

East San Pedro Bay Ecosystem Restoration Study

October 9, 2012



Progress to Date

- City Reconnaissance Study
- Army Corps Reconnaissance Study
- Finding of Federal Interest
- Signed Federal Cost Share Agreement
- Identified local-sponsor funding
 - √ \$3.243 million in Tidelands funds reserved
 - √ \$825,000 in in-kind service credit



New Army Corps Feasibility Study Strategy

"3 x 3 x 3" Guidelines

- 3 years to complete the study
- Cost no more than \$3 million
- Report to be of a reasonable size (3" binder)



Re-scoping Goals

Evaluate projects and explore opportunities that will:

- Promote ecosystem restoration
- Improve water quality
- Increase recreational activity opportunities
- Protect existing infrastructure



Funding from the President's Budget

- Competitive funding environment
- Investigation Funds cut year after year

Fiscal Year	Reduction
FY 10 to FY 11	21% cut
FY 11 to FY 12	*Continuing resolution. No new projects
FY 13	18% cut

Must demonstrate Connectivity and Habitat Scarcity



Connectivity

What is Connectivity?

 The extent to which a project facilitates the movement of native species by contributing to the connection of other important habitat pockets within the ecosystem.

How do we demonstrate Connectivity?

- Identify academic studies that show a critical direct physical connection between the East San Pedro Bay and Los Angeles River; or East San Pedro Bay and greater Pacific Ocean.
- Identify species that benefit from a connection between the two water bodies.



Habitat Scarcity

- What is Habitat Scarcity?
 - Project that will restore nationally scarce habitat that has experienced major historic losses.
- How do we demonstrate Habitat Scarcity?
 - Identify academic studies that have experienced major historic losses as demonstrated by a published academic study, Federal, regional, or State/Tribal report specific to the East San Pedro Bay.



Next Steps

- Determine how to re-scope the feasibility study
- Renegotiate the Feasibility Cost Sharing Agreement
 - √ 6 to 9 months to execute the agreement
- Continue to seek funding from the President's Budget
 - ✓ Rescoping costs (\$50,000 \$75,000)
 - ✓ Federal share of Feasibility Study (\$1.5 million)
- Request City Council direction tonight to start negotiating the revised agreement to begin the study, and return to Council with a recommendation



Questions and Comments

Please email <u>breakwater@longbeach.gov</u>

 You may also visit our East San Pedro Bay Ecosystem Restoration website at: <u>www.longbeach.gov/citymanager</u>

*Look for "East San Pedro Bay Ecosystem Restoration" on the left side bar

 For additional questions and comments, please contact Tom Modica, Director of Government Affairs and Strategic Initiatives at 562.570.5091