

San Diego Integrated Regional Water Management Step 1 Implementation Grant Application Consistency with Minimum Plan Standards

The San Diego IRWM Plan meets all of the minimum Plan standards identified in Appendix A of the Proposition 50 Chapter 8 Integrated Regional Water Management Grant Program Guidelines. The guidelines, and the manner in which they are met by the IRWM Plan, are described below.

Will the IRWM Plan be adopted prior to submittal of the Step 2 application?

✓ Yes. The San Diego IRWM Plan (Plan) was adopted by the San Diego County Water Authority on July 26, 2007. Refer to Attachment 1.

Does the Regional Agency or Group include at least three local public agencies, two of which have statutory authority over water management?

✓ Yes. The Regional Water Management Group, which is the group responsible for development and implementation of the Plan, is comprised of the City of San Diego, County of San Diego, and San Diego Water Authority. All three of these public agencies have water management authority within their respective boundaries. **Pages A-4 through A-10 of Section A** describe the water management responsibilities of each agency, including imported water delivery, water supply infrastructure, water supply planning, storing raw imported water, capturing and storing local runoff, groundwater supply, wastewater treatment, recycled water supply, water and recycled water regulation, public health regulation, municipal stormwater NDPES management, flood management and control, watershed protection, land use control and management, multiple species conservation planning and recreation.

Was a map of the region showing the member agencies and the location of proposed implementation projects included?

✓ Yes. **Figure A-2** following **page A-6** shows the boundaries of each agency in the RWMG. **Figure 7-1 in Appendix 7 (after page 12)** shows the location of the Tier 1 implementation projects.

Does the Plan include one or more regional objectives?

- ✓ Yes. As summarized in **Table C-10 on Page C-18**, the Region has identified the following objectives:
- A. Maximize stakeholder/community involvement and stewardship
 - B. Effectively obtain, manage, and assess water resource data and information
 - C. Further the scientific and technical foundation of water quality management
 - D. Develop and maintain a diverse mix of water resources
 - E. Construct, operate, and maintain a reliable water infrastructure system
 - F. Minimize the negative effects on waterways and watershed health caused by hydromodification and flooding
 - G. Effectively reduce sources of pollutants and environmental stressors
 - H. Protect, restore and maintain habitat and open space
 - I. Optimize water-based recreational opportunities

These objectives were developed through a series of facilitated stakeholder workshops and meetings of the Regional Advisory Committee (RAC). The objectives support the four established IRWM regional goals to optimize water supply, protect and enhance water quality, provide stewardship of natural resources and coordinate and integrate water resource management.

Does the IRWM Plan document that the required water management strategies were considered?

✓ Yes. **Section D** demonstrates how the Plan addresses all of the water management strategies contained within the Proposition 50, Chapter 8 Guidelines (IRWM Guidelines) as well as the California Water Plan Update 2005 (Water Plan), allowing the Plan to align properly with existing and future IRWM requirements specified in the California Water Code (**Page D-2**). As stated on **Page D-6**, discussion of water management strategies in the Plan conforms to the water management strategy naming convention presented in the Water Plan. The table below (**Table D-2 on Page D-5**) summarizes the manner in which each of the water management strategies required by the IRWM Guidelines correlates to one or more water management strategies from the Water Plan. Consideration or integration of any Water Plan strategy thus implies consideration or integration of the related strategies required by the IRWM Guidelines. Since each of the Water Plan strategies (with the exception of CALFED storage) is included in the Plan, all IRWM strategies are similarly included. **Section D.2 (pages D-6 through D-15)** demonstrates how each Water Plan water management strategy was considered in the Plan and **Table D-4 on Page D-17** shows which strategies were considered for the Region.

Table D-2 (on Page D-5) from the IRWM Plan

IRWM Guideline Strategy	Corresponding Water Plan Strategy(ies)
Agricultural Lands Stewardship	Agricultural Lands Stewardship, Economic Incentives, Ecosystem Restoration, Urban Land Use Management, Water-Dependent Recreation and Public Access, Watershed Management and Planning
Environmental and Habitat Protection and Improvement	Agricultural Lands Stewardship, Groundwater Management, Economic Incentives, Ecosystem Restoration, Pollution Prevention, Recharge Area Protection, Urban Land Use Management, Water-Dependent Recreation and Public Access, Watershed Management and Planning
Water Supply Reliability	Agricultural Water Use Efficiency, Groundwater Management, Conveyance, Seawater Desalination, Potable Water Treatment and Distribution, Economic Incentives, Groundwater Aquifer Remediation, Matching Quality to Use, Pollution Prevention, Precipitation Enhancement, Recycled Water, CALFED Surface Storage, Regional Surface Storage, Reoperation and Reservoir Management, Urban Land Use Management, Urban Water Use Efficiency, Water Transfers, Watershed Management and Planning
Flood Management	Agricultural Lands Stewardship, Economic Incentives, Floodplain Management, Urban Land Use Management, Watershed Management and Planning
Groundwater Management	Groundwater Management, Economic Incentives, Groundwater Aquifer Remediation, Pollution Prevention, Recharge Area Protection, Urban Land Use Management, Watershed Management and Planning
Recreation and Public Access	Economic Incentives, Ecosystem Restoration, Pollution Prevention, Urban Land Use Management, Urban Runoff Management, Water-Dependent Recreation and Public Access, Watershed Management and Planning
Storm Water Capture and Management	Agricultural Lands Stewardship, Economic Incentives, Pollution Prevention, Urban Land Use Management, Urban Runoff Management, Water-Dependent Recreation and Public Access, Watershed Management and Planning
Water Conservation	Agricultural Lands Stewardship, Agricultural Water Use Efficiency, Economic Incentives, Urban Land Use Management, Urban Water Use Efficiency, Watershed Management and Planning
Water Quality Protection and Improvement	Agricultural Lands Stewardship, Groundwater Management, Potable Water Treatment and Distribution, Economic Incentives, Groundwater Aquifer Remediation, Pollution Prevention, Recharge Area Protection, Urban Land Use Management, Urban Runoff Management, Water-Dependent Recreation and Public Access, Watershed Management and Planning
Water Recycling	Economic Incentives, Matching Quality to Use, Recycled Water, Watershed Management and Planning

IRWM Guideline Strategy	Corresponding Water Plan Strategy(ies)
Wetlands Enhancement and Creation	Agricultural Lands Stewardship, Economic Incentives, Ecosystem Restoration, Urban Land Use Management, Water-Dependent Recreation and Public Access, Watershed Management and Planning

Does the IRWM Plan include the integration of two or more water management strategies or elements?

✓ Yes. As described in **Section E**, many of the water management strategies included in the Plan are complementary and may be integrated to avoid duplication of effort, address common issues, provide for cost savings, allow for cost sharing, and optimize attainment of IRWM Plan goals and objectives. The Plan integrates strategies using a two-step integration process described on **page E-2**:

1. Identify Primary Water Management Strategies that Directly Address Plan Objectives.
2. Develop Integrated Strategy Groupings for Each Objective.

The Plan used the resulting integrated strategy groupings to demonstrate the multiple benefits associated with integration of water management strategies to achieve objectives. The integrated water management strategy groupings that were formed for objectives D through I are presented in **pages E-3 through E-7**. The table below provides a summary of the integrated groups associated with each objective. This information can be found in the IRWM Plan on **pages E-3 through E-7**.

Water Management Strategies Integration (Summarized from pages E-3 through E-7)

Objective	Water Management Strategies Integrated to Achieve the Objective
D	Agricultural Water Use Efficiency, Groundwater Management, Conveyance, Seawater Desalination, Potable Water Treatment and Distribution, Groundwater Aquifer Remediation, Recycled Water, Urban Water Use Efficiency, Water Transfers
E	Conveyance, Potable Water Treatment and Distribution, Regional Reservoir Storage, Reoperation and Reservoir Management
F	Agricultural Land Management, Floodplain Management, Urban Land Use Management, Urban Runoff Management, Watershed Management and Planning
G	Agricultural Land Stewardship, Pollution Prevention, Urban Land Use Planning, Urban Runoff Management, Watershed Management and Planning.
H	Agricultural Land Stewardship, Groundwater Management, Ecosystem Restoration, Recharge Area Protection, Urban Land Use Management
I	Ecosystem Restoration, Pollution Prevention, Urban Runoff Management, Water-Based Recreation and Access

Does the IRWM Plan include a project prioritization and a schedule for project implementation?

✓ Yes. **Sections F.2 – F.5 (pages F-6 through F-20)** describe the process used to prioritize projects in the Plan. The process consists of a combination of screening and scoring criteria developed to measure a project’s ability to meet regional objectives, address regional needs, and achieve a high degree of integration. The schedule for implementation of Tier 1 projects identified by the prioritization process is presented in **Section G** on **page G-27**. The implementation schedule for each Tier 1 project is shown in **Appendix 10**.

San Diego Integrated Regional Water Management

Step 1 Implementation Grant Application

Consistency with Plan Standards

The table provided on pages EX-1 through EX-8 of the Executive Summary of the IRWM Plan serves as a road map to guide the reviewer to each of the scoring criteria established in the Proposal Solicitation Package. This table is intended to assist the reviewer in navigating the Plan and locating applicable discussion for the purposes of scoring. Additional information and discussion of how each criterion is addressed is provided below. Page references are also provided to indicate where each criterion is addressed within the Plan.

A. Regional Agency or Regional Water Management Group

This section describes the Regional Water Management Group (RWMG) that is responsible for development and implementation of the San Diego IRWM Plan (Plan). **Section A.2 (pages A-4 through A-10)** describes the RWMG, which consists of the San Diego County Water Authority (SDCWA), the City of San Diego and the County of San Diego (County). These three agencies have a number of key water management responsibilities as described on **pages A-6 through A-10** and summarized in **Table A-1 (page A-5)**, including water supply, water quality, wastewater treatment, stormwater management, watershed management, land use and recreation.

B. Regional Description

This section describes the water-related, ecological, environmental, social and economic characteristics of the Region and explains why the Region is an appropriate unit for integrated regional water management planning.

- ✓ *Was a map or maps, with accompanying descriptive narrative, showing the region encompassed by the Plan provided? Yes.* The physical boundaries of the Region are shown in **Figure A-1 (after page A-4)** and the Region is defined on **page B-1** as the eleven parallel and similar hydrologic units within the County that discharge to coastal waters (**Figure B-1 after page B-2**).
- ✓ *Did the map/maps include appropriate internal boundaries to the region, major water related infrastructure, and major land-use divisions within the region? Yes.* Important internal boundaries affecting water management include jurisdictional boundaries or service areas for the RWMG agencies (**Figure A-2 after page A-6**), land use agencies (**Figure B-4 after page B-24**), SDCWA member agencies (**Figure B-5 after page B-24**), and wastewater agencies (**Figure B-6 after page B-26**). Water-related infrastructure in the Region includes imported and local water storage, treatment and distribution, wastewater treatment, and recycled water production and distribution. This infrastructure is shown in **Figure B-16 (after page B-54)**, **Figure B-17 (after page B-56)**, and **Figure B-18 (after page B-62)**.
- ✓ *Did the Plan describe the current and future water resources of the region? Yes.* The Region contains diverse water resources including streams, rivers, lagoons, impoundments, groundwater and the ocean. Current surface water resources are described in **Section B.5 (pages B-28 through B-44)**, and groundwater resources are described in **Section B.6 (pages B-44 through B-48)**. In the future, a potential impact to surface water quantity and quality may occur due to the increasing trend of non-storm stream flows that have accompanied development, as described on **page B-32**. The Plan also discusses the RWQCB Basin Plan and TMDL requirements that may affect surface water (**pages B-34 through B-44**) and groundwater resources (**pages B-44 through B-48**) in the future from a water quality standpoint. The future of current water resources from a supply standpoint is examined in **Section B.10 (pages B-65 through B-74)** and summarized in **Tables B-30 (page B-72)** and **B-31 (page B-73)**.
- ✓ *Did the applicant explain why the region is an appropriate area for regional water management? Yes.* As described on **pages B-1 through B-4**, the Region is an appropriate area for regional water management based on the following rationale: the Region lies entirely within the jurisdiction of the San Diego RWQCB (**page B-2**); the Region lies entirely within San Diego County (**page B-2**); the eleven hydrologic units share common east-west trending flows and coastal destinations (**pages B-3 through B-4**); and the Region depends significantly on imported water obtained through SDWCA (**pages B-3 through B-4**).
- ✓ *Did the applicant describe the quality and quantity of water resources within the region? Yes.* Surface water quality and quantity are described in **Section B.5 (pages B-28 through B-44)**. Groundwater constituents of concern are discussed on **pages B-46 through B-48**. Water supply and demand forecasts through 2030 are discussed in **Section B.10 (page B-65)**.

- ✓ *Were important ecological processes and environmental resources within the regional boundaries discussed?* Yes. The Region contains more rare, threatened, and endangered plant species than any comparable land area in the continental U.S. **Section B.7 (pages B-49 through B-52)** describes the Region's wide-ranging resources.
- ✓ *Did the Plan discuss the social and cultural makeup of the regional community; identify important cultural or social values; and describe economic conditions and important trends within the region?* Yes. **Section B.2 (pages B-4 through B-13)** discusses the social and cultural characteristics and economic conditions within the Region. The Outreach Plan (**Appendix 8**) ensures that disadvantaged communities (DACs), as identified on **page B-7 and in Table B-4 (page B-8)**, will participate in the planning process and benefit from Plan implementation. The Region's economy is driven by diverse factors, as described on **pages B-10 through B-11**.

C. Objectives

This section describes the objectives of the Plan and how they were determined, as well as potential conflicts within the Region and their potential resolution.

- ✓ *Did the Plan identify regional planning objectives and the manner in which they were determined?* Yes. As described in **Section C.1 (pages C-1 through C-2)**, the Plan is focused on a single vision. Four goals were established for the Region; these goals drove development of the regional planning objectives presented in **Table C-10 (page C-18)**. The objectives directly support the Region's critical water management needs. A discussion of the factors guiding selection of the Regional objectives is provided in **Section C.3 (pages C-2 through C-17)**. The goals and objectives were both determined through an open stakeholder process that included a series of facilitated public workshops and Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) meetings.
- ✓ *Does the Plan address major water-related objectives and conflicts in the region covered by the Plan?* Yes. **Table C-11 (pages C-19 through C-21)** summarizes the regional planning objectives and the challenges to meeting these water-related objectives. Additionally, there are a number of water-related conflicts within the Region listed in **Table C-12 (page C-22)**. This Plan will help resolve many of these challenges and conflicts through project integration and stakeholder coordination. Additional conflicts, challenges, and potential solutions to water management in the Region are presented in **Section A.3 (pages A-10 through A-12)**, and are summarized in **Table A-2 (page A-11)**.

D. Water Management Strategies

This section documents the water management strategies that were employed within the Plan.

- ✓ *Did the Plan describe the range of water management strategies that were considered to meet the objectives of the plan?* Yes. The Plan describes the range of water management strategies considered in **Section D.2 (pages D-6 through D-15)**, which includes the 11 strategies required by the Proposition 50 Chapter 8 Program and the 24 strategies described in the 2005 California Water Plan (Water Plan). The relationship between the two sets of strategies is described on **page D-2** and shown in **Table D-2 (page D-5)**.
- ✓ *Was a brief discussion of why a water management strategy was not applicable provided?* Yes. All Proposition 50 Chapter 8 Program and Water Plan strategies were considered as described in **Section D.3 (pages D-15 through D-19)**, except for CALFED Surface Storage. This strategy does not apply to the Region because there are no regional opportunities for additional CALFED storage capacity, as discussed on **page D-13**.

E. Integration

This section presents the mix of water management strategies that were selected for the Plan and demonstrates how they work together to promote efficient and effective solutions to the unique needs and setting of the Region.

- ✓ *Did the applicant discuss how these strategies work together to provide reliable water supply, protect or improve water quality, and achieve other objectives?* Yes. The Plan discusses how water management strategies work together by forming integrated groups of strategies that address each of the water-related objectives in **pages E-2 through E-15**. A unique combination of strategies was identified to achieve each objective. The Plan also demonstrates how diverse strategies can work together to achieve the objectives.
- ✓ *Was a discussion of the added benefits of integration of multiple water management strategies provided, as compared to stand alone alternatives?* Yes. The Region will benefit greatly from the integration of water management strategies, as described on **pages E-15 and E-17** and referenced in **Appendix 6**. The integrated strategy groups described in **Section E** provide templates for integrating strategies to achieve Regional benefits that could not be achieved with stand-alone projects or solutions. **Table E-2 (page E-16)** illustrates how the integrated strategy groups combine strategies to more fully address regional objectives.

F. Regional Priorities

This section presents the short-term and long-term priorities that have been established for the Region, and describes the adaptive management process that will provide flexible responses to future changes within the Region.

- ✓ *Was a presentation of regional priorities for implementation provided?* Yes. **Section F** presents the regional priorities for implementation. Regional priorities were identified to address immediate areas of need to ensure that regional planning can continue, to achieve Plan objectives, and to maintain a long-standing institutional structure for regional water management.
- ✓ *Did the applicant identify short-term and long-term implementation priorities?* Yes. The RWMG, RAC and stakeholders identified urgent areas of need which form the seven short-term priorities described in **Section F.1 (pages F-2 through F-5)**. Long-term implementation priorities are described on **pages F-5 through F-6**.
- ✓ *Does the Plan discuss how: 1) decision-making will be responsive to regional changes; 2) responses to implementation of projects will be assessed; and 3) project sequencing may be altered based on implementation responses?* Yes. Water management within the Region is expected to be a dynamic process; as a result, the Plan contains an adaptive management process to accommodate changes, as discussed in **Section F.5 (pages F-18 through F-20)**. Decision-making will respond to regional changes through periodic Plan updates, as described on **page F-19**. Project implementation will be assessed as described on **page F-19**, and project sequencing may be altered based on implementation responses (**pages F-19 and F-20**).

G. Implementation

This section describes how the Plan will be implemented. It identifies actions, projects and studies that will form the basis for implementation, as well as identifying the responsible agencies, supporting economic and technical information and schedules for implementation.

- ✓ *Does the Plan identify specific actions, projects, and studies, ongoing or planned, by which the Plan will be implemented?* Yes. The Plan presents a comprehensive schedule for implementation in **Section G**. As described in **Section G.3 (pages G-11 through G-24)**, the Region has identified a set of coordinated actions for each of the short-term priorities that will be initiated immediately upon Plan implementation.
- ✓ *Was the current status of each element of the Plan presented?* Yes. The status of each of these actions or elements is presented in **Section G.3**. Timelines for Tier 1 projects are provided in **Appendix 10**.
- ✓ *Did the Plan include timelines for active or planned projects?* Yes. Timelines are included in **Appendix 10**.
- ✓ *Did the applicant identify the entities responsible for project implementation?* Yes. Entities responsible for implementing short-term priorities are identified in the action plans provided on **pages G-11 through G-24**. Entities responsible for implementing Tier 1 projects are shown in **Table F-2 on pages F-10 through F-13**.
- ✓ *Were the linkages or interdependence between projects clearly identified?* Yes. Tier 1 projects were surveyed for potential linkages and interdependence; those identified are presented in **Table G-11 (page G-28)**.
- ✓ *Was the economic and technical feasibility of projects demonstrated on a programmatic level?* Yes. All Tier 1 projects are shown to be programmatically, economically, and technically feasible in **Section G.4 (pages G-25 through G-27)**. Implementation costs for all Tier 1 projects total less than 1/100 of percent of existing water-related capital assets. Operations and maintenance costs (O&M) comprised a similar fraction of annual gross regional product (**pages G-25 and G-26**). Technical feasibility of Tier 1 projects was demonstrated through identification of feasibility studies, master plans, pre-design studies and by observed successful implementation of similar projects as described on **page G-27** and in **Appendix 10**.
- ✓ *Was the institutional structure that will ensure plan implementation discussed?* Yes. The RWMG and RAC will ensure Plan implementation in the short-term. The proposed long-term institutional structure is described in **Section G.2 (pages G-2 through G-11)**. This structure will be further developed through implementation of the short-term priorities, as described on **pages G-15 through G-17**.

H. Impacts and Benefits

This section describes the impacts of implementation of the Plan on the Region itself as well as adjacent areas. It also describes the benefits that will be achieved through Plan implementation.

- ✓ *Does the Plan include an evaluation of potential negative impacts within the region and in adjacent areas from its implementation?* Yes. Potential negative impacts to the Region resulting from Plan implementation are described in **Section H.2 (pages H-9 through H-10)** and include potential short-term, construction-related impacts and potential long-term impacts related to project operations. Potential impacts are summarized by

project component in **Table H-2 (page H-10)** and are presented in **Appendix 11**. Negative impacts to adjacent areas are not anticipated.

- ✓ *Does the Plan include the advantages of the regional plan as opposed to individual local efforts?* Yes. The advantages of the regional plan compared to local plans are summarized in **Section H.4 (pages H-11 through H-13)** by regional objective. Advantages include the ability to: integrate planning across watersheds; collect, share and disseminate data on a regional level; coordinate among regulators, data managers, project proponents and IRWM governing structure; integrate water supply plans on a regional level; optimize interconnected water infrastructure; consider causes/effects of hydromodification and flooding at all points along a water body; consider watershed-based solutions for pollution reduction; create wildlife corridors across jurisdictions; and plan complementary recreational areas.
- ✓ *If applicable, does the Plan identify interregional benefits and impacts?* Yes. Plan implementation will provide a number of interregional benefits as described in **Section H.3 (page H-11)**. Since the Region imports water from the Sacramento/San Joaquin Bay-Delta (Bay-Delta) and the Colorado River, implementation of water conservation, groundwater, water transfer, desalination and recycled water projects will offer benefits associated with reduced demand on these systems. As described in **Section H.3 (page H-11)**, this directly addresses CALFED objectives. Other interregional benefits identified include the additional treatment capacity that would be made available to neighboring Riverside County, which is faced with the challenge of supplying water to its rapidly expanding population.
- ✓ *If applicable, did the applicant describe the benefits to disadvantaged communities?* Yes. The benefits of Plan implementation to disadvantaged communities are described in **Section H.5 (pages H-14 through H-15)**. Benefits offered by Tier 1 projects are summarized in **Table H-3 (page H-15)**.
- ✓ *Was an evaluation of impacts/benefits to other resources provided?* Yes. Benefits and impacts to air quality, cultural, mineral and power generation resources are described in **Section H.6 (page H-16)**.

I. Technical Analysis and Plan Performance

This section describes the data, technical methods and analyses that were used to develop the Plan and the Tier 1 Projects. It also describes how the performance of the Plan will be measured.

- ✓ *Did the Plan include a discussion of data, technical methods, and analyses used in the selection of water management strategies?* Yes. A discussion of how water management strategies were selected based on local water management plans is found in **Section D.2 (page D-6)** and summarized in **Table D-3 (page D-7)**. The decision to employ these strategies is supported by data, methods and analyses described in **Section I.1 (pages I-1 through I-3)**. As described in this section, the Plan is founded on existing water management plans developed within the Region, including the Basin Plan, TMDL Plans, NPDES related documents, urban water management plans (UWMPs), integrated water resources plans (IWRPs), recycled water master plans, habitat protection plans, endangered species plans, conservation plans, and watershed plans.
- ✓ *Were data gaps identified?* Yes. Data gaps are discussed in **Section J.3 (pages J-14 through J-18)**.
- ✓ *Did the Plan discuss measures that will be used to evaluate project/plan performance, monitoring systems that will be used to gather performance data, and mechanisms to adapt project operation and plan implementation based on performance data collected?* Yes. Methods to evaluate project and Plan performance and the associated monitoring systems are described in **Section I.2 (pages I-3 through I-14)**. Project performance monitoring and reporting will be implemented as described on **page I-4**. **Table I-1 (pages I-5 through I-10)** lists performance measures for all of the Tier 1 Projects. As described on **page I-11**, Plan performance will be measured against the progress of individual projects and programs and progress toward the short- and long-term priorities. Measurement of Plan performance is facilitated through the targets and parameters shown in **Table I-2 (pages I-12 through I-14)**. An adaptive management strategy will be utilized to adapt project operations and Plan implementation based on performance data, as described in **Section I.3 (pages I-14 through I-15)**.

J. Data Management

This section describes how information will be managed and disseminated to stakeholders, and how it will be used to support statewide needs. Data gaps are also identified.

- ✓ *Does the Plan include mechanisms by which data will be managed and disseminated to stakeholders and the public?* Yes. Data management and dissemination within the Region is a short-term priority as described in **Section J.4 (pages J-18 through J-25)**. This will be facilitated by development of an IRWM Plan Data and

Information Management System to be available on the San Diego IRWM website, as described on **page J-18**. The system will allow interested parties to upload and download key data sets.

- ✓ *Did the Plan assess the state of existing monitoring efforts, both for water supply and water quality?* Yes. Currently, there is a wealth of data being produced in the Region through a series of monitoring efforts in the areas of water supply, surface water quality, groundwater, habitat and natural resources. **Section J.2 (pages J-2 through J-13)** describes and provides an assessment of these monitoring efforts. Data gaps were identified by comparing current data collection to data needs as described in **Section J.3 (pages J-14 through J-18)**.
- ✓ *Was a discussion of how data collection will support statewide data needs provided?* Yes. Data collected will support a variety of statewide data needs as described in **Section J.5 (pages J-22 through J-25)**.
- ✓ *If applicable, did the Plan discuss the integration of data into the State Water Board's SWAMP and GAMA Programs?* Yes. Surface water quality monitoring efforts are well-coordinated with the SWAMP program as described on **page J-4**. SWAMP monitoring occurs in each of the Region's watersheds, and the Region will continue to incorporate additional data into the SWAMP program. Monitoring in the Region is also closely coordinated with the GAMA program. As described on **page J-11**, the County will be participating in a Voluntary Domestic Well Monitoring Assessment Program which will provide data for the GAMA program. **Pages J-22 and J-23 of Section J.5** describe the way in which data collected in support of the Plan will be integrated into the SWAMP and GAMA programs to support statewide data needs.

K. Financing

This section describes the potential funding and financing options available to implement the Plan.

- ✓ *Did the Plan identify beneficiaries and identify potential funding/financing for plan implementation?* Yes. Implementation of the Plan will benefit the entire Region. Beneficiaries of Tier 1 projects are described in **Section K.2 (pages K-2 through K-5)** and summarized in **Table K-1 (page K-3)**. Funding mechanisms to implement Tier 1 projects are listed in **Section K.3 (pages K-5 through K-10)**, and include CIP funding, state/federal funding, and SDCWA programs. Potential funding sources for Tier 1 projects identified by project proponents are included in **Appendix 10**.
- ✓ *Does the Plan discuss ongoing support and financing for operation and maintenance of implemented projects?* Yes. Ongoing funding for O&M as described in **Section K.4 (pages K-10 through K-11)** will be funded through locally-assessed charges based on usage, capacity, user fees, etc. Anticipated O&M costs by project are included in **Appendix 10**.

L. Statewide Priorities

This section describes the statewide priorities that will be addressed by the Plan. Statewide priorities that will be addressed through Plan implementation are presented in **Section L**.

M. Relation to Local Planning

This section describes how the Plan is related to local planning and is coordinated with local decision-making.

- ✓ *Did the Plan discuss how the identified actions, projects, or studies relate to planning documents established by local agencies?* Yes. As described in **Section M.3 (pages M-12 through M-17)**, Plan development has been guided by local agency planning documents. **Table M-6 (pages M-15 and M-16)** demonstrates consistency between the Plan and recommended actions found in local planning documents. The IRWM Plan goals and objectives were derived from local planning and the actions, projects, and studies in the IRWM Plan are consistent with local planning efforts. Tier 1 projects offer benefits shown in **Appendix 11** that are directly related to the needs expressed in local plans, as shown in **Table M-6**.
- ✓ *Does the Plan demonstrate coordination with local land-use planning decision-makers?* Yes. The Plan is consistent with local land-use planning decision-makers as described in **Section M.4 (pages M-17 through M-18)**. Coordination has occurred through active involvement of the City of San Diego, the County of San Diego, the City of Chula Vista and SANDAG, which represents all 18 cities and the County.
- ✓ *Did the Plan discuss how local agency planning documents relate to the IRWM water management strategies and the dynamics between the two levels of planning documents?* Yes. The relationship between local planning documents and the IRWM water management strategies is shown in **Table M-6 (pages M-15 through M-16)**. The dynamics between local planning and IRWM planning is evidenced by updates to local plans that reflect water management-related priorities that have evolved since IRWM inception, as described on **page M-18**.

Additionally, the short-term priority to review local plans is intended to facilitate further coordination and integration of local planning into IRWM-level planning as described at the bottom of **page M-18**.

N. Stakeholder Involvement

This section identifies stakeholders in the Region, and describes their participation in Plan development and implementation. Methods and processes used to facilitate stakeholder participation are presented. Disadvantaged Communities (DACs) and Environmental Justice issues are also covered.

- ✓ *Does the Plan identify stakeholders and the process used for inclusion of stakeholders in development of the plan?* Yes. This Plan is being developed with substantial stakeholder involvement. A stakeholders list is provided in **Appendix 14, Attachment 2**, and the process for engaging stakeholders throughout Plan development is described in **Section N.2 (pages N-3 through N-12)**.
- ✓ *Does the process include a discussion of how: stakeholders are identified, they participate in planning and implementation efforts, and they can influence decisions made regarding water management?* Yes. The process for identifying the RAC and other stakeholders, their critical role in forming key elements of the Plan, and the methods used to engage stakeholders are described in **Sections N.1, N.2 and N.3 (pages N-3 through N-14)**. Meeting summaries which document stakeholder participation are provided in **Appendix 14, Attachment 8**.
- ✓ *Did the Plan document public outreach activities specific to individual stakeholder groups?* **Table N-3 on pages N-7 through N-8** summarizes outreach activities to specific stakeholder groups.
- ✓ *Does the Plan include a discussion of mechanisms and processes that have been or will be used to facilitate stakeholder involvement and communication during plan implementation?* Yes. **Section N.2 (pages N-3 through N-12)** presents methods that have been employed to ensure that stakeholders remain engaged and informed during Plan development and implementation. The Project Clean Water website is the central means of communication, and public workshops and RAC meetings provide opportunities for public and stakeholder involvement. **Section N.3 (pages N-12 through N-14)** and the **Public Outreach Plan (Appendix 8)** outline mechanisms and processes that will be used to continue stakeholder involvement during Plan implementation.
- ✓ *Are partnerships developed during the planning process discussed?* Yes. To facilitate effective planning, partnerships have been formed between agencies in the Region as described on **pages N-11 through N-12**. The RWMG is a partnership formalized by the signing of an MOU. The RAC is an informal partnership of 25 agencies and organizations representing all areas of water management in the Region.
- ✓ *Did the application discuss Environmental Justice concerns?* Yes. Environmental Justice (EJ) concerns are addressed in **Section N.2 (pages N-6 through N-7)**, and include toxic hot spots in the Pueblo Hydrologic unit (**described on page B-21**), which contains a significant proportion of DACs, and the need to develop watershed management plans for watersheds that lack adequate resources, as discussed on **page F-4**. **Section N.2 (page N-7)** lists two organizations (CoastKeeper and Southern California Wetlands Recovery Project) that have coordinated with the RWMG in order to address EJ issues and incorporate applicable information into the Plan.
- ✓ *Did the application discuss disadvantaged communities within the region and their involvement in the planning process?* Yes. Coordination to include disadvantaged communities and to identify EJ concerns is discussed on **pages N-6 through N-7, pages N-13 through N-14, and in Appendix 8**. The DACs in the Region are identified in **Table B-4 (page B-8)**. Involvement of DACs in the development of the Plan has been facilitated by the presence of CoastKeeper on the RAC. CoastKeeper is both a DAC and EJ advocate (**page N-7**).
- ✓ *Were any possible obstacles to Plan implementation identified?* Yes. Potential obstacles to Plan implementation are identified in **Section N.4 (page N-15)**.

O. Coordination

This section describes the coordination that has occurred with State and Federal agencies, as well as the areas where state and federal agencies can assist in Plan implementation.

- ✓ *Was coordination with State or federal agencies discussed?* Yes. Coordination with State and Federal agencies is discussed in **Section O.2 (pages O-2 through O-3)** and **Section O.3 (pages O-4 through O-5)**, respectively.
- ✓ *Did the Plan identify areas where a State agency or agencies may be able to assist in communication or cooperation, or implementation of plan components or processes, or identify any state or federal regulatory actions required for implementation?* Yes. **Section O** describes the areas of statutory authority and responsibility of a number of agencies that represent the areas where cooperation and/or regulatory approval will be necessary. As described in **Section O.1 on page O-2**, coordination with regulatory agencies will be necessary to address regulatory compliance and permit issues associated with implementing Tier 1 projects.

San Diego Integrated Regional Water Management

Step 1 Implementation Grant Application

Disadvantaged Communities – Environmental Justice

The San Diego IRWM Plan promotes water resource management projects that address public health, environmental protection, policies, and activities in a manner that encourages equity and affords fair treatment, accessibility, and protection for the Region, regardless of race, age, culture, income, or geographic location. This approach is captured in the Plan Mission: To develop and implement an integrated strategy to guide the San Diego Region toward protecting, managing, and developing reliable and sustainable water resources. Through a stakeholder-driven and adaptive process, the Region can develop solutions to water-related issues and conflicts that are economically and environmentally preferable, and that provide equitable resource protection for the entire Region.

Involvement from disadvantaged communities (DACs) and consideration of Environmental Justice (EJ) concerns are key components to ensuring equitable resource protection for the Region, minimizing water-related conflicts and maximizing regional benefits. This attachment addresses the participation of DACs and inclusion of EJ concerns in the development of the Plan. It also addresses how these communities will benefit from and be engaged throughout Plan implementation.

Disadvantaged Communities in the Region

- ✓ *Did the Plan identify the disadvantaged communities in the Region?* Yes. The Plan identifies DACs within the Region in **Section B.2 (pages B-7 to B-8)**.

As discussed in Section B, the Plan relied upon census data from the California Department of Finance to determine which communities in the San Diego Region may be classified as DACs. The statewide median household income (MHI) for the year 2000, based on the California Department of Finance data, was \$46,000. Using the definition provided in Appendix D of the Integrated Regional Water Management Proposal Solicitation Package for Implementation Grants, Step 2 (which states that a disadvantaged community is a community with a MHI that is less than 80% of the statewide annual MHI), communities with a MHI of \$37,520 (80% of \$46,000) based on California Department of Finance 2000 census data are, considered DACs. Using Census 2000 data, 80% of the statewide annual MHI is \$37,994 and, using U.S. Census Bureau data for 2003, 80% of the statewide annual MHI is \$38,752. As a result, the MHI of \$37,520 calculated using the California Department of Finance 2000 census data provides the most restrictive definition of disadvantaged communities. For the purposes of this analysis, DACs were defined using 80% of the Department of Finance 2000 census data, providing a conservative assessment of DACs in the Region.

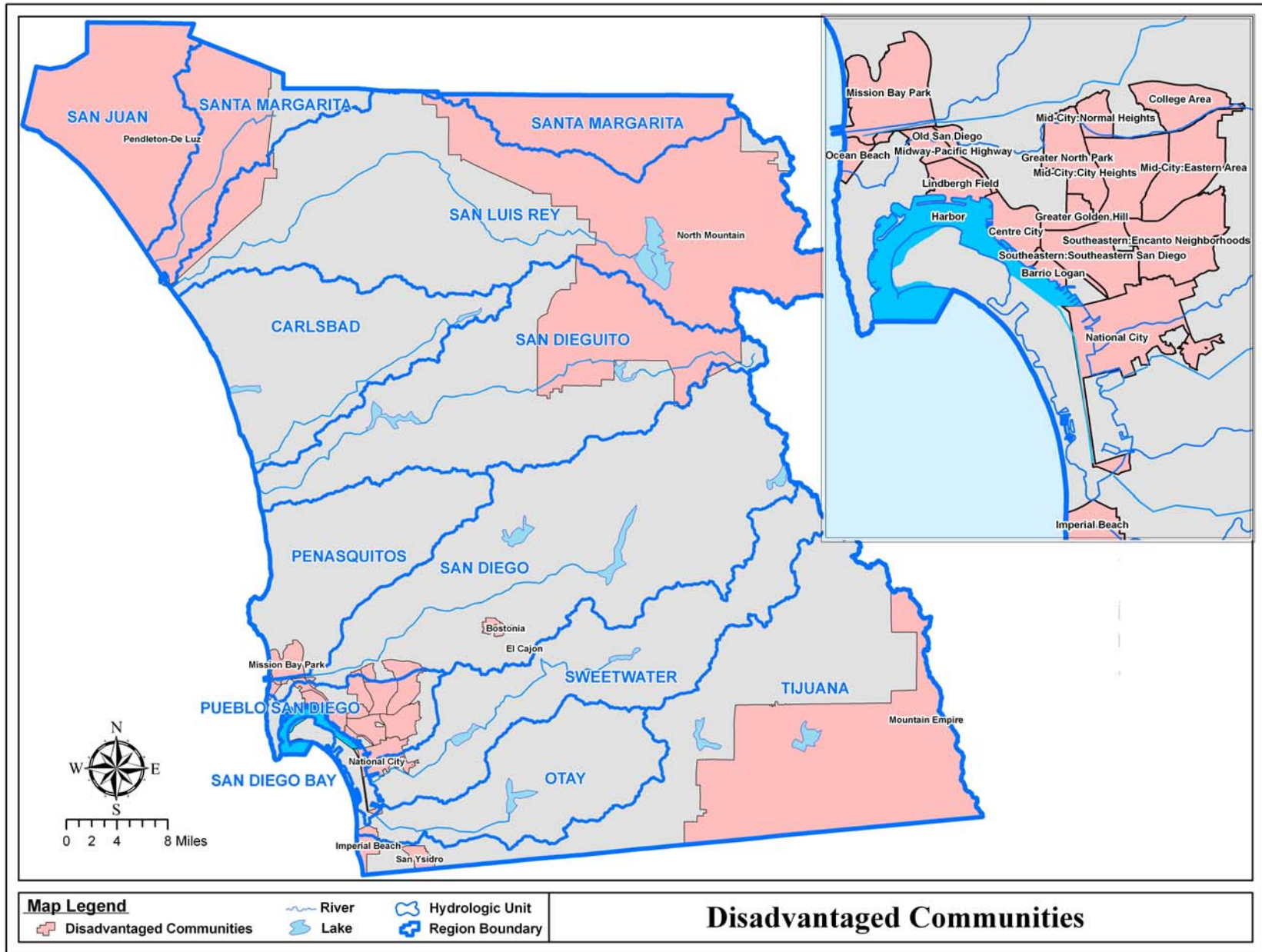
Various geographical designations were used in the analysis of DACs. These included cities, County of San Diego community planning areas (CPAs) and City of San Diego CPAs. This combination of multiple geographical designations was considered to provide the most accurate representation of the Region for initial analyses. However, the use of larger planning areas can at times cause smaller portions of the planning area that are economically disadvantaged to be overlooked. Analyses are currently underway to assess MHI values within the Region on a census tract basis; this assessment is outlined in the Disadvantaged Community Action Plan found in **Section G.3 (page G-19)**. When the census tract analysis is complete, the number of DACs identified within the Region is projected to expand beyond the conservative listing provided in **Table B-4 (page B-8)**.

The figure below illustrates the location of identified DACs identified in the Region. The figure is followed by a table summarizing **Table B-4** from the IRWM Plan. This table lists each identified DAC along with its jurisdiction (city, county CPA or City of San Diego CPA) and MHI.

Disadvantaged Communities in the Region

IRWM Plan Reference

- ✓ Pages B-7 – B-8
- ✓ Page G-19



Disadvantaged Communities in the San Diego Region

Disadvantaged Community	Jurisdiction	Median Household Income ^a
Pendleton-DeLuz County CPA	County	\$32,816
North Mountain County CPA	County	\$33,620
Mission Bay Park CPA	City of San Diego	\$31,917
Bostonia County CPA	County	\$37,303
City of El Cajon	City of El Cajon	\$35,530
College Area CPA	City of San Diego	\$33,534
Normal Heights CPA	City of San Diego	\$30,804
Ocean Beach CPA	City of San Diego	\$36,804
Midway CPA	City of San Diego	\$28,503
Old San Diego CPA	City of San Diego	\$27,384
Barrio Logan CPA	City of San Diego	\$20,625
Centre City CPA	City of San Diego	\$22,888
City Heights CPA	City of San Diego	\$23,682
Eastern Area CPA	City of San Diego	\$36,294
Encanto CPA	City of San Diego	\$34,349
Greater Golden Hill CPA	City of San Diego	\$30,478
Greater North Park CPA	City of San Diego	\$31,890
Harbor CPA	City of San Diego	\$5,000
Lindbergh Field CPA	City of San Diego	\$31,516
Southeastern San Diego CPA	City of San Diego	\$23,554
City of National City	City of National City	\$29,980
City of Imperial Beach	City of Imperial Beach	\$35,950
San Ysidro CPA	City of San Diego	\$26,772
Mountain Empire County CPA	County	\$35,923

Footnote: a) In Table B-4 of the Plan, the Median Household Income column was mistakenly labeled Mean Household Income. The data presented in this column is Median Household Income data.

Critical Water-Related Needs of DACs

- ✓ *Did the Plan discuss the specific critical water-related needs of disadvantaged communities? Yes. The critical water-related needs of the disadvantaged communities were identified within the measurable targets for the Plan objectives in **Section C.3 (pages C-2 to C-17)**.*

The targets which highlight the need to work with DACs are:

- *Conduct water management outreach and solicit input from 2% of Region’s population each year, including underserved and disadvantaged communities.*

The Plan vision and mission statements emphasize the need for a consensus-based, stakeholder-driven approach to water resources management within the Region, and ensuring all communities have a voice in the planning process is an important part of gaining consensus. However, as noted in **Section C.4 (pages C-19 to C-21)**, involving the Region’s various stakeholders and DACs has been a challenge due to the geographic size of the Region. Moreover, as discussed in **Appendix 8**, financial constraints are often a significant barrier to participation from DACs. The target to solicit input from 2% of the Region’s population each year, including underserved and disadvantaged

Critical Needs of DACs
 IRWM Plan References

- ✓ Pages C-2 – C-17
- ✓ Pages C-19 – C-21
- ✓ Appendix 8

communities, addresses the need to engage DACs in the IRWM planning process and to allow these traditionally underserved communities to provide input on the management of the Region’s water resources.

- *Provide "hands-on" stewardship opportunities in the Region's watersheds to 1% of Region's population each year, including underserved and disadvantaged communities.*

Implementation of water stewardship projects within DACs is a critical step toward increasing community members’ awareness of the Region’s water resources and water management challenges. Furthermore, empowering community members to participate in hands-on stewardship opportunities will increase their sense of ownership in water management activities, thereby furthering the Plan vision of ensuring the long-term sustainability of the Region’s water supply, water quality and natural resources. The importance of stakeholder and community stewardship is discussed in **Section C.3 (pages C-3 to C-4)**.

- *Develop 200 acres of water-based recreational open space that focuses on underserved areas and ensures equal access for disadvantaged communities.*

This target addresses the need to increase water-related recreational programs and opportunities for DACs. The challenges associated with the Plan objective to optimize water-based recreational opportunities are presented in **Section C.4 (page C-21)**. One of the key challenges is the disproportionate access to water-based recreational opportunities for DACs and disabled persons.

Mechanisms for DAC Participation

- ✓ *Did the Plan discuss the mechanisms used in development of the Plan to ensure participation of disadvantaged communities? Yes. The methods being employed to gain participation of DACs in the development of the Plan are described in **Sections B.2, F.1, N.2, O.5, and Appendix 8**.*

Methods being employed to gain participation of DACs in the Plan development include:

- *Coordination with the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG).*

SANDAG is the Region’s regional planning agency. SANDAG has been an active participant in the Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) and other IRWM-related planning activities. Coordination with SANDAG will assist the Regional Water Management Group (RWMG) in surveying the Region’s economically disadvantaged communities, monitoring changes to these communities and identifying their needs. This is discussed in **Section O.5 (page O-7)**.

- *Development of a Public Outreach and Disadvantaged & Environmental Justice Community Involvement Plan.*

Development and implementation of a public outreach plan is one of the actions identified through RWMG meetings, RAC meetings, and public workshops as an area of immediate need. In the discussion of short-term priorities in **Section F.1 (page F-3)**, DACs are identified as a key stakeholder group that must be kept informed and engaged throughout IRWM planning and implementation. The Public Outreach and Disadvantaged & Environmental Justice Community Involvement Plan, which is presented in **Appendix 8**, was developed in response to this need. The Public Outreach and Disadvantaged & Environmental Justice Community Involvement Plan contains a section on Disadvantaged Communities Assistance, which includes outreach activities targeted toward disadvantaged communities.

- *Identification of specific locations of disadvantaged communities*

Consistent with the recommendations of the Public Outreach and Disadvantaged & Environmental Justice Community Involvement Plan, actions are underway to identify specific locations of additional DACs throughout the Region. Initial analyses were performed, as discussed earlier in this attachment, to identify cities and CPAs that qualify as DACs. Now, as indicated in **Section B.2 (page B-7 and Appendix 8)**, a secondary analysis considering DAC status by census tracts is being conducted. In addition to identifying communities

DAC Participation IRWM Plan References	
✓	Page B-7
✓	Page F-3
✓	Page N-7
✓	Page O-7
✓	Appendix 8

meeting the State’s MHI definition of disadvantaged, this comprehensive analysis will also consider areas that are recognized as economically disadvantaged by the Region’s planning agencies but do not meet the State’s MHI definition. The RWMG is working closely with local DAC advocates to determine the most appropriate way to define DACs for the Region.

- *One-on-one communication between disadvantaged community leaders and RWMG or RAC representatives.*

The RWMG and RAC will contact community leaders within the DACs and work with them to identify the current state of their water-related resources. This one-on-one correspondence will ensure that DACs have access to the planning process, allowing their input to be incorporated and their interests to be represented early-on, prior to project implementation. Additionally, critical needs of the disadvantaged communities which are identified through these discussions will be translated into long-term targets for the Plan and potential projects. These activities are discussed in **Appendix 8**.

- *Strategic location of public meetings.*

To overcome financial constraints that may prevent DACs from traveling to public meetings, public meetings related to the planning and implementation of the Plan will be hosted in disadvantaged areas to the greatest extent feasible. This recommendation is included in the Public Outreach and Disadvantaged & Environmental Justice Community Involvement Plan (**Appendix 8**).

- *Disadvantaged community representation on the RAC.*

Currently, San Diego CoastKeeper occupies a position on the RAC. CoastKeeper is identified in **Section N.2 (page N-7 and Appendix 8)** as a disadvantaged community and EJ advocacy organization. CoastKeeper has submitted a letter of support for the IRWM Plan and planning process, which has been appended as Exhibit A of this attachment. At the recommendation of the Public Outreach and Disadvantaged & Environmental Justice Community Involvement Plan, an additional DAC leader will be invited to serve on the RAC, doubling their representation on the advisory committee for the Plan.

Identification of Environmental Justice Concerns

- ✓ *Did the Plan identify the water-related Environmental Justice concerns for the Region? Yes. The Region’s water related EJ concerns are outlined in **Section L.4 (pages L-7 to L-8)**.*

These concerns are:

- Supporting community health, as well as a clean and safe environment
- Diversifying the decision-making process by calling for involvement of all people and communities
- Encouraging a more equitable distribution of economic benefits
- Empowering communities themselves to take action towards improving their environment
- Increasing awareness, understanding and effective cooperation within and among communities
- Ensuring the right of all people to equal and fair treatment under the laws and regulations of the United States

<u>Environmental Justice Concerns</u> <i>IRWM Plan References</i> ✓ Pages L-7 – L-8 ✓ Pages N-6 – N-7
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Supporting community health through the creation of safe and reliable water supplies and improved water quality is an EJ concern highlighted in **Section N.2 (pages N-6 to N-7)**. As discussed in **Section N.2**, the rapid growth of the San Diego Region following World War II led to the development of communities with unhealthy land use combinations. The juxtaposition of homes and schools adjacent to environmentally hazardous facilities has resulted in situations where communities are threatened by the past and present impacts of industrial pollution; water-related impacts include the deposition of airborne industrial and manufacturing contaminants into surface waters and the degradation of groundwater from land contamination. In addition, following the war, the Region established itself as a major port, which led to the boom of the shipbuilding and boating industries; these industries have contributed significantly to the pollution of waterways. In a study conducted by the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), which looked at 18 bays around the nation, San Diego Bay was identified as the second

most toxic harbor. The most polluted regions of the Bay are those that border the Barrio Logan CPA, a recognized disadvantaged community and area of EJ concern. Barrio Logan is a multi-ethnic, low-income community that has been impacted by the pollution associated with the Port industries for many years.

Implementation to Address Environmental Justice Concerns

- ✓ *Did the Plan discuss the mechanisms used in development of the Plan to ensure that implementation of the Plan addresses Environmental Justice concerns? Yes. Sections F.3, N.2, Appendix 7 and Appendix 8 discuss measures identified by the RWMG together with the RAC to ensure that implementation of the Plan will address EJ concerns.*

Measures to ensure that implementation of the Plan will address EJ concerns include:

- *Development of a Public Outreach and Disadvantaged & Environmental Justice Community Involvement Plan.*

The Public Outreach and Disadvantaged & Environmental Justice Community Involvement Plan, which is presented in **Appendix 8**, includes a section on Environmental Justice Identification. The goal of identifying EJ needs is to identify and obtain input from groups that have historically been disproportionately impacted by water-related issues. Through targeted outreach, the RWMG seeks to learn more about the major water-related concerns facing these groups such that long-term implementation of the IRWM Plan is responsive to those concerns.

- *Environmental Justice community representation on the RAC.*

Similar to the recommendation to maintain two DAC representatives on the RAC, the Public Outreach and Disadvantaged & Environmental Justice Community Involvement Plan, **Appendix 8**, recommends maintaining two EJ representatives on the RAC. As noted in **Section N.2 (page N-7)**, there are currently two RAC members representing EJ concerns for the Region; these two organizations are CoastKeeper and Southern California Wetlands Recovery Project (SCWRP). Both organizations have helped the RAC and RWMG address EJ issues and incorporate applicable information into the Plan. Maintaining EJ representatives on the RAC will ensure that EJ concerns continue to be addressed throughout Plan implementation. The representatives can aid in identifying those projects capable of addressing EJ concerns as well as those projects which may create new EJ concerns where issues did not previously exist. As noted previously, CoastKeeper has submitted a letter of support for the IRWM Plan and planning process, which has been appended to this attachment.

- *Inclusion of Environmental Justice criteria in project prioritization.*

In recognition of the importance of assisting communities that historically have been disproportionately impacted by water-related issues, or which are deficient in projects with water-related benefits, the prioritization process developed for the Plan factors a project's ability to address EJ needs into the project's score. The project prioritization process is detailed in **Section F.3 (pages F-7 to F-16)**.

- *Project review to identify new Environmental Justice projects and prevent creation of new Environmental Justice issues.*

Through implementation of the Public Outreach and Disadvantaged & Environmental Justice Community Involvement Plan, the Region will work with EJ advocacy groups to develop and implement a review process for IRWM projects aimed at identifying those projects capable of addressing EJ issues as well as those projects which have the potential to create new EJ issues where issues did not previously exist (**Appendix 8**).

Plan Implementation to
Ensure Environmental Justice
IRWM Plan References

- ✓ Pages F-7 – F-16
- ✓ Page N-7
- ✓ Appendix 7
- ✓ Appendix 8

Specific projects within the Plan which will address EJ concerns are listed below:

- 51st St. Headwater Canyon Restoration Project
- Campo Creek Watershed Groundwater Management Plan
- Chollas Creek Watershed Opportunities Assessment
- CMP Rehabilitation and Replacement in the City of Chula Vista, Priority A
- CMP Rehabilitation and Replacement in the City of Chula Vista, Priority B
- CMP Rehabilitation and Replacement in the City of Chula Vista, Priority C
- CMP Rehabilitation and Replacement in the City of Chula Vista, Priority D
- CMP Rehabilitation and Replacement in the City of Chula Vista, Priority E
- Conservation in the Campo Valley
- County of San Diego Chollas Creek Runoff Reduction and Groundwater Recharge Project
- El Capitan Reservoir Water Quality Improvement
- Forester Creek Improvement Project
- Grease – In the Can, Not the Drain
- Green Lot LID Porous Paving and Infiltration, Phase 2
- Green Mall LID Porous Paving and Infiltration
- Green Mall LID Porous Paving and Infiltration, Phase 2
- Green Street LID Porous Paving and Infiltration, Phase 2
- Implementation of Agricultural Efficiency Programs
- Lake Morena Oak Shores Mutual Water Company Upgraded Residential Water Line Connections.
- Lake San Marcos Restoration Project, Phase 1 & 2
- Municipal Rooftop Rain Harvesting and Downspout Disconnections, Phase 2
- Red Mountain Treatment Plant
- Reservoir Silt/Sediment Removal Project
- San Diego County Rural Community Watershed Councils
- San Diego Regional Water Quality Assessment and Outreach Project
- San Vicente Reservoir Water Quality Improvement Project
- Undergrounding Water Supply through the Sweetwater National Wildlife Refuge.

Supporting information for how each of these projects specifically addresses EJ concerns is provided in **Appendix 7**.

Exhibit A
Letter of Support

July 18, 2007

Mr. Ken Weinberg
San Diego County Water Authority
4677 Overland Avenue
San Diego, CA 92123



RE: LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

Dear Mr. Weinberg:

San Diego Coastkeeper is pleased to be able to state our support for the San Diego Integrated Regional Water Management Plan. The development of this plan was undertaken with an ambitious time schedule, and the cooperating agencies have been proactive and effective in providing a preliminary plan and planning process for moving forward.

Having this plan is critical for our region, as our freshwater and coastal resources play a vital role for our economy, for the residents and for the local environment. The plan attempts to address the regional complexities in a comprehensive manner, and is committed towards implementing an adaptive management model in order to see that the plan will evolve to continue to address regional priorities.

San Diego Coastkeeper is dedicated to continuing this dialog with the other member agencies, non-profits and interested parties as this plan continues to develop. We realize that there is incredible value in having the clean water advocacy perspective at the table, and we hope that the San Diego Water Authority and consequently the State of California will recognize the value of the plan and the needs of the region and approve it as a funding mechanism.

Kindest regards,

Karen Franz
Program Director / Environmental Scientist
San Diego Coastkeeper

Attachment

5

San Diego Integrated Regional Water Management
Step 1 Implementation Grant Application
Exceptions to Maximum Grant Amount

This attachment does not apply to the San Diego Integrated Regional Water Management Grant Application.