

MEDIA ALERT – For Thursday, December 8, 2022

The San Diego River Park Foundation Celebrates Major Milestone 100 TONS OF TRASH REMOVED FROM THE SAN DIEGO RIVER IN 2022



San Diego, CA (December 8, 2022) - The San Diego River Park Foundation has hit a milestone this week, **over 100 TONS (200,000 pounds) of trash have been removed from the San Diego riverbed** and the surrounding region this year. This monumental impact was made possible with support from more than 1,400 San Diego River Park Foundation volunteers who contributed over 4,320 hours to cleaning and removing trash from the riverbed (and counting!).

Breaking it down to pounds of trash removed per region, 133,458 pounds were removed from the river in the City of San Diego and 66,570 were removed from the riverbed in the City of Santee. The City of San Diego makes up approximately $\frac{2}{3}$ of the riverbed the River Park team cares for, and Santee accounts for the additional $\frac{1}{3}$ of cared-for riverbed land.

The San Diego River Park Foundation's Healthy River, Healthy Communities program is focused on working towards our goal of a Trash-Free River. Field surveys inform our river cleanup program which focuses on collaboration, advocacy, and action. In 2021, we removed 191,540 pounds of trash.

Reaching this goal would not be possible without the support of our community partners including Think Blue San Diego, the City of San Diego, City of Santee, County of San Diego, The San Diego River Conservancy, Union Bank Foundation, Junk King San Diego, One Tree Planted.

Many hands make light work, and the San Diego River Park Foundation's work has just begun. Volunteers can give back this holiday season and join a community clean-up or habitat restoration. This Saturday, December 10, Clean & Green Team volunteers will be at Forester Creek in Santee from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm. You can see the full calendar of community volunteer opportunities through the following link: <https://sandiegoriver.galaxydigital.com/need/>

About The San Diego River Park Foundation

The San Diego River Park Foundation's mission is to engage people to work toward a better future for the historic San Diego River and create a 52-mile river parkway from the mountains to the ocean. The San Diego River Park Foundation is a non-profit community-based organization

founded in 2001 which believes the San Diego River has incredible potential as a cultural, ecological, and recreational treasure for our region.

To learn more, visit: <https://sandiegoriver.org/>

CONTACT: Amanda Jordan
Marketing & PR Manager
The San Diego River Park Foundation
P: 619-415-3928
E: Amanda@sandiegoriver.org

###