

# Russian River Ad Hoc Charter

## Background

The Board of Supervisors established the Russian River Ad Hoc on January 13, 2026, to provide direction to staff on exploring a framework for improving collaboration across County departments/agencies working on infrastructure and ecosystem enhancements in the Russian River. The Ad Hoc focuses on improving internal County silos, promoting healthy working relationships with other entities engaged in watershed issues, and establishing a clear and unified vision for the County's role in supporting a healthy Russian River Watershed.

Areas of focus for the Ad Hoc Committee, as approved by the Board of Supervisors on March 24, 2026, include:

1. Inventory mapping: Create a comprehensive inventory of projects and programs, occurring in the watershed being led, supported, or tracked by the County.
2. Opportunities for Collaboration: Identify essential projects that lack ownership to ensure they are addressed.
3. Unified messaging: Support more consistent information sharing that can facilitate County policy and decision making.

## Committee Members

James Gore, Fourth District Supervisor

Lynda Hopkins, Fifth District Supervisor

## Committee Duration

The Russian River Ad Hoc Committee will be convened for a limited term through December 2026, unless extended by the Board of Supervisors.

## County Department, Resources

Christel Querijero, County Executive's Office

Todd Hunsdorfer, County Executive's Office

Cory O'Donnell, County Counsel

## Outcomes

The desired outcome of the Russian River ad hoc is to establish a comprehensive understanding of actions occurring in the Watershed and support existing relationships with regional partners to accomplish common goals. By completing a comprehensive inventory of County led efforts, the Ad Hoc will be able to ensure the County is efficiently making use of limited resources. This initiative will result in a mechanism to provide consistent and timely information to the Board of Supervisors, County staff, and external partners while acting as a forum for County staff as they work to navigate complex, watershed-wide challenges.