



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: 1
Contract Year: 3
Year 2 Contract Start: 4/27/2023
Date of Submission: 8/17/2023
Period Covered: 4/27 to 7/31/23

A. Summary of Activities

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

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

TreePeople continued a key strategy used throughout Years One and Two, leveraging the WaterTalks program to further project and program development for unincorporated areas in the watershed. All projects and programs are expected to wrap up in the next reporting period. These projects and highlights include:

- **Acton Flooding Multi-Benefit Solution**: multiple analyses have been completed and a report of recommendations will be provided to the community and LA County in the next reporting period.
- **Tataviam Land Conservancy Water Resources Inventory**: a draft version of inventory was shared with the Conservancy and is under review for questions and comments.
- **Small Water System Partnerships**: the Coordinators and WaterTalks staff met with DWR staff to design a webinar for local, small systems on what is and is not required of them by CA Senate Bill 552.
- **Septic System Evaluation and Support**: an in-person training session on septic system maintenance and management was held May 6, and a virtual version is scheduled for Aug 17.

TreePeople is also supporting WaterTalks projects previously funded, for Arundo Removal and Management in the Santa Clara River ecosystem, and efforts by SCVWA and the Watershed Wide Arundo Management Group to identify funding sources to pay for centralized, multi-year coordination to help define a Watershed-wide management structure and launch campaigns to secure major funding for implementation. Two new funding opportunities were researched during the period, from the Governor's Office and from CAL EPA.

Waters of Bouquet: Following a visit from Mr. Roy Marson, a Bouquet Canyon resident, at the May WASC meeting, the Coordinators reached out to he and other representatives of the neighborhood with guidance on applying for SCWP funds and key dates. The Coordinators are updating an earlier report on the situation and will continue to be in touch with the community representatives.

2. Partnerships and networks engaged

Much of our focus continued to be on meetings related to both education and project development with Town Councils and NGOs, including the Watershed-Wide Arundo Management Group (WWAM) and the Santa Clara Valley Environmental Coalition, formed last year. We leveraged education programs designed through WaterTalks to help increase the knowledge of Town Council and Coalition members around local water issues.

Another major network continues to be the collective of Watershed Coordinators across the SCWP. We attended monthly Coordinator meetings throughout the quarter and supported other Coordinator's efforts. Of special note was our participation as a co-host in the Stormwater and Schools Symposium (education event) in May and hosting a tour of TreePeople Center's stormwater BMPs in July for SSMB Watershed Coordinators.

3. Engagement of conventional and unconventional stakeholders

- Engaging College of the Canyons, tabling at multiple student events and Joining the Sustainability Committee composed of multiple college departments. We are supporting plans, through the Environmental Coalition, for an Eco Film Festival at the College Nov 4.
- To support river wide Arundo management and restoration, we continue meeting with the Santa Clara River Watershed Steering Committee (primarily Ventura County) and the Steelhead Trout Coalition. Both entities provide "watershed coordinators" for various river-related goals.
- We meet monthly with other Watershed Coordinators to learn from each other, improve our knowledge and skills, and leverage efforts. Recent topics include Workforce Development and planning a tour of LA schools that have notable water management best practices.
- TreePeople continued to serve on the SCWP Metrics and Monitoring Stakeholder Advisory Committee. We've also become part of an advisory group for Accelerate Resilience Los Angeles (ARLA) who is developing community-led design computer tools. Residents can indicate on a map where they would like water infrastructure projects and other improvements, and the tool calculates potential benefits.

- Major tabling events this period include the 2-day Home and Garden Show, and Day of the Rock at Vasquez Rocks, with exposure to more than 10,000 people.
- To support the WASC during the period, TreePeople provided a revised Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan (approved July 20), a CY2 Quarter 4 and CY2 Annual Report.

B. Engagement Meetings Held or Attended

Summary (required elements)

Element	Minimum	This Qtr.	Total YTD
Engagement meetings held	4	10	10
Educational events held	2	5	5
Other meetings attended	0	35	35
Cost-share partner relationships	0	3	3
Leveraged funding pursuits	0	0	0

Detail

Mtg #	Meeting or Event	Date	Summary of Meeting or Event	Stakeholders Engaged	Held or Attended?
1	Day of the Rock	4.29.23	Tabling, Vasquez Rocks	Community	Hosted table
2	Home & Gardens Show	4.29.23	Tabling, SCWP ed materials	Community - education	Hosted table
3	Home & Gardens Show	4.30.23	Tabling, SCWP ed materials	Community - education	Hosted table
4	Acton Town Council	5.1.23	WaterTalks project update	Community	Co-hosted
5	St. Francis Dam Tour	5.4.23	Tour of historic site	TP forestry staff, public	attended
6	RCAC Training	5.6.23	Wells & Septic (WaterTalks)	Community – education	Co-hosted
7	College / Canyons Recreation Day	5.6.23	Tabling, SCWP ed materials	Community	Hosted table
8	Agua Dulce Town Council	5.10.23	RWSR and SCWP update	Community	Attended
9	Sierra Club	5.11.23	SCWP update	Community	Attended
10	SCV Environmental Coalition	5.12.23	Nov event planning	Members	Attended
11	Rio Vista Plant Tour	5.13.23	Plant tour (WaterTalks)	Community – education	Co-hosted
12	Placerita Nature Center Open House	5.13.23	Tabling, SCWP ed materials	Community	Attended
13	OWLA core group	5.16.23	SCWP biennial review	Members	Attended
14	Schools & SW Working Group	5.16.23	LAUSD proposal	Coordinators	Attended
15	Castaic Town Council	5.17.23	SCWP Update	Community	Attended
16	WASC	5.18.23	CY2 Q4 report	WASC, public	Attended
17	OWLA full group	5.22.23	SCWP biennial review	Members	Attended

18	SCWP MMS Public meeting	5.23.23	Community feedback	Community	Attended
19	Watershed Coord meeting	5.24.23	TRP review	Coordinators, County	Attended
20	SCWP Reg Call for Projects	5.24.23	How to apply	Applicants, Coordinators	Attended
21	SCWP Reg Call for Projects	5.25.23	How to apply	Applicants, Coordinators	Attended
22	WWAM group	5.31.23	SCR restoration	Members	Attended
23	Leona Valley Parade	6.3.23	Tabling, SCWP ed materials	Community	Attended
24	City of SC / Heather Merenda	6.7.23	Chesbrough & Old Orchard Park – Proj Review	Municipality	Attended
25	Santa Clara River Wshed Comm	6.8.23	Upper/Lower river coord.	Member orgs	Attended
26	Sierra Club	6.8.23	SCWP update	Members	Attended
27	Newhall F Mkt	6.10.23	Tabling, SCWP ed materials	Public	Hosted table
28	SCOPE 35 Year Anniversary	6.11.23	History; networking	Members, public	Attended
29	Canyon Country Farmers Market	6.14.23	Tabling, SCWP ed materials	Public	Hosted table
30	Agua Dulce TC	6.14.23	SCWP updates	Members	Attended
31	SCWP ROC	6.15.23	SCR WC presentation	ROC members, public	Presented
32	SCV Enviro Coalition	6.15.23	Nov Event planning	Members	Attended
33	Castaic TC	6.21.23	SCWP updates	Members	Attended
34	WWAM	6.28.23	Restoration mgmt. models	Members	Attended
35	Watershed Coord meeting	6.28.23	SCWP Education Program	Coordinators, County	Attended
36	LAANE Workforce Dev.	6.29.23	Workforce Development	Interested Parties	Attended
37	Castaic Sports Complex - LA Parks & Rec	6.30.23	Tabling, SCWP ed materials	Community	Attended
38	Citizens Climate Lobby	7.8.23	SCWP updates	Members	Attended
39	Agua Dulce TC	7.12.23	SCWP updates	Members	Attended
40	CCL Summer Gathering	7.15.23	SCWP updates	Members	Attended
41	RCAC Private Well Training	7.19.23	Education (w/ WaterTalks)	Residents	Co-hosted
42	WASC	7.20.23	SOEP Presentation & Approval	WASC, public	Presented
43	Schools & SW Working Group	7.18.23	SCWP school projects & tour updates	Coordinators	Attended
44	OWLA core group	7.18.23	Biennial Review Recommendations	NGOs	Attended
45	Santa Clara River Conservancy	7.24.23	Guidance on grant capacity issues	Non-profit	Hosted

46	LA County Flood Control District	7.24.23	Guidance on SCRC grant capacity	Water Agency	Hosted
47	WWAM	7.26.23	Restoration mgmt. funding	Members	Attended
48	Watershed Coord meeting	7.26.23	Workforce Dev.	Coordinators, County	Attended
49	LA Waterkeeper SCWP Research Event	7.27.23	Research re: SCWP	NGOs, agencies, public	Attended
50	49er Day Lake Hughes	7.29.23	Tabling Event	Residents	Hosted table

C. Potential Cost-Share Partners Contacted

	Potential Partner Name	Date First Contacted	Project name / type	Nature of potential partnership	ATTCH #
1	ICARP	6.27.23	Regional Resilience Grant Program	Funding for Watershed Wide Arundo Management	
2	CAL EPA	6.27.23	EJ Action Grants	Funding for Watershed Wide Arundo Management	
3	CA Strategic Growth Council	6.2.23	SGC Regional Climate Collaboratives Round 2	Funding for Watershed Wide Arundo Management	

D. Leveraged / Outside Funding Pursued

	Potential Outside Funding Source	Status or Outcome of the Pursuit	ATTCH #
	None this period		

E. Detailed Progress Report

Task #	Task Name	LOE per Work Plan	LOE this period	LOE YTD
1	Facilitate Community Engagement in SCWP	50%	71%	71%
2	Identify and Develop Project Concepts	10%	10%	10%
3	Work with Technical Assistance Teams	5%	0%	0%
4	Facilitate, ID and Represent Community Priorities	5%	1%	1%
5	Integrate Priorities Through Partnerships / Networks	5%	2%	2%
6	Cost-Share Partners	5%	1%	1%
7	Leverage Funding	5%	0%	0%
8	Local Stakeholder Education	10%	3%	3%
9	Watershed Coordinator Collaboration	5%	12%	12%
	Overall	100%	100%	100%

F. Engagement efforts benefitting Disadvantaged Communities

TreePeople has now built a regular presence at both the Newhall and Canyon Country Farmers Markets (both are deemed Disadvantage Communities by CA Dept of Water Resources definitions). 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

- Develop and/or support 2-4 educational events.
- Support remaining technical assistance projects through the WaterTalks program and assist in distribution of products, reports and other findings as appropriate.
- Draft development of a mobile display of the SCR for outreach and education.

(End Report)