

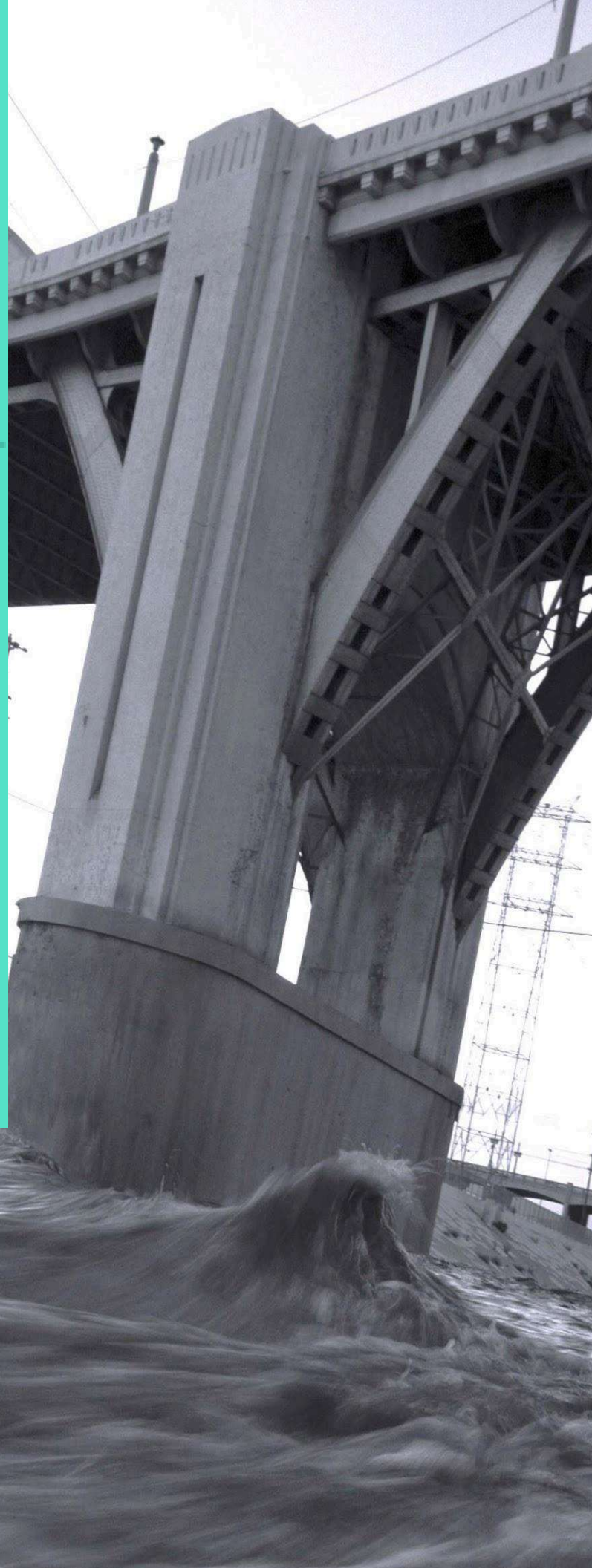


**SAFE
CLEAN
WATER
PROGRAM**

Santa Clara River
Watershed Area

FY 2026 - 2027

Strategic Outreach and
Engagement Plan





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Land Acknowledgement

The following section is an acknowledgement of those who were the traditional caretakers of the Watershed Area's geographic area.

The authors of this Plan acknowledge that the geographic area represented in this document, the Santa Clara River Watershed Area, is on the ancestral lands and waters of the Tataviam, Tongva, Serrano, and Chumash people, the original stewards of this area. We recognize that these California Native American Tribes are still present in the areas reflected in this Plan. We honor their elders, both past and present, and the descendants who are citizens of these tribes for their exemplary respect for water; we honor their connection to and protection of these lands and waters.

The authors also express, however, that acknowledgment of ancestral homelands alone is not enough. Through the vision, strategies, and activities outlined in this Plan, we aim to elevate the stories, cultures, and communities of these Tribes and all indigenous peoples residing in the Plan's geographic area.

Safe, Clean Water Program

Measure W, passed by voters in 2018, amended the Los Angeles County Flood Control District Code and established the Safe, Clean Water Program (SCWP). The program provides funding to increase stormwater and urban runoff capture and reduce pollution from them. The overarching purpose of these activities is to improve water quality, increase water supply, and enhance communities.

- **Improve Water Quality:** SCWP projects help local communities meet the requirements of the State-issued National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit for Los Angeles and Ventura County. The permit intends to ensure that trash and pollutants do not harm water quality or people's health. It sets limits on how much waste, chemicals, and other toxins are allowed into our water bodies – especially the Santa Clara River and its tributaries. The Permit is overseen locally by the LA Regional Water Quality Board and is required by the United States Clean Water Act. The type of permit for LA County focuses on municipal areas, where stormwater and sewer systems are separate - hence the name Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4).

- **Increase Water Supply:** One important way water can be cleaned is to capture and clean it before it reaches our water bodies; this means the captured water can be held in storage below and above ground and allowed to percolate to replenish local groundwater, providing more locally based, sustainable, and resilient sources of water for the people in our region.
- **Enhance Communities:** The SCWP Technical Resources Program provides Watershed Coordinators to educate, build community capacity, and facilitate community and stakeholder engagement with the Safe, Clean Water Program. TreePeople has been selected to serve in this capacity for the Santa Clara River Watershed Area and has crafted this Plan to provide a strategic and efficient approach to community engagement and capacity building.

Purpose and Overview

The following section describes the purpose and goals of the Strategic Outreach Engagement Plan (SOEP).

The purpose of the Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan (SOEP) is to support the task of watershed coordination in developing and sustaining engagement between communities and the Safe, Clean Water Program. The SOEP is a roadmap for implementing the Program's goals and supporting diverse communities within the SCR Watershed area. This work includes facilitating collaborative discussions with private and public entities to identify, develop, and represent Regional Program actions that best address community priorities and project development and implementation.

The primary goal of the SOEP is in support of multi-benefit community investments that are consistent with the Safe, Clean Water Program Goals and objectives, and to identify and represent community priorities within the Santa Clara River Watershed. The SOEP directs the Watershed Coordinator in our role as project guide, connector, and educator.

The goals of the SOEP are to articulate a clear vision of success and methods to evaluate the effectiveness of outreach and engagement efforts, including a detailed strategy and approach to:

- Broadly engage municipalities, California Native American Tribes, community groups, and watershed stakeholders within the SCR Watershed Area.

- Solicit input, connect stakeholders to technical assistance opportunities, and ensure diverse perspectives are shared with the County and the WASCs to be considered for Stormwater Investment Plans and future planning and implementation of the Regional Program.
- Identify and ensure the involvement of members of disadvantaged and underrepresented communities in the SCR Watershed Area.
- Identify educational programming that elevates awareness of water management, ecological, and community issues to support shared goals.
- Provide transparency through information sharing and promoting a collaborative agenda.

Watershed Area Description

Physical Characteristics

a. The Santa Clara River

The Santa Clara River is fundamental to life in the watershed area. It deserves our deepest respect, and its care is our united responsibility. The river is precious beyond description and is part of every living entity it has touched or touches - past, present, and future.

It is the largest river system in southern California that remains in a natural state. As such, it is a reflection and constant reminder of the vast, natural open spaces that yet characterize the Santa Clara River Watershed Area. It is critical to survival: major aquifers are recharged through the river, providing a significant source of water for multiple biomes of flora and fauna, including the hundreds of thousands of people who call the area home.

The river provides a source of pleasure for many through recreation and engagement with nature along over 100 miles of walking and biking trails. It is a source of community pride, with thousands of local volunteers supporting its care and maintenance every year.

“Watershed Area” definition: In the Safe, Clean Water Program, our area is referred to as the Santa Clara River (SCR) Watershed Area. However, this area may be more specifically defined as the *upper* Santa Clara River and watershed to distinguish it from

the lower portion of the river running through Ventura County. Our area's north boundary, for purposes of the SCWP, is determined by the jurisdiction of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District and does not include the full length of tributaries running north to south, as well as communities such as Green Valley, the Lakes, and Leona Valley. In general, references to the "Watershed Area" in this plan should be assumed to mean the upper portion of the river and areas within the purview of the SCWP and the SCR Watershed Area Steering Committee.

b. Area Physical Characteristics - Water

The river originates in the northern slopes of the San Gabriel Mountains in northern Los Angeles County, undulating and expanding as it receives water from a network of contributing canyons. It flows through Tie Canyon, Aliso Canyon, Soledad Canyon, the Santa Clarita Valley, the Santa Clara River Valley, and the Oxnard Plain in Ventura County. In all, it traverses 84 miles until it ultimately enters the Pacific Ocean. The entire river covers 1,600 square miles—approximately 40% of its watershed flows in Los Angeles County and 60% in Ventura County.

There are many natural and human-made hydrologic features in the area. These include, but are not limited to, Castaic Lake (formed by Castaic Dam on Castaic Creek); creeks flowing through San Francisquito, Bouquet, Mint, Agua Dulce, and Aliso canyons; South Fork, Placerita Creek, Newhall Creek, Drinkwater Reservoir, Dry Canyon Reservoir, Quail Spring, Towsley Canyon, and the California State Water Project.

Surface water and *groundwater* share an important relationship in the area, especially regarding the SCWP. *Surface water* is usually the focus when considering water quality. *Groundwater* in the SCR Watershed Area is a critical component of water quantity; the Santa Clarita area draws half of its supply from groundwater, and rural communities rely heavily on groundwater from private wells. These levels of reliance on groundwater are essentially unheard of in other SCWP Watershed Areas.

For monitoring water quality and other purposes, the river is divided into eleven sections, or "reaches," beginning with Reach No. 1 near Ventura Harbor and moving east and north. The SCR Watershed Area includes Reaches 5, 6, 7, and 8, as noted on the map below.

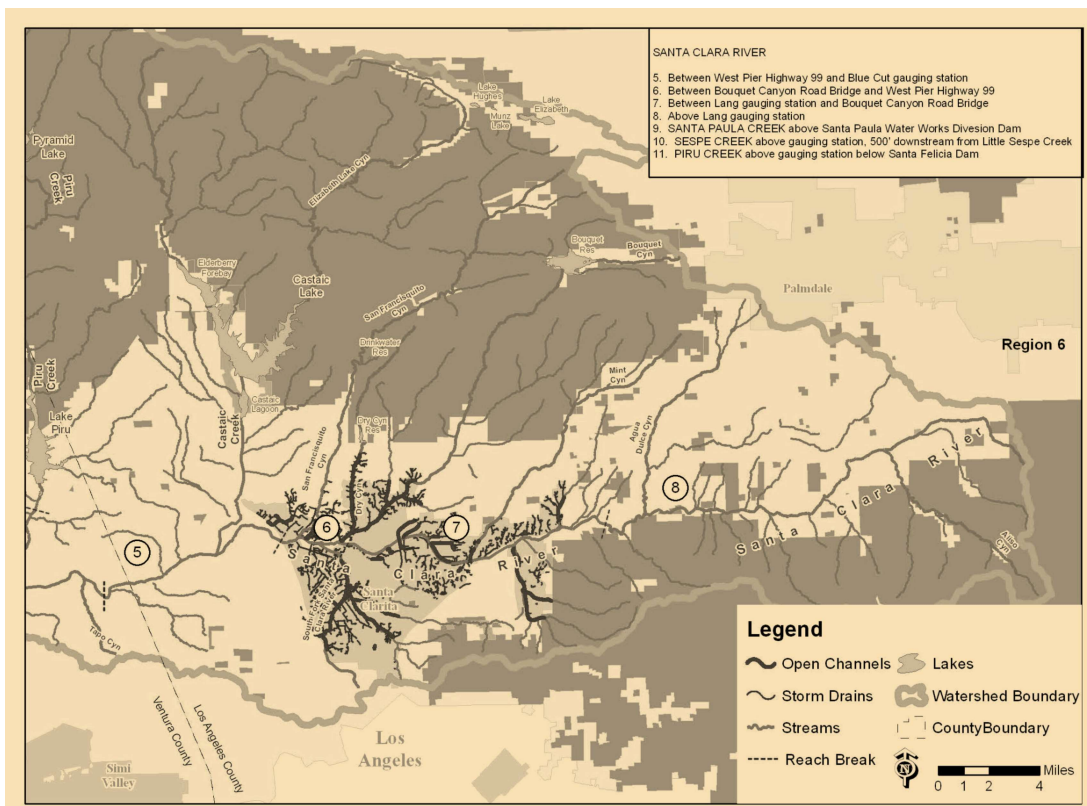


Figure 1 Upper Santa Clara River Watershed Management Area (MS4 Permit) Flow Schematic
(State Water Resources Control Board)

Major groundwater basins in the area include the Saugus Formation, the Alluvial Aquifer in the western half of the Watershed Area, and Acton Valley in the east. Rainfall in open space and rural areas of the Watershed Area percolates deep into the ground. It becomes groundwater, or it flows through canyons and tributaries to the upper Santa Clara River. By contrast, urbanized areas generally send stormwater through paved surfaces to storm drains, which then flow to the river.

The Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District operates the Saugus and Valencia Water Reclamation Plants. Perennial flow emanates from the discharge points of these plants in Reach 6 and provides a significant source of river recharge.

Because it is still largely in its natural state, the Santa Clara River is a primary source of feeding local groundwater, and the process can also be reciprocal. From its source, the river contributes to the groundwater beneath Acton in the east, then connects to the Alluvial Aquifer and, indirectly, to the Saugus Formation in the west. There, the Saugus Formation contributes water to the Alluvial Aquifer and can provide sufficient pressure to

move water upward and into the Santa Clara River as it continues westward toward the ocean.

The CA State Water Resources Control Board has deemed several water bodies impaired (polluted), including Bouquet Canyon Creek, Mint Canyon Creek, and the upper Santa Clara River, Reaches 5, 6, and 7.

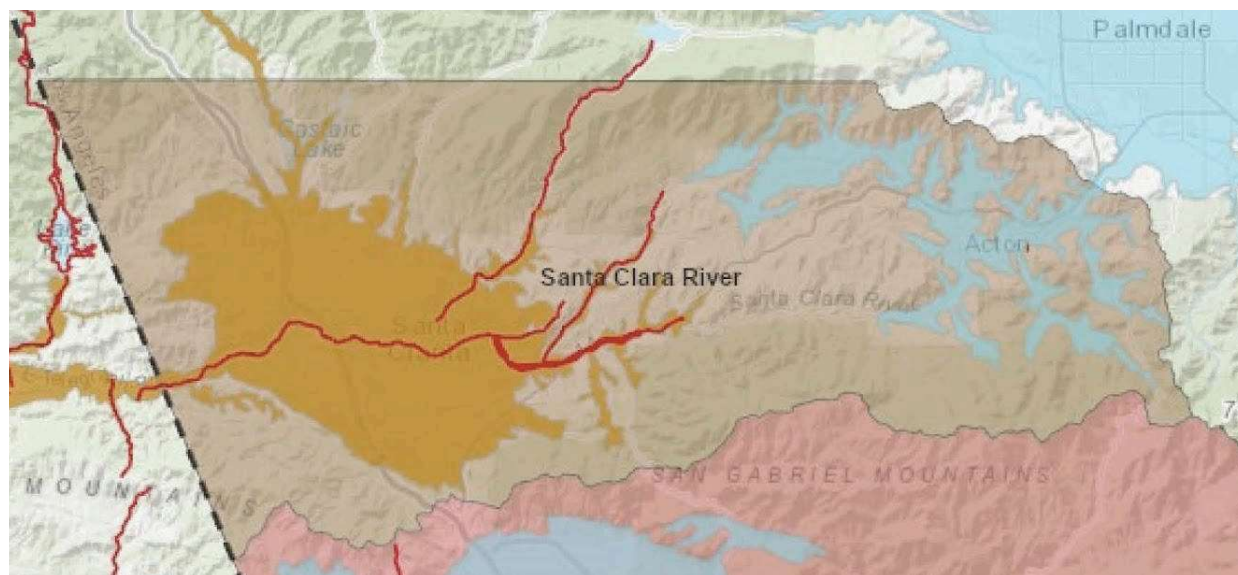


Figure 2: The Watershed Area (tan), the Saugus and Alluvial Aquifer (gold), Acton Valley and groundwater beneath Acton (blue), and red lines indicate impaired waters. (SCWP Spatial Data Library)

Since 2001, hundreds of stormwater treatment devices have been installed in new and redeveloped areas as part of the stormwater mitigation plan requirements throughout the city of Santa Clarita and unincorporated areas. These devices vary from on-site and off-site engineered treatment to biofiltration and infiltration.

c. Area Physical Characteristics - Land

The landscape features of the Watershed Area are dominated by stunning and inspiring expanses of open, protected areas. These include the Angeles National Forest (covering roughly half of the Watershed Area), Los Padres National Forest, and the corresponding ranges of the San Gabriel, Santa Susana, and Sierra Pelona Mountains—home to the area’s highest peak, 5,222 ft.

Open space preservation has been established in numerous canyons and properties such as Golden Valley Ranch Open Space, Haskell Canyon Open Space, Whitney

Canyon Open Space, Taylor Property Open Space, Rivendale Park and Open Space, Wildwood Canyon Open Space, Gateway Ranch Open Space, Gates King Open Space, Elsmere Canyon Open Space, Quigley Canyon Open Space, East Walker Ranch Open Space, Rodda Open Space. Open space in portions of the upper Santa Clara River Watershed is estimated at 88%.

The City of Santa Clarita established, maintains, and continues to grow the Open Space Preservation District, which covers approximately 11,000 acres. Los Angeles County maintains numerous public parks, including Vasquez Rocks Natural Area Park. Other entities engaged in land preservation in the area include the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, the Nature Conservancy, the Santa Clara River Conservancy, the Tataviam Land Trust, and CA State Parks, with Placerita Nature Center.

At the same time, the Watershed Area is host to a diverse patchwork of landscape types, each composed of a unique suite of environmental forces—earthquakes, extreme yet episodic rainfall, steep slopes, frequent wildfires, and intensive land practices—which, when they coincide, can greatly increase sediment moving toward the river.

The highest elevation areas of the Watershed Area are host to the densest vegetation cover (a mix of scrub/shrub and woodlands), receive the most rainfall, and are composed of the oldest, most erosion-resistant bedrock types. In contrast, the lowland and foothill areas, typically those within and surrounding the Santa Clara River Valley and Santa Clarita Basin, are much drier, have sparse vegetation cover (a mix of grassland, chaparral, and scrub/shrub), and are composed of the youngest, weakest rock types.

From the estuary to the upper watershed, the Santa Clara River provides a diversity of habitats supporting 18 threatened or endangered species—among them riparian-dependent bird species, terrestrial wildlife, anadromous fish, and rare plants. Many contrasting and complementary habitat types support these species, such as coastal sage scrub, chaparral, grassland, riparian communities, and oak and juniper woodlands.

The Watershed Area includes large campuses or managed parcels. Examples include the California Institute of the Arts, College of the Canyons, Six Flags Magic Mountain, Agua Dulce Airpark, multiple filming locations, and school district campuses.

Social Characteristics

Jurisdictions

A unique social characteristic of the upper Santa Clara River Watershed Area is the strong juxtaposition of urban and rural populations. There is one municipality (Santa Clarita), which is a collective of four major communities (Valencia, Saugus, Newhall, and Canyon Country) that merged to create the city in 1987. It is the third-largest city in LA County, behind Los Angeles and Long Beach. By contrast, the remainder of the Watershed Area is fully unincorporated, with services provided by Los Angeles County, and home to six well-defined communities classified as Census Designated Places: Acton, Agua Dulce, Castaic, Hasley Canyon, Stevenson Ranch, and Val Verde.

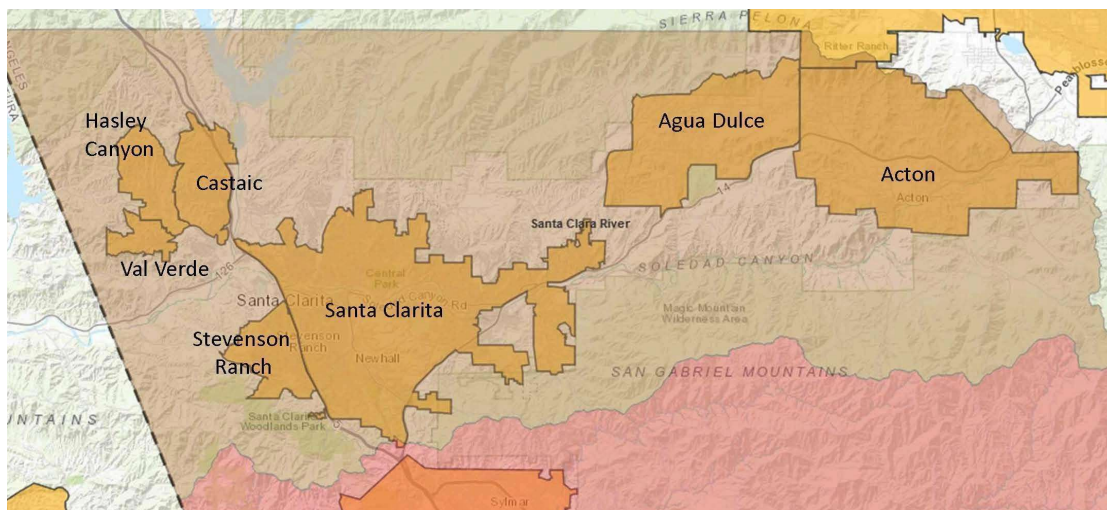


Figure 3 Watershed Area Cities / Census Designated Places (SCWP Spatial Data Library)

Communities can also be defined beyond these boundaries; for example, Acton, Agua Dulce, and Castaic have established Community Standards Districts with boundaries different from those shown on the above map. (CSD Maps are included in the appendices to this Plan).

Disadvantaged and Underrepresented Communities

A key role played by the Watershed Coordinator is to engage and support disadvantaged and underrepresented communities in the Watershed Area in their participation in the SCWP. Therefore, this Plan examines the area's demographics and the ways these communities are identified.

Demographics: The Watershed Area's population exceeds 280,000. On average, 83% of residents are homeowners, and the median age is 41. The poverty rate is 7%. In Santa Clarita, 65 and older are the largest group living in poverty, while outside the city, it is mature adults - mostly women - ages 45-64. Diversity in the area includes 57% white, 30% Hispanic, 9% Asian, 2% Black/African American, 1% Native American, and 3% multi-racial or other ethnic identities. The following charts provide a breakdown by community. (Sources: census.gov and DataUSA.io)

City/CDP	Population	Homeowners	Median Age	Poverty Rate	Largest Poverty Profile
Santa Clarita	228,673	72%	40	8%	65 and older
Acton	7,431	91%	49	9%	Females age 55-64
Agua Dulce	3,451	89%	57	7%	Females age 55-64
Castaic	18,937	83%	37	5%	Females age 45-54
Hasley Canyon	1,433	93%	40	9%	Males age five and under
Stevenson Ranch	20,178	67%	41	5%	Males age 55-64
Val Verde	2,399	81%	36	6%	Males age 55-64

City/CDP	White	Hispanic	Asian	Multi-racial / Other	Black / African American	Native American
Santa Clarita	47%	34%	11%	4%	4%	0.3%
Acton	68%	28%	2%	2%	1%	0.4%
Agua Dulce	69%	24%	3%	1%	0%	3%
Castaic	53%	28%	11%	5%	2%	1%
Hasley Canyon	77%	19%	1%	3%	0%	0%
Stevenson Ranch	49%	21%	26%	3%	4%	0.4%
Val Verde	27%	66%	3%	1%	2%	1%

Disadvantaged Community areas: The SCWP's current guidelines state that census blocks with a median household income at or below 80% of the state level be considered "disadvantaged." This definition is also consistent with the CA Department of Water Resources funding programs. The salmon-colored areas on the map below show these portions of the Watershed Area. They include the neighborhood

surrounding the California Institute of the Arts, portions of Newhall, Canyon Country, Mint Canyon, and areas south of Castaic Lake.

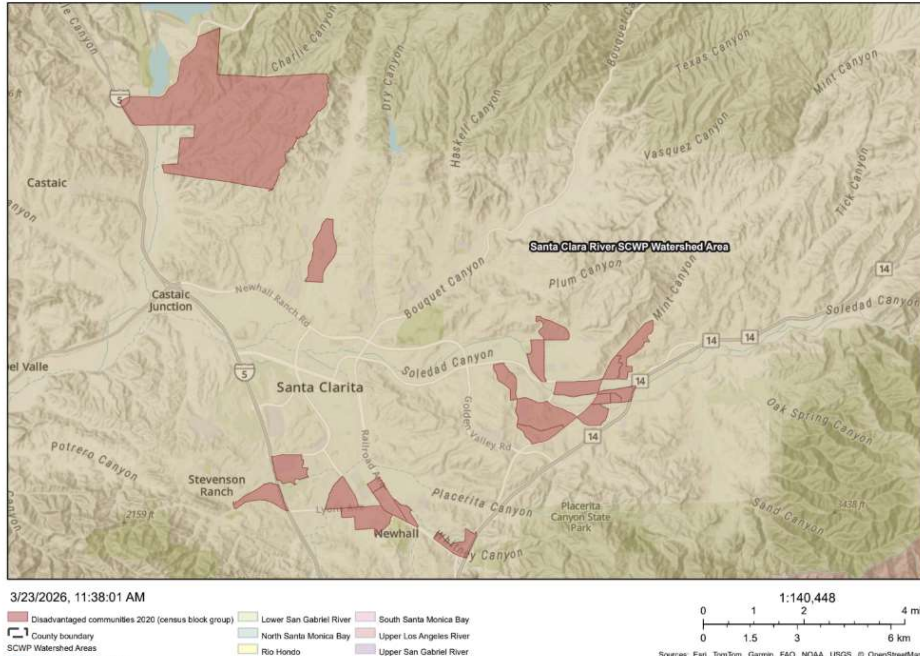


Figure 4: Disadvantaged Community Census Block areas (SCWP Spatial Data Library)

WaterTalks Program: This program, which concluded in 2024, continues to yield valuable findings and resources for our work in the SCR Watershed. The WaterTalks program in the Watershed Area used both the <80% MHI marker to define areas to be served and other criteria for underrepresented communities—i.e., those without the capacity and resources to develop infrastructure projects to meet local needs. The map below shows areas that were served by WaterTalks:

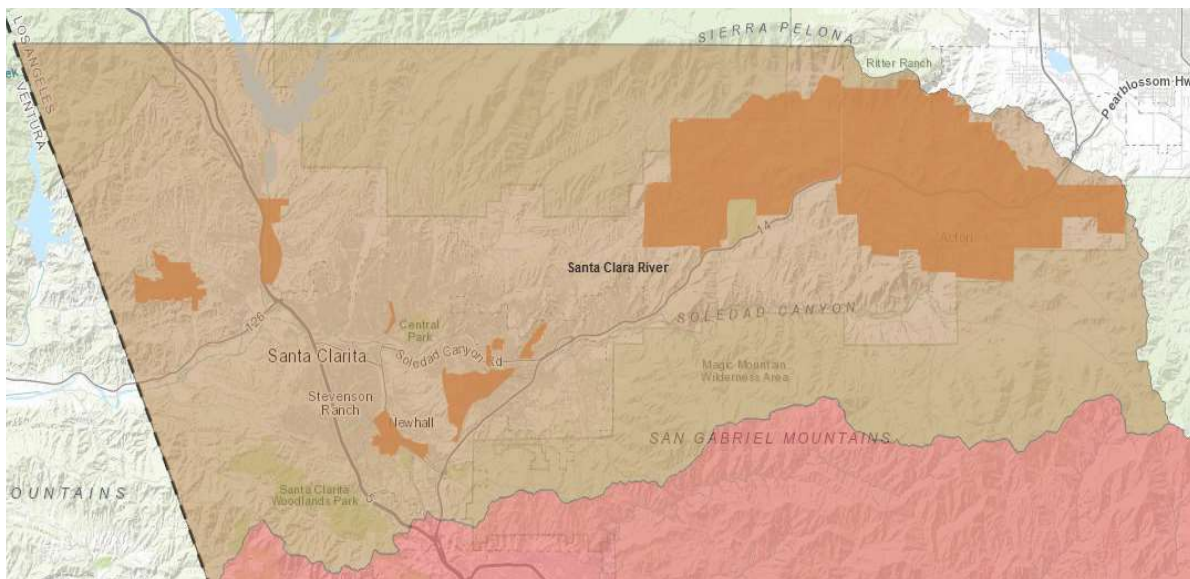


Figure 5 WaterTalks Communities / Prop 1 Disadvantaged Community and Tribal Involvement Program

Elected Office Districts

The following are districts where elected officials represent the Watershed Area.

- United States Congressional District 27 (George Whitesides)
- United States Congressional District 30 (Laura Friedman)
- California State Senate District 23 (Suzette Martinez Valladares)
- California State Senate District 27 (Henry Stern)
- California Assembly District 34 (Tom Lackey)
- California Assembly District 40 (Pilar Schiavo)
- LA County Supervisorial District 5 (Kathryn Barger)
- Santa Clarita City Council

California Native American Tribes

The Watershed Area is home to several unceded villages, well-established for hundreds of years before 1769, when foreign missionaries and settlers began arriving. Today, the state of California recognizes multiple Native American Tribes with active communities and ancestral homelands in the Watershed Area, including Tataviam, Tongva, Serrano, and Chumash. (More information is found in the 2. SCWP Context section, below.)

Water Providers

The area's water supply is provided by Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency and Los Angeles County Waterworks Districts 36 and 37. Thousands of residents use private

Safe, Clean Water Program Context

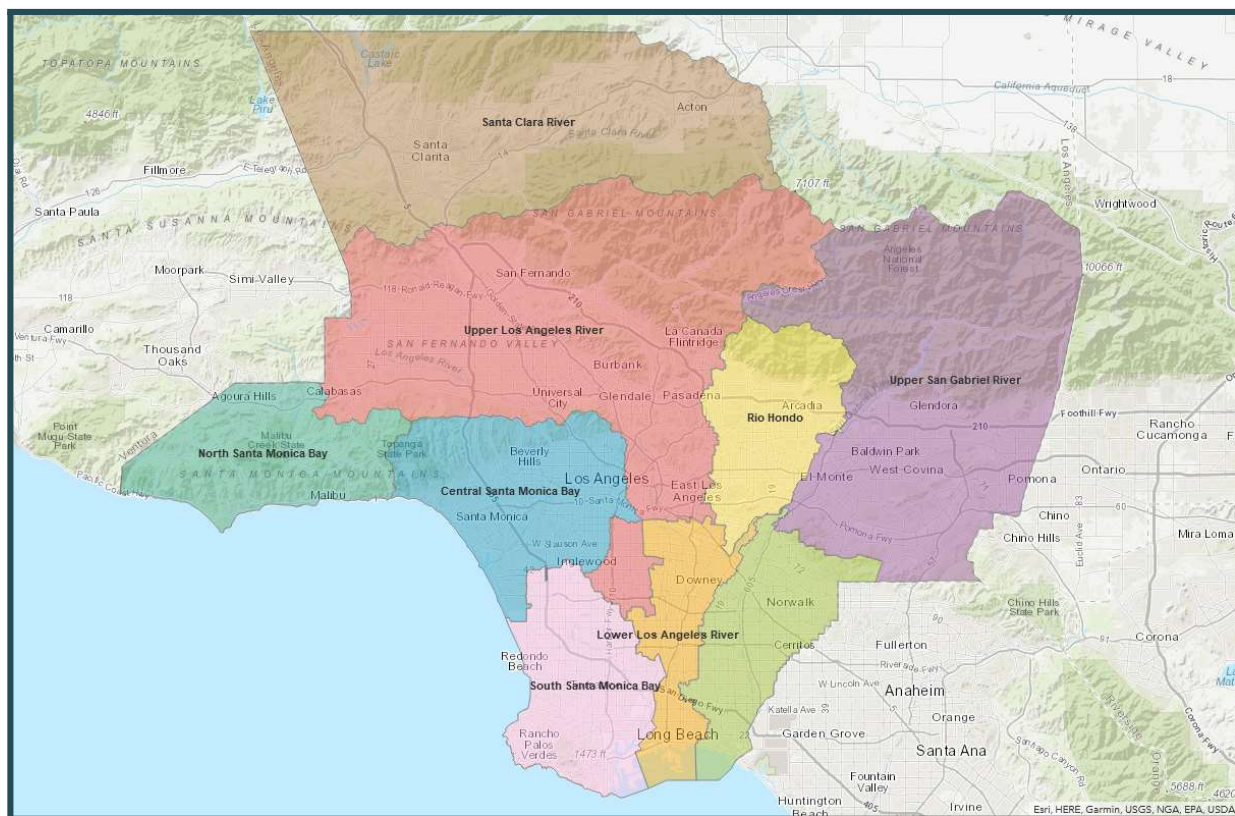


Figure 7 SCWP Watershed Areas (SCWP Digital Atlas)

The Watershed Coordinator needs to look at the Watershed Area in the context of the entire SCWP. Our contractual Scope of Work includes coordinating with other Watershed Areas, and doing so helps raise the upper Santa Clara River's voice within the entire SCWP.

Watershed Coordination

One Coordinator (TreePeople) serves the SCWP Santa Clara River Watershed Area.

Supervisory and Elected Office Districts

The chart below shows instances where elected offices cover more than, or parts of, other SCWP watershed areas. (Updated 2023)

District	Santa Clara River	Upper LA River	Rio Hondo	Upper San Gabriel River	North Santa Monica Bay
LA County Dist. 5 (Barger)	✓	✓	✓	✓	
CA Senate Dist. 27 (Stern)	✓	✓			✓
CA Assembly Dist. 40 (Pilar Schiavo)	✓	✓			
U.S. Congressional Dist. 30 (Friedman)	✓	✓			

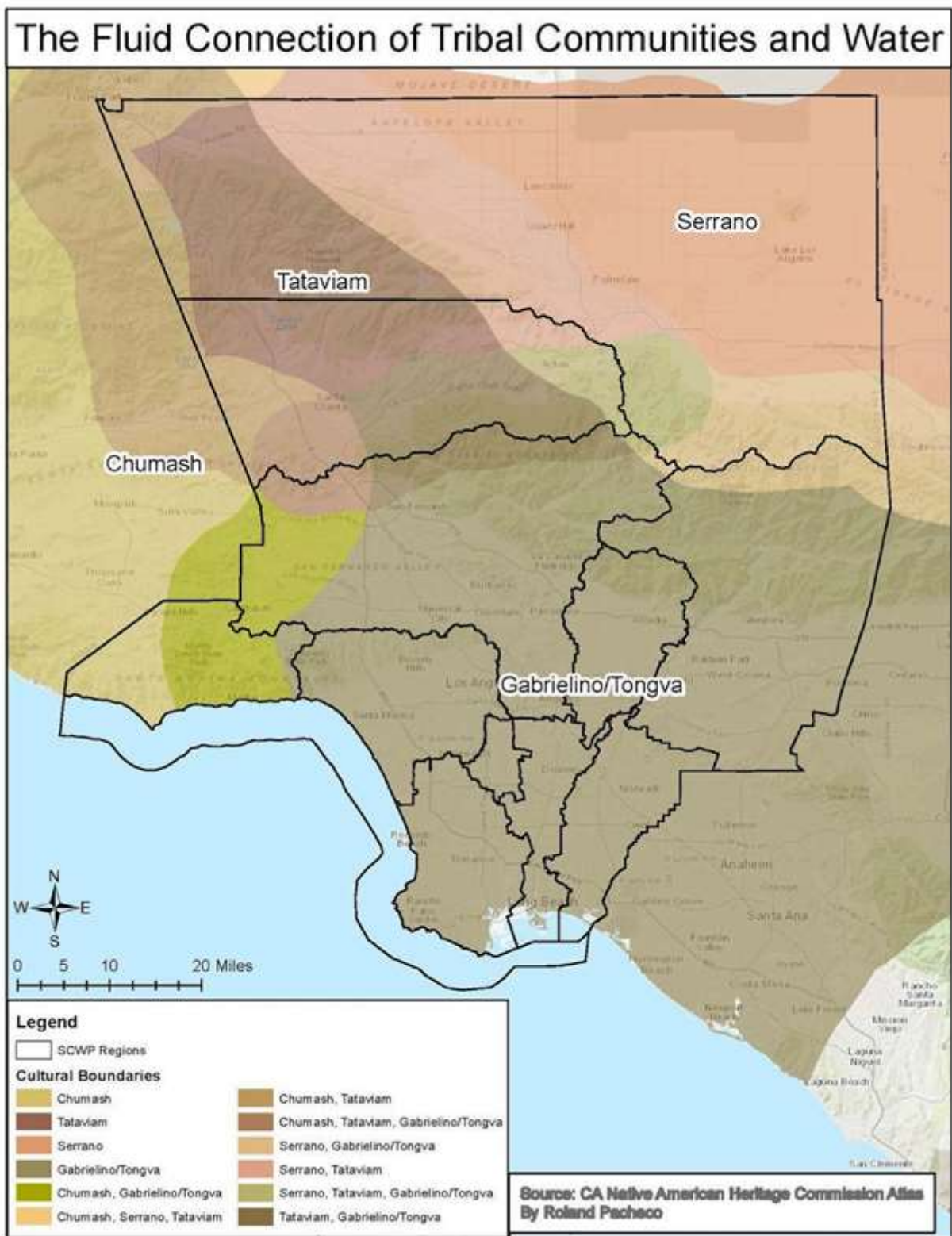
Native American Ancestral Homelands

Because of the historic affiliations of the Tataviam, Tongva, Chumash, and Serrano in our Watershed Area, it largely overlaps with all other SCWP Watershed areas.

Information provided by local Tribes to the California Native American Heritage Commission Digital Atlas shows an overlap of ancestral lands with other California Native American Tribes in the Watershed Area, including but not limited to Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians, the San Fernando Band of Mission Indians, Gabrielino/Tongva Nation of the Greater Los Angeles Basin, and the Barbareño/Ventureño Band of Mission Indians.

In 2021, during our first year as Watershed Coordinator, TreePeople prepared the map below using information from the Digital Atlas, including tribal overlap areas, an overlay of the SCWP Watershed Area lines, and the Los Angeles County boundary.

Overlap is noted in the southwestern part of the SCR Watershed Area (Chumash), the southeastern part (Tongva), and the eastern part (Serrano). Because of the long, complex, and heartbreaking history of Native Americans in the Los Angeles region, there are understandably a variety of ways in which ancestral homelands are expressed and recognized today.



Vision for Success and Evaluation

The following section provides insight into the future goals of the Watershed Area and how they hope to achieve them.

This Plan provides a Vision for Success and methods for evaluating the effectiveness of the Vision. These serve two purposes: (1) to support the District and WASC in assessing the Watershed Coordinators and (2) to help communicate the Watershed Coordinator's intentions and focus to the public and relevant agencies. This vision can be amended or refocused each year when the Plan is updated, so it strives to be visionary but also focused in the near term. TreePeople shapes this Vision from the standpoint of the Watershed Area as a whole and of our role as Watershed Coordinator.

Vision Statement

TreePeople's Vision for our work in the upper Santa Clara River Watershed Area is built around one central theme:

***It's all about the river –
and projects that support the river.***

The Santa Clara River, and all it represents, provides a through-line for the three major goals of the SCWP: Water Quality, Water Supply, and Community Benefit.

Water Quality	<i>The river and its major tributaries are a primary focus of water quality measures that our watershed must meet to provide safe, clean water now and for future generations.</i>
Water Supply	<i>Local aquifers are recharged by the river and its tributaries and, in turn, provide the area with resilient, clean water supplies amid major environmental change.</i>
Community Benefit	<i>Access to the river and open spaces for all people is a marker of a diverse, healthy, and just community.</i>

Vision for Watershed Coordination

TreePeople's Vision for Successful Watershed Coordination considers certain overarching themes to help guide our process:

- Honor the spirit of “open spaces” in the identification and development of projects, including the use of nature-based solutions, green infrastructure, and watershed restoration.
- Support a reasonable and appropriate balance between urban and unincorporated communities in the use of Coordinator services and SCWP resources.
- Work toward a shift in practice, so community input is involved as close to the point of project inception as possible, building a sense of community ownership of the project.
- Raise awareness of and between community voices, Tribes, the public sector, and the SCWP.

We've considered the distinct roles the Watershed Coordinator should play, which include as Project Guide, Connector, and Educator:

- **Project Guide:** TreePeople plays a key role in identifying and advancing community needs-based project concepts to the point where they can be submitted to the Safe, Clean Water Program and cost-share sources. In FY 26-27, with the release of the SCWP Initial Watershed Plans (IWP), we will focus on elevating the plans, the identified SCR opportunity areas, and the Community Strengths and Needs Assessment (CSNA) results in our engagement efforts. Our work as Project Guide also includes continued exploration and capacity-building for potential project applicants, support for evaluating projects in the context of the IWP and CSNA results, and many activities unique to each project.



- **Connector:** The Watershed Coordinator will help connect community-identified needs and project advocates with a project applicant willing to lead and maintain the project if constructed, and connect with public agencies potentially affected by the project's scope and location.



Schools & Stormwater Working Group hosted a tour of Plymouth Elementary School. Photo credit: Council for Watershed Health

- **Educator:** The Watershed Coordinator will provide educational opportunities for communities in the SCR watershed area on the SCWP goals of water quality, water supply, and community enhancement, share knowledge of green infrastructure and other nature-based solutions, and explain the myriad steps involved in project development.



Mission and Goals

The Mission of Watershed Coordination is to serve as Project Guide, Educator, and Connector to increase understanding and engagement with the Safe, Clean Water Project in the Santa Clara River Watershed.

The goals towards fulfilling this mission are the following:

1. Engage municipalities, community groups, and other interested parties within the SCR Watershed Area.
2. Develop projects to be considered for Strategic Investment Plans and other Water-related Funding.

3. Identify and ensure the involvement of members of disadvantaged and underrepresented communities in the watershed area.
4. Identify educational programming that elevates awareness of water management, ecological, and community issues to support shared goals.
5. Provide transparency through information sharing and promoting a collaborative agenda.

Evaluation of Progress and Success

We provide strategies and a method for measuring success to define the plan's Vision of success further. Focus is given to the following five areas, as called for in the Watershed Coordinator Scope of Work.

In these strategies, we carry the vision forward by keeping a focus on project development; each strategy builds on the previous one, giving us a sequential process toward the desired outcome: *projects that support the river.*

1. Engage municipalities, community groups, and other interested parties within the SCR Watershed Area.

Strategy	Build diverse relationships that support project identification and ongoing coordination.
Activities	Maintain a matrix of interested parties, including the public sector, Tribes, community leaders, and NGOs; establish initial contact or maintain existing relationships with them, and build coalitions to support engagement and project ideas.
Measures	Matrix of interested parties, # of events, and meetings.

2. Develop projects to be considered for Strategic Investment Plans and other Water-related Funding.

Strategy	Draw from interested-party relationships in #1 (above) to identify projects that serve community needs and SCWP goals.
Activities	Identify community needs through research and interviews; conceptualize projects and/or collect known project ideas based on community needs from the EWMP, and other plans or assessments; identify potential project applicants.
Measures	Maintain report of community findings; matrix of potential projects; matrix of funding sources; matrix of project applicants; # of project funding requests.

3. Identify and ensure the involvement of members of disadvantaged and underrepresented communities in the watershed area.

Strategy	As identified in #2 (above), focus community involvement on project development.
Activities	Attend existing meetings (Town Councils, NGOs) to discuss local projects; shape meeting content based on individual projects; walk audiences through the project development process; identify resources to bring project designers and engineers together with community members.
Measures	Meeting content outlines and materials; # of meetings; meeting reports.

4. Identify educational programming that elevates awareness of water management, ecological and community issues to support shared goals.

Strategy	Leverage lessons learned in our five years as Watershed Coordinator, as well as discussions in #3 (above), to clarify educational needs that support understanding of how projects support shared goals.
Activities	Identify educational needs throughout the series of meetings from #3; research and/or create educational materials and tools as needed. Provide training or guidelines based on the needs of project proponents and community interests.
Measures	Report of educational events; educational materials created and/or used.

5. Provide transparency through information sharing and promoting a collaborative agenda.

Strategy	Share information through a regular public reporting structure.
Activities	Prepare monthly updates, quarterly and annual reports to the WASC; share reports with interested parties as appropriate.
Measures	Attend WASC meetings, updates, and reports.

Outreach and Engagement Strategies

The following section describes proposed strategies to ensure effective outreach and accomplish the Watershed Area's Vision for Success.

There are countless strategies that a Watershed Coordinator can use to support activities in the Area, but to be effective, it's important to establish parameters and priorities to use time and resources efficiently.

We have therefore identified the following approaches to prioritize Outreach & Engagement activities.

Role	More likely to be prioritized	Less likely to be prioritized
Project Guide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Supporting potential projects and project sponsors. - Guiding applicants, including meaningful community engagement. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conducting outreach or collecting signatures for individual projects. - Serving as a project applicant or partner.
Connector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Furthering relationships with core interested parties. - Connecting project applicants and appropriate resources, the SCR IWP, and CSNA results. - Sharing data on underrepresented, disadvantaged, and Tribal community needs for WASC and project use. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Broad-based outreach, such as tabling at events.
Educator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hosting or supporting unique, action-based education events. - Educating interested parties about SCWP goals, especially with underrepresented, disadvantaged, and Tribal communities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Delivering education about projects already submitted to the SCWP, or broad-based education about the SCWP.

Collaboration

The following section evaluates opportunities for collaboration across Watershed Areas to achieve shared goals.

In this Plan, we consider collaborations across watershed area boundaries and/or with other Watershed Coordinators. The following list of topics and programs is not exhaustive. Still, it provides our awareness of what may be important in FY 26- 27, especially given the timing of other planning and project development efforts.

IRWM / EWMP

As appropriate, we will continue to build off of efforts established with the Upper Santa Clara River Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Region and the Enhanced Watershed Management Program (EWMP).

LA County Water Plan

In September of 2024, TreePeople was invited to join the Nature-Based Solutions Blue Ribbon Panel (NBS BRP) and Task Force. THE NBS BRP Phase 1 culminated in May of 2025, resulting in the [County Water Plan NbS Task Force Recommendations Report](#). Phase 2 of the NBS Task Force kicked-off in January of this year and TreePeople continues our participation in this work.

As NBS are continually elevated as a top community priority in the SCR Watershed area, this area of collaboration with the CWP has been prioritized. TreePeople also participates in the Small Water Systems (SWS) Task Force, as issues relevant in our rural and unincorporated communities are addressed within the SWS work, making it another relevant space for our collaboration and awareness. TreePeople will continue seeking and engaging in relevant opportunities with the CWP efforts.

Tribal Engagement

As explained in the SCWP Context section above, the affiliations of Tataviam, Tongva, and Chumash in our Watershed Area call for working with other Watershed Coordinators to engage Tribal Councils and communities across the SCWP region. In our first three years, this included education and technical assistance in coordination with the WaterTalks Program, which we will continue to build upon. In FY 26-27 we will integrate lessons learned and continue relationship-building, especially within the Tribal Allyship Work Group of Watershed Coordinators. We also recognize that “Tribal engagement” goes beyond notifying Tribal governments or groups about ongoing

projects and is centered on building a reciprocal relationship, which we strive to foster in our capacity as coordinators.

SCWP Watershed Coordinators

TreePeople will collaborate with the other SCWP Watershed Coordinators to ensure consistent program implementation and to share effective outreach and communication approaches. This collaboration will occur through monthly meetings with all Watershed Coordinators, the Schools and Stormwater Working Group, and the Tribal Allyship Working Group, where best practices are shared, and opportunities for efficiency are explored.



Watershed Wide Arundo Management Group

TreePeople will collaborate with multiple organizations, agencies, and coalitions along the entire bi-county length Santa Clara River to build capacity for long-term river restoration, including the eradication and replacement of invasive plant species.

Interested Party Mapping

The following section identifies potential stakeholders and interested parties that may be involved or interested in the Safe, Clean Water Program or the Watershed Area's activities.

An essential activity in Watershed Coordination is identifying interested parties to serve as the foundation for community outreach and engagement. TreePeople has identified a “core group” of parties known or assumed to have an interest in the SCWP; from these relationships, we will continue to identify additional entities with whom to engage. This list is not exhaustive and may change.

Public Sector	Organizations
Antelope Valley Resource Conservation District LA County Flood Control District LA County Dept. of Public Works LA County Sanitation Districts LA County Waterworks Districts Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority Santa Clarita Environmental Services Santa Clarita Public Works Santa Clarita Community Development Santa Clarita Recreation & Community Services Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency Santa Clarita Valley GSA US Forest Service / Angeles National Forest Sand Canyon HOA / Fire Safe Council Ventura County Resource Conservation District Acton-Agua Dulce Unified School District Castaic Union School District Newhall School District Saugus Union School District Sulphur Springs Union School District	California Native Plant Society Chamber of Commerce Citizens Climate Lobby College of the Canyons Community Hiking Club Economic Development Corporation Friends of the Santa Clara River Santa Clara River Conservancy Santa Clara Environmental Coalition Santa Clara River Watershed Santa Clarita Task Force on Homelessness Santa Clarita Organization for Planning and the Environment Sierra Club St. Francis Dam Disaster National Memorial Foundation Southern Steelhead Trout Coalition The Nature Conservancy Valley Industry Association Watershed-Wide Arundo Management Group Invasive Weed Task Force Southern California Coastal Water Research Project
Communities	Tribes

Acton Town Council Agua Dulce Town Council Castaic Area Town Council Southern Oaks HOA Stevenson Ranch HOA Val Verde Civic Association Westridge Valencia HOA	Barbareño/Ventureño Band of Mission Indians Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians & Tataviam Land Conservancy Gabrielino/Tongva Nation of the Greater Los Angeles Basin San Fernando Band of Mission Indians
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**SAFE
CLEAN
WATER
PROGRAM**

Appendix

Appendix A

Resources

- [Watershed Planning Initiative Santa Clara River Watershed Area - Safe Clean Water LA](#)
- [Community Strengths & Needs Assessment Dashboard](#)
- [SCWP website](#)
- [Digital Spatial Data Library](#)
- [Greater Los Angeles County Integrated Regional Water Management](#)
- [Upper Santa Clara River Integrated Regional Water Management](#)
- [WaterTalks/Disadvantaged Community and Tribal Involvement Program](#)
- [Groundwater Exchange.org / Santa Clara River Valley – Santa Clara River Valley East](#)
- [Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency](#)
- [Researchgate.net / Watershed Modeling for the Santa Clara River in Southern California](#)
- [California State Water Resources Control Board / SAFER Program](#)
- [Santa Clara River.org](#)
- [Santa-Clarita.com](#)
- [Santa Clara River Watershed Wildlands Report](#)
- [Santa Clarita Community Task Force on Homelessness](#)
- [DataUSA.io](#)
- [Census.gov](#)
- [The Signal/Santa Clarita Valley](#)
- [FTBMI Strategy for Climate Resiliency](#)
- [County Water Plan NbS Task Force Recommendations Report](#)

Appendix B

Attachments

The following pages include attachments referenced in the document. They are:

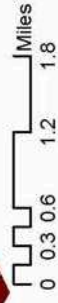
- Map – Acton Community Standards District
- Map – Agua Dulce Community Standards District
- Map – Castaic Community Standards District
- Map – FEMA floodways for Acton, CA
- Map – FEMA floodways for Newhall, CA (Panel 820F)

Agua Dulce
Community Standards District
Revision Project

Map of Existing
and Proposed Boundaries

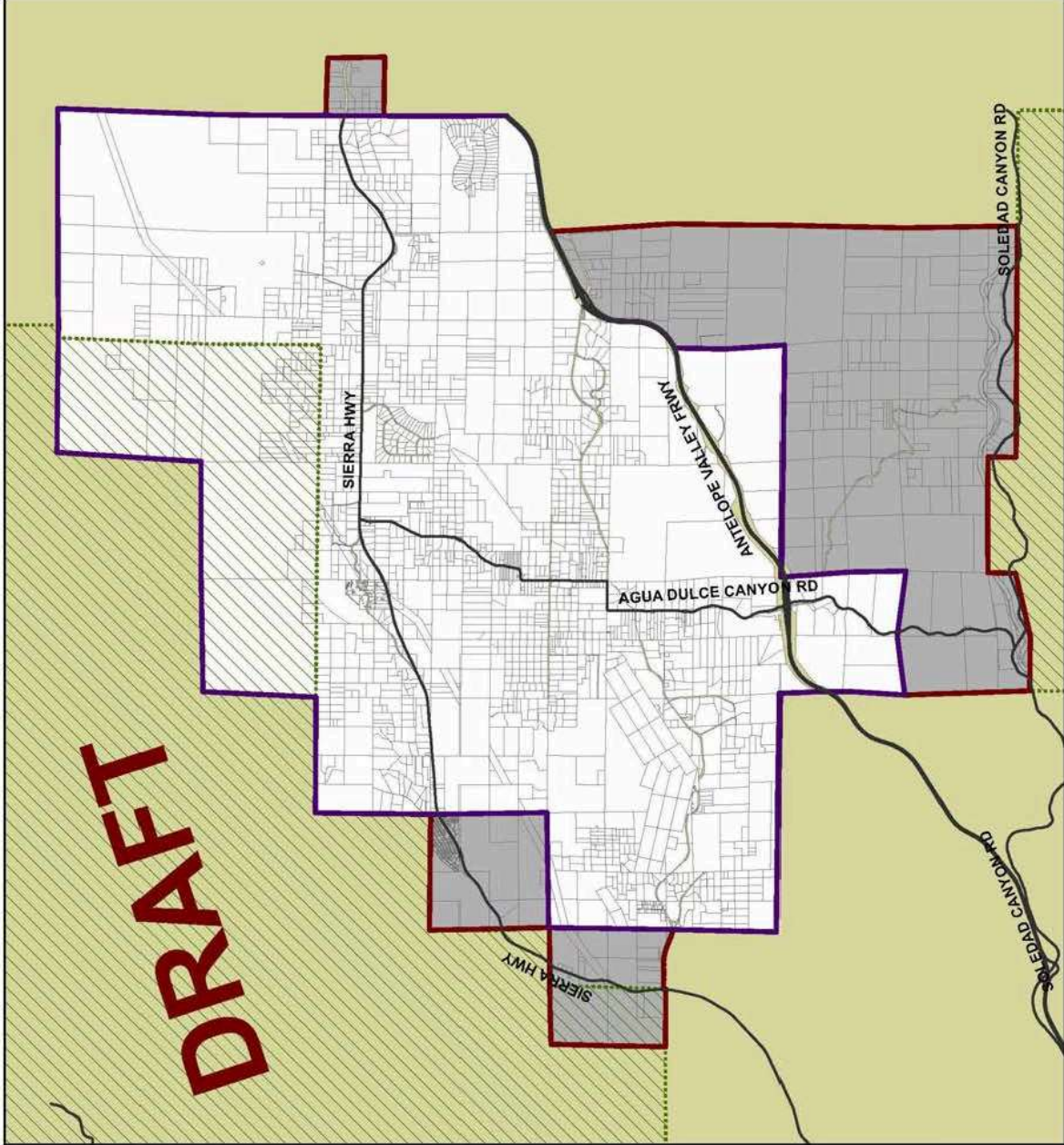
Legend

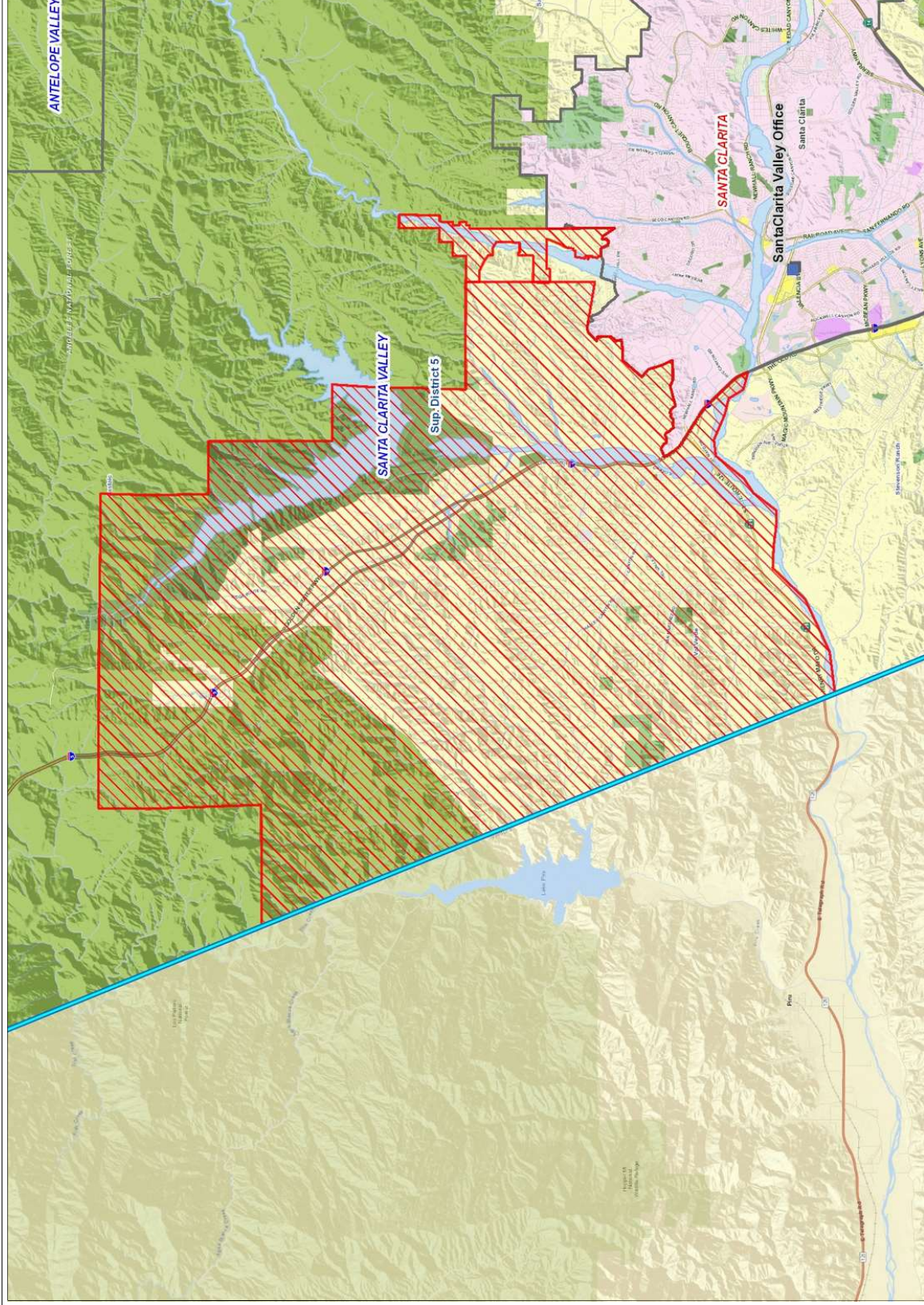
- Streets
- Boundary: Current Agua Dulce CSD
- Proposed Boundary: Agua Dulce CSD
- Existing Agua Dulce CSD Parcels
- Proposed Parcels
- ▨ Angeles National Forest
- County Areas



Source: Countywide Studies Section
Contact: Emma Howard
Phone: (213) 974-6476
Date: May 5, 2011

DRAFT



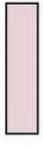


LEGEND

Castaic Community Standards District



City of Santa Clarita



U.S.F.S. / Angeles National Forest



6,018 Feet
 0 12 30
 1:50,000

Printed: 5/24/22

Castaic CSD
 Created in GIS-NET Public

Disclaimer: This map represents a quick representation of spatial imagery or vector layers using GIS-NET. The map should be interpreted in accordance with the GIS-NET Public disclaimer statement. Printed with permission from the Los Angeles County Dept. of Regional Planning. All rights reserved.

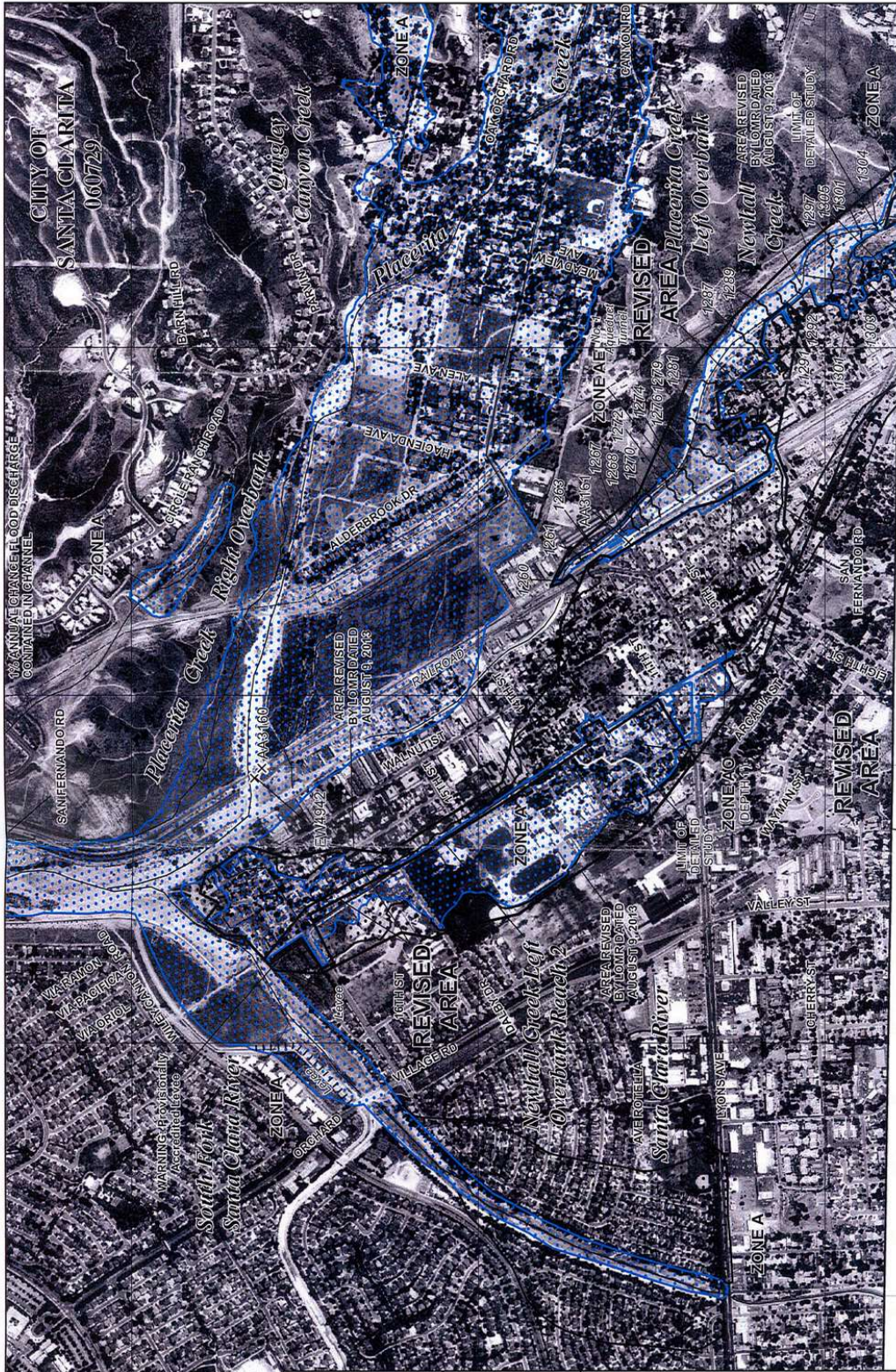
Los Angeles County
 Dept. of Regional Planning





Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, TomTom, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, F...

FEMA floodway maps show a significant portion of Crown Valley Road (and adjacent property) to be within Flood Zone A.

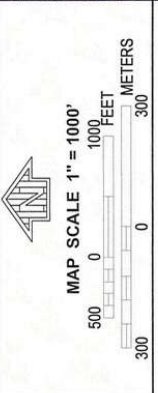


AREA REVISED BY LOMR DATED JUNE 15, 2012

38° 07' 00" N
118° 07' 15" W

JOINS PANEL 0815

- Legend**
- 1% annual chance (100-Year) Floodplain
 - 1% annual chance (100-Year) Floodway
 - 0.2% annual chance (500-Year) Floodplain



NFP PANEL 0820F

FIRM
FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP

LOS ANGELES COUNTY,
CALIFORNIA
AND INCORPORATED AREAS

PANEL 820 OF 2350
(SEE MAP INDEX FOR FIRM PANEL LAYOUT)

CONTAINS:
COMMUNITY NUMBER PANEL SUFFIX
06037C 0820

REVISÉD TO REFLECT LOMR
EFFECTIVE: February 7, 2014

Note to User: This Map Number should be used when placing map orders. The Community Number should be used when ordering insurance applications for the subject community.

MAP NUMBER
06037C0820F
EFFECTIVE DATE
SEPTEMBER 26, 2008

Federal Emergency Management Agency

6395000 FT

6400000 FT

6405000 FT

JOINS PANEL 1031

JOINS PANEL 1032

AREA REVISED BY LOMR DATED JUNE 15, 2012

AREA REVISED BY LOMR DATED AUGUST 9, 2013

**Railroad Canyon
Left Overbank**