



Tribal Outreach Meeting #4

Tuesday May 7, 2013
1:00 – 3:00 pm

R.M. Levy Water Treatment Plant
9550 Lake Jennings Park Road
Lakeside, CA 92040

Meeting Notes

Attendees:

Miguel Hernandez, Pauma Band of Luiseño Mission Indians	Mark Stadler, SDCWA
Darwin "T" Tewanger, Viejas Group of Capitan Grande Band of Mission Indians of the Viejas Reservation	Toby Roy, SDCWA
Stev Weidlich, AECOM	Goldy Thach, City of San Diego
Hillary Warren, AECOM	Rosalyn Prickett, RMC

1. Welcome and Introductions

Mr. Stev Weidlich, AECOM, began the meeting by welcoming everyone and giving a short review of the Native American outreach meetings and efforts of the Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) program. Mr. Weidlich then started introductions around the room and introduced the agenda, Tribal Water Stories of Southern Coastal California, and the draft Tribal Nations of San Diego County chapter of the IRWM Plan.

2. Presentation and Discussion of *San Diego IRWM Plan Tribal Nations Chapter*

Ms. Rosalyn Prickett, RMC Water and Environment, commented that input is requested on the draft chapter by the end of May for edits to be included in the public release of the draft chapter at the end of June. Mr. Miguel Hernandez, Pauma Band of Luiseño Mission Indians, commented that, upon first glance, the Pauma characterization was accurate and, "short and sweet," but could be expanded. He suggested that he provide additional language.

Mr. Mark Stadler, San Diego County Water Authority, then gave an introduction on the IRWM program. He stated that the IRWM program became very important about 10 to 12 years ago when San Diego County and the State of California became interested in integrated approaches to water management issues. He continued by stating that the idea behind IRWM is that all stakeholders should work together instead of separately, for example, with flood control or habitat protection; these issues are interconnected and the agencies that work on them should collaborate. A law was passed to form

regional water management groups throughout the state. Finally, voters approved bonds for several million dollars for IRWM programs throughout California.

Mr. Stadler continued by stating that in 2007 the San Diego IRWM Plan was approved and received three grants totaling 30 million dollars to support public agencies and projects. Mr. Stadler stated that the local IRWM program would like to help get San Diego Tribes money for water-related projects. He continued by stating that the 2007 IRWM Plan did not do a very good job of including Tribes or describing water-related issues on reservation lands, and that this year the team has devoted a fair amount of resources to improving the Tribal outreach and has focused on completing a Tribal Nations of San Diego County chapter in the 2013 IRWM Plan. Mr. Stadler stated that the current draft chapter has been based, in general, from the templates received through earlier outreach efforts this year, various websites managed and operated by the Tribes themselves, and the 2003 *Update on Impacts of Tribal Economic Development Projects in San Diego County*, published by the County of San Diego. Mr. Stadler asked the group if there were any questions and there were none.

Ms. Prickett then began to introduce the draft Tribal Nations of San Diego County chapter. Ms. Prickett stated that, at meetings last summer, there was a request that a whole chapter be devoted to a discussion of Tribal lands and water-related issues. She said that the draft chapter is the result of that request and it contains a much more expanded discussion of Tribal issues than the previous effort in 2007. Ms. Prickett stated that any updates or suggested edits would be really helpful to create an accurate and meaningful document.

Mr. Hernandez asked where the previous version of the report is located and if he could get a copy of it. Ms. Prickett stated that it is available online. Mr. Stadler stated that he has extra hard copies. Mr. Hernandez continued by stating that he was thankful that this meeting was happening before the report is finalized, as it is common for Tribes to be approached for a review after the document has already been completed.

Ms. Prickett continued by asking Mr. Darwin Tewanger, Viejas Group of Capitan Grande Band of Mission Indians of the Viejas Reservation, if the report's characterization of Viejas was accurate. Specifically, that Viejas co-manages the Capitan Grande Reservation with Barona. Mr. Tewanger confirmed that is true.

Ms. Prickett stated the Table 4-1 column on population is not currently clear and that a footnote will be added to reflect the difference between "Total" and "Reservation" populations in response to a comment made at the May 1, 2013, meeting. Ms. Prickett also stated that there will be a map, not included in this copy of the draft chapter, which illustrates all Tribal reservation lands and watershed boundaries.

Ms. Prickett then introduced Figure 4-2, Native American Language Families in the San Diego IRWM Region. She stated that some comments were received in the last meeting regarding this Figure 4-2. Mr. Weidlich explained that the comment was based upon the difference between Ipai and Tipai, as these two groups were separated based on linguistic characteristics in this figure, when culturally and tribally, they are not considered separate. Mr. Hernandez stated that it is important that this figure be accurate and that he would take a copy of it to class tonight and have his professor look at it. Ms. Prickett thanked him for making that effort and to gather another opinion on the figure. Mr. Hernandez also commented that there needs to be a reference for this figure.

Ms. Prickett continued by stating how important it is for this chapter to reflect Tribal autonomy and stress collaborative work between the Tribes and regional planning committees in San Diego. She stated attempts have been made to put a new Tribal representative on the IRWM Program's Regional Advisory

Committee and that Southern California Tribal Chairmen's Association has been asked to put forth nominees, but that process is ongoing.

Ms. Prickett then introduced Section 4.4, Future Developments on Tribal Lands. She shared with the group that the previous meeting attendees had commented that, in this section, Natives are portrayed more as businesses and not governments. She continued that she understands that the reports upon which this section are based tend to concentrate disproportionately on the effects on-reservation activities may have on resources off of reservation lands, especially when it comes to water issues.

Mr. Hernandez commented that he appreciates when reports reflect the impacts from surrounding (i.e., off-reservation) development on reservation lands and that those impacts should be considered as serious as any other impact. He stated that he will provide comments on the chapter by next week.

Ms. Prickett reiterated that comments and edits are requested by the end of May and Mr. Stadler stated that there will be another opportunity to comment during the public review period in June.

Mr. Hernandez asked if the IRWM team has been working with the federal government on this project at all, as he wishes there was more communication between different arms of the federal government and the Tribes. Ms. Prickett stated that she needs a new contact for the BIA. Ms. Hillary Warren, AECOM, commented that the team received an updated contact for Lenore Lamb at the previous meeting. Mr. Hernandez suggested that the IRWM team connect with the Indian Health Service (IHS).

Ms. Prickett introduced the issue of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) compliance to the group and its relationship with IRWM grant money. Mr. Hernandez stated that, normally, Tribes do not have to comply with CEQA but may look into doing so if grant money is available. Mr. Stadler stated that people have been working with California Department of Water Resources (DWR) for years when it comes to the CEQA/Tribe issue, and that the Governor of California is interested in getting financial assistance to Tribal governments for water-related improvements. Mr. Hernandez continued that Tribes pay federal and state taxes, and that they aren't given as many opportunities for funding as other entities—especially from the state. Mr. Hernandez continued by stating that just because a casino exists on a reservation does not mean that everyone there is wealthy. Mr. Stadler stated that if there are ways for Tribes to work within CEQA compliance, then grant money would be available.

Ms. Prickett stated that she had not realized that Tribal Environmental Impact Reports (TEIRs) usually only reflect the impacts that reservation lands have on neighboring developments and said that she will make edits that reflect that in the chapter.

Mr. Hernandez asked if the Santa Margarita watershed is mentioned in the report. Ms. Prickett responded by stating that there is only a small portion of the headwaters within San Diego County. Mr. Hernandez stated that the headwaters are located on the Pauma Reservation and should be included in the report. Ms. Prickett stated that it would be added. Mr. Hernandez then asked about the San Luis Rey watershed. Ms. Prickett responded by stating that it is mentioned and that previous comments at the May 1, 2013, meeting had suggested that any mention of the San Luis Rey watershed or issues related to it would need to be cleared by the San Luis Rey Indian Water Authority.

Ms. Prickett stated that Michael Connolly was very helpful and articulate about these issues at the previous meeting. Mr. Hernandez stated that there are many traditional practices that "new school" farmers do not take into consideration, especially when it comes to water use. Ms. Prickett stated that a section on Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) would be fantastic and asked the group for sources. Mr. Weidlich stated that interviewing elders would be the best route to collect that information. Mr.

Hernandez mentioned that Steve Corhavel¹ and Dr. Elliott were non-Natives that have been very informative on traditional ways of working with the environment.

Ms. Pricket closed the discussion on the draft chapter by stating that edits and comments should be submitted by the end of May. Mr. Tewanger stated that he was present at the meeting purely to observe, gather information for his Tribal council, and not to comment.

3. Presentation and Discussion of *Tribal Water Stories of Coastal Southern California*

Mr. Weidlich then briefly introduced the Tribal Water Stories of Coastal Southern California document. Mr. Hernandez commented that the State Water Summit did not have very much Southern California attendance.

4. Open Discussion/Question and Answer Session

Questions were asked and answered as discussion topics arose, as included in these notes.

5. Identification of Other Tribes in Adjacent Regions Interested in the San Diego IRWM Region

Mr. Hernandez also mentioned he felt that Pechanga should be included in the chapter as the Tribe may have an interest in the Santa Margarita watershed.

Mr. Tewanger asked Mr. Weidlich if he received an email from Uyen Le, Deputy Attorney General for Viejas. Mr. Weidlich responded that he did receive the email, had passed on Ms. Le's comments to the RMC team, and if there are any additional comments to please let any of the team know.

¹ May be an inaccurate spelling.