



# **SAFE CLEAN WATER PROGRAM**

## **The North Santa Monica Bay Watershed Area Steering Committee Update**

By Melina Sempill Watts

Watershed Coordinator, Safe Clean Water L.A.

April 13, 2023

Photo and Logo, Los Angeles County



# 1. Facilitate Community Engagement in SCWP

## The Native Plants Kit Program Launch:

- Attended Calabasas Low Water Use Garden Event, dazzling presentations by Alexa Hendricks, LVMWD and Eric Wilson, TreePeople; invited Adi Liberman
  - Invited Eric Wilson, manager Native Plants Kit project at TreePeople to join me at outreach events
- Shared West Basin Know Your H2O Class
- State of the Watershed event at LVMWD on 5-11-2023
  - Set planning meetings
- Will attend Agoura Hills Community Day on 5-6-2023
- Working with LVMWD on DIY Cistern Day 9-23-2023
- Attending Earth Day events at Pepperdine, Westlake Village, Calabasas
- Connected with Pamela Manning, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, to discuss outreach opportunities
- Reached out to the offices of Senator Jacqui Irwin and Supervisor Lindsey Horvath
- NSMB Outreach events now listed at Safe, Clean Water L.A. site,  
<https://www.redesign.la/scwpcalendar>

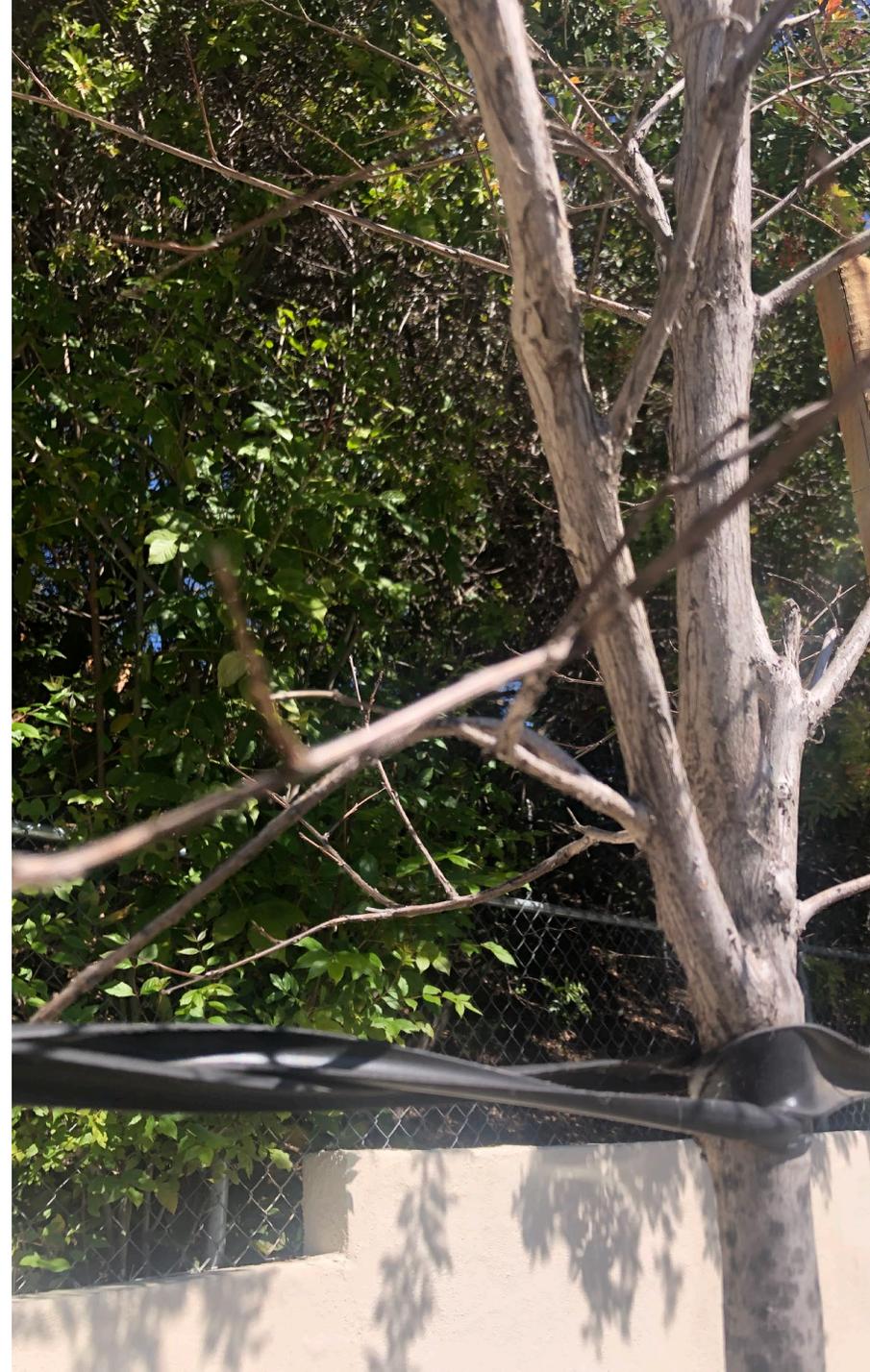


Photo by Watts



# Community Input and Green Output, Non-Native Plants

March 3, 2023





**Topanga  
Roadside,  
with 0 Outside  
Water:**

**Native Plants  
for the Win**

Also,  
March 3, 2023

A photograph of a sumac plant in a field of green vegetation. The sumac plant has a reddish-brown stem and several large, oval-shaped green leaves with prominent veins. The background is filled with various green plants, including tall grasses and leafy ground cover. The lighting is bright, suggesting a sunny day.

Sumac:  
More  
Native Plants  
on  
March 3, 2023

## 2. Identify and Develop Project Concepts

- Explored collaborative Measure W idea: **NSMB for Rainwater Gardens, Turf Removal**
- Madelyn Glickfeld shared info about **green alleyways** to share with NSMB WASC
- **Melanie Winter** suggested **social media hashtag for community members to report flooding** with visual images + locations as a way to drive future projects, **Matt Frary stated this is in place already.**
- Connected **Eric Wilson** to Terry Dipple to get Native Plants Kit presentation in front of leadership at **Las Virgenes Malibu Council of Governments**
- Read City of **Malibu EWMP**
- Watched **Agoura Hills' upper watershed MS4 compliance presentations**
- Connected with Shannon Ggem, president of **Malibou Lake HOA** to discuss project opportunities
- Worked with **Anand Maganti, CALTRANS** to try to submit Stormwater Improvement Projects list; not enough time to submit projects
- **Achieved clarity** on short term **feasibility of a collaborative multi-city, multi-agency Measure W application** (not possible) and on long term feasibility (possible, probably.)
- Worked to assess project readiness of current/upcoming MS4 compliance projects and assess how/when /if these might utilize Measure W funding.
- Spoke with Jeff Neff (environmental consultant) about illegal grading / oak removal at property off of Kanan
- Reached out to **City of Malibu** multiple times, received updated EWMP; met with new assistant city manager on April 6, 2023

### 3. Work with Technical Assistance Teams

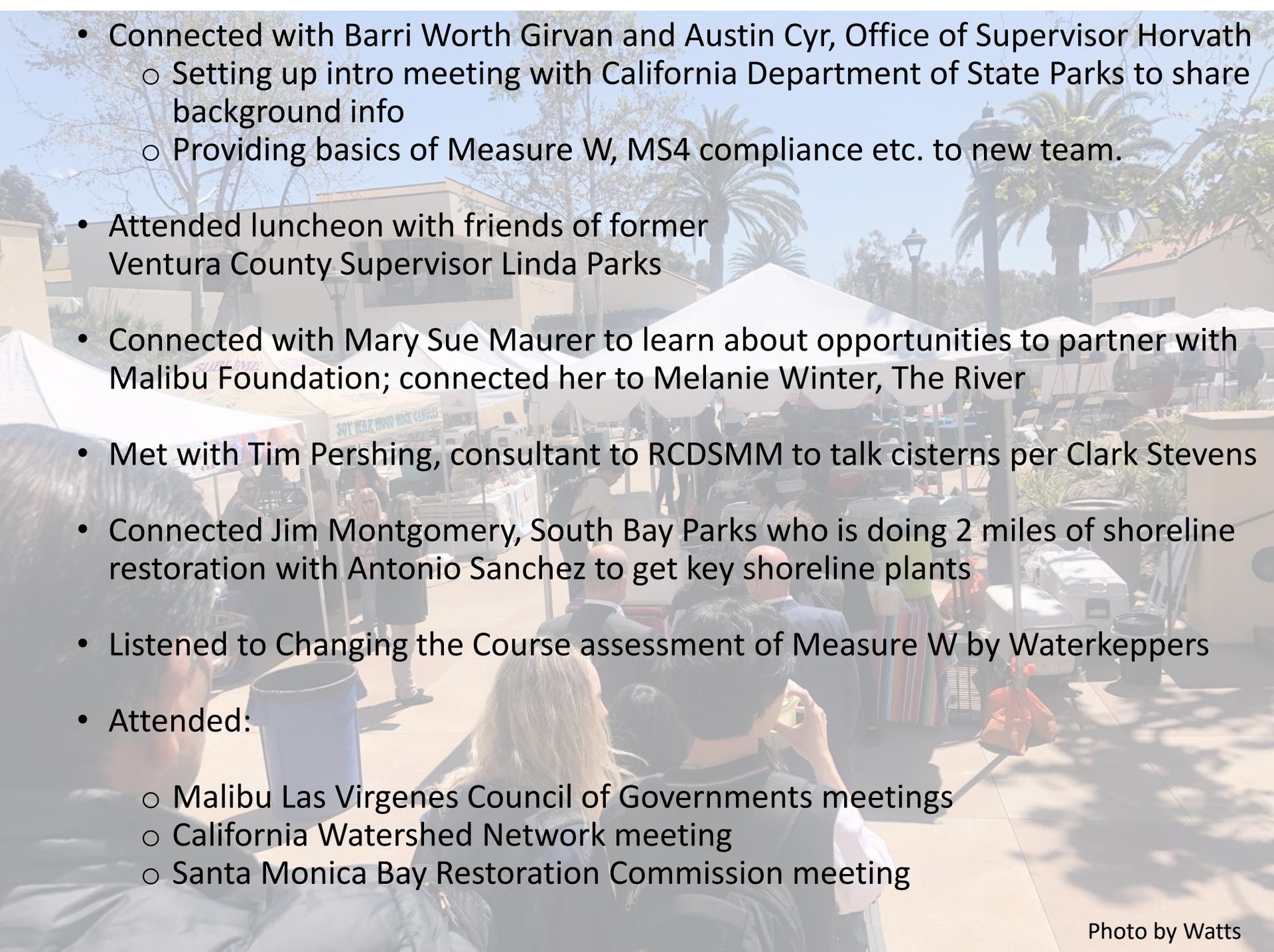
- Reaching out to convince City of Malibu that the TRP program might be a path forward.
- Suggested TRP application to Hidden Hills.



# 4. Facilitate Identification and Representation of Community Priorities

- Hidden Hills explained that they used ½ of city return money from one year and ½ of city return from a subsequent year to build a demonstration cistern. Looking for a talk on his experience by Joe Bellomo.
- Jessica Forte will provide updates on upper watershed MS4 compliance presentations in May
- Connected Tim Pershing to Julia Ekstrom, and JulieSaare-Edmonds, DWR< to talk Suburban Water Supply and potential funding opportunities
- Attended “LA County's Safe Clean Water Program: Findings from New Report” lead by Bruce Reznik, please review study
- Looked into the viability of maintaining NSMB WASC meetings as remote or hybrid activities; Kirk Allen states that the Brown Act requires in person now that State of Emergency lifted by Governor Newsom.



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- Connected with Barri Worth Girvan and Austin Cyr, Office of Supervisor Horvath
    - Setting up intro meeting with California Department of State Parks to share background info
    - Providing basics of Measure W, MS4 compliance etc. to new team.
  - Attended luncheon with friends of former Ventura County Supervisor Linda Parks
  - Connected with Mary Sue Maurer to learn about opportunities to partner with Malibu Foundation; connected her to Melanie Winter, The River
  - Met with Tim Pershing, consultant to RCDSMM to talk cisterns per Clark Stevens
  - Connected Jim Montgomery, South Bay Parks who is doing 2 miles of shoreline restoration with Antonio Sanchez to get key shoreline plants
  - Listened to Changing the Course assessment of Measure W by Waterkeppers
  - Attended:
    - Malibu Las Virgenes Council of Governments meetings
    - California Watershed Network meeting
    - Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission meeting

## **5. Integrate Priorities Through Partnerships and Extensive Networks**



## 6. Cost-Share Partners

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- City of Calabasas invited to submit WCB application for Las Virgenes Creek Restoration project phase III; Watts will write first draft when schedule allows
- Connected with CALTRANS to attempt to get match for watershed projects; will have to apply in 2024; too time consuming relative to time available, hope to succeed in this venture next year

# 7. Leverage Funding

- City of Calabasas invited to submit WCB application for Las Virgenes Creek Restoration project phase III
- Shared WaterSMART Environmental Water Resources Projects funding opportunity with water leadership
- Shared Economic Opportunity Grant Program Now Open to LA County's with watershed coordinators



**Economic  
Opportunity  
Grant Program  
(EOG)**



# 8. Local Stakeholder Education

- Connected with Cities of Agoura Hills, Calabasas, Hidden Hills, Malibu and Westlake Village, LVMWD and Pepperdine University to ask if I can table for Safe, Clean Water at Earth Day events
- Tabled at Calabasas Lawn to Drought Tolerant - Environmental Public Forum
- Suggested public outreach efforts related to TRP application projects with WLW.



- Attended monthly Watershed Coordinator meetings
- Shared Economic Opportunity Grant Program Now Open to LA County's with watershed coordinators
- Shared Frary/Winter concept of social media campaign , something like, #LAcountyfloodphotos with other watershed coordinators.
- Attended conversation with Leslie Friedman Johnson about potential use of education funds that are embedded in Measure W



## 9. Watershed Coordinator Collaboration

# 10. SAVE THE DATES

**STATE OF THE WATERSHED 2023: Thursday May 11<sup>th</sup>,  
4:30 – 6:30  
At Las Virgenes Municipal Water District**

**DIY CISTERN DAY: Saturday September 23, 2023  
At Las Virgenes Municipal Water District**



Photo by Watts

New at Melina  
Sempill Watts  
Consulting LLC:  
Introducing  
Angelique  
Higgins

