# Every Neighbor Caring for Our River

Unique Partnerships, Unique Perspectives, Connecting a Community to Its River

- Who is Inland Empire Waterkeeper?
- Why the need for ENCOR: Every Neighbor Caring for Our River
- Our project and partnership with National Parks Service
- How can your organization benefit from this program?





Inland Empire Waterkeeper is a grassroots, non-profit water quality organization. Our mission is to enhance and protect the quality of the waterways within the Upper Santa Ana River Watershed through five program tenets: **Advocacy, Education, Research, Restoration, and Enforcement**. We are a licensed member of the international Waterkeeper Alliance.

Inland Empire Waterkeeper's vision is to use a regional, collaborative approach to achieve a sustainable watershed free of pollution and a community of motivated water stewards.



#### ENCOR: Every Neighbor Caring for Our River

The Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program offers technical assistance grants and is part of a suite community assistance program offered by the National Park Service.

They work with nonprofits, community groups, tribes, local, state or federal govt agencies.

They have an application process, downloadable at - www.nps.gov/rtca - deadline J une 30th, 2016

They provide assistance for community led natural resource conservation and outdoor recreation projects

RTCA assistance generally consists of:

Partners hip development
Public outreach
Meeting process and facilitation
Organizational development
Capacity building









## Partnership Building









Inland Empire WATERKEEPER.

Advocacy • Education • Research • Restoration • Enforcement

#### What's in a Name?

Our NPS advisor, MaLisa Martin, trained the partners in facilitating skills such as group brainstorming techniques. This was used to come up with a name for our project that would reflect the history and the future of recreation in the middle Santa Ana River. This is another example of how this grant has left us with tools to be more effective and grow our capacity.

ENCOR: Every Neighbor Caring for Our River, was chosen to honor the work of those who came before us, as well as the community that will take over after we have finished.



# SANTA ANA RIVER



Every Neighbor Caring for Our River



















Santa Ana Sucker

Least Bell's Vireo









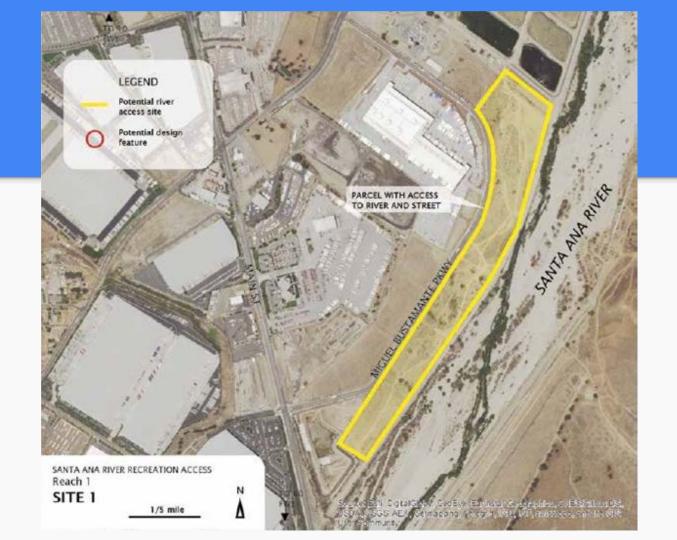




## Water Quality and ENCOR

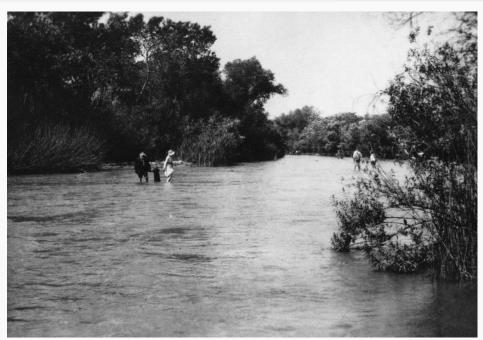
As a Waterkeeper organization, we approach every project through the lens of water quality. As such, at the start of this project we employed a Stream Team of scientists to take weekly water samples at four locations in the Santa Ana River within the project area. The team tested for all water quality markers including bacterial

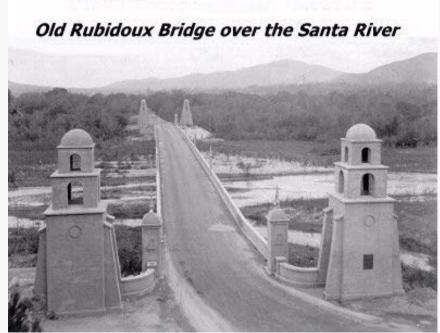






# A Growing Document







2.2 5/21/4 Ana River

#### Site Assessment Form: Santa Ana River

Property Owner: Tomo + BUSNESS	☐ ADA Accessible ☐ Drinking fountain
and Mansger: 2	Drinking fountain
Location: Industrial And to Samine St.  Zoning: Indus S  Hours of Operation: Road  Adjacent Property Description: Indust.	Garbage Cans Picnic Tables Fees or Permit: Bathrooms-permanen or Portable Parking: Streeg Large Lot (>10 spaces)
PUBLIC SAFETY    Other:   District     Characteristic   Characteristic     Characteristic   Characteri	Small (< 10 spaces) Shoulder of road Cates Camping Signage Signage Other:
Issues and potential HAZARDS Homeless meanpments, so access on private land	
CULTURAL AND/OR ECOLOGICAL ISSUES	





#### Site Assessments



	Ken Andersen	
	not currently managed	
	Main St and Riverside Ave	
	Commercial	
Hours of operation		
Potential for street access		70.7
Adjacent property	Industrial and undeveloped land, o	n the border with Colton
lic Safety	and the second second	ų.
Presence of graffiti	Homeless encampments	X Other:
Litter and trash	X Strong odor	
il Conditions		
Distance - parking to river:	1/4 mile	
Slope of trail:		
enities		D 10
ADA Accessible	Permanent bathrooms	Cates
Drinking fountain	Portable bathrooms	Camping
Garbage cans	Large parking (>10 spaces)	Signage
Picnic tables	Small parking (< 10 spaces)	Other:
Fees or permit	Road shoulder parking	
ivities at Site (Potential)		
Hiking	x Bicycling	X Swimming X
Birding	x Rafting	Fishing
Horseback riding	X Paddleboarding	Other: Family Picnicing
sting signage		
sting signage Interpretation		
Interpretation		
Interpretation Regulatory Yes		

Very rich wildlife - lots of tracks skunk, coyote, rabbit, opossum, bob cat. Saw hawks and a coyote

Property would be great for a nature education center. Plenty of space and upland and River trail

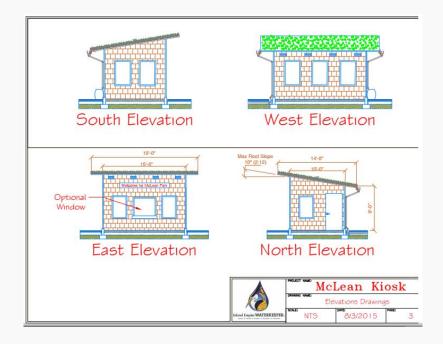


#### Site Assessments



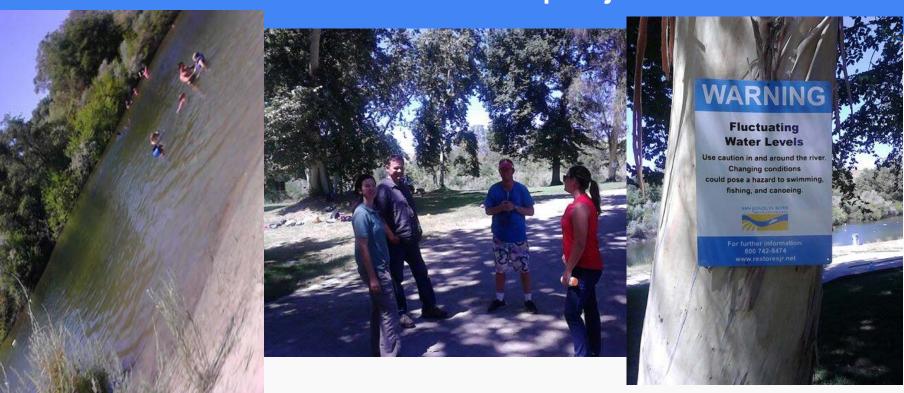
#### NPS Expertise in Action

NPS was able to gift us with the service of landscape architects to join us on field days and give advice as well as render conceptual drawings for specific sites. Again, increasing our capacity for comprehensive planning of this project.





#### A look at other rivers and projects





# Rivercamp is born!





## Rivercamp







Nature: the great equalizer



# Rivercamp







# Community Cleanups







# River KATS: Kid Activism Through Science









# A Community's Needs Addressed



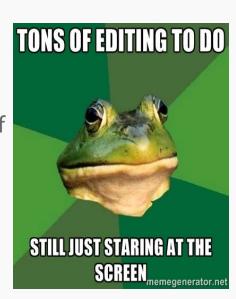


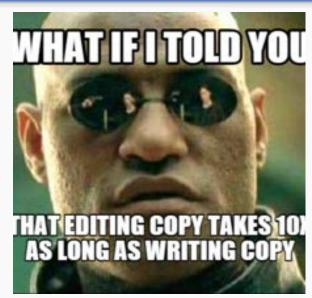




## Putting It All Together

Editing of such a large and content heavy document requires the help of both the NPS and IEWK staff and proves to be a big task!

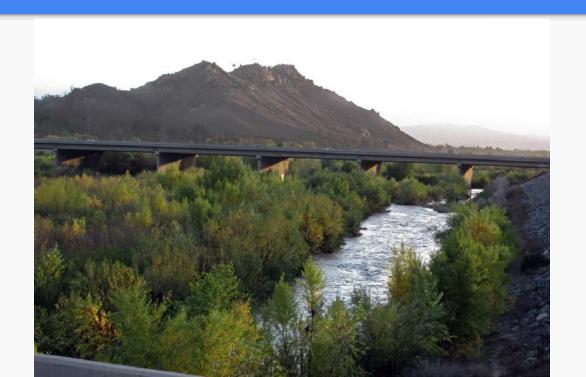






## The Next Steps

We aim to have our ENCOR plan adopted by the governing bodies over the Santa Ana River and hope that it will serve as the groundwork for a revitalized and vibrant river that is used and celebrated by its community.





## Can the NPS Assistance Grant help you?

Check out the NPS Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance program application process, downloadable at - <a href="https://www.nps.gov/rtca">www.nps.gov/rtca</a> - deadline June 30th, 2016