Problem Summary

- Current Condition
  - High quality riparian habitat is becoming critically endangered, and is now nearly absent from the Study Area.

Present Day at Base of “A” Mountain

Problem Summary

- Ecosystem degradation
- Water availability
- Erosion

Stressed mesquites, stream bed erosion, and head-cutting. West Branch 6/02

Near-barren retired agricultural land. 6/02

Lack of vegetation leads to extensive storm-water flow erosion. 7/02

Public Involvement & Concerns

- Degradation and loss of existing riparian habitat & diversity
- Continued groundwater overdraft
- Limited irrigation water availability
- Invasive plants & animals
- Safety of unstable banks
- Aesthetics and impacts of hardened bank protection
- Trash dumping
- Vagrant camps
- Destructive off-road vehicle use
- Landfills
- Trail connectivity
- Recreation opportunities

Planning Objectives

- Increase size, health, and diversity of native riparian habitat within the river corridor and historic floodplain by restoring and protecting habitat.
- Reduce bank erosion and sedimentation, and improve surface water quality consistent with ecosystem restoration.
- Provide passive recreation opportunities.

Planning Considerations

- Land use and ownership
- Consistency with other local plans
- Cultural and historical sites
- Flood conveyance
- Vector control
- Availability of water
- Public acceptability