

# San Diego IRWM Program RAC Meeting #110

---

September 3, 2025

1

## Agenda

- Meeting Logistics
- Welcome, Land Acknowledgement, and Introductions
- Climate Change and Resiliency Panel
- Project Completion Report
- Federal and State Updates
- Grant Administration
- State and Federal Funding Opportunities
- Public Comments
- Summary and Next Steps

2

2

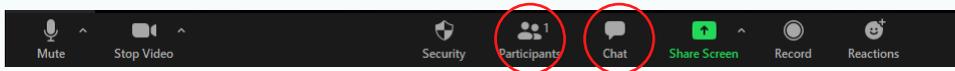
# San Diego IRWM Program RAC Meeting #110



September 3, 2025

Please enter your full name and organization into the **chat**. Please update your name to include your organization by clicking on **participants**, hover over your name, click **more**, and click **rename**.

For any technical difficulties, contact: Arthella Vallarta, 213-223-9463



3

## Agenda

- Meeting Logistics
- Welcome, Land Acknowledgement, and Introductions
- Climate Change and Resiliency Panel
- Project Completion Report
- Federal and State Updates
- Grant Administration
- State and Federal Funding Opportunities
- Public Comments
- Summary and Next Steps

4



4

## Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that this virtual meeting of the San Diego IRWM Program Regional Advisory Committee is taking place in the traditional lands of the Kumeyaay and Luiseño people. As we begin this meeting, we acknowledge and honor the original inhabitants of our region. A land acknowledgement is a critical step towards working with native communities to secure meaningful partnership and inclusion in the stewardship and protection of their cultural resources and homelands. We honor these ancestral grounds where we are collectively gathered and support the resilience and strength that Indigenous people have shown worldwide.

5



5

## Regional Advisory Committee Introductions

*Charlie de la Rosa, San Diego Zoo Global*

*Oscar Romo, Alter Terra*

6

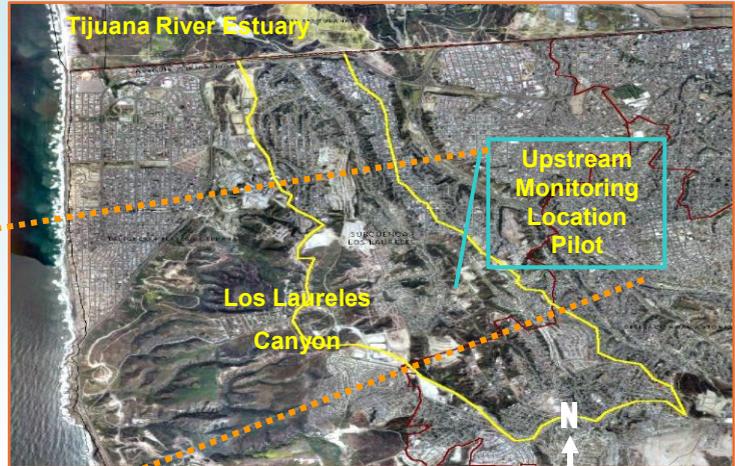
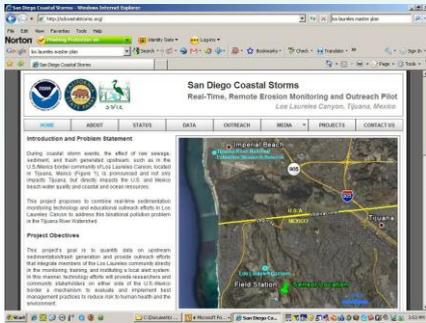


6



## San Diego Coastal Storms Real-Time, Remote Erosion Monitoring and Outreach Pilot

Integrated with NOAA Flood Gauges, and IBWC Watershed Monitoring



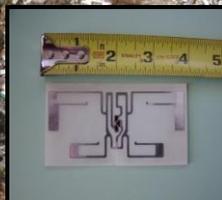
7



## TRASH TRACKING PROJECT



Probetas



AD-833 RFID Tag



Antena Yagi



Receptor

8/28/2025 12:00:40

2

8



9



10



11



12



13



14

## Agenda

- Meeting Logistics
- Welcome, Land Acknowledgement, and Introductions
- Climate Change and Resiliency Panel
- Project Completion Report
- Federal and State Updates
- Grant Administration
- State and Federal Funding Opportunities
- Public Comments
- Summary and Next Steps

15



15

### **Climate Change and Resiliency Panel**

*Maureen Hand, California Air Resources Board*

*America Aceves and Meghan Kelly, County of San Diego*

*Julia Chase and Marissa Westerfield, City of San Diego*

*Katie Hentrich, City of Carlsbad*

16



16

## Agenda

- Networking
- Welcome, Land Acknowledgement, and Introductions
- Climate Change and Resiliency Panel
- Project Completion Report
- State and Federal Updates
- Grant Administration
- State and Federal Funding Opportunities
- Public Comments
- Summary and Next Steps

17



17

## Sweetwater Reservoir Wetland Habitat Recovery Project Completion Report

*Julia Varnergardner, Sweetwater Authority*

18



18

## Agenda

- Networking
- Welcome, Land Acknowledgement, and Introductions
- Climate Change and Resiliency Panel
- Project Completion Report
- Federal and State Updates
- Grant Administration
- State and Federal Funding Opportunities
- Public Comments
- Summary and Next Steps

19



19

## State and Federal Updates

Federal Updates

State Updates

20



20

## Federal Funding Updates

- President Trump released his proposed FY 2026 budget for Reclamation
- Proposing to eliminate all funding for WaterSMART programs next year
- President's budget proposal is rarely approved and WaterSMART programs are popular in Congress
- May have more updates in mid to late September



21

SAN DIEGO  
Integrated Regional  
Water Management

21

## State Budget

- California Legislature rejected the Governor's proposed spending plan for Prop 4
- This will delay some appropriations of funding
- Legislature may also shift priorities for funding in the current and future budgets
- Expected to see a framework of the Legislature's Prop 4 plan in mid to late September



SAN DIEGO  
Integrated Regional  
Water Management

22

## State Updates

- Governor Gavin Newsom signed SB 131 into law with significant reforms to CEQA

CEQA Exemptions – Amendments & Additions		
Section	Summary	Expiration
21080.47	Existing exemption; minor changes made and extended to support disadvantaged community water systems and sewer systems	2032 (from 2027)
21080.48	New exemption for grant-funded community water projects with climate, biodiversity, and species recovery benefits.	2030
21080.49	New exemption for wildfire risk reduction projects (e.g., prescribed burns, defensible space, fuel breaks)	Not specified
21080.51	Amended to remove broadband network ID requirement by CPUC for linear broadband projects.	Not specified
21080.57	Exempts public parks or trails funded by Prop 4	None

23



23

## State Updates

- Governor Gavin Newsom also signed AB 130 into law with significant reforms to CEQA

### New CEQA Statutory Exemption for housing development projects 20 acres or less in size (5 acres or less for builder's remedy projects) that meet certain qualifying criteria:

- Located in urban area, and on a site that is previously developed or surrounded by urban uses
- Consistent with applicable general plan, zoning ordinances, local coastal program, specific plan
- Meets certain minimum residential density requirements
- Does not demolish a historic structure and avoids hazardous sites and sensitive lands
- No transient lodging
- Meets tribal consultation requirements with deadlines

24



24

## Agenda

- Networking
- Welcome, Land Acknowledgement, and Introductions
- Climate Change and Resiliency Panel
- Project Completion Report
- Federal and State Updates
- Grant Administration
- State and Federal Funding Opportunities
- Public Comments
- Summary and Next Steps

25



25

## Grant Administration

*Gail Patton, San Diego County Water Authority*

26



26

## Agenda

- Meeting Logistics
- Welcome, Land Acknowledgement, and Introductions
- Climate Change and Resiliency Panel
- Project Completion Report
- Federal and State Updates
- Grant Administration
- State and Federal Funding Opportunities
- Public Comments
- Summary and Next Steps

27



27

## Current Funding Opportunities

Project Types	Timing	Website
<b>California Financing Coordinating Committee:</b> CFCC funding fair	TBD Fall	<a href="https://www.cfcc.ca.gov/?utm_medium=email&amp;utm_source=govdelivery">https://www.cfcc.ca.gov/?utm_medium=email&amp;utm_source=govdelivery</a>
<b>SWRCB:</b> Prop 1 Technical Assistance Funding Program	Open: rolling	<a href="https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/proposition1/tech_asst_funding.html">https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/proposition1/tech_asst_funding.html</a>
<b>California OPC:</b> Sea Level Rise Tribal Cultural Resources Funding Program	Open: rolling quarterly basis Full proposal due September 12, 2025	<a href="https://opc.ca.gov/sb-1-tribal-funding/">https://opc.ca.gov/sb-1-tribal-funding/</a>
<b>CalOES:</b> Hazard Mitigation Grant Program	Sub application due September 15, 2025	<a href="https://www.caloes.ca.gov/office-of-the-director/operations/recovery-directorate/hazard-mitigation/hm-grant-opportunities/?utm_medium=email&amp;utm_source=govdelivery">https://www.caloes.ca.gov/office-of-the-director/operations/recovery-directorate/hazard-mitigation/hm-grant-opportunities/?utm_medium=email&amp;utm_source=govdelivery</a>
<b>U.S. EPA:</b> Midsize and Large Drinking Water System Infrastructure Resilience and Sustainability Program	Applications due October 6, 2025	<a href="https://www.epa.gov/dwcapacity/midsize-and-large-drinking-water-system-infrastructure-resilience-and-sustainability">https://www.epa.gov/dwcapacity/midsize-and-large-drinking-water-system-infrastructure-resilience-and-sustainability</a>
<b>USBR:</b> Small Storage Program	Applications due April 17, 2026	<a href="https://www.usbr.gov/smallstorage/index.html">https://www.usbr.gov/smallstorage/index.html</a>

28



28

# Current Funding Opportunities

Project Types	Timing	Website
USBR: Small-Scale Water Efficiency Grants	Paused	<a href="https://www.grants.gov/search-results-detail/350845">https://www.grants.gov/search-results-detail/350845</a>
USBR: WaterSMART Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Program	Paused	<a href="https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/aquatic/index.html">https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/aquatic/index.html</a>
USBR: WaterSMART Environmental Water Resources Program	Paused	<a href="https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/ewrp/index.html">https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/ewrp/index.html</a>
DWR: Proposition 4 - Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024.	TBD	<a href="https://water.ca.gov/News/Public-Notices/2025/Jul-25/Prop-4-Grant-Funding-Update?utm_medium=email&amp;utm_source=govdelivery">https://water.ca.gov/News/Public-Notices/2025/Jul-25/Prop-4-Grant-Funding-Update?utm_medium=email&amp;utm_source=govdelivery</a>

29



29

# California Financing Coordinating Committee Funding Fair

- California Financing Coordinating Committee 2025 Funding Fairs (virtual):
  - TBD – Fall
- Presentations from state and federal agencies on funding available from their programs
- More information available: <https://www.cfcc.ca.gov/>



30

## California Ocean Protection Council



CALIFORNIA  
OCEAN  
PROTECTION  
COUNCIL

- Sea Level Rise Tribal Cultural Resources Funding Program
  - Purpose: Supports CA Native American Tribes in assessing and planning for the impacts of sea level rise on cultural resources, ancestral lands, and lifeways
  - Funding: \$5 million
    - ❖ Project are anticipated to be between \$250,000 to \$750,000
  - Cost share: None
  - Status: Proposals due September 12, 2025

For more information please visit: <https://opc.ca.gov/sb-1-tribal-funding/>

31



31

## CA's Governor's Office of Emergency Services



- Hazard Mitigation Grant
  - Purpose: Supporting state and local mitigation efforts to reduce negative impacts of future disasters on lives, property, and the environment.
    - ❖ Note: Sub applicants must have a FEMA-approved and locally adopted Local Mitigation Plan to be eligible for project grants.
  - Funding:
    - ❖ Single jurisdictional plans - \$165,000
    - ❖ Multi-jurisdictional plans (2-4 participating jurisdictions) - \$250,000
    - ❖ Multi-jurisdictional plans (5-9 participating jurisdictions) - \$300,000
    - ❖ Multi-jurisdictional plans (10+ participating jurisdictions) - \$375,000
  - Cost share: 25%
  - Status: Sub applications due September 15, 2025

For more information please visit: [https://www.caloes.ca.gov/office-of-the-director/operations/recovery-directorate/hazard-mitigation/hm-grant-opportunities/?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=govdelivery](https://www.caloes.ca.gov/office-of-the-director/operations/recovery-directorate/hazard-mitigation/hm-grant-opportunities/?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery)

32



32

## U.S. Environmental Protection Agency



- **Midsized and Large Drinking Water System Infrastructure Resilience and Sustainability Program**
  - Purpose: Assists medium and large size public water systems with protecting drinking water sources from natural hazards, extreme weather events, and cybersecurity threat
  - Funding: \$9.5 million
  - Cost Share: At least 10%
  - Status: Applications due October 6, 2025

For more information please visit:  
<https://www.epa.gov/dwcapacity/midsized-and-large-drinking-water-system-infrastructure-resilience-and-sustainability>

33



33

## U.S. Bureau of Reclamation



— BUREAU OF —  
RECLAMATION

- **Small Storage Program**
  - Purpose: Fund small storage projects that seek to enhance water storage opportunities for future generations.
    - ❖ *Note, the project must have a completed feasibility study that meets the requirements of USBR's Directives and Standards submitted to USBR.*
  - Funding: \$43.5 million
  - Cost share: 75%
  - Status: Applications due on April 17, 2026. Feasibility studies must be submitted by February 13, 2026.

For more information please visit:  
<https://www.usbr.gov/smallstorage/index.html>

34



34

## U.S. Bureau of Reclamation



— BUREAU OF —  
RECLAMATION

### ■ Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects

- Purpose: Fund small-scale-on-the-ground projects that seek to conserve, better manage, or otherwise make more efficient use of water supplies.
- Funding: \$120 million
  - ❖ \$100,000 per applicant
- Cost share: 50%
- Status: Round 4 due on July 8, 2025 – *Deadline subject to change due to federal funding pause*

For more information please visit: <https://www.grants.gov/search-results-detail/350845>

35



35

## U.S. Bureau of Reclamation



— BUREAU OF —  
RECLAMATION

### ■ WaterSMART Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Program

- Purpose: Improving the health of fisheries, wildlife, and/or aquatic habitat through habitat restoration and/or improved fish passage via the removal of barriers.
- Funding: \$95 million
  - ❖ Task A: Study and Design – \$500,000 to \$2 million per project
  - ❖ Task B: Construction – \$3 million per project
  - ❖ Cost share: 35%
- Status:
  - ❖ Round 2 Due: February 17, 2026 – *Deadline subject to change due to federal funding pause*

For more information please visit:  
<https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/aquatic/index.html>

36



36

## U.S. Bureau of Reclamation



— BUREAU OF —  
RECLAMATION

- WaterSMART Environmental Water Resources Program
  - Purpose: Provide ecological benefits and/or improve watershed health with a nexus to water resources.
  - Funding: \$95 million
    - ❖ Up to \$3 million per project
    - ❖ Cost share: 25%
  - Status Round 2 due on March 11, 2025 – *Deadline subject to change due to federal funding pause*

For more information please visit:  
<https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/ewrp/index.html>

37



37

## Agenda

- Networking
- Welcome, Land Acknowledgement, and Introductions
- Climate Change and Resiliency Panel
- Project Completion Report
- Federal and State Updates
- Grant Administration
- State and Federal Funding Opportunities
- Public Comments
- Summary and Next Steps

38



38

## *Public Comments*

39



39

## **Agenda**

- Networking
- Welcome, Land Acknowledgement, and Introductions
- Climate Change and Resiliency Panel
- Project Completion Report
- Federal and State Updates
- Grant Administration
- State and Federal Funding Opportunities Public Comments
- Summary and Next Steps

40



40

## 2025 RAC Meeting Schedule

- 2025 Meeting Schedule:
  - In-Person - November

*RAC meetings will be quarterly, and meetings will alternate between virtual and in-person meetings.*

If your agency is interested in hosting a future RAC meeting, please email [SDIRWM@woodardcurran.com](mailto:SDIRWM@woodardcurran.com) for more information.

41



41



## San Diego IRWM Program RAC Meeting #110

September 3, 2025

42