



Upper Santa Clara River Proposition 84 IRWM Plan Implementation Grant Attachment 1 Authorization and Eligibility Requirements

Authorizing Documentation

Attached (Att1_IG2_Eligible_2 of 5) is the resolution adopted on February 27, 2013 by the Castaic Lake Water Agency Board of Directors authorizing the General Manager, or designee, to submit a Proposition 84 Round 2 Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Implementation Grant proposal with the California Department of Water Resources.

Eligible Applicant Documentation

1. *Is the applicant a local public agency as defined in Appendix B of the 2012 Guidelines? Please explain.*

Yes. The applicant for the Integrated Regional Water Management Implementation Grant is the Castaic Lake Water Agency (CLWA). CLWA is a public agency, as defined in Appendix B of the Guidelines, which is defined as any city, county, city and county, special district, joint powers authority, or other political subdivision of the State, a public utility as defined in Sections 216 of the Public Utilities Code, or a mutual water company as defined in Section 2725 of the Public Utilities Code (California Water Code § Section 10535). The CLWA is a public agency formed and established by the California State Legislature in 1962 for the principal purpose of providing imported Northern California water for use within and adjacent to the Santa Clarita Valley (refer CWC Appendix § Section 103).

2. *What is the statutory or other legal authority under which the applicant was formed and is authorized to operate?*

Applicant was formed and is authorized to operate pursuant to California Water Code Appendix, Chapter 103 adopted in 1962.

3. *Does the applicant have legal authority to enter into a grant agreement with the State of California?*

Yes. The CLWA has the legal authority to enter into a grant agreement as cited in the February 27, 2013 resolution, which is attached (Att1_IG2_Eligible_2 of 5). The resolution authorizes the CLWA to file an application for a Round 2 Proposition 84 IRWM Implementation Grant, designates the CLWA as the authorized representative to file the application with the California Department of Water Resources and authorizes CLWA to execute an agreement with the State of California for an IRWM Implementation Grant.

4. *Describe any legal agreements among partner agencies and/or organizations that ensure performance of the Proposal and tracking of funds.*

CLWA may enter into an agreement with an outside entity to assist with grant administration functions. Such an agreement would be prepared upon award of the Proposition 84 funds to ensure performance of the proposal and the tracking of funds. Should CLWA enter into a grant agreement with the State, the scope of work contained herein will become a requirement and will be submitted along with other items required by the grant contract.

Also, per the IRWM Plan 2012 Guidelines, a Regional Water Management Group (RWMP) is defined as a *group in which three or more local agencies, at least two of which have statutory authority over water supply or water management, ... participate by means of a joint powers agreement, Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), or other written agreement, as appropriate, that is approved by the governing bodies of those local agencies.* The members of the RWMP include all the proponents applying for funds within this grant application and include: (1) Castaic Lake Water Agency, (2) Santa Clarita Water Division of Castaic Lake Water Agency, (3) Newhall County Water District, (4) Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District of Los Angeles County, and (5) City of Santa Clarita.

Groundwater Compliance

The projects being proposed in this grant application will enhance the reliability of existing supplies within the Santa Clarita Valley by reducing water demand and increasing water supply and improves water quality. None of the projects proposed in this application will have a direct impact on the underlying groundwater within the basin.



**Upper Santa Clara River Proposition 84 IRWM Plan Implementation Grant
Attachment 1 Authorization and Eligibility Requirements**

However, because they will enhance the overall reliability of the region’s local supplies, an indirect benefit of reduced reliance on the resource will be demonstrated. Table 1-1 shows the potential indirect impact these projects may have to the underlying groundwater.

CLWA prepared a groundwater management plan in accordance with the provisions of Water Code Section 10753.7, which was originally enacted by AB 3030, for its wholesale service area.

The general contents of CLWA’s groundwater management plan (GWMP) were outlined in 2002, and a detailed plan was drafted and adopted in 2003. A copy of the GWMP is provided as (Att1_IG2_Eligible_3of5).

TABLE 1-1: GWMP COMPLIANCE

| Proposal Projects | Potential Groundwater Impact (positive or negative and justification) |
|--|--|
| Santa Clarita Valley Water Use Efficiency Strategic Plan Programs (CLWA-3) | Positive, project reduces demand, thereby decreasing the SCV’s dependence on groundwater, allowing for better conjunctive use of the groundwater basin. |
| Santa Clarita Water Division Water Use Efficiency Programs (SCWD-2) | Positive, project reduces demand, thereby decreasing the SCV’s dependence on groundwater, allowing for better conjunctive use of the groundwater basin. |
| Foothill Feeder Connection (CLWA-8) | Positive, project creates flexibility in conveying water supply, decreasing dependence on groundwater. |
| Pellet Water Softening Treatment Plant - Phase 1 (NCWD-2) | Positive, project improves the water quality of potable water and ultimately reclaimed water effluent discharged to groundwater. |
| Automatic Water Softener Rebate and Public Outreach Program (SCVSD-1) | Positive, project improves the water quality of reclaimed water effluent discharged to groundwater. |
| Upper Santa Clara River (USCR) Arundo/Tamarisk Removal Program (SCARP) Implementation (SC-1) | Positive, project increases reliability of groundwater resource by protecting the recharge area, replacing high water use non-native plants with natives and improves the water quality. |

Progress on Meeting Current IRWM Plan Standards

The USCR IRWM Plan is in the process of being updated and completion is anticipated no later than late 2013. The following is a demonstration of how the USCR IRWM Region will adopt an IRWM Plan that meets the IRWM Plan Standards contained in Appendix C of the 2012 Guidelines, based on Table 1 of the IRWM Grant Program Proposal Solicitation Package for Round 2.

The following subsections identify, by Proposition 84 Standard, a status update as to where the IRWM Plan stands in terms of compliance with each of the sixteen separate standards and indicates where more work is necessary or where modification of the IRWM Plan is desired.

Governance

Will the governance structure need to be altered in the Updated IRWM Plan in order to ensure that balanced access and opportunity for participation in the IRWM effort is provided?

Status

Standard will be met with plan language being revised or amended with Planning Grant Round 1 funds. Revised plan anticipated (late 2013).



Upper Santa Clara River Proposition 84 IRWM Plan Implementation Grant Attachment 1 Authorization and Eligibility Requirements

Update

The RWMG governance structure is based on an intention to ensure balanced representation across the IRWM Plan'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, Santa Clarita Water Division of Castaic Lake Water Agency, Los Angeles County Flood Control District, Newhall County Water District, Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District of Los Angeles County, City of Santa Clarita, Valencia Water Company, and the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles San Gabriel Rivers and Mountains Conservancy. The RWMG's governance structure involves cooperation from the public, stakeholders, project proponents, and RWMG members. In general, the RWMG monitors IRWM Plan 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 IRWM Plan) are brought to the stakeholders, and a decision is sought through a collaborative process, with stakeholders voting on the decision if needed. Through the IRWM Plan process, entities have built working relationships that guide ongoing IRWM Plan planning and implementation. Additionally, the governance structure for the Upper Santa Clara River IRWM Plan is designed to encourage regional participation and to accept project proposals on an ongoing basis.

Regional Description

Has the regional description changed significantly from the current IRWM Plan?

Status

Standard will be met with plan language being revised or amended with Planning Grant Round 1 funds. Revised plan anticipated (late 2013). A draft of the revised region description was provided to the stakeholders for review and comment on January 7, 2013.

Update

The IRWM Plan discusses the general impacts of climate change in its description of regional water resources and focuses on potential impacts of climate change on the reliability of supply from the State Water Project (SWP). Using Planning Grant funds received from Round 1, the region description has been updated to further identify the potential vulnerabilities to water resources from projected climate change. Climate change scenarios have been defined consistent with the 2011 Draft DWR SWP Reliability Report. Vulnerable watershed characteristics have been defined and include hydrology, watershed landscape, water supply and demand, groundwater recharge, ecosystem, and other characteristics such as weather, changes in the amount, intensity, timing, quality, and variability of runoff and recharge; and effects of sea level rise (on imported water supply by DWR). The region description has also been updated to include an assessment and ranking of these vulnerabilities.

Objectives

Will your objectives change from those in the current IRWM Plan? If so, how?

Status

Standard will be met with plan language being revised or amended with Planning Grant Round 1 funds. Revised plan anticipated (late 2013). Meetings to solicit Stakeholder review and revision of the objectives have taken place. A draft of the revised objectives chapter was provided to the stakeholders for review and comment on February 28, 2013.



Upper Santa Clara River Proposition 84 IRWM Plan Implementation Grant Attachment 1 Authorization and Eligibility Requirements

Update

The objectives in the IRWM Plan have been reviewed, revised, and updated by the Stakeholders. The IRWM Plan objectives were reviewed in the context of climate change with regard to potential for changes in the amount, intensity, timing, quality and variability of runoff and recharge in addition to the need to consider the effects of sea level rise on water supply conditions and to identify suitable adaptation measures.

Resource Management Strategies

Will the updated IRWM Plan consider the resource management strategies from the California Water Plan, Update 2009?

Status

Standard will be met with plan language being revised or amended with Planning Grant Round 1 funds. Revised plan anticipated (late 2013). Meetings to solicit Stakeholder review and revision of the resource management strategies have taken place. A draft of the revised resource management strategies chapter was provided to the stakeholders for review and comment on February 28, 2013.

Update

The adopted IRWM Plan currently evaluates the 24 water management strategies contained within the California Water Plan. Since the release of the 2009 Update of the California Water Plan, the following strategies have been added: Forest Management, Land Use Planning and Management (formerly Urban Land Use Management), and Improve Flood Management. The stakeholders considered these additional strategies at an IRWM Plan Stakeholder meeting in January (2012) and evaluated them for applicability to the Region.

Additionally, the IRWM Plan must identify and implement “No-Regrets” Adaptation Strategies to the general effects of climate change, such as meadow and forest restoration, flood plain protection, and water use efficiency. The Climate Change Technical Study has identified the “No-Regrets” Adaptation Strategies that will be most effective and appropriate for this Region.

Integration

Will the Updated IRWM Plan allow, encourage, and actively pursue integration in both the planning process and project formulation and implementation?

Status

Standard is met with existing plan language.

Update

The IRWM Plan has a successful framework to ensure collaboration between entities and integration of projects so as to achieve multiple benefits. The IRWM Plan meets the new standard and the update that is currently underway will continue to use this successful format for integration.

Impacts and Benefits

Standard will be met with plan language being revised or amended with Planning Grant Round 1 funds. Revised plan anticipated (late 2013). Based on the project schedule, a draft of the impacts and benefits chapter will be provided to the stakeholders in late March 2013.

Update

The IRWM Plan meets the majority of the new standard. However, the discussion is currently being updated to include the discussion of impacts and benefits between regions, as well as those directly affecting disadvantaged communities (DACs), Environmental Justice related concerns, and Native American tribal



Upper Santa Clara River Proposition 84 IRWM Plan Implementation Grant Attachment 1 Authorization and Eligibility Requirements

communities, and including the benefits of environmental stewardship in order to meet the standard completely.

Plan Performance and Monitoring

Status

Standard will be met with plan language being revised or amended with Planning Grant Round 1 funds. Revised plan anticipated (late 2013). Based on the project schedule, a draft of the plan performance and monitoring chapter will be provided to the stakeholders in late March 2013.

Update

The plan performance and monitoring discussion contained within the IRWM Plan meets the majority of the standard but is currently being updated to provide a discussion of policies and procedures that promote adaptive management with respect to the effects of climate change. The Stakeholders and RWMG have devoted monthly meetings to the discussion of updating existing data, IRWM Plan objectives, regional priorities, and statewide priorities for relevance and these are being modified as needed to ensure the overall IRWM Plan reflects regional changing needs. Additionally, potential projects have been reviewed and evaluated as part of the Update to ensure that the current plan objectives will be met and the resulting Plan Projects offer the greatest benefit possible. This ongoing review and update allow the plan to undergo “adaptive management”, e.g., allows the IRWM Plan to evolve to changing conditions, and incorporate new data (e.g., climate change vulnerabilities).

Data Management

Status

Standard will be met with plan language being revised or amended with Planning Grant Round 1 funds. Revised plan anticipated (late 2013). Based on the project schedule, a draft of the data management chapter will be provided to the stakeholders in late March 2013. Data obtained for the Upper Santa Clara River Salt and Nutrient Management Plan, Recycled Water Master Plan Update, and Update of the Santa Clarita Valley Water Use Efficiency Strategic Plan will be used to address data deficiencies identified in the Plan.

Update

Using Planning Grant funds received from Round 1, the IRWM Plan is currently being updated with a Data Management System that will help track and document the progress of IRWM Plan implementation and for storing and disseminating data from monitoring efforts. A discussion of how findings or “lessons learned” from project-specific monitoring efforts will be included to improve the RWMG’s ability to implement future projects in the IRWM Plan.

Finance

Status

Standard will be met with plan language being revised or amended with Planning Grant Round 1 funds. Revised plan anticipated (late 2013). Based on the project schedule, a draft of the finance chapter will be provided to the stakeholders in late March 2013.

Update

The IRWM Plan meets most of the new finance standard. However, the discussion is currently being updated to add an explanation of how operation and maintenance (O&M) costs for projects that implement the IRWM Plan would be covered and the certainty of O&M funding in order to meet the standard completely.



Upper Santa Clara River Proposition 84 IRWM Plan Implementation Grant Attachment 1 Authorization and Eligibility Requirements

Technical Analysis

Have any data gaps been identified and how will the Updated IRWM plan help fill the gaps?

Status

Standard will be met with plan language being revised or amended with Planning Grant Round 1 funds. Revised plan anticipated (late 2013). Based on the project schedule, a draft of the technical analysis will be provided to the stakeholders in late March 2013.

Update

The IRWM Plan meets most of the technical analysis standard. The IRWM Plan includes a detailed listing and categorization of the documents used to develop the baseline information and technical analyzes for the development of the IRWM Plan. Updating of the IRWM Plan includes a review of these documents and updating if necessary as well as identifying new relevant technical documents that should be reviewed to support the IRWM Plan. Given the new standards, the expanded scope of the technical analysis, and review of current planning documents, an updated report on deficiencies, priority for filling the gaps, and plan to address them are part of the current update process.

Relation to Local Water Planning

Will changes to the existing IRWM Plan be needed in order to improve coordination with local water use planning efforts?

Status

Standard is met with existing plan language.

Update

The IRWM Plan currently meets this standard. However, in order for the Plan to meet the requirements of the climate change standard, the IRWM Plan is being updated to consider and incorporate the water management issues and climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies from local planning documents.

Relation to Local Land Use Planning

Will changes to the existing IRWM Plan be needed in order to improve coordination with local land use planning efforts?

Status

Standard is met with existing plan language.

Update

The IRWM Plan currently meets this standard. However, in order for the Plan to meet the requirements of the climate change standard, the IRWM Plan is being updated to include a discussion of the region's demonstrated information sharing and collaboration with regional land planning efforts being undertaken in order to manage multiple water demands throughout the state, to adapt to water management systems to climate change, and potentially offset climate change impacts to water supply in California.

Stakeholder Involvement

Will changes or improvements to the stakeholder involvement process be needed to ensure effective stakeholder participation?

Status

Standard is met with existing plan language.



Upper Santa Clara River Proposition 84 IRWM Plan Implementation Grant Attachment 1 Authorization and Eligibility Requirements

Update

The IRWM Plan currently meets this standard. The IRWM Plan was developed and continues to operate via a broad public process focused on outreach through meetings, community events, direct emails, mailings, and face to face interaction to maintain Stakeholder involvement. Stakeholders, including DACs, were and continue to be able to directly interact with the IRWM Plan by adding projects to the list of Candidate Projects for implementation of the IRWM Plan, assisting in development and updating of the resource management strategies and objectives through consensus based interactive stakeholder meetings. To date, nine Stakeholder meetings and eight Regional Water Management Group meetings have been held, focused on the IRWM Plan Update.

Coordination

Has the RWMG identified a need for changes/improvements to the ongoing coordination efforts?

Status

Standard will be met with plan language being revised or amended with Planning Grant Round 1 funds. Revised plan anticipated (late 2013).

Update

The Plan update is benefiting from ongoing coordination with other adjacent planning regions including: the joint Climate Change Workshop that was sponsored between the Watershed Coalition of Ventura County (WCVC), USCR, and Santa Barbara County IRWM Plan Regions, the Watershed Awareness Month of May (2012) activities in which a number of IRWM Plan projects were highlighted within the watershed also co-sponsored by the USCR and WCVC IRWM Plan Regions, Joint meetings of the USCR and WCVC Lower Santa Clara River IRWM Plan groups, and the participation by both the WCVC and USCR IRWM Plan members in each other's regular Stakeholder meetings to ensure that the entire watershed is protected and managed appropriately.

Climate Change

Will the Updated IRWM Plan contain:

- *A climate change vulnerability assessment of the IRWM region that is at least equivalent to the qualitative check list assessment in the Climate Change Handbook for Regional Water Planning (Handbook)?*
- *A list of prioritized vulnerabilities derived from the vulnerability assessment and the IRWM's decision making process?*
- *A plan, program, or methodology for further data gathering/analyzing of the prioritized vulnerabilities?*

Status

Standard will be met with plan language being revised or amended with Planning Grant Round 1 funds. Revised plan anticipated (late 2013). A Climate Change Technical Study has been completed as part of the update. A draft of the Climate Change Technical Study was provided to the stakeholders for review and comment on February 28, 2013.

Update

Using Planning Grant funds received from Round 1, the RWMG has commissioned a Climate Change Technical Study that will identify vulnerability of the Region to climate change, evaluate potential climate change impacts, identify and evaluate potential adaptation strategies, and will made recommendations as to how to collect and utilize greenhouse gas emissions data within the IRWM Plan framework. The study will then be used to update the IRWM Plan so that it will meet the requirements of the climate change standard.



**Upper Santa Clara River Proposition 84 IRWM Plan Implementation Grant
Attachment 1 Authorization and Eligibility Requirements**

Eligibility for implementation grant funding is being established using an IRWM Plan adopted prior to September 30, 2008. The USCR IRWM RWMG, which is comprised of eight 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 the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (RMC) each adopted the IRWM Plan, and the group collectively adopted the IRWM Plan.

As shown in Table 1-2, the 2008 USCR IRWM Plan was adopted by each RWMG member, and the group collectively adopted the IRWM Plan; the dates of each adoption are identified below.

TABLE 1-2: REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT GROUP DATE OF ADOPTION OF THE 2008 UPPER SANTA CLARA RIVER IRWM PLAN

| Regional Water Management Group | Date Of Adoption |
|--|------------------|
| Castaic Lake Water Agency Governing Board | July 9, 2008 |
| City of Santa Clarita City Council | July 15, 2008 |
| Los Angeles County Department of Public Works Governing Board | August 5, 2008 |
| Newhall County Water District Governing Board | July 10, 2008 |
| Santa Clarita Water Division Governing Board | July 9, 2008 |
| Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District of Los Angeles County Governing Board | July 24, 2008 |
| Valencia Water Company Governing Board of Directors | July 11, 2008 |
| Rivers and Mountains Conservancy Governing Board | June 23, 2008 |

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.

Project Consistency with an Adopted IRWM Plan

Each project being proposed in this grant application is consistent with the USCR IRWM Plan; all six projects have been added to the IRWM Plan after adoption, but in accordance with the procedures in the adopted Plan and fully vetted by the Stakeholder group. Documentation from the Stakeholder group and RWMG supporting the inclusion of all six projects, which was held on December 18, 2012, is provided as Att1_IG2_Eligible_4 of 5.

Table 1-3 demonstrates how each project in the proposal meets the objectives established in the adopted USCR IRWM Plan.

**Project Proponents Intention to Adopt Updated USCR IRWM Plan
Consistency with an Adopted IRWM Plan**

The existing USCR IRWM Plan was adopted in July 2008 and represents the long-term efforts and collaboration of multiple agencies in the Upper Santa Clara River Watershed. In October 2011, the agencies that make up the RWMG of the USCR IRWM Plan, executed a memorandum of understanding to guide the update of the USCR IRWM Plan to meet the standards contained in the *2012 Integrated Regional Water Management Proposition 84 and 1E Guidelines*. To this end, the RWMG and other stakeholders have been meeting since November 2011 to revise the USCR IRWM Plan.

All project proponents of this grant Proposal are members of the USCR IRWM Plan RWMG. These include the following agencies:

1. Castaic Lake Water Agency



Upper Santa Clara River Proposition 84 IRWM Plan Implementation Grant Attachment 1 Authorization and Eligibility Requirements

2. Santa Clarita Water Division of Castaic Lake Water Agency
3. Newhall County Water District
4. Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District of Los Angeles County
5. City of Santa Clarita

As evidenced by the project proponents' participation in the RWMG and participation in the IRWM Plan revision, all of the project proponents intend to adopt the USCR IRWM Plan Update, once it is complete in late 2013. Once revisions are complete and the public has had the opportunity to review the plan, each proponent/agency will make a recommendation to its Board of Director's/Approving Council to adopt the Plan. Documentation of each project proponent's Letter of Intention to Adopt the Updated USCR IRWM Plan is provided as Att1_IG2_Eligible_5 of 5.



**Upper Santa Clara River Proposition 84 IRWM Plan Implementation Grant
Attachment 1 Authorization and Eligibility Requirements**

TABLE 1-3: CONSISTENCY WITH THE 2008 ADOPTED USCR IRWM PLAN

| IRWM Plan Objective | PROPOSAL PROJECTS | | | | | |
|--|--|---|-------------------------------------|---|---|--|
| | Santa Clarita Valley Water Use Efficiency Strategic Plan Programs (CLWA-3) | Santa Clarita Water Division Water Use Efficiency Programs (SCWD-2) | Foothill Feeder Connection (CLWA-8) | Pellet Water Softening Treatment Plant – Phase 1 (NCWD-2) | Automatic Water Softener Rebate and Public Outreach Program (SCVSD-1) | USCR Arundo/Tamarisk Removal Project (SCARP) Implementation (SC-1) |
| Integrate Water and Watershed Related Planning Efforts | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| Facilitate Regional Cooperation | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| Reduce Water Demand | ● | ● | | | ● | ● |
| Improve Operational Flexibility | ● | ● | ● | | | |
| Increase Water Supply | ● | ● | | | | ● |
| Improve Water Quality | ● | ● | | ● | ● | ● |
| Promote Resource Stewardship | ● | ● | | | ● | ● |