

NATURE

BASED SOLUTIONS

LA COUNTY
WATER PLAN
TASK FORCE

NbS Task Force Introductions

Please share in the chat:

- **Your name, pronouns**
- **Affiliation**
- **Ice Breaker – Beach or Snow?**

NbS Task Force Meeting 3 Agenda

Goals for Today

- Discuss new timeline
- Review initial trends from NbS definition survey

Agenda

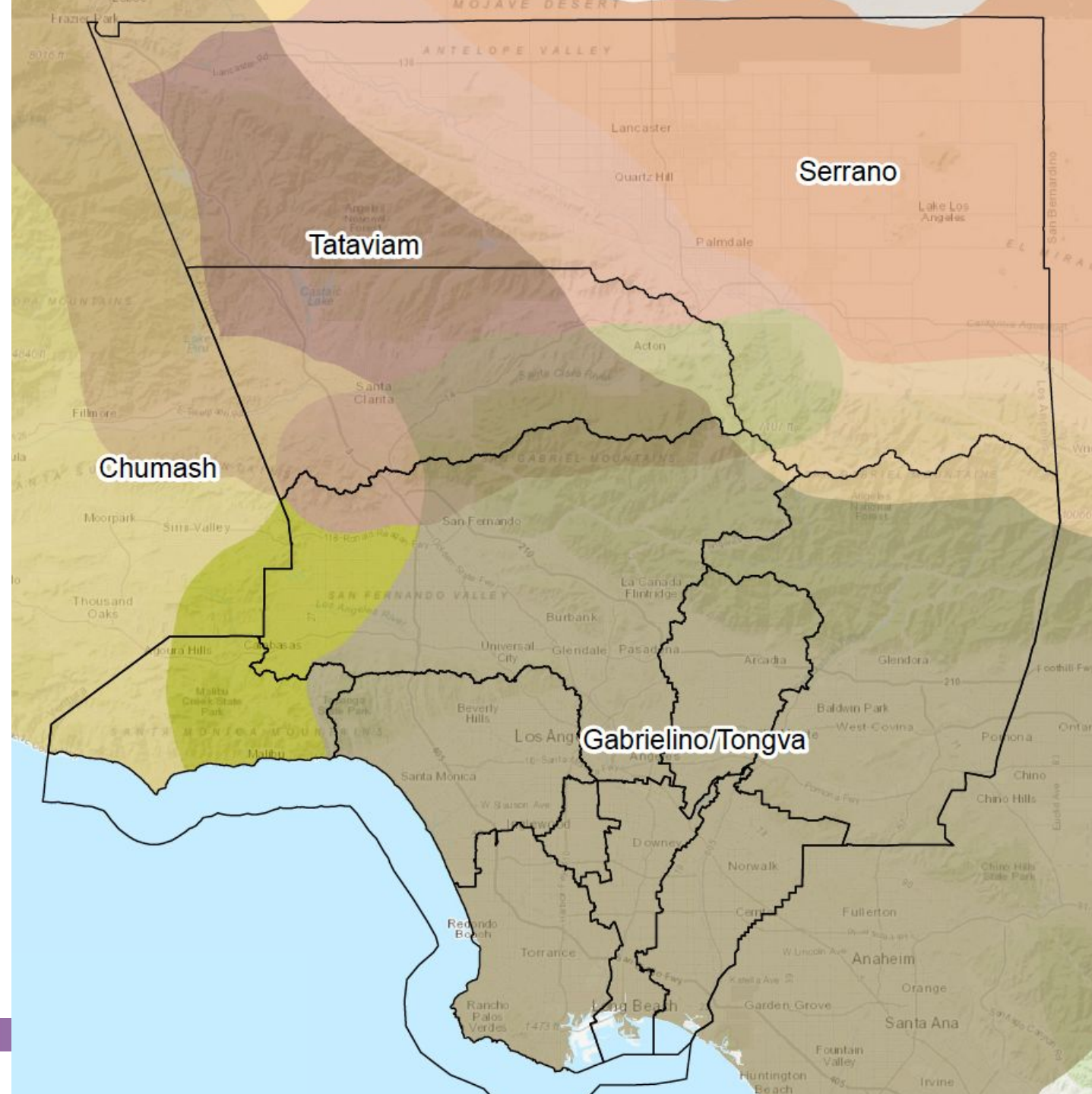
- Welcome, Introductions, Reminder of Goals | 10:00 – 10:10 a.m.
- NbS Task Force: The Path Forward | 10:10 – 10:15 a.m.
- Discuss Initial Trends from NbS Definition Survey | 10:15 – 10:45 a.m.
- Wrap up and Next Steps | 10:45 – 10:50 a.m.

Acknowledgement of Native American Homelands

We acknowledge that we are presently on unceded land of the Gabrielino Tongva, Ventureño Chumash, Gabrielino Kizh, Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians, and the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians. We recognize that these Tribes are still present and that they are the original stewards of this land and waters.

We make this acknowledgement out of respect for their long-standing connection to and protection of this area's watersheds.

We honor their elders, both past and present, and their descendants. We have the responsibility to carry out actions in unceded lands that will meaningfully involve citizens of these tribes.



NBS BLUE RIBBON PANEL

Eileen Alduenda **Council for Watershed Health**
Claudia Arends **US Forest Service**
Patrick Atwater **Crescenta Valley Water District**
Amanda Begley **TreePeople**
Isaac Brown **Stillwater Sciences** *(Alt – Wendy Katagi, Rowan Roderick-Jones)*
Dan Cooper **Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mountains**
Maggie Gardner **LA Waterkeeper** *(Alt – Bruce Reznik)*
Bruce Hamamoto **LA County Department of Public Works**
Kelsey Jessup **The Nature Conservancy**
Samantha Johnson **Tongva Taraxat Paxaavxa Land Conservancy**
Nurit Katz **LADWP/UCLA**
Dan Knapp **Conservation Corps of Long Beach**
Gary Lai **Quixotic Nature-based Solutions**
Stephanie Landregan **UCLA Extension**
Gabriella Lassos **Sacred Places Institute for Indigenous Peoples**
Claire Latané **Cal Poly Pomona**
Esther Lofton **UC Cooperative Extension**
Annelisa Moe **Heal The Bay**
Mark Nguyen **City of Los Angeles, Sanitation** *(Alt – Michael Scaduto)*
Natalie Ouwersloot **Foothill MWD**
Claire Robinson **Amigos de los Rios**
Geraldine Trivedi **City of Redondo Beach**
Jane Tsong **Watershed Conservation Authority**
Andrea Vona **LA County Parks & Recreation**
Melina Watts **LA County Safe Clean Water Program**
Melanie Winter **The River Project**

PRIORITY TASKS

1. Develop Countywide definitions and standards for Nature-based Solutions
2. Prioritize Nature-based Solutions in stormwater capture projects
3. Build upon the Safe, Clean Water Program's Metrics & Monitoring Study and 2022 Interim Guidance

NbS TASK FORCE: THE PATH FORWARD

- Submitted Initial Findings to County BOS
 - Presented milestones
 - Included themes from definition discussions
 - Recommendations for more time to dive deeper & refine
- Updated Timeline
 - BRP Workshop #3: Tuesday, December 17 (TBC)
 - Task Force Meeting: Tuesday, December 17 (TBC)
 - Final Report - Q1 2025

REVIEW OF SURVEY TRENDS

NbS Definition | Resonating Themes

Ecosystem Focus and Function

- Ecosystem-based thinking
- Put ecosystem health as focus with societal challenges as a benefit
- Solutions are the priority ideas
- Diverse systems, Not human controlled with a nature first and people second shift in mentality
- Ecosystem "function" Not Ecosystem "services"
- Conserve functional nature and restore nature when possible
- Original hydrological systems are part of what made nature thrive

Conserve, Preserve, Restore, Reclaim Open Space & Nature

- Maintain Land for Nature as the Priority
- Fight against Loss of Nature
- Expand reserved lands held by professionals
- Restructure toward a holistic preservation and restorative approach with an ecosystem mentality
- Prioritize the un-paving of schoolyards

REVIEW OF SURVEY TRENDS

NbS Definition | Resonating Themes

Continued:

Clarity of Outcome and Definitions

- Put biodiversity first, to treat water and the living landscape with love and respect
- Clearly name defining elements in order to achieve the highest bar in our diverse region
- A "modified ecosystems" doesn't sound like nature
- Do not prioritize economics above nature
- Projects that "mimic natural processes" are NOT nature, they are human inventions

Water | One Part of NbS

- Do not limit NbS to stormwater and urban runoff, have a more expansive perspective
- County definition is good without the second half and where it uses "or" over "and"
- Think of all our water sources as part of a living whole and totally integral to nature to help make best case scenario management choices

DEFINITION

S

United Nations

NbS are actions to protect, conserve, restore, sustainably use and manage natural or modified terrestrial, freshwater, coastal and marine ecosystems, which address social, economic and environmental challenges effectively and adaptively, while simultaneously providing human well-being, ecosystem services, resilience and biodiversity benefits.

NbS means a Project that utilizes natural processes that slow, detain, infiltrate or filter Stormwater or Urban Runoff.

These methods **may** include: relying predominantly on soils and vegetation; increasing the permeability of Impermeable Areas; protecting undeveloped mountains and floodplains; creating and restoring riparian habitat and wetlands; creating rain gardens, bioswales, and parkway basins; and enhancing soil through composting, mulching, and planting trees and vegetation, with preference for native species.

Nature-Based Solutions **may** also be designed to provide additional benefits such as sequestering carbon, supporting biodiversity, providing shade, creating and enhancing parks and open space, and improving quality of life for surrounding communities.

Nature-Based Solution includes Projects that mimic natural processes, such as green streets, spreading grounds and planted areas with water storage capacity.

United Nations	Los Angeles County	IUCN	White House Council
1	4	3	2
3	2	4	1
1	4	3	2
4	1	2	3
4	2	3	1
2	1	3	4
4	3	1	2
1	4	2	3
2	1	4	3
4	3	2	1
3	4	1	2
1	4	2	3
1	4	3	2
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2	1	4	3

SUMMARY

1st	8	4	2	3
2nd	4	2	6	6
3rd	2	2	7	7
4th	4	9	3	2

LA County >>>

DEFINITIONS

IUCN

Nature-Based Solutions are actions to protect, sustainably manage, and restore natural and modified ecosystems in ways that address societal challenges effectively and adaptively, simultaneously providing human well-being and biodiversity benefits.

White House Comm

Nature-Based Solutions are actions to protect, sustainably manage, or restore natural or modified ecosystems to address societal challenges, simultaneously providing benefits for people and the environment. Often, these solutions use long-standing conservation approaches forged in the fight against nature loss.

United Nations	Los Angeles County	IUCN	White House Council
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SUMMARY

1st	8	4	2	3
2nd	4	2	6	6
3rd	2	2	7	7
4th	4	9	3	2

What is NbS – Prioritized Phrases

Biodiversity	Natural Infiltration	Ecosystem Health	Prioritizing Native Ecosystems	Unpaving	Site Informed Based on Site Historic Ecology and Current Conditions	Working With Land Not On Land	Provide Wildlife Habitat Connectivity	Soil Health/Soil Profile/Microorganisms	Land/Open Space Preservation	Wetland Creation & Conservation	Vegetation	Consider Humans as a part of Nature, not apart from Nature	Provide Public Health Benefits	Compatible Plants/Planting	Working with Native People	"Rights" of nature	Fit within an Existing Ecological System	Soil Health Remediated and Restored	Applicable city/county/regionwide	Unpaving in Schools	Unpaving Rivers	Sustained Flow in Waterways	Intentional Project Placement	Fix/Enhancing Nature	Work Within the Land	Bioswales	People as Creators, Designers, and Stewards	"Less is more" mentality	Existing Relic Plants and Soils	Beneficial Uses Beyond Flood Control and Water Quality	Rewilding	Watershed Education at Schools	Public Education	
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What Is NOT NbS – From Grey to Green

Concrete Lined Channels	1.06
Concrete Shorelines	1.06
Concrete Earthen Dams	1.17
Plastic Mulch	1.24
Projects Lacking Hydrological Connectivity	1.28
Storm Drains	1.33
Projects Lacking of Ecosystem Function	1.33
Astroturf	1.35
Decorative Rock	1.67
Decorative Water Features	1.72
Projects that Don't Support Soil Health	1.72
Windfarms/Solar Farms	1.94
Low Flow Diversions	2.11
Golf Courses	2.11
Interpretive Signage	2.17
Traditional NonNative Landscapes	2.24
Trees that Don't Support Wildlife	2.33

Decomposed Granite	2.5
Grey Water Systems	2.53
Drywells	2.67
Infiltration Galleries/Wells	2.72
Rain Barrels	2.83
Rainbarrels/Cisterns	2.94
Rain Tanks	2.94
Treewells	3.17
Decorative Bioswales	3.17
Permeable Streets/Sidewalks	3.18
Trees in Grey Landscapes	3.28
Stream Restoration w/ Controlled Flows	3.44
High Maintenance Native Plant Landscapes	3.56
Native Plants	3.6
Greenroofs	3.94

Wrap up and Next Steps

Task Force - Feedback - Virtual Meetings

- ~~Report out on Session 1 - October 22 - NbS Definition & Standards~~
- **Preview of Session 2 - November 12 - Definitions (cont.)**
- **Report out on Session 3 - December 17 - Recommendations for SCWP**

Blue Ribbon Panel - Participant Commitment - In Person Meetings

- ~~Working Session 1 - Sept 24 - NbS Definition & Standards~~
- **Working Session 2 - November 12 - Definitions, Criteria, & Standards (cont.)**
- **Working Session 3 - December 17 - Recommendations for SCWP**



**Keep
in
touch!**

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