



# **Watershed Recreation Management Plan – Community Workshop #1**

**June 8, 2022**





# Agenda

- Marin Water Background
- Recreation Planning Process
- Initial Scoping Phase
- Scope of Work Summary
- Visitor Survey Overview
- Schedule
- Community Engagement
- Public Comment





# Watershed Overview

- 21,860 acres
- 7 Municipal Reservoirs
- 1.8 Million Visitors Annually
- 37 park entrances
- 92 miles of fire roads
- 59 miles of trails
- 60 miles of non-system trails
- 7 picnic areas
- Natural Resources
  - 400 wildlife species
  - 1000 species of plants





# Marin Water Mission

It is the purpose of the Marin Municipal Water District (Marin Water) to **manage our natural resources in a sustainable manner** and to provide our customers with reliable, high-quality water at a reasonable price.

From Board Policy No. 1 (Feb. 26, 2009): <https://www.marinwater.org/sites/default/files/2020-10/Marin%20Water%20Board%20Policies.pdf>



# Marin Water Board Policy 1

Provide responsible **stewardship of land** under district management, **balancing existing mandates** to safeguard ecological integrity, protect against wildfire, and maintain water quality.

Provide for **visitor access and activities on watershed lands** consistent with the **constraints of watershed stewardship**



# Marin Water Board Policy 7

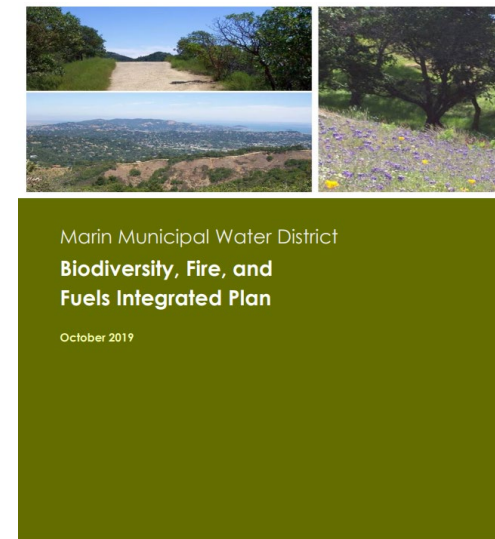
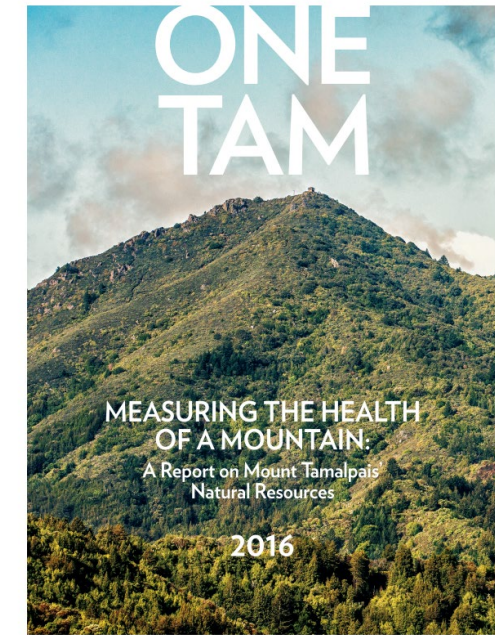
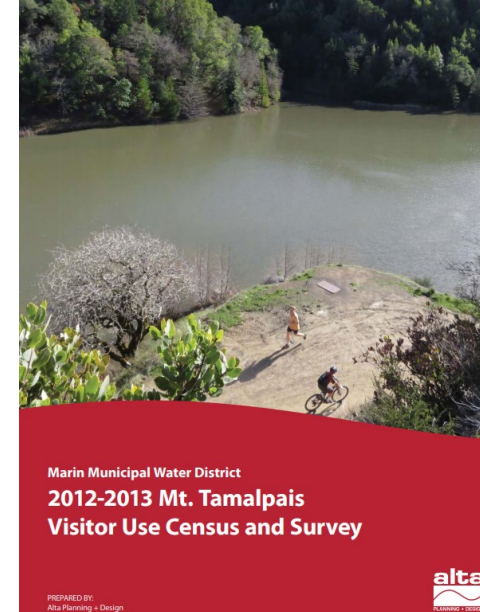
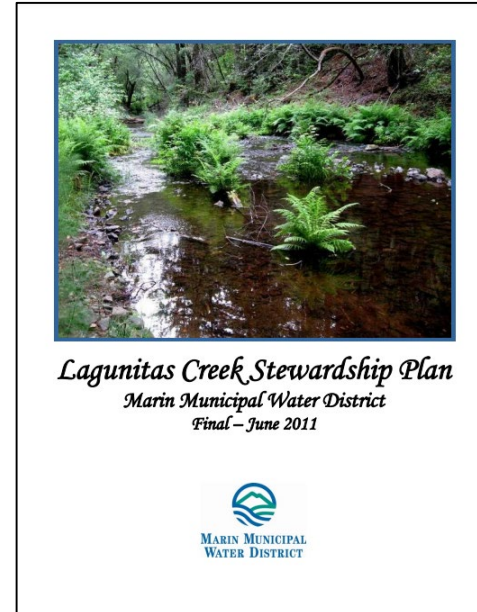
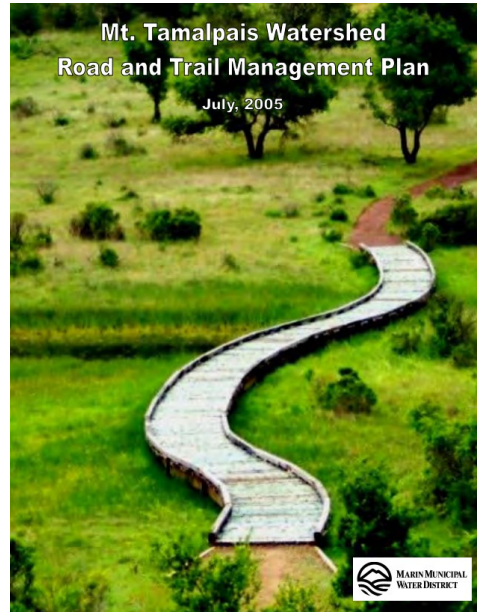
The Mt. Tamalpais Watershed is one of Marin's most valuable natural resources, **providing and protecting the major source of domestic water** for District residents. Besides this primary purpose, the watershed is held in trust as **a natural wildland of great biological diversity**, as **scenic open space** and as **an area for passive outdoor recreation** for Marin and much of the Bay Area.

From Board Policy No. 7 (Sep. 01, 2010): <https://www.marinwater.org/sites/default/files/2020-10/Marin%20Water%20Board%20Policies.pdf>



# Watershed Plans

- Mt. Tamalpais Roads and Trails Management Plan 2005
- Lagunitas Creek Stewardship Plan 2011
- Watershed Census Survey 2013
- One Tam Peak Health 2016
- Biodiversity, Fires, and Fuels Integrated Plan 2019



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# Biological Monitoring & Inventories





The background image is a landscape photograph. It features rolling green hills in the foreground and middle ground, covered in grass and some shrubs. In the distance, there are more hills and a dense forest. The sky is filled with dramatic, grey and white clouds. The overall tone is natural and serene.

# Watershed Recreation Management Planning Process



# Initial Public Scoping Phase

- Partnered with Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy (GGNPC) to facilitate two public scoping meetings
- Outreached to 57 community groups to encourage participation
- Had 227 community members participate in the two public meetings
  - May 21<sup>st</sup> guest speakers presented on foundational concepts
  - June 25<sup>th</sup> facilitated breakout sessions to solicit community input
- Developed Summery Memo to capture community input and process



# Overarching Themes

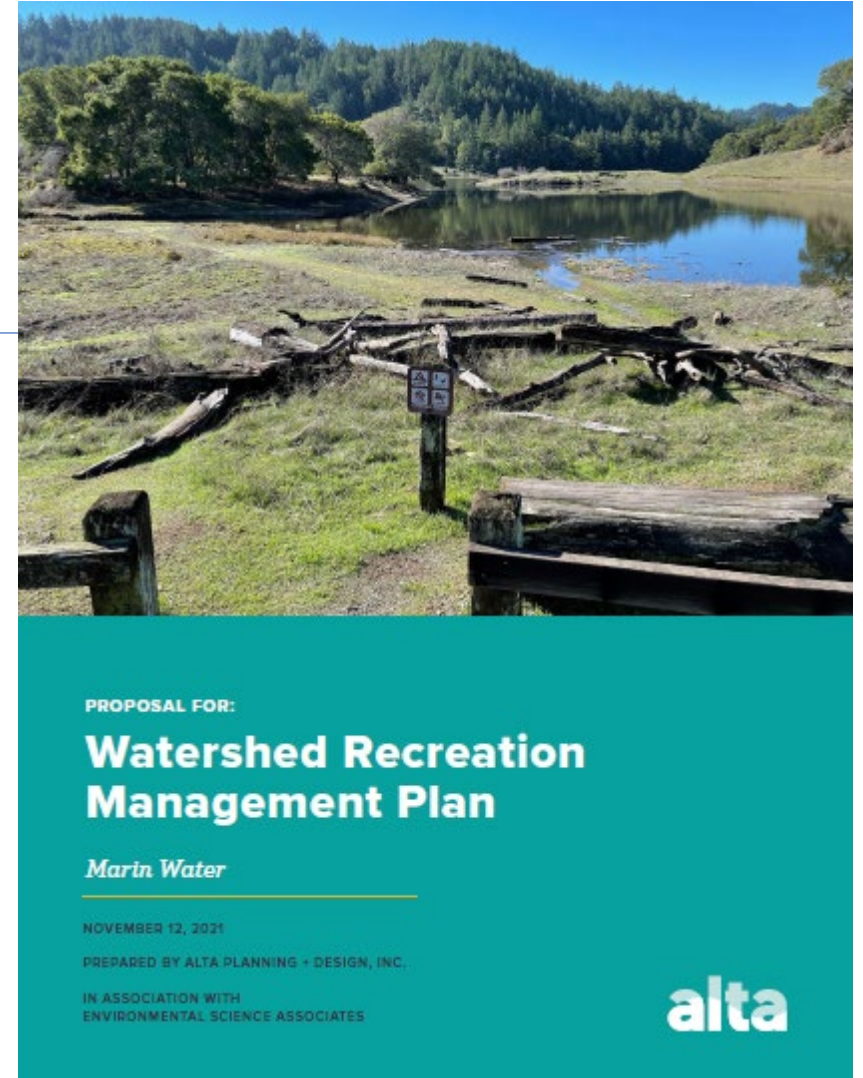
- Data driven decision making
- Ongoing public engagement through the planning process
- Inclusivity:
  - Equitable access
  - Diverse use groups
- Balance conservation with recreation
- Visitor management to spread visitors out and separate types of use
- Stewardship as foundation of plan to protect biodiversity and water quality



# Watershed Recreation Plan Scope

- Project Management
- Literature Review
- Watershed Recreation Management Plan
  - Visitor Census Survey Update
  - Stewardship and Outreach Strategies
  - Visitor Management Strategies
  - Recreation Facilities Assessment
  - Management Action & Operations
  - Adaptive Management

Meeting 1



# Visitor Use Management Framework

- **Build the Foundation (Why):** What is the purpose and/or need? What issues are we facing? What issues can this plan address? What data and information do we have? What do we need?
  - **Define Visitor Use Management Direction (What):** What are our desired conditions?
- 
- **Identify Management Strategies (How):** What strategies can we use to achieve our desired conditions?
  - **Implement, Monitor, Evaluate, and Adjust (Do):** Implement management actions and adjust them based on monitoring data.



# Literature Review

Summary of current policies and plans, and historic information relating to watershed management and visitation.

- Provide background and establish a foundation for the Plan
- Aligning's recreation management with organizational mission

## Water District and One Tam Agencies Interviews

- Establish an understanding of Marin Water's lands in the context of other water districts and surrounding land management agencies

# Community Engagement-Planning Meetings

**We  
Are  
Here**

**Introduction &  
Project Overview**

**Data Collection  
and Visitor  
Survey**

**Stewardship and  
Outreach  
Programs**

**Recreation  
Facilities  
Assessment**

**Visitor  
Management  
Strategies and  
Adaptive  
Management**

**Project  
Recommendations**

**Final Recreation  
Management Plan  
  
(Fall 2023)**

**Meeting #1  
June 2022**

**Meeting #2  
July 2022**

**Meeting #3  
August 2022**

**Meeting #4  
October 2022**

**Meeting #5  
February  
2023**

**Meeting #6  
April 2023**

**Site Visit #1  
July 2022**

**Site Visit #2  
August 2022**

**Site Visit #3  
November 2022**

**Visitor Use Surveys**

**Project Website**



# Schedule

## Community Workshops & Engagement Activities

Date	Forum	Agenda, Documents, Meetings
June 8, 2022	Community Workshop #1 – Introduction to project, review of scope of work, objectives, and public input	
July 6, 2022	Watershed Site Visit #1 – Ranger and Naturalist Hike	
July 13, 2022	Community Workshop #2 – Watershed census survey update, data collection process, and public input	
August 3, 2022	Watershed Site Visit #2 – Watershed data collection volunteer opportunity	
September 14, 2022	Community Workshop #3 – Stewardship, partnership and outreach programs, and public input	
October 12, 2022	Community Workshop #4 –Recreational facilities, visitor management, and public input	
November 9, 2022	Watershed Site Visit #3 – Roads, trails and Azalea Hill Project	
February 8, 2023	Community Workshop #5 –Watershed census survey data, best management practices and adaptive management	
April 12, 2023	Community Workshop #6 – Watershed Recreation Management Plan Outcomes and public input	

\*Working schedule dates may change if certain tasks require more time for planning or logistics

<https://www.marinwater.org/WatershedRecPlan>

# Visitor Survey Data Collection Process

Provide a data driven understanding of patterns of visitation and the experiences of watershed visitors.

- Eco-counters
  - 6 on hiking trails
  - 5 on fire roads for multi-use counts
- Trail apps to understand patterns of use
- Visitor intercept surveys and direct counts





# Community Engagement-Watershed Site Visits

Designed to provide an opportunity for shared watershed experiences.

- Watershed Site Visits
  - Ranger and naturalist hike
  - Watershed visitor survey volunteer opportunity
  - Roads, trails, and the Azalea Hill Project
- Watershed Recreation Management Website

<https://www.marinwater.org/WatershedRecPlan>



# Ground Rules:



**Respect** competing views



**Make space** for alternative perspectives



**Recognize** differences



Acknowledge that **compromise will be essential**



# Public Input on Watershed Conditions

- What issues are we facing?
- What desired conditions do you want to see and how do they align with the District's primary mission?
- How might these desired conditions resolve issues that you perceive?

# Public Comments

Please keep comments to under 2 minutes\* to provide space and time for others.

There will continue to be opportunities to participate and share perspectives throughout the planning process.

*\* may be reduced to 1 minute depending on number of commenters in queue*



# 2 *MINUTES* PUBLIC COMMENT



# Next Watershed Recreation Planning Activities

## July 6<sup>th</sup> Watershed Site Visit #1

- Ranger and Naturalist Hike around Bon Tempe Lake
- Meeting location Bon Tempe Parking Area
  - Time 2:00 PM

## July 13<sup>th</sup> Workshop #2

- Watershed survey coordination
- Data collection process
- Data analytics
- Watershed issues benefit



# Thank You

