



...A United Voice for the Santa Ana River Watershed

OWOW Steering Committee Members

Ronald W. Sullivan, Convener | SAWPA Commissioner
Thomas P. Evans, SAWPA Commissioner
Shawn Nelson, Orange County Supervisor
Marion Ashley, Riverside County Supervisor
Curt Hagman, San Bernardino County Supervisor
Laura Roughton, Councilmember, City of Jurupa Valley

Jon Harrison, Councilmember, City of Redlands
Jose Solorio, Councilmember, City of Santa Ana
James Hessler, Altman Plants
Garry W. Brown, Orange County Coastkeeper
Linda Ackerman, Regional Water Quality Control Board

REGULAR MEETING OF THE OWOW STEERING COMMITTEE

Thursday, March 22, 2018 – 11:00 a.m.
at SAWPA, 11615 Sterling Avenue, Riverside, CA 92503

and via telephone conference at

2855 McAllister Street
Riverside, CA 92503

AGENDA

1. **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Members of the public may address the Committee on items within the jurisdiction of the Committee; however, no action may be taken on an item not appearing on the agenda unless the action is otherwise authorized by Government Code §54954.2(b).

3. **APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES: January 25, 2018**

4. **BUSINESS ITEMS**

A. **OWOW Plan Update 2018 Call for Projects and Procedure for Including Submitted Projects in the OWOW Plan Update 2018 (SC#2018.7)**

Recommendation: Approve the opening of the OWOW Plan Update 2018 Call for Projects.

Mike Antos



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5. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- A. [DWR Proposition 1 Implementation Grants and OWOW Project Selection Weighting and Ranking \(SC#2018.8\)](#) Mike Antos

Recommendation: Receive this presentation and provide guidance to SAWPA staff about the effort to establish a rating and ranking system for projects competing for Proposition 1 IRWM implementation grants.

- B. [California Water Plan Update 2018 Pilot Study in the Watershed \(SC#2018.9\)](#) Mike Antos

Recommendation: Receive and provide feedback in response to a presentation from SAWPA staff and a consultant team from the California Water Plan Update 2018.

6. ADJOURNMENT

PLEASE NOTE:

Americans with Disabilities Act: Meeting rooms are wheelchair accessible. If you require any special disability related accommodations to participate in this meeting, please contact (951) 354-4220 or kberry@sawpa.org. Notification at least 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable staff to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility for this meeting. Requests should specify the nature of the disability and the type of accommodation requested.

Materials related to an item on this agenda submitted to the Commission after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection during normal business hours at the SAWPA office, 11615 Sterling Avenue, Riverside, and available at www.sawpa.org, subject to staff's ability to post documents prior to the meeting.

Declaration of Posting

I, Kelly Berry, Clerk of the Board of the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority declare that on Thursday, March 15, 2018, a copy of this agenda has been uploaded to the SAWPA website at www.sawpa.org and posted at the SAWPA office, 11615 Sterling Avenue, Riverside, California, and 2855 McAllister Street, Riverside, California.

/s/

Kelly Berry, CMC

<u>2018 – OWOW Steering Committee Meetings</u>	
Fourth Thursday of Every Other Month (NOTE: All meetings begin at 11:00 a.m. , unless otherwise noted, and are held at SAWPA.)	
January 25, 2018	March 22, 2018
May 24, 2018	July 26, 2018
September 27, 2018	November 15, 2018*
* Meeting date adjusted due to conflicting holiday.	



...A United Voice for the Santa Ana River Watershed

**OWOW STEERING COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 25, 2018**

Committee Members	
<u>Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority Representatives</u>	
Ronald W. Sullivan, Eastern Municipal Water District	Present
Thomas P. Evans, Convener, Western Municipal Water District	Present
<u>County Supervisor Representatives</u>	
Marion Ashley, Riverside County Board of Supervisors	Absent
Shawn Nelson, Orange County Board of Supervisors	Absent
Curt Hagman, San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors	Present
<u>County Mayor Representatives</u>	
Jon Harrison, Councilmember, City of Redlands	Present
Laura Roughton, Councilmember, City of Jurupa Valley	Present
Jose Solorio, Councilmember, City of Santa Ana	Present
<u>Business Committee Representative</u>	
James Hessler, Director of West Coast Operations, Altman Plants	Present
<u>Environmental Committee Representative</u>	
Garry W. Brown, President, Orange County Coastkeeper	Absent
<u>Regional Water Quality Control Board Representative</u>	
Linda Ackerman, Vice Chair, Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board	Present
Others Present	
<u>SAWPA COMMISSIONERS:</u>	Jasmin A. Hall, Inland Empire Utilities Agency Gil Navarro, Alternate, San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District Bruce Whitaker, Alternate, Orange County Water District
<u>SAWPA STAFF:</u>	Rich Haller, Larry McKenney, Mark Norton, Karen Williams, Mike Antos, Dean Unger, Ian Achimore, Kelly Berry, Sara Villa

The OWOW Steering Committee meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m. by Ronald W. Sullivan, Convener, at the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, 11615 Sterling Avenue, Riverside, California.

1. **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**
2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.



3. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – November 16, 2017

MOVED, approve the November 16, 2017 meeting minutes.

Result:	Adopted (Unanimously)
Motion/Second:	Hagman/Harrison
Ayes:	Ackerman, Evans, Hagman, Harrison, Hessler, Sullivan
Nays:	None
Abstentions:	None
Absent:	Ashley, Brown, Nelson, Roughton, Solorio

Committee Member Solorio joined the meeting at 11:04 a.m., after the discussion of Agenda Item No. 3.

Committee Member Roughton joined the meeting at 11:06 a.m., after the discussion of Agenda Item No. 3.

4. BUSINESS ITEMS

A. Projects of the OWOW Plan Update 2018 (SC#2018.1)

Mike Antos provided a PowerPoint presentation on the OWOW Plan Update 2018, and provided a brief background on how the Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) plan includes a suite of projects that will, if implemented, help achieve the goals and objectives of the OWOW Plan. Antos informed the Committee that, in the process of the OWOW Plan Update 2018, the Steering Committee is responsible for: 1) Issuing the Call for Projects for inclusion in the plan, 2) Developing a ranked portfolio of those projects that are in the OWOW Plan Update 2018 that wish to compete for Prop 1 IRWM implementation grants, and 3) Developing of a policy for how the list of projects can be continuously updated over time, and how that policy will interact with the need of organization to approve the OWOW Plan Update 2018.

Convener Sullivan questioned how the ranking of the projects will be determined. Antos noted that to some extent it will be driven by the preview of what Proposition 1 wants accomplished. The Proposal Solicitation Package (PSP) that comes from the State will set the context, as well as the recommendation from the Pillars and the knowledge and expertise of the Steering Committee. Committee Member Roughton asked will the Goals and Objectives be included as guidance when the Call for Projects is sent out, and enquired as to the distribution process of the Call for Projects. Antos responded yes, the Goals and Objectives will be included with the Call for Projects, and Mark Norton noted that there is an online form process that is distributed to the standard OWOW email contact list of over 3,000 people. A notice will be distributed with instructions about listing their project. Committee Member Roughton noted that she was recently involved with the Santa Ana River Conservancy Plan where entities up and down the river were asked to submit their projects; will those projects be included with this process? Antos responded yes, the idea is to be able to import directly from other databases such as the project list in the OC Plan, and he anticipates reaching out to Coastal Conservancy in gathering the project submittal report for the Santa Ana River Conservancy Plan. Committee Member Solorio questioned if the project submittals will be screened to ensure the appropriate context is entered and that there are no duplicates; Antos noted SAWPA staff will review project submittals.

Convener Sullivan recommended staff appear before each Council of Governments within the watershed and provide them with an outline of the process, stating emails may not be as effective.

This item was for informational and discussion purposes; no action was taken on Agenda Item No. 4.A.

5. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS



A. Finalization of Watershed Signage with Bri Communications (SC#2018.2)

Ian Achimore provided a PowerPoint presentation about the Finalization of the Watershed Signage. Bri Communications completed the design and installation of 64 educational signs throughout the Santa Ana River Watershed. The signage includes a map of the watershed, the location of major cities and water resources such as tributaries, rivers and lakes, and a paragraph about the OWOW program. The signage cost was funded by SAWPA and other water agencies as well as sponsorships; the logo of sponsoring agencies appears at the bottom of the signs.

This item was for informational and discussion purposes; no action was taken on Agenda Item No. 5.A.

B. OWOW Proposition 84 2015 Round Projects Update (SC#2018.3)

Ian Achimore provided a PowerPoint presentation on the OWOW Proposition 84 2015 Round Projects Update. Achimore introduced Imad Guirguis of Riverside County Flood Control & Water Conservation District, and informed the Committee that two of the project proponents who have received funding from the OWOW Proposition 84 2015 Round are requesting amendments to the SAWPA Grant Agreement executed by DWR in November 2016. The two projects are the 2015 Integrated Watershed Protection Program and the Santa Ana River Conservation and Conjunctive Use Program (SARCCUP).

The 2015 Integrated Watershed Protection Program includes three components focused on providing flood protection and water supply to western Riverside County; 1) The San Jacinto River Levee, Stage 4, Phase 1, 2) Bautista Optimization Pond, and 3) Beaumont Master Drainage Plan (MDP) Line 16. The SARCCUP includes three components focused on providing water supply and ecosystem restoration in the watershed; 1) Habitat Improvements, 2) SARCCUP Water Use Efficiency, and 3) Conjunctive Use.

This item was for informational and discussion purposes; no action was taken on Agenda Item No. 5.B.

C. OWOW Plan Update 2018 Status (SC#2018.4)

Mike Antos provided a PowerPoint presentation on the OWOW Plan Update 2018 Status, and informed the Steering Committee that eight (8) draft annotated outlines of the Pillar chapters have been to date received and three (3) more are expected by the end of January. It is anticipated that the Call for Projects will be distributed in March; an internal review of the chapters with all the pillars and stakeholders is anticipated in April. With approval of the Steering Committee, the internal review process will result in a six (6) week public review period beginning in July, with final approval from the SAWPA Commission in November. Antos informed the Committee that Dudek was selected as a technical writing consultant to help support the OWOW Plan Update 2018, and a new agreement is being developed to allow U.S. Bureau of Reclamation to update climate data in support of OWOW Plan Update 2018. The OWOW Plan Update 2018 is on-schedule and on-budget.

This item was for informational and discussion purposes; no action was taken on Agenda Item No. 5.C.

D. Disadvantaged Community Involvement Program Status (SC#2018.5)

Mike Antos provided a PowerPoint presentation on the Disadvantaged Community Involvement Program (DCI) and provided a brief status update. There are three (3) Program Elements in the DCI; Program Element 1 – Strengths and Need Assessment, Program Element 2 – Education and Engagement, and Program Element 3 – Project Development. SAWPA staff continues to support the DCI Tribal Community Pillar and is in the process of developing a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). The TAC will recommend to the Steering Committee how best to allocate the



Project Development funds within the grant. The TAC is currently constituted of one member of each of the program partners and one outside expert. Additional members are being recruited for the every-other month meetings, working towards a full roster of nine (9) members. Steering Committee recommendations for those expenditures will be presented to the SAWPA Commission for concurrence. Antos informed the Steering Committee that the second Homelessness and Water Symposium was held in Fullerton on December 7, and ninety (90) people attended. The DCI Program is on-schedule and on-budget. Committee Member Solorio suggested that the TAC members include representatives who have working relationships within the Disadvantaged Communities.

This item was for informational and discussion purposes; no action was taken on Agenda Item No. 5.D.

E. Proposition 1 IRWM Round 1 Status and Sacramento Trip (SC#2018.6)

Mark Norton provided a PowerPoint presentation on Proposition 1 IRWM Implementation Funding. For grant purposes, DWR divides the state into 12 Funding Areas, and the Santa Ana Funding Area is approximately SAWPA's service area. SAWPA is the only State-recognized, grant-eligible IRWM group in the Funding Area. Other funding areas have multiple IRWM regions that compete for funding. Under Proposition 1, \$63 M is allocated – \$6.3 M for DAC involvement, \$6.3 M for DAC projects, and \$45.9 M for other projects that implement the OWOW Plan. Norton referenced the Proposition 1 implementation eligible projects and requirements, and noted that non-state share not less than 50% of total project cost may be waived for certain projects benefiting DAC, economically distressed areas and under-represented communities. The proposed revised process; Step 1 – Applicant Presentation/Consultation, Step 2 – DWR Response, Step 3 – IRWM Region Submits Application, and Step 4 – DWR Evaluates and Makes Draft Funding Recommendation.

Norton informed the Committee that SAWPA staff met with DWR upper management on January 22 and discussed DWR's schedule. The Roundtable of Regions will see a Conceptual Grant Application Proposal Solicitation Package (PSP) in February 2018. The official release of the Draft PSP is April 2018, and the Final PSP will be released June 2018. Larry McKenney noted that DWR has a positive approach in incentivizing good regional planning in the IRWM program and is allowing more flexibility on the timeline for funding.

This item was for informational and discussion purposes; no action was taken on Agenda Item No. 5.E.

6. DATE/TIME FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

Convener Sullivan informed the Committee that there being no clear consensus on the doodle poll results for future meetings, he recommends keeping the OWOW Steering Committee meetings on the fourth Thursday of every-other month.



7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting came to a close at 12:34 p.m.

APPROVED: March 22, 2018

Ronald W. Sullivan, Convener

Attest:

Kelly Berry, CMC, Clerk of the Board

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OWOW STEERING COMMITTEE MEMORANDUM NO. 2018.7

DATE: March 22, 2018

TO: OWOW Steering Committee

SUBJECT: OWOW Plan Update 2018 Call for Projects and procedure for including submitted projects in the OWOW Plan Update 2018

PREPARED BY: Mike Antos, Senior Watershed Manager

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the OWOW Steering Committee approve the opening of the OWOW Plan Update 2018 Call for Projects.

It is further recommended that the OWOW Steering Committee approve the proposed procedure for managing the inclusion of projects to the OWOW Plan Update 2018 from a continuously-open call.

DESCRIPTION

Part of an Integrated Regional Water Management plan is a suite of projects that will together help accomplish the goals of the plan. The OWOW Plan Update 2018 (the Plan) has developed goals and objectives for the watershed that are broad and supported by the diverse stakeholders, the OWOW Steering Committee, and the SAWPA Commission. These goals & objectives support the recommended management and policy strategies that are currently being developed by the Pillar workgroups. The recommended management and policy strategies will be the blueprint for how implementation of the Plan can achieve the goals that have been set.

Upon your approval SAWPA will open the Call for Projects with an email blast, tweets, and direct contact with select agencies. The online project submittal tool will be available for anyone in the watershed to propose a project and describe how that project will help achieve the goals of the OWOW Plan Update 2018.

Work is ongoing to import directly to the OWOW Program's project database the lists of projects that have been gathered by other planning efforts in the watershed. The current list of target plans is below, with the responsible organization in parentheses:

- Integrated Resources Plan (IEUA)
- Long-term facilities plan (Orange County Water District)
- OC Plan (County of Orange)
- Santa Ana River Parkway & Open Space Plan (Coastal Conservancy)
- Stormwater Resources Management Plan (Chino Basin Watermaster)
- Stormwater Resources Management Plan (County of Orange)

- Upper Santa Ana River Watershed IRWM (San Bernardino Valley MWD)

Proponents of imported projects will receive an email with a link and login information, so they can ensure the import was successful and fill in additional necessary details.

In past OWOW Plan updates, a final list of projects was included in the plan. Past practice was that once the final OWOW Plan update was completed with a final list of projects, it would be presented to the OWOW Steering Committee for final review and then to the SAWPA Commission for adoption consideration. To ensure the project list was complete, a deadline for project submittals using the online project submittal was established by SAWPA staff several months before adoption.

Because of changes in State policy, it is SAWPA's intention to keep the submittal tool open indefinitely. This means that a new procedure is needed for the approval of projects into the OWOW Plan Update 2018. The proposed procedure is described below.

1. OWOW Program online project submittal tool remains open.
2. When the OWOW Plan Update 2018 is finalized, the then-existing list of projects will be included in the Plan as it circulates for approvals.
3. Outside the plan update cycle, periodically SAWPA staff will gather newly submitted projects and bring them before the OWOW Steering Committee to act to add them to the OWOW Plan.
4. Outside the plan update cycle, once per year proponents of projects in the OWOW Plan will receive an automated reminder to update the information about their projects.
5. A project in the OWOW Plan which has not received an update in two years will be considered out-of-date, removed from public view, and a notification will be sent to the proponent. An update will restore the project to public view. Failure to update by the proponent within three months of this notification will be deemed a withdrawal of the project from the OWOW Plan.
6. The OWOW Plan Update 2018 will include a written section describing this procedure so that others who adopt the Plan are aware, and through their approval, supportive of the procedure.

OWOW STEERING COMMITTEE MEMORANDUM NO. 2018.8

DATE: March 22, 2018

TO: OWOW Steering Committee

SUBJECT: DWR Proposition 1 Implementation Grants and OWOW Project Selection Weighting and Ranking

PREPARED BY: Mike Antos, Senior Watershed Manager

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended the OWOW Steering Committee receive this presentation and provide guidance to SAWPA staff about the effort to establish a rating and ranking system for projects competing for Proposition 1 IRWM implementation grants.

DESCRIPTION

On March 1st, Department of Water Resources (DWR) published its current plan for administering the Prop 1 IRWM implementation grants (attachment A). DWR plans to release a draft Project Solicitation Package (PSP) in May 2018, followed by a 45-day comment period during which DWR will hold three meetings across the State to review the document. The final PSP will be released in summer. Between September and December, DWR will hold regional consultation meetings to discuss the suite of projects each region is planning to submit. This is a new idea at DWR, intended to help regions craft strong proposals and benefit from DWR's understanding of Prop 1. Our implementation grant proposal to the State is due at the end of December.

The OWOW Steering Committee will provide guidance on a list of projects that will be put forward by SAWPA for any funding opportunity. The OWOW Steering Committee forwards the list to the SAWPA Commission for action prior to submittal, in this case to DWR. The most recent project selection criteria adopted by the Steering Committee were used in the 2015 Proposition 84 IRWM Implementation Grant Round. (Attachment B, and discussed in "background" below). These criteria may be updated or replaced based DWR's PSP, stakeholder input, and the Steering Committee's feedback.

In April, the Pillars and stakeholders will meet to discuss the project selection criteria and process. With that input, staff will bring recommendations to the OWOW Steering Committee in May and July, with the intent to have an approved weighting and ranking system in July. This schedule maximizes stakeholder engagement, consistent with DWR's schedule.

Project proponents have had the OWOW Steering Committee's adopted Proposition 1 eligibility criteria in hand for more than a year. In the coming months, project proponents who wish to have their projects compete for implementation grants will be asked to provide additional information to the OWOW Program online database of projects. This information will quantify each project's compliance with the selection criteria, as well as the proposed benefits the project will provide the

watershed. Using these submitted data, the OWOW Steering Committee will oversee the rating and ranking process for projects to be included in the grant proposal submitted by SAWPA to DWR.

BACKGROUND

The OWOW Plan Update 2018 has developed goals and objectives for the watershed that are broad and supported by the diverse stakeholders, the OWOW Steering Committee, and the SAWPA Commission. These goals & objectives support the recommended management and policy strategies that are currently being finalized by the Pillar workgroups. The recommended management and policy strategies will be the blueprint for how implementation of OWOW Plan Update 2018 (the Plan) can achieve the goals that have been set. One role of the Plan is as a framework from which projects are selected for submission to the State in a proposal to use the funds allocated to the watershed in Proposition 1.

On July 7, 2016 the OWOW Steering Committee approved a project eligibility criteria for Prop 1 implementation grants (Appendix B), adding the following preamble:

IRWM is a collaborative effort to manage all aspects of water resources in a region. IRWM crosses jurisdictional, watershed and political boundaries; involves multiple agencies, stakeholders, individuals and groups; and attempts to address the issues and differing perspectives of all entities involved through mutually beneficial solutions. Our goal is to seek benefits which improve the entire watershed and are not achieved at the expense or detriment of another.

During the 2015 Prop 84 IRWM implementation grant round, the following project rating and ranking factors were used to rank projects. For each factor points were earned proportionally to how each benefit claimed matched the same benefits claimed by other projects. So, projects in the top tier of claimed water supply benefit would get full points, those in the second tier would get a proportion of points, etc.

<u>Benefit Class:</u>	<u>Factor(s):</u>
<i>Benefit to the watershed:</i>	<i>population served by project, area served by the project</i>
<i>Water supply:</i>	<i>new supply, dry year yield augmentation</i>
<i>Hydrology and flood control:</i>	<i>flood risk reduction, natural hydrology</i>
<i>Enhancement of natural environment:</i>	<i>functional habitat value, invasive plant species, recreational or open space</i>
<i>Pollution management:</i>	<i>nonpoint source, contaminant and salt removal, greenhouse gas</i>
<i>Disadvantaged Community benefit:</i>	<i>(presence/absence)</i>
<i>Cost efficiency:</i>	<i>(ratio of grant dollars to benefits)</i>

These benefit classes were weighted by having unequal points available in each class:

<u>Benefit Class:</u>	<u>Factors:</u>
<i>Benefits to the watershed</i>	<i>20 points available</i>
<i>Water supply</i>	<i>40 points available</i>
<i>Hydrology and flood control</i>	<i>15 points available</i>
<i>Enhancement of natural environment</i>	<i>10 points available</i>
<i>Pollution management</i>	<i>25 points available</i>
<i>Cost efficiency</i>	<i>10 points available</i>
<i>Disadvantaged Community benefit</i>	<i>5 points available</i>

This system was developed by the Pillar chairs, SAWPA staff, and approved by the OWOW Steering Committee and the SAWPA Commission.



Proposition 1 Grant Programs Update - March 1, 2018
CA Department of Water Resources
Financial Assistance Branch
Division of Integrated Regional Water Management



DWR's New Web Site

We recently completed a digital makeover of our website. We have received many complements about the new streamlined look and accessibility of information, but we understand it may be frustrating to find information in a new way. Our team is here to help. Feel free to contact us if you cannot locate the information you seek.

www.water.ca.gov

Proposition 1 Sustainable Groundwater Planning Grants

On February 6, we announced draft funding recommendations to 78 applicants, totaling \$85.8 million, including \$16.2 million for projects that directly benefit severely disadvantaged communities (<60% State mean household income), and \$69.6 million to Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) for development of Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs). The public comment period for the draft funding recommendations closed on February 28 and we expect release of the final awards in March, with execution of grant agreements this summer.

We encourage agencies with proposed groundwater projects to work with their local IRWM Regional Water Management Group to incorporate projects as appropriate into the IRWM Plan so that they might be considered for IRWM implementation funding.

<https://www.water.ca.gov/Work-With-Us/Grants-And-Loans/Sustainable-Groundwater>

Proposition 1 IRWM Disadvantaged Community Involvement Grants

We have executed grant agreements or are currently in the process of doing so with 11 of the 12 hydrologic region-based funding areas identified in Proposition 1. We anticipate receipt of the final grant proposal for the San Joaquin Funding Area in the very near future and expect all work in the State to be fully underway by spring 2018. It is critical to complete this important work - in particular, the needs assessments - in order to identify projects benefiting DACs for IRWM implementation funding.

To help promote consistency and sharing of information between the 12 Funding Area grant recipients, our program and grant managers will be joining the DAC Involvement Working Group conference calls, hosted approximately monthly by the Environmental Justice Coalition for Water (EJCW). We participated in the January 2018 call and discussed the status of IRWM implementation funding and nexus to DAC involvement work. At the next meeting of the Working Group, we look forward to discussing

performance metrics, related to a provision of Prop 1 (CA Water Code 79716e): *Each state agency that receives an appropriation of funding made available by this division shall be responsible for establishing metrics of success and reporting the status of projects and all uses of the funding on the state’s bond accountability Internet Web site, as provided by statute.*

What’s Next for Proposition 1 IRWM Implementation Grant Funding

We are gearing up for the launch of the Prop 1 IRWM Implementation Grant Program. We have been working with regional stakeholders since May 2017 through the IRWM Roundtable of Regions (ROR) to propose and discuss various concepts for a new approach. We anticipate discussing more concepts with the ROR before finalizing the approach. Thanks to everyone who has weighed in so far, and we welcome more input before the Proposal Solicitation Package (PSP) is released this summer.

DWR intends to work with potential grant applicants on a Funding Area basis following the release of the Final PSP; we anticipate holding workshops in each Funding Area prior to submittal of the grant applications by December 2018. Other state funding agencies will be invited to participate as appropriate.

Proposition 1 IRWM Implementation Grants ¹ Proposal Solicitation Process and Schedule	
Milestone or Activity	Tentative Schedule ²
Coordination with Regional Stakeholders RE: Development of Implementation Grant Program Concepts	May 2017 - April 2018
DWR Releases Draft Proposal Solicitation Package (PSP) for 45-day Public Comment Period	May 2018
3 Public Meetings (Northern, Central, and Southern Calif locations TBD)	May-June 2018
Draft PSP Public Comment Period Closes	June 2018
DWR Releases Final PSP	Summer 2018
Round 1 Grant Applications Due to DWR (Workshops with Funding Areas expected Summer-December 2018)	By December 2018
Round 1 Grant Awards	2019
Round 2 Grant Solicitation Process Begins	2020
Notes: ¹ Includes funding for projects benefitting disadvantaged communities. ² Schedule subject to change.	

<https://www.water.ca.gov/Work-With-Us/Grants-And-Loans/IRWM-Grant-Programs>

What Regions Should Do to Prepare for the Next Round of Grants

In order for a project to be eligible for IRWM implementation grant funding, it must be either listed in the IRWM plan that is compliant with at least 2012 IRWM Plan Standards or describes how any non-listed projects have been vetted through the RWMG, consistent with the 2016 IRWM Plan Standards as confirmed by DWR's Plan Review Process. The plans must be updated and adopted to comply with 2016 standards before the final award is made. It is important to get your IRWM Plan updated to the 2016 Plan Standards and submitted to DWR as soon as possible to avoid potential delays.

The 2016 IRWM Plan Standards have changed to varying degrees from the 2012 IRWM Plan Standards. Refer to Appendix H in the Guidelines for a summary of the changes to the 2012 IRWM Plan Standards.

https://www.water.ca.gov/LegacyFiles/irwm/grants/docs/p1Guidelines/2016Prop1IRWMGuidelines_FINAL_07192016.pdf

New Staff Assignments at DWR

Keith Wallace has moved on to new opportunities with DWR's Sustainable Groundwater Management Program, and two members of our team - Rachel Ballanti and Jason Brabec - are the new contacts for this next phase in our IRWM implementation program. We are fortunate to have Rachel, with her experience working for the DWR Executive Division and California Water Commission, and Jason, who brings his experience as an Engineer with DWR's Division of Flood Management managing complex water resources projects. Both Rachel and Jason have been in our Branch, capably managing our Water-Energy, Prop 1E, and Prop 1 Sustainable Groundwater Planning grant programs for the last year or more. We look forward to the opportunity to introduce them to you in person in the coming months.

CA Water Plan Update 2018 - How Regional Interests Are Reflected in the New Edition of the State's Water Plan

Be on the lookout for the public review draft of the 2018 update to the California Water Plan. Several of the recommendations in the document entitled *Stakeholders Perspectives: Recommendations for Strengthening and Sustaining IRWM in California (2017)* are being carried forward in the Water Plan Update. Also, the Water Plan describes early efforts underway to develop a Regional Water Atlas. This web-based tool will provide a clearinghouse to convey your regional success stories and lessons learned to other practitioners in the State as well as key policy makers.

<https://www.water.ca.gov/Programs/California-Water-Plan>

Prop 1 IRWM Implementation Grant Project Eligibility Criteria

As approved by OWOW Steering Committee, July 7 2016

IRWM is a collaborative effort to manage all aspects of water resources in a region. IRWM crosses jurisdictional, watershed and political boundaries; involves multiple agencies, stakeholders, individuals and groups; and attempts to address the issues and differing perspectives of all entities involved through mutually beneficial solutions. Our goal is to seek benefits which improve the entire watershed and are not achieved at the expense or detriment of another.

Applicants is required to describe how the project:

- Applicant meets all statutory requirements, as was the case in all prior rounds, including grant recipient eligibility and project eligibility, including:
 - IRWM region acceptance through the Regional Acceptance Process (SAWPA has complied)
 - Project must be consistent with the OWOW Plan
 - Project proponents must adopt the OWOW Plan
 - Groundwater Management Plan compliance
 - Urban Water Management Planning Act compliance
 - Agriculture Water Management Plan compliance
 - Surface Water Diversion Reporting compliance
 - AB 1420 compliance
 - SBX 7-7 compliance
 - CWC Section 529.5 compliance
 - CWC Section 10920 compliance
 - CWC Section 10562(b)(7) compliance (for stormwater projects).
- Is an integrated project that benefits the entire watershed or a significant sub-watershed in the region, will be completed with active participation of multiple agencies and/or NGOs or other stakeholders, produces a net benefit to the Watershed and has no unreasonable negative impacts on others?
- Is a sustainable project that is resilient to changing conditions in the watershed?
- Provides multiple benefits and includes two or more of the following elements:
 - Water supply reliability, water conservation, and water use efficiency
 - Stormwater capture, storage, clean-up, treatment, and management
 - Removal of invasive non-native species, the creation and enhancement of wetlands, and the acquisition, protection, and restoration of open space and watershed lands
 - Non-point source pollution reduction, management, and monitoring
 - Groundwater recharge and management projects
 - Contaminant and salt removal through reclamation, desalting, and other treatment technologies and conveyance of reclaimed water for distribution to users
 - Water banking in the Watershed, exchange, reclamation, and improvement of water quality
 - Multipurpose flood and storm water management programs
 - Watershed protection and management
 - Drinking water treatment and distribution
 - Ecosystem and fisheries restoration and protection.
- Is consistent with the implementation of the California Water Action Plan.
- Implements the OWOW 2.0 Plan as adopted on February 4, 2014.
- Complies with eligibility requirements contained within a specific Proposal Solicitation Package.

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OWOW STEERING COMMITTEE MEMORANDUM NO. 2018.9

DATE: March 22, 2018

TO: OWOW Steering Committee

SUBJECT: California Water Plan Update 2018 Pilot study in the watershed.

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RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the OWOW Steering Committee receive and provide feedback in response to a presentation from SAWPA staff and a consultant team from the California Water Plan Update 2018.

DESCRIPTION

OWOW Program and SAWPA are among early adopters of using watershed assessment tools to understand progress and performance towards planning targets. Integrated water management is very complex and is a shared enterprise. Understanding if all the disparate and collaborative management actions are together achieving progress towards shared goals is a key to good management. That broad understanding, however, remains very difficult to achieve and maintain over time.

During OWOW 2.0 Plan, SAWPA retained the non-profit Council for Watershed Health (CWH) to develop a suite of indicators that would reveal progress towards the OWOW 2.0 Plan goals. CWH had experience conducting several state and federally-funded indicators-based assessment projects in the Los Angeles River watershed, including work that supported the California Water Plan Update 2013. OWOW 2.0 Plan Appendix A remains a valuable tool that was never fully deployed due data acquisition limitations, and is among the items SAWPA is eager to update during OWOW Plan Update 2018.

The California Water Plan, a legislatively mandated planning effort that Department of Water Resources undertakes every five years (on the 3's and 8's) is currently being updated. The update is being assembled around the idea of sustainability, and is described by DWR in this way:

Update 2018, for the first time, will identify specific outcomes and metrics to track performance, prioritize near-term State actions and investments, recommend financing methods having more stable revenues, and inform water deliberations and decisions as they unfold. The California Water Plan Update 2018 Envisioning Sustainable Water Resources brochure presents the Water Plan's vision of sustainability.

Sustainability is not defined as an end point, but as an ongoing, resilient, and dynamic balance among four societal values:

- *Public Health and Safety*
- *Thriving Economy*
- *Ecosystem Vitality*
- *Enriching Experiences*

The idea of sustainability as the organizing principle has led to the development of a “sustainability outlook”, which is described in the January 2018 California Water Plan public review draft Chapter 2 of the update:

One basic long-standing challenge to water resource resilience and reliability in California is the lack of a consistent and practical method for assessing current and future sustainability. Productive conversations and planning for sustainability require a mutual understanding of resource limitations, management deficiencies, and shared intent in identifying policy priorities.

California Water Plan Update 2018 presents a major improvement in the way water policy and management priorities can be developed and coordinated at local, regional, and State levels. The Sustainability Outlook, described in this chapter, provides a well-organized and consistent approach.

The proposed Sustainability Outlook includes a still-developing suite of indicators that reflect conditions and trends in water and watershed management. The tool is being developed to support the implementation of the Water Plan and will provide an understanding of how the implementation is making positive change.

The concept of indicators-based assessments for monitoring the effectiveness of environmental management is not new, and mirrors the efforts of OWOW 2.0 Plan as described above. The Sustainability Outlook, however, is a new tool to provide a capacity currently absent in how DWR carries out its mission.

As part of the development of the California Water Plan Update 2018, DWR is supporting two pilot applications of the Sustainability Outlook, one in the Russian River Valley, and the other here in the Santa Ana River Watershed. SAWPA is very proud to have been selected for this partnership with DWR and recognizes how the benefits of the effort will accrue both to the watershed and to the State.

The consultant team here today will present a brief background of the work at the California Water Plan Update 2018, and the scope of work that will be carried out as a component of OWOW Plan Update 2018.