

**SAN LUIS REY WATERSHED COUNCIL**  
**990 East Mission Road**  
**Fallbrook, CA 92028**  
**760.728.0342**  
**(Fax: 760.723.5316)**

**PRESS RELEASE**

**11/20/01**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

The San Luis Rey Watershed Council is celebrating the release of the *San Luis Rey River Watershed Management Guideline* on November 29, 2001. The celebration will be held at the Pala Indian Casino Meeting Facilities, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. The publication of the *Guideline* is the culmination of two years of collaborative effort by the Watershed Council, using coordinated resource management planning. Invited are elected officials, Watershed Council members and Native American Indian bands within the watershed. Also invited are representatives from local, state and federal agencies with an interest in this watershed. The event is being co-sponsored by the Mission and Upper San Luis Rey Resource Conservation Districts, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the San Diego County Board of Supervisors and EDCO Waste and Recycling Services.

The San Luis Rey Watershed Council is a partnership of local landowners, agricultural growers, Native American bands, community and environmental organizations, government agencies and special districts with ties to this watershed. The Council's primary goal is to develop and implement a comprehensive resource management plan for the San Luis Rey River and its tributaries. Meetings are held monthly to encourage communication between the diverse interests represented and to coordinate the goals and activities of the Council. There is a Watershed Coordinator to facilitate the meetings and to perform Council business.

The *San Luis Rey Watershed Management Guideline* was developed by the Council to serve as the foundation for current and future San Luis Rey River management efforts. Council members identified and prioritized important issues for the river and outlined recommended actions for improving the health of the watershed. The *Guideline* is not a final product, but is a 'living document' that will be revised and updated periodically to reflect the needs of the watershed. The celebration will congratulate Council members for their commitment and perseverance in researching, cooperating and planning on a watershed basis. It will also encourage other interested organizations to become involved as Council members.

From its headwaters on Palomar Mountain, the San Luis Rey River passes through some of the most beautiful and diverse natural habitat in San Diego County. The river supports many nurseries, groves, threatened wildlife species and five Native American Indian Reservations as it winds its way to the Pacific Ocean. An estimated 141,500 people live within this watershed, primarily in the coastal urban areas of Oceanside. By 2015, this number is forecast to grow to over 242,000 people. Working together to protect and improve the quality of these valuable resources will help ensure a brighter future for the San Luis Rey watershed.