

# **LITTLE ROCK RESERVOIR SEDIMENT REMOVAL**

**Status Update  
March 8, 2017**

# Terminology

**NEPA** - National Environmental Policy Act (1969)

**CEQA** - California Environmental Quality Act (1970)

**CWA** – Clean Water Act (1972)

**ESA** - Federal Endangered Species Act (1973)

**EIS** – Environmental Impact Statement (Federal)

**EIR** – Environmental Impact Report (California)

**Public Review** – time periods set by federal or state law for public to review and comment on project

**ROD** – Record of Decision

# **Project Purpose and Need**

- **Remove sediment that has accumulated within the Reservoir over time to restore and maintain water storage capacity and flood control design**
- **Prevent disturbance upstream of Rocky Point to preserve critical habitat of arroyo toad, a federally-listed endangered species**

# Alternatives Analyzed

- **Proposed Project**
  - Initial sediment removal 7 to 12 years
- **Alternative 1**
  - Environmentally Superior Alternatives (CEQA)
  - Reduced Yearly Sediment Removal Volume (would take 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.

# **Alternatives Considered but Eliminated**

- **Slurry Excavation**
- **Forest Service Side Canyon**
- **Disposal Sites**
- **Raising the Spillway**

# What is the Proposed Project

- **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**

# Construction Components

## 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



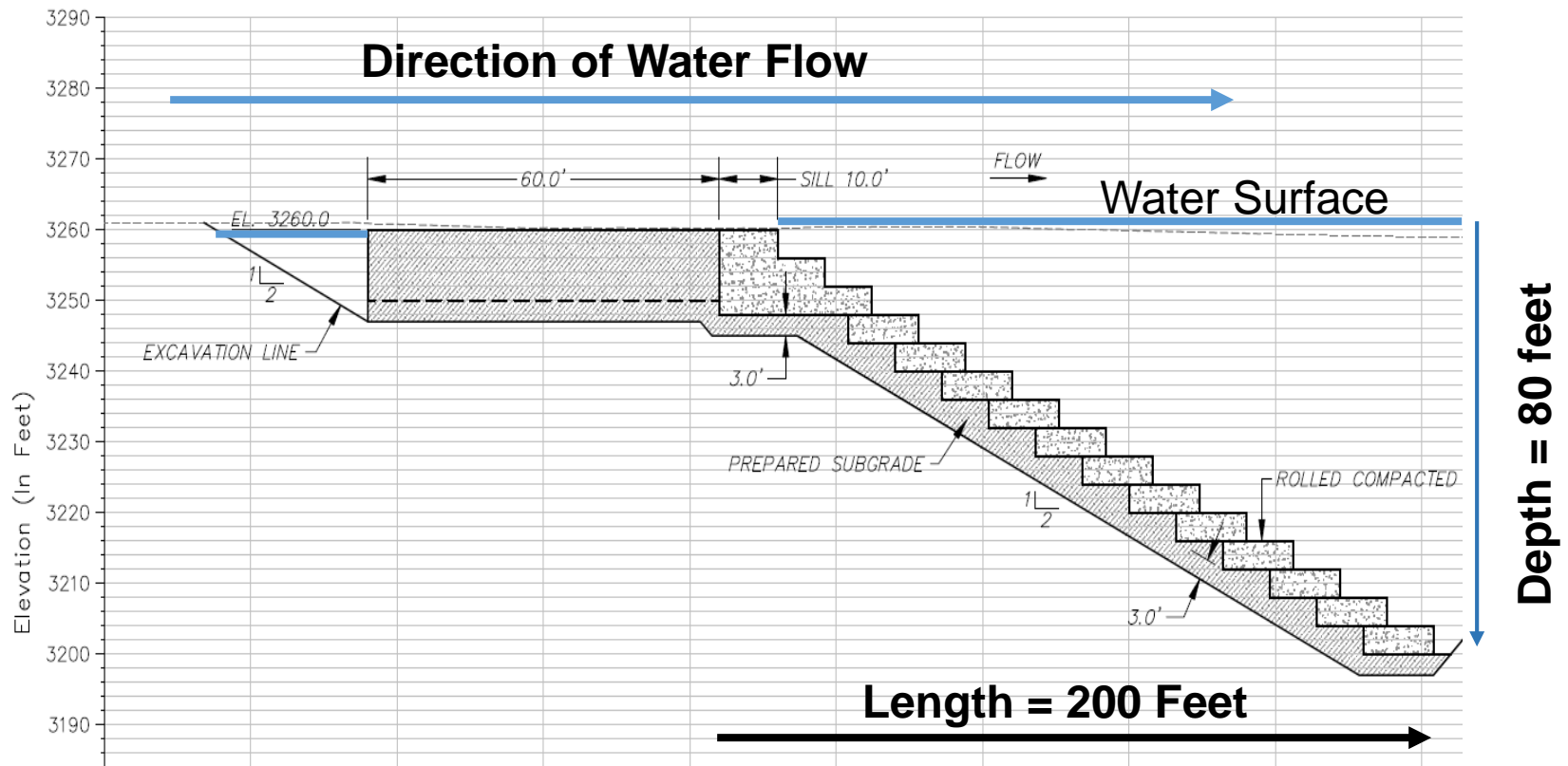
Grade Control Structure Surface  
Visual Simulation

LITTLE ROCK RESERVOIR  
SEDIMENT REMOVAL PROJECT

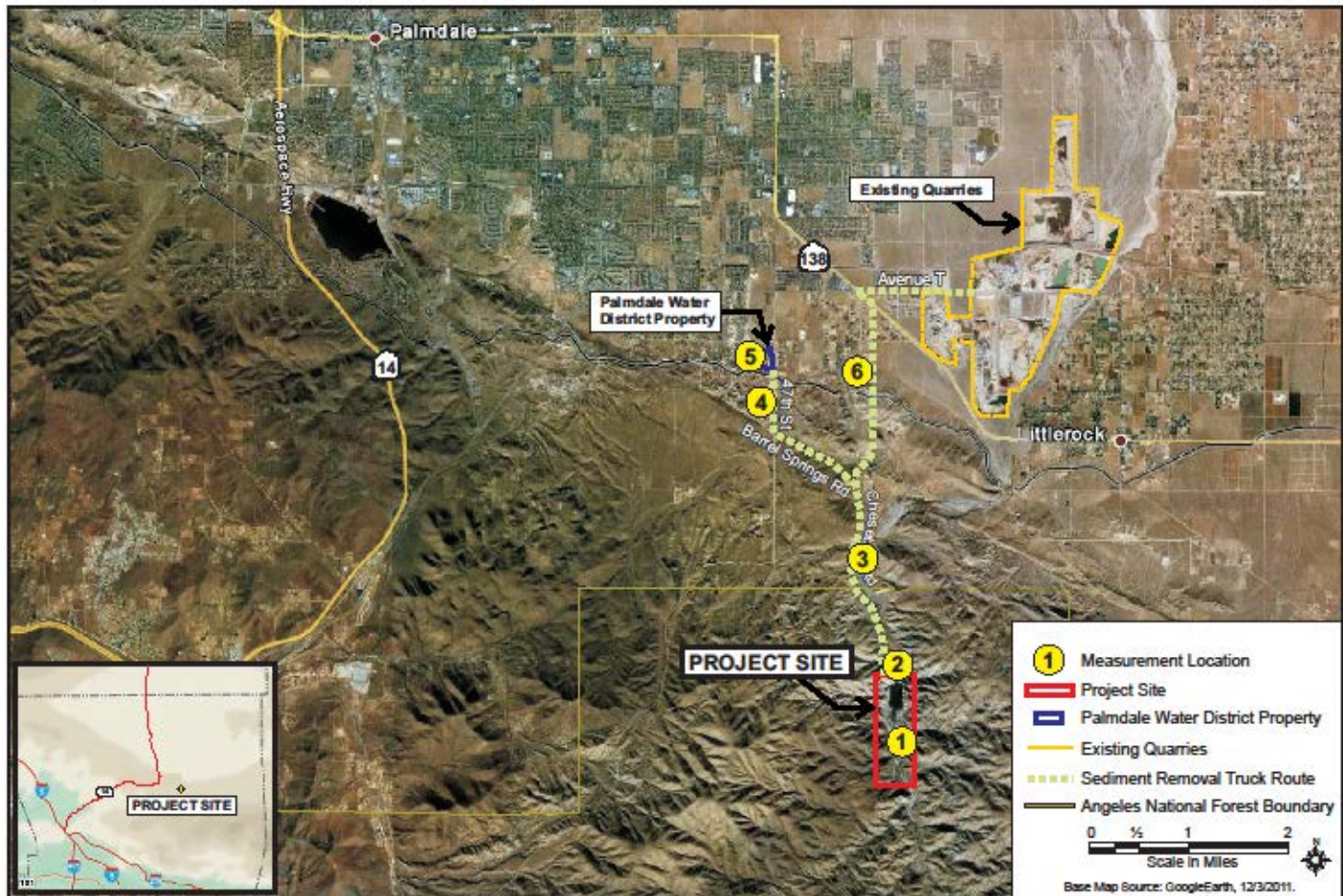
Figure B-5



# Schematic of Grade Control Structure At Rocky Point



# Sediment Disposal Areas – quarry pits and land owned by Palmdale Water District



Ambient Noise Measurement Locations

LITTLE ROCK RESERVOIR  
SEDIMENT REMOVAL PROJECT

Figure C.8-1

# Sediment Disposal and Truck Traffic

## Initial Removal of Sediment

- 1,165,000 cubic yards sediment
- 7 to 12 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

# Project Schedule

- **Draft EIR/EIS public review ended (6/30/16)**
- **Start of USFS Objection Process (2/17/17)**
- **PWD Board to consider certification of EIR (3/22/17)**
- **End of 45-Day Objection Period (4/3/17)**
- **USFS sign Final ROD (Spring-2017)**
- **Funding for Construction of Grade Control (Summer-2017)**
- **All Necessary Permits Obtained (Fall-2017)**
- **Begin Construction of Grade Control (Fall-2017)**

# **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**

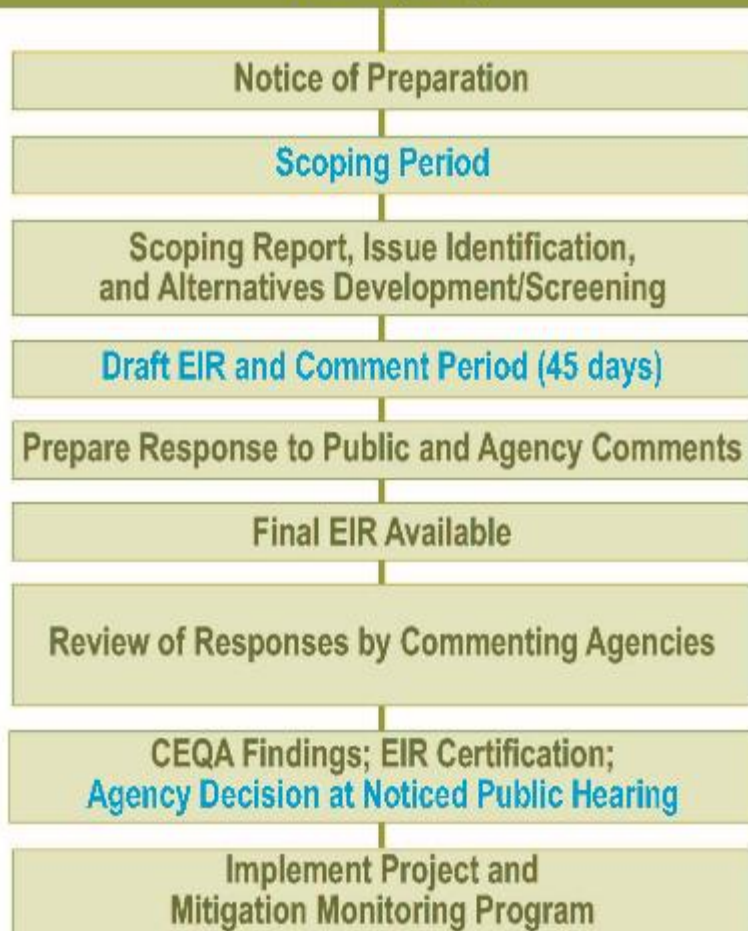




## CEQA/NEPA Environmental Review Processes



### CEQA (EIR)



### NEPA (EIS)

