







# Measure AA Bond **Annual Accountability Report**

FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2023





# **Table of Contents**

Click on the table of contents below to jump to that page. You can also click on the table of contents icon  $\stackrel{ ext{(=)}}{ ext{(=)}}$ at the bottom of every page to jump back to this table of contents.

#### INTRODUCTION

	Letter from the General Manager	ii
	Letter from the Chief Financial Officer	iv
	Mission Statement	V
	Measure AA Portfolio Map	vi
	About Us	vii
R E	E P O R T	
	Executive Summary	1
	Portfolio Allocation to Expenditure Roll Up	2
	Land Acquisition MAA Expenditures	4
	Priority Portfolio Actions by Region	6
	Portfolio Expenditures	13
	Financial Report by Project	89
ΑT	TTACHMENTS	
	MAA Ballot Language	99
	Ordinance NO. 2014-02	100
	Exhibit A: Expenditure Plan	105
	Exhibit B: Tax Rate Statement	112
	Resolution No. 23-12 Measure AA Expenditure Plan Amendment	113
	MAA Bond Program: Schedule of Program Expenditures	116
	MAA Fund Balance Schedule	118



#### PHOTO CREDITS

Top: Windy Hill Open Space Preserve (Jennifer Fraser) Lower left: Rancho San Antonio Open Space Preserve by (John Kesselring) Lower middle: Thornewood Open Space Preserve by (Michael Alexander) Lower right: Fremont Older Open Space Preserve (Michelle Yau)

# Message from the General Manager to the Bond Oversight Committee

In 2014, voters passed Measure AA, which authorized the District to issue up to \$300 million in general obligation bonds over the next 30 years to fund 25 priority actions. Our progress to date highlights Midpen's balanced mission—land acquisition and preservation; natural resource protection and restoration and ecologically sensitive public education and enjoyment; and for the Coastside, preserving rural character and encouraging viable agricultural land use.

In fiscal year 2023, Midpen celebrated a public access milestone. We boosted our lands protected in perpetuity to over 70,000 acres with the purchase of Cloverdale Ranch. This 5,100-acre purchase is the single largest for Midpen. By preserving nearly 10-square miles of coastal ecosystems, we have established the basis for wildlife protection projects, and increased conservation grazing and new trail connections. Throughout fiscal year 2024, staff will engage with local nonprofits and community members on habitat restoration projects within Cloverdale Ranch for special-status species like the San Francisco Garter Snake and California red-legged frog.

In addition to the Cloverdale Ranch purchase, Midpen closed escrow on the remaining portion of the 612-acre South Cowell property, fully purchasing the land from Peninsula Open Space Trust. This purchase will preserve grazing lands, protect the Lobitos Creek watershed, and improve access to surrounding Midpen lands. It will also provide opportunities for compatible trail use in planning the Purisima-to-the-Sea Trail, a regional trail envisioned to link the Bay Area Ridge Trail with the California Coastal Trail along the San Mateo County coast.

Also in fiscal year 2023, Midpen completed the first phase of construction on the Alpine Road Regional Trail Improvement Project. We repaired the southern portion of the dirt road to a 12-foot-width road from Page Mill Road to Meadow Trail and converted to a 6-foot-width trail from Meadow Trail to Crazy Pete's Junction in Portola Valley. A new bypass trail with a more sustainable alignment was constructed to replace the existing, informal bypass trail. Phase 2 of the project begins in fiscal year 2024.

As part of the Stevens Creek Shoreline Nature Area restoration projects, staff and volunteers worked together to improve the breeding habitat of the snowy plover by distributing oyster shells and "mud stomping" the otherwise flat, uniform pond bottom surface to create a more uneven surface to camouflage nests from predators. Midpen plans to continue this work, in partnership with NASA and the San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory, to monitor and manage this crucial wildlife habitat.

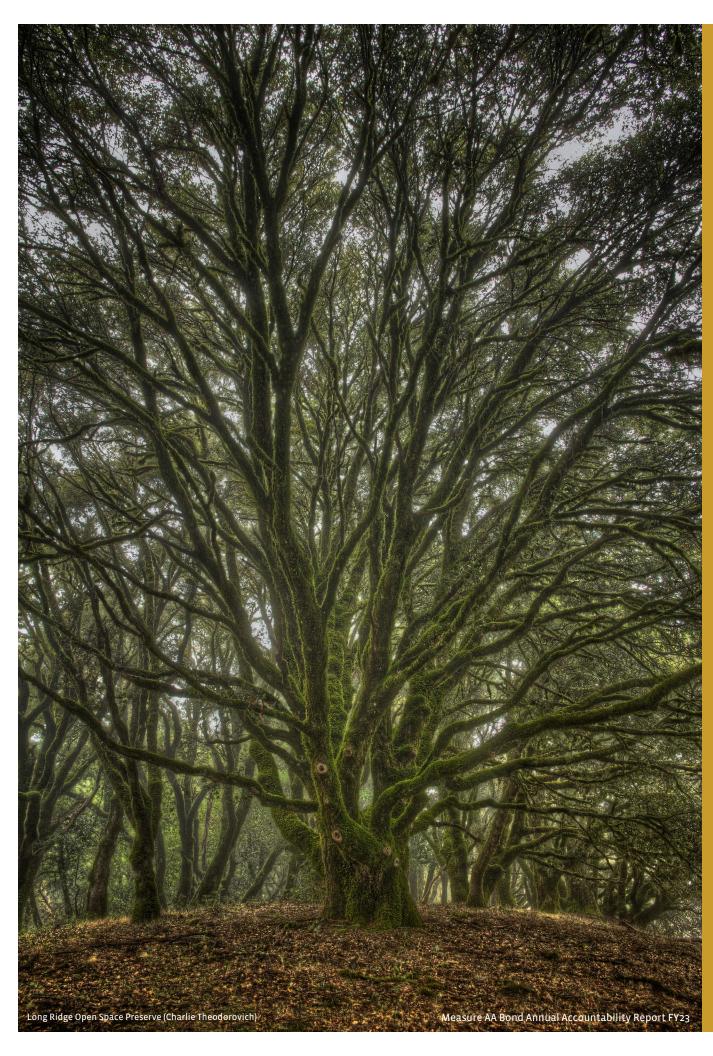
At Bear Creek Redwoods Open Space Preserve, staff completed the site construction and restoration of the Alma College cultural landscape, including the installation of fencing, native plants and soil amendments. Over 2,500 hours were spent impeding invasive species on the landscape, including French broom, Italian thistle and stinkwort. Additionally, Midpen finalized an agreement with Chaparral Corporation as the concessionaire for Bear Creek Stables and completed the planning process for design concepts of the Bear Creek Redwoods North Parking Area.

We are thankful to our community for their continued support, entrusting us with the funding necessary to move forward the critical work of protecting and restoring open spaces, and acknowledge the ongoing dedication of you, the Bond Oversight Committee, as you shepherd on these Measure AA initiatives.



Sincerely,

/s/ Ana María Ruiz **Ana María Ruiz** General Manager



# Message from the Chief Financial Officer to the Bond Oversight Committee

#### **Bond Oversight Committee:**

Midpen is pleased to present our eighth Measure AA Bond Annual Accountability Report. Approved by voters in 2014, MAA is a \$300 million bond measure to accelerate land acquisition, environmental restoration and public access within Midpen lands. We present this report to you to fulfill two key tenets of this legislation—transparency and accountability—by highlighting MAA project progress and reviewing bond expenditures for FY23.

As committee members, your role is defined and authorized by Midpen board policy, adopted on Aug. 12, 2015, which states:

The committee has the following three responsibilities for each of the years the MAA general obligation tax is collected, or revenues expended:

Review plan expenditures on an annual basis to verify conformity with the expenditure plan.

Review Midpen's annual audit and annual accountability report and present the committee's findings to the board at a public meeting.

Review any proposed amendments to the expenditure plan.

The committee chair shall report the committee's findings at a public meeting of the board.

The committee shall not have authority to recommend, advise, or direct any such matters that may fall under its responsibility to review. The committee is not advisory to the board and has no power to determine how General Fund monies are spent. The board retains its authority to make such decisions and determinations.

As of the end of this reporting period, Midpen has spent a life-to-date total of \$110.4 million. Midpen spent \$22.1 million in the current reporting period and \$88.3 million in previous reporting periods. Through leveraging \$22.8 million in grants and partnership funding, along with an additional \$4.0 million in interest income from the bond proceeds, Midpen has increased the total available MAA bond funding to \$327.1 million.

MAA projects are grouped into 25 portfolios, two of which are deemed complete and are now closed. Projects are underway or completed in 22 of the 25 portfolios, with progress in the current reporting period spanning 12 portfolios. Additional efforts in support of the MAA portfolios are also noted in Portfolio Expenditures.

Looking ahead, Midpen's adopted Budget and Action Plan for FY24 includes projects in 14 portfolios.

We thank you for your time and service to our community, including the inspection of this accountability report, which supports the health of the environment we all share.

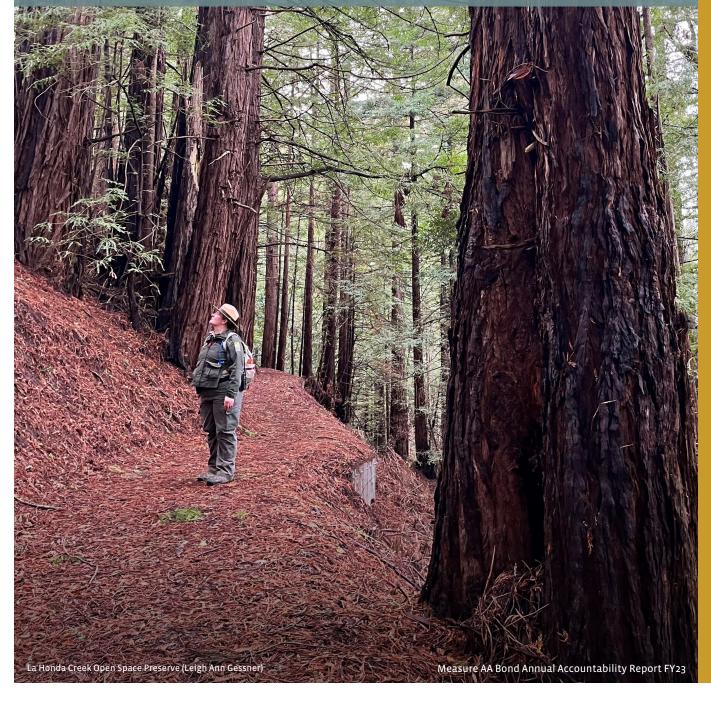


Sincerely,

/s/Stefan Jaskulak
Stefan Jaskulak
Chief Financial Officer

MISSION The mission of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District is to acquire and preserve a regional greenbelt of open space land in perpetuity, protect and restore the natural environment, and provide opportunities for ecologically sensitive public enjoyment and education.

COASTSIDE MISSION To acquire and preserve in perpetuity open space land and agricultural land of regional significance, protect and restore the natural environment, preserve rural character, encourage viable agricultural use of land resources, and provide opportunities for ecologically sensitive public enjoyment and education.



# Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District Measure AA Portfolio Map



MAA01	Open Miramontes Ridge
MAA02	New Bayfront Trails
MAA03	Purisima-to-the-Sea Trail
MAA04	Walking, Hiking and Biking Trails at El Corte de Madera Creek
MAA05	Upper La Honda Creek Preserve
MAA06	New Trails at Windy Hill
MAA07	Driscoll Ranch Area at La Honda Creek
MAA08	Upper San Gregorio Creek Watershed
MAA09	New Trails at Russian Ridge
MAA10	Alpine Road at Coal Creek
MAA11	Welcome Center at Rancho San Antonio

MAA13 Expand Grazing at Cloverdale Coastal Ranch
MAA14 New Trails throughout the Redwoods
MAA15 Redwood Forest Protection
MAA16 New Access Facilities at Long Ridge
MAA17 Upper Stevens Creek Trail
MAA18 Saratoga to Sea Trail
MAA19 El Sereno Trails to Dogs and Complete Trail
MAA20 Safe Wildlife Corridors Across Highway 17
MAA21 Bear Creek Redwoods
MAA22 Cathedral Oaks at Sierra Azul
MAA23 Mount Umunhum at Sierra Azul
MAA24 Rancho de Guadalupe at Sierra Azul
MAA25 Open Loma Prieta Area at Sierra Azul

MAA12 Complete Middle Stevens Creek Trail

# **About Us**

Midpen helps plants, animals and people thrive throughout the greater Santa Cruz Mountains region by preserving a connected greenbelt of more than 70,000 acres of open space. These diverse and scenic landscapes, from bay wetlands to redwood forests and coastal grasslands, host an incredible diversity of life, making our region one of the world's biodiversity hotspots.

Preserving, restoring and providing access to our region's iconic, cultural, working and scenic landscapes offers us opportunities for health, climate resilience and refuge. We actively manage the land and waterways to restore their health and function, helping our local ecosystem become more resilient in a time of climate change. By caring for the land, the land in turn takes care of us, providing tangible and intangible benefits like clean air and water, flood protection and the opportunity for restorative experiences in nature.

Midpen preserves have long and complex histories of human use prior to becoming open space. On the San Mateo County Coast, where local agricultural roots run deep, our mission includes preserving viable working lands. We partner with small-scale local ranchers to use conservation grazing as a land management tool for enhancing native coastal grasslands and providing wildland fire protection.

Midpen preserves are free and open to the public daily, 365 days a year, and provide an extensive trail network for environmentally sensitive public recreation. Our programming connects people to nature through experiences, including environmental interpretation, docent-led activities and volunteer opportunities.

### **History**

The late 1960s was a time of rapid growth in the Bay Area. Through a determined and heartfelt grassroots effort by local conservationists, the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District was created in 1972 when the Measure R "Room to Breathe" initiative was passed by Santa Clara County voters. District residents voted to expand Midpen's boundary into southern San Mateo County in 1976, and again in 1992 to a small portion of Santa Cruz County. In the late 1990s, development pressure increased on the San Mateo County Coast, threatening sensitive habitat and the area's rural heritage. This led to the 2004 Coastside Protection Area, an extension of District boundaries to the Pacific Ocean in San Mateo County, and the addition of preserving rural character and encouraging viable, agricultural use of the land to our organizational mission.

#### Governance

Midpen is governed by a seven-member publicly elected board of directors. Board members serve a four-year term and represent a geographic ward of approximately equal populations. The board holds its regular public meetings on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at 7 p.m., at the Midpen administrative office: 5050 El Camino Real, Los Altos, CA.

# **Staffing**

The staff currently includes over 195 employees in 12 departments: budget and finance, engineering and construction, general manager's office, general counsel's office, human resources, information systems and technology, land and facilities services, natural resources, planning, public affairs, real property and visitor services. Though not part of a department, the Controller is also part of the staffing numbers and like the General Manager and General Counsel reports directly to the Board of Directors.

#### For more information about Midpen, visit openspace.org.

# Midpen At A Glance













Visitors Per Year





Founded in 1972

More Than 70,000

250 Miles of Trails

# **Executive Summary**

We are pleased to present Midpen's eighth Measure AA Bond Annual Accountability Report. This report reflects Measure AA expenditures from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023. The structure of this document is guided by MAA ballot language, specifically Priority Portfolio Actions by Region, beginning on page 6.

The MAA expenditure plan with 25 priority actions and project portfolios were the culmination of a vision planning effort that began in 2012. The public portion of this visioning process spanned 18 months to define Midpen's strategic direction for the following 40 years. In total, the vision plan yielded 54 priority actions. The top 25 priority actions were subsequently incorporated into a ballot initiative. In 2014, voters approved MAA, a \$300 million general obligation bond, designed to fund the top 25 priority actions as described in the expenditure plan. This MAA accountability report is arranged in parallel with that expenditure plan to facilitate review. Projects are grouped into 25 key project portfolios organized by geographic area within District boundaries.

### **Portfolio Allocation Changes**

Bond funding allocations may be shifted if needed following board approval. In June 2023, the Board of Directors approved the closure of completed Portfolios 18 and 23 and reallocated the combined \$6.4 million remainder to Portfolio 03. In the future, if subsequent portfolio reallocations are needed, the MAA Bond Oversight Committee will be advised.

### Bond Oversight Committee Connection with the Budget and Action Plan

In keeping with its role of reviewing retrospective expenditures, this committee is not charged with reviewing the budget or other prospective information, unless it is provided as part of an explanation of a proposed portfolio allocation adjustment. There is, of course, a synergy between the budgeted and actual expenditures, and the following information is provided as context for, and insight into, Midpen's management of MAA spending.

Each year, Midpen embarks upon a priority-setting and budgeting process with the board, allowing for at least a six-month planning process. The Budget and Action Plan is approved prior to the start of the fiscal year. The annual budget includes a Measure AA Projects Budget Overview, providing a prospective view into the next year's planned spending.

#### **Bond Issuance, Size and Look-Back Period**

In June 2014, voters approved MAA to: protect natural open space lands; open preserves or areas of preserves to public access; construct public access improvements, such as new trails and staging areas; restore and enhance open space land, including forests, streams and watersheds; and support local agriculture.

In August 2015, Midpen issued its first tranche of general obligation bonds to cover the first few years of planned project expenses, as well as the legally permitted look-back period of 60 days prior to the board's certification of election results. Midpen issued \$40 million of tax-exempt general obligation bonds (Series 2015A) which have now been fully spent, and \$5 million of taxable general obligation bonds (Series 2015B).

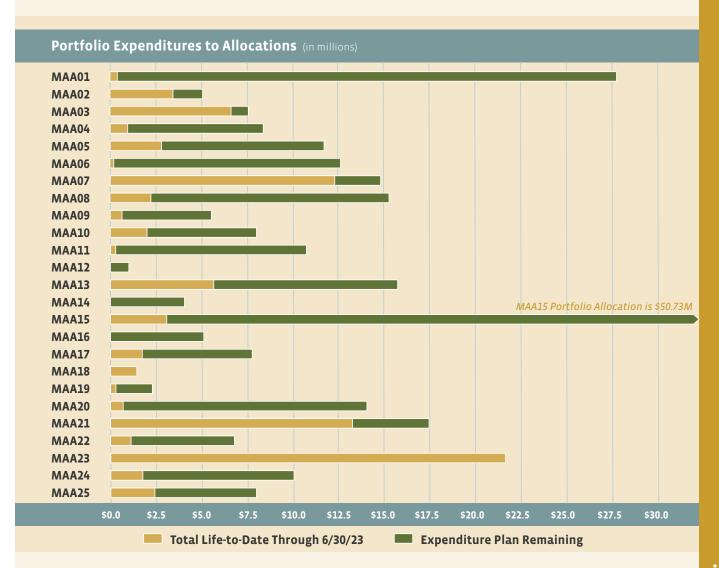
In February 2018, Midpen issued its second tranche of \$50 million in general obligation bonds to cover project expenses planned for approximately the next three years.

# **Portfolio Allocations and Expenditures**

The rollup below shows how much of the total MAA expenditure plan allocation has been used on a life-to-date basis.



The following chart shows the approved portfolio allocations approved in the expenditure plan, including any adjustments to portfolio allocations, and the life-to-date expenditures in each portfolio through June 30, 2023. For details, please reference the financial report beginning on page 89, which contains actuals expenditure numbers and remaining allocations.



### **Spending Trends**

Midpen began using MAA funds in 2014. FY23 marked Midpen's ninth year of funding. As of June 30, 2023, the net bond spend has been \$87.6 million, or \$110.4 if grants and other contributions are excluded. In addition to direct spending on MAA projects, Midpen prioritizes initiatives in support of MAA portfolios. These initiatives are described in the Portfolio Expenditures starting on page 13.

Midpen's annual audited financial statements can be found at openspace.org/financials.

# **Anticipated Future Trends**

Although the Bond Oversight Committee primarily reviews retrospective expenses, a glimpse of anticipated expenditures is provided for contextual purposes and to demonstrate the progress Midpen is making toward MAA projects. Based on the approved FY24 Budget and Action Plan, an estimated \$95.2 million (net of grant income) in MAA funds will be expended, or approximately 32% of the \$300 million bond.

Although some of the portfolios show little or no expenditures to date, many projects are underway but are currently a Vision Plan project until they are considered capital projects and hence MAA eligible. In addition, portfolio allocations include estimated land costs. Land purchases are primarily opportunity driven, and costs are budgeted only upon Board approval.

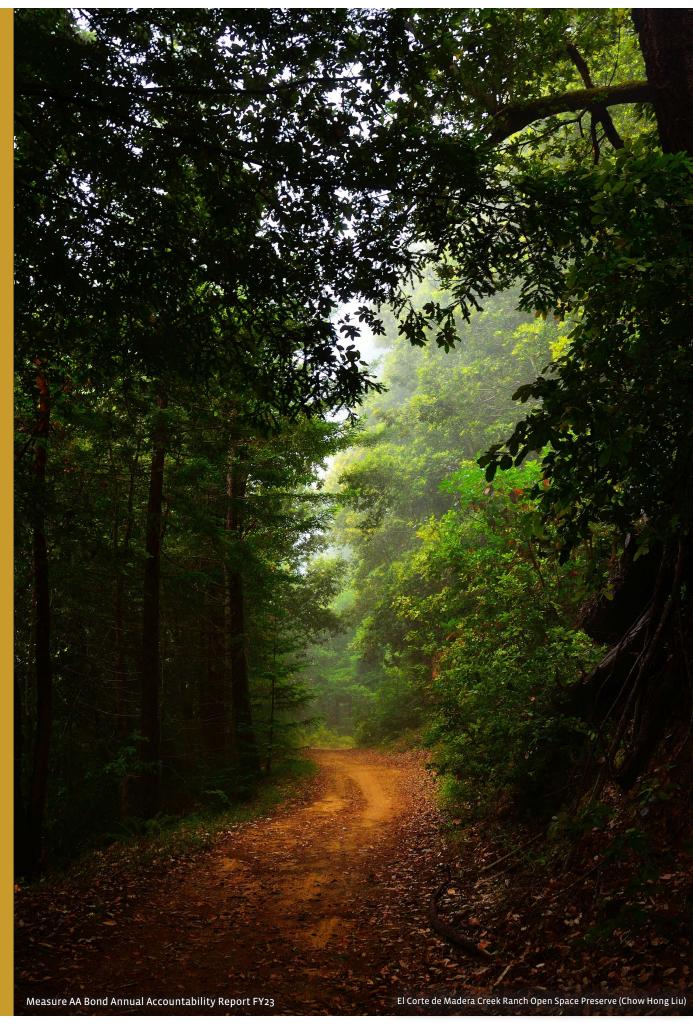
# Land Acquisition MAA Expenditures (July 1, 2022–June 30, 2023)

Portfolios with Land Acquisition Expenses	Cost	Project	Type of Activity		
MAA03	\$1,257,874	South Cowell Property Land Purchase	Closed escrow on POST remaining 33% interest (3.45-acre house parcel)		
MAA13	\$15,532,554	Cloverdale Ranch Land Purchase	Purchased phase 1 and phase 2		
MAA22	\$720,178	San Jose Water Company	Purchased 102.3-acre property from San Jose Water Company		
FY23 TOTAL	\$17,510,605				

Of the \$22.1 million expended in this reporting period (excluding grants), about \$17.5 million was related to land acquisition and associated expenses, representing 79% of all spending for the period. The tables below contain a breakdown of land acquisition costs by portfolio for the current fiscal year and life-to-date.

# Land Acquisition MAA Expenditures (May 11, 2014–June 30, 2023)

· · ·					
Portfolios with Land Acquisition Expenses	Cost	Project	Type of Activity		
MAA01	\$82,907	Johnston Ranch Land Acquisition	Lease and management agreement for the property, including the assignment of a grazing lease to Midpen		
MAA02	\$108,273	SFPUC Easement at Ravenswood Trail	Easement property right		
MAA03	\$6,757,772	Riggs Property Purchase and Site Cleanup & Remediation, Chamberlain/Lundell Trust (Lobitos Creek), Giusti Property Rights Transfer, South Cowell Uplands and house parcel, and Rieser-Nelson Land Purchase	Includes lot line adjustment, Guisti Uplands, Lobitos Creek, South Cowell Uplands and house parcel, and Rieser-Nelson land conservation purchase		
MAA04	\$57,340	Gallaway Property Purchase	Land conservation purchases		
MAA05	\$1,756,093	Toepfer and Ashworth Property Purchases	Land conservation purchases		
MAA07	\$9,008,773	Apple Orchard and Events Center property and Cunha Property Purchases	Land conservation purchases		
MAA08	\$2,153,910	Woodruff Redwoods Property Purchase	Land conservation purchase		
MAA13	\$15,532,554	Cloverdale Ranch Property Purchase	Land conservation purchases		
MAA15	\$3,061,049	POST/Alpine Ranch Easement, Conley Property Purchase and Irish Ridge Land Conservation	Easement property right and land conservation purchases		
MAA17	\$754,552	Lysons Property Purchase	Property Expense equals Purchase Price minus grant income of \$740,000		
MAA19	\$1,564,764	Gupta/Kahn Property Purchase, Dunham- Bohlman Easement, Haight-Perry, and San Jose Water Co land Purchase	Easement property right and land conservation purchases		
MAA22 \$1,260,765		Freudenberg Land Purchase, Hendrys Creek, and San Jose Water Company property purchases	Land conservation purchases and land conservation easement to Santa Clara Valley Water District who funded full amount of \$1,500,000 for the Hendrys Creek parcel		
MAA23	\$3,482,137	Meyer Property Purchase and associated costs, Twin Creeks Land Purchase, Vielbaum Property Acquisition	Land conservation purchases		
MAA24	\$1,591,996	Barth, Petersen, Navid/Gagher, Kahn	Land conservation purchases		
MAA25	\$2,095,083	Burton Land Acquisition and Billingsley Property Purchase	Land conservation purchases		
Total Land Acquisition MAA Expenditures	\$49,267,967				



# **Priority Portfolio Actions by Region**

From the Measure AA Expenditure Plan

# **South Bay Foothills**

Los Gatos, Monte Sereno, Saratoga and Santa Cruz Mountains



Sierra Azul Open Space Preserve (Erin Ashford/Midpen)

#### PORTFOLIO 18

# South Bay Foothills—Saratoga-to-the-Sea Trail and Wildlife Corridor

Protect wildlife corridor along Highway 9

Connect trail to Saratoga-to-the-Sea Trail and Skyline-to-the-Sea Trail

Original Portfolio Allocation: \$1,365,000

Revised Portfolio Allocation: \$1,164,189

#### PORTFOLIO 19

# El Sereno—Dog Trails and Connections

Provide infrastructure to open trails to dogs

Develop connections to Skyline, Sanborn County Park and Lexington Reservoir

Portfolio Allocation: \$2,254,000

#### PORTFOLIO 20

### South Bay Foothills—Wildlife Passage and Ridge Trail Improvements

Establish safe corridors for mountain lions across Highway 17

Establish Bay Area Ridge Trail crossing

Portfolio Allocation: \$13,966,000

### PORTFOLIO 21

## Bear Creek Redwoods—Public Recreation and Interpretive Projects

Open for hiking, equestrian activities

Provide parking areas, trails; upgrade stables

Restore and protect habitats for various species

Repair roads and trails to reduce sediment

Rehabilitate Alma College site

Portfolio Allocation: \$17,478,000

#### PORTFOLIO 22

# Sierra Azul—Cathedral Oaks Public Access and Conservation Projects

Develop multiuse trail and plan future trails as land is available

Develop parking

Restore plant communities and soils

Install trailside amenities

Preserve additional open space and complete wildlife corridor in upper Los Gatos Creek watershed

Portfolio Allocation: \$6,714,000

#### PORTFOLIO 23

# Sierra Azul—Mount Umunhum Public Access and Interpretive Projects

Open Mount Umunhum for multiuse public access to summit via road and trail

Open Bay Area Ridge Trail and nearby trail connections

Preserve additional open space and complete wildlife corridor

Original Portfolio Allocation: \$27,972,000

Revised Portfolio Allocation: \$21,814,891

#### PORTFOLIO 24

## Sierra Azul—Rancho de Guadalupe Family Recreation

Open Rancho de Guadalupe to public access

Develop accessible multiuse trails with amenities such as parking and family recreation

Restore habitat for rare species

Protect cultural and natural resources

Portfolio Allocation: \$10,078,000

#### PORTFOLIO 25

## Sierra Azul—Loma Prieta Area Public Access, Regional Trails and Habitat Projects

Provide public access and recreation, including small campground

Develop, improve and connect regional multiuse trails to Forest of Nisene Marks State Park, protected land to east, and Mount Umunhum

Protect steelhead habitat, rare plants and grasslands, and restore knob cone pine stands

Portfolio Allocation: \$7,986,000

# Peninsula Foothills and Bay

Cupertino, Los Altos, Los Altos Hills, Sunnyvale, Mountain View, Palo Alto, East Palo Alto, Menlo Park, Atherton, Redwood City, San Carlos, Woodside, Portola Valley and Skyline



Rancho San Antonio Open Space Preserve (Greg Lewis)

#### PORTFOLIO 2

# Regional—Bayfront Habitat Protection and Public Access Partnerships

Partner to complete gaps in Bay Trail and develop city-to-bay trails

Support wetland restoration and associated interpretive facilities

Preserve additional bayfront open space

Portfolio Allocation: \$5,052,000

#### PORTFOLIO 4

# El Corte de Madera Creek—Bike Trail and Water Quality Projects

Develop single-use biking/hiking trails, complete Ridge Trail gaps and develop trail system leading to parking area

Restore damaged trails to improve water quality

Preserve additional open space as available

Portfolio Allocation: \$8,376,000

#### PORTFOLIO 5

# La Honda Creek—Upper Area Recreation, Habitat Restoration and Conservation Grazing Projects

Open upper half of the preserve to public; provide biking/hiking/equestrian trails, dog access and staging areas

Provide loop and connector trails

Restore habitat for rare species

Improve fencing, corrals and water systems to reintroduce conservation grazing

Portfolio Allocation: \$11,733,000

#### PORTFOLIO 6

# Windy Hill—Trail Improvements, Preservation and Hawthorns Area Historic Partnership

Improve trails; complete pond facilities

Increase multiuse trails; study possible improvements to increase dog use

Open Hawthorns Area; develop trails connecting to Portola Valley and Palo Alto trails

Partner to protect, restore and interpret historic buildings

Improve habitat conditions in Los Trancos Creek

Preserve additional scenic open space as available

Portfolio Allocation: \$12,740,000

#### PORTFOLIO 8

# La Honda Creek and Russian Ridge—Preservation of Upper San Gregorio Watershed and Ridge Trail Completion

Preserve Upper San Gregorio watershed; restore endangered species habitats

Support opportunities to provide additional water for fisheries

Complete Bay Area Ridge Trail multiuse connections and gaps

Provide additional public use facilities

Portfolio Allocation: \$15,347,000

#### PORTFOLIO 9

# Russian Ridge—Public Recreation, Grazing and Wildlife Protection Projects

Open currently closed areas of preserve

Construct and extend trails

Improve fencing, corrals and water systems to reintroduce conservation grazing

Improve habitat for sensitive species; implement pond enhancement projects for garter snakes and red-legged frogs

Portfolio Allocation: \$5,560,000

#### PORTFOLIO 10

#### Coal Creek—Reopen Alpine Road for Trail Use

Reopen Alpine Road as trail connection between Portola Valley and Skyline Boulevard

Reroute trails to reduce erosion and improve visitor experience

Portfolio Allocation: \$8,017,000

#### PORTFOLIO 11

# Rancho San Antonio—Interpretive Improvements, Refurbishing and Transit Solutions

Add welcome center

Refurbish and add interpretive exhibits to Deer Hollow Farm

Support of transit improvement options such as bike trails, bike share station, bus service or additional parking

Portfolio Allocation: \$10,811,000

#### PORTFOLIO 12

# Peninsula and South Bay Cities—Partner to Complete Middle Stevens Creek Trail

Support work by cities to develop the middle section of the Stevens Creek Trail and enhance neighborhood connections

Support work by partners to complete stream corridor restoration and steelhead habitat enhancement below dam

Develop and install interpretive signage

Portfolio Allocation: \$1,038,000

#### PORTFOLIO 16

# Long Ridge—Trail, Conservation and Habitat Restoration Projects (Saratoga)

Improve roadside parking and provide restrooms

Develop new trail connections to Eagle Rock and Devils Canyon

Repair trails for year-round, multiuse access

Protect watersheds for steelhead

Preserve additional open space as available

Implement pond and habitat enhancement restoration projects to benefit rare species

Portfolio Allocation: \$5,140,000

#### PORTFOLIO 17

# Regional—Complete Upper Stevens Creek Trail

Complete multiuse connection between the Bay Trail and Bay Area Ridge Trail above the reservoir through Picchetti Ranch Open Space Preserve and Lower/Upper Stevens Creek County Parks

Improve preserve trails and neighborhood connections

Preserve additional open space as available

Portfolio Allocation: \$7,760,000



# Coast

Half Moon Bay, San Gregorio, Pescadero and La Honda



La Honda Creek Open Space Preserve (Aaron Hebert)

#### PORTFOLIO 1

# Miramontes Ridge—Gateway to the Coast Public Access, Stream Restoration and Agriculture Enhancement

Preserve scenic open space land as available, and establish wildlife corridor

Restore fish and red-legged frog habitats in Madonna Creek watershed

Partner to enhance water availability for agriculture and fish

Develop trail loop system, including Ridge Trail and neighborhood access points

Develop staging area; repair bridges

Portfolio Allocation: \$27,774,000

#### PORTFOLIO 3

# Purisima Creek Redwoods—Purisima-to-the-Sea Trail, Watershed Protection and Conservation Grazing

Complete and open multiuse Purisima-to-the-Sea Trail connection between Ridge Trail and Coastal Trail, and new parking areas

Preserve additional open space as available

Remove fish barriers and restore Lobitos Creek

Restore ponds for endangered species

Original Portfolio Allocation: \$7,608,000

Revised Portfolio Allocation: \$13,965,920

### PORTFOLIO 7

# La Honda Creek—Driscoll Ranch Public Access, Endangered Wildlife Protection and Conservation Grazing

Open Driscoll Ranch area; provide biking/hiking/equestrian trails, limited dog access, parking areas and interpretive displays

Develop loop and connector trails

Restore habitat for endangered species

Restore La Honda Creek; remove fish migration barriers

Portfolio Allocation: \$14,825,000

#### PORTFOLIO 13

# Cloverdale Ranch—Wildlife Protection, Grazing and Trail Connections

Improve fencing, corrals and water systems to increase conservation grazing and sustain large contiguous grasslands

Restore habitat for endangered species

Provide trail connections to nearby state parks

Portfolio Allocation: \$15,712,000

#### PORTFOLIO 14

# **Regional—Trail Connections and Campgrounds**

Develop trails between Butano State Park, Pescadero County Park and Russian Ridge, and between Skyline Ridge and Portola Redwoods and Big Basin state parks

Partner with county and state parks to improve existing campgrounds

Portfolio Allocation: \$3,966,000

### PORTFOLIO 15

# Regional—Redwood Protection and Salmon Fishery Conservation

Preserve additional open space as available

Protect and enhance redwood stands, mountain scenery, various habitats and steelhead

Portfolio Allocation: \$50,728,000



Purisima Creek Redwoods Open Space Preserve (Randy Weber)

# Portfolio Expenditures

Numerically by Portfolio Number



Ravenswood Open Space Preserve (Anna George)

# Preface

**Portfolio Expenditures** describes the allocation for each of the 25 MAA portfolios, per the MAA ballot language under the expenditure plan, and portfolio expenditures through the current reporting period. Portfolio expenditures represent project costs deemed eligible for MAA reimbursement from inception through June 30, 2023. The tables and charts restate information gleaned from Midpen's accounting system and provide another graphical way to view the expenditures.

For context, notable accomplishments during this period are highlighted in yellow throughout this section of the report. Portfolios that have no incurred expenditures or notable accomplishments are included in this report to ensure continuity from year to year.

Project challenges and potential next steps are also provided.

Though the Bond Oversight Committee review is focused on actual expenditures, this report also includes notable accomplishments not funded by, but in support of, MAA projects. The inclusion of this information is to provide a sense of the preceding effort often necessary to move MAA projects forward.

# **Portfolio Progress Indicators**

The following indicators show the progress to date on each portfolio element.

### Light gold indicates progress in this FY and darker gold indicates a previous FY, for example:

- Not started, or little progress to report
- Started and approximately 25% complete (in a previous FY)
- Approximately 50% complete (with 25% completed this FY)
- Approximately 75% complete (with 50% completed this FY)
- Ocomplete (with 25% completed this FY)
- Complete (with o% completed this FY)

**Note:** For portfolio elements that show as "complete" or fully shaded circles, there may arise future additional investments opportunities to expand upon the stated goal. When such opportunities arise, these will be listed and noted as expanded opportunities. Also, activities that are tied to or indirectly support portfolio elements are accounted for under the indicator circles and in the Notable Accomplishments descriptions. For example, remediation activities that are identified as part of a land purchase would be accounted for under a portfolio element that specifies open space preservation.

# Portfolio 1

# Miramontes Ridge

Gateway to the Coast Public Access, Stream Restoration and Agriculture Enhancement



Miramontes Ridge Open Space Preserve (Elaina Cuzick)

#### DESCRIPTION

- Preserve scenic open space land as available, and establish wildlife corridor.
- Restore fish and red-legged frog habitats in Madonna Creek watershed.
- Partner to enhance water availability for agriculture and fish.
- Oevelop trail loop system, including Ridge Trail and neighborhood access points.
- O Develop staging area; repair bridges.

Portfolio Allocation: \$27,774,000

Portfolio Expenditures Through 6/30/2023: \$566,184

#### NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

# MAA01-004 Remediation Plan and Ranch Dump Clean Up, Madonna Creek Ranch

#### **Prior Years**

Removed over 300 tons of hazardous waste from the riparian area and planted approximately 240 willow stakes to revegetate the site.

Tested and identified debris and contaminants.

### MAA01-005 Johnston Ranch Land Acquisition

#### Fiscal Year 2023

Secured approval from City of Half Moon Bay and County of San Mateo for a lot line adjustment to divide the property, with Midpen retaining fee title of the 644-acre Uplands portion as an addition to Miramontes Ridge Open Space Preserve.

#### **Prior Years**

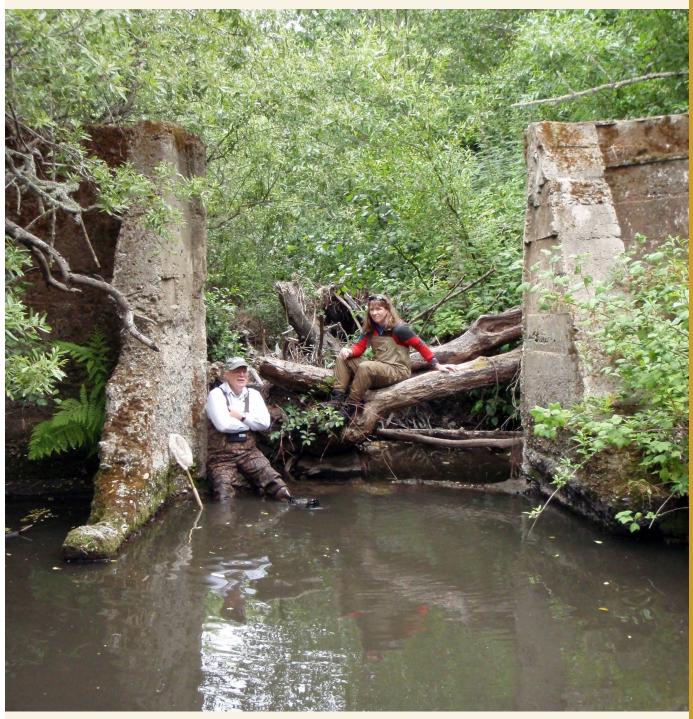
Received board approval for the purchase of the 644-acre Johnston Ranch Uplands property. Entered into a lease and management agreement with Peninsula Open Space Trust.

San Mateo County Agricultural Advisory Committee recommended approval of a lot line adjustment (LLA) in March 2022. San Mateo County Planning Commission approved the LLA in May 2022.

Recorded public trail access and waterline easements between the City of Half Moon Bay and POST to provide future trail access from downtown Half Moon Bay to the city's Johnston house property and Johnston Ranch Uplands property.

Completed Local Coastal Plan minor text amendments approved by San Mateo County Board of Supervisors and California Coastal Commission.

Secured a \$500,000 grant from the California State Coastal Conservancy.



Miramontes Ridge Open Space Preserve (Midpen)

Signed a letter of intent with the City of Half Moon Bay and POST involving the city's Johnston House Park and POST's Johnston Ranch property to provide local and regional trail and parking opportunities, support farming and ranching and protect the scenic landscape and Arroyo Leon watershed.

Completed a botanical and hydrological study of the pond area.

Completed California red-legged frog surveys and habitat characterization at Madonna Creek Ranch.

### MAA01-006 Madonna Creek Habitat Enhancement, Water Supply and Bridge Replacement

#### Fiscal Year 2023

Developed alternative water-supply concepts to compliment future habitat restoration and continued agricultural operations.

Completed geotechnical and hydrologic studies to assess dam stability, flood risk and aquatic habitat restoration opportunities.

Completed water management study in partnership with San Mateo Resource Conservation District to assess agricultural water-supply needs.

# PROJECT CHALLENGES

Flooding in January 2023 damaged infrastructure at the lower pond, which now requires an updated engineer assessment to determine infrastructure repairs, restoration opportunities and access constraints.

Close of escrow and grant funding is pending resolution of a challenge to the California Coastal Commission's approval of minor Local Coastal Plan text amendments.

Acquisitions on the coast require a willing seller.

#### POTENTIAL NEXT STEPS

Awaiting new engineer assessments of the lower dam and bridge after flooding in January 2023 damaged infrastructure and a dump remediation site. Once a plan of action is established for the lower dam, determine whether to develop conceptual designs of pond enhancements at the upper pond.

In coordination with the City of Half Moon Bay and Peninsula Open Space Trust, conduct site assessments, plan and initiate basis of conceptual design of improvements for the existing parking area and potential new loop trail. Initiate public and stakeholder outreach and engagement. Conduct trail scouting.

# **Portfolio 1:** Miramontes Ridge—Gateway to the Coast Public Access, Stream Restoration and Agriculture Enhancement

Project	Expenditure Plan	Total Through Prior Period 6/30/22	Current Period 7/1/22 Through 6/30/23	Total Life-to- Date Through 6/30/23	Expenditure Plan Remaining	Percent Expended
Total Portfolio Allocation	\$27,774,000					
01-004—Remediation Plan and Ranch Debris Cleanup, Madonna Creek Ranch		\$419,791	\$0	\$419,791		
01-005—Johnston Ranch Land Acquisition		\$82,907	\$8,320	\$91,227		
01-006—Madonna Creek Fish, Water Supply and Bridge Replacement		\$68,417	\$25,674	\$94,091		
Subtotal	\$27,774,000	\$571,115	\$33,994	\$605,109	\$27,168,891	2.18%
01-004—Remediation Plan and Ranch Debris Cleanup, Madonna Creek Ranch Grant Income		(\$38,925)	\$0	(\$38,925)		
Grand Total	\$27,774,000	\$532,190	\$33,994	\$566,184	\$27,207,816	2.04%



# Portfolio 2

Regional
Bayfront Habitat
Protection and Public
Access Partnerships



Stevens Creek Shoreline Nature Area (Clair Waagen)

### DESCRIPTION

- Partner to complete gaps in Bay Trail and develop city-to-bay trails.
- Support wetland restoration and associated interpretive facilities.
- Preserve additional bayfront open space.\*

## Portfolio Allocation: \$5,052,000

#### Portfolio Expenditures Through 6/30/2023: \$3,419,003

#### NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### MAA02-001 Cooley Landing Interpretive Facilities Design and Implementation

#### **Prior Years**

Completed six years of native plantings at Cooley Landing to enhance bayfront resource values.

Continued plant restoration activities in and around Cooley Landing Park (trail junctions, trash screen, entry sign and ethnobotany garden). Resumed volunteer activities when allowed during the pandemic.

Completed habitat and plant restoration work for FY20 (part of a multi-year restoration effort). Also, 638 volunteers in 36 working days installed approximately 1,100 native plantings at the trail junctions and parking lot.

Funded the completion of design drawings, permitting and construction of public access improvements at Cooley Landing Park, consistent with the Cooley Landing Vision Plan.

Obtained board approval for \$1.3M in MAA funding for remaining project elements at Cooley Landing Park. Amended partnership agreement to include MAA funding and coordinated reimbursement of eligible city expenses.

#### MAA02-002 Ravenswood Bay Trail Design and Implementation

#### **Prior Years**

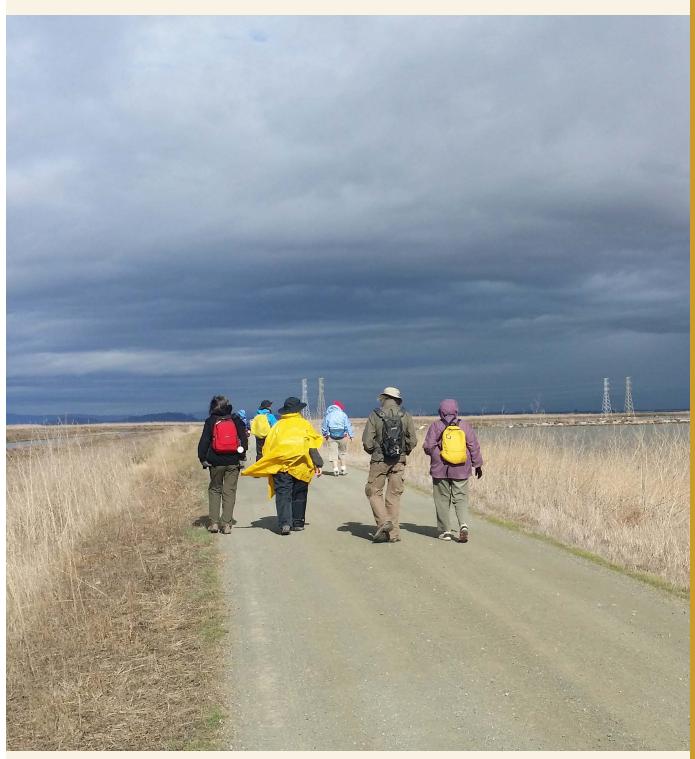
Completed remaining construction punch list items, including the SamTrans property boundary fence.

Completed construction of the asphalt trail, boardwalk and bridge across wetlands on the new Ravenswood Bay Trail connection, which closed a critical o.6-mile gap to connect 80 miles of continuous San Francisco Bay Trail.

Received \$700,000 in funds for public access improvements from Caltrans through a cooperative funding agreement related to a Bay Conservation and Development Commission permit requirement for the Caltrans San Mateo 101 Express Lanes Project.

Completed construction of two high tide refuge islands adjacent to Cooley Marsh to provide enhanced habitat for federally protected species, salt marsh harvest mouse and Ridgway's rail. Island plantings and vegetation were completed in January 2020 and will be monitored for 3-5 consecutive growing seasons.

<sup>\*</sup> Delivering on the minimum commitments for specific portfolio elements does not preclude additional future investment as opportunities arise. Remediation activities may indirectly support portfolio elements, contributing to a portfolio under open space preservation.



Stevens Creek Shoreline Nature Area (Dennis Smith)

Recorded trail easement from Caltrans.

Received approval of a memorandum of understanding with City of East Palo Alto from the city council addressing a) patrol and emergency response, b) site security and c) future community trail access.

Received two grants: \$300,000 from Facebook and \$1,055,328 from the California Natural Resources Agency's Urban Greening Program.

Negotiated an exchange agreement and public trail easement with the City and County of San Francisco and City of East Palo Alto.

Concluded negotiations with the City and County of San Francisco, which resulted in the board of supervisors approving a 0.6-mile Ravenswood Bay Trail easement over San Francisco Public Utilities Commission lands. This agreement facilitated the closure of a gap within a segment of the SF Bay Trail to connect 80 miles of continuous trail within the 500-mile route along the shoreline of the nine Bay Area counties.

### MAA02-004 Stevens Creek Shoreline Nature Area Restoration

#### Fiscal Year 2023

Staff and volunteers improved breeding habitat for the snowy plover (a shorebird that has been declining in population due to declining and degraded habitat) by distributing oyster shells and 'mud stomping' the otherwise flat, uniform pond bottom surface. These habitat improvements create opportunities for the plover to camouflage its nests and hide from predators. Continued working in partnership with NASA for long-term site planning and with San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory to monitor and manage breeding plovers at the preserve.

# In Support of MAA02

#### **Prior Years**

Celebrated the public opening of the Ravenswood Bay Trail Connection Project with an innovative virtual event that successfully garnered 1,400 views.

#### PROJECT CHALLENGES

Heavy winter rains delayed physical and technical site assessments for the Stevens Creek Shoreline Nature Area Restoration project to future FYs.

#### PROJECT NEXT STEPS

Conduct technical site assessments to inform infrastructure changes planned for FY25 for the Stevens Creek Shoreline Nature Area Restoration project.

# Portfolio 2: Regional—Bayfront Habitat Protection and Public Access Partnerships

Project	Expenditure Plan	Total Through Prior Period 6/30/22	Current Period 7/1/22 Through 6/30/23	Total Life-to- Date Through 6/30/23	Expenditure Plan Remaining	Percent Expended
Total Portfolio Allocation	\$5,052,000					
02-001—Cooley Landing Interpretive Facilities Design and Implementation		\$1,283,843	\$0	\$1,283,843		
02-002—Ravenswood Bay Trail Design and Implementation		\$5,588,765	\$0	\$5,588,765		
02-004—Stevens Creek Shoreline Nature Area Restoration		\$0	\$1,721	\$1,721		
SubTotal	\$5,052,000	\$6,872,608	\$1,721	\$6,874,329	(\$1,822,329)	136.07%
02-002—Ravenswood Bay Trail Design and Implementation Grant Income		(\$3,455,326)	\$0	(\$3,455,326)		
Grand Total	\$5,052,000	\$3,417,282	\$1,721	\$3,419,003	\$1,632,997	67.68%



# Portfolio 3

Purisima Creek Redwoods
Purisima-to-the-Sea Trail,
Watershed Protection and
Conservation Grazing



Purisima Creek Redwoods Open Space Preserve (Randy Weber)

#### DESCRIPTION

- Omplete and open Purisima-to-the-Sea Trail connection between Ridge Trail and Coastal Trail, and new parking areas.
- Preserve additional open space as available.\*
- Remove fish barriers and restore Lobitos Creek.
- Restore ponds for endangered species.

Portfolio Allocation: \$7,608,000 Revised Allocation: \$13,965,920

Portfolio Expenditures Through 6/30/2023: \$7,968,394

## NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

# MAA03-001 Purisima Uplands Lot Line Adjustment and Property Transfer

#### Prior Years

Prepared record of survey and set survey monuments on the northerly boundary of the Purisima Upland property.

Closed escrow on the 240-acre Purisima Upland property on July 3, 2019 and completed amendments to property's trail and conservation easements.

Received board approval to finalize lot line adjustment documents with the County of San Mateo and transfer of the 240-acre Purisima Uplands property to Midpen, to assemble public lands for the future Purisima-to-the-Sea Trail.

Purchased the 40.2-acre Riggs property, helping to protect the Lobitos Creek watershed and spawning habitat for coho salmon and steelhead.

## MAA03-002 Purisima Upland Site Clean Up and Soil Remediation

#### Fiscal Year 2023

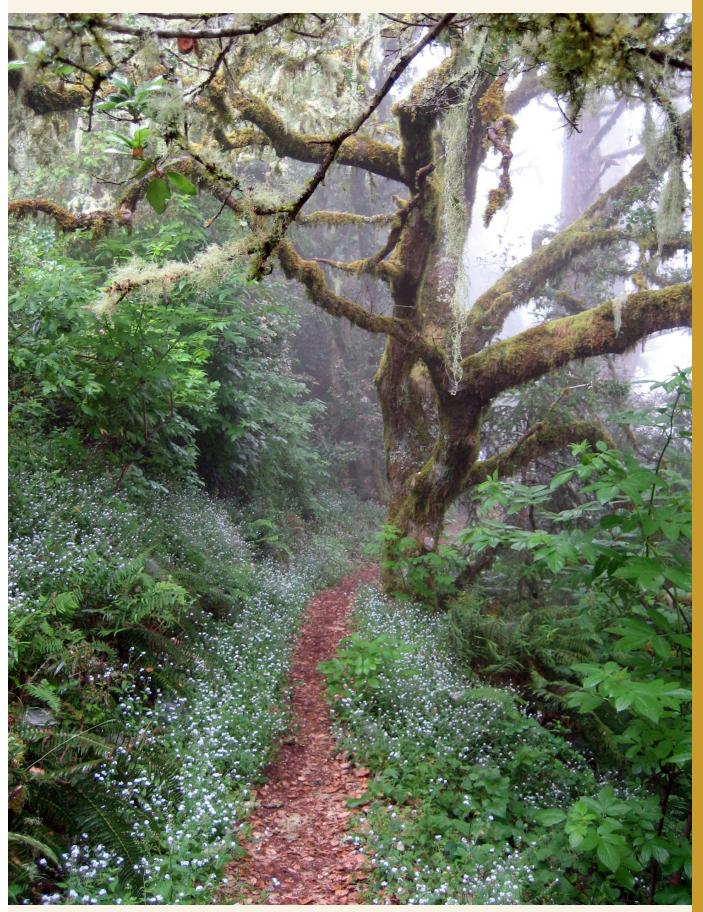
Completed the Remediation Plan and submitted the plan to the Water Board for review and approval.

#### **Prior Years**

Completed oil well investigations of a former oil production site that precedes Midpen land ownership. As part of a larger clean up and remediation project, an aboveground storage tank containing hazardous oil was cleaned and the site was issued a closure notification by the county.

Completed special status plant surveys, preliminary investigations of historic oil wells, road improvements plans and the initiation of regulatory oversight.

<sup>\*</sup> Delivering on the minimum commitments for specific portfolio elements does not preclude additional future investment as opportunities arise. Remediation activities may indirectly support portfolio elements, contributing to a portfolio under open space preservation.



Purisima Creek Redwoods Open Space Preserve (Frances Freyberg)

Solicited for and selected the CEQA consultant. Conducted site assessments for biological and cultural resources. Developed draft CEQA project description. Supported ongoing coordination with the California Geological Energy Management Division.

Received county coastal development and demolition permits.

Completed a Phase 1 environmental site assessment for a remnant structure on the property (hunting cabin).

Prepared right of entry for Midpen use of farm roads for site cleanup and restoration of oil facilities and hunting cabin assessment.

Completed Purisima Uplands lead and asbestos abatement for the hunting cabin to inform future demolition work.

Completed corral demolition, water system installation and fence installation for Bluebrush Ranch at Purisima Creek Redwoods Preserve.

Completed Phase 2 oil tank and facilities assessment, including site cleanup and restoration cost estimates to address site safety issues as part of the property land transfer.

Completed road erosion assessment for farm roads on Purisima Uplands property and private farm roads providing access to the property to inform condition of property assets (roads) and need for future repairs.

### MAA03-003 Purisima Creek Fence Construction

#### Prior Years

Completed construction of 7,500 feet of livestock fencing along the eastern and northern boundaries of the Bluebrush grazing property to mark property boundary and prevent livestock from accessing neighboring properties and riparian areas.

Began and completed initial scope of work and scheduled bid walk just before county-issued shelter-in-place orders.

Completed installation of fencing along riparian areas to keep cattle out of Purisima Creek.

#### MAA03-004 Harkins Bridge Replacement

#### Prior Years

Completed the Harkins Bridge installation project. Project secures long-term vehicle and pedestrian access.

#### MAA03-005 Purisima-to-the-Sea Trail and Parking Area — Feasibility Study

#### Fiscal Year 2023

Completed feasibility studies for all project elements and obtained board approval of the preferred trail alignment, parking area, connector trails and roadway crossings.

#### **Prior Years**

Conducted virtual stakeholder meetings with neighbors, coastal interested parties and trail users.

Completed numerous technical studies: biological and cultural assessments, topographic/boundary surveys, culvert and drainage assessment and opportunities and constraints analyses.

Completed presentation of vision, goals, opportunities and constraints to the board and community at a December online special board meeting and virtual community open house.

Completed consultation with San Mateo County Farm Bureau, neighbors, grazing tenant, equestrian and mountain bike stakeholders.

Developed and released visitor survey in collaboration with the Purisima Multimodal Access Study.

Developed draft conceptual parking area design alternatives.

Completed presentation of draft conceptual designs for trail and parking alternatives at an in-person open house in Half Moon Bay.

Received board authorization of consultant contract for feasibility study to analyze key project elements such as trail alignment, trailhead and parking locations and roadway crossings. Information to be used for developing conceptual design project options as part of the contract. Developed a robust public engagement plan to inform public outreach activities and to solicit broad and diverse public input.

Initiated preliminary technical studies for the proposed regional trail and parking area and identified three potential trail options for consideration.

Initiated public and stakeholder engagement, conducting stakeholder meetings with neighbors and interested parties.

Purchased a 45-acre riparian conservation and public access easement over private property along Lobitos Creek for protection of significant scenic, open space, riparian and natural wildlife habitat values. The easement also contains provisions for a possible future public trail through the area.



Purisima Creek Redwoods Open Space Preserve (Billy Feller)

# MAA03-006 South Cowell Upland Land Conservation

#### Fiscal Year 2023

Closed escrow on Peninsula Open Space Trust's remaining 33% interest in June 2023.

#### **Prior Years**

Submitted minor subdivision application to San Mateo County in March 2022 to finalize ownership configuration of the South Cowell Upland property.

Purchased an undivided 54% interest in South Cowell Ranch, entered into tenancy-in-common agreement providing for exclusive use and management of upland area and for planning of future parking and trail improvements.

Completed an assignment of a grazing lease with the existing rancher and a water allocation agreement with other owners of the property.

### MAA03-007 Purisima-to-the-Sea Habitat Enhancement and Water Supply Improvement Plan

#### Fiscal Year 2023

Identified preferred approach for improving stock water infrastructure and permitting through the Open Space Maintenance and Restoration Program.

Completed repair of spring as an active stock water source.

#### MAA03-008 Rieser-Nelson Land Purchase

#### **Prior Years**

Completed analysis of potential water supply improvements and pond restoration priorities. Identified two springs for improvement in FY23.

Purchased the 2.5-acre Rieser-Nelson property adjacent to the South Cowell property under the General Manager's low-value purchase authority.

### In Support of MAA03

#### **Prior Years**

Received four gift parcels totaling 0.84 acres as additions to Purisima Creek Redwoods Preserve for the purposes of watershed, open space and redwood forest preservation.

Completed design and construction of a double vault restroom to replace an existing single vault. Obtained a County of San Mateo building permit. Project improves public facilities at Purisima Creek Redwoods Preserve.

Collaborated with the United States Geological Survey to install experimental fog collection stations at Purisima Creek Redwoods Preserve to conduct research on the viability of fog water harvesting to support agricultural uses and/or improve water availability for wildlife.

Completed mowing projects at October Farm to control brush encroachment and at Bluebrush Canyon to control invasive species and reduce wildfire fuels.

Attended a site tour with POST and a property owner to discuss parking and access opportunities related to the Purisima-to-the-Sea Trail.

#### PROIECT CHALLENGES

Work to design and obtain approval of roadway crossings occurs in a complex regulatory setting.

The final step to 100% fee ownership of the South Uplands property will be achieved when a land division application is approved by the County of San Mateo.

### **Portfolio 3**: Purisima Creek Redwoods—Purisima-to-the-Sea Trail, Watershed Protection and Conservation Grazing

Project	Expenditure Plan	Total Through Prior Period 6/30/22	Current Period 7/1/22 Through 6/30/23	Total Life-to- Date Through 6/30/23	Expenditure Plan Remaining	Percent Expended
Total Portfolio Allocation	\$13,965,920					
03-001—Purisima Uplands Lot Line Adjustment and Property Transfer		\$425,113	\$0	\$425,113		
03-002—Purisima Upland Site Cleanup and Soil Remediation		\$268,057	\$24,313	\$292,370		
03-003—Purisima Creek Fence Construction		\$169,190	\$0	\$169,190		
03-004—Harkins Bridge Replacement		\$516,917	\$0	\$516,917		
03-005—Purisima-to-the- Sea Trail and Parking Area - Feasibility Study		\$442,659	\$151,681	\$594,340		
03-006—South Cowell Upland Land Conservation		\$4,936,707	\$1,257,874	\$6,194,581		
03-008—Rieser-Nelson Land Purchase		\$16,715	\$0	\$16,715		
Subtotal	\$13,965,920	\$6,775,358	\$1,433,868	\$8,209,226	\$5,756,694	58.78%
03-005—Purisima-to-the-Sea Trail and Parking Area— Feasibility Study Grant Income		(\$154,063)	(\$86,769)	(\$240,832)		
Grand Total	\$13,965,920	\$6,621,295	\$1,347,099	\$7,968,394	\$5,997,526	57.06%



#### POTENTIAL NEXT STEPS

Initiate additional technical studies, such as geotechnical evaluation, protocol botanical surveys and wetland delineations to support the environmental review process for the Purisima-to-the-Sea Trail and Parking Area. Prepare 60% designs and initiate environmental review.

Finalize remediation design, environmental review and permitting for the Purisima Upland Site Cleanup and Soil Remediation project. Begin the request for bids process for the remediation work.

Execute contract to implement stock water infrastructure improvements. Begin design and permitting of the pond reconstruction work.

Develop a draft Comprehensive Use and Management Plan (CUMP) for new public access improvements and resource and land management activities at Purisima Creek Redwoods, including recommended actions for key projects including the Purisima-to-the-Sea Trail and Parking Area, Highway 35 Trail Crossing and Parking Expansion and Purisima Multimodal Access measures. Continue public outreach and review draft CUMP with the Planning and Natural Resources Committee. Forward the CUMP to the board for approval of a project description to initiate environmental review.

**El Corte de Madera Creek** Bike Trail and Water Quality Projects



El Corte de Madera Creek Open Space Preserve (Lotti Dunbar)

#### DESCRIPTION

- Develop single-use biking/hiking trails, complete Ridge Trail gaps and develop trail system leading to parking area.
- Restore damaged trails to improve water quality.
- Preserve additional open space as available.

Portfolio Allocation: \$8,376,000

Portfolio Expenditures Through 6/30/2023: \$966,168

#### NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

#### MAA04-001 El Corte de Madera Creek Gallaway Property Purchase

**Prior Years** 

Purchased the 1.7-acre Chet Gallaway property to remove inholding and protect watershed.

#### MAA04-002 El Corte de Madera Creek Watershed Protection Final Phase

**Prior Years** 

Completed the Watershed Protection Program, reducing sediment input into the watershed to improve water quality for downstream creeks and waterways.

#### MAA04-004 El Corte de Madera Creek Oljon Trail Implementation

**Prior Years** 

Completed Phase 3 and Phase 4 of the Oljon Trail, connecting Steam Donkey to the Springboard Trail. Final construction and restoration are associated with the Watershed Protection Program.

Constructed the Oljon Trail, including bridge construction, puncheon installation, road-to-trail conversion and trail construction.

Restored the upper segment of the Steam Donkey Trail.

Removed and restored existing deteriorating roads and trails to eliminate potential sources of sedimentation within the watershed.

#### Portfolio 4: El Corte de Madera Creek—Bike Trail and Water Quality Projects

Project	Expenditure Plan	Total Through Prior Period 6/30/22	Current Period 7/1/22 Through 6/30/23	Total Life-to- Date Through 6/30/23	Expenditure Plan Remaining	Percent Expended
Total Portfolio Allocation	\$8,376,000					
04-001—El Corte de Madera Creek Gallaway Property Purchase		\$57,340	\$0	\$57,340		
04-002—El Corte de Madera Creek Watershed Protection Final Phase		\$235,934	\$0	\$235,934		
04-003—El Corte de Madera Creek Watershed Protection Reassessment		\$45,507	\$0	\$45,507		
04-004—El Corte de Madera Creek Oljon Trail Implementation		\$627,387	\$0	\$627,387		
Grand Total	\$8,376,000	\$966,168	\$0	\$966,168	\$7,409,832	11.53%



#### **In Support of MAA04**

**Prior Years** 

Completed second year of sediment and stream monitoring and data collection and completed a report on the sediment monitoring for the Watershed Protection Program 2004-2020. Data showed reduced sedimentation in creeks after completing the road and trail improvements.

Completed first year of sediment and stream monitoring and data collection.

Pursued Bay Area Ridge Trail gaps between El Corte de Madera Creek and La Honda Creek preserves by working with partners and landowners to convey interest in land or trail easement purchases.

#### PROJECT CHALLENGES

Land acquisition to complete gaps in the Bay Area Ridge Trail requires willing seller.

#### POTENTIAL NEXT STEPS

Continue to seek willing sellers to complete gaps in Bay Area Ridge Trail.

#### La Honda Creek

Upper Area Recreation, Habitat Restoration and Conservation Grazing Projects



La Honda Creek Open Space Preserve (Frances Freyberg)

#### DESCRIPTION

- Open upper half of the preserve to public; provide biking/hiking/equestrian trails, dog access and staging areas.
- Provide loop and connector trails.
- ( Restore habitat for rare species.
- Improve fencing, corrals and water systems to reintroduce conservation grazing.

Portfolio Allocation: \$11,733,000

Portfolio Expenditures Through 6/30/2023: \$3,345,646

#### NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

#### MAA05-001 La Honda Creek Land Conservation Opportunities

#### Prior Years

Purchased the 38.14-acre Toepfer property to facilitate a future Ridge Trail opportunity between La Honda Creek Preserve and El Corte de Madera Creek Preserve.

Purchased the 5-acre Ashworth property to facilitate a future Ridge Trail extension opportunity between La Honda Creek Preserve and El Corte de Madera Creek Preserve.

#### MAA05-002 Upper La Honda Creek Grazing Infrastructure

#### **Prior Years**

Made improvements to an existing spring box so that overflow serves the surrounding riparian area. Installed a new water tank and trough at the Lone Madrone (formerly McDonald) Ranch property. Installed a new water line from the improved spring box to the tank and trough. The new water trough is designed with a permanent wildlife escape ramp for wildlife safety.

Installed riparian protection fencing, water pipe and water troughs at Lone Madrone Ranch.

#### MAA05-005 La Honda Creek Red Barn Parking Area and Easy Access Trail

#### **Prior Years**

Began feasibility studies for a new parking area and trailhead at the Red Barn site, including conducting traffic counts, site evaluations for a new driveway and evaluation of historic features to ensure new improvements do not impact the historic landscape of the site.

Completed preliminary technical site investigation studies and conducted an iterative design development process. Drafted two conceptual parking and staging area design alternatives.

Conducted stakeholder outreach for the conceptual designs. Held Planning and Natural Resources Committee meeting and community open house to solicit public input on the Red Barn public access area concept design alternatives.

Conducted preliminary trail scouting from the proposed new parking location.

Completed a third design alternative based on public input received in May 2017. Presented design alternative and additional technical information at three public meetings. On June 12, 2018, the board directed staff to propose a process to form an advisory committee and assess alternative locations for a new parking area that meets project goals and objectives.

#### MAA05-007 La Honda Creek Phase 2 Trail Connections

#### Fiscal Year 2023

Developed design documents to 60% for the Phase 2 Trail Connections. Prepared and submitted San Mateo County permit applications.

#### **Prior Years**

Completed cultural and wildlife resource surveys and reports. Hired consultant to evaluate proposed trail alignments and initiated field investigations. Initiated protocol-level botanical surveys.

#### MAA05-008 La Honda Creek White Barn Structural Rehabilitation

#### Fiscal Year 2023

Prepared the bid package, solicited bids and awarded the contact. Submitted the permit application to San Mateo County.

#### **Prior Years**

Progressed design work to 95% for the La Honda Creek White Barn Structural Rehabilitation project. Awaiting county permit review ahead of issuing 100% plan set.

Began the environmental review process to evaluate any potential environmental impacts and mitigation associated with the structure stabilization work planned for the White Barn.

Completed site assessment and basis of design report analyzing four different design alternatives; presented findings to the board, resulting in board selection of the structure stabilization design alternative.

Started additional assessments for the La Honda Creek White Barn project.

Completed historic and structural assessments for the La Honda Creek White Barn.

#### MAA05-009 La Honda Creek Redwood Cabin Removal and Site Restoration

#### Fiscal Year 2023

Completed the La Honda Creek Redwood Cabin removal and implemented the mitigation measures that included historic documentation and interpretation of the redwood cabin.

#### **Prior Years**

Initiated environmental review process for the proposed cabin removal project.

Completed and published the Draft EIR for public review and comments and held a public hearing to receive comments.

Retained consultant to conduct CEQA compliance process for the planned structure demolition and site restoration. Circulated Notice of Preparation to prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) on June 9, 2021. Held a CEQA scoping session for the Draft EIR on June 23, 2021.

Completed site assessment and basis of design report analyzing four different design alternatives; presented findings to the board, resulting in board selection of the demolition design alternative.

Started the site assessment for the La Honda Creek Redwood Cabin project.

#### MAA05-010 Restoration Forestry Demonstration Project

#### Fiscal Year 2023

Received board approval of the project description for the Forest Health Plan, including the new Addendum of the Woodruff Creek-Folger Parcel. Per board direction, staff presented an interim report later in the fiscal year on the project's progress prior to proceeding with the development of a timber harvest plan that will outline the specific forest management prescriptions to improve forest health conditions. Also completed botanical surveys for the project.

#### **Prior Years**

Drafted the La Honda Forest Management Plan, met with stakeholders and held a public meeting with neighbors to review findings and recommendations.

Completed all the forest inventory and roads assessments. Compiled the findings into a draft La Honda Forest Management Plan for board and public input.

#### MAA05-011 Lone Madrone Ranch Fence Installation

#### Fiscal Year 2023

Initiated a request for bids for the fence replacement.

#### **Prior Years**

Developed a fencing plan to prevent cattle from accessing the La Honda Creek riparian corridor to protect sensitive habitat and keep cattle from entering the neighboring private property. Signed easement agreements and walked the proposed fence location with neighbors to make certain all parties are in agreement on the fence installation work.

#### MAA05-012 Paulin Culvert/Bridge Improvements

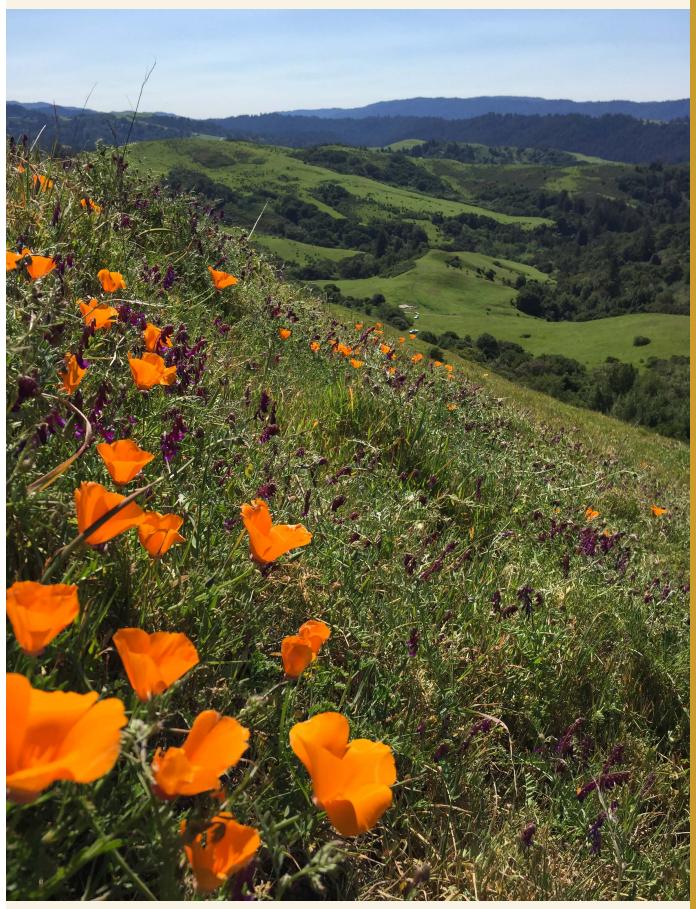
#### Fiscal Year 2023

Conducted a preliminary culvert/bridge assessment and site investigation to prepare for the development of a request for proposals to solicit consultant services for assistance with the preparation of design plans and environmental review.

### MAA05-015 Upper La Honda Creek Land Acquisition (Eberhard) This project also supports priority actions in Portfolio 15 under project MAA15-005

#### Fiscal Year 2023

Secured board approval to purchase the Eberhard property and executed all transactional documents and applied to San Mateo County for the parcel subdivision needed to close escrow. Met with the Moore Foundation and prepared an application for \$1 million in grant funding.



La Honda Creek Open Space Preserve (Frances Freyberg)

#### In Support of MAA05

#### Fiscal Year 2023

Completed technical analysis for Phase 1 (Feasibility Studies) of the La Honda Parking and Trailhead Access project and presented findings to the Planning and Natural Resources Committee.

#### Prior Years

Completed multiple technical studies (traffic, biological, botanical, arborist, wetlands delineation, cultural resources, topographical, geotechnical) in preparation for an opportunity and constraints analysis report to be presented to the Planning and Natural Resources Committee in FY23 for the La Honda Creek Parking and Trailhead Access - Feasibility Study project. Initiated public engagement with tabling as part of the Grasshopper Loop Trail opening and 50th anniversary tabling at the La Honda Fair to provide a project update to the community.

Negotiated reciprocal road access and waterline easements with neighboring property owners in the Red Barn Area of La Honda Creek Preserve.

Completed the Public Access Working Group pilot engagement process with committee review in July 2020 and board approval of the final report and recommendations in October 2020. Initiated a request for proposals for consultant services to conduct technical analyses, site opportunities and constraints analysis and a feasibility study of the Public Access Working Group recommended sites. Released RFP on June 21, 2021.

Formed a Public Access Working Group with community members, constituent representative(s) from each ward and two board liaisons to identify new, viable parking area and trailhead options to open the central area of the preserve to public access. Held seven Working Group meetings between August 2019 and March 2020.

Developed process for and formation of the new Public Access Working Group for the La Honda Creek Parking and Trailhead Access Feasibility Study.

Pursued trail connections to the central area of La Honda Creek Preserve by meeting several times with landowner to convey interest in possible land or trail easement purchases as part of efforts to design and implement Phase 2 trails of the La Honda Creek Preserve Master Plan.

Contracted with consulting professionals to develop the La Honda forest management plan to evaluate restoration and management priorities in the watershed.

#### PROJECT CHALLENGES

Project permitting with San Mateo County may encounter issues resulting in schedule delays. A contingency workplan will be developed to complete work on existing La Honda Creek Phase 2 trail routes covered under the Open Space Maintenance and Restoration Program.

#### POTENTIAL NEXT STEPS

Secure permits for the La Honda Creek Phase 2 Trails project from San Mateo County and the regulatory agencies, then initiate trail construction.

Complete the La Honda White Barn structural rehabilitation work.

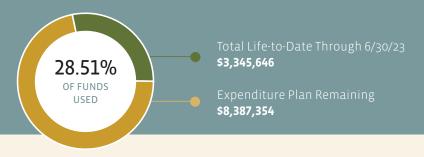
Solicit services from a qualified Professional Register Forester to prepare a timber harvest plan for the Restoration Forestry Demonstration project.

Construct the Lone Madrone grazing water infrastructure improvements.

Complete design development and CEQA review for the Paulin Culvert/Bridge Improvements. Submit permit applications.

**Portfolio 5**: La Honda Creek—Upper Area Recreation, Habitat Restoration and Conservation Grazing Projects

Project	Expenditure Plan	Total Through Prior Period 6/30/22	Current Period 7/1/22 Through 6/30/23	Total Life-to- Date Through 6/30/23	Expenditure Plan Remaining	Percent Expended
Total Portfolio Allocation	\$11,733,000					
05-001—La Honda Creek Land Conservation Opportunities		\$1,756,093	\$0	\$1,756,093		
05-002—Upper La Honda Creek Grazing Infrastructure		\$297,432	\$0	\$297,432		
05-005—La Honda Creek Red Barn Parking Area and Easy Access Trail		\$327,514	\$0	\$327,514		
05-007—La Honda Creek Phase 2 Trail Connections		\$28,079	\$36,062	\$64,141		
05-008—La Honda Creek White Barn Structural Rehabilitation		\$244,312	\$12,537	\$256,849		
05-009—La Honda Creek Redwood Cabin Removal and Site Restoration		\$207,855	\$258,063	\$465,918		
05-010—Restoration Forestry Demonstration Project		\$36,767	\$50,807	\$87,574		
05-011—Lone Madrone Ranch Fence Installation		\$63,363	\$0	\$63,363		
05-012—Phase 2–Paulin Bridge Replacements		\$0	\$457	\$457		
05-015—Eberhard Land Acquisition		\$0	\$26,305	\$26,305		
Grand Total	\$11,733,000	\$2,961,415	\$384,231	\$3,345,646	\$8,387,354	28.51%



Secure lot line adjustment approval from San Mateo County for the Eberhard Property to complete the purchase as an addition to La Honda Creek Open Space Preserve.

Complete Phase 1 (Feasibility Studies) for the La Honda Parking and Trailhead Access Project. Select the preferred site plan alternative(s) to advance into environmental review and design development. Complete environmental review and continued public and stakeholder engagement. Present final recommendations and CEQA findings for the La Honda Parking and Trailhead Access Project to the board for approval.

### **Windy Hill**

Trail Improvements,
Preservation and
Hawthorns Area Historic
Partnership



Windy Hill Open Space Preserve (Henri Lamiraux)

#### DESCRIPTION

- Improve trails; complete pond facilities.
- Increase multiuse trails; study possible improvements to increase dog use.
- Open Hawthorns Area; develop trails connecting to Portola Valley and Palo Alto trails.
- Partner to protect, restore and interpret historic buildings.
- Improve habitat conditions in Los Trancos Creek.
- Preserve additional scenic open space as available.

Portfolio Allocation: \$12,740,000

Portfolio Expenditures Through 6/30/2023: \$229,526

#### NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

#### MAA06-002 Hawthorns Area Plan

#### Fiscal Year 2023

Obtained board approval for the project Vision and Goals. Completed data collection, technical studies and an existing conditions/opportunities & constraints report. Continued conceptual planning work, participated in local tabling events and formed the Hawthorns Public Access Working Group.

#### **Prior Years**

Presented draft vision and goals for the Hawthorns Area Plan to the Planning and Natural Resources (PNR) Committee in August 2021 and presented revised vision and goals and working group formation strategy to PNR Committee in November. Held successful project collaboration meetings with Town of Portola Valley staff, City Council and community stakeholders.

Presented Hawthorns Area Plan planning and public engagement process to PNR Committee and secured board of Directors approval of project vision and goals in March 2022.

Released a transportation planning services RFP for consultant assistance.

Initiated technical studies pertaining to property boundary delineations, wetland resources, wildlife resources, archeological resources, historic resources and hazardous materials at the Hawthorns Area.

Conducted in-person neighborhood meeting with Town of Portola residents in June 2022.

Worked with the Town of Portola Valley to establish ongoing coordination timeframe and preliminary permit requirements.

Conducted initial evaluation of potential public access programming and feasibility for new parking area and trail.

#### Portfolio 6: Windy Hill—Trail Improvements, Preservation and Hawthorns Area Historic Partnership

Project	Expenditure Plan		Current Period 7/1/22 Through 6/30/23	Total Life-to- Date Through 6/30/23	Expenditure Plan Remaining	Percent Expended
Total Portfolio Allocation	\$12,740,000					
06-002—Hawthorns Area Plan		\$148,578	\$80,948	\$229,526		
Grand Total	\$12,740,000	\$148,578	\$80,948	\$229,526	\$12,510,474	1.80%



#### **In Support of MAA06**

#### **Prior Years**

To explore a possible new partnership to rehabilitate areas of the historic complex, staff initiated scoping and retained consultants to conduct structural assessments of buildings in the Hawthorns Historic Complex.

Completed short-term repairs to the Hawthorns House foundation and temporary roof covering.

Held meetings with Town of Portola Valley and onsite with stakeholders and community members for discussion of permitting approach with Town.

Retained planning consultant to assist with project planning due to vacant Planner III position.

Conducted a parking study to assess site feasibility for a proposed parking area and driveway location.

Completed a cultural resources field survey and assessment report.

Initiated development of public outreach and stakeholder engagement process for site plan project to review with board committee and Town of Portola Valley.

#### PROJECT CHALLENGES

Historic complex of structures, including the main residence and garage, are in significant disrepair. Long-term re-use options are being studied as part of a separate project and will be on a separate timeline from the Hawthorns Area Plan

Integration of Midpen's planning and environmental review process with the Town of Portola Valley permitting and public engagement process is complex and requires additional coordination.

#### POTENTIAL NEXT STEPS

To facilitate the planning of public access improvements at the Hawthorns Area, Midpen is conducting a robust public and stakeholder engagement process to develop conceptual plan alternatives with the input of a board-appointed Public Access Working Group (PAWG) comprised of members of the public and representatives from each of the seven wards. Recommendations from the PAWG will be presented to the Planning and Natural Resources Committee, who would then forward final recommendations to the full board for their consideration of approval. The project team will also maintain close coordination with the Town of Portola Valley throughout this process.

La Honda Creek
Driscoll Ranch Public
Access, Endangered
Wildlife Protection and
Conservation Grazing



La Honda Creek Open Space Preserve (Claire Landowski)

#### DESCRIPTION

- Open Driscoll Ranch Area; provide biking/hiking/equestrian trails, limited dog access, parking areas and interpretive displays.
- Develop loop and connector trails.
- Restore habitat for endangered species.
- Restore La Honda Creek; remove fish migration barriers.

Portfolio Allocation: \$14,825,000

Portfolio Expenditures Through 6/30/2023: \$12,426,042

#### NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

#### MAA07-001 Event Center and Apple Orchard Purchase

#### **Prior Years**

Purchased the 307.64-acre Apple Orchard and Event Center property, as well as a 3-acre conservation easement from POST to protect and further restore redwood, coho salmon and steelhead habitat along San Gregorio Creek.

Completed invasive weed control work at the Apple Orchard and Driscoll Ranch properties of La Honda Creek Preserve

#### MAA07-002 Fisheries Restoration, Design and Permitting

#### **Prior Years**

Partially funded by CDFW Fisheries Restoration Grant Program. Completed road and trail upgrades and drainage improvements along nearly 5 miles of road to address priority erosion control sites to reduce sediment delivery to San Gregorio Creek and tributaries.

#### MAA07-003 Fisheries Enhancement, Apple Orchard

#### **Prior Years**

Completed fisheries habitat enhancement project at the Apple Orchard parcel of lower La Honda Creek, installing 13 in-stream, large woody debris structures, in partnership with the San Mateo Resource Conservation District and CDFW Fisheries Restoration Grant Program.

#### MAA07-004 Fisheries Enhancement, Event Center

#### **Prior Years**

Completed fisheries restoration project at the Event Center, installing large woody debris habitat within San Gregorio Creek to improve salmonid habitat.

#### MAA07-005 Grazing and Water Systems Infrastructure

#### **Prior Years**

Completed pond reconstruction to enhance breeding habitat for California red-legged frog and to improve the water source as a cattle stock pond.

Constructed a new corral system at the previous site of the Wool Ranch house to support the conservation grazing program.

Installed riparian protection fencing, water pipe and new water troughs at Driscoll Ranch to support conservation grazing.

#### MAA07-006 Cunha Land Purchase

#### Prior Years

Purchased the 30-acre Cunha Trust property at the end of Sears Ranch Road to provide on-site patrol and management oversight and to secure ownership of the private road that now serves as the driveway entrance into the Sears Ranch parking lot.

#### MAA07-007 Demolitions, Wool Ranch House/Sears Ranch Rd

#### **Prior Years**

Completed site clean-up and demolition of numerous dilapidated structures, after completing photography documentation of the structures, to prepare the preserve for public access.

#### MAA07-008 Lower Turtle Pond Repair

#### Fiscal Year 2023

Secured San Mateo County grading exemption and identified the programmatic permit of the Open Space Maintenance and Restoration Program as the appropriate permitting vehicle to obtain regulatory clearance.

#### **Prior Years**

Completed engineering designs to repair Lower Turtle Pond, which provides critical habitat for Western Pond Turtle and serves as a watering source for the conservation grazing program. Began permitting partnership discussions with San Mateo Resource Conservation District.

Assessed flooding risk and berm stability through hydrological and geotechnical investigations.

#### MAA07-009 Sears Ranch Parking Area

#### **Prior Years**

Finalized deck replacement and installed new rails on the Harrington Creek Bridge, allowing trail users to safely cross a major creek.

Constructed the new Sears Ranch parking area, providing 22 vehicle spaces, a restroom, signage and the main trailhead to access the trails in the southern area of the preserve.

Completed Phase 1 trail and road repairs in preparation for the public opening of lower La Honda Creek Preserve, including installation of signage and self-closing gates.

Completed the permit-only equestrian parking area and equestrian-only trail segment connecting to the new Folger Ranch Loop Trail.

#### MAA07-010 Sears Ranch Road Repair

#### Prior Years

Completed over 3 miles of ranch road repairs, including culvert replacements, to the main ranch road in lower La Honda Creek Preserve. These were critical for: opening the roads to public access; maintaining safe passage for patrol, maintenance and emergency vehicle use; and providing ranch access to support the ongoing conservation grazing program.

#### MAA07-011 Lower La Honda Creek Phase 2 Loop Trails

#### Prior Years

Completed construction of the Grasshopper Loop Trail and opened the trail to the public, including seasonal on-leash dog access.

Completed San Mateo County Grading, Resource Management and Building permitting processes for a new loop trail.

Performed necessary pre-construction biological surveys and coordinated with the grazing tenant.

Initiated construction, completing 3,400 linear feet of trail construction with compacted aggregate base surfacing.

Completed biological/cultural/wetland reports and provided copies to the appropriate agencies.

Submitted County of San Mateo permits.

Completed trail design at 90% (contracted with Fall Creek Engineering to design and engineer the La Honda Creek Loop Trail).

Completed rare plant survey and wetland delineations to inform the design of the trail alignment.

Completed structural site improvements for the Agricultural Workforce Housing project to maintain critical housing on the coast that furthers Midpen's coastside mission to support local agriculture.

Received San Mateo County permits for the agricultural workforce housing project to repair an existing residence that supports the conservation grazing program/agricultural program.

Completed the construction bidding process. Received board approval to award the construction contract, with construction scheduled to begin in August 2021.

Completed installation of new water line, storage tank and water trough.

Received board direction to repair an existing housing facility and to designate the residence as Agricultural Workforce Housing.

Completed a housing structures assessment for the Driscoll Ranch area of La Honda Creek Preserve and secured board approval to build/repair agricultural workforce housing in partnership with the County of San Mateo.

Hosted groundbreaking ceremony and public grand opening celebration at lower La Honda Creek Preserve.

#### PROJECT CHALLENGES

None

#### POTENTIAL NEXT STEPS

Implement repairs to the Lower Turtle Pond. Release a request for bids (RFB) to secure contractor services to complete all post-construction mitigation, permit and maintenance requirements.

### **Portfolio 7**: La Honda Creek—Driscoll Ranch Public Access, Endangered Wildlife Protection and Conservation Grazing

Project	Expenditure Plan	Total Through Prior Period 6/30/22	Current Period 7/1/22 Through 6/30/23	Total Life-to- Date Through 6/30/23	Expenditure Plan Remaining	Percent Expended
Total Portfolio Allocation	\$14,825,000					
07-001—Event Center and Apple Orchard Purchase		\$6,007,601	\$0	\$6,007,601		
07-002—Fisheries Restoration, Design and Permitting		\$727,716	\$0	\$727,716		
07-003—Fisheries Enhancement, Apple Orchard		\$16,152	\$0	\$16,152		
07-004—Fisheries Enhancement, Event Center		\$50,000	\$0	\$50,000		
07-005—Grazing and Water Systems Infrastructure		\$189,423	\$0	\$189,423		
07-006—Cunha Land Purchase		\$3,080,705	\$0	\$3,080,705		
07-007—Demolitions, Wool Ranch House/Sears Ranch Road		\$357,803	\$0	\$357,803		
07-008—Lower Turtle Pond Repair—La Honda Creek		\$46,402	\$735	\$47,137		
07-009—Sears Ranch Parking Areas		\$1,147,554	\$0	\$1,147,554		
07-010—Sears Ranch Road Repair		\$557,044	\$0	\$557,044		
07-011—Lower La Honda Creek Phase 2 Loop Trails		\$475,877	\$0	\$475,877		
Subtotal	\$14,825,000	\$12,656,277	\$735	\$12,657,012	\$2,167,988	85.38%
07-002—Fisheries Restoration, Design and Permitting Grant Income		(\$230,970)	\$0	(\$230,970)		
Grand Total	\$14,825,000	\$12,425,307	\$735	\$12,426,042	\$2,398,958	83.82%



La Honda Creek and Russian Ridge Preservation of Upper San Gregorio Watershed and Ridge Trail Completion



Russian Ridge Open Space Preserve (Romain Laboisse)

#### DESCRIPTION

- Preserve Upper San Gregorio watershed; restore endangered species habitats.
- Support opportunities to provide additional water for fisheries.
- Complete Bay Area Ridge Trail multiuse connections and gaps.
- Provide additional public use facilities.

Portfolio Allocation: \$15,347,000

Portfolio Expenditures Through 6/30/2023: \$2,153,910

#### NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

#### **MAA08-001 Folger Property Purchase**

**Prior Years** 

Purchased the 190-acre Woodruff Redwoods property as an addition to La Honda Creek Preserve.

#### **In Support of MAA08**

**Prior Years** 

Surveyor completed mapping of viable access road alternative to the Woodruff Redwoods property. Entered into a permit-to-enter with private property for Midpen access of the Woodruff Redwoods property while negotiations for an access easement are underway with the property owner.

Completed an appraisal and initial site inspections of the Pratt Trust property.

#### PROJECT CHALLENGES

Land acquisition require a willing seller.

#### POTENTIAL NEXT STEPS

Continue to pursue opportunities to expand Bay Area Ridge Trail connections.

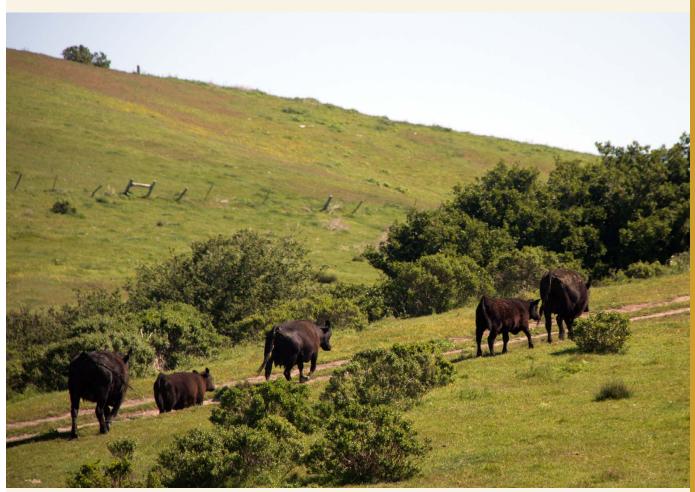
Begin conceptual design for several high priority sediment reduction treatment sites to improve water quality in the watershed.

Hire the San Mateo Resource Conservation District to lead the implementation of in-stream salmonid habitat improvements, including conducting CEQA review and permitting. Construction anticipated to begin in Summer 2024.

### **Portfolio 8**: La Honda Creek and Russian Ridge—Preservation of Upper San Gregorio Watershed and Ridge Trail Completion

Project	Expenditure Plan		Current Period 7/1/22 Through 6/30/23	Total Life-to- Date Through 6/30/23	Expenditure Plan Remaining	Percent Expended
Total Portfolio Allocation	\$15,347,000					
08-001—Folger Property Purchase		\$2,153,910	\$0	\$2,153,910		
Grand Total	\$15,347,000	\$2,153,910	\$0	\$2,153,910	\$13,193,090	14.03%





La Honda Creek Open Space Preserve (Frances Freyberg)

### Russian Ridge

Public Recreation, Grazing and Wildlife Protection Projects



Russian Ridge Open Space Preserve (Vaibhav Tripathi)

#### DESCRIPTION

- Open currently closed areas of preserve.
- Construct and extend trails.
- Improve fencing, corrals and water systems to reintroduce conservation grazing.
- Improve habitat for sensitive species; implement pond enhancement projects for garter snakes and red-legged frogs.

Portfolio Allocation: \$5,560,000

Portfolio Expenditures Through 6/30/2023: \$628,202

#### NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

#### MAA09-001 Russian Ridge Grazing Infrastructure

#### **Prior Years**

Completed brush management of the south pasture at Mindego Ranch.

Upgraded the corral and water system at Mindego Ranch, installing two 5,000-gallon water storage tanks, 11,000 feet of buried pipe, six water troughs and solar-powered water pump for storage tanks. Selected a grazing tenant to manage the conservation grazing operation.

#### MAA09-003 Russian Ridge Mindego Pond Improvement

#### **Prior Years**

Completed the final design, permitting and construction of the pond improvements.

The US Army Corps of Engineers authorized the Section 404 permit in April 2020.

The San Mateo Resource Conservation District Board of Directors approved a grading permit exemption for the 630 cubic yards of proposed grading work in February 2020.

Design-build entity completed project construction documents, basis of design, integrated pest management plan and vegetation management plan in September 2019.

The design-build entity applied for a grading permit exemption from County of San Mateo and a section 401 permit from the RWQCB.

Selected a design-build firm to improve the ponds to support endangered species' habitat.

#### MAA09-004 Mindego Hill Trail Construction

#### Prior Years

Constructed and opened an extension of Mindego Hill Trail to the top of the prominent Mindego Hill with 360-degree panoramic views.

Completed remediation of the Mindego Ranch area.

#### Portfolio 9: Russian Ridge—Public Recreation, Grazing and Wildlife Protection Projects

Project	Expenditure Plan	Total Through Prior Period 6/30/22	Current Period 7/1/22 Through 6/30/23	Total Life-to- Date Through 6/30/23	Expenditure Plan Remaining	Percent Expended
Total Portfolio Allocation	\$5,560,000					
09-001—Russian Ridge Grazing Infrastructure		\$174,416	\$0	\$174,416		
09-003—Russian Ridge Mindego Pond Improvement		\$448,106	\$387	\$448,493		
09-004—Mindego Hill Trail Construction		\$67,403	\$0	\$67,403		
09-006—Mindego Ranch South Pasture		\$0	\$106,475	\$106,475		
Subtotal	\$5,560,000	\$689,925	\$106,862	\$796,787	\$4,763,213	14.33%
09-003—Russian Ridge Mindego Pond Improvement Grant Income		\$0	(\$168,585)	(\$168,585)		
Grand Total	\$5,560,000	\$689,925	(\$61,723)	\$628,202	\$4,931,798	11.30%



#### MAA09-006 Mindego Ranch South Pasture

#### **Prior Years**

Completed the addition of 98 acres of grasslands to conservation grazing program.

Completed fence and water infrastructure improvements to expand the conservation grazing program as a management tool to conserve the high biodiversity of the surrounding grassland habitat and prevent brush encroachment.

#### **In Support of MAA09**

#### **Prior Years**

Received board approval for the grazing tenant to perform fence and water infrastructure installation to support the conservation grazing program. Fence construction will be performed first and begin mid-summer. Based upon public feedback, water system improvements will include a water trough for public equestrian use.

The grazing tenant applied and was awarded partial funding for the water system improvements from the National Resource Conservation Service Environmental Quality Improvement Project program.

The grazing tenant completed coyote brush mowing in the planned pasture expansion area.

Completed year four of the San Francisco garter snake field study and ongoing bullfrog eradication work at Mindego Ranch in Russian Ridge Preserve.

#### PROJECT CHALLENGES

None.

#### PROJECT NEXT STEPS

None.

# **Coal Creek**Reopen Alpine Road for Trail Use



Coal Creek Open Space Preserve (Erica Freeman)

#### DESCRIPTION

- Reopen Alpine Road as trail connection between Portola Valley and Skyline Boulevard.
- Reroute trails to reduce erosion and improve visitor experience.

Portfolio Allocation: \$8,017,000

Portfolio Expenditures Through 6/30/2023: \$2,053,275

#### NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

#### MAA10-001 Alpine Road Regional Trail, Coal Creek

#### Fiscal Year 2023

Completed Phase 1 of the Alpine (Road) Regional Trail Improvement Project construction. This involved repairing the southern portion of the dirt road to a 12-foot-width road from Page Mill Road to Meadow Trail. From Meadow Trail to Crazy Pete's junction in Portola Valley, Alpine Road was converted to a 6-foot-width trail. In addition, a new 0.5-mile, 4-foot-wide bypass trail with a more sustainable alignment was constructed to replace the former informal bypass trail.

#### **Prior Years**

Secured regulatory and county permits to proceed with construction.

Completed construction design plans and bid documents and successfully bid the project.

Entered into a funding agreement with Santa Clara County for Stanford Recreation Mitigation Funds.

Retained the services of a biomonitor and prepared for construction to commence.

Completed the CEQA process with the certification of the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration by the board in January 2021.

Submitted permit applications to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Regional Water Quality Control Board and US Army Corps of Engineers. Coordinated with San Mateo County Public Works on a memorandum of understanding to streamline the county permitting process.

Completed the 65% design documents, Alternatives Analysis report, geotechnical investigation and report, wetland and riparian delineation, botanical survey and report and an Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration CEQA document has been drafted and is ready for release for public comment.

Executed a memorandum of understanding with County of San Mateo regarding future transfer of Alpine Road to Midpen.

Began assessment of trail conditions and developed recommendations/alternatives and cost analysis for repairs. Developed agreement with the County of San Mateo for long-term repairs.

#### Portfolio 10: Coal Creek—Reopen Alpine Road for Trail Use

Project	Expenditure Plan	Total Through Prior Period 6/30/22	Current Period 7/1/22 Through 6/30/23	Total Life-to- Date Through 6/30/23	Expenditure Plan Remaining	Percent Expended
Total Portfolio Allocation	\$8,017,000					
10-001—Alpine Road Regional Trail, Coal Creek		\$554,434	\$1,771,052	\$2,325,486		
Subtotal	\$8,017,000	\$554,434	\$1,771,052	\$2,325,486	\$5,691,514	29.01%
10-001—Alpine Road Regional Trail, Coal Creek (Grant Income)		\$0	(\$272,211)	(\$272,211)		
Grand Total	\$8,017,000	\$554,434	\$1,498,841	\$2,053,275	\$5,963,725	25.61%



Updated the road and trail inventory and completed preliminary conceptual design alternatives for two large failures on Alpine Road. Presented options for repairs and improvements to the board, who selected the approach of repairing failures to trail width (6-foot-wide standard).

#### PROJECT CHALLENGES

County of San Mateo owns a public right-of-way easement over Alpine Road Trail; repairs are being completed under a County encroachment permit.

#### POTENTIAL NEXT STEPS

Complete construction/repairs of the Alpine (Road) Regional Trail project.

Resume final construction of the Alpine Bypass Trail in Spring 2024 and open the alignment to public use in Summer 2024. Rehabilitate and remove the former Bypass Trail.

County of San Mateo to transfer a public right of way easement over Alpine Trail to Midpen.

Continue to work on invasive plant species removal for a ten-year period to satisfy an Alpine (Road) Regional Trail project permit condition (operating).

Rancho San Antonio
Interpretive Improvements,
Refurbishing and Transit
Solutions



Rancho San Antonio Open Space Preserve (Brian Bucher)

#### DESCRIPTION

- Add welcome center.
- A Refurbish and add interpretive exhibits to Deer Hollow Farm.
- Support of transit improvement options such as bike trails, bike share station, bus service or additional parking.

Portfolio Allocation: \$10,811,000

Portfolio Expenditures Through 6/30/2023: \$331,612

#### NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

#### MAA11-001 New Trails to Connect Quarry Trail to Black Mountain Trail

#### **Prior Years**

Accepted two trail easements, two rights of first offer and rights of first refusal and a conditional grant deed conveyance, for properties adjacent to Monte Bello and Rancho San Antonio preserves.

### MAA11-002 Rancho San Antonio, Deer Hollow Farm: White Barn Rehabilitation Prior Years

Completed construction of stabilization and weatherproofing improvements of the White Barn as an important agricultural support building that provides for active environmental programming and interpretation on site, including hosting elementary school camps, offering weekend events and providing drop-in visitor exploration.

Completed project design and started the permitting process with County of Santa Clara; and issued Request for Bids for construction.

Selected consultant for the design and assessment of the Rancho San Antonio White Barn to improve building access, structural stability and public safety.

With MAA and other funding, completed historic and structural assessments for the Deer Hollow Farm White Barn; obtained Legislative, Funding and Public Affairs Committee confirmation of partnership agreements to fund project.

#### MAA11-003 Rancho San Antonio Multimodal Access—Implementation (MAA Eligible)

#### Fiscal Year 2023

Published a parking status webpage, partnered with the City of Cupertino to enter into a cooperative agreement for future bicycle improvements on Cristo Rey Drive and initiated a carpool restricted lot pilot program.

#### **Prior Years**

Installed new bike racks and a bike repair station. Negotiated commitments with the City of Cupertino for road improvements with cost-sharing to be determined.

Portfolio 11: Rancho San Antonio—Interpretive Improvements, Refurbishing and Transit Solutions

Project	Expenditure Plan	Total Through Prior Period 6/30/22	Current Period 7/1/22 Through 6/30/23	Total Life-to- Date Through 6/30/23	Expenditure Plan Remaining	Percent Expended
Total Portfolio Allocation	\$10,811,000					
11-001—New Trails to Connect Quarry Trail to Black Mountain Trail		\$728	\$0	\$728		
11-002—Rancho San Antonio, Deer Hollow Farm: White Barn Rehabilitation		\$512,505	\$0	\$512,505		
11-003—Ranch San Antonio (RSA) Multimodal Access–Implementation		\$0	\$49,260	\$49,260		
Subtotal	\$10,811,000	\$513,233	\$49,260	\$562,493	\$10,248,507	5.20%
11-002 Rancho San Antonio, Deer Hollow Farm: White Barn Rehabilitation Grant Income		(\$230,881)	\$0	(\$230,881)		
Grand Total	\$10,811,000	\$282,352	\$49,260	\$331,612	\$10,479,388	3.07%



Ordered a dynamic sign/traffic sensors system that will provide real-time parking availability information at the preserve entrance and on Midpen's website to assist with parking management.

#### In Support of MAA11

#### Prior Years

Completed multimodal access study and final report with transportation demand management strategies (TDM). Added signage on Foothill Expressway and St. Joseph's Avenue in Los Altos to assist with wayfinding of the preserve.

Restored the White Barn milk room at Deer Hollow Farm, which facilitates ongoing environmental interpretation and animal husbandry at the popular farm site.

Conducted a one-week tabling campaign for mountain lion awareness at Rancho San Antonio Preserve. Conducted historic and structural assessments of the White Barn in cooperation with the City of Mountain View and Friends of Deer Hollow Farm.

#### PROJECT CHALLENGES

Implementation of some of the board-approved Tier 1 transportation demand management strategies are dependent on partnership coordination, agreements, resources and co-implementation with other agencies.

#### POTENTIAL NEXT STEPS

Continue implementation of Tier 1 TDM strategies. Evaluate carpool pilot program effectiveness and consider long-term implementation, if feasible. Develop a plan for a subsidized ride hail program and shuttle program and present implementation plan, cost and resource implications, grant sources and performance metrics to the board along with final recommendations for the Preserve.

Conduct public outreach to gain input on a planned ADA-accessible path to Deer Hollow Farm. Hold a Planning and Natural Resources Committee meeting to review the proposed trail improvements and initiate CEQA review.

Prepare construction documents to replace the public vault toilet restroom at Deer Hollow Farm. Complete CEQA review.

Peninsula/South Bay Cities
Partner to Complete
Middle Stevens Creek Trail



Stevens Creek Trail by Dicklyon, CC BY-SA 4-0

#### DESCRIPTION

- O Support work by cities to develop the middle section of the Stevens Creek Trail and enhance neighborhood connections.
- Support work by partners to complete stream corridor restoration and steelhead habitat enhancement below dam.
- O Develop and install interpretive signage.

Portfolio Allocation: \$1,038,000

Portfolio Expenditures Through 6/30/2023: \$0

#### NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

#### In Support of MAA12

#### Fiscal Year 2023

Met with partners and trail construction staff in the field to evaluate potential trail alignments for the Middle Stevens Creek Trail Connection project.

#### **Prior Years**

Designated approximately 4 miles of existing trails, including White Oak Trail, Skid Road Trail and Stevens Creek Nature Trail, as part of the regional Stevens Creek Trail with formal signage. Midpen is the first agency to install the new Stevens Creek Trail medallion signage along the regional trail corridor.

Supported work by partners to complete stream corridor restoration and steelhead habitat enhancement below Stevens Creek Dam. Coordinated with partners, reviewed technical reports, held Deep Cliff Golf site visit and produced a letter of funding support. Provided funding to the Friends of Stevens Creek to complete Deep Cliff fish passage project.

#### PROJECT CHALLENGES

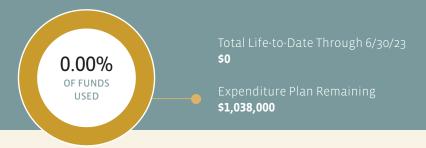
Feasible trail alignment is challenging due to terrain and private property.

#### POTENTIAL NEXT STEPS

Continue to follow the work of other agencies and organization as they proceed to develop the middle section of the Stevens Creek Trail. Identify opportunities for Midpen support and participation.

#### Portfolio 12: Peninsula/South Bay Cities—Partner to Complete Middle Stevens Creek Trail

Project	Expenditure Plan		Current Period 7/1/22 Through 6/30/23		Expenditure Plan Remaining	Percent Expended
Total Portfolio Allocation	\$1,038,000					
Grand Total	\$1,038,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,038,000	0.00%



Cloverdale Ranch
Wildlife Protection,
Grazing and Trail
Connections



Cloverdale Ranch by (Megan Derhammer)

#### DESCRIPTION

- Improve fencing, corrals and water systems to increase conservation grazing and sustain large contiguous grasslands.
- Restore habitat for endangered species.
- Provide trail connections to nearby state parks.

Portfolio Allocation: \$15,712,000

Portfolio Expenditures Through 6/30/2023: \$5,681,407

### NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS MAA13-003 Cloverdale Ranch Land Opportunity

#### Fiscal Year 2023

Purchased an approximately 5,100-acre portion of the Cloverdale Ranch property from Peninsula Open Space Trust (POST). In addition, secured a purchase option for approximately 1,200 additional acres (Phase 3), which includes a lease and management agreement to patrol and manage this property.

POST completed the following work on Cloverdale Ranch as part of the purchase: abandoned vehicle removal and disposal; road work below High Hill; corral design and construction; new leech field at Bean Hollow residence; and removal of five eucalyptus trees at access road from Pescadero Road.

As part of purchase, POST completed the following consultant work: Phase 1 environmental assessment report; roads and trail assessment; water infrastructure assessment; and livestock corral upgrade plan.

#### **Prior Years**

Held community engagement meetings, attended Pescadero Municipal Advisory Council and Sustainable Pescadero meetings and held a site visit at Lower La Honda in June 2022 with Pescadero community members.

Completed second year of botanical study, draft road and trail inventory and began preparing the rangeland management plan.

Secured a \$500,000 grant from San Mateo County to support the purchase.

Completed initial botanical studies of the property and the Lake Lucerne water system infrastructure evaluation.

Secured \$8 million in funding in the 2021-22 state budget and \$1.4 million from the California Department of Parks and Recreation for the purchase of Cloverdale Ranch.

Continued public outreach to coastal community members, including neighbors, grazing and agricultural tenants and those living in surrounding areas, to facilitate public engagement and participation.

Compiled existing conditions report for the Cloverdale Ranch property.

#### Portfolio 13: Cloverdale Ranch—Wildlife Protection, Grazing and Trail Connections

Project	Expenditure Plan	Total Through Prior Period 6/30/22	Current Period 7/1/22 Through 6/30/23	Total Life-to- Date Through 6/30/23	Expenditure Plan Remaining	Percent Expended
Total Portfolio Allocation	\$15,712,000					
13-003—Cloverdale Ranch Land Acquisition		\$0	\$15,609,689	\$15,609,689		
Subtotal	\$15,712,000	\$0	\$15,609,689	\$15,609,689	\$102,311	99.35%
13-003—Cloverdale Ranch Land Acquisition (Grant Income)		\$0	(\$9,928,282)	(\$9,928,282)		
Grand Total	\$15,712,000	\$0	\$5,681,407	\$5,681,407	\$10,030,593	36.16%



Began public outreach to coastal community groups and individuals, including the San Mateo Resource Conservation District, La Honda Pescadero Unified School District, Pescadero Municipal Advisory Committee, State Parks, Sustainable Pescadero, County of San Mateo, Puente, State Coastal Conservancy and grazing tenants.

Held site tours at Cloverdale Ranch for board members, local officials, State representatives and funding agencies.

Initiated bimonthly meetings and conducted staff site tours of Cloverdale Ranch with POST.

Conducted ongoing due diligence investigation to evaluate site resources and obligations of a potential future land purchase and subsequent management of POST's 6,300-acre Cloverdale Ranch. Worked with POST to conduct an introductory site tour for board members and key management staff to learn more about the property.

#### PROJECT CHALLENGES

None

#### POTENTIAL NEXT STEPS

Continue public outreach, community engagement and work toward Phase 3 purchase of Cloverdale Ranch.

Work with local nonprofit(s) to engage the public in protecting and restoring habitat for endangered species through service-learning events.

Execute Phase 1 of a consultant contract to install flow meters and hydraulic valves to improve management of the water system.

# **Regional**Trail Connections and Campgrounds



Monte Bello Open Space Preserve (Karin Zalec)

#### DESCRIPTION

- Develop trails between Butano, Pescadero County Park and Russian Ridge, and between Skyline, Portola Redwoods and Big Basin State Park.
- Partner with county and state parks to improve existing campgrounds.

Portfolio Allocation: \$3,966,000

Portfolio Expenditures Through 6/30/2023: \$0

#### NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

#### In Support of MAA14

#### Fiscal Year 2023

In partnership with the Santa Cruz Mountains Stewardship Network (SCMSN), released a request for proposals (RFP) for consultant services to conduct the *State of the Trails* assessment and planning study and selected a consultant.

Held meetings with California State Parks to secure initial transfer of the California Riding and Hiking Trail easements from the State of California to Midpen.

#### **Prior Years**

Completed consultant report for the California Riding & Hiking Trails project and shared with state representative. Sent state request to initiate process of quitclaiming trail rights at Russian Ridge and Lower La Honda for a connection to San Mateo County's Sam McDonald Park.

Acquired a conservation easement from POST covering the 353-acre Alpine Ranch property to protect redwood forests, watershed and habitat values (expensed in MAA15 portfolio). Supports MAA14 for future trail connections and campgrounds to San Mateo County's Pescadero Creek Park Complex.

#### PROJECT CHALLENGES

None

#### POTENTIAL NEXT STEPS

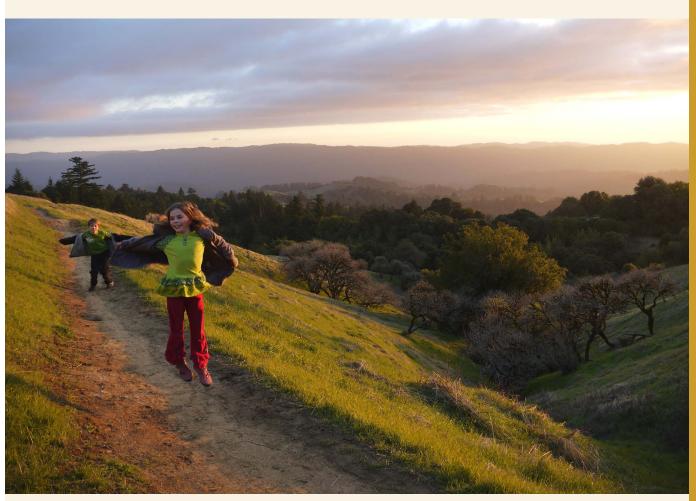
Continue outreach to private properties containing California Riding and Hiking Trail easements and finalize transfer of easements from State Parks.

#### Portfolio 14: Regional—Trail Connections and Campgrounds

Project	Expenditure Plan		Current Period 7/1/22 Through 6/30/23		Expenditure Plan Remaining	Percent Expended
Total Portfolio Allocation	\$3,966,000					
Grand Total	\$3,966,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,966,000	0.00%



Expenditure Plan Remaining **\$3,966,000** 



Russian Ridge Open Space Preserve (Anne-Sophie Gaudet)

# **Regional**Redwood Protection

and Salmon Fishery
Conservation



Long Ridge Open Space Preserve (Zane Schmidlen)

#### DESCRIPTION

- Preserve additional open space as available.
- Protect and enhance redwood stands, mountain scenery, various habitats and steelhead.

Portfolio Allocation: \$50,728,000

Portfolio Expenditures Through 6/30/2023: \$3,110,818

#### NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

#### MAA15-001 Conservation Easement Upper Alpine Ranch Area

**Prior Years** 

Acquired a conservation easement from POST covering the 353-acre Alpine Ranch property to protect redwood forests, watershed and habitat values.

#### MAA15-002 Conley Property Purchase

**Prior Years** 

Purchased the 191-acre Conley property from POST as an addition to Long Ridge Preserve to protect redwood forest and the upper Pescadero Creek watershed.

#### MAA15-003 Long Ridge Property Addition

**Prior Years** 

Made appraisal and offer for a property addition. Offer was rejected. Negotiations may continue.

#### MAA15-004 Irish Ridge Land Conservation

**Prior Years** 

Entered into a purchase agreement to extend close of escrow given time delays to finalize lot line adjustment approvals. Received approval of minor text amendments to the Local Coastal Program from the California Coastal Commission (CCC) that facilitates the property acquisition. Unfortunately, a San Mateo County Farm Bureau lawsuit challenging the CCC approval has substantially deferred the acquisition, resulting in falling out of contract with the seller.

Tentative map for minor subdivision to facilitate the proposed acquisition was prepared and reviewed by county planning, building, public works and county surveyor for submittal to county planning commission.

Submitted lot-split application to County of San Mateo for review and is running concurrently with the zoning amendment application.

Received board approval for the purchase of the 151-acre Irish Ridge (Tabachnik) property. The property purchase is contingent upon a land division (lot-split) and a zoning amendment with County of San Mateo.

#### Portfolio 15: Regional—Redwood Protection and Salmon Fishery Conservation

Project	Expenditure Plan	Total Through Prior Period 6/30/22	Current Period 7/1/22 Through 6/30/23	Total Life-to- Date Through 6/30/23	Expenditure Plan Remaining	Percent Expended
Total Portfolio Allocation	\$50,728,000					
15-001—Conservation Easement Upper Alpine Ranch Area		\$2,508,695	\$0	\$2,508,695		
15-002—Conley Property Purchase		\$509,855	\$0	\$509,855		
15-003—Long Ridge Property Addition		\$14,500	\$0	\$14,500		
15-004—Irish Ridge Land Conservation		\$77,768	\$0	\$77,768		
Grand Total	\$50,728,000	\$3,110,818	\$0	\$3,110,818	\$47,617,182	6.13%



MAA15-005 Upper La Honda Creek Land Acquisition (Eberhard)
This project also supports priority actions in Portfolio 5 under project MAA05-015

#### Fiscal Year 2023

Secured board approval to purchase the Eberhard property, executed all transactional documents and submitted an application to San Mateo County for the parcel subdivision needed to close escrow. Met with the Moore Foundation and prepared an application for \$1 million in grant funding.

#### In Support of MAA15

#### **Prior Years**

Completed appraisal and staff site assessment for the Boy Scouts property.

Purchased 190-acre Woodruff Redwoods property as an addition to La Honda Creek Preserve (expensed in MAA08 portfolio); purchase includes 51 acres of old-growth redwood forest that support MAA15 priority actions.

Held several meetings with SJWC executive staff concerning the potential purchase of their California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) regulated utility lands in addition to the potential purchase of their 182-acre, non-CPUC regulated property near El Sereno Preserve.

Pursued watershed protection opportunities at Sierra Azul and El Sereno preserves after state legislation created the opportunity to purchase land governed by the CPUC. Established initial contact with site owners, toured the property with site managers and Midpen board members and conveyed goals for a working partnership to negotiate a mutually beneficial transaction.

#### PROJECT CHALLENGES

Land acquisition requires willing seller.

#### POTENTIAL NEXT STEPS

Continue to seek willing sellers.

Secure lot line adjustment approval from San Mateo County for the Eberhard Property to complete the purchase as an addition to La Honda Creek Open Space Preserve.

Long Ridge Trail, Conservation and Habitat Restoration Projects (Saratoga)



Long Ridge Open Space Preserve (Greg Lewis)

#### DESCRIPTION

Improve roadside parking and provide restrooms.
Oevelop new trail connections to Eagle Rock and Devils Canyon.
Repair trails for year-round, multiuse access.
Protect watersheds for steelhead.
Preserve additional open space as available.

Implement pond and habitat enhancement restoration projects to benefit rare species.

Portfolio Allocation: \$5,140,000

Portfolio Expenditures Through 6/30/2023: \$0

MAA funds have not been expended on this portfolio through the reporting period, therefore there are no funds in this portfolio for the Bond Oversight Committee to validate at this time. This does not necessarily mean that work is not underway in this portfolio. If there is work in process, other funding sources are being utilized and either the scope is not what was contemplated as part of this MAA portfolio, or the scope is not currently eligible for MAA funding.

#### NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

#### MAA16-001 Long Ridge Trail Connection to Eagle Rock and Devils Canyon

#### Fiscal Year 2023

Conducted a field visit and confirmed project goals for the new trail connection with the General Manager's Office

#### **Prior Years**

Completed project scouting and documented opportunities and constraints for a potential new trail connection to Eagle Rock and Devils Canyon.

#### Portfolio 16: Long Ridge—Trail, Conservation and Habitat Restoration Projects (Saratoga)

Project	Expenditure Plan		Current Period 7/1/22 Through 6/30/23			Percent Expended
Total Portfolio Allocation	\$5,140,000					
Grand Total	\$5,140,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$5,140,000	0.00%



#### PROJECT CHALLENGES

A monitoring and management plan will need to be developed for the trail connections project to avoid impacts to known breeding territory for peregrine falcons in canyon.

Regulatory agencies have expressed interest in protecting marbled murrelets, a federally listed species. Work on the forest health project within potential habitat may require two years of protocol level surveys.

#### POTENTIAL NEXT STEPS

To support the new trail connections to Eagle Rock and Devils Canyon, a parking feasibility study is anticipated to start in FY26.

Regional
Complete Upper
Stevens Creek Trail



Pichetti Ranch Open Space Preserve (Tom Cochrane)

#### DESCRIPTION

- Complete multiuse connection between the Bay Trail and Bay Area Ridge Trail above the reservoir through Picchetti Ranch Preserve and Lower/Upper Stevens Creek County parks.
- Improve preserve trails and neighborhood connections.
- Preserve additional open space as available.

Portfolio Allocation: \$7,760,000

Portfolio Expenditures Through 6/30/2023: \$1,646,442

#### NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

#### MAA17-001 Land Conservation: Last Piece Upper Stevens Creek

**Prior Years** 

Purchased the 60-acre Lysons property, securing land to facilitate the upper Stevens Creek regional trail. Leveraged partnership funds to match the MAA funds expended for this purchase.

#### MAA17-002 Demolition & Restoration: Lobner/Lysons

**Prior Years** 

Completed demolition and site restoration activities to prepare for future public access/regional trail connection.

Finalized and closed all permits.

Completed design and contractor bidding process to demolish existing structures for site restoration and future public access.

Evaluated the Lysons property for demolition and restoration.

#### MAA17-004 Stevens Creek Nature Trail Bridges, Monte Bello

**Prior Years** 

Completed final bridge construction and revegetation of project area.

Constructed two new pedestrian bridges on the Stevens Creek Nature Trail and removed one old bridge.

#### Portfolio 17: Regional—Complete Upper Stevens Creek Trail

Project	Expenditure Plan	Total Through Prior Period 6/30/22	Current Period 7/1/22 Through 6/30/23	Total Life-to- Date Through 6/30/23	Expenditure Plan Remaining	Percent Expended
Total Portfolio Allocation	\$7,760,000					
17-001—Land Conservation: Last Piece Upper Stevens Creek		\$1,494,552	\$0	\$1,494,552		
17-002—Demolition & Restoration: Lobner/Lysons		\$461,321	\$0	\$461,321		
17-004—Stevens Creek Nature Trail Bridges, Monte Bello		\$430,569	\$0	\$430,569		
Subtotal	\$7,760,000	\$2,386,442	\$0	\$2,386,442	\$5,373,558	30.75%
17-002—Lysons Property Purchase Grant Income (50% of purchase price)		(\$740,000)	\$0	(\$740,000)		
Grand Total	\$7,760,000	\$1,646,442	\$0	\$1,646,442	\$6,113,558	21.22%



#### PROJECT CHALLENGES

None

#### POTENTIAL NEXT STEPS

Continue to coordinate with Santa Clara County Parks regarding project scope, costs, feasibility, review and approval process and schedule to co-initiate the Stevens Creek Trail extension project. A site visit will be scheduled in the fall between County Parks and District staff to discuss trail and staging concepts.

(Closed)
South Bay Foothills
Saratoga-to-the-Sea Trail
and Wildlife Corridor



Saratoga-to-the-Sea Trail (Brian Malone)

#### DESCRIPTION

- Protect wildlife corridor along Highway 9.
- Connect trail to Saratoga-to-the-Sea Trail and Skyline-to-the-Sea Trail.

Portfolio Allocation: \$1,365,000 Revised Allocation: \$1,164,189 Portfolio Expenditures Through 6/30/2023: \$1,164,187

#### NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

#### MAA18-002 Saratoga-to-the-Sea Regional Trail Connection

#### **Prior Years**

Collaborated with partners to create virtual public celebration of trail completion.

Processed all reimbursement requests. Project was completed on time and under budget.

Supported the City of Saratoga through all stages of trail and bridge construction and assisted with preparations for the grand opening.

City of Saratoga completed the interpretive signs.

City of Saratoga completed engineering design and environmental review and permitting for the proposed Saratoga-to-the-Sea regional trail connection within city's easement area on San Jose Water Company lands.

#### In Support of MAA18

#### **Prior Years**

City of Saratoga completed Phase 1 park improvements at Quarry Park, which is the trailhead for the Saratoga-to-the-Sea Trail.

Finalized partnership agreement with the City of Saratoga and obtained board approval for a funding contribution of the final design and environmental review for the Saratoga-to-the-Sea Trail.

San Jose Water Company granted the City of Saratoga an easement over their watershed property, a known wildlife corridor which includes a tributary to Saratoga Creek.

#### PROJECT CHALLENGES

None—this portfolio is closed.

#### PROJECT NEXT STEPS

None—this portfolio is closed.

### Portfolio 18: South Bay Foothills—Saratoga-to-the-Sea Trail and Wildlife Corridor

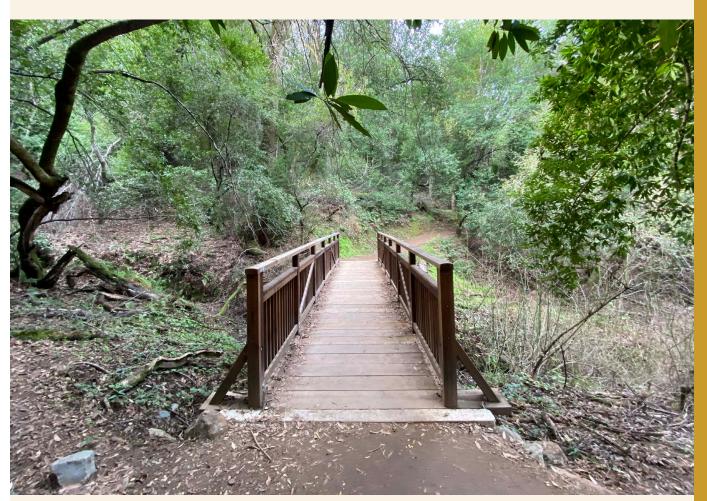
Project	Expenditure Plan	Total Through Prior Period 6/30/22	Current Period 7/1/22 Through 6/30/23	Total Life-to- Date Through 6/30/23	Expenditure Plan Remaining	Percent Expended
Total Portfolio Allocation	\$1,164,189					
18-001—San Jose Water Land Purchase		\$3,850	\$0	\$3,850		
18-002—Saratoga-to-the-Sea Regional Trail Connection		\$1,160,337	\$0	\$1,160,337		
Grand Total	\$1,164,189	\$1,164,187	\$0	\$1,164,187	\$2	100.00%

100.00% OF FUNDS USED

Total Life-to-Date Through 6/30/23 **\$1,164,187** 

Expenditure Plan Remaining

\$7



Saratoga-to-the-Sea Trail (Bobby Wheelock)

# El Sereno Dog Trails and Connections



El Sereno Open Space Preserve (Midpen)

#### DESCRIPTION

- Provide infrastructure to open trails to dogs.
- Develop connections to Skyline, Sanborn County Park and Lexington Reservoir.

Portfolio Allocation: \$2,254,000

Portfolio Expenditures Through 6/30/2023: \$298,187

#### NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

#### MAA19-001 Gupta/Khan Property Purchase

#### **Prior Years**

Purchased a 9.37-acre fee property and a 1.97-acre floating trail easement from Gupta-Khan to improve opportunities for wildlife corridors and trail connectivity.

#### MAA19-002 Dunham-Bohlman Easement

#### **Prior Years**

Purchased a 0.33-acre public trail and patrol easement from a private landowner (\$15,000 purchase). These purchases fill a gap in the Bay Area Ridge Trail between El Sereno Preserve and Sanborn County Park (one property acquisition remains).

#### MAA19-003 Haight-Peery Low Value Land Acquisition

#### **Prior Years**

Purchased the 1.87-acre Haight-Peery property, including a portion of the Aquinas Trail, as an addition to El Sereno Preserve.

#### MAA19-004 San Jose Water Company Land Purchase

#### Prior Years

Purchased the former San Jose Water Company property from POST and terminated the lease & management agreement.

In May 2021, the Wildlife Conservation Board approved a grant covering the full purchase price of \$1,075,000.

In July 2020, the board approved the purchase and assignment of purchase rights of the 182.15-acre San Jose Water property to POST to allow Midpen to secure Wildlife Conservation Board grant funds. Midpen signed a lease & management agreement with POST to manage the property while under POST's ownership.

#### In Support of MAA19

#### **Prior Years**

Drafted trail easement and transactional documents for the acquisition of land rights (known as the El Sereno Land Conservation project) and sent to owner and their attorney.

### Portfolio 19: El Sereno—Dog Trails and Connections

Project	Expenditure Plan	Total Through Prior Period 6/30/22	Current Period 7/1/22 Through 6/30/23	Total Life-to- Date Through 6/30/23	Expenditure Plan Remaining	Percent Expended
Total Portfolio Allocation	\$2,254,000					
19-001—Gupta/Khan Property Purchase		\$406,553	\$0	\$406,553		
19-002—Dunham-Bohlman Easement		\$19,997	\$0	\$19,997		
19-003—Haight-Perry Low Value Land Acquisition		\$52,977	\$0	\$52,977		
19-004—San Jose Water Co Land Purchase		\$1,085,237	\$0	\$1,085,237		
Subtotal	\$2,254,000	\$1,564,764	\$0	\$1,564,764	\$689,236	69.42%
19-001—Gupta/Khan Property Purchase Grant Income		(\$191,577)	\$0	(\$191,577)		
19-004—San Jose Water Co Land Purchase Grant Income		(\$1,075,000)	\$0	(\$1,075,000)		
Grand Total	\$2,254,000	\$298,187	\$0	\$298,187	\$1,955,813	13.23%



Signed letter of intent with an El Sereno Land Conservation property owner to sell trail easement to Midpen. Staff flagged the trail alignment in preparation of a property/trail survey.

Signed letter of understanding with the SJWC. Reached agreement with SJWC to purchase 182-acre El Sereno inholding, including Aquinas Trail as an identified section of the Bay Area Ridge Trail.

Completed CEQA review and a use and management plan amendment for board approval to open existing trails to dogs on-leash and added on-leash dog use to 6 miles of existing trail.

To facilitate future MAA trail projects, initiated site investigations for regional trail connections between Sanborn County Park, El Sereno Preserve and a potential Highway 17 Bay Area Ridge Trail crossing.

#### PROJECT CHALLENGES

Need to secure additional trail easement to provide future Bay Area Ridge Trail connection between the El Sereno Preserve and Sanborn County Park.

#### POTENTIAL NEXT STEPS

Continue seeking property rights required for a trail connection from Highway 17 through El Sereno Preserve to Sanborn County Park.

Continue analysis of regional trail connections between Sanborn County Park, El Sereno Preserve and a potential Highway 17 Bay Area Ridge Trail crossing.

**South Bay Foothills**Wildlife Passage and
Ridge Trail Improvements



St. Joseph's Hill Open Space Preserve (R. Goldthwaite)

#### DESCRIPTION

Establish safe corridors for mountain lions across Highway 17.

Establish Bay Area Ridge Trail crossing.

Portfolio Allocation: \$13,966,000

Portfolio Expenditures Through 6/30/2023: \$713,150

#### NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

MAA20-001 Wildlife Corridor: Highway 17 Crossing

#### Fiscal Year 2023

Completed the environmental technical reports and administrative draft environmental document.

Executed a cooperative agreement with Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) for VTA to be the project delivery partner and lead the permitting and design work beginning in FY24.

Conducted stakeholder and partner meetings and held two public community meetings (one in-person and one virtual) to provide a status update and receive input on the project.

#### MAA20-002 Bay Area Ridge Trail: Highway 17 Crossing

#### Fiscal Year 2023

Completed the environmental technical reports and administrative draft environmental document.

Executed a cooperative agreement with VTA for VTA to be the project delivery partner and lead the permitting and design work beginning in FY24.

Secured grant funding for the El Sereno loop trail connection.

Conducted stakeholder and partner meetings and held two public community meetings (one in-person and one virtual) to provide a status update and receive input on the project.

#### **Prior Years**

Completed technical field studies and environmental field surveys to inform the preparation of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) environmental documents.

Completed the accessibility requirements report to satisfy a Caltrans requirement.

Secured additional grant funding, including \$50,000 from a private fund, \$1 million from the Moore Foundation and \$2 million from California Department of Parks and Recreation; submitted request for appropriation of \$400,000 in federal funds for trail connections in April 2022. As of June 2022, project fully funded through design phase.

Identified trail alignments to connect adjacent open space preserves on the east and west side of proposed crossings and to connect El Sereno Preserve to Sanborn County Park.

Successfully coordinated with the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) and Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) on the addition of the Highway 17 Project to the Regional Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) and MTC's federal funding for the project, which MTC approved on March 23, 2022. MTC's funding through an exchange agreement with Midpen allows VTA to be a project partner with Caltrans and provides a federal nexus for Caltrans to facilitate the concurrent completion of CEQA and NEPA review to streamline environmental review and permitting and meet the targeted 2025/2026 construction timeline.

Hosted monthly meetings with Caltrans, completed cultural and biological field studies for the full project and engineering and geotechnical studies within the Caltrans right-of-way (ROW).

Developed Mitigation Credit Agreement strategy, secured Wildlife Conservation Board grant funding (\$5.0 million), invited to submit \$1.0 million proposal for Moore Foundation grant funding and a \$50,000 proposal for Windward Fund grant funding and supported Senator Cortese's \$2.0 million member request that was approved in the FY22 state budget.

Completed the request for qualifications and proposals process and contracted with AECOM for environmental review services for compliance with CEQA and NEPA.

Caltrans reviewed the final project study report developed by Midpen and consultants.

Consultant selected and under contract for CEQA/NEPA and Caltrans project approval and environmental documentation.

Submitted draft project study report to Caltrans and received initial comments. Held additional meetings with project partners and stakeholders (Caltrans, SJWC, Green Foothills, National Wildlife Federation), as well as a second public meeting to continue to advance a proposed wildlife crossing.

Conducted preplanning, trail scouting and preliminary conceptual-level design and cost estimates for a proposed regional trail crossing over Highway 17. Completed a pre-permitting coordination meeting with Caltrans

In coordination with a consultant team, completed a draft project preliminary alternatives report for both the wildlife corridor and regional trails crossing at Highway 17 for agency review.

Engaged public and stakeholders for input on proposed draft alternatives and received agency comments on draft report.

Developed a cooperative agreement with Caltrans and developed a Caltrans project initiation document.

Continued evaluation of the Highway 17 wildlife crossing and regional trail crossing through identification and analysis of additional crossing alternatives in response to partner, stakeholder and public comment on initial drafts.

Collaborated with partner agencies (Santa Clara County Parks, Valley Water, Ridge Trail, etc.) to identify best opportunities for a public access crossing at Highway 17, including trail connections. Crossing will close a major gap in the regionwide trail system and connect open space areas for multiple regional trails.

#### In Support of MAA20

#### Prior Years

Signed a letter of understanding with SJWC on Dec. 23, 2019, for collaboration on watershed open space lands, including cooperation on Wildlife and Ridge Trail crossing of Highway 17.

Completed preplanning and site investigations to identify potential trail routes to connect trail crossings. Worked with consultants to develop preliminary trail design and completed draft trail connections report. Shared draft report with stakeholders (Caltrans, SJWC, Santa Clara County Parks, etc.) for review prior to public presentations. Scheduled public informational meeting on trail connections.

Conducted numerous field investigations and trail route evaluations for a potential future regional trail crossing over Highway 17 that would become part of the Bay Area Ridge Trail near the El Sereno, St. Joseph's Hill and Bear Creek Redwoods preserves.

Co-hosted with POST a free screening of "The Cat that Saved America" and panel discussion on wildlife corridors and the Highway 17 wildlife crossing attended by 325 guests on April 7, 2018.

Conducted additional ground-truthing and analysis on potential trail alignments that support the potential trail crossing locations to include in a feasibility study. Identified eight trail alignments to include in the project study report for Caltrans.

#### PROJECT CHALLENGES

Complex Caltrans process and coordination with numerous project partners and stakeholders and Midpen as the project proponent despite not owning or managing any of the underlying land or immediate trail connections.

Consideration of more than one wildlife and multi-use trail crossing alternative requires more extensive NEPA documentation.

Additional federal funding, beyond the exchange of Midpen local funds for MTC federal funds, is not guaranteed in a competitive environment; Midpen nonetheless intends to submit requests for state and federal opportunities, working with legislators and partner agencies.

Requires negotiations with multiple property owners to secure property rights.

#### POTENTIAL NEXT STEPS

Complete CEQA/NEPA document concurrently for the entire project, including crossings and trails.

Complete Caltrans project approval and environmental document phase.

Continue to secure permission to access private properties to negotiate for property rights.

Work with partners to secure federal funding and target grants to fund project construction phase.

Work with VTA on initiating the plans, specifications and estimates phase.

### Portfolio 20: South Bay Foothills—Wildlife Passage and Ridge Trail Improvements

Project	Expenditure Plan	Total Through Prior Period 6/30/22	Current Period 7/1/22 Through 6/30/23	Total Life-to- Date Through 6/30/23	Expenditure Plan Remaining	Percent Expended
Total Portfolio Allocation	\$13,966,000					
20-001—Wildlife Corridor: Highway 17 Crossing		\$780,237	\$277,326	\$1,057,563		
20-002—Bay Area Ridge Trail: Highway 17 Crossing		\$976,145	\$550,930	\$1,527,075		
Subtotal	\$13,966,000	\$1,756,382	\$828,256	\$2,584,638	\$11,381,362	18.51%
20-001 Wildlife Corridor: Highway 17 Crossing Grant Income		(\$1,280,497)	(\$590,991)	(\$1,871,488)		
Grand Total	\$13,966,000	\$475,885	\$237,265	\$713,150	\$13,252,850	5.11%





St. Joseph's Hill Open Space Preserve (Midpen)

**Bear Creek Redwoods**Public Recreation and
Interpretation Projects



Bear Creek Redwoods Open Space Preserve (Frances Freyberg)

#### DESCRIPTION

- Open for hiking, equestrian activities.
- Provide parking areas, trails; upgrade stables.
- Restore and protect habitats for various species.
- Repair roads and trails to reduce sediment.
- Rehabilitate Alma College site.

Portfolio Allocation: \$17,478,000

Portfolio Expenditures Through 6/30/2023: \$13,603,921

#### NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

#### MAA21-003 Bear Creek Redwoods Stables Water System

#### Prior Years

Combined with MAA21-004 Bear Creek Stables Site Plan Implementation.

#### MAA21-004 Bear Creek Stables Project

#### Fiscal Year 2023

Completed a use permit resubmittal, held negotiation meetings with the Santa Clara County Fire Marshal, prepared and submitted a variance request for a modified fire suppression system.

#### **Prior Years**

Submitted a use permit application and hosted an interdepartmental coordination meeting with Santa Clara County and design team. Received comments from the county requiring additional work with the design team and resubmittal of the permit package.

Confirmed the use permit path to secure county permits for the repairs and began the permit application.

Conducted extensive consultation with Santa Clara County Planning, Building and Fire departments regarding permit requirements and permitting paths. Identified critical permitting challenges associated with legal nonconforming site status.

Completed construction document set to 50%, including the water system design. Developed temporary construction operations plan.

Combined MAA21-003 Bear Creek Redwoods Water System project with MAA21-004 Bear Creek Stables Site Plan Implementation.

Board approved the funding source and the final design direction to focus exclusively on repairs.

Completed an assessment of water source options and associated cost estimates for the preserve, concluding that the most cost effective and secure option is to execute an agreement with SJWC to complete the water line installation from their main line as the new source of water for the preserve and Bear Creek Stables.

Established and filed pre-1914 water rights for the preserve, installed meters and completed required annual reporting.

Advanced maintenance and repairs in the near-term and the stables site plan as a long-term solution.

Developed the stables site plan alternatives and secured board selection of the preferred alternative for CEQA review purposes.

#### MAA21-005 Bear Creek Redwoods Public Access

#### **Prior Years**

Submitted notice of completion to County of Santa Clara.

Completed restroom construction, final punch list items, repairs of damaged loop trail sections and final payments for the parking.

Completed construction of a new parking lot, bridge, retaining wall improvements, vault toilet restroom, ADA pathway and road/trail improvements, opening 6 miles of new trail to public access.

Completed second (final) year of cultural resource evaluations for 19 sites within the preserve. Final report completed. Provided archaeological monitoring for parking lot and trail construction.

Completed installation of two interpretive signs for the new main parking area at Upper Lake.

Completed an archaeological resources curation guidelines report.

Completed archaeological studies in advance of ground disturbance activities.

Conducted an engineering feasibility study to identify the preferred location for a Bear Creek Road trail undercrossing as an option for connecting visitors between the new parking area and the western area of the preserve.

Completed geologic assessment, geotechnical drilling and fault trenching. Completed regulatory/code assessment.

Completed cultural resource assessments. Prepared a request for qualifications and proposals, selected and contracted with consultant to complete a final survey/assessment reports for 10 sites, parking lot area and Mud Lake improvements.

Completed Phase 1 public access road and trail construction, upgrades and drainage improvement, including constructing two segments of new trail to complete the westside loop.

#### MAA21-006 Bear Creek Redwoods—Alma Cultural Landscape Rehabilitation

#### Fiscal Year 2023

Completed the site construction, interpretive element design, restoration fencing installation and incorporated soil amendments in preparation for year 1 native plant installations.

#### **Prior Years**

Substantially completed construction, including a concrete overflow weir at Upper Lake; site improvements at the St. Joseph's shrine; new accessible walkways; hazardous materials abatement; site grading; and masonry/architectural rehabilitation.

Completed demolition of the majority of nonhistorical structures and installation of bat exclusion measures.

Completed a successful rebid of the site improvement and structure rehabilitation/stabilization work.

Presented Alma cultural landscape plan to Santa Clara County Historical Heritage Commission for a landmark alteration permit. County of Santa Clara Planning Department issued a landmark alteration permit for the rehabilitation project.

Completed 90% of plans and specifications and prepared permit package for submission to the County of Santa Clara planning department. Completed conversion of mansion ruins to bat habitat.

Conducted a recreation planning analysis for potential reuse of the Alma College chapel.

Completed an earthquake fault rupture hazard study to determine if the Alma College chapel could be occupied.

Constructed two structures to provide alternative bat roosting habitat in anticipation of demolition work at Alma College.

#### MAA21-007 Bear Creek Redwoods Preserve Plan: Invasive Weed Treatment and Restoration

#### Fiscal Year 2023

Invested over 2,500 hours on resource management work to control invasive weed species. Top target species include French broom, Italian thistle and stinkwort.

#### **Prior Years**

Removed mature French broom, cape ivy and periwinkle, totaling just under 3,600 hours of resource management work.

Priority invasive species within both Phase 1 and Phase 2 areas of Bear Creek Redwoods were treated using approved methods under the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Program.

Proceeded with year three of invasive weed management with disruptions from county-issued shelter-in-place orders.

Completed treatments as planned and selected contractor for final two years of project through a request for proposals process.

Completed all work under a task order with Valley Water for the implementation of grant-funded invasive species work.

Implemented the first year of a targeted invasive species treatment to restore native habitat throughout the preserve.

Received a grant from Valley Water for \$200,000 per year for five years with a possible five-year extension for another \$1 million.

### MAA21-008 Bear Creek Redwoods Ponds Restoration and Water Rights

#### **Prior Years**

Completed the Mud Lake Improvements Project, including the replacement of the Mud Lake spillway and outlet, installation of 115 linear feet of storm water swale improvements, replacement of 200 linear feet of storm water culverts and the replacement of a 60-foot-long culvert under Bear Creek Road.

Executed a funding agreement with the County of Santa Clara in September 2019, which reimburses Midpen for the Bear Creek Road culvert replacement work.

Project plans were reviewed and approved by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) and County of Santa Clara.

Completed construction documents and began the permitting process to improve drainage from Mud Lake to Briggs Creek.

Completed a pond assessment and management plan to determine the water needs for wildlife and habitat values at aquatic sites.

Began the first year of the western pond turtle population study and developed a western pond turtle management plan.

Completed the Mud Lake drainage improvement project plans to 60%, which allowed for pre-permitting meetings to be held with the USACE, RWQCB and California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) to determine the permit and review timeframe required before construction. The project will improve the stormwater drainage system for Mud Lake.

#### MAA21-009 Bear Creek Redwoods Webb Creek Bridge

#### **Prior Years**

Completed the removal of an existing bridge and installation of a new bridge to provide safe public access and patrol route.

Designed the Webb Creek Bridge replacement foundation.

Submitted CDFW and RWQCB permits for the Webb Creek Bridge replacement.

#### MAA21-010 Bear Creek Redwoods Landfill Characterization and Remediation

#### Fiscal Year 2023

Completed hazmat cleanup work plan, prepared bid package and began the cultural resources reports and artifact collection and curation to protect historical items of significance that are buried in the landfill site.

#### **Prior Years**

Contracted with historic and hazmat consultants to recover resources prior to the cleanup of the legacy landfill.

Completed site investigations and preliminary historic resource evaluations.

Completed a landfill characterization and developed the project remedial approach.

Investigated a legacy landfill at BCR to determine size and potential constituents of concern. Scoped project, prepared RFPQ and selected consultant.

#### MAA21-011 Phase 2 Trail Improvements, Bear Creek Redwoods

#### Fiscal Year 2023

Hired a contractor to complete the replacement/construction of culverts, bridges, retaining walls and waterlines. Conducted botanical surveys prior to ground disturbance activities. Began construction in June 2023.

#### **Prior Years**

Completed geotechnical investigations and 65% design plans for the Northeast trailhead. Completed construction documents and the bid package for the two slide repairs.

Crew completed improvements to the all-season patrol access route.

Crew continued with improvements to the Phase 2 trail network.

Submitted permits to the California Department of Fish & Wildlife and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Completed construction of Briggs Creek Trail and reroute, public stables loop trail improvements and segments of the multiuse trail.

Completed traffic studies and used the results to hire an engineering team to finalize design of the trail crossing and northeast trailhead.

Completed trail feasibility analysis, basis of design document, preliminary design for trail structures, protocol botanical surveys, cultural/biological resources report and contract amendment with consultant team.

Secured traffic consultant to begin analyzing multiuse trail crossings near the summit and over Highway 17.

#### MAA21-012 Bear Creek Redwood Tree Restoration

#### Prior Years

Removed all abandoned ornamental trees within the project area and installed native trees.

#### In Support of MAA21

#### Fiscal Year 2023

Finalized the concessionaire agreement and monitored new lease operation at Bear Creek Stables.

Completed planning and technical studies for conceptual design alternatives for the Bear Creek Redwoods North Parking Area.

#### **Prior Years**

Completed the Bear Creek Redwoods online story map.

Celebrated completion of Phase 1 public access improvements and progress on natural resources restoration projects with partner ribbon-cutting and tours, media outreach and extensive public educational outreach during the opening weekends.

Received board approval of the Bear Creek Redwoods Preserve Plan and certification of the accompanying EIR.

Hosted a groundbreaking for the preserve parking area project on May 1, 2018.

Completed construction of the Alma College site fencing in April 2018 to improve site safety and security.

#### PROJECT CHALLENGES

Securing a use permit from the County of Santa Clara for the Bear Creek Stables repairs requires additional time and consultant services, extends opportunity for additional public review and comments and requires discretionary approval from the County Planning Commission with a likely increase in the final permitting conditions and related costs.

Land acquisition requires a willing seller.

The planting soils around Alma College were tested and found to not meet standards for new plantings. Soil amendments were necessary and require a maturation period prior to plantings.

#### POTENTIAL NEXT STEPS

Finalize construction plans for high priority repairs of the stables site and secure a use permit from Santa Clara County.

Install native plantings within the Alma cultural landscape area.

Installation of interpretive signage at the Alma cultural landscape area has been delayed due to production and fabrication issues with the panels. Installation of Phase 1 panels projected for late fall 2023. Phase 2 panels will be installed after plantings.

Implement remedial design and cleanup to close out the Landfill Remediation Project.

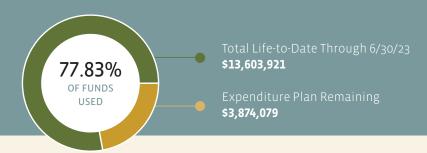
Continue integrated pest management implementation on roads and trails and in shaded fuel break.

Complete the construction of the Phase 2 Trails. Close out regulatory and local permits. Close out grant. Conduct regulatory monitoring.

Complete technical studies for the planned North Parking Area. Conduct public outreach and stakeholder engagement to inform the development of conceptual site plan alternatives. Revise the conceptual design based on public, Committee and board feedback. Confirm the need for additional CEQA review.

### Portfolio 21: Bear Creek Redwoods—Public Recreation and Interpretive Projects

Project	Expenditure Plan	Total Through Prior Period 6/30/22	Current Period 7/1/22 Through 6/30/23	Total Life-to- Date Through 6/30/23	Expenditure Plan Remaining	Percent Expended
Total Portfolio Allocation	\$17,478,000					
21-001—Moody Gulch Fence & Gate Improvements		\$847	\$0	\$847		
21-004—Bear Creek Stables Project		\$834,245	\$59,476	\$893,721		
21-005—Bear Creek Redwoods Public Access		\$5,548,003	\$0	\$5,548,003		
21-006—Bear Creek Redwoods Alma College Cultural Landscape Rehab		\$5,097,802	\$303,001	\$5,400,803		
21-007—Bear Creek Redwoods Preserve Plan Invasive Weed Treatment		\$1,192,400	\$36,101	\$1,228,501		
21-008—Bear Creek Redwoods Ponds Restoration and Water Rights		\$681,517	\$0	\$681,517		
21-009—Bear Creek Redwoods Webb Creek Bridge		\$487,492	\$0	\$487,492		
21-010—Bear Creek Redwoods Landfill Characterization and Remediation		\$132,135	\$93,735	\$225,870		
21-011—Phase 2 Trail Improvements, Bear Creek Redwoods OSP		\$860,395	\$732,738	\$1,593,133		
21-012—Bear Creek Redwood Tree Restoration		\$90,915	\$0	\$90,915		
Subtotal	\$17,478,000	\$14,925,751	\$1,225,051	\$16,150,802	\$1,327,198	92.41%
21-006—Bear Creek Redwoods Alma College Cultural Landscape Rehab Grant Income		(\$666,518)	(\$748,072)	(\$1,414,590)		
21-007—Bear Creek Redwoods Preserve Plan Invasive Weed Treatment Grant Income		(\$515,000)	\$0	(\$515,000)		
21-008—Bear Creek Redwoods Ponds Restoration and Water Rights Grant Income		(\$307,620)	(\$160,171)	(\$467,791)		
21-009—Bear Creek Redwoods Webb Creek Bridge Grant Income		(\$149,500)	\$0	(\$149,500)		
Grand Total	\$17,478,000	\$13,287,113	\$316,808	\$13,603,921	\$3,874,079	77.83%



### Sierra Azul

# Cathedral Oaks Public Access and Conservation Projects



Sierra Azul Open Space Preserve by (Andrew Forster)

#### DESCRIPTION

- Oevelop multiuse trail and plan future trails as land is available.
- O Develop parking.
- Restore plant communities and soils.
- Install trailside amenities.
- Preserve additional open space and complete wildlife corridor in upper Los Gatos Creek watershed.

Portfolio Allocation: \$6,714,000

Portfolio Expenditures Through 6/30/2023: \$1,478,708

#### NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

#### MAA22-001 Hendrys Creek Property Land Restoration

#### **Prior Years**

Completed removal of final bridge stream crossing. This is the last piece of Hendrys Creek Restoration project to remove unpermitted roads and structures to restore important creek habitat for wildlife and water quality.

Continued ongoing monitoring.

Coordinated with Valley Water on conservation easement held on the property, accomplished monitoring and reporting on the long-term management plan, which is a task to be done in perpetuity.

Met Valley Water grant requirements and secured \$269,116 through reimbursements on a \$484,650 grant to implement restoration plans at Hendrys Creek.

Removed culverts that impeded the creek and restored natural creek flow.

Completed annual monitoring and submitted annual report to Valley Water and CDFW, as required by the long-term management plan and CDFW permit conditions.

Received partnership funds to purchase the 117-acre Hendrys Creek property to protect wildlife corridors and watershed lands. No MAA funds were used on this purchase.

Completed fifth year of the coordinated monitoring effort to reduce mercury within the Guadalupe River watershed.

Completed first phase of invasive plant removal and developed a partnership with the San Jose Conservation Corps for the Hendrys Creek watershed restoration effort.

Negotiated with resource agencies, including CDFW, RWQCB and USACE to finalize permits to perform the Hendrys Creek restoration project. Rare opportunity to perform environmental restoration to benefit wildlife and water quality.

#### **MAA22-003 Freudenberg Land Purchase**

#### **Prior Years**

Purchased the 24.41-acre Freudenberg property to protect wildlife and watershed lands.

#### MAA22-004 Beatty Parking Area and Trail Connections

#### Prior Years

Presented programming alternatives of parking and trailhead options for committee review and feedback in August 2020. Coordinated with partner agencies on project program elements and regulatory requirements. Provided board FYI in September 2020 to share committee feedback and project status. Presented project in January 2021 per board request. Also presented new information from citizen scientists about newt mortalities along the adjacent public county roadway (Alma Bridge Road). Given this new information and concerns about potentially further impacting the newt population, the committee recommended and the board concurred on directing staff to defer the parking and trail project until a newt mortality study is completed along the public roadway to inform next steps for the parking and trails project and to understand whether and if any site improvements could be made to the roadway to protect newts during their migrations.

Completed on-site field reconnaissance and preliminary assessment of the county's Miller Point parking lot. Met with stakeholders to develop scoping of studies regarding newts.

Held consultations with Santa Clara County Parks and Valley Water regarding proposed parking and trail development and permitting requirements.

Released RFPQ for consulting services to develop bridge design and evaluate the stability of the trail alignment.

Issued RFPs and selected consultants for site surveys, traffic, hazardous material assessments and environmental and biological services to support the implementation of the Beatty Parking Area.

Initiated traffic counts and line of sight analysis, Phase 1 environmental assessments and completed topographic surveys. Initiated conceptual parking area design.

Awarded a \$149,906 grant from Valley Water for the Beatty Trail connection project (grant income Included in FY20).

#### MAA22-005 Beatty House Site Security Improvements

#### **Prior Years**

Procured and installed security fencing materials for public safety and to prevent potential vandalism/ trespassing of the unused structure.

Canceled the Beatty House Removal Project in response to board direction provided on March 24, 2021. Changed project scope to provide security fences around the structure; updated project name.

Retained consultant to conduct California Environmental Quality Act compliance process. Circulated Notice of Preparation to prepare an Environmental Impact Report in February 2021.

#### MAA22-006 San Jose Water Company Lands

#### Fiscal Year 2023

Closed escrow on the purchase of the 102.3-acre San Jose Water Company property within the upper Los Gatos Creek watershed, connecting protected open space and wildlife corridors within the Cathedral Oaks portion of Sierra Azul Open Space Preserve.

#### **In Support of MAA22**

#### Fiscal Year 2023

Partnered with Santa Clara County Roads to hire wildlife crossing experts to explore wildlife crossing solutions to protect newt migration across Alma Bridge Road (public roadway) as part of the Alma Bridge Road Newt Passage project. The county prepared conceptual design options of roadway structures. Midpen applied for Wildlife Conservation Board funding to support the work.

#### **Prior Years**

Finalized and presented report on newt mortality demonstrating the need for developing a newt crossing across the county-owned road. Develop a cooperative agreement with the county and solicited a request for proposals and qualifications (RFPQ) to begin design and recommend a CEQA approach for future capital project. The cooperative agreement with the county was approved in February.

Signed funding agreement with POST to conduct a newt mortality study along Alma Bridge Road given concerns about roadkill levels. POST provided oversight of a consultant who developed the field methodology for the newt study. With assistance from county parks staff, the study team completed installation of drift fence/pitfall traps. Midpen provided a traffic counter to get daily vehicle totals over the study period. County Parks recruited volunteers who assisted the consultant team to count newts in the traps and conduct road mortality surveys. Consultant tabulated and analyzed data and provided a draft report to document findings and determine if road mortality is impacting the resident population to inform next steps regarding newt protections along the roadway.

#### PROJECT CHALLENGES

Permit monitoring for the Hendrys Creek Land Restoration project requires up to 10 years of tracking and reporting, which is cumulative for every project requiring a resource agency permit.

Newt studies and enhancements are critical to address prior to reinitiating work on the Beatty parking area and trail connections project. Implementation requires coordinating with multiple partners and stakeholders, especially Santa Clara County Roads and Airports Department.

#### POTENTIAL NEXT STEPS

MAA22-001: completed five years of monitoring to submit the year 5 mitigation monitoring report in December 2023 for the Hendrys Creek Land Restoration project. It is anticipated that the Project permit success criterion will be met by year 5 and the mitigation monitoring and reporting period will be completed. Annual monitoring and reporting is required in perpetuity under the long-term management agreement associated with the conservation easement with Valley Water.

In partnership with Santa Clara County, select a preferred alternative(s) for the newt crossing infrastructure (Alma Bridge Road Wildlife Passage Project) and begin CEQA review, more detailed design and permitting.

## Portfolio 22: Sierra Azul—Cathedral Oaks Public Access and Conservation Projects

Project	Expenditure Plan	Total Through Prior Period 6/30/22	Current Period 7/1/22 Through 6/30/23	Total Life-to- Date Through 6/30/23	Expenditure Plan Remaining	Percent Expended
Total Portfolio Allocation	\$6,714,000					
22-001—Hendrys Creek Property Land Restoration		\$513,343	\$0	\$513,343		
22-003—Freudenberg Land Purchase		\$540,587	\$0	\$540,587		
22-004—Beatty Parking Area and Trail Connections		\$173,807	\$0	\$173,807		
22-005—Beatty House Site Security Improvements		\$47,855	\$640	\$48,495		
22-006—San Jose Water Lands		\$0	\$720,178	\$720,178		
Subtotal	\$6,714,000	\$1,275,592	\$720,818	\$1,996,410	\$4,717,590	29.74%
22-001—Hendrys Creek Property Land Restoration Grant Income		(\$336,228)	(\$181,474)	(\$517,702)		
Grand Total	\$6,714,000	\$939,364	\$539,344	\$1,478,708	\$5,235,292	22.02%





(Closed) Sierra Azul

Mount Umunhum
Public Access and
Interpretation Projects



Sierra Azul Open Space Preserve (Nicole Gittleson)

#### DESCRIPTION

- Open Mount Umunhum for multiuse public access to summit via road and trail.
- Open Bay Area Ridge Trail and nearby trail connections.
- Preserve additional open space and complete wildlife corridor.

Original Allocation: \$27,972,000 Revised Allocation: \$21,814,891 Portfolio Expenditures Through 6/30/2023: \$21,814,891

#### NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

#### MAA23-001 Mt. Umunhum Road and Trail Property Rights

#### **Prior Years**

Purchased the 38.97-acre Meyer/Connolly property to protect additional open space and wildlife corridors.

Purchased the 28-acre Rossetta property to secure public access rights along Mt. Umunhum Road and the Woods Trail in the Mount Umunhum area of Sierra Azul Preserve.

#### MAA23-002 Mt. Umunhum Trail

#### **Prior Years**

Completed nearly 4 miles of the new Mt. Umunhum Trail to connect people to the summit.

Completed major construction milestones on the Mt. Umunhum Trail, including the construction of an additional 0.5-mile trail segment, the narrowing of old, abandoned road cuts into a trail and the installation of three new pedestrian bridges and signage.

Completed final preparations for opening Mount Umunhum, installing fencing, signs, horse trough, trail construction and new bridges.

# MAA23-004 Mt. Umunhum Summit Restoration, Parking and Landing Zone Prior Years

Volunteers and contractors installed 1,085 nursery plants. A plant maintenance contractor continues to maintain the site with watering and weeding around previously installed nursery plants.

Completed Phase 2 plant restoration and sign installation.

Created a new contract with Grassroots Ecology's Native Plant Nursery to grow approximately 1,900 native plants and 5 pounds of native grass and forb seed for Phase 1 of the Mount Umunhum revegetation project.

Developed a habitat restoration plan for the Mount Umunhum Summit to enhance the native plant recolonization of the restored mountaintop, incorporating input from the Amah Mutsun tribal group on Native American restoration techniques.

Surveyed and mapped rare plant populations and collected native plant seeds in support of the restoration planting plan.

Completed the construction of the Mount Umunhum Summit restoration project, including a new parking lot, summit shelters, turnaround area, ceremonial circle, ADA pathways, stairs, trail steps and other site amenities. Opened Mount Umunhum Summit area to the public in September 2017.

Developed and created broad interpretive displays for the Mount Umunhum summit project, providing visitors with a substantially greater understanding of the site's rich history.

#### MAA23-005 Mt. Umunhum Guadalupe Creek Overlook and Bridges

#### **Prior Years**

Completed the design, permitting and construction for the Guadalupe Creek overlook (a featured overlook along Mt. Umunhum Trail), including permitting and construction of three new trail bridges along the trail.

Installed the Guadalupe Creek overlook railings and mitigation planting and removed trail debris to open the Woods Trail to the public.

#### MAA23-006 Mt. Umunhum Road Design/Permitting/Construction

#### **Prior Years**

Completed the construction of the Mt. Umunhum Road improvement project, including the installation of new culverts, asphalt concrete paving, drainage structures, gabion retaining walls, guardrail, mass grading and off haul, striping and other road safety improvements. Completion of the project opened public vehicular access to the Mount Umunhum Summit area.

#### MAA23-007 Twin Creeks Land Conservation

#### **Prior Years**

Incorporated an integrated pest management plan into the annual work plan. Completed FY20 invasive weed work.

Incorporated review of long-term management for bat species into ongoing core duties.

Completed site cleanup and demolition of structures to support land preservation and riparian habitat restoration.

Purchased the 153.59-acre Twin Creeks property providing water quality protection within the Los Alamitos Creek watershed, continuity of wildlife habitat corridors and the potential for a future trail connection with Rancho Cañada del Oro Preserve. The Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation provided grant funding in the amount of \$750,000 toward the purchase of \$2,800,000.

#### MAA23-009 Vielbaum Property Acquisition

#### **Prior Years**

Purchased 41.76-acre Vielbaum property as an addition to Sierra Azul Open Space Preserve.

#### **In Support of MAA23**

#### Prior Years

Discussing potential purchase of San Jose Water Company land, which would connect Mount Umunhum to the Cathedral Oaks area of Sierra Azul Preserve.

Completed radar tower repairs at Mount Umunhum, including abatement of all interior hazardous materials, installation of a new roof and roof hatch, exterior concrete and rebar repairs, guardrail installation, gutters and downspout installation, ventilation louvers and wildlife screening installation, installation of interior floor coverings and miscellaneous interior item demolition and disposal. Notice of completion was filed and east summit area was reopened to the public.

Completed the Mt. Umunhum Road Improvements Project in June 2020, which included the installation of paved bicycle turnouts, repairs to roadside drainage scupper, curb repairs, the application of sharrows and installation of a solid double yellow centerline. Installed additional road safety signs and markers.

Completed the basis of design for the radar tower second assessment and presented it to the board in November 2019. The board selected the long-term repair option and approved the development of construction documents for the selected scope of work. Construction documents were in development by the project engineer. Draft 65% plans and specifications were delivered to Midpen in June 2020.

Finalized and recorded the Mount Umunhum public access easement, drainage easements, fee property and patrol/maintenance easement to Mt. Thayer, ensuring legal access to these areas of the preserve.

Continued to respond to wildlife entrapment issues at the Mount Umunhum radar tower.

Submitted an application to nominate Mount Umunhum as one of the 2018 Great Places in California, an award program under the American Planning Association California Chapter in March 2018. The APA Great Places jury selected Mount Umunhum as one of three Great Places in California for 2018.

Stayed in communication with Mount Umunhum neighbors for the summit and road projects before, during and after the grand opening.

Produced a "Stories of Mount Umunhum" audio tour app and made it available for free download on iTunes and Google Play. The app offers a virtual guided tour of the summit.

Held the Mount Umunhum grand opening on Sept. 17, 2017, with extensive media coverage.

#### PROJECT CHALLENGES

None—this portfolio is closed.

#### PROJECT NEXT STEPS

None—this portfolio is closed.

83

### Portfolio 23: Sierra Azul—Mt. Umunhum Public Access and Interpretation Projects

Project	Expenditure Plan	Total Through Prior Period 6/30/22	Current Period 7/1/22 Through 6/30/23	Total Life-to- Date Through 6/30/23	Expenditure Plan Remaining	Percent Expended
Total Portfolio Allocation	\$21,814,891					
23-001—Mt. Umunhum Road and Trail Property Rights		\$1,271,318	\$0	\$1,271,318		
23-002—Mt. Umunhum Trail		\$959,548	\$0	\$959,548		
23-004—Mt. Umunhum Summit Restoration, Parking and Landing Zone		\$10,458,358	\$0	\$10,458,358		
23-005—Mt. Umunhum Guadalupe Creek Overlook and Bridges		\$259,311	\$0	\$259,311		
23-006—Mt. Umunhum Road Design/Permitting/Construction		\$6,282,378	\$0	\$6,282,378		
23-007—Twin Creeks Land Conservation		\$3,735,925	\$0	\$3,735,925		
23-009—Vielbaum Property Acquisition		\$168,053	\$0	\$168,053		
Subtotal	\$21,814,891	\$23,134,891	\$0	\$23,134,891	(\$1,320,000)	106.05%
23-004—Mt. Umunhum Summit Restoration, Parking and Landing Zone Grant Income		(\$570,000)	\$0	(\$570,000)		
23-007—Twin Creeks Land Conservation Grant Income		(\$750,000)	\$0	(\$750,000)		
Grand Total	\$21,814,891	\$21,814,891	\$0	\$21,814,891	\$0	100.00%



## Sierra Azul Rancho de Guadalupe **Family Recreation**



Sierra Azul Open Space Preserve (Basim Jaber)

#### DESCRIPTION

- Open Rancho de Guadalupe to public access.
- Develop accessible multiuse trails with amenities such as parking and family recreation.
- Restore habitat for rare species.
- Protect cultural and natural resources.

Portfolio Allocation: \$10,078,000

Portfolio Expenditures Through 6/30/2023: \$1,591,996

#### NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

#### MAA24-001 Barth Property Purchase

**Prior Years** 

Purchased 4-acre Barth property improving access into the preserve from Hicks Road.

#### MAA24-002 Petersen Property Acquisition

**Prior Years** 

Purchased the 23.41-acre Petersen property to protect grassland habitat and water quality in the Guadalupe Creek watershed

#### MAA24-003 Property Exchange Navid/Bagher

Prior Years

Negotiated a property exchange with Navid/Bagher covering 3.42 acres, further improving access from Hicks Road to the preserve.

#### MAA24-004 Kahn Property Acquisition

**Prior Years** 

Purchased the 24.01-acre Kahn property for open space and watershed protection.

#### In Support of MAA24

**Prior Years** 

Staff further consulted with the Muwekma Ohlone Tribe on a cultural site that relates to a Valley Water exchange agreement within the Rancho de Guadalupe Area of Sierra Azul Preserve.

Staff met with the Muwekma Ohlone Tribe to discuss the protection of a cultural site in the vicinity of Valley Water's proposed staging area.

### Portfolio 24: Sierra Azul—Rancho de Guadalupe Family Recreation

Project	Expenditure Plan	Total Through Prior Period 6/30/22	Current Period 7/1/22 Through 6/30/23	Total Life-to- Date Through 6/30/23	Expenditure Plan Remaining	Percent Expended
Total Portfolio Allocation	\$10,078,000					
24-001—Barth Property Purchase		\$300,035	\$0	\$300,035		
24-002—Petersen Property Acquisition		\$700,603	\$0	\$700,603		
24-003—Property Exchange Navid/Bagher		\$39,184	\$0	\$39,184		
24-004—Kahn Property Acquisition		\$552,174	\$0	\$552,174		
Grand Total	\$10,078,000	\$1,591,996	\$0	\$1,591,996	\$8,486,004	15.80%



Midpen discussed buffer areas with Valley Water for a proposed staging area.

Staff worked with Santa Clara County Planning Department and the Open Space Authority to propose amendment to Santa Clara County zoning ordinance for permitting exemptions for low intensity park and open space parking and trail improvements. Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors approved Zoning Ordinance Amendment allowing exemptions from land use permitting.

Valley Water conducted a natural resources assessment of a potential construction staging area on Midpen property that can be subsequently repurposed into a new public use staging area to access the Rancho de Guadalupe area of the preserve in May 2020.

Pursued land conservation opportunities by continuing to work with a landowner and consulting with County of Santa Clara planning department about possible lot line adjustments or remainder lot legalization along Pheasant Creek.

Continued to negotiate with Valley Water about a land exchange to facilitate widening of Hicks Road near Guadalupe Reservoir and construction of a potential new parking area for the preserve.

#### PROJECT CHALLENGES

Land acquisition requires a willing seller.

#### POTENTIAL NEXT STEPS

Continue negotiations for potential land acquisition.

Complete western pond turtle studies.

### Sierra Azul

Loma Prieta Area Public Access, Regional Trails and Habitat Projects



Sierra Azul Open Space Preserve (Erin Ashford for Midpen)

#### DESCRIPTION

- Provide public access and recreation, including small campground.
- Develop, improve and connect regional multiuse trails to Forest of Nisene Marks State Park, to protected land to the east, and to Mount Umunhum.
- Protect steelhead habitat, rare plants and grasslands, and restore knob cone pine stands.

Portfolio Allocation: \$7,986,000

Portfolio Expenditures Through 6/30/2023: \$2,398,668

#### NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

#### MAA25-001 Burton Land Acquisition

**Prior Years** 

Purchased the 40-acre Burton/Robinson property to protect additional habitat within the Loma Prieta area.

#### MAA25-002 Billingsley Property Acquisition and Site Cleanup

#### **Prior Years**

Successfully bid the project and completed construction to remove site structures, metal shop, shipping containers and all associated debris from the site following the property purchase. Salvaged four existing water tanks and staged at an existing concrete pad for future use. Completed hazardous materials abatement, performed site grading and installed final erosion control.

Purchased the 130.23-acre Billingsley property as an addition to the Loma Prieta area of Sierra Azul Preserve to facilitate the future Mt. Umunhum to Sea regional trail corridor and eliminate an inholding to the Preserve.

Sent letters of intent and negotiations are occurring on a key 35-acre inholding property near the intersection of Mt. Umunhum Road and Loma Prieta Road.

#### MAA25-003 Burton Property Site Cleanup

#### Prior Years

Successfully bid the project and completed the site cleanup, abating and removing two unpermitted structures, two horse corral structures and miscellaneous debris from across the site. Performed site grading and installed final erosion control.

#### Portfolio 25: Sierra Azul—Loma Prieta Area Public Access, Regional Trails and Habitat Projects

Project	Expenditure Plan	Total Through Prior Period 6/30/22	Current Period 7/1/22 Through 6/30/23	Total Life-to- Date Through 6/30/23	Expenditure Plan Remaining	Percent Expended
Total Portfolio Allocation	\$7,986,000					
25-001—Burton Land Acquisition		\$410,150	\$0	\$410,150		
25-002—Billingsley Property Acquisition and Site Cleanup		\$1,936,220	\$0	\$1,936,220		
25-003—Burton Property Site Cleanup		\$52,298	\$0	\$52,298		
Grand Total	\$7,986,000	\$2,398,668	\$0	\$2,398,668	\$5,587,332	30.04%



#### PROJECT CHALLENGES

Land acquisition requires a willing seller.

Researchers discovered new population of Santa Cruz kangaroo rat, an imperiled species. Additional protection measures are being developed.

#### POTENTIAL NEXT STEPS

Finalize acquisition of land rights for the Umunhum to the Sea Trail connection to the Forest of Nisene Marks State Park.

Develop a Habitat and Population Management Plan for the Santa Cruz kangaroo rat, initiate CEQA review and prepare permit applications for habitat improvements.

# Financial Report by Project Measure AA Expenditures

Project	Expenditure Plan	Total Through Prior Period 6/30/22	Current Period 7/1/22 Through 6/30/23	Total Life-to- Date Through 6/30/23	Expenditure Plan Remaining	Percent Expended			
Portfolio 1: Miramontes Ridge—Gateway to the Coast Public Access, Stream Restoration and Agriculture Enhancement									
Total Portfolio Allocation	\$27,774,000								
<b>01-004</b> —Remediation Plan and Ranch Debris Cleanup, Madonna Creek Ranch		\$419,791	\$0	\$419,791					
<b>01-005</b> —Johnston Ranch Land Acquisition		\$82,907	\$8,320	\$91,227					
<b>01-006</b> —Madonna Creek Fish, Water Supply and Bridge Replacement		\$68,417	\$25,674	\$94,091					
Subtotal	\$27,774,000	\$571,115	\$33,994	\$605,109	\$27,168,891	2.18%			
<b>01-004</b> —Remediation Plan and Ranch Debris Cleanup, Madonna Creek Ranch Grant Income		(\$38,925)	\$0	(\$38,925)					
o1 Total	\$27,774,000	\$532,190	\$33,994	\$566,184	\$27,207,816	2.04%			
Portfolio 2: Regional—Bayfro	ont Habitat I	Protection an	d Public Acces	s Partnership	os				
Total Portfolio Allocation	\$5,052,000								
<b>02-001</b> —Cooley Landing Interpretive Facilities Design and Implementation		\$1,283,843	\$0	\$1,283,843					
<b>02-002</b> —Ravenswood Bay Trail Design and Implementation		\$5,588,765	\$0	\$5,588,765					
<b>02-004</b> —Stevens Creek Shoreline Nature Area Restoration		\$0	\$1,721	\$1,721					
Subtotal	\$5,052,000	\$6,872,608	\$1,721	\$6,874,329	(\$1,822,329)	136.07%			
<b>02-002</b> —Ravenswood Bay Trail Design and Implementation Grant Income		(\$3,455,326)	\$0	(\$3,455,326)					
	45 455 444	40 /45 000		40 /50 000	45 400 000				

\$3,417,282

\$1,721

\$3,419,003

\$1,632,997

67.68%

\$5,052,000

Project	Expenditure Plan	Total Through Prior Period 6/30/22	Current Period 7/1/22 Through 6/30/23	Total Life-to- Date Through 6/30/23	Expenditure Plan Remaining	Percent Expended			
Portfolio 3: Purisima Creek Redwoods—Purisima-to-the-Sea Trail, Watershed Protection and Conservation Grazing									
Total Portfolio Allocation	\$13,965,920								
<b>03-001</b> —Purisima Uplands Lot Line Adjustment and Property Transfer		\$425,113	\$0	\$425,113					
<b>03-002</b> —Purisima Uplands Site Clean Up and Soil Remediation		\$268,057	\$24,313	\$292,370					
<b>03-003</b> —Purisima Creek Fence Construction		\$169,190	\$0	\$169,190					
<b>03-004</b> —Harkins Bridge Replacement		\$516,917	\$0	\$516,917					
<b>03-005</b> —Purisima-to-the-Sea Trail and Parking Area–Feasibility Study		\$442,659	\$151,681	\$594,340					
<b>03-006</b> —South Cowell Upland Land Conservation		\$4,936,707	\$1,257,874	\$6,194,581					
<b>03-008</b> —Rieser-Nelson Land Purchase		\$16,715	\$0	\$16,715					
Subtotal	\$13,965,920	\$6,775,358	\$1,433,868	\$8,209,226	\$5,756,694	58.78%			
<b>03-005</b> —Purisima-to-the-Sea Trail and Parking Area-Feasibility Study Grant Income		(\$154,063)	(\$86,769)	(\$240,832)					
03 Total	\$13,965,920	\$6,621,295	\$1,347,099	\$7,968,394	\$5,997,526	57.06%			
Portfolio 4: El Corte de Made	ra Creek—Bi	ke Trail and V	Vater Quality I	Projects					
Total Portfolio Allocation	\$8,376,000								
<b>04-001</b> —El Corte de Madera Creek Gallaway Property Purchase		\$57,340	\$0	\$57,340					
<b>04-002</b> —El Corte de Madera Creek Watershed Protection Final Phase		\$235,934	\$0	\$235,934					
<b>04-003</b> —El Corte de Madera Creek Watershed Protection Reassessment		\$45,507	\$0	\$45,507					
<b>04-004</b> —El Corte de Madera Creek Oljon Trail Implementation		\$627,387	\$0	\$627,387					
04 Total	\$8,376,000	\$966,168	\$0	\$966,168	\$7,409,832	11.53%			

Project	Expenditure	Total Through	Current Period	Total Life-to-	Expenditure	Percent
	Plan	Prior Period	7/1/22 Through	Date Through	Plan	Expended
		6/30/22	6/30/23	6/30/23	Remaining	

# Portfolio 5: La Honda Creek—Upper Area Recreation, Habitat Restoration and Conservation Grazing Projects

Total Portfolio Allocation	\$11,733,000					
<b>05-001</b> —La Honda Creek Land Conservation Opportunities		\$1,756,093	\$0	\$1,756,093		
<b>05-002</b> —Upper La Honda Creek Grazing Infrastructure		\$297,432	\$0	\$297,432		
<b>05-005</b> —La Honda Creek Red Barn Parking Area and Easy Access Trail		\$327,514	\$0	\$327,514		
<b>05-007</b> —La Honda Creek Phase 2 Trail Connections		\$28,079	\$36,062	\$64,141		
<b>05-008</b> —La Honda Creek White Barn Structural Rehabilitation		\$244,312	\$12,537	\$256,849		
<b>05-009</b> —La Honda Creek Redwood Cabin Removal and Site Restoration		\$207,855	\$258,063	\$465,918		
<b>05-010</b> —Restoration Forestry Demonstration Project		\$36,767	\$50,807	\$87,574		
<b>05-011</b> —Lone Madrone Ranch Fence Installation		\$63,363	\$0	\$63,363		
<b>05-012</b> —Phase 2-Paulin Bridge Replacements		\$0	\$457	\$457		
<b>05-015</b> —Eberhard Land Acquisition		\$0	\$26,305	\$26,305		
05 Total	\$11,733,000	\$2,961,415	\$384,231	\$3,345,646	\$8,387,354	28.51%

## Portfolio 6: Windy Hill—Trail Improvements, Preservation and Hawthorns Area Historic Partnership

05 Total	\$12,740,000	\$148,578	\$80,948	\$229,526	\$12,510,474	1.80%
<b>06-002</b> —Hawthorns Area Plan		\$148,578	\$80,948	\$229,526		
Total Portfolio Allocation	\$12,740,000					

Project	Expenditure	Total Through	Current Period	Total Life-to-	Expenditure	Percent		
Project	Plan	Prior Period 6/30/22	7/1/22 Through 6/30/23	Date Through 6/30/23	Plan Remaining	Expended		
Portfolio 7: La Honda Creek—Driscoll Ranch Public Access, Endangered Wildlife and Conservation Grazing								
Total Portfolio Allocation	\$14,825,000							
<b>07-001</b> —Event Center and Apple Orchard Purchase		\$6,007,601	\$0	\$6,007,601				
<b>07-002</b> —Fisheries Restoration, Design and Permitting		\$727,716	\$0	\$727,716				
<b>07-003</b> —Fisheries Enhancement, Apple Orchard		\$16,152	\$0	\$16,152				
<b>07-004</b> —Fisheries Enhancement, Event Center		\$50,000	\$0	\$50,000				
<b>07-005</b> —Grazing and Water Systems Infrastructure		\$189,423	\$0	\$189,423				
07-006—Cunha Land Purchase		\$3,080,705	\$0	\$3,080,705				
<b>07-007</b> —Demolitions, Wool Ranch House/Sears Ranch Road		\$357,803	\$0	\$357,803				
<b>07-008</b> —Lower Turtle Pond Repair- La Honda Creek		\$46,402	\$735	\$47,137				
<b>07-009</b> —Sears Ranch Parking Areas		\$1,147,554	\$0	\$1,147,554				
07-010—Sears Ranch Road Repair		\$557,044	\$0	\$557,044				
<b>07-011</b> —Lower La Honda Creek Phase 2 Loop Trails		\$475,877	\$0	\$475,877				
Subtotal	\$14,825,000	\$12,656,277	\$735	\$12,657,012	\$2,167,988	85.38%		
<b>07-002</b> —Fisheries Restoration, Design and Permitting Grant Income		(\$230,970)	\$0	(\$230,970)				
07 Total	\$14,825,000	\$12,425,307	\$735	\$12,426,042	\$2,398,958	83.82%		

# Portfolio 8: La Honda Creek and Russian Ridge—Preservation of Upper San Gregorio Watershed and Ridge Trail Completion

Total Portfolio Allocation	\$15,347,000					
<b>08-001</b> —Folger Property Purchase		\$2,153,910	\$0	\$2,153,910		
o8 Total	\$15,347,000	\$2,153,910	\$0	\$2,153,910	\$13,193,090	14.03%

Project	Expenditure Plan	Total Through Prior Period 6/30/22	Current Period 7/1/22 Through 6/30/23	Total Life-to- Date Through 6/30/23	Expenditure Plan Remaining	Percent Expended
Portfolio 9: Russian Ridge—F	Public Recrea	ation, Grazing	g and Wildlife	Protection Pr	ojects	
Total Portfolio Allocation	\$5,560,000					
<b>09-001</b> —Russian Ridge Grazing Infrastructure		\$174,416	\$0	\$174,416		
<b>09-003</b> —Russian Ridge Mindego Pond Improvement		\$448,493	\$0	\$448,493		
<b>09-004</b> —Mindego Hill Trail Construction		\$67,403	\$0	\$67,403		
<b>09-006</b> —Mindego Ranch South Pasture		\$106,475	\$0	\$106,475		
Subtotal	\$5,560,000	\$796,787	\$0	\$796,787	\$4,763,213	14.33%
<b>09-003</b> —Russian Ridge Mindego Pond Improvement Grant Income		(\$168,585)	\$0	(\$168,585)		
09 Total	\$5,560,000	\$628,202	\$0	\$628,202	\$4,931,798	11.30%
Portfolio 10: Coal Creek—Red		Road for Trail	Use			
Total Portfolio Allocation	\$8,017,000					
10-001—Alpine Road Regional Trail, Coal Creek		\$554,434	\$1,771,052	\$2,325,486		
Subtotal	\$8,017,000	\$554,434	\$1,771,052	\$2,325,486	\$5,691,514	29.01%
10-001—Alpine Road Regional Trail, Coal Creek (Grant Income)		\$0	(\$272,211)	(\$272,211)		
10 Total	\$8,017,000	\$554,434	\$1,498,841	\$2,053,275	\$5,963,725	25.61%
Portfolio 11: Rancho San Anto	onio—Interp	oretive Impro	vements, Refu	ırbishing and	Transit Solut	ions
Total Portfolio Allocation	\$10,811,000					
<b>11-001</b> —New Trails to Connect Quarry Trail to Black Mountain Trail		\$728	\$0	\$728		
<b>11-002</b> —Rancho San Antonio, Deer Hollow Farm: White Barn Rehabilitation		\$512,505	\$0	\$512,505		
<b>11-003</b> —Ranch San Antonio (RSA) Multimodal Access- Implementation		\$0	\$49,260	\$49,260		
Subtotal	\$10,811,000	\$513,233	\$49,260	\$562,493	\$10,248,507	5.20%
<b>11-002</b> —Rancho San Antonio, Deer Hollow Farm: White Barn Rehabilitation Grant Income		(\$230,881)	\$0	(\$230,881)		
11 Total	\$10,811,000	\$282,352	\$49,260	\$331,612	\$10,479,388	3.07%
Portfolio 12: Peninsula and S	outh Bay Cit	ies—Partner	to Complete N	Middle Stever	ıs Creek Trail	
Total Portfolio Allocation	\$1,038,000					
12 Total	\$1,038,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,038,000	0.00%

Project	Expenditure Plan	Total Through Prior Period	Current Period 7/1/22 Through	Total Life-to- Date Through	Expenditure Plan	Percent Expended
		6/30/22	6/30/23	6/30/23	Remaining	
Portfolio 13: Cloverdale Rand	:h—Wildlife	Protection, G	razing and Tra	il Connection	าร	
Total Portfolio Allocation	\$15,712,000					
<b>13-003</b> —Cloverdale Ranch Land Acquisition		\$0	\$15,609,689	\$15,609,689		
Subtotal	\$15,712,000	\$0	\$15,609,689	\$15,609,689	\$102,311	99.35%
13-003—Cloverdale Ranch Land Acquisition (Grant Income)		\$0	(\$9,928,282)	(\$9,928,282)		
13 Total	\$15,712,000	\$0	\$5,681,407	\$5,681,407	\$10,030,593	36.16%
Portfolio 14: Regional—Trail		and Campgr	ounds			
Total Portfolio Allocation	\$3,966,000					
14 Total	\$3,966,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,966,000	0.00%
Portfolio 15: Regional—Redv	vood Protect	tion and Salm	on Fishery Co	nservation		
Total Portfolio Allocation	\$50,728,000					
<b>15-001</b> —Conservation Easement Upper Alpine Ranch Area		\$2,508,695	\$0	\$2,508,695		
15-002—Conley Property Purchase		\$509,855	\$0	\$509,855		
<b>15-003</b> —Long Ridge Property Addition		\$14,500	\$0	\$14,500		
<b>15-004</b> —Irish Ridge Land Conservation		\$77,768	\$0	\$77,768		
15 Total	\$50,728,000	\$3,110,818	\$0	\$3,110,818	\$47,617,182	6.13%
Portfolio 16: Long Ridge—Tra	s5,140,000	tion and Hab	tat Restoratio	on Projects (S	aratoga)	
16 Total	\$5,140,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$5,140,000	0.00%
10 IOLAI	\$5,140,000	30	30	30	33,140,000	0.00%
Portfolio 17: Regional—Com	plete Upper	Stevens Cree	«Trail			
Total Portfolio Allocation	\$7,760,000					
<b>17-001</b> —Land Conservation: Last Piece Upper Stevens Creek		\$1,494,552	\$0	\$1,494,552		
<b>17-002</b> —Demolition & Restoration: Lobner/Lysons		\$461,321	\$0	\$461,321		
<b>17-004</b> —Stevens Creek Nature Trail Bridges, Monte Bello		\$430,569	\$0	\$430,569		
Subtotal	\$7,760,000	\$2,386,442	\$0	\$2,386,442	\$5,373,558	30.75%
<b>17-002</b> —Lysons Property Purchase Grant Income (50% of purchase price)		(\$740,000)	\$0	(\$740,000)		

Project	Expenditure Plan	Total Through Prior Period 6/30/22	Current Period 7/1/22 Through 6/30/23	Total Life-to- Date Through 6/30/23	Expenditure Plan Remaining	Percent Expended			
Portfolio 18: South Bay Foothills—Saratoga-to-the-Sea Trail and Wildlife Corridor									
Total Portfolio Allocation	\$1,164,189								
<b>18-001</b> —San Jose Water Land Purchase		\$3,850	\$0	\$3,850					
<b>18-002</b> —Saratoga-to-the-Sea Regional Trail Connection		\$1,160,337	\$0	\$1,160,337					
18 Total	\$1,164,189	\$1,164,187	\$0	\$1,164,187	\$2	100.00%			
Portfolio 19: El Sereno—Dog	Trails and Co	onnections							
Total Portfolio Allocation	\$2,254,000								
<b>19-001</b> —Gupta/Khan Property Purchase Grant Income		\$406,553	\$0	\$406,553					
<b>19-002</b> —Dunham-Bohlman Easement		\$19,997	\$0	\$19,997					
<b>19-003</b> —Haight-Perry Low Value Land Acquisition		\$52,977	\$0	\$52,977					
<b>19-004</b> —San Jose Water Co Land Purchase		\$1,085,237	\$0	\$1,085,237					
Subtotal	\$2,254,000	\$1,564,764	\$0	\$1,564,764	\$689,236	69.42%			
<b>19-001</b> —Gupta/Khan Property Purchase Grant Income		(\$191,577)	\$0	(\$191,577)					
<b>19-004</b> —San Jose Water Co Land Grant Income		(\$1,075,000)	\$0	(\$1,075,000)					
19 Total	\$2,254,000	\$298,187	\$0	\$298,187	\$1,955,813	13.23%			
Portfolio 20: South Bay Footh	nills—Wildli	fe Passage an	d Ridge Trail Ir	mprovements	5				
Total Portfolio Allocation	\$13,966,000								
<b>20-001</b> —Wildlife Corridor: Highway 17 Crossing		\$780,237	\$277,326	\$1,057,563					
<b>20-002</b> —Bay Area Ridge Trail: Highway 17 Crossing		\$976,145	\$550,930	\$1,527,075					
Subtotal	\$13,966,000	\$1,756,382	\$828,256	\$2,584,638	\$11,381,362	18.51%			
20-001—Wildlife Corridor: Highway 17 Crossing Grant Income		(\$1,280,497)	(\$590,991)	(\$1,871,488)					
20 Total	\$13,966,000	\$475,885	\$237,265	\$713,150	\$13,252,850	5.11%			

Project	Expenditure Plan	Total Through Prior Period 6/30/22	Current Period 7/1/22 Through 6/30/23	Total Life-to- Date Through 6/30/23	Expenditure Plan Remaining	Percent Expended				
Portfolio 21: Bear Creek Redv	Portfolio 21: Bear Creek Redwoods—Public Recreation and Interpretive Projects									
Total Portfolio Allocation	\$17,478,000									
<b>21-001</b> —Moody Gulch Fence & Gate Improvements		\$847	\$0	\$847						
<b>21-004</b> —Bear Creek Stables Site Plan Implementation		\$834,245	\$59,476	\$893,721						
<b>21-005</b> —Bear Creek Redwoods Public Access		\$5,548,003	\$0	\$5,548,003						
<b>21-006</b> —Bear Creek Redwoods Alma College Cultural Landscape Rehab		\$5,097,802	\$303,001	\$5,400,803						
<b>21-007</b> —Bear Creek Redwoods Preserve Plan Invasive Weed Treatment		\$1,192,400	\$36,101	\$1,228,501						
<b>21-008</b> —Bear Creek Redwoods Ponds Restoration and Water Rights		\$681,517	\$0	\$681,517						
<b>21-009</b> —Bear Creek Redwoods Webb Creek Bridge		\$487,492	\$0	\$487,492						
<b>21-010</b> —Bear Creek Redwoods Landfill Characterization and Remediation		\$132,135	\$93,735	\$225,870						
<b>21-011</b> —Phase 2 Trail Improvements, Bear Creek Redwoods OSP		\$860,395	\$732,738	\$1,593,133						
<b>21-012</b> —Bear Creek Redwood Tree Restoration		\$90,915	\$0	\$90,915						
Subtotal	\$17,478,000	\$14,925,751	\$1,225,051	\$16,150,802	\$1,327,198	92.41%				
<b>21-006</b> —Bear Creek Redwoods Alma College Cultural Landscape Rehab Grant Income		(\$666,518)	(\$748,072)	(\$1,414,590)						
21-007—Bear Creek Redwoods Preserve Plan Invasive Weed Treatment Grant Income		(\$515,000)	\$0	(\$515,000)						
21-008—Bear Creek Redwoods Ponds Restoration and Water Rights Grant Income		(\$307,620)	(\$160,171)	(\$467,791)						
<b>21-009</b> —Bear Creek Redwoods Webb Creek Bridge Grant Income		(\$149,500)	\$0	(\$149,500)						
21 Total	\$17,478,000	\$13,287,113	\$316,808	\$13,603,921	\$3,874,079	77.83%				

96

Project	Expenditure Plan	Total Through Prior Period 6/30/22	Current Period 7/1/22 Through 6/30/23	Total Life-to- Date Through 6/30/23	Expenditure Plan Remaining	Percent Expended	
Portfolio 22: Sierra Azul—Cathedral Oaks Public Access and Conservation Projects							
Total Portfolio Allocation	\$6,714,000						
<b>22-001</b> —Hendrys Creek Property Land Restoration		\$513,343	\$0	\$513,343			
22-003—Freudenberg Land Purchase		\$540,587	\$0	\$540,587			
<b>22-004</b> —Beatty Parking Area and Trail Connections		\$173,807	\$0	\$173,807			
<b>22-005</b> —Beatty House Site Security Improvements		\$47,855	\$640	\$48,495			
22-006—San Jose Water Lands		\$0	\$720,178	\$720,178			
Subtotal	\$6,714,000	\$1,275,592	\$720,818	\$1,996,410	\$4,717,590	29.74%	
<b>22-001</b> —Hendrys Creek Property Land Restoration Grant Income		(\$336,228)	(\$181,474)	(\$517,702)			
22 Total	\$6,714,000	\$939,364	\$539,344	\$1,478,708	\$5,235,292	22.02%	

### Portfolio 23: Sierra Azul—Mount Umunhum Public Access and Interpretation Projects

Total Portfolio Allocation	\$21,814,891					
<b>23-001</b> —Mt. Umunhum Road and Trail Property Rights		\$1,271,318	\$0	\$1,271,318		
23-002—Mt. Umunhum Trail		\$959,548	\$0	\$959,548		
<b>23-004</b> —Mt. Umunhum Summit Restoration, Parking and Landing Zone		\$10,458,358	\$0	\$10,458,358		
<b>23-005</b> —Mt. Umunhum Guadalupe Creek Overlook and Bridges		\$259,311	\$0	\$259,311		
<b>23-006</b> —Mt. Umunhum Road Design/Permitting/Construction		\$6,282,378	\$0	\$6,282,378		
<b>23-007</b> —Twin Creeks Land Conservation		\$3,735,925	\$0	\$3,735,925		
23-009—Vielbaum Property Acquisition		\$168,053	\$0	\$168,053		
Subtotal	\$21,814,891	\$23,134,891	\$0	\$23,134,891	(\$1,320,000)	106.05%
<b>23-004</b> —Mt. Umunhum Summit Restoration, Parking and Landing Zone Grant Income		(\$570,000)	\$0	(\$570,000)		
<b>23-007</b> —Twin Creeks Land Conservation Grant Income		(\$750,000)	\$0	(\$750,000)		
23 Total	\$21,814,891	\$21,814,891	\$0	\$21,814,891	\$0	100.00%

Project	Expenditure Plan	Total Through Prior Period 6/30/22	Current Period 7/1/22 Through 6/30/23	Total Life-to- Date Through 6/30/23	Expenditure Plan Remaining	Percent Expended
Portfolio 24: Sierra Azul—Ra	ncho de Gua	dalupe Family	/ Recreation			
Total Portfolio Allocation	\$10,078,000					
<b>24-001</b> —Barth Property Purchase		\$300,035	\$0	\$300,035		
<b>24-002</b> —Petersen Property Acquisition		\$700,603	\$0	\$700,603		
<b>24-003</b> —Property Exchange Navid/ Bagher		\$39,184	\$0	\$39,184		
24-004—Kahn Property Acquisition		\$552,174	\$0	\$552,174		
-4 004 Rammi roperty requisition			,,	, ,		
24 Total	\$10,078,000	\$1,591,996	\$0	\$1,591,996	\$8,486,004	15.80%
		\$1,591,996	\$0	\$1,591,996		
24 Total		\$1,591,996	\$0	\$1,591,996		
24 Total  Portfolio 25: Sierra Azul—Loi	ma Prieta Ar	\$1,591,996	\$0	\$1,591,996		
Portfolio 25: Sierra Azul—Lor Total Portfolio Allocation	ma Prieta Ar	\$1,591,996 ea Public Acco	so ess, Regional T	\$1,591,996 rails and Hab		
Portfolio 25: Sierra Azul—Lor Total Portfolio Allocation 25-001—Burton Land Acquisition 25-002—Billingsley Property	ma Prieta Ar	\$1,591,996 ea Public Acco	ess, Regional T	\$1,591,996 rails and Hab \$410,150		
Portfolio 25: Sierra Azul—Lor Total Portfolio Allocation 25-001—Burton Land Acquisition 25-002—Billingsley Property Acquisition and Site Cleanup	ma Prieta Ar	\$1,591,996 ea Public Acco	ess, Regional T	\$1,591,996  rails and Hab  \$410,150  \$1,936,220		
Portfolio 25: Sierra Azul—Lor Total Portfolio Allocation 25-001—Burton Land Acquisition 25-002—Billingsley Property Acquisition and Site Cleanup 25-003—Burton Property Site Cleanup	<b>ma Prieta Ar</b> \$7,986,000	\$1,591,996  ea Public Acco \$410,150 \$1,936,220 \$52,298	so ess, Regional T so so	\$1,591,996  rails and Hab  \$410,150  \$1,936,220  \$52,298	itat Projects	
Portfolio 25: Sierra Azul—Lor Total Portfolio Allocation 25-001—Burton Land Acquisition 25-002—Billingsley Property Acquisition and Site Cleanup 25-003—Burton Property Site Cleanup 25 Total	ma Prieta Arc \$7,986,000 \$7,986,000	\$1,591,996  ea Public Acco \$410,150 \$1,936,220 \$52,298 \$2,398,668	\$0 ess, Regional T \$0 \$0 \$0 \$0 \$0	\$1,591,996  rails and Hab  \$410,150  \$1,936,220  \$52,298  \$2,398,668	itat Projects \$5,587,332	30.04%



# **MAA Ballot Language**



NO

To improve access to hiking and biking opportunities, protect and preserve redwood forests, natural open spaces, the scenic beauty of our region and coastline, critical wildlife habitat, restore creeks to protect water quality, and reduce forest fire risk; shall Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District be authorized to issue up to \$300 million in bonds, at a tax rate not to exceed \$3.18 per \$100,000 of assessed value of property owned, with expenditures verified by an independent citizen oversight committee?

#### **MAA Votes by County**

County		es	N	0
County	Votes	%	Votes	
Santa Clara	50,977	68.8%	23,109	31.2%
Santa Cruz	1	50.0%	1	50.0%
San Mateo	24,783	66.3%	12,606	33.7%
Total	75,761	68.0%	35,716	32.0%



Original MAA Promotional Graphic

#### **ORDINANCE NO. 2014-02**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE MIDPENINSULA REGIONAL OPEN SPACE DISTRICT CALLING AN ELECTION AND ORDERING THE SUBMISSION OF A PROPOSITION FOR INCURRING BONDED INDEBTEDNESS NOT TO EXCEED \$300 MILLION FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING PUBLIC ACCESS AND ACQUIRING, RESTORING AND PRESERVING OPEN SPACE THROUGHOUT THE DISTRICT, TO THE QUALIFIED VOTERS OF THE MIDPENINSULA REGIONAL OPEN SPACE DISTRICT AT THE GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON JUNE 3, 2014

WHEREAS, on February 12, 2014, the Board of Directors of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (the "District") adopted, by a unanimous vote of all five members of said Board of Directors present (two absent), a Resolution entitled "Determination that the Public Interest and Necessity Demand Providing Public Access, and Acquiring, Restoring and Preserving Open Space Throughout the District, with Financing Through the Issuance of General Obligation Bonds" (the "Resolution"); and

WHEREAS, in order to provide for the issuance by the District of its general obligation bonds to finance the costs of providing public access and acquiring, restoring and preserving open space throughout the District, it is necessary for this Board of Directors to pass an ordinance ordering the submission of the proposition of incurring bonded indebtedness for such purpose to the qualified voters of the District at an election; and

WHEREAS, a General Election for the District is to be held on Tuesday, June 3, 2014; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Directors desires to submit to the voters at said election the proposition of incurring bonded indebtedness as hereinafter set forth; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Directors desires to consolidate the District election with the General Election to be held in the District on June 3, 2014.

Now therefore, the Board of Directors of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District does ordain as follows:

**SECTION 1.** That a district election is hereby called and ordered to be held in the District on June 3, 2014, at which election there shall be submitted to the qualified voters the proposition set forth below:

**SECTION 2.** That said proposition shall appear on the ballot for said district election in the following form:

	YES	To improve access to hiking and biking opportunities, protect and preserve redwood forests,
		natural open spaces, the scenic beauty of our region and coastline, critical wildlife habitat, restore
		creeks to protect water quality, and reduce forest fire risk; shall Midpeninsula Regional Open
		Space District be authorized to issue up to \$300 million in bonds, at a tax rate not to exceed
		\$3.18 per \$100,000 of assessed value of property owned, with expenditures verified by an
		independent citizen oversight committee?

The Board does hereby submit to the qualified voters of the District, at said district election, this Ordinance and the proposition set forth above.

**SECTION 3.** The indebtedness to be incurred by the District shall be for the object and purpose set forth in the Resolution, namely, to provide public access and acquire, restore and preserve open space throughout the District and to implement a set of priority actions as described in Exhibit A. The object and purpose of the priority actions shall be to improve access to hiking and biking opportunities, protect and preserve redwood forests, natural open spaces, the scenic beauty of the region and coastline, critical wildlife habitat, restore creeks to protect water quality, and reduce forest fire risk. Priority actions will be distributed throughout the District.

All of the foregoing described objects and purposes are referred to herein as the "Expenditure Plan" (Exhibit A) for purposes of this Ordinance.

The indebtedness incurred under this Ordinance shall include the cost of legal and other fees incidental to or connected with the authorization, issuance and sale of the general obligation bonds.

- **SECTION 4.** The District projects that property tax rates will not exceed an additional \$3.18 per year per \$100,000 of assessed valuation, as described more completely in the Tax Rate Statement that is attached hereto as Exhibit "B." The repayment projections are based on reasonable growth assumptions, taking into account Article XIIIA of the California Constitution. The foregoing provision shall not be construed to limit the power and duty of the Board of Directors to cause to be levied and collected a tax sufficient to fulfill its obligations to pay debt service on bonds in any fiscal year.
- **SECTION 5.** The estimated cost of providing public access and acquiring, restoring and preserving open space throughout the District as outlined in the Expenditure Plan is not to exceed Three Hundred Million Dollars (\$300,000,000). The estimated cost includes the bond issuance fees.
- **SECTION 6.** The principal amount of the general obligation bonds to be issued for the Expenditure Plan is Three Hundred Million Dollars (\$300,000,000).
- **SECTION 7.** The rate of interest to be paid on the bonds to be issued for the Expenditure Plan shall not exceed the State of California (the 'State') maximum allowed rate of twelve percent (12%) per annum (unless the maximum interest rate for general obligation bonds of the District shall hereafter be increased by the Legislature of the State, in which event said maximum fixed by said Legislature shall apply).
- **SECTION 8.** Under sections 53410 and 53411 of the California Government Code, the bonds shall be for the specific purposes authorized in this Ordinance and the proceeds of such bonds will be applied only to the Expenditure Plan. The District will comply with the requirements of section 53410 of the California Government Code.

An annual report will be prepared by the District consistent with the accountability measures as required in California Government Code section 53411. An Independent Citizen Oversight Committee will be formed to verify annual expenditures of bond proceeds. The Citizen Oversight Committee will consist of seven at-large members, all of whom shall be District residents.

**SECTION 9.** The Board of Directors finds that adoption of this Ordinance creating a government funding mechanism or other government fiscal activity does not constitute a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (14 Cal. Code. Regs., section 15378(b)(4)). The final design of and alternatives considered for any particular project shall be subject to CEQA as required by law, and all environmental review required by CEQA shall be completed before any specific project is commenced.

**SECTION 10.** The District proposes to issue and sell General Obligation Bonds of the District pursuant to section 5568 of the California Public Resources Code, Article 9, commencing with section 43600 of Chapter 4 of Division 4 of Title 4 of the California Government Code and/or Article 4.5, commencing with section 53506, of Chapter 3 of Part 1 of Division 2 of Title 5 of the California Government Code, in one or more series, in the maximum amount and for the objects and purposes set forth above, if two-thirds of all qualified voters voting on the proposition set forth above vote in favor thereof. The bonds are to be general obligations of the District, payable from and secured by taxes levied and collected in the manner prescribed by laws of the State of California. All of said bonds are to be equally and ratably secured, without priority, by the taxing power of the District.

**SECTION 11.** The polls for said election shall be open the day of said election in accordance with the California Elections Code.

SECTION 12. The election hereby called for the date hereinbefore specified shall be and is hereby, ordered consolidated with the Statewide General Election to be held within the District on said date, and within the territory affected by the consolidation, the election shall be held and conducted, election officials appointed, voting precincts designated, ballots printed, polls opened and closed, ballots counted and returned, returns canvassed, results declared, and all other proceedings incidental to and connected with the election shall be regulated and done in accordance with the provisions of law regulating the Statewide general election and specified herein. The Board of Supervisors of the County of San Mateo, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Clara and the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Cruz are hereby requested to order the consolidation of the election hereby called with said Statewide general election, and the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Mateo, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Clara and the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Cruz are hereby authorized to canvass the returns of said election, and said election shall be held in all respects as if there were only one election and only one form of ballot shall be used in each of the affected counties. Each of said Board of Supervisors shall certify the results of the canvass of the returns of said district election in each of the respective counties to the Board of Directors of this District, which shall thereafter declare the results thereof. The proposition submitted by this Ordinance shall be designated on each ballot by a letter printed on the left margin of the square containing the description of the proposition, as provided in the California Elections Code.

**SECTION 13.** All persons qualified to vote at general district elections in the District upon the date of the election herein provided for shall be qualified to vote upon the proposition submitted at said election.

**SECTION 14.** Ballots for the election shall be in form and in the number as required by law. On said ballots, in addition to any other printed matter which may be required by law, two (2) voting squares shall be set off to the right of the proposition submitted at the election, in the manner provided by law, one having the word "YES" printed before it, and the other having the word "NO" printed before it.

**SECTION 15.** Each voter to vote for the proposition and for the incurring of said indebtedness shall stamp or write a cross, or indicate by hold punch or other means, in the blank space opposite the word "YES" on the ballot to the right of the proposition; and each voter to vote against the proposition and against the incurring of said indebtedness shall stamp or write a cross, or indicate by hold punch or other means, in the blank space opposite the word "NO" on the ballot to the right of the proposition.

**SECTION 16.** The District hereby requests and directs that San Mateo, Santa Clara and Santa Cruz Counties print the full text of this Ordinance, inclusive of attachments in each County's respective Voter Information Pamphlet. The Clerk of the Board of the District is hereby authorized and directed to take such

actions and fill out such forms as is necessary to accomplish this direction for publication of the full text of the proposition in the Voter Information Pamphlets.

**SECTION 17.** The District hereby requests and directs that San Mateo, Santa Clara and Santa Cruz Counties allow arguments for and against this measure to be filed pursuant to Elections Code section 9282 *et seq.* The Board adopts the provisions of Elections Code section 9285 to allow rebuttal arguments for the ballot measure.

**SECTION 18.** The District will reimburse separately San Mateo, Santa Clara and Santa Cruz Counties for the actual costs incurred by each of the county's elections officials in conducting the election upon receipt of a bill stating the amount due as determined by the elections officials pursuant to State law.

**SECTION 19.** This Ordinance shall be published once a day for at least seven days in a newspaper printed, published and circulated at least six (6) days a week in the District, or once a week for two weeks in a newspaper printed, published and circulated less than six (6) days a week in the District. The first of said publications shall, in either event, be within thirty (30) days after the adoption of this ordinance. The Clerk of the Board of the District is hereby authorized and directed to make said publications and to transmit, for receipt no later than March 7, 2014, a certified copy of this Ordinance to the appropriate officials of San Mateo County, Santa Clara County and Santa Cruz County responsible for preparing the ballots for said election.

**SECTION 20.** This Ordinance shall become effective immediately as an ordinance relating to an election pursuant to Government Code section 36937(a) upon its adoption by two-thirds vote of all the members of this Board of Directors.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Board of Directors held on February 12, 2014 and adopted as an ordinance of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District at a regular meeting of the Board of Directors on February 26, 2014, by the following vote:

CYR, HANKO, HARRIS, HASSETT KISHIMOTO, RIFFLE, SIEMENS

NOES: NONE ABSTAIN: NONE ABSENT: NONE	
ATTEST:	APPROVED:
/s/ Larry Hasset	/s/ Cecily Harris
Secretary Board of Directors	President Board of Directors
APPROVED AS TO FORM:	
/s/ Sheryl Schaffner	
General Counsel	

AYES:

	I, the Dis	strict Cler	k of the Midp	eninsula Reg	ional Oper	Space Di	strict, h	ereby cer	tify that the	above is a
true	and correct	copy of	an ordinance	duly adopted	d by the B	oard of D	irectors	of the M	Iidpeninsula	Regional
Ope	n Space Dis	trict by th	e above vote	at a meeting t	hereof duly	y held and	called o	on the abo	ove day.	

/s/ Jennifer Woodworth	
District Clerk	

# EXHIBIT A Expenditure Plan

**TITLE**: To improve access to hiking and biking opportunities, protect and preserve redwood forests, natural open spaces, the scenic beauty of the region and coastline, critical wildlife habitat, restore creeks to protect water quality, and reduce forest fire risk.

#### 1. SUMMARY

Founded by voters in 1972, the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District ("District") has protected, in perpetuity, 62,000 acres of open space containing 26 preserves and more than 220 miles of trails that serve Santa Clara, San Mateo, and a portion of Santa Cruz counties. The District's preserves provide a scenic backdrop to the region offering residents places for hiking, biking, horseback riding, or simply connecting with nature, close to home. Throughout its 41-year history the District has used taxpayer dollars wisely, leveraging funds to bring in state, federal, and private grant money, and providing annual audits in a transparent public process. The District is governed by a publicly elected board of directors.

Over the years, the number of acres and miles of trails the District owns and maintains have steadily increased, as have the number of visitors and the cost of land. Expanding public access, restoring sensitive environments and purchasing land are costly, yet are high priorities for the public.

To reinforce and expand these types of services and resources, the Board of Directors is placing this funding measure on the June 3, 2014 ballot.

\$300 million in General Obligation Bonds will be sold. The bond repayment would be financed by an annual property tax override based on a tax rate not to exceed \$3.18 per \$100,000 of assessed value of property owned per year.

This Expenditure Plan outlines priority actions identified by the public and proposed by the District to be funded with bond proceeds. Part B describes each priority action and describes what goals it will achieve. Part C of the Expenditure Plan describes the establishment of an independent Citizen Oversight Committee.

#### 2. PRIORITY ACTIONS

The priority actions listed below are the result of a process that combined scientific analysis with broad public engagement to create a shared vision for the future of the District and the region's open space. Each priority action may address one or more of the following as more specifically described in the table **Priority Actions**, **By Region** attached to this Expenditure Plan:

- Improved hiking, biking, and equestrian opportunities
- Protection and preservation of redwoods, natural open spaces, the scenic beauty of the region and coastline, critical habitats
- Restoration of creeks to protect water quality
- Reduction of forest fire risk

Priority actions are distributed throughout the District as depicted on the map attached to this Expenditure Plan.

If approved, the bond proceeds would be allocated to fund the capital improvements necessary to implement the priority actions listed below. Note: the number associated with each priority action does not denote its priority level, but is only used for identification purposes to correlate with the locations depicted on the map.

The estimates associated with each priority action are in 2014 dollars. These are estimates only, and the actual costs may change in implementation.

The District may annually review and propose amendments to the Expenditure Plan to provide for the use of additional federal, state and local funds, to account for unexpected revenues, or to take into consideration unforeseen circumstances. The District shall act on no more than one package of amendments each fiscal year. The District shall establish a process for proposed Expenditure Plan amendment(s) which ensures that the Citizen Oversight Committee is included in the development. Upon completion of this process, amendments(s) to the Expenditure Plan must be passed by a two-thirds majority of the District Board in a publicly noticed meeting.

#### PRIORITY ACTIONS, BY REGION

## South Bay Foothills

(Los Gatos, Monte Sereno, Saratoga, and Santa Cruz Mountains)

- 18 South Bay Foothills: Saratoga-to-Sea Trail and Wildlife Corridor
  Protect wildlife corridor along Highway 9. Connect trail to Saratoga-to-Sea Trail and Skyline-to-Sea Trail.
  \$1,365,000
- 19 El Sereno: Dog Trails and Connections
  Provide infrastructure to open trails to dogs. Develop connections to Skyline, Sanborn County Park, & Lexington Reservoir. \$2,254,000
- 20 South Bay Foothills: Wildlife Passage and Ridge Trail Improvements
  Establish safe corridors for mountain lions across Highway 17. Establish Bay Area Ridge Trail crossing.
  \$13,966,000
- **Bear Creek Redwoods: Public Recreation and Interpretive Projects**Open for hiking, equestrian activities. Provide parking areas, trails; upgrade stables. Restore & protect habitats for various species. Repair roads & trails to reduce sediment. Rehabilitate Alma College site. **\$17,478,000**
- Sierra Azul: Cathedral Oaks Public Access and Conservation Projects

  Develop multi-use trail & plan future trails as land is available. Develop parking. Restore plant communities and soils. Install trailside amenities. Preserve additional open space and complete wildlife corridor in upper Los Gatos Creek watershed. \$6,714,000
- Sierra Azul: Mt. Umunhum Public Access and Interpretation Projects

  Open Mt. Umunhum for multi-use public access to summit via road and trail. Open Bay Area Ridge Trail and nearby trail connections. Preserve additional open space and complete wildlife corridor. \$27,972,000
- **Sierra Azul:** Rancho de Guadalupe Family Recreation

  Open Rancho de Guadalupe to public access. Develop accessible multi-use trails with amenities such as parking and family recreation. Restore habitat for rare species. Protect cultural and natural resources. **\$10,078,000**
- Sierra Azul: Loma Prieta Area Public Access, Regional Trails and Habitat Projects
  Provide public access and recreation, including small campground. Develop, improve, connect regional multi-use trails to Forest of Nisene Marks State Park, to protected land to east, and to Mt. Umunhum. Protect Steelhead habitat, rare plants and grasslands, restore Knobcone Pine stands. \$7,986,000

## Peninsula Foothills and Bay

(Cupertino, Los Altos, Los Altos Hills, Sunnyvale, Mountain View, Palo Alto, East Palo Alto, Menlo Park, Atherton, Redwood City, San Carlos, Woodside, Portola Valley, Skyline

- Regional: Bayfront Habitat Protection and Public Access Partnerships

  Partner to complete gaps in Bay Trail and develop city-to-bay trails. Support wetland restoration and associated interpretive facilities. Preserve additional bayfront open space. \$5,052,000
- 4 El Corte de Madera Creek: Bike Trail and Water Quality Projects

  Develop single-use biking/hiking trails, complete Ridge Trail gaps, and develop trail system leading to parking area. Restore damaged trails to improve water quality. Preserve additional open space as available. \$8,376,000
- 5 La Honda Creek: Upper Area Recreation, Habitat Restoration and Conservation Grazing Projects

Open upper half of the preserve to public; provide biking/hiking/equestrian trails, dog access, and staging areas. Provide loop & connector trails. Restore habitat for rare species. Improve fencing, corrals, and water systems to reintroduce conservation grazing. **\$11,733,000** 

- Windy Hill: Trail Improvements, Preservation and Hawthorns Area Historic Partnership
  Improve trails, complete pond facilities. Increase multi-use trails, study possible improvements to increase dog use. Open Hawthorns Area; develop trails connecting to Portola Valley and Palo Alto trails. Partner to protect, restore, and interpret historic buildings. Improve habitat conditions in Los Trancos Creek. Preserve additional scenic open space as available. \$12,740,000
- 8 La Honda Creek/Russian Ridge: Preservation of Upper San Gregorio Watershed & Ridge Trail Completion

Preserve upper San Gregorio watershed; restore endangered species habitats. Support opportunities to provide additional water for fisheries. Complete Bay Area Ridge Trail multi-use connections and gaps. Provide additional public use facilities. **\$15,347,000** 

- **9** Russian Ridge: Public Recreation, Grazing and Wildlife Protection Projects
  Open currently closed areas of preserve. Construct and extend trails. Improve fencing, corrals, and water systems to reintroduce conservation grazing. Improve habitat for sensitive species, implement pond enhancement projects for garter snakes and red-legged frogs. \$5,560,000
- 10 Coal Creek: Reopen Alpine Road for Trail Use
  Reopen Alpine Road as trail connection between Portola Valley & Skyline Blvd. Reroute trails to reduce erosion and improve visitor experience. \$8,017,000
- 11 Rancho San Antonio: Interpretive Improvements, Refurbishing, and Transit Solutions
  Add welcome center, refurbish and add interpretive exhibits to Deer Hollow Farm. Support of transit improvement options such as bike trails, bikeshare station, bus service, or additional parking. \$10,811,000
- Peninsula/South Bay Cities: Partner to Complete Middle Stevens Creek Trail
  Support work by cities to develop the middle section of the Stevens Creek Trail and enhance neighborhood connections. Support work by partners to complete stream corridor restoration and steelhead habitat enhancement below dam. Develop and install interpretive signage. \$1,038,000
- Long Ridge: Trail, Conservation and Habitat Restoration Projects (Saratoga)
  Improve roadside parking and provide restrooms. Develop new trail connections to Eagle Rock and Devils Canyon. Repair trails for year-round multi-use access. Protect watersheds for steelhead. Preserve additional open space as available. Implement pond and habitat enhancement restoration projects to benefit rare species. \$5,140,000
- Regional: Complete Upper Stevens Creek Trail

  Complete multi-use connection between the Bay Trail & Bay Area Ridge Trail above the reservoir through Picchetti Ranch Open Space Preserve & Lower/Upper Stevens Creek County Parks. Improve Preserve trails and neighborhood connections. Preserve additional open space as available. \$7,760,000



#### Coast

### (Half Moon Bay, San Gregorio, Pescadero, La Honda,)

1 Miramontes Ridge: Gateway to the Coast Public Access, Stream Restoration and Agriculture Enhancement

Preserve scenic open space land as available, and establish wildlife corridor. Restore fish and red-legged frog habitats in Madonna Creek watershed. Partner to enhance water availability for agriculture and fish. Develop trail loop system, including Ridge Trail and neighborhood access points. Develop staging area, repair bridges. **\$27,774,000** 

3 Purisima Creek Redwoods: Purisima-to-Sea Trail, Watershed Protection and Conservation Grazing

Complete and open multi-use Purisima-to-Sea trail connection between Ridge Trail and Coastal Trail, and new parking areas. Preserve additional open space as available. Remove fish barriers and restore Lobitos Creek. Restore ponds for endangered species. **\$7,608,000** 

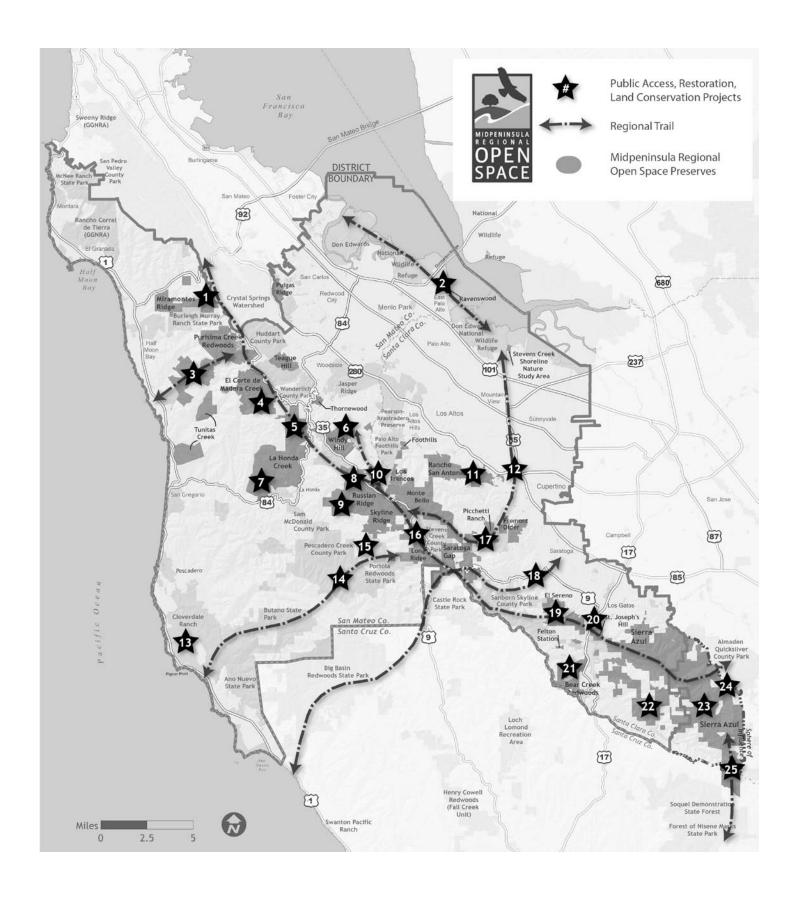
7 La Honda Creek: Driscoll Ranch Public Access, Endangered Wildlife Protection and Conservation Grazing

Open Driscoll Ranch Area; provide biking/hiking/equestrian trails, limited dog access, parking areas, and interpretive displays. Develop loop & connector trails. Restore habitat for endangered species. Restore La Honda Creek; remove fish migration barriers. **\$14,825,000** 

- Cloverdale Ranch: Wildlife Protection, Grazing and Trail Connections
  Improve fencing, corrals, and water systems to increase conservation grazing and sustain large contiguous grasslands. Restore habitat for endangered species. Provide trail connections to nearby State parks.
- \$15,712,000

  14 Regional: Trail Connections and Campgrounds
  Develop trails between Butano, Pescadero County Park, Pescadero, Russian Ridge, and between Skyline and Portola Redwoods, Big Basin State Park. Partner with County and State Parks to improve existing campgrounds.
- \$3,966,000

  15 Regional: Redwood Protection and Salmon Fishery Conservation
  Preserve additional open space as available. Protect and enhance redwood stands, mountain scenery, various habitats and steelhead salmon. \$50,728,000



#### 3. INDEPENDENT CITIZEN OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

An Independent Citizen Oversight Committee will be formed to verify expenditures of bond proceeds. The Independent Citizen Oversight Committee will consist of seven at-large members, all of whom shall be District residents. The Citizen Oversight Committee will be selected by the Board and interviewed and approved in open session, and will be subject to the conflict of interest constraints of the California Political Reform Act.

The responsibilities of the Committee include:

- Review Plan expenditures on an annual basis to verify conformity with the Expenditure Plan.
- Review District's Annual Audit and Annual Accountability report and present the Committee's findings to the Board at a public meeting.
- Review any proposed amendments to the Expenditure Plan.

# EXHIBIT B TAX RATE STATEMENT

An election will be held in the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (the "District") on June 3, 2014, to authorize the sale of up to \$300 million in bonds of the District to provide public access and acquire, restore, and preserve open space throughout the District as described in the ballot measure. If the bonds are approved, the District expects to sell the bonds in several series over time. Principal and interest on the bonds will be payable from the proceeds of tax levies made upon the taxable property in the District. The information contained in numbered paragraphs 1 - 3 below is provided in compliance with sections 9400-9404 of the Elections Code of the State of California.

- 1. The best estimate of the tax which would be required to be levied to fund this bond issue during the *first* fiscal year after the sale of the first series of bonds, based on estimated assessed valuations available at the time of filing of this statement, is \$1.00 per \$100,000 of assessed valuation in fiscal year 2015-16.
- 2. The best estimate of the tax rate which would be required to be levied to fund this bond issue during the first fiscal year after the sale of the *last* series of bonds, based on estimated assessed valuations available at the time of filing of this statement, is \$2.90 per \$100,000 of assessed valuation in fiscal year 2044-45.
- 3. The best estimate of the *highest* tax rate which would be required to be levied to fund this bond issue, based on estimated assessed valuations available at the time of filing of this statement, is \$3.18 per \$100,000 of assessed valuation in fiscal year 2034-35.

Voters should note that the estimated tax rates are based on the estimated ASSESSED VALUE of taxable property on the respective County's official tax rolls, not on a property's market value. Property owners should consult their own property tax bills to determine their property's assessed value and any applicable tax exemptions.

Attention of all voters is directed to the fact that the foregoing information is based upon the District's projections and estimates only, which are not binding upon the District. The actual tax rates and the years in which they will apply may vary from those presently estimated, due to variations from these estimates in the timing of bond sales, the amount of bonds sold and market interest rates at the time of each sale, and actual assessed valuations over the term of repayment of the bonds. The dates of sale and the amount of bonds sold at any given time will be determined by the District based on its needs for funds and other factors. The actual interest rates at which the bonds will be sold will depend on the bond market at the time of each sale. Actual future assessed valuation will depend upon the amount and value of taxable property within the District as determined by the respective County Assessor in the annual property value assessment process.

Dated:	, 2014.			
			-	General Manager
			Midpeninsula	a Regional Open Space District

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 23-67**

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE MIDPENINSULA REGIONAL OPEN SPACE DISTRICT AMENDING THE MEASURE AA EXPENDITURE PLAN ESTIMATES FOR PORTFOLIOS #18, #23, AND #03

**WHEREAS**, on February 26, 2014, the Board of Directors (Board) of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (District) adopted an Ordinance ("Ordinance") calling for voter approval of a bond measure along with a proposed Expenditure Plan, which was subsequently approved by the voters as Measure AA; and

**WHEREAS**, the Expenditure Plan provides dollar estimates proposing how the bond proceeds would be allocated to fund the capital improvements necessary to implement the priority actions, recognizing that the dollar amounts were estimates only and that actual costs may change in implementation; and

**WHEREAS**, as prescribed in the Ordinance, the District has annually reviewed the Expenditure Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors has identified certain amendments to the Expenditure Plan to "provide for the use of additional federal, state and local funds, to account for unexpected revenues, or to take into consideration unforeseen circumstances" as specified in the Ordinance; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Directors, pursuant to a process established in order to consider Expenditure Plan amendments, which ensures that the Bond Oversight Committee is included in the development of any amendments to the Expenditure Plan, hereby approves certain amendments to said plan.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Board of Directors of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District does resolve as follows:

**SECTION ONE.** Expenditure Plan Portfolios #18 and #23 are deemed complete with the associated amended expenditures set forth below.

# South Bay Foothills

(Los Gatos, Monte Sereno, Saratoga, and Santa Cruz Mountains)

- **18** South Bay Foothills: Saratoga-to-Sea Trail and Wildlife Corridor
  Protect wildlife corridor along Highway 9. Connect trail to Saratoga-to-Sea Trail and Skyline-to-Sea Trail. \$1,365,000 \$1,164,189
- Sierra Azul: Mt. Umunhum Public Access and Interpretation Projects
  Open Mt. Umunhum for multi-use public access to summit via road and trail. Open Bay Area Ridge Trail and nearby trail connections. Preserve additional open space and complete wildlife corridor. \$27,972,000 \$21,814,891

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**SECTION TWO.** Unspent funds from Portfolios #18 and #23 in the cumulative amount of \$6,357,920 will be applied to Portfolio #03 as set forth below as an amendment to the Expenditure Plan:

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(Half Moon Bay, San Gregorio, Pescadero, La Honda,)

3 Purisima Creek Redwoods: Purisima-to-Sea Trail, Watershed Protection and Conservation Grazing

Complete and open multi-use Purisima-to-Sea trail connection between Ridge Trail and Coastal Trail, and new parking areas. Preserve additional open space as available. Remove fish barriers and restore Lobitos Creek. Restore ponds for endangered species. \$7,608,000 \$13,965,920

**SECTION THREE**. The Board of Directors finds that adoption of this Resolution regarding a government funding mechanism or other government fiscal activity does not constitute a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (14 Cal. Code. Regs., section 15378(b)(4)). The final design of and alternatives considered for any particular project shall be subject to CEQA as required by law, and all environmental review required by CEQA shall be completed before any specific project is commenced.

**SECTION FOUR.** Except as herein modified, the Expenditure Plan shall remain unmodified.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District on June 14, 2023, at a regular meeting thereof, by the following vote:

AYES: CYR, GLEASON, KERSTEEN-TUCKER, KISHIMOTO, MACNIVEN,

RIFFLE

NOES: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: HOLMAN

ATTEST:	APPROVED:
/s/ Craig Gleason	/s/ Yoriko Kishimoto
Craig Gleason, Secretary	Yoriko Kishimoto, President
Board of Directors	Board of Directors
APPROVED AS TO FORM:	
/s/ Hilary Stevenson	

Hilary Stevenson, General Counsel

I, the District Clerk of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District, hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of a resolution duly adopted by the Board of Directors of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District by the above vote at a meeting thereof duly held and called on the above day.

/s/ Maria Soria
Maria Soria, District Clerk



# **Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District** Measure AA Bond Program

Measure AA Bond Program
Schedule of Program Expenditures (Audited)
June 30, 2023

Project No.	Project Description	Expenditures from July 1,2022 through June 30, 2023	Expenditures from Inception through June 30, 2023
AA01	Miramontes Ridge–Gateway to San Mateo Coast	\$33,994	\$605,109
AA02	Regional: Bayfront Habitat Protection & Public Access Partnerships	1,721	6,874,329
AA03	Purisima Creek Redwoods: Purisma-to Sea Trail, Watershed & Grazing	1,433,868	8,209,226
AA04	El Corte de Madera Creek: Bike Trail & Water Quality Projects	-	966,168
AA05	La Honda Creek-Upper Recreation Area	384,231	3,345,646
AA06	Hawthorn Public Access Improvements	80,948	229,526
AA07	Driscoll Ranch Public Access, Wildlife Protection & Grazing	735	12,657,012
AA08	La Honda/Russian Ridge: Upper San Gregorio Watershed	-	2,153,910
AA09	Russian Ridge: Public Recreation, Grazing & Wildlife Protection	-	796,787
AA10	Coal Creek: Reopen Alpine Road for Trail Use	1,771,052	2,325,486
AA11	Rancho San Antonio: Interpretive Improvements, Refurbishing	49,260	562,493
AA13	Cloverdale Ranch: Wildlife Protection, Grazing and Trail Connections	15,609,689	15,609,689
AA15	Regional: Redwood Protection & Salmon Fishery Conservation	-	3,110,818
AA17	Regional: Complete Upper Stevens Creek Trail	-	2,386,442
AA18	South Bay Foothills: Saratoga-to-Sea Trail & Wildlife Corridor	-	1,164,187
AA19	El Sereno Dog Park & Connections	-	1,564,764
AA20	South Bay Foothills: Wildlife Passage/Ridge Trail Improvements	828,256	2,584,638
AA21	Bear Creek Redwoods: Public Recreation & Interpretive Projects	1,225,051	16,150,802
AA22	Sierra Azul: Cathedral Oaks Public Access & Conservation Projects	720,818	1,966,410
AA23	Sierra Azul: Mt Umunhum Public Access & Interpretation Projects	-	23,134,891
AA24	Sierra Azul: Rancho de Guadalupe Family Recreation	-	1,591,996
AA25	Sierra Azul: Loma Prieta Area Public Access, Regional Trails/Habitat Projects	-	2,398,668
	Total MAA Bond Project Expenditures	22,139,623	110,418,997
	Reimbursements from Grants, Contributions, and Other Funds	(11,967,970)	(22,828,660)
	Total MAA Bond Project Expenditures-Net Reimbursements	\$10,171,653	\$87,590,337

This page is an excerpt from the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, page 87. Annual audited financial statements can be found at openspace.org/financials.



# Financial Report of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance Measure AA Capital Projects Fund

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual Audited	Variance to		
	Original	Final	(GAAP Basis)	Final Budget More (Less)		
Revenues						
Grant Income	\$2,764,399	\$11,808,006	\$11,967,970	\$159,964		
Investment Earnings	311,000	282,000	581,827	299,827		
Total Revenues	3,075,399	12,090,006	12,549,797	459,791		
Expenditures						
Salaries and Employee Benefits	496,989	501,358	411,448	(89,910)		
Capital Outlay	9,910,125	21,764,215	21,728,175	(36,040)		
Total Expenditures	10,407,114	22,265,573	22,139,623	(125,950)		
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	(7,331,715)	(10,175,567)	(9,589,826)	585,741		
Other Financing Sources						
Transfers In		-	-	-		
Transfers Out	-	-	-	-		
Total Other Financing Sources						
Net Change in Fund Balance	(7,331,715)	(10,175,567)	(9,589,826)	585,741		
Fund Balance Beginning	19,530,564	19,530,564	19,530,564	-		
Prior Period Adjustment	-	-	-	-		
Fund Balance Beginning—Adjusted	19,530,564	19,530,564	19,530,564			
Fund Balance Ending	\$12,198,849	\$9,354,997	\$9,940,738	\$585,741		

118



Bear Creek Redwoods Open Space Preserve (Frances Freyberg



# MIDPENINSULA REGIONAL OPEN SPACE DISTRICT

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