



Memorandum

To: Rick Sun, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works

From: Marcus Sizemore, CDM Smith

Date: August 17, 2015

Subject: Final Daily Biological Monitoring for the Oxford Retention Basin Multi-use Enhancement Project

Introduction

This memorandum summarizes the findings of biological monitoring on August 17, 2015, for the Oxford Retention Basin Multiuse Enhancement project. Information regarding the regulatory drivers and methodology of daily biological monitoring can be found in the Biological Monitoring – Introduction and Methods for Phase 2 Construction Memo, dated June 23, 2015.

Biological monitoring was conducted by Marcus Sizemore, CDM Smith biologist, beginning at 7:00am and ending at 4:00 p.m. The weather forecast showed 0-1% percent chance of rain after 12:00 pm for August 17, 2015. Weather conditions during the day were sunny with high temperatures in the low to mid 80's (°F). No measureable rain was recorded. A breeze of 5-10 mph was also present today.

During the daily monitoring, the biologist observed activities associated with earthwork along Washington Blvd and Admiralty Way. These included ditch excavation and earth moving. A subcontractor worked to repair electrical lines along the west bank of the project. All crews were overseen by the contractor superintendent, Qualified SWPPP Professional, the Health and Safety Officer, and the Inspector of Record.

The following sections provide the biologist's field log notes, with observations of the day's activities and wildlife presence and behavior.

Biologist's Field Log

CDM Smith Biologist: Marcus Sizemore

Date: August 17, 2015

7:00 am. The biologist arrived at Oxford Basin (site) and prepared and organized field equipment for initial biological survey.

7:15 am. The biologist begins the initial biological survey. The following birds are reported during

the initial site assessment:

One snowy egret was observed within the northwest tidal flat. Another snowy egret and a great egret were observed within the northern tidal flat. Three snowy egrets and two black-crowned night-herons were seen in the southeastern canal. The water level was slightly lower than on Friday, August 14. No other wildlife was seen during the initial site assessment.

7:30 am. The Health and Safety officer conducts health and safety training for approximately ten minutes. The biologist then conducts Bio-awareness Training with the 6-person contractor crew (superintendent and five crewmembers). The Qualified SWPPP Professional and the Inspector of Record also attended the training. The health and safety (H&S) officer was also present for the Bio-awareness training. The biologist goes over what has been observed so far today and noted there were no new nests observed during his initial walk-thru. He reminds the crew to adhere to BMPs to prevent soil erosion into the Basin as well as dust control measures. The contractor crew and others present signed the sign-in sheet indicating they understood and will follow BMPs and wildlife protection measures. The superintendent explains that the planned activities for the day. These include the continued earthwork along Washington Boulevard, dirt removal along Admiralty Way and electrical work along the west bank of the project.

8:00 am. Work begins along Washington Boulevard. There is no wildlife present within the work area.

8:30 am. Workers prepare for the lane closure along Admiralty Way. There is no wildlife present within the work area.

9:00 am. One lane along Admiralty Way is closed. Soil removal begins and trucks are loaded within the closed lane.

10:00 am. One great blue heron is observed in the northwest tidal flat. Four trucks arrive to haul material along Admiralty Way. One lane is currently closed.

10:30 am. No wildlife is present in any of the work areas at this time.

11:00 am. Work continues along Washington Boulevard and Admiralty Way. No wildlife is observed within the Basin at this time.

11:30 am. Draining of the Basin and earthwork continues. There is no wildlife present within the work area.

12:00 pm. All crews and the biologist break for lunch.

1:00 pm. Crews return from lunch. Work continues along Washington Boulevard and Admiralty Way. No wildlife is observed within the Basin at this time.

1:30 pm. Crews continue to work along Washington Boulevard on the north side of the Basin. Activities include watering (dust control), excavation and other earth work. The biologist observes a single monarch butterfly in the northeast corner of the project site. However, it is not near any construction activities and eventually leaves the site heading northeast.

1:45 pm. A snowy egret is observed within the northwest tidal flat and another is seen along the south bank. No other wildlife is observed within the Basin at this time.

2:00 pm. One snowy egret and one great egret are seen in the northwest tidal flat. No other wildlife is observed within the Basin at this time.

3:00 pm. No wildlife is observed within the Basin at this time. The crews begin backfilling the trenches along Washington Boulevard using the small bobcat.

3:30 pm. No wildlife is observed within the basin at this time.

4:00 pm. A snowy egret is observed along the south bank. No additional wildlife is observed within the Basin at this time.

4:30 pm. Work crews are finished for the day.

Additional Observations

No black skimmers or California least terns were observed today.

One monarch butterfly was observed today.

No osprey were observed today.

Conclusions

Based on observations made during monitoring, the following conclusions were made:

1. Biological awareness training emphasizes caution to avoid harm to birds and wildlife in and around the Basin during construction activities. In general, wildlife tend to slowly move away from an area when crews approach to conduct work activities. They return to the area once the crews move on. They do not seem disturbed by the construction activities.
2. Wildlife are most active in the morning with a dramatic decrease in observed wildlife activity after 11:00 am. Wildlife activity increases slightly in the late afternoon.
3. The algal cover has significantly decreased since the end of July. This is partly due to the tide gates being opened and closed.
4. There were no birds present within the active work areas.

5. No rays were observed swimming within the Basin today.
6. No significant fish die offs were observed although the drawdown of water may change the system dramatically in the coming weeks. The CDFW approved Final Fish Relocation Plan will be implemented to minimize fish mortality to the greatest extent feasible.
7. The number of birds have decreased in recent weeks and may be attributed to a change in water levels.

Table 1 provides a list of bird species observed during biological monitoring on August 17, 2015.

Table 1. Bird Species Observed during Biological Monitoring on August 17, 2015		
Common Name	Scientific Name	Comments
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	None observed today
Snowy Egret	<i>Egretta thula</i>	2-4 individuals observed foraging in Basin
Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	2-3 individuals observed foraging in Basin
Black-crowned Night-Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	3-4 individuals observed foraging in Basin or flying over the Basin
Great blue heron	<i>Ardea Herodias</i>	2-3 individuals observed foraging in Basin
Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	None observed today
Double-crested Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax penicillatus</i>	None observed today
Western Gull	<i>Larus occidentalis</i>	Very common; several flyovers of the Basin
Mourning Dove	<i>Zenaida macroura</i>	Several observed, particularly on power lines in the northern portions of the basin and resting atop nearby homes.
American Crow	<i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>	Very common; several observed in vegetation, on utility poles, on fences, and flying over Basin
Black Phoebe	<i>Sayornis nigricans</i>	2-3 individuals foraging around Basin
House Finch	<i>Haemorhous mexicanus</i>	Very common; several observed in vegetation and on fences throughout the Basin
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	Very common; Several observed along the north and east banks



Memorandum

To: Rick Sun, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works

From: Marcus Sizemore, CDM Smith

Date: August 18, 2015

Subject: Final Daily Biological Monitoring for the Oxford Retention Basin Multi-use Enhancement Project

Introduction

This memorandum summarizes the findings of biological monitoring on August 18, 2015, for the Oxford Retention Basin Multiuse Enhancement project. Information regarding the regulatory drivers and methodology of daily biological monitoring can be found in the Biological Monitoring – Introduction and Methods for Phase 2 Construction Memo, dated June 23, 2015.

Biological monitoring was conducted by Marcus Sizemore, CDM Smith biologist, beginning at 7:00am and ending at 4:00 p.m. The weather forecast showed 0-1% percent chance of rain after 12:00 pm for August 18, 2015. Weather conditions during the day were sunny with high temperatures in the low to mid 80's (°F). No measureable rain was recorded. A breeze of 5-10 mph was also present today.

During the daily monitoring, the biologist observed activities associated with earthwork along Washington Boulevard and Admiralty Way. These included ditch excavation and earth moving. All crews were overseen by the contractor superintendent, Qualified SWPPP Professional, Health & Safety Officer, and the Inspector of Record.

The following sections provide the biologist's field log notes, with observations of the day's activities and wildlife presence and behavior.

Biologist's Field Log

CDM Smith Biologist: Marcus Sizemore

Date: August 18, 2015

7:00 am. The biologist arrived at Oxford Basin (site) and prepared and organized field equipment for initial biological survey.

7:15 am. The biologist begins the initial biological survey. The following birds are reported during the initial site assessment:

One snowy egret was observed within the northwest corner of the Basin. Another snowy egret was seen along the northeast peninsula. A black-crowned night-heron was seen at the tide gate while a great blue heron was observed along the west bank of the Basin. A female mallard was also seen foraging within the Basin. No other wildlife was observed during the initial site assessment.

7:30 am. The Health and Safety officer conducts health and safety training for approximately ten minutes. The biologist then conducts Bio-awareness Training with the 6-person contractor crew (superintendent and five crewmembers). The Qualified SWPPP Professional and the Inspector of Record also attended the training. Also on hand were the H&S officer and fisheries biologist. The biologist goes over what has been observed so far today and noted there were no new nests observed during his initial walk-thru. He reminds the crew to adhere to BMPs to prevent soil erosion into the Basin as well as dust control measures. The contractor crew and others present signed the sign-in sheet indicating they understood and will follow BMPs and wildlife protection measures. The superintendent explains that the planned activities for the day. These include continued earthwork along Washington Boulevard, dirt removal along Admiralty Way and dewatering of the Basin.

8:00 am. Work begins along Washington Boulevard. There is no wildlife present within the work area.

8:30 am. Workers prepare for the lane closure along Admiralty Way. There is no wildlife present within the work area.

9:00 am. One lane along Admiralty Way is closed. Soil removal begins and trucks are loaded within the closed lane.

9:15 am. One snowy egret is observed along the northeast peninsula.

10:00 am. Four trucks arrive to haul material along Admiralty Way. One lane is currently closed. No wildlife is observed within the Basin at this time.

10:30 am. No wildlife is present in any of the work areas at this time.

11:00 am. Work continues along Washington Boulevard and Admiralty Way. No wildlife is observed within the Basin at this time.

11:30 am. Dewatering and earthwork continues. There is no wildlife present within the work area.

12:00 pm. All crews and the biologist break for lunch.

1:00 pm. Crews return from lunch. Work continues along Washington Boulevard and Admiralty Way. No wildlife is observed within the Basin at this time.

1:30 pm. Crews continue to work along Washington Boulevard on the north side of the Basin.

Activities include watering (dust control), excavation and other earth work. No wildlife is observed within the Basin at this time.

2:45 pm. One kingfisher is observed at the southwest tide gate. No other wildlife is observed within the Basin at this time.

3:00 pm. Crews continue to work along Washington Boulevard on the north side of the Basin. Activities No wildlife is observed within the Basin at this time.

3:30 pm. No wildlife is observed within the Basin at this time.

4:00 pm. A snowy egret is observed near the southwest tide gate. No additional wildlife is observed within the Basin at this time.

4:30 pm. Work crews are finished for the day.

Additional Observations

No black skimmers or California least terns were observed today.

No monarch butterflies were observed today.

No osprey were observed today.

Conclusions

Based on observations made during monitoring, the following conclusions were made:

1. Biological awareness training emphasizes caution to avoid harm to birds and wildlife in and around the Basin during construction activities. In general, wildlife tend to slowly move away from an area when crews approach to conduct work activities. They return to the area once the crews move on. They do not seem disturbed by the construction activities.
2. Wildlife are most active in the morning with a dramatic decrease in observed wildlife activity after 10:00 am. Wildlife activity increases slightly in the late afternoon.
3. The algal cover has significantly decreased since the end of July. This is partly due to the tide gates being opened and closed.
4. There were no birds present within the active work areas.
5. No rays were observed swimming within the Basin today.
6. No significant fish die offs were observed although the drawdown of water may change the system dramatically in the coming weeks. The CDFW approved Final Fish Relocation Plan will be implemented to minimize fish mortality to the greatest extent feasible.

7. The number of birds have decreased in recent weeks and may be attributed to a change in water levels.

Table 1 provides a list of bird species observed during biological monitoring on August 18, 2015.

Table 1. Bird Species Observed during Biological Monitoring on August 18, 2015		
Common Name	Scientific Name	Comments
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	1 individual observed today
Snowy Egret	<i>Egretta thula</i>	2-4 individuals observed foraging in Basin
Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	2-3 individuals observed foraging in Basin
Black-crowned Night-Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	3-4 individuals observed foraging in Basin or flying over the Basin
Great blue heron	<i>Ardea Herodias</i>	2-3 individuals observed foraging in Basin
Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	None observed today
Double-crested Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax penicillatus</i>	None observed today
Western Gull	<i>Larus occidentalis</i>	Very common; several flyovers of the Basin
Mourning Dove	<i>Zenaida macroura</i>	Several observed, particularly on power lines in the northern portions of the Basin and resting atop nearby homes.
American Crow	<i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>	Very common; several observed in vegetation, on utility poles, on fences, and flying over Basin
Black Phoebe	<i>Sayornis nigricans</i>	2-3 individuals foraging around Basin
House Finch	<i>Haemorhous mexicanus</i>	Very common; several observed in vegetation and on fences throughout the Basin
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	Very common; Several observed along the north and east banks
Belted Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle alcyon</i>	1 individual observed today



Memorandum

To: Rick Sun, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works

From: Marcus Sizemore, CDM Smith

Date: August 19, 2015

Subject: Final Daily Biological Monitoring for the Oxford Retention Basin Multi-use Enhancement Project

Introduction

This memorandum summarizes the findings of biological monitoring on August 19, 2015, for the Oxford Retention Basin Multiuse Enhancement project. Information regarding the regulatory drivers and methodology of daily biological monitoring can be found in the Biological Monitoring – Introduction and Methods for Phase 2 Construction Memo, dated June 23, 2015.

Biological monitoring was conducted by Marcus Sizemore, CDM Smith biologist, beginning at 7:00am and ending at 4:00 p.m. The weather forecast showed 0-1% percent chance of rain after 12:00 pm for August 19, 2015. Weather conditions during the day were sunny with high temperatures in the low to mid 80's (°F). No measureable rain was recorded. A breeze of 5-10 mph was also present today.

During the daily monitoring, the biologist observed activities associated with earthwork along Washington Boulevard and Admiralty Way. These included ditch excavation and earth moving. A two-man survey crew was also performing tasks along Admiralty Way. All crews were overseen by the contractor superintendent, Qualified SWPPP Professional, Health & Safety (H&S) Officer, and the Inspector of Record.

The following sections provide the biologist's field log notes, with observations of the day's activities and wildlife presence and behavior.

Biologist's Field Log

CDM Smith Biologist: Marcus Sizemore

Date: August 19, 2015

7:00 am. The biologist arrived at Oxford Basin (site) and prepared and organized field equipment for initial biological survey.

7:15 am. The biologist begins the initial biological survey. The following birds are reported during

the initial site assessment:

One snowy egret was observed along the south bank near Admiralty Way. A black-crowned night-heron was seen at the southwest tide gate. A group of crows were seen near the pine trees along the south bank. No additional wildlife was observed at this time.

7:30 am. The Health and Safety officer conducts health and safety training for approximately ten minutes. The biologist then conducts Bio-awareness Training with the 7-person contractor crew (superintendent and six crewmembers). The Qualified SWPPP Professional and the Inspector of Record also attended the training. Also on hand were the H&S officer and a two-man survey crew. The biologist goes over what has been observed so far today and noted there were no new nests observed during his initial walk-thru. He reminds the crew to adhere to BMPs to prevent soil erosion into the Basin as well as dust control measures. The contractor crew and others present signed the sign-in sheet indicating they understood and will follow BMPs and wildlife protection measures. The superintendent explains that the planned activities for the day. These include continued earthwork along Washington Boulevard, dirt removal along Admiralty Way and dewatering of the Basin.

8:00 am. Work begins along Washington Boulevard with backfilling of the open ditches to bring them up to the proposed grade. The survey crew begins working along Admiralty Way and places the backsight along the northwest peninsula. There is no wildlife present within any of the work areas.

8:30 am. Workers prepare for the lane closure along Admiralty Way. One snowy egret is observed at the southwest tide gate. There is no wildlife present within the work area.

9:00 am. One lane along Admiralty Way is closed. Soil removal begins and trucks are loaded within the closed lane.

9:07 am. A black phoebe is observed at the northeast culvert.

9:15 am. One great egret is observed at the northwest tide gate.

10:00 am. Three trucks arrive to haul material along Admiralty Way. One lane is currently closed. No wildlife is observed within the Basin at this time.

10:30 am. No wildlife is present in any of the work areas at this time.

11:00 am. Work continues along Washington Boulevard and Admiralty Way. No wildlife is observed within the Basin at this time.

11:30 am. Dewatering and earthwork continues. There is no wildlife present within the work area.

12:00 pm. All crews and the biologist break for lunch.

1:00 pm. Crews return from lunch. Work continues along Washington Boulevard and Admiralty Way. No wildlife is observed within the Basin at this time.

1:30 pm. Crews continue to work along Washington Boulevard on the north side of the Basin. Activities include watering (dust control), excavation and other earth work. No wildlife is observed within the Basin at this time.

2:30 pm. Work along Washington Boulevard continues while the crew along Admiralty Way have completed loading all available trucks and prepare to re-open the closed lane. One snowy egret is observed within the northern tidal flat. No other wildlife is observed within the Basin at this time.

3:00 pm. Crews continue to work along Washington Boulevard on the north side of the Basin. No wildlife is observed within the Basin at this time.

3:30 pm. No wildlife is observed within the Basin at this time.

4:00 pm. A snowy egret is observed within the northwest tidal flat while a great blue heron is observed flying over the sight from east to west. No additional wildlife is observed within the Basin at this time.

4:30 pm. Work crews are finished for the day.

Additional Observations

No black skimmers or California least terns were observed today.

No monarch butterflies were observed today.

No osprey were observed today.

Conclusions

Based on observations made during monitoring, the following conclusions were made:

1. Biological awareness training emphasizes caution to avoid harm to birds and wildlife in and around the Basin during construction activities. In general, wildlife tend to slowly move away from an area when crews approach to conduct work activities. They return to the area once the crews move on. They do not seem disturbed by the construction activities.
2. Wildlife are most active in the morning with a dramatic decrease in observed wildlife activity after 10:00 am. Wildlife activity increases slightly in the late afternoon.
3. The algal cover has significantly decreased since the end of July. This is partly due to the tide gates being opened and closed.
4. There were no birds present within the active work areas.

5. No rays were observed swimming within the Basin today.
6. No significant fish die offs were observed although the drawdown of water may change the system dramatically in the coming weeks. The CDFW approved Final Fish Relocation Plan will be implemented to minimize fish mortality to the greatest extent feasible.
7. The number of birds have decreased in recent weeks and may be attributed to a change in water levels.

Table 1 provides a list of bird species observed during biological monitoring on August 19, 2015.

Table 1. Bird Species Observed during Biological Monitoring on August 19, 2015		
Common Name	Scientific Name	Comments
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	No individuals observed today
Snowy Egret	<i>Egretta thula</i>	2-4 individuals observed foraging in Basin
Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	2-3 individuals observed foraging in Basin
Black-crowned Night-Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	3-4 individuals observed foraging in Basin or flying over the Basin
Great blue heron	<i>Ardea Herodias</i>	2-3 individuals observed foraging in Basin
Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	None observed today
Double-crested Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax penicillatus</i>	None observed today
Western Gull	<i>Larus occidentalis</i>	Very common; several flyovers of the Basin
Mourning Dove	<i>Zenaida macroura</i>	Several observed, particularly on power lines in the northern portions of the basin and resting atop nearby homes.
American Crow	<i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>	Very common; several observed in vegetation, on utility poles, on fences, and flying over Basin
Black Phoebe	<i>Sayornis nigricans</i>	2-3 individuals foraging around Basin
House Finch	<i>Haemorhous mexicanus</i>	Very common; several observed in vegetation and on fences throughout the Basin
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	Very common; Several observed along the north and east banks
Belted Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle alcyon</i>	No individuals observed today



Memorandum

To: Rick Sun, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works

From: Marcus Sizemore, CDM Smith

Date: August 20, 2015

Subject: Final Daily Biological Monitoring for the Oxford Retention Basin Multi-use Enhancement Project

Introduction

This memorandum summarizes the findings of biological monitoring on August 20, 2015, for the Oxford Retention Basin Multiuse Enhancement project. Information regarding the regulatory drivers and methodology of daily biological monitoring can be found in the Biological Monitoring – Introduction and Methods for Phase 2 Construction Memo, dated June 23, 2015.

Biological monitoring was conducted by Marcus Sizemore, CDM Smith biologist, beginning at 7:00am and ending at 4:00 p.m. The weather forecast showed 0-1% percent chance of rain after 12:00 pm for August 20, 2015. Weather conditions during the day were sunny with high temperatures in the low to mid 80's (°F). No measureable rain was recorded. A breeze of 5-10 mph was also present today.

During the daily monitoring, the biologist observed activities associated with earthwork along Washington Boulevard and Admiralty Way. These included ditch excavation and earth moving. Additionally, a subcontractor was on hand to install a steel plate on the tide outlet on the marina side of the gate. All crews were overseen by the contractor superintendent, Qualified SWPPP Professional, Health & Safety (H&S) Officer, and the Inspector of Record.

The following sections provide the biologist's field log notes, with observations of the day's activities and wildlife presence and behavior.

Biologist's Field Log

CDM Smith Biologist: Marcus Sizemore

Date: August 20, 2015

7:00 am. The biologist arrived at Oxford Basin (site) and prepared and organized field equipment for initial biological survey.

7:15 am. The biologist begins the initial biological survey. The following birds are reported during

the initial site assessment:

Two snowy egrets were observed along the south bank of the basin while two black-crowned night-herons were seen within the northern mudflat. Two female mallards were observed along the eastern side of Basin and a third black-crowned night-heron was found at the northeast culvert wall. No additional wildlife was observed at this time.

7:30 am. The Health and Safety officer conducts health and safety training for approximately ten minutes. The biologist then conducts Bio-awareness Training with the 7-person contractor crew (superintendent and six crewmembers). The Qualified SWPPP Professional and the Inspector of Record also attended the training. The H&S officer was also present for the bio-awareness meeting. The biologist goes over what has been observed so far today and noted there were no new nests observed during his initial walk-thru. He reminds the crew to adhere to BMPs to prevent soil erosion into the Basin as well as dust control measures. The contractor crew and others present signed the sign-in sheet indicating they understood and will follow BMPs and wildlife protection measures. The superintendent explains that the planned activities for the day. These include continued earthwork along Washington Boulevard, SECA material removal along Admiralty Way, dewatering of the Basin, and installation of a plate to cover the tide gate on the marina side by a subcontractor starting at approximately 4pm.

8:00 am. Work begins along Washington Boulevard with backfilling of the open ditches to bring them up to the proposed grade. Crews along Admiralty Way mobilize and prepare for the removal of SECA material. There is no wildlife present within any of the work areas.

8:30 am. Workers prepare for the lane closure along Admiralty Way. There is no wildlife present within the work area.

9:00 am. One snowy egret is observed within the northern portion of the Basin. A great egret is present along the south bank. One lane along Admiralty Way is closed. SECA material removal begins and trucks are loaded within the closed lane. Five trucks are present.

9:30 am. Two black-crowned night-herons and one snowy egret are observed within the southeast canal. A juvenile black-crowned night-heron and another snowy egret are located along the east bank.

9:45 am. One great blue heron is observed within the northern tidal flat. There is no wildlife present within any of the work areas.

10:10 am. One snowy egret is observed near the southwest tide gate.

10:30 am. No wildlife is present in any of the work areas at this time.

11:00 am. One snowy egret is observed near the southwest tide gate. Work continues along Washington Boulevard and Admiralty Way. No other wildlife is observed within the Basin at this

time.

11:30 am. A female mallard is observed within the west side of the Basin. There is no wildlife present within the work area.

12:00 pm. All crews and the biologist break for lunch. A double-crested cormorant is observed within the northwestern area of the Basin.

1:00 pm. Crews return from lunch. Work continues along Washington Boulevard and Admiralty Way. No wildlife is observed within the Basin at this time.

1:30 pm. Work continues along Washington Boulevard and Admiralty Way. A snowy egret is observed along the west bank. A great blue heron is observed along the northeast culvert wall. There is no wildlife present within the work area.

2:00 pm. One snowy egret is observed along the south bank near two pine trees. A second snowy egret is near the northeast peninsula.

2:30 pm. The snowy egret from the south bank moves towards the tide gate. No other wildlife is observed within the Basin at this time.

3:00 pm. Crews continue to work along Washington Boulevard on the north side of the Basin. No wildlife is observed within the Basin at this time. A pair of mallards (male and female) are observed within the middle of the Basin. No other wildlife is observed within the Basin at this time.

3:30 pm. No wildlife is observed within the Basin at this time.

4:00 pm. The mallard pair is still present within the Basin foraging. No other wildlife is observed within the Basin at this time. The crew arrives to install the steel plate on the outlet side of the tide gate. Work will continue for several hours. There is no wildlife present within that work area.

4:30 pm. Earth work crews are finished for the day.

Additional Observations

No black skimmers or California least terns were observed today.

No monarch butterflies were observed today.

No osprey were observed today.

Conclusions

Based on observations made during monitoring, the following conclusions were made:

1. Biological awareness training emphasizes caution to avoid harm to birds and wildlife in and around the Basin during construction activities. In general, wildlife tend to slowly move away from an area when crews approach to conduct work activities. They return to the area once the crews move on. They do not seem disturbed by the construction activities.
2. Wildlife are most active in the morning with a dramatic decrease in observed wildlife activity after 10:00 am. Wildlife activity increases slightly in the late afternoon.
3. The algal cover has significantly decreased since the end of July. This is partly due to the tide gates being opened and closed.
4. There were no birds present within the active work areas.
5. No rays were observed swimming within the Basin today.
6. No significant fish die offs were observed although the drawdown of water may change the system dramatically in the coming weeks. The CDFW approved Final Fish Relocation Plan will be implemented to minimize fish mortality to the greatest extent feasible.
7. The number of birds have decreased in recent weeks and may be attributed to a change in water levels.

Table 1 provides a list of bird species observed during biological monitoring on August 20, 2015.

Table 1. Bird Species Observed during Biological Monitoring on August 20, 2015		
Common Name	Scientific Name	Comments
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	2 individuals observed today
Snowy Egret	<i>Egretta thula</i>	2-4 individuals observed foraging in Basin
Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	2-3 individuals observed foraging in Basin
Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	3-4 individuals observed foraging in Basin or flying over the Basin
Great blue heron	<i>Ardea Herodias</i>	2-3 individuals observed foraging in Basin
Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	None observed today
Double-crested Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax penicillatus</i>	1 individual observed today
Western Gull	<i>Larus occidentalis</i>	Very common; several flyovers of the Basin
Mourning Dove	<i>Zenaida macroura</i>	Several observed, particularly on power lines in the northern portions of the Basin and resting atop nearby homes.
American Crow	<i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>	Very common; several observed in vegetation, on utility poles, on fences, and flying over Basin
Black Phoebe	<i>Sayornis nigricans</i>	2-3 individuals foraging around Basin
House Finch	<i>Haemorhous mexicanus</i>	Very common; several observed in vegetation and on fences throughout the Basin
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	Very common; Several observed along the north and east banks
Belted Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle alcyon</i>	No individuals observed today



Memorandum

To: Rick Sun, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works

From: Marcus Sizemore, CDM Smith

Date: August 21, 2015

Subject: Final Daily Biological Monitoring for the Oxford Retention Basin Multi-use Enhancement Project

Introduction

This memorandum summarizes the findings of biological monitoring on August 21, 2015, for the Oxford Retention Basin Multiuse Enhancement project. Information regarding the regulatory drivers and methodology of daily biological monitoring can be found in the Biological Monitoring – Introduction and Methods for Phase 2 Construction Memo, dated June 23, 2015.

Biological monitoring was conducted by Marcus Sizemore, CDM Smith biologist, beginning at 7:00am and ending at 4:00 p.m. The weather forecast showed 0-1% percent chance of rain after 12:00 pm for August 21, 2015. Weather conditions during the day were sunny with high temperatures in the low to mid 80's (°F). No measureable rain was recorded. A breeze of 5-10 mph was also present today.

During the daily monitoring, the biologist observed activities associated with earthwork along Washington Boulevard and Admiralty Way. These included ditch excavation and earth moving. Additionally, a subcontractor was on hand to install a steel plate on the tide outlet on the marina side of the gate after a failed attempt the previous day. All crews were overseen by the contractor superintendent, Qualified SWPPP Professional, Health & Safety (H&S) Officer, and the Inspector of Record.

The following sections provide the biologist's field log notes, with observations of the day's activities and wildlife presence and behavior.

Biologist's Field Log

CDM Smith Biologist: Marcus Sizemore

Date: August 21, 2015

7:00 am. The biologist arrived at Oxford Basin (site) and prepared and organized field equipment for initial biological survey.

7:15 am. The biologist begins the initial biological survey. The following birds are reported during the initial site assessment:

One great blue heron is observed within the west side of the Basin. Another great blue heron and one snowy egret are observed within the northern tidal flat near the water. No additional wildlife was observed at this time.

7:30 am. The Health and Safety officer conducts health and safety training for approximately ten minutes. The biologist then conducts Bio-awareness Training with the 8-person contractor crew (superintendent and seven crewmembers). The Qualified SWPPP Professional and the Inspector of Record also attended the training. The H&S officer was also present for the bio-awareness meeting. The biologist goes over what has been observed so far today and noted there were no new nests observed during his initial walk-thru. He reminds the crew to adhere to BMPs to prevent soil erosion into the Basin as well as dust control measures. The contractor crew and others present signed the sign-in sheet indicating they understood and will follow BMPs and wildlife protection measures. The superintendent explains that the planned activities for the day. These include continued earthwork along Washington Boulevard, SECA material removal along Admiralty Way, dewatering of the Basin, and another attempted installation of a plate to cover the tide gate on the marina side by a subcontractor starting at approximately 4:00 pm.

8:00 am. Work begins along Washington Boulevard with backfilling of the open ditches to bring them up to the proposed grade. Crews along Admiralty Way mobilize and prepare for the removal of SECA material. There is no wildlife present within any of the work areas.

8:15 am. Two cormorants are present within the western side of the Basin feeding and diving within the water.

8:30 am. Workers prepare for the lane closure along Admiralty Way. There is no wildlife present within the work area.

9:00 am. Two snowy egrets are observed along the south bank foraging. One lane along Admiralty Way is closed. SECA material removal begins and trucks are loaded within the closed lane. Three trucks are present.

9:30 am. The two snowy egrets are still present along the south bank. There is no wildlife present within any of the work areas or within the Basin.

10:00 am. One snowy egret is observed near the southwest tide gate along the south bank.

10:15 am. Two black phoebes are present along the east bank perched on the silt fence. No other wildlife is present at this time.

10:30 am. One snowy egret is observed near the southwest tide gate. No other wildlife is present at this time.

11:00 am. Work continues along Washington Boulevard and Admiralty Way. No other wildlife is observed within the Basin at this time.

11:30 am. There is no wildlife present within the work areas.

12:00 pm. All crews and the biologist break for lunch.

1:00 pm. Crews return from lunch. Work continues along Washington Boulevard and Admiralty Way. No wildlife is observed within the Basin at this time.

1:30 pm. Work continues along Washington Boulevard and Admiralty Way. A snowy egret is observed along the west bank. There is no wildlife present within the work area.

2:30 pm. No other wildlife is observed within the Basin at this time.

3:00 pm. Crews continue to work along Washington Boulevard on the north side of the Basin. No wildlife is observed within the Basin at this time.

3:30 pm. The crews open up the closed lane along Admiralty Way. The subcontractor arrives to attempt to install the tide gate plates. No wildlife is observed within the Basin at this time.

4:00 pm. No other wildlife is observed within the Basin at this time. The crew begins to install the steel plate on the outlet side of the tide gate. Work will continue for several hours. There is no wildlife present within that work area.

4:30 pm. Earth work crews are finished for the day.

Additional Observations

No black skimmers or California least terns were observed today.

No monarch butterflies were observed today.

No osprey were observed today.

Conclusions

Based on observations made during monitoring, the following conclusions were made:

1. Biological awareness training emphasizes caution to avoid harm to birds and wildlife in and around the Basin during construction activities. In general, wildlife tend to slowly move away from an area when crews approach to conduct work activities. They return to the area once the crews move on. They do not seem disturbed by the construction activities.

2. Wildlife are most active in the morning with a dramatic decrease in observed wildlife activity after 10:00 am. Wildlife activity increases slightly in the late afternoon.
3. The algal cover has significantly decreased since the end of July. This is partly due to the tide gates being opened and closed.
4. There were no birds present within the active work areas.
5. No rays were observed swimming within the Basin today.
6. No significant fish die offs were observed although the drawdown of water may change the system dramatically in the coming weeks. The CDFW approved Final Fish Relocation Plan will be implemented to minimize fish mortality to the greatest extent feasible.
7. The number of birds have decreased in recent weeks and may be attributed to a change in water levels.

Table 1 provides a list of bird species observed during biological monitoring on August 21, 2015.

Table 1. Bird Species Observed during Biological Monitoring on August 21, 2015		
Common Name	Scientific Name	Comments
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	No individuals observed today
Snowy Egret	<i>Egretta thula</i>	2-4 individuals observed foraging in Basin
Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	2-3 individuals observed foraging in Basin
Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	3-4 individuals observed foraging in Basin or flying over the Basin
Great blue heron	<i>Ardea Herodias</i>	2-3 individuals observed foraging in Basin
Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	None observed today
Double-crested Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax penicillatus</i>	2 individuals observed today
Western Gull	<i>Larus occidentalis</i>	Very common; several flyovers of the Basin
Mourning Dove	<i>Zenaida macroura</i>	Several observed, particularly on power lines in the northern portions of the Basin and resting atop nearby homes.
American Crow	<i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>	Very common; several observed in vegetation, on utility poles, on fences, and flying over Basin
Black Phoebe	<i>Sayornis nigricans</i>	2-3 individuals foraging around Basin
House Finch	<i>Haemorhous mexicanus</i>	Very common; several observed in vegetation and on fences throughout the Basin
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	Very common; Several observed along the north and east banks
Belted Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle alcyon</i>	No individuals observed today