

Alhambra Watershed Council Agenda

Tuesday, Dec 2nd, 2025

6:30 pm – 8:00 pm

ZOOM MEETING LINK:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85237702240?pwd=MEFIRIRMM2dYclRqTHE5T2hnQIRMdz09>

Meeting ID: 852 3770 2240

Passcode: 652371

Dial In Number: +1 669 444 9171

Attendees: Suzy Hall-Whitney, Mitch Avalon, Evan Green, Igor Skaredoff, Amber Milano, Miranda Shuba, Ryan Schultz, Elaine Jackson, Jamie Menasco, Kristin Tam, Bob Huttar, Doug Burgess, Walter Pease, Katie, Jeannine Gendar, Noah Luecke, Ivette Rivero, Carol Arnold, Shirley Skaredoff

6:30 Stream Typology Presentation (Greg Pasternack)

- Greg, River Scientist at UC Davis, presented on the Resilient and Equitable Stream Corridors Project on which he is lead PI
- Project is a multi-institutional project involving three Bay Area RCDs, UCANR, San Jose State, and SafeR3, a geotechnical nonprofit
- Has analyzed streamside encampments, vulnerability to flooding streams of the Bay Area
- Greg's research team developed Bay Area stream typology over the past two years
 - Stream typology includes artificial and natural stream types
 - Website resources available on the stream typology on Greg's website
 - Include links here
 - Also Survey123 app available to do stream type surveys
 - Greg provides app to anyone who has watched tutorial videos he has created on Youtube
 - Can use stream type data to see the larger picture and better manage streams, plan restoration, etc.
 - Could develop tools to aid site assessments and restoration strategies
- Questions
 - Mitch asked about RWQCB emergency permits, Greg got data from RWQCB of emergency permits issued 2021-2025
 - A number of these are for wetlands, but also for armored channels
 - Greg brought up the issue of creekside living for homeowners - is there preventative work that could be done to avoid property damage?
 - Mitch pointed out that there is a lot of unpermitted armoring of banks by homeowners
 - Cannot just rely on the permits from Water Board for data on projects, since so much unpermitted work is done
 - Igor asked if greg has any definition of a properly functioning watershed

- Generally have worked on small projects, but what should we be aiming for
- Greg answered, what are the ecological functions you're trying to support
 - Greg often looks to the wetland community, since they have done a better job of defining what they want a wetland to do than the river community
 - For certain California rivers, restoration is really focused on salmon, single species, but this can have negative effects on other species
 - What are the positive functions we want to institute? Know how specific projects fit into that larger vision
 - Could do an exchange with other watershed councils, get some cross-fertilization, have them sit in on your meeting and you sit in on theirs
- Igor mentioned looking for a way to measure success
- Greg trying to put together list of stream restoration projects
 - Question of success or failure is very fraught
 - Often have to wait awhile
 - Ecological functionality is not something we know
- Igor: do you have a vision of how we get there?
- Greg: trying to organize things by stream type
 - Still struggling with this question
- Mitch: Matt Kondolf (UCB) has student who's done a lot of work in Walnut Creek Watershed
- Igor: produced Alhambra Watershed Management Plan
 - Would be interested in having greg's comments on it
 - Send to greg through Evan

7:00 Introductions and Partner Reports

Friends of Alhambra Creek

- Still waiting on check from MCF for cigarette butt project
 - Evan to check the CCRCD office and to check with colleagues
- Elaine mentioned that new pier would be good place for cigarette butt holder

National Park Service

Contra Costa Resource Conservation District (CCRCD)

Mt. View Sanitary District

Other member reports

7:10 Discussion Items:

- TEX Project updates
 - Narrowing project scope
 - Mitch: changing scope of the project from sediment source analysis runoff to runoff focus
 - Igor: do it such a way that you can build on it
 - How do you know what you want?
 - A lot has changed since the Alhambra Watershed Management PLan was developed, now would be a good

time to update it, but would TEX accept this?

- Finding what's been accomplished
- Evan mentioned that updating a plan is a perfectly acceptable
- Mitch: could look at monitoring for success
 - Would be good to identify what monitoring protocols we need, or should come up with
 - How do we get the resources to develop these monitoring programs?
 - Would want to do water quality monitoring, and temperature (is that what he said?)
- Evan mentioned Srah Pearce's ideas to do stream analyses
- Mitch: Could look at it where we could put a stage reader
 - Can look at water level and record easily
- Mitch: what data do we have, based on our objectives, what data gaps do we have?
 - Doug mentioned that he has compiled list of documents with numbers in them
 - Reaching out to FOPCW for input on TEX process
- Arundo removal project—permitting process update (Bob Huttar/Jutta Burger)
 - Bob: next step is for RCD to review final draft of LSA 1602 Notification and provide CEQA NOE for Bob to file
 - Have discovered a lot more Arundo scouting sites with CCAC Fellows
 - Have found about 20 sites so far
- Local Community Benefits Fund (Benicia, Richmond)—what did we learn from the informational webinar on 10/29?
- Planning for future requests for projects
 - Mitigation projects
 - Supplementary Environmental Projects (SEPs)
 - Developing and organizing Project List
- Vegetation Management between Escobar and Main (behind Roxx on Main)
 - How to facilitate this work with City and CDFW
- LACWMP implementation facilitation

8:00 Adjourn

Action Items:

- **Evan: Send Alhambra Watershed Management Plan to Greg for comments**
- **Doug to provide datasets to Evan to share with Waverly**
- **Evan to check for MCF check at CCRCD office on Thursday, also check in with colleagues to see if we got the check**

The next meeting of the AWC will be on **Tuesday, January 6th, 2025, at 6:30 pm.**

For questions regarding the AWC or to suggest agenda items, please email Evan Green at
egreen@ccrcd.org

The Alhambra Watershed Council is a stakeholder group dedicated to protecting and enhancing the health of our watershed by educating ourselves and the public about the watershed, providing a forum for new ideas and projects, and acting as a community resource.