



Stakeholder Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

Workshop #4

Wednesday, September 13, 2017

2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Banning City Hall
99 E. Ramsey Street
Banning CA, 92220

Attendance

Stakeholder Advisory Committee

- Luis Cardenas, City of Banning
- John Covington, Morongo Band of Mission Indians
- Jeff Davis, San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency
- Larry Ellis, Banning Heights MWC/Banning Bench Community of Interest Association
- Stan Houghton, High Valleys Water District
- Bob Krieger, Krieger & Stewart/Cabazon Water District
- Elizabeth Lemus, Cabazon Water District

Additional Stakeholders/Members of the Public

- Le-Quyen Nguyen, California Energy Commission
- Aaron Skeers, Encompass Associates

Woodard & Curran (W&C) Consulting Team

- Persephene St. Charles
- Warren Greco

Meeting Notes

1. Welcome and Introductions

Persephene St. Charles (W&C) welcomed everyone to the fourth Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC) workshop. Ms. St. Charles facilitated the meeting.

2. San Gorgonio IRWM Program Update

Ms. St. Charles provided an update on the IRWM Plan Schedule. The next SAC meeting on November 8th will cover potential projects to include in the IRWM Plan and the project acceptance process. The SAC will discuss the draft IRWM Plan at the final workshop on February 17, 2018.

3. IRWM Plan Workshop Topic: Climate Change

Ms. St. Charles described that the IRWM Plan must address both adaptation to the effects of climate change and mitigation of GHG emissions. Due to the overarching aspects of climate change, adaptation and mitigation will be addressed within several IRWM Plan sections.

Warren Greco (W&C) provided a description of required climate change information to be included in the IRWM Plan. The primary resource for climate change planning to be used in the SG IRWM planning process is the Climate Change Handbook for Regional Water Planning (EPA and DWR, 20011) as it is recommended by DWR and meets the current guidelines.

W&C conducted research on the anticipated climate change effects on water resources for the San Gorgonio Region. Several resources were used including the Cal-Adapt website managed by the California Energy Commission which is a useful tool for localized climatic characterizations. Local climate changes studies include Climate Change Analysis for the Santa Ana River Watershed (USBR, 2013).

The potential climate change impacts for the Region are summarized below.

- **Temperature:** Increase in average temperature by 2°F to 4°F by 2050 and 5°F to 10°F by 2100, and a large increase in the number of heat waves.
- **Precipitation:** Significant loss of snowpack, and possible increases in the likelihood of extreme weather events.
- **Wildfire:** Slightly increased likelihood of wildfire risk.
- **Flood:** Possible increases in the likelihood of extreme weather events
- **Water Supply:** Up to 30% reductions in local Spring/Summer runoff, and 25% decrease in SWP supply.

The SAC conducted a climate change vulnerability and issue identification process based upon the review of the water resources vulnerability questions from the Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment from the Climate Change Handbook for Regional Water Planning. The SAC provided comments on the draft answers and refined/added/modified the climate change issues initially identified by W&C and reviewed by the RWMG.

The resulting list of climate change vulnerability issues developed by the SAC for the San Gorgonio Region were in the areas of Water Demand, Water Supply, Water Quality, Flooding, Ecosystem and Habitat and Hydropower are shown below. W&C will email a poll asking the SAC to identify the highest vulnerability issues in order to identify the top priorities for addressing climate change impacts in the IRWM Plan.

Climate Change Vulnerability Issues

Water Demand
• Decrease in ability to use groundwater storage to buffer drought
• Limited ability to conserve further
• Limited ability to meet future demand
Water Supply
• Decrease in local surface/groundwater supply
• Decrease in imported supply
• Decrease in seasonal reliability
Water Quality
• Increase in treatment needs and costs
Flooding
• Increased flooding risk due to extreme weather events

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased flooding risk from due to do debris hazards from wildfires
Ecosystem and Habitat
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased impacts to water dependent species Decrease in available necessary habitat
Hydropower
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decrease in hydropower potential

The SAC also decided to include a specific climate change objective in the IRWM Plan to implement strategies for climate change adaptation and mitigation that have multiple benefits for flood management, water supply, water quality, habitat, and wildfire.

4. IRWM Plan Workshop Topic: Strategies

The SAC reviewed the Resource Management Strategies (RMS) from the 2013 California Water Plan Update as well as potential strategies that could be used to support the regional goals and objectives previously identified by the SAC. These strategies were also discussed relative to their potential for addressing the need for climate change adaptation and/or mitigation as well. The SAC identified support for implementing the following strategies in the San Gorgonio Region:

SAC Supported Resource Management Strategies (within Region)

Reduce Water Demand	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agricultural Water Use Efficiency Urban Water Use Efficiency 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water Meter Installation Graywater use
Improve Operational Efficiency and Transfers	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conveyance – Regional/Local System Reoperation Water Transfers Optimize Sewer Systems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct emissions inventory and target Treatment and distribution efficiency (urban and agricultural) Increase use of renewable energy sources
Increase Water Supply	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conjunctive Management and Groundwater Storage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Municipal Recycled Water Surface Storage – Regional/Local
Improve Water Quality	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drinking Water Treatment and Distribution Matching Water Quality to Use Pollution Prevention 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Salt and Salinity Management Urban Runoff Management
Practice Resources Stewardship	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ecosystem Restoration Forest Management Land Use Planning and Management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recharge Areas Protection Sediment Management Watershed Management
People and Water	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economic Incentives Policy Outreach and Education Water and Culture 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve Flood Management Flood Risk Management Protective Infrastructure

The SAC also indicated their support for water management strategies that are not appropriate for implementation within the San Gorgonio Region but can indirectly benefit the Region if implemented elsewhere.

SAC Supported Resource Management Strategies (outside Region)

Reduce Water Demand	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crop Idling for Water Transfers 	
Improve Operational Efficiency and Transfers	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conveyance – Delta 	
Increase Water Supply	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Desalination • Surface Storage – CALFED (ISWP) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Irrigated Land Retirement
Improve Water Quality	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Groundwater Remediation/Aquifer Remediation 	

5. Summary and Next Steps

W&C will email the current list of climate change issues developed at this meeting as well as IRWM Plan objectives developed at the previous meeting for prioritization by the SAC. This will be a simple process of identifying 3-5 from each list that are the highest priority. W&C will aggregate the results and follow up with the recommended prioritization based upon the input received. The SAC can comment on that recommendation before it is finalized for consideration by the RWMG.

The next Stakeholder Advisory Committee Workshop will be on November 8, 2017 from 2:00 to 3:00 PM. The main topics of the meeting will be *Project Integration and Selection*. At that workshop, the SAC will finalize the list of prioritized strategies, discuss potential projects, and discuss the IRWM project selection process.