



Santa Clarita Organization for Planning and the Environment

SCOPE

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SCOPE wishes you the very best in 2014! and the happiest and "greenest" of holidays.

We hope to get to meet you personally at a SCOPE meeting, film night or other activity in the coming year as we continue our work to save the Santa Clara River, Los Angeles County's last free-flowing river, and to work on the many other conservation issues affecting the Santa Clarita Valley.

SCOPE 2013 Holiday Card

(In case you didn't get it by regular mail)

Note: if you would like to receive our newsletters and other items via US Mail, just send your mailing address to exec@scope.org or visit our website at scope.org)



2013— Celebrating the Santa Clara River

L.A. County's Last Free-Flowing River

Original Photo by Barbara Wampole
Taken December 2006, looking east from the Piru Bridge

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, the Environmental Protection



SEVERAL ENVIRONMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS INCLUDING SCOPE TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION Agency stated it would request denial of the current permit application.



Check us out on the web!
WWW.SCOPE.ORG
Santa Clarita Organization for Planning and the Environment
PO Box 1182, Canyon Country, CA 91386



What we did in 2013

Reviewed, commented on and appeared at hearings for multiple projects including Newhall Ranch Chloride Permit, Valencia Water Co takeover, water plans and various projects impacting the Santa Clara River floodplain, endangered species, air & water quality (chlorides), and water supplies. Advocated for continuing the legal protections granted by the CA Environmental Protection Act (CEQA) **January** mentored students participating in COC Community Service Program **March** Conducted VIP tours of the river **April** Information booth at City Earth Day Celebration **May** Environmental Law Speaker Program **June** John Quigley spoke at Annual Meeting—10th year of "Old Glory" Oak **July** Environmental float in 4th Parade **August** Legal victory protects upper river floodplain **September** Info booth at River Rally **October** Film and discussion on Oil Well Fracking in the SCV **November** participated in Whittaker Bernite Advisory Group to ensure clean up of contaminated water

*And I have felt a presence that disturbs me
with the joy of elevated thoughts
A sense of sublime, of something
far more deeply interfused,
Where dwelling is the light of setting suns
and the round ocean
and the living air... ..
(from a poem by William Wordsworth)*

**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

SAVE THE DATE!

**You're invited to our 2014 Goal Setting Meeting and pot luck lunch.
Saturday January 25th in Santa Clarita. More details coming soon.**

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

Now in its 26th 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 26 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

to make an online donation

Or just mail to:

**Or just mail to:
SCOPE, PO Box 1182, Canyon Country, CA 91386**

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