

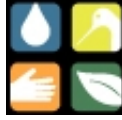
Project Clean Water

Watershed Protection Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Summary

June 17, 2005
 City of San Diego
 Ridgehaven Auditorium
 9601 Ridgehaven Court, San Diego, Ca 92123

**Stakeholders
Participating:**

Craig Adams – San Diego River	Fabiola Amarillas - City of San Diego
Joseph Ariotto - Zoological Society of San Diego	Meleah Ashford – City of Encinitas
Kelly Barker – County of San Diego	Chris Basilevac - The Nature Conservancy
John Brandt – MACTEC	Christian Braun – GeoSyntec
Kate Breece – Helix Water District	Chiara Clemente - SDRWQCB
Bob Collins – City of San Diego	Melanie Craig – Weston Solutions
Paul Davy – County of San Diego	Harry Ehrlich – Olivenhain Water District
Jason Giessow - Santa Margarita San Luis Rey Weed Management Area	Kelly Hendrickson - Zoological Society of San Diego
Rob Hutsel – San Diego River Park Foundation	Tedi Jackson – City of San Diego
Drew Kleis – City of San Diego	Rosanna La Carra – PBS&J
Sheri McPherson – County of San Diego	Suzanne Michel – WRP
Robin Miller – City of Poway	Troy Murphree – Sweetwater Water District
Jeff Pasek – City of San Diego	Keith Pezzoli - UCSD
Bruce Posthumus – SDRWQCB	Joe Purohit -
Cheryl Segwa – City of San Diego	Shirley Taylor -
Shelby Tucker – SANDAG	Jon VanRhyn - County of San Diego
Richard Wright – San Diego State University	Robin Rierdan – San Diego River Park Foundation
Dennis Verrilli – County of San Diego	Kathy Weldon – City of Encinitas
Kim Williams – GeoSyntec	David Younkman – San Dieguito River Conservancy
Rosalinda Casela – County of San Diego	Daniel Carney – City of San Diego
Howard Bailey – Nautilus Environmental	Debbie Duckworth -UCSD



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Introductions

Bob Collins and Rob Hutsel, co-chairs of the Watershed Protection TAC opened the meeting and provided an introduction to the TAC and the purpose of this meeting. Participants introduced themselves and stated their organization.

Review List of Recommended Prop 50 IRWM Implementation Projects

- 82 project applications were received during first submittal of projects in December.
- 43 project applications were received during the March submittal of detailed proposals. This included the combining of several projects.
- 22 project applications have been selected for the submittal of the Prop 50 IRWM application to go to the State on July 14, 2005. This represents some recommendations by the Technical Review Committee to combine a few projects and to reduce levels of recommended funding for others.

Overview of Project Selection Process

The Technical Review Committee was composed of ten individuals; 2-County of San Diego, 2 City of San Diego, 2- County Water Authority, 2- from NGOs and 2 from Academia.

The five (5) objectives drafted for the IRWM plan are:

1. Facilitate the integration of programs and strategies for enhancing the region's water supply, water quality and watersheds;
2. Improve the reliability of the region's imported and local water supplies;
3. Reduce the region's reliance on imported water;
4. Protect and enhance the health and viability of the region's watersheds; AND
5. Support regional efforts to attain or be consistent with statewide regulatory standards and priorities.

Project applications were reviewed using the following criteria:

1. Project applications were initially reviewed to determine how well they met overall Project Application Form requirements,
2. Project applications were reviewed for consistency with the five regional objectives above, and
3. Project applications were then reviewed as a group to select a mix that represents a variety of project types of projects and broad regional coverage (e.g., multiple watersheds).

Projects were divided into the following types:

1. Ecosystems – Land Acquisition
2. Ecosystems – Habitat Restoration
3. Facilitation
4. Water Supply Infrastructure
5. Local Water Supply
6. Water Quality Improvements



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As currently constituted, the project treats all projects equally (i.e., included or not included), and does not further prioritize them. Although the State does not require that we prioritize projects as part of the Step 1 application process, a prioritization will likely be developed in the future.

Additional Comments

- Matching funds were not used as project selection criteria but may be in the future.
- We are expecting to hear if we are invited to submit a full proposal for this round of Prop 50 applications by September. Step 2 concept proposals are tentatively scheduled for submittal December 2005, with funding availability projected for June 2006.
- Project summaries are now being developed in standardized a format for the IRWM proposal submittal in July.

Instructions for completion of Application Process

A handout (see Attachment 1) was provided describing the information still needed from project applicants to complete the July 14th application. If your project is being recommendation for inclusion, please be sure to review this handout. Completed draft summaries will be sent to the project applicants for review in the next couple of weeks. We are requesting a two-day turn around on comments.

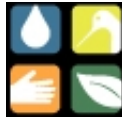
Next Steps

Submittal of Application

The San Diego IRWM project application will be submitted by July 14th. The applications will be reviewed and a first cut made by a technical team consisting of staff from Department of Water Resources (DWR), local Regional Water Quality Control Boards (RWQCBs), State Water Resource Control Board (SWRCB) and other applicable agencies. The projects selected from the first cut will then be reviewed at a higher level with the Agencies and recommendations will be made to the Directors. We expect to hear from the State in September. The San Diego IRWM lead agencies intend to update our legislative group in Sacramento on our efforts and ask them to submit letters of support for our region.

IRWM Plan

The San Diego IRWM plan is currently in an outline form with a draft to be completed for the submittal of the project proposal in July. The lead agencies intend to complete a draft IRWM plan for submission with the July 14th IRWM proposal. The final version of this plan will be completed by November 2006 and be adopted by January 2007. A longer term, and more inclusive regional, integrated planning process will follow this adoption.



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The completion of the IRWM plan is critical to defining how various planning processes can be integrated toward a more holistic vision of regional watershed protection.

Future Grant Opportunities

Chiara Clemente with the San Diego RWQCB pointed out that information and updates regarding the Consolidated Grants Program could be found on the San Diego RWQCB Grants web page and the State Division of Financial Assistance (DFA) web page.

<http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/programs/units/grants/grants.html>

<http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/funding/index.html>

See Attachment 2 for additional information provided by Chiara.

Additional Comments

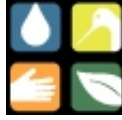
- It was suggested that the IRWM plan contain a chapter describing how accounting will be done for all projects.
- The Wetlands Recovery Project and San Diego Task Force would be willing to participate in providing stakeholder input for the IRWM plan.
- Other jurisdictions expressed an interest in adding their support to the legislative letter of support for the San Diego IRWM plan.

Watershed Signage Program

The City of San Diego Water Department, along with many partners, is developing a watershed boundary sign program to highlight the watersheds in San Diego (and hopefully throughout the State) and would appreciate your assistance.

Last August 2004, the City received a small grant from the Metropolitan Water District (MWD) to develop a sign program that would bring attention to the motoring public that they are entering a watershed where a drinking water reservoir is located. These signs would be part of an educational outreach effort to the public on the importance of watersheds and what individuals can do to assist in keeping our watersheds clean and free of pollutants.

The City approached Caltrans with a proposal on the design of the sign (see Attachments 3 and 4) and the locations along the major freeways in San Diego, adjacent to our reservoirs and watersheds. Because there is no process established to create a design template and sign specifications for installation, a Caltrans state office representative referred us to the California Traffic Control Devices Committee, a group that advises Caltrans on a number of matters including signs. Mr. John Fisher, the Committee Chair, offered to sponsor The City's item on their July 28 agenda if they can



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obtain Letters of Support for the program (and sign design) from State Departments and interest groups. With this support and CTCDC approval, the City can create a pilot program to erect the signs and to evaluate the effectiveness of these signs in communicating the watershed protection message.

The San Diego River Watershed will be the focus of the pilot program for watershed signs. To assist the City, they would like to have letters of support from groups associated with the San Diego River as part of the package to the CTCDC. Attached is a letter of support template. Please feel free, however, to write your own letter or modify this template. The City is hoping that they can have all of the letters back by the first two weeks in July.

If you have questions, contact Tedi Jackson at (619) 527-3121 or tjackson@sandiego.gov.

If you can, please forward letters of support to:

Tedi L. Jackson
Supervising Public Information Officer
Water Department, Operations Division
2797 Caminito Chollas, MS 43
San Diego, CA 92105

Visit the City Water Department's new web page on Watersheds
<http://www.sandiego.gov/water/operations/environment/watersheds.shtml>

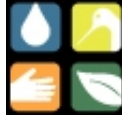
Additional Comments

- Maybe signs could include an action such as "Please Protect"
- Maybe signs could mark the boundaries of each watershed such as "Now Entering the San Diego Watershed"
- If the sign is stating, "Leaving the San Diego River Watershed", then there should also be a sign that states Entering the (next) Watershed. This will help to drive home the concept that you are always in a watershed.
- Maybe Kiosks at rest stops could be used to post additional information.
- Look into using watershed signage as a mitigation for Caltrans

Watershed Updates

Carlsbad Watershed - Bruce Posthumus

The Carlsbad Network has been participating in discussions with Caltrans on how Interstate 5 project affect lagoons and waterways.



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San Dieguito Watershed – Bob Collins

The Watershed stakeholder group will be reviewing the existing conditions report in the next few weeks.

San Diego River Watershed – Rob Hutsel

The master plan for the City of San Diego portion of the San Diego River is going in front of the City Council for approval the week of June 20th. The River Coalition has formed a project committee that will be working to develop a project list.

The Lakeside Conservancy survived a grant audit by the State.

Otay Watershed – Bob Collins

The Otay Watershed Plan will hopefully be out soon. The Policy committee will be meeting next week to review the plan.