

Los Angeles River Reach 5C and 6A Sediment Removal

WHO: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Los Angeles District, Operations Division

WHAT: USACE is undertaking a sediment removal project that will restore capacity in the Los Angeles River and will reduce the risk of overtopping during large storm events. It is currently anticipated that the project would remove 40,000 cubic yards.

WHERE: The Project will take place in the Los Angeles River and along the northeast bank of the river. The work area is 2000 linear feet beginning downstream of Fletcher Drive Bridge, past the Glendale Freeway and terminating approximately 900 feet downstream. Trucks will access the site at Casitas Avenue, traverse the bank on the access road and travel down the embankment into the Los Angeles River. Sediment will be disposed offsite based upon the quality of the material.



WHEN: Work began on September 24, 2018 and will continue through the end of April or sooner. Although all attempts have been made to complete work during the times of 0700 to 1700 Monday through Friday, either extended work hours or some Saturday work may be necessary to conclude work in time to avoid migratory bird nesting season.

WHY: Limited resources have resulted in significant accumulation of sediment and vegetation in the Los Angeles River. The presence of sediment and vegetation in the Los Angeles River significantly heightens the potential for overtopping during a large storm event. Urbanization and "hardening" of the ground contribute to increased runoff that is directed into the channel. The current capacity of the river is 43,500 cubic feet per second (cfs), but the design capacity is 78,000 cfs.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS:

- A biological monitor will be onsite before, during and after all vegetation removal activities to minimize direct impacts to wildlife.
- Vegetation removal will only be done outside the migratory bird nesting season (approximately September 15 April 15 or when a Corps biologist recommends to cease work activities.
- USACE is committed to minimizing unintended impacts to water quality with best management practices through sound site management e.g., monitoring equipment for leaks, preventing unintended spills of hazardous materials, and adhering to employee safety standards, and the use of waddles.

BENEFITS:

- Flood risk benefits: would improve conveyance through this section of the river from approximately a 7-year storm event (43,500 cfs) to a 15-year storm event capacity (54,000 cfs).
- Vegetation management will significantly reduce non-native species invasions and allow recruitment of native aquatic habitats.
- Improved flow regime of the Los Angeles River and reduced risk of erosion and undercutting to the west bank and recreational path.
- Beneficial use of river rock for landscaping projects at the Bowtie Project and Taylor Yard.