
WATERSHED MANAGEMENT INITIATIVE: GOALS & IMPLEMENTATION OBJECTIVES, JULY 26, 1999

The following table indicates the draft goals and objectives for the Santa Clara Basin WMI process. The overall objectives for the process are divided into two types: Planning Objectives and Implementation Objectives.

- **Planning Objectives** are distinct, specific, measurable statements that reflect and define each goal. They are designed to direct, track and measure progress over the next several years of preparing the Watershed Plan, but they do not necessarily guide implementing “on the ground” actions in the watershed. By definition, Planning Objectives will be reflected by one or several Implementation Objectives. Most of the Planning Objectives are designed to be implemented by the time the Watershed Plan is fully adopted.

- **Implementation Objectives** are also distinct, measurable statements that reflect the goals, but are meant to guide ongoing implementation actions in the watershed. The Implementation Objectives will become part of the Watershed Plan and can be used to measure long-term substantive progress in the watershed. The Implementation Objectives include a time component and “measures of success.” These are measurable indicators that can help determine how well the objective is being met. To meet an objective does not necessarily mean maximizing every measure. The measures of success are examples only; further data gathering efforts, analysis and planning will refine these indicators.

The WMI will revisit and modify both of these types of objectives (particularly Implementation) at various points throughout the process. Stakeholder and community input will be sought in evaluating and revising the objectives.

WMI GOALS & DRAFT IMPLEMENTATION OBJECTIVES

July 26, 1999

GOAL	IMPLEMENTATION OBJECTIVES	TIMING	POTENTIAL MEASURES OF SUCCESS
<p>1. Ensure that the Watershed Management Initiative is a broad, consensus-based process.</p>	<p>A. Set-up and support citizen monitoring and involvement programs in each sub-watershed.</p>	<p>Continuous</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number of active groups operating in the WMI and in the watershed ▪ Presence of citizen monitoring plans for sub-watersheds with standardized, accessible data ▪ Geographical and topical diversity of active groups
	<p>B. Conduct focused outreach to targeted land users including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Creek-side residents ▪ Floodplain residents ▪ Business and industry ▪ Government ▪ Agriculture and grazing ▪ Recreational ▪ Other public groups. 	<p>Continuous</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Level of active WMI participation ▪ Outreach “hits” ▪ Level of awareness (based on a survey) ▪ Number of newsletters, articles and other publications and materials on watershed activities
	<p>C. Participate and/or cooperate with other relevant planning and implementation processes that have similar goals.</p>	<p>Continuous</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number of allied efforts with which WMI is in contact ▪ Number of shared data bases
	<p>D. Establish a watershed council/conservancy with active stakeholder participation to ensure implementation of plan.</p>	<p>concurrent with plan adoption</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number of active participating organizations ▪ Presence of watershed council covering widespread area of the basin

2. Ensure that necessary resources are provided for the implementation of the Watershed Management Initiative.	A. Secure the necessary funds for implementation of the Watershed Management Plan from a variety of sources: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Taxes/fees ▪ Benefit assessment ▪ Impact fees ▪ Grants ▪ Non-profits ▪ State revolving fund ▪ Other. 	Continuous	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Total amount of funds to accomplish priorities ▪ Funding secured to accomplish the long-term objectives of the WMI
	B. Direct resources (funds, staff time and other resources) to priority actions identified in the Watershed Management Plan.	Continuous	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Compare budgets each year to priority actions
	C. Ensure equitable contributions from stakeholders based on benefits.	Continuous	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Participant satisfaction with budget(s)
	D. Ensure cost-effective use of resources.	Continuous	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Successful performance audits

3. Simplify compliance with regulatory requirements without compromising environmental protection.	A. Modify regulations and permit processes to be consistent with and serve to implement the Watershed Management Plan.	Adoption of Watershed Mgt.Plan, prior to next permit cycle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All new regulations promulgated are consistent with Watershed Mgt. Plan • Permit conditions reflect the WMI objectives
	<p>B. Define long-term goals, objectives, performance measures, requirements and enforcement thresholds for regulatory programs including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Setting site-specific standards, • Determining clearly what constitutes a complete and accurate application, • Analyzing cumulative impacts, • Establishing a clear “road map” allowing for adaptive management and 5 year planning horizons, • Maximizing inter-agency coordination and cooperation through a joint permit application, synchronized permits or “one-stop” permit concept, • Establishing clear direction in advance for permits, as well as after the current permits expire , • Providing clear expectations of compliance requirements, and • Incorporating EPA’s concept of watershed permitting. 	In place prior to the next cycle of permits (this will vary by type of required permit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Published steps and information necessary to modify permit procedures and programs.

<p>3. Simplify compliance with regulatory requirements without compromising environmental protection (continued).</p>	<p>C. Reduce costs, time and resources for applicants to satisfy permit requirements and for regulatory agencies to issue and monitor permits. This may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revising existing programs to achieve protection of beneficial uses with less complex and redundant provisions, • Providing timely and predictable access to regulatory staff and information, • Providing timely and constructive responses to comments, and • Establishing regional mitigation banks and other tools to streamline mitigation requirements • Providing consistent thresholds or standards of impact significance between agencies. 	<p>Procedures in place prior to next permit cycle</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduced costs and time for applicants and regulatory agencies in the permit process
	<p>D. Enhance open public involvement in the regulatory permit process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adequate time for comment periods, • Provide public participation for processes now closed to the public, • Provide readily accessible information, and • Public access to monitoring information. 	<p>Procedures in place prior to next permit cycle</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Published procedures for community information access and for participation in permit processes

<p>4. Balance the objectives of water supply management, habitat protection, flood management and land use to protect and enhance water quality.</p>	<p>A. Provide adequate flow in creeks to support thriving aquatic ecosystems (still need to define quantity, timing, quality, critical areas and species, habitat management objectives).</p>	Continuous	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Biological indicators (to be determined in the study process)
	<p>B. Provide adequate quality and quantity of water to meet the needs of the community in a sustainable manner.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rely primarily on local water sources, • Optimize water conservation, • Maximize use of recycled and reused water, and • Enhance groundwater recharge to meet water demands. 	Continuous	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For water quantity, ensure urban water management plans that are consistent with the Watershed Mgt.Plan and WMI objectives • For water quality, meeting adopted water quality standards • Sustainable use of local water sources
	<p>C. Provide flood protection that respects the needs and values of the community now and in the future.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use alternative flood management measures such as setbacks, buffer zones and levees to retain natural floodplains. Rely on structural measures only where others are not practical. • Local land use agencies should create and enforce policies to preclude development in floodplains and not increase flood flows. • Where feasible, restore floodplains to more natural conditions. • Reduce impervious surfaces; maintain infiltration capacity in new development. • Incorporate flood management needs into stream and other restoration projects. 	Continuous	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Percentage of natural channel along waterways • Number and dollar value of flood damage claims over time • Number and scale of new structures built in designated floodplains

<p>4. Balance the objectives of water supply management, habitat protection, flood management and land use to protect and enhance water quality (continued)</p>	<p>D. Local land use planning agencies shall incorporate the objectives of the WMI process into their general and specific plans and day-to-day planning processes. A complete list of land use-related objectives are in the Land Use Sub-Group action items. Those particularly relevant to this goal are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimize run-off and its associated impacts in new development and redevelopment, • Provide special policies for remodeling, expanding or redeveloping properties in or near sensitive locations such as wetlands, streams, well heads • General Plans clearly delineate areas for urbanization and watershed areas to be protected and restored, • General Plan policies provide clear implementation tools to accomplish watershed objectives, • Cities and County should revise site design standards and specifications for public works projects to be consistent with WMI objectives, • EIR's should address watershed impacts, and • CEQA documentation for proposed projects should consistently reference watershed plans and standards and incorporate appropriate mitigation measures. 	<p>Continuous</p> <p>General plans to be revised to reflect WMI objectives within three years following Watershed Mgt. Plan adoption</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ General plans and implementing regulations are clearly consistent with WMI objectives ▪ Built land uses in the watershed demonstrate features consistent with objectives of WMI
	<p>E. Cities, the County, special districts and LAFCO should cooperate to ensure that their land use plans and policies are consistent with flood management, habitat protection and water supply objectives as delineated in the Watershed Management Plan.</p>	<p>Continuous</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Policies by cities, the County and LAFCO match the policies and intent of the Watershed Management Plan

<p>5. Protect and/or restore streams, reservoirs, wetlands and the bay for the benefit of fish, wildlife and human uses.</p>	<p>A. Ensure healthy ecosystems that support sustainable populations of fish, wildlife and plants.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Create contiguous habitats from salt marsh to hilltop encompassing tidal wetlands, riparian corridors and upland buffers. ▪ Acquire high priority habitats and watershed lands that meet WMI Objectives (fee title or easements). ▪ Restore high priority habitats that support WMI Objectives. ▪ Eradicate invasive plant and animal species that threaten natural and restored habitats. ▪ Implement riparian protection regulations. ▪ Restore fish passage to upstream spawning and rearing habitat. ▪ Modify water management operations to also include benefits to aquatic ecosystems ▪ Protect and restore habitats of special status species. 	<p>Continuous</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ linear miles of protected corridors ▪ acres of protected land ▪ acres of restored habitat ▪ number of jurisdictions with riparian protection regulations, sufficient to accomplish WMI objectives ▪ number of areas (or acres) with eradicated invasives ▪ number of obstructions removed
	<p>B. Restore the dominance of native species in the ecosystems of the basin, focusing on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Special status species ▪ Priority species identified during the WMI process such as burrowing owls, cold water fisheries, shorebirds ▪ Indicator species for particular habitats identified in the WMI process (e.g., macro-invertebrates, phytoplankton) 	<p>Continuous</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ number of species present; richness and diversity ▪ number of special status species ▪ amount of biomass, number of plants or animals particularly special status species (specifics to be determined)

<p>C. Maximize outdoor recreational and educational opportunities, while ensuring protection of drinking water and habitat.</p>	<p>Continuous</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ miles of trails ▪ number of visitors at recreational or educational facilities ▪ access points to streams, lakes, etc. ▪ number of educational/interpretive facilities ▪ percentage and amount of protected land and habitat in the basin ▪ location of trails with respect to special status species habitat
<p>D. Improve water quality in streams, wetlands and ponds, etc.</p>	<p>Continuous</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ meeting standards based on existing water monitoring programs such as CWA, Safe Drinking Water Act monitoring, etc. ▪ number of fisheries health advisories rescinded ▪ reducing the number of candidate sites on the State's Consolidated Toxic Hot Spot List ▪ decrease in numbers of listed 303(d) waters.
<p>E. Improve enforcement of policies, laws and regulations that support the objectives of the WMI.</p>	<p>Continuous</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ increased compliance, fewer violations than currently ▪ percentage of "green certified" businesses

6. Develop an implementable Watershed Management Plan that incorporates science and is continuously improved.	<p>A. Ensure that the Watershed Management Plan and Implementation are science-based.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Establish accurate and comprehensive baseline data. ▪ Ensure accurate on-going monitoring of the key indicators determined during the WMI process. ▪ Conduct/support research relevant to the WMI Goals and Objectives. ▪ Based on the monitoring program, identify causes of changes in the watershed. 	Continuous	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Annual Peer Review of the Monitoring and Action program
	<p>B. Incorporate advanced information and data management technologies, protocols and tools into watershed management.</p>	Continuous	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Peer review ▪ Gauge public access to Websites, etc.
	<p>C. Ensure that the Watershed Management Plan is an <i>Action Plan</i> that is implemented.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Maintain a single list of agreed upon priority actions; keep updated regularly. ▪ Develop regular mechanisms to review progress on objectives regularly. 	Continuous	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ WMI Core Group (which is likely to be a watershed conservancy or other entity) is meeting regularly ▪ Priority actions are being completed ▪ The objectives and recommendations of the Watershed Plan have been incorporated into general and specific plans, ordinances, the Basin Plan and other planning processes and documents.

	<p>D. Watershed management and implementation should be based on continuous improvement and adaptive management principles.</p>	<p>Continuous</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Watershed Management Plan is being reviewed at least quarterly; data are being used and policy decisions reflect the data/analysis? ▪ The Watershed Management Plan is being updated and modified on a regular basis ▪ These updates are filtering back to the jurisdictions and other participants ▪ There is a master timeline and it is being followed
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