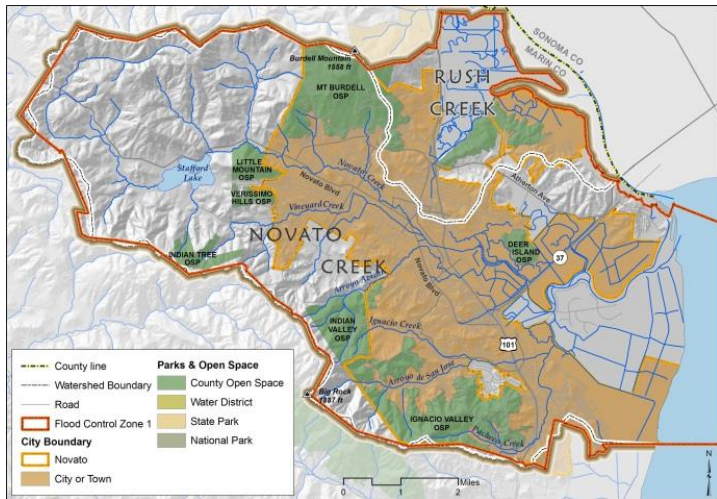


# NOVATO WATERSHED PROGRAM



## 1. WHAT IS THE NOVATO WATERSHED PROGRAM?

The Novato Flood Protection and Watershed Program is one of several initiatives under the Marin County Watershed Program, which was approved by the Marin County Board of Supervisors in May 2008.

The goal of the Watershed Program is to develop a framework that integrates flood protection, creek and wetland restoration, fish passage and water quality improvements with public and private partners to protect and enhance Marin's watersheds.

The Novato Watershed Program will provide a system-wide analysis of flood protection options and identify specific opportunities to integrate flood protection goals with creek and wetland restoration elements. This process includes evaluating alternatives that would reduce flood protection maintenance costs and impacts and be resilient to sea level rise.

## 2. WHAT ARE THE PROGRAM'S BENEFITS?

Deliverables include:

- Scientific and technical studies
- A suite of project alternatives for potential implementation
- Final engineering design and environmental compliance documents for one alternative in Lower Novato Creek
- Mapping and database development
- Community and stakeholder outreach
- Funding strategies

Details on these can be found on the next page. Documents will be posted to the Program website as they are completed.



## 3. WHO ARE THE PROGRAM PARTNERS?

The Novato Watershed Program is a partnership of:

- County of Marin
- Flood Control Zone 1 Advisory Board
- City of Novato
- North Marin Water District
- Novato Sanitary District

## 4. HOW IS THE PROGRAM FUNDED?

Funding for the technical studies is provided by the program partners and from grant assistance from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Water Quality Improvement Fund, via the San Francisco Estuary Partnership's Flood Control 2.0 initiative.

Construction and implementation costs are not included. When the technical studies are completed, including cost estimates for the alternatives, the Novato Watershed Program will produce a funding strategy for construction and implementation, including obtaining grant funding and potentially initiating a fee measure.

Novato Watershed Program page: <http://www.marinwatersheds.org/novato>



# NOVATO WATERSHED PROGRAM

## 5. WHAT ARE THE PROGRAM'S PRODUCTS?

The Novato Watershed Program is developing:

### **Hydrology and Hydraulics (H&H) study**

A unified hydrology and hydraulics model of Novato Creek and its major tributaries, storm drain modeling for the Nave Gardens neighborhood, and the development of conceptual project alternatives modeled for their benefits, including sea-level rise scenarios.

Status: Existing Conditions Report completed Summer 2014.

### **Alternatives Analysis**

A stakeholder group of agency partners, federal and state agency representatives, and community group leaders is at work to define and evaluate three project alternatives to improve the level of flood protection, restore habitat and address sea level rise. Once a draft report is released, a community meeting will be held to present the alternatives, their benefits and to gather public input.

Status: Draft Report due Winter 2015-16.

### **Mapping and database development**

A GIS-based watershed-scale database and maps will be developed to assist with packaging multi-benefit projects and project prioritization.

Status: Ongoing.



### **Leveraging Local Funds - Historical Ecology of Novato Baylands Project**

Funded by an EPA grant and produced by the San Francisco Estuary Institute's Flood Control 2.0 project, this study of historical bayland conditions provides information about the upland-tidal interface and tidal marsh development which are essential for an ecologically-robust watershed and baylands.

Status: Final Report completed Summer 2015.

### **Final Design of Lower Novato Creek Project**

The same EPA grant is also funding final design for the projects recommended through the Alternatives Analysis.

Status: Final Design due Fall 2016.

### **New Partnership! North Bay Water Re-Use Program** (<http://www.nbwra.org>)

The Novato Watershed Program is partnering with Novato Sanitary District to participate in the North Bay Water Re-Use Program (NBWRP) .

## 6. WHAT IS THE PUBLIC'S ROLE?

**Stay informed!** We need the public's input on possible solutions.

Join our email list (link is on the website) to receive updates on the Novato Watershed Program's progress and notifications of community meetings.

## 7. WHERE CAN I FIND MORE INFORMATION?

The Watershed Program website contains a wealth of information:

Main Page:

<http://www.marinwatersheds.org>

Novato Watershed Program page:

<http://www.marinwatersheds.org/novato>

Novato Watershed Program Work Plan:

<http://www.marinwatersheds.org/documents/DRAFTNovatoWorkPlan.pdf>

You may also contact:

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Novato Watershed Program page: <http://www.marinwatersheds.org/novato>