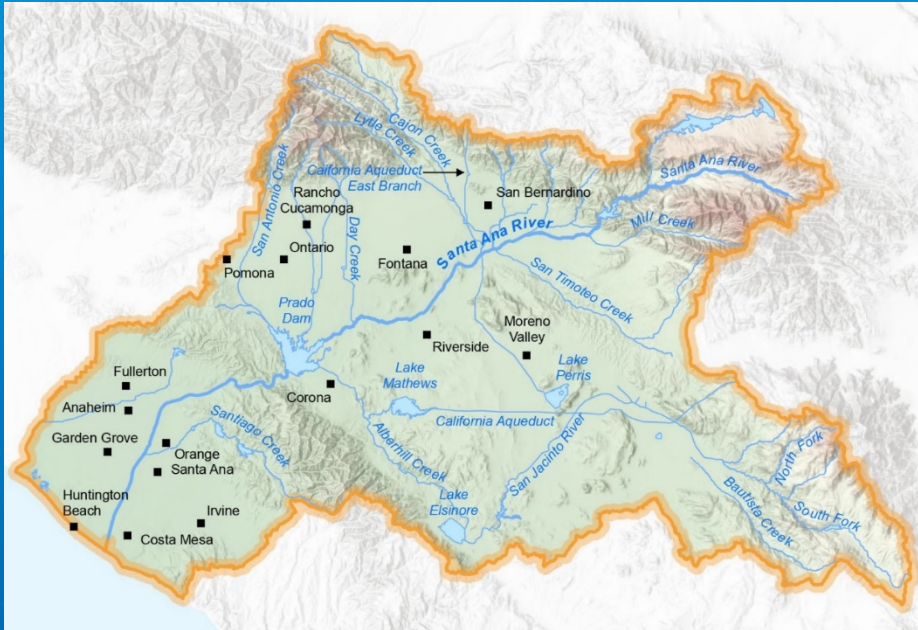


Santa Ana Watershed Ambassador Program



Randy Record
September 12, 2019



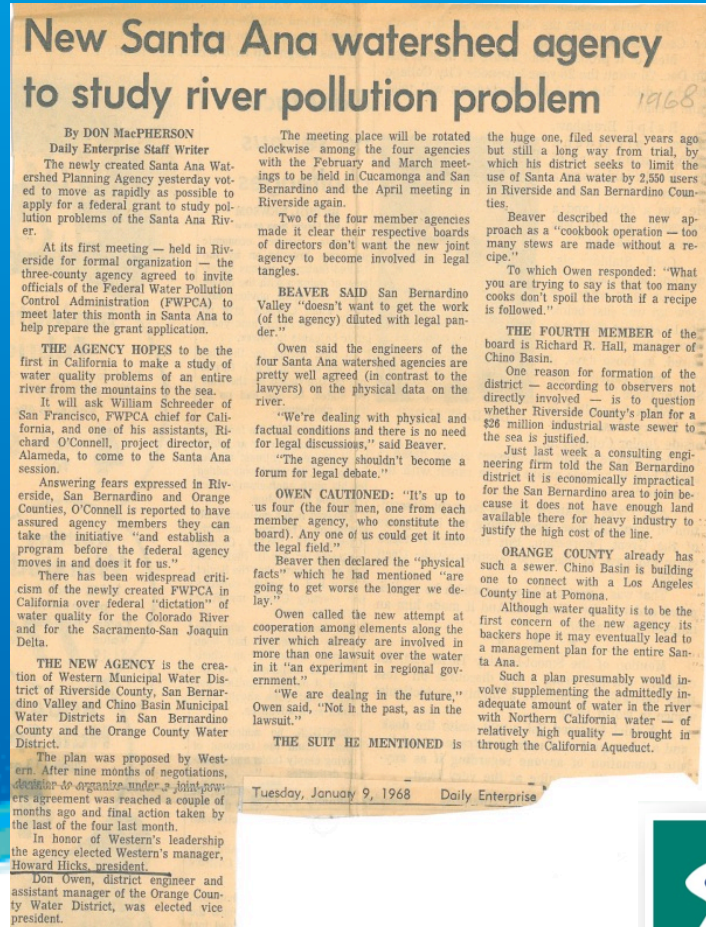
History of Conflict

- The Santa Ana River faced years of legal disputes over water rights, over 4,000 litigants.
- To bring the lawsuits to an end, on April 17, 1969, it was decided that rights to the Santa Ana River would be managed by four representative parties.



Creation of SAWPA

- SAWPA, formed as a planning agency in 1968 to deal with water quality issues.
- The federal Clean Water Act was signed into law in 1972. Leaders wanted to get ahead on implementation.
- SAWPA's founders started with water quality, and moved to broad watershed management.



SAWPA and its Service Area

- SAWPA (JPA) by the numbers:
 - Five member agencies (below).
 - 2,840 square mile Santa Ana River Watershed
 - 70 retail water agencies
 - 10 wholesale water agencies
 - 4 flood control districts
 - 60 cities and approximately
 - 6 million people.



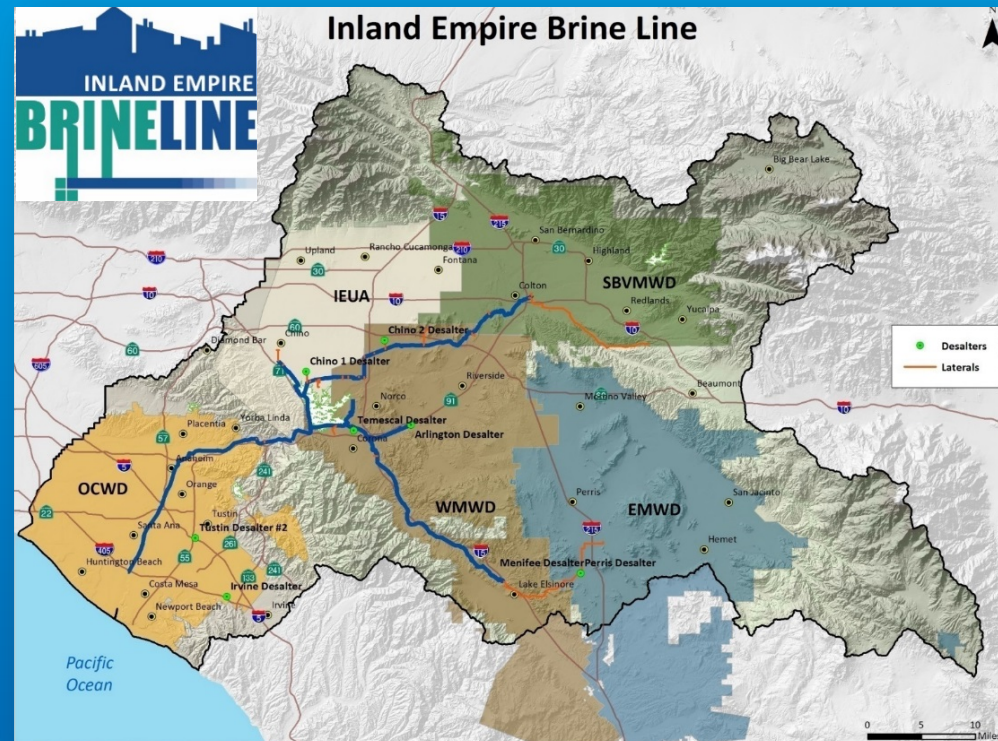
Early Days of SAWPA

- SAWPA's initial task: develop water quality management plan
- The Plan was completed in 1972 and included 12 major projects to improve water quality by:
 - Exporting salt and pollutants (projects like Stringfellow Superfund site);
 - Reducing salt coming into water from agriculture;
 - Keeping salty groundwater out of the Santa Ana River to improve the Orange County Groundwater Basin.



Water Quality Solution

- Brineline was a major success
- 93-mile-long brineline
- 30 million gallons per day capacity



Benefit of Brineline to EMWD

- Brineline Supports EMWD Desalination Program Goals:
- Provide reliable local water supply for up to 30,000 households from an otherwise unusable brackish water source.
- Export up to 50,000 tons of salt per year accumulated from imported water sources in the watershed
- Protect adjacent high-quality, lower salinity groundwater sources thorough strategically located pumping
- Increases sustainability of EMWD's recycled water program



SAWPA and Integrated Regional Water Management

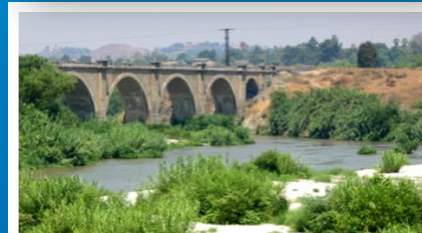
- Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) finds win-win solutions for watershed.
 - Multi-agency task forces;
 - Funding; and
 - Long term regional water planning – One Water One Watershed.



Emerging Constituents Task Force



Forest First



Basin Monitoring Program Task Force



Middle Santa Ana River Watershed TMDL Task Force

OWOW Planning

- Focus of OWOW:
 - Remove agency silos;
 - Encourage a team approach; and
 - Think regionally.



OWOW – Project Implementation

- Planning → funding
- State grant funding is available for IRWM: Proposition 13, 50, 84 and 1.
- Projects are multi-benefits and cover larger areas of the watershed.
 - Examples:
 - regional water banking;
 - watershed-wide conservation programs;
 - integrated stormwater capture programs.



San Jacinto Basin Groundwater Well
- Part of the Santa Ana River Conservation and
Conjunctive Use Program -

Resolving Today's Conflicts



- SAWPA's early days, fight over water rights,
- Today, the conflicts are over local control vs. State-wide regulations,
- SAWPA leverages partnerships and funding.