



Santa Clara Valley Water District Stream Planning & Operations Committee Meeting

Headquarters Building Boardroom
5700 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, CA 95118

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

**Tuesday, January 30, 2024
12:00 PM**

District Mission: Provide Silicon Valley safe, clean water for a healthy life, environment and economy.

BOARD COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Committee Chair:
Director Barbara Keegan, District 2

Committee Vice Chair:
Director Rebecca Eisenberg,
District 7

Committee Member:
Director Tony Estremera, District 6

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COMMITTEE LIAISON:
Sarah Young

COMMITTEE CLERK:
Dave Leon (COB Liaison)
Assistant Deputy Clerk II

408-630-2006
daveleon@valleywater.org
www.valleywater.org

Note: The finalized Board Agenda, exception items and supplemental items will be posted prior to the meeting in accordance with the Brown Act.

Santa Clara Valley Water District
Stream Planning & Operations Committee
REGULAR MEETING
AGENDA

Tuesday, January 30, 2024

12:00 PM

HQ. Bldg. Boardroom, 5700 Almaden
Expressway, San Jose, California

IMPORTANT NOTICES AND PARTICIPATION INSTRUCTIONS

Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water) Board of Directors/Board Committee meetings are held as a “hybrid” meetings, conducted in-person as well as by telecommunication, and is compliant with the provisions of the Ralph M. Brown Act.

To maximize public safety while still maintaining transparency and public access, members of the public have an option to participate by teleconference/video conference or attend in-person. To observe and participate in the meeting by teleconference/video conference, please see the meeting link located at the top of the agenda. If attending in-person, you are required to comply with Ordinance 22-03 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT SPECIFYING RULES OF DECORUM FOR PARTICIPATION IN BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS located at <https://s3.us-west-2.amazonaws.com/valleywater.org.if-us-west-2/f2-live/s3fs-public/Ord.pdf>

In accordance with the requirements of Gov. Code Section 54954.3(a), members of the public wishing to address the Board/Committee during public comment or on any item listed on the agenda, may do so by filling out a Speaker Card and submitting it to the Clerk or using the “Raise Hand” tool located in the Zoom meeting application to identify yourself in order to speak, at the time the item is called. Speakers will be acknowledged by the Board/Committee Chair in the order requests are received and granted speaking access to address the Board.

- Members of the Public may test their connection to Zoom Meetings at: <https://zoom.us/test>
- Members of the Public are encouraged to review our overview on joining Valley Water Board Meetings at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TojJpYCxXm0>

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Join Zoom Meeting:
<https://valleywater.zoom.us/j/98460637852>
Meeting ID: 984 6063 7852
Join by Phone:
1 (669) 900-9128, 98460637852#

1. CALL TO ORDER:

1.1. Roll Call.

2. TIME OPEN FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY ITEM NOT ON THE AGENDA.

Notice to the public: Members of the public who wish to address the Board/Committee on any item not listed on the agenda may do so by filling out a Speaker Card and submitting it to the Clerk or using the "Raise Hand" tool located in the Zoom meeting application to identify yourself to speak. Speakers will be acknowledged by the Board/Committee Chair in the order requests are received and granted speaking access to address the Board/Committee. Speakers' comments should be limited to three minutes or as set by the Chair. The law does not permit Board/Committee action on, or extended discussion of, any item not on the agenda except under special circumstances. If Board/Committee action is requested, the matter may be placed on a future agenda. All comments that require a response will be referred to staff for a reply in writing. The Board/Committee may take action on any item of business appearing on the posted agenda.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- 3.1. Approval of November 9, 2023 Stream Planning Operations Committee minutes. [24-0150](#)
Recommendation: Approve the minutes.
Manager: Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193
Attachments: [Attachment 1: 110923 SPOC Draft Minutes](#)

4. REGULAR AGENDA:

- 4.1. Select Sites for a May 2024 Field Trip and Receive and Discuss Updates on FAHCE Implementation. [24-0120](#)
Recommendation: A. Consider staff recommendations and select sites for the May 2024 field trip; and
B. Receive updates on FAHCE implementation (including Initialing Parties and Adaptive Management Team meetings) and discuss program and efforts.
Manager: John Bourgeois, (408) 630-2990
Attachments: [Potential Sites for the May 2024 Field Trip](#)
[List of Issues Related to FAHCE Adaptive Management](#)
Est. Staff Time: 15 Minutes
- 4.2. Receive Update on Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Project and Incorporation of FAHCE Conservation Measures for Coyote Creek. [24-0115](#)
Recommendation: Receive update on Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Project and incorporation of FAHCE conservation measures for Coyote Creek.
Manager: Ryan McCarter, 408-630-2983
Est. Staff Time: 15 minutes
- 4.3. Review Board-Approved Committee Purpose and 2023-2024 Work Plan. [24-0184](#)
Recommendation: A. Review the Stream Planning and Operations Committee's Board-assigned Purpose, and;
B. Review the draft 2024 Stream Planning and Operations Committee's Work Plan and incorporate any new tasks.
Manager: Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193
Attachments: [Attachment 1: 2023-2024 SPOC Work Plan](#)

5. CLERK REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION OF COMMITTEE REQUESTS.

This is an opportunity for the Clerk to review and obtain clarification on any formally moved, seconded, and approved requests and recommendations made by the Committee during the meeting.

6. ADJOURN:

6.1. Adjourn.

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Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 24-0150

Agenda Date: 1/30/2024
Item No.: 3.1.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM **Stream Planning and Operations Committee**

Government Code § 84308 Applies: Yes ☐ No ☒
(If "YES" Complete Attachment A)

SUBJECT:

Approval of November 9, 2023 Stream Planning Operations Committee minutes.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the minutes.

SUMMARY:

In accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act, a summary of Committee discussions, and details of all actions taken by the Capital Improvement Program Committee, during all open and public Committee meetings, is transcribed and submitted to the Committee for review and approval.

Upon Committee approval, minutes transcripts are finalized and entered into the Committee's historical record archives and serve as the official historical record of the Committee's meeting.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: 110923 SPOC Draft Minutes

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193

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STREAM PLANNING AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

DRAFT MINUTES

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2023
12:00 PM

(Paragraph numbers coincide with agenda item numbers)

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

1.1 Roll Call.

A meeting of the Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water) Stream Planning and Operations Committee (SPOC) was called to order at 12:04 p.m. on November 9, 2023.

Board members in attendance: Director Barbara Keegan-District 2, Director Rebecca Eisenberg-District 7, constituting a quorum of the SPOC. Director Tony Estremera - District 6, arrived as noted below.

Staff members in attendance: Aaron Baker, Lisa Bankosh, Roseryn Bhudsabourg, John Bourgeois, Glenna Brambill, Rick Callender, Rita Chan, Theresa Chinte, Adelina Del Real, Andy Gschwind, Christopher Hakes, Heather Hamp, Ryan Heacock, Bassam Kassab, Cynthia Johnson, Michele King, Emelia Lamas, Dave Leon, Ryan McCarter, Emily McKim, Kathy Nguyen, Eric Olson, Carlos Orellana, Max Overland, Lisa Porcella, Mike Potter, Melanie Richardson, Don Rocha, Michelle San Miguel, Sarah Young, and Beckie Zisser.

Public in attendance: CharRein, Susan Glendening, Katja Irvin, Mayra, Jessie Maxfield, and Rick.

2. **TIME OPEN FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY ITEM NOT AN AGENDA**

Director Keegan declared time open for public comment on any item not on the agenda. There was no one who wished to speak.

3. **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

3.1. Election of 2023-24 Stream Planning and Operations Committee Chairperson and Vice Chairperson.

Director Eisenberg nominated herself for Chairperson. The motion failed for lack of a second.

Director Estremera arrived at 12:07 p.m.

Director Estremera nominated Director Keegan for Chairperson. Director Keegan seconded the motion. The motion passed on a vote of 2-1, with Director Eisenberg voting no.

Director Estremera nominated Director Eisenberg for Vice Chairperson. Chairperson Keegan seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-1, with Director Eisenberg voting no.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

4.1. Approve minutes of the November 10, 2022 Stream Planning and Operations Committee meeting.

The Committee considered the attached minutes of the November 10, 2022 Committee meeting.

Public Comments: None.

It was moved by Director Estremera and seconded by Chairperson Keegan that the minutes be approved. The Motion passed 2-1, with Vice Chairperson Eisenberg abstaining.

5. ACTION AND INFORMATION ITEMS

5.1. Receive updates on FAHCE implementation (including Initialing Party and Adaptive Management Team meetings) and discuss program and efforts.

John Bourgeois, Eric Olson, and Ryan Heacock reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo, and the corresponding presentation materials contained in Attachment 1. John Bourgeois, Bassam Kassab, and Lisa Porcella were available to answer questions.

Public comments: None.

The Committee received the information, took no formal action, and requested that the next report to the Committee highlight any disagreements that arise from meetings between Valley Water and initialing parties.

5.2. Receive Update on Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Project and Incorporation of FAHCE Conservation Measures for Coyote Creek.

Ryan McCarter reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo, and the corresponding presentation materials contained in Attachment 1, and was available to answer questions.

Public comments: None.

The Committee received the information, took no formal action, and requested that staff include additional information in the next report relating to methods for cooling water temperature and how the chillers operate.

5.3. **Discuss and Approve the 2023-24 Stream Planning and Operations Committee Work Plan.**

John Bourgeois reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo, and the corresponding presentation materials contained in Attachment 1, and was available to answer questions.

Public Comments: None.

The Committee received the information, took no formal action, and requested that staff reschedule the February 2024 meeting to January 2024.

6. **CLERK REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION OF COMMITTEE REQUESTS**

There were no committee requests.

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

7.1. Adjourn.

Chairperson Keegan adjourned the meeting at 1:39 p.m.

Dave Leon
Assistant Deputy Clerk II

Approved:

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Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 24-0120

Agenda Date: 1/30/2024

Item No.: 4.1.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM Stream Planning and Operations Committee

Government Code § 84308 Applies: Yes ☐ No ☒
(If "YES" Complete Attachment A - Gov. Code § 84308)

SUBJECT:

Select Sites for a May 2024 Field Trip and Receive and Discuss Updates on FAHCE Implementation.

RECOMMENDATION:

- A. Consider staff recommendations and select sites for the May 2024 field trip; and
- B. Receive updates on FAHCE implementation (including Initialing Parties and Adaptive Management Team meetings) and discuss program and efforts.

SUMMARY:

Following the last meeting of the Stream Planning and Operations Committee (SPOC) on November 9, 2023, there have been ongoing developments with the Fish and Aquatic Habitat Collaborative Effort (FAHCE) Program. These include:

A. Planning for the May 2024 Field Trip

Per the 2024 Work Plan for the SPOC, a field trip is scheduled for the upcoming May meeting.

For the committee's considerations, staff solicited input from members of the FAHCE Initialing Parties (IP) and Adaptive Management Team (AMT). Attachment 1 contains a list of project sites along with approximate locations along with a brief description for completed restoration measures. Staff also included one ongoing work element, i.e., the Live Oak Restoration Reach (Site 1) for the Committee's considerations.

Staff is recommending the field trip to:

- Include members of the IP, the AMT, and the State Water Resources Control Board;
- Be no more than 4 hours in duration (e.g., between 10:00 am to 2:00 pm); and
- Select no more than two (2) stops (e.g., Live Oak Restoration Reach and Singleton).

B. FAHCE Implementation and Adaptive Management

1. Updated Program Website for FAHCE Implementation

Staff updated the website to focus on the adaptive management program along with the monitoring program. In addition, the Final EIR link, [FAHCE Final Program Environmental Impact Report \(EIR\) for Guadalupe River and Stevens Creek Watersheds <https://www.valleywater.org/FEIR>](https://www.valleywater.org/FEIR), was updated to highlight the certification by the Valley Water Board of Directors on August 8, 2023.

2. FAHCE Plus Flows Implementation at Guadalupe River and Stevens Creek Watershed Areas

On October 1, 2023, staff started full implementation of FAHCE Plus flow measures for Lexington, Calero, Guadalupe, Almaden and Stevens Creek Reservoir. This is a major milestone for the FAHCE Program, and it expands the three-year FAHCE Plus pilot program which began on October 1, 2020. Following the two-year Pilot report published last February, the Year-Three pilot report will be provided to the AMT ahead of its February meeting.

In addition, on December 12, a notification was filed to inform the IPs and AMT about a 12-day adjustment of FAHCE Plus Rule Curve at Almaden Reservoir to benefit Chinook salmon that were in Alamitos Creek.

3. Initialing Parties and Adaptive Management Team Meetings

On November 17, 2023, the tenth AMT meeting was held to discuss the potential schedule for FAHCE implementation, the Stevens Creek Fish passage assessment and site prioritization, and the AMT/IP process and schedule for meetings in 2024. A total of six meetings were scheduled for 2024 in February, April, May (joining the SPOC for the field visit), July, October, and December. Each meeting is anticipated to last two (2) hours and include two parts; the first part will focus on issues that pertain to the IPs and the second part of each meeting will focus on AMT items. The IP and AMT members were again reminded and invited to attend the quarterly SPOC meetings as well.

Attachment 2 provides a list of issues to be tackled by IP and AMT as a part of the FAHCE adaptive management process.

C. Water Rights Change Petitions

Staff submitted the Petitions for Change for the ten (10) water rights licenses in Guadalupe River and Stevens Creek included in the FAHCE Final EIR to the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) on November 16, 2023. The revised submittal requested Fish and Wildlife Enhancement be added as a beneficial use for each of the ten licenses. It also provided additional technical details about the Points of Rediversion (where applicable) and Diversion to Storage/Groundwater Percolation to fully describe Valley Water's groundwater recharge operations and beneficial use of water.

D. Next Steps

While collaborating with the SWRCB on next steps for processing the water rights change petitions, staff will continue to focus on FAHCE implementation and coordinate and collaborate with members of the IP/AMT.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IMPACT:

There are no likely environmental justice impacts. Protecting water rights provides equity opportunities for access to drinking water and water affordability.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1. Potential Sites for the May Field Trip

Attachment 2. List of Issues Related to FAHCE Adaptive Management Program

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

John Bourgeois, (408) 630-2990

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Attachment 1. Potential Sites for the May 2024 Field Trip

A. Staff Recommendations

Staff recommends that all IP and AMT members be invited on a field trip to consist of no more than 2 stops. The full tour will be no more than 4 hours from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM.

B. Site Options for Committee's Considerations

Staff listed some options for the Committee's considerations. The options listed accounted for input from IP/AMT members, as well as logistics considerations shown in location maps. Some of the Phase 1 measures are being worked on and some have already been completed. For completed measures, links to factsheets along with reference to Settlement Agreement sections are provided below through the web link [HERE](#).

Coyote Watershed Area (Three Options)

1. Live Oak Restoration Reach (Settlement Agreement Reference: 6.2.4.3.1 and 6.2.4.3.2) -Work In Progress
2. [Percolation Pond Fish Ladder Installation \(Settlement Agreement Reference: 6.2.4.2\)](#)
3. [Fish Barrier Removal at Singleton Road in Coyote Creek \(Settlement Agreement Reference: 6.4.2.1.2B FB24\)](#)

Guadalupe Watershed Area (Three Options)

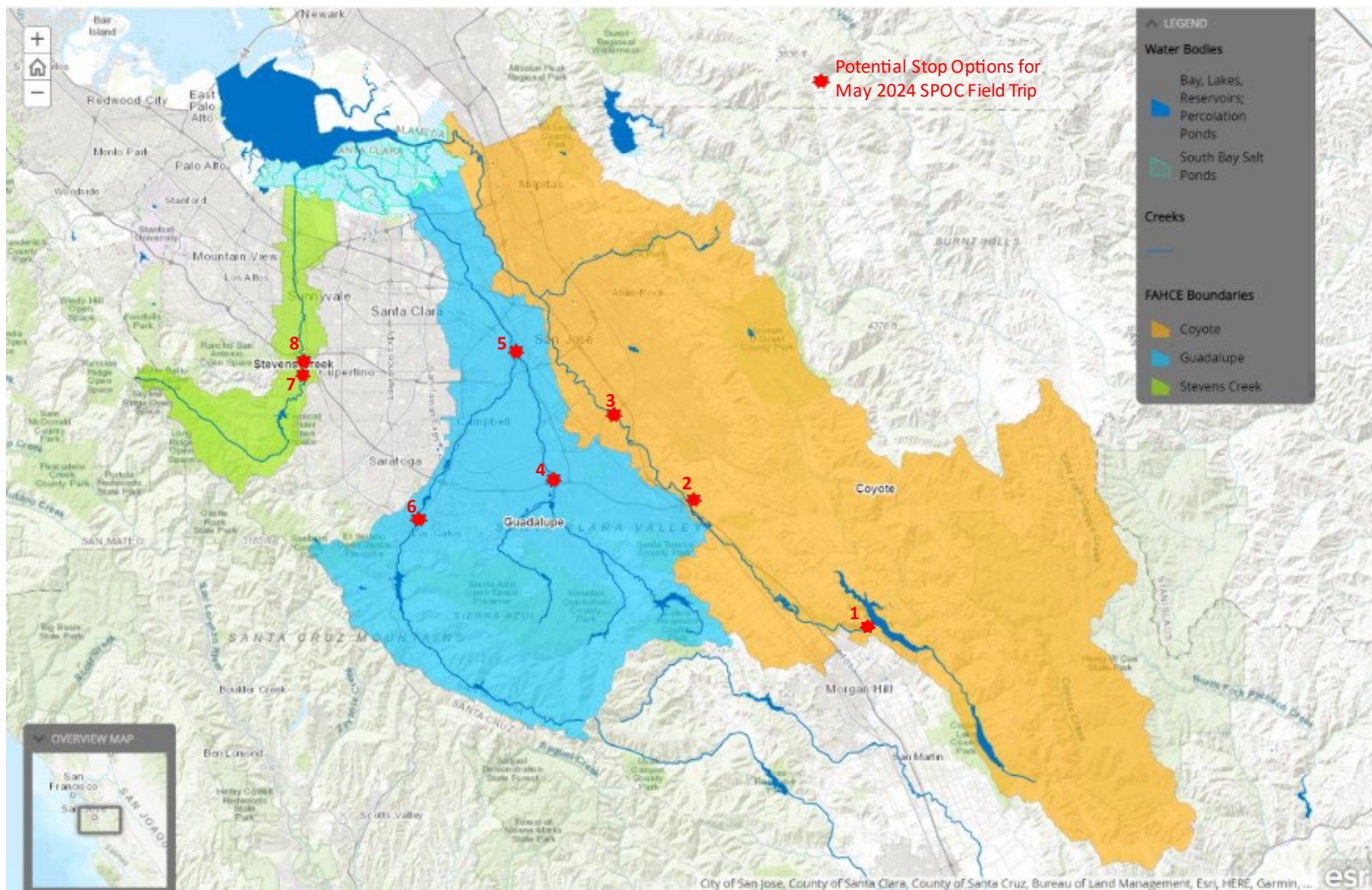
4. [Hillsdale Avenue Bridge Improvements \(Settlement Agreement Reference: 6.6.2.1.1\(B\)\)](#)
5. [St. John Street Gage Weir Barrier Removal \(Settlement Agreement Reference: 6.6.2.1.1\(A\)\)](#)
6. [Los Gatos Creek Large Woody Debris and Augmentation Site](#) (Settlement Agreement Reference 6.2.4.3.1 and 6.2.4.3.2)

Stevens Creek Watershed Area (Two Options)

7. [Blackberry Farms Geomorphic Restoration \(Settlement Agreement Reference: 6.2.4.4.2 and 6.5.2.2 \(B\)\)](#)
8. [Large Woody Debris and Gravel Augmentation at Stevens Creek \(Settlement Agreement Reference 6.2.4.3.2A\)](#)

C. Input by FAHCE IP/AMT Members

| Potential Sites | Key Features to Highlight | Suggested By |
|-------------------------------------|---|------------------------|
| Blackberry Farms Stream Restoration | Passage for fish migration, bio-engineering | Mayra Molina/Page Vick |
| Lower Stevens Creek | Fish passage barriers | Pat Samuel |
| Lower Coyote Creek | Below Anderson, Upper Penitencia | Pat Samuel |
| Guadalupe Creek | Below reservoir - high quality habitat | Pat Samuel |



From: Completed Restoration Measures Map: [HERE](#).

SITE 1

COYOTE CREEK:

Live Oak Restoration Reach (Settlement Agreement Reference 6.2.4.3.1 and 6.2.4.3.2)

Work In Progress As of November 2023 Subject To Refinements

Location:

An approximately 2,600-foot section of Coyote Creek immediately downstream of Anderson Dam outlet, along Live Oak Group Area in Anderson Lake County Park, Morgan Hill.

Problem:

The Live Oak Reach is potentially valuable for steelhead because it supports cold water temperatures for spawning and rearing. However, the area lacks gravel patches, pools, or other habitat structures necessary for steelhead spawning, summer rearing, and overwintering refuge.

Solution:

Features such as spawning gravel patches, large wood and boulder clusters, and vegetated gravel bars will be added to the channel to improve the aquatic habitat conditions.

Gravel patches will be replenished overtime and expected to be transported downstream naturally and enhance aquatic habitat farther downstream in Coyote Creek.

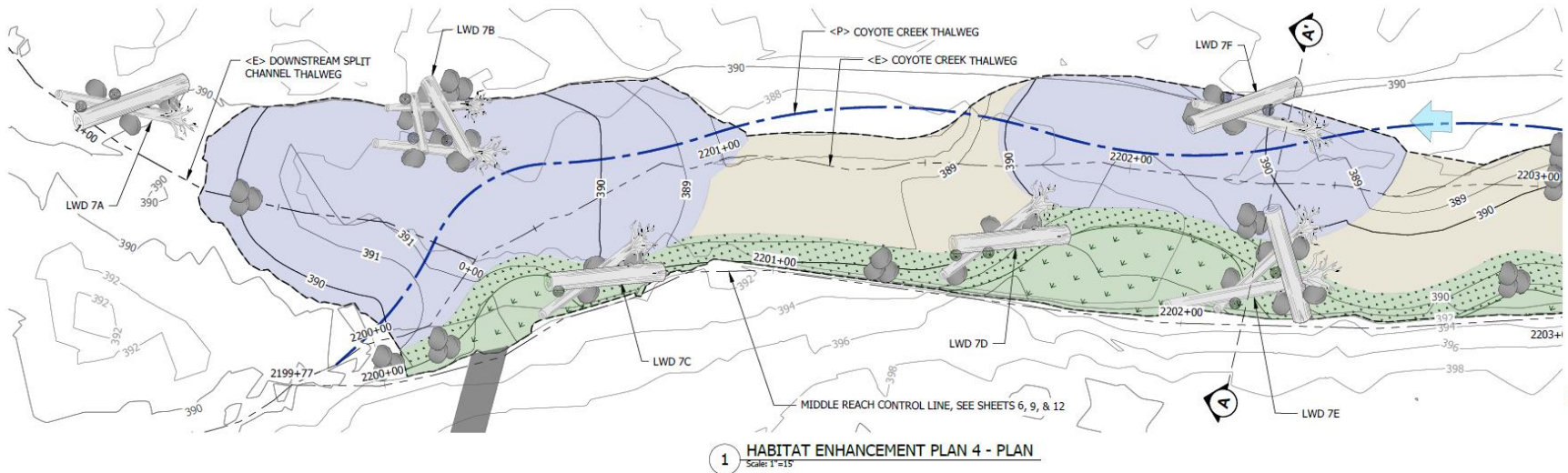


AS of Nov. 2023: simple aquatic habitat without complex spawning gravels, pools, or habitat structures.

Work in Process (As of November 2023, Subject to Refinements)

Design plans featuring:

- spawning gravels (in purple),
- substrate improvements (in brown),
- vegetated floodplain bars (in green), and
- large wood and boulder cluster features.





Site 2

COYOTE CREEK: Percolation Pond Fish Ladder Installation

Location:

Coyote Creek Percolation Pond and Diversion Dam, which is adjacent to Metcalf Park and approximately ¼ mile downstream of Metcalf Road in South San José.

Problem:

The Coyote Diversion Dam was built in 1934 as a steel paneled flashboard dam, which can be quickly removed when needed. The dam was intended to allow for groundwater recharge via an instream percolation pond, but also created a barrier for fish migrating upstream and downstream.

Solution:

In 1999, a fish ladder was constructed on the west side of the existing dam, enabling both upstream and downstream fish passage around the dam.

For more information, please visit us at: <https://www.valleywater.org/project-updates/creek-river-projects/fahce-fish-and-aquatic-habitat-collaborative-effort>



Before



After



COYOTE CREEK

Fish Barrier Removal at Singleton Road in Coyote Creek

Location

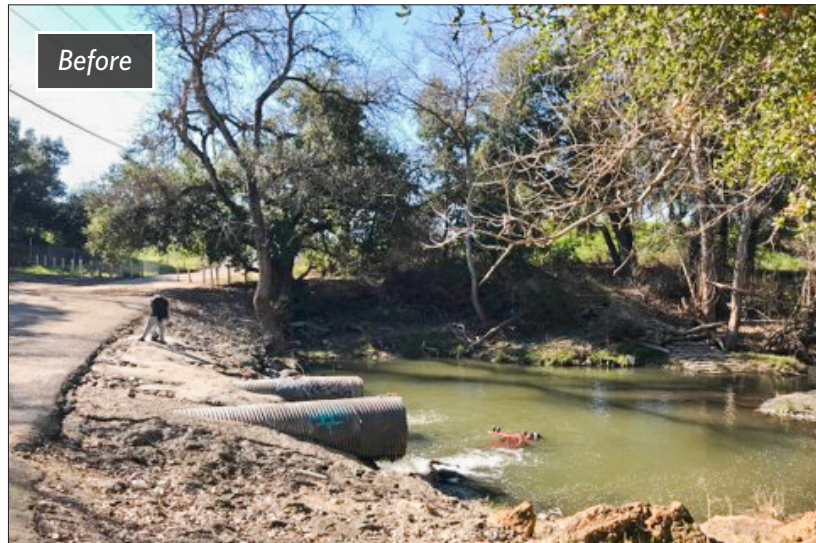
Coyote Creek low flow crossing at Singleton Road in San Jose.

Problem

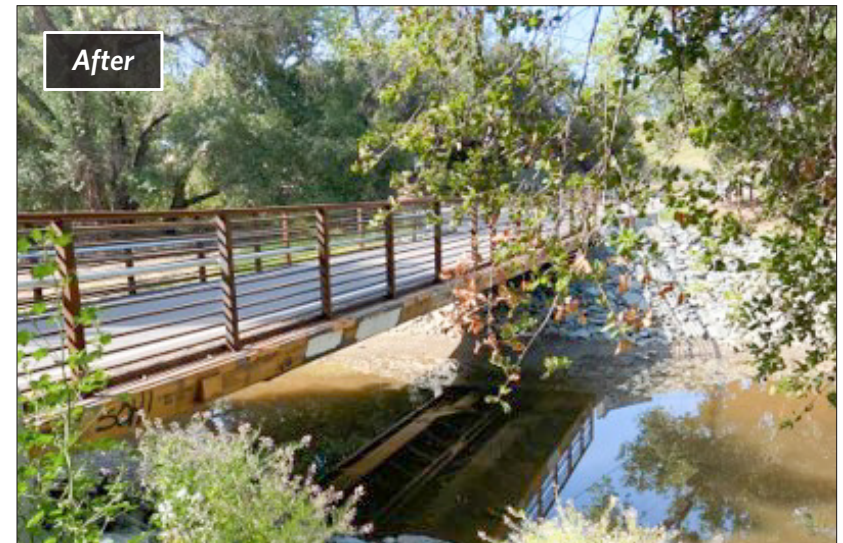
Singleton Road low flow crossing intersects with Coyote Creek. The intersection of Singleton Road into Coyote Creek obstructs steelhead trout from accessing the upper reaches of the creek. The low flow road crossing was considered the highest priority fish barrier for removal in Coyote Creek.

Solution

The City of San Jose (City) and Valley Water worked together to remove the old roadway and culverts at Singleton crossing and replaced with a new clear span bridge. This project was completed in April 2022.



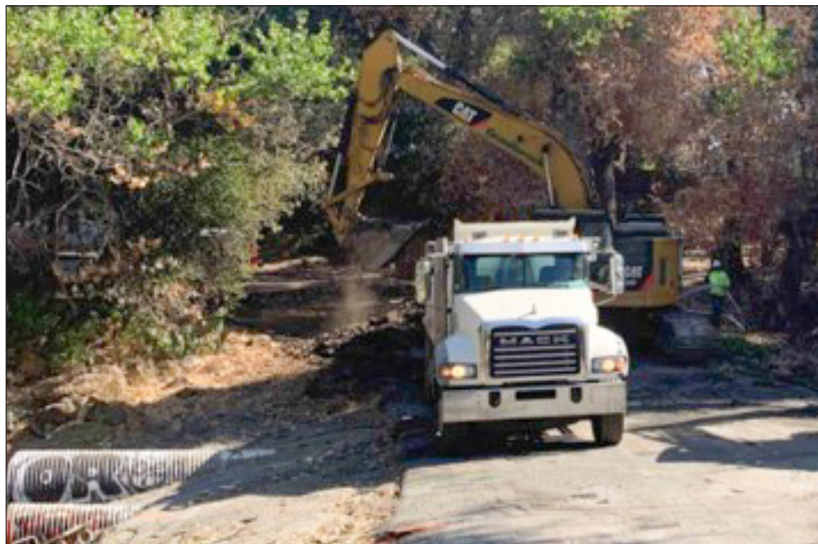
Singleton Road crossed the creek bed with two small pipes allowing water to pass into the creek, but also posed as a barrier to fish swimming upstream and impeded fish migration.



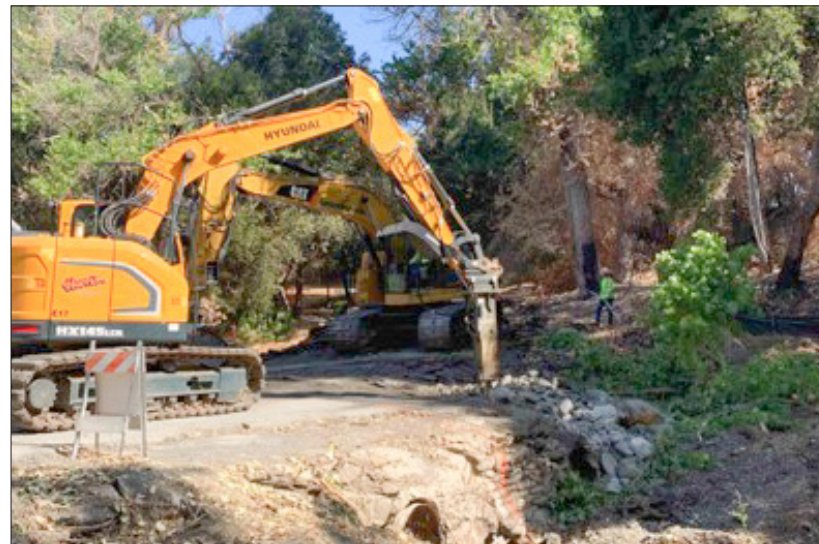
Old roadway and culverts were removed at Singleton Crossing and replaced with a new bridge. The project was completed on April 26, 2022.

COYOTE CREEK

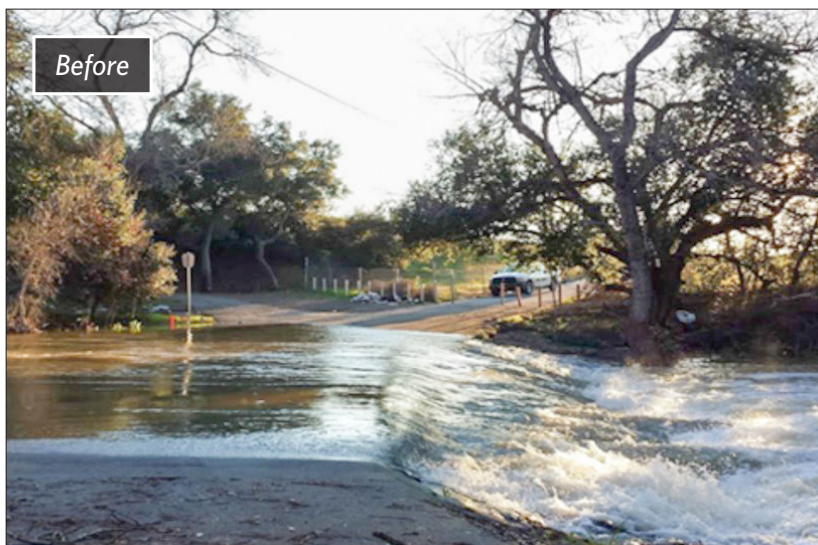
Fish Barrier Removal at Singleton Road in Coyote Creek



Construction activities included workers operating large trucks and equipment.



Crews mobilizing equipment during construction.



Coyote Creek flooding Singleton Road during a high flow event.



View from under the new bridge.

For more information, visit us at valleywater.org/fahce.



Site 4

GUADALUPE RIVER: Hillsdale Avenue Bridge Improvements

Location:

Guadalupe River at Hillsdale Avenue in San José.

Problem:

The concrete lip on the bridge and deteriorated stream conditions downstream were impeding fish from swimming upstream.

Solution:

In conjunction with bridge improvements made by the City of San José in 2001, steel piles, concrete, and other temporary bridge framework structures were removed to improve stream conditions. Boulder structures were used to construct a series of step-pools to adjust for the slope changes and make it easier for fish passage.

For more information, please visit us at: <https://www.valleywater.org/project-updates/creek-river-projects/fahce-fish-and-aquatic-habitat-collaborative-effort>



Before



After

Site 5



GUADALUPE RIVER: St. John Street Gage Weir Barrier Removal

Location:

Guadalupe River upstream of the West Saint John Street Bridge in San José.

Problem:

The existing weir, which is a small dam-like structure, and stream gage included a single abrupt drop. This created a barrier to fish migration due high water velocities unfavorable to fish passage.

Solution:

In 2004, a series of improvements to the bottom of the stream bed replaced the existing weir, including stepped riffles that provided habitat, enhanced fish passage and improved channel stability. These fish habitat improvements included small pools, boulders, and instream large wood elements.

For more information, please visit us at: <https://www.valleywater.org/project-updates/creek-river-projects/fahce-fish-and-aquatic-habitat-collaborative-effort>



Before



After



GUADALUPE WATERSHED

Large Woody Debris and Gravel Augmentation at Los Gatos Creek

Location

Los Gatos Creek downstream of Highway 17 in San Jose.

Problem

Los Gatos Creek downstream of Highway 17 lacked in-stream cover and gravel for spawning and rearing steelhead.

Solution

The solution involved placement of large woody debris to provide high flow refuge for fish and create diverse stream habitat features. Gravel augmentation was also performed, which supplements the creeks sediment supply and creates spawning habitat for steelhead. This project was completed in August 2019.



Crews place spawning gravels on top of creek bottom to improve fish habitat.



Spawning gravel pile placed strategically to replenish gravels lost during high flow events.

GUADALUPE WATERSHED

Large Woody Debris and Gravel Augmentation at Los Gatos Creek



Large woody debris structures placed along the creek bank serve as a resting area for fish and hiding spot from predators.



Rootwad protruding out into the stream provides bank erosion protection as well as increasing habitat complexity.



Valley Water

STEVENS CREEK: Blackberry Farms Stream Restoration

Location

Stevens Creek from Stevens Creek Boulevard to Blackberry Farm Park at San Fernando Avenue in Cupertino.

Problem

Three instream low flow water crossings and one instream irrigation diversion created barriers to fish migration. These structures also caused stream bed and bank erosion downstream.

Solution

In 2013, the City of Cupertino and Valley Water restored this reach of Stevens Creek with 2,100 feet of geomorphic improvements, including:

- Removal of four fish migration barriers.
- Addition of a new clear span bridge.
- Removal of concrete lining the channel.
- Realignment and widening of the channel.
- Installation of instream habitat features for fisheries, such as boulders, gravels, etc.

For more information, please visit us at: valleywater.org/fahce.



STEVENS CREEK: Blackberry Farms Stream Restoration



Old deteriorated low flow vehicle crossing in the creek.



Channel restoration with boulder steps.



Old failing concrete lining on creek bank.



Channel restoration with a log crib wall, a retaining structure made of hollow interlocking logs filled with rock or soil.

For more information, please visit us at: valleywater.org/fahce.

STEVENS CREEK: Blackberry Farms Stream Restoration



Valley Water begins installing boulders as a feature of the restoration.



Channel restoration includes a log crib wall, a retaining structure comprised of hollow interlocking logs filled with rock or soil.



For more information, please visit us at: valleywater.org/fahce.



STEVENS CREEK

Large Woody Debris and Gravel Augmentation at Stevens Creek

Location

Stevens Creek at Clearcreek Court in Cupertino.

Problem

Stevens Creek near Clearcreek Court lacked instream cover and gravel for spawning and rearing steelhead.

Solution

The solution involved placement of large woody debris to provide high flow refuge for fish and create diverse stream habitat features. Gravel augmentation was also performed, which supplements the creeks sediment supply and creates spawning habitat for steelhead. This project was completed in 2015.



Looking downstream at the gravel and large woody debris installation site.



Looking perpendicular at upstream gravel injection and large woody debris installation.

STEVENS CREEK

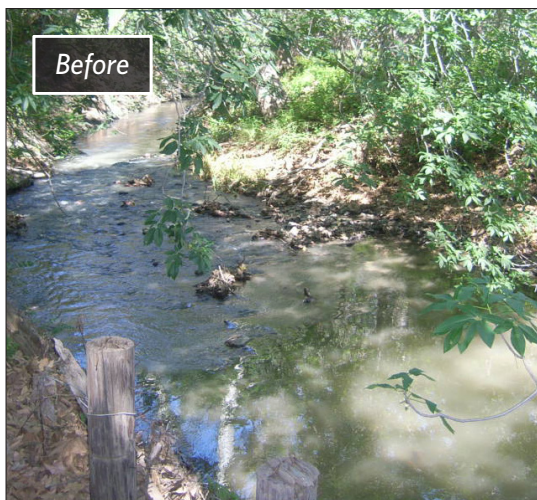
Large Woody Debris and Gravel Augmentation at Stevens Creek



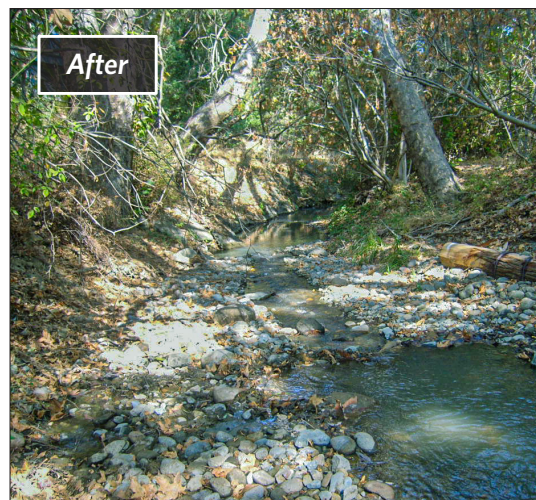
Looking perpendicular to channel prior to large woody debris installation.



Looking perpendicular to channel after large woody debris installation.



Looking downstream at riffle prior to gravel and large woody debris augmentation.



Looking downstream at riffle after gravel and large woody debris augmentation.



Large woody debris installed at the site.

| Issues | | | Brief Description of the Issue |
|--------------------|---|--|---|
| Technical Topics | 1 | Fish Passage Criteria Change Over Time | Fish passage design standards have changed over time. Effectiveness of restoration measures built on dated design standards will be evaluated through the monitoring program as a part of the adaptive management program. Should there be a need for redesign, the work can be discussed and prioritized in collaboration with the Adaptive Management Team. |
| | 2 | Fish Abundance-Based Measurable Objectives | Some members of the IP have suggested to add fish abundance-based objectives. While fish abundance will be monitored, a variety of risks to salmonid populations are outside the control of Valley Water (e.g., many sources of mortality like poor ocean conditions impact population abundance but are outside the control of Valley Water), and it is difficult to link population abundance to restoration measures. |
| | 3 | Hybrid Rule Curve | NMFS suggested a hybrid FAHCE and FAHCE plus alternative that incorporates elements of both. The feasibility and effects of operating in accordance with the proposed hybrid alternative has not been modeled or analyzed to assess potential benefits and impacts of the alternative operating scenario. |
| Project Specific | 4 | Phase 1 Implementation Schedule | Some members of the IP are concerned that a 10-year implementation schedule is too long for completing remaining Phase 1 measures. VW Board committed to remediate the remaining two Valley Water owned fish barriers within the first five (5) years. |
| | 5 | Completed Phase 1 Non-flow Measures that Require Additional Work | The Evelyn Fish ladder barrier remediation project was damaged by high flow events in 2017. If a project construction was completed but repairs or adjustments were later determined to be necessary, the repair work should be coordinated and reported as a part of the AMP prior to further action. |
| | 6 | What Phase 1 Measures are completed | The Settlement Agreement has a provision that stipulated continuing efforts to improve fish passage (see SA 6.2.4.2). Unlike other Phase 1 measures, these continuing efforts are generic in nature and did not specify locations. Over the past twenty years, Valley Water completed many restoration measures that can be accounted under this provision. While acknowledging the benefits of the work, how to account for measures completed under SA 6.2.4.2 remain unresolved. |
| Process and Budget | 7 | Increase the budget cap from \$42 million/10-year per phase | Some members of IP suggested that the 20-year delay in implementing FAHCE has significantly eroded the budget allocation as a result of inflation. The 2003 Settlement Agreement committed to a budget allocation of up to \$42 million/10-year phase with no provision for adjusting the allocation. The issue of how to account for cost associated with completed measures and if/how to account for inflation remain unresolved. |
| | 8 | Operations Coordination | In addition to IP and AMT meetings, there has been a suggestion to add an Operations Coordination Committee to closely coordinate reservoir operations in real time with Valley Water Operations Team. VW acknowledges that under specified circumstances there could be a need for an operational workgroup to convene. |

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Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 24-0115

Agenda Date: 1/30/2024

Item No.: 4.2.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM **Stream Planning and Operations Committee**

Government Code § 84308 Applies: Yes ☐ No ☒
(If "YES" Complete Attachment A - Gov. Code § 84308)

SUBJECT:

Receive Update on Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Project and Incorporation of FAHCE Conservation Measures for Coyote Creek.

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive update on Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Project and incorporation of FAHCE conservation measures for Coyote Creek.

SUMMARY:

The ADSRP progress continues with development of incorporated Conservation Measures for Coyote Creek since the November 9, 2023 update to this Committee.

Following the September 1st, 2023 release of the Draft Environmental Impact Report for ADSRP, the October 4th, 2023 public meeting, the closing of the comment period on November 8, 2023, staff received over 700 comments and started reviewing and processing these comments.

At the Nov. 9th, 2023, Committee meeting, staff provided information on two projects that are conservation measures on Coyote Creek associated with the FERC Order Compliance Project. One of these projects, the Coyote Creek Stream Augmentation Fish Protection Measure Project, proposes to use chillers to lower the temperature of imported water discharged into Coyote Creek just downstream of the existing dam outlet during ADSRP construction. The construction contract of this project has been awarded and staff anticipates the chillers to be installed and become operational in the summer of 2024.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IMPACT:

There are no likely environmental justice impacts. Protecting water rights provides equity opportunities for access to drinking water and water affordability.

File No.: 24-0115

Agenda Date: 1/30/2024
Item No.: 4.2.

ATTACHMENTS:

None.

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Ryan McCarter, 408-630-2983



Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 24-0184

Agenda Date: 1/30/2024

Item No.: 4.3.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM Stream Planning and Operations Committee

Government Code § 84308 Applies: Yes ☐ No ☒
(If "YES" Complete Attachment A - Gov. Code § 84308)

SUBJECT:

Review Board-Approved Committee Purpose and 2023-2024 Work Plan.

RECOMMENDATION:

- A. Review the Stream Planning and Operations Committee's Board-assigned Purpose, and;
- B. Review the draft 2024 Stream Planning and Operations Committee's Work Plan and incorporate any new tasks.

SUMMARY:

Stream Planning and Operations Committee (SPOC) Purpose

The Stream Planning and Operations Committee's Board-assigned purpose is to support to the Board in areas of:

1. Tracking the progress of Valley Water and other parties (Initialing Parties) of the FAHCE Settlement Agreement in completing requirements enabling dismissal of the water rights complaint and commencement of the restoration program;
2. Identifying and recommending actions the Board can take to ensure expeditious completion of the requirements defined in Purpose 1, including engagement with appointed boards and senior officials of the other Initialing Parties; and
3. Identifying and tracking progress of District and non-District activities that may affect the FAHCE Settlement Agreement and implementation.

2023- 2024 SPOC Work Plan

This allows the Committee to review its 2023-2024 Work Plan (Attachment 1) and identify additional tasks as appropriate.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IMPACT:

There are no Environmental Justice impacts associated with this item.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: 2023-2024 SPOC Work Plan

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193

2023-2024 Stream Planning and Operations Committee Work Plan

The annual work plan establishes a framework for committee discussion and action during the annual meeting schedule. The committee work plan is a dynamic document, subject to change as external and internal issues impacting the District occur and are recommended for committee discussion. Subsequently, an annual committee accomplishments report is developed based on the work plan and presented to the District Board of Directors.

| ITEM | WORK PLAN ITEM BOARD POLICY | MEETING DATE | INTENDED OUTCOME(S) (Action of Information Only) | ACCOMPLISHED DATE AND OUTCOME |
|------|---|---------------------------|---|---|
| 1 | Election of Chair and Vice Chair for 2023-24 | Nov | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Committee Elects Chair and Vice Chair for 2023-24 (Action) | <u>Accomplished November 9, 2023:</u> Elected Director Barbara Keegan as Chair and Director Rebecca Eisenberg as Vice Chair. |
| 2 | Review Committee Work Plan, the Outcomes of Board Action of Committee Requests, and the Committee Next Meeting Agenda | November Feb August | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Receive and review the 2023-24 Committee work plan (Action) Submit requests to the Board, as appropriate | <u>Accomplished November 9, 2023:</u> The Committee received the 2023-2024 Work Plan. |
| 3 | FAHCE Implementation Update | November Feb August | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Receive updates on FAHCE Implementation | <u>Accomplished November 9, 2023:</u> The Committee received updates and took no formal action. |
| 4 | Discuss District and Non-District Projects and Other Activities that May Affect FAHCE Implementation | Feb August | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Receive information on activities affecting FAHCE Implementation, as needed. | |
| 5 | Receive update on Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Project and Incorporation of FAHCE Conservation Measures for Coyote Creek | November Feb August | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Receive updates on the incorporation of FAHCE Conservation Measures for the Coyote Creek Watershed by the Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Project. (Information) | <u>Accomplished November 9, 2023:</u> The Committee received updates and took no formal action. |
| 6 | Field Tour | May | Attend an annual field tour of a FAHCE or FAHCE related site; invite public | |

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