

Santa Clarita Organization for Planning and the Environment

SCOPE

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Breaking News - The California Supreme Court Agrees to Hear Environmentalists' Concerns on the Santa Clara River Alteration Permit

In a disappointing and puzzling decision released on

March 20th, the 2nd Court of Appeals reversed the well-considered opinion of Judge Ann Jones and allowed the Santa Clara River Alteration Permit for the 20,000 unit Newhall Ranch project to proceed, despite questions over water supply and species protection.

"This Appellate Decision seems to indicate a basic mis-understanding of some of California's most important environmental safeguards that protect rare species, our air and our water", said SCOPE President Lynne Plambeck. "For instance, to concur with a finding that there is no "significant impact" to greenhouse gas generation, and thus climate change, from a project that converts farmland and open space to 21,000 housing units, puts a strain on our belief in the fairness of the Judicial System." (Click here to view the <u>Daily News Article on the March Decision</u>)



It seems the California Supreme Court also felt this decision needed a second look. This week they agreed to review three areas of the Decision, including how impacts to endangered species and global warming were determined. As one of the five groups that challenged the River Permit in January of 2011, its been a long and arduous process for all of us at

SCOPE. We believe the high Court's interest in this case is a good sign for

the River, the environment and for the public.

Oil Pads - Newhall Ranch

(Coalition members include the Center for Biological Diversity, California Native Plant Society, Friends of the Santa Clara River and Ventura Coast Keeper/Wishtoyo Foundation).

Los Angeles Times Article

Ventura Star Article



SCOPE Praises Community Heroes in Fourth of July Parade

Our theme "Community Heroes Protect the Water We Drink and the Air We Breathe - Be a Community Hero - Protect the

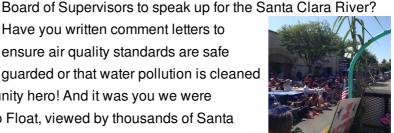


Santa Clara River". Have you ever

spent your evening at a City Council meeting to make sure a project proposal doesn't destroy your neighborhood? Have you taken a day off work to travel to the

Have you written comment letters to ensure air quality standards are safe guarded or that water pollution is cleaned

up? Then you are definitely a community hero! And it was you we were celebrating with our Community Hero Float, viewed by thousands of Santa Clarita residents in this year's 4th of July parade. If you missed the fun, there's always next year!



SCOPE in the News

"Supreme Court Accepts Reveiw of Newhall Ranch"

"Contaminated Ground Water Hearing Called Premature"

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"Agency, Environmentalists Respond To Ruling On Valencia Water Co." KHTS Radio"

or Visit our **blog**

"LA Times on Newhall Land's Gift to Fish and Game"

"Channel 7 TV News on Newhall Ranch Decision"

Grandma says, "You should help the environment"

"Long time SCOPE member Evelyn Carpenter helped us to help you save the Santa Clara River with her donation to SCOPE.

You can too!"

Don't forget! - You can get in depth information on our current activities and additional articles by visiting our blog site.



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