

Watersheds - Operations and Maintenance Report

November 1 – November 30, 2023

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 performed on Water Utility facilities.

Valley Water completed annual dry season in-channel work under SMP2 by November 18, 2023, after reaching significant rain thresholds to various watersheds. Division staff is currently working on preparation of the Annual Summary Report (ASR), which outlines work completed, impacts, and mitigation requirements. The ASR is due to regulatory agencies by January 15, 2024. SMP2 permits are set to expire on December 31, 2023; however, staff has applied for permit extension for coverage through December 31, 2026.

The third iteration of SMP (SMP3) is currently being developed through scoping with regulatory permitting agencies, manual revisions, and mitigation strategy to be completed by January 2027. The SMP3 team is working closely with the Watersheds Stewardship & Planning Division and Valley Habitat Agency for inclusion of SMP in the Valley Habitat Plan (VHP) amendment process. The SMP3 team is also pursuing mitigation projects for impacts not covered by VHP. These fisheries and/or wetlands projects include Coyote 10B freshwater wetlands, Evelyn Ave Fish Passage Project on Stevens Creek, and a small private dam removal on Little Arthur Creek.

O&M Environmental Support Unit staff has been working closely with the Water Supply Operations Unit staff in finalizing a Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for the O&M work on various instream diversion and reservoir operations on Uvas/Chesbro Reservoirs and several permit-required monitoring plans. In addition, staff supported implementation of the Fisheries and Aquatic Collaborative Effort (FAHCE) program; preparation and submittal of Petitions for Change for the 10 water rights licenses in the Guadalupe River and Stevens Creek watersheds per the FAHCE Initialed Settlement Agreement; construction of the Coyote Percolation Dam Replacement Project, design of the Coyote Percolation Dam Phase 2 Fish Passage Enhancement project development of a county wide; Integrated Invasive Plant Management Program (IIPMP); development of the Canal Maintenance Plan; permitting for the Snell Pipeline Inspection and Rehabilitation project; permitting for the West Pipeline Inspection and Replacement project; CEQA document preparation for the SBA at Old Calaveras repair project; CEQA document preparation for the Coyote Alamitos Canal at Cheltenham Culvert replacement project; permitting for the Pacheco Pipeline PAC34 emergency repair project; and the EPA grant-funded Nine Creeks Cleanup Initiative.

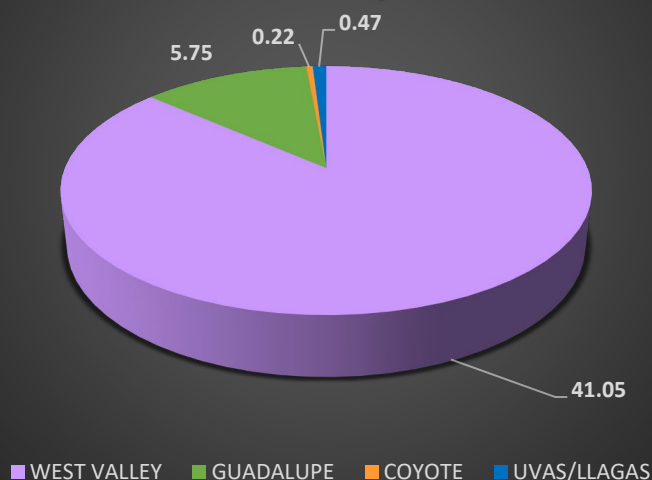
November 1 – November 30, 2023

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 (levee) protection	Guadalupe River downstream of Montague Expressway	Santa Clara	3 (Santos)	Completed 11/8/23 (started 10/26/23)
Bank protection	San Francisquito Creek downstream of University Avenue	Palo Alto	7 (Eisenberg)	Completed 11/9/23 (started 10/26/23)

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

D1: Management of Riparian Planting and Invasive Plant Removal (47.48 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.

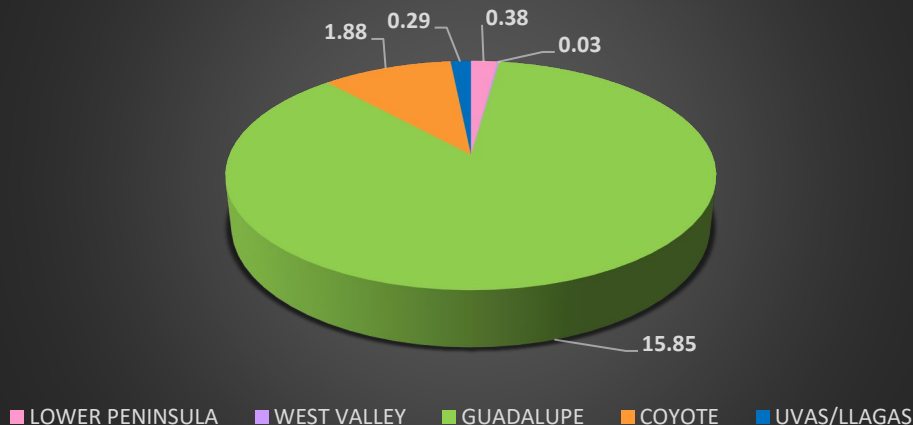
3. Remove 25 acres of *Arundo donax* throughout the county over a 15-year period.

The chart at left shows the work completed between November 1 – November 30, 2023.

November 1 – November 30, 2023

Safe Clean Water Priority F1: Vegetation Control for Capacity

**F1: Vegetation Control for Capacity
(18.44 ACRES)**

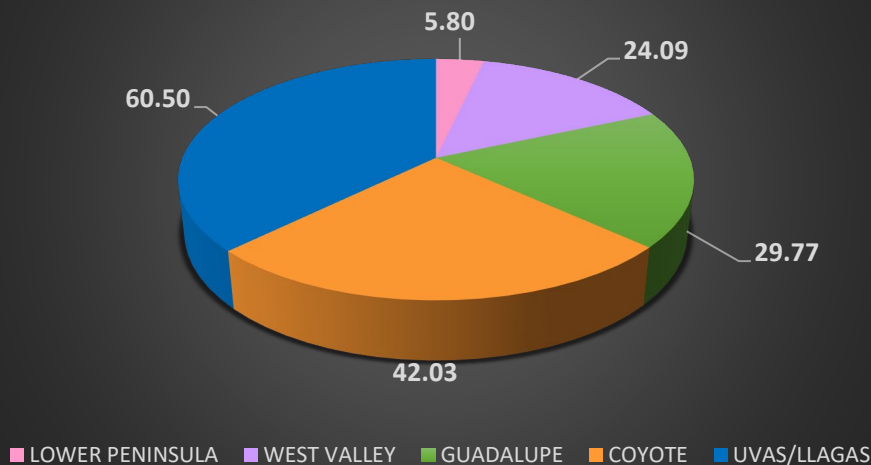


Maintain completed flood protection projects for flow conveyance.

The chart at left shows the work completed between November 1 – November 30, 2023.

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

**F4: Vegetation Management for Access
and Fire Safety (162.19 ACRES)**

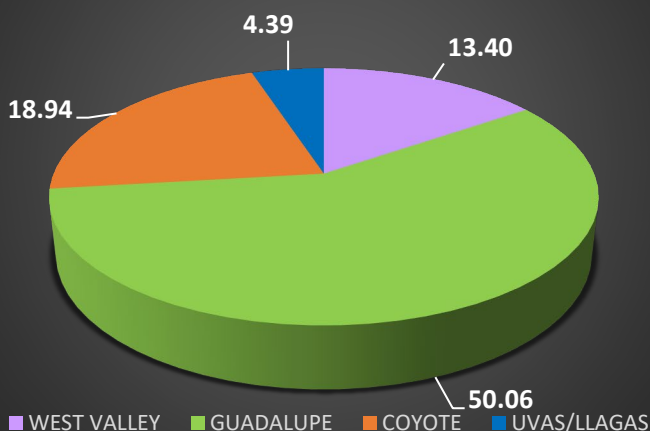


Provide vegetation management for access and fire risk reduction along levee, property lines and maintenance roads, over a 15-year period.

The chart at left shows the work completed between November 1 – November 30, 2023.

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

F5: Good Neighbor Program: Encampment Clean Up (86.79 Tons)



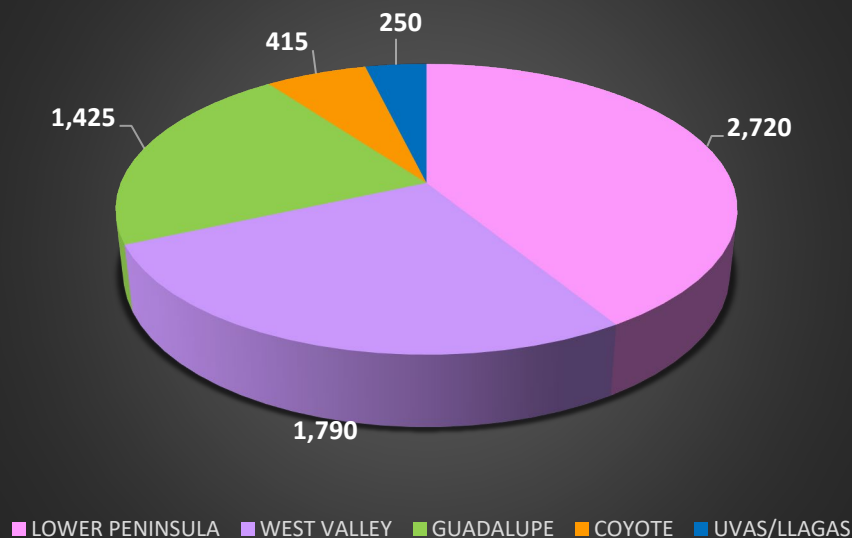
1. Manage 300 acres annually to reduce the amount of trash and pollutants entering streams.

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 November 1 – November 30, 2023.

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

F6: Graffiti Removal (6,600 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 November 1 – November 30, 2023.

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 November 1 and November 30, 2023. 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.