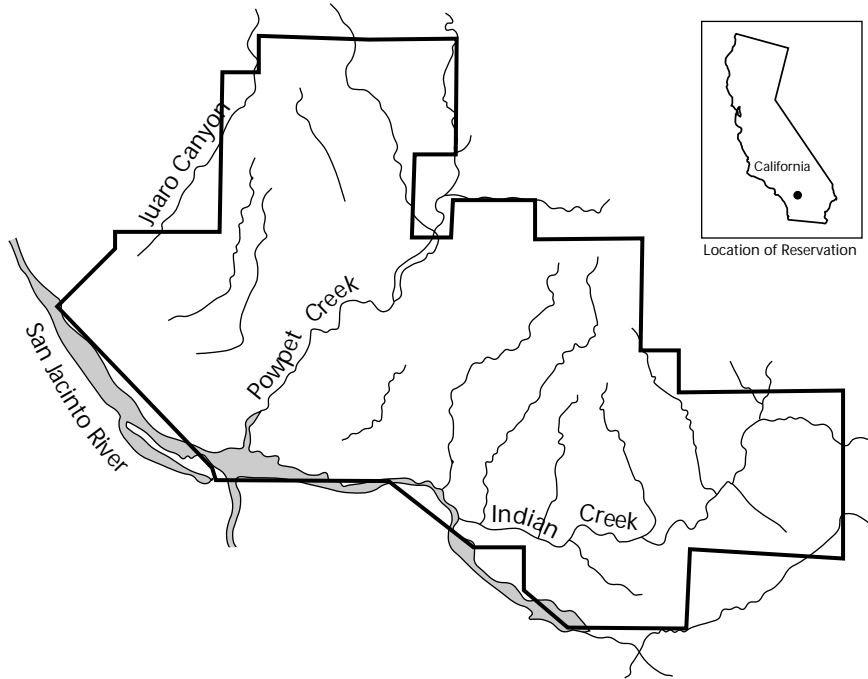


US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

Soboba Band of Mission Indians



— Reservation Boundaries

For a copy of the Soboba Band of Mission Indians 1994 305(b) report, contact:

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Surface Water Quality

The Soboba Reservation encompasses about 9.2 square miles in southern California about 80 miles east of Los Angeles. The San Jacinto River is the major surface water feature on the Reservation. At one time, the San Jacinto River flowed year-round, but upstream diversions and ground

water withdrawals outside of the Reservation have reduced the flow to intermittent status for many years.

The chemical quality of surface water on the Soboba Reservation is excellent and remains unimpaired to date, based on very limited data. The quality of surface water, to the extent it is available, fully supports the existing uses of ground water recharge, wildlife habitat, and recreation. Overall, the greatest threat to water quality on the Soboba Reservation is the reduction of surface flows and ground water storage by off-Reservation diversions and pumping.

Ground Water Quality

Three major water supply wells extract water from two aquifers on the Soboba Reservation. Ground water overdraft outside the Reservation has seriously reduced the withdrawal capacity of the Reservation's wells and aquifers. The chemical quality of ground water on the Soboba Reservation is excellent and remains unimpaired to date. The single most critical threat to water quality is a proposal by the Eastern Municipal Water District to routinely recharge treated effluent at a site within 600 feet of an existing Soboba well.

Programs to Restore Water Quality




There are no formal water pollution control programs in place on the Reservation. However, the Band has achieved compliance with EPA monitoring and treatment requirements for its domestic ground water supply system and the Band is considering development of a wellhead protection program. In addition, the Band is seeking assistance from EPA under the Indian Environmental General Assistance Program to educate the Band about water quality issues, establish water resource protection ordinances, and undertake other water protection initiatives.

The Soboba Band is continuing its struggle to assert and defend its water rights. The Soboba Band has started negotiating with the major water users outside of the Reservation to fairly apportion the waters of the basin. Nondegradation of water quality will be a basic element of the Band's position in these negotiations.

Programs to Assess Water Quality

The Band advocates sharing and cooperative analysis of data on the hydrology and water quality of the San Jacinto watershed to facilitate water rights negotiations. This affirmative approach to water resource management should lead to a systematic, integrated water quality monitoring program for the basin that will benefit all users.

Individual Use Support in Soboba Band of Mission Indians

Designated Use ^a	Percent				
	Good (Fully Supporting)	Good (Threatened)	Fair (Partially Supporting)	Poor (Not Supporting)	Poor (Not Attainable)
Rivers and Streams (Total Miles = 7.4)^b					
	Total Miles Assessed	100			
	2.9	0	0	0	0
	Total Miles Assessed	100			
	2.9	0	0	0	0
	Total Miles Assessed	100			
	7.4	0	0	0	0

^a A subset of Soboba Band of Mission Indians' designated uses appear in this figure. Refer to the Band's 305(b) report for a full description of the Band's uses.

^b Includes nonperennial streams that dry up and do not flow all year.