25. Tujunga Valley/Hansen Dam : A, B, C, D, E, F			
Criteria Letter	Criteria Description	Criteria Met	Reason SEA meets Criteria
A	The habitat of core populations of endangered or threatened plant or animal species.	Yes	The wash supports populations of the federally endangered plants Nevin's barberry and slender-horned spineflower.
B	On a regional basis, biotic communities, vegetative associations, and habitat of plant or animal species that are either unique or are restricted in distribution.	Yes	Perennial streams are very rare in the semi-arid landscape of southern California. The Big Tujunga stream is naturally perennial, but largely controlled by the upstream Big Tujunga Dam. Similar wash and floodplain habitats for mountain streams in southern California are all under considerable pressure from development and the hard channelization of flood-control commonly used throughout southern California. The rarity of the vegetation extends to other biota that use these areas, and these plants are indicators for a widespread loss of this kind of habitat. Several birds are considered species of concern that also typically occupy alluvial areas, such as the outwash fans formerly found where mountain canyons exit onto the plain of the Los Angeles Basin.
C	Within Los Angeles County, biotic communities, vegetative associations, and habitat of plant or animal species that are either unique or are restricted in distribution.	Yes	The wash and floodplain habitat of these plants is under considerable pressure from development and for flood-control hard channelization throughout Los Angeles and is much diminished from the continuous habitat it once was.
D	Habitat that at some point in the life cycle of a species or group of species, serves as concentrated breeding, feeding, resting, migrating grounds and is limited in availability either regionally or in Los Angeles County.	Yes	This SEA connects one of the main tributaries of the Los Angeles River, Tujunga Canyon, with the Hansen Dam flood and recharge area. In spite of the channelization of the Los Angeles River, this area is still an important connecting and migration area for plants and wildlife between the San Gabriel Mountains, the Verdugo Mountains, and the San Fernando Valley. It is an important rest area for aerial fauna traveling between the Santa Monica Mountains and the San Gabriels.
E	Biotic resources that are of scientific interest because they are either an	Yes	The scarcity of natural alluvial wash and fan habitats in Los Angeles ensures that

	extreme in physical/geographical limitations, or represent unusual variation in a population or community.		the remaining ones are good areas for scientific study of birds and other organisms that were once more common in the Los Angeles area.
F	Areas that would provide for the preservation of relatively undisturbed examples of the original natural biotic communities in Los Angeles County.	Yes	The Tujunga Wash is a relatively undisturbed example of the alluvial washes and fans that once lined the mountains of Los Angeles. It is near a fresh water marsh area used as a spreading ground that is southwest of the dam. A fresh water marsh near the stream exit from the mountains would have been typical of the former configuration with faults along the mountain base creating uneven ground that would contain marsh pockets. Now most of this type of area has been developed for residences, and most of the washes have been altered as flood control projects, so the Tujunga Wash is important to preserve.