

A BRIEF INTRODUCTION TO EL SALTO FALLS QUARRY CREEK

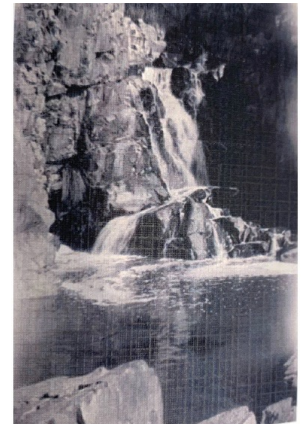


PAYÓMKAWICHUM – PRE-COLONIAL HISTORY

The Payómkawichum (Luiseno) people lived in Carlsbad for thousands of years before they were displaced as the Spanish arrived. This site is one of many that has been documented as significant to indigenous history in Carlsbad, and the San Luis Rey Band of Luiseno Indians have advocated for respect to be paid as the area becomes more developed.

LAND OWNERSHIP AND USE— HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT

Rancho Agua Hedionda contained 13,000 acres granted to Juan Maria Marron by the Mexican government. After losing much of their land, the family sold this plot and it became a quarry, although their original adobe still stands. The surrounding land was developed quickly afterward, most recently the new housing. The San Diego Habitat Conservancy manages this plot, which is owned by the State of California.



BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES— VALUE AND THREATS

The Buena Vista Lagoon was the first ecological preserve in California, and this creek runs directly to it. Today this area contains sensitive species, such as the yellow warbler, and other riparian wildlife. The creek, like the lagoon itself, faces many threats concerning trash, water quality, and invasive species.

STATE OF THE PRESERVE — INTERSECTION OF PROBLEMS

The most apparent issue in the preserve is trespasser activity, which has been a historic issue but has overwhelmed site managers since the pandemic began. It's also impacted by the long-term effects of development, including discarded construction waste, sediment pollution, and habitat loss due to trespassing.



BEING HERE TODAY— LOOKING FOR SOLUTIONS

The first step is to be mindful of the history and context of the problems that the Quarry Creek Preserve faces, and to continue to engage community members in discussions and clean ups. There is also an effort to put a fence along the border of the property to prevent ongoing trespassing. Site managers also plan to continue work removing waste and invasive plants.



The information presented above was collected through conversations with researchers and materials collected at the Carlsbad Historical Society, the Cole Library, the CSUSM Library, Palomar College, local news sources, and records kept by the City of Carlsbad, as well as San Diego Habitat Conservancy's own documentation.

Images: 1. Grejova Pa (Pechanga Band of Luiseno Indians) 2. El Salto Falls (Marron Family Collection) 3. Yellow warbler (WM Nature Center) 4. Quarry Creek in February (KPBS)