

Water Quality Report Card		Trash in Los Angeles River Watershed	
Regional Water Board:	Los Angeles, Region 4	STATUS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conditions Improving
Beneficial Uses Affected:	REC-1, REC-2, WARM, WILD, EST, MAR, RARE, MIGR, SPWN, COMM, SHELL, WET, COLD		<input type="checkbox"/> Data Inconclusive
Implemented Through:	NPDES Permits, MS4 Permits, Statewide Storm Water Permits		<input type="checkbox"/> Improvement Needed
Effective Date:	September 2008		<input type="checkbox"/> Targets Achieved/Water Body Delisted
Attainment Date:	September 2016		
		Pollutant Type:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Point Source <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nonpoint Source <input type="checkbox"/> Legacy

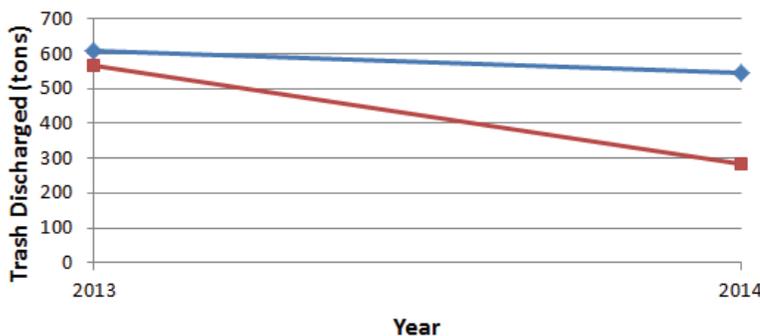
Water Quality Improvement Strategy

Trash in rivers, streams and other waterways impairs beneficial uses, particularly recreational and wildlife uses. Impaired water bodies addressed by the [Los Angeles Trash TMDL](#) include: Los Angeles River, Los Angeles River Estuary, Tujunga Wash, Burbank Western Channel, Verdugo Wash, Arroyo Seco, Compton Creek, and Rio Hondo. Urban storm water runoff through municipal storm drains is the major source of trash in the Los Angeles River Watershed and is the primary focus of implementation measures to attain standards. The interim and final waste load allocations (WLAs) were assigned in the TMDL to the County of Los Angeles, 42 cities in the watershed and the California Department of Transportation. WLAs are to be achieved through a schedule of phased reduction of trash discharges for each permittee such that a 100% reduction in trash is achieved by September 2016. The TMDL includes multiple compliance strategies to achieve WLAs which include the use of devices, and systems of devices, in storm drains or catch basins to collect trash (including “full capture” and “partial capture” systems), and institutional controls of trash such as educational programs, enforcement of litter laws and street sweeping. The Los Angeles River Trash TMDL was originally adopted by the Regional Water Board in September 2001 and approved by USEPA in [August 2002](#). However, due to litigation, this TMDL was set aside in [June 2006](#) and readopted by the Regional Water Board in [August 2007](#).

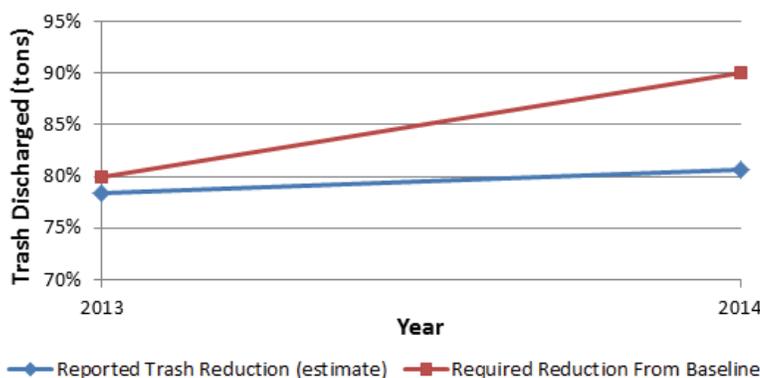
Los Angeles River Watershed



Trash Reduction (Tons) in Los Angeles River



Trash Reduction (Percentage) in Los Angeles River



Water Quality Outcomes

- Trash abatement continues to increase as the final compliance deadline draws near with some permittees making gradual progress while others have accelerated their efforts. Non-uniform catch basin designs, and, on some streets, the lack of sufficient pressure from the accumulating storm water during storm events, has made installation of some catch basin systems more difficult.
- Most permittees are on track to complete installation of full capture systems by the end of the compliance period.
- A local ordinance banning single use plastic bags have been adopted in the cities of Santa Monica, Culver City, Glendale, Long Beach, Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, Monrovia, Pasadena, Pico Rivera, and South Pasadena.
- Methods to appropriately demonstrate “100% trash reduction” or “zero trash” discharge was addressed in a [June 2015 TMDL reconsideration](#). A revision of implementation and monitoring plans are expected upon final approval of the TMDL reconsideration.
- Qualitative observations have shown a significant reduction of trash since adoption of the TMDL.

The graphs are based on trash reduction values from full capture systems only. Partial capture systems and institutional controls are not accounted for. As such, actual reduction may be lower than the listed values.