



This Form is applicable to any IRWM Region within a Cooperative Funding Area that chooses their Application to be not scored as per Table 4 in the PSP. This Form will be used to ensure an appropriate process was followed to select projects for Proposition 1 IRWM Implementation Round 2 that includes all criteria required by Proposition 1 for project eligibility and preferences. The completed form should not exceed three pages.

1. Please describe the criteria used to select IRWM projects. Selection criteria must include the preferences required by Proposition 1:
 - Projects that leverage funding
 - Projects that achieve multiple benefits shall receive special consideration
 - Special consideration will be given to projects that employ new or innovative technology or practices, including decision support tools that support the integration of multiple jurisdictions, including, but not limited to, water supply, flood control, land use, and sanitation
 - Projects that help address the impacts caused by nitrate, arsenic, perchlorate, or hexavalent chromium contamination, including projects that provide safe drinking water to small disadvantaged communities

The San Diego IRWM (SDIRWM) Program uses a multi-step process to evaluate and select projects, outlined in Chapter 9 of the 2019 San Diego IRWM Plan, which can be accessed here: https://sdirwmp.org/pdf/SDIRWM_09_Projects_FINAL_2019.pdf. The first step is to score projects based on the scoring criteria included in the San Diego IRWM Plan. The numeric scoring criteria are included in Table 9-1 of the 2019 San Diego IRWM Plan, and weighting assigned to each criterion based on the current PSP, SDIRWM Program priorities, and stakeholder input. Weighting was approved by stakeholders at the April 2022 Regional Advisory Committee meeting, in accordance with the process described in the 2019 San Diego IRWM Plan. The stakeholder-approved [Scoring Criteria](#) used for this round of funding is available on the SDIRWM website. The second step is to evaluate projects qualitatively, using a Project Selection Workgroup. Guidance for the workgroup to consider is outlined in the San Diego IRWM Plan in [Table 9-2](#). This guidance directs the workgroup to look at projects individually and as a package.

Scoring criteria award additional points to projects that achieve multiple benefits and integrate across watersheds, among other criteria. The SDIRWM Program defines integration in five ways, including partnerships across organizations, implementation of multiple resource management strategies, addressing multiple beneficial uses, spanning multiple watersheds, and addressing multiple watershed functions. Qualitative considerations include verifying funding match requirements can be met (leveraging funding), a variety of benefits that would be realized across different types of project sponsors and communities, and innovative technology.

The scoring criteria and qualitative guidelines do not specifically prioritize projects that address impacts of nitrate, arsenic, perchlorate, or hexavalent chromium contamination, because the San Diego IRWM Program has no control over the types of projects that are submitted. However, for Round 2, the Project Selection Workgroup did select The Acres Phase 1 Part 2 project specifically because of its direct drinking water benefits to a DAC. The well water in this community is high in nitrates, and the project will allow residents to switch over to safe, reliable drinking water provided by Ramona Municipal Water District.



2. IRWM Regions must use a competitive process to select projects for Round 2. How were the selection criteria in Question 1 applied to the project selection process? Please describe if any of the criteria was weighted differently, if applicable.

The selection criteria in Question 1 were applied to the selection process via a weighted score. The various weighting factors (listed in the far right column of the Scoring Criteria) were determined by the Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) in coordination with the Regional Water Management Group (RWMG). During the development of this proposal, the RAC voted on the scoring criteria weighting on April 6, 2022 and the call for projects opened that day. Project scoring was performed on May 16 and 17, 2022 by Woodard & Curran staff with experience in IRWM but not working directly in the San Diego IRWM region. The scored project list was made publicly available on May 18, 2022 and a RAC meeting was held on May 24, 2022 to discuss project scoring. Four nearly full-day project selection workgroup meetings were held on May 25, June 2, June 9, and June 10, 2022. The Water Authority Board of Directors approved the submittal of this application on July 28, 2022.

The process followed for this round of funding was consistent with the description of the SDIRWM Program's project selection process in the 2019 San Diego IRWM Plan, with one minor modification. For this round of funding, projects were not sorted into Tier 1 and Tier 2 projects this round. Only 12 projects were submitted for consideration. One project was deemed ineligible because it was not an "IRWM-type" project. The process outlined in the 2019 San Diego IRWM Plan was modified in Fall of 2021 to reduce barriers to success for underrepresented community projects. Under the revised process, all URC projects that score into Tier 2 are automatically elevated to Tier 1. Once the ineligible project was removed, and all URC projects moved into Tier 1, only a limited number of projects would remain in Tier 2. As such, the RWMG recommended that all projects be considered "Tier 1" for full discussion with the Project Selection Workgroup, and this recommendation was approved by the RAC at the May 2022 RAC meeting.

An overview of the project review and selection process is outlined in the San Diego IRWM Plan in [Figure 9-2](#).

3. Did the project selection process comply with the process included in the adopted IRWM Plan? If not, please explain.

Yes, the project selection process complied with the process included in the 2019 San Diego IRWM Plan (see [Chapter 9](#)), with the minor modification to tiering as described above.

New for the Round 2 solicitation, the PSP recommends applicants submit a list of backup projects with their application to ensure that all voter-approved funds can be spent in this round of the solicitation, in the event that DWR finds a project or project component ineligible. The San Diego IRWM region appreciates this flexibility. As discussed with DWR at a workshop with SDCWA on July 18, 2022, the six projects included in this proposal requested more funding than is currently being awarded. Therefore, in the event that a project submitted herein fails to meet DWR's eligibility requirements, the Project Selection Workgroup voted to re-allocate any returned or unused funds within the remaining submitted projects. These six projects represent the highest priority projects for the region from those submitted for consideration this round. As such, no additional backup projects are being submitted with this application.



4. Were all conflict-of-interest laws and policies followed in this selection process as outlined in the draft Grant Agreement Paragraph D.13?

☒ Yes ☐ No

I understand that the Department of Water Resources will rely on this signed certification in order to accept application for funding and that false and/or inaccurate representations in this Self-Certification may result in revocation of the award of funds or loss of all funds awarded to the Grantee.

Name of the IRWM Region: San Diego IRWM Region

Sandra Kerl

Name of Authorized Representative	Signature
General Manager	8/17/2022
Title	Date