

Pajaro Compass Stakeholder Meeting
November 2nd, 2022 – 9:30am to 12:00pm

Preparing for the Here, Now, and Future: Droughts and Floods in the Pajaro River Watershed

Agenda

9:30 Networking (optional)

<https://www.wonder.me/r?id=31b93079-cf84-4a7c-8531-e0e829b2e582>

Guest password: PajaroWatershed

9:55 Main meeting Zoom link

<https://ucsc.zoom.us/j/96842487643?pwd=ZkMyWXMxMmV3b0t0K2tSeHh1QndSQT09>

10:00 Welcome and Pajaro Compass Overview

10:10 Presentations

○ *Pajaro River Watershed Overview*

Damaris Villalobos-Galindo, Project Engineer, Santa Clara Valley Water District

○ *Climate Change in the Pajaro Watershed*

Samantha Greene, Senior Water Resources Specialist, Santa Clara Valley Water District

○ *Ongoing Changes in Water Resources Management and Hydrology in the Upper Pajaro Watershed*

Jeff Micko MS, Project Engineer, Micko Consultants

○ *Resurrection: Preparing the Pajaro River for Multi-Purpose Resilience to Climate Change*

Mark Strudley, Ph.D., Executive Director, Pajaro River Flood Control Management Agency

11:00 Break

11:05 Presentations

○ *College Lake Integrated Resources Management Project*

Marcus Mendiola, Water Conservation & Outreach Specialist, Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency

○ *Green Infrastructure and Planning: Overcoming Barriers, Fostering Collaboration, and Prioritizing Sites to Maximize Green Infrastructure for Community Benefits*

Jackie McCloud, Environmental Sustainability Division Manager, City of Watsonville
Jonathan Pilch, Executive Director, Watsonville Wetlands Watch

11:40 **Q & A Discussion**

11:55 **Wrap Up**

12:00 **Meeting Adjourned**

For more information about the Pajaro Compass, visit www.pajarocompass.org or contact any member of the 2022-2023 Steering Committee:

- Jennifer Phillips, Point Blue Conservation Science STRAW Program
jphillips@pointblue.org / (612) 247-3241
- Karminder Brown, San Benito Working Landscapes Group
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- Dan Brumbaugh, Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve
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- Dan Hermstad, Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County
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- Dina Iden, Loma Prieta Resource Conservation District
dina@lomaprietarc.org / (408) 847-4171
- Marcus Mendiola, Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency
mendiola@pvwater.org / (831)722-9292
- Julie Morris, UCCE Santa Clara County
jfmorris@ucanr.edu / (408)201-0674
- Mark Ogonowski, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
mark_ogonowski@fws.gov / (831)728-1156
- Jonathan Pilch, Watsonville Wetlands Watch
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Speaker Biosketches

Dámaris Villalobos-Galindo, Project Engineer, Santa Clara Valley Water District

[DVillalobos-Galindo 'at' valleywater.org](mailto:DVillalobos-Galindo@valleywater.org)

Dámaris was born and raised in Tijuana, Baja California, México. She completed her undergraduate studies in Environmental Engineering at the University of California, San Diego and graduate studies in Civil and Environmental Engineering at Stanford University with focus on Environmental Fluid Mechanics and Hydrology. She has over 10 years of experience in the field of water resources, working in both public and private sector. She is currently an Associate Civil Engineer at Valley Water working in the long-term planning of flood risk reduction projects as well as the Field Exploration Manager at the Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority managing the geotechnical field exploration program to better understand subsurface soil conditions throughout the San Joaquin-Sacramento Delta. Her current professional interests include understanding the impacts that current land use policies and land development activities have had on increasing flood risk in urban settings as well as the impacts of flooding in underserved communities.

Dr. Samantha Greene, Senior Water Resources Specialist, Water Supply Planning and Conservation Unit, Santa Clara Valley Water District

[SGreene 'at' valleywater.org](mailto:SGreene@valleywater.org)

Samantha Greene is a Senior Water Resources Specialist in the Water Supply Planning and Conservation Unit. She is responsible for leading and coordinating the District's water supply modeling and analysis efforts. Samantha brings nearly 15 years of water resources management and planning experience to the position. Samantha joined Valley Water 6 years ago to help with water supply planning efforts and to help manage Valley Water's water supply planning model. Prior to joining Valley Water, Samantha worked at the US Geological Survey on minimizing the impacts of land management on mountain streams and at a civil engineering consulting firm as a geomorphologist.

Samantha has a Ph.D. and M.S. from the University of Wisconsin-Madison with a focus on water resources management and geomorphology.

Jeff Micko, Professional Engineer, Micko Consultants

[JMicko 'at' sbcglobal.net](mailto:JMicko@sbcglobal.net)

Jeff Micko is a registered professional Engineer and has a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from UCLA and a master's degree in Water Resources engineering from Stanford University. Mr. Micko has 43 years of professional experience in management of water operations, and planning and analysis, associated with water supply and stream systems in Santa Clara and San Benito counties. Jeff has led multi-disciplinary collaborative efforts and developed simulation models to prepare optimized reservoir operation strategies for all major Upper Pajaro River Watershed reservoirs and their respective stream systems and groundwater basins

Dr. Mark Strudley, Executive Director, Pajaro Regional Flood Management Agency

[Mark.Strudley 'at' santacruzcounty.us](mailto:Mark.Strudley@santacruzcounty.us)

Mark earned a Ph.D in hydrology from Duke University, and then went on to work for many years in both the private sector and the federal government as a hydrologist before coming to Santa Cruz County about 5 years ago.

He now leads the Pajaro Regional Flood Management Agency, a joint powers agency overseeing capital investment and operations and maintenance for flood risk reduction solutions in the Pajaro Valley of Santa Cruz and Monterey Counties in California. He is also the Flood Control Program Manager of the Santa Cruz County Flood Control and Water Conservation District – Zone 7, the Pajaro Storm Drain Maintenance District, and leads flood control activities throughout Santa Cruz County as a Division Manager in the Department of Public Works.

Marcus Mendiola, Water Conservation and Outreach Specialist, Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency

[Mendiola 'at' pvwater.org](mailto:Mendiola@pvwater.org)

Marcus Mendiola, is the Water Conservation and Outreach Specialist for the Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency. Marcus has been with PV Water for 10 years supporting efforts to map annual land use change, water level and water quality monitoring, well database support, event planning, conservation program management, CEQA support and website-social media management. Marcus was born in the Pajaro River Watershed and has spent 86% of his life living within the watershed.

Jackie McCloud, Environmental Sustainability Division Manager, City of Watsonville

[Jackie.McCloud 'at' cityofwatsonville.org](mailto:Jackie.McCloud@cityofwatsonville.org)

Jackie holds a Bachelor of Sciences in Earth Sciences from the University of California in Santa Cruz and has worked in the municipal sector the past 16 years of her career.

She is an experienced environmental program and project management with a background in water and wastewater treatment, water resources management and implementation of environmental regulations in disadvantaged communities.

Her current focus areas are Stormwater Program Manager: MS4 Phase II, Industrial General and Construction permits; liaison and project manager for City with Zone 7 Flood Control and Water Conservation District for the Federal Army Corps Pajaro River Levee project; environmental grants manager; City liaison with State lobbyist on water, wastewater and stormwater issues, City project and grant manager with Santa Cruz and Pajaro Integrated Regional Water Management programs and the program manager for the City's Climate Action and Adaptation Plan and FEMA Local Hazard Mitigation Plan.

She most recently completed a Bay Area Council Foundation Green Infrastructure and Implementation Plan grant project to build more resiliency into projects in the community. Jackie excels at working with community partners and strives to ensure there is a strong environmental sustainability focus within the City of Watsonville.

Jonathan Pilch, Executive Director, Watsonville Wetlands Watch

[Jonathan 'at' watsonvillewetlandswatch.org](http://watsonvillewetlandswatch.org)

Jonathan holds a degree in Geography from the University of California Berkeley and has worked in the field of environmental conservation and restoration within the Pajaro Valley for the past 17 years. Prior to this, he worked in agricultural research for the University of California and in the private agricultural sector.

He has a background in environmental management, wetland science and organizational development and program management. As the Executive Director of Watsonville Wetlands Watch, he works closely with a broad cross section of organizational and public agency partners and community members to advance strategic conservation initiatives for the wetlands and environmental resources of the Pajaro Valley. Jonathan oversees the conservation planning, environmental restoration and education programs of the Watsonville Wetlands Watch which manage and implement watershed restoration projects on over 1,000 acres of natural and working lands, public trails, and open spaces, and serve over 10,000 Watsonville area students, youth, and community members each year.