

Ian Achimore SAWPA Senior Watershed Manager 951.354.4233 <u>iachimore@sawpa.org</u>



Kathy Besser IEUA Executive Manager of External Affairs and Policy Development/AGM 909.993.1638 <u>kbesser@ieua.org</u>

For Immediate Release:

January 16, 2018

SAWPA and IEUA launch Santa Ana River Watershed

Educational Signage Project

Inland Empire, California – The Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority (SAWPA) and the Inland Empire Utilities Agency (IEUA) are pleased to announce the launch of a Santa Ana River Watershed educational signage project. In December 2017, 64 educational signs were erected throughout the Watershed,

which includes northern Orange County and the Inland Empire.

The signs, designed and installed by Bri Communications, include a map of the watershed, and the location of major cities and water resources such as tributaries, rivers and lakes. They also include messages on important local water resource issues such as groundwater recharge, pollution prevention and the One Water One Watershed Program, a comprehensive watershed planning process that has been adopted by numerous agencies throughout the region.

Upon completion of the signage project, Richard E. Haller, General Manager of SAWPA, stated "Our Commission is very



Sign along the Santa Ana River Trail

excited about supporting this effort which will show residents of this area where they get their drinking water, and where the water they use ends up. Our hope is this demonstrates that they don't have to travel far to experience the open space and water resources we have here."

"The watershed signage project helps increase community awareness to watershed issues. These signs help the community understand, identify and connect with the Santa Ana River Watershed and the many resources it offers," stated IEUA Board President Steve Elie. "We hope this signage project's identification and connection will encourage the community to take action in protecting their water resources now and for our future."

The signs can be viewed at locations such as the Santa Ana River Trail, the Chino Creek Wetlands and Educational Park, Huntington Beach State Park, Forest Falls and the Lake Perris Marina.

SAWPA and IEUA have supported this signage project to educate the approximately 6 million local residents on the watershed they call home and the water resources available to them. The Santa Ana River Watershed lies in semi-arid southern California, and like many other areas, SAWPA and IEUA are carefully evaluating water supplies and seeking creative, cost-effective strategies to provide reliable water resources for the residents of this watershed.

About SAWPA:	About IEUA
SAWPA was first formed in 1968 to address watershed issues and regulatory challenges. SAWPA has kept a strong record of partnerships with organization pursing shared interests and overall watershed sustainability.	The Inland Empire Utilities Agency covers 242-square miles, distributes imported water, provides industrial/municipal wastewater collection and treatment services, and other related utility services to more than 875,000 people through its member agencies which include Chino, Chino Hills, Cucamonga Valley Water District, Fontana, Fontana Water Company, Montclair, Monte Vista Water District, Ontario,
	and Upland.