



MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Bring Your Kayak to the Los Angeles River

Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority to manage Los Angeles River Pilot Recreation Zone this summer to increase river access and enjoyment. Program will launch May 27, 2013

Los Angeles—May 9, 2013—The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) has launched a new website and announced that for the first time since the late 1930s, the Los Angeles River will welcome the public to kayak, walk, and fish (with a California Department of Fish and Wildlife permit) on its own in a 2.5 mile stretch of the river in Elysian Valley, from Fletcher Drive south to Steelhead Park. Opening Day will be Memorial Day, May 27, 2013. The pilot program will run through Labor Day, and will be open sunrise to sunset daily, under safe conditions. The public can consult the new website www.lariverrecreation.org for program information including a trail guide and map, Q and A, safety precautions, links to private operators, and permit applications.

Use of the recreation zone is free of charge to any individual or informal group, and there is no need to make a reservation. However, organized groups (either non-profit or for-profit) must obtain a permit and make a reservation. Permit applications are now being accepted. Interested groups should check the web site for more details.

“We have been working together with the City of Los Angeles, the Los Angeles County Flood Control District, the Army Corps of Engineers, and many of the community groups and non profit organizations working on the river to make what seemed like an impossible dream come true,” said Chief Ranger Fernando Gomez, who will oversee safety in the Recreation Zone. “We look forward to helping the public learn about what the river has to offer.”

State Senator Kevin de Leon, Assemblymember Jimmy Gomez, and Los Angeles City Councilmember Ed P. Reyes are among the confirmed speakers at the May 27 grand opening event which will take place at 10:00 AM at MRCA-operated [Marsh Park](#) on the Los Angeles River. A short program will be followed by a ceremonial and historic “first run.”

The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority is a local public park agency dedicated to the preservation and management of open space, urban parkland, watershed lands, trails, and wildlife habitat. The MRCA manages more than 69,000

acres of public parkland and provides natural resources and scientific expertise, critical regional planning services, operations, fire prevention and ranger services, as well as education and leadership programs for thousands of youth each year. It is one of the lead agencies revitalizing the Los Angeles River.

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