory agencies would also prevent chemicals from entering the runoff. Compliance with these conditions would avoid hazardous materials impacts to waters within the reaches and avoid the creation of a significant hazard to the public or the environment. During nesting bird season, trained staff will conduct nesting bird sweeps prior to the application of herbicide in “non-avian sensitive” soft-bottom channel reaches.

4. OTHER RESOURCES AGENCIES

Agency	Approval Required	Purpose	Project Components	Agency Approval Received?
Los Angeles County Flood Control District (LACFCD) (Lead Agency)	Mitigated Negative Declaration	Approval pursuant to CEQA	101-105, 108-110, 112-121, SRR site	

Exhibit 4 – Before and After Photos of Channels

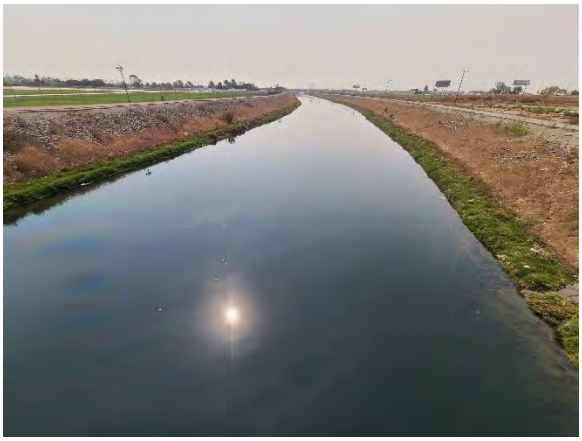
2020-2021 Soft Bottom Channels

Reach 113

Dominguez Channel

NO WORK DONE

Photos 8/21/20



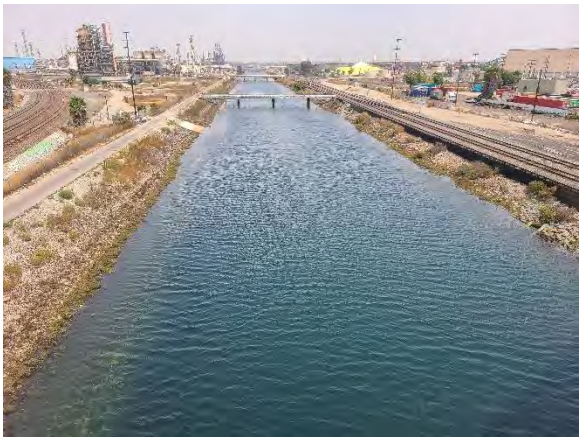
2020-2021 Soft Bottom Channels

Reach 113

Dominguez Channel

NO WORK DONE

Photos 8/21/20



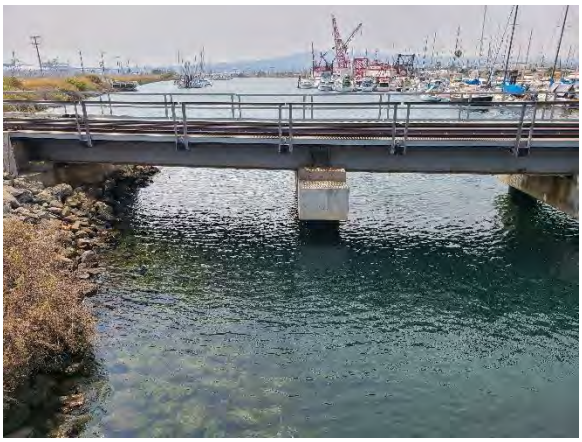
2020-2021 Soft Bottom Channels

Reach 113

Dominguez Channel

NO WORK DONE

Photos 8/21/20



2019-2020 Soft Bottom Channels

Reach 115

San Gabriel River

Before Photos 9/3/19 **After Photos 3/18/20**

NO WORK DONE

IN THIS AREA

NO WORK DONE

IN THIS AREA

NO WORK DONE

IN THIS AREA

2019-2020 Soft Bottom Channels

Reach 115

San Gabriel River

Before Photos 9/3/19

After Photos 3/18/20

NO WORK DONE

IN THIS AREA

2019-2020 Soft Bottom Channels

Reach 115

San Gabriel River

Before Photos 9/3/19

After Photos 3/18/20

2019-2020 Soft Bottom Channels

Reach 118

Rustic Canyon

Before Photos 8/29/19

After Photos 1/8/20

2019-2020 Soft Bottom Channels

Reach 118

Rustic Canyon

Before Photos 8/29/19

After Photos 1/8/20