

US Army Corps of Engineers®

LOS ANGELES DISTRICT

Asset Management Division

Operations and Maintenance Branch

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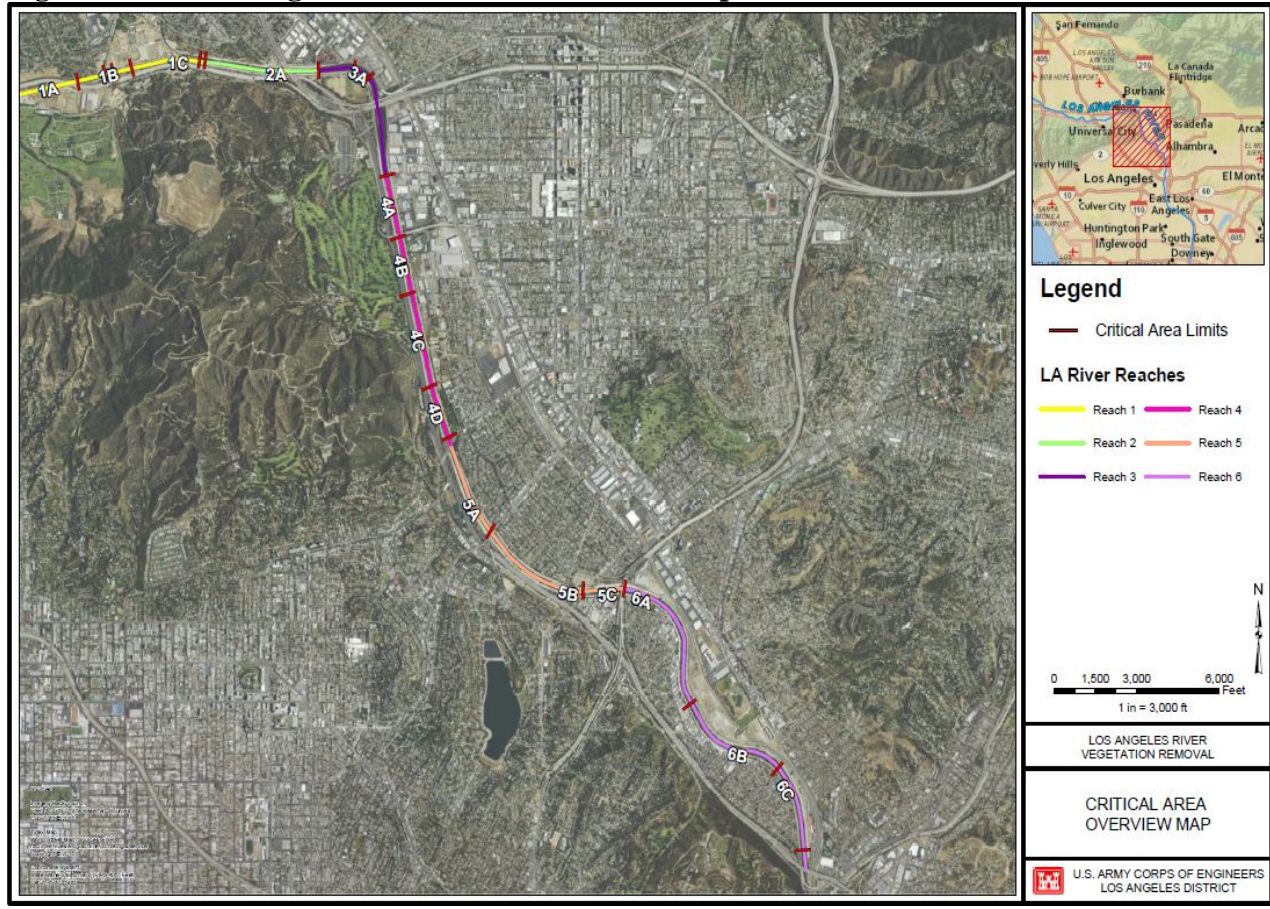
NOTIFICATION: Pursuant to Section II.C.2.b of the May 12, 2017, Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Between the United States Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District (USACE) and the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region (LARWQCB), Concerning Operation, Maintenance, Repair, Replacement, and Rehabilitation of the Los Angeles County Drainage Area Project in Waters of the United States.

SUBJECT: Priority Vegetation and Sediment Removal, Task Order No. 15, Glendale Narrows Reaches 2A, 3A, 4A, 4B of the Los Angeles River (TO 15).

Project Location: The USACE work area for TO 15 comprises approximately 8,657 linear feet of temporary impacts along Reaches 2A, 3A, 4A, and 4B of the Los Angeles River (LAR). All activity would be located in the Glendale Narrows and Atwater Village/Griffith Park areas of the City of Glendale and City of Los Angeles in Los Angeles County, California (Figure 1). The upstream extent of TO 15 begins at Reach 2A, which is located at the transition from the concrete channel to soft bottom below the Burbank Channel's confluence with the LAR. The downstream extent of TO 15 ends at the southern extent of Reach 4B, located approximately 0.44 mile south of the Colorado Street overpass.

Proposed Schedule: Activities identified in this notification the sooner of (1) 45 days of receipt of this notification or (2) LARWQCB concurs that TO 15 activities may proceed.

Figure 1. Critical Vegetation Removal Overview Map



Activities Description: Also refer to the attached *Categorical Exclusion for Los Angeles River-Reaches 2A, 3A, 4A, and 4B Operations and Maintenance* for more information.

LAR Reach 2A: The Corps will remove large buried items of trash, approximately 56 trees/tree stumps and root balls, and approximately 2000 cubic yards of a matrix of giant reed (*Arundo donax*) rhizomes and attached clumps of sediment from Reach 2A. Giant reed rhizome/sediment matrix, root ball and tree stump extraction will be accomplished using a winch and grappling arm, or by an excavator equipped with a “thumb” implement attached to its bucket. Larger items of trash or buried trash will be hooked to and pulled out using a winch, and then lifted out using a grappling arm. Materials will not be stockpiled in the LAR channel. Heavy equipment will be operated from the grouted stone toe, or on dry sediment islands only. No vehicles are allowed in the wet, soft-bottom areas of the LAR. The Corps will remove 2000 cubic yards of sediment that has accumulated on the grouted stone toe and concrete crossing areas. Accumulated sediment will be removed using mechanized equipment such as a front-end loader, backhoe, or skid-steer.

All extracted materials will be transferred to bins or dump-box trucks and hauled away to an appropriate landfill facility for disposal.

The Corps will cut, remove, and herbicide treat approximately 2.0 acres of giant reed, castor bean (*Ricinus communis*), and fan palm trees (*Washingtonia robusta*) in order to restore channel capacity and accommodate projected storm flows. Vegetation will be cut within approximately 4" to 6" inches of the surrounding soil surface layer, and then treated with herbicides. Overstory vegetation consisting of both native and non-native trees will be limbed up to 8 feet from the ground. Tree limbs would be cut, not broken off, to minimize damage and disease to overstory tree species. No stockpiling will occur in the LAR channel. Additionally, large displaced derrick stones will be moved back in place where they have become dislodged from the grouted stone toe due to winter storm flows over the past several years. The stones are currently situated on concrete-bottomed channel crossings or in grouted stone toe areas. The stones will be separated from smaller particle sizes using an excavator, and then placed in voids along the grouted stone toe. The replacement of dislodged derrick stones will not change the character, scope or size of the originally constructed structure.

All extracted green waste materials will be transferred to bins or dump-box trucks and hauled away to an appropriate landfill facility for disposal.

LAR Reach 3A: The Corps will remove approximately 80 cubic yards of accumulated sediment and approximately 50 medium to large willow trees (*Salix sp.*) over a 0.25-acre area from the existing, channel-spanning concrete apron. Trees would be cut to ground level, then a backhoe or front-end loader would scoop the remaining root ball and sediment matrix, and place it directly into a bin or dump-box truck to be hauled off and disposed of at an appropriate landfill. No dewatering or stream diversion is proposed.

LAR Reaches 4A and 4B: The Corps will remove approximately 80 cubic yards (40 cubic yards per reach) of trash and floatable debris (e.g. downed or deadfall woody debris, exposed stumps, larger man-made items, etc.) from reaches 4A and 4B of the LAR. Larger items of trash or floatable woody debris will be lifted out using a grappling arm. Buried items will be hooked to a winch and pulled from the sediment/sand bar before being lifted out using a grappling arm. Another approximate 20 cubic yards (10 cubic yards from each reach) of scattered concrete debris will also be extracted from reaches 4A and 4B. Concrete debris will be picked up by hand, by grapple arm, or by an excavator located on the grouted stone toe. Additionally, approximately 20 cubic yards of sediment that has collected on the concrete river crossings over several years will be removed from each reach. Accumulated sediment will be removed using a front-end loader, backhoe, or skid-steer.

All extracted materials will be transferred to bins or dump-box trucks and hauled away to an appropriate landfill facility for disposal. No stockpiling will occur in the LAR channel.

The Corps will cut, remove, and herbicide treat approximately 2.0 acres of giant reed, castor bean, and fan palm trees in order to maintain suitable levels of in-channel biomass

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SUBJECT: Notification of Scheduled Critical Vegetation and Sediment Removal, Task Order No. 15, Glendale Narrows Reaches 2A, 3A, 4A, and 4B of the Los Angeles River.

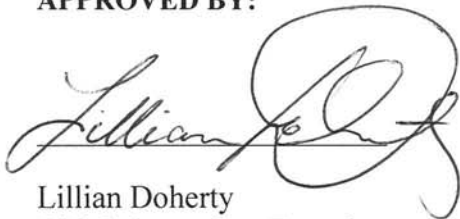
and restore channel capacity to accommodate projected storm flows. Vegetation will be cut within approximately 4" to 6" inches of the surrounding soil surface layer, and then treated with herbicides. Overstory vegetation consisting of both native and non-native trees will be limbed up to 8 feet from the ground. Tree limbs would be cut, not broken off, to minimize damage and disease to overstory tree species.

All extracted green waste materials will be transferred to bins or dump-box trucks and hauled away to an appropriate landfill facility for disposal. No stockpiling will occur in the LAR channel.

Best Management Practices (BMPs) to be Implemented to Avoid and/or Minimize Impacts to Jurisdictional Waters of the United States:

All eleven of the recommended BMP's listed under Exhibit B of Attachment A – MOU between the US Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District and the California Regional Water Quality Board, Los Angeles Region concerning Operation, Maintenance, Repair, Replacement, and Rehabilitation of the Los Angeles County Drainage Area Project in waters of the U.S. will be used for TO 15.

APPROVED BY:



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Asset Management Division
Los Angeles District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Date: Sept 11, 2017