



86 Wells
72 Reservoirs & Storage
Facilities
18 Treatment Plants
57 Pumps & Control
Systems
12 O&M
17 Connections & Pipelines
9 Spreading Grounds
10 Dams
5 Future Projects



PROTECTING OUR WATERSHED RESOURCES The San Gabriel River & Mountains

Balancing Water Resources and Recreational Aspirations

A total of 156 rivers have wild and scenic status in the U.S.

In California, there are 14 Federally designated rivers and river systems as wild and scenic

California's wild and scenic rivers include the Lower American River, Big Sur River, Klamath System, and Merced River

There are 26 National Parks in the U.S.

California's share of National Parks includes Yosemite National Park and Golden Gate Park in San Francisco



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With 95% of its water captured in local aquifers, the San Gabriel River Watershed is home to dozens of cities and millions of people who depend on it for healthy lives and jobs. Proposals to federally declare the San Gabriel Mountains and River as a national recreation area (among other federal designations) must be done in a way that doesn't reduce or threaten our water supplies.

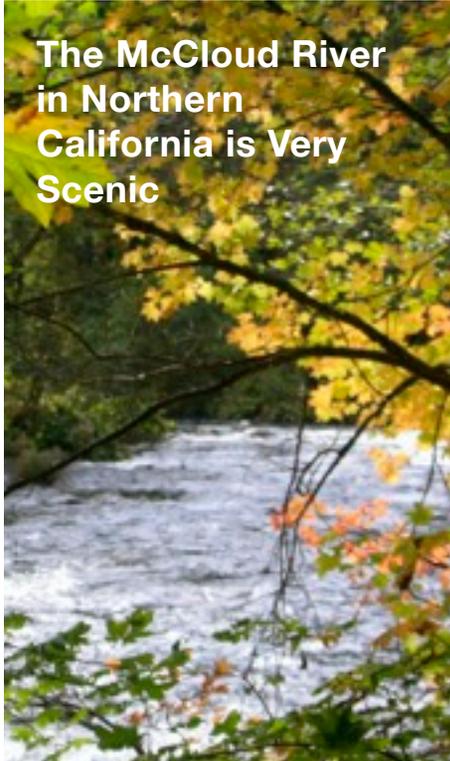


The Wilderness Society and Friends of the River are working to introduce legislation declaring the San Gabriel Mountains and River as a “National Recreation Area” (NRA) and as “Wild & Scenic.” The proposed NRA designation is the result of a 2011 National Park Study. Declaring the mountains and river “Wild & Scenic” as well as “Wilderness Areas” requires more study and evaluation.

The San Gabriel River allows water to readily seep underground.



The McCloud River in Northern California is Very Scenic



BALANCE

The San Gabriel Valley Water Association (SGVWA) is working in cooperation with Friends of the River, the Wilderness Society and local groups to balance the aspiration of expanding recreational opportunities in the San Gabriel Mountains and River with the basic water supply needs of people and the economy.

95% of the San Gabriel River’s run-off is captured to replenish local aquifers. Just as there is a plan studying the best options for recreational opportunities in the San Gabriel River Watershed, there are plans for managing water. These plans include water conservation, reclaiming contaminated wells, adapting to climate change and providing for future needs through facilities located in the areas proposed for federal designations for recreation.

Losing San Gabriel River flows that replenish the aquifer to recreation would result on greater dependence on expensive Northern California and the Colorado River water to meet local water supply demands.

SGWA conducted a survey finding 281 water supply facilities in the San Gabriel River watershed in, on or near the proposed National Recreation Designation areas which serve 1.5 million local residents.

We are looking to protect dams, spreading basins, water treatment plants, groundwater remediation plants, and drinking water wells - especially those that provide water for small community systems that have limited connections for other sources of water. It is also important to assign water supply needs and protection of water quality as the first priorities when managing river flows throughout the year. Long standing water rights belonging to local cities, public agencies and regulated utilities can be compromised if there is not enough water in the aquifer whose main source is the San Gabriel River.

In any proposed legislation, we must also assure that water suppliers have a meaningful place at the table in any governance structures that apply to federal designation areas in the San Gabriel Mountains and River. We must protect our watershed resources.

CURRENT MILESTONES:

April 2013 - Office of Management & Budget (OMB) reviewed National Park Study and Interior Dept. recommends that Congress formally designates portions of the San Gabriel Mountains and River as National Recreation Areas.