



# MARIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

Posting Date: July 14, 2015

220 Nellen Avenue Corte Madera CA 94925-1169

www.marinwater.org

## NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING BOARD OF DIRECTORS/WATERSHED COMMITTEE\*

Notice is hereby given that a Special Meeting of the Marin Municipal Water District's Board of Directors /Watershed Committee will be held as follows:

**MEETING DATE:** Thursday, July 16, 2015

**TIME:** 1:30 pm

**LOCATION:** MMWD Board Room, 220 Nellen Avenue, Corte Madera, CA 94925

### AGENDA

ITEM	RECOMMENDATION	APPROX. START
<input type="checkbox"/> CALL TO ORDER		1:30 p.m.
<input type="checkbox"/> ADOPT AGENDA		1:31 p.m.
<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC EXPRESSION**		1:32 p.m.
<input type="checkbox"/> CALENDAR		
1. Minutes of June 11, 2015	<i>Approve</i>	1:37 p.m.
2. One Year Review of MMWD Participation in Tamalpais Lands Collaborative	<i>Direct Staff</i>	1:38 p.m.
3. Update on Vegetation Management Efforts at Pine Point	<i>Information</i>	2:30 p.m.
Adjourn		3:00 p.m.

  
Stephanie Eichner Gross  
Board Secretary

**MMWD BOARD OF DIRECTORS:** Armando Quintero, President; Larry Bragman; Jack Gibson; Cynthia Koehler; Larry Russell

\*The designated chair is Director Quintero. Other board members may attend as they wish.

\*\*Anyone wishing to speak on an item other than those listed on this agenda will be recognized at this time. We ask any person wishing to be heard to come to the podium to address the board and state your name and address for the public record. A 3-minute limit is customary; however the committee chair may adjust the actual time allotted to accommodate the number of speakers.

**ADA NOTICE AND HEARING IMPAIRED PROVISIONS:** The board room is equipped with sound amplifying units for use by the hearing impaired. The units operate in conjunction with the room's sound system. You may request the personal sound amplifier from the Board Secretary for use during meetings.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and California Law, it is the policy of the Marin Municipal Water District to offer its public programs, services, and meetings in a manner that is readily accessible to everyone, including those with disabilities. If you are disabled and require a copy of a public hearing notice, an agenda, and/or agenda packet in an appropriate alternative format, or if you require other accommodation, please contact Stephanie Eichner-Gross at (415) 945-1448, at least two days in advance of the meeting. Advance notification within this guideline will enable the district to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility.

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**FUTURE BOARD OF DIRECTORS/WATERSHED COMMITTEE MEETINGS:**

- |                                      |                 |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Thursday, September 10, 2015 1:30 pm | MMWD Board Room |
| Thursday, December 10, 2015 1:30 pm  | MMWD Board Room |



**MARIN MUNICIPAL  
WATER DISTRICT**

**ITEM No.** 1  
**MEETING DATE:** July 16, 2015  
**MEETING:** Board of Directors /  
Watershed  
Committee

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**STAFF REPORT**

**SUBJECT:** Minutes of June 11, 2015  
**SUBMITTED BY:** Mike Swezy, Watershed Manager, Facilities and Watershed  
**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Approve

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Minutes of June 11, 2015 Watershed Committee Meeting

**MARIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS / WATERSHED COMMITTEE**

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

**Directors present:** Armando Quintero, Larry Bragman, Cynthia Koehler, Larry Russell and Jack Gibson

**Directors absent:** None

**CALL TO ORDER:** Director Quintero called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

**ADOPT AGENDA:** By simple motion, the agenda was adopted.

**PUBLIC EXPRESSION:** Tom Boss of the Marin County Bicycle Coalition mentioned the launch of “Slow and Say Hello” and passed out hats and brochures from the Trail Partners of Marin County.

**ITEM 1. MINUTES OF MARCH 12, 2015**

Approved

**ITEM 2. MMWD BOARD SUB-COMMITTEE ON THE TAMALPAIS LANDS COLLABORATIVE**

Mike Swezy, Watershed Manager updated the committee about the first year progress of the Tamalpais Lands Collaborative (TLC). Mike recommended forming a sub-committee of the Board to address and manage TLC projects on the Mt. Tamalpais Watershed lands. A brief discussion was held regarding the forming of a sub-committee and staff participation with the partnership.

Matt Leffert of the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy (GGNPC) said a public Executive meeting is scheduled for October 4, 2015 at the Mill Valley Community Center.

It was suggested to schedule more frequent Watershed Committee meetings to discuss guiding principles, forming a citizens committee, address the agreement with the TLC and bring all the item information back to a future Board of Director meeting. A Watershed Committee meeting was scheduled for Thursday, July 16, 2015.

**ITEM 3. AGREEMENT WITH U.S. FOREST SERVICE FOR RESILIENT FOREST STUDY**

Mike introduced a research program in cooperation with UC Davis and the U.S. Forest Service, partially funded by CAL Fire grants and the District, to study 30 acres of forested areas on watershed land with various treatments and improvements to restore sudden oak-death impacted areas. Work is proposed to start in July.

The committee concurred with staff’s recommendation. Mike asked the committee to approve an amended recommendation that authorized the General Manager to execute the agreement.

**ITEM 4. WATER MANAGEMENT AT WEST POINT INN**

Mike informed the committee of the efforts to improve water management to the West Point Inn. A new 8,500 gallon tank will be installed for domestic use and fire protection. Director Quintero suggested the District consider covering the cost for the replacement tank. Mike said the volunteer organization is doing an outstanding job managing the Inn and property.

**ITEM 5. LOG CABIN PLANNING**

Staff has retained the services of Roth-LaMotte Landscape Architecture to direct and design the Log Cabin project to modify and/or restore the Log Cabin at Phoenix Lake. Mike reviewed four preliminary design options. A future public onsite tour will be scheduled to discuss uses and preservation alternatives for the cabin.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting of June 12, 2015 adjourned at 2:45 p.m.



**STAFF REPORT**

- SUBJECT:** One Year Review of MMWD Participation in Tamalpais Lands Collaborative
- SUBMITTED BY:** Crystal Yezman, Manager, Facilities and Watershed Division
- RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Discuss and direct staff regarding: 1) MMWD “Guiding Principles” to ensure MMWD activities related to the Tamalpais Lands Collaborative (TLC) are consistent with the primacy of drinking water supply and natural resource protection and 2) the formation of MMWD/TLC Citizen Advisory Committee.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:** Information regarding a set of guiding principles, clarification on making meetings of the TLC Executive Team noticed public meetings, and the formation of an MMWD/TLC Citizen Advisory Committee are being presented in this staff report for board discussion and direction. These items are intended to ensure MMWD activities related to the TLC are consistent with the primacy of drinking water supply and natural resource protection and to provide increased public participation in projects and programs proposed by MMWD.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** YES  NO  **FISCAL YEAR:** \_\_\_\_\_

**FISCAL IMPACT NARRATIVE:** N/A

**BACKGROUND:** On March 21, 2014 four public agencies responsible for Mt. Tamalpais (Marin Municipal Water District, California State Parks, Marin County Parks, and the National Park Service) and the nonprofit Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy (Conservancy) signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) that resulted in the formation of the Tamalpais Lands Collaborative (TLC). The expressed purpose of the TLC was to address natural resource issues common to all agencies, implement a coordinated approach for fundraising and public engagement, strengthen stewardship and conservation programs, combine expertise and resources, and provide greater collective benefit through collaboration. The MOU provided common vision, goals, agency responsibilities, philanthropic approach, project and program prioritization and avenues for funding. Subsequently, the district and the Conservancy entered into a cooperative agreement (Miscellaneous Agreement No. 5311) on January 12, 2015 to guide activities between the two agencies related to the TLC.

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Significant achievements over the first year include:

- Boosting support for MMWD projects such as the Wildlife Picture Index Project and planning for Resilient Forests project, West Peak restoration, Cataract Trail improvements and Phoenix Log Cabin restoration
- Conducting volunteer stewardship events
- Launching the “Linking Individuals to their Natural Environment” (LINC) program
- Development of a combined communication strategy with partner agencies for communication with over 50 stakeholder groups

At the June 11 Watershed Committee meeting the board directed staff to develop additional measures for increased assurance that TLC activities undertaken on MMWD lands are consistent with MMWD interests including:

- I. Development of MMWD “Guiding Principles” to ensure MMWD activities related to the TLC are consistent with the primacy of drinking water supply and natural resource protection
- II. Ensuring TLC Executive Team meetings are open to the public to provide greater transparency and sharing of timely information about TLC initiatives and activities
- III. Increased opportunity for public involvement and input with regards to District-initiated TLC projects and programs through the formation of a MMWD/TLC Citizen Advisory Committee
- IV. Presentation of TLC financial update

**I. “Guiding Principles” for MMWD participation in the TLC**

A review of existing MMWD board policy is provided here as context for discussion regarding Guiding Principles. Board Policy No. 7 “Mt. Tamalpais Watershed Management Policy” (attached) provides overall guidance for management of watershed lands. The policy begins with an ‘Overview’ which provides broad policy language and then follows with specific goals and policy statements for six areas:

- 1) General Use and Management of the Mount Tamalpais Watershed
- 2) Biological Diversity
- 3) Erosion Control
- 4) Fire Management
- 5) Recreation
- 6) Commercial Use

The Overview, General Use and Management, Recreation, and Commercial Use policies provide the most relevant guidance for this discussion.

- A. Overview - The Overview provides overall guidance emphasizing the primary

importance of the watershed as the major source of domestic water for Marin. The protection and restoration of the natural resources are recognized as important goals, along with limited and passive daytime recreational uses that are “nature” based. Commercialization and misuse of natural resources is discouraged.

- B. General Use and Management - This section restates the primacy of drinking water supply and natural resource protection and allows for recreation use consistent with these primary purposes. Commercial use of natural resources is prohibited except for drinking water and development of facilities on watershed lands, which is subject to significant restrictions and public process.
- C. Recreational Use – This policy identifies “fostering public stewardship of the natural values of the watershed through safe and responsible use, volunteerism, and community participation in watershed management programs” as the guiding principle for insuring public use is consistent with water quality and natural resource protection. Further it calls for the provision of “appropriate information to inspire, educate, and encourage safe and lawful use of the watershed, and to minimize adverse impacts on natural resources.”
- D. Watershed Commercial Use – This section provides for limits on commercial use of the watershed lands. There is a specific policy restricting fund raising events that generate revenue for watershed purposes subject to Board approval. This policy would certainly apply to fundraising events on district lands for the purposes of the TLC.

### **Recommended Guiding Principles**

Based on a review of the relevant provisions of Board Policy No. 7 “Mt. Tamalpais Watershed Management Policy”, staff has developed a set of draft guiding principles that are designed to ensure that all TLC activities occurring on MMWD land are consistent with the primacy of drinking water supply and natural resources protection and to provide the public with a clear statement of board expectations for TLC programs and projects on District lands. The recommended guiding principles are as follows:

- 1) All projects, programs and activities on MMWD lands will be consistent with the district’s central mission of protecting the district’s watershed as the primary source of drinking water consistent with Board Policy No. 7 - Mt. Tamalpais Watershed Management Policy.
- 2) Advertising and outreach for TLC programs and projects that promote activities specific to MMWD lands, shall continue to focus on stewardship, environmental education and building long-term support for the health and care of the mountain and not explicitly invite uses that are not authorized or are inconsistent with MMWD policies.



- 3) Public engagement programs on District lands supported through the TLC shall continue be consistent with existing and desired MMWD approved programs.
- 4) Fundraising events that provide special access to District lands shall be approved by the Board of Directors in advance.
- 5) No projects that have the potential to be attraction unto themselves or provide services or programs inconsistent with the general passive use of watershed lands, as defined in Board Policy No. 7, shall be proposed for funding through the TLC partnership.
- 6) Transparency and accountability shall be central tenets for TLC partnership based activities on District lands.

After Board review of these draft guidelines and subject to board direction, staff proposes bringing final guidelines, in the form of a board resolution, to a subsequent meeting for approval.

## **II. Ensuring TLC Executive Team meetings are open to the public**

A review of the key operating provisions of the TLC MOU is provided here as context for discussion:

- 1) Programs and projects are submitted by each land management agency for consideration by a Working Group consisting of staff from each agency.
- 2) Working Group develops a list of programs and projects intended to guide fundraising.
- 3) Executive Team composed of one representative of each agency scrutinizes scope and funding and authorizes Working Group recommendations.
- 4) The Conservancy will only raise funds for projects and programs approved by the partners.

The TLC MOU currently identifies only one person as the representative from each of the 5 partner organization on the Executive Team. The designees for all of the partner agencies are currently the agency executives (e.g. Superintendent, General Manager, etc.). On an informal basis some partner agencies have invited their respective board members to past Executive Team meetings. Recently, the MMWD Board formally appointed two of its board members as liaisons to the TLC Executive Team. In order to increase participation for all interested parties, including elected officers and the public, TLC partner agencies have agreed to hold the next Executive Team meeting on October 4, 2015 as a public meeting. Staff recommends all future Executive Team meetings to be held as public meetings and is confident that other TLC partner agencies will agree.

At the October 4, 2015 meeting of the TLC Executive Team, members of the public would be presented with the past year's TLC accomplishments and will have an opportunity to review the

proposed coming year's TLC work plan. Official approval of the work plan for partner projects and programs would then be considered by the governing body for each agency, specific to activities supported on their respective lands. For MMWD, the approval of the work plan would be subject to MMWD Board approval.

### **III. Formation of a MMWD/TLC Citizen Advisory Committee**

In order to increase public involvement and provide the board of directors with an additional measure of community perspective regarding MMWD activities in the Tamalpais Lands Collaborative, staff is seeking direction regarding the formation of a citizen's advisory committee. The committee's purpose would be to hear updates and progress reports, and discuss planning documents for TLC activities, programs, and projects that affect MMWD watershed lands, and to provide advice and counsel to the board of directors to aid in decision making.

After receiving board input, staff proposes bringing back the specifics of a committee formation and proposed meeting schedule to a subsequent meeting for approval.

### **IV. TLC Financial Update**

The TLC financial update as of April 30, 2015 is attached.

**STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:** The requested action aligns with the district's Strategic Plan Goal 3 (Environmental Stewardship), Strategy 2 (Increase community engagement in stewardship of Mt. Tamalpais as a water and community asset), and Objective 1 (Develop project and programs for the Mt. Tamalpais Collaborative) and Objective 2 (Increase volunteer and education program capacity through public-private and not-for-profit partnerships).

#### **ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Board Policy No. 7 "Mt. Tamalpais Watershed Management Policy"
2. TLC Financial Update as of April 30, 2015



**MARIN MUNICIPAL  
WATER DISTRICT**

**BOARD POLICY**

**No.: 7**

**DATE: 9-01-10**

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**SUBJECT: MT. TAMALPAIS WATERSHED MANAGEMENT POLICY**

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**Overview**

The Mt. Tamalpais Watershed is one of Marin's most valuable natural resources, providing and protecting the major source of domestic water for Marin Municipal Water District ("District") residents. Besides this primary purpose, the watershed is held in trust as a natural wildland of great biological diversity, as scenic open space and as an area for passive outdoor recreation for Marin and much of the Bay Area. Passive outdoor recreation is defined as those activities that are based on nature and that require little or no development or facilities.

Protection of water quality is the overriding goal for the management of the Mt. Tamalpais Watershed. Protecting the integrity of the watershed's water quality and reservoir capacity is best achieved by maintaining natural conditions on watershed lands to the greatest extent possible. The District is committed to sustaining, and restoring where needed, native biological diversity on District lands through active management and careful coordination with other resource management agencies and the research community. We realize that achieving an ideal situation is not always possible. However, it is the District's policy that control over land uses focuses on retaining the lands in their natural condition, allowing them to return to a natural condition, or actively restoring them. No activities will be allowed that jeopardize this resource.

The purpose of this policy is to maintain and improve the character of the watershed and water supply, and to discourage commercialization and misuse of the natural resources of Mt. Tamalpais watershed. Of specific concern are the quality and supply of potable water and the storage capacity of the reservoirs.

Of the 18,570 acres of Mt. Tamalpais Watershed properties owned by the District, 13,870 are in the Lagunitas Watershed, 1,350 in the Phoenix/Ross Creek Watershed; and 3,350 are adjacent watershed and buffer properties which serve both as protection to the watershed lands used for water supply and for their value as important scenic open space and recreational lands.

Water storage and distribution facilities on the Mt. Tamalpais Watershed properties include five storage reservoirs (Alpine, Bon Tempe, Kent, Lagunitas and Phoenix), miles of service roads and transmission pipelines, the Bon Tempe Treatment Plant and other related facilities. Recreation facilities include several picnic areas and miles of equestrian, bicycling and hiking routes.

**PART 1 - General Use and Management of the Mount Tamalpais Watershed**

**1.1 Goals**

The watershed lands shall be retained in perpetuity for water supply, natural wildland, scenic open space and limited passive recreational purposes, and managed in a manner that will maintain and protect their:

- A. Ability to serve as water-producing lands;
- B. Integrity as natural wildlands and as scenic open space; and,
- C. Capacity to provide passive daytime recreation activities in keeping with potable water production and preservation as natural wildlands.

**1.2 Policies**

- A. Land Use - Lands and facilities will be managed to protect the character of the water supply, sustain and restore the natural wildland and wildlife characteristics, and allow for limited passive recreational experiences, as defined in Title 9 of the Marin Municipal Water District Code.
- B. Commodity Use of Natural Resources - The District shall not harvest and sell any natural resources from the Mount Tamalpais watershed except for the sale of water in the normal course of the District's responsibilities to provide drinking water through its infrastructure or where sound watershed preservation decisions result incidentally in the availability of excess resources.
- C. Facilities Development - Any new facilities, uses or leases, or improvements to existing facilities proposed for these lands will be:
  - ❖ Limited to essential public services and shall not be attractions in themselves, but incidental to the primary purpose of the watershed or enjoyment and conservation of Mt. Tamalpais in its natural condition;
  - ❖ Designed, constructed and maintained to assure conformity to the District Watershed Management Policy;
  - ❖ Reviewed by an appropriate citizens group and technical advisors if controversial in nature or posing a significant impact on District lands; and approved only if impacts on the water supply and natural environment are insignificant or can be adequately mitigated. Exceptions will be limited to water-related facilities and are subject to environmental assessment and public hearings and will only be granted where alternatives have been carefully evaluated and the public benefit outweighs the anticipated impact to the watershed; and

- ❖ Existing uses, leases and facilities will be reviewed annually to assure compliance with good watershed management practices and preservation of natural wildland characteristics.
- D. Revenues - All revenues from Watershed Fees and Leases will be administered in accordance with Board Policy No. 35.
- E. Adaptive Management - The District will implement an adaptive management strategy, using inventory, management, monitoring and evaluation. The District will assemble baseline inventory data describing the natural resources under its stewardship and monitor those resources at regular intervals to detect or predict changes. Visitor use levels and patterns will also be monitored. The resulting information will be analyzed to detect changes that may require intervention and to provide reference sites for comparison with other impacted areas. The District will encourage and support research that addresses resource management issues on the watershed.
- F. Regional Cooperation – The District is committed to working cooperatively with federal, state, and local agencies, user groups, local communities, adjacent landowners, and others in the protection of the water supply, and the management of natural resources and recreational uses. In order to better achieve the District's management objectives, the District will continue to foster formal and informal lines of communication and consultation.
- G. Staffing - The District will evaluate staffing levels to ensure adequate personnel are available to maintain its facilities, roads and trails, and natural resources, manage visitor use and to enforce its regulations.
- H. Memorials on Watershed Lands - Individuals are prohibited from building any structure, monument or facility.

(1) Any person, group, or organization may make application to the District for placement of a memorial plaque to be affixed to any existing bench or picnic table or any other appropriate facility on watershed lands or in combination with a replacement or addition of new benches, tables, or other facility as approved by the District.

(2) All memorial furniture and plaques must conform to the standard approved style, size, material and color determined in advance by the District. Wording contained on plaques must be approved in advance by the Watershed Manager.

(3) Cost to the applicant for a memorial plaque and associated furniture or facilities will be determined by staff and will be periodically reviewed by the Board of Directors. Fees must be paid upon approval. Applicants with completed applications will be placed on a first come, first serve waiting list if there are no suitable current memorial opportunities. Funds received for memorials shall be deposited in the Mt.

Tamalpais Watershed Fund or any similar fund dedicated to the protection and enhancement of watershed lands.

(4) Memorials may only be constructed within developed areas herein described as developed picnic areas, dams, parking lots and other buildings. This policy specifically excludes memorials placed on trail sides, trail bridges, or any other location outside of developed areas. Staff will maintain a list of appropriate locations for memorials.

(5) Nothing herein prohibits the District from considering and accepting proposals for memorials and donations not set out above. Such proposals will require substantial justification for consideration, shall be considered on a case-by-case basis and must be approved by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

- I. Water Quality Protection – Land or facility management activities on the watershed, such as the use of chemicals, must be evaluated so that uses are restricted to specific targets or areas and will cause no harm to water quality.

## **PART 2 - Biological Diversity**

### **2.1 Goals**

Protecting the integrity of the watershed is best achieved through maintaining natural conditions on watershed lands consistent with District policies and federal and state laws. The District is committed to restoring and sustaining native biological diversity on District lands, in particular the variety of living organisms, the genetic differences among them, and the natural communities and ecosystems providing their habitat.

### **2.2 Policies for Biological Diversity**

- A. Species and Habitats -The District will protect and restore species richness and complexity of habitats on District lands, and seek to preserve or restore natural habitats to the fullest extent possible.
- B. Rare Species - The District will identify and promote the conservation of all special status plant and animal species especially those listed under federal and state Endangered Species Acts.
- C. Adverse Impacts - The District will minimize adverse impacts to spatial and temporal patterns of native species for reproduction, feeding, migration and dispersal.
- D. Genetic Preservation - The District will wherever possible, ensure that revegetation and landscaping efforts in and immediately adjacent to natural areas will use seeds, cuttings, or transplants representing species and gene pools native to the watershed.

- E. Population Management - The District will act to perpetuate viable populations of native plant and animal life within District lands. Natural processes will be relied on to govern populations of native species to the greatest extent possible. Unnatural concentrations of native species caused by human activities may be controlled where they present a threat to public health and safety or where they threaten to disrupt ecosystem processes. The District may seek to control animal populations, in coordination with the California Department of Fish and Game (DFG) and according to applicable DFG codes, when such animals present a direct threat to visitor's health and safety and in developed areas when necessary to protect property or landscaping.
- F. Natural Disturbances - The District will ensure that landscape conditions caused by natural phenomena, (e.g. landslides, earthquakes, floods, natural fires, or windstorms) will not be modified unless required for public safety or operations of the water delivery facilities. The District will seek to restore the effects of fire as an ecosystem process by the careful, planned use of prescribed burning.
- G. Exotic Species - The District will give high priority to the control of exotic species (exotic species are those that are not native to District lands and that bring about changes in species composition, community structure, and/or ecosystem function) that substantially impact native natural resources. The overall approach will be in keeping with the principles of Integrated Pest Management (IPM). A variety of methods including mechanical removal, chemical application, the introduction of biological control agents, and the use of prescribed burns may be used as practicable to achieve the desired results as long as these methods do not jeopardize water quality or cause harm to non-target organisms. Nonnative plants and animals will not be introduced into the District lands except in rare cases where:
- ❖ They are the nearest living relatives of extirpated native species;
  - ❖ There are improved varieties of native species that cannot survive current environmental conditions;
  - ❖ They are used to control established exotic species; or
  - ❖ The District is legally required to do so.
- H. Release of Native Wildlife that has been Rescued and or Raised in Captivity - Release onto District lands of native wildlife that has been rescued from other sites and/or raised in captivity will be allowed only on a case by case basis upon written approval from the Superintendent of Watershed Resources. Approval may be granted when it appears doing so would benefit released animals without significantly disrupting existing native wildlife and vegetation and after consideration of the following:
- ❖ The characteristics of the species, the number of individuals, and the health of the released animals;

- ❖ The likelihood of the proposed release sites being already occupied by individuals of the same species;
  - ❖ The potential for acute predation of, or competition with, other species in the proposed release location; and
  - ❖ The proximity of the release site to areas of human habitation where the released animals may pose a nuisance.
- I. Post-fire Revegetation and Erosion Control Response - The District's post-fire watershed and vegetation recovery and restoration goals include: making every reasonable effort to ensure the protection and natural recovery of natural communities and protecting rare and sensitive animals, plants, and habitats in fire zones during rehabilitation efforts. The District will seek to allow natural reestablishment of vegetation, only using mechanical methods or seeding to reduce erosion in selected areas. Determining rehabilitation strategies for any site should take into account the following:
- ❖ Fire intensity and timing;
  - ❖ Past fire frequency and its effect on the vegetation of the site;
  - ❖ Effects of fire suppression activities on the vegetation;
  - ❖ Potential for natural recovery of the vegetation;
  - ❖ Potential for expansion and establishment of exotic plants; and
  - ❖ Available information on sensitive species and habitats in the area.

Seeding is appropriate only if there is clear, scientific evidence that a given seeding mix will more effectively establish ground cover than the remaining viable seeds in the natural seedbank, and seeding has been demonstrated to be an effective restoration technique in relation to that specific incident's conditions (e.g. slope, soil-type, soil and duff damage, etc.). The District believes that seeding may be appropriate in areas where fire suppression activity has removed or destroyed the natural seedbank (e.g., bulldozing). The District acknowledges that seeding is appropriate when human safety is an issue and it would help stabilize the watershed.

During or following a fire event, the Incident Commander will establish a team to make recommendations for post-fire rehabilitation. The team should evaluate the availability of seed mixes and the site-specific appropriateness of available seed. If no appropriate seed is available, non-vegetative erosion techniques should be employed. Natural recovery of plant communities and the success of rehabilitation treatments will be monitored and the results will be integrated into future management plans.



J. Fishery Management –

Reservoirs: The District will manage its reservoirs for recreational fishing, including non-native fish species, in cooperation with the Department of Fish and Game. The goal of the Lake Lagunitas program is to manage for a self-sustaining population of rainbow trout. The District recognizes the habitat value of opportunistic lakeshore vegetation. Lakeshore vegetation removal to improve access for anglers may be accomplished in limited areas under the guidance of a written plan. The protection and management of vegetation in the lakes should not over ride the District's water management responsibilities.

Streams: The District will take actions to protect native fishery resources, in streams within the District's sphere of influence, consistent with California public trust doctrine and Fish and Game Code. The District will be an active partner in stream protection and enhancement efforts that other agencies and groups are pursuing in streams within the District's sphere of influence. The District's sphere of influence includes those streams that are directly affected by the District's land or water management activities. Fishery protection and enhancement activities in Lagunitas Creek, below Kent Lake, complies with California State Water Resource Control Board mandates related to the raising of Peters Dam.

K. Pest Management - Strategies for managing pest populations (pests are animals or plants that threaten important resources on the watershed) will be influenced by whether the pest is an exotic or native species. Many fungi, insects, rodents, diseases, and other species are native organisms that perform important functions in a natural ecosystem. Native pests will be allowed to function unimpeded except where control is desired to:

- ❖ Prevent the loss of the host or host-dependent species from the ecosystem;
- ❖ Prevent outbreaks of the pest from spreading to forests, trees, other plant communities, or animal populations outside the watershed;
- ❖ Conserve threatened, endangered, or unique plant specimens or communities; or
- ❖ Protect against a significant threat to public safety.

Proposed pest control measures must be included in a District-approved resource management plan. All Plans must adopt a strategy that includes clear objectives, monitoring, research, and evaluation.

### **PART 3 - Erosion Control**

#### **3.1 Goals**

Erosion resulting from roads and trails and other human development of the watershed will be controlled in order to maintain a high quality of water, prevent displacement of water storage capacity, and to maintain and enhance the stream habitat.

#### **3.2 Policies**

- A. Road and Trail Management - All trails and roads on the watershed will be managed according to District standards established to reduce erosion, especially into the streams and reservoirs.
- B. Management of Other Facilities - All other watershed facilities will be designed, constructed and maintained to reduce or control erosion.
- C. Stabilizing Natural Erosion - Erosion resulting from natural events may be stabilized where feasible and where there are clear benefits to water quality, reservoir capacity and/or stream habitat.

### **PART 4 - Fire Management**

#### **4.1 Goals**

The District will manage its lands to prevent loss of watershed resources from uncontrolled wildfire, will carefully restore the role of fire in ecosystem management, and will use fire as a tool for specific management objectives.

#### **4.2 Policies**

- A. Fire Management – The District classifies all fires as prescribed fires or wildfires. Prescribed fires are those intentionally set for specific purposes and under controlled circumstances. All other fires are wildfires and will be suppressed. The District will work closely with local, state, and federal fire departments and land management agencies to develop effective programs to manage fire risks and benefits on a regional basis, and to meet vegetation management goals for the watershed.
- B. Wildfire Prevention and Suppression - The District will maintain staff, equipment, and prepare and keep current protocols to ensure its ability to respond quickly and suppress fires on the watershed. The methods used to suppress all wildfires will be those that minimize the impact of fire fighting effort on the watershed.
- C. Fuel Breaks - The District will maintain a system of fuel breaks on District-owned watershed lands to improve suppression capabilities in the event of a wildfire. These fuel breaks shall be designated in the District's most current Vegetation Management

Plan. Where appropriate, the District will work with municipalities, fire districts, and local communities to seek grants and otherwise share costs in the construction and management of fuel breaks.

The District may allow fuel breaks on District lands to be constructed and maintained by neighboring private landowners immediately adjacent to the Watershed. These fuel breaks, when identified to be of no value to the District's fire management strategy as expressed in the Vegetation Management Plan, will be constructed and maintained at the expense of the private landowner consistent with specifications contained in a written agreement with the District. Agreements will specify, at a minimum, the location of the fuel break, vegetation to be removed, timing, and maintenance requirements.

D. Prescribed Fires - The District recognizes the importance of prescribed fire as a tool for managing watershed lands. Prescribed fires (commonly referred to as prescribed burns or controlled burns) are fires deliberately ignited by District land managers to achieve predetermined resource management objectives, such as controlling exotic species, maintaining specific vegetation types (e.g. meadows, open woodlands), and reducing hazardous fuel accumulations. To ensure that these objectives are met:

- ❖ Each prescribed fire will be conducted according to a detailed written plan. The plan and its elements will be developed in coordination with, and under the approval of, appropriate fire agencies.
- ❖ All prescribed fire management plans will consider effects on air quality, visibility, and health along with other resource management objectives. Management actions to minimize the production and accumulation of smoke will be included in every written plan.
- ❖ All prescribed fires will comply with state and local smoke management and air quality regulations.
- ❖ All prescribed fires will be monitored to:
  - Record the significant fire behavior and operational decisions;
  - Determine whether specified objectives were met; and
  - Assess fire effects.

## **PART 5 - Recreational Use**

### **5.1 Goals**

The District will ensure that public recreation activities on watershed lands are consistent with the District's mission to safeguard water quality and protect natural resources. This will be accomplished by fostering public stewardship of the natural values of the watershed through safe and responsible use, volunteerism, and community participation in watershed management programs. The District will provide visitors with the appropriate information to inspire, educate, and encourage safe and lawful use of the watershed, and to minimize adverse impacts on natural resources.

## **5.2 Policies**

- A. Regulation of Recreational Use - The District will manage visitor use, regulating extent, type, duration, and location of visitor activities. A use or activity may be restricted or prohibited when it is inconsistent with the District's watershed management goals and policies and /or violates a state or federal law. Where practical, such determinations will be based on the results of study or research, including natural and social sciences, visitor use surveys and environmental impacts. Periodic monitoring of visitor use patterns will be conducted. Restrictions and/or regulations will be reviewed periodically by District staff to determine consistency with the District's general watershed management goals and policies. The public will be notified of restrictions on use(s) of watershed lands.
- B. Recreation Use Criteria - The District will consider the purpose of the watershed and the effects on the natural resources and visitors when determining the appropriateness of a specific recreational activity in a specific area. The District will prohibit on watershed lands and discourage on adjacent lands those activities that may result in:
- ❖ Impacts detrimental to wildlife, vegetation or other watershed resources or natural processes;
  - ❖ Consumptive use of watershed resources (e.g. mushroom collection, hunting, etc.);
  - ❖ Impacts to sensitive habitats or special status species (e.g. increased sedimentation impacts to anadromous fish or loss of riparian habitat);
  - ❖ Impacts on visitors from conflicting types of recreational use; and
  - ❖ Danger to the welfare or safety of the public.
- C. Management Approaches - Appropriate tools for managing recreational activities may include:
- ❖ General or special regulations;
  - ❖ Permit and reservation systems;
  - ❖ Local restrictions;
  - ❖ Public use limits;
  - ❖ Closures

- ❖ Public outreach and education (through signs, maps, notices, displays, and interpretive programs); and
- ❖ Limited and/or improved public access points necessary to control and minimize visitor impacts.

## **PART 6 - Watershed Commercial Use**

### **6.1 Goals**

The District's will prevent the exploitation of the watershed for commercial gain.

### **6.2 Policies for Commercial Use**

- A. Commercial Use - The District will discourage commercial use of the watershed, especially those uses that may damage or impair natural features of the watershed. The District will prohibit organized recreational activities or competitive events that involve commercialization, advertising or publicity by the participants and/or organizers. The District may permit those commercial uses or services that do not negatively impact watershed lands and are consistent with the goals and policies in the Watershed Management Policy.
- B. Fund Raising Events - Fund raising events that generate revenue for watershed purposes will be considered and may be allowed on a case-by-case basis upon approval by the Board of Directors.

This Policy will be in effect upon adoption and until subsequently amended by action of the Board of Directors.

# TAMALPAIS LANDS COLLABORATIVE

## Financial Update - October 1, 2014 through April 30, 2015

<b>INCOME</b>	<b>Original Annual Forecast</b>	<b>Year to Date</b>	<b>Current Annual Projection</b>
Conservancy Trustee Gifts		261,500	261,500
Other Individual Gifts		14,033	209,033
Corporate Giving		10,000	50,000
Foundation Grants		184,900	184,900
Government Grants		-	105,000
Redwood Creek Watershed Collaborative		85,000	85,000
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>1,576,900</b>	<b>555,433</b>	<b>895,433</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
<b>Initial Studies<sup>1</sup></b>			
Independent Case Studies & Partnership Research	184,900	148,954	184,900
	<b>184,900</b>	<b>148,954</b>	<b>184,900</b>
<b>Capacity Building &amp; Initiative Development<sup>2</sup></b>			
<b>Capacity Building Programs</b>			
Community & Stewardship Program	181,500	10,993	121,910
Conservation Management Program	108,750	-	49,585
<b>Initiative Development</b>			
Staff Support	108,000	29,940	48,226
Marin Office Equipment & Supplies	17,500	2,772	17,500
Graphic Development & Design	63,750	16,456	35,416
Website Development & Support (One Tam & Our Tam)	47,500	47,220	47,220
Material Development & Production	90,000	28,831	81,497
Reporting & Documentation	26,000	15,809	18,498
Community Engagement & Meetings	32,000	17,066	24,780
	<b>675,000</b>	<b>169,088</b>	<b>444,632</b>
<b>Priority Projects<sup>2</sup></b>			
Redwood Creek Trail Corridor	85,000	-	18,000
West Peak Feasibility Study <sup>3</sup>	325,000	-	-
Forest Health & Resiliency <sup>3</sup>	150,000	-	-
Wayfinding Signage & Trailhead Kiosks	67,000	-	-
Community/Mobile Trailheads <sup>3</sup>	90,000	-	-
	<b>717,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>18,000</b>
<b>Conservancy Indirect Expenses</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>1,576,900</b>	<b>318,042</b>	<b>647,532</b>
<b>NET OPERATING SURPLUS</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>237,391</b>	<b>247,901</b>

<sup>1</sup>FY2015 Original Annual Forecast based on Bechtel Grant received in June 2014.

<sup>2</sup>FY2015 Original Annual Forecast approved by the TLC Executive Team on October 28, 2014.

<sup>3</sup>Contingent on Agency contributions including \$250K for West Peak, \$125K for Forest Health, and \$25K for Community/Mobile Trailheads.



**STAFF REPORT**

**SUBJECT:** Update on Vegetation Management Efforts at Pine Point

**SUBMITTED BY:** Janet Klein, Natural Resource Program Manager

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Information

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:** Staff will provide a presentation on ongoing vegetation management efforts on Pine Point near Bon Tempe Reservoir.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** YES  NO  **FISCAL YEAR:** 2016

**BACKGROUND:**

Ongoing work at Pine Point, near Bon Tempe Reservoir provides an excellent example of successful implementation of several of ongoing Watershed Programs:

- Project Restore--a comprehensive approach to improving system trails, removing redundant social trails, and decommissioning abandoned roads to improve both visitor access and restore habitat;
- Wildfire Risk Reduction -- construction and maintenance of “wide area” fuelbreaks while maintaining habitat values;
- Schools on the Watershed—service learning field trips that focus on habitat restoration and community stewardship; and
- Climate Smart Adaptation—considering the range of projected warming trends and changes in rainfall patterns when designing revegetation projects.

Staff will briefly summarize how each of these programs is being implemented on Pine Point.

<b>REVIEWED BY:</b>	Finance Manager	<input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> [ x ]
	General Counsel	<input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> [ x ]
	General Manager	<input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> [ x ]

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. None