WateReuse Meeting

HCP Update

May 21, 2019

Heather Dyer
San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District
How do we meet water supply needs while protecting the needs of a functional riverine ecosystem?
Cumulative Impacts of Water Projects

Santa Ana River

- Stormwater Capture
- Clean Water Factory
- Sterling Natural Resource Center
- Rialto Water Reuse
- RPU Water Reuse
- WMWD Water Reuse
“Many stakeholders whose mutual destinies are held hostage to the complex problems of an interdependent environment should look to the collaborative method for an alternative, and often more cost-effective, strategy.” Jean Lipman-Blumen
HCP PARTNERS

- HCP Team includes twelve (12) participating agencies:
  - San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District
  - San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation District
  - San Bernardino Municipal Water Department
  - Western Municipal Water District
  - East Valley Water District
  - West Valley Water District
  - Riverside Public Utilities
  - Inland Empire Utility Agency
  - City of Rialto
  - Orange County Water District
  - Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
  - Southern California Edison
COVERED SPECIES

Plants
Slender-horned spineflower
Santa Ana River woolly-star

Invertebrates
Delhi Sands flower-loving fly

Birds
Least Bell's vireo
Southwestern willow flycatcher
Yellow-breasted chat
Western yellow-billed cuckoo
Tricolored blackbird
Burrowing owl
Coastal California gnatcatcher
Cactus wren

Fishes
Santa Ana sucker
Arroyo chub
Santa Ana speckled dace

Mammals
San Bernardino kangaroo rat
Los Angeles pocket mouse

Amphibians and Reptiles
Arroyo toad
Western spadefoot
Mountain yellow-legged frog
Western pond turtle
South coast garter snake
California glossy snake

Photo: Cornell Lab of Ornithology
Photo: SB County Public Works
Photo: San Diego Zoo
Photo: RCRCD
Covered Activities have been subdivided into the following categories:

1. **Treatment Facilities** – activities related to construction of new water treatment plants and associated facilities and operations and maintenance of existing and new water treatment plants and associated facilities.

2. **Diversions** – activities related to construction of new structures associated with diversion operation and operations and maintenance of existing and new diversion structures.

3. **Recharge Basins** – activities related to construction of new recharge basins and operations and maintenance of existing and new recharge basins.

4. **Flood Control** – activities related to the construction of new flood control structures and the operation and maintenance of existing and new flood control facilities.

5. **Wells and Water Infrastructure** – activities related to the creation of new wells and associated development (pipelines, access roads, reservoirs, bridges) and the operations and maintenance of existing wells and associated development.


7. **General Property and Facility Maintenance** – activities related to new and existing property and facility maintenance.

8. **Routine Operations and Maintenance** – actions that occur repeatedly in one location and/or in many locations over a wide area (e.g., bank stabilization, storm-damage repair, maintenance of facilities).

9. **Habitat Enhancement and Monitoring** – activities that support the restoration and maintenance of habitat values in the HCP Preserve.
Covered Activities’ Impacts
- Reduced Surface Hydrology
- Loss of Riparian Vegetation
- Decreased Function of Habitat
- Acres of Habitat Disturbed
- Negative Effects on Uplands
- Negative Changes in Substrate

Conservation Benefits to Species
+ Beneficial Changes to Hydrology
+ Increased Riparian Vegetation
+ Improved Function of Habitat
+ Preservation of Habitat
+ New Occupied Habitat
+ Reduced Threats
HCP Conservation Strategy

- Protect & Enhance Existing Habitat
- Reduce Threats
- Create More Habitat
- Establish Additional Populations
Comprehensive Approach

- Providing Minimum Flow to sustain Habitat
- Restoring refugia habitat along Santa Ana River
- Expanding distribution of fish to avoid catastrophic loss
- Building water projects to provide benefits to habitat
Tributaries Restoration

Four Restoration Sites include:

- Hidden Valley Creek
- Lower Hole Creek
- Anza Creek
- Old Ranch Creek
- Evans Creek – In Planning
- Sunnyslope Creek – In Planning
HCP Timeline

HCP Document
- Public Review Draft: June/July 2019
- Final Plan Document: Fall 2019

CEQA - EIR
- Public Review Draft: June/July 2019
- Final Plan Document: Fall 2019

NEPA - EIS
- Effort Driven by USFWS
- Fall 2019

Implementation
- Form Joint Powers Authority: Summer 2019
- Approve Joint Funding Agreement: Summer/Fall 2019
- Development Long Term Monitoring & Mgmt. Plan: Begin August 2019
Tributaries Restoration Timeline

**Tributaries Restoration**
- Contractor Selection Process: Summer 2019
- Plant/Seed Procurement – Summer 2019
- Construction: Winter 2019/2020

**CEQA - EIR**
- NOP & Scoping Meeting: July 2018
- Draft EIR: May 2019
- Final EIR: Summer 2019

**Environmental Permits**
- CDFW Streambed Alteration Agreement
- Corps of Engineers 404 Permit
- RWQCB 401 Water Quality Certification
- Section 7 Consultation for ESA coverage

**Mitigation “Bank”**
- Draft Prospectus
- Interagency Review Team Meeting
- Bank Enabling Instrument Development
UP NEXT SUMMER 2019:

Monitoring & Adaptive Management Program

• Effects Analyses are based on the Best Available Science

• Using best tools available – making predictions based on modeling

• A robust monitoring program will be required to verify effects from reduced flow

• Tools will be developed to manage unexpected outcomes

• HCP Partners honor conservation commitments and stay w/in take limit

• USFWS honors commitment of “no surprises”
Questions?

Photo: SAWA