

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

EATON WASH DAM AND RESERVOIR POST-FIRE CLEANOUT 2026



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Dispatch (800) 675-4357

Q What work will be taking place at Eaton Wash?

A Los Angeles County Public Works is preparing for the next phase of post-fire cleanout work at Eaton Wash. Crews will remove sediment that has accumulated in the reservoir as part of the County's ongoing response to the Eaton Fire. This work helps maintain flood protection for downstream communities.

Q How does Eaton Wash protect downstream communities?

A During storms, the reservoir captures and slows runoff coming out of the mountains. It also traps sediment and debris that could otherwise be carried into channels and nearby communities. When sediment builds up, it reduces the space available for stormwater, which is why periodic cleanout work is needed.

Q What is sediment?

A Sediment is a natural mix of sand, gravel, rocks, soil, mud and organic material, such as tree branches and fallen vegetation, that washes down from mountains and hillsides during storms. After a wildfire, more sediment can move downhill because burned vegetation and roots are no longer holding soil in place.

Q Why does sediment need to be removed?

A The Eaton Fire burned the watershed above the reservoir. With less vegetation to hold soil in place, storms continue to carry sediment downhill into the reservoir. Removing this material will restore the space the reservoir needs to capture and slow stormwater and continue protecting downstream communities.

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Q	Why is more work needed after last year's emergency hauling?
A	Public Works completed emergency hauling after the Eaton Fire in 2025 to quickly restore capacity at the reservoir. However, after wildfires, storms can continue delivering large volumes of sediment for several years. This next phase will remove additional material so the facility can continue to function as intended.
Q	When will project activity take place?
A	Project setup and hauling preparations are expected to begin in July 2026. Sediment hauling is scheduled to take place July 29 through November 15, Monday through Friday, from 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., excluding holidays. The timeline is subject to change. Work will not take place on weekends or overnight.
Q	Where will the material be taken?
A	Sediment will be transported to Sheldon Pit in Sun Valley and United Rock Pit 2 in Irwindale. Organic material will be transported to Scholl Canyon Landfill and Sunshine Canyon Landfill. Using more than one approved facility helps move material efficiently and distribute hauling activity across different routes and destinations.
Q	What should residents expect during hauling?
A	Community members may see trucks, equipment and project activity near the reservoir and along approved haul routes. We understand that hauling can be disruptive. Our teams will carefully monitor the project, share updates and use measures to reduce impacts during hauling.
Q	How will Public Works reduce impacts during hauling?
A	Public Works will use best management practices to support public safety and reduce community and environmental impacts. Measures may include dust control, trackout controls, street sweeping, traffic and safety measures and other steps as needed during hauling operations.



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For questions, contact Project Manager Precious Crosby at (626) 458-3198