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San Diegan Wins National River Hero Award

Rob Hutsel, Executive Director of the San Diego River Park Foundation, has been awarded the prestigious 2008 River Hero Award in Ohio by the River Network, a national organization based in Portland, Oregon, working for clean and healthy water.

The annual River Heroes Award celebrates rivers and those who protect them by recognizing victories and honoring those who provide leadership and inspiration along the way.

Hutsel is the Executive Director of the San Diego River Park Foundation, a community-based organization dedicated to the future of the San Diego River. Rob was recognized for more than 15 years of volunteering to restore local rivers and wildlife areas as well as his leadership role with the San Diego River. A special note was given to his success in organizing more than 70 non-governmental organizations into a coalition to work together for the future of the San Diego River as well as his efforts to engage people in donating their time and talents to improve the river which have now reached more than 20,000 hours of volunteer service annually.

“I am truly excited and humbled by receiving this award. I accept it on behalf of all the people in San Diego who are working to protect and clean our local waterways,” Rob stated as he accepted the award. On hand for the presentation was River Park Foundation Board President, Michael Beck.

We are honored that Rob Hutsel has been recognized for the River Hero that he is. To many he is known as “River Rob” for his dedication and service to our region’s namesake river.

About The San Diego River Park Foundation

The San Diego River Park Foundation is a non-profit organization which uniquely represents the entire 52-mile long San Diego River. A major focus of the River Park Foundation is to create a river long park system while working toward a healthy river system through volunteer programs and special projects.

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