

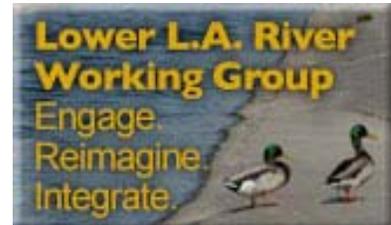
**DATE:** September 26, 2016

**TO:** RMC Governing Board

**FROM:** Mark Stanley, Executive Officer

**SUBJECT:** Item 8D: Project and Liaison Activities

**Lower Los Angeles River Working Group (AB 530):** Since May 3, 2016, the Lower LA River Working Group has been meeting for the past 5 months to discuss the Lower LA River Revitalization Plan (LLARRP). The Working Group was created by Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon through Assembly Bill 530. The working group's goal is to create a robust restoration plan that lays the groundwork for a revitalized Lower Los Angeles River that connects residents to the river that flows through their communities. Members of the working group were appointed by Secretary of Natural Resources John Laird and include 39 members including 12 southeast cities, 16 Non-governmental organizations (NGOs), the First, Second and Fourth Supervisorial Districts, the Gateway Water Management Authority, and the business sector.



Meetings have been rotating throughout cities in the Southeast and the most recent meeting was held on September 8, 2016 in the City of South Gate. The Working Group meetings are being facilitated by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works with the assistance of the consulting firm of Tetra Tech and MIG. RMC also provides coordination assistance for the meetings and will be actively involved for the duration of this process. Meetings are held the first Thursday of every month, from 6:00- 9:00 pm and are open to the public. The next meeting will be held on October 6, 2016 in the City of Downey and additional information can be found on the RMC website: [www.rmc.ca.gov](http://www.rmc.ca.gov) and <http://asmcd.org/speaker/issues/l-a-river-revitalization>.

**Regional Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Planning:** The Los Angeles County Department of Public Works is preparing a region-wide application in response to the Department of Water Resources (DWR) Disadvantaged Communities Involvement Program (DACIP) funding opportunity within the Los Angeles & Ventura funding area. In support of informing community leaders, RMC staff co-hosted a Proposition 1 DAC forum on September 7 in the City of Lynwood. Attendees included: NGO's, Community Based Organizations, City representatives, Water Districts, and Elected officials. Forum panelists included: Anthony Rendon, Speaker of the Assembly, Tracie Billington, State Department of Water Resources, Russ Bryden, LA County Flood Control District, Jon Christensen, UCLA Institute of the Environment and Sustainability. The panel was moderated by Miguel A. Luna of Urban Semillas.



While RMC staff will remain involved and committed to the IRWMP process Mark Stanley has stepped down from the Disadvantaged Communities Committee (DAC) Chair position and relinquished his seat as Vice-Chair of the Lower San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles River Subcommittee, all due to the time commitments required for other areas of Leadership within RMC. The vacancy for the DAC position has been filled by Grace Kast, Executive Officer of the Gateway Water Management Authority, and nominations are being taken for the Vice-Chair of the Lower San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles



The forum was broadcasted live on the web and now archived and available for viewing anytime by clicking on the link below. Staff will continue to monitor the implementation of the DACIP Program and provide updates as needed.

Click below to view the live recorded Forum

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RWfekA0ItDw#t=7m45s>

**San Gabriel Mountains National Monument:** The USDA Forest Service has prepared a San Gabriel Mountains National Monument Management Plan Amendment to the existing Angeles National Forest Land Management Plan (LMP). A draft Environmental Assessment for the Monument Management Plan has also been prepared and is currently available for public review. The project areas for this plan covers 246,177 acres of the northern and southeast portion of the San Gabriel Mountains that established the National Monument in 2014 through a Presidential Proclamation. The Forest Service proposed to change direction in management of the existing LMP to be consistent with the Proclamation.

With the release of the Management Plan and EA, the San Gabriel Mountains Community Collaborative and its various committees are engaged in an in-depth review, with preparation of a detailed comment letter underway. This review effort supports the ongoing work of the Collaborative to identify and prioritize sustainable opportunities to improve public safety, the watersheds, recreation, visitor services, stewardship, education and cultural resources. The Collaborative is comprised of representatives from a diverse range of Monument stakeholders working together to represent the interest of the general public. The RMC is represented by Board Member Clark with Mark Stanley serving as her alternate.

Public engagement opportunities for the Monument Plan and EA are being offered throughout September and October, with the comment period running through October 17, 2016. Remaining opportunities include a public meeting Big Pines Lodge on October 4 from 3:30-7:30 pm. Big Pines Lodge is located on Angeles Crest Highway (HWY 2) in Wrightwood, CA.

Additional information and copied of the draft planning documents are available online at: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=46964>

**San Gabriel Mountains Foothills and Rivers Protection Act:** On October 23, 2015 Congresswoman Judy Chu introduced H.R. 3820, the San Gabriel Mountains Foothills and Rivers Protection Act to the 114<sup>th</sup> Congress. This bill, which has been referred to the Subcommittee on Federal Lands under the House Committee on Natural Resources, includes two objectives: 1) Expansion of the National Monument and 2) Establishment of the San Gabriel National Recreation Area. The National Monument expansion would extend the recently designated San Gabriel Mountains National Monument boundary to include the western areas the San Gabriel Mountains currently held within the Angeles National Forest. Establishment of the San Gabriel National Recreation Area would create a National Recreation Area (NRA) along the Foothills, San Gabriel River and Rio Hondo corridors, and the western Puente-Chino Hills.

The San Gabriel Mountains Foothills and Rivers Protection Act is different from the old H.R. 4858, the San Gabriel National Recreation Area Act, introduced by the Congresswomen during the 113<sup>th</sup> Congress. Since the introduction of H.R. 4858 last year, President Obama declared a large portion of the San Gabriel Mountains a National Monument. The new bill reflects this change by expanding Monument protections for the western portions of the Angeles National Forest. In the new bill, the National Monument and NRA are separate units. In H.R. 4858, the Angeles National Forest was part of the NRA.

RMC will continue to track the bill. Co-sponsors include Congressman Tony Cardenas (D-CA29) and Adam Schiff (D-CA28). Proposed Wilderness additions and Wild and Scenic River designations within the Angeles National Forest are also being tracked by the RMC staff. There have been no action on this bill since the March Board Meeting.

**The Safe, Clean Neighborhood Park, Open Space, Beaches, Rivers Protection and Water Conservation Measure:** On Tuesday, July 5, 2016 the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors voted in support of advancing a parks funding measure to the November ballot. The Safe, Clean Neighborhood Parks, Open Space, Beaches, Rivers Protection and Water Conservation Measure would add an annual parcel tax of one- and-a-half cents per square foot of development for most land uses. This would represent an average of approximately \$22.50 annually for a 1,500 square-foot home. The measure would replace the 1996 Prop A which expires in 2019.

Funds will be allocated to each Los Angeles Countywide Park Needs Assessment study area based on the Per Capita and Structural Improvements Formula. Each Study Area's allocation percentage of the applicable funding programs shall be the arithmetic mean of Per Capita and Structural Improvements, where Per Capita is weighted two-thirds and Structural Improvements are weighted one-third, and shall be calculated as follows:

$$\text{Allocation Percentage} = \left[ \frac{\text{Per Capita} + \text{Per Capita} + \text{Structural Improvements}}{3} \right]$$

The expenditure plan for Maintenance and Servicing (M&S) accounts for 15% of the funding measure. Through a recent survey of 1,218 likely November 2016 Los Angeles County voters, the overall level of support on the L.A. County's Regional Park and Open Space's Measure was 69%. Education about the County's, cities' and neighborhoods' park, recreation and open space needs, and the benefits of these important community assets, leads to a six-percentage-point increase in the overall level of support, from 69 to 75 percent. Only 18 percent continue to oppose the measure and 7 percent remain undecided. A 2/3rds majority is required for the Measure to pass.

**Expenditure Plan for Potential  
Parks Funding Measure**

Funding Category		\$ 0.015/sq foot dev		
		Annually	35 Years	
<i>Grant Category 1</i>	<b>Community Based Park Investment Program:</b> Funds Returned to Study Areas/Cities through direct grant programs with delegated authority to the Director	35.00%	\$ 32,478,814	\$ 1,136,758,498
<i>Grant Category 2</i>	<b>Safe Parks, Healthy Communities, Urban Greening Program:</b> Funds to projects in High and Very High Need Study Areas through grant programs	13.00%	\$ 12,063,560	\$ 422,224,585
<i>M&amp;S</i>	<b>Local Agency Maintenance and Servicing Funds:</b> Funds directly to Cities, County Dept., local Agencies & Non-profits, through an administrative process from the District	15.00%	\$ 13,919,492	\$ 487,182,213
<i>Grant Category 3</i>	<b>Protecting Open Spaces, Beaches, Watersheds Program:</b> Funds to all eligible entities through competitive grant programs	13.00%	\$ 12,063,560	\$ 422,224,585
<i>Grant Category 4</i>	<b>Regional Recreational Facilities, Trail &amp; Accessibility Program:</b> Funds to all eligible entities through competitive grant programs	13.00%	\$ 12,063,560	\$ 422,224,585
<i>Grant Category 5</i>	<b>Youth and Veteran Job Training &amp; Placement Opportunities Program:</b> Funds to all eligible entities through competitive grant programs	3.80%	\$ 3,526,271	\$ 123,419,494
<i>Program Innovation and Oversight</i>	Strategic Planning, Technical Assistance, Needs Assessment Updates, Innovative Electronic Technologies, Operations of the District: Funds distributed with delegated authority to the Director.	7.20%	\$ 6,681,356	\$ 233,847,462
		<b>100.00%</b>	<b>\$ 92,796,612</b>	<b>\$ 3,247,881,423</b>

**RMC ACTIVE PROJECTS:**

For a complete list of all the active and completed projects please see Item 8C.

**Aquarium of the Pacific Watershed Exhibit and Classroom Improvement Project (RMC 15115):**

On September 13, 2016, a Press Event was held at the Aquarium of the Pacific to announce plans for the new watershed exhibits and programs to empower the public during California's historic drought. This is a grant in the amount of \$358,600 to the Aquarium for the new exhibits and programming that highlight the importance of watershed health and water conservation for sustainable communities and native wildlife habitats. Our local watershed includes our hills, mountains, and land where water drains into the local San Gabriel and Los Angeles Rivers. The exhibit is expected to be completed by Summer 2017. RMC Board Members and Long Beach



Councilmembers attended the event including Board Chair Frank Colonna, Roberto Uranga, Mark Stanley, Mayor of Long Beach Robert Garcia, Councilmember Jeannine Pearce, 2<sup>nd</sup> District and Aquarium of the Pacific President and CEO Jerry Schubel. RMC Staff included Project Managers Luz Quinnell and Marybeth Vergara-Garcia.



**Washington Avenue Park Project, Los Angeles Neighborhood Land Trust (RMC 15113):**

On Saturday July 23, 2016, the Grand Opening Celebration was held for the Washington Avenue Park Project. The RMC provided an urgency grant to the LANLT for this project which covered the cost of the park construction, mobilization, decomposed granite paths, fitness equipment, and outdoor restroom. The RMC grant was in the amount of \$282,470 but the total cost of the park was \$1,131,769. The park is located in the Rancho Dominguez Community, located in the 2<sup>nd</sup>



Supervisorial District of Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas who attended the event. Other funds were provided by First 5 LA, Proposition A and Women Helping Youth. Other event attendees included RMC Board Member Margaret Clark, Mark Stanley, and Project Manager Marybeth Vergara-Garcia. The project is now completed and is one of the county's first community parks with a splash pad and restroom which came right on time in the middle of the summer!

**De Forest Park Wetland Restoration Project (RMC10006):** The RMC approved a grant amendment to amend the scope of work, timeline, tasklist and budget given the bids exceeded the funding available for this project. Currently, the City of Long Beach has selected its contractor and has started construction with a completion construction date of late September 2018.

**Camp Shiwaka Urban Forest and Discovery Trail (RMC 13005)**: RMC provided funding for the development and enhancement of Camp Fire's urban forest and a new trail at Camp Shiwaka which includes extensive native landscaping, interpretive signage, improved ADA accessibility and additional improvements to the outdoor amphitheater. Camp Shiwaka has received additional funds to complete their trail improvements as part of the Long Beach Bike Trail and with matching funds from the LA County Prop A funds. Currently, Camp Shiwaka has completed the gabion wall and they have hired the Conservation Corp to make improvements to the bicycle trail leading the San Gabriel River bike path. The project is set for completion by late November 2016.

**Willowbrook Walking Path/Compton Creek (14003)**: The RMC provided a grant in the amount of \$300,000 to the Los Angeles Conservation Corps as part of the Willowbrook Walking Path Compton Creek extension. The LACC applied for an Urban Greening Grant through the Strategic Growth Council and was awarded the full request in the amount of \$798,815. Additional matching funds were committed by other project partners including the State Coastal Conservancy and the Office of Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas (2nd District). Matching funds provided by the funding partners and the grant funds received by the Strategic Growth Council bring the total project cost to \$1,698,815. Due to a change in staff by the Coastal Conservancy, the LACC will resubmit their funding request at their upcoming board meeting. However, the project is scheduled to be completed by June 2017.

This project includes the creation of a ½ mile permeable walking path and 2,700 linear foot by 6 foot riprap swale constructed with river rock to capture debris and treat runoff before it enters Compton Creek.

**San Gabriel River Trail Signage Improvements (RMC12002)**: This grant will improve interpretive signage along the San Gabriel River bike trail throughout the City of Azusa and include areas south of the Azusa Geology Park to the current trail end along Highway 39 near the entrance to the Azusa River Wilderness Park. The project elements will include; 1. Placement of mileage reference signage to key locations and features along the trail, 2. Re-design and replacement of insufficient interpretive signage along the San Gabriel River bike trail and 3. Installation of a "staging area" signs visible from Highway 39. Currently the grantee has completed design work of the interpretative with a November 30, 2016 to close out the grant.

**El Dorado Nature Center South Lake Restoration Project (RMC13004)**: The project is located at the El Dorado Nature Center in the City of Long Beach and includes an improved arrival experience with a new entry statement and signage, improvements to the outdoor amphitheater for educational sessions and events and an ADA compliant pedestrian bridge and trails leading from the parking lot entrance to the El Dorado Nature Center building. The City of Long Beach has begun construction and is set to complete construction by late fall 2017.

**Los Cerritos Wetlands Trails Improvement Project (RMC14002)**: This project is located in the City of Long Beach at intersection of Studebaker Road and Westminster Avenue. The grant agreement includes: (1) development and improvements of trail network in and around Los Cerritos Wetlands specifically at Zedler Marsh, (2) install interpretive signage and associated native landscaping and (3) remove trash, debris, non-native plants, improve fencing and gates, install temporary irrigation and improve the native plant nursery through development of an outdoor laboratory and classroom. Currently the LCWA is installing the trails and making improvements to the signage with an estimated completion date of June 30, 2017.

**Coyote Creek-Los Alamitos Improvement Project (RMC3318)**: The City of Los Alamitos park and trail improvement included finalizing a Joint Use Agreement with the LA County Flood Control District to update the existing Use Agreement for the bikeway to include operation and maintenance of the Coyote Creek river trail that runs through the city's limits.

The park boasts a walking trail, native landscape, seating area, interpretive graphics and decorative ironwork sculpted gate to the River trail. RMC and the City of Los Alamitos are working together to close out the grant by June 30, 2017.

### **WATERSHED CONSERVATION AUTHORITY**

**Duck Farm Project:** Project Team is preparing to submit plan check packages to LA County and Caltrans for final review and approvals. Caltrans Operations and Maintenance Agreement has also been returned for its execution. Environmental Health Department plan approval has been extended. A bid package will be prepared and released upon receipt of plan check approvals and permits.

**Emerald Necklace:** The Emerald Necklace Feasibility Study and Implementation Planning Project is identifying trail connections and urban greening projects within the 17-mile Emerald Necklace, located in the heart of the San Gabriel Valley. This work is being conducted in collaboration with members of the Emerald Necklace Coordination Committee, which includes staff from the RMC, Amigos de los Rios, County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation, Los Angeles Flood Control District, and County of Los Angeles First Supervisorial District. This planning study will serve as a guide for the coordinated implementation of these projects.

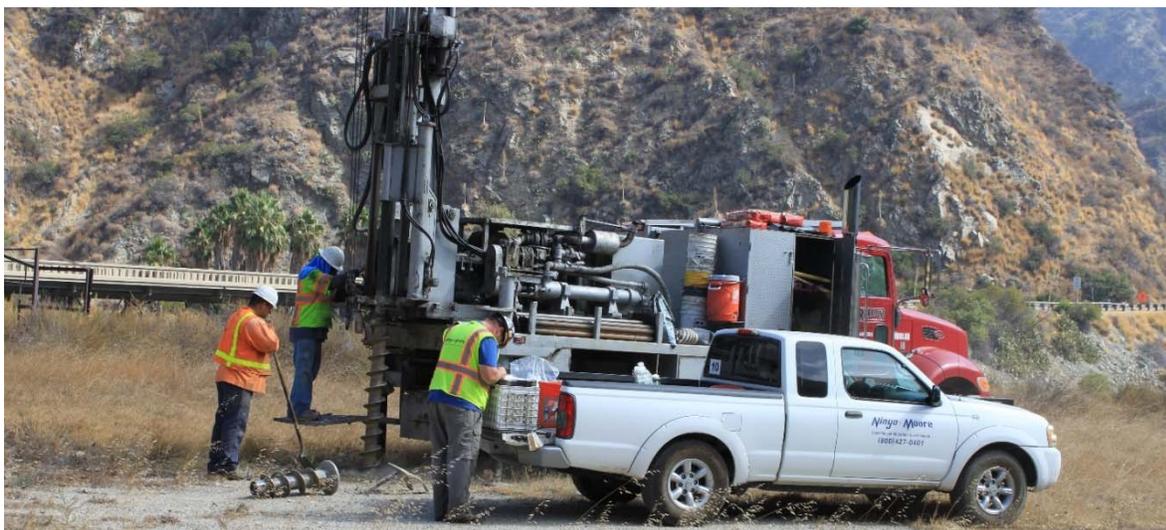
Since the last RMC Board meeting an administrative draft of a Program EIR for the 15 Phase 1 projects has been delivered by the consultants and reviewed. A public review draft of Program EIR and the Implementation Report is expected to be released in early October with the review period running through November. A public engagement opportunity is also being planned for mid-October. A WCA certification hearing is planned for January 2017.

**Gateway Cities and Rivers Urban Greening Master Plan:** With a grant from the Strategic Growth Council and partner collaboration the WCA is developing a green infrastructure plan for the Gateway Cities Region. The WCA is advancing collaborative integration of regional efforts as staff continues to engage in compatible regional planning initiatives—including the AB530 Lower LA River Working Group and the RMC-funded GREEN Project. Staff is currently developing analysis methods to target and quantify greening benefits for the identification and prioritization of best strategies for project implementation. These benefits include water management, active transportation, health, habitat, air quality, climate impacts, safety, security, equity, and economy.

**River Wilderness Park Project (RWP):** The RWP is an approx. 75.7 acre property slated to provide unique wilderness experiences in the lower San Gabriel River Canyon comprised of engaging landscapes, gathering spaces, thriving habitats, and a regional hub and welcome center for the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument.

Based on the 2012 adopted RWP Master Plan for the Canyon Inn Property, the RWP Entry Improvements Project is currently under design development. To inform the design work a geotechnical investigation was conducted in early September after a 90-day delay due to Caltrans encroachment permitting required for borings within State highway right-of-way. With a geotechnical report due to the WCA by early October, the design work is commencing toward a 90% Construction Package. Permitting is expected to initiate in January with a completed bid package available as early as July 2017.

Pictured are images of geochemical borings drilled on the Canyon Inn Property on September 12, 2016. This work was delayed by the issuance process for a Caltrans encroachment permit and is part of an in-depth geochemical investigation being conducted to support the development of construction documents for the RWP Entry Improvements Project, including design of footings for park structures and river overlooks, development of a 3-to-1 buttressed slope, and roadway/asphalt designs for the proposed roundabout of State Highway 39 at the entry to the RWP. Addition information concerning the design development of the RWP Entry Improvements Project is provided under a separate agenda item.



To fund the RWP Entry Improvements, WCA Staff continues to seek grant opportunities. In early June, an approx. \$1.9 million grant proposal was submitted to Cycle 3 of the State Active Transportation Program (ATP). With a similar proposal submitted last year narrowly missing the scoring threshold for funding, Metro provided in-kind grant writing assistance to WCA via a transportation planning consultant, Stantec. The funding request, if funded, will match a recently awarded California River Parkways Grant to complete a 1,750 foot bike path extension and roundabout protected highway crossing into the River Wilderness Park. Award announcements for ATP are scheduled for later this Fall.

San Gabriel Canyon Watershed Ranger Program: In continuation of the on-site public engagement program development by the San Gabriel Canyon Confluence with Cattle Canyon Improvements Project, the San Gabriel River Watershed Ranger Program is deploying a crew of six San Gabriel Valley Conservation Corps members to conduct roaming outreach along high-use recreational corridors of the East, North, and West Forks of the San Gabriel River. Outreach targets the cumulative habitat impacts of trash and recreational uses (rock dam building) that results in stream modification. Conservation corps members will be in the field making contact and speaking with the recreating public in a non-threatening manner about the importance of sustainable recreation, and to offer best management practices such as the Leave No Trace principles.

Although Labor Day Weekend was the last scheduled dates for the 2016 Summer Season, remaining funds within a grant from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Foundation has allowed the program to continue for approximately two more program weekends. WCA and the Angeles National Forest (ANF) Staff are presently discussing opportunity to enhance, alter or combine the ANF Field Ranger for the 2017 Summer Season.

The following photos demonstrate the Watershed Ranger's activities, including direct engagement with the public, encouraging them to take action to address littering and other recreational impacts.





A CalNaturalist certification course program was offered to the Watershed Rangers as an opportunity to enhance their environmental literacy and improve their interpretive and communication skills. This program was made possible through a cooperative effort between the National Forest Foundation, USFS Forest Services, WCA and the University of Californian Cooperative Extension. Three Watershed Rangers completed the course in July, and received formal certification and can apply to receive 4 units of college credit through UC Davis.

San Gabriel River Confluence with Cattle Canyon Project: The Cattle Canyon Project seeks to address unsustainable recreation practices, which includes habitat disturbance from dispersed river-side recreation along the East Fork of the San Gabriel River. Specific objectives of the project include: 1) promote stewardship of the public lands; 2) protect watershed ecosystems, including reducing creation and use of anthropogenic pools and onsite littering; 3) enhance quality of recreation, including adequate and safe access and additional public amenities; and 4) develop ecological restoration strategies, including restoration and enhancement of Angeles National Forest and San Gabriel Mountains National Monument. An update for this project is provided under a separate agenda item.

Pictured on the top of the following page is a multilingual interpretive display, installed as part of short-term improvements conducted in September 2015 (Photos taken Sunday, August 21, 2016) as part of the one-year anniversary of the National Monument. These cedar posts are positioned at one of the most heavily used river access points within the project site, and serve to engage the public in protecting the river through sustainable recreation practices, presented as the seven (7) Leave No Trace principles. This one-year-old installation is in good condition compared to the high levels of graffiti and vandalism to other signage occurring in this area. This is due in part to WCA's design approach, inculcating graffiti resistant coatings on all surfaces. Etching has also been minimal. WCA Staff intends to work with the USFS to advance a similar signage approach through the implementation of the Cattle Canyon Project.



South Gate Habitat Restoration Project/Parque dos Rios: Design contract with North East Trees has been extended to allow time necessary to complete pick-up of 2nd submittal comments. The plan check package will be received this month and distributed to the various plan check entities for review and final approval. Team will work closely with the City of South Gate during the review process to potentially accelerate the start of Construction. County, once in receipt of the updated plan check package will work with ACOE to obtain an extension of the 408 permit. Caltrans, upon receipt of updated package to relocate the existing gate and fence off their ROW will prepare an encroachment permit and maintenance agreement.

Walnut Creek Habitat & Open Space: Acquired in 2008, the Walnut Creek Habitat and Open Space Property is a total of approx. 60.8 acres. It is located directly east of Bonelli Regional Park and along the Walnut Creek riparian corridor. Approximately 6.7 acres are owned by the City of San Dimas and 54 acres are owned by the WCA.

After completing a conceptual development plan in coordination with the City of San Dimas, the City secured County Proposition A funding in the amount of \$850,000 to begin initial West Phase development. The City and WCA cooperatively completed CEQA review, and independently approved proceeding with development of the West Phase. The initial phase includes site clean-up, passive recreational elements, habitat enhancements, and the planting of a vegetated screening buffer. This phase will accomplish the necessary improvements to provide public access over a portion of the Project Site. Recreational elements include trail development and trail-side amenities (interpretive signage, benches, etc.) that will create a looped spur trail

connection to the existing LA County Antonovich Trail. Public access will only be made from the Antonovich Trail, accessible from four nearby County-operated trail staging areas. Site clean-up includes removal of buildings from a portion of the Project Site under City ownership.

Since approval the West Phase at the May 2016 WCA Board meeting WCA Staff has begun working with City Staff to update the project schedule and budget, as well as to identify and coordinate critical task to begin project-level planning, permitting, and implementation. WCA Staff is also engaging the Tzu Chi in discussions to secure trail right-of-way necessary for the project.

### **SAN GABRIEL RIVER DISCOVERY CENTER AUTHORITY**

The SGRDCA has met the Supplemental Environmental Project requirements for disbursements to commence and obtained approval from the Water Boards to proceed. The first required monthly report, schedule of expenditures and invoicing documents were completed and forwarded to LA County Sanitation Districts for approval and processing. License agreement with LA County for site access during construction is anticipated to be executed this month. Upon execution of the license agreement, the release of Prop A funds can begin. Project team is targeting November to obtain all necessary plan check approvals. This timing is dependent on Army Corps of Engineers completing their reviews within the next three months.

### **LOS CERRITOS WETLANDS AUTHORITY**

The LCWA hired Moffatt & Nichol to complete the restoration feasibility study for the entire Los Cerritos Wetlands and the LCWA Board adopted the Final Conceptual Restoration Plan (CRP) at their August 12, 2015 Board Meeting. The Final CRP has developed several alternatives that will be further analyzed for the development of a preferred alternative through the CEQA/NEPA process. Reports have been completed and are posted on the CRP website, <http://intoloscerritoswetlands.org>. Currently the LCWA has received Proposition 1 Grants Funds from the State Coastal Conservancy and the RMC to begin the CEQA process.

The LCWA authorized the Executive Officer to enter into a term sheet agreement with Los Cerritos Wetlands LLC (LCWLLC) for the conveyance of real property. The LCWA proposes to transfer the property commonly referred as "Offer to Dedicate" (OTD) Parcel, described as APN 7237-019-809, approximately 5.11 acres to the Los Cerritos Wetlands LLC for their property commonly referred as Steamshovel Slough, described as APNs 7237-017-010; 7237-017-011; 7237-017-012; 7237-0217-013; 7237-017-014; 7237-017-019; 7237-017-805; 7237-017-806; 7237-017-807; 7237-017-808; 7237-017-809, approximately 154 acres. The LCWA Executive Officer received authorization to enter into negotiations with LCWLLC for real property at the August 12, 2015 LCWA Board Meeting (Resolution 2015-06) since then the Executive Officer and Staff have met with LCWLLC several times and have developed the Term Sheet for a Land Exchange Agreement between LCWLLC and the LCWA. The term sheet describes how the LCWLLC and the LCWA entered into a non-binding agreement that provides for the exchange of each party's respective properties. The purpose of this Term Sheet is to set forth the preliminary and non-binding terms of subsequent negotiations toward anticipated future Option to Purchase Agreement. The term sheet expires on October 12, 2016 but it can be extended by mutual agreement in writing for an additional six months. Recently, the City of Long Beach in coordination with Los Cerritos Wetlands LLC hired ESA to draft the Environmental Impact Report.

Following are the ongoing public programs at Los Cerritos Wetlands through the Los Cerritos Wetlands Stewardship Program and a Summary Report from January-August 2016.



# LOS CERRITOS WETLANDS LAND TRUST



**Join us for 2016 Coastal Cleanup Day in Los Cerritos Wetlands!**

## Saturday September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2016 9 am – 12 pm

Help us restore Los Cerritos Wetlands in Seal Beach.  
We will be doing a trash clean up of a tidal creek that supports tons of wetlands wildlife.  
Come make a difference!

**Meeting Location:** 100 California 1, Seal Beach, CA 90740  
(Near the corner of 1<sup>st</sup> Street and PCH, Seal Beach)

Join us anytime between 9 am - 12 pm. Close-toed shoes **REQUIRED**, trash bags and gloves provided.

Find us on California Coastal Commission's official Coastal Cleanup Day sites for Orange County:  
[www.coastal.ca.gov](http://www.coastal.ca.gov)

Want more information? Contact: [info@tidalinfluence.com](mailto:info@tidalinfluence.com)





Thanks to our partners in conservation for sponsoring this event!



Presented by:



Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority

**July - December 2016  
Public Event Calendar**



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### Upcoming Public Events

Guided Wetland Tours:  
LCW Land Trust sponsors monthly Land Tours  
**8:00 am – 10:00am on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday** of each month\*  
Contact [ejlambe@lcwlandtrust.org](mailto:ejlambe@lcwlandtrust.org) for tour details  
**Upcoming dates:** Sat. Aug 6<sup>th</sup>, Sept 3<sup>rd</sup>, Oct 1<sup>st</sup>, Nov 5<sup>th</sup>, Dec 3<sup>rd</sup>  
\*NO WETLAND TOUR ON SATURDAY, JULY 2<sup>ND</sup>

Wetlands Habitat Restorations:  
**10:30am-12:30pm on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday** of each month  
**Upcoming dates:** Sat. Jul 2<sup>nd</sup>, Aug 6<sup>th</sup>, Sept 3<sup>rd</sup>, Oct 1<sup>st</sup>, Nov 5<sup>th</sup>, Dec 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Participants are eligible to win a free ticket to the Aquarium of the Pacific!

El Dorado Audubon Bird Walks:  
El Dorado Audubon sponsors a monthly Bird Walk at Los Cerritos  
Starting at **8:00am on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday** of each month  
Contact [eldoradoaudubon@yahoo.com](mailto:eldoradoaudubon@yahoo.com) for tour details  
**Upcoming dates:** Sat. July 9<sup>th</sup>, Aug 13<sup>th</sup>, Sept 10<sup>th</sup>, Oct 8<sup>th</sup>, Nov 12<sup>th</sup>, Dec 10<sup>th</sup>

Wetlands Kayak Tours:  
LCW Land Trust sponsors our Kayak Tour program  
**8:30am – 12:00pm on certain Sundays** each month  
Contact [ejlambe@lcwlandtrust.org](mailto:ejlambe@lcwlandtrust.org) for tour details

Coastal Clean-up Day:  
The Port of Long Beach is sponsoring Coastal Clean-up Day 2016 at Los Cerritos  
**9:00am – 12:00pm on Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup>**  
Contact [iwanttohelp@tidalinfluence.com](mailto:iwanttohelp@tidalinfluence.com) for more details

**ALL PUBLIC EVENTS MEET AT THE  
CORNER OF 1<sup>st</sup> & PCH IN SEAL BEACH**  
See map on reverse for location

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Participate in the **exploration** and **ecological restoration** of 200 acres of coastal habitat at **Los Cerritos Wetlands**  
Service-learning credits are provided at all events.

The wetlands are wildlands; please dress accordingly.  
**Closed toed shoes required.**  
We encourage reusable water containers.  
Children under 14 must be accompanied by an adult.

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To learn more about the habitats and animals of Los Cerritos Wetlands, please check our websites:  
[www.intoloscerritoswetlands.org](http://www.intoloscerritoswetlands.org)  
**saveloscerritoswetlands on Facebook**

To request a restoration or education event for your group or organization, please contact:

[iwanttohelp@tidalinfluence.com](mailto:iwanttohelp@tidalinfluence.com)

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**Thanks to Our Partners in Conservation:**














# LOS CERRITOS WETLANDS STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM SUMMARY REPORT JANUARY 1ST, 2016 – AUGUST 1ST, 2016

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## Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority

### Nature Walks

*Turtle Trek, Raptor Ramble, Heron Hike*

Nature walks supported by the Los Cerritos Wetlands Land Trust continue to be a significant draw for the community. People from all over the California coast line participated in nature walks from January – August, 2016. In the last six nature walks, 125 community members have enjoyed hiking through the wild and urban terrain of Los Cerritos Wetlands, catching rare glimpses of its wildlife and natural beauty (Figure 1). Each walk begins at 1st street and Pacific Coast Highway in Seal Beach at 8:00am every 1st Saturday of the month. Members of the public are welcome to join in on the 3 different tours around the wetlands. For more information about each tour, please contact [ejlambe@verizon.net](mailto:ejlambe@verizon.net).

### Kayak Tours

The Los Cerritos Wetlands Land Trust hosted kayak tours on Sunday mornings January, February, March, May and July 2016. These tours lead the public through the Long Beach waterways, stopping at Jack Dunster Ecological Reserve, and ending at one of the most pristine wetlands in Southern California--Steam Shovel Slough. This is an excellent opportunity for community members got to experience the wetlands by water. For more information about tour dates and details, please contact [ejlambe@verizon.net](mailto:ejlambe@verizon.net).

### Habitat Restoration Events

Community volunteers participated in restoration events at Zedler Marsh in Los Cerritos Wetlands between January and July of this year. During these months, 7 community restoration events were held where 630 volunteers contributed 1,445 volunteer hours, planted more than 665 wetlands and uplands native plants for the Zedler Marsh Trails Project and propagated 600 coastal salt marsh plants for Zedler growspace projects. With all the plantings, plant propagation projects, nonnative weed removal events and trash clean ups, volunteers contributed \$28,000 of in-kind services between January and July 2016 (Figure 2 - 4). From January – July the Stewardship Program supported service-learning and college intern Crew Days on every Friday of each month. Crew Days accomplished many goals for the Stewardship Program, Los Alamitos Pump Station restoration project, the developing Zedler Marsh Trails Project and the Zedler Marsh native plant growspace. From January – July, 31 Crew Day events were held where 221 city college and university volunteers and interns contributed 875 hours towards multiple projects. They planted 825 wetlands and uplands plants, propagated 3,170 wetlands plants, removed 1,000 lbs of weeds and 580 lbs of trash from the Zedler Marsh Trails Project area. They also installed all the decomposed granite trail materials for the entire trail system. Crew Days provided \$20,567.80 worth of in-kind services to LCWA projects. To volunteer for an event, meet at 1st street and Pacific Coast Highway in Seal Beach at 10:30am on the 1st Saturday of the month. To request a restoration or education event for your group or organization, please contact [iwanttohelp@tidalinfluence.com](mailto:iwanttohelp@tidalinfluence.com).

## Special Events

The Stewardship Program hosted multiple special events and programs in Los Cerritos Wetlands from January - April, 2016. Stewardship Program partners like Los Cerritos Wetlands Land Trust have supported a diverse range of programs hosted by environmental consulting firm, Tidal Influence in the wetlands and in the community. So far in 2016, 25 special events have been hosted by the Stewardship Program or represented the program at other venues. Events included: private land tours, service-learning tours for university and city college students, *Make A Difference Day* at Zedler Marsh, community outreach events, wetlands academic and professional conferences and private van tours.

In the first seven months of 2016, more than 1,900 people participated in the Stewardship Program and special events in Los Cerritos Wetlands. The first elementary education program 'Estuary Explorers' held using the completed Zedler Marsh Trails system was held in July 2016 with the entire 3<sup>rd</sup> grade student body from Jane Addams Elementary, which was supported by the Los Cerritos Wetlands Land Trust (Figures 5 -7). Event participation continues to grow for all Stewardship Program events in 2016, building public awareness and positive connections with Los Cerritos Wetlands.



FIGURE 1. TURTLE TREK LAND TOUR TO SAN GABRIEL RIVER – GREEN SEA TURTLE IS POPPING UP IN BACKGROUND



FIGURE 2. HABITAT RESTORATION VOLUNTEERS PROPAGATING SALT MARSH PLANTS AT ZEDLER MARSH GROWSPACE



FIGURE 3. VOLUNTEERS MEET IN THE ZEDLER MARSH TRAILS AMPHITHEATER FOR HABITAT RESTORATION PROGRAMS



FIGURE 4. HABITAT RESTORATION EVENTS AT ZEDLER MARSH



FIGURE 5. ESTUARY EXPLORERS LEARN ABOUT ZEDLER MARSH TRAILS IN THE OUTDOOR CLASSROOM



FIGURE 6. ESTUARY EXPLORERS ENGAGE WITH ZEDLER MARSH



FIGURE 7. ESTUARY EXPLORERS MAKING MUD BALLS FILLED WITH NATIVE PLANT SEEDS



FIGURE 8. ESTUARY EXPLORERS GETTING MUDDY!



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