



**Stakeholder Advisory Committee
Meeting Notes**

Workshop #1

Wednesday, May 10, 2017

2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

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

Attendance

Stakeholder Advisory Committee

- Nolan Leggio, Diversified Pacific
- Clint Lorimore, BIA Building Industry Association
- Chris Willis, Pardee Development

Regional Water Management Group

- Larry Ellis, Banning Bench Community of Interest Association
- Stan Houghton, High Valleys Water District
- Calvin Louie, Cabazon Water District
- Jason Uhley, Riverside County FC&WCD
- Art Vela, City of Banning
- Luis Cardenas, Alternate/City of Banning

Members of Public

- Robert Taylor, San Bernardino National Forest
- Ben White, High Valleys Stakeholder

Woodard & Curran Consulting Team

- Persephene St. Charles
- Warren Greco

Meeting Notes

1) Welcome and Introductions

- Ms. St. Charles of Woodard and Curran (formerly RMC Water and Environment) will facilitate the Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC) workshops. The Regional Water Management Group for the San Gorgonio IRWM program will attend SAC Workshops and participate as members of the SAC. Members of the public are also invited to participate alongside members of the SAC.

2) Overview of San Gorgonio IRWM Program

a. What is Integrated Regional Water Management?

- Ms. St. Charles provided an overview of Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM), including the and the role of the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) in administering the IRWM program and awarding funding from Proposition 1 for Planning grants to develop IRWM plans and Implementation grants for regions with adopted IRWM Plans.
- There were questions about timing of the funding under Proposition 1 and DWR's scoring process. It is anticipated that the funding will be awarded over two different rounds with the first to be announced in early 2018, and the second sometime around 2020. The scoring criteria will be outlined by DWR in their Proposal Solicitation Package. The criteria changes with every round of funding, but there is an emphasis on projects that have multiple benefits and address needs outline in the IRWM Plan. It was also confirmed that DWR will consider the economic benefits of reliability on the region.

b. San Gorgonio IRWM Region

- Ms. St. Charles provided a description of the San Gorgonio IRWM region, which has recently been conditional accepted as part of DWR's Regional Acceptance Process. The region includes the City of Banning and the Morongo Indian Reservation. The San Gorgonio River is the primary watershed of the region with additional forest areas in San Bernardino County. One area in the Morongo Valley in San Bernardino County is still under discussion for inclusion in San Gorgonio or the neighboring Coachella and Mojave IRWM Regions.
- It was noted that the San Gorgonio IRWM region includes the San to Snow National Monument, which was created by President Barack Obama in 2016. The National Monument is the San Gorgonio Wilderness, part of the San Bernardino National Forest.

c. Regional Governance

- Ms. St. Charles described the governance process for the San Gorgonio IRWM Region, which includes a Regional Water Management Group (RWMG) that manages the program and develops and implements the IRWM Plan based on input from the SAC and the public.

d. Stakeholder Advisory Committee Role and Function

- Ms. St. Charles described the role of the SAC as providing recommendations to the RWMG. Members of the SAC represent the views of their group or agency, and have responsibility to inform their group or agency of on IRWM activities and to collaborate on providing projects to meet regional goals. All SAC meetings are open to the public, and stakeholders that choose not to be on the SAC are encouraged to participate as members of the public.
- It was clarified that the SAC is not a legislative body and therefore not subject to California's open meetings laws. Public participation is important for strengthening the plan and meeting DWR's plan guidelines. Meetings will be noticed through a public website and a stakeholder mailing list.
- It was clarified that participants in the SAC are encouraged to be staff representing their group or agency but some public officials are members of the SAC.

e. IRWM Plan Development Process and Schedule

- Ms. St. Charles described the schedule for the six SAC Workshops that will be part of the IRWM Plan development process through February 2018. The discussions in each of the next four workshops will form the basis of the IRWM Plan, and the final workshop will review the Draft IRWM Plan.

3) IRWM Plan Workshop Topic: Local and Regional Planning Coordination

a. Stakeholder Advisory Committee Membership and Outreach

- Ms. St. Charles described the current membership of the SAC and lead a discussion of methods to increase membership and participation. The IRWM program will have a website that will announce all public meetings and post all materials. The current mailing list will be forwarded to the attendees, and stakeholders were asked to reach out to any contacts who have not yet responded to the invitation, and to recommend anyone else for inclusion in the mailing list.
- Robert Taylor of the San Bernardino National Forest clarified that he could participate as a member of the public outside of the fire season.
- It was commented that there should be some social media outreach, particularly to attract younger generations.
- Additional outreach to environmental organizations could include Riverside County Department of Waste Resources and the Resource Conservation Districts. Additional outreach to community organizations could include the Chamber of Commerce and the Lion's Club.

b. Regional Identity and Description

- Ms. St. Charles facilitated a discussion on how to describe the unique identity of the San Gorgonio IRWM Region, which might include the regional boundaries, water supply and quality, flood management, ecological and environmental, or the social and economic.
- The Sand to Snow National Monument in the San Gorgonio Wilderness provides important recreational benefits, including the Pacific Crest Trail, as well as environmental benefits.
- It was discussed that the region's endangered wildlife and protected land should be included in the IRWM Plan. It was also discussed that there should be a discussion of the San Gorgonio Pass' importance as a regional trade corridor.

c. Existing Meetings, Plans, Data, and Information

- Ms. St. Charles asked the group to help describe planning efforts happening in the area, and the sources of information, including plans, reports, or data that would help to understand and describe the region.
- A major source of information on the regional environment will be the Western Riverside Habitat Conservation Plan, which includes portions of the IRMW Region. Riverside County will provide additional information on water quality and flood planning.
- The Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority has studied the impacts of climate change on their region. This information will be to the San Gorgonio IRWM Region.
- The Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) is a source of information on regional growth.

4) Summary and Next Steps

- The next Stakeholder Advisory Committee Workshop will be on June 14, 2017 from 2:00 to 3:00 PM. All workshops will be hosted by the City of Banning. The main topics of the meeting will be a continued conversation on the Regional Description and a workshop discussion on Needs, Issues, and Challenges.