

Integrated Projects Recommended for
Funding within the Santa Ana River Watershed

The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) recently recommended fully-funding a \$ 12 M project portfolio submitted by SAWPA as the first projects undertaken as part of the One Water One Watershed (OWOW) Program. These projects are located Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino Counties and will produce over 100,000 acre feet of water for the region. The project portfolio provides integrated flood control/habitat benefits, non-point source pollution reduction, salt removal from local aquifers, and enhanced groundwater recharge.

Thirteen projects were recommended by an independent, expert review panel from nearly 300 submissions. These projects were ready-to-implement, provided multiple water benefits to the region and were developed through a collaborative process involving multiple agencies and disciplines. Project leads recommended by DWR for funding include:

San Bernardino County Flood	Orange County Sanitation District
Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority	Eastern Municipal Water District
City of Ontario	City of Menifee
City of Huntington Beach	West Valley Water District
Orange County Water District	Western Municipal Water District
Santa Ana Watershed Association	City of Corona
Irvine Ranch Water District	

Project funding will be provided from an allocation to DWR from Proposition 84, Chapter 2. This funding was meant to encourage integrated watershed projects and is first portion of \$114 M allocated to the Santa Ana Watershed. The rest of the project costs will covered by local or other funds.

The OWOW Program was convened by SAWPA to facilitate integrated water management for the region where all agencies and groups involved in water work to develop multi-benefit water resources management strategies that address issues at the watershed scale. The OWOW Program was recently selected as one of the most innovative government programs by the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

Hope to see you there!



Celeste Cantú