

CAMPAIGN FOR THE CALIFORNIA DESERT

Protecting Our Legacy, Strengthening Our Future

Whitewater River Proposed Wild and Scenic River



Did You Know?

- The CDPRA proposes to **protect more than 28 miles** of the Whitewater River, and its North, Middle and South Forks.
- The **ultimate sources** of the Whitewater River include Mt. San Gorgonio and a 10,000 ft ridge in the San Bernardino Mountains.
- The Whitewater wild and scenic river will be **managed** by the US Forest Service, BLM and the Wildlands Conservancy.

The Whitewater River flows freely from the Mt. San Gorgonio Summit (11,499 feet) for more than 30 miles to the Coachella Valley. The Whitewater River is one of the most pristine and remote watersheds in southern California.

The river provides a critical biological link between the San Bernardino Mountains and Coachella Valley, and important habitat for such diverse species as the California spotted owl, Nelson's bighorn sheep, and arroyo toad. The river's rich vegetation is a seasonal home to endangered neo-tropical songbirds, including least Bell's vireo and southwest willow flycatcher.

Much of the upper watershed is virtually trail-less, but the lower river may be easily accessed from Interstate 10 by visiting The Wildlands Conservancy's Whitewater River Preserve, where a trailhead along the Pacific Crest Trail parallels and then crosses the river.

The Whitewater River is an important ceremonial and cultural area for traditional Cahuilla Indians, who visit the river to collect and gather native materials.

For More Information:

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