# San Juan Creek Estuary Restoration Public Workshop


TROUT UNLIMITED
SOUTH COAST

SOUTH COAST WATER DISTRICT

# Ground Rules & Agenda

Respect One Another

Hold your Questions till the end

Place Questions in the Chat.

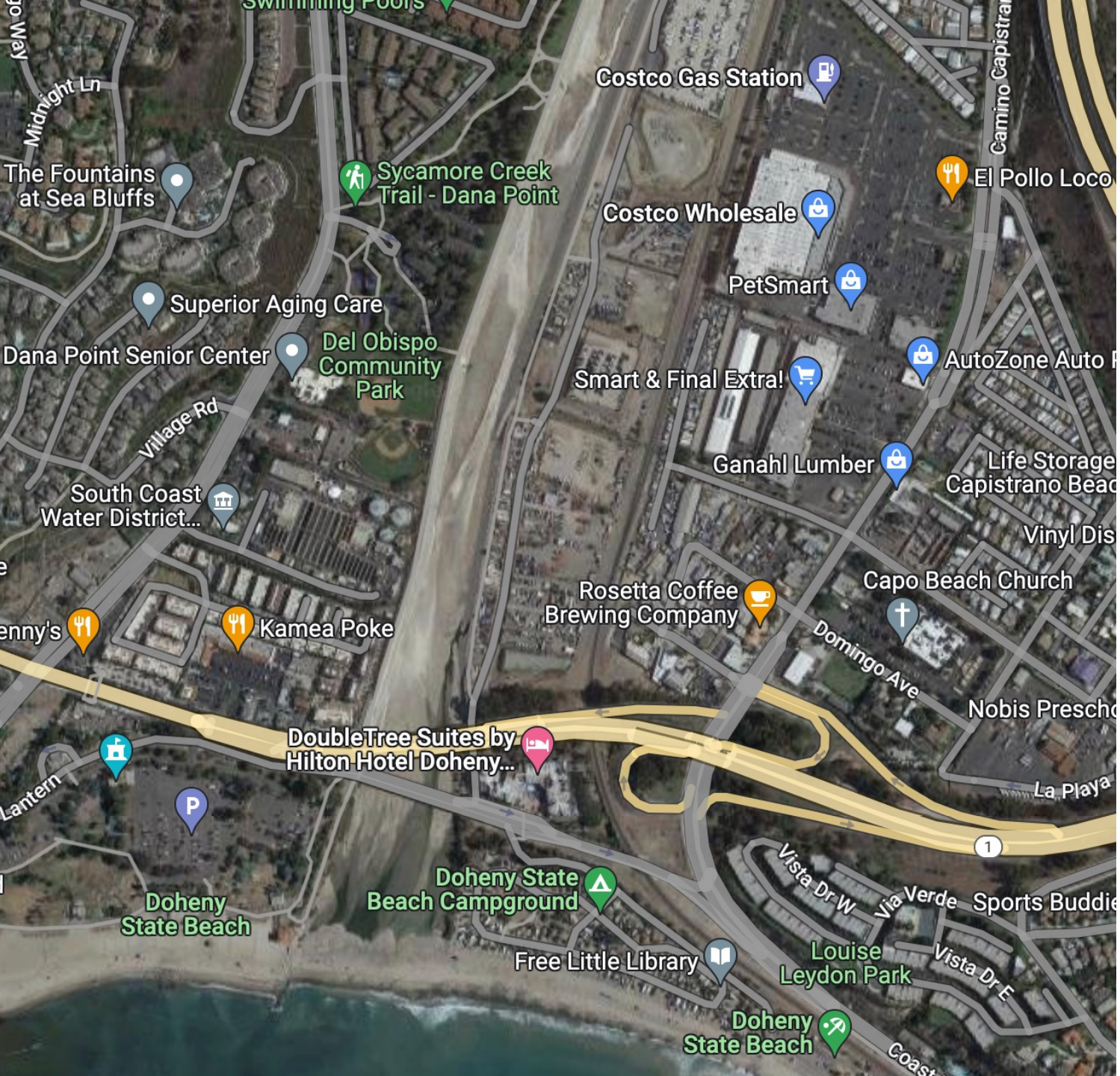
Introductions

History

Next Steps

Conclusion

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION




# PROJECT LEAD

TROUT UNLIMITED
SOUTH COAST

Trout Unlimited's mission is to protect, reconnect and restore the places people love to fish. The South Coast Chapter of Trout Unlimited works in Los Angeles, Orange, and Ventura Counties.

## INITIAL PROJECT WORKSHOP FUNDED BY

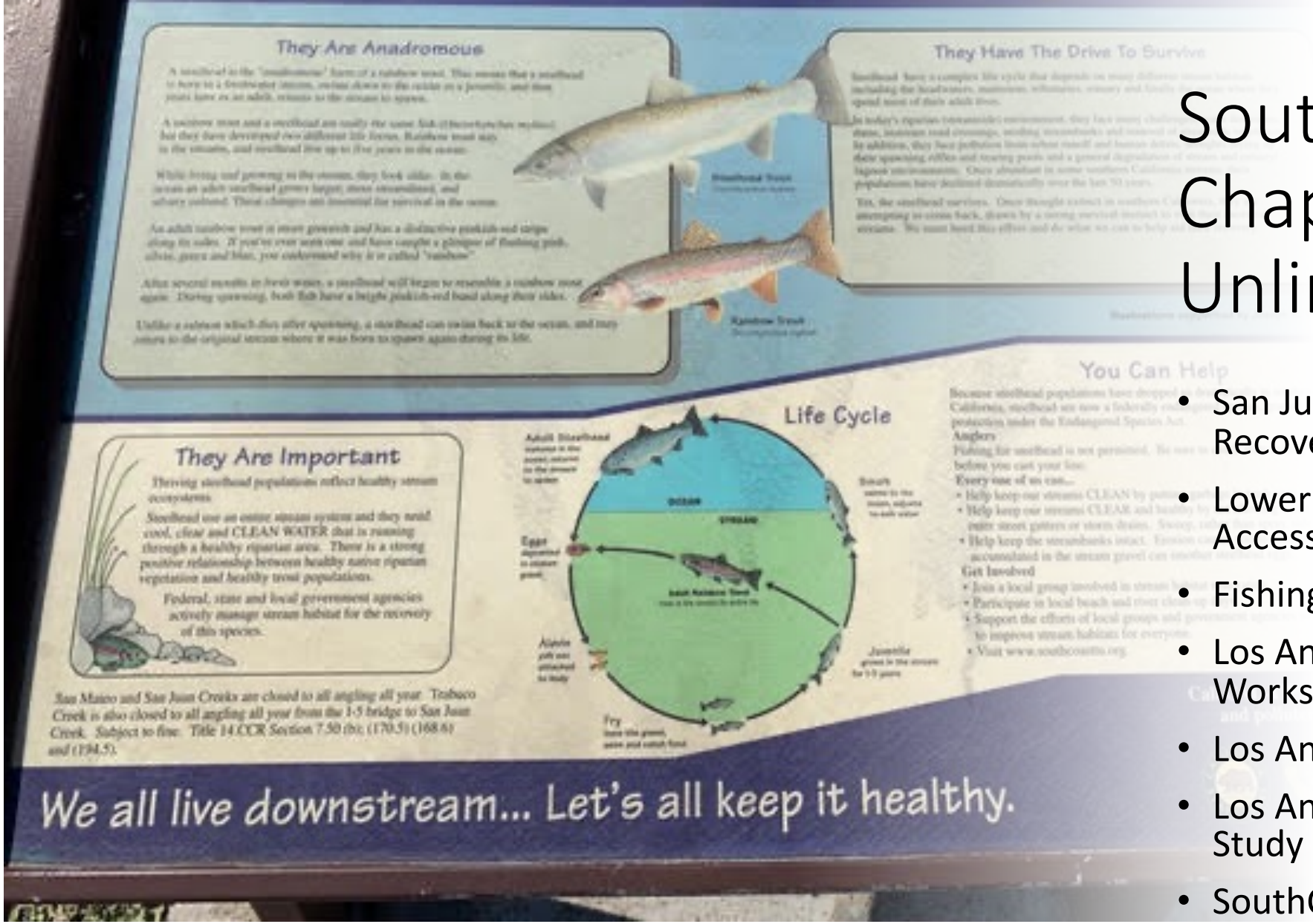
South Coast Water District (SCWD)

# About The Presenters…


William Preston Bowling – Current President of Trout Unlimited's South Coast Chapter

George Sutherland – Conservation Chair & Past/President of Trout Unlimited's South Coast Chapter

Roger Bütow – Executive Director of Clean Water Now



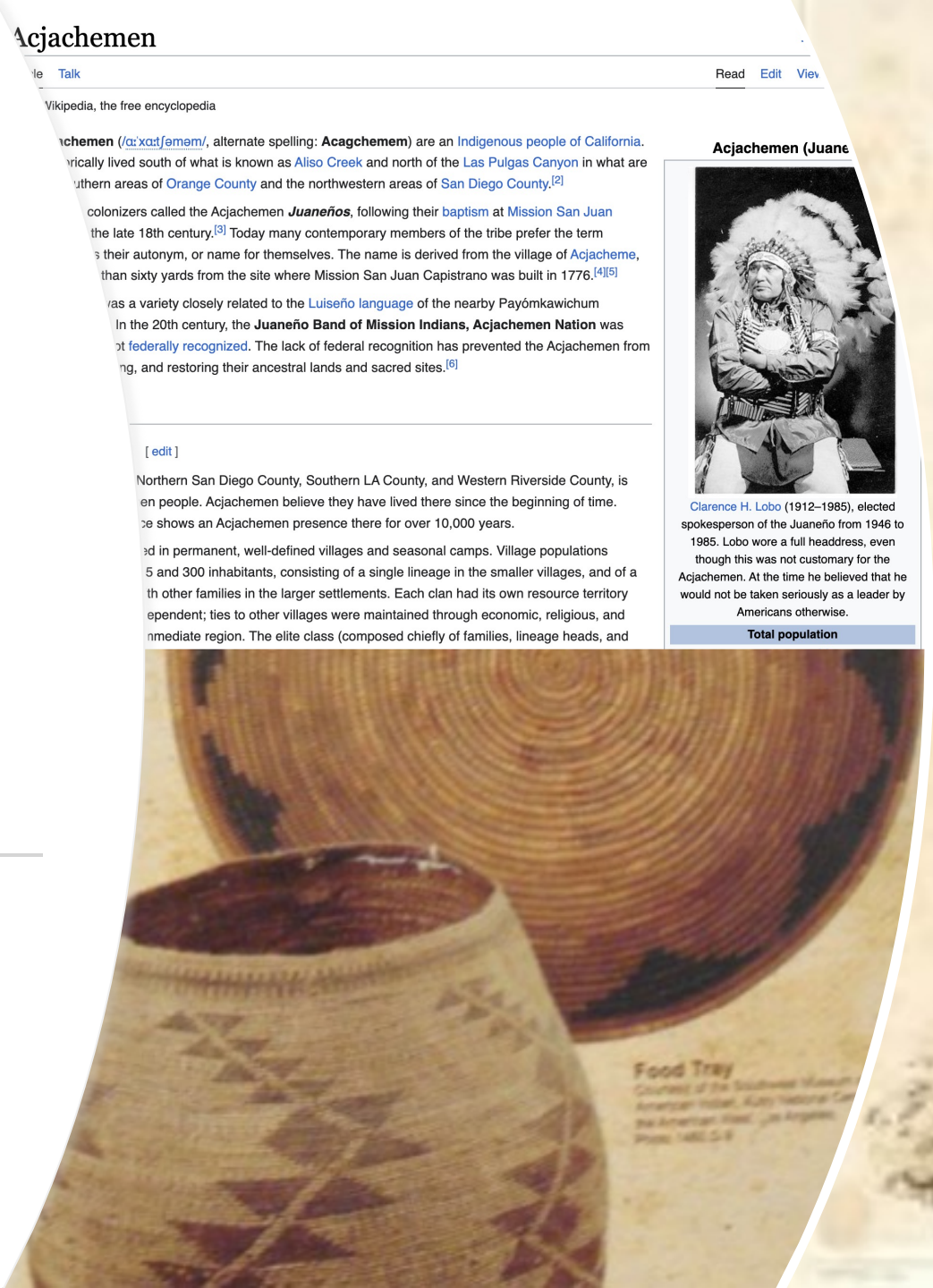

# South Coast Chapter of Trout Unlimited

- San Juan Creek Steelhead Recovery Project
- Lower L.A. River Restoration & Access Project
- Fishing Line Recycling Program
- Los Angeles River Fishing Workshops
- Los Angeles River Fish Study
- Los Angeles River Temperature Study
- SouthCoastTU.com

# History of Doheny Beach

Doheny, 1969

# NATIVE PEOPLES


Acjachemen

Talk

Read Edit View

Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

chemen (/ɑːxɑːtʃəməm/, alternate spelling: **Acagchemem**) are an Indigenous people of California. rically lived south of what is known as Aliso Creek and north of the Las Pulgas Canyon in what are uthern areas of Orange County and the northwestern areas of San Diego County.[2]

colonizers called the Acjachemen ***Juaneños***, following their baptism at Mission San Juan the late 18th century.[3] Today many contemporary members of the tribe prefer the term s their autonym, or name for themselves. The name is derived from the village of Acjacheme, than sixty yards from the site where Mission San Juan Capistrano was built in 1776.[4][5]

as a variety closely related to the Luiseño language of the nearby Payómkawichum In the 20th century, the **Juaneño Band of Mission Indians, Acjachemen Nation** was ot federally recognized. The lack of federal recognition has prevented the Acjachemen from ng, and restoring their ancestral lands and sacred sites.[6]

[ edit ]

Northern San Diego County, Southern LA County, and Western Riverside County, is en people. Acjachemen believe they have lived there since the beginning of time. e shows an Acjachemen presence there for over 10,000 years.

d in permanent, well-defined villages and seasonal camps. Village populations 5 and 300 inhabitants, consisting of a single lineage in the smaller villages, and of a th other families in the larger settlements. Each clan had its own resource territory ependent; ties to other villages were maintained through economic, religious, and mediate region. The elite class (composed chiefly of families, lineage heads, and

**Acjachemen (Juane**



Clarence H. Lobo (1912–1985), elected spokesperson of the Juaneño from 1946 to 1985. Lobo wore a full headdress, even though this was not customary for the Acjachemen. At the time he believed that he would not be taken seriously as a leader by Americans otherwise.

**Total population**




# Steelhead vs Rainbow

- Natives likely harvested in both  fresh and saltwater residency
- Every steelhead was a rainbow but not every rainbow is a steelhead

Photo from Display at San Juan Mission

- Dredging in progress, jetty and breakwater already in place during the building of Dana Point Harbor.
- The Harbor is an OC Park, its official grand opening and ceremonial dedication came on July 31, 1971.

**The 1968 – 69 El Niño winter rains were heavy causing a flood in Capistrano Beach, a blow out of the San Juan Creek entrance into the Pacific and damage to a refurbishing project of the North Day Use area which had been closed in Oct 1968. Many of the huge trees planted in the 1930's were taken out and the last of the houses build by the Civilian Conservation Corp. were demolished. North Day Use opened back up on May 15, 1970. The restrooms and what is now the Bone Yard Café were built at that time.**

- This led to increased channelization efforts by OC Flood Control District. Banks are concrete-lined, earth bottomed, typical inverted trapezoidal configuration within the lower reach of both the Arroyo Trabuco and San Juan Creek mainstem.

**The Capistrano Beach flood in February and March of 1938 was part of a major El Niño that hit California that year. The bridge across San Juan Creek was blown out as well a much of the Doheny beach area. Notice the Doheny entry arch in the left of the photo.**

# 1997 NOAA Indicator Species RECOVERY PLAN

1997 NOA Indicator Species RECOVERY PLAN to tell the story of if a watershed can support it.

Current Status

Projects

Studies

# Studies, Assessments & Regulatory Reference Documents

USACE: **Multiple Studies, Assessments & Reconnaissance** (1997-—2005)

Dudek /PCR for Rancho Mission Viejo: **"Geomorphic & Hydrologic Needs Of Aquatic & Riparian Endangered Species In The San Juan Creek Watershed"** (August 2002)

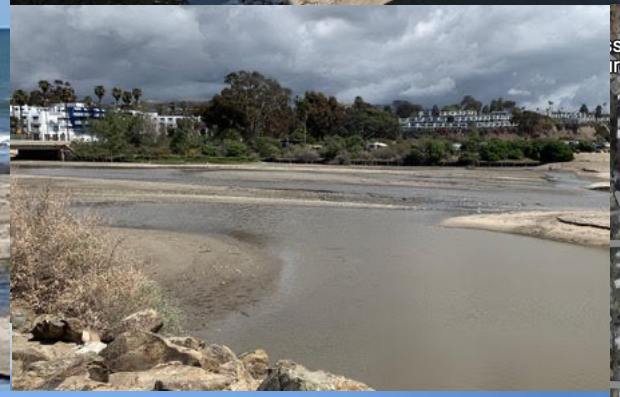
CDM for SCTU & CDFG: **San Juan and Trabuco Creeks Watershed Steelhead Recovery Plan** (2007)SCCWRP for SWRCB: **"Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program (SWAMP) Report On The San Juan Hydrologic Unit"** (July 2007)

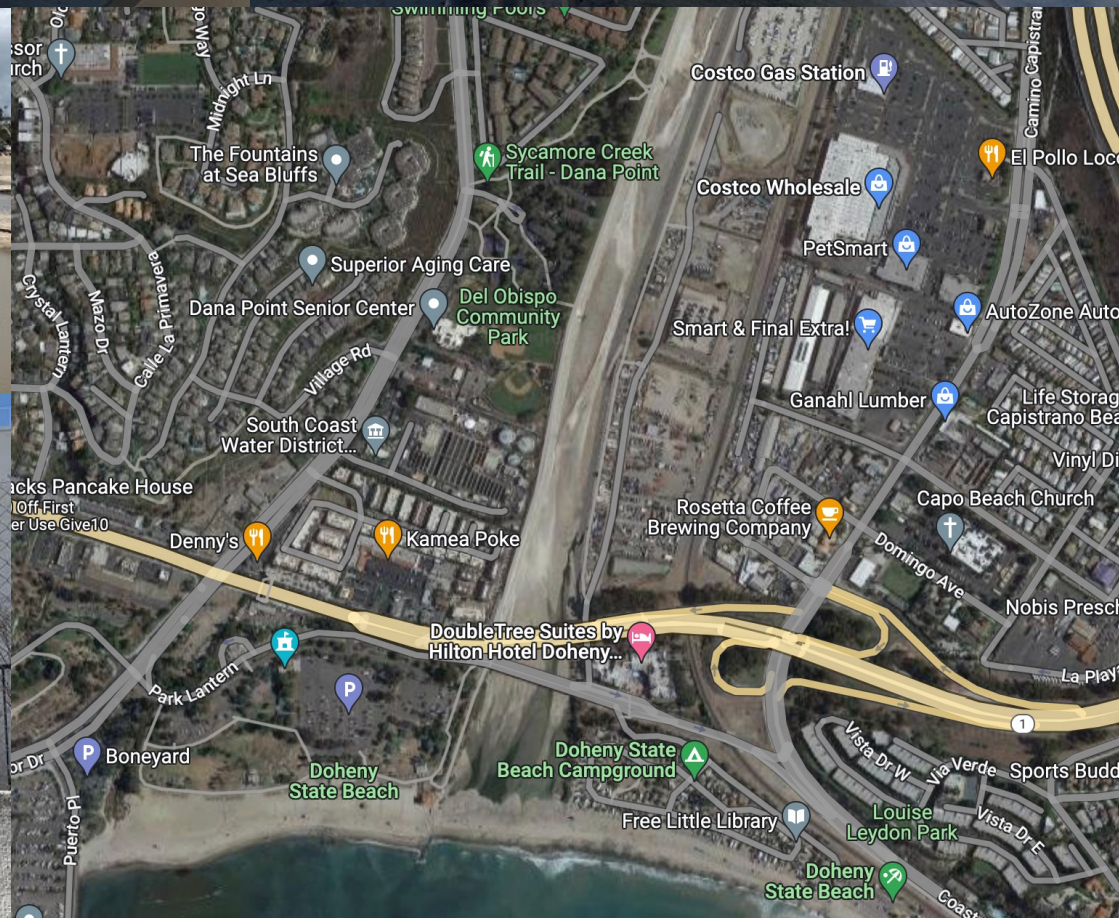
Chambers Group Inc. for SCWD/MWDOC **"Lower San Juan Creek & Seasonal Coastal Lagoon Habitat Assessment"** (July 2016)

Environmental Science Associates for Santa Margarita Water District: **San Juan Watershed Project** (FEIR May 2019)

San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board: **San Juan Hydrologic Unit #1 Basin Plan Objectives** (Biological Integrity Schedule Amended 2020)

# MARCH 29th 2022 Site Visit






# Sensitive Native Species: Habitat Potential Levels

- **Southern Steelhead Trout** (Moderate)
- **Western Snowy Plover** (High)
- **Least Bell Vireo** (Moderate)
- **California Least Tern** (High)
- **California Gnatcatcher** (Low)
- **Pacific Pocket Mouse** (Low)
- **High Value Plant Species** (Absent)

**Source:** Chambers Group Inc. 2016 Assessment

# SCA

- **Southern Steelhead Trout** (Moderate)
- **Western Snowy Plover** (High)
- **Least Bell Vireo** (Moderate)
- **California Least Tern** (High)
- **California Gnatcatcher** (Low)
- **Pacific Pocket Mouse** (Low)
- **High Value Plant Species** (Absent)

**Source:** Chambers Group Inc. 2016 Assessment

# San Juan Basin Authority (SJBA)

Created in 1971 as a joint powers authority for the purpose of carrying out water resources development of the San Juan Basin.

The Basin is a 26 square mile groundwater basin located in southern Orange County, is within the San Juan Creek Watershed.

Categorized as a subterranean flowing stream, the State Water Resources Control Board issues water rights permits for diversion and extraction of water from the basin.

The SJBA conducts the monitoring activities that are needed to comply with its permits also actively pursues the development of projects within the basin.

**Members:** South Coast and Santa Margarita Water Districts

**Note: The SJBA is subject to enforcement actions by the State Water Resource Control Board if found to be in violation of the San Juan Hydrologic Unit Basin Plan and/or member water rights permits**

**Mission Statement**: To develop and maintain a reliable, high quality economical local water supply for the residents in the San Juan Basin by maximizing water use through management of local ground and surface water of San Juan Creek and its tributaries, **with due consideration for preservation, enhancement, and conservation of the environment, including, but not limited to, the natural resources, fish and wildlife, infrastructure improvements, and the cultural heritage of the area.**

# Basin Plan Objectives Compliance Primer

The San Diego Regional Board's Basin Plan is designed to preserve and enhance water quality and protect the beneficial uses of all regional waters:

(1) designates beneficial uses for surface and ground waters;

(2) sets narrative and numerical objectives that must be attained or maintained to protect the designated beneficial uses and conform to the state's antidegradation policy;

(3) describes implementation programs to protect the beneficial uses of all waters in the Region; and

(4) describes surveillance and monitoring activities to evaluate the effectiveness of the Basin Plan

Additionally, the Basin Plan incorporates by reference all applicable updates to State and Regional Board plans and policies.

**Note: It is a living document, subject to both amendments and enforcement actions as administered by the Board.**

# Resolution No. R9-2020-0234 (12/8/2020)

| Beneficial Use | Abbreviation | Description of Beneficial Use |
|---|---|---|
| Warm Freshwater Habitat | WARM | support warm water ecosystems, including, but not limited to, preservation or enhancement of aquatic habitats, vegetation, fish or wildlife, including invertebrates |
| Cold Freshwater Habitat | COLD | support cold water ecosystems, including, but not limited to, preservation or enhancement of aquatic habitats, vegetation, fish or wildlife, including invertebrates |
| Inland Saline Water Habitat | SAL | support inland saline water ecosystems, including, but not limited to, preservation or enhancement of aquatic saline habitats, vegetation, fish, or wildlife, including invertebrates |
| Estuarine Habitat | EST | support estuarine ecosystems, including, but not limited to, preservation or enhancement of estuarine habitats, vegetation, fish, shellfish, or wildlife (e.g. estuarine mammals), waterfowl, (shorebirds) |
| Marine Habitat | MAR | support marine ecosystems including, but not limited to, preservation or enhancement or marine habitats, vegetation such as kelp, fish, shellfish, or wildlife (e.g. marine mammals, shorebirds) |

# Resolution No. R9-2020-0234 (12/8/2020)

| Beneficial Use | Abbreviation | Description of Beneficial Use |
|---|---|---|
| Wildlife Habitat | WILD | support terrestrial ecosystems including, but not limited to, preservation and enhancement of terrestrial habitats, vegetation, wildlife (e.g. mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, invertebrates), or wildlife water and food sources |
| Preservation of Biological Habitats of Special Significance | BIOL | support designated areas or habitats, such as established refuges, parks, sanctuaries, ecological reserves, or Areas of Special Biological Significance, where the preservation of natural resources requires special protection |
| Rare, Threatened, or Endangered Species | RARE | support habitats necessary, at least in part, for the survival and successful maintenance of plant or animal species established under state or federal law as rare, threatened or endangered |
| Migration of Aquatic Organisms | MIGR | support habitats necessary for migration, acclimatization between fresh and salt water, or other temporary activities by aquatic organisms, such as anadromous fish |
| Spawning, Reproduction, and/or Early Development | SPWN | support high quality habitats suitable for reproduction, early development and sustenance of marine fish and/or cold freshwater fish |

**Opportunities for restoration: San Juan Creek**

SCTU is committed to leading the discussion of restoration. Our goal for this initial process is to convene a workshop with interested stakeholders focused on restoring the health of San Juan Creek Estuary.

# Got Ideas???

- We encourage you to Participate.
- We want ideas from public stakeholders and/or Agency perspectives.
- What are your “Top 3” Concerns about the San Juan Creek Restoration?
- How can your agency or group help move things forward?

# Our Suggested Next Steps…

## Ad Hoc Advisory Committee

- Determine interest level in the formation of a short term, transitional ad hoc advisory committee & begin compilation of a database.
- The Committee could progress the conclusions consensually reached by the Workshop's stakeholders and establish the estuary's potential for a CEQA/NEPA certified restoration project.

## Database Update Examples

- Advanced water quality sampling and peer-reviewed hydrologic analyses
- Multi-year bio-criteria evaluations, including opportunities and constraints: Surveys, monitoring and assessments primarily focused upon native aquatic plus riparian species of wildlife and plants

# QUESTIONS and/or COMMENTS?

- Reach out to William Preston williampprestonbowling@yahoo.com

## *References: Bibliography…*


**Those Here First** by Ed Neely – Winter 2013

USACE: **Multiple Studies, Assessments & Reconnaissance** (1997-—2005)

Dudek /PCR for Rancho Mission Viejo: **"Geomorphic & Hydrologic Needs Of Aquatic & Riparian Endangered Species In The San Juan Creek Watershed"** (August 2002)

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