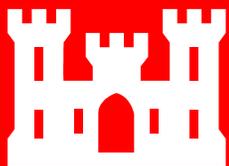


# HEADWORKS AREA ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION FEASIBILITY STUDY

Public Workshop  
February 25, 2004

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Los Angeles Department of Water and Power



## Welcome! Let's Get Started

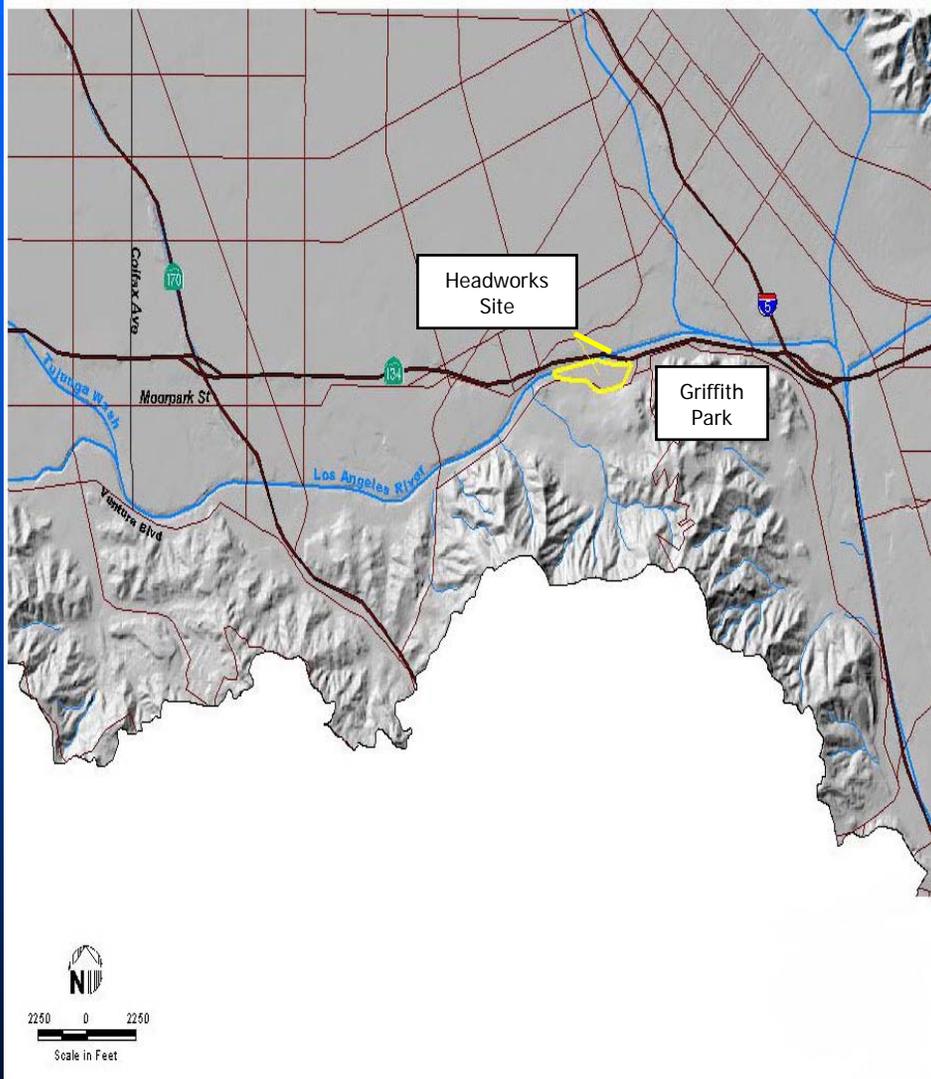
- Discuss the proposed Headworks Ecosystem Restoration Study
- Provide an opportunity for participants to state issues and concerns regarding the proposed project
- Address those issues and concerns, if possible
- Gather information to assist in the development of the Headworks project

## Presentation Overview

- Study Area Location and Description
- Corps of Engineers Civil Works Process
- Reconnaissance Study
- Feasibility Study
- Public Input

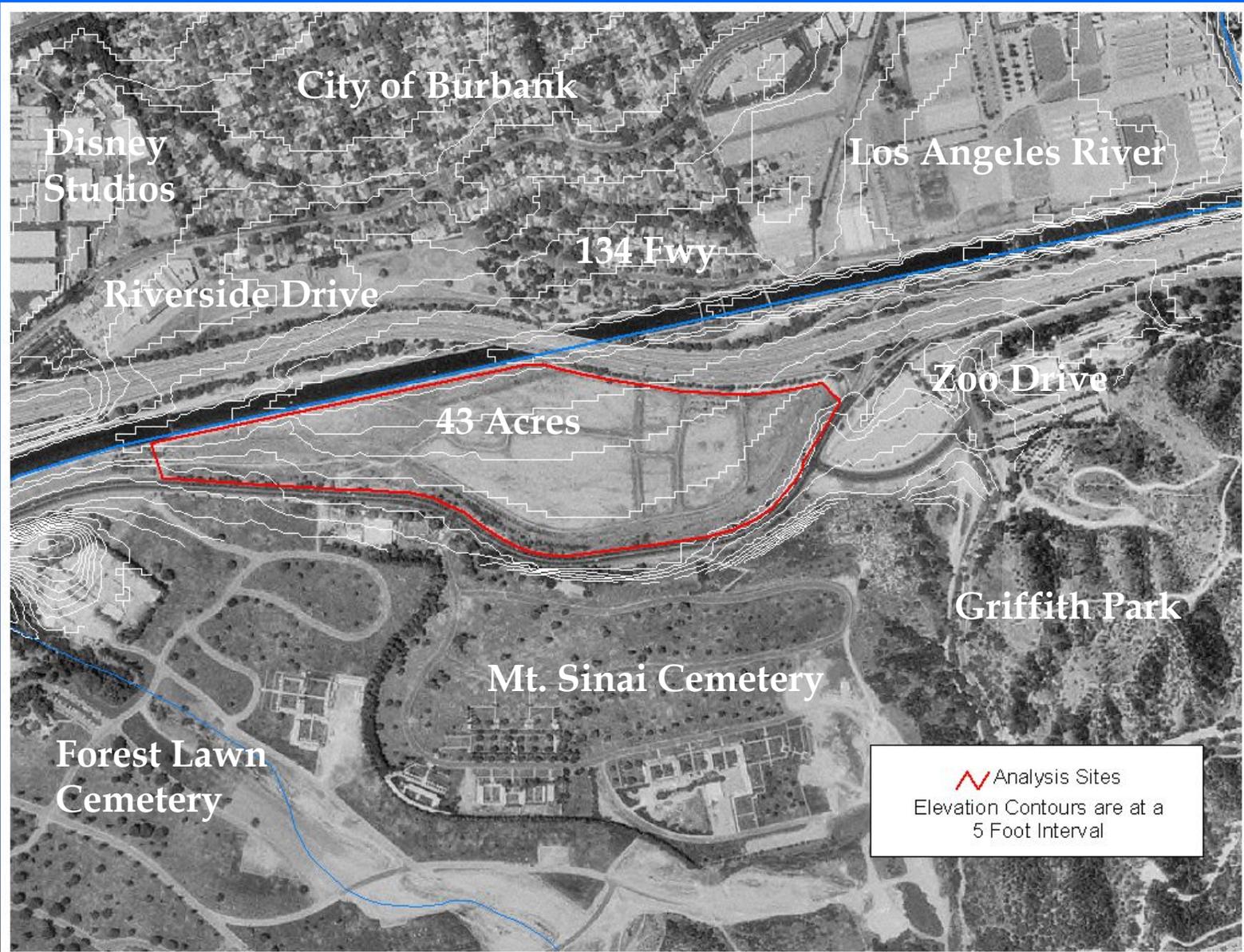
## The Study Area Is:

- Located in the southeastern portion of the San Fernando Valley, adjacent to the south bank of the Los Angeles River, and is a relatively flat parcel, approximately 43 acres. The Army Corps and LADWP will evaluate the potential for ecosystem restoration for up to 25 of the 43 acres of the project site.





# Headworks Ecosystem Restoration



# Headworks Feasibility Study

## Initial Objectives:

- Restore a degraded urban environment to a more natural riparian habitat
- Habitat restoration for native species
- Investigate the opportunity to provide additional passive recreational and scenic values

# Existing Project Site Conditions



Ecosystem Degradation

Lost Riparian Habitat

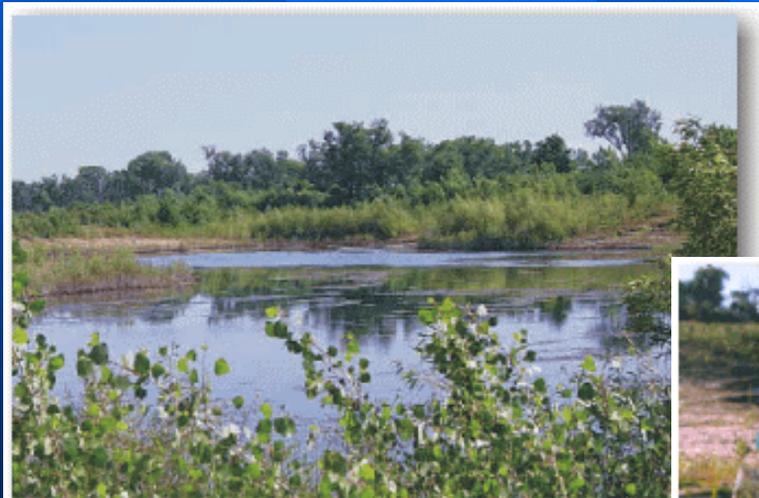


# Existing Project Site Conditions



Problems  
and  
Opportunities

# Sample Future Project Site Conditions



*Seasonal Wetland at 2 years*

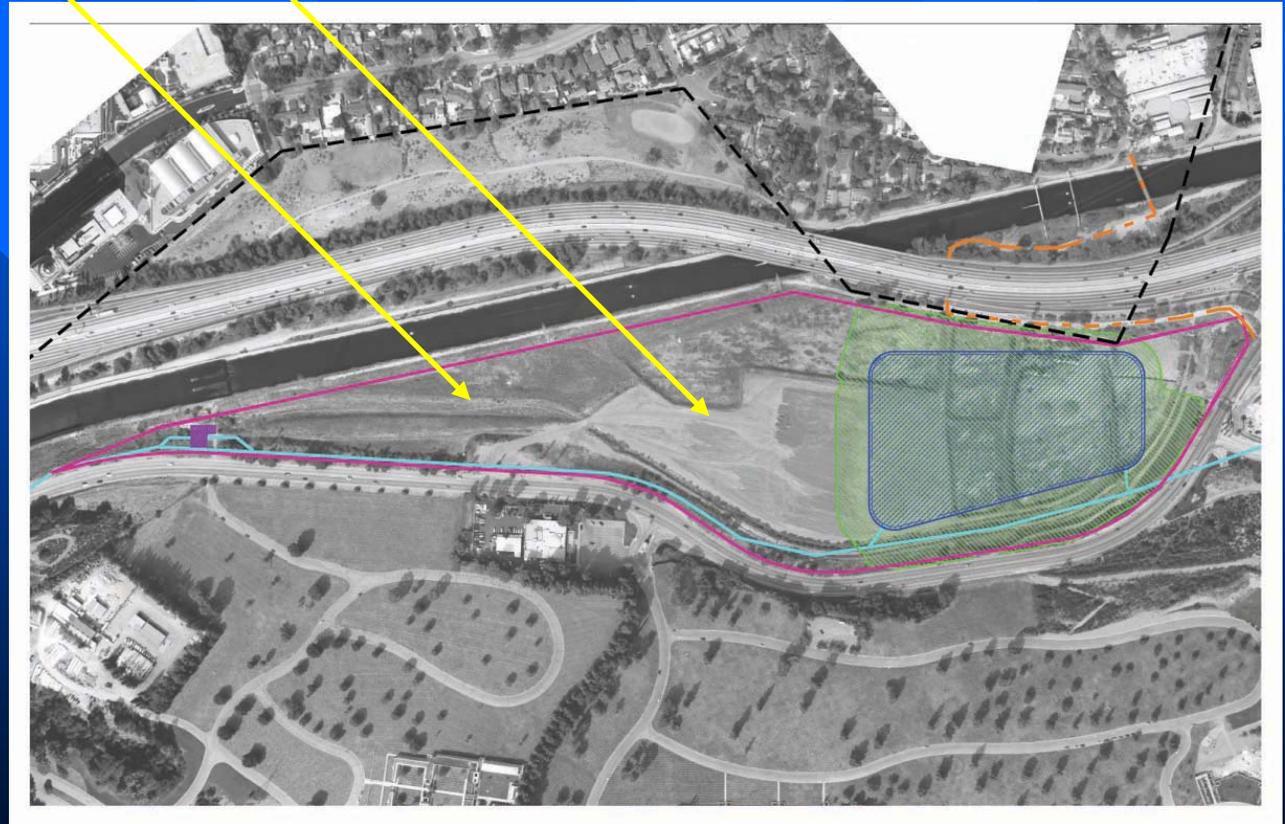


*Native Grass Cover Crop*



*Seasonal Wetland*

## Potential Area of Ecosystem Restoration



# General Overview of the Civil Works Process

- Reconnaissance Study [or 905 (b)]
- Feasibility Study
- Plans and Specifications
- Project Authorization By Congress
- Project Construction / Implementation
- Operations and Maintenance

## Reconnaissance Study

### Purpose

- ✓ Define existing problems and identify potential solutions utilizing existing information
- ✓ Determine whether there is a Federal interest in proceeding forward with a feasibility study



# Reconnaissance Study Approval Means

- ✓ Consistent with Administration Policy
- ✓ Meets existing Corps of Engineers criteria, guidelines and has high priority outputs



# Feasibility Study Purpose

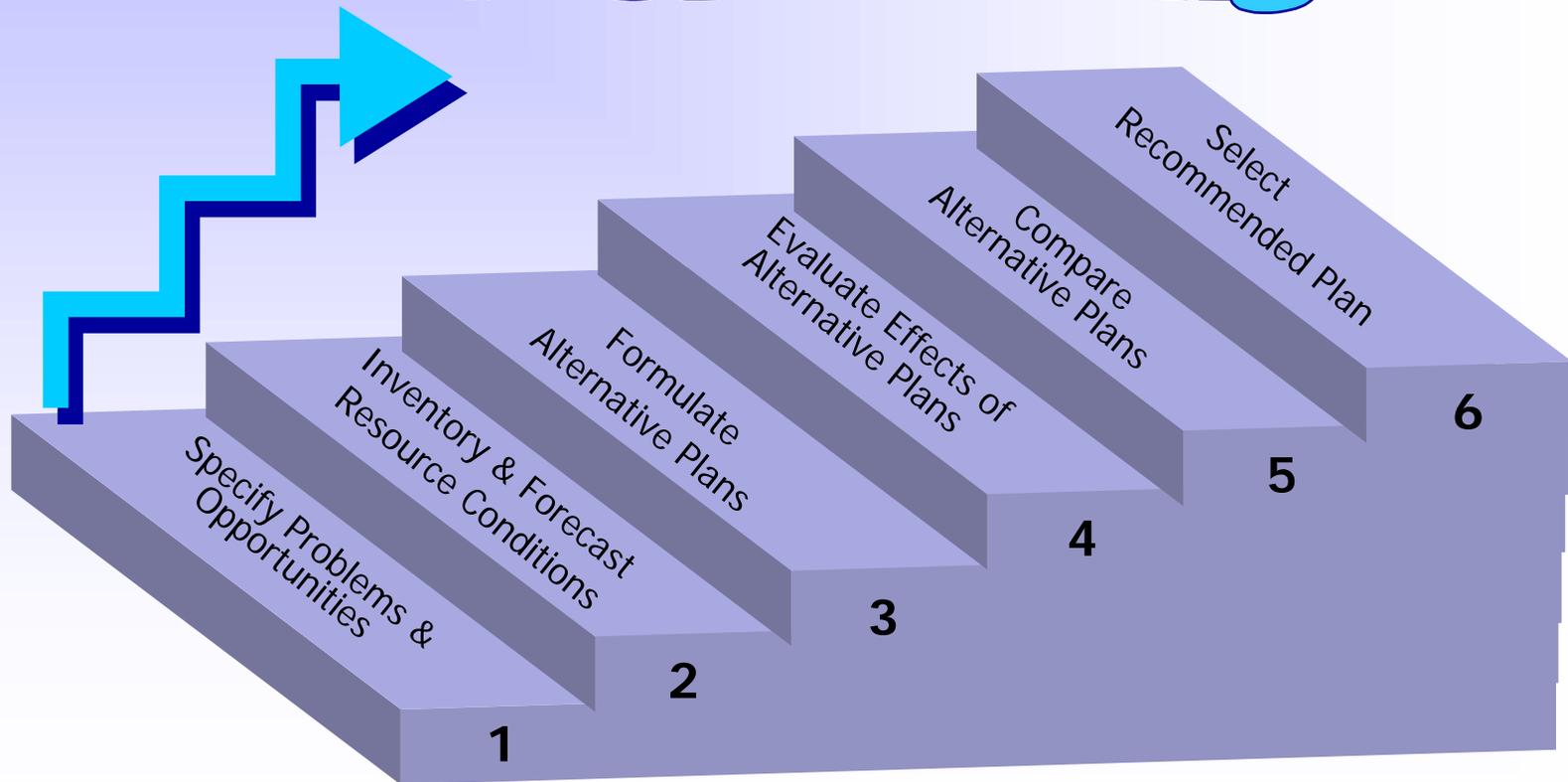
- ✓ Describe and evaluate alternative plans and fully describe the recommended plan
- ✓ The Feasibility Report is a Decision Document recommending a specific plan to Congress

## Feasibility Approval Means

- ✓ Plans and Specifications process begins
- ✓ Federal funds can be appropriated for construction of the project



## Six Step Feasibility Project Planning



## NEPA:

## National Environmental Policy Act

- Under Federal law, an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is required for major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.
- However, proposed actions predicted to present less significant impacts are often analyzed in Environmental Assessments (EA's).

## Why Select the EA Process for the Headworks Project?

Based on historical records, past uses and current information, it is anticipated that restoration of the Headworks site would not result in any significant adverse environmental impacts, including endangered plant or wildlife species, archaeological sites, or contamination issues, i.e., water and soil.



# Sponsor's Role in the Feasibility Study Process

Participates in the decision process and the preparation of decision documents

- » costs and schedules
- » objectives
- » design
- » plan selection
- » project implementation, Operation and Maintenance (O&M)



# Feasibility Study Costs

- **FCSA – Feasibility Cost Sharing Agreement Signed**  
-January 2004
  
- **Cost: \$1.8 Million**  
-Cost Shared 50/50
  - Corps 50%
  - DWP 50%
    - In-Kind
    - Cash



## Study Milestone Schedule

- February 2004 - F2 Public Workshop
- Fall 2004 - F3 Baseline and Alternatives identified and defined
- Spring 2005 - F4 Alternatives Review Conference
- Summer 2005 - F4A Alternative Formulation Briefing
- Fall 2005 - F5 Draft Report Public Review
- Fall 2005 - F6 Public Hearing
- Winter 2005 - F7 Issue Resolution Conference (if needed)
- Winter 2006 - F8 Final report to South Pacific Division (SPD)
- Spring 2006 - F9 Division commander signs and approves final report

## Feasibility Study Project Delivery Team:

### ■ LADWP and USACE

#### Technical Expertise:

- Surveyors
- Hydrology and Hydraulics Engineering
- Geotechnical Engineering
- Environmental Specialists
  - Archaeologist
  - Biologist
- Engineering Design
- Plan Formulation



## Supporting City Agencies

- Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks
- Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation
- Los Angeles Environmental Affairs Department

# Question and Answer Session Public Comments

We need your input, lets hear your  
comments and suggestions!



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