

Attachment 6: Program Preferences

Attachment 6 consists of the following:

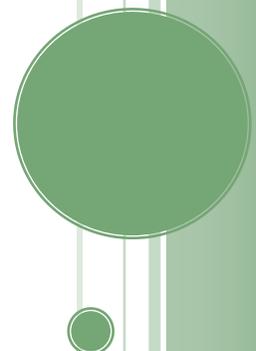
- ✓ **Program Preferences Summary**

Attachment 6, Program Preferences summarizes how the Mokelumne Watershed Interregional Sustainability Evaluation (WISE) Program will address the IRWM Program Preferences described in Section II.F of the *Proposition 84 & Proposition 1E IRWM Guidelines* (DWR, 2010) and Section IV of the *IRWM Grant Program – Proposal Solicitation Package for Round 2 Planning Grants* (DWR, 2011).

MOKELUMNE WATERSHED INTERREGIONAL SUSTAINABILITY EVALUATION (WISE) PROGRAM

*Proposition 84, Round 2 Planning Grant Program Preferences,
Attachment 6*

March 9, 2012



MOKELUMNE WATERSHED INTERREGIONAL SUSTAINABILITY EVALUATION (WISE) PROGRAM

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OVERVIEW

This attachment describes the extent to which completion of the Mokelumne Watershed Interregional Sustainability Evaluation (Mokelumne WISE) Program will meet and/or contribute to meeting specific Program Preferences, as identified in Section II.F of the *Proposition 84 and 1E IRWM Program Guidelines* (August 2010). Completion of the Mokelumne WISE Program will itself address Program Preferences and also, when integrated, contribute to the Mokelumne-Amador-Calaveras (MAC) and Eastern San Joaquin (ESJ) IRWMPs to further address Program Preferences. The Mokelumne WISE Program will also advance the IRCUP (Inter-regional Conjunctive Use Project) concept which was featured in the California Water Plan 2009 Update as an example of interregional collaboration (see Appendix A of Attachment 3, Work Plan).

The MAC and ESJ IRWM regions are each currently updating their respective IRWMPs to meet current Plan Standards. Table 1 summarizes the Program Preferences that will be addressed when the MAC and ESJ IRWMP updates are complete. The Mokelumne WISE Program will specifically help both regions address program preferences, including integrating water management programs within the San Joaquin hydrologic region, effectively resolving significant water-related conflicts within and between the regions, and others.

In addition to the Program Preferences fulfilled by the Mokelumne WISE Program, many of the Statewide Priorities listed in Table 1 of the *Guidelines* are also addressed by this Proposal. Specific Program Preferences and Statewide Priorities are discussed in more detail in the following sections.

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Table 1: Program Preferences Addressed by MAC and ESJ IRWMPs

Program Preference	Addressed by MAC IRWMP	Addressed by ESJ IRWMP
Include Regional Projects or Programs	✓	✓
Integrate Water Management Programs within a hydrologic region	✓	✓
Effectively resolve significant water-related conflicts within or between regions	✓	✓
Contribute to attainment of CALFED Bay-Delta Program objectives	✓	✓
Address critical water supply/quality needs of DACs	✓	✓
Integrate water management with land use planning	✓	✓
Include stormwater / flood management projects that provide multiple benefits and are not receiving funding	✓	✓
Address Statewide Priorities	--	--
<i>Drought Preparedness</i>	✓	✓
<i>Use and Reuse Water More Efficiently</i>	✓	✓
<i>Climate Change Response Actions</i>	✓	✓
<i>Expand Environmental Stewardship</i>	✓	✓
<i>Practice Integrated Flood Management</i>	✓	✓
<i>Protect Surface Water and Groundwater Quality</i>	✓	✓
<i>Improve Tribal Water and Natural Resources</i>	✓	N/A
<i>Ensure Equitable Distribution of Benefits</i>	✓	✓

PROGRAM PREFERENCES

Table 2 shows which Program Preferences this proposal will contribute to meeting. Each of the Program Preferences that will be met is discussed in greater detail in the following sections.

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Table 2: Program Preferences Addressed by Mokelumne WISE Program

Program Preference	Addressed by the Mokelumne WISE Program
Include Regional Projects or Programs	✓
Integrate Water Management Programs within a hydrologic region	✓
Effectively resolve significant water-related conflicts within or between regions	✓
Contribute to attainment of CALFED Bay-Delta Program objectives	✓
Address critical water supply/quality needs of DACs	✓
Integrate water management with land use planning	✓
Include stormwater / flood management projects that provide multiple benefits and are not receiving funding	✓
Address Statewide Priorities	--
<i>Drought Preparedness</i>	✓
<i>Use and Reuse Water More Efficiently</i>	✓
<i>Climate Change Response Actions</i>	✓
<i>Expand Environmental Stewardship</i>	✓
<i>Practice Integrated Flood Management</i>	✓
<i>Protect Surface Water and Groundwater Quality</i>	✓
<i>Improve Tribal Water and Natural Resources</i>	✓
<i>Ensure Equitable Distribution of Benefits</i>	✓

Program Preference Addressed: Include Regional Projects or Programs

The result of the Mokelumne WISE Program will be identification of a preferred Program Alternative and a detailed implementation plan that will enable the ESJ and MAC regions to more effectively manage their water resources. The preferred Program Alternative and related documentation of the Mokelumne WISE Program will be incorporated into both IRWM Plans. As such, the project will encourage the development and promotion of regional/interregional programs which individually and collectively benefit the MAC and ESJ regions. Once a preferred program is identified and implemented, the water needs of the following entities will have been considered and potentially addressed: Amador County, Amador Water Agency, Calaveras County Water District, Calaveras Public Utilities District (CPUD), the City of Lodi, the City of Stockton, East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD), Jackson Valley Irrigation District (JVID), North San Joaquin Water Conservation District, San Joaquin County Flood Control and Water Conservation District and Mokelumne River Water and Power Authority, Stockton East Water District and/or Central San Joaquin Water Conservation District, Woodbridge Irrigation District and the San Joaquin Farm Bureau Federation.

Program Preference Addressed: Integrate Water Management Programs within a Hydrologic Region and Effectively Resolve Significant Water-Related Conflicts Within or Between Regions

Addressing the following two Program Preferences are related due to the location of the ESJ and MAC regions.

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1. Integrate Water Management Programs within a Hydrologic Region
2. Effectively Resolve Significant Water-Related Conflicts Within or Between Regions

The ESJ and MAC IRWM regions are both located within the San Joaquin Hydrologic Region, are adjacent to one another, and share a common boundary. Because of their adjacent location and common interests and issues, these regions' IRWM Plans currently include a joint chapter regarding interregional projects. While each of the respective IRWM Plans focuses on meeting the needs of the specific region, the different water resource characteristics of the two regions pose a unique opportunity to meet a broader range of needs and provide greater benefits through interregional cooperation. Specifically, because the MAC Region has predominantly surface water supply, and the adjacent ESJ Region has predominantly groundwater supply with available basin capacity, working cooperatively may result in identification of water management opportunities such as conjunctive use. These opportunities would further the goals of each Region's IRWM Plan and create an integrated water management approach that optimizes the resources of the respective regions.

As described in Attachment 3 – Work Plan, the Mokelumne WISE Program will strengthen both IRWM Plans by providing a better understanding of potential opportunities and alternatives for enhanced integrated water resource management and conjunctive use of surface water and groundwater resources. Completion of the Mokelumne WISE Program will contribute to achieving the goals and objectives identified for the MAC and ESJ Regions to a greater degree than would be possible by either region individually. In addition, it will allow both regions to more fully evaluate resource management strategies, such as conjunctive use, which may provide significant benefits in an interregional context but cannot be fully and effectively evaluated within regional boundaries.

Program Preference Addressed: Contribute to Attainment of CALFED Bay-Delta Program Objectives

The Mokelumne WISE Program would contribute to the following CALFED Bay-Delta Program objectives:

- Improve Delta water quality: the Mokelumne WISE Program will evaluate alternatives such as storing excess wet weather flows from the Mokelumne River in the Eastern San Joaquin groundwater basin. The Mokelumne River Watershed Assessment and Management Plan, completed in 2008, found that flood flows pose a significant threat to water quality due to increased erosion / sediment transport, as well as the ability to transport surface contaminants. By diverting flood flows prior to reaching the Delta, this project would improve Delta water quality.
- Maintain and improve integrity of Delta levees: By evaluating alternatives to reduce upstream flooding and therefore pressure on downstream Delta levees, the Mokelumne WISE Program will reduce sedimentation that currently threatens the integrity of downstream Delta levees. In this way, the project will assist in maintaining and improving the integrity of Delta levees.
- Improve ecological health of the Bay-Delta watershed: the Mokelumne WISE Program objectives will be developed jointly by the MAC and ESJ Regions, in coordination with local environmental stakeholders. It is envisioned that the resulting preferred Program Alternative will provide water quality, water supply, and environmental benefits to the watershed.

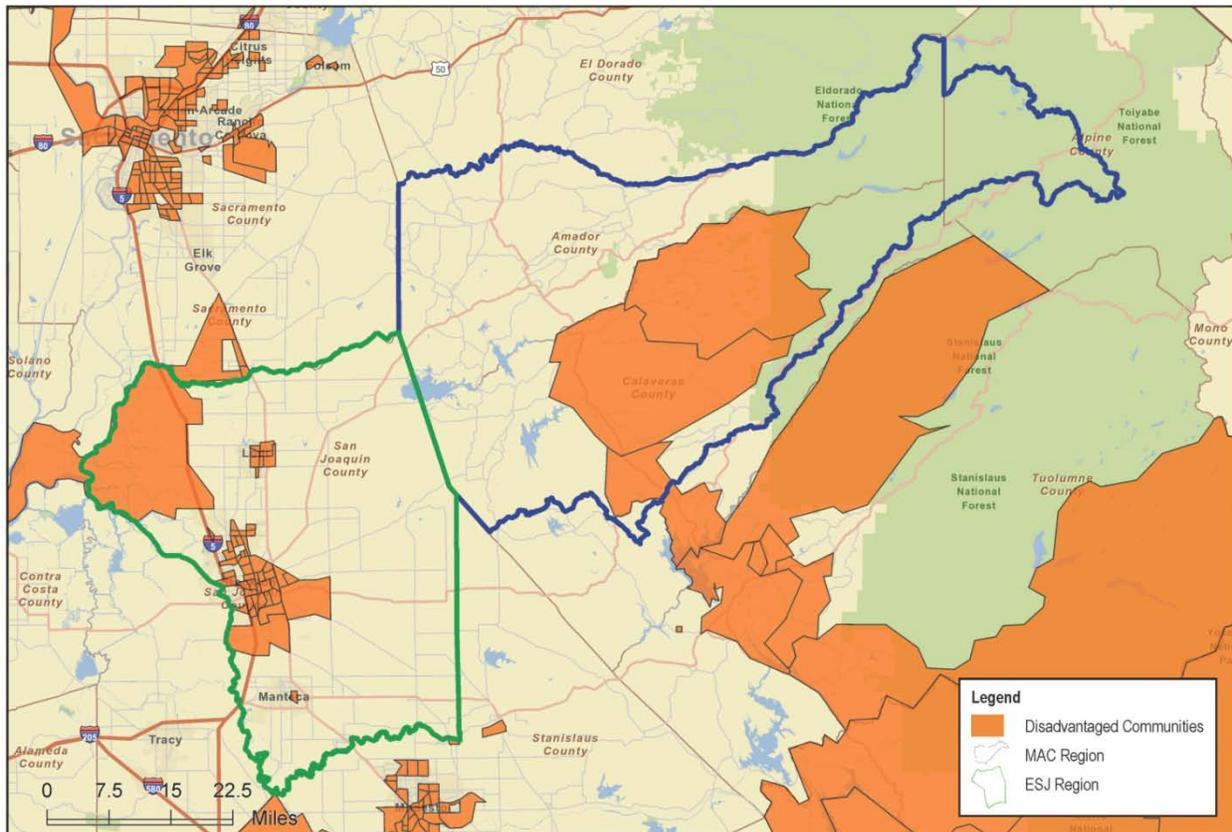
Program Preference: Address Critical Water Supply/Quality Needs of DACs

The MAC and ESJ regions already attempt to address critical water supply and water quality needs of DACs in their respective regions. The Mokelumne WISE Program will further address DAC needs

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through Task 8: Public and DAC Outreach. This task focuses on developing and implementing a plan to reach out to and engage DACs to solicit input to the Mokelumne WISE Program. Additionally, the end result of the Mokelumne WISE Program will include an interregional conjunctive use program component that will address water supply needs in both the ESJ and MAC regions. As shown in Figure 1, a significant fraction of the MAC and ESJ regions are considered disadvantaged; the map shows census tracts with a Median Household Income (MHI) less than 80% of the Statewide MHI.

Figure 1: DACs in the MAC and ESJ Regions



The preferred Mokelumne WISE Program Alternative is expected to directly benefit West Point and Lake Camanche Village, both disadvantaged communities within the MAC region. CCWD operates the domestic water system that serves approximately 560 connections in West Point, while AWA provides water supplies to the Lake Camanche Village. Optimizing the management of surface and groundwater supplies to benefit as many communities and entities as possible will be explored during completion of the Mokelumne WISE Program.

Program Preference Addressed: Integrate Water Management with Land Use Planning

Task 9 of the Mokelumne WISE Program will evaluate the preferred Program Alternative in the context of local land use planning documents. Further, the governing bodies of the two participating RWMGs, UMRWA and GBA, include elected officials from cities and counties with local land use authority within the two regions. In these ways the project will assist in achieving this program preference. During completion of Subtask 9.2 – IRWM Plan Integration, the preferred Program

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Alternative will be reviewed for consistency with local land use planning; the results of the analysis will be summarized to augment discussions in the MAC and ESJ IRWM plans.

Program Preference Addressed: Include Stormwater / Flood Management Projects that Provide Multiple Benefits and are not Receiving Funding

The Mokelumne WISE Program will evaluate alternatives such as storing excess wet weather flows from the Mokelumne River in the Eastern San Joaquin groundwater basin. This will result in enhanced stormwater and flood management for the regions. In addition, the Mokelumne WISE Program objectives will be developed jointly by the MAC and ESJ Regions, in coordination with local environmental stakeholders. It is envisioned that the resulting preferred Program Alternative will provide multiple benefits including water quality, water supply, and environmental benefits to the watershed.

Program Preference: Address Statewide Priorities

The Statewide Priorities that the Proposal addresses include the following:

1. Drought Preparedness
2. Use and Reuse Water More Efficiently
3. Climate Change Response Actions
4. Expand Environmental Stewardship
5. Practice Integrated Flood Management
6. Protect Surface Water and Groundwater Quality
7. Improve Tribal Water and Natural Resources
8. Ensure Equitable Distribution of Benefits

The manner in which these are met is discussed in the following sections.

Drought Preparedness

The Mokelumne WISE Program will contribute to long-term drought preparedness for the MAC and ESJ regions in numerous ways, including by improving the understanding of available water supplies from the Mokelumne River now and in the future. As part of Task 3 in the Mokelumne WISE Program Work Plan, a Water Supply Availability Analysis will be completed in order to accurately develop a program that optimizes water supply, water quality, and environmental stewardship on an interregional basis. Having this analysis completed will provide the MAC and ESJ regions with the knowledge required to better manage its water resources and prepare for potential future droughts.

The Mokelumne WISE Program must be completed in order to develop and identify a preferred Program Alternative to be implemented by the regions to help create a sustainable water supply, and improve water supply reliability year-round and during water shortages. Conjunctive water resources management is a valuable and effective water management strategy. By conjunctively operating the water resources in both regions—that is, conjunctively manage both surface water supplies in the MAC region and groundwater supplies in the ESJ region—overall water supply reliability will be enhanced, and reliability during dry years and droughts may be significantly improved. By storing excess surface water supplies from the Mokelumne River in the Eastern San Joaquin groundwater basin or other potential storage site, water will be available for future use, preparing the regions for possible future droughts. The implementation of the preferred Program Alternative will also contribute to an increase in groundwater levels, groundwater quality protection, and regional and local benefits to habitat and the environment.

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Climate Change Response Actions

The Mokelumne WISE Program will provide enhanced climate change adaptation for both the MAC and ESJ regions by optimizing water resources management, increasing storage capacity, and enhancing dry year water supply reliability. As part of Task 9, potential climate change adaptation and/ or mitigation benefits associated with the Mokelumne WISE Program, including estimated greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions impacts, will be defined. Additionally, the Mokelumne WISE Program will help the MAC and ESJ regions create a sustainable water supply and improve water supply reliability year-round and during droughts, which is important as precipitation and water supplies may be more variable in the future due to potential climate change impacts.

Expand Environmental Stewardship

The Mokelumne WISE Program objectives will be developed jointly by the MAC and ESJ Regions, in coordination with local and regional environmental stakeholders. It is envisioned that the resulting preferred Program Alternative will provide water quality, water supply, and environmental benefits to the watershed. Environmental/conservation stakeholders will be involved throughout the entire planning process, as described in Attachment 3, Work Plan. Including special interest groups in the completion of Mokelumne WISE Program will help ensure environmental stewardship is considered and included in the development of a preferred Program Alternative.

Practice Integrated Flood Management

The Mokelumne WISE Program will evaluate alternatives such as storing excess wet weather flows from the Mokelumne River in the Eastern San Joaquin groundwater basin. This will result in enhanced stormwater and flood management for the region. This integrated flood management approach will simultaneously provide a host of other benefits to both regions, including water quality, water supply, and environmental benefits to the watershed through interregional cooperation and coordination.

Protect Surface Water and Groundwater Quality

The Mokelumne WISE Program will evaluate alternatives such as storing excess wet weather flows from the Mokelumne River in the Eastern San Joaquin groundwater basin. The Mokelumne River Watershed Assessment and Management Plan, completed in 2008, found that flood flows pose a significant threat to water quality due to increased erosion / sediment transport, as well as the ability to transport surface contaminants. By diverting flood flows prior to reaching the Delta, this project would improve surface water quality. In addition, storing excess Mokelumne River supplies in the Eastern San Joaquin groundwater basin would provide a freshwater barrier, reducing saline intrusion, and protecting and enhancing groundwater quality.

Improve Tribal Water and Natural Resources

The Mokelumne WISE Program will provide a host of benefits to the MAC Region, which is home to three recognized tribes:

- Ione Band of Miwok Indians: Ione Band of Miwok Indians is a federally recognized tribe governed by a Tribal Council. The Tribal Council oversees the development of tribal lands and makes decisions regarding economic development strategies, legislative and other issues affecting the future direction of the Tribe.
- Jackson Rancheria Band of Miwuk Indians: The Jackson Rancheria Band of Miwuk Indians was first recognized by the Federal Government in 1898. The Tribal Government Gaming and Economic Self-Sufficiency Act was passed in 1998 and the following year the Tribe signed a

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compact with the State of California affirming the right to gaming on tribal lands and securing the Jackson Rancheria's future.

- California Valley Miwok Tribe: The status of the leadership of the California Valley Miwok Tribe, generally known as the Sheep Ranch Tribe, has been in question since 2006. The status of the tribe's reservation, a one acre parcel in Calaveras County, is uncertain and is pending before the BIA in Washington, DC.

The Mokelumne WISE Program will generate water supply, water quality, and environmental benefits throughout the MAC and ESJ Regions and will directly benefit tribes within the MAC Region. The tribal communities will have the opportunity to participate in the Mokelumne WISE Program planning process during Task 8 – Public and DAC Outreach.

Use and Reuse Water More Efficiently

Similar to the Drought Preparedness Statewide Priority, the Mokelumne WISE Program will help contribute to this Statewide Priority by using potable water supplies more efficiently. The project will evaluate the potential to store excess Mokelumne River flows during wet years for later use during dry years. By managing surface and groundwater more effectively, overall, water will be used more efficiently, thus addressing this Statewide Priority.

Ensure Equitable Distribution of Benefits

The MAC and ESJ regions have strived to reach a diverse group of stakeholders and include DACs in both the IRWM planning process and the implementation of projects included in their existing IRWM Plans. Completion of the Mokelumne WISE Program will include specific outreach to DACs to ensure a diverse group of stakeholders are reached and able to provide input. A focused and robust outreach plan will help ensure development of an interregional program that provides an equitable distribution of benefits. In addition, Task 6 will involve a detailed review of cost and benefits allocation; this will provide a mechanism to ensure that costs and benefits are distributed equitably.