



To: Board of Directors
From: Rick L. Callender, CEO

Weeks of October 04, 2024 – October 17, 2024

Board Executive Limitation Policy EL-7:

The Board Appointed Officers shall inform and support the Board in its work. Further, a BAO shall 1) inform the Board of relevant trends, anticipated adverse media coverage, or material external and internal changes, particularly changes in the assumptions upon which any Board policy has previously been established and 2) report in a timely manner an actual or anticipated noncompliance with any policy of the Board.

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1. Municipal Regional Stormwater Permit FY 2023-2024 Annual Report Submittal

Valley Water is a permittee of the Municipal Regional Stormwater NPDES Permit (MRP) and complies by implementing actions required by applicable portions of its major provisions, including operation and maintenance of storm drains from our facilities, green stormwater infrastructure, illicit discharge detection and elimination, public information and outreach, construction controls, and other actions. These compliance actions are reported annually to the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board (Water Board). The report provides data and narrative demonstrating Valley Water's compliance, progress, and accomplishments throughout the reporting year. Valley Water serves as Chair of the Santa Clara Valley Urban Runoff Pollution Prevention Program (SCVURPPP) Management Committee to work collaboratively with other permittees in the County to meet permit requirements. Major accomplishments for the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 reporting period include:

- As one of the few Santa Clara County Permittees with 24-hour availability to conduct stormwater pollution investigations, Valley Water received and responded to 144 reports.
- The Community Projects Review Unit's Code Enforcement Program processed 224 cases, including encroachments, illegal dumping, and discharges on Valley Water property.
- Updated the Construction Enforcement Response Plan and Monthly Environmental Compliance Inspection Report Form to keep construction sites compliant with the MRP and Construction General Permit.
- Captured and removed a total of 19.8 cubic yards (1.98 tons) of trash from trash booms deployed in Adobe Creek, Matadero Creek, Thompson Creek, and Lower Silver Creek.

The report also highlights Valley Water's public information and outreach program, including the popular Water Resources Education Outreach Program; Adopt-A-Creek and creek clean up events;

attendance at many in-person and virtual community events; and the Grants and Partnerships program.

Valley Water's 2023-2024 Stormwater Annual Report is available to the public on the State Water Resources Control Board Stormwater Multiple Application and Report Tracking System (SMARTS) at <https://smarts.waterboards.ca.gov/smarts/faces/SwSmartsLogin.xhtml> and on the Safe, Clean Water Project B2 Interagency Urban Runoff Program page under Reports and Documents: <https://www.valleywater.org/project-updates/b2-interagency-urban-runoff-program>.

For further information, please contact John Bourgeois at (408) 630-2990.

2. Permanente Letter of Map Revision (LOMR)

The Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) application to revise the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Maps to reflect the flood protection projects on Permanente Creek became effective on September 5, 2024. The LOMR application was jointly filed by Valley Water, Santa Clara County, and the cities of Mountain View, Los Altos and Cupertino on April 18, 2022. A LOMR is FEMA's vehicle for changing their Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM); parcels located within the 100-year floodplain on the FIRM are required to purchase flood insurance if they carry federally backed loans. FEMA issued official notices (letters) to the cities and county on October 7, 2024.

The main change to the floodplain map (FIRM) is to remove floodplain areas that would flood to a depth of 1 ft or greater due to overbanking of Permanente Creek during a 100-year flow event. Property owners in these areas will now be able to remove the requirement for holding flood insurance. It is estimated that about 800 to 1000 parcels will be removed from the FEMA floodplain, with an additional ~2000 parcels removed from areas with 100-year risk of flooding to depths of less than one foot. Unfortunately, two parcels along the Permanente Diversion channel were also added to the floodplain. Note that counts are approximate because there are some factors that are impossible to determine, such as how lenders interpret the maps and/or whether properties do not carry federally backed loans.

Valley Water has performed outreach to all affected community members as follows:

- 1) Letters were sent to affected property owners on July 30, 2024, providing information about the LOMR, website resources, and contact information for affected communities and Valley Water, and
- 2) A website was developed with information about how to remove the flooding insurance requirement from qualifying properties which have been removed from FEMA's 100-year floodplain: <https://www.valleywater.org/project-updates/permanente-creek-flood-protection>

For further information, please contact John Bourgeois at (408) 630-2990.

3. Planned Two-Day Rinconada Water Treatment Plant Shutdown from November 19 to November 21, 2024

Starting on November 19, 2024, the Rinconada Water Treatment Plant (RWTP) will be shut down for two days to facilitate the Rinconada Reliability Improvement Project work. During this shutdown, the project team will upgrade two of the Plant's Programmable Logic Controllers. Valley Water will also take this opportunity to perform other preventive maintenance and improvement activities. Performing periodic preventive maintenance is essential to ensure that the water treatment plant's critical systems are safe, reliable, and remain in good working order.

During this shutdown, all West Pipeline (WPL) turnouts normally supplied by RWTP, except for the City of Mountain View, are expected to be impacted. Barring any unforeseen circumstances, the RWTP is scheduled to return to service on November 21, 2024.

The above stated shutdown schedule has also been communicated and coordinated with all WPL retailers. The retailers impacted by this shutdown will use their groundwater and/or alternate supplies to meet demand.

For further information, please contact Sam Bogale at (408) 630-3505.

4. Safe, Clean Water Mini-Grant Closeout: Resource Area for Teaching's Develop "Water on the Move" RAFT Design Challenge and Unit Project

In Fiscal Year 2023, Valley Water awarded Resource Area for Teaching a \$5,000 Safe, Clean Water Program F9 Mini-Grant for their *Water on the Move* RAFT Design Challenge and Unit (Project). Resource Area for Teaching completed the Project on May 31, 2024, and submitted the final invoice items on June 8, 2024, allowing for grant closeout.

Resource Area for Teaching is a nonprofit organization that offers educators practical learning resources that align with national content standards. The grant funds were used to support the development of Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics (STEAM) project kits and a curriculum for a design challenge offered to elementary school-aged students in Santa Clara County. The STEAM kits and curriculum were tested by educators and applied in classrooms to help teach environmental literacy. Students learned about flood protection and environmental stewardship by developing a solution for diverting water around or through an obstacle in the design challenge.

Key Outcomes:

- Hosted one workshop that engaged 12 educators in Santa Clara County to pilot the educational lessons and classroom STEAM kits.
- Engaged a total of 370 students who participated in the design challenge unit.
- Conducted post-event surveys for teachers who participated.
 - Teachers reported an 18% increase in confidence to lead STEAM activities after taking the workshop.
 - 100% of teachers felt "Very Inspired" to explore more environmental literacy topics and lessons with students.

For further information, please contact Rachael Gibson at (408) 630-2884.

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