

San Luis Creekside Restoration

Why Restore San Luis Creek?

Because . . .

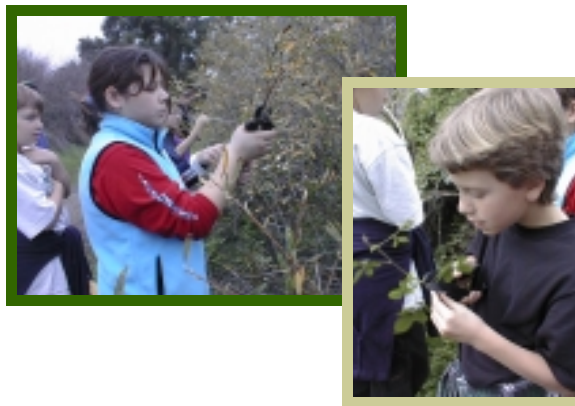
- Vegetation provides shelter for wildlife and insects
- Vegetation cover provides shade to keep water cool for fish
- Root system provides soil stability to prevent erosion
- Willows and other riparian plants provide food for wildlife



S.T.A.R. students and staff replant willows along San Luis Creek during *The San Luis Creekside Restoration Project-Grades 4-6*

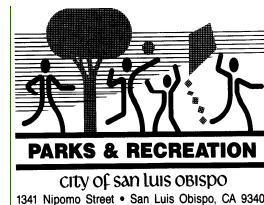
What S.T.A.R. Students Have Done to Help

Students from the City's after school S.T.A.R. Program (Students Taking Active Responsibility) participate in *The San Luis Creekside Restoration Project—Grades 4-6*. Co-ordinated by a City Ranger, activities include propagation and replanting of willow cuttings, learning about insects, wildlife, and salmon enhancement, and advocating for urban stream preservation. This annual project is the result of a grant funded by the State Office of Environmental Education.



Why We Should Respect Our Urban Creek

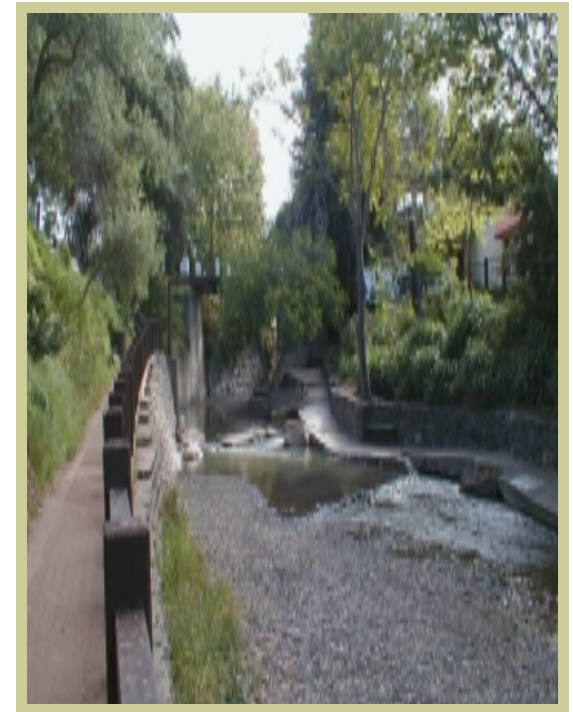
- Animals depend on it
- Children play in it
- A healthy creek = A healthy environment
- Fish frolic in it
- It is good for the economy and tourism
- It is an important part of our community



For more information concerning this project, contact Children Services at (805)781-7447 or the Ranger Service at (805)781-7302

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San Luis Creek and Our Community



The San Luis Creekside Restoration Project - Grades 4-6

San Luis Creek and the Downtown Area

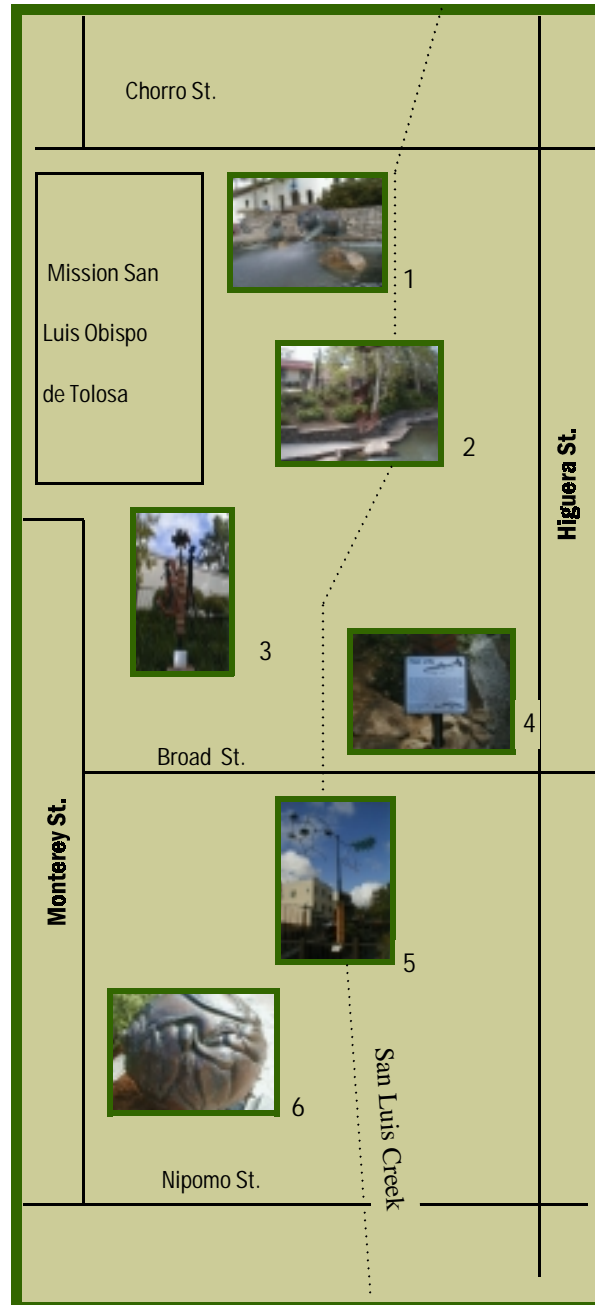
San Luis Creek has played an integral role in the development of San Luis Obispo. Early on, Chumash Indians



relied on the creek for water and food. In

1772, Mission San Luis Obispo de Tolosa was built adjacent to San Luis Creek in order to utilize these same resources. Little did these early settlers know that this site would become the center of San Luis Obispo. Today, the City's residents take great pride in having a healthy urban creek. The City draws attention to this resource in many ways, including Creek Day, a day dedicated to the vitality and importance of San Luis Creek as the center of our community. Residents and visitors alike enjoy San Luis Creek for all of the resources it provides to the community.

The Creek Walk and Public Art Tell the Story of San Luis Creek



Guide to Art of the Creek Walk

The *Creek Walk* is an art-lined path located in downtown San Luis Obispo adjacent to San Luis Creek. Each piece of public art relates to Creek life. This project is sponsored by the Mary Jane Duvall Trust to promote public art.

- 1. *Tuquski Wa Suwa* by Paula Zima (1988)**
Translated, the title means Bear and Child in Chumash language. This piece displays both the beautiful young Chumash girl and the bear enjoying the flowing waters of San Luis Creek.
- 2. *The Tank Head Fish* by John Ausburger (1977)**
This piece reminds us that fish depend on the waters of San Luis Creek.
- 3. *Chumash* by Jim Jacobsen (1997)**
Chumash portrays native people enjoying their life along the creek.
- 4. *Fish Life* by Jim Jacobsen (1997)**
Observers are reminded of the Steelhead Trout and the 3-Spined Stickleback fish living in the creek below.
- 5. *Sycamore & Budding Thistle* by Jim Jacobsen (1997)**
Both plants from the title of this piece are native to San Luis Creek. Budding Thistle is an endangered species. We are reminded that unique vegetation thrives on the water edge.
- 6. *Web of Life* by Sandra Kay Johnson (1999)**
This unique piece is a rotating sphere with Egrets, Ducks, Rabbit, Raccoon, Possum, Salamander, Bats, and Frog. It represents the continuity of the flowing of the creek and the wildlife it sustains.