
WATERSHED MANAGEMENT INITIATIVE: GOALS & PLANNING OBJECTIVES, April 1999

The following table indicates the goals and planning 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 one or several Implementation Objectives.

- **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 progress. (*Note: Implementation Objectives are not in this draft.*)

The WMI will revisit and modify both of these types of objectives (particularly Implementation) at various points throughout the process.

WMI GOALS & PLANNING OBJECTIVES

April 1999

GOAL	PLANNING OBJECTIVES
<p>1. Ensure that the Watershed Management Initiative is a broad, consensus-based process.</p>	<p>A. Actively involve policy-makers and the public in the WMI process and activities. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Feedback on the WMI process itself.• Input on the Watershed Assessment, State of the Watershed and Watershed Plan.• Education, awareness and buy-in for future watershed activities. <p>B. Continue to implement, refine and document decision-making and conflict resolution procedures and the organizational structure of the WMI process (e.g. continue to use sub-groups as vehicle for stakeholder involvement).</p> <p>C. Participate and/or cooperate with other relevant planning and implementation processes that have similar goals.</p>

2. Ensure that necessary resources are provided for the implementation of the Watershed Management Initiative.

- A. Provide broad overall planning for the WMI.
- B. Provide for effective and responsible management of WMI:
 - Develop a fiscal management structure.
 - Determine and receive appropriate contributions from participants.
 - Direct financial resources to priority actions.
 - Track expenditures and stakeholder contributions.
 - Identify, submit, and oversee grant proposal and management.
- C. Identify and obtain possible funding opportunities for implementation of watershed management activities.
- D. Ensure that appropriate weight is given to spending funds on both planning and implementation. Direct resources toward priority actions that directly support the approved objectives and goals.
- E. Identify and work with other monitoring programs in the Santa Clara Basin to ensure cost effective use of field monitoring funds.

<p>3. Simplify compliance with regulatory requirements without compromising environmental protection.</p>	<p>A. Identify regulatory requirements that affect watershed management, and develop criteria for their evaluation.</p> <p>B. Recommend policies, regulations and permit procedures that balance environmental protection with regulatory certainty and streamlining.</p> <p>C. Identify mechanisms to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Streamline the permitting process by integrating or combining related permits, establishing consistency in permits across regulatory agencies and improving certainty. • Implement the most cost-effective pollutant control strategies. • Implement mechanisms for early public involvement in the permitting process. • Improve land use policies and regulations of local jurisdictions and ensure consistency with State and Federal regulatory requirements. • Include water quality and water quantity requirements in local land use permitting processes. <p>D. Continue to address permit re-issuance and modifications that occur during the watershed planning process.</p> <p>E. Develop mechanisms to advocate for regulatory requirements that are scientifically based and continuously improved to focus on priority action.</p>
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4. Balance the objectives of water supply management, habitat protection, flood management and land use to protect and enhance water quality.

- A. Identify the relationships between water supply management, flood management, habitat protection and land use.
- B. Develop a decision-making process that integrates the results of the analysis identified in objective 4.A above.
- C. Identify ways to enhance water quality in Santa Clara Basin waterways and the Lower Bay through improved land use practices, pollution prevention and other means.
- D. Identify ways to integrate flood management planning and activities with the goals and objectives of the WMI process.
- E. Identify ways to integrate water supply planning activities with the goals and objectives of WMI, including issues of water conservation, reuse/recycling, surface and ground water quality, and source protection.

<p>5. Protect and/or restore streams, reservoirs, wetlands and the bay for the benefit of fish, wildlife and human uses.</p>	<p>A. Complete a comprehensive watershed assessment, at minimum based on the approved outline of the Report Preparation Team including topics such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural history of the Santa Clara Basin. • State of the South Bay. • Plant, fish and wildlife habitats and special status species. • Water features, water bodies and associated beneficial uses. • Quantified criteria for estimating the level of protection for each beneficial use. <p>B. Identify water bodies with urgent problems and prioritize and implement actions to resolve these problems.</p> <p>C. Participate in the TMDL process and/or establish alternative control strategies for impediments/ stressors.</p> <p>D. Develop and implement short-term (during WMI) and long-term monitoring strategies, including establishment of baseline information.</p> <p>E. Identify and analyze alternatives to protect and restore wetland, riparian and stream habitats.</p> <p>F. Identify opportunities to increase biodiversity within the basin.</p> <p>G. Identify important issues for water supply, agriculture and recreational-use protection or restoration.</p>
<p>6. Develop an implementable Watershed Management Plan that incorporates science and is continuously improved.</p>	<p>A. Prepare a Quality Management Plan and use it throughout the preparation of the Watershed Assessment, State of the Watershed and Watershed Plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Convene independent experts to review data collection, the Watershed Assessment and other documents. • Ensure adequate public review of all technical reports produced by the WMI. <p>B. Establish priority actions in the Watershed Plan and have a process for continual improvement.</p> <p>C. Develop mechanism to regularly review and update the Watershed Plan.</p>

