



MEDIA ADVISORY **County of Los Angeles** **Department of Public Works**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 22, 2007

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UPDATE

This is an update on the vegetation removal and water flow enhancement efforts at County Public Work Flood Control Facilities that have been identified by Vector Control as breeding grounds for Mosquitoes carrying the West Nile Virus

Pacoima Wash

Phase one to address the emergency condition of mosquitoes in the Pacoima Wash area has been completed. This phase involved removal of all vegetation which hampered the efforts of Vector control to spray areas where mosquitoes were breeding and laying larvae. Vector control was out this past weekend to spray throughout the Wash. Phase two, which began Monday, will involve back filling the bed of the Wash to even it out. This action will aid the water in the Wash to flow and prevent standing pools from forming. Phase two should be completed in one and half to two weeks.

In addition to Pacoima Wash, Vector Control has advised us to clear vegetation in three other locations to aid in their treatment of mosquitoes. They are: Limekiln Debris Basin, Woodley Drain, and Bell Debris Basin.

Limekiln Debris Basin Located at Tampa Avenue and Chatsworth Boulevard

After getting clearance from a biologist to safeguard the wildlife, Public Works crews began vegetation removal and digging a new channel within the debris basin yesterday morning. The new channel will concentrate the water and improve the flow of water through the basin. Although Vector Control has been treating the water in this basin, this will allow Vector Control to better access and treat the water.

(more)

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Woodley Drain located at Woodley Avenue and Victory Boulevard

After getting biologist approval, Public Works crews began mowing the vegetation in Woodley Drain this morning. This will allow Vector Control better access to the water so they can treat it.

Bell Debris Basin located at Valley Circle and Vanowen

Mowing of the vegetation at Bell will begin by the end of the week.

Note to the Editor:

The vegetation removal methods are a function of the State regulatory permit requirements, which is why you see variations from location to location.

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