

WCVC Stakeholders

General Purpose Agencies

City of Camarillo
City of Fillmore
City of Ojai
City of Oxnard
City of Port Hueneme
City of Santa Paula
City of Simi Valley
City of Thousand Oaks
City of Ventura
Ventura County Executive Office
Ventura County General Services Agency
Ventura County Resource Management Agency

Water Suppliers/Wastewater Management/ Special Districts

Calleguas Municipal Water District
Camarillo Sanitary District
Camrosa Water District
Casitas Municipal Water District
Fillmore Irrigation Company
Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency
Golden State Water Company
Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency
Ojai Valley Sanitary District
Ojai Valley Water Conservation District
Pleasant Valley County Water District
Saticoy Sanitary District
Triunfo Sanitation District
United Water Conservation District
Ventura County Watershed Protection District
Ventura County Waterworks Districts
Ventura Regional Sanitation District
Zone Mutual Water Company

Business Organizations

Building Industry Association
Farm Bureau of Ventura County
Ventura County Economic Development Association

Recreational and Open Space Entities

California Department of Parks and Recreation
Conejo Recreation and Park District
Pleasant Valley Recreation and Park District
Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District
Santa Monica Mountains Recreation & Conservation Authority

Regulatory Agencies

California Coastal Commission
California Department of Fish and Game
Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Other Agencies/Organizations

Association of Water Agencies of Ventura County
California Coastal Conservancy
California Department of Transportation
California Department of Water Resources
California Native Plant Society
California Wildlife Conservation Board
Environmental Defense Center
Friends of the Santa Clara River
Hansen Trust
Matilija Coalition
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Nature Conservancy
Ojai Valley Land Conservancy
Point Mugu Naval Base
Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy
Surfrider Foundation
Trust for Public Land
U.S. Forest Service
Ventura County Resource Conservation District
Ventura Hillside Conservancy
Wetlands Recovery Project



Watersheds Coalition of Ventura County

WCVC Plan Objectives include:

- Reduce dependence on imported water and protect, conserve and augment water supplies
- Protect and improve water quality
- Protect people, property and the environment from adverse flooding impacts
- Protect and restore habitat and ecosystems in watersheds
- Provide water-related recreational, public access and educational opportunities

Benefits of Plan Adoption

- Ensures multi-agency participation in current and future water management planning efforts
- Encourages the participation of non-governmental organizations in the development of a roadmap for both water management and watershed restoration in the region
- Guarantees equity across all watersheds—large and small—in Ventura County
- Signals your agency's leadership role in seeking solutions to water-related issues facing the region
- Meets the requirements of Proposition 50, Chapter 8, Integrated Regional Water Management Planning
- Assures future funding opportunities for the region
- Engages the community in current and future water management planning efforts
- Continues the long history of regional cooperation between agencies and organizations in Ventura County to address our water resources issues

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Photo Courtesy of Trust for Public Land

Schedule at a Glance:

August - October 2006

Presentations of IRWMP

October - November 2006

Adoption of IRWMP

November 2006

Draft Funding List Announced

January 1, 2007

Final Adoption Required

Visit us on the web at
www.watershedscoalition.org

Watersheds Coalition of Ventura County

Promoting & Implementing Integrated Regional Water Management Planning

September 2006

Integrated Regional Water Management Planning in Ventura County

Early in 2002, in anticipation of the approval of a statewide water bond with grant funds for Integrated Regional Water Management, a "coalition" of water-related agencies in Ventura County began to meet and identify priority projects for these grant funds that would address key water problems facing the county.

This coalition, known as the Ventura Countywide Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP) Group, consisting of 20-plus agencies, was formed to address water supply, water quality, environmental and habitat protection, and flood control and stormwater issues in the Ventura and Santa Clara River Watersheds. The Calleguas Creek Steering Committee, consisting of a broad coalition of stakeholders,

was formed in 1996 to develop a management plan for the Calleguas Creek Watershed, and on June 15, 2005 the Calleguas Creek Steering Committee successfully adopted the Calleguas Creek Watershed Management Plan.

In July 2005, the Ventura Countywide IRWMP Group and the Calleguas Creek Steering Committee each submitted an application for a Proposition 50, Chapter 8 IRWMP Step 1 grant. Subsequently, the Department of Water Resources - as one of the agencies authorized to oversee Proposition 50 grants - requested the voluntary consolidation of IRWM planning efforts among regions throughout California. In response to this request, in the fall of 2005, the Calleguas Creek Steering Committee and the

Ventura Countywide IRWMP Group agreed to consolidate the two IRWM Plans into one planning region and submit a single application for Step 2 grant funding.

This newly formed group, known as the Watersheds Coalition of Ventura County (WCVC), applied for a \$25 million Step 2 grant and is currently overseeing the preparation of a single IRWMP encompassing the three main watersheds in Ventura County. Through the WCVC, local agencies continue to work together, in conjunction with State and Federal regulatory agencies, to identify water-related issues facing the region and to seek solutions.



Planning with a Purpose

The purpose of the Watersheds Coalition of Ventura County Integrated Regional Water Management Group is to integrate planning and implementation efforts and facilitate regional cooperation, with the goal of improving water supply reliability, water recycling, water conservation, recreation and access, wetlands enhancement and creation, and environmental and habitat protection. Specifically, the Plan will

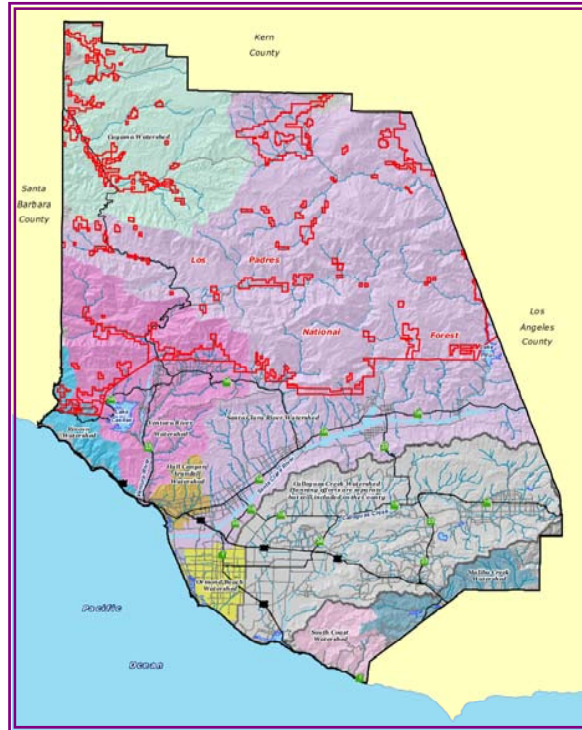
provide ongoing guidance and prioritization regarding implementation projects for both Proposition 50 Implementation grants and future funding sources.

An objective of the Plan is to develop a countywide integrated water management plan that addresses all watersheds—large and small—in Ventura County and to coordinate efforts with adjacent regions that share our watersheds. The Group's objective is to



Photo: David Magney

The Watersheds of Ventura County



Ventura County is located north and west of Los Angeles County, east of Santa Barbara County, and south of Kern County. The county covers 1,873 square miles, with 43 miles of coastline, 3 major watersheds, 6 smaller watersheds, and 26 groundwater basins.

to 10 cities, 3 wholesale water agencies, 170 retail water purveyors, 5 sanitary districts, 2 groundwater management agencies, and a watershed protection district.



Virtually the entire north half of the county is within the Los Padres National Forest.

With more than 800,000 people, Ventura County is currently the 12th most populous county in the state of California and home



Ventura River Watershed

The Ventura River Watershed encompasses 225 square miles and is the rainiest watershed in Ventura County, receiving as much as 24 inches of rain in a 24-hour period.

With its headwaters originating within the Los Padres National Forest, the river flows approximately 32 miles through the cities of Ojai and Ventura before reaching the Pacific Ocean at Surfers' Point.

This self-sufficient watershed imports no outside water and is home to 75,000 people.

Currently under design are plans to remove Matilija Dam, a 198-high concrete arch dam, located approximately 16 miles upstream of Surfers' Point. Once intended to provide a local water supply, while offering flood protection for downstream communities, the build-up of sediment behind the dam wall has undermined both of those original functions.

The Ventura River is home to 26 special status species, including the endangered steelhead trout.

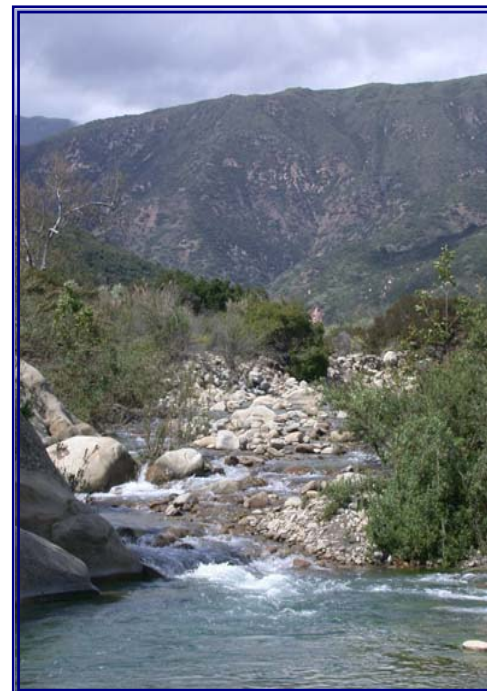
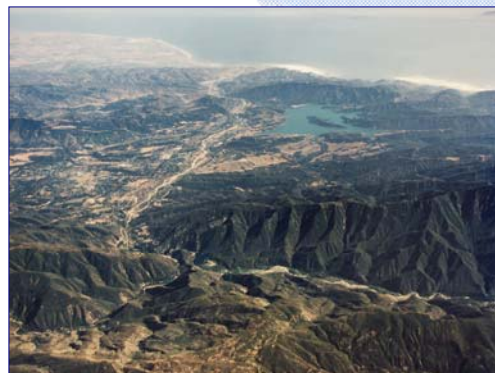
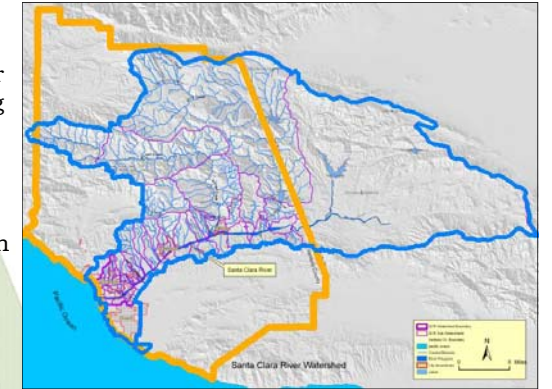


Photo Courtesy of Trust for Public Land

Santa Clara River Watershed



The Santa Clara River is the largest river system in Southern California remaining in a relatively natural state. Originating in the San Gabriel Mountains of Los Angeles County, the river flows west approximately 84 miles through Ventura County before reaching the Pacific Ocean between the cities of Ventura and Oxnard. The Santa Clara River and tributary system has an area of about 1634 square miles with approximately 60 percent of the watershed located in Ventura



County and 40 percent in Los Angeles County.

The Santa Clara River Watershed is partially dependent on imported water from Calleguas Municipal Water District and heavily dependent on local groundwater sources.

The Santa Clara River supports a variety of vegetation communities, providing habitat to over 35 sensitive animal and plant species, 14 of which are considered endangered and/or threatened. The Santa Clara River Estuary, a natural preserve, is one of the richest habitat areas along the California coast.



Calleguas Creek Watershed

The Calleguas Creek Watershed encompasses approximately 341 square miles and the Cities of Camarillo, Moorpark, Simi Valley, and Thousand Oaks. Overall, the watershed is about 25% urbanized with projections up to 50% in the next ten years. Accelerated erosion rates in the Calleguas Creek Watershed have contributed to flooding and



sedimentation of the Oxnard Plain and Mugu Lagoon, one of the few remaining significant natural saltwater lagoons in California and home to numerous threatened and endangered species.

Beginning in 1996, a broad coalition of local property owners, water and wastewater agencies, environmental groups, agricultural parties, governmental entities, and other private interests joined together to develop a management plan for the



Calleguas Creek Watershed. The Calleguas Creek Watershed Management Plan, with broad stakeholder participation and support, addresses long range, comprehensive water resources; land use; economic development; open space preservation, enhancement and management; and public facility provision strategy which is cost-effective and provides benefits for all participants.

