

## San Diego Integrated Regional Water Management Program

### Proposition 84-Round 1 Implementation Grant Overview

In 2011, the San Diego IRWM program submitted a grant proposal to the Department of Water Resources for \$8 million (of \$71 million available to the San Diego IRWM region) in Proposition 84 funds. This proposal included 11 projects that would implement four high priority programs to meet the Region's water management needs.

#### Water Supply/Recycled Water Program

**Project 1: Sustainable Landscapes Program.** This project is designed to reduce water waste and pollutant infiltration into local waterways through development and implementation of landscape standards and specifications generally consistent with the California State Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance and the San Diego Regional Board MS4 Permit. This project is being developed in partnership with San Diego County Water Authority, City of San Diego, County of San Diego, California American Water, and non-profit partners such as California Center for Sustainable Energy, Surfrider Foundation, and Association of Compost Producers. The *Sustainable Landscapes Program* relies on the integration of landscape standards and specifications, education and training, incentives, outreach, and technical assistance to achieve project goals.



**Project 2: North San Diego County Regional Recycled Water Project.** This project is an effort by North San Diego County water and wastewater agencies to regionalize recycled water systems by identifying new agency interconnections, seasonal storage opportunities, and indirect potable water use that will maximize supplies, reduce wastewater discharges to ocean, reduce energy consumption due to diminished delivery of imported water, and allow recycled water to play an even more significant role in meeting future water needs. This project will involve support from many partners including Olivenhain Municipal Water District, Carlsbad Municipal Water District, Vallecitos Water District, Santa Fe Irrigation District, City of Oceanside, Leucadia Water District, City of Vista/Buena Sanitation District, San Elijo Joint Powers Authority, City of Escondido, and Rincon del Diablo Municipal Water District.

**Project 3: North San Diego County Cooperative Demineralization Project.** In Southern California wastewater, brackish water, and urban runoff are high in total dissolved solids (TDS) and other impurities that require advanced treatment to allow beneficial reuse. The *North San Diego County Cooperative Demineralization Project* is focused on developing new local water supplies and managing water quality issues by constructing advanced water treatment facilities at the San Elijo Water Reclamation Facility to mitigate high TDS sources, increase beneficial reuse, and study the feasibility of brackish to potable water desalination in North San Diego County.

**Project 4: Rural Disadvantaged Community (DAC) Partnership Project.** This project will provide funding to address inadequate water supply and water quality affecting rural DACs, including tribal communities. The project will reduce potential for high public health risks in water and/or wastewater systems and will promote environmental justice in rural communities by providing outreach to rural DACs for available infrastructure projects. The Rural Community Assistance Corporation (RCAC) will manage the grant funds and lead a representative group of stakeholders and agencies, including a representative of the San Diego IRWM program, to solicit and select rural DACs for funding of critical infrastructure improvement projects.



#### Water Quality/Stormwater Program



**Project 5: Lake Hodges Water Quality and Quagga Mitigation Measures.** This project is intended to address two issues centered within the San Dieguito Hydrologic Unit. The first is improving low water quality within Lake Hodges. The second is mitigating against the potential long term effects of quagga mussels on Lake Hodges, San Dieguito Reservoir, Olivenhain Reservoir, and attached facilities. This project is sponsored by the San Diego County Water Authority, but is complementary to the ongoing effort by the San Dieguito Water District, Santa Fe Irrigation District, City of San Diego, San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy, and the San Dieguito Watershed Council to address long term water quality and environmental issues within the Lake Hodges watershed.

**Project 6: Implementing Nutrient Management in the Santa Margarita River Watershed.** This project aims to establish nutrient water quality objectives (WQOs) for the Santa Margarita River estuary (Phase I) and ultimately the entire Santa Margarita River watershed (Phase II) that will lead to the implementation of nutrient reduction and water conservation practices in the watershed. The project consists of three major activities: 1) form and facilitate discussions among a Santa Margarita River watershed stakeholder group to guide project activities, 2) conduct monitoring and special studies to address data gaps identified by stakeholders to achieve project objectives, and 3) develop nutrient WQOs for the Santa Margarita River estuary. This project will also involve coordination with an adjacent IRWM region, the Upper Santa Margarita IRWM region.



**Project 7: Bannock Avenue Neighborhood Streetscape Enhancements for Tecolote Creek Watershed Protection.** The goal of the *Bannock Avenue Neighborhood Streetscape Enhancements for Tecolote Creek Watershed Protection* project is to reduce the pollutant load and volume of runoff entering the storm drain system in the Tecolote Creek Watershed. The load reduction goal will be achieved by diverting stormwater from the street to bioretention and treatment planters through curb cutouts. Enhanced streets will infiltrate storm flows through pervious pavement, which will reduce storm flows. These goals will also be achieved by diverting flows through a trash segregation unit and a series of AbTech (Bacterial Treatment System) units within the watershed.



**Project 8: Pilot Concrete Channel Infiltration Project.** The *Pilot Concrete Channel Infiltration Project* will convert a portion of the concrete channel in Woodglen Vista Creek (and other channels as budget/logistics permit) to a more porous base, facilitating infiltration of dry weather flows without compromising flood control capacity. This effort will assist the City of Santee and other MS4 Copermittees in the attainment of bacteria TMDL waste loading allocations.

**Project 9: San Diego Regional Water Quality Assessment and Outreach Project.** This project continues critical work conducted by San Diego Coastkeeper through 2011 as part of the Proposition 50 funding cycle. The project will engage community stakeholders to collect and analyze surface water samples in eight to nine watersheds throughout San Diego County and conduct trash removal in these

areas. Samples will be analyzed for physical, chemical, bacterial, dissolved metals and nutrient constituents, as well as toxicity and bioassessment indicators. Resultant water quality data will be publically accessible to support public involvement in water resource conservation and stewardship of watershed function and health.

### ***Natural Resources and Watersheds Program***

**Project 10: Chollas Creek Integration Project.** The purpose of the *Chollas Creek Integration Project* is to gather and generate scientific data and stakeholder input to form an integrated planning process that will update the Chollas Creek Enhancement Program (City of San Diego 2002) and establish implementation strategies. Further, this project will restore native habitat and reduce flooding hazards within Chollas Creek (Section 2A), which will provide baseline data for future water quality and habitat improvements. The project improves and maintains Chollas Creek as a natural urban drainage system that serves as a major conduit for stormwater runoff in the disadvantaged Encanto community.



### ***Data Management Program***



**Project 11: Regional Water Data Management Program.** The goal of the *Regional Water Data Management Program* is to provide a snapshot of current data management efforts and prioritize data needs and lay them out in a basic design parameters recommendations document for the future development of a regional, web-based system for sharing, disseminating and supporting the analysis of water management data and information.