The Santa Ana Sucker Fish Conservation Team reflects the involvement and active participation of over 20 agencies and non-profit organizations throughout the Santa Ana River Watershed who have worked together since 1998 to help conduct the following activities:

- Habitat protection projects and programs;
- Education and outreach;
- Surveys to monitor fish status, and assessments of habitat conditions; and
- Research to increase the understanding of fish distribution in the watershed.
Habitat Creation Projects

The Team is developing an in-river habitat project to create spawning and feeding refuge for the Santa Ana sucker fish. The Project would add habitat variability that the fish needs in some portions of the Santa Ana River. Known as the Santa Ana Sucker Habitat Protection and Beneficial Use Enhancement Project, design is underway in Spring of 2017 with construction planned for Fall of 2018 near the City of Riverside.

Habitat Protection Projects

The Team has partnered with the City of Colton Police Department to implementing additional off highway vehicle patrols. Unfortunately, vehicle trespassing does takes place within prime Santa Ana sucker habitat in the mainstem of the Santa Ana River. Financial assistance by the Team has allowed the Police Department to enforce local codes and ordinances on high river-traffic weekends.
Riverwalk Survey

The Riverwalk is an annual aquatic habitat survey that takes place on an 18 mile stretch of the Santa Ana River beginning near Colton in San Bernardino County and ending near Corona in Riverside County. Since 2006, the Team has continued the implementation of the annual survey and analyzed the results which inform water agencies and the public of the River’s conditions.

Get Involved

- Contact the SAWPA Project Manager Ian Achimore at iachimore@sawpa.org.
- Participate in Team meetings to provide input on projects.
- Propose funding sources or assistance to implement Sucker habitat protection or creation projects.
- Volunteer to participate in surveys.