



Contact: Kristeen Penrod, Conservation Director, South Coast Wildlands (626) 497-6492

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LEARN ABOUT THE WILDLANDS OF THE SANTA CLARA RIVER WATERSHED

South Coast Wildlands and Visual Journeys, along with the Santa Clara River Trustee Council, invite you to come and learn more about one of California's most diverse watersheds. Come take a journey through the Santa Clara River Watershed with a visual and educational exhibit designed to ignite passion and appreciation, and encourage the protection of the Santa Clara River Watershed. This exhibit provides an opportunity for the community to learn about how their lives are entwined with the survival of a wild and healthy river.

Our Journey through the watershed begins with an overview of the natural history of the watershed. Viewers will learn about one of Southern California's last free flowing rivers, the Santa Clara River. The exhibit explains what a watershed is and why they require protection. Emphasis is placed on the role of this watershed in providing habitat for over 100 endangered, sensitive, or threatened species. Viewers are also informed about regionally important wildlife movement corridors in the watershed.

Equipped with an understanding of the Santa Clara River ecosystem, viewers are then invited to see how they can help protect the river's watershed and the species that live there. Why care about wildlife and habitat? Protecting the health and diversity of our natural lands in the watershed increases quality of life for all residents, both human and animal. A healthy ecosystem that sustains wildlife lessens the probability of wildlife conflicts. People can enjoy living next to wilderness without having nature move into their homes. With information and action, homeowners can help ensure the safety of families, pets and livestock. And residents can maintain the health and quality of our natural areas that we depend on for recreation, education, tranquility, and inspiration for many years and generations to come. Come hear how we can build a brighter future for people and wildlife together.

Location: Valencia Public Library

Date: Exhibit on display through August; Reception July 23, 2008

Time: July 23^{rd} 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.





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Location: Acton Community Center - 3748 West Nickels Road, Acton, CA 93510

Date: Exhibit on display October 6 through 16th, 2008

Opening Reception October 8th 7 to 9 pm.





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Location: Fillmore Library - 502 Second Street, Fillmore, CA 93015

Date: Exhibit on display October 16 through November 6th, 2008

Opening Reception: Saturday October 18th 1:00 pm.





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Andrew Harvey, Visual Journeys (818) 469-1185

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Location: Ojai Library 111 East Ojai Avenue, Ojai, CA 93023

Date: Exhibit on display November 6 through December 1st, 2008

Opening Reception: Thursday November 6th, 6:00 pm