

APPENDIX A: CARPINTERIA CREEK WATERSHED COALITION GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Goals and Objectives of the Carpinteria Creek Watershed Coalition

During the watershed planning effort a series of goals and objectives were developed by the Carpinteria Creek Watershed Coalition. Each of the objectives is described below, with respect to how each is either addressed by the watershed plan or efforts which happen after the plan is complete.

The Carpinteria Creek Watershed Coalition has chosen the following goals and objectives:

Water Quality: Protect and improve water quality throughout the Carpinteria Creek Watershed by reducing nonpoint source and sediment pollution.

1. Restore/Enhance Filtration and Biogeochemical Function.

Water pollution will be decreased through restoring and enhancing natural systems that filter and process pollutants through increasing water detention facilities and vegetating the banks of these areas. Reducing impervious surfaces from which water runs off will reduce the amount of pollutants entering creek. The Coalition will identify areas suitable for biofiltration and/or runoff detention, including future development. Large paved areas will be inventoried for potential conversion to porous paving, and incentive programs will be developed to encourage the use of porous materials.

2. Reduce pesticide and fertilizer use.

The use of pesticide and fertilizers will be reduced along the creek and throughout the Watershed by encouraging efficient use. The Coalition will establish education programs for residents, and develop incentives to landowners for pesticide-free landscaping. The County Flood Control District and City Parks departments reduction of chemical use in and adjacent to the creek will be encouraged and documented.

3. Control biological waste.

This includes inventorying septic systems, identifying sites where additional Mutt Mitts are needed and notifying the City and the County of Santa Barbara's Project Clean Water. The Coalition will promote responsible maintenance of existing septic systems, with the Environmental Health Services Department continued enforcement of this maintenance process by reporting service calls and establishing mandatory servicing schedules. The Coalition will also encourage conversion of septic to sewer system programs.

4. Establish water quality baseline database.

The Coalition will foster community participation for citizen monitoring efforts to identify illicit discharge. Water quality data collection and monitoring efforts will be

coordinated with UCSB's Long-term Ecological Research (LTER) program and other programs, such as Environmental Health and Safety and Project Clean Water. Specific tasks include developing a Carpinteria Creek Stream Team, to include members of the Carpinteria High School Ecology Club and Brower Green Teens (a program of CEC), and purchasing appropriate monitoring equipment.

5. Establish Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for problem constituents within the watershed.

If necessary, the Coalition will combine efforts with the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board to establish these TMDLs. To implement this objective, the Coalition will collect information regarding TMDLs for subject pollutants within Carpinteria Creek, such as identifying pollutant levels in the upper watershed and estimating the sources of these pollutants. This information will be used to establish reduction in potential pollution sources. Current efforts to complete the Carpinteria Creek estuary study support this objective and will further the implementation process. If objectives of this plan are met through various projects and water quality in the creek improved, the development of TMDLs may not be necessary.

Habitat: Protect and improve the habitat for Carpinteria Creek Watershed flora and fauna by enhancing ecosystem functioning and natural processes.

1. Develop a comprehensive inventory of habitat and wildlife.

The Coalition will collect baseline vegetation and wildlife inventories for current and pre-development species of the Watershed by establishing a native landscape species list, an invasive species watch list, and mapping invasive plants. The Coalition will identify and work to eliminate invasive plants and animal species by implementing appropriate planning policies. Supporting projects include *Arundo donax* removal initiated by the Weed Management Area, and maintaining a list of species on the Coalition's website, and providing a forum for community updates on these efforts.

2. Preserve and connect habitat areas and reestablish migration corridors.

The Coalition will establish migratory passage for endangered adult and juvenile steelhead trout, to allow steelhead to navigate freely from the lagoon to the perennial pools in the stream headwaters of the Los Padres National Forest.

The Coalition will facilitate project coordination among organizations to reduce man-made obstructions to steelhead passage within the creek and implement habitat preservation programs to preserve identified Environmentally Sensitive Habitat Areas through habitat management and restoration. The Coalition will also identify existing corridors for monarch butterflies in the watershed and protect monarch habitat. Finally, the Coalition will identify land parcels for acquisition to preserve and conserve open space.

3. Encourage and facilitate restoration projects.

The Coalition will partner with local, county and state agencies to facilitate and establish guidelines for restoration projects and streamline regulatory permits, including California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review. Investigate the opportunity for non-

governmental organizations (NGOs) to waive permit fees on private properties. Historical, current and proposed re-vegetation sites in the watershed will be mapped and prioritized and restoration will be encouraged, with grant funding when necessary.

4. Re-establish natural watershed functioning.

The Coalition will investigate opportunities to re-establish the natural flood plain, where it does not threaten existing development. Bare soil areas in the watershed will be vegetated whenever practical to promote filtration of runoff before it enters the creek. The City and County will be encouraged to reduce the amount of impervious surfaces, institute bioswales, and create vegetative filter strips and critical area plantings. Bioengineering techniques to stabilize banks instead of hard-scape will be encouraged. An enforceable policy of bank top riparian buffer zone for new construction, which includes native riparian vegetation, etc., will be sought. Education and outreach for water conservation will be used to seek return flow to the creek. Attempts will be made to replace pipe and wire revetment with bioengineered techniques.

Flood Control and Public Safety: Protect public safety by improving flood control through integrated efforts and enhancing natural conditions.

The creek should convey runoff. The primary creek channel should be kept free of major vegetation and the banks should be strengthened and protected. Existing structures should ensure protection of life and developments, while also providing for fish passage and habitat conservation.

1. Evaluate flood control structures.

The Coalition will assess alternatives to debris basins in the watershed in the event of a wildfire, including controlled burns and maintenance of existing firebreaks.

2. Improve bank stabilization and promote biotechnical flood control methods.

To implement this, the Coalition will identify areas of eroded stream bank that could be restored using biotechnical alternatives, establish re-vegetation and restoration projects, encourage the use of container plant and/or supplemental irrigation, and the use of root-wads for toe-of-slope bank stabilization.

3. Restore and maintain natural creek flow while minimizing flood risk to adjacent properties.

The Coalition supports the principal of removing vegetation from the center of the channel and restoring and reinforcing vegetation on the creek banks.

4. Address issues of sedimentation entering the creek from adjacent sources.

Section 5 of this plan assesses the sources of sediment in the watershed, taking into consideration geology, land use, precipitation, land management practices, fire history and other processes which may increase the amount of sediment in the creeks.

Land Use: Incorporate a watershed-based perspective in land use planning and future developments.

1. Assess land uses within the watershed to minimize impacts to the creek.

The coalition will identify potential areas experiencing slope failures and bank stability problems. Establish incentive programs to encourage landowners to stabilize slopes and restore banks. A variety of biotechnical bank stabilization measures should be investigated.

2. Protect the existing riparian corridor while encouraging sustainable development within the watershed.

Grading ordinances and setback polices regulate construction near creeks and protect the riparian corridor. To assist in the mitigation of high flows, possible sites for runoff retention and soil infiltration should be identified. The Coalition will work to ensure that resource management plans include the use of best management practices (BMPs). One incentive plan to be developed is the replacement of impervious surfaces with permeable surfaces like interlocking pavers, pervious concrete or turfblock.

3. Consider all tributaries within the watershed management plan.

The National Forest Service will be encouraged to assess the habitat conditions in the upper tributary watersheds.

4. Establish BMPs for agricultural uses adjacent to the riparian corridor to reduce sedimentation erosion impacts to the watershed.

The Coalition will work with willing landowners to implement BMPs that will protect water quality and minimize soil erosion.

Public Facilities Management: Promote sustainable public facilities management through use of Best Management Practices (BMPs) during maintenance.

1. During the maintenance of public facilities such as flood control access roads or removal of vegetation in the creek, BMP's will be implemented to reduce disruption to native plants.

Herbicides will be utilized on a minimal basis and hand clearing used where feasible for channel maintenance. Existing public facility access roads should be relocated from the top of banks, except for public safety, while new roads constructed should minimize sediment production.

2. Agency restoration projects should be coordinated for efficient use of funds and to achieve ecological, public safety and watershed planning goals.

Restoration and mitigation opportunities should be identified, prioritized and coordinated among the various agencies.

3. Watershed protection should be integrated into the planning and objectives for new projects.

Impervious surfaces such as roads and parking lots increase the amount of runoff into the creek and thus should be minimized to the greatest extent possible or utilize pervious materials.

Education and Outreach: Protect watershed integrity by increasing public awareness through education and outreach programs.

1. Increase public awareness regarding the Carpinteria Creek Watershed.

The Coalition will continue to provide public education services on Carpinteria Creek's natural resources to increase community awareness and stewardship of sensitive environmental habitats and their value. Brochures, fact sheets and newsletters will be distributed at public events. The Coalition will continue to submit "In the Watershed" articles to the Coastal View Newspaper and work with the local schools and community groups to develop new ideas for educational opportunities.

2. Develop a long-range comprehensive watershed plan that considers both public and private interests.

The watershed plan accomplished this objective. After prioritizing projects, a cost-benefit analysis should be conducted to determine public benefit. Utilize adaptive management principles to establish review processes that evaluate long-range plans, goals and objectives, with the guiding principle that all activities are voluntary, and that no actions shall be taken without landowner consent.

Storm water Management: Improve existing storm water management practices through integration of watershed protection efforts into facility design, construction and maintenance.

1. The concept of watershed protection should be integrated into planning and objectives within storm water facility design, construction or maintenance.

The annual storm drain cleaning program should be coordinated with the County Public Works Department. Integrate the County's storm water management plan with the City's storm water management program.

Hydrology: Manage water resource allocations with the intention of protecting biologically diverse species within the watershed.

1. Surface diversions and alluvial wells should be minimized to reduce impacts on surface water flows necessary for fish passage and reproduction in the creek.

Water diversions should be mapped to determine whether permitted. Willing landowners should be presented with the effects of water diversions on biological resources.

2. Improve water use efficiency by homes and businesses.

Coalition members should identify areas where voluntary conservation can occur.

Recreation and Public Access: Develop recreation and public access opportunities within and surrounding the Carpinteria Creek Watershed.

1. Increase education and awareness of the watershed and its biological resources.

Restoration and conservation projects include the purchase of properties by the City of Carpinteria for public parks and educational centers.

2. Establish passive recreational opportunities along the creek corridor.

Where feasible, seek to construct public walking areas and nature centers.

3. Minimize adverse impacts to the creek when designing recreational facilities through layout, materials used or maintenance required.

Work with the County and City to establish guidelines for public and private creekside development.