



## Santa Barbara County IRWM Region Integrated Regional Water Management Plan 2013 Biennial Review May, 2014

### Background

On January 17, 2014, Governor Jerry Brown proclaimed a Drought State of Emergency and on March 1, 2014, Governor Brown signed legislation to assist drought-affected communities and provide funding to better use local water supplies. This legislation, Senate Bills (SB) 103 and 104 provided \$687 million to support drought relief, including money for housing and food for workers directly impacted by the drought, bond funds for projects to help local communities more efficiently capture and manage water, and funding for securing emergency drinking water supplies for drought-impacted communities. The approved \$687.4 million included \$472.5 million in Proposition 84 IRWM funding. The Governor and the Legislature directed DWR to expedite the solicitation and award of \$200 million (of the \$472.5 million) in IRWM funding statewide. On April 3, 2014, DWR released the Draft 2014 IRWM Grant Program Guidelines and PSP.

### Biennial Review – IRWM Plan Adaptive Management

As part of an overall adaptive management strategy for the evaluation of projects and plan performance, the 2013 IRWM Plan states that the Cooperating Partners will conduct a biennial review of the IRWM Plan and evaluate Santa Barbara IRWM Plan's objectives, priorities, water management strategies, and project lists. The IRWM Plan also commits the Cooperating Partners to modifying the aforementioned Plan elements as appropriate. Specifically, the 2013 IRWM Plan describes the implementation of the adaptive management framework as follows:

*The IRWMP's overall adaptive management framework will be implemented in the following manner in accordance with the established governance practices described in Section 1:*

- 1. IRWMP managers will conduct a biennial review and produce a 5-year report summarizing progress made in achieving IRWMP goals, including the tracking of funded projects, modifications to projects, and development of new projects as a result of the plan. The results of the biennial review and the 5-year report will be posted on the IRWMP Web site (<http://www.countyofsb.org/pwd/water/irwmp.htm>). The performance*

*of implemented projects will be compared to original project objectives to ensure objectives were met.*

*2. IRWMP objectives, priorities, and water management strategies will be evaluated during the biennial review and modified appropriately. The need to develop different projects to better meet the plan objectives and regional issues will be considered, as will the need to modify existing projects. Projects that may be deleted (for example, because their purpose has been met through another project or because conditions have changed) also will be considered at this time.*

*3. Minor adjustments to planning assumptions, operations, or actions will be adopted as necessary. If significant changes to the approved IRWMP are found to be required in the biennial review or the 5-year IRWMP report, the plan will be revised and submitted for approval by Cooperating Partners as necessary.*

### **IRWM Plan 2013 Biennial Review and 2014 IRWM Drought Solicitation**

Per the above, the Santa Barbara County IRWM Plan 2013 outlines a process for Project Solicitation, Project Review and Project Selection Process, which was followed for the Drought Solicitation process. On April 7, 2014, the Cooperating Partners (CP) of the Santa Barbara County wide IRWM met to discuss the Draft Guidelines and PSP. As a result of that meeting, the CPs unanimously decided to pursue a project solicitation for projects related to DWR's IRWM Drought Solicitation. On April 9, 2014, the Santa Barbara Countywide IRWM officially commenced its Project Solicitation Process. The call for projects announcement and materials were circulated to 192 stakeholders and entities. Prospective project proponents were asked to fill out a specific Drought Solicitation Project Template and also enter projects into the Opti System. The OPTI system is the IRWM data management system for the Region. Once a project is submitted into the OPTI system and is accepted by the OPTI system administrator, the project is formally entered on the IRWM Plan Project List. The Project Solicitation ended at 5:00 pm on April 24, 2014. Ten projects were submitted for consideration and inclusion into the 2014 IRWM Drought Application. On April 28, 2014, the CPs received a summary list of all the project received through the Project Solicitation Process and CPs were notified that a Project Selection Process would soon ensure.

On May 8, 2014, the CPs met to discuss the submitted projects and to review and adopt the list of projects as well as adopt the methodology, criteria and rubric that would be utilized to select projects for inclusion into the application. A Project Selection

Technical Committee was convened on Wednesday, May 14 to review submitted projects, interview project proponents and rank the submitted projects. The Project Selection committee was made up of one city, one community services district, one County department and one NGO as well as a consultant. Each member of the team was allowed to rate the project and afforded one vote with the exception of the consultant. The Preliminary Ranking and recommended funding amounts projects to be included in Drought Application were circulated to all CPs on May 15, 2014. This also opened up the appeal period and each project proponent was notified that if they wanted to appeal the Project Selection Committee's Preliminary Ranking, the proponent had until 12:30 pm on May 20, 2014. The Consultant also spoke individually with each project proponent about the preliminary ranking and the appeal process. Those Project Proponents who were not recommended for inclusion in the Drought Application were directed to other potential grant funding or loan programs deemed to be appropriate.

On May 20, 2014 the CPs were requested to approve the list of projects recommended for funding. The majority of CPs, as required by the MOU voted to approve the Preliminary list rendering the list Final. The preparation of the application pursuant to the funding recommendations then commenced.

Per the process outlined in the Santa Barbara County IRWM Plan 2013, the 2014 Drought Solicitation Project List was adopted into the 2013 IRWMP by all Cooperating Partners through Resolution by their respective governing entities in June and July 2014. It was posted on the Santa Barbara County IRWM website on July 9, 2014. A list of the projects follows.

**Santa Barbara County IRWM – Biennial Review**

**Project Summary Table – Projects Received through the Project Solicitation Period of April 9-April 24, 2014**

Project Sponsor(s)	Project Name	Brief Description
Carpinteria Valley Water District, City of Carpinteria, Cachuma RCD	Sentry Well & Irrigation Retrofits	Due to the Drought, CVWD’s groundwater extractions will continue, however, without a risk that seawater intrusion could be advancing. The sentry well is required to ensure that the local groundwater is reliable. Over the long term the proposed sentry well will greatly improve the management of the local groundwater basin by providing an early warning system for seawater intrusion under normal basin operating conditions.  Irrigation retro-fits & upgrades within the Carpinteria Valley, industrial, residential and agricultural water use efficiency programs
City of Santa Barbara	Rehabilitation of the Gibraltar Reservoir Silt Wells	Full rehabilitation of the silt well system, which includes three production wells along the floor of the reservoir to provide basic water supplies from the Santa Ynez River to ensure supplies, capacity, reliability to its residents and adjacent cities through interties.
City of Santa Barbara	Reclaimed Water Enhancement Project	Reduction in the amount of potable required to blend in recycled water effluent and restore 1,100 AFY of current supply with a potential 1,400 AFY. Increases local water supply in the near and long term
Cachuma Operations & Maintenance Board	Lake Cahuma Drought Pumping Facility Project	Installation of a pumping system into the intake portal to draw water into the conveyance system. The lake is significantly & dangerously low given the drought and the elevation below the level of the intake prevents water from being taken into the system and distributed to the entire South Coast of Santa Barbara County.
Goleta Water District, Cachuma RCD	Anita Supply Enhancement Project	Expansion of the District groundwater production capacity by 600 AFY by installing a pipeline for transporting groundwater extracted from the District’s Anita Well to the San Ricardo Well site enabling the water to be treated to drinking water standards and delivered to District customers. The second portion of the project provides cash incentives to agriculture customers within the District service area for irrigation and water use efficiency improvements that will result in water savings.
City of Solvang	Upland Wells Project	The Project includes the evaluation of multiple possible upland well sites, identifying and prioritizing the most favorable sites, and constructing 3 new wells. The construction work will include drilling and casing of the wells, and the installation of wellhead piping, distribution system piping, and disinfection facilities. The goal of the project is to provide a combined water production capacity of approximately 700 gpm.
Laguna County Sanitation District	Recycled Water Pipeline Extension & Retrofit	Extension of reclaimed water infrastructure to a golf course for irrigation & offsets approximately 500,000 gpd or 537 AFY from an adjudicated basin.
Laguna County Sanitation District	Water storage tank for reclaimed water	Installation of two million gallon tanks to store reclaimed water for water compatible with food irrigation
Laguna County Sanitation District	Reclaimed Water Pipeline Irrigation Extension	Extension of existing pipeline to Waller Park for irrigation to offset 859 AFY of groundwater from an adjudicated basin
Santa Barbara County Water Agency	Santa Barbara County Prop 84 Drought Grant Administration Project	Funds for the Administration of the Drought Grant