

## Members

Diane Dillon  
Mark Luce  
Michael Novak  
Steven Rosa  
Gary Kraus  
James Krider  
Leon Garcia  
Jim King  
Jeff Reichel  
Phill Blake  
Don Gasser  
Jeffrey Redding  
Robert Steinhauer  
Charles Slutzkin  
Marc Pandone  
Chris Sauer

## Alternate

Harold Moskowitz

## AGENDA

### REGULAR BOARD MEETING

**Thursday, October 23, 2008  
4:00 p.m.**

**2nd Floor Conference Room, Hall of Justice Building,  
1125 Third Street, Napa CA**

## Staff Representatives

Patrick Lowe,  
**Secretary**  
Deputy Director,  
Conservation Div., CDPD

Jeff Sharp,  
**Watershed Coordinator**  
Principal Planner,  
Conservation Div., CDPD

Laura Anderson,  
**Counsel**  
Attorney IV,  
County Counsel's Office

Melissa Von Loesch,  
**Admin. Assistant**  
Admin. Secretary II,  
CDPD

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL** (Chair)

2. **APPROVAL OF ACTION MINUTES**

Meeting of September 25, 2008 (Chair)

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

In this time period, anyone may comment to the Board regarding any subject over which the Board has jurisdiction, or request consideration to place an item on a future Agenda. No comments will be allowed involving any subject matter that is scheduled for discussion as part of this Agenda. Individuals will be limited to a three-minute presentation. No action will be taken by the Board as a result of any item presented at this time. (Chair)

4. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- a. **Board of Supervisors appoints new Public at Large member** to the WICC Board (Staff)
- b. Others (Board/Staff/Public)

5. **PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION:**

- a. Presentation and discussion about **Friends of the Napa River**, including an update on recent activities (Bernhard Krevet, President)
- b. Presentation and discussion on recent activities of the **Napa County Regional Parks and Open Space District** and **Draft Master Plan** (John Woodbury, General Manager)

6. **REPORT, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION:**

Report, discussion and **possible direction regarding** recommendations from the Ad-Hoc Education and Outreach Subcommittee, including consideration of a possible name change for the WICC (Staff/Committee Members) [*Continued from September 25, 2008*]

7. **REPORTS, UDATES AND DISCUSSION:**

- a. Report and discussion on various **Regional Water Quality Control Board** and **State Water Resources Control Board water quality control plans and policies** affecting Napa County's watersheds, including the WICC Board's recent comment recommendations to the Board of Supervisors regarding the Revised Napa River Sediment Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) (Staff)
- b. Update on efforts to develop a locally based **Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP)** for Napa County (Staff)
- c. Update on **Napa County's Watershed Assessment Framework (WAF) grant** funded through the CalFed Watershed Program (Staff)
- d. Update on the **Sacramento River Watershed Program Regional Monitoring Program** workshop (covering Putah Creek/Berryessa watershed), held October 15, 2008 (Staff)
- e. Others (Board/Staff)

8. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS** (Board/Staff)

9. **NEXT MEETING** (Chairman)

**Regular Board Meeting: November 20, 2008 – 4:00 PM**

Hall of Justice Building, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Conference Room, 1125 Third Street, Napa

*Note: One week earlier due to Thanksgiving Holiday*

10. **ADJOURNMENT** (Chairman)

**Note: If requested, the agenda and documents in the agenda packet shall be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with a disability. Please contact Jeff Sharp at 707-259-5936, 1195 Third St., Suite 210, Napa CA 94559 to request alternative formats.**



# Watershed Information Center & Conservancy OF NAPA COUNTY

## Members

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## Alternate

Harold Moskowitz

## Action Summary/Minutes

### REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Thursday, September 25, 2008  
4:00 p.m.

2nd Floor Conference Room, Hall of Justice Building,  
1125 Third Street, Napa CA

## Staff Representatives

Patrick Lowe,  
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Deputy Director,  
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Jeff Sharp,  
**Watershed Coordinator**  
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Laura Anderson,  
**Counsel**  
Attorney IV,  
County Counsel's Office

Melissa Von Loesch,  
**Admin. Assistant**  
Admin. Secretary II,  
CDPD

#### 1. **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL** (Chair)

*Members present: Mark Luce, Steven Rosa, Jim King, Jeff Reichel, Phill Blake, Jeffrey Redding, Charles Slutzkin, Marc Pandone, Chris Sauer*

*Members excused: Diane Dillon, James Krider, Leon Garcia, Don Gasser, Robert Steinhauer*

*Members absent: Michael Novak, Gary Kraus*

*Staff present: Patrick Lowe, Jeff Sharp*

#### 2. **APPROVAL OF ACTION MINUTES**

Meeting of August 28, 2008 (Chair)

*Minutes were approved as presented.*

#### 3. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

*None.*

#### 4. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

a. Board of Supervisors **appointments to the WICC Board** on September 9, 2008, **Public at Large opening closes on September 30, 2008** (Staff)

b. The **Sacramento River Watershed Program** (covering Putah Creek/Berryessa watershed) **Regional Monitoring Program** workshop, October 15, 2008 (Staff)

*Jeff Sharp reported that the workshop will discuss Plan Monitoring efforts, and organizational structure to keep programs going, funding and data management.*

c. Others (Board/Staff/Public)

*Patrick Lowe announced that Jack Betourne (sitting in audience) was hired by Public Works as the County's Stormwater Program Specialist. Jack brings 30 years of experience in water quality work and has spent the last 20 years working in pollution prevention programs.*

*Phill Blake announced upcoming NRCS deadline in Napa County is October 31, 2008 for applications to the Federal Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQUIP). The program applies to projects primarily focused on farm and ranch land erosion, water quality protection, and habitat improvements. There is also incentive funding for farmers to move into Organic Certification, Sustainable Agriculture and Integrated Pest Management. In addition, there is a new area of Timberland Management focus to address fuel load management.*

## 5. PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION:

- a. Presentation and discussion on **Bureau of Reclamation's (BOR) efforts to manage Quagga and zebra mussel impacts at Lake Berryessa** and other facilities across the region (Janet Rodgers, BOR Lake Berryessa - Park Manager)  
*Janet Rogers and Mike McGraw, Park Ranger, provided a presentation to the Board. Regionally and locally the BOR has been working closely with the CA Department of Fish and Game on prevention measures, trainings, and assisting with the coordination of other State and Federal agencies on a regular basis (including the Department of Agriculture, Department of Boat and Waterways, Fish and Wildlife Service, local water districts, and state and local agencies outreach and task forces).*
- b. Presentation and discussion on the **Watershed Health Scorecard Project** for Sonoma and Napa Valleys (Staff/Napa County RCD/Sonoma Ecology Center)  
*Deanne DiPietro and Francis Knapczyk gave an overview of the project and presented a sample scorecard for the Board's review and comment. The Board commented that the use of red-yellow-green color on the card could be difficult to understand for those that are color-impaired. A system that resembles "Consumer Reports" might be a useful guide to consider.*

## 6. REPORT, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE RECOMMENDATION:

- a. Report, discussion and **possible recommendations to the Board of Supervisors** regarding the **Revised Napa River Watershed Sediment Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL), Basin Plan Amendment (Implementation Plan) and Habitat Enhancement Plan** proposed by the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) for the Napa River watershed (Staff/Mike Napolitano, RWQCB)  
*Mike Napolitano provided a report on the primary changes to the TMDL, including minor text corrections for clarity, updates to reflect additional studies and implementation. Mike noted that a majority of changes were made to the TMDL's staff report, CEQA analysis and findings. Recommendation. The WICC board voted to send a letter of recommendation to the Board of Supervisors for their consideration.*
- b. Report and discussion on various **Regional Water Quality Control Board and State Water Resources Control Board water quality control plans and policies** affecting Napa County's watersheds (Staff)  
*Patrick Lowe provided a report on an Instream Flow Policy fieldtrip with State Water Board officials and staff that covered Mendocino and Napa counties. The fieldtrip was led by Laurel Marcus and was intended to provide the State Board members and their staff with a better understanding local instream flow issues and opportunities. The SWRCB policy for regulating instream flows is still in revision.*
- c. Report, discussion and **possible recommendations to the Board of Supervisors** regarding recommendations from the WICC's Ad-Hoc Education and Outreach Subcommittee's meeting of September 9, 2008, including **updating the name of the WICC to the "Watershed Information Center"** (WIC) (Staff/Committee Members)  
*Jeff Sharp reported that the Subcommittee met and discussed changing the name of the WICC to the Watershed Information Center (WIC), thereby eliminating the word Conservancy from the WICC's name. The sub committee also discussed updating the WICC website to make it more user friendly with more mapping functions and more pictures, and discussed a focused outreach effort involving*

*each of the County's city/town councils.*

*Recommendation. WICC board voted to recommend that the Board of Supervisors change the name and bylaws of the WICC to reflect the suggested name change.*

*Reconsideration. Upon additional discussion the Board moved and approved reconsideration of the vote to change the Board's name and requested that the issue of changing the WICC's name be considered at the Board's October 23, 2008 meeting, allowing more time for the Board to hear from the Subcommittee and staff on the matter.*

**7. UDATES AND REPORTS:**

- a. Update on efforts to develop a locally based **Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP)** for Napa County (Staff)

*None provided.*

- b. Others (Board/Staff).

*None.*

**8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS** (Board/Staff)

*The Board recommended that action items be put before presentations on the agenda whenever possible.*

**9. NEXT MEETING** (Chairman)

**Regular Board Meeting: October 23, 2008 – 4:00 PM**

Hall of Justice Building, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Conference Room, 1125 Third Street, Napa

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

*Adjourned to the regular scheduled WICC meeting of October 23, 2008.*

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A Tradition of Stewardship  
A Commitment to Service

Agenda Date: 10/21/2008

Agenda Placement:

## NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Britt Ferguson for Watt, Nancy - County Executive Officer  
County Executive Office

**REPORT BY:** Lupe Ramirez Peterkin, Administrative Support Technician - 299-1516

**SUBJECT:** Appointment to the Watershed Information Center and Conservancy of Napa County (WICC)

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### **RECOMMENDATION**

County Executive Officer requests the appointment of one (1) applicant from the following list to serve on the Board of Directors of the Watershed Information Center and Conservancy of Napa County (WICC) with term to commence immediately and to expire in August 2010:

<u>Applicant (choose one)</u>	<u>Representing</u>
Alexander Weare Pader	Public at Large
David Hildebrandt	Public at Large
Milton K.D. Bosch	Public at Large

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Due to the passing of one of the Directors on the Watershed Information Center and Conservancy of Napa County (WICC), there is one (1) vacancy for a Public at Large position. County Executive Officer requests the appointment of one (1) applicant to serve on the Board of Directors of the Watershed Information Center and Conservancy of Napa County (WICC).

### **PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS**

1. Staff reports
2. Public comments
3. Motion, second, discussion and vote on the item.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

Is there a Fiscal Impact?                      No

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The proposed action is not a project as defined by 14 California Code of Regulations 15378 (State CEQA Guidelines) and therefore CEQA is not applicable.

**BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION**

Due to the passing of one of the Directors on the Watershed Information Center and Conservancy of Napa County (WICC), there is one (1) vacancy for a Public at Large position. After recruiting for this position, the County Executive Office received three (3) applications. The applicants are Alexander Weare Pader, David Hildebrandt and Milton K.D. Bosch.

The WICC is charged with guiding and supporting community efforts to maintain and improve the health of Napa County's watershed lands by: coordinating and facilitating partnerships among the individuals, agencies, and organizations involved in improving watershed health and restoration; supporting watershed research activities; and providing watershed information and education through an interactive website. The WICC considers itself a part of the solution to watershed issues and concerns guided by a set of adopted principles that embrace political neutrality, information collection and dissemination, collaboration, cooperation, and funding development.

The Board of Directors of the Watershed Information Center and Conservancy of Napa County (WICC) consists of seventeen (17) regular members and only one (1) category requiring an alternate member. They are as follows:

- | One (1) director or associate director nominated by the Napa County Resource Conservation District;
- | One (1) member nominated by the Napa County Land Trust from among the Land Trust's board of directors;
- | One (1) representative from the Natural Resource Conservation Service.
- | Two (2) members and one (1) alternate member of the Napa County Board of Supervisors;
- | One (1) member of the Napa County Conservation, Development and Planning Commission;
- | Five (5) members consisting of one representative from each city or town in Napa County nominated by their respective city or town council (American Canyon, Calistoga, Napa, St. Helena, and Yountville); and,
- | Six (6) Napa County residents from the Public at Large representing environmental, agricultural, development and community interests as selected by the Napa County Board of Supervisors.

By taking this action today, the WICC will have a complete Board of Directors.

**SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS**

- A . Alexander Weare Pader-application
- B . David Hildebrandt-application
- C . Milton K.D. Bosch-application





## History of Friends of the Napa River

Friends of the Napa River were officially established as a 501(c)(3) organization in early 1994. The organizers had worked together through the years on many different concerns about the Napa River such as boating, fishing, flooding, watershed protection, trails, festivals and riverfront development. We are a diverse community group whose mission statement is "the community's voice for the responsible protection, restoration, development and celebration of the Napa River and its watershed."

The primary goal of Friends is to heighten the community's awareness of the river as a valuable, but impaired, resource. We advocate for the Napa River at governmental meetings when decisions are being made that affect the river. We sponsor the annual River Festival featuring the Napa Valley Symphony the Sunday of Labor Day weekend. We sponsor clean-ups and watershed hikes. We have put together educational materials to help in the schools with the "Adopt a Watershed" program. This material is also available to community organizations. We participate on local committees involving water, flooding and recreation. Many of us have been involved over the years in the planning of the flood control project in Napa with a county-wide coalition to bring the most enlightened project possible to Napa.

***"From its headwaters on Mt. St. Helena to San Pablo Bay, the Napa River's 50-mile waterway needs your friendship, ideas, support, and involvement!"***

Friends of the Napa River  
68-B Coombs Street  
Napa, CA 94559  
707-254-8520; email: [friends@friendsofthenapariver.org](mailto:friends@friendsofthenapariver.org)

## **Board Members of Friends of the Napa River 2008**

### **Executive Board Members**

President	Bernhard Krevet
1st Vice President	Francie Winnen
2nd Vice President	Tim Yarish
Treasurer	Myrna Abramowicz
Secretary-R	Arvis Northrop
Secretary-C	Leslie Barnes

### **Board Members**

Karen Bower-Turjanis	Julia Bradsher
David Briggs	Barry Christian
Shari Gardner	David Graves
Jim Hench	Laurie Puzo
Kent Ruppert	Kevin Trzcinski

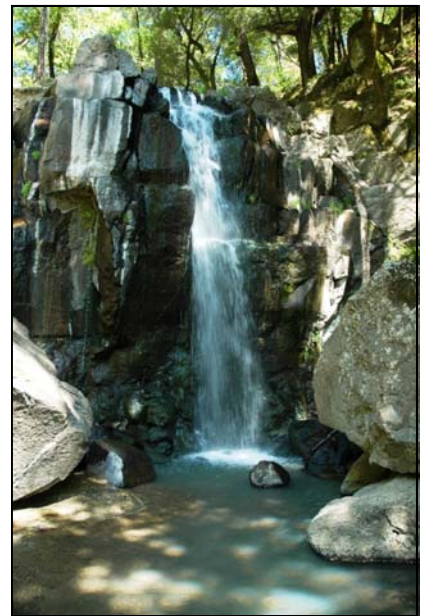
### **Advisory Board Members**

Moira Johnson-Block	Neil Bowman-Davis
Stephanie Burns	Suzanne Easton
Mel Engle	David Garden
Roger Hartwell	Ralph Ingols
Harold Kelly	Tony Norris
Rudolf Ohlemutz	Mike Rippey
Judith Sears	Ginny Simms
Barbara Stafford	

Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District

# SUMMARY DRAFT Master Plan

2008 — 2013



October 2008



Napa County Regional Park  
and Open Space District

# About the District

The Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District is governed by a five member Board of Directors elected by the voters of Napa County. Staff support is provided primarily by Napa County under contract to the District.

## **Board of Directors**

Harold Kelly  
(Ward One)  
*hkelly@ncrposd.org*

Tony Norris  
(Ward Two)  
*tnorris@ncrposd.org*

Guy Kay  
(Ward Three)  
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(Ward Four)  
*dfinigan@ncrposd.org*

Myrna Abramowicz  
(Ward Five)  
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## **Staff**

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(General Manager)  
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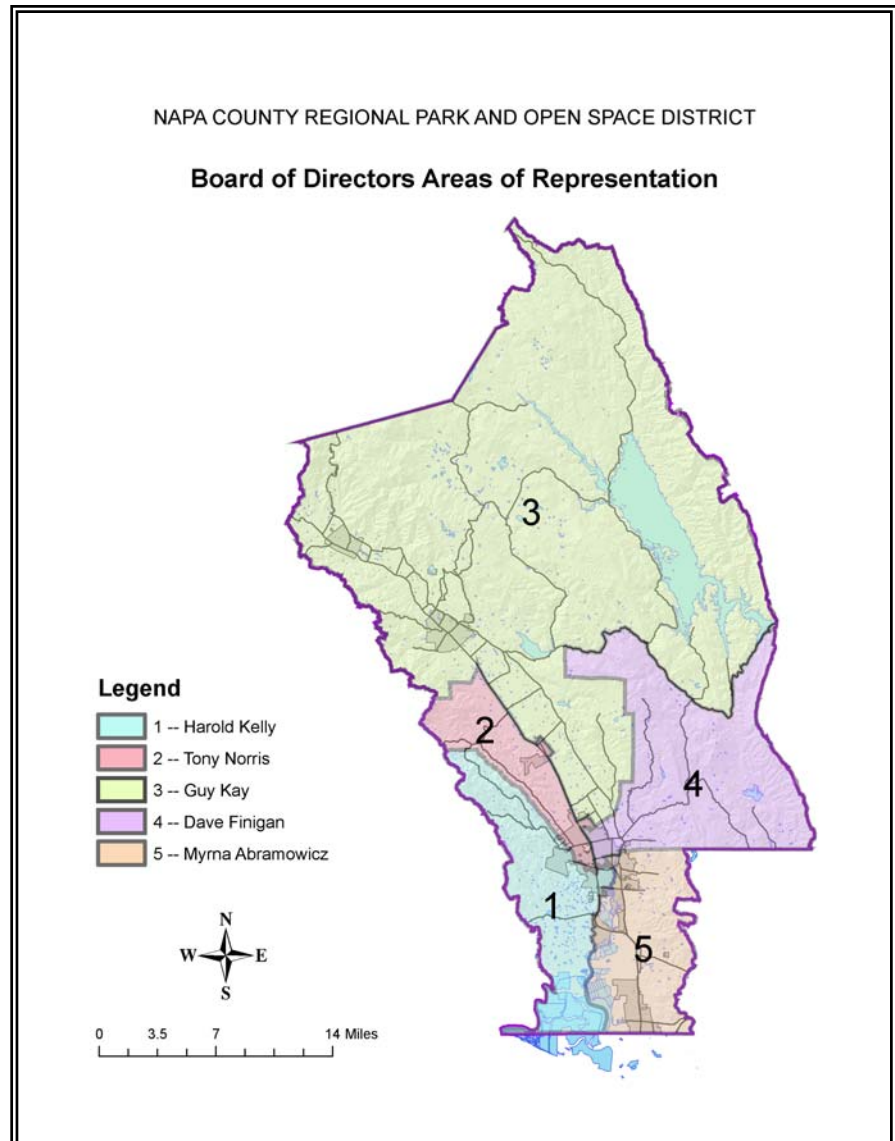
Melissa Gray  
(District Secretary)  
*mgray@ncrposd.org*

Chris Apallas  
(District Counsel)  
*capallas@ncrposd.org*

Pamela Kindig  
(District Auditor)  
*pkindig@ncrposd.org*

Tamie Frasier  
(District Treasurer)  
*tfrasier@ncrposd.org*

Chino Yip  
(Outreach Coordinator)  
*cyip@ncrposd.org*



NAPA COUNTY REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT  
1195 Third Street, Room 210  
Napa, California 94559  
Telephone: 707-259-5933 Fax: 707-299-4471

[www.NapaOutdoors.org](http://www.NapaOutdoors.org)

Photo credits: most photography provided by John Woodbury.  
Thanks also to Todd Adams, Carol Kunze, Brad Davis and Jim Haagen-Smit.

Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District

**Master Plan  
2008-2013**

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## Section I

# Executive Summary

On the first Tuesday of November 2006 the voters of Napa County approved Measure I. Sponsored by the County of Napa., Measure I established the Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District, an independent special district dedicated to protecting and stewarding important open space resources countywide and facilitating their enjoyment by the general public. The voters at the same time elected the first five members of the District's Board of Directors.

The District immediately started working on a variety of projects previously recommended by the Napa County Parks and Open Space Advisory Committee, a sixteen member citizens committee appointed by the County Board of Supervisors. Over a three year period prior to the formation of the District, the Committee had researched park and open space needs and opportunities in the County and prepared the proposal which became Measure I.

In its first year, the District initiated 16 park, trail and open space projects, as well as 10 organizational and financial capacity building activities.. It obtained, sought or was involved with partners on capital grants totaling just over \$5 million dollars.

At the same time that it began working on projects, the District also initiated the development of a plan to provide a comprehensive framework for guiding the future work of the District. The present Master Plan is the result of that effort. The Master Plan identifies long-term goals and guiding principles for the District, as well as identifies a work program for the period from 2008 through 2013.

### **POLICY CONTEXT**

The Master Plan builds on the policy foundation laid by the County of Napa General Plan, as updated and adopted in 2008. The two elements of the General Plan most relevant to this Master Plan are the Conservation Element, which sets policies for the conservation, development and utilization of the County's natural resources, and the Recreation and Open Space Element, which encourages and adopts policies and priorities for expanding the ability of Napa County residents and visitors to directly experience the beauty of the County's natural environment and to participate in nature-based recreation.

The General Plan recognizes the critical importance of the County's open spaces, and calls for the protection of an extensive landscape of open spaces in which recreation, the preservation of natural, cultural and archaeological resources, agricultural production, and the activities of private property owners are mutually supportive and complementary. Noting that 80 percent of Napa County's residents now live in the county's four cities and one town, the Recreation and Open Space Element identifies the need to create and maintain a high-quality system of parks, trails and recreational, interpretive and environmental programs, so that Napa residents

can continue to have a direct relationship with and appreciation of the County's remarkable open spaces. The Element also adopts the social equity goal of making recreational, interpretive and environmental education opportunities available to all County residents.

To implement these goals, the Recreation and Open Space Element includes 46 policies and action items. Among these is the policy of coordinating with and supporting the Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District, and an action item of working with the District in developing a new park and recreation master plan.

In addition to building on the County of Napa General Plan, this Master Plan also draws on the policies of other agencies and partner organizations. These include the policies and procedures prescribed by federal, state and local laws and regulations, and the agencies responsible for their implementation. These policies and procedures relate to the protection of air and water quality, conservation of land and the preservation of biological, cultural and archaeological resources.

Finally, since so many of the District's projects involve partnerships with other agencies and organizations, the Master Plan recognizes the importance of understanding and respecting the responsibilities, policies and practices of its partners.

## **GOALS AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES OF THE DISTRICT**

From this policy foundation the Master Plan develops four goals and twenty-four guiding principles for the District. Three of the four goals mirror the major goals of the Recreation and Open Space Element of the County General Plan, while the fourth addresses the organizational and management needs of the District:

- Goal A: Provide opportunities for outdoor recreation through the development of a system of parks, trails, water resource activities, open space and related facilities.
- Goal B: Preserve, restore and protect open space lands, natural resources and special habitat areas.
- Goal C: Provide historical, cultural and environmental educational programming opportunities.
- Goal D: Provide for District management and interagency partnerships.

The manner in which the District will implement these goals is shaped by twenty-four guiding principles. While all are important, among the guiding principles are the following which are particularly significant:

- Give priority to improving the stewardship of and public access to existing public lands.
- Provide recreation opportunities in all areas of Napa County, with special attention to providing facilities close to where people live and work.
- Serve a wide variety of recreation interests and the full diversity of cultures, ages and physical abilities found in the county.
- Focus on nature-based recreation.
- Complement rather than duplicate city and other public facilities and programs.
- Seek to increase the amount of dedicated open space by 50,000 acres, and recreational trails by 100 miles..



## NATURAL RESOURCES AND HABITATS OF NAPA COUNTY

Napa County is fortunate to have an extensive database of information about its natural resources. Thanks to the work of many experts, and especially those at the University of California at Davis and the non-profit research organization NatureServe, working in partnership with the Land Trust of Napa County, the County has exceptionally detailed mapping of its biological resources.

The County of Napa's Baseline Data Report combines this biodiversity mapping with numerous other geographic information system data sets related to water quality and supply, soils and minerals, agricultural and timber resources, natural hazards and land use, as well as demographic, economic and infrastructure information.

The scientific data presented by these maps and reports confirms that the County has among the highest levels of biodiversity found anywhere in North America. This rich natural resource heritage brings with it a responsibility for us to protect and steward these resources for future generations.

This responsibility includes protecting unique habitats supporting special-status species, as well as large assemblages of more typical but nonetheless essential habitats for plant and wildlife species health. A related challenge is to protect corridors of open space linking core habitats to avoid fragmentation of habitats into units too small to function effectively.

## SUPPLY AND DEMAND FOR REGIONAL PARKS, OUTDOOR RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE

Napa County has a handful of developed parks and recreation facilities, including Bothe-Napa State Park, Robert Louis Stevenson State Park, Skyline Wilderness Park, Lake Berryessa, the small Napa River Ecological Reserve, the Connolly Ranch Environmental Education Center, the Oat Hill Mine Trail, and short segments of the Napa River Trail, the San Francisco Bay Trail and the Bay Area Ridge Trail.

The County also has extensive public lands with limited or no improvements, and often with no public access. These include the Knoxville Recreation Area and other federal Bureau of Land Management properties, the Napa-Sonoma Marshes owned by the State Department of Fish and Game, various Land Trust of Napa County preserves such as those at Wild Lake Ranch, Mt. George, and Archer Taylor, and watershed lands owned by various municipal water districts.

Overall, despite the fact that one-fourth of the land in the County is protected open space, the ability of the general public to directly experience these open spaces is quite limited. Drawing on the past work of the Napa County Parks and Open Space Advisory Committee, as well as the information and policies contained in the County General Plan, this Master Plan identifies a variety of needs for open space parks and recreational facilities and programs.

Among these are needs for the following:

- Trails serving hikers, equestrians, mountain bicyclists, and dog walkers, both close to home as well as longer trails for more ambitious excursions.
- Camping facilities, including automobile-accessible “family” campgrounds and back country primitive camping sites.
- Picnicking facilities in natural settings.
- Outdoor educational programs and interpretive facilities.
- Water-based activities, with a special focus on the Napa River because of its ecological importance and close proximity to where most Napa residents live and work.

## WORK PROGRAM

The Master Plan includes a work program of 56 projects for the District to consider. Project proposals were developed to respond to the wide range of open space protection and outdoor recreational needs identified in the Plan.

Presented in Section VII (and summarized in Table VIII-1), this work program is intended to demonstrate the range of projects which the District is evaluating, to challenge the District to do its utmost, and to give the District flexibility, recognizing that multiple factors can delay or eliminate any particular project. Identifying a broad range of desirable projects also improves the ability of the District to take advantage of grant programs, which typically have narrowly defined purposes; to successfully compete for many grant programs, it is necessary to have eligible projects planned and ready to go on short notice.

Projects are categorized by the District’s four main goals mentioned earlier. Each project write-up includes a project description, a discussion of benefits, issues and partners, estimated timelines and costs, and specific action objectives. It must be noted that the timelines generally reflect the most optimistic times within which projects can be implemented, assuming agreements with other partners are reached expeditiously, permits are obtained without significant delay, adequate grant funding is secured, and sufficient District staff and operational funding is available.

## PRIORITIES

It is not expected nor realistically possible for the District to complete all of the projects identified in the work program, and certainly not during the five year time frame of the Master Plan. Some projects will turn out to be infeasible and never implemented. Some will only be started by 2013. Others will not have been commenced because they are dependent on opportunities which have not yet materialized. Finally, the District clearly does not have the financial capacity to undertake all of these projects.

Because more projects have been identified than will be implemented during the time frame of this Plan, the District Board of Directors must continually weigh project priorities, particularly during its annual budget process. In addition, the full listing of projects will be reevaluated and updated in 2011 and every three years thereafter. This will enable the District to have current project targets that provide a useful road map for day-to-day decision-making, while maintaining a long term policy framework.

To assist with prioritization, the projects proposed in the Master Plan are categorized into two tiers. Tier One includes those projects which will have higher priority for District resources. These are the projects on which staff will devote the most time, and toward which discretionary funding will first be directed. Nonetheless, the Master Plan acknowledges that only some Tier One projects will be completed within the first five years period, due to challenges in obtaining the approval of partners, permits from regulatory agencies, staffing limitations, and insufficient funding. Nonetheless, it is the District's intent to have made significant progress within this time frame where possible, particularly in terms of defining projects and having plans that are ready to go. Generally speaking, Tier Two projects are less time-sensitive or dependent on circumstances which are not yet favorable and beyond the ability of the District to control. These projects will be pursued during the coming five years to the extent that District staff and discretionary funding is not needed for Tier One projects, or when unique one-time opportunities present themselves. For this reason, Tier Two projects typically do not have specific dates associated with specific objectives.

## IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

The District since its formation has contracted with Napa County for basic professional and administrative services, and proposes to retain this institutional structure through the life of this first Master Plan. There are several advantages to this approach. First, at present levels of operation, it is more cost effective for the District to contract for basic professional services than to set up its own personnel and financial systems. Second, given the District's present lack of guaranteed long-term operational funding, it is more prudent to contract for staff services than to take on the relatively fixed, long-term obligations that come with hiring its own employees and maintaining its own offices and equipment. Third, given the District's current reliance on the County for basic operational funding, it is important for the District and the County to maintain a close working relationship, and contracting with the County for professional services is an effective way to ensure this.

This approach is also advantageous for the County, by enabling the County to meet its General Plan open space and recreation goals in a focused, efficient and accountable manner.

Nearly all of the projects presented in the Plan are built around partnerships with other public agencies and organizations. This reliance on partnerships is fundamental to the District's implementation strategy. It reflects a commitment by the District to work cooperatively with other governmental agencies to improve the stewardship of and the public's ability to enjoy existing public lands and natural resources. In some cases the District's role is to assist its partners accomplish common goals by bringing additional financial, professional or institutional resources to bear on their work. In other cases the District's role is to utilize lands owned by its partners to provide public benefits that are compatible with but go beyond the missions of its partners.

A focus on empowering and supporting volunteers is another fundamental aspect of the District's implementation strategy. Utilizing volunteers has the obvious advantage of enabling the District to provide more services than would otherwise be possible. Working with

volunteers has the added long-term benefit of building community involvement and support, and the sense of public ownership that is critical to the sustainability of the District's projects.

This reliance on partnerships and volunteers has significant ramifications for how the District operates. The District must respect and support a wide range of interests and opinions. Projects must be based on consensus. The District must be flexible and willing to compromise. Decision-making must be participatory, not top-down.

## FUNDING OPTIONS

The District's first-year operating budget of just under \$300,000 was funded primarily through a grant from Napa County, using a portion of the County's Special Projects Fund set-aside for parks and open space. Its second year operating budget, excluding election costs, increased approximately five percent, largely as a result of inflation.

The District needs to obtain additional capacity to develop project plans and secure and manage grant funding, if it is to make substantial progress on the Tier One projects identified by the Master Plan. Without added capacity, as the District's first projects are completed, resources currently devoted to project development will need to shift to operations. If the District is to continue to develop and open new facilities during this five year time frame, and have the capacity to continue to develop and open new facilities beyond this time frame, by the end of this first five year planning horizon the District will need to have increased its current level of staffing. To maintain the pace of project implementation proposed in the Master Plan, the Plan projects the District will need to increase staff support from the current full-time equivalent of 2.0 people up to the full-time equivalent of 4.5 people by the end of the fifth year.

The County's operational support of the District has come from a portion of the County's Special Projects Fund, which is funded by the increase in the County Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) approved by the voters in 2004. Because of the Special Projects Fund, the District could have sufficient funding to cover the staffing needs noted above, subject to three conditions: (1) the TOT continues to increase as it has over the past decade, (2) the Board of Supervisors continues its adopted policy of distributing 60% of the Special Projects Fund for parks and open space, and (3) the Board of Supervisors agrees to allow the proportion of the funds granted to parks and open space being used for operations to gradually increase.

The Master Plan does not propose any immediate plans for the District to seek additional dedicated tax revenues. There are several reasons for this. First, the District believes it is essential to demonstrate what it can do with existing public funding before considering whether it should ask the voters for additional funds. Second, any proposal for new funding should not be made in isolation, but must be closely coordinated and balanced with other significant funding needs, such as for improved road maintenance. Third, given the present state of the economy, now is not a good time to be asking voters for more taxes. Finally, the increase in annual operational funding needed by the end of the first five year period is only about \$250,000, which by itself is insufficient to justify going to the ballot.

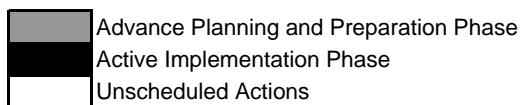
However, the District recognizes that a variety of factors—such as changes in County priorities, economic recession or changes in State law related to the County’s share of tax revenues—could result in flat or decreased funding from the County to the District. This would necessitate a reevaluation of the District’s funding strategy.

The Master Plan also notes that the District’s present ability to protect the County’s significant open space land and natural resources is very limited. To make more than marginal progress in acquiring and preserving the County’s most important natural resources, new local sources of revenue will be needed as a match for other grants which the District will seek to obtain. One small potential source of revenue, as called for in the County of Napa General Plan, is for the County to require new development to mitigate for their impacts on the environment and for the increased demand they generate for outdoor recreational facilities. Such mitigation could include the payment of in-lieu fees in those cases where impacts and needs cannot be addressed on-site. The fact that most development in Napa County occurs in the cities, rather than the unincorporated areas, means that the amount of revenue that could be generated from impact fees would be fairly limited. The only significant source of new funding would be through a voter-approved tax, either to fund District operational needs and thereby free up the County Special Projects Fund for capital projects, or to directly provide capital funds for acquisition and preservation projects. The Master Plan calls on the District to further explore these and other funding options over the next two years in consultation with the County and other potentially affected public agencies.

The District is fortunate to be receiving financial and policy support from Napa County. Therefore, the immediate challenge for the District, and the primary focus of the Master Plan, is to demonstrate that the District can use this funding efficiently and effectively. By the end of the first five year time frame of the Master Plan, the District intends to have established a clear track record of accomplishment. This track record will form the basis for continued public discussion regarding the future level of service and open space protection which the community desires from the District.

## Table VIII-1 Project Implementation Timeline

The time frames shown here represent the earliest possible implementation dates, and assume projects prove to be feasible. Actual implementation will vary, generally with later implementation than shown, since most projects depend on approvals and actions by partners beyond the control of the District, as well as on funding which must first be obtained. Tier One projects are those which will receive priority consideration for limited funding and staffing. The meaning for the shading used in the charts is indicated below:

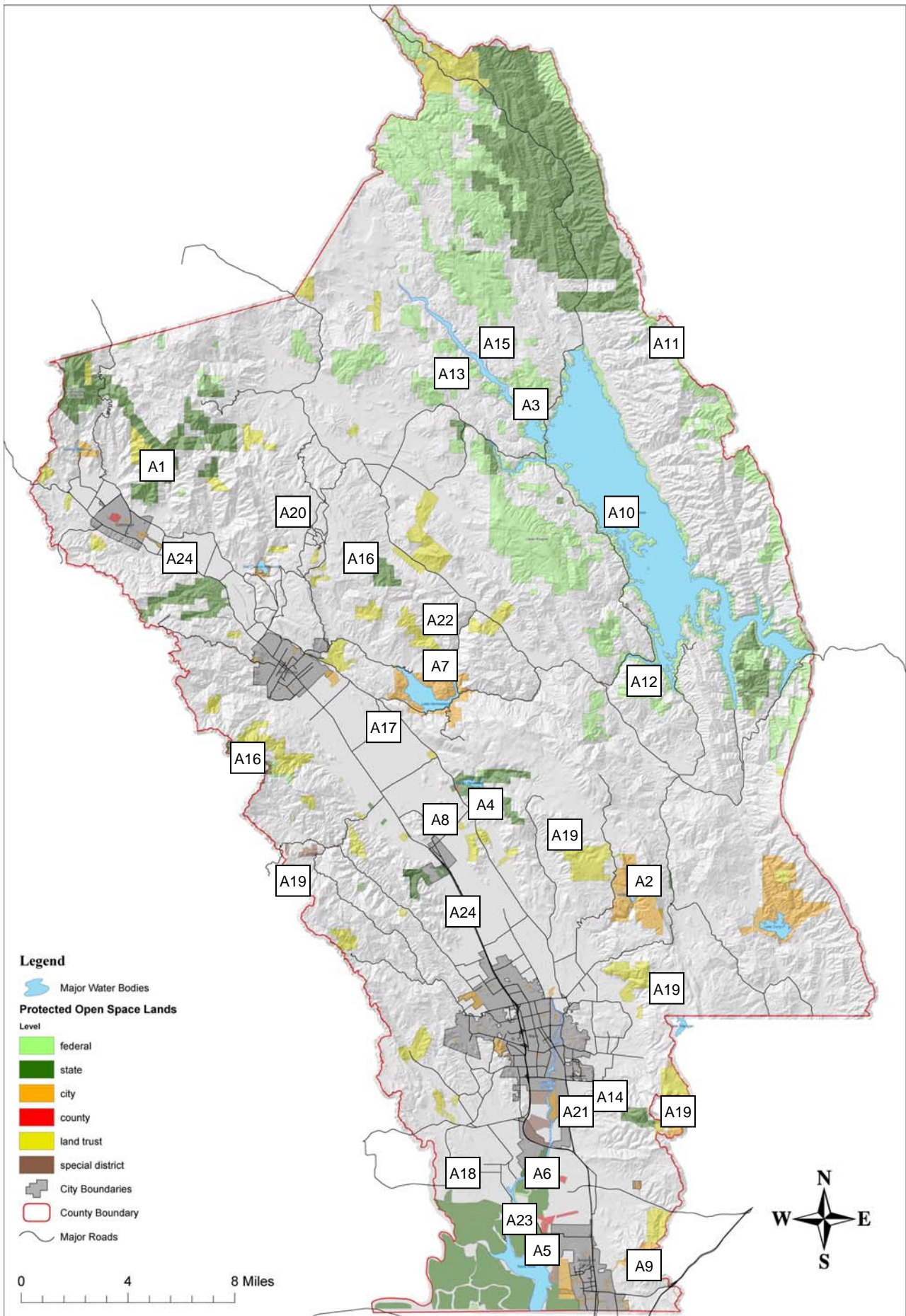


<u>Project No.</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>Tier One</u>
<b>Goal A. Provide opportunities for outdoor recreation through the development of a system of parks, trails, water resources, open space and related facilities</b>							
A.1 Oat Hill Mine Trail Improvements							YES
A.2 Milliken Creek Trails and Picnic Area Development							YES
A.3 Camp Berryessa Redevelopment							YES
A.4 Rector Ridge/Stag's Leap Ridge Trail Development							YES
A.5 Napa River and Bay Trail Phase I Development							YES
A.6 Napa River and Bay Trail Phase II Development							YES
A.7 Lake Hennessey North Shore Trail Development							YES
A.8 Napa River Ecological Reserve Public Access Improvements							YES
A.9 Newell Preserve Access Development							
A.10 Lake Berryessa Trail Development							YES
A.11 Berryessa Peak and Blue Ridge Public Access Development							
A.12 Berryessa Vista Wilderness Park Development							YES
A.13 Pope and Putah Creeks Trail Development							
A.14 Skyline Park Improvements Phase II							YES
A.15 Camp Berryessa to Knoxville Recreation Area Trail Development							
A.16 Napa Crest Trail Development							YES
A.17 Napa River Access Point Development							
A.18 San Francisco Bay Trail Completion in Napa County							
A.19 Bay Area Ridge Trail Completion in Napa County							
A.20 Backcountry Camping Facilities in the Palisades Area							
A.21 River to Ridge Trail Encroachment Resolution							YES
A.22 Moore Creek Trails, Picnic Area and Camping Facilities Development							YES
A.23 Napa River Water Trail Development							
A.24 Napa Valley Community Connector Trail Development							

Table VIII-1 Project Implementation Timeline (continued)

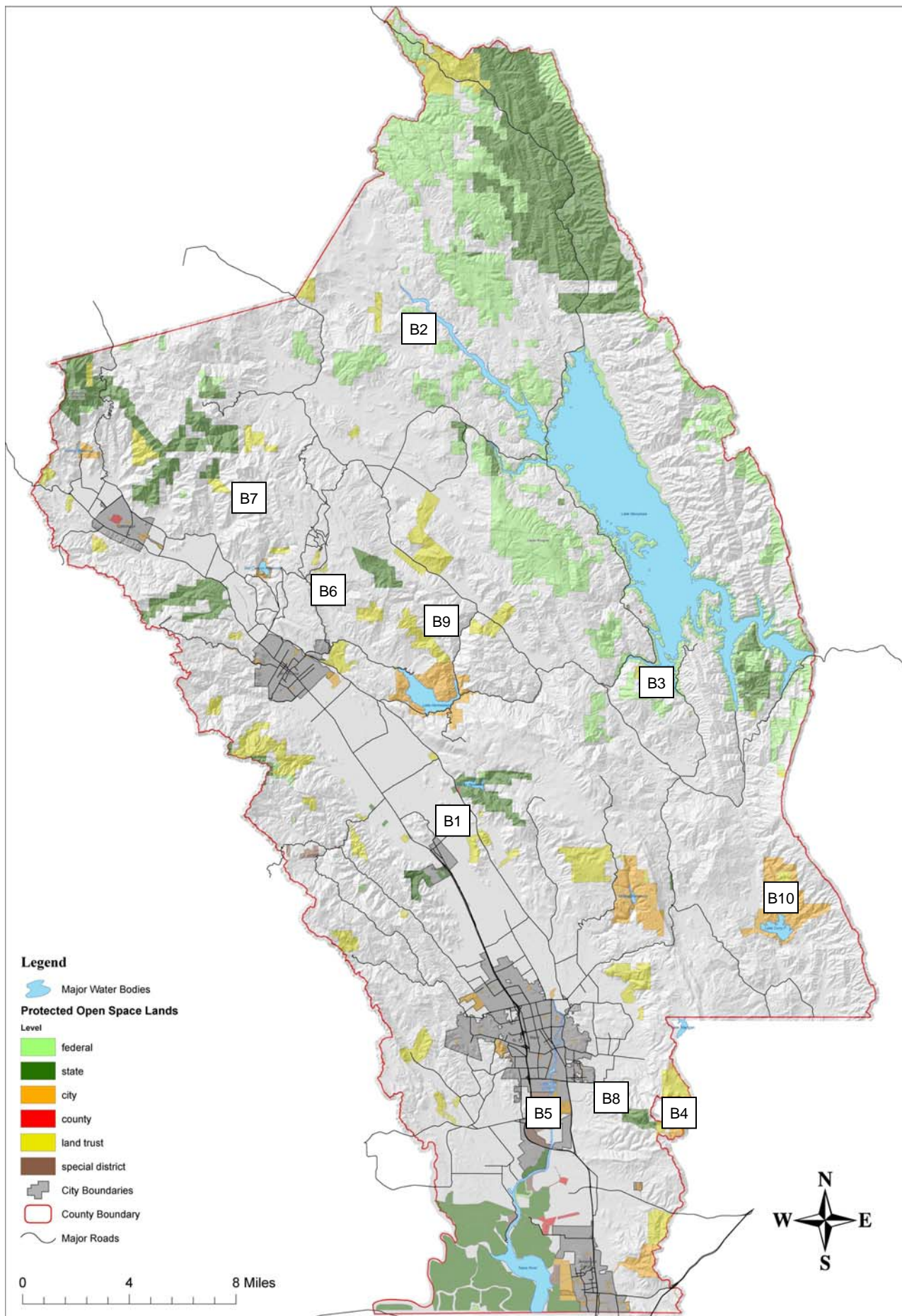
<u>Project No.</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>Tier One</u>
<b>Goal B. Preserve, restore and protect open space lands, natural resources and habitat areas</b>							
B.1 Napa River Ecological Reserve Restoration	■	■	■	■	■	■	YES
B.2 Lake Berryessa Estates Open Space Preservation	■	■					
B.3 Berryessa Vista Acquisition	■						YES
B.4 Vallejo Lakes Area Acquisition	■	■					YES
B.5 South Napa Wetlands Habitat Acquisition	■	■					
B.6 Linda Falls Conservation Easement	■						YES
B.7 Palisades Cooperative Management Plan Development	■	■	■				
B.8 Skyline Park Protection and Master Plan Development	■	■	■	■	■	■	YES
B.9 Moore Creek Watershed Protection	■	■	■				YES
B.10 Preservation of Other High Priority Habitats and Watersheds	■	■	■	■	■	■	
<b>Goal C. Provide historical, cultural, environmental education programming opportunities</b>							
C.1 Camp Berryessa Outdoor Education Program Facility Development	■	■	■	■			YES
C.2 Napa River Ecological Reserve Environmental Education Program Development	■	■	■				YES
C.3 Napa River to Ridge Trail Interpretive Path Development	■	■					
C.4 Rector Ridge Trail Interpretive Path Development							
C.5 Napa River and Bay Trail Interpretive Path Development	■	■	■	■			YES
C.6 South Napa Wetlands Habitat Interpretive Facilities and Programming Development	■	■					
C.7 Huichica Creek Wetlands Interpretive Path Development							
C.8 Oat Hill Mine Trail Interpretive Path Development	■	■					
<b>Goal D. Provide for District management and partnerships</b>							
D.1 Develop and Implement a Multiyear Budget and Service Plan	■	■	■				YES
D.2 Develop Public Information Program	■	■	■	■	■	■	YES
D.3 Consider Establishing Non-Profit Foundation	■	■					
D.4 Consider Forming District Advisory Committee	■	■					
D.5 Establish Partnerships with Public Art, Historical and Cultural Interpretation, and City Parks and Recreation Programs	■	■	■	■	■	■	
D.6 Develop Volunteer Participation	■	■	■	■	■	■	YES
D.7 Prepare and Adopt District Purchasing and Contracting Policies and Procedures	■	■	■	■	■	■	YES
D.8 Prepare and Adopt District Policies and Ordinances for Public Use of Facilities	■	■	■	■	■	■	YES
D.9 Adopt Policies and Develop Partnerships, Sponsorships and Donation Programs for Use and Promotion of District Facilities	■	■	■	■	■	■	YES
D.10 Consider Developing District Deputized Ranger Capacity		■					
D.11 Prepare and Adopt Green Standards for Building and Operations							
D.12 Develop and Implement Cooperative Strategies for Habitat Restoration	■						
D.13 Update Countywide Inventory of Protected Open Space Lands	■	■	■	■	■	■	YES
D.14 Update District Master Plan	■			■			YES

# Goal A: Provide opportunities for outdoor recreation

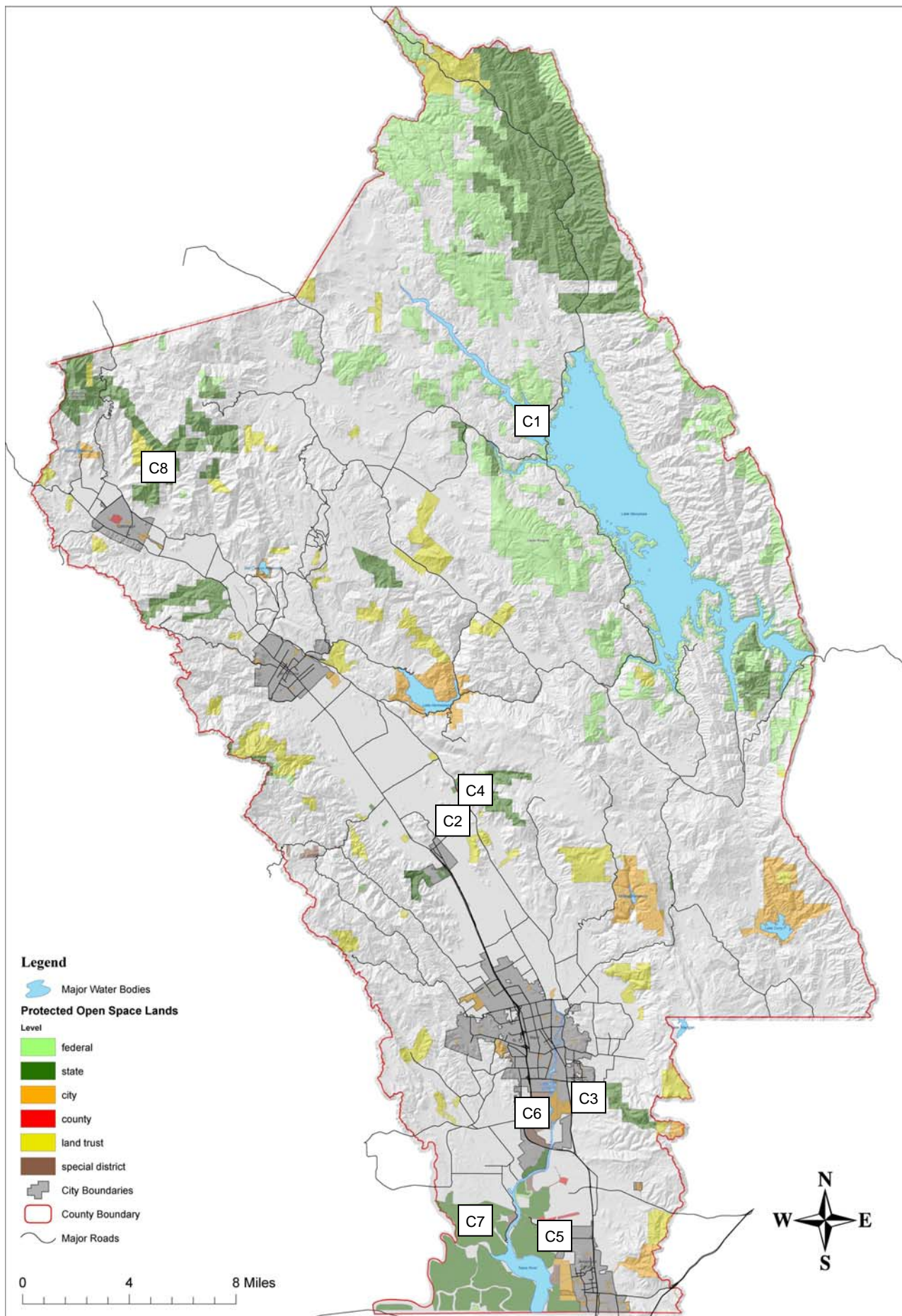




# Goal B: Preserve, restore and protect open space lands



# Goal C: Provide outdoor education opportunities



## **WICC Ad-Hoc Subcommittee on Education and Outreach**

### **Summary Report September 8, 2008 Meeting**

#### Discussion Topics:

1. Possible name change for WICC,
2. New look and function for WICC Website,
3. Focused WICC outreach efforts this Fall and Winter, and
4. Possible Watershed Symposium 2009 presentation/discussion topics.

#### In Attendance:

Board Members - Leon Garcia, Charles Slutzkin, Jeff Reichel  
Staff - Patrick Lowe, Jeff Sharp

#### Summary:

1. The Subcommittee recommends that the WICC Board request the Board of Supervisors change its name to: Watershed Information Center of Napa County
2. The Subcommittee recommends moving forward with updating and simplifying the WICC WebCenter by:
  - a. Reducing number of menu levels
  - b. Utilize graphical links rather than words
  - c. Implement familiar online map tools such as Google Maps
  - d. Eliminate areas/functions not used
  - e. Develop and implement direct outreach to watershed organizations that participated in 2009 Symposium
3. The Subcommittee recommends that each City/Town representative on the WICC Board, with assistance from staff, take the lead on arranging a presentation about the WICC for each city or town council. Following each presentation the WICC will look to hold a meeting in or near the city or town.
4. The Subcommittee suggested a number of possible topics for presentation/discussion at the May 21, 2009 Watershed Symposium, including:
  - a. Climate Change
  - b. Water Conservation & Supply
  - c. Groundwater Resources and Management
  - d. Watershed Group "Whirlwind Tour"

## **WICC Name Background and Research**

### **- Napa River Watershed Task Force's Phase II Final Report - Review of Organization Names and Roles**

#### Education and Outreach Subcommittee Deliberations

In November 2007, the WICC Board formed an ad-hoc subcommittee to assist staff in outreach and education implementation. The Subcommittee met on January 18, 2008 and discussed various means of outreach and related support materials (brochures, fliers, presentations, signs, etc.). Those discussions lead to the Subcommittee's examination of the WICC's name and its appearance/use on any new educational or outreach materials that may be created. The Subcommittee was unsure if the name, WICC, truly portrays the activities of the WICC Board and questioned whether the name should be changed.

The Subcommittee met again on September 8, 2008. during that meeting the Subcommittee discussed the possibility of changing the WICC name, a new look and function for WICC Website, development of focused WICC outreach efforts for the Fall and Winter, and suggested possible Watershed Symposium 2009 presentation and discussion topics. A summary of that meeting is provided on the preceding page.

On September 25, 2008 the Subcommittee reported to the full WICC Board. As part of its report, the Subcommittee recommended that the WICC Board consider changing its name based upon current activities of the WICC and the present roles and missions of other organizations in the County. The recommendation put forward was to drop the word "Conservancy" from the WICC's name, as it was thought the conservancy role was being conducted by other organization in Napa County, such as the newly formed Napa County Regional Parks and Open Space District and the longstanding Land Trust of Napa County. After hearing the Subcommittee's report and recommendation the WICC Board voted to change the WICC's name. Upon further discussion, the Board rescinded that vote and requested that the matter of changing the WICC's name be discussed and considered at the Board's October 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting, allowing more time to hear from the Subcommittee and better consider their recommendation.

#### Napa River Watershed Task Force's Phase II Final Report & Formation of the WICC

Upon recommendation of the Napa River Watershed Task Force's Phase II Final Report (2000), the Board of Supervisors, on May 21, 2002, approved Resolution No. 02-103, creating the Watershed Information Center & Conservancy (WICC) of Napa County and a WICC Board of Directors. The WICC was charged with directing a long-term watershed resource management program intended to provide public outreach, education and coordination in support of watershed restoration and resource protection activities, including the coordination of land acquisition, restoration projects, watershed monitoring and inventory, water quality and habitat assessment, and data management.

Originally intended to be two separate efforts, 1) a Napa River Conservancy Program, and 2) a Napa River Information Center, the Board of Supervisors, upon recommendation from the Watershed Oversight Committee, created a joint Napa River Watershed Conservancy and Watershed Information

Center advisory committee (board of directors). The name was subsequently changed by the Board of Supervisors in July 2004 to the Watershed Information Center and Conservancy (WICC) of Napa County, as a result of the WICC's strategic plan discussions and adoption in early 2004 and recommendation to the Board of Supervisors in May of 2004.

The Napa River Watershed Task Force's Phase II Final Report describes the primary mission and activities of conservancies is to protect and enhance the ecological integrity and functions of their watershed(s), through the protection of sensitive lands through conservation easements and fee title acquisitions, coordination or initiation of watershed restoration projects, and public outreach and education. The report notes that conservancies vary in their emphasis. Some serving solely as a facilitator of real estate transactions, while others actively manage properties they acquire, while others serve as a point of organization for developing broader management and restoration strategies for the watershed as a whole.

The Report outlines the role and functions of a watershed information center as part of a larger process of adaptive watershed management, an integrated process in which the results of management decisions and actions are monitored and their outcomes are then applied to planning for improved management decisions in the future. This information role, or adaptive management support, includes monitoring coordination, inventory and assessment, data management and outreach and education.

The following table outlines the Napa River Watershed Oversight Committee's analysis and recommendation to the Board of Supervisors.

# Napa River Watershed Oversight Committee

## Conservancy & WIC Board Recommendation

Watershed Task Force Phase II Recommendation	Watershed Conservancy	Watershed Information Center (WIC)
<b>Mission</b>	Work to protect, restore and enhance the ecological heritage of the Napa River watershed Help to: Improve water quality, recreate steelhead habitat, enhance special status species habitat, protect unique & important vegetation communities, biological diversity and special status species	Serve as a network coordinator to enhance cooperation and consistency between watershed research and monitoring activities
<b>Activities/Roles</b>	Protection of sensitive lands through land acquisitions/conservation easements Watershed restoration projects & coordination of Public outreach/education	Monitoring/coordination Inventory/assessment Data management Outreach/education
<b>Board Structure</b>	Board of Directors Joint w/WIC or Independent Incorporated through formal public benefit corporation Memorandum of Understanding	Non-profit Board of Directors Technical Advisory Committee Community Advisory Committee
<b>Board Make-up</b>	Balance of Community Interests to include: Elected officials, agricultural, urban & environmental	Balance of Community Interests to include: Elected officials, agricultural, urban & environmental
<b>Oversight Committee Recommendations</b>	<b><u>Conservancy Board</u></b>	<b><u>WIC Board</u></b>
<b>Recommended</b>	<b>Joint Conservancy/WIC Board (w/Technical Committee)</b>	
<b>Option/Discussed</b>	Conservancy Board	WIC Board
<b>Option/Discussed</b>	Expanded Oversight Committee as Conservancy Board	WIC Board
<b>Option/Discussed</b>	Expanded Oversight Committee as Joint Conservancy/WIC Board (w/Technical Committee)	



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**Board of Supervisors**

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**Brad Wagenknecht**  
Chair

October 14, 2008

Mike Napolitano, Environmental Scientist  
San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board  
1515 Clay Street, Suite 1400  
Oakland, CA 94612

*[Transmitted via email: [mnapolitano@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:mnapolitano@waterboards.ca.gov) and Fax: (510) 622-2459]*

**RE: Comments on September 5, 2008 revisions to the proposed San Francisco Bay Water Quality Control Plan (Basin Plan) amendment, Napa River Sediment Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Required Implementation Measures and Recommended Habitat Enhancement Plan**

Dear Mr. Napolitano:

Thank you for presenting the Regional Water Quality Control Board's (RWQCB) proposed revisions to the TMDL, and planned amendments to the Basin Plan, which includes changes to the Required Implementation Measures and Recommended Habitat Enhancement Plan, to the Watershed Information Center and Conservancy (WICC) Board on September 25, 2008.

It is our understanding that RWQCB staff has been reaching out to a number of watershed stakeholders during the month of September to explain the extent and purpose of the recently proposed revisions. The timely outreach and presentations by RWQCB staff are very instructive and we appreciate their efforts and willingness to discuss the recently proposed changes with our community. We look forward to working with RWQCB staff throughout the remaining TMDL and Basin Plan amendment process.

The County is aware that the RWQCB staff is proposing these revisions based upon public comment received by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) questioning the adequacy of the TMDL's compliance with the State Board's certified regulatory program requirements as they relate to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Although the proposed changes are to address CEQA deficiencies and were reported to be minor in scope, the County believes they require further explanation or modification to alleviate concerns regarding additional performance standards and required implementation actions/schedules.

As noted in our previous comments, the County supports the RWQCB's overall TMDL goals, "to conserve the steelhead population, establish a self-sustaining Chinook salmon population, enhance the health of the native fish community and enhance the aesthetic and recreational values of the Napa River and its tributaries." The County, alongside many watershed organizations, stakeholders and

**Brad Wagenknecht**  
District 1

**Mark Luce**  
District 2

**Diane Dillon**  
District 3

**Bill Dodd**  
District 4

**Harold Moskowitz**  
District 5

## Comments on revised Sediment TMDL and Basin Plan Amendment

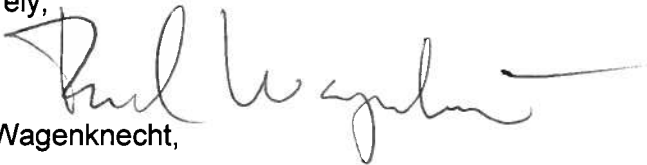
landowners, is actively taking steps to better understand and conserve our watershed resources. We appreciate the RWQCB's support and assistance in these very important endeavors.

Although well intentioned, the newly proposed revisions to the Napa River Sediment TMDL are again cause for concern due to additional uncertainties, while not having fully addressed the County's earlier comments (see letter dated August 15, 2006). The proposed Basin Plan amendment remains vague, references future development of unidentified requirements, implicitly asserts responsibilities, and neglects to account for public and private costs associated with the proposed Implementation Measures (regulatory tools/actions). The County remains concerned that the proposed Basin Plan is ambiguous and will be subject to future interpretation - possibly holding responsible parties (public and private) to unattainable and infeasible compliance requirements and timeframes.

On behalf of Napa County, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the proposed revisions to the Basin Plan amendment that will implement the sediment TMDL for the Napa River watershed. More specific comments are provided in the attachment to this letter. We hope that RWQCB and staff find our comments both informative and constructive in your effort to develop a water quality policy that reflects the varied needs and values of Napa County.

We look forward to the opportunity to discuss our comments in more detail with you or your staff. Please do not hesitate to contact Patrick Lowe, Deputy Planning Director at (707) 259-5937 or Jeff Sharp, Principal Planner, at (707) 259-5936 on our staff, should you have any questions or need additional information regarding our comments.

Sincerely,



Brad Wagenknecht,  
Chair

cc:

Hillary Gitelman, Conservation, Development and Planning Director  
Robert Peterson, Director, and Donald Ridenhour, Assistant Director Public Works  
Rick Thomasser, Flood and Water Control District Engineer  
Patrick Lowe and Jeff Sharp, Conservation, Development and Planning  
Steven Lederer, Environmental Management Director  
Watershed Information Center and Conservancy Board of Napa County  
Thomas Mumley and James Ponton, San Francisco Bay RWQCB, TMDL Division



## **Attachment: Napa County Comments**

*September 5, 2008 Revised Basin Plan amendments, incorporating a sediment TMDL, implementation plan, and Habitat Enhancement Plan for the Napa River watershed*

1. The geographic scope of the TMDL remains vague and it is unclear as to where the proposed performance standards and regulatory actions apply. Greater clarification and justification on the geographic applicability of the proposed Basin Plan amendment is warranted, particularly as it relates to the Plan's required implementation actions.
2. The Basin Plan references the submittal of a Report of Waste Discharge (RoWD) as a means of documenting actions towards compliance and generally outlines the nature of the report's required contents. Until a comprehensive program of waivers for Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) is approved and implemented, please explain how the RWQCB will improve its capacity to effectively receive, review and approve the large volume of RoWDs that will be required for vineyard development as a result of the proposed Basin Plan amendment.
3. The Plan mentions the RWQCB's future intent to adopt a Waste Discharge Requirement (WDR) waiver policy for nonpoint source categories that "balance agricultural, environmental, recreational and residential needs of the watershed." However, the proposed Basin Plan amendment lacks any detail describing what those waiver conditions may entail or how and when they will be approved. It will likely take a great deal of time on the part of RWQCB staff to develop conditional waiver program requirements. We request that the RWQCB work towards developing a unified WDR waiver program that addresses multiple land use categories.
4. The compliance deadlines presented in the implementation tables are not sufficient to successfully develop an effective yet flexible WDR waiver program that addresses the varied needs of watershed. Please explain how the RWQCB envisions the waiver development process and detail what the waiver requirements will be.
5. The development of this TMDL has been an unusually long process burdened with data and legal challenges. Please consider extending the completion dates in tables 4.1 – 4.4 by two or more years, allowing ample time for developing and complying with applicable WDR waiver requirements.
6. Table 4.1 (Vineyards) of the Plan mentions third party "certification programs" as a means of developing "farm plans" to meet future conditions associated with a WDR waiver. The County is concerned that there is not sufficient local and regional "third party" capacity to meet the vineyard owner/operator demand by the proposed completion date. As mentioned above, please consider extending the completion dates in the implementation tables by two or more years, allowing ample time to fully develop needed capacity of third party certification programs to meet the projected demand.
7. The suggested action items in Tables 5.1 – 5.4 are presumably part of the RWQCB's recommended Habitat Enhancement Plan. Although the action items in the tables appear to be voluntary (i.e., recommended), they have very specific completion dates associated with them. Please confirm that the listed actions are recommendations and not binding upon the implementing parties. We believe most of the completion dates listed cannot be met and should be eliminated or qualified based upon funding availability, staffing resources and stakeholder derived priorities for the watershed. Furthermore, please explain how the RWQCB intends to require the suggested deadlines be met.

## Comments on revised Sediment TMDL and Basin Plan Amendment

8. The County, along with many stakeholders in the watershed, recognizes the value of the management objectives listed in Tables 5.1 – 5.4 and appreciates the RWQCB's efforts in identifying possible actions to obtain them. The County and others are presently working towards completing many of the recommended action items, including stream restoration, fisheries monitoring and watershed planning. One of "the highest priorities" noted in the TMDL Staff Report is monitoring the relative fitness of the juvenile steelhead population and timing of their outmigration (pg. 89). The Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission and the Napa County Resource Conservation District recently allocated funding towards the purchase of a rotary screw trap to meet this identified need. The County would appreciate any assistance the RWQCB could provide in helping to fund and maintain the trap's operation as a key component in developing an informative long-term fisheries monitoring program for the watershed.

<<< End >>>