



State Wildlife Action Plan 2015 Update

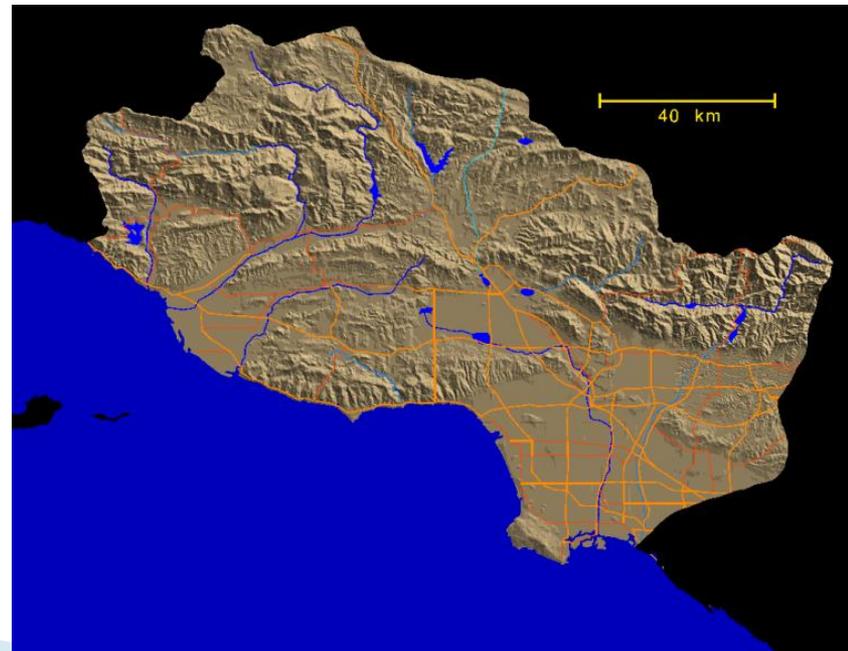
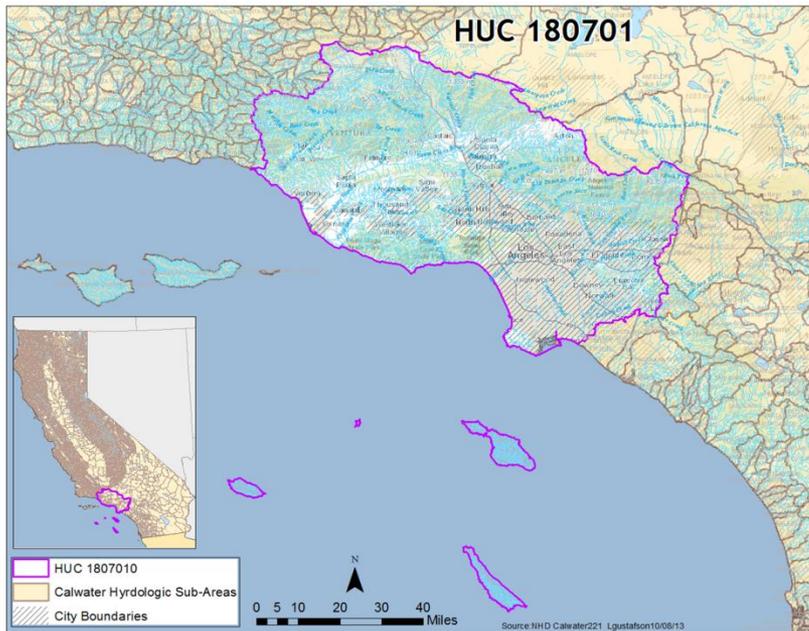
Ventura – San Gabriel
Southern California Coastal
Native Fish Assemblage

John O'Brien, Tim Hovey and Dwayne Maxwell
October 16, 2013

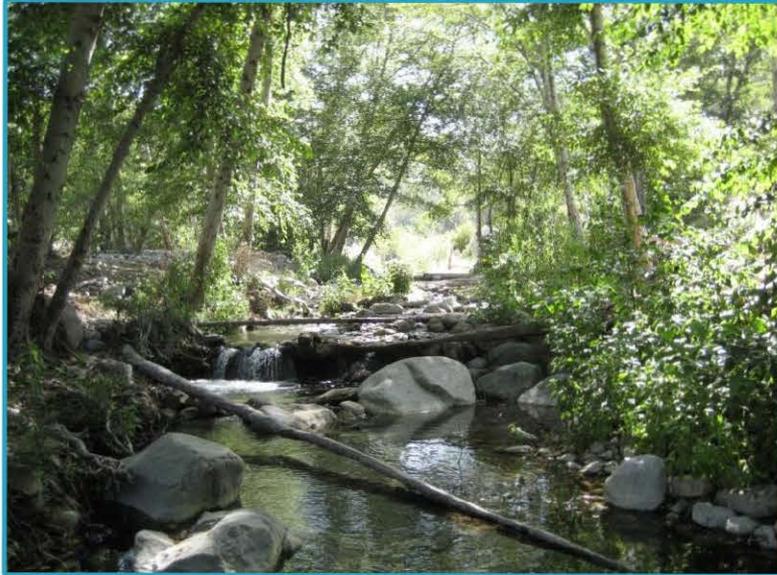
Conservation Unit: HUC 180701

General geographic location:

- HUC 6 – Coastal watersheds from Ventura River to San Gabriel River
- Elevation: Sea level – 10,000'
- Includes: Ventura River, Santa Clara River, Calleguas Creek, Malibu Creek, Los Angeles River and San Gabriel River watersheds
- Ventura and Los Angeles counties

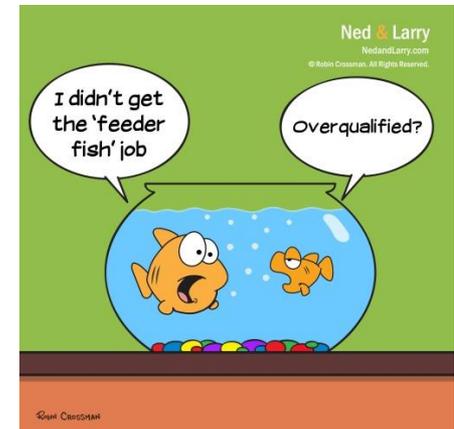


Stream habitat varies from high gradient mountain to low gradient valley and coastal streams and lagoons



Target: Native Fish Assemblage

- ▶ Concerns over status of threespine stickleback, tidewater goby, Santa Ana sucker and Santa Ana speckled dace
- ▶ HUC 180701 supports these species
- ▶ Other high priority targets to do:
 - HUC 180701 native aquatic herpetofauna assemblage
 - HUC 180702 fish and aquatic herpetofauna



Species of Greatest Conservation Need Associated with Target

- ▶ Threespine stickleback
- ▶ Tidewater goby
- ▶ Santa Ana sucker
- ▶ Santa Ana speckled dace
- ▶ Arroyo chub
- ▶ Southern California steelhead*
- ▶ Pacific lamprey*



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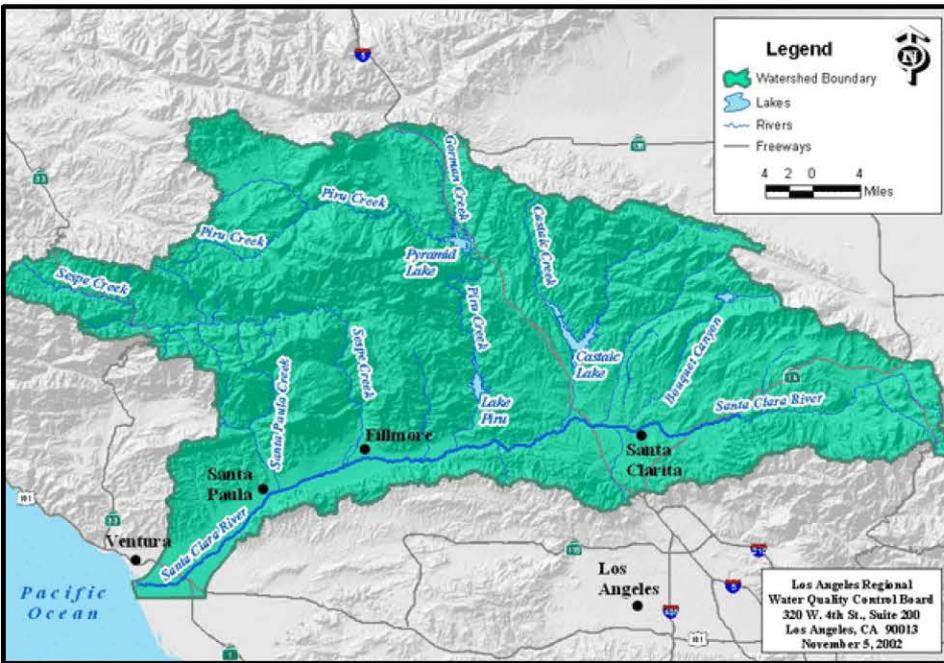
*** Note: steelhead and lamprey will be covered under a separate effort in the SWAP Update.**

Unarmored threespine stickleback (*Gasterosteus aculeatus williamsoni*)

- ▶ State and Federally Endangered
- ▶ Very limited distribution (lowlands/foothills)
- ▶ Santa Clara Watershed drainage



Unarmored threespine stickleback



Tidewater goby

(*Eucyclogobius newberryi*)

- ▶ Federally Endangered
- ▶ Coastal lagoons: Ventura, Santa Clara, Ormond, Mugu, Malibu, Topanga, Big Sycamore (?)



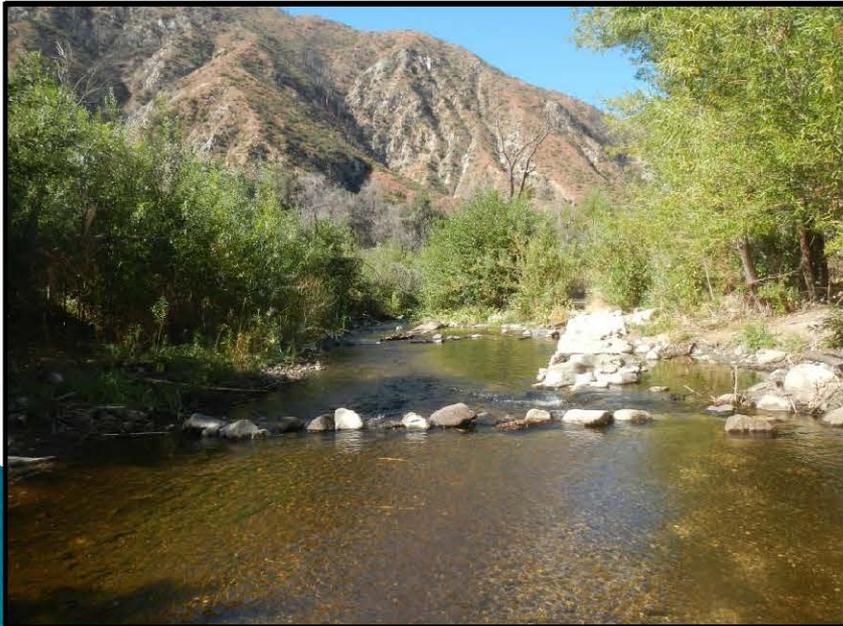
Santa Ana sucker

(*Catostomus santaanae*)

- ▶ Federally Threatened
- ▶ Los Angeles River (Big Tujunga and Haines creeks) and San Gabriel River (East, West, and North forks and some tribs.)
- ▶ Introduced (?) into Santa Clara watershed



Santa Ana sucker



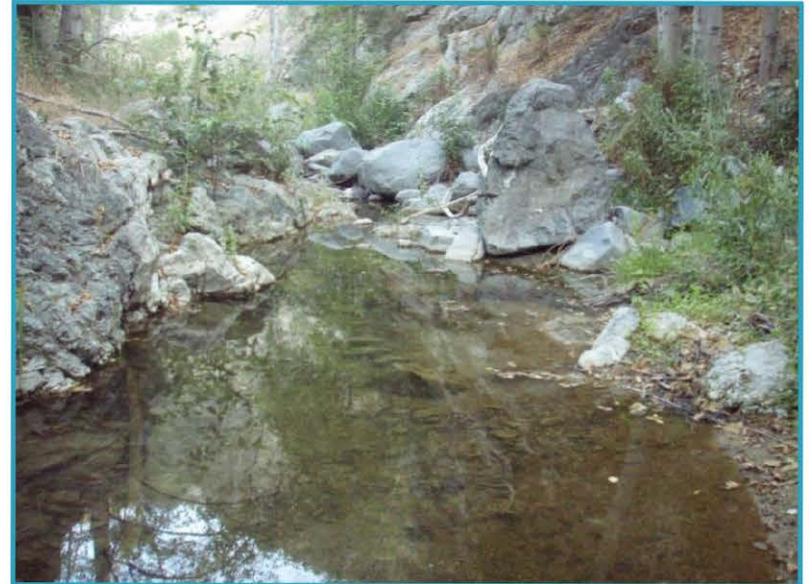
Santa Ana speckled dace

(*Rhinichthys osculus ssp*)

- ▶ State Species of Special Concern
- ▶ Los Angeles River (Big Tujunga and Haines creeks) and San Gabriel River (East, West, and North forks and some tribs.)



Santa Ana speckled dace



Arroyo chub (*Gila orcutti*)

- ▶ State Species of Special Concern
- ▶ Malibu, Los Angeles River (Big Tujunga, Haines, Pacoima creeks), San Gabriel River (East and West forks, Walnut Creek)
- ▶ Introduced in Ventura River, Santa Clara River and Calleguas Watershed



Arroyo chub



Human Related Impacts and Environmental Stresses

- Urban development
 - Change in spatial extent of fish community
- Dams and water management
 - Changes in runoff/river flow, water levels and seasonal patterns of flow
- Recreational activities
 - Habitat degradation and fragmentation
- Invasive species
 - Change in biotic interactions



And you thought
there was stress
in your life !

Strategies

Improve hydrologic conditions

- Increase bypass flows through water conservation

Manage dams and barriers

Manage Invasive Species

- Investigate susceptibility of native fish from invasive species

Translocation and reintroduction

Data gathering and analysis

- Species distribution
- Life history and habitat suitability

Outreach and education

Engage stakeholders and build collaborative partnerships

- Share information and engage in decision making process



Funding

- ▶ State Wildlife Grant
- ▶ Section 6 Threatened and Endangered Species Funding
- ▶ Fisheries Restoration Grant Funding
- ▶ Multi species habitat conservation plans
- ▶ Co-operative partnerships
- ▶ Legislative funding
- ▶ Bond funding
- ▶ Project impact mitigation



Thank you for coming
We appreciate your input

