

LA COUNTY WATER PLAN

Nature-Based Solutions Task Force 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) Task Force Mission

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

(C) Task Force Priorities

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.

(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

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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:

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

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Appendix B | Task Force Membership

Last Name	First Name	Agency / Organization	Blue Ribbon Panel
Adam	Ian	Fusco Engineering, Inc.	
Ahkiam	Lauren	LAANE	
Alduenda	Eileen	Council for Watershed Health	Co-Chair
Alexanderson	Lee	LACDPW	
Allen	Julie	LA SAN	
Antos	Mike	Stantec	
Arends	Claudia	USFS	Yes
Ariki	Adam	LACDPW	
Atwater	Patrick	Crescenta Valley Water District	Yes
Bahmanpour	Melissa	Rivers and Mountains Conservancy	
Baldauf	Brian	Mountains Recreation Conservation Authority	
Barton	Michelle	Port of Los Angeles	
Bazinet	James	LACDPW	
Begley	Amanda	TreePeople	Yes
Bernal	Belen	Nature for All	
Bloome	Deborah	ARLA	
Bridges	Dr. Todd	Institute for Resilient Infrastructure Systems, College of Engineering, University of Georgia	
Brill	Greg	Pacific Institute / CEO Water Mandate	
Bronz	Igor	TreePeople	
Brown	Isaac	Stillwater Sciences	Yes
Calderon	Tina	Sacred Places Institute	
Calderon	Jessa	Sacred Places Institute	
Campbell	Stephanie	CA State Parks - Angeles District	
Cantu	Celeste	SAWA	
Carson	Lily	LA SAN / City of LA Biodiversity Lead	
Casanova	Jason	Council for Watershed Health	
Castro	Art	LADWP	
Chapman	Jeff	LA County Natural History Museum	
Charming	Evelyn	Sierra Club	
Cooper	Dan	Santa Monica Mountains RCD	Yes
de Guzman	Edith	UCCE/UCLA	
Denhalter	Kerri	USBP	
Diaz	Karen	Rivers and Mountains Conservancy	
Dickens-Russell	Candice	Friends of the LA River	
Doberstein	Craig	Herrera	

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Dojiri	Mas	City of LA	
Durbin	Ron	Los Angeles County Fire Department	
Dwiveldi	Raina	CNRG	
Edelman	Paul	SMMC	
Edmiston	Joe	SMMC	
Elswick	Darla	Consultant	
Enos	Debbie	Council for Watershed Health	
Faustinos	Belinda	Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians	
Felix	Alexander	LACDPW	
Ferguson	Mary	LA County Parks & Recreation	
Field	Dr John	Fluvial Geomorphologist / Stream Restoration	
Fraga	Naomi	California Botanic Garden	
Franco	Viviana	Lot to Spot	
Frary	Matthew	LACDPW	
Friedman-Johnson	Leslie	CNRG	
Garcia	Cristina	California Assembly	
Garcia	Norma	LA County Parks and Recreation	
Gardner	Maggie	LA Waterkeeper	
Gold	Mark	NRDC	Yes
Gonez	Manny	TreePeople	
Gonzalez	Arturo	Rivers and Mountains Conservancy	
Hala	Keith	LACDPW	
Hamamoto	Bruce	LACDPW	Co-Chair
Herrera	Henry	CAL FIRE	
Higgins	Lila	Natural History Museum	
Hu	Melanie	LACDPW	
Jenerette	Darrel	UCR	
Jennings	Megan	Climate Science Alliance / SDSU	
Jessup	Kelsey	The Nature Conservancy	Co-Chair
Johnson	Samantha	Tongva Taraxat Paxaavxa Land Conservancy	Yes
Kamplath	Rita	County of Los Angeles	
Kast	Grace	Gateway Water Management Authority	
Katagi	Wendy	Stillwater	
Katz	Nurit	UCLA/LADWP	Yes
Kjer	Tori	Neighborhood Land Trust	
Knapp	Dan	Conservation Corps of Long Beach	Yes
Kouwonou	Yao	LACDPW	
Lai	Gary	Kimley-Horn	Yes
Laird	Jason	San Manuel Band of Mission Indians	
Landregan	Stephanie	UCLA - Landscape Architecture Extension	Yes
Lassos	Gabriella	Sacred Places Institute	Yes

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Latane	Claire	Cal Poly Pomona and Author (NBS and Mental Health in School Yard Design)	Yes
Le	Michael	FMWD	
Lee	James	Crescenta Valley Water District	
Lipkis	Andy	ARLA	
Locke	Taylor	Heal The Bay	
Lofton	Esther	UC Cooperative Extension	Yes
Lombos	Mark	Los Angeles County Dept of Public Works	
Longcore	Travis	UCLA	
Luna	Miguel	Urban Semillas	
Ly	Jackie	LACDPW	
MacCarley	Alison	Rivers and Mountains Conservancy	
Malarich	Rachel	City of Los Angeles	
Marcus	Felicia	Stanford	
Mark	Robin	Salt	
Mason	Gabe	LACDPW	
McCarthy	Meredith	Heal The Bay	
McCleary	Alexandra	San Manuel Band of Mission Indians	
McNeeley	Shannon	Pacific Institute	
McNeil	David	Baldwin Hills Conservancy	
Mendoza	Steven	Rivers and Mountains Conservancy	
Moe	Annelisa	Heal The Bay	Yes
Moon	TJ	LACDPW	
Moran	Carlos	North East Trees	
Munoz	Irma	Mujeres de la Tierra	
Nguyen	Mark	LA SAN	Yes
Nordness	Ryan	San Manuel Band of Mission Indians	
Abraham	Sonali	Pacific Institute	
Ortega	Rudy	Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians	
Ouwersloot	Natalie	Foothill Municipal Water District	Yes
Pease	Katherine	Heal the Bay	
Pedersen	Dave	LVMWD	
Arends	Claudia	USDA	
Pickler	Kelli	City of Lakewood	
Pincetl	Stephanie	CA Center for Sustainable Communities - UCLA	
Price	Shay'La	LA County Chief Sustainability Office	
Provo	Devon	ARLA	
Rau	Tom	Urban Water Group	
Rausser	Casandra	Morpho Strategies (former director of UCLA. Grand Challenge)	
Ready	Drew	Council for Watershed Health	

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Reid-Wainscoat	Elizabeth	Center for Biological Diversity	
Renteria	Ofelia	Arroyo Seco Wildlife Preservation	
Reznik	Bruce	LA Waterkeeper	Yes
Rivard	Thierry	TreePeople	
Robinson	Claire	Amigos de los Rios	Yes
Rodriguez	Karissa	LA County Board of Supervisors	
Romero	Francisco	Prevention Institute	
Ruby	Kwan-Davis	CDFW	
Rumble	Brad	LAUSD	
Scaduto	Michael	LA SAN	
Schiff	Ken	SCCWRP	
Schwarz	Kirsten	UCLA IOES	
Skei	Rorie	SMMC	
Skrbic	Alexia	Heal the Bay	
Snider-Ashtari	Christina	Governor's Office of Tribal Affairs	
Solek	Chris	USACE	
Sourial	Jill	LA County Parks and Recreations	
Stanley	Mark	San Gabriel & Lower Los Angeles Rivers & Mountains Conservancy	
Stein	Eric	SCCWRP	
Strauss	Eric	Loyola Marymount University	
Superfisky	Kat	City of LA	
Takata	Eileen	ACOE	
Teutimez	Matthew	Kizh Nation Resources Management	
Tilford	Katie	TPF	
Trivedi	Geraldine	City of Redondo Beach	Yes
Tsong	Jane	Watershed Conservation Authority	Yes
Tsui	Sabrina	LADWP	
Uyehara	Julie	USFS	
Valdivia	Mariana	City of LA	
Vazquez	Elizabeth	LACDPW	
Vona	Andrea	LA County Dept Parks & Rec	Yes
Wade	Kayleigh	Heal the Bay	
Watts	Melina	SCWP - Watershed Coordinator	Yes
Wilson	Charley	SoCal Water	
Winter	Melanie	The River Project	Yes
Wood	Eric	CSU LA Urban Ecology Center	