San Diego River Park Foundation



Rob Hutsel
Executive Director
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Turn Our River!

"We found there a good-sized river which empties into the sea through an estuary which the ships used as a watering-station. This river has a very large, broad plain on banks, which seems to be of very good soil, with many willows, some poplars, and some alders, although so far it has not been possible to examine it properly.

If the river is permanent it may prove in time to be the best of those discovered in all of California. On the banks of the river, which are thickly covered with willows, there are many Castilian rose bushes with very fragrant roses, which I have held in my hand and smelled. All the plain is dotted over with wild grapevines, which look as if they had been planted, and at present, their many branches are in bloom."

Written June 9, 1769 by Father Juan Crespi



















