



**Joint IRWM Plan Update Workshop #2 &
Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) Meeting #71**

December 6, 2017

9:00 am – 11:30 pm

San Diego County Water Authority Board Room

4677 Overland Avenue, San Diego, CA 92123

NOTES

Attendance

RAC Members

Ramin Abidi, County of San Diego (chair)

Albert Lau, Padre Dam Municipal Water District

Ann Van Leer, Escondido Creek Conservancy

Brian Olney, Helix Water District

Chris Helmer, City of Imperial Beach

Emily Fudge, U.S. Forest Service

Greg Thomas, Rincon del Diablo Municipal Water District

Janice DuVall, San Diego County Board of Education

Jennifer Hazard, Rural Community Assistance Corporation

John Flores, San Pasqual Band of Mission Indians

Joseph Randall for Kimberly Thorner, Olivenhain Municipal Water District

Justin Gamble, City of Oceanside

Kimberly O'Connell, University of California – San Diego Clean Water Utility

Lan Wiborg, City of San Diego

Mark Seits, Floodplain Management Association

Mark Stadler for Bob Yamada, San Diego County Water Authority

Meredith Meyers, San Diego Coastkeeper

Michael Garrod for Ron Mosher, Sweetwater Authority

Oscar Romo, Alter Terra

Phil Pryde, San Diego River Park Foundation

Roberto Yano, City of Chula Vista

Robyn Badger, San Diego Zoo Global

Roger Mitchell, San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board

S. Wayne Rosenbaum for Michael McSweeney, Building Industry Association

Sandra Jacobson, California Trout

Sarah Pierce, San Diego Association of Governments

RWMG Staff and Consultants

Andrew Funk, City of San Diego
Jen Sajor, Woodard & Curran
Loisa Burton, San Diego County Water Authority
Mark Stephens, City of San Diego
Sally Johnson, Woodard & Curran
Stephanie Gaines, County of San Diego

Interested Parties to the RAC

Brian Hojnack, City of San Diego
Joel Kramer, San Diego State University, Geography Department
Laura Walsh, Climate Collaborative
Leland Womack, Tory R. Walker Engineering
Lisa Wu, City of San Diego
Michele Shumate, San Diego County Water Authority
Martha Davis, City of San Diego
Pamela Carreon, City of San Diego
Tony Moore, City of San Diego

Welcome and Introductions

Mr. Ramin Abidi, County of San Diego, welcomed everyone to the meeting. Introductions were made around the room.

San Diego RWQCB Update

Mr. Roger Mitchell, San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), presented updates from the San Diego RWQCB.

- The Water Quality Improvement Plan (WQIP) for the San Juan Watershed was delayed due to compliance issues. The final plan will be submitted in early 2018.
- The WQIP for the Santa Margarita Management Area is completed and expected to be submitted in January 2018.
- The San Diego RWQCB has been following the Hepatitis A outbreak in San Diego County, particularly as it relates to water quality. The San Diego RWQCB encourages everyone to look at the County of San Diego’s disinfection procedures.
- The San Diego RWQCB is in the process of permitting the Claude “Bud” Lewis Carlsbad Desalination Plant for its Intake #21 structure. They are also considering an alternate Intake #21 structure. San Diego RWQCB is currently analyzing environmental impacts and is working with the California Coastal Commission to draft the Plant’s National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit.
- The Cannabis Cultivation Policy was approved in October 2017. The policy anticipates receiving approval by the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) in December 2018. The policy will cover the South Coast Region, which also includes the Los Angeles and Santa Ana

RWQCBs. The Santa Ana RWQCB will take the lead for the region with the San Diego RWQCB as support.

- The San Diego County Regional Airport Authority will use the parking lot at Terminal 2 for 100% stormwater capture for reuse in the Climate Control System.
- The U.S. Navy is removing sediments from the San Diego Bay in the vicinity of the Naval Station San Diego. They have removed 29,000 cubic yards of sediment, which will be sent to an Arizona landfill.

Questions/Comments:

- Are there any plans to issue Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) in the Tijuana River Valley?
 - We are looking at TMDLs, but there are no direct plans.

Stormwater Capture & Use Feasibility Study Update

Ms. Stephanie Gaines, County of San Diego, presented a summary of the Stormwater Capture & Use Feasibility Study (SWCFS) Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting #2. The SWCFS includes the following tasks:

1. Existing conditions
2. Feasibility Analysis
3. Cost Analysis
4. Implementation Approach/Prioritization
5. Feasibility Report

Although Task 1 was finalized, the project team is still taking any project concepts and data for review. Task 1 focused on data collection of existing watershed conditions and an inventory of stormwater capture facilities. TAC Meeting #2 focused on the Feasibility Analysis modeling approach (Task 2) and now the project is on Task 3 (Cost Analysis). The technical memorandum (TM) outlining the modeling approach, model results, and conclusions regarding opportunities and constraints is still open for public review. Ms. Gaines encouraged the RAC and the public to the review the TM on www.projectcleanwater.org.

Ms. Gaines presented the eight-step modeling approach used in the feasibility analysis. Step 1 of the approach was to identify public parcels for potential capture and storage capacity. The project identified 1,200 potential public parcels. Step 2 estimated the total potential for stormwater storage at the identified public parcels, which was estimated at 92,000 acre-feet per year (AFY). Step 3 identified beneficial uses for stormwater. The TAC was asked to identify which areas to focus on. The eight beneficial uses included discharge to groundwater aquifers, potable reuse, discharge to groundwater basins, natural hydrology, and biological uses. Step 4 identified concept projects that represented the beneficial uses and quantified the benefits and costs in AFY and dollars per gallon. In Step 5, the criteria associated with beneficial uses are applied to the potential parcel in order to refine the parcel list. Step 6 applied the costs and quantities developed in Step 4 to the refined public parcel list to determine regional volumes and unit costs. Step 7 was used to develop and apply criteria to the list of potential projects included in the Stormwater Resource Plan. Finally, Step 8 prioritizes the potential

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projects based on cost and quantities. The TAC identified opportunities and constrains for each beneficial use. Opportunities identified include partnerships and cost sharing, and meeting regulation compliance. The TAC also stressed the importance of multi-benefits. Constraints identified were water type incapability of stormwater, costs, and treatment requirements. The results of the Feasibility Analysis are expected in late January 2018.

Questions/Comments:

- There is a proposed amendment by John Bishop to the stormwater industrial general permit. It says there are incentives for industrial stormwater capture. How did the TAC consider integration with industrial groups? Did you reach out to the Water Resources Control Board regarding industrial stormwater?
 - No, but we would be happy to take any projects. We are looking at public parcels, and industrial stormwater would typically be on private parcels. But I [Ms. Gaines] am happy to meet with you about this idea.

San Diego Basin Study Update

Mr. Andrew Funk, City of San Diego (City), presented an update on the status of the San Diego Basin Study (Study). Three of the five tasks have been completed and published online. The project was extended and the final report will be submitted to Congress February 2019. The City is focused on Task 2.4 and Task 2.5. Remaining work on Task 2.4 *Structural and Operations Concepts* includes updating the CWASim Model to incorporate identified projects. The next step is to analyze the impact of climate change and increased demand on the San Diego basin as a whole. The goal of Task 2.5 *Trade-off Analysis and Recommendations* is to evaluate the trade-offs between portfolios developed in Task 2.4. A survey was sent out to help finalize the ranking process of Evaluation Objectives (EOs) and to provide relevant sources for their EO rankings. Mr. Funk thanked the RAC members who participated in the survey. The survey's 58 respondents represented a broad range of expertise including ecology, engineering, and finance. Next steps for Task 2.5 are to develop weighted scores for the EOs using the survey results and to begin scoring the adaptation concepts. Mr. Funk referred to the meeting handouts to help remind RAC members of the details of the scoring process review and adaptation concepts. Task 2.4 preliminary results and Task 2.5 EO weighted scored will be shared at the April RAC meeting.

Questions/Comments:

- When will we see the final scoring process for the projects?
 - The final scoring process review will be in April 2018. We will be scoring the adaptation concepts not individual projects identified.
- Can you let everyone know when the next meeting is, so that we can participate?
 - We don't have a meeting scheduled yet, but we are working on it.

San Diego IRWM Program Update

Mr. Mark Stadler, San Diego County Water Authority (SDCWA), presented IRWM Program updates. Mr. Stadler outlined the Proposition (Prop) 1 Grant Program schedule. He noted that the current dates are tentative and are subject to change. The Draft Proposal Solicitation Package (PSP) for Round 1 Implementation Grant is anticipated in Spring 2018 with the Final PSP anticipated to be released in Summer 2018. Consultations between DWR and the Regions are expected in Fall 2018 and final

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applications will be due Winter 2018. The Proposition 1 - Round 2 Implementation Grant is anticipated in 2020. DWR has allocated the San Diego Funding Area a total of approximately \$34 million over the two grant cycles.

Mr. Stadler also presented statewide IRWM Program updates. Mr. Stadler outlined DWR's proposed grant process and how the San Diego IRWM Program has responded. The grant process steps are 1) applicant consultations, 2) DWR response, 3) application, and 4) evaluation. The San Diego IRWM Program supports consultations and requested opportunity to clarify application during the evaluation step prior to awards.

Questions/Comments:

- How much money are we getting in Prop 1 for IRWM?
 - There is \$33M remaining, which we anticipate will be divided equally between Round 1 and Round 2.

DAC Needs Assessment Update

Mr. Stadler presented an update about the DAC Needs Assessment. Today's meeting was the official kickoff of the DAC Needs Assessment, which is being funded under Prop 1. The development of definitions and mapping for disadvantaged communities (DACs), economically distressed areas (EDAs), underrepresented communities (URCs), and environmental justice (EJ) communities will take place from November 2017 through March 2018. DAC outreach and presentations will occur from March 2018 through September 2018. The Draft Regional DAC Needs Assessment is expected in the October-December 2018 timeframe.

Definitions have only been partially defined by DWR. DACs and some EDAs are defined. Currently, DWR has only stated that tribes are considered URCs. Mr. Stadler highlighted the draft definitions for URCs and EJ communities, which are not fully defined by DWR. In the San Diego IRWM Region, EJ communities are being defined with the help of U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (USEPA) EJ Screen tool and California's CalEnviroScreen. CalEnviroScreen is more extensive than the USEPA's EJ Screen tool, so it will be beneficial to use both tools for the San Diego region.

The San Diego IRWM Program is looking for non-profit and academic partners to support the consulting team in the development of the DAC Needs Assessment. The team is looking for entities and individuals who have experience working with DACs/EDA/URCs/EJ communities, specifically those communities who have not been involved in the IRWM program in the past. Entities or individuals selected will assist in identifying DAC organizations and outreaching to targeted DACs/EDA/URCs/EJ communities. The DAC Needs Assessment Request for Qualifications (RFQ) was released on November 17, 2017 and responses are due December 22, 2017. Similar partnerships have been coordinated in other IRWM regions to great success. For example, in the Coachella IRWM Region, the IRWM program was able to engage with communities that weren't previously engaged as a result of coordination with local NGOs. Mr. Stadler presented a list of DAC organizations in the San Diego Funding Area. He encouraged the RAC to spread the word about the RFQ and to contact him with any inquiries.

Questions/Comments:

- Congratulations to the SDCWA and the IRWM for using legislation to support NGOs. I think these are important definitions. Can we modify the MHI cutoff for DACs? San Diego has a higher cost of living than a lot of parts in the state. I don't think we should use the blanket statement "all tribes" to define URCs. Maybe we can change that to "majority of tribes"? I know some tribes in the state have pretty good leverage and representation. Maybe we can focus on helping Rural Community Assistance Corporation (RCAC), who represents tribes.
 - The DAC definition is set by DWR. I think the EDA definition, which uses an 85% MHI cutoff, gives us some flexibility about who we choose to include in the Needs Assessment. The language about the tribes comes straight from DWR. These are the only URCs they have defined.
 - San Diego recognizes tribes a lot better than a lot of other places in the state. On a whole, only two IRWM regions have tribal representation. Maybe this is what DWR was thinking about when they defined URCs.
- We should be careful with semantics.
- Do we have access to the shapefiles you used for the mapping?
 - All our shapefiles are on the San Diego IRWM website under WaterGIS. Because these are draft definitions, we haven't posted them yet. We will upload the finalized shapefiles and notify the group when they are ready.
- Are you hiring a consultant to do this work?
 - Some of the Needs Assessment will be in-house. But we also have an RFQ out to solicit help from local NGOs.
- If the definitions are being included in our IRWM Plan, then I think we should push back on DWR's language about the DAC MHI and URC definition.
 - I understand what you are saying. Changing the DAC MHI definition will be hard because it is written in the bond language.
 - Maybe for the tribe definition we can say, "All tribes are considered URCs, as well as..."
- Can you send the RFQ to the group?
 - Yes, we can send it to the group. And we will add a note about spreading the word.
- RCAC is helping with the Sacramento IRWM Region with their DAC Needs Assessment. Theirs is much more intense than San Diego's. Did DWR give you a guideline to follow for completing the Needs Assessment?
 - No, they didn't.

San Diego IRWM Plan Update

Mr. Stadler presented an update to the work being done on the San Diego IRWM Plan Update. Mr. Stadler explained that the Plan Update would take place in two phases. The phasing reflects the need to complete certain elements of the IRWM Plan within a specific timeframe to stay eligible for implementation grants. The IRWM Plan Update – Phase 1 is currently underway and will be completed by September 2018. This update will focus on 2016 IRWM Guideline requirements, particularly focusing on incorporating climate change components. The IRWM Plan Update – Phase 2 will incorporate the SWCFS and the DAC Needs Assessment into the IRWM Plan. Phase 2 is expected to

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be complete by July 2019. The kickoff was held at the October 4th RAC meeting and next steps will be to draft the IRWM chapters. Mr. Stadler outlined the work plan and schedule for updating the IRWM Plan and the types of input they will be requesting from the RAC at future meetings.

A draft definition for regional water security was presented to the group. Mr. Stadler also presented the climate change framework for the updated IRWM Plan. The initial framework was established in the 2013 IRWM Plan and will be built upon in the 2019 IRWM Plan Update. Definitions for climate resilience, climate adaptation, mitigation (climate), mitigation (of disaster risk and disaster), and vulnerability were presented to the group and were also given as handouts. They were then related to the 11 IRWM Objectives. Mr. Stadler solicited feedback from the group regarding these definitions.

Questions/Comments:

- I think we should add Objective K [climate change] to everything [referring to the climate change graphic].
 - Good point, we can also add a footnote say Objective K applies to all.
- What is the connection between the San Diego Basin Study and the IRWM Plan?
 - The Basin Study will be analyzing the actual concepts and doing scenario modeling. The IRWM Plan is the conceptual foundation of climate change for the region.

Grant Administration

Ms. Loisa Burton, SDCWA, presented updates on grant administration. The IRWM Program has now funded 67 projects for a total of \$96.4 million. Currently \$52.6 million has been billed to DWR with 33 projects that are complete or at least 80% complete. Prop 84-Round 1 was extended to next year and is almost complete. Ms. Burton highlighted projects from Prop 84-Round 1, Prop 84-Round 2, Prop 84-Round 3, and Prop 84-Round 4, including the UCSD Water Conservation and Watershed Protection Project, and the Chollas Creek Project. She also congratulated Carlsbad for completing their project. They billed a total of \$53M to the state.

The DWR approved the Prop 1 Planning Grant funding agreement for the IRWM Plan Update. As discussed previously, the kickoff happened in November 2017. The first reporting and invoicing is expected in December 2017. The final agreement for the DAC Involvement grant (used the fund the DAC Needs Assessment) is in DWR processing, with a finalized agreement expected in December 2017 or January 2018. The grant contract is expected to kick off in January 2018 and the first reporting will happen in March 2018.

Public Comments

None.

Summary and Next Steps

Ms. Sally Johnson, Woodard & Curran, presented current funding opportunities in the Region. There are four funding opportunities open now. Please visit each respective grant program's website (listed below) for the most current information.

Project Types	Website
DWR Sustainable Groundwater Planning (SGWP) Grant Program	
<u>Category 1</u> : Groundwater sustainability for Severe DACs <u>Category 2</u> : GSP planning and development	http://www.water.ca.gov/irwm/grants/sgwp/index.cfm
WaterSMART Drought Response Program	
<u>Drought Planning</u> : \$200K for a Plan or Plan Update; completed in 2 years	https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=298720
<u>Drought Resiliency Projects</u> : \$750K for projects that increase system flexibility and development of alternative supplies	https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=298763
Five Star and Urban Waters Restoration Grant Program	
Improve water quality, watersheds, and species habitats	http://www.nfwf.org/fivestar/Pages/2018rfp.aspx

Next RAC Meeting:

- February 7, 2017 – 9:00-11:30 am