

# **UPPER SAN GABRIEL RIVER WATERSHED**

# **STRATEGIC OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT PLAN 2023**

**PREPARED BY  
DAY ONE**



**SAFE  
CLEAN  
WATER  
PROGRAM**



**day one**



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# PURPOSE & OVERVIEW



# LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

With great respect, Day One acknowledges the **Gabrielino-Tongva** people as the traditional caretakers of **Tovaangar** – the Tongva world, including the Los Angeles Basin, South Channel Islands, San Gabriel and Pomona Valleys, and portions of Orange, San Bernardino, and Riverside Counties, and **Totótingah Pahhit(e)** which we know as the San Gabriel River.

As an organization in the San Gabriel Valley and as the Watershed Coordinator for the Upper San Gabriel River Watershed Area on unceded Gabrielino-Tongva land, we pay our respects to the ancestors, elders, and our relatives/relations, past, present, and emerging.

Consistent with our values of community and diversity, we have a responsibility to acknowledge and make visible our organization's relationship to Native peoples.

By offering this Land Acknowledgement, we affirm Indigenous sovereignty and will work to hold Day One, the Watershed Area Steering Committee and the District more accountable to the needs of Indigenous peoples in the region.



# SAFE, CLEAN WATER PROGRAM

The Safe, Clean Water Program (SCWP) continues LA County's tradition of flood safety, while protecting water quality and providing new sources of water for current and future generations.

By modernizing our 100-year-old water system, we can better protect public health and our environment, and maximize a cleaner, locally controlled water supply. The approval of Measure W in 2018 created a comprehensive, regional plan which will empower communities to:



## CAPTURE IT

**Increase our yearly collection of rainwater to supply water for millions of people in L.A. County annually.**



## CLEAN IT

**Reduce the volume of trash before it reaches our beaches and coastal waters.**



## MAKE IT SAFE

**Help eliminate the toxins, fertilizers, bacteria, plastics, metals, and chemicals that flow into the ocean.**



## MAKE IT FOR EVERYONE

**Protect creeks and streams, build parks, live up concrete landscapes, and create green space for our communities.**



# PURPOSE OF SOEP

The Notice of Request for Statement of Qualifications for Watershed Coordinator was released in early 2020. Each Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC) selected a Watershed Coordinator (WC) for their respective watershed area (WA). There are a total of 12 Watershed Coordinators across 9 watershed areas, with some watershed areas assigned multiple coordinators. The Upper San Gabriel River (USGR) WASC selected Day One for this role.

The initial task for each Watershed Coordinator is to develop a Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan (SOEP) for approval by the Watershed Area Steering Committee to inform their work in the WA.

**The purpose of the Strategic Outreach & Engagement Plan is to:**

- Inform the WASC of the key geographical characteristics of the watershed area;
- Identify interested parties and stakeholders in the Watershed Area;
- Clarify the scope of the Watershed Coordinator's role and outline their Vision for Success;
- Describe outreach and engagement strategies and accompanying goals in the watershed area.

The SOEP is a living document and is updated on an annual basis. This plan will evolve as the WC continues to collaborate with community partners, interested parties and decision-makers in the watershed area.



# OVERVIEW OF SOEP

Day One's mission is to build healthy, vibrant cities by advancing public health, empowering youth, and igniting change. Founded from a collective vision of concerned community leaders in 1987, Day One originally focused on the emergent drug epidemic in Pasadena and Altadena, especially among youth. Since then, the agency has become a leader in youth advocacy and community health in the San Gabriel Valley, and expanded the scope of its public health, equity, community engagement and environmental policy approaches to solve historical and complex community issues.

This SOEP will be used to guide stakeholder engagement, coordinate funding opportunities, develop project concepts, identify and educate interested parties, develop relationships with residents and organizations, and ultimately create more involvement in the SCWP.

## **The Strategic Outreach & Engagement Plan is composed of 5 sections:**

1. Watershed Area Description
2. Interested Parties-Water Agencies
3. Interested Parties-Community Organizations
4. Vision for Success
5. Outreach & Engagement Strategies

In preparation for the development of this Strategic Outreach & Engagement Plan, Day One staff consulted with members of the WASC. We thank you for their time.

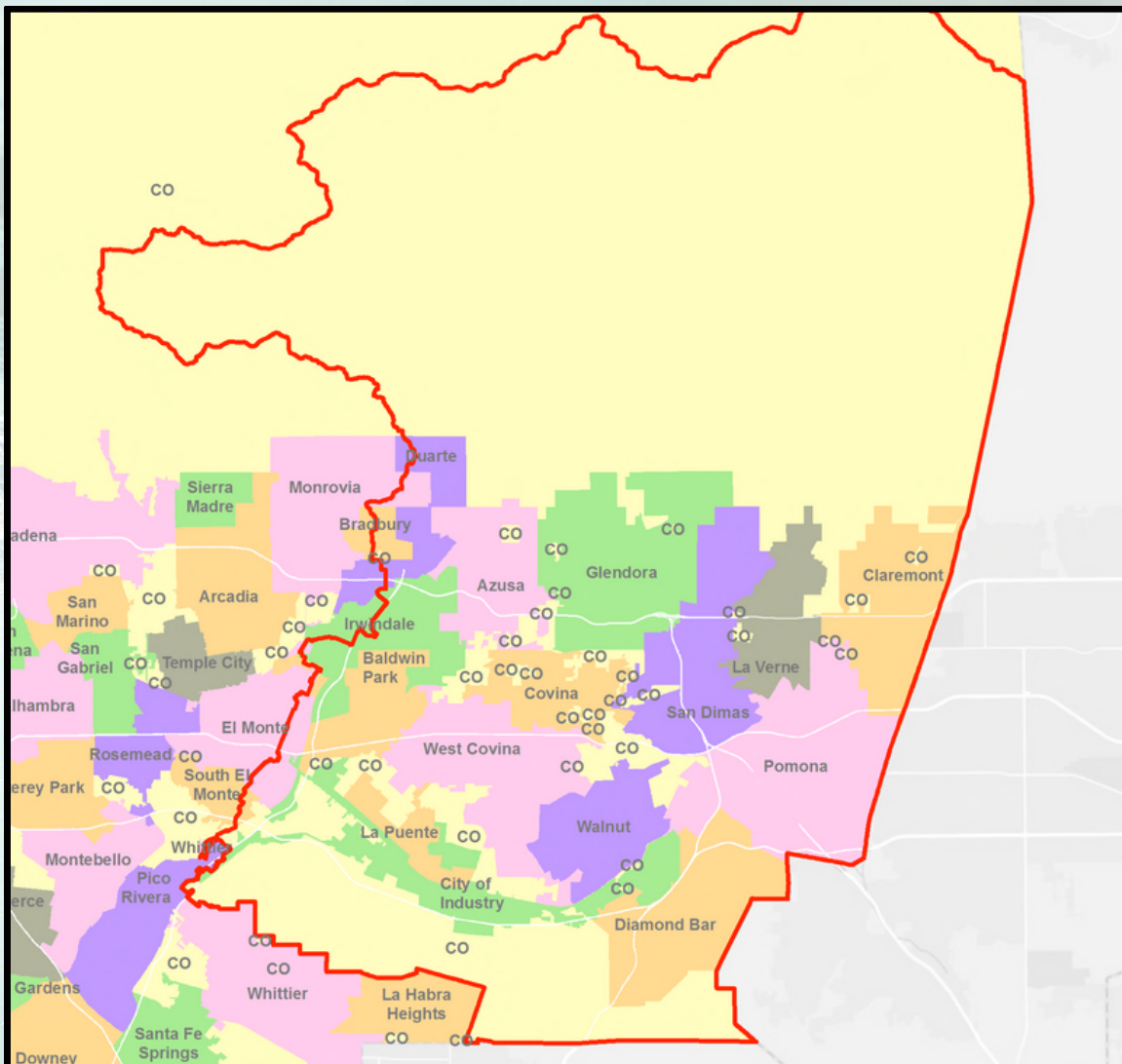




# SECTION 1 WATERSHED DESCRIPTION



The SCWP's Upper San Gabriel River watershed area is the easternmost watershed in Los Angeles County. Cities within the boundaries include: Baldwin Park, Duarte, Glendora, City of Industry, West Covina, Diamond Bar, Claremont, Azusa, La Verne, Walnut, Irwindale, La Puente, El Monte, Duarte, South El Monte, Bradbury, Arcadia, Monrovia, Pomona, San Dimas and unincorporated Los Angeles County.



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## GEOGRAPHY OF USGR WATERSHED

The Upper San Gabriel River watershed receives drainage from 689 square miles of eastern Los Angeles County. Its headwaters originate in the San Gabriel Mountains which run east to west in its norther region. The watershed area includes the San Gabriel Mountains to the north, ends at the San Bernardino/Orange County boundaries to the east, its western boundary more or less runs along the San Gabriel river, and it is bordered by the Puente Hills along its southern boundary.

In the San Gabriel Mountains, much of the USGR watershed of the West Fork and East Fork is set aside as a wilderness area; other areas in the upper areas of watershed are subject to heavy recreational use. In the mountains, the watershed includes a series of flood control dams. Further downstream, towards the middle of the watershed, are large spreading grounds utilized for groundwater recharge.



View of San Gabriel Mountain from Elysian Park.



## RIVER SYSTEM OF THE USGR

The San Gabriel River originates in the San Gabriel mountain where the West Fork, North Fork, and the East Fork come together. The river system consists of various creeks, washes, and streams, as shown in the map below. The length of the main stem of the San Gabriel River is about 48 miles and ends in the Pacific Ocean. The total length of this part of the river, including both the main stem of the river and its tributaries, is about 75 miles.



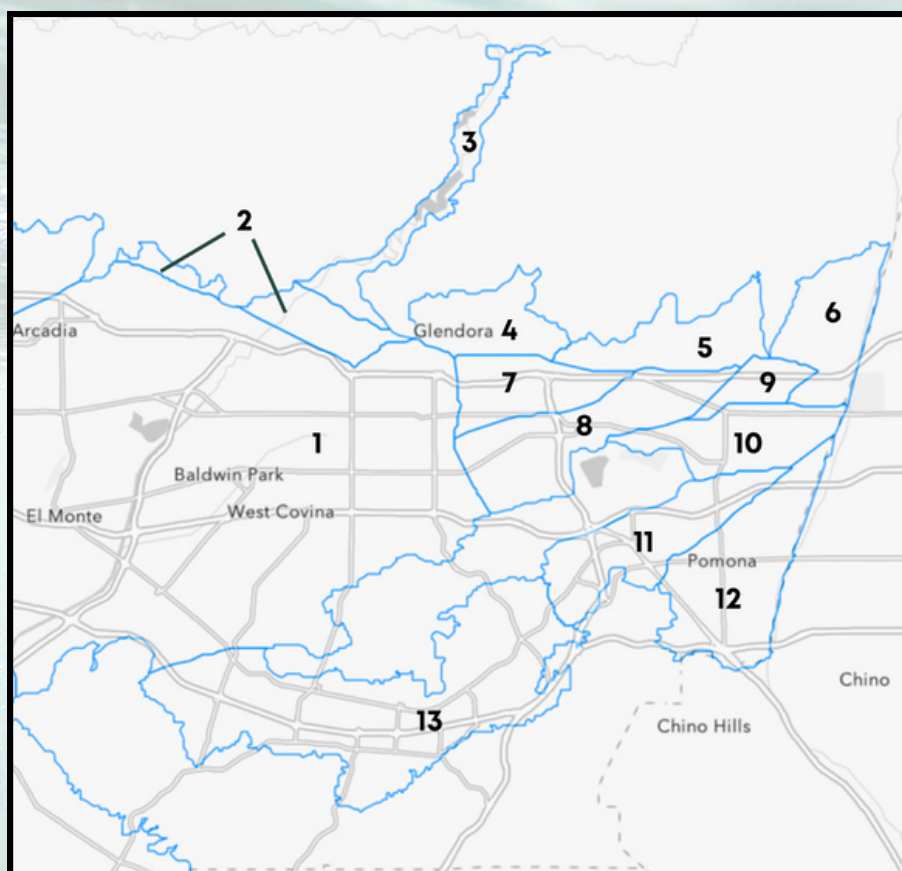
River system of the Upper San Gabriel River watershed area.



## GROUNDWATER BASINS IN THE USGR

The USGR watershed area is marked by several groundwater basins and sub-basins. The largest of these is the Main San Gabriel Basin which occupies the western half of the USGR watershed area. On the eastern half are found several smaller basins and on the southern edge is the Puente Basin. The map below roughly identifies these basins.

- |                             |              |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| 1. Main San Gabriel         | 8. San Dimas |
| 2. Lower San Gabriel Canyon | 9. Live Oak  |
| 3. Upper San Gabriel Canyon | 10. Pomona   |
| 4. Glendora                 | 11. Spadra   |
| 5. Foothill Basin           | 12. Chino    |
| 6. Claremont Heights        | 13. Puente   |
| 7. Way Hill                 |              |



Basins and sub-basins in the USGR WA. By LA County Public Works.



## DAMS AND RESERVOIRS IN THE USGR

Several dams are found in the USGR. Most of these are operated and maintained by Public Works to control flood waters during storms (Santa Fe Dam is operated by the US Army Corp of Engineers). The purpose of dams is to preserve water and periodically release it in amounts that can be conserved in downstream spreading grounds and by channel percolation. The dams in the USGR are listed below with their corresponding number on the map.

- |                    |                               |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Cogswell Dam    | 6. Puddingstone Diversion Dam |
| 2. San Gabriel Dam | 7. Puddingstone Dam           |
| 3. Morris Dam      | 8. Live Oak Dam               |
| 4. Big Dalton Dam  | 9. Thompson Creek Dam         |
| 5. San Dimas Dam   | 10. Santa Fe Dam (USACE)      |

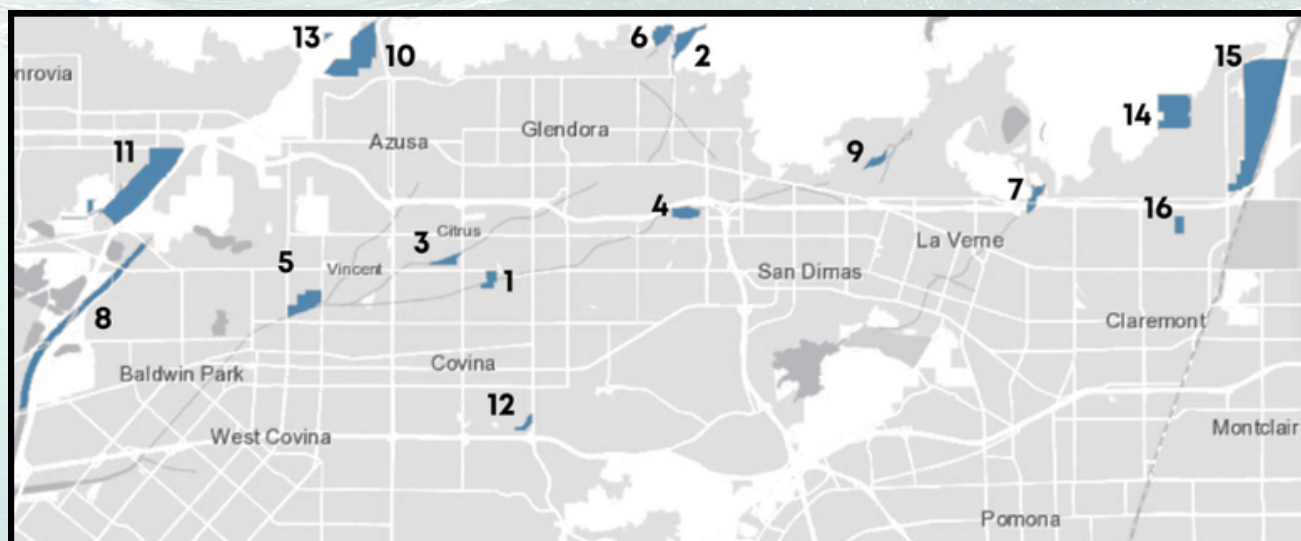




## SPREADING GROUNDS IN THE USGR

Spreading grounds are large water conservation facilities. They are located in areas where the underlying soils are permeable and connected to an underlying groundwater basin where water can be safely stored. The USGR watershed area contains several spreading grounds, most of which are overseen by the Department of Public Works. The list below identifies major spreading grounds in the USGR with their corresponding number on the map below.

- |                             |                        |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Ben Lomond               | 9. San Dimas Canyon    |
| 2. Big Dalton               | 10. San Gabriel Canyon |
| 3. Citrus                   | 11. Santa Fe Reservoir |
| 4. Forbes                   | 12. Walnut             |
| 5. Irwindale SG/Manning Pit | 13. Fish Canyon        |
| 6. Little Dalton            | 14. Thompson Creek     |
| 7. Live Oak                 | 15. San Antonio        |
| 8. San Gabriel River        | 16. Pomona / Pedley    |

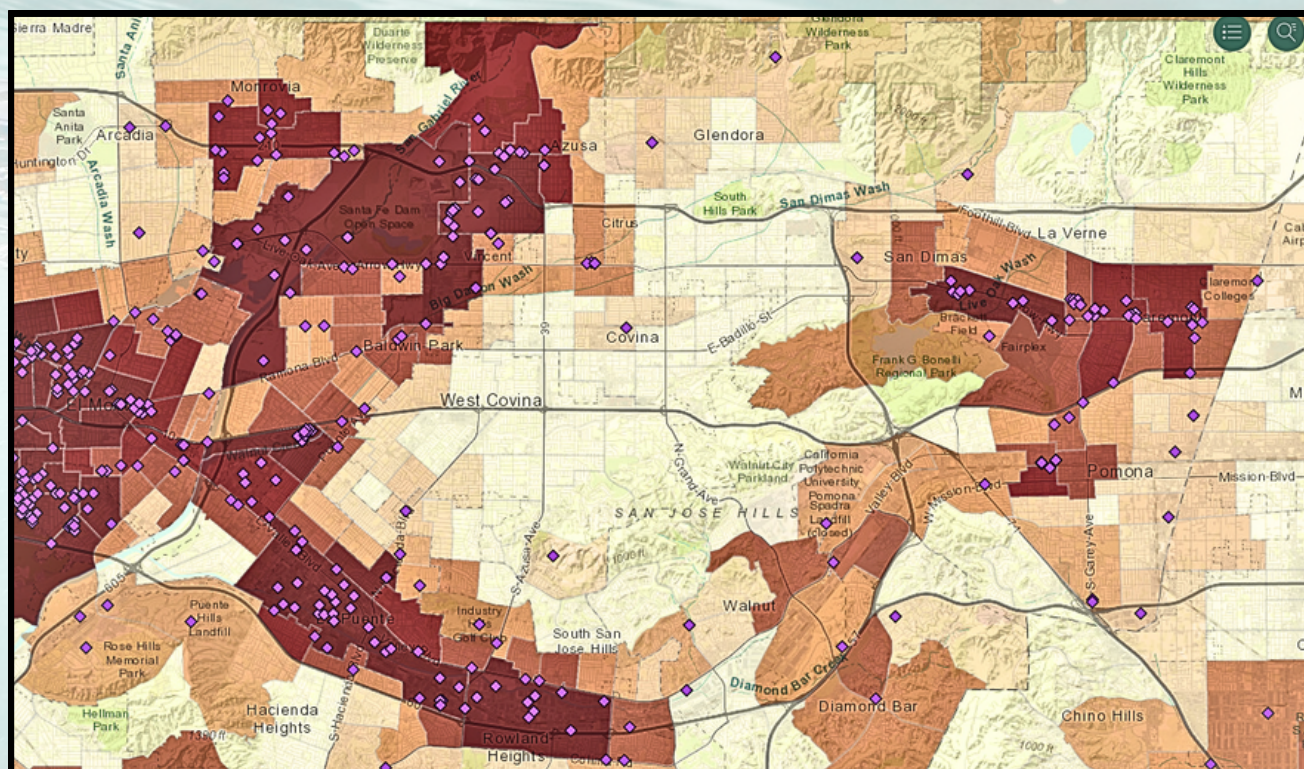


Spreading Grounds. Los Angeles County Public Works.



## GROUNDWATER THREATS MAP

Groundwater contamination has many point sources. For example, hazardous chemicals are often stored in containers on land or underground where leaks can contaminate soil and groundwater. Common soil and groundwater pollutants include gasoline and diesel fuels as well as solvents, heavy metals and pesticides. The map below was created using the CalEnviroScreen and demonstrates groundwater contamination in the USGR. The map identifies census tracts and provides a color that corresponds to contamination percentiles. For example, the darkest shade signifies that groundwater contamination is in the 90 percentile or higher compared to all census tract in California. The lightest color corresponds to a 0-10 percentile. Purple dots identify groundwater threat sites. For more details on specific tracts, please see: <https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/ed5953d89038431dbf4f22ab9abfe40d/page/Indicators/?views=Groundwater-Threats>



Groundwater Threats. CalEnviroScreen 4.0.





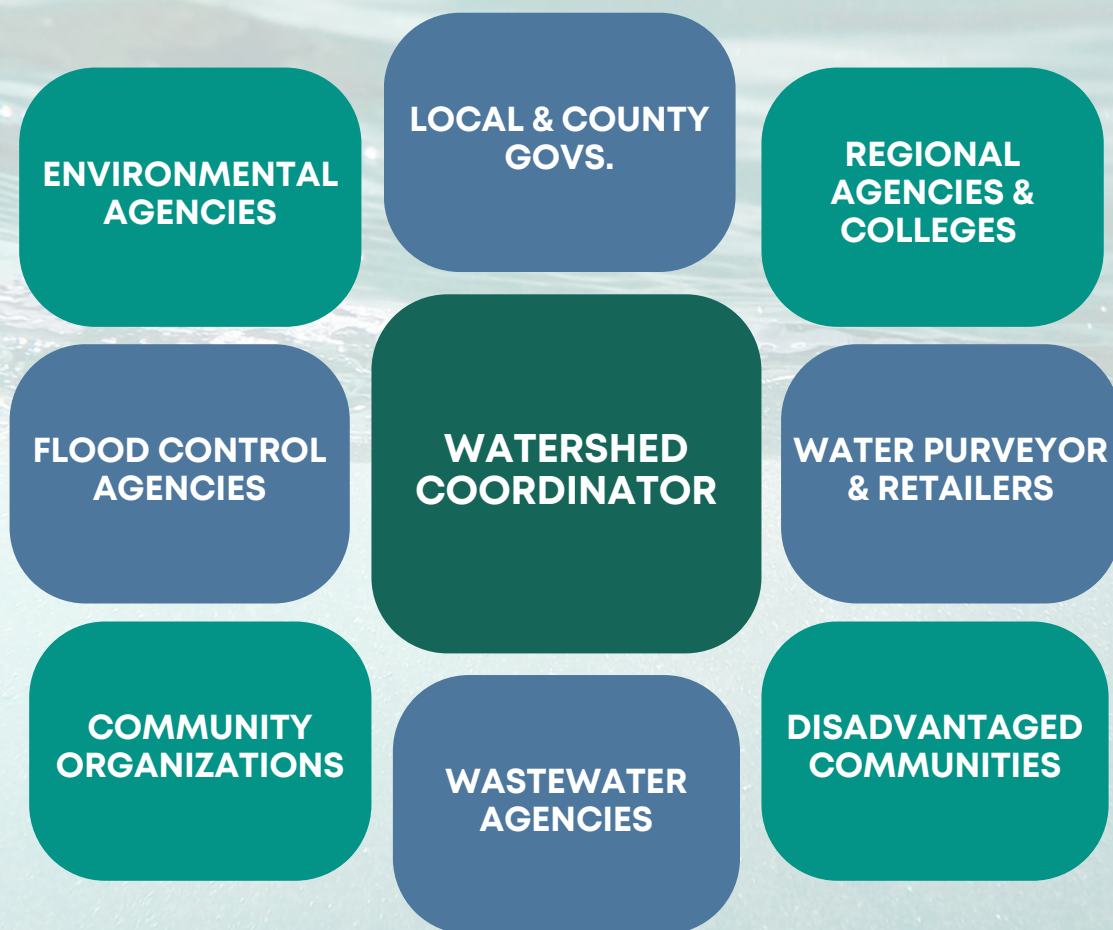
## SECTION 2

# INTERESTED PARTIES- WATER AGENCIES



# WATER AGENCIES

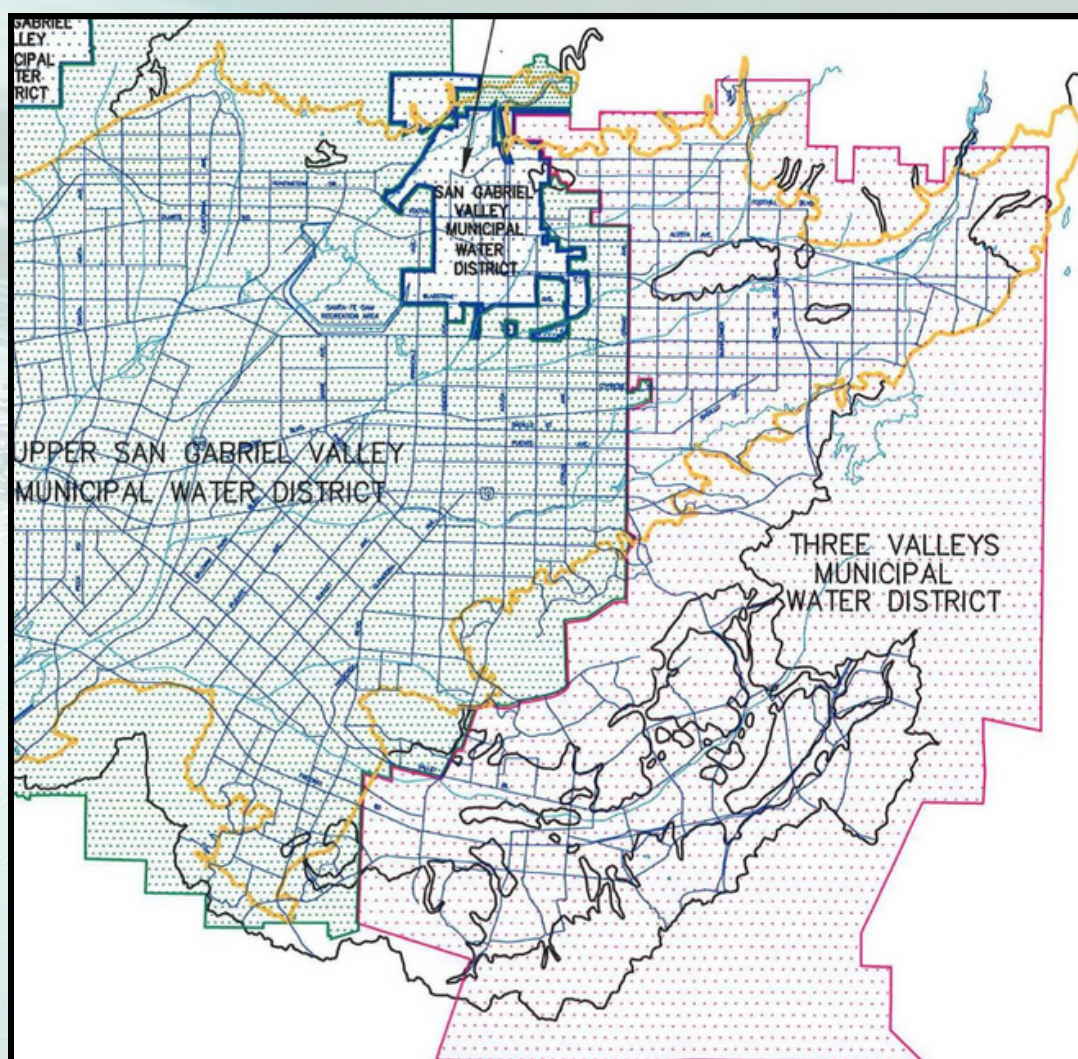
A complex web of agencies in the Upper San Gabriel River watershed area buy, sell, pump, clean and manage water resources. To effectively undertake outreach and engagement requires an understanding of key organizations working with water in the USGR. This section identifies stakeholders directly working with water. Section 3 then identifies additional community stakeholders to provide an overview of the USGR watershed area. Together, all stakeholders comprise a set of actors who have a stake in providing and consuming clean water, as depicted in the figure below.





## WATER WHOLESALERS & RETAILERS IN THE USGR

This section summarizes the primary wholesalers and retailers of water in the USGR WA. There are three primary water wholesalers: Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District, Three Valleys Municipal Water District, and San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District. The map below outlines their service area. As described below, a series of water retailers utilize these wholesalers.





## Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District

The Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District is a special district formed in 1959. As a wholesale water provider, Upper District services 26 water retailers, which encompasses 18 cities. It is governed by a five-member elected board of directors and is a member agency to the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. Upper District encompasses the western half of the USGR watershed area.

- **Upper District Water Retailers.** Upper District provides water on wholesale to 26 water agencies: City of Arcadia, City of Azusa, California American Water Company, California Domestic Water Company, City of Covina, Covina Irrigating Company, City of El Monte, City of Glendora, Golden State Water Company, City of Industry Public Works, La Puente Valley County Water District, City of Monrovia, San Gabriel County Water District, San Gabriel Valley Water Company, City of South Pasadena, Suburban Water Systems, Sunny Slope Water Company, Valencia Heights Water Company, Valley County Water District, City of West Covina, City of Whittier, Amarillo Mutual Water Company, Hemlock Mutual Water Company, Sterling Mutual Water Company, Valley View Mutual Water Company, and Del Rio Mutual Water Company.

## Three Valleys Municipal Water District

TVMWD is a special district formed by public election in 1950 and is the area's primary source of supplemental water covering the east half of the USGR watershed area. TVMWD is one of 26 member agencies of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) that is



authorized to deliver wholesale water supplies from the Colorado River and Northern California.

- **Three Valleys Water Retailers.** Three Valleys provides water on wholesale to 12 members: City of Covina, Golden State Water Company, City of Glendora, Suburban Water Systems, City of La Verne, Valencia Heights Water Company, City of Pomona, California Polytechnic University Pomona, Rowland Water District, Mt. San Antonio College, Walnut Valley Water District, and Boy Scouts of America-Firestone Reservation.

## **San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District**

San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District (San Gabriel District) is a wholesale water supplier that provides untreated State Water Project (SWP) water to replenish groundwater supplies in the Main San Gabriel Basin (Main Basin). Created in 1959, majority of the service area for the San Gabriel District overlies the Main San Gabriel Basin, with a portion (Sierra Madre) overlying the Raymond Basin. In the USGR, the San Gabriel District severs the city of Azusa. San Gabriel District is a wholesale water supplier that is governed by a five-member elected Board of Directors. As such, residents do not receive their water directly from San Gabriel District, but from one of four different retail water suppliers.

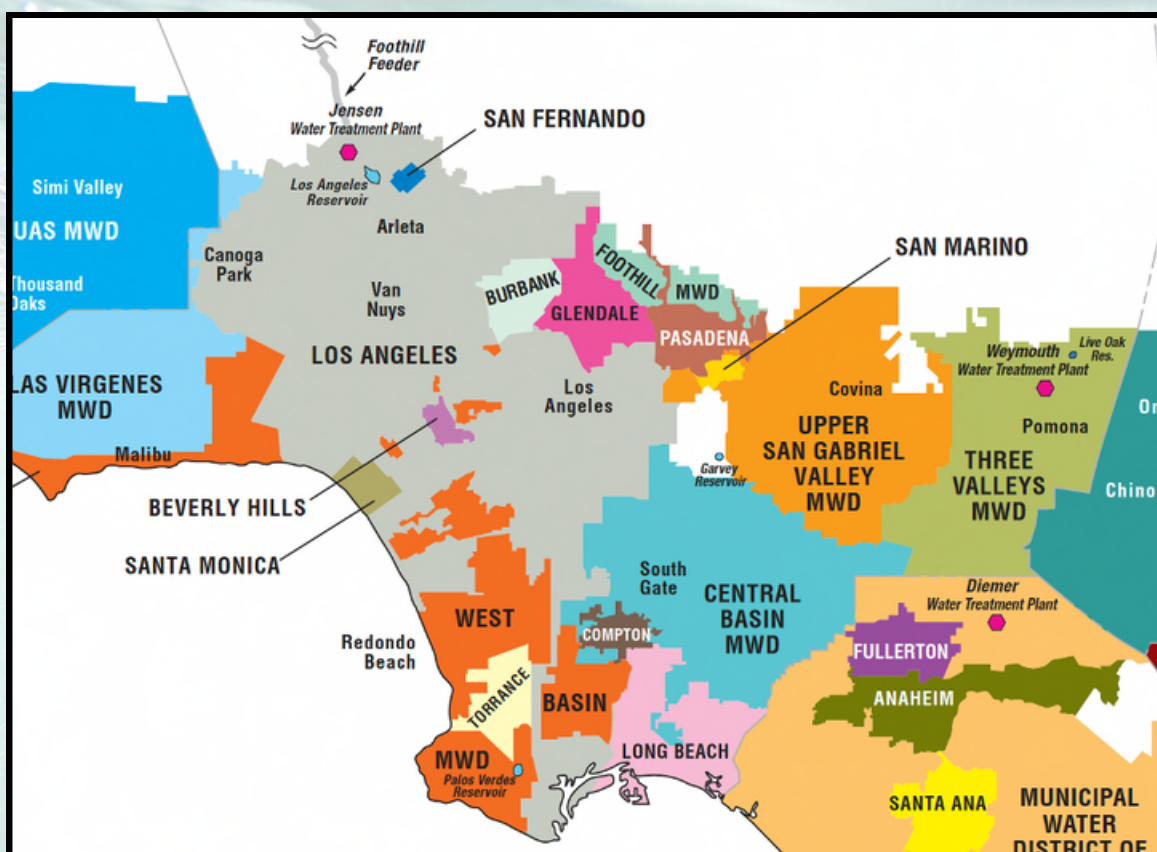
- **San Gabriel District Water Retailers.** The Cities of Alhambra, City of Azusa (Azusa Light and Water), City of Monterey Park, and City of Sierra Madre.



## Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

Looking beyond the USGR watershed area, the Metropolitan is a public agency and a regional water wholesaler. It is composed of 26 member agencies that purchase some or all of their water from Metropolitan. The agency is governed by a 38-member board of directors made up of representatives from each of Metropolitan's member agencies, with each agency represented by at least one representative. It has 14 member cities (none in the USGR) and 12 Member Water Agencies (2 in the USGR WA).

- **Metropolitan Member Agencies in the USGR WA:** Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District and Three Valleys Municipal Water District.

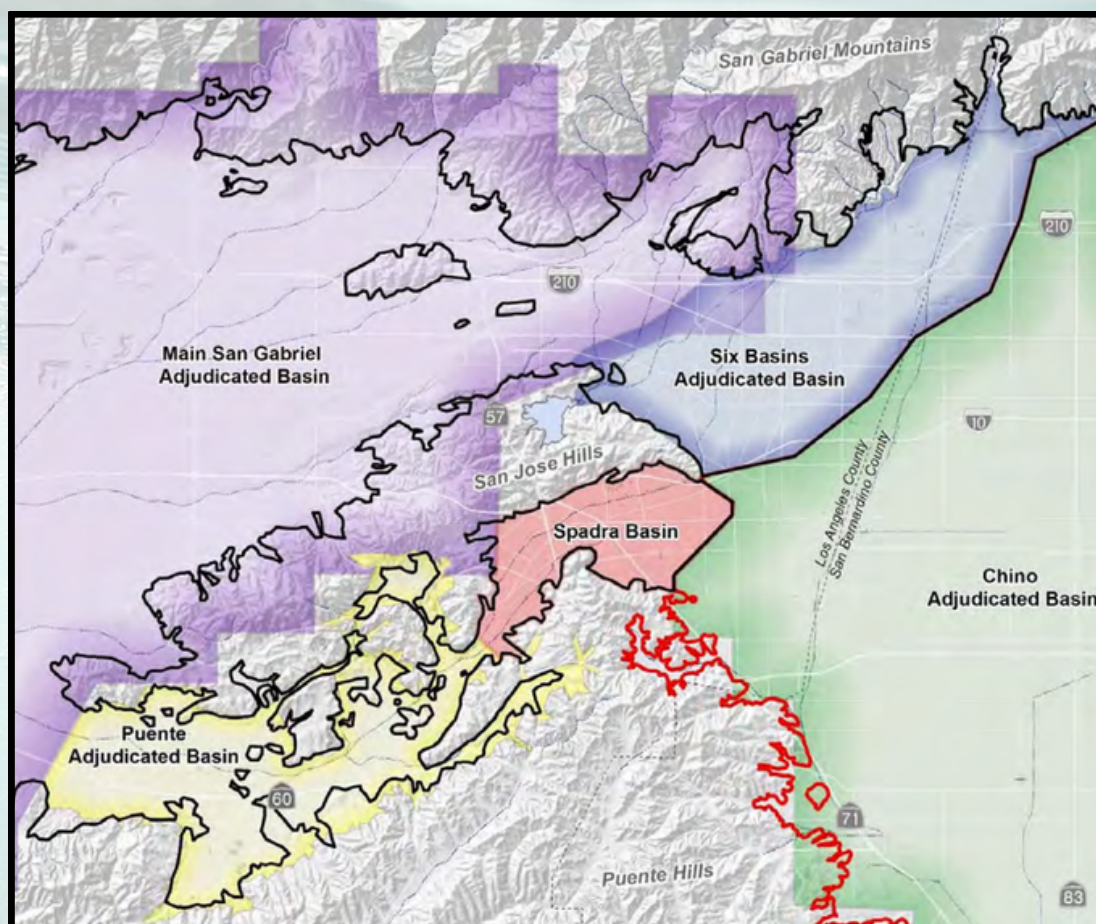


Metropolitan Member Agencies in and near LA County.  
Source: <https://www.mwdh2o.com/member-agencies/>



## ADJUDICATED GROUNDWATER BASINS

In Los Angeles County, there are several organizations with regulative authority over adjudicated groundwater basins. In the USGR WA, Watermasters are in place for four basins: Main San Gabriel Basin, Six Basins, Puente Basin, and the Chino Basin (mostly in San Bernardino County). In these basins, adjudicated groundwater basins and pumping rights are established and overseen by court-appointed groundwater masters. The map below utilizes different colors to identify the boundaries of these basins. Following the map is a brief description of each Watermaster.



Map from Spadra Basin Groundwater Sustainability Plan, Technical Memorandum 1.



## **Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster**

This Watermaster was created in 1973 by the Los Angeles County Superior Court. The 9 member board administers adjudicated water rights and manages and protects groundwater resources within the watershed and groundwater basin known as the Main San Gabriel Groundwater Basin. Among its many responsibilities are to: manage and control the withdrawal and replenishment of water supplies in the basin; determine annually the Operating Safe Yield for the succeeding fiscal year, and notify the pumpers of their shares; acquire and spread replacement water as needed; and coordinate local involvement in efforts to preserve and restore the quality of groundwater in the basin.

## **Six Basins Watermaster**

A committee of representatives of the parties to a 1998 judgment which adjudicated pumping and storage rights for a group of groundwater basins in the eastern Los Angeles and western San Bernardino Counties known as the Six Basins. Groundwater is pumped primarily by public water-supply agencies and mutual water companies that supply water for municipal uses. The member agencies include City of Claremont, City of La Verne, City of Pomona, City of Upland, Golden State Water Company, Pomona College, Pomona Valley Protective Association, San Antonio Water Company, and Three Valleys Municipal Water District.



## **Puente Basin Water Agency**

The Puente Basin spans approximately 20 square miles and is located between the San Jose and Puente Hills to the north and the south and shares a boundary with the Spadra Basin and Main San Gabriel Basin to the east and west. The San Jose Creek flows through the basin from the northeast to the west. The Puente Basin Water Agency (PBWA) is a public agency formed joint powers authority between Walnut Valley Water District and Rowland Water District—pursuant to the Puente Basin Judgment and the Puente Narrows Agreement with the Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District. Groundwater within the Puente Basin is currently used for non-potable uses.

## **Chino Basin Watermaster**

The Chino Basin Watermaster consists of various entities pumping water from the Chino Basin including cities, water districts, water companies, agricultural, commercial and other private concerns. The Chino Basin Watermaster's mission is to manage the Chino Basin in the most beneficial manner and to equitably administer and enforce the provisions of the Chino Basin Watermaster 1978 Judgment. While mostly serving San Bernardino county, the Chino Basin Watermaster does serve the City of Pomona.



## **ADDITIONAL WATER QUALITY AGENCIES IN THE USGR**

### **Spadra Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency**

The Spadra Basin is a small, non-adjudicated basin located south of San Jose Hills and east of Puente Basin. While Spadra Basin is not adjudicated, Walnut Valley Water District (WVWD) and the City of Pomona (Pomona) collectively formed a Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) for the Spadra Basin (Spadra Basin GSA) and adopted objectives seeking to maximize the beneficial use of the Spadra Basin while ensuring long-term sustainability.

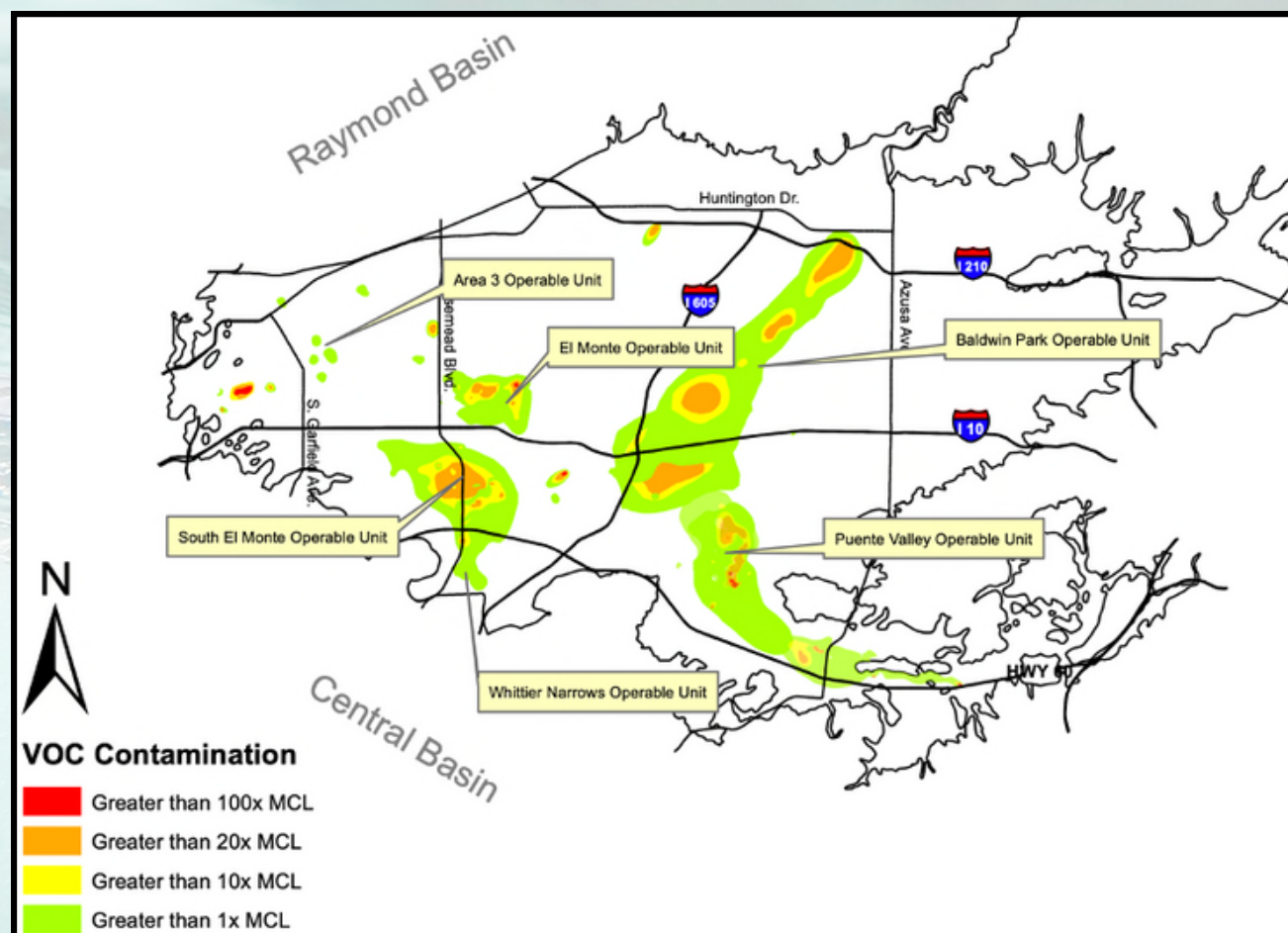
### **San Gabriel Basin Water Quality Authority**

The San Gabriel Basin Water Quality Authority (WQA) was formed by special act of the California Legislature (Senate Bill 1679) in 1992 and is governed by a 7-member Board of Directors. In 1993, the WQA Board adopted Plan 406 which requires WQA to develop and adopt a basin-wide groundwater quality management and remediation plan. Among others, the stated goals of the WQA are to accelerate removal of containment mass in the Basin, prevent migration of containment into critical groundwater supplies, and to integrate cleanup with water supply, and minimize economic impact to the public.

The creation of the WQA followed the discovery of significant groundwater contamination in the San Gabriel Valley's groundwater basin. The groundwater is contaminated from the ground disposal of volatile organic compounds (VOCs), first identified in high concentrations



in Azusa in 1979. Further investigation revealed widespread VOC contamination significantly impacting the basin. This discovery led USEPA to place portions of the basin on priority lists, referred to as Operable Units. Currently, there are six active Operable Units in the San Gabriel Valley: Baldwin Park, El Monte, South El Monte, Puente Valley, Area 3 and Whittier Narrows. The map below identifies these Operable Units and the Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCL) in each.



Source: San Gabriel Basin Groundwater Quality Management and Remediation Plan “§406 Plan”



## Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP)

The Integrated Regional Water Management Plan reflects the Greater Los Angeles County (GLAC) Region's collaborative efforts to ensure a sustainable water supply. The Los Angeles County Flood Control District led the charge in developing the IRWMP. The mission of this IRWMP is to address the water resources needs of the Region in an integrated and collaborative manner to improve water supplies, enhance water supply reliability, improve surface water quality, preserve flood protection, conserve habitat, and expand recreational access. Chaired by the Los Angeles County Flood Control District, the 16-member Leadership Committee provides overall guidance to the IRWMP activities. The IRWMP is divided into five subregions, each with their own Steering Committees as shown in the map below. The SCWP's USGR falls within the IRWMP Upper San Gabriel and Rio Hondo Rivers watershed area (in blue).



Source: Greater Los Angeles County Integrated Regional Water Management Plan



## STATE WATER RESOURCE CONTROL BOARD

The State Water Resources Control Board was created by the State Legislature in 1967. Today the five-member State Water Board allocates water rights, adjudicates water right disputes, develops statewide water protection plans, establishes water quality standards, and guides the nine Regional Water Quality Control Boards located in the major watersheds of the state. The Regional Boards, each comprised of seven members, serve as the frontline for state and federal water pollution control efforts. The SCWP's USGR watershed area is found in Region 4 which includes Los Angeles, Ventura counties, and small portions of Kern and Santa Barbara counties.

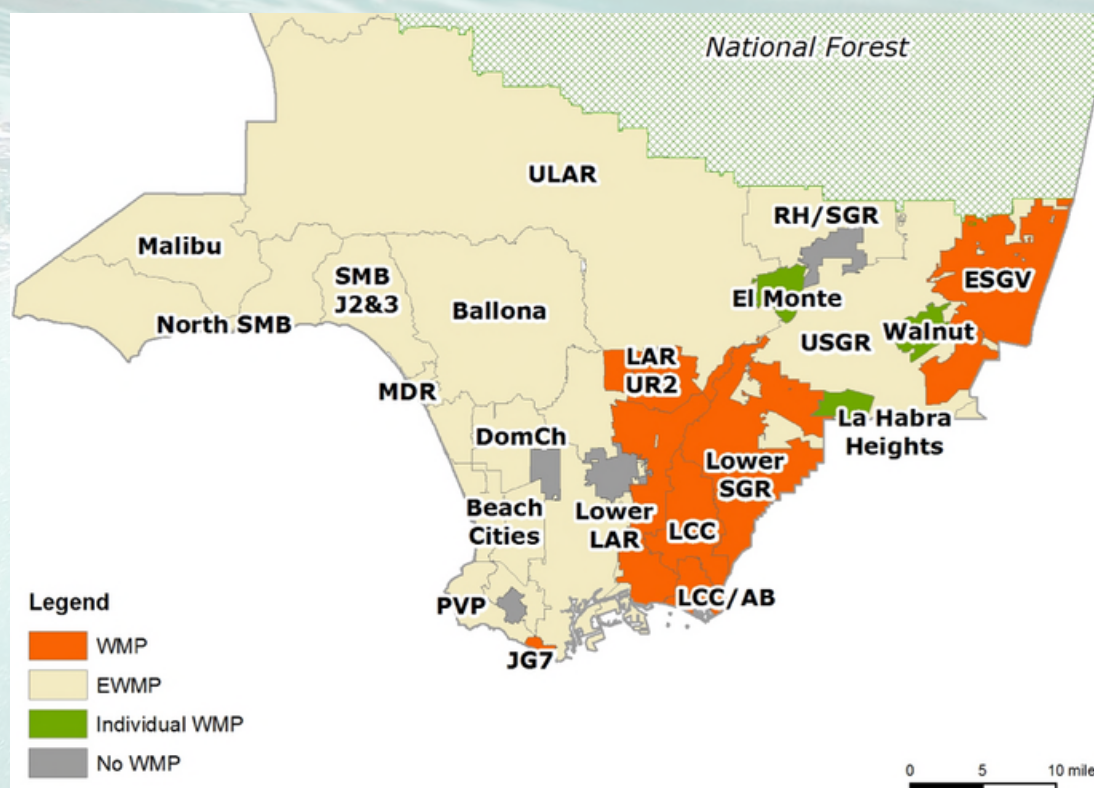
### Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board

The goal of the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (LA Water Board) is to preserve, enhance, and restore the quality of water resources, including those used for drinking water, for the protection of the environment, public health, and for the benefit of present and future generations. The LA Water Board develops regulations, policies, and permits to protect surface and ground water quality, oversees cleanup of contaminated soil and groundwater, and enforces its regulatory requirements. In addition, the LA Water Board works with the State Water Board to develop and implement statewide regulations, policies, and permits and to provide financial assistance in the form of grants and loans for projects that clean up and protect water quality and drinking water supplies. The LA Water Board has jurisdiction over the coastal watersheds between Rincon Point (on the coast of western Ventura County) and the eastern Los Angeles County line.



## Watershed Management Program- MS4 Permit

The Los Angeles Water Board regulates discharges from medium and large municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s) through the Regional Phase I MS4 Permit. Discharges of storm water and non-storm water can carry pollutants which can have a damaging effect on both human and aquatic health. The MS4 permit allows permittees the flexibility to develop a Watershed Management Program (WMP) or Enhanced Watershed Management Program (EWMP) to implement the requirements of the Order through customized strategies, control measure, and Best Management Practices (BMPs). The map below depicts the WMP/EWMP groups to date and the following page list the WMPs and EWMP in the SCWP's USGR watershed area.



Source: [waterboards.ca.gov](http://waterboards.ca.gov)



**East San Gabriel Valley Watershed Management Group.** Consists of the City of Pomona as the coordinating agency for the Watershed Management Plan (WMP) and The Coordinated Integrated Monitoring Program (CIMP). Permittees participating in this group are: Claremont, La Verne, Pomona, and San Dimas. Subwatersheds managed by this group: Puddingstone Reservoir, San Jose Creek, Santa Ana River, San Dimas Wash, Walnut Creek, Big Dalton Wash.

**Rio Hondo/San Gabriel River Watershed Management Group.** Consists of the City of Sierra Madre as the coordinating agency for the Enhanced Watershed Management Program (EWMP) and CIMP. Permittees participating in this group are: Arcadia, Azusa, Bradbury, Duarte, Monrovia, Sierra Madre, Unincorporated LA County, and Los Angeles County Flood Control District. Subwatersheds managed by this group: LA River, San Gabriel River.

**Upper San Gabriel River Watershed Management Group.** Consists of the County of Los Angeles as the coordinating agency for the EWMP and CIMP. Permittees participating in this group are: Baldwin Park, Covina, Glendora, Industry, La Puente, Unincorporated LA County, West Covina, and Los Angeles County Flood Control District. Subwatersheds managed by this group: San Gabriel River, Walnut Creek, Puente Creek, San Jose Creek, Coyote Creek, Puddingstone Reservoir.

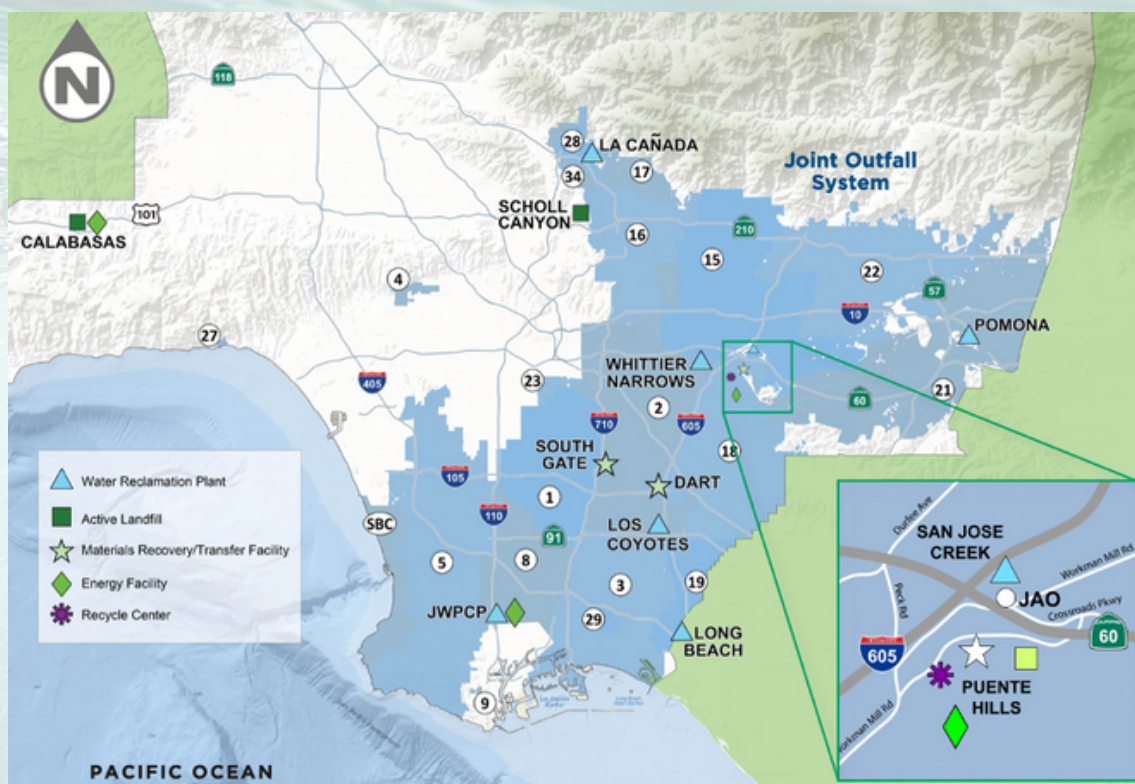
**El Monte and Walnut.** The City of El Monte (partly in the SCWP USGR watershed area) and the City of Walnut each hold an Individual WMP.



## LA COUNTY MANAGEMENT AGENCIES IN THE USGR

### Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County

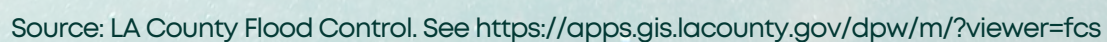
The Sanitation Districts were created in 1923 to construct, operate, and maintain facilities that collect, treat, reuse, and dispose of domestic and industrial wastewater. The Sanitation Districts consist of 24 independent special districts serving about 5.6 million people in LA County. The Districts' Department of Wastewater Management operates a series of sewers systems, pumping plants, and wastewater treatment plants. The map below shows the areas served by the Districts. On the eastern end of the map is the USGR watershed area where two water reclamation plants, the San Jose Creek and the Pomona reclamation plants, add water to the local supply.



Source: LA County Sanitation Districts Fact Sheet.



The Los Angeles County Flood Control Act established the Los Angeles County Flood Control District in 1915 and empowered it to provide flood protection, water conservation, recreation and aesthetic enhancement within its boundaries. The Flood Control District is governed, as a separate entity, by the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors. The LACFCD operates and maintains flood control dams and reservoirs, open channels, catch basins, underground storm drain conduits, water pump plants, sediment entrapment basins, and spreading grounds. The LACFCD's major programs are categorized as flood control, water conservation, and urban runoff and stormwater quality. The map below demonstrates some of this infrastructure for the SCWP's USGR watershed area.





## Los Angeles County Department of Public Works

Los Angeles County Public Works is a public works agency in LA County. Its operations are divided into five core service areas: Water Resources, Transportation, Environmental Services, Construction Management, and Municipal Services. In 1984, the Flood Control District entered into an operational agreement with the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works transferring planning and operational activities to the Department of Public Works. Public Works helps with controls of local runoff, reclaimed and imported waters for recharge in the San Gabriel River, and operates spreading grounds for groundwater basin recharge.

The Water Resources Core Service Area (CSA) under Public Works is responsible for Countywide water resource management, including flood risk management, water supply, and watershed health. The CSA is responsible for planning, operating and maintaining infrastructure within the Los Angeles County Flood Control and Waterworks Districts and managing efforts to comply with stormwater quality regulations affecting unincorporated areas of the County and the Flood Control District on behalf of the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors.

**Safe, Clean Water Program (SCWP).** A key program of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District is the Safe Clean Water Program (SCWP) which invests approximately \$280 million annually into multi-benefit stormwater capture projects and programs. The watershed coordinators for the SCWP are technical resources for organizations wishing to apply for SCWP funding.





## SECTION 3 INTERESTED PARTIES- COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS



# INTERESTED PARTIES

At the core of the duties and responsibilities of Watershed Coordinators is the ability to connect potential applicants with technical resources, build inclusion, and undertake meaningful engagement by focusing on Disadvantaged Communities. To accomplish the goals of the SCWP, duties related to community engagement and outreach include:

- Engage municipalities, community groups and other stakeholders;
- Conduct community outreach to diverse communities, with an emphasis on disadvantaged communities;
- Provide leadership in community outreach efforts related to watershed planning;
- Facilitate collaborative decision-making to develop and implement actions that best address community priorities
- Integrate community, municipality, and regional priorities through partnerships and extensive networks; and
- Organize public outreach events to educate stakeholders

The previous Section provided a general overview of agencies working on the management of water. This Section discusses Disadvantaged Communities in the USGR Watershed Area before listing a series of entities where we can develop partnerships and expand our network. The goal is to map the communities most in need in order to focus our efforts and to identify other agencies working towards similar goals as the SCWP.



# POLITICAL JURISDICTIONS

The USGR WA is located in the easternmost area of Los Angeles County. It is a diverse region with significant variation in socioeconomic status, population sizes, and ethnic/racial make-up. The area is a complex mix of political jurisdictions and agencies, making on-going coordination and joint planning essential.

**Indigenous Communities:** Gabrielino/Tongva

**Cities & Communities:** Baldwin Park, Duarte, Glendora, Industry, West Covina, Diamond Bar, Claremont, Azusa, La Verne, Walnut, Irwindale, La Puente, El Monte, Duarte, South El Monte, Bradbury, Arcadia, Monrovia, Pomona, San Dimas and many unincorporated communities of Los Angeles County.

**LA County Supervisorial Districts:** Hilda L. Solis, Supervisor, 1st District; Janice Hahn, Supervisor, 4th District; Kathryn Barger, Supervisor, 5th District

**California State Assembly Districts:** Chris Holden, 41st Assembly District; Blanca E. Rubio, 48th Assembly District; Wendy Carrillo, 52nd Assembly District; Phillip Chen, 55th Assembly District; Lisa Calderon, 57th Assembly District

**California State Senate Districts:** Caroline Menjivar, 20th Senate District; Susan Rubio, 22nd Senate District; Anthony Portantino, 25th Senate District; Josh Newman, 29th Senate District; Kelly Seyarto, 32nd Senate District.

**U.S. Congressional Districts:** Judy Chu, 28th California Congressional District; Grace Napolitano, 31st California Congressional District; Norma Torres, 35th California Congressional District; Linda Sanchez, 38th California Congressional District.



# DEMOGRAPHICS

Understanding population size, socioeconomic status, and ethnic make-up of the cities and communities in the USGR WA is important to provide effective engagement. The tables below summarize these variables.

## POPULATIONS SIZE

City/Community	Pop	City/Community	Pop
Pomona	152,209	Valinda	23,705
El Monte	115,517	W. Puente Valley	23,382
West Covina	106,589	Duarte	21,559
Baldwin Park	75,892	S. San Jose Hills	19,977
Diamond Bar	56,211	Charter Oaks Isls.	19,754
Hacienda Hts.	55,188	Convia Islands	19,131
Glendora	51,801	E. Azusa Islands	15,528
Azusa	49,753	Avocado Hts.	15,426
Covina	48,095	Citrus	10,150
La Puente	40,020	Charter Oak	10,048
Monrovia	36,816	North Whittier	3,803
Claremont	36,090	Irwindale	1,394
San Dimas	34,048	Bradbury	833
La Verne	32,211	Industry	373
Walnut	29,903	*City Includes Municipalities and Census Designated Places (CDP) in the USGR Watershed. Source: US Census Bureau.	



The USGR WA also contains significant socioeconomic variation. The table below summarizes the percent of people living in poverty. A family is in said to be in poverty when its total annual income is below their poverty threshold as set by the Office of Management and Budget’s Statistical Policy Directive 14.

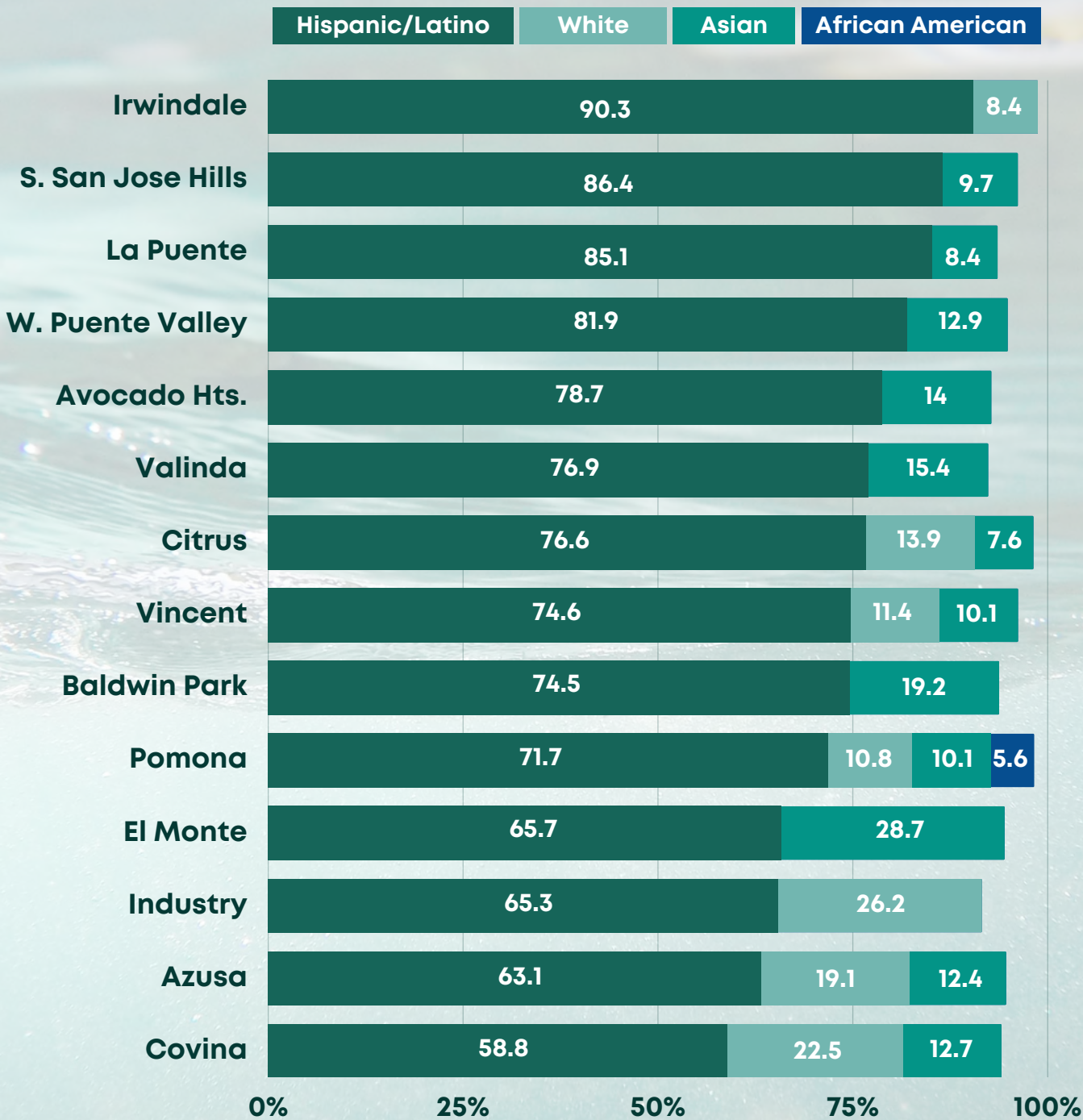
PERCENTAGE OF PEOPLE LIVING IN POVERTY

City/Community	%	City/Community	%
El Monte	19.5%	Glendora	8.3%
Pomona	17.9%	Irwindale	8.3%
Azusa	14.2%	Citrus	8.0%
La Puente	13.7%	La Verne	7.8%
S. San Jose Hills	13.6%	Monrovia	7.8%
Baldwin Park	13.4%	Claremont	6.6%
Charter Oak	11.8%	Walnut	6.6%
Duarte	10.2%	North Whittier	6.2%
W. Puente Valley	10.2%	Diamond Bar	6.1%
Valinda	10.1%	Industry	5.5%
San Dimas	9.23%	Bradbury	5.5%
Avocado Hts.	9.0%	Vicent	4.3%
Covina	9.0%	Data provided by the U.S Census Bureau. Living in Poverty is applied when a family's total annual income is below their poverty threshold as set by the <u>Office of Management and Budget's Statistical Policy Directive 14</u> . *City Includes Municipalities and Census Designated Places (CDP) in the USGR WA.	
Hacienda Hts.	8.5%		
West Covina	8.3		



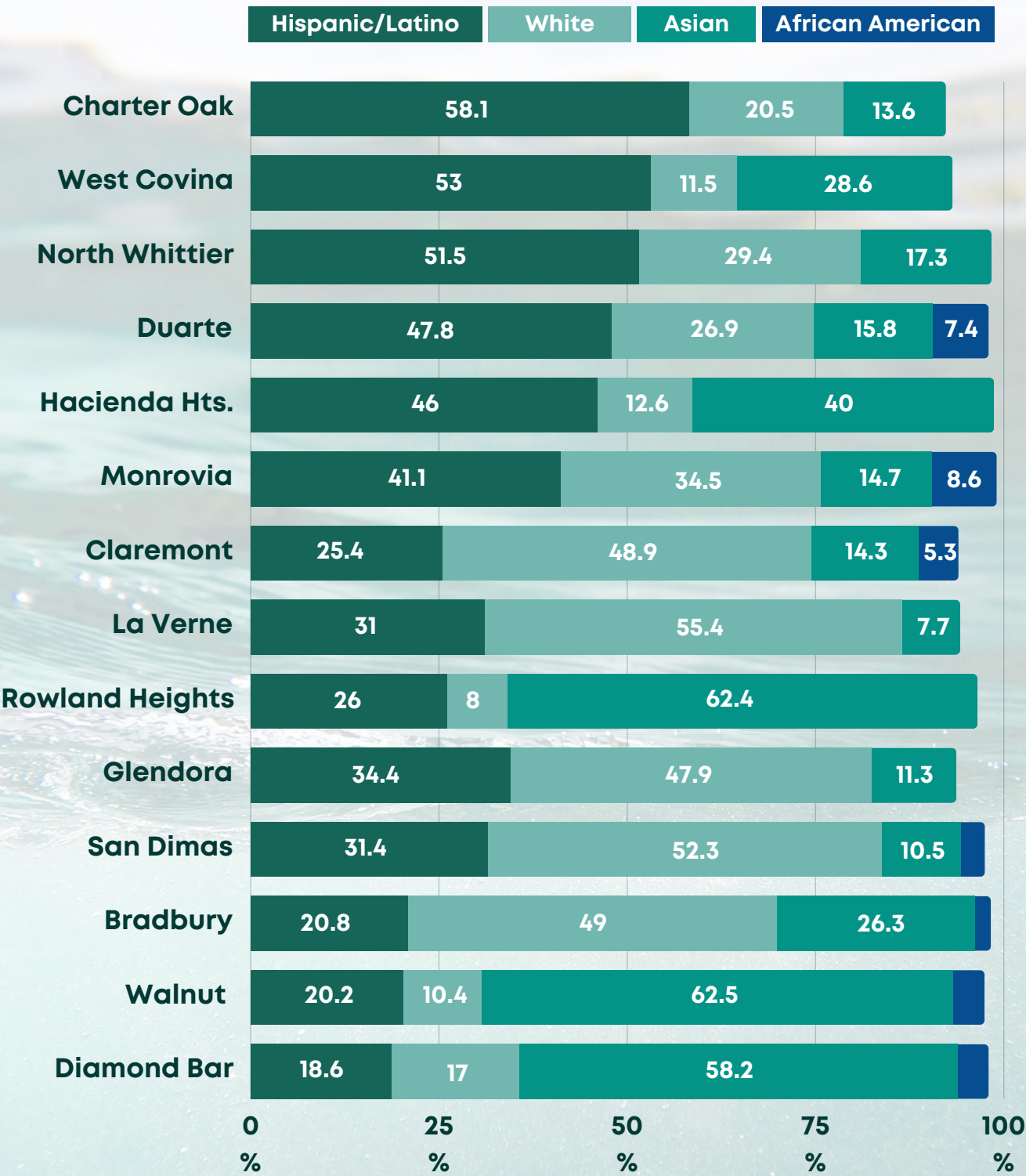
## RACE/ETHNICITY BY CITY & COMMUNITY

The bar graphs in the next two pages demonstrate the diversity in race/ethnic group that exist in the USGR watershed area. Data was acquired from the U.S. Census Bureau.





# RACE/ETHNICITY BY CITY & COMMUNITY





# DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES

Disadvantaged Communities refers to areas most in need of economic, health, and environmental improvement. Disadvantaged Communities suffer from high levels of poverty, experience high unemployment, are exposed to air, water, and ground pollution, and have significantly higher rates of health issues, including asthma and heart disease. By collecting and analyzing information from communities throughout California, the CalEnviroScreen is able to map these areas. The CalEnviroScreen is a tool developed by the California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA)--it combines a series of environmental and health variables by census tract to generate a score to identify which communities are the most disadvantaged.

As a health agency, Day One is committed to implementing the goals of the SCWP in communities most in need of sound environmental infrastructure. Our goal is to contribute to the SCWP and implement it appropriately throughout the entire USGR Watershed Area with a focus on marginalized communities. In doing so, we hope to help remedy a history of unfair treatment of marginalized communities. While past developments often excluded communities from the decision-making processes and benefits, we will ensure responsible engaging and outreach to ensure all communities benefit from the SCWP.



## DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES IN CALIFORNIA

Disadvantaged Communities in California are specifically considered for investment of proceeds from the State's cap-and-trade program. These investments aim to improve public health, quality of life and economic opportunity in California's most burdened communities to reduce pollution that contributes to climate change.

Authorized by the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (AB 32), the cap-and-trade program is one of several strategies that California uses to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The funds are used for programs that further reduce emissions of greenhouse gases.

In 2012, the Legislature passed Senate Bill 535 (de Leon), directing that 25% of the proceeds from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund go to projects that provide a benefit to disadvantaged communities. The legislation gave the CalEPA responsibility for identifying those communities. In 2016, the Legislature passed AB 1550 (Gomez), which now requires that 25% of proceeds from the fund be spent on projects located in disadvantaged communities. Following a series of public workshops in February 2017, the CalEPA released its list of disadvantaged communities for the purpose of SB 535 in April 2017. To inform its decision, the CalEPA used the CalEnviroScreen 3.0 results.

The map on the following page was created using CalEnviroScreen 3.0, to highlights the Disadvantaged Community Census Tracts in the USGR Watershed Area. For a detailed map, visit:

<https://oehha.ca.gov/calenviroscreen/sb535>

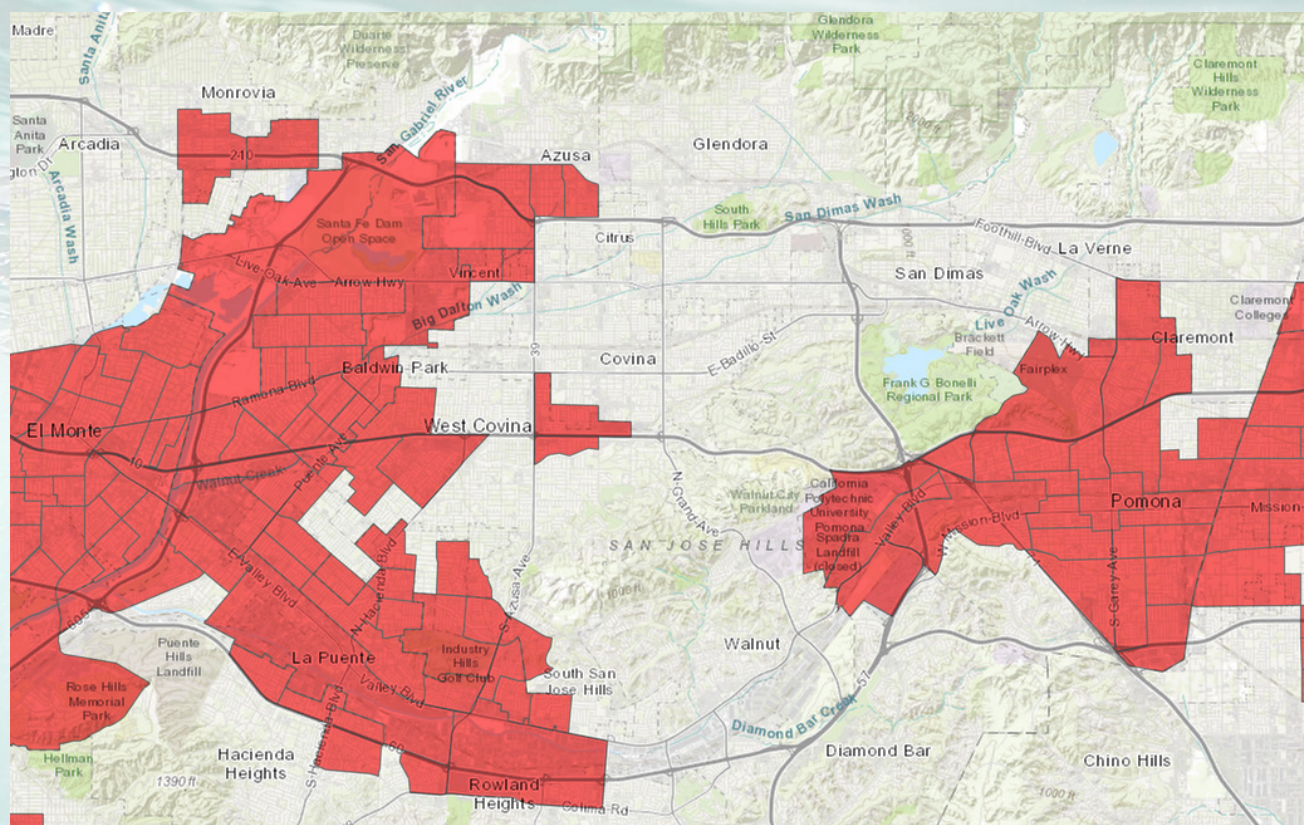


## Disadvantaged Communities Map

The California EPA uses the mapping tool CalEnviroScreen to demonstrate the location of 'Disadvantaged Communities' under SB535. In the USGR Watershed Area, these communities (identified by Census Tract) are located on the east and southwest regions. The map below demonstrate the concentration of disadvantaged communities in Pomona, El Monte, and City of Industry and in several other locations. As the Watershed Coordinator agency, Day One will focus our efforts in these communities.

### Additional Map Information Link

<https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/1c21c53da8de48f1b946f3402fbae55c/page/SB-535-Disadvantaged-Communities/>





# COMMUNITY & GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS

In addition to understanding key water management agencies (Section 2) and the composition of cities and communities (Section 3), it is important to have a good understanding of other environmental and community organization in the USGR. The following pages list several organization that can serve as partners when conducting outreach and engagement. Please note that this is not an exhasutive list.

## MUNICIPAL, COUNTY, & STATE ORGANIZATIONS

- California Air Resources Board
- California Boating & Waterways Commission
- California Coastal Commission
- California Coastal Conservancy
- California Community College System
- California State University System
- Private Universities
- California Conservation Corps
- California Department of Conservation
- Cool California
- California Energy Commission
- California Environmental Protection Agency
- California State Lands Commission
- California Department of Parks & Recreation
- San Gabriel & Lower Los Angeles Rivers & Mountains Conservancy
- Save Our Water
- California Water Commission
- California Water Quality Monitoring Council
- Department of Water Resources
- LA County Parks & Recreation
- SGV Coalition of Governments



## ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP ORGANIZATIONS

- Active SGV
- Council for Watershed Health
- Urban Semillas
- Nature 4 All
- Amigos de los Rios
- Tree People
- Heal the Bay
- Los Angeles Waterkeeper
- Community Nature Connection
- The Trust for Public Land
- The Nature Conservancy
- Nature Conservancy of California
- Environment California
- Sustainable Conservation
- Breathe Southern California
- California Greenworks
- Our Water LA
- Friends of the LA River
- River LA
- San Gabriel Mountains Regional Conservancy
- Rivers and Lands Conservancy
- Urban Watershed Conservancy
- Parks and Rec Departments through USGR area
- Lyle Center for Regenerative Studies
- California Botanic Garden
- Claremont Wildlands Conservancy
- Glendora Community Conservancy
- San Gabriel Valley Task Force
- San Gabriel Valley Conservation Corps
- California Wilderness Coalition
- Clean & Green Pomona
- Sustainable Claremont
- Sierra Club
- National Parks Conservation Association
- Robert Redford Conservancy for Southern California Sustainability
- City Plants
- River in Action
- Latinos for Water



## COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

- Rotary Clubs throughout the USGR
- Lions Clubs throughout the USGR
- Chambers of Commerce throughout the USGR
- Chinese American Association of West Covina
- Vietnamese Community of Pomona Valley
- Uncommon Good
- Pomona Economic Opportunity Center
- Just Us For Youth
- Pomona Community Farmer Alliance
- Latino and Latina Roundtable of the San Gabriel and Pomona Valley
- Pomona Chamber of Commerce
- United Voices of Pomona
- Pomona African American Advisory Alliance
- The dA Center for the Arts
- East San Gabriel Valley Japanese Community Center
- The Greater West Covina Business Association
- Covina Woman's Club
- La Puente Mutual Aid
- Active SGV
- API Forward Movement
- Diamond Bar Chinese American Association
- Rowland Heights Chinese Association
- Chinese American Association of Walnut
- Hacienda Heights Area Chinese Association
- Community Nature Connection
- The Trust for Public Land
- SGV Connect
- Waterwise Community Center





## SECTION 4 VISION FOR SUCCESS



# VISION FOR SUCCESS

## OUR VISION

As watershed coordinators, our vision is to create healthy and resilient communities. All residents of the Upper San Gabriel River watershed area should be able to enjoy clean open spaces, have access to safe and clean water, and their futures secured through infrastructures that ensure stability in an uncertain future climate.

To achieve our vision requires critical reflection about the USGR watershed area, its residents, and their challenges. Given the vast diversity in socioeconomic conditions, our primary goal is to ensure that the SCWP has the highest possible impact on communities that need it the most, particularly those that have been historically underserved. To do so requires pursuing several priorities.

## PRIORITIES FOR SUCCESS

- Prioritize diverse and underserved communities;
- Capture and promote the needs and priorities of residents;
- Ensure the WASC is aware of community preferences and input;
- Undertake all activities in culturally respectful ways;
- Encourages collaborative decision-making processes;
- Be a bridge between the WASC and the WA residents;
- At all times, work towards the goals of the SCWP.



# WATERSHED COORDINATOR

## WATERSHED COORDINATOR TASKS

The role of the Watershed Coordinator is to educate and build capacity in communities and to facilitate community and stakeholder engagement SCWP. To do so, the WC is tasked with the following nice tasks. The development of the SOEP is a deliverable of Task 1.

<b>Task 1</b>	<b>Facilitate Community Engagement in the SCWP</b>
<b>Task 2</b>	<b>Identify and Develop Project Concepts</b>
<b>Task 3</b>	<b>Work with Technical Assistance Teams</b>
<b>Task 4</b>	<b>Representation of Community Priorities</b>
<b>Task 5</b>	<b>Integrate Priorities through Partnerships &amp; Networks</b>
<b>Task 6</b>	<b>Cost Share Partners</b>
<b>Task 7</b>	<b>Leverage Funding</b>
<b>Task 8</b>	<b>Local Stakeholder Education</b>
<b>Task 9</b>	<b>Watershed Coordinator Collaboration</b>



# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

## FACILITATING ENGAGEMENT & EDUCATION

A key responsibility directly associated with several WC Tasks is to increase engagement with the SCWP, facilitate community needs, and increase education for stakeholders. To accomplish these tasks, we take an on-the-ground approach to engagement and outreach. Key activities (discussed in Section 4) we will regularly undertake include:

- **Resource Booths.** We will hold resource booths throughout the USGR WA to share about the SCWP and local projects.
- **Nature Activities.** We will develop nature activities--including hikes and walks--to directly teach about the watershed.
- **Presentations.** We will present to residents, organization, schools, and colleges, and CBOs to share the goals and work of the SCWP.
- **Community Meetings.** Be present in meetings by local governments, CBOs, and water management organizations
- **Canvassing.** When necessary, undertake door-to-door outreach to gather resident input and provide information
- **Social Media.** Use social media for educational purposes and to share information about events and project updates.
- **Work with project proponents.** We will assist project proponents anytime they need help engaging with communities.
- **Activity Participation.** To remain updated on new projects and similar efforts by other organizations, we will participate in learning activities to help us undertake our work more effectively.



# COLLABORATION

## WATERSHED COORDINATOR COLLABORATION

Collaboration with all other SCWP Watershed Coordinators is essential in ensuring consistency, informing each other of effective efforts, sharing best practices for conducting outreach, and exchanging communication approaches, successes and challenges.

To accomplish the goals of the SCWP, all Watershed Coordinators meet on a monthly basis to share best practices, exchange information and share engagement and learning opportunities. As they are our watershed neighbors, we are in close contact with the WC from the Rio Hondo WC (Richard Watson) and the Lower San Gabriel River WC (Kekoa Anderson) to discuss opportunities for collaboration and share best practices.

A key example is the Schools & Stormwater working group. In this group, several watershed coordinators meet monthly to discuss the SCWP's potential to benefit schools. As a member, we help schools with the SCWP proposal process while engaging residents and developing learning activities--including trips to successful sites.

## COLLABORATION WITH ORGANIZATIONS

In addition to collaboration with other WC, we strive to partner and develop strong relationship with organizations, governments, and schools across the USGR watershed areas. We believe that collaboration is key in accomplishing our vision and the goals of the SCWP. In particular, we will pursue relationships with CBOs and organizations who share similar goals as the SCWP.



# REACHING COMMUNITIES

## SCWP CALENDAR

As Watershed Coordinators, we undertake a series of outreach and engagement activities that are open to the general public. To ensure communities are aware of our efforts, we advertise events on the Day One webpage, our social media platforms, and on the SCWP Calendar.

The SCWP calendar is publicly available and lists all activities undertaken by all watershed coordinators. It is accessible through the Safe Clean Water website on the WC page (<https://www.redesign.la/scwpcalendar>). The Calendar is also found on the ReDesign LA webpage under Resources (<https://www.redesign.la/resources>).

## TRACKING SUCCESS

To ensure transparency, we track all activities undertaken to accomplish the WC Tasks. An internal Activity Tracker document maintained by Day One tracks all details pertaining to our outreach efforts, including the groups/communities engages, location, and participation numbers.

To accomplish our vision for success and to ensure the WC Tasks are accomplished, we have develop 5 Focus Areas to ensure a strong and robust outreach and engagement component to our work. These Focus Areas can also be used as a guide for the WASC and District to evaluate our efforts.





# SECTION 5 FOCUS AREAS FOR ENGAGEMENT



# OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT

To accomplish our Vision for Success and advance the Tasks of the WC, we have develop 5 Focus Areas to ensure effective outreach and engagement efforts. In the following pages, we provide additional details on our Focus Areas, their purpose, and their expected outputs.

## FOCUS AREAS

**1 Engage stakeholders, municipalities and community groups.**

**2 Solicit input and connect to technical assistance (TA) opportunities.**

**3 Ensure diverse perspectives are shared with the District and WASC.**

**4 Identify and ensure the involvement of disadvantaged & underrepresented communities.**

**5 Undertake educational programming about the watershed, ecology & community issues.**



# FOCUS AREA 1

**Ensure SCWP engagement with stakeholders, community groups, and residents.**

Activities	Purpose	Outputs
Develop detailed Interested Party Matrix and Complete USGR SOEP	Guide and document engagement activities, vision, and approaches	Document with contact information and activity tracker
Attend Community Meetings and Events in the USGR Watershed Area	Increase knowledge of USGR WA and infrastructure needs	Attend 24 Community Meetings; Share SCWP goals
Collaborate with community organizations	Build relationships, expand network, & increase collaboration.	Collaborate in 12 community events; Share SCWP projects
Inform and Educate	Increase knowledge about the SCWP stormwater capture projects	Hold 24 general resource booths across watershed area



## FOCUS AREA 2

**Work with project proponents and technical assistance teams to ensure project involvement.**

Activities	Purpose	Outputs
Work directly with project proponents	Ensure engagement with communities directly affected by projects	Attend outreach events or progress meetings for each active and completed project
Develop handouts for SCWP Projects	Share with Interested Parties and community members	Documents with summary of each USGR project
Develop SCWP informative materials for potential applicants	Increase awareness of application scope and requirements	Provide SCWP application information; Informative documents
Attend meetings of LA water management organizations	Increase awareness of similar efforts and find areas of overlap	Attend 12 meetings; deliver information when possible



## FOCUS AREA 3

**Understand diverse community perspectives and needs to share them with the District and WASC.**

Activities	Purpose	Outputs
Engender discussion and collect feedback at all outreach events	Ensure resident concerns and opinions are considered	Maintain log of all community feedback
Maintain updated on work of City Councils and LA County Supervisors	Maintain informed about similar efforts and represent SCWP	Attend City Council and Supervisor meetings
Develop Relationships with schools, colleges & universities	Increase participation of students in the WASC	Deliver presentations for students
Develop monthly Watershed Coordinator's report	Connect WASC steering committee to communities	Creation of up to 12 WC Monthly reports; Up to 12 Presentations to WASC;



## FOCUS AREA 4

**Identify and ensure the involvement of disadvantaged & underrepresented communities.**

Activities	Purpose	Outputs
Engage underserved communities	Increase participation by communities traditionally excluded	Hold 80% of engagement and activities in/for underserved communities
Develop relationships with CBOs serving underserved communities	Collaborate in engagement to understand concerns of communities	Collaborate on 6 events/activities; Grow connections; Share best practices
Conduct Low-Tech Approach Activities	Ensure inclusion and understanding of SCWP and goals	Ensure simple explanations of SCWP goals and projects
Use common and appropriate language	Eliminate barriers associated with terminology & language	All documents and presentations will be translated to Spanish and other languages



## FOCUS AREA 5

**Undertake educational programming about the watershed, ecology & community issues.**

Activities	Purpose	Outputs
Present about the SCWP in the USGR WA	Increase public knowledge, build connections, engage partners	Hold 6 Educational Presentations about SCWP and related topics
Develop outdoor activities	To increase knowledge of watershed and multi-benefit projects	Hold 6 Nature walks, hikes or bicycle tours
Use Social Media as a learning tool to share information	Understand the educational needs about watershed & ecology, and to build relationships.	Develop 24 educational social media posts; Develop 6 SCWP entries for Day One Newsletter
Partner with schools, CBOs, and water management organizations	Develop learning tools and collaborate on educational programming	Attend 12 collaborative activities



## ENSURING SUCCESS

To ensure efficacy of our services, we employ both process and output monitoring. Standard monitoring measures include: attendance sheets for events/meetings; meeting agendas and minutes; activity/presentation attendance and evaluations; activity summary forms; and documentation of the locations, dates, frequency, number of participants, and participant characteristics for resource booths and other events.

Day One staff is experienced with documenting, monitoring and evaluating services. Oversight and progress tracking occurs weekly at Day One staff meetings, led by Executive Director Christy Zamani, which allow for discussion about opportunities and feedback about activities, obstacles and best practices. Additional internal evaluation occurs at weekly project meetings, led by Watershed Coordinator James Cortes-Rivera, where work plan goals and important benchmarks are discussed.

## DAY ONE COMMITMENT TO SCWP

As the Watershed Coordinator agency for the Upper San Gabriel River watershed area, Day One holds a strong commitment to serving underserved and underrepresented communities. Our commitment is to undertake all SCWP activities in a responsible, inclusive, and ethical fashion.





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**Image on Page 10.** River system of the Upper San Gabriel River watershed area.

Created by Shannon I. Cropped. Licence: <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/>

**Image on Page 11.** Basins and sub-basins in the USGR WA. By LA County Public Works.

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**Image on Page 12.** Created using Google Maps.