

TRAIL POLICY CRITERIA

- A. Planning and Public Outreach. The Partner Agency with authority over the use, management, and policing of the Trail Project shall have completed a public planning and community outreach process prior to Valley Water's consideration of a Joint Use Agreement.
- B. Flood Protection. Trail Projects, at a minimum, must not reduce existing or design levels of flood protection provided by a Valley Water facility both from operation and maintenance perspectives, adversely affect existing FEMA flood mapping, increase the extent of flooding or increase the frequency of flooding. Trail Projects must be compatible with planned Valley Water capital projects.
- C. Water Quality. Trail Projects will be designed to minimize erosion and the flow of pollutants, including trash and litter, into aquatic environments. Pervious trail surfaces are preferred.
- D. Channel Stability. Trail Projects, including any in-channel project components, must not adversely affect channel stability or cause or exacerbate existing erosion problems.
- E. Habitat Protection. Construction and use of Trail Projects must not result in serious or major disturbance to biological resources, including aquatic, riparian, and wetland habitat, and the streamside ecosystem.
- F. Maintenance and Security. Maintenance, policing, and management of the Trail Project is at the sole cost and responsibility of the Partner Agency. Removal or alteration of trail infrastructure for any reason, shall be at the cost of the Partner Agency.
- G. Valley Water Access. The Trail Project must not limit or constrain Valley Water access to maintain and operate its facilities.
- H. Regulatory Compliance. The Partner Agency is responsible for completing environmental review pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act and obtaining all necessary regulatory permits prior to trail construction and use.

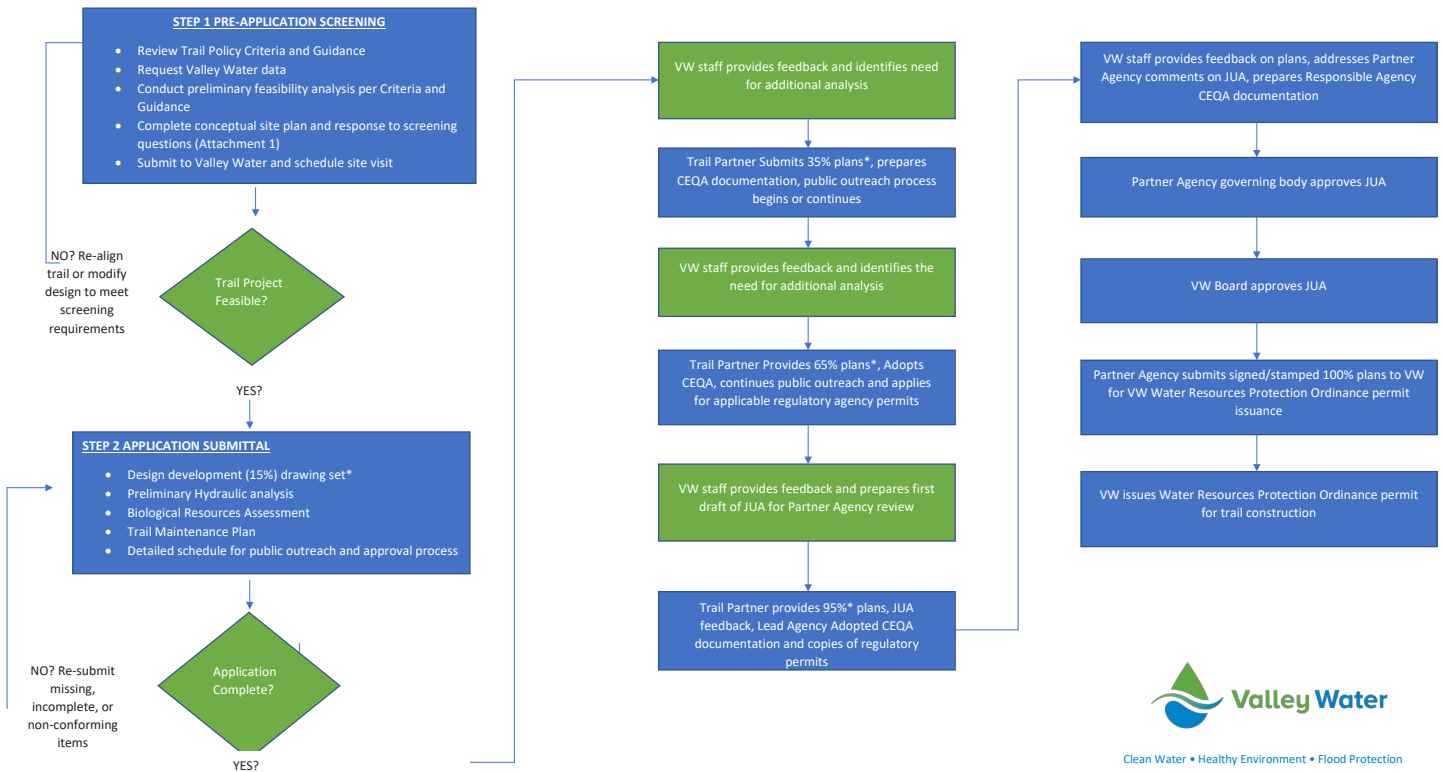
TRAIL POLICY GUIDANCE

The following Guidance is intended to aid Partner Agencies in planning, siting, and designing a trail that will meet the Criteria. The Guidance, in part, compiles and interprets relevant sections of Valley Water's Water Resources Protection Ordinance (<https://www.valleywater.org/contractors/doing-businesses-with-the-district/permits-working-valley-water-land-or-easement/water-resources-protection-manual>) and the Santa Clara County Uniform Interjurisdictional Trail Guidelines (<https://parks.sccgov.org/sites/g/files/exjcpb961/files/documents/Interjurisdictional-Trails-Guidelines-text-and-graphics.pdf>) and provides additional process requirements for Joint Use Agreements (JUAs) for Trails Projects. While flexible, the Guidance is written to minimize subjectivity and therefore aids both the Partner Agency and Valley Water staff in developing the JUA. The Guidance is intended to directly further the goal of implementing Trails Projects that support healthy communities, engage residents to promote water resources stewardship, and protect water resources and streamside ecosystems in Santa Clara County. The Guidance are primarily focused on Trails Projects located in the urban environment of the Santa Clara Valley floor, and implementation within upper watershed or hillside areas shall in general be guided by a common-sense standard (e.g., hydraulic analysis and bridge freeboard requirements will be considered as needed based on site-specific conditions for Trails Projects in upper watershed/hillside areas).

PROCESS

The typical JUA process for a Trail Project is shown in Figure 1. Valley Water offers a two-step process for reviewing Trail Projects. The first step provides a Partner Agency with the opportunity to screen potential Trail Projects prior to investing significant resources to conduct the studies required to submit JUA and encroachment permit applications. Trail Project Screening is appropriate for the review of long-range trail planning projects that may include trail feasibility studies and master plans

Trail Project Joint Use Agreement and Permit Process



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*Engineered plans for Trails Projects located in Upper Watershed/Hillside areas shall be at a level sufficient to determine impacts to Valley Water flood protection, water supply, and environmental stewardship objectives. See Attachment 2, Joint Use Agreement Application Requirements

and/or incorporation of trails in general plans and specific plans.

Step 1 – Trail Project Screening

The Partner Agency shall submit conceptual designs and information describing how the Trail Project meets the requirements for review by Valley Water staff (Attachment 1 – Trail Project Screening Requirements). If the materials are complete Valley Water's Community Project Review Unit will conduct a site visit with Partner Agency staff to fully understand the proposed Trail Project and identify issues to be addressed in future studies. The screening process/site visit will culminate in response letter to the Partner Agency. This letter will provide an assessment of the feasibility to develop the Trail Project as proposed on Valley Water lands, and/or recommend alternative alignments or design features to improve feasibility (if possible). The Trail Project screening phase may therefore be an iterative process.

Step 2 – Joint Use Agreement Application

The Partner Agency formally initiates the JUA Application process by submitting the materials

identified in Attachment 2 – Joint Use Agreement Application Requirements.

Following JUA application submittal, Valley Water's Community Projects Review Unit will review the application materials. If the application is incomplete or includes non-conforming items, the Partner Agency will be informed and requested to address and resubmit these items, if feasible.

PUBLIC OUTREACH BY THE PARTNER AGENCY

The Partner Agency shall conduct a thorough public process for the Trail Project which includes meaningful opportunities for public and stakeholder input at phases of trail planning. Trail Projects which are included in regional, general, or countywide master plans must also be subject to a specific planning process which includes public and stakeholder outreach. Stakeholders can include adjacent property owners, resource and regulatory agencies with jurisdiction over the Trail Project, in addition to trail user groups and non-governmental organizations. Outreach for the Trail Project shall

be inclusive, with equitable opportunities for all members of the community to participate. Valley Water is committed to providing equal access to its lands regardless of racial or economic characteristics of the trail user community. When necessary, targeted outreach shall be conducted to neighboring landowners.

Valley Water supports the Partner Agency's planning and public outreach process through review of preliminary design products and attending and/or participating in public and stakeholder meetings. To facilitate this, the Partner Agency shall inform Valley Water of any public meetings a minimum of five (5) business days in advance of the public meeting. Materials, displays, and presentations included in the meeting shall be provided for review at that time.

Documentation of the public outreach process shall be provided by the Partner Agency when submitting a Trail Project for consideration by Community Projects Review Unit. Documentation shall include a record of public, community, stakeholder, and other meetings, as well as written or online outreach efforts.

FLOOD PROTECTION

Trail Projects must not reduce the size of the active channel and floodplain conveyance area or re-direct channel flow to the detriment of channel stability. If trail development is proposed within the channel or active floodplain, a hydraulic analysis must be conducted to confirm that no increase in erosive velocity or flood elevations will result. The hydraulic analysis shall be prepared using HEC-RAS modeling format and include a scour analysis of the channel and active floodplain. Smaller streams in upper watershed areas may be exempt from this requirement. A geomorphic assessment may also be required if there is a possibility the project may increase channel instability. Additionally, in some cases sediment transport modeling may be necessary to determine if the project will alter routine sediment removal needs. Definitions and additional detail may be found in the Water Resources Protection Manual ([https://www.valleywater.org/contractors/doing-](https://www.valleywater.org/contractors/doing-business-with-the-district/permits-working-valley-water-land-or-easement/water-resources-protection-manual)

[business-with-the-district/permits-working-valley-water-land-or-easement/water-resources-protection-manual](https://www.valleywater.org/contractors/doing-business-with-the-district/permits-working-valley-water-land-or-easement/water-resources-protection-manual)).

Creek Crossings

In general, pedestrian/bicycle bridges must be located a minimum of two feet above the 100-year flood elevation, or two feet above the Flood Hazard Flood Insurance Rate Map flood elevation ([located at https://msc.fema.gov/portal/home](https://msc.fema.gov/portal/home)) and be constructed as clear span structures. If the length of the span makes clear span infeasible, the following requirements apply:

- Footings and pile caps are designed based on channel scour to prevent erosion;
- Foundation depth is a minimum of three (3) feet below the active channel invert; and
- Piers or pier walls are located outside the low flow channel and do not impair access to the channel for maintenance.

In general, clearance under pedestrian/bicycle bridges must be a minimum of 14 feet from the bridge soffit to the channel invert in settings where equipment must have access to the creek bed, or alternative maintenance access shall be provided. Valley Water staff will determine if and where creek bed access is required for operations and maintenance. Culvert crossings are strongly discouraged. In cases where a bridge is infeasible, culvert design must include consultation with the Regional Water Quality Control Board, and must not impede flows.

Boardwalks

Boardwalks must not overhang or encroach beyond or within the top of bank (otherwise requirements for bridges shall apply).

Vegetation Planting/Landscaping

Revegetation or landscaping associated with the Trail Project shall consist of appropriate native plants that do not impact flow conveyance of, or maintenance access to, the channel. Additionally, plantings must not reduce or limit Valley Water's ability to provide future mitigation for its own purposes on Valley Water lands (also see Habitat Protection). Planting plans identifying location, number,

and species shall be included in design plans for review during the JUA process.

WATER QUALITY

The Trail Project shall include stormwater runoff reduction measures to prevent the flow of pollutants including sediment, litter, pet waste, pesticides, and chemical spills, into the creek or waterbody. Sheet flows along the trail surface toward the creek and associated concentration of flows over the creek bank shall be avoided through design, including proper slopes, angles, and surface materials. The use of pervious pavement is encouraged. Pervious pavement is a load-bearing, durable surface constructed over a subbase/base structure typically consisting of compacted, open-graded aggregate. This layer or layers temporarily stores water prior to infiltration or drainage to a controlled outlet. Pervious pavement must be cleaned regularly to maintain its infiltration capacity (see Maintenance). Pervious pavement shall not be utilized for Trail Projects located on levees or some other engineered banks.

Stormwater treatment shall be incorporated into the Trail Project according to the applicable Municipal Regional Permit Provision C.3. If required by this provision, treatment methods include bioretention areas, infiltration trenches, extended detention basins, vegetated swales, or, at a minimum, vegetated buffer strips. Piped subsurface drainage, drain dips, or swales must discharge to a lower elevation bioswale or appropriate C.3 feature, or an existing/new outfall. And, in combination with other runoff reduction measures, pervious pavement may be used to meet Provision C.3.

Best Management Practices and other measures to reduce trail impacts to water quality, which may include providing and maintaining trash receptacles, installing signage to reduce litter and pet waste, to reduce pollution shall be included in construction plans and/or specifications for the Trail Project. If the Trail Project will result in one acre or more of soil disturbance, a Construction General Permit through the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board may be required. For smaller projects, pollution prevention BMPs are available here: https://scvurppp.org/pdfs/1415/SCVURPPP_Countywide_Program_BMP_Plan_Sheet_041615.pdf

CHANNEL STABILITY

Chapter 1 of Valley Water's Water Resources Protection Manual, available at <https://www.valleywater.org/sites/default/files/WRPM%20Ch%201.pdf>, provides detailing information regarding channel stability requirements. General guidelines to aid Partner Agencies in designing Trail Projects that avoid impacts to channel stability are provided below.

Trails and engineered trail structures must not adversely affect channel stability due to erosive streamflow or runoff or sediment aggradation (also see Water Quality). Trail Projects must submit a hydraulic analysis using HEC-RAS modeling format (see Flood Protection).

Trail Projects must avoid exacerbating existing erosion problems. Alternately, Trail Projects may repair the existing problems or provide funding for Valley Water long-term maintenance actions. Valley Water is under no obligation to repair streambank erosion or make other repairs solely to maintain trail function or use; however, repair of streambank erosion unrelated to trails is within Valley Water's general responsibility. If a Partner Agency wishes to repair streambank erosion or other repairs solely to maintain trail function or use, Valley Water will coordinate with Partner Agency and will not unreasonably deny request. If streambank repair is deemed beneficial to both Valley Water and Partner Agency, both parties may join in partnership to complete the necessary repairs.

If trails are proposed along natural channels with unstable banks or recurring erosion damage, the trail project shall include appropriate bank stabilization measures such as earth repair with compacted soil, buried rock buttress, live construction, contour wattling or planting, or other bioengineering techniques. Design of the bank stabilization measures shall occur in close coordination with Valley Water staff, maintain or improve conveyance capacity of the channel, and shall not increase long-term maintenance needs for the project reach. Detailed design guidance is available in the Water Resources Protection Manual (<https://www.valleywater.org/contractors/doing-businesses-with-the-district/permits-working-valley-water-land-or-easement/water-resources-protection-manual>).

As an alternative to including bank stabilization measures in the project, the applicant may choose to enter into a long-term maintenance agreement with Valley Water as part of the terms of the JUA. The long-term maintenance agreement would include

funding by the Partner Agency to ensure that other required maintenance activities are not affected by the additional, trail-related maintenance.

HABITAT PROTECTION

Riparian habitats are found along the stream courses in Santa Clara County. These creekside plant communities provide refuge and forage for many animals and support threatened and endangered species. Throughout the San Francisco Bay Area, riparian habitat has been lost and degraded for a variety of reasons including urbanization of watersheds, channelization of streams and introduction of exotic species. Climate change may further degrade the riparian habitats. More than 225 species of birds, mammals, reptiles, and amphibians depend on California's riparian habitats.

Construction and use of Trail Projects must minimize or avoid disturbance to biological resources, including riparian habitat. Potential direct and indirect impacts to biological resources from the construction and use of the proposed Trail Project must be carefully analyzed by a qualified biologist and included with the Joint Use Agreement Application (Attachment 2 – Joint Use Agreement Application Requirements and Attachment 3 - Sample Biological Resources Assessment Table of Contents). The Biological Resources Assessment shall, at a minimum, clearly identify the natural vegetation communities, special-status species, wildlife corridors, sensitive or anticipated jurisdictional lands (such as wetlands and riparian habitat), existing Valley Water Mitigation Areas, and Santa Clara Valley Habitat Plan Land Cover Types, if applicable, potentially impacted by the Trail Project. The assessment shall identify potential impacts from construction and use of the Trail Project on these resources and recommend appropriate measures to avoid or minimize potential impacts .

Valley Water will determine whether the proposed Trail Project meets the Habitat Protection criteria on a case-by-case basis according to, but not limited to, the guidelines detailed below.

If impacts to biological resources cannot be

avoided through project design, suitable habitat or other enhancements to offset unavoidable impacts should be developed and described in the Biological Resources Assessment. Such enhancements must be included as part of the project and may be in addition to mitigation requirements through regulatory (non-Valley Water) permit processes.

The guidelines below are intended to assist Partner Agencies to design Trail Projects that meet Valley Water's Habitat Protection criteria.

Sensitive Trail Siting and Design.

New construction of trails or trail segments within wetlands or parallel to waterways within riparian habitat shall be avoided, and an appropriate buffer provided where feasible. Access areas to the waterway or riparian habitat for interpretive/educational purposes, aligned and designed to minimize impacts to habitat, are encouraged. Trail Projects shall be located along existing access roads or within other previously-disturbed areas to the greatest extent feasible.

For Trail Projects proposed within undisturbed habitat in upper watershed/hillside areas, including lands surrounding Valley Water reservoirs, the Biological Site Assessment shall inform the application of this guidance (e.g., avoidance of riparian, wetland, or rare plant populations).

For Trail Projects located in urban creek-side locations that impact sensitive habitats, the Biological Site Assessment shall include consideration of safe alternatives balanced with broad ecological objectives, potentially including agreements with neighboring landowners that would avoid disturbance of such areas.

Trails shall be generally limited to one side of the waterway unless, for example, short trail segments on both sides of the waterway are essential for meeting regional trail connectivity goals and can be sustainably implemented. Crossings shall be avoided to the maximum extent feasible to minimize shading impacts on the streams. Bridges proposed as part of a Trail Project should typically be situated perpendicular to streamflow. These guidelines

reflect requirements of natural resource regulatory agencies and are intended to streamline the regulatory permitting process.

Protection of Native Vegetation.

Trail Projects shall avoid removal or substantial pruning of native trees, and seek an alignment that maintains a contiguous tree canopy. If tree removal is required, the trail shall be aligned such that young/small, unhealthy, non-native, or trees unlikely to reach maturity due to site conditions (e.g., located beneath power lines, growing in confined areas, shaded out by larger trees, etc.), are targeted for removal.

Protective Design Features.

Measures to minimize habitat degradation from trail use include: the use of natural barriers or other design elements such as signage, short fencing, native plantings and bollards to discourage off-trail use, designated access points or viewing areas designed to focus access in less sensitive areas, abandoning and restoring unauthorized access areas, installing interpretive and regulatory signage, and regular patrol.

Minimize Grading and Excavation

Grading and excavation for the trail project shall be minimized, with unpaved trails designed to follow natural land contours to the extent feasible and avoid disruption of natural drainage patterns (avoiding concentration of runoff over the creek bank). Paved trails should be graded to drain away from the creek to avoid erosion and rills on the creek bank which commonly occur when the top of bank is paved. Excavation for trail projects must avoid disturbing the root systems of mature native trees. This is generally defined by the dripline, or outer circumference of the canopy. If grading or excavation must occur beneath the dripline of native trees, a certified arborist must be consulted to determine appropriate tree protection measures or alternate setbacks. Additional BMPs may be required when working adjacent to the channel to ensure water quality is not impacted due to excavation and grading.

Wildlife-Friendly Lighting

Except as required by law, or to provide for visitor safety at trail undercrossings or other engineered structures or other key locations, lighting is prohibited. If lighting is required, it shall be outside riparian habitat and of a wildlife-friendly design (shaded/shielded, directed down, motion-sensored, lighting

color/wavelength, timers to control lighting use).

Native Planting

Revegetation or landscaping associated with the Trail Project shall consist of appropriate native plants that do not impact flow conveyance of, or maintenance access to, the channel. Additionally, plantings must not reduce or limit Valley Water's ability to provide future mitigation for its own purposes on Valley Water lands (also see Habitat Protection). Planting plans identifying location, number, and species shall be included in design plans for review during the JUA process.

Trail Undercrossings

New trail undercrossings of roads and highways, where maintenance roads do not exist, should be located above the 10-year flood return interval unless no other feasible alternative exists.

Habitat Enhancement

Habitat enhancement may be incorporated into the design of the Trail Projects to offset adverse effects and create an overall beneficial impact on habitat quality. Such enhancements may include geomorphological restoration (improving the channel bed and banks of the creek to restore historic channel or floodplain connectivity), removal of existing barriers to aquatic habitat connectivity, and relocating or reconstructing existing trails or other developed areas to correct environmental damage, restore natural drainage patterns, and/or improve stormwater infiltration and treatment.

MAINTENANCE AND SECURITY

Trail maintenance plans are required as part of the Joint Use Agreement and shall include, at a minimum, the following items:

- Annual trail brushing (trimming vegetation back to maintain designed trail width and vertical clearance) and trail-associated invasive species control, and vacuuming of pervious pavement and other drainage system maintenance as applicable, as-needed hazardous tree removal, tread/trail surface repair, maintenance and monitoring of plantings, and trash and graffiti removal.
- A schedule of maintenance inspections.
- A detailed action plan and parties responsible

for trail closure required for Valley Water maintenance actions and during winter storms resulting in high creek flows flooding trail underpasses. The trail closure plan must include bicyclist and pedestrian detour routes that can be utilized during closures. The Partner Agency shall be responsible for the implementation of the trail detour and shall be the primary contact for trail users during a Valley Water maintenance closure of the trail. Valley Water staff will provide contact information for questions relating to the project and timeline as needed and will work with the Partner Agency to provide project information to trail users. Signage shall be provided in advance of the trail closure, with users instructed to address questions or comments to the Partner Agency. Whenever possible, Valley Water will provide a minimum of one-week minimum advanced notice of routine or planned maintenance. Extant agreements with Partner Agencies, such as County of Santa Clara, shall be precedent in this regard.

- Trail security is the responsibility of the Partner Agency.
- An annual budget for addressing routine, annual, adaptive management actions and unanticipated trail maintenance needs, with a funding source identified. It is recommended that the Partner Agency secure associated permits to undertake these activities while seeking construction permits.

Trail maintenance plans shall be reviewed and considered with the JUA application.

VALLEY WATER ACCESS

Trail Projects, including all above-grade engineered structures and signage, must be sited and designed to provide a clear path of travel for Valley Water maintenance, operations, and emergency vehicles. Trail closures during Valley Water maintenance activities are mandatory and the responsibility of the Partner Agency, with appropriate notification and support for signage and information needs from Valley Water, as

described further above. Fencing or other safety and security features, if required to protect trail users, Valley Water assets or adjacent public or private property, must typically be located at or outside of the Valley Water property boundary unless otherwise acceptable to Valley Water and such features allow necessary access, maintenance and operations. See also Stream Channels, section e., on following page.

Valley Water lands are required to construct and maintain flood protection and water supply infrastructure. Therefore, Trail Projects on Valley Water lands have the potential to impact levees, concrete channels, engineered channels (non-concrete lined), natural channels, flood walls, and water utility facilities such as dams, reservoirs, water diversion infrastructure, pipelines and percolation ponds. Trail Projects must identify and avoid impacts to operation and maintenance of these facilities. Spatial location data for Valley Water facilities is available upon request (see Screening Criteria, below).

Information on typical maintenance activities and associated access requirements are provided below.

Stream channels.

Channel maintenance activities generally include sediment removal, streambank protection/repair, clearing of trash and debris, vegetation management and invasive species control, and riparian planting. Required access standards for routine channel maintenance include:

- Maintenance roads must be maintained at their existing width, generally 18 feet, but no narrower than 12 feet. Partner Agency shall secure additional lands as feasible to maintain adequate path of travel for Valley Water maintenance vehicles.
- Landscaping or riparian habitat plantings associated with the Trail Project must not constrict the width of existing maintenance roads. Trimming or pruning of plantings may be required on a seasonal basis and is the responsibility of the Partner Agency (see Maintenance).
- Irrigation, if necessary, must be temporary

and should typically be above ground, to be removed following the plant establishment period.

- Utilities necessary for the Trail Project shall not be located on Valley Water property except for necessary storm drainage features as described in Section 4.3 above.
- Fencing between the trail and the channel is not permitted, except in special circumstances of particular safety concern. Fencing shall be constructed to facilitate easy removal or minimization (fold-down railing) by the Partner Agency (such using removable bollards or posts). Such removal shall occur within 10 business days of receiving written request from Valley Water.
- All trail furniture, amenities, and signage must maintain a clear path of travel for maintenance vehicles. Trail furniture and other features that attract concentrated use shall be located away from maintenance roads and if proposed at maintenance access points shall be sited so as to accommodate maintenance needs.

Levees and flood walls.

In addition to the above, required access standards for trails on levees include:

- Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) levee standards and FEMA National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) standards must be met for any construction on levees. Additional ACOE requirements or restriction may apply if the levee was constructed by the ACOE and subject to Section 408 approval. No plantings are allowed on levees aside from herbaceous plantings that can be mowed and maintained to allow visual inspection of the levee. No irrigation, even temporary, shall be allowed on levees.
- No fencing shall be allowed on levees aside from at trail entrances or at channel crossings. Proposed access ramps should not result in a decrease to the levee section.

Reservoirs and Percolation Ponds.

In addition to the above, required access standards for trails along reservoirs and percolation ponds include: Trails along Water Utility facilities, such as reservoirs, dams and percolation ponds, must be located in a manner which does not impede the function of or access to the facility or any appurtenances or impair maintenance of the facility. In the case of reservoirs, Division of Safety of Dams (DSOD) and/or State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB)

requirements may apply if the Trail Project may impact the dam or function of the dam or water quality of source of supply reservoirs.

REGULATORY COMPLIANCE

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

Partner Agencies will conduct environmental review pursuant to CEQA for the proposed Trail Project and in nearly all cases will act as the CEQA Lead Agency. The appropriate CEQA document or exemption category must be identified in the Trail Screening Application. Valley Water will act as Responsible Agency and as such anticipates consultation during the scoping, administrative draft, and public review draft stages of development of the CEQA document. The purpose of the consultation is to ensure that the CEQA document that will be used later for Valley Water's CEQA compliance addresses its interests. Valley Water will review and provide written comment on draft CEQA documents. The Trail Project CEQA document must be approved by the Partner Agency before the Valley Water Board of Directors considers final approval of a JUA.

Regulatory Permitting

The Partner Agency is responsible for securing permits from all regulatory agencies prior to final approval of Valley Water's Water Resources Protection Ordinance Encroachment Permit for the Trail Project. The Partner Agency should consider long-term maintenance and adaptive management plans when seeking regulatory permits.

TRAIL PROJECT SCREENING REQUIREMENTS

1. Vicinity map showing the location of the Trail Project relative to existing roads and trails
2. Conceptual site plan including the following information:
 - General contours
 - Boundaries of Valley Water lands and adjacent parcels, including all Valley Water and non-Valley Water easements and FEMA flood zones
 - Top of bank, centerline of the watercourse and dipline of the riparian canopy, if the Trail Project or a portion of it is proposed adjacent to a creek channel or within its active floodplain.

- Proposed trail alignment, engineered structures (bridges, underpasses and ramps, overcrossings, etc.), trailheads, or other major improvements
- 3. **Project Description.** Provide a short description of the trail and engineered structures indicating width, shoulders, surfacing material and any other design objectives. Indicate whether the Trail Project is within an approved plan, and any project-specific planning or public outreach conducted and/or planned.
- 4. **Valley Water Operations and Access.** Describe how the project will maintain necessary access for Valley Water operations and maintenance activities. For Trail Projects located within or adjacent to a capital project planned by Valley Water, describe how the Trail Project proposes to integrate with, or avoid impacts to, the Valley Water capital project.
- 5. **Water Quality and Habitat Protection.** Describe grading and drainage improvements proposed to address stormwater flows from the trail surface. Indicate potential impacts to riparian or wetland habitat, mature native trees, or other sensitive or protected biological resources.
- 6. **Trail Operations and Maintenance.** Outline long-term maintenance and security considerations and describe the capacity of the jurisdiction to maintain, patrol, and manage the Trail Project in perpetuity. Include information about existing, similar maintenance programs and demonstrate the expertise and ability to address expected and unforeseen future maintenance and security issues. Describe any public safety or security measures included in the project.
- 7. **Environmental Review and Permitting.** Identify the anticipated level of CEQA environmental review and regulatory permits for the Trail Project.
- 8. **Proposed Schedule.**

JOINT USE AGREEMENT APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

1. Concept design drawings and site plan including:
 - A vicinity map showing the location of the Trail Project relative to existing roads and trails
 - Accurate contour lines showing topography at reasonable intervals on slopes greater than five percent
 - Boundaries of Valley Water and adjacent parcels, including all Valley Water and non-Valley Water easements
 - Top of bank and centerline of watercourses if the Trail Project or a portion of it is proposed adjacent to a creek channel or within its active floodplain.
 - Vegetation types, resource agency jurisdictional areas and boundaries (from Biological Resources Assessment)
 - Location, common name, diameter and number of trees to be removed or located near improvements, measured 4.5 feet above grade.
 - FEMA flood zones, water surface elevations, and flow rates
 - Proposed trail alignment and locations of bridges, trailheads, drainage features, or other major improvements
 - Location of all existing improvements and utilities
 - Existing drainage patterns and drainage patterns as a result of the Trail Project
 - Typical trail cross sections including surfacing materials
 - Conceptual pedestrian detour plans that can be utilized during trail closures

For trails in upper watersheds or hillside areas, plans should be at a level sufficient to understand the overall scope and impacts of the work being undertaken, which frequently does not require engineered drawings.

2. **Hydraulic Analysis.** If the Trail Project or a portion of it is proposed within a creek channel or its active floodplain attach hydraulic analysis showing no adverse impact to the channel's ability to convey flows. This requirement may be waived in upper reaches

or small creeks.

3. Biological Resources Assessment that addresses any impacts to special status species, sensitive or jurisdictional habitats, mature native trees, and wildlife corridors (See Attachment 3 – Biological Resources Assessment Requirements).
4. Trail maintenance plan and commitment of financial resources to implement the plan.
5. Detailed schedule including public planning process, environmental review, and consideration for approval by the Partner Agency governing body.

BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS

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Figure 2: Aerial image of biological assessment area and surrounding land uses.

Figure 3: Aerial image of vegetative communities and developed areas within the Project area.

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Figure 5: CNDDDB occurrences within a 1-mile and 2-mile radius of the Project area.

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