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### **New map identifies Santa Ana Watershed public uses**

*From camping to bird-watching, the document targets nearly 150 points of interest.*

**COSTA MESA, Calif.** – The Santa Ana River Watershed provides the region with much of its water. It is a network of snow-capped mountains, streams, lakes, rivers and underwater aquifers from the mountains to the coast that supports hundreds of species of animals and plant life along the way.

Where can people go to experience the watershed?

That's the question Orange County Coastkeeper, Inland Empire Waterkeeper, the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority and Pacific Rail Industries decided to answer, with the goal of getting more people out enjoying the watershed. The result is a beautiful, 24-by-36-inch full-color map identifying a host of locations in the watershed open to public use.

Explore the Baldwin Lake Ecological Reserve near Big Bear Lake, visit the Oak Glen Schoolhouse in Yucaipa, hike through the Hidden Valley Wildlife Area in Riverside, or go bird-watching at the Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve.

The maps target picnic areas, educational and historical venues, parks, forests, nature preserves, campgrounds and hiking trails within the 2,800-square-mile area.

"It's our hope that these maps will help to introduce the watershed to area residents, and educate them about the importance of keeping our waterways clean," said Garry Brown, executive director of Orange County Coastkeeper.

The maps can be viewed online at [www.coastkeeper.org](http://www.coastkeeper.org) or [www.iewaterkeeper.org](http://www.iewaterkeeper.org), or they will be mailed to new members who pay the \$15 membership fee. Call Coastkeeper at 714-850-1965 or Inland Empire Waterkeeper at 951-689-6842 for information.

Orange County Coastkeeper was founded in 1999 to identify pollution issues affecting water quality in local rivers, bays and coastal regions and to remedy them through education, advocacy, restoration and enforcement.

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