

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

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Click here to go
to staff report

F23e&f

5-15-1064-A1, 5-15-1065-A1

(LACFCD)

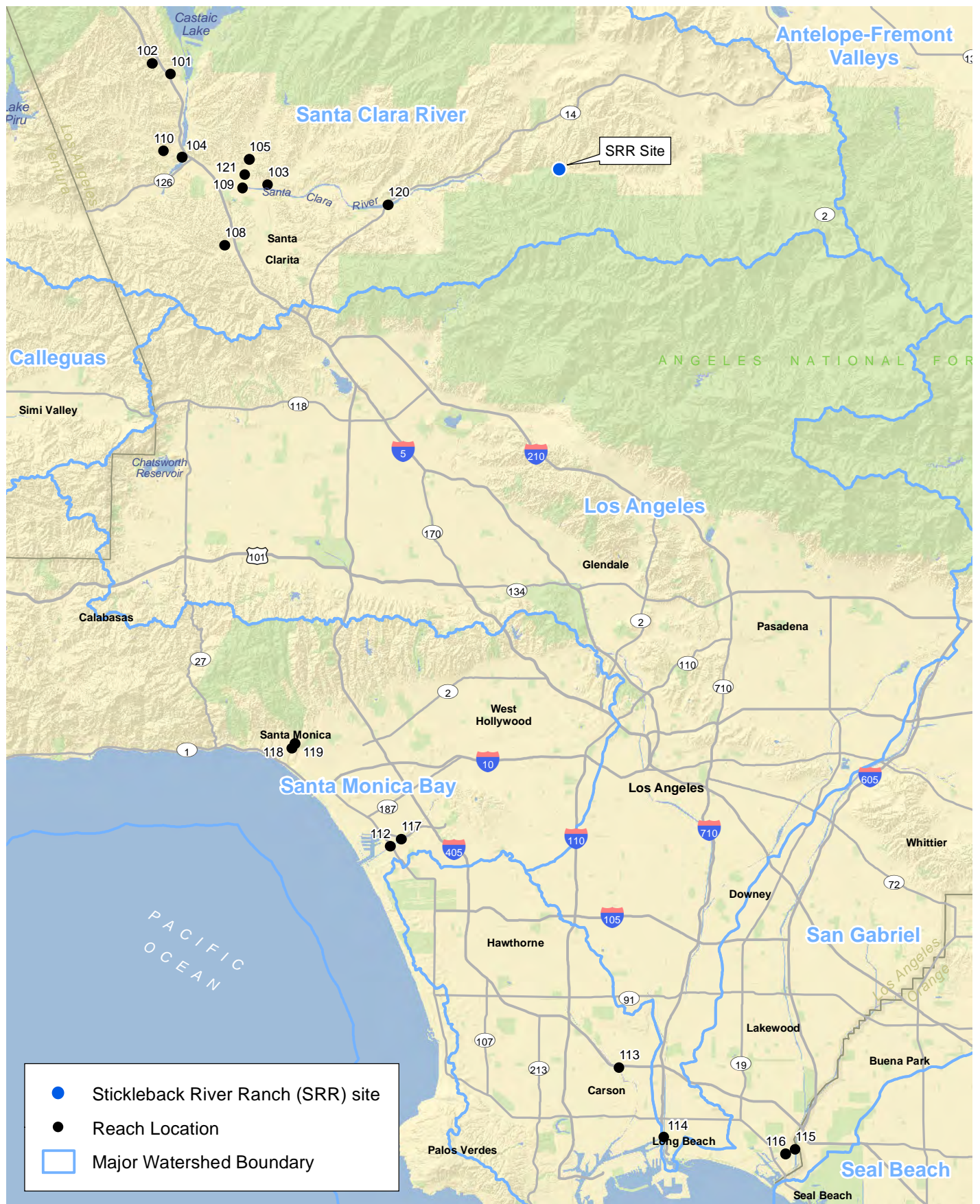
NOVEMBER 18, 2022

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Exhibit 1 – Project Location

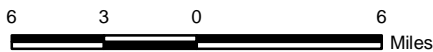
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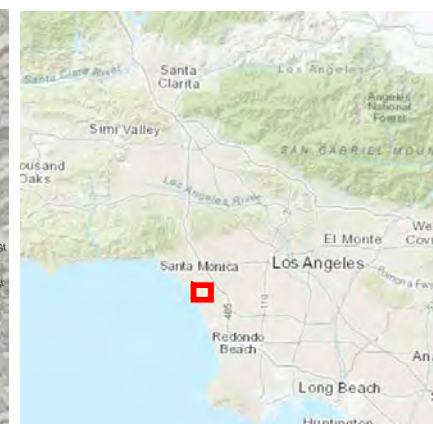
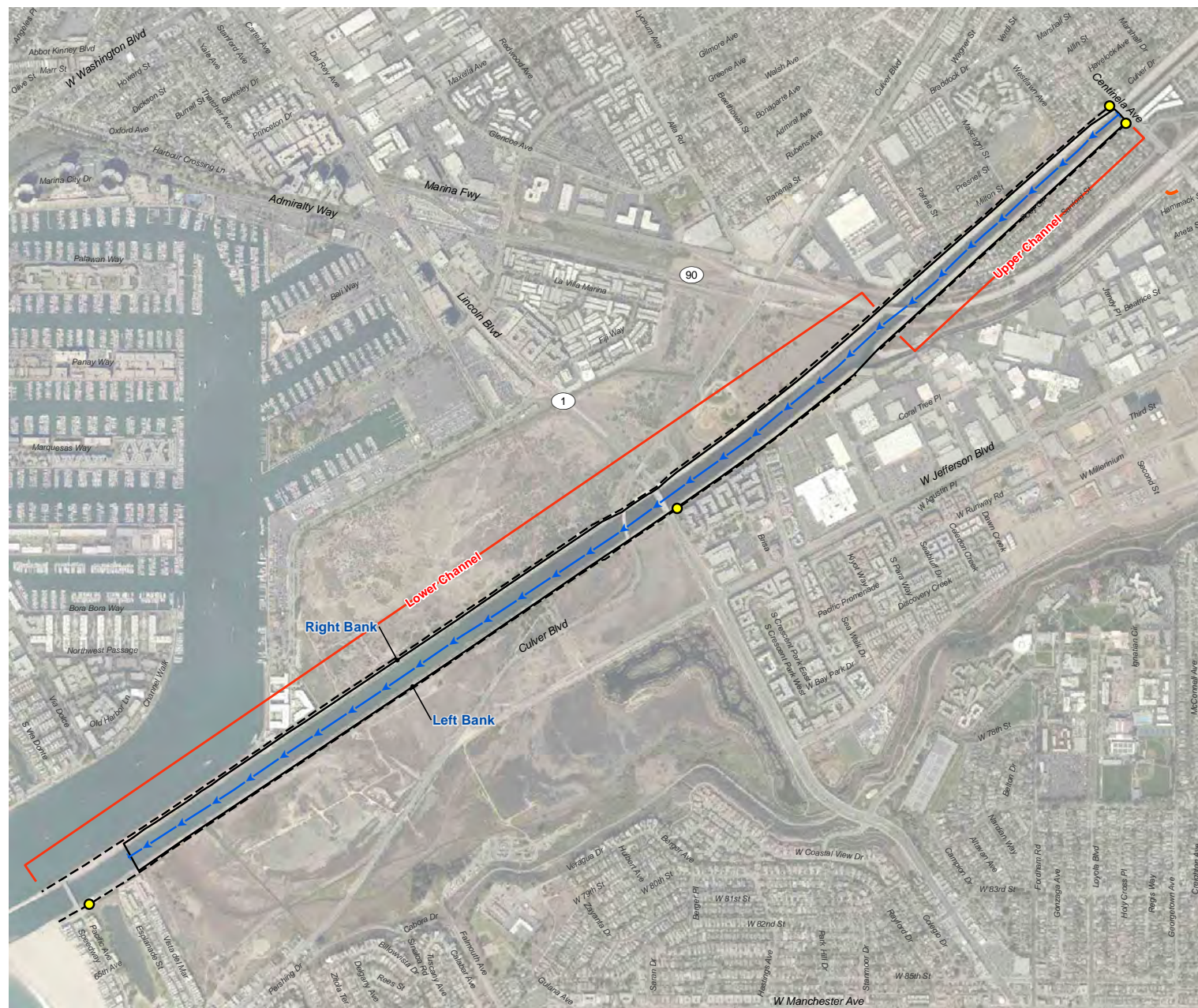
Regional Location

Attachment 1

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



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



1,000 500 0 1,000 Feet

Aerial Source: LAR-IAC 2014

Reach 112 **Exhibit 2.2i**
*Long-term Streambed Alteration
Agreement for the Soft-Bottom Channel
Maintenance Plan for Select Reaches*



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Exhibit 2 – Project Plans



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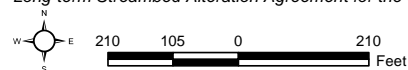
- LACFCD Easement Boundary
- Coastal Zone Boundary
- Annual Clearing Impact Area (6.96 acres)
- Saltwater Marsh
- Open Water
- Ruderal
- Developed

Aerial Source: LAR-IAC 2014

Project Impacts – Vegetation Types and Other Areas – Reach 112 – Ballona Creek

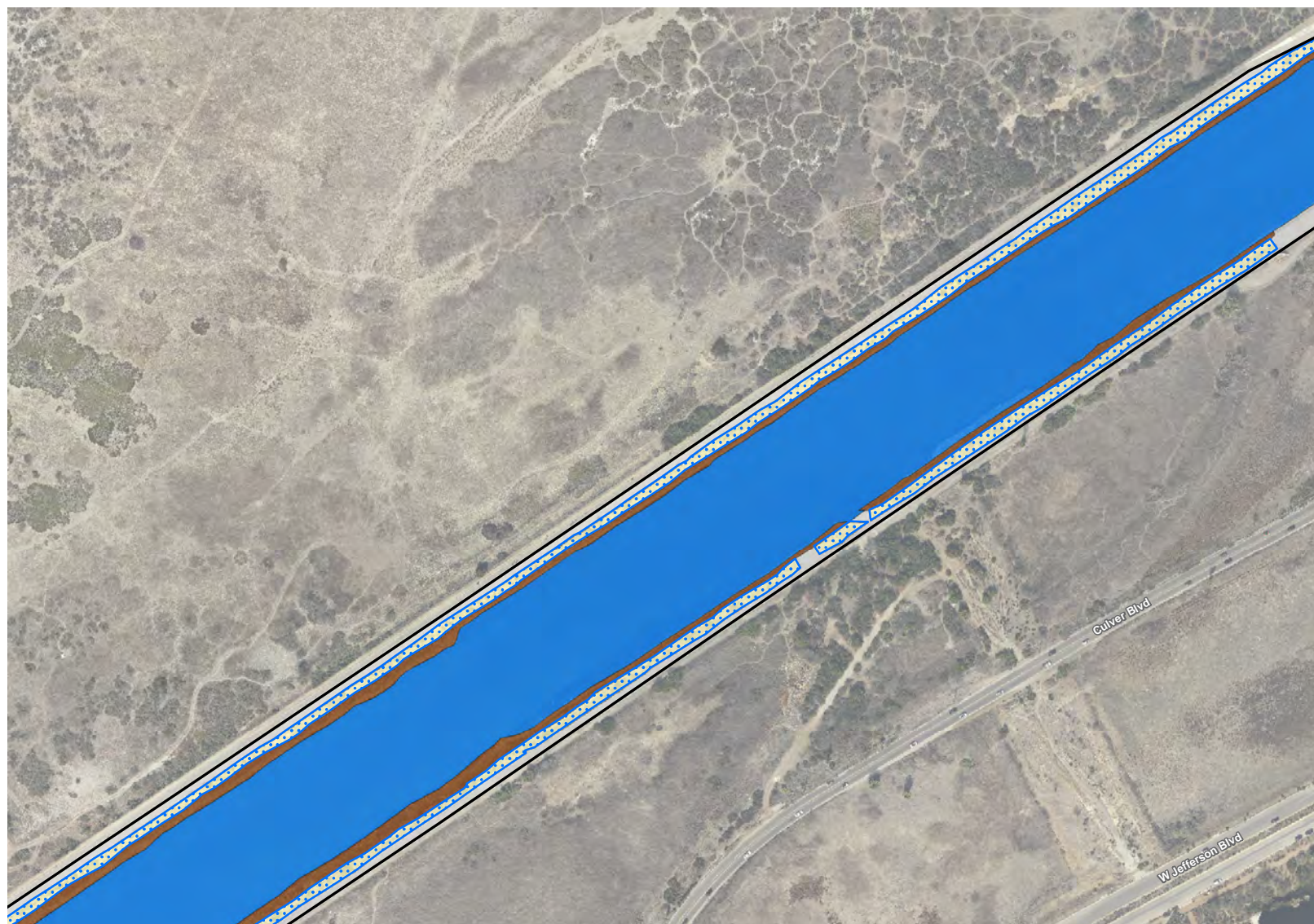
Long-term Streambed Alteration Agreement for the Soft-bottom Channel Maintenance Plan for Select Reaches

Exhibit 3.1–9c



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- LACFCD Easement Boundary
- Annual Clearing Impact Area (6.96 acres)
- Saltwater Marsh
- Open Water
- Ruderal
- Developed

Aerial Source: LAR-IAC 2014

Project Impacts – Vegetation Types and Other Areas – Reach 112 – Ballona Creek

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

Exhibit 3.1–9d



210 105 0 210
Feet



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- LACFCD Easement Boundary
- Annual Clearing Impact Area (6.96 acres)
- Saltwater Marsh
- Open Water
- Ruderal
- Developed

Aerial Source: LAR-IAC 2014

Project Impacts – Vegetation Types and Other Areas – Reach 112 – Ballona Creek

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

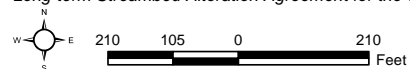


Exhibit 3.1–9e



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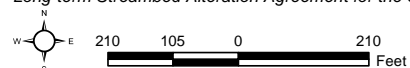
- LACFCD Easement Boundary
- Annual Clearing Impact Area (6.96 acres)
- Saltwater Marsh
- Open Water
- Ruderal
- Developed

Aerial Source: LAR-IAC 2014

Project Impacts – Vegetation Types and Other Areas – Reach 112 – Ballona Creek

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

Exhibit 3.1-9f



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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 112 Amendment App No 5-15-1064-A1

Ahmet Tatlilioglu <ATATLILIOGLU@dpw.lacounty.gov>

Mon 4/11/2022 11:24 AM

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 <RGLOBAL@dpw.lacounty.gov>; Erin Ruckman <erin.ruckman@psomas.com>; Marc Blain <marc.blain@psomas.com>

 6 attachments (9 MB)

Biological Survey-Reach 112.pdf; Reach 112 Appendix C.docx; Reach 112 PrePost Clearing Form.pdf; Reach 112 PrePost Photos.pdf; Reach 112 Site Plan.pdf; SBC 112 Amendment App No 5-15-1064-A1.pdf;

Marlene,

Looks like Reach 112 also had another application and an RFI. Please see below and attachments. At this point I sent you responses for the following applications below;

Reach 112 No. **5-15-1065-A1** and **5-15-1064-A1**

Reach 113 No. 5-15-1760-A1

Reach 115 No. **5-15-1026-A1** and **5-15-1046-A1**

Reach 118 No. **5-15-1028-A1** and **5-15-1029-A1**

Good Morning,

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 Ballona Creek Soft-Bottom Channel (SBC), Reach 112.

Applicant: Los Angeles County Flood Control District (Attn: Jolene Guerrero, PE)

Project Location(s): Ballona Creek Soft-Bottom Channel (SBC), Reach 112

Amendment Application No. 5-15-1064-A1

1. PROPOSED PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Reach 112 (Ballona Creek) is located in the City of Los Angeles and within the Santa Monica Bay Watershed. It is approximately 98.0 acres and 13,589 feet long. Vegetation that is present is a mixture of native and non-native tree, shrub, and herbaceous species that are limited to growing as scattered individuals among the riprap. Reach 112 is a non-sensitive reach, however, there is potential for the southern tarplant (*Centromadia parryi ssp. australis*), the State- and federally-listed Endangered California least tern (*Sternula antillarum browni*), and the State Endangered Belding's savannah sparrow (*Passerculus sandwichensis beldingi*). Belding's savannah sparrow has been observed during surveys of this reach.

Reach 112 has two distinct segments referred to as the upper and lower channel sections. The upper channel section of Ballona Creek is located between Centinela Avenue and the State Route 90 (SR-90), adjacent to the Ballona Creek Bike Path and running parallel to West Jefferson Boulevard. The lower channel section of Ballona Creek is located south of SR-90 to Pacific Avenue, adjacent to the Ballona Creek Bike Path. Banks of the upper section are lined with concrete and the lower section banks are covered with riprap. An access road on the right bank is open to the public as the Ballona Creek Bike Path, but the reach itself is not open to the public. A chain link fence lies on the outside of the left bank access road.

Surrounding land uses to Reach 112 include open space, industrial uses, and residential uses. The nearest air quality sensitive receptors are an athletic field located north of the reach, residential uses located east of the reach, a school located south of the reach, and a park located south of the reach.

Reach 112 is accessible through gates located at the intersections of the Reach 112 and the following streets: Centinela Avenue, Lincoln Boulevard, and Pacific Avenue. Access roads on both sides of Reach 112 are adjacent and parallel to the reach. The right bank access road is also used as bicycle and pedestrian paths throughout the length of the reach. There are no access ramps within Reach 112. All work for this reach is done from the access road. Clearing of non-native invasive plants has already occurred in the upper channel in 2015, according to permits from USACE, CDFW, and RWQCB. The native cattails and bulrush were left untouched.

Initial project activities at Reach 112 would depend upon the location along the Ballona Creek (upper or lower channel sections, as described above). Maintenance activities in the lower channel section of Reach 112 would include: (1) removal of non-native woody vegetation on the riverside levee slope via mechanical equipment (as necessary) above the Ordinary High Water Mark (OHWM) and only by hand or with hand-held mechanical equipment when below the OHWM or in the native marshes; (2) mowing or hand removal of non-native weeds and grasses; and (3) hand removal of trash, debris, or non-native vegetation. Native vegetation would not be cleared. No heavy equipment would be placed in the bottom of the invert.

Large populations of bulrush and cattails are located in the upper channel. Maintenance activities for the upper channel includes trimming of the bulrush and cattails down to six inches above the height of the grouted riprap annually, following conditions in the CDFW permit. The bulrush and cattails would not be allowed to expand past their July 2015 boundaries. The roots that have expanded past the July 2015 boundaries would be removed annually following conditions in the CDFW permit. Trash, debris, and non-native vegetation would be cleared by hand within LACFCD easement boundaries. Only hand and/or hand-held mechanical equipment would be used to maintain the upper portion of this reach.

Annual clearing of all woody vegetation would occur along the entire reach on both banks below the access roads. To avoid impacts to nesting birds, maintenance will not occur from March 15 to September 1. 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.

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), it is required to 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)

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 There will be no conducting of 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 112 Site Plan

2. ANNUAL ROUTINE MAINTENANCE ACTIVITIES REPORT

Please see attachment, Reach 112 PrePost Clearing Form and Reach 112 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	Agency Approval Received?
Los Angeles County Flood Control District (LACFCD) (Lead Agency)	Mitigated Negative Declaration	Approval pursuant to CEQA	State Clearinghouse No. 2021040017 Exp TBD
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	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	SPL-2013-00723-BLR Exp Date: Mar 18, 2022, new permit pending
Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB)	Federal Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification	To authorize impacts to jurisdictional surface waters	File No. 14-125

5. STAGING PLAN

Reach 112 is accessible through gates located at the intersections of the Reach 112 and the following streets: Centinela Avenue, Lincoln Boulevard, and Pacific Avenue. Access roads on both sides of Reach 112 are adjacent and parallel to the reach. The right bank access road is also used as bicycle and pedestrian paths throughout the length of the reach. There are no access ramps within Reach 112. All work for this reach is done from the access road.

6. NOTICING REQUIREMENTS

See attachment, Reach 112 Appendix C

7. BIOLOGICAL SURVEY

Please see attached document, Biological Survey-Reach 112

Exhibit 4 – Before and After Photos of Channel

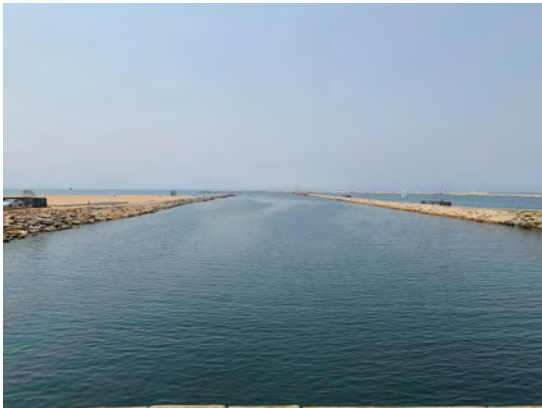
2020-2021 Soft Bottom Channels

Reach 112

Ballona Creek

Before Photos 8/20/20

After Photos 8/19/21



2020-2021 Soft Bottom Channels

Reach 112

Ballona Creek

Before Photos 8/20/20

After Photos 8/19/21



2020-2021 Soft Bottom Channels

Reach 112

Ballona Creek

Before Photos 8/20/20



After Photos 8/19/21

