



NEWS RELEASE

DATE: JULY 25, 2018

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SCV Water Partners to Provide Water for Santa Clarita-area Forest Restoration

TreePeople's restoration efforts in the Angeles NF will create healthier, safer Santa Clarita Valley watershed

ANGELES NATIONAL FOREST [July 25, 2018] – The Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency has come to the rescue by contributing the water that will allow TreePeople's forest restoration program to continue through the summer. TreePeople and crews of local volunteers have been working to restore healthier and less fire-prone forest in an area of San Francisquito Canyon damaged by the Copper Fire a few years ago.

"Our small donation of non-potable water is providing so many benefits - watershed protection, erosion control, plus the forest restoration with native plants," said Steve Cole, assistant general manager for SCV Water. "We are glad to partner with TreePeople in such an important effort."

"We are so grateful that SCV Water jumped right in to contribute water to the forest restoration work we are doing upstream in the Angeles," said Thierry Rivard, TreePeople's Angeles Restoration Program Manager. "The whole community in Santa Clarita is really coming together to help, and we're glad to have the water agency as a partner, leading by example."

It's a cruel reality that those areas hit by major wildfires often become even more dangerous in the future, as invasive species rush in and grow vigorously, only to become dense masses of tinder as they dry out. This is why TreePeople has made this area of the Angeles National Forest a priority for forest restoration, in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, and donors led by Boeing. Now SCV Water has joined the partnership.

Restoration efforts in San Francisquito Canyon had hit a snag recently, as previous water sources became unavailable. Thankfully, SCV Water stepped in as soon as they learned of the need, and their donated water will now allow TreePeople and their teams of volunteers to care for the native forest species planted earlier in the year.

TreePeople's truck will now roll up to SCV Water and fill its tanks before heading up the canyons for each of their restoration events.

More help is needed! TreePeople and their partners can use all the volunteer help that the Santa Clarita region can muster. To find out about upcoming volunteer events and how to get involved, register at www.treepeople.org/calendar, email volunteer@treepeople.org, or call 818-632-4879.

###

About SCV Water

The Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency (SCV Water) is a full-service regional water agency located in the Santa Clarita Valley. SCV Water provides water service to business and residential customers – half are local groundwater supplies and the other half is imported from the State Water Project and other sources.

SCV Water was formed on January 1, 2018 and combines the former service areas of Castaic Lake Water Agency, Newhall County Water District, Santa Clarita Water Division and Valencia Water Company. Following a multi-year public engagement process, the agency was formed through Senate Bill 634 authored by Senator Scott Wilk and signed by Governor Jerry Brown on October 15, 2017. SCV Water was formed to enhance regional water management and reduce costs for local ratepayers.

More information can be found at www.yourscvwater.com.

About TreePeople

TreePeople unites the power of trees, people and nature-based solutions to grow a healthy, green city in the face of climate change's increasing impacts. The organization inspires, engages and supports people to take responsibility for the urban environment, facilitates collaboration among government agencies, and promotes leadership in volunteers, students and communities. Together, we are growing a greener, shadier, healthier and more water-secure Los Angeles for present and future generations.

For more information, visit treepeople.org.

For more information, please contact:

Kathie Martin
Public Information Officer
SCV Water
kmartin@scvwa.org
661-513-1265

Dan Braun
Interim Director of Communications
TreePeople
dbraun@treepeople.org
213-268-1175