

# 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)

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

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**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"><li>• Participants shared names, pronouns, and affiliations via chat.</li><li>• Meeting opened with a land acknowledgment honoring the Indigenous Tribes of the Los Angeles region and their stewardship of land and water.</li></ul>

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<p><b>2. NbS Task Force: The Path Forward</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finalizing the NBS Standard (Criteria + Indicators)</li> <li>• Developing metrics that build on Metrics and Monitoring Study + 2022 Interim Guidance</li> <li>• Final BRP: Middle of May</li> <li>• End of June: Presenting Final Recommendations</li> </ul>
<p><b>3. NBS BRP Standard Update</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Updated Definition and Standard Presented           <p>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.</p> <p>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:</p> </li> </ul>
<p><b>4. NBS Key Questions</b></p>	<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"> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Ecosystem Health</li> <li>• Prioritizing Native Habitats</li> <li>• Soil Health</li> <li>• Public Health Benefits</li> <li>• Water Infiltration</li> </ul>

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	<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"> <li>1. Vegetation / Green Space</li> <li>2. New Landscape Elements (rain gardens, tree wells, vegetated swales)</li> <li>3. Increase of Permeability</li> <li>4. Protection of Undeveloped Mountains &amp; Floodplains</li> <li>5. Creation &amp; Restoration of Riparian Habitat &amp; Wetlands</li> <li>6. Enhancement of Soil</li> </ol>
<p><b>5. “Key NbS Features x GBB Exercise”</b></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"> <li>• Each group assigned two of the top NbS priorities</li> <li>• Answer table questions on <a href="#">MiroBoard</a></li> <li>• Use SCWP Interim Guidance to assess whether the GBB framework reflects these priorities</li> <li>• Identify misalignments, missing indicators, or weaknesses</li> </ul>
<p><b>6. Wrap-Up and Next Steps</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue refining Criteria + Indicators</li> <li>• Prepare content for BRP Working Session 5</li> <li>• Begin drafting materials for June final recommendations</li> </ul>