



## Watershed Coordinator Quarterly Report

A Project of Safe, Clean Water L.A.

Watershed: Santa Clara River  
Watershed Coordinator: TreePeople  
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Quarterly Report No: 3  
Contract Year: 3  
Year 2 Contract Start: 4/27/2023  
Date of Submission: 2/26/2024  
Period Covered: 11/1/23 to 1/31/24

### A. Summary of Activities

The following is a summary of activities completed during the third quarter of Contract Year 3, and progress made toward completing the annual scope of work. TreePeople is honored and grateful to continue service as Coordinator for the Santa Clara River Watershed Area.

**1. Strategies used to integrate priorities for the community, municipalities, the watershed area, and the region**

TreePeople supported efforts by SCVWA and the Watershed Wide Arundo Management Group to identify funding sources to pay for centralized, multi-year coordination of invasive species removal and to help define a Watershed-wide management structure for those engaged in restoration. One funding opportunity was researched during the period, and an application was submitted to the Bureau of Reclamation in December.

TreePeople also began work on a request to the EPA Community Change Grant program and discussed possible support for the Newhall Park project with the City of Santa Clarita. It was ultimately decided the project would not be a competitive fit for the grant application as it was being packaged.

TreePeople met with the City of Santa Clarita and Pacific Coast Land Design to support the design of the Via Princess Park project and its educational components by providing a tour of TreePeople's headquarters and a meeting with our education specialists.

TreePeople also continued a key strategy used throughout Years One and Two, leveraging the WaterTalks program to develop projects and programs for unincorporated areas in the watershed. During Q3, projects and highlights included:

- **Acton Flooding Multi-Benefit Solution**: TreePeople and Stantec shared the final Report of Recommendations with County PW staff (Julian Juarez), Charles Bostwick (Field Deputy, 5th District), and the Secretary of the Acton Town Council. This included offers to review the document with all recipients, as well as the Acton Town Council, in the next reporting period. Materials related to sediment flows in the areas were also finished, which should go hand-in-glove with any conversation about flooding.
- **Tataviam Land Conservancy**: In addition to a water resources inventory completed previously, WaterTalks is providing a Phase 1 ESA for two new properties under consideration for the Conservancy. One was completed during Q3, and the other will be finished in Q4. We also connected the Conservancy with a potential (and likely) funder to continue their development work in the region.

## ***2. Partnerships and networks engaged***

During this period, we worked with the collective of Watershed Coordinators across the SCWP. This included our participation as a co-host with other Watershed Coordinators at the Schools and Stormwater Tour #2 at Northridge Middle School, as well as planning the next round of school tours being scheduled for the spring. We also facilitated the scheduling and co-hosting the first Tribal Allyship working group meeting with the coordinators.

Much of our focus continued to be on meetings related to education and project development with Town Councils and NGOs, including the Watershed-Wide Arundo Management Group (WWAM) and the SCV Eco Alliance, formed last year. The SCV Eco Alliance continues planning for the inaugural Eco Film Festival, which has now been slated for March 9th, 2024.

## ***3. Engagement of conventional and unconventional stakeholders***

- Provided a tour to the Via Princessa Project Design team of TreePeople's headquarters to view our stormwater management features and corresponding educational components.
- Hosted a first meeting with the Coordinator for the Steelhead Coalition and compared areas of overlap and complement for the Santa Clara River restoration.
- Met with the City of Santa Clarita's Social Services team to help better engage local disadvantaged communities and will be invited to their constituent events in 2024.
- Continued working with the Placerita Canyon Nature Center to develop a watershed education and SCWP awareness-building docent training to be hosted in March 2024.
- Attended regular monthly progress meetings for the Jake Kuredjian Park Technical Resource Program feasibility study.

- Continued participation in the College of the Canyons Sustainability Committee, composed of multiple college departments and its potential connection to the SCV Eco Alliance.
- Supported river-wide Arundo management and restoration by working with members of the Watershed Wide Arundo Management group on a WaterSMART grant submitted to the Bureau of Reclamation in December.
- Met monthly with other Watershed Coordinators to learn from each other, improve our knowledge and skills, and leverage efforts. Recent topics included MS4 Permit I & II Updates and SCWP Open Space projects in regard to water quality.
- TreePeople participation in the SCWP Metrics and Monitoring Stakeholder Advisory Committee wrapped up this quarter by attending the final MMS advisory meeting to review updates to the study from public feedback.
- TreePeople hosted a restoration education event and chili cookoff for residents of Green Valley.
- Tabling events during this period include the Newhall Farmers Market, Canyon Country Farmers Market, Newhall Library Literacy Festival, and College of the Canyons.
- To support the WASC during the period, TreePeople provided a Quarter 2 Report and a Summary of FY 24-25 (Year 5) Regional Program Project Submissions.
- Amanda Begley was interviewed on the January 26th CBS news segment with Joy Benedict regarding the current storm season and the potential for stormwater capture through the SCWP and best management practices for residential homeowners.

## B. Engagement Meetings Held or Attended

### Summary (required elements)

Element	Minimum	This Qtr.	Total YTD
Engagement meetings held	4	32	56
Educational events held	2	8	16
Other meetings attended	0	29	105
Cost-share partner relationships	0	3	9
Leveraged funding pursuits	0	1	3

### Detail

Mtg #	Meeting or Event	Date	Summary of Meeting or Event	Stakeholders Engaged	Held or Attended?	
1	Tataviam LC site visit	11.1.23	Project development	TLC staff	Hosted	
2	TreePeople tour	11.1.23	Stormwater capture demo	VPP team	Hosted	
3	Green Valley Canvassing	11.10.23	Restoration	Community Members	Hosted	
4	Citizens Climate L	11.11.23	Film fest plan	Members	Attended	
5	SCV Community	11.11.23	water and soil	Members	Attended	

	Garden Meeting		health			
6	SCWP MMS SAC	11.14.23	Metrics final review	Committee members	Attended	
7	WWAM – BOR prep	11.14.23	Grant prep	WWAM members	Hosted	
8	Watershed Coordinators monthly mtg	11.15.23	ARLA Field Kit Tool	Coordinators	Attended	
9	Castaic TC	11.15.23	SCWP updates	Members	Attended	
10	Coll of Canyons	11.15.23	Tabling event	COC students	Hosted table	
11	WASC	11.16.23	Q2 review	WASC, public	Presented	#B1 Rpt
12	Schools & SW Tour #2 Northridge MS	11.17.23	SW BMPs on campuses	Public	Co-hosted	
13	GSOB Workshop Animal Tracks Agua Dulce	11.17.23	Watershed Health	Community Members	Hosted	
14	Acorn & Apron Green Valley	11.18.23	Restoration & chili cook-off	Green Valley residents	Hosted – ed event	
15	Watershed Coordinators monthly mtg	11.19.23	ARLA Field Kit Tool	Coordinators	Attended	
16	WWAM – BOR prep	11.21.23	Grant prep	WWAM members	Hosted	
17	WWAM – BOR prep	11.21.23	Grant prep	WWAM members	Hosted	
18	COC Sustainability Comm	11.28.23	Event plans, SCWP updates	Students, faculty	Attended	
19	Meeting w/COC Hands on Earth Club	11.28.23	Restoration	Members	Attended	
20	WWAM – BOR prep	11.28.23	Grant prep	WWAM members	Hosted	
21	WWAM – BOR prep	11.28.23	Grant prep	WWAM members	Hosted	
22	WWAM Mtg	11.29.23	Restoration mgmt. funding	Members	Attended	
23	WWAM Mtg	11.29.23	Restoration mgmt. funding	Members	Attended	
24	Santa Clarita Soc Serv Team	11.30.23	SCWP briefing, DAC partnering	City Staff	Hosted	

25	Coll of Canyons	11.30.23	Tabling and restoration	COC students	Hosted table	
26	Cienega Springs Tour	11.4.23	Restoration site tour	SCV Eco All members	Attended	
27	Jake K Park (TRP)	11.6.23	TRP kickoff mtg	Project team	Attended	
28	WC Schools Working Group	11.6.23	Schools tour prep	Coordinators	Co-hosted	
29	WWAM – BOR prep	11.7.23	Grant prep	WWAM members	Hosted	
30	AD TC	11.8.23	SCWP updates	Members	Attended	
31	GSOB Workshop Animal Tracks Agua Dulce	11.8.23	Watershed Health	Community Members	Hosted	
32	AD TC	12.13.23	SCWP updates	Members	Attended	
33	Val Verde Civic	12.14.23	SCWP updates	Members	Attended	
34	Hilltop Tour for our Water Partners (Volunteer Appreciation)	12.17.23	Watershed Health	Community Champions	Hosted	
35	Kuredjian Park Feasibility	12.18.23	TRP Monthly Progress	Project team	Attended	
36	Schools & Stormwater Working Group	12.18.23	Schools Tours	Coordinators	Co-hosted	
37	ARLA & TLC	12.18.23	TLC funding	Pres and PM	Hosted	
38	Newhall Farmers Market	12.2.23	Tabling event	Residents	Attended	
39	Literacy Festival Old Town Library	12.2.23	Tabling event	Residents	Attended	
40	SCV Community Garden Meeting	12.2.23	Kathye Armitage Biodiversity Presentation		Attended	
41	Watershed Coordinators monthly mtg	12.20.23	MS4 Permit I & II Updates; Year in Review	Coordinators	Attended	
42	Canyon Country Farmers Market	12.6.23	Tabling event	Residents	Attended	
43	CWH Living Schoolyards Symposium	12.6.23	Schools and Stormwater	Participants	Attended	

44	ROC	12.7.23	Biennial Review Workshop #3	Committee members; public; coordinators	Attended	
45	CCL COP28 Meeting	12.7.23	Climate Issues	Members	Attended	
46	Southern Steelhead Coalition coordinator mtg	12.7.23	SCWP briefing; collaboration potential	CalTrout staff	Hosted	
47	SCV Enviro Coalition	1.5.24	Film Fest Planning	Members	Attended	
48	SCV GSA BOD Mtg	1.8.24	Quarterly Mtg	Members	Attended	
49	CBS Interview	1.9.24	SCWP and Residential rainwater harvesting	Public	Hosted	
50	ADTC	1.10.24	SCWP updates	Members	Attended	
51	"Common Ground" film screening	1.11.24	Erosion and soil health	Environmental Orgs	Attended	
52	WC Tribal Allyship Working Group	1.11.24	WG kick-off mtg	WC's	Hosted	
53	City of Santa Clarita	1.11.24	US EPA funding	Staff (Oliver Cramer)	Hosted	
54	Castaic Canvassing	1.11.24	Urban Forestry Management	Community Members	Hosted	
55	Western Regional Outdoor Leadership Conference CSUN	1.13.24	Tabling event	Environmental Orgs	Attended	
56	Schools & Stormwater Working Group	1.16.24	Schools Tours	Coordinators	Co-hosted	
57	Castaic TC	1.17.24	SCWP updates	Members	Attended	
58	Friends of the SC River	1.17.24	US EPA funding	Staff	Hosted	
59	Ventura River Water District	1.18.24	US EPA funding	General Mgr	Hosted	
60	SCV Enviro Coalition	1.19.24	Film Fest Planning	Members	Attended	
61	Kuredjian Park Feasibility	1.22.24	TRP Monthly Progress	Project team	Attended	
62	FTBMI Conservation Corps Mtg	1.22.24	Learn about corps mission and goals	Tribal Corps Dir	Hosted	
63	Watershed Coordinators monthly	1.24.24	Open Space Restoration;	Coordinators	Attended	

	mtg		Project Modification Request Guidelines			
64	Castaic UFMP Workshop	1.24.24	Urban forestry management plan presentation	Castaic community members	Co-hosted	
65	LACO DPH 5-year plan workshop	1.25.24	Enviro health	Workshop participants	Attended	
66	Castaic Canvassing	1.26.24	Urban Forestry Management	Community Members	Hosted	
67	SDC COC Meeting	1.30.24	Film Fest	Members	Attended	
68	ROC	1.31.24	Biennial Final Review	Committee members; public; coordinators	Attended	
69	Castaic UFMP Workshop	1.31.24	Urban forestry management plan presentation	Castaic community members	Co-hosted	

### C. Potential Cost-Share Partners Contacted

	Potential Partner Name	Date First Contacted	Project name / type	Nature of potential partnership	ATTCH #
	Bureau of Reclamation	11.1.23	SCR Regional Climate Collaborative	Funder (application due 12.5)	
	US EPA	1.11.24	WaterTalks Community Change	Support for multiple projects; not pursued for SCR	
	Henry Mayo Newhall Fdn	1.17.24	SCR Education & Outreach	Grant for SCR specific education materials	

### D. Leveraged / Outside Funding Pursued

	Potential Outside Funding Source	Status or Outcome of the Pursuit	ATTCH #
	Bureau of Reclamation	SCR Regional Climate Collaborative Request submitted; feedback not expected for several months	#C-1

## E. Detailed Progress Report

Task #	Task Name	LOE per Work Plan	LOE this period	LOE YTD
1	Facilitate Community Engagement in SCWP	50%	67%	70%
2	Identify and Develop Project Concepts	10%	0%	5%
3	Work with Technical Assistance Teams	5%	2%	1%
4	Facilitate, ID and Represent Community Priorities	5%	0%	0%
5	Integrate Priorities Through Partnerships / Networks	5%	1%	1%
6	Cost-Share Partners	5%	1%	1%
7	Leverage Funding	5%	7%	5%
8	Local Stakeholder Education	10%	1%	3%
9	Watershed Coordinator Collaboration	5%	21%	14%
	<b>Overall</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

## F. Engagement efforts benefitting Disadvantaged Communities

TreePeople met with Elizabeth Arambula, Recreation and Community Services Supervisor for the City of Santa Clarita and her staff, to discuss how we might connect to non-environmental organizations in the city that serve Disadvantaged Communities. We continued outreach at the Newhall and Canyon Country Farmers Markets (both are deemed Disadvantage Communities by CA Dept of Water Resources definitions) as well as Tribal outreach events. TreePeople continued to prioritize outreach efforts during the period on unincorporated communities in the Watershed Area. These areas are considered “underrepresented” by the WaterTalks program.

## G. Scheduling concerns or issues

There were no scheduling concerns during this period.

## H. Expected activities next quarter

- Complete development of a mobile display of the SCR.
- Participate in numerous March/April spring outreach events, including the SCV Eco Alliance First Eco Film Festival.
- Continue participation in the TAT for the Jake Kuredjian Park project.
- Complete remaining technical assistance projects through the WaterTalks program and assist in distribution of products, reports and other findings as appropriate.

*(End Report)*