



**Attachment 9**  
*Program Preferences*

**Implementation Grant, Round 2**  
Coachella Valley IRWM  
Implementation Grant Proposal



## Coachella Valley Integrated Regional Water Management Implementation Grant Proposal – Round 2

### *Program Preferences*

Attachment 9 consists of the following item:

✓ **Program Preferences**

This attachment contains information regarding how this *Coachella Valley IRWM Implementation Grant Proposal - Round 2* assists the Coachella Valley region in meeting the Program Preferences set by PRC §75026.(b) and CWC §10544.

This attachment identifies the specific Program Preferences that the proposal will meet; describes the certainty that the Proposal will meet the Program Preferences; and details the breadth and magnitude to which the Program Preferences will be met.

#### Program Preferences, Certainty, and Breadth/Magnitude

The Program Preferences described in Section II.F of the 2012 Guidelines are those set forth in PRC §75026.(b) and CWC §10544. These preferences are summarized in Table 9-1.

**Table 9-1: Program Preferences and Statewide Priorities**

<b>Program Preferences</b>	<b>Statewide Priorities</b>
1. Include regional projects or programs	1. Drought Preparedness
2. Effectively integrate water management programs and projects within a hydrologic region identified in the California Water Plan; RWQCB region or subdivision; or other region or sub-region specifically identified by DWR	2. Use and Reuse Water More Efficiently
3. Effectively resolve significant water-related conflicts within or between regions	3. Climate Change Response Actions
4. Contribute to attainment of one or more of the objectives of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program	4. Expand Environmental Stewardship
5. Address critical water supply or water quality needs of disadvantaged communities within the region	5. Practice Integrated Flood Management
6. Effectively integrate water management with land use planning	6. Protect Surface Water and Groundwater Quality
7. For eligible SWFM funding, projects which: a) are not receiving State funding for flood control or flood prevention projects pursuant to PRC §5096.824 or §75034 or b) provide multiple benefits, including, but not limited to, water quality improvements, ecosystem benefits, reduction of instream erosion and sedimentation, and groundwater recharge	7. Improve Tribal Water and Natural Resources
8. Address Statewide priorities ( <i>see right</i> )	8. Ensure Equitable Distribution of Benefits



Each of the projects included within this Proposal are ready to proceed, and are listed within the Coachella Valley IRWM Region’s adopted project list which is housed in the online Project Database (<http://www.cvrwmg.org/projects.php>). These projects were selected by the Planning Partners and the Coachella Valley Regional Water Management Group (CVRWVG) in accordance with the project prioritization process described in *Chapter 7: Project Evaluation and Prioritization* of the IRWM Plan. As a result of the thorough analysis that was performed on these projects through the selection process and with respect to monitoring, assessment, and performance measures (refer to Attachment 6), it is fully certain that each of the projects included in this Proposal will provide the benefits described below.

The package of projects included in this proposal addresses six of the aforementioned Program Preferences on a local, regional, or statewide scale. These terms, used to define the breadth and magnitude to which each project addresses Program Preferences, are defined as follows:

- *Local*: Project benefits are focused locally within the project area.
- *Regional*: Project benefits extend throughout the Coachella Valley IRWM Region (Region).
- *Statewide*: Project benefits are widespread and will benefit not only the Region but other areas throughout California.

Table 9-2 below shows the Program Preferences that will be addressed by each of the projects within this Proposal, and demonstrates the magnitude and breadth to which each Program Preference will be addressed.

**Table 9-2: Proposed Projects and Program Preferences**

Proposed Projects	Program Preferences						
	Include Regional Projects or Programs	Integrate Water Management Programs and Projects	Resolve Significant Water-Related Conflicts	Contribute to Attainment of CALFED Bay-Delta Program Objectives	Address Critical Water Supply or Water Quality Needs of DACs	Integrate Water Management with Land Use Planning	Address Statewide Priorities
Non-Potable Water Use Expansion Program	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Coachella Valley Salt and Nutrient Management Program	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Groundwater Quality Protection Program – Subarea D-2		✓	✓		✓		✓
San Antonio del Desierto DAC Sewer Extension Project		✓	✓		✓		✓
Torres-Martinez Avenue 64 Water Supply Connection Project		✓	✓		✓		✓
<b>Degree of Certainty Preference will be Addressed</b>	<b>HIGH</b>	<b>HIGH</b>	<b>HIGH</b>	<b>HIGH</b>	<b>HIGH</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>HIGH</b>
<b>Magnitude and Breadth to Which Preference will be Addressed</b>	<b>Region</b>	<b>Region</b>	<b>Region</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Local</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>Region</b>



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### **Relation to the Implementation Grant Proposal**

The following sections demonstrate how this *Coachella Valley IRWM Implementation Grant Proposal - Round 2* will assist in meeting each of the Program Preferences listed within Section II.F of the 2012 IRWM Guidelines, as summarized within Table 9-2 above.

#### ***Program Preference: Include Regional Projects or Programs***

##### ***Non-Potable Water Use Expansion Program***

The *Non-Potable Water Use Expansion Program* includes expansion of the Region's Mid-Valley Pipeline (MVP) and Coachella Canal infrastructure to supply non-potable water to seven golf courses within the Region. These golf course conversion projects are part of a larger effort on behalf of the Region to expand the use of non-potable water for irrigation to achieve basin-wide groundwater recharge via source substitution. Further, while the Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD) owns and operates the MVP and Coachella Canal infrastructure, other agencies such as the Indio Water Authority and the Coachella Water Authority are interested in taking an active role in connecting potential customers within their service areas to available non-potable water infrastructure. Therefore, this program is considered regional in nature as it will serve groundwater users within eastern and western Valley, and will help to expand the Region's non-potable water infrastructure.

##### ***Coachella Valley Salt and Nutrient Management Program***

The *Coachella Valley Salt and Nutrient Management Program's* goal is to develop a Salt and Nutrient Management Plan (SNMP) for the Coachella Valley groundwater basin. This basin is a major source of water supply for the entire Region and protecting the water quality of the basin will benefit the entire region. The CVRWGM, made up of all five water purveyors in the Valley, are partnering on this important program to protect the basin. As such, this program is considered regional pursuant to CWC §10544 and it is fully certain that this project will adhere to this Program Preference on a regional level.

#### ***Program Preference: Effectively Integrate Water Management Programs and Projects within the Coachella Valley IRWM Region***

All of the projects included within this proposal would address the Program Preference of effectively integrating water management programs and projects within a hydrologic region specifically identified by DWR (the Coachella Valley IRWM Region). The Coachella Valley IRWM Region was specifically identified by DWR as part of a Region Acceptance Process that was submitted in April 2009.

Because this proposal has been found to be consistent with the Coachella Valley IRWM Plan (refer to Attachment 1), this proposal will effectively carry out the goals of the Plan, which includes coordinating and integrating water resource management (IRWM Goal 4) within the Region. In addition, each project included in this Proposal would meet at least one of the regionally-established objectives. Each objective was established upon reviewing the various goals, issues, and needs that currently exist within the Region. The consistency evaluation carried out in Attachment 1 shows that together, the five projects listed within this Proposal will either directly or indirectly address twelve of the thirteen IRWM Plan Objectives (Refer to Table 1-3 within Attachment 1).

Because this proposal will be consistent with the Coachella Valley IRWM Plan by fulfilling IRWM Goal 4 (Coordinate and integrate water resource management) and twelve of the thirteen Plan Objectives, it is fully certain that all five projects will adhere to this Program Preference throughout the Region (on a regional level). The following sections provide an in-depth explanation of why each of the projects listed within this Proposal will effectively integrate water management programs and projects within the Region.



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*Non-Potable Water Use Expansion Program*

The *Non-Potable Water Use Expansion Program* will serve to promote water conservation and protection of local resources by increasing the use of non-potable water for irrigation purposes. By leveraging unused capacity of non-potable systems and expanding the number of connections to users, this project will implement multiple strategies to ultimately decrease the use of potable water for non-potable purposes. The sites proposed for connection to the Mid Valley Pipeline and/or Coachella Canal non-potable distribution systems would be located in the service areas of several different agencies (CVWD, IWA, and CWA), thereby further integrating the partner agencies.

*Coachella Valley Salt and Nutrient Management Program*

This project will develop a SNMP for the Coachella Valley groundwater basin. This basin is an important source of water for the entire Region. In order to develop a SNMP, this project will draw on data collected throughout the Region, and use a technical team of experts from across the Region to review and assess data, groundwater characterizations, and salt/nutrient loading. This project will be an involved process utilizing a wide variety of resources throughout the Region, and aims to incorporate relevant data, appropriate and accurate descriptions of Regional and local issues and concerns, and recommend BMPs appropriate to the Region. All five of the CVRWMG agencies, as well as many other stakeholders interested in protection of groundwater quality, will be involved in both defining the basin characterizations and the strategies to protect it.

*Groundwater Quality Protection Program – Subarea D2*

This project continues to build on the work completed by the *Groundwater Quality Protection Program – Desert Hot Springs* from Proposition 84-Round 1. That project occurred in the D1 Subarea, immediately adjacent to this project's location (Subarea D2). This project would reduce the threat that densely located and/or failing septic systems pose to groundwater quality within the Desert Hot Springs Sub-Basin. This is an expansive sub-basin which sustains a local economy of hot water users. Due to its size, groundwater quality within this sub-basin could potentially impact drinking water supplies in the adjacent Mission Creek Subbasin that is used by MSWD. By reducing threats to municipal groundwater quality, this program effectively integrates water management projects within the Coachella Valley.

*San Antonio del Desierto DAC Sewer Extension Project*

The *San Antonio del Desierto DAC Sewer Extension Project* is a community-driven project designed to protect human and environmental health and safety. It will provide sewer connections for a severely DAC (San Antonio del Desierto Mobile Home Park) and allow for the abandonment of currently used but poorly designed sewer lagoons. This project will serve to protect surface and groundwater from contamination from the lagoons, which are improperly lined and have unstable dikes. This serves multiple benefits of human health, environmental health, and protecting an important source of irrigation water, which is vital to the local economy.

*Torres-Martinez Avenue 64 Water Supply Connection Project*

This project represents an important effort to build relationships with local Tribes. The project will design a pipeline and connection between CVWD and the Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians that will allow the Tribe to disconnect their existing inadequate and unsafe well system. This project builds upon work completed in a Preliminary Engineering Report, and will allow the Tribe to seek future funding sources to implement the design developed in this project. The design itself will incorporate CVWD's portion of the necessary infrastructure, and the portion of infrastructure on Tribal lands, providing for opportunities to address common goals and issues. In addition to the benefits of the project, the Tribe qualifies as a DAC, and this project represents an important effort in reaching out to DACs and Tribes to ensure an equitable distribution of benefits.



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***Program Preference: Effectively Resolve Significant Water-Related Conflicts Within or Between Regions***

The Coachella Valley IRWM Plan provides an overview of the significant water-related conflicts within the Region. This section states that, “major water-related conflicts have generally revolved around groundwater recharge and pumping activities and associated assessments.” Groundwater issues were likely identified as the major source of water-related conflicts within the Region, because groundwater constitutes the Region’s primary urban water supply source. Due to the importance of groundwater within the Region, groundwater quality and supply availability are critically important to the entire Region, and therefore constitute the primary source of water-related conflicts. Each of the projects listed within this Proposal aims at improving groundwater supply, quality, and groundwater-related drinking water quality within the Region, and therefore each project will aim to help resolve this significant water-related conflict within the Region.

In addition, the IRWM Plan Objectives were established as a result of an open and transparent stakeholder process, where all CVRWMG members, Planning Partners entities, DAC and Tribal Issues Groups entities, and other stakeholders were invited to voice their significant issues and conflicts within the Region. Together, the five projects will address twelve of the thirteen IRWM Plan Objectives, and will therefore effectively resolve significant water-related conflicts addressed by a comprehensive stakeholder group within the Region.

*Non-Potable Water Use Expansion Program*

This project will address groundwater overdraft by reducing groundwater demand through expansion of non-potable water infrastructure to serve additional clients. Reducing groundwater demand may reduce the need to increase recharge and pumping activities in the future, thereby resolving significant water-related conflicts regarding groundwater recharge and pumping activities. In addition, this program may involve two other water agencies, promoting ongoing collaboration between three water purveyors. This type of collaboration will also potentially reduce conflicts by heightening relationships between regional agencies. It is fully certain that this program will address the Program Preference of effectively resolving significant water-related conflicts within or between regions.

*Coachella Valley Salt and Nutrient Management Program*

The *Coachella Valley Salt and Nutrient Management Program* will draft an SNMP using comprehensive data sets for the Coachella Valley groundwater basin. It will involve stakeholders and experts, opening communication between different groups. In this way, it will establish an agreed-upon set of standards for salt and nutrient loading, reducing future conflicts over water quality standards. Additionally, this project will meet the State requirement of having a SNMP for groundwater basins, reducing conflicts with the State and within the Region relating to salt and nutrient loading and management practices.

*Groundwater Quality Protection Program – Subarea D2*

Individual domestic septic tanks were identified in the issues sections of the Coachella Valley IRWM Plan. The issues identified with respect to individual domestic septic tanks include potential nitrate percolation from failing systems, and lack of sewer infrastructure to serve DAC communities. The program directly addresses both of the aforementioned issues by replacing septic tanks with sewer connections in areas that have known groundwater quality issues and contain neighborhoods that qualify as DACs. As such, it is fully certain that this program will address the Program Preference of effectively resolving significant water-related conflicts.

*San Antonio del Desierto DAC Sewer Extension Project*

This project will provide necessary wastewater infrastructure to an economically disadvantaged mobile home park to facilitate future procurement of a Conditional Use Permit for the mobile home park from the



County of Riverside. Therefore, the project will help to effectively resolve conflicts related to provision of affordable housing that is also compliant with applicable regulations pertaining to infrastructure.

#### *Torres-Martinez Avenue 64 Water Supply Connection Project*

This project will contribute to the reduction of groundwater demand through engineering a planned expansion of water mains to Tribal lands that are currently on wells. This will allow the Tribe to cease pumping groundwater, and may reduce the need to increase recharge and pumping activities in the future, thereby resolving significant water-related conflicts regarding groundwater recharge and pumping activities. In addition, this program involves coordination between CVWD and the Tribe, which may potentially reduce conflicts by heightening relationships between the agency and the Tribe. It is fully certain that this program will address the Program Preference of effectively resolving significant water-related conflicts within or between regions.

#### ***Program Preference: Contribute to Attainment of One or More of the Objectives of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program***

The CALFED Bay-Delta Program has the following four objectives: Water Quality, Water Supply, Ecosystem Restoration, and Levee Integrity (<http://calwater.ca.gov/>).

- *Water Quality*: the objective of this program is to invest in projects that improve the state's water quality from source to tap.
- *Water Supply*: this objective is comprised of five critical elements: conveyance, storage, environmental water account, water use efficiency and water transfer. Together and in partnership with local and regional agencies, this program allows for the increase of water supplies and more efficient and flexible use of water resources.
- *Ecosystem Restoration*: this objective aims at restoring and protecting habitats, ecosystem functions, and native species.
- *Levee Integrity*: the objective of this program is to protect water supplies needed for ecosystems, cities, industry, and farms by reducing levee failures that would lead to seawater intrusion.

As described below, the five projects contained within this Proposal will meet two of the four objectives: water quality and water supply.

#### *Non-Potable Water Use Expansion Program*

This program will meet the Water Supply objective of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program by maximizing the use of local water to meet existing and future demand. This program will increase water use efficiency in the Coachella Valley Region, thereby potentially reducing future increased demands for water supplies from the Bay-Delta. In addition, this program will allow for more efficient use of water resources through source substitution (matching non-potable supplies to irrigation uses). Due to the conservation-oriented nature of this program, the Region's current reliance on Bay-Delta water, and the degree to which this project was analyzed, it is fully certain that this project will provide water supply benefits as described within the CALFED Bay-Delta Program. Due to the connection between the Coachella Valley and imported water from the Bay-Delta, this program will provide water supply benefits at a statewide level.

#### *Coachella Valley Salt and Nutrient Management Program*

This program will meet the Water Quality objective of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program. It will draft a comprehensive SNMP for the Coachella Valley groundwater basin, which will assess salt/nutrient loading and trends, identify water management goals and strategies, and evaluate anti-degradation strategies. This will serve to protect and potentially improve water quality in the Region. Due to the Region's current reliance on Bay-Delta water, improvements to local water that is blended with Bay-Delta water will improve water quality delivered to customers, or reduce the cost of treating potable water. This meets the Water Quality Program goal of improving water quality from source to tap.



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***Program Preference: Address Critical Water Supply or Water Quality Needs of Disadvantaged Communities within the Region***

Critical water supply or water quality needs of DACs within the Region were addressed through the development of the Coachella Valley IRWM Plan. While developing the Plan, the CVRWGM and Planning Partners formed a DAC Issues Group that was created to address specific water-related needs of DACs within the Region. The IRWM Plan identifies the specific water-related needs of DACs as water affordability, the need for connections to municipal sewer and water systems, poor groundwater quality, and flooding hazards. This Proposal addresses four of the five topics above (all but flooding). The projects within this Proposal that address critical water supply and/or water quality needs of DACs within the region are discussed below.

***Groundwater Quality Protection Program – Subarea D2***

The *Groundwater Quality Protection Program – Subarea D2* directly addresses water quality and sanitation needs of DACs by providing for expansion of the municipal sewer system. This program addresses sanitation needs relative to failing and/or densely located septic tank systems and therefore protects groundwater quality by eliminating the potential for septic tank effluent to reach the groundwater supply. This program also addresses critical water supply needs of DACs by protecting potable groundwater sources from contamination.

***San Antonio del Desierto DAC Sewer Extension Project***

This project directly addresses critical water quality and sanitation needs of DACs by providing sewer connection for the St. Anthony’s Mobile Home Park. This will allow for abandonment of existing sewer lagoons. These lagoons are located 150 feet from residences, are improperly lined, and have unstable dikes. They represent a risk to groundwater quality and public health, and have experienced spills in the past. This is an important project that will significantly improve the health and safety conditions of the severely disadvantaged families living in the mobile home park.

***Torres-Martinez Avenue 64 Water Supply Connection Project***

The pipeline that this project will engineer will serve a Tribe that is currently using wells for its water supply. This will address critical water quality and water supply needs of a DAC because these wells and their related infrastructure have been documented as posing a critical risk to human health and safety by the USEPA. The Tribe experiences multiple unscheduled water outages per month, have an insufficient backup water source, failing infrastructure (including an inoperable fire pump), corroded electronics, a risk for tank explosion, an inability to properly treat backup well water, and concerning levels of percholate and chromium. Designing a connection to CVWD’s water system will allow the Tribe to abandon their unsafe infrastructure, and provide reliable access to sufficient and safe water supplies.

***Program Preference: Effectively Integrate Water Management with Land Use Planning***

***Non-Potable Water Use Expansion Program***

This program involves the provision of non-potable water for irrigation purposes in place of localized groundwater pumping. Therefore, this program involves matching quality to use by using non-potable water for irrigation rather in place of high-quality groundwater. Matching quality to use is considered a land use planning feature as water resources of varying qualities are generally matched by land use (i.e. non-potable water is appropriate for golf courses). Further, the *Non-Potable Water Use Expansion Program* relies upon land use information to identify applicable conversion candidates, which are identified based on land use (agricultural or landscape irrigation) and proximity to existing non-potable water infrastructure.

***Coachella Valley Salt and Nutrient Management Program***



This program involves work required to complete a SNMP in accordance with the Recycled Water Policy, which will include conducting an anti-degradation analysis for the Region’s groundwater basin. An anti-degradation analysis involves analyzing various salt and nutrient loadings as a function of land use type and other applicable factors. As such, this program will effectively integrate water management for water quality purposes with land use planning.

**Program Preference: Address Statewide Priorities**

This proposal will either directly or indirectly address every Statewide priority with the exception of priority four: practice integrated flood management. Table 9-3 below demonstrates which Statewide priorities are addressed by each of the projects or programs included within this proposal, and to what degree (either directly or indirectly). Each project submitted as part of the Coachella Valley IRWM Plan was evaluated for its consistency with Statewide priorities as part of the plan development process. As such, based on the level of analysis for each project with respect to meeting Statewide priorities, it is fully certain that each of these projects, and therefore the Proposal will achieve the Statewide priorities. Due to the regional emphasis of this proposal, the benefits that will occur from meeting Statewide priorities are expected to occur at a regional level (throughout the Coachella Valley).

**Table 9-3: Proposed Projects and Programs with Statewide Priorities**

Proposed Projects	Drought Preparedness	Reuse Water More Efficiently	Climate Change Response Actions	Expand Environmental Stewardship	Practice Integrated Flood Management	Protect Surface/ Groundwater Quality	Improve Tribal Water/Natural Resources	Ensure Equitable Distribution of Benefits
Non-Potable Water Use Expansion Program	●	●	○			●	○	○
Coachella Valley Salt and Nutrient Management Program		○		●		●	○	○
Groundwater Quality Protection Program – Subarea D-2		○				●		●
San Antonio del Desierto DAC Sewer Extension Project		○		○		●		●
Torres-Martinez Avenue 64 Water Supply Connection Project			○			●	●	●

○ indirectly related; ● directly related

*Non-Potable Water Use Expansion Program*

The statewide priorities achieved by the *Non-Potable Water Use Expansion Program* are described in detail below.

- *Drought Preparedness*: This program will promote water use efficiency. Reducing groundwater demand will make the Region better prepared for situations in which water supply availability is lower than average by reducing groundwater overdraft. Because groundwater is the main source of drinking water in the region, this will provide for more reliable local water supply.
- *Use and Reuse Water More Efficiently*: This program will match water use to water type. In this case, using non-potable water for non-potable purposes (irrigation). This is a more efficient use of water than using treated, potable water for irrigation purposes, which is currently the case.
- *Climate Change Response Actions*: This project may indirectly address key climate change issues by reducing groundwater overdraft. Reduced groundwater demand could cut energy consumption related to groundwater pumping and use, thereby decreasing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. It will also reduce the amount of treated water being used for irrigation, and therefore reduce GHG emissions related to water treatment.



- *Protect Surface/Groundwater Quality*: This program will reduce overdraft, which is known to have a deteriorating effect on groundwater quality therefore protecting groundwater quality.
- *Improve Tribal Water and Natural Resources*: This program will reduce groundwater pumping for irrigation purposes, therefore making local groundwater available for other users, including Native American tribes.
- *Ensure Equitable Distribution of Benefits*: This program will reduce overdraft, which will benefit the entire Region. Further, this project will help to maintain the affordability of water through the provision of non-potable water, which is provided at a reduced rate to users.

#### *Coachella Valley Salt and Nutrient Management Program*

The statewide priorities achieved by the *Coachella Valley Salt and Nutrient Management Program* are described in detail below.

- *Use and Reuse Water More Efficiently*: This program will facilitate current and future use of recycled water throughout the Region. Recycled water used for irrigation is more efficient than using potable water for the same purpose, which would occur without this program.
- *Expand Environmental Stewardship*: The project will directly expand environmental stewardship by the water purveyors and participating stakeholders through development of a salt and nutrient management plan for the Coachella Valley basin. This project will determine sources of salts and nutrients, develop guidelines on acceptable levels based on beneficial uses, and evaluate BMPs to ensure compliance with these levels. All of these activities will help protect regional water bodies.
- *Protect Surface/Groundwater Quality*: This project will help protect water quality by evaluating sources of salts and nutrients, determining appropriate levels of salts and nutrients in water bodies to protect beneficial uses, and recommend BMPs to maintain safe levels of salts and nutrients.
- *Improve Tribal Water and Natural Resources*: Salt and nutrient management is a concern to tribes in the Region who utilize the local groundwater supply. Collaboration with the tribes to address groundwater quality through this program will help to address tribal concerns relating to groundwater quality.
- *Ensure Equitable Distribution of Benefits*: This program will reduce overdraft, which will benefit the entire Region. Further, this project will help to maintain the affordability of water through the provision of recycled water, which is provided at a reduced rate to users.

#### *Groundwater Quality Protection Project – Subarea D2*

The statewide priorities achieved by the *Groundwater Quality Protection Program-Subarea D2* are described in detail below.

- *Use and Reuse Water More Efficiently*: By converting septic tanks to sewer systems, this program will potentially increase the amount of wastewater supplies available for future reuse. Therefore, this project will potentially increase water reuse by diverting wastewater from septic tanks to water reclamation facilities.
- *Protect Surface/Groundwater Quality*: By eliminating failing or densely located septic systems in an area with known groundwater quality issues, this project will protect and potentially improve groundwater quality by removing a known contamination source.
- *Ensure Equitable Distribution of Benefits*: This project will address a critical water quality issue of a DAC by removing users in the D2 subarea from septic and converting them to sewer. This subarea qualifies as a DAC with an MHI under \$48,706. Portions of the City of Desert Hot Springs have septic tank densities 2.3 to 2.8 times higher than the densities recommended by the RWQCB, which pose a threat to the groundwater quality of the Desert Hot Springs sub-basin. Converting from septic to sewer will protect water quality in the sub-basin, and human health in



the area. This sub-basin also provides natural hot water to fuel the city's spa-dependent economy; therefore, protection of its water quality will also serve to protect the local economy.

#### *San Antonio del Desierto DAC Sewer Extension Project*

- *Use and Reuse Water More Efficiently:* By converting septic tanks to sewer systems, this program will potentially increase the amount of wastewater supplies available for future reuse. Therefore, this project will potentially increase water reuse by diverting wastewater from septic tanks to water reclamation facilities.
- *Expand Environmental Stewardship:* This project will divert flows from onsite wastewater lagoons to the CVWD municipal water system. Therefore, the project will divert untreated wastewater from flowing into the Salton Sea or to the Torres-Martinez wetlands located adjacent to the Salton Sea. Wastewater from the project will either be treated to secondary levels and discharged to the Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel, or will be treated to tertiary levels and reused as recycled water. Therefore, the project will expand environmental stewardship by improving the quality of water entering the environment.
- *Protect Surface/Groundwater Quality:* This project will protect surface and groundwater quality by allowing for the abandonment of four sewer lagoons. There is a risk of groundwater contamination from improper lining of the lagoons, and a risk for both groundwater and surface water contamination from unstable dikes around the lagoons. This provides potential for major lagoon spills, and past lagoon overflows are well documented.
- *Ensure Equitable Distribution of Benefits:* This project addresses the wastewater treatment needs of two DACs – the St. Anthony's Mobile Home Park, and the Huerta Mobile Home Park. It will connect these communities to the sewer system, and allow for the abandonment of sewer lagoons located only 150 feet from residences. This will serve to protect human health, as well as surface and groundwater quality in the area, and replaces a failing septic system with a system that provides for the long term wastewater treatment needs of the community.

#### *Torres-Martinez Avenue 64 Water Supply Connection Project*

- *Climate Change Response Actions:* By engineering a way to remove the Tribe from dependence on wells and unsafe infrastructure, this project will indirectly address climate change response actions. It will reduce groundwater overdraft, providing for a more reliable local water supply. The Tribe experiences frequent water supply outages, which may increase in the future due to climate change. This project will reduce both causes and concerns about water supply outages. Additionally, this project will leave old infrastructure in place, in the event of future conversion of said infrastructure to non-potable use. This will help indirectly respond to climate change by increasing water use efficiency and reducing energy consumption.
- *Protect Surface/Groundwater Quality:* This project will reduce overdraft, which is known to have a deteriorating effect on groundwater quality. It will therefore protect groundwater quality and supplies within the Coachella Valley groundwater basin.
- *Improve Tribal Water and Natural Resources:* This project will involve the Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians, and allow for abandonment of unsafe water supply infrastructure on Tribal lands. It will engineer a connection from a reliable, safe water supply (CVWD's infrastructure) to the Tribe.
- *Ensure Equitable Distribution of Benefits:* This project addresses a critical water supply and water quality need of a Native American Tribe. The existing water supply system on Tribal land has been documented as unsafe by the USEPA and Indian Health Service. Water produced by the existing system contains perchlorate and chromium at levels of concern to the Tribe, and experiences outages multiple times a month. Additionally, the backup well for the system cannot be properly treated, and so poses high risk to human health if relied on for more than a few days.