



“Santa Clara River” taken Winter 2011, looking west from the area of the proposed Newhall Ranch project

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 LA 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. Lennar Corp., now called Five Points, the developer of Newhall Ranch, has 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 years of objections from environmental organizations, including SCOPE, and a drawn out legal battle, the CA Supreme Court sent the project back to the drawing board in a landmark decision released in Nov. 2015. Lennar/Five Points has just released new documents claiming again that 21,000 units will not generate additional greenhouse gases. The Santa Clara remains endangered by over-development of its floodplains.

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Some of what we did in 2016



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



Community Service Program **Feb** Litigation filed to protect river floodplain **March** VIP tours of the river and SCV issues



April Picnic with Old Glory Tree sitter John Quigley; presentation at Oregon Law Conference **May** Demonstration against water company take over, Info booth at Placerita Open House **June** Annual Meeting **July** 🇺🇸 SCOPE Float in 4th parade **Aug** Press Conference/Action against waiver to expand Chiquita Canyon Landfill **Sept** Info booth at River Rally and River Parkway events **Nov** participated in Whittaker Berrite Advisory Group to ensure clean up **Dec** Newhall Ranch and Chiquita Landfill public hearings on revised environmental documents.

Said the river : imagine everything you can imagine, then keep on going.

(excerpt from a poem by Mary Oliver, 2009)

I've known rivers

I've known rivers ancient as the world and older than the flow of human blood in human veins.

My soul has grown deep like the rivers..

(excerpt from a poem by Langston Hughes, 1920)



SCOPE wishes you and your family the very best of holidays

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