AGENDA ITEM NO. 5.1

LITTLEROCK RESERVOIR SEDIMENT REMOVAL PROJECT

Status Update

Palmdale Water District Board

May 11, 2016

NEPA and CEQA Lead Agencies

NEPA Lead Agency for EIS – U.S. Forest Service

- USFS, Angeles National Forest, Santa Clara/Mojave Rivers Ranger District
- Prepares a Record of Decision (ROD) certifying the EIS if the Project is approved
- Has the authority to issue a special use permit to PWD to construct a grade control structure and excavate sediment from the Littlerock Reservoir

CEQA Lead Agency for EIR – Palmdale Water District

- Board considers certification of EIR
- Board considers approval of Project

Environmental Review Process

- Fulfill the NEPA and CEQA process requirements by preparing a joint Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Environmental Impact Report (EIR)
- Display viable alternative plans
- Assess environmental impacts of the proposed project
- Disclose impacts to the public
- Allow for public and agency review and input

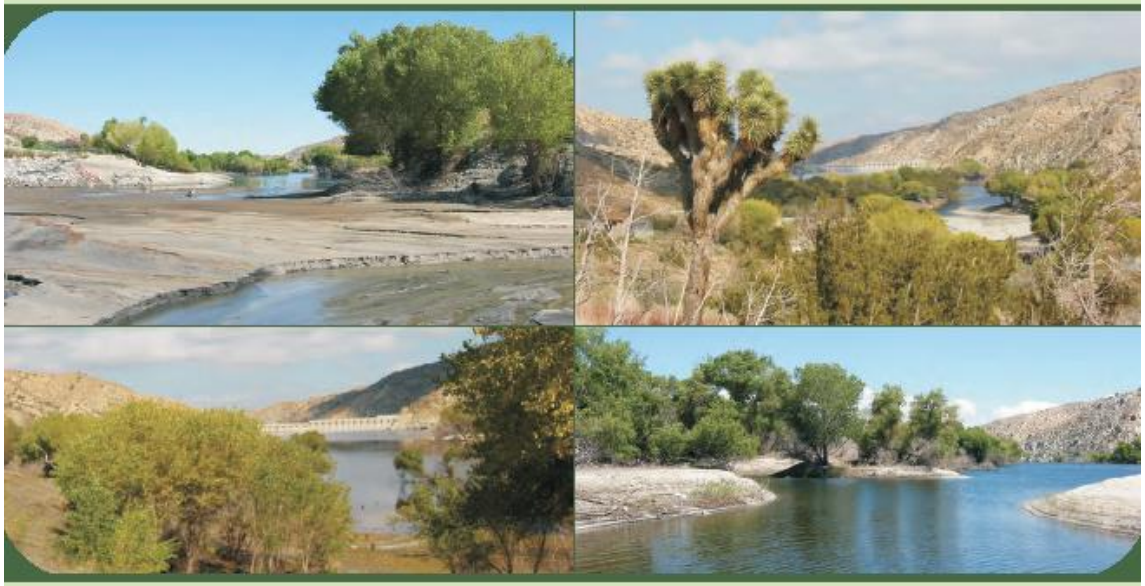
The EIS/EIR Public Process

- Distribute Notice of Preparation (NOP) and publish a Notice of Intent (NOI) – Early 2014
- Public Scoping Period (March 7 to April 15, 2014)
- Prepare Draft EIS/EIR
- Publish and Circulate the Draft EIS/EIR for public review
  - 45-day public review period per CEQA and NEPA
- Respond to comments and prepare Final EIS/EIR
- After completion of the EIS/EIR process, decision makers can render respective decisions

Draft Environmental Impact Statement/ Environmental Impact Report

Littlerock Reservoir Sediment Removal Project

[SCH No. 2005061171]



Prepared for:

USDA Forest Services

Palmdale Water District

May 2016

Alternatives Analyzed

- **Proposed Project**
- **Alternative 1**
  - Reduced Yearly Sediment Removal Volume (took more than 13-years to initially restore Reservoir capacity)
- **No Project/No Action Alternative**
- **Alternatives considered but eliminated**
  - due to technical infeasibility,
  - greater environmental impacts, or
  - failure to meet project purpose and needs.

Project Purpose and Need

- Remove sediment to restore water storage capacity
  - Restores 1,300 AF of lost storage capacity
- Prevent disturbance upstream of Rocky Point to preserve critical habitat of arroyo toad, a federally-listed endangered species

Project Overview

- Construct a subterranean **grade control structure** at Rocky Point
- **Reservoir Restoration**: Remove approximately 1,165,000 cubic yards of sediment
  - 7 to 12 years, between Labor Day and January
- **Annual Reservoir Maintenance:** Following initial sediment removal, an estimated 38,000 cubic yards removed per year to maintain capacity
  - Permanent activities, between Labor Day and January

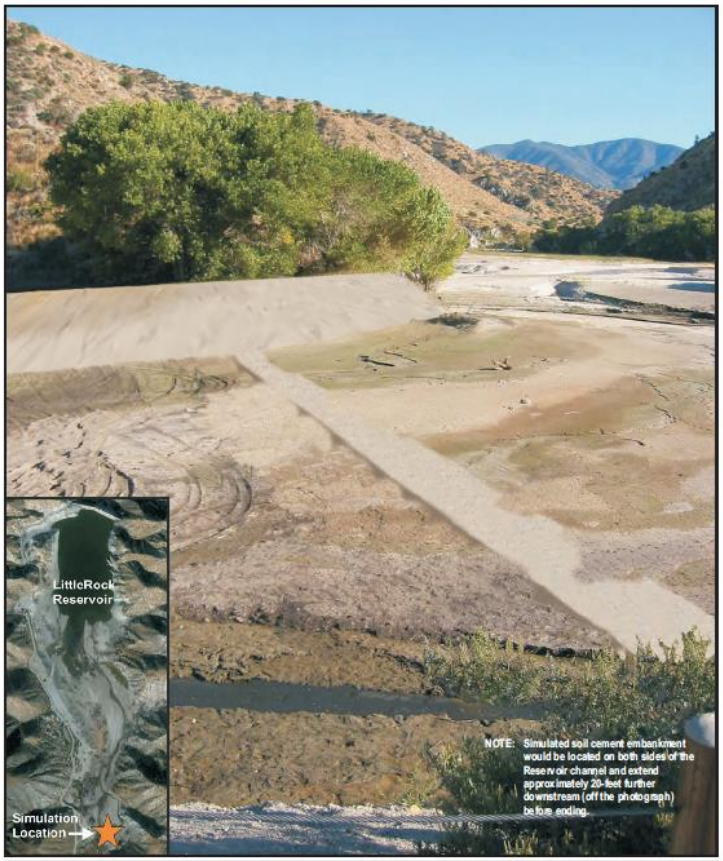
Project Overview

Removal of Reservoir Sediment

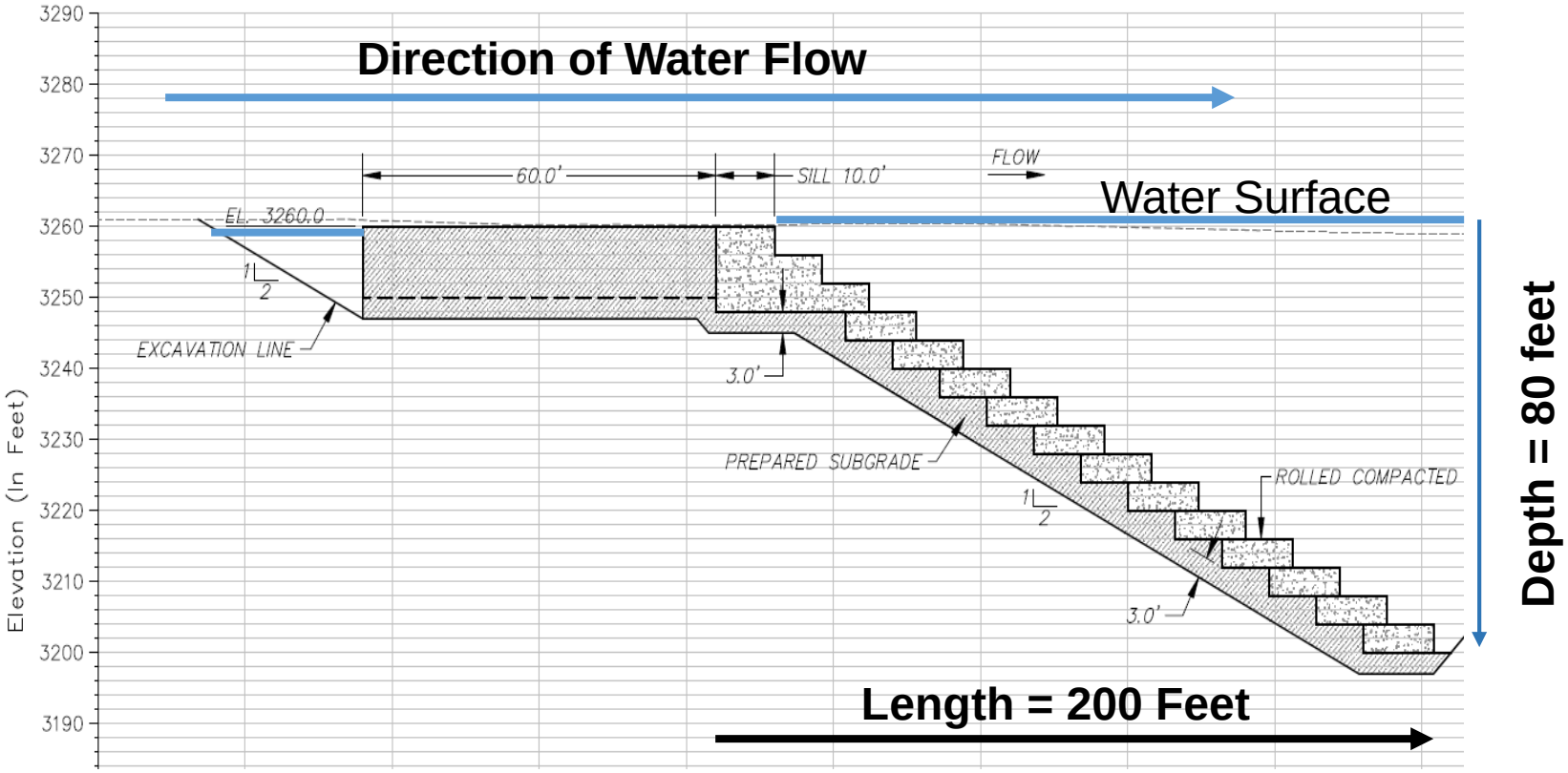
Rocky Point Grade/Erosion Control

Rocky Point Grade Control Structure

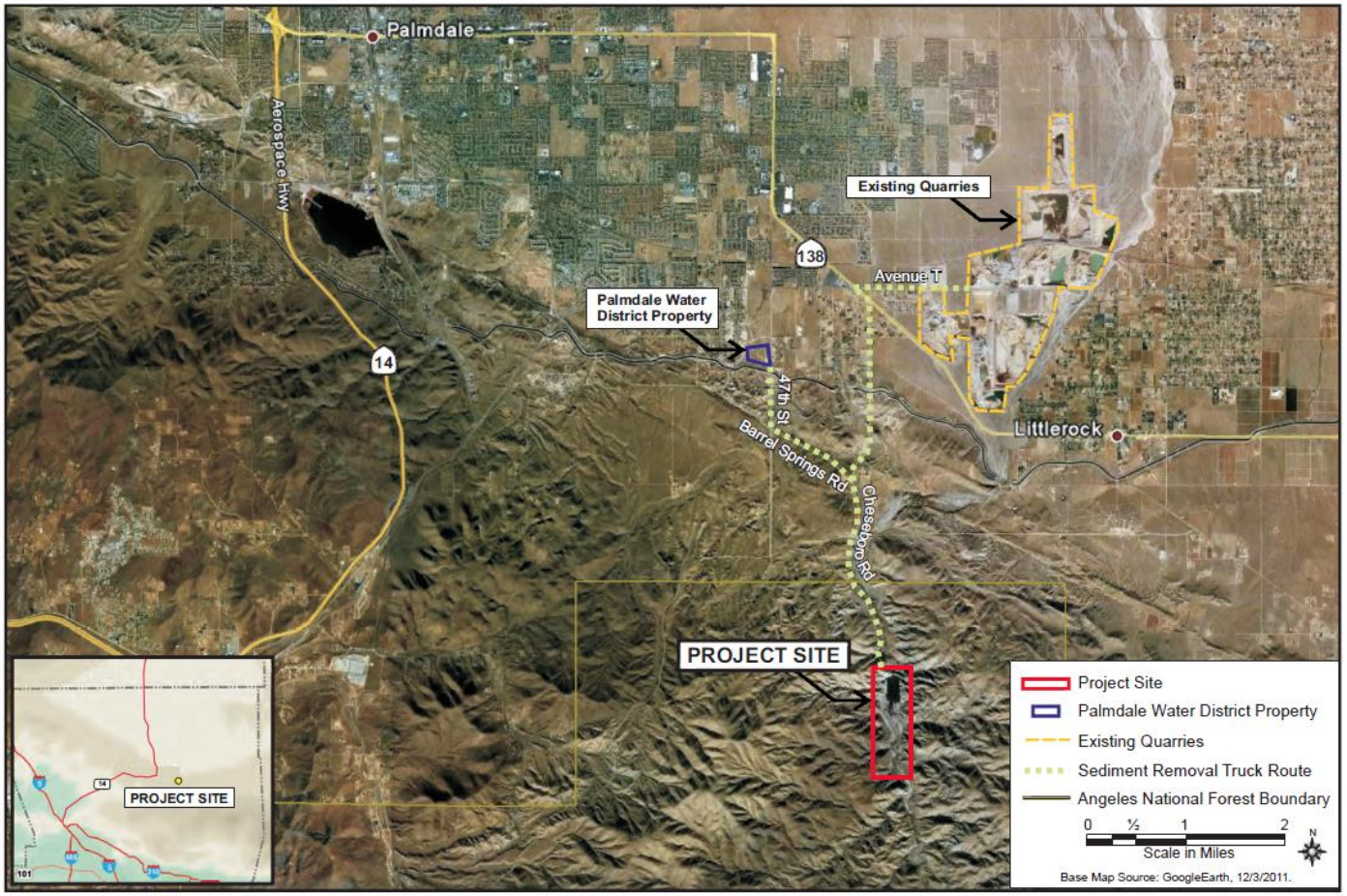
- Prevents erosion
- Protects upstream habitat of Arroyo Toad a federal listed endangered species
- Grade control will be constructed on a 2:1 slope in staircase fashion
- 6,350 cubic yards of concrete
- Stream channel bank protection requires 3,000 cubic yards of concrete



Schematic of Grade Control Structure At Rocky Point



Sediment Disposal Areas – quarrie pits and land owned by Palmdale Water District plus dump truck routes



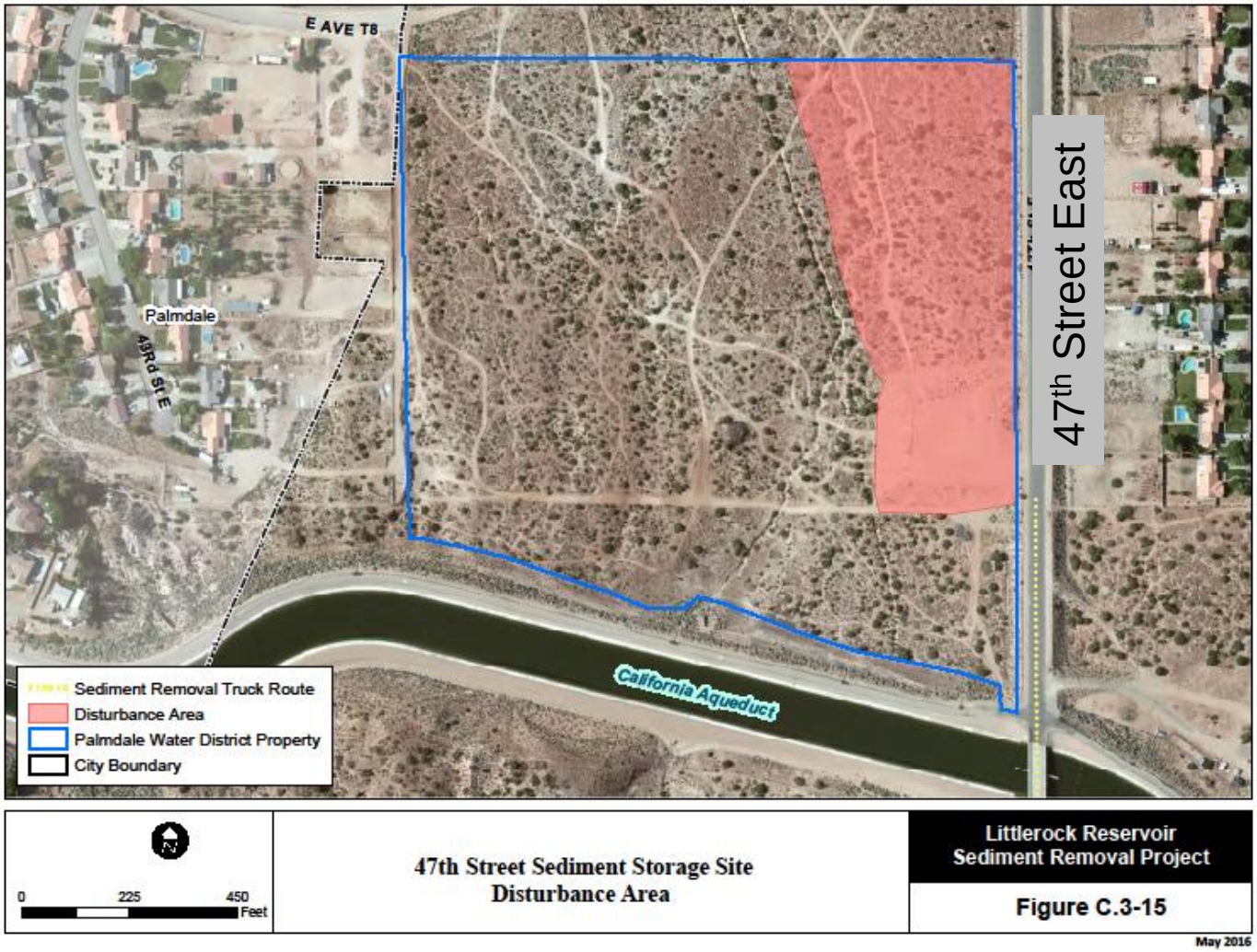
Regional Project Location and Sediment Removal Truck Routes

LITTLEROCK RESERVOIR SEDIMENT REMOVAL PROJECT

Figure B-1

May 2016

PWD – Temporary Sediment Storage



10,000 cubic yards temporary sediment storage

Sediment Disposal and Truck Traffic

Initial Removal of Sediment

- 1,165,000 cubic yards sediment
- 7 to 10 years
- Labor Day to January
- 16 dump trucks
- 240 round trips per day

Annual Removal of Sediment

- 38,000 cubic yards sediment
- Annually except in years of little streamflow and sediment
- Labor Day to January
- 6 dump trucks
- 90 round trips per day

Littlerock Reservoir
Project Overview Areas

LITTLEROCK RESERVOIR SEDIMENT REMOVAL PROJECT

Figure B-2

May 2016

Forest Service Focused Recently on:

- OHV roads and trails
- Reservoir Recreation
- Harmony between Littlerock Sediment Removal project and the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument Plan

Note: During the initial construction period PWD and Forest Service to meet prior to Labor Day to discuss the construction activities to minimize impacts on OHV and Reservoir recreation.

Project Schedule

- Draft EIS/EIR Published on May 6, 2016
  - Public meeting to be held evening of May 19, 2016 at PWD Board Room
  - 45-day public review period ends June 20, 2016
- Publish Final EIS/EIR (Fall 2016)
- USFS Completes Record of Decision (ROD) (Late 2016)
- PWD Board Decision (Late 2016)
- All Necessary Permits Obtained (Mid-2017)
- Begin Construction (Fall 2017**)**

PLAN REQUIREMENTS

- Biological Resource Plans
- Fugitive Dust Control Plan
- Traffic Control and Management Plan
- Roadway Restoration Plan
- Fire Management Plan
- Spill Response Plan

PERMITTING REQUIREMENTS

- USFS Special Use Authorization Permit
- Clean Water Act Section 401 permit from RWQCB
- CWA Section 404 permit from USACE
- Section 2081 Incidental Take Permit from CDFW
- Section 1600 Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement Permit from CDFW

Final Design and Construction

- Final Grade Control Structure Design
- Final Cost Estimate
- Funding for Construction
- Final Excavation Plan
- Contractor Selection
- Biological Pre-construction Clearance Requirements for Construction
- General Compliance Monitoring, Reporting, and Agency Coordination
- Annual Fish Removal and Reporting