

Issues & Insights

Ventura County's
supply of water news



A Flowing Future: How the Santa Clara River Shores Up Ventura County

The Santa Clara River winds its way through Ventura County with a quiet persistence that belies its immense impact. At the heart of this vital watershed lies the United Water Conservation District (UWCD), a steward of both water supply and environmental integrity.

For nearly a century, UWCD has ensured that the river continues to sustain the communities and ecosystems that call the Santa Clara River valley home.

This National Rivers Month, we're focusing on the Santa Clara River which sustains the region's water needs by:

- Supplying surface water to percolate into local groundwater basins – providing up to 62,000 acre-feet or more than 20 billion gallons of water yearly to the region
- Supporting agricultural irrigation on the Oxnard Plain
- Combatting seawater intrusion through surface water deliveries and reduced pumping



The Santa Clara River's surface water helps Ventura County thrive. Keep reading to learn more.



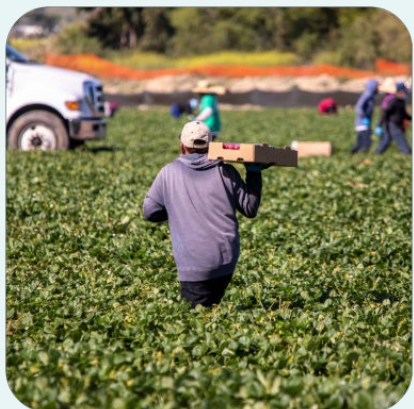
Dive Into Sustainability: UWCD's Surface Water Delivery System

Through an intricate blend of science, engineering, and environmental awareness, UWCD monitors and manages the Santa Clara River, its tributaries, and underlying aquifers. Their approach is deeply rooted in balance, leveraging the river's precious resources while safeguarding its natural features.

Without UWCD's intervention, much of the water from the Santa Clara River and its feeder, Piru Creek, would rush unimpeded to the sea, lost to the ocean and unavailable to the arid lands and communities of Ventura County.

This surface water is primarily delivered through:

- The Pumping Trough Pipeline (PTP), a joint project by UWCD, the County of Ventura and the Fox County Groundwater Management Agency that reduces pumping in the over-drafted upper aquifer system;
- And the Pleasant Valley (PV) Pipeline, which reduces groundwater pumping in the Pleasant Valley basin, south of Camarillo.



Every drop diverted, every gallon recharged, and every fish that migrates upstream tells the story of a river being managed well and with purpose. From replenishing groundwater to protecting aquatic life, UWCD has distinguished itself as a leader among California water agencies, demonstrating that thoughtful management and conservation can coexist with growth and productivity.

At the heart of this system is the Santa Clara River and UWCD will continue to defend, direct, and preserve its legacy for generations to come.

A Joint History: UWCD and the Santa Clara River

Want to learn more about how the Santa Clara River helped form UWCD into the District it is today? Watch the video below.



Groundwater Stewardship
Across the Santa Clara River Valley

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