



San Antonio Creek Spreading Grounds Rehabilitation Project

Fact Sheet

The purpose of the **San Antonio Creek Spreading Grounds Rehabilitation Project** (SACSGRP) is intended to increase groundwater storage and recharge in the Ojai Valley Groundwater Basin by rebuilding the abandoned diversion works, rehabilitating the spreading ground basins, and constructing passive percolation wells adjacent to San Antonio Creek just southwest of the confluence of the Gridley and Senior Canyons in the Ojai Valley.

A stakeholder group inclusive of the **Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency**, the **Ojai Water Conservation District**, the **Golden State Water Company**, the **Casitas Municipal Water District**, and the **Ventura County Watershed Protection District** is working cooperatively to complete this project. Successful completion of the SACSGRP will help address the threat of critical water supply shortages in the Ojai Valley and improve local water supply reliability throughout the Ventura River Watershed.

Currently within the Ojai Valley, the public water supply is derived from local groundwater sources and surface water. Groundwater supplies are drawn from wells and recharged primarily by rainfall. The supplies are vulnerable to inconsistent precipitation and excessive pumping during droughts. Surface water supplies are drawn from Lake Casitas and the Ventura River. These sources are vulnerable to growing local demand and limits on removal due to Southern steelhead habitat requirements and the planned removal of the Matilija Dam. As a result of these vulnerabilities, an extended drought could jeopardize the health, safety and welfare of the Ojai Valley by limiting its municipal water supply, restricting its economy and hampering its preparedness for wildfires.

The \$1.4 Million SACSGR project is funded with a \$1.3 Million Prop 50 Implementation Grant from the State of California and approximately \$100,000 in local match contributions from the stakeholders. The SACSGRP will help augment the Valley's water supply by diverting a portion of the precipitation that is typically lost downstream to the rehabbed spreading grounds and newly-constructed aquifer recharge wells. This will result in greater groundwater storage and production from local water supply wells and less reliance on already-limited surface water supplies. A depth-discrete monitoring well will also be constructed near the spreading grounds to monitor the effectiveness of this important groundwater project and obtain a better hydrogeologic understanding of the Ojai Valley Groundwater Basin.

Funding for this project has been provided in full or in part through an agreement with the State Water Resources Control Board.