

Project Title: Otay Watershed Acquisition of Watershed Lands for Source Water Protection

Project Contact (name and organization/agency): Jeff Pasek, City of San Diego, Water Department

Project Contact (name and organization/agency): Proposition 50 Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Project Proposal Form

Detailed guidance on the Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Grant Program can be found on the State Water Resources Control Board's Prop 50 Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) grant program web page at: <http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/funding/irwmgp/index.html>. Please familiarize yourself with the general requirements of this program before preparing and submitting a project proposal.

Completed forms should be submitted no later than December 1, 2004, either via email to jon.vanrhyn@sdcountry.ca.gov or mailed to the following location:

Jon Van Rhyn
County of San Diego
Watershed Protection Program
9325 Hazard Way
San Diego CA 92123

PHONE: 858-495-5133

FAX: 858-495-5263

SECTION A – PROJECT INFORMATION

1. Project Title	Otay Watershed Acquisition of Watershed Lands for Source Water Protection
2. Contact Information	
? Agency/organization	City of San Diego
? Address	Water Department 5530 Kiowa Dr. MS#85 San Diego, CA 91942-1306
? Phone	619-668-3240
? E-mail	JPasek@sandiego.gov
? Submitted by (name & title)	Jeff Pasek , Senior Biologist
3. Project Location (City/Community)	County of San Diego/ Next to City of Chula Vista
4. Watershed (if multiple or regional, please indicate)	Otay
5. Amount Requested	\$3,600,000
6. Match Information (a minimum 10% match is required for all projects):	
? Estimated match amount	\$360,000
? Has a match been identified (y/n)?	N
? If so, please identify the source(s)	

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7. Status of Project (conceptual, designed & ready to build, CEQA completed, etc.)	Conceptual
8. Project Description (less than 100 words) This project will acquire into protected ownership approximately 600 acres of privately-held land adjacent to Otay Reservoir. In so doing, this project will eliminate or reduce several existing or potential sources of contamination to Otay Reservoir, which is a source of supply for the City of San Diego Water Department (SDWD). The acquired lands will be managed in protected/preserved status; thus, the potential for future development will be precluded. Other natural resource benefits will stem from this project including enhancement of watershed functioning, protection of critical habitats, and buffering of upstream water quality degradation.	
9. Addition information (include photo, regional map, text as needed. Please limit entire document to 3 pages or less): <p>Otay Reservoir is a drinking water supply reservoir owned and operated by the City of San Diego Water Department (SDWD). It is located in the Otay River Watershed in eastern San Diego County east of Chula Vista. The watershed of Otay Reservoir is 70,200 acres. The capacity of the reservoir is 58,000 acre-feet. Average annual runoff into the reservoir is 6,400 acre-feet. The reservoir is also used to store water imported from the Sacramento River Delta and from the Colorado River.</p> <p>Water impounded in Otay Reservoir is delivered directly to a municipal drinking water system. Water from the reservoir is delivered by pipeline directly to the SDWD's Otay Water Treatment Plant and then to the SDWD service area. The SDWD provides water to 1.2 million. The Otay plant, with a capacity of 40 MGD, represents about 15% of the City's treated water capacity.</p> <p>The SDWD has full-time and stand-by treated water connections to neighboring water agencies, including Cal American Water Company (serving National City). Water from the Otay Treatment Plant may be supplied to any of these neighboring agencies.</p> <p>The land targeted for acquisition is currently privately owned and is available for development as residential and commercial uses. Lands near Otay Reservoir are presently being developed for high-density residential uses, and the urban areas of Chula Vista are encroaching to hundreds of yards of the reservoir. Under current land use and zoning guidelines the target property could support up to 600 residential dwelling units as well as several commercial sites. The City of San Diego Water Department (SDWD) conducted a Watershed Sanitary Survey for Otay Reservoir in 1996 and updated the Sanitary Survey in 2001. The Watershed Sanitary Survey is required by the Federal and State Safe Drinking Water Acts and is submitted to DHS.</p>	

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The Watershed Sanitary Survey for Otay Reservoir identifies “non-point source pollution from residential development...” as a major potential contaminant source to Otay Reservoir. The California Department of Health Services Drinking Source Water Assessment for Otay Reservoir lists septic systems and storm drain discharges [both present in rural residential areas] as potentially contaminating activities. The SDWD’s Source Water Protection Guidelines for New Development describes sources of contaminants from residential development that are of special concern to drinking water sources; including nutrients, Total Organic Carbon, and Total Dissolved Solids.

The SDWD has no jurisdictional authority over land use planning and zoning in the watershed of Otay Reservoir. Management of pollutants from residential areas near Otay depends on voluntary, cooperative relationships with other agencies wielding land use authority, and such voluntary cooperation has not historically been effective in protecting drinking source waters. Acquisition of critical watershed lands, especially those immediately adjacent to the reservoir or tributary streams, is the best way to protect the region’s drinking source waters.

This property is surrounding Otay Reservoir is one of the City’s cornerstone lands associated with the City’s multiple species conservation program, a part of a larger biological preserve system.

Map will be provided later

SECTION B – SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

1. CWC section 79561 states that eligible projects must include one or more of the water management elements listed below (see Guidance Section III.C.). Please check all that apply to your proposed project.

- Programs for water supply reliability, water conservation, and water use efficiency
- Storm water capture, storage, treatment, and management
- Removal of invasive non-native plants, the creation and enhancement of wetlands, and the acquisition, protection, and restoration of open space and watershed lands
- Non-point source pollution reduction, management and monitoring
- Groundwater recharge and management projects
- Contaminant and salt removal through reclamation, desalting and other treatment technologies
- Water banking, water exchange, water reclamation and improvement of water quality

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- Planning and implementation of multipurpose flood control programs that protect property; and improve water quality, storm water capture and percolation; and protect or improve wildlife habitat
- Watershed management planning and implementation
- Demonstration projects to develop new drinking water treatment and distribution methods

2. The Dept. of Water Resources (DWR) and State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) have established the statewide priorities listed below for guiding the selection of projects for funding (see Guidance Section II.E.). Please check all that apply to your proposed project.

- Reduce conflict between water users or resolve water rights disputes, including interregional water rights issues
- Implementation of Total Maximum Daily Loads that are established or under development
- Implementation of Regional Water Quality Control Board Watershed Management Initiative Chapters, plans, and policies
- Meet Delta Water Quality Objectives
- Implementation of recommendations of the floodplain management task force, desalination task force, or recycling task force;
- Address environmental justice concerns
- Assist in achieving one or more goals of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program

NOTE: The eligibility requirements and statewide priorities listed above should be considered minimum screening criteria for project selection. Additional prioritization criteria will be identified once regional goals have been established for the draft IRWM Plan. In general, applicants should assume that preference will be given to projects that are regional, multi-functional, and able to demonstrate multiple benefits.

NOTE: Proposals that include on-stream or off stream surface water storage facilities are not eligible.