

Attachment 13 – IRWM Plan – Reduce Delta Water Dependence

1) Identify and include portions of the IRWM Plan that demonstrate it helps reduce dependence on the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta for water supply.

This application is based on the Kings Basin IRWMP adopted October 17, 2012. In accordance with the PSP, a copy of the adopted IRWMP is included as **Attachment 1e** and is also available on the Authority’s website, http://krcd.org/water/ukbirwma/docs_gov.html.

The Kings Basin Water Authority has several connections to the Delta as described below:

- The James Irrigation District has a Central Valley Project (CVP) contract (No. 14-06-200-700L) for up to 35,300 AF/year that is typically delivered from the Delta through the Delta-Mendota Canal.
- The County of Fresno depends on Delta conveyance with their Cross Valley Canal contract. They have a contract for 3,000 AF from the Shasta unit of the CVP. The water is delivered to Fresno County through a water exchange. While this isn’t an integral part of the KBWA, this member entity does have a tenuous connection to the Delta and Delta conveyance.
- Fresno Slough Water District and Tranquillity Irrigation District are not members of the KBWA but are within the Kings Groundwater sub-basin. They both use Delta water delivered through the Delta Mendota Canal as part of their water supply.

Table 5-3 on page 5-6 of the Kings Basin IRWMP (**Attachment 13a**) shows the relationship between the IRWMP Objectives and four Bay-Delta Program Objectives. This table shows that six local objectives are compatible with the Bay-Delta Objectives of Water Quality, Levee Integrity, Water Supply Reliability, and Ecosystem Restoration.

The potential benefits of local projects on the Bay-Delta are illustrated with three of the projects proposed in this application.

- Project A – FID’s Southwest Groundwater Banking Project and Project B – Laguna ID’s Recharge Basin 11 project and will both make a minor contribution to improving levee integrity in the Delta. The projects will divert Kings River floodwater that has historically flowed past the James Bypass. These waters have historically entered the San Joaquin River and flowed to the Delta. By diverting these waters, flood flows and flood water levels will be lower in the Delta, thus reducing the risk of levee failures.

- The City of San Joaquin water meter project will conserve water, reduce groundwater pumping, and increase groundwater reserves. The James Irrigation District will benefit from approximately 1,300 AF/year of water recharged in their District through the canal capacity improvements with Project A – FID’s Southwest Groundwater Banking Project. The City of San Joaquin is an enclave in the James Irrigation District, and the two agencies share the same groundwater supply. If local groundwater reserves increase then JID may reduce their dependency on Delta water, and the impacts from Delta water curtailments will be less severe.

2) Provide assurances that any revised or subsequent IRWMP Plan will continue to help reduce dependence on the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta for water supply.

The existing IRWMP (**Attachment 1e**) sets goals and objectives (Section 5) to help protect, preserve, and sustain the region’s existing water supply thereby reducing the region’s need to pursue and compete for water supplies outside of the region. Further, the IRWMP includes several projects and methods for developing water supplies that could ultimately be made available to South of Delta contractors affected by the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta issues. The region has worked with some of these contractors in the past, particularly those in the western half of the Tulare Lake Hydrologic Region.

Some KBWA members rely on the Delta for water supplies, so the entire organization considers the potential benefits and impacts of local projects on the Delta. The region is also located within the CALFED Solution Area and can assist in meeting the Bay-Delta Program Objectives. The KBWA recognizes that the health of the Delta has an impact on water resources throughout the entire State of California.

5.4 Program Preferences

The State of California established 15 Program Preferences (formerly Program Preferences and Statewide Priorities) for IRWMPs. These Program Preferences are listed and briefly described in the DWR Proposition 84 and 1E IRWMP Guidelines (August 2010). The Program Preferences are specific topics that should be addressed in IRWMPs. Each Program Preference is addressed in this IRWMP, and they were also an important consideration in identifying Goals and Measureable Objectives. Table 5-3 lists the Measureable Objectives and with which Program Preference they are consistent.

Table 5-3: Program Preferences

No.	Program Preferences	Measurable Objectives														
		1 – Increase Groundwater Storage	2 – Identify Opportunities/Projects	3 – Identify DAC Needs and Solutions	4 – Increase Supplies / Reduce Demands	5 – Increase Dry Year Supply	6 – Increase Conveyance Capacity	7 – Compile Baseline Water Quality Data	8 – Water Quality Education	9 – Improve Water Quality	10 – Increase Surface Storage	11 – Sustain Kings River Fisheries	12 – Incorporate Habitat Benefits	13 – Increase Public Awareness of IRWMP	14 – Improve Water/Land Use Planning	15 – Comply with SB7x-7
1	Regional Project/Programs		♦													
2	Defined Hydrologic Region													♦		
3	Resolve Water Conflicts													♦	♦	
4	Bay-Delta Program Objectives															
a	Water Quality							♦	♦							
b	Levee Integrity									♦						
c	Water Supply Reliability				♦											
d	Ecosystem Restoration											♦				
5	Disadvantaged Communities			♦			♦	♦	♦					♦		
6	Integrate Water/Land Use Planning													♦	♦	
7	Stormwater Planning										♦				♦	
8	Drought Preparedness	♦			♦	♦					♦					
9	Water Efficiency				♦											♦
10	Climate Change Response				♦	♦	♦				♦	♦	♦			
11	Environment Stewardship											♦	♦			
12	Integrated Flood Management									♦						
13	Protect Water Quality			♦				♦	♦	♦			♦			
14	Improve Tribal Resources													♦		
15	Equitable Distribution of Benefits		♦	♦					♦					♦		