

## 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: 2  
Year 2 Contract Start: 4/27/2022  
Date of Submission: 8/4/2022  
Period Covered: 4/27 to 7/31/22

### A. Summary of Activities

Following is a summary of activities completed during the first quarter of Year 2, and progress made toward completion of the annual scope of work. TreePeople is honored and grateful to serve 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 moved further on project development for unincorporated areas in the watershed, drawing on resources provided by the WaterTalks Program (IRWM Disadvantaged Community Involvement Program). This is a continuation of a key strategy used throughout Year One. These projects include:

- 1) Rural Water Supply Reliability,
- 2) Arundo Removal and Management in the Santa Clara River ecosystem,
- 3) Acton Flooding Multi-benefit Solution
- 4) Native American Land Restoration with the Tataviam Land Conservancy.

Funding has been awarded for the first project, and a workplan will be developed for its delivery. The remaining projects are under development which is expected to carry into 2023. Additional projects that may be developed as resources allow include Tap Water Quality Testing Program, Septic Evaluation and Repair Support, and facilitation Small Water System Partnerships.

Of special strategic note is the Arundo removal project; a pre-proposal was submitted to the Strategic Growth Council to build capacity and community engagement for the program.

Should this effort be successful, it would provide the Watershed Wide Arundo Management group with multi-year coordination to help define a Watershed-wide management structure and launch campaigns to secure major funding for implementation.

**2. Partnerships and networks engaged**

Much of our focus continued to be on meetings related to project development, including the Acton and Agua Dulce Town Councils and the Watershed-Wide Arundo Management Group (WWAM). We continued to build relationships with what we consider to be a core group of environmental advocacy and education interests in the area including Sierra Club, Santa Clarita Hiking Club, Santa Clarita Organization for Planning and the Environment and the Climate Change League, among others.

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**

Two surveys were created and distributed across the region to 1) determine topics of interest from which we can shape education events and 2) shape a possible project to assess septic systems.

TreePeople’s engagement also included a presence at the 2-day Home and Garden Show, with an estimated audience of 10,000 people.

TreePeople continued to serve on the SCWP Metrics and Monitoring Stakeholder Advisory Committee and participated in the July workshop. The process will continue over several months. We are only one of two Watershed Coordinators asked to participate.

Finally, updates on our activities were provided to the WASC as well as Town Council leaders throughout the period.

**B. Engagement Meetings Held or Attended**

**Summary (required elements)**

Element	Minimum	This Qtr.	Total YTD
Engagement meetings held	4	3	3
Educational events held	2	1	1
Other meetings attended	0	19	19
Cost-share partner relationships	0	3	3
Leveraged funding pursuits	0	2	2

**Detail**

	<b>Meeting or Event</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Summary of Meeting or Event</b>	<b>Stakeholders Engaged</b>	<b>Held or Attended?</b>	<b>ATTCH #</b>
1	Home & Garden Show	4.30/5.1	Outreach tabling	Community	Attended	
2	Agua Dulce Town Council	5.11.22	Provided update report on SCWP	TC members, public, local agency reps	Attended	
3	SC Hiking Club	5.20.22	Visit chronic flooding sites	Org President	Held	
4	Santa Clarita Org for Planning & Environ (SCOPE)	5.25.22	Briefing on SCWP and watershed	SCOPE ED	Held	
5	Metropolitan Water District Listening Session	5.26.22	Conservation Planning; added SCR Comm needs to planning discussion	MWD staff, other organizations	Attended	
6	CA Coastal Conservancy Focus Group	5.26.22	Fund Use Planning; added SCR Comm needs to planning discussion	CCC staff, other organizations	Attended	
7	Stormwater & Schools Symposium	5.19.22	Webinar/panels on stormwater issues on public school campuses	Broad community	Held (Co-hosted)	
8	Walking Water	6.18.22	Native American history w local waterways	Broad community	Attended	
9	Native American Engagement EPA	6.29.22	Webinar on best practices	Interested parties	Attended	
10	SCWP Regional Oversight Committee	6.16.22	SIP approvals	Committee members, public	Attended	
11	Agua Dulce Town Council	6.8.22	Provided update report on SCWP	TC members, public, local agency reps	Attended	
12	WaterTalks USCR Workshop #1	7.7.22	Network/share community need	Agencies / elected	Attended	
13	WASC	7.7.22	Annual report presentation	members	Attended	
14	GE Workshop	7.11.22	SCWP info shared	HS/MS teachers	Attended	
15	Agua Dulce Town Council	7.13	Provided update report on SCWP	TC members, public, local agency reps	Attended	
16	Watershed Wide Arundo Mgmt.	7.20.22	Presented RCC funding opport.	WWAM core members orgs	Attended	
17	MMS Workshop	7.21.22	SCWP Metrics Study	Stakeholder Advisory Group	Attended	
18	Sierra Club	7.25.22	Oct workshop planning	Local club president	Attended	
19	SVCWA Public Workshop	7.25.22	Sustainability Plan Public Wksp	Public	Attended	

20	Watershed Coordinators meeting	7.27.22	Monthly topic	WCs	Attended	
21	Tour of TP Center	7.8.22	BMP Features	SB Watershed Coords	Hosted	
22	Accelerate Resilience Los Angeles (ARLA)	7.21.22	SCWP Digital tools feedback	Interested parties	Attended	
23	Schools & Stormwater Working Group	7.29.22	Schools & stormwater	WC members of working group	Attended	

### C. Potential Cost-Share Partners Contacted

	Potential Partner Name	Date First Contacted	Project name / type	Nature of potential partnership	ATTCH #
1	National Fish & Wildlife Fdn	5.19.22	Tataviam Land Conservancy or other Tribal support	Funding through America the Beautiful program	
2	CA Strategic Growth Council	6.8.22	Webinar SGC Regional Climate Collaboratives	Funding for Watershed Wide Arundo Management	
	CA Strategic Growth Council	7.19.22	Webinar – full proposal; SGC Regional Climate Collaboratives	Funding for Watershed Wide Arundo Management	

### D. Leveraged / Outside Funding Pursued

	Potential Outside Funding Source	Status or Outcome of the Pursuit	ATTCH #
1	CA Urban & Multi-benefit Drought Relief Program	Updates to 2 proposals; both awarded in June	
2	CA Strategic Growth Council	Pre-proposal for Regional Climate Collaboratives	

### E. Detailed Progress Report

Task #	Task Name	LOE per Work Plan	LOE this period	LOE YTD
1	Facilitate Community Engagement in SCWP	40%	72%	72%
2	Identify and Develop Project Concepts	10%	11%	11%
3	Work with Technical Assistance Teams	5%	0%	0%
4	Facilitate, ID and Represent Community Priorities	10%	0%	0%
5	Integrate Priorities Through Partnerships / Networks	5%	2%	2%
6	Cost-Share Partners	5%	2%	2%
7	Leverage Funding	5%	6%	6%
8	Local Stakeholder Education	10%	2%	2%
9	Watershed Coordinator Collaboration	10%	5%	5%
	<b>Overall</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

## **F. Engagement efforts benefitting Disadvantaged Communities**

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. TreePeople engaged a dedicated Community Organizer for the watershed area in May, who canvassed state-defined Disadvantaged Communities in general outreach and surveying – including Bouquet Canyon, Canyon Country and Newall.

## **G. Scheduling concerns or issues**

There were no scheduling concerns during this period.

## **H. Expected activities next quarter**

- Develop and/or support 2-4 education events.
- Define remaining projects to be developed through the WaterTalks program, and potential funding sources to support them.
- Workplan for delivery of the Rural Water Supply Reliability Program, awarded in June by DWR.
- Support development of a funding application for the Regional Climate Collaborate (due Oct 7).

*(End Report)*