



September 20, 2016

Jemellee Cruz, P.E.  
Flood Maintenance Division  
Los Angeles County Flood Control Division  
900 Fremont Avenue, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Annex  
Alhambra, CA 91802-1460

**SUBJECT: LEAST BELL'S VIREO OBSERVATION AT THE 2016 DEVILS GATE INTERIM MEASURES PROJECT, LOS ANGELES COUNTY, CALIFORNIA.**

Dear Ms. Cruz,

On September 19, 2016, Chambers Group conducted biological monitoring for the work activities associated with the 2016 Devil's Gate Interim Measures Project (Project) for the Los Angeles County Flood Control District (LACFCD). During the monitoring efforts, one least Bell's vireo (*Vireo belli pusillus*; LBVI) was observed within the vicinity of the Project site. The individual was observed foraging in the riparian area near a small pond located near the southeast portion of the Project site (Attachment 1). The individual was observed approximately 840 feet away from current work activities occurring in the sediment removal area and 1,360 feet from the sediment placement site (Attachment 1). The crew was immediately notified of the observation and an avoidance boundary was placed with cones along the access road (Attachment 2).

The area was monitored throughout the remainder of the day and the individual did not appear impacted by work activities and continued to forage. No work activities are currently being conducted within 500 feet of the area the LBVI was observed. However, the access road leading from the sediment removal site to the sediment relocation area is immediately adjacent to the area the individual was observed. Therefore, no vehicle access occurred along the access road near the area the individual was observed.

Preconstruction surveys of the area were conducted on September 20, 2016 and no LBVI were observed. The riparian area was closely monitored throughout work activities and no LBVI were observed. The riparian area will continue to be surveyed and monitored for any LBVI within the vicinity and LACFCD will be notified immediately if an individual is observed within 500 feet of work activities.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Heather Franklin by phone at (949) 261-5414 ext. 7232 or by email at: [hfranklin@chambersgroupinc.com](mailto:hfranklin@chambersgroupinc.com).

Sincerely,

Heather Franklin

Staff Biologist  
Chambers Group Inc.

Attachments:

Attachment 1 – LBVI Observation Map

Attachment 2 – Site Photographs

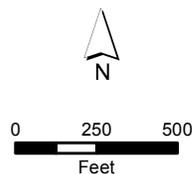


**Legend**

- Access
- Staging Area
- Sediment Relocation Area
- Sediment Removal Area

**Species Observation**

- Least Bell's Vireo

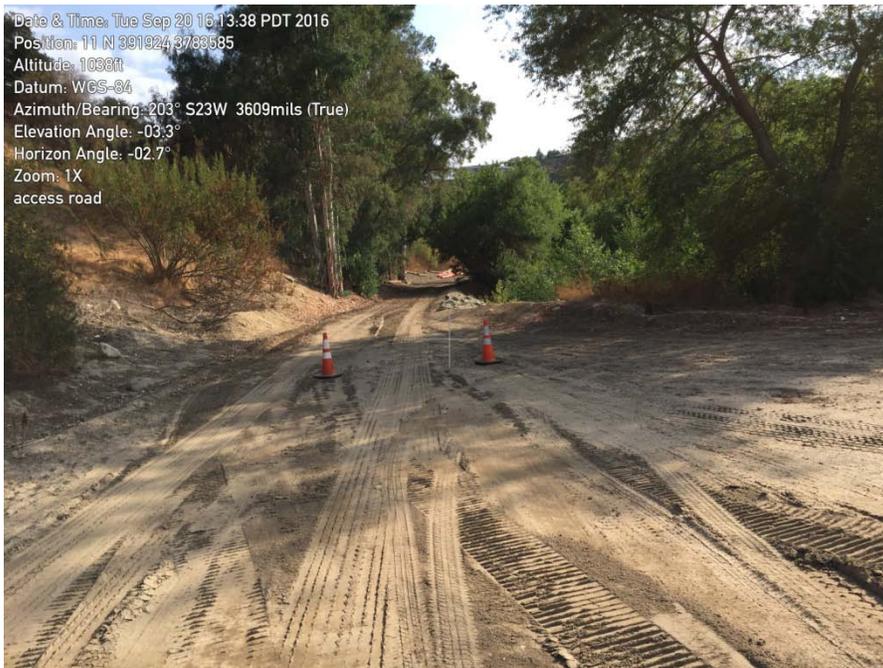


**Figure 1**  
 Devil's Gate Interim  
 Measures Project  
 Species Observation Map

ATTACHMENT 2 – SITE PHOTOGRAPHS



**Photo 1.**  
Cones blocking off access road for avoidance within 500 feet of where the least Bell's vireo was observed. Photo facing north.



**Photo 2.**  
Cones blocking off access road for avoidance within 500 feet of where the least Bell's vireo was observed. Photo facing south.