

# Watersheds - Operations and Maintenance Report

June 15th – November 1st, 2022

## Projects and Permit Process Status

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

Valley Water recently concluded a successful 2022 work season under its Stream Maintenance Program (SMP) for sediment removal, bank protection, animal damage management, mitigation and vegetation management. Valley Water submitted its annual Notice of Proposed Work (NPW) on April 15, 2022. Regulatory agency approvals were received for a total of 200 projects. The project list included: 17 bank stabilizations, 11 sediment removals, 1 animal damage management project, 2 revegetation mitigation projects, 4 invasive plant removal mitigation projects, and 165 vegetation management projects. Valley Water staff worked closely with regulatory agency personnel to secure needed approvals and received extensions to work on 4 bank stabilization and 4 sediment removal projects past the October 15<sup>th</sup> work season deadline. In total, Valley Water completed 62 vegetation management projects, 6 bank repairs, 1 animal damage management project, 9 sediment removal projects, 1 instream habitat improvement project, and 1 mitigation project. Management of SMP mitigation sites, vegetation management, including Invasive Plant Management and Revegetation mitigation projects continue along various creeks throughout the county. Field crews also continue to work countywide on removing channel obstructions from fallen trees, trash, and debris.

Valley Water submitted a second NPW on September 13, 2022. The NPW2 was focused on three bank repair projects on Guadalupe River and Coyote Creek. These projects are aimed to be implemented under SMP permits by the Watershed Asset Rehabilitation Program (WARP) for construction in 2023. These projects were submitted in 2022 in order to have additional time for regulatory agency feedback and a competitive bid process. Preparation of an annual summary report for SMP work that occurred in 2022 is nearing completion and will be submitted to regulatory agencies on January 31, 2023. Work is also underway to identify potential stream maintenance projects for summer 2023.

The third iteration of SMP (SMP3) is under development. In June, the SMP3 team held a public scoping meeting in association with the SMP3 Notice of Preparation. Since then, the SMP3 team has been in the process of describing and analyzing the next iteration of SMP through creation of the SMP3 Manual and the SMP3 Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (SEIR). Simultaneously, the SMP3 team is developing a strategy by which the potential impacts of SMP3 work may be mitigated, including avoidance measures, on-site and off-site mitigation options, fisheries projects, novel mitigation strategies such as trash removal, and the inclusion of SMP3 in the Valley Habitat Plan (VHP). The latter of these is being done as part of the VHP amendment, a process that the SMP3 team has been very actively involved with. All aspects of SMP3 development are done with extensive

communication and coordination with Valley Water staff across a variety of technical and operational roles and with regular engagement with regulatory agency staff. Building the most effective possible SMP3 and aligning SMP3 with the VHP amendment process requires more time than remains in the existing SMP2 permits, therefore the entire SMP team is also working on extension of the SMP2 permits.

Water Utility Operations and Maintenance Environmental staff has been working closely with Water Supply Operations Unit in finalizing a Lake and Streambed Alterations Agreements (LSAA) for the O&M work on Mabury Diversion on Upper Penitencia Creek, Masson Diversion on Guadalupe Creek, Chesbro Reservoir on Llagas Creek, and Uvas Reservoir on Uvas Creek. Valley Water is working on edits and comments to a Revised Notification for the LSAAs. Staff also completed an addendum to the Dam Maintenance Program EIR and submitted permit applications to renew the permits for that program. Staff negotiated and obtained permits for the culvert replacement project at Calero Reservoir. Staff completed a draft Mitigated Negative Declaration for a stormwater culvert replacement/realignment on the Coyote-Alamitos Canal on Tulare Hill. Environmental Planner and Biologist staff supported an emergency outlet valve repair on Almaden Dam and vegetation clearing on Lenihan Dam for installation of seismic stability survey equipment. Biologist staff completed numerous pre-construction biological surveys to support maintenance of percolation ponds, wells, and pipelines. Staff continued to work with a variety of units in support of the Anderson Dam FERC-Ordered Compliance Project (FOCP) and Seismic Retrofit Project (ADSRP) to complete FOCP plans and permits and development of the ADSRP EIR and BA. Staff continued work on addressing public comments on the FAHCE Draft EIR and preparation of Petitions for Change to associated VW-held water rights licenses.

## Summary of sediment removal, bank protection, levee protection, instream habitat improvement, and mitigation projects completed during 2022 SMP season

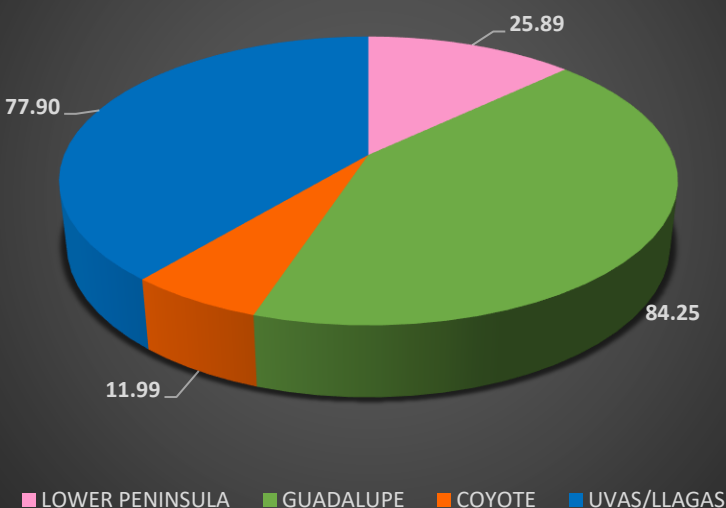
WORK TYPE	LOCATION	MUNICIPALITY	DISTRICT/DIRECTOR	STATUS	ACCOMPLISHMENTS (ESTIMATED)
Sediment removal	Calabazas Creek downstream of Comer Drive	Saratoga	5 (Hsueh)	Completed 7/7/22	1,175 cubic yards
Bank protection	Ross Creek downstream of Leigh Avenue	San Jose	4 (LeZotte / Beall)	Completed 7/28/22	200 linear feet
Bank protection	Regnart Creek downstream of Antoinette Drive	Cupertino	5 (Hsueh)	Completed 8/5/22	200 linear feet
Sediment removal	Guadalupe River downstream of Montague Expressway	Santa Clara, San Jose	3 (Santos)	Completed 8/8/22	491 cubic yards
Instream habitat improvement	Uvas Creek upstream of Miller Avenue	Gilroy	1 (Varela)	Completed 8/12/22	See below*
Sediment removal	Guadalupe River downstream of Highway 101	San Jose	3 (Santos)	Completed 8/17/22	735 cubic yards
Sediment removal	Guadalupe River upstream of Coleman Avenue	San Jose	2 (Keegan)	Completed 8/29/22	435 cubic yards

WORK TYPE	LOCATION	MUNICIPALITY	DISTRICT/ DIRECTOR	STATUS	ACCOMPLISHMENTS (ESTIMATED)
Bank (levee) protection	Guadalupe River upstream of Tasman Drive	San Jose	3 (Santos)	Completed 9/16/22	2,400 linear feet
Bank (levee) protection	Llagas Creek downstream of Bloomfield Avenue	Gilroy	1 (Varela)	Completed 9/27/22	29 linear feet
Bank (levee) protection	Coyote Creek upstream of McCarthy Boulevard	Milpitas	3 (Santos)	Completed 9/28/22	423 linear feet
Mitigation	Coyote Creek upstream of McCarthy Boulevard	Milpitas	3 (Santos)	Completed 10/7/22	5,000 square feet
Sediment removal	Matadero Creek downstream of Louis Road	Palo Alto	7 (Kremen / Eisenberg)	Completed 10/12/22	2,350 cubic yards
Sediment removal	Lower Silver Creek upstream and downstream of Story Road	San Jose	6 (Estremera)	Completed 10/13/22	720 cubic yards
Bank (levee) protection	Canoas Creek downstream of Nightingale Drive	San Jose	6 (Estremera)	Completed 10/17/22	720 linear feet
Sediment removal	Berryessa Creek downstream of Piedmont Road	San Jose	3 (Santos)	Completed 10/17/22	709 cubic yards
Bank protection, sediment removal	Stevens Creek upstream of Middlefield Road	Mountain View	7 (Kremen / Eisenberg)	Completed 10/31/22	275 linear feet, 350 cubic yards
Sediment removal	Jones Creek downstream of Highway 152	Gilroy	1 (Varela)	Completed 11/1/22	3,000 cubic yards

\*45 cubic yards of large woody debris credit, 17,424 square feet of habitat complexity credit

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

### D1: Management of Riparian Planting and Invasive Plant Removal (229.19 ACRES)



1. Maintain a minimum of 300 acres of riparian planting projects annually to meet regulatory requirements and conditions.

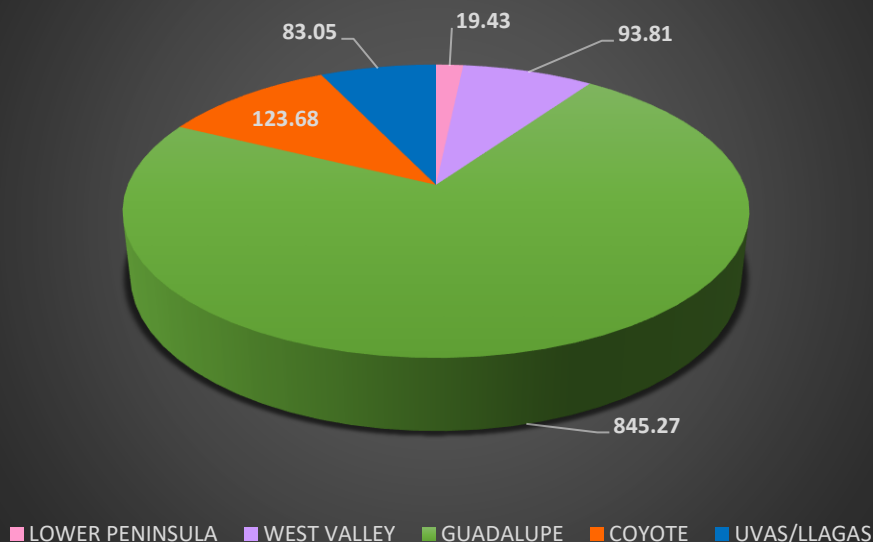
2. Maintain a minimum of 200 acres of invasive plant management projects annually to meet regulatory requirements and condition.

3. Remove 25 acres of *Arundo donax* throughout the county over a 15-year period.

The chart at left shows the work completed between June 15 – November 1, 2022.

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

### F1: Vegetation Control for Capacity (1165.24 ACRES)

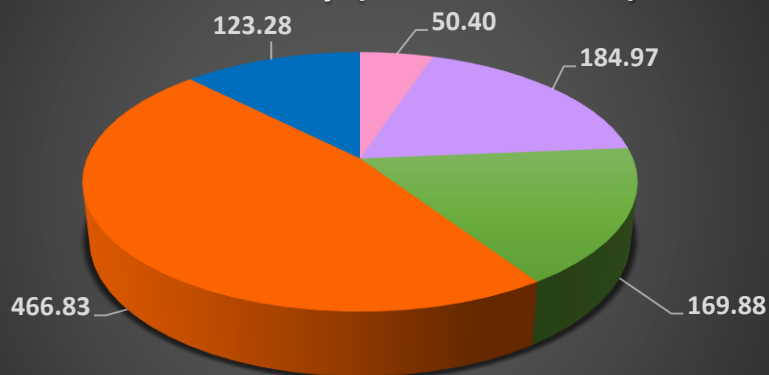


Maintain completed flood protection projects for flow conveyance.

The chart at left shows the work completed between June 15 – November 1, 2022.

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

### F4: Vegetation Management for Access and Fire Safety (995.36 ACRES)



■ LOWER PENINSULA
 ■ WEST VALLEY
 ■ GUADALUPE
 ■ COYOTE
 ■ UVAS/LLAGAS

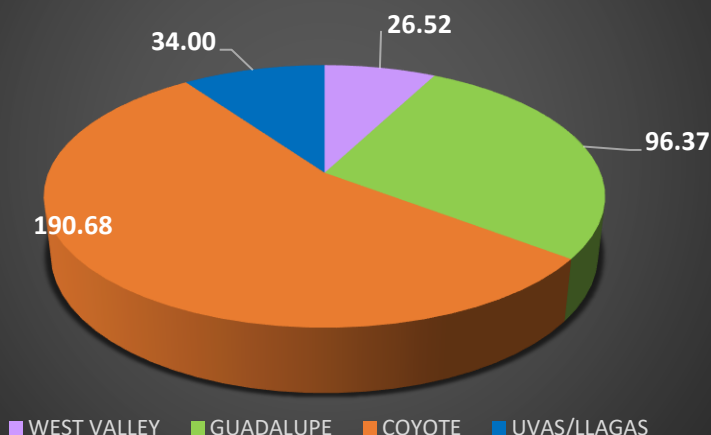
Provide vegetation management for access and fire risk reduction along levee, property lines and maintenance roads, over a 15-year period.

The chart at left shows the work completed between June 15 – November 1, 2022.

June 15th – November 1st, 2022

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

### F5: Good Neighbor Program: Encampment Clean Up (347.57 Tons)



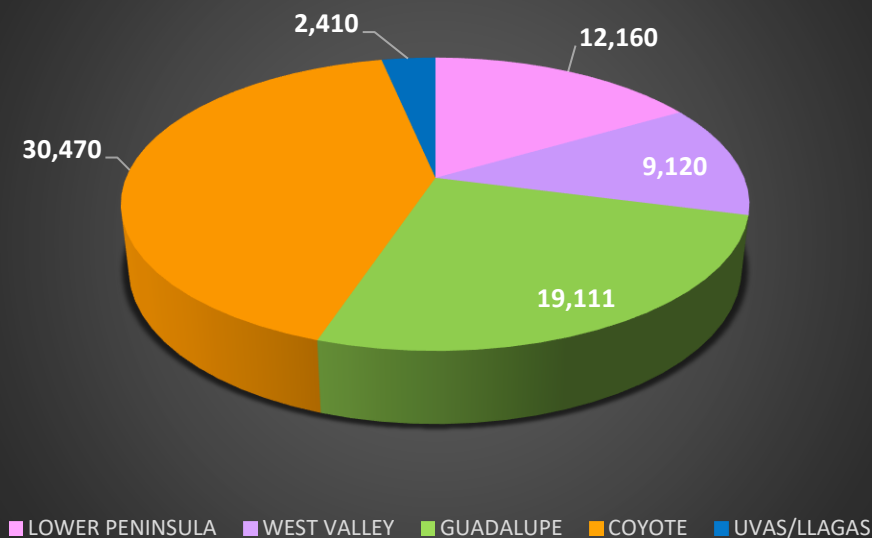
1. Manage 300 acres annually to reduce the amount of trash and pollutants entering streams.

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.

The chart at left shows the work completed between June 15 – November 1, 2022.

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

### F6: Graffiti Removal (73,271 SF)



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 work completed between June 15 – November 1, 2022.

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 November 1, 2022. As information is gathered, some of the data reported here may change.

For questions or further information, please contact Rechelle Blank, Chief Operating Officer Watersheds, at (408) 630-2615.