

LA COUNTY WATER PLAN

Nature-based Solutions Task Force Meeting 6 Meeting Notes

Tuesday, April 1, 2025 at 10:00 PM – 11:00 AM (Virtual Meeting)

Purpose: *Share out the updated NbS definition and Standard, Get Task Force input on what constitutes a NbS to further develop the NbS Task Force Criteria*

Task Force Lead: Tanishka Chellani (Council for Watershed Health), Eileen Alduenda (Council for Watershed Health)

Task Force Participants:

- Antos, Mike — Stantec
- Baldauf, Brian — Mountains Recreation Conservation Authority
- Brick, Tim — Arroyo Seco Foundation
- Calderon, Jesse — Sacred Places Institute
- Calderon, Tina — Sacred Places Institute
- Casanova, Jason — CWH
- Enos, Debbie — CWH
- Garcia, Alonso — CWH
- Gonzalez, Arturo — RMC
- Katz, Nurit — UCLA
- Kreter, Kristina — CWH
- McCarthy, Meredith — Heal the Bay
- Ready, Drew — CWH

CWH Support Team:

Eileen Alduenda, Tanishka Chellani, Jason Casanova, Debbie Enos

CWP Support Team:

Keith Hala (Los Angeles County Public Works)

Agenda Item	Notes
1. Welcome & Introductions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Participants shared names, pronouns, and affiliations via chat.• Meeting opened with a land acknowledgment honoring the Indigenous Tribes of the Los Angeles region and their stewardship of land and water.

LA COUNTY WATER PLAN

2. NbS Task Force: The Path Forward	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finalizing the NBS Standard (Criteria + Indicators) • Developing metrics that build on Metrics and Monitoring Study + 2022 Interim Guidance • Final BRP: Middle of May • End of June: Presenting Final Recommendations
3. NBS BRP Standard Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated Definition and Standard Presented Definition: Nature-based Solutions address societal challenges through sustainable actions that protect and restore living ecosystems and their functions to ensure human well-being and benefit biodiversity. Standard: Nature-based solutions (NbS) must strategically integrate place-appropriate and evidence-backed living processes and infrastructure, such as soil and vegetation, to lead to improved long-term ecosystem function and connectivity and community health and wellbeing. Success of nature-based solutions should be qualitatively and quantitatively evaluated using the following criteria and indicators:
4. NBS Key Questions	<p>Asked the Task Force key question to further clarify NbS Priorities and Criteria. Task force worked through the following Exercises:</p> <p>Exercise 1: Features of NbS (BRP Priority Ranking)</p> <p>Top Nature-Based Solution Priorities</p> <p>Options previously identified through BRP's previous values-based ranking exercise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity • Ecosystem Health • Prioritizing Native Habitats • Soil Health • Public Health Benefits • Water Infiltration

LA COUNTY WATER PLAN

	<p>Exercise 2: 2022 Interim Guidance – Good, Better, Best (GBB)</p> <p>Overview of the Six GBB NbS Evaluation Categories</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Vegetation / Green Space 2. New Landscape Elements (rain gardens, tree wells, vegetated swales) 3. Increase of Permeability 4. Protection of Undeveloped Mountains & Floodplains 5. Creation & Restoration of Riparian Habitat & Wetlands 6. Enhancement of Soil
<p>5. “Key NbS Features x GBB Exercise”</p>	<p>Task Force Walked through the following exercise.</p> <p>NbS Priorities x GBB Framework</p> <p>Objective: To evaluate whether the GBB scoring framework adequately reflects the BRP’s identified NbS priorities and to propose strengthened or missing indicators for improved alignment.</p> <p>Instructions (Breakout Groups)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each group assigned two of the top NbS priorities • Answer table questions on MiroBoard • Use SCWP Interim Guidance to assess whether the GBB framework reflects these priorities • Identify misalignments, missing indicators, or weaknesses
<p>6. Wrap-Up and Next Steps</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue refining Criteria + Indicators • Prepare content for BRP Working Session 5 • Begin drafting materials for June final recommendations