



SAFE CLEAN WATER PROGRAM

**North Santa Monica Bay Watershed Coordinator Report
May 14, 2026**

Melina Sempill Watts, Watershed Coordinator



Measure W: The Safe Clean Water Program provides local, dedicated funding to increase our local water supply, improve water quality, and protect public health.

Photo and Logo, Los Angeles County

LAND

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

**Chumash Elder Julie Tumamait informed me
that the Malibu Lagoon was her ancestral family's home**



Photo by Watts

Wonderful Programs are being developed with Tribal Input



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EAR CHANNEL

Facilitate Community Engagement In SCWP

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Hosted Malibu Lagoon Restoration Celebration May 2026

Senator Fran Pavley, “We need to more celebrations.”

Producing Malibu Lagoon Celebration Restoration Film, director Angelina Lee

Producing North Santa Monica Bay State of the Watershed Film, director Angelina Lee,

Volunteering as producer on “Bring California Native Plants Home” director Joe Litzinger,
A *National Geographic* filmmaker who produces *LIFE BELOW ZERO* for SAMO Fund

Will reconnect with Stephanie Gebhardt to coordinate fire resiliency event

Photo by Watts



Identify and Develop Project Concepts

- Isabelle Duvivier, architect, would like to work on parking lot do-over and lagoon project at end of Rose Avenue, in Venice, will talk to Watershed Coordinator Stephanie Gebhardt
- Councilmember Eniko Gold, Hidden Hills, would like to take fire cistern idea and have this duplicated at every city hall In the Santa Monica Mountains, could be a CALFIRE grant or a Prop 4 grant
- Continued community interest in Topanga Lagoon project
- Shocked to learn that Larry Walker is not willing to sub the parking lot project with Herrera as the originator of the project proposal

Photo by Watts

Photo by Watts

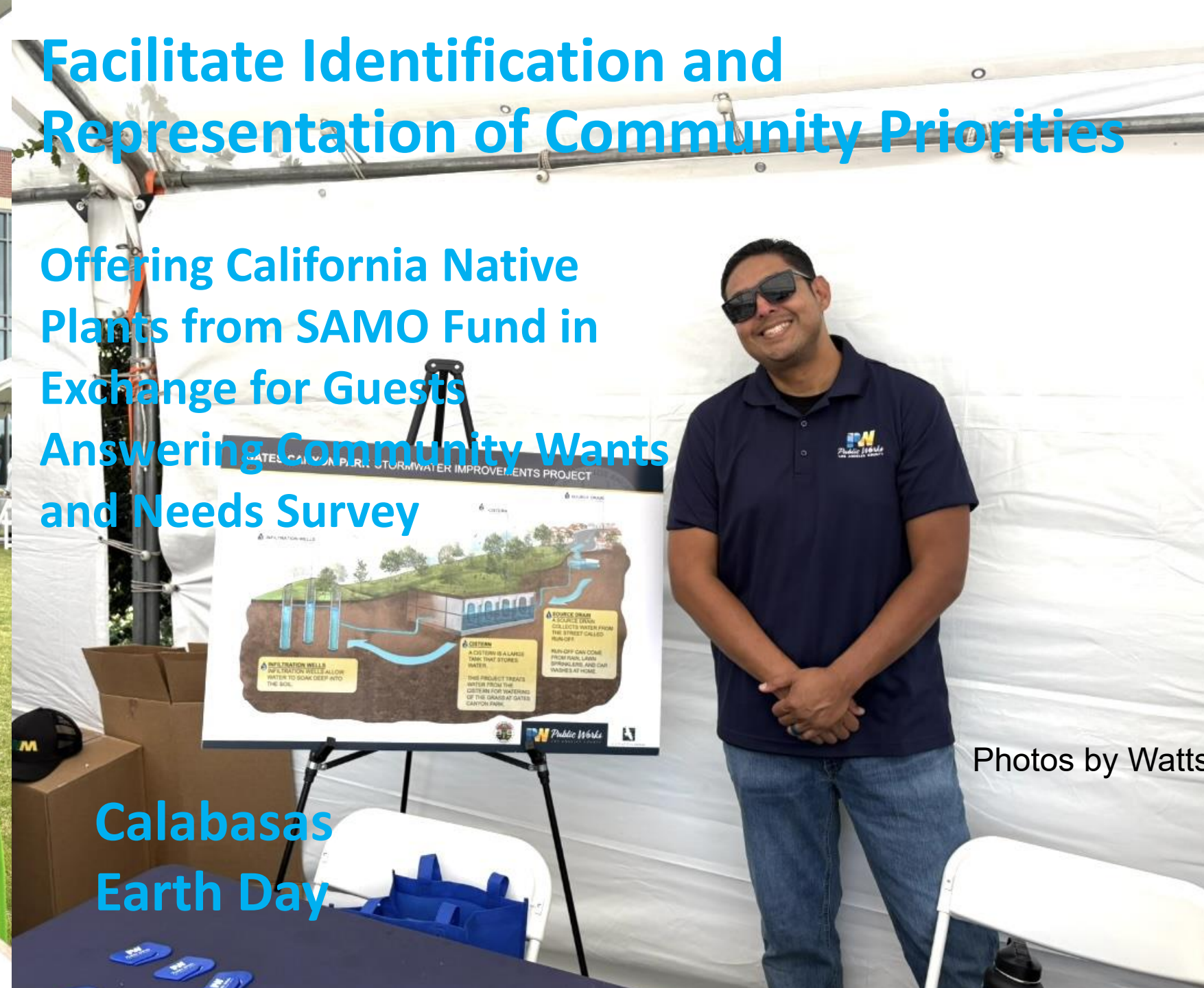
TRP APPLICATIONS → TECHNICAL ADVISORY TEAM

- 2 Sites in City of Calabasas are in ULAR; so that's one TRP...
- 1 Site in City of Calabasas and 1 Site in Malibu are in NSMB, so that's a second TRP...





Westlake Village
Earth Day



Facilitate Identification and Representation of Community Priorities

Offering California Native Plants from SAMO Fund in Exchange for Guests

Answering Community Wants and Needs Survey

Calabasas
Earth Day

Photos by Watts

Integrate Priorities Through Partnerships and Extensive Networks

Attended,

- LALCV's annual Smith Weiss Environmental Champion Awards
- CalGBA COP17 Launch: Building Our Biodiversity Strategy from the Ground Up (for the UN)
- Biodiversity Group
- NBS Working Group
- Tessa Charnofsky's Garden Party

Photo by Watts

Photo by Watts

Fire Severity throughout Agoura Hills

Leveraged / Outside Funding Pursued

- Sent LOI to MRCA for Prop 4 Monies for multi-city fire cistern project
- Exploring CALFIRE funding for multi-city fire cistern project
- Suggesting Prop A (thanks to Mark Glassrock) for Agoura Hills' open space acquisition funding
- Suggesting to Big Rock HOA / Malibu City Councilmember Haylynn Conrad attend California Finance Fair event for groundwater recharge / unstable geology project, thank you Bruce Hamamoto for clarification on project non-eligibility for SCWP

Map shows CAL FIRE's Fire Hazard Severity Zones in Agoura Hills.

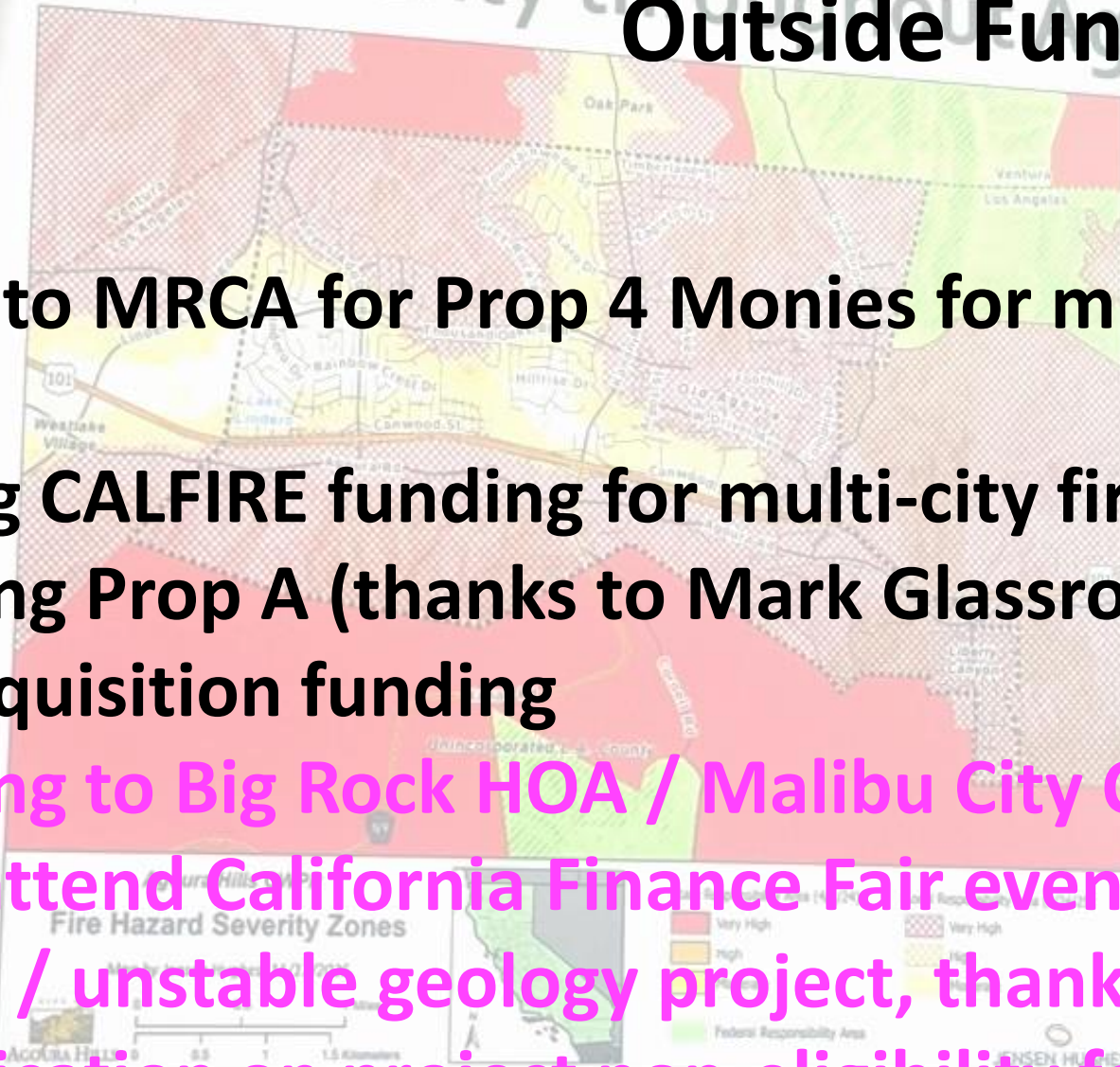


Photo by Watts

Photo by Watts

Photo by Watts

Cost Share Partners

- SAMO Fund is paying for,
 - Malibu Lagoon Restoration Celebration event
 - Film of Malibu Lagoon Restoration Celebration
 - Film of North Santa Monica Bay State of the Watershed Film

Good news: Celebrating big wins by WLW and City of Calabasas with line items from Councilmember Julia Brownley

Considering drought-related grant opportunities for LVMWD / SAMO Fund / TreePeople.

Happy to see 3 applications for IRWMM monies from local candidates.

Local Stakeholder Education

- Hosted Malibu Lagoon Restoration Celebration event on May 7th
- Filming North Santa Monica Bay State of the Watershed 2026 with filmmaker Angelina Lee
- Filming Malibu Lagoon Restoration Celebration with filmmaker Angelina Lee
- As volunteer, filming Bring California Native Plants home with National Geographic filmmaker Joseph Litzinger, producer of LIFE BELOW ZERO
- Doubling back and work on outreach project with Stephanie Gebhardt on nexus between SCWP goals and fire resiliency

Photo by Watts

Photo by Watts

Watershed Coordinator Coordination

Can TreePeople and SAMO Fund
Partner on Native Plants Kit
Program?

Coordinators Amanda Begley +
Eric Wilson connecting with Watts
to explore.

Stay tuned...





Photo by
Melanis Stepanian

Scheduling Concerns or Issues

**So many tasks...
so little time.**

The Main Event, Infrastructure in Malibu



A Groundbreaking Event, Pure Water Project in Agoura Hills



Photo by Watts

Winners, North Santa Monica Bay Watershed Prize 2025-2026

- Suzanne Goode
- Jamie King
- Dr. Richard Ambrose



Photo by Watts

A blurred background image of a forest with a stream and a horse saddle in the foreground. The text is overlaid on this image.

Want to Fund the Scientific Studies Program Applications from summer before last?

The NSMB WASC *could* ask past scientific study applicants to re-apply by July 31.

Discuss.