

The One Water One Watershed Plan Update 2018 describes how collaborative watershed planning, water and land management, and project implementation supports improved sustainability, resilience, and quality of life throughout the Santa Ana River Watershed through 2040.

The six goals of the OWOW Plan Update 2018 are to...

Achieve resilient water resources through innovation and optimization.

Objectives:

- Increase the reuse of water
- Innovate to increase water-use efficiency, conservation and interregional transfers
- Manage precipitation as a valuable watershed resource
- Reduce carbon emissions from water resources management
- Safely strengthen links between flood protection, storm water management and water conservation
- Sustainably manage groundwater basins
- Plan for OWOW implementation beyond state grants

Ensure high quality water for all people and the environment.

Objectives:

- Achieve and maintain salt balance in the watershed
- Ensure every human being in the watershed has safe, clean, affordable, and accessible water adequate for human consumption, cooking, and sanitary purposes
- Protect and improve source water quality
- Protect beneficial uses and attain water quality standards in freshwater and marine environments
- Reduce water systems vulnerability to climate impacts
- Support alignment of regulatory action with watershed goals

Preserve and enhance recreational areas, open space, habitat, and natural hydrologic function.

Objectives:

- Conduct regional effort to remove and manage invasive species
- Preserve and restore beneficial hydrologic function of streams, arroyos, water bodies, and the coastal zone
- Protect and restore wildlife corridors and habitat connectivity
- Protect endangered and threatened species, and species of special concern
- Support healthy watershed policies with local land use authority

Engage with members of disadvantaged communities and associated supporting organizations to diminish environmental injustices and their impacts on the watershed.

Objectives:

- Adopt best-practices for environmental justice action throughout water management
- Analyze and confront unequal community vulnerabilities to climate impacts
- Ensure community voices help identify strengths and needs
- Strive to include community cultural values in watershed management decision-making
- Support broad-based collaboratives alleviating homelessness and its impact on the watershed.

Educate and build trust between people and organizations.

Objectives:

- Adopt policies strengthening transparency in water management decision-making
- Collaborate with educators to broaden youth knowledge about water
- Develop strong ongoing consultation and partnership with Native American tribes
- Ensure conservation is a way of life in the Santa Ana River Watershed
- Innovate communication strategies for diverse communities
- Maintain and grow watershed and sub-watershed collaborative water management efforts

Improve data integration, tracking and reporting to strengthen decision-making.

Objectives:

- Apply new technologies to maintain and enhance transparency and efficiency
- Collaborate to produce regular publicly-accessible watershed health reports
- Develop standard data formats and data fields for comparative analyses
- Increase appropriate access to data for decision-makers, managers, and the public
- Reduce redundancy in data collection in overlapping programs
- Streamline regulatory reporting requirements