



## Santa Clara River Watershed Feasibility Study Update

January 20, 2010

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U.S. Army Corps of Engineers



## Watershed Efforts

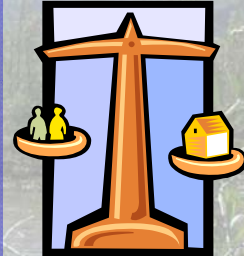
"Experience has taught us that single projects with a limited focus may solve individual problems, but if we look at problems and solutions from a wider geographical view, we can better balance economic, environmental, and quality of life objectives."

LTG Robert Flowers, April 8, 2004

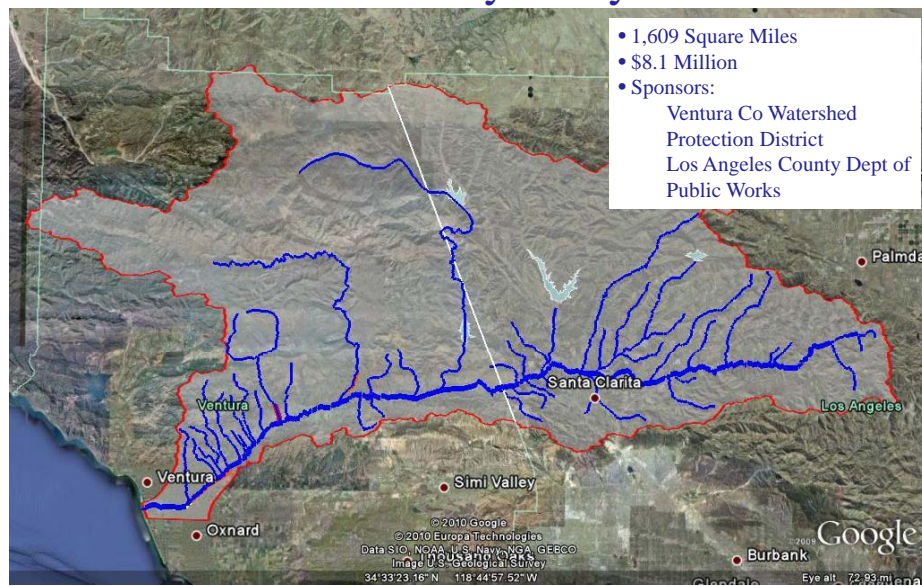


## “Watershed Efforts”

- Work toward **sustainability** via more **balanced objectives**
  - Promote economic vitality
  - Promote ecosystem health
  - Protect quality of life
  - Protect infrastructure
- Promote **partnerships**
- Preserve federal **capabilities** for world-class planning, engineering, science & technology



## Santa Clara River Watershed Feasibility Study





## **Santa Clara River Watershed Feasibility Study Purpose**

- Identify Watershed Problems and Opportunities
- Establish Baseline Conditions
- Develop Models to Evaluate Historic, Current and Future Conditions
  - Hydrologic, Hydraulic and Sediment Transport Models
  - Consider Infrastructure and the Cause and Effect of Land Use Changes
  - Promote Use for Watershed Planners and Decision Makers
- Identify Opportunities for Improvement Projects
- Evaluate and Prioritize Possible Projects in Both Counties
- Prepare a Watershed Management Plan

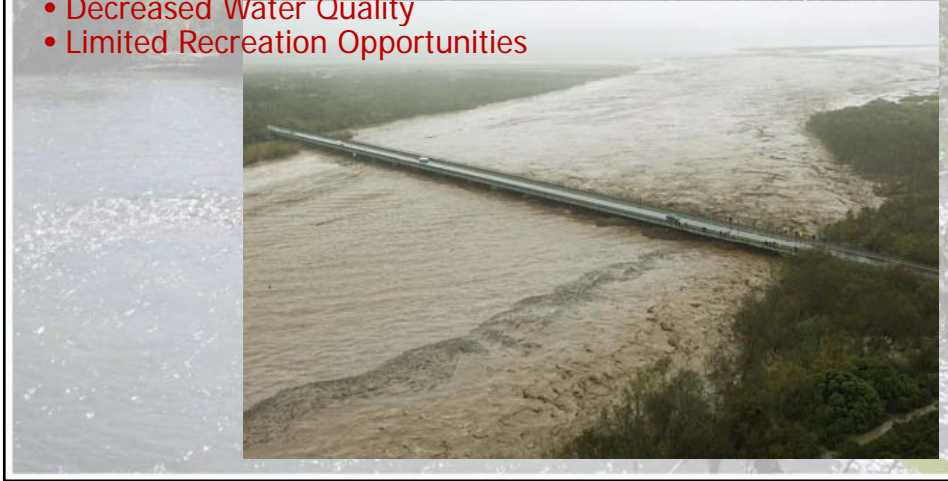


## **Watershed Alliance Mission Statement**

The Santa Clara River Watershed Alliance is dedicated to the conservation of the Santa Clara River, from its headwaters and tributaries to its estuary, for the mutual benefit of the natural resources dependent on the river and the people who live, work, and recreate along the river.

## Watershed Problems

- Floods Damages to Properties, Infrastructure & Agriculture
- Loss of Habitat Connectivity
- Invasive Species
- Decreased Water Quality
- Limited Recreation Opportunities



## Santa Clara River Watershed Objectives

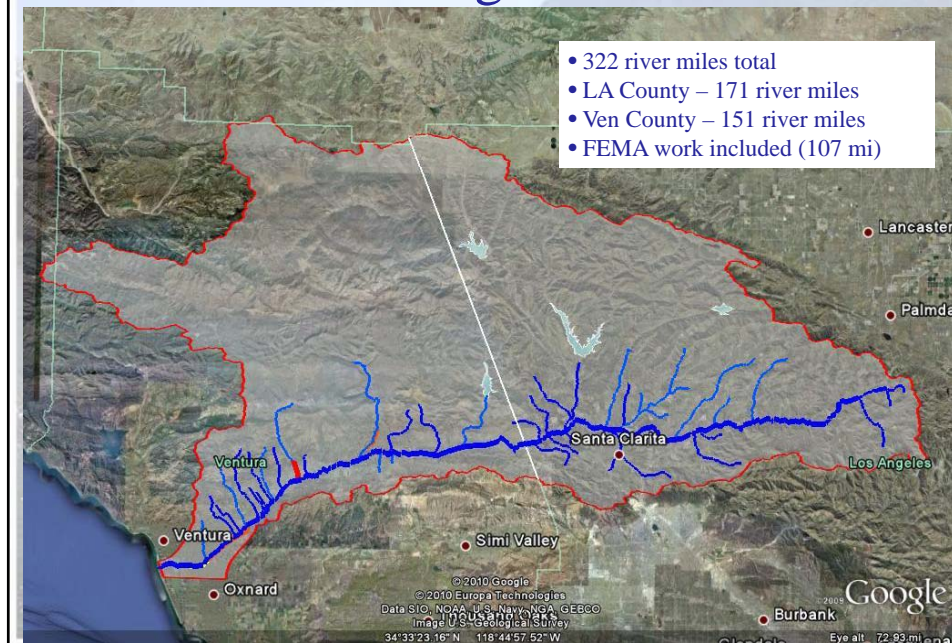
- Sustain, Protect and Restore Ecosystem Functions Throughout the Watershed
- Improve Water Supply
- Improve Water Quality
- Enhance Habitat
- Provide Compatible Watershed-Related Recreational, Public Access and Educational Opportunities
- Enhance Open Space and Recreation
- Protect People, Property and the Environment from Adverse Flooding Impacts
- Sustain Infrastructure for Local Communities

Sources: Los Angeles County and Ventura County IRWMPS

## Integrate Alliance Objectives

- Natural River Processes
- Protection of Existing and Future Uses
- Flood Management
- Maintain Biodiversity
- Unimpaired by Pollution/Invasive Species
- Common Vision
- Water Supply

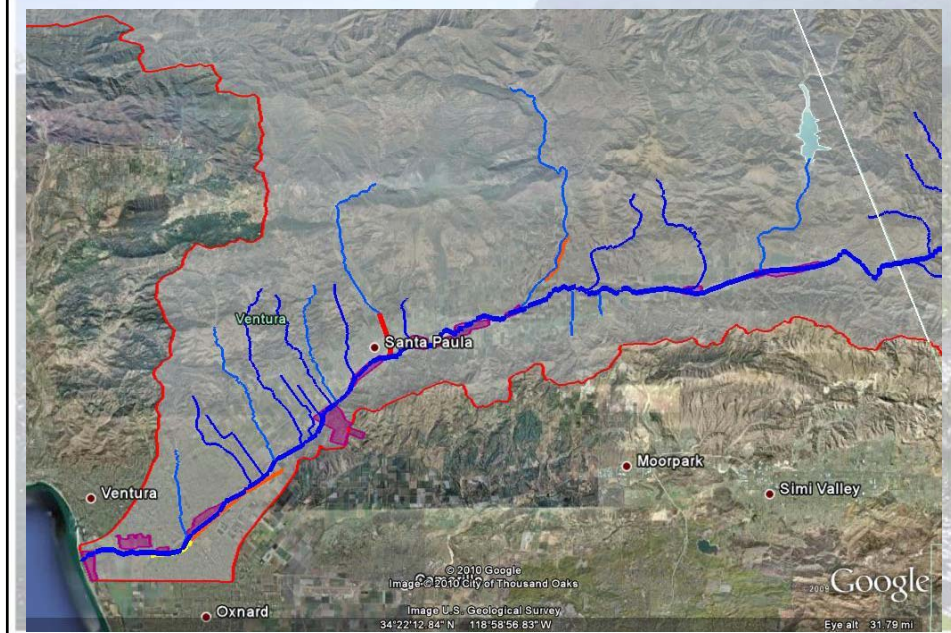
## Modeling Efforts



## Santa Clara River Watershed Feasibility Study Progress

- Detailed Topographic Mapping & Aerial Photography Complete
- Hydrologic Model (HSPF) Certification (Spring 2011) - VCWPD
  - Release of hydrologic model (2011)
- Draft Hydraulic (HEC-RAS) Model (Summer 2011) - Corps
  - Completion late summer 2011
- Ongoing Geomorphologic Study (Winter 2010) – Stillwater Sciences
  - Consolidating lower (Ven Co) & upper (LA Co) reports
- Sediment Transport Modeling Begins (Summer 2011) – LACDPW

## Ventura County TNC-Corps Interests



## Feasibility Study Next Steps

- Identify site-specific or county-wide spin-off investigations
- Commit more Corps resources to collaboration with stakeholder interests
- Hold series of public workshops on feasibility study products and process
- Prepare Watershed Management Plan?
- Continue collaboration with The Nature Conservancy and other interests

## Contact Information

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