

The Corps of Engineers and the LA River:

Then and Now, from Flood Control to Ecosystem Restoration

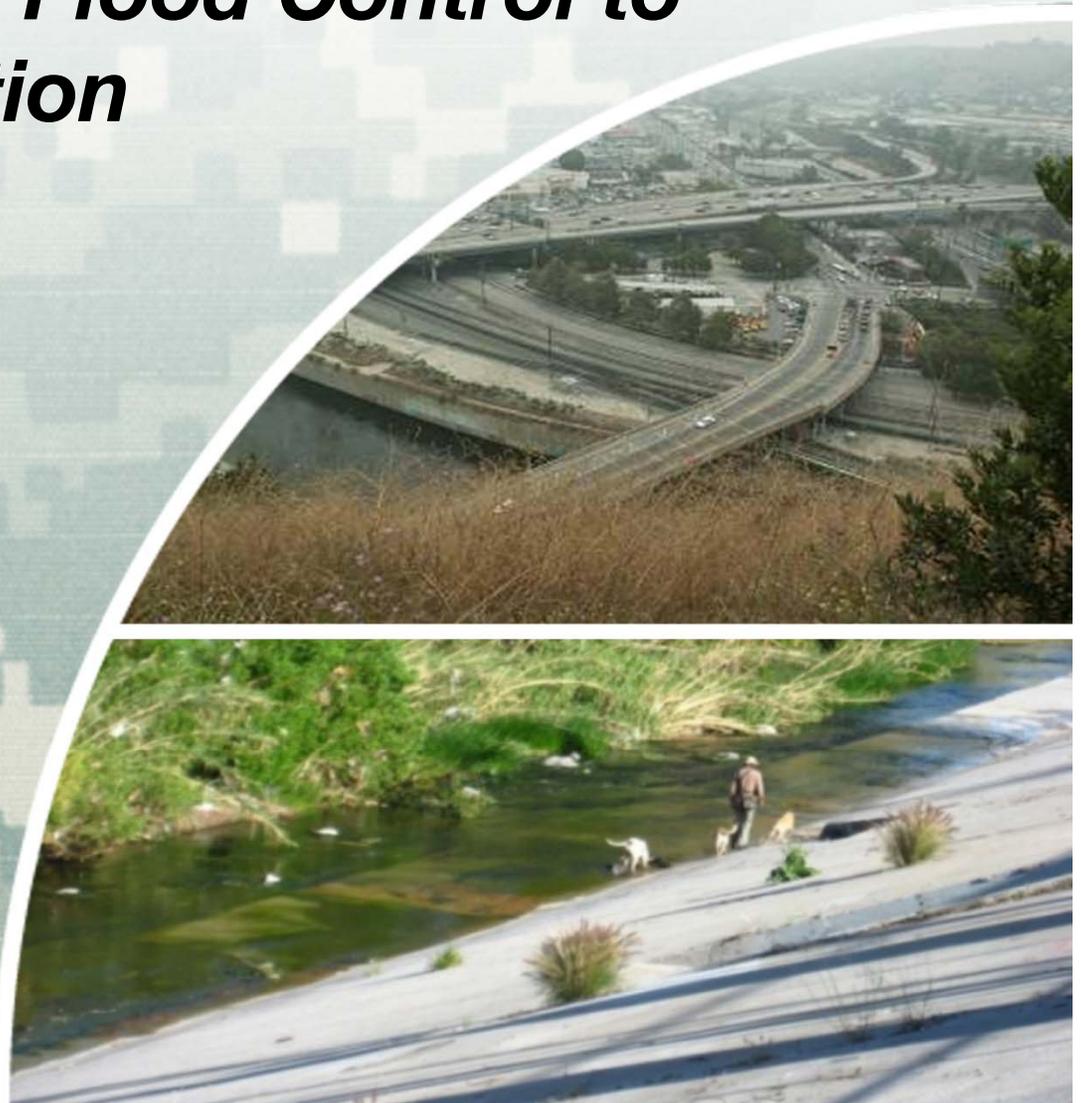
Josephine R. Axt, Ph.D.

Chief of Planning

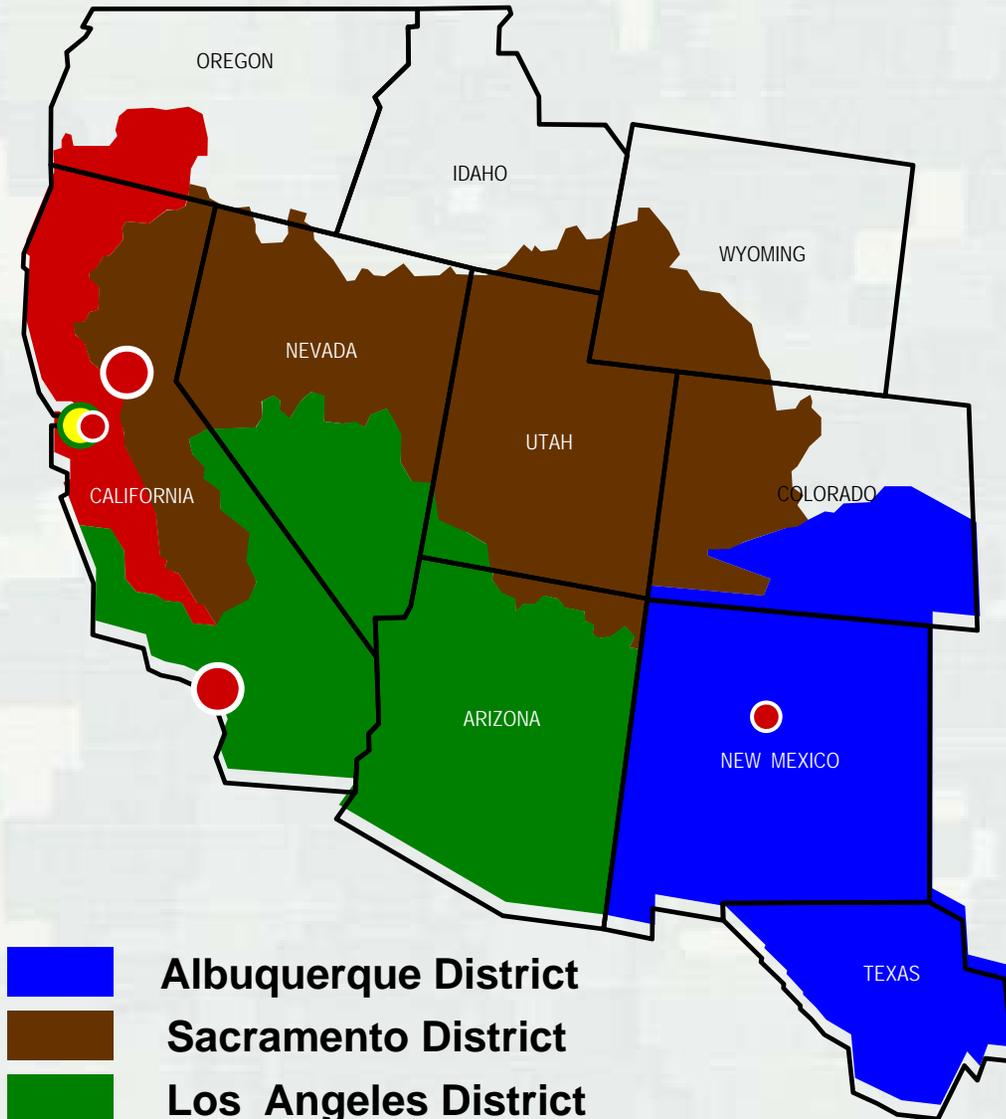
September 26, 2012



US Army Corps of Engineers
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Who are the Corps of Engineers?



General Mike Wehr, PE
Division Commander



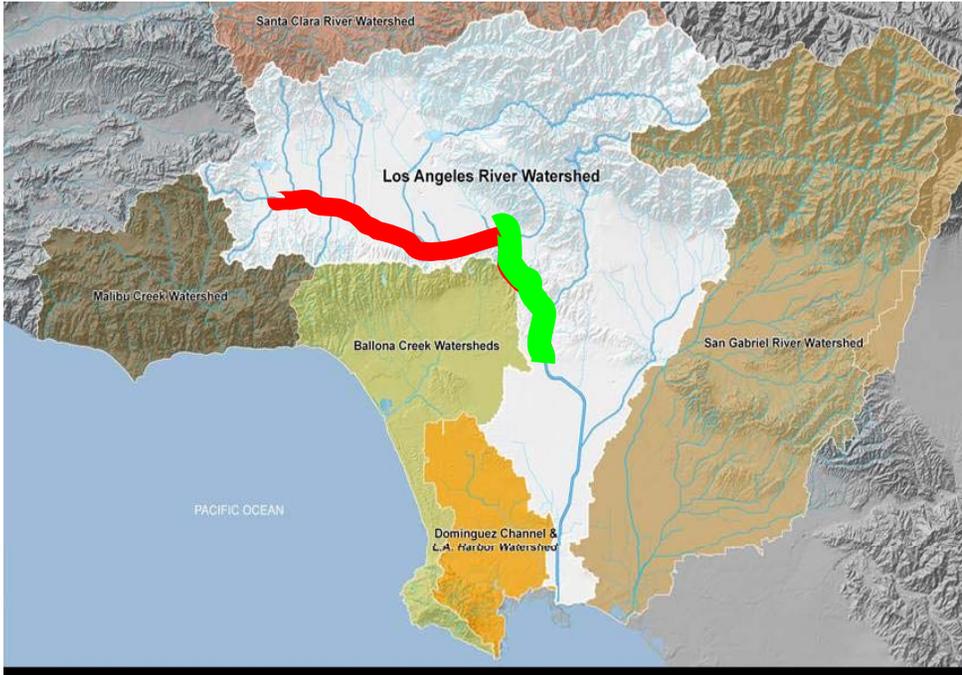
Mr. Joe Calcara
Director of Programs



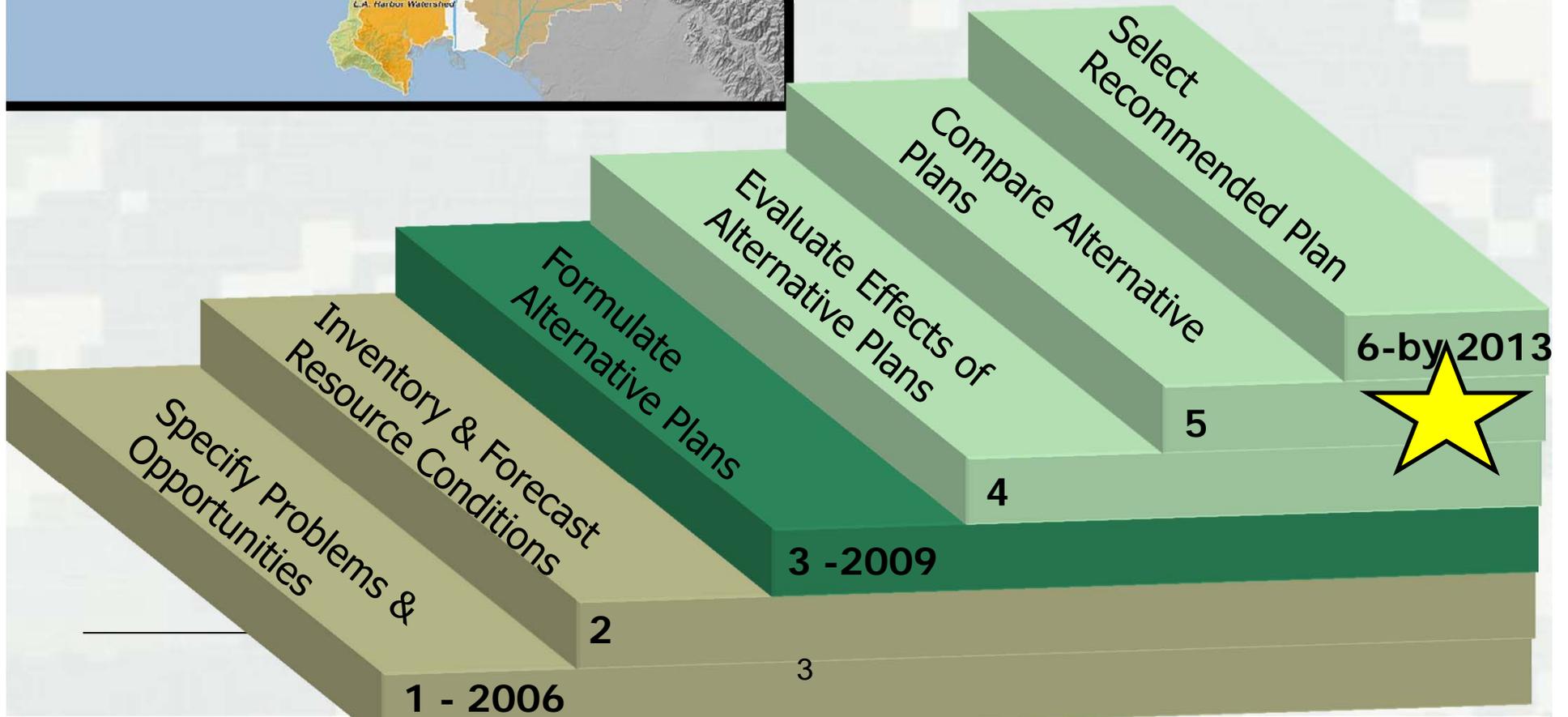
Colonel R. Mark Toy, PE
Los Angeles District Commander



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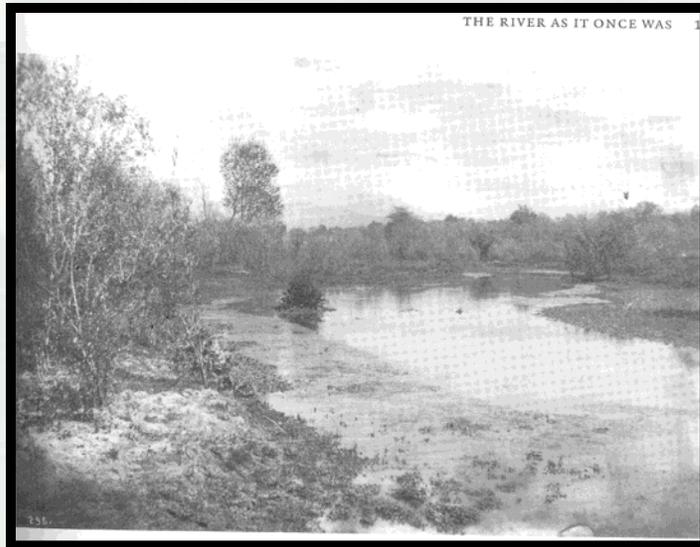


And why are they involved in the restoration of the LA River?



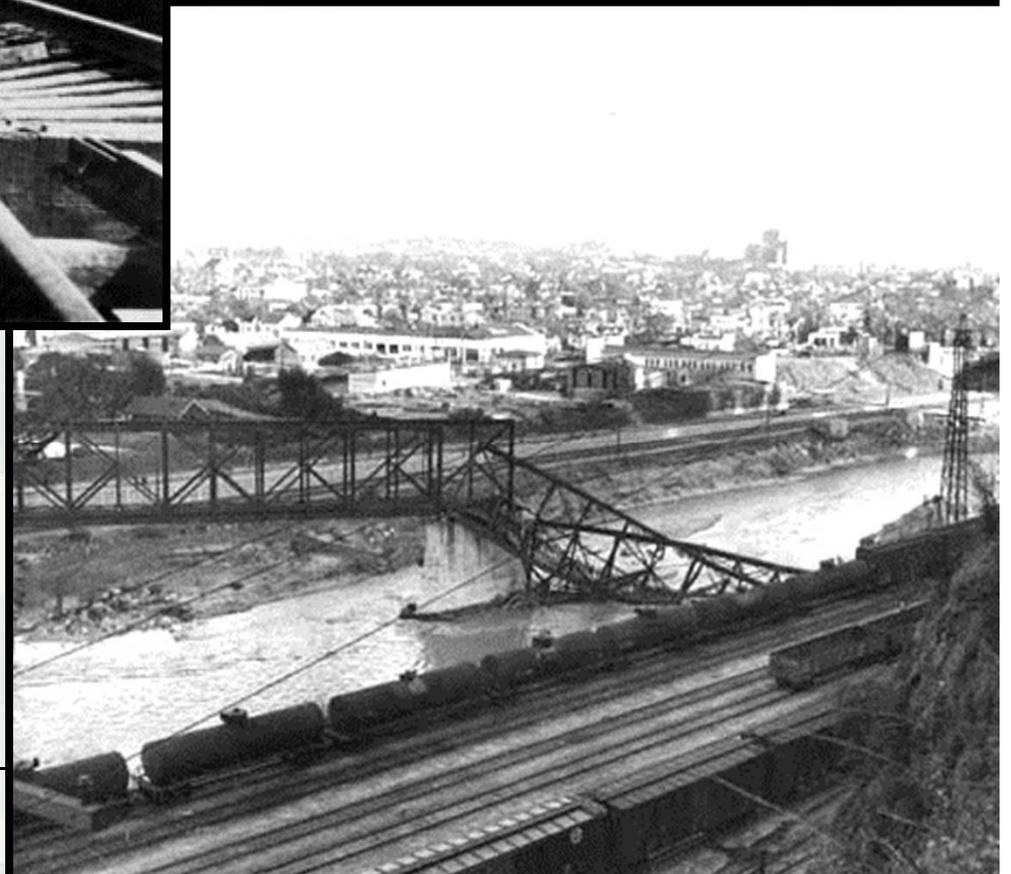


**Before;
and then...**





**1914, 1934,
1938.**





Now





Future?



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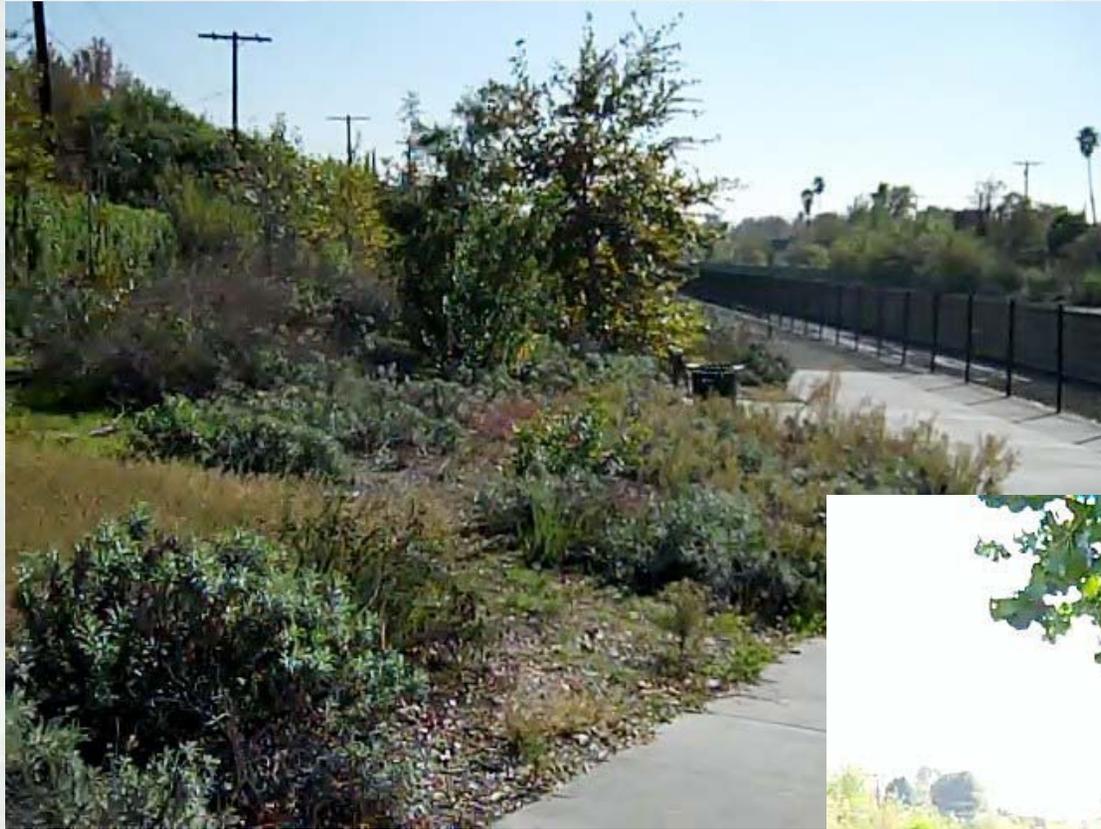
Before

**LA River Watershed
Urban Restoration**



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After

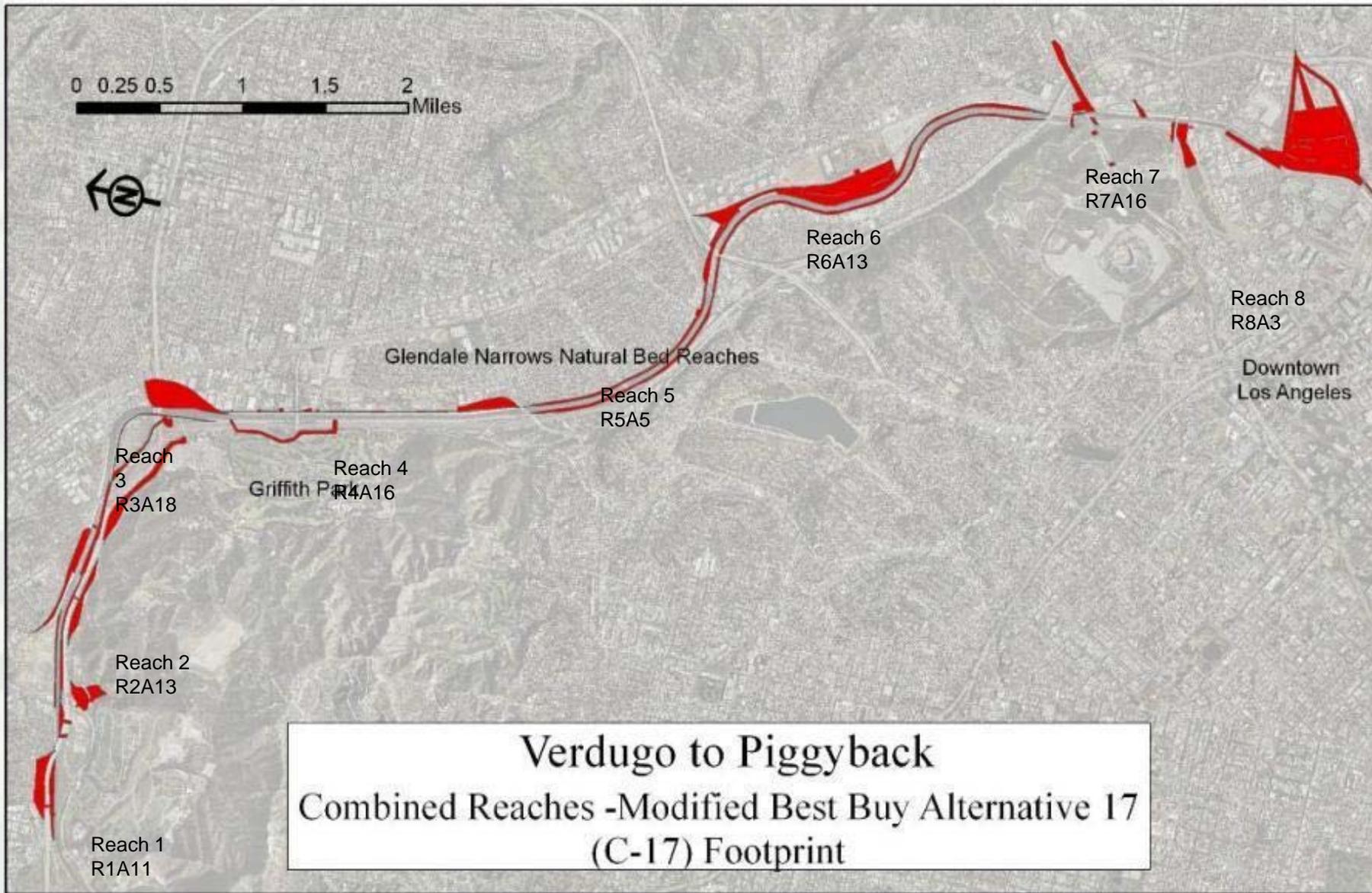


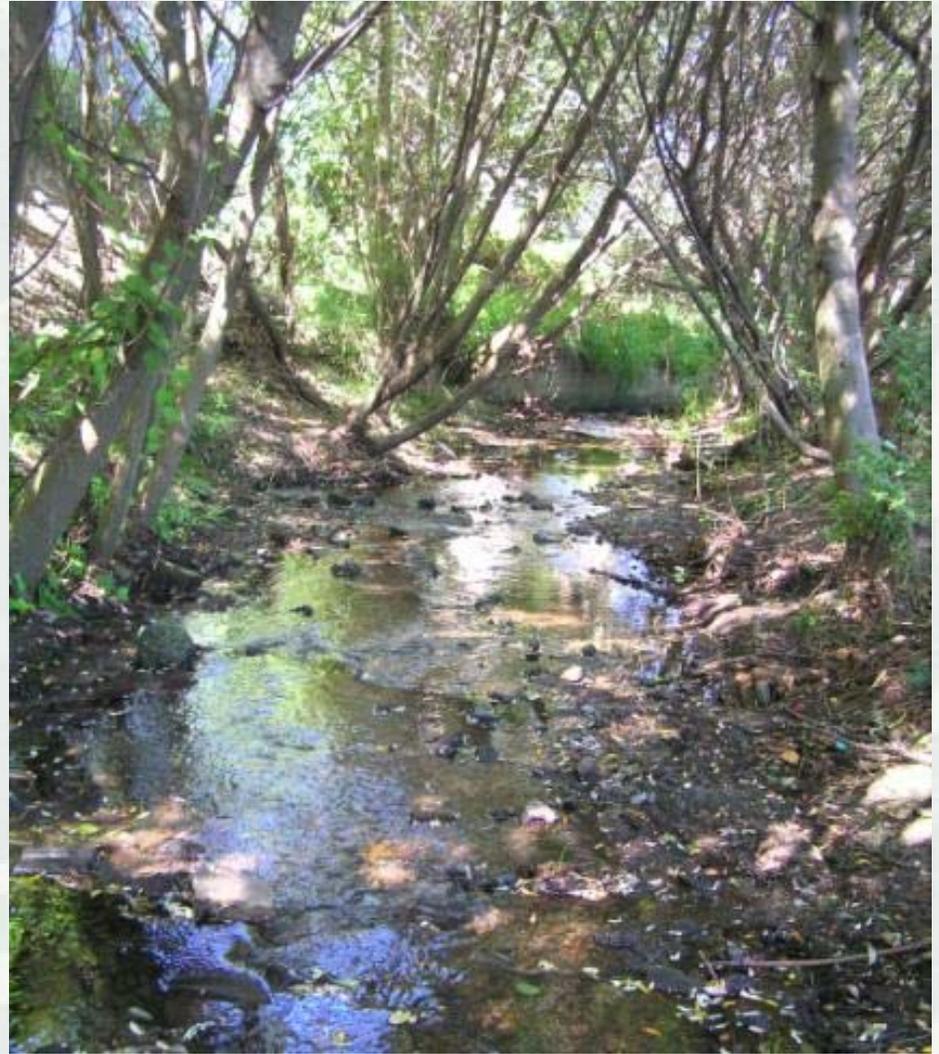
**LA River Watershed
Urban Restoration**

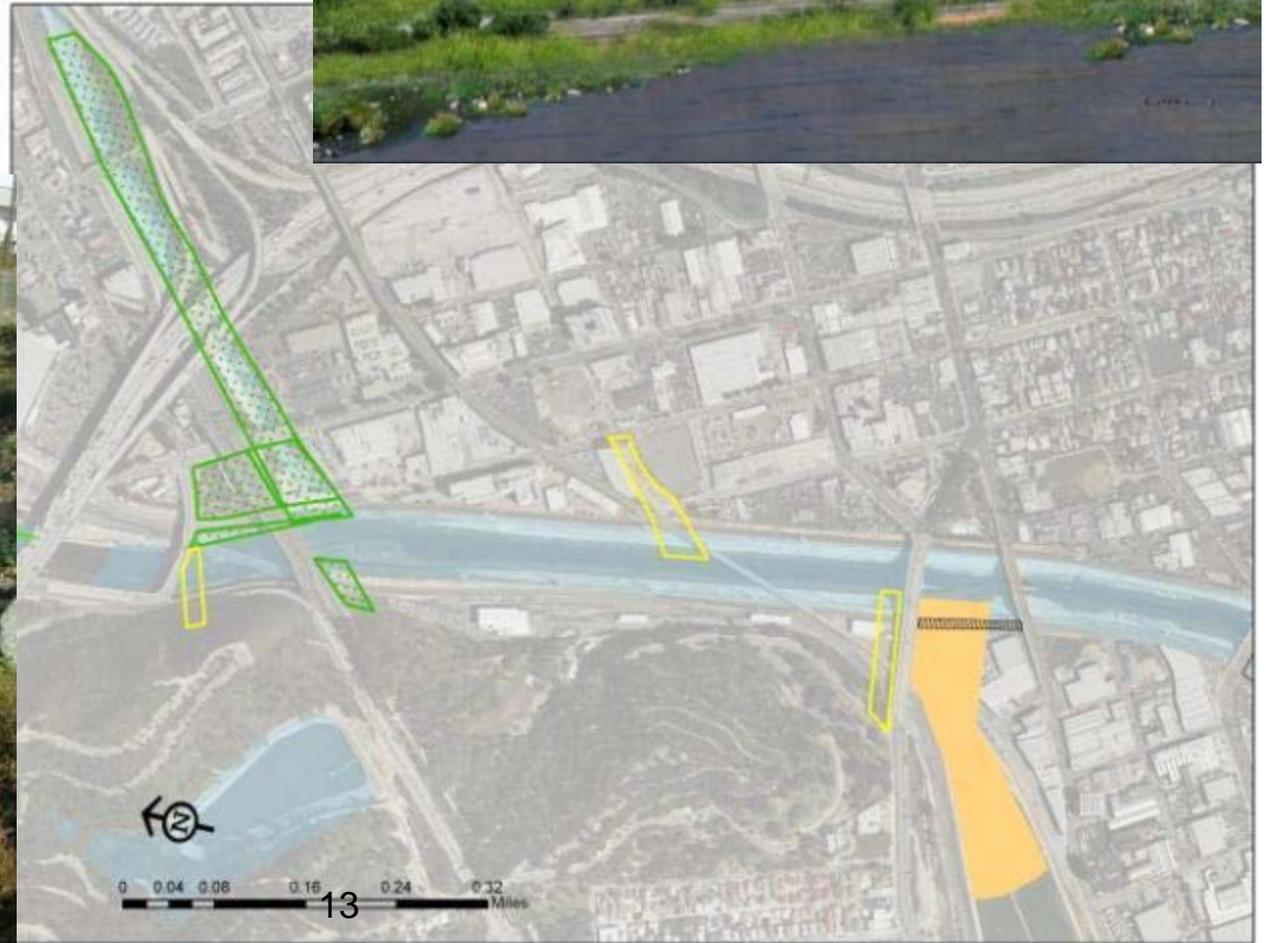
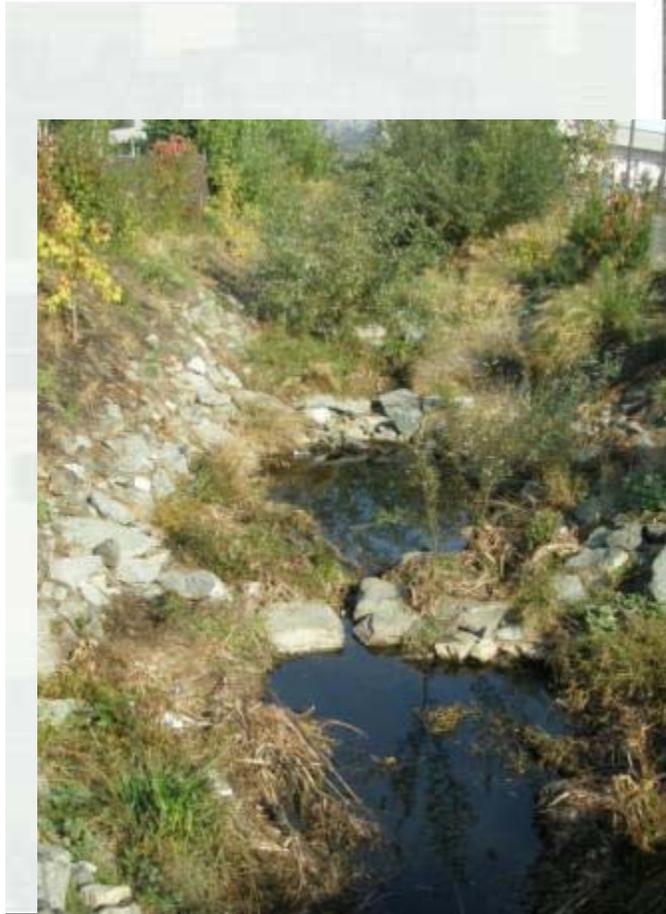
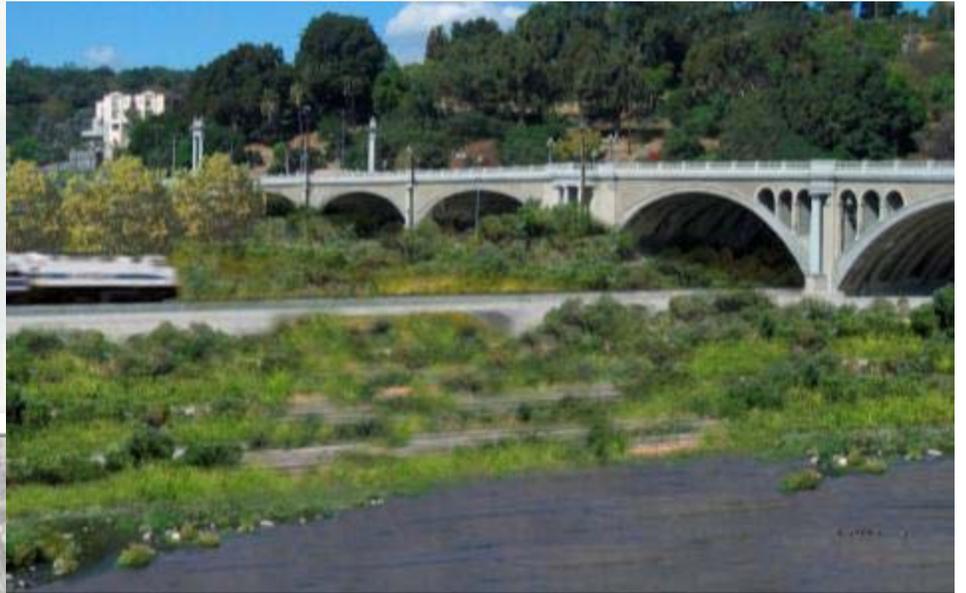
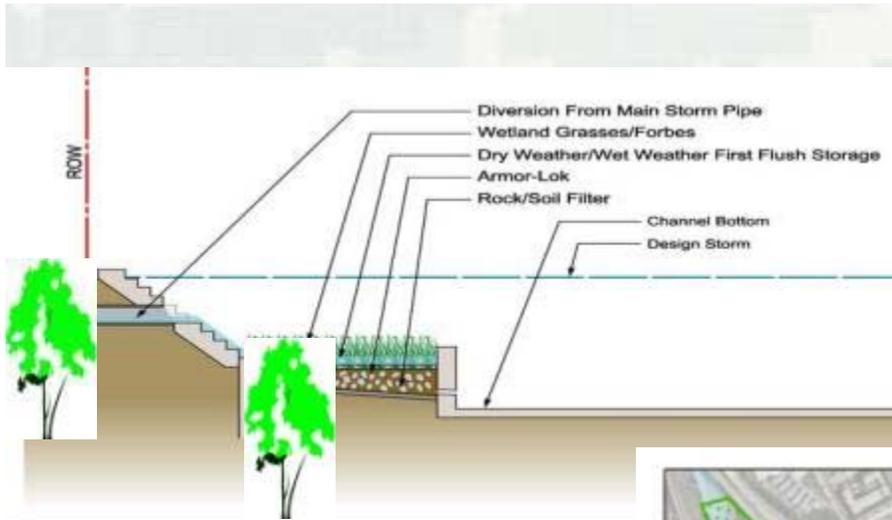
Typical Measures Under Consideration

- Remove concrete
- Widen channel
- Reshape channel to add capacity
- Terrace banks
- Slope back channel banks
- Riparian corridors
- Create side channels with riparian/wetlands habitat
- Restore tributary confluences with riparian habitat
- Bring channel bank down to river level and create riparian habitat
- Daylight storm drains and add natural confluence with the river
- storm water treatment wetlands
- Connect to green streets with freshwater marsh
- Restructure channel banks and vegetate
- Add overhanging vines to top edge of channel banks
- Create backwater wetlands
- Deepen channel
- Lower channel banks
- Provide setback levees











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Study Schedule

- Reconnaissance Study
 - ❖ initiated May 2003
 - ❖ completed Sept 2003
- Feasibility Study initiated April 2006
- FSM Nov 2007
- AFB scheduled for December 2012
- CWRB scheduled for June 2013
- Initiative design – 2014?
- Proceed into construction – 2017?



Questions?





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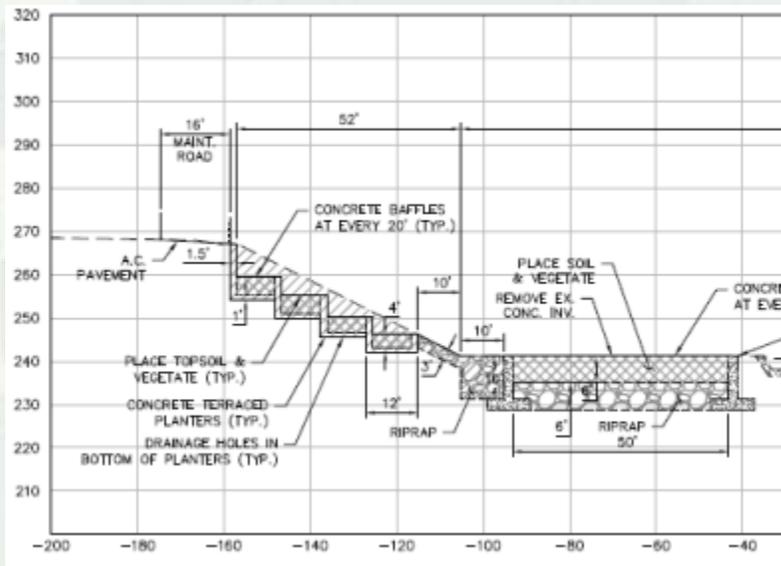
Cheonggyecheon, South Korea



**“The project has proven catalytic,
spurring economic growth and
development in an area of Seoul that
had languished over
the last several decades.”**



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