

FY 2022-23 WORK PLAN

Planning and Watershed Stewardship Division

Programs:

TMDL Development
Basin Planning
Analytical Support Program
Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program
303(d)/305(b) Integrated Report
CyanoHAB Response Program
Nonpoint Source Grants Program
Monitoring Support Program
Watershed Stewardship
Flow and Riparian Protection



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Division Supervisor: Alydda Mangelsdorf

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1.0 BACKGROUND

The Planning and Watershed Stewardship Division (PAWS Division) plays a unique role at the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board). The Division is responsible for developing and maintaining the planning, monitoring, assessment, and stewardship functions of the office. These activities serve as the bedrock upon which the Regional Water Board implements its vision of *Healthy Watersheds, Effective Regulation, and Strong Partnerships*. The PAWS Division is divided into two units: the Planning Unit and the Watershed Adaptive Management Unit; and includes the support of a Flow and Riparian Protection Specialist, a Scott and Shasta Steward (Specialist), and a Humboldt Bay Steward (Specialist). The PAWS Division also works closely with the Watershed Stewardship Coordinator, a policy advisor to the Executive Officer (EO). This Division Workplan includes six sections that provide an overview of the Division, the resources used to support the Division's work, and the tasks and milestones of the Planning Unit, Watershed Adaptive Management Unit, Flow and Riparian Protection Program, and Watershed Stewardship Program.

1.1 Planning Unit

The Planning Unit is responsible for maintaining the *Water Quality Control Plan for the North Coast Region* otherwise known as the Basin Plan. The Basin Plan includes information regarding the North Coast Region, as well as the regulations by which the Regional Water Board implements the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act and the federal Clean Water Act. The regulations include designation of beneficial uses; water quality objectives to protect those uses; an antidegradation policy; and prohibitions, action plans, and policies by which the water quality standards are implemented, including Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Action Plans. The Basin Plan provides the regulatory basis for the permitting and enforcement activities of the office.

Both the Planning and TMDL programs are guided by a workplan adopted by the Regional Water Board, which identifies the priorities of the Planning Unit for a 3-year period, as established during the triennial review of the basin plan. The Planning Program Workplan for FY 2018-2021 was adopted by the Regional Water Board in September 2018 and includes the following projects:

- Russian River Pathogen TMDL Action Plan
- Laguna de Santa Rosa Nutrient, DO, Temperature and Sediment TMDL Action Plan/TMDL Alternative
- Ocean Beaches and Freshwater Creeks Pathogen TMDL Action Plan/TMDL Alternative
- TMDL Program Retrospective Review
- Groundwater Protection Strategy
- Instream Flow Criteria/Objectives for the Navarro River and Regionwide Narrative Flow Objective
- Climate Change Adaptation Strategy
- Revision to Chapter 3 of the Basin Plan to include language on Outstanding National Resource Waters (ONRWs)

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- Revision to Chapter 3 of the Basin Plan to modify the biostimulatory substances objective to address biostimulatory conditions
- Revision to Chapter 2 to update cultural and subsistence fishing beneficial uses to be consistent with statewide beneficial uses

This FY2022-23 Workplan includes staff resources to bring a 2023 Triennial Review to the Board in FY 2023-24, which will update the 2018 planning priorities.

1.2 Watershed Adaptive Management Unit

The general function of the Watershed Adaptive Management Unit is to: 1) monitor and assess surface water quality conditions and 2) implement non-regulatory activities to restore and maintain water quality conditions that support beneficial uses. There are many individual programs managed within the Watershed Adaptive Management Unit, which are coordinated to accomplish these general functions. They include:

- Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program (SWAMP)
- CyanoHAB Monitoring and Response Program
- Water Quality Assessment and 303(d)/305(b) Integrated Report
- Grants Administration and Management

1.3 Watershed Stewardship Program

The Watershed Stewardship Program consists of two Specialists who provide inter- and intra-agency coordination in specific high priority geographic areas. These include the Scott and Shasta Watersheds, tributaries to the Klamath River, as well as the Humboldt Bay Region, with a specific focus on the Elk River Watershed. The Watershed Stewardship Coordinator, who also performs the duties of the Klamath Watershed Steward, coordinates the activities of the two Steward Specialists in cooperation with the Division Supervisor.

1.4 Flow and Riparian Protection Specialist

The Planning and Stewardship Division is supported by a Flow and Riparian Specialist who is a technical expert in those areas. The Flow and Riparian Specialist generally works to provide technical and policy support to advance inter- and intra-agency coordination on flow and riparian issues, including water rights related issues, and develops tools to further the agency's mission on these topics.

1.5 Unplanned Work Activities

The Planning and Watershed Stewardship Division must periodically revise its annual workplan mid-year to accommodate unplanned projects or activities. In recent years unplanned activities have included such things as:

- Fire response, including coordination with other emergency response agencies, water quality monitoring, emergency grant support, and communication support
- Drought response, including internal and external coordination relevant to drought declarations from the Governor's Office (see below)

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- Support for renewal of statewide and regional permits to update monitoring and reporting requirements or TMDL compliance programs, when the permits come up for renewal
- Assistance on enforcement cases, including development of Supplemental Environmental Projects
- Support for special statewide initiatives, such as the ADA Compliance Initiative or the Racial Equity Initiative
- Support for regional initiatives, such as the Russian River Confluence
- Support for interagency initiatives, such establishment of flow objectives in the Scott and Shasta Rivers
- Transition of staff, for example due to retirement or promotion
- Responding to petitions and litigation

As a general principle, emergency projects that require less than 2 weeks of staff time are simply absorbed into the workflow, with minor adjustments to the deliverable schedules of relevant projects, as necessary. Projects that require more than 2 weeks of staff time require a focused evaluation of the other work priorities, reordering of priorities, and formal adjustments to other work commitments. If they become longstanding priority projects, then the following year's workplan will be adjusted to accommodate them. As an example, there are 4 staff in the Division, who are participating in subcommittees of the office Engagement Committee. Their individual time commitment is estimated at 0.02 PYs per staff (approximately 40 hours each per year). This activity is not represented as a separate work obligation since participation is voluntary and the commitment is under 2 weeks. It is simply absorbed into their project/program work. Similarly, review of CEQA documents, support on an enforcement case, or other similar, short-term work assignments are not individually recorded, but are considered when reviewing workplan priorities mid-year.

The Specialists associated with the Division are frequently called upon to manage emergency conditions associated with their technical or regional area of focus. Drought is an example of an issue that often calls Specialists to provide unplanned support. This FY2022-23 Workplan predicts the need for attention to drought and is reflected in the sections related to the Flow and Riparian Protection Program, as well as the Watershed Stewardship Program.

Tables 3.1, 4.1, and 6.1 list by priority the core and special project activities associated with the Planning and TMDL Program, the Watershed Adaptive Management Program, and the Flow and Riparian Protection Program, respectively. Priority 1 activities are those that barring unforeseen circumstances will be staffed. Priority 2 activities are those that may be delayed or postponed should other unplanned priorities arise. Priority 3 activities are those that will not be staffed in this fiscal year. This schema will help determine those activities, which may be suspended or delayed due to high priority unplanned activities that arise during the fiscal year.

2.0 DIVISION RESOURCES

2.1 Staff Resources

The staff resources of the Division are listed in Table 2.1. Table 2.1 includes the technical, specialist, and management staff dedicated to the Division, including the individuals, their position, classification, and time base. Table 1 does not include the portion of the Administrative Unit’s time that is dedicated to supporting the Division.

Table 2.1: Planning and Stewardship Division Staff

Position	Name	Classification	PYs
Division Supervisor	Alydda Mangelsdorf	EPM I	1.0
Flow and Riparian Specialist	Bryan McFadden	Senior WRCE Specialist	1.0
Scott and Shasta Steward	Eli Scott	Senior ES Specialist	1.0
Humboldt Bay Steward	Elizabeth Pope	Senior ES Specialist	1.0
Watershed Adaptive Management Unit Senior Supervisor	Katharine Carter	Senior ES Supervisor	1.0
SWAMP Program	Richard Fadness	EG	1.0
Grants Program	Michele Fortner	ES	1.0
Grants Program	Carrieann Lopez	ES	1.0
Integrated Report Program	Mary Bartholomew	ES	1.0
CyanoHAB Program Coordinator	Mike Thomas	ES	1.0
Planning Unit Senior Supervisor	Lisa Bernard	Senior ES Supervisor	1.0
Planning/TMDL Development	Lance Le	WRCE	1.0
Planning/TMDL Development	Kelsey Cody	ES	1.0
Planning/TMDL Development	Prachi Kulkarni	WRCE	1.0
Planning/TMDL Development	Matt Graves	EG	1.0
Planning/TMDL Development	Nick Fetherston	ES	1.0
Administrative Support	As assigned		Variable
		Division Total	16

Each staff is assigned as the lead of a given program or project(s) or as a member of a project team as described in more detail in the following sections. In addition to these primary duties, each staff also completes required administrative tasks; attends required trainings and trainings relevant to job performance and/or career advancement; has regular work planning meetings with his/her supervisor; participates in regular Unit, Division, and All-Staff meetings; may participate in various regional or statewide staff engagement workgroups; and may participate in various regional or statewide program roundtables or subject matter workgroups. In combination, these primary duties and

additional activities make up a staff's 1.0 person year (PY). There are 13.0 staff (non-management) PY resources in the Planning and Watershed Stewardship Division.

Each Senior Specialist has the same work obligations as rank-and-file staff, except they are more widely called upon as subject matter experts, both internally and externally. Further, Senior Specialists attend both Division Leadership and Management meetings, with leadership duties to the office in their respective areas of their expertise.

Each Senior Supervisor has the same work obligations as their staff, except that rather than lead given programs or projects, Senior Supervisors provide technical and policy guidance to all their project/program leads and teams, with an obligation to review work produced by staff to ensure that is technically sound, well-written, and complete. Senior Supervisors also attend Division Leadership and Management meetings, with leadership duties associated with their program areas. Senior Supervisors have additional training obligations related to supervision. Senior Supervisors act on behalf of program/project leads on a short-term basis, as needed. However, their non-supervisory projects are kept to a minimum so as not to interfere with their supervisory duties. Except when working on special projects, Senior Supervisor PYs are allocated as "variable". FY22-23 special projects include:

- The Planning Unit Senior Supervisor is the lead staff bringing the Russian River Pathogen TMDL to an approval hearing before the State Water Resources Control Board in the first quarter of FY22-23 (0.05 PYs);
- The Planning Unit Senior Supervisor is the lead staff evaluating the best approach for incorporating US EPA-established Sediment TMDLs into the Basin Plan (0.05 PYs);
- The Watershed Adaptive Management Unit Supervisor is the lead staff managing the agency's involvement in the Klamath Basin Monitoring Program (KBMP) and will represent the agency on the KBMP Steering Committee (0.10 PY)

The Division Supervisor has all the same work obligations as Senior Supervisors. The Division Supervisor provides guidance on policy matters and the second line review of Division work products. Further, the Division Supervisor participates on the Executive Team, joining the other executives in office leadership. The Division Supervisor engages in cross-program, intra-agency, and inter-agency outreach on key subject areas, such as climate change, coordinated monitoring, and watershed stewardship. The Division Supervisor's PYs are allocated as "variable" except on special projects. FY 22-23 Special Projects include lead on the development of a Climate Change and Resilience Strategy triennial review project with a PY allocation of no more than 0.25 PYs.

2.2 Americorps Members

The Planning and Watershed Stewardship Division often hosts 2 Americorps members who begin their tenure in October and complete their service the following August. The Americorps Program is administered by the California Conservation Corps (CCC) who recruits each year's members, conducts their initial interviews, and places them at host sites. A contract with the CCC to cover some of the costs of each member, including stipend and travel expenses, is administered by the San Francisco Regional Water

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Quality Control Board on RB1's behalf, with 2 members placed at the Oakland office and 2 members placed at the Santa Rosa office. The members typically work with Planning staff, the Flow and Riparian Specialist, and Watershed Steward Specialists to learn data collection, data analysis and watershed stewardship skills. The skills and commitment the Americorps members bring to their tenure with the agency is a demonstrable augmentation to the technical work capacity of the Division. The management and reporting obligations to the CCC associated with their tenure, however, is a cost to the division.

3.0 TMDL AND BASIN PLANNING PROGRAM

The Planning Unit is composed of a Senior Supervisor, two TMDL staff, and three Planning staff. Staff are organized into project teams based on skills, interests, and project priorities. The Planning Unit Senior Supervisor manages the [TMDL Program](#) and [Basin Planning Program](#) and supports implementation of the triennial review priorities in each of these programs through management of individual project leads and teams.

Many staff in the Planning Unit also belong to either the Analytical Support Team or the Monitoring Support Team. The Analytical Support Team is supervised by the Planning Unit Supervisor. The Monitoring Support Team is supervised by the WAM Unit Supervisor.

3.1 Core Activities and Projects by Priority

Each of the core activities and projects of the Planning Unit are identified in Table 3.1 and given a priority of 1, 2 or 3. Core activities are activities that are ongoing, such as outreach, communication, tracking, and management of contracts or grants. Special activities are defined tasks, generally performed in sequence, to achieve the end goal. Performance targets are established each year for the Planning and TMDL Programs and are based on 1) the number of TMDLs adopted, 2) the number of waterbody pollutant pairs that will be addressed by an action of the Board, and 3) the number of basin plan amendments adopted. The performance targets for FY 22-23 are zero TMDLs adopted, zero waterbody-pollutant pairs addressed, and zero basin plan amendments. The details associated with Priority 3 projects, those 2018 Triennial Review projects that are unstaffed, are not described.

Table 3.1—TMDL and Planning Program Projects and Core Activities by Priority

Priority Level	Activity/Project	Category	Target Date
1	Russian River Pathogen TMDL	Special	3 rd Quarter FY 22-23
1	Laguna de Santa Rosa TMDLs/Alternative Restoration Plan	Special	2024-25
1	Coastal Pathogen TMDL/Alternative Restoration Plan	Special	2023-2024
1	Narrative Flow Objective	Special	2023-24
1	Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Strategy	Core and Special	2023-24
1	Groundwater Protection Strategy	Core and Special	See Point Source Control and Groundwater Protection Division Workplan
2	2023 Triennial Review of the Basin Plan	Special	2023-2024
2	Analytical Support Team	Core	Ongoing
3	TMDL Program Retrospective Review	Special	Unstaffed
3	Navarro Flow Objective	Special	Unstaffed
3	ONRW Definition and Designation	Special	Unstaffed
3	Biostimulatory Conditions	Special	Waiting for State Board action
3	Tribal and Cultural Beneficial Uses	Special	Unstaffed

3.2 Russian River Watershed Pathogen TMDL

Assigned PYs: Planning Unit Supervisor PYs

In December 2021, the Regional Water Board adopted a Pathogen TMDL Action Plan for the Russian River Watershed with a prohibition that applies across the watershed and an Advanced Protection Management Program (APMP) that applies to Onsite Wastewater Treatment Sites (OWTS) in a subset of the watershed. This adoption served to meet the FY 21-22 performance targets established for last fiscal year. Upon approval by the State Water Board and Office of Administrative Law, the TMDL Action Plan will go into effect. Upon approval of U.S. EPA, the obligation under the Clean Water Act to develop a TMDL for impaired waters will be met.

The Lead Staff is Lisa Bernard (Senior Supervisor of the Planning Unit) (0.05 PYs). She is supported by technical staff in the Analytical Support Team, as needed. Work on this project is funded by the Federal TMDL Program, which includes its own work planning and reporting obligations.

Fiscal Quarter	Special Project Milestones
1st Quarter (9/22)	State Water Board approval hearing
2nd Quarter (12/22)	OAL approval process
3rd Quarter (3/23)	US EPA approval process
4th Quarter (6/23)	None

3.3 Laguna de Santa Rosa TMDLs/Alternative Restoration Plan

Assigned PYs: 1.2 Staff PYs

The Laguna de Santa Rosa is a subwatershed of the larger Russian River watershed. It is listed on the Clean Water Act 303(d) list of impaired waterbodies due to water quality impairments associated with nutrients, low dissolved oxygen, elevated temperature, and excess sediment, which cause biostimulation. Fundamental to the impairments in the Laguna is the underlying altered hydrology of the watershed due to urbanization and other anthropogenic causes, demanding a multifaceted and multidimensional solution set, including pollutant allocations to multiple sectors, characterization of the loading effects of landscape-wide modifications, and active restoration, with consideration of future impacts due to climate change. Planning Unit staff are developing a TMDL Action Plan/Alternative Restoration Plan to address these impairments. The focus of FY 22-23 will be development of a Scientific Peer Review Draft Staff Report, stakeholder coordination and collaboration including, a California Environmental Quality Assurance Act (CEQA) scoping meeting, Tribal consultations, and public workshops. Informed by these efforts, staff will develop a Public Review Draft Staff Report and begin drafting an Action Plan in early FY 23-24. A contract for \$9,450 has been executed with Tetra Tech to support the development of responses to peer review comments in the third quarter.

The lead staff of the Laguna TMDLs is Kelsey Cody (1.0 PY). He is supported by Matt Graves (0.2 PY). Work on this project is funded by the Federal TMDL Program, which includes its own work planning and reporting obligations.

Fiscal Quarter	Special Project Milestones
1 st Quarter (9/22)	Scientific Peer Review Draft Staff Report
2 nd Quarter (12/22)	None
3 rd Quarter (3/23)	Response to Peer Review Comments (from Contractor)
4 th Quarter (6/23)	Draft Staff Report for internal review EO Report Article

3.4 Coastal Pathogen TMDL/Alternative Restoration Plan

Assigned PYs: 0.95 Staff PYs

The Ocean Beaches and Freshwater Creeks Pathogen TMDL Projects (Coastal Pathogen TMDL Project) was first adopted as a high priority TMDL Project during the 2014 triennial review of the Basin Plan and again adopted as a high priority during the 2018 triennial review. Since 2014, staff collected dry and wet season ambient water quality data from listed ocean beaches, listed freshwater streams, reference streams,

and suspected fecal waste source areas over two calendar years. Initial analyses of streams data indicated strong human markers for Jolly Giant Creek. In follow-up, staff initiated additional source identification monitoring specific to Jolly Giant Creek in collaboration with Humboldt Bay Keeper and the City of Arcata. Supplemental Monitoring in Jolly Giant Creek began in September 2021. These datasets are now complete, and staff have begun to develop Technical Reports summarizing the data and analyses conducted. A Reference Stream Study Technical Memo was completed in FY 21-22, as was an Impaired Streams Technical Report. Three additional Technical Reports are planned for FY 22-23. Following completion of these technical reports, staff will produce a Synthesis Report with recommendations for next steps.

Co-leads for this project are Prachi Kulkarni (0.50 PY) and Mary Bartholomew (WAM Unit - 0.40 PY). They are supported by Nick Fetherston (0.05 PY). Work on this project is funded in part by the Federal TMDL Program Grant, which includes its own work planning and reporting obligations, as well as the Waste Discharge Permit Fund.

Fiscal Quarter	Special Project Milestones
1 st Quarter (9/22)	Final Microbial Source Tracking and Landcover Technical Report
2 nd Quarter (12/22)	Final Coastal Beaches Analysis Technical Report
3 rd Quarter (3/23)	Final Jolly Giant Creek Source Tracking Technical Report EO Report article
4 th Quarter (6/23)	Draft Synthesis Report

3.5 EPA Established TMDLS

Assigned PYs: Planning Unit Supervisor PYs

As an obligation under a 1997 Consent Decree, U.S. EPA developed and/or approved numerous sediment TMDLs for waters in the North Coast Region. These sediment TMDLs were not presented to the Regional Water Board for adoption into the Basin Plan, because they were technical TMDLs without proposed TMDL Action Plans. Instead, in 2004, the Regional Water Board adopted Resolution No. R1-2004-0087, Total Maximum Daily Load Implementation Policy Statement for Sediment-Impaired Receiving Waters in the North Coast Region (Sediment TMDL Implementation Policy), which was later incorporated into the Basin Plan as the mechanism to guide implementation of the technical TMDLs using existing programs. This project is to evaluate the best approach to incorporating the technical TMDLs into the Basin Plan with more specific direction on their implementation. In FY 22-23, staff will summarize the history and circumstances related to these TMDLs and make recommendations to executive management regarding further action. This project does not include actions related to the USEPA established sediment TMDL for the Gualala River as that TMDL is the subject of ongoing litigation.

The lead staff is Lisa Bernard (Planning Unit Supervisor - 0.05 PY). Work on this project is funded by the Federal TMDL Program Grant, which includes its own work planning and reporting obligations. There are no performance measures associated with this project.

Fiscal Quarter	Special Project Milestones
1 st Quarter (9/22)	None
2 nd Quarter (12/22)	None
3 rd Quarter (3/23)	Memorandum on EPA Established TMDLs
4 th Quarter (6/23)	None

3.6 Narrative Flow Objective (See 6.2)

3.7 Triennial Review of the Basin Plan

Assigned PYs: 0.60 Staff PYs

Section 13240 of the Porter-Cologne and Section 303(c)(1) of the Clean Water Act require a review of basin plans at least once each three-year period to keep pace with changes in regulation, new technologies, policies, and physical changes within the region. The Regional Water Board is responsible for reviewing the Basin Plan and is required to: 1) identify those portions of the Basin Plan, which are in need of modification or new additions; 2) adopt standards as appropriate; and 3) recognize those portions of the Basin Plan, which are appropriate as written. The Regional Water Board solicits written and oral public input, which it considers prior to adopting by resolution a prioritized list of basin planning projects. The highest priority projects establish the foundation for the workplan of the Regional Water Board’s Planning Program for the next 3-year period. The last triennial review was conducted in 2018. The adopting resolution for the Triennial Review can also approve non-substantial revisions to the Basin Plan, such as editorial revisions.

The lead staff for this project is Nick Fetherston (0.40 PY) with assistance from Prachi Kulkarni (0.20 PY). This work is funded by the Waste Discharge Permit Fund. There are no performance measures associated with this project.

Fiscal Quarter	Special Project Milestones
1 st Quarter (9/22)	None
2 nd Quarter (12/22)	None
3 rd Quarter (3/23)	Public Notice of Triennial Review
4 th Quarter (6/23)	Draft Staff Report for internal review

3.8 Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Strategy

Assigned PYs: 0.30 Staff PYs

A Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Strategy for the North Coast Region will 1) describe an adaptation and resilience vision for water resources in the Region, 2) identify the regulatory and non-regulatory tools available to the Regional Water Board that are useful to accomplish the vision , 3) assess existing science and conditions on a bioregional scale to identify high priority water quality related climate adaptation and resilience needs for distinct bioregions in the North Coast, 4) identify strategic partnerships necessary to round out the regulatory, science and monitoring, and funding

solutions, and 5) implement key regulatory and non-regulatory actions using new and existing programs, as necessary. Activities in FY 21-22 included:

- Interviews with Executive Management and Regional Board members,
- Internal Scoping Meetings
- Identification of Workgroups
- Draft Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Vision
- Draft Policy Statements

The lead staff is Alydda Mangelsdorf (Division Supervisor - 0.25 PY) with support from Matt Graves (0.20 PY) and Nick Fetherston (0.10 PY). It is envisioned that upon retirement of the Watershed Stewardship Coordinator in August 2022, a new Policy Advisor to the EO will be hired, with a focus on Climate Change. This triennial review project will then pass into the hands of the new Policy Advisor, at which time the scope of the activities for the project during FY 22-23 will be further refined.

Fiscal Quarter	Special Project Milestones
1 st Quarter (9/22)	Draft Team Charter and Workplan for review by Exec Team
2 nd Quarter (12/22)	TBD
3 rd Quarter (3/23)	TBD
4 th Quarter (6/23)	TBD

3.9 Analytical Support Team

Assigned PYs: 1.10 Staff PYs

A core team of two Division staff have been identified as the division’s Analytical Support Team. This team is available to the division to assist on the complex technical components of various projects including modeling, statistical analysis, GIS analysis, and data presentation. Upon agreement with the relevant supervisor, and considering workload, members of this team are also to be available to provide technical support to other divisions. Highlighted projects for FY 22-23 include: analytical support for the Laguna de Santa Rosa Temperature TMDL, support on the Climate Change Strategy, support to Watershed Stewards in development of Water Quality Report Cards (due in draft in the 2nd quarter), Integrated Report support, and CannaVision support for the Cannabis and Enforcement Division. A system for requesting and tracking analytical support projects allows the Analytical Support Team to accept requests through the year and share responsibilities for prioritizing and completing the requests.

The team lead for the Analytical Support Team is Lance Le (0.90 PY) which includes duties as a mentor to Americorps members. He is supported by Prachi Kulkarni (0.20 PY). The Team is funded by a combination of Water Quality Trend Monitoring funds, Federal NPS Support funds, Federal TMDL Support funds, and Waste Discharge Permit Funds. The federal funds require additional work planning and reporting.

Core activities of this team include:

- Maintain a project request and tracking system
- Project tracking and time management

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- Project scoping
- Project charters/workplans as necessary
- Performance of technical work as described
- Packaging of technical work as described, including spreadsheets, databases, geospatial work products, tables, figures, and technical memos
- Internal peer review to confirm the accuracy of work performed
- Team meetings and coordination with Unit Supervisor

4.0 WATERSHED ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

The Watershed Adaptive Management (WAM) Unit is composed of a Senior Supervisor and five staff. The WAM Unit houses several inter-related programs that support the monitoring and adaptive management functions of [Watershed Stewardship](#). In addition to supervising staff and managing programs, the Senior Supervisor also coordinates with the Nonpoint Source and Surface Water Protection Division to develop the 5-Year Nonpoint Source Workplan, required under the Nonpoint Source funding grant from USEPA. The current 5-Year Nonpoint Source Workplan is for the period of 2020-2025.

Many staff in the WAM Unit also belong to the Monitoring Support Team supervised by the WAM Unit Supervisor.

The WAM Unit programs include:

- SWAMP Program led by a full time SWAMP Coordinator
- CyanoHAB Response Program led by a full-time CyanoHAB Response Program Coordinator
- Integrated Report Program led by a full time Integrated Report Program Coordinator
- Nonpoint Source Grant Program staffed by two full time Grants staff

4.1 Core Activities and Projects by Priority

Each of these programs include ongoing, core duties, as well as special projects that have start and end dates. Each of the programs themselves are Priority Level 1 (high priority) programs that barring unusual circumstances, the Division will continue to invest staff resources in. Should unforeseen conditions require that staff be diverted to other work (e.g., emergency response, high priority enforcement), individual core duties and/or project tasks would be adjusted, while ensuring that minimum program management continues for each program. Table 4.1 reflects these conclusions.

Table 4.1—Watershed Adaptive Management Program Core Activities and Project by Priority

Priority Level	Activity/Project	Category	Target Date
1	SWAMP Program	Core and Special	Ongoing
1	303(d)/305(b) Integrated Report Program	Core and Special	Ongoing
1	CyanoHAB Response Program	Core and Special	Ongoing
1	Nonpoint Source Grant Program	Core and Special	Ongoing
1	Monitoring Support Team	Core	Ongoing
2	Technical Support to Permit Programs	Core	Ongoing

2	CEQA document review	Core	Ongoing
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4.2 Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program

Assigned PYs: 0.55 Staff PYs

The Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program, or SWAMP, is a statewide monitoring effort designed to assess the conditions of surface waters throughout the state of California. The program is administered by the State Water Board and implemented at the regional level. To support the regions' monitoring activities, the statewide SWAMP Program has created a Quality Assurance (QA) program, developed a standardized data storage system, created Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for sampling, generate peer reviewed monitoring plans for each project, and regularly updates a water quality indicator list to work from.

With input from staff and management, the SWAMP Coordinator develops a monitoring workplan to direct SWAMP monitoring resources to the highest surface water monitoring priorities. Implementation of the SWAMP Workplan is an on-going activity with field work conducted both during the summer season (e.g., CyanoHAB) and winter season (e.g., stormwater runoff).

In recent years, the SWAMP Coordinator has allocated monitoring funds on a project-by-project basis. This fiscal year the SWAMP Coordinator will begin developing a long-term plan for surface water monitoring in the Region. Development of this plan is expected to be completed by the end of FY 22-23, with contracting updates occurring in FY 23-24 and implementation beginning in FY 24-25.

The SWAMP lead is Rich Fadness (0.50PY). He is supported by Mike Thomas (0.05 PY). Other staff participate in monitoring activities described in the SWAMP workplan but are managed on an adhoc basis through their participation on the Monitoring Support Team. The program is funded by the Water Quality Trend Monitoring Fund. There are no performance measures associated with this program.

Core activities of the SWAMP Coordinator include:

- SWAMP Roundtable and Coordinator meetings
- SWAMP Statewide Workgroup meetings
- Internal updates and information sharing (EO Reports, presentations, meetings, e-mail updates)
- SWAMP workplan development and oversight
- Statewide laboratory contract coordination
- SWAMP database management: a) data input and retrieval and b) data validation
- Review and finalize project monitoring and QA/QC plans
- Maintain and oversee Regional Lab
- Maintain and oversee field monitoring equipment
- Provide monitoring and QA-related training
- Provide monitoring support
- Regional laboratory contract coordination

- (See Section 5.3 for Russian River Regional Monitoring Program (R3MP) Support)

SWAMP monitoring project planned for FY 22-23 are highlighted in bold in Table 4.2. They include monitoring in for the Coastal Pathogens project, CyanoHAB Emergency Response, Elk River, Scott River, Scott/Shasta Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) projects, and the Smith River. A special project that is intended but may be delayed is the development of a Monitoring Resource Guidance document for staff. No milestone commitment is included below since it is a lower priority task for which there may not be adequate time in FY 22-23.

Fiscal Quarter	Special Project Milestones
1 st Quarter (9/22)	Develop Framework for Approach to Long-Term Planning for Regional SWAMP Monitoring
2 nd Quarter (12/22)	EO Report Article
3 rd Quarter (3/23)	Draft a Long-Term Regional SWAMP Monitoring Plan
4 th Quarter (6/23)	Finalize Long-Term Regional SWAMP Monitoring Plan

Table 4.2-- SWAMP Budget and Workplan

Regional Projects	FY 21-22	FY 22-23	FY 23-24	FY 24-25	TOTALS
Coastal Pathogens TMDL	\$32,370	\$10,990			\$43,360
CyanoHAB Emergency Response	\$24,000	\$45,000	\$65,000	\$35,000	\$169,000
Elk River		\$61,666	\$61,666	\$61,666	\$184,998
Scott River	\$26,455	\$46,150	\$31,950		\$104,555
Scott/Shasta SGMA	\$9,160	\$22,000	\$22,000	\$22,000	\$75,160
Shasta River	\$15,600				\$15,600
Smith River	\$27,440	\$83,490	\$41,745		\$152,675
Total Yearly SWAMP Allocation		\$387,096	\$387,096	\$387,096	
Balance to be allocated		\$117,900	\$164,735	\$268,430	

4.3 303(d)/305(b) Integrated Report Program

Assigned PYs: 0.55 Staff PYs

Section 305(b) of the federal Clean Water Act requires states to assess the condition of its waters and report its findings. Section 303(d) of the federal Clean Water Act requires states to identify water bodies that do not meet water quality standards and are not supporting their beneficial uses. These waters are placed on the Section 303(d) List of Water Quality Limited Segments (also known as the list of Impaired water bodies or 303(d) List). California has integrated the 303(d) List of Impaired Waters and the 305(b) Water Quality Assessment Report into a single report (Integrated Report). This

Integrated Report satisfies the requirements of both Clean Water Act Sections 303(d) and 305(b). The State Water Board is responsible for producing an Integrated Report every 2 years. Each report compiles and assesses data for 3 regions at a time, such that each region is on a 6-year cycle.

In the fall of 2019, the State Water Board began administering the public process for the North Coast Water Board’s 2018 cycle as part of the State Water Board’s plan to meet Integrated Report submittal target due dates. The 2018 Integrated Report was adopted by the State Water Board and USEPA in 2020, including new and revised listings and delistings in the North Coast Region. The State Water Board has determined that, for the time being, they will continue to administer future Integrated Report cycles to ensure completion within the timeframe allowed by the Clean Water Act. The North Coast Region will once again be evaluating data during the 2026 Integrated Report cycle which will begin in August 2022

The program lead is Mary Bartholomew (0.55 PY). The program is funded with Federal TMDL Program Grant funds.

Core Activities of the Integrated Report Program include:

- Implement the Integrated Report program in accordance with the direction, priorities, and schedule set forth by the State Water Board.
- Integrated Report Roundtables and statewide workgroups
- Coordinate with State and Regional Water Board staff, federal agencies, tribes, NGOs and the public to collect, assemble, and assess water quality data when on cycle.
- Periodically update staff and management on Integrated Report Program activities
- Data review and management
- Update fact sheets, as necessary

Fiscal Quarter	Special Project Milestones
1 st Quarter (9/22)	Conduct outreach to external monitoring groups, agency partners, and internal staff and assist with 2026 cycle data submittal
2 nd Quarter (12/22)	Finish outreach to external monitoring groups, agency partners, and internal staff and assist with 2026 cycle data submittal
3 rd Quarter (3/23)	None
4 th Quarter (6/23)	Review, finalize &/or approve: station locations, mapping updates, Region specific analyte & beneficial use tables, Quality Assurance Project Plans (QAPP) for data submitted, assessable data list

4.4 CyanoHAB Response Program

Assigned PYs: 1.15 Staff PY

Over the last decade, there has been an increased frequency and severity of cyanobacteria harmful algal blooms (CyanoHABs) around the world, including the North Coast Region. The Regional Water Board has received reports of freshwater nuisance blooms and algal scums, animal illnesses, and on occasion, human health impacts within the North Coast Region. The risk factors that contribute to freshwater CyanoHABs and nuisance blooms include nutrient (phosphorus and nitrogen) enriched waters, warming climate, reduced riparian shade, channel aggradation, and lower flows. The Regional Water Board is working to reduce risk factors through its water quality improvement programs. There is a current need to manage freshwater CyanoHABs through improved monitoring, assessment, partner coordination, and increased educational outreach. Given the lack of rainfall and snowpack throughout the Region, staff are expecting that drought conditions in many areas will result in lower than usual stream flows this summer 2022, which may result in an increase in CyanoHABs.

The CyanoHAB Coordinator is Mike Thomas (0.95 PY). He is supported by Rich Fadness (0.20 PY). This program is funded by Water Quality Trend Monitoring funds.

Core Activities of this program include:

- Freshwater HAB Roundtables and Coordinator and Core Team meetings
- Statewide program development and support
- Internal updates and information sharing
- HABs database and webmap management
- Annual program coordination and response planning
- Annual monitoring and response
- Provide technical support to partners, agencies, NGO's and Tribes for data collection, data interpretation, postings, and public outreach
- Coordination with Klamath Basin Monitoring Program (KBMP) on monitoring plan development
- Outreach and education
- Regional program development
- Maintain and improve statewide emergency and incident response to cyanoHABs

Fiscal Quarter	Special Project Milestones
1 st Quarter (9/22)	Final SPATT Report for the Russian, Eel, and South Fork Eel Rivers
2 nd Quarter (12/22)	Partner Field Training – Sample Identification & Collection Pre-Memorial Day Holiday Waterbody Assessment Pre-July 4 th Holiday Waterbody Assessment
3 rd Quarter (3/23)	Pre-Labor Day Holiday Waterbody Assessment
4 th Quarter (6/23)	None

4.5 Nonpoint Source Grant Program

Assigned PYs: 1.90 Staff PYs

California implements a Nonpoint Source Grant Program (NPS Grant Program), which is comprised of funds from a U.S. EPA Clean Water Act (CWA) section 319(h) grant to

the State Water Board (CWA 319 grant)¹ and from the Timber Regulation and Forest Restoration Fund (Timber Fund) established by the State. However, in recent years there have not been any Timber Funds made available by the State for grant projects. These funds are allocated to third party grantees on a competitive basis, to implement projects associated with nonpoint source pollution control, remediation, and restoration. The Program Preferences identified by the Region each year represent the Region's highest priority watersheds for third party pollution control, remediation, and restoration. The Region's 2021 NPS Program Preferences were identified as: Russian River, Eel River, Albion River, Ten Mile River, Noyo River, Navarro River, Garcia River, and Elk River. The 2021 grant solicitation did not result in full expenditure of available funding. So, a second solicitation is planned with the hopes of receiving additional grant applications to fully spend the 2021 funds.

The NPS Grant Program is co-led by Michele Fortner (0.91 PY) and Carrieann Lopez (0.99) PYs for a total of 1.90 PYs. The program is funded by Federal NPS Support funds, which have separate work planning and reporting obligations and Waste Discharge Permit funds. There are no performance measures associated with this program.

Core activities of this program include:

- Establish each year's program preferences through an internal review and approval process
- Update each year's Grant Guidelines
- Assist stakeholders and partners with grant application development
- Review and rank all grant applications statewide
- Develop, review, and execute grant agreements
- Grant project management (see active grant project details in Table 4.3)
- Provide support to Technical Staff who manage individual grants
- Attend Statewide Nonpoint Source Roundtable meetings
- Produce the annual NPS Workplan
- Deliver semi-annual progress reports
- Periodically report on the progress and outcomes of individual grants to management, the Board, and the public
- Cultivate grant projects with high performing grantees, in high priority watersheds, and addressing high priority impairments and/or beneficial use restoration needs
- Maintain and update a Catalog of Restoration Projects in applicable watersheds to: a) support the Watershed Stewardship Framework, b) support grant selection, c) support Caltrans' ability to achieve its proportional TMDL responsibility as required under the statewide Caltrans stormwater NPDES permit, d) serve as supplemental environmental projects for consideration in enforcement

¹ U.S. EPA has final approval authority of all projects funded with CWA section 319 funds.

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negotiation, and e) serve as a basis for identifying mitigation projects, especially as may be required as a condition of a 401 Certification. (See Section 5.5.1)

Fiscal Quarter	Special Project Milestones
1 st Quarter (9/22)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regional Board Staff Completion of Draft Scopes of Work for FY 2022-2023 Grants (as needed based upon applications and grants approved for funding) - Review Round 2 of 2022 319h NPS Grant Applications - Participate in final grant selection for Round 2 of 2022 319h NPS Grant Funds
2 nd Quarter (12/22)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Status check and updates to Restoration Catalogue - Closeout 1 grant: D1813109 (Post-Fire Recovery from Redwood Fire)
3 rd Quarter (3/22)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Closeout 3 grants: D1913111 (Shasta River), D1813108 (Post-Fire Mark West Ck, Maacama Ck, Laguna De Santa Rosa), and D1813107 (Mendocino Coast-Phase II). - Review 2023 319h NPS Grant Applications - EO Report Article
4 th Quarter (6/22)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participate in final grant selection for 2023 319h NPS Grant Funds - EO Report Article

Table 4.3-- Nonpoint Source Grant Program Active Projects

Agreement No.	Grant Contract Name	Grant Manager	Total Dollar Amount	Start Date	End Date	Description
D1813107	Mendocino Coast TMDL Implementation Program, Phase 2	Nonpoint Source and Surface Water Division	\$717,134	4/1/2019	3/31/2023	Implement NPS pollution controls along 14 miles of road in the Gualala and Navarro River watersheds
D1813108	Post-Fire Management Practices in the Mark West Creek, Maacama Creek and Laguna de Santa Rosa	Michele Fortner	\$500,000	5/1/2019	2/28/2023	Identify sites and plan/implement post-fire management practices on the burned land of at least 5 landowners
D1813109	Post-Fire Recovery from the Redwood Fire	Michele Fortner	\$749,507	4/1/2019	12/31/2022	Upgrade and stormproof 26 sites along 14 miles of road on four ranch ownerships. Revegetate 240 acres of burned hill slopes.
D1913111	Parks Creek Riparian Improvement	Eli Scott (Division Senior Specialist)	\$609,263	4/30/2020	1/31/2023	Stabilize streambank; install fencing, riparian plantings, stock watering systems on Parks Creek between I-5 bridge and State Hwy 99.
D2013114	Tenmile Creek Streambank Erosion Prevention and Riparian Restoration Project	Carriann Lopez	\$473,500	5/1/2021	3/31/2024	Stabilize stream bank on eroding tributary locations within the Tenmile Creek watershed using bioengineering techniques and riparian planting to reduce sediment contributions and reduce

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Agreement No.	Grant Contract Name	Grant Manager	Total Dollar Amount	Start Date	End Date	Description
						solar loading affecting water temperatures
D2013115	Hart Ranch Stock Watering and Riparian Fence Project	Eli Scott (Division Senior Specialist)	\$674,129	6/1/2021	10/31/2023	Increase dissolved oxygen and decrease temperature by installing off-stream stock watering systems, upgrading water transport infrastructure, installing fencing, and restoring riparian habitat with native plants and trees
D2013116	Post-Fire Recovery and Sediment Reduction in mark West Creek	Carrieann Lopez	\$402,358	6/1/2021	3/31/2024	Post-Fire Recovery and sediment reduction into Mark West Creek by re-constructing a retaining wall destroyed in the 2017 Tubbs Fire.
D2113117	Eel River Road Sediment Treatment Project-Phase 2	Michele Fortner	\$608,886	6/1/2022	2/28/2026	Implementation of stormproof designs on at least 5 road miles in the Outlet Creek basin
D2113118	Post-Fire Recovery in Russian River Subwatersheds	Carrieann Lopez	\$632,782	4/1/2022	6/30/2025	Reduce loading of sediment as well as other toxins in the Russian River watershed from lands in Sonoma County impacted by recent wildfires. Project activities will include planning and implementation of a suite of post-fire BMPs on burned lands
D2113119	Scott River EFM Road Mill Creek Sediment	Elias Scott (Division Senior Specialist)	\$432,000	2022	2025	Reduce sediment delivery to tributaries of the Scot River by treating several urgent or high priority sites, which includes

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Agreement No.	Grant Contract Name	Grant Manager	Total Dollar Amount	Start Date	End Date	Description
	Reduction Improvements					stream crossings, road crossings, and misaligned culverts

*Shaded rows are projects that will close out during FY 2022-23

4.6 Monitoring Support Program

Assigned PYs: 0.80 PYs

A core team of eight PAWS Division staff participate in the division's Monitoring Support Team. This team has approval from respective supervisors to provide support on approved SWAMP monitoring projects. Recent projects have included monitoring in the following: Scott River, Shasta River, Elk River, Jolly Giant Creek, and Smith River.

The Monitoring Support Team lead is Rich Fadness (0.15 PY). Other team members include: Mary Bartholomew, Michele Fortner, and Carrieann Lopez of the WAM Unit (cumulative of 0.15 PY) and Matt Graves, Prachi Kulkarni, Lance Le, and Nick Fetherston (cumulative of 0.50 PY). Other staff in the office occasionally participate in the Monitoring Support Team as approved by their respective supervisors and defined in their respective Division workplans. The work of this team is funded by Water Quality Trend Monitoring funds, Federal NPS Support funds, Federal TMDL Support funds, and Waste Discharge Permit Funds. Federal funds have a separate work planning and reporting obligation. There are no performance measures associated with the work of this team.

Core activities of this team include:

- Maintain a project request and tracking system (i.e., Field Monitoring Calendar)
- Project tracking and time management
- Project scoping
- Project charters/workplans as necessary
- Performance of monitoring work as described
- Reporting results of monitoring work as described, including field safety plan, field notes, and chain of custody forms
- Team meetings and coordination with Unit Supervisor

5.0 WATERSHED STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

The Watershed Stewardship Program serves an integrative function, ensuring that the regulatory and non-regulatory activities of the agency are conducted in coordination to achieve the restoration and/or reconciliation goals for impaired watersheds and watersheds with high habitat or climate resiliency value. The program is headed by the Watershed Stewardship Coordinator, a policy advisor to the EO in collaboration with the PAWS Division Supervisor and the Division's two Steward Specialists. The Watershed Stewardship Program implements targeted activities in: Klamath Basin, including the Scott and Shasta watersheds; Humboldt Bay, including the Elk River; Russian River watershed; and Smith River Plain. Further, it provides policy and technical guidance relative to the Stewardship mission in the development of permits, such as: statewide Caltrans stormwater permit, Federal Lands permit, and the vineyard permit. The Watershed Stewardship Program conducts outreach activities with partners and the public to cultivate support for restoration and reconciliation needs across the region.

Finally, it develops and implements internal tools and procedures to maximize coordination across divisions and programs.

Clayton Creager is the Watershed Stewardship Coordinator with an allocation of 1.0 PYs to the development and implementation of the Watershed Stewardship Program. He is supported by Eli Scott, who is the Scott and Shasta Steward Specialist and Elizabeth Pope, who is the Humboldt Bay Steward Specialist, each with an allocation of 1.0 PYs, for a total allocation to the program of 3.0 PYs. Upon the Watershed Stewardship Coordinator's retirement in the first quarter of FY 22-23, a new EPM1 Specialist policy advisor will be hired, but with an altered set of duties focused on the development of a Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Strategy for the Region (see Section 3.8).

5.1 Scott and Shasta Watershed Stewardship

Assigned PYs: 1.0 PYs

The Regional Water Board adopted sediment and temperature TMDLs for the Scott River in 2005. It adopted temperature and dissolved oxygen TMDLs for the Shasta River in 2006. TMDL Waivers were adopted in 2012 and again in 2018 to address multiple pollutant concerns in each of these watersheds. The pollutant concerns are largely related to ranch management, road management, tailwater management, and water conservation needs. The Scott and Shasta Watershed Steward implements the TMDL Waivers by prioritizing high risk/high value properties, conducting inspections, requesting Ranch Management, Tailwater Management, Grazing Management, Erosion Control and Monitoring plans, as appropriate. The Steward Specialist also coordinates with staff in the Nonpoint Source and Surface Water Protection Division on timber harvest activities, restoration project planning and permitting, and other 401 certification projects within the Scott and Shasta watersheds. Further, the Steward Specialist coordinates with the Groundwater Protection Specialist on groundwater management planning.

The Scott and Shasta Watershed Steward is Eli Scott, a Senior ES Specialist. He has allocated 1.0 PYs to stewardship activities in the Scott and Shasta watersheds, which include duties as a mentor to Americorps members. He is also supported by the Monitoring Support Team, which provides a rotating field sampling crew who implement sampling plans designed to assess biostimulatory conditions in these watersheds. The amount of time required of the field sampling crew is estimated at 0.50 PYs but is managed on an ad hoc basis through the Monitoring Support Team, which has a total of 0.80 PYs allocated for monitoring throughout the Region. Stewardship work is funded through Federal NPS Support Grant and Federal TMDL Program Support Grant, which have additional work planning and reporting obligations, as well as Waste Discharge Permit funds. There are no performance measures associated with this project.

In FY 21-22, the Division of Water Rights asked for and was granted 0.50 PYs of the Steward Specialist's time through December 31, 2021 to support the Division in developing and implementing Emergency Drought Regulations for the Scott and Shasta. This work was funded by the Division of Water Rights. The Division of Water Rights has again requested the Steward Specialist's time, which has been approved.

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He will spend 0.40 PYs on drought response efforts with the Division of Water Rights as a natural extension of his work as a Steward. To accommodate this work, the TMDL waivers due to expire in April 2023 will be brought to the Regional Water Board for a short term renewal, with full waiver review and update to follow.

Core activities of the Scott and Shasta Watershed Stewardship Program include:

- Program management
- Grant management
- External coordination on multiple topics including flow/drought, groundwater management, waste discharge, and habitat restoration
- Internal coordination with staff actively implementing related projects and programs in the Scott and Shasta watersheds
- TMDL Waiver implementation, including ranch inspections in accordance with commitments in the NPS Workplan
- Enforcement, as appropriate
- Watershed monitoring, data QA/QC, and data management
- Data analysis and reporting, including periodic water quality report cards
- Internal and external updates and information sharing
- Leadership on the Watershed Stewardship team, in Division Leadership meetings, and in Management meetings

Core activities for the Division of Water Rights include:

- Internal Meetings
- Public Outreach, including phone calls, stakeholder meetings and consultation with Office of Public Participation and State Water Board staff
- Implementation of the regulation, including work on local cooperative solutions
- Evaluation and development of supporting information for curtailments, information orders, and/or readoption of emergency regulations
- Serve as subject matter expert
- Provide support for briefings and BCPs

Special projects that are intended, but may be delayed include:

- 2022 Biostimulatory Conditions Study Report for the Scott River
- 2022 Biostimulatory Conditions Study Report for the Shasta River
- Scoping for revision and renewal of the TMDL waivers

No milestone commitment is included for these special projects since it is a lower priority task for which there may not be adequate time.

Fiscal Quarter	Special Project Milestones
1 st Quarter (9/22)	(Readoption of Emergency Drought Regulation)
2 nd Quarter (12/22)	Draft Public Notice, draft order, and draft EOSR for short - term renewal of the existing Waivers--ready for internal review
3 rd Quarter (3/23)	Final Public Notice, order, and EOSR for short-term renewal--distributed for public review

Fiscal Quarter	Special Project Milestones
4 th Quarter (6/23)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Public Hearing by April 2023 on Short-term Renewal of TMDL Waivers - Completion of 3 ranch assessments per watershed

5.2 Elk River Watershed Stewardship

Assigned PYs: 1.0 PYs

The Elk River has been listed as impaired due to sediment and sedimentation since the late 1990s. The Regional Water Board adopted a Sediment TMDL for the Upper Elk River in 2016, which was subsequently approved by the State Water Board (2017), OAL (2018), and U.S. EPA (2018). The Sediment TMDL for the Upper Elk River addresses sediment discharges from timberlands by requiring WDRs for Green Diamond Resources Company and Humboldt Redwood Company, as well as waivers for federal lands and nonindustrial timberlands. It also addresses sedimentation in the “impacted reach” by pointing to the state-funded Elk River Recovery Assessment as a modeling tool to help define the most strategic restoration/remediation projects. Further, it addresses the coordination needs of activities in the Elk by pointing to the Elk River Stewardship Program as the venue within which to address health and safety issues, water supply, flooding, coordinated science and monitoring, and habitat restoration and sediment remediation. The TMDL Action Plan requires a 5-Year Review of the progress towards meeting TMDL goals in 2021, 2026, and 2031. The first 5-Year Review will be presented in the Board in FY 22-23. CalTrout and subcontractors have delivered a Recovery Plan, Monitoring Framework, and Climate Change Study Plan under a contract with the Regional Water Board, which will be the basis for restoration design, permitting, funding and implementation beginning in FY 22-23. Finally, the Elk River Steward position left vacant in April 2021 has been reclassified as a Specialist, with a broader focus on Humboldt Bay (Humboldt Bay Watershed Specialist) and is now filled. Efforts to interview residents and engage with Humboldt County and the Division of Drinking Water on water supply issues are underway and will continue into FY 22-23 as will efforts to identify the appropriate resources to address flooding issues.

The Humboldt Bay Watershed Steward is Elizabeth Pope, a Senior ES Specialist. She is allocated 1.0 PYs to Humboldt Bay watershed stewardship activities, with a focus in FY 22-23 on the Elk River, and which includes duties as a mentor and supervisor of Americorps members. The effort remains titled “Elk River Watershed Stewardship” though she will begin involvement in a newly formed Humboldt Bay TAC. She will be supported by members of the Analytical Support Team on an as-needed basis. This stewardship work is funded by the Waste Discharge Permit Fund and federal NPS Support Fund, the latter of which has additional work planning and reporting obligations.

Elk River stewardship work conducted in FY 21-22 was staffed by a cross-program team, who are not specifically allocated time in the FY 22-23 workplan. This team will complete the 5-Year TMDL Assessment staff report in preparation for an August or September Board meeting on the topic. There are no current grants. But there is a

small contract to fund the CalTrout team to present their work to the Board and the public, which the Steward will manage upon certification.

Core activities of the Elk River Stewardship Program include:

- Elk River Stewardship Program Management
- External outreach and coordination with multiple watershed stakeholders, agencies and other partners on topics including health and safety; water supply; flooding; coordinated science and monitoring; restoration/remediation planning, funding, and permitting; and TMDL compliance
- Internal coordination with staff actively implementing projects and programs in the Elk River watershed
- Watershed monitoring, data QA/QC, and data management
- Data analysis and reporting, including periodic water quality report cards
- Internal and external updates and information sharing
- Leadership on the Watershed Stewardship team, in Division Leadership meetings, and in Management meetings
- Contract management
- Grant management

Fiscal Quarter	Special Project Milestones
FY 2021-22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review and approve CalTrout contract deliverables - Meet with Division of Drinking Water and Humboldt County to initiate development of water supply strategy - Draft EOSR and staff report for the 5-Year TMDL Assessment for internal review
1 st Quarter (9/22)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Final EOSR and staff report for the 5-Year TMDL Assessment - Special Board Meeting in Eureka on the Elk River, including staff and panelist presentations
2 nd Quarter (12/22)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Restoration Summit with CalTrout, Coastal Conservancy, and other restoration partners
3 rd Quarter (3/23)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reinitiate the Coordinated Science and Monitoring Workgroup - Reinitiate the Health and Safety Workgroup
4 th Quarter (6/23)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Update and redesign Elk River website to include stewardship

5.3 Russian River Watershed Stewardship

Assigned PYs: 0.15 Staff PYs

The Russian River is listed as impaired due to sediment, temperature, and pathogens. A Pathogen TMDL Action Plan was adopted by the Regional Water Board in December 2021 (see Section 3.2), which will, in part, be implemented by the Point Source and Groundwater Protection Division upon OAL approval. But sediment and temperature TMDLs have not yet been developed for the Russian River, except where underway in

the Laguna de Santa Rosa (see Section 3.3). CyanoHABs blooms are an increasing water quality issue in the Russian River. And, drought and wildfires over the last several years have required emergency attention (see Section 6.0 and the Nonpoint Source and Surface Water Protection Division workplan).

There are many watershed level initiatives currently underway within the Russian River all directed at improving watershed conditions and the resiliency of an increasingly stressed ecosystem. Two of note are the Russian River Confluence led by the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors and the Russian River Regional Monitoring Program (R3MP) established by the Regional Water Board with contract support from San Francisco Estuary Institute/Aquatic Science Center (SFEI/ASC).

There is no Russian River Watershed Steward position within the Regional Water Board. Though, the SWAMP Coordinator (see Section 4.2), CyanoHAB Coordinator (see Section 4.4), Flow and Riparian Specialist (see Section 6.0), and executive staff are all active in the stewardship arena.

The Russian River Confluence has been revived through a series of discussions with interested parties to develop a Memorandum of Understanding that will promote an increased level of collaboration across tribal, county, and local governments; resource agencies; and nongovernmental organizations on priority initiatives. Regional Water Board Executive staff are currently engaged in these discussions, though the Regional Water Board's involvement in this collaborative will eventually require engagement of staff across multiple programs, as well. To date, no staff assignments have been made.

The R3MP has an established Steering Committee and Technical Advisory Committee, each with regular meeting schedules. SFEI/ASC provides meeting support services, as well as the technical work necessary to build and implement a Coordinated Monitoring Plan for the Russian River. Task 7 of a contract between the State Water Board's Office of Information Management and Analysis (OIMA) and SFEI/ASC establishes the tasks for Phase II of R3MP development. The Special Project Milestones table below highlights the primary deliverables due from the contractor for FY 22-23. Rich Fadness, SWAMP Coordinator, is the lead staff managing R3MP development (0.15 PY). He is supported by the Executive Officer and Division Supervisor. The core duties of this position are described below.

Core activities of R3MP lead staff include:

- Coordination with OIMA on invoice review and approval
- Development of workplan with SFEI/ASC describe in some detail the approach to accomplishing the contracted subtasks of Task 7 of the OIMA contract
- Participation and leadership on the Support Team
- Participation and leadership on the TAC Coordination Team
- Attendance at the Steering Committee meetings; the Executive Officer serves as a Co-Chair
- Participation and leadership at the TAC meetings
- Outreach and coordination with partners to support SFEI/ASC success with contract deliverables

Fiscal Quarter	Special Project Milestones
FY 2021-22	Amend Task 7 of OIMA contract to add tasks and extend schedule
1 st Quarter (9/22)	Review and approve R3MP Analytical Framework of a Coordinated Monitoring Plan (due from contractor 8/31/22)
2 nd Quarter (12/22)	None
3 rd Quarter (3/23)	Review and approve R3MP Data Gaps Memo (due from contractor 3/31/23)
4 th Quarter (6/23)	None

5.4 Klamath River Watershed Stewardship

Assigned PYs: WAM Unit Supervisor PYs

In 2010, the Regional Water Board adopted TMDLs for the Klamath River to address nutrient, temperature, dissolved oxygen and microcystin impairment. Implementation of the TMDLs has precipitated numerous collaborations in the Basin, including:

- Dam Removal
- Lost River Watershed Stewardship
- KHSA Interim Measure 11 Program Implementation – Steering Committee
- Upper Klamath Watershed Action
- USFWS Klamath Basin Integrated Fish Restoration and Monitoring Plan
- Klamath Basin Monitoring Program

5.4.1 Lower Klamath Project (Dam Removal) RB1 Oversight

Assigned PYs: No PAWS Division Staff PYs

The North Coast Regional Water Board is working in close coordination with the SWRCB Division of Water Rights (Section 401), Army Corps of Engineers (Section 404), CA Department of Fish and Wildlife, Klamath River Renewal Corporation (contractors), among others to ensure compliance with all applicable regulations during the dam removal process. The North Coast NPDES Unit is also responsible for oversight of the Construction General Permit for the project and writing the NPDES permit for the Fall Creek Hatchery. Activities consist primarily of coordination meetings, site inspections, and plan review.

Staffing for this effort is estimated to be 0.20 PYs, largely focused on NPDES permitting issues and coordination with State Board 401 staff. Due to the retirement of the Watershed Stewardship Coordinator in August 2022, management of this task will be assumed by the Construction Stormwater Program with support from the 401 Program. See the Point Source and Groundwater Protection Division and Nonpoint Source and Surface Water Protection Division workplans for additional discussion of these activities.

Core activities for this project include:

- Review of environmental documents
- Review of site-protection plans
- Coordination meetings (NPDES, 404, and 401)

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- Construction General Permit (CGP) oversight
- Site inspections

The most current timeline for Klamath dam removal is reservoir drawdown will be initiated in November 2023 with dam deconstruction and removal being completed in 2024. However, there are several projects that must be completed before drawdown can be initiated. These activities include but are not limited to preparation of debris disposal sites, road improvements, City of Yreka delivery water line replacement, and construction of the Fall Creek Fish Hatchery. The pre-drawdown activities will begin mid-summer 2022. The Regional Water Board is scheduled to complete the hatchery permit for consideration by the Board in December of 2022. Many of these projects require coordinated inspections for 401 (SWRCB), CGP (RB1), and 404 (ACOE) compliance.

Fiscal Quarter	Special Project Milestones
1 st Quarter (9/22)	None
2 nd Quarter (12/22)	Review WQ Management Plans, Inspections, Coordination meetings Adoption of the Hatchery Permit in December 2022
3 rd Quarter (3/23)	None
4 th Quarter (6/23)	None

5.4.2 Lost River Watershed Stewardship Framework Development

Assigned PYs: No PAWS Division staff PYs

The purpose of the Lost River Stewardship projects is to promote water conservation and water quality improvements within the Klamath Irrigation Project area through partnership with several state and federal agencies, Tribes, and NGOs. It is a bi-state initiative. The goal is to establish stewardship agreements to recover enough environmental water to improve lake levels in Upper Klamath Lake and increase flows in the Klamath River. The projects will also promote wetland restoration, increased use of agricultural BMPs, and other water quality improvement techniques. This project requires involvement with three separate tasks, each contributing to a watershed stewardship framework for the US Bureau Klamath Irrigation Project. This task is identified in the Klamath & Lost Rivers TMDL Action Plan (Table 4-18) -

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/water_issues/programs/tmdls/klamath_river/100927/03_BasinPlanLanugage_Klamath_Lost.pdf). The multi-year plan is as follows:

- August 2023—Development of a Wetland Treatment System Design for Lower Klamath Lake through Stillwater Sciences
- April 2024—Development of Watershed Stewardship Charter through a facilitation process with Irrigation Districts and other interested parties
- February 2025—Development of a Water Conservation and Environmental Water Strategic Conceptual Plan

With the retirement of the Watershed Stewardship Coordinator in August 2022, new staff will need to be identified to lead this project. The new EPM 1 Specialist is well

suited to this work. The Watershed Stewardship Coordinator estimates that this project requires about 0.25 PYs.

Core activities of the project include:

- Participate in Steering Committee meetings (bimonthly)
- Review background information on Klamath Irrigation Project, water quality data, Irrigation District Infrastructure Plans, review existing water rights agreements
- Review of technical documents produced by technical support contractors
- Contribute to data needs analysis, development of alternative conceptual model scenarios, contribute to draft stewardship charter development

Fiscal Quarter	Special Project Milestones
1 st Quarter (9/22)	- Initiate Watershed Stewardship Meetings - Develop coordination plan for Lower Klamath Lake Treatment Wetland, Lost River Stewardship Facilitation, and Lost River Technical Support projects - Recruit Advisory Team members to project (e.g., NRCS, Klamath Tribes, ODFW, ORDWR, others)
2 nd Quarter (12/22)	Data Needs Analysis
3 rd Quarter (3/23)	Initial Water Quality and Conservation Conceptual Models
4 th Quarter (6/23)	Draft Watershed Stewardship Charter

5.4.3 KHSA Interim Measure 11 Program Implementation – Steering Committee

Assigned PYs: No PAWS Division staff PYs

The KHSA Interim Measure 11 fund, while not large enough to address all of the Klamath Basin TMDLs needs, does provide a substantial boost to the program and is critical to meeting Regional Board objectives in the Basin Plan. Projects funded through IM-11 are evaluated for use in the Klamath Basin water quality improvement program (i.e., TMDLs). The studies provide efficacy assessments, cost effectiveness, and overall feasibility for a wide range of water quality improvement techniques. The projects are funded by PacifiCorp as part of the Klamath Hydroelectric Settlement Agreement (KHSA). In addition to the studies, PacifiCorp upon surrender of the hydroelectric license and the transfer of ownership to Klamath River Renewal Corporation (KRRC) will provide \$5.4 million dollars to fund larger-scale water quality improvement projects in Upper Klamath Basin. The Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) has been selected as the fiscal agent to manage the fund and has pledged to match the \$5.4 million. The Regional Board representative that manages this project, serves on the Steering Committee to select projects and provide oversight.

With the retirement of the Watershed Stewardship Coordinator in August 2022, there will be no Regional Board representative on the KHSA Interim 11 Steering Committee.

An Executive Team or Regional Water Board member could fill this role. The Watershed Stewardship Coordinator estimates this project requires about 0.10 PYs.

Core activities for this project include:

- Steering Committee meetings (monthly)
- Development of project concepts
- Review of annual workplan
- Review of proposed project documents
- Periodic site visits

5.4.4 Upper Klamath Basin Watershed Action Plan

Assigned PYs: No PAWS Division staff PYs

The Upper Klamath Basin Watershed Action Plan is a science-based plan to prioritize restoration actions in the Upper Klamath Basin (OR). This plan provides guidelines for voluntary restoration actions and is comprised of three parts: 1) A primary narrative document ([Downloads](#)); 2) Interactive Reach Prioritization Tool ([Info](#)); and 3) a Work Group (Upper Klamath Watershed Action Team), which maintains and updates the plan as new information becomes available ([Home | Upper Klamath Basin Watershed Action Plan](#)). This plan identifies work necessary to support the habitat and water quality improvement goals laid out in the following plans:

Revised Recovery Plan for the Lost River sucker and Shortnose sucker (USFWS 2012)

Upper Klamath Lake Drainage Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) and Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP) (ODEQ 2002)

Recovery Plan for the Coterminous United States Population of Bull Trout (USFWS 2015)

Implementation Plan for the Reintroduction of Anadromous Fishes into the Oregon Portion of the Upper Klamath Basin (ODFW and The Klamath Tribes 2021)

The Regional Water Board contributed to the development of the Action Plan and is an ongoing member of the Work Group. The plan is central to the Water Board's Klamath River TMDL strategy, in that it supports improvement in water quality from Upper Klamath Lake that is delivered to California reaches of the River. The Upper Klamath Watershed Action Team does not have a funding source but IM-11 and the USFWS Klamath Basin Integrated Fish Restoration and Monitoring Plan look to the project priorities identified by the Upper Klamath Watershed Action Team to support their funding decisions. The team meets on a regular basis.

Due to the retirement of the Watershed Stewardship Coordinator in August 2022, new staff must be identified to manage this project. The Watershed Stewardship Coordinator estimates this work requires 0.05 PYs. A staffing decision for this task has not yet been finalized.

Core activities for the project include:

- Work group meetings (monthly)

- Restoration project cultivation
- Restoration project tracking

5.4.5 USFWS Klamath Basin Integrated Fish Restoration and Monitoring Plan

Assigned PYs: No PAWS Division staff PYs

The Klamath Basin Integrated Fish Restoration and Monitoring Plan (IFRMP) is a USFWS led initiative to develop and implement a science-based restoration plan for the Klamath Basin (https://kbifrm.psmfc.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/KlamathIFRMP_Phase4_20220217.pdf). The primary goal is restoration of several native fish populations, but the foundation of the plan is based on improving water quality and quantity. The plan also includes a significant focus on fish habitat, which contributes to the restoration and protection of water quality. Phase 3 of the planning process has been completed and with the influx of Federal infrastructure funding, work on highly ranked projects is set to begin. The basin will be receiving thirty-two million dollars a year over the next several years to allocate to projects selected through the IFRMP. The final phase of the IFRMP is to develop a governance plan for selecting projects and allocating the annual funds. With continued participation, the Regional Water Board is well positioned to be a key member of the governance team.

Due to the Watershed Stewardship Coordinator's retirement in August 2022, new staffing is necessary for this project. The Watershed Stewardship Coordinator estimates the project requires about 0.20 PYs. The Restoration Specialist is well-suited to lead the agency's continued engagement in this effort, with support from PAWS NPS Grant staff and Scott and Shasta Watershed Steward for outreach, partner cultivation, project development and project tracking in the Restoration Catalogue. No specific PAWS Division staff resource allocation is proposed, except that the Klamath Basin will be identified as a high priority for FY 22-23 for Grant Management staff.

5.4.6 Klamath Basin Monitoring Program

Assigned PYs: WAM Unit Supervisor PYs

The Klamath Basin Monitoring Program (KBMP) maintains a voluntary monitoring coordination framework within the Klamath Basin. In addition, KBMP maintains a comprehensive website that promotes distribution of relevant technical communication and event notices to the Klamath science community. KBMP sponsors two basin-wide meetings each year that promotes sharing of assessment results, building of partnerships, and coordination across monitoring entities. KBMP is supported by San Francisco Estuary Institute/Aquatic Science Center (SFEI/ASC) staff, who is variously funded with discretionary contract dollars and Caltrans monitoring funds. An annual monitoring plan is developed to fill data gaps and establish baseline conditions prior to the removal of the dams. Regional Water Board staff are central to continued coordination of the organization.

Due to the Watershed Stewardship Coordinator's retirement in August 2022, new staffing is required. The Watershed Stewardship Coordinator estimates that the project

requires less than 0.10 PYs. The WAM Unit Supervisor will be assigned the job of managing KBMP in FY 22-23. This represents a special project for the WAM Unit Supervisor in addition to her responsibilities as a Unit Supervisor.

Core activities of this program include:

- Coordination with SFEI/ASC (monthly)
- Review of annual basin-wide monitoring plans
- Planning for and participation in biannual KBMP membership meetings (semiannual)
- Internal information sharing

5.5 Other Watershed Stewardship Activities

Assigned PYs: No additional staff PYs

There are a number of activities that support the ongoing function and development of the Watershed Stewardship Program, which change from year to year in response to opportunities presented. For example, staff are currently working on development and implementation of a Restoration Project Catalog, which is a special stewardship activity identified as necessary to support the opportunity of working on TMDL compliance and watershed restoration projects with Caltrans under their revised statewide stormwater permit. As FY 22-23 progresses, additional activities may be added to this section, depending on the order of priority compared to other Division work.

5.5.1 Restoration Project Catalog

The Watershed Stewardship Program endeavors to thoughtfully coordinate the regulatory and non-regulatory activities of the agency to re-establish supporting conditions for beneficial uses of water in the Region. Permits are issued to establish the regulatory requirements associated with the discharge of waste, whether as a point source, nonpoint source, discharge to surface water, or discharge to land. To augment water quality benefits derived individually and cumulatively through implementation of these permits, the Regional Water Board also provides guidance, funding and permits, as appropriate, to restoration projects that improve watershed health, including climate resilience. To better coordinate the agency, staff in the WAM Unit, with support from the Restoration Specialist (see the Nonpoint Source and Surface Water Protection Division workplan), has developed a Restoration Catalogue. The Restoration Catalogue, a spreadsheet, compiles known information about watershed impairment, restoration partners, restoration needs by watershed, funded/permitted restoration projects by watershed, and other identifying information. The ultimate goal is to cultivate restoration projects that match identified restoration needs compiled in the catalogue so that they can be further matched with appropriate funds. Funding sources include: 319(h) Nonpoint Source Grant funds, Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) funds, Caltrans Stormwater Permit TMDL compliance funds, Discretionary Contract funds, Integrated Fish Restoration Management Program (IFRMP) funds, and other partner grant funds. The Restoration Catalogue can also be used to identify the highest value mitigation projects to offset impacts from dredge and fill projects that are certified under the 401 Program.

A primary goal is to enhance communication not only among program staff, but with external watershed partners regarding the long-term restoration priorities within all watersheds in the North Coast Region.

A draft of the Restoration Catalogue has been produced, will be reviewed internally, and finalized. It is a living document that must be kept updated to be useful to program staff and external partners. WAM Unit staff are assigned the project and will continue keeping it updated. The Division Supervisors and Specialists will play a role in ensuring that the catalogue is used to full effect. Further, Division Supervisors and Specialists will play a role in identifying needed modifications to the catalogue to better serve its purpose.

6.0 FLOW AND RIPARIAN PROTECTION PROGRAM

The Flow and Riparian Protection Program is led by a full-time (1.0 PY) Senior Water Resources Control Engineer (Specialist), who implements several core and special project activities in service to the agency on issues related to flow and riparian protection. The Specialist provides staff resources to the whole office, as well as to the State Water Board’s Division of Water Rights but reports to the Division Supervisor. The Specialist works with the other specialists in the office (e.g., Watershed Stewardship Specialists, Groundwater Protection Specialist and Restoration Specialist) to provide subject matter technical support to staff; coordinate with external partners; and forward the mission, vision, and priorities of the Regional Water Board and the State Water Board’s Division of Water Rights, as outlined by their respective Division Supervisors, the Watershed Stewardship Coordinator, and the Executive Management Team.

The Flow and Riparian Protection Specialist is also a mentor for the Americorps members, in coordination with the Division Supervisor, the Watershed Stewardship Specialists, and other program staff.

6.1 Core Activities and Projects by Priority

The Flow and Riparian Protection Specialist manages ongoing, core duties, as well as special projects that have start and end dates. In a drought year, such as 2021 and 2022, all the core and special projects related to flow, drought response, and coordination on flow management naturally become a high priority (Priority 1). Should unplanned conditions require that staff be diverted to other work (e.g., wildfire emergency response), individual core duties and/or project tasks would be adjusted, while ensuring that minimum program management continues for each high priority core duty and project. During FY 2021-22 a significant amount of the Flow and Riparian Protection Specialist’s time was devoted to drought related activities. For FY 2022-23, activities related to the development of numeric flow objectives for the Navarro River Watershed have been postponed (Priority 3) in favor of higher priority drought response activities. Contract management, flow monitoring, and participation on Technical Advisory Committees are staffed for FY 2022-23 but are identified as secondary priority (Priority 2) in the event that drought response duties grow, or other emergency response activities become necessary. This position is funded with Waste Discharge Permits funds. There are no performance targets associated with this program.

Table 6.1—Flow and Riparian Protection Program Core Activities and Projects by Priority

Priority Level	Activity/Project	Category	Target Date
1	Narrative Flow Objective (See Section 6.2)	Special	2023-24
1	Interagency Coordination on issues of flow and riparian protection	Core	Ongoing

1	Internal Coordination on issues of flow and riparian protection	Core	Ongoing
1	Drought Response, including outreach, flow augmentation projects, and temporary urgency change petitions	Core	Ongoing
2	Contract Management	Core	Ongoing
2	Annual Flow Monitoring with Americorps support	Core	Ongoing
2	Technical Advisory Committees	Core	Ongoing
3	Navarro Flow Objective	Special	Unstaffed

6.2 Narrative Flow Objective

Assigned PYs: 1.05 Staff PYs

The Narrative Flow Objective project is a Basin Plan Amendment project identified in the 2018 Triennial Review as a high priority. The Narrative Flow Objective project will result in proposed revisions to Chapter 3 of the Basin Plan to include a new water quality objective for flow, defined in narrative terms and applicable to the whole region. The project will also result in a proposed revision to Chapter 4 of the Basin Plan to describe a Program of Implementation for the new water quality objective. The Program of Implementation will include principles and/or requirements relative to water conservation, irrigation efficiency, flow augmentation, groundwater recharge, and others. The proposed Basin Plan amendment may be preceded by a Policy Statement of the Board supporting the incorporation of water conservation principles in WDRs, as recommended by Executive Staff.

The Narrative Flow Objective project is led by Bryan McFadin (0.30 PY). He is supported by Matt Graves of the Planning Unit (0.40 PY) and Nick Fetherston of the Planning Unit (0.35 PY). This team is conducting broad outreach with other programs in the office, which is an ongoing activity. Similarly, they are coordinating with the Division of Water Rights, which also will become an ongoing activity. When these outreach efforts result in a decision or direction, the decision or direction will be codified in a memo from staff.

Fiscal Quarter	Special Project Milestones
1 st Quarter (9/21)	None
2 nd Quarter (12/21)	None
3 rd Quarter (3/22)	Peer Review Draft Staff Report
4 th Quarter (6/22)	2022-23 Stream Flow Monitoring Summary Report (Americorps members)