



*Connect.
Create.
Conserve.*

Volunteering and the San Diego River Park Experience









the RIVER PARK is happening

JOIN THE MOVEMENT!

www.sandiegoriver.org

What is a volunteer?

- An individual who performs hours of service for a public agency [or organization] for civic, charitable, or humanitarian reasons, without promise, expectation or receipt of compensation for services rendered.

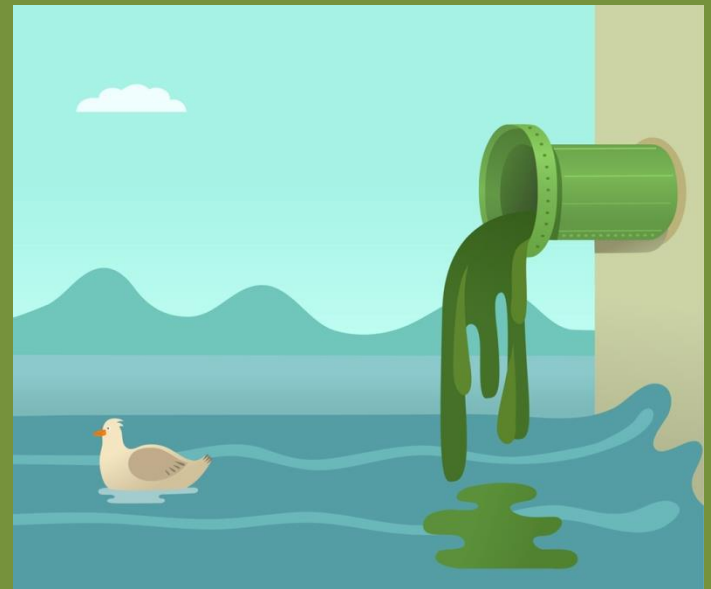
- Fair Labor Standards Act

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OUR ORIGINS

In 2000 – 34 million
gallon sewer spill
entered the San Diego
River.





Its not working!!!



How could we be part of the solution?

Connect. Create. Conserve.



San Diego River Park Foundation

Healthy River Healthy Communities

Save the Source

Create the River Park system

Connect. Create. Conserve.



Healthy River, Healthy Communities



Connect. Create. Conserve.



Creating the SD River Park system



Connect. Create. Conserve.



Save the Source

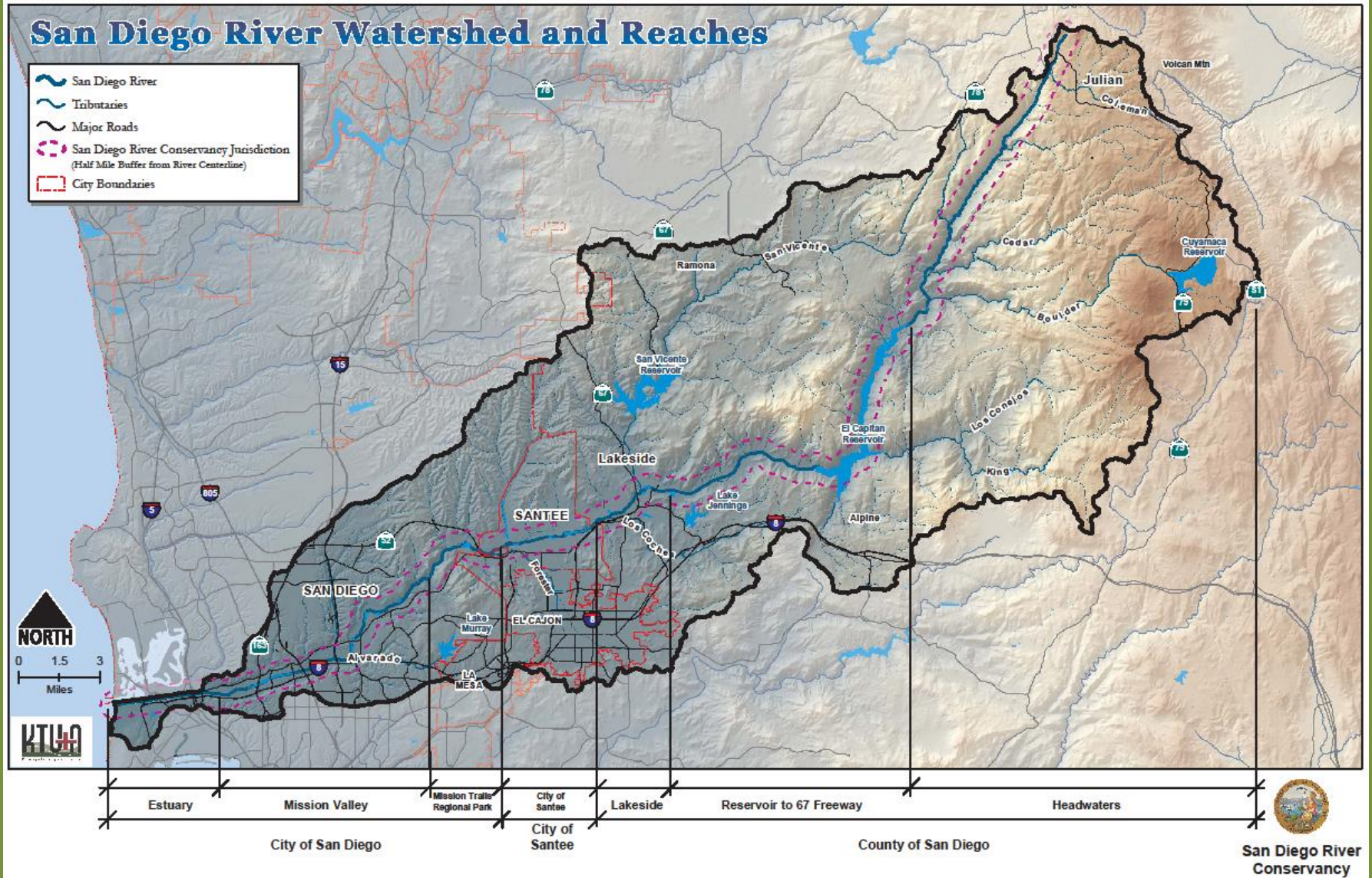


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San Diego River Watershed and Reaches

- San Diego River
- Tributaries
- Major Roads
- San Diego River Conservancy Jurisdiction
(Half Mile Buffer from River Centerline)
- City Boundaries



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Urban River



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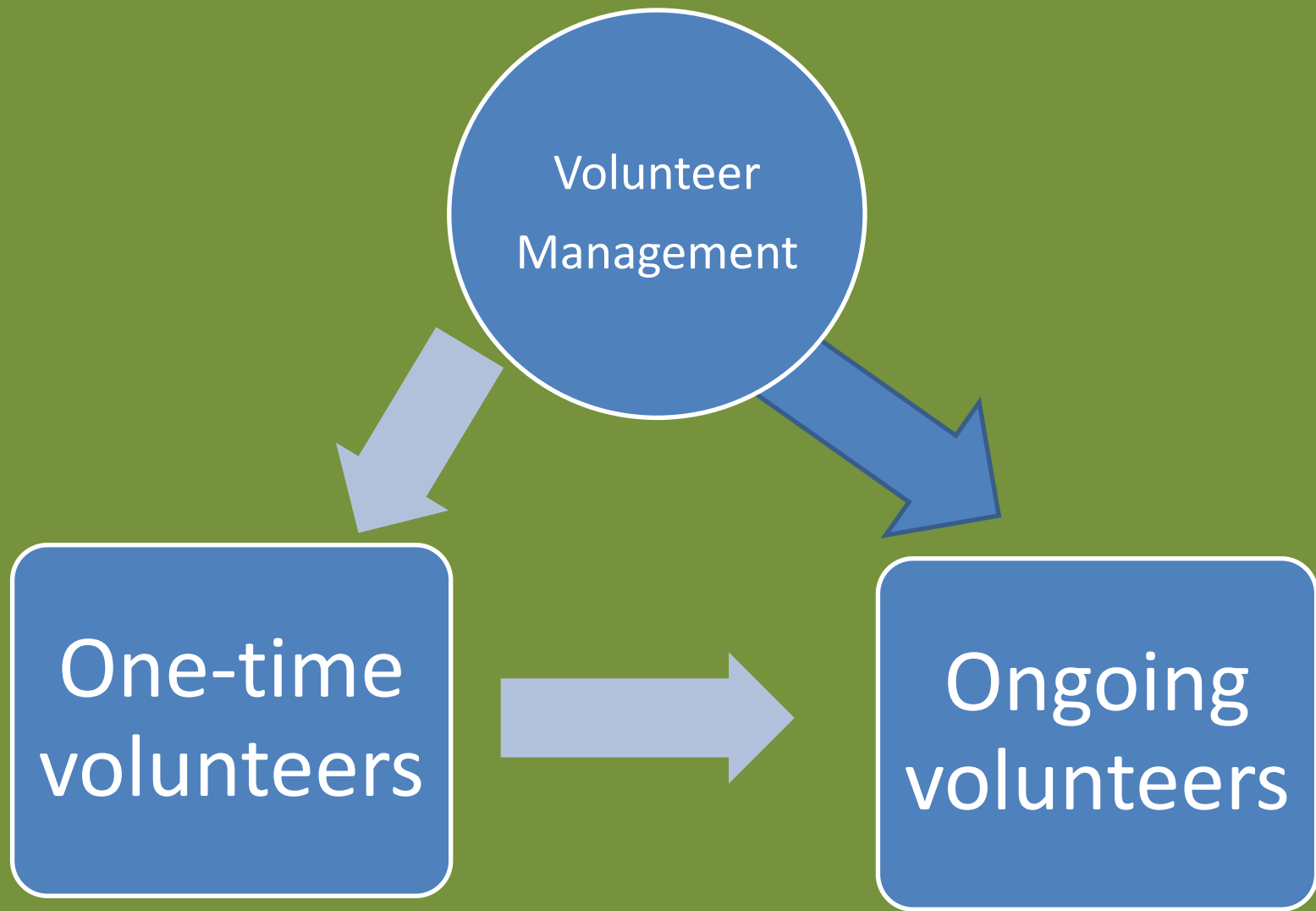
Our Mission

- To engage people in creating a better future for the San Diego River and improving our quality of life



Connect. Create. Conserve.





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Volunteer Systems

- Ad Hoc
- Outside Recruitment/Internal Management
- Centralized Model
- Decentralized Model



Why People Volunteer

- 86% Feeling compassion for people in need
 - 72% Have an interest in the type of work
 - 70% It makes you feel good
 - 70% It gives you a new perspective
 - 67% It is important and helps a community
 - 63% The importance of the activity for those in need
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- Bohse and Associates (1998)



Who Volunteers?

- 44 in 100 Americans volunteer
- 63% of volunteers, volunteer on a regular basis (monthly or better)
- 2001 Independent Sector Study



Lessons Learned

- Structured and Well Run
- Meaningful
- Milestone Driven
- Celebrate Your Volunteers



HRHC System

- River Blitz: semi-annual surveys
- Clean & Green – Community Clean-ups
- River Rescue – small, targeted clean-ups
- RiverWatch – Monitoring monitoring



River Clean-Ups

- 1.6 millions lbs. of trash removed
- 3000+ volunteers annually
- Goal = Trash-Free River



River Rescuers

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Success!



- Take Pride in America Award
- Keep America Beautiful Awards
- 1000s of people engaged
- Working toward a cleaner river and River Park system

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Rob Hutsel, rob@sandiegoriver.org
www.sandiegoriver.org 619-297-7380

