

# LA COUNTY WATER PLAN

## Nature-Based Solutions Task Force \*\*\*DRAFT\*\*\* Charter

### I. Overview

#### **(A) Los Angeles County Water Plan (CWP) Vision**

A shared, inclusive, regional path forward to sustainably and equitably achieve safe, clean, and reliable water resources for Los Angeles County.

#### **(B) Mission**

To implement priority tasks from the CWP 2-Year Action Plan to support the use of nature-based water management solutions across the County to improve the health of communities and ecosystems.

#### **(C) Priority Tasks**

1. Develop Countywide definitions and standards for nature-based solutions.
2. Prioritize nature-based solutions (NBS) in stormwater capture projects.
3. Build upon the Safe, Clean Water Program (SCW Program)'s Metrics & Monitoring Study and [2022 Interim Guidance](#).

#### **(D) Desired Outcomes**

The Task Force will support the SCW Program's Metric & Monitoring Study (MMS), Goal F: "Prioritize Nature-Based Solutions." NBS are currently being evaluated based on the Good, Better, Best (GBB) framework identified in the SCW Program's [2022 Interim Guidance](#) (Programming of Nature-Based Solutions). The development of more consistent definitions, specific standards, and refined scoring criteria is needed and will further benefit implementation of the SCW Program.

Task Force efforts will build upon previous feedback gathered during the development of the CWP and April 2024 Water Resiliency Summit. The Task Force will support progress towards relevant CWP targets and strategies such as:

- Target H: Increase groundwater recharge and storage by increasing decentralized infiltration by 80,000 AFY
- Strategy 10: Facilitating natural infiltration of precipitation

Additionally, the Task Force will support related targets detailed in the [California's Nature-Based Solutions Climate Targets](#) released in April 2024, including but not limited to:

- Wildfire Risk Reduction (Beneficial Fire and Other Fuel Reduction Activities)
- Developed Lands (Afforestation, Conservation, Urban and Community Greening and Forestry, and Reducing Community Wildfire Risks)

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## II. Task Force Structure & Governance

### **(A) Lead & Alternate(s)**

Eileen Alduenda (CWH) / Jason Casanova (CWH)

### **(B) Support**

LA County Public Works Staff / Council for Watershed Health

### **(C) Types of Participants**

The Task Force may include participants from water management entities, state and federal agencies, non-governmental organizations, academia, and Tribes, as well as representatives that expressed interest during the Water Resiliency Summit. Participants will be expected to dedicate time to these efforts and provide continuity throughout their duration on the Task Force.

**Task Force Lead** = Sets the direction for the Task Force and determines the Priority Tasks to be pursued.

**Task Force Members** = Participate in meetings and provide advice and input.

**Task Force Working Group(s)** = This subgroup(s) of Task Force Members actively collaborate and work together on the Priority Tasks to develop materials and progress towards the Desired Outcomes. A Working Group lead will be identified.

### **(D) Consensus Building**

Direction will be governed by either consensus or majority rule. Consensus requires participation from all group members, including those with minority opinions. Majority rule does not require a collective agreement.

### **(E) Charter Revisions & Updates**

The Charter will be reviewed and revised every two-years.

## III. Task Force Meetings

### **(A) Meeting Format**

The Task Force will meet virtually, with in-person meetings as necessary.

### **(B) Meeting Recurrence**

The Task Force will meet on a quarterly basis. Task Force Working Groups are anticipated to meet more frequently.

All CWP Task Forces may meet jointly once per year at an in-person half-day working session to showcase progress.

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## **(C) Collaboration / Integration with Others**

The Task Force will have an open membership. Active participation is encouraged; collaboration and open discussions among the members and other stakeholders will be conducted through the Greater Los Angeles County IRWM Leadership Committee, Upper Santa Clara River IRWM, Antelope Valley IRWM, SCWP Regional Oversight Committee and/or Watershed Area Sub-Committee meetings.

## **IV. Task Force Milestones**

### **(A) Major Activities & Milestones**

The activities of the Task Force will be guided by Directive 4 of the December 5, 2023, Board Motion, "Implementation of the Los Angeles County Water Plan: A Shared, Regional Path Towards Water Resilience," and the MOA between Los Angeles County Flood Control District and the Council for Watershed Health.

Key tasks and milestones are shown below:

<b>Key Task</b>	<b>Milestone Date</b>
Obtain Consultant Support for Task Force Implementation & Coordination	Summer 2024
Determine Task Force Roster & Send Formal Invitations	Summer 2024
Develop Task Force Charter	Summer 2024
Task Force Kickoff Meeting	Summer 2024 (September)
Task Force Updates at IRWM Meetings	Regular, starting Fall 2024
Develop Draft Definitions and Standards for Nature-Based Solutions	September 2024
Develop Draft Nature-Based Solutions Report	October 2024
Finalize Nature-Based Solutions Report	November 2024
Submit Nature-Based Solutions Report to LA County Board of Supervisors	December 2024

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## Appendix A | Task Force Roles & Responsibilities

Lead Entity	Key Tasks
<p><b>Public Works CWP Program Team</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lead formation of Task Forces (e.g., develop draft charters and scope, solicit participation)</li> <li>• Assist in the development of a detailed work plan, stakeholder engagement strategy, and schedule</li> <li>• Recruit participants for Task Forces</li> <li>• Fund Task Force development and consultant support contract</li> <li>• Provide programmatic leadership for Task Forces</li> <li>• Track and report on Task Force progress on CWP actions</li> <li>• Consider Task Force recommendations and, where appropriate, provide resources and staff to support implementation of recommendations</li> <li>• Work with Task Force Lead to determine and implement additional outreach and stakeholder involvement methods for Task Force efforts</li> <li>• Manage the consultant facilitating the CWP implementation</li> </ul>
<p><b>Council for Watershed Health (Task Force Lead)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide leadership for NBS Task Force</li> <li>• Serve as external liaison on Task Force activities</li> <li>• Provide technical expertise</li> <li>• Provide input on Task Force charter</li> <li>• Develop a detailed work plan, stakeholder engagement strategy, and schedule</li> <li>• Determine opportunities and needs for stakeholder engagement and support implementation of stakeholder engagement strategy</li> <li>• Identify and invite diverse stakeholders and experts representing various fields related to nature-based solutions</li> <li>• Recruit participants for Task Force in coordination with Public Works</li> <li>• Conduct and facilitate Task Force meetings</li> <li>• Help gain consensus on Task Force recommendations</li> <li>• Provide resources to support implementation of actions</li> <li>• Make recommendations on future steps to implement actions</li> <li>• Prepare draft and final reports for NBS recommended standards</li> </ul>
<p><b>Task Force Members</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide technical expertise</li> <li>• Active role in Task Force (attend meetings, participate in discussions)</li> <li>• Provide input on Task Force charter</li> <li>• Determine opportunities and needs for stakeholder engagement and support implementation of stakeholder engagement strategy</li> <li>• Provide input on key decisions and make recommendations</li> <li>• Provide resources to support implementation of actions</li> <li>• Make recommendations on future steps to implement actions</li> </ul>

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## Appendix B | Task Force Membership

Agency / Organization	First Name	Last Name	Title
California Department of Fish and Wildlife		*	
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		*	
Chief Sustainability Office	Shay'La	Price	Youth Climate Commissioner
Chief Sustainability Office	Terumi	Garcia	Youth Climate Commissioner, SD1
City of Los Angeles, LA Sanitation & Environment	Traci	Minamide	Chief Operating Officer
City of Redondo Beach	Geraldine	Trivedi	Civil Engineer
Council for Watershed Health	Eileen	Alduenda	Executive Director
County of Los Angeles, Department of Parks and Recreation	Andrea	Vona	Section Head, Sustainability
Crescenta Valley Water District	James	Lee	General Manager
Crescenta Valley Water District	Patrick	Atwater	Regulatory and Public Affairs Manager
Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians	Rudy	Ortega, Jr.*	President
Foothill Municipal Water District	Natalie	Ouwersloot	District Engineer
Friends of the LA River	Candice	Dickens-Russell	President & Chief Executive Officer
Fuscoe Engineering, Inc.	Ian	Adam	Vice President, Specialty Services
Heal the Bay	Alexia	Skrbic	Senior Administrative Watershed Coordinator
Heal the Bay	Annelisa	Moe	Associate Director of Science and Policy
Heal the Bay	Kayleigh	Wade	Senior Manager of Inland Outreach
Heal the Bay	Meredith	McCarthy	Director of Outreach
Heal the Bay	Taylor	Locke	Beach Programs Associate
Herrera	Craig	Doberstein	Principal
LA Waterkeeper	Maggie	Gardner	Science & Policy Manager
LA Waterkeeper	Bruce	Reznik	Executive Director
Lakewood	Kelli	Pickler	Director of Public Works
Larry Walker Associates	Chris	Minton	Vice President
Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors	Karissa	Rodriguez	Staff Assistant
Los Angeles Department of Water and Power	Art	Castro	Watershed Manager

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Los Angeles Department of Water and Power	Sabrina	Tsui	Manager, Resource Development & Watershed Management
Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning		*	
Los Angeles County Fire Department	Ron	Durbin*	Chief, Forestry Division
Los Angeles County Public Works	Mark	Lombos	Assistant Deputy Director
San Manuel Band of Mission Indians	Alexandra	McCleary*	Tribal Archaeologist
San Manuel Band of Mission Indians	Jason	Laird*	Ethnobotanist
San Manuel Band of Mission Indians	Ryan	Nordness*	Cultural Resources Analyst
Sierra Club	Charming	Evelyn	Chair, Water Committee
The Nature Conservancy	Kelsey	Jessup*	Project Director, Urban Conservation
TreePeople	Amanda	Begley	Watershed Senior Program Manager
TreePeople	Manny	Gonez	Policy Director
United States Forest Service	Julie	Uyehara*	Resource Officer, Angeles National Forest
University of California Cooperative Extension	Esther	Lofton	Urban Watershed Resilience Advisor

\*Individual has not signed up for the NBS Task Force

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