Watershed Workshop
Pueblo – Sweetwater – Otay - Tijuana

September 27, 2012

Agenda

• Welcome & Introductions
• IRWM Overview
• Pueblo Watershed
• Sweetwater Watershed
• Otay Watershed
• Tijuana Watershed
• Next Steps
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What is Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Planning?

• A new way to increase reliable water supplies, improve water quality and protect natural resources through cooperation among public agencies with different jurisdictions and non-profit public interest organizations
• A mechanism through which San Diego Region is eligible for substantial grant funding from Proposition 84 and Proposition 1E

Benefits of IRWM Planning

- Fosters Collaboration Between Agencies
- Supports Effective Water Management
- Enables Stakeholder Participation
- Positions Region for Funding
San Diego IRWM Region

• All or part of the eleven (11) hydrologic units within San Diego County that discharge to coastal waters

2007 San Diego IRWM Plan

• Foundation for integrated planning in the San Diego region
• Adopted in December 2007
• Extensive update is currently underway
2013 San Diego IRWM Plan Update

• Update and improve 2007 IRWM Plan with existing reports, planning studies, and stakeholder input
• Meet new DWR IRWM Plan requirements
• Amend existing plan to characterize resources on a **watershed-scale**

Prop 84-Round 2 Grant Opportunity

• To date, San Diego has received $9 million in Proposition 84 grant funding through the IRWM Program
• **$56 million** remaining for our region in implementation grant funding
• DWR recently announced Round 2 of implementation grant funding
• Approximately **$10.3 million** is available for the San Diego region in Round 2
Project Submittal Process

Call for Projects: Submit to Project Database
September 1 – October 19

Project Selection Workgroup, Review of Submitted Projects
November 2012

Regional Advisory Committee, Approval of Funding Package
December 3

Project Sponsors Work with Consultant to Develop Materials for Proposal
December–February

San Diego IRWM Submits Proposal to State
March 2013

Project Integration

- Integration: The “I” in IRWM
  - Increases level of benefits for the Region
  - Improves likelihood project will receive IRWM grant funding

Zoological Society of San Diego’s Biofiltration Wetland Creation and Education Program integrated water quality improvements with habitat creation and education to the public
**Different Types of Integration**

- **Partnerships** – Partnerships between different organizations
- **Resource Management** – Employing multiple water management strategies within a single project
- **Beneficial Uses** – Project supports several different beneficial uses
- **Geography** – Implementing watershed-scale or regional-scale projects
- **Hydrology** – Addressing multiple watershed functions within the hydrologic cycle

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Watershed Workshops

- San Juan
- Santa Margarita
- San Luis Rey
- Palos Verdes
- San Diego River
- Carlsbad
- San Dieguito
- Sweetwater
- Otay
- Tijuana

References:
- 2002 Chollas Creek Enhancement Plan
- 2011 San Diego Bay Integrated Natural Resources Plan
- DWR Groundwater Bulletin 118
- 2010 Urban Water Management Plans (UWMPs)
- Watershed Urban Runoff Management Plans (WURMPs)
- Multiple Species Conservation Plans (MSCPs)
- RWQCB Basin Plan & 303(d) List

Pueblo Watershed

- References:
  - 2002 Chollas Creek Enhancement Plan
  - 2011 San Diego Bay Integrated Natural Resources Plan
  - DWR Groundwater Bulletin 118
  - 2010 Urban Water Management Plans (UWMPs)
  - Watershed Urban Runoff Management Plans (WURMPs)
  - Multiple Species Conservation Plans (MSCPs)
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Pueblo Watershed

• Watershed Characterization:
  ▪ Relies solely on imported water
  ▪ Most densely populated watershed in Region
  ▪ Five sites have been designated as toxic hot spots in watershed for sediment toxicity
  ▪ Flooding is major concern – Chollas Creek is a natural waterway that is used for flood control

Pueblo Watershed

• Water Management Issues:
  ▪ Surface water quality – Chollas Creek Diazinon TMDL and Chollas Creek Copper, Lead, and Zinc TMDLs
  ▪ Creeks are highly impacted by urban runoff
  ▪ Habitat degradation and invasives
  ▪ Sediment toxicity in the San Diego Bay – Shelter Island Copper TMDL
  ▪ Management is difficult due to multiple jurisdictions
Pueblo Watershed

- **IRWM Priorities for Watershed:**
  - What are the watershed priorities for the IRWM Plan Update?
  - What multi-benefit projects or programs are well-suited for IRWM funding?

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**Sweetwater Watershed**

- **References:**
  - 2011 San Diego Bay Integrated Natural Resources Plan
  - DWR Groundwater Bulletin 118
  - 2010 Urban Water Management Plans (UWMPs)
  - Watershed Urban Runoff Management Plans (WURMPs)
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**Sweetwater Watershed**

- **Watershed Characterization:**
  - Contains significant water supplies in 2 reservoirs
  - Downstream portion is urbanized
  - Upstream portion contains important natural resources in Cleveland National Forest and Cuyamaca State Park
  - Water quality impacted by agricultural and urban runoff
Sweetwater Watershed

- **Water Management Issues:**
  - Protection of municipal water supply reservoirs
  - Protection of sensitive wetland and wildlife habitats
  - Urban development threatens natural habitats and hydrologic features
  - Groundwater quality degradation

Sweetwater Watershed

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Otay Watershed

- References:
  - 2006 Otay River Watershed Management Plan
  - Otay River Special Area Management Plan?
  - 2011 San Diego Bay Integrated Natural Resources Plan
  - DWR Groundwater Bulletin 118
  - 2010 Urban Water Management Plans (UWMPs)
  - Watershed Urban Runoff Management Plans (WURMPs)
  - Multiple Species Conservation Plans (MSCPs)
  - RWQCB Basin Plan & 303(d) List
**Otay Watershed**

- **Watershed Characterization:**
  - Contains significant water supplies in 2 reservoirs
  - Primarily imported water, some private groundwater use
  - Substantial recent population growth
  - Approximately 2/3 of watershed is preserved as open space (36 square miles per MSCP)
  - Significant wetlands resources in San Diego National Wildlife Refuge

**Otay Watershed**

- **Water Management Issues:**
  - Urban runoff and water quality issues
  - Habitat degradation and invasives due to rapid urban development
  - Reduced groundwater recharge
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**Tijuana Watershed**

- **References:**
  - Binational Watershed Vision?
  - 2010 Tijuana River National Estuary Management Plan
  - 2011 San Diego Bay Integrated Natural Resources Plan
  - DWR Groundwater Bulletin 118
  - 2010 Urban Water Management Plans (UWMPs)
  - Watershed Urban Runoff Management Plans (WURMPs)
  - Multiple Species Conservation Plans (MSCPs)
  - RWQCB Basin Plan & 303(d) List

- **Watershed Characterization:**
  - Largest watershed in Region
  - Most of land area is in Mexico – 27% within U.S.
  - Two distinct areas on U.S. side – East area is rural, largely undeveloped, substantial open space, dependant on groundwater, good surface water quality; West area is urbanized, imported water-dependant, poor water quality
  - Water quality issues due to urban runoff and sewer spills
  - Tijuana Estuary one of few intact wetlands in Southern California
**Tijuana Watershed**

- **Water Management Issues:**
  - Various bi-national environmental issues that are difficult to address
  - Pollution and water quality issues in Mexico affect U.S.
  - Flood control issues in both U.S. and Mexico
  - Protection of Tijuana Estuary wetlands

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