

# Stream Maintenance Report

June 15 – June 30, 2019

## SMP BEGINS A NEW SEASON

### Projects and Permit Process Status

Staff submitted *Notice of Proposed Work 1* (NPW1) to regulatory agencies on April 15th. The submittal includes 168 vegetation management projects, 12 bank repairs and 13 sediment removal projects. The proposed sediment removal projects include several very large projects (Stevens Creek, Sunnyvale East Channel and Guadalupe River sediment deposition reaches) that require waiver approvals from the regulatory agencies. On May 9th, staff hosted an agency field tour of these large project sites and initial feedback indicates that waiver approvals for these projects are likely.

Additional status information includes:

- USACE initiated consultation with NMFS and USFWS on April 24th. This resulted in the earlier approval of the majority of the projects than has occurred in the past several years.
- Valley Water received approval from the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board on May 6th for all projects within their jurisdiction.
- Staff is responding to follow-up questions from USACE and USFWS and completed responses to questions from NMFS and San Francisco RWQCB on a small number of projects.
- On May 8<sup>th</sup>, Valley Water executed a sole source contract for Quality Assurance Officer services required by the RWQCB to enable us to maximize reuse of sediment in the South Bay Salt Ponds.
- On May 13, an agreement with USFWS was executed to continue use of USFWS's Pond A8 for the disposal of sediment.
- An informational flyer was sent in June to neighbors in the vicinity of project sites anticipated to be included in this year's SMP work schedule.

We submitted *Notice of Proposed Work 2* (NPW2) on June 17<sup>th</sup>. This submittal consists of approximately 20 additional projects that were not included in NPW1 due to poor project sites conditions prior to April 1<sup>st</sup> (e.g., too much water to perform survey work, biological assessments, etc.).

In addition to the projects submitted this year, we have 5 projects which are carry over projects from last year and are approved for construction this year. These include an Instream Habitat Complexity Project on Los Gatos Creek.

Although approvals from regulatory agencies were received late again this year, staff is pleased to report that SMP approvals were received earlier than in past years and included the "carry over" approvals from projects proposed last year. As such, a number of SMP bank protection, sediment removal, minor maintenance, and instream habitat improvement projects have begun, with some work already completed (see page 2).

Some significant sediment removal activities are anticipated to occur later this summer, and with test results for most of the sites indicating sediment will need to be disposed of at landfills instead of being delivered to Pond A8 for reuse, disposal costs are expected to be high. Also, with a majority of the proposed vegetation management items only recently receiving approvals, and because biological staff support was needed to clear the sites shown in the attached, vegetation management work got a later-than-usual start this year.

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Vegetation management for fire suppression began in March with mowing in the east foothills. Due to the late rains, some areas have been re-mowed. Hand mowing has been completed county wide; mechanical mowing will be finished in the coming weeks.

More vegetation management information will be provided in future updates.

## Work Status: SMP sediment removal, bank protection, minor maintenance, and instream habitat improvement projects either completed and/or ongoing during this reporting period

WORK TYPE	LOCATION	MUNICIPALITY	DISTRICT/ DIRECTOR	STATUS
Sediment removal	West Branch Llagas Creek at Day Road	Gilroy	1 (Varela)	Completed 6/21/19
Minor maintenance – sediment removal	Ross Creek at Meridian Avenue	San Jose	4 (LeZotte)	Completed 6/21/19
Minor maintenance – sediment removal	Ross Creek at Jarvis Avenue	San Jose	4 (LeZotte)	Completed 6/24/19
Minor maintenance – sediment removal	Ross Creek at Cherry Avenue	San Jose	4 (LeZotte)	Completed 6/25/19
Bank protection	Lions Creek upstream of Kern Avenue	Gilroy	1 (Varela)	Completed 6/27/19
Bank protection	Permanente Creek downstream of Highway 101	Mountain View	7 (Kremen)	Ongoing; started 6/17/19
Bank protection	Regnart Creek upstream of Orogrande Place	Cupertino	5 (Hsueh)	Ongoing; started 6/17/19
Bank protection	Coyote Creek downstream of Charcot Avenue	San Jose	3 (Santos)	Ongoing; started 6/24/19
Instream habitat improvement	Los Gatos Creek downstream of Highway 17	Campbell	4 (LeZotte)	Ongoing; started 6/24/19
Sediment removal	Guadalupe River downstream of Coleman Avenue	San Jose	2 (Keegan)	Ongoing; started 6/26/19

\*work performed by contractor

*The information in the project report has been provided by Valley Water staff for SMP work between June 15 and June 30, 2019. As information is gathered, some of the data reported here may change.*