



Santa Clarita Organization for Planning and the Environment

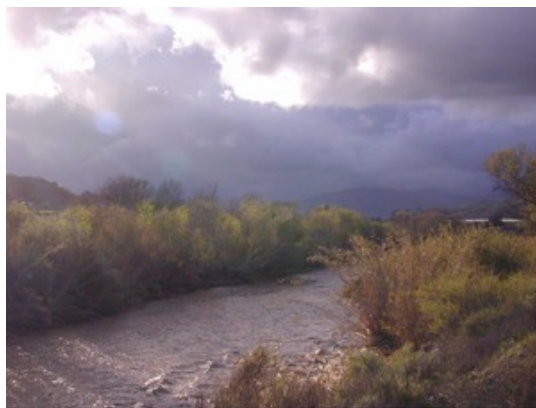
SCOPE

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## Wishing you the Happiest of Holidays! SCOPE 2014 Holiday Card



### 2014 — Celebrating the Santa Clara River L.A. County's Last Free-Flowing River

*Original Photo by Barbara Wampole  
Taken Winter February, 2005, looking west from Piru environs*

Named an endangered river by American Rivers in 2005, the **Santa Clara River** is the last wild river in Los Angeles County and is designated a Significant Ecological Area in the L.A. County General Plan. Beginning in the wilderness of the San Gabriel Mountains, it meanders 116 miles to the coast in Ventura. West of the I-5 freeway, its varied habitat supports several endangered species of birds, fish and amphibians, as well as orchards, strawberries and other row crops. Oak groves dot the hillsides above the farmland, providing shelter for local wildlife. Recently, Lennar Corp./Newhall applied for a river alteration permit that would channel the river, add 19 million cubic yards of fill to the flood plain and concrete 80% of the tributaries to enable its 21,000 unit Newhall Ranch project. After strong objections from environmental organizations including SCOPE, and an ongoing legal battle, the issue is now at the CA Supreme Court. The Santa Clara remains endangered by over-development of its floodplains.



*Check us out on the web!*

[WWW.SCOPE.ORG](http://WWW.SCOPE.ORG)




Santa Clarita Organization for Planning and the Environment  
PO Box 1182, Canyon Country, CA 91386

#### Some of what we did in 2014

 Reviewed, commented on and appeared at hearings for multiple projects including Newhall Ranch, Chloride Permit, Valencia Water Co takeover, Chiquita Canyon Landfill expansion, water plans and various projects impacting the Santa Clara River floodplain, endangered species, air & water quality (chlorides, perchlorate), and water supplies. **January** mentored students participating in COC Community Service Program **March** Conducted tours of the river **April** Information booth at City Earth Day Celebration **May** Table at Placerita Nature Center **June** Annual Meeting **July**  Environmental float in 4th Parade **Aug** Began participation in successful actions to stop digital billboards in open space along our freeways **Sept** Info booth at River Rally and COC Non-profit Fair **Oct** John Quigley speaks at 12th year of "Old Glory" Oak. Presentation at St. Stephen's Church on drought and wildlife. Film and discussion on plastic waste/ bags pollution —Chiquita Canyon Landfill expansion in the SCV **Nov** participated in Whittaker Bermite Advisory Group to ensure clean up. Presentation to West Ranch High School Environmental Club.

*The sun shines not on us but in us. The rivers flow not past, but through us. Thrilling, tingling, vibrating, every fiber and cell of the substance of our bodies, making them glide and sing. The trees wave and the flowers bloom in our bodies as well as our souls, and every bird song, wind song and tremendous storm song of the rocks in the heart of the mountains is our song, our very own, and sings our love ...* (John Muir, from his Journals)

  
SCOPE wishes you and your family  
the very best of holidays

Santa Clarita Organization for Planning and the Environment is a California Non-profit Corporation

Your charitable contributions to SCOPE are tax deductible

### Want to receive our Holiday Greetings in the mail?

If you would like to receive our newsletters and other items via US Mail, just send your mailing address to [exec@scope.org](mailto:exec@scope.org) or visit our website at [scope.org](http://scope.org)

## A Special Holiday Thank You and Appeal for the Santa Clara River

Now in its 27th year, SCOPE has all of you to thank for our successful efforts. We know it is unusual for a small community group to achieve such longevity. We are still here because all of you



care for our valley, our river and our community, and have continued to support our work with your money and your time.



Over the past 27 years, the Santa Clara River has been a central focus of our work, just as it is the central focus of our community. It provides our water supply, a beautiful natural area in the center of our City and a recreational delight to the many that cycle or walk along its banks. It functions as a wildlife corridor for species movement between the mountain ranges and remains home to many endangered plants and animals. While other areas in Los Angeles County have paved over and destroyed their rivers, the Santa Clara remains our own unique and special treasure because our community cares.

Still, over the last 26 years, pressure from housing development has forced banking and narrowing of the river and intensive development of its floodplains. Our community efforts have helped to reduce the impacts from such development.

Recent decisions will bring even greater pressures from massive development proposals. Now we need your help more than ever. At a time when our society is faced with so many challenges, here is something you can do that will benefit everyone in Southern California and especially you and your family.



**We hope you will consider a generous donation.**

You can download our membership/donation form [here](#)

Visit our website at [www.scope.org](http://www.scope.org)

to make an online donation

Or just mail to:

**SCOPE, PO Box 1182, Canyon Country, CA 91386**



**Old Glory Boy Scout Troupe 499 10th anniversary**

### **Court of Honor acknowledges Lynne Plambeck and tree sitter John Quigley for saving the "Old Glory" Pico Canyon Oak**



Formed in 2004, the Stevenson Ranch Old Glory Troup 499 has grown in in size to dozens of families and their scouts with the ongoing dedication of Nina Rettke. The December 16th Court of Honor awarded merit badges to some 15 scouts and honored special guests John Quigley and Lynne Plambeck for their work to save the magnificent old oak. "Old Glory: Pico Oak still stands today in Pico Canyon Natural Area

Park on Pico Canyon Road.



## SAVE THE DATE!

**You're invited to our 2015 Goal Setting Meeting and pot luck lunch.  
Saturday January 24th in Santa Clarita. More details coming soon.**

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