

SACRAMENTO WATER FORUM

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# Annual Review of Business Strategy (FY 2022-23)

August 2023



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**THE WATER FORUM** is a diverse group of business and agricultural leaders, citizen groups, environmentalists, water managers, and local governments working together to balance coequal objectives:

**Provide a reliable and safe water supply for the region’s economic health and planned development through to the year 2030; and Preserve the Lower American River’s fishery, wildlife, recreational, and aesthetic values.**

Dear Members,

It’s hard to believe that just a year ago, we came together as Water Forum members to confirm the Business Strategy (2022-2030). The strategy serves as our roadmap, outlining priorities and guiding our organization’s operations until the original Water Forum Agreement expires in 2030. It covers crucial aspects such as habitat management, flows and operations, science and monitoring, communications, and administration of the Water Forum Successor Effort. Representatives from each of the Water Forum’s caucuses, including water, environment, business, and public, played an active role in shaping, reviewing, and providing input on the Business Strategy. This collaborative effort ensures a comprehensive approach that incorporates diverse perspectives.



Now, as we reflect on one year of implementation, this review celebrates the achievements of our near-term actions outlined in the Business Strategy, offering valuable insights into the work of the Water Forum.

Over the past fiscal year, we have placed significant emphasis on improving our administration, funding, and governance. We have made notable progress in financial tracking of projects, budgets, and funding, and have harnessed technology to facilitate conversations, information sharing, and collaboration within our team. In line with the coequal objectives, we have invested substantial energy in our habitat projects, even undertaking the Water Forum’s most complex set of projects to date.

Communication remains a cornerstone of our efforts. Our relationships with water users, the Regional Water Authority, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, and the larger stakeholder community through the American River Group and Lower American River Task Force are vital. Given the complexity and interconnectedness of California’s water rights system, understanding interests and representation is pivotal.

While we continue to work towards fulfilling the original Agreement, negotiations for a new Water Forum Agreement are center stage. Caucuses have identified climate change as the most significant threat to addressing the Water Forum’s coequal objectives. As the climate swings more often from extreme drought to flood, pressure on our community of interested parties, stakeholders, caucuses, and the region intensifies. However, by maintaining clarity in our work and roles, we can position the Sacramento region for success.

I encourage you to share this Annual Review with your organizations, boards, and councils. Let’s broaden our reach and connect with like-minded individuals and groups who share our passion and dedication to protecting our water supplies and preserving the environment of the Lower American River. Together, we can safeguard our economic prosperity and enhance the quality of life for the Sacramento region for decades to come.

Warm regards,

Jessica Law, Executive Director  
August 2023



# WFSE BUSINESS STRATEGY FOR EXISTING PROGRAM AREAS (2022-2030)

## 1.1 Habitat Enhancement

The Water Forum is well regarded for its long-standing habitat work on the Lower American River (LAR). The LAR Salmonid Habitat Enhancement Projects are at the core of the program, largely supported by Federal funding through the Central Valley Project Improvement Act (CVPIA). In its 15th year, this program incorporates best-available science to continually improve spawning gravel and rearing habitat through regular construction projects on the river. In 2020 the Water Forum was awarded \$5 million in Prop 68 funding from the State for early implementation of the Statewide Voluntary Agreement (VA) process. This complements existing Federal funding (\$7.9 million) for the program while also amplifying the pace and scale of implementation. In the near-term, the Water Forum is focused on refining design, analysis, and implementing construction with a phased approach at each of 10 approved sites. In addition, the Water Forum is evaluating feasibility of other habitat enhancement sites on the LAR, continuing our efforts on multi-benefit projects such as Cordova Creek naturalization, and working to strengthen connections to organizations and stakeholders working to improve river corridor health on the LAR.

### Status Update

#### Continued Habitat Planning and Implementation

The Water Forum completed its most complex set of projects during FY 2022-23 with the simultaneous construction of Lower Sailor Bar and Nimbus Basin during the summer/fall 2022, which added 17 acres of spawning and 7 acres of rearing habitat. The season also included a supplemental gravel sorting operation at Mississippi Bar, so the program has over 30,000 cubic yards of maintenance gravel available. Additionally, final design, planning, analysis, bidding and contractor selection for the 2023 Upper River Bend-Phase 1 spawning/rearing project occurred during FY 2022-23. Finally, Water Forum was the first tributary recipient to construct a project with Prop 68 funding (VA focused) and has already reached the spawning habitat target proposed for the LAR under the 2018 VA Proposed Action. While approval of proposed spawning habitat targets is still pending, this achievement exemplifies the region's commitment to cultivating enduring solutions, and a tangible realization of the benefits these projects offer.



Water Forum members brainstorm potential solution sets to address issues identified in the Ad Hoc Technical Team report.

### Phase Three

At the completion of Phase Two, Water Forum members were ready to get started on developing the structure or framework for the agreement. After several rounds of meetings with the Negotiating Steering Committee and the caucuses, careful agreements were reached regarding the structure of working group topics, representation, and process for communicating.

There are four working groups: *American River Flows and Operations*; *American River Corridor Health, Water Supply Sustainability*; and *Governance, Funding, and Administration*. The first three of these working groups convened in October 2022 to review draft working group charges. The fourth working group, *Governance, Funding, and Administration* will meet in Phase Four. Working group members met several times into early 2023 to review working group charges and refine the problem statements.

In April 2023, the Water Forum plenary came together to brainstorm potential solution sets. This interactive workshop resulted in over 100 ideas for resolving the three main issues identified from the Ad Hoc Technical Team report. Members will continue to meet at a plenary in June, July, and August to further explore and identify potential solution sets.

As of August 2023, the Water Forum 2.0 is making progress. Working groups are beginning to bring potential solution sets for collective consideration. As the working groups deliberate and develop preliminary proposals, the caucuses are contributing their insights to enrich these proposals. This effort propels us forward, bringing us closer to detailing the agreement's key components.

Looking ahead to Phase 4, anticipated to transition into the fall, these deliberations are expected to pivot towards a more focused analysis of endorsed solution sets, metrics of success and other components that will constitute the draft agreement.



The Water Forum team hosted a special news media tour of 2022 Habitat projects, attracting significant media attention, including segments by KCRA 3, Fox 40, CBS 13, and several local publications. KCRA 3 also featured footage by Live Copter 3 in a Facebook Live segment lasting over 20 minutes.

**Outreach for Habitat Projects**

The Water Forum conducted extensive outreach for its 2022 Habitat projects. These efforts included direct mail with fact sheet and list of Frequently Asked Questions to residential neighbors; a virtual Open House event; signage (in multiple languages) placed at key locations near construction areas; outreach to clubs and groups that use the American River Parkway and fish in the river; posters at businesses and organizations likely to reach interested audiences; tool kit to help partners inform the public; and more.



The Water Forum team hosted tours of the construction sites for both the 2021 and 2022 projects to showcase the Water Forum’s habitat work for interested stakeholders and potential funders. This included tours for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, California Department of Water Resources, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, California Department of Water Resources, Sustainable Conservation, Center for Land-Based Learning, and other interested stakeholders.



Habitat project tour guests included Tanya Trujillo, Assistant Secretary for Water and Science, U.S. Department of the Interior.

**Cordova Creek Improvements**

Phase 2 of the Cordova Creek Naturalization Project concluded in FY 2022-23 with completion of multiple analyses, baseline data collection, and completion of a 65% channel design and planting plan along with a design for improved visitor safety and educational access to the area, with a replacement of the existing bridge and re-routing of the Jedidiah Smith Bike Trail. This design included direct Parkway stakeholder input and was finalized with broad support.

**Finalize Five-year Habitat Strategy and Maintenance and Monitoring Plan**

FY 2022-23 was an extremely productive and active year for the habitat enhancement program.

- The Water Forum finalized a 10-year program strategy for funding, design, analysis, and implementation of salmonid habitat improvements and maintenance through FY 2033.
- After several years of working with State and Federal agencies, the Water Forum received programmatic regulatory coverage from a total of 12 overseeing agencies for all applicable permits and consultations necessary to support construction of habitat enhancement projects at 10 sites along the LAR.
- The Water Forum also developed a gravel maintenance and monitoring plan that incorporates a multi-tier quantitative and qualitative approach to ensure annual evaluation of habitat sites and guidance for further monitoring based on target flows and effectiveness assessments, and maintenance as necessary.

The Water Forum is currently working with State and Federal agencies to identify funding to support long-term implementation of this work.

**Regional and Statewide Partnership and Representation**

The Water Forum continued to coordinate with the Regional Water Authority (RWA) to track progress and is leading implementation of habitat projects that support Statewide Voluntary Agreement implementation. Staff participated in the VA Science Committee and Science Plan development and engaged with the CVPIA Science Integration Team, which focuses on integrating scientific knowledge into management practices, and Salmon Recovery Partnership, a collaborative effort aimed at restoring salmon populations. These activities illustrate the Water Forum’s unique role and the region’s level of sophistication and investment in data development and management.

Table 1.1 Habitat Enhancement	Status
<b>Near-Term Priority Actions (FY 2022-2024)</b>	<b>July 2023</b>
a. Finalize 5-year LAR Salmonid Habitat Enhancement Program funding, design, analysis, and implementation strategy (grant funded)	Completed
b. Develop LAR habitat maintenance and monitoring plan (grant funded)	Completed
c. Cordova Creek Phase 1, and Phase 2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue with local partners to support Phase 1 maintenance.</li> <li>• Prepare CEQA to prep for WCB eligibility for Cordova Creek Phase 2 Final design and construction grant funding.</li> <li>• Pursue WCB grant funding to complete design and construct Phase 2 Cordova Creek</li> <li>• Continue to engage with stakeholders to ensure project support; partner with parkway advocates (Soil Born, CNPS, SARA, etc.)</li> </ul>	Completed FY 22 Active (Phase 2)  Planned FY 24
d. Engage with State and Federal agencies on implementation of LAR Salmonid Habitat Enhancement Program consistent with Statewide Voluntary Agreement early implementation actions (grant funded)	High Priority
e. Finalize publications highlighting LAR Salmonid Habitat Enhancement Program work over past 10 years (partially grant funded) (see Science & Monitoring)	Completed
<b>Ongoing Annual Actions</b>	
f. Construct phases of LAR Salmonid Habitat Program each year (grant funded)	Completed projects at Mississippi Bar, Lower Sailor Bar, and Nimbus Basin
g. Implement outreach and communications strategy for LAR Salmonid Habitat Enhancement Program and other habitat enhancement projects (partially grant funded)	Completed for Lower Sailor Bar and Nimbus Basin
h. Work with public water agencies (PWAs) and State and Federal agencies to track progress of Water Forum efforts regarding other programs (30x30; Statewide Voluntary Agreements, Cutting Green Tape, etc.) or requirements	High Priority
i. Continue to co-convene the Lower American River Task Force (LARTF) with SAFCA	Active
j. Coordinate with Regional Parks on Natural Resources Management Planning (NRMP) implementation and monitoring	Active
<b>As Time Allows</b>	
k. Seek grant funding for assessing the feasibility of creek enhancement projects (e.g., Buffalo Creek, Carmichael Creek, etc.)	On Hold
l. Seek grant funding for assessing the feasibility of rearing site enhancement projects as identified in Rearing Review Report (August 2020)	Planned FY 24
m. Continue to track and update the FISH plan (Draft 2019)	Planned FY 24
n. Support local river education programs at Effie Yeaw Nature Center, Sacramento Valley Conservancy, Soil Born Farms, and CNPS	Active

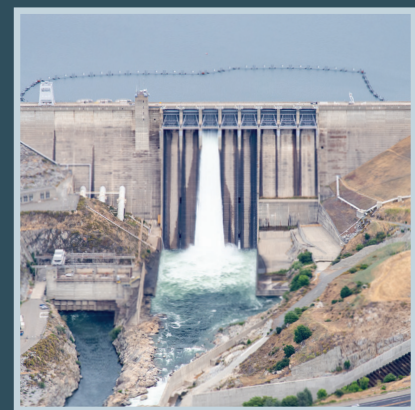
## 1.2 Flows and Operations

In 2006, the Water Forum published the first Flow Management Standard (FMS) for the LAR. This methodology for protecting river health and water supply has continued to evolve and improve with new modeling and technical efforts. The Water Forum is dedicated to enhancing the FMS and aligning it with other initiatives to ensure its inclusion in regulatory processes, such as the re-initiation of consultation on the Biological Opinions. To promote better understanding and implementation of the FMS, the Water Forum plans to publish a consolidated version of the methodology. This resource will serve as a reference for the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) and other State and Federal agencies involved in its implementation. The Water Forum’s technical team of staff and consultants plays a crucial role in effectively communicating and interpreting the FMS with scientific rigor.

### Status Update

From fall 2022 to spring 2023 the American River watershed experienced historically high volumes of precipitation. With full reservoirs, and a deep cold snowpack waiting to melt, the region was able to take a deep breath and enjoy an “easier” operations season. While there are still challenges to resolve, and the Water Forum is continuing to work closely with Reclamation and other State and Federal agencies, the change in hydrology was a relief after four years of prolonged drought.

The region actively engaged with Reclamation on the reinitiation of consultation on the Biological Opinions. Drawing from three years of experience in implementing the 2019 Biological Opinions, the Water Forum provided valuable input and insights. This collaborative effort helps to ensure that the region’s expertise and lessons learned are incorporated into the decision-making process.



High volumes of precipitation led to an “easier” operations season.  
Photo credit: CA DWR

Table 1.2 Flows and Operations	Status
<b>Near-Term Priority Actions (FY 2022-2024)</b>	<b>July 2023</b>
a. Publish consolidated 2017 Modified FMS report	High Priority
b. Continue to work with Reclamation to implement the existing MOU and refine as needed	Active
c. Engage with Reclamation and other key agencies or stakeholders in the re-initiation of consultation on the Biological Opinion (BiOp) to ensure that the FMS standard continues to be productive and protective of the river	High Priority
d. Engage in the American River Group stakeholder discussions while working towards clarifying roles and responsibilities related to WF’s expertise	Active
e. Publish updated Modified FMS documentation following completion of the pending BiOp process (2022-2023)	On Hold
<b>Ongoing Annual Actions</b>	
f. Continue Modified FMS monitoring/updates/adjustments	On Hold
g. Work with PWAs and State and Federal agencies, WF and other stakeholders to review assumptions on Modified FMS, environmental flows, and operations regarding other programs (Statewide Voluntary agreements, Water Portfolio, etc.) or requirements	Active
h. Engage WF members; and provide technical assistance to State and Federal agencies throughout the year on temperature planning, pulse flow operations, power bypass and storage targets	Active
i. Coordinate with Reclamation and fisheries agencies on FMS implementation	Active
<b>As Time Allows</b>	
j. Track environmental reviews for major projects that could impact the coequal objectives to determine whether further engagement is warranted.	Active
k. Pursue adoption of FMS by SWRCB	On Hold

### 1.3 Science and Monitoring

The Water Forum takes a pragmatic approach to science and monitoring. Each study is directly tied to work that will support learning and adaptive management for crucial initiatives. These include the ongoing salmonid habitat enhancement program, implementation of multi-benefit tributary projects, and the assessment of current and emerging trends in corridor health. Additionally, the scientific research and monitoring efforts play a vital role in supporting the decision-making process related to the FMS.

As the regional and state water management systems face mounting challenges brought about by prolonged drought and the impacts of climate change, the significance of the science and monitoring program continues to grow. It provides essential insights and data that inform adaptive management strategies, enabling us to make informed decisions in the face of evolving environmental conditions. By staying committed to robust scientific practices and continuous monitoring, the Water Forum can effectively address the strain on the water management system and work towards sustainable solutions.

#### Status Update

##### “Year on the River” Calendar

The Water Forum created an invaluable resource – a calendar of monitoring and scientific information – to serve as a reference for State and Federal agencies in discussions at the American River Group meetings and Statewide Voluntary Agreement process. The “Year on the River” highlights the Water Forum’s unique contribution to understanding fisheries and corridor health metrics. It provides essential insights that inform operational decisions and facilitate collaboration with other monitoring agencies. The calendar is the singular source for a comprehensive view of all monitoring activities occurring on the LAR and serves as a valuable tool in ensuring the best possible management practices for the LAR.

##### Restoration Effectiveness Monitoring and Reporting

The Water Forum continued to lead monitoring on the LAR to assess the success of enhancement efforts for Chinook and steelhead populations. This was achieved through on-the-ground assessments that examined the response to spawning and rearing habitat projects. Additionally, corridor-wide aerial surveys were conducted in fall to analyze the distribution of spawning beds or “redds.” The Water Forum also continued genetic mark-recapture studies (linking adult spawners to juvenile production) and otolith studies to inform adaptive management actions and enhance our understanding of salmonid life history on the LAR. The results of this work are synthesized and published in respected peer-reviewed journals and scientific conferences further contributing to the knowledge and understanding of salmonid restoration on the LAR. By engaging in rigorous scientific research, the Water Forum strives to continuously improve and adapt their management strategies to ensure the success of enhancement initiatives.



Philip Colombano with Cramer Fish Sciences is part of the team recording redd locations.

##### Stakeholder Collaboration on Habitat Initiatives

As with Habitat Enhancement, the Water Forum prioritized collaboration with stakeholders. Staff continued to coordinate with RWA to advance habitat projects that support Voluntary Agreement implementation. They contributed to the VA Science Committee, Science Plan, and engaged with the CVPIA Science Integration Team and Salmon Recovery Partnership. These underscore the Water Forum’s unique role and region’s commitment to data-driven planning, as well as the Water Forum’s dedication to successful habitat restoration initiatives and ecosystem well-being.

Table 1.3 Science and Monitoring		Status
Near-Term Priority Actions (FY 2022-2024)		July 2023
a.	Develop “Year on the River” calendar of monitoring and scientific information to support decision making	Complete
b.	Review monitoring information from past projects to determine their efficacy and improve future projects through adaptive management. Develop restoration effectiveness 15-year review publication	Active
c.	Conduct water quality monitoring pilot study (i.e., dissolved oxygen at existing temperature compliance points)	Active
d.	Conduct eDNA or other short-term studies (drought monitoring, etc.) to inform management decisions based on river health	Completed
e.	Conduct LAR-wide topographic change analysis [LiDAR and 2D DEM/model update] (with CVPIA-USBR grant funds)	Planned FY 24
f.	Complete restoration value study/presentation for LAR	Active
g.	Conduct required pre/post-project monitoring of sites implemented in 2022 and 2023 with Prop 68 grant funds	Completed; Ongoing
h.	Complete life history/flow management evaluations (otolith), mark-recapture (genetics, restoration effectiveness), ESHE juvenile model, and peer-reviewed publications (with CVPIA-USFWS grant funds)	Ongoing
Ongoing Annual Actions		
i.	Publish WF relevant fisheries and riverine ecosystem data in a central data repository	On Hold
j.	Publish WF scientific findings in peer reviewed journals	Active
k.	Present WF scientific findings at conferences	Ongoing
l.	Seek funding and support from State and Federal agencies to implement a robust science program	Active
m.	Work with PWAs and State and Federal agencies, WF and other stakeholders to participate in regional or statewide monitoring, modeling, and adaptive management efforts (e.g., CVPIA Science Integration Team, Salmon Recovery Partnerships, Statewide Voluntary agreements) or other requirements	Active
As Time Allows		
n.	Seek funding to support a historical landscape ecology study of the LAR	On Hold
o.	Form a science advisory committee to provide input on WF efforts and provide expert reviews	On Hold

## 1.4 Communications

Communication and outreach play a critical role in the success of the Water Forum. Internally, the Water Forum caucus structure facilitates communication among its members. Externally, the Water Forum engages with a broader audience of Water Forum signatory agencies and other partners. In the near-term, Water Forum staff and consultants are continuing to improve our communications systems and strategies for reaching appropriate audiences.

Through effective communication and outreach, the Water Forum aims to foster transparency, facilitate dialogue, and promote collaboration among all stakeholders and, ultimately, to achieve our collective goals and effectively address the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.

### Status Update

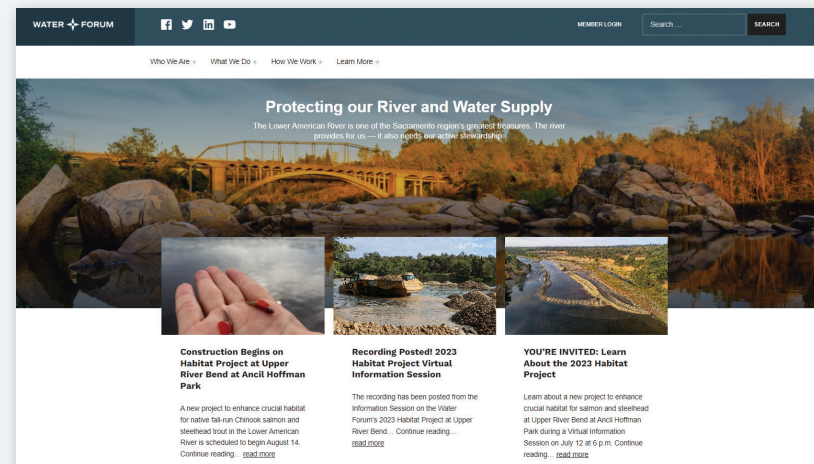
The Water Forum focused on enhancing internal communication through a range of initiatives. These included the launch of a new internal SharePoint site to facilitate communication and coordination on the Water Forum 2.0 effort. In addition, as the world continued to emerge from the pandemic, the Water Forum transitioned to hosting more frequent in-person and hybrid plenary sessions and working group meetings. This fostered the exploration of complex concepts, nuanced conversations and shared understanding.

To help ensure clear and consistent messaging, the Coordinating Committee serves as the main venue for reviewing external communications such as media statements, press releases, letters and other communication materials. This collaborative process allows for careful review and consideration before sharing information with the public and stakeholders.

Furthermore, caucus members took action to foster trust and collaboration within their respective caucuses. Caucus leaders also initiated topic-specific discussions, such as those centered around land use, promoting in-depth exploration of critical subjects.



The Water Forum hosted team building opportunities such as a morning bike ride along the LAR.



A new website was launched in August 2023.

### Sharing the Water Forum's Work

The Water Forum distributed nearly two dozen blog posts to communicate the work of the Water Forum and consulting team on the river, provide unique expertise and insights, and build connections by sharing the interests and personalities of Water Forum members.

Topics included, "Will There be a March Miracle," "How the Water Forum Will Use Fish Ear Bones to Evaluate Flow Management," the "Secrets from the Water Forum Cyclists," "Measuring Results from the Water Forum's Habitat Projects," and more. Several posts were also amplified through DWR Water News and other organizations.



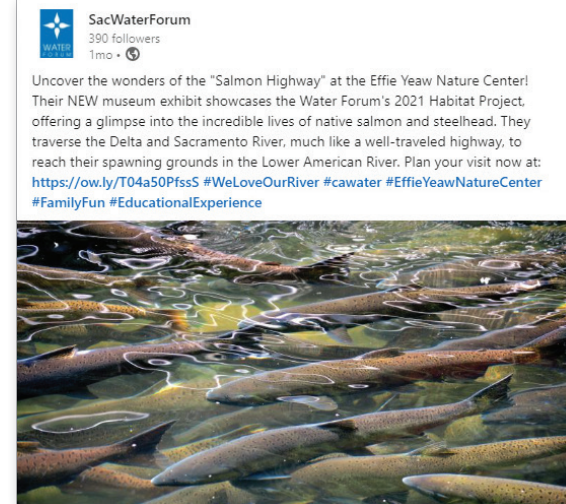
### Enhancing Environmental Education

The Water Forum sponsored educational signage at Camp Pollock along the Lower American River near downtown Sacramento as part of the camp's 100-year anniversary. The beautiful, permanent sign educates visitors about the river as our "Wild and Scenic Wonderland," the American River watershed, the story and lifecycle of salmon and steelhead and other animals that rely in the river.

### Jonas Minton, a Guiding Light of the Water Forum

In 2022, we said farewell to Jonas Minton, the Water Forum's first full-time executive director and a vital guiding hand in our work, who passed away on June 22, 2022. Jonas left a huge imprint on many aspects of the Water Forum and California water policy.

Work is underway to create a lasting tribute to Jonas and the Water Forum's habitat work he inspired on the Lower American River through a permanent sign at the Effie Yeaw Nature Center at Ancil Hoffman Park in Carmichael, which is expected to be installed in fall 2023.



### New Presence on LinkedIn

The Water Forum continued to share information and insight about the issues that impact the Water Forum coequal objectives via social media channels Facebook and Twitter, and also added a new presence on LinkedIn.

### Supporting Organizations Working on the River and Parkway

The Business Strategy directs the Water Forum to connect with and amplify organizations that are working on the Lower American River, as the Water Forum did through their support of the American River Parkway Foundation's River Clean-Up event in April and Effie Yeaw Nature Center's NatureFest in October.

The Water Forum participated in Sacramento Earth Day 2023, sponsored by Water Forum member, the Environmental Council of Sacramento (ECOS).





Table 1.4 Communications	Status
<b>Near-Term Priority Actions (FY 2022-2024)</b>	<b>July 2023</b>
a. Work with the Coordinating Committee to develop annual communications and stakeholder outreach strategy based on current issues and opportunities	Expected September 2023
b. Refresh the WF external website with new design and branding	Completed
c. Create a WF member-only web page to support facilitation of WF meetings and information exchange	Completed
d. Implement the WF Tracking and Oversight process as agreed by WF members in 2017	On Hold
e. Coordinate with regional GSAs to better understand the work that they are doing to implement the GSPs (monitoring, action plans) and how it relates to the coequal objectives	On Hold
<b>Ongoing Annual Actions</b>	
f. Advocate for the American River region with State and Federal agencies and other stakeholders	Active
g. Connect with and amplify organizations that are working on the LAR	Active
h. Promote the work of the WF with relevant stakeholders	Active
i. Continue to convene effective and engaging Plenary, Coordinating Committee, and Caucus meetings	Active
j. Provide facilitation support to WF signatories as appropriate and upon request	Active
k. Continue to provide “Learning and Engagement” sessions for WF members and the public to highlight key issues in the region, including but not limited to groundwater sustainability, water conservation, water management, water for economic and development needs, and river health	Completed L&E Session 1; Additional sessions On Hold
<b>As Time Allows</b>	
l. Complete “State of the River” report every five years	Active

### 1.5 Administration

The Water Forum, also known as City-County Office of Metropolitan Water Planning, is housed at the City of Sacramento. As such, Water Forum staff work closely with City of Sacramento to track and manage our finances. In the near term, Water Forum staff are working to improve our internal processes to allow for long-term viability of the organization.

#### Status Update

Water Forum staff are working extensively with City of Sacramento staff to review existing financial procedures and processes and make improvements to ensure consistency with standard City accounting, budgeting, and reporting practices. As a part of this effort, the Water Forum and City of Sacramento Department of Utilities, are now partnering to share two staff positions at the Water Forum, along with other city resources to manage the Water Forum’s funds for WFSE, HME, and grant programs. The Water Forum Coordinating Committee has been providing feedback and advice to Water Forum and City staff. This improved financial accounting and tracking are part of the ongoing effort to implement improved management controls and accountability within the Water Forum.

#### 2022-23 Coordinating Committee

The Coordinating Committee includes two members from each caucus. Committee members meet monthly with the Executive Director to provide direction on Water Forum operations, including communications and implementation of the Business Strategy, and to approve the annual budget. In addition, the Coordinating Committee and the City of Sacramento City Manager or designee provide project oversight and approve an annual scope of work for the Water Forum 2.0 effort, including a schedule and budget, that supports established priorities.

**Kerry Schmitz**, Sacramento County

**Anne Sanger**, City of Sacramento

**Tim Murphy**, Sacramento Regional Builders Exchange

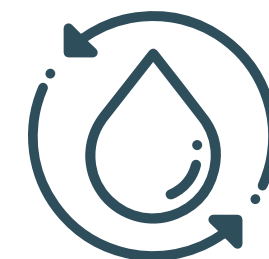
**Jim Ray**, North State Building Industry Association

**Ron Stork**, Friends of the River

**Ted Rauh**, Environmental Council of Sacramento

**Gary Bardini**, Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency

**Ansel Lundberg and Alex Harold**, SMUD



**WATER CAUCUS**



**BUSINESS CAUCUS**



**ENVIRONMENTAL CAUCUS**



**PUBLIC CAUCUS**

Table 1.5 Administration	Status
<b>Near-Term Priority Actions (FY 2022-2024)</b>	<b>July 2023</b>
a. Review internal processes to ensure required fiscal tracking measures are in place	Completed
b. Pursue additional funding to support WF 2.0 process (i.e., WF members, external funding)	Completed
c. Review current funding structure to align with ongoing efforts such as the Statewide VA process	Active
<b>Ongoing Annual Actions</b>	
d. Prepare quarterly and annual reports of actual spending	Completed
e. Prepare budgets and approval by WF members and the Sacramento City Council, and Sacramento County Board of Supervisors	Completed
f. Prepare and execute contracts to conduct WF work	Completed
g. Prepare and submit required grant progress reports	Completed
h. Implement appropriate fiscal tracking measures	Completed
i. Work with the Coordinating Committee to review progress on near-term actions and annual priorities; Review annual progress reports and priorities with the WF plenary	Expected 2023
<b>As Time Allows</b>	
j. Work with Coordinating Committee to develop a 5-year financial forecast and budget estimate	High Priority

## WATER FORUM 2.0 PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS

Thank you to the organizations and their representatives that are devoting countless hours to participating in Water Forum 2.0 negotiations.

### Business Caucus

- AKT Development\*
- North State Building Industry Association\*
- Sacramento Association of Realtors\*
- Sacramento Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce\*
- Sacramento Regional Builders Exchange (SRBX)
- Green Acres Nursery & Supply

### Environmental Caucus

- Environmental Council of Sacramento\*
- Friends of the River\*
- Save the American River Association, Inc.\*
- Sierra Club Mother Lode Chapter\*

### Public Caucus

- American River Flood Control District
- American River Parkway Foundation
- City of Rancho Cordova
- City of Sacramento\*
- Effie Yeaw Nature Center
- League of Women Voters, Sacramento County \*
- Placer County
- Sacramento Area Council of Governments
- Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency (SAFCA)
- Sacramento County\*
- Sacramento Regional Parks
- Sacramento Valley Conservancy
- SMUD

### Water Caucus

- California American Water\*
- Carmichael Water District\*
- Citrus Heights Water District\*
- City of Folsom\*
- City of Roseville\*
- City of Sacramento\*
- Del Paso Manor Water District\*
- East Bay Municipal Utilities District
- El Dorado Irrigation District\*
- El Dorado Water Agency\*
- Fair Oaks Water District\*
- Florin County Water District\*
- Golden State Water Company\*
- Orange Vale Water Company\*
- Placer County Water Agency\*
- Rancho Murieta Community Service District\*
- Regional Water Authority
- Rio Linda Elverta Community Water District\*
- Sacramento Suburban Water District\*
- Sacramento County Water Agency\*
- San Juan Water District\*

\*Denotes organization that was a signatory to the 2000 agreement.

**COEQUAL OBJECTIVES**

Provide a reliable and safe water supply for the region's economic health and planned development through to the year 2030; and Preserve the fishery, wildlife, recreational, and aesthetic values of the lower American River.

**CONTACT US**

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