



**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
LOS ANGELES DISTRICT
915 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD, SUITE 930
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90017-3489**

August 18, 2021

DEAR INTERESTED PARTIES:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Los Angeles District (USACE) has completed a Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment/Environmental Impact Report Addendum (SEA/EIR Addendum) for the Prado Dam Spillway Modification Project. USACE has also completed a Dam Safety Action Decision Summary (DSADS) Report that provides additional information on the dam safety aspect of the Project. This report can be found as an attached appendix to the SEA/EIR Addendum. The Project is located in Riverside County, California.

Electronic versions of the Draft SEA/EIR Addendum and the DSADS Report are available on the USACE website at:

<https://www.spl.usace.army.mil/Media/Public-Notices/Article/2736949/santa-ana-river-mainstem-project-prado-dam-spillway-modification/>

The Spillway Raise aspect of the Project was originally authorized in 1988 as part of the Santa Ana River Mainstem Project (SARMP) and the design was further refined and evaluated in the 2001 Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/ Environmental Impact Report (SEIS/EIR) for Prado Basin and Vicinity. The 2001 SEIS/EIR included a design to raise the spillway crest by approximately 20 feet as part of the plan to expand flood storage capacity within the Prado Reservoir. The current proposed project has been redesigned due to updated information pertaining to dam safety and identification of potential weak points on the existing dam spillway structure. Additional features of the dam and spillway crest need modification to ensure public safety and longevity of the flood control structure. This Draft SEA/EIR Addendum serves to provide updated analysis of potential impacts from the construction of this proposed project. The project is currently scheduled to begin late 2022 and last approximately 5 years, although the project start date is dependent on receipt of Congressional funding.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is the lead Federal agency for this action and is responsible for complying with the National Environmental Policy Act and the Orange County Flood Control District, one of the non-federal sponsors for SARMP is the lead agency for complying with the California Environmental Quality Act. This Draft SEA/EIR Addendum also documents the status of compliance with other applicable environmental laws and regulations.

The USACE encourages all interested parties to submit comments concerning the analysis presented in the Draft SEA/EIR Addendum. Comments may be submitted through September 24, 2021. Comments should be as specific as possible and address the analysis of potential environmental impacts. Reviewers should organize their participation so that it is meaningful and makes the agency aware of the viewer's interests and concerns using quotations and other specific references to the text of the Draft SEA/EIR Addendum and related documents. Matters that could have been raised with specificity during the comment period on the Draft SEA/EIR Addendum may not be considered if they are raised for the first time later in the decision process. This comment procedure is intended to ensure that substantive comments

and concerns are made available to the USACE in a timely manner so that the USACE has an opportunity to address them.

Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, be advised that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time.

Please submit comments or questions regarding the Draft SEA/EIR Addendum or the DSADS Report to Marissa.C.McGowan@usace.army.mil with subject heading “Prado Dam Spillway Modification Project Draft SEA/EIR Addendum Review Comments.”

If you have any questions regarding this project, please contact Ms. Marissa McGowan, Project Environmental Coordinator at (213) 452-3667 or via e-mail at Marissa.C.McGowan@usace.army.mil.

Thank you for your attention to this document.

Sincerely,

Eduardo T. De Mesa
Chief, Planning Division