



FRIENDS OF THE LA RIVER

Bond Park and Sepulveda Basin South Reserve June 26-27, 2021

Moving right along as we work our way downstream to show our River Love at CleanUp 2021. This past weekend marked our fourth straight week in the river channel with volunteers - ensuring our total impact has exceeded 14,000 pounds of trash removed from the LA River and its ecosystem. We are so impressed with all the positive energy each and every volunteer brings to our event - without their collective support, this event would not be nearly as impactful. Special thanks to all who donated to our materials drive in support of SELAH Neighborhood Homeless Coalition, a service provider that works out of Bond Park weekly. Together we're making an impact to support the people and wildlife for whom the LA River is their home.

Volunteer tosses trash across the river (L), Teams across SoCal joined this weekend with their families. Legal group (Center) and electricians (R).





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Girl Scout Troop points the way at Bond Park (L), Volunteers from sponsor SoCal Gas joined us to pull their weight (R).

BY THE NUMBERS

- 203 total volunteers, (767 vols over four weeks)
- 498 bags of trash, (1,831 total over four weeks)
- Weird items: 9 shopping carts, automobile parts, action figure, broken crock pot.
- Wildlife on-site: Great Blue Heron, Coopers & Red-tailed hawks, spotted towhee, crabs, and a coyote.

+ 14,000 lbs of trash removed from the LA River

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Here's Tom (far right) leading a bird survey with volunteers in 2019 near Haskell Creek.

Biomonitoring at CleanUp

This week we're highlighting biologist Tom Ryan who monitors for bird habitats at each of our cleanup sites. Tom walks the sites before volunteers arrive, noting nesting sites for birds on the LA River. His work is supported by contributions from Atwater Village Neighborhood Council. We pride ourselves in improving habitat and respecting wildlife.

Special Thanks to the Army Corps

The USACE (Army Corps) led the charge at our cleanup site in Sepulveda Basin this weekend along with Encino Neighborhood Council. They sent some of their top regional commanders and provided an enriching volunteer opportunity for nature lovers in the San Fernando Valley.



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CleanUp powers FoLAR's work year round!
With sponsor support we work to:

- Restore 110 acres of river wildlife preserve with invasive species removal.
- Protect urban riparian habitat for 1,200 species of wildlife.
- Generate 600 public comments to public agencies on impactful environmental policy.
- Advocate for 51 miles of river that serves our need for climate resiliency.
- Connect 3000 Title I students a year to nature in an outdoor or virtual classroom experience on the banks of the LA River.



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