

**Upper Santa Clara River
Integrated Regional Water Management Plan
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QUESTION WHAT TO SUBMIT

No. 1 Information on the submitting entity including why the RWMG has selected the entity to submit the RAP materials. Include contact information (name, address, phone, fax, and email) of the person whom DWR should coordinate.

The Castaic Lake Water Agency has served as the coordinator for the Regional Water Management Group (RWMG) and the Stakeholder Group since the inception of efforts that led to the production of the Upper Santa Clara River Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP). The RWMG selected Castaic Lake Water Agency as the submitting entity. Preparation of the RAP submittal was a shared effort by the RWMG but the responsibility for compiling the individual components was performed by the Castaic Lake Water Agency. Coordination should be conducted with:

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QUESTION WHAT TO SUBMIT

No. 2.1 A description of the composition of the RWMG. Identify RWMG members, including their role in the RWMG process, regional water management responsibilities, and the level of IRWM participation. For each entity, state if they have adopted, plan to adopt, or will not adopt the IRWM plan.

The RWMG is comprised of seven members: Castaic Lake Water Agency, City of Santa Clarita, Los Angeles County Flood Control District, Newhall County Water District, Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District of Los Angeles County, Santa Clarita Water Division of Castaic Lake Water Agency and Valencia Water Company and one ex-officio member, the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (RMC).

Collaboratively, this group initiated the development of the IRWMP, coordinated all meetings of the RWMG and of the Stakeholders, provided funding for the preparation of the IRWMP, provided guidance related to the data and information presented in the IRWMP, proposed projects together with interested Stakeholders, sponsored projects when appropriate and together adopted the IRWMP. The work of the RWMG is guided by an MOU (Appendix A). The formation of this RWMG has strengthened the ability of the Region to address common, regional needs and challenges.

Listed below is each RWMG member, their role in the IRWMP development process, their regional water management responsibilities and whether or not that agency has or will adopt the completed IRWMP. Each RWMG member actively participated in every aspect of the development of the IRWMP.

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Castaic Lake Water Agency –

- Served as IRWMP contract administrator and performed supervision and oversight of the IRWMP consultant. Shared in the costs of the IRWMP consultant. Provided facilities for stakeholder meetings. Provided necessary and relevant information, data, studies etc. as requested for inclusion into the IRWMP. Reviewed and commented on draft and final versions of technical reports and the IRWMP as required.
- Castaic Lake Water Agency serves as the State Water Project (SWP) wholesaler in the Upper Santa Clarita Valley. Castaic Lake Water Agency sells SWP to four retailers.
- Castaic Lake Water Agency regularly attended all stakeholder and RWMG meetings and actively participated in all decision-making. The Castaic Lake Water Agency is also actively involved in continued IRWM activities.
- The Castaic Lake Water Agency Governing Board adopted the IRWMP on July 9, 2008

City of Santa Clarita –

- Played integral role for identification, outreach and recruitment of DACs. Provided facilities for stakeholder meetings. Provided necessary and relevant information, data, studies etc. for inclusion into the IRWMP. Shared in the costs of the IRWMP consultant. Reviewed and provided comments on draft and final versions of technical reports and the IRWMP as required.
- Municipal government that provides land use planning, secures open space for preservation, recreation, stormwater capture and treatment, and creek restoration activities within City borders.
- The City of Santa Clarita regularly attended all stakeholder and RWMG meetings and actively participated in all decision-making. The City of Santa Clarita is also actively involved in continued IRWM activities.
- City Council adopted the IRWMP on July 15, 2008.

Los Angeles County Department of Public Works (representing the Flood Control and Waterworks Districts) –

- Served as GIS and other mapping products liaison and maintains IRWM website. Provided facilities for stakeholder meetings. Provided necessary and relevant information, data, studies etc. as requested for inclusion into the IRWMP, shared in the costs of the IRWMP. Reviewed and commented on draft and final versions of technical reports and the IRWMP as required.
- Provides flood management services within District boundaries including open channels, storm drains, check dams and debris basins. Through the Waterworks District it also serves as one of four water retailers in the Upper Santa Clarita Valley.
- Los Angeles County Department of Public Works regularly attended all stakeholder and RWMG meetings and actively participated in all decision-making. Los Angeles County Department of Public Works is also actively involved in continued IRWM activities.

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- Governing Board adopted the IRWMP on August 5, 2008.

Newhall County Water District –

- Shared in the costs of the Plan consultant. Provided necessary and relevant information, data, studies etc. for inclusion into the IRWMP. Reviewed and provided comments on draft and final versions of technical reports and the IRWMP as required.
- Newhall County Water District is one of four water retailers in the Upper Santa Clarita Valley. Newhall County Water District is a public water retailer.
- Newhall County Water District regularly attended all stakeholder and RWMG meetings and actively participated in all decision-making. Newhall County Water District is also actively involved in continued IRWM activities.
- Governing Board adopted the IRWMP on July 10, 2008.

Santa Clarita Water Division of Castaic Lake Water Agency –

- Provided necessary and relevant information, data, studies etc. for inclusion into the IRWMP. Shared in the costs of the Plan consultant. Reviewed and commented on draft and final versions of technical reports and the IRWMP as required.
- Santa Clarita Water Division is one of four water retailers in the Upper Santa Clarita Valley. Santa Clarita Water Division is a public water retailer.
- Santa Clarita Water Division regularly attended all stakeholder and RWMG meetings and actively participated in all decision-making. The Santa Clarita Water Division is also actively involved in continued IRWM activities.
- Governing Board adopted the IRWMP on July 9, 2008.

Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District of Los Angeles County –

- Prepared, paid for and served as administrator for a contract to provide professional facilitation services to assist in the IRWMP collaborative stakeholder process. Provided necessary and relevant information, data, studies etc. for inclusion into the IRWMP. Reviewed and provided comments on draft and final versions of technical reports and the IRWMP as required.
- Provides wastewater treatment for the City of Santa Clarita and unincorporated communities in Los Angeles County.
- The Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District regularly attended all stakeholder and RWMG meetings and actively participated in all decision-making. The Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District is also actively involved in continued IRWM activities.
- Governing Board adopted the IRWM plan on July 24, 2008.

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Valencia Water Company –

- Shared in the costs of the Plan consultant. Provided necessary and relevant information, data, studies etc. for inclusion into the IRWMP. Reviewed and commented of draft and final versions of technical reports and the IRWMP as required.
- Valencia Water Company is one of four water retailers in the Upper Santa Clarita Valley. Valencia Water Company is public water utility regulated by the California Public Utilities Commission.
- The Valencia Water Company regularly attended all stakeholder and RWMG meetings and actively participated in all decision-making. The Valencia Water Company is also actively involved in continued IRWM activities.
- Adopted the IRWM plan by Board of Directors on July 11, 2008.

Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (ex-officio member of the RWMG) –

- Reviewed and commented on draft and final versions of technical reports and the IRWMP as required. Provided necessary and relevant information, data, studies etc. for inclusion into the IRWMP.
- Rivers and Mountains Conservancy acquires parks and open space, restores natural parks and open space, provides watershed improvements and provides low impact recreation improvements within the conservancy area (1600 square miles in eastern Los Angeles County and western Orange County).
- River and Mountains Conservancy joined the RWMG after its formation. They attended most of the stakeholder and RWMG meetings and actively participated in decision-making. The Rivers and Mountains Conservancy is also actively involved in continued IRWM activities.
- Governing Board adopted the IRWM plan on June 23, 2008.

The RWMG formally adopted the Upper Santa Clara River Integrated Regional Water Management Plan on July 30, 2008, at a public meeting held in Santa Clarita, California.

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QUESTION WHAT TO SUBMIT

No. 2.2

A listing of the local agencies within this region with statutory authority over water supply or water management, and provide the basis and nature of that statutory authority even if they are not part of the RWMG. For the purposes of this document "statutory authority over water supply or water management" may include, but is not limited to, water supply, water quality management, wastewater treatment, flood management/control, or storm water management.

Below is a table that lists the local agencies that have statutory authority over water supply or water management issues within the Upper Santa Clara IRWM Region. Included in this table is the type of authority that each agency has over the stated water management issues.

Agency	Water Supply	Water Quality Mgmt	Wastewater Treatment	Flood Mgmt/ Control	Storm Water Mgmt	Resource Protection	RWMG Member
Castaic Lake Water Agency	X	X					X
Los Angeles Co. Flood Control Dist.		X		X	X		X
Newhall County Water District	X	X					X
US Fish & Wildlife Service						X	
Santa Clarita Water Division	X	X					X
Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District of Los Angeles County		X	X				X
Valencia Water Company	X	X					X
City of Santa Clarita		X		X	X		X
LA County Waterworks #36	X	X					
LA County Waterworks #37	X	X					
CA Dept. of Fish and Game						X	
Lake Elizabeth Mutual Water Company	X	X					
Sierra Pelona Mutual Water Company	X	X					
US Army Corps of Engineers				X			
Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board		X					

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QUESTION	WHAT TO SUBMIT
No. 2.3	A listing of the other participants such as agencies, stakeholders, and others included in the RWMG and describe their role in developing and implementing the IRWM Plan.

A listing of all the other stakeholder participants (federal/state/local agencies and participants in general) excluding the RWMG that assisted in the development of the Upper Santa Clara IRWMP is provided below. Included with each stakeholder's name is a brief description of what that agency/group/organization does. Collectively, these stakeholders represent land use agencies, town councils, recreation and open space entities, municipal and county government agencies, business organizations, regulatory and resource agencies, and non-profit organizations.

Municipal and County Government Agencies

City of Santa Clarita

- Provides open space and land use planning as well as stormwater capture and treatment and creek restoration within City borders. Also serves as one of four water retailers in the Santa Clarita Valley.

County of Ventura

- County government that provides public infrastructure, environmental and land use planning services as well as permitting and support for the Ventura County region.

Los Angeles County Department of Public Works (representing the Flood Control and Waterworks Districts)

- Provides flood management services within the District's boundaries.

Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning

- Improves the quality of life through innovative and resourceful physical and environmental planning, balancing individual rights and community needs.

Special Districts

Lake Elizabeth Mutual Water Company

- Privately owned water supply company

Sierra Pelona Mutual Water Company

- Privately owned water supply company

Elected Official Offices

Los Angeles County Supervisor's Office, Fifth District

City of Santa Clarita, City Council

Office of State Senator George Runner – District #17

Office of State Assemblyperson Cameron Smyth – District #38

Business Organizations

Building Industry Association

- Promotes and protects the industry to ensure members' success in providing homes for all southern Californians.

Newhall Land and Farming Company

- Responsible for planning and developing the master planned communities of Valencia and Newhall Ranch in the Santa Clarita Valley. The company also manages farm land in both Los Angeles and Ventura Counties

Atkins Environmental

- A consulting firm that serves as a resource for environmental, health and safety issues. Seeks to balance the demand for resources with the needs of the community.

Valley Crest Tree Company

- Producer of containerized specimen trees to landscape contractors, architects and developers. Also offers expert tree relocation, preservation and storage services.

Recreational and Open Spaces Entities

The Nature Conservancy

- Preserves the plants, animals, and natural communities that represent the diversity of life on Earth by protecting the lands and waters they need to survive.

Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation

- Provides recreational opportunities that promote a healthy lifestyle and strengthen communities. Enhances community environment by acquiring, developing and maintaining County parks, gardens, golf courses, trails and open areas.

Mountain Recreation and Conservation Authority

- Acquires, develops and conserves additional park and open space lands with special emphasis on recreation and conservation projects, the protection and conservation of watersheds and the development of river parkways.

Regulatory and Resource Agencies – State and Federal

California Department of Fish and Game

- Manages California's diverse fish, wildlife and plant resources, and the habitats upon which they depend for their ecological values and for their use and enjoyment by the public.

California Department of Transportation

- Responsible for State-wide transportation infrastructure

California Department of Water Resources (DWR)

- Manages the water resources of California in cooperation with other agencies to benefit the State's people, protects, restores, and enhances the natural and human environments.

LA Regional Water Quality Control Board

- Preserves and enhances the quality of California's water resources for the benefit of present and future generations.

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Natural Resources Conservation Service

- Provides products and services that enable people to be good stewards of the nation's soil, water and related natural resources on non-federal land.

US Army Corps of Engineers

- Provides engineering services for the nation that includes navigation, flood control, environmental protection and disaster response.

US Fish and Wildlife Service

- Conserves, protects and enhances fish, wildlife and plants and their habitats for beneficial uses for all people.

US Forest Service – Angeles National Forest

- Endeavors to sustain the health, diversity and productivity of the nation's forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations.

Non-Profit Organizations and Other Stakeholders

Acton Town Council

- Provides a stronger local voice in community development. Ensures the continuation of Acton's country lifestyle.

Association of Water Agencies of Ventura County

- Develops and encourages cooperation among entities for the development, protection, conservation and improvement of the total water resources for Ventura County.

Agua Dulce/Acton Country Journal

- Serves as a resource for existing, new and future residents of the Agua Dulce/Acton community.

Agua Dulce Town Council

- Serves as a common meeting place for the free expression of views and diverse opinions concerning issues effecting Agua Dulce. Serves as Agua Dulce's representative; speaks on behalf of the community; reviews public and private proposals that may affect the community.

Castaic Area Town Council

- Acts as an advisory board to present community points of view to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and various County departments.

Santa Clarita Organization for Planning the Environment

- Promotes, protects, and preserves the environment, ecology and quality of life in the Santa Clarita Valley.

Santa Clarita Valley Well Owners Association

- Preserves the present and future water supply by working together to promote sustainable water consumption by all stakeholders in the aquifer's resource; protects rights as private well owners and collective parity as stakeholders in the management of the areas' subterranean water resources; educates members in matters relative to water rights, quality, resources, historical data and any other information relevant to owning and maintaining a private water well system; advocates on behalf of the rights of private well owners collectively and individually.

University of California Cooperative Extension Service

- Public educators and outreach for welfare, development and protection of California agriculture, natural resources and people.

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Ventura County Resource Conservation District

- Provides assistance to help both rural and urban communities to conserve, protect, and restore natural resources.

West Ranch Town Council

- Acts as an advisory board to present community points of view to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and various County departments.

The level of participation from any Stakeholder in developing and implementing the IRWMP varied depending on their time constraints and/or interests. The role(s) played by these stakeholders together with the RWMG members included:

- participated in regularly scheduled Stakeholder meetings,
- provided a single vote to represent their agency/organization/interest at stakeholder meetings,
- reviewed and provided comments on the draft document materials,
- helped develop the regional objectives,
- helped develop the water management strategies,
- proposed and, if appropriate, sponsored projects,
- provided input to project prioritization criteria,
- provided input to proposed project ranking, and helped identify opportunities for integration.

QUESTION	WHAT TO SUBMIT
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No. 2.4	List and describe the working relationship of identified agencies and stakeholders per CWC §10541.(g).
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The Santa Clarita Valley has a history of collaborative multi-agency/jurisdictional efforts to resolve conflicts and reach common goals. The following examples typify the productive and cordial working relationships that exist between agencies/organizations, private industry, environmental groups, etc. in the Santa Clarita Valley. This level of professionalism extends beyond the valley boundaries to agencies and organizations in adjacent counties and municipalities as detailed below. Each identified project/action describes the working relationship(s) between agencies and stakeholders in this valley.

- (A) In 2001, the United Water Conservation District (a public agency that manages surface and groundwater resources within seven groundwater basins in the Lower Santa Clara River Basin) and the Upper Santa Clara River Basin Water Purveyors (Castaic Lake Water Agency – wholesale; Santa Clarita Water Division – retail; Valencia Water Company – retail (private); Newhall County Water District – retail; and LA County Waterworks District #36 – retail) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that established a commitment by all parties to agree upon mutually beneficial water resources management techniques and the development of an informational database that would benefit both the upper and lower Santa Clara River Basins. This MOU provided for the protection and enhancement of the conjunctive uses of imported, ground and surface water resources within the region. The goal was to establish a joint monitoring program (between the Upper and Lower Santa Clara Basins (Los Angeles and Ventura Counties respectively) which included data collection and monitoring, database management, groundwater flow modeling, assessment of groundwater basin conditions (operational yield) and the preparation of reports and presentations detailing the results of these efforts. The MOU is provided as Appendix C to this RAP application.

Accomplishments of this MOU to date include multiple joint studies and planning efforts. The following four examples reflect the working relationship between flood management agencies, municipal and county governments, land owners, state agencies, land use authorities, environmental

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stewardship organizations, wholesale and retail water purveyors in both Los Angeles and Ventura Counties.

- The Upper Basin Purveyors worked in collaboration with United Water Conservation District and other stakeholders to develop a regional groundwater flow model. In April 2004, a report entitled "Regional Groundwater Flow Model for the Santa Clarita Valley, Model Development and Calibration" was completed. It is important to note that this work and report was reviewed and approved by the Department of Toxics and Substance Control as part of their oversight of a perchlorate contaminated site within the City of Santa Clarita.
 - In August 2005, a report entitled "Analysis of Groundwater Basin Yield, Upper Basin Santa Clara River Groundwater Basin, East Subbasin, and Los Angeles County, California" was also prepared as a part of this MOU. Using the regional groundwater flow model (mentioned above) and assumptions in the Urban Water Management Plan, the work concluded that the water purveyors' groundwater operating plan is a reliable and sustainable long term component of water supply for the entire Valley (i.e., both the Upper and Lower Basins of the Santa Clara River).
 - The Upper Basin Water Purveyors together prepare the annual Santa Clarita Valley Water Report that provides United Water Conservation District and other interested parties up-to-date information about the water resources (supplies and demands) in the Upper Santa Clarita Valley.
 - In December 2003, the Valley's first formal groundwater management plan under regulations adopted in AB 3030 was completed. The plan is entitled: "Groundwater Management Plan: Santa Clara River Valley Groundwater Basin, East Subbasin, Los Angeles County, California" and addresses the management plan within Castaic Lake Water Agency's service area including portions of Ventura County. This management plan has direct influence on the water resources within both the upper and lower basin.
- (B) Understanding and managing Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL) of problem pollutants is critical to the overall health and sustainability of the Santa Clara watershed. The following efforts demonstrate the collaborative efforts between stakeholders to address TMDLs. These efforts involved wastewater agencies, flood management agencies, municipal and county governments, state agencies, land use authorities, developers, farmers, plant nurseries, environmental stewardship organizations.
- Since 2007, the Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District together with the Ventura County Agricultural Water Quality Coalition (VCAWQC), United Water Conservation District, Castaic Lake Water Agency, all the Upper Basin water purveyors and a broad based collection of stakeholders including farmers and nurseryman in both Los Angeles and Ventura Counties have been working together to develop an alternative water resources management (AWRM) program for the Upper Santa Clara River chloride TMDL. Through this process, the Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District, VCAWQC, United Water Conservation District and the Upper Basin purveyors have come to an agreement with the assistance of all stakeholders on the guiding principles and key elements of the AWRM Program. This TMDL program served as a Basin Plan Amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Los Angeles Region and was approved by the RWQCB in December 2008.
 - In August 2003 a Nitrogen Compounds TMDL for the Santa Clara River watershed was mandated by the RWQCB. The specified pollutants of concern include ammonia, nitrate, nitrite, low dissolved oxygen and organic enrichment. A steering committee comprised of LARWQCB, LA County Sanitation District, LA County Department of Public Works, Cities of Santa Paula, Fillmore and Santa Clarita, Newhall Land and Farming, Coastal Conservancy, Friends of the Santa Clara River, Ventura County Farm Bureau, Ventura County Flood Control, a Ventura County Supervisor,

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DWR and United Water Conservation District worked collaboratively to complete a study that resulted in an approved TMDL and a Waterbody Restoration Award from the RWQCB for using an inclusive approach to developing a practicable and widely supported regulation in October of 2003.

- (C) The following region-wide effort required input and action from regional agencies, developers, local businesses, school districts, Valley Industrial Association, Chamber of Commerce, wholesale and retail water purveyors, community organizations, State housing and Community Development, environmental stewardship organizations, park districts, land use authorities, Building Industry Association, flood management, homeowners associations, town councils, and wastewater agencies.

Regional planning efforts are imperative for comprehensive water resource management within a given watershed. Within the Upper Santa Clara watershed an effort is being put forth to create the "ONE VALLEY ONE VISION" plan. This is a joint effort between the County of Los Angeles, City of Santa Clarita, Santa Clarita Valley residents and the aforementioned stakeholders to together create a single vision and develop guidelines for the future growth of the Valley and the preservation of natural resources. This is the first of its kind in Los Angeles County and has included significant and intense community outreach and participation.

All participants are involved in the development of goals, policies and objectives and review all draft documents. Initiated in 2000, the result of this project will be an all encompassing General Plan document and Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the build-out of the entire Upper Santa Clarita Valley.

- (D) It requires coordination and cooperation amongst wholesale and retail water purveyors, community action groups, environmental stewardship organizations to successfully complete the following:

Development of an Urban Water Management Plan to provide a planning tool that generally guides the actions of water management agencies. It provides managers and the public with broad perspective on a number of water supply issues. Castaic Lake Water Agency (wholesale water agency) together with the retail water purveyors (Santa Clarita Water Division, Valencia Water Company, Newhall County Water District) and stakeholder input develops this cooperative, regional plan that defines and projects water supplies and demands to 20 years into the future and explores non-traditional options such as water exchanges, recycling, desalination and water banking/conjunctive use.

- (E) The current drought situation and the Governor's call for 20% reduction in water use by 2020 prompted the project below which couldn't have been completed without input from retail and wholesale water purveyors, developers, County agencies, educational institutions, environmental organizations, landscape companies, businesses, municipal government, parks and recreation, country club, special districts, local Native America Tribe, and elected officials.

In an effort to show a unified front to promote water use efficiency measures within the Santa Clarita Valley, the local water purveyors (Castaic Lake Water Agency, Newhall County Water District, Valencia Water Company, Santa Clarita Water Division, LA County Waterworks #36) joined together to form the "Santa Clarita Valley Family of Water Suppliers". With development of a unifying logo, together this group has to date:

- Developed an ongoing campaign to provide residents with important tips and information on ways to be more water-wise at home and in their yards and provided channels to challenge residents to take part increasing their own water use efficiency.

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- Developed a comprehensive Valley-wide Water Use Efficiency Plan.
- (F) After reviewing the State’s definition of Disadvantaged Communities (DAC) and comparing that to the census data, it was determined that the Santa Clarita Valley does not have Disadvantaged Communities as defined but there are pockets of lower income areas. A significant amount of outreach effort (see response to question 3) has been initiated in these areas but this group has had a modest response to date. The Region’s due diligence with this outreach effort is also demonstrated in the response to question 3. These areas are not differentiated from any other community in the valley. All communities in Santa Clarita receive similar opportunities and resource management practices.
- (G) Open channels of communication and good working relationships are already established between agencies/companies of the Santa Clarita Valley and the Tataviam Band of Mission Indians due to several development projects involving their lands. Invitations for the IRWMP meetings were extended; a representative from the group attended early stakeholder meetings and then stopped attending.

The only identified agency/stakeholder per CWC 10541 (g) that has not had any participation in the development of the Upper Santa Clara IRWMP is the local electrical utility.

QUESTION	WHAT TO SUBMIT
No. 3.1	A description of how stakeholders, including DACs, are identified and invited to participate.

Stakeholders were identified through their involvement or interest in water, environment, and similar projects in the past (the list of stakeholders can be found in the response to Question 2.3). Brainstorming sessions were used to identify potential stakeholders. These entities were sent a letter asking for participation in the IRWMP process. These groups in turn were asked to identify other potentially interested groups. By this process a varied and broad group was invited to become stakeholders and this group included entities, like well owners, that were not necessarily involved with any past efforts. In order to capture the unknown interested parties notices and paid advertisements were placed in the local newspaper and were also included in materials provided at local community events.

For DACs, we reviewed the State’s definition and compared that to the census data. No DACs were identified through that comparison. However, both the RWMG and Stakeholder group felt it was important to include DACs in the IRWMP process. A discussion with the stakeholders developed a list of potential DACs in the IRWMP area. The next task was to strategize how to reach out to these identified groups and convince them to attend the IRWMP meetings. In addition, the RWMG contacted other groups known to deal with DAC issues, such as the City of Santa Clarita Housing Department and the Newhall Community Center. Individuals working on the IRWMP visited the Newhall Community Center and spoke with their staff.

Center staff suggested the RWMG work with the teacher of the English as a second language (ESL) class. A professional outreach consultant was utilized to prepare materials in both English and Spanish and the Newhall Community Center teacher used those materials as part of the course work. This was a very effective way to communicate these issues rather than an article in a publication that we could only hope people would read. This was face to face interaction being delivered by someone this group of people had an existing relationship with and trusted. It also afforded the opportunity to expand the number of people who received the information.

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The Newhall Community Center is extensively used and the community who use it takes great pride in the programs that are offered there. When the Center was being planned, the community was an integral part of the design and location of the building. It is an extended family for many that use it. Therefore, by teaching this IRWMP information in the ESL classes, it expanded the potential to get out information on the IRWMP because the students discussed their lessons with others in the community. The information provided in these classes was also made available at the entrance to the Center.

The next step was to identify events. Individuals working on the IRWMP attended the Emergency Expo and the Arbor Day events. Both are City of Santa Clarita events and are visited by thousands of people. This was another instance of face to face interaction. Rather than passively handing out flyers, representatives from the RWMG actually engaged each person in a discussion about the IRWMP. Representatives were able to explain the purpose of the IRWMP and why it is important for anyone with an interest in water resources to participate. The Arbor Day event in particular was excellent for this effort because it attracts people who are interested in environmental related issues and therefore there was a greater potential that we would find individuals that wanted to participate.

Information gleaned from activities at the Newhall Community Center as well as community events were reported to the stakeholder group and provided input to the IRWMP. Generally it was found that individuals contacted as part of outreach efforts had water management concerns similar to stakeholders of the IRWMP.

QUESTION	WHAT TO SUBMIT
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No. 3.2	List the procedures, processes, or structures that promote access to and collaboration with people or agencies with diverse views within the region.
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From the beginning of our IRWM process the intent has been and will continue to be the involvement of all people and agencies that have an interest in water resources. Our initial mailing effort created a larger network of interested parties than the actual amount of mailings that went out. Records have been kept of interested groups and used email to keep them up to date on the process. The use of the local newspaper and the fact the stakeholder meetings are open to anyone, maintains the ongoing ability for continued participation of diverse groups and the potential for new members to join the effort. We plan to continue our outreach efforts and modify them as new outreach ideas come to our attention.

- Maintaining a project website
- Teaching and discussing the material in classes at a local community center
- Discussing the issue with attendees at City of Santa Clarita events
- Articles and notices in the local newspaper
- Direct mail and email to known interested or possible interested parties
- Brainstorming with stakeholder group regarding ideas to expand the group
- Asking stakeholders what time works best for them to attend meetings

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- Soliciting input from stakeholders on IRWMP drafts and other documents
- Creation and review of survey that was provided to identified DACs
- Hired consultant to facilitate stakeholder involvement
- Hired consultant to capture stakeholder comments

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No. 3.3	Discuss how the outreach efforts address the diversity of water management issues, geographical representation and stakeholder interests in the region.

The Upper Santa Clara Region is a mix of urban and rural communities and public and private water supplies. Representatives from all of these various groups participated in the development of the IRWMP. Some stakeholders that use private groundwater wells attended the meetings and participated in the process. Although the Santa Clarita Valley, as a whole, does not have DACs as defined by the California Water Code, some pockets of possible DACs are supplied water through the local water purveyors' system. Their concerns about water quality and supply seem to be similar to the concerns of other stakeholders. Please see the answer to question 3.2 for additional information about our outreach efforts.

QUESTION	WHAT TO SUBMIT
No. 3.4	Explain how the IRWM region is inclusive and utilizes a collaborative, multi-stakeholder process that provides mechanisms to assist DAC; address water management issues; and develop integrated, multi-benefit, regional solutions that incorporate environmental stewardship to implement future IRWM plans.

As previously mentioned, the DACs hold similar water quality and water supply concerns as other stakeholders in our area. Specific efforts of direct emails, mailings, face to face interaction, event participation, classroom instruction, flyers, notices, surveys, and presentations were performed to get environmental groups, conservancy groups, well owner groups, DACs, water suppliers, municipalities, sanitation districts, flood control districts, American Indian Tribes, developers, landowners, adjacent IRWM areas, State agencies, elected representatives, and the like to take part in the IRWMP. With the involvement of the stakeholders, the facilitation meetings, the tracking of stakeholder comments, and the efforts to incorporate those comments into the document the Upper Santa Clara River IRWMP has been able to incorporate a broad range of input and ideas. Every stakeholder was and continues to be able to add projects to the list of candidate projects for implementation of the IRWMP.

Discussions continue about how best to approach these projects. The greatest advantage of this broad stakeholder effort has been the conversations between stakeholders about partnering on proposed projects. This has created the opportunity for not only pooling resources, but also coming up with regional solutions to issues that the entire IRWM area is trying to address. However, it is important to

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note that this area has a long history of collaborative efforts to address issues in our region. Please see examples in the answer to question 2. The IRWM process has been a great addition to the collaborative efforts already occurring in this region and will only further these efforts.

QUESTION	WHAT TO SUBMIT
No. 4.1	A description of the process being used that makes the public both part of and aware of the regional management and IRWM efforts. Discuss ways for the public to gain access to the RWMG and IRWM process for information and how they could provide input.

The planning process used during development of the Upper Santa Clara River IRWMP created many opportunities for the public to be both part of and aware of, regional water management and the IRWMP efforts. Public outreach was, and continues to be, an on-going effort. Public outreach is accomplished through a variety of means including:

- Advertisement of the public hearing to initiate the preparation of the IRWMP
- Maintaining a website to facilitate public and Stakeholder outreach
- Advertising the IRWMP and its development on agency websites
- Inclusion of a public comment period on the agenda at each Stakeholder meeting
- Using email to inform Stakeholders about upcoming meetings
- Using email to facilitate distribution, review, and comment on the IRWMP by Stakeholders
- Using mail, newspaper notices, and flyers posted in community venues to encourage public and DAC participation in the IRWMP process
- Holding a public workshop to review the draft IRWMP
- Regularly providing information to local media

To enhance outreach and coordination with the public and the Stakeholder group, a website was established for the IRWMP (www.scrwaterplan.org). This website advertises the time and place of each of the upcoming Stakeholder meetings; the website also provides the handouts, agenda, and minutes for each of the past meetings. A visitor to the website can get maps of the Region, download sections of the draft IRWMP, and get the necessary forms and guidance for submitting a project concept. The website also contained phone numbers of RWMG contacts as well as an e-mail feature for comments and questions. Links to the IRWMP website are provided on the websites of agencies participating in the RWMG.

The IRWMP was created using the advice, feedback, and assistance of multiple Stakeholders and other members of the public. In order to guarantee a fruitful process, publicly held Stakeholder meetings are facilitated by a facilitation consultant team with no direct association or stake in the outcome of any actions considered within the IRWMP. The Stakeholder process is also governed by a set of "ground rules" and "operating procedures" developed by the facilitation consultant (see appendix B). Each of the Stakeholder meetings is open to the public and each meeting included a period reserved for public

comment.

A specific public workshop was held to solicit public input on the draft IRWMP. Surveys were conducted before and as a part of public comment on the public draft IRWMP. The workshop, as well as all other public meetings, was broadly noticed several weeks ahead of time. Advertisements for the public workshop were provided at multiple community events and posted at multiple community venues. These public notices are in both English and Spanish. Notices of public workshops are also published in the local newspaper.

The RWMG provides the public with regular updates on the IRWMP. These updates are contained in agency newsletters and local newspaper articles. Members of the RWMG also make an effort to provide IRWMP updates in other public forums, including the regular Watershed Coalition of Ventura County meetings and at the West Ranch Town Council. At the conclusion of the public draft IRWMP review period, public comments were incorporated, with guidance from the RWMG, so as to create the final IRWMP.

Processes for stakeholder involvement and communication while implementing the IRWMP, including future activities for updating the Plan, will be similar to those used to develop the Plan. Meeting materials for these meetings can be found on the Upper Santa Clara IRWMP website.

Additionally, the governance structure for the Upper Santa Clara River IRWMP is designed to encourage regional participation and to accept project proposals on an ongoing basis.

QUESTION	WHAT TO SUBMIT
No. 5.1	A description of the RWMG governance structure and how it will facilitate the sustained development of regional water management and the IRWM process, both now and beyond the state grant IRWM funding programs.

The RWMG governance structure is based on an intention to ensure balanced representation across the IRWMP's three main regional objectives (i.e., water supply, water quality, and resources stewardship), as well as geographic diversity across the Region. The RWMG has the participation of at least three public agencies, two of which have statutory authority over water management. The members of the RWMG are Castaic Lake Water Agency, City of Santa Clarita, Los Angeles County Flood Control District, Newhall County Water District, Santa Clarita Water Division of Castaic Lake Water Agency, Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District of Los Angeles County, Valencia Water Company, and the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles San Gabriel Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (ex-officio member). The RWMG's governance structure involves cooperation from the public, stakeholders, project proponents, and Regional Water Management Group members. In general, the RWMG monitors IRWMP requirements/developments, and makes administrative decisions (including managing the grant application/administration process, paying for consultant(s), and preparing stakeholder agendas/meeting materials). Broader decisions that are needed (such as nominating RWMG members, making any required changes to the Plan necessary to meet funding guidelines, and updating the IRWMP) are brought to the stakeholders, and a decision is sought through a collaborative process, with stakeholders voting on the decision if needed.

The governance structure is clearly supportive of regional planning by virtue of the involvement of all major regional entities and stakeholders in the Region coming together in one forum in order to plan

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with a common understanding of conditions and issues, and address regional issues with approaches that cannot be implemented by individual entities. Through the IRWMP process, entities have built working relationships that will guide ongoing planning and implementation, and seek to resolve conflicts among stakeholders. For example, through the collaboration with Upper Santa Clara River RWMG members and members of a neighboring IRWMP within the IRWMP Funding Area (the Watersheds Coalition Ventura County), a new program called the Alternative Water Resources Management program has emerged which will reduce chloride in water reclamation plant effluent (thereby resolving conflicts between stakeholders of both IRWMPs); as well as build water supply facilities in East Piru, provide an alternative water supply to Camulos Ranch, and support water recycling in the Santa Clarita Valley.

While the RWMG governance structure and approach used to-date have been successful in adopting the IRWMP, communicating with stakeholders about progress made in developing and implementing the IRWMP goals, the RWMG formed a governance subcommittee based on the need to develop a more formal arrangement to facilitate the sustained development of regional water management and the IRWM process, both now and beyond the state grant IRWM funding programs. The Governance Subcommittee recommended roles/responsibilities for all participants in the IRWMP process that outline how decisions are made, and those recommendations (after review, discussion, and edits) were adopted in the IRWMP. The Upper Santa Clara River Region intends to formalize the roles/responsibilities outlined below within the next 12 months. It should be noted, however, that although the roles/responsibilities have not been formalized yet into an MOU or other legal document, what follows is the general description of how decisions have been and are currently being made.

Stakeholders

A stakeholder in the Upper Santa Clara River IRWMP is any agency, group, or party that has a local interest in water. The stakeholder group is an integral group of participants in the IRWMP process including members that comprise the RWMG as well as an extensive mix of other municipal and regulatory, environmental, private, and land-use planning agencies that represent all areas of the Upper Santa Clara River Region. The stakeholder group has met periodically since February 2007 to allow for discussion of issues facing the region and to develop the IRWMP. The purpose of the stakeholder group is to help identify regional objectives, identify strategies to meet regional objectives, as well as to provide advice and feedback to assist with the development, updating, or implementation of the IRWMP. The stakeholder meetings are governed by a set of agreed-upon ground rules and operating procedures to foster full participation (see Appendix B).

Stakeholder meetings have been led to date by a professional facilitator with no direct association or stake in the outcome of any actions considered within the Plan. Materials for the IRWMP discussed in each past meeting were developed by a consultant in cooperation with RWMG members and stakeholders and made available for review and comment by the stakeholders. The following is a list of roles and responsibilities for the stakeholder group:

Attend and participate in stakeholder meetings

1. Be an agency/organization with an interest in a watershed related issue
2. Offer suggestions for setting/meeting plan objectives
3. Propose and/or sponsor projects
4. Provide input on the project prioritization framework development
5. Make recommendations regarding project ranking within the process outlined in the project prioritization framework
6. Review and comment on all versions of the IRWMP
7. Represent each agency/organization by having a single vote at stakeholder meetings

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8. Be able to show support for the IRWMP (e.g., adopt it (if the stakeholder meets the requirements for adoption as set forth in the funding guidelines), sign a resolution in support of it, or submit a letter of support to the RWMG for inclusion in the adopted IRWMP).

Local Project Sponsor

Local Project Sponsors are those IRWMP stakeholders having candidate projects that are included in the Upper Santa Clara River project database. Information on each of the candidate projects and a summary list of all candidate projects is maintained at www.scrwaterplan.org ("projects" tab). It is envisioned that the Local Project Sponsors will have the following roles and responsibilities:

1. Provide project-specific information for the database that may aid in advancing the IRWMP's regional objectives.
2. Seek opportunities to integrate, where possible and practical, candidate projects in the database in order to most-efficiently achieve the regional objectives. This process may be facilitated at stakeholder meetings, but Local Project Sponsors are also encouraged to seek these opportunities outside of that forum.
3. Provide updated project-specific information for the database as necessary to reflect major project milestones (e.g., CEQA complete, 100% design, construction underway, construction complete, and project completion). Although this particular role is not a requirement, it is in the best interest of the Local Project Sponsors to keep the database current, so the most updated information is used to evaluate projects using the project prioritization framework as outside funding sources become available.
4. Participate in stakeholder meetings to educate others about the Local Project Sponsor's project(s) in the database. This happens naturally as a result of casual collaboration with other Local Project Sponsors but may also be in the form of presentations made at stakeholder meetings.
5. Identify a point person for each project who will provide in a timely manner to the RWMG and/or consultant, requested information for projects selected for inclusion in a grant application.
6. Identify a point person for each project who will provide in a timely manner to the Grantee and/or consultant, requested project information, for projects selected for funding through a funding agency.
7. Comply with grant requirements, as identified by the funding agency, in order to qualify for grant funding.

Regional Water Management Group

A successor RWMG is proposed. This successor RWMG would have the following aspects and responsibilities:

1. Total membership of the RWMG may be up to 11 entities and comprised of agencies/organizations whose primary mission is consistent with one or more of the IRWMP three main objectives (i.e., water supply, water quality and resource stewardship)
2. The RWMG will include at least three agencies, two of which have statutory authority over water resources. Any member of the Inaugural RWMG (as listed above) may elect to become a founding member of the successor RWMG.
3. RWMG membership within each of the three main regional objectives (i.e., water supply, water quality, and resources stewardship) will be reevaluated every 3 years.
4. The RWMG will strive to ensure balanced representation across the IRWMP's objectives, as well as geographic diversity across the Region.

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5. RWMG members will be recommended by the stakeholder group to achieve the balance described above. The founding members of the RWMG will select additional RWMG members, for a total of up to eleven members, from a list of nominees recommended by the stakeholders.
6. The RWMG should annually select or reaffirm a Chair and a Vice-Chair to conduct meetings.
7. In the event a clear consensus cannot be reached, each RWMG member would have a single vote at RWMG meetings.
8. Successor RWMG members must have authority to enter into a legal agreement to form a RWMG (e.g. MOU, joint powers authority, or other legal document) and will seek legal counsel to prepare a formalized governance document that will provide for regional water management, the IRWMP's governance, and implementation of the regional objectives.
9. The RWMG members will execute a new MOU after initial adoption of the IRWMP to reflect an ongoing governance structure to implement the IRWMP.
10. Members of the RWMG would be expected to contribute either some level of financial or in-kind services towards IRWMP preparation/update and would need to allow for considerable staff time during normal working hours to work on plan preparation and to attend meetings.
11. RWMG members would commit to all of the responsibilities and activities of a stakeholder.
12. Review and comment on all versions of the IRWMP and any grant application(s). RWMG will decide on the disposition of conflicting comments.
13. Help to determine project priorities and maintain prioritized project lists.
14. Provide oversight to the IRWMP and resolve significant issues among the stakeholder group.
15. RWMG will direct Chair to call stakeholder meetings as needed, and will consult on a periodic or as needed basis with the stakeholder group.
16. Provide outreach to local entities and communities to ensure adequate input from all stakeholders.
17. Hire consultant(s) as needed (e.g., to update IRWMP, prepare grant application, aid in performing Grantee responsibilities, provide stakeholder facilitation services, etc.).
18. RWMG will monitor IRWMP progress toward achieving objectives, and decide whether significant changes in conditions warrant update and subsequent re-adoption of the IRWMP.
19. RWMG will re-adopt IRWMP a minimum of every 5 years, or within 1 year of one or more of the following conditions 1) significantly changed conditions impacting objectives, 2) achievement of a regional objective requiring development of an additional regional objective, 3) need to set a new regional objective.
20. Identify and pursue funding opportunities
21. Select a Grantee from within the RWMG members.
22. Based on results of the project prioritization process and stakeholder input, RWMG will make final decision on project suite submitted for funding to any funding agencies.
23. Represent the region's needs to the State, including sustaining an open dialogue with the funding agency regarding progress on the Upper Santa Clara River IRWMP implementation and continuing to provide feedback on project progress with cooperation from the Local Project Sponsors.

Chair of the RWMG

Castaic Lake Water Agency is currently acting in this role and will do so until the successor RWMG is defined. Within the successor RWMG, the Chair would have the following responsibilities:

1. Call and attend RWMG, RWMG subcommittee, and stakeholder meetings, and prepare and distribute agendas
2. Act as primary liaison between Upper Santa Clara River IRWMP Region, RWMG, stakeholders, other IRWMP Regions, and funding agencies
3. Be selected or reaffirmed annually by RWMG

Grantee Roles

Project sponsors who receive grant funding through the efforts of the Upper Santa Clara IRWMP will have the following responsibilities:

1. Apply for grant funding, on behalf of the Upper Santa Clara River IRWMP Region
2. Provide grant administration, should the Upper Santa Clara River Region successfully receive grant funds to help implement the Plan
3. Work with Local Project Sponsors to solicit feedback on the grant administration process and provide dispute resolution if needed.
4. Ensure effective communication between the funding agency and the Local Project Sponsors.
5. Maintain an open dialogue with the funding agency regarding progress on the Upper Santa Clara River IRWMP implementation and continue to provide feedback on project progress with cooperation from the Local Project Sponsors included in the successful grant application.

Subcommittees

There have been two subcommittees of the RWMG formed to date: The Governance subcommittee, comprised of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District, Castaic Lake Water Agency, Santa Clarita Water Division, and the Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District, was tasked with defining and recommending a governance structure to succeed the current governance structure (as outlined above). The Disadvantaged Community Subcommittee, comprised of Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, City of Santa Clarita, and the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy, is an ongoing committee, tasked with identifying, seeking input from, and communicating with disadvantaged communities within the IRWMP Region.

Moving Forward

The current MOU (shown in Appendix A) will be revised/replaced by the successor RWMG MOU in order to accomplish the items described above. The term of the formalized governance document is envisioned to be 5 years, beginning from adoption of the formalized governance document. The formalized governance document may be revised and readopted earlier than 5 years after that point by the agreement of parties. The document will allow for the replacement of RWMG members, without triggering readoption of the governance document.

The RWMG membership will be reevaluated on a three-year cycle in each objective category (water supply, water quality, natural resources) to verify that an adequate number of agencies/groups whose primary duty is related to each particular objective are represented on the RWMG. This would occur in different years for each objective so that the focus in any particular year would be on one particular objective. This would also allow for the opportunity to add new representatives or replace less active RWMG members if necessary to provide for better water management and to meet the Plan objectives.

Although it is impossible to bind an as-of-yet unseated successor RWMG, it is nevertheless the intent that the successor RWMG members seek legal counsel to prepare a formalized governance document that will provide for the IRWMP's governance and implementation of the regional objectives as described above, by incorporating the spirit and intent of the discussion above, including as many of the details above as is advised.

QUESTION WHAT TO SUBMIT

No. 5.2 Discuss how decisions are made. Identify the steps in which RWMG arrives at decisions and how RWMG members participate in the decision-making process.

- Establishing IRWM plan goals and objectives – The RWMG does not solely make the decision about plan goals and objectives, but rather the RWMG uses a collaborative process to seek input from stakeholders in the Region during stakeholder meetings, and incorporates that input into the development of the IRWMPs goals and objectives. During the initial round of establishing IRWM plan goals and objectives, over the course of many stakeholder meetings, stakeholders offered suggestions for setting/meeting plan objectives, many discussions followed, and consensus was reached. Now that plan goals and objectives are adopted in the IRWMP, the RWMG is tasked with monitoring achievement toward plan objectives, and once an objective is achieved, a revised or replacement regional objective will be developed as needed through a similar stakeholder process as described above. A subsequent revision in a plan goal/objective will trigger readoption of the IRWMP.
- Prioritizing projects – The process for project prioritization discussed below is an ongoing process, and begins with stakeholders understanding the goals and objectives of the Upper Santa Clara River IRWMP, and then submitting projects to the project website (www.scrwaterplan.org) that move the Region forward in terms of meeting those objectives. It is the intent of the RWMG and stakeholders that the database of projects will be regularly updated, with new projects added as time goes on. In order to identify potential projects that facilitate IRWMP implementation, the Stakeholders developed a process to prioritize projects, with the intent that highest-ranked projects represent those projects that achieve the highest benefit to the Region. The prioritization of projects is based upon a three-fold screening process: Initial Project Sorting; Project Development and Refinement; and Secondary Project Evaluation. However, all projects submitted will be maintained on the Candidate Project list, and the list will be updated on a regular basis as new projects are submitted and as projects are developed through time and re-prioritized.

Initial Project Sorting/Step 1 Prioritization

This process was designed to meet two separate but related objectives: (1) to enhance and develop projects in order to meet regional objectives; and (2) to select the best suite of projects in order to maximize funding opportunities for the Region. Stakeholders expressed a desire to have projects ranked according to how well they met the objectives agreed upon for the Region. Based on this input a consultant did an initial sorting of Candidate Projects. Each project was assigned points; one point was awarded for each objective that the project would meet (i.e., reduce water demand, improve operational efficiency, increase water supply, improve water quality, and promote resource stewardship). Candidate Projects were sorted so that those projects that met the most objectives appeared at the beginning of the project list. Following this exercise, Candidate Projects were further parsed and sorted based on how well they met a secondary set of criteria:

- Lack of conflict with other objectives
- Lack of downstream impacts
- Compatibility with other planning documents for the Region

During the Stakeholder meeting process, several project proponents observed commonalities in their projects and decided to form partnerships and combine their individual projects into a single

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enhanced project. As a result, there are 39 Candidate Projects presented in the IRWMP.

Using these primary and secondary criteria the RWMG sorted the Candidate Projects into "high," "medium," and "low" categories. Stakeholders provided input on the sorting process, the criteria used for sorting, and whether or not a given candidate project met a given criteria. The Stakeholders also discussed means to integrate particular Candidate Projects. The initial sorting process was completed and was presented to the Stakeholders.

In addition, several projects were categorized as "Pending Further Development." These projects have been put into this category for a variety of reasons:

- Lack of sufficient project information to be evaluated
- Lack of appropriate sponsor
- Received too late in the process to be fully evaluated

Over time, as particular projects become more refined, it is likely they could be re-categorized (e.g., moved from the "low" category to the "high" category). In addition, over time, new Candidate Projects will be added and ranked according to the established criteria. The list of Candidate Projects is intended to continually grow and change as projects are completed and new project concepts are added.

Refinement/Step 2 Prioritization

It will be necessary to "pare down" the list of Candidate Projects shown in the IRWMP and develop a list of projects specific to IRWMP implementation and funding applications. This second step in the prioritization process will first be applied to projects rated "high" in the project sorting exercise. If no "high" projects remain or are ready to be implemented, then projects rated "medium" will be taken through the second step. This step will be based on how well Candidate Projects meet the following State Minimum Standards and readiness to proceed criteria:

- CEQA and Other Permitting. Projects that have the potential to cause a change in the physical in environment are required to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Activities receiving State funding must be in compliance with CEQA. The second step in project prioritization will consider whether a project has completed or will complete environmental documentation and permitting in the near term.
- Necessary Planning Documents. Projects seeking Proposition 50, Proposition 84, and other State grant funding must demonstrate compliance with the Urban Water Management Planning Act (CWC § 10610 et seq). Effective January 1, 2009, consistent with Assembly Bill 1420, any urban water supplier receiving a water management grant or loan must also demonstrate implementation of the water demand management measures described in their urban water management plan. Further, applicants with projects that have potential groundwater impacts must also demonstrate that either: they have prepared and implemented a Groundwater Management Plan in compliance with CWC § 10753.7, or they are participating in a process that meets the requirements of CWC §10753.7(a).
- Sponsor Authority and Funding Match. Projects must be sponsored by an entity with the authority to implement the project, the ability to maintain the project, and the ability to provide local funding for the project.
- Readiness to Proceed. Project feasibility should be determined and the project concept should be advanced enough to estimate both schedule and costs.

In anticipation of project refinement, Stakeholders were asked to complete project information "long forms" in which as much detailed project information as available was solicited, including such information as the projected benefit/cost effectiveness of each project.

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These long forms, updated as necessary, will provide the basis for completing this second step in the prioritization process.

Selected Plan Projects

The IRWMP was adopted in July 2008 with 39 projects which were sorted based on consistency with regional objectives. The RWMG solicited DWR's input on the IRWMP, and based on that review, Proposition 84 Guidelines, and requirements of any enacted legislation, the prioritization process will be finalized and a suite of projects (i.e., "Plan Projects") selected for local implementation or inclusion in applications to various funding sources. During regular updates of the IRWMP, all Candidate Projects will be evaluated and prioritized and a new list of Plan Projects generated.

Following selection of Plan Projects the IRWMP will be revised as necessary to:

- Provide a timeline for active or planned projects
 - Describe linkages and the interdependence of Plan Projects
 - Identify any coordination of Plan Projects with State and Federal agencies
 - Describe the relationship of Plan Projects to local planning, IRWMP program preferences, and California Water Plan Strategies
-
- Financing RWMG and IRWMP activities – One expectation of becoming a RWMG member in the past has been an ability to contribute some level of financial or in-kind services towards IRWMP preparation/update, and other administrative activities undertaken by the RWMG (holding stakeholder meetings, developing the IRWMP, etc.). This expectation is not meant in any way to exclude any entity from having a "vote" if the entity does not have an ability to pay. On the contrary, having the RWMG members bear the burden of the cost of the IRWMP program is intended as a benefit to all stakeholders, to allow everyone's participation and voting at stakeholder meetings without regard to their ability to contribute financially, while still guaranteeing enough funding to implement the IRWMP. One example of the necessity to make an exception to the expectation of funding contributions is the ex-officio membership by the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (RMC). The budget problems facing the State of California have severely impacted RMC's ability to attend meetings, due to staffing layoffs. Every effort is being made to continue to inform and seek the input from the RMC, without regard to their ability to fund their participation, based solely on their importance to the Region. To date, the RWMG has not sought funding from stakeholders, but based on economic realities, the long term funding strategy for this Region may include requesting contributions from the stakeholders.
 - Implementing plan activities – The expectation is that the same stakeholder process that guided the selection of water management strategies applicable to the Region, regional goals and objectives, a project prioritization framework, and Disadvantaged Community outreach, will be used to implement the Plan. First steps will include formalizing the MOU to incorporate the roles/responsibilities of the various participants, selecting plan projects, updating the plan to address DWR's comments on the review of the July 2008 IRWM Plan, and seeking additional funding for IRWMP activities either from the RWMG, stakeholders, and/or state and federal grants.
 - Making future revisions to the IRWM plan – The term of this IRWMP is 20 years from initial adoption (July 2008), with updates and subsequent readoption occurring a minimum of every five years within that 20 year timeframe, unless one of the following events triggers re-adoption within 1 year of the event, prior to the scheduled five-year interval: 1) significant change in conditions (as defined by the RWMG with input from the stakeholders), 2) achievement of an objective which necessitates setting a revised or replacement regional objective, 3) the need (as determined by the

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RWMG with stakeholder input) to set new regional objectives. The IRWMP is intended to be adopted by RWMG members and any stakeholder with an interest in the Region's watershed issues (stakeholders are encouraged to either adopt the IRWMP, provide a resolution in support of the IRWMP, or provide a letter in support of the IRWMP, whichever is appropriate based on the type of entity). Because the IRWMP is envisioned to "live through time" regardless of the makeup or turnover of the RWMG, a change in RWMG membership would not trigger re-adoption of the IRWMP. Additionally, modifying or updating the IRWMP in order to qualify for funding through a funding agency would not automatically trigger re-adoption of the IRWMP.

- Hiring & managing consultants – The Upper Santa Clara River IRWMP currently has no consultants under contract. However, one of the roles/responsibilities of the RWMG outlined above is to hire consultant(s) as needed (e.g., to update IRWMP, prepare grant application, aid in performing Grantee responsibilities, provide Stakeholder facilitation services, etc.). It is envisioned that the RWMG will hire its next consultant in the event that a grant application is to be submitted.

QUESTION

WHAT TO SUBMIT

No. 5.3

Describe how the RWMG will incorporate new members into the governance structure. Explain the manner in which a balance of interested persons or entities representing sectors and interests have been or will be engaged in the process, regardless of their ability to contribute financially to the plan.

The RWMG will incorporate new members into the governance structure by expanding outreach efforts to invite new groups of stakeholders as required in the California Water Code, and requesting their attendance/input at stakeholder meetings.

The RWMG will incorporate new members into the RWMG as a "next step", over the next 12 months, by expanding the total RWMG membership to 11 entities comprised of agencies/organizations whose primary mission is consistent with one or more of the IRWMP three main objectives (i.e., water supply, water quality and resource stewardship). RWMG members will be recommended by the stakeholder group. The RWMG will include at least three agencies, two of which have statutory authority over water resources. Any member of the existing RWMG may elect to become a founding member of the successor RWMG. RWMG membership within each of the three main regional objectives (i.e., water supply, water quality, and resources stewardship) will be reevaluated every 3 years. The RWMG will strive to ensure balanced representation across the IRWMP's objectives, as well as geographic diversity across the Region. The RWMG will annually select or reaffirm a Chair and a Vice-Chair to conduct meetings. All RWMG members must have authority to enter into a legal agreement to form a RWMG (e.g. MOU, joint powers authority, or other legal document) and will seek legal counsel to prepare a formalized governance document that will provide for regional water management, the IRWMP's governance, and implementation of the regional objectives. The RWMG members will execute a new MOU in the next 12 months to reflect an ongoing governance structure to implement the IRWMP.

As the stakeholder process continues after the new RWMG MOU adoption, and the project database is populated with more projects that will help achieve the regional goals and objectives, if deficiencies in RWMG expertise or water management representation are discovered, entities that can provide the

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desired expertise or representation will be sought out and invited to participate. Researching which entity might provide the missing expertise/representation could include seeking references from existing stakeholders or other Regions, or seeking DWR advice as to how other Regions have filled any similar voids, if any voids are subsequently identified.

As explained further in Section 5.2 (Financing RWMG and IRWMP activities), one expectation of becoming a RWMG member in the past has been an ability to contribute some level of financial or in-kind services towards IRWMP preparation/update, and other administrative activities undertaken by the RWMG (holding stakeholder meetings, developing the IRWMP, etc.), which has been provided as a benefit to stakeholders, rather than as a means to exclude anyone. However, one example of the necessity to make an exception to the expectation of funding contributions is the situation facing the ex-officio membership by the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (RMC). The budget problems facing the State of California have severely impacted RMC's ability to attend meetings let alone contribute financially, due to staffing layoffs and funding cuts. Every effort is being made to continue to inform and seek the input from the RMC, without regard to their ability to fund their participation, based solely on their importance to the Region. To date, the RWMG has not sought funding from stakeholders, but based on economic realities, the long term funding strategy for this Region may include requesting contributions from the stakeholders.

QUESTION	WHAT TO SUBMIT
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No. 5.4	Describe how the governance structure facilitates development of a single collaborative water management portfolio, prioritized on the regional goals and objectives of the IRWM region.
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The driving force behind how the governance structure facilitates development of a single collaborative water management portfolio, prioritized on the regional goals and objectives of the IRWM region is through the stakeholder process. The governance structure facilitates bringing together the appropriate entities in a collaborative forum, on a regular basis, in order to discuss the process by which the plan goals and objectives can be achieved and the conditions under which the goals and objectives are changed (as discussed under "making future revisions to the IRWM plan", above). Then, with the backdrop of regional goals and objectives, the governance structure facilitates entry of projects into the project database, which will eventually contain the entire portfolio of projects that when implemented, will achieve the Region's goals and objectives. The governance structure has already facilitated the development of a project prioritization framework, which will be used to sort and rank projects in the project database for implementation.

The first step in facilitating the development of a single collaborative water management portfolio, prioritized on the regional goals and objectives of the IRWM region was development of regional goals and objectives. The governance structure facilitated that process by including, inviting, and educating stakeholders as to how the IRWMP goals and objectives are related to the overall goals of the statewide California Water Plan. Once that education took place through the stakeholder process, the stakeholder input determined which of the water management strategies in the California Water Plan were applicable to the Upper Santa Clara River Region. After that discussion took place, the stakeholders were ready to consider what objectives, strategies and projects were needed, what the priorities of the Region are, and how the various entities can work together to achieve them. The projects that are currently in, and will be added in the future to the project database (found at www.scrwaterplan.org, "projects" tab), represent the "portfolio" of projects that will combine over the planning horizon to achieve the regional goals and objectives.

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The work done in stakeholder meetings is facilitated by the governance structure in that the Chair (currently Castaic Lake Water Agency is acting in this role) sets meeting dates and prepares agendas for stakeholder meetings with topics guided by RWMG member input, DWR upcoming events/deadlines, stakeholder suggestions, and other related topics. The roles/responsibilities of the stakeholders and local project sponsors, which are described above, were generated by listing what has actually happened in practice.

As the IRWMP process moves forward, the governance structure will facilitate the implementation of the portfolio through addition of new projects to the portfolio by inviting stakeholders with an interest in water management to stakeholder meetings, and encouraging them to educate other stakeholders about their role/interest in water management, and then describe the projects they're working on, with the goal of having multiple entities integrate their projects with others, creating synergy and moving the Region, project by project, toward achieving its goals. In addition, a timeline for active or planned projects will be developed, identifying linkages or interdependence between projects, as well as presenting the current status of each element of the plan.

QUESTION	WHAT TO SUBMIT
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No. 6.1	Present the IRWM regional boundary. Indicate in the submittal which boundaries are included and if/how they affect the determination of the region boundary.
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Informative maps of the IRWM region and boundaries are enclosed in this report, as explained below:

- Figure 1, attached, is a map of major and minor stream systems, groundwater basins, and flood plains. It also shows the Los Angeles County and Flood Control District boundaries, the Upper Santa Clara River watershed boundary, storm drain alignments, surface water features, and topographic relief.
- Figure 2, attached, is a map of jurisdictional and political boundaries, including the County of Los Angeles unincorporated areas, the City of Santa Clarita, the City of Palmdale, Angeles National Forest, and Significant Ecological Areas within the IRWM region.
- Figure 3, attached, is a topographic map of the Upper Santa Clara River IRWM region.
- Figure 4, attached, is a map of water district and water purveyor boundaries and impaired water bodies. It also shows locations of major dams and debris basins.
- Figure 5, attached, is a map of sanitation districts and sanitary sewer alignments.

GIS shape files containing all of the above information are contained on the attached CD.

The Region for this IRWMP is the Upper Santa Clara River Watershed. The Upper Santa Clara River Watershed consists of the portion of the Santa Clara River Watershed located within Los Angeles County. The Region is bounded by the San Gabriel Mountains to the south and southeast, the Santa Susana Mountains to the southwest, the Liebre Mountains and Transverse Ranges to the northeast and northwest, and extends westward to the Ventura County Line. The headwaters of the Santa Clara River are at an elevation of about 3,200 feet at the divide separating the Region from the Mojave Desert. This IRWMP Region is adjacent to, but does not overlap other IRWMP planning regions.

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The major water bodies in the Region include the Santa Clara River and its tributaries. The principal tributaries are Castaic Creek, San Francisquito Creek, Bouquet Creek, and the South Fork of the Santa Clara River. Additionally, the Santa Clara River receives tertiary-treated reclaimed water discharged from the Saugus and Valencia water reclamation plants, which are operated by the Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District. The main channel of the Santa Clara River is the last major undammed river system in Southern California, a situation that makes its preservation amidst strong development pressures extremely important to the stakeholders.

The upper portion of the Santa Clara River and its tributaries are typically ephemeral streams, having intermittent surface flows only during, and immediately after, periods of intense precipitation. The geologic characteristics of the alluvial sediments in the riverbed in this section of the river provide excellent percolation, and flowing water quickly recharges to the underground aquifers below the river. Perennial flows begin near the Old Road Bridge, due to both reclaimed water discharges and unique geologic conditions that force groundwater to rise to the surface. However, downstream of Blue Cut a "dry gap" from near Blue Cut to Piru Creek exists for much of the year, making the Upper Santa Clara River a hydrologically independent system from the Lower Santa Clara River for much of the year. Because of these characteristics, and due to its history of cooperative water management, the topography and geography of the Region and the similarity of water issues facing agencies within the Region, the Upper Watershed is a logical region for integrated regional water management.

The natural topography of the Upper Santa Clara River watershed creates a roughly triangular IRWM region. Natural ridge lines forms the upper watershed boundaries to the east of the Ventura County line. The Ventura County line forms the western boundary of the region as described in the response to question 7. The ridges forming the watershed boundaries are those of the San Gabriel Mountains to the south and southeast, the Santa Susana Mountains to the southwest, and the Liebre Mountains and Transverse Ranges to the northeast and northwest.

QUESTION	WHAT TO SUBMIT
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No. 6.2	Explain how the IRWM region encompasses the service areas of multiple local agencies and will maximize opportunities to integrate water management activities related to natural and man-made water systems, including water supply reliability, water quality, environmental stewardship, and flood management.
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The Upper Santa Clara River IRWMP was developed through a collaborative effort within the Region, and with the surrounding IRWMP regions, as will be discussed in greater detail in Questions 7 and 8. A wide-reaching effort was made with stakeholders identify opportunities, critical issues, and concerns to craft a truly inclusive plan to manage the region's water resources. The Upper Santa Clara River IRWM Region, as evident from the description of the RWMG participants provided in Question 2.1, represents the majority of water authorities and stakeholders in the Region. The group consists of those public agencies and service providers whose service areas are primarily within the County of Los Angeles and do not extend downstream into Ventura County. Those agencies include: the City of Santa Clarita, Castaic Lake Water Agency, Newhall County Water District, Valencia Water Company, Los Angeles County Flood Control District, and Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts Santa Clarita Valley. These agencies serve as key players in the day-to-day water management activities of the region. These agencies are self sufficient and manage resources independently of counterparts downstream in the County of Ventura.

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The RWMG plans to build upon this success in our future efforts. The RWMG will continue to coordinate with each other, our stakeholders, adjoining RWMG's, and state and federal agencies. The RWMG will actively seek opportunities to combine project goals, objectives and resources, and identify efficient and effective solutions to address region-specific and statewide interest water issues pertaining to natural and man-made water systems, water supply, water quality, environmental stewardship, and flood management.

QUESTION	WHAT TO SUBMIT
No. 6.3	On CD(s), provide map(s) that present the regional boundaries in UTM Zone 10, NAD 27 format, including the above information, as applicable.

Attached is a CD with the GIS Shape files and maps presenting the regional boundaries.

QUESTION	WHAT TO SUBMIT
No. 7.1	A description of the history of IRWM efforts in the region. Describe how the region boundary relates to the current water resources and historic water management issues in the region?

The boundary of the Upper Santa Clara River Integrated Regional Water Management Region was determined by two factors: the northern and southern hydrologic limits of the upper watershed of the Santa Clara River and the area within Los Angeles County that was not being served by an IRWMP planning effort at the time. The Upper Basin of the Santa Clara River, as defined for the purposes of this IRWM Region, is bounded by the San Gabriel Mountains to the south and southeast, the Santa Susana Mountains to the southwest, the Liebre Mountains and Transverse Ranges to the northeast and northwest, and westward to the Ventura County Line. The Upper Santa Clara River Watershed is a logical region for integrated regional water management due to its history of cooperative water management, the isolated nature of the topography and geography of the Region and the similarity of water issues facing agencies in the Region. There is no overlap of this Region with any other integrated water management planning region. No "holes" remain in the region after the creation of the Upper Santa Clara River Integrated Regional Water Management Region.

The Region represents an area of approximately 654 square miles. The Region is not included in the Lower Santa Clara Watershed Region as it was defined by the Watersheds Coalition of Ventura County (WCVC). The WCVC began its IRWMP planning effort in 2005, and that IRWMP region included public agencies and other entities wholly contained within Ventura County. Thus, the Upper Santa Clara River Watershed was not included as part of that IRWMP effort. During 2006, discussions took place between various parties located across all parts of the Santa Clara River Watershed to ascertain if the entire Watershed could be incorporated into the WCVC IRWMP. Separate discussions also took place between various parties within the Greater Los Angeles County (GLAC) IRWMP, to ascertain if the Upper Santa Clara River area should be incorporated into the GLAC IRWMP.

At the time of these discussions, the lower Santa Clara watershed entities were quite advanced in their IRWMP process as was the GLAC IRWMP, and the upper watershed entities had joined together to submit a "functional equivalent" IRWMP application. Both the WCVC and the GLAC determined they would each continue their IRWMP processes without including the upper Santa Clara River watershed in order to be eligible for Proposition 50 Step 2 implementation grant funding. The upper watershed entities therefore later initiated a separate IRWMP process for the Upper Santa Clara River Region. This

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separation in timing has continued with the Upper Santa Clara River IRWMP being completed after the WVCV IRWMP and no grant submittal was possible for Proposition 50 for the Upper Santa Clara River plan region. Additionally, adjacent to the County line a “dry gap” from near Blue Cut to Piru Creek exists for much of the year, making the Upper Santa Clara River a hydrologically independent system from the Lower Santa Clara River except during significant surface flows.

Despite the separate planning efforts, agencies and other stakeholders from the Los Angeles County portion of the Watershed regularly attend and provide input to meetings of the WVCV and GLAC IRWMPs; likewise agencies and other stakeholders from the Ventura County portion of the Watershed have been invited to, have attended, and have provided input to meetings of the Upper Santa Clara River IRWMP. All three parties intend on continuing active participation, particularly the upper and lower Santa Clara River efforts as stakeholders in each others’ efforts. Therefore, although no efforts are planned to join with any other IRWM region, all three IRWMPs are making an effort to be aware of each individual plan’s content, goals, objectives, and programs and to remain active in the other’s IRWM processes.

QUESTION	WHAT TO SUBMIT
No. 7.2	A description of the regional water management issues, and conflicts in the region. Issues and conflicts may relate to water supply, water quality, flood management, environmental stewardship, imported water, waste water, conjunctive use, etc. Also describe efforts to develop multi-benefit integrated programs and projects that meet regional priorities.

Over the course of the series of Upper Santa Clara River IRWMP Stakeholder meetings to date, many issues and topics were discussed. However, many of the issues raised can be summarized into five significant themes:

- Continued growth in water demand while imported water supplies become less reliable. The Stakeholders expressed a need for a comprehensive picture of available water supplies and the desire to find alternative water sources
- Difficulty in maintaining open space and habitat areas given population growth and increased urbanization
- Variety of water quality issues, including perchlorate contamination, and TMDLs for chloride and nitrate compounds
- Runoff and drainage issues in the more rural areas that result in negative effects to the rural areas and areas downstream
- Runoff and drainage issues related to urbanizing areas in the floodplain

Collectively, among those with a stake in water-related matters in the region these issues are addressed through the IRWMP planning process itself with the stakeholders’ development of goals and objectives in the plan as well as implementation programs. Additionally, IRWMP stakeholders work on their own, or in smaller groups, through their own plans and programs to resolve these issues.

Project readiness in the IRWMP was determined based on scoring determined, in part, on an implementation program’s ability to meet the Plan’s objectives and additionally on its ability to simultaneously meet multiple objectives in the IRWMP.

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QUESTION	WHAT TO SUBMIT
No. 7.3	A description of the water related components of the region. The submittal must consider two different types of components, the physical components and the groups that manage or have input to those components. Physical components of a water system include natural and man made infrastructure. Some of the components to be included are watersheds, surface water impoundments, ground water basins, water collection systems, distribution systems, wastewater systems, flood water systems, and recharge facilities. The submittal should explain how water arrives in the region, how it is used, and how it is handled after it is used.

The major water components of the Region include the Santa Clara River, groundwater, and imported water from the State Water Project.

Santa Clara River

The major water bodies in the Region include the Santa Clara River and its tributaries. The principal tributaries are Castaic Creek, San Francisquito Creek, Bouquet Creek, and the South Fork of the Santa Clara River. Additionally, the Santa Clara River receives tertiary-treated reclaimed water discharged from the Saugus and Valencia water reclamation plants, which are operated by the Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District. The Santa Clara River is divided into various reaches; within the Upper Santa Clara River there are four defined reaches (as defined by the Los Angeles RWQCB Basin Plan):

- Reach 5 (Blue Cut). Upstream of the USGS Blue Cut Gauging Station to the West Pier Highway 99 (now the Old Road Bridge)
- Reach 6 (Highway 99). Upstream of Highway 99 (now Old Road Bridge) to Bouquet Canyon Bridge
- Reach 7 (Bouquet Canyon). Upstream of Bouquet Canyon to Lang Gauging Station
- Reach 8 (Above Lang Gauging Station). Lang Gauging Station to headwaters

The upper portion of the Santa Clara River and its tributaries are typically ephemeral streams, having intermittent surface flows only during, and immediately after, periods of intense precipitation. The geologic characteristics of the alluvial sediments in the riverbed in this section of the river provide excellent percolation, and flowing water quickly recharges to the underground aquifers below the river. Perennial flows begin near the Old Road Bridge, due to both reclaimed water discharges and unique geologic conditions that force groundwater to rise to the surface. However, downstream of Blue Cut a "dry gap" from near Blue Cut to Piru Creek exists for much of the year, making the Upper Santa Clara River a hydrologically independent system from the Lower Santa Clara River for much of the year. Because of these characteristics and others as discussed in Response 7.1, and due to its history of cooperative water management, the topography and geography of the Region and the similarity of water issues facing agencies within the Region, the Upper Watershed is a logical region for integrated regional water management.

Groundwater

The Acton Valley Groundwater Basin encompasses an area of approximately 12.9 square miles. It is bounded by the Sierra Pelona on the north and the San Gabriel Mountains on the south, east and west. It is drained by the Santa Clara River. The Acton Valley Groundwater Basin is an alluvial basin consisting of two water bearing geologic units: the Holocene age undifferentiated alluvium and the

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Pleistocene age stream terrace deposits. Groundwater in these deposits is unconfined. The groundwater within the basin flows toward the channel of the Santa Clara River. It then flows in the southwest direction toward Soledad Canyon at an average gradient of 64 to 91 feet per mile. The gradient varies seasonally, with the lowest gradient during dry seasons, and the highest during wet seasons. The Soledad Canyon forms the only outlet for groundwater underflow and for surface water outflow from the basin.

Although not formerly recognized as a groundwater basin by DWR until 2003, and then only as a portion of the Acton Valley Groundwater Basin, the Agua Dulce groundwater basin consists of potentially water-bearing alluvial type sediments over an area of approximately 4,620 acres within Sierra Pelona Valley.

The Soledad Canyon Alluvial Channel is approximately nine miles long. It is bordered by the Acton Valley Groundwater Basin on the east, and by the Santa Clara River Valley Groundwater Basin on the west. DWR does not designate the Soledad Canyon Alluvial Channel as a groundwater basin. The water-bearing formation of the Soledad Canyon Alluvial Channel consists of alluvium deposited in the Santa Clara River bed. Twenty-one (21) private water-supply wells extract groundwater throughout the channel. Groundwater extraction data, groundwater storage, and yield data are not currently available.

The groundwater basin generally beneath the Valley is identified in DWR's Groundwater Bulletin 118 as the Santa Clara River Valley Groundwater Basin, East Subbasin (Basin No. 4-4.07). The Santa Clara River Valley East Groundwater Subbasin encompasses an area of approximately 103 square miles. It is bordered by the Piru Mountains on the north, on the west by impervious rocks of the Modelo and lower Saugus Formations, and a constriction in the alluvium, by the San Gabriel Mountains on the south and east, and by the Santa Susana Mountains on the south. It is drained by the Santa Clara River, Bouquet Creek, and Castaic Creek.

The groundwater within the Alluvial aquifer flows toward the channel of the Santa Clara River, and then follows the river course southward and westward. Average gradient of groundwater in the alluvium is 46 feet per mile based on the 1985 water level data in the river from the Lang gage to the Ventura County Line. It generally varies from 25 to 55 feet per mile in the subbasin. The gradient varies seasonally, with the lowest gradient during dry seasons, and the highest during wet seasons. The groundwater flow in the Saugus aquifer, based on the measurements in the wells screened entirely in the Saugus Formation in the Santa Clara River-South Fork area, is to the north-northwest. There is no data outside of that area.

Imported Water

Imported water supplies in the Region consist primarily of State Water Project supplies, which were first delivered to Castaic Lake Water Agency in 1980. In addition to their SWP Table A Amount, Castaic Lake Water Agency has developed other imported water supplies. Castaic Lake Water Agency has purchased an imported surface supply from the Buena Vista Water Storage District and Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District in Kern County. Additionally, Castaic Lake Water Agency acquired an imported supply from Yuba County in 2008. Castaic Lake Water Agency wholesales these imported supplies to each of the local retail water purveyors. These local retailers, the Valencia Water Company, Newhall County Water District, Santa Clarita Water Division of Castaic Lake Water Agency and Los Angeles County Water Works District No. 36 supply potable water to the Santa Clarita Valley through their own distribution systems. Additionally, a small amount of SWP water is available to a portion of the eastern part of the Region through deliveries from the Antelope Valley-East Kern Water Agency (AVEK). A portion of this water is delivered to Los Angeles County Water Works District No. 37 for distribution to their customers.

Water Management and Use

Castaic Lake Water Agency is a public water wholesaler that provides about half of the water that Santa Clarita households and businesses use. CLWA operates two treatment plants, two pump stations, two storage facilities, and over 17 miles of transmission pipelines. Four local water purveyors, Los Angeles County Water District #36, Newhall County Water District, Santa Clarita Water Division, and Valencia Water Company provide imported water obtained from Castaic Lake Water Agency along with groundwater to customers in the urbanized areas of the Santa Clarita Valley. Rural areas are generally served by private wells. Within the urbanized area wastewater is treated by the Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District before being discharged to the Santa Clara River. More rural areas rely on septic systems for handling wastewater.

At the current time the necessary infrastructure to produce and utilize recycled water exists within the Castaic Lake Water Agency service area only and the only source of the water is the Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District's Valencia Water Reclamation Plant. Castaic Lake Water Agency wishes to enhance its water supply through the use of recycled water. The use of recycled water is constrained by availability of recycled water and various laws, some of which are described in greater detail in Castaic Lake Water Agency's 2002 Draft Recycled Water Master Plan (Master Plan). Castaic Lake Water Agency's existing recycled water system permits the use of up to 1,700 AFY and Castaic Lake Water Agency has entered into an existing agreement with Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District for use of its reclaimed water. The Master Plan identified recycled water users that would account for a total of 17,400 AFY of recycled water use in the year 2030.

QUESTION	WHAT TO SUBMIT
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No. 8.1	A description of the IRWM region's relationship and coordination with adjacent existing or developing IRWM regions.
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The Upper Santa Clara River IRWMP is adjacent to four planning regions that are currently represented by, or are in the process of developing IRWMPs. These consist of the Antelope Valley IRWMP in the Lahontan Funding Region, the Kern County area to the north of the upper watershed is in the Tulare Lake Funding Region, the Greater Los Angeles County Region IRWMP in the Los Angeles Funding Region; and as described earlier, the WVCV IRWMP, also within the Los Angeles-Funding Region. Coordination with these IRWMP regions is discussed below.

WVCV IRWMP & Greater Los Angeles IRWMP

Coordination and communication with the WVCV IRWMP and Greater Los Angeles IRWMP began in 2006. The WVCV began its IRWMP planning effort in 2005, and that IRWMP region included public agencies and other entities wholly contained within Ventura County. Thus, the Upper Santa Clara River watershed was not included as part of that IRWMP effort.

During 2006, discussions took place between various parties located across all parts of the Santa Clara River watershed to ascertain if the entire watershed could be incorporated into the WVCV IRWMP. Separate discussions also took place between various parties within the Greater Los Angeles County IRWMP, to ascertain if the Upper Santa Clara River area could be incorporated into that IRWMP. At the time of these discussions, both the WVCV and Greater Los Angeles IRWMPs were quite advanced in their IRWMP development processes, and the upper watershed entities had joined together to submit a

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“functional equivalent” IRWMP application. Both the WVCV and Greater Los Angeles IRWMPs determined they would each continue their IRWMP processes without including the upper Santa Clara River watershed in order to be eligible for Proposition 50 Step 2 implementation grant funding. The upper watershed entities therefore initiated a separate IRWMP process for the Upper Santa Clara River Region.

Despite the separate planning efforts, agencies and other stakeholders from the Los Angeles County portion of the watershed regularly attend and provide input to meetings of the WVCV and Greater Los Angeles IRWMPs; likewise agencies and other stakeholders from the Ventura County portion of the watershed have been invited to, have attended, and have provided input to meetings of the Upper Santa Clara River IRWMP. So, although no efforts are planned to join with any other IRWM region, all three IRWMPs are making an effort to be aware of each individual plan’s content, goals, objectives, and processes.

The Upper Santa Clara River and WVCV IRWMP regions are currently cooperating on a number of programs and working together through our respective stakeholder processes, planning efforts and projects and programs on which we are collaborating to ensure that the entire watershed is protected and managed appropriately, despite the division of the county boundary. The specific projects we have done in the past, or are currently engaged in, include:

- Alternative Water Resource Management Project – Led by Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts with participation by entities in both counties
- Watershed U – Collaboration throughout the Santa Clara River Watershed led by U.C. Cooperative Extension with participation in both counties
- Memorandum of Understanding between United Water Conservation District and water agencies in the Upper Santa Clara River Watershed regarding groundwater modeling, water rights, quality and quantity
- Upper and Lower Santa Clara River Conservation Plans prepared by The Nature Conservancy – with participation in both counties
- Natural Flood Plain Management efforts – including land acquisition for easements in the flood plain, led by The Nature Conservancy with participation in both counties
- Santa Clara River Parkway Project – led by California Coastal Conservancy – with participation in both counties
- Santa Clara River Enhancement and Management Plan – joint planning effort with entities in both counties and the Army Corps of Engineers
- Army Corps Feasibility Study – geomorphology assessment – joint effort with both counties and the Army Corps of Engineers
- Land use planning – ongoing discussions between Ventura and Los Angeles Counties land use planning agencies regarding land development projects in the Upper Santa Clara River Watershed
- Ongoing efforts to improve habitat and provide stewardship for resources in the entire Watershed – some local environmental groups cover the entire watershed working in both counties to coordinate efforts
- Ongoing coordination between Los Angeles and Ventura counties regarding flood control projects

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The Upper Santa Clara River IRWM also participates with these adjacent regions in the Roundtable of Regions, via teleconferences and attendance at Roundtable Summit meetings. Additionally, the Upper Santa Clara River IRWM has actively participated with both the Greater Los Angeles County Region IRWMP and, the WVCV IRWMP, since both are within the greater Los Angeles Funding Region in efforts to determine a funding formula for the region.

Kern IRWMP

At the northernmost portion the Upper Santa Clara River IRWMP shares a very small piece of boundary with the Kern IRWMP. The consultant team for the Kern Region, which also prepared the Upper Santa Clara River IRWMP, has consulted with the RWMG for the Upper Santa Clara River IRWMP regarding this small shared area, and do not feel that it is a significant issue needing further coordination between the two planning regions.

Antelope Valley IRWMP

To the northeast the Upper Santa Clara River IRWMP shares a boundary with the Antelope Valley IRWMP. Common stakeholders of the two IRWM regions include the Waterworks Districts of Los Angeles County and Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County. Frequent communication occurs also with staffs from the Los Angeles County Flood Control District and the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts working on the neighboring IRWMPs. Though there is some overlap in jurisdiction with agencies with responsibility for water resources, the areas are separated by a significant watershed boundary and the Antelope Valley IRWMP region is outside of the Santa Clara River Watershed.

QUESTION	WHAT TO SUBMIT
No. 8.2	Identify any overlapping areas and explain the basis for the overlap. Discuss whether there is a clear relationship and acknowledgement by both regions that the overlap is acceptable.

The Upper Santa Clara River IRWM region does not have any overlapping areas with any other planning region.

QUESTION	WHAT TO SUBMIT
No. 8.3	Explain whether the regional boundary will leave any uncovered or void areas immediately outside or within the boundary.

The Upper Santa Clara River IRWM region does not leave any voids or excluded areas immediately outside or within its boundaries with the exception of a small area of Arroyo Simi in the western portion of the Los Angeles County and within the watershed of Calleguas Creek. This area lies outside of the Santa Clara River watershed, is not populated or developed, nor does it have water resources requiring management at this time. If required to belong in an IRWM region then either WVCV or the Greater Los Angeles areas would be more reasonable since it is within same watershed as WVCV and is with the same political boundary (City of Los Angeles) that is a part of the Greater Los Angeles IRWM region. Therefore, it was determined to not include Upper Arroyo Simi portion of the region within the Upper Santa Clara River IRWM region.

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QUESTION	WHAT TO SUBMIT
No. 8.4	Describe any areas within the region that are excluded or create a void area and explain why this is reasonable and appropriate.

There are no areas within the region that are excluded or create a void area.

QUESTION	WHAT TO SUBMIT
No. 8.5	Describe any distinct water management differences between adjacent or overlapping IRWM regions and the proposed IRWM region to support being separate IRWM regions?

The Upper Santa Clara River IRWM Region boundary as defined is an appropriate area for integrated regional water management and has been working successfully thus far through IRWM Plan development and into Plan implementation. There are no overlapping regions with the Upper Santa Clara River IRWM Region. With the exception of the WCVV IRWMP, a distinct watershed boundary separates the Region from the other adjacent regions, allowing for the inclusion into the Region all of the water resources, related infrastructure, key agencies, and stakeholders interests within the upper watershed. With regard to the WCVV IRWMP, the explanation as to the historical separation of the two regions IRWM efforts was explained in response 7.1. The ongoing cooperative efforts between the two regions have been detailed in response 8.1 above. Though there has been, and there is planned to be, extensive coordination between the two regions, it has been mutually agreed that the two regions would remain separate for the following reasons:

The character of the Santa Clara River is different in the two counties; the upper areas within Los Angeles County have more ephemeral flows and there is separation near the county line by a "dry gap" which tends to isolate the groundwater basins between the regions (as described in the answer to question 7.3). The Ventura County side is characterized by more agricultural land use and perennial flows. In addition, the two regions have the following characteristics which lend themselves to continued cooperative co-existence:

- The two regions are different stages of IRWM planning and project implementation
- The two regions are each functionally effective and successful at their current scales/sizes and with their respective organizations and stakeholder mixes. Enlarging our region by merging them together would likely affect that success – at least in the short-run – and could slow down progress toward addressing our challenges
- The political boundary which separates the two regions also functions as the boundary between agencies with duties that impact water resources, including land use planning, flood control, water supply, etc.

Though there is agreement to remain separate entities, continued cooperation between the regions is expected to lead to greater mutual effort in IRWM planning.

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QUESTION	WHAT TO SUBMIT
No. 9	List the entities and the number of representatives from each entity that the RWMG anticipates will be participating in the RAP interview, and the primary spokespersons within those who will be attending.

Jeff Ford, Castaic Lake Water Agency
Travis Lange, City of Santa Clarita
Mary Zauner, Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District
(all primary spokespersons)
Steven Ross, Los Angeles County Flood Control District

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Castaic Lake Water Agency, Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District of Los Angeles County, City of Santa Clarita, Los Angeles County Flood Control District, Newhall County Water District, Santa Clarita Water Division of the Castaic Lake Water Agency and the Valencia Water Company to Participate and Contribute to the Preparation of the Upper Santa Clara River Watershed Integrated Regional Water Management Plan

This Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") is entered into and is made effective March, 2007, by and between the Castaic Lake Water Agency, including its Santa Clarita Water Division (SCWD)(collectively the "Agency"), Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District of Los Angeles County ("Sanitation District"), City of Santa Clarita (City), Los Angeles County Flood Control District ("Flood Control District"), Newhall County Water District ("Water District") and the Valencia Water Company ("Water Company") (hereafter, collectively the "Parties" or individually as "Party").

RECITALS

WHEREAS, the parties to this Agreement intend to establish and participate in a Regional Water Management Group ("Group") under the California Water Code Division 6, part 2.2, known as the *Integrated Regional Water Management Planning Act of 2002*, hereinafter referred to as "Act",

WHEREAS, Section 10531 of the California Water Code, herein after also referred to as "Act" includes the following declarations:

(a) Water is a valuable natural resource in California, and should be managed to ensure the availability of sufficient supplies to meet the state's agricultural, domestic, industrial, and environmental needs. It is the intent of the Legislature to encourage local agencies to work cooperatively to manage their available local and imported water supplies to improve the quality, quantity, and reliability of those supplies.

(b) Improved coordination among local agencies with responsibilities for managing water supplies and additional study of groundwater resources are necessary to maximize the quality and quantity of water available to meet the state's agricultural, domestic, industrial, and environmental needs.

(c) The implementation of the Act will facilitate the development of integrated regional water management Plans, thereby maximizing the quality and quantity of water available to meet the state's water needs by providing a framework for local agencies to integrate programs and projects that protect and enhance regional water supplies; and

WHEREAS, Section 10537 of the Act states that "Regional Water Management Group" means a group in which three or more local public agencies, at least two of which have statutory authority over water supply, participate by means of a joint powers agreement, memorandum of understanding, or other written agreement, as appropriate, that is approved by the governing bodies of those local public agencies; and

WHEREAS, under the Act, the Parties propose to collaboratively prepare an Integrated Regional Water Management Plan for the Upper Basin of the Santa Clara River, (the "Plan") as set forth in this MOU; and

WHEREAS, the Upper Basin of the Santa Clara River, as defined for the purposes of the Plan, is bounded by the San Gabriel Mountains to the south and southeast, the Santa Susana Mountains to the southwest, the Liebre Mountains and Transverse Ranges to the northeast and northwest, westward to the Ventura County Line; and

WHEREAS, the study area for the Plan includes all, or a portion of, the service areas of the Parties; and

WHEREAS, an Integrated Regional Watershed Management Plan for the Ventura County portion of the Santa Clara River Watershed has been developed and the development of a combined Integrated Regional Watershed Management Plan for the entire watershed is envisioned for project integration; and

WHEREAS, the Agency is willing to administer a contract (the "Plan Contract") to engage a third-party consultant ("Plan Consultant") to prepare the Plan, including award of the Contract and its general oversight; and

WHEREAS, the Sanitation District is willing to administer a contract (the "Facilitation Contract") to engage a third-party consultant ("Facilitation Consultant") to facilitate the Plan collaborative stakeholder process, including award of the Facilitation Contract and its general oversight; and

WHEREAS, the Agency, Flood Control District, City, Water District and Water Company (herein referred to as the "Plan Consultant Funding Parties") have agreed to collectively pay for Plan Consultant costs, while the Sanitation District has agreed to pay for Facilitation Consultant Costs; and

WHEREAS, the Parties also are willing to provide the Plan and Facilitation Consultants, collectively known as "Consultant(s)," with the necessary data to prepare the Plan and to review and comment on the draft versions of the Plan; and

WHEREAS, the "Consultant(s) Costs" for preparation of the Plan consist of all amounts paid to the Consultant(s) upon completion of the Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Plan Consultant Costs currently are estimated to be \$236,000, and with a contingency of an additional \$34,000, which sum will be shared amongst the Plan Consultant Funding Parties, with the Agency's share being a total of \$90,000 (\$45,000, each from the Agency and the Santa Clarita Water Division); Flood Control District's share being \$45,000, City's share being \$45,000, Water District's share being \$45,000, and Water Company's share being \$45,000; and

WHEREAS, the Facilitation Consultant Costs currently are estimated to be \$50,000, with the Sanitation District providing up to \$50,000 worth of facilitation consulting services.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual benefits to be derived by the Parties and of the promises herein contained, it is here by further agreed as follows:

- (1) All recitals set forth above are incorporated herein and constitute a part of the agreement among the Signatories;
- (2) AGENCY for itself and its SCWD agrees as follows:
 - a. Agency shall choose, contract with and administer a Plan Contract for the Plan and perform supervision and oversight of the Plan Consultant's services. Agency will ensure that all contracts entered into by the Agency pursuant to this MOU will contain provisions which require the Plan Consultant and any subcontractor(s) to maintain appropriate insurance, to name each Party as additional insureds and to indemnify, defend and hold the Parties harmless as permitted by law.
 - b. Agency shall have the ability to terminate this Memorandum of Understanding at any time upon 10 days prior written notice to the other Parties in the event that sufficient funding to prepare the Plan is not contributed by Group members. In such an event Agency shall refund to the Plan Consultant Funding Parties their proportionate share of unexpended funds which had been provided to the Agency minus any Agency and/or other party costs.
 - c. Agency and SCWD shall provide and share all of their necessary and relevant information, data, studies, and/or documentation for the Plan in its possession as may be requested by the Plan Consultant within thirty (30) calendar days of the request by the Plan Consultant for such information and data with the understanding that if such information, data, studies or documentation be provided later, it may not be incorporated in the Plan due to time constraints.
 - d. To review and comment on the draft and final versions of technical reports and the draft Plan within twenty-one (21) calendar days from the date of receipt of said documents or Agency and SCWD's comments may not be incorporated in the Final Plan.

- e. To provide its share of the total Plan Consultant Costs in the amount of \$90,000 (\$45,000 for Agency and \$45,000 from SCWD).
- f. To deposit \$30,000 into an account managed by the Agency for the purpose of paying the Plan Consultant within thirty (30) calendar days of execution of this MOU.
- g. To make two additional deposits of \$30,000 the first no later than June 1, 2007 for the first and the second no later than July 1, 2007.
- h. Once the Plan is adopted pursuant to the Act, to prepare, review, and consider approval of future grant applications for implementation of the Plan and administer grants for Plan preparation within the timeframes provided by law.
- i. To comply with all procedural requirements of the Act.

(3) SANITATION DISTRICT agrees as follows:

- a. To provide up to \$50,000 of in-kind consultant services (estimated to be 350 hours of consultant time plus other related expenditures) in order to facilitate stakeholder group meetings that would be performed by the Facilitation Consultant and to administer the contract of the facilitation services consultant. Sanitation District will maintain an accounting of Facilitation Consultant services rendered and other related expenditures, which will be made available in accordance of provision 5(c) of this MOU.
- b. Sanitation District shall provide and share all its necessary and relevant information, data, studies, and/or documentation for the Plan in its possession as may be requested by the Plan Consultant within thirty (30) calendar days of the request by the Consultant for such information and data, with the understanding that if such information, should it be provided at a later date, may not be incorporated in the Plan due to time constraints.
- c. Sanitation District shall review and comment on the draft and final versions of technical reports and the draft Plan within twenty-one (21) calendar days from the date of receipt of said documents or Sanitation District's comments may not be incorporated in the Final Plan.
- d. Once the Plan is adopted pursuant to the Act, to prepare, review, and consider for approval future grant applications for implementation of the Plan within the time frame provided by law.
- e. To comply with all procedural requirements of the Act.

(4) CITY, FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT, WATER DISTRICT and WATER COMPANY each agrees as follows:

- a. To provide and share all necessary and relevant information, data, studies, and/or documentation for the Plan in each Party's possession as may be requested by the Plan Consultant within thirty (30) calendar days of the request by the Plan Consultant for such information and data, with the understanding that if such information, should it be provided at a later date, may not be incorporated in the Plan due to time constraints.
- b. To review and comment on the draft and final versions of technical reports and the draft Plan within twenty-one (21) calendar days from the date of receipt of said documents or comments from the City, Flood Control District, Water District or Water Company may not be incorporated in the Final Plan;
- c. To pay its share of the Plan Consultant's Costs of \$45,000 as set out herein;
- d. To deposit the initial payment of \$15,000 with the Agency within thirty (30) calendar days of execution of this MOU.
- e. To make two additional deposits of \$15,000, the first no later than June 1, 2007 and the second no later than July 1, 2007.
- f. Once the Plan is adopted pursuant to the Act, to prepare, review, and consider for approval future grant applications for implementation of the Plan within the time frames required by law.
- g. To comply with all procedural requirements of the Act.

(5) IT IS MUTUALLY UNDERSTOOD AND AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

- a. The Regional Water Management Group shall not formally adopt the Plan pursuant to Water Code Section 10541(d) until at least three member agencies in the Group have endorsed the Plan by resolution or other formal action of each entity's legislative body, including at least two agencies with statutory authority over water supply, those being Agency and Water District, as evidenced by resolutions duly adopted in substantial conformity to the form of resolution attached to this MOU as Exhibit A.
- b. If the governing body of any Party determines not to endorse the Plan, such action shall constitute automatic withdrawal from the Regional Water Management Group. No refund of amounts paid to the Agency shall be reimbursed to any withdrawing party. A Party which is deemed to have withdrawn from the Regional Water Management Group under this subsection shall automatically be reinstated when that Party adopts the Plan and accepts and executes any additions and/or amendments to this MOU.

- c. Upon adoption of the Plan pursuant to the Act, the Agency and the Sanitation District shall prepare a final accounting (the "Accounting") of all final actual Plan Consultant and Facilitation Consultant costs for review by the Parties.
- d. If the funds deposited with the Agency exceed the Plan Consultant Costs based upon the Accounting, the Agency will refund the excess funds to each Plan Consultant Funding Party in proportion to each Party's share of the Plan Consultant Costs, without interest, within sixty (60) days after adoption of the Plan by all Parties. If insufficient funds have been deposited with the Agency, Agency shall bill each Plan Consultant Funding Party for its proportionate additional share of excess costs, which amounts shall be paid to Agency within 45 days of receipt of such billing. The Agency understands and agrees that such further funding will require the authorization of the each Party's governing body. Thereafter, interest shall accrue on the amounts owing at the rate of 7% per annum simple interest. Additional costs shall be billed to the Sanitation District, only if the cost to finalize the Plan is greater than \$50,000 per Plan Consultant Funding Party, which is the Sanitation District's current maximum in-kind contribution for the Facilitation Consultant.
- e. This MOU may be amended or modified only by mutual written consent of all Parties at the time of such amendment or modification. No waiver of any term or condition of this MOU by any Party hereto shall be a continuing waiver thereof.
- f. This MOU shall terminate three years after the date of execution unless renewed by mutual written consent from all Parties prior to expiration.
- g. All Parties to this MOU mutually release each other from any and all liability, claims, demands or costs (including but not limited to reasonable attorneys' fees) in connection with all claims arising out of this MOU, including but not limited to that relating to the Contracts with the Consultants, and including any and all claims relating to a Consultant's performance or failure to perform under the Contracts and/or any violation or alleged violation of the Act as a result thereof.

Such release shall extend to that pursuant to Civil Code Section 1542, which states: "A GENERAL RELEASE DOES NOT EXTEND TO CLAIMS WHICH THE CREDITOR DOES NOT KNOW OR SUSPECT TO EXIST IN HIS OR HER FAVOR AT THE TIME OF EXECUTING THE RELEASE, WHICH IF KNOWN BY HIM OR HER MUST HAVE MATERIALLY AFFECTED HIS OR HER SETTLEMENT WITH THE DEBTOR."

Initial: CLWA/ SCWD _____
Sanitation District _____
City _____
Flood Control District _____
Water District _____
Water Company _____

- h. Notwithstanding any provision of law, including but not limited to California Government Code Sections 895 et. seq., therein, any and all liability or expenses (including attorneys' and experts' fees and related costs) incurred by any party to this MOU as a result of claims by third parties and injury to third parties, arising from or relating to this MOU shall be equally allocated among the Parties. The parties shall not be responsible for any expenses that are as the result of the sole negligent or intentional acts or omission of another Party. The term "injury" shall have the meaning prescribed by Section 810.8 of the Government Code. This provision shall survive termination of this Agreement for a period not to exceed five years.
- i. If any provision of this MOU is held, determined or adjudicated to be illegal, void, or unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, the Parties agree that the remainder of this MOU shall be given effect to the fullest extent possible.
- j. The Parties' respective obligations under this agreement, in connection with the preparation and adoption of the Plan, are contingent upon and subject to the Group's compliance with the applicable procedural requirements of Section 10541 of the Act.
- k. If after the public hearing required by subsection (b) of Section 10541 of the Act, the minimum members needed to constitute a RWMG have not determined to prepare the Plan, all remaining funds deposited with the Agency by other Parties, for the preparation of the Plan, shall be refunded to the respective Parties in proportion to each Party's share of the Plan Consultant Costs, within sixty (60) days after the public hearing.

- I. Notice: Any correspondence, communication, or contact concerning this MOU shall be directed to the following:

Castaic Lake Water Agency:

Mr. Dan Masnada
General Manager
27234 Bouquet Canyon Road
Santa Clarita, CA 91350
Fax Number: (661) 297-1610

Santa Clarita Water Division of the Castaic Lake Water Agency:

Mr. Mauricio Guardado
Retail Manager
22722 W. Soledad Canyon Road
Santa Clarita, CA 91350
Fax Number: (661) 286-4333

City of Santa Clarita:

Mr. Ken Pulskamp
City Manager
23920 Valencia Blvd., Suite 300
Santa Clarita, CA 91355
Fax Number: (661) 259-8125

Newhall County Water District

Mr. Steve Cole
General Manager
23780 North Pine Street
Newhall, CA 91321
Fax Number: (661) 259-8137

Los Angeles County, Flood Control District

Los Angeles County Department of Public Works
Mr. Donald L. Wolfe
Director of Public Works
900 South Fremont Avenue
Alhambra, CA 91803
Fax Number: (626) 458-4022

Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District of Los Angeles County

Mr. Stephen R. Maguin
Chief Engineer and General Manager
Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District of Los Angeles County
1955 Workman Mill Road
Whittier, CA 90601
Fax Number: (562) 695-8660

Valencia Water Company

Mr. Robert DiPrimio
President
24631 Avenue Rockefeller
Valencia, CA 91355
Fax Number: (661) 294-3806

Notice shall be deemed given upon personal delivery or fax confirmation of receipt or 5 days after deposit in the U.S. mail, first class, postage prepaid, addressed as set out above.

Each person signing this MOU represents to have the necessary power and authority to bind the entity on behalf of which said person is signing and each of the other Parties can rely on that representation.

This MOU may be executed in counterparts, each counterpart being an integral part of this MOU.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto have caused this MOU to be executed by their respective officers, duly authorized:

Castaic Lake Water Agency/SCWD

By _____
Dan Masnada, General Manager

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
McCormick, Kidman and Behrens

By _____
Legal Counsel

SANTA CLARITA VALLEY SANITATION DISTRICT OF
LOS ANGELES COUNTY

By _____
Stephen R. Maguin, Chief Engineer
and General Manager

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
Lewis, Brisbois, Bisgaard & Smith

By _____
Legal Counsel

CITY OF SANTA CLARITA:

By _____
Ken Pulskamp, City Manager

Attest: City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
Burke, Williams & Sorensen, LLP

By _____
Legal Counsel

LOS ANGELES COUNTY FLOOD
CONTROL DISTRICT

By _____
Donald L. Wolfe, Director of Public Works

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

By _____
County Counsel

VALENCIA WATER COMPANY

By _____
Robert DiPrimio, President

NEWHALL COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

By _____
Steve Cole, General Manager

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

By _____
Legal Counsel

Such release shall extend to that pursuant to Civil Code Section 1542, which states: "A GENERAL RELEASE DOES NOT EXTEND TO CLAIMS WHICH THE CREDITOR DOES NOT KNOW OR SUSPECT TO EXIST IN HIS OR HER FAVOR AT THE TIME OF EXECUTING THE RELEASE, WHICH IF KNOWN BY HIM OR HER MUST HAVE MATERIALLY AFFECTED HIS OR HER SETTLEMENT WITH THE DEBTOR."

Initial: CLWA/ SCWD

DTM

Sanitation District

City

Flood Control District

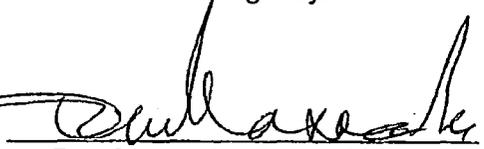
Water District

Water Company

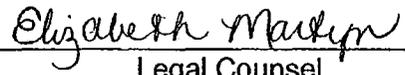
- h. Notwithstanding any provision of law, including but not limited to California Government Code Sections 895 et. seq., therein, any and all liability or expenses (including attorneys' and experts' fees and related costs) incurred by any party to this MOU as a result of claims by third parties and injury to third parties, arising from or relating to this MOU shall be equally allocated among the Parties. The parties shall not be responsible for any expenses that are as the result of the sole negligent or intentional acts or omission of another Party. The term "injury" shall have the meaning prescribed by Section 810.8 of the Government Code. This provision shall survive termination of this Agreement for a period not to exceed five years.
- i. If any provision of this MOU is held, determined or adjudicated to be illegal, void, or unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, the Parties agree that the remainder of this MOU shall be given effect to the fullest extent possible.
- j. The Parties' respective obligations under this agreement, in connection with the preparation and adoption of the Plan, are contingent upon and subject to the Group's compliance with the applicable procedural requirements of Section 10541 of the Act.
- k. If after the public hearing required by subsection (b) of Section 10541 of the Act, the minimum members needed to constitute a RWMG have not determined to prepare the Plan, all remaining funds deposited with the Agency by other Parties, for the preparation of the Plan, shall be refunded to the respective Parties in proportion to each Party's share of the Plan Consultant Costs, within sixty (60) days after the public hearing.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto have caused this MOU to be executed by their respective officers, duly authorized:

Castaic Lake Water Agency/SCWD

MBH
By 
Dan Masnada, General Manager

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
McCormick, Kidman and Behrens

By 
Legal Counsel

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Initial: CLWA/ SCWD _____
Sanitation District _____
City _____
Flood Control District _____
Water District _____
Water Company RJD

- h. Notwithstanding any provision of law, including but not limited to California Government Code Sections 895 et. seq., therein, any and all liability or expenses (including attorneys' and experts' fees and related costs) incurred by any party to this MOU as a result of claims by third parties and injury to third parties, arising from or relating to this MOU shall be equally allocated among the Parties. The parties shall not be responsible for any expenses that are as the result of the sole negligent or intentional acts or omission of another Party. The term "injury" shall have the meaning prescribed by Section 810.8 of the Government Code. This provision shall survive termination of this Agreement for a period not to exceed five years.
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VALENCIA WATER COMPANY

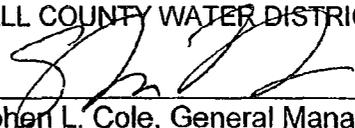
By Robert DiPrimio
Robert DiPrimio, President

Such release shall extend to that pursuant to Civil Code Section 1542, which states: "A GENERAL RELEASE DOES NOT EXTEND TO CLAIMS WHICH THE CREDITOR DOES NOT KNOW OR SUSPECT TO EXIST IN HIS OR HER FAVOR AT THE TIME OF EXECUTING THE RELEASE, WHICH IF KNOWN BY HIM OR HER MUST HAVE MATERIALLY AFFECTED HIS OR HER SETTLEMENT WITH THE DEBTOR."

Initial: CLWA/ SCWD _____
Sanitation District _____
City _____
Flood Control District _____
Water District *hml*
Water Company _____

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NEWHALL COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

By 
Stephen L. Cole, General Manager

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Initial: CLWA/ SCWD

Sanitation District

_____ *SM* _____

City

Flood Control District

Water District

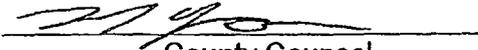
Water Company

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LOS ANGELES COUNTY FLOOD
CONTROL DISTRICT

By 
Donald L. Wolfe, Director of Public Works

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

By 
County Counsel

Such release shall extend to that pursuant to Civil Code Section 1542, which states: "A GENERAL RELEASE DOES NOT EXTEND TO CLAIMS WHICH THE CREDITOR DOES NOT KNOW OR SUSPECT TO EXIST IN HIS OR HER FAVOR AT THE TIME OF EXECUTING THE RELEASE, WHICH IF KNOWN BY HIM OR HER MUST HAVE MATERIALLY AFFECTED HIS OR HER SETTLEMENT WITH THE DEBTOR."

Initial: CLWA/ SCWD

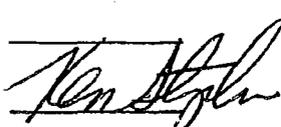
Sanitation District

City

Flood Control District

Water District

Water Company



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SANTA CLARITA VALLEY SANITATION DISTRICT OF
LOS ANGELES COUNTY

By Stephen R. Maguin
Stephen R. Maguin, Chief Engineer
and General Manager

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
Lewis, Brisbois, Bisgaard & Smith

By B. Richard Marsh
Legal Counsel

Such release shall extend to that pursuant to Civil Code Section 1542, which states: "A GENERAL RELEASE DOES NOT EXTEND TO CLAIMS WHICH THE CREDITOR DOES NOT KNOW OR SUSPECT TO EXIST IN HIS OR HER FAVOR AT THE TIME OF EXECUTING THE RELEASE, WHICH IF KNOWN BY HIM OR HER MUST HAVE MATERIALLY AFFECTED HIS OR HER SETTLEMENT WITH THE DEBTOR."

Initial: CLWA/ SCWD _____

Sanitation District _____

City _____

Flood Control District _____

Water District _____

Water Company _____

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CITY OF SANTA CLARITA:

By Ken Pulskamp
Ken Pulskamp, City Manager

Shirley Z. Jansen
Attest: City Clerk 5/7/07

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
Burke, Williams & Sorensen, LLP

By B. Williams
Legal Counsel

**Upper Santa Clara River
Integrated Regional Water Management Plan**

GROUNDRULES & OPERATING PROCEDURES

Purpose

The purpose of the stakeholder group is to provide advice and feedback to assist with the development of an Integrated Regional Water Management Plan for the Upper Santa Clara River.

Ground Rules for Participation

- A. Cooperate with the process, including the scope and intent of our planning effort together and specific agenda topics.
- B. Work toward shared goals, proposing strategies that relate to the goals and may be acceptable to all stakeholders.
- C. Base your opinions, ideas and comments on facts and experience rather than perception.
- D. Wait to be recognized by the facilitator before you speak.
- E. Participate fully in the group discussion.
- F. Keep your comments brief and constructive.
- G. Focus on issues instead of people or personalities.
- H. Reference the past if needed, but look to the future.
- I. Be respectful of differing perspectives and opinions.
- J. Stay with the topic at hand or hold your comment and yield to someone who has a comment on the topic at hand.
- K. Be open to new ideas and be expansive in your thinking.

Operating Procedures

1. Stakeholders will abide by the agreed upon participation groundrules and operating procedures during this process.
2. We will strive for mutual agreement but note when we have a minority opinion.
3. Stakeholders are encouraged to participate consistently and attend all meetings. If unable to attend, a Stakeholder may send an alternate to ensure the organization's consistent participation.
4. Stakeholders who are participating based on their organizational affiliation represent the organization; their opinions should be consistent with and as authorized by the organization.
5. Meeting summaries will be prepared by the facilitators, and will include major points of discussion, agreements and areas of disagreement.
6. Stakeholders will receive meeting materials 10 days before the meeting to allow for advance review.
7. Stakeholders will provide review and comment during the timeframes requested.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") is entered into effective August 20, 2001, by and among Castaic Lake Water Agency ("CLWA"), CLWA's Santa Clarita Water Division ("SCWC"), Newhall County Water District ("NCWD"), Valencia Water Company ("VWC") and Los Angeles County Waterworks District No. 36 ("LACWD"), which are collectively referred to as the "Upper Basin Water Purveyors" and United Water Conservation District "UWCD", hereinafter referred together as the "parties."

RECITALS

WHEREAS, UWCD is a public agency that encompasses approximately 214,000 acres of land located in central Ventura County. UWCD's service area covers the downstream portion of the Santa Clara River Valley in Ventura County, as well as the Oxnard Plain (sometimes referred to as the "Lower Santa Clara River Area"). UWCD manages surface and groundwater resources within seven groundwater basins in the Lower Santa Clara River Valley Area. UWCD's Boundary is shown on Figure 1-1; and,

WHEREAS, the Upper Basin Water Purveyors meet regularly as a technical group to coordinate conjunctive use of imported, recycled and groundwater resources of the water basins east of the Los Angeles/ Ventura County line (sometimes referred to as the "Upper Santa Clara River Area"), which is located almost entirely within northwestern Los Angeles County. The respective services areas of the Upper Basin Water Purveyors members (CLWA, SCWC, NCWD, VWC and LACWD) are shown on Figure 1-2; and,

WHEREAS, UWCD has been involved in the review of water resources in both the Lower Santa Clara River Area and also the Upper Santa Clara River Area as part of UWCD's review of the Newhall Ranch Specific Plan and EIR (NRSP); and,

WHEREAS, litigation of the Newhall Ranch Specific Plan and EIR resulted in preparation of an additional analysis to the previously certified EIR for the NRSP, including the section addressing water resource issues; and,

WHEREAS, the Additional Analysis includes a water flow model and impact analyses of the future water usage projections for the Upper Santa Clara River Area; and,

WHEREAS, UWCD, Newhall Land and Farming Company (NLF) and others have had several technical meetings to further study the Additional Analysis as it relates to the water issues, and, based on this information, and further discussions between UWCD and the Upper Basin Water Purveyors, UWCD believes that it is in the best interests of the parties and the future beneficial water resources management in the upper and lower basins to enter into a cooperative working relationship among the parties; and,

WHEREAS, the parties have determined that this MOU is the best format for establishing a program that would be implemented over time for purposes of agreeing upon overall water resources management techniques and an information database that would benefit the upper and lower basins; and,

WHEREAS, this MOU is prepared by UWCD and the Upper Basin Water Purveyors because the parties believe that a cooperative water resource monitoring program in the Upper and Lower Santa Clara River Areas is desirable to protect and enhance the conjunctive use of imported water, groundwater and surface water resources within the region; and,

WHEREAS, the parties support regional water planning efforts that rely on the provision of accurate and timely information about available water resources; and,

WHEREAS, the parties to this MOU desire to create and maintain a cooperative relationship for purposes of gathering information for UWCD and the Upper Basin Water Purveyors to be used in further assessing imported water, surface water and groundwater conditions in both the Upper and Lower Santa Clara River Areas; and,

WHEREAS, the parties to this MOU intend to form a reciprocal relationship. In order to do this, UWCD will designate an individual or individuals with technical knowledge and experience appointed by the General Manager of UWCD who will be included in discussions and efforts that take place with the Upper Basin Water Purveyors and others regarding the Upper Santa Clara River Area. Likewise, the Upper Basin Water Purveyors will designate an individual or individuals with technical knowledge and experience appointed by the General Managers of the Upper Basin Purveyors who will be included in discussions and efforts with UWCD and others regarding the Lower Santa Clara River Area, and,

WHEREAS, the goal of the MOU is to establish a joint monitoring program, which includes: (a) data collection (monitoring and testing); (b) database management; (c) groundwater flow modeling; (d) assessment of groundwater basin conditions (operational yield); and (e) report preparation and presentation.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises and covenants herein contained, the parties to this MOU agree as follows:

- 1.1 **Program Monitoring.** The parties will participate in a joint monitoring program.
- 1.2 **Program Content.** The technical aspects of this joint monitoring program are set forth in a technical memorandum entitled, "Water Resource Monitoring Program Upper Santa Clara River Area," (Program) which is attached as Exhibit 1 and incorporated by this reference.
- 1.3 **Program Meetings.** The General Manager or President of each party to this MOU (or their designee) shall meet as the "Program Committee" within 30 days of the execution of this MOU. The "Program Committee" will establish appropriate subcommittees to initiate the Program and determine the meeting times and locations for the committees. The Program Committee and subcommittees will discuss and coordinate technical aspects of the Program, including the gathering, interpretation and reporting of information as outlined in the technical memorandum (Exhibit 1). Other attendees may be permitted by agreement of the parties to this MOU.

- 1.4 **Monitoring Costs.** The costs incurred in administrating the Monitoring Program will be determined as implementation of the Program takes place. However, it is understood that, unless the parties to this MOU agree otherwise, the Upper River monitoring costs of the program will be borne by the Upper Basin Water Purveyors because such monitoring will take place within their service areas and the Lower River monitoring costs of the program will be borne by UWCD because such monitoring will take place within its service area.
- 1.5 **Program Implementation.** The parties to this MOU have prepared a schedule, attached as Exhibit 2, that describes the tasks and estimated time to implement the Program. The Parties acknowledge that Program Implementation will be an on-going and evolving process and may change due to future amendments to the Program, challenging technical issues or other unforeseen circumstances.
- 1.6 **Water Rights.** Notwithstanding the provisions of this MOU, nothing in either this MOU or the technical memorandum (Exhibit 1) shall be construed as affecting the water rights or operations of any party, person or entity.
- 1.7 **Term.** This MOU shall remain in effect for an initial period of seven (7) years and shall be automatically renewed for additional one year increments unless otherwise unanimously terminated by the members of the Program Committee as that committee exists at the time action is taken to terminate this MOU.
- 1.8 **Counterparts.** This MOU may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which, when so executed, will be deemed to be an original and all of which taken together will constitute one and the same agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this MOU as of the date first set forth above.

United Water Conservation District

By Dana L. Whitcomb
General Manager

Castaic Lake Water Agency

By Robert H. Longhorn
General Manager

Newhall County Water District

By Karen J. Russell
General Manager

Valencia Water Company

By Robert J. Durio
President

Santa Clarita Water Company

By W. J. Manetta
President

Los Angeles County Waterworks District
No. 36

By Dawn E. Hothorn
County of Los Angeles