

### **Recent Accomplishments and Ongoing Projects**



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**Years of Service** 

**IMMEDIATE JOB OPENINGS** 

**Agoura Hills Openings** 

**Senior Project Manager Senior Biologist** Env. Engineer/Scientist -**Air Quality** 



San Francisco Openings

**Senior Project Manager** Env. Engineer/Scientist -**Air Quality** 



Sacramento Openings

**Senior Project Manager Energy and Infrastructure** Planner/Analyst



Aspen Environmental Group is distinguished by highly motivated people in a wide range of disciplines including planning, economics, biology, engineering, and physical sciences. We offer a collegial work environment with competitive salaries and benefits. Even when we are not advertising for specific positions, we are always looking for exceptionally qualified people. Therefore, inquiries and resumes not specific to an advertised position opening are welcome. Aspen has offices in San Francisco, Sacramento, Agoura Hills (the Los Angeles area), San Diego, and Phoenix (Aspen Consulting Engineers).

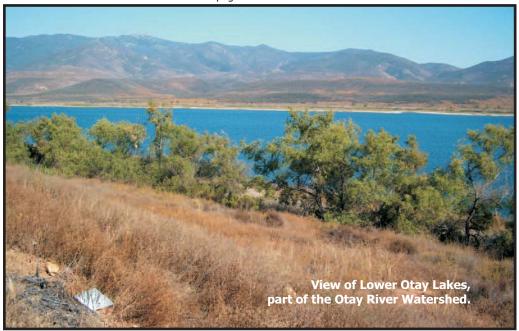
#### San Diego Office: Center of Excellence in Restoration & Watershed Management Plans

We are proud to announce Aspen has opened a new office in San Diego County to focus on biology, stream and wetland restoration, and watershed planning. Our staff is highly experienced in functional assessments including the California Rapid Assessment Method (CRAM) and Hydrogeomorphic (HGM) method, stream and wetland restoration planning and implementation, stream bioassessments, jurisdictional delineations, and watershed planning. Aspen staff also has expertise in vernal pool related work including focused surveys for threatened and endangered branchiopods, restoration planning, and long-term monitoring program development.

Some on-going projects managed by the San Diego office are Otay River Watershed Management Plan and Otay River Special Area Management Plan (County of San Diego), Upper and Lower Sulphur Creek Restoration projects (City of Laguna Niguel), and a detailed study of the treatment of wetlands with Southern California Coastal Water Research Project. San Diego staff also Cont. on page 4

# Port of Los Angeles: Main Channel Dredging

Aspen is assisting the US Army Corps of Engineers and the Port of Los Angeles (Port) with preparation of a joint Supplemental EIS/EIR for the Port's Additional Disposal Capacity (ADC) Project. This project will provide additional capacity to dispose of the dredge material for the completion of the Channel Deepening Project. Completion of the project will allow the new generation of deep-draft vessels to access Port terminals, provide additional land at the Port for future terminal development, and create new shallow water habitat in the Los Angeles Harbor for eelgrass and other marine species. Aspen has assembled a multidisciplinary team of highly qualified experts to address the potential impacts of dredge and disposal activities, particularly with regard to the creation of new land areas and shallow water habitat. As part of this joint SEIS/SEIR effort, Aspen is coordinating with various regulatory agencies to facilitate preparation of relevant regulatory documents, including Essential Fish Habitat Evaluation, Biological Assessment, Section 404 Clean Water Act Permit, and Coastal Consistency Determination.



# Tranquillon Ridge: Offshore Oil and Gas Development



Under contract to the Santa Barbara County Energy Division, Aspen is preparing a Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) for the Tranquillon Ridge Oil and Gas Development Project. Santa Barbara County is working with the Joint Review Panel (JRP) established for the project. This multi-agency JRP comprises the following: California State Lands Commission, California Coastal Commission, and the Minerals Management Service. Advisory agencies to the JRP include Vandenberg Air Force Base and the Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District. The County and JRP have collectively agreed to the FEIR scope and content.

The Tranquillon Ridge Oil and Gas Development Project involves the development of the Tranquillon Ridge Field, located in State waters, from existing Platform Irene, located in federal waters. The field would be developed from Platform Irene using extended reach drilling technology. The approximate 20 year old existing infrastructure, including the emulsion, sour gas, and produced water pipelines from Platform Irene to the Lompoc Oil and Gas Plant (LOGP) and the LOGP itself, would remain in operation for approximately an additional 30 years under the proposed project. The FEIR addresses the impacts associated with the extension of life and increased throughput through these facilities, plus required facility modifications.

# Energy Expertise Offered by Aspen Specialists at Recent Conferences

**Transmission Summit:** Susan Lee and Carl Linvill, Aspen energy experts, attended the 2007 Transmission Summit in Alexandria, Virginia in March. Presentations focused on "Innovative Approaches for a New Era in Transmission." Speakers represented FERC, the Western Area Power Administration, transmission utilities, vertically integrated utilities and several state utility Speakers and panelists discussed implementation regulators. issues associated with the Energy Policy Act of 2005 including the PEIS, the DOE corridor designation process, and the FERC backstop siting authority. The effects of new technologies and FERC Order 890 on alternatives assessment were also discussed. believes these federal developments will effect the planning, implementation and evaluation of transmission alternatives and we look forward to helping our clients navigate through the evolving federal regulatory environment for transmission.

**AEP Conference:** At the recent AEP 2007 conference in Shell Beach, CA, Aspen's energy expertise was featured prominently. Besides being a major sponsor, Aspen energy experts Suzanne Phinney and Susan Lee moderated and made presentations on key topical issues. Dr. Phinney moderated panels on "Is there a need for LNG in California's future?" and "Climate change initiatives for California." Susan Lee moderated a panel on "Meeting the growing demand for electricity in California." Both spoke on the roundtable panel "Coastal energy development – promises and challenges."



Susan Lee (far left) moderated a panel discussing "Meeting the Growing Demand for Electricity in California." Panel members included Roger Johnson (far right) and representatives of three major utility companies.

Did you know?

By the year 2020, 33 percent of our utilities portfolios must be Renewable Energy Sources.

Ship-side view! MARS Cabled Observatory Monitoring in Monterey Bay

The recent Monterey Accelerated Research System (MARS) Cabled Observatory Project completed by the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research

Institute (MBARI) included the installation of an advanced cabled observatory in Monterey Bay that will serve as the test bed for a state-of-

the-art regional ocean observatory as part of the National Science Foundation Ocean Observatories Initiative. Last month Aspen completed environmental monitoring of the installation. The MARS cabled observatory will use new power and communications technologies to provide a remote, continuous, long-term, high-power, large-bandwidth infrastructure for multi-disciplinary, in situ exploration, observation, and experimentation in the deep sea canyon in Monterey Bay.

Onboard the ship, there were excellent wildlife viewing conditions and unseasonably good weather. Humpback and gray whales were feeding in the area, with an exciting display of breaching and tail lobbing behaviors.

The MARS Project involved the installation of a submarine cable from a shore station in Moss Landing to a science node located 32 miles offshore in the Monterey Submarine Canyon at a depth of almost 1,000 meters.

Aspen environmental monitor, Jenny Slaughter, grew up in the Monterey Bay area. She said, "It was fascinating to be a part of this project. Not only was I already familiar with MBARI and

their contributions to deep water marine science, but the amount of research that will be possible now with the MARS cabled observatory in place is very exciting." MBARI received approval for the project after the EIR/EIS prepared by Aspen was certified in 2005. The Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary and the California State Lands Commission were the CEQA federal and state lead agencies for the project.



Littlerock Reservoir at flood stage with water flowing over.

Aspen provided environmental compliance monitoring for the MBNMS and the CSLC during both the shore approach phase, installed using horizontal directional drilling technologies completed in 2006, and the sea route phase, which took place from the cable-laying vessel in March of 2007. Primary environmental concerns included the potential impacts to marine mammals, water, and air quality.

## Littlerock Reservoir Project

The Palmdale Water District Littlerock Reservoir Sediment Removal Project, is located in one of the main sources of water supply for the District, located in the Angeles National Forest near Palmdale, California. The water storage capability of the reservoir has been diminishing over time due to the build up of silt. The plan for the excavation of the reservoir to combat the silting required the expertise of Aspen's multidisciplinary team of civil engineers and environmental analysts to prepare an EIS/EIR and evaluate any possible impacts to the endangered arroyo toad. Arroyo toads live upstream of the reservoir in Littlerock Creek. In order to evaluate impacts potentially resulting from the excavation of the reservoir for water supply services, Aspen Consulting Engineers evaluated potential upstream effects using sediment transport analysis and developed and evaluated alternatives and potential mitigation measures. Aspen then provided a conceptual design for a grade control structure that would allow for excavation of the reservoir and prevent impacts to the arroyo toad upstream of the reservoir.

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### San Diego Office, continued

plays significant roles in the planning, implementation, and monitoring of restoration and revegetation work for the US Army Corps of Engineers at Santa Ana River Reach 9, Prado Dam, and Murrieta Creek. The San Diego office also supports Aspen-wide preparation of CEQA/NEPA documents.

Key staff members include Michelle Mattson, who is a wetland Ecologist/Watershed and Restoration Planner. With over nine years of environmental experience as a wetland and stream ecologist, she has extensive skills performing HGM functional assessments of riverine, slope, and vernal pool wetlands; the California Rapid Assessment Method for streams and basins, and developing and implementing stream and wetland restoration projects. Catherine MacGregor is the newest member of Aspen's Biology Team and specializes in botany. She is an experienced wetland scientist with over eight years of experience. She has worked extensively on botanical and wildlife surveys, report preparation and wetland delineations, as well as habitat and rare plant revegetation projects, environmental permitting, and construction and restoration monitoring. She also volunteers with the California Native Plant Society, San Diego River Park Foundation, and San Diego Stream Team. Lindsay Teunis is a Biologist and Ecologist with specialized training in marine environments. She has over five years of research and field experience in design and logistical support for field surveys and research on coastal environments including eelgrass, wetlands, riverine, and sage scrub

# New Leaves on the Aspen Tree

Aspen has expanded our staff significantly in recent months.

#### San Diego

Catherine MacGregor, Biologist

#### **Agoura Hills**

- Anton Kozhevnikov, GIS
- Jennifer Lancaster, Biologist/Planner
- Jamison Miner, Biologist
- Matthew Long, Environmental Planner
- Susan Rosen, Accounts Payable

#### San Francisco

• Marisa Mitchell, Environmental Scientist

#### **Sacramento**

• Michael Carlson, Administrative Support

We welcome them all aboard and know they will serve our clients well. If you would like to explore employment opportunities at Aspen, see page one and our website for a list of open positions.

http://www.AspenEG.com