

**CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT
STATEMENT OF FINDINGS**

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) has issued Findings for this project pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA; California Public Resources Code, Division 13, Section 21081) and implementing Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Sections 15091 et seq.)

A. PROJECT SUBJECT TO DTSC APPROVAL

PROJECT TITLE: Bowtie Parcel Demonstration Wetland Project Removal Action Workplan		SITE CODING: 301630
PROJECT ADDRESS: 2800 Kerr Street	CITY: Los Angeles	COUNTY: Los Angeles
PROJECT SPONSOR: The Nature Conservancy	CONTACT: Kelsey Jessup, Project Manager	PHONE/ EMAIL: (650) 248-8878/ kelsey.jessup@tnc.org
Approval Action Under Consideration by DTSC:		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Removal Action Workplan <input type="checkbox"/> Interim Removal <input type="checkbox"/> Initial Permit Issuance <input type="checkbox"/> Permit Re-Issuance <input type="checkbox"/> Corrective Measure Study/Statement of Basis <input type="checkbox"/> Permit Modification <input type="checkbox"/> Closure Plan <input type="checkbox"/> Remedial Action Plan <input type="checkbox"/> Regulations <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify):		
STATUTORY AUTHORITY:		
<input type="checkbox"/> California H&SC, Chap. 6.5 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> California H&SC, Chap. 6.8 <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify):		
PROJECT DESCRIPTION (List Specific Activities Proposed to be Undertaken):		
<p><u>Project Description:</u> The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) approved the Removal Action Workplan (RAW) for the three-acre Bowtie Parcel Demonstration Wetland Project (Demonstration Project). The Cleanup document, referred to as a RAW, summarized previous environmental investigations and concluded that the remediation of soil is required to protect human health and the environment. The RAW addressed the impacts of the chemical of concern identified as polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH) and lead.</p> <p>The approved remedy consists of the excavation of approximately 10,547 cubic yards of PAHs, TPH and Lead contaminated soil. The top two feet of the Demonstration Project site would be excavated requiring an estimated 904 truck trips at 14 cubic yards of bulk uncompacted soil to transport the soil offsite. Shallow soil shall be removed using conventional excavation equipment (grader, loader, and excavator) and either temporarily stockpiled or directly loaded into trucks for transport to the selected landfill.</p> <p><u>Project Background:</u> The northern 3-acre Operable Unit (OU) of the 18-acre Taylor Yard Parcel G1 site (Assessor's Parcel Number 5442-002-914; "Bowtie"), is located in the City of Los Angeles (Site). This OU is also referred to as the Demonstration Project.</p> <p>The OU is bordered by railroad tracks, the Los Angeles River (LA River) and commercial/ industrial buildings. The Site was historically used as a materials storage and parking area. The approximately three-acre Demonstration Project is located on land owned by the California Department of Parks and Recreation (CDPR) at the northernmost end of the former Union Pacific (UPRR) Taylor Yard. The 18-acre CDPR property upon which the Demonstration Project is located is referred to as the "Bowtie Parcel" or by its former UPRR "G-1" parcel designation.</p> <p>The Site was predominantly used as a storage area and railroad operations from the 1890's through 2003 and owned by Southern Pacific Transportation Company and later Union Pacific Railroad. Site characterization activities at the Site indicate elevated concentrations of lead, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons and petroleum hydrocarbons. The Site was purchased by CDPR in 2003. The Nature Conservancy (TNC) is coordinating Site activities with CDPR. TNC entered into a Standard Voluntary Agreement (Docket Number: HSA-FY20/21-055) with DTSC on April 8 ,2021 to facilitate site remediation for stormwater management and habitat enhancement.</p>		

Bowtie Parcel Demonstration Wetland Project Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration

CDPR as the Lead Agency pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) approved the Bowtie Parcel Demonstration Wetland Project Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) on September 12, 2023 and filed the Notice of Determination with the Governor’s Office of Planning/State Clearinghouse on September 14, 2023.

The Demonstration Project will enhance habitat, improve water quality, and increase public access to open space and the LA River. Dry weather and some wet weather flows will be diverted from the storm drain, treated through a filtration system, and pumped into a wetland where there would be additional water quality improvements. A portion of the water would be used for irrigation, and the remaining enhanced water would be returned to the LA River. The Project would also include landscaping and amenities to convert the former brownfield site into habitat native to Southern California and a park space for public use.

The IS/MND identified and analyzed the required Site remediation consisting of the excavation of approximately 10,547 cubic yards of PAHs, TPH and Lead contaminated soil. Refer to the following Sections:

- Section 2.3 Project Components
- Section 2.4.1 Shallow Soil Removal and Site Preparation
- Section 2.4.5 Construction Schedule
- Section 3.9 Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Section 3.17 Transportation and Table 16 Construction Phase Vehicle Trips
- Appendix A CALEEMOD Output – Section 1.3 User Entered Comments & Non-Default Data and Section 3.0 Construction Detail, Section 3.2 Shallow Soil Removal and Site Preparation

The IS/MND concluded mitigation measures were required for Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Geology and Tribal Cultural Resources Refer to Attachment 1 – Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program.

The California State Parks IS/MND can be accessed at the Governor’s Office of Planning and Research/State Clearinghouse <https://ceqanet.opr.ca.gov/2023040639>.

DTSC will file a Notice of Determination with the Governors’ Office of Planning and Research/State Clearinghouse after the Bowtie Parcel Demonstration Wetland Project RAW is approved.

B. LEAD AGENCY ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT REVIEWED

Lead Agency: California Department of Parks and Recreation
Lead Agency’s Environmental Document: Bowtie Parcel Demonstration Wetland Project Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration
Date Certified: Demonstration Project approved on September 12, 2023 and the Notice of Determination was filed with the Governor’s Office of Planning and Research/State Clearinghouse on September 14, 2023
State Clearinghouse Number: 2023040639

C. STATEMENT OF FINDINGS AND FACTS FOR ADEQUACY OF LEAD AGENCY ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT

Using its independent judgment, DTSC makes the following findings:

- The Lead Agency Final Environmental Document includes a description of the Project now before DTSC for decision
- The Lead Agency Final Environmental Document adequately analyzed impacts associated with the Project before DTSC for decision.
- DTSC concurs with the findings made by the Lead Agency Final Environmental Document relating to the Project before DTSC for decision.
- Mitigation measures are included in the Lead Agency Final Environmental Document for the following resources that would potentially be affected by the DTSC project.

<input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics	Mitigation Measure: None
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural Resources	Mitigation Measure: None
<input type="checkbox"/> Air Quality	Mitigation Measure: None
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural Resources	Mitigation Measure: None
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources	Mitigation Measure: Refer to Attachment 1 – Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources	Mitigation Measure: Refer to Attachment 1 – Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program
<input type="checkbox"/> Energy	Mitigation Measure: None
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Geology / Soils	Mitigation Measure: Refer to Attachment 1 – Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program
<input type="checkbox"/> Greenhouse Gas Emissions	Mitigation Measure: None
<input type="checkbox"/> Hazards / Hazardous Materials	Mitigation Measures: None
<input type="checkbox"/> Hydrology / Water Quality	Mitigation Measure: None
<input type="checkbox"/> Land Use / Planning	Mitigation Measure: None
<input type="checkbox"/> Mineral Resources	Mitigation Measure: None
<input type="checkbox"/> Noise	Mitigation Measure: None
<input type="checkbox"/> Population / Housing	Mitigation Measure: None
<input type="checkbox"/> Public Services	Mitigation Measure: None
<input type="checkbox"/> Recreation	Mitigation Measure: None
<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation / Traffic	Mitigation Measure: None
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tribal Cultural Resources	Mitigation Measure: Refer to Attachment 1 – Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program
<input type="checkbox"/> Utilities / Service Systems	Mitigation Measure: None
<input type="checkbox"/> Wildfire	Mitigation Measure: None

Mitigation measures identified in the Lead Agency Final Environmental Document have been adopted by DTSC for this Project and will be implemented to avoid, reduce, or substantially lessen the project impacts. No additional mitigation measures are necessary, and no additional mitigation monitoring plan is required pursuant to CEQA.

For each significant environmental effect identified for the Project:

Changes or alterations have been required in, or incorporated into, the Project which avoid or substantially lessen the significant environmental effects as identified in the Lead Agency Final Environmental Document.

Such changes or alterations are within the responsibility and jurisdiction of the Los Angeles County not DTSC.

Such changes have been adopted by this public agency or can and should be adopted by this public agency.

Mitigation measures included in the Lead Agency Final Environmental Document are infeasible, and therefore, will not be incorporated into the DTSC Project for the following reasons: N/A

BASED ON THE ABOVE FINDINGS, DTSC CONCLUDES:

The proposed Project will not result in significant and unavoidable effects to the environment.

The proposed Project will result in significant and unavoidable effects to the following environmental resources:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Air Quality | <input type="checkbox"/> Mineral Resources |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Noise |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Population/Housing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Energy | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Geology/ Soils | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation/Traffic |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Greenhouse Gas Emissions | <input type="checkbox"/> Tribal Cultural Resources |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hazards/Hazardous Materials | <input type="checkbox"/> Utilities/ Service Systems |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrology/ Water Quality | <input type="checkbox"/> Wildfire |

Impacts to these resources would remain significant even after applying mitigation measures described in the Lead Agency Final Environmental Document, or there is no feasible mitigation available.

In accordance with Cal. Code of Regs., title 14, section 15093, a Statement of Overriding Considerations was adopted by the Lead Agency for these resources. DTSC adopts a Statement of Overriding Considerations for these resources having determined that the DTSC Project benefits outweigh the significant environmental effects for the following reasons: The DTSC remedial actions reduce the exposure of contaminated soil, soil gas, and groundwater in order to render it safe for Site occupants. The DTSC remedial project also serves to protect human health and the environment, which are DTSC's responsibilities under the California Health and Safety Code.

None of the conditions requiring a subsequent EIR or Negative Declaration pursuant to Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14 Section 15162 exist.

In accordance with Cal. Code of Regs., title 14, section 15093, a Notice of Determination indicating the results of said Findings will be filed with the Governor’s Office of Planning and Research / State Clearinghouse.

D. CERTIFICATION

		10/12/2023
Project Manager’s Signature		Date

Jessy Fierro	Senior Environmental Scientist	(818) 717-6563
Project Manager’s Name	Title	Phone #

		10/12/2023
Branch Chief’s Signature		Date

Javier Hinojosa	Environmental Program Manager	(714) 484-5484
Branch Chief’s Name	Title	Phone #