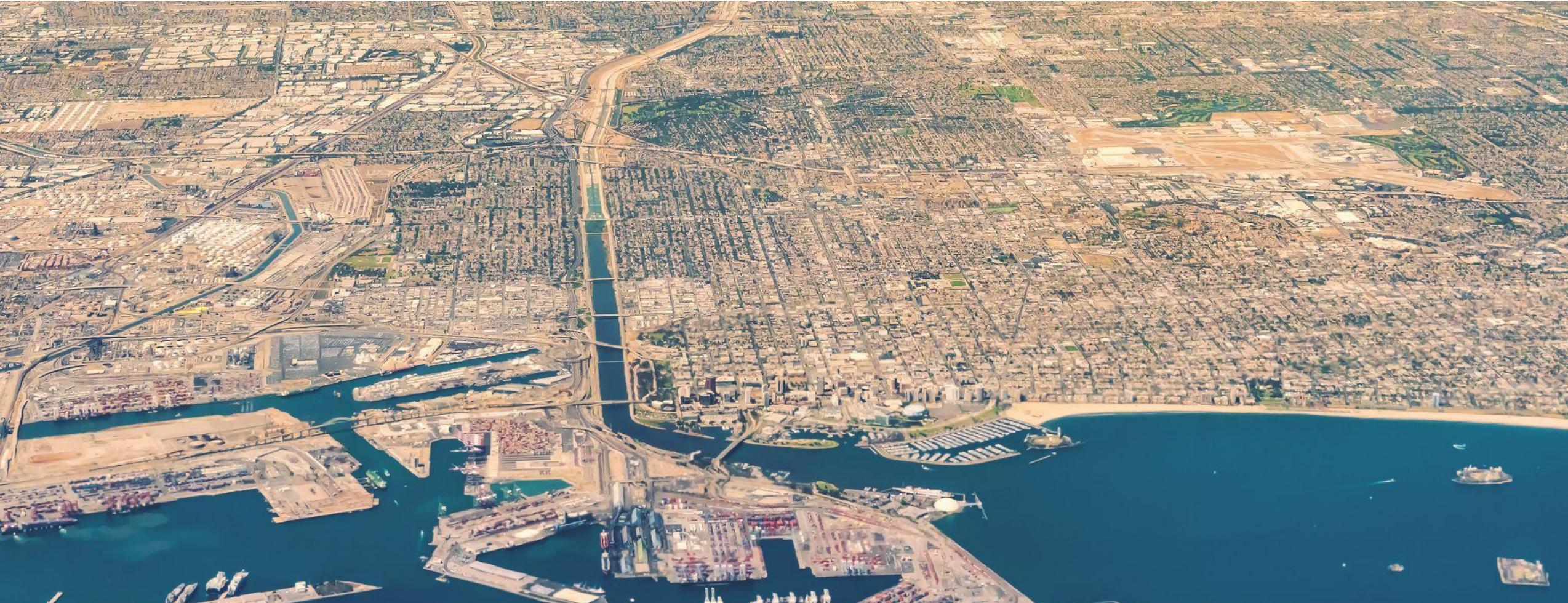




# LOWER LA RIVER WATERSHED COORDINATOR WASC Meeting- August 2022



# AGENDA

1. Watershed Coordinator FY 22-23 Strategic Outreach Plan
2. FY 23-24 Applications



**PURPOSE**  
**WATERSHED COORDINATOR ROLE**

## **5 Focus Areas for Role:**

- 1. Understand Community Needs In The Watershed**
- 2. Help Solicit New Projects**
- 3. Support Current Project Applicants**
- 4. Raise Public Awareness About The Safe Clean Water Program**
- 5. Support The WASC Through Information Sharing**

# Vision for the Role:

Help ensure all projects are:

1. Aligned with local priorities and needs
2. Have equitable access and opportunity
3. Meet the Program's Mission

# COORDINATOR TEAM



**Tara Dales, M.F.A.**

LLAR WATERSHED COORDINATOR  
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT  
+ OUTREACH



**Stephen Groner, P.E.**

TECHNICAL SUPPORT  
STRATEGIC/FUNDING SUPPORT



**Michelle Struthers, M/PH**

WATERSHED COORDINATOR  
PUBLIC HEALTH/RESEARCH



**Erin Pang, M.S.**

TECHNICAL SUPPORT  
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTIST



**Arisa Cleaveland**

OUTREACH SUPPORT  
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



# **FY 21- 22 RECAP**

# Deliverables Achieved

- 40 community engagement meetings or potential applicant meetings held
- 6 community events tabled
- 156 responses to community needs survey
- 37 educational presentations about SCWP
- Various outreach material developed





# LESSONS LEARNED FY 21-22



# Public Education:

## FY 21-22 LESSONS:

- Community awareness about SCWP and its projects are low
- Community awareness and concern about the drought is increasing
- = Opportunity to continue getting word out about SCWP

## FY 22-23 FOCUS:

- Conduct more **council district and state rep** outreach to leverage their strong community knowledge
- Create **community facing material** that shows what finished projects could look like

# Community Engagement:

## FY 21-22 LESSONS:

- Still room for applicants to have deeper community engagement and more CBO partnerships

## FY 22-23 FOCUS:

- Offer applicants **support reviewing their outreach plans**
- Share **suggested CBO lists** with applicants
- **Share relevant community survey responses** with applicants
- More outreach to **school districts**

# Solicit & Support New Projects:

## FY 21-22 LESSONS:

- We identified 12 possible projects that could apply for funding
- 2 are considering applying in Round in 2023
- Public-private partnerships are an unexplored area for the LLAR Watershed.
- We had limited success getting responses from the public works departments of cities not represented on the WASC.
- Competitive applicants have cost-share partners.

## FY 22-23 FOCUS:

- Outreach to **city planners** who may be in a position to identify land opportunities.
- Outreach to public works departments of **cities not represented on the WASC.**
- **Sharing more cost-share opportunities** with applicants.
- Develop a **list of project considerations** for any potential applicant we engage with.

# WASC Support

## FY 21-22

- Met with 11 of 17 WASC members to prep FY 22-23 Plan

## FY 22-23 FOCUS:

- Create a **summary of past FY20-22 projects** for new WASC members
- **Survey members** to ensure meeting presentations and resources highlighted are helpful
- Work with the District to ensure a **summary of the SCCWRP evaluation** of scientific studies is presented in a WASC meeting.



# **FY 22-23 GOALS**

## 1.Understand the Community Needs in the Watershed

### End Goals (Why are we doing these tactics)

The objective of the below strategies in this focus area is twofold:

1. For the Coordinator to get information to assist WASC members in their evaluation of project submittals; and
2. To enhance the Coordinator's ability to guide and assist project applicants.

### Strategies

Strategy	Deliverables
<b>A. Ongoing Identification of Interested Party Contacts Details</b>	1 updated database
<b>B. Engagement of Local Interested Parties through meetings</b>	20 meetings with notable focus on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Council Districts</li><li>● School Districts</li><li>● City Planning Departments</li></ul>
<b>C. Add to Community Needs Survey</b>	Continue collecting survey responses and sharing relevant input with project applicants and the WASC
<b>D. Track Relevant regional plans and workshops</b>	Attend events as they arise, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Disadvantaged Community Involvement Program (DACIP)</li><li>● IRWMP</li><li>● WHAM Committee</li><li>● LA River Plan IAG</li></ul>

## 2. SOLICIT NEW PROJECTS

### END GOALS (THE WHY)

To drive more projects through the Technical Resource Programs and to drive more high quality projects for WASC consideration.

### STRATEGIES

STRATEGY	DELIVERABLES
<b>A. Presentation about Technical Resources Program</b>	10 presentations
<b>B. Distribute Call For Project Press Release</b>	We will develop and distribute(via an E-newsletter) a Round 5 call for projects press release in the watershed and to our contacts made in Task 1.

### 3. SUPPORT FUNDED SCWP PROJECTS

#### END GOALS (THE WHY)

The purpose of the below strategies is to ensure that future projects submittals fulfill all 6 goals of the SCW. A key aspect of this focus is helping project applicants who may need more access to resources to apply for the Technical Resources program.

#### STRATEGIES

STRATEGY	DELIVERABLES
<b>A. Cost-Share Resources</b>	1 Ongoing Database Relevant grants shared with project applicants
<b>B. Project Guidance on Community Engagement</b>	Assumes approximately 6 projects engaged with Ongoing list of guidance questions and suggestions for use as a template in meetings

## 4. RAISE PUBLIC AWARENESS ABOUT THE SAFE CLEAN WATER PROGRAM

### END GOALS (THE WHY)

"The strategy objectives in this focus area aim:

1. To build awareness
2. To increase community engagement in projects
3. To gather information to help WASC members understand community needs

### STRATEGIES

#### STRATEGY

#### DELIVERABLES

##### A. Attend Community Events

We will attend 6 community events in the watershed.

The purpose of these outreach events is twofold:

1. Inform and educate community members about the SCW Program; and
2. Gather additional responses to the Community Needs Survey

##### B. Event material

Community facing fact sheet with project example visuals

## 5. SUPPORT THE WASC THROUGH INFORMATION SHARING

### END GOALS (THE WHY)

The objective of the below strategies in this focus area is to communicate information learned in outreach to the WASC, so as to assist the members in their review of projects

### STRATEGIES

#### STRATEGY

#### A. Reporting

We will report to the WASC at each monthly meeting, either in the form of verbal updates or a formal presentation, potentially about the following items:

1. Community meetings conducted
2. Community Survey Report findings
3. Cross-Watershed Collaboration Updates
4. Summary of SCCWRP evaluation of scientific studies

#### B. WASC Support

Compilation of past funded project factsheets to aid new WASC members

#### C. Watershed Regional Focus to aid SIP decision

We will develop suggestions for the District about potential improvements to the funded project map and its use as a SIP deliberation tool.

#### D. Monthly Watershed Coordinator Meetings

We will attend monthly meetings with all other Watershed Coordinators, during which time we will share resources developed, learnings from activities thus far and other opportunities for collaboration across watershed areas.

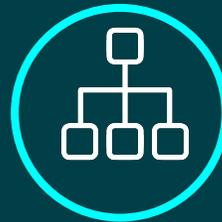


# Summary FY 23-24 Applications

# FY 23-24 Applications:



**2 Infrastructure Projects**



**0 TRP Projects**



**1 Scientific Study**

# INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT- Spane Park

The Spane Park Project received an estimated **score of 89**.

**Project Lead:** City of Paramount

**Additional Collaborators:** Lower Los Angeles River Watershed Management Group

**Funding Requested:** \$18,913,128 - Construction

**BMP Type:** Infiltration Facility      **Weather Type:** Wet

**Location:** 14400 Gundry Avenue, Paramount, CA 90723

**Timeline:** Planning & Design completion (Dec 2022); Construction completion (June 2028)

**Cost Share:** None confirmed but applications pending

**Project Description:** Construction of a regional 8.6 acre-foot capacity stormwater capture and infiltration facility located at Spane Park beneath the the existing park surface. Facility connected to the Aquifer.

## Benefits include:

- Improve the water quality within the Los Angeles River
- Offset the potable water demand at the park
- Restore/rehabilitate park facilities & install a dedicated soccer field in the City of Paramount
- Educate the public on the local water supply and demands
- Construct a native California landscaping area with an ephemeral stream

## Claimed Disadvantaged Community Benefit:

- Located within a census tract designated disadvantaged.
- DAC members were engaged during a community event and 2 community workshops.
- The project will increase green space, shading, lighting and onsite parking as these were indicated as important factors to community members.
- 2 letters of community support



# INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT

## Long Beach Municipal Urban Stormwater Treatment (LB MUST) - Phase 2

The Long Beach Municipal Urban Stormwater Treatment Project received an estimated **score of 73**.

**Project Lead:** City of Long Beach

**Funding Requested:** \$ 10,387,527- Design & Construction

**BMP Type:** Treatment Facility      **Weather Type:** Dry

**Location:** 901 DeForest Ave, Long Beach, CA 90806

**Timeline:** Planning & Design completion (June 2024); Construction completion (June 2027)

**Cost Share:** \$7,9 M in cost share (43.3% funded through cost share)

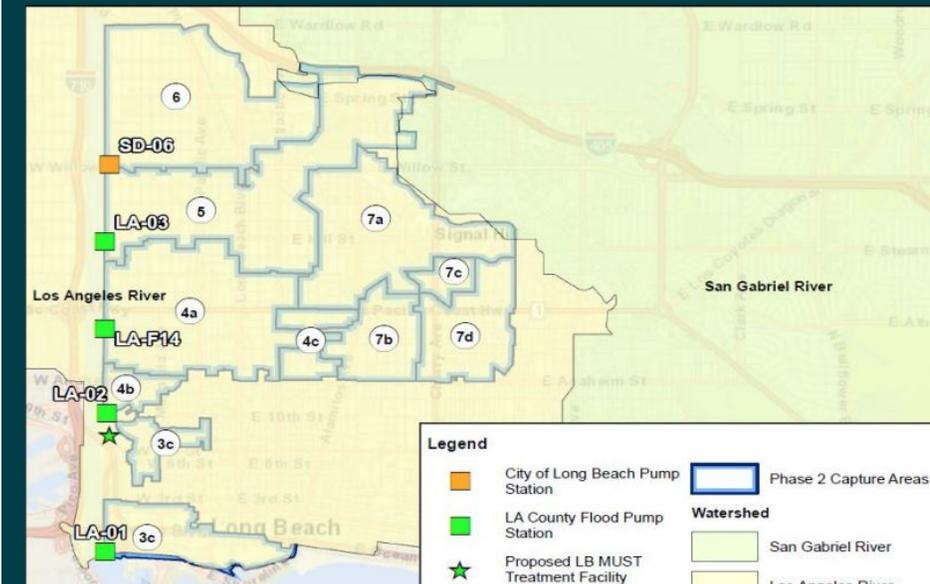
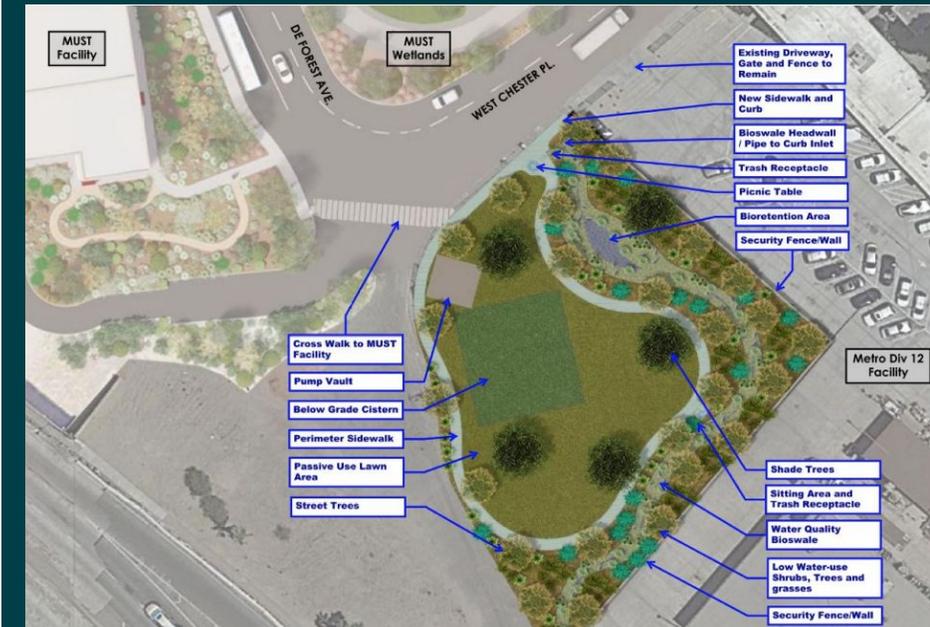
**Project Description:** Phase 2 includes constructing a new park with 125,000 gallon cistern and pump station, and connecting 5 existing pump stations to the LB MUST Facility. This conveyance will allow for additional dry weather flows and portions of first flush flows to be diverted to the LB MUST Treatment Facility rather than being discharged unabated into the Los Angeles River.

### Benefits include:

- Improved quality of the Los Angeles River, estuary, and nearby beaches.
- Treating 2 million gallons per day (mgd) and a planned future capacity of 4 mgd.
- Providing a new park in a previously industrial area.
- Reducing heat island effect through the planting of new trees and vegetation within the park.
- Addressing localized flooding through the extension of an existing bioswale.
- Water stored in cistern will be used to irrigate Cesar Chavez Park.

### Claimed Disadvantaged Community Benefit:

- Located within a census tract designated disadvantaged.
- Educational opportunities for its DAC through educational tours.
- 2 design charrettes conducted with community & 4 letters of community support .



# SCIENTIFIC STUDY

## Ground truth: guiding a soils-based strategy for impactful nature-based solutions

**Project Lead:** Tree People

**Additional Collaborators:** University of California, Riverside; Craftwater Engineering

**Funding Requested:** \$498, 430

**Timeline:** Study completion (Dec 2025)

**Project Description:** According to the project application, a major gap to achieving reliable nature-based solutions is knowledge of urban soils and how they can be improved to meet water cycle management objectives while supporting climate resilient urban ecosystems. This study proposes to evaluate on-the ground conditions in the LLAR watershed area to determine how existing soils can be modified to create a soils-based strategy that fits into a hybrid watershed management portfolio that combines centralized, engineering solutions with distributed nature-based solutions.

**Benefits include:**

Focusing on the use of soils in nature-based solutions contributes to two major objectives of the SCWP:

- Improve water quality: Soils can mitigate urban runoff by infiltrating stormwater; and
- Increase water storage/supply: Healthy soils store water for use by plants and other components of natural systems.

**Study objectives:**

- Objective 1. Identify the properties of soils and simulate modifications that will optimize stormwater management and support vegetation. Translate the models into a calculator tool.
- Objective 2. Model watershed-level strategies to identify opportunities for watershed management that integrate centralized water capture installations with distributed NBS.
- Objective 3. Develop field validated and scientific model-derived landscape designs that can be adopted into practice.

**Application includes 5 letters of community support**

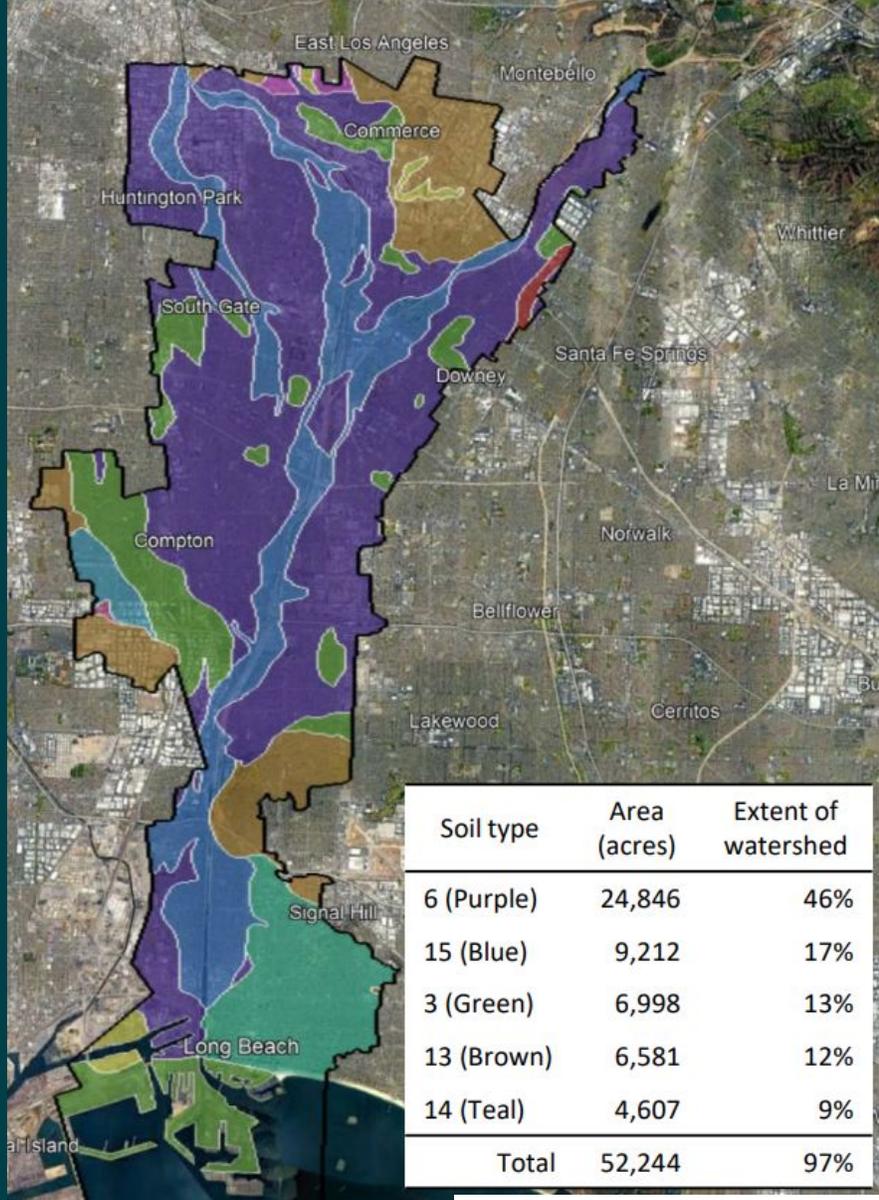


Figure 1. Map classifies the Lower Los Angeles River watershed by soil type. Five soil types comprise 97% of the total watershed extent.