

## Response to Brian Trushinski's Questions

1. Thank you for this comment. We agree with this comment and the CDFW Maintenance Agreement (Agreement) includes the requested information. Medea Creek Reaches 48071 LA County Line to Conifer and 48072 Conifer St. to Oak Hills Dr. were submitted as part of the 2008 EIR Catalog Pages. The pages include general location map, type of facility, and maintenance activity codes.
2. Within these reaches there is generally a low center wet area that is mostly a creek/marsh year round and remains wet in the dry seasons. The slope and width of the creek/marsh area varies in width and in low flow storms the water flow stays within the lowest channel area. In the lowest channel area that carries the storm flows, invasive and large trees and vegetation must be removed to provide the necessary design capacity. Above the lowest channel tier are upslope areas that are generally covered by upland weeds and grasses, along with large oaks and other trees. These areas are not irrigated nor are they within the creek /marsh area and the weeds and grasses die off each season. While these upslope areas are not within the low flow lowest tier of the creek, they are part of the hydraulic channel and need to be maintained as high flow areas. need to be maintained as high flow areas No woody vegetation can be established in addition to the few oak trees that are at the edges of the facility. All cattails and saplings (freshwater marsh) must be removed in the fall season to provide capacity during the winter season. Beyond flood protection, we've heard from residents about the incidental public safety benefit related to wildfire preparedness as a need for continuing to remove the low herbaceous vegetation on the upland side. Maintenance includes any combination of manual or mechanical vegetation cutting and removal, sediment removal, and hardscape repair. Herbicide has not been used for vegetation management in Medea Creek for the past few years and we don't anticipate the need for its use in upcoming seasons at this location.
3. Replanting of vegetation in facility maintenance zones is generally not acceptable to maintain facility integrity and capacity. If a maintenance or repair project results in temporary impacts to native vegetation outside the facility footprint, then replanting would occur.
4. The District conducts biological surveys in Reaches 48071 and 48072 prior to vegetation and other types of maintenance. If nesting birds are identified, work is post-poned or a 500-foot buffer is established from a nest.
5. Work during and outside nesting bird season is conducted per 4 above and in accordance with CDFW guidance.
6. Biologist clearance and any surveys that are conducted informs District crews of issues. Crews receive annual spring training in best management practices.
7. Currently no herbicides are used in the Madea Creek area; however, herbicides are used properly in other channels operated by Watershed Protection. Herbicides applied are important tools to retain the integrity of the facility in a cost-effective manner. Minimum strength and focused application methods are used. Any use of herbicides will be appropriately reviewed and noticed to inform the community.
8. This is a standard practice. Fueling of equipment takes place over spill containment areas and outside of the channel areas.

9. Specific regulatory notification of routine maintenance work is not required. Maintenance Permits are intended to allow permittees to perform regular maintenance work of a permitted facility without costly and stringent regulatory oversight. There are triggers for notifying the regulatory agency for some activities including a water diversion, placement of concrete, impacts beyond the facility footprint, or modification of the facility type. In these cases, notification to the regulatory agencies in the Annual Work Plans and Addenda occur for their approval. Additional neighborhood notification of maintenance work already does occur through the PWA 2-Week Look-Ahead for maintenance and operations activities. This is intended to inform interested residents and businesses of PWA maintenance work and allow them to inquire about the specifics of any particular activity and inform PWA officials about concerns. Public notification requirements would not be recommended as a condition of any regulatory permit requirements, however.
10. This is required reporting as a part of the permit and the District submits an Annual Monitoring Report to the regulatory agencies by August 1 of each year documenting the actions and impacts of the prior fiscal year's maintenance actions. This document can be made available upon request.

Thank you,

Jeff Palmer