



# SPECIAL PUBLIC NOTICE

**US Army Corps  
of Engineers®**

PUBLIC NOTICE OF LOS ANGELES DISTRICT  
IN-LIEU FEE MITIGATION ARRANGEMENTS

*LOS ANGELES DISTRICT*

**Public Notice/Application No.:** 200200035-LM

**Public Notice Date of Issuance:** October 30, 2001 through November 29, 2001

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**Proponent**

Los Angeles District, Regulatory Branch  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
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Los Angeles, CA 90017

**Contact**

Lisa Mangione, Project Manager  
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**Location**

This public notice applies to four Los Angeles District (LAD) Regulatory Branch in-lieu fee mitigation programs operating in Riverside, Ventura, and Los Angeles Counties in southern California.

**Activity**

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' continued operation of four in-lieu fee mitigation programs by the LAD Regulatory Branch. For more information see page 2 of this notice.

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Interested parties are hereby notified that the LAD Regulatory Branch is continuing operation of four in-lieu fee mitigation programs established prior to publication of formal guidance regarding the use of in-lieu fee arrangements for compensatory mitigation. The formal written arrangements for each of the programs are available for review on the LAD webpage at [www.spl.usace.army.mil/co/co5.html#reg](http://www.spl.usace.army.mil/co/co5.html#reg). In-lieu fee arrangement documents for in-lieu fee programs established after publication of formal guidance on November 7, 2000 will be public noticed individually pursuant to the requirements set forth in the guidance.

## **Background**

The in-lieu fee system is a fee-based compensatory mitigation option whereby money is paid by a Corps permit applicant to a third party who assumes responsibility to implement a compensatory mitigation project required as mitigation for a Corps permit action. In-lieu fee arrangements are established between Corps Districts and “conservation-minded” organizations to provide permit applicants with a voluntary, alternative compensatory mitigation option that will result in better designed and managed aquatic resource restoration projects. In-lieu fee arrangements are designed to facilitate a watershed-based approach to aquatic resource management, putting money where there is the greatest opportunity for long-term ecological benefit.

## **Additional Information**

On November 7, 2000, “Federal Guidance on the Use of In-Lieu Fee Arrangements for Compensatory Mitigation Under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and Section 10 of the River and Harbor Act” (Guidance) was published in the Federal Register (FR Vol. 65, No. 216, November 7, 2000). The Guidance stipulates that in-lieu fee arrangements should be circulated for public review.

The Los Angeles District (LAD) established four in-lieu fee programs prior to issuance of the Guidance. In consideration of the Guidance, the LAD determined it would be appropriate to circulate a public notice announcing the operation of the existing four in-lieu fee programs to promote public awareness of these arrangements. The names of the programs are provided below. The administrative and operational details of each program are described in the formal In-Lieu Fee Agreement documents for the programs, which are available on the LAD webpage at the address provided on page one of this notice.

- Santa Margarita River Watershed Arundo Control In-Lieu Fee Mitigation Program (Riverside County)
- Ventura River Watershed In-Lieu Fee Mitigation Program (Ventura County)
- Calleguas Creek Watershed In-Lieu Fee Mitigation Program (Ventura County)
- Los Angeles County/Santa Monica Mountains In-Lieu Fee Mitigation Program (Los Angeles County)

Please be advised the Corps is not seeking public comment on these agreements, nor are we planning to modify them. Rather, we are circulating this public notice to notify the public of the existence of LAD in-lieu fee mitigation arrangements established prior to publication of formal guidance on November 7, 2000. As indicated above, in-lieu fee arrangement documents for in-lieu fee programs established after publication of the referenced guidance will be public noticed separately.

For additional information please call Lisa Mangione of my staff at (805) 585-2143. This public notice is issued by the Chief, Regulatory Branch.