

What is FAHCE?

- A collaborative program to balance Santa Clara County's water supply needs/Valley Water's water rights with measures to improve fish passage and habitat
- Species of concern: Steelhead and Chinook salmon
- Three watersheds:
 - Coyote Creek
 - Stevens Creek
 - Guadalupe River





Goals of FAHCE Program

- Allow for the exercise of Valley Water's longstanding water rights while promoting healthy fish habitat, flows, and passage
- Maintain flexible and reliable groundwater recharge to support current and future water supply and water deliveries
- Allow for collaborative adaptive management to promote healthy fisheries



2

2003 Settlement Agreement

4

valleywater.org

Purpose: "...restore and maintain healthy steelhead and salmon populations as appropriate to each of the three creeks by providing:

- A) suitable spawning and rearing habitat; and
- B) adequate passage for adult....and outmigration of juveniles."



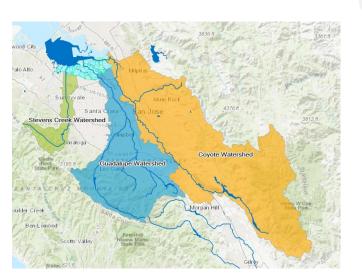
Current List of Initialing Parties

- 1. Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water)
- 2. United States Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service
- 3. United States Department of Commerce, National Marine Fisheries Service
- 4. California Department of Fish and Wildlife
- 5. Trout Unlimited
- 6. Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations
- 7. California Trout, Inc.
- 8. Northern California Council of Federation of Fly Fishers



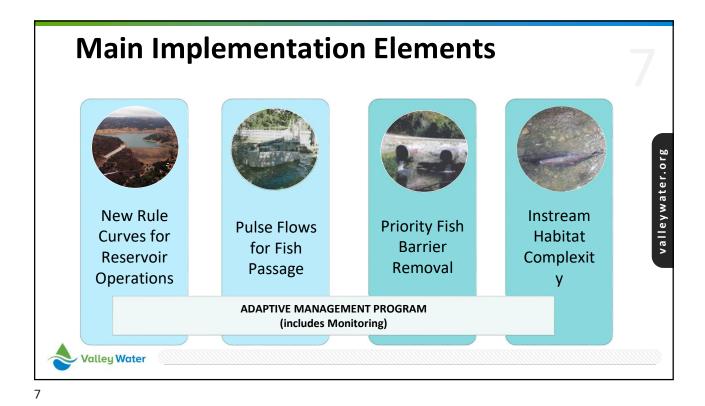
Geographical Extent of Program

- Three Watersheds
- 500 square miles
- 100 miles of creek
- 7 reservoirs









Progress by the Numbers

A. Fish Habitat Restoration

- 20+ Fish Barriers Removed
 - 12 of 18 Priority Barriers Listed in Settlement Agreement
 - · 1 of 6 remaining owned by Valley Water
- 2+ Miles of Geomorphic Creek Restoration
- 5+ Gravel and Large Woody Debris Enhancements

B. Adaptive Management/Monitoring

- 5+ Years of Watershed Specific Fisheries Monitoring and Reporting
- 2+ Years FAHCE Plus Pilot Flow Program
- 100 + Stream Gages Maintained 35+ Gages with 24-Hour Alert Radios

C. Collaboration/Planning

- 50+ Meetings with Initialing Parties Since 2015
- 40+ Board Committee/Full Board Updates Since 2015
- FAHCE Draft EIR Distributed June 2021



History of FAHCE Program and Progress - 1 of 3 (1998-2004)

Major Program Activities

Start

Key Measures Completed

1996

2003

Settlement Agreement initialed

Guadalupe-Coyote Resource Conservation District (GCRCD) filed complaint with State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB)

6 1998

- Coyote & Guadalupe -discontinued use of in-stream gravel dams
- Upper Penitencia Creek -Maybury Weir Retrofit and Fish Scre
- Guadalupe River- SJWC Low-Flow Crossing Remediation

1999

- Guadalupe River- Alamitos Drop Structure Fish Ladder Install
- Upper Penitencia Ck -Noble Fish Ladder and Fish Screen Install
- Coyote Creek Percolation Pond Fish Ladder Install

2000

- Guadalupe River- Hillsdale Avenue Bridge Fish Barrier Removal
- Guadalupe Creek Masson Fish Ladder and Fish Screen Install

• Guadalupe Ck- 1.6 mile Geomorphic and Riparian Restoration 2002

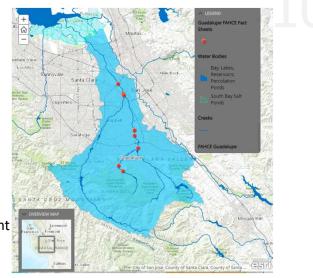
- Stevens Creek Stream Gage 35 Barrier Removal
- Chinook Salmon Genetics Study- Santa Clara Count

2003

- Guadalupe River Old Julian Street Fish Barrier Removal **2004**
- Guadalupe River St. John Street Weir Fish Barrier Removal
- Guadalupe Creek Stream Gage 43 Weir Retrofit

Guadalupe River Fish Restoration Measures

- 1. Highway 880 Weir Retrofit
- Old Julian Street Bridge Barrier Removal
- St. John Street Gage Weir Barrier Removal
- 4. Hillsdale Avenue Bridge Improvements
- 5. San Jose Water Company Low Flow Crossing Barrier Removal
- 6. Alamitos Drop Structure Fish Ladder Installation
- 7. Stream Gage SF 43 Weir Improvement
- 8. Concrete U-Frame Channel Fish Ladder







11

History of FAHCE Program and Progress - 2 of 3 (2005-2014)

Major Program Activities

Key Measures Completed

2003-2013

Three Creeks Habitat Conservation Plan

Guadalupe Watershed Mercury TMDL begins- Solar bees

2007

- Guadalupe Creek U Frame Channel Fish Ladder Install

2009

- Stevens Creek -geomorphic restoration at Blackberry Farm:
- and performed riparian habitat restoration

 Upper Penitencia Creek LWD installed at Capital Ave.

2014

2014

Guadalupe River- Highway 880 Weir Retrofit for Fish Passage

Change to Regulatory Pathway- State Water Rights Permitting

Stevens Creek Fish Restoration Measures

- Stream Gage 35 Remediation (Settlement Agreement Reference: 6.5.2.2(A))
- 2. Evelyn Fish Ladder (Settlement Agreement Reference: 6.5.2.2(A))
- 3. Blackberry Farms Geomorphic Restoration (Settlement Agreement Reference: 6.2.4.4.2 and 6.5.2.2 (B))
- 4. Hypolimnetic Oxygenation System Installation (Settlement Agreement Reference: 6.5.2.4)





13

Stevens Creek Corridor Restoration at Blackberry Farm

2005- 2015

- Completed Planning, Permitting and Design Work for Stevens Creek Corridor Restoration in Collaboration with City of Cupertino and Other Partners
- Valley Water contributed over 2 million + staff expertise
- Removed 4 fish barriers,
- Restored 1.5 miles of stream habitat,
- Improved riparian habitat and trail access
- Won 2010 Site Design Award for a public project by the American Public Works Association—Silicon Valley Chapter.
- Won 2015 Public Works Project of the Year under the Small Cities /Rural Communities Environmental Project category by the American Public Works Association







15

History of FAHCE Program and Progress - 3 of 3 (2015-2022)

Major Program Activities

2015

North County Water Rights Change Petitions Filed,

2016-2017

Complex Flow and Biological Model developed for the EIR, model validation and habitat typing

FAHCE Programmatic Fisheries Monitoring Begins,

Coordination of FAHCE program with Anderson Seismic

Adaptive Management Team formation, Pilot Implementation of FAHCE Plus rule curves in Guadalupe and Stevens Creeks

Public Draft FAHCE Program Two Creeks EIR

Key Measures Completed 2015

- Guadalupe River LWD/Gravel installed at Blossom Hill Rd

2016

• Stevens Creek- Evelyn Fish Ladder Remediation

- North County Large Woody Debris and Gravel Study
- Moffett Fish Ladder Engineering Analysis
- Alamitos Creek LWD/Gravel project Mazzone Dr
- Stevens Creek LWD/Gravel project McClellan Ranch

2019

• Los Gatos Creek – LWD/Gravel project at Hwy 17

2020

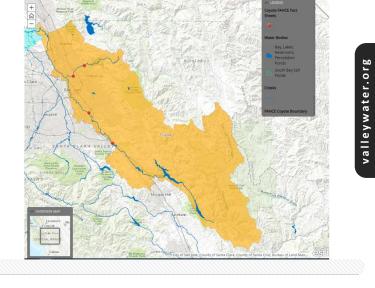
Stevens Creek – Fish Passage Study

- Lake Almaden Planning Study and Final EIR
- Guadalupe River Gravel augmentation in downtown

- Singleton Road Fish Barrier Removal
- Ogier Ponds- Planning and Design
- Coyote Ck Live Oak Restoration Site Planning and Design

Coyote Creek Fish Restoration Measures

- Noble Avenue Fish Ladder and Screen Improvements (Settlement Agreement Reference: 6.4.2.1.2(A))
- 2. Overfelt Recharge Pond Diversion (Settlement Agreement Reference: 6.4.2.1.2(A))
- Percolation Pond Fish Ladder Installation (Settlement Agreement Reference: 6.2.4.2)
- 4. Fish Barrier Removal at Singleton Road



Valley Water

17



Next Steps

Ongoing:

- FAHCE Plus Pilot Flow study in Stevens and Guadalupe Creeks (2023 = Yr 3)
- Collaborate with Initialing Parties and Adaptive Management Team
- Coordinate with Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Project for Coyote Creek FAHCE Implementation
- Fisheries Monitoring Program (Yr 6)

Target for major deliverable in 2023:

- June Final EIR for FAHCE Program Two Creeks (Guadalupe River and Stevens Creek)
- August 8 Board Meeting for Two Creeks EIR Approval

