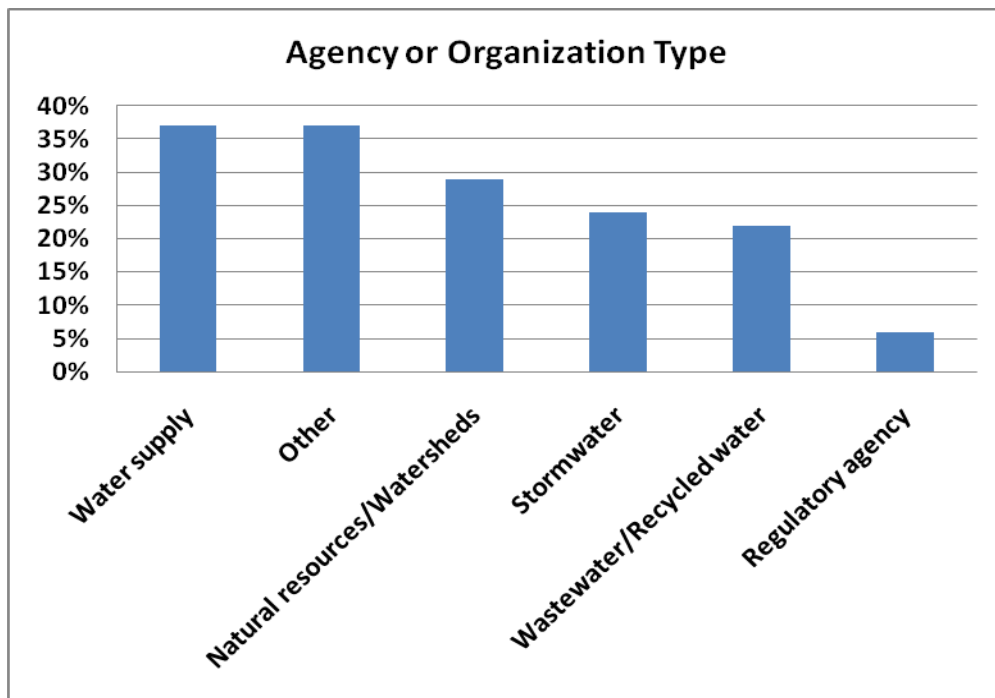


San Diego IRWM Report Card

Appendix A: Results of the San Diego IRWM Survey

The RWMG completed an online survey that was made available to all San Diego IRWM Stakeholders from April 18th to May 6th of 2011. The survey was considered successful as 54 individuals representing agencies, stakeholders, local project sponsors, interested parties, and the general public submitted responses.

As demonstrated within the graphic below, respondents represented a variety of agencies or organizations. Please note that respondents were asked to mark all types of agencies/organizations they represent, so the overall percentage of responses for this exceeds 100%. The greatest percentage of respondents (37%) represented either water supply or “other” organizations, while 29% represented natural resources/watersheds agencies or organizations, approximately 20% represented wastewater/recycled water or stormwater organizations, and 6% represented regulatory agencies.

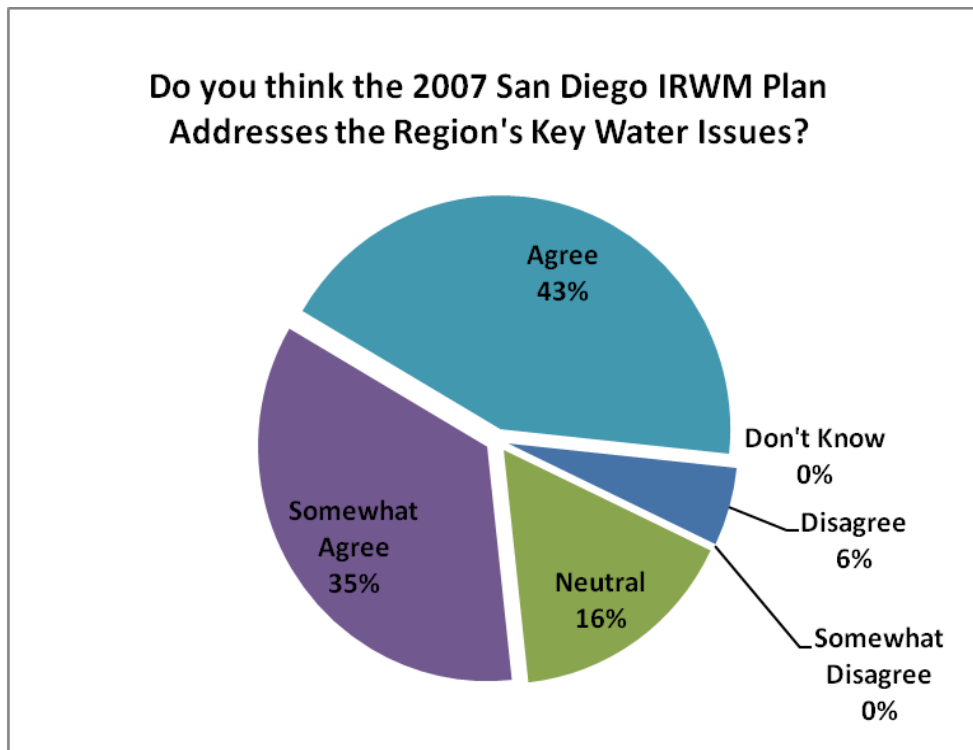


The survey included questions regarding many aspects of the San Diego IRWM process, and respondents were asked to answer questions regarding IRWM Planning, IRWM Stakeholder Outreach, IRWM Project Solicitation and Selection, IRWM Governance and Financing, and the IRWM Regional Advisory Committee. The following provides an overview of the survey for each of the survey categories listed above.

IRWM Planning

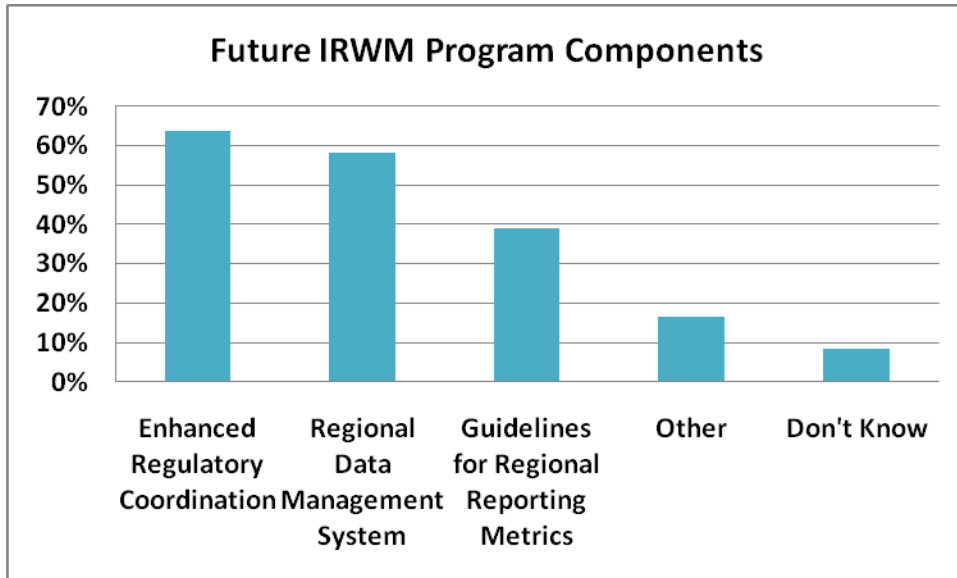
In total, regional stakeholders responded positively to IRWM Planning in the San Diego Region. 87% of respondents said that they consider the 2007 San Diego IRWM Plan as a resource for water resources information. In addition, as demonstrated within the graphic below, most respondents agreed with the statement that the 2007 San Diego IRWM Plan addresses the Region’s key water issues.

Lastly, the majority of respondents (53%) noted that the 2007 San Diego IRWM Plan objectives need a little updating or revision, while 29% believe that the objectives remain current. Only 5% of respondents (2 respondents) stated that wholesale revision of the objectives is needed.



However, the survey showed that the San Diego Region could improve upon integrating the IRWM Plan into other planning efforts, as only half (49%) of respondents noted that they have referenced the San Diego IRWM Plan in other planning documents. In addition, 82% of respondents say that the IRWM Plan could be better integrated throughout the region by its inclusion in local General Plans, Urban Water Management Plans, and other regional planning documents.

Looking into the future, the majority of respondents (64%) stated that they would like to see the IRWM Program include enhanced regulatory coordination with the Regional Water Quality Control Board, the California Department of Public Health, and other regulatory agencies. 58% of respondents said they would like to see the IRWM Program include a regional data management system, and 39% said they would like to see guidelines for regional reporting metrics. The following graphic includes a summary of the aforementioned results; please note that respondents were asked to check all that apply, so the summation of results exceeds 100%.

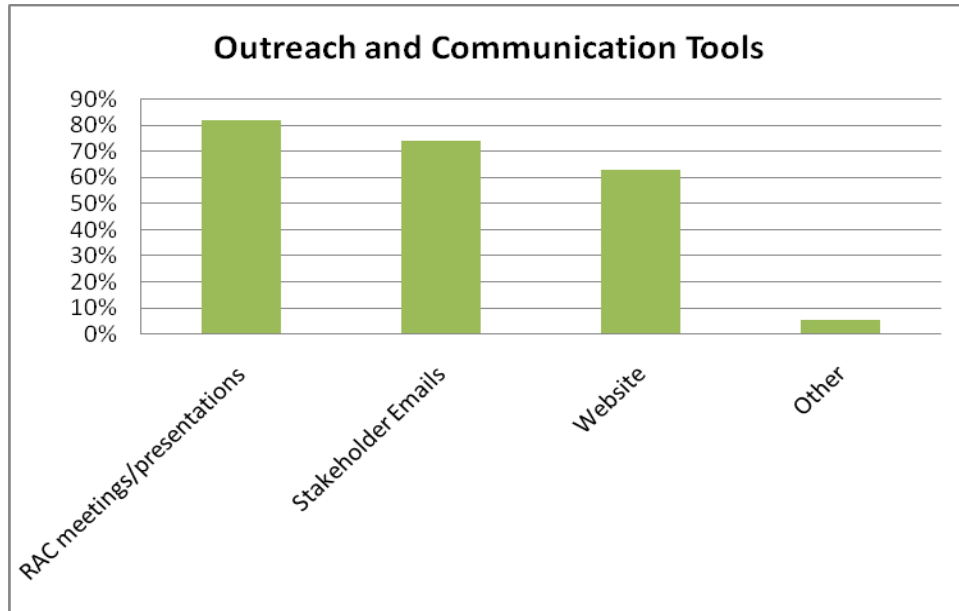


In addition, other respondents noted that they would like to see the IRWM Program include the following topics:

- focusing on increasing interactions with small organizations and more outreach to NGOs and community-based organizations (3 respondents provided this suggestion),
- climate change,
- San Diego Basin Plan,
- development of a long-term governance and funding structure, and
- improved collaboration with project design and targeting of projects for specific outcomes.

IRWM Stakeholder Outreach

In terms of stakeholder outreach, the majority of respondents say that they use all three San Diego IRWM outreach and communication tools, including RAC meetings, stakeholder emails, and the San Diego IRWM website. As demonstrated within the graphic below, 82% say that they find RAC meetings and presentations to be the most useful outreach and communication tools, 74% say that they find stakeholder emails most useful, 63% say that they find the San Diego IRWM website as their most useful outreach and communication tool, and 5% say that they utilize other outreach and communication tools. Please note: because respondents were asked to list all outreach and communication tools that they utilize, the values expressed in the figure below sum to greater than 100%. Of the other respondents, one respondent inquired about using Constant Contact as a communications tool, and another noted that presentations given at RAC meetings are particularly helpful for outreach.



Respondents noted several stakeholders that the San Diego IRWM program should be reaching out to or increasing involvement with, including:

- NGOs (including Carlsbad Watershed Network, Agua Hedionda Lagoon Foundation, Buena Vista Lagoon Foundation, Buena Vista Audubon Society) (4 respondents provided this suggestion),
- disadvantaged community organizations (2 respondents provided this suggestion),
- tribal groups,
- the San Diego Metropolitan Wastewater Joint Powers Authority (JPA),
- the United States Geological Survey,
- universities (including the University of California at San Diego, San Diego State University, and Scripps Institute of Oceanography)
- bi-national agencies and local counterparts in Mexico,
- the general public, cities, local military and academic institutions, urban planners, developers, energy companies and agencies, resource conservation districts, consultants, agricultural industries, and land use planning entities.

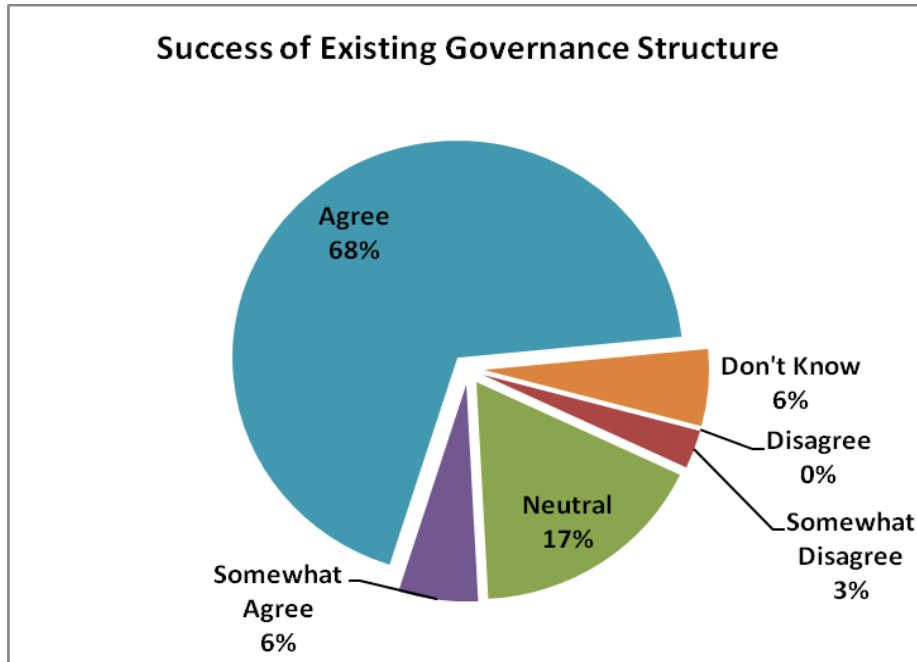
[IRWM Project Solicitation and Selection](#)

While a large percentage of respondents (45%) said that they did not use the online project database for the Proposition 84 project solicitation process, those that did use it had a generally positive experience.

In total, 16% of users found the online project database submittal easy and intuitive, 24% found it alright after questions were answered, and 18% found it challenging and/or frustrating. In addition, the majority of those that used the online project database found that the information requested for the project solicitation process was appropriate (38%), while 16% thought too much information was requested, and 8% thought that too little was requested. In sum, 62% of respondents were satisfied with the overall project selection process, while only 11% of respondents found the process unsatisfying.

IRWM Governance and Financing

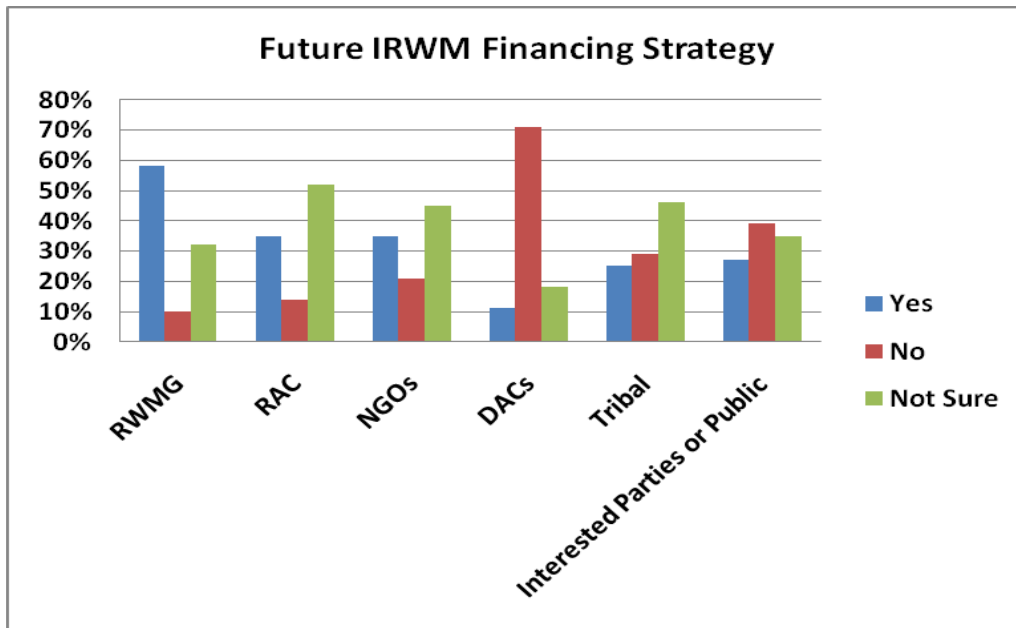
In terms of governance, respondents largely stated that the existing governance structure (RWMG, RAC, and ad-hoc Workgroups) has been successful so far. As demonstrated within the graphic below, approximately 74% of respondents consider the existing structure successful, while 17% of respondents were neutral on the matter, and only 3% do not consider the current structure successful.



When asked how the governance structure could change, respondents had various suggestions. These suggestions include:

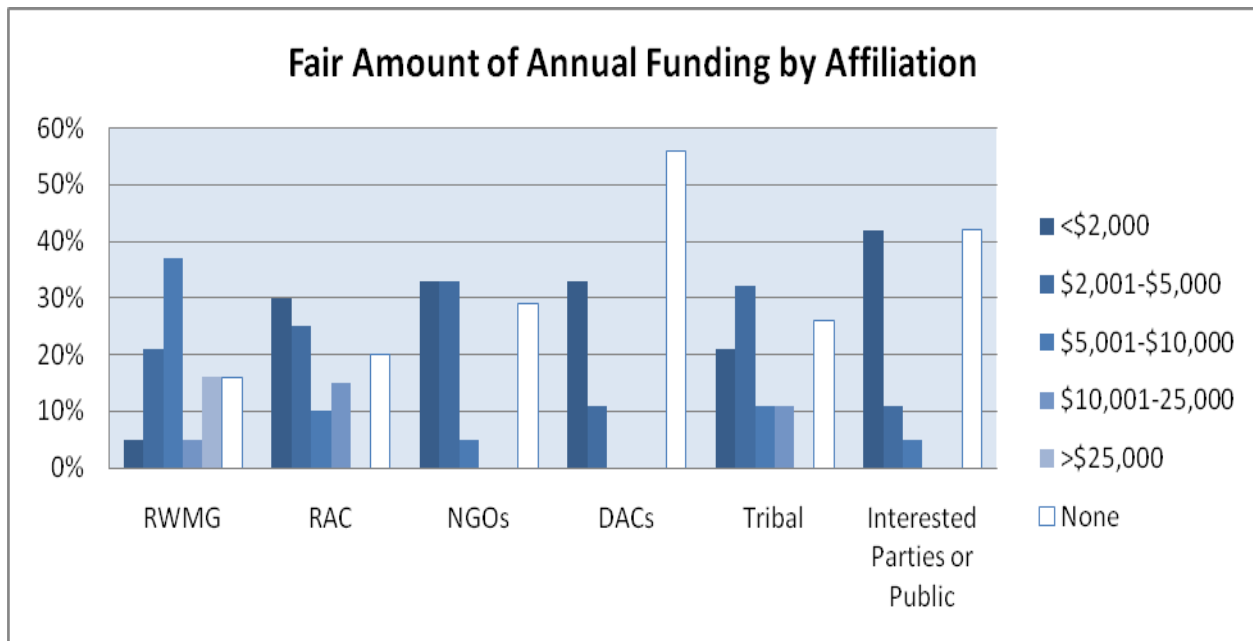
- forming a JPA or a NGO (2 respondents provided this suggestion),
- allowing local groups to meet and push up issues to the regional group,
- allowing all stakeholders to be involved,
- truly integrating with other water management structures,
- allowing NGOs to feel that they are truly a part of the governance structure,
- instituting a free-flowing information exchange forum,
- having staff supported by consultants if sponsoring agencies are unable to continue supporting the program,
- being more independent of the current RWMG agencies, and
- rotating some RAC members.

In terms of financing, respondents were mixed as to who they felt should pay for the San Diego IRWM program in the future. 58% believe funding should come from RWMG members, 35% believe RAC members should contribute, 35% state that NGOs should pay for the program, 11% say that funding should come from DACs, 25% state that tribal entities should contribute funding, and 27% state that interested parties and/or the public should contribute. Please note that for this question respondents were asked to check all that apply, therefore the numbers within the graphic below sum to more than 100%.



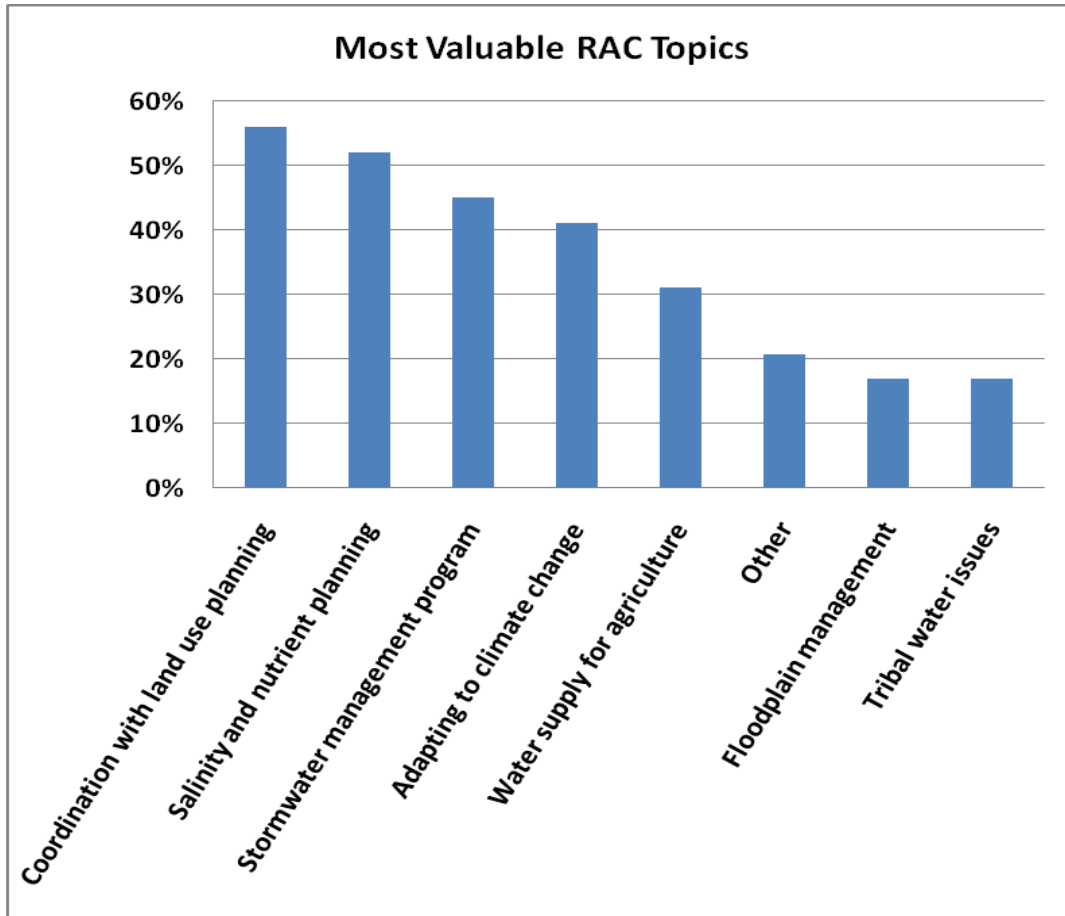
In total, respondents were mixed on whether or not they would be willing to pay for a share of the costs associated with preparing a grant application, if they had a project selected for future funding. 53% of respondents said they would be willing to pay, while 6% would not be willing, and 41% were unsure.

Respondents were asked that if the IRWM governance structure required financing, what would be a fair amount for various organizations or agencies to contribute on an annual basis. The graphic below demonstrates the financial breakdown suggested by respondents. In sum, the respondents felt that only RWMG organizations should contribute more than \$25,000, while NGOs, DACs, and interested parties or the public should contribute on the lower end, if at all. As with the previous graphic, the values below exceed 100% because respondents were asked to check all that apply.



IRWM Regional Advisory Committee

Of the 54 total respondents, 53% stated that they currently serve, or have previously served on the RAC for San Diego's IRWM program. Respondents were next asked what have been the most valuable topics addressed by the RAC to date. Respondents expressed interest in all topics listed within the survey in the following manner.

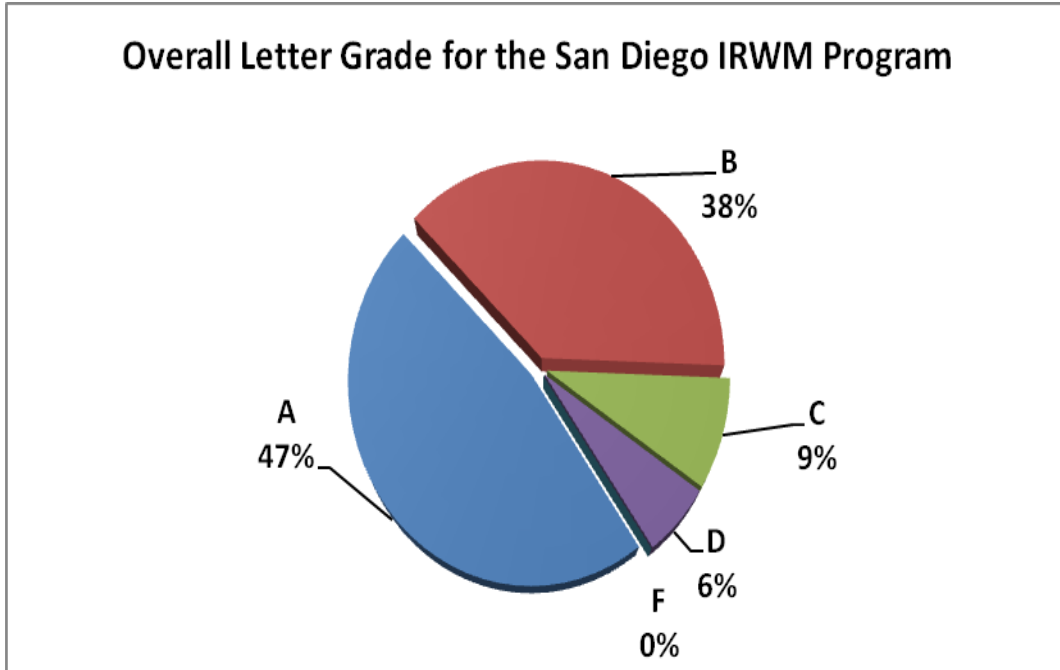


The majority of respondents (67%) noted that they feel the RAC forum contributes to integrated planning and/or projects. Respondents noted that new ad-hoc Workgroups should be established to address other IRWM planning topics. The following are new ad-hoc Workgroups recommended by respondents:

- a group focused on looking into how to be more inclusionary of NGOs and non-profits,
- a group focused on strategies for long-term maintenance of watershed habitat improvements,
- a group to integrate with the Quality of Life Water Quality process,
- a group that addresses regulatory issues, and
- a group to address the make-up of the RAC and potential member rotation.

Summary

Overall, respondents noted their support for the San Diego IRWM Program, giving the program a high “letter grade.” The following figure shows the San Diego IRWM Program’s overall letter grade, which includes responses from 34 of the 54 total respondents:



The overall letter grade varied according to the type of agency or organization each respondent belonged to. The following graphic demonstrates the range in letter grade responses according to group affiliation.

