

# Watersheds - Operations and Maintenance Report

August 1 – September 12, 2025

## Projects and Permit Process Status

During this reporting period, the Watersheds Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Division continued to support key regulatory, maintenance, and environmental compliance efforts across Valley Water's watersheds and water utility programs.

Under the Stream Maintenance Program (SMP), Valley Water submitted its 2025 Notice of Proposed Work (NPW1) to regulatory agencies on April 15<sup>th</sup>. Of the 155 projects submitted, nine were either withdrawn by Valley Water or denied by regulatory agencies. The remaining 146 projects received full approval as of July 31<sup>st</sup>. A second NPW (NPW2) will not be submitted for 2025. Notably, the Evelyn Fish Passage Improvement Project on Stevens Creek, permitted through the SMP mitigation credit process, began instream construction on September 8<sup>th</sup>. This project will be implemented in phases during the 2025 and 2026 instream construction seasons by the Watershed Asset Rehabilitation Program (WARP) team under contract with Granite Rock Company.

The SMP Renewal (SMP3) team remains engaged in ongoing negotiations with regulatory agencies for the next program cycle, covering 2027 to 2036. As part of the renewal process, Valley Water executives approved the Draft Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (DSEIR) on July 14<sup>th</sup>, which was released for a 45-day public review period beginning July 21<sup>st</sup> and ending September 3<sup>rd</sup>. The review period has since been extended through September 17<sup>th</sup>. A virtual public meeting was held on August 27<sup>th</sup>, with minimal public attendance. The team is also coordinating closely with the Santa Clara Valley Habitat Agency to incorporate the SMP into the Valley Habitat Plan. This collaboration ensures that SMP activities receive special-status species coverage and that mitigation pathways are clearly defined across the plan area. Several mitigation projects are currently in various stages of development or completion, including the Coyote 10B Freshwater Wetland Project, the Little Arthur Creek Dam Removal, the Evelyn Fish Passage Project, and Thompson Creek Enhancement Project.

In addition to SMP-related work, O&M Environmental Services staff continued to provide essential environmental compliance support for Water Utility operations. This includes conducting biological surveys and monitoring for a range of programs such as the Dam Maintenance Program, Canal Maintenance Program, Pipeline Maintenance Program, instream diversions, and percolation pond maintenance. These efforts are critical in ensuring regulatory compliance and minimizing environmental impacts associated with water utility maintenance activities.

Overall, this period reflects steady progress in project delivery, regulatory coordination, and environmental stewardship across both watersheds and water utility functions.

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

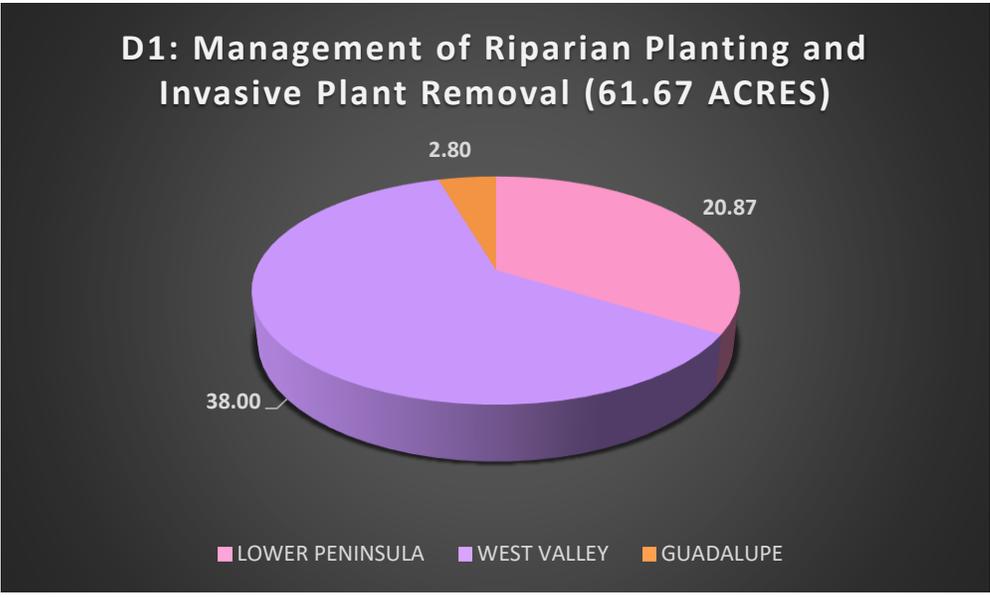
WORK TYPE	LOCATION	MUNICIPALITY	DISTRICT (DIRECTOR)	STATUS
Bank protection	Regnart Creek downstream of Antoinette Drive	Cupertino	5 (Hsueh)	Completed 8/18/25
Sediment removal	Alamitos Diversion Channel upstream of Mazzone Drive	San Jose	4 (Beall)	Completed 8/27/25
Bank protection, sediment removal	Piedmont Creek upstream of Vista Way	Milpitas	3 (Santos)	Completed 8/28/25
Bank protection, sediment removal	Alamitos Creek downstream of Mazzone Drive	San Jose	4 (Beall)	Completed 9/2/25 (started 8/1/25)
Sediment removal	Matadero Creek downstream of Louis Road	Palo Alto	7 (Eisenberg)	Ongoing; started 7/16/25
Bank protection	Princevalle Drain upstream of Camino Arroyo	Gilroy	1 (Varela)	Ongoing; started 7/30/25
Bank protection	Saratoga Creek upstream of Bollinger Road	San Jose	5 (Hsueh)	Ongoing; started 8/18/25
Sediment removal	Lower Penitencia Creek downstream of Marilyn Drive	Milpitas	3 (Santos)	Ongoing; started 9/2/25
Sediment removal	Randol Creek upstream of Rajkovich Way	San Jose	7 (Eisenberg)	Ongoing; started 9/2/25
Sediment removal	Canoas Creek, Nightingale Drive to Lean Avenue	San Jose	6 (Estremera), 4 (Beall)	Ongoing; started 9/8/25



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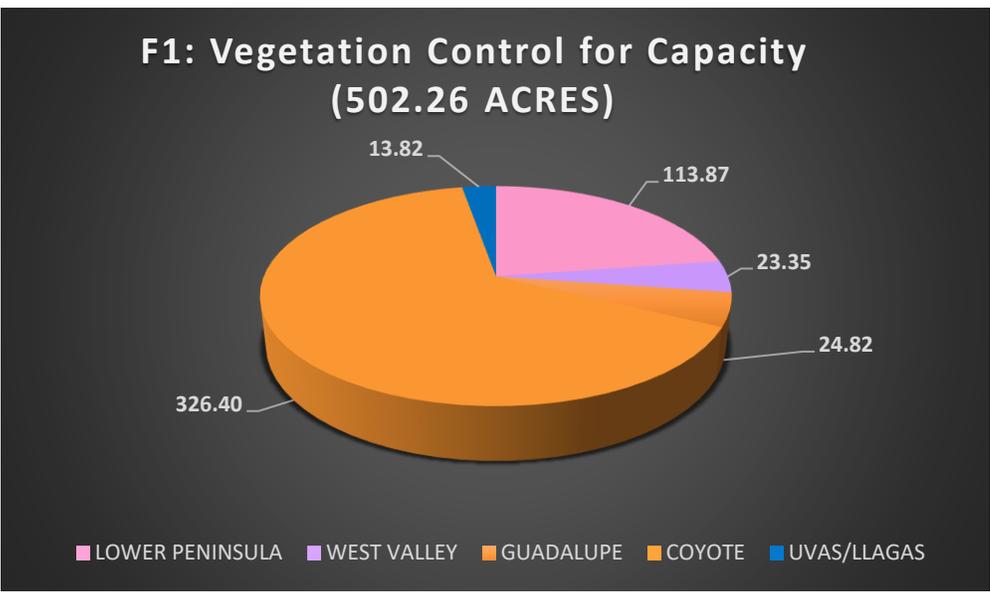
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## Safe Clean Water Priority D1: Management of Riparian Planting & Invasive Plant Removal



1. Maintain a minimum of 300 acres of riparian planting projects annually to meet regulatory requirements and conditions.
  2. Maintain a minimum of 200 acres of invasive plant management projects annually to meet regulatory requirements and condition.
  3. 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 – September 12, 2025.

## Safe Clean Water Priority F1: Vegetation Control for Capacity



Maintain completed flood protection projects for flow conveyance.

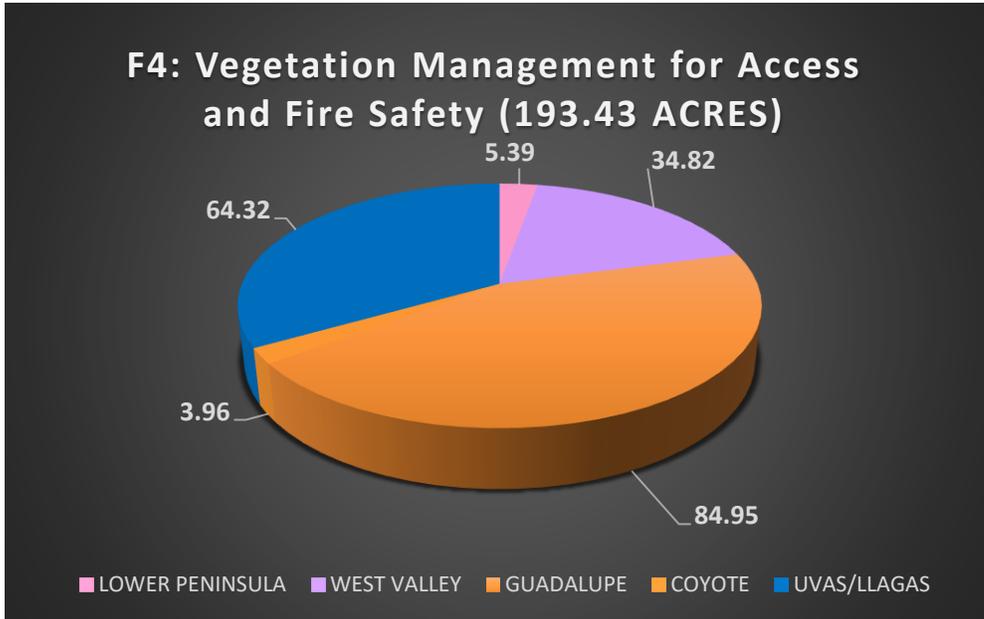
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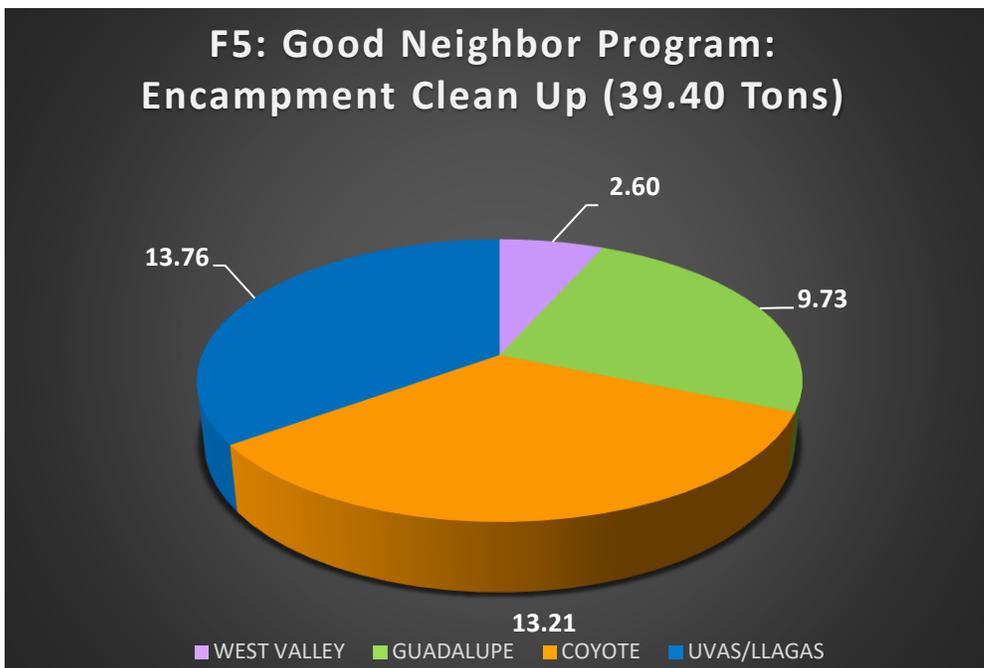
## Safe Clean Water Priority F4: Vegetation Management for Access & Fire Safety



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 – September 12, 2025.

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



1. Manage 300 acres annually to reduce the amount of trash and pollutants entering streams.

2. 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.

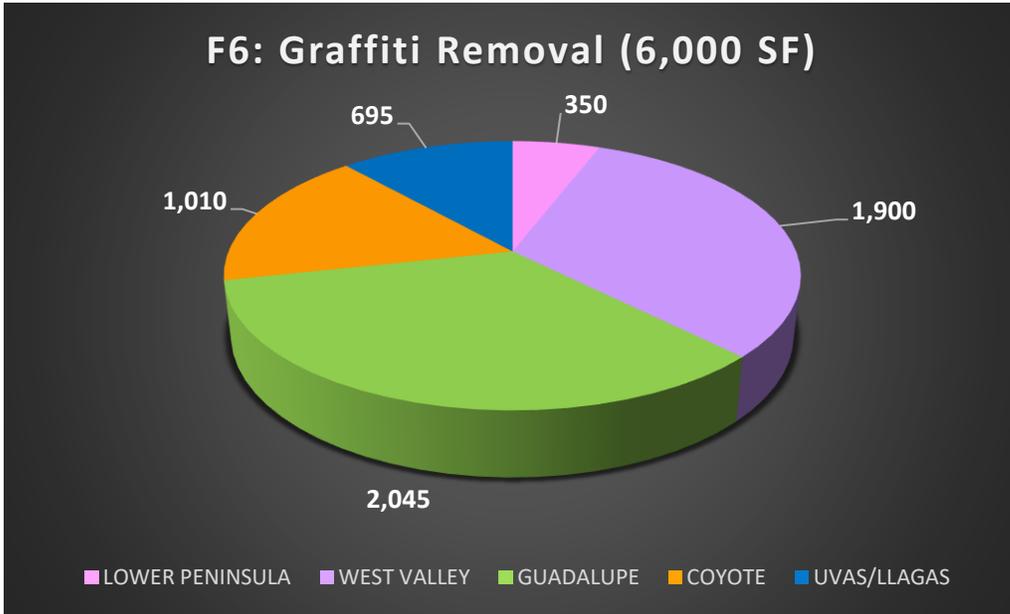
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## Safe Clean Water Priority F6: Graffiti and Litter Removal and Public Art



1. Cleanup identified trash and graffiti hotspots at approximately 80 sites four (4) times per year.
  2. Respond to requests on litter or graffiti cleanup within five (5) working days.
  3. 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 graffiti removal work completed between August 1 – September 12, 2025.

The information in this report has been provided by Valley Water staff for Watersheds O&M work between August 1 and September 12, 2025. 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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