

## *ATTACHMENT 6. PROGRAM PREFERENCES*

- ✓ This attachment summarizes how the scope of work described in Attachment 3, Work Plan will result in an IRWMP for the East Stanislaus Region that addresses the IRWM Program Preferences.

## Chapter 1 Overview of Program Preferences

In developing a comprehensive Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP) and program, the East Stanislaus IRWM region has the potential to benefit not only the East Stanislaus region but also regions downstream, including the San Francisco-San Joaquin Bay-Delta (Bay-Delta) and water users throughout the State. Consequently, the East Stanislaus Region is committed to partnering with the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) to balance the need to establish drinking water sources that are both sustainable and reliable with the need to protect water quality, communities, and ecosystems within and outside the East Stanislaus region. This attachment demonstrates how this East Stanislaus Proposition 84 Integrated Regional Water Management Planning Grant Proposal assists in creating an IRWMP for the region that meets the State's Program Preferences; this information is summarized in Table 1 and Table 2. Table 1 cross-references the seven tasks contained in this Proposal with the Program Preferences presented in the *Proposition 84 & Proposition 1E IRWM Guidelines* (Guidelines, DWR, August 2010), while Table 2 provides an additional level of detail by cross-referencing the tasks with the specific statewide priorities they address.

It should also be noted that the seven tasks presented in this Proposal also help to move the region towards achieving its intended goals and objectives for regional water resource planning and management. Table 3 summarizes how the seven tasks described herein assist the region in developing solutions to identified conflicts, thereby moving closer to achieving the stated goals and objectives.

## Chapter 2 Program Preferences

This attachment details how the East Stanislaus IRWM Planning Grant Proposal meets each of the State's Program Preferences. The discussions below include an analysis of how the proposal as a whole meets each Program Preference, as well as details of how specific benefits of the individual tasks within the proposal address the Program Preferences and are integrated into the East Stanislaus IRWMP currently under development.

### 2.1 Include regional projects or programs

The East Stanislaus IRWMP will be, by definition, a regional plan. As explained in more detail in Attachment 3 of this proposal, the tasks presented in this grant proposal for completion and integration into the East Stanislaus IRWMP were identified through stakeholder outreach and on-going regional and local cooperative efforts, and were selected based on key factors such as:

- Benefiting a diverse set of IRWM objectives;
- Distributing funds to a broad group of stakeholders;
- Identifying studies and plan elements that can benefit stakeholders across the region; and
- Meeting DWR priorities as outlined in their *Proposal Solicitation Package (PSP), Integrated Regional Water Management, Project 84, Planning Round 2* (December 2011).

Through completion of Subtask 1.5 described in the Work Plan in Attachment 3, project solicitation will be completed to identify projects that address the region's identified water resource management goals for inclusion in the IRWMP. Additionally, following project solicitation, East Stanislaus Public Advisory Committee (PAC) members and Steering Committee (SC) members will assess the projects with an eye towards integration and enhancement such that maximum benefits for the region are achieved by the projects. All of the tasks included in this proposal are to be

completed on a regional basis and build upon existing work that has been completed by individual agencies, cities, and other entities within the region. The East Stanislaus region understands that by completing studies and planning efforts on a regional basis, greater benefits and integration are possible. This proposal represents the most significant effort to date by the East Stanislaus IRWM Region to evaluate water resources across the region, identify issues and solutions through the development of regional projects, and to integrate this information into a single, comprehensive document designed to achieve regional solutions to identified conflicts and problems.

## **2.2 Effectively integrate water management programs and projects within a hydrologic region**

The East Stanislaus Region encompasses a contiguous urban, suburban, and rural area covering more than 881 square miles of the San Joaquin River hydrologic region. Prior to development of the East Stanislaus Region, planning efforts in Stanislaus County have generally been local efforts and/or project-specific cooperative efforts between jurisdictions. While some regional planning has occurred to date (i.e. development of Groundwater Management Plans for the Modesto and Turlock Subbasins), these efforts have not addressed regional water resources management as an inclusive subject nor have they been sustained in an active manner. The East Stanislaus Region, as a new IRWM region, is working to integrate the water management efforts of stakeholders across the entire region, an area identified as including ecosystems with valuable ecologic processes and environmental resources. DWR recognized the East Stanislaus Region as an appropriate planning area through an unconditional acceptance in the 2011 RAP process. Also, as previously mentioned in Section 2.1, a work item included in Subtask 1.5 of the Work Plan (Attachment 3) will specifically focus on integrating projects and programs within the Region for inclusion in the IRWMP. Table 1 identifies the two tasks that directly incorporate multi-stakeholder regional cooperation and the broader (regional) evaluation of water resources to achieve multiple benefits.

## **2.3 Effectively resolve significant water-related conflicts within or between regions**

Regional water management conflicts can arise due to differences in assumed or actual water rights and stakeholders' goals and values. As with other areas of the Central Valley, water resource conflicts are present as agricultural, environmental and urban demands collide, groundwater and surface water resources become impacted, and as the region continues to grow. During the East Stanislaus Region's Steering Committee and Public Advisory Committee meetings on September 29, 2011, the following primary regional water management issues and conflicts were identified and vetted:

- Water supply reliability for both agricultural and urban users
- Drinking water quality
- Groundwater overdraft and contamination.
- Protection and enhancement of aquatic, riparian, and watershed resources
- Water-related needs for disadvantaged communities
- Localized flooding and stormwater quality issues
- Recycled water use

Minimizing and resolving differences before they propagate into large-scale conflicts is the Region's planned approach for avoiding and/or minimizing these potential and actual conflicts. By using a regional approach to identifying and addressing areas of concerns, the Region can development projects and programs that address these potential conflicts, achieve economies of scale (thereby

reducing costs for all) and ensure that all new construction provides the maximum number of benefits possible.

The East Stanislaus IRWMP planning process itself will work towards resolving water management strategy conflicts within the Region. Furthermore, this Proposal includes three additional studies/tasks that will evaluate and consider issues and solutions on a larger (regional) scale than have previously been conducted to reduce regional conflicts over water supplies for all uses by identifying projects and programs that improve regional water supply reliability and by promoting coordinated water planning. In addition to these regional studies, development of an online data management system will provide for a consolidated readily-available database that can be used by all regional interests to develop water-related programs and projects and for real-time monitoring of changes to basin groundwater elevations resulting from various factors including population growth, increasing water demands, climate change, and project implementation.

## 2.4 Contribute to attainment of one or more of the objectives of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program

While 2009 legislation changed Delta governance, the critical needs of the Delta remain. The East Stanislaus Region, immediately upstream of the Delta, is situated in a location such that actions within the region can contribute to CALFED objectives. Two tasks contained in this proposal contribute to furthering attainment of one CALFED objective, as shown in Table 1 and described below.

### Improve Water Supply Reliability

- **Task 6 – Regional Water Needs Assessment:** This task will help to identify projects and programs that will address the region’s water supply objective of providing a variety of water supply sources to meet all current and future demands under various hydrologic conditions. This task will assess the current and future demands from the East Stanislaus Region, including those parts of the region where Urban Water Management Plans (UWMPs) are not required. This information will be incorporated into the East Stanislaus IRWMP and will help direct regional water supply projects to ensure long-term reliability and sustainability of all local and regional supplies. The results of this task will also help identify what the potential future impacts of demands will be on the Tuolumne River, the primary source of surface water used in the region and an important tributary to the Delta.
- **Task 7 – Prepare Integrated Stormwater Resource Management and Groundwater Augmentation Plan:** Similar to Task 6 described above, this task will evaluate the ability to capture and reuse stormwater runoff for groundwater recharge, identifying opportunities and projects to help sustain the region’s groundwater supplies and conjunctively manage this supply with its Tuolumne River source. Effectively managing the underlying groundwater basins and utilizing all possible water supplies is key to regional management of water resources and ensuring that regional water demands will be met in times of shortages.

### Improve Water Quality for Beneficial Uses

None of the tasks included in the Proposal will address Improve Water Quality for Beneficial Uses.

### Improve Bay-Delta Ecosystem

None of the tasks included in the Proposal will address Improve Bay-Delta Ecosystem.

### Delta Levee Integrity

None of the tasks included in the Proposal will address Delta Levee Integrity.

## **2.5 Address critical water supply or water quality needs of disadvantaged communities**

Disadvantaged communities (DACs) in the East Stanislaus Region are both interspersed within the service areas of water suppliers in the region and are spread out through the unincorporated areas of the Stanislaus County. While those DACs located within water retail service areas have most of their water supply or quality needs met as part of regular service area operations, DACs outside retail service areas are, however, typically dependent on local wells, many of which are plagued with water quality problems. In addition, the water supply needs of these communities are not often considered in long-term planning both as a result of their exclusion from Urban Water Management Plans and due to the historical lack of region-wide water supply planning. This proposal includes four tasks that will directly benefit areas identified as DACs.

- **Task 1 – Prepare East Stanislaus IRWM Plan:** This task provides a forum for DAC and Native American communities to participate in regional water resources planning. Preparation of the East Stanislaus IRWMP will directly solicit input from DAC and Native American communities and will attempt to identify projects and programs that will directly benefit these communities.
- **Task 2 – DAC and Native American Outreach and Technical Assistance:** This task will provide direct and focused outreach to existing and newly identified DACs and Native American communities as a result of the evaluation using updated median household income data and other searches. Further, this task will provide much-needed technical assistance to these communities to help identify and further projects and programs that will directly benefit them such that they may be competitive with other projects to be included in the East Stanislaus IRWM Plan. This task will improve water management and water quality for local DACs and reduce customer costs by taking advantage of regional-scale programs.
- **Task 5 – Regional County Island Sewer Connection Study:** Just as most DACs are located in rural areas of Stanislaus County and are dependent on local groundwater wells for supplies, many of these same areas rely on septic systems for wastewater management. Septic systems are, however, a key source of contamination to shallow groundwater aquifers and as such, pose a continuing water quality problem for these rural DACs. This task will identify the County “islands” that are on septic, determine if they do, in fact, pose water quality problems, and evaluate the potential to connect these areas to centralized or satellite wastewater treatment systems in a cost-effective efficient manner. This task will help to improve water quality for DACs and protect critical groundwater supplies.
- **Task 6 – Regional Water Needs Assessment:** As noted above, many of the region’s DACs are located in rural areas of the County which are not considered in the Urban Water Management Planning that encompasses the more urban areas. However, like many of their urban neighbors, these rural areas depend heavily on local groundwater for their water supplies. In order to effectively manage the groundwater basins underlying the region to avoid overdraft and associated problems, a comprehensive evaluation of existing and future water needs for the entire region must be completed. It will be through this process that the water supply needs of all DACs can be evaluated and directly addressed to their benefit.

## 2.6 Effectively integrate water management with land use planning

In urbanized areas of the East Stanislaus Region, water resource management takes into consideration land use plans identified in the General Plans. Land use planning projections provide the basis for establishing water supply projections and identifying habitat areas that will need to be protected against impacts associated with urban development. However, as previously noted, many portions of the East Stanislaus Region lie outside those areas covered by Urban Water Management Planning, and therefore the future land use planning associated with these areas has not been integrated with regional water resource planning. This proposal contains three tasks that support integration of water management with land use planning.

- **Task 1 – Prepare East Stanislaus IRWM Plan:** As required by the IRWM Guidelines, the East Stanislaus IRWM Plan will directly evaluate the connection between land use plans (i.e. General Plans) and water supply projections for those areas with UWMPs. And, as the data permits, this information will be extrapolated to areas where land use planning documents have been prepared but future water projections not completed. This information will be documented in the East Stanislaus IRWMP.
- **Task 6 – Regional Water Needs Assessment:** As previously discussed, many portions of the East Stanislaus Region are located in areas not considered in recent UWMPs. This task will prepare a comprehensive assessment of existing and future water needs for the entire region, which will be dependent upon land use planning identified in both General Plans and other local documents. This task will consider those areas currently on individual groundwater wells and will incorporate future agricultural needs as data permits. By its nature, this task will integrate land use planning with water management on a regional basis.
- **Task 7 – Prepare Integrated Stormwater Resource Management and Groundwater Augmentation Plan:** This task will jointly evaluate land use planning and related stormwater management and flood protection with water supply protection and management to identify potential opportunities to develop and implement multi-benefit projects that will improve stormwater management, reduce flood impacts, and provide water supply and environmental benefits. As the need for stormwater management and opportunities for groundwater recharge (specifically as they are related to land use planning in aquifer recharge or forebay zones) are both linked directly to land use planning, this task will integrate land use planning with water management for the region.

## 2.7 Address Statewide priorities

The Guidelines identify eight statewide priorities specific to the IRWM Grant Program. As illustrated in Table 2, each of the tasks contained in this proposal, except one (Task 4 – Planning Grant Administration) embodies at least one of these Statewide priorities. Both individually and integrated into the East Stanislaus IRWMP, these tasks address Statewide priorities.

### Drought Preparedness

Drought preparedness is a key topic to be addressed by the East Stanislaus IRWM Plan. Together, the tasks presented in this Proposal will provide key pieces of information to allow the Region to prepare for drought shortages and to minimize impacts of droughts on local environments.

- **Task 1 – Prepare East Stanislaus IRWM Plan:** One regional goal for the East Stanislaus IRWMP is to improve water supply reliability with the specific objective of meeting all current and future demands under a variety of hydrologic conditions. In developing projects

and programs to address this goal (as documented in the East Stanislaus IRWMP), the region will be meeting the statewide priority of drought preparedness.

- **Task 3 – Customize and Implement Online Data Management:** This task will compile available water flow, elevation and quality data into an easily-accessible database to facilitate water resource management. As noted above, Tuolumne River water and groundwater are key components of the region’s water supply, and effective management of these supplies under a variety of hydrologic conditions will be vital to ensuring a sustainable and reliable water supply.
- **Task 6 – Regional Water Needs Assessment:** This task will provide a regional assessment of both current and future water demands for the entire East Stanislaus Region. This information is critical to managing water supplies under various hydrologic conditions and in preparing for droughts.
- **Task 7 – Prepare Integrated Stormwater Resource Management and Groundwater Augmentation Plan:** This task will evaluate the ability to capture and reuse stormwater runoff for groundwater recharge. The East Stanislaus overlies two subbasins of the San Joaquin Valley Groundwater Basin, and groundwater is a major component of regional water supplies. Effectively managing the groundwater basin and conjunctively utilizing this supply with the Tuolumne River supplies will be key to regional management of water resources, which have and will continue to be vital in meeting regional water demands in times of shortages.

### Use and Reuse Water More Efficiently

The ability to use and reuse water more efficiently is a primary tenant of water resources management. To this end, three tasks included in this proposal address this subject.

- **Task 1 – Prepare East Stanislaus IRWM Plan:** The IRWMP prepared under this task will evaluate opportunities to use recycled water and stormwater as additional sources of water supplies within the region.
- **Task 6 – Regional Water Needs Assessment:** This task will provide a regional assessment of both current and future water demands for the East Stanislaus Region, improving understanding of water supplies and ways to use existing and future water supplies in the most efficient manner possible. This task will contribute to regional planning efforts for using water more efficiently.
- **Task 7 – Prepare Integrated Stormwater Resource Management and Groundwater Augmentation Plan:** This task will evaluate the ability to capture and reuse stormwater runoff for groundwater recharge and as an alternative supply to surface water and groundwater. Therefore, this task will increase regional urban water use efficiency by promoting water reuse.

### Climate Change Response Actions

The development of climate change response actions will allow the East Stanislaus Region to plan for and adapt to future climate changes. Four of the tasks included in this proposal provide important information required to allow these adaptive actions to be developed.

- **Task 1 – Prepare East Stanislaus IRWM Plan:** The IRWM planning Guidelines includes a standard for evaluating climate change impacts on the region with the intent of facilitating the development of local and regional climate change response actions. A brief overview of how climate change may affect the East Stanislaus Region has been conducted, but it must be further addressed. Adapting to the potential changes from climate change will be

discussed in the East Stanislaus IRWMP in relation to adaptive management options, and the project review process will include a greenhouse gas emissions component.

- **Task 3 – Customize and Implement Online Data Management:** Information is essential to effective management, and the online database created by this task will facilitate the ability to utilize existing and future data efficiently and easily. Online data management will allow for the monitoring of “real-time” conditions, thereby facilitating regional response and adaptive management actions.
- **Task 6 – Regional Water Needs Assessment:** This task will provide a comprehensive assessment of regional water needs in the future and under a variety of hydrologic conditions. This information will be vital to managing regional water supplies effectively and to develop adaptive management policies under uncertain future climate conditions.
- **Task 7 – Prepare Integrated Stormwater Resource Management and Groundwater Augmentation Plan:** This task will result in a plan that will identify projects and opportunities to reuse stormwater, either directly or indirectly, to recharge the underlying groundwater basins. Effective use and management of all regional water supplies will be critical to addressing climate change impacts on water resources in the future and allow for adaptive management to potential climate change impacts.

### Expand Environmental Stewardship

The following task will address the need to expand environmental stewardship in the East Stanislaus IRWM Region.

- **Task 1 – Prepare East Stanislaus IRWM Plan:** One regional goal of the East Stanislaus IRWMP is to protect environmental resources by identifying, promoting, and implementing opportunities to assess, restore, and enhance natural resources in the region. By addressing this goal within the East Stanislaus IRWMP, this task is fulfilling the stateside priority of expanding environmental stewardship.

### Practice Integrated Flood Management

The East Stanislaus IRWM region has a regional goal of ensuring flood protection strategies are developed and implemented, both on a local and watershed basis, to maximize opportunities for comprehensive water resources management. Two tasks included in this proposal help to address this goal.

- **Task 1 – Prepare East Stanislaus IRWM Plan:** Development and integration of flood management and water resource objectives and projects is a goal of the IRWM Program Guidelines. Therefore, this integration will be addressed in the East Stanislaus IRWMP as the plan attempts to develop a program to meet its goals and objectives. To this end, this task will achieve the statewide priority of practicing integrated food management.
- **Task 7 – Prepare Integrated Stormwater Resource Management and Groundwater Augmentation Plan:** Task 7, as presented in this Proposal, will provide multiple benefits through regional integrated flood management. The task will result in projects and opportunities to simultaneously manage stormwater runoff, provide flood protection, and allow for groundwater recharge and environmental enhancement. The results of this study will be incorporated in the East Stanislaus IRWMP in both descriptions of regional opportunities and in specific programs and projects to achieve the intended results.

### Protect Surface Water and Groundwater Quality

Protecting water quality is another regional goal for the East Stanislaus Region. Three of the tasks included in this proposal will provide, when implemented, the necessary analyses to help achieve this goal.

- **Task 1 – Prepare East Stanislaus IRWM Plan:** The East Stanislaus IRWMP will include descriptions of surface water and groundwater quality in the region and will work towards achieving the necessary programs (such as establishing a monitoring program) to help protect local water quality. The East Stanislaus IRWMP will, when completed, incorporate a program to address regional goals and objectives, including the Region’s water quality goal to protect and improve water quality for beneficial uses consistent with regional interests and the RWQCB Basin Plan.
- **Task 3 – Customize and Implement Online Data Management:** This task will help protect regional water quality by compiling available surface water and groundwater quality data into an easily-accessible database to facilitate water resource management and protection.
- **Task 5 – Regional County Island Sewer Connection Study:** As previously noted, many rural areas in the East Stanislaus region are currently on septic systems. These systems are, however, a key source of contamination to shallow groundwater aquifers and as such, pose continuing groundwater quality problems. This task will identify the County “islands” that are on septic systems, determine if they do, in fact, pose water quality problems, and evaluate the potential to connect these areas to centralized or satellite wastewater treatment systems in a cost-effective efficient manner. This task will help protect and improve the of critical groundwater supplies.

### Improve Tribal Water and Natural Resources

At present, the East Stanislaus IRWM region has not fully defined its disadvantaged or Native American communities. This work is in progress and its outcome will depend on the analysis of available updated median household income data and location outreach efforts. However, in preparation for identifying these communities, this proposal includes the following tasks to address these communities in a specific manner.

- **Task 2 – DAC and Native American Outreach and Technical Assistance:** This task will provide direct and focused outreach to existing and newly identified DACs and Native American communities as a result of an evaluation and local outreach programs. Further, this task will provide much-needed technical assistance to these communities to help identify and further projects and programs that will directly benefit them such that they may be competitive with other projects to be included in the East Stanislaus IRWM Plan. This task will therefore help to develop water programs and projects (dependent upon the identified communities) in collaboration and consultation with these communities.

### Ensure Equitable Distribution of Benefits

This Proposal will ensure an equitable distribution of benefits within the East Stanislaus Region. The tasks in the proposal are regional in nature and will evaluate the entire East Stanislaus Region. When completed, the East Stanislaus IRWMP (**Task 1**) will include projects brought forth by the region’s water agencies, by other local agencies and municipalities, by non-profit environmental organizations and by other stakeholders for fair and equitable consideration. Additionally, **Task 2 – DAC and Native American Outreach and Technical Assistance**, will directly support the identification, development, and implementation of projects and programs to directly meet the needs of DACs and Native American Communities. Finally, **Task 5, the Regional County Island**

**Sewer Connection Study**, and **Task 6, Regional Water Needs Assessment**, will evaluate all areas of the East Stanislaus Region, including those currently left out of water supply and resource management planning. By considering these areas and incorporating them into the programs and projects developed for identified in the East Stanislaus IRWMP to achieve the Region's goals and objectives, an equitable distribution of benefits is ensured for the region as whole.

**Table 1: Program Preferences by Task**

Proposed Tasks	Program Preferences									
	Include Regional Projects or Programs	Integrate Water Management Programs and Projects within a Recognized Hydrologic Region	Resolve Significant Water-Related Conflicts within or between Regions	Contribute to Objectives of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program <sup>1</sup>				Address Critical Water Supply and Quality Needs of DACs	Integrate Water Management with Land Use Planning	Address Statewide Priorities
				WS	WQ	ER	L			
Task 1 – Prepare East Stanislaus IRWM Plan	✓	✓	✓					✓	✓	✓
Task 2 – DAC and Native American Outreach and Technical Assistance	✓							✓		✓
Task 3 – Customize and Implement Online Data Management System	✓		✓							✓
Task 4 – Planning Grant Administration	✓									✓
Task 5 – Regional County Island Sewer Connection Study	✓		✓					✓		✓
Task 6 – Regional Water Needs Assessment	✓		✓	✓				✓	✓	✓
Task 7 – Prepare Integrated Stormwater Resource Management and Groundwater Augmentation Plan	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓	✓

Footnotes:

1. WS – water supply; WQ – water quality; ER – ecosystem restoration; L – levee integrity

**Table 2: Statewide Priorities by Task**

Proposed Tasks	Statewide Priorities							
	Drought Preparedness	Use and Reuse Water More Efficiently	Climate Change Response Actions	Expand Environmental Stewardship	Practice Integrated Flood Management	Protect Surface Water and Groundwater Quality	Improve Tribal Water and Natural Resources	Ensure Equitable Distribution of Benefits
Task 1 – Prepare East Stanislaus IRWM Plan	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Task 2 – DAC and Native American Outreach and Technical Assistance							✓	✓
Task 3 – Customize and Implement Online Data Management System	✓		✓			✓		
Task 4 – Planning Grant Administration								
Task 5 – Regional County Island Sewer Connection Study						✓		✓
Task 6 – Regional Water Needs Assessment	✓	✓	✓					✓
Task 7 – Prepare Integrated Stormwater Resource Management and Groundwater Augmentation Plan	✓	✓	✓		✓			

**Table 3: Regional Goals and Objectives by Task**

East Stanislaus IRWM Regional Goals & Objectives	Task 1 – Prepare East Stanislaus IRWM Plan	Task 2 – DAC and Native American Outreach and Technical Assistance	Task 3 – Customize and Implement Online Data Management System	Task 4 – Planning Grant Administration	Task 5 – Regional County Island Sewer Connection Study	Task 6 – Regional Water Needs Assessment	Task 7 – Prepare Integrated Stormwater Resource Management and Groundwater Augmentation Plan
<p><b>Water Supply Goal</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide a variety of supply sources to meet current and future demands under varying hydrologic conditions</li> <li>• Promote use of groundwater storage and conjunctive use options to reduce groundwater overdraft</li> <li>• Protect existing water rights</li> <li>• Implement water conservation plans for urban and agricultural users</li> <li>• Support monitoring and research to improve understanding of water supplies and needs</li> <li>• Address conveyance infrastructure needs</li> </ul>	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓
<p><b>Water Quality Goal</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meet or exceed all applicable water quality regulatory standards</li> <li>• Deliver agricultural water to meet water quality guidelines established by stakeholders</li> <li>• Aid in meeting TMDLs established, or to be established, for the Tuolumne River watershed</li> <li>• Protect surface waters and groundwater basins from contamination and threat of contamination</li> <li>• Manage existing land uses while preserving or enhancing environmental habitats</li> <li>• Minimize impacts from storm water through implementation of BMPs, LID, or other similar projects</li> <li>• Promote programs and projects to reduce the quantity and improve the quality of urban and agricultural runoff</li> <li>• Promote and support regional monitoring to further understanding of water quality issues</li> </ul>	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓
<p><b>Flood Protection Goal</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop outlines of regional projects and plans necessary to protect infrastructure from flooding and erosion from the 100-year event</li> <li>• Work with stakeholders to preserve existing flood attenuation by implementing land management strategies throughout the watershed</li> <li>• Develop approaches for adaptive management that minimizes maintenance requirements and protects water quality and availability while preserving and enhancing ecologic and stream functions, as appropriate</li> <li>• Provide community benefits beyond flood protection</li> <li>• Protect, restore and/or enhance the natural ecological and hydrologic functions of rivers, creeks, streams and their floodplains</li> </ul>	✓						✓
<p><b>Environmental Protection and Enhancement Goal</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify and incorporate opportunities to assess, protect, enhance and/or restore natural resources when developing water management strategies</li> <li>• Minimize adverse effects on biological and cultural resources, including riparian habitats, habitats supporting sensitive species, and archaeological sites when implementing strategies and projects</li> <li>• Identify opportunities for open spaces, trails and parks along creeks, and other recreational projects in the watershed to be incorporated with water supply, water quality or flood protection projects</li> <li>• Contribute to the long-term sustainability of agricultural, commercial, industrial, and urban land uses and activities within the basin</li> <li>• Identify opportunities to protect, enhance and/or restore habitat to support all watersheds in the Region in conjunction with water supply, water quality or flood protection projects</li> <li>• Support projects to understand, protect, improve and/or restore the region's ecological resources</li> </ul>	✓						

**Table 3: Regional Goals and Objectives by Task (cont'd)**

East Stanislaus IRWM Regional Goals & Objectives	Task 1 – Prepare East Stanislaus IRWM Plan	Task 2 – DAC and Native American Outreach and Technical Assistance	Task 3 – Customize and Implement Online Data Management	Task 4 – Planning Grant Administration	Task 5– Regional County Island Sewer Connection Study	Task 6 – Regional Water Needs Assessment	Task 7 – Prepare Integrated Stormwater Resource Management and Groundwater Augmentation Plan
<p><b>Regional Communication and Cooperation Goal</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a forum for consensus decision-making and IRWM Plan implementation by regional entities</li> <li>• Build relationships with State and Federal regulatory agencies and other water forums and agencies to facilitate permitting of water-related projects and ensure continued consistency with state water plans</li> <li>• Facilitate dialogues between regional and inter-regional entities to reduce inconsistencies and conflicts in water management and to maximize benefits from water-related projects</li> <li>• Maintain avenues of communication with the general public and offer opportunities to provide feedback on the IRWMP and water-related projects through the regional websites and other public forums</li> <li>• Identify opportunities for public education about water supply, water quality, flood management, and environmental protection</li> </ul>	✓	✓	✓				
<p><b>Economic and Social Responsibility Goal</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support the participation of disadvantaged communities in the development, implementation, monitoring and long-term maintenance of water resource projects</li> <li>• Develop cost-effective multi-benefit projects</li> <li>• Consider disproportionate community impacts to ensure environmental justice</li> <li>• Maximize economies of scale and governmental efficiencies</li> <li>• Protect cultural resources</li> <li>• Reduce energy use and/or use renewable resources where appropriate</li> </ul>	✓	✓					