

# Los Angeles River and Arroyo Seco Sewer Projects



# Sycamore Grove Park

(aka Figueroa St. Low Flow Diversion Project)



# Historic View of Highland Park

---

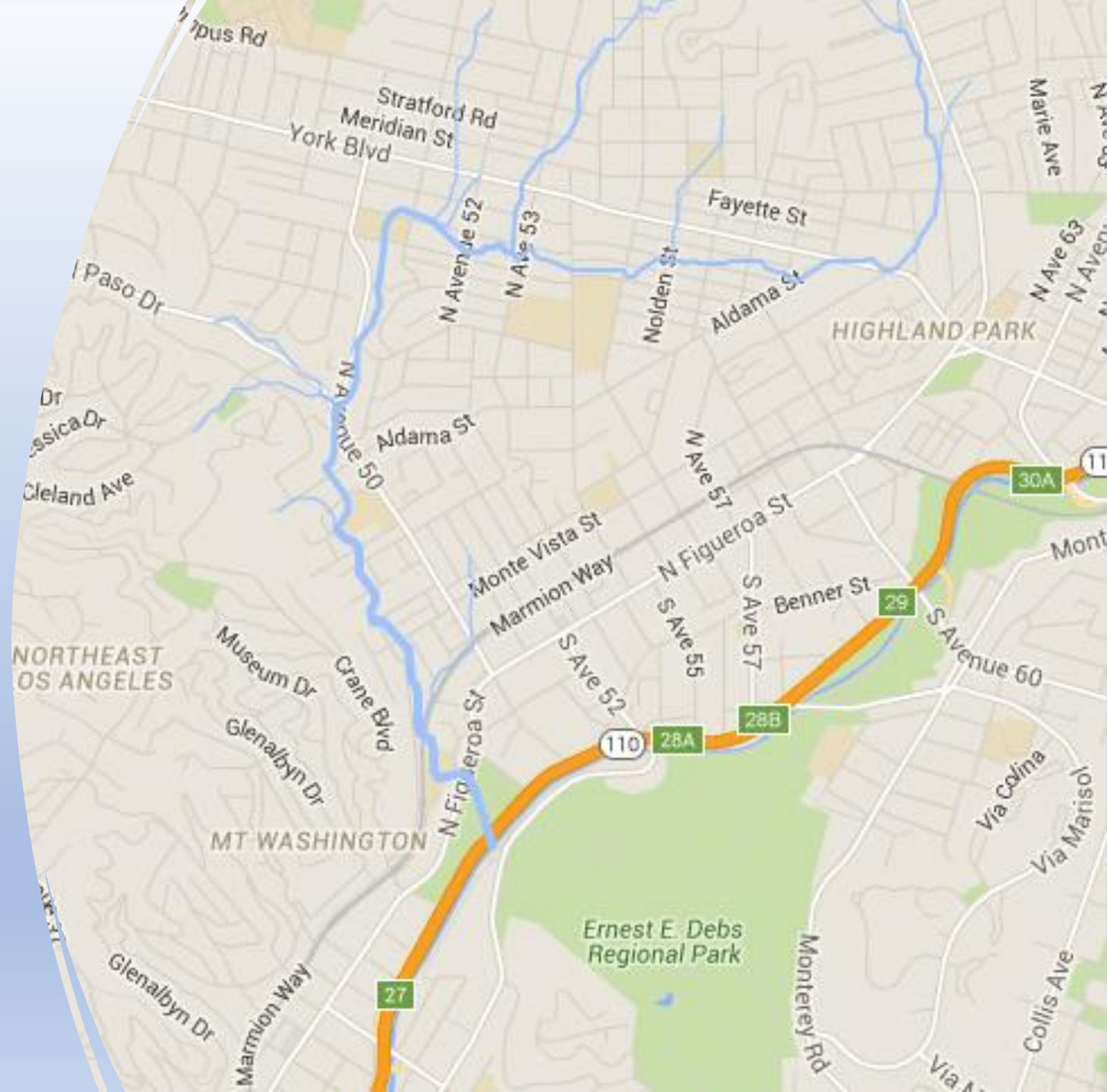
- The Arroyo Seco and the North Branch were treasures of early Highland Park, Los Angeles' first suburb.





# The North Branch

- The most important urban tributary of the Arroyo Seco.
- Drained virtually all of Highland Park
- Home to trout and other species
- Listed in numerous studies as a prime candidate for stream restoration
  - AS Watershed Study
  - LA County Flood Control District
  - USACE Arroyo Seco Ecosystem Restoration Study
  - AS Watershed Assessment
  - Upper LA River & Tributaries Report
- Stream Spirit Rising - 2004





# A Regional Treasure

- *This little river had a good stream of water flowing down it even in the driest seasons and was full of mountain trout and catfish even up as far as York Boulevard. I myself have seen boys pulling fish weighing half a pound as far north as North Avenue 51 and Buchanan Streets. The North Branch from Springvale Drive to Meridian Street flowed through a beautiful little glen about 40 feet deep and 200 feet wide in places, which was full of most beautiful ferns. Along the banks of the stream were hundreds of fine old oak and sycamore trees.*

- Charles Elder



The Lily Pond  
in Sycamore  
Grove Park



# Current



***The stream is not a waste product.***



# Arroyo Seco Reach 1

**Table 3.10-2.** Summary of Arroyo Seco River Reach 1 Section 303(d) Listed Pollutants and TMDLs

<b>Pollutant</b>	<b>Pollutant Potential Source</b>	<b>First Year Listed</b>	<b>Addressed by**</b>	<b>U.S. EPA Approval Date</b>
Indicator Bacteria	Source Unknown	2014	B	2012
Trash	Nonpoint Sources Surface Runoff Urban Runoff/Storm Sewers	2002	B	2008

Category 4A Criteria: 1) A water segment where ALL its 303(d) listings are being addressed; and 2) at least one of those listings is being addressed by a USEPA approved TMDL. \*\* "Addressed By" is defined as: B = Being addressed by USEPA approved TMDL and C = Being addressed by action(s) other than a TMDL.

Source: SWRCB, Final 2014 and 2016 Integrated Report (CWA Section 303(d) List / 305(b) Report). 2017.

# Low Flow Diversion Project – North Branch (Fig)



North Branch stream  
is enclosed in a 9'x9'  
box culvert



Divert dry weather  
flow of <.3 cfs (appx.  
2 gallons per second)



Convey the flow to  
the nearby sewer  
connection



Convey the water to  
the Hyperion facility  
on Santa Monica Bay

	Av	Max	G/Min	G/Hour	G/Day	G/Year	AF/Year	LFD/Hyperion	Hyperion G/Day
<b>Fig</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>.3 cf</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>5400</b>	<b>129,600</b>	<b>47,304,000</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>0.052%</b>	<b>250,000,000</b>
Marisol	0.01	0.03	4.5	270	6,480	2,365,200	7	0.003%	LFD/Hyperion Output
Rose	0.67	1.77	301.5	18090	434,160	158,468,400	488	0.174%	0.39%
Mission	0.53	1.25	238.5	14310	343,440	125,355,600	386	0.137%	
Palmeto	0.1	0.17	45	2700	64,800	23,652,000	73	0.026%	Fig/Hyperion
TOTAL	1.51	3.22	679.5	40770	978,480	357,145,200	1,099	0.391%	0.05%

*A miniscule amount of water . . . But the nail in the coffin for  
stream restoration and watershed management*



# Los Angeles River and Arroyo Seco Low-Flow Diversion Projects

1. Figueroa St. LFD
2. Via Marisol LFD
3. Mission Rd. LFD
4. Rose St. LFD
5. Palmetto St. LFD

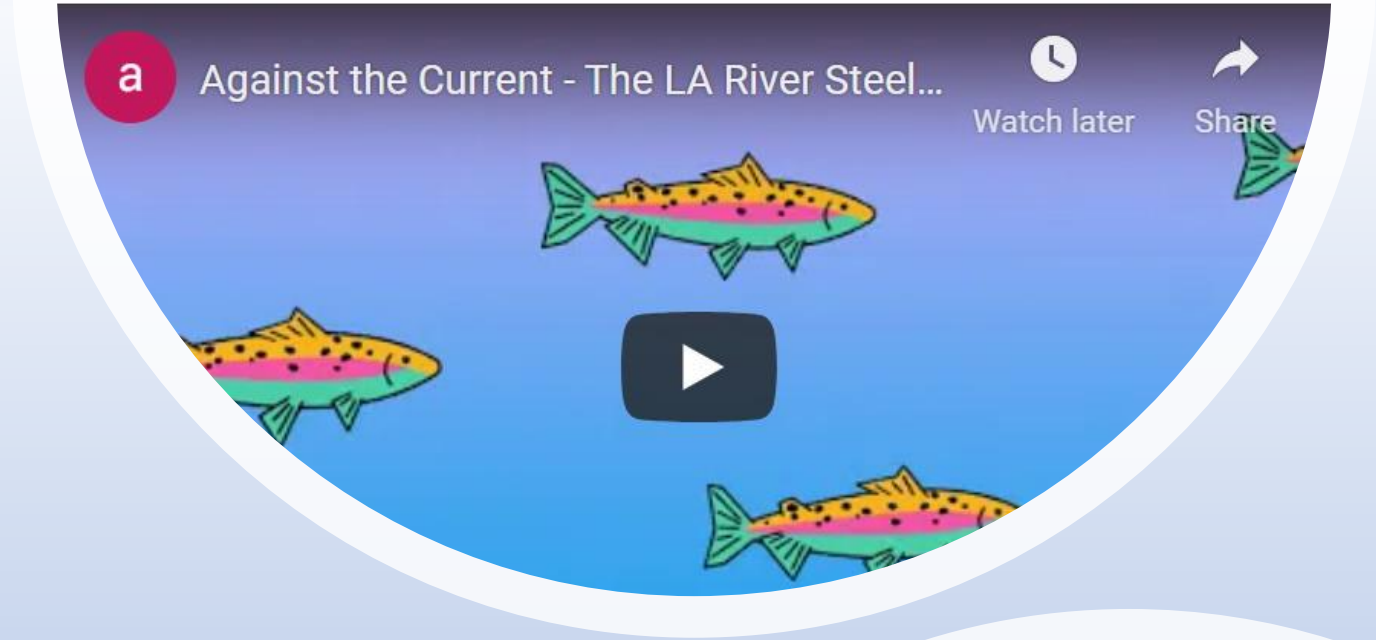
These low-flow diversion projects will tap the dry weather flow of five distinct subwatersheds, eliminating the potential for stream restoration, integrated watershed management and nature-based solutions.

***These streams do not belong in a sewer.***



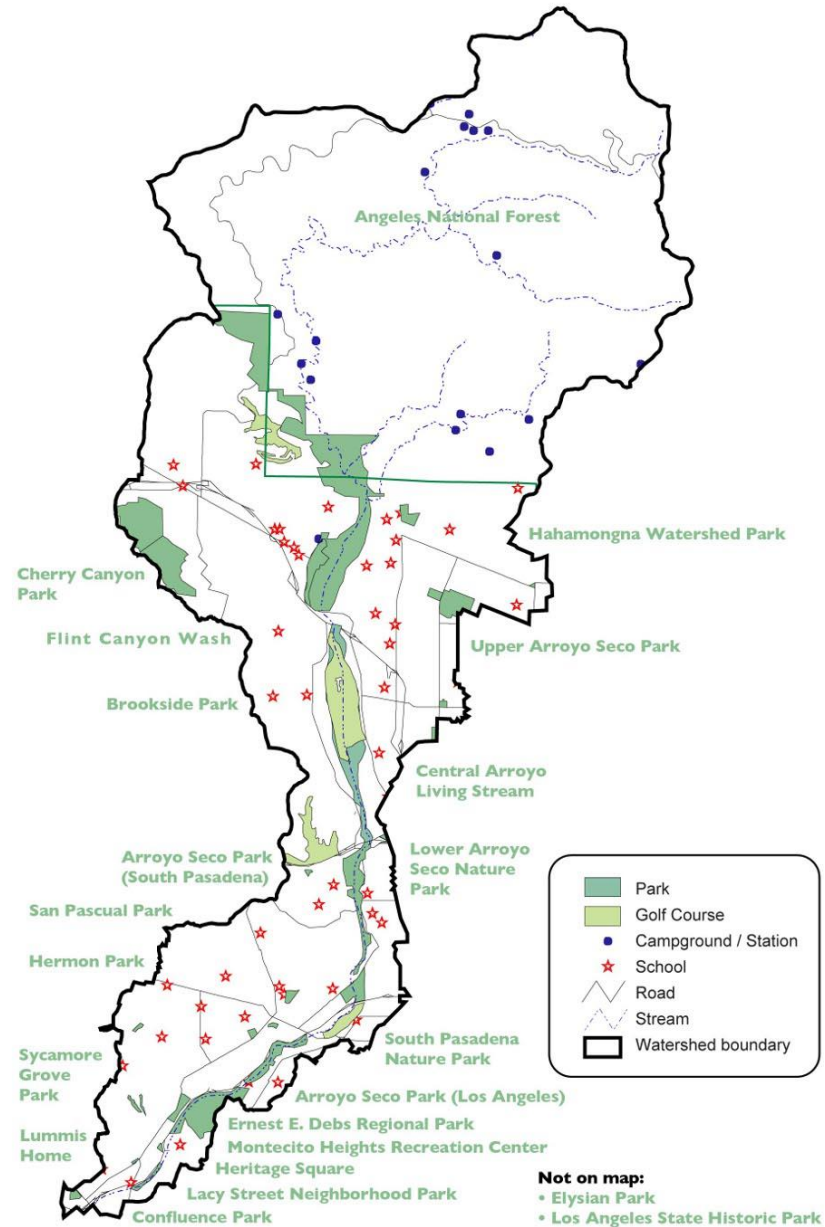
# Restoring Steelhead to the LA River

- The Arroyo Seco is the critical watershed for the restoration of trout and steelhead on the Los Angeles River. The fish need resting spots between the San Gabriel Mountains and downtown Los Angeles. ASF is working to restore native trout and steelhead to the Los Angeles River system.





# ARROYO RIVER PARKS



## River Park Principles



**Aka Integrated Regional Watershed Management  
Or Nature-based Stormwater Management**

# Association of California Water Agencies' IRWM Policy Principles:

1. Water resources are best managed by local jurisdictions to effectively and efficiently manage water quality and supplies. ACWA supports IRWM as a tool to assist local water agencies in solving short- and long-term water management challenges through an integrated planning approach.
2. *IRWM integrates planning across water management sectors, including water supply, water quality, flood management, stormwater, and habitat restoration to achieve regional goals and objectives. Integrated planning results in multi-benefit projects developed in a time- and cost-efficient manner.*
3. Local and regional scale planning through IRWM is *integral to California's comprehensive water management planning*, providing a foundation for the state to achieve *its coequal goals of improved water supply reliability and enhanced ecosystem health in an era of climate change.*
4. *IRWM is a hub for diverse stakeholder engagement at the regional scale. The collaborative partnerships attained through IRWM result in improved water management planning and project development, reducing potential conflicts, and forming regional leadership.*
5. ACWA supports the continued use of IRWM governance structures, known as Regional Water Management Groups (RWMGs), to build on the well-established, inclusive stakeholder outreach and facilitation efforts through IRWM. RWMG stakeholder processes result in the balance of diverse interests within a region.



# Questions That Demand An Answer

1. When and where was the public meeting or the online meetings for this project? How many people attended?
2. Why was the community not properly informed of this project?
3. What is the pollution reduction each site is intended to achieve? Please provide documentation. It is not in the Mitigated Negative Declaration.
4. What consideration was given to nature-based or biological treatment methods to reduce the pollution, including source control and watershed approaches?
5. Why was the Arroyo Seco Foundation not informed of the review process for these projects?
6. Has the City of Los Angeles abandoned Integrated Water Management and nature-based solutions?

**For More Information, please contact:**



**[www.arroyoseco.org](http://www.arroyoseco.org)**