

Attachment 12: Statewide Priorities

All proposed projects in the Carmel Bay, Monterey Peninsula, and Southern Monterey Bay Planning Region meet one or more Statewide Priorities. The following priorities relate to specific projects listed in the tables. For a full discussion on Statewide Priorities and specific projects see section 5.13 in the proposal.

- Reduce Conflict between water users or resolve water rights disputes, including interregional water rights issues

Project	Project Title
1	Aquifer Storage and Recovery
2	Seaside Basin Groundwater Replenishment Project-Planning and Design

Within the proposed planning region there is a limited amount of water available for water users causing elevated conflicts between stakeholders. Projects 1 and 2 will provide a new source of water supply that will help to resolve the water rights disputes associated with over drafting of the Carmel River Basin, as described in SWRCB Order WR 95-10 and with the problem of over drafting of the Seaside Groundwater Basin as described in the report by Yates and others. However, the combined total water available from these projects does not completely satisfy the requirement to find a new water supply and reduce extractions from Carmel Valley to an authorized level.

Specifically, Project 1 will allow for groundwater basin recovery and protection against saltwater intrusion by injecting up to 2,426 acre-feet of excess winter flows of the Carmel River into the Seaside Groundwater Basin and extracting no more than approximately 2,028 AFA. This would reduce future water conflicts by ensuring a water resource and maintaining water quality.

- Implementation of Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL) that are established or under development

Project	Project Title
5	Carmel River Watershed Water Quality Volunteer Monitoring Program

Within the proposed planning region there are currently no bodies of water that are on the RWQCB proposed TMDL development list. However, for baseline information Project 5 will develop specific technical tools for water quality monitoring including a Quality Assurance Program Plan (QAPP), characterization of unique elements of the Carmel River, tributaries, and watershed, which will establish a design for ambient water quality monitoring. This project will provide quantitative and qualitative data on water body and watershed impairment which may lead to identifying possible pollution sources and a future TMDL.

- Implementation of Regional Water Control Board (RWQCB) Watershed Management Initiative Chapters, plans and policies

Project	Project Title
4	Restoration of the Carmel River Floodplain (at Garland Park)
6	Restoration of Hatton Canyon Creek
7	Project Monitoring
8	Watershed and Water Supply Protection Through Use of Conservation Easements
9	Removal of Del Monte Resort Dam
11	Restore Roads with Sedimentation Problems in Regional Parks
12	Farm Water Conservation and Best Management Practices
13	Sanitary Sewer System Repair and Replacement in the Cities of Monterey and Pacific Grove
14	Carmel River Parkway Trails, Restoration, and Education
15	Uplands Grazing Management and Monitoring Plan for Sediment Reduction and Habitat Protection - Phase II
16	Implementation of Solid Waste Removal Technology
17	Microbial Source Tracking, Cities of Monterey and Pacific Grove

The projects in the table above parallel the priority activities identified by the Watershed Management Initiative. The proposed projects include expansion of non-point source pollution management activities that address sedimentation, nutrients, and pesticides from agricultural activities and development of a riparian corridor protection policy.

Project 16 and 17 achieve statewide priority issues in the 2002 Watershed Management Initiative by expanding non-point source activities to address urban runoff and focusing increased funding and outreach to address beach closure and coastal water quality issues and compliance with Phase II of the NPDES Storm Water Program.

- Implementation of the SWRCB's Non-point Source (NPS) Pollution Plan

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4	Restoration of the Carmel River Floodplain (at Garland Park)
6	Restoration of Hatton Canyon Creek
7	Project Monitoring
8	Watershed and Water Supply Protection Through Use of Conservation Easements
11	Restore Roads with Sedimentation Problems in Regional Parks
12	Farm Water Conservation and Best Management Practices
13	Sanitary Sewer System Repair and Replacement in the Cities of Monterey and Pacific Grove
14	Carmel River Parkway Trails, Restoration, and Education
15	Uplands Grazing Management and Monitoring Plan for Sediment Reduction and Habitat Protection - Phase II
16	Implementation of Solid Waste Removal Technology
17	Microbial Source Tracking, Cities of Monterey and Pacific Grove

The above proposed projects address the Non-point Source Pollution Plan. The proposed restoration projects will prevent erosion and sedimentation helping protect biological diversity of aquatic habitats within the planning region. In addition, Projects 16 and 17 will help improve water quality associated with urban runoff that could potentially discharge into Areas of Special Biological Significance.

- Implementation of recommendations of the floodplain management task force, desalination task force, recycling task force, or state species recovery plan

Project	Project Title
1	Aquifer Storage and Recovery
2	Seaside Basin Groundwater Replenishment Project - Planning and Design
3	CSUMB Storm Water Percolation and Education
4	Restoration of the Carmel River Floodplain (at Garland Park)
5	Carmel River Watershed Water Quality Volunteer Monitoring Program
6	Restoration of Hatton Canyon Creek
7	Project Monitoring
8	Watershed and Water Supply Protection Through Use of Conservation Easements
9	Removal of Del Monte Resort Dam
10	Lower Carmel River Flood Control
11	Restore Roads with Sedimentation Problems in Regional Parks
12	Farm Water Conservation and Best Management Practices
13	Sanitary Sewer System Repair and Replacement in the Cities of Monterey and Pacific Grove
14	Carmel River Parkway Trails, Restoration, and Education
15	Uplands Grazing Management and Monitoring Plan for Sediment Reduction and Habitat Protection - Phase II
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Projects 4, 10, and 12 support the recommendations of the floodplain management task force including: effective flood management approaches, the protection of floodplain groundwater recharge areas, watershed monitoring, and effective coordination among multi-jurisdictional partnerships.

Project 2 supports the recommendations made by the Recycled Water Task Force by moving towards defining opportunities for additional water recycling by developing a feasibility study for purification and conveyance of recycled water from MRWPCA's Salinas Valley Reclamation Plant (SVRP) for recharge of the Seaside Basin. This would expand on the current SVRP recycling of water that has been delivered to farmland, to providing potable water for injection to the Seaside Basin and used by municipal wells. This feasibility study will also address the regulatory and social issues by identifying permitting and approval issues that are specifically associated to treated municipal wastewater.

Several projects proposed in the planning region contribute to specifically the Steelhead and California red-legged frog state recovery plans. All above projects in general focus on providing some direct or indirect benefit to Steelhead and California red-legged frog. Projects 4, 6, 8, 11, 12, 15 address concerns in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Recovery Plan for the California Red-legged Frog by restoring instream habitat and upland habitat and obtaining conservation easements to implement agricultural and upland grazing Best Management Practices. Projects 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 14, 15 meet the recommendations by The Steelhead Restoration and Management Plan for California (DFG Plan) by increasing water supply for use during dry months (leaving more water in the Carmel River), increasing water quality, removal of impeding barriers, conservation easements of areas of point and non-point source pollution and habitat monitoring.