

## ATTACHMENT 6: PROGRAM PREFERENCES

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### Introduction

The Westside-Sacramento Regional Water Management Group (RWMG) 2015 IRWM Grant Application (Application) and its three (3) high priority projects comprise a diverse geographical and integrated implementation program that benefits Bay-Delta water supplies, DAC critical water quality, and habitat restoration in the Putah Creek watershed. The following sections present how the Application meets the Program Preferences described in Section II.F of the 2015 IRWM Guidelines.

The projects are:

- Project 1. SCWA/Napa Urban/Agricultural Drought Management Project will promote high-efficiency technologies and best water conservation practices to improve indoor/outdoor water use efficiency within Solano/Napa counties.
- Project 2. LBRID Water Supply Protection and Enhancement Project consists of improving the residential sewer collection system to eliminate sewage spills and reusing backwash wastewater from the community's surface water treatment plant (SWTP) to improve water supply.
- Project 3. Lower Putah Creek - Watershed Infiltration and Invasive Species Removal for Integrated Regional Water Management provides infiltration buffer strips at 24 sites to reduce upland/channel erosion and increase groundwater recharge and removes 500 occurrences of invasive species in 34 acres of riparian forest to provide ecosystem benefits.

These projects and similar types of projects are well document and will successfully achieve the Program Preferences that follow, assuming funding is made available for implementation.

### Human Right to Water

The Human Right to Water Policy (AB 685 (2012)/CWC § 106.3) states that every human being has the right to clean, affordable, and accessible water for human consumption, cooking, and sanitary purposes. In consideration of this Policy, DWR is making additional points available to proposals with projects that address clean, affordable, and accessible water for human consumption, cooking, and sanitary purposes.

Project 1 gives customers the means to reduce water use and thereby reduce their water bills - **improving water affordability**. There are several disadvantaged communities within the Project target areas, including Lake Berryessa Resort Improvement District and within Vacaville and Rio Vista, all of which will benefit from this Project.

Project 2 provides a water supply benefit of "Infrastructure renovations to a public water supply system necessary to assure continued reliability of the minimum... quantity of water". Treating and reusing the SWTP filter backwash water **ensures an adequate drinking water supply** for a DAC with limited water supply.

Project 3 will reduce erosion and sediment loading into the tributaries, the main channel of Putah Creek, and ultimately to the potable water treatment facilities of Solano County and **maintaining and improving the region's water quality**.

### Regional Projects or Programs

The Westside-Sacramento RWMG is bound and integrated by the Putah Creek and Cache Creek watersheds encompassing Yolo County, most of Lake County, portions of Napa and Solano counties, and the southern-most portion of Colusa County. The Bay-Delta resource is relied upon and interwoven into the geography and water resources of the Westside-Sacramento Region. The Westside IRWMP identifies integrated and watershed management programs and projects to address regional impacts on water supply, water quality, ecosystems and climate change.

Project 1 brings together urban and agricultural water users to promote high-efficiency technologies and best practices that improve indoor and outdoor urban water-use efficiency, and reduce agricultural crop irrigation applications.

Project 3 brings together Solano County Water Agency, the Lower Putah Creek Coordinating Committee, and many other landowners and stakeholders to work to reduced erosion and sediment loading in the watershed of Putah Creek below Monticello Dam, benefiting downstream water users.

### **Integrated Project within a Hydrologic Region**

The Westside-Sacramento RWMG region is comprised of all or part of five counties who collaborate on a wide variety of integrated actions. Table 6.1 highlights the projects that are integrative.

Project 1 will expand upon the current regional urban and agricultural water use efficiency programs underway in Solano and Napa counties. The urban programs are modeled after successful efforts already implemented in the San Francisco Bay Area IRWMP (and previously approved for Prop. 84 implementation grant funds). Both the urban and agricultural programs will improve water supply reliability during dry years.

Project 3 will restore watershed function by treating and stabilizing sources of excess sediment runoff and increasing infiltration for water supply.

### **Resolves Regional Water Conflicts**

Water rights have long been a point of contention especially as it relates to the Bay-Delta water system supplies. More efficient use of existing supplies will improve the long term sustainability of these water resources that over 25 million Californians depend on.

Project 1 will reduce regional dependence on imported water supplies from the Bay-Delta system by reducing per capita water demands and the risk of severe water use cutbacks during extended drought conditions.

### **Supports CALFED Bay-Delta Program Objectives**

The Bay-Delta system and area of origin overlays the Westside-Sacramento region and is part of the Westside's regional water portfolio. Over 60% of the Westside-Sacramento Solano/Napa urban service area water supply comes from the Delta. One of the proposed projects meets this Program Preference.

Project 1 will optimize the use of existing Bay-Delta supplies by reliably reducing existing demands and the need for developing new supplies.

### **Addresses Critical Water Supply/Quality Needs of a DAC**

The Westside-Sacramento RWMG was inclusive of DAC areas in the development of the Westside-Sacramento 2015 IRWM Grant Proposal and has since pursued funding for these areas of need. The Lake Berryessa Resort Improvement District provides water and sewer service to about 475 residents and a recently conducted income survey found that the community's median household income (MHI) was \$45,000 in 2011, which is less than the DAC threshold MHI of \$48,875. Project 2 will reduce: the risk of non-potable spills that violate waste discharge permit conditions, non-potable runoff into surface potable water supply sources, and groundwater contamination caused by leaking non-potable force mains.

Project 2 meets the Table 9 Example of Critical Water Quality Need from the Guidelines as follows: *Wastewater treatment necessary to abate or prevent surface or groundwater contamination; Wastewater treatment required to protect beneficial uses or meet a discharge standard; Replacement or rehabilitation of wastewater collection systems necessary to abate or prevent surface or groundwater contamination.*

Project 2 addresses the critical Water Quality needs of a remote rural community. The project will allow for safe and reliable wastewater disposal services and avoid future non-potable spills that can contaminate potable surface water storage and groundwater supplies.

### **Integrates Water Management with Land Use Planning**

The Westside-Sacramento 2015 IRWM Grant Proposal provides a water balance for the different urban and agricultural land uses in the watershed and Region. Urban land use planning in the Westside IRWM Region provides open space between developed areas and greenbelts while allowing for large agricultural tracts that rely on both surface and groundwater supplies. Both the urban and ag water portfolios respect that one cannot negatively impact the other, and thus coordination and

collaboration occurs on a regular basis to manage water supplies and runoff sources in the watershed. Various planning documents guide the integration of water management and land use planning in the region thereby meeting this Program Preference.

Project 1 addresses the sustainability of water resources by improving water use in both urban and agricultural settings within the context of existing land use planning.

Project 3 is consistent with local planning guidance documents in that they protect existing land uses from flooding and reduce the impacts on water quality from land use practices.

**Reduces Delta Water Supply Reliance**

Over 60% of the Westside water supply for targeted urban areas in Solano and Napa counties is derived from the Bay-Delta system (through the State Water Project). Improving the long term efficiency of water supply demands from this source will reduce reliance on the Delta water supplies. One project meets this Program Preference.

Project 1 will reduce long term reliance on Delta water supplies for the Westside areas relying on that source and mitigate future drought induced effects.

**Addresses Statewide Priorities**

The proposed projects address various statewide priorities as indicated in Table 6.1.

**Table 6.1: Projects that Address Statewide Preferences**

<b>Statewide Priorities</b>	<b>Y/N</b>	<b>Describe How Your Project Meets this Preference</b>
Drought Preparedness	Y	Project 1 will provide water-efficient landscapes and devises that will achieve an immediate, yet long-term reduction in water use.
		Project 2 will protect the community’s surface water quality from sewage spills and provide reused water, enhancing water supply reliability and the ability to meet demands during drought conditions.
Use/Reuse Water More Efficiently	Y	Project 1 encourages increased urban and agricultural water use efficiencies through rebates and direct install, as well as through the use of climate and soil monitoring in agricultural irrigation.
		Project 2 will reuse the LBRID filtration backwash water, reducing the amount of surface water pumped from Putah Creek.
Climate Change Response Actions	Y	Project 1 will reduce outdoor water demands, improving local water supply reliability, which is threatened by more severe and frequent droughts given climate change. Demand reductions also result in reduced energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions related to water production and transport.
Expand Environmental Stewardship	Y	Project 1 will improved outdoor water use efficiency and reduce irrigation runoff, improving regional watershed health. Additionally, the turf conversion component will promote use and awareness of native plants and related water conservation outreach can promote environmental stewardship.
		Project 3 will restore watershed function to Putah Creek, while also serving as a pilot for expanding these activities to other watersheds.
Practice Integrated Flood Management	N	N/A
Protect Surface/Ground Water Quality	Y	Project 2 will eliminate occurrences of sewage spills overland and to Putah Creek.
		Project 3 will reduce sediment loads in surface waters due to excessive runoff and decreased infiltration from the upper Putah Creek Watershed.
Improve Tribal Water/Natural Resources	N	N/A
Ensure Equitable Distribution of Benefits	Y	Project 1 will reduce water demands, freeing up water supplies to improve reliability of access to safe, clean, affordable water for all.
		Project 2 will protect the quality of the limited water supply of a DAC, while at the same time securing additional water through reuse.