

2024 Los Angeles River Watershed Work Plan November 2023

Ambassador Team:

Megan Whalen – Ambassador Grant Adams – Ambassador Team Member



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Los Angeles River watershed from the Angeles National Forest to the Pacific Ocean creates a unique opportunity and challenge for those who live in its area. The Urban Waters Federal Partnership (UWFP) fosters collaborative partnerships to address regional concerns in the 824 square miles of the Los Angeles River watershed. The Los Angeles River Location Ambassador is currently Megan Whalen and her team from USACE. Led by USACE, this partnership includes federal agencies, local and state agencies, non-profit and community organizations, academic institutions consultants, residents, and students.

VISION

We seek a healthy, thriving, resilient watershed in which all local communities successfully adapt to climate change and environmental justice challenges through collaborative partnerships.

MISSION

The Los Angeles River Watershed Partnership is a network of federal, state, and local agencies, community-based organizations, consultants, and individuals, who collaborate on projects and programs to protect, restore, and revitalize the Los Angeles River Watershed.

pg. 1 November 2023

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- Promote clean urban waters
- Reconnect people to their waterways
- Water conservation
- Use urban water systems to promote economic revitalization and prosperity
- Encourage community involvement through active partnerships
- Be open and transparent, listening to communities, tribes and stakeholders
- Focus on measuring results and evaluation to fuel future success

WATERSHED GOALS

- 1. **Habitat Expansion** Restore ecosystem structure and functions of ecosystems including riparian, wetland, aquatic, floodplains, and upland areas including forests and meadows.
- 2. **Open Space** Prioritize protection and acquisition of public open spaces for community gathering and recreational activities.
- 3. **Connectivity and Access** Ensure communities are connected to and along the Los Angeles River and tributaries through a network of trails for pedestrians, bikes, and equestrians, with linkages to public transportation.
- 4. **Flood Coastal Resilience** Promote multi-purpose flood risk management projects to ensure public safety.
- 5. **Drought Resilience** Reduce reliance on imported water supply through increased stormwater capture and groundwater recharge projects.
- 6. Water Quality Improve water quality through collaborative projects and programs.

COMMUNITY GOALS

- Environmental Justice Promote activities and attend events that strive for education, inclusion and access to federal programs resources and access to the decision-making process.
- 2. **Stewardship** Connect communities to the Los Angeles River and our water resources through stewardship programs such as youth and public education, restoration and/or native plant growing activities, water conservation programs, citizen monitoring programs, or other activities.
- 3. **Economy** Revitalize urban waterways to promote community cohesiveness, revitalization, and prosperity

NETWORK OBJECTIVES

- Collaboration Strengthen and leverage the network of partners and organizations to amplify success in meeting watershed goals
- Foster Create space for diverse participation and equitable community benefits respectful
 of the power of place; recognize this partnership as a living network made up of individuals
 and organizations
- 3. **Resource Sharing** increase ease of access to funding opportunities such as grants, and partnership programs to further community and watershed goals

pg. 2 November 2023

4. **Benefits** - measure results and evaluate progress to fuel future success

WORK PLAN PROJECTS CRITERIA

For inclusion in the Los Angeles River Watershed Urban Waters Federal Partnership WORK PLAN update, projects must meet the following criteria:

- 1. Have a federal nexus (federal agency partner or federal interest e.g., require a USACE 408 or 404 permit, etc.)
- 2. Multiple benefits and multiple partners
- 3. Address Work Plan goals & objectives

CURRENT PROJECTS

Projects listed below have been put forward by UWFP partners in workshops over the last year. These projects reflect UWFP goals, criteria and objectives outlined herein. *Current* projects are generally ongoing, but not yet completed.

Please see Appendix 1 at the End of this document for detailed descriptions of these projects.

Efforts: Projects or funding opportunities without a finite ending.

The Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Centers (EJ TCTAC)
 Program

Project Lead: EPA

Partners: All UWFP partners

2. USACE Silver Jackets California Team

Project Lead: USACE, CADWR, California Office of Emergency Services (CalOES)

Partners: FEMA, SoCal Flood Control Districts & Stormwater Managers

3. Unhoused Encampment Liaison

Project Lead: Trevor Snyder, of USCAE SPL

Partners: Open

Projects: Finite endeavors that are ongoing.

Los Angeles River Fish Passage and Habitat Structures Design (LAR FPHS) Project
 Project Lead: Andrea Dell'Apa (Council for Watershed Health), Stillwater Sciences, City of Los Angeles

Partners: Arroyo Seco Foundation, Friends of the Los Angeles River (FoLAR), United States Bureau of Reclamation (U.S. BOR), Southern California Coastal Water Research Project (SCCWRP), United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), Los Angeles County

Los Angeles River Fish Passage Restoration (LAR FPR) Project
 Project Lead: Andrea Dell'Apa (Council for Watershed Health), Stillwater Sciences, City of Los

pg. 3 November 2023

Angeles

Partners: Arroyo Seco Foundation, FoLAR, U.S. BOR, SCCWRP, USACE, CDFW, NMFS, USFWS, RWQCB, LA County

6. Expanded Kayak Reaches

Project Lead: LA River Expeditions (Anthea Raymond, GM) Partners: USACE

7. Improving Communities through River Stewardship with Trout Unlimited

Project Lead: Robert Blankenship (Trout Unlimited, Secretary, South Coast Chapter), **Partners**: Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (RMC), City of Paramount, Compton Cowboys, Equestrian Groups, LA County Public Works

8. Atwater Village East Bank Riverway

Project Lead: Karen Barnett (Atwater Village Neighborhood Council (AVNC) board member) **Partners:** City of LA (BOE) \$2.2-million grant from the California Natural Resources Agency

9. Los Angeles River Ecosystem Restoration Project

Project Lead: Edward Belden (Mayor's Office, City of Los Angeles),

Partners: Arroyo Seco Foundation, LA County, Nature Conservancy, Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, State Parks, Caltrans, National Park Service (NPS), Rails to Trails partnership

10. Arroyo Seco Ecosystem Restoration

Project Lead: Tim Brick (Arroyo Seco Foundation)

Partners: USACE, LA County, City of LA

11. Sepulveda Watershed Water Quality Monitoring

Project Lead: Greg Mendez (Hydrologist, USGS Projects Office),

Partners: MRCA, City of Los Angeles, USACE

* Involved partners indicates that there is no single organization that heads efforts, but all are equal participants.

12. <u>Bowtie Demonstration Project</u>

Involved Partners: Shona Ganguly (The Nature Conservancy) Mujeres de la Tierra, Friends of the LA River, CA State Parks, Clockshop, Anahuak Soccer, Audubon Center at Debs Park, 100-Acre Partners, City of Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, the US Army Corps of Engineers, FoLAR and Prevention Institute

13. Ecological Goals and Evaluation for LA River Projects

Involved Partners: Sabrina Drill (UC Cooperative Extension), Heal the Bay, City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation, SCCWRP

14. <u>Safe Clean Water Program – Council for Watershed Health (CWH)</u>

Involved Partners: Carlos Moran (CWH), USACE, Seeking other federal partners

pg. 4 November 2023

15. Arundo Eradication – Council For Watershed Health

Involved Partners: Carlos Moran (CWH), USACE, Seeking other federal partners

16. Brownfields Assistance: Verdugo Wash Confluence

Involved Partners: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Trust for Public Lands

17. Deep, Regional Groundwater Monitoring Network

Involved Partners: USGS, Water Replenishment District of Southern California

18. El Dorado Park – Pacoima Wash Greenway

Involved Partners: Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, USACE, City of LA – Recreation and Parks, and Bureau of Sanitation

19. Equity Principles for LA River Revitalization

Involved partners: Public Counsel, Southeast Asian Community Alliance, SEACA, NRDC, LANLT, Community Enterprise, The City Project, Los Angeles County Bicycle Coalition, From Lot to Spot, Housing Long Beach, WLCAC, Little Tokyo Service Center, WORKS

20. LA River Corps

Involved Partners: LA Conservation Corps, USFWS, CA State Parks

21. Lower LA River Revitalization Master Plan

Involved partners: Rivers and Mountains Conservancy, LA County Dept of Public Works, USACE

22. NELA Sustainability Challenge Grant

Involved Partners: USACE, L.A. City Economic Workforce Development Department, HUD, City of LA – EWDD, Planning, BOE, County of LA – EDC, USC Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism's Metamorphosis Project, Occidental College's Urban Environmental Policy Institute, KCET Departures, River LA, Tierra West Advisors, L.A. Conservation Corps, and National Park Service; Design Collaborators: Dake + Luna Consultants, Mia Lehrer + Associates, LA Mas, and The Robert Group.

23. River Assessment Fieldwork Team (RAFT)

Involved Partners: LA Waterkeeper, USACE

PROJECT OPPORTUNITIES / CONCEPTS

Existing, yet unexplored projects or ideas for efforts that could be acted upon by the LA River UWFP.

- Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Centers Program (EJ TCTAC) Dialogue
- Establishing an Unhoused Encampment Liaison / Working Group

pg. 5 November 2023

- Increase ease of access and ease of understanding federal of grant opportunities and resources for partners
- Silver Jackets Project Opportunity to Hold Flood Risk Communication/Emergency Preparedness Tabletop Exercise
- Establishing "office hours" to route partners to LA river experts or federal partner assistance.

FUNDING / TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE RESOURCES

- Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Centers Program (EJ TCTAC) Dialogue
 - California Grant Opportunity Matrix. Click here ightarrow
- Geographic information resources for assistance purposes.
 - Council on Environmental Quality, Climate and Economic Justice Screening tool for locating historically underserved communities
 - The US Environmental Protection Agency's EJScreen: <u>Environmental Justice Screening</u> and Mapping Tool
- Safe Clean Water Program, LA: <u>Regional Oversight Committee</u>
 - Watershed coordinators.
- Bureau of Reclamation <u>WaterSMART</u> these are grant and technical assistance programs for increasing water supply and quality as well as modernizing existing infrastructure.
 - Water and Energy Efficiency Grants
 - Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects
 - Water Marketing Strategy Grants
 - o Cost sharing for: Environmental Water Resources Projects
 - Cost Sharing for: Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Program
- USACE Technical Assistance Programs these are partnering programs for USACE staff to provide technical assistance (not granting programs)
 - Silver Jackets Project Opportunities (Proposals due March 31, Annually)
 - Flood Plain Management Services
 - Planning Assistance to States and Tribes
 - o Technical Project Planning
 - o Continuing Authorities Program

PARTNERS

Federal Agencies

- Department of Agriculture U.S.
 Forest Service
- Department of Commerce –
 National Weather Service
- Department of Defense Army
 Corps of Engineers

- Department of Housing and Urban Development
- Department of Interior
 - o Bureau of Reclamation
 - o Fish and Wildlife Service
 - National Park Service
 - U.S. Geological Survey

pg. 6 November 2023

November 2023

- Department of Transportation
- Environmental Protection Agency
- The Office of Representative Adam Schiff
- The Office of Senator Dianne
 Feinstein

California State Agencies

- CA Department of Water Resources
- CA Dept of Toxic Substances
- CA High Speed Rail
- CalFIRE
- California Conservation Corps
- Los Angeles Regional Water Quality
 Control Board

- Rivers and Mountains Conservancy
- Santa Monica Mountains
 - Conservancy
 - State Coastal Conservancy
- State Coastal Conservancy
- State Parks
- Watershed Conservation Authority

Local Government Agencies

- City of Eastvale
- City of Glendale
- City of Long Beach
- City of Los Angeles
- City of Signal Hill
- City of South Gate
- County of Los Angeles
- Gateway Cities Council of Governments
- Los Angeles County Flood Control District
- Los Angeles County Parks & Recreation

- Los Angeles County Public Works
- Los Angeles Regional Water Quality
 Control Board
- Los Angeles Unified School District
- Metro
- Metropolitan Water District
- Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority
- Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mountains
- San Diego County

Non-Governmental Organizations

- Active SGV
- Amigos de Los Rios
- Arroyo Seco Foundation
- Ascencia
- Audubon Center at Debs Park
- California Botanic Garden
- Center for Biological Diversity
- City Plants
- Community Conservations Solutions
- Council for Watershed Health

- East Yard Communities for Justice
- Enterprise Community Partners
- Environment Now
- Friends of the LA River
- Friends of the Verde River
- Heal the Bay
- Just Do Good (Compton)
- Kern River Conservancy
- KYCC
- LA Conservation Corps

pg. 7 November 2023

November 2023

- LA County Bicycle Coalition
- LA Mas
- LA Neighborhood Land Trust
- LA River Expeditions
- LA River Kayak Safari
- LA River Revitalization Corp
- LA River State Parks Partners
- LA Waterkeeper
- LIIF
- Long Beach Conservation Corps
- Mercy Housing
- Michael D Baker
- Mujeres de la Tierra
- National Forest Foundation
- National Parks Conservation
 - Association
- National Wildlife Refuge
 - Association
- Natural History Museum of LA
 - County
- Natural Resource Defense Council

- Neighborhood Housing Services of LA County
- Northeast Trees
- Project 51
- Proyecto Pastoral
- River LA
- San Fernando Valley Audubon Society
- SLATE-Z
- Southeast Asian Community
 - Alliance
- The Funders Network
- The Nature Conservancy
- The River Project
- Theodore Payne Foundation
- TreePeople
- Trout Unlimited
- Trust for Public Land
- Urban Rivers Institute
- Urban Semillas
- Walking Water

Academia

- California State University Los Angeles
- California State University Northridge
- LMU Center of Urban Resilience
- University of California Los Angeles

- UCLA Institute of the Environment and Sustainability
- University of California San Diego
- University of California Santa Barbara
- University of Redlands

Private Organizations

- Arthur Golding and Associates
- Cordoba Corp, CHSRA
- ELP Advisors
- Estolano LeSar Perez Advisors
- Evan Brooks Associates
- Geosyntec
- KINDEL GAGAN
- Michael D. Baker Inc.
- Parsons Brickerhoff

- Project 51
- RAC
- SALT Landscape Architects
- SBC Global
- Stantec
- Stillwater Sciences
- Studio MLA
- The Wildling Studio

pg. 8 November 2023

PARTNERSHIP ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The list below represents projects and programs done under the auspices of the Urban Waters Federal Partnership. These include Working Groups, UWFP research projects, and other collaborative efforts that the Partnership undertook directly.

- Hosted a Meet & Greet with Tanya Trujillo, Assistant Secretary Department of the Interior at Lewis MacAdams Riverfront Park November 2022.
- Leveraged virtual meeting technology to increase the frequency of partnership meetings and forums during COVID Pandemic and beyond
- Established One-on-one meeting rhythm with federal partners to better coordinate funding distribution and assistance to other partners.
- Bridge Construction for Improving Pedestrian and Multimodal Access
- G2 Taylor Yards River Park
- Improving ecosystem services for confined urban rivers
- LA Regional Open Space and Affordable Housing
- LA River Master Plan Revision
- LA River StewMAP
- Seed LA: Regional Native Seed Network
- Youth Environmental Stewards
- EJ Equity in Water Training NOV 2021

COMPLETED EFFORTS:

The list below represents projects completed by partner organizations, but not necessarily by the network since the UWFP partnership has been established in 2011 to 2023.

- Aliso Creek Confluence Park
- Arroyo Seco Canyon
- Arroyo Seco Watershed Feasibility Study (USACE + LA County Public Works) completed
 2016
- Bending the River/La Noria Water Wheel
- Compton Creek Ecosystem Restoration
- East San Pedro Bay Ecosystem Restoration Feasibility (USACE + City of Long Beach) Project
 will not be built; Draft Feasibility Report and EIS/EIR completed November 2019; technical
 report and Draft Recommended Plan to restore kelp beds, rocky reef and eelgrass beds are
 available.
- Glendale Riverwalk Phases 2-3
- Headworks Ecosystem Restoration Feasibility Study (USACE)
- Indicators of Watershed Health Project (Council for Watershed Health?)
- Juan Bautista de Anza Historic Trail Certification
- Los Angeles Basin Stormwater Conservation Study completed 2014 (County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, Los Angeles County Flood Control District, US Bureau of Reclamation, USACE)
- La Kretz Bridge (formerly known as the North Atwater Bridge) Built XX

pg. 9 November 2023

- LA River Ecosystem Restoration Feasibility Study (ARBOR) USACE Study completed September 2015.
- Los Angeles River Master Plan update, Los Angeles County Public Works (LACDPW), completed June 2022
- LA River Natural Park
- Northeast LA Riverfront Collaborative
- Pacoima Wash Greenway
- Parque Dos Rios/South Gate Park Development
- River Forecast Site along the LA River
- Safe Routes to River
- Sepulveda Basin 1135 Ecosystem Restoration Studies
- Station Fire Restoration and Research Study
- Sun Valley Watershed Feasibility Study (USACE + LA County Public Works)

Appendix 1: Ongoing Projects & Efforts Details

Descriptions:

- 1) Projects: specific efforts undertaken by partners with finite ends focusing on, but not limited to the UWFP goals, criteria and objectives outlined herein. *Current* projects are ongoing, but not completed.
- 2) Efforts: Projects or funding opportunities without a finite ending, which can be reoccurring or annual.

Ongoing Efforts

1. The Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Centers (EJ TCTAC) Program

Project lead: EPA

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Partners: All UWFP partners

Description: EJ TCTAC is a nation-wide grant program which will provide grant funding to eligible applicants to establish technical assistance centers across the nation providing technical assistance, training, and related support to communities with environmental justice concerns and their partners. The new technical assistance centers will provide training, assistance, and capacity building on writing grant proposals, navigating federal systems such as Grants.gov and SAM.gov, and effectively managing grant funding. These centers will also provide guidance on community engagement, meeting facilitation, and translation and interpretation services for limited English-speaking participants. The Corps LA District can assist by participating in this program and connecting communities to grants, funding and technical assistance.

2. USACE Silver Jackets California Team

Project Lead: USACE, CADWR, CalOES

pg. 10 November 2023

Partners: FEMA, SoCal Flood Control Districts & Stormwater Managers

Description: Support emergency management agencies with pre-disaster preparedness including but not limited to floodplain mapping, EAP support, facilitate tabletop exercises, FRM outreach, etc. This will be achieved though collaborative technical assistance for interagency teams with nonstructural program & risk communication needs.

Ongoing Projects

3. Los Angeles River Fish Passage and Habitat Structures Design (LAR FPHS) Project

Project Lead: Andrea Dell'Apa (Council for Watershed Health), Stillwater Sciences, City of LA **Partners**: Arroyo Seco Foundation, FoLAR, U.S. BOR, SCCWRP, USACE, CDFW, NMFS, USFWS, RWQCB, LA County

Description: Los Angeles River Fish Passage and Habitat Structures Design project aims to provide increased flow complexity and habitat heterogeneity within a confined urban stretch of the Los Angeles River mainstem channel to enhance steelhead fish passage and migration corridors to upper tributaries, which can also support other native fish species. This would be achieved though examining "fish-friendly" and cost-effective ways to redesign the channel bed and banks. The project will reach 60% Design and is planned for completion in December 2021.

4. Los Angeles River Fish Passage Restoration (LAR FPR) Project

Project Lead: Andrea Dell'Apa (Council for Watershed Health), Stillwater Sciences, City of LA **Partners**: Arroyo Seco Foundation, FoLAR, U.S. BOR, SCCWRP, USACE, CDFW, NMFS, USFWS, RWQCB, LA County

Description: Like the LAR FPHS, the Los Angeles River Fish Passage Restoration (LAR FPR) Project examine potential ways to redesign the channel bed and banks in a 4.8-mile section of the Los Angeles River in the downtown city area. This pilot effort aims to provide increased flow complexity and habitat heterogeneity within a confined urban stretch of the Los Angeles River mainstem channel to enhance steelhead fish passage and migration corridors to upper tributaries (e.g., Arroyo Seco, Tujunga Creek, and others). These two projects work hand in hand.

5. Expanded Kayak Reaches

Project Lead: LA River Expeditions (Anthea Raymond, GM)

Partners: USACE

Description: Our Partners would love to see more sections of the LA River opened. Especially in Atwater near the Pedestrian Bridge & near Glendale Narrows Park, Burbank. These are green, attractive sections of the river that have positive Regional Economic Development benefits if expanded. Coordination and communication with the USACE and other partners would be excellent for advancing this project.

6. Improving Communities through River Stewardship with Trout Unlimited

pg. 11 November 2023

Description: After receiving a grant from RMC there has been a need to create a restoration and access project for a .6mi reach of the river bordering the cities of Compton and Paramount. There would be a focus on the riverbed and main stem. USACE also can assist with gathering partners and coordinate permit requirements, especially 404 and 408 requests.

Involved Partners: Robert Blankenship (Trout Unlimited, Secretary, South Coast Chapter), RMC, City of Paramount, Compton Cowboys, Equestrian Groups, LA County Public Works

7. Atwater Village East Bank Riverway

Project Lead: Karen Barnett (AVNC board member)

Partners: City of LA (BOE) \$2.2-million grant from the California Natural Resources Agency

Description: Connect 4 miles of the LA Riverfront in Atwater Village: Connect the east bank of the LA River for community members and visitors. Provide a safe route for all river user, especially those who do not feel safe on the bike path (west bank). The AVNC River Committee works to inform the community of upcoming projects, ordinances, and changes that affect Atwater Village.

8. Los Angeles River Ecosystem Restoration Project

Project Lead: Edward Belden (Mayor's Office, City of Los Angeles),

Partners: Arroyo Seco Foundation, LA County, Nature Conservancy, Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, State Parks, Caltrans, NPS, Rails to Trails partnership

Description: The Ecosystem Restoration project involves restoring 11 miles of the Los Angeles River from approximately Griffith Park to downtown Los Angeles, while maintaining existing levels of flood risk management. The Ecosystem Restoration project includes creation and reestablishment of historic riparian strand and freshwater marsh habitat to support increased populations of wildlife and enhance habitat connectivity. This is in addition to new parks, open space, fish passage in heavily urban/environmental justice area, as well as additional bike path connections. This project is also tied to ongoing efforts including: USACE LAR Eco Project (in PED); City of Los Angeles Revitalization Master Plan; Los Angeles County Master Plan (1996, 2022); Los Angeles River (City of Los Angeles) P3; LACDA Disposition Study USACE- Los Angeles County Department of Public Works (LACDPW).

9. Arroyo Seco Ecosystem Restoration

Project Lead: Tim Brick (Arroyo Seco Foundation)

Partners: USACE, LA County, City of LA

Description: In this 20-year-old project attempts to restore endangered species habitat, while also managing flood protection for the region. There are many opportunities for funding from the County of LA and can dovetail wither projects like the reintroduction of steelhead trout to the region. USACE needs to accommodate unique conditions/seasonality in SoCal. Now there is a certain urgency with this project as ecosystem challenges persist unaddressed, especially those associated with mounting climate change.

10. Sepulveda Watershed Water Quality Monitoring

pg. 12 November 2023

Project Lead: Greg Mendez (Hydrologist, USGS Projects Office),

Partners: MRCA, USACE, LA County

Description: Monitoring water quality in Spring and Summer. Idea is to share data for recreation purposes. Collect baseline data for sediment transport. USACE can assist with monitoring and permitting process navigation.

11. Bowtie Demonstration Project

Description: The 18-acre Bowtie Parcel is a unique open space on the east bank of the Los Angeles River. This project will daylight (or open) a storm drain from an existing underground pipe located on the north end of the Bowtie Parcel. The Nature Conservancy is working with the Prevention Institute to manage an outreach and engagement plan in Northeast LA communities. Additionally, this an opportunity for water capture and treatment, public access, recreation, and habitat creation

Involved Partners: Shona Ganguly (The Nature Conservancy) Mujeres de la Tierra, Friends of the LA River, CA State Parks, Clockshop, Anahuak Soccer, Audubon Center at Debs Park, 100-Acre Partners, City of Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, the US Army Corps of Engineers, FoLAR and Prevention Institute

12. Ecological Goals and Evaluation for LA River Projects

Description: Develop set of standard goals, criteria, and targets to measure success for helping LA River projects meet specified concepts for ecological restoration and ecosystem services. Provide a set of tools, grounded in scientific principles, that can facilitate incorporating and supporting ecological function and resilience into Los Angeles River. This project would allow partners to solicit input and can follow up with reviews of projects for collaboration.

Involved Partners: Sabrina Drill (University of California Cooperative Extension), Heal the Bay, City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation, and SCCWRP

13. <u>Safe Clean Water Program – Council for Watershed Health</u>

Description: Established in 2018 with the guiding goals of improving water quality, increasing water supply and enhancing communities. A part of the Technical Resources Program, it was established to educate and build capacity in communities, connect potential applicants to technical resources, and build inclusion and meaningful engagement in pursuit of Safe Clean Water Program Goals.

Involved Partners: Carlos Moran (CWH), USACE, Seeking other federal partners

14. Arundo Eradication – Council For Watershed Health

Description: The elimination of the invasive plant species Arundo donax, a highly invasive riparian plant species, for the remaining areas of the Upper Los Angeles River Watershed. The project will impact an estimated 72 miles of stream. Arundo (AKA giant reed) has significant negative impacts on water availability, water quality, fires and habitat.

pg. 13 November 2023

Involved Partners: Carlos Moran (CWH), USACE, Seeking other federal partners

15. Brownfields Assistance: Verdugo Wash Confluence

Description: EPA has selected the Trust for Public Land as a Brownfields Area-Wide Planning Grant recipient. The Trust for Public Land will work with the community and other stakeholders to develop an area-wide plan and implementation strategy for the Los Angeles River and Verdugo Wash Confluence Study Area in the City of Los Angeles.

Involved Partners: EPA, Trust for Public Lands

16. Deep, Regional Groundwater Monitoring Network

Description: Active. Multiple-completion monitoring well site (1 of 58 in the basin), with seven piezometers ranging from depths of 95 to 2,000 feet below ground.

Involved Partners: USGS, Water Replenishment District of Southern California

17. El Dorado Park – Pacoima Wash greenway

Description: New natural park along Pacoima Wash developed by MRCA and will be managed by owner City of Los Angeles. 1.2-acre park that collects, treats, and infiltrates up to 23 acres of stormwater runoff from adjacent community through forebay, bioswales, and basin system at El Dorado and Tamarack Avenue street ends. Park will also have network of trails, play and exercise equipment, seating, native plants and trees, and informational interpretive signage. When the future Pacoima Wash Bikeway is developed in Pacoima, the park will also be a gateway onto the bikeway.

Involved Partners: Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, USACE, City of Los Angeles – Recreation and Parks, and Bureau of Sanitation

18. Equity Principles for Los Angeles River Revitalization

Description: Given the dozens of policy vehicles and strategies impacting in Los Angeles River restoration (municipal finance, land use planning, etc.) we wanted to create a series of overarching principals that could govern all of it and would utilize across a variety of platforms (transparency, racial equity, economic justice etc.). Over 75 stakeholders were brought together in the collaboration that identified seven redevelopment components into which LA River and Watershed decision-makers and funders must incorporate equity principles to combat inequitable outcomes already threatening River communities. For each, they have articulated equity goals and the programs for realizing them and demand all River planning and projects adopt these principles.

Involved partners: Public Counsel, Southeast Asian Community Alliance, SEACA, NRDC, LANLT, Community Enterprise, The City Project, Los Angeles County Bicycle Coalition, From Lot to Spot, Housing Long Beach, WLCAC, Little Tokyo Service Center, WORKS

19. Los Angeles River Corps

Description: Funds under this award is used to engage youth ages 18-25 to work along the Los Angeles River and do educational programs with Friends of the Los Angeles River through the Los Angeles Conservation Corps River Corps Program.

pg. 14 November 2023

Involved Partners: LA Conservation Corps, USFWS, CA State Parks

20. Lower Los Angeles River Revitalization Master Plan

Description: The Lower Los Angeles River (river) is the core of southeast Los Angeles and serves a critical role in managing flood risk. It protects life and property by collecting stormwater from surrounding areas and conveying it to the ocean. The river's paths and trails also provide a space for the community to recreate and travel within the region. Despite these functions, the river's potential value as a place for relaxation, discovery, recreation, tourism, and economic development is yet to be realized. This pan will also be incorporated into the LA River Masterplan for the entire 51 miles of waterways. The Masterplan has been released but Federal agencies can continue to support its efforts, especially though existing working groups.

Involved partners: Rivers and Mountains Conservancy, LA County Dept of Public Works, USACE,

21. Northeast Los Angeles (NELA) Sustainability Challenge Grant

Description: Pursuant to a U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) \$2.25M grant to the City of Los Angeles on behalf of the HUD-DOT-EPA Federal Partnership for Sustainable Communities, this project will create an implementation strategy for the redevelopment of 2,200 acres of the Glendale Narrows portion of the LA River, guided by the policy and vision of the City of LA's 2007 LA River Revitalization Master Plan. It will include consideration of land use, especially industrial and commercial zoning refinement, creation of integrated mobility hubs to support carpooling, bicycle use, and light rail ridership, a feasibility study on the creation of a regional food hub and will convene a working group of business leaders and workforce development professionals to oversee a needs assessment and develop training curricula for workforce development. The project will focus on proactive outreach to communities who would not normally participate in the planning process. NELA Riverfront Collaborative Project Evaluation and Toolkit delivered in Summer, 2014

Involved Partners: USACE, L.A. City Economic Workforce Development Department, HUD, City of LA – EWDD, Planning, BOE, County of LA – EDC, USC Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism's Metamorphosis Project, Occidental College's Urban Environmental Policy Institute, KCET Departures, River LA, Tierra West Advisors, L.A. Conservation Corps, and National Park Service; Design Collaborators: Dake + Luna Consultants, Mia Lehrer + Associates, LA Mas, and The Robert Group.

22. River Assessment Fieldwork Team (RAFT)

Description: We are training and partnering with volunteers on a water quality and ecological health monitoring program along three stretches of the Los Angeles River that tell different stories about river health: the Arroyo Seco, Glendale Narrows and Maywood. We are coming together to understand the water quality, habitat complexity and biological richness of our river, while reimagining the role of a healthier river in the lives of current and future generations. RAFT volunteers gain scientific monitoring skills and have the opportunity to participate in workshops to understand our data and to activate it together. Together, we can reframe the current dialogue around the river in socio-ecological terms.

Involved Partners: LA Waterkeeper, USACE

pg. 15 November 2023