All Things Fishy and Past, Present and Future of the L.A. River

William Preston Bowling- Special Projects Manager

February 28th, 2015

The LA River circa 1927 before the “Concrete Corset”
The LA River in downtown Los Angeles circa 1900
Ballona Creek Wetlands was once a second mouth of the river.
Currently the L.A. River drains into Long Beach as Ballona Creek is fed mostly by storm drains.
Changing Courses over time, the L.A. River was unpredictable, bridges built before USACE tamed this mighty river were wide enough to accommodate this uncertainty.
Los Angeles River changing course - Elysian Park circa 1900
Food Grows, Where Water Flows
The L.A. River is steeper than the Mississippi!

1,463 foot to sea level drop of Mississippi River covering 2,348 miles

3,000 foot drop from San Gabriel Mountains to sea level in 51 miles
When it rains, the amount of water flowing through the Los Angeles River can increase from 100 million gallons to 10 billion gallons.

Water velocities can reach 35 mph and the River can swell to depths of 25 feet.
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Confluence of Arroyo Calabasas and Bell Creek: the start of the LA River proper, 2004
25 Years of Taking Out The Trash
Scientific Trash Sort at Five River Sites
Storm Drain Run Off
April 11 - San Fernando Valley

Tujunga Wash, Sepulveda Basin, Bette Davis Picnic Area/Griffith Park and the Glendale Narrows River Walk

April 18 - Glendale Narrows

Los Feliz, Marsh Park, Steelhead Park, the Bowtie Parcel (CA State Parks), Sunnynook Footbridge and possibly two other sites

April 25 - Lower River

Compton Creek, LA River Estuary/Willow St, Golden Shore Wetland
Oasis on the River/Gathering Spot/Community Center for river lovers in the heart of Elysian Valley. The Frog Spot is open All Day Saturday & Sunday with Live Music every Saturday evening. DURING SUMMER MONTHS. We sell FoLAR souvenirs and packaged refreshments, offer bike repair & bocce ball.
Los Angeles River Fish Study

• There is abundant fish life in the River
• During 4 sampling events 1,214 fish were caught
• Mosquito fish and tilapia were most prevalent
• Almost undetectable levels of mercury and PCBs

Download at www.FoLAR.org
SENATE BILL 1201
Save the Date!
September 6th, 2014
8:30 a.m. Press Conference

Friends of the Los Angeles River

OFF THA’ HOOK
ANNUAL FISHING THROWBACK
since 2014

MITCH O’FARRELL
Los Angeles City Council, 13th District

TOM LaBONGE
Los Angeles City Council, 4th District

United States Congress
ADAM SCHIFF

Atwater Village Neighborhood Council

Friends of the Los Angeles River
www.FoLAR.org

FOLAR.ORG
North Atwater Park Extension
Egret
Black Necked Stilt
Cormorant
Cinnamon Teal
American Coot
Muscovy Duck
Great Blue Heron
Bufflehead (f)
Merganser (m)
North Atwater Crossing
Friends of the Los Angeles River

OFF THA' HOOK
ANNUAL FISHING THROWBACK

SAVE THE DATE!
SEPTEMBER 5TH, 2015

On August 28th, 2012, Governor Brown signed SB 1201
(DeLeon). Page four, section nine (I) states, "... designate areas
of the Los Angeles River suitable for public use, considering
both recreational and educational activities." This opened up a
recreational zone alongside the Golden State Freeway, inside a
natural bottom-section of the Los Angeles River that allowed
fishing and kayaking. Throughout 2013, the kayak programs
were featured on nearly every news channel and/or website
about California, yet there was no mention of fishing. There are
only two days a year open to Californians to fish without a
license, and this is one of them!

Friends of the Los Angeles River is taking the lead on bringing
anglers young and old to take part in a fishing throwback ...

Catch & Release Fishing Contest
For the Experienced
9 a.m. - 10 a.m.
Two categories: Flyfishing & Traditional
Special Prize for the “Rarest Species!”

Family Fish: 10 a.m.
Adult-Supervised Children learn to fish
with morning angler volunteers
Awards: 11:00 a.m.
Blue Ribbons given to registered child anglers

FIND OUT MORE AND REGISTER: HTTP://FOLAR.ORG/EVENT/OFF-THA-HOOK-FISHING-EVENT/

Sponsored By

Friends of the Los Angeles River

Rubio’s

lanivenflyfishing
Fishing for carp, waiting for steelhead

Los Angeles Rod and Reel Club
Volunteer anglers needed to study Fish of the Los Angeles River

Saturday, March 28th, 2015
2:00 PM | Long Beach

Contact WPB@FoLAR.org for additional information and to reserve your spot
Fishing Line Recycling Program
Fish of the LA River – Peces del Río de Los Angeles
Area of Restoration, Benefits and Opportunities for Revitalization
Los Angeles River Ecosystem Restoration Feasibility Study

9-year study
$10 million cost
Potential concrete removal areas:
Cypress Park & Downtown

ARBOR Area
Alternative with Restoration Benefits and Opportunities for Revitalization

Revised area to focus development and evaluation of alternatives for selection and recommendation of restoration/revitalization project(s).

US Army Corps of Engineers Stewardship of the Los Angeles River
Three Soft Bottom Sections:
Glendale Narrows, Sepulveda Basin & Long Beach Estuary
The Estuary in Long Beach
Sixth Street Viaduct Replacement
State Historic Park (Cornfields) Before
State Historic Park (Cornfields) Today
The wheel would turn two times per minute, filling 40 buckets in each rotation, for a total of 80 gallons of water per minute.

The wheel would divert a small amount of water into a landscaped stream and irrigation system. Most of the water will be returned to the river.
William Mulholland
Prior to 1960, approximately 80% of rainwater percolated into the ground and replenished underground water supplies.

Today, only approximately 8% of rainwater percolates into the ground and like most cities in California, ground water supplies only a small portion (11%) of the water we use in Los Angeles.

88% of the water we use today is piped into our homes from other watersheds.
LA River Bike Path

Future vision connects LA River Bike Path from Canoga Park to Long Beach – 52 miles

NBCUniversal to contribute over $13M to bike path segment from Griffith Park to Studio City

Commuter & recreational use

Events on path: LA River Ride, Wrigley Run, LA River Fun Run, LA Chinatown Firecracker Run
FoLAR In-Channel Bike Path
Glendale Narrows Riverwalk
Riverside Figueroa Bridge
Fletcher Drive Bridge Retrofit
Hyperion Bridge
Taylor Yard G2 Parcel
Taylor Yard Bridge

PROJECT INFORMATION REPORT

City of Los Angeles
Bureau of Engineering
Department of Public Works

Taylor Yard Bikeway/Pedestrian Bridge over LA Rvr
(X166)

Current Phase

Design

Construction Information
Expected Duration: From 02/12/2014 to 01/2016
Construction Cost: $5,300,000
Contractor: No Contractor Selected

Program Information
Program: Municipal Facilities Architect
Project Mgr: Carl Nolte
PM Phone: (213) 485-4474
Lead Division: Architectural Division
Work Order: E706911A (Active)

Council District(s)
1 - Ed P. Reyes, 13 - Eric Garcetti

Neighborhood Council(s)
Elysian Valley - Riverside NC

Geographic Information
Thomas Guide: 59E9S
Planning Area: Central Area
Address: Taylor Yard at LA River & San Fernando Blvd

Information Resources
Listed below are various resources available for finding more information related to projects:
City of Los Angeles Internet Home Page
http://www.city.org/
Bureau of Engineering Internet Home Page
http://eng.city.org/
BOE: Mapping Application (Navigate La)
http://mangates.city.org/
BOE: Public Right of Way Reservation System
http://mangates.city.org/prw/
Bureau of Engineering Project Information Reports
http://eng.city.org/prw/
Bureau of Engineering Projects Out to Bid
http://eng.city.org/bidpage/indexontrack.pdf

Gary Lee Moore, P.E.
City Engineer
Headworks Reservoir

HEADWORKS RESERVOIR
SILVER LAKE RESERVOIR COMPLEX STORAGE REPLACEMENT

Fact Sheet

ONE OF SEVERAL CONCEPTUAL DESIGNS BEING CONSIDERED FOR THE LOS ANGELES RIVER ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROJECT

PROJECT DETAILS
In order to comply with these two regulations, LADWP is planning to build the following facilities at the Headworks:

- Two buried concrete reservoirs with a 54 and 56-million-gallon storage capacity, covered with two to three feet of soil and native vegetation
- A 4-megawatt hydroelectric power plant (not needed for compliance)
- A flow regulating station with a flow capacity of 250 cubic feet per second
- A trunk line, 96 inches in diameter, 6600 feet long, with a 3000-foot tunneling portion

In addition, the LADWP and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers are in a partnership to design and construct the Los Angeles River Ecosystem Restoration project. This project will be built after the construction of the reservoir is complete and is proposed to include riparian wetlands in a park-like setting and open areas with equestrian, cyclist, and pedestrian access.

PROJECT SCHEDULE & COST
- Design Phase: March 2008 - December 2011
- Bid Phase: July 2011 - December 2011
- Construction Phase: April 2012 - December 2017
- Ecosystem Restoration: November 2017 - November 2018
- Estimated Construction Cost: $230 million
Johnny Carson Park Redesign
Lauren Bon’s Not A Cornfield is a living sculpture in the form of a field of corn. Lauren intend this to be an event that aims at giving focus for reflection and action in a city unclear about where it's energetic and historical center is. 32 acres of brownfield and bring in more than 1,500 truck loads of earth from elsewhere in order to prepare this rocky and mixed terrain for the planting of a million seeds. This art piece redeems a lost fertile ground, transforming what was left from the industrial era into a renewed space for the public.
Artist Robert Rossoff saw a 3D canvas (from his experience working on 3D films such as "Shrek 2," "Shrek 3," "Madagascar," ) creating a series of stop-motion style on each of the fifteen 4.5-feet tall by 8-feet long wing walls abutting the historic floodgates. The installation begins lyrically, with a trout swimming through three "frames." As the trout exits on the fourth wall, an egret swoops in, wings flapping until it reaches the last wing wall, with a tile footprint of the L.A. River.
Best known for his “River Gates” – Brett Goldstone’s relationship to the L.A. River goes back decades. Living a block away from the river, from time to time he builds “powered” artwork by using the LA Rivers hydrolic energy to light up the Avenue 64 bridge and a hand-made railroad engine.
For 35 plus years Leo Limon has been painting the Los Angeles “River Cat” faces on the storm-drain covers and is involved with groups whose efforts are to revive the Los Angeles River as a historic region, cultural art enclave and tourist destination.
In her 8-hour performance, “This Here and That There”, artist Vlatka Horvat continuously rearranges 50 chairs over a period of eight hours. Each successive chair arrangement implies a set of possible relations between their imagined occupants, evoking a range of possibilities related to human interaction – dialogue, encounter, communication, and conflict.
The Great Wall of Los Angeles is a landmark pictorial representation of the history of ethnic peoples of California from prehistoric times to the 1950’s, conceived by SPARC’S artistic director and founder Judith F. Baca. Begun in 1974 and completed over five summers, the Great Wall employed over 400 youth and their families from diverse social and economic backgrounds working with artists, oral historians, ethnologists, scholars, and hundreds of community members.
Frank Romero Created The Anza Mural celebrating the 1775-1776 Juan Bautista de Anza expedition, incorporating iconography based on Tongva symbols for Mountains, River Dolphins
FoLAR and Muralist ManONE got together with graffiti artists from across the globe to create the “Meeting of The Styles” a mile long mural inside the Arroyo Seco-L.A. River Confluence.
The art comes courtesy of guerrilla installers Calder Greenwood and "Wild Life" to celebrate the navigability of the Los Angeles River.
Guerrilla installers Calder Greenwood and "Wild Life" to celebrate the cobwebs of the dying 6th Street Bridge.
Lewis Mac Adams has had his eye on Piggyback Yard for over a decade

A Vision of a Park on a Restored Los Angeles River

Lewis MacAdams and the area known as Piggyback Yard. He founded Friends of the Los Angeles River, which aims to return the river to its natural state.

By FRED A. BERNSTEIN
Published: September 28, 2010

LOS ANGELES — On a recent Monday morning, Lewis MacAdams, a 65-year-old poet, was standing on the roof of a sheriff’s department garage on the edge of downtown.
Piggyback Yard is twice as big as Taylor Yard & Cornfields Combined
Taking it a step further