

No. 42 – Upper Santa Margarita Integrated Regional Water Management Region

Region Acceptance Process Summary

General Description of Region

The Upper Santa Margarita Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Region is located in Riverside County and borders the San Diego IRWM Region to the south, the South Orange County IRWM Region to the west, the Coachella Valley IRWM Region to the east, and the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority IRWM Region to the north.

The Upper Santa Margarita Regional Water Management Group (RWMG) consists of the following members: Rancho California Water District, Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, and County of Riverside. These three members represent the majority of water management authorities and stakeholders in the Upper Santa Margarita IRWM Region. The Upper Santa Margarita RWMG works closely with the Stakeholder Advisory Committee, which is comprised of 18 agencies. This Committee sets goals, selects projects, and provides recommendations for the benefit of the Region. Outreach with Disadvantaged Communities in the Region is mostly undertaken by the County of Riverside.

This RWMG collaborates with the San Diego and South Orange County IRWM Regions through a Tri-County Funding Area Coordinating Committee that was established by a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the agencies. The Tri-County Funding Area Coordinating Committee, formed by the MOU, maximizes the opportunities for integrated water management activities in the watersheds shared by these three IRWM Regions.

Interview Conclusions- Approved

No changes to the Upper Santa Margarita IRWM Region boundaries are suggested by DWR. DWR requires the Upper Santa Margarita RWMG to continue to engage the South Orange County and San Diego IRWM Regions through their Tri-County Funding Area Coordinating Committee.

To be eligible for Proposition 84 funding, the Upper Santa Margarita RWMG may need to expand their RWMG to include entities necessary to develop and implement the IRWM Plan (California Water Code §10539).