Approved

February 26, 2020

TO:

Sree Kumar

FROM:

Ken Zimmer Ken Zimmer Research Research Postfire Engineering and Drainage Needs Program

SADDLE RIDGE FIRE BURNED AREA BRIEF

The Saddle Ridge Fire started on October 10, 2019, and was extinguished on October 31, 2019. The fire burned 8,799 acres around the Santa Susana Mountains and San Gabriel Mountains in the Cities of Los Angeles, Santa Clarita, and areas of Unincorporated Los Angeles County. This brief focuses on potential mudflow impacts to County Flood Control facilities and residences within or below the burned area.

Summary of Potential Sediment Impact

The Saddle Ridge Fire burn area, which includes Debris Production Areas 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6, is subdivided into 143 subarea watersheds (see Burned Area Map). During a design debris event (a 50-year frequency rainfall), debris flow from the burned hillsides may impact several debris basins/debris retaining inlets and flood control channels under the purview of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District, maintained by Stormwater Maintenance Division. Several roads, debris retaining facilities, and storm drains maintained by the City of Los Angeles may also be subject to flooding and debris flows.

Detailed descriptions of potential sediment impacts are contained in Attachment A.

Attachments/Links

All the attachments can be found on the internet at http://www.dpw.lacounty.gov/wrd/fire.

Attachment A – Description of Burn and Potential Sediment Impact

Attachment B – History Map

Postfire Debris Flow Hazards Map:

https://apps.gis.lacounty.gov/dpw/m/index.html?viewer=Post-Fire Debris Flow Hazards Map

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Postfire Debris Flow Hazards Map

The debris flow Phase Maps (Phases 1, 2, and 3 Potential Hazard Areas) identifies the critical locations of potential debris flow impacts below the burned area for varying storm magnitudes. This map is prepared when potential debris flows would pose a major impact to homes, roadways, flood control facilities, or other public infrastructure. Stormwater Engineering Division (SWED) will post debris flow potential forecasts through the County's eNotify System and on the internet for each forecasted significant storm event throughout this storm season and the four subsequent storm seasons.

Coordination

Stormwater Engineering Division's staff conducted a field reconnaissance of the burned area to verify the fire boundary. SWED reviewed and surveyed potential impacts to County facilities and residences below the burned canyons and hillsides. At the request of the City of Los Angeles, SWED investigated 194 properties and provided engineering advice to a total of 26 residents, which 11 were written and 15 were verbal.

The map and forecast system have been provided to the City of Los Angeles and County's first responders.

If you have any questions regarding this fire report, please contact Michael Miranda at Extension 6164.

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Attach.

cc: Disaster Services (Eazell)

Stormwater Maintenance (Bunker)

Stormwater Engineering (Zimmer)