

Section 1

**Compliance with State Water
Resource Control Board
Order Nos. 98-05 and 98-07**

**Compliance with State Water Resources Control Board
Decision 1631 and Order Nos. 98-05 and 98-07**

May, 2007

Los Angeles Department of Water and Power

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Introduction

Pursuant to State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) Decision 1631 and Order Nos. 98-05 and 98-07 (Orders), the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) is to undertake certain activities in the Mono Basin to be in compliance with the terms and conditions of its water right licenses 10191 and 10192. In particular, the Orders state that LADWP is to undertake activities to monitor streamflows, and to restore and monitor the fisheries, stream channels, and waterfowl habitat. This section includes the Status of Restoration Compliance Report, which summarizes the status of LADWP compliance activities in the Mono Basin to date along with a report on informational meetings held during the 2006-07 Runoff Year.

Please see **Figure 1** for an aerial image of Mono Basin, showing major streams and LADWP facilities.



Figure 1: Aerial Photograph of Mono Basin

Status of Restoration Compliance Report

The attached document was first submitted as draft to the interested parties on April 2, 2007. It was then discussed at the annual Mono Basin Restoration meeting held on April 12, 2007, in Bishop California. The Status Report was developed to include a 21 day review period during which LADWP will review and address all comments submitted by the interested parties. Following the 21 day review period, LADWP finalized the May 2007 Status Report. LADWP's "Status of Restoration Compliance Report, May 2007" included below.

Status of Restoration Compliance Report State Water Resource Control Board Decision 1631 and Order Nos. 98-05 & 98-07

The Status of Restoration Compliance Report ("SORC Report") is organized into the following sections:

1. **Introduction** – Description of the SORC Report
2. **Definitions** – Explanations of what each category represents
3. **Updates from Previous SORC Report** – Changes over the past year
4. **Plans for the Upcoming Runoff Year** – Planned activities for the upcoming year
5. **Requirements** – Categories of the entire list of LADWP's requirements in the Mono Basin
6. **Completion Plans** – Long term plans for completing all requirements
7. **Ongoing Items Definitions** – Ongoing activities necessary for LADWP operations in the Mono Basin

1. Introduction:

The SORC Report details the status of the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power's (LADWP) restoration requirements in the Mono Basin as outlined by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) Decision 1631 and Order Numbers 98-05 and 98-07, and any subsequent decision letters distributed by the SWRCB.

This report has been cooperatively prepared by LADWP and the Mono Lake Committee (MLC) through an extensive series of staff discussions and a workshop held in the Mono Basin in August 2005. LADWP and MLC believe this report represents the most thorough and complete listing of Mono Basin restoration requirements and their current status available in a unified document. These requirements are labeled as "Stream Work", "Stream Facility Modifications", "Stream Management", "Waterfowl", "Monitoring", and "Other" and have been divided into five groups according to the condition of their progress. These groups are labeled as ongoing, complete, in progress, incomplete or deferred as defined below. The final section of the SORC

Report details how LADWP plans to proceed with those items not listed as ongoing or complete (i.e. items that are in progress, incomplete, and/or deferred).

The SORC Report will be submitted by LADWP to SWRCB as part of the annual Compliance Reporting. The original SORC Report was distributed to the SWRCB and the "interested parties"¹ on January 11, 2007. LADWP will update the SORC Report annually with input from the interested parties. By April 1 each year, LADWP will update and submit a draft SORC Report to the interested parties. Within 21 days of the draft submission, LADWP will accept comments on the draft SORC Report from the interested parties. After this time, LADWP will finalize the SORC Report, incorporating and/or responding to comments. The final SORC Report will then be included into the final Compliance Reporting to SWRCB by May 15 of each year.

2. Definitions:

Below are the definitions of the categories where each requirement has been grouped.

- A. Ongoing Items that are current and require continuous action (e.g. Maintain road closures in floodplains of Rush and Lee Vining Creeks)
- B. Complete Items that have been finalized (e.g. Rehabilitation of the Rush Creek Return Ditch)
- C. In Progress Items started and not yet finalized because of time or the timeline extends into the future (e.g. Waterfowl monitoring and reporting)
- D. Incomplete Items not yet started or not complete because plans for completion not finalized (e.g. Sediment bypass for Parker Creek)
- E. Deferred Items placed on hold which need input from the Stream Scientists and/or SWRCB before plans commence (e.g. Prescribed burn program)

3. Updates from Previous SORC Report:

The first SORC Report was originally submitted on January 11, 2007. Since then, there have been several changes in the report, and those are outlined below.

- Section 4, Plans for the Upcoming Runoff Year, has been updated to cover Runoff Year 2007-08 (RY2007-08).
- Section 5, Requirements, Category C – In-Progress Item C4 "Grazing moratorium for 10 years" was listed to be reported on in the May 2008 Monitoring Report, however the 10 year period ends in September 2008, so this requirement will be reported on in the May 2009 Monitoring Report.

¹ The "interested parties" include those parties involved in SWRCB Decision 1631, the Mono Basin Settlement Agreement, SWRCB Order Nos. 98-05 and 98-07, and others who have, or may, similarly involve themselves in the Mono Basin restoration activities required by SWRCB.

- Section 5, Requirements, Category E – Deferred Items E6 through E10 have been changed from being monitored five years after channel rewatering to being monitored each year for five years following rewatering.
- Section 6, Completion Plans, Category C – In-Progress Items C4, has been changed to reflect that LADWP will report on the Grazing Moratorium in the May 2009 Monitoring Report, not in 2008.
- Section 6, Completion Plans, Category C – In-Progress Items C5, has been changed to reflect that LADWP does not expect to have a revised GLOMP ready for review in 2007.
- Section 6, Completion Plans, Category C – In-Progress Items C10, has been changed to reflect MLC's request to not receive Jeffrey Pine seedlings in 2007, and instead would like deliveries in 2008 and 2009.
- Section 6, Completion Plans, Category C – In-Progress Items C12 and C13 have been changed to reflect that the Stream Scientists have submitted final recommendations for termination criteria on Walker, Parker, Lee Vining, and Rush Creeks.
- Section 6, Completion Plans, Category C – In-Progress Items C17 regarding LADWP's monitoring and reporting on the vegetation status in riparian and lake fringing wetland habitats has been changed to reflect that this is performed on a five year interval with the next one scheduled for 2010.
- Section 6, Completion Plans, Category E – Deferred Items E6 through E10 have been changed from being monitored five years after channel rewatering to being monitored each year for five years following rewatering.

4. Plans for the Upcoming Runoff Year:

During the upcoming runoff year, RY2007-08, LADWP plans to:

1. Continue with all requirements listed under Category A – Ongoing Items, as needed based on the runoff year.
2. Continue with Category C – In-Progress Items C1 “Placement of Large Woody Debris” into Rush Creek on an opportunistic basis. Field crews will find and transport debris from the floodplain to the creek over the course of the runoff year.
3. Continue with Category C – In-Progress Items C2 “Placement of Large Woody Debris” into Lee Vining Creek on an opportunistic basis. Field crews will find and transport debris from the floodplain to the creek over the course of the runoff year.
4. Complete Category C – In-Progress Items C3 “Revegetate or assess the need to revegetate Rush Creek side channel in reach 3D”. LADWP biologists will assess the rewatered 3D floodplain to determine if manual revegetation is needed. This will be reported in the May 2008 Monitoring Report. If the assessment shows the need for manual revegetation, LADWP will complete this in the summer of 2008.

If the assessment shows that no revegetation is needed, this item will be considered complete and moved to Category B – Completed Items.

5. Continue with Category C – In-Progress Items C5 “Grant Lake Operation Management Plan (GLOMP) review for revisions”.
6. Continue with Category C – In-Progress Items C6 “Waterfowl Project Funding”. LADWP will continue to work with the USFS and other interested parties in planning and completing waterfowl projects in the Mono Basin.
7. Continue with Category C – In-Progress Items C7 “Salt Cedar Eradication Reporting”. LADWP will continue to work with the interested parties in eradicating Salt Cedar from the Mono Basin and will report on these efforts annually.
8. Continue with Category C – In-Progress Items C8 “Stream Monitoring Team Duty Performance”. LADWP will continue working with the Stream Scientists to fulfill the requirements set forth in the SWRCB Orders regarding stream monitoring and reporting.
9. Continue with Category C – In-Progress Items C9 “Stream Monitoring to Assess Flow Regime”. LADWP will continue working with the Stream Scientists to fulfill the requirements set forth in the SWRCB Orders.
10. Continue with Category C – In-Progress Items C11 “Stream Monitoring Reporting”. LADWP will continue working with the Stream Scientists to fulfill the requirements set forth in the SWRCB Orders regarding stream monitoring and reporting.
11. Complete Category C – In-Progress Items C12 “Termination Criteria Finalization for Walker and Parker Creeks”. The Stream Scientists have submitted final Termination Criteria recommendations for Walker and Parker Creeks to the interested parties. According to Mr. Jim Canaday, staff scientist for the SWRCB, comments are due early July, 2007. The Stream Scientists will then incorporate and/or respond to the comments and submit revised final recommendations. The revised final recommendations will be discussed at the Fall 2007 Mono Basin Restoration Tracking Meeting to be held in either November or December 2007. Once the revised final recommendations are approved by the SWRCB, this item will move to Category B – Completed Items.
12. Complete Category C – In-Progress Items C13 “Termination Criteria Finalization for Lee Vining and Rush Creeks”. The Stream Scientists have submitted final Termination Criteria recommendations for Lee Vining and Rush Creeks to the interested parties. According to Mr. Jim Canaday, staff scientist for the SWRCB, comments are due early July, 2007. The Stream Scientists will then incorporate and/or respond to the comments and submit revised final recommendations. The revised final recommendations will be discussed at the Fall 2007 Mono Basin Restoration Tracking Meeting to be held in either November or December 2007. Once the revised final recommendations are approved by the SWRCB, this item will move to Category B – Completed Items.

13. Complete Category C – In-Progress Items C14 “Make Data Available on a Same Day Basis”. LADWP technical staff are working to resolve system glitches. Once resolved, this item will move to Category A – Ongoing Items.
14. Continue with Category C – In-Progress Items C15 “Hydrology Monitoring and Reporting”.
15. Continue with Category C – In-Progress Items C16 “Lake Limnology and Secondary Producers Monitoring and Reporting”.
16. Continue with Category C – In-Progress Items C18 “Waterfowl Monitoring and Reporting”.
17. Begin Category D – Incomplete Items D1 “Sediment Bypass for Parker Creek”. Conceptual designs will be developed for review by the Stream Scientists. This item will move to Category C – In-Progress Items.
18. Begin Category D – Incomplete Items D2 “Sediment Bypass for Walker Creek”. This item will move to Category C – In-Progress Items.
19. Complete Category E - Deferred Items E2 “Rush Creek side channel opening for side channel 4Bii in reach 4B”. Work on the side-channel entrance where it currently exists began in Summer of 2006 with additional improvements made in March and April 2007. When the final channel opening plan is approved by the SWRCB, this item will move to Category B – Complete Items.
20. Complete Category E - Deferred Items E3 “Rush Creek side channel opening for side channel 8 in reach 4B”. Work on the side-channel entrance where it currently exists began in Summer of 2006 with additional improvements made in March and April 2007. When the final channel opening plan is approved by the SWRCB, this item will move to Category B – Complete Items.
21. Begin Category E - Deferred Items E7 “Revegetate or assess the need to revegetate Rush Creek side channel 4Bii in reach 4B for five years following rewatering”. Now that the channel entrances have been opened and the channels rewatered, annual vegetation assessments of the channel entrances will occur for five years and this item will move to Category C – In-Progress Items.
22. Begin Category E - Deferred Items E8 “Revegetate or assess the need to revegetate Rush Creek side channel 8 in reach 4B for five years following rewatering”. Now that the channel entrances have been opened and the channels rewatered, annual vegetation assessments of the channel entrances will occur for five years and this item will move to Category C – In-Progress Items.

5. Requirements:

The following pages contain lists of the individual requirements placed into categories based on the status of each item. The requirements are derived from SWRCB Decision 1631, and/or Order Nos. 98-05 and 98-07, and/or any subsequent decision letters distributed by SWRCB. The requirements are either described in the cited section of

the order and/or are described in the cited page of the specified plan and/or document (Stream Plan, Waterfowl Plan, GLOMP, etc.) that the Order references, and/or detailed in the SWRCB letter. Plans for addressing in-progress, incomplete, and deferred items are further explained in Section 6, Completion Plans. Finally, plans for those items described as ongoing are detailed in Section 7, Ongoing Items Description.

Category A – Ongoing Items

1. Maintain road closures in floodplains of Rush and Lee Vining Creeks – *Stream Work*
Order 98-05 order 1; Stream Plan p. 71-75
2. Base flow releases – *Stream Management*
Order 98-05 order 2.a.; GLOMP p. x, table 1
3. Low winter flow releases – *Stream Management*
Order 98-05 order 2.b.
4. Annual operations plan – *Stream Management*
Order 98-05 order 3; GLOMP p. 103, 104
5. Notification of failure to meet required flows – *Stream Management*
Order 98-05 order 3
6. Grant operations and storage targets – *Stream Management*
Order 98-05 order 1.a.; Decision 1631 order 1; GLOMP p. 84
7. Amount and pattern of export releases to the Upper Owens River – *Stream Management*
Order 98-05 order 2; Decision 1631 order 7; GLOMP p. 84, 85
8. Diversion targets from streams – *Stream Management*
Order 98-05 order 2; GLOMP p. 85
9. Export amounts dependent on Mono Lake level – *Stream Management*
Decision 1631 order 6
10. Year type designation and guidelines – *Stream Management*
Order 98-05 order 2; Decision 1631 order 3; GLOMP p. 87-96
11. Dry and wet cycle contingencies for stream restoration flows and base flows – *Stream Management*
Order 98-05 order 2; GLOMP p. 97
12. Deviations from Grant Lake Operation Management Plan (GLOMP) – *Stream Management*
Order 98-05 order 2; GLOMP p. 98, 99

13. Ramping rates – *Stream Management*
Order 98-05 order 2; Decision 1631 order 2; GLOMP p. 90-96
14. Stream restoration flows and channel maintenance flows – *Stream Management*
Order 98-05 order 1.a.
15. Salt Cedar eradication– *Waterfowl*
Order 98-05 order 4.e.; Waterfowl Plan p. 27
16. Aerial photography every five years or following an extreme wet year event –
Monitoring
Order 98-05 order 1.b; Stream Plan p. 103
17. Make basic data available to public – *Monitoring*
Order 98-05 order 1.b as revised by Order 98-07; Order 98-07 order 1.b(2);
Stream Plan p. 110
18. Operation of Lee Vining sediment bypass – *Stream Facility Modifications*
Order 98-05 order 2
19. Operation of the Rush Creek augmentation from the Lee Vining Conduit when
necessary – *Stream Management*
Order 98-05 order 2

Category B – Completed Items

1. Placement by helicopters of large woody debris into Rush Creek, completed fall
1999 – *Stream Work*
Order 98-05 order 1; order 1.d.; Stream Plan p. 67, 68
2. Placement by helicopters of large woody debris into Lee Vining Creek, completed
fall 1999 – *Stream Work*
Order 98-05 order 1; order 1.d.; Stream Plan p. 67, 68
3. Rewater Rush Creek side channels in reach 3A, completed fall 1999 – *Stream*
Work
Order 98-05 order 1; Stream Plan p. 68-71
4. Rewater Rush Creek side channel in reach 3B, completed fall 1999 with changes
(see LADWP annual Compliance Reporting, May 2000) – *Stream Work*
Order 98-05 order 1; Stream Plan p. 68-71
5. Rewater Rush Creek side channel in reach 3D, completed fall 2002 with changes
(see LADWP annual Compliance Reporting, May 2003) – *Stream Work*
Order 98-05 order 1; Stream Plan p. 68-71

6. Revegetate approximately 250 Jeffrey Pine trees on Lee Vining Creek, completed in 2000 – *Stream Work*
Order 98-05 order 1; Stream Plan p. 71-75
7. Revegetate willows on Walker Creek. No planting necessary in judgment of LADWP and MLC as area revegetated rapidly without intervention – *Stream Work*
Order 98-05 order 1; Stream Plan p. 71-75
8. Revegetate willows on Parker Creek. No planting necessary in judgment of LADWP and MLC as area revegetated rapidly without intervention – *Stream Work*
Order 98-05 order 1; Stream Plan p. 71-75
9. Limitations on vehicular access in Rush and Lee Vining Creek floodplains, completed fall 2003 – *Stream Work*
Order 98-05 order 1; Stream Plan p. 78-80
10. Removal of bags of spawning gravel, completed fall 2003 – *Stream Work*
Order 98-05 order 1; Stream Plan p. 85, 86
11. Removal of limiter logs, completed 1996 – *Stream Work*
Order 98-05 order 1; Stream Plan p. 86
12. Removal of Parker Plug, completed by California Department of Transportation 2000 – *Stream Work*
Order 98-05 order 1; Stream Plan p. 87
13. Sediment bypass facility for Lee Vining Creek, completed winter 2005 – *Stream Facility Modifications*
Order 98-05 order 1.f.
14. Rehabilitation of the Rush Creek Return Ditch, completed 2002 – *Stream Facility Modifications*
Order 98-05 order 1, order 1.c.; Stream Plan p. 85, appendix III
15. Flood flow contingency measures, completed and rendered unnecessary by California Department of Transportation's Highway 395 improvements in 2002 – *Stream Management*
Order 98-05 order 1; Stream Plan p. 76
16. Stream monitoring site selection, completed 1997 – *Monitoring*
Order 98-05 order 2; Stream Plan p. 109
17. Waterfowl and limnology consultants, completed 2004 – *Monitoring*
Order 98-05 order 4; Waterfowl Plan p. 27-29

18. Status report on interim restoration in Mono Basin, completed 2006 – *Other Decision 1631 order 8.d (3)*
19. Cultural resources investigation and treatment plan report to SWRCB, completed 1996 – *Other Decision 1631 order 9, 10*
20. Revegetate or assess the need to revegetate Rush Creek side channels in reach 3A five years after rewatering, assessed annually and reported in May 2006 Monitoring Report – *Stream Work Order 98-05 order 1; Stream Plan p. 71-75*
21. Revegetate or assess the need to revegetate Rush Creek side channels in reach 3B five years after rewatering, assessed annually and reported in May 2006 Monitoring Report – *Stream Work Order 98-05 order 1; Stream Plan p. 71-75*

Category C – In- Progress Items

1. Placement by hand crews of large woody debris into Rush Creek on an opportunistic basis based on stream monitoring team recommendations – *Stream Work Order 98-05 order 1; order 1.d.; Stream Plan p. 67, 68*
2. Placement by hand crews of large woody debris into Lee Vining Creek on an opportunistic basis based on stream monitoring team recommendations – *Stream Work Order 98-05 order 1; order 1.d.; Stream Plan p. 67, 68*
3. Revegetate or assess the need to revegetate Rush Creek side channel in reach 3D five years after rewatering. To be reported in May 2008 Monitoring Report – *Stream Work Order 98-05 order 1; Stream Plan p. 71-75*
4. Grazing moratorium for 10 years, assessed annually and will be reported in May 2008 Monitoring Report – *Stream Management Order 98-05 order 1; Stream Plan p. 83*
5. Grant Lake Operation Management Plan (GLOMP) review for revisions – *Stream Management Order 98-05 order 2; GLOMP p. 103, 104*
6. Waterfowl project funding – *Waterfowl Order 98-05 order 4.b.*
7. Salt Cedar eradication reporting– *Waterfowl*

Order 98-05 order 4.e.; Waterfowl Plan p. 27

8. Stream monitoring team to perform duties – *Monitoring*
Order 98-05 order 1.b as revised by Order 98-07
9. Stream monitoring for 8-10 years to inform peak flow evaluation and recommendations including the need for a Grant Lake Reservoir Outlet – *Monitoring*
Order 98-05 order 1.b as revised by Order 98-07
10. Interim Jeffrey Pine plantings to revegetate pine trees on Rush Creek in disturbed, interfluvial, and upper terrace sites – *Stream Work*
Order 98-05 order 1; Stream Plan p. 71-75
11. Stream monitoring reporting to the SWRCB – *Monitoring*
Order 98-05 order 1.b as revised by Order 98-07; Order 98-07 order 1.b(2); Stream Plan p. 110
12. Development, approval, and finalization of stream monitoring termination criteria for Walker and Parker Creeks – *Monitoring*
Order 98-07
13. Development, approval, and finalization of stream monitoring termination criteria for Lee Vining and Rush Creeks – *Monitoring*
Order 98-07
14. Make data from all existing Mono Basin data collection facilities available on an internet web site on a same-day basis – *Stream Management*
Order 98-05 order 2.c.
15. Hydrology monitoring and reporting – *Monitoring*
Order 98-05 order 4; Waterfowl Plan p. 27
16. Lake limnology and secondary producers monitoring and reporting – *Monitoring*
Order 98-05 order 4; Waterfowl Plan p. 27, 28
17. Riparian and Lake fringing wetland vegetation monitoring and reporting – *Monitoring*
Order 98-05 order 4; Waterfowl Plan p. 27, 28
18. Waterfowl monitoring and reporting – *Monitoring*
Order 98-05 order 4; Waterfowl Plan p. 28; LADWP's 2004 "Mono Lake Waterfowl Population Monitoring Protocol" submitted to SWRCB on October 6, 2004

19. Testing the physical capability for Rush Creek augmentation up to 150 cfs from the Lee Vining Conduit through the 5-Siphon Bypass facility – *Stream Management*
Order 98-05 order 2; Stream Plan p. 82, 83
20. Evaluation of the effects on Lee Vining Creek of Rush Creek augmentation for diversions up to 150 cfs through the Lee Vining Conduit – *Monitoring*
Order 98-05 order 1.b.; Stream Plan p. 82, 83

Category D – Incomplete Items

1. Sediment bypass for Parker Creek – *Stream Facility Modifications*
Order 98-05 order 1.f.
2. Sediment bypass for Walker Creek – *Stream Facility Modifications*
Order 98-05 order 1.f.

Category E – Deferred Items

1. Rewater Rush Creek side channel 1A in reach 4A – *Stream Work*
Order 98-05 order 1; Stream Plan p. 68-71
2. Rewater Rush Creek side channel 4Bii in reach 4B – *Stream Work*
Order 98-05 order 1; Stream Plan p. 68-71
3. Rewater Rush Creek side channel 8 in reach 4B – *Waterfowl*
Order 98-05 order 4.a., order 4.d.; Waterfowl Plan p. 22
4. Rewater Rush Creek side channel 11 in reach 4C – *Waterfowl*
Order 98-05 order 4.a., order 4.d.; Waterfowl Plan p. 22
5. Rewater Rush Creek side channel 14 in reach 4C – *Stream Work*
Order 98-05 order 1; Stream Plan p. 68-71
6. Revegetate or assess the need to revegetate Rush Creek side channel 1A in reach 4A, for five years following rewatering (pending deferment by the Monitoring Team) – *Stream Work*
Order 98-05 order 1; Stream Plan p. 68-71
7. Revegetate or assess the need to revegetate Rush Creek side channel 4Bii in reach 4B for five years following rewatering (pending deferment by the Monitoring Team) – *Stream Work*
Order 98-05 order 1; Stream Plan p. 68-71
8. Revegetate or assess the need to revegetate Rush Creek side channel 8 in reach 4B for five years following rewatering (pending deferment by the Monitoring Team) – *Waterfowl*

Order 98-05 order 4.a., order 4.d.; Waterfowl Plan p. 22

9. Revegetate or assess the need to revegetate Rush Creek side channel 11 in reach 4C for five years following rewatering (pending deferment by the Monitoring Team) – *Waterfowl*
Order 98-05 order 4.a., order 4.d.; Waterfowl Plan p. 22
10. Revegetate or assess the need to revegetate Rush Creek side channel 14 in reach 4C for five years after rewatering (pending deferment by the Monitoring Team) – *Stream Work*
Order 98-05 order 1; Stream Plan p. 68-71
11. Recommend an Arizona Crossing or a complete road closure at the County Road Lee Vining Creek, if and when Mono County plans to take action – *Stream Work*
Order 98-05 order 1; Stream Plan p. 78-80
12. Fish screens on all irrigation diversions – *Stream Facility Modifications*
Order 98-05 order 1; Stream Plan p. 84
13. Prescribed burn program – *Waterfowl*
Order 98-05 order 4.b.(3)c.; Waterfowl Plan p. 25, 26

6. Completion Plans:

The descriptions below contain further explanations as to how LADWP plans to fulfill SWRCB requirements in the Mono Basin for each item above not categorized as complete or ongoing. This section will be reviewed annually by LADWP for revisions to reflect progress towards completion.

Category C – In-Progress Items

- Item C1– Annual placement by hand crews of large woody debris into Rush Creek will continue on an opportunistic basis based on recommendations made by the Monitoring Team. These items will remain “In-Progress” until the Monitoring Team indicates that no further work is required. At that time, this item will be considered complete and will be moved to category B “Completed Items”.
- Item C2 – Annual placement by hand crews of large woody debris into Lee Vining Creek will continue on an opportunistic basis based on recommendations made by the Monitoring Team. These items will remain “In-Progress” until the Monitoring Team indicates that no further work is required. At that time, this item will be considered complete and will be moved to category B “Completed Items”.
- Item C3 – The final revegetation assessment will occur for the Rush Creek side channel in reach 3D in 2007 and will be reported in May 2008 Monitoring Report. If the final assessment concludes that satisfactory revegetation has not occurred

through natural processes, further revegetation efforts will be undertaken and reported annually until the revegetation effort is deemed satisfactory. When the final assessment indicates that satisfactory revegetation has occurred, no further action beyond the reporting of such will occur. At that time, this item will be considered complete and will be moved to category B “Completed Items”.

Item C4 – The grazing moratorium in the Mono Basin is in effect until 2008. Once reported on in the May 2009 Monitoring Report, LADWP will make a formal request to SWRCB to either end or continue the moratorium, depending on the results presented. Once the SWRCB makes a final ruling on the grazing moratorium, this item will no longer be in progress. If the final SWRCB decision is to end the moratorium, this item will be considered complete and will be moved to category B “Completed Items”. If the final SWRCB decision is to continue the moratorium, this item will be considered ongoing and will be moved to category A “Ongoing Items”.

Item C5 – The Grant Lake Operation Management Plan (GLOMP) includes instructions to “review for revisions” every five years until Mono Lake reaches 6,391 feet above mean sea level. Although no revisions have been finalized to date, the plan is continuously under review. The GLOMP review is an ongoing process and several possible areas for revisions have been identified such as the Mono Lake elevation forecast, year type determinations, hydrograph components, and Grant Lake storage targets and minimum operating levels. Once a completed revision is available, it will be distributed to the parties for their review. It is expected that a revised GLOMP will be available for review in 2008. This item will remain in category C “In-Progress Items” until Mono Lake reaches 6,391’ and the final plan is approved. Once a final plan is approved, this item will be considered complete and will be moved to category B “Completed Items”.

Item C6 – LADWP is to make available a total of \$275,000 for waterfowl restoration activities in the Mono Basin. This money was to be used by the USFS if they requested the funds by December 31, 2004. Afterwards, any remaining funds are to be made available to any party wishing to do waterfowl restoration in the Mono Basin after SWRCB review. Currently, USFS has requested funds for a project estimated at \$100,000. MLC has requested that the remainder of the funds be applied toward the total cost of the Mill Creek Return Ditch upgrade which would provide benefits for waterfowl habitat. The Mill Creek Return Ditch rehabilitation is a component of a pending Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) relicensing decision. These funds will continue to be budgeted by LADWP until such a time that they have been utilized. Once the full \$275,000 has been utilized, this item will be considered complete and will be moved to category B “Completed Items”.

Item C7 – Progress of the salt cedar eradication efforts is reported in the annual reports following the vegetation monitoring efforts. This will be reported in the May 2006 monitoring report. This item will continue to be in progress until notice

from SWRCB is received that LADWP's obligation for this in the Mono Basin is complete. Once this notice is received, this item will be moved to category B "Completed Items".

Item C8 – The stream monitoring team continues to perform their required duties in the Mono Basin. This item will continue to be in progress until notice from SWRCB is received that LADWP's obligation for funding and managing the monitoring team in the Mono Basin is complete. Once this notice is received, this item will be moved to category B "Completed Items", and LADWP will implement an appropriate monitoring program for the vegetation, stream morphology waterfowl, and fisheries.

Item C9 – The stream monitoring team is to evaluate the restoration program after "no less than 8 years and no more than 10 years" from the commencement of the restoration program. This evaluation is to cover the need for a Grant Lake outlet, Rush Creek augmentation, and the prescribed stream flow regime. According to SWRCB Order Nos. 98-05 and 98-07, evaluation of LADWP's facilities to adequately provide proper flows to Rush Creek "*shall take place after two data gathering cycles but no less than 8 years nor more than 10 years after the monitoring program begins*". Once the Monitoring Team submits final recommendations and LADWP comments on the feasibility, SWRCB will review the current proposals and accept comments from the interested parties. After a set period of time, SWRCB will make a final recommendation and LADWP will comply. Once LADWP complies with SWRCB final recommendation, this item will be considered complete and will be moved to category B "Completed Items".

Item C10 - LADWP and MLC are to cooperatively revegetate pine trees on areas of Rush Creek including disturbed, interfluvial, and upper terrace sites targeted from reach 3B through 5A. In 2005, remaining suitable areas were assessed resulting in a map showing those areas where planting pine trees may be successful and would add to habitat complexity. LADWP and MLC will continue to investigate locations suitable for planting by LADWP and MLC staff and volunteers. Based on the cooperative requests of LADWP and MLC staff, LADWP will procure acceptable Jeffrey Pine seedlings in 2008 and 2009 for planting. Once these seedlings have been procured by LADWP, this item will be considered complete and will be moved to category B "Completed Items".

Item C11 – Progress of the restoration efforts is reported in the annual reports. This item will continue to be in progress until notice from SWRCB is received that LADWP's obligation for this in the Mono Basin is complete. Once this notice is received, this item will be moved to category B "Completed Items".

Item C12 – The Stream Scientists have submitted final recommendations for termination criteria on Walker and Parker Creeks. Once the termination criteria are finalized by the Stream Scientists and approved by SWRCB, this item will be considered complete and will be moved to category B "Completed Items".

Item C13 – The Stream Scientists have submitted final recommendations for termination criteria on Lee Vining and Rush Creeks. Once approved by SWRCB, this item will be considered complete and will be moved to category B “Completed Items”.

Item C14 – Data from existing Mono Basin data collection facilities is available on a same-day basis on the LADWP.com internet web site. The data collection and reporting can experience periodic short term communication problems and/or technical difficulties. LADWP will continue to monitor the data posting on a daily basis and will work to troubleshoot and correct problems as soon as possible. LADWP will continue to improve the data collection, computer, and communication systems as new technology(ies) become available. When LADWP believes it has satisfactorily improved the system, LADWP will provide an explanation of the improvements to SWRCB and interested parties. When this occurs, this item will be moved to category A “Ongoing Items”.

Item C15 – LADWP will continue to monitor and report on the hydrology of the Mono Basin including regular Mono Lake elevation readings, stream flows, and spring surveys until SWRCB approves that all or portions of the hydrology monitoring is no longer required. Once this occurs, all or portions of this item will be considered complete and will be moved to category B “Completed Items”. Any portions of this requirement that are deemed to be ongoing by the SWRCB will be moved to category A “Ongoing Items”.

Item C16 – LADWP will continue to monitor and report on the Mono Lake limnology and secondary producers until SWRCB approves that limnological monitoring is no longer required. Once this occurs, this item will be considered complete and will be moved to category B “Completed Items”.

Item C17 – LADWP will continue to monitor and report on the vegetation status in riparian and lake fringing wetland habitats on five year intervals with the next one scheduled for 2010, until SWRCB approves that vegetation monitoring is no longer required. Once this occurs, this item will be considered complete and will be moved to category B “Completed Items”.

Item C18 – LADWP will continue to monitor and report on the waterfowl populations in the Mono Basin until SWRCB approves that waterfowl monitoring is no longer required. Once this occurs, this item will be considered complete and will be moved to category B “Completed Items”.

Item C19 – Testing augmentation of Rush Creek flows with water from Lee Vining Creek through the use of the Lee Vining Conduit is possible and can occur as needed as demonstrated during peak runoff in June 2005. The augmentation has been tested through 100 cfs and the orders call for a possible augmentation

to 150 cfs. Once augmentation is successfully tested through 150 cfs, this item will be moved to category B “Completed Items”.

Item C20 – Evaluation of the effects of Rush Creek augmentation on Lee Vining Creek needs to be completed to cover diversions up to 150 cfs. Once the evaluation is completed, this item will be moved to category B “Completed Items”.

Category D – Incomplete Items

Item D1– Sediment bypass for Parker Creek is still under investigation. Once a plan is finalized by SWRCB and becomes part of LADWP’s operation plans, this item will be moved to category A “Ongoing Items”.

Item D2 – Sediment bypass for Walker Creek is still under investigation. Once a plan is finalized by SWRCB and becomes part of LADWP’s operation plans, this item will be moved to category A “Ongoing Items”.

Category E – Deferred Items

Item E1 – The rewatering of Rush Creek side channel 1A in reach 4A has been deferred by the Stream Scientists. At present a comprehensive review is being conducted by McBain and Trush addressing each of the side channels identified but not opened. Upon presentation of the review, LADWP will follow the recommendations of the Stream Scientists and the final decision by SWRCB. At such a time that this item is deemed complete by SWRCB, this item will be moved to category B “Completed Items”.

Item E2 – The rewatering of Rush Creek side channel 4Bii in reach 4B has been deferred by the Stream Scientists. At present a final review is being conducted by McBain and Trush. Upon presentation of the final review, LADWP will follow the recommendations of the Stream Scientists and the final decision by SWRCB. At such a time that this item is deemed complete by SWRCB, this item will be moved to category B “Completed Items”.

Item E3 – The further rewatering of Rush Creek side channel complex 8 in reach 4B has been deferred by the Stream Scientists. At present a final review is being conducted by McBain and Trush. Upon presentation of the final review, LADWP will follow the recommendations of the Stream Scientists and the final decision by SWRCB. At such a time that this item is deemed complete by SWRCB, this item will be moved to category B “Completed Items”.

Item E4 – The rewatering of Rush Creek side channel 11 in reach 4C has been deferred by the Stream Scientists. At present a final review is being conducted by McBain and Trush. Upon presentation of the final review, LADWP will follow the recommendations of the Stream Scientists and the final decision by SWRCB. At such a time that this item is deemed complete by SWRCB, this item will be moved to category B “Completed Items”.

Item E5 – The rewatering of Rush Creek side channels 14 in reach 4C has been deferred by the Stream Scientists. At present a final review is being conducted by McBain and Trush. Upon presentation of the final review, LADWP will follow the recommendations of the Stream Scientists and the final decision by SWRCB. At such a time that this item is deemed complete by SWRCB, this item will be moved to category B “Completed Items”.

Item E6 – Assessing the need to revegetate the areas affected by the presently deferred side channel openings for Rush Creek side channel 1A in reach 4A will occur for five years following rewatering pending the decision on deferment by the SWRCB and the stream scientists for item E1 above. The results from the assessment will be reported in the annual monitoring report following the fifth year after rewatering. If the final assessment concludes that satisfactory revegetation has not occurred through natural processes, further revegetation efforts will be undertaken and reported annually until the revegetation effort is deemed satisfactory. When the final assessment indicates that satisfactory revegetation has occurred, no further action beyond the reporting of such will occur. At that time, this item will be considered complete and will be moved to category B “Completed Items”.

Item E7 – Assessing the need to revegetate the areas affected by the presently deferred side channel openings for Rush Creek side channel 4Bii in reach 4B will occur for five years following rewatering pending the decision on deferment by the SWRCB and the stream scientists for item E2 above. The results from the assessment will be reported in the annual monitoring report following the fifth year after rewatering. If the final assessment concludes that satisfactory revegetation has not occurred through natural processes, further revegetation efforts will be undertaken and reported annually until the revegetation effort is deemed satisfactory. When the final assessment indicates that satisfactory revegetation has occurred, no further action beyond the reporting of such will occur. At that time, this item will be considered complete and will be moved to category B “Completed Items”.

Item E8 – Assessing the need to revegetate the areas affected by the presently deferred further rewatering of the Rush Creek side channel 8 in reach 4B will occur for five years following additional rewatering occurs, pending the decision on deferment by the SWRCB and the stream scientists for item E3 above. The results from the assessment will be reported in the annual monitoring report following the fifth year after rewatering. If the final assessment concludes that satisfactory revegetation has not occurred through natural processes, further revegetation efforts will be undertaken and reported annually until the revegetation effort is deemed satisfactory. When the final assessment indicates that satisfactory revegetation has occurred, no further action beyond the reporting of such will occur. At that time, this item will be considered complete and will be moved to category B “Completed Items”.

Item E9 – Assessing the need to revegetate the areas affected by the presently deferred rewatering of Rush Creek side channel 11 in reach 4C will occur for five years following rewatering pending the decision on deferment by the SWRCB and the stream scientists for item E4 above. The results from the assessment will be reported in the annual monitoring report following the fifth year after rewatering. If the final assessment concludes that satisfactory revegetation has not occurred through natural processes, further revegetation efforts will be undertaken and reported annually until the revegetation effort is deemed satisfactory. When the final assessment indicates that satisfactory revegetation has occurred, no further action beyond the reporting of such will occur. At that time, this item will be considered complete and will be moved to category B “Completed Items”.

Item E10 – Assessing the need to revegetate the areas affected by the presently deferred side channel opening for Rush Creek side channel 14 in reach 4C will occur for five years following rewatering pending the decision on deferment by the SWRCB and the stream scientists for item E5 above. The results from the assessment will be reported in the annual monitoring report following the fifth year after rewatering. If the final assessment concludes that satisfactory revegetation has not occurred through natural processes, further revegetation efforts will be undertaken and reported annually until the revegetation effort is deemed satisfactory. When the final assessment indicates that satisfactory revegetation has occurred, no further action beyond the reporting of such will occur. At that time, this item will be considered complete and will be moved to category B “Completed Items”.

Item E11 – Pending further action by Mono County to improve the county road crossing at Lee Vining Creek, LADWP will write a letter to Mono County recommending an Arizona crossing at that point. Once LADWP writes this letter, or the parties agree that this is unnecessary, this item will be moved to category B “Completed Items”.

Item E12 – LADWP was to place fish screens on all of its irrigation diversions in the Mono Basin. Subsequently LADWP ended all irrigation practices and hence does not need to install fish screens. If at a later date LADWP resumes irrigation, fish screens will be installed and this item will be moved to category A “Ongoing Items”.

Item E13 – LADWP began a prescribed burn program with limited success. LADWP requested to remove this item from the requirements and the SWRCB instead ruled that the prescribed burn program will be deferred until Mono Lake reaches 6,391. Once Mono Lake reaches 6,391 LADWP will reassess the prescribed burn. Based on results from the assessment, LADWP will either reinstate the program or request relief from the SWRCB from this requirement. If LADWP reinstates the program this item will be moved to category C “In-Progress Items”,

however if LADWP requests, and is granted relief from this SWRCB requirement, this item will be moved to category B “Completed Items”.

7. Ongoing Items Description:

See Section 5 for references where each requirement originates.

Category A – Ongoing Items

Item A1 – *Road closures*. Periodically LADWP personnel will visit all road closures performed by LADWP in accordance with SWRCB Order No. 98-05, Order 1, in the Lower Rush and Lee Vining Creek areas to assess their effectiveness. Where evidence exists that a road closure is ineffective, LADWP will improve the road closures through means such as additional barriers.

Item A2 – *Base flow releases*. LADWP will control flow releases from its facilities into Lower Rush, Parker, Walker, and Lee Vining Creeks according to agreed upon flow rate requirements as set forth in the SWRCB Decision 1631, Order Nos. 98-05 and Order 98-07, the Grant Lake Operations Management Plan, and any subsequent operations plans and decisions made by the SWRCB.

Item A3 – *Low winter flow releases*. Per the California Department of Fish and Game recommendations, and SWRCB Order No. 98-05, order 2.b., LADWP will maintain winter flows into Lower Rush Creek below 70 cfs in order to avoid harming the Rush Creek fishery.

Item A4 – *Annual operations plan*. Per SWRCB Order No. 98-05, order 3, LADWP will distribute an annual operations plan covering its proposed water diversions and releases in the Mono Basin. Presently the requirement is to distribute this plan to the SWRCB and all interested parties by May 15 of each year. If, in the future, this requirement changes, LADWP will comply with the new requirements.

Item A5 – *Notification of failure to meet flow requirements*. Per SWRCB Order No. 98-05, order 3, and SWRCB Decision 1631, order 4, if at the beginning of the runoff year, for any reason, LADWP believes it cannot meet SWRCB flow requirements, LADWP will provide a written explanation to the Chief of the Division of Water Rights by May 1, along with an explanation of the flows that will be provided. If unanticipated events prevent LADWP from meeting SWRCB Order No. 98-05 Stream Restoration Flow requirements, LADWP will notify the Chief of the Division of Water Rights within 20 days and provide a written explanation of why the requirement was not met. LADWP will provide 72 hours notice and an explanation as soon as reasonably possible for violation of SWRCB Decision 1631 minimum instream flow requirements.

Item A6 – *Grant storage targets*. LADWP will operate its Mono Basin facilities to maintain a target storage elevation in Grant Lake Reservoir between 30,000 and 35,000 acre-feet at the beginning and end of the runoff year. LADWP shall seek

to have 40,000 acre-feet in Grant Reservoir on April 1 each year at the beginning of wet and extreme wet years.

Item A7 – *Export release patterns to the Upper Owens River.* Per SWRCB Decision 1631, order 7, and SWRCB Order No. 98-05, order 2, LADWP will make exports from the Mono Basin to the Upper Owens River in a manner that will not have a combined flow rate below East Portal above 250 cfs, and will perform the exports in a relatively stable and consistent manner. LADWP will perform ramping of exports at 20% or 10 cfs, whichever is greater, on the ascending limb, and 10% or 10 cfs, whichever is greater, on the descending limb of the hydrograph as measured at the Upper Owens River.

Item A8 – *Diversion targets from streams.* Per the 1996 GLOMP, diversion targets for exports from the Mono Basin will be divided between Rush, Lee Vining, Parker and Walker Creeks in the following manner. During all years except dry and extremely wet years, LADWP will seek to divert one-third to one-half of the export amount from Lee Vining Creek, with the remaining water coming from Rush Creek. During dry years LADWP will seek to divert approximately 1,500 acre-feet from Parker and Walker Creeks combined. During extremely wet years, all exports will come from diversions off of Rush Creek.

Item A9 – *Export amounts dependent on Mono Lake level.* LADWP export amounts will follow those ordered by SWRCB Decision 1631, order 2.

Item A10 – *Year type designation and guidelines.* Per SWRCB Decision 1631, order 4, SWRCB Order No. 98-05, and GLOMP, LADWP will perform runoff year forecasts for the Mono Basin with preliminary forecasts being conducted on February 1, March 1, and April 1, with the forecast being finalized on or around May 1. Using the forecasted value, LADWP will make year type designations based on exceedance probabilities.

Item A11 – *Dry and wet cycle contingencies for stream restoration flows and base flows.* During consecutive dry years LADWP will release channel maintenance flows every other year. The CMF will commence in the second consecutive dry year. The channel maintenance flows for Rush Creek will be 100 cfs for five days, and for Lee Vining Creek it will be 75 cfs for five days. Ramping rates will be 10 cfs per day. The occurrence of a year type other than a dry year will terminate the dry year cycle. During consecutive wet years, LADWP will increase base flows above the minimum flow rate every other year. The increased base flows will commence in the second consecutive wet year. The occurrence of a year type other than a wet year will terminate the wet year cycle.

Item A12 – *Deviations from Grant Lake Operation Management Plan (GLOMP).* LADWP must maintain operational flexibility to adjust or react to unpredictable circumstances.

Item A13 – *Ramping rates*. LADWP will continue to operate its Mono Basin facilities in order to provide SWRCB ramping flow requirements for Lee Vining, Parker, Walker, and Rush Creeks.

Item A14 – *Stream restoration flows and channel maintenance flows*. LADWP will continue to operate its Mono Basin facilities in order to provide SWRCB peak flow requirements for Lee Vining, Parker, Walker, and Rush Creeks.

Item A15 – *Salt Cedar eradication*. LADWP will continue assisting in a Mono Basin wide effort to eradicate Salt Cedar (*Tamarisk*), and will continue to report on these efforts.

Item A16 – *Aerial Photography*. LADWP will capture aerial and/or satellite imagery of the Mono Basin (Stream Plan, 1" = 6,000' scale; SWRCB Order No. 98-05, Section 6.4.6(4), 1:6,000 scale) every five years or following an extreme wet year event, which resets the five year clock.

Item A17 – *Make basic data available to public*. Per SWRCB Order 98-05, Order 1.b., as revised by SWRCB Order No. 98-07, order 1.b(2), LADWP will continue to make all basic monitoring data available to the public.

Item A18 – *Operation of Lee Vining sediment bypass*. In order to bypass sediment past the Lee Vining diversion facility, LADWP will operate the Lee Vining Conduit control gate to assist with ramping flows towards peak with the intention of having it be in the completely open position while peak flows are passing the diversion facility. After peak flows have passed the facility, the Lee Vining Conduit control gate will slowly close assisting with ramping flows back down towards base flow condition.

Item A19 – *Operation of the Rush Creek augmentation from the Lee Vining Conduit when necessary*. At times when peak flow requirements in Rush Creek exceed facility capacities, and Grant Lake Reservoir is not spilling, LADWP will operate the Lee Vining Conduit 5-Siphon Bypass to bring water from Lee Vining Creek to Rush Creek to augment flows to the required levels.

Meetings

LADWP sponsored two Mono Basin Restoration Tracking meetings during the RY 2006-07 for the experts and interested parties to present and discuss restoration and monitoring activities, hydrology, and other issues related to the Mono Basin. The meetings were held on April 27 and December 12, 2006. An additional meeting was held on June 1, 2006 at the U.S. Forest Service building in Lee Vining, California. The purpose of this additional meeting was to discuss the stream scientist recommendations for revising the termination criteria.

The names of the meeting attendees are shown in the following tables.

Table 1
Spring Mono Basin Restoration Tracking Meeting Attendees

Name	Agency / Affiliation
Jim Canaday	State Water Resources Control Board
Lisa Cutting	Mono Lake Committee
Janet Goldsmith	Kronick, Moskovitz, Tiedemann & Girard
Mark Hanna	Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
Debbie House	Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
Akiko Kawaguchi	LADWP consultant
Ken Knudson	Fisheries Team
Rob Lusardi (by phone for part of the meeting)	California Trout
Dave Martin	Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
Matt Myers	State Water Resources Control Board
Paul Pau	Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
Greg Reis	Mono Lake Committee
Richard Ridmour	Mono Lake Committee consultant
Charlotte Rodrigues (by phone for part of the meeting)	Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
Doug Smith	Grant Lake Marina
Ross Taylor	Fisheries Team
Brian Tillemans	Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
Bill Trush	McBain and Trush

**Table 2
Fall Mono Basin Restoration Tracking Meeting Attendees**

Name	Agency/Affiliation
Jim Canaday	SWRCB
Matt Myers	SWRCB
Christopher Hunter	Chris Hunter's Fish Monitoring Team
Ross Taylor (by phone for part of the meeting)	Chris Hunter's Fish Monitoring Team
Jim Pence	California State Parks
Lisa Fields	California State Parks
Bill Trush	McBain and Trush
Mark Hanna	LADWP
David Martin	LADWP
Janet Goldsmith	Lawyer for LADWP (KMTG)
Steve Parmenter (by phone for part of the meeting)	CDFG
Greg Reis (by phone for part of the meeting)	MLC
Lisa Cutting	MLC
Peter Vorster	Consultant to MLC
Richard Ridenhour	Consultant to MLC
Rob Lusardi	CalTrout
Scott Feierabend	CalTrout

**Table 3
Termination Criteria Meeting Attendees**

Name	Agency/Affiliation
Jim Canaday	SWRCB
Matt Myers	SWRCB
Christopher Hunter (by phone)	Chris Hunter's Fish Monitoring Team
Ross Taylor	Chris Hunter's Fish Monitoring Team
Bill Trush	McBain and Trush
John Bair	McBain and Trush
Darren Mierau	McBain and Trush
Mark Hanna	LADWP
David Martin	LADWP
Debbie House	LADWP
Burt Almond	USFS
Larry Ford	USFS
Lynn Oliver	USFS
Greg Reis	MLC
Lisa Cutting	MLC
Peter Vorster	Consultant to MLC
Rob Lusardi	CalTrout
Jim Edmondson	CalTrout
Chris Smith	Grant Lake Marina
Doug Smith	Grant Lake Marina