

1 Authorization and Eligibility Requirements

1.1 Authorizing Documentation

The attached resolution authorizes the Semitropic Water Storage District to submit this Implementation Grant Proposal and execute an agreement with the California Department of Water Resources. The resolution was adopted at the Board of Directors meeting on March 13, 2013 and is included in the Attachment 1.

1.2 Eligible Applicant Documentation

Eligible applicants are local agencies or non-profit organizations

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

Yes, the Applicant – Semitropic Water Storage District (Semitropic) – is a Local Agency, defined as a special district.

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

The statutory authority under which Semitropic was formed and is authorized to act is the California Water Storage District Law set forth at Division 14 (commencing at Section 39000) of the California Water Code.

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

Yes. The specific authority for the District entering into such funding contracts with the State of California is found at Water Code Sections 43151, 44000 and 44001, which sections provide as follows:

§ 43151. Contracts. The board may enter into any agreement with the United States or with any state, county, district, public corporation, or municipality of any kind, for a purpose appertaining to or beneficial to the project of the district, and it may do any acts necessary or proper for the performance of the agreement.

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE SEMITROPIC WATER STORAGE DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF:

RESOLUTION NO. SID 13- 03

APPLICATION FOR FUNDING CRITICAL REGIONAL PROJECTS

IN SUPPORT OF FILING AN APPLICATION TO THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES FOR AN INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT IMPLEMENTATION GRANT PURSUANT TO THE *SAFE DRINKING WATER, WATER QUALITY AND SUPPLY, FLOOD CONTROL, RIVER AND COASTAL PROTECTION BOND ACT OF 2006*

WHEREAS, the Semitropic Water Storage District (District) partnered with several neighboring water districts in January 2006 and formulated the Poso Creek Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (Plan) for their collective area, which was adopted in July 2007 by each of the districts, which included, Cawelo Water District, Delano-Earlimart Irrigation District, Kern-Tulare Water District, North Kern Water Storage District, and Shafter-Wasco Irrigation District; and

WHEREAS, the Plan identified regional projects that, once implemented, would improve the water management of the Region and the ability to regulate water supplies available to the Plan Area; and

WHEREAS, the Plan established a process that identified projects that, once implemented, would improve the reliability and water quality of Disadvantaged Communities within the Region; and

WHEREAS, District staff, in conjunction with the surrounding water districts, communities, and stakeholders, has formulated a plan of improvements; and

WHEREAS, the Plan promotes regional recharge, reduction of overdraft, and operational changes in responding to reductions in water supply reliability to the Region; and

WHEREAS, the State of California, Department of Water Resources is currently soliciting proposals for grant funding assistance under their Integrated Regional Water Management Program Proposal Solicitation Package for IRWM Implementation Grants funded by Proposition 84; and

WHEREAS, District staff has prepared a grant application under DWR's Proposition 84 Implementation Grant program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Semitropic Water Storage District as follows:

1. The District's Board of Directors has reviewed and supports the submission of a grant application to the California Department of Water Resources to obtain an Integrated Regional Water Management Implementation Grant pursuant to the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006.
2. The District's General Manager, is hereby authorized and directed to prepare the necessary data, conduct investigations, and submit the grant application to the California Department of Water Resources and is authorized to enter into an agreement with the California DWR.
3. The Applicant is capable of providing the amount of funding and in-kind contributions specified in the application; and
4. The Applicant will work with the California Department of Water Resources to meet established deadlines for entering into a cooperative agreement.

ALL THE FOREGOING, being on motion of Director Tracy, and seconded by Director Portwood, was authorized by the following vote:

AYES: Directors Fabbri, Howard, McCarthy, Portwood, Tracy,

Waterhouse and Wegis

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is the Resolution of said District as duly passed and adopted by said Board of Directors on the 13th day of March 2013.

WITNESS my hand and seal of said Board of Directors this 13th day of March 2013.


Assistant Secretary of the Board of Directors

[DISTRICT SEAL]

§ 44000. Authority to contract with the state, the department, other districts or the United States. Any district may cooperate and contract with the state, the department, any other district, or the United States under any laws of the state or the Federal Reclamation Act of June 17, 1902, and all acts amendatory thereof or supplementary thereto, or under any other act of Congress heretofore or hereafter enacted authorizing or permitting the cooperation or contract.

§ 44001. Authorized purposes. The cooperation and contract may be for any or all of the following purposes:

- (a) Construction, acquisition, purchase, extension, operation, or maintenance of works for irrigation, drainage, storage, flood control, generation and distribution of hydroelectric energy incidental thereto, or any of these.
- (b) A water supply.
- (c) Assumption as principal or guarantor of indebtedness to the state, the department, any other district, or the United States.
- (d) To carry out the terms of any contract between the district and the state, the department, any other district, or the United States.

Based on these authorities, clearly the District has the legal authority to enter into such funding contracts.

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

In 2010, the Poso Creek IRWM Regional Water Management Group (RWMG) signed a Memorandum of Understanding that formalized the RWMG's Governance. The MOU includes a process for formulating an annual budget, voting on budgeted expenses to be shared by the participants, tracking of budgets and expenses by a Treasurer, and distributing the expenses incurred for the RWMG through an equation. The MOU contains a provision that allows participants of the RWMG, stakeholders, and other entities to form agreements to cost share specific projects in addition to the general planning activities of the RWMG.

For this proposal, it is anticipated that one contract with the Applicant, Semitropic, will be preferred for all of the projects. Semitropic and Poso RWMG expect the Department of Water Resources will enter into a contract directly with Semitropic Water Storage District for Projects No. 1 through 6 and Semitropic will form sub-grantee agreements with each Project Sponsor.

1.3 GWMP Compliance

Groundwater management and recharge projects or projects with potential groundwater impacts and implementing agency

1. Madera Avenue Intertie, Semitropic WSD
2. Lost Hills New Well and Tank Replacement, Lost Hills Utility District
3. Allensworth Tank Replacement and SCADA Upgrade, Allensworth Community Services District
4. Groundwater Well Destruction Program*, Semitropic Water Storage District
5. On-Farm Mobile Lab for Water Use Efficiency in Support of Nutrient Management, North West Kern Resource Conservation District
6. South Shafter Sewer – Planning and Design, County of Kern

All areas affected by the proposed projects are subject to existing groundwater management plans. The status of all relevant Groundwater Management Plans in the Region is below:

Since the Poso Creek IRWM Plan adoption in 2007, the agricultural districts within the Poso Regional Water Management Group updated their Groundwater Management Plans in accordance with CWC §10753.7. They include Cawelo WD, Delano-Earlimart ID, Kern-Tulare WD, North Kern WSD, Semitropic WSD, and Shafter-Wasco ID. Semitropic's Board Resolution adopting an updated GMP in 2012 is attached following this section as evidence they are in compliance. DACs with projects in this Proposal are small communities that are stakeholders to the larger special districts. In the case of the small unincorporated area of South Shafter, the County of Kern and South Shafter are stakeholders and interested participants to Shafter-Wasco ID in their preparation of a GMP.

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
SEMITROPIC WATER STORAGE DISTRICT ON BEHALF OF IT'S SELF
AND SEMITROPIC IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT**

IN THE MATTER OF:

RESOLUTION NO. ST 12-04

ADOPTION OF 2012 AMENDED GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

WHEREAS, with adoption of Resolution No. ST 03-07 on September 22, 2003, the Board of Directors of the Semitropic Water Storage District, acting on behalf of itself and its Semitropic Improvement District (collectively the "District") adopted a Groundwater Management Plan pursuant to California Water Code Sections 10750, et seq., and

WHEREAS, adoption of a Groundwater Management Plan is in furtherance of and consistent with the District's adopted project approved by the landowners and the historical operation of the District; and

WHEREAS, Part 2.75 of Division 6 of the California Water Code permits the adoption and implementation of groundwater management plans to encourage authorized local agencies to manage groundwater resources within their service areas; and

WHEREAS, the District is an authorized local agency and may therefore adopt and implement such a groundwater management plan; and

WHEREAS, a first public hearing was held on June 28, 2011, to discuss the amendment of the above referenced 2003 groundwater management plan; and

WHEREAS, the District passed, and subsequently published, Resolution ST 11-04 of Intention to amend its Groundwater Management Plan; and

WHEREAS, the District's consultant prepared an Amended Groundwater Management Plan at the direction of the District Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, following notice as required by law having been given, a second public hearing was held on October 10, 2012, in accordance with the California Water Code Section 10753.5, et seq. to consider adoption of the proposed Amended Groundwater Management Plan and no comments were submitted nor formal protests were submitted on such proposed 2012 Amended Groundwater Management Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Board believes that the adoption of the proposed 2012 Amended Groundwater Management Plan is in the best interests of the District and its landowners;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that:

- (1) The foregoing findings, and each of them, are true and correct.
- (2) The District approves and adopts the 2012 Amended Groundwater Management Plan in accordance with Part 2.75 of Division 6 of the California Water Code, as prepared by the District's consultant.
- (3) The Board hereby authorizes the officers and staff of the District to execute all documents and take any other action necessary or advisable to carry out the purpose of this resolution.

All the foregoing being on motion of Director Waterhouse, seconded by Director Fabbri, and authorized by the following vote, to wit:

AYES: Directors Fabbri, Howard, McCarthy, Portwood, Tracy,
Waterhouse and Wegis

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing resolution is the resolution of said District as duly passed and adopted by said Board of Directors on the 10th day of October, 2012.

WITNESS my hand and seal of said Board of Directors this 10th day of October, 2012.



Assist. Secretary of the Board of Directors

1.4 Compliance with CWC §83002.(b)(3)(B)

The Applicant must establish eligibility with CWC §83002.(b)(3)(B) either by using an IRWM Plan that meets current plan standards as explained in the Guidelines, or by using an IRWM Plan adopted prior to September 30, 2008.

The projects described within this grant application are eligible for funding because they were identified in the Poso Creek IRWM Plan and the Plan was adopted prior to September 30, 2008. As part of meeting the DWR's contract agreement criteria for Proposition 84, Implementation Grant, Round 1, the Poso Creek IRWM Plan RWMG has signed and entered into a binding agreement with DWR to update the Poso Creek IRWM Plan by the end of June of 2014. A discussion of how the Poso Creek IRWM Plan is to address the update related to Table 1 Overview of Selected IRWM Plan Standards is included to provide evidence of the RWMG's progress and intent to complete the Poso Creek IRWM Plan Update. Regarding the RWMG undertaking all reasonable and feasible efforts to take into account water-related needs of DACs in the area within the IRWM region, the Poso Creek IRWM Plan RWMG is implementing a Round 1 Proposal with several DAC projects successfully being completed and has coordinated and included several more DAC projects in this Round 2 Implementation Proposal. The DAC needs identified in cooperative working groups within the Poso Creek RWMG and discussed openly at public meetings involving of the Poso Creek RWMG and stakeholders within the planning region are much greater than the funding available.

In 2012, the Poso Creek IRWM RWMG evaluated the status of the Plan in relation to the DWR 2012 Guidelines as described in the following discussion:

Current Status in Meeting IRWM Plan Standards

The Poso Creek IRWM RWMG evaluated a Plan Update and provides this summary as evidence of their intent to complete the Plan Update by June 30, 2014. Their approach to the work has three objectives:

- Update the IRWMP to comply with the Proposition 84 guidelines
- Integrate accomplishments in the Poso Creek Region since IRWMP adoption in 2007
- Provide an adaptable and updated Plan to guide regional water management

The Poso Creek Regional Water Management Group (RWMG) and Stakeholders discuss the region's existing and future planning needs as part of their ongoing work and authorized, under their existing Governance MOU, Semitropic Water Storage District (Semitropic), the Lead Agency for the Poso Creek RWMG to develop the Plan update.

One requirement of the Implementation Round 1 Grant is that the IRWM Plan be revised to meet the *Guidelines for Proposition 81 and 1E Integrated Regional Water Management, 2012*. Table 1 lists the 16 IRWM standards that must be addressed in the revised Plan.

Table 1. 16 Topics IRWM Plan Must Identify (Appendix C)

16 Topics IRWM Plan Must Identify	
Governance	Data Management
Region Description	Finance
Objectives	Technical Analysis
Resource Management Strategies	Relation to Local Water Planning
Integration	Relation to Local Land Use Planning
Project Review Process	Stakeholder Involvement
Impact and Benefit	Coordination
Plan Performance and Monitoring	Climate Change

Poso Creek 2007 IRWMP to DWR 2012 Guidelines

The Poso Creek RWMG have compared the IRWM Plan to the July 2012 Guidelines.

IRWM Plan Standard	Potential Revision and Documentation Needed
Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Enhanced DACs relationship to RWMG and document DAC Workgroups ▪ Enhance description of how activities/follow-through related to decision making and authority/responsibility for implementation ▪ Enhance process/responsibility for reviewing plan and plan progress and formal process for changing/updating/revising plan (see also <i>Plan Performance and Monitoring</i> below)
Region Description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide more discussion of DAC and environmental water needs and issues given the understanding that agriculture water is approximately 96-percent of the Region's use.
Objectives – Refine Quantities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Foundation laid in Chapter 3 (Assets and Needs) for districts. ▪ Update objectives with respect to Urban and M&I users as they share a common groundwater basin with agriculture users ▪ Update connection to State Water Plan and Prop 84 objectives ▪ Update quantifiable water supply objectives.
Resource Management Strategies (RMS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Update as needed based on revised objectives ▪ Discuss changes to water supply absorptive capability under the current physical and institutional setting compared to discussion in adopted IRWMP based on Plan accomplishments ▪ Refine each RMS discussion to include more local information for the Poso Region, for example, related existing local land use planning to the Plan
Integration	<p>Expand and update discussion of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Current integration of planning and systems (including operations), 2) Integration through the IRWM process 3) Integration of new projects identified during monthly meetings with stakeholders, such as, DACs, flood protection, flood water management, and environmental enhancement projects <p>Discussion should include both inside Region and with other regions since the Poso Creek RWMG has been actively meeting and coordinating with other IRWMPs within the Tulare Basin since early development of the Poso IRWMP.</p>
Project Review and Prioritization Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Focus to remain on characterizing projects as the first level of priority and ranking of projects a second priority to maintain implementation flexibility ▪ Refine existing project development and review process that includes consideration of IRWM Plan objectives, cost and feasibility. ▪ In order to provide flexibility, incorporate an explicit (and formal) plan

	<p>review process that includes updating project list.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Description of updating the list should be structured so as to not commit to a full revision of plan unless otherwise mandated.
Impact and Benefit	Refine discussion of regional benefits and impacts of implementing the IRWM Plan (including a <u>general</u> statement about each item on the project list).
Plan Performance and Monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Develop and incorporate metrics to track plan implementation and measure success in meeting objective and implementing projects. ▪ These metrics should be included in the data management program.
Data Management	<p>IRWMP Chapters 4 and 5 set framework for operations and hydrologic data</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Establish framework and system for collecting, storing and reporting information to track plan implementation and achievement of objectives ▪ Develop a parallel tracking program for projects funded by Prop 50 and 84 grants as part of data management
Finance	Document potential mechanisms to fund ongoing plan activities in addition to the existing cost sharing component of the Governance MOU.
Technical Analysis	Expand documentation of data sources in text and incorporate information gained in special studies.
Relation to Local Water Planning	Discussion included in IRWM Plan and in Region Acceptance Process (RAP), update as topic discussion and make explicit.
Relation to Local Land Use Planning	Develop local land use planning summary and incorporate as a topic discussion in Plan update addendum.
Stakeholder Involvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Current activities acceptable. ▪ Discuss the procedures for keeping community outreach process current (including development of website).
Coordination	Expand discussion of coordination of IRWMP implementation activities neighboring IRWMPs and with local, regional, state and federal interests.
Climate Change	New Requirement. Develop topic discussion and incorporate into IRWMP addendum.

The adopted IRWM Plan is focused on addressing the highest priority issue facing the Region - a loss of water supply reliability. The Plan identified a number of opportunities to improve water supplies to the Region. Since its adoption in 2007, the RWMG has been implementing the Plan as well as integrating additional elements such as disadvantaged community (DAC) and environmental water users' interests and projects.

Summary of Status for Sixteen Plan Standards

1. Governance

Governance is one of the 16 Plan Standards the RWMG addressed through adoption of a MOU and Cost Sharing agreement that was signed by the RWMG on May 12, 2010. The RWMG addressed this through a Work Group assignment. The work was accomplished in 2009 and 2010 and was part of the Core Activities budget for each year. Documentation of the signed MOU and cost sharing agreement will be included in the IRWM Plan addendum as documentation for the Plan update.

2. Region Description

Considerable effort was expended in developing the Region Description, communicating the characteristics of the Region with neighboring IRWMs, and obtaining approval of the Region through the DWR's Region Acceptance Process (RAP). In the spring of 2009, the RWMG developed RAP materials and submitted them for the first round of DWR RAP review. Poso

Creek Region was granted conditional approval as a Region in 2009. During 2010, the Poso RWMG worked on resolving the conditional approval conditions, added an elected DAC Representative to their Governance, conducted coordination meetings with the neighboring Kern IRWMP regarding Plan overlap, and participated in regional coordination meetings within the Tulare Basin Region to resolve boundaries and discuss inclusion of “white” space between IRWMPs. In July 2011, Poso Creek Region received notice from DWR as a fully accepted Region. Documentation of the changes to the Region since Plan adoption is needed for the Plan update.

3. Objectives

The Plan contains seven regional objectives as described in Section 1.3.1 (p. 1-21) of adopted Plan and listed following:

1. Maintain and improve water supply reliability;
2. Maintain groundwater levels at economically viable pumping lifts;
3. Protect the quality of groundwater and enhance where practical;
4. Maintain water supply costs at a level commensurate with the continued viability of the agricultural economy which has developed in the Region;
5. Enhance monitoring activities to meet groundwater level and water quality goals;
6. Maintain and/or enhance environmental resources within and outside of the Region; and
7. Enhance flood control in the Region.

Planning objectives 1 through 5 were selected by the RWMG based on a consensus reached during a pre-application meeting held on April 20th, 2005. During the subsequent meeting held on January 5, 2006, the RWMG added planning objective 6, and, based on stakeholder input during monthly meetings held in 2006, Planning Objective 7 was added.

The RWMG described the planning objectives as operational objectives as a means to help decide which project components, when implemented, would best meet the Region’s priorities; and provide a means to measure performance of implementing each of the water management measures. Operational objectives that contain quantities related to the Resource Management Strategies are shown in Table ES-1 (p. ES-21) and in Table 8-1 (p. 8-2) of the Plan.

The adopted IRWM Plan contains quantifiable objectives that were developed with the focus to address the overarching problem of loss of surface supplies delivered to the Region. The Work Plan will evaluate the need to expand and enhance the regional and operational objectives to reflect the implementation activity the RWMG has conducted since Plan adoption. The existing regional objectives remain relevant and useful for implementing regional water supply enhancement measures. Since Plan adoption, the RWMG has coordinated planning with sixteen

disadvantaged communities, integrated DAC projects into an Implementation Grant, evaluated flood related projects along Poso Creek, and implemented habitat enhancement projects with stakeholders in the Region. Additional objectives will be considered to be added to explicitly describe the additional scope of the IRWM Plan.

4. Resource Management Strategies

The adopted IRWM Plan considered water management strategies in accordance with the Proposition 50 Guidelines. Most of these strategies are already practiced in the Region to some extent; however, due to the overwhelming need to address water supply issues within the Region, the RWMG prioritized water management strategies into the following two groups:

Highest Priority Strategies Considered for Project Implementation

- Groundwater management
- Water supply reliability
- Conjunctive management of surface water and groundwater
- Water transfers and exchanges
- Water quality protection and improvement

Strategies Considered for Project Integration

- Ecosystem restoration
- Environmental and habitat protection and improvement
- Flood management
- Imported water
- Land use planning
- NPS pollution control
- Recreation and public access
- Storm water capture and management
- Surface storage
- Water conservation
- Water recycling
- Water and wastewater treatment
- Watershed planning
- Wetlands enhancement and creation

For the IRWM Plan update, the RWMG will document the Resource Management Strategies (RMS) considered under Proposition 84 Guidelines to meet the IRWM objectives and identify which RMS are to be incorporated into the IRWM Plan Update. The potential effects of climate change on the IRWM region will also be factored into this consideration of RMS

5. Integration

The adopted Plan focused on integrating four of the high priority water management strategies: 1) groundwater management, 2) water supply reliability, 3) conjunctive management of surface water and groundwater, and 4) water transfer/exchange. Based on the overwhelming need to address water supply issues within the Region, the RWMG prioritized water management strategies into two groups; (1) **highest priority strategies considered for implementation**; and (2) **strategies considered for project integration**. As projects have been implemented to meet the highest priority strategies for the Region, secondary benefits for each project are considered and integrated into the *regional* project proposals that fit funding opportunities. The active project implementation has effectively integrated participants'

resources, fostered relationships among various stakeholders, and developed regional operation agreements. DAC Communities and several stakeholders have been actively involved in the Plan implementation and project development since Plan adoption, these include: Self-Help Enterprises, Tulare Basin Wildlife Partners, Sequoia River Lands, Community Water Center, and The California Water Institute, CSU, Fresno.

6. Project Review Process

Projects are developed by project sponsors and then presented and reviewed by the RWMG and stakeholders as part of the public meetings. A topic discussion documenting the existing project review process will be included as part of the IRWM Plan Update.

7. Impact and Benefit

The adopted IRWM projected an average annual loss of surface water supplies to the Region of 104,000 acre-feet per year if no water management measures were implemented. The adopted IRWM also projected the potential water supply benefits to the region if the IRWM Plan projects were implemented. The RWMG conducts special studies, as needed, to estimate individual project benefits.

8. Plan Performance and Monitoring

Performance measures were not incorporated into the existing Poso Creek IRWM Plan; however, water banked, exchanged, stored and otherwise better managed or captured to offset the project water supply reduction is documented and quantified as projects are implemented. The incorporation of more specific performance and monitoring measures relating the Plan as a whole is needed.

9. Data Management

The Lead Agency maintains records of Poso IRWM Plan related activities including: the adopted Plan, meeting minutes, public outreach materials, environmental documents, legal agreements and contracts. A goal is to develop a website to manage and make public information about the RWMG's activities.

10. Finance

Poso Creek IRWM activities are financed through shared contributions of the members per the MOU and cost-sharing agreement and through state and federal grant funding opportunities.

11. Technical Analysis

The Poso Creek IRWM Plan is based on technical analyses for regional reports dated back to 1979.

Bookman-Edmonston Engineering. 1979. Water Resource Management in the Southern Valley, California – A Study of the Physical and Institutional Management Practices for Surface and Groundwater Utilization. Bakersfield, CA. January 1979.

Associated Engineering Consultants. 1983. Report on Investigation of Optimization and Enhancement of the Water Supplies of Kern County. Bakersfield, CA. January 1983.

12. Relation to Local Water Planning

Since the majority of the Poso IRWM Plan Region resides in Kern County, much of the effective integration of water management with land use planning occurs naturally through the various standing committees in Kern County, an established network of water districts, and interaction with the Kern County Water Agency. District managers belong to a network of active water related committees as indicated in the Water Association of Kern County directory.

<http://www.wakc.com>

Mike James (Public Works Director for the City of Shafter), who serves as the DAC Representative on the Poso RWMG, is participating as a stakeholder for the Oversight Advisory Committee for developing the Tulare Lake Basin Disadvantaged Community water Study. Self-Help Enterprises continues to interact with all small communities and communicate their planning needs to the Poso RWMG. The Poso RWMG will maintain the existing interaction with local water planning interests as it implements the IRWMP.

13. Relation to Local Land Use Planning

Regarding local land use planning, the Poso RWMG will continue to communicate with the local agencies and county representatives and County Board of Supervisors appointed committees and work groups to provide guidance on land use planning as they update and improve the Poso Plan. Land use is expected to remain primarily agricultural, intertwined with mineral resources and rural communities.

14. Stakeholder Involvement

The RWMG stays in contact and works together with stakeholders such as municipalities, other water districts, state and federal agencies and legislative representatives at their regular public meetings. During the planning process, communication with neighboring districts occurred and discussions with a larger planning effort for the southern San Joaquin Valley commenced. Special attention will be paid to DAC involvement.

15. Coordination

The Poso Creek RWMG's primary method for coordination is through regular public meetings where they discuss action items and next steps in Plan implementation. In addition to internal coordination, the RWMG coordinates with adjacent entities such as the Kern County Water Agency, the Bureau of Reclamation, and neighboring IRWM groups.

16. Climate Change

The present IRWM Plan contains no discussion of climate change since it was not a requirement at the time the IRWM Plan was adopted. The revised plan will consider issues associated with climate change consistent with the Guidelines.

Table 1 – IRWM Plan Standards Questionnaire

Standard	Specific Standard Questions	Status/Response
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? A Governance MOU was adopted in 2010; it will be in the Updated Plan.	No. The Governance MOU will be included in the Updated Plan
Region Description	Has the regional description changed significantly from the current IRWM Plan? Additional information was developed during the Region Acceptance Process which will be included in the Updated Plan.	No. RAP Info will be added to Updated Plan.
Objectives	Will your objectives change from those in the current IRWM Plan? If so, how? Some details on quantification of objectives will be added and wording specific to DAC needs will be incorporated into the Plan Objectives. Additional input from stakeholders has occurred over time during regular meeting of the RWMG.	No. Clarification statement on quantities and DAC needs will be added to existing objectives.
Resource Management Strategies	Will the Updated IRWM Plan consider the resource management strategies from the California Water Plan, Update 2009?	Yes
Integration	Will the process used in the Updated IRWM Plan allow, encourage, and actively pursue integration in both the planning process and project formulation and implementation? Documentation of successful integration procedures and activity will be added into the Plan Update.	Yes. It already happens through active RWMG and Stakeholders.
Project Review Process	Will the project review process consider climate change vulnerabilities and greenhouse gas emissions (for both construction and operation)?	Yes
Technical Analysis	Have any data gaps been identified and how will the Updated IRWM Plan help fill the gaps?	No, some description of available data will be added to Plan Update
Relation to Local Water Use Planning	Will changes to the existing IRWM Plan be needed in order to improve coordination with local water use planning efforts?	No, except to add discussion of ongoing coordination
Relation to Local Land Use Planning	Will changes to the existing IRWM Plan be needed in order to improve coordination with land use planning efforts?	No, except to add discussion of ongoing coordination
Stakeholder Involvement	Will changes or improvements to the stakeholder involvement process be needed to ensure effective stakeholder participation?	None other than discussion will be added to document participation.
Coordination	Has the RWMG identified a need for changes/improvements to the ongoing coordination efforts?	No
Climate Change	Will the Updated IRWM Plan contain: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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? 	Yes

1.5 Consistency with an Adopted IRWM Plan

The proposed projects are consistent with the Poso Creek IRWM plan in that they 1) have been developed in a collaborative process that includes the RWMG and stakeholders, are 2) part of the Poso Creek IRWM Plan, and meet multiple objectives of that plan. The proposed projects for Implementation, Round 2 are listed below:

1. Madera Avenue Intertie
2. Lost Hills New Well and Tank Replacement
3. Allensworth Tank Replacement and SCADA Upgrade
4. Groundwater Well Destruction Program
5. On-Farm Mobile Lab for Water Use Efficiency in Support of Nutrient Management
6. South Shafter Sewer – Planning and Design

During the Poso Creek Planning Process, a multi-tiered screening process was developed and applied to the Poso Creek Plan list of projects.

Projects ready to proceed to implementation were pre-screened based on the RWMG pre-screening criteria and identified as Tier 1 projects, whereas, the priority 1, 2, 3 and n/a classification was a priority assignment for deciding projects to include in the near-term implementation grant funding proposals. (Plan Chapter 9)

During regular RWMG meetings, focused discussion on the needs of DACs resulted in identification of the 6 projects in this Implementation, Round 2 Proposal.

Initially, in the IRWM Plan adopted in 2007, projects were ranked in tiers; tier 1 projects supported the Highest Priority Strategies of the IRWM Plan, water supply reliability. The IRWM Plan identified projects may have secondary benefits, once implemented, or may have benefits other than water supply reliability, and provided and recognized the need and importance of integrating other strategies into implementation for a *regional* approach. As the plan has been implemented, stakeholders and other interested parties, particularly representatives' from DACs, were included in identification and evaluation of projects that integrated into multi-benefit Proposals.

The resulting procedure followed by the Poso Creek RWMG is an interactive approach conducted through regular, monthly meetings. The Poso Creek RWMG is of a manageable, functioning size where decision can be made quickly. An example of the collaborative work products that resulted from the Tulare Basin Funding Area working group on prioritizing projects was included in Attachment 5 of the Poso Creek IRWM RAP application material.

In accordance with the MOU governing the RWMG and the IRWM Plan, the RWMG and stakeholders developed a number of potential projects based on identified DAC needs and priorities. The Proposal includes Projects 2, 3, 4, 5, and, 6, which were identified by the RWMG

as addressing issues identified in the Poso Creek Region other than the highest priority issue, water supply reliability of the region. All Projects were developed during the monthly meetings in collaboration between the RWMG and representatives from stakeholders and DAC communities. The Proposed Projects meet multiple objectives of the IRWM Plan as shown:

EXHIBIT 1-1

Poso Creek IRWMP Objectives Addressed By Proposed Projects

Project No. and Title		Poso Creek IRWMP Objectives					Flood Control
		Water Supply Reliability	Ground-water Levels	Ground-water Quality	Water Supply Costs	Environmental Resources	
1	Madera Avenue Intertie	✓	✓	✓	✓		
2	Lost Hills New Well and Tank Replacement	✓		✓	✓		
3	Allensworth Tank Replacement and SCADA Upgrade	✓		✓	✓		
4	Groundwater Well Destruction Program	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
5	On-Farm Mobile Lab for Water Use Efficiency in Support of Nutrient Management	✓		✓	✓	✓	
6	South Shafter Sewer – Planning and Design	✓		✓		✓	

The February Agenda and Minutes from January and February, Poso Creek IRWM Plan, RWMG meetings where the projects were vetted and approved to be included in this Proposal follows:

January Minutes

February Agenda

February Minutes



Minutes for Poso Creek IRWM Plan Implementation Meeting

Location: **Delano-Earlimart Irrigation District's Office**

Meeting Date and Time: **Monday, January 7, 2013; 12 (noon) – 2 pm**

Attendees were welcome to call in to this public meeting on a conference line.

Phone (877) 841-9268 Participant Code 738207

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call**
2. **Agenda Modifications** - The Regional Water Management Group (RWMG) modified the regular agenda by changing the order in which an item was considered to accommodate participants who had called in.
3. **Public Comment** – One public comment was received from Abigail Solis, Community Water Center Representative, stating support of helping communities through the Poso Creek IRWM Plan.
4. **Introductions and Recognition of Guests** – Paul Oshel led introduction of meeting attendees; Abigail Solis was recognized for attending her first Poso Creek IRWM meeting.
5. **Implementation Activity and Work Group Reports**
 - a. **Irrigated Lands Program** – Dale Brogan provided an update regarding the Irrigated Lands Program activity and stated the program is still in a state of flux. Jerry Ezell also commented on this activity and reported many district staff are actively engaged in a working group. It is important to note that in the Poso Creek IRWM Region, a working group that contains members of the Poso Creek IRWM RWMG meets regularly; these members report back to Poso Creek IRWM RWMG.
 - b. **Tulare Basin Watershed Coordinator** – Kathy Wood-McLaughlin provided an overview on two projects being developed with Fish and Game.
 - c. **Tulare Basins Watershed Initiative** - <http://www.tularebasinwatershed.org/> - Sarah Campe reported she had received project information from Poso Creek IRWM and had some additional information needs for some of the descriptions.
 - d. **Prop 84 Imp., Round 1 – North Kern Grantee** – Dana Munn provided a progress report regarding the CVC to Calloway Intertie, indicating construction had started with the tie-in to the CVC Canal. Grant recipients for each project were reminded to respond to Isela Medina's requests to compile the second quarterly report and



grant reimbursement. It was noted a second budget modification was needed adjust some of the task budgets.

- e. Prop 1E, Stormwater Flood Management, Round 2 – Discussed briefly why the Poso Creek IRWM RWMG decided not to compete for funding under this opportunity.
- f. Prop 84, Imp., Round 2 – March 2013 – During the months leading up to this meeting, a proposed list of projects was formulated by a working team consisting of Paul Oshel, GEI Consultants as a Facilitator, Jessi Snyder representing the DAC communities, Bob Downs representing County of Kern Engineering Services, and Michael James as the RWMG DAC Representative. Contact was made through this working team to all the DAC communities within the Poso Region, the DAC Representative, and/or Jessi Snyder.

In recognition of the successful working relationship the Poso RWMG has with the On-Farm Mobile Lab services, the RWMG voted to identify and formally add a project to the list, “Project No. 30 – On-Farm Mobile Lab, Water Efficiency Services”, with Brian Hockett serving as the Project Sponsor.

The RWMG discussed a combination of six projects from the possible list that were ready to advance to implementation. The Poso Creek IRWM RWMG voted to advance the following projects with a total grant request of \$8,734,000:

- 1) Madera Ave Intertie
- 2) Lost Hills New Well and Tank Replacement
- 3) Allensworth Tank Repair and SCADA Installation
- 4) Groundwater Well Destruction Program
- 5) On-Farm Mobile Lab for Nutrient Management
- 6) South Shafter Sewer – Planning and Design

Preliminary grant budget amounts were discussed for each proposed project.

- g. Poso Activity budget update for 2012 – Paul Oshel discussed and presented to the RWMG a method to redistribute the costs associated with the Round 1 application for grant funding. An agreement in principal to the redistribution of the costs was reached with a final decision pending the participation of the districts in the Madera Avenue Intertie Project.
- h. Poso Creek IRWM Plan Update – Paul Oshel and GEI Consultants discussed the scheduling of the Plan update to take place in later 2013 or early 2014. The RWMG was in support of waiting until after the Federal and State funding opportunity proposals are complete. The scheduled update needs to be completed



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Management Group

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prior to July, 2014 to maintain compliance with DWR given the Prop 84, Round 1 funding.

- i. **Other topics of interest** – Poso Creek IRWM 2013 Activity Budget was circulated to the RWMG by Paul Oshel, which was developed and approved by Semitropic as the Lead Agency, motioned by Dana Munn, NK to add this topic to the Agenda and approved by vote of the RWMG members present.
6. **Funding Opportunities** – It was noted that Semitropic and NK had received notice of funding for development of Ag Water Management Plans. An Ag WUE application for Cawelo to line the Calloway Canal was submitted in November and four Federal applications are to be submitted in January; results are expected in March or April.
 - a. **State:** 1) Prop 1E, 2) Ag WUE, and 3) Prop 84, Imp Grant, Round 2 due March, 2013.
 - b. **Federal:** Reclamation FOA R13SF80003, WaterSMART due Jan 17th and R13SF8004, Bay-Delta Restoration Program due Jan 9th.
7. **Anticipated Action Items; additional items to be added at the meeting**
 - Develop selected projects for Prop 84, Round 2 Implementation application
 - Continue Prop 84 Imp Contract coordination led by NKWSD
 - Consider banking and exchange agreements among Poso RWMG districts
8. **Suggested Date and Agenda Items for Next Regular Meeting:** Feb 5th, 2013
9. **Adjournment**

This Agenda was posted at Wasco, California and notice was delivered in accordance with Government Code Section 54954.

This Agenda contains a brief general description of each item to be considered. Copies of reports or other written documentation relating to each item of business on the Agenda are on file with the RWMG Lead Agency and available for public inspection during normal business hours. A person who has a question concerning any of the agenda items may call the District's General Manager or Engineer at 661-758-5113.

Written materials relating to an item on this Agenda that are distributed to the RWMG within 72 hours before it is to consider the item at its regularly scheduled meeting will be made available for public inspection at the Lead Agency, during normal business hours. Such written materials will also be made available on the Lead Agency's website, subject to staff's ability to post the documents before the regularly scheduled meeting.

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Agenda for Poso Creek IRWM Plan Implementation Meeting

Location: Semitropic Water Storage District's Office

Meeting Date and Time: **Tuesday, February 5th, 2013; 12 (noon) – 2 pm**

Attendees are welcome to call in to this public meeting on a conference line.

Phone (877) 841-9268 Participant Code 738207

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call**
2. **Agenda Modifications** - The Regional Water Management Group (RWMG) may modify the regular agenda by making corrections, tabling items, adding urgency items to the agenda or changing the order in which items are considered.
3. **Public Comment** - Any member of the public may address the RWMG relating to any non-agenda matter within the Poso Creek IRWM Plan Region. The RWMG is not responsible for the content or accuracy of statements made by members of the public.
4. **Introductions and Recognition of Guests**
5. **Implementation Activity and Work Group Reports**
 - a. Irrigated Lands Program
 - b. Tulare Basin Watershed Coordinator/
Tulare Basins Watershed Initiative - <http://www.tularebasinwatershed.org/>
 - c. Prop 84 Imp., Round 1 – North Kern Grantee
 - d. Prop 84, Imp., Round 2 – March 2013
 - e. Poso Activity budget update
 - f. Poso Creek IRWM Plan Update
 - g. Other topics of interest
6. **Funding Opportunities**
 - a. State: 1) Ag WUE and 2) Prop 84, Imp Grant, Round 2 due March, 2013.
 - b. Federal: Reclamation may release a funding program related to NRCS.



7. **Anticipated Action Items; additional items to be added at the meeting**
 - Develop selected projects for Prop 84, Round 2 Implementation application
 - Continue Prop 84 Imp Contract coordination led by NKWSD
 - Consider banking and exchange agreements among Poso RWMG districts
8. **Suggested Date and Agenda Items for Next Regular Meeting: March 5th, 2013;** consider special workshop/meeting for Rnd2 Imp Proposal project sponsors.
9. **Adjournment**

This Agenda was posted at Wasco, California and notice was delivered in accordance with Government Code Section 54954.

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Minutes for Poso Creek IRWM Plan Implementation Meeting

Location: Semitropic Water Storage District's Office

Meeting Date and Time: **Tuesday, February 5th, 2013; 12 (noon) – 2 pm**

Attendees were welcome to call in to this public meeting on a conference line.

Phone **(877) 841-9268** Participant Code **738207**

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call**
2. **Agenda Modifications - None**
3. **Public Comment - None**
4. **Introductions and Recognition of Guests – Paul Oshel led introductions of meeting attendees.**
5. **Implementation Activity and Work Group Reports**
 - a. Irrigated Lands Program – Dale Brogan provided an update regarding the Irrigated Lands Program activity. He reported the program remains a challenging on-going effort in coordination of the draft order between the WQCBs and larger groups representing agricultural growers; the South San Joaquin and Kern River Group. It is anticipated that a draft order will be considered for adoption in February with a 3rd party sign-up period starting in June or thereafter for 120 to 180 days.
 - b. Tulare Basin Watershed Coordinator/
Tulare Basins Watershed Initiative - <http://www.tularebasinwatershed.org/>
Kathy reminded the Poso RWMG of the ecosystem wording for scoring under the Program Preferences in the Rnd2 Imp Grant. Kathy mentioned the Department of Fish and Wildlife has \$500K in funding that may be considered for ecological reserve in White River Area. Another option for flood type projects is working with Dan Vink, Pixley Irrigation District, since they have upland type habitat lands that may fit the program. Kathy expressed the interest to continue to work towards set-back type projects along creek corridors.
 - c. Prop 84 Imp., Round 1 – North Kern Grantee – Dana Munn reported on the CVC to Calloway Intertie construction was moving along relatively smoothly with anticipated completion of mid-June for the canal turnout and lining components of the Project. DWR indicated the 2nd budget modification was submitted to DWR Management for approval. The 2nd quarterly report was submitted on time and the 2nd reimbursement will be submitted in February.



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Prop 84, Imp., Round 2 – March 2013 – Paul Oshel presented the progress on project development and discussed with the RWMG with the six projects selected for the Rnd2 Imp Grant Proposal. Recall the Poso Creek IRWM RWMG voted in January to advance the following projects with a total grant request of \$8,734,000:

- 1) Madera Ave Intertie
- 2) Lost Hills New Well and Tank Replacement
- 3) Allensworth Tank Repair and SCADA Installation
- 4) Groundwater Well Destruction Program
- 5) On-Farm Mobile Lab for Nutrient Management
- 6) South Shafter Sewer – Planning and Design

Grant budget amounts were discussed for each proposed project. After discussion, the Poso Creek IRWM RWMG reached a concurrence from each Project Sponsor the budget were in line or adequate for the proposed projects. The Poso Creek RWMG then provided Paul Oshel with direction to prepare the application for submittal to DWR with the cost of the application to be shared by the Madera Avenue Intertie Project Sponsors.

- d. **Poso Activity budget update** – A budget summary of on-going activity was provided by Paul Oshel.
- e. **Poso Creek IRWM Plan Update** – Work on the Plan Update will be suspended until after completion of the Imp Rnd2 application. The RWMG discussed the cost to update the Plan will be shared by the Project Sponsors who have received funding through the Rnd 1 and the Round 2 Sponsors, if successful.
- f. **Other topics of interest** – DWR will hold an IRWM Meeting Summit, April 3-5. Members of the Poso Creek IRWM RWMG may attend.

6. **Funding Opportunities**

- a. **State:** 1) Ag WUE and 2) Prop 84, Imp Grant, Round 2 due March, 2013.

Semitropic and North Kern were awarded planning grants for Ag Water Management Plans under Ag WUE program. Results of the Cawelo's Calloway Canal lining and Semitropic meter testing facility applications are pending DWR's announcement.

- b. **Federal:** Reclamation may release a funding program related to NRCS.

Cawelo submitted to Reclamation for lining the Calloway Canal under CalFed program funding. Semitropic and North Kern submitted applications to Reclamation's WaterSMART program. Reclamation anticipates announcing awards in March; however, the Agency is uncertain of their budgets for award at this time.



7. **Anticipated Action Items; additional items to be added at the meeting**

- Develop application for Prop 84, Round 2 Implementation funding
- Continue Prop 84 Imp Contract coordination led by NKWSD
- GEI to summarize federal funding opportunities for the Madera Avenue Intertie
- Consider banking and exchange agreements among Poso RWMG districts

8. **Next Meeting:** A Project Sponsor's Workshop was set for March 5th, 2013 to allow time for Project Sponsors to review items prepared for the Rnd2 Imp Proposal.

9. **Adjournment**

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