



NOTICE OF MEETING WATERSHED COMMITTEE/BOARD OF DIRECTORS (WATERSHED)

(Per paragraph 3 on page 10 under subsection *Committee Meetings* of the Board Handbook: The Board, as a practice, generally does not take final action on items during committee meetings, unless District staff determines the urgency of the item requires immediate action that cannot be delayed until a subsequent regular bi-monthly Board meeting.)

MEETING DATE: 12-15-2022

TIME: 1:30 p.m.

LOCATION: This meeting will be held virtually, pursuant to Assembly Bill (AB) 361.

To participate online, go to <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89367727671>. You can also participate by phone by calling **1-669-900-6833** or **1-669-444-9171** and entering the **webinar ID#: 893 6772 7671**.

PARTICIPATION DURING MEETINGS: During the public comment periods, the public may comment by clicking the “raise hand” button on the bottom of the Zoom screen; if you are joining by phone and would like to comment, press *9 and we will call on you as appropriate.

EMAILED PUBLIC COMMENTS: You may submit your comments in advance of the meeting by emailing them to BoardComment@MarinWater.org. All emailed comments received by 11:00 a.m. on the day of the meeting will be provided to the Board of Directors prior to the meeting. All emails will be posted on our website. **(Please do not include personal information in your comment that you do not want published on our website such as phone numbers and home addresses.)**

AGENDA ITEMS	RECOMMENDATIONS
Call to Order and Roll Call	
Adopt Agenda	<i>Approve</i>
Public Comment <i>Members of the public may comment on any items not listed on the agenda during this time. Comments will be limited to three minutes per speaker, and time limits may be reduced by the Committee Chair to accommodate the number of speakers and ensure that the meeting is conducted in an efficient manner.</i>	

MARIN WATER BOARD OF DIRECTORS: RANJIV KHUSH, LARRY RUSSELL, MATT SAMSON, JED SMITH, AND MONTY SCHMITT

AGENDA ITEMS	RECOMMENDATIONS
Calendar (1:40 p.m. - Time Approximate)	
1. Minutes of the Watershed Committee/Board of Directors (Watershed) Quarterly Meeting of September 15, 2022 (Approximate time 1 minute)	<i>Approve</i>
2. Fisheries Monitoring Update (Approximate time 15 minutes)	<i>Information</i>
3. Watershed Culvert Replacements (Approximate time 15 minutes)	<i>Information</i>
4. Watershed Recreation Management Planning Update (Approximate time 10 minutes)	<i>Information</i>
Adjournment (2:21 p.m. Time Approximate)	

ADA NOTICE AND HEARING IMPAIRED PROVISIONS:

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and California Law, it is Marin Water’s policy to offer its public programs, services, and meetings in a manner that is readily accessible to everyone, including those with disabilities. If you are an individual with a disability 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 accommodations, please contact Board Secretary Terrie Gillen at 415.945.1448, at least two days in advance of the meeting. Advance notification will enable Marin Water to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility.

AGENDAS ARE AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW AT THE CIVIC CENTER LIBRARY, CORTE MADERA LIBRARY, FAIRFAX LIBRARY, MILL VALLEY LIBRARY, MARIN WATER OFFICE, AND ON THE MARIN WATER WEBSITE (MARINWATER.ORG)

FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS:

- ❖ Friday, December 16, 2022
Operations Committee/Board of Directors (Operations) Meeting
9:30 a.m.

- ❖ Thursday, December 22, 2022
Finance & Administration Committee/Board of Directors (Finance & Administration) Meeting
9:30 a.m.


 Board Secretary



Item Number: 01
Meeting Date: 12-15-2022
Meeting: Watershed
 Committee/Board of Directors
 (Watershed)

Approval Item

TITLE

Minutes of the Watershed Committee/Board of Directors (Watershed) Quarterly Meeting of September 15, 2022

RECOMMENDATION

Approve the minutes of the Watershed Committee/Board of Directors (Watershed) Quarterly Meeting of September 15, 2022

SUMMARY

On September 15, 2022, the Watershed Committee/Board of Directors (Watershed) held its quarterly meeting. The minutes of that meeting are attached.

New directors may vote on approval of the minutes. An affirmative vote to approve the minutes merely expresses support for making the minutes an official record of the District. Corrections, if any, may still be submitted and considered by the board.

DISCUSSION

None

FISCAL IMPACT

None

ATTACHMENT(S)

- Minutes of September 15, 2022, Quarterly Meeting of the Watershed Committee/Board of Directors (Watershed)

DEPARTMENT OR DIVISION	DIVISION MANAGER	APPROVED
Communications & Public Affairs Department		
	Terrie Gillen Board Secretary	Ben Horenstein General Manager

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

QUARTERLY MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, September 15, 2022

Via teleconference

(In accordance with Assembly Bill 361)

DIRECTORS PRESENT: John Gibson, Larry Russell, Monty Schmitt, and Larry Bragman

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Cynthia Koehler

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Bragman called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m.

ADOPT AGENDA:

On motion made by Director Gibson and seconded by Vice Chair Schmitt, the board approved the adoption of the agenda by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Directors Gibson, Russell, Schmitt, and Bragman
Noes: None
Absent: Director Koehler

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There were no public comments.

CALENDAR ITEMS:

**Item 1 Minutes of the Watershed Committee/Board of Directors (Watershed)
Quarterly Meeting of June 16, 2022**

On motion made by Director Gibson and seconded by Vice Chair Schmitt, the board approved the minutes by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Directors Gibson, Russell, Schmitt, and Bragman
Noes: None
Absent: Director Koehler

Item 2 Wildfire Resiliency Report – Watershed Priorities

Watershed Resources Manager Shaun Horne presented this item to the Board. Discussion ensued.

There were eight (8) public comments.

This was an informational item. There was no formal committee action.

Item 3 2022 Annual Vegetation Management Report

Natural Resources Program Manager Carl Sanders presented this report. Discussion followed.

There were two (2) public comments.

This was an informational item. There was no formal committee action.

Vice Chair Schmitt left the meeting at 2:34 p.m.

Item 4 Watershed Recreation Management Planning Update

Watershed Resources Manager Horne also presented this item. Discussion ensued.

There were five (5) public comments.

The committee did not take any formal action.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Watershed Committee/Board of Directors (Watershed) quarterly meeting adjourned at approximately 3:11 p.m.

Board Secretary



Item Number: 02
Meeting Date: 12-15-2022
Meeting: Watershed
Committee/Board of Directors
(Watershed)

Informational Item

TO: Watershed Committee/Board of Directors (Watershed)

FROM: Shaun Horne, Watershed Resources Manager 

THROUGH: Ben Horenstein, General Manager 

DIVISION NAME: Watershed

ITEM: Fisheries Monitoring Update

SUMMARY

Marin Municipal Water District (District) has monitored populations of coho salmon and steelhead trout in the Lagunitas Creek watershed for over 20 years. This monitoring is required by State Water Resources Control Board Order WR95-17, which was issued to the District in 1995 following the expansion of Kent Reservoir. During the past year, District Fisheries staff have observed the highest number of juvenile coho salmon ever recorded. Staff will provide an update on these monitoring results and longer-term fisheries trends for Lagunitas Creek.

DISCUSSION

Following the District's expansion of Kent Lake in 1995, the California State Water Resources Control Board issued Order WR95-17 (Order). The Order included a list of operational, monitoring, and reporting requirements pertaining to Peters Dam and the downstream reaches of Lagunitas Creek. Since the Order was first implemented, the District has worked collaboratively with the Lagunitas Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and resource agencies to comply with the Order's conditions and has been a leader in monitoring and restoration efforts for the watershed. The District's monitoring and restoration activities are guided by the Lagunitas Creek Stewardship Plan, which was adopted in 2011.

In accordance with the Stewardship Plan, the District conducts ongoing surveys to monitor populations of endangered coho salmon and threatened steelhead trout. The Lagunitas Creek watershed is considered one of the highest priority areas for recovery of these species. Since the late 1990's, the District has surveyed for adults, juveniles, and smolts (ocean-bound juveniles) to track population trends and report the findings to stakeholders and resource agencies working toward species recovery.

This year's juvenile coho salmon population estimate exceeded 100,000, which is nearly three times the previous record. Large schools of juvenile coho salmon were found throughout the Lagunitas Creek watershed. This year's exceptional reproductive success was the result of one of the largest adult coho salmon runs in recent years combined with excellent incubation conditions. Early season rains allowed adult coho to spread out and spawn throughout the watershed, and dry weather between January and April allowed eggs to incubate undisturbed. The dry winter did not benefit steelhead, however. The 2021-22 steelhead trout run was approximately average in size, but limited access to tributary streams concentrated fish in Lagunitas Creek. As a result, juvenile steelhead trout were abundant in Lagunitas Creek, but densities were low in tributary streams.

Staff will provide an overview of these monitoring results within the context of longer-term fisheries trends for the watershed.

FISCAL IMPACT

None

ATTACHMENT(S)

None



Item Number: 03
Meeting Date: 12-15-2022
Meeting: Watershed
Committee/Board of Directors
(Watershed)

Informational Item

TO: Watershed Committee/Board of Directors (Watershed)

FROM: Shaun Horne, Watershed Resources Manager 

THROUGH: Ben Horenstein, General Manager 

DIVISION NAME: Watershed

ITEM: Watershed Culvert Replacements

SUMMARY

The Marin Municipal Water District (District) manages 21,600 acres of land surrounding seven water supply reservoirs on Mount Tamalpais and in western Marin County. When combined with easements on other public and privately held lands, the District is responsible for managing and maintaining over 700 stream crossings which include bridges, culverts, and rock fjords (crossings). Staff will provide a brief presentation on the district's culvert replacement work.

DISCUSSION

The Culvert Maintenance and Replacement (Project), is being implemented according to the District's Mount Tamalpais Watershed Road and Trail Management Plan and associated Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (PEIR). The main purpose of the Project is to improve water quality and strictly minimize sediment input into creeks and reservoirs fed by the District's watershed lands. Strictly minimizing sediment improves fisheries habitat, prolongs the life of the District's reservoirs and facilitates the water treatment process, among other benefits. These projects are also designed to reduce environmental impacts of the road and trail network on the flora and fauna of the District's watershed lands and maintain access to water resource infrastructure.

The Project is necessary to enhance the resiliency of the watershed and "storm-proof" specific road and trail segments. The District completed a road and trail related erosion site study performed on the entire Watershed that looked at over 1,200 possible erosion sites (PWA 2002, 2003). In 2018, the District completed a stream crossing condition assessment of 724 culverts as part of a new asset management program looking to prioritize the expenditure of limited capital resources to maximize system resiliency. During the assessment, the District identified thirty-seven (37) crossings requiring near term repairs because they posed an immediate risk to

ongoing district operations and another seventy (70) that would require future repairs. District staff completed the necessary hydrological analysis, and biological surveys to inform the environmental permitting process for the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, San Francisco Regional Water Quality Control Board, and Army Corps of Engineers. Between 2019 and 2022 the District replaced thirty-seven (37) culverts that had exceed their useful life.

In November 2022, the District submitted permit applications for an additional seventy (70) culvert replacements. Construction permits are expected to be finalized in early 2023 and construction will occur in the summers of 2023-2027. In addition to replacing culverts, the District has developed maintenance plans for culverts along each watershed road segment and is completing annual inspections and conducting preventative maintenance, as needed, each year before the rainy season. Proactively managing failing culverts minimizes road-related sediment delivery to streams and the District's reservoirs, thereby improving water quality, enhancing hydrological processes and making for a safer fire road and trail network. Maintaining and replacing these stream crossings is pertinent to the District's ability to provide drinking water, respond to and fight potential wildfires, respond to medical emergencies, maintain access to watershed lands for both staff and members of the public and to steward natural resources.

FISCAL IMPACT

None

ATTACHMENT(S)

None



Item Number: 04
Meeting Date: 12-15-2022
Meeting: Watershed
Committee/Board of Directors
(Watershed)

Informational Item

TO: Watershed Committee/Board of Directors (Watershed)

FROM: Shaun Horne, Watershed Resources Manager

THROUGH: Ben Horenstein, General Manager

DIVISION NAME: Watershed

ITEM: Watershed Recreation Management Planning Update

SUMMARY

The Main Municipal Water District (District) partnered with the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy (GGNPC) to engage District Board members, executive leadership, stakeholders, and constituents in early scoping of a Watershed Recreation Management Plan (Plan). At the February 18, 2022 Board of Directors meeting, the Board approved a contract with Alta Planning to support the development of a Watershed Recreation Management Plan. Staff will provide an update on the planning process and meetings held to date.

DISCUSSION

Mt. Tamalpais and its adjacent watersheds support a rich array of plants and animals, panoramic vistas, and recreational opportunities that are treasured by residents and visitors alike. Since before the turn of the last century, Mt. Tamalpais has been a magnet for recreationists. The Marin Municipal Water District's Mt. Tamalpais watershed lands receive approximately 1.8 million visitors annually (MMWD 2013) and are part of the Golden Gate Biosphere Reserve (UNESCO 2002). Watershed users include anglers, hikers, equestrians, nature viewers, runners, walkers, youth camps, cyclists and many more. With the onset of the COVID-19 Pandemic and associated Shelter in Place Orders the number of watershed visitors drastically increased, overwhelming many of the District's facilities (restrooms, parking lots, trash receptacles and popular trails). This dramatic increase in users demonstrates the significant value of natural areas and open space lands to the community and the community's deep connection to these areas. However, this increase in users also accentuated long-standing watershed issues and ongoing conflicts between different visitor groups.

Currently, the District has two overarching management plans for the watershed: the Roads and Trails Management Plan (RTMP) and the Biodiversity, Fires, and Fuels Integrated Plan

(BFFIP). The primary goals and objectives of the RTMP is to protect water quality through the application of best management practices for roads and trails maintenance, while the BFFIP focuses on the actions that the District will implement to reduce fire hazards to protect water quality and maintain and enhance ecosystem function. Neither of these plans directly address recreational activities on the watershed. A Watershed Recreation Management Plan will evaluate current watershed use patterns and opportunities to support safe, inclusive use with an emphasis on protecting the watershed's unique biodiversity, habitat, and water quality. The plan will aim to facilitate safe access supported by appropriate regulations, facilities, partnerships, stewardship programs, and signage, which collectively will help protect the District watershed lands.

The overarching goal is to develop guidelines and operational procedures to protect the unique goals of different watershed visitors and the biodiversity of the District's watershed lands. To inform the planning process, the District partnered with the GGNPC to convene an initial scoping process to solicit early input. The public scoping meetings were led by a panel of industry professionals and included breakout sessions with stakeholders to explore pertinent recreational management topics. The scoping process allowed stakeholders to provide early input, which was used to shape the request for consultant proposals and the contract scope of work for the development of the Plan.

The planning process has been designed to promote robust stakeholder engagement to help inform the development of the Plan. The consultant contract scope includes a literature review of relevant management plans, information interviews with other water districts, a community engagement plan, visitor use survey and data collection efforts, partnership and outreach analysis, and development of recreation management actions. The District has developed a webpage to keep the community updated on the planning process which may be viewed at the following webpage (<https://www.marinwater.org/WatershedRecPlan>). To date, the District has hosted four public meetings in both virtual and in-person formats.

Staff will provide an overview of the public meetings and provide an update on next steps in the planning process to unfold over the coming year.

FISCAL IMPACT

None

ATTACHMENT(S)

None