

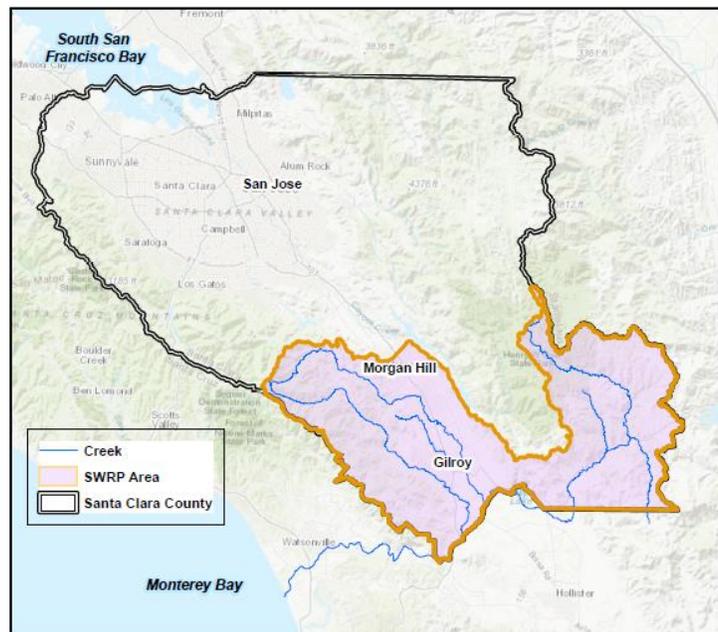
## Storm Water Resource Plan for South Santa Clara County

Based on the successful completion and approval of the Santa Clara Basin Storm Water Resource Plan in North Santa Clara County, Valley Water will begin development of a Storm Water Resource Plan for South Santa Clara County in collaboration with the Cities of Gilroy, Morgan Hill, and the County of Santa Clara. The goal of the Storm Water Resource Plan is to identify and prioritize Green Storm Water Infrastructure project opportunities in the Uvas, Llagas, and Pacheco sub-watersheds that may be eligible for grant funding under Proposition 1 (Assembly Bill 1471).

### What is a Storm Water Resource Plan?

A Storm Water Resource Plan (SWRP) is a planning document that describes the local watershed, identifies water quality issues, and potential local and regional Green Stormwater Infrastructure (GSI) projects that can be constructed to improve local surface water quality.

Traditional approaches to storm water management include implementing best management practices to reduce urban runoff pollutants and provide measures to treat runoff from private and public development projects before it enters the storm drain system such as storm drain inlet protection barriers and filters, vegetated filter strips, and street sweeping. A new way to approach storm water management is to recognize storm water as a resource and construct multi-benefit GSI systems, which use a combination of vegetation, soils, and natural infiltration to capture stormwater runoff. This benefits the community and the environment by reducing pollutants that would otherwise enter the storm drain system, recharging ground water, and assisting with flood prevention.



### Geographical Boundaries

The SWRP will address portions of the Pajaro River Watershed within South Santa Clara County. This area drains to the Monterey Bay and includes two local cities and three major sub-watersheds, including Uvas, Llagas, and Pacheco.

### Storm Water Resource Plan Products

The main products of the SWRP will include:

- A map showing areas of opportunity for runoff capture and use throughout South Santa Clara County; and
- An initial prioritized list of potential multi-benefit GSI projects.

Projects identified in the SWRP may be able to receive future grant funding.

## Development Budget

Development of the SWRP is funded through the Safe, Clean Water B-2 pollution prevention program.

## Development Team

The SWRP will be developed by staff from Valley Water with input from subject matter experts and stakeholders. A Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) will consist of participants from Valley Water and storm water permittee agencies.

## Stakeholder Involvement

Stakeholders will be solicited from diverse local organizations, including not-for-profits, open space districts, and water supply/quality agencies. The draft SWRP will be posted on [Valleywater.org](http://Valleywater.org) for public review.

## Development Process

The development process will focus on the following key tasks:

- Collect existing information, related plans, hydrologic and hydrogeologic data, design criteria, and available GIS data to evaluate watersheds and identify/prioritize potential projects and project areas.
- Develop a methodology or process for identifying and prioritizing potential project opportunities.
- Apply the methodology to the list of potential projects to quantify runoff capture (water supply benefit) and pollutant removal effectiveness (water quality benefit) to prioritize a list of multi-benefit GSI projects. Analyze the list of potential projects further for additional benefits, such as: creating/restoring wetlands and/or riparian habitat; providing instream flows; increasing park and recreation lands and recreation opportunities; providing urban green space; increasing tree canopy; reducing heat island effect; improving air quality; and maximizing flood management.

The final SWRP document will be incorporated into the Pajaro River Watershed Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP) in **Summer 2019**.

The SWRP is being developed by Valley Water in collaboration with the following public agencies:

