

Members

Diane Dillon
Mark Luce
Del Britton
Gary Kraus
James Krider
Leon Garcia
Marjorie Mohler
Mike Basayne
Jeff Reichel
Phill Blake
Don Gasser
Jeffrey Redding
Susan Boswell
Jim Lincoln
Marc Pandone
Chris Sauer
Alexander Pader

Alternate

Keith Caldwell

AGENDA

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Thursday, August 27, 2009

4:00 p.m.

**2nd Floor Conference Room, Hall of Justice Building,
1125 Third Street, Napa CA**

Staff Representatives

Patrick Lowe,
Secretary
Deputy Director,
Conservation Div., CDPD

Jeff Sharp,
Watershed Coordinator
Principal Planner,
Conservation Div., CDPD

Laura Anderson,
Counsel
Attorney IV,
County Counsel's Office

Sharon Borunda,
Admin. Assistant
Office Assistant II,
CDPD

1. **CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL** (Chairman)

Welcome **Jim Lincoln** and **Susan Boswell**, newly appointed Public at Large members, and congratulations to **Jeffrey Redding** and **Marc Pandone** on their re-appointment (action taken by the Board of Supervisors on August 4, 2009) (Staff)

2. **APPROVAL OF ACTION MINUTES**

Meeting of June 25, 2009 (Chairman)

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

In this time period, anyone may comment to the Board regarding any subject over which the Board has jurisdiction, or request consideration to place an item on a future Agenda. No comments will be allowed involving any subject matter that is scheduled for discussion as part of this Agenda. Individuals will be limited to a three-minute presentation. No action will be taken by the Board as a result of any item presented at this time. (Chair)

4. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- a. Announcement of **River Festival 2009**, 17th Annual River Festival, Sunday, September 6th, from 4:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., at Veterans Park (Bernhard Krevet, FONR President)
- b. Announcement of **25th Annual Coastal Clean-up Day**, Saturday, September 19, 2009 (Staff/RCD)
- c. Others (Board/Staff/Public)

5. **REPORTS, UPDATES AND DISCUSSION:**

- a. Report and update on Napa County **Regional Park and Open Space District Master Plan** (John Woodbury, District General Manager)

- b. Update on Napa County **Wildlife Conservation Commission grant funding recommendations** for new projects (Staff/WCC)
- c. Update on **County General Plan Implementation** action items currently underway (Staff)
- d. Report and update on the **Napa River Smolt Monitoring** effort and 2009 report on steelhead and salmon in the Napa River (Jonathan Koehler, RCD Fisheries Biologist)
- e. Update and discussion on Regional Water Quality Control Board and State Water Resources Control Board **water quality control plans and policies** affecting Napa County's watersheds (Staff)
- f. Report and discussion on the **State's budget** and potential **impacts to Napa County and WICC** for fiscal year 09-10 (Staff)
- g. Others (Board/Staff)

6. **PRESENTATION, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE DIRECTION:**

Presentation, discussion and possible recommendation to the Board of Supervisors in **support of using Measure A funding to complete two projects benefiting current and planned restoration efforts** underway in the Napa River watershed. The two projects include:

- a. Completion and publication of a **Historical Ecology Atlas for the Napa River**, to document patterns of the river channel, the distribution of floodplain wetlands, and the characteristics riparian woodlands, to contribute to the design and adaptive management of river restoration efforts (San Francisco Estuary Institute)
- b. Completion of restoration planning for the **Oakville Cross Rd. to Oak Knoll Ave. Napa River Restoration Project**, to support landowner involvement, hydraulic modeling, geographical mapping, formulation of alternatives, and concept plan development (California Land Stewardship Institute)

The two projects have been delayed due to frozen State Bond sales. Should State funding for the projects be restored, funding equal to the State's contribution will be applied to offset Measure A expenditures. (Rick Thomasser, Flood District Operations Manager)

7. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS** (Board/Staff)

8. **NEXT MEETING** (Chairman)

Regular Board Meeting: **September 24, 2009 – 4:00 PM** (*possible postponement to October 22, 2009*)
Hall of Justice Building, 2nd floor Conference Room, 1125 Third Street, Napa

9. **ADJOURNMENT** (Chairman)

Note: If requested, the agenda and documents in the agenda packet shall be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with a disability. Please contact Jeff Sharp at 707-259-5936, 1195 Third St., Suite 210, Napa CA 94559 to request alternative formats.



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- MINUTES / ACTION SUMMARY -

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Thursday, June 25, 2009

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2nd Floor Conference Room, Hall of Justice Building,
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Laura Anderson,
Counsel
Attorney IV,
County Counsel's Office

Sharon Borunda,
Admin. Assistant
Office Assistant II,
CDPD

1. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL (Chairman)

Members present: Diane Dillon, Mark Luce, Gary Kraus, Marjorie Mohler, Mike Basayne, Jeff Reichel, Phil Blake, Robert Steinhauer, Charles Slutzkin, Marc Pandone, Chris Sauer, Alexander Pader Jeffrey Redding

Members excused: James Krider, Don Gasser

Members absent: Del Britton, Leon Garcia,

Staff present: Patrick Lowe, Jeff Sharp, Sharon Borunda

2. APPROVAL OF ACTION MINUTES

Meeting of April 23, 2009 (Chairman)

Minutes were approved as presented.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

In this time period, anyone may comment to the Board regarding any subject over which the Board has jurisdiction, or request consideration to place an item on a future Agenda. No comments will be allowed involving any subject matter that is scheduled for discussion as part of this Agenda. Individuals will be limited to a three-minute presentation. No action will be taken by the Board as a result of any item presented at this time. (Chair)

None provided

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- a. Announcement of **Rivers of a Lost Coast**, special outdoor showing at Napa Valley Museum, Saturday June 27th, 7:30pm reception with 8:30pm show time (Staff)

Jeff Sharp reported that the WICC will be at the showing with a display and information, along with Wildlife Conservation Commission, Audubon, Napa Valley Fly Fishers, Napa Valley Steel Headers, RCD, Friends of Napa River, Napa Valley Kayakers and others. He also announced that you can go online and read more about the film. The film is currently touring around California.

- b. Announcement of **Napa River Rutherford Reach Restoration Project** commencement of work in July (Lisa Micheli, RDRT Facilitator/Staff)

Lisa Micheli, RDRT Facilitator, reported that the project is breaking ground on July 15, 2009 near Quintessa Winery. She reported that they have received Federal Stimulus Funds for the project and those

funds have enabled the project to move forward in light of the State budget crisis. Phase 1 of the project is starting this summer and consists of the 1 ½ mile beginning at the Zinfandel Ln. Bridge. They expect to move approximately 15,000 cubic yards of soil and are having to stock pile it for later use. They are also beginning to work on design plans for successive phases of this project. The project will be constructed in a phased fashion as funding allows.

- c. **Announcement of WICC Board openings for Public at Large members (4) and application deadline of July 10th at 5:00pm (Staff)**

Jeff Sharp announced that there are 4 public at large memberships on the board with terms expiring in August. Current members can re-apply and new applicants may apply by the July 10th deadline. The Board of Supervisors will consider the pool of applicants for appointment at their August 4th, 2009 meeting. The opportunity will be publicized and perspective applicants are encouraged to contact the County's Executive Office on how to apply.

- d. **Others (Board/Staff/Public)**

Patrick Lowe announced that the grant cycle for the Wildlife Conservation Commission has opened up.

He also announced that Kate Dargan is retiring as the State Fire Marshall. Diane Dillon announced that Nancy Watt has sent a congratulatory letter to Kate Dargan, on behalf of the County.

Phil Blake announced that just 2 weeks ago, a new pilot program for Napa County land owners was announced. This new program allows owners (thru NRCS), to hire a registered professional forester for the planning and management of fuel loading and fire protection issues. The deadline to sign up is soon - June 27, 2009. If the program continues next year, Phil suggested that WICC be involved to assist in outreach and coordination throughout Napa County.

5. UPDATE, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE DIRECTION:

- a. **Report, discussion and possible additional recommendations to the Board of Supervisors regarding the Revised Napa River Watershed Sediment Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL), Basin Plan Amendment (Implementation Plan) and Habitat Enhancement Plan** proposed by the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) for the Napa River watershed (Staff)

Patrick Lowe reported that the WICC has already seen/reviewed the policy, but the prior version was challenged at the State level and has been sent back to the Regional Board for revision and additional environmental review of the policy's potential impacts. In order to meet the comment deadline of July 6, 2009, agenda items for both the WICC and Board of Supervisor's had to be prepared concurrently. Draft comments on the revised policy were prepared based upon the WICC Board's earlier comment recommendations. Patrick provided an overview of the main points covered in the draft comments. The Board of Supervisors is scheduled to consider the draft comments on Tuesday, June 30, 2009. The Regional Water Board is scheduled to hear the matter on September 9, 2009.

Outcome: The Board approved forwarding the comment recommendations to the Board of Supervisor's for their consideration.

- b. **Update and discussion on other Regional Water Quality Control Board and State Water Resources Control Board water quality control plans and policies** affecting Napa County's watersheds, including Instream Flow Policy, Stream and Wetland Protection Policy, proposed revisions to portions of the State Board's Water Quality Enforcement Policy and other Basin Planning efforts (Staff)

Jeff Sharp handed out a new policy tracking spread-sheet and gave an update on the Pathogen TMDL provided by Steve Lederer, Director of Environmental Management. He also announced that Napa County Sanitation Dist. and UC Davis will be conducting additional pathogen monitoring in the Basin this summer and fall. Also announced was a RWQCB hearing on July 8, 2009 to conduct a triennial review of the SF Bay Basin's Water Quality Control Plan and review the Regional Board's priorities.

6. REPORTS, UPDATES AND DISCUSSION:

a. Report on **2009 Napa County Watershed Symposium** (Staff/Napa County RCD)

Leigh Sharp, RCD District Manager, provided the Board with a statistical overview of the symposium. She reported that 35 different organizations participated/displayed; 150 people attended, 13 speakers presented, 20 organizations sponsored, 6 local governments were represented, as well as other agents and nonprofits representatives were present, raffle prizes were given away and the event was followed with a river path tour and wine reception. She noted that overall, the event was very successful, due in part to the hard-working efforts of all those who were involved.

b. Update on development of a locally based **Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP)** for Napa County to assist in future funding opportunities and briefing on larger Bay Area and Sacramento River planning efforts (Staff)

Jeff Sharp reported that the Flood Dist. (with funding assistance from the Cities and County) has hired a consultant to assist with the initial preparation and development of an IRWM Plan outline and approach to guide local coordination that will be needed to manage future water resource planning and prepare for potential State IRWMP Bond funding (Prop 84).

c. Report on **County groundwater study** to develop a comprehensive groundwater monitoring program (Staff)

Jeff Sharp reported that the County has hired a consultant to help collect, review and organize County, State and Federal groundwater data, and to look at ways of developing an improved monitoring and data management system for County and public use. The information will help inform the development of an effective county-wide groundwater monitoring program and will point out areas needing additional monitoring wells/data. The comprised information will also help to identify how the County's groundwater resource is changing over time, and will ultimately assist those landowners wishing to successfully develop and manage their groundwater supplies.

d. Report, update and discussion on **Draft WICC budget** for fiscal year 09-10 (Staff)

Patrick Lowe reported that the final County budget is in the process of being adopted. He pointed out that the annual WICC budget had previously been in the range of \$90,000 to \$100,000 and that a recent mid-year budget amendment raised it to \$150,000 in efforts to better combine (and coordinate) the watershed education tasks outlined in the County/RCD Joint Powers Agreement. The current proposed budget for FY 90-10 amounts to a cut of \$70,000, maintaining \$30,000 out of the original \$100,000 for WICC funded activities. It is expected that more than a third of the remaining budget will be needed next year to maintain the WICC website. Patrick mentioned that staff is exploring ways to partner with others to financially support the website and more efficient ways of hosting and maintaining the site are being researched.

e. Others (Board/Staff)

Jeff Sharp reported that WICC has been working on placing creek and watershed signs on well travelled roads coming in and out of the County's 3 major basins. The initial creek signage effort was well received and additional crossings are now being planned in order to take advantage of the remaining funding provided by the North Bay Watershed Association. Additional sign installation is expected over the summer and fall as time allows.

7. PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSION:

- ### a. **Overview of the Napa Valley Regional Rainfall and Stream Monitoring System** – a presentation on the system and its operation to provide current and historical rainfall, creek and river level monitoring data, using a collective network of approximately 50 rainfall and stream gauging sites owned by various local Napa County cities, County, Flood Control and Water Conservation District and other state, federal agencies (Paul Blank, Hydrologist, Napa County Resource Conservation District)

Paul Blank, RCD Hydrologist, reported that the stream monitoring system is a collaborative effort involving the County of Napa, City of Napa, Flood Control & Water Conservation District, the other Napa Valley Cities/Town and support by the RCD. It amounts to a network of 29 stream and/or rainfall monitoring stations (14 of the stations measure rainfall and 22 measure water levels, 7 of the 22 measure water resource inputs into municipal supply reservoirs). The data from the system is remotely transferred to a central location for posting online in “real-time.” The data is also stored and forms a historical record for later use in modeling, planning and management (restoration, bridges, roads projects, ...). The “real-time” data serves as an early flood warning system and guides emergency management actions.

- b. **North Bay Watershed Association’s Framework for Applying Indicators and Performance Measures in North Bay Watershed Plans** – a presentation of work funded by the Association to develop performance measures for watershed plans and a set of indicators of ecosystem function that can be applied across North Bay watersheds to track outcomes of watershed management activities, and request for input and feedback from the WICC Board (Lisa Micheli, Senior Scientist, Sonoma Ecology Center)

Lisa Micheli, Sonoma Ecology Center Senior Scientist, provided a presentation to overview the project. She discussed the reasons for the project as well as its approach. Lisa also noted how the project ties into other efforts across the region and state that are looking at watershed health indicators (including Napa County’s WAF grant). The difference between an indicator versus a performance measure was discussed. Lisa presented a reduced list of draft indicators developed through the project and asked the Board for any feedback and suggestions. The result of the project will be a report highlighting the recommended suite of indicators from which watershed managers can choose those best suited for there particular needs and watershed specifics. The final report is expected to be completed in the fall.

8. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS** (Board/Staff)

None provided

9. **NEXT MEETING** (Chairman)

Regular Board Meeting: **July 23, 2009 – 4:00 PM** (possible postponement to August 27, 2009)
Hall of Justice Building, 2nd floor Conference Room, 1125 Third Street, Napa

July meeting will likely be canceled. A notice will be coordinated with the Chair.

10. **ADJOURNMENT** (Chairman)

Meeting adjourned

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2009 River Festival

September 6

4:00pm to 9:30pm, Veterans Park

Admission is Free!

The Friends of the Napa River have announced the return of Napa's premier public event, the 17th Annual River Festival on Labor Day Sunday, September 6, from 4:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., at Veterans Park along the Napa River near the Third Street Bridge in downtown Napa. Enjoy the sounds of the Napa Valley Symphony, the Napa High School Marching Band and other musical acts, Napa's most exciting fireworks display, along with the traditional Main Street celebration offering great food, wine and other beverages available for purchase. This year offers some exciting new changes. With the completion of construction of the Riverfront project, the event will expand to south of the Third Street Bridge to include viewing and vendors. Organizers have also announced a new collaboration with the Napa Valley Arts Council that will add an arts element to the kid's area and the rest of the day's events.

Admission to the River Festival is FREE, with food, wine and other beverages available for purchase. All proceeds benefit the Friends of Napa River, a non-profit organization providing an important voice on the environmental issues facing Napa County.

About Friends of the Napa River

The Friends of the Napa River has a rich history of stewardship of river enhancement, providing valuable educational programs, and providing an important voice on the environmental issues facing Napa County. The Friends have been critically instrumental in shaping the flood control project on the basis of the Living River Principles, which continues to restore salt marshes and valuable habitat while diverting floodwaters. The FONR continues to fund the Napa River Watershed Historical Ecology Map, and brings watershed education to hundreds of students in Napa Valley schools each year. The FONR studies and presents position papers on issues such as the County General Plan, the Parks and Open Space District, Flood Control measures, and the new developments along the Napa River. During the past year, The FONR has organized or participated in Earth Day, the Flyway Festival, Youth Days at the Napa Valley Yacht Club, and Eco-Tours on the Napa River and Lake Hennessey.



FRIENDS OF THE NAPA RIVER'S 17TH ANNUAL
RIVER FESTIVAL
Featuring the Napa Valley Symphony
PRESENTED BY TARGET
Downtown Napa

Sunday, September 6, 2009
4:00pm - 9:30pm | Free Admission

Fabulous Music ~ Fun for Kids ~ Delicious Food, Wine & Beer
Silent Auction ~ Exhibitors ~ Fantastic Fireworks Show!

4:00PM - Vernelle Anders Group
5:30PM - Napa High School Marching Band
7:00PM - Napa Valley Symphony
9:00PM - Fireworks Festival Finale!

For details and to participate, please visit
www.fonr.org or call 707.254.8520

SPONSORS

TARGET Friends of the Napa River Napa Valley Symphony Napa Valley Chamber of Commerce Napa Valley Arts Council Napa Valley Chamber of Commerce Napa Valley Chamber of Commerce Napa Valley Chamber of Commerce Napa Valley Chamber of Commerce Napa Valley Chamber of Commerce

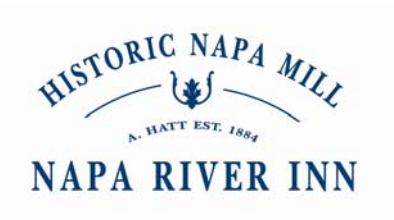
Sponsors and partners for the River Festival:

Contributing Partner:

Event Management and Graphic Communications Partner:



Platinum Level: \$5000 and above



Gold Level: \$3000 and above



Silver Level: \$1000 and above



THE 25TH ANNUAL CALIFORNIA COASTAL CLEANUP DAY SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2009



California Coastal Cleanup Day is the premier volunteer event focused on the marine environment in the country. In 2008, more than 70,000 volunteers worked together to collect more than 1,600,000 pounds of trash and recyclables from our beaches, lakes, and waterways. California Coastal Cleanup Day has been hailed by the Guinness Book of World Records as "the largest garbage collection" (1993). Since the program started in 1985, over 800,000 Californians have removed more than 13 million pounds of debris from our state's shorelines and coast. When combined with the International Coastal Cleanup, organized by [The Ocean Conservancy](#) and taking place on the same day, California Coastal Cleanup Day becomes part of one of the largest volunteer events of the year.

Coastal Cleanup Day is the highlight of the California Coastal Commission's year 'round [Adopt-A-Beach](#) program and takes place every year on the third Saturday of September, from 9 a.m. to Noon. In 2009, that day falls on September 19. Coming at the end of the summer beach season and right near the start of the school year, Coastal Cleanup Day is a great way for families, students, service groups, and neighbors to join together, take care of our fragile marine environment, show community support for our shared natural resources, learn about the impacts of marine debris and how we can prevent them, and to have fun! Coastal Cleanup Day is also the kick-off event for [Coastweeks](#)—three weeks of coastal and water-related events for the whole family.

Participating in Coastal Cleanup Day is as easy as [1, 2, 3!](#) Pre-register with your local Coordinator, or simply show up at any of our drop-in sites (which will be placed on the [county contact pages](#) as they become available).



For more information, contact us at (800) COAST-4U or coast4u@coastal.ca.gov. Join us on Saturday, September 19, from 9 a.m. to Noon for the 25th Annual California Coastal Cleanup Day.

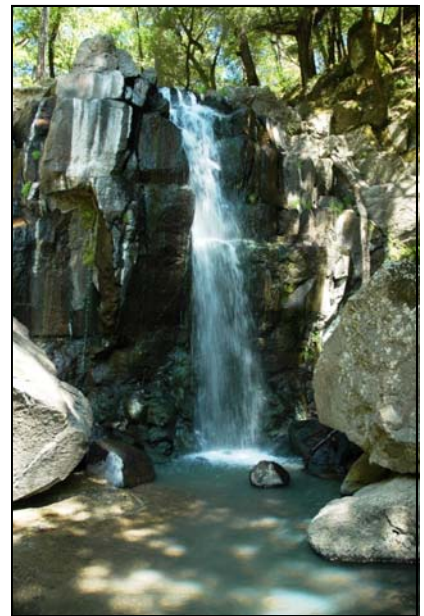
Be part of the solution to marine pollution!



Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District

Master Plan

2008 — 2013



January 2009



Napa County Regional Park
and Open Space District

About the District

The Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District is governed by a five member Board of Directors elected by the voters of Napa County. Staff support is provided primarily by Napa County under contract to the District.

Board of Directors

Harold Kelly
(Ward One)
hkelly@ncrposd.org

Tony Norris
(Ward Two)
tnorris@ncrposd.org

Guy Kay
(Ward Three)
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Dave Finigan
(Ward Four)
dfinigan@ncrposd.org

Myrna Abramowicz
(Ward Five)
mabramowicz@ncrposd.org

Staff

John Woodbury
(General Manager)
jwoodbury@ncrposd.org

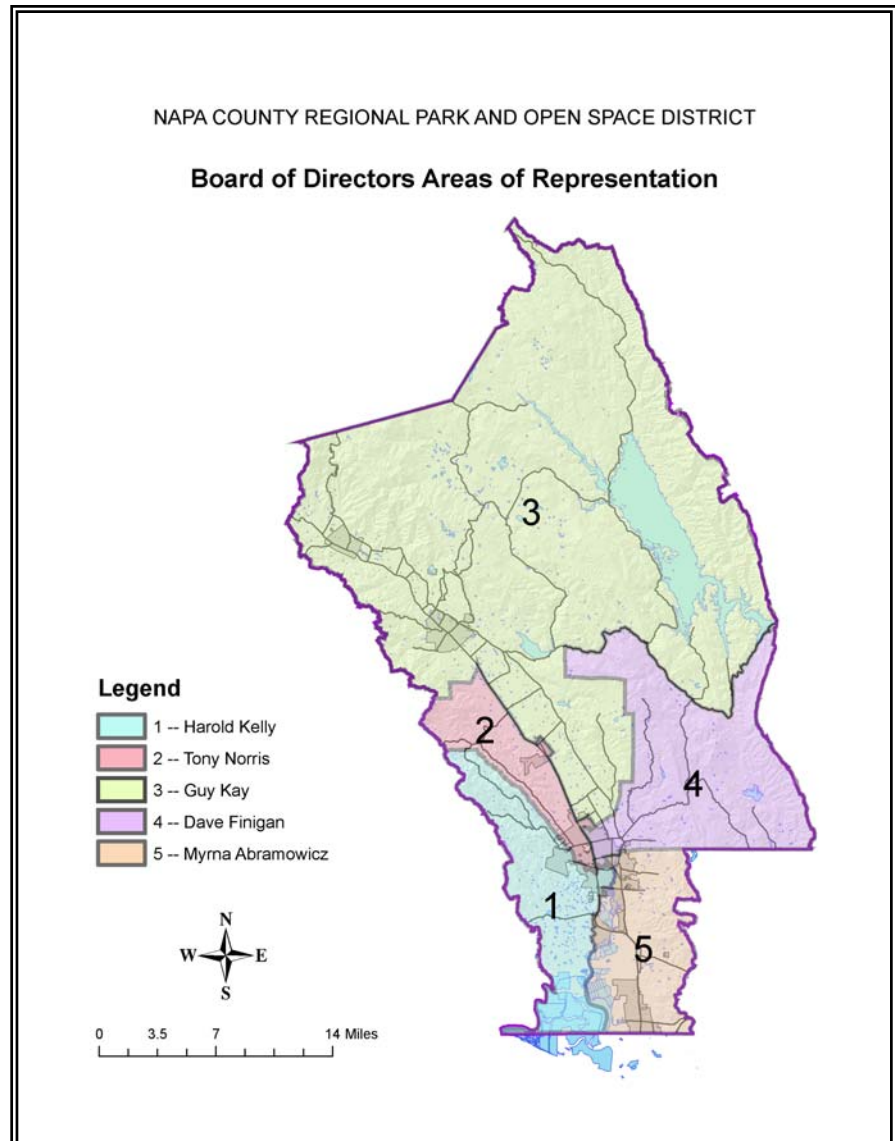
Melissa Gray
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Chris Apallas
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capallas@ncrposd.org

Tracy Schulze
(District Auditor)
tschulze@ncrposd.org

Tamie Frasier
(District Treasurer)
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Chino Yip
(Outreach Coordinator)
cyip@ncrposd.org



NAPA COUNTY REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT
1195 Third Street, Room 210
Napa, California 94559
Telephone: 707-259-5933 Fax: 707-299-4471

www.NapaOutdoors.org

Photo credits: most photography provided by John Woodbury.
Thanks also to Todd Adams, Carol Kunze, Brad Davis and Jim Haagen-Smit.

Section I

Executive Summary

On the first Tuesday of November 2006 the voters of Napa County approved Measure I. Sponsored by the County of Napa. Measure I established the Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District, an independent special district dedicated to protecting and stewarding important open space resources countywide and facilitating their enjoyment by the general public. The voters at the same time elected the first five members of the District's Board of Directors.

The District immediately started working on a variety of projects previously recommended by the Napa County Parks and Open Space Advisory Committee, a sixteen member citizens committee appointed by the County Board of Supervisors. Over a three year period prior to the formation of the District, the Committee had researched park and open space needs and opportunities in the County and prepared the proposal which became Measure I.

In its first year, the District initiated 16 park, trail and open space projects, as well as 10 organizational and financial capacity building activities. It obtained, sought or was involved with partners on capital grants totaling just over \$5 million.

At the same time that it began working on projects, the District also initiated the development of a plan to provide a comprehensive framework for guiding the future work of the District. The present Master Plan is the result of that effort. The Master Plan identifies long-term goals and guiding principles for the District, as well as identifies a work program for the period from 2008 through 2013.

The draft of this Master Plan was released for public review and comment on October 22, 2008. Public comments were taken at a special meeting of Board on the evening of November 10, 2008 at 6:30 pm in the Yountville Community Hall, at the regular Board meeting of December 8, 2008 in the Napa County Board of Supervisors hearing room, 2:00 pm, and again at the regular Board meeting of January 12, 2009, also at 2:00 pm in the Napa County Board of Supervisors hearing room. Directors also made special presentations to the City of American Canyon Parks and Open Space Advisory Committee, to the Lake Berryessa Chamber of Commerce and to the Friends of the Napa River. Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act, a Notice of Intent to Adopt a Negative Declaration was sent to the State Clearinghouse for distribution to various State agencies, and published in the Napa Valley Register on November 20, 2008, with a public comment period specified for November 21, 2008 through December 22, 2008. No comments were received on the Proposed Negative Declaration.

Section II

INTRODUCTION

This is the first Master Plan of the Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District. It is intended to cover the period from 2008-2013, which includes the past year of District operations, plus the next five years. A review and update of the plan's projects and implementation strategy is planned for 2011.

The purpose of this Master Plan is to identify, prioritize and present an implementation plan for the acquisition, restoration, development, programming and operation of a countywide system of regional parks, trails water resources, natural habitats and other open spaces of Napa County. It is not a general plan, plan element, strategic plan, park standards plan or specific park development plan. Rather, it combines a description of the District's planning and policy context with a work program for the District to follow during this planning period.

This Master Plan is divided into eight sections. Section III provides the policy foundation upon which the plan was developed. The section reviews the County's new General Plan focusing on the Recreation and Open Space and Conservation Elements, other relevant agency policies and the formation and first year of operation of the District. Section IV establishes the goals and guiding principles for the Master Plan based upon this policy foundation. The Master Plan is organized around four broad goals dealing with facilities development, open space preservation and restoration, education and District operations.

Sections V and VI review the existing natural resources and park and recreation facilities in Napa County to provide a basis for identifying needs for facilities, open space protection, programs and District operations. The 2003-5 study and development of land conservation priorities by the Land Trust of Napa County and the County of Napa's 2005 Baseline Data Report are summarized in Section V. Existing County parks, recreation and open space facilities are reviewed in Section VI. Most importantly, the open space, park and recreation, habitat protection and Napa River needs assessments that were completed by the Land Trust of Napa Valley, various Napa Living River groups, the Napa County Parks and Open Space Advisory Committee, and the 2007-8 County General Plan process are reviewed and summarized at the end of Section VI. These form the basis for the identification and development of the work program set forth in Section VII.

The heart of this Master Plan are the 56 project descriptions presented in Section VII that reflect and respond to the policy foundation, goals and guiding principles, and park, recreation, habitat conservation and open space needs reviewed in previous chapters. These projects represent the

*The heart of
this Master Plan
are the fifty-six
project descriptions
presented in Section VII*

work program for the District for the period 2008-13.

Section VII divides projects into the four broad goal areas of facility development, preservation and restoration, education and District operations. Each project is presented with a description, background, identification of benefits and issues, project partners and a time frame and estimated cost. Most importantly, each project description includes action objectives providing timelines and milestones for implementation.

Section VIII identifies project priorities and implementation and funding strategies. It also presents a basic operations, staffing and funding.

Finally, the Master Plan includes a Section IX, whose purpose is to document concepts and projects suggested for consideration when the Master Plan is updated. This section is intended for reporting on concepts and projects raised during the public comment and Board review process, which are not yet ready for inclusion in the Master Plan.

Time Frame and Use of Plan

This Master Plan is intended to be a living policy and planning document and not another plan that fills shelf space. Section VII, which provides the Master Plan's work program, is intended to be updated periodically to reflect changing funding and project opportunities. After this review, the updated projects will replace the existing project descriptions in this chapter. Section VIII on project priorities and funding strategies will also be updated as necessary.

To facilitate scheduled updates, Section IX is reserved as a place to record suggestions provided through the public review of the draft version of this Master Plan, for additional projects and strategies which are beyond the scope of this Plan but sufficiently important to capture so they help guide future updates. In this manner, this Master Plan will always be an up-to-date plan reflecting current District goals and objectives.

It has been written in readable narrative form with a minimum of technical terms to facilitate its use by the general public. This Master Plan also includes a brief historical background of recent park, recreation, open space and land conservation policy development and need assessments in Napa County to provide the reader a better perspective and understanding of the plan's recommended projects.

This Master Plan is all about informing and explaining to Napa County residents what the District is planning to work on during the designated time frame. It is not intended to be a dream but an action plan that will be implemented on an incremental basis as resources become available. It is a plan for **NOW**.

Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Members</u></p> <p>Stephen Orndorf, Chair ***</p> <p>Heather Phillips, Vice Chair ***</p> <p>Janet Barth Stephen Rae Bob Soper Travis Kelham Brent Randol Thomas McNicholas</p>	<p>REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING</p> <p>Monday, August 10, 2009 at 4:00 p.m. 2nd Floor Conference Room, Hall of Justice Building, 1125 Third Street, Napa CA</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Staff Representatives</u></p> <p>Patrick Lowe <i>Deputy Planning Director</i> Conservation Div., CDPD <i>Secretary to the WCC</i></p> <p>Daniel Zador - <i>Planner</i> Conservation Div., CDPD</p> <p>Kelli Felker - <i>Planner</i> Conservation Div., CDPD</p> <p>Laura Anderson- <i>Attorney</i> County Counsel's Office</p>
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Project Recommendations on Grant Funding: Allocation of WCC funds from California Department of Fish and Game fines and settlements, as well as local fines and settlements designated for project funding

- a. Land Trust of Napa County – Repair erosion problems at three wildlife habitat ponds at Wantrup Wildlife Preserve in Pope Valley: \$4,017 (Joel Tranmer);
- b. Napa County Resource Conservation District (RCD) – Getting to Know the Fish in our Neighborhood: An Outreach Campaign to Introduce Napa County’s Residents to Napa River’s Fish Community: \$10,660 (Frances Knapczyk);
- c. California Native Plant Society - Napa Valley Chapter (CNPS) - Improvements to Skyline Nursery/Growing Grounds and Martha Walker Habitat Garden - \$11,700 (Kathleen Chasey);
- d. Mt. George Elementary School Outdoor Explorers – Environmental education for the 1st, 2nd and 3rd grade students of Mt. George Elementary School - \$3,000 (Leslie Lew);
- e. The Bay Institute – Partner with Students and Teachers Restoring a Watershed (STRAW) project to conduct habitat restoration on the American Canyon Wetlands with students from American Canyon Middle School - \$15,000 (Sheryl Barbic);
- f. Wildlife Rescue Center of Napa County – Request is for medical equipment and training of volunteers in the rehabilitation of wildlife species - \$5,000 (Pam Condos).

NAPA RIVER STEELHEAD AND SALMON SMOLT MONITORING PROGRAM



ANNUAL REPORT – YEAR 1

JULY, 2009



NAPA COUNTY RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

CONTACT:
JONATHAN KOEHLER
SENIOR BIOLOGIST
(707) 252 – 4188 x 109
JONATHAN@NAPARCD.ORG

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to thank the Gasser Foundation, The Wildlife Conservation Commission of Napa County, and Napa River Steelhead for their generous contributions towards the purchase of a rotary screw trap. We would also like to thank the County of Napa and City of Napa for their contributions of funding for this program. Volunteers were an essential part of the success of this year's effort, and we would like to thank Chad Edwards, Steve Orndorf, Wayne Ryan, Kevin Bradley, Frank Bradley, Eamon Griffon, Bill Potter, Bill Ryan, Mike Filippini, John Nogue, Ron Sheffer, John Bartolucci, Guy Carl, Dwight Hensley, Tristan Cole, Dan Chase, Ric Bollen, and Michael McKeown. We received extensive advice and technical support from Stillwater Sciences and would like to specifically thank AJ Keith and Russ Liebig for their assistance. Foster's Wine Estates was a tremendous help with all aspects of this program and we would especially like to thank Ryan Leininger and Brecon Jackson for their assistance.

ABSTRACT

The Napa County Resource Conservation District (RCD) initiated a salmonid outmigrant monitoring program in 2009 using a rotary screw. This program represented the first outmigrant trapping effort ever undertaken for the Napa River basin. A group of over 30 volunteers assisted with installation, daily processing, and maintenance of the trap, which was located in the mainstem Napa River north of Trancas Avenue (~400 meters upstream of the extent of tidal influence). Sampling extended from March 17 to May 26, 2009 (69 days). A total of 22 fish species were captured (12 native, 10 exotic). The total catch was 6,566 fish with an additional 48,950 larval specimens (Cyprinid and Catostomid species).

Native species dominated the total catch (n=6,523), comprising 99% of all non-larval specimens. A total of 1,059 steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) were captured, including 119 smolts and 940 fry. Capture of steelhead fry (20-50 mm FL) indicates local spawning in the lowest reaches of the non-tidal Napa River, which had not been documented prior to this study. Genetics samples were collected from 123 steelhead for analysis by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries) Southwest Science Center. A total of 69 steelhead were marked and released upstream to determine trap efficiency. Only one fish was recaptured, yielding an estimated efficiency of 1.45%; however there is low confidence in this estimate given the relatively small release group size. One Chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*) smolt (FL= 90mm) was captured and released. A genetics sample was collected from this specimen for comparison with cohorts from previous years. The average steelhead smolt length was 178mm, which suggests Napa River steelhead smolts tend to be large and therefore likely experience relatively high marine survival.

The Napa RCD and its partners plan to operate the trap annually to develop salmonid population estimates and track ecological responses to ongoing habitat restoration.

BACKGROUND

The Napa River historically supported three salmonid species: steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*), Chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*), and coho salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*). There has been a significant decline in the distribution and abundance of steelhead and coho salmon in the Napa River and its tributaries since the late 1940s (USFWS 1968; Anderson 1969; Leidy et al. 2005). The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (1968) estimates that the Napa River watershed once supported runs of 6,000–8,000 steelhead, and 2,000–4,000 coho salmon, and that by the late 1960s, coho salmon were extinct in the watershed, and the steelhead run had reduced to about 1,000 adults. Napa River steelhead belong to the Central California Coast Steelhead Distinct Population Segment (DPS), which was listed as a threatened species under the Federal Endangered Species Act in August 1997.

Little is known about the historical abundance or distribution of Chinook salmon in tributaries to the San Francisco Estuary (Leidy et al. 2005). However, based on analysis of natural channel form, hydrology, and ecology, it is believed that the Napa River likely supported a large, sustainable population of Chinook salmon under historical conditions (Stillwater Sciences, 2002). Chinook salmon have been regularly reported in the Napa River since the 1980's, and since 2001, an estimated 400-600 fall-run Chinook have spawned each year in the mainstem Napa River and several tributary streams (Koehler 2005a, 2006, 2007, 2008). The Napa County Resource Conservation District (RCD) began a salmon monitoring program in 2003 to track adult Chinook abundance and distribution within a five-mile reach of the Napa River near Rutherford. Capture of juvenile salmon in spring of 2004-2009 indicates that successful spawning occurs in most years. The genetics of these fish has been sampled for multiple years and is being analyzed by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries Service (NOAA) Southwest Science Center located in Santa Cruz, California.

Despite long-term habitat degradation and loss, the Napa River watershed still contains extensive areas of relatively high-quality steelhead and salmon habitat. In fact, it has been identified as one of the most important anchor watersheds within the San Francisco Estuary for the protection and recovery of regional steelhead populations (Becker et al. 2007). In priority watersheds such as this, frequent monitoring is needed to assess fish population status and track trends through time. To address this need, the RCD initiated a smolt monitoring program in 2009. Prior to 2009, smolt surveys had never been conducted for the Napa River watershed.

The objective of this monitoring program is to answer the following questions:

- What is the annual index of steelhead and Chinook smolt outmigration from the Napa River?
- What is the average length and weight of smolts from the Napa River?
- What is the genetic relationship between Napa River steelhead and salmon and other known stocks?
- When does smolt outmigration occur in the Napa River watershed?

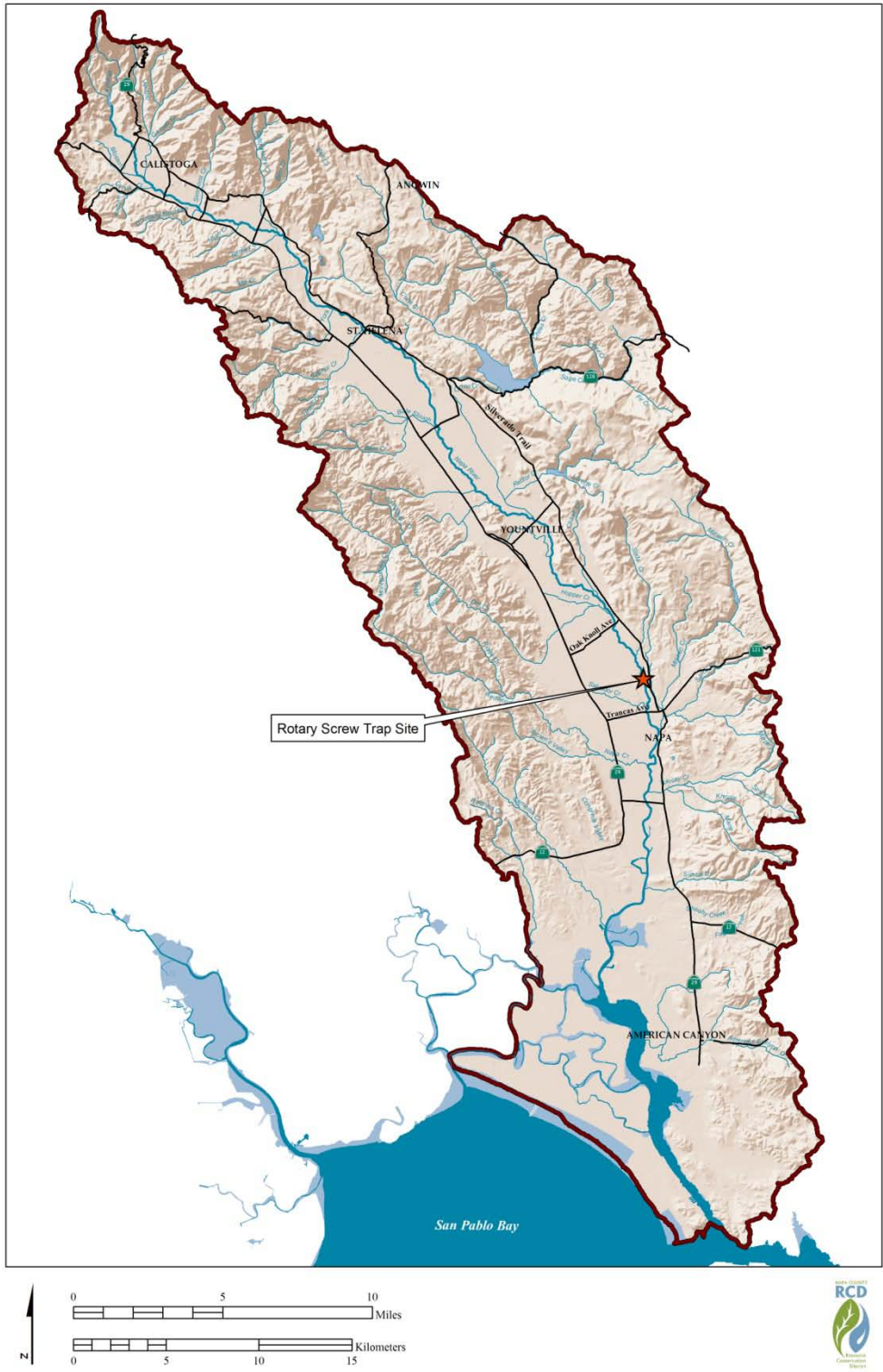
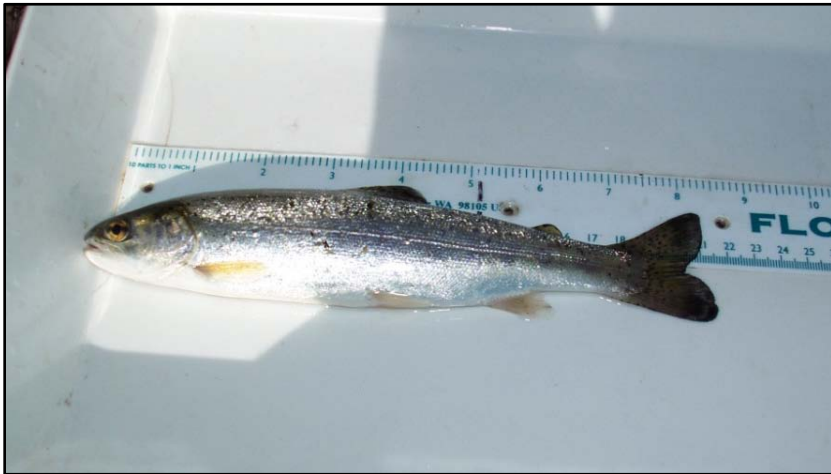


Figure 1. Rotary screw trap monitoring site located on the mainstem Napa River approximately two miles downstream of the Oak Knoll Avenue Bridge.

PHOTOS



Rotary Screw Trap



Steelhead smolt



Steelhead fry



Sacramento Sucker



River Lamprey



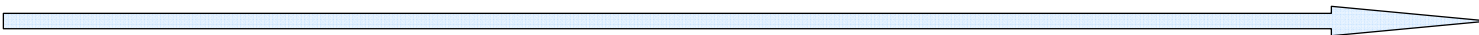
Pacific Lamprey



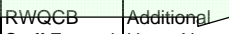



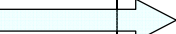



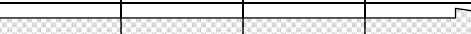
















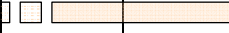


Striped Bass




Bluegill

RWQCB/SWRCB Policy/Program	Timeline 														Compliance Deadline
	Fal 06	Win 07	Spr 07	Sum 07	Fal 07	Win 08	Spr 08	Sum 08	Fal 08	Win 09	Spr 09	Sum 09	Fal 09	Win 10	
Pathogen TMDL RWQCB (2) Tina Low, 510-622-5682, TLow@waterboards.ca.gov Link to more information	Regional Board Adoption Mtg. (11/13/06)		State Board Public Comment (6/29/07)	State Board Hearing/ Adoption Mtg. (09/04/07)	Development of Waiver of WDRs	EPA/ Office of Adim. Law		State Board Spitic & Grazing waiver prog. Co. RFP out for consulting			Completion of Waiver of WDRs				Jan 2008 - 2010
Sediment TMDL RWQCB (2) Mike Napolitano, 510-662-2397, mnapolitano@waterboards.ca.gov Link to more information		Regional Board Adoption (1/23/07)					State Board Referral back to Regional Board (6/11/08)	Re-Notice for Public Comment (10/20/08)			Release of Revised Draft Policy (5/19/09)	Regional Board Re-Hearing/ Adoption (9/9/09)	Development of Waiver of WDRs	State Board Hearing/ Adoption (tentative)	Oct 2014
Nutrient TMDL RWQCB (2) Tina Low, 510-622-5682, TLow@waterboards.ca.gov Link to more information											Regional Board Internal Review of Draft	Regional Board Notice for Public Comment (tentative)	Regional Board Hearing/ Public Comment (tentative)	Unknown	
Instream Flow Policy SWRCB Division of Water Rights 916-341-5342, AB2121Policy@waterboards.ca.gov Link to more information	Draft Policy/ Public Comment/ Workshops		Final Draft Policy/Public Comment		Draft Policy (12/28/07)		Public Comment Deadline (5/1/08)	Assembly/ Senate Joint Hearing (7/30/08) Workshop (8/6/08)		Status report provided to State Board	Effort to develop alternative watershed approach	Re-Draft of Policy per Comments/L egislative Direction (tentative)	State Board Hearing/ Adoption (tentative)	Unknown	
Stream & Wetland Protection Policy RWQCB (1 & 2) Bruce Ho, 707-576-2460, BHo@waterboards.ca.gov Link to more information	NOP/Public Comment (5/31)	Policy Update	Workshop (6/13/07) Policy Summary to RWQCB 1 (7/11/07)			Draft Policy (12/07)	Regional (1) Board Update (4/24/08)	External Scientific Peer Review		ABAG mtg. w/Counties (3/5/09)		Draft Policy Notice for Public Comment (tentative)	Regional Board Hearing/ Adoption (tentative)	State Board Hearing/ Adoption (tentative)	Unknown
Wetlands & Riparian Areas Policy SWRCB Dyan Whyte, 510-622-2441, dwhyte@waterboards.ca.gov Link to more information								Phase 1 CEQA Scoping (8/19/08)	CEQA Comment Deadline (9/8/08)			Stakeholder Meetings (tentative)	Public Draft (tentative)	Final Policy Review/ Regional (1&2) Hearing(s) (tentative)	Unknown

RWQCB/SWRCB Policy/Program	Timeline 														Compliance Deadline	
	Fal 06	Win 07	Spr 07	Sum 07	Fal 07	Win 08	Spr 08	Sum 08	Fal 08	Win 09	Spr 09	Sum 09	Fal 09	Win 10		
Addition of Unnamed Waterbodies & Beneficial Uses to SF Bay Basin Plan RWQCB Jan O'Hara, 510-622-5681, johara@waterboards.ca.gov Link to more information									 RWQCB Staff Announce Intention in South Bay (9/19/08)	 RWQCB Staff Expand Intention Regionwide (2/2/09)	 Additional Uses, Names & Locations Requested by 4/30/09	 2009 Basin Plan Triennial Review & Hearing (7/8/09)				Unknown
Mercury Fish Tissue TMDL (San Francisco Bay) RWQCB (2) Carrie Austin, 510-622-1015, CAustin@waterboards.ca.gov Link to more information	 Regional Board Adoption (8/9/06)		 State Board Public Comment (4/4/07)	 State Board Adoption (7/17/07)	 Office of Adim. Law (11/7/07)	 EPA Approval (2/12/08)		 Development of Waiver of WDRs	 Completion of Waiver of WDRs							2017
Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program RWQCB (5) Margie Read, 916-464-4624, mread@waterboards.ca.gov Link to more information	 Third year of Waiver Program Underway	 General Prog. Membership Mtg. (1/18/07)	 Third Annual Monitoring Report Due to RWQCB			 Monitoring & Reporting Prog. Adoption (1/25/08)	 Forth Annual Monitoring Report Due to RWQCB	 Long-term Program Update Meeting (8/19/08)			 Fifth Annual Monitoring Report Due to RWQCB	 5th Long-term Prog. Workgroup Mtg. (8/20/09)				Effective 2005
Water Quality Enforcement Policy SWRCB Ann Crum, 916-327-8195 Link to more information			 Revised Public Notice (5/29/07)	 Public Workshop (6/28/07)	 Public Comments on Draft Policy Due (2/7/08)	 Public Workshop (2/19/08) Draft Policy Revised (2/21/08)		 State Board Announces Proposal to Improve Enforcement (5/28/08)		 Public Workshop Comments Received (1/16/09)		 Public Workshop on Draft Policy (6/4/09)				2008 - 2010
Groundwater Beneficial Use Strategy RWQCB (5) Pam Buford, 559-445-5576, pbuford@waterboards.ca.gov Link to more information										 Public Workshop on Strategy Devel. (8/24/09)						Unknown

SWRCB - State Water Resources Control Board (Statewide)
 RWQCB - Regional Water Quality Control Board (1 = North Coast, 2 = San Francisco Bay, 5 = Central Valley)
 NOP - Notice of Preparation
 WDR - Waste Discharge Requirements
 EPA - Environmental Protection Agency

 Implementation Underway



Linda S. Adams
*Secretary for
Environmental
Protection*

California Regional Water Quality Control Board Central Valley Region

Karl E. Longley, ScD, P.E., Chair

11020 Sun Center Drive #200, Rancho Cordova, California 95670-6114
Phone (916) 464-3291 • FAX (916) 464-4645
<http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley>



**Arnold
Schwarzenegger**
Governor

4 August 2009

NOTICE OF PUBLIC WORKSHOP DEVELOPMENT OF A STRATEGY TO PROTECT THE BENEFICIAL USES OF GROUNDWATER IN THE CENTRAL VALLEY

Background

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region (Central Valley Water Board) recognizes the critical importance of groundwater quality. The Central Valley Water Board is committed to ongoing programs as well as coordination with other agencies and all stakeholders with an interest in groundwater protection. Central Valley Water Board staff are holding workshops to solicit input from stakeholders to assist us in identifying deficiencies, conflicts with other agency's programs, and/or gaps in protection of groundwater quality

Developing a Groundwater Strategy is not initiating a new regulatory program. The intent of developing a strategy is to provide a summary of the current state of groundwater quality, and to identify current groundwater regulatory programs being implemented by the Central Valley Water Board and other agencies. The strategy will be a document that serves as the Central Valley Water Board's roadmap of how current and future regulatory and control activities will be implemented in a comprehensive, consistent, and coordinated groundwater protection program throughout the Central Valley Region.

Central Valley Water Board staff continue to work on existing and emerging programs to protect groundwater quality (e.g., existing regulatory programs for waste discharges, developing programs such as the Long Term Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program, and Central Valley Salinity Alternatives for Long-term Sustainability), which have separate processes for obtaining stakeholder input. While the development of emerging regulatory programs is not a part of these workshops, staff welcomes stakeholder input on how to assess and prioritize all of our groundwater protection programs in the development of the groundwater strategy.

Who Should Attend?

Nonprofit organizations, environmental groups, environmental justice groups, industries, local and state agencies, water management agencies, and other stakeholders, groups, or persons interested in developing a Groundwater Strategy for the Central Valley Region. Central Valley Water Board members may also attend one or more of the workshops.

Prior to the workshops, Central Valley Water Board staff will distribute a workshop agenda and an information document that describes existing programs related to groundwater protection. Additional information is available on the Central Valley Water Board's website at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/groundwater_quality/index.shtml

California Environmental Protection Agency

Workshop Meeting Times and Locations

Date:	August 24, 2009	August 25, 2009
Time:	9:00 to 1:00 Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board	9:30 to 1:30 Shasta Public Library-Redding Community Room B
Address:	11020 Sun Center Drive, #200 Rancho Cordova, CA 95670	1100 Parkview Avenue Redding, CA 96001
Date:	August 27, 2009	August 28, 2009
Time:	2:00 to 6:00 Delano Regional Medical Center, Conference Center	9:00 to 1:00 Central Valley Regional Water Quality Board
Address:	1401 Garces Highway Delano, CA 93215	1685 E Street Fresno, CA 93706

The meeting facilities will be accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals requiring special accommodation are requested to contact Pam Buford at (559) 445-5576 at least 5 working days prior to the meeting. TTY users may contact the California Relay Service at (800) 735-2929 or voice line at (800) 735-2922.

Contact Information

Questions regarding this notice may be directed to Pam Buford, at (559) 445-5576 or pbuford@waterboards.ca.gov. To receive future notifications regarding the development of the groundwater strategy, please subscribe to the "Groundwater Quality Issues" mailing list through our webpage at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/reg5_subscribe.shtml

Written comments may be submitted by mail or electronically to:

Pam Buford
Central Valley Water Board
1685 E Street
Fresno CA 93706
pbuford@waterboards.ca.gov.

Please bring the above information to the attention of anyone you know who would be interested in this matter.

August 14th Budget Update Memorandum from Nancy Watt



A Tradition of Stewardship
A Commitment to Service

County Executive Office

1195 Third Street
Suite 310
Napa, CA 94559
www.co.napa.ca.us

Main: (707) 253-4421
Fax: (707) 253-4176

Nancy Watt
County Executive Officer

MEMORANDUM

To: All employees

From: Nancy Watt

Date: August 14, 2009

Re: Budget Update

This is the tenth in a series of updates for County employees on the State fiscal situation and how it affects us. [You can read the previous updates.](#)

It's been quiet this week, as both houses of the Legislature are on break. Both the Senate and the Assembly will be back in session on Monday, Aug. 17.

Democrats in both houses have indicated that their first priority upon returning to Sacramento will be restoring some of the cuts to Health and Human Services programs that were made unilaterally by the Governor, after he signed the budget bills earlier this month.

It is also a priority to work out how to go about cutting \$1.2 billion statewide in corrections funding.

Two lawsuits have been filed challenging the legality of the Governor's blue-pencil cuts, mainly those impacting health and human services programs. The first lawsuit was filed by Senate President Pro Tem Darrell Steinberg (as an individual), on the grounds that the Governor overstepped his constitutional authority by vetoing provisions in the package that were revisions to past appropriations, not appropriations themselves. The second lawsuit was filed by a coalition of advocates representing the disabled and disadvantaged, arguing an abuse of power by the Governor and seeking an injunction to immediately restore the funding the Governor cut through his blue pencil vetoes.

State's Cash Flow Situation

As reported last week, Napa County has received more than \$1 million in registered warrants (IOUs). Today, the State controller announced that he will stop issuing registered warrants on Sept. 4, and the State is planning to honor outstanding warrants

on that same day, with interest. It is not clear if we will receive all the funds owed at one time, or if we can expect a phased reimbursement.

The fact that we received warrants did not immediately impact Napa County's cash flow situation. There is always a lag between the moment the State and federal governments owe us funds and the moment we receive those funds, and IOUs did not significantly extend that lag.

Health and Human Services

As part of the budget and following the Governor's blue-pencil cuts, funding for the Healthy Families Program was cut by \$178.6 million. On Thursday, Aug. 13, the California First 5 Commission announced it would contribute \$81.4 million to the program. However, the First 5 contribution can only be used for children under five years of age. Unless additional funding is obtained, the [Managed Risk Medical Insurance Board](#), which runs [Healthy Families](#), has stated that children will begin to be "disenrolled" (dropped) from the program starting Oct. 1. There are currently 55,000 children on the waiting list for the insurance program.

Next Steps

Our Auditor-Controller is working to close the 2008/2009 Fiscal Year books now, and soon we will know the final fund balance. That is an important piece of information as we work to analyze the State's impact on our budget, and also address the structural imbalance in our County budget (see previous budget memos for explanation).

In September, staff will return to the Board with an updated financial situation report, and likely some modifications to the budget the Board adopted in June.

Please continue to monitor Chardonnay for periodic updates as events warrant, and thank you for your interest. As always, please feel free to e-mail communications@co.napa.ca.us with comments or questions, or call Elizabeth Emmett at ext. 4111.



Napa Valley Historical Ecology Atlas

A 200-year data and resource record to assist the Napa County Flood & Water Conservation District in the conservation, management, maintenance and planning of flood and storm waters and water supply needs for the Napa Valley

Background

Understanding the historical landscape and how it has changed over time can help address many of the challenges associated with managing and planning for the future of local watersheds. Historical ecology can help set priorities for restoring natural functions to local creeks and floodplains, identifying natural ways to reduce flood hazards, and can reveal previously unrecognized conservation opportunities.

Over the past decade, the San Francisco Estuary Institute (SFEI) has worked with a number of local government, special district, watershed and special interest groups (e.g., State Coastal Conservancy, State Water Board, Napa County (Watershed Information Center), Napa County Resource Conservation District, Napa Valley Vintners, Friends of the Napa River, Napa County Historical Society, Watershed Stewardship Groups, and others) to analyze historical conditions and landscape change in Napa Valley since the early 1800s. This effort involved extensive research and the acquisition of historical materials from a broad range of institutions, including local museums and historical societies, city and county archives, and regional libraries. Journals, diaries, and newspaper articles about the landscape and notable environmental features document historical conditions. Early maps, surveys, and aerial photography provide the locations of historical features, such as streams, wetlands, and plant communities, as well as remaining property boundaries and roads are valuable links to the contemporary landscape. Other important sources include landscape photography, sketches, and paintings. The amassed body of information is critical to designing successful, sustainable restoration projects for the region's rivers, creeks, wetlands, and woodlands.

With support and funding provided by a wide range of groups, this significant and instructive project is nearing completion. The District's contribution to the project will be matched with over \$250,000, provided in large part by the State of California. Major local contributors have included the Napa Valley Vintners, the Friends of the Napa River, the Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission and the County of Napa via the Watershed Information Center & Conservancy (WICC) Board. Approximately \$45,000 is needed to complete the project (\$25,000 of that funding has already been committed by the State Coastal Conservancy (SCC) but is currently suspended as a result of the State bond freeze. Should SCC funding be restored, funding equal to the State's contribution will be applied to offset District costs.). Funding by the District at this time will enable the timely completion of the Napa Valley Historical Ecology Atlas.

Data and information collected to produce the Atlas will be made available, allowing this information to be applied to the design and implementation of a number of current and pending projects. Data documenting patterns of natural channel morphology along the river, the natural distribution of floodplain wetlands, and riparian woodland characteristics, will directly contribute to the conceptual design and adaptive management of several key river projects, including those underway and planned for the Rutherford and Oakville reaches of the Napa River. This project will also help to increase the success rate of oak woodland plantings as part of the South Wetlands Opportunity Area restoration project, identifying historical soil types most suitable for valley oak and oak woodland restoration. Completion of the project also supports a number of projects by the cities and the watershed education and planning efforts associated with the WICC's efforts.

The results of the project will be directly applicable to a number of current and proposed projects; many of which garnered significant community and County investment.

Supported Projects - Abridged List of Benefits

<u>Project</u>	<u>Benefit</u>
Rutherford Reach River Restoration Proj.	Inform phase 2 conceptual design, assist w/phase 1 riparian vegetation and adaptive management implementation
Oakville-Oak Knoll River Restoration Plan	Awareness of passive & active restoration options & natural flood management designs
South Wetlands Opportunity Area Restoration & Adaptive Mgmt.	Inform tidal wetlands adaptive management & oak woodlands restoration strategy/design
Napa Downtown Flood Protection Project Long-term Mgmt. Plan	Documentation of riparian area function & composition (Oxbow Bypass & Eco-Reserve)
Historical Baseline & Template for River-wide Restoration Prioritization & Coordination	Provides a comprehensive & cohesive view of historical river functions by reach facilitating understanding & design/mgmt.
Napa-Sonoma Marsh Restoration Project	Contribute to tidal marsh restoration design

Napa River Sediment Reduction and Habitat Enhancement Plan

Oakville Cross Rd. to Oak Knoll Ave.

California Land Stewardship Institute

Project Description

The Napa River Sediment Reduction and Habitat Enhancement Plan will address water quality, flooding, bank erosion problems and natural resources on a 10-mile section of the Napa River stretching from Oakville Cross Road to Oak Knoll Ave. This section of the Napa River is the next reach downstream of the Rutherford Reach project area (Zinfandel Lane to Oakville Cross Road). The 8-mile Rutherford Reach is beginning the implementation of enhancement and restoration efforts following several years of planning.

The Oakville to Oak Knoll Reach suffers from channel incision with bank collapse, erosion of channel bedforms (riffles, bars, pools) important to salmonids and a reduced riparian corridor. Channel incision on the Napa River was studied in the Napa River Limiting Factors Analysis and identified in the 2005 Technical Report on the TMDL for the Napa River as a major source of direct delivery of fine sediment. As a channel incises and downcuts into its alluvial floodplain, most flood flows become confined to the channel and no longer spill out onto the floodplain and slow down. This situation creates higher velocity flows in the channel, inducing further erosion and downcutting. This process will continue until the banks of the river channel become tall (20ft+) and unstable and collapse in flood events. For most of this reach of the Napa River, the channel is highly incised with unstable banks of 15-20 feet and large areas of shallow pool/glide habitat. The January 2006 flood caused extensive channel scour and bank collapse, loss of riparian habitat, flooding and property damage. As the banks collapse, they directly contribute fine sediment to the river, impairing beneficial uses. The incision of the main river channel is now progressing up tributaries, increasing erosion and loss of habitat.

The plan will comprehensively assess, inventory and evaluate a significant area of the Napa River. All aspects of the system will be included - hydrology, geomorphology, geology, riparian and aquatic biology, hydraulic engineering, as well as land use and socio-economic concerns. Incising river systems require that the river channel be addressed first to reduce the migration of incision up tributaries and other negative effects. Many habitat issues in tributary creeks in these types of systems can not be addressed through actions in the drainage area, but must be addressed through changes to the incising river channel.

This project will provide a detailed, community-based plan for a 10-mile reach of the Napa River. The TMDL for the Napa River identified incision on the main river channel and migration of incision up tributary channels as a primary source of fine sediment. The TMDL calls for a 50% reduction of sediment from this source. This project will serve to implement the TMDL and, due to the technical approach of re-balancing the channel form and reducing flow velocities also benefit habitats and reduce property damage through creation of a more stable river channel.

Landowner involvement will be a large focus of the plan. The Napa River is privately owned and landowners need to be an integrated part of the plan to assure implementation. We are proposing to have staff which will meet regularly with owners to keep them up to date, answer questions, maintain owner involvement and provide consistent landowner input to the planning process. Agencies, scientists, and organizations will also be involved in a Technical Advisory Group (TAG) will meet quarterly, or more frequently, if needed, to review assessment methods, work products and alternatives.

The goals of the Napa River Plan include:

1. Characterize the natural resources of the Napa River in the 10-mile project area between Oakville Cross Road and Oak Knoll Ave. by evaluating geomorphic, hydrologic and ecological features and processes.
2. Use the scientific characterization as a basis for the plan to assure the proposed improvements reflect the actual river processes and realistic alternatives.
3. Incorporate landowners into the planning process to assure the plan is acceptable and supported by the river's owners.
4. Incorporate local, federal and state resource and regulatory agencies into the planning process to assure the plan is acceptable and supported by the agencies.
5. Complete a plan which provides for a long-term strategy to restore balance to the Napa River, and which protects and enhances beneficial uses of the Napa River.
6. The plan will outline a strategy of measures and responsible public and private parties to implement water quality improvements and sustain these improvements over the long term.

Brief Listing of Work Tasks:

(Excerpted from draft scope of work)

Task 1: Landowner Involvement

Task 2: Technical Advisory Group (TAG)

Task 3: Hydraulic Model

Task 4: Geographic Information System (GIS)

Task 5: Preliminary Alternatives

Task 6: Draft and Final Concept Plan

Budget Short-Fall (amount requested):

Funds frozen by State: \$150,000