

## **APPENDIX B**

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# Regional Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

Prepared for:

San Diego Regional Storm Water Committee

County of San Diego Department of Public



## Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) Meeting #64

October 5, 2016

9:00 am – 12:00 pm

San Diego County Water Authority Board Room  
4677 Overland Avenue, San Diego, CA 92123

### NOTES

#### Attendance

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##### RAC Members

Lan Wiborg, City of San Diego (chair)  
Amanda Loeper for Kimberly O'Connell, University of California – San Diego Clean Water  
Ann Van Leer, Escondido Creek Conservancy  
Arne Sandvik for Albert Lau, Padre Dam  
Bill Hunter, Santa Fe Irrigation District  
Bob Kennedy, Otay Water District  
Brian Olney, Helix Water District  
Chris Helmer, City of Imperial Beach  
Chris Roesink for Patrick Crais, California Landscape Contractors Association  
Crystal Najera, City of Encinitas (and alternate Ligeia Heagy, Carlsbad Municipal Water District)  
Greg Thomas, Rincon del Diablo Municipal Water District  
Jack Simes, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation  
Jennifer Hazard, Alter Terra  
Joey Randall for Kimberly Thorner, Olivenhain Municipal Water District  
John Flores, San Pasqual Band of Mission Indians (and alternate Rob Roy, La Jolla Band of Indians)  
Kristin Kuhn for Travis Pritchard, San Diego Coastkeeper  
Lauma Willis, Department of Water Resources – Southern Region Office  
Leigh Johnson, University of California Cooperative Extension  
Mark Stadler for Toby Roy, San Diego County Water Authority  
Marilyn Thoms, County of Orange  
Michael McSweeney, Building Industry Association  
Mike Thornton, SEJPA  
Pablo Figueroa for Olga Morales, RCAC  
Phil Pryde, San Diego River Park Foundation  
Ramin Abidi, County of San Diego  
Sarah Pierce, San Diego Association of Governments

**RWMG Staff and Consultants**

Andrew Funk, City of San Diego  
Crystal Benham, RMC Water and Environment  
Goldy Herbon, City of San Diego  
Loisa Burton, San Diego County Water Authority  
Mark Stephens, City of San Diego  
Rosalyn Prickett, RMC Water and Environment  
Sally Johnson, RMC Water and Environment  
Stephanie Gaines, County of San Diego

**Interested Parties to the RAC**

Alex Heide, City of Poway  
Amanda Sousa, San Diego Housing Commission  
Antonia Estevez-Olea, LWA  
Bryn Evans, Dudek  
Boushra Salem, City of Chula Vista  
Chiara Clemente, Regional Water Quality Control Board - Region 9  
Doug Thomsen, City of San Diego  
George Wilkins, San Luis Rey Watershed Council and La Jolla Tribe  
Heidi Brow, Pala Tribe  
Helen Davies, City of Escondido  
Jana Vierola, San Diego County Water Authority  
Janice Duvall, San Diego County Office of Education  
Lisa Skutecki, Brown and Caldwell  
Maria Margarita Borja, City of San Diego  
Marsha Westropp, Orange County Water District  
Martha Davis, City of San Diego  
Mo Lahsaie, City of Oceanside  
Nathan White, City of San Diego  
Ray Teran, Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians  
Ruth de la Rosa, County of San Diego

**Welcome and Introductions**

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Ms. Lan Wiborg, City of San Diego, welcomed everyone to the meeting. Introductions were made around the room.

**Regional Stormwater Resources Plan**

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Ms. Ruth de la Rosa and Mr. David Pohl, ESA, presented on the Regional Stormwater Resources Plan (Regional SWRP), which is being funded under a grant received by the County of San Diego through the IRWM Program under Proposition 1. The Regional SWRP's process includes public workshops, which are being held jointly with RAC meetings. This meeting served as the first public workshop for the Regional SWRP. Mr. Pohl explained the focus of this workshop was on the proposed project scoring process under the Regional SWRP. Inclusion in an SWRP is required for stormwater projects under Proposition 1 and SB 985, but the SWRP is not a compliance document. Instead, the Regional SWRP

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is intended to be a guide to help project sponsors determine potential competitiveness of stormwater projects for funding, as well as to help identify potential areas in which the projects could be strengthened.

Due to the timing of grant programs for stormwater projects, development of the Regional SWRP is on an aggressive schedule. Stormwater projects are required to be included on the SWRP's project list within 90 days of grant award. Project proposals under Round 1 have already been submitted, and awards are anticipated at the end of January 2017. The Regional SWRP will be a functional equivalent plan because the San Diego Region has already completed substantial stormwater planning efforts, including the Water Quality Improvement Plans (WQIPs). Any projects that are already included in stormwater-related planning documents will be included in the Regional SWRP.

Round 2 of stormwater funding is underway, and the current call for projects is now. This program funds individual projects, not regional applications, so each potential project sponsor must apply separately.

The project prioritization process under the Regional SWRP consists of three steps: 1) project eligibility, 2) project scoring, and 3) watershed analysis. The first step identifies whether a project is eligible based on the following project benefits: water quality, water supply, flood management, environmental, and community. Projects must have two or more benefits in order to qualify, along with additional eligibility requirements. Each claimed benefit is then assessed and assigned a score based on benefit-specific metrics (Step 2). Additional points are assigned to projects that have been identified in planning documents under the watershed analysis (Step 3). For a more in depth look at the prioritization process please refer to the presentation slides.

Once the Regional SWRP is complete, to get your project added to the list for the Regional SWRP, you will use the San Diego IRWM Program's online OPTI database, and check the box indicating it is a stormwater project. The IRWM Program is excited to work with the stormwater Copermittees to make this change.

#### Questions/Comments:

- How would the Regional SWRP intersect with the City of San Diego's Watershed Protection Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)?
  - Projects developed through other programs need to go through the project list and scoring process in the Regional SWRCP if it is a qualifying stormwater project
- Should I already know the vision for this plan? Is the vision for the Regional SWRP driving the projects or vice versa?
  - The Regional SWRP provides guidance for project development to help develop multi-benefit projects and to help develop metrics for multiple benefits.
- How much funding in Proposition 1 is available for stormwater? How much funding is available under Round 2 of the stormwater grants? Are these funds statewide funds?
  - Yes, the funds are statewide. There is \$200 million available under Round 2. There are multiple pots of funding for stormwater in Proposition 1; the Regional SWRP applies to applicable funding streams under Proposition 1 (refer to presentation for additional information).

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- If you can hit all five benefits, will you score better?
  - Yes. The purpose is to think about multi-benefit projects and to think holistically to help you better prepare for grants.
- How do you define implementation?
  - Most Proposition 1 programs require implementation projects with actual outcomes. Some grants allow some planning activities. The amount of funding available for implementation versus planning is up to the individual programs. If you need planning dollars, you will likely need to find matching funds.
- How do you define environmental benefit versus community benefit?
  - Environmental benefit relates to habitat enhancement and/or creation. Community benefit pertains to education, job creation, etc.
- Would design count as implementation?
  - The amount available for design depends on the solicitation. Typically funds are available for the physical work being completed.
- Do regions in the rest of the state have WQIPs? Do we have an advantage by referencing the WQIPs?
  - The San Diego region is ahead of the rest of the state with the WQIPs. The work completed under the WQIPs are why we are developing a functional equivalent plan for the Regional SWRP. Other regions are completing an assessment of their issues as part of the SWRP.
- If the state is looking to compare across regions, San Diego is years ahead.
  - Yes, San Diego is ahead of the rest of the state.
- Do you need to have a certain level of watershed analysis completed for Step 3?
  - When you go through the steps, the guiding questions will help you. Questions may ask, “is the project part of a plan?” and the project sponsor will have to explain and reference those plans.
- Looking at the example project – we are at a disadvantage because of soil types in the region, which don’t allow for infiltration. If infiltration gives you points, we are not able to claim those.
  - We are trying to make the Regional SWRP’s scoring region-specific, and focusing on stormwater capture and direct use. We are trying to get the Region to think about potential opportunities. Though limited, restoring hydrologic cycles can create watershed benefits. Try to look for other benefits to get a high score.
- Where could the example project in your presentation score higher to max out points?
  - If it captured and reused stormwater for irrigation, it could have scored higher. You need to focus on benefits you can achieve and develop the project enough to actually quantify those benefits.
- What is the maximum score per category?
  - The maximum score per category is 40 points, except for water supply. There are bonus points for water supply for additional direct use because the State’s guidance encourages it.
- When is the next round of funding for projects that can’t make it in this timeframe?

- Future solicitations will provide an opportunity to update the checklist and project list on database.
- How does the scoring in the Regional SWRP relate to the scoring on the actual project solicitation?
  - If you go through the checklist, it will prepare you for the solicitation because the goal is to align the checklist with scoring considerations of the solicitation. Completing the checklist will help you address the solicitation.
- Will new projects be added continuously or just at one time?
  - The list is not static. The current focus is on Round 2 because it is the next one, but the project list will be updated for future solicitations.
- The environmental checklist refers to “urban” greenspace. Is it only urban greenspace?
  - Urban greenspace is called out in the guidelines. Many solicitations focus on urban greening. Habitat restoration is also a focus of the environmental benefits.
- Would the San Luis Rey Watershed Management Plan (which is called a Guideline) be considered a plan?
  - Yes, it would meet the scoring criteria.
- Does the Regional SWRP include tribal water management plans?
  - Yes, tell Ruth de la Rosa about any tribal water management plans you would like to have included in the Regional SWRP.
- Can we define systems/elements that could be incorporated into multiple projects/plans or does it have to be site-specific?
  - Yes, you can describe systems or elements if they meet the eligible benefits.
- How does Regional SWRP fit into the Stormwater Capture and Use Feasibility Study (SWCFS)?
  - The SWCFS will help inform future Regional SWRP efforts. It will identify feasible locations for infiltration, etc. that can then be used to assist future Regional SWRP efforts and checklists.
- Have you prioritized projects at the watershed level?
  - Watershed priority project should move to the top, based on the scoring.

### **Supplemental Environmental Projects – Chiara Clemente, Regional Water Quality Control Board – Region 9**

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Ms. Chiara Clemente, San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), presented a potential alternative funding stream for local and regional projects – Supplemental Environmental Projects (SEPs) and Enhanced Compliance Actions (ECA). Penalties assessed by the RWQCB for permit violations currently go to a state funds, which is then distributed to fund projects that address statewide priorities, regardless of location in relation to the violation. Oftentimes, this means penalties assessed in the San Diego Region are used to fund projects outside of the Region. The RWQCB wants to redirect these funds to the region through the creation of a database of potential local projects that could be funded in lieu of a portion of the penalty. The RWQCB is currently soliciting projects for their new SEP-ECA project list. The deadline to submit projects is soon - October 20, 2016. Projects should

further the Regional vision or statewide priorities. Getting on the list does not guarantee a project will be funded, nor does it mean funds will be available soon. Once a project is on the list, it must wait until a violator chooses to fund it as part of its settlement, and the settlement is approved.

Questions/Comments:

- Will a project earn more points if it is in the same watershed as where the fine was imposed?
  - Yes, we look for a nexus between project benefit and the violation. One way to do this is to be in the same watershed.
- Currently, an SEP can cover up to 50% of the fine; the rest of the fine goes to the state. Will more of the fine go to an SEP under this program?
  - No, the split is mandatory. We are trying to get more SEPs implemented and actually benefit region based on needs.
- What can we do to keep more money in the region?
  - Enforcement policies need to change. They are currently open for comments and will likely need legal action to make a change.

**RAC Membership 2017-2020 Term – Mark Stadler, San Diego County Water Authority**

Mr. Mark Stadler, SDCWA, presented the RAC member selection process for the 2017-2020 term. There are a total of 13 open seats. The RAC member selection process will include a RAC membership workgroup that will review the applications and select the new members. Applications will be open October 5th through November 10th. The RAC membership workgroup will convene on December 7th and the new RAC membership will be in effect January 2017. Mr. Stadler described desired attributes and general duties of future RAC members. Caucus break-out groups discussed RAC membership workgroup nominations. RAC applications are due on November 10 and are available online. For questions about the process of submittal process, please contact Mr. Stadler.

The RAC voted to accept the nominations of the RAC membership workgroup.

Questions/Comments:

- There are lots of opportunities for agencies and NGOs, but business groups are only listed in the “other” category. Are you looking for diversity of people or experiences?
  - Is your organization an NGO? It looks like there are other places where business people can fit well. The RAC is already a large group, so we would like to avoid growing it too much.
- Tribes would like not to be in the “other” category. There are 18 tribes in multiple watersheds, making it hard for one person to represent every tribe. Are there any opportunities to expand tribal representation and get in their own category? Tribes are increasing participation in the IRWM Program. Thank you for the outreach to tribes that the Program has been doing.
  - We can talk about expanding the group on a future RAC agenda.
- Can outgoing representatives be re-elected?
  - Yes.

### **IRWM Grant Program – Andrew Funk, City of San Diego**

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Mr. Andrew Funk, City of San Diego, presented an update about the Proposition 1 IRWM Planning Grant and DAC Planning Grant. A total of \$250,000 in grant dollars was requested to update the 2013 San Diego IRWM Plan to incorporate new guidelines, policies, and regulations, including the development of a SWCFS. The Planning Grant was submitted on September 23, 2016, with anticipated draft and final awards in November 2016 and January 2017, respectively. The DAC Planning Grant application is currently being prepared and is an effort to work collaboratively to involve DACs in the Region. A kick-off meeting was hosted with the LPS and responses to the initial data request have been received. Anticipated grant award and grant contract dates are January 2017 and March 2017, respectively for the DAC Planning Grant.

#### Questions/Comments:

- Do you work for the City of San Diego? The City hired AECOM to do a stormwater capture feasibility study.
  - AECOM is doing a site-specific study, but it will feed into the County effort.

### **IRWM Grant Administration – Loisa Burton, SDCWA**

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Ms. Loisa Burton, SDCWA, presented a financial summary and progress report of all current and active projects that received Proposition 50 and Proposition 84 grants. All projects that received Proposition 50 funding are now complete and there are four projects that will be presenting at upcoming RAC meetings. A total of \$37.4 million in grant funding (out of \$89.6 million awarded) has been billed to DWR.

#### Questions/Comments:

None.

### **Summary and Next Steps**

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#### Next RAC Meeting:

- December 7, 2016 – 9-11:30am

#### 2017 Meeting Schedule:

- February 1
- April 5
- June 7
- August 2
- October 4
- December 6





## **Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) Meeting #65**

December 7, 2016

9:00 am – 11:30 pm

San Diego County Water Authority Board Room  
4677 Overland Avenue, San Diego, CA 92123

### **NOTES**

#### **Attendance**

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##### **RAC Members**

George Adrian, City of San Diego (chair)  
Alex Yescas for Mike Seits, Floodplain Management Association  
Ann Van Leer, Escondido Creek Conservancy  
Bob Kennedy, Otay Water District  
Brian Olney, Helix Water District  
Chris Helmer, City of Imperial Beach  
Crystal Najera, City of Encinitas  
Greg Thomas, Rincon del Diablo Municipal Water District  
Jennifer Hazard for Olga Morales, RCAC  
Jennifer Sabine, Sweetwater Authority  
Jona Lee for Jack Simes, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation  
Joey Randall for Kimberly Thorner, Olivenhain Municipal Water District  
John Flores, San Pasqual Band of Mission Indians (and alternate Rob Roy, La Jolla Band of Indians)  
Kelly Craig for Robyn Badger, Zoological Society of San Diego  
Kimberly O'Connell, University of California – San Diego Clean Water  
Leigh Johnson, University of California Cooperative Extension  
Michael McSweeney (and alternate S. Wayne Rosenbaum), Building Industry Association  
Mike Thornton, SEJPA  
Oscar Romo for Jennifer Hazard, University of California – San Diego  
Patrick Crais, California Landscape Contractors Association  
Phil Pryde, San Diego River Park Foundation  
Ronald Wootton, Buena Vista Lagoon Foundation  
Sarah Pierce, San Diego Association of Governments  
Stephanie Gaines for Ramin Abidi, County of San Diego  
Toby Roy (and alternate Mark Stadler), San Diego County Water Authority  
Travis Pritchard, San Diego Coastkeeper

**RWMG Staff and Consultants**

Andrew Funk, City of San Diego  
Goldy Herbon, San Diego County Water Authority  
Jen Sajor, RMC Water and Environment  
Loisa Burton, San Diego County Water Authority  
Mark Stephens, City of San Diego  
Rosalyn Prickett, RMC Water and Environment  
Ruth Kolb, City of San Diego  
Sally Johnson, RMC Water and Environment

**Interested Parties to the RAC**

David Pohl, ESA  
Michelle Berens, Helix Water District  
Antonia Estevez-Olea, Larry Walker Associates  
Boushra Salem, City of Chula Vista  
Maria Margarita Borja, City of San Diego  
Hengameh Maher, City of San Diego  
Dawnn Jackson, City of San Diego  
Michelle Huynh, City of San Diego  
Roshan Christoph, Amec Foster Wheeler  
Roberto Yano, JPA/SD Metro  
Tony Hancock, Brown & Caldwell  
Martha Davis, City of San Diego  
Malik Tamimi, City of La Mesa  
Cat Rom, City of San Diego  
Jennifer Carroll, City of San Diego  
Lindsey Sheehan, ESA  
Ruth de la Rosa, County of San Diego  
Amanda Sousa, San Diego Housing Commission  
Matt Widelski, City of Encinitas  
Anne Bamford, IEA  
Lois Yum, City of San Diego  
Kyrsten Rosenthal, City of San Diego

**Welcome and Introductions**

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Mr. George Adrian, City of San Diego, welcomed everyone to the meeting. Introductions were made around the room.

## **Project Completion Reports**

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Three Proposition 50 Project Completion Reports were presented.

### ***Project 6 Recycled Water Distribution System Expansion, Parklands Retrofit and IPR/Reservoir Augmentation – Ramil Arroyo and Joseph Quicho, City of San Diego***

Mr. Ramil Arroyo and Mr. Joseph Quicho, City of San Diego, presented on the Proposition 50, Project 6 – Recycled Water Distribution System Expansion, Parklands Retrofit and IPR/Reservoir Augmentation project. The total project cost was \$18.7 million, with \$4.8 million received in grant funding. There were three components of the project – 6A (Recycled Water Distribution System Expansion), 6B (Parklands Retrofit), and 6C (Indirect Potable Reuse/Reservoir Augmentation).

Component 6A – Recycled Water Distribution System Expansion, was completed in 2013. The project constructed a five mile-long recycled water main along Camino Del Sur, which connected 80 new recycled water sites in western Carmel Valley. The project provided recycled water to schools, retail sites, home owners associations, commercial sites, parks, street medians, Caltrans, and golf courses. This component provides an estimated 1,100 AFY recycled water.

Component 6B – Parklands Retrofit was located in the Mira Mesa Community Planning Area at Westview Neighborhood Park. The retrofit included installing recycled water pipelines, upgrading electrical service and booster pump, and installing a recycled water meter. Since 2007, the number of City sites using recycled water have increased from 23 to 114. Project funds were also used to train park staff for use of recycled water.

Component 6C – Indirect Potable Reuse/Reservoir Augmentation (IPR/RA) Demonstration Project and Extended Testing, aimed to evaluate the feasibility of advanced treatment technology for IPR/RA. It was also used to evaluate the viability of a full-scale IPR/RA project and to perform extended testing on the additional treatment steps ozone and biological activated carbo (BAC). Key components of the project were the Independent Advisory Panel (IAP), San Vicente Reservoir Limnology and Conveyance Pipeline Studies, construction of the Advanced Treatment Plant (demonstration plant), public outreach and education, and extended testing at the demonstration plant. Upon completion of the demonstration plant in 2013, the project received an amendment for continued testing and a final report was developed in 2015. Extended testing showed that purified water met all federal and state drinking water standards and was comparable to Orange County’s Groundwater Replenishment System. The IAP provided expert peer review for all technical, scientific, and regulatory aspects of the demonstration plant and unanimously concluded that project satisfied all City Council directives. The project’s public outreach and education program was extensive and very successful. As of September 2016, a total of 431 community presentations, 143 community events, and 284 stakeholder interview had taken place, with more than 10,200 visitors to the demonstration plant.

### **Questions/Comments:**

- I am a supporter of potable reuse, and am intrigued about people’s reaction to IPR.
  - In 2004, there was only a 24% acceptance rate for potable reuse. Now there is 73% acceptance. More people are on board with potable reuse.

- In terms of the pilot plant, what was the cost per acre-foot for conveyance from San Vicente Reservoir?
  - We are now looking at Miramar for reservoir augmentation instead of San Vicente Reservoir. We are still defining those costs, so we do not have a number on hand but it is comparable to imported water.
- Will the demonstration project going to continue to exist?
  - Yes, it will be operational for full-scale design.
- What was the grant award?
  - The total project cost was \$18.7 million. \$4.8 million of this was grant funding, so approximately 25% of the total project cost was funded with the grant.

***Project 9: Northern San Diego County Invasive Non-Native Species Control Program – Karla Standridge, Mission Resource Conservation District***

Ms. Karla Standridge, Mission Resource Conservation District, presented on the Proposition 50, Project 9 – Northern San Diego County Invasive Non-Native Species Control Program. The program successfully eradicated over 600 acres of invasive, non-native plants from four target watersheds: San Dieguito, San Luis Rey, Santa Margarita, and Carlsbad Hydrological Units (HU). The four target species were *Arundo donax* (giant reed), *Cortaderia selloana* (pampas grass), *Lepidium latifolium* (perennial pepperweed), and *Tamarisk ramosissimum* (salt cedar). Program work typically occurred from September 15th to March 15th each year, outside of bird nesting season. However, due to drought and earlier plant dormancy, the project received regulatory approval to begin in August. Program work consisted of obtaining permits, conducting outreach and coordination with landowners, administering herbicide treatments, reducing biomass, and re-vegetation with native species. Due to the drought, re-vegetation efforts in the Carlsbad HU resulted in only a 50% survival rate. Removal of invasive species resulted in an estimated net water savings of 5,738 AFY, which helps to develop and maintain a diverse mix of water resources (i.e., increased groundwater recharge). Other project benefits include reduction in sources of pollutants/environmental stressors, habitat protection, restoration, and maintenance, and optimization of water-based recreational opportunities. The project will continue to monitor and re-treat target invasive, non-native plants primarily using regional Natural Community Conservation Planning funds distributed through the SANDAG TransNet program. The watershed programs will also be supported by federal, state, and local sources.

Questions/Comments:

- Where were the pictures of the San Dieguito watershed taken?
  - An agricultural property near the Safari Park.
- Why did you expand the project to include eucalyptus removal?
  - We did eucalyptus removal in the San Dieguito watershed. This species was not in the original proposal, but when more money became available, we submitted an amendment to add it for that watershed.
- Was there a way to avoid using herbicides?
  - We would have loved to avoid using herbicides. Due to funding constraints, the most effective means of removing these species was with herbicides. We chose herbicides

that were EPA-approved for aquatic areas. At one site, we removed invasive species from an organic farm. At that site, we used a cut treatment in which we applied a smaller amount of herbicide directly on the trunk. Although we used less herbicide at that site, the treatment was also less effective. We eventually will need to retreat the area.

- Are you funding the monitoring treatment efforts? Or are the landowners?
  - Because we have the blanket permits, we are finding the funds and performing the monitoring treatment. It is not feasible for the private owners to do the monitoring treatment due to the required permits.
- What was the total project cost?
  - Including amendments, \$1.2 million was provided through IRWM grant funds. The total project cost was over \$3 million.
- How are you preventing the reintroduction of these species?
  - We will be monitoring sites extensively and there are retreatment funds available. We are trying to be cost-effective, especially with *Arundo*, and working upstream to downstream to reduce potential for re-establishment.

***Project 12: San Diego Basin Water Supply Adaptation to Climate Change – Goldy Herbon, San Diego County Water Authority***

Ms. Goldy Herbon, San Diego County Water Authority (SDCWA), presented on the Proposition 50, Project 12 – San Diego Basin Water Supply Adaptation to Climate Change. The original project, developed in 2008, aimed to provide initial design and work plan for a conveyance system between San Vicente, El Capitan, Loveland, Sweetwater, and Murray Reservoirs. Due to changes in circumstances, the study was removed and the City of San Diego Public Utilities Department (SDPUD) leveraged other funds to submit a San Diego Basin Infrastructure Study to U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) in 2013. Unlike the original project, the new study encompassed the entire San Diego IRWM Region and its infrastructure. The project was a response to a study confirming shortfalls between projected water supplies and demands in the Colorado River Basin. It was awarded \$1 million from USBR with a cost share of \$1,105,606 from Proposition 50 funding and SDPUD. The project title was changed to the San Diego Basin Water Supply Adaptation to Climate Change Project to reflect the portion of the scope that was completed by the end of the Prop 50 grant agreement in 2015.

The purpose of the revised project was to assess the potential effects of climate change impacts within the San Diego IRWM Region. This was done by evaluating water supply and demand conditions in the region under future climate change conditions. The work completed under this project included a Water Supply and Demand Projections Report, Climate Change and Hydrology Report, and an analysis of relevant data and measures of supply reliability from the Colorado River Basin Study and the Sacramento San Joaquin Basin Study. One major challenge for this project was successfully managing multiple funding sources – San Diego IRWM Program and the WaterSmart Program. Each funding program had different budget schedules, reporting requirements, timelines, and reimbursement processes.

The final project had a total budget cost reduction of about \$900,000 and a grant funding reduction of \$22,000 as compared to the original project. Three remaining tasks are outstanding, but are in progress. Task 2.3, which examines water supply and demand under current and future climate through

modeling, is almost complete. Task 2.4 will evaluate structural and non-structural concepts for addressing supply-demand gaps. The staff technical team invited all members of the RAC and the public to participate in the next Basin Study Stakeholder Meeting on January 31, 2017 at 1 pm in the SDCWA Board Room. Concepts from Task 2.3 and Task 2.4 will be included in the final reports to Congress with an appraisal-level analysis in Spring 2018.

Questions/Comments:

- Where are the deliverables available?
  - The webpage will be provided to Rosalyn, and she will send it to the RAC.
- Were there any policy changes from this project?
  - No, but it may inform future policies and highlights priorities. The report is not meant to be a regulatory document. The Los Angeles Basin Study focuses on storm water capture because that was a priority in that basin. The San Diego Basin Study will focus on what the stakeholders choose to focus on.
- How does this study support SDCWA's urban studies?
  - The Basin Study builds on work by the SDCWA SIM Model used for the Water Master Facility Plan. The study will take it further to figure out what facilities need collaboration. It will also be used to figure out which projects are cost effective and best for the region.
- The Water Facilities Master Plan 2013 overestimated the supply-demand gap, and the 2015 Urban Water Master Plan dialed down from those calculations. Why would you use the same model as those plans?
  - We modified the model with 2015 data.
- There is currently no supply gap, so there is concern that SDCWA is planning to spend big dollars on projects that are not necessary. For example, the Camp Pendleton desalination facility is expensive but is not necessary to meet a known supply gap.
  - Camp Pendleton is a back-up facility, and will not be built if it is not necessary. Currently, there are no plans to build that facility.
- The Los Angeles Basin has different characteristic than the San Diego Basin. Will your plan take local geology for groundwater recharge potential into consideration?
  - Correct, every region is different and we are definitely aware of this.

**San Diego Regional Stormwater Resource Plan (SWRP) – David Pohl, ESA and Ruth de la Rosa, County of San Diego**

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Mr. David Pohl, ESA, and Ms. Ruth de la Rosa, County of San Diego, presented on the Regional Stormwater Resource Plan (Regional SWRP), which is being funded under a grant received by the County of San Diego through the IRWM Program under Proposition 1. The SWRP was developed per State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) guidelines and was designed to create more competitive projects state-wide grant funding opportunities. The purpose of the plan was to identify and prioritize projects with multi-benefits, including storm water benefits, that best meet the identified priorities of individual watershed. The Regional SWRP needs to be completed within 90 days of grant

award, which was announced on December 1, 2016. The Final Regional SWRP is expected to be submitted to the State Board and integrated into the IRWM Plan on February 28, 2017. The current list of projects in the Regional SWRP, which were submitted through the last call for projects, will be included in the Final Regional SWRP. However, because we will be officially tracking projects through the online OPTI database, projects can be added or updated at any time. An extensive analysis took place for each submitted project and the list of projects selected based on identified regional and watershed goals. The Draft Regional SWRP meets the State's Guidelines (Water Code §10560 et seq.) and provides tools for regional and watershed collaboration to develop integrated multi-benefit projects. A checklist is provided at the end of each chapter to ensure that projects included in the Regional SWRP address important issues identified within each chapter. Mr. Pohl provided a brief explanation of the SWRP checklist went through an example Green Street project to explain the level of analysis used in the project selection process.

The Draft Regional SWRP and a comment matrix is available on the IRWM website. Comments are due to Ms. de la Rosa by Friday, December 23, 2016.

Ms. de la Rosa described the 40 projects listed in the Draft Regional SWRP and the distribution of projects across seven of the nine watersheds within San Diego IRWM Region. It was reiterated that additional opportunities to submit or update projects will occur before future rounds of Proposition 1 funding through the IRWM OPTI database. Programmatic level projects will also be considered with the criteria that all subprojects have similar benefits and metrics. The Final Regional SWRP will have the current list of projects as an appendix.

- The Draft SWRP is available for Public Review here: <http://sdirwmp.org/irwm-planning>
- The SDIRWM OPTI Project Database is located here: <http://irwm.rmcwater.com/sd/login.php>
- Additional information on the State Board's Storm Water Grant Program can be found here: [http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\\_issues/programs/grants\\_loans/swgp/prop1/](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/swgp/prop1/)

#### Questions/Comments:

- Were the projects submitted to OPTI hand scored or automatically scored?
  - Automatically scored.
- What is the intention of the Proposition 1 funding to use this as an eligibility requirement? How does this funding relate to general funding?
  - There is an eligibility requirement for projects that apply for Proposition 1 funding that all projects with stormwater capture or water quality elements need to be listed in the SWRP. Stormwater projects funded through the IRWM program also need to be on the list, along with projects that are conservation with water quality improvements. The OPTI database is used to help projects apply for IRWM funding, so it is also being used for the SWRP project list to assist with this process.
  - The SWRP must also be accepted into the IRWM Plan for projects to be eligible for funding.
- There is skepticism about the feasibility of stormwater projects in this county. Will projects score better if it includes some sort of technical feasibility study?
  - The SWRP is a good starting point; it starts the conversation of what is feasible in San Diego. Within the SWRP, there is a level playing field for projects in the region.
- What kind of comments are being requested for the Draft SWRP?

- Because the SWRP follows State Board guidelines, a lot of it is not flexible. However, if any tools or explanations are recommended, they could be added. Or if more examples are need to help clarify the evaluation process for project sponsors, those could be added as well.
- Is there any sense of there being a threshold in the process that will determine whether or not a project is competitive state-wide based on points earned?
  - We want to look at the project on a watershed level first in order to make sure it is a multi-benefit project. It is not really meant to eliminate projects, but rather should be used to improve projects based on multiple benefits and quantification of benefits. A low score should encourage project sponsors to look at how to improve their project.
- Three stormwater projects were recently awarded about \$1-3 million each.
- Is Federal Boulevard a tributary of Chollas Creek?
  - Yes, it is the headwaters of Chollas Creek.
- Will water from Green Streets project percolate without harm? Have you done a soil analysis?
  - Have not gotten that far in the soil analysis.
- With limited resources, there should be some screening for cost effectiveness or “bang for your buck” projects. We should fund the biggest issues first. We should focus on what really makes sense.
- Other stormwater plans are being prepared. How will scores be compared state-wide?
  - Funding awarded to projects with the most impact, which is why we focus on multi-benefit projects. Projects should be identified and prioritized in the SWRP. In San Diego, the SWRP is a regional plan, but is still focused on a watershed basis. The outcomes and project assessment will be similar across all plans because all of them are based on the same guidelines.
- Is there any discussion that Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) money can be used here in San Diego?
  - Not sure, Regional Water Quality Control Board could look at a consolidated list, but I do not know.
  - Chiara Clemente’s presentation at the last RAC meeting was about the SEP call for projects. The RWMG is in talks with her about how to add these projects to OPTI.
- The Draft SWRP document crashes on the website whenever I try to read through it. What version of Adobe is being used?
  - The document is pretty big. We can divide it by section so that is does not crash.
- Many of the projects on the Project List could benefit from the Floating Island.

## **IRWM Grant Program**

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### ***RAC Membership Update***

Mr. Mark Stadler, SDCWA, presented an update on the RAC member selection process for the 2017-2020 term. A total of 15 applications were submitted with at least one applicant for 12 of the 13 open positions. There were no applicants for the Agriculture seat. Six of the 15 applicants have previously served on the RAC, and the remaining nine applicants have never been RAC members. The RAC Membership Workgroup was scheduled to meet later that afternoon to select the new members. New



members will begin their terms at the February RAC meeting with a new member orientation prior to that meeting. Certificates of appreciation for end-of-term RAC members were given out.

### ***IRWM Planning Grant Award***

An update was provided on the Proposition 1 IRWM Planning Grant. A draft award of \$250,000 was recently announced to update the 2013 San Diego IRWM Plan. The IRWM Plan Update will incorporate new guidelines, policies, and regulations, including the development of a Storm Water Capture Feasibility Study (SWCFS). The anticipated final award is expected in January 2017 and a kick-off IRWM Plan Update meeting is planned for mid-2017.

### ***DAC Planning Grant Status***

Mr. Travis Pritchard, San Diego Coastkeeper presented an update on the DAC Planning Grant. The DAC Planning Grant application was postponed because one of the local project sponsors (LPS), San Luis Rey Watershed Council, decided not to pursue grant funding. The Project Selection Workgroup (PSW) held a reallocation meeting in November to consider three alternate projects from the “Alternate Project List” established in the last PSW meeting. The PSW recommended \$325,000 of grand funding for The Escondido Creek Conservancy’s (TECC) *Storm Water Quality for Grape Day Park DACs* project. The project includes restoration of a portion of the Escondido Creek that runs through Grape Day Park, a central park in the City of Escondido. With the help of a prominent non-profit organization, it also integrates a youth mentorship program as its outreach component to develop student stewards. An “Outreach Plus” task was also added for the development of a Funding Area-wide DAC Needs Assessment that builds on DAC involvement conducted by LPS. The needs assessment, requesting \$120,000, will also involve DACs that were not previously engaged in IRWM Programs and will identify their water and wastewater issues. With the addition of the TECC project, DAC Outreach Plus, and an increased grant administration budget of \$259,550, the total proposed grant request is \$5,536,550.

The RAC was asked to discuss the proposed changes to the application package and vote on the PSW’s recommendation. Mr. Mark Stadler asked the RAC to consider increasing the TECC project’s grant funding by \$30,000 for a total of \$355,000, the initial amount requested by TECC. The RAC held a discussion and voted on the PSW’s recommendation on the DAC Planning Grant.

**Vote:** 20 Yes. Passed.

It was also noted that Travis Pritchard will be moving and will leave his current position at San Diego Coastkeeper, and will be naming a replacement for his seat on the RAC.

### **Questions/Comments:**

- I am concerned that there were no application for the Agriculture seat on the RAC. There were no previous RAC members applying?
  - No one from the Farm Bureau interested.
  - I can reach out to get some interest.
- In terms of increasing TECC funding, does the additional \$30,000 come from Proposition 1 funds?
  - Yes.
- Why was funding reduced in the first place?

- The project listed “indirect” costs, which might have hurt the project’s chance of getting funded. The issue was discussed with SDCWA’s grant administrator, and it was determined these costs were acceptable.
- Who was on the Project Selection Workgroup?
  - Mark Stadler, Cathy Peironi, Stephanie Gaines, Travis Pritchard, Roy Roy, and Olga Morales, along with alternates
- TECC is excited about the project and will be working closely with the City of Escondido on this.

## **IRWM Grant Administration**

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Ms. Loisa Burton, SDCWA, presented a financial summary and progress report of all current and active projects that received Proposition 50 and Proposition 84 grants. All projects that received Proposition 50 funding are now complete. Ten out of 38 projects that received Proposition 84 Rounds 1, 2, and 3 funding have been completed or are at least 80% complete. A total of \$40.5 million in grant funding (out of \$89.6 million awarded) has been billed to DWR. The LPS Kick-off Meeting for projects funded under Proposition 84, Round 4 was held on November 17, 2016.

SDCWA is developing a Funding Reallocation Policy which will provide guidance for reallocation of grant funding. RAC approval of the final policy will follow at a future RAC meeting. Melissa Sparks is no longer with DWR, and Erik Goodman has been named DWR’s new Regional Area Representative for the San Diego IRWM Region. He is a water resources engineer from the IRWM Assistance Branch Section.

### Questions/Comments:

- Will the Draft Funding Reallocation Policy be circulated before the next meeting?
  - Yes, we can do that.
- In reference to the Rincon Customer-Driven Demand Management Project (Proposition 84, Round 2), did the WaterSmart portal detect leaks in your (Rincon) system or the customer’s system?
  - Leaks were found in customer systems. The software allows users to set benchmarks and we notify them of any anomalies. An estimated 3 million gallons are saved per year. We had a 3% system water loss.
- Who did you go through for the AMI?
  - It was a capital project and it took three and a half years to replace all the meters in the system. There are a lot of choices available, but we used Badger Meters.

## **Public Comments**

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None.

## **Summary and Next Steps**

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### Next RAC Meeting:

- February 1, 2017 – 9-11:30am

### 2017 Meeting Schedule:

- April 5
- June 7
- August 2
- October 4
- December 6