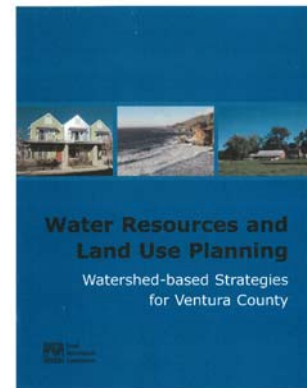
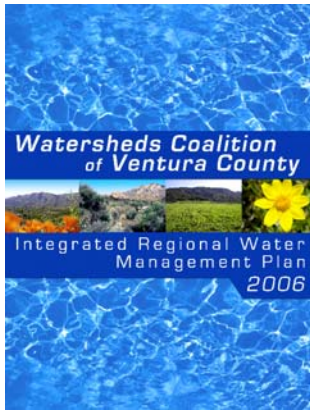


## SECTION 11.0 - RELATONSHIP TO LOCAL WATER PLANNING



### 11.1 Relevant Local Water Planning Documents and Activities and Relationship to IRWM Plan

The purpose of this section is to identify the relevant water management planning documents and processes used to prepare this IRWM Plan Update and guide stakeholders in implementing projects which achieve the Plan’s goals.

As discussed in Section 9 (Data Management and Technical Analysis) and outlined in the References section, there are many local water planning efforts underway and numerous documents and other resources that address water management. These efforts include monitoring and management of groundwater and surface water, water quality, stormwater and flood management, watershed planning, urban and agricultural water use, climate action, ecosystems and habitat, emergency plans, and water supply reliability through alternative water supplies (desalination, recycled water, etc). These documents and planning efforts were reviewed and consulted as part of developing this IRWM Plan Update to assure consistency and appropriate integration.

Each of these planning activities helps address and/or benefit one or more of the six goals of the WCVC IRWM Plan. Table 11-1 below highlights how these efforts help address the IRWM Plan Goals.

**Table 11-1  
Relationship of Local Water Planning Documents with IRWM Plan Goals**

Types of Planning Document	Water Supply	Water Quality	Integrated Flood Management	Ecosystem Protection	Recreation and Access	Climate Adaptation
General Plans	●		●	●		●
Groundwater Management Plans	●	●				●
Urban Water Management Plans	●	●				●
Stormwater Quality Management Plans and Permits	●	●				●
Water Quality Management Plans	●	●				●
Integrated Flood Management Plans			●	●		●
Emergency Response Plans	●		●	●		●
Climate Action	●	●	●	●		●
Water Supply Plans and Models	●	●				●
Recycled Water Plans	●	●				●
Habitat Protection or Conservation Plans	●	●		●	●	
Watershed Assessment and Management Plans	●	●	●	●	●	●
Parkway or Recreation Plans			●	●	●	

**Local Water- and Watershed-Related Plans**

Below is a summary of the most relevant local water or watershed-related plans that have been developed by public agencies, water and wastewater managers, or land and resource managers that have bearing on IRWM planning and management. This is by no means a comprehensive list. Please see the References Section for a more complete list of specific documents and plans. Most of these plans are updated on a regular basis – typically every five years, or as mandated or needed.

## General

### City and County General Plans

*Organizations: County of Ventura, Local Cities*

Local jurisdictions are required by the state of California to prepare and update general plans, which provide the local government's long-term blueprint for development and land use. General plans must address certain elements, including land use, circulation, housing, conservation, open-space, noise and safety; and they generally include the equivalent of goals, policies and programs for each of these elements.

General plans developed by the County and local cities within the Region include many policies which influence watershed issues, including water conservation, groundwater management, flood control, open space protection, protection of wetlands and significant biological resources, agricultural preservation, water-related infrastructure, parks and recreation, fire protection and risk management and more.

The "vision" of general plans is implemented through the jurisdiction's zoning ordinance (sometimes called development code). General plans and zoning ordinances complement one another and must be compatible.

## Water Supply

### Urban Water Management Plans, 2010

*Organizations: All Urban Water Purveyors with 3,000 customers or serving 3,000 acre-feet of water to urban water users*

Urban water management plans (UWMP) are comprehensive, long-term plans developed to ensure adequate water supplies are available to meet existing and future water demands.

As required by the Urban Water Management Planning Act, every urban water supplier in California that either provides over 3,000 acre-feet of water annually or serves more than 3,000 or more connections, is required to submit an UWMP to the state which includes supply and demand projections for the next 20 years, and describes strategies to assure adequate supplies during average, single-year, and multi-year drought conditions. UWMPs also contain plans to implement a 20% reduction in per capita urban water use by the year 2020, as required under the Water Conservation Act of 2009. UWMPs must be updated every five years. Seventeen local water purveyors are required to prepare and update UWMPs.

### Groundwater Management Plans

*Organizations: Local Groundwater Management Agencies and Stakeholder Groups*

Groundwater management plans have been prepared for several local groundwater basins including those managed by the Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency (FCGMA), the Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency (OBGMA), a collaboration of entities managing the Fillmore –Piru Groundwater Basins and a management plan for the Tapo-Gilibrand Basin in Simi Valley. These plans include broad goals, policies and action elements and are typically developed to bring the basins into balance, reduce overdraft and extend supplies.

### **Urban Water Efficiency Plans and Reports**

*Organization: Cities and Water Agencies*

Several local agencies have developed water use efficiency plans, in addition to their UWMP or water master plan. Signatories to the California Urban Water Conservation MOU prepare bi-annual reports regarding implementation of water use efficiency best management practices. Another example of an urban water use efficiency plan is the city of Ventura Water Efficiency Plan that provides a road map to buffer the city from impacts from water supply reductions—such as from extended drought, environmental restrictions, groundwater quality limitations, or litigation actions—and to improve the water reduction targets they have already attained.

### **Water Quality**

#### **Basin Plan**

*Organization: Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles*

Each of the California’s nine water quality control regions has developed regional water quality control plans to address water quality issues specific to that region. The Ventura River watershed is under the jurisdiction of the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB).

The RWQCB’s water quality control plan, called the Basin Plan, was last completely updated in 1994 and is periodically amended as new water quality objectives and TMDLs are adopted. The Basin Plan revolves around a concept called “beneficial uses.” These are the resources, services and qualities of aquatic systems that the regulations aim to protect. Examples of beneficial uses include water supply, recreation, navigation, and preservation and enhancement of fish, wildlife, and other aquatic resources. Beneficial uses can be existing, potential or intermittent uses. Once beneficial uses have been designated for various waterbodies, then appropriate water quality objectives can be developed to protect those uses.

#### **Stormwater Management Plans**

*Organization: Ventura Countywide Stormwater Quality Management Program*

Stormwater management planning is addressed within Ventura County's MS4 permit and the associated Technical Guidance Manual and Hydromodification Control Plan, developed to implement some of the MS4 permit requirements related to new development and redevelopment.

### **Ventura County NPDES (MS4) Permit – 2011**

Polluted stormwater runoff is commonly transported through Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s), from which it is often discharged untreated into local waterbodies. To prevent harmful pollutants from being washed or dumped into an MS4, operators must obtain a NPDES permit and develop a stormwater management program. The County of Ventura and local co-permittees (cities) are responsible for implementing the plan and related best management practices and land use regulations.

### ***Flood Management***

#### **Flood Mitigation Plan for Ventura County, 2005**

*Organization: Ventura County Watershed Protection District*

The Ventura County Flood Mitigation Plan addresses planning for risks associated with flooding, post-fire debris flow and dam failure. Flood hazards are identified and profiled, assets are identified, and vulnerability as well as capability is assessed. A mitigation strategy for reducing potential hazards, including goals, objectives and actions, is also included.

### ***Resource Management/Ecosystem Protection***

#### **Coastal Regional Sediment Management Plan, Central Coast from Pt. Conception to Pt. Mugu, 2009**

*Organization: The Beach Erosion Authority for Clean Oceans and Nourishment (BEACON)*

Coastal Regional Sediment Management Plans (CRSMP) are part of a larger, statewide effort to address sediment management by the Coastal Sediment Management Workgroup, which is a collaborative task force of state, federal and local/regional entities concerned about the adverse impacts of coastal erosion on coastal habitats.

BEACON's CRSMP is intended to develop a comprehensive road map that addresses how to conserve and restore the valuable sediment resources along its coastline to reduce shoreline erosion and coastal storm damages, protect sensitive environmental resources, increase natural sediment supply to the coast, preserve and enhance beaches, improve water quality along the shoreline, and optimize the beneficial use of material dredged from ports, harbors, and other opportunistic sediment sources.

The Beach Erosion Authority for Clean Oceans and Nourishment (BEACON) is a Joint Powers Authority composed of Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties and the six cities of Goleta, Santa Barbara, Carpinteria, Ventura, Oxnard and Port Hueneme.

### **Los Padres National Forest, Land Management Plan**

*Organization: US Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Region*

The legislative mandate for the management of national forests requires that public lands be conservatively used and managed in order to ensure their sustainability and to guarantee that future generations will continue to benefit from their many values.

The land management plan for the Los Padres National Forest describes the strategic direction at the broad program-level for managing the land and its resources over the next 10 to 15 years, and in a way that assures the coordination of multiple-uses (e.g., recreation and environmental education opportunities, forest health and management, air, soil and water quality, watershed, and wildlife) and the sustained yield of products and services.

The plan identifies the 'tools' resource staff will use to accomplish the objectives that contribute to the realization of the desired conditions. In addition, the 'rules' or design criteria that the USFS will adhere to in implementing projects and activities are outlined. The land management plan also includes monitoring and evaluation requirements that provide a framework for ensuring USFS programs and projects are meeting land management plan direction, and that desired conditions will be achieved over time.

### **Southern California Steelhead Recovery Plan, 2012**

*Organization: National Marine Fisheries Service*

The federal endangered species act (ESA) mandates that the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) develop and implement recovery plans for the conservation (recovery) of listed species. Recovery plans identify recovery actions, based upon the best scientific and commercial data available, necessary for the protection and recovery of listed species. Recovery plans published by NMFS are guidance documents, not regulatory documents.

Steelhead in southern California comprise a “distinct population segment” (DPS) of the species *O. mykiss* that is ecologically discrete from the other populations of *O. Mykiss* along the West Coast of North America. Under the ESA, this DPS qualifies for protection as a separate species.

### **Habitat Conservation Plans – Under Development**

*Organizations: Affected Entities*

Habitat Conservation Plans (HCPs) are planning documents required as part of an application for an incidental take permit. They describe the anticipated effects of the proposed taking; how those impacts

will be minimized, or mitigated; and how the HCP is to be funded. HCPs can apply to both listed and nonlisted species, including those that are candidates or have been proposed for listing. Conserving species before they are in danger of extinction or are likely to become so can also provide early benefits and prevent the need for listing. There are two habitat conservation plans under development in the Region – in the Ventura River and Santa Clara River Watersheds.

### **Ventura County Oak Woodland Management Plan, 2007**

*Organization: Ventura County Planning Division*

The development of Oak Woodland Management Plans (OWMP) grew out of the California Oak Woodland Conservation Act. As a result of the act, the Oak Woodland Conservation Program was established, which is designed to provide funding to help protect and enhance oak woodland resources. In order to qualify for funding, the county where applicants are applying for funding from must have an Oak Woodland Management Plan.

Ventura County's OWMP provides a conservation framework for the preservation of the County's oak woodland resources. The Plan provides a summary of the distribution and extent of County's oak woodlands and outlines conservation goals and program recommendations.

### **Public Recreation and Access Plans**

#### **Vision Plan for the Lower Ventura River Parkway**

*Organizations: Trust for Public Land and California State Coastal Conservancy*

The Vision Plan for the Lower Ventura River Parkway (Vision Plan) was created by the 606 Studio, a consortium of faculty and graduate students in the Department of Landscape Architecture at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona; and was sponsored by The Trust for Public Land, Ventura Hillside Conservancy, and the California Coastal Conservancy.

Although not an adopted plan, this document is important to many stakeholders in the watershed as offering a vision for a river parkway along the lower six miles of the Ventura River. The plan is intended as an analysis, planning and design tool for government and non-governmental agencies and the surrounding community to help in the creation of a river parkway that is compatible with recreational use, stewardship, river function and regional ecosystems.

#### **Santa Clara River Parkway Project**

*Organization: California Coastal Conservancy*

The Santa Clara River Parkway is a project of the California State Coastal Conservancy, in collaboration with the Nature Conservancy's LA-Ventura Project, Friends of the Santa Clara River, private landowners

and local governments, to acquire and restore floodplain land along the lower Santa Clara River for habitat, flood protection, and recreation.

### **Vision Plan for Santa Clara River Watershed – Re-imagining Access: ARCS of Experience for the Santa Clara River**

*Organization: Cal-Poly Pomona Studio 606 Project in Collaboration with the California Coastal Conservancy*

Re-imagining Access: ARCS of Experience for the Santa Clara River, is a comprehensive vision plan for public access, education and stewardship and identifies opportunities for the establishment of a trail system over the full length of the Parkway as well as suitable locations for public access. This project aims to address the multifaceted challenges and opportunities of increasing public access to an important waterway while protecting the associated sensitive ecosystems and addressing the interests of adjacent land use. The report gives particular focus to innovative methods of incorporating history into a comprehensive vision plan for public access and education.

### ***Hazard/Emergency Response Plans***

#### **Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan for Ventura County**

*Organization: County of Ventura*

The Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan for Ventura County (HMP) was prepared to meet the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) requirements of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-390) (DMA 2000) and Interim Final Rule (the Rule). The Rule establishes the minimum hazard mitigation planning requirements for states, tribes and local entities.

Participating organizations include eight local jurisdictions in the county, along with school districts, the Ventura County Superintendent of Schools Office, water districts, Ventura County Fire Protection District, the Watershed Protection District and the Sanitary Districts.

By preparing the HMP, all participants are eligible to receive federal mitigation funding after disasters and to apply for mitigation grants before disasters strike.

The plan is intended to enhance public awareness and understanding, create a decision tool for management, promote compliance with state and federal program requirements, enhance local policies for hazard mitigation capability, provide inter-jurisdictional coordination of mitigation-related programming, and achieve regulatory compliance.

#### **Emergency Response Plans, Public Drinking Water Systems**

*Organization: Major Water Purveyors*

All major water purveyors are required to have an Emergency Response Plan. These are comprehensive plans that describe the actions the water supplier would take in response to various major events such as natural disasters or security problems that could damage or disrupt the ability to serve the public potable water.



## Ventura County Community Wildfire Protection Plan

*Organization: Ventura County Fire Protection District*

The Healthy Forest Restoration Act (HFRA) enacted by the U.S. Congress on Jan 7, 2003 established a protocol for the creation of a document that articulated a wildfire safety plan for communities at risk from wildland fires—a Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP).

The Ventura County CWPP identifies wildfire risks, clarifies priorities for funding and describes programs to reduce impacts of wildfire on the communities at risk within Ventura County.

### Unit Strategic Fire Plan

*Organization: Ventura County Fire Protection District*

The Unit Strategic Fire Plan identifies and prioritizes pre-fire and post-fire management strategies and tactics meant to reduce the loss of values at risk within the unit (Ventura County Fire Protection District).

The overall goal is to reduce total cost and losses from wildland fire in Ventura County by protecting assets at risk through focused pre-fire management prescriptions and increased initial attack success.

### Local Watershed Assessment and Management Plans

Local watershed assessments and management plans of those of surrounding watersheds can be informative to the WCVV IRWM planning effort. Local and neighboring watershed management plans include the following:

- Ventura River Watershed Management Plan (under development)
- Rincon Creek Watershed Plan - 2009
- Calleguas Creek Watershed Management Plan (Volumes I and II) - 2005
- Santa Clara River Enhancement & Management Plan – 2005
- Malibu Creek Watershed Management Plan - 2001

## 11.2 Ongoing Coordination with Local Water Management Planning Activities

The WCVV stakeholder process is an inclusive and comprehensive means to collectively manage water related resources in the Region. The agencies responsible for conducting individual or regional water management programs are all represented in the WCVV IRWM stakeholder process. This includes all ten cities, the County of Ventura, sanitary districts, water purveyors (wholesale and retail), agricultural water management entities, state and federal agencies, open space preservation districts, non-governmental environmental entities, business interests, citizen monitoring groups, public interest groups and others.

WCVV staff, committee members and all stakeholder groups work together to coordinate information and develop collaborative solutions. This collaboration began in the late 1970s and continues to grow



and expand – and will continue into the future, through the WCVC, the Association of Water Agencies of Ventura County (AWA) and other groups devoted to water management in the Region. As new information becomes available, research is conducted, plans are completed and documents prepared – they will be shared among WCVC members, through the web portal and other means, and incorporated into the Regional planning effort.