

# CHAPTER 14: COORDINATION

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This chapter presents an overview of the process to coordinate water management projects and activities with local, regional, and state agencies, diverse stakeholders, and neighboring IRWM regions. The intent of these efforts is to ensure an appropriate level of coordination is occurring within the region in order to avoid conflicts and duplication of efforts, as well as to integrate planning efforts across agencies and jurisdictions in order to take advantage of efficiencies and best manage the region's water resources.

## **14.1 COORDINATION OF ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE IRWM REGION**

IRWM-related activities in the Santa Cruz Region are coordinated with local agencies that have statutory authority over water management and related resources in the Santa Cruz IRWM planning region, along with local districts, non-governmental organizations, and additional diverse stakeholders. The RWMG members, project proponents, and stakeholders include water supply, water quality, flood control, stormwater management, wastewater, municipal, environmental, regulatory, and community groups. Representatives from many of these entities and findings from their respective planning documents have contributed towards shaping the water resources management goals and objectives, priorities, strategies, and projects that make up the IRWM Plan. Meetings and discussions amongst the RWMG, local agencies, and stakeholders provide an opportunity for discussing current projects and new project ideas.

Coordination with this diverse group occurs through a variety of channels. A primary avenue for IRWM coordination and communications is the website ([SantaCruzIRWMP.org](http://SantaCruzIRWMP.org)) which provides information on planning and implementation efforts, meetings and events, and links to resources about related efforts in the region and state, including links to other Central Coast IRWM Plans. The website includes information and lists of completed, active, and proposed IRWM projects from both the 2005 Plan and the 2014 Plan. In addition to the website, the email updates serve to inform stakeholders of significant news about the IRWM Plan or planning process, key milestones and deadlines, public workshops, solicitations for new projects for the IRWM Plan, and funding opportunities.

Coordination amongst the RWMG, agencies, and stakeholders also occurs through numerous parallel and complementary efforts in the county that inform IRWM planning efforts and the projects in the IRWM Plan. The IRWM Steering Committee and RWMG representatives actively participate in the following commissions and groups:

### **Santa Cruz County Water Advisory Commission**

The commission was established in 1975 to serve as a policy advisory body to the County Board of Supervisors on issues relating to the use and protection of the county's water resources. The role of the commission is to advise the board on all policy issues impacting water resources in Santa Cruz County. The commission consists of seven members, five of whom are concerned citizens appointed by supervisors and two that are appointed at large to represent public water purveyors and private or mutual water companies in the county.

### **Santa Cruz County Commission on the Environment**

This commission advises the Board of Supervisors and makes recommendations on ways to improve and protect the environment to ensure the long-term environmental sustainability of the county. This

includes: advising the Board of Supervisors and working with other commissions in reviewing and updating county policies and actions to support environmental goals; serving as an information clearinghouse about legislation that may impact the environment; and advising the board on potential areas of cooperation with agencies and organizations to plan and implement effective environmental policies in Santa Cruz County.

#### **City of Santa Cruz Water Commission**

The Water Commission advises the City Council on all matters pertaining to the Santa Cruz water system and its maintenance and management. The commission also makes studies of long range plans for securing sources of domestic water supply for the city and reports to the City Council its conclusions and recommendations for the improvement and extension of water systems, including sources, storage, transmission, distribution, financing, and conservation.

#### **Integrated Watershed Restoration Program**

Developed in 2002, Integrated Watershed Restoration Program (IWRP) is in some respects a precursor to the IRWM program and remains an outstanding example of an innovative, effective, coordinated program for local, state, and federal watershed restoration efforts. IWRP is led locally by the Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County (RCD). IRWM and IWRP are closely coordinated and are parallel and complementary efforts.

The origins of IWRP date to the late 1990s as watershed restoration plans and assessments were completed for seven watersheds in Santa Cruz County. The RCD, Coastal Conservancy, California Department of Fish and Game, Coastal Watershed Council, and the City and County of Santa Cruz recognized that watershed restoration would be more effective as a coordinated county-wide effort, and in 2002 developed the concept for the Integrated Watershed Restoration Program (IWRP) for Santa Cruz County. The goal of IWRP is to support local watershed partners in developing and prioritizing projects and coordinating agencies that provide technical assistance, permits, and funds. Such coordination reduces the staff time required while helping to ensure that critical projects are identified, funded, and permitted. IWRP identifies projects that integrate multiple benefits for water quality, restoration, and sediment source control.

Phase I of IWRP (2002 - 2007) was funded by the State Coastal Conservancy and focused on the design and permitting of IWRP projects. IWRP Phase II (2008 - 2013) principally focused on project implementation. Phase II was funded in part by the Santa Cruz IRWM Region's 2008 Prop 50 IRWM Implementation Grant; additional financial support was provided by numerous federal, state, local, and private sources, including Proposition 40, Proposition 50, and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). From 2008 to 2012, with funding support from the IRWM Program, the RCD worked with landowners and local, state, and federal partners to:

- Implement 40 water quality and/or habitat restoration projects
- Implement a watershed education program which served 19 teachers and 540 students
- Facilitate the Partners in Restoration Permit Coordination Program (PIR, described below)
- Coordinate and facilitate the IWRP Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

#### **Integrated Watershed Restoration Program - Technical Advisory Committee**

IWRP projects are developed and reviewed by a TAC which enables projects to be vetted through the regulatory agencies early in the project development stage. The TAC consists of natural resource

managers, engineers, ecologists, and biologists representing local, state, and federal agencies including the County of Santa Cruz, California Department of Fish and Game (DFG), Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA NMFS), Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE), U.S. Fish and Wildlife (USFWS), and Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). Depending on the project type and resource concern, a subset of TAC members with expertise or oversight specific to that project type actively participates in project review. An IWRP Coordinator acts to coordinate interagency activities and technical reviews for the IWRP projects (i.e., environmental compliance, project design, and quality assurance), organizing and facilitating TAC meetings and design charrettes, completing the fish passage inspection checklist for fish passage projects, and assisting with photo documentation of IWRP projects.

#### **Partners in Restoration Permit Coordination Program**

The Partners in Restoration Permit Coordination Program (PIR) was initially developed by the RCD and NRCS in partnership with Sustainable Conservation. This innovative program promotes voluntary implementation of conservation projects to provide a wide range of resource benefits to water quality, habitat quality, and the conservation of agricultural resources. Typical projects are small, environmentally beneficial projects, such as stream bank protection, drainage and erosion control, invasive vegetation removal, and fish stream habitat improvement projects, primarily on private land. The program provides “one-stop regulatory shopping” for landowners interested in implementing voluntary conservation projects on their lands, thereby removing the time, cost, and complexity of individual project review. Twelve IRWM-funded projects have been implemented through the PIR.

#### **Monterey Bay Stormwater Action Group**

The Monterey Bay Storm Water Action Group (SWAG) was formed in 2008 to share ideas, resources, and information about watershed-scale stormwater issues including National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) programs and regional stormwater quality implementation needs, and to collaborate on regional activities and programs. Initiated by Ecology Action, the RCD, and City of Watsonville, participating entities include numerous RWMG agencies and stakeholders:

- Capitola Public Works
- City of Santa Cruz Public Works
- City of Watsonville Public Works
- Coastal Watershed Council
- Ecology Action
- Monterey Regional Storm Water Management Program
- Santa Cruz County Resource Conservation District
- Santa Cruz County Environmental Health Services
- Santa Cruz County Public Works
- Save Our Shores
- Scotts Valley Public Works
- Soquel Creek Water District

#### **Santa Margarita Groundwater Basin Advisory Group**

This group consists of representatives from the Scotts Valley City Council, Scotts Valley Water District, San Lorenzo Valley Water District, County of Santa Cruz Board of Supervisors/Water Advisory Commission, and Lompico Water District. The advisory group meets biannually to discuss Santa Margarita Groundwater Basin management and integrated regional water management.

### **Soquel-Aptos Groundwater Management Alliance**

The Soquel-Aptos Groundwater Management Alliance (SAGMA) is comprised of four water resource agencies responsible for assuring the long-term sustainability and quality of the groundwater supply of the coastal aquifers in mid-Santa Cruz County. These four agencies are: County of Santa Cruz, City of Santa Cruz, Soquel Creek Water District, and Central Water District. SAGMA was formed in 2005 through a formal Cooperative Agreement adopted by the governing board of each participating agency. This agreement broadens the groundwater management efforts initiated through the Soquel Creek and Central Water Districts' AB 3030 Joint Powers Authority (JPA) established in 1995. SAGMA's objectives include monitoring and controlling seawater intrusion, and monitoring and managing groundwater levels, storage, and quality within the area regionally known as the Soquel-Aptos Basin. Numerous projects identified in the Santa Cruz IRWM Plan specifically address SAGMA's objectives and will work in concert with each other as well as existing projects to significantly benefit this important water resource.

### **Blue Circle**

Since 1996, the Blue Circle has provided an opportunity for informal coordination amongst the region's stakeholders. Organized by the RCD and NRCS, it provides a way for local agencies, governments, special interest groups, and concerned citizens to meet and exchange views on natural resource issues affecting residents living in the county's watersheds. The Blue Circle concept was designed to help prevent duplication of effort, to break down institutional barriers, improve communication, and create strong working relationships between all watershed stakeholders, including agencies and government units. The Blue Circle recognizes that social values and perspectives are very much a part of watershed stewardship, which is why, along with the presentations on a variety of watershed topics, there is a social "mixer" at every Blue Circle event, complete with food, beverage, and a silent auction.

The Blue Circle is not political nor does it endorse, support, or lobby any issue in any form. There are no meeting minutes or summaries, annual or long-term plans, or tasks to complete. In addition, most Blue Circle gatherings are held in interesting locations, such as art galleries and museums, to help improve attendance and offer a more stimulating atmosphere for more effective interaction and communication. The motto of the Santa Cruz County Blue Circle is "People Having Fun with Watersheds."

### **Monterey Bay Regional Climate Action Compact**

The Monterey Bay Regional Climate Action Compact is a network of government agencies, educational institutions, private businesses, non-profit, and non-governmental organizations who are committed to working collaboratively to address the causes and effects of global climate change through local initiatives that focus on economic vitality and reduce environmental impacts for the region. Climate Action The Climate Action Compact holds an Annual Regional Climate Summit, where partners convene to define regional climate strategy and share best practices. Compact partners develop and implement initiatives that focus on accomplishing four primary objectives:

1. Regional Greenhouse Gas Emission Reductions
2. Economic Development, Job Creation/Retention
3. Climate Change Awareness and Education
4. Strategic Climate Change Adaptation

### **Santa Cruz Midcounty Groundwater Stakeholder Advisory Committee**

In 2014, the County of Santa Cruz, in conjunction with Soquel Creek Water District and Central Water District, partnered to initiate a community dialogue with private well pumpers and other community stakeholders within the Soquel-Aptos Groundwater Management Basin. The role and purpose of this committee is to broaden the engagement with groundwater basin users to promote open and effective communication; explore issues including efficient water use, groundwater hydrology, protection of groundwater quality, groundwater rights and management institutions, and sustainability; and advise in the development of a set of recommendations for the County, SqCWD, and CWD on groundwater basin protection and management strategies for all basin users in addressing mid-county water issues. The Advisory Committee convened five public meetings in 2014.

## **14.2 IDENTIFICATION AND COORDINATION WITH NEIGHBORING IRWM REGIONS**

The Santa Cruz IRWM Region maintains an open dialogue with the two neighboring IRWM regions on issues of mutual concern, opportunities for collaboration, and coordination on any projects that overlap regional boundaries. The Santa Cruz Region is abutted on the south and east by the Pajaro IRWM Region and shares an area of overlap in Watsonville Sloughs. To the north and east the Region is bordered by the San Francisco Bay Area IRWM Region. In 2009, each of the three regions were formally approved by DWR through the IRWM Region Acceptance Process (RAP); this included approval of the regions' boundaries. The Santa Cruz RWMG has maintained both formal and informal contacts with each of these regions, more actively with the Pajaro IRWM Region. The Santa Cruz County RCD and the Santa Cruz County Water Resources Division Director (both Santa Cruz RWMG agencies) routinely interact with the Pajaro RWMG members on projects of common interest in the areas of overlap. Both the Pajaro and Bay Area IRWM contacts are on the Santa Cruz IRWM stakeholder distribution list and receive email updates on activities.

The water resources related issues facing the Santa Cruz Region are generally quite distinct from those faced by adjacent IRWM regions. This is due, in large part, to the fact that the Santa Cruz Region does not import any of its water supply. In contrast, approximately two-thirds of the Bay Area IRWM Region's water supply is imported from Sierra Nevada and Delta sources through various federal, state and local projects<sup>1</sup>. The Bay Area Region is served by large water supply agencies, which contrast to the smaller, dispersed agencies found in the Santa Cruz IRWM region. The Bay Area and the Santa Cruz IRWM regions share some groundwater quality concerns related to contaminants, although such concerns are fairly localized in the Santa Cruz Region. The main differences between Santa Cruz and the Pajaro IRWM regions are that the Pajaro is largely focused on water supply and flooding. The Pajaro is also nearly wholly dependent upon groundwater as a source of supply serviced by a large municipal water agency with oversight by the Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency. The Regions do share water quality concerns related to sediment and contaminants from agricultural operations.

### **14.2.1 COORDINATION WITH PAJARO RIVER WATERSHED REGION**

The Pajaro IRWM effort, which covers all of the Pajaro River Watershed, including the portion within Santa Cruz County, is viewed as parallel and complementary. The Santa Cruz County IRWM and Pajaro IRWM Regions overlap in the Watsonville Sloughs. The coordination of activities were characterized in

<sup>1</sup> San Francisco Bay Area Integrated Regional Water Management Plan, 2013.

the RAP documents and follow-up July 2009 letters of cooperation between the Pajaro and Santa Cruz County IRWM Regions that describes the coordination efforts for the management of the boundary overlap areas; the letters were submitted to DWR by both regions. The Pajaro River Watershed IRWM Plan primarily addresses issues of groundwater management and flooding in the Watsonville Sloughs area, while the Santa Cruz County IRWM Plan addresses water quality protection (including stormwater quality management) and habitat restoration in the slough watershed.

Several Santa Cruz RWMG members also have projects in the Pajaro region, and the Santa Cruz RCD and County staff participate in the Stakeholder Advisory Committee of the Pajaro IRWM planning process. Coordination primarily occurs around overlapping projects and around projects in the Watsonville Sloughs. The two regions have many common stakeholders. Staff from the Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency (PVWMA), one of the 3 members of the Pajaro RWMG, actively participate in management discussions for the Soquel-Aptos Groundwater Basin, which adjoins and contributes groundwater to the Pajaro Basin.

Both Pajaro and Santa Cruz are within the Central Coast hydrologic region. Both regions participate in regular Central Coast IRWM coordination meetings and also in the Roundtable of Regions. The County Water Resources Division reviews and comments on both IRWM Plans. County and RCD staff as well as staff from the City of Watsonville attend both Regions' meetings. There is also some coordination and collaboration on grant funding outside of IRWM efforts.

## 14.2.2 COORDINATION WITH THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA REGION

The San Francisco Bay Area and Santa Cruz IRWM Regions connect in rather remote geographic areas – in the upper Santa Cruz Mountains, and on the coast near Año Nuevo. The Bay Area IRWM Region is in RWQCB Region 2 (San Francisco Bay), and Santa Cruz is in Region 3 (Central Coast). The planning efforts are viewed as parallel and complementary, although there is limited interaction between water managers in these regions as the water resources are almost completely separate. Coordination has focused on efforts to minimize the area not covered by a planning region in the Central Coast Funding Area in San Mateo County. As a result, the northern boundary of the Santa Cruz IRWM region was adjusted in 2009 to encompass additional portions of small watersheds of Año Nuevo, reducing, yet not eliminating the gap. There is significant coordination and collaboration between the RCD of Santa Cruz County and San Mateo County RCD. Both regions participate in the Roundtable of Regions, and information is also shared through informal networks.

## 14.2.3 COORDINATION WITHIN THE CENTRAL COAST IRWM FUNDING AREA

The Proposition 84 IRWM Grant Program established the 11 funding areas throughout the state. The Central Coast funding area includes all of the counties of Santa Cruz, Monterey, San Benito, San Luis Obispo, and Santa Barbara and parts of Santa Mateo, Santa Clara, and Ventura. The six IRWM regions in the Central Coast funding area include:

- Santa Cruz IRWM
- Pajaro River Watershed IRWM
- Greater Monterey County IRWM
- Monterey Peninsula, Carmel Bay, and South Monterey Bay IRWM
- San Luis Obispo County IRWM
- Santa Barbara Countywide IRWM

Since early 2007, discussions amongst regional representatives from the six IRWM regions has occurred as needed through workgroup conference calls and meetings to share information and to coordinate on issues and items of common interest such as statewide IRWM Program developments, regional coordination, and funding opportunities. The Santa Cruz County Water Resources Director and staff participate on behalf of the Santa Cruz Region.

In early 2007, representatives from the regions agreed to a set of principles that supported regional cooperation and communication within the state's IRWM framework. The IRWM regions in the Central Coast funding area are geographically distinct and while there is some commonality among the water resource issues and challenges, most water issues within the regions are more effectively addressed by the respective regions. In 2010, Santa Cruz County IRWM representatives participated in a Central Coast Funding Area meeting with DWR and the other Central Coast IRWM Regions. Since that time, representatives have continued to participate in semi-regular conference calls to discuss IRWM Program developments and to share information on IRWM planning and project progress.

## **14.3 COORDINATION WITH AGENCIES**

### **14.3.1 LOCAL AGENCIES**

Local agencies and jurisdictions with statutory authority over local land use, water management, and resources are actively engaged in IRWM planning and implementation efforts. The participation of local municipal and county government, special district, and local jurisdictions as RWMG members and as stakeholders is an essential part of enabling the overall coordination of IRWM with local agencies. The local agency representation and participation provides a vital link between the planning process and management actions related to local land use and water management.

As detailed in Chapter 12 (Relation to Local Water and Land Use Planning), numerous plans and studies related to water resources and land use management contributed to the development of this IRWM Plan. The use of these planning documents in the IRWM Plan development helps to ensure its consistency with local planning efforts. Local planning entities, including the County of Santa Cruz, cities of Santa Cruz and Watsonville planning staff, local water district staff, and RCD staff participated in development of the IRWM Plan and will participate in continuing Plan implementation. The RWMG, local agencies and municipalities, and stakeholders will be asked to participate in future updates of the IRWM Plan by attending meetings, providing information and data necessary to revise objectives and priorities, by proposing projects for the IRWM Plan, and by making recommendations regarding project ranking.

The coordination of water management and activities of local agencies is meant to avoid conflicts and take advantage of efficiencies. The IRWM efforts to establish a regional framework are intended to support and encourage individual agencies and jurisdictions in the development of integrated projects, particularly, multiple benefit projects as well as projects to address issues that would benefit most from a regional approach.

## 14.3.2 STATE AND FEDERAL AGENCIES

Santa Cruz RWMG agencies have a long history of working with state and federal public trust agencies to address water and related resources management issues and are actively involved with implementation of the Region's priority projects. Coordination varies depending upon the jurisdiction and mandates, and occurs at different phases of planning and implementation, including initial scoping and planning, permitting, construction/implementation, monitoring, and reporting.

Table 14-1 presents the list of state and federal agencies that are actively involved in the IRWM planning effort, and characterizes their participatory role.

Table 14 - 1 State and Federal Agency Coordination

Agency	Mandate/Function	Nexus to Santa Cruz IRWM
<b>State</b>		
Department of Water Resources (DWR)	Manage the water resources of California in cooperation with other agencies, to benefit people, and to protect, restore, and enhance the natural and human environments. Conduct statewide water planning to conserve, manage, develop, and sustain watersheds, water resources, and management systems. Operate and maintain the key water supply systems (State Water Project; California Aqueduct); provide dam safety, prevention and emergency response to floods, drought, and catastrophic events. Assist local water districts in water management and conservation activities, promotes recreational opportunities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2013 Update of the California Water Plan; Resource Management Strategies - IRWM Steering Committee representative on the Public Advisory Committee, the Finance Caucus, Water Quality Caucus and Central Coast Regional Forum.</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DAC Outreach Planning Grant (2013-14).</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prop 84 IRWM Planning Grant Plan Update 2014 and technical studies.</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IRWM Project Implementation: Abandoned Wells Destruction Program (Component 2); Inland Monitoring Wells (Component 10).</li> </ul>
State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB)	Preserve, enhance and restore the quality of California's water resources, and ensure their proper allocation and efficient use for the benefit of present and future generations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prop 50 IRWM Implementation Grant (2008-2013).</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IRWM Project Assessment and Evaluation Plans (PAEP).</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IRWM Coordinated Monitoring Program; Project-specific data reporting to SWAMP and GAMA.</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Permitting and financing coordination. SRF and ARRA grant funding for IRWM projects.</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IRWM Project Implementation: Components 1 – 16.</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water rights approval for water exchange and conjunctive use.</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proposition 84 Stormwater Grant Program is funding projects in IRWM Plan - Countywide Low Impact Development BMPs.</li> </ul>

Agency	Mandate/Function	Nexus to Santa Cruz IRWM
Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB)	Protection and management of surface water and groundwater quality.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Basin Plan and Vision of Healthy Watersheds initiative informed IRWM Plan goals, objectives, strategies.</li> <li>• Regulatory oversight of TMDL, stormwater, onsite sewage disposal, recycled water, wastewater discharge permits.</li> <li>• Permitting and financing coordination.</li> <li>• IRWM Project Implementation: Permitting agency for projects with impacts to surface water and groundwater (numerous projects).</li> <li>• Implementation of CCAMP monitoring and evaluation programs.</li> </ul>
Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW)	Manage California's diverse fish, wildlife, and plant resources and habitats for their ecological values and for their use and enjoyment by the public.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environmental review and permitting of IRWM implementation projects; permitting for projects with potential impacts on streambeds.</li> <li>• Staff attendance at IRWM workshop/meetings.</li> <li>• Fisheries Restoration Grant Program (FRGP) participation in IWRP.</li> <li>• Review and approval for stream diversions for water exchange and conjunctive use.</li> <li>• IRWM Project Implementation: Permitting for IWRP projects (numerous projects under Components 12, 13).</li> </ul>
State Coastal Conservancy	Protect and improve the quality of coastal wetlands, streams, watersheds, and near-shore ocean waters working in partnership with local governments, public agencies, nonprofit organizations, and private landowners (non-regulatory).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding agency and key partner in the development and ongoing coordination of the Integrated Water Restoration Program (IWRP). 40 IWRP projects implemented through IRWM Program.</li> </ul>
California Coastal Commission (CCC)	Plans and regulates the use of land and water in the coastal zone, to protect, conserve, restore, and enhance resources of the California coast and ocean.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regulatory oversight of Coastal Zone development issues and permitting agency for all IRWM Plan implementation projects located within the Coastal Zone.</li> <li>• IRWM Project Implementation: Aptos Sewer Transmission Main Relocation (2012).</li> </ul>
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF, CALFIRE)	Emergency response to protect, serve and safeguard people, property and resources, oversight of timber harvesting, management of Soquel Demonstration Forest.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IRWM Project Implementation: IWRP projects; Soquel Creek Large Woody Debris (2012); watersheds fuel loads reduction program.</li> </ul>
California Department of Parks and Recreation	Protection, preservation, and management of the State's parks.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IRWM Project Implementation: IWRP projects; Laguna Creek Floodplain Restoration (2012, 2013).</li> </ul>

Agency	Mandate/Function	Nexus to Santa Cruz IRWM
<b>Federal</b>		
Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)	Natural resources conservation programs help reduce soil erosion, enhance water supplies, improve water quality, increase wildlife habitat, and reduce damages caused by floods and other natural disasters. Provides assistance to private landowners and managers. (Non-regulatory agency).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Key partner in the development, ongoing coordination, and funding agency for the IWRP. 40 IRWP projects implemented through IRWM Program. Key partner in Watsonville wetlands enhancement and restoration efforts.</li> <li>• Provides technical and financial assistance to growers and property owners on livestock management, irrigation efficiency, erosion control, and habitat restoration.</li> </ul>
Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)	USACE Civil Works program includes water resource development activities including flood risk management, navigation, recreation, infrastructure, environmental stewardship, and emergency response.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Permitting authority for projects requiring CWA Section 404 permits; flood control projects.</li> </ul>
National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA-NMFS); including NOAA Restoration Center; Southwest Fisheries Science Center (Santa Cruz)	Protection, preservation, and enhancement of sustainable fisheries, recovery of protected species, and health of coastal marine habitats.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IWRP and IRWM implementation projects.</li> <li>• Consultation of fish flow requirements for water exchange and conjunctive use projects.</li> </ul>
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)	Protection, preservation, and enhancement of fisheries, endangered species and habitat.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IWRP, and IRWM implementation projects.</li> </ul>
Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (NOAA-MBNMS)	Resource protection, research, education and public use to understand and protect the coastal ecosystem and cultural resources of Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water Quality Protection Program staff participation in IRWM Framework Working Group which informed IRWM Plan goals, objectives, strategies.</li> <li>• IRWM Implementation: IRWM funding provided to the County Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program (Prop 50 Component 5) and support for the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Citizen Watershed Monitoring Network events for First Flush and Urban Watch.</li> </ul>
U.S. Geological Survey	Water Resources Unit: collection and dissemination of reliable, impartial, and timely information that is needed to understand the nation's water resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Technical resource for Santa Cruz IRWM efforts: Simulation of climate change in San Francisco Bay Basins, California: Case studies in the Russian River Valley and Santa Cruz Mountains (USGS Scientific Investigations Report 2012–5132).</li> <li>• Measurement of streamflow on San Lorezno River and Soquel Creek, publication of real-time data and statistics.</li> </ul>