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The Santa Clara River Preserve is OPEN!

The Santa Clara River Preserve | Places We Protect
The Nature Conservancy in California



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VIEWING RESTORATION



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HISTORY & IMPORTANCE

RESTORATION

GROUNDWATER

WILDLIFE LINKAGES

- connecting habitats for species migration
- supporting recovery of endangered species
- recharging the groundwater
- sequestering carbon
- reducing wildfire and flooding risk
- helping nearby communities adapt to climate change

TNC is working with partners, such as the Friends of the Santa Clara River, Santa Clara River Conservancy, and University of California Santa Barbara, to combat the tremendous problems brought on by invasive weeds, like *Arundo donax*. Arundo is a head-high grass that chokes out the native plants which hundreds of animals depend on for food and shelter.

We are removing extensive stands of Arundo to allow the native vegetation to return which provides habitat for nesting species including two federally endangered songbirds, the least Bell's vireo and the southwestern willow flycatcher. Arundo is a high user of water, highly flammable, and contributes to bulk flows in the Santa Clara River.

It causes blockages around infrastructure such as bridges and culverts which can lead to flooding. Removing Arundo can help reduce the risk of flooding and fires and may contribute to greater groundwater infiltration.



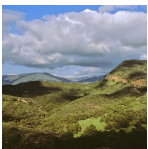


ARUNDO DONAX Arundo is a head-high grass that chokes out the native plants which hundreds of animals depend on for food and shelter. © Harry Rose

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Together, we can achieve transformative change on a scale that's attainable
for the Santa Clara River, for California, and for the world.

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