



# ARROYO SECO FOUNDATION

- PRESERVING AND RESTORING THE WATERSHED FOR OVER 30 YEARS -

Dear Friends of the Arroyo,

What a trying year this has been for all of us, though it has also been a remarkably productive year for the Arroyo Seco Foundation. This year ASF has logged some marvelous accomplishments:

- **Hahamongna Settlement** – after a dynamic, ten-year grassroots and legal campaign, we were able to reduce the negative impacts of LA County Flood Control District's sediment management program in Hahamongna Watershed Park and work out a cooperative agreement that will make the program better for all involved – the birds, wildlife, water conservation, hikers and equestrians, birdwatchers, and even the County itself.
- **A Forgotten Stream Comes Alive** – ASF, along with the City of Pasadena, cosponsored the very successful Berkshire Creek restoration in the southwest corner of Hahamongna Watershed Park.
- **Lower Arroyo Habitat Restoration** – ASF worked to build support for a science-based, habitat restoration program in the Lower Arroyo that the Pasadena City Council recently approved.
- **Bringing Native Trout Back to the Arroyo Seco and the LA River.**
- **Cultivating thousands of native plants** for habitat restoration and local gardens at Hahamongna Native Plant Nursery.

How have we been able to accomplish so much during this excruciating year? Two factors:

1. Your support. We don't receive major funding from governmental agencies or distant foundations. We rely heavily on the support of our members and supporters each and every year. And we are very grateful and careful about how we utilize your contribution.
2. Increased Volunteer Involvement – Individuals and organizational volunteers have compensated for our reduced staffing this year and made possible a lot of wonderful accomplishments. Schools, environmental groups, the Boy Scouts and scores of others have benefited from and contributed greatly to our accomplishments.

The Arroyo Seco Foundation is undisputedly the protector of nature and of our region's greatest natural treasure with an unparalleled thirty-year record of achievements. However, we need your support to ensure that we can continue this vital work. This is our Annual Appeal. We don't focus on fundraising during the year with plaintive cries for donations. This is our one major request this year.

Your Annual Appeal gift to ASF is critical to continue our mission of bringing people, nature, and the Arroyo Seco together for a sustainable future. Each gift directly supports our activities and operations and gives us the resources we need to protect and restore the Arroyo Seco for today and for future generations.

Thank you so much for your help and support. Your generosity really makes a difference.

Gratefully,

Tim Brick  
Managing Director  
Arroyo Seco Foundation



## BERKSHIRE CREEK COMES ALIVE!

Nestled in the southwest corner of Hahamongna Watershed Park, there is a quiet, little canyon that has been severely degraded over the years by flooding and erosion. The Berkshire Creek Area Improvement Project is an Urban Streams Restoration program that has upgraded habitat, improved public safety and restored a more natural hydrology to Berkshire Creek, a tributary of the Arroyo Seco.

The Arroyo Seco Foundation is pleased to have collaborated with the Pasadena Public Work Department as co-sponsor of this program, a model for future Arroyo restoration programs. Come on by and visit the site to see for yourself!

We are pleased and proud that ASF, together with the Pasadena Audubon Society, have been able to work out a settlement with the Los Angeles County Flood Control District that will minimize many of the negative aspects of their sediment management program in Hahamongna and provide for a more sustainable future for the Hahamongna basin. The County Supervisors, led by Supervisor Katherine Barger, approved our settlement agreement on July 7th.

Now we are busy propagating native natives for the County's habitat restoration program in the Hahamongna basin.

## HAHAMONGNA NATIVE PLANT NURSERY IS THRIVING!



Hahamongna Native Plant Nursery sits in a lovely setting at the foot of the San Gabriel Mountains in the northwest corner of Pasadena's Hahamongna Watershed Park. The nursery, which relies heavily on volunteer involvement, provides more than one hundred species of native plants for habitat restoration projects and for homes, businesses and public spaces. This year there have been some important improvements in facilities and a tremendous expansion of community and volunteer involvement in the nursery.

The Arroyo Seco Foundation is building an impressive, participatory environmental education program

**TWO SUCCESSFUL LAWSUITS LED TO:**

- Major Improvements in the Sediment Removal Program and
- a More Environmentally-Sensitive Management Program for the Future of Hahamongna



Attorney Mitchell M. Tsai

## BIG DIG SETTLEMENT

Hahamongna is one of the greatest environmental treasures in Southern California, so it's no surprise that ASF and the community have waged such a determined struggle to protect it. It's been a ten-year campaign, capped by two successful lawsuits, to treat the area with the respect it deserves.

at the nursery. Each visitor receives important information about native plants and how they can promote environmental awareness and foster biodiversity. Besides beautifying your yard or garden, native plants are low-water use, promote biodiversity and feed the birds, bugs and wildlife in a sustainable way that no other plants can. The nursery's goal is not simply to propagate native plants, but also to provide educational resources to the community and help foster the growth of a new generation of local environmental stewards.



*Restoring Nature's Balance: Staff and students pose for a photo at Hahamongna Native Plant Nursery*

## ARROYO SECO CURRENTS

Responding to the challenges of the pandemic, ASF has gone online with a great series of Zoom meetings and discussions on the big issues facing the Arroyo. Our first session was produced together with our partners at Pasadena Audubon Society to announce and celebrate our settlement with Los Angeles County regarding their sediment management program in Hahamongna Watershed Park. Since then Arroyo Currents has featured more great programs:

- How to Grow a Native Garden in Los Angeles
- From Sea to Summit: The Marvelous Hummingbird
- Heal the Basin & Let the River Flow: Pasadena's Water Crisis

Stay tuned for more informative presentations that you can enjoy from the comfort of your home.



## CAN WE BRING NATIVE TROUT BACK TO THE ARROYO?

Did you ever wonder what happened to the native fish in the Arroyo Seco? Or whether any of them could survive in the river today?

Arroyo Seco Foundation is working with the Council on Watershed Health, the City of Los Angeles and Stillwater Sciences to answer these probing questions.

Scientists and restoration experts are now exploring how to design stream improvements that will provide good habitat and conditions for steelhead trout and other native fish in a 4.8-mile stretch of the LA River near downtown LA.

In addition to possible improvements in the river through downtown LA, the tributaries that link the river to the San Gabriel Mountains will eventually be key, particularly the Arroyo Seco and Tujunga Canyon.

The Arroyo Seco is the first stream on the LA River system where the endangered southern steelhead can be reestablished because of its historic steelhead run and because it is the first major stream to reach up to the mountains where they could encounter the cold water and habitat they need for spawning.

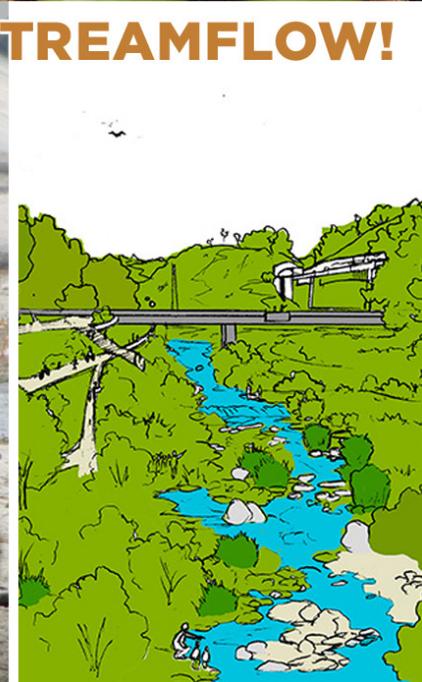
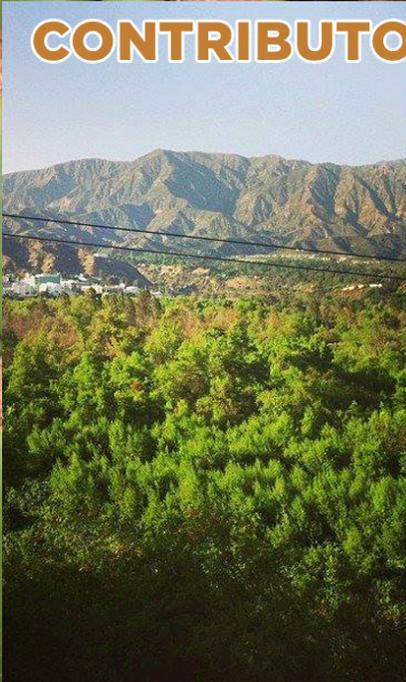




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