

Flood Protection Strategies

Project	Lead Agency	Description
Flood Management		
Soap Lake Floodplain Preservation Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pajaro River Watershed Flood Prevention Authority 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain natural flood storage attenuation benefits of the Soap Lake floodplain for the Pajaro River Watershed Preservation of the Soap Lake Floodplain through acquisition of land or conservation easements for approximately 9,000 acres
Soap Lake Proposed Policies, Resolutions, and Ordinances	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cities and Counties in the upper Pajaro River watershed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ordinances to support the preservation of Soap Lake Floodplain for flood attenuation benefits Land uses that are incompatible with the goals of maintaining the Soap Lake Floodplain will be restricted
Levee Reconstruction Project (Including Bench Excavation and the APV Stakeholder Process)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Santa Cruz County, Department of Public Works (SCC DPW) U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Action Pajaro Valley 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reconstruction of levees on the lower Pajaro River including bench excavation and stakeholder process to ensure local funding is available Increases levee flow capacity from 22,000 cfs to 44,000 cfs flow, which will provide conveyance of 100 year flood event Protection from flood damage to local communities Minimize National Flood Insurance Program costs through removal of the surrounding area from the 100 year floodplain
Levee Setback Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SCC DPW 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 340 acres will be preserved for flood storage and conveyance within the Levee Reconstruction Project
On-going flow monitoring and data collection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SCVWD SBCWD MCWRA City of Watsonville 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Event-specific and other measurements observed in the field, or remotely, to determine stream flow

ALERT station monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SCVWD • SBCWD • MCWRA • City of Watsonville 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installation and operation of flood warning stations at key locations in the Pajaro River Watershed that monitor and transmit precipitation, water level data, and other parameters • Provide early warning of potential flooding events • Allow for performance evaluation of flood control projects • Contributes to credits under the National Flood Insurance Program Community Rating System, which can aid in lower flood insurance costs
Upper Llagas Creek Flood Protection Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SCVWD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide 100-year level of flood protection in the urban areas of Morgan Hill • 5- to 10-year level of flood protection in the agricultural areas of Gilroy and San Martin • Will provide channel stabilization measures, thus reducing erosion and sedimentation. • Improves stream habitat for fish and wildlife and will improve water quality
Lower Llagas Creek Flood Protection Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SCVWD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restoration project to address reduced capacity in Llagas Creek • Existing levees extend approximately from Buena Vista Avenue downstream to the confluence with the Pajaro River
Uvas Creek Flood Protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SCVWD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • U.S. Army Corp of Engineers completed the levee system in 1988 • SCVWD reports on the state of the levees and any recent construction adjacent to the levees twice a year • On-going operation and management of the levees
San Juan Basin Surface Drainage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SBCWD • County of San Benito • CALTRANS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cooperative effort to ensure that CALTRANS improvements to Highway 156 through the San Juan Valley are constructed in a manner that enhance local drainage and conveyance abilities, and reduces local flooding.
Mitigation to keep channels clear for flood flows	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SCVWD • MCWRA • SCC DPW 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing maintenance of existing flood control channels • Preserves the rated flows for flood control • Reduces potential damage from objects carried during flood events • Enhance recreational and aesthetic value by removing trash • Reduce water quality impacts of stormwater runoff by removal of potential sources of pollutants from man-made objects