

A project made possible by you

Since announcing its intent in 2012 to complete this creek-lake separation project, Valley Water has prioritized public outreach on the project, recognizing the connection of the community to the Almaden landmark. It held numerous public meetings to present the need for the project and to gather input on a series of proposed project alternatives that would ultimately shape the project.

Valley Water has met with neighborhood associations, environmental groups, parents, students, Boy Scout troops, churches, service organizations, athletic groups and elected officials and staff from the City of San José. It is because of the enormous input received that Valley Water can move forward with a project that will benefit the Guadalupe Watershed.

About Valley Water

The Santa Clara Valley Water District, now known as Valley Water, has a history dating back to 1929. It manages an integrated water resources system that includes the supply of clean, safe water, flood protection and stewardship of streams on behalf of Santa Clara County's 2 million residents.

Valley Water effectively manages 10 dams and surface water reservoirs, three water treatment plants, an advanced recycled water purification center and a state-of-the-art water quality laboratory. It operates nearly 400 acres of groundwater recharge ponds. It provides wholesale water and groundwater management services to local municipalities and private water retailers which deliver drinking water to homes and businesses. Valley Water is the flood control agency for Santa Clara County, annually preparing creeks for winter rains through levee maintenance, sediment removal, bank repair and vegetation management. It has invested more than \$1 billion in flood protection efforts to protect nearly 100,000 parcels with many more projects planned.

3 Ways to get project updates

1. Request project information using Access Valley Water Visit valleywater.org/acwapp
2. Sign up to receive project updates via email using the QR code or the link on the project website. <https://delivr.com/27kcs>
3. For more information, contact Lydia Yiu at **408-630-3271** or lyiu@valleywater.org.



Join our mailing list



Si habla español y tiene preguntas sobre el contenido de este mensaje por favor de comunicarse con José Villarreal al JVillarreal@valleywater.org o (408) 630-2879.

Nếu bạn nói tiếng Việt và có thắc mắc về nội dung của thông báo này, xin vui lòng liên hệ với Ngọc Nguyen tại NNguyen@valleywater.org hoặc (408) 630-2632.

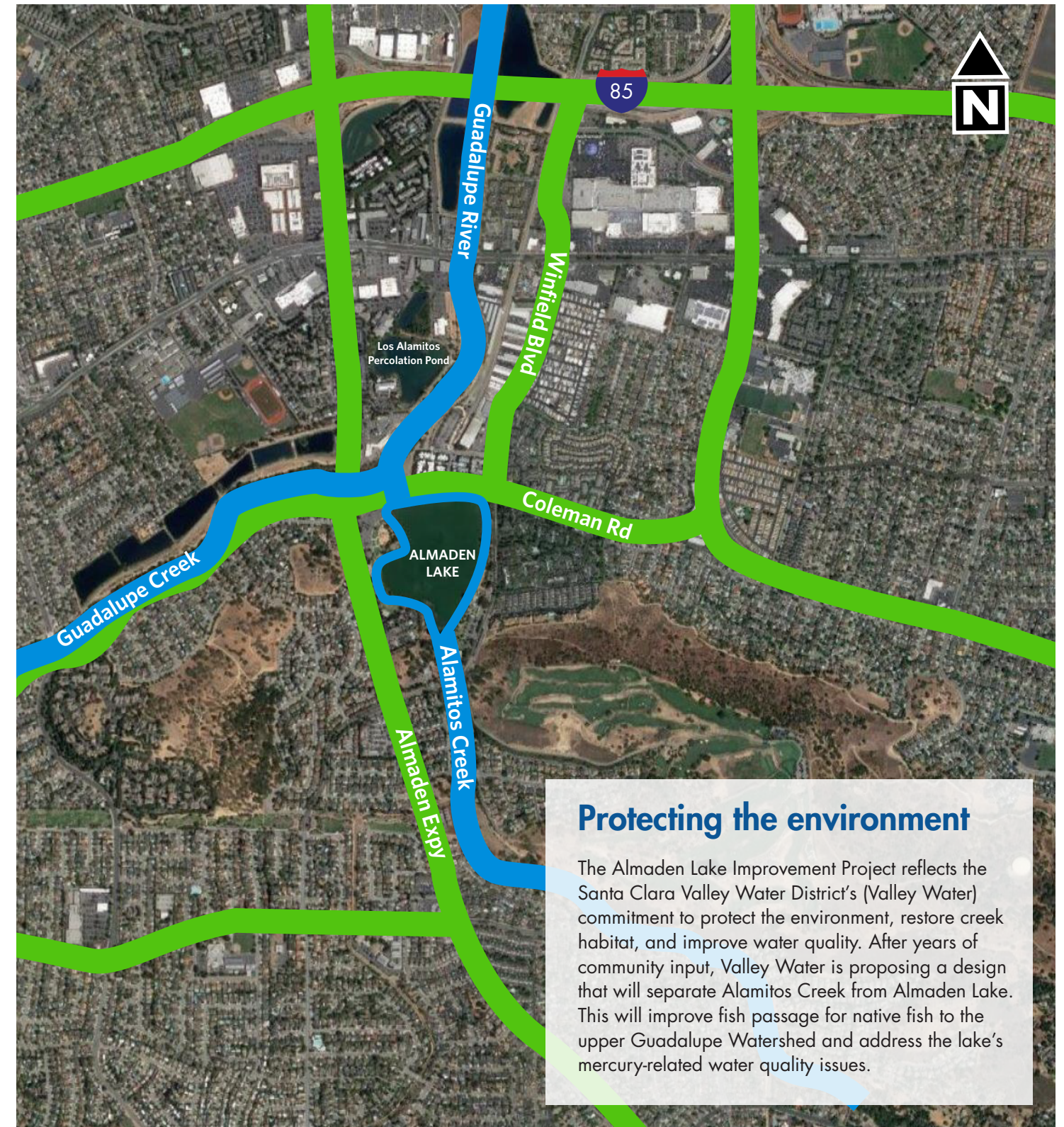
如果你說中文並對上述訊息有疑問，請聯繫 Sarah Young, 電郵 SYoung@valleywater.org, 或者電話: (408) 630-2468.



Almaden Lake Improvement Project

A voter-approved stream stewardship creek and lake separation project

Priority D4: Fish Habitat and Passage Improvement



Protecting the environment

The Almaden Lake Improvement Project reflects the Santa Clara Valley Water District's (Valley Water) commitment to protect the environment, restore creek habitat, and improve water quality. After years of community input, Valley Water is proposing a design that will separate Alamitos Creek from Almaden Lake. This will improve fish passage for native fish to the upper Guadalupe Watershed and address the lake's mercury-related water quality issues.

CONTACT US

To find out the latest information on Valley Water projects or to submit questions or comments, email tmeracdo@valleywater.org or use our Access Valley Water customer request system at <https://delivr.com/2yukx>.



FOLLOW US

- scvwd
- valleywater
- valleywater
- Join our mailing list: <https://delivr.com/2uz9z>



About the project

The project will separate Alamos Creek from Almaden Lake by constructing a new levee which will become the lake's new west bank boundary. The new levee will also serve as the restored creek's east embankment. After construction, creek flows will be isolated to the restored creek channel section providing a direct connection from Alamos Creek to Guadalupe River, as it once did prior to the park's formation in the 1980s.

The project will return natural creek features such as riffles, pools, and runs to improve native fish passage within the upper Guadalupe Watershed. Returning riparian habitat will improve the wildlife corridor with its numerous benefits to a

creek system. A separated lake will remain on the east side of the park along with its existing island and a new island. Water for the lake will be from an imported water source. To improve water circulation in the lake, the lake bottom will be re-contoured and water from the lake will be pumped to Valley Water's Alamos Percolation Pond located near Valley Water's headquarters building.

The new levee will add a new walking pathway within the park so the park users can still walk around the entire lake. Valley Water is also working with the City of San José's Parks Department to ensure the future new park area remains compatible with the park's vision.



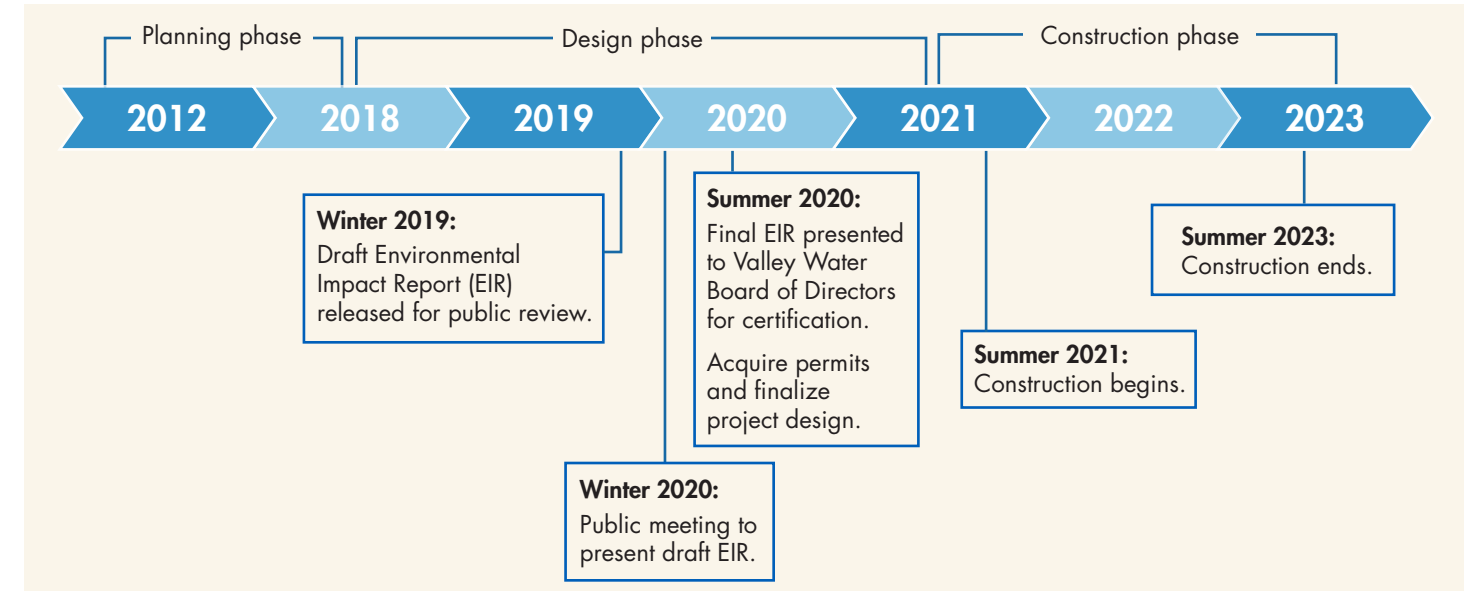
The preferred alternative design for Almaden Lake, the result of extensive community and environmental group input. This rendering shows a typical summer flow in the creek.

Project goals and objectives

1. Separate Alamos Creek from Almaden Lake.
2. Reduce production of methylmercury and mercury in fish in Almaden Lake to meet applicable water quality objectives.
3. Remove potential lake entrainment and impacts from predatory fish to cold-water fish.
4. Improve temperature conditions for native fish.
5. Minimize impacts to existing recreational features.

Project timeline

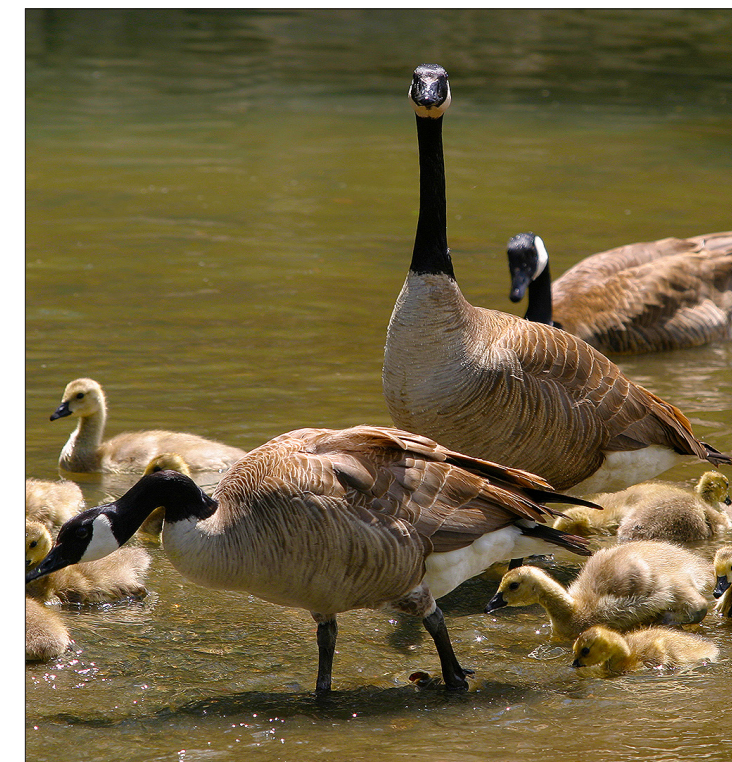
Planning for the project began in 2012, with Valley Water conducting extensive hands-on outreach through 2015 with the community. It held public meetings and presented to neighborhood associations, service organizations and the City of San José to educate and garner input on the proposed project. Valley Water is currently preparing a draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) that evaluates the proposed project and its impacts on the surrounding area. Valley Water released the draft EIR in December 2019 and will hold a public meeting for document review in 2020.



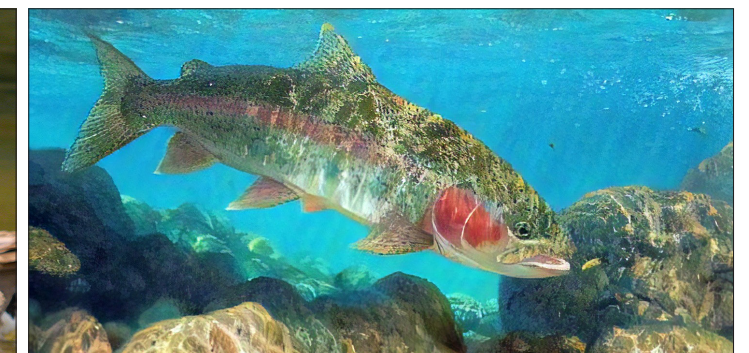
Project cost

The voter approved Safe, Clean Water and Natural Flood Protection Project funds the Almaden Lake Improvement Project. The work is one of eight projects under the measure's Priority D, which focuses on restoring and protecting vital wildlife habitat and providing opportunities for increased access to trails and open space. The project is one of two planned creek and lake separation projects under Priority D4. The project budget is approximately \$5 million for planning and design and approximately \$36 million for construction.

Project benefits



A better environment for wildlife.



A better fish passage corridor for native fish like the Central California Coast steelhead.



A healthier park environment for the community.