

San Diego River Wetland Creation Project Scope of Work

The San Diego River Wetland Creation Project is located within the San Diego River watershed. The 13.75-acre project site is located immediately adjacent to the southerly bank of the San Diego River, north of Camino Del Rio North, and west of Interstate 15 in the Mission Valley Community of the City of San Diego (See Figures 7- 9).

A Conceptual Mitigation Plan for the Canyon Sewer Projects within the San Diego River Watershed was prepared (Merkel 2004) to provide preliminary design information for the creation of approximately 3.43-acres of native riparian habitat and 2.06-acres of Diegan coastal sage scrub habitat. The proposed mitigation project will consist of widening a portion of the San Diego River by lowering existing elevations to create a wetland basin which provides appropriate hydrological conditions to support native riparian vegetation. The basin bottom will be graded to an elevation approximately 2-feet above the existing grade of the San Diego River channel. Two 30-foot wide openings will be cut through the existing river bank to allow high flows to ebb and flow through the wetland site. Following excavation of the wetland basin, the remaining river bank will serve as a vegetated earthen berm to contain flows and prevent increased scouring of the river channel.

It is estimated that site clearing and grubbing will produce 11,000 cubic yards of export material and excavation of the wetland basin will generate an additional 84,000 cubic yards of export. Excess soil will be disposed of on-site and on two parcels located immediately west of the wetland creation site. Soil stockpiles will be contour graded to provide for an undulated, natural appearance. The stockpile area will be irrigated, hydroseeded with a native seed mix, and maintained and monitored for a 25-month period in accordance with the City's landscape standards.

A temporary, underground, automatically controlled irrigation system will be installed throughout the project site following completion of grading activities. Native riparian vegetation will be established within the basin and lower third of the created slopes. Diegan coastal sage scrub habitat will be established on the remaining slope and buffer areas. A long-term maintenance, monitoring, and reporting program consisting of five annual maintenance periods will follow the 120-Day PEP.

Project schedule:

Site Preparation:	December 2004 – July 2005
Grading:	September 1, 2005 – October 15, 2005*
Irrigation Installation:	October 16, 2005 – October 30, 2005
Plant/Seed Installation:	November 1, 2005 – November 15, 2005
120-Day Plant Establishment Period:	November 16, 2005 – March 16, 2006
5-Year Maintenance and Monitoring Period:	March 17, 2005 – March 17, 2010