SAFE CLEAN WATER PROGRAM

Reporting Module Guidance – New Regional Program Performance Measures

January 2025

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Purpose and Use of This Document

The Safe, Clean Water Program (SCWP or Program) is requesting additional information from Regional Program Project Developers to better measure and track project and program performance with respect to the 14 Goals of the Program. This document provides concise guidance to support Regional Program Project Developers with providing the new information requested in the Reporting Module, focusing on pre-construction performance measures; guidance related to post-construction reporting and monitoring will be released by December 2025.

Introduction to New Performance Measures

This section describes the need for new performance measures and the process by which they were developed and prioritized.

Drivers for New Performance Measures

The SCWP is complex and nuanced, and at many different levels there is a need to establish additional strategies, tools, and methodologies to support decision making in pursuit of Program Goals, to measure the success of efforts undertaken, and to inform the adaptive management process. There is also a need to help Project Developers more easily and consistently fulfill the reporting requirements stipulated in Funds Transfer Agreements, especially where inputs were open-ended.

Performance measures

Quantitative metrics that are inventoried and tracked at the project scale to support SCWP assessment. Many performance measures are rolled up across a Watershed Area and Program to support progress tracking towards achievement of SCWP Goals, as required by the SCWP Implementation Ordinance.

Program Goal (18.04.L)

Implement an iterative planning and evaluation process to ensure adaptive management.

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors therefore directed Los Angeles County Public Works (Public Works) to accelerate adaptive management of the Program and develop performance measures, targets, and indicators that can be used to better **"measure achievement of Program Goals, guide watershed planning, and inform project development, solicitation, and evaluation efforts."**[1] Public Works responded to this directive by prioritizing key performance measures recommended by the Metrics and Monitoring Study, described below.

Metrics and Monitoring Study (MMS) Process and Outcomes

The goal of the MMS was to:

> **develop program methods, performance measures, and monitoring criteria to inform tracking, planning, reporting, and decision making within specific areas of the SCWP.**

The MMS was conducted in coordination with Public Works by an interdisciplinary team with expertise in both the technical and socio-political elements of performance measure-setting and was informed by extensive input and involvement by interested parties. To develop meaningful performance measures and methods for consideration across all nine Watershed Areas and three programs (i.e., Municipal, Regional, and District Programs), the MMS implemented an interested-party-informed and expert-guided technical approach, including public and expert engagement, scientific research, watershed opportunity screening, modeling, and analysis.

The process started with 174 candidate performance measures focused on answering key questions related to each SCWP Goal. Through an iterative process, the list was refined and "profiles" were then developed for each performance measure defining the units, data needs, data gathering approach, and programmatic relevance across three different project stages:

[1] Motion by Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath, March 19, 2024

- **Stage 1 — Planning through Submittal:** During Regional Program Application or Municipal/District planning, project proponents provide data to predict the performance against all performance measures for a planned project. Information is also collected for planned non-structural activities.
- **Stage 2 — Design through Construction:** Once projects are constructed or programs are initiated, the Stage 1 data is replaced, as appropriate, with updates that reflect what is actually designed and implemented.

This guidance document focuses on new Stage 1 and Stage 2 performance measures

- **Stage 3 — Post-Construction:** Monitoring occurs for a subset of performance measures to determine actual performance. Some of these Stage 3 performance measures are only relevant at this stage and are not intended to replace the Stage 1 and 2 data.

The performance measures were then reviewed by Public Works and an **advisory committee of 16 interested parties**, from which **over 250 comments** were collected and considered. All performance measures were then prioritized based on criticality (i.e., how important is the data to better understanding the SCWP Goal) and the anticipated level of effort to estimate or collect the data. [2]

[2] https://safecleanwaterla.org/content/uploads/2024/07/SCWP-Metrics-Monitoring-Study-Executive-Summary.pdf

Performance Measures Prioritized for Reporting and Planning

Ultimately, a list of 86 pre-construction (Stage 1 and Stage 2) performance measures were recommended to Public Works for use in reporting and planning, of which **approximately 50 were further prioritized by Public Works as critical for Program assessment and Initial Watershed Planning**, and were featured to the Regional Oversight Committee on June 12, 2024.[3] and included in Appendix H of the *Framework for Safe, Clean Water Program Watershed Planning*..[4] Most of the prioritized performance measures represent new information not previously requested from Project Developers, and are the subject of this guidance document.

Note that, while the term “project” is prominently used throughout this document, the performance measures can also be applied to the pre-implementation phases of projects, such as project concepts, and to programs, activities, and studies.

[3] https://safecleanwaterla.org/content/uploads/2024/06/20240612-ROC-Workbook_Final.pdf
[4] https://safecleanwaterla.org/content/uploads/2024/11/Deliverable-3.2.4-FINAL-Framework-Appendices.pdf

New Performance Measures Guidance

The guidance below is organized by the themes in the *Metrics and Measures* component of the Reporting Module and presented in order of appearance.

Improve Water Quality

All water quality performance measures are currently estimated by the Reporting Module based on inputs from the Projects Module. Please verify that the pre-populated pollutant reductions seem appropriate given the type and scale of the project.

Program Goal (18.04.A)

Improve water quality and contribute to attainment of water-quality requirements.

Increase Drought Preparedness

Project Developers are being asked to parse stormwater capture by fate (i.e., infiltrated, treated and discharged, diverted to sewer, used onsite). This will enable the Program to better understand and summarize what portion of managed volume counts as a Water Supply Benefit.

Program Goal (18.04.B)

Increase drought preparedness by capturing more Stormwater and/or Urban Runoff to store, clean, reuse, and/or recharge groundwater basins.

Stormwater Capture Infiltrated

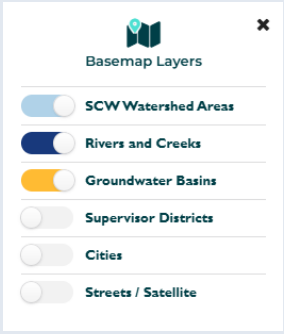
The *Feasibility Study Guidelines* require Project Developers claiming an increase in water supply through soil infiltration to "…include an engineering analysis demonstrating that that the infiltrated water is reaching a managed, usable groundwater aquifer and confirmation that the agency managing the groundwater basin concurs."

If the Feasibility Study confirmed Water Supply Benefits via soil infiltration, then enter that volume in the ***Managed Usable Aquifer*** field. Refer to the following definitions:

- ***Stormwater Capture Infiltrated to Managed Usable Aquifer:*** if the Feasibility Study confirmed Water Supply Benefits via soil infiltration, then enter that infiltrated volume in this field.
- ***Stormwater Capture Infiltrated over Confined or Unmanaged Aquifer:*** if the Feasibility Study did not confirm Water Supply Benefits via soil infiltration because it infiltrates water in an area that is not expected to recharge a managed aquifer (e.g., over a confined aquifer), enter the infiltrated volume in this field.

If uncertain, use the SCWP Portal Map to identify the project location; projects located within the "Groundwater Basins" layer may be assumed to infiltrate to a ***Managed Usable Aquifer.***

SCWP Portal Map



Stormwater Capture Treated and Discharged

These inputs are relevant to projects that mechanically filter or naturally treat captured runoff and stormwater. The volumes are parsed by discharge location to offer insights on contribution towards healthier water bodies.

- ***Stormwater Capture Treated and Discharged to Storm Drain:*** includes volumes discharged from the project to a conveyance with no Beneficial Use assigned by the Basin Plan.
- ***Stormwater Capture Treated Discharged to a Receiving Water Body or Aquatic Ecosystem:*** includes volumes discharged from the project to a water body with a Beneficial Use assigned by the Basin Plan.

The California Basin Plan Beneficial Uses Web Map can be used to determine if the project discharges to a Receiving Water Body or Aquatic Ecosystem with an assigned Beneficial Use.

Basin Plan Beneficial Uses Web Map

Stormwater Capture Diverted

Projects discharging to the sanitary collection system should coordinate with the relevant wastewater agency to confirm sewer capacities and treatment plant status.

- ***Stormwater Capture Diverted to Existing Treatment and Reuse Plants:*** includes volume diverted to a sewer that flows to a plant that reclaims water for non-potable use or that treats water for direct or indirect potable use.
- ***Stormwater Capture Diverted to Future Planned Treatment and Reuse Plants:*** includes volume diverted to a sewer that will flow to a future reclamation or direct/indirect potable use facility.

The following resources can help to identify a project's location with respect to wastewater treatment infrastructure. While these maps are not comprehensive of all collection systems throughout the region, they can help to orient the majority of project developers.

LA Sanitation and Environment
(LASAN: refer to page ES-17)

Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County
(click on each plant to view its tributary sewershed)

Las Virgenes Municipal Water District

Stormwater Used On-Site for Potable Offset

Projects that utilize captured runoff and stormwater to offset irrigation demand, flush toilets, or offset other potable uses should use this field to report Water Supply Benefits. Only include the *net* potable water offset resulting from the project (e.g., if a project creates a new irrigated landscape that was previously unirrigated, the irrigation demand offset by captured water does not count as a new, locally available water supply and may be reported as **Other Stormwater Capture** below).

Other Stormwater Capture

If a project manages runoff/stormwater that does not fall into the categories above, report that volume here.

Improve Public Health

Delivering meaningful Community Investment Benefits is a critical element of the SCWP mandated by voters when they approved Measure W; however, previous reporting did not capture the magnitude, number, or extent of community benefits provided. Additional performance measures are being requested from Project Developers to better quantify how Program investments are contributing toward improved public health.

Program Goal (18.04.C)

Improve public health by preventing and cleaning up contaminated water, increasing access to open space, providing additional recreational opportunities, and helping communities mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change through activities such as increasing shade and green space.

Net Area of Park Created, Enhanced, or Restored

The *Feasibility Study Guidelines* require a schematic of the project layout, including its anticipated footprint and key components such as recreational components. This schematic layout, and later the design plans or as-built plans, can be used to estimate the approximate footprint of each park space category. Include only the areas of park space created, enhanced, restored for active or passive recreation, but do not include portions of existing parks that were not improved as a result of the project.

- ***Created:*** new park space, or development of a recreational opportunity that did not exist; for example, building a bird viewing platform adjacent to a new constructed wetland constitutes a new recreational opportunity.
- ***Enhanced:*** park space or a recreational opportunity that existed before the project, but which was improved because of the project; for example, a project that places an underground stormwater vault beneath existing public tennis courts, but which improves the courts by resurfacing constitutes an enhancement; converting one recreational feature to a different type (e.g., a tennis court to a basketball court) would also be considered an enhancement unless the original recreational feature is dilapidated beyond use, in which case the improvement would be considered to be created.
- ***Restored:*** existing but non-functional park space or recreational opportunities that have been improved to a functional state by the Project; for example, repair of broken playground equipment to enable use would constitute restoration.

Examples of park space include, but are not limited to:

- Walking trails
- Exercise equipment
- Playing fields
- Tennis Courts
- Picnic / BBQ area
- Play equipment
- Outdoor seating

If the specific project layout is not yet available in GIS or CAD, estimate the park space footprints using Google Earth or best engineering judgement and update the values during future reporting when more precise estimates are available.

Net Area of Wetland Created, Enhanced, or Restored

Indicate if the net amount of wetland habitat created, enhanced, and/or restored based on how those terms are defined above for park space. Wetland habitat includes the vegetated fringe surrounding wetlands (typically up to the detention overflow water surface elevation) and interspersed deep pools as long as the majority of the permanent pool includes emergent vegetation – see the *Los Angeles County Low Impact Development Handbook*[5] for description of constructed wetland features. Deeper aquatic habitats like lakes and ponds without emergent vegetation should not be counted towards total wetland area.

Net Change in Canopy at Maturity

Tree canopy provides a wide array of community benefits, especially when maximized at maturity. To better estimate the Program's generational benefits, Project Developers are being asked to report the long-term change in tree quantity and canopy.

- ***Quantity of Trees Planted:*** estimate based on the schematic layout, design plans, or as-built plans; if specific tree quantities are unknown, they can be estimated by dividing the expected new tree canopy area by the typical canopy area per tree, listed in the tip below.
- ***Quantity of Trees Removed:*** estimate based on the schematic layout, design plans, or as-built plans; if specific tree quantities are unknown, they can be estimated by dividing the removed tree canopy area by the typical canopy area per tree, listed in the tip below.

[5] https://pw.lacounty.gov/ldd/lddservices/docs/Los_Angeles_County_Low_Impact_Development_(LID)Manual.pdf

- ***Net Change in Canopy at Maturity:*** estimate based on the schematic layout, design plans, or as-built plans, or reference the examples in the tip below.

Planting plans may not be available during early project stages, so the example canopy areas in this table can be used as a reference to estimate tree canopy at maturity or to back-calculate tree quantities. Quantities and areas can be updated during future reporting when more precise estimates are available.

Tree Species	Mature Canopy Per Tree (acres)
Coast Live Oak	0.0451
Valley Oak	0.0649
Western Sycamore	0.0288
California Bay	0.1153
White Alder	0.0208
Mexican Elderberry	0.0072

Net New Green Space and Tree Canopy on School Grounds

Interested parties throughout the County are interested in better understanding the extent of school greening provided by the Program. The following new performance measures provide additional insights to measure and report progress.

If a project is located completely on school grounds (K-12 or private schools) or on a site used primarily for youth-based education programs, performance measures related to new green space and tree canopy will be automatically populated based on other inputs. If a project includes both on- and off-campus elements, only the on-campus tree canopy and green space should be reported (refer to Net Area of Wetland Created, Enhanced, or Restored

Indicate if the net amount of wetland habitat created, enhanced, and/or restored based on how those terms are defined above for park space. Wetland habitat includes the vegetated fringe surrounding wetlands (typically up to the detention overflow water surface elevation) and interspersed deep pools as long as the majority of the permanent pool includes emergent vegetation – see the *Los Angeles County Low Impact Development Handbook* for description of constructed wetland features. Deeper aquatic habitats like lakes and ponds without emergent vegetation should not be counted towards total wetland area.

Net Change in Canopy at Maturity above and Net Change in Surface Types below).

Public Access to Open Space or Waterways Provided

Some projects create new park or green space but may not be accessible to the general public (e.g., projects on schools with access limited only to the student body and staff). To understand which new community benefits are accessible, Project Developers should report the following:

- ***Is the Project Publicly Accessible:*** green space or park space is considered publicly accessible if any member of the community can freely use the space; access limited to certain times of day (e.g., after school hours) counts as publicly accessible. Naturalized areas within a publicly accessible space or which border public right of way are considered accessible if no barriers are present. Project Developers can select whether a project is publicly accessible and whether physical access is open, limited, or if the project provides visual access only.
    - ***Examples of public access:***
        - An infiltration basin with significant physical barriers to access such as chain link fencing with slats is not considered publicly accessible.
        - A constructed stormwater wetland and associated riparian habitat built within a park with integrated walking trails (e.g. viewing platforms and benches) is considered publicly accessible.
        - Sidewalk or roadway median integrated stormwater improvements such as bioretention basins, swales, and raingardens are considered publicly accessible as they are for public enjoyment (and stormwater improvement) and lack physical or visual barriers.

Public Access to Waterway Provided

The SCWP specifically defines access to waterways as a Community Investment Benefit. To track this potential outcome, Project Developers can select the type of waterway made accessible to the public.

Access Type or Recreational Opportunity Provided

This performance measure provides insight into what types of benefits are being provided to the community. Indicate the types of different recreational amenities provided.

Net New Area of Cooling/Shading Surfaces

Increasing shade is one strategy specifically mentioned by the SCWP Goals as a way to improve public health. Project Developers can estimate this performance measure based on the schematic layouts developed for the Feasibility Study or using subsequent design/as-built plans. As with other surface types, if the specific project layout is not yet available in GIS or CAD, estimate the shade structure areas using Google Earth or best engineering judgement and update the values during future reporting when more precise estimates are available.

Net Change in Surface Types

While the Program previously collected limited information about the quantity of impermeable surface removed by projects, Public Works and interested parties need additional insights to know how the Regional Program is transforming the urban landscape. Many of these performance measures also inform classification of a project's provision of Nature-Based Solutions according to the "Good, Better, Best" framework in the *SCW Program 2022 Interim Guidance*..[6]

Public Works understands that specific planting plans are not typically developed until the design phase of a project, so Project Developers are asked to estimate the performance measures using best engineering judgement based on the schematic layout developed for the Feasibility Study, and subsequently update based on final design and as-built plans.

- ***Net Area of Impermeable Hardscape:*** includes pavements not specifically designed for permeability listed below under "permeable hardscape" as well as gravel and artificial turf. Although the latter two are often permeable, the purpose of this performance measure is to differentiate between hardscape surfaces that are designed to capture substantial rainfall without generating runoff.
- ***Net Area of Permeable Hardscape:*** includes ground surfaces specifically designed to allow infiltration of runoff, including permeable interlocking concrete pavers, pervious concrete, porous asphalt, concrete grid pavers; includes only the total surface of each application, and may not be increased to account for "equivalent area" due to run-on from adjacent impermeable surfaces.
- ***Net Area of Lawn and Natural Turf:*** includes grass that is maintained by mowing; does not include artificial turf.

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[6] https://safecleanwaterla.org/what-we-do/adaptive-management/

- ***Net Area of Native Vegetation and Habitats:*** includes the total area landscaped with plants adapted to and historically found in the Los Angeles region, assuming reasonable plant spacing; if natives are mixed with other types of vegetation, estimate the proportions using best judgement. Does not include lawn or turfgrass.
- ***Net Area of Climate Appropriate Non-Native Vegetation:*** includes the total area landscaped with non-native vegetation adapted to the local climate that do not require irrigation beyond initial watering for establishment, assuming reasonable plant spacing. Do not include native vegetation, lawn, or turfgrass.
- ***Net Area of Non-Native Permanently Irrigated Habitat:*** includes the total landscaped area of non-native species requiring irrigation after initial establishment. Do not include lawn and turfgrass.
- ***Net Area of Non-Vegetated Habitat:*** includes the total habitat area free of landscaping: either permanent or ephemeral, natural, created, or naturalized water courses or water features (e.g., arroyos, rock lined swales/bioretention areas)

The *SCWP 2022 Interim Guidance* differentiates between native and climate appropriate vegetation to categorize the quality of Nature-Based Solutions provided by a project. The guidance lists the following resources:

TreePeople Climate-Appropriate Non-Native Vegetation List

Los Angeles County Waterworks Division Native Plant List

Metropolitan Water District Water Wise Program Native Planting Guide for LA County

TreePeople Native Plants List

California Native Plant Society

Theodore Payne Foundation: Plant Guides

Leverage Funding and Invest in Research and Development

Public Works requires additional information about leveraged funds to gain additional insight into the true cost-effectiveness of SCWP projects. The SCWP also encourages innovation and scientific endeavors that advance the regional understanding of multi-benefit watershed management, but, to date, has not collected categorical information to determine how those endeavors apply to all Program Goals. The following performance measures provide additional clarity.

Program Goal (18.04.D)

Leverage other funding sources to maximize SCW Program Goals

Program Goal (18.04.H)

Encourage Innovation and Adoption of New Technologies and Practices.

Program Goal (18.04.I)

Invest in independent scientific research.

Leveraged Funding

The status of leveraged funding at each phase of a project is critical information to inform decisions about funding future project phases. Project Developers should enter the amount and status of leveraged funding claimed in the original project scope. If an anticipated source of funding became unviable and is no longer expected, enter the status as “In Progress” and submit a Project Modification Request to disclose the change in amount or status of project funding and benefits.

New Technologies or Practices Utilized

To justify whether the project addresses this SCWP Goal, concisely itemize the new technology or practices applied by the project.

Types of Independent Scientific Research

To justify whether the project addresses this SCWP Goal, concisely itemize the types of scientific research applied by the project.

Budget Allocated to Scientific Research

Itemize the budget specifically allocated to scientific research activities. For scientific studies, this may be the entire study budget.

SCW Program Goals Addressed by Independent Scientific Research

This performance measure helps to better characterize which Goals are being addressed by scientific studies and research across the Program; indicate which Goals apply.

Deliver Multi-Benefits with Nature-Based Solutions and Diverse Projects

Public Works is now collecting numerous performance measures related to project characteristics that better inform tracking the extent of multiple benefits and project scales provided by the Program. To supplement the quantitative performance measures related to improving public health and providing Community Investment Benefits, Project Developers should also report additional community needs addressed by multi-benefit projects.

SCW Program Goal (18.04.E)

Invest in infrastructure that provides multiple benefits.

SCW Program Goal (18.04.G)

Provide a spectrum of project sizes from neighborhood to regional scales.

SCW Program Goal (18.04.F)

Prioritize Nature-Based Solutions.

Does the Project Address a Community Concern or Priority

The 2022 white paper entitled *Equity in Stormwater Investments: Measuring Community Engagement and Disadvantaged Community Benefits for Equitable Impact in the Safe, Clean Water Program*[7] suggested that achievement of SCWP Goals could be strengthened with the addition of a needs-assessment resource to identify specific community needs and align performance measures (and projects/programs) with those needs. Public Works developed the *Community Strengths and Needs*

[7] https://innovation.luskin.ucla.edu/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Equity-in-Stormwater-Investments.pdf

Assessment (CSNA)[8], consisting of a brief survey to gather input from the public about community needs, strengths, and priorities. The CNSA Dashboard (an online GIS-based planning tool) will visually showcase survey results and track trends in responses to build-out a robust database of community voices in Los Angeles County.

Project Developers are asked to itemize if and how projects address concerns or priorities voiced by communities. Project Developers should list the source for identifying the community priority (e.g., community survey, public meeting comment, email, existing online needs assessment database, etc.).

The Disadvantaged Communities Involvement Program WaterTalks Needs Assessments and Dashboard provide resources to identify some water-related priorities voiced by communities. While these resources are not exhaustive, and will be supplemented with the results of the SCWP Community Strengths and Needs Assessment, they provide examples of community needs that can be addressed by SCWP Projects.

WaterTalks Needs Assessments and Dashboard

Does Project Mitigate Flooding Issue

While "improved flood management, flood conveyance, or flood risk mitigation" is an example of a Community Investment Benefit specifically defined in the SCWP Implementation Ordinance, few details were previously collected about how this potential benefit is being provided by projects. To gain additional insight, Public Works is now collecting additional information regarding the type and level of flood mitigation claimed by Project Developers.

- ***Does this Project Mitigate a Flooding Issue: "***Yes" means that a project fully mitigated a known flooding issue, "Partial" means that the project contributes towards mitigating—but does not fully resolve—a known flooding issue.
- ***Type of Flooding Issue Mitigated:*** the categories below are consistent with Public Works' flooding categories
    - ***Capital Flooding (river or channel flooding):*** includes flood risks related to overtopping of open channels due to high runoff flow rates during intense storm events; fully mitigating these issues will typically require extensive flood control infrastructure.

[8] https://safecleanwaterla.org/what-we-do/adaptive-management/

- ***Urban Flooding (surface flooding):*** includes flood issues related to poor drainage of low-lying areas.
- ***Nuisance Flows (ponding/local flooding):*** includes nuisance ponding on parcels and in roadways that persists during and after storm events.
- ***Sewer Surcharge:*** includes flood issues related to overwhelming storm drain capacity with excess runoff and/or undersized or damaged storm drains that back up during storm events.
- ***Coastal:*** includes flooding issues related to storm surge and sea level rise.
- ***Other:*** any other types of flooding not previously itemized.

Net Area of New Habitat Created, Enhanced, Restored, or Protected

Refer to definitions and quantities of native, climate appropriate, non-native, and non-vegetated habitat in **Net Change in Surface Types** to parse this performance measures.

- ***Net Area of Habitat Enhanced:*** means existing habitat that is improved by the project (e.g., removal of invasive species from a natural landscape)
- ***Net Area of Habitat Restored:*** means habitat created by the project where no habitat previously existed (e.g., conversion of a lawn or paved areas to native vegetation).
- ***Net Area of Habitat Protected:*** means existing habitat proposed to be protected as a result of the project (e.g., fencing off existing native vegetation to prevent disturbance).

Number of Water Quality, Water Supply, and Community Benefits

This performance measure helps Public Works identify the number of Program-wide projects that deliver benefits across all three categories versus only Water Quality and Water Supply or Water Quality and Community Investments.

- ***Number of Water Quality Benefits:*** up to three (3) pollutants can be identified based on Water Quality Performance Measures. These include the Limiting Pollutant, some Other TMDL Pollutant, or a Pollutant of Interest.
- ***Number of Water Supply Benefits:*** These benefits will be pre-filled based on Water Supply Performance Measures.
- ***Net Area of Habitat Protected:*** These benefits will be pre-filled based on other Performance Measures.

Project Catchment Area

The specific project catchment area provides Public Works with an accurate understanding of which portions of a watershed area are managed by the project, and enables consideration of project interactions when projects are “nested” in series. Project Developers should upload a shapefile of the project’s tributary drainage area.
Project Footprint

The total project footprint helps Public Works track the areal extent of improvements resulting from the Program.

- ***Area of Project Extents Including All Improvements:*** includes the portions of a parcel or right-of-way impacted by the project; for simplicity, this may be the entire area of a parcel improved by a project.

BMP Footprint

BMP footprints are useful for computing other performance measures related to implementation of different project types. Refer to the **BMP Detailed Characteristics** on this Module page for reference.

- ***BMP Footprint:*** includes only the footprint of stormwater capture features (e.g., the surface area of permeable pavement, the surface area of an infiltration gallery, the surface area bioretention, etc.)

Type of Stormwater Improvement

Many stormwater projects feature multiple improvement features. Select all applicable improvements.

Equitably Distribute Benefits

The SCWP includes Goals enforcing the distribution of benefits to Disadvantaged Communities and Municipalities. To better measure and track how benefits are accrued, the MMS recommended methods to estimate how many people may have access to new Community Investment Benefits and which municipalities may receive Water Quality and Water Supply Benefits from projects. Currently, these performance measures are automatically calculated by the Reporting Module, so no user inputs are required.

SCW Program Goal (18.04.J)

Provide DAC Benefits, including Regional Program infrastructure investments, that are not less than one hundred and ten percent (110%) of the ratio of the DAC population to the total population in each Watershed Area.

SCW Program Goal (18.04.K)

Provide Regional Program infrastructure funds benefitting each Municipality in proportion to the funds generated within their jurisdiction, after accounting for allocation of the one hundred and ten percent (110%) return to DACs, to the extent feasible.

Promote Green Jobs and Career Pathways

SCW Program Goal (18.04.M)

Promote green jobs and career pathways.

To help Project Developers estimate the quantity and quality of green jobs and career pathways, generalized formulas were developed to estimate performance measures based on project cost and phase. Most performance measures are automatically populated using these general assumptions, but Project Developers are also asked to estimate the **number of employees participating in, or hired through, a SCWP-funded training program and the number of those who participated in a training program during project execution**.

There are currently no active SCWP-funded training or hiring programs, but check the websites below for current efforts and future anticipated efforts for more information.
SCWP Community Engagement and Education Program

Ensure Ongoing Operations and Maintenance

SCW Program Goal (18.04.N)

Ensure Ongoing O&M for Projects

Providing long-term functional and financial sustainability of SCWP projects is key to ensuring Program success. Project Developers are already required to estimate and report operations and maintenance (O&M) costs, which are then used to compute performance measures relevant to assessing this goal.

Prioritize Meaningful Engagement

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, the Regional Oversight Committee, and other interested parties have requested assessment and improvement of SCWP engagement activities, including "…including strategies to better engage small cities, tribal interests, CBOs, and others who have been less involved or underrepresented."[9] The following performance measures provide additional information to track and evaluate meaningful engagement by aligning with the framework in the *SCW Program 2022 Interim Guidance*.[10]

Project Level of Achievement for Community Engagement

The "Good, Better, Best" framework for SCWP outreach and engagement helps to ensure equity, inclusion, and accessibility. According to the SCW Program 2022 Interim Guidance:

> These best practices, and the corresponding terminology, are derived from professional standards, guidance/input received to date, benchmarking, and existing analyses from Cities, non-profit experts, and other Project Developers and stakeholder groups. Some of these resources include the Spectrum of Community Engagement to Ownership, originally developed by Rosa González of Facilitating Power in partnership with Movement Strategy Center[11] and the Pricipios y Comunidad: Principals that Redefine Strategies & Approaches for

[9] Motion by Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath, March 19, 2024
[10] https://safecleanwaterla.org/content/uploads/2022/05/SCWP-2022-Interim-Guidance-20220519.pdf
[11] https://movementstrategy.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/The-Spectrum-of-Community-Engagement-to-Ownership.pdf

Impactful Community Engagement by Mujeres de la Tierra.[12] These guidelines/terms may be applied to all aspects of the SCWP, including Regional Program Project applicants, Watershed Coordinator efforts, and planning/reporting in the Municipal Program. SCWP projects should ultimately target the "Best" category at all project phases. Those claiming "Better" or "Best" engagement practices should also demonstrate the incorporation of listed examples from the lower categories when documenting their justification of completed or planned outreach and engagement.

Project Developers should carefully review the *2022 Interim Guidance* before completing this section.

- ***Level of Achievement:*** refer to table on following page and in the *SCW Program 2022 Interim Guidance.*
- ***Add Engagement Activity Undertaken by Project Developer (count and description):*** to justify the level of achievement, itemize and provide supporting materials; refer to the Example Activities for each level of achievement in the table on the following page.

Project Level of Achievement for Tribal Engagement

Engagement specific to Native American Indian communities should be delineated following the same guidelines described above.

Letters of Support from Community and Tribes

To justify support for the project, indicate what types and quantities of support letters were received.

Receipt of Tribal Feedback

Indicate if tribal feedback was received as a result of engagement described above and upload for reference.

[12] https://safecleanwaterla.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/FINAL-Principios-y-Comunidad-Report-2020-2.pdf

The "Good, Better, Best" framework for community engagement described in the *2022 Interim Guidance* is copied below for reference; please carefully review the guidance to ensure best practices are followed.

SCW Program 2022 Interim Guidance

	Good	Better	Best
Engagement Levels	**Inform** - Provide the community with relevant information **Consult** - Gather input from the Community	**Involve** - Ensure community input, needs, and assets are integrated into processes, receive demonstrable consideration and appropriate responses, and inform planning **Educate** – Grow community understanding of the existing infrastructure systems, purposes, perceived outstanding needs, pertinent history and regulations, SCWP opportunities (including Watershed Coordinators) to establish **Learn** – Grow own understanding of existing community, perceived needs, pertinent history, key concerns, and other potentially interested parties.	**Collaborate** - Leverage and grow community capacity to play a leadership role in both planning and implementation **Incorporate** - Foster democratic participation and equity by including the community in decision-making, bridge divide between community and governance **Partner** – Establish certain project concepts based on community-driven and identified needs, solidify formal partnerships, and build in sustained paths forward to joint implementation and management with well-defined roles per agreement

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	Good	Better	Best
Example Activities	• Fact Sheets with translation as needed • Open Houses • Presentations • Videos • Online Media • Social Media • Local Media • Listening Sessions • Public Comment • Focus Groups • Surveys • Polling	• House Meetings • Interactive Workshops & Tours • Community Forums • Canvassing • Transparent responses to community comments • Document expanded understanding and commitment to ongoing relationships	• MOUs or support letters with Community Based Organizations • MOUs or support letters from Elected Officials • Community Organizing • Citizen Advocacy Committees • Open Planning Forums with Citizen Polling • Community-Driven Planning • Consensus Building • Participatory Action Research • Participatory Budgeting • Cooperatives