

**Pajaro River  
Watershed  
Flood  
Prevention  
Authority**

**Phase 3 and 4a  
Pajaro River Watershed Study**

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**RMC**



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## Glossary

Alternative Package – A group of individual flood protection projects that were combined to provide 100-year flood protection

Attenuate – To reduce peak magnitude through storage

Authority – The Pajaro River Watershed Flood Prevention Authority

Bypass – A parallel channel or pipeline that carries flow that exceeds the existing channel capacity

CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act) – CA state law that requires the protection of the environment

cfs (Cubic Feet per Second) – A measure of discharge where 1 cfs is approximately 450 gallons per minute

Corps – The Army Corps of Engineers

Detention – Temporary storage

ESA (Endangered Species Act) - The purpose of this act is to provide protections for the endangered and threatened species and the ecosystems upon which they depend

FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) – A federal organization created to prepare for, respond to, recover from, and mitigate against disasters

Flood easement – A purchase of the permission to use a land area for flooding

Floodplain – The area of land that has historically been covered by water during floods

GIS (Geographic Information System) – A spatial database

Groundwater recharge – The addition of water to subterranean water bodies

Hydraulic roughness – The resistance to flow due to channel or overland characteristics

Hydrograph – A location specific graph showing the change in flow rate with respect to time.

Hydrologic condition – A measure of factors that impact surface runoff; used to determine the curve number

Impervious surface – A surface not allowing the absorption or seepage of water into the ground

Levee – An embankment constructed to prevent flooding outside of a confined space

Peak discharge – The greatest discharge value at a point during a water year

Pour point – Geographic location through which water from a watershed or subwatershed flows

PRWS (Pajaro River Watershed Study) – A study authorized by the Authority to determine the causes of flooding and identify methods of flood protection

Return period – The average amount of time between occurrences of an event of a given size

Riparian – Related to or situated on the bank of a river or other body of water

Stage – The height of a water surface above a given elevation

Subwatershed – A portion of a watershed

Thalweg – The lowest flowline within a channel

TM (Technical Memorandum) – Documents cataloging technical decisions, methods, and results in support of the PRWS

Watershed – The area upstream of a point through which all surface water within that area flows

Water year – The period from October 1 through September 30



## Appendices



## APPENDICES

The following pages contain the technical memoranda prepared to support and document the work performed for Phase 3 and 4a of the Pajaro River Watershed Study. The TMs include:

- TM 3.3 and 3.4: Project Hydraulics and Operating Strategy; Floodplain Boundaries Mapping
- TM 3.5: Impacted Facilities Assessment
- TM 3.6: Land Acquisition Needs Assessment
- TM 3.7: Cost Estimating
- Value of Soap Lake

