

## Water Quality Strategies

Project	Lead Agency	Description
<b>Water Quality Outreach and Education Programs</b>		
Regional Mobile Lab	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SBCWD</li> <li>• SCVWD</li> <li>• PVWMA</li> <li>• MCWRA</li> <li>• Agricultural Land-Based Training Association</li> <li>• Farm Bureau</li> <li>• RCD</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Irrigation and fertilization management assistance program for farmers and nurseries in Santa Clara, San Benito, Santa Cruz, Monterey and San Mateo Counties</li> <li>• Provides free pump tests, irrigation and fertilizer evaluations</li> <li>• Aids with compliance with the conditional agricultural waiver</li> <li>• Grant funded project ending in March 2007</li> </ul>
Ranchette Series	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RCD</li> <li>• SBCWD</li> <li>• SCVWD</li> <li>• PVWMA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encompasses a variety of water quality workshops targeting landowners with small acreages</li> <li>• Topics vary depending upon available funding</li> </ul>
Nitrate Management Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Various Individual Efforts among SBCWD, SCVWD and PVWMA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Main target is agricultural community with a focus on groundwater</li> <li>• Considerations to expand programs to include municipal landscapers as well as surface water protection</li> <li>• Efforts coordinated with the Regional Mobile Lab</li> </ul>
Salinity Education Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Various Individual Efforts among Agencies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For agricultural users the focus is on managing salt additions from fertilizers</li> <li>• For M&amp;I users the focus is on water softening</li> </ul>
Water Softener Rebate Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SCVWD</li> <li>• SBCWD</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SCVWD and SBCWD are coordinating on a water softener rebate program</li> <li>• PVWMA also interested in water softener rebate program</li> </ul>

Groundwater Quality Protection and Improvement Programs		
Coastal Pumping Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PVWMA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Groundwater models suggest reduced coastal pumping would be more effective at preventing sea water intrusion than basin-wide pumping reductions</li> <li>Efforts to minimize coastal pumping coordinated with the development of the Coastal Distribution System and the provision of alternative water supplies for coastal users</li> </ul>
Protection of Recharge Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>County of Santa Cruz, Planning Department</li> <li>PVWMA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preservation of areas of groundwater recharge through land acquisition, proper basin maintenance, sediment control, zoning and education and outreach programs</li> <li>Will maintain and increase volume of groundwater recharge by maintaining infiltration rates and area available for spreading</li> <li>Protect groundwater quality</li> <li>PVWMA has considered implementation of a basin-wide management measure to enhance groundwater stability through protection of key areas of recharge</li> </ul>
Land Use and Development Review Programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cities and Counties within the Pajaro River Watershed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work with other agencies on their land use decisions and other planning efforts that affect the water resources</li> </ul>
Water Resources Protection Ordinance (WRPO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SCVWD</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Habitat and floodplain protection</li> <li>Provides legally binding requirements for actions needed to maintain flood control and habitat</li> </ul>
River Discharge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SBCWD</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Future studies suggested for evaluation of discharge to San Benito River or Pajaro River to be used as part of a groundwater salt management program</li> </ul>
Export Pipeline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SBCWD</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Future studies suggested for evaluation of an export pipeline (for groundwater treatment concentrate, wastewater effluent, agricultural drainage runoff or pumped groundwater) between Hollister or the San Juan Valley and the City of Watsonville to be used as part of the groundwater salt management</li> <li>Potential to coordinate with the City of Watsonville's existing ocean outfall</li> </ul>
Solvent and Toxins Liaison Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SCVWD</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cases and the actions of the regulatory agencies are evaluated to ensure that threat posed by contamination at sites is appropriately reduced</li> <li>Conduct peer review and progress tracking of the cleanups</li> <li>Includes the Olin Perchlorate case in the Llagas Groundwater Subbasin</li> <li>Agency staff participate in advisory committee and other stakeholder forums</li> </ul>

Wastewater Treatment and Disposal		
SCWRA Disposal Line	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SCRWA</li> <li>• City of Gilroy</li> <li>• City of Morgan Hill</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides expanded recycle water use opportunities as well as an alternative wastewater disposal method for SCWRA</li> <li>• For disposal, limited to winter discharge if percolation ponds are at capacity</li> </ul>
Hollister Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• City of Hollister</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proposed upgrade of the existing Domestic Wastewater Treatment Plant, which has a capacity of 2.69 MGD, to a capacity of 5.0 MGD utilizing a membrane bioreactor</li> <li>• No modifications necessary for Industrial Wastewater Treatment Plant</li> </ul>
SSCWD Long-Term Wastewater Management Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sunnyslope County Water District</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop long-term solution for wastewater management considering both local and regional alternatives</li> <li>• Current system consists of treatment ponds and evaporation and percolation ponds</li> <li>• The wastewater treatment and disposal evaluation is coordinated with evaluation of the Sunnyslope Recycled Water Project and SSCWD Groundwater Demineralization</li> </ul>
Tres Pinos Wastewater Improvement Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tres Pinos County Water District</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop long-term solution for wastewater management</li> <li>• Current system consists of treatment ponds and evaporation and percolation ponds</li> </ul>
Stormwater Capture and Management		
Constructed Wetlands Treatment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SBCWD</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The SBCWD Groundwater Management Plan Update considers the use of constructed wetlands for the treatment of water prior to discharge to a waterway.</li> <li>• Constructed wetlands can be used to remove sediments, solids, and nutrients (including nitrogen) from subsurface drainage water, storm water and/or municipal wastewater.</li> <li>• The proposed constructed wetlands may be utilized along the San Benito River</li> </ul>

Tequisquita Slough Wetland Treatment Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RCD</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This project will include construction of a wetland, and components may include agricultural drainage pre-treatment measures to remove pollutants prior to discharge to the adjoining wetland area. The construction of a wetland would involve earthwork, the removal of the non-native vegetation and the establishment of native vegetation.</li> <li>• Native vegetation would be planted to provide and enhance wildlife habitat. The earthwork would consist of a dike, levee or ditch system.</li> <li>• Excavated material would have to be disposed of; this could be done by spreading it uniformly over adjacent fields, creating islands and raised mounds or building low dikes to separate constructed wetlands and open water areas from agricultural fields.</li> </ul>
Stormwater treatment through Industrial WWTP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• City of Hollister</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The City of Hollister has a combined industrial sewer-storm drain collection system</li> <li>• Stormwater is captured and treated along with industrial wastewater at the Hollister Industrial WWTP</li> <li>• The secondary-treated wastewater is disposed of through evaporation and percolation ponds. These ponds recharge the Hollister West and San Juan sub-basins (groundwater aquifers).</li> </ul>
NPS Pollution Control		
Santa Cruz Partners in Restoration Permit Coordination Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RCD</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Addresses agricultural nonpoint source pollution</li> <li>• Streamlines permitting process for BMPs designed to prevent and reduce transport of sediment, nutrients and pesticides into waterways</li> <li>• Directly supports TMDL implementation and agricultural waiver compliance</li> </ul>
San Benito and South Santa Clara Permit Coordination Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RCD</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Builds upon success of the Santa Cruz Partners in Restoration Permit Coordination Program</li> <li>• Extends the coordinated permitting process used in the lower watershed to the greater Pajaro River watershed</li> <li>• Directly supports TMDL implementation and agricultural waiver compliance</li> </ul>
Conditional Agricultural Waiver	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Central Coast RWQCB</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides conditions for waiver of waste discharge permits for growers</li> <li>• Requires attendance of RWQCB approved water quality education courses and completion of a Farm Water Quality Plan</li> <li>• Monitoring may be implemented either individually or cooperatively</li> </ul>

Vegetative Buffer Strips	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SCVWD</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funds from NPS program used to work with landowners to identify regions that could benefit from the installation of vegetative buffer strips</li> <li>• First project implemented in Carnadero Preserve</li> </ul>
Green Valley Watershed Stream Bank Stabilization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RCD</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstration project identified in the Lower Pajaro River Watershed Enhancement Plan to provide long-term bank stabilization, a reduction of erosion and sedimentation problems and improvement of the riparian habitat in a section of stream with a deeply incised channel, excessive bank erosion and little riparian vegetation</li> <li>• Proposed project borders Casserly Creek, a tributary of Salsipuedes Creek</li> </ul>
Coward Creek Stream Bank Stabilization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RCD</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstration project identified in the Lower Pajaro River Watershed Enhancement Plan to provide long-term bank stabilization in a section of stream that is being severely undercut and causing loss of land to adjacent properties due to erosion</li> <li>• Proposed project is located along Coward Creek</li> </ul>