

**NOTICE OF PREPARATION
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

This is to inform the general public that the United States Army Corps of Engineers Los Angeles District (Corps) has preliminarily determined that the following project proposal could be adequately evaluated under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) through conducting an Environmental Assessment (EA).

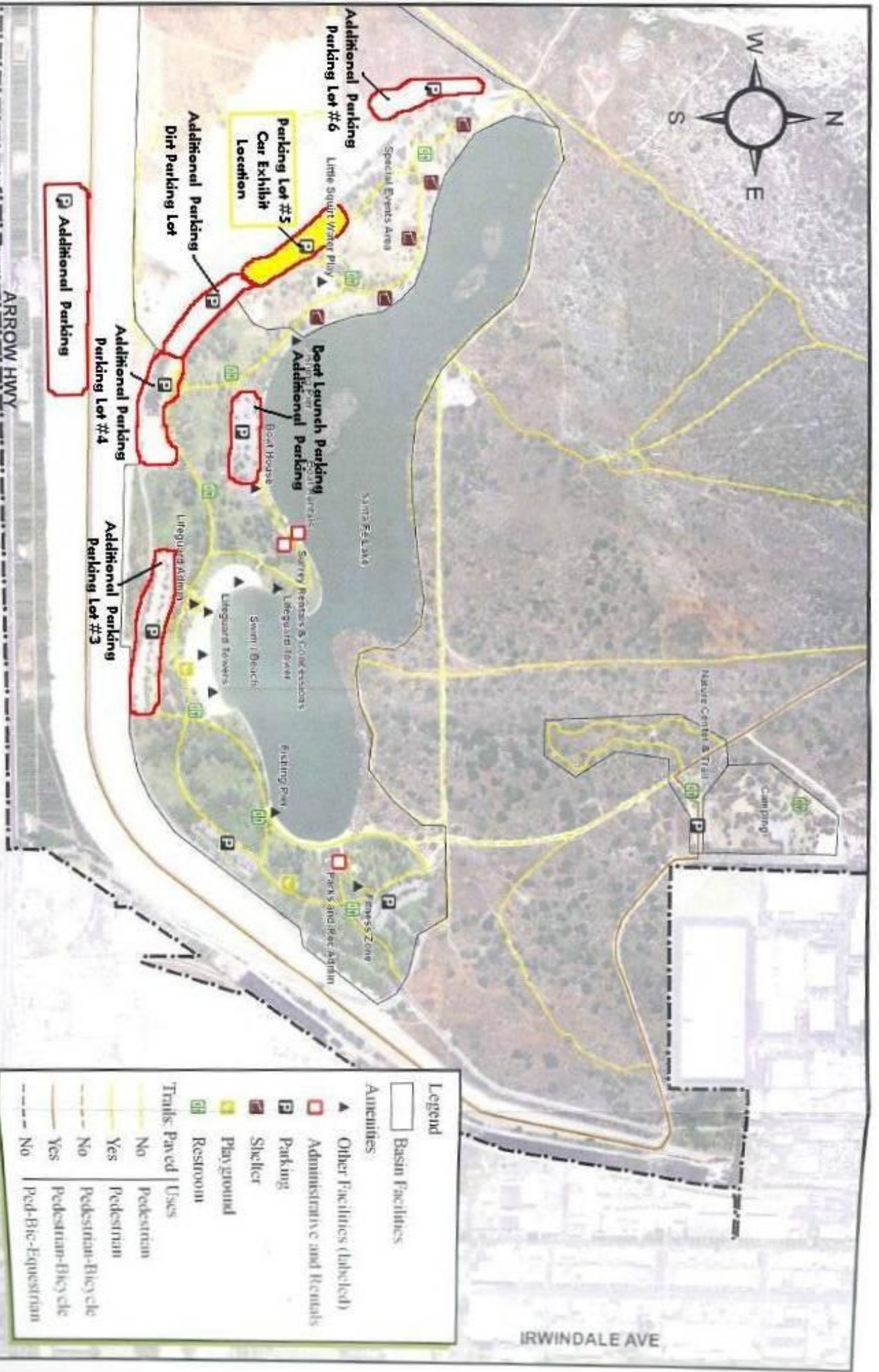
Proposal Title	Car Exhibit Event
Proponent	County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation
Proposed Implementation Date	January 1st, 2013
Proposed Federal Action	County of Los Angeles Parks and Recreation would exercise its Recreation Outgrant from the US Army Corps of Engineers.

This proposal is for a one-day Car Exhibit event, in the Special Events Area of the Santa Fe Dam Recreation Area. The event will include a vehicle display and food booths for attendees. The Corps is reviewing this Special Event.

Location The location is Santa Fe Dam Recreation Area. The location is dirt and turfed Special Events Area south of I-210 freeway and east of I-605 freeway. A map showing event activity locations is provided.

Public Involvement The Corps is inviting the general public to submit comments on potential environmental impacts that could result from implementation of the proposal. The public comment period on preparation of an EA for the proposal described above would extend from **11 December through 26 December, 2012**. Please direct your comments to Carvel Bass, US Army Corps of Engineers at carvel.h.bass@usace.army.mil or by mail at 915 Wilshire Boulevard, Ste. 11098, Los Angeles, CA, 90017. If you have questions or would like additional information, please contact Carvel Bass, Ecologist, Asset Management Division at (213) 452-3392.

The Corps will actively consider any comments timely received. The results of this consideration would be reflected in a memorandum for record placed in the Administrative Record, unless consideration of the comments was reflected directly in the EA, either through a modification of the document prompted by the comments or an appendix to the EA articulating responses to the comments. Once the EA is complete and if a FONSI is determined to be appropriate based upon the analysis contained in the EA, pursuant to the last cause of 33 CFR § 230.11, a separate notification will be sent to concerned agencies, organizations and to the interested public stating that the FONSI is available for review. If significant effects on the quality of the human environment are subsequently identified and can not be mitigated to a less than significant level, the Corps will initiate preparation of an EIS and afford the public opportunities to participate in the environmental review process.



Legend		
	Basin Facilities	
	Ancients	
	Other Facilities (labeled)	
	Administrative and Rentals	
	Parking	
	Shelter	
	Playground	
	Restroom	
	Trails: Paved	
	Uses	
	No	Pedestrian
	Yes	Pedestrian
	No	Pedestrian-Bicycle
	Yes	Pedestrian-Bicycle
	No	Pedestrian-Bicycle
	Yes	Pedestrian-Bicycle
	No	Ped-Bic-Equestrian
	Yes	Ped-Bic-Equestrian



Data Source: Corps 2010
Aerial Source: NAIP 2009

ARROW HWY

Santa Fe Dam Basin
Existing Recreation



IRWINDALE AVE

**ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
for proposed activities on Corps-managed Federal land**

Project Name: Car Exhibit Event

Proposed Implementation Date: January 1st, 2013

Proponent: County of Los Angeles
Department of Parks and Recreation

Location: Santa Fe Dam Recreation Area,
Special Events Area

County: Los Angeles

I. Project Authority, Purpose and Scope

a. PROJECT AUTHORITY The United States Corps of Engineers (Corps), pursuant to the specific authority granted by Congress in 10 USC 2667 is authorized to permit non-Federal entities the right to use Federal lands in a manner that is compatible with the Federal project, laws, regulations and policies and when such use will promote the national defense or be in the public interest.

b. PURPOSE AND NEED The County of Los Angeles, Department of Parks and Recreation (County), the primary recreational facility operator and lessee at Santa Fe Dam Recreation Area, has submitted a request to the Corps for approval of a special event, the January 1st 2013 Car Exhibit event. The purpose of the proposed event is to showcase classic cars to approximately 3,000-9,500 attendees, per day, within the San Gabriel Valley.

c. SCOPE OF ANALYSIS This Environmental Assessment analyzes potential effects of the proposal by comparing a No Action Alternative, with the Proposed Action which would provide approval to the County to permit the special event, the January 1st 2013 Car Exhibit event at Santa Fe Dam Recreation Area. This analysis is offered to the interested public to solicit input on the project and will be made available for review and public input for 15 days.

Comments received from the public in the fifteen (15) days following the Notice of Preparation will be addressed prior to determining whether an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be required if a Finding of No Significant (FONSI) can be issued.

II. ALTERNATIVES

a. No Action – Under the No Action alternative, the Corps would not provide its approval to the County under the terms of the Lease. This alternative would not meet the County’s stated purpose and need, but it is considered equivalent to the baseline condition (general park use) in this Environmental Assessment. The County Department of Parks and Recreation maintains the Santa Fe Dam Recreation Area as a locale for special recreation events as well as general park availability.

b. Onsite -- The special event, January 1st 2013 event at Santa Fe Dam Recreation Area would be held at Special Events Area southwest of the Santa Fe Dam Lake. This would be approximately the 8th year for this event at Santa Fe Dam. The location is considered an appropriate location by County park managers. Parking would be allowed at the parking lots south of Santa Fe Dam Lake.

No alternative onsite areas within Santa Fe Dam Basin are being considered at this time. Additional information is provided in Section III of this EA.

c. Offsite – No offsite locations were identified.

III. PROPOSED ACTION

This is the 8th year of the January 1st, 2013 Car Exhibit event at Santa Fe Dam Recreation Area. Event will include a vehicle display and food booths for attendees. The event would be operated from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cleanup of the site would be required to be completed by 6 p.m., Tuesday, January 1st, 2013. This event will anticipate approximately 3,000 – 9,500 people and approximately 1,500 – 2,500 vehicles. Parking will be allowed at the parking lots south of Santa Fe Dam Lake. Fees for this event include a \$10.00 vehicle entrance fee charged by the County of Los Angeles and a \$10.00 admission fee collected by The Majestic Car Club, 10% of which will be reconciled to the County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation as a commercial fee. The County of Los Angeles Sheriff Department provides oversight for Public Safety at this event. Most event participants drive the vehicles, to Santa Fe Dam Basin, which they intend to show. Parking areas next to sensitive environmental areas are excluded from the event. Other nearby recreation and wildlife areas will remain open and accessible to the public.

IV. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

N = Not present or No Impact will occur.

Y = Impacts may occur (if yes, explain in detail under Potential Impacts).

IMPACTS ON THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT		
DESCRIPTION OF RESOURCE AND BASELINE CONDITION	POTENTIAL DIRECT AND INDIRECT IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES	SIGNIFICANCE OF IMPACTS
<p>GEOLOGY AND SOIL QUALITY, STABILITY AND MOISTURE:</p> <p>Santa Fe Dam Recreation Area, Special Events Area is composed of dirt and turf park areas with no such special soils.</p>	<p>Event to be held on dirt & turf of the Special Events Area with no special features or soils.</p> <p>No Action Alternative – No new activity, as proposed in the No-Action alternative, would affect the project site.</p>	<p>No significant adverse impact</p>

<p>2. WATER Resources:</p> <p>A 70-acre Lake is located in the southern portion of the basin which provides for swimming, boating and fishing as key recreational activities. Water quality for the lake is maintained by a continuous circulation of water through the lake. Water quality for the beach area is continually monitored and maintained by periodic underwater injections of chlorinated water both for purification and aeration.</p>	<p>This event is not held at any body of water; no impact to water.</p> <p>No Action: No more than minor impacts to water resources are anticipated from general park activities.</p>	<p>No significant adverse impact</p>
<p>3. AIR QUALITY:</p> <p>The site is located in a highly urbanized area, adjacent to major public transportation corridors. Public use of the park on a regular basis generates vehicle trips that contribute to air quality considerations.</p>	<p>Project will generate increased vehicle trips over what would be present in the Santa Fe Dam basin on a non-event weekend. This impact is not anticipated to be significant, but to minimize the impacts, the following measures are included:</p> <p>Event parking and traffic management will be designed to avoid vehicle backup, traffic jams, and to reducing idling.</p> <p>Use of public transportation to the event will be emphasized.</p> <p>In addition, event organizer may encourage ridesharing</p> <p>No Action: Conditions would be similar to baseline conditions.</p>	<p>No significant adverse impact</p>
<p>4. VEGETATION COVER, QUANTITY AND QUALITY:</p> <p>Special Events Area is composed of dirt and turf with no rare cover types known. This area is generally used for regular recreational activities.</p>	<p>Dirt and turf recreation area will be used.</p> <p>The County will make clear to the permit applicant that the wildlife habitat areas within Santa Fe Dam basin are not authorized for use.</p>	<p>No significant adverse impact</p>

	No Action – There would be no anticipated impacts to vegetation cover given that the project site would continue to be used under the existing circumstances	
<p>5. WILDLIFE:</p> <p>Santa Fe Dam Recreation Area, Special Events Area is not substantially used by birds or other wildlife and not at all by fish.</p>	<p>A dirt and turf recreation area exists at the Santa Fe Dam Areas. The Santa Fe Dam Recreation Area is composed of a variety of recreation use areas.</p> <p>No Action – No endangered species or related habitat would be impacted by the continued use of the area under the existing circumstances.</p>	No significant adverse impact
<p>6. THREATENED OR ENDANGERED SPECIES:</p> <p>Santa Fe Dam Recreation Area, Special Events Area is not known to be used by T/E species. Elsewhere in the basin and wildlife areas are riparian and alluvial scrub habitats and birds which include examples of Federal or State listed species.</p>	<p>This is dirt & turf recreation area. At other areas within Santa Fe Dam Basin are more sensitive areas in this regard, and although these areas are also open to the public they are not part of the area proposed for the event.</p> <p>No Action – No endangered species or related habitat would be impacted by the continued use of the Property under the existing circumstances</p>	No significant adverse impact
<p>7. WETLANDS:</p> <p>Wetlands are not found at the proposed event site.</p>	<p>Santa Fe Dam Recreation Area, Special Events Area is the only area to be used and it does not contain any wetlands.</p> <p>No Action: No impacts on wetlands exist at this</p>	No significant adverse impact

	time or are expected in the future, as there are no wetlands at this special event project site.	
<p>8. CULTURAL RESOURCES:</p> <p>Buried cultural resources DO NOT exist within Santa Fe Dam Recreation Area, Special Events Area.</p>	<p>No known cultural resources exist in Special Events Area.</p> <p>No Action – There would be no anticipated impacts to cultural resources given that the project site would continue to be used under the existing circumstances</p>	No significant adverse impact
<p>9. AESTHETICS:</p> <p>The areas are not at a prominent topographic feature, except for being at the previously established Santa Fe Dam Recreation Area. The County maintains Noise Control standards within County operated property.</p>	<p>No natural prominent feature, and near populated areas. County noise ordinance enforced by park staff.</p> <p>No Action - Actions which might impact aesthetic values are managed by the County staff and would continue to be so managed.</p>	No significant adverse impact.
<p>10. DEMANDS ON ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES OF LAND, WATER, AIR OR ENERGY:</p> <p>The event will be contained within Santa Fe Dam Recreation Area, Special Events Area which has been designed to be Recreation land.</p>	<p>This is a park where people are expected to congregate, socialize and celebrate together. Special Events Area is designated as a Recreation area for the Santa Fe Dam Recreation Area. Other nearby recreation and wildlife areas will remain open and accessible to the public.</p> <p>No Action – There would be no anticipated impacts given that the project site would continue to be used under the existing circumstances.</p>	No significant adverse impact

<p>11. WATERS/NAVIGABLE WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES:</p> <p>No 'waters of the US' are involved within this event's footprint.</p>	<p>No 404 issues exist.</p> <p>No Action – There would be no anticipated impacts given that the project site would continue to be used under the existing circumstances.</p>	<p>No significant adverse impact</p>
<p>12. NOISE:</p> <p>Existing noise is that associated with general park use by picnickers and general recreational users.</p>	<p>The event will be supervised by the County which maintains a Noise ordinance. County Park staff will enforce the County Noise Ordinance.</p> <p>No Action – There would be no anticipated impacts given that the project site would continue to be used under the existing circumstances.</p>	<p>No significant adverse impact</p>
<p>13. IMPACTS TO EXISTING FEDERAL FLOOD CONTROL PROJECT:</p> <p>The event site is not within Operations areas, but is within the Special Events Area created for recreational activities. There would be NO effect of flood control efforts or facilities whatsoever.</p>	<p>No such structures exist at this precise event location.</p> <p>No Action – There would be no anticipated impacts given that the project site would continue to be used under the existing circumstances.</p>	<p>No significant adverse impact</p>
<p>14. IMPACTS ON OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES:</p> <p>There are no such studies situated at this event site.</p>	<p>No such studies exist related to such special events.</p> <p>No Action – There would be no anticipated impacts given that the project site would continue to be used under the existing circumstances.</p>	<p>No significant adverse impact</p>

IMPACTS ON THE HUMAN POPULATION		
DESCRIPTION OF RESOURCE AND BASELINE CONDITION	[Y/N] POTENTIAL IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES	
<p>15. HUMAN HEALTH AND SAFETY:</p> <p>Santa Fe Dam is a major recreation area with health and safety considerations normally associated with a park. This special event will not add additional health or safety risks in the area.</p>	<p>First Aid will be available as Lake Lifeguards will be on site, safety precautions will be enforced as required by the Fire Department and the L.A. County Sheriffs Department.</p> <p>Traffic and other crowd control measures will be maintained by permittee and the L.A. County Sheriffs Department.</p> <p>Area must be kept in good condition. The permit holder is responsible for all trash collection, including providing and emptying trash cans and dumpsters.</p> <p>The permit holder shall be responsible for cleanup and damage in the area used by the event. Cleanup shall occur throughout the duration of the event and the permit holder shall ensure all cleanup and equipment removal is completed by 6:00 p.m., January 1st, 2013. The County will require security deposit from the permit applicant.</p> <p>The County will require the permit holder to obtain insurance for liability and property damage and to indemnify</p>	<p>No significant adverse impact</p>

	<p>the County and the Corps.</p> <p>No Action – No effects to health and safety.</p>	
<p>16. INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCIAL AND AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES AND PRODUCTION:</p> <p>There are no substantial industrial, commercial, or agricultural activities in the immediate area, nor will the event add to or alter these activities.</p>	<p>The selling of food and other minor commodities for event-goers will occur within the event area.</p> <p>No Action – No effects to industrial, commercial and agricultural activities and production.</p>	No significant adverse impact
<p>17. QUANTITY AND DISTRIBUTION OF EMPLOYMENT:</p> <p>This event will not move nor eliminate any jobs, but may possibly create a limited number of temporary jobs for this event and the subsequent clean up.</p>	<p>Part-time, temporary staff may be hired for this event to handle parking, security, clean up and other aspects.</p> <p>No Action – No effects to quantity and distribution of employment.</p>	No significant adverse impact
<p>18. ACCESS TO AND QUALITY OF RECREATIONAL AND WILDERNESS ACTIVITIES:</p> <p>There is no designated wilderness area within the Special Events Area.</p>	<p>This is not designated wilderness area, but a public recreation area.</p> <p>No Action – There would be no anticipated impacts given that the project site would continue to be used under the existing circumstances.</p>	No significant adverse impact
<p>19. DENSITY AND DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION AND HOUSING:</p> <p>There is no housing within the Santa Fe Dam Basin. The nearby area is urbanized and contains a mix of commercial, residential and industrial uses..</p>	<p>This event will not add or encourage population growth or housing.</p> <p>No Action - Residential use in the Basin would continue to be prohibited whereas areas near the Basin would continue to be utilized as usual.</p>	No significant adverse impact

<p>20. OTHER APPROPRIATE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CIRCUMSTANCES:</p> <p>Traffic in the basin is associated with use of the recreational features within the basin as well as vehicles using basin roads to reach non-basin locations.</p>	<p>Traffic will be handled by the event's organizers. The County will require the permit holder to control parking and traffic around the event area and ensure incoming traffic does not back onto adjacent roadways. Parking plans shall be coordinated between the County and permit holder.</p> <p>No Action – There would be no anticipated impacts given that the project site would continue to be used under the existing circumstances.</p>	<p>No significant adverse impact</p>
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V. CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

- a. PAST -- The County of Los Angeles has provided a diversity of recreational opportunities at this location for many years. This will be approximately the 8th consecutive year for this same event at Santa Fe Dam Recreation Area.
- b. PRESENT -- The County of LA continues to provide recreational opportunities of various types, each year, at this and at other adjacent locations within the Santa Fe Dam Basin. Special events with several thousand attendees have been and are held throughout the year at high-density designated areas within the Santa Fe Dam Basin. Events generate trash, use, health/safety, and traffic/parking considerations. Most are short-term events that occur over a one-day or weekend period. Events are managed for traffic and noise concerns and the County requires the permit holder(s) to address security, trash, and health/safety considerations.
- c. FUTURE -- The County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation will continue to provide recreational opportunities into the foreseeable future at Santa Fe Dam Recreation Area. Adjacent city areas will continue to be developed but the overall expected use of the Santa Fe Dam Basin will remain for flood control and for open space and other recreation opportunities for the general public. Special event requests are anticipated to continue to occur, with a number of events proposed regularly each year. These events will be evaluated individually or as part of a programmatic assessment by the United States Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District.

VI. SUMMARY OF MITIGATION MEASURES OF THE PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES:

The proposed action included the following avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures.

General:

- County Park staff and L.A. County Sheriff Department conducts planning meetings with County agencies and departments to provide safety, crowd and traffic control.

Recreation:

- The County's permit will specifically state that the use of the non-event areas is not authorized and that access to these areas may not be impeded in conjunction with said event.

Air/Traffic/Parking:

- Event parking and traffic management will be designed to avoid vehicle backup onto adjacent roadways, reducing idling and congestive traffic.
- Use of public transportation to this event will be emphasized.
- A parking plan overseen by County staff, the L.A. County Sheriff Department, coordinated with the permit holder will be implemented.
- Appropriately sized disabled parking will be provided adjacent to the event.

Noise:

- County Noise Ordinance shall be enforced.

Health/Safety:

- Areas must be kept in good condition. County will ensure the permit holder is responsible for all trash collection, including providing and emptying trash cans and dumpsters.
- The County will ensure the permit holder is responsible for cleanup and damage in the area used by the event. Cleanup shall occur throughout the duration of the event and the permit holder shall ensure all cleanup and equipment removal is completed by 6 p.m., January 1, 2013. The County will require a maintenance deposit from the permit holder.
- The County will require the permit holder to obtain insurance for liability and property damage and to indemnify the County and the Corps.

VII. AGENCY COORDINATION

A public notice of the proposed action was made available December 11 through December 26, 2012. Comments received will be evaluated and any objections noted prior to the event, if held.

IX. RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

Comments on the January 1st, 2013, Car Exhibit event at Santa Fe Dam Recreation Area were received from _____ in the form of proposed recommendations or restrictions related to _____. Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation staff provided information to respond to the comments, including references to the appropriate County agencies which work to coordinate public County special events in their leased areas at Whittier Narrows and/or Santa Fe Flood Control Basins.

Individual #1

RESPONSE:

X. APPLICABLE ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS AND REGULATIONS

For each of the following, please provide a brief description of any consultation efforts made, and the results of those consultation efforts. All supporting documents are included in Appendices.

- a. Endangered Species Act (ESA):** The proposed action is in compliance with the ESA. No effect on endangered species is anticipated.
- b. Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA):** The proposed action is in compliance with the MBTA.
- c. Section 404 of the CWA.** N/A
- d. Section 401 of the CWA.** N/A
- e. Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA).** N/A
- f. Section 176(C) of the Clean Air Act (CAA) General Conformity Rule Review.** The proposed action is in compliance with the CAA.
- f. Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA).** The proposed action is in compliance the NHPA.
- g. E.O. 13175: Consultation with Indian Tribes, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians.**
N/A
- h. Other applicable federal laws/regulations:** Please include any other federal permits/approvals needed and whether proposed action is/is not in compliance with said program and when such permits/approvals would be obtained (e.g., section 402 of the CWA, EO 12898 (Environmental Justice), EO 11988 (Floodplain Management), EO 11990 (Protection of Wetlands), Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act).

EO 12898: The proposed action does not conflict with EO 12898.

XI. REFERENCES (if applicable)

XII. RECOMMENDATION: The Asset Management Division recommends that no significant impacts have been identified with respect to the Proposed Action.

Conclusion:

EIS

FONSI

EA Prepared By: _____
Name Date Title

Reviewed By: _____
Name Date Title