

Agenda

- Networking
- Welcome, Land Acknowledgement, and Introductions
- Water Resources and Agriculture
- Project Completion Report
- State and IRWM Updates
- Grant Administration
- State and Federal Funding Opportunities
- Public Comments
- Summary and Next Steps
- Membrane Filtration Reverse Osmosis Facility Tour

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NETWORKING SESSION

May 21, 2025

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Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that this in-person 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.

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Welcome

Stephanie Roman, City of Escondido

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Regional Advisory Committee Introductions

Erica Wolski, Ramona Municipal Water District

Kimberly O'Connell, University of California, San Diego

Patrick McDonough, San Diego Coastkeeper

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Water Resources and Agriculture

Jameson Meyst and Mary Rodriguez, Mission Resource Conservation District

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Membrane Filtration Reverse Osmosis Facility Project Completion Report *Stephanie Roman, City of Escondido*

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State and IRWM Updates

Proposition 4
and Federal
Updates

Future of San
Diego IRWM

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State Budget

- Proposed Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Budget
 - January 2025: \$322B
 - ❖ Fiscal stability, strategic investment, and balanced
 - ❖ Proposition 4 (Climate Bond) - \$2.65B
 - Shifting \$273M from General Funds to bond funds
 - May 2025: Revised budget - \$12B deficit
 - ❖ Solutions: program reduction, revenue borrowing and fund shifts
 - ❖ Expanding climate investments: clean energy, wildfire and water initiatives.



State Budget

- Proposition 4
 - \$2.65B Climate Bond:
 - ❖ Safe Drinking Water, Drought, Flood & Water Resilience - \$1.07B
- Proposition 4 Allocations: Fall 2025
 - \$100M for integrated regional water management anticipated in FY 2027-2028
 - ❖ Some IRWM regions have suggested funding through block grant mechanism

Safe Drinking Water, Drought, Flood and Water Resilience	
Category	Amount (\$ Millions)
Water Infrastructure & Climate Resilience	\$231.50
Water Quality, Safe Drinking Water and Tribal Infrastructure	\$194.30
Flood Management Projects	\$173.10
Water Reuse and Recycling	\$153.40
Salton Sea Management	\$148.20
Water Storage, Groundwater, Water Resiliency	\$173.50
Total	\$1,074.00

Federal Funding Updates



- DOGE - Congressionally approved funding review:
 - Grants over \$50,000
 - Federal agencies for waste, fraud and abuse



- USBR Grants review:
 - Most NOFOs
 - Awarded and contracted grants expected to proceed
 - WEEG application – on hold, pending evaluation



- Policy Shifts:
 - NOFO's remove DEI, climate change, and environmental benefits
 - Certain terms (e.g., “climate change”, “resiliency” and “diversity”) restricted



- USBR Temecula Office:
 - Potential closure, decision pending



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SAN DIEGO
Integrated Regional
Water Management

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Reminder - San Diego IRWM Strategic Roadmap

- RWMG has developed focus areas and proposed actions for future of SDIRWM
- RWMG has finalized the proposed paths to implement



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SAN DIEGO
Integrated Regional
Water Management

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Collaboration, Information Sharing & Advocacy

State and Federal Agencies Collaboration

- Continue information sharing with State/Federal Agencies
- Explore regional collaboration opportunities when they arise.

RAC Collaboration

- Alternate RAC meetings between in-person and virtual
- Host meetings at RAC member facilities or IRWM-funded projects
- Give additional opportunities for RAC members to share more about their work and to collaborate with others

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Collaboration, Information Sharing & Advocacy

RAC Structure

- RAC structure and role to remain, but terms are eliminated
- Departing members will have replacement named by their organization
- RAC will solicit new members if no replacement is named
- Voting process is retained

Workgroup Structure

- Workgroups will not longer require 1 representative from each caucus
- Anyone who volunteers can participate
- Outcomes will be shared with the RAC
- Imbalance in perspectives may result in additional request for volunteers

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Underrepresented Communities Support



Continue to advocate for URC funding, especially for application and planning costs



Consider provision of additional guidance documents or resources

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Cost Sharing for Grant Applications

- There are 2 common types of applications expected to be pursued by the Region that involve local project sponsors:
 - Traditional IRWM Application – single application with multiple projects, each project with its own project sponsor
 - “Mini IRWM” Single project with multiple components – each component managed as its own project, with its own project sponsor

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Traditional IRWM Application – Application Cost Share

- Grant preparation costs to be split proportional to each project’s grant request
- During Call for Projects, the RWMG will provide:
 - Total project grant ask the SDIRWM program will pursue
 - Total number of projects the SDIRWM application will include
 - Maximum grant preparation cost

Example: assume \$1.5 M in project grant requests, and application costs \$50K to prepare

Project Sponsor	Project Grant Ask	% of Total Grant	Cost Share (proportional to grant)
Sponsor A	\$375,000	25%	\$12,500
Sponsor B	\$150,000	10%	\$5,000
Sponsor C	\$450,000	30%	\$15,000
Sponsor D	\$375,000	25%	\$12,500
Sponsor E	\$150,000	10%	\$5,000

“Mini IRWM” - One Project with Multiple Components and Multiple Project Sponsors

“Mini IRWM” Application Cost Share		
Lead project sponsor will reimburse RWMG for application cost	Lead project sponsor will pass costs on to project partners, based on a cost share determined by the project sponsor and their partners	RWMG will provide a cost estimate for grant preparation in advance of committing to preparing the grant

Next Steps

RWMMG will review and identify any SDIRWM policies that need to be updated

RWMMG will initiate planning to implement the proposed paths

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RAC Discussion

- Are there any nuances or potential pitfalls the RWMMG needs to consider as we update policies and implement these changes?
- Do any RAC members or Project Sponsors wish to host a future SDIRWM meeting?

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Grant Administration

Loisa Burton, San Diego County Water Authority

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- Water Resilience Portfolio
- Administration Changes: Potential Effects
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Current Funding Opportunities

Project Types	Timing	Website
California Financing Coordinating Committee: Funding Fair	May 21 and May 29	https://www.cfcc.ca.gov/
USBR: Small-Scale Water Efficiency Grants	Paused	https://www.grants.gov/search-results-detail/350845
USBR: Small Storage Program	Paused	https://www.usbr.gov/smallstorage/index.html
USBR: WaterSMART Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Program	Paused	https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/aquatic/index.html
USBR: WaterSMART Environmental Water Resources Program	Paused	https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/ewrp/index.html
SWRCB: Prop 1 Technical Assistance Funding Program	Open: rolling	https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/proposition1/tech_asst_funding.html

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California Financing Coordinating Committee Funding Fair

- California Financing Coordinating Committee 2025 Funding Fairs (virtual):
 - May 29, 9 am – 12 pm
- Presentations from state and federal agencies on funding available from their programs
- More information available: <https://www.cfcc.ca.gov/>



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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>

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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.
- Funding: \$43.5 million
- Cost share: 25%
- Status: Round 3 due on July 15, 2025 – *Deadline subject to change due to federal funding pause*

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

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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>

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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>

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Public Comments

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2025 RAC Meeting Schedule

- 2025 Meeting Schedule:
 - Virtual Meeting - TBD
 - 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 for more information.

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MEMBRANE FILTRATION REVERSE OSMOSIS FACILITY TOUR

Reminder: The Membrane Filtration Reverse Osmosis Facility Tour is after the RAC meeting. If your attendance has been confirmed, please stay after the RAC meeting to attend the tour.

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San Diego IRWM Program RAC Meeting #109

May 21, 2025

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