



BOARD OF DIRECTORS
SAN LORENZO VALLEY WATER
DISTRICT
MINUTES
February 18, 2021

Thursday, February 18, 2021, at 5:30 p.m., via videoconference and teleconference.

MINUTES

1. Convene Meeting 5:30 pm

Roll Call: Pres. Mahood, Vice Pres. Henry, Directors Fultz, Smolley, and To were all present.

Staff: R. Rogers-District Manager, G. Nicholls-District Counsel, H. Hossack-District Secretary were also present.

2. Additions and Deletions to Closed Session Agenda: None

3. Oral Communications Regarding Items in Closed Session:

N. Nacari addressed the Board to say that he has done everything he can to make sure the sale of the property goes through but he thinks that dealing with the District is difficult because his calls aren't returned.

4. Adjournment to Closed Session

a. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL—ANTICIPATED OR PENDING LITIGATION

Exposure to litigation that has been filed by the County but not yet served on the District, Santa Cruz Superior Court, No. 21CV00188
Gov. Code section 54956.9(d): One case

b. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL—ANTICIPATED LITIGATION

Possible initiation of litigation pursuant to Gov. Code section 54956.9(d)(4): One case

Closed Session Note:

The Brown Act prohibits the disclosure of confidential information acquired in a closed session by any person present and offers various remedies to address willful breaches of confidentiality. These include injunctive relief, disciplinary action against an employee, and referral of a member of the legislative body to the grand jury. It is incumbent upon all those attending lawful closed sessions to protect the confidentiality of those discussions. Only the legislative body acting as a body may agree to divulge confidential closed session information; regarding attorney/client privileged communications, the

entire body is the holder of the privilege and only a majority vote of the entire body can authorize the waive of the privilege.

5. Convene to Open Session at 6:30 p.m.

6. Report of Actions Taken in Closed Session:

Pres. Mahood reported that no action was taken in Closed Session.

7. Roll Call (Open Session): Pres. Mahood, V. P. Henry, Directors Fultz, Smolley, and To were present.

Staff: R. Rogers-District Manager, G. Nicholls-District Counsel, H. Hossack-District Secretary, S. Hill-Director of Finance & Business Services, J. Furtado-Director of Operations, C. Blanchard-Environmental Planner were also present.

8. Additions and Deletions to Open Session:

R. Rogers requested that item 11a LOMPICO ASSESSMENT DISTRICT OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE be removed from the agenda.

9. Oral Communications: None

10. Unfinished Business:

a. FIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN

C. Blanchard introduced this item and read from the memo. She introduced the staff from Panorama.

J. Moghaddas presented the Fire Management Plan.

L. Henry questioned what members of the public can do make their property more fire safe.

J. Moghaddas said check with the local Fire Safe Council or local Resource Conservation District.

C. Blanchard agreed with J. Moghaddas. The links on our website.

M. Smolley asked when will the Plan be completed.

J. Moghaddas said that the draft will be ready by the end of April.

M. Smolley also asked about grants for this project and other partners.

C. Blanchard said that she is on the Board of the Fire Safe Council so she has insight into possible grants and partnerships.

T. To said this was a good presentation.

B. Fultz also appreciates the presentation.

Discussion by the Board, staff and presenters regarding the voluntary carbon market, forest management, health & improvement, protect of critical infrastructure, and recovery.

Pres. Mahood said she would like to see a prioritized list of all of our infrastructure and hardening.

J. Moghaddas said that staff is the expert on the infrastructure.

L. Ford said he is impressed with the Panorama presentation. He said he would like to see water flow and staff readiness addressed. Finally, there is fear around the next fire season.

L. Farris questioned the use of dirt roads as fire breaks.

J. Moghaddas said first the roads need to be driveable for the fire trucks. The Fire Dept. and CalFire need to know the lands. Evacuation is a statewide issue.

Discussion by the Board, staff and presenters regarding evacuation, infrastructure, and maps.

R. Rogers thanked L. Ford, L. Farris and R. Moran for their work on the Fire Management Plan.

- c. NACCARI PROPERTY: APN 078-233-05
This item was moved ahead of item 10c at the request of Dir. Fultz.

R. Rogers introduced this item and read from the memo.

G. Nicholls explained that the District was unable to clear the title and obtain title insurance on the property. Two different title companies researched this property and found that there is no written agreement for the transfer to Mr. Naccari. She said that we have contacted the prior owner and she is unwilling to sign the paperwork. The purchase and sale agreement will terminate at the end of the month. She would like to make one final written offer to Mr. Naccari and the transferor, dividing the \$88,000 between them. The only other alternative would be for the District to pursue an eminent domain action.

B. Fultz spoke to Mr. Naccari to say that wants what is best for the community. It is the responsibility of the seller to get clear title. He opposed buying this parcel for \$88,000 because he thinks it is too much. He said that he would rather pay neighbors than attorneys. He is hopeful that you can make this deal happen.

L. Henry also spoke to Mr. Naccari to say he that he needs to make this happen. The District can't do this for you.

N. Naccari said that it has been his goal since the beginning to bring water to his neighborhood. He has been in contact with the previous owner and said that she is concerned that the trees on the property won't be maintained. He said that he is frustrated with the District not returning his calls.

B. Fultz questioned G. Nicholls if this purchase cannot be insured does that leave us open to lawsuits down the road.

G. Nicholls responded that if the District buys the land without an insured title and we are the defendant in a lawsuit, it could effect the infrastructure built on the property.

L. Henry said to Mr. Naccari that she has known and worked with R. Rogers for 10 years and she resents your accusations of tricking you and lying to you. That doesn't sound like R. Rogers.

T. To said that the value of the property was appraised at less that \$10,000 and you are asking more than 8 times that amount. We don't have a position here, we can't go forward without a clear title.

b. BOARD POLICY MANUAL UPDATE

G. Nicholls introduced this item to the Board. This is coming back to the Board for the 3rd time. She described the process.

Discussion by the Board and staff regarding numbers 22, 23, 24 regarding Oral Communication.

Pres. Mahood said there are 3 things we've been asked to do:

1. Advise the Board to accept changes as noted by G. Nicholls
2. Additional changes by a Board member
3. Approve redline changes

B. Fultz questioned who is actually modifying the manual.

Discussion by the Board and staff regarding the process for the BPM rewrites. Directors Henry, Smolley, and To concurred to adopt and rewrite as noted. Dir. Fultz disagreed and presented a history of why. Pres. Mahood said she understood but this is a different time and things have changed.

Joni Words appreciated what Dir. Fultz has to say but absolutely in favor of a 3 minute limit.

R. Moran said that the BPM should include good governance training yearly.

J. Mosher commended the effort to make meetings shorter.

E. Fresco said that she would appreciate shorter meetings.

G. Nicholls said that she understood that she should follow through with what is in the memo plus numbers 22 & 23. Then bring the redline back for further discussion and approval.

B. Fultz said that exceptions have been made in the past. They are perceived as favoritism.

L. Henry disagreed with Dir. Fultz. There was not favoritism but she would say, please finish your thought. 3 minutes is enough.

Pres. Mahood responded to Dir. Fultz, let's not talk about hypothetical situations.

M. Smolley appreciates the public's willingness to listen to the meetings and he concurs with their comments to keep the meetings shorter.

T. To also concurred that the meetings should not go too late. It's respectful of the public's time.

Pres. Mahood asked the Board if they have additional changes.

M. Smolley noted 2 different places indicates who is taking minutes for committee meetings. It should be saying that the Committee chair should be responsible for Committee minutes.

Discussion by the Board and staff regarding the taking of Committee minutes.

11. New Business:

- a. LOMPICO ASSESSMENT DISTRICT OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE-
Removed from the agenda.
- b. BUDGET PROCESS FOR FISCAL YEARS 2021-2023
S. Hill presented the Budget Process.

M. Smolley questioned the Strategic Plan and the Five Year Master Plan status.

R. Rogers responded that the Strategic Plan show be out the last meeting in March or early April.

S. Hill responded that in a perfect world we will have the documents. We'll use goals and objectives until the documents are available.

B. Fultz said this is a good first step in moving to a multi-year budget. Capital obligations need to be quantified.

S. Hill said that certain aspects of capital obligations will be part of this process.

L. Henry thanked S. Hill for a good job.

T. To questioned if we will be going ahead with the budget without the Strategic Plan and Water Master Plan. She also questioned the 2% reduction that was mentioned.

S. Hill said it's what we hope for.

T. To asked if we will be factoring in the loss of homes in the District.

S. Hill said that it is a nominal amount for our agency, less than a \$100,000 change in the budget.

c. DISTRICT MANAGER CONTRACT REVIEW

G. Nicholls presented this item to the Board. This is proposed contract addendum to add 3 years to the District Manager's contract.

B. Fultz said he appreciates the extension of time at the end of the contract. He hopes that the Dist. Mgr. will extent his contract again.

L. Henry said that R. Rogers is the right man, in the right place, at the right time.

L. Henry made a motion to approve the addendum to the employment agreement with the District Manager. The motion was seconded.

M. Smolley concurs with extending the contract with Rick.

Pres. Mahood made a voice vote. All present voted in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

d. GRAND JURY RESPONSE

G. Nicholls introduced this item.

Discussion by the Board and staff regarding the letter to the Grand Jury Response, the LADOC Annual Report, and the deadline for the response.

T. Norton said that in the past the LADOC was not provided with any support. COVID & the CZU fire has slowed everything down. The assessment district training hasn't been available but the Dist. has now found a company that will do the training.

R. Rogers said that the LADOC will be on the 3.4.21 BoD agenda.

Discussion by the Board and staff regarding the LADOC.

B. Fultz said that he encouraged the Board to reach out for input.

Pres. Mahood said that this item will be brought back to next agenda.

12. Consent Agenda:

- a. AUDIT FIRM REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL RECOMMENDATION FROM THE BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE.
- b. REVIEW OF COMMITTEE PRIORITIES FOR 2021
- c. BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES 1.7.21
- d. BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES 1.21.21
- e. BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPECIAL MINUTES 2.2.21

B. Fultz would like to pull item 12a. low bid and if not why.

S. Hill responded that Fedak & Brown was the second lowest bid but the highest ranked by the B & F Committee.

Discussion by the Board and staff regarding this item.

B. Fultz questioned training for committee members.

B. Fultz that item 12e. be pulled to review the minutes and make amendments to the minutes.

Discussion by the Board and staff.

G Nicholls said that item 12a and 12c need motions to approve. Items 12b and 12d are approved by consent.

B. Fultz made a motion to approve the selection of Fedak & Brown. The motion was seconded.

Pres. Mahood took a voice vote, all present voted in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

B. Fultz made a motion to approve the minutes for the 1/7/21. The motion was seconded. B. Fultz added a friendly amendment to change the date on the minutes from 2020 to 2021.

Pres. Mahood took a voice vote, all present voted in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

13. District Reports:

No action will be taken and discussion may be limited at the Chairperson's discretion. The District encourages that questions be submitted in writing (bod@slvwd.com) on items listed in the District Reports. Questions submitted, if any, will be posted in the next available District Reports, along with a reply.

- DEPARTMENT STATUS REPORTS
Receipt and consideration by the Board of Department Status Reports regarding ongoing projects and other activities.
 - Engineering
 - Environmental
 - Finance & Business
 - Legal
 - Operations
- COMMITTEE REPORTS
 - Board Member Suggestions for Future Committee Agenda Items
 - Committee Meeting Notes/Minutes
 - Special Admin Committee Minutes 1.19.21
 - Special Engineering Committee Minutes 1.19.21
 - Special Environmental Committee Minutes 2.3.21
 - Special B & F Committee Minutes 2.4.21
- DIRECTORS REPORTS
 - Director's Communication

M. Smolley questioned the timing of the RFP for the constructability and Lyon Slide.

H. Hossack said that any questions directed to J. Wolff should be emailed to him.

M. Smolley questioned the Environmental mitigated negative declaration.

C. Blandchard the sandhills are a protected habitat so we are extra careful.

B. Fultz considered what she is working on is very strategic and encouraged her to change the report to focus on top 3 priorities. Also mention that L. Henry is the alternate on SMGWA.

B. Fultz asked S. Hill about the spike in January.

S. Hill said that the debris flow evacuated the office.

B. Fultz asked S. Hill about the accounts in arrears.

S. Hill explained that this time of the year is driven by the holidays.

B. Fultz questioned the actuals.

S. Hill said these are actuals so there is no relation to anticipated costs.

B. Fultz asked her to change the title.

Pres. Mahood read a statement from M. Dolson from the Admin Committee. He would like guidance in preparation of board packets to anticipate social media.

B. Fultz questioned if this should go ahead of the agreed upon items for that committee.

14. Written Communication:

- Letters from Public Regarding Consolidation Discussion

15. Informational Material:

- Infrastructure: Are We Safe? - SLV Post 1.7.21
- Lightning Complex fires caused significant damage to Bay Area drinking water infrastructure - Bay City News Foundation/Fox 2 KTVU 1.21.21
- SVWD Seeks to Consolidate with SLVWD - SLV Post 2.1.21
- North County Water Districts Explore Consolidation - Press Banner 2.2.21
- Pushback on Potential Merger - Santa Cruz Local 2.5.21

16. Adjournment: 9:41 pm



Overview of Post-Fire Recovery, Critical Asset Hardening, Vegetation, and Fuels Management Plan

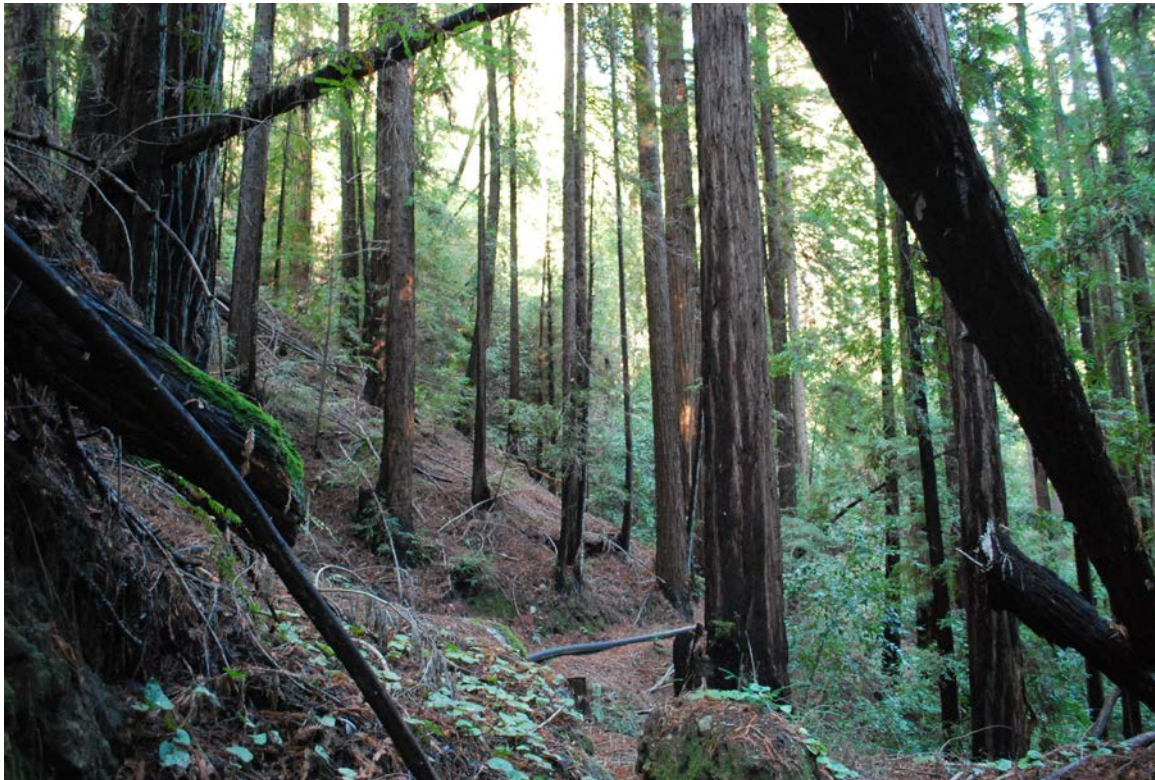
San Lorenzo Valley Water District

February 18, 2021



Presentation Overview

- 1 Introductions
- 2 Background and Need for Plan
- 3 Overview of Vegetation and Fuels Management Plan



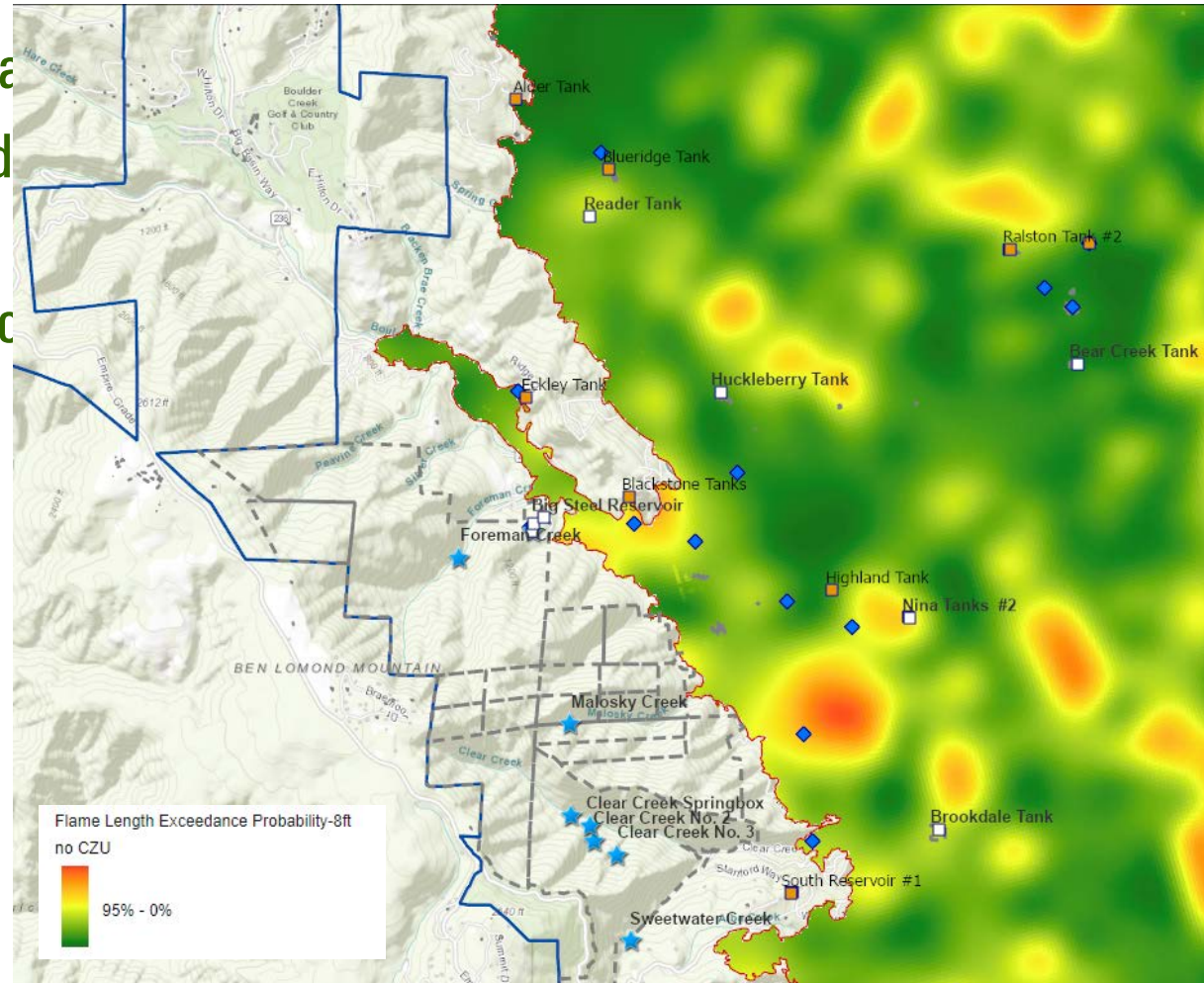


Background and Need for Plan



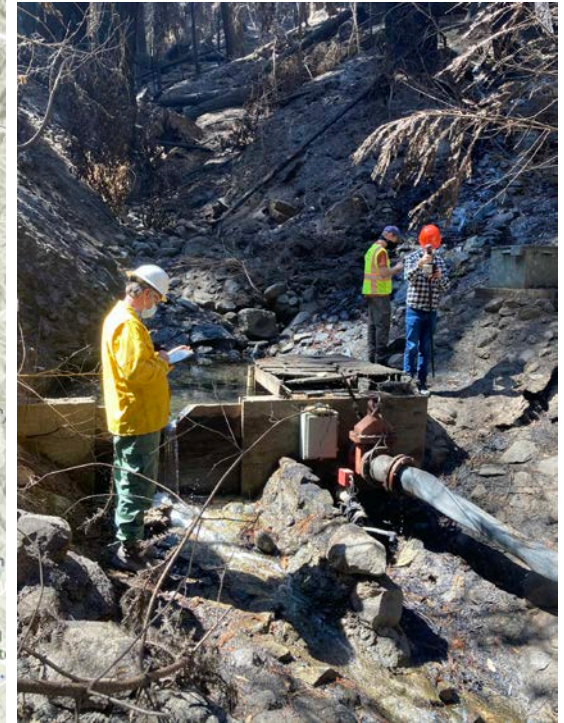
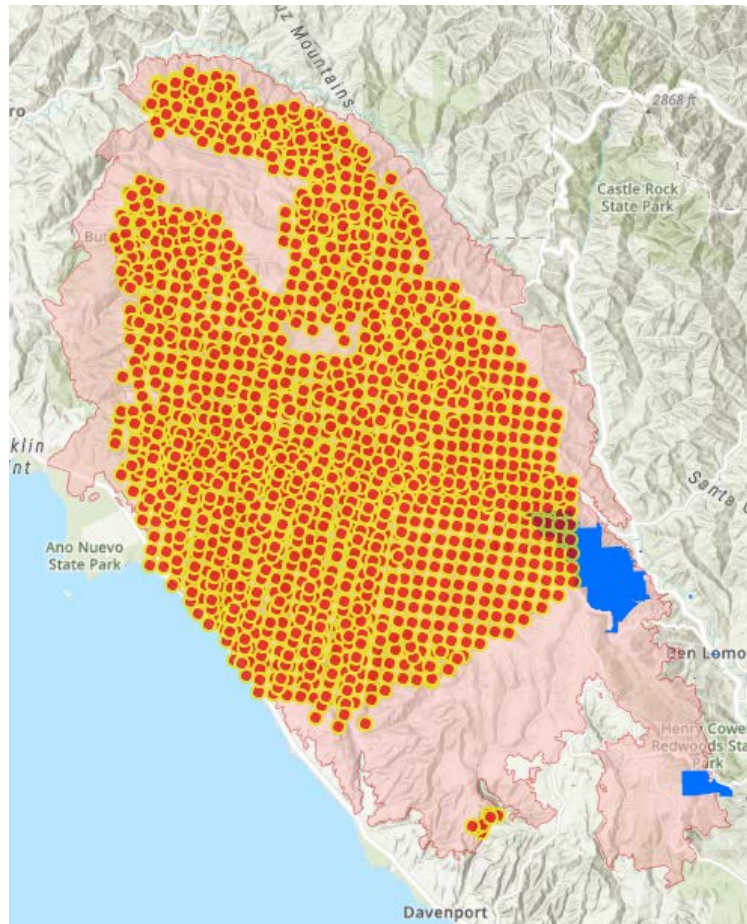
Wildfire Threat and Other Key Issues

- Areas of High Wildfire Hazard
- Post Wildfire Mortality and Erosion
- SLVWD Infrastructure Exposure to Fire and Hazard Trees
- Adjacent WUI
- Invasive Species
- Sudden Oak Death
- Climate Change



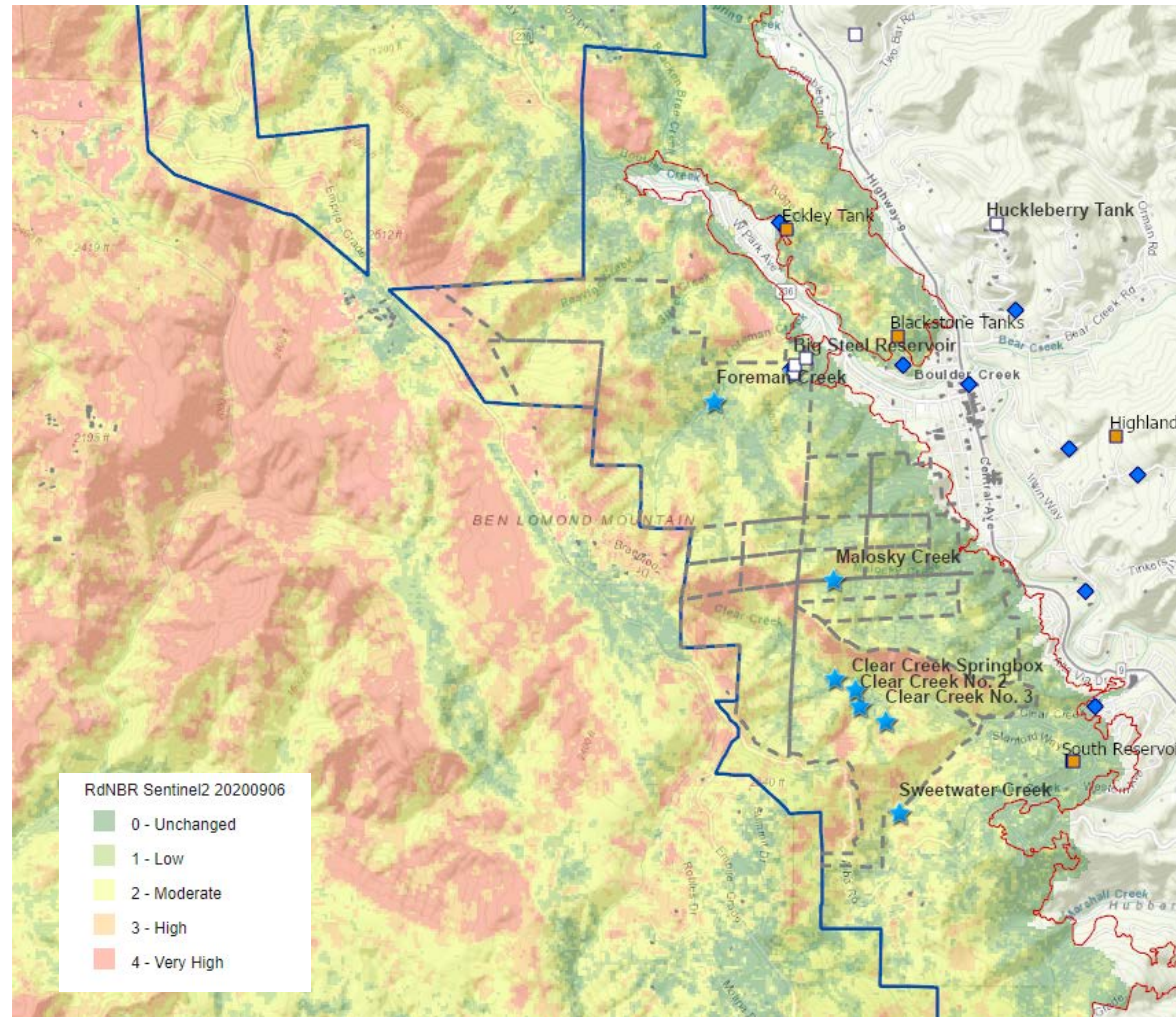
Recent Wildfire

Near Real Time Fire Mapping Helped Mitigate Additional Contamination to Remaining Infrastructure



Post-Fire Assessment

- Fire Severity Mapping
- Damage Assessments
- Preliminary Hazard Tree Assessment



Need for Plan

Lessen the presence of unnaturally high fuel loads on District-owned lands and around District-owned assets to reduce the intensity and harmful impacts of wildfires on water infrastructure, and watershed health and water quality





Overview of Vegetation and Fuels Management Plan



Plan Purpose and Need

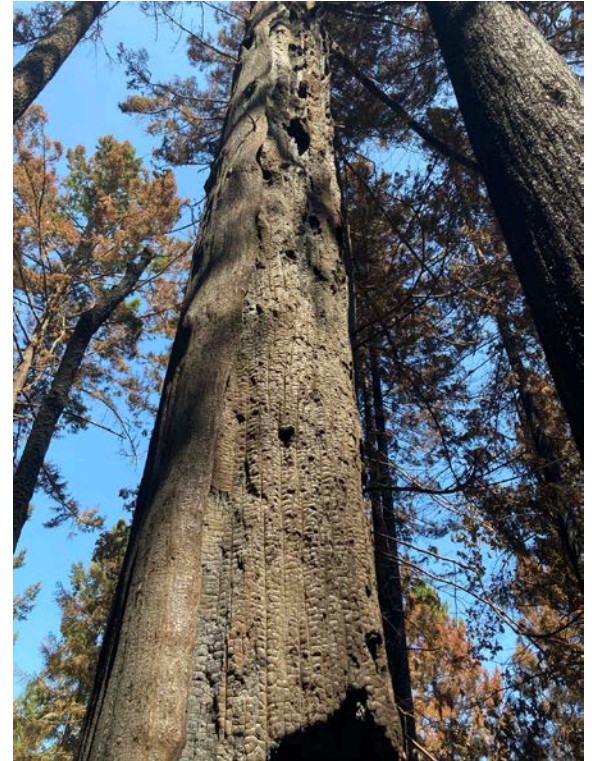
- Reduce intensity and impacts of wildfires
 - Minimize infrastructure loss
 - Reduce fuel loads
 - Increase fire resilience



Plan identifies projects that can be implemented individually or collectively as
a program

Plan Contents

- Background and Environmental Setting
- Treatments
 - Vegetation Treatment Methods
 - Near-Term Post-Fire Recovery Treatments (~2020-2023)
 - Defensible Space, Fuel Reduction, and Material Upgrades
 - Long-Term Management Options (~2021-2060)
- Environmental and Permitting Requirements
- Potential Funding Sources



Near-Term Post-Fire Recovery Treatments (~ 2020-2023)

- Hazard tree assessment and removal
- Revegetation and reforestation
- Debris flow and other erosion control work



Defensible Space, Fuel Reduction, and Material Upgrades

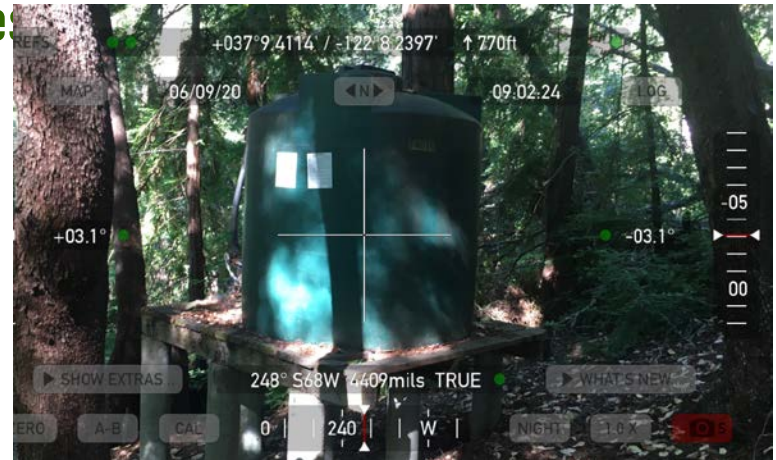
- Defensible Space and Fuel Reduction Treatment Locations

- Roadside
- Prescribed Fire
- Infrastructure
 - Water Tanks
 - Pump Houses
 - Aboveground Pipelines
- Other



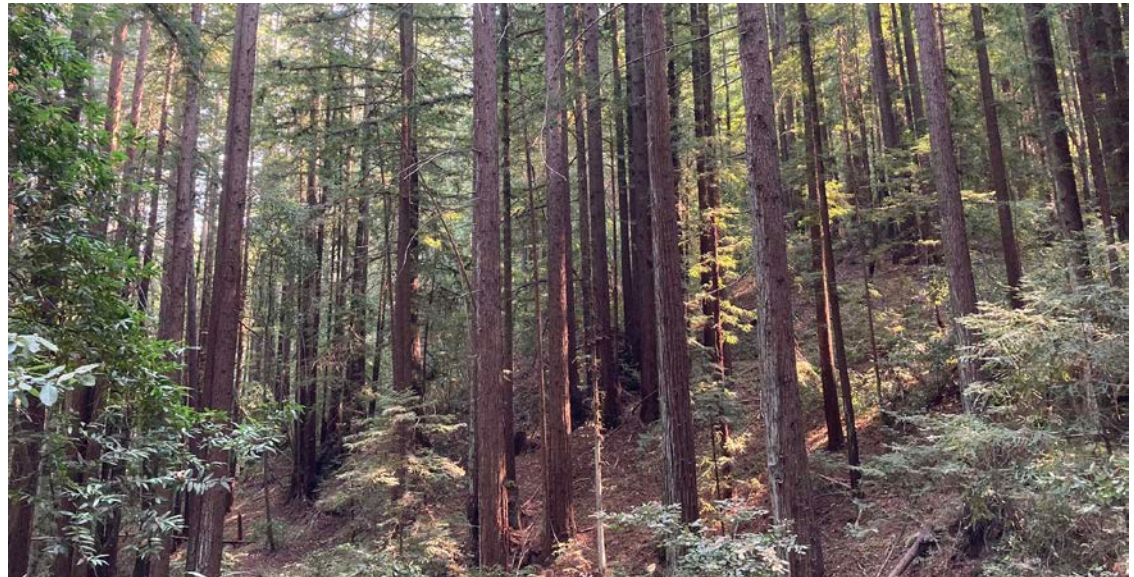
- Critical Asset Structure and Material Upgrades

- Water Tank
- Pump House
- Aboveground Pipelines



Long-Term Management Options (~ 2021-2060)

- Continued Management For Watershed Protection
- Voluntary Carbon Market
 - Size of SLVWD lands
- Commercial Timber Harvesting
 - Deed Restrictions
 - On-the-ground constraints



Environmental Compliance Options

- **Potential Requirements**

- Environmental Review: e.g., CEQA
- Federal, state, and/or regional/local permits: e.g., Section 404 Permit, Encroachment Permit

Overview of Approaches

- **Project-Level Approach**

- Individual CEQA Documents and Permits for Individual Projects

- **Programmatic Approach**

- Plan-Specific CEQA Document and Permits for Suite of Projects
- CalVTP PEIR Project Specific Analysis

Teaming and Grants/Funding Opportunities

- Potential Regional Teaming/Coordination Opportunities

- Santa Cruz Mountains Stewardship Network (meetings and subcommittees)
- Santa Cruz Resource Conservation District
- Santa Cruz Fire Safe Council



- Key Grants/Funding Opportunities

- Forest and Fuel Projects:
 - CAL FIRE California Forest Improvement Grant Program
 - CAL FIRE Fire Prevention Grant Program
 - CAL FIRE Forest Health Grant Program
- Water Infrastructure Projects:
 - California Infrastructure State Revolving Fund
 - Drinking Water State Revolving Fund

Questions?



Pipeline leaving Sweetwater Intake running to North Before and After Fire

