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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CLEAN CHANNELS, HEALTHY OCEAN: OC PUBLIC WORKS UNVEILS ADOPT A CHANNEL PROGRAM AT PRESS EVENT

HUNTINGTON BEACH, CA -- OC Public Works operates and maintains more than 350 miles of regional flood control channels in Orange County. These channels provide a vital service protecting life and property by conveying stormwater runoff to prevent flooding of nearby communities. Unfortunately, along with collecting stormwater runoff, these channels also collect trash and debris and can attract graffiti. The main objective of the *Adopt A Channel Program* is to promote community involvement in and stewardship of our waterways to prevent trash from reaching Orange County beaches. *Clean Channels, Healthy Ocean* is both the goal and the tagline of this program.

OC Public Works has collaborated with the Disneyland Resort to develop the first flood control channel adoption program. A two-mile section of the Anaheim-Barber City Channel in Anaheim is now routinely monitored for graffiti, and, cleaner and healthier, reducing the downstream impacts on Huntington Harbour.

Come and hear more about the success of the Adopt A Channel Program and how OC Public Works is expanding this pilot adoption program countywide to give other organizations and individuals the opportunity to play a role in the stewardship of our channels and surrounding communities.

“Members of the public have increasingly expressed interest in coordinating cleanup events in watershed areas important to them. The *Adopt A Channel Program* recognizes the value of these cleanup efforts and provides an avenue for residents, organizations and businesses to formally take ownership of their water resources,” said Orange County Supervisor John Moorlach.

Adopt A Channel
2-2-2

Please join us for the formal announcement of this important OC Public Works program and partnership on Thursday, September 12, 2013 at the Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve. Registration will take place from 9:15 am to 9:55 am with a program to follow. Representatives from the County of Orange, Disneyland Resort and the Wyland Foundation will be on-hand to highlight progress to-date on the program as well as goals for expansion in the future.

This press event will take place at the Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve at 18000 Pacific Coast Highway, Huntington Beach, CA. Parking will be available for press and interested parties across the street from the reserve at the Bolsa Chica State Beach parking lot. For further information please contact Kim Buss at (714) 955-0675 or Jenna Voss at (714) 955-0672 prior to the event and Grant Sharp at (714) 448-1229 the day of the event.

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