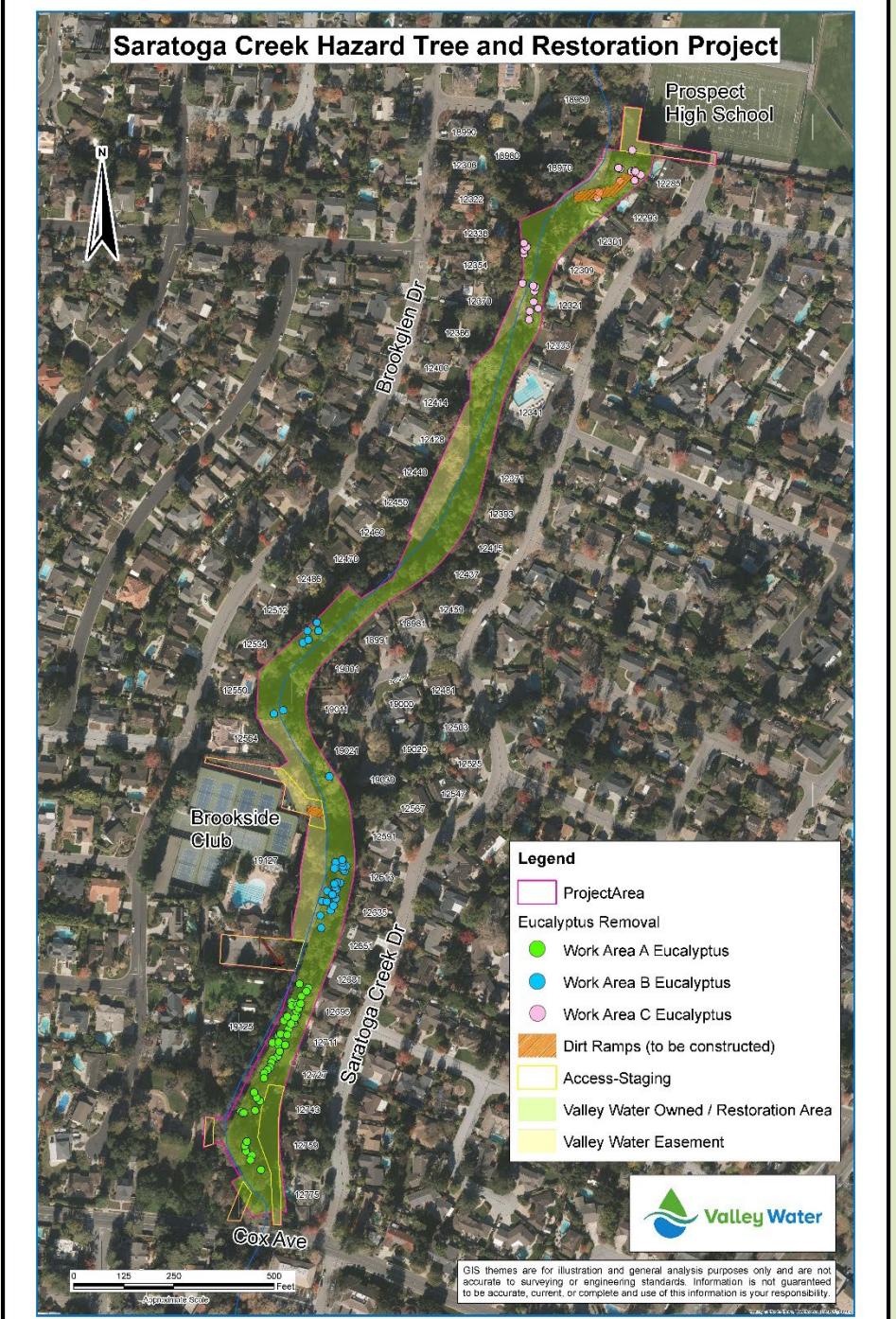


Saratoga Creek Hazard Tree Removal and Restoration Project



Project Area

- 0.5 mi reach Saratoga Creek - Cox Ave. to Prospect HS ball field
- Groundwater recharge facility
- 104 eucalyptus trees, mostly along east bank
- 50% eucalyptus, 50% native canopy cover
- Limited access and staging options
- Tree removals and restoration only on Valley Water property
- Work areas

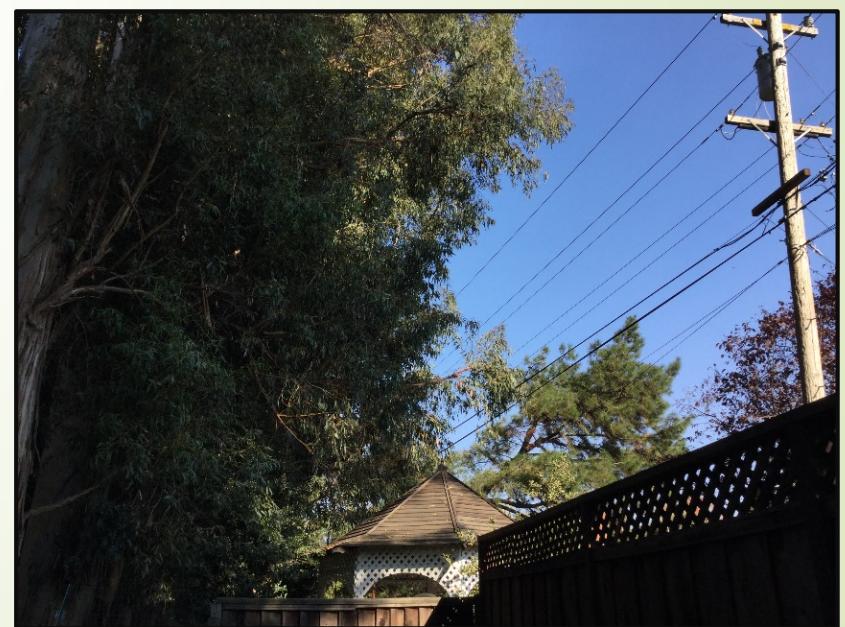


Why are we removing the eucalyptus?

- **Public Safety**
- 100+ ft tall trees adjacent to homes
- Declining health
- Wood decay fungi
- Fire hazard
- Utility lines
- Bank erosion
- Debris in creek



January 2019



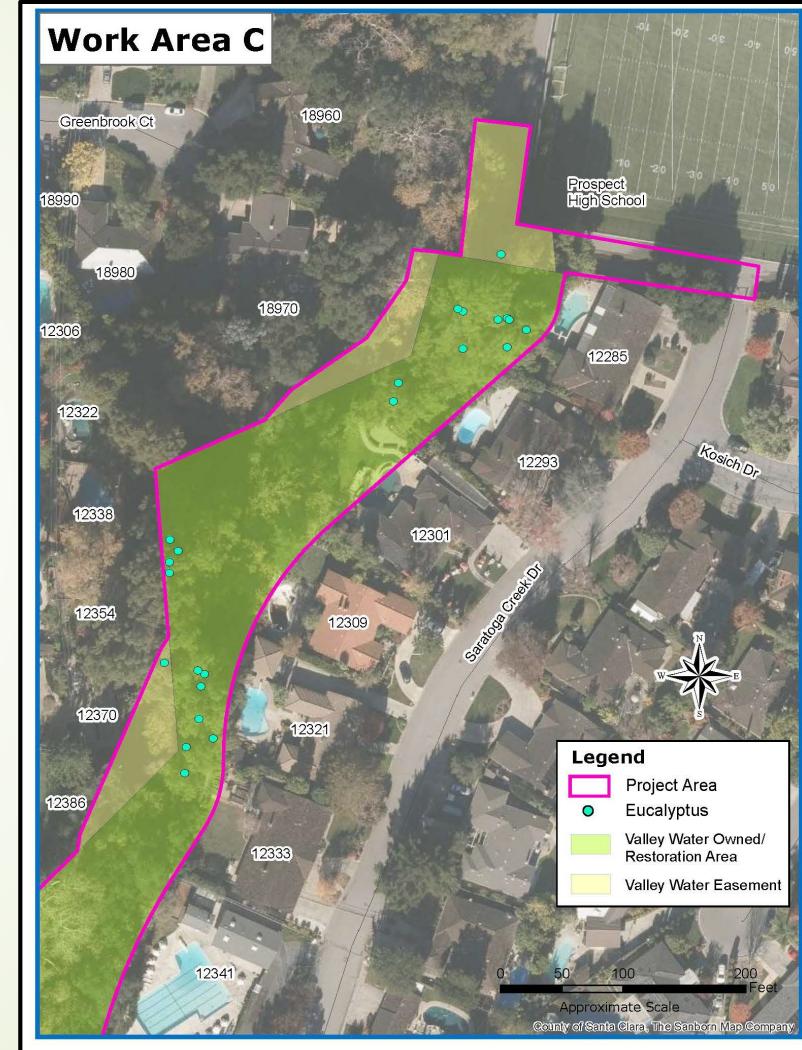
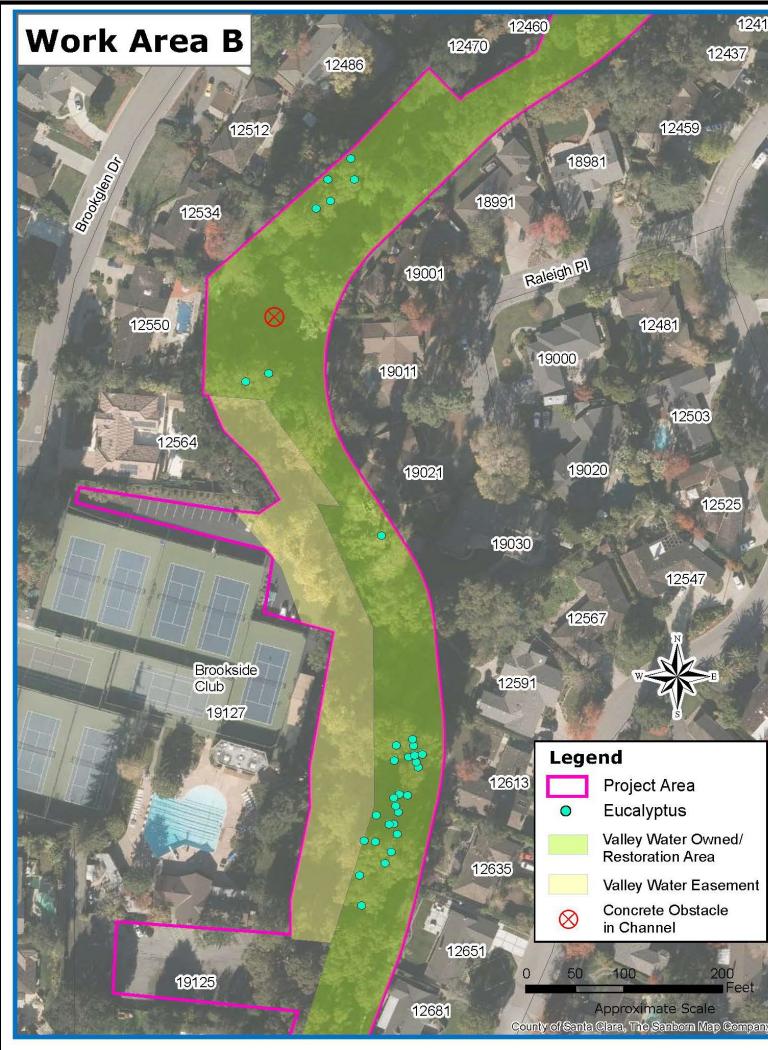
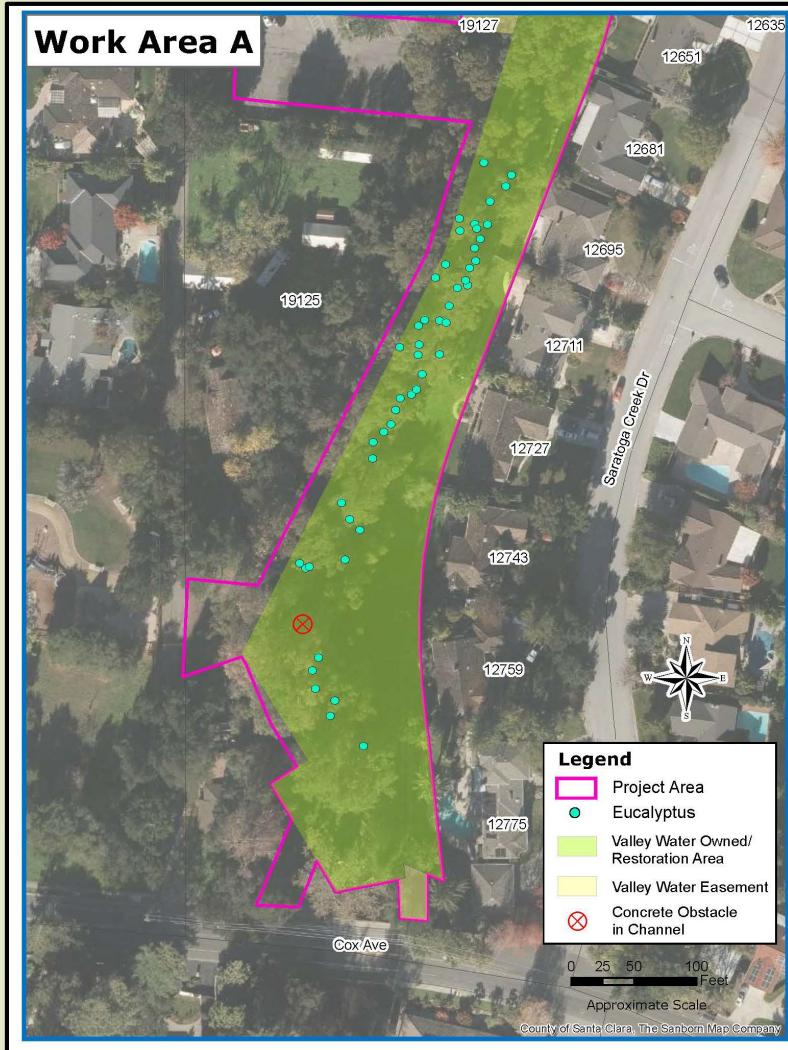
When and How?

- Phased removal over 3 years starting this summer/fall (2019)
- August - October
- Earthen ramps, in channel work with small equipment and tree climbers
- Large crane from opposite bank



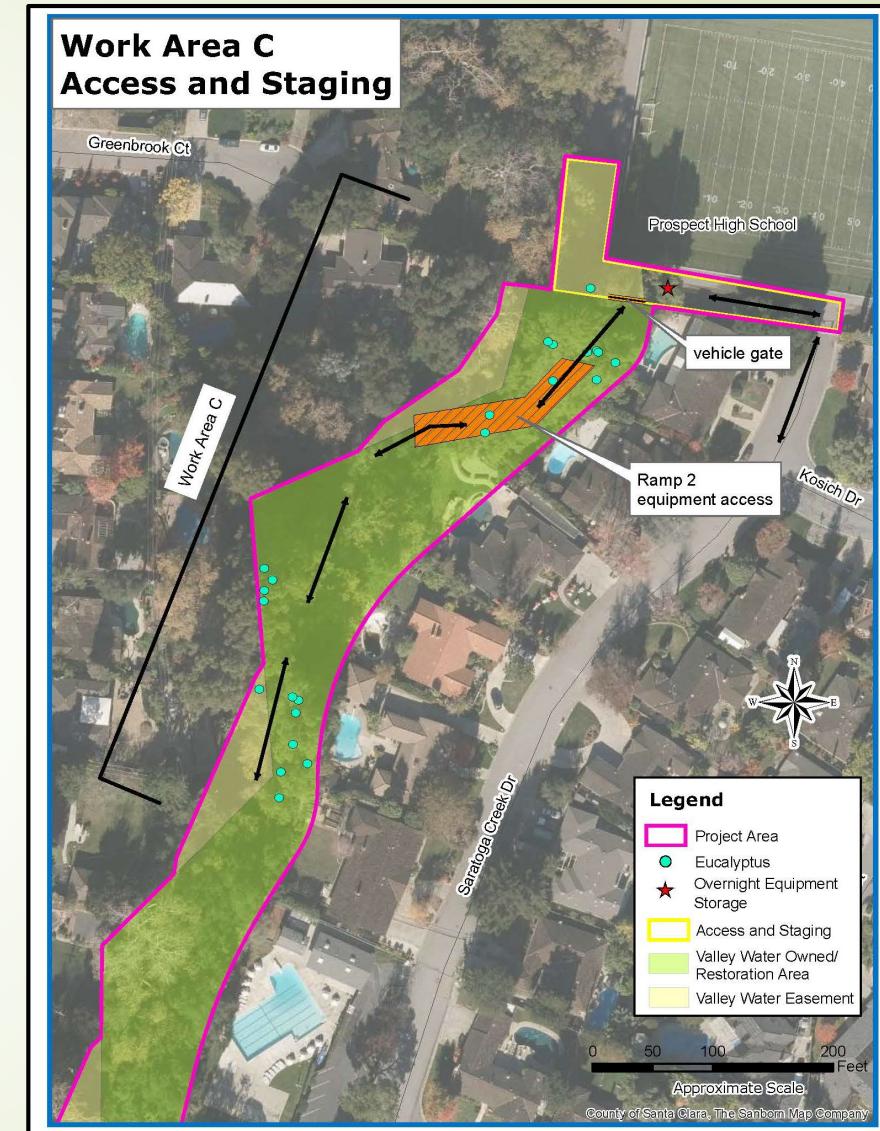
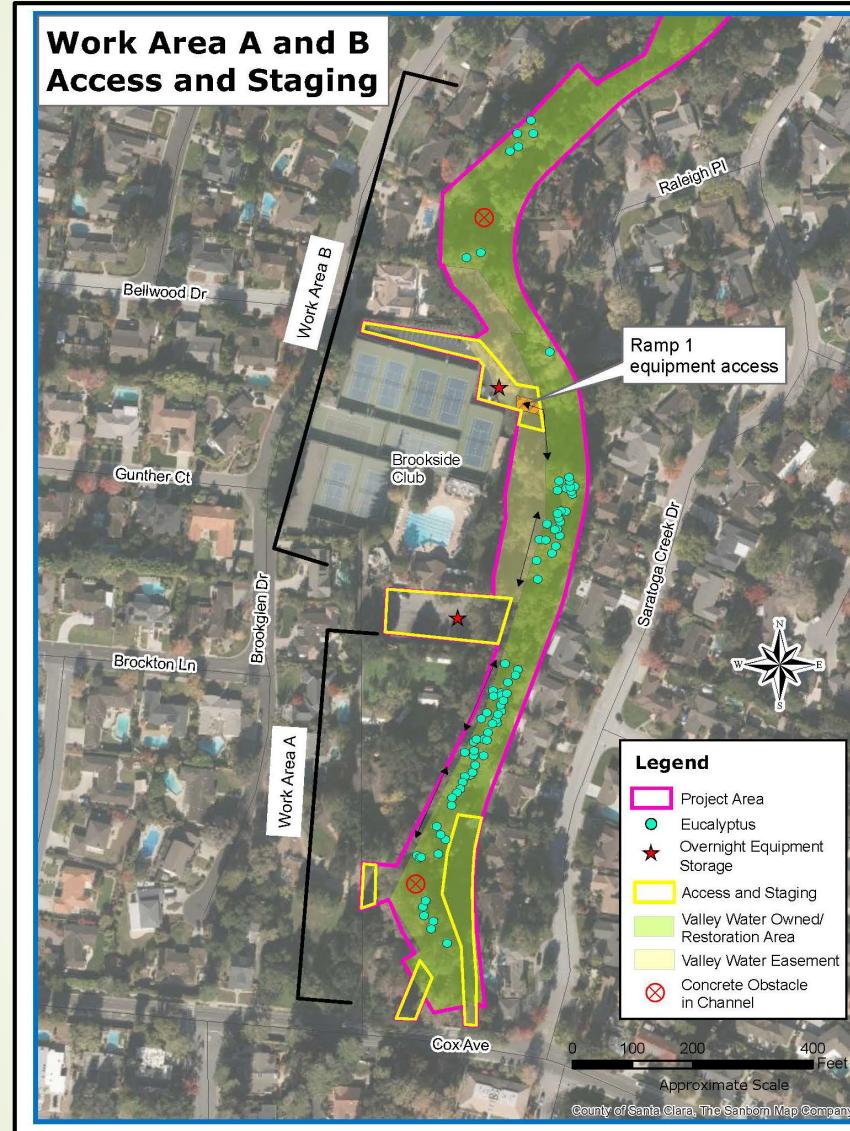
April 2018

Work Areas



Work Access Options

- Work access primarily from west bank
- Access/staging areas in **YELLOW**
- Temporary ramps in **ORANGE**



Regulatory Compliance

- Valley Water owns the trees but must comply with local and state regulations
- CEQA
- CA Dept of Fish and Wildlife
- Army Corps of Engineers
- Regional Water Quality Control Board
- City of Saratoga



Proposed Work Schedule

- Phase 1 = Work Area A (anticipated July–December 2019)
- Phase 2 = Work Area B (anticipated July–December 2020)
- Phase 3 = Work Area C (anticipated June – December 2021)

Activity	Month					
	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Ramp construction						
Creek dewatering (if needed)						
Eucalyptus and thatch removal						
Cut-stump/Herbicide treatment						
Ramp removal						
Seeding, winterization						
Revegetation/Restoration						

What happens after tree removal?

- Duff clearing and stump control
- Planting of native trees and vegetation in the project area
- Invasive plant management will continue throughout the reach
- Ongoing vegetation management and mitigation site monitoring



September 2018



July 2018

Restoration - Next Steps

- “Restoration” rather than “tree replacement”
- CA native trees, shrubs, and vines
- Restoration must be on-site, on Valley Water property
- Maintain access path(s) for installation, irrigation, and maintenance
- Letters to be sent specifying individual parcel requirements



April 2019

Benefits of CA Native Plants

- Require less water once established
- Fewer pest problems and maintenance
- Support local ecology (birds, wildlife, pollinators)
- Increase biodiversity and structural diversity
- They're shorter!
- Contributes to overall watershed health



Natural Recovery





Restoration starts small....

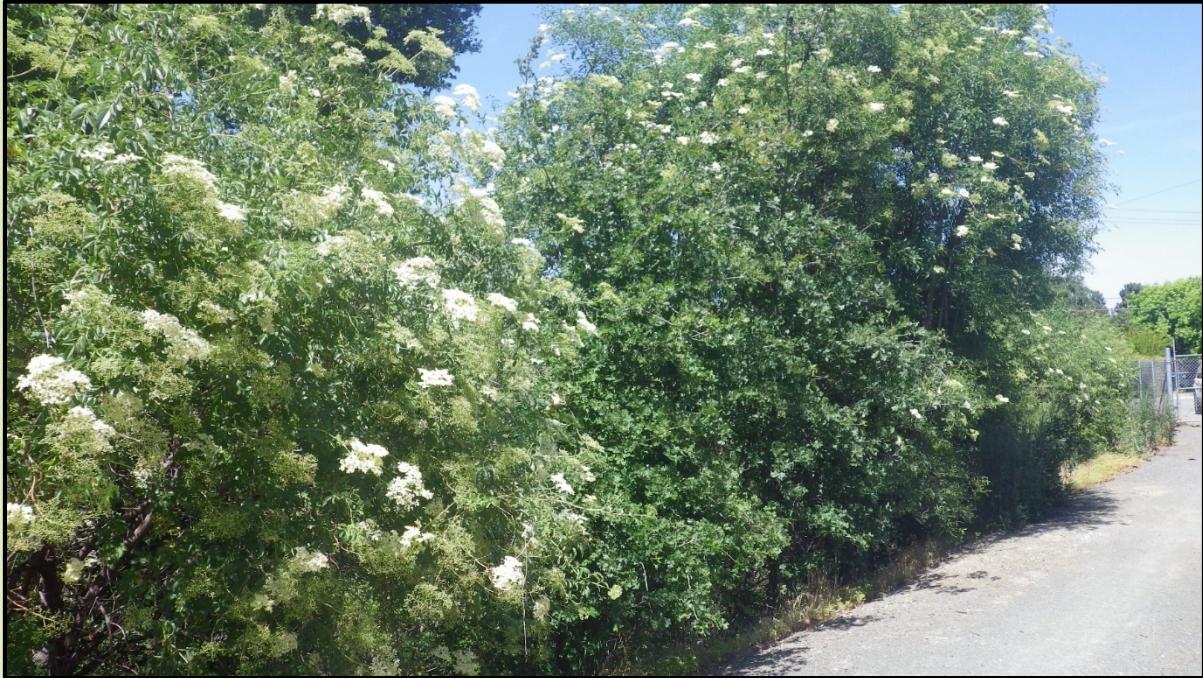


Year 1

California buckeye

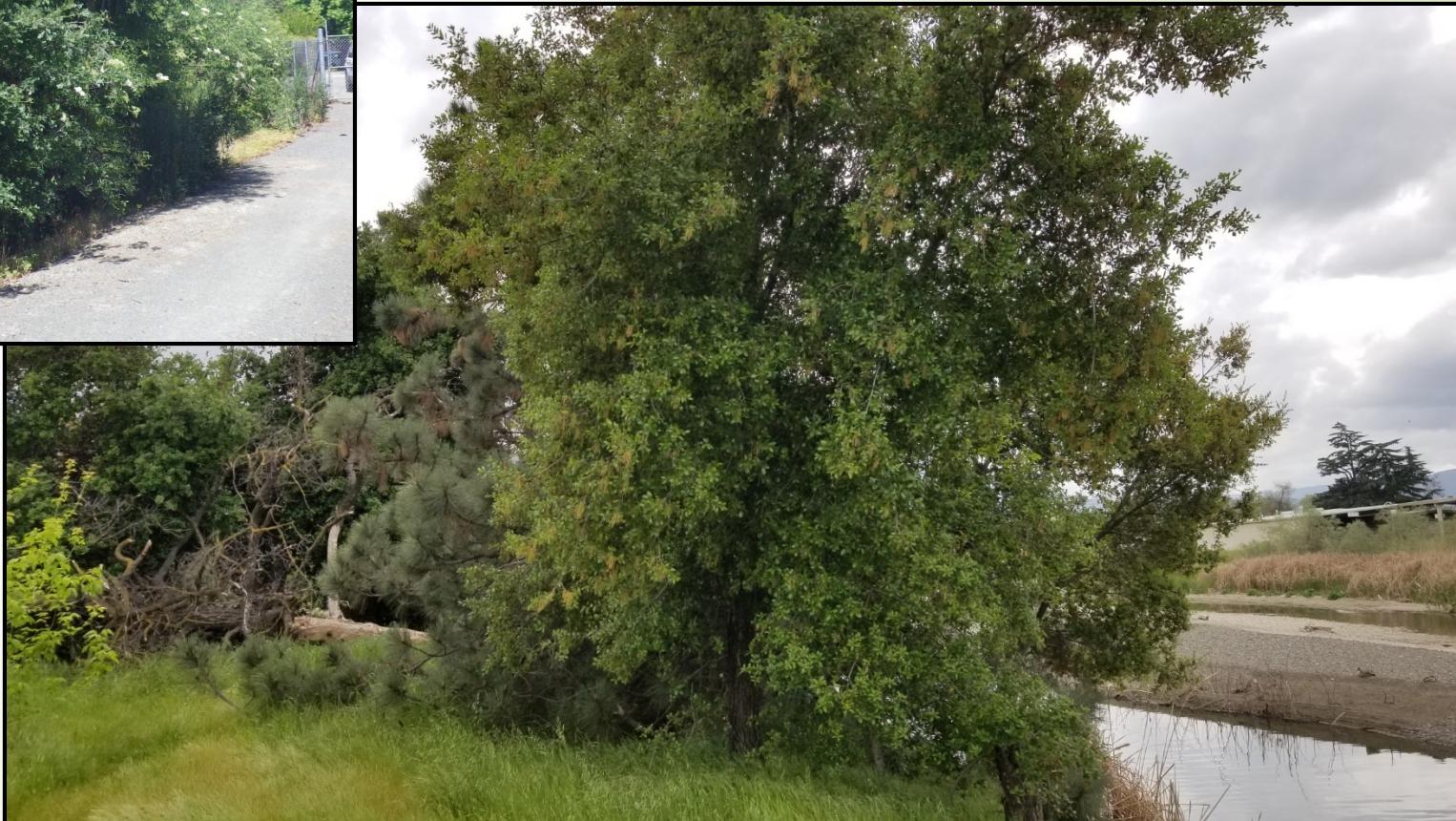


Year 15



Blue elderberry

Coast live oak



Project Status

- CEQA and permits pending
- Restoration design
- Site Monitoring
- Urgent/Emergency tree work?



Next steps

- Posting information to the project webpage: valleywater.org/SaratogaCreekHazardTrees
- Survey and comment card
- Staff contact for project related questions:
 - Jvillarreal@valleywater.org or (408) 630-2879
- Provide your email address and indicate if interested in staff follow up
- Neighborhood work notice to be sent once the work is scheduled

