



PUBLIC NOTICE

Santa Ana River geotechnical borings

**U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
LOS ANGELES DISTRICT**

BUILDING STRONG®

Public Notice No.: 408-SPL-PN-2021-0010

Permit No.: 408-SPL-2021-0010

Comment Period: 2021-02-19 to 2021-03-22

Requester: In compliance with U.S.C. Title 33, Chapter 9, Subchapter 1, Section 408, the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA), through Orange County Flood Control District (OCFCD), has requested permission from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to alter the Santa Ana River.

Location:

The proposed action would conduct geotechnical borings in Santa Ana River near the existing State Route 91 (SR-91) Bridge between SR-57 and SR-55 in Anaheim, Orange County, California. The proposed features are in-river, which will require construction within the channel.

Requester's Proposed Action:

OCTA is proposing to drill up to eight (8) geotechnical borings in the riverbed of Santa Ana River, drilled down to a total depth of approximately 90 feet below existing grade. Borings will be drilled using truck and/or track mounted hollow stem auger and/or rotary wash drill rigs. Once the samples at each boring location are removed, all drilling equipment will be removed, and the bore holes will be backfilled with the excavated material in order to return the riverbed to its pre-work elevation. Associated vehicle tracks and ruts in the riverbed will be smoothed out to restore the ground surface of the riverbed to pre-work conditions. In the event that the boring locations are inundated with surface water, the boring work would be carried out from the existing bridge deck, all drill holes would be backfilled, and the drilling fluid, drilling rods, and casing would be removed. The backfill material would be the excavated material, and the bridge deck would be patched using rapid-set concrete and reinforced with rebar. These borings are applicable to both Section 408 permission as well as Regulatory verification. Up to an additional eight (8) geotechnical borings will also be drilled, which are not applicable to the Section 408 permission, but are applicable to Regulatory verification only.

The purpose of the project is to obtain key information needed to further design the proposed widening of the existing State Route 91 (SR-91) Bridge that extends over the Santa Ana River as part of the proposed SR-91 Improvements Project between SR-57 and SR-55.

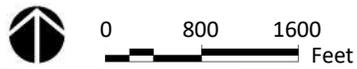
Authority: The authority to grant permission for temporary or permanent use, occupation or alteration of any USACE Civil Works project is contained in Section 14 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899, as amended, codified at 33 USC 408 (“Section 408”). Section 408 authorizes the Secretary of the Army, on the recommendation of the Chief of Engineers, to grant permission for the alteration or occupation or use of a USACE project if the Secretary determines that the activity will not be injurious to the public interest and will not impair the usefulness of the project. The Secretary of Army’s authority under Section 408 has been delegated to the USACE, the Chief of Engineers. The Chief of Engineers has further delegated the authority to the USACE, Directorate of Civil Works and Division and District Engineers, depending upon the nature of the activity.

Limits of Section 408 Authority: A requester has the responsibility to acquire all other permissions or authorizations required by federal, state, and local laws or regulations, including any required permits from the USACE Regulatory Program under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 USC 403), Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC Section 1344), and/or Section 103 of the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act of 1972 (33 USC 1413). The compliance determination for any Section 10/404/103 permit decision associated with the proposed alteration will also address the Section 408 compliance determination. In addition, an approval under Section 408 does not grant any property rights or exclusive privileges nor does it authorize any injury to the property or rights of others.

Consideration of Comments: The Corps is soliciting comments from the public, Federal, State and local agencies and officials, and other interested parties. Comments will be made part of the record, and they will be considered before permission is granted to proceed with this action. Please limit comments to the area of the alteration and those adjacent areas that would be directly or indirectly affected by the alteration described in this public notice.

Submission of Comments: Interested parties may submit, in writing, any comments concerning this proposal. Comments should reference public notice no. 408-SPL-PN-2021-0010 and be forwarded by the comment due date of March 22, 2021. Comments must be sent to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District, Engineering Division, ATTN: Priyo Majumdar, 915 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 930, Los Angeles, California 90017-3409. Alternatively, comments can be sent electronically to Priyodarshi.Majumdar@usace.army.mil.

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Source: Google Earth

SR-91 IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (EA 12-0K9821)
Location Map

Figure A-1