



Tribal Outreach Meeting

**Monday August 13, 2012
2:00-4:00pm**

**Pala Administration Bldg
35008 Pala Temecula Road
Pala, CA 92059**

Meeting Notes

Attendees:

Jonathan Rash, Indian Health Service	Sandra Stoneburner, Los Coyotes Band of Indians
John Beresford, La Jolla Band of Indians	Mark Stadler, SDCWA
Leslie Cleveland, Bureau of Reclamation	Sheri McPherson, County of San Diego
Desi Vela, Ewiiapaayp Band of Indians	Goldy Thach, City of San Diego
Heidi Brow, Pala Band of Indians	Rosalyn Prickett, RMC
Shasta Gaughen, Pala Band of Indians	Stev Weidlich, AECOM
Thomas Rodriguez, La Jolla Band	

1. Welcome and Introductions

Stev Weidlich introduced the meeting, Shasta Gaughen welcomed everyone to the Pala Administration Building, and John Beresford provided a blessing.

2. IRWM Overview

Mark Stadler began the meeting by summarizing the purpose of the Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Plan, which is to ensure the “long-term sustainability of San Diego's water supply, water quality, and natural resources.” Mr. Stadler explained that the IRWM process is managed by three public agencies – the County of San Diego, the City of San Diego, and the San Diego County Water Authority – these three agencies are collectively referred to as the Regional Water Management Group (RWMG). A 32-member Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) representing water interests throughout the County provides input to the RWMG.

Questions/Comments

- Is there a tribal representative on the RAC?
 - *Rob Roy, a tribal representative from the La Jolla Band of Indians is on the RAC and has served on several of our Workgroups.*
- What are the goals of the IRWM Program?
 - *The IRWM Plan goals are:*

- i. *Optimize water supply reliability*
 - ii. *Protect and enhance water quality*
 - iii. *Provide stewardship of watersheds and natural resources*
 - iv. *Coordinate and integrate water resource management*
- Are non-Federally recognized tribes included in the IRWM Program’s outreach efforts? These tribes include the San Luis Rey Band of Indians and the Mt. Laguna Band of Indians.
 - *Non-Federally recognized tribes have not been included to date, but will be added to the outreach list.*

3. Tribal Characterization in IRWM Plan Update

Rosalyn Prickett then gave a summary on the IRWM Plan Update and the RWMG’s intent to expand the description of the tribal nations within the region. She asked for input regarding what should be included for the tribal characterization and how that information should be gathered. Ms. Prickett noted that the disadvantaged communities map was included for reference purposes only. She referenced the list of issues in the meeting handouts, which were taken from a meeting with tribal representatives in 2010 and from noted issues in the County of San Diego General Plan.

Questions/Comments

- Recommend that the tribal information be emailed to the EPA for review.
- Leslie Cleveland of USBR also has additional information on tribes within the region.
- Suggest that the IRWM team send a reminder to attendees about the South County tribal meeting located at Viejas.
- Before that meeting, title of the map should be changed to “DAC and Tribal Lands,” and the overlay should clearly demonstrate that not all tribal lands are economically disadvantaged. The IRWM team should check back in with the tribes in the Spring time for accuracy of the map.
- The IRWM team should approach each tribe individually for water information. For some tribes, better information is available than what has been presented.
- The California Water Plan Tribal Summit is planned for April, and the IRWM team could present at the Summit. This could provide more opportunity for Southern California tribes to be involved; currently, the tribal summits are dominated by Northern California tribes.
- Chlorine sediments in the watershed are an issue for area tribes and that this chlorine may be coming from Northern California (via imported water).
- Indian Health Service may have some information on water treatment, tribal health issues, and chemical levels. RMC to follow up with Jonathon Rash.
- The Native American Environmental Protection Coalition and the Native American Water Masters Association should be invited to these meetings.
- The median household income table is inaccurate and should be removed. A disadvantaged communities map and a Native American lands map could be combined, as long as it is clear that not all Native American reservations are disadvantaged and that the two are not equated with one another.
- The information on tribal lands should be in the IRWM Plan Update’s Region Description, and not be a separate chapter.
- What information is needed from each tribe for the IRWM Plan Update?

- *A description of existing water resources and a description of water-related issues.*
- *The IRWM team will provide tribes with a list of what is needed. These descriptions should include a piece on the history of the tribe, what is important economically to each tribe, and what major land uses are present.*
- *Requests to the tribes should make it clear that documentation in the IRWM Plan Update is necessary if funding is applied for at a later time. The list provided to tribes should include prompts.*
- Need to clarify the value of IRWM and why tribes should participate.
- Pala project involving recycled water, groundwater, and water quality improvements might be good candidate for IRWM grant funding.

4. Prop 84-Round 2 Grant Opportunity

Mark Stadler summarized the amount of money available (approximately \$10 million) for water projects in Round 2 and that 5 to 7 projects are anticipated to be funded. He suggested that projects submitted for consideration should have multiple benefits and multiple partners. A meeting will be held on September 12, 2012 during which agencies (including tribes) can mingle and discuss project submittals. The IRWM team also described the project submittal process, which is available via the online project database.

Questions/Comments

- Need to comment on the draft DWR IRWM Guidelines that tribes should have a 10% set-aside and funding match should be waived (similar to DACs).
- Concern about the open reporting requirements in IRWM grant contracting. Sovereign nations do not have open books, and tribal nations want to be self-sustaining. These concerns should be stressed to DWR – regarding sensitivities to tribal issues.
- Concern about CEQA mandates for State funding – CEQA is not enforceable on tribal lands, and DWR should amend their guidelines to reflect this fact.
- Are feasibility studies eligible for IRWM funding?
 - *For projects serving DACs, feasibility studies may receive funding. For non-DAC projects, capital (on-the-ground) components are required.*

5. San Diego Tribal Water Stories

Stev Weidlich provided information on the Tribal Water Stories project, introducing the idea of interviewing elders and cultural resource specialists from the various tribes and documenting traditional stories and other information about the importance of water. He referenced an example story in the meeting packet and stressed that DWR had put together its own packet of stories but that Southern California is not represented.

Questions/Comments

- The State's Tribal Water Stories are dominated by Central and Northern California – need San Diego-specific stories.
- Suggest reaching out to individual tribes to get stories from elders.
- EPA Region 9 Conference will be occurring in late November. Suggest that the IRWM team include a presentation on the Tribal Water Stories.

6. Tribal Participation in the IRWM Program

Rosalyn Prickett inquired if there are other tribal groups, representatives, or interests that should be included in the IRWM process and invited to meetings such as the one held today. Several participants offered suggestions.

Questions/Comments

- The IRWM team will reach out to the Native American Environmental Protection Coalition and the Native American Water Masters Association for Speakers Bureau presentations.

Thanks to all for joining us today!