



P.O. Box 711
Pasadena, California 91102

U. S. Congresswoman Judy Chu
527 S. Lake Ave.
Suite 106,
Pasadena, CA 91101

March 26, 2015

Dear Representative Chu:

On behalf of the Pasadena Casting Club, we thank you for the tremendous work you have done in pursuing the protection and recreational enhancement of the San Gabriel Mountains and watershed, culminating in the declaration of The San Gabriel National Monument. This is an important first step in achieving lasting protection for this resource.

We join those stakeholders who are urging you to submit legislation to designate as Wild and Scenic Rivers the upper and lower segments of the West Fork San Gabriel River (divided by Cogswell Dam), segments of the North Fork and East Fork San Gabriel River, and segments of Little Rock Creek, San Antonio Creek, and the Middle Fork of Lytle Creek. These streams were identified by the National Forest Service in the 2005 Angeles Forest Plan Revision as eligible for protection in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

We are especially concerned about the segment of the West Fork from the Cogswell Dam downstream to Highway 39. This 7-mile section of the river, critical to conserving the unique flora and fauna of the entire river, is already under pressure from overuse and inadequate enforcement of existing regulations and agreements. If this section is excluded from consideration for Wild and Scenic River designation while the other streams achieve it, then it will suffer further degradation because of the disparity in status and management.

In the past there have been concerns that the Los Angeles County government would not support Wild and Scenic River designation for the lower West Fork because of objections by the Public Works Department, the dam operator. However, with the recent election of Supervisor Hilda Solis and others to the Board of Supervisors, we are confident that support for Wild and Scenic River designation for the entire West Fork could be achieved. There are many examples of Wild and Scenic Rivers below dams in which the requisite Management Plans have been amicably developed with the controlling water agencies, and this could also be accomplished with the lower West Fork of the San Gabriel River.

Sincerely,

Dennis Greninger
President,
Pasadena Casting Club
paraadamspcc@gmail.com

John Tobin
Conservation Chair,
Pasadena Casting Club
pmd6x@yahoo.com