



GAIL FARBER, Director

# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

*"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"*

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IN REPLY PLEASE  
REFER TO FILE:

**FM-0**

May 29, 2014

Ms. L.B. Nye, Chief  
401 Water Quality Certification  
California Regional Water Quality Control Board  
320 West 4th Street, Suite 200  
Los Angeles, CA 90013

Dear Ms. Nye:

**2013-2014 ANNUAL MAINTENANCE AND MONITORING REPORT  
WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS (ORDER NUMBER R4-2010-0021)  
MAINTENANCE OF EXISTING FLOOD CONTROL FACILITIES**

The Los Angeles County Flood Control District (LACFCD) is pleased to submit the enclosed annual maintenance and monitoring report (Annual Report) for the 2013-14 annual maintenance of soft-bottom channels (SBC) per the Waste Discharge Requirements (WDR) Permit, Order No. R4-2010-0021. We appreciate the one-month extension you provided us to submit this Annual Report.

Enclosed is one compact disc containing the Annual Report's documentation (PDF files) in compliance with the WDR's permit conditions associated with the 2013-14 SBC maintenance clearing activities, which contains the following:

- ❖ Final SBC clearing schedule
- ❖ Pre- and Post-Clearing Mitigation forms
- ❖ Pre- and Post-Clearing Biological Resource Monitoring report
- ❖ Copies of Focused Survey reports
- ❖ Pre- and Post-Clearing photos by Biologist
- ❖ Water Quality Sampling Testing and Monitoring results
- ❖ Additional photos taken by DPW personnel
- ❖ Copy of the WDR, Order No. R4-2010-0021

### Summary of 2013-2014 Maintenance Activities

- Work was not performed at four (4) SBC Reaches for the following reasons:
  - ❖ Reach 13, Project 5215 – channel was cleared by the City of Los Angeles
  - ❖ Reach 27, Wilmington Drain, Freeway 110 to Pacific Coast Highway – ongoing construction by the City of Los Angeles under the Proposition O Project.
  - ❖ Reach 33, Medea Creek (PD 1378, Unit 2) – has pending permit with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.
  - ❖ Reach 71, SCR Main channel (PD1946) – Bridge-widening project by the City of Santa Clarita.
  
- LACFCD maintained a total of 82 SBC Reaches during the 2013-14 maintenance clearing period.
  
- Several reaches required minimum work this year (i.e., removal of one or two dead bushes, pick up of trash/debris, etc.); therefore, some before- and after-photos may look very similar.
  
- Biological-focused surveys were conducted in 2013 for Unarmored Three-spined Stickleback (UTS), Arroyo Toad, Least Bell's Vireo (LBV), and Southwestern Willow Flycatcher (SWF). The results were as follows:
  - ❖ **UTS:** Focused surveys were conducted on SBC Reaches 71 and 82 in compliance with the Biological opinion issued by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. UTS species were absent at both reaches.
  
  - ❖ **Arroyo Toad:** No arroyo toads were found in the following 8 SBC Reaches: 86, 87, 97, 75, 79, 80, 71, and 82.
  
  - ❖ **LBV:** Thirteen territories of LBV species were present at 5 channel Reaches (14, 27, 39, 40b, 43a) during the focused surveys. However, work commenced after September 15 and only after the Biologist confirmed that no LBV species were present in the reach during further bird surveys.
  
  - ❖ **SWF:** No SWF were present at the following SBC Reaches: 12, 14, 27, 28, 39, 40b, 43a & b, 71, 75, 79, 80, 82, 87, and 97. Work commenced after September 15 and after the Biologist confirmed that no SWF species were present in the Reach during further bird surveys.
  
- Per the enclosed Biological Resource Monitoring Forms, and biological consultants monitored our SBC maintenance activities, confirmed that LACFCD performed the

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2013-14 SBC maintenance activities in full compliance with the conditions of our WDR permit.

LACFCD is working with your staff as well as staff from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to prepare and obtain the long-term maintenance permit and/or to amend existing maintenance permits to authorize maintenance on all LACFCD SBC Reaches. The permits will also include the addition of new SBC Reaches 101-117.

Per the WDR's Feasibility Studies (FS) requirements, LACFCD has submitted the final FS for the Los Angeles River (LAR) Watershed, the Study Workplan (SWP) for the San Gabriel River (SGR) Watershed, and just completed obtaining stakeholders' comments on the Malibu Creek and Dominguez Watersheds. We are reviewing the stakeholders' comments and will submit the final draft of SWP for Malibu Creek and Dominguez for your Board's approval.

This letter also serves as certification of no net loss of wetland habitat associated with this project:

*"I declare under penalty of law that this document and all enclosures were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who managed the system or those directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations."*

Executed on the 29th day of May 2014, in Alhambra, California.

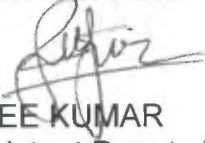
As always, we appreciate your help and cooperation in assisting us to expedite our needed maintenance permits.

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If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Jemellee Cruz of my staff at (626) 458-4170.

Very truly yours,

GAIL FARBER  
Director of Public Works



SREE KUMAR  
Assistant Deputy Director  
Flood Maintenance Division

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Enc.

cc: California Regional Water Quality Control Board (Valerie Carrillo-Zara)