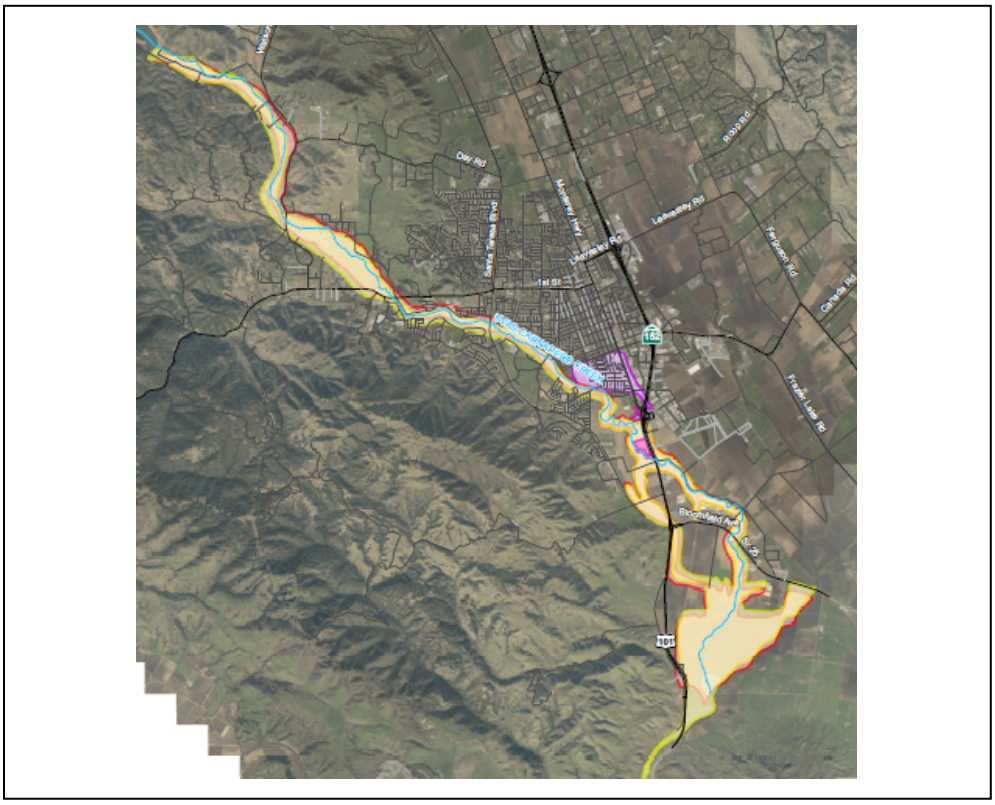
UVAS CREEK
EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN



Revision Date: December 2023

SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

R14454

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APPROVAL & IMPLEMENTATION

The Uvas Creek Emergency Action Plan for Flood Response prepared by the Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water) is hereby approved for implementation. This plan shall be reviewed and updated annually as necessary by Watersheds Operations & Maintenance Division in coordination with other affected Valley Water divisions/units and external partners.

This plan uses resources currently available to Valley Water and does not obligate other stakeholders. It is intended to provide guidance on how Valley Water will coordinate, communicate, and make decisions for preparation and response to storm and flood events. It is not intended to prescribe responsibilities or actions nor constrain the freedom of Valley Water during any phase of operations.

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) has assigned oversight of emergency management to the Chief Operating Officer (COO) of Information Technology & Administration Services and management of activities relating to Uvas Creek to the COO of Watersheds. Approval and implementation of this EAP is the responsibility of these COOs.

By signing here, the COOs agree to the concepts outlined in this EAP and will continue work on maintaining the EAP, and provide appropriate resources for preparedness, mitigation and response to the next flood emergency:

N. Nguyen 01/29/2020

Ngoc Nguyen DATE
Deputy Operating Officer
Acting for Melanie Richardson, P.E.
Chief Operating Officer
Watersheds

Tina N. Yoke 1/30/20

Tina Nguyen Yoke, C.P.M. DATE
Chief Operating Officer
Information Technology & Administrative Services

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page

ACRONYMS

Readers of this plan may find it useful to be familiar with some of the Acronyms used in the document.

Acronym	What is it
ALERT	Automated Local Evaluation in Real Time
AP	Action Plan
AAR	After Action Report
City	City of Gilroy
D&C	Design & Construction
DOC	Departmental Operations Center
DWR	California Department of Water Resources
EAP	Emergency Action Plan
ES&S	Emergency Services & Security
EOC	Emergency Operations Center
EOP	Emergency Operations Plan
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FIT	Field Information Team
HH&G	Hydrology, Hydraulics & Geomorphology
IC	Incident Commander
ICS	Incident Command System
NAVD88	North American Vertical Datum of 1988
NWS	National Weather Service
OC	Office of Communications
OES	Office of Emergency Services
OGR	Office of Government Relations
O&M	Operations & Maintenance
PIO	Public Information Officer
STAGE	Depth of Flow
SEMS	Standardized Emergency Management System
SME	Subject Matter Expert
Valley Water	Santa Clara Valley Water District

RECORD OF HOLDERS OF CONTROL COPIES OF THIS EAP

Copy Number	Unit/Location	Person Receiving Copy	Date
1	Office of Chief Operating Officer – Watersheds	Christopher Hakes	
2	Office of Chief Operating Officer – Information Technology & Administrative Services	Tina Yoke	Jan 2020
3	Watersheds O&M Deputy Operating Officer	Jennifer Codianne	
4	Watersheds O&M Engineering Support UM	Devin Mody	
5	Watersheds O&M Engineering Support	Greg Meamber	
6	Watersheds Field Operations	Ryan Tregoning	
7	Watersheds Hydrology, Hydraulics & Geomorphology	Liang Xu	
8	Raw Water Field Operations & Pipeline Maintenance	Gary Nagaoka	
9	Security and Emergency Services	Security Office	
10	DOC	DOC Files/Library	
11	EOC	Alexander Gordon	
12	City of Gilroy Emergency Services	Office of Emergency Services	
13	Army Corps of Engineers – Sacramento District	District Commander	

RECORD OF REVISIONS AND UPDATES MADE TO EAP

Revision Number	Date	Revision Made	By Whom
1	12/14/23	Minor revisions to update web-based data sources, contacts, organizational changes, public information flyers, updated Flood Condition Levels (Table 1), and changes to flood thresholds in Flood Severity Levels (Table 2).	OES

1. INTRODUCTION

A. PURPOSE OF THE EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN (EAP)

The purpose of this Emergency Action Plan (EAP) is to provide guidance and an approach to ensure communications, planning, and implementation between Valley Water, City of Gilroy (City) and other stakeholder agencies regarding threatened and actual flooding emergencies. This plan is generally specific to Valley Water and City actions and does not include the details of how other jurisdictions will respond during a flood event.

This EAP, which is based on the successful San Francisquito Creek Multi-Agency Coordination and Operational Plan, is designed to establish general guidance for Valley Water, City, and other stakeholders to facilitate:

1. Pre-incident planning prior to a storm/flood event,

2. Coordination of an interagency response and recovery operation, and

3. Collaboration on public messaging for potential, imminent, and actual flooding along the Uvas Creek in the City of Gilroy.

B. LIMITATIONS OF EAP

This EAP shall not constrain the freedom of an Incident Commander (IC) in the field or others when dealing with flooding on Uvas Creek. This EAP does NOT and will NOT replace or override an Agency's:

- Emergency Operations Plans,
- Department Operations Center Plans,
- Public Safety Authority,
- Public Information Officer role/responsibility,
- Purchasing Authority, nor
- Responsibility for documentation for any state or federal Declaration of Emergency.

Instead this EAP will focus on how the responsible agencies can improve coordination before, during and after a flood incident. This EAP provides oversight and guidance. It is not intended to set precedent or commit resources without knowledge of the conditions that may occur, nor provide prescriptive lists of what to do during storm and flood monitoring and response, that the stakeholders are individual jurisdictions and have independent responsibility to accomplish their tasks. The conditions of the emergency dictate the response needs and availability of staff and resources as each emergency can be different and updates in stream management and control systems

could vary the conditions. Valley Water, City and other stakeholders will utilize this EAP as needed to develop joint decisions and actions based on the situation and their jurisdictions capabilities, resources and priorities.

While the EAP or an Attachment may reference an activity related to facility improvements or maintenance, those will be done through separate plans or activities.

C. USE OF THE EAP

This Valley Water internal document is intended to be used by Valley Water before, during and after a storm and includes proactive cooperation with the City, County of Santa Clara and other Stakeholder Agencies as needed. Some response data includes restricted or sensitive information. The restricted portions of this document will clearly be indicated on the subject pages and will not be distributed or made available externally to individuals outside of Valley Water and City or not on the original distribution list. Valley Water and City may distribute this internally but are to handle with the same care as other restricted documents.

D. RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER PLANS

This EAP provides additional guidance specific to Valley Water in its planning, response and recovery activities related to flood emergencies on Uvas Creek. This guidance does not supersede existing agreements or internal plans, such as, the Emergency Operations Plan (EOP), and is consistent with the Uvas Dam EAP. It may include responsibilities or actions that may be taken by other external stakeholders that are not a part of this plan, but is not intended to prescribe that responsibility or action to them or to Valley Water. The reference to external stakeholders is intended to show that the responsibility or action is not expected of Valley Water.

E. STAKEHOLDERS

All parcel owners along Uvas Creek and agencies with jurisdiction in the Uvas Creek Watershed are stakeholders and may have responsibilities identified in this EAP. This includes the Agency Stakeholders (Valley Water, City, Santa Clara County, Caltrans, and Gilroy Unified School District) and Private Property Stakeholders. Combined these are the Stakeholders responsible for the tasks identified in this EAP. Stakeholders combined have a responsibility to respond to the needs of residents, business, property owners, and/or the environment when affected by severe storms that create floods along Uvas Creek. There are other agencies/entities that have a role in preparing and responding to flood events, who may have specified roles to support the response. For example, Santa Clara County Office of Emergency Management (OEM) provides support for assisting in flood warning.

Valley Water is one of several Agency Stakeholders and is the primary user of the EAP and will fulfill related responsibilities before, during and after flood emergencies as resources are available and/or can be safely deployed. This plan is focused on the related activities of Valley Water and, as such, the Valley Water internal stakeholders for the EAP are:

- Valley Water Board of Directors
    - Office of District Counsel
        - Risk Management Program

- Office of the Chief Executive Officer
  - Office of Chief Operating Officer - Information Technology & Administrative Services
    - Emergency Services & Security Unit (ES&S)
  - Office of Chief Operating Officer - Watersheds
    - Operations & Maintenance Division (O&M)
      - Watersheds Field Operations Unit (WFOU)
      - Vegetation Field Operations Unit (VFOU)
      - Operations & Maintenance Engineering Support Unit (O&MES)
    - Watershed Stewardship & Planning Division
      - Hydrology, Hydraulics & Geomorphology Unit (HH&G)
    - Watersheds Design & Construction Division (D&C)
      - Community Projects Review Unit (CPRU)
      - Design and Construction Unit
  - Office of Chief of External Affairs
    - Office of Communications (OC)
    - Office of Government Relations (OGR)
    - Office of Civic Engagement

F. POTENTIAL IMPACTED AREAS

For the purpose of this EAP, Valley Water has identified potential flooding areas "Hot Spots" (Attachment G shows maps of the Field Information Team Hot Spots) at:

- 12895 Uvas Road & Heritage Way – Access road to Thousand Trails RV Park and bridge downstream at Heritage Way flood when Uvas Reservoir has flows going over spillway
- Miller Avenue – Low Flow Crossing Floods
- Luchessa Avenue (sometimes referred to as Thomas Road) – Flooding
- Monterey Frontage Road and Highway 101 – Flooding
- Highway 101 to Highway 25 – Bridges at railroad, Bloomfield Ave, and Highway 25

While these are the known "hot-spots" for flooding, high flow related emergency situations can also occur at other locations. The following are examples of conditions that usually constitute an emergency situation that may occur along Uvas Creek:

- Adverse or unusual conditions that can cause flooding - typically related to high flows in the creek from storm events exceeding the capacity of the creek.

- Overtopping of the banks can occur when Uvas Reservoir has flows going over the spillway ("hot-spots" are at most risk of flooding) that could combine with storm event flows.

- Accidental or intentional damage to conveyance facilities can result in emergency conditions (e.g., downed trees causing a blockage).

See *FEMA 100-Year Flood Map* (Attachment B-1), *Valley Water Estimated 1% (100-Year) Flood Map* (Attachment B-2 and *Flooding History* (Attachment B-3) for areas that have flooded in the past during large storm events and could potentially flood in a 100-year event.

G. UVAS CREEK DESCRIPTION

Uvas Creek is located on the eastern slope of the Santa Cruz Mountain Range at the southern extent of Santa Clara County and is a tributary of the Pajaro River. The Uvas Creek Watershed is defined to be all land that contributes flow to Uvas Creek, upstream of Uvas Creek's Pajaro River confluence. The Pajaro River flows to the west out of Santa Clara County into San Benito County where it again flows over county lines to Monterey County, where it flows into Monterey Bay. Uvas Creek supports one of the last remaining wild runs of the South Central California Coast steelhead, a federally threatened species and state Species of Concern.

Uvas Creek Watershed has a rough area of 87 square miles. The upper portion of Uvas Creek Watershed is regulated by Uvas Reservoir (Constructed in 1957). Uvas Reservoir controls roughly 32 square miles of the total 87 square miles of Uvas Creek Watershed and is located 7.5 miles upstream of the City. Major flooding in Uvas Creek was recorded in 1982, 1983, 1986, 1995, 1997, 1998, and 2017 (Attachment B-3). Significant tributaries to Uvas Creek include Solis Creek, Sycamore Creek, Burchell Creek, Ousley Canyon Creek, Croy Creek, Little Arthur Creek, Bodfish Creek, Gavilan Creek, Tick Creek, and Tar Creek.

Flood Protection measures including levees were constructed in 1986 in partnership with the Army Corps of Engineers to provide 100-year flood flow capacity between Santa Teresa Boulevard and Luchessa Avenue. The project design includes a levee, overflow areas between Luchessa Avenue and Highway 101, and flooding of the low flow crossing of Miller Avenue.

H. TRAINING OF EAP

ES&S will regularly conduct internal Valley Water training that may include: Discussion-based exercises, such as, Workshops, Seminars, or Tabletop Exercises; Operational exercises to test communications or notifications systems; or Functional Exercises to test the relationship between Departmental Operations Centers (DOC) and Emergency Operations Centers (EOC). These will often be general training, but may also use specific scenarios that could include the use of this EAP.

If this EAP has not been included as part of another training effort or activated for any other reason over a 5-year period, the Watersheds O&M Engineering Support Unit will work with ES&S to schedule a test of the EAP.

This test can consist of a meeting, including a tabletop exercise, or be conducted as part of Watersheds O&M tabletop exercises. A scenario or scenarios specific to Uvas Creek should be given to allow participants to discuss response and actions they would take to address and resolve the scenario if Uvas has not been part of a training over a 5-year period. Each section of the EAP should be utilized during the exercise.

Following any exercise or activations, responses and actions should be reviewed, any opportunities to improve or make changes to the EAP should be discussed, and all of this should be documented in a summary document or After Action Report (AAR) prepared by an appropriate party.

I. MAINTENANCE OF EAP

The Watersheds O&M Division will work with ES&S, HH&G and other appropriate stakeholders to review and, if needed, update the EAP at least once each year. The EAP annual review should include the following:

- Verify that the phone numbers and persons in the specified positions are current. The EAP will be revised if any of the contacts have changed (to be provided by Field Operations Unit Manager and Emergency Services & Security Unit Manager),
- Verify and, if necessary, update flood maps and flood thresholds
- Verify the locally available resources and equipment list is current (to be provided by Field Operations Unit Manager), and/or
- Incorporate appropriate recommendations from any After Action Report (AAR) or similar report developed from training or actual activation into the update of the EAP.

REVISIONS

The Watersheds O&M Division is responsible for updating the EAP document. The EAP document held by Watersheds O&M Engineering Support Unit Manager is the master document. When revisions occur, the Watersheds O&M Division will provide the revised pages and an updated revision summary page to all EAP document holders. EAP document holders are responsible for updating outdated copies of the respective documents whenever revisions are received. Outdated pages shall be immediately discarded to avoid any confusion with the revisions.

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2. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

Valley Water utilizes the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) Incident Command System as the primary structure for emergency operations in the Emergency Operations Plan (EOP). This system will be utilized by Valley Water in response to emergency situations on Uvas Creek. Operations as part of this EAP will supplement that system to help ensure a comprehensive and coordinated approach to emergency response.

A. EAP PERSONNEL

The effectiveness of the EAP relies on the designated level of authority provided to each Stakeholder representative and the level of the EAP activation. Based on the event condition level and related potential for flooding, the personnel who staff the EOCs may evolve, due to the knowledge and authority required. Personnel referred to in this EAP are more general and are consistent with the State of California Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) and Incident Command System (ICS).

Subject Matter Experts (SME): Staff from the City, Valley Water (some are listed in Attachment A-2) and other Agency Stakeholders who have specific knowledge related to the issues of permitting, flood control dynamics, creek flow, potential impacts of flood, geology, hydrology, flood monitoring, engineering and flood response.

- Personnel: These may be personnel assigned to the Operations or Planning Section in their respective Emergency Operations Plan/Emergency Operations Center (EOP/EOC).

- Authority includes: Represent Agency on technical matters; Confer with DOC/EOC Director regarding activation of next level; and Engage outside resources such as National Weather Service.

Public Information Officers (PIO): Staff from the City, Valley Water and other Agency Stakeholders who have experience with managing and disseminating information to the public via traditional media, social media, electronic methods or other tools with the purpose of distributing preparedness, response, evacuation and recovery information. Valley Water staff serving as PIO are typically from the External Affairs OC or OGR.

- **Personnel**: These may include personnel assigned to the following EOP/EOC positions:

    - Public Information Officer

- **Authority includes**: Ability to create and distribute outreach materials for community awareness and preparedness; Represent each Agency to produce and distribute public notices regarding potential flood, as appropriate; and City PIO initiates activity to disseminate evacuation orders and shelter information.

Elected Officials: Through each Agency PIO or Liaison staff, elected officials will be contacted and kept informed of the situation during the Watch and Warning stages and provided with appropriate public messaging. If officials are in contact with affected constituents and receive pertinent information, they will convey that information to the EOC through PIO or Liaison staff.

B. FACILITIES

The EAP responders are comprised of staff from Valley Water, City, and other Agency Stakeholders. As the conditions require during Monitoring, Watch, or Warning Stages, a virtual meeting place will be established. To facilitate communication, the City will initiate contact with Valley Water and other Agency Stakeholders via an e-mail group or similar group. The conditions of the storm will identify when the virtual meeting will expand to conference calls, video conferencing, or other means to electronically communicate. If the EOC transitions to a physical location, virtual activities may continue to enhance communications between multiple EOCs and DOCs. The storm conditions and availability of EAP personnel will determine the need and efficiency of the meeting operations and whether Agency Stakeholders will physically locate staff at each other's facility to improve communication and coordination.

C. PROCEDURES

The City and Valley Water, if needed, may develop additional procedures and/or guidance beyond what is provided herein. For example, the City has an emergency flood procedure that is included as Attachment F or Valley Water may choose to co-locate or assign a liaison to the City's Department of Public Works' DOCs. This could facilitate better tracking of personnel operating in the Gilroy area.

D. EMERGENCY LEVEL DESCRIPTIONS

The concepts and activities described in this EAP are associated with the level of storm or flood threat. This EAP is considered active 12 months of the year, 24 hours a day, and 7 days a week. The intensity and degree of activity will increase along with creek conditions. The flood condition levels and flood severity levels utilized in this EAP are consistent with the National Weather Service (NWS) and defined as:

TABLE 1: Flood Condition Levels

Green	**Preparedness** – This is the base stage of readiness that will be the typical condition throughout most of the year. It is defined as: • Flood stage (Minor Flooding or greater) or 90% to 100% of design stage is not estimated within the next 72 hours or • Measured stream depth is below 50% of flood stage or design stage.
Yellow	**Monitoring** – This condition is variable and requires more intense monitoring and a heightened level of alertness. Minimal staff in each Stakeholder's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) may be activated. An informal EOC Action Plan (AP) could be initiated if activated. This condition is defined as: • Stream depth is estimated to reach flood stage or 90% to 100% of design stage in 72 hours or more; or • Measured stream depth is at 50% to 70% of flood stage or 70% to 90% of design stage; or • For areas that are controlled purely by storm drain runoff (flashy systems), the stream depth is estimated to reach flood stage or near design stage within 24 hours.
Orange	**Watch** – The Stakeholders' would increase staff in their EOCs, if they had been activated. If activated, a formal EOC AP will be drafted. This condition is defined as: • Stream depth is estimated to reach flood stage or greater than design stage within 24 to 72 hours; or • Measured stream depths are at 70% to 100% of flood stage; or • Measured stream depths are at 90% to 100% of design stage; or • For areas that are controlled purely by storm drain runoff (flashy systems), the stream depth is estimated to reach flood stage or greater than design stage within 6-12 hours.
Red	**Warning** – This is a more urgent situation. The Stakeholders' EOC should be activated to monitor the situation, providing notifications and responding according to a written AP. Often for smaller watersheds with flashy creeks, an EOC will not be opened until the storm event is occurring. This condition is defined as: • Flood stage or greater than design stage or is occurring or is estimated to occur within 24 hours; or • Measured stream depths are 100% or greater than flood stage; or • Measured stream depths are greater than design stage; or • For areas that are controlled purely by storm drain runoff (flashy systems), the stream depth is estimated to reach flood stage or greater than design stage within minutes/hours or is occurring.
NOTE: Design stage is the depth of water that a facility design is based upon and Flood stage is the depth of water at which a stream or facility begins flooding.	

TABLE 2: Flood Severity Levels**

Action (Yellow)	An established gauge height which when reached by a rising stream, lake, or reservoir represents the level where action is taken in preparation for possible significant hydrologic activity. Uvas Creek – The stream gauge stage (depth of flow) at the Luchessa Avenue stream flow station* is expected to be 8 feet or is near 8 feet.
Minor Flooding (Orange)	Minimal or no property damage, but possibly some public threat (e.g., inundation of roads). Uvas Creek – The stream gauge stage is expected to be or is measured at 12-18 feet at the Luchessa Avenue stream flow station*. Flooding to occur upstream of low-flow crossings at Miller Avenue and Thousand Trails RV Park (12895 Uvas Road). At about 12 feet flooding begins upstream of US-101 near Monterey Frontage Road and travels southward across Mesa Road. The Soap Lake area will likely have widespread rural flooding along the Pajaro River.
Moderate Flooding (Red)	Some inundation of structures and roads near stream, evacuations of people and/or transfer of property to higher elevations. Uvas Creek – The stream gauge stage is expected to be or is measured at 19 feet at the Luchessa Avenue stream flow station*. Minor agricultural flooding occurs downstream of Highway 25 and Monterey Road on-ramps flood. At a stage of 19.2 feet, US-101 floods just north of Bolsa Road and floodwaters eventually move east across the highway. Monterey Road onramps flood and the creek flood upstream of the railroad tracks near Bolsa Road and travels along the west side of the tracks southward, overtopping CA-25 and ununding the US-101/CA-25 ramp.
Major Flooding (Purple)	Extensive inundation of structures and roads, significant evacuations of people and/or transfer of property to higher elevations. Uvas Creek – Flood stage is expected to be or is measured at 24 feet or higher at the Luchessa Avenue stream flow station*. Widespread flooding of City of Gilroy occurs south of Princevalle Drain (south of West 10th Street) and Highway 25 at the US-101 interchange, as well as towards the east.

*Add 185.9' to stage for NAVD88 Elevation. See Attachment E for the Luchessa Avenue stream flow station website link.

**See Attachment E for website link to Valley Water Flood Severity.

NOTE: Please check the Valley Water Surface Water Data Portal for the latest flood thresholds at https://alert.valleywater.org/?p=map&disc=f.

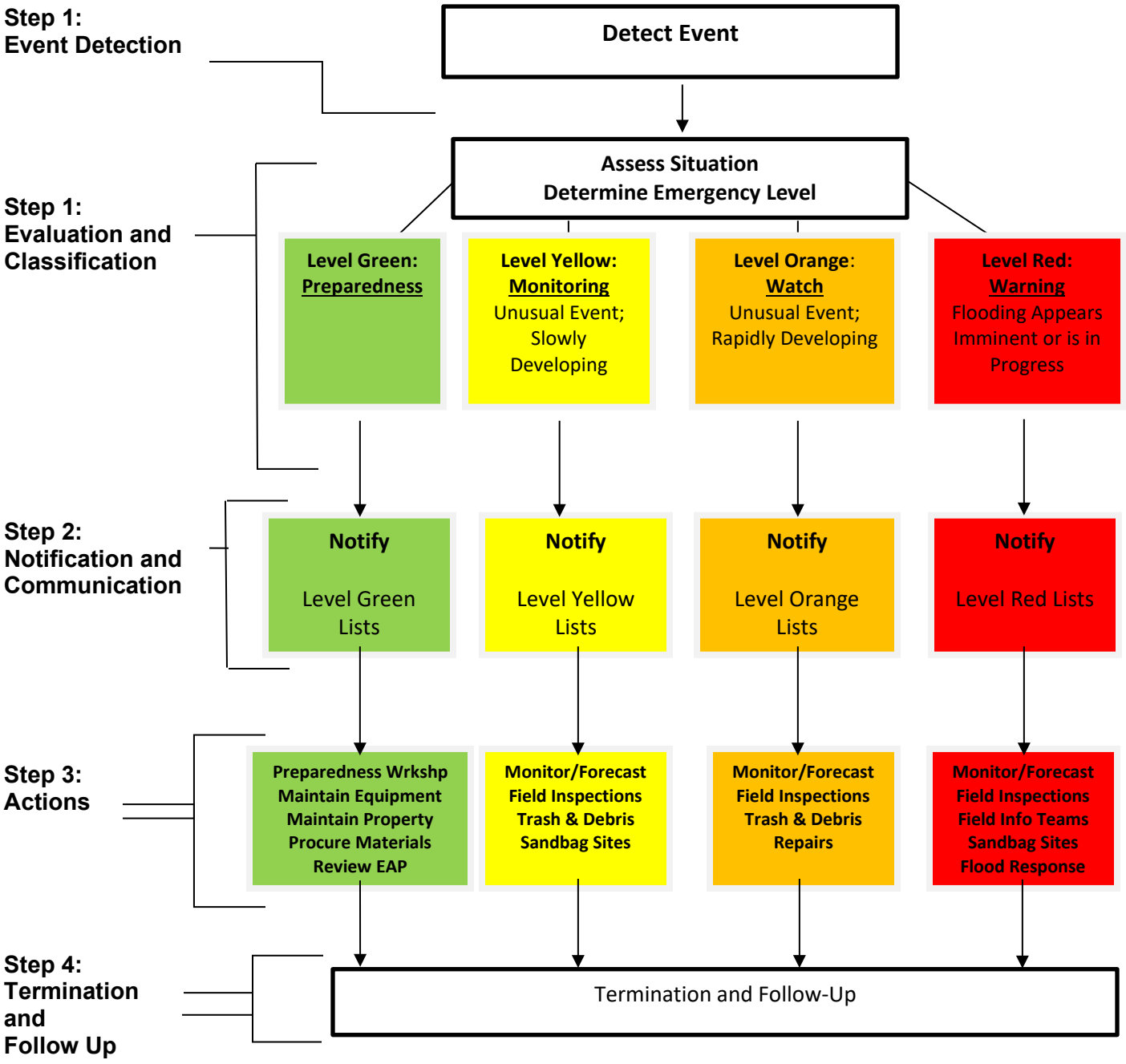
3. MOBILIZATION OF EAP

This EAP is always active because preparedness is a year-round activity. Whether collaborating on flood awareness outreach before an event, responding to a flood event, recovering from an event, or planning for maintenance or improvements after the winter storm season, the need for Valley Water, City, and other Agency Stakeholders to communicate and collaborate is critical. Once a potential or actual event is detected, responding in a coordinated way and collaborating on post incident recovery follows a progression of actions (Table 3).

During high flows, creek conditions can change at a moment's notice and may vary significantly from anticipated. This is especially true for highly responsive and small watersheds with natural creeks where trees and other vegetation or heavy sediment loads could cause blockages. For example, flood flows may not be anticipated to reach channel capacity, yet flooding may occur due to changes in the channel condition.

Therefore, the level of activity will be guided by the best information available to the Agency SMEs and DOC/EOC Director. The level of activity may mirror those activities of the individual jurisdictional EOCs. As weather conditions merit and monitoring takes place, the SMEs and DOC/EOC Director may be in their home offices or jurisdiction's EOC, for the Monitoring stage. The "call to action" may be a series of phone calls among the SMEs and DOC/EOC Director to determine the next steps. As conditions progress, City, Valley Water, or other Agency Stakeholders are encouraged to convene at the designated facility.

As storm conditions progress, there are four general steps Valley Water and the City follow to determine the level at which to activate the EAP. These are shown and described on the following pages.


Step 1:
Event Detection
Detect Event
Step 1:
Evaluation and
Classification
Assess Situation
Determine Emergency Level
Level Green:
Preparedness
Level Yellow:
Monitoring
Unusual Event;
Slowly
Developing
Level Orange:
Watch
Unusual Event;
Rapidly Developing
Level Red:
Warning
Flooding Appears
Imminent or is in
Progress
Step 2:
Notification and
Communication
Notify
Level Green
Lists
Notify
Level Yellow
Lists
Notify
Level Orange
Lists
Notify
Level Red Lists
Step 3:
Actions
Preparedness Wrkshp
Maintain Equipment
Maintain Property
Procure Materials
Review EAP
Monitor/Forecast
Field Inspections
Trash & Debris
Sandbag Sites
Monitor/Forecast
Field Inspections
Trash & Debris
Repairs
Monitor/Forecast
Field Inspections
Field Info Teams
Sandbag Sites
Flood Response
Step 4:
Termination
and
Follow Up
Termination and Follow-Up

A. STEP 1: EVENT DETECTION, EVALUATION, CLASSIFICATION

Event Detection—There are several detection methods used that include weather forecasts, hydrologic/ hydraulic modeling, Automated Local Evaluation in Real Time (ALERT) stream/reservoir/precipitation gauge systems, and field observation of stage gauges and other areas of high flow.

Weather Forecasts

The National Weather Service (NWS) provides weather (e.g., precipitation) forecasts up to 72 hours in advance of a storm event and Valley Water contracts with a service provider for enhanced forecasting.

During storm events, the NWS will host WEBINARs with affected agencies and utilities to discuss forecasts and share information to enhance regional preparedness. Valley Water and City participate in these WEBINARs and share all current information.

Hydrologic/Hydraulic Modeling

Based on the weather forecast, Valley Water and the NWS River Forecast Center often utilize computer modeling of the watershed and creeks to estimate severity of flooding. These models are considered estimates and can vary, sometimes significantly, from the actual flood flows. This is especially true in unmodified stream systems. Forecasts for Uvas Creek is available at the stream gauge location on West Luchessa Avenue in the Valley Water Surface Water Data Portal - https://alert.valleywater.org/?p=map.

To improve the accuracy of the modeling, Valley Water reviews the computer models periodically and determines if additional information can be gathered to update the models. The typical type of information that can used to update the models include; surveys of channel geometry, reevaluation of channel roughness due to vegetation or blockages, and data gathered during high flow events.

The NWS has limited modeling capability and generally focuses on broader areas due to their larger area of scope and does not provide any flood prediction services for Uvas Creek. However, Valley Water is often more focused and detailed in their modeling and utilizes additional available information for modeling. As modeling results become available, Valley Water and the NWS will share results to help improve accuracy of the estimations.

With the results of modeling, condition levels can be assigned and the severity of flooding can be estimated such that appropriate notices can be made. The NWS will issue threat level information, which is similar to the EAP condition levels and severity of flooding.

ALERT Gauge System

There are several ALERT gauges in the Uvas Creek Watershed. A listing of all ALERT gauges can be found in the Valley Water Surface Water Data Portal at https://alert.valleywater.org/?p=map. These gauges provide data in near

real-time on most creeks in Santa Clara County and can provide critical data to determine the level of threat for flooding.

The following is a summary of the current stream gauge program:

(a) Annually, sites will be prioritized for manual gauging and teams are assigned to inspect and maintain the gauges.

(b) After every high flow event, the rule curves (depth versus discharge) are updated/calibrated.

Field Information Teams (FIT)

As water levels increase in the creeks, rivers, and waterways, Valley Water Field Information Teams (FITs) and some City staff are deployed to known "hot spots" (Section 1.F) to visually monitor and report back to a DOC or EOC the conditions in the field and to document or map any flooding that occurs. In addition, Valley Water FITs and City staff can also monitor potential issues with surface drainage and identify debris blockages. Deployment of these teams should be coordinated between the City's EOC/DOC and Valley Water's EOC/DOC. A webcam is also available on the Valley Water Surface Water Data Portal at Highway 101 and Uvas Creek for remote visual monitoring (https://valleywateralert.org/scvwd/webcams/site.php?cid=9006)

Evaluation—After detecting and gathering adequate intelligence regarding the situation, an evaluation of the water way conditions must be performed by appropriate personnel that typically includes SMEs.

Classification—Based on evaluation of the threat, a specific threat level will be identified and documented at the Valley Water EOC/DOC (or other facility) and communicated to the City EOC/DOC so all appropriate staff recognize the determined flood condition level (Table 1 - Monitoring, Watch, or Warning). If possible, the severity of flooding will also be determined, documented and communicated. The severity is consistent with the NWS and are: action, minor, moderate, and major with the affected areas described (Table 2 and Attachment E). The Valley Water ALERT website link for flood severity readings at Luchessa Ave is:
https://alert.valleywater.org/?p=sensor&sid=5086&disc=f

B. STEP 2: NOTIFICATION AND COMMUNICATION

After the flood condition level has been determined, appropriately communicating the situation to responsible agencies, staff, and other identified individuals and groups is critical. Notification may include City, Valley Water, other stakeholders, elected officials, and the National Weather Service. The contact list is in Attachment A-1.

Except for elected officials, the City, Valley Water and other Agency Stakeholders generally will maintain a roster of who fills each emergency operations role for EOC activation. Whoever is designated to fill these roles should consider alternate persons to account for vacation, sick leave, etc. When a Valley Water EOC is convened in response to an event on Uvas Creek, contact information will be provided to City of Gilroy Office of Emergency Management. Contact information would include office and

mobile phone numbers, email, and other pertinent data (Attachment A-2 provides information for some of the Valley Water personnel).

Within the City EOC, email accounts generally are utilized that match the role the person is fulfilling. This allows responders to leave information for incoming staff. It also allows for a common repository for information.

An emergency radio plan may be developed, along with the previously-mentioned virtual meeting options. Valley Water and City vehicles have radio interoperability systems that can (1) communicate on just about any radio system and (2) can "patch" (link) disparate systems together.

The following provides guidance to Valley Water for notification and communication after the emergency level has been determined.

Emergency Level Green—Preparedness:

Potential situation is identified by Valley Water and appropriate Valley Water staff shall be notified and will further evaluate the situation. No notification to the City is necessary at this level.

Emergency Level Yellow—Monitoring:

If the DOC has not been activated, then the Watersheds Field Operations Unit Manager or Operations & Maintenance Engineering Support Unit Manager shall contact the City designated response personnel by phone or electronically, notifying them of the situation and what actions are being taken. **Water Utility Raw Water Field Operations & Pipeline Maintenance Unit is responsible for notifications to the City, Thousand Trails RV Park (1285 Uvas Road), and Cal Fire in the event of high flows from Uvas Reservoir**.

Emergency Level Orange—Watch:

The following message from the Valley Water EOC may be used to help describe the emergency to the City designated response personnel, Santa Clara County Communications, Caltrans, and California Highway Patrol emergency management personnel. **Water Utility Raw Water Field Operations & Pipeline Maintenance Unit may be responsible for notifications to the City, Thousand Trails RV Park (1285 Uvas Road), and Cal Fire regarding high flows from Uvas Reservoir.**

Be as specific as possible regarding the flood severity and urgency of the event and messages should be coordinated to avoid duplication or confusing information.

> *"This is ___(identify yourself: name and position from Valley Water)___.*
>
> *We have a potential emergency condition developing along Uvas Creek at (nearest cross street) that CHOOSE ONE—(1) is occurring, or (2) is anticipated to occur within 24 to 72 hours.*
>
> *Valley Water has activated our Emergency Operations Center and are currently operating under our Emergency Level Orange or Flood Watch Condition.*

We are implementing actions to respond to a rapidly developing situation that could result in bank over topping and flooding.

Please note that low lying portions along Uvas Creek may flood.

We will advise you when the situation is resolved or if the situation gets worse.

I can be contacted at the following number _____. If you cannot reach me, please call the following alternative number _____."

Emergency Level Red—Warning:

The Valley Water EOC shall immediately contact the City and Santa Clara County EOCs so they can notify emergency responders (Attachment A-1). The following actions should be taken:

1. The Valley Water EOC should call the City designated response personnel and County Office of Emergency Management Coordinator (Attachment A-1). Be sure to say, "This is an emergency." The City and/or County will call other authorities and the media and begin the evacuation. The following message may be used to help describe the emergency to the City or County.

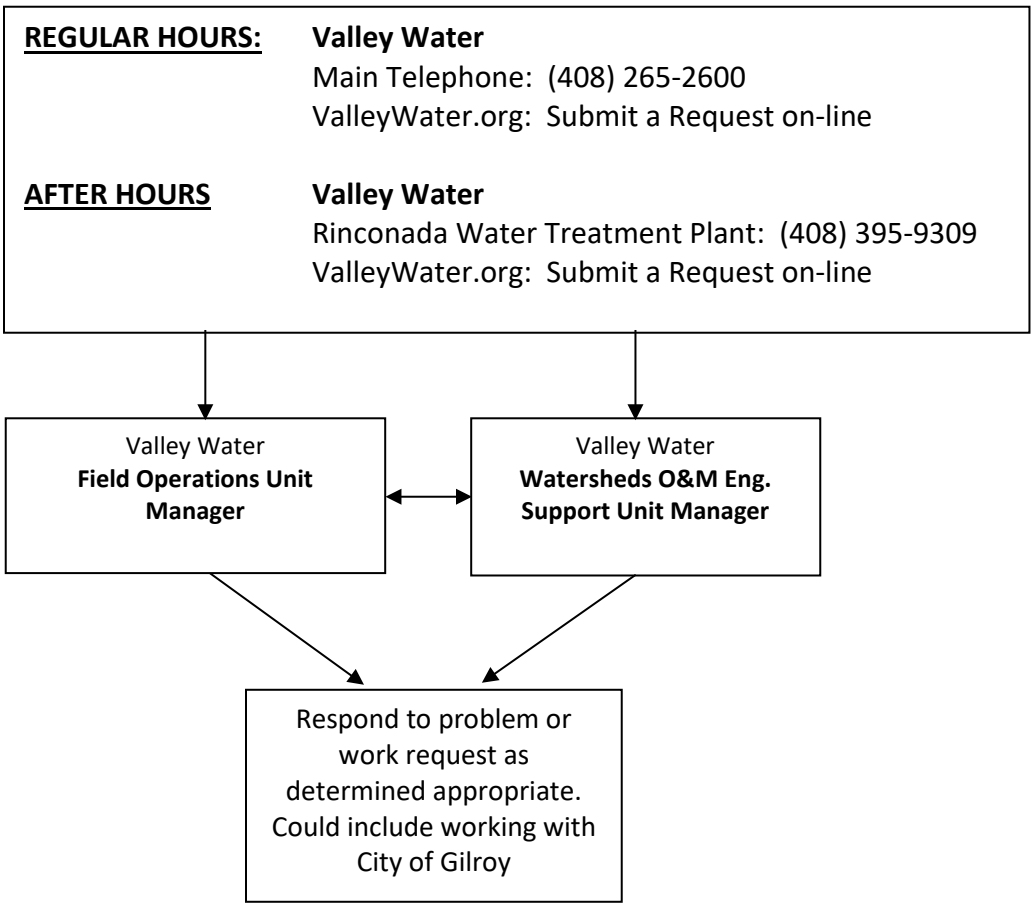
   "This is ___(identify yourself: name and position from Valley Water)___.

   Uvas Creek at (cross street) is overtopping and flooding occurring in the low lying areas and we recommend that you consider necessary emergency actions. Repeat, Uvas Creek is flooding at (cross street), and you may want to consider emergency actions in the low lying areas along the creek.

   I can be contacted at the following number _____. If you cannot reach me, please call the following alternative number _____."

2. The Valley Water EOC Director shall assure that the City and County EOCs are frequently contacted to keep them up-to-date on the condition of the creek and water levels.

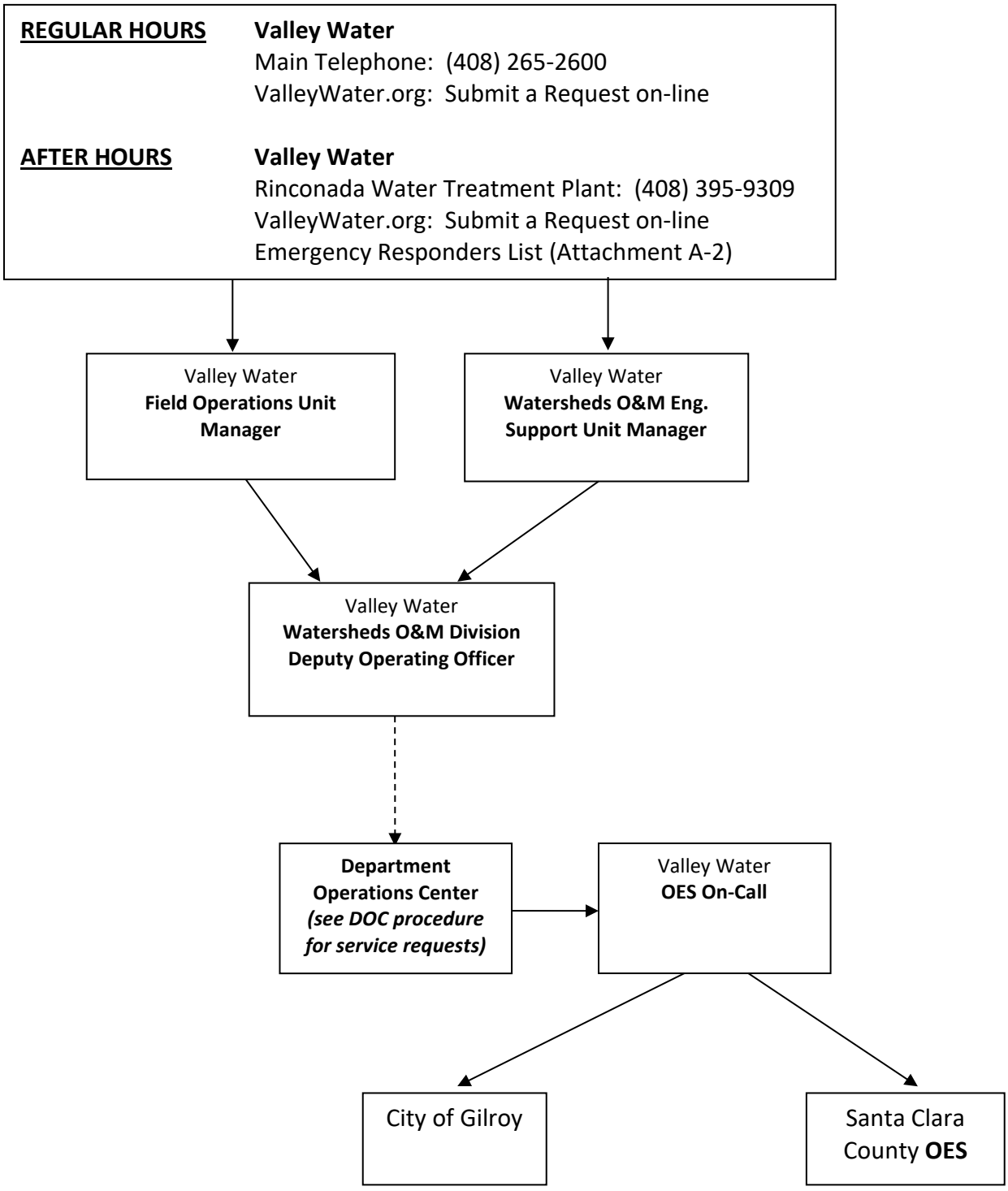
Emergency Level Preparedness Notification



----- if needed

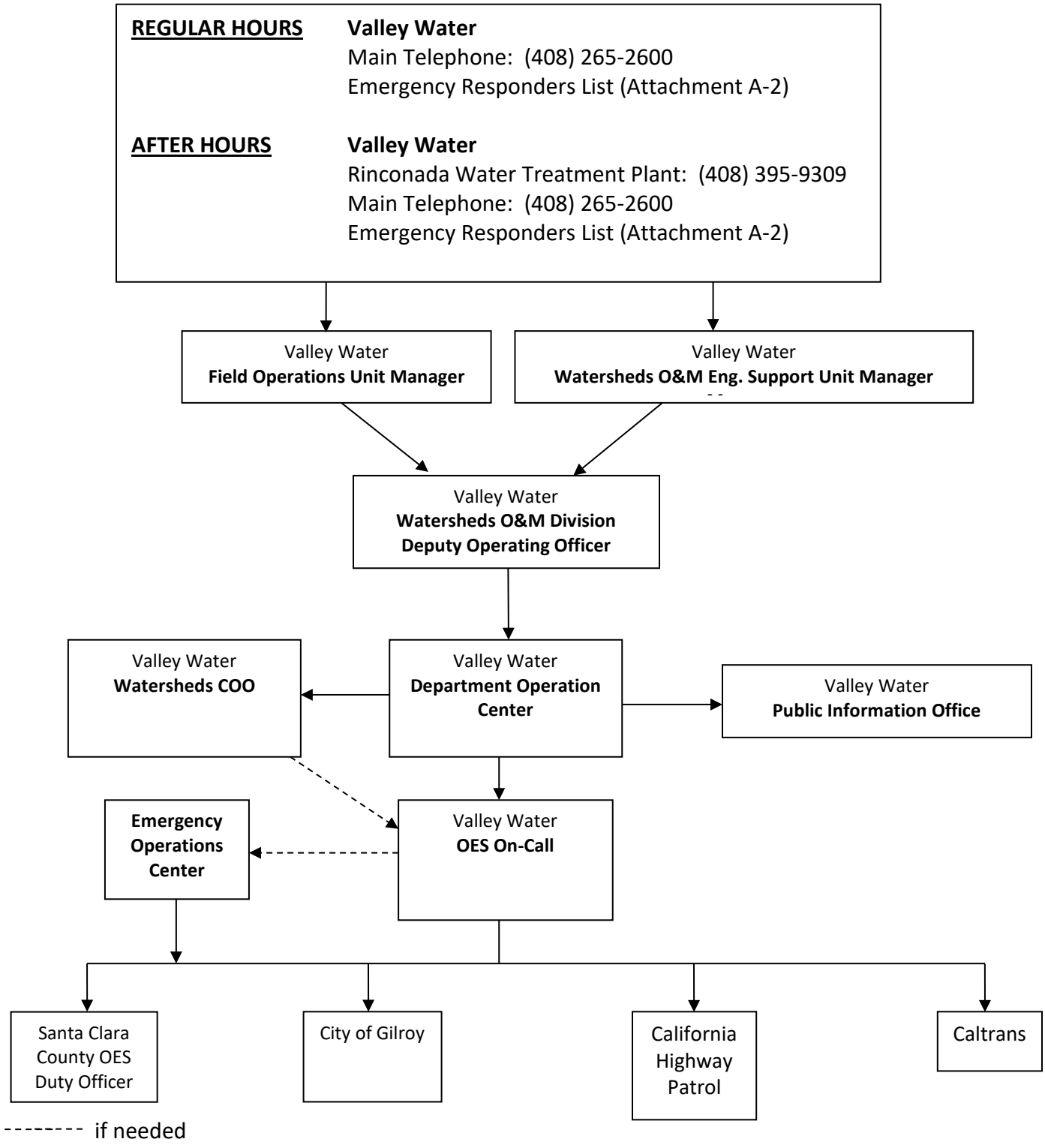
Emergency Level Monitoring Notification

Monitoring



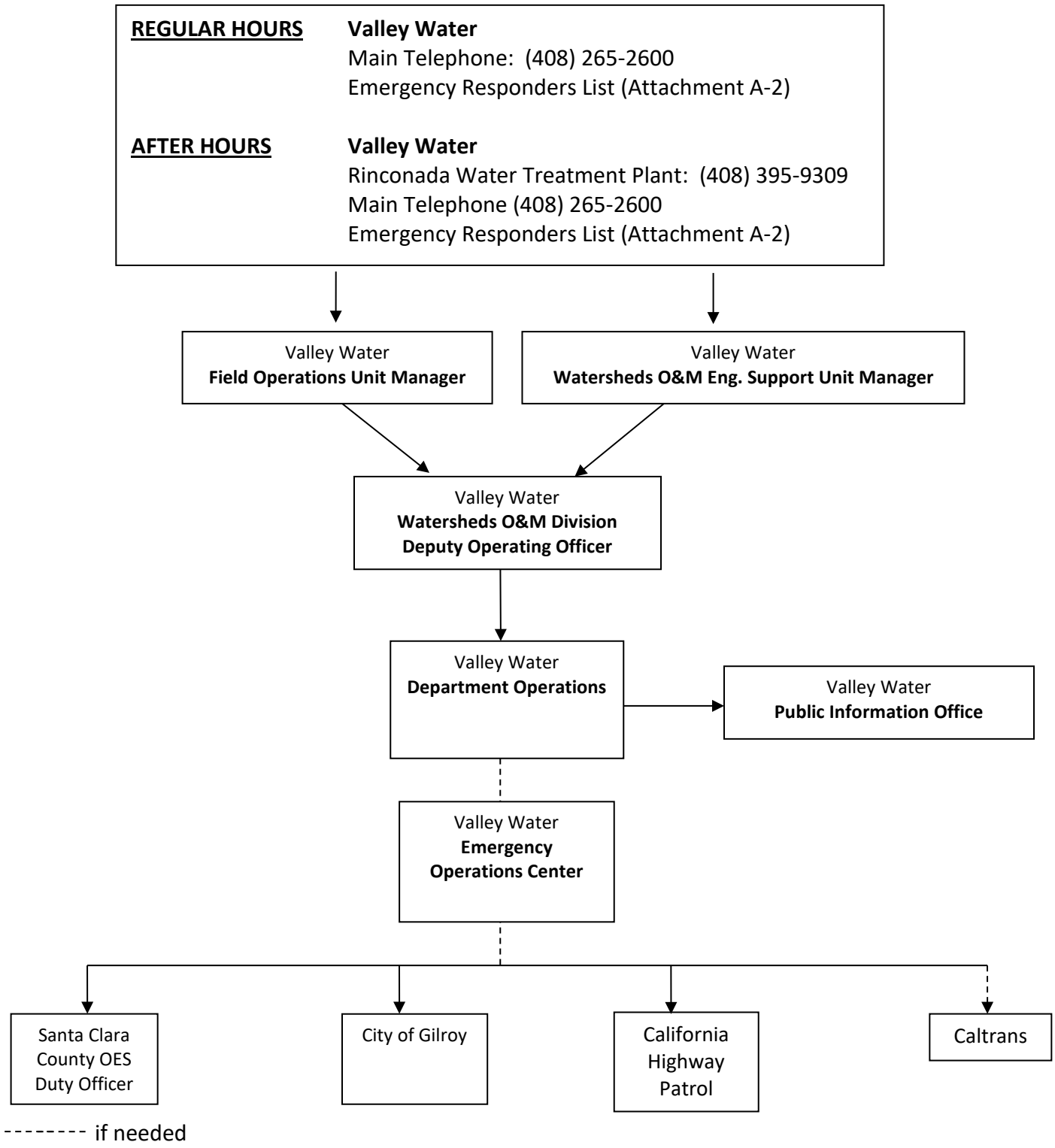
----- if needed

Emergency Level Watch Notification



Emergency Level Warning Notification

Warning



C. STEP 3: EMERGENCY ACTIVITY/ACTIONS

Based on the event and condition classification, activity/actions by the City, Valley Water and other stakeholders will be determined. The list of responsibilities provided in Table 3 illustrate in general terms what actions are needed at each threat level, and whether the City or Valley Water have the lead responsibility. More detail on actions and how and when the action is to be completed is typically developed by the DOC/EOC as an Action Plan (AP). Attachment D recommends emergency remedial actions to take during specified field conditions.

TABLE 3: Progressive Responsibilities

Level	Responsibility/Activity	Stakeholder*
Preparedness (Green)	Provide technical data on mitigation and preparedness measures.	Each **Stakeholder** is lead for own agency resources.
	Conduct field inspections of creeks and facilities.	Each **parcel owner** is lead in own right of way.
	Maintain property for flood preparedness.	Each **parcel owner** is responsible.
	Inventory and Procure Flood Fighting Materials and Equipment (Valley Water—Attachment C).	Each **Stakeholder** is lead for own materials and equipment (Attachment C).
	Perform mitigation work to reduce flood risk.	Each **Stakeholder** is lead on own right of way. By agreement can release to others.
	• Comply with the Army Corps of Engineers Operation and Maintenance Manual for the Uvas Creek Levee project. • Assure that an outline of the flood response plan is provided to the Army Corps of Engineers District Engineer.	**Valley Water** is lead.
	Coordinate with Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) regarding the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Community Rating System (CRS) certification.	**City** is lead and Valley Water is support.
	Implement and enforce building codes for building in floodplains.	**City** is lead.
	Provide technical floodplain mapping expertise.	**Valley Water** is lead.
	• Maintain equipment, gauges, telemetry, communications systems, etc. • Develop and maintain computer models of watersheds and creeks.	**Valley Water** is lead.

Level	Responsibility/Activity	Stakeholder*
	Conduct Winter Preparedness Workshop.	Valley Water is lead.
	Manage flood information websites (Attachment E).	Each **Stakeholder** manages own site as appropriate.
	Publish Flood Preparedness Public Outreach (e.g., Winter Preparedness) in multiple languages.	Valley Water is lead.
	Provide public education in multiple languages.	Each Agency **Stakeholder** is lead for own agency resources as appropriate.
	Provide resources to support on-going activity to support this EAP and mitigation efforts along waterways.	City and Valley Water are lead for their own agency resources.
	Review and update EAP, including contact personnel annually if determined necessary, and provide copies of revised EAP to all current copy holders.	Valley Water is lead.
Monitoring (Yellow)	Activate the EAP for "Monitoring" and notify City and County of Santa Clara Office of Emergency Management.	Valley Water is lead.
	Notify staff about the increased condition level.	Each **Stakeholder** is lead for own staff as appropriate.
	Communicate risk to Agency DOC/EOC representatives.	Valley Water is lead.
	• Respond to, and mitigate, minor events as needed; coordinate with each responding agency. • Stage equipment at localities likely to be affected as needed; coordinate with each responding agency.	Each **Stakeholder** is lead for own materials and equipment.
	Provide public education in multiple languages.	Each **Stakeholder** collaborates and is lead to their constituents.
	Provide information to Elected Officials.	Each **Stakeholder** PIO is lead for own agency.
	• Confer with EOC Director on conditions for activating next level • Identify location for flood fighting resources for the public (e.g. Valley Water sandbag locations). Check Valley Water hot spots (Section 1.F).	**Valley Water** is lead.

Level	Responsibility/Activity	Stakeholder*
	• Implement Gilroy Fire Department Standard Operating Procedure (Attachment F). • Review evacuation planning needs. • Check City hot spots and problem areas. • Prefilled sandbags deployed to key locations.	**City** is lead.
Watch (Orange)	Activate the EAP for "Watch."	**Valley Water** is lead.
	• Manage information from the DOC or like facility. • Allow the DOC (or like facility) to manage field response. • Communicate risk to EOC representatives.	Each Agency **Stakeholder** is lead for own agency.
	Notify staff about the increased condition level.	Each Agency **Stakeholder** is lead for own agency.
	Confer with responding DOC/EOC Director to determine response coordination needs and resources needs.	Each Agency **Stakeholder** is equally responsible for cross coordination.
	• Respond to, and mitigate, minor events as needed; coordinate with each responding agency. • Stage equipment at localities likely to be affected as needed; coordinated with each responding agency.	Each Agency **Stakeholder** is lead for own materials and equipment.
	Update location for flood fighting resources for the public and supply additional resources as needed and available (e.g. sandbag locations).	**Valley Water** is lead.
	Provide public information in multiple languages.	Each Agency **Stakeholder** collaborates and is lead to their constituents.
	• Provide information to Elected Officials. • Communicate with media as needed.	Each Agency **Stakeholder** PIO is lead for own agency.
	Provide public warning in multiple languages.	**City** is lead, **County** is key support.
	Provide information on impact and available resources to and from respective EOCs.	Each Agency **Stakeholder** is lead for own agency resources.

Level	Responsibility/Activity	Stakeholder*
	• Implement Gilroy Fire Department Standard Operating Procedure (Attachment F). • Confer with EOC Director on conditions for potential evacuation and shelter support. • Prepare to open shelters if determined appropriate.	**City** is lead.
	• Confer with EOC/DOC Director on conditions for activating EAP at next level.	**Valley Water** is lead.
	Confer with legal staff on process for proclaiming a Local Emergency.	**City** and/or County is lead.
Warning (Red)	Activate the EAP for "Warning."	**Valley Water** is lead.
	Communicate risk to EOC representatives.	Each Agency **Stakeholder** is lead within their agency.
	Provide public information in multiple languages.	Agency **Stakeholders** collaborate and are lead to their constituents.
	Provide public warning and shelter information in multiple languages.	**City** is lead, **County** is key support.
	• Implement Gilroy Fire Department Standard Operating Procedure (Attachment F). • Implement evacuation plans and deploy resources to evacuate.	**City** is lead.
	Coordinate resources through respective EOCs.	Each Agency **Stakeholder** is lead for own resources.
	Determine whether to request assistance from Army Corps of Engineers as specified in O&M Manual.	**Valley Water** is Lead.
	Proclaim Local Emergency as appropriate.	**City** and/or County is lead.
*If only one Stakeholder is noted as lead, all other Stakeholders often support the effort.		

D. STEP 4: TERMINATION

Following response to an emergency, Valley Water and City will determine when to enter into recovery activities. In an Emergency Level Preparedness, Monitoring, or Watch event the Valley Water EOC or, if EOC is not open, DOC Director is responsible for terminating the emergency operations and relaying this decision to each person notified during the original event that the event has been terminated. Decisions on how long the DOC/EOC remains open depends on the conditions, needs of the community, and need to return to regular operations.

An Emergency Level Warning event will likely involve the evacuation of residents and be managed by County or City. Prior to the termination of Emergency Level Warning event, Valley Water will inspect the breakout point(s) and determine if any damage has occurred that could potentially lead to further events. If it is determined that conditions do not pose a threat to people or property, then Valley Water will recommend terminating the emergency operations.

The DOC or EOC Director will ensure that an Emergency Situation Report and/or AAR is completed to document the emergency event, including all actions that were taken, lessons learned, and areas for improvement.

Valley Water will be responsible for any post high water inspection, repair and/or reporting requirements as specified in the Army Corps of Engineers O&M Manual.

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ATTACHMENT A-1
Emergency Services Contact List

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ATTACHMENT A-2
Valley Water Emergency Contacts

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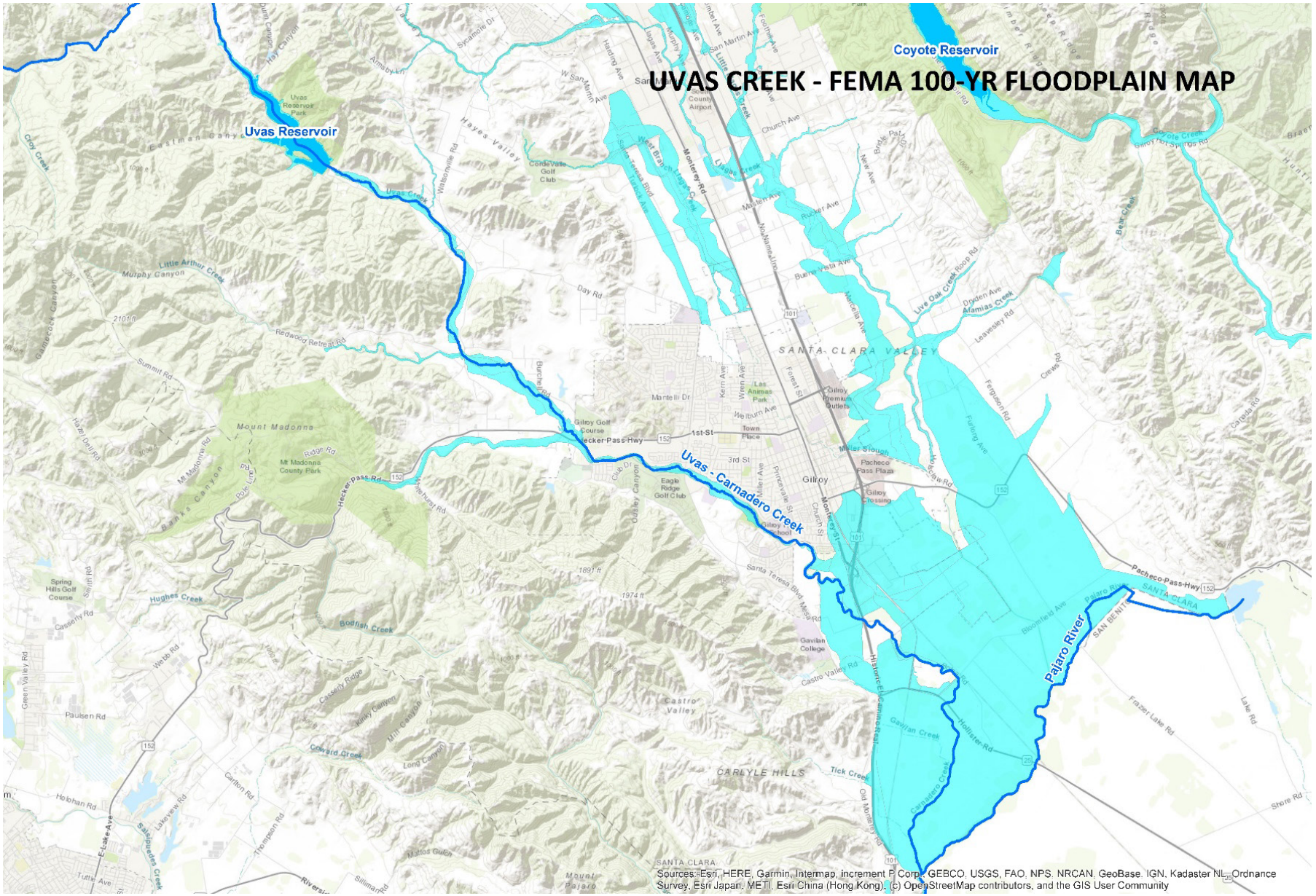
ATTACHMENT B-1
FEMA 100-Year Flood Map



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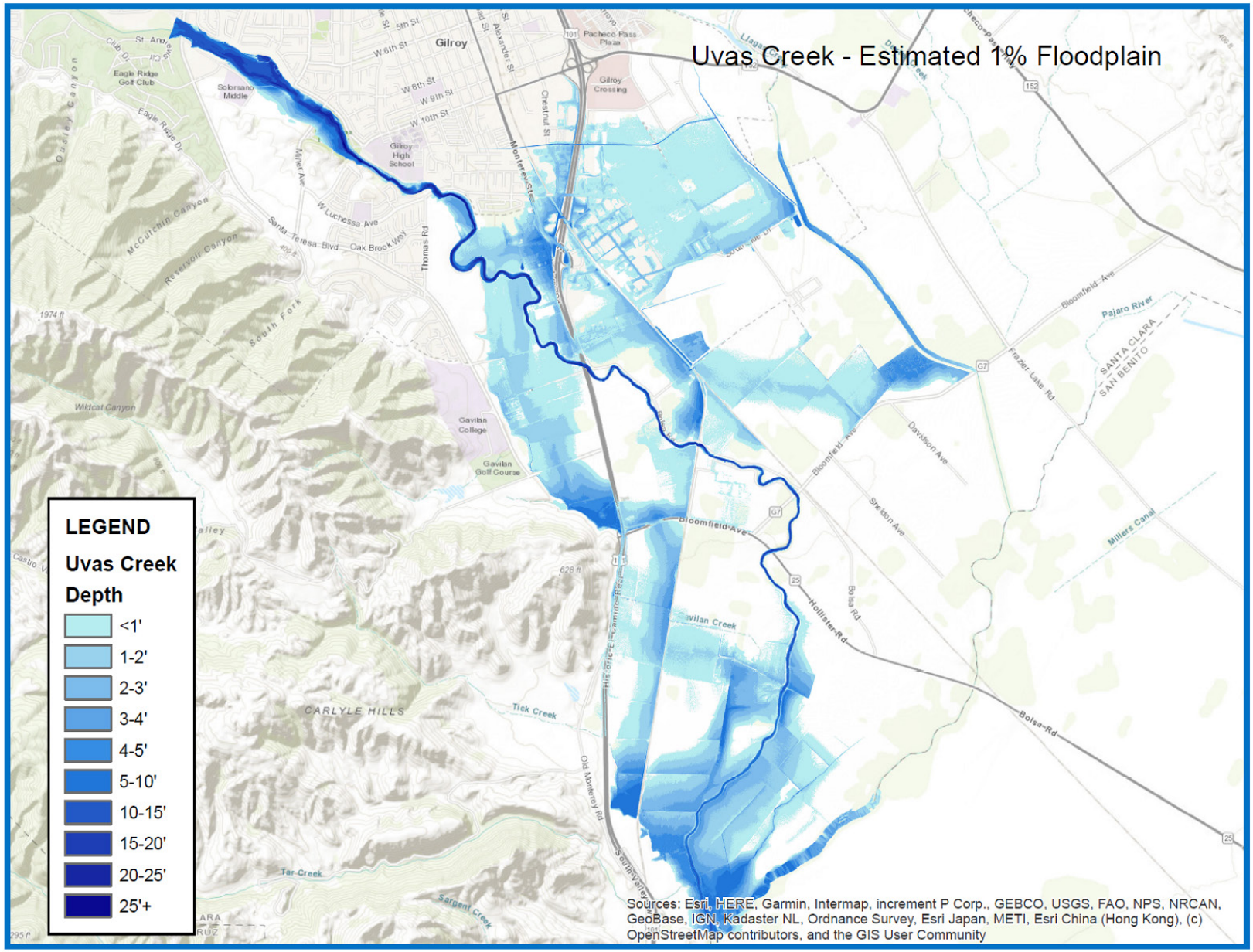
ATTACHMENT B-2
Valley Water Estimated 1% Flood Map



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ATTACHMENT B-3
Flooding History

1980: Crop damage at Pajaro River Overbank; low flow bridge crossing washed out approx. 1-2 miles below dam along Watsonville Road.

1982: 2 ft depth downstream confluence with Little Arthur Creek on adjacent flat lands; 6 ft depth at Christmas Hill Park and flooding of adjacent parking lot and ball field; threatened integrity of northerly levees between Miller Ave and Luchessa Avenue by extensive erosion; undermined about 300 ft of Burchell Rd at Highway 152 and caused erosion at the bridge abutments; overbanking on northeast side of Thomas Rd bridge; two houses flooded to depth of 5 ft near Highway 101; water covered about 200 acres of agricultural land at confluence with Pajaro River and Uvas Creek to depth of 9 ft; 6 houses and 2 businesses reported flood damage at this confluence.

1983: Adjacent flat lands were flooded downstream confluence with Little Arthur Creek; floodwaters covered about 1,000 acres of ag land to depths of 2ft-10ft at Pajaro River and Uvas Creek confluence.

1986: Overbanked upstream of Luchessa Avenue; water moved into residential area enclosed by Tenth St, Luchessa Avenue, and railroad tracks to east flooding 170 homes; heavy damage to residents in Antonio Ct and London Place; submerged bridges at Old Creek Rd and Thousand Trails Park (12895 Uvas Rd), and a private bridge at River Bank Drive was lost; peak flow of 14,200 cubic feet per second (cfs) near Luchessa Ave.

1995: Overflowed banks 1,000 ft upstream of Burchell Creek confluence; overtopped existing banks 2,000 ft upstream Uvas Rd to 1,000 ft downstream Uvas Rd and spread across floodway and over Uvas Rd bridge through Thousand Trails Park (12895 Uvas Rd); flow cresting 2 ft over park bridge entrance at the west side of the park.

1997: Flooding 2-3 ft at intersection with Bloomfield Ave; Highway 101 closed due to overflow at south end of Gilroy.

1998: Fields adjacent to Pajaro River confluence flooded.

2017: Overtopped Monterey Frontage Rd flooding some properties; Highway 101 closed in Gilroy with 3 ft depth of water.

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ATTACHMENT C
Available Resources

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ATTACHMENT C
Available Resources (continued)

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ATTACHMENT D
Guidance for Emergency Remedial Actions

If time and conditions permit, the following emergency remedial actions should be considered for emergency situations. Immediate implementation of these remedial actions may delay, moderate, or prevent flooding. Several of the listed adverse or unusual conditions may occur along the creek at the same time, requiring implementation of several modes of remedial actions. Close monitoring of the creek must be maintained to confirm the success of any remedial action taken along the creek.

BANK EROSION

1. If water is no longer rising, erosion scour may be filled with rock, sandbags, plastic sheeting or materials to prevent further loss of soil.

BOILS OR SEEPAGE ALONG LEVEES

1. Monitor creek level and seepage flow until seepage stops, if flow increases or exiting flow is not clear (i.e.; silty) take immediate actions to reduce flow or loss of soil.

2. Inspect slopes to determine if the entrance to the seepage origination point is visible (whirlpool) and accessible. Attempt to plug entrance with readily available material such as bentonite, soil, rockfill or plastic sheeting.

3. Cover the seepage exit area(s) with sand or gravel to hold fine-grained soils in place. Alternatively, construct a sandbag or other type of ring dike around the seepage exit area to retain a pool of water, providing backpressure and reducing the erosive nature of the seepage.

4. Do not drive vehicles or equipment between the seepage area and the creek to avoid collapse of any underground voids.

LEVEE DAMAGE

1. Settlement of crest may be filled with sandbags or earth and rockfill materials in the damaged area to restore freeboard.

2. Sloughing may be stabilized by placing a soil or rockfilled buttress against the toe of the sloughing.

EMBANKMENT OVERTOPPING

1. If water level is no longer rising, place sandbags along the low areas of the top of the bank/levee to reduce flow concentration during minor overtopping.

DOWNED TREES/BLOCKAGE

1. Where it is safe to do so, clear debris and downed trees that pose a threat to obstructing flow. Clear pier noses and trash racks.

EARTHQUAKE

1. Immediately conduct a visual inspection of the levees if a magnitude 6.0 or greater earthquake occurs within 50 miles of the creek.

2. If time allows, perform a field survey to determine if there has been any settlement or movement of levees.

3. Visually inspect creek for any movement or damage along the creek including creek banks, outlets, bridges, access ramps.

ATTACHMENT E
Web-Based Data Sources

RAIN GAUGES:

- Loma Prieta Station—http://alert.valleywater.org/info/2072info.php
- Loma Prieta Report—http://alert.valleywater.org/reports/pgi_report.php?id=2072
- Uvas Canyon County Park Station—http://alert.valleywater.org/info/1530info.php
- Uvas Canyon County Park Report—http://alert.valleywater.org/reports/pgi_report.php?id=1530
- Uvas Reservoir Station—http://alert.valleywater.org/info/2057info.php
- Uvas Reservoir Report—http://alert.valleywater.org/reports/pgi_report.php?id=2057
- Castro Valley Station—http://alert.valleywater.org/info/1508info.php
- Castro Valley Report—http://alert.valleywater.org/reports/pgi_report.php?id=1508

STREAM FLOW STATIONS:

- Uvas Reservoir Station—http://alert.valleywater.org/info/1538info.php
- Uvas Reservoir Report (Outlet Flows)—http://alert.valleywater.org/reports/sgi_report.php?id=5084
- Uvas Road Report (Partial Inflow)—http://alert.valleywater.org/reports/sgi_report.php?id=5061
- Heritage Way Spillway Report—http://alert.valleywater.org/reports/sgi_report.php?id=5052
- Luchessa Avenue Station—http://alert.valleywater.org/info/1525info.php
- Luchessa Avenue Report—http://alert.valleywater.org/reports/sgi_report.php?id=5086

RESERVOIR GAUGE:

- Uvas Reservoir Station—http://alert.valleywater.org/info/1472info.php
- Uvas Reservoir Report—http://alert.valleywater.org/reports/rgi_report.php?id=1472

OTHER SITES:

- Valley Water Submit a Request—https://clients.comcate.com/newrequest.php?id=80
- Valley Water Flood Watch—https://gis.valleywater.org/SCVWDFloodWatch/
- Valley Water Flood Severity—https://gis.valleywater.org/SCVWDFloodWatch/report.html?ALERTID=5086
- Valley Water Homepage—http://valleywater.org/
- Valley Water Flood Protection Resources—https://www.valleywater.org/floodready
- Valley Water ALERT Map—https://gis.valleywater.org/alert/
- Valley Water ALERT System Real-Time Data—http://alert.valleywater.org/index.php
- Valley Water Sandbags—https://www.valleywater.org/floodready/sandbags

WEATHER:

- National Weather Service Observations—https://water.weather.gov/ahps2/index.php?wfo=mtr
- National Weather Service Forecasts—https://water.weather.gov/ahps2/forecasts.php?wfo=mtr
- FEMA Flood Map Search—https://msc.fema.gov/portal/search

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ATTACHMENT F
Gilroy Fire Department Standard Operating Procedure

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ATTACHMENT F
Gilroy Fire Department Standard Operating Procedure (continued)

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ATTACHMENT F
Gilroy Fire Department Standard Operating Procedure (continued)

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ATTACHMENT F
Gilroy Fire Department Standard Operating Procedure (continued)

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ATTACHMENT F
Gilroy Fire Department Standard Operating Procedure (continued)

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ATTACHMENT F
Gilroy Fire Department Standard Operating Procedure (continued)

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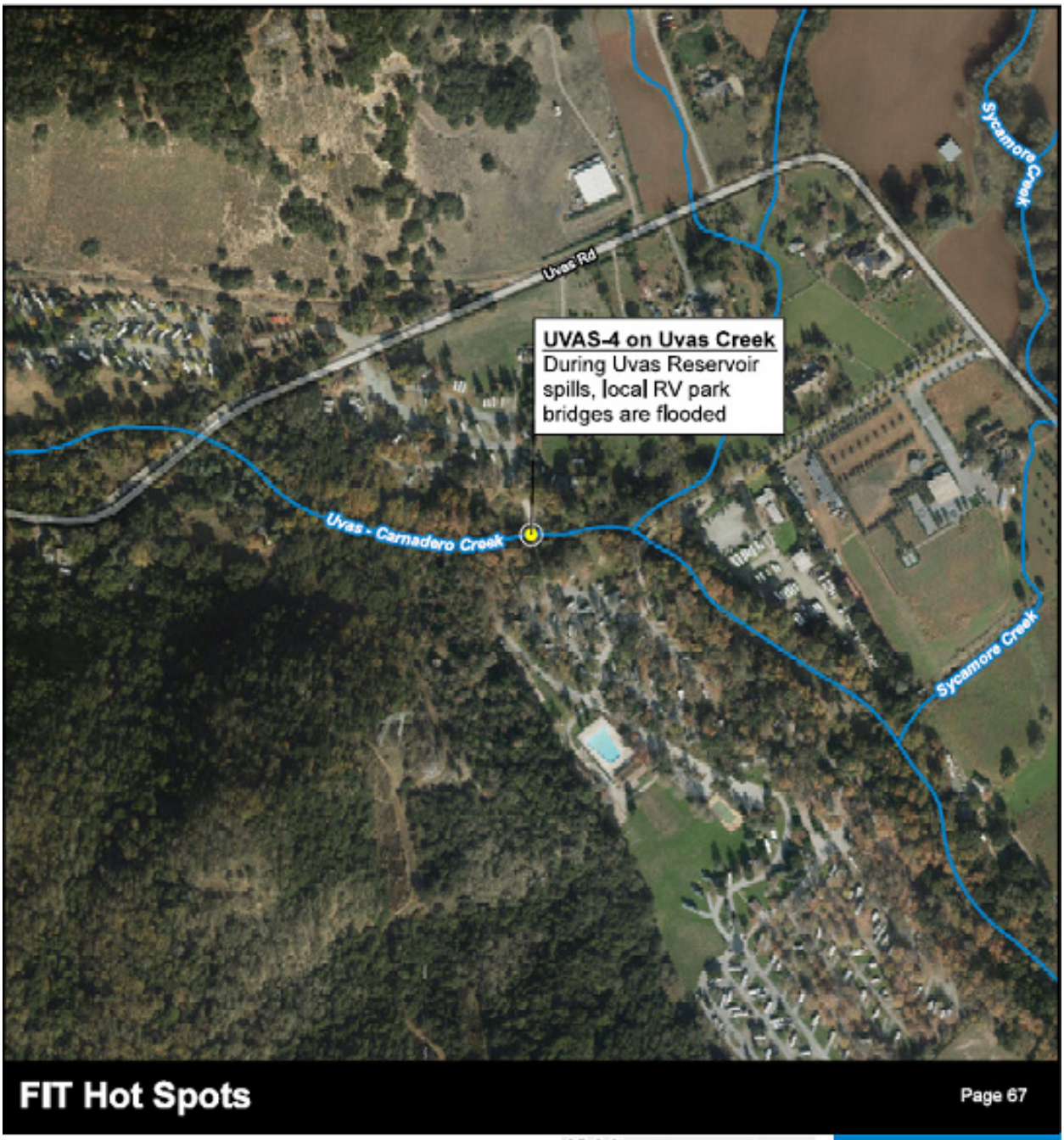
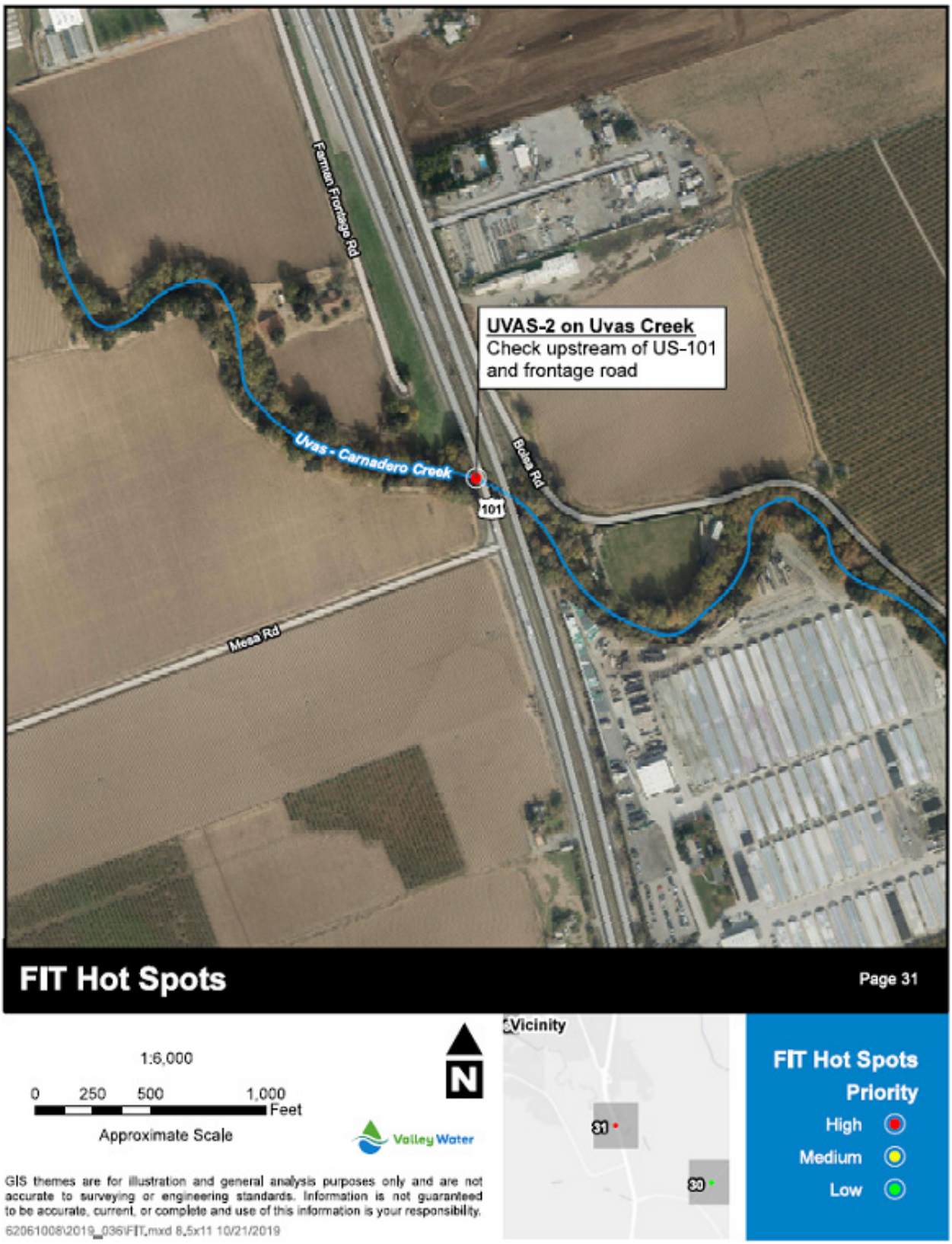
ATTACHMENT G
Field Information Team Hot Spots




6th St
Crawford Dr
Thayer Ct
Wren Ave
Armand Ct
Wentz Dr
Chadwick St
Hagen Ct
Fowler St
Carr Pl
Cumberland Dr
Ticonderoga Pl
Nantucket Pl
Hoxsett St
8th St
Saratoga Pl
Revere Pl
Uvas - Carnadero Creek
Miller Ave
Albany Pl
Plymouth Dr
Potomac Pl
Yorktown Dr
Uvas Pkwy
UVAS-3 on Uvas Creek
Miller Ave low flow crossing is flooded
Greenwich Dr
Loma Pkwy
10th St
FIT Hot Spots
Page 68
1:6,000
0 250 500 1,000 Feet
Approximate Scale
N
Valley Water
GIS themes are for illustration and general analysis purposes only and are not accurate to surveying or engineering standards. Information is not guaranteed to be accurate, current, or complete and use of this information is your responsibility.
Vicinity
68
FIT Hot Spots
Priority
High
Medium
Low


Farman Frontage Rd
UVAS-2 on Uvas Creek
Check upstream of US-101
and frontage road
Uvas - Carnadero Creek
Bolsa Rd
101
Mesa Rd
FIT Hot Spots
Page 31
1:6,000
0 250 500 1,000
Feet
Approximate Scale
N
Valley Water
GIS themes are for illustration and general analysis purposes only and are not accurate to surveying or engineering standards. Information is not guaranteed to be accurate, current, or complete and use of this information is your responsibility.
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Vicinity
31
30
FIT Hot Spots
Priority
High
Medium
Low


UVAS-1 on Uvas Creek
Check all bridge crossings downstream of US-101: RxR, Bloomfield, CA-25 Hollister Rd
Uvas - Carnadero Creek
Bloomfield Ave
Sheldon Ave
Bolsa Rd
Bloomfield Ave
SR 25
FIT Hot Spots
Page 30
1:6,000
0 250 500 1,000 Feet
Approximate Scale
Valley Water
GIS themes are for illustration and general analysis purposes only and are not accurate to surveying or engineering standards. Information is not guaranteed to be accurate, current, or complete and use of this information is your responsibility.
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Vicinity
31
69
30
FIT Hot Spots
Priority
High
Medium
Low