

Watersheds - Operations and Maintenance Report

August 1 – August 31, 2024

Projects and Permit Process Status

This report provides a holistic view of the Watersheds O&M Division operations, including Stream Maintenance Program (SMP) activities, other maintenance activities not permitted under SMP, and work underway or performed on Raw Water facilities.

SMP2 permit extensions through 2026 were secured by staff. Valley Water submitted its annual Notice of Proposed Work (NPW1) under the SMP to regulatory agencies on April 15, 2024. There was a total of 133 projects submitted in NPW1, and as of August 31st, Valley Water has received 130 approvals from regulatory agencies. Through coordination with regulatory agencies, O&M Environmental Support staff has secured verbal intent to approve the remainder of the projects in the coming weeks prior to project implementation. A second NPW (NPW2) was also submitted on July 30, 2024, for implementation of a compensatory mitigation project on Little Arthur Creek (Pickell's Dam Removal Project) and two vegetation management items. Staff expects NPW2 approvals early to mid-September.

Valley Water's SMP Renewal team has recently completed the SMP-3 Manual revision and is negotiating the requirements of the program with regulatory permitting agencies. The team has expanded the capabilities of the Program including modifying vegetation management limits (to allow for larger tree removals, hazardous tree removal and pruning), and developing longer-term mitigation solutions such as participation in the Valley Habitat Plan. Several mitigation projects (Coyote 10B Freshwater Wetland, Little Arthur Creek dam Removal, etc.) for impacts to waters of the U.S./State and special status species resulting from program activities, are in various stages of planning with implementation planned between 2024 and 2027. The draft SMP-3 EIR Administrative review process began in late summer of this year and will continue into fall.

O&M Environmental Services staff has been working closely with the Water Supply Operations Unit to finalize a Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement (LSAA) for O&M work on various instream diversions. Staff has also been working with the Dam Maintenance Unit to finalize the LSAA for the Dam Maintenance Program. Staff is also working other state and local agencies for a long-term restoration/wildlife corridor project at the Pacheco Conduit Vault 34 emergency project location. Staff continues to work with the regulatory agencies on the emergency permits for both the Regnart Creek and Guadalupe River at Willow Street emergency projects.

In addition, environmental staff is working to prepare responses to protests received on the Petition for Change package for the FAHCE reservoirs on instream diversion in the Guadalupe River and Stevens Creek watersheds. Staff also supported construction of Coyote Percolation Dam Replacement Project, and development of a county wide integrated invasive plant management program (IIPMP). Staff are also working to complete the Pipeline Maintenance Program EIR, Almaden Calero Canal EIR, and the Canal Maintenance Program EIR.

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Work Status: The following includes select projects and work activities either completed and/or ongoing during this reporting period.

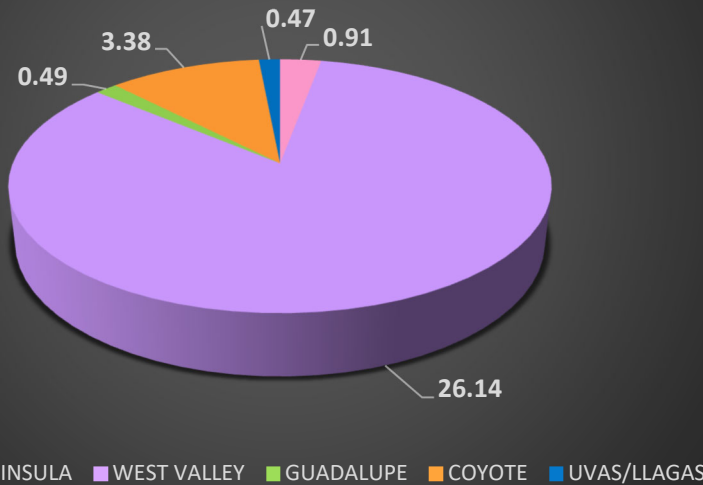
WORK TYPE	LOCATION	MUNICIPALITY	DISTRICT (DIRECTOR)	STATUS
Bank protection, mitigation	Saratoga Creek upstream of Pruneridge Avenue	Santa Clara	2 (Keegan)	Completed 8/2/24
Bank protection	Guadalupe River upstream of San Carlos Street	San Jose	2 (Keegan)	Completed 8/2/24
Bank protection	Coyote Creek upstream of William Street	San Jose	2 (Keegan)	Completed 8/9/24
Sediment removal, bank protection	Sunnyvale East Channel upstream of Tasman Drive	Sunnyvale	3 (Santos)	Completed 8/23/24
Bank protection	Lower Silver Creek upstream of Alum Rock Avenue	San Jose	6 (Estremera)	Completed 8/28/24 (started 8/12/24)
Bank protection	Guadalupe River downstream of Willow Street*	San Jose	2 (Keegan)	Ongoing; started 6/17/24
Bank protection, mitigation	Piedmont Creek upstream of Vista Way	Milpitas	3 (Santos)	Ongoing; started 6/24/24
Sediment removal	Guadalupe River upstream of Woz Way	San Jose	2 (Keegan), 6 (Estremera)	Ongoing; started 8/5/24
Sediment removal	Adobe Creek upstream of Highway 101	Palo Alto	7 (Eisenberg)	Ongoing; started 8/6/24
Sediment removal	Lower Silver Creek downstream of Alum Rock Avenue	San Jose	6 (Estremera)	Ongoing; started 8/12/24
Bank protection	Sunnyvale East Channel downstream of Fremont Avenue	Sunnyvale	5 (Hsueh)	Ongoing; started 8/26/24

* Work permitted separate from Stream Maintenance Program.

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Safe Clean Water Priority D1: Management of Riparian Planting & Invasive Plant Removal

D1: Management of Riparian Planting and Invasive Plant Removal (31.39 ACRES)

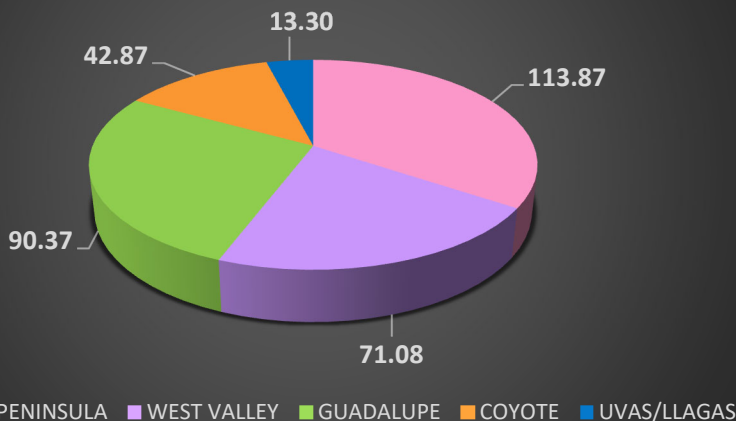


- Maintain a minimum of 300 acres of riparian planting projects annually to meet regulatory requirements and conditions.
- Maintain a minimum of 200 acres of invasive plant management projects annually to meet regulatory requirements and condition.
- Remove 25 acres of Arundo donax throughout the county over a 15-year period.

The chart at left shows the work completed between August 1 – August 31, 2024.

Safe Clean Water Priority F1: Vegetation Control for Capacity

F1: Vegetation Control for Capacity (331.49 ACRES)

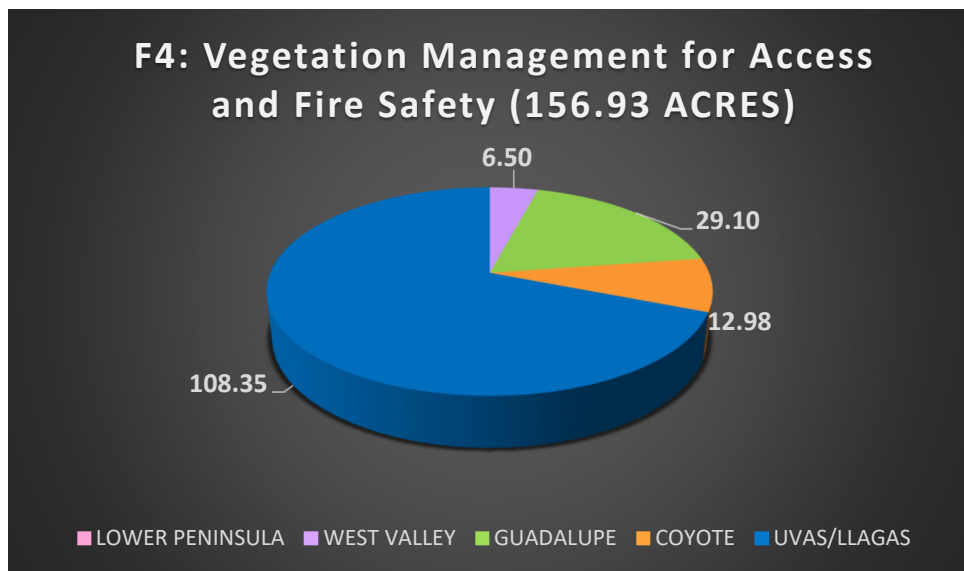


Maintain completed flood protection projects for flow conveyance.

The chart at left shows the work completed between August 1 – August 31, 2024.

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Safe Clean Water Priority F4: Vegetation Management for Access & Fire Safety

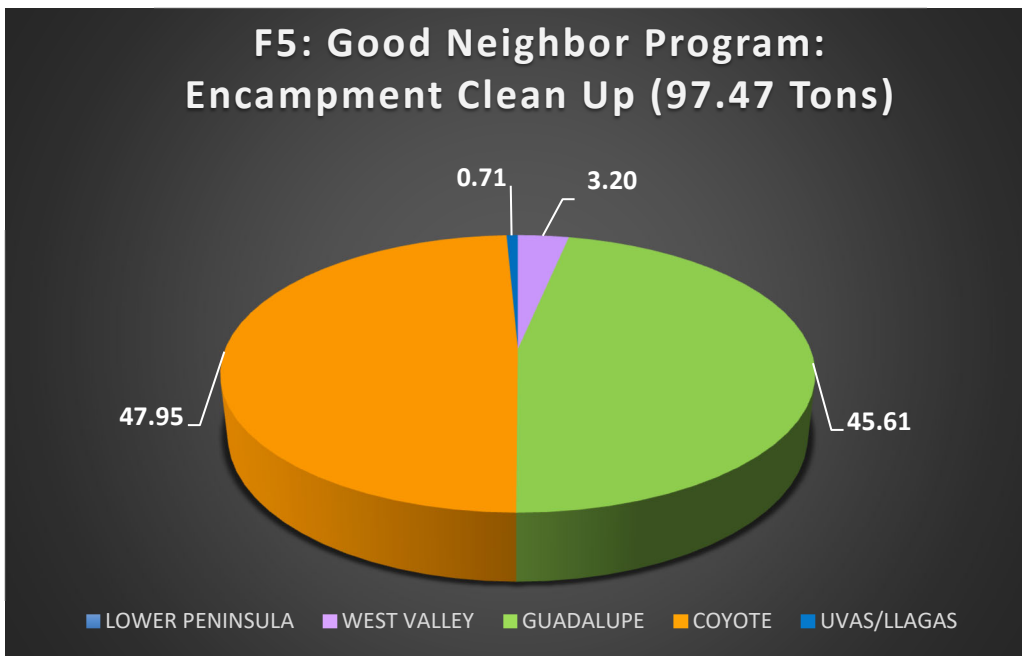


Provide vegetation management for access and fire risk reduction along levee, property lines and maintenance roads, over a 15-year period.

The chart at left shows the work completed between August 1 – August 31, 2024.

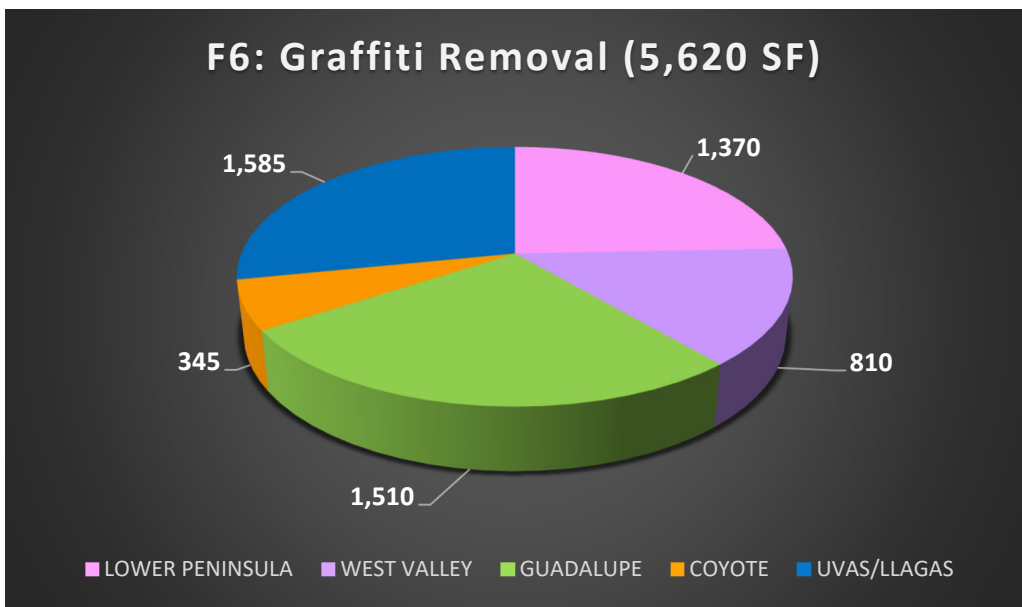
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Safe Clean Water Priority F5: Good Neighbor Program: Encampment Clean Up



- Manage 300 acres annually to reduce the amount of trash and pollutants entering streams.
 - Provide up to \$500,000 per year in cost-share with local agencies for services related to encampment cleanups, including services supporting staff safety, discouraging re-encampments along waterways, or addressing the homelessness crisis with the goal of reducing the need for encampment cleanups.
- The chart at left shows the work completed between August 1 – August 31, 2024.

Safe Clean Water Priority F6: Graffiti and Litter Removal and Public Art



- Cleanup identified trash and graffiti hotspots at approximately 80 sites four (4) times per year.
 - Respond to requests on litter or graffiti cleanup within five (5) working days.
 - Provide up to \$1.5 million over 15 years to implement public art projects on Valley Water property and infrastructure.
- The chart at left shows the work completed between August 1 – August 31, 2024.
- It does not include encampment generated trash and debris.

The information in this report has been provided by Valley Water staff for Watersheds O&M work between June 15 and July 31, 2024. As information is gathered, some of the data reported here may change.

For questions or further information, please contact Christopher Hakes, Chief Operating Officer, Watersheds, at (408) 630-3796.

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