

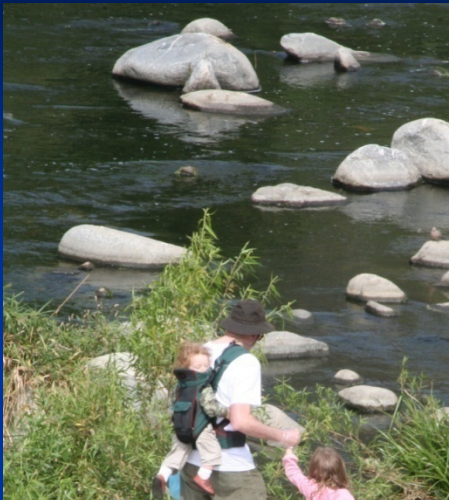
A Natural River



Swimmable, Fishable, Boatable?



Park Creation and River Use





Swimming?

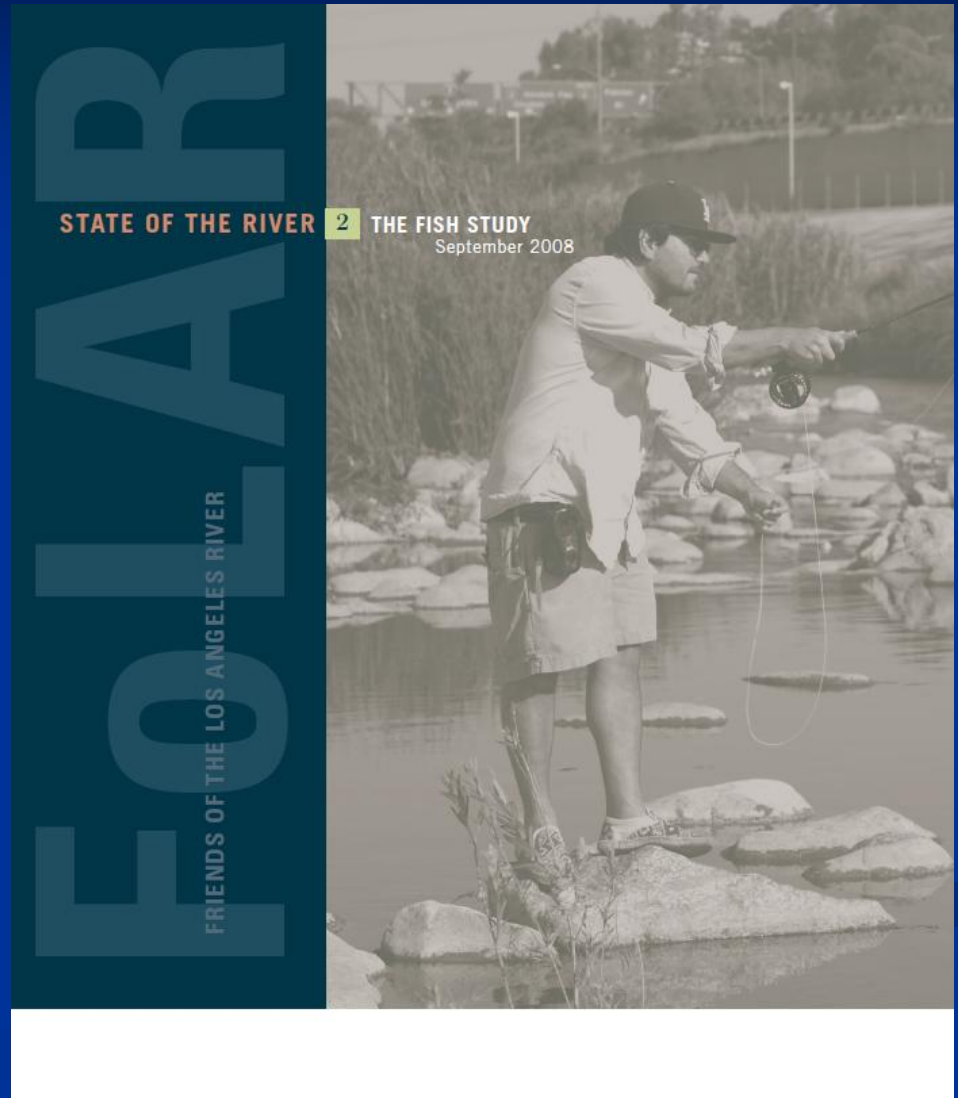


Fishing



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



Boating?



ONLY 4 Miles are Navigable

“The Los Angeles River is a flood control channel, 52 miles long, encased in cement. It is not navigable.” - Colonel Thomas Magness, U.S. Army Corps of Engineer



Los Angeles River Expedition

July 2008

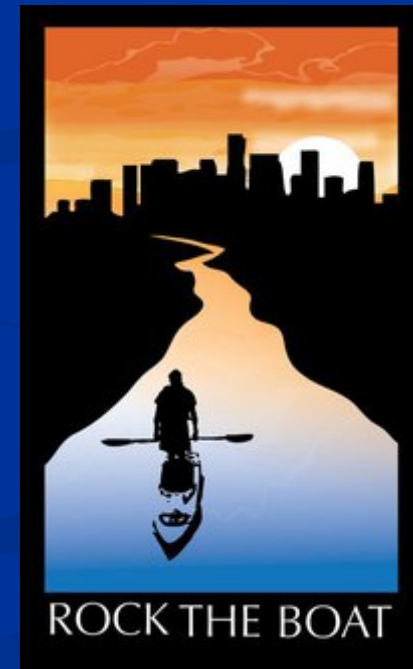
Organized by George Wolfe

No permit issued by County

Department of Public
Works

Filming permit only from

U.S. Army Corps of
Engineers



3 Day Journey



Navigating a Concrete RIVER



EPA Declares L.A. River ‘Traditional Navigable Waters’

July 8, 2010

“This is a watershed as important as any other. So we are going to build a federal partnership to empower communities like yours.... We want the L.A. River to demonstrate how urban waterways across the country can serve as assets in building stronger neighborhoods, attracting new businesses and creating new jobs.”

Lisa Jackson
US EPA Administrator



RECOMMENDATIONS FOR NEAR-TERM RECREATIONAL ACCESS AND USE OF THE LOS ANGELES RIVER

- Our overall recommendation for the long term is a policy of open public access and use of the entire Los Angeles River, compatible with essential safety considerations.
- In the near term, the policy should recognize current realities and focus on those sections of the River which are already used extensively: the Sepulveda Basin, the Glendale Narrows/Elysian Valley, and the River estuary at Long Beach.
- We urge the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the City of Los Angeles, Los Angeles County's Flood Control District, and the City of Long Beach to adopt a clear, comprehensive, uniform set of policies for recreational access and use of these River sections.



Swimming, Boating and Fishing are Still “Illegal Activities”

- ❖ Citations issued to fisher-folk are thrown out in court
- ❖ Pilot Boating Program Paddle the L.A. River pilot program 2011, 280 spaces sell out in 10 minutes!
- ❖ Paddle Program Year 2 Two permits issued, runs 7 days a week, over 2,000 people on the River in 2012



California Senate Bill 1201

- Introduced by Senator Kevin De León in February 2012 and signed by Gov. Brown on August 28, 2012

The California Legislature has established a clear policy that the Los Angeles River is to be managed for public recreational and educational purposes, as long as these purposes are not inconsistent with flood control and water conservation. In setting this policy, the legislature found that the river must be held in trust for the public and managed for public access and use.





For More Information

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