

**DRAFT Pajaro River Watershed
Integrated Regional Water Management Plan
Mission, Goals and Objectives**

MISSION: The mission of the Pajaro River Watershed Management Collaborative is to preserve the economic and environmental wealth and well-being for the Pajaro River watershed through watershed stewardship and comprehensive management of water resources in a practical, cost effective and responsible manner.

Water Supply Goal: Lead Integrated Regional Water Management Planning effort to improve regional water supply reliability, reduce dependence on imported water, and protect watershed communities from drought with a focus on interagency conjunctive use of regional water resources.

Objectives:

- Meet 100% of municipal and industrial (M&I) and agricultural demand in wet to dry years including the first year of a drought.
- Meet 85% of M&I and 75% agricultural demands in second and subsequent years of a drought.
- Optimize and sustain use of existing import surface water entitlements from the San Felipe Unit.
- Protect existing appropriated surface water rights.
- Provide a variety of water supply sources to meet current demand.
- Target recycled water use to make up 5% of total water use by 2010 and 10% of total water use by 2020.
- Optimize the use of groundwater and aquifer storage
- Implement water conservation programs for both M&I and agricultural uses consistent with the Central Valley Project Improvement Act.
- Provide a variety of water supplies to support planned growth and anticipated increases in agricultural demand.

Water Quality Goal: Lead Integrated Regional Water Management Planning effort to protect and improve water quality for beneficial uses consistent with regional community interests and the RWQCB basin plan through planning and implementation in cooperation with local and state agencies and regional stakeholders.

Objectives:

- Meet or exceed all applicable water quality regulatory standards.
- Meet or exceed M&I water quality targets established by stakeholders.
- Deliver agricultural water to meet water quality guidelines established by stakeholders.
- Meet or exceed recycled water quality targets established by stakeholders.
- Aid in meeting Total Maximum Daily Loads established for the Pajaro River watershed.
- Protect surface waters from contamination and threat of contamination.
- Protect groundwater basins from contamination and the threat of contamination.
- Prevent seawater intrusion.
- Minimize foreign salts and long-term levels of groundwater salinity.
- Manage groundwater levels to minimize impacts to existing land uses while preserving environmental habitats where practical.
- Minimize impacts from storm water through implementation of established Best Management Practices or other detention projects.

Flood Protection Goal: Lead Integrated Regional Water Management Planning effort to ensure flood protection strategies are developed and implemented through a collaborative and watershed-wide approach and are designed to maximize opportunities for comprehensive management of water resources.

Objectives:

- Reach consensus on a project necessary to protect existing infrastructure from flooding and erosion from the 100-year flood event.
- Work with stakeholders to preserve existing flood attenuation by implementing land management strategies throughout the watershed.
- Develop approaches for adaptive management to minimize maintenance requirements and protect quality and availability of water while preserving ecologic and stream functions, and enhancing when appropriate.
- Provide community benefits beyond flood protection, such as public access, open space, recreation, agricultural preservation, and economic development.

Environmental Protection and Enhancement Goal: During the Integrated Regional Water Management Planning effort, the partners will work with the community and environmental stewards to preserve the environmental wealth and well-being of the Pajaro River watershed by identifying opportunities to restore and enhance natural resources of streams and watersheds when developing water supply, water quality, and flood protection strategies.

Objectives:

- Identify opportunities to protect, enhance, and/or restore natural resources when developing water management strategies.
- Minimize adverse effects on biological and cultural resources, including riparian habitats, habitats supporting sensitive plant or animal species and archaeological/historic sites when implementing strategies and projects.
- Identify opportunities for open spaces, trails and parks along creeks and other recreational projects in the watershed to be incorporated with water supply, water quality or flood protection projects consistent with public use and private property rights.
- Project elements should maintain and, to the extent practicable, enhance the local environment and contribute to the long-term sustainability of agricultural, commercial, industrial and urban land uses and activity within the basin.
- Identify opportunities to protect, enhance, or restore habitat to support Monterey Bay marine life in conjunction with water supply, water quality or flood protection projects.