



Memorandum

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

From: Danielle Gallant, CDM Smith

Date: July 20, 2015

Subject: Final Daily Biological Monitoring for the Oxford Retention Basin Multiuse Enhancement Project

Introduction

This memorandum summarizes the findings of biological monitoring on July 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 Danielle Gallant, CDM Smith biologist, beginning at 7:30 am and ending at 2:00 p.m. Due to a weather forecast on Sunday evening of measurable rain (50% probability of rain with greater than 0.02 inches of rain predicted), it was determined that work would not occur on Monday. At 6:00 am, the weather forecast showed no measurable rain predicted with a 20% percent chance of rain after 12:00 for July 20, 2015. Weather conditions during the day were partly cloudy with high temperatures in the mid-80's (°F). No measureable rain was recorded.

During the daily monitoring, the biologist observed activities associated with delivery of rebar and laying of temporary piping for dewatering activities. All crews were overseen by the contractor superintendent 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

7:35 am. Biological monitor is on site to complete the initial investigation. Intense foraging at tide gate is observed. Thirty snowy egrets, one great egret, two juvenile and one adult great blue heron, two adult and three juvenile black-crowned-night heron and six double-crested cormorant are foraging at tide gate. A mourning dove flies into the northwest mudflats. An American crow forages on the northwest peninsula. A western gull flies across the West Basin from southwest to northeast.

8:00 am. Biological monitor gathers the crew and prepares to give bio-awareness training.

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8:25 am. A juvenile black-crowned-night heron lands on the fencing at the stormwater culvert. Many snowy egret are foraging at the tide gate and along the southern bank of the Basin. Cormorants are fishing in the West Basin.

8:30 am. Complete Bio-awareness training is given for the superintendent, the inspector of record, the Qualified SWPPP Professional, the rebar delivery crew, and the Rain for Rent crew. Pumps for dewatering and rebar for the retaining wall on the north bank are being dropped off.

8:40 am. No intense earth moving work expected to occur today.

9:00 am. Crew is unloading rebar on the northeast bank near the stormwater culvert. Intense foraging activity still occurring at the tide gate and includes snowy egrets, great egret, black-crowned-night heron and great blue heron.

9:30 am. Three female mallards are swimming and foraging in the West Basin. Many snowy egrets continue to forage in the West Basin and adjacent to the tide gate. Black-crowned-night heron, great blue heron and great egret also forage near the tide gate. Very minimal construction activity is occurring on site--unloading of the rebar is complete.

9:40 am. A sulfur butterfly flies along the northern bank and over the Central Basin. Two mourning doves, one on the northwest peninsula and one in the northern mudflats, fly east towards the bike path.

10:20 am. Two female mallards exit the West Basin flying northwest. A great blue heron enters the Central Basin from the southwest. There is still intense feeding activity at the tide gate with a mixture of snowy egret, great egret, great blue heron, black-crowned-night heron. Snowy egret are also foraging along the southern bank and in the northern mudflats. A northern mockingbird flies from north to south over the Central Basin. A mourning dove sits on the permanent power lines over the West Basin. A house finch calls from the temporary power lines on the West Bank. Three snowy egret and two black-crowned-night heron are perching in the pine trees near the tide gate. A sulfur butterfly flies along the West Bank. Two house finches fly over the northern mudflats and exit the basin west. No construction activities are occurring at this time. The honey bee hive is still on site.

10:30 am. Workers are unloading the temporary piping for dewatering. Piping is being laid on the western most edge of the construction site. Care is being taken not to disturb the honey bees. A monarch butterfly briefly enters the site adjacent to the where workers are unloading piping. No movement is occurring at this time so there is no need to stop activities. Biological monitor makes workers aware of the presence and informs them again that she will stop activities if the monarch butterfly approaches.

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10:50 am. Over the past hour, there has been a noticeable die-off in fish within the basin. The deceased individuals are concentrated adjacent to the tide gate and throughout the West Basin. A significant number of deceased individuals are observed near the tide gates. The entirety of the Basin was inspected and the phenomenon does not appear to be Basin-wide at this time. The fish appear to be predominantly Topsmelt. Consultation with California Department of Fish and Wildlife and the project team's fisheries expert is sought. It is determined that the sudden loss of fish within the basin is not related to project activities. CDFW informed the project team that the fish die off is a naturally occurring phenomena in water bodies such as Oxford Basin, likely due to the influx of stormwater from yesterday's rain event and the subsequent change in salinity and possible contaminants. No action is recommended by CDFW other than to remove deceased fish, where possible. The birds will feed on deceased fish as well.

11:30 am. Two western gulls enter the West Basin and begin feeding. The snowy and great egrets continue to forage adjacent to the tide gate and along the southern bank. Three snowy egret also forage in the northern mudflats. An excavator will be moved from the northwest corner of the site to the southwest corner of the site. At this time there are approximately 50-70 deceased fish located within the West Basin.

12:00 pm. There are approximately 75 deceased fish individuals in the West Basin at this time. All work ceases for lunch.

1:00 pm. There are still approximately 75 deceased fish in the West Basin. Approximately twelve snowy egret and three great egret are foraging and perching in and around the tide gate. There are also great blue heron and black-crowned-night heron present. A house sparrow is foraging on the west bank adjacent to the construction trailer. No work is occurring at this time.

1:15 pm. A great blue heron flies from the eastern portion of the site to the tide gate. Two American crows flyover the West Basin and exit the site to the south. A western gull flies over the West Basin from north to south. There is no construction activity in the Basin at the present time.

1:30 pm. There is currently no work occurring on site. The biological monitor is the only individual onsite.

2:00 pm. The contractor superintendent returns, work will cease for the day.

Additional Observations

No black skimmers or California least terns were observed today. A monarch butterfly was 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. Increased water levels and less algal mats were observed throughout the Basin.
4. CDFW advised the project team that the fish die off in Oxford Basin is a naturally occurring phenomena, similar to that which occurs in other water bodies after a major storm event. According to CDFW, the influx of stormwater and rainwater in the Basin over the weekend flushed urban pollutants into the Basin and also changed salinity levels in the Basin—contributing to the fish die off. No action is recommended by CDFW other than to remove deceased fish, where possible. Colonial waterfowl and shorebirds consumed deceased fish. No deceased fish removal was necessary.

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

Table 1. Bird Species Observed during Biological Monitoring on July 20, 2015		
Common Name	Scientific Name	Comments
American Crow	<i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>	Very common; Individuals observed throughout the Basin
Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	Very common today, individuals observed foraging in West Basin adjacent to the tide gate
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	4 female individuals
Double-crested Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax penicillatus</i>	9 individuals observed in the West Basin and flying overhead
Great Blue Heron	<i>Ardea Herodias</i>	5 individuals observed foraging in the West Basin
Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	3 individuals observed foraging in West Basin
House Finch	<i>Haemorhous mexicanus</i>	Very common; Individuals observed throughout the Basin
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	5 observed flying over and foraging within the Basin
Mourning Dove	<i>Zenaida macroura</i>	4 observed, particularly on power lines in the northern portions of the West Basin
Snowy Egret	<i>Egretta thula</i>	Man individuals observed foraging throughout the West Basin
Western Gull	<i>Larus occidentalis</i>	Very common; several flyovers of the Basin



Memorandum

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

From: Danielle Gallant, CDM Smith

Date: July 21, 2015

Subject: Final Daily Biological Monitoring for the Oxford Retention Basin Multiuse Enhancement Project

Introduction

This memorandum summarizes the findings of biological monitoring on July 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 Danielle Gallant, CDM Smith biologist, beginning at 7:00 am and ending at 4:05 p.m. The weather forecast showed 0-3% percent chance of rain after 12:00 for July 21, 2015. Weather conditions during the day were partly cloudy with high temperatures in the mid-80's (°F). No measureable rain was recorded.

During the daily monitoring, the biologist observed activities associated with relocating of construction fencing and laying of temporary piping for dewatering activities. All crews were overseen by the contractor superintendent 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

7:00 am. Biological monitor arrives on site to complete the initial bio-assessment. A mixture of two adult and four to six juvenile black-crowned night-heron are perching and foraging within the West Basin adjacent to the tide gate. A black-crowned night-heron is perching in the pine tree adjacent to the tide gate. Four snowy egret are foraging throughout the West Basin. A juvenile great blue heron also forages at the tide gate. Six snowy egret, one juvenile great blue heron, one adult black-crowned night-heron, and a western gull are foraging within the Central Basin. Two mallards are swimming and foraging within the Central Basin as well, keeping close to the south bank. A house finch is foraging in the vegetation on the northwest mudflats. A double-crested cormorant is foraging in the West Basin. A third and fourth female mallard enters the West Basin and begins to swim and forage. When the monitor arrived on site this morning, it was apparent that the fish die-

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off had waned and there was no significant additional loss of life. There are approximately twenty deceased fish left in the West Basin at this point in time.

7:40 am. Two double-crested cormorants, two great blue heron, and a snowy egret are perched on the stormwater culvert. Two black-crowned night-heron are perched on the fencing on the east side on the stormwater culvert. An American crow flies over the East Basin from north to south. A juvenile great blue heron, a snowy egret, and a black-crowned night-heron are foraging in the southeast channel.

7:55 am. A sting ray is observed at the tide gate.

8:05 am. Bio-awareness training is completed for the site superintendent and his crew of five workers. Four Rain for Rent workers and two individuals from LACDPW also attend the training. The monitor explains the fish die-off phenomenon to the team so there is no cause for alarm during the workday. Workers are made aware of the consistent siting of monarch butterflies, and the need to be cautious in their presence. Work today will consist of moving the construction fencing back towards the sidewalk on Washington Boulevard and continuing trench work in that area. The workers will also conduct an emergency repair to an electrical system on site, and temporary piping for the dewatering of the basin is placed on the northeastern portion of the site.

8:30 am. The majority of the wildlife has moved to the south bank of the basin and is foraging. Wildlife does not appear phased by the excavator on site. Eight snowy egret are located in this area. Three snowy egrets are perched on the end of the northwest peninsula. The excavator has begun work on the west bank. An American crow is foraging on the northeast peninsula.

8:40 am. A northern mockingbird flies from north to south over the Central Basin. A western gull flies over the west basin from southeast to northwest.

9:00 am. Two black-crowned night-heron enter the West Basin from the south and lands near the tide gate. Currently, nine snowy egret and four black-crowned night-heron are foraging in the West Basin. Two house finch are perched and calling from the temporary power lines adjacent to the construction trailer.

9:20 am. House finches can be heard calling from the south. The excavator has moved to the north bank between the two peninsulas and is continuing the trenching work. An American crow pursues a rock pigeon around the Central Basin and captures it on the north mudflats. The pigeon resists and eventually flies away. The crow pursues shortly then flies off to the south. The pigeon flies north. A western gull flies east to west over the length of the Basin.

9:40 am. A western gull flies over the Basin from east to west, and a snowy egret flies from the northwest peninsula to the south bank. A second western gull flies over the Central Basin from north to south. Work currently consists of trenching along the north bank.

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9:50 am. A western gull flies over the Basin from west to east. The excavator is currently assisting in the moving of the construction fencing along the north bank near Washington Boulevard. Three house finches fly over the Central Basin from south to north to the residential area.

10:00 am. The mallards exit the Basin and fly northwest. Two snowy egret leave the north bank and northwest mudflats and land adjacent to the tide gate.

10:10 am. A snowy egret arrives from the west to the tide gate. A house finch flies over the northwest mudflats and exits the Basin to the west. Currently there are three snowy egret and two black-crowned night-heron foraging in the West Basin. Work continues and consists of moving construction fencing back along the northern bank. A house finch enters the northwest mudflats and forages in the sea lavender.

10:40 am. The majority of the wildlife continue to congregate at the tide gate. Currently there are three snowy egret, one great blue heron, and one black-crowned night-heron foraging in the tide gate and West Basin. House finches are foraging on the northwest peninsula.

10:55 am. A house finch lands on the permanent power lines over the West Basin. Fence relocation is still being completed along the northern bank. A western gull flies over the Central Basin from southeast to northwest.

11:10 am. A house finch forages on the northwest mudflats. Piping for the dewatering is being placed on the northeast slope, adjacent to the pumping house. An American crow flies over the Central Basin from south to north. A western gull flies overhead from southeast to northwest. Two mourning doves land on the permanent power lines over the Central Basin. The electrician who will complete the electrical repair is on site.

11:30 am. Minimal wildlife activity at the current time. Most wildlife is congregating at the tide gate and includes two snowy egret and a black-crowned night-heron. Two snowy egret are patrolling the south bank, and one snowy egret is resting on the West Bank.

12:00 pm. Work ceases for lunch.

1:00 pm. Work continues, moving the fence back from the construction site on Washington Boulevard is almost complete. There is very minimal activity within the Basin. One snowy egret forages at the end of the northwest peninsula.

1:15 pm. Three additional snowy egret enter the West Basin, and a mourning dove lands in the Northwest mudflats.

1:25 pm. Two snowy egret move into the Central Basin and are foraging. Fence relocation has moved to the eastern portion of the northern bank, between the two peninsulas. Now six snowy egret are located in the Central Basin. Two mourning doves land on the permanent power lines over the Central Basin. A house finch circles the Central Basin and lands in a palm tree on

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Washington Boulevard. The house finch then circles back down into the northern mudflats. Two additional house finches enter the Basin area and land on the northeast peninsula.

1:35 pm. A snowy egret flies from the stormwater culvert out of the Basin to the south. A great blue heron flies from the southeast channel to the south bank to join two other great blue heron resting on the slope.

1:45 pm. A western gull flies over the Central Basin from south to north. A house finch flies across the Central Basin from southeast to northwest.

2:00 pm. A western gull flies over the northern and northeastern mudflats from west to east and exits the Basin area.

2:15 pm. Workers continue to move construction fencing back to the edge of the sidewalk on the northern bank of the work area, adjacent to Washington Boulevard. Very minimal wildlife is present on site at this time. Three snowy egret fly in from the east and land in the Central Basin.

2:20 pm. A black-crowned night-heron flies from the tide gate northeast and lands in the pine tree on the northeast edge of the site near the bike path.

2:30 pm. A snowy egret flies east to west over the Basin and lands in the pine tree adjacent to the tide gate.

2:55 pm. Work along the northern bank of the Basin continues. The unloading and placement of pipe along the northeast edge of the Basin for dewatering also continues. A house sparrow lands on the construction fencing, outside of the work area.

3:05 pm. A cormorant circles the basin in its entirety and exits to the southwest. A house sparrow is foraging in the straw wattle near the construction activities.

3:20 pm. There are three snowy egrets resting at the end of the northwest peninsula. Two great blue heron continue to rest on the south bank of the Central Basin. A western gull flies over the site from west to east. Another western gull flies high overhead, circling the Central Basin. A great blue heron and a black-crowned night-heron are perched at the tide gate. A mourning dove lands on the permanent power lines over the Central Basin. A western gull flies from east to west over the Central and West Basin. The excavator continues to assist with construction fencing relocation on the northern bank adjacent to Washington Boulevard.

3:30 pm. One great blue heron from the south bank flies to the tide gate. A snowy egret flies from the southeast corner to the Central Basin and is wading through the Basin. There is very minimal wildlife activity currently within the Basin. An American crow flies from the south to the north over the East Basin and lands on the permanent power lines.

3:40 pm. Four snowy egret and two black-crowned night-heron are perched atop the tide gate. Two mourning doves are sitting on the permanent power lines over the West Basin. An American crow and a western gull fly overhead from north to south.

3:50 pm. The excavator is off and most work has stopped. A western gull flies overhead from southeast to the northwest toward the residential area across Washington Boulevard.

4:05 pm. Construction ceases for the day.

Additional Observations

No monarch butterflies, black skimmers or California least terns 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. Increased water levels and less algal mats were observed throughout the Basin.

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

Table 1. Bird Species Observed during Biological Monitoring on July 21, 2015		
Common Name	Scientific Name	Comments
American Crow	<i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>	5 observed; Individuals observed throughout the Basin
Black-crowned Night-Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	Very common today; individuals observed foraging in West Basin adjacent to the tide gate
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	4 female individuals
Double-crested Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax penicillatus</i>	4 individuals observed in the Basin and flying overhead
Great Blue Heron	<i>Ardea Herodias</i>	6 individuals observed foraging in the several locations throughout the Basin
House Finch	<i>Haemorhous mexicanus</i>	Very common; Individuals observed throughout the Basin

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Northern Mockingbird	<i>Mimus polyglottos</i>	1 individual seen flying over the Central Basin
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	1 observed flying over and foraging within the Basin
Mourning Dove	<i>Zenaida macroura</i>	6 observed, particularly on power lines in the northern portions of the West Basin
Rock Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	Several seen flying throughout the basin
Snowy Egret	<i>Egretta thula</i>	Many individuals observed foraging throughout the Basin
Western Gull	<i>Larus occidentalis</i>	Very common; several flyovers of the Basin



Memorandum

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

From: Danielle Gallant, CDM Smith

Date: July 22, 2015

Subject: Final Daily Biological Monitoring for the Oxford Retention Basin Multiuse Enhancement Project

Introduction

This memorandum summarizes the findings of biological monitoring on July 22, 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 Danielle Gallant, CDM Smith biologist, beginning at 7:05 am and ending at 3:30 p.m. The weather forecast showed 0-3% percent chance of rain after 12:00 for July 22, 2015. Weather conditions during the day were partly cloudy with high temperatures in the mid-70's (°F). No measureable rain was recorded.

During the daily monitoring, the biologist observed activities associated with removing asphalt and grading along the northeastern most section of the site. All crews were overseen by the contractor superintendent 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

7:05 am. Arrive on site to complete initial bio-assessment. Unlock gate and gather equipment.

7:20 am. There are two juvenile great blue heron, and one adult black-crowned night-heron perched at the tide gate. One juvenile great blue heron perches in the pine tree above the tide gate. Another forages at the end of the northwest peninsula. A black-crowned night-heron is sitting on the west bank. A juvenile great blue heron is foraging in the Central Basin. The water level is noticeably higher today, and the algal mats have lessened. Two double-crested cormorants are resting on the stormwater culvert. Three female mallards and one double-crested cormorant are swimming at the mouth of the southeast channel. Six American crow are patrolling the northeast bank. A double-crested cormorant circles the entirety of the Basin twice, then lands in the Central Basin. A juvenile black-crowned night-heron is perched on the tide gate. Two of the three female

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mallards take off and circle the East Basin, the snowy egret flies from the tide gate across the Basin and lands adjacent to the stormwater culvert. A second snowy egret enters the Basin and perches in the pine tree adjacent to the tide gate.

8:00 am. Conduct bio-awareness training for the site superintendent and his crew of four workers, as well as the qualified SWPPP professional. The Rain For Rent workers will be on site today, as well as one additional C.S. Legacy employee. The permanent electrical repair may occur today.

8:15 am. The Inspector of Record is on site and will receive bio-awareness training.

9:00 am. Rain for Rent arrives on site and the biological monitor provides the bio-awareness training, the biological monitor stresses that the monarch butterfly has consistently been seen on site and workers will need to be cognizant of their surroundings. Work is occurring on the northeast side of the site. Two black-crowned night-heron leave the tide gate and fly northwest over the parking lot. A snowy egret is perched on the west bank.

9:15 am. Four double-crested cormorant and one snowy egret are perched on the stormwater culvert. Four female mallards are foraging in the East Basin near the tide gate.

9:50 am. Work consists of fence post removal and asphalt removal on the far northeast section of the site. There is very minimal wildlife activity in this area.

10:00 am. Two American crows land in a eucalyptus tree on the north side of the bike path. Two additional crows fly and land on the temporary power lines on the north bank of the East Basin.

10:20 am. A mourning dove flies over the southeast channel from east to west. A second mourning dove flies over the construction area and offsite to the northwest.

10:30 am. Two mourning doves fly and land on the south bank across from the work area. Both birds fly off a moment later; one to the north and one to the south.

11:00 am. Very minimal wildlife activity on site today. A great blue heron and a snowy egret are resting at the end of the northwest peninsula and a snowy egret is foraging in the Central Basin. Work continues in the northeastern most corner of the site and consists of asphalt removal. Three American crows fly overhead over the East Basin. One American crow flies over the easternmost portion of the site and leaves the site to the south.

11:30 am. Workers are still removing asphalt from the northeast corner of the site. Very minimal wildlife activity in the area. A black phoebe is foraging on the south bank of the southeast channel.

12:00 pm. Work stops. Crew breaks for lunch.

12:30 pm to 2:00 pm. On-site construction meeting is held with Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, C.S. Legacy and Los Angeles County Department of Beaches and Harbors.

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2:15 pm. Work is still on-going on the northeastern corner of the site and includes asphalt debris cleanup. Three American crows are foraging on the south bank, just west of the southeast channel.

2:30 pm. Minimal wildlife activity in the work zone. The water truck and additional workers arrive at the northeast corner.

2:40 pm. Grading work begins where asphalt was removed. The water truck sprays the area to keep the dust to a minimum. An American crow flies overhead and lands in a eucalyptus tree on the north side of the bike path.

2:50 pm. An American crow flies away from the site from a eucalyptus tree on the north side of the bike path.

3:10 pm. Workers are watering down the site to ensure there is no dust. There is very minimal wildlife activity in the work area.

3:20 pm. A mourning dove flies adjacent the work area, but does not enter. The bird flies west and lands on the construction fencing on the south bank of the southeast channel.

3:30 pm. Work ceases for the day.

Additional Observations

No monarch butterflies, black skimmers or California least terns 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. Increased water levels and less algal mats were observed throughout the Basin.

Table 1 provides a list of bird species observed during biological monitoring on July 22, 2015.

Table 1. Bird Species Observed during Biological Monitoring on July 22, 2015		
Common Name	Scientific Name	Comments
American Crow	<i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>	10 observed; Individuals observed throughout the Basin
Black-crowned Night-Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	3 observed; individuals observed foraging in West Basin adjacent to the tide gate
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	6 female individuals swimming in the East and Central Basin
Double-crested Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax penicillatus</i>	4 individuals observed in the Basin and flying overhead
Great Blue Heron	<i>Ardea Herodias</i>	4 individuals observed foraging in the several locations throughout the Basin
Mourning Dove	<i>Zenaida macroura</i>	6 observed, particularly on power lines in the northern portions of the West Basin
Snowy Egret	<i>Egretta thula</i>	Several seen throughout the Basin
Black Phoebe	<i>Sayornis nigricans</i>	1 observed on the south bank of the southeast channel



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During the daily monitoring, the biologist observed activities associated with debris cleanup and sidewalk removal. All crews were overseen by the contractor superintendent 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

6:55 am. Biological monitor arrives on site to conduct the initial assessment. Unlock fence and gather gear.

7:10 am. A black-crowned night-heron is perched on the tide gate. Four double-crested cormorant are circling the Basin and eventually three land in the Central Basin. Four American crows are foraging on the northwest bank. A snowy egret circles the Central Basin and flies off to the south. Two western gulls fly over the Central Basin from southeast to northwest. A great blue heron enters the Central Basin from the west. A western gull flies overhead from west to east. Two American crows fly overhead from west to east and exit the Basin to the north. A western gull flies across the Basin from west to east and exits to the east. A great blue heron flies over the East Basin and exits to the south toward the marina. An American crow flies over the West and Central Basin and exits to

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the northeast. Three juvenile black-crowned night-heron enter the Basin and perch on the tide gate. A snowy egret enters from the north and circles the West Basin before landing to forage. An American crow flies from the southeast to the northwest over the West Basin. A rock pigeon flies over the Central Basin and circles back to the south.

7:50 am. Two double-crested cormorants fly from the East Basin to the West Basin. A juvenile black-crowned night-heron flies from the tide gate and lands on the west bank.

8:00 am. Bio-awareness training is given to the site superintendent and his crew of five workers. The Qualified SWPPP Professional is also on site. The site superintendent notes that work will consist of debris clean-up on the easternmost portion of the site, as well as the lane closure on Admiralty Way and removal of the sidewalk.

8:20 am. Two double-crested cormorants are resting on the stormwater culvert and an American crow flies from east to west over the Central Basin. Six American crows forage on the north bank of the East Basin.

8:30 am. Work is occurring on the easternmost portion of the site. The mini-excavator and the John Deere tractor are working to clear the asphalt debris on the slope behind the stormwater outfall. A dump truck is parked adjacent to the work area ready to haul the debris away. The Inspector of Record arrives on site and bio-awareness training is given.

9:00 am. An American crow flies from the east over the southeast channel. A mourning dove flies from north to south over the southeast channel. Rain for Rent is on site to continue set up of the system to drain the Basin. Bio-awareness training is given to the crew of three workers. All workers have signed the sign-in sheet.

9:30 am. Two American crows fly over the southeast channel from east to west. An American crow flies from the west and lands at the mouth of the southeast channel. Two American crows fly from the mouth of the southeast channel north and offsite.

9:45 am. A black phoebe forages on the south bank. Very minimal wildlife activity in this area. Three female mallards are foraging in the East Basin. An American crow sits atop a temporary power pole on the northern bank of the southeast channel. The plug for the tide gate is delivered.

10:10 am. A snowy egret rests on the tide gate and a western gull flies over the West Basin from south to north. A mourning dove rests on the permanent power lines over the Central Basin. Two house sparrows fly from the north bank of the Central Basin. The mourning dove that was resting on the power lines flies down on the north bank of the Central Basin. A western gull flies into and lands in the West Basin. A second western gull and an American crow fly over the Basin from east to west. The work on the easternmost corner of the site ceases and set-up for the lane closure on Admiralty Way begins. No work is occurring within the basin at this time.

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10:30 am. A black phoebe still forages in the East Basin and on the south bank. A great blue heron rests on the tide gate. A western gull flies over the West Basin from north to south. An Allen's hummingbird forages at the bushes on the west bank.

11:00 am. Two juvenile black-crowned night-heron are foraging at the tide gate. No work is occurring within the Basin at this time. An American crow is foraging on the northwest peninsula. A black-crowned night-heron is flushed from the tide gate and flies over to the northern mudflats. A great blue heron is also flushed from the tide gate and flies to the end of the northwest peninsula. Three mourning doves are resting on the permanent power lines over the Central Basin. Four American crows fly from the east and land on the northwest bank and the peninsula. A juvenile black-crowned night-heron flies and lands on a pine tree adjacent to the tide gate. A western gull flies from west to east over the entirety of the Basin.

11:15 am. A juvenile black-crowned night-heron flies from the north bank to the south and lands in a pine tree adjacent to the tide gate. Work consists of sidewalk removal on Admiralty Way outside construction fencing.

11:45 am. Workers are still removing the sidewalk from Admiralty Way. No wildlife activity observed during these activities.

12:00 pm. Work ceases for lunch.

1:00 pm. Work reconvenes. Workers are continuing to remove the sidewalk along Admiralty Way.

1:30 pm. Removal of sidewalk along Admiralty Way is still occurring. Very minimal wildlife activity along the roadway.

1:50 pm. Three rock pigeons fly over the work zone, but do not approach close enough to be cause for concern.

2:00 pm. A western gull flies overhead from southeast to northwest.

2:15 pm. A western gull flies over the work area from northeast to the southwest.

2:30 pm. Very minimal wildlife activity within the Basin. A black-crowned night-heron sits on the tide gate. Three house finches forage along the north bank of the West Basin. A western gull flies overhead from southwest to northeast. A second western gull flies from north to south and circles over Admiralty Way. No work is occurring within the Basin at this time. The construction crew is preparing to do work on the Verizon line within the sidewalk.

2:45 pm. The black-crowned night-heron sitting on the tide gate is flushed by workers from Rain for Rent setting up pumps. A juvenile black-crowned night-heron also exits the tide gate area and lands in the northwest mudflats. An American crow flies into the West Basin and then exits to the north.

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3:00 pm. Three house finches fly from the north bank of the West Basin and exit the site to the west. Work ceases for the day. Rain for Rent continues to move equipment around.

3:15 pm. Rain for Rent completes work for the day.

Additional Observations

No monarch butterflies, black skimmers or California least terns 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. Increased water levels and less algal mats were observed throughout the Basin.

Table 1 provides a list of bird species observed during biological monitoring on July 23, 2015.

Table 1. Bird Species Observed during Biological Monitoring on July 23, 2015		
Common Name	Scientific Name	Comments
American Crow	<i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>	Very common; Individuals observed throughout the Basin
Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	6 observed; individuals observed foraging in West Basin adjacent to the tide gate
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	3 female individuals swimming in the East and Central Basin
Double-crested Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax penicillatus</i>	4 individuals observed in the Basin and flying overhead
Great Blue Heron	<i>Ardea Herodias</i>	2 individuals observed foraging in the West Basin
Mourning Dove	<i>Zenaida macroura</i>	7 observed, particularly on power lines and flying overhead
Allen's Hummingbird	<i>Selasphorus sasin</i>	1 observed on the west bank.
Snowy Egret	<i>Egretta thula</i>	1 observed adjacent to the tide gate in in the Central Basin
Black Phoebe	<i>Sayornis nigricans</i>	1 observed on the south bank of the southeast channel



Memorandum

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

From: Danielle Gallant, CDM Smith

Date: July 24, 2015

Subject: Final Daily Biological Monitoring for the Oxford Retention Basin Multiuse Enhancement Project

Introduction

This memorandum summarizes the findings of biological monitoring on July 24, 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 Danielle Gallant, CDM Smith biologist, beginning at 7:10 am and ending at 3:30 p.m. The weather forecast showed 0-1% percent chance of rain after 12:00 for July 24, 2015. Weather conditions during the day were sunny with high temperatures in the mid to upper 70's (°F). No measureable rain was recorded.

During the daily monitoring, the biologist observed activities associated with asphalt debris clean-up, sidewalk removal and earthwork. All crews were overseen by the contractor superintendent 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

7:00 am. Biological monitor arrives on site to conduct initial assessment, unlock the construction gates and enter work area, and to prepare equipment for the day.

7:15 am. Two snowy egret are perched on the south bank of the Central Basin. A great blue heron is foraging at the tide gate, and an adult black-crowned night-heron is perched in the pine tree adjacent to the tide gate. An adult and a juvenile black-crowned night-heron are perched on the tide gate as well. A juvenile black-crowned night-heron is resting at the end on the northwest peninsula. A great blue heron forages in the Central Basin. Two house finches fly into the West Basin from the north and land on the north bank. An American crow flies into Parking Lot 8 and lands on a light post. One double-crested cormorant is perched on the stormwater culvert. Six female mallards are foraging in the East Basin. A western gull flies overhead from east to west. A hummingbird flies

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quickly overhead from east to west. A western gull and a mourning dove fly overhead from west to east.

8:00 am. Biological monitor gives bio-awareness training to the site superintendent and his crew of seven workers. Rain for Rent is also on site and has a crew of three workers. The Qualified SWPPP Professional and the Inspector of Record also attend the training and all workers sign the sign-in sheet. Work will consist of removing asphalt debris along the northeast bank and removing the sidewalk along Admiralty Way. Rain for Rent will continue set-up of the system to drain the Basin.

9:30 am. A black phoebe flies across the West Basin and lands in the sea lavender on the north bank. A great blue heron perches on the tide gate, as well as an adult and a juvenile black-crowned night-heron. Workers are using a jackhammer on the northeast slope to break up asphalt debris, and the mini-excavator is removing the sidewalk on Admiralty Way.

9:45 am. Two mini excavator's are working on the sidewalk area along Admiralty Way.

10:00 am. Very minimal wildlife activity is occurring along the roadway. Excavations of the sidewalk is still on-going. A western gull flies overhead from northeast to southwest. A sulfur butterfly flies past the work zone to the north, but does not enter into the work zone.

10:15 am. A western gull flies overhead from north to south. Intermittent jackhammer work occurs on the north bank adjacent to the pump house where asphalt is stockpiled. Removal of the sidewalk is still occurring on Admiralty Way.

10:30 am. Work is still occurring along Admiralty Way. No wildlife activity is observed in this area.

10:40 am. Two mourning doves fly over the work zone, but the equipment is not currently operating. A rock pigeon flies overhead from west to east.

11:25 am. Work continues on Admiralty Way with sidewalk removal and trenching work. No wildlife activity is observed at this location at this time.

11:35 am. A monarch butterfly flies onto the work zone and work stops for a moment. No harm is caused to the butterfly. The monarch exits the work zone and work resumes.

11:45 am. Two rock pigeons fly over the work zone from north to south. They are not in danger and exit the work zone unharmed.

12:15 pm. Work continues and asphalt is being removed from the sidewalk along Admiralty Way.

12:30 pm. Work ceases for lunch.

1:30 pm. Work reconvenes. Very minimal wildlife activity is observed within the Basin. A juvenile black-crowned night-heron perches on the tide gate. Workers are moving the construction fencing out along Admiralty Way to the inside edge of the curb.

2:00 pm. Fence moving continues. Very minimal wildlife along Admiralty Way.

2:30 pm. Fence moving continues at the southeastern end of the project site. Very minimal wildlife activity is observed along Admiralty Way. A female mallard is foraging in the Central Basin.

2:45 pm. A snowy egret flies from the northwest mudflats to the south bank. Fence moving is finished for the day. No work is occurring within the Basin.

2:55 pm. The female mallard exits the Basin.

3:00 pm. Worker is doing earthwork on the northern end of the west bank.

3:15 pm. A western gull flies over the work area from west to east, but is not close to the excavator and exits the work area unharmed.

3:30 pm. Work ceases for the day.

Additional Observations

No black skimmers or California least terns 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. Biological awareness training proved effective when the butterfly entered the work zone today. All workers stopped as soon as the biological monitor gave the signal and the butterfly was able to leave the work area unharmed. 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. Increased water levels and increased algal mats were observed throughout the Basin.

Table 1 provides a list of bird species observed during biological monitoring on July 24, 2015.

Table 1. Bird Species Observed during Biological Monitoring on July 24, 2015		
Common Name	Scientific Name	Comments
American Crow	<i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>	1 individual observed in Parking Lot 8
Black-crowned Night-Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	4 observed; individuals observed foraging in West Basin adjacent to the tide gate and near the northwest peninsula
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	7 female individuals swimming in the East and Central Basin
Double-crested Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax penicillatus</i>	1 individual observed adjacent to the stormwater culvert
Great Blue Heron	<i>Ardea Herodias</i>	2 individuals observed foraging in the West and Central Basin
Western Gull	<i>Larus occidentalis</i>	Very common; observed flying overhead
Mourning Dove	<i>Zenaida macroura</i>	3 observed, particularly on power lines and flying overhead
Snowy Egret	<i>Egretta thula</i>	3 observed adjacent to the tide gate in in the Central Basin
Black Phoebe	<i>Sayornis nigricans</i>	1 observed on the north bank of the West Basin