

## MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Declaration of Puddingstone Reservoir as a Traditional Navigable Water (SPL-2004-936-KW)

Puddingstone Reservoir ("the reservoir", is part of the Frank G. Bonelli Regional Park ("the park") which is maintained and operated by the Los Angeles County Parks and Recreation Department.<sup>1</sup> The public park supports a variety of recreational activities including but not limited to boating, fishing<sup>2</sup> (largemouth bass, rainbow trout, bluegill, channel catfish and sunfish), camping (including recreational vehicles), horseback riding, and waterskiing.<sup>3</sup> The park has three entrances (park entrance fee is \$8) and two concession stands. Furthermore, the park is home to Raging Waters, a 50-acre water park. It is located at the eastern boundary of the San Gabriel Valley approximately ¼ mile north of the Orange Freeway (California 57)/San Bernardino Freeway (Interstate 10) intersection in Los Angeles County, California (34-5-12.77/117-48-15.81).

Built in 1928 for flood control purposes, the reservoir has the capacity to store 17,190-acre-feet of water.<sup>4</sup> The reservoir is approximately 230 acres<sup>5</sup> in surface water area<sup>6</sup>, 100 feet in depth, and 4 miles in circumference at a surface water elevation of 945 msl. The reservoir's only source of water is Live Oak Canyon Wash which consolidates flows from Puddingstone Channel, Marshall Canyon Channel, and Emerald Wash.<sup>7</sup> The reservoir outlets into the Walnut Creek 12-mile-long drainage which conveys water west to the San Gabriel River, which in turn flows 22 miles south and terminates at the Pacific Ocean.<sup>8</sup>

The reservoir supports two forms of boating (powered and sail) in addition to other watercraft such as jet skis. Maximum boat length is limited to 26 feet.<sup>9</sup> Launch infrastructure for powered boats include two separate facilities each composed of a 15'x 50' docks adjacent to 50'x 100' concrete boat ramps.<sup>10</sup> Launch infrastructure for sailboats entails one large facility

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<sup>1</sup> Los Angeles County Parks and Recreation Department. 2008. *Entrance Fees and Rules*.

<sup>2</sup> California Department of Fish and Game stocks fish within the reservoir.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid*

<sup>4</sup> Bray, J.D., et. al. 1993. *Investigation of the Response of Puddingstone Dam in the Whittier Narrows Earthquake of October 1, 1987*. Berkeley, California.

<sup>5</sup> Pers. Comm. Ramil Parial, Los Angeles County Public Works Department. email dated March 24, 2008.

<sup>6</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lake\\_Puddingstone](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lake_Puddingstone)

<sup>7</sup> Thomas Guide - Los Angeles County Public Works Edition. 2003. p. 600

<sup>8</sup> *Ibid*

<sup>9</sup> Los Angeles County Parks and Recreation Department. 2008. *Entrance Fees and Rules*.

<sup>10</sup> Pers. Comm. Vincent Pedroza, Senior Cashier - Los Angeles County Parks and Recreation Department. March 20, 2008.

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composed of one 100'x 100' concrete boat ramp which underlies two 15'x 75' boat docks located 30 feet apart. The reservoir supports, on the average, approximately 85 boats per day and 100 jet skis during peak summer use.<sup>11</sup> Daily use during the winter averages from 12 to 30 boats per day. Fees associated with boating include an \$8 park entrance fee and a \$6-\$10 boat launch fee.<sup>12</sup>

In sum, the 230-acre reservoir is a public waterbody that is easily accessed by two freeways located adjacent to the park. Furthermore, physical parameters of the waterbody (230 acres in size and 100 feet in depth), and current infrastructure (concrete boat ramps and docks) support year-round recreational boating as well as other water dependent activities such as fishing, waterskiing, and jet skiing. Based on the above and pursuant to 33 CFR Part 328.3(a)(1), the Corps determines the reservoir to be a TNW.

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<sup>11</sup> *Ibid*

<sup>12</sup> Los Angeles County Parks and Recreation Department. 2008. Entrance Fees and Rules.