CHAPTER 8.0
RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations are provided to improve the effectiveness of existing environmental programs within the City and to improve water quality in the City creeks.

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

- Develop within the City a library of GIS layers and aerial photographs for the area. This data would include relevant environmental data as well as City infrastructure such as storm drains, water and reclaimed water lines, sewer lines, and septic systems. In addition, these data should be maintained with a consistent projection, such as North American Datum (NAD) 83 and could be accessed through the City webpage.
- Work with LVMWD to reduce nutrient levels in reclaimed water if feasible.
- Pursue implementation of automated irrigation control measures to reduce the volume of runoff from areas irrigated with reclaimed water. These control measures would focus on public areas such as median strips, parks and areas with large ornamental landscapes that use reclaimed water.
- Develop a field and/or literature program to verify the applicability of the regional contaminant loading rates to the two watersheds. If the regional rates are found to be not applicable, develop a watershed-specific contaminant loading program.
- Periodically perform a walking survey of the creeks to access the general condition of the creeks, identify new areas of erosion and monitor the areas identified from this project.
- Improve the overall effectiveness of the storm water program to work towards further reducing non-point source contamination. This would include but not limited to; developing alternative weed abatement techniques for City sidewalks and road shoulders, developing irrigation controls to limit runoff, increasing public outreach, as well as monitoring the effectiveness of street and catch basin cleaning to limit trash input into the creeks.
- Install signage at roadways entering the watershed to inform the public of the specific watershed and they are entering. The signs should be designed to raise watershed awareness of the general public and include pollution prevention messages.

- Increase the number of water quality monitoring stations to identify areas of increased contaminant loading.
- Modify the existing water quality monitoring program to provide sufficient data to calibrate the HSPF model.
- Pursue source control measures related to equestrian management and operational practices within the watershed to reduce nutrient loadings.
- Provide public outreach to reduce the fertilizer usage and over-watering in the area. Focus on residents and businesses closest to the creeks first and include outreach to businesses using reclaimed water.
- Coordinate with neighboring jurisdictions to implement structural BMPs at catch basin locations outside of the City boundary but draining into Las Virgenes Creek. These BMPs should focus on sediment control, particularly from the unincorporated areas west of the City boundary.
- Investigate the potential for further installation of commercially available BMPs within the commercial areas of the City.
- Implement structural BMPs throughout the watersheds to reduce nutrient loadings attributed to ammonia and phosphate.
- Conduct modeling of other constituents of concern to develop restoration measures for those constituents.
- Develop integrated alternatives, and simulate the alternatives to determine the effectiveness at improving overall water quality to eliminate single-objective alternatives focused on one or two constituents. This effort should include a cost-effectiveness analysis to optimize multiple objective alternatives.

Las Virgenes Creek

- Continue participation in watershed advocacy groups such as the Malibu Creek Watershed Advisory Council (MCWAC). This will allow for continued data sharing with other organizations located within the watershed.
- Coordinate with Los Angeles County Flood Control District to limit erosion near the City's northern border. This area is also identified for wetland creation and restoration.
- Coordinate with private landowners north of the 101 Freeway, within the City, to install structural BMPs within the large parking areas west of the creek. This can be combined with

educational outreach for the residents located within this area on the importance of the storm water program.

- Coordinate with Caltrans and neighboring jurisdictions to limit non-point source pollution from entering the creek. This coordination would emphasize limiting the trash from freeway motorists as well as extensive erosion along the smaller tributaries intersecting Mureau Road.
- Restore a soft bottom creek channel in the area just south of the 101 Freeway by removal of the concrete channel and embankments. This site is located between Agoura Road and the 101 Freeway. The project is currently in the beginning stages of feasibility determination and design.
- Coordinate with the California Department of Fish and Game to develop and implement a program to eliminate crayfish and bull frogs from within the study area. This program would be implemented to improve the existing habitat for the only locally present native fish, the arroyo chub.
- Implement the identified habitat improvement projects discussed in chapter 4. The source control measures and BMPs stated in chapter 5 can also have multiple water quality improvements.

Dry Canyon Creek

- Participate in watershed advocacy groups such as the Los Angeles and San Gabriel River Watershed Council. This will allow for data sharing with other organizations located within the watershed.
- Conduct a survey of septic systems within the City to locate and quantify existing systems within the study area. The survey should include a means of determining the condition of identified septic systems and a mechanism for requiring immediate corrective action for inadequately maintained or failing systems.
- Continue to assist Mountains Restoration Trust with increased public participation activities including public outreach and the development of a citizen-monitoring program.
- Continue coordination with Mountains Restoration Trust to identify and purchase available property within the watershed. These selected acquisitions would include the purchase of the remainder of Headwaters Corner and adjacent parcels, for consolidation with the existing Mountains Restoration Trust property.
- Implement the identified habitat improvement projects discussed in s chapter 4. The source control measures and BMPs stated in chapter 5 can also have multiple water quality improvements.

McCoy Creek

- Participate in watershed advocacy groups such as the Los Angeles and San Gabriel River Watershed Council. This will allow for data sharing with other organizations located within the watershed.
- Develop a working group of the private property owners within the watershed to share watershed information and coordinate habitat improvement projects. The working group should include, at a minimum, representatives from New Millennium, Calabasas Golf and Country Club, Countrywide Financial, and the Calabasas Tennis and Swim Center.
- Implement the identified habitat improvement projects discussed in chapter 4. The source control measures and BMPs stated in chapter 5 can also have multiple water quality improvements.
- Coordinate the identified habitat improvement projects, in the lower watershed, with the Lake Calabasas Homeowners Association.
- Coordinate with the Lake Calabasas lake managers to identify when the lake overflows into McCoy Creek.
- Provide storm water and water quality educational outreach to the Lake Calabasas Homeowners Association with the potential to expand the outreach to all residents in the future.