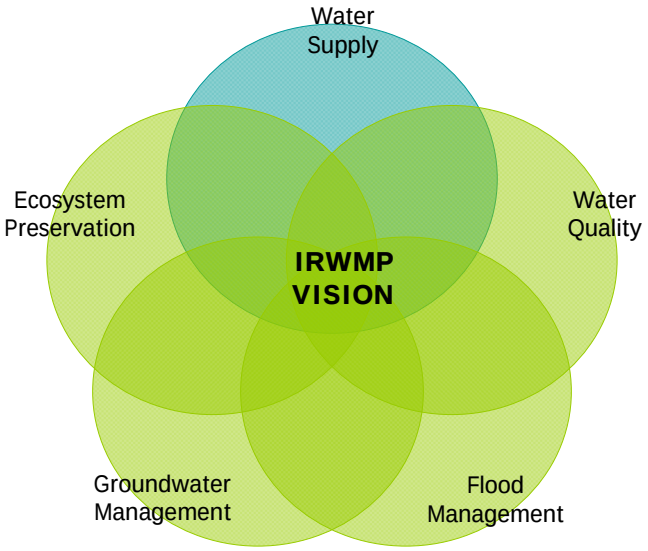
San Luis Obispo County
Integrated Regional Water Management Region



Proposition 84 Program Preferences
San Luis Obispo County
Integrated Planning Proposal

March 2012

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Program Preferences

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Introduction

This attachment summarizes how the current and proposed updated San Luis Obispo County Region (SLO Region) Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Plan will result in an IRWM Plan that addresses the IRWM Program Preferences.

As the current IRWM Plan (and future iterations of it) is implemented, the SLO Region IRWM program will move towards meeting its regional goals and objectives, as well as the State's IRWM Program Preferences. Regional stakeholders prioritized projects and programs acknowledging their ability to address multiple water management strategies, provide regional benefit, and address critical need. The current list of water strategies and projects/plans/programs being considered by the SLO Region is included at the end of this attachment. The implementation of these projects/plans/programs, in addition to implementation of those planning efforts identified in the planning proposal, will result in a comprehensive plan and an effective implementation strategy to improve upon regional, integrated water management efforts.

The SLO Region IRWM Plan's current or projected meeting of each IRWM Program Preference is described herein.

Regional Projects or Programs

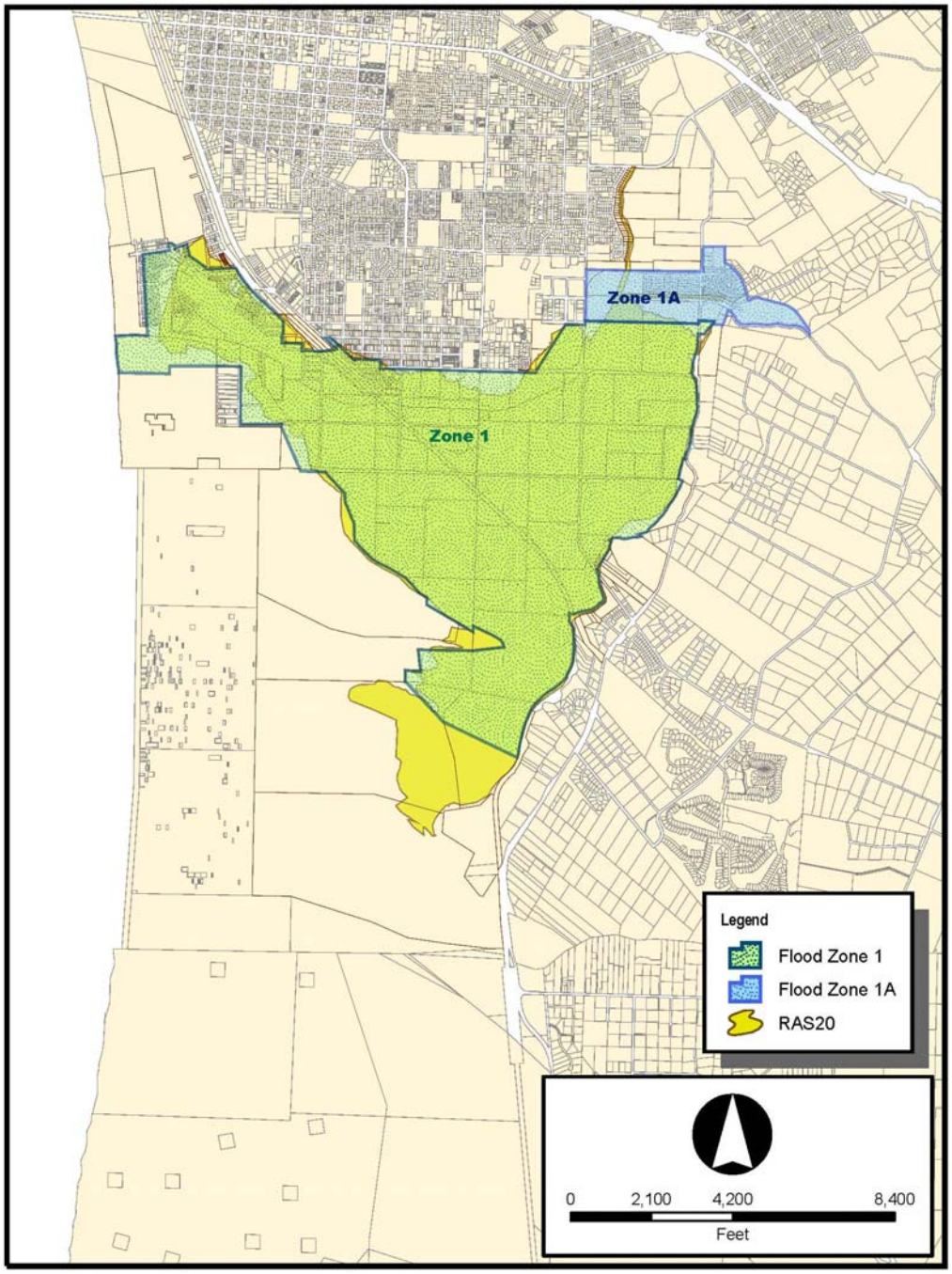
Program Preference Full Text: Include Regional Projects or Programs.

The current SLO IRWM Plan includes Regional projects or programs.

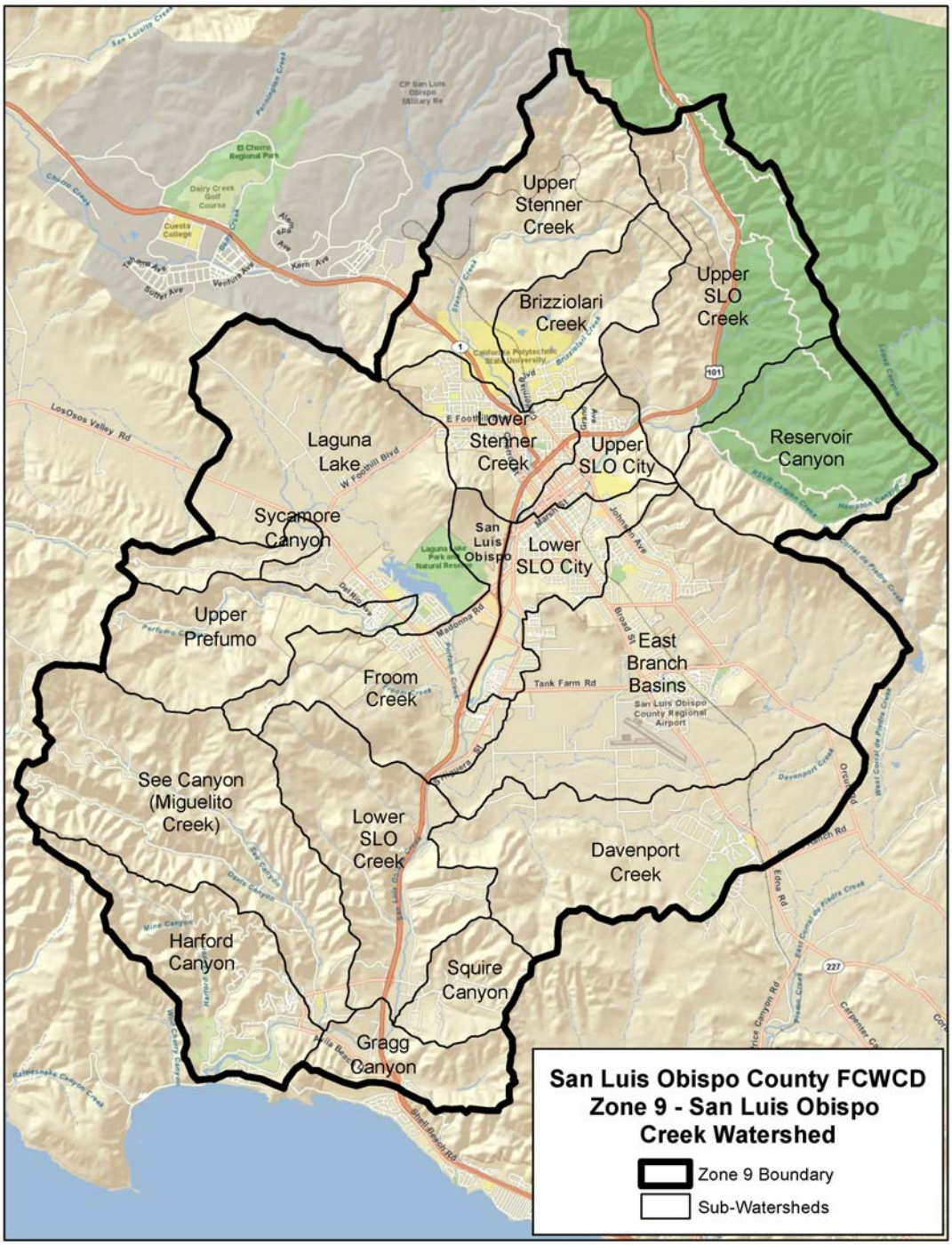
As a regional plan, the SLO Region IRWM Plan enables more efficient use of local resources through collaborative and coordinated efforts and shared resources. As a regional plan, as opposed to individual local efforts, many more strategic options become available to solve water resource management issues. Regional projects can serve multiple communities more efficiently, at a lower cost, and can achieve broader public support than can be achieved through smaller, localized efforts. Access to technical support and sources of funding from Federal and State agencies is more effective using a regional plan supported by a regional partnership of local agencies. Additionally, implementing specific programs that integrate projects to collectively achieve IRWMP goals and objectives will ultimately be more beneficial to the local watersheds as a whole.

Regional planning is advantageous for issues that span the SLO Region and cross jurisdictional boundaries. Examples of these are described below. The IRWM Plan process provides a forum for sharing experience, insights and knowledge among agencies and for developing solutions that can be effectively implemented at a regional scale.

There are many issues in the watershed that can only be effectively addressed through a coordinated regional planning approach. For example, an effective flood management solution for Flood Control Zones 1/1A and 9, where the flooding impacts occur, requires consideration of activities by multiple agencies in both the upper and lower portions of the waterway. The Flood Control Zone 1/1A and Zone 9 project boundaries span multiple jurisdictions and require agencies to work together to develop a sustainable flood protection strategy.



Flood Control Zone 1/1A



Flood Control Zone 9

Addressing water quality issues such as Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) involves concerted efforts to control point source and non-point source pollution by agencies, cities and counties. The SLO Region crosses many jurisdictions and the source of the contaminants knows no agency boundary. Therefore a collaboration of agencies is necessary to address the water quality problems in the region.

Surface water reservoirs can be operated to achieve maximum benefit only by understanding the needs and considerations of all downstream users. An agency may be able to provide additional downstream benefits to meet these needs by modifying their operations while maintaining their agency's original project objectives. For example, the San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District's (District's) Nacimiento Water Project (NWP) consists of a pipeline, storage tanks, pump stations, and appurtenant facilities to convey water from Lake Nacimiento 45 miles south to the communities of Paso Robles, Templeton, Atascadero, San Luis Obispo and Cayucos (via an exchange agreement with San Luis Obispo). The District's entitlement is based on a 1959 agreement. The project is an important "backbone" facility supporting regional water supply reliability. Implementing the raw water supply alternative resulted in support from environmental stakeholders who had opposed a treated water supply alternative that could provide an urban amenity (potable water) to rural lands and risk urban sprawl. The NWP benefits go further. Since only about 60% of the supply is committed to contracting parties, its capacity will meet additional supply reliability needs far into the future.

There are also many water management related contrasts that exist between different areas of the region. This presents opportunities for regional planning to integrate efforts and utilize the attributes of one area to address deficiencies existing in another. An example is the Nipomo Community Services District (CSD) Supplemental Water Project. The Nipomo CSD will be constructing treatment facilities and a pipeline to transfer 3,000 to 6,200 acre-feet of supplemental water per year from the Santa Maria Groundwater Basin to resolve overdraft of groundwater in the Northern Cities Management Area (NCMA); the Nipomo Mesa Management Area (NMMA); and the Santa Maria Valley Management Area (SMVMA). This project integrates water supply reliability and groundwater management strategies through inter-agency cooperation.

Finally, a regional planning process will allow agencies planning single-purpose projects to work together and combine efforts to develop multi-objective solutions, or to examine projects for potential enhancements that can address additional issues simultaneously within one project. Examples include tying recreational and public access opportunities to flood management actions, enabling fish migration as a component of water supply projects and restoring native habitat in conjunction with efforts to address water quality. Developing multiuse projects increases efficiency and public acceptance. It does require a coordinated effort between multiple stakeholders which is best accomplished through the IRWM Plan process.

Thus far, the IRWM Plan process has identified high priority projects, considered them in the context of regional objectives, and assembled them into water management programs that are representative of a synergistic approach. Relationships and connections between stakeholders which were not apparent previously, are enabled through the regional planning process. From a coordination standpoint, the IRWM Plan process builds relationships and understandings that will be invaluable for understanding and solving future issues.

The updated SLO IRWM Plan will include newly identified regional projects or programs.

Collaboration and coordination on regional projects and programs has continued and this funding proposal is seeking grant funds for these efforts. As described in the Attachment 3 - Work Plan Introduction, regional stakeholders were asked to submit planning proposals for grant consideration. There were two main, reoccurring planning categories identified and prioritized:

1. Salt and Nutrient Management Planning and Reuse/Recycled Water Planning
2. Watershed Management Planning

The WRAC Subcommittee determined that focusing on a broad, regional approach under these two main planning categories could better address the needs of the various sponsoring agencies and the SLO Region as a whole. Common planning study elements were identified within each main planning category that could benefit the IRWM Plan and the SLO Region stakeholders. District staff hosted meetings for each main planning category to discuss possible integrated efforts with proposal sponsoring agencies, and develop prioritized tasks.

Multiple agencies will work together to complete the studies. For example, the agencies listed below are working together on the Regional Recycled Water Strategic Plan (RWMP) tasks. The agencies will investigate the feasibility of implementing recycled water programs within their service areas as a way to diversify their water supply portfolios, reduce reliance on surface water imports, eliminate discharge of treated wastewater to the Pacific Ocean, and reduce conflicts associated with limited regional water resources. The results of the various tasks to be performed by the supporting agencies will be used to inform and improve the IRWM Plan as well as to inform the regional stakeholders related to recycled water usage potential and recycled water strategies.

- Templeton Community Services District (TCSD)
- City of Morro Bay
- City of Pismo Beach
- South San Luis Obispo County Sanitation District (SSLOCSD)
    - City of Grover Beach
    - Oceano Community Services District (OCSD)
    - City of Arroyo Grande
- Nipomo Community Services District (NCSD)

To integrate the needs of each of the facilities within the context of a regional approach, the needs and initiatives for each individual facility will be evaluated and presented in the context of a regional RWSP. The RWSP will combine common elements and regional considerations for each of the sub-regions to improve the efficiency of the planning effort and provide the

individual agencies with more resources to focus on the specific analysis related to their wastewater treatment facility and reuse programs. The regional elements and the facility specific analysis will be combined into a single regional recycled water planning document that will contribute directly to the Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP) for the San Luis Obispo County region and will benefit any subsequent agencies investigating the feasibility of implementing a recycled water project.

Effectively Integrate Water Management Programs/Projects

Program Preference Full Text: Effectively integrate water management programs and projects within a hydrologic region identified in the California Water Plan; the RWQCB region or subdivision; or other region identified by DWR.

The SLO IRWM Plan integrates projects and programs within the Central Coast hydrologic region.

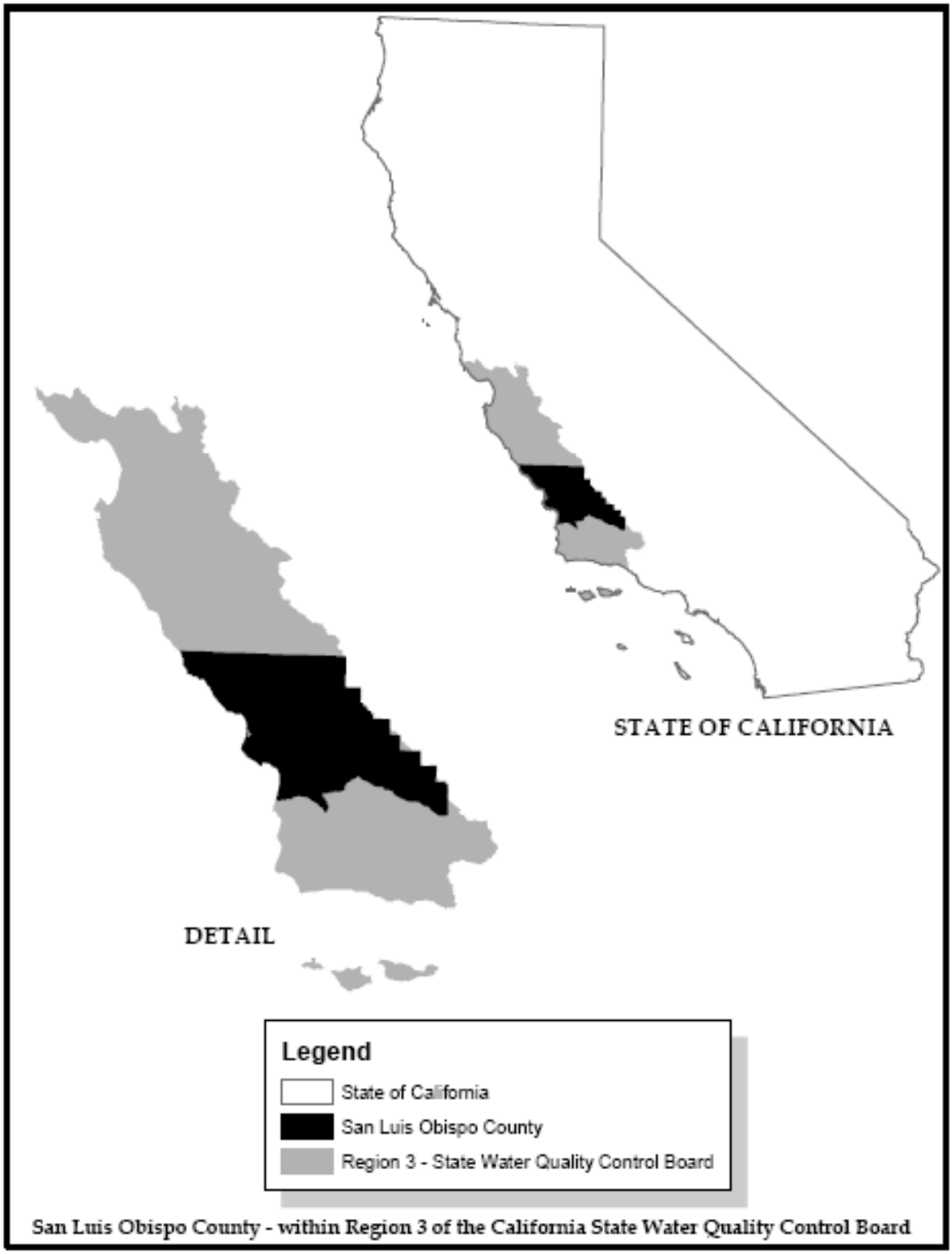
The SLO Region is located in the Central Coast Hydrologic Region identified in the California Water Plan and the Central Coast Region of the Regional Water Quality Control Board (see figure below). The IRWM Plan serves to integrate projects and programs through a common goal with many objectives. As a result, the projects and programs are linked both in function and goal. Each project meets a variety of goals and objectives, and provides multiple benefits to the integrated management of the region.

The Region's IRWM planning process focused on developing multi-beneficial management strategies to address the many needs and water resources interests in the region. Borne out of the planning process was an IRWM Plan that integrates, on a regional basis, five main areas of water management: Water Quality, Water Supply; Ecosystem Preservation and Restoration, Groundwater Monitoring and Management, and Flood Management. Through the IRWM planning process, projects were prioritized based on their ability to meet multiple SLO Region IRWM Plan objectives.

The SLO Region participates in discussions with the other five IRWM regions in the Central Coast hydrologic region and identifies opportunities to integrate common programs and facilitate consistency in planning efforts.

The updated SLO IRWM Plan will integrate newly identified projects and programs within the Central Coast hydrologic region.

The SLO County IRWM regional boundaries will remain the same and project and programs will continue to be integrated within the Central Coast hydrologic region.



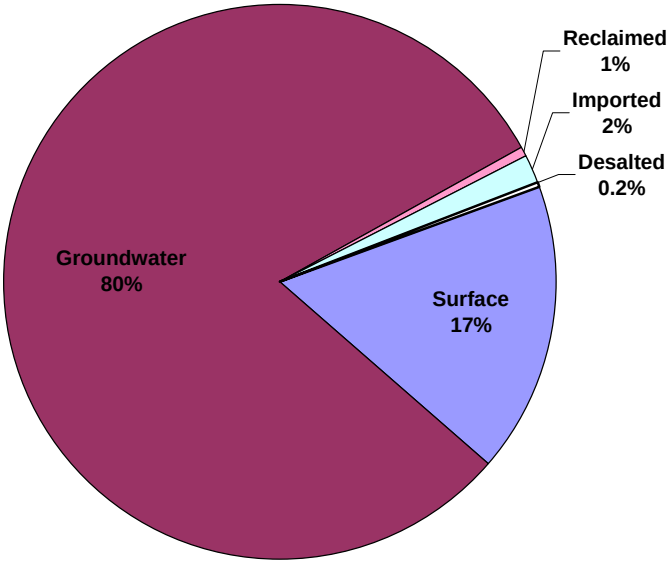
San Luis Obispo County - within Region 3 of the California State Water Quality Control Board

Effectively Resolve Significant Water Related Conflicts

Program Preference Full Text: Effectively resolve significant water-related conflicts within or between regions.

The current SLO IRWM Plan and proposed updates to the plan effectively resolve significant water related conflicts within and between regions.

Water Supply: SLO County obtains nearly 80 percent of its water from groundwater supplies and about 20 percent from reservoirs and other sources. The figure below illustrates the region's water supplies.



San Luis Region Water Supplies

The region's water supply goal and objectives, as stated below, are designed to reduce the dependence on the strained groundwater supplies.

Water Supply Goal
Improve regional water supply reliability and security, reduce dependence on imported water, reduce water rights disputes and protect watershed communities from drought with a focus on interagency conjunctive use of regional water resources without unfairly burdening communities, neighborhoods or individuals.

Water Supply Objectives

1. Implement inter-agency projects including emergency inter-ties between systems, jointly developed facilities, water exchanges, and other methods of enhancing reliability through cooperative efforts over the development of new supplies.
2. Maximize water conservation for both M&I and agricultural uses.
3. Expand desalination water opportunities by 2010.
4. Expand reclaimed water use to make up 5% of total water use by 2010 and 10% of total water use by 2020.

Unfortunately, this heavy dependence on the strained groundwater supplies has led to conflicts between water users in the region. Through the IRWM process, the RWMG and stakeholders will continue to pursue cooperative resolution of groundwater supply issues that have been the subject of litigation and to seek cooperative agreements among stakeholders in groundwater areas where litigation may be imminent. Providing expertise, historical data and other technical resources available to the RWMG can be used to facilitate cooperation. Additionally, through the IRWM, regional multi-benefit projects can be developed that help reduce conflicts.

This planning grant proposal includes a focused planning effort (Task 19.4) to help resolve conflicts associated with the Santa Maria Groundwater Basin (SMGB). The Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board has documented widespread increases in salt and nutrient pollution in groundwater basins throughout the Central Coast Region and has determined that regional management plans and programmatic projects must be developed to protect the beneficial uses of the basins. One of these basins, the SMGB, is a critical water supply resource for southern SLO County and northern Santa Barbara County.

The SMGB has been subject to ongoing litigation since 1997. In 2005, a stipulation signed by many of the litigation parties divided the groundwater basin into three management areas: the Northern Cities Management Area (NCMA); the Nipomo Mesa Management Area (NMMA); and the Santa Maria Valley Management Area (SMVMA). The Stipulation was substantially accepted by the Court via the January 25, 2008 Judgment. The extent of the SMGB and the boundaries of the three management areas are shown below in the figure below. Note that the SMGB underlies two IRWM Regions: San Luis Obispo County and Santa Barbara County.

A requirement of the Stipulation was the establishment of Technical Groups (TGs) for the Northern Cities Management Area (NCMA) and Nipomo Mesa Management Area (NMMA) to develop monitoring plans, administer the provisions of the stipulation and share groundwater information with the other management areas. Representatives of the NCMA TG and the NMMA TG, along with their counter-parts in the SMVMA, believe that developing a Salt and Nutrient Management Plan (SNMP) is a critical step toward protecting the beneficial uses of the SMGB. The initial step in the development of a SNMP is to develop a better understanding of the hydrogeologic and hydrologic conditions (groundwater basin characterization) that exist within a groundwater basin and to develop a groundwater model to help guide groundwater management activities.

San Luis Obispo County
Northern Cities Management Area
Nipomo Mesa Management Area
Santa Maria Valley Management Area
Santa Barbara County
Legend
Nipomo Mesa Management Area
Northern Cities Management Area
Santa Maria Valley Management Area
County/IRWMP Boundary
0 1.5 3 6 Miles
N
Santa Maria Groundwater Basin
Date: 2/20/2012 Name: SMGB Adjudication

Task 19.4 (SMGB Characterization) in this planning grant proposal is focused on developing a solid understanding of the basin geology and hydrogeology that can be utilized as a foundation for creating a groundwater model and ultimately a SNMP for the SMGB. The scope of work proposed for the SMGB was developed through a collaborative process between representatives from the NCMA TG and NMMA TG, as well as the District, and is expected to prove instrumental in resolving significant water related conflicts in the region.

Another major potential for a water supply conflict exists with the SLO Region's ecosystem goal to improve fisheries and fisheries habitat. Generally, the fisheries projects are intended to maintain surface water resources for fisheries benefits which can conflict with the beneficial use of those supplies for municipal uses. Sustaining and enhancing a balanced approach to water resource management will continue to rely on long-term strategies that integrate stakeholder participation, interagency partnerships, and environmental needs with regional water reliability needs and efficient resource management objectives and strategies. The SLO Region recognizes the integral play between the use of water resources and the protection of water quality and the environment. The SLO Region has endeavored to include environmental stewardship within its IRWM Plan goals and objectives, and in its overall consideration of various water resources planning efforts and implementation projects.

Consistent with this endeavor, Task 18 (Watershed Management Planning) in this planning grant proposal is focused on conducting regional watershed planning to work to resolve and reduce these conflicts. This study indentifies key strategies for integrated environmental and watershed considerations. The Coastal San Luis Resource Conservation District (CSLRCD) and Upper Salinas-Las Tablas Resource Conservation District (US-LTRCD), whose combined boundaries overlie the SLO IRWM Region boundaries, recognized the need for a comprehensive look at the SLO Region's watersheds and the associated concerns, challenges, data gaps, and priorities. Until recently watershed management was handled more often on an individual watershed basis, whereas this effort would allow the region to integrate efforts to identify needs and opportunities for improving management of all watersheds.

The proposed Watershed Management Plan (WSP) will incorporate regional and watershed specific efforts towards an integrated approach to managing water and ecosystem concerns. The WSP will consist of two phases:

- Phase I – WSP Visioning, Framework & Prioritization Methodology Development
- Phase II – WSP Development and Implementation

This proposal focuses on setting the stage for a successful and useful regional WSP under Phase I. Future efforts and funding would be sought for Phase II.

The proposed regional WSP: Phase I will build on existing efforts such as Master Water Plans, Watershed Plans, and RWQCB's Watershed Initiative to support the prioritized implementation of ecological restoration and enhancement projects, to improve the use of limited resources and to incorporate State and County water resource priorities from an ecosystem perspective.

Additionally, proposed planning will not diminish or over shadow the unique needs of each individual watershed in the County.

It is essential that the Region's environmental needs are integrated and prioritized in such a way that recognizes causes of degradation and prioritizes process-based protection and restoration. The RCDs are the ideal organization to take on these planning efforts because of their long relationship with rural landowners, their strong partnership with the Natural Resource Conservation District (NRCS) and other conservation organizations, and their dedication to conservation and watershed approaches.

Contribute to Attainment of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program

Program Preference Full Text: Contribute to Attainment of One or more Objectives of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program.

> ***Implementation of the current SLO IRWM Plan and proposed updates to the plan will contribute to the reduction in mismatch between Delta water supplies and demands.***

The mission of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program is to develop and implement a long-term comprehensive plan that will restore ecological health and improve water management for beneficial uses of the Bay-Delta System. To carry out this mission CALFED developed four primary objectives:

1. Restore the ecosystem,
2. Provide water supply reliability,
3. Improve water quality, and
4. Stabilize Delta levees.

The three relevant objectives of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program, ecosystem restoration, water supply reliability, and water quality, are consistent with the SLO IRWM Plan objectives and addressed through the high ranking IRWM Plan projects shown in the table below.

Reducing the overall demand of water conveyed through the Delta will benefit all four primary objectives. Since the State water is transported through the Delta, the most significant contribution of the SLO Region towards achieving CALFED priorities will be from reducing dependence on imported water.

The CALFED objectives are supported by 11 major program elements:

- Water Management
- Storage
- Conveyance
- Water use Efficiency
- Water Transfers
- Environmental Water Account

- Drinking Water Quality
- Watershed Management
- Levee System Integrity
- Ecosystem Restoration
- Science

CALFED Primary Objectives	IRWM Plan Project	CALFED Elements
Water Supply Reliability		
• Assist local partners in developing 500,000 to 1 million acre-feet of groundwater storage. • Pursue planning and other actions at state and federal level to expand surface storage capacity by up to 3.5 million acre-feet. • Optimize water conveyance facilities in the Delta and in other locations to maximize flexibility, protect water quality and fish species, and increase water supply reliability. • Invest in local projects that boost water use efficiency through annual water conservation and recycling competitive grants/loan program. • Streamline water transfer approval process and develop an effective water transfer market that protects water rights, the environment and local economies.	• Nipomo CSD Supplemental Water Project: Transfers supplemental water to region with overdrafted groundwater basin • Nacimiento Water Project: Optimizes the delivery of State water by providing a reliable supplemental water supply source from Lake Nacimiento, spanning 45 miles of the SLO Region through to heart of several of the largest communities in the region. • Groundwater Recharge Optimization Program: Evaluates opportunities to maximize groundwater storage	• Water Management • Water Use Efficiency • Drinking Water Quality • Watershed Management • Ecosystem Restoration • Science
Ecosystem Restoration		
• Implement aggressive measures to improve Delta water quality and water quality science. • Restore habitat in the Delta and its tributary watersheds. • Improve fish passage though modification or removal of dams, improved bypasses and ladders.	• Flood Control Zone 9 Waterway Management Program: Includes Steelhead Passage Improvements; development of plan for upper San Luis Obispo creek and constructing corrective channel improvements will allow for fish passage and use of improvements constructed by City when dam was removed and step pools constructed.	• Water Management • Watershed Management • Ecosystem Restoration • Science
Water Quality		
• Develop and implement source control and drainage management programs. • Invest in treatment technology.	• Morro Bay Desalination Facility Upgrade: Installing an energy recovery system in existing desalination facility to reduce electrical consumption from current use of 27 kWh per 1,000 gallons of potable water produced to 14 kWh per 1,000 gallons produced, and increase production capacity via reclaiming facility effluent. • Desalination Study: Evaluating potential for desalination applications in region by reviewing how existing desalination facilities were established and existing project information to document opportunities for locations of new facilities and the typical process for implementation on a regional basis.	• Water Management • Water Use Efficiency • Drinking Water Quality

[*continued*] Contribute to Attainment of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program

The IRWM Plan will employ a number of these CALFED program elements within its programs and projects including water management, water use efficiency, water transfers, drinking water quality, watershed management, ecosystem restoration and science. CALFED program elements employed by the IRWMP are also shown in the table above.

Task 19.5 (Regional Recycled Water Strategic Plan) in this planning proposal is to support the development of a Regional Recycled Water Strategic Plan (RWSP) for the SLO Region and ultimately lead to a reduction on the Delta demands. The SLO IRWM Plan has identified implementing recycled water projects as one of the key strategies for providing long-term water reliability and supply for the County. Consistent with the state and regional goals for implementing recycled water projects, the following agencies, listed below, are investigating the feasibility of implementing recycled water programs within their service areas as a way to diversify their water supply portfolios, reduce reliance on surface water imports, eliminate discharge of treated wastewater to the Pacific Ocean, and reduce conflicts associated with limited regional water resources.

- Templeton Community Services District (TCSD)
- City of Morro Bay
- City of Pismo Beach
- South San Luis Obispo County Sanitation District (SSLOCSD)
    - City of Grover Beach
    - Oceano Community Services District (OCSD)
    - City of Arroyo Grande
- Nipomo Community Services District (NCSD)

To integrate the needs of each of the facilities within the context of a regional approach, the needs and initiatives for each individual facility will be evaluated and presented in the context of a RWSP. The RWSP will combine common elements and regional considerations for each of the sub-regions to improve the efficiency of the planning effort and provide the individual agencies with more resources to focus on the specific analysis related to their wastewater treatment facility and reuse programs. The regional elements and the facility specific analysis will be combined into a single regional recycled water planning document that will contribute directly to the IRWM Plan for the SLO Region and will benefit any subsequent agencies investigating the feasibility of implementing a recycled water project.

Address Critical Water Supply/Quality Needs of Disadvantaged Communities

Program Preference Full Text: Address Critical Water Supply or Water Quality Needs of Disadvantaged Communities within the IRWM Region.

> ***Implementation of the current SLO IRWM Plan and proposed updates to the plan will address critical water supply or water quality needs of disadvantaged communities within the SLO IRWM region.***

In the SLO Region, important economically disadvantaged groups can be found in nearly all of the region's communities. In most instances, these populations do not occupy distinct, separate neighborhoods although census data does show blocks with less than 80% of the annual median household income in urban areas within the region. As a result, they tend to share in both the benefits and impacts associated with community development and resource delivery issues. However, four distinct economically disadvantaged areas can be identified in different portions of the region, with two of those consisting of substantial portions of their communities. In the south County, portions of Oceano and Nipomo, both unincorporated communities, are economically disadvantaged. However, these neighborhoods are contained within larger communities that are clearly not economically disadvantaged. As result, both areas have the advantages of equal treatment because of their location within the larger community, but are both distinct enough to qualify for various forms of financial assistance to ensure that both basic community infrastructure improvements and community amenities are provided.

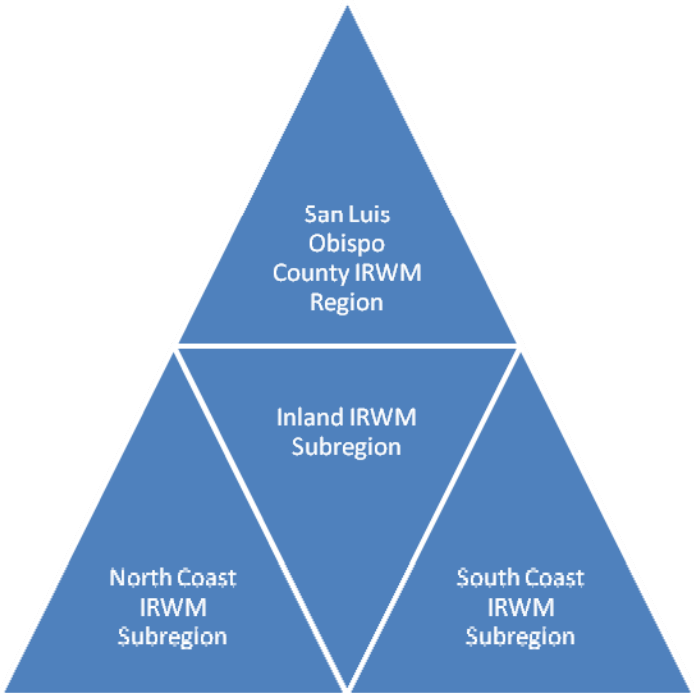
Major needs of the disadvantaged communities (DACs) within Nipomo and Oceano can be met through implementation of the regional water management programs. The continuing IRWM planning process will continue to take into account and be responsive to the needs of disadvantaged communities. These benefits are received indirectly from many of the recommended projects, however, one project currently being implemented will provide direct benefits to these disadvantaged communities.

The Nipomo CSD will be constructing treatment facilities and a pipeline to transfer 3,000 to 6,200 acre feet of supplemental water per year from the Santa Maria Basin to address pumping depressions in the Nipomo Mesa Groundwater Management Area. This project integrates water supply reliability and groundwater management strategies through inter-agency cooperation.

The Nipomo CSD will be identifying strategies for managing water supplies to reduce salt input and identifying sources of salt in their wastewater collection system while implementing a pre-treatment program for non-residential dischargers, a retrofit rebate program to encourage voluntary replacement of residential regenerative water softeners with canister systems, a

public education program to encourage voluntary mitigation measures and a program to monitor results. This project is intended to decrease the level of salt discharge from the Nipomo CSD's Southland Wastewater Treatment Facility into Nipomo Groundwater Basin and Nipomo Creek, thereby complying with waste discharge requirements, improving source water quality, supporting the implementation of TMDLs, improving the watershed ecosystem and managing the groundwater basin through monitoring efforts, pollution reduction, public outreach, recharge water quality improvement and conflict resolution efforts.

It is also recognized that certain disadvantages arise from a communications standpoint, whether caused by remoteness of a community or language barriers (e.g. Oceano and Nipomo have significant Hispanic populations). The RWMG has approved a modified plan structure for the IRWM Plan Update, part of which could greatly improve participation of those affected by these and other communications challenges. After significant public discussions regarding the regional needs and governance, the RWMG is recommending the plan be structured with subregional delineations. These subregions are shown in the figure below. This reorganization of the planning effort will allow focused attention on stakeholders within each subregion in order to promote more focused collaboration by subregion, while continuing to practice broader regional planning when and where appropriate, as depicted in the figure below. The modified structure is expected to allow a greater focus on the needs of DACs in each subregion, allowing the subregional committees to provide targeted support to and encourage participation from DACs.



The Department of Water Resources' statewide priorities for the IRWM Plan include a provision to "ensure equitable distribution of benefits" by "increasing participation of small and disadvantaged communities in the IRWM process," and by "containing projects that address safe drinking water and wastewater treatment needs of DACs." The RWMG and subregional subcommittees will seek to increase the participation of small communities, DACs, and Native American tribal communities in the IRWM Plan update, to ensure their planning and critical water management needs are considered.

> *A DAC is defined as a community with an annual median household income that is less than 80 percent of the Statewide annual median household income (PRC § 75005 (g)).*

The defined plan update Task 17 (Engage Disadvantaged Communities in IRWM Plan Update) focused on addressing the DACs' critical water supply and water quality needs include:

- Task 17.1 Develop DAC Recruitment Program
- Task 17.2 Compile Water Management Needs of DACs
- Task 17.3 Conducting Outreach Activities
- Task 17.4 Community Assistance for Project Preparation

Part of this effort includes identifying potential obstacles (e.g. language barrier, limited resources) to participating in IRWM program efforts, and finding ways to bridge that obstacle.

The RWMG will work towards including projects relevant to meeting the critical water supply and water quality needs of DACs. The District and RWMG subregional subcommittees will help DACs to complete implementation project solicitation forms, as a means of encouraging participation without straining already limited resources of the communities.

Effectively Integrate Water Management with Land Use Planning

Program Preference Full Text: Effectively Integrate Water Management with Land Use Planning.

> ***Implementation of the current SLO IRWM Plan and proposed updates to the plan effectively integrate water management with land use planning.***

Water and land use are inextricably linked. As a roadmap for sustainable water resource management in SLO County, the IRWM Plan integrates land use planning strategies into the strategic mix for water resource management and relies on close collaboration and coordination with the region's land use planning agencies. The IRWM Plan incorporates the elements of the Ahwahnee Water Principles for Efficient Land Use developed by the Local

Government Commission. These principles, shared by land use planners and water resource planners, protect and improve community livability and sustainability. The IRWM Plan promotes these principles on a regional basis.

The cities, counties, water and wastewater agencies and other stakeholders in the region have been involved in many planning efforts to develop goals and plans related to land use and water management issues. The planning documents created from these efforts serve as an important foundation for the IRWM Plan. The IRWM Plan has integrated the goals, objectives and programs contained in these documents to ensure that it is consistent with local issues and needs.

The 2007 IRWM Plan was developed in coordination with local agencies and the planning documents that have been produced for the region. These include General Plans, Urban Water Management Plans, Water and Wastewater Master Plans, Groundwater Studies and Plans, Flood Management/Drainage Studies and Plans, and Stormwater Management Plans covering a number of areas such as land use planning, recycled water, groundwater management, water resources, and environmental enhancement. The relevance of these documents to the 2007 IRWM Plan is summarized in the table below. Coordination and collaboration occurred through meetings, workshops, and personal communications with agencies and entities identified in this table to understand their various efforts, planning goals and objectives, and proposed water management strategies.

Document Title/Description	Publication Date	Agency/Entity	Relation to 2007 IRWMP
General Plans			
City of San Luis Obispo General Plan Digest	December 2004	City of San Luis Obispo	Provides list of Cities' policies, goals and actions for land use, water conservation, water reclamation, flood control, habitat protection and open space preservation
City of Pismo Beach General Plan and Local Coastal Plan	1992	City of Pismo Beach	
City of Paso Robles, General Plan	2003	City of Paso Robles	
City of Atascadero General Plan	June 2002	City of Atascadero	
City of Arroyo Grande General Plan		City of Arroyo Grande	
City of Morro Bay General Plan and Local Coastal Plan		City of Morro Bay	
City of Grover Beach General Plan, Housing Element	2003	City of Grover Beach	
County of SLO General Plan - Inland		County of San Luis Obispo	Provides list of Counties' policies, goals and actions for land use, water conservation, water reclamation, flood control, habitat protection and open space preservation
County of SLO General Plan - Coastal			
General Plan Agriculture and Open Space Element			
County of San Luis Obispo General Plan Parks and Recreation Element, Draft	November 2003		
Environment Plan, SLO County General Plan (Conservation Element)	November 1974		
Urban Water Management Plans			
City of Arroyo Grande UWMP Year 2000	May 2001	City of Arroyo Grande	Provides understanding of Arroyo Grande urban water needs, management, and planning objectives
City of Paso Robles UWMP	November 2000	City of Paso Robles	Provides understanding of Paso Robles urban water needs, management, and planning objectives
City of Grover Beach Urban Water Management Plan	2000	City of Grover Beach	Provides understanding of Grover Beach urban water needs, management, and planning objectives
City of Morro Bay Urban Water Management Plan, Executive Summary	2002	City of Morro Bay	Provides understanding of Morro Bay urban water needs, management, and planning objectives
City of Pismo Beach Urban Water Management Plan	November 2002	City of Pismo Beach	Provides understanding of Pismo Beach urban water needs, management, and planning objectives
City of SLO UWMP	April 2001	City of SLO	Provides understanding SLO urban water needs, management, and planning objectives

Document Title/Description	Publication Date	Agency/Entity	Relation to 2007 IRWMP
SLO District, Zone 3, Urban Water Management Update	2000	SLO District	Provides understanding of SLO County water needs and management strategies
Los Osos CSD Urban Water Management Plan	December 2000	Los Osos CSD	Provides understanding of Los Osos urban water needs, management, and planning objectives
Water and Wastewater Master Plans			
SLO County Master Water Plan Update, Phase 1 Compilation Report	August 1998	County of San Luis Obispo	Provides understanding of the water supply needs of the county and an implementation plan for meeting those needs
City of Arroyo Grande Water System Master Plan	July 1999	City of Arroyo Grande	Provides understanding of the water supply needs of the Arroyo Grande and an implementation plan for meeting those needs
CSA 10A Cayucos Water System Master Plan	January 2003	CSA 10A	Provides understanding of the water supply needs of CSA 10A and an implementation plan for meeting those needs
Santa Margarita CSA 23 Water System Master Plan		CSA 23	Provides understanding of the water supply needs of CSA 23 and an implementation plan for meeting those needs
Los Osos Water Master Plan	August 2002	Los Osos CSD	Provides understanding of the water supply needs of Los Osos and an implementation plan for meeting those needs
Atascadero Water System Master Plan Final Report	October 1993	Atascadero Mutual Water Company	Provides understanding of the water supply needs of Atascadero and an implementation plan for meeting those needs
City of Paso Robles Water Master Plan Update	April 1995	City of Paso Robles	Provides understanding of the water supply needs of Paso Robles and an implementation plan for meeting those needs
City of Pismo Beach Water Master Plan	May 2004	City of Pismo Beach	Provides understanding of the water supply needs of Pismo Beach and an implementation plan for meeting those needs
City of Pismo Beach Collection System Master Plan	February 2000	City of Pismo Beach	Provides understanding of the collection system conditions, needs and an implementation plan for meeting those needs for Pismo Beach
City of Pismo Beach Wastewater Treatment Plant Master Plan	February 2000	City of Pismo Beach	Provides plan for wastewater treatment, effluent management and recycled water for the Pismo Beach.
Groundwater Studies and Plans			
City of SLO Groundwater Basin Evaluation		City of SLO	Provides understanding of SLO groundwater issues and management plans for the groundwater basin

Document Title/Description	Publication Date	Agency/Entity	Relation to 2007 IRWMP
Paso Robles Groundwater Basin Study		City of Paso Robles	Provides understanding of Paso Robles groundwater issues and management plans for the groundwater basin
Engineering Considerations of Groundwater Yields and Rights on the Nipomo Mesa Sub-Area	October 1993	Nipomo CSD	Provides understanding of Nipomo Mesa groundwater sub-basin issues and management plans for the groundwater basin
Los Osos Ground Water Basin Management Plan	July 2002	Los Osos CSD	Provides understanding of Los Osos groundwater issues and management plans for the groundwater basin
Geologic Structure of the Los Osos Valley Ground Water Basin	November 2003		Provides understanding of Los Osos groundwater basin geologic structure
Hydrogeology, Water Quality, Water Budgets, and Simulated Responses to Hydrologic Changes in Santa Rosa and San Simeon Creek Ground-Water Basins, USGS Report 98-4061	1998	USGS	Provides understanding of Santa Rosa and San Simeon Creek groundwater conditions
Groundwater Resources of CSA-23, Santa Margarita, Technical Memorandum	October 2004	CSA 23	Provides understanding of Santa Margarita groundwater conditions
Flood Management/Drainage Studies and Plans			
Cambria Drainage and Flood Control Study	February 2004	Cambria CSD	Provides understanding of the flood and drainage conditions in the Cambria area
Cayucos Drainage and Flood Control Study	January 2004	Cayucos CSA	Provides understanding of the flood and drainage conditions in the Cayucos area
Oceano Drainage and Flood Control Study	February 2004	Oceano CSD	Provides understanding of the flood and drainage conditions in the Oceano area
Nipomo Drainage and Flood Control Study	February 2004	Nipomo CSD	Provides understanding of the flood and drainage conditions in the Nipomo area
San Miguel Drainage and Flood Control Study	December 2003	San Miguel CSD	Provides understanding of the flood and drainage conditions in the San Miguel area
Santa Margarita Drainage and Flood Control Study	February 2004	Santa Margarita CSA	Provides understanding of the flood and drainage conditions in the Santa Margarita area
Los Osos Drainage Study		Los Osos CSD	Provides understanding of the flood and drainage conditions in the Los Osos area
City of Pismo Beach Drainage Master Plan, Draft	August 2002	City of Pismo Beach	Provides understanding of the flood and drainage conditions in the Pismo Beach area
Storm Water Management Plans			
County of SLO Storm Water Management Plan		County of SLO	Provides understanding of the storm water conditions and management options in the County

Document Title/Description	Publication Date	Agency/Entity	Relation to 2007 IRWMP
City of Paso Robles Storm Water Management Program,	February 2003	City of Paso Robles	Provides understanding of the storm water conditions and management options in Paso Robles
City of SLO Storm Water Management Program		City of SLO	Provides understanding of the storm water conditions and management options in SLO
City of Atascadero Storm Water Management Program	August 2003	City of Atascadero	Provides understanding of the storm water conditions and management options in Atascadero
City of Morro Bay Storm Water Management Program, Draft	August 2003	City of Morro Bay	Provides understanding of the storm water conditions and management options in Morro Bay
City of Arroyo Grande Storm Water Management Program		City of Arroyo Grande	Provides understanding of the storm water conditions and management options in Arroyo Grande
City of Pismo Beach Storm Water Management Program		City of Pismo Beach	Provides understanding of the storm water conditions and management options in Pismo Beach

Coordination with local land use planning will continue throughout the plan update process (Task 12). Land use agency involvement in the IRWM Plan update is currently coordinated through participation of local land use agency representatives at WRAC meetings and the project solicitation process. With the modified subregional presentation of the IRWM information, the subregional subcommittees can more closely coordinate with land use agencies in within each subregion.

The RWMG recognizes the need to link water system, water quality, and flood protection planning with land use planning within cities and counties to develop integrated strategies to address the impacts of climate change, e.g. increased flooding and variability of flooding. These may include encouraging adoption of the Ahwahnee Water Principles for Resource Efficient land use into local zoning codes, planning codes, specific plans or general plan elements; use of Low Impact Development (LID) as a planning tool; and development of watershed management plans integrating land use policies and water management policies.

Integrate Stormwater Resource Plan Requirements

Program Preference Full Text: Include actions designed to integrate the Stormwater Resource Plan requirements specified in CWC Section 10562 into an IRWM Plan.

Implementation of the current and updated SLO IRWM Plan will result in improved integration of Stormwater Resource Plan requirements.

California Water Code (CWC) Section 10562 specifies that a Stormwater Resources Plan (SRP) be developed on a watershed basis. The SLO IRWM Plan was developed on a watershed basis and the planning boundaries encompass nine major watersheds within the SLO Region's 3,304 square miles.

CWC Section 10562.b.2. specifies that the SRP provide for multiple benefit project design to maximize water supply, water quality, and environmental and other community benefits. A consensus based approach was used in the development of the IRWM Plan goals and objectives. IRWM Plan goals and objectives were developed in five areas of water management: water quality, water supply, groundwater management, ecosystem preservation, and flood management.

CWC Section 10562.b.3. specifies that the SRP provide for community participation in plan development and implementation. Stakeholder involvement was critical to the success of the IRWM Plan process. The Numerous stakeholders were identified, contacted, and invited to participate in the IRWM Plan process. Special consideration was given to disadvantaged communities and actions were taken to ensure their participation and representation in the process. Stakeholder outreach, coordination and participation will continue during implementation of the IRWM Plan.

The District is developing Waterway Management Programs tailored to individual streams and watersheds that identify ways of incorporating ecosystem enhancement and sensitive species habitat protection into flood control and stormwater projects, this includes programs in Flood Control Zone 1/1A, a project recently identified as one of three top priority implementation projects by SLO Region stakeholders and awarded implementation funding through the Proposition 84 Round 1 IRWM Implementation Grant funding round.

The Flood Control Zone 1/1A Waterway Management Program will provide riparian vegetation, bank stabilization, and stream shading benefiting ecosystem restoration, water quality, flood protection, and aesthetics. The programs help meet the following IRWM Plan objectives:

- Support NPS Plan and Conditional Ag Waiver
- Protect Ecologically Sensitive Lands
- Manage Public Lands Access to Promote Stewardship
- Implement Fish Friendly Projects
- Reduce Invasive Plants and Promote Native Plants
- Conserve Natural Resources
- Integrate Ecosystem, Drainage, Recharge into Development

Waterway Management Programs, combined with current efforts included the IRWM Plan update to improve upon watershed anaylsis (including planning proposal Task 18 – Watershed Management Plan) and future efforts to integrate land use planning, waterway management, and watershed management programs, will improve on the IRWM Plan's ability to meet the Stormwater Resource Plan requirements.

Drought Preparedness

Program Preference Full Text: Drought Preparedness.

> ***Implementation of the current and updated SLO IRWM Plan will result in improved drought preparedness.***

One of the key projects identified in the 2007 IRWM Plan was development of a County Master Water Plan. The District, with collaboration of multiple stakeholders throughout the region, developed this key document and finalized it in 2012 – now referred to as the San Luis Obispo County Master Water Study.

The study recognized that with the recurrence of drought, degradation of groundwater basins and limited availability of surface water supplies, it is important for all entities of the SLO Region to effectively manage water resources to protect public health and safety, maintain ecosystems, avoid seawater intrusion and support agriculture into the future. In order to effectively manage water resources, it is important to understand the complete picture of water resources management in the County and how the practices (i.e. water use, policy adoption, planning, and project implementation) of all entities within the County influence each other with respect to water resources. This document provides an inventory of water supply and demand throughout the SLO Region, an integral task in understanding local water resources. Results of which point to the need, especially within certain watersheds of the SLO Region, to provide water management strategies that deal with the real possibility of drought events and establish other sources of water supply to communities during those periods.

The 2012 Master Water Study offers a comprehensive plan that evaluated multiple water management strategies, including optimization of existing water management strategies to meet water resources needs Countywide, including water supply reliability/drought buffer. Relevant information, methods of data collection and analyses, and recommendations of which will be incorporated into the SLO Region IRWM Plan update.

One of the highest priorities identified by this study includes facilitating interagency arrangements to optimize use of unsubscribed water entitlements and provide drought buffer to various communities, which could include:

1. Developing policies for the use of unsubscribed water given the various needs in the County and existing County policies (for example, there is a need for increased direct deliveries in some areas of the County and a need for recharge/in-lieu delivery projects in other areas).
2. Identifying and conducting pilot projects with the available resources to evaluate the effectiveness of various exchange concepts.

Additionally, the 2012 Master Water Study, strategies of which will be incorporated into the IRWM Plan, identifies water conservation and water use efficiency as water management

strategies having potential to support contingency or reliability supply (drought buffer). Several keys to implementing various

1. Promoting agencies join "Partners in Water Conservation" (local conservation advocacy stakeholder group).
2. Increasing communication with the agricultural and rural community, and promote use of conservation measures by rural and agricultural users.
3. Local stakeholder groups should establish conservation goals for different groundwater basins throughout the county.

These strategies and others are critical in ensuring that the SLO Region is prepared in future drought events.

Use and Reuse Water More Efficiently

Program Preference Full Text: Use and Reuse Water More Efficiently.

> ***Implementation of the current and updated SLO IRWM Plan will result in more efficient use and reuse of water.***

The current plan includes water use and reuse goals, objectives, projects and programs that target the efficient use and reuse of water. SLO County obtains nearly 80%of its water from groundwater supplies and about 20% from reservoirs and other sources. The SLO Region's water supply goal and objectives, as stated below, are designed to reduce the dependence on the strained groundwater supplies.

Water Supply Goal
Improve regional water supply reliability and security, reduce dependence on imported water, reduce water rights disputes and protect watershed communities from drought with a focus on interagency conjunctive use of regional water resources without unfairly burdening communities, neighborhoods or individuals.

Water Supply Objectives

1. Implement inter-agency projects including emergency inter-ties between systems, jointly developed facilities, water exchanges, and other methods of enhancing reliability through cooperative efforts over the development of new supplies.
2. Maximize water conservation for both M&I and agricultural uses.
3. Expand desalination water opportunities by 2010.
4. Expand reclaimed water use to make up 5% of total water use by 2010 and 10% of total water use by 2020.

The water supply reliability projects and programs in the current IRWM Plan seek to provide needed water supplies consistently within the San Luis Obispo region over a wide range of hydrologic conditions. Several high priority water use and reuse efficiency projects were identified in the current IRWM Plan including:

- Nacimiento Water Project
- San Miguel CSD Water System Improvements
- San Simeon CSD Water System Improvements
- Lopez Water Treatment Plant Upgrade
- Templeton CSD Water System Improvements
- Cambria CSD Water System Improvements

The proposed SLO IRWM Plan update will include a water reuse study (Task 19 Salt and Nutrient Management and Reuse/Recycled Water Management Planning). The California State Water Resources Control Board has identified in its 2009 Recycled Water Policy the intent to increase the use of recycled water from municipal sources. Additionally, the District has identified implementing recycled water projects as one of the key strategies in its Master Water Study and IRWM Plan for providing long-term water reliability and supply for the County. Consistent with the state and regional goals for implementing recycled water projects, several regional agencies are investigating the feasibility of implementing recycled water programs within their service areas as a way to diversify their water supply portfolios, reduce reliance on surface water imports, eliminate discharge of treated wastewater to the Pacific Ocean, and reduce conflicts associated with limited regional water resources.

To integrate the needs of each of the facilities within the context of a regional approach, the needs and initiatives for several individual facilities throughout the region will be evaluated and presented in the context of a Regional Recycled Water Strategic Plan (RWSP) under planning proposal Task 19.5. The RWSP will combine common elements and regional considerations for each of the sub-regions to improve the efficiency of the planning effort and provide the individual agencies with more resources to focus on the specific analysis related to their wastewater treatment facility and reuse programs. The regional elements and the facility specific analysis will be combined into a single regional recycled water planning document that will contribute directly to the IRWM Plan for the SLO Region and will benefit any subsequent agencies investigating the feasibility of implementing a recycled water project.

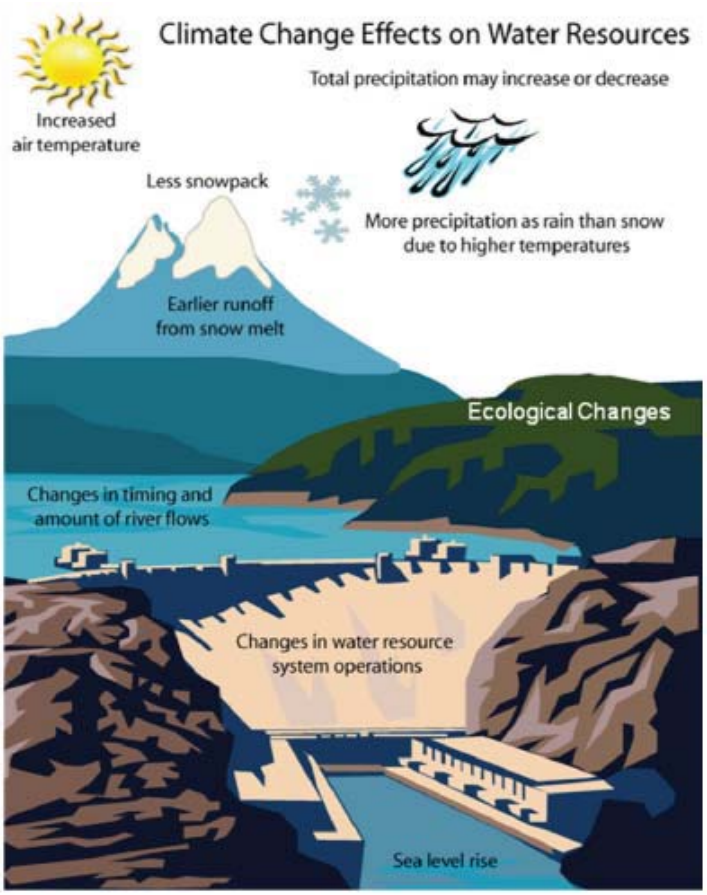
Climate Change Response Actions

Program Preference Full Text: Climate Change Response Actions.

> ***Implementation of the updated SLO IRWM Plan will include climate change response actions.***

A significant level of climate change analysis has been conducted in the SLO IRWM region. A collaborative effort by the GEOS Institute and Local Government Commission, funded by the Kresge Foundation, resulted in two valuable climate change resources for the SLO Region. The two reports were titled Projected Future Climatic and Ecological Conditions in San Luis Obispo County, April 2010, and Integrated Climate Change Adaptation Planning in San Luis Obispo County, November 2010. These two reports form the basis for updating climate change conditions and assessing climate change vulnerabilities in the SLO IRWM Plan.

As stated in the reports, climatic changes are already underway across SLO County and are likely to increase in the coming decades. Changes to the local climate are likely to include more frequent and intense storms and floods, extended drought, increased wildfire, and more heat waves. The local communities in the County will need to plan for such changes in order to prevent potentially catastrophic consequences.



The reports provide SLO community members and decision-makers with local climate change projections that are presented in a way that can help them make educated long-term planning decisions. As stated in the report, climate change presents the region with a serious challenge in planning for the future. Current planning strategies rely on historical data to anticipate future conditions. Due to climate change and its associated impacts, however, the future is no longer expected to resemble the past. The projections and planning approaches presented in the two reports will guide the IRWM planners when addressing climate change in the SLO IRWM Plan Update.

Updating the IRWM Plan to include and address the climate change standard will require the following minimum requirements:

- (Task 15.1) Assess Regional Vulnerability to Climate Change Impacts – Based on the significant amount of data available, assess the region's vulnerability to the long-term increased risk and uncertainty associated with climate change. At a minimum, the assessment will utilize the qualitative checklist assessment in the Climate Change Handbook for Regional Water Planning. The list identifies potential impacts in the following categories: water demand, water supply, water quality, sea level rise, flooding, ecosystem habitat vulnerability, and hydropower.

Components of Vulnerability	Climatic Risks	Populations or Infrastructure Particularly At Risk
Exposure	Floods Heat Drought Wildfire	Floodplain residents Outdoor workers Farmers, all water users Homes at the wildland-urban interface
Sensitivity	Heat Air pollution Drought	Infants, elderly Asthma sufferers, children Farmers
Adaptive Capacity	Floods Heat Sea-level rise	Institutionalized populations, low-income households Low-income residents Coastal residents, structures and facilities

- (Task 15.2) Prioritize Regional Vulnerabilities – Following the vulnerability assessment, the vulnerabilities will be prioritized based on selected criteria. The criteria may include risks associated with vulnerabilities, presence of multiple potential stressors and the potential for a vulnerability to shape regional objectives and inform IRWMP decisions.

- (Task 15.3) Address Priorities in Plan Objectives – The results of the vulnerability assessment and prioritization will be used to develop IRWM Plan objectives by addressing the impacts of climate change and targeting the region's highest-ranked vulnerabilities. The plan objectives will address how the region can adapt to the impacts of climate change. The RWMG will also consider developing objectives related to reducing GHG emissions or revising existing objectives (e.g., increasing water conservation) to explicitly state their role in reducing GHG emissions. Metrics for measuring the success in satisfying the Plan Objectives will also be developed.

- (Task 15.4) Develop a Plan for Data Gathering and Analyzing Prioritized Vulnerabilities – A plan will be developed for data-gathering programs and studies for further assessment of the prioritized vulnerabilities.

The climate change portion of the IRWM Plan will provide a reference as to how the RWMG will address this issue. In addition, climate change issues and effects are relevant to many other sections of the IRWM Plan, and the climate change portion of the IRWM Plan will explain how the information will be incorporated into different sections of the IRWM Plan. For example, the County of SLO recently adopted a Climate Action Plan that contains many climate change action strategies. These actions will be identified in the IRWM Plan update.

Expand Environmental Stewardship

Program Preference Full Text: Expand Environmental Stewardship.

> ***Implementation of the updated SLO IRWM Plan will expand on existing rigorous environmental stewardship programs.***

Sustaining and enhancing the SLO Region's existing balanced approach to water resource management will continue to rely on long-term strategies that integrate stakeholder participation, interagency partnerships, and environmental needs with regional water reliability needs and efficient resource management objectives and strategies. The SLO Region recognizes the integral play between the use of water resources and the protection of water quality and the environment. The region has endeavored to include environmental stewardship within its IRWM goals and objectives, and in its overall consideration of various planning efforts and implementation projects. Task 18 of the planning grant proposal includes the development of key strategies for integrated environmental and watershed considerations.

The CSLRCD's and US-LTRCD's regional watershed planning efforts will effectively integrate water management programs within the SLO Region by developing a methodology to evaluate watershed concerns and prioritizing protection and restoration efforts between the region's watersheds.

The planning effort will practice, improve, and expand environmental stewardship to protect and enhance the environment by improving watersheds, floodplains, and instream functions and to sustain water and flood management ecosystems. By having the region's two RCDs integrate efforts, it will result in a comprehensive understanding of watershed needs and priorities, which will help to ensure long-term sustainable management of the Region's natural resources.

This effort will also help to facilitate discussions between technical stakeholders as they pertain to watershed related issues and management. Both RCDs are committed to restoring stream channels to their native habitat, protecting endangered species, promoting water conservation, improving water quality, and collaborating on local projects with a variety of partners. These agencies will strive to provide a collaborative effort that incorporates the planning needs of many stakeholders throughout the region.

The proposed Watershed Management Plan (WSP) will incorporate regional and watershed specific efforts towards an integrated approach to managing water and ecosystem concerns. The WSP will consist of two phases:

- Phase I – WSP Visioning, Framework & Prioritization Methodology Development
- Phase II – WSP Development and Implementation

This proposal focuses on setting the stage for a successful and useful regional WSP under Phase I. The proposed regional WSP: Phase I will build on existing efforts such as Master Water Plans, Watershed Plans, and RWQCB's Watershed Initiative to support the prioritized implementation of ecological restoration and enhancement projects, to improve the use of limited resources and to incorporate State and County water resource priorities from an ecosystem perspective.

The WSP: Phase I will include development of a method to evaluate and prioritize restoration efforts within and between watersheds. The RCDs will facilitate an understanding of process-based protection/restoration and include these objectives in the prioritization approach so as to ensure that efforts address causes of degradation.

It is essential that the region's environmental needs are integrated and prioritized in such a way that recognizes causes of degradation and prioritizes process-based protection and restoration. The RCDs are the ideal organization to take on these planning efforts because of their long relationship with rural landowners, their strong partnership with many conservation organizations, and their dedication to conservation and watershed approaches. These efforts will build on the region's foundational efforts to incorporate environmental stewardship into water resources planning efforts, leading to an improved overall IRWM Plan that addresses stakeholder concerns and statewide priorities.

Practice Integrated Flood Management.

Program Preference Full Text: Practice integrated flood management.

> ***Implementation of the current and proposed updated SLO IRWM Plan will practice integrated flood management as demonstrated by the high priority flood protection projects.***

One of the highest priority flood management projects in the SLO Region is the Flood Control Zone 1/1A Waterway Management Program (WMP), which serves as a model for integrated flood management. The WMP is a comprehensive set of actions designed to increase the capacity of the leveed lower three miles of Arroyo Grande Creek to protect homeowners and agricultural property while simultaneously enhancing water quality and sensitive species habitat within the managed channel. Actions over time include raising the height of the existing

levees, managing in-channel vegetation to enhance habitat, reducing sediment deposition within the channel, and implementing specific sediment removal projects.

The vegetation management program for the Arroyo Grande Creek Channel will consist of maintaining a 10-foot buffer on both sides of the low-flow channel to provide riparian habitat and streamside cover to protect aquatic habitat. The buffer would also act to maintain a primary low-flow channel that has developed over the last several years by providing root strength along the low flow channel margins. Woody vegetation outside of the buffer would be removed completely to allow for high flows to access secondary channels and provide for increased conveyance and flood capacity. Non-woody herbaceous vegetation would not be removed as they are expected to lay down during a large flow event. Willows present within the buffer would be limbed up to reduce cross-sectional roughness but still provide adequate stream shading and riparian habitat.

To improve riparian habitat through the project area, existing gaps in the riparian buffer would be re-vegetated with native riparian species including cottonwood, sycamore, and willow. Cottonwood, sycamore, and alder will be planted at random along the length of the Arroyo Grande Creek Channel to encourage long-term diversity in the riparian corridor. Vegetation management activities will be combined with an active program to remove non-native vegetation from the flood control channel. Non-native species to be actively removed include Himalayan blackberry, English ivy, fennel, weeping willow, giant reed, castor bean, poison hemlock, and geranium. Non-native species management activities could include use of goats, application of herbicides, or removal by hand of plant and rootball. Non-native vegetation removed from the channel will be bagged and disposed of accordingly to limit their spread.

Field observations in the flood control reach, following an extended period with no appreciable dredging, suggests that a bankfull or primary low-flow channel width of approximately 20-25 feet has developed along the Arroyo Grande Creek channel. The flood control channel design created a bottom width of 60-70 feet, resulting in excessive sediment deposition because flow was spread out, resulting in shallower water depths and less energy to move sediment. Consequently, the geomorphic setting and design geometry are an important reason why there is a need to constantly remove sediment from the channel. Maintenance of a primary low-flow channel, enforced by the presence of a stable riparian corridor, will improve sediment transport conditions through the flood control reach.

To enhance geomorphic function, improve flood conveyance, and "set" the flood control channel to an initial condition that will enhance sediment transport, a two step process has been proposed for sediment management within the project area. The two step process consists of an initial phase of sediment removal that will be completed the first year, followed by a long-term sediment management program that will rely on periodic monitoring of sediment conditions in the channel and consultation with permitting agencies to "reset" conditions back to the first year condition.

A key component of the WMP involves raising the existing levees to improve flood protection along lower Arroyo Grande Creek. The levees would be raised to achieve flood protection from the 10-year flood event.

The WMP is a comprehensive set of actions designed to increase the capacity of Arroyo Grande Creek while simultaneously enhancing water quality and sensitive species habitat within the managed channel. The vegetation management, sediment management, and levee raise are all designed to ensure the delivery of ecosystem benefits while providing the necessary flood conveyance capacity. Implementation of this effort therefore meets the statewide program preference to practice integrated flood management, as well as address regional goals and objectives. This effort, coupled with the planning proposal Task 18 (Watershed Management Planning), can help inform regional stakeholders in other watersheds and facilitates development of similar programs throughout the SLO Region.

Spring/early summer re-growth of vegetation in channel

Protect Surface and Groundwater Quality

Program Preference Full Text: Protect surface and groundwater quality.

> ***Implementation of the current and proposed updated SLO IRWM Plan include goals, objectives and projects that are defined and designed to protect surface and groundwater quality.***

The current SLO Region IRWM Plan Water Quality goals and objectives are:

Water Quality Goal
Protect and improve water quality for beneficial uses consistent with regional interests and the Basin Plan in cooperation with local and state agencies and regional stakeholders without unfairly burdening communities, neighborhoods or individuals.

Water Quality Objectives

1. Protect and improve source water quality.
2. Meet all federal and state drinking water standards.
3. Support the development and implementation of TMDLs.
4. Implement NPDES Phase II Storm Water Management Programs.
5. Implement the California NPS Plan and the RWQCB Conditional Agricultural Waiver Program for irrigated agriculture.
6. Comply with new waste discharge requirements.

The current IRWM Plan is structured to meet the goals and objectives. The Water Quality Program improves water quality for beneficial uses. The plans and projects in the Water Quality Program all work together to protect the region's water resources. The high ranking plans and projects integrated into the Water Quality Program are:

- Los Osos Community Wastewater Project
- Morro Bay Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade
- Southland Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade
- South San Luis Obispo County Sanitation District Facility Upgrade
- Nipomo CSD Salt Management Program
- San Simeon Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade
- Morro Bay NPDES Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination Ordinance

The current SLO County IRWM Groundwater Management goals and objectives are:

Groundwater Monitoring and Management Goal
Monitor, protect, and improve the regions groundwater through a collaborative approach designed to reduce conflicts without unfairly burdening communities, neighborhoods or individuals.

Groundwater Monitoring and Management Objectives

1. Develop monitoring and reporting programs for groundwater basins in the region.
2. Evaluate and consider Groundwater Banking Programs.
3. Protect and improve groundwater quality from point and non-point source pollution, including nitrate contamination; MTBE and other industrial, agricultural, and commercial sources of contamination; naturally occurring mineralization, boron, radionuclide, geothermal contamination; and seawater intrusion and salts.
4. Conduct public education and outreach about groundwater protection.
5. Identify areas of known or expected conflicts and target stakeholders on specific actions that they should take to help protect groundwater basin quality and supply.
6. Recharge groundwater with high quality water.

The projects and programs in the Groundwater Monitoring and Management Program protect and improve the region's groundwater resources. The five highest ranking projects and programs in the current IRWM Plan that help protect and improve the utilization of this critical resource are:

- Nipomo CSD Salt Management Program
- Los Osos CSD Water System Improvements
- Chorro and Morro Groundwater Basin Management Plans
- Edna Valley Groundwater Basin Study
- Groundwater Management Ordinance Study

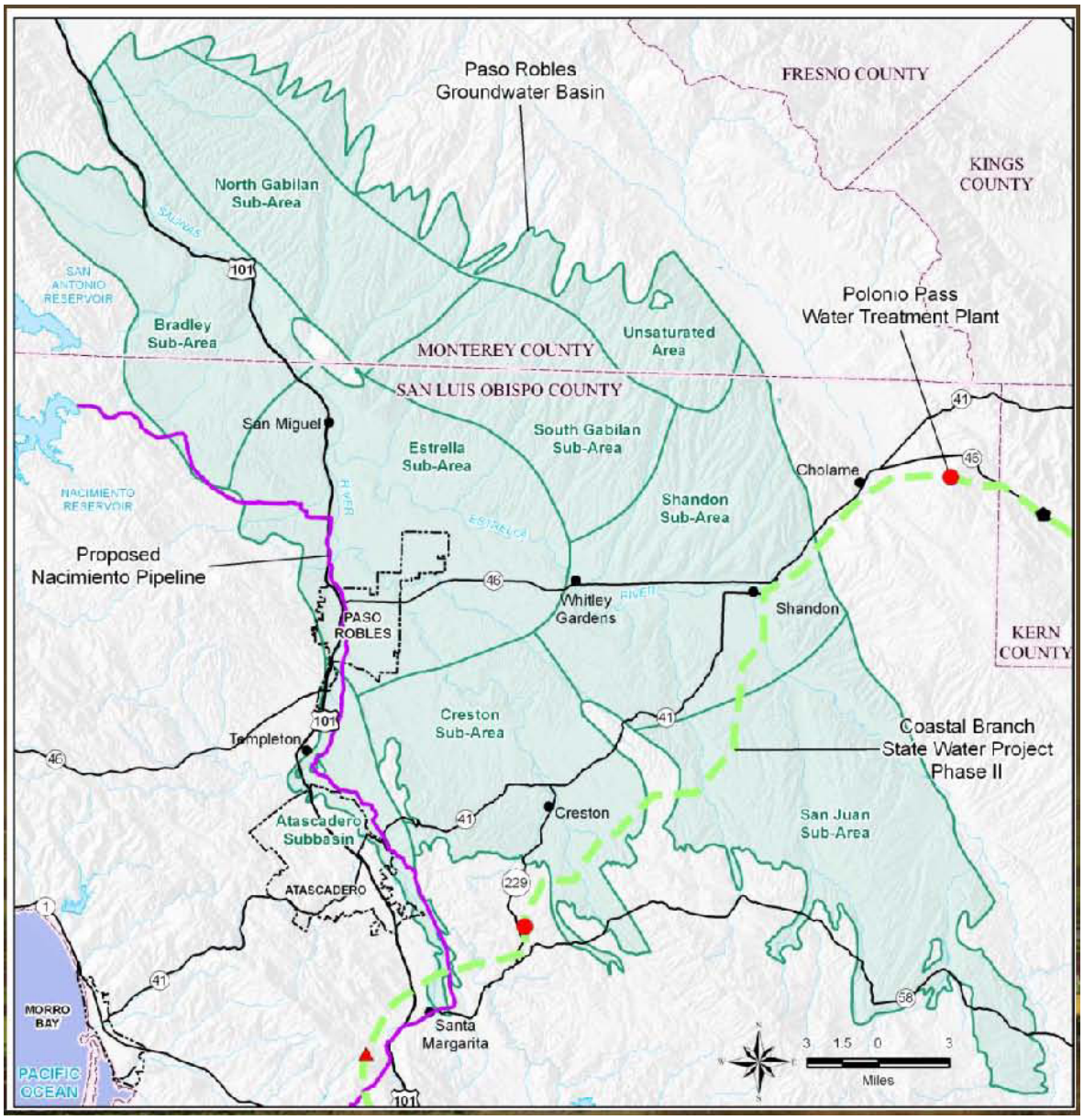
The Nipomo CSD Salt Management Program identified the need to improve conditions in the adjudicated Santa Maria Groundwater Basin (SMGB). The Nipomo CSD Salt Management Program sought to identify strategies for managing water supplies to reduce salt input and identifying sources of salt in their wastewater collection system and was intended to decrease the level of salt discharge from the Nipomo CSD's Southland Wastewater Treatment Facility. The combination would improve the water quality and maximize the beneficial use of recycled water from the Southland Wastewater Treatment Facility.

Building upon the current plans identification of priority programs related to salt and nutrient management planning and recognizing the region-wide need to address similar concerns for managing the impact of salt on water quality, the planning proposal focused study identified in Task 19 (Salt and Nutrient Management and Reuse/Recycled Water Planning) regionalized the concerns and integrated related efforts. The focused study contains various subtasks which support the development of Salt and Nutrient Management Plans, improve the region's understanding and characterization of two priority groundwater basins, and foster development of recycled/reuse water management strategies. The efforts involved in Task 19 will lead to improved surface and groundwater quality through various means:

Task 19.1 Identification of Basins Requiring SNMPs
Task 19.2 SNMP for the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin
Task 19.3 Groundwater Model Update – Paso Robles Groundwater Basin
Task 19.4 Groundwater Basin Characterization for the Santa Maria Groundwater Basin
Task 19.5 Regional Recycled Water Strategic Plan

This planning grant proposal includes a focused planning effort (Tasks 19.2 - 19.4) to help improve upon characterization and understanding of the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin (PRGB) and SMGB, and salt and nutrient management planning of both. The Central Coast RWQCB has documented widespread increases in salt and nutrient pollution in groundwater basins throughout the Central Coast Region and has determined that regional management plans and programmatic projects must be developed to protect the beneficial uses of the basins. The PRGB and SMGB are critical water supply resources for SLO County, and both groundwater basins underlie a neighboring region – Monterey County and Santa Barbara County, respectively.

The PRGB efforts associated with the planning proposal's Tasks 19.2 and 19.3 will lead to development of an improved groundwater model and feed into a complete Salt and Nutrient Management Plan (SNMP), while the efforts associated with Task 19.3 will lead to SMGB characterization – an immediate step needed to develop a SNMP. The State Water Resources Control Board Recycled Water Policy states the SNMP shall include 1) implementation measures to manage salt and nutrient loading in the basin on a sustainable basis, and 2) water recycling and stormwater recharge/use goals and objectives.



The effort to develop a PRGB SNMP will include review of the Central Coast RWQCB Basin Plan to determine whether the existing implementation plan for the Salinas River Hydrologic Unit remains appropriate. A list of recommended implementation measures will be developed for presentation to the stakeholders. The recommended implementation measures would be tailored to each agency and its unique waste loading and environmental settling. Examples of implementation measures that would be evaluated include:

- Importation of Nacimiento Water Project water;
- Control of self-regenerating water softeners;
- Removal of nutrients from wastewater discharges;
- Water recycling;

- Implementation of low impact development and hydromodification control (stormwater recharge);
- Recharge area protection/restoration;
- Wellhead protection; and
- Institutional controls such as land use plans and local ordinances.

This task also includes development of quantitative goals and objectives for:

- Salt and nutrient waste load reduction;
- Water conservation;
- Water recycling; and
- Stormwater recharge.

If necessary, agencies and stakeholders would develop recommended implementation measures and goals and objectives that are truly sustainable and should be incorporated into the Central Coast RWQCB Basin Plan.

Triggers or threshold concentrations of selected salts and nutrients will be proposed that would invoke specific implementation measures. Elements that are required for successful implementation of the measures will be outlined in the plan. These will include: performance measures, implementation schedule, public outreach and education, cost analysis, funding opportunities, institutional arrangements, and organizational structure. In order to maintain an understanding of whether concentrations meet of exceed these triggers or thresholds, the basin intends to lay out a program for monitoring and documenting.

Existing monitoring programs will be evaluated first, before recommending a monitoring program specific to the SNMP. These include, but are not limited to, the County's ongoing groundwater level monitoring throughout the Basin, and each water and wastewater agency's individual groundwater monitoring programs. Existing monitoring programs will be described (constituents monitored, frequency, responsible party, how data is disseminated).

If existing monitoring programs are not adequate for determining whether salt and nutrients are consistent with applicable water quality objectives, additional features, constituents, and frequencies will be identified. The preferred approach for developing the monitoring program will be to use existing wells for data collection, where the existing wells provide the spatial coverage necessary to determine water quality throughout the most critical areas of the basin. Additional monitoring locations will be recommended, if necessary. Existing monitoring locations that do not provide much value will be identified. The primary stakeholders would like to optimize existing monitoring programs to ensure that together they represent a regional monitoring program anticipated by the Policy. The recommended groundwater monitoring program should not result in significant additional ongoing costs.

The monitoring program will be designed to:

- Facilitate salt and nutrient source loading monitoring;
- Facilitate trend analysis;
- Answer the question: Are the relevant water quality objectives of the Central Coast Basin Plan being exceeded or threatening to be exceeded?

The monitoring program will identify stakeholders responsible for conducting, compiling and reporting monitoring data under the SNMP. Those responsible for updating the database and the frequency of updates will be specified. The monitoring program will include a requirement that data will be compiled and reported to the RWQCB staff at least once every three years. The future effort of monitoring and trend analysis will provide protection of groundwater quality by bringing awareness to various activities and their implications on groundwater basin quality.

These efforts, in addition to those programs and projects identified in the current IRWM Plan, bring the region further in protecting surface and groundwater quality. Projects and programs that identified and implemented through the IRWM Plan involve various strategies, such as groundwater recharge with high quality water, which leads to improved groundwater quality.

Improve Tribal Water and Natural Resources

Program Preference Full Text: Improve tribal water and natural resources.

The Statewide Priorities identify that proposals that include the development of Tribal consultation, collaboration, and access to funding for water programs and projects to better sustain Tribal water and natural resources will meet its intended goal.

Implementation of the current and updated SLO IRWM Plan will result in improved tribal water and natural resources .

For centuries, SLO County was the heart of Chumash and Salinian Native American country. The Chumash and Salinians had a rich culture and were excellent craftspeople and artists. Exploration of the land by Europeans began in 1769 at the command of Gaspar de Portola of Spain. With Portola came the Franciscan friars to begin founding the California missions. Following the independence of Mexico and the secularization of the missions, the Central Coast entered the period of the rancheros. Many names of towns and places derive from these Spanish rancheros. SLO was claimed for the United States in 1846. In 1850, California was admitted to the United States, and SLO became one of the original counties.

Although the region has not identified critical water resources needs of Native American tribes, there is a strong interest in the cultural history and the preservation of the tribal populations as an integral part of the region's stakeholder group.

As a part of the planning grant proposal Tasks13 and 17 (Update Stakeholder Involvement and Engage Disadvantaged Communities in IRWM Plan Update), a focused effort would be made to identify and if needed, address the Native American tribal communities' critical water supply and water quality needs, and includes:

- Task 13.2 Create a Communications Plan
- Task 17.1 Develop DAC Recruitment Program (includes Native American tribe outreach)
- Task 17.2 Compile Water Management Needs of DACs (includes Native American tribe outreach)
- Task 17.3 Conducting Outreach Activities (includes Native American tribe outreach)
- Task 17.4 Community Assistance for Project Preparation (includes Native American tribe outreach)

The RWMG will work towards including projects relevant to meeting the critical water supply and water quality needs of the Native American tribes. This includes identifying the tribes, evaluating limiting factors to engaging in the IRWM process, understanding the optimal communications relative to IRWM program efforts, engaging tribal members or communties, and seeking integrative methods to provide assistance as needed. The District and RWMG subregional subcommittees will help to encourage participation.

Ensure Equitable Distribution of Benefits

Program Preference Full Text: Ensure equitable distribution of benefits.

This includes proposals that:

- Increase the participation of small and disadvantaged communities in the IRWM process.
- Develop multi-benefit projects with consideration of affected disadvantaged communities and vulnerable populations.
- Contain projects that address safe drinking water and wastewater treatment needs of disadvantaged communities.
- Address critical water supply and water quality needs of California Native American Tribes within the region.

Implementation of the current and updated SLO IRWM Plan will result in insurance of equitable distribution of benefits.

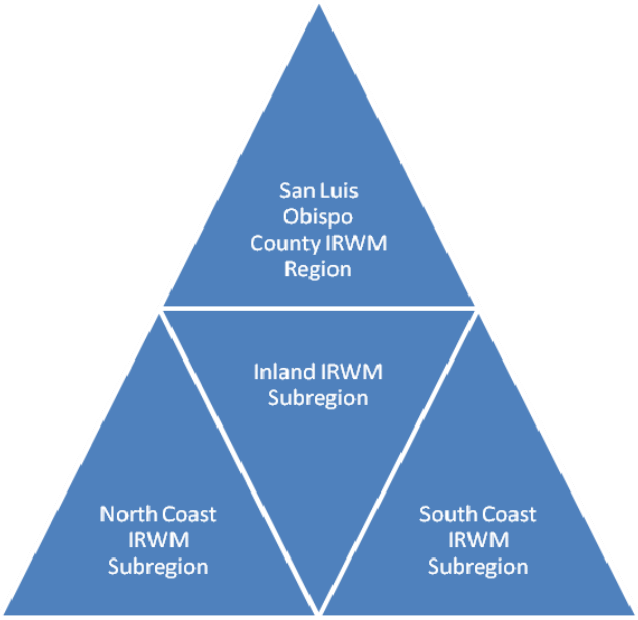
The Department of Water Resources' statewide priorities for the IRWM Plan include a provision to "ensure equitable distribution of benefits" by "increasing participation of small and disadvantaged communities in the IRWM process," and by "containing projects that address safe drinking water and wastewater treatment needs of DACs." The RWMG and subregional subcommittees will seek to increase the participation of small communities, DACs, and Native

American tribal communities in the IRWM Plan update, to ensure their planning and critical water management needs are considered.

> *A DAC is defined as a community with an annual median household income that is less than 80 percent of the Statewide annual median household income (PRC § 75005 (g)).*

SLO Region stakeholders have identified the need to improve upon current outreach efforts to increase the participation of small, disadvantaged, and Native American tribal communities. While the current IRWM program includes a structure that attempts to incorporate all relevant water resources stakeholders in the region, it is recognized that some stakeholders still have not engaged or not fully engaged in the IRWM program activities, which means that some critical water supply and water quality needs may not have been incorporated into the IRWM Plan yet. The proposed IRWM Plan update seeks to improve upon participation through various avenues, two key efforts of which include revising the governance structure and developing and implementing a specific outreach plan.

The RWMG has approved a modified plan structure for the IRWM Plan Update, part of which could greatly improve participation of those affected by these and other communications challenges. After significant public discussions regarding the regional needs and governance, the RWMG is recommending the plan be structured with subregional delineations. These subregions are shown in the figure below. This reorganization of the planning effort will allow focused attention on stakeholders within each subregion in order to promote more focused collaboration by subregion, while continuing to practice broader regional planning when and where appropriate, as depicted in the figure below. The modified structure is expected to allow a greater focus on the needs of DACs in each subregion, allowing the subregional committees to provide targeted support to and encourage participation from DACs.



The planning grant proposal Task 17 (Engage Disadvantaged Communities in IRWM Plan Update) also provides a focused effort to address the small, disadvantaged, and Native American tribal communities critical water supply and water quality needs, and includes:

- Task 17.1 Develop DAC Recruitment Program
- Task 17.2 Compile Water Management Needs of DACs
- Task 17.3 Conducting Outreach Activities
- Task 17.4 Community Assistance for Project Preparation

Part of this effort includes identifying potential obstacles (e.g. language barrier, limited resources) to participating in IRWM program efforts, and finding ways to bridge that obstacle.

The RWMG will work towards including projects relevant to meeting the critical water supply and water quality needs of DACs. The District and RWMG subregional subcommittees will help DACs to complete implementation project solicitation forms, as a means of encouraging participation without straining already limited resources of the communities. These and other efforts within the IRWM Plan and the planning grant proposal will ensure equitable distribution of benefits by diversifying the stakeholder participation and encouraging the region to seek solutions to critical water resources needs of disadvantaged communities.

Table D1.2 Relationship between Projects/Programs/Policies under their Main Water Resource Management Strategy and IRWM Plan Goals and Objectives

OBJECTIVES / STRATEGIES/PROJECTS/PROGRAMS/PLANS	WATER QUALITY						WATER SUPPLY				ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION AND PRESERVATION							GROUNDWATER MONITORING AND MANAGEMENT						FLOOD MANAGEMENT				
	Protect and Improve Source Water Quality	Meet Drinking Water Standards	Development and Implementation of TMDLs	Implement NPDES Phase 2 Stormwater Programs	Support NPS Plan and Conditional Ag Waiver	Comply with new Waste Discharge Requirements	Implement Inter-Agency Projects	Maximize Water Conservation	Expand Desalination	Expand Reclaimed Water	Protect Ecologically Sensitive Lands	Manage Public Land Access to Promote Stewardship	Implement Fish Friendly Projects	Reduce Invasive Plants and Promote Native Plants	Manage Forests to Minimize Wildfires	Reuse Reclaimed Mines	Conserve Natural Resources	Monitor the Region's Groundwater Basins	Evaluate Groundwater Banking Programs	Protect Groundwater from Point and Non-Point Pollution	Groundwater Public Outreach and Education	Groundwater Conflict Resolution	Groundwater Recharge with High Quality Water	Distinguish Root Cause of Flooding	Integrate Ecosystem, Drainage, Recharge in Dev.	Develop Financial Programs	Minimize Risk of Dam/Levee Failure	Public Outreach, Education and Advocacy
ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION																												
Waterways Vegetation Management Program					X						X	X	X	X			X								X			
Mined Lands Remediation Program	X		X	X							X	X				X				X								
Invasive Species Program								X			X	X		X	X		X								X			
ENVIRONMENTAL / HABITAT PROTECTION AND IMPROVEMENT																												
Steelhead 4(d) Program	X		X	X	X	X					X		X												X			
Arroyo Grande Watershed HCP	X										X	X	X				X						X				X	X
Morro Bay Estuary Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan	X		X	X		X	X				X	X	X	X			X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X
WATER SUPPLY RELIABILITY																												
Nacimiento Water Project	X	X					X											X	X	X		X	X		X			
San Miguel CSD Water System Improvements	X	X																										
San Simeon CSD Water System Improvements	X	X																		X								
Lopez Water Treatment Plant Upgrade	X	X					X																					
Templeton CSD Water System Improvements	X	X																					X					
Cambria CSD Water System Improvements		X																										
FLOOD MANAGEMENT																												
Flood Control Zone 1/1A Waterway Management Program	X		X	X	X						X	X	X	X										X	X	X	X	X
Flood Control Zone 9 Waterway Management Program	X		X	X	X						X	X	X	X										X	X	X	X	X
Federal Flood Insurance Program Compliance Study																								X		X	X	X
Flood Management Plan	X		X	X	X								X	X			X			X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT																												
Nipomo CSD Salt Management Program	X		X		X	X	X		X	X	X		X					X		X	X	X	X		X			
Los Osos Water System Improvements	X	X																X		X		X						
Chorro and Morro Groundwater Basin Management Plans	X		X	X	X		X	X	X		X		X	X			X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X			
Edna Valley Groundwater Basin Study	X																	X	X	X	X	X	X		X			
Groundwater Management Ordinance Study	X		X		X	X	X		X	X	X							X	X	X	X	X	X		X			

OBJECTIVES / STRATEGIES/PROJECTS/PROGRAMS/PLANS	WATER QUALITY						WATER SUPPLY				ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION AND PRESERVATION							GROUNDWATER MONITORING AND MANAGEMENT						FLOOD MANAGEMENT				
	Protect and Improve Source Water Quality	Meet Drinking Water Standards	Development and Implementation of TMDLs	Implement NPDES Phase 2 Stormwater Programs	Support NPS Plan and Conditional Ag Waiver	Comply with new Waste Discharge Requirements	Implement Inter-Agency Projects	Maximize Water Conservation	Expand Desalination	Expand Reclaimed Water	Protect Ecologically Sensitive Lands	Manage Public Land Access to Promote Stewardship	Implement Fish Friendly Projects	Reduce Invasive Plants and Promote Native Plants	Manage Forests to Minimize Wildfires	Reuse Reclaimed Mines	Conserve Natural Resources	Monitor the Region's Groundwater Basins	Evaluate Groundwater Banking Programs	Protect Groundwater from Point and Non-Point Pollution	Groundwater Public Outreach and Education	Groundwater Conflict Resolution	Groundwater Recharge with High Quality Water	Distinguish Root Cause of Flooding	Integrate Ecosystem, Drainage, Recharge in Dev.	Develop Financial Programs	Minimize Risk of Dam/Levee Failure	Public Outreach, Education and Advocacy
RECREATION AND PUBLIC ACCESS																												
Morro Bay Harborwalk	X			X	X			X	X		X	X		X			X			X			X		X			
STORMWATER CAPTURE AND MANAGEMENT																												
Cambria Flood Control Project	X		X	X	X		X	X	X		X		X												X	X		
San Miguel Flood Control Project	X		X	X	X		X	X	X				X										X		X	X		
WATER CONSERVATION																												
Conservation Element	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						X	X			X		X		X			
WATER QUALITY PROTECTION AND IMPROVEMENT																												
Atascadero Wastewater System Upgrade	X		X			X	X			X																		
Avila Beach Wastewater System Upgrade	X		X			X	X			X																		
California Men's Colony Wastewater System Upgrade	X		X	X		X	X	X		X	X		X							X			X					
San Miguelito Wastewater System Upgrade	X		X			X	X			X																		
Pismo Beach Wastewater System Upgrade	X		X	X		X	X	X		X																		
Copper Piping Impact Study	X	X	X				X																					
Landfill Regulation Compliance Study	X		X	X		X	X	X		X	X																	
WATER RECYCLING																												
San Simeon Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade	X		X	X		X	X	X		X	X		X				X			X					X			
Morro Bay Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade	X		X	X		X	X			X	X		X				X	X		X		X	X		X			
Southland Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade	X		X			X				X			X				X	X		X		X	X		X			
San Luis Obispo Reclamation Facility Upgrade	X		X			X				X			X				X	X		X		X	X		X			
South San Luis Obispo County Sanitation District Facility Upgrade	X		X			X	X			X			X				X	X		X		X	X		X			
Paso Robles Reclamation and Recharge Program	X		X			X				X			X				X	X	X	X		X	X		X			
WETLANDS ENHANCEMENT AND CREATION																												
Wetland and Vernal Pool Mapping	X		X	X	X						X	X		X			X	X		X			X		X			
CONJUNCTIVE USE																												
Paso Robles Groundwater Basin Water Banking Feasibility Study	X		X				X												X			X	X					
Groundwater Recharge Optimization Program	X		X				X			X	X		X				X	X	X	X		X	X		X			
DESALINATION																												
Morro Bay Desalination Facility Upgrade	X	X							X	X								X	X	X		X	X		X			

OBJECTIVES / STRATEGIES/PROJECTS/PROGRAMS/PLANS	WATER QUALITY						WATER SUPPLY				ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION AND PRESERVATION							GROUNDWATER MONITORING AND MANAGEMENT						FLOOD MANAGEMENT				
	Protect and Improve Source Water Quality	Meet Drinking Water Standards	Development and Implementation of TMDLs	Implement NPDES Phase 2 Stormwater Programs	Support NPS Plan and Conditional Ag Waiver	Comply with new Waste Discharge Requirements	Implement Inter-Agency Projects	Maximize Water Conservation	Expand Desalination	Expand Reclaimed Water	Protect Ecologically Sensitive Lands	Manage Public Land Access to Promote Stewardship	Implement Fish Friendly Projects	Reduce Invasive Plants and Promote Native Plants	Manage Forests to Minimize Wildfires	Reuse Reclaimed Mines	Conserve Natural Resources	Monitor the Region's Groundwater Basins	Evaluate Groundwater Banking Programs	Protect Groundwater from Point and Non-Point Pollution	Groundwater Public Outreach and Education	Groundwater Conflict Resolution	Groundwater Recharge with High Quality Water	Distinguish Root Cause of Flooding	Integrate Ecosystem, Drainage, Recharge in Dev.	Develop Financial Programs	Minimize Risk of Dam/Levee Failure	Public Outreach, Education and Advocacy
Cambria Desalination Facility Project	X	X							X													X						
Desalination Study	X	X					X		X		X	X	X						X	X		X	X		X			
IMPORTED WATER – No New Imported Water Sources																												
LAND USE PLANNING																												
Low Impact Development Program			X	X	X						X	X	X	X			X			X	X		X	X	X			X
Agriculture and Open Space Element	X		X		X			X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X		X			
NPS POLLUTION CONTROL																												
Rural Road Erosion Program	X		X	X	X							X		X						X					X			
Morro Bay NPDES Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination Ordinance	X		X	X	X	X					X		X												X			X
Lake Nacimiento Watershed Mercury Sediment Reduction Project	X		X	X							X	X				X				X					X			X
SURFACE STORAGE – No New Surface Storage Projects																												
WATERSHED PLANNING																												
Data Enhancement Plan			X	X	X		X											X										
Master Water Plan	X	X					X	X	X	X							X	X	X		X	X	X		X			
Regional Permitting Plan							X				X	X	X	X		X									X			
WATER AND WASTEWATER TREATMENT																												
Atascadero Lake Treatment System			X	X							X	X	X							X					X			
Paso Robles Water Treatment Plant Project		X																				X						
San Miguel CSD Wastewater Treatment Expansion	X			X		X														X			X					
Templeton CSD Wastewater System Expansion	X		X			X																						
Los Osos Community Wastewater Project	X		X	X	X	X	X			X	X						X	X		X	X	X	X		X			
WATER TRANSFERS																												
Nipomo CSD Supplemental Water Project	X	X					X										X	X	X	X	X	X	X					