The Arroyo Seco Canyon Project



Pasadena Has a Serious Water Crisis

There's a Better Way: Develop a Resilient Water Future for Pasadena Let the River Flow — Heal the Basin

Protecting Our Two Greatest Environmental Treasures





The Arroyo Seco – Hahamongna Is The Most Precious Habitat Zone in our Region

Raymond Basin – an Invaluable water resource





Hahamongna –

- Current basins are almost always empty;
 - Climate Change makes empty basins more probable

The nature of Hahamongna is being destroyed

Area 3 – Spreading Basins

- Destroy rare habitat at the mouth of the Arroyo Seco Canyon
- Inefficient percolation method in an alluvial zone (compaction, evaporation)
- Streamzone is superior natural process
- Aggravates destruction of natural character of Hahamongna

But the EIR refused to consider the enviromentally-superior alternative – use natural hydrology







The ASCP plan does not accommodate fish

ASF Is Working to Restore Conditions for Steelhead Trout in the Upper Arroyo and the Los Angeles River

There Are Native Trout in the Arroyo



Translocation of Rainbow Trout to the Arroyo Seco

from the Bobcat Fire Burn Area

Fall 2020

Prepared by Jennifer Pareti



ASCP EIR denies there are fish in the Arroyo and only makes provision for them when "steelhead return from the Pacific Ocean."



Federal holiday to mark end of slavery

It'll be Juncteenth across the nation at last once Biden signs rare bipartisan bill.

BY SASHA HUPKA

WASHINOTON — The House on Wednesday passed legislation designating June 19 as a new federal holiday, just a day after the Senate voted unanimously to approve a mirror bill commemorating the end of slavery in the United States.

The rare bipartisan legislation, which passed 415 to 14, will go to President Biden's desk just a day or two before the date arrives on Saturday.

"What I see here today is racial divide crumbling, being crushed this day under a momentous vote that brings together people who understand the value of freedom," said Democratic Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee of 'Texas. "And that is what Juneteenth is all about."

It is the first new federal holiday since Martin Luther



ANGEL PINEDO, director of education for the Arroyo Seco Foundation, with volunteers Steve Huntley, left, and Darrell Kunitomi, right, conducts a survey of rainbow trout in the Arroyo Seco creek.

Quest to save rainbow trout fuels water war in Pasadena

The unexpected introduction of hundreds of fish muddies city's plan to take more supply from the Arroyo Seco creek

By LOUIS SAHAGÚN

Putin deflects blame over human rights, but he and Biden see chance to mend ties.

> BY ELI STOKOLS AND TRACY WILKINSON

MUTUAL

RESPECT

FROM '2

GREAT

POWERS'

GENEVA — President Biden and Russian President Vladimir Putin both emerged from more than three hours of direct talks declaring their first meeting a success, despile making little tangible progress toward immediately improving the strained relationship between Washington and Moscow.

Noting the "hype" around the summit, Biden said his aim was "straightforward" — to be frank with Putin about the Kremlin's trampling of human rights, military adventurism in Ukraine and attacks on democracy, including interference in U.S. elections.

"I want President Putin to understand why I say what I say and why I do what I do and how I will respond to

What Else Is Missing in the EIR -

- 1. ASCP fails to evaluate the potential impacts of climate change, relying on outdated historical patterns;
- 2. ASCP fails to analyze the stream hydrology in the Hahamongna basin and its ability to more effectively conserve water than sterile spreading basins;
- 3. ASCP fails to consider the negative impacts on the Raymond Groundwater Basin, although it will contribute to the devastating decline of groundwater levels beneath Pasadena.

Raymond Basin

Historic Pasadena Area Groundwater Levels Depth to Water [ft] Source: RMBM, Draft Opportunities to Enhance Groundwater Levels in Pasadena Subarea.

A Steady, Devastating Decline That Cannot Be Ignored

Why The EIR Must Be Recirculated or Rejected

- Failure to Evaluate Public and Agency Comments
- Failure to Consider Environmentally Superior Alternatives
- Failure to Abide by CA law re: protecting fish and species of concern
- Failure to analyze hydrology of spreading basins and stream zone
- Failure to adequately evaluate impacts on downstream habitat
- Failure to consider potential negative impact on Raymond Basin
- Inadequate survey of fish and aquatic species

CEQA Requirements

- 15088.5. RECIRCULATION OF AN EIR PRIOR TO CERTIFICATION
- (a) A lead agency is <u>required</u> to recirculate an EIR when significant new information is added to the EIR or (4) The <u>draft EIR</u> was so fundamentally and basically inadequate and conclusory in nature that <u>meaningful public review and comment were precluded</u>.

The EIR must be revised and recirculated to respond to missing impacts and significant developments prior to certification.

Pasadena Should Be a Steward of all the Natural Resources in the Arroyo Seco



- Water
- Fish
- Birds
- Wildlife
- Habitat
- Recreational Opportunity

PWP Should Be Restoring the Arroyo Seco – Not Degrading It

More than 1124 local residents have signed the petition.

Pasadena Water Crisis Petition

We believe the Arroyo Seco Canyon Project and Pasadena's 25-year Water Plan, the Water System and Resources Plan, will have detrimental impacts on the habitat, wildlife and water resources in Hahamongna and the Arroyo Seco.

We urge the City of Pasadena to protect the natural character of our region's greatest environmental treasures by:

- using a living stream to capture storm flows and protect precious habitat;
- ensuring an adequate environmental flow for fish and wildlife during the dry season; and
- committing to a plan to stabilize and replenish the Raymond Groundwater Basin.

There's a Better Way: *Develop a Resilient Water Future for Pasadena* Let the River Flow — Heal the Basin





Source: RMBM, Draft Opportunities to Enhance Groundwater Levels in Pasadena Subarea.

The Crisis

Pasadena has been relying on water from the Arroyo Seco and the Raymond Basin for 35% of local supply for many decades. The other major source is much more expensive water from the Metropolitan Water District.

The local supply is now threatened and the imported supply is increasingly expensive and less reliable.

Pasadena's Crisis

Groundwater

Pasadena Water & Power (PWP) told us they were managing groundwater with a "safe yield" standard that would balance pumping with natural replenishment, but the overdraft of the Raymond Basin has continued steadily for more than one hundred years. The end (or bottom) is now within sight.

It would be a terrible legacy to destroy this invaluable water resource for future generations.

Groundwater

PWP Has A Long-range Plan

Pasadena Water & Power has unveiled a plan for the next 25 years called the Water System and Resource Plan (WSRP) that will be considered by the City Council sometime in early 2021. Its a \$425 million plan, however, that relies heavily on continuing to drain the Raymond Basin and neglecting the impacts of climate change.

25 Year Water Plan Wolfson's Report Project (ASCP) ASCP is a PWP project that would further drain the Arroyo Seco stream and expand sterile spreading basins

Arroyo Seco Canyon

and expand sterile spreading basins to allow PWP to pump more from the underlying groundwater basin.

ASCP will degrade the natural environment in Hahamongna Watershed Park for fish and wildlife. PWP will present the plan to the Pasadena City Council for consideration in January, 2021.

> Canyon Project Kules' Analysis

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et the River Flow — Heal the Basin.

For complete information on ASCP and Pasadena's Water Crisis go to:

www.arroyoseco.org/watercrisis.htm

Tim Brick Managing Director Arroyo Seco Foundation