

Santa Clara River Watershed Committee

IRWM Plan Update

Greatest Needs Discussion Review

2016
Integrated
Regional Water
Management
Grant Program
Guidelines

Volume 1 – Grant Program Processes
July 2016



CALIFORNIA NATURAL RESOURCES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
DIVISION OF
INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT



Santa Clara River Watershed Greatest Water Needs Discussion

Comments received at July committee meeting and via email. Updated 11.29.17.

Water Supply	Water Quality	Habitat	Information & Monitoring	Other/Management	Coordination	Education & Recreation	Flood Control
Recharging lower SCR groundwater basins, with State Contract Water released from Pyramid and Piru Lake. Keep water in the Santa Clara River Watershed, don't let it go to outside watershed uses.	Improve water quality	Conservation opportunities and cost benefit analysis for prioritizing	Infrastructure Improvements: automated flow meters, real-time flow rates, placed at confluence with tributary and main channel. Leading to better models and sustainable planning.	reliability, sustainability, resiliency	Integrate upper and lower watershed (formally, and coordinate on applications). What upper watershed does impacts lower, how can lower watershed be more involved in upper.	Public access to river, recreation opportunities, creating clear access	flood control projects need to be multi-benefit and based on wider watershed objectives. Floodplain preservation, groundwater recharge, and habitat sustainability
Natural water supply projects: Invasive plant removal, multi-benefit restoration/recharge, stormwater capture for recharge, protect floodplains		Knowing our water budget and using it to guide restoration	monitoring of cumulative impacts of water uses on hydrograph	Integrated approach and multi-benefit projects, not just as a multi-benefit project suite	holistic watershed management, acknowledging the connections between upper and lower watershed	education to encourage interest in environmental careers	
Groundwater sustainability: Implementation of GSA/GSP identified projects and LCP		recharging groundwater basins to provide instream flows	water budgets, identify water needs and water sources	water + SPP + standardization	Coordinate with upper watershed and planning, concerned about impacts of Newhall	public education, inform people on watershed	
Cost benefit analysis on water conservation		GSA/GSP Habitat Conservation Plan		monitoring and quantifying successes, measuring our goals	multi-benefit integrated flood control, stormwater and habitat projects	watershed signage project for watershed education	
Recharge of lower groundwater basins				Climate Adaption, sea level rise, flooding, restoration		Coordinated education & access plan for the watershed	
Increase groundwater storage, healthy groundwater basins				Reliability, sustainability, resiliency			
Expand stormwater capture projects in DACs, like El Rio retrofit for GW recharge							
Reliability, sustainability, resiliency							



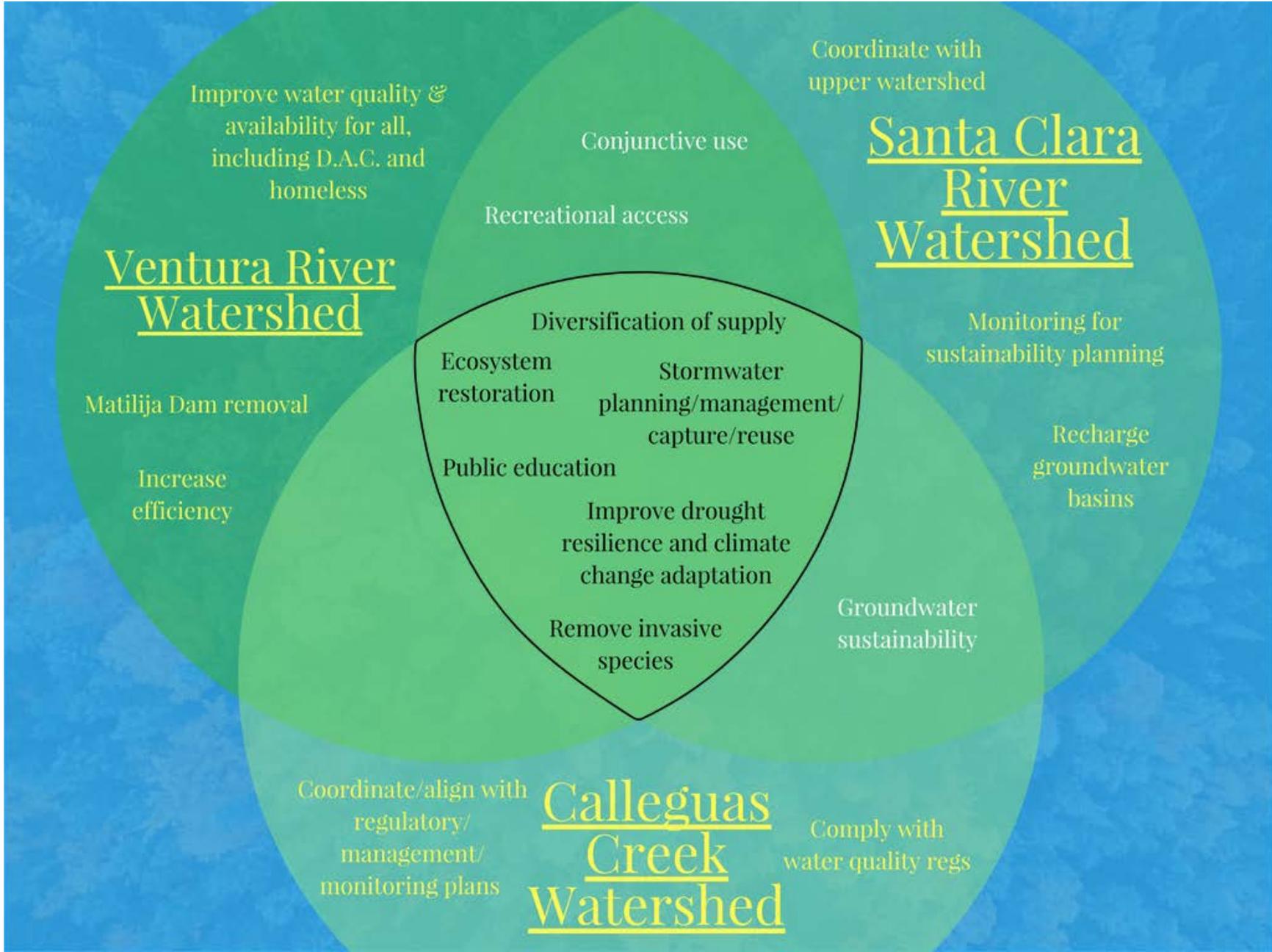
Santa Clara River Watershed

Summary of Greatest Needs Discussion for 2018 IRWM Plan Update

1. Recharge groundwater basins **for habitat and human use*
2. GSP development and better understanding the SCR water budget to achieve groundwater sustainability and provide water multiple uses (ag, urban, and instream flow) now and under future climate
3. Coordinate and work with the upper watershed
4. Stormwater capture
5. Monitoring for sustainability planning, integration of monitoring efforts and trends
6. Public education and public access
7. **Flood control with multi-benefits*
8. **manage watershed for natural disasters and climate resiliency*

**additions and edits based off of 1.25.18 watershed committee meeting discussion*





Santa Clara River Vision Statement

We envision a Santa Clara River system that:

- Allows for **natural river processes**, to the maximum extent feasible, including permitting the river to freely meander within its floodplain and to accommodate flows within the natural range of variation.
- Allows for the preservation and **protection of existing and future sustainable uses** in the watershed including cultural, agricultural, and educational activities, low impact recreation, scientific studies, and aesthetic and spiritual enjoyment.
- Emphasizes environmentally sensitive **flood management** that allows for a functional floodplain while minimizing damage to life and property.
- Maintains **biodiversity** through matrix of native aquatic, riparian, and upland habitat with minimal habitat fragmentation and barriers, with emphasis on enhancing recovery of species of conservation concern.
- Is **unimpaired by pollution or invasive non-native species**.
- Is managed by cooperating public entities, private landowners, and organizations working toward the **common vision**.
- **Supplies water** for agriculture, groundwater recharge, and habitat maintenance.



Santa Clara River Watershed Goals in IRWM Plan:

1. Reduce dependence on imported water and protect, conserve and augment water supplies.
2. Protect and improve water quality
3. Protect people, property and the environment from adverse flooding impacts
4. Protect and restore habitat and ecosystems
5. Provide water-related recreational, public access, stewardship, engagement and educational opportunities
6. Prepare for and adapt to climate change.

**Have these goals changed?*

