

<b>PROJECT</b>	BIOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES STUDIES FOR THE TOLUCA-HOLLYWOOD REPAIRS PROJECT
<b>CLIENT</b>	LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF WATER & POWER
<b>LOCATION</b>	TOLUCA AND HOLLYWOOD, LOS ANGELES, CA
<b>INDUSTRY</b>	GOVERNMENT
<b>SERVICES</b>	ELECTRIC SERVICES, WATER QUALITY, ENERGY EFFICIENCY
<b>WEBSITE</b>	WWW.LADWP.COM

## THE CHALLENGE

With today’s extensive and rapid construction of buildings and architecture, combined with extensive and rapidly-changing regulations, countless necessary steps must be taken throughout, especially during pre-construction. Significant details to consider are the wildlife and plant species in the area. As these natural resources rapidly decline in today’s world and their preservation becomes more critical, it is crucial to make sure that they are considered when developing land. Builders must be careful that these species are considered through proper yet efficient methods.

The Los Angeles Department of Water & Power (LADWP) needed to assess the site where they would conduct a repair of the Toluca-Hollywood Transmission Road, located near Wonder View Drive, and above Forest Lawn Property, between Towers (Tol-Hol) 575 through 569. There were several issues that the LADWP needed to address for this project:

1. The project included construction of new retaining wall systems; earthwork including backfill, grading and road blading; construction of storm area drains; repair and construction of McCarthy drains; and clearing of vegetation—work that was necessary to allow access to the transmission towers for future maintenance.
2. This project was necessary to reestablish the original dirt road, to allow maintenance trucks, equipment and workers direct access for the purpose of regrading washouts. This was critical since certain sections had crossed over the steep walls of the mountainside, gullies had been washed out completely, and vehicles could not access the Towers.

Before these projects could take place, the LADWP needed a trusted, experienced company to efficiently assess the area for construction.

## OUR SOLUTION

The LADWP chose FirstCarbon Solutions (FCS) because our extensive natural resources and cultural resources team could conduct proper pre-construction surveys of the site.

First, the natural resources team conducted a reconnaissance-level pre-application survey focused on areas that may provide suitable habitats for sensitive wildlife and plant species, as well as documenting locations of nesting birds on towers. Three species that have a moderate or high potential to occur within the project area were discovered: Davidson’s bush-mallow, the slender mariposa lily, and Plummer’s mariposa lily. No sensitive plants were found to be present on the project site.

Furthermore, FCS conducted a jurisdictional delineation of the site, an essential step to determine if any of the proposed activities would result in impacts to US Army Corps of Engineers “waters of the US” or California Department of Fish and Wildlife “waters of the State”. The FCS delineator recommended that a detailed assessment be completed before any construction occurred at the drainages.

Lastly, the cultural resources team conducted surveys of the project site. The area was physically examined after completing a records search review at the South Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC)

to determine if the area had been previously surveyed and whether any cultural resources were present. The cultural resources survey identified one important historic resource, a historic-era metal culvert, possibly dating to the 1930s.

The LADWP maintenance team submitted this information to the appropriate agencies to allow maintenance activities on the road for the towers, when funding becomes available.

## THE FCS ADVANTAGE

FCS provided this information on an advanced level necessary for the LADWP to move forward with the project. The expertise of FCS’ natural and cultural resources teams resulted in accurate and thorough pre-construction surveys, allowing for important maintenance activities on the Toluca-Hollywood Transmission Road in the future.

## RESULTS

- Received pre-construction surveys of natural and cultural resources
- Acquired pre-construction recommendations
- Identified important natural species and cultural resources on site