

# Watershed Management Initiative

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## Santa Clara Basin Watershed Management Initiative CORE GROUP MEETING MINUTES

June 5, 2008

9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

City of San José, Watershed Protection Office, Almaden Conference Room  
170 West San Carlos Street, San José, CA 95113

*(Dial-in Number: 1-866-476-8781; Participant Code: 2129212)*

Attendees: Trish Mulvey, Kristy McCumby Hyland, Larry Johmann, Kirsten Struve, Matt Krupp, Melody Tovar, Elaine Marshall, Phil Bobel, Richard McMurtry, and Sandra Freitas.

Call-in Attendees: Sarah Young, Luisa Valiela, and Jill Bicknell.

<b>TIME</b>	<b>TOPIC</b>
9:30 a.m.	Welcome, Introductions, Recognition, and Early Announcements (Melody Tovar/Trish Mulvey)
9:40 a.m.	Review Meeting Minutes and Update Action Item from Core Group Meeting on April 3, 2008 (Melody Tovar)
9:45 a.m.	EPA Grants (Melody Tovar/Luisa Valiela)
10:05 a.m.	Short Term Issue Application – Living Streams Vision Statement (Richard McMurtry) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Briefing on Santa Clara County Creeks Coalition Living Streams Vision activities, request for Core Group suggestions of community groups and tactics for developing community support</li></ul>
10:25 a.m.	Short Term Issue Applications (Trish Mulvey) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Invasive Species in Reservoirs and Waterways (Larry Johmann) Introduction of issue and concerns. Core Group discussion of appropriate forum for information sharing and next steps.</li><li>▪ Urban Creeks Council for Landowner Stewardship Grant Opportunity (Trish Mulvey) Introduction of SMPL program and EPA grant opportunity. Core Group suggestions for local contacts.</li></ul>
10:55a.m.	Check-in for Subgroups (Melody Tovar) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Charter for Product Stewardship and Trash Subgroups</li><li>▪ Subgroup work plans and next steps</li><li>▪ Website Updates (Sandra Freitas)</li></ul>
11:25 a.m.	Open Discussion (Melody Tovar)
11:45 a.m.	Action Item Review/Next Agenda/Plus/Delta (Melody Tovar) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Planning 12 Year Celebration and Annual Check-In – August</li></ul>
12:00 p.m.	Adjourn and Next Meeting: August 7, 2008, City of San José, Watershed

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Protection Office, Evergreen Conference Room

## **ACTION ITEMS**

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<b>#</b>	<b>ACTION ITEM</b>	<b>ASSIGNED TO</b>	<b>DUE DATE</b>	<b>STATUS</b>
1	Send e-mail to subgroup chairs requesting meeting agendas and minutes.	Sandra Freitas	ASAP	Done
2	E-mail meeting minutes from April 3, 2008 to Core for final review and comment.	Sandra Freitas	with June meeting minutes	Done
3	Look into list of neighborhood associations for Richard McMurtry.	Sandra Freitas	ASAP	Done
4	Obtain list of WMI signatories and forward it to Richard McMurty.	Sandra Freitas	ASAP	Done
5	Look into Kirsch Center at De Anza and other potential sites for WMI 12-Year Celebration and Potluck	Sandra Freitas Melody Tovar	in time for next COS meeting	Done

**1. Welcome, Introductions, Recognition, and Early Announcements (Melody Tovar/Trish Mulvey)**

- The group recognized Kristy McCumby Hyland's long term leadership and support of the WAMS Subgroup. Kristy served as the WAMS chair for seven years, WMI's longest serving chair person.

**2. Review Meeting Minutes and Update Action Item from Core Group Meeting on April 3, 2008 (Melody Tovar)**

- The April 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting Minutes have not yet been finalized. The review and the approval process will take place via e-mail, and then they will be posted to the WMI Website. All April action items were completed.

**3. EPA Grants (Melody Tovar/Luisa Valiela)**

- Luisa Valiela with the EPA provided a brief overview of the current grant opportunities. The RFP for the San Francisco Bay Area Water Quality Improvement Fund Grant was recently released with proposals due on August 25, 2008. The grant seeks proposals for projects that will restore and protect the water quality, habitat and environment of the San Francisco Bay and its watersheds through comprehensive approaches to water quality management. Awards will range from approximately \$500,000 to \$5,000,000 of federal funds with each project period being three years. Grant information can be found at <http://www.epa.gov/region09/funding/sfbay-water.html>. Additional questions or clarification should be directed to Luisa.

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- The group posed some specific questions to Luisa about potential project eligibility and selection process. She stated that projects addressing any permit requirements are ineligible, unless your project goes “above and beyond” what is required. Trash control is one of the priorities along with TMDLs. Funding for this grant came from an earmark sponsored by Senator Feinstein. Although this is a one-time earmark it is hoped that additional funding will be available in the future. Submitting proposals now, even if not awarded, will help demonstrate the need for on-going funding.

## 4. **Short Term Issue Application – Living Streams Vision Statement (Richard McMurtry)**

- Richard McMurtry presented information on the Santa Clara County Creeks Coalition’s Living Streams Vision and their efforts to have other organizations and neighborhood groups sign onto the Vision and engage in a letter writing campaign. The Creeks Coalition goal is to conduct up to 350 presentations of the Vision in the next 18 months. The group felt that the WMI could not sign on to the current Vision but encouraged Richard to approach each of the WMI signatories individually, and provided recommendations for other groups that could be approached. Richard was also encouraged to get involved with San Jose’s current General Plan update process and will follow-up with Matt Krupp who had specific ideas. Additionally, if Richard is interested in working with the WMI to craft a consensus Vision document, participation in that may be of interest to our SPREF work group; and he can talk with them about such an effort while the next SPREF presentations are being organized
- The Creeks Coalition is considering two other projects: (1) Santa Clara County [?] *Friends of the Rivers* where volunteers lead guided tours and ask participants to sign letters encouraging restoration of creeks and rivers; and (2) *Green Jobs for Youth* which would involve at-risk youth in creek clean-up and potentially litter enforcement activities, education on sources of trash and cultural sensitivity training.

## 5. **Short Term Issue Applications (Trish Mulvey)**

### ▪ **Invasive Species in Reservoirs and Waterways (Larry Johmann)**

- Larry Johmann provided a presentation on the invasive species impacting our local waterways and concerns about the current inspection program. The two main concerns being: (1) equity of inspection requirements for power boats versus canoes/kayaks, and (2) education and outreach to the boating and canoeing community- especially those who may not be part of organized groups. From the group discussion, Larry was encouraged to work to resolve these issues with the SCVWD and County of Santa Clara, who are responsible for the inspection program. The SCVWD had expressed their interest in working with the Western Canoe Club and other groups prior to the Core Group meeting.

### ▪ **Urban Creeks Council Landowner Stewardship Grant Opportunity (Trish Mulvey)**

- The Urban Creeks Council is looking for South Bay partners that can provide matching funds to expand the Streamside Management Program for Landowners (SMPL). This program expansion would be included as a component of the San Francisco Estuary Project’s grant proposal for San Francisco Bay Area Water Quality Improvement Fund Grant. The Santa Clara Valley Urban Runoff Pollution Prevention Program, SCVWD and GCRCD are considering participation.

## 6. **Check-in for Subgroups (Melody Tovar)**

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- Charters for the WMI Product Stewardship and Trash subgroups were reviewed and approved. Roberta Dunlap of San Jose will chair the Product Stewardship Subgroup. Phil Bobel of Palo Alto will chair the Trash Subgroup.
- San Jose is recruiting individuals to participate on its Plant Master Plan Community Advisory Group. Applicants need to live or own a business in the Plant tributary area. Deadline to submit an application is June 20, 2008.
- The Land Use Subgroup will start meeting via conference call unless there is a presentation or other need for in-person meeting of the group.
- WMI Web site Updates -- Agendized for Core Group Meeting on August 7, 2008.

7. **Open Discussion (Melody Tovar)**

- No open discussion took place.

8. **Action Item Review/Next Agenda/Plus/Delta (Melody Tovar)**

- Action Items are listed above in a table.
- Next agenda includes the following:
  - SCBWMI 12 Year Celebration
    - Potluck/BBQ; additional details to be determined in the meantime
  - Annual Check-In for all Subgroups and Core Group since the Retreat in June 2007
  - San Jose General Plan update (contact to be determined)

9. **Adjourned at 12:10 p.m. and next meeting is August 7, 2008, City of San José, Watershed Protection Office, Evergreen Conference (tentative)**

*The WMI's role will be to continue to serve as a stakeholder forum for watershed initiatives, to facilitate problem-solving processes, and to support and encourage agency actions in the direction of the nine strategic policy objectives.*

## WMI Work Plan Priorities Update

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|---|-------------------------------|
| 1. <i>Trash</i>                           | 3. <i>Stream Goals</i>        |
| 2. <i>Erosive Forces/Riparian Setback</i> | 4. <i>Product Stewardship</i> |