

7 Implementation

This section meets the following IRWMP Standard from the Integrated Regional Water Management Grant Program Guidelines.

G. Implementation – Identify specific actions, projects, and studies, ongoing or planned, by which the Plan will be implemented. Identify the agency(ies) responsible for project implementation and clearly identify linkages or interdependence between projects. Demonstrate economic and technical feasibility on a programmatic level. Identify the current status of each element of the plan, such as existing infrastructure, feasibility, pilot or demonstration project, design completed, etc. Include timelines for all active or planned projects and identify the institutional structure that will ensure Plan implementation.

As described in Section 6, the near-term priority for implementation of the IRWMP recommendations will be continued development and implementation of the four water management programs that were formed through the integration and regionalization process. The long-term priority for implementation of the IRWMP recommendations will be for the Partners to continue to work together to ensure the goals and objectives of the IRWMP are met and that changes in regional priorities and needs are reflected in future updates to the IRWMP. Central to the success of the IRWMP in the near-term and long-term is the continued coordination among the Partners through the Pajaro River Watershed Collaborative.

This section identifies the role of the Collaborative in implementation, the additional agencies with whom implementation of the regional water management programs must be coordinated and additional details to be considered in implementation of each program.

7.1 Implementing Agencies and Responsibilities

7.1.1 Pajaro River Watershed Collaborative

The Pajaro River Watershed Collaborative initially came together under an MOU in October 2004 that formalized PVWMA, SBCWD and SCVWD's intent to work together to coordinate water resources planning in the Pajaro River Watershed. In this MOU the Partners committed to meet at least quarterly in order to coordinate and share information. During the development of the IRWMP, the Partners chose to convene more often, meeting on a biweekly and sometimes weekly basis. These frequent meetings exemplify the rigor of the process the Partners undertook to ensure they developed a practical and long-lasting roadmap for the region.

Much of the success of the Pajaro River Watershed Collaborative can be attributed to the group's structure. During development of the IRWMP, the Partners found that the small size of the Collaborative provided the flexibility necessary to adapt to changes quickly and efficiently and allowed for more frequent meetings when necessary. Additionally, the Partners found that pairing their small group with a wide range of stakeholders was important in ensuring differing viewpoints were captured in the planning process. By conducting an extensive stakeholder and public outreach process, which is discussed in detail in Section 14, the Collaborative has provided opportunities for all interested to be involved. Given the effectiveness of the Collaborative during development of the IRWMP, the Partners intend to maintain the same organizational structure during implementation.

Near-Term Implementation – Program Facilitation

As the focus of the IRWMP process shifts from plan development to near-term implementation, the Partners will return to quarterly meetings, and their role as the Collaborative will be to facilitate the

implementation of the Conjunctive Water Supply Management, Water Supply/Salt Management, Agricultural Water Quality and Pajaro River Flood Protection programs. They will also be responsible for coordinating overall IRWMP implementation.

Program facilitation will include the following five roles:

Inclusion of Project Sponsors. The first duty of the Collaborative in implementation of the IRWMP recommendations will be to engage with the sponsors for each of the projects within the regional water management programs. All of the project sponsors were invited to participate as stakeholders in the development of the IRWMP, and many of them are already engaged in the IRWMP process. However, not all the stakeholders have been actively involved in the process, and there are some agencies that are not familiar with the intent of the IRWMP or the recommended programs. For those entities that fall into the latter category, the Collaborative will be tasked with helping them understand the local and regional benefits of their participation in the IRWMP as well as encouraging them to become involved in the implementation process. To accomplish this, the Partner whose jurisdiction encompasses the project under consideration will be responsible for arranging a formal meeting with the appropriate persons. If attempts to engage a project's sponsor are unsuccessful, the Partners will still attempt to take that project into account as programs are implemented, but opportunities to integrate and regionalize the project will be limited without direct involvement from the project sponsor.

Formation of Implementation Teams. Once all the project sponsors for a particular program have been contacted, the Collaborative will assist the sponsors in forming Implementation Teams. Some organizations may be represented in more than one team, but each regional water management program will have its own unique team responsible for implementing their respective programs. The major tasks of the Implementation Teams are discussed in Section 7.1.2.

Management of Implementation Teams. Each of the Partner agencies in the Collaborative will be involved in several of the Implementation Teams. As Implementation Team members, the representatives of PVWMA, SBCWD and SCVWD will be like any other project sponsor; they will help establish meeting schedules, structure team meetings and develop communication protocols. It will not be their responsibility to manage team interactions nor will they be given control of the teams. However, as members of the Collaborative, the Partners will be responsible for ensuring progress is being made in each of the programs and for providing oversight as necessary to support the Implementation Teams. The Collaborative's quarterly meetings will serve as forums for the Partners to report on the progress of the various programs with which they are involved. It will be the responsibility of the Collaborative to facilitate solutions to problems the Implementation Teams might encounter, such as losing sight of their program's primary objectives or needing a moderator to resolve team conflict. The Collaborative will also ensure that the Implementation Teams maintain an effective stakeholder process, as the Implementation Teams will serve as the primary means of stakeholder participation for near-term implementation.

Additional Program Integration. The Collaborative is tasked with identifying opportunities for further integration between programs. During the formation of the regional water management programs, the Partners already identified projects with opportunities for integration into more than one program. To avoid the potential for conflicts between programs, the decision was made to limit each project to one program. As program implementation plans are put forth by the Implementation Teams, the Partners will review the new project definitions and if opportunities for integration still exist, the Partners will be responsible for continuing discussions among the appropriate project sponsors. For example, the Partners anticipate further coordination to occur between the Water Supply/Salt Management program and the Conjunctive Water Supply Management program. The suite of projects that arise from the Water Supply/Salt Management program are certain to include new water supply projects. Depending on how

the Water Supply/Salt Management Implementation Team frames these projects there may be potential for regional water transfers, and this should be coordinated with the projects from the Conjunctive Water Supply Management program.

Project Prioritization. The Partners have been very clear that the intent of the IRWMP is to provide a framework to identify and implement projects that address common water resource needs in a coordinated manner; they did not simply want to create a vehicle to obtain funding for projects. However, the Partners are aware that funding mechanisms (e.g. Proposition 84) do exist to support projects in IRWMPs, and they recognize that they need a process to determine which projects will move forward when grant funding opportunities arise. The final task of the Collaborative as part of near-term implementation will be prioritizing projects for funding. To be positioned well for funding the Partners generally expect planning activities for projects to be completed, CEQA/NEPA compliance to be completed or near completion and design to be either completed or near completion. At a minimum projects must demonstrate this readiness to proceed in order to be considered for funding recommendations. Moreover, projects must demonstrate compliance with the applicable grant requirements. The funding priority given to projects will depend greatly on the funding guidelines. Consistency with the grant program preferences and the economic benefit of a project (or impact of not implementing a project) will be the primary evaluation criteria for developing funding recommendations. The Implementation Partners' project prioritization will also be taken into account to ensure the ranking of projects in the funding recommendation align with the priorities given to projects within each of the regional water management program.

Long-Term Implementation

In addition to assessing progress of near-term implementation efforts, the Partners will continue to coordinate on long-term IRWMP implementation issues during the Collaborative's quarterly meetings. An on-going responsibility of the Collaborative will be to continually update the list of projects in the IRWMP. At the quarterly meetings the Partners will keep each other informed of new projects being proposed by their respective agencies, new projects brought forth by regional stakeholders, implemented projects which can be removed from the project list and other projects that can be taken off the project list. The Partners will keep track of these changes and will publish an update to the list of projects in the IRWMP on an annual basis or as needed. Updates to the project prioritization and set of regional water management programs will occur less frequently. As discussed in Section 6, the Partners realize that, as projects are implemented or evolve and as regional needs change, project priorities may shift, but understanding the effort involved in reprioritizing and reassessing programs, the Partners want to limit this process to a two year cycle.

Continued participation from stakeholders will be integral to the long-term success of the IRWMP, and as such, the Collaborative is committed to maintaining stakeholder involvement. In addition to coordinating with stakeholders to maintain the list of projects in the IRWMP, the Collaborative will conduct workshops whenever updates to the project prioritization are made, new regional water management programs are developed or the IRWMP report is updated. The Collaborative will keep stakeholder informed of these workshops by sending announcements to through the stakeholder distribution list that was compiled during the development of the IRWMP report.

7.1.2 Implementation Teams

Each of regional water management programs will be associated with an Implementation Team that will assist with near-term implementation of the IRWMP recommendations. The role of the Implementation Teams is to further evaluate the projects within their respective regional water management programs, to make final program recommendations and to lead implementation efforts for the projects included in their

final recommendations. Because the Implementation Teams will be responsible for coordinating implementation efforts for their recommended projects, it is important for each team to have representation from the agencies or organizations sponsoring those projects. Table 7-1 identifies the agencies and organizations who are anticipated to be members of the Implementation Teams.

Table 7-1: Anticipated Implementation Team Members

Conjunctive Water Supply Management	Water Supply/Salt Management	Agricultural Water Quality	Pajaro River Flood Protection
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aromas Water District • Pacheco Pass Water District • PVWMA • SBCWD • South County Regional Wastewater Authority • SCVWD • The Nature Conservancy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City of Hollister • City of San Juan Bautista • City of Watsonville • PVWMA • SBCWD • SCVWD • Sunnyslope County Water District 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • California State University – Monterey Bay • Central Coast Agricultural Water Quality Coalition • Central Coast RWQCB • Loma Prieta RCD • PVWMA • Monterey RCD • San Benito RCD • Santa Cruz RCD • SBCWD • SCVWD • UC Cooperative Extension Farm Advisors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action Pajaro Valley • City of Watsonville • Monterey County Water Resources Agency • Open Space Authority • Pajaro River Watershed Flood Prevention Authority • San Benito County • Santa Cruz County, Department of Public Works • SBCWD • SCVWD • The Nature Conservancy • U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

The lists of Implementation Team members identified in Table 7-1 is not intended to be exclusive. Each agency or organization listed in Table 7-1 is involved with at least one of the projects that was carried forward from the integration and regionalization process. As the regional water management programs are refined the need to bring in additional Implementation Team members may be identified.

While the Implementation Team members will be limited to those groups that are able to assist with project implementation, opportunities for involvement from other stakeholders will be provided. The Implementation Teams will be responsible for keeping stakeholders informed of the work being completed during the near-term implementation and inviting stakeholders to provide input as the teams carry out their tasks.

The first task of the Implementation Teams will be to develop an evaluation process to assess the ability to implement each project and potential trade-offs between projects. Up to this point projects have only been evaluated based on their degree of integration and regional opportunities. During the development of the integration and regionalization process, the Partners debated whether to include an evaluation of projects considering degree of benefit and other issues such as economical feasibility, technical practicability and environmental concerns. In the end, they decided that this evaluation was best performed by each Implementation Team. Since each regional water management program has its own set of objectives by which projects should be judged, this approach allows the evaluation process to be

tailored to each program. The only element that the Partners have currently specified is a requirement that each evaluation process contain a benefit cost analysis.

Using the results of the evaluation process, the Implementation Teams will arrive at a suite of projects that are suited for implementation through the IRWMP. This suite of projects may include all the projects initially placed into the regional water management programs or a smaller subset of those projects. The Implementation Teams will then be tasked with evaluating the recommended suite of projects' ability to collectively meet the primary objectives of their program. As part of this step, they will assess if additional lower priority projects should be brought into the program. Similar to the integration of medium and low priority projects during the integration and regionalization process performed by the Partners, to bring up additional projects the Implementation Teams must demonstrate that the projects fit with their program and its primary objective and that the projects add to the net primary benefit provided by the program. If additional projects are integrated into the program they must also undergo a degree of benefit assessment.

Once the Implementation Teams reach consensus on the final project recommendations for their program, they will outline a program implementation schedule, develop a program financing plan and then lead the implementation efforts for their various projects.

The Implementation Teams will also be tasked with prioritizing projects within their programs. These project priorities will be used by the Collaborative should outside funding opportunities arise.

7.2 Conjunctive Water Supply Management Program

The Conjunctive Water Supply Management program addresses water supply reliability throughout the Pajaro River Watershed by enhancing water supply management. As the name implies, the program will focus on conjunctive use of groundwater, local surface water and imported water as a strategy for providing flexibility and reliability in water supply, storage and distribution. Water supplies can be put to most efficient use by optimizing the use of existing water supply sources, making locally-controlled sources available for regional use, developing infrastructure to allow for intraregional transfers and increasing the use of available storage capacity and infrastructure. As illustrated in Table 7-2, each of the projects considered for inclusion in the Conjunctive Water Supply Management program exhibit one or more of these characteristics, with the exception of the Groundwater Study & Biological Assessment of the Upper Pajaro River which was added as an environmental enhancement to the program.

Table 7-2: Linkages among Projects in the Conjunctive Water Supply Management Program

Project	Optimize the use of water supply sources	Make locally controlled sources available for regional use	Develop infrastructure to allow for intraregional transfers	Increase the use of available storage capacity and infrastructure	Provide environmental enhancement
Aromas Water District Wellhead Treatment	✓				
Chesbro Reservoir Reoperation	✓			✓	

Project	Optimize the use of water supply sources	Make locally controlled sources available for regional use	Develop infrastructure to allow for intraregional transfers	Increase the use of available storage capacity and infrastructure	Provide environmental enhancement
Church Avenue Diversion	✓			✓	
CVP water transfers within the San Felipe Division		✓			
Groundwater Study & Biological Assessment of the Upper Pajaro River					✓
Hernandez Reservoir Reoperation	✓			✓	
Main Avenue and Coyote-Madrone Pipeline Repair	✓			✓	
Mercy Springs Options Agreement		✓			
Non-CVP water transfers and banking agreement		✓			
Pacheco Reservoir Reoperation	✓	✓		✓	
Paicines Reservoir Rehabilitation	✓			✓	
Pajaro Valley Import Pipeline			✓		
PVWMA CVP Contract Reservation		✓			
PVWMA Groundwater Recharge with CVP and other imported supplies				✓	
San Felipe Division Operation and Maintenance Improvements	✓			✓	
San Justo Reservoir Rehabilitation	✓			✓	
SBCWD Groundwater Recharge with CVP and local sources				✓	
SCRWA Discharge Pipeline	✓	✓	✓		
SCVWD Groundwater Recharge with CVP and local sources	✓				
South County Recycled Water Program	✓	✓			
Urban Water Conservation	✓	✓			
Uvas Reservoir Reoperation	✓			✓	

7.2.1 Conjunctive Water Supply Management Program - Economic and Technical Feasibility

Requiring the Conjunctive Water Supply Management Implementation Team to further evaluate each of the projects as discussed in Section 7.1.2 ensures that only cost effective and technically sound projects will be selected for inclusion in the final program recommendations.

In addition to selecting cost effective projects, economic feasibility also depends on the financing plan and the capability of the rate payers/customers to support the financial plan. The ability to raise water rates, sell municipal bonds and obtain grant funding is also a consideration of the economic feasibility. For additional details on the financing plan for projects being implemented refer to Section 11.

Conjunctive use on a local scale has been practiced effectively by many agencies. The same coordinated management and use of groundwater and surface water resources can be applied on a regional scale. Understanding the technical constraints involved with the use of each of the region’s water supplies is key

to effective management. The technical methods and data used in development of the Conjunctive Water Supply Management program are discussed in Section 9.

7.2.2 Conjunctive Water Supply Management Program - Current Status and Timeline

The projects included for consideration in the Conjunctive Water Supply Management program are in various states of development as regional projects. Their status is summarized in Table 7-3.

Table 7-3: Current Status of Projects in the Conjunctive Water Supply Management Program

Project	Status as Regional Project*
Aromas Water District Wellhead Treatment	Beginning Implementation
Chesbro Reservoir Reoperation	Planning Stage
Church Avenue Diversion	Planning Stage
CVP water transfers within the San Felipe Division	In Design
Groundwater Study & Biological Assessment of the Upper Pajaro River	Beginning Implementation
Hernandez Reservoir Reoperation	Planning Stage
Main Avenue and Coyote-Madrone Pipeline Repair	Planning Stage
Mercy Springs Option Agreement	In Design
Non-CVP water transfers and banking agreement	Planning Stage
Pacheco Reservoir Reoperation	Planning Stage
Paicines Reservoir Rehabilitation	Planning Stage
Pajaro Valley Import Pipeline	Design Completed
PVWMA CVP Contract Reservation	Planning Stage
PVWMA Groundwater Recharge with CVP and other imported supplies	Planning Stage
San Felipe Division Operation and Maintenance Improvements	Planning Stage
San Justo Reservoir Rehabilitation	Planning Stage
SBCWD Groundwater Recharge with CVP and local sources	Planning Stage
SCRWA Discharge Pipeline	In Design
SCVWD Groundwater Recharge with CVP and local sources	Planning Stage
South County Recycled Water Program	In Design
Urban Water Conservation	Planning Stage
Uvas Reservoir Reoperation	Planning Stage

*Note: The status reflects the project in terms of the regional program. PVWMA Groundwater Recharge, SBCWD Groundwater Recharge, SCVWD Groundwater Recharge and Urban Water Conservation are all being implemented in some form, but additional planning is being conducted to enhance their regional benefits and linkages to other projects.

After the Implementation Team reaches consensus on the final project recommendations, project definitions including current status and timeline, necessary facilities, benefits of implementation and budget will be developed along with the overall program implementation schedule and program financing plan.

The timelines for the two Conjunctive Water Supply Management projects which are currently beginning implementation are presented below.

Figure 7-1: Aromas Water District Wellhead Treatment Implementation Schedule

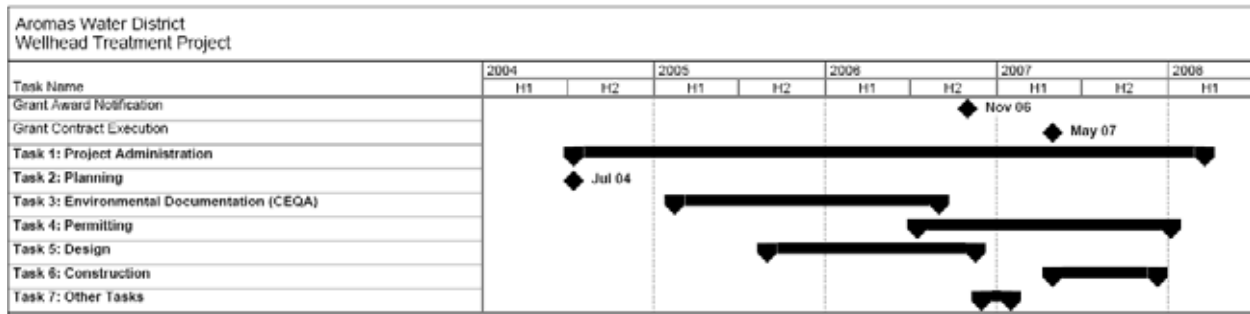
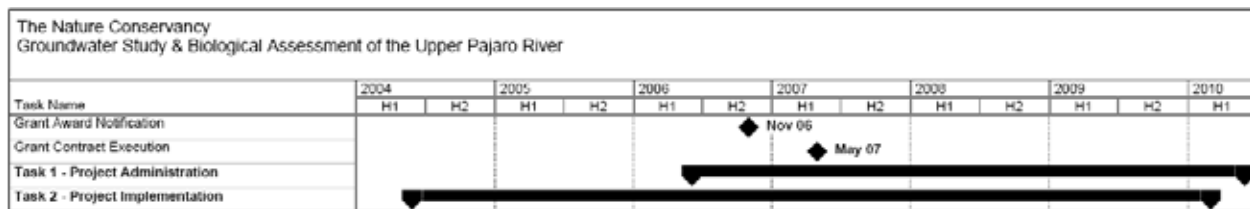


Figure 7-2: Groundwater Study & Biological Assessment of the Upper Pajaro River Implementation Schedule



7.3 Water Supply/Salt Management Program

The Water Supply/Salt Management program addresses water supply reliability throughout the Pajaro River Watershed through the implementation of projects that have a mutual interest in water supply reliability and water quality. Water quality challenges which may be addressed through this program are minimizing the introduction of foreign salts to the groundwater basin, maximizing the use of groundwater from basins with high TDS content, minimizing the TDS content of water delivered to customers, maximizing customer tolerance to TDS content and complying with waste discharge requirements for salinity. As illustrated in Table 7-4, each of the projects considered for inclusion in the Water Supply/Salt Management program address one or more of these challenges, with the exception of the Pajaro River Access at WRWTF which was added as an environmental enhancement to the Watsonville Recycled Water Treatment Facility.

Table 7-4: Linkages among Projects in the Water Supply/Salt Management Program

Project	Minimize the introduction of foreign salts to the groundwater basin	Maximize the use of groundwater from basins with high TDS	Minimize the TDS content of water delivered to customers	Maximize customer tolerance to TDS content	Comply with waste discharge requirements for salinity	Provide environmental enhancement
Cienega Valley	✓		✓			
Coastal Distribution System	✓					
Corralitos Creek Surface Fisheries Enhancement Project	✓					
Export Pipeline	✓				✓	
Groundwater and surface water blending	✓	✓	✓			
Hollister Groundwater Softening		✓	✓			
North San Benito County Regional Recycled Water Project					✓	
Pajaro River Access at WRWTF						✓
Salinity Education Program	✓			✓	✓	
San Juan Bautista Surface Water Treatment Plant			✓			
SBCWD Groundwater Demineralization	✓	✓	✓			
SSCWD Groundwater Demineralization	✓	✓	✓			
Sunnyslope Recycled Water Project				✓		
Water Softener Rebate	✓				✓	
Watsonville Recycled Water Treatment Facility	✓			✓		

7.3.1 Water Supply/Salt Management Program - Economic and Technical Feasibility

Requiring the Water Supply/Salt Management Implementation Team to further evaluate each of the projects as discussed in Section 7.1.2 ensures that only cost effective and technically sound projects will be selected for inclusion in the final program recommendations.

In addition to selecting cost effective projects, economic feasibility also depends on the financing plan and the capability of the rate payers/customers to support the financial plan. The ability to raise water and wastewater rates, sell municipal bonds and obtain grant funding is also a consideration of the economic feasibility. For additional details on the financing plan for projects being implemented refer to Section 11.

Each of the projects in the Water Supply/Salt Management program has been evaluated as part of local agency planning efforts, and they have all proven to be technically feasible alternatives. However, additional work is required by the Implementation Partners to determine which of the alternatives are the most technically viable. The technical methods and data used in development of the Conjunctive Water Supply Management program are discussed in Section 9.

7.3.2 Water Supply/Salt Management Program - Current Status and Timeline

The projects included for consideration in the Water Supply/Salt Management Management program are in various states as summarized in Table 7-3.

Table 7-5: Current Status of Projects in the Water Supply/Salt Management Program

Project	Status as Regional Project*
Cienega Valley	Planning Stage
Coastal Distribution System	Beginning Implementation
Corralitos Creek Surface Fisheries Enhancement Project	Beginning Implementation
Export Pipeline	Planning Stage
Groundwater and surface water blending	Planning Stage
Hollister Groundwater Softening	Planning Stage
North San Benito County Regional Recycled Water Project	Planning Stage
Pajaro River Access at WRWTF	Beginning Implementation
Salinity Education Program	Planning Stage
San Juan Bautista Surface Water Treatment Plant	In Design
SBCWD Groundwater Demineralization	Planning Stage
SSCWD Groundwater Demineralization	Planning Stage
Sunnyslope Recycled Water Project	Planning Stage
Water Softener Rebate	Planning Stage
Watsonville Recycled Water Treatment Facility	Beginning Implementation

*Note: The status reflects the project in terms of the regional program. The Salinity Education Program and Water Softener Rebate projects are both being implemented in some form, but additional planning is being conducted to enhance the linkages of these projects to other projects.

After the Implementation Team reaches consensus on the final project recommendations, project definitions including current status and timeline, necessary facilities, benefits of implementation and budget will be developed along with the overall program implementation schedule and program financing plan.

The timelines for the four Water Supply/Salt Management projects beginning implementation are presented below. Only three schedules are shown because the Pajaro River Access at WRWTF schedule has already been integrated into the Watsonville Recycled Water Treatment Facility.

Figure 7-3: Coastal Distribution System Implementation Schedule



Figure 7-4: Corralitos Creek Surface Fisheries Enhancement Project Implementation Schedule

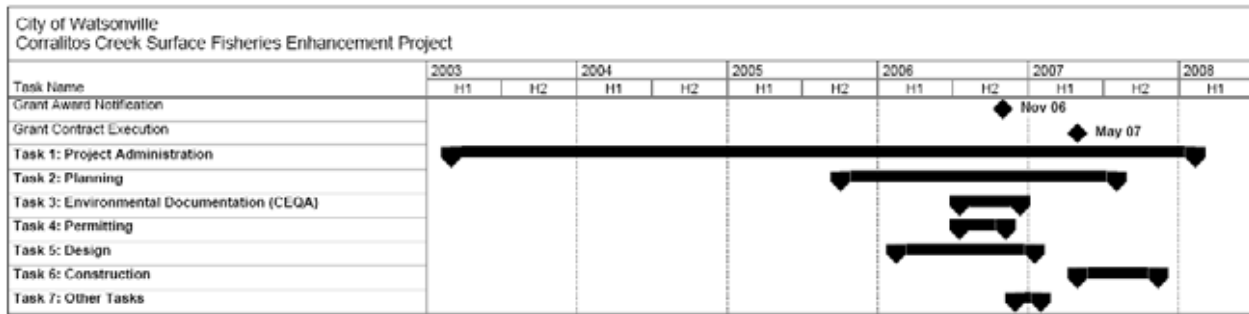
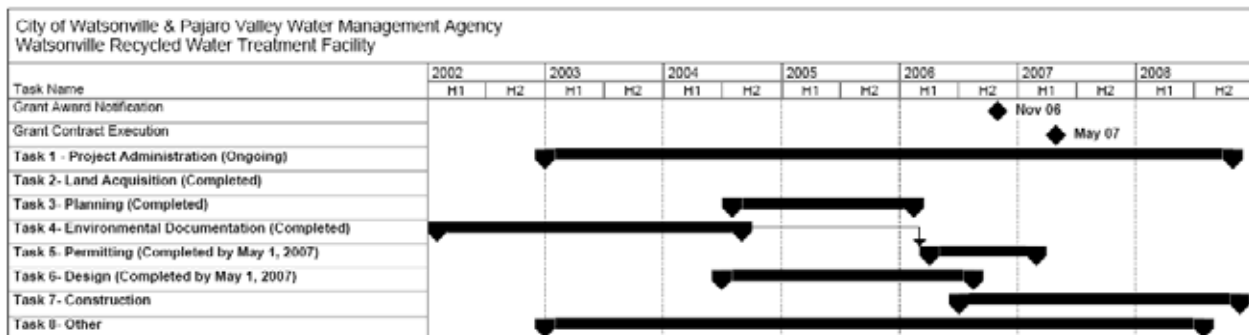


Figure 7-5: Watsonville Recycled Water Treatment Facility (including Pajaro River Access at WRWTF) Implementation Schedule



7.4 Agricultural Water Quality Program

The Agricultural Water Quality program addresses water quality impacts resulting from agricultural, rangeland and rural land practices in the watershed. The Pajaro River Watershed was identified by the RWQCB as having significant water quality impairment for nutrient, sediment, fecal coliform, pathogens and pesticide pollution. Though agricultural sources are not the only contributors of these pollutants, they are considered a major contributor. Various groups throughout the watershed have completed studies and have developed methods to reduce the water quality impact from agricultural, rangeland and other rural land uses. These methods range from educating landowners on their role in water quality protection to providing technical assistance to landowners who wish to modify their practices to implementing best management practices. As illustrated in Table 7-2, each of the projects considered for inclusion in the Agricultural Water Quality program incorporates one or more of these methods, with the exception of the Stream and Watershed Protection Program which was added as an environmental enhancement to the program.

Table 7-6: Linkages among Projects in the Agricultural Water Quality Program

Project	Educate landowners on their role in water quality protection	Provide technical assistance to landowners who wish to modify their practices	Implement best management practices	Provide environmental enhancement
Agricultural Water Conservation	✓	✓		
Farm and Rangeland Water Quality Management Program	✓	✓	✓	
Nitrate Management Program	✓			
Regional Mobile Lab	✓	✓		
San Benito and South Santa Clara Permit Coordination Program		✓	✓	
Santa Cruz Partners in Restoration Permit Coordination Program		✓	✓	
Stream and Watershed Protection Program				✓
Tick Creek Riparian Enhancement			✓	✓
Vegetative Buffer Strips			✓	

7.4.1 Agricultural Water Quality Program - Economic and Technical Feasibility

Requiring the Conjunctive Water Supply Management Implementation Team to further evaluate each of the projects as discussed in Section 7.1.2 ensures that only cost effective and technically sound projects will be selected for inclusion in the final program recommendations.

In addition to selecting cost effective projects, economic feasibility also depends on the financing plan. Because these projects are not associated with the development of water infrastructure that would justify raises in the water rate, grant funding will be a significant consideration in making this program economically viable. For additional details on the financing plan for projects being implemented refer to Section 11.

The technical methods and data used in development of the Agricultural Water Quality program are discussed in Section 9.

7.4.2 Agricultural Water Quality Program - Current Status and Timeline

The projects included for consideration in the Conjunctive Water Supply Management program are in various states of progress as summarized in Table 7-7

Table 7-7: Current Status of Projects in the Agricultural Water Quality Program

Project	Status as Regional Projects*
Agricultural Water Conservation	Planning Stage
Farm and Rangeland Water Quality Management Program	Planning Stage
Nitrate Management Program	Planning Stage

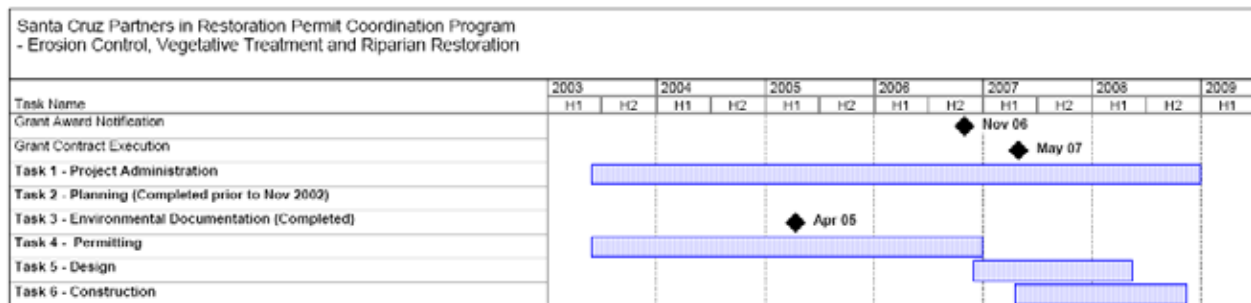
Project	Status as Regional Projects*
Regional Mobile Lab	Planning Stage
San Benito and South Santa Clara Permit Coordination Program	Planning Stage
Santa Cruz Partners in Restoration Permit Coordination Program	Beginning Implementation
Stream and Watershed Protection Program	Planning Stage
Tick Creek Riparian Enhancement	Planning Stage
Vegetative Buffer Strips	Planning Stage

*Note: The status reflects the project in terms of the regional program. Agricultural Water Conservation, Farm and Rangeland Water Quality Management Program, Nitrate Management Program, Regional Mobile Lab, Stream and Watershed Protection Program and Vegetative Buffer Strips are all being implemented in some form, but additional planning is being conducted to enhance their regional benefits and linkages to other projects.

After the Implementation Team reaches consensus on the final project recommendations, project definitions including current status and timeline, necessary facilities, benefits of implementation and budget will be developed along with the overall program implementation schedule and program financing plan.

The timelines for the Agricultural Water Quality project which is currently beginning implementation is presented below.

Figure 7-6: Santa Cruz Partners in Restoration Permit Coordination Program Implementation Schedule



7.5 Pajaro River Flood Protection Program

The Pajaro River Flood Protection program is a multi-objective flood management program which addresses flood protection along the Pajaro River using a watershed planning approach. As part of its multi-objective nature the program ties elements of flood protection with water quality enhancement, environmental enhancement and recreational opportunities. As illustrated in Table 7-8, each of the projects considered for inclusion in the Pajaro River Flood Protection program incorporates one or more of these methods.

Table 7-8: Linkages among Projects in the Pajaro River Flood Protection Program

Project	Provide flood protection	Provide water quality enhancement	Provide environmental enhancement	Provide recreational opportunities
ALERT Station Monitoring	✓			
Historic Ecological Study of the Upper Pajaro			✓	
Levee Reconstruction Project	✓	✓	✓	
Lower Llagas Creek Flood Protection Project	✓		✓	
Open Space Authority Acquisitions			✓	
Pajaro River Parkway				✓
Pajaro River Watershed Study	✓	✓	✓	
Restoration of the Upper Pajaro River Floodplain			✓	
San Benito River Parkway				✓
San Juan Basin Surface Drainage	✓	✓		
Soap Lake Floodplain Preservation Project	✓	✓	✓	✓
Trails, Parks, and Open Space Grants			✓	✓

7.5.1 Pajaro River Flood Protection Program - Economic and Technical Feasibility

Requiring the Pajaro River Flood Protection Implementation Team to further evaluate each of the projects as discussed in Section 7.1.2 ensures that only cost effective and technically sound projects will be selected for inclusion in the final program recommendations.

In addition to selecting cost effective projects, economic feasibility also depends on the financing plan. The ability to sell municipal bonds and obtain grant funding is also a consideration of the economic feasibility. For additional details on the financing plan for projects being implemented refer to Section 11.

The technical methods and data used in development of the Pajaro River Flood Protection program are discussed in Section 9.

7.5.2 Pajaro River Flood Protection Program - Current Status and Timeline

The projects included for consideration in the Pajaro River Flood Protection program are in various states of progress as summarized in Table 7-9.

Table 7-9: Current Status of Projects in the Conjunctive Water Supply Management Program

Project	Status as Regional Projects*
ALERT Station Monitoring	Planning
Historic Ecological Study of the Upper Pajaro	Planning Stage
Levee Reconstruction Project	Beginning Implementation
Lower Llagas Creek Flood Protection Project	Planning Stage
Open Space Authority Acquisitions	Planning Stage
Pajaro River Parkway	Planning Stage
Pajaro River Watershed Study	Planning Stage
Restoration of the Upper Pajaro River Floodplain	Planning Stage
San Benito River Parkway	Planning Stage
San Juan Basin Surface Drainage	Planning Stage
Soap Lake Floodplain Preservation Project	Beginning Implementation
Trails, Parks, and Open Space Grants	Planning Stage

*Note: The status reflects the project in terms of the regional program. The Open Space Authority Acquisitions and Trails, Parks and Open Spaces Grants projects are both being implemented in some form, but additional planning is being conducted to enhance their regional benefits and linkages to other projects.

After the Implementation Partners reach consensus on the final project recommendations, project definitions including current status and timeline, necessary facilities, benefits of implementation and budget will be developed along with the overall program implementation schedule and program financing plan.

The timelines for the two Pajaro River Flood Protection projects which are currently beginning implementation are presented below.

Figure 7-7: Levee Reconstruction Project Implementation Schedule

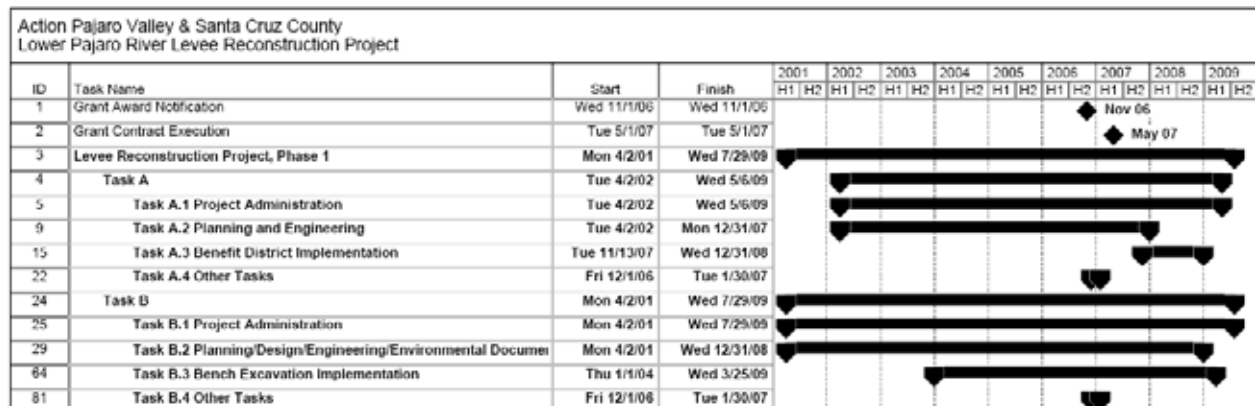


Figure 7-8: Soap Lake Floodplain Preservation Project Implementation Schedule

