

URBAN WATERS

FEDERAL
PARTNERSHIP

LOS ANGELES
RIVER
PILOT

Urban Waters Federal Partnership

Vision, Mission & Principles

“We believe a deeper connection to local water bodies can bring a new cycle of community hope and energy that will lead to **healthier urban waters**, improved **public health**, strengthened **local businesses**, and new jobs as well as expanded **educational, recreational, housing, and social opportunities.**”



Urban Waters Federal Partnership

Agencies

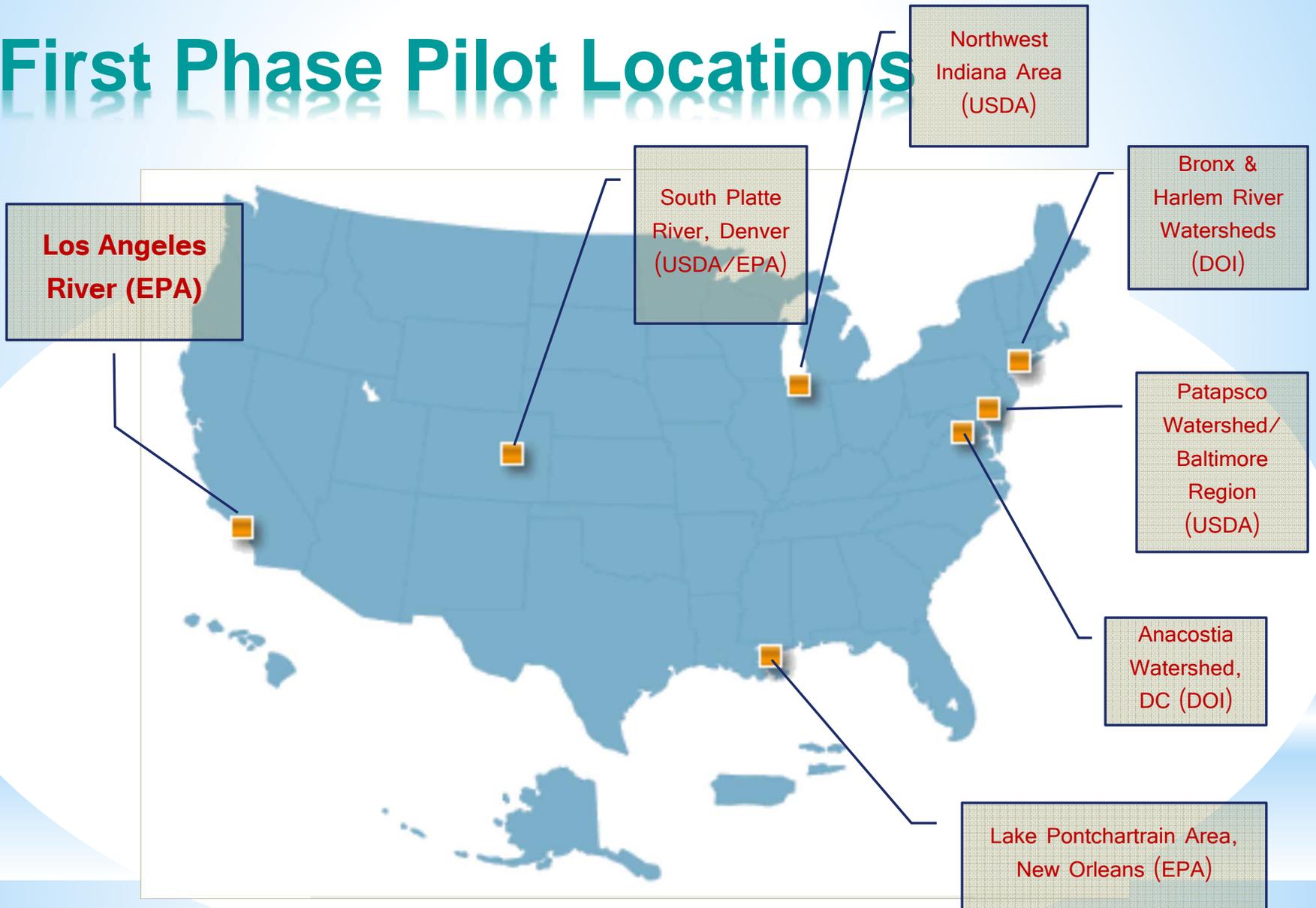
Guiding Principles

- ❖ Promote Clean Urban Waters
- ❖ Reconnect People to their Waterways
- ❖ Water Conservation
- ❖ Urban Water Systems for Economic Revitalization
- ❖ Active Partnerships
- ❖ Listen to the Community
- ❖ Measuring Sustainable & Systemic Improvement

EPA
USDA
DOI
HUD
DOT
USACE
NOAA
EDA
CDC
NIEHS
CNCS
USDEd
DOE



First Phase Pilot Locations



Federal Partnership Pilots

Pilot Selection Process

- ❖ Nominated by agencies' field offices
- ❖ Criteria included:
 - *Agency willing to lead*
 - *Multiple federal agencies already engaged*
 - *Underserved and distressed communities*
 - *Active state, local and community partners*
- ❖ Also considered: *Geographic diversity*

Federal Agency Commitment

- ❖ Provide coordinated federal support to communities with existing resources
- ❖ Learn by working together on the ground; inform programs & policies



The Case for the Los Angeles River Urban Waters Pilot

Graffiti...
Crime...

What
River?

Industrial,
Concrete
Trench

Divides my
Community

I see
Freeways,
Trains, Freight

"3-Headed
Frog"

- Historic, Iconic
- Defining Land Use
 - Flood Control/Safety
 - Water Conservation and Watershed Health
- Disconnected/Disadvantaged Communities
- THE NEW PARADIGM

LA River Watershed Partnership

Federal Participants

- ❖ Bureau of Reclamation
- ❖ National Park Service
- ❖ Corps of Engineers
- ❖ Fish & Wildlife Service
- ❖ Federal Railway Administration
- ❖ Forest Service
- ❖ National Weather Service
- ❖ USGS
- ❖ HUD



LA River Watershed Partnership

Non Federal Participants

- ❖ City of LA
- ❖ City of Long Beach
- ❖ City of Signal Hill
(for Gateway Cities)
- ❖ LA County FCD
- ❖ MRCA
- ❖ RMC
- ❖ Coastal Conservancy
- ❖ LA RWQCB
- ❖ Tree People
- ❖ Council for Watershed Health
- ❖ Trust for Public Land
- ❖ LA River Revitalization Corp
- ❖ LA River Expeditions
- ❖ Arroyo Seco Foundation
- ❖ Friends of the LA River
- ❖ Urban Semillas
- ❖ The River Project



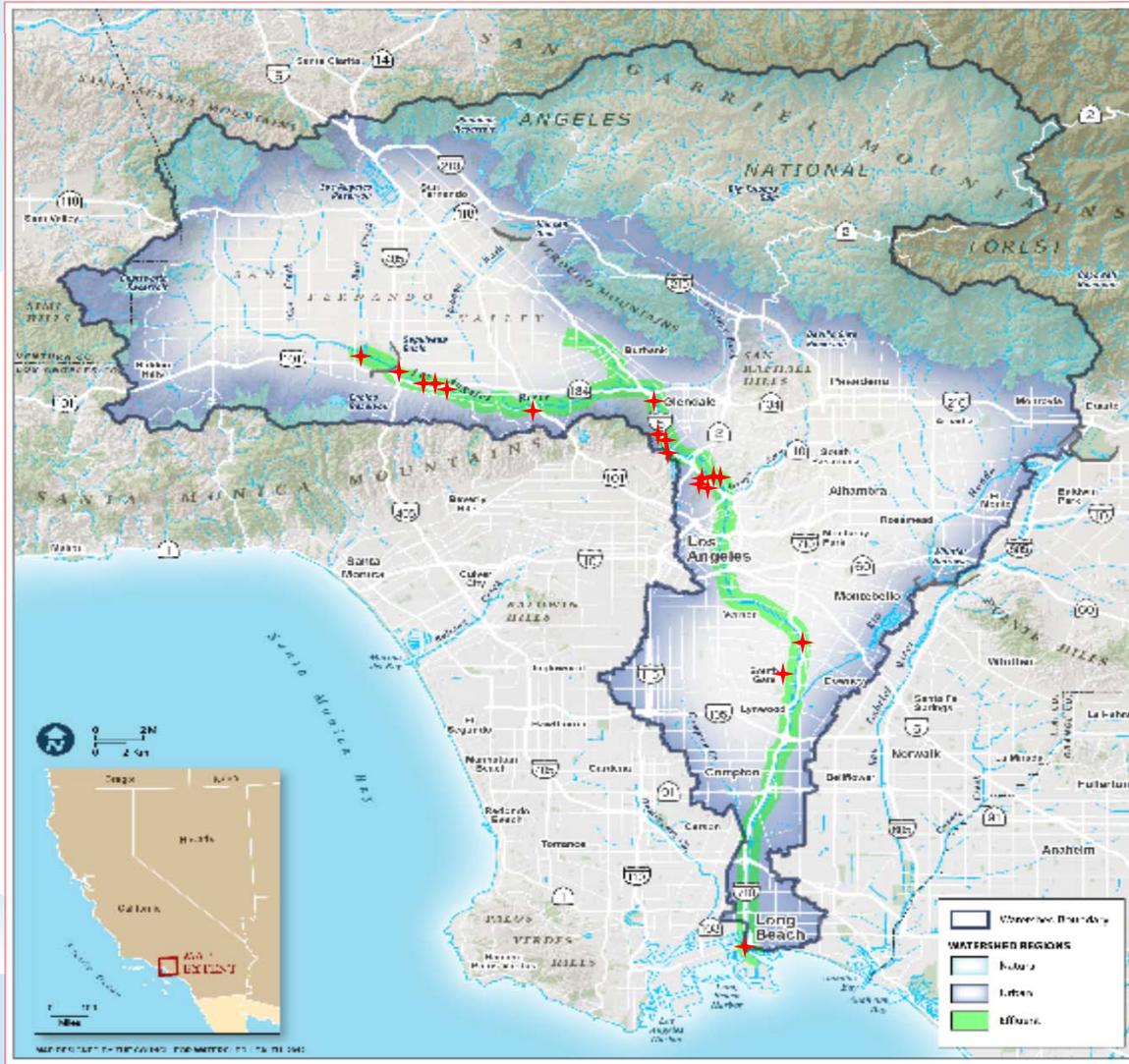
LA River Watershed Partnership

LA Watershed Goals

- Restore Ecosystem Functions
- Balance Revitalization + Flood Avoidance for Public Safety
- Reduce reliance on Imported Water
- Foster Sustainable Stewardship



Geographic Distribution



Partnership Work Plan – LA City Projects

Capacity/Planning	LA River Corps	LA, Conservation Corps
Capacity/Planning	NELA Sustainability Challenge Grant	HUD, LA-CDD, LA-Planning
Regulatory	LA Co Municipal Storm-water Permit Renewal	Water Quality Control, EPA

New Constr/Rehab	North Atwater Bridge/La Kretz	USACE, NPS, LARRC
New Constr/Rehab	Pacoima Wash Greenway	MRCA, NPS



Partnership Work Plan – LA City Projects

Feasibility Study	LA Basin Stormwater Conservation	USBoR, LACFCD
Feasibility Study	LA River Ecosystem Restoration	USACE, LA-Eng
Feasibility Study	Arroyo Seco Watershed Ecosystem	USACE, LACFCD
Feasibility Study	Headworks Ecosystem Restoration	USACE, FOLAR, USFWS
Feasibility Study	Sepulveda Basin Concrete Removal	USACE, River Proj
Feasibility Study	Sun Valley Watershed	LACFCD, USACE, USBoR
Study-Other	Indicators of Watershed Health	CWH, EPA
Study-Other	Station Fire Restoration/Research	USFS, National Forest Foundation



Partnership Work Plan – LA City Projects

New Construction/ Rehab	Hansen Dam Campground (Tujunga Wash)	USACE, LA-Parks/Rec
New Construction/ Rehab	South LA Wetlands Park	LA, EPA, Water Quality Control
Restoration	North Atwater Creek	LA, EPA, Water Quality Control
Restoration	Tujunga Wash Greenway	USACE, MRCA



Partnership Work Plan – Regional Projects

New Construction/ Rehab	Parque Dos Rios/Southgate Park	NPS, South Gate, RMC
Feasibility Study	E. San Pedro Bay Ecosystem Restoration	USACE, Long Beach
Engagement	High Speed Rail - Palmdale to LA	EPA, DOT
Engagement	710 Expansion	EPA, Metro, DOT, Gateway Cities, LA, FOLAR



LA River Watershed Partnership

Next Steps

- ❖ Building the network of partners and stakeholders for Work Plan projects
- ❖ Prioritize where Federal engagement can add the most value and identify opportunities to connect “stovepipes”
- ❖ Strategize how to leverage funding
- ❖ Identify accomplishments and build momentum for New River Paradigm



Outcomes



Contacts

Pilot Lead:

John Kemmerer

Associate Director

Water Division

U.S. EPA Region 9

Kemmerer.john@epa.gov

213-244-1832

Pauline Louie

Urban Waters

Watershed Ambassador

Pauline@WatershedHealth.org

213-229-9947/

202-489-1056

Learn more at:

www.urbanwaters.gov

