



# GOAL: INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

<p><b>Strategy 1</b></p>	<p><b>Protect and maintain existing assets and infrastructure and advance new infrastructure projects.</b></p>
<p><b>Challenge/ Opportunity</b></p>	<p>The development and maintenance of Valley Water’s infrastructure is crucial to ensuring we continue to provide safe, clean water and critical flood protection for our communities. Timely maintenance is the most cost-effective investment, whereas deferred maintenance disproportionately increases costs. In addition, aging assets are reaching the end of the design life and will require major recapitalization.</p>
<p><b>Focus</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Be strategic in managing existing flood protection assets consistent with the Safe Clean Water Program.</li> <li>▪ Advance new infrastructure projects identified in the Asset Management Plan and Operations &amp; Maintenance Plan.</li> <li>▪ Increase engagement with cities on flood plain management, Community Rating System (CRS) program, and emergency action plans.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Monitoring</b></p>	<p><b>Board Planning and Policy Committee</b></p>
<p><b>Related Staff Plans</b></p>	<p>Watersheds &amp; Water Utility Five-year Operations and Maintenance Plans              District-wide Asset Management Plan              Watershed Asset Management Plan              Safe, Clean Water and Natural Flood Protection Program              Capital Improvement Program</p>





## INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

<b>Strategy 2</b>	<b>Pursue opportunities to improve internal capacity to acquire regulatory permits.</b>
<b>Challenge/ Opportunity</b>	Valley Water continues to pursue legislative and administrative solutions to resolve regulatory and permitting issues at the federal and state levels. The Board's efforts will continue to focus on improving internal capacity when applying for permits, as well as continuing to build relationships with regulatory agencies and staying abreast of the regulatory environment.
<b>Focus</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Continue to provide for agency-wide regulatory planning and permitting effort and pursue other efforts at the state and federal level to expedite permit review.</li><li>• Continue to foster better relationships with regulatory agencies and open dialogue with environmental, environmental justice and other stakeholders.</li><li>• Implement memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Regional Water Quality Control Board.</li></ul>
<b>Monitoring</b>	Board Policy and Planning Committee
<b>Related Staff Plans</b>	One Water Plan







# GOAL: NATURAL FLOOD PROTECTION

<b>Strategy 1</b>	<b>Plan, design and maintain flood protection projects with multiple benefits, including protecting ecosystem functions and enhancing habitat.</b>
<b>Challenge/ Opportunity</b>	Valley Water has the opportunity, as well as the responsibility, to sustain ecosystem health while managing local water resources for flood protection and water supply. Valley Water must operate its facilities and implement projects by taking a multi-beneficial approach that balances providing a safe, clean water supply, and improving flood protection for the community, while creating a sustainable ecosystem.
<b>Focus</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to advance Shoreline EIA 11 levee construction.</li> <li>• Finalize the One Water Coyote Creek Watershed plan and make significant progress on the Guadalupe and Pajaro watershed plans.</li> <li>• Use a holistic approach to maintaining streams for flow conveyance and habitat enhancement.</li> <li>• Complete construction of Phase I of the Upper Llagas Flood Protection Project, a multi-benefit project providing flood protection while restoring habitat and benefiting the environmental ecosystem.</li> </ul>
<b>Monitoring</b>	Capital Improvement Program Committee Board Policy and Planning Committee
<b>Related Staff Plans</b>	One Water Plan Safe, Clean Water and Natural Flood Protection Program





## NATURAL FLOOD PROTECTION

<b>Strategy 2</b>	<b>Provide flood protection equitably in all regions of the County, prioritizing disadvantaged communities.</b>
<b>Challenge/ Opportunity</b>	As Valley Water continues to advance flood protection projects, the Board has an opportunity to strengthen relationships and improve coordination with conservation and environmental justice groups, as well as other local jurisdictions, with a specific focus on ensuring the voices of disadvantaged communities are equitably represented.
<b>Focus</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Advance One Water Countywide Framework in a comprehensive manner that includes diverse community-wide stakeholders and the incorporation of environmental justice policies in all planning efforts.</li><li>• Continue progress on flood protection capital projects consistent with Valley Water's commitment to the Safe, Clean Water Program and equitably in all regions.</li></ul>
<b>Monitoring</b>	Capital Improvement Program Committee Board Policy and Planning Committee
<b>Related Staff Plans</b>	One Water Plan Safe, Clean Water and Natural Flood Protection Program







# GOAL: ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

<b>Strategy 1</b>	<b>Attain net positive impact on the environment when implementing flood protection and water supply projects.</b>
<b>Challenge/ Opportunity</b>	Valley Water’s projects and programs encourage integrated planning to ensure capital improvements, operations, and maintenance activities are balanced with environmental stewardship goals. Valley Water strives to protect and restore habitats to support native species throughout Santa Clara County.
<b>Focus</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As part of the One Water Countywide Framework planning process, continue to develop an integrated water resource plan for each watershed, including appropriate metrics to monitor Valley Water’s impacts on and benefit to the environment.</li> <li>• Ensure that stewardship efforts are integrated and not focused primarily on mitigation.</li> </ul>
<b>Monitoring</b>	<b>Board Policy and Planning Committee</b>
<b>Related Staff Plans</b>	One Water Plan Climate Change Action Plan





# GOAL: CLIMATE CHANGE

<b>Strategy 1</b>	<b>Address future impacts of climate change to Valley Water's mission and operations.</b>
<b>Challenge/ Opportunity</b>	Valley Water's ability to fulfill its missions may be challenged in the future by the potential of warmer temperatures, changing weather patterns, reduced snowpack and rising sea levels. Valley Water has been working on greenhouse reduction efforts since 2008, but seeks to do more to understand, mitigate and adapt to the future impacts of climate change.
<b>Focus</b>	Begin implementation of Climate Change Action Plan.
<b>Monitoring</b>	Board Policy and Planning Committee
<b>Related Staff Plans</b>	Climate Change Action Plan

