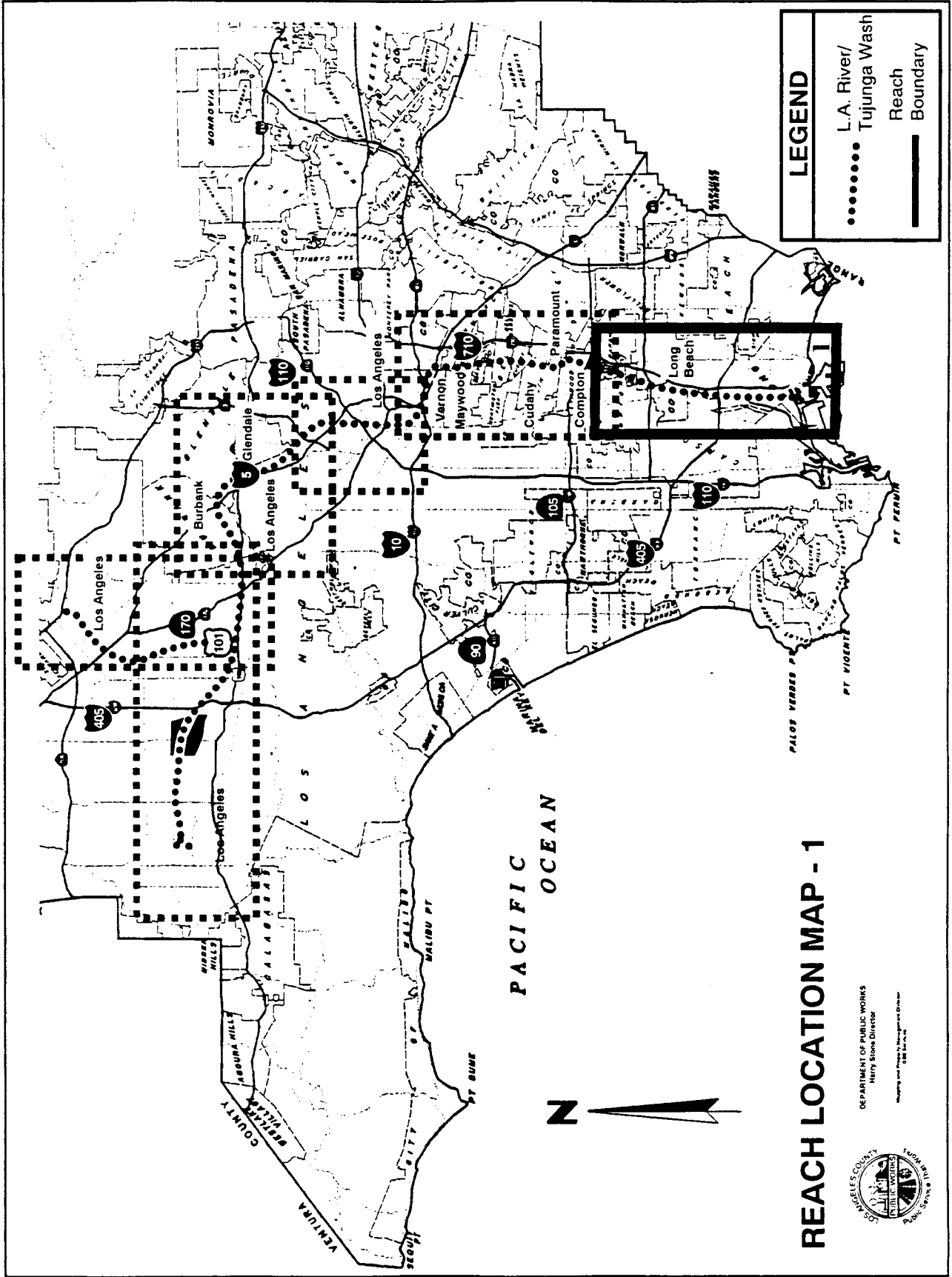


REACH 1: SOUTHERN CITIES

LONG BEACH 105-119
CARSON 115






LEGEND

- L.A. River/ Tujunga Wash
- Reach
- Boundary

REACH LOCATION MAP - 1



 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
 Harry Stone, Director
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 1988



REACH 1: SOUTHERN CITIES

This nine-mile reach, from Atlantic Avenue to the ocean, includes the cities of Carson and Long Beach. For the entire reach the river is a trapezoidal concrete channel defined by earthen levees that rise above the surrounding landscape. From Willow Street south, the river is soft bottomed with areas of riparian vegetation. Both the east and west levees have maintenance roads but only the east embankment provides continuous access by ramping under bridges. The 710 Freeway parallels the river on the west, separating adjacent neighborhoods from the river along this entire reach.

Land use here varies from residential to light industrial. The strip of vacant land between the freeway and the river supports commercial nurseries and storage facilities. The Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, Caltrans and local cities operate numerous pump stations that collect and pump local urban runoff into the river. Some runoff is collected in the Dominguez Gap Spreading Grounds, located on the east bank south of Del Amo Boulevard.

Recreational use, both planned and unplanned, is common in this reach. The LARIO Trail continues along the east side of the river with continuous access provided below each street bridge crossing. Several parks have been developed adjacent to the river on the east, some of which provide access to the river trail. People use the western levee for recreation although there is no official trail there. People also plant informal gardens on the adjacent open lands as well as in the river bottom sediments.

This reach supports some of the most abundant bird life found on the Los Angeles River. Roosting and feeding habitat is provided by the parks, spreading grounds, utility easements and vacant land adjacent to the river. Many species of birds also feed in the concrete channel, where algae grows in the warm, shallow water, and in the estuary south of Willow Street.

