

# **Attachment 10**

## **Disadvantaged Community Assistance**

### **I. Introduction**

This application for Round 2 IRWM Implementation Grant funds contains two disadvantaged community projects:

- Project 1. County of Monterey: San Lucas Water District Public Water Supply Project
- Project 2. Pajaro/Sunny Mesa Community Services District: Springfield Water Project

The Greater Monterey County Regional Water Management Group is requesting a funding match waiver for both of these projects. The following provides documentation of the presence and needs of these two disadvantaged communities, along with a letter of support from representatives of each of these two communities, indicating their support for the proposal.

### **County of Monterey: San Lucas Water District Public Water Supply Project**

#### **Critical Water Supply or Water Quality Need**

The community of San Lucas is a small (pop. 400) rural economically-disadvantaged farm-worker community in southern Monterey County. The community is located approximately eight miles southeast of King City adjacent to State Highway 101. The San Lucas Water District operates the community's drinking water and wastewater systems, and has approximately 90 service connections. The District's water supply is derived from a single groundwater well located in the center of an agricultural field about one mile south of the community. The water system does not have a backup well.

In 2003, the County of Monterey was awarded a grant to help fund improvements to the existing municipal water system serving San Lucas. The project included replacement of the existing water tank and transmission lines. At that time, the quality of the water supply met all local and state standards. The funding was awarded based on the affordable housing that would be provided by a proposed 33-unit affordable housing project. In 2005, the County was awarded another grant to make improvements to the wastewater system necessary to support the proposed affordable housing units. The improvements were completed in 2007 but the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) discharge permit could not be issued for the treatment facility due to excessive amounts of total dissolved solids (TDS) found in the treated effluent. Preliminary investigation determined the cause of the problem was the source of the community's existing water well. The County Health Department notified the Water District that it would not be allowed to approve any new service connections until the TDS contamination was removed from water supply. TDS levels are currently running about 2,000 ppm.

In March 2011 all customers of the San Lucas Water District were placed on an indefinite "Do Not Drink" order from the Monterey County Division of Environmental Health due to excessive levels of nitrates in water being pumped from the District's single well. This order remains in effect and will remain in effect until the nitrate contamination is remediated. Nitrate levels are currently running at 90 ppm, double the nitrate MCL. Community residents are required to purchase bottled water for drinking and cooking. The current financial burden on the residents of this impoverished farmworker community to purchase bottled water in addition to their ongoing cost for municipal water and sewer services is extreme, and approaching crisis condition.

Replacement of the public water supply is necessary for the San Lucas water system to meet the primary drinking water standard. The proposed project falls within CDPH SRF Category F: “Water systems that distribute water containing nitrates/nitrites in excess of the maximum contaminant level (MCL).

### **DAC Determination**

The proposed water supply project is located within the San Lucas Water District, in the community of San Lucas, CA 93954.

Method Used: IRWM DAC Mapping Tool.

Geo ID: 60530113041

Census Block Info: Census Block 1, Monterey County, CA

MHI: \$42,500

On the following pages please find:

- The map printout from the IRWM DAC Mapping Tool
- San Lucas Water District service area maps

### **Letter of Support**

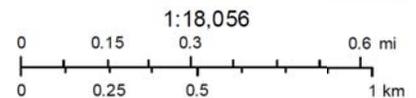
Attached, following the maps, is a letter of support for this project from the San Lucas County Water District Board of Directors. The San Lucas Water District will not receive IRWM grant funds from this grant proposal; the project proponent for the proposed project is the County of Monterey, which will be implementing the project on behalf of, and with cooperation from, the San Lucas Water District. Since the project will directly impact the customers of the San Lucas Water District and the operations of the District itself, the San Lucas County Water District is considered to be the most appropriate representative to write on behalf of both the District and the community with support for the proposed project.

County of Monterey: San Lucas Water District Public Water Supply Project  
Map of Project Area, Using IRWM DAC Mapping Tool

DACs - Madera County to Riverside County (14 Counties) - Beta 1.0

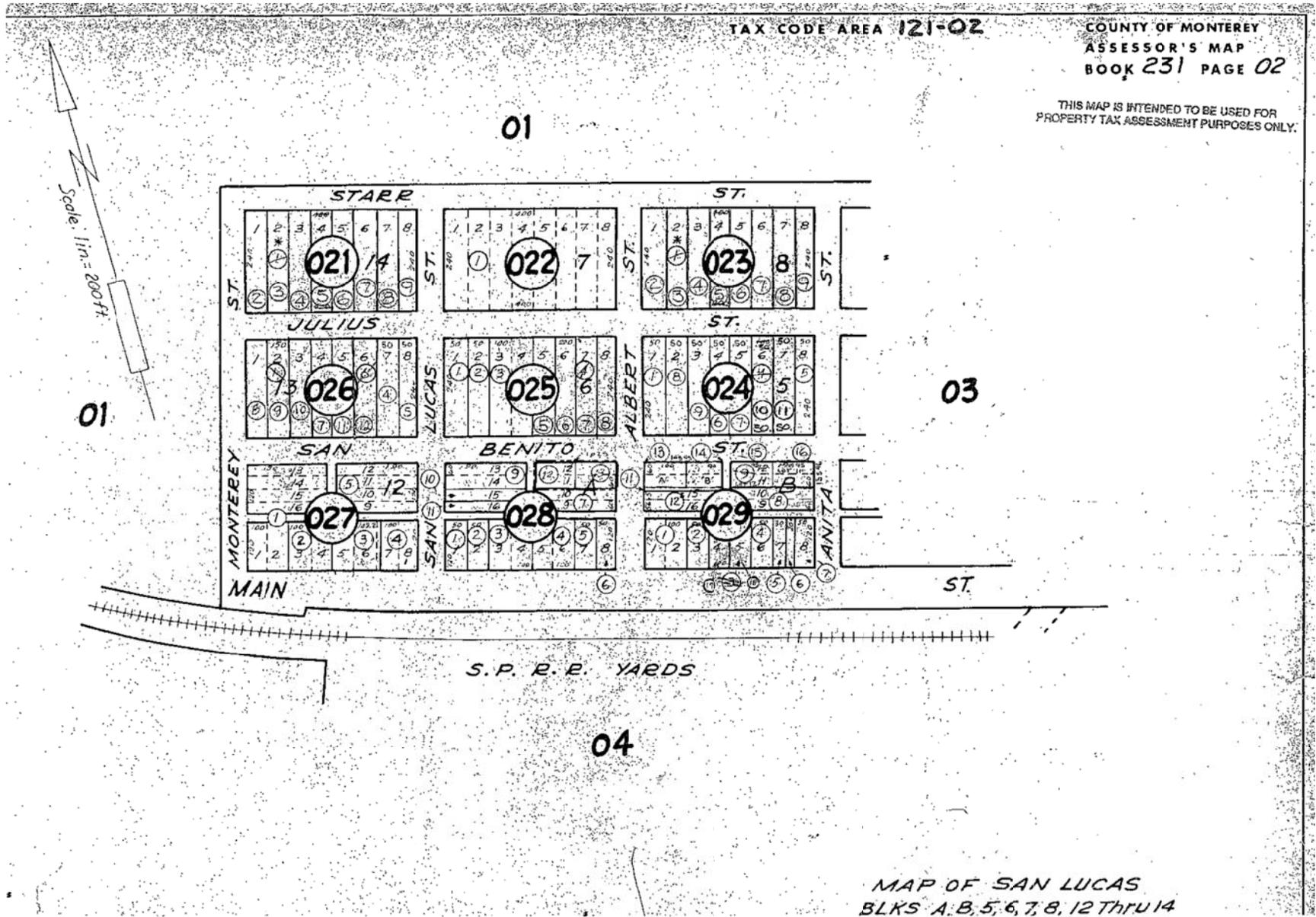


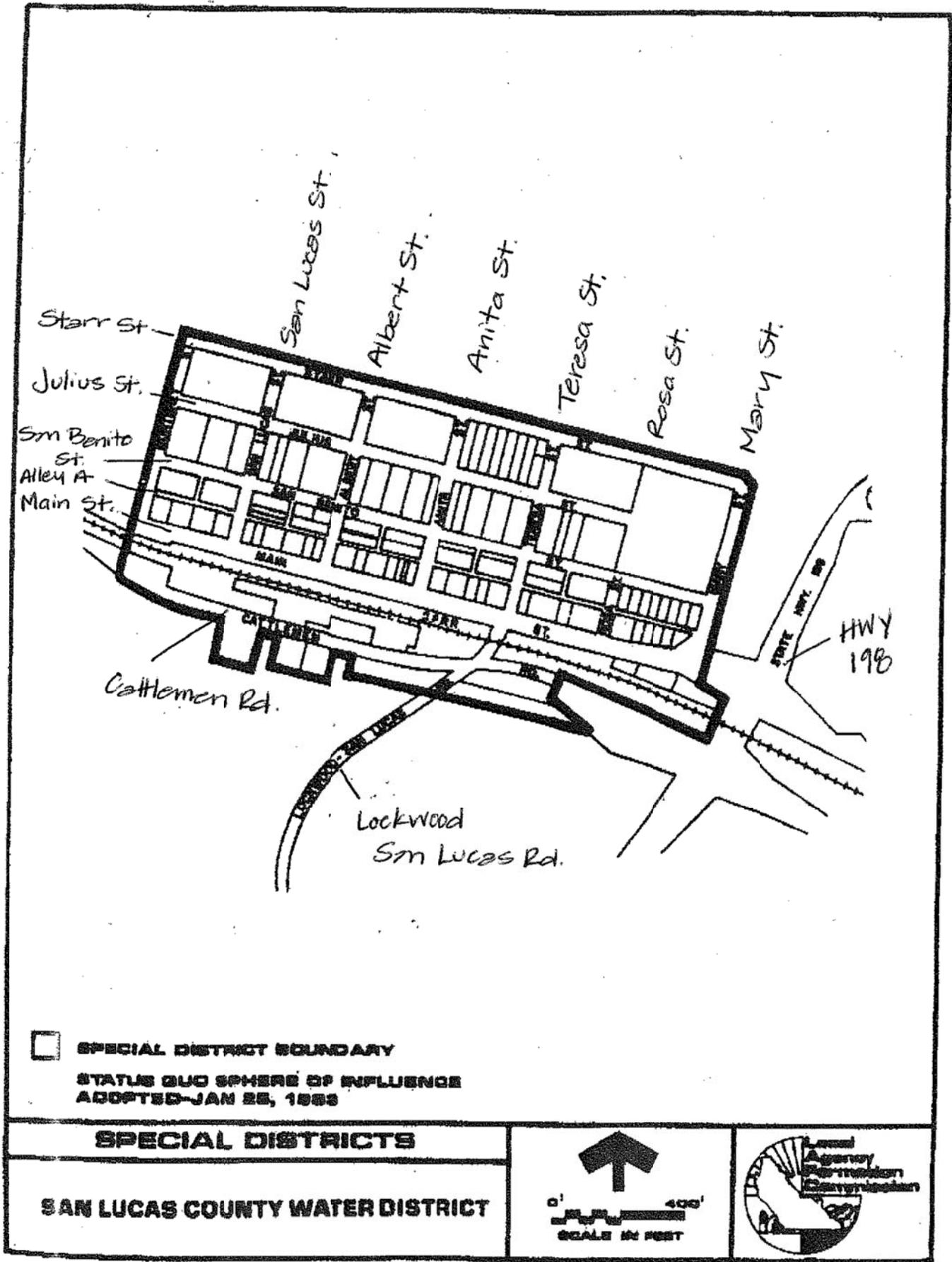
March 1, 2013



Sources: Esri, DeLorme, NAVTEQ, USGS, Intermap, iPC, NRCAN, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri (Thailand), TomTom 2013

San Lucas Water District Service Area Maps





**San Lucas County Water District  
P. O. Box 166  
53365 Main Street  
San Lucas, CA 93954**

February 27, 2013

Ms. Tracie Billington  
California Department of Water Resources  
Division of Integrated Regional Water Management  
Financial Assistance Branch  
P. O. Box 942836  
Sacramento, CA 94236-0001

Dear Ms. Billington:

I am writing on behalf of the Board of Directors of the San Lucas County Water District to express our strong support for the Greater Monterey County Regional Water Management Group's application for Implementation Grant funds under the Proposition 84 IRWM Grant Program, Round 2. We urge the Department of Water Resources to approve the Implementation Grant request for the projects included in this grant application.

The projects included in the Greater Monterey County Region's Implementation Grant application will provide important water resource benefits for the region. The proposal will address critical water supply needs for disadvantaged communities and will provide substantial water quality benefits for both groundwater and surface waters, water supply benefits including water conservation and a potential new source of recycled water, flood benefits, and important habitat improvements.

The projects included in the application reflect the most critical water resource management needs of the region, and address those needs well. Chief among these is the implementation of a new potable public water supply for our community. The San Lucas County Water District operates the community's drinking water and wastewater systems, and has approximately 90 service connections. Our District's water supply is derived from a single groundwater well located in the center of an agricultural field about one mile south of the community, and for the last two years has been on an indefinite "Do Not Drink" order from the Monterey County Health Department, due to excessive levels of nitrates in the source groundwater. The Health Department has directed our District to implement a new source of water that meets all public water quality requirements as soon as possible. In addition, the State Regional Water Quality

Control Board has been unable to certify approval of our District's recently upgraded wastewater treatment and disposal system due to high TDS in the treated effluent, which is a direct result of high TDS in the community's water source.

We appreciate this opportunity to express our support for the grant proposal being submitted by the Greater Monterey County Regional Water Management Group. We urge the Department of Water Resources to consider funding the full amount of this budget request.  
Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Manuel Zuniga, President

San Lucas County Water District Board of Directors

## Pajaro/Sunny Mesa Community Services District: Springfield Water Project

### **Critical Water Supply or Water Quality Need**

Springfield Terrace is a disadvantaged community of about 165 residents in the northern part of Monterey County. Many of its residents are farmworkers. Springfield Terrace's only supply well has been out of compliance and in violation of the nitrate drinking water standard since 1986. The nitrate levels of the current well have consistently reached 300 ppm, more than six times the nitrate MCL. Residents of this community do not have the financial capacity to absorb increased water rates in order to finance the replacement of their contaminated well. Even so, they must frequently travel several miles to purchase bottled water for drinking and cooking purposes.

Replacement of the public water supply is necessary for the Springfield water system to meet the primary drinking water standard, but planning, feasibility, engineering, and environmental review must occur first to develop the appropriate solution. The proposed project falls within CDPH SRF Category F: "Water systems that distribute water containing nitrates/nitrites in excess of the maximum contaminant level (MCL)."

### **DAC Determination**

Method Used: IRWM DAC Mapping Tool. Map printout and service area attached. Depending on scope of project, the area covered will include one or two census geographies:

Geo ID: 60530101012

Census Block Info: Census Block 2, Monterey County, CA  
MHI: \$42,639

If scope extends to Moss Landing:

Geo ID: 60530146012

Census Block Info: Census Block 2, Monterey County, CA  
MHI: \$46,500

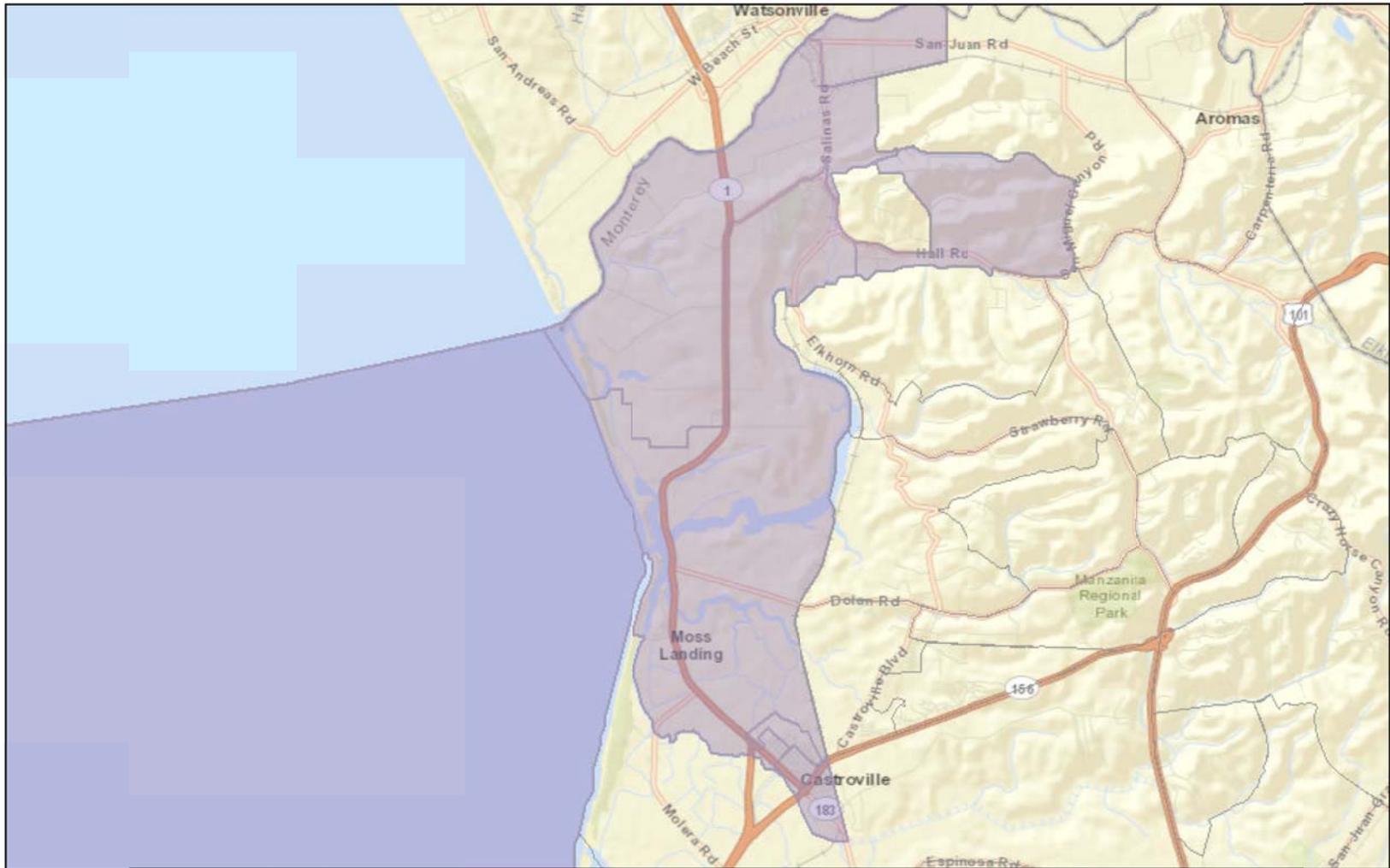
On the following pages please find:

- The map printout from the IRWM DAC Mapping Tool
- Springfield Terrace service area maps (extending to Moss Landing)

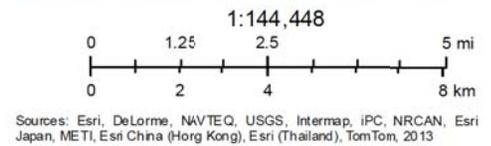
### **Letter of Support**

Attached, following the maps, is a letter of support for this project from the California Rural Legal Assistance, Inc. (CRLA). CRLA is a non-profit organization that has been conducting outreach to disadvantaged communities in Monterey County as part of the DAC Outreach Plan for the Greater Monterey County IRWM planning process. CRLA is considered to be the most appropriate representative for the Springfield Terrace community since they have been working most closely with the Pajaro/Sunny Mesa Community Services District to identify the community's water resource needs and are overseeing the submittal of this proposal on the community's behalf. Also, since the Springfield Terrace community is quite small, there is no other agency or organization that might otherwise represent the community's interests (besides the Pajaro/Sunny Mesa Community Services District, which is the agency requesting IRWM grant funds for this project and therefore cannot act as its "representative" for these purposes).

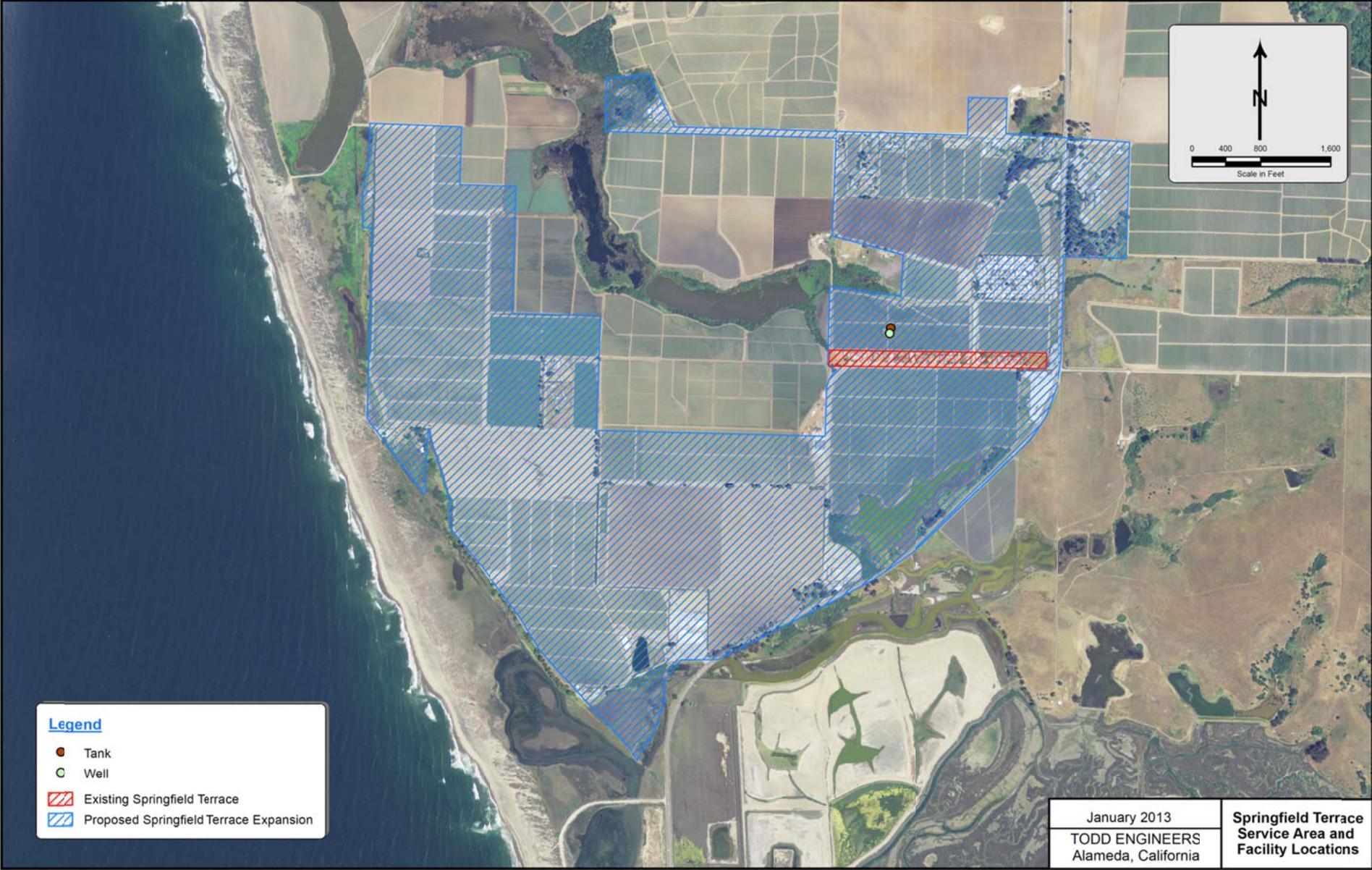
### DACs - Madera County to Riverside County (14 Counties) - Beta 1.0



March 12, 2013



# Springfield Water Project Service Area Map





# CALIFORNIA RURAL LEGAL ASSISTANCE, INC.

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Migrant Unit

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*Directing Attorney*

**Lisel Holdenried**  
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**Jesus Lopez**  
*Community Worker*

**Mariano Alvarez**  
*Community Worker - Indigenous Program*

**Jeanette Pantoja**  
*Community Worker - Water and Land Use*

**Irma H. Ramirez**  
*Administrative Legal Secretary*

**Maria Elena Hernandez**  
*Legal Secretary*

Basic Unit

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**Maureen Keffer**  
*Staff Attorney*

**Hector De La Rosa**  
*Community Worker*

**Victoria Canepa**  
*Community Worker*

**Anna Leah Rick**  
*Community Worker - LGBT Advocacy*

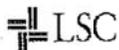
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Ms. Tracie Billington  
California Department of Water Resources  
Division of Integrated Regional Water Management  
Financial Assistance Branch  
P.O. Box 942836  
Sacramento, CA 94236-0001

Dear Ms. Billington:

I am writing on behalf of California Rural Legal Assistance, Inc. (CRLA) to express our strong support for the Greater Monterey County Regional Water Management Group's application for Implementation Grant funds under the Proposition 84 IRWM Grant Program, Round 2. We urge the Department of Water Resources to approve the Implementation Grant request for the projects included in this grant application.

The projects included in the Greater Monterey County Region's Implementation Grant application will provide important water resource benefits for the region. The proposal will address critical water supply needs for disadvantaged communities and will provide substantial water quality benefits for both groundwater and surface waters, water supply benefits including water conservation and a potential new source of recycled water, flood benefits, and important habitat improvements. The projects included in the application reflect the most critical water resource management needs of the region, and address those needs well.

CRLA staff has been primarily responsible for outreach to disadvantaged communities on behalf of the IRWM. Through this work, we have regularly interacted with residents who will be directly benefitted by the Springfield Water Project and the San Lucas Water Supply Project. These residents are economically burdened by the double cost of bottled water and regular water rates, but they agonize most about the stigmatization and divestment that result from being viewed as a small community with contaminated water. Support for these projects is high within the communities, and residents look forward to a future with clean drinking water.

We appreciate this opportunity to express our support for the grant proposal being submitted by the GMC Regional Water Management Group. We urge the Department of Water Resources to consider funding the full amount of this budget request. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

*Michael J. Marsh*  
Michael Marsh  
Directing Attorney