Agenda

- Introductions
- Updates
- Comments on Administrative Draft IRWMP
- Review of IRWM Plan Prioritization
- Request for Additional Information
- Approach to Funding Application Prioritization
- Public Comments
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**Summary of Comments Received**

- Some projects are best captured under objectives that weren’t included in integration
- All objectives should be incorporated into plan prioritization
- Use of CWP strategies shortchanges environmental and habitat projects
- Role of objectives in ranking/prioritization is unclear
- If scoring is based on strategies, why retain regional objectives if not used
Summary of Comments Received

• Lack of understanding of short term/long term priorities
• Original Objective A: Sustainability not clearly addressed in plan - need to include
• Should financing be part of prioritization (e.g., Lake Hodges Water Quality and Watershed Management Plan top ranked, but too expensive for this process)?
• What type of integration are we striving for (plan, project)?

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Multiple Levels of Prioritization

Plan Prioritization should be Inclusive and Flexible
Funding Application Prioritization
Identifies Projects for Funding Application

Plan Prioritization

Projects in IRWMP

Highest Priority Projects

Screening

Projects Screened for Scoring in Grant Application

Scoring and Initial Ranking

Top Projects (up to 30)

Funding Recommendation

Qualitative Project Evaluation

Plan Prioritization

Projects in IRWMP

Highest Priority Projects

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Scoring and Initial Ranking

Top Projects (up to 30)

Funding Recommendation

Qualitative Project Evaluation
The integration process develops integrated groups of strategies to achieve objectives.

**Integration Process**
- Identify Water Management Strategies Addressing Regional Objectives
- Develop Integrated Strategy Groupings for Each Objective
- Substitute Prioritized Projects for Strategies in Integrated Groupings

**Prioritization Process**
- Organize Projects by Hydrologic Unit and Primary Water Management Strategy
- Score and Rank Projects by Hydrologic Unit and Primary Water Management Strategy

Plan Prioritization builds on integration to identify projects to address objectives.
In Some Cases Projects are not Mapped to Strategies but are Directly Linked to Objectives

- Objectives
- Strategies Achieve Objectives
- Strategies
- Projects Incorporate Strategies
- Projects

Rules for Prioritizing Projects under Strategies at the Plan Level

- The most important factors are ability to address objectives and integration
- Projects are ranked based on number of strategies employed
  - Projects receive 1 pt for every strategy incorporated
Example: Construct, Operate and Maintain a Reliable Water Infrastructure System

OBJECTIVE: Construct, Operate, and Maintain a Reliable Water Infrastructure System

Strategy: Reoperation and Reservoir Management
Strategy: Potable Water Treatment & Distribution
Strategy: Conveyance
Strategy: Regional Surface Storage

Integrated Strategy Grouping

Through Plan Prioritization, Projects are Mapped to Water Management Strategies

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### Projects Sharing a Primary Strategy in the Same Hydrologic Unit are Prioritized

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### Prioritization Favors Integrated Projects

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Prioritized Projects Replace Strategies in Integrated Strategy Groupings forming Integrated Project Groupings

OBJECTIVE: Construct, Operate, and Maintain a Reliable Water Infrastructure System

Strategy: Reoperation and Reservoir Management
1. Project: Dam Modification
2. Project: Water Main Rehab
3. Project: New Water Main

Strategy: Conveyance

Strategy: Regional Surface Storage

Projects that Align with Objectives but not Water Management Strategies will be Grouped

OBJECTIVE: Maximize stakeholder/community involvement
Project A
Project B
Project C

OBJECTIVE: Effectively obtain, manage, and assess water resources data
Project D
Project E

OBJECTIVE: Further the scientific and technical foundation of water quality management
Project F
Project G
Project H
Plan Prioritization Results in Lists of Projects for Each Objective and Hydrologic Unit

- Projects are not “lost” but are prioritized
- Highest priority projects identified
  - Top ranked projects in integrated project groupings
  - Projects associated directly with objectives
- Process is transparent and flexible

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**Plan Prioritization Establishes the Initial Pool of Projects for Funding**

1. **Projects in IRWMP**
   - Highest Priority Projects

2. **Plan Prioritization**
   - Screening
   - Projects Screened for Scoring in Grant Application
   - Scoring and Initial Ranking
   - Top Projects (up to 30)

3. **Qualitative Project Evaluation**
   - Funding Recommendation
Funding Application Prioritization Further Reduces the Pool of High Priority Projects

Projects in IRWMP

Plan Prioritization

Screening

Highest Priority Projects

Projects Screened for Scoring in Grant Application

Scoring and Initial Ranking

Top Projects (up to 30)

Funding Recommendation

Qualitative Project Evaluation

Highest Priority Projects are Screened using Objective Criteria

Projects in IRWMP

Plan Prioritization

Screening

Highest Priority Projects

Projects Screened for Scoring in Grant Application

Scoring and Initial Ranking

Top Projects (up to 30)

Funding Recommendation

Qualitative Project Evaluation
Screened Projects are Evaluated Further using Objective Criteria

Projects in IRWMP → Plan Prioritization → Screening → Projects Screened for Scoring in Grant Application → Scoring and Initial Ranking → Top Projects (up to 30) → Qualitative Project Evaluation → Funding Recommendation

Up to 30 Top-Ranked Projects are Reviewed Qualitatively by a RAC Workgroup

Projects in IRWMP → Plan Prioritization → Screening → Projects Screened for Scoring in Grant Application → Scoring and Initial Ranking → Top Projects (up to 30) → Qualitative Project Evaluation → Funding Recommendation
Screening Process

Projects Must Pass All Screening Criteria For Further Consideration

1. Request Consideration for Funding
2. Funding Match
   - Minimum of 10% funding match?
   - If no, does the project directly benefit a DAC?
3. Readiness to Proceed
   - Schedule start date (e.g. prior to June 2008)?
   - Documentation of feasibility?
4. Groundwater Management Plan status compliant with guidelines
Scoring and Ranking Process

1. Statewide Priorities
   - SWRCB and DWR highest priorities for funding
2. Program Preferences
   - Funding program goals and objectives
3. Region-wide Benefits
   - Regionally distributed benefits
4. Funding Match
   - Non-State cost share (can be in-kind)
5. Partnerships
   - Multiple agency/entity implementation partners
6. Linkages to Other Projects
   - Related to other projects through budget and/or schedule
7. Benefits to Disadvantaged Communities
   - Provide specific, targeted benefits to disadvantaged communities
8. Included in Existing Planning Documents
   - Project is cited in other planning document(s) such as watershed plans
Scoring Criteria

Statewide Priorities
1. Reduce conflicts between water rights users
2. Implement TMDLs
3. Implement RWQCB’s Watershed Management Initiatives
4. Implement SWRCB’s NPS Pollution Plan
5. Assist in meeting Delta Water Quality Objectives
6. Implement recommendations of the floodplain, desalination, and recycling task forces, or of the state species recovery plan
7. Address environmental justice concerns
8. Assist in meeting the CALFED Bay-Delta Program goals
9. Reduce carbon emissions
10. Other (please specify)

Scoring Criteria

Program Preferences
1. Integrated projects with multiple benefits
2. Supports and improves local and regional water supply reliability
3. Contributes expeditiously and measurably to the long-term attainment and maintenance of water quality standards
4. Eliminates or significantly reduces pollution to impaired waters and sensitive habitat areas, including areas of special biological significance
5. Safe drinking water and water quality projects that serve disadvantaged communities
6. Groundwater management and recharge projects that are located 1) outside the service area of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California; and 2) within one mile of established residential and commercial development
**Scoring Criteria**

**Partnerships**
- Involves more than one agency/organization

**Linkages with Other Projects**
- Linked to at least one other project

**Benefits to Disadvantaged Communities**
- Provides targeted benefits to disadvantaged communities

**Included in Existing Plan**
- Project is identified in existing plan (e.g., watershed plan)

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**Qualitative Project Evaluation Process**

- Projects in IRWMP
- Plan Prioritization
- Screening
- Scoring and Initial Ranking
- Qualitative Project Evaluation
- Top Projects (up to 30)
- Funding Recommendation
RAC Workgroup will Evaluate Projects Against Qualitative Criteria to Develop Final Funding Package

1. Contribution to quantifiable targets
   - Assists in meeting the region’s measurable long-term targets
2. Cost-effectiveness
   - Provides more benefit for less cost
3. Downstream benefits
   - Yields additional downstream benefits
4. Increasing benefits over time
   - Allows other projects to move forward
5. Advances the planning process
   - Involves monitoring, addresses deficiencies in the region, fills data gaps, etc

7. Time sensitivity/urgency
   - Immediate need for project
8. Geographic distribution
   - Distribution of projects across the region
9. Funding request
   - Amount requested
10. Balance across types of projects
    - Variety of strategies employed
11. Balance across objectives
    - Variety of objectives addressed
Working Group will be Responsible for the Final Ranking and Funding Recommendations

• 1 representative from each of the RWMG agencies
• 1 representative from the Retail Water Entities
• 1 representative from the Natural Resources and Watersheds
• 1 representative from the Water Quality
• 2 representatives from the Members at Large

**Nominations for representatives are due at the next RAC meeting on May 16, 2007**

Questions?
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