



Land Use

Individual 7.5 minute quadrangle land use maps were created by Aerial Information Systems (located at 112 First Street, Redlands, California 92373) as the “Southern California 1990 Aerial Land Use Study”. These maps were donated for GIS library use by the Southern California Area Governments (SCAG). They show land use in southern California for 1990 and 1993. The maps were later joined into a single map by Teale Data Center for use as a statewide data library layer.

Land use information was obtained from the SCAG Southern California 1990 Aerial Land Use Study. The land use categories shown on the map were generalized from the original database to indicate broad land uses in the San Gabriel River Watershed (Figure: Land Use). Land use ranges from wilderness with very low population density in the San Gabriel Mountains to high density urban areas in the lower portion of the watershed.

Surface water quality in the San Gabriel River Watershed is dependant upon, and reflects differences in, various land uses. Open-space recreation is a relatively low density land use so that runoff should be expected to contain dissolved materials which reflect more natural conditions than more urbanized areas.

Agricultural, commercial, industrial, and residential land uses are higher density uses and runoff from these areas are expected to contain higher amounts of man-made chemicals. These general concepts are shown in stream samples from the San Gabriel River.

The table below shows the acreage and percentages of the watershed that each of the land uses occupy. This information is based on a 689-square-mile watershed. Most of the open, recreational land lies above Foothill, in Upper A. Since this is where the headwaters of the San Gabriel River Watershed are located, as expected, the water chemistry contains fewer sulfate, chloride and nitrate than waters downstream.

Type	Residential	Commercial	Industrial	Agriculture	Recreation
Acres	130,987	36,450	24,298	14,480	215,000
%	29.70	8.27	5.51	3.28	48.76