



Urban Waters Federal Partnership

Los Angeles River Watershed
October 12, 2011

Urban Waters Federal Partnership

- ▶ Vision, Mission & Principles
 - “We believe a deeper connection to local water bodies can bring a new cycle of community hope and energy that will lead to healthier urban waters, improved public health, strengthened local businesses, and new jobs as well as expanded educational, recreational, housing, and social opportunities.”

Agencies

EPA

USDA

DOI

HUD

DOT

USACE

NOAA

EDA

CDC

NIEHS

CNCS

Federal Partnership Pilots

- ▶ Provide coordinated federal support to communities with existing resources
- ▶ Learn by working together on the ground; inform programs & policies
- ▶ Pilot Selection Process
 - Nominated by agencies' field offices
 - Criteria included:
 - *Agency willing to lead*
 - *Multiple federal agencies already engaged*
 - *Underserved and distressed communities*
 - *Active state, local and community partners*
 - Also considered: *Geographic diversity*



First Phase Pilot Locations

Announced 6/24/11

Anacostia River (DOI) – DC/MD

Baltimore (USDA) – MD

Bronx/Harlem (DOI) – NY

Denver (USDA/EPA) – CO

Los Angeles (EPA) – CA

New Orleans (EPA) – LA

NW Indiana (USDA) – IN



Urban Waters Federal Partnership

Guiding Principles

- ▶ Promote clean urban waters
- ▶ Reconnect people to their waterways
- ▶ Conserve water
- ▶ Use urban water systems as a way to promote economic revitalization and prosperity
- ▶ Encourage community improvements through active partnerships
- ▶ Be open and honest. Listening to communities is the best way to engage them
- ▶ Focus on measuring results and evaluation to fuel future success



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▶ Federal Participants

- EPA
- Bureau of Reclamation
- National Park Service
- Corps of Engineers
- Fish & Wildlife Service
- Federal Railway Administration
- Forest Service
- National Weather Service
- USGS
- HUD



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▶ Non Federal Participants

- City of LA
- City of Long Beach
- City of Signal Hill (for Gateway Cities)
- LA County FCD
- MRCA
- RMC
- Coastal Conservancy
- LA RWQCB
- Tree People
- Watershed Council for Health
- Trust for Public Land
- LA River Revitalization Corp
- LA River Expeditions
- Arroyo Seco Foundation
- Friends of the LA River
- Urban Semillas
- The River Project



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▶ INITIAL STEPS

- Identification of Projects with ongoing and planned Federal Involvement
- Suggestions from Local Partners for Federal Engagement and Participation



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▶ NEXT STEPS

- Improve Collaboration/Communication across Partner Organizations
- Continue to hear from local partners on opportunities for Federal engagement
- Prioritize where Federal engagement can add the most value



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www.urbanwaters.gov

