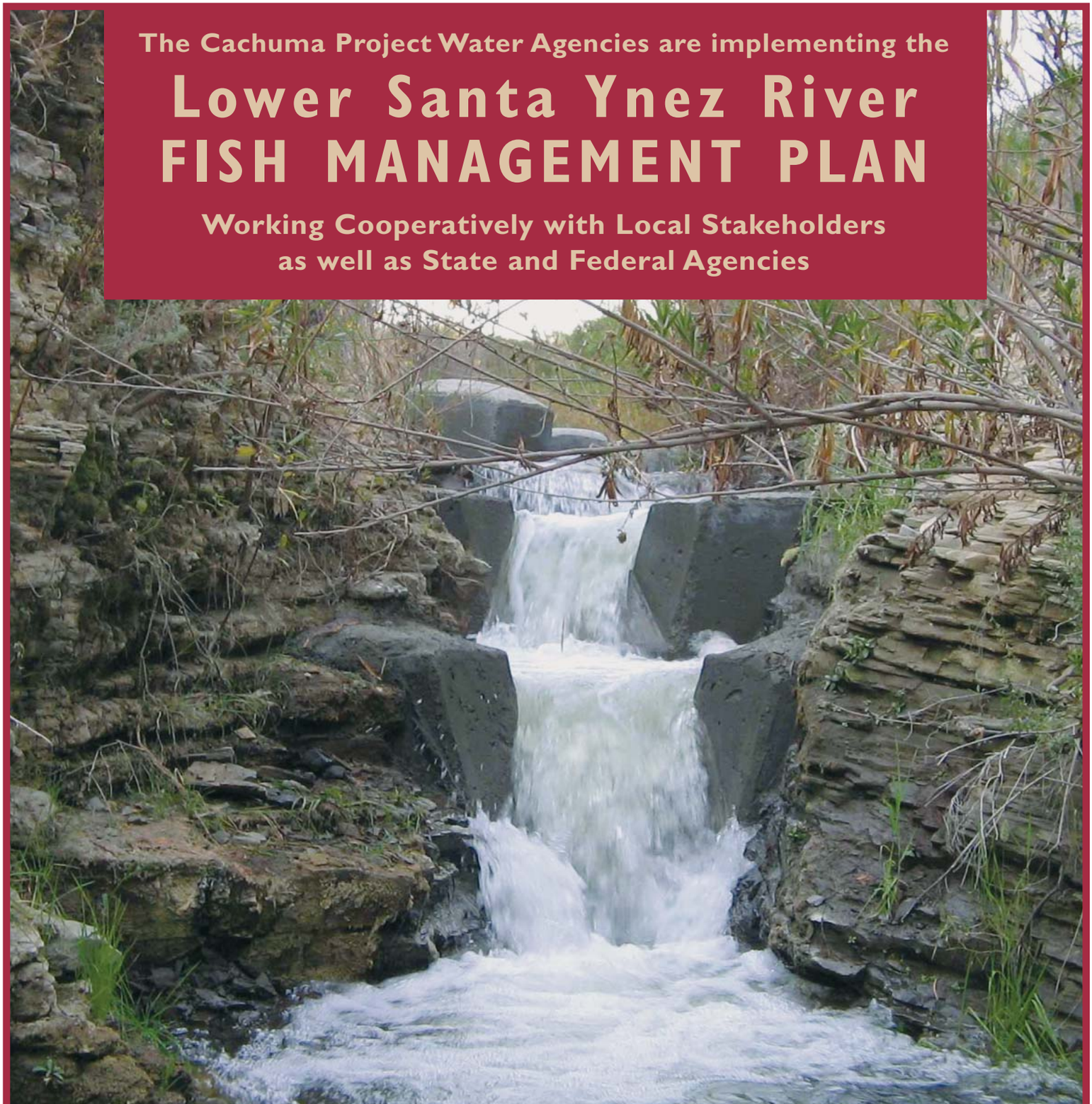
The Cachuma Project Water Agencies are implementing the

Lower Santa Ynez River FISH MANAGEMENT PLAN

Working Cooperatively with Local Stakeholders as well as State and Federal Agencies



City of Santa Barbara • Goleta Water District • Montecito Water District
Carpinteria Valley Water District • Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District ID No. 1

Upstream view of Hilton Creek Cascade Chute Fish Passage Enhancement Project.

Lower Santa Ynez River Fish Management Plan

Improving the Santa Ynez River environment to create a healthful habitat for fish and wildlife, while providing adequate water supplies for people and agriculture.

LAKE CACHUMA AND THE LOWER SANTA YNEZ RIVER

Many Lake Cachuma Benefits

Bradbury Dam was built on the Santa Ynez River a half century ago, forming *Lake Cachuma* in order to provide needed water storage for people and agriculture.

Today, Lake Cachuma continues to meet these purposes.

The Lake also provides water releases from a dedicated water supply for steelhead to maintain fish habitat downstream of the dam.

Lower Santa Ynez River.

Lake Cachuma and Bradbury Dam in winter.

The coordination of all these important uses by local water agencies has resulted in a balanced water management program for people, farms and fish.

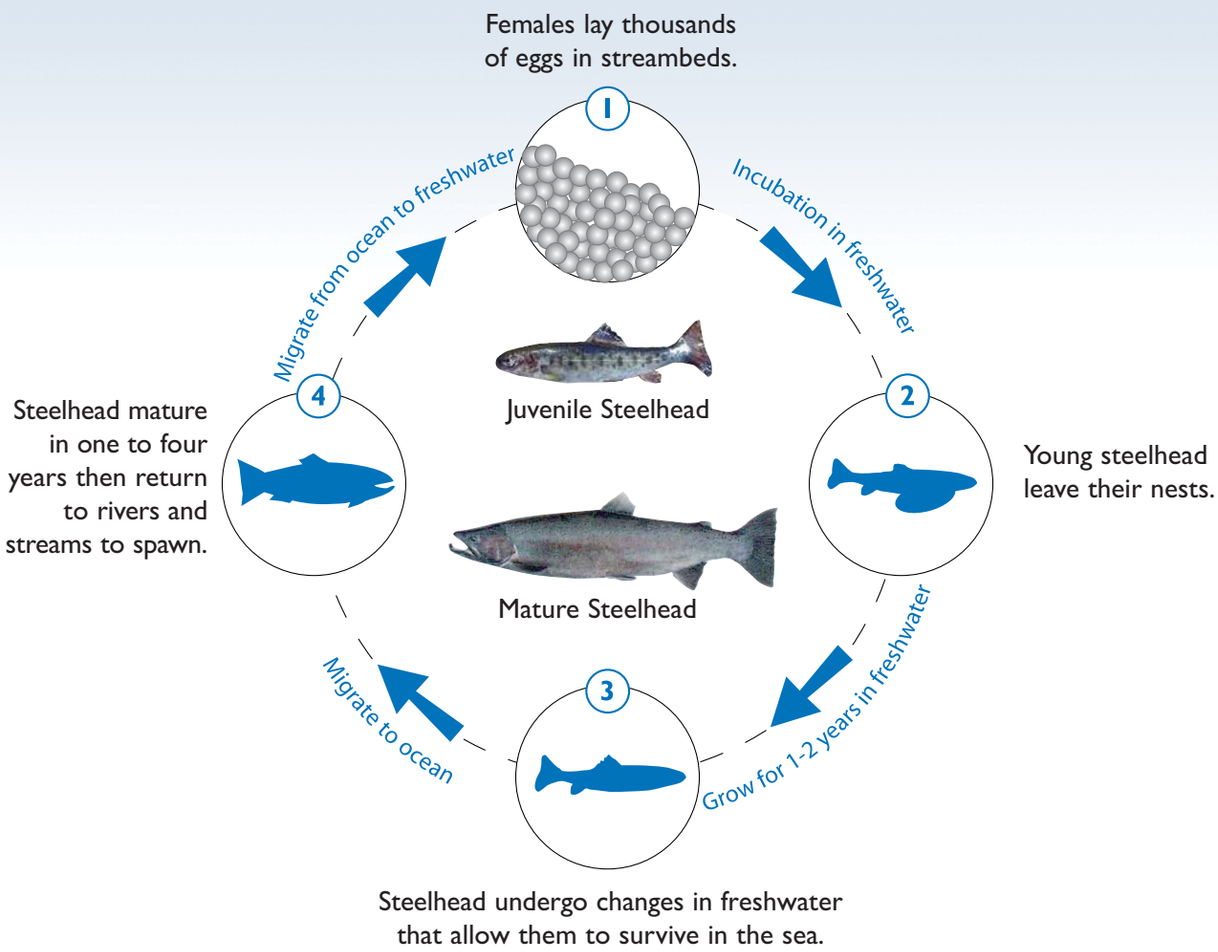
THE LOWER SANTA YNEZ RIVER FISH MANAGEMENT PLAN

The primary goal of the Fish Management Plan is to provide physical projects and management strategies that will protect, enhance, restore and create new habitat for spawning and rearing of endangered steelhead.

The Plan also seeks a balance between fish management, other ecological needs, the delivery of adequate water supplies to customers of local water agencies, and groundwater recharge.

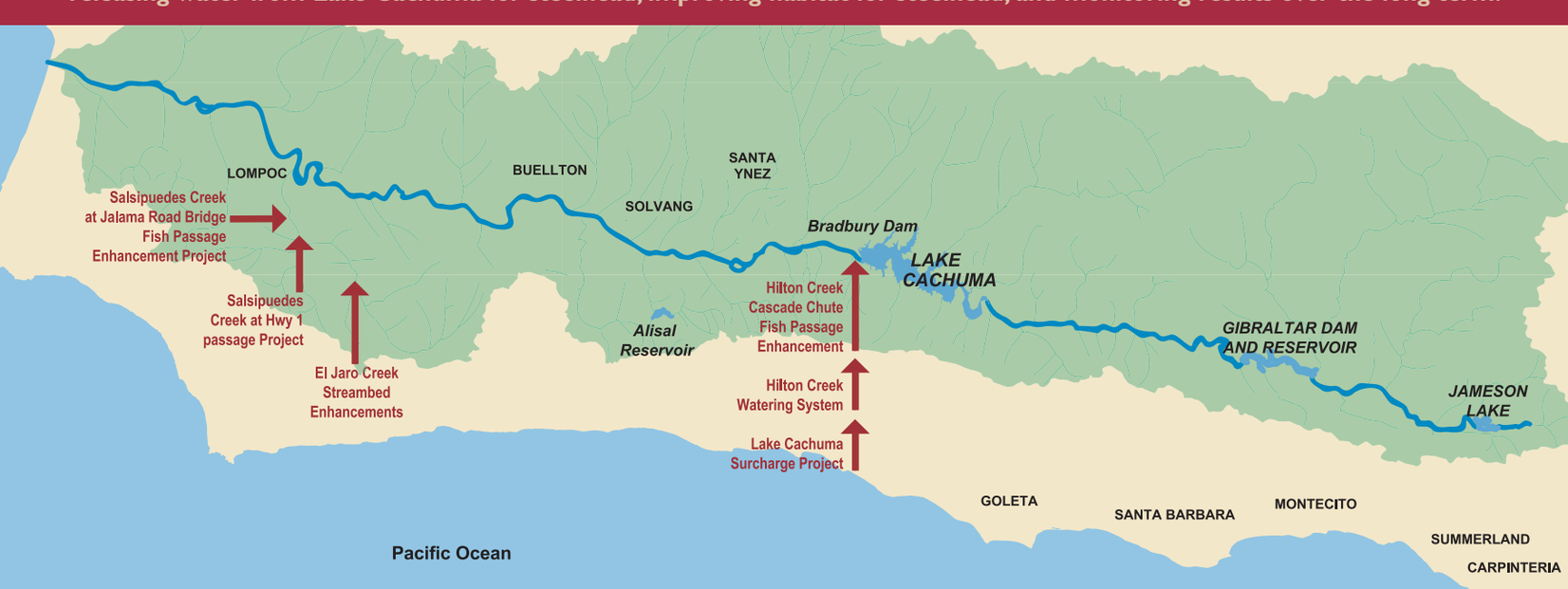
UNDERSTANDING THE MIGRATORY LIFE OF STEELHEAD

Steelhead are born in freshwater streams, migrate to the ocean when they are a year or two old, live in the ocean for up to four years, then return as adults to reproduce in streams.



The Lower Santa Ynez River – Location of Projects

Implementing the Fish Management Plan includes diverse improvement projects: modifying barriers to steelhead migration; releasing water from Lake Cachuma for steelhead; improving habitat for steelhead; and monitoring results over the long term.



LOWER SANTA YNEZ RIVER FISH MANAGEMENT PLAN
Cachuma Conservation Release Board
3301 Laurel Canyon Road, Santa Barbara, CA 93105
Phone: 805/569-1391 • www.ccrb-comb.org

Mouth of the Santa Ynez River.

The Cachuma Project Water Agencies carry out ongoing scientific studies along the river, monitor changing conditions, and negotiate with the varied river interests: cities, environmental groups, state and federal regulators, farmers, and fish enthusiasts to develop programs that benefit all.

Photo courtesy of Tom Taylor

The Lower Santa Ynez River Fish Management Plan works closely with agricultural land owners and other stakeholders in the Santa Ynez River Watershed.

Multi-Million Dollar Ongoing Investment

Since the early 1990s, Cachuma Project Member Agencies have shared millions of dollars in project costs with outside funders. They also fully fund the annual near-million dollar monitoring and administrative costs of the program.

PROMOTING UNDERSTANDING OF THE SANTA YNEZ RIVER SYSTEM
FISH AND WATER SUPPLIES

Lower Santa Ynez River Fish Management Plan

Printed on recycled paper - using soy-based ink.
Each ton of recycled paper saves 7,000 gallons of water.