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## 12 RELATION TO LOCAL WATER AND LAND USE PLANNING

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Water and land use are inextricably linked. The IRWM Plan integrates land use planning strategies into the strategic mix for water resource management and relies on close collaboration and coordination with the region's land use planning agencies. The IRWM Plan reflects and embraces many of the [Ahwahnee Water Principles for Efficient Land Use](#) developed by the Local Government Commission. These principles offer suggestions for additional water resource management strategies that local governments and water/wastewater resource managers can structure within their ongoing strategies to improve the sustainability of the region's water resources.

The cities, counties, water and wastewater agencies, and other stakeholders in the region have been involved in many planning efforts to develop goals and plans related to land use and water management issues. The planning documents created from these efforts serve as an important foundation for the IRWM Plan. The IRWM Plan has integrated the goals, objectives, and programs contained in these documents to ensure that it is consistent with local issues and needs. Also, as local plans are updated, or new plans are developed, the District participates in a review capacity to ensure incorporation of the IRWM Plan into the planning documents.

This section focuses on how the IRWM Plan relates to planning documents and programs established by local agencies. The following chapters are included:

**12.1 IRWM Plan Relationship to Planning Documents** – includes a comprehensive list of the most current local water and land use plans referenced in the IRWM Plan development and provides a qualitative description of the relationship between the local planning documents and the IRWM Goals and Objectives, and Water Management Strategies.

**12.2 Plan Linkages with Local Water and Land Use Planning Studies** – includes a discussion of linkages between the IRWM Plan and local planning documents, state senate bills, and state required Urban Water Management Plans.

**12.3 Examples of Local Needs Incorporated in the IRWM Planning Goals** – includes examples where local planning documents and policies satisfy the IRWM Planning Goals.

**12.4 Planning Documents Addressing Data Gaps in the IRWM Plan** – includes existing and proposed planning documents prepared by others and presented through the WRAC to specifically address data gaps found in the IRWM Plan throughout its implementation.

**12.5 Coordination with Land Use Decision Makers** – includes the relationship between the IRWM Plan and its consistency with local land use plans and its support through local decisions.

**12.6 IRWM Dynamics with Local Planning and Land Use Agencies** – describes the IRWM Plan as an extension to local land use plans in an effort to resolve potential

conflicts through consensus-based solutions between RWMG and local water planning leaders.

**12.7 Issues and Relationships between Local Land Use Planning Entities and Water Management in the Context of IRWM Plan** – describes where greater collaboration can take place using the IRWM Plan as a means to create a more holistic approach to managing water resources in the San Luis Obispo County Region.

## 12.1 IRWM PLAN RELATIONSHIP TO PLANNING DOCUMENTS

The IRWM Plan was developed in coordination with local agencies and the planning documents produced for the region in setting water and land use policies. These include General Plans, Urban Water Management Plans, Water and Wastewater Master Plans, Groundwater Studies and Plans, Flood Management/Drainage Studies and Plans, and Storm Water Management Plans covering a number of areas such as land use planning, recycled water, groundwater management, water resources, and environmental enhancement. The relevance of each document to the IRWM Plan is discussed below and summarized in **Table 12-1**. Coordination and collaboration occurred through meetings, workshops, and personal communications (See **Section 2 – Governance**) with agencies and entities identified in this table to understand their various efforts, planning goals and objectives, and proposed water management strategies. The IRWM Plan is inclusive of local planning efforts to ensure the capture of documents, efforts, and projects to be included in the Plan's implementation. One of the notable considerations in this process is the review of climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies included in local planning documents, such as the UWMPs. The presence of these strategies and other relevant resource management strategies within local plans is summarized in **Table 12-2** (i.e., checked strategies imply how the document relates to the IRWM Plan and may not be fully comprehensive of the listed document).

**Table 12-1: Major Planning Documents Utilized for IRWM Planning**

Document Title/Description	Pub. Date	Agency/ Entity	Relation to IRWM Plan
<b>General and Community Plans</b>			
<a href="#">City of San Luis Obispo General Plan Annual Report</a>	2015	City of San Luis Obispo	Provides list of Cities' policies, goals and actions for water and land use, water conservation, recycled water, flood control, habitat protection and open space preservation
<a href="#">City of Pismo Beach General Plan and Local Coastal Plan</a>	2014	City of Pismo Beach	
<a href="#">City of Paso Robles, General Plan</a>	2003	City of Paso Robles	
<a href="#">City of Atascadero General Plan</a>	2016	City of Atascadero	
<a href="#">City of Arroyo Grande General Plan</a>	2016	City of Arroyo Grande	
<a href="#">City of Morro Bay General Plan and Local Coastal Plan</a>	1988	City of Morro Bay	
<a href="#">City of Grover Beach General Plan, Housing Element</a>	2010	City of Grover Beach	
<a href="#">County of SLO Area Plans</a>	2014	County of San Luis Obispo	Provides list of Counties' policies, goals and actions for land use, water conservation, water reclamation, flood control, habitat protection and open space preservation; includes community and special planning studies.
<a href="#">County of SLO Agriculture Element</a>	2010		
<a href="#">County of SLO Coastal Plan Policies</a>	2006		
<a href="#">County of SLO Conservation and Open Space Element</a>	2010		
<a href="#">San Miguel Community Plan</a>	2016		
<a href="#">Oceano Revitalization Plan</a>	2013		
<a href="#">Templeton Community Plan</a>	2014		
<b>Urban Water Management Plans</b>			
<a href="#">City of Arroyo Grande UWMP</a>	2015	City of Arroyo Grande	Provides understanding of Arroyo Grande urban water needs, management, and planning objectives
<a href="#">City of Paso Robles UWMP</a>	2015	City of Paso Robles	Provides understanding of Paso Robles urban water needs, management, and planning objectives
<a href="#">City of Grover Beach UWMP</a>	2010	City of Grover Beach	Provides understanding of Grover Beach urban water needs, management, and planning objectives

Document Title/Description	Pub. Date	Agency/ Entity	Relation to IRWM Plan
<a href="#">City of Morro Bay UWMP</a>	2015	City of Morro Bay	Provides understanding of Morro Bay urban water needs, management, and planning objectives
<a href="#">City of Pismo Beach UWMP</a>	2015	City of Pismo Beach	Provides understanding of Pismo Beach urban water needs, management, and planning objectives
<a href="#">City of San Luis Obispo UWMP</a>	2015	City of San Luis Obispo	Provides understanding San Luis Obispo urban water needs, management, and planning objectives
<a href="#">County of SLO Flood Control and Water Conservation, Zone 3, UWMP</a>	2015	County of San Luis Obispo	Provides understanding of San Luis Obispo County water needs and management strategies
<a href="#">Los Osos CSD UWMP</a>	2000	Los Osos CSD	Provides understanding of Los Osos urban water needs, management, and planning objectives
<b>Water and Wastewater Master Plans</b>			
<a href="#">San Luis Obispo County Master Water Report</a>	2012	County of San Luis Obispo	Provides comprehensive understanding of the water supply needs of the county and an implementation plan for meeting those needs
<a href="#">City of Arroyo Grande Water System Master Plan</a>	2013	City of Arroyo Grande	Provides understanding of the water supply needs of the Arroyo Grande and an implementation plan for meeting those needs. Link to summary only.
<a href="#">City of Arroyo Grande Wastewater System Master Plan</a>	2013	City of Arroyo Grande	Provides plan for wastewater treatment, effluent management and recycled water for City of Arroyo Grande.
<a href="#">CSA 10A Cayucos Water System Master Plan</a>	2003	CSA 10A	Provides understanding of the water supply needs of CSA 10A and an implementation plan for meeting those needs
<a href="#">Santa Margarita CSA 23 Water System Master Plan</a>	2003	CSA 23	Provides understanding of the water supply needs of CSA 23 and an implementation plan for meeting those needs
<a href="#">Los Osos Water Master Plan</a>	2002	Los Osos CSD	Provides understanding of the water supply needs of Los Osos and an implementation plan for meeting those needs

Document Title/Description	Pub. Date	Agency/ Entity	Relation to IRWM Plan
Atascadero Water System Master Plan Final Report	1993	Atascadero Mutual Water Company	Provides understanding of the water supply needs of Atascadero and an implementation plan for meeting those needs
<a href="#">City of Paso Robles Water Resources Plan Integration and Capital Improvement Program</a>	2007	City of Paso Robles	Provides understanding of the water supply needs of Paso Robles and an implementation plan for meeting those needs
<a href="#">City of Pismo Beach Water Master Plan</a>	2004	City of Pismo Beach	Provides understanding of the water supply needs of Pismo Beach and an implementation plan for meeting those needs
<a href="#">City of Pismo Beach Wastewater Collection System Master Plan</a>	2000	City of Pismo Beach	Provides understanding of the collection system conditions, needs and an implementation plan for meeting those needs for Pismo Beach
<a href="#">City of Pismo Beach Wastewater Treatment Plant Master Plan</a>	2000	City of Pismo Beach	Provides plan for wastewater treatment, effluent management and recycled water for the Pismo Beach.
<b>Groundwater Studies and Plans</b>			
North Coast Groundwater, 2009 Cleath-Harris Geologists Groundwater Studies	2009	City of San Luis Obispo	Provides understanding of small north coast groundwater basin and basin yields.
<a href="#">Paso Robles 2010 Groundwater Basin Water Balance Review and Update</a>	2010	City of Paso Robles	Provides the water balance for the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin and the Atascadero Subbasin from 1998 to 2009. Projected water balance provides forecasting from 2010 to 2025. Provides definitions to overdraft conditions and natural processes taking place.
<a href="#">Paso Robles Groundwater Subbasin Water Banking Feasibility Study</a>	2008	District	Explored the feasibility of banking water in the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin for the benefit of County residents
<a href="#">Nipomo Mesa Resource Capacity Study</a>	2004	Nipomo CSD	Provides understanding of Nipomo Mesa groundwater sub-basin issues and management plans for the groundwater basin
<a href="#">Sea Water Intrusion Assessment and Lower Aquifer Source Investigation of the Los Osos Valley Ground Water Basin</a>	2005	Los Osos CSD	Provides understanding of Los Osos groundwater issues related to sea water intrusion in the groundwater basin

<b>Document Title/Description</b>	<b>Pub. Date</b>	<b>Agency/ Entity</b>	<b>Relation to IRWM Plan</b>
<a href="#">Updated Basin Plan for the Los Osos Groundwater Basin</a>	2015	Los Osos CSD	Provides understanding of Los Osos groundwater basin
<a href="#">Paso Robles Groundwater Basin Management Plan</a>	2011	City of Paso Robles	Provides understanding and Basin Management Objectives of Paso Robles groundwater basin
<a href="#">Santa Margarita Technical Memorandum, Groundwater Resources of CSA 23</a>	2004	CSA 23	Provides a comprehensive understanding of CSA 23, the small town of Santa Margarita, and includes hydrogeology, water demands and supplies, and impacts from the proposed Santa Margarita Ranch development.
<b><i>Flood Management/Drainage Studies and Plans</i></b>			
<a href="#">San Luis Obispo County Drainage Community Studies</a>	2007	District	Primary website for County drainage studies (may be duplicative of below studies)
<a href="#">Cambria Drainage and Flood Control Study</a>	2004	Cambria CSD	Provides understanding of the flood and drainage conditions in the Cambria area
<a href="#">Cayucos Drainage and Flood Control Study</a>	2004	Cayucos CSA	Provides understanding of the flood and drainage conditions in the Cayucos area
<a href="#">Nipomo Drainage and Flood Control Study</a>	2004	Nipomo CSD	Provides understanding of the flood and drainage conditions in the Nipomo area
<a href="#">San Miguel Drainage and Flood Control Study</a>	2003	San Miguel CSD	Provides understanding of the flood and drainage conditions in the San Miguel area
<a href="#">Santa Margarita Drainage and Flood Control Study</a>	2004	Santa Margarita CSA	Provides understanding of the flood and drainage conditions in the Santa Margarita area
<a href="#">Los Osos Drainage Study</a>	1997	Los Osos CSD	Provides understanding of the flood and drainage conditions in the Los Osos area
<a href="#">Oceano Drainage Study</a>	2004	Oceano CSD	Provides understanding of the flood and drainage conditions in the Oceano area
City of Pismo Beach Drainage Master Plan, Draft	2002	City of Pismo Beach	Provides understanding of the flood and drainage conditions in the Pismo Beach area
<b><i>Storm Water Management Plans</i></b>			

Document Title/Description	Pub. Date	Agency/ Entity	Relation to IRWM Plan
<a href="#"><u>County of San Luis Obispo Storm Water Management Program, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Phase II</u></a>	2006	County of San Luis Obispo	Provides comprehensive understanding of compliance measures to meet Environmental Protection Agency waste discharge requirements, associating land use with runoff, storm water conditions, and management options in the County
<a href="#"><u>San Luis Obispo Guide to Implementing Flood Control Projects</u></a>	2009	District	Provides guidance in the process of implementing methods and strategies to address the IRWM region's flooding problems
<a href="#"><u>City of Paso Robles Storm Water Management Program</u></a>	2014	City of Paso Robles	Provides understanding of the storm water management program and resources for public outreach and guidance in the City of Paso Robles
<a href="#"><u>City of San Luis Obispo Storm Water Management Program</u></a>	2014	City of San Luis Obispo	Provides understanding of the storm water management program and resources for public outreach and guidance in the City of San Luis Obispo
<a href="#"><u>City of Atascadero Storm Water Management Program</u></a>	2017	City of Atascadero	Provides understanding of the storm water management program and resources for public outreach and guidance in the City of Atascadero
<a href="#"><u>City of Morro Bay Storm Water Management Program</u></a>	2013	City of Morro Bay	Provides understanding of the storm water management program and resources for public outreach and guidance in the City of Morro Bay
<a href="#"><u>City of Arroyo Grande Storm Water Management Program</u></a>	2013	City of Arroyo Grande	Provides understanding of the storm water management program and resources for public outreach and guidance in the City of Arroyo Grande
<a href="#"><u>City of Pismo Beach Storm Water Management Program</u></a>	2016	City of Pismo Beach	Provides understanding of the storm water management program and resources for public outreach and guidance in the City of Pismo Beach
<b>Other Studies</b>			

Document Title/Description	Pub. Date	Agency/ Entity	Relation to IRWM Plan
<a href="#">Data Enhancement Plan</a>	2008	District	A regional water monitoring program designed to provide data for water supply and land use planning, design of infrastructure, and operations for flood control and water supply
<a href="#">Regional Permitting Plan</a>	2008	District	Developed an approach to managing the multitude of permits from different agencies at different levels of government required by the County for carrying out each of its projects
<a href="#">SLOC Regional Watershed Planning</a>	2013	District	Known areas of impairment and data gaps are identified and serve as the starting point for the future WMP: Phase II (watershed management plan development and implementation)
<a href="#">Regional Recycled Water Strategic Planning</a>	2014	District	Provides an inventory and strategic feasibility evaluation for water reuse in San Luis Obispo County.
<a href="#">San Antonio and Nacimiento Rivers Watershed Management Plan</a>	2008	SWRCB and Monterey County	Developed as a watershed management plan, provides methods to ensure high quality water draining into Nacimiento Reservoir treated and used as drinking water in SLO County.

**Table 12-2: IRWM Plan Resource Management Strategies Contained in Planning Documents**

Planning Document Title and Website (if applicable)	Ecosystem Restoration	Habitat Protection	Water Supply Reliability	Flood Management	Groundwater Management	Recreation & Public Access	Storm Water Management	Water Conservation	Water Quality Protection	Salt and Salinity Management	Water Recycling	Wetlands Enhancement	Conjunctive Use	Desalination	Imported Water	Land Use Planning	NPS Pollution Control	Surface Storage	Watershed Planning	Water and Wastewater Treatment	Water Transfers/Exchanges	Water System Optimization	Addresses Climate Change
<b>General Plans</b>																							
City of San Luis Obispo General Plan Annual Report	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓	✓			✓		✓	
City of Pismo Beach General Plan and Local Coastal Plan	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓	✓			✓			

Planning Document Title and Website (if applicable)	Ecosystem Restoration	Habitat Protection	Water Supply Reliability	Flood Management	Groundwater Management	Recreation & Public Access	Storm Water Management	Water Conservation	Water Quality Protection	Salt and Salinity Management	Water Recycling	Wetlands Enhancement	Conjunctive Use	Desalination	Imported Water	Land Use Planning	NPS Pollution Control	Surface Storage	Watershed Planning	Water and Wastewater Treatment	Water Transfers/Exchanges	Water System Optimization	Addresses Climate Change
City of Paso Robles, General Plan	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓	✓			✓			
City of Atascadero General Plan	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓	✓		✓	✓			✓
City of Arroyo Grande General Plan	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓	✓			✓			
City of Morro Bay General Plan and Local Coastal Plan	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓		✓	✓			
City of Grover Beach General Plan, Housing Element			✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓	✓			✓			
County of SLO General Plan - Inland	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
County of SLO Agriculture Element	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
County of SLO Coastal Plan Policies and Open Space Element	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓	✓						
County of San Luis Obispo Conservation and Open Space Element	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓	✓						
<b>Urban Water Management Plans</b>																							
City of Arroyo Grande UWMP			✓		✓			✓	✓				✓							✓			✓
City of Paso Robles UWMP			✓		✓			✓	✓		✓		✓							✓			✓
City of Grover Beach UWMP			✓		✓			✓	✓				✓							✓			
City of Morro Bay UWMP			✓		✓			✓	✓		✓		✓	✓						✓			✓

Planning Document Title and Website (if applicable)	Ecosystem Restoration	Habitat Protection	Water Supply Reliability	Flood Management	Groundwater Management	Recreation & Public Access	Storm Water Management	Water Conservation	Water Quality Protection	Salt and Salinity Management	Water Recycling	Wetlands Enhancement	Conjunctive Use	Desalination	Imported Water	Land Use Planning	NPS Pollution Control	Surface Storage	Watershed Planning	Water and Wastewater Treatment	Water Transfers/Exchanges	Water System Optimization	Addresses Climate Change
City of Pismo Beach UWMP			✓		✓			✓	✓		✓		✓							✓			✓
City of San Luis Obispo UWMP			✓		✓			✓	✓		✓		✓							✓			✓
County of San Luis Obispo Flood Control and Water Conservation, Zone 3, UWMP			✓		✓			✓	✓				✓							✓			✓
Los Osos CSD UWMP			✓		✓			✓	✓				✓							✓			
<b>Water and Wastewater Master Plans</b>																							
San Luis Obispo County Master Water Report	✓	✓	✓		✓			✓	✓		✓	✓	✓				✓			✓			
City of Arroyo Grande Water System Master Plan			✓		✓			✓	✓		✓		✓							✓	✓		
City of Arroyo Grande Wastewater System Master Plan			✓		✓			✓	✓		✓		✓							✓	✓		
CSA 10A Cayucos Water System Master Plan			✓		✓			✓	✓		✓		✓							✓	✓		
Santa Margarita CSA 23 Water System Master Plan			✓		✓			✓	✓		✓		✓							✓	✓		
Los Osos Water Master Plan			✓		✓			✓	✓		✓		✓							✓	✓		
Atascadero Water System Master Plan Final Report			✓		✓			✓	✓		✓		✓							✓	✓		
City of Paso Robles Water Resources Plan Integration			✓		✓			✓	✓		✓		✓							✓	✓		

Planning Document Title and Website (if applicable)	Ecosystem Restoration	Habitat Protection	Water Supply Reliability	Flood Management	Groundwater Management	Recreation & Public Access	Storm Water Management	Water Conservation	Water Quality Protection	Salt and Salinity Management	Water Recycling	Wetlands Enhancement	Conjunctive Use	Desalination	Imported Water	Land Use Planning	NPS Pollution Control	Surface Storage	Watershed Planning	Water and Wastewater Treatment	Water Transfers/Exchanges	Water System Optimization	Addresses Climate Change
and Capital Improvement Program																							
City of Pismo Beach Water Master Plan			✓		✓			✓	✓		✓		✓							✓	✓		
City of Pismo Beach Wastewater Collection System Master Plan					✓				✓		✓									✓			
City of Pismo Beach Wastewater Treatment Plant Master Plan			✓		✓				✓		✓									✓			
<b>Groundwater Studies and Plans</b>																							
2009 North Coast Groundwater Studies			✓		✓				✓				✓										
Paso Robles 2010 Groundwater Basin Water Balance Review and Update			✓		✓				✓				✓										
Nipomo Mesa Resource Capacity Study			✓		✓				✓				✓								✓		
Sea Water Intrusion Assessment and Lower Aquifer Source Investigation of the Los Osos Valley Ground Water Basin			✓		✓				✓				✓										
Updated Review Basin Plan for the Los Osos			✓		✓				✓				✓										

Planning Document Title and Website (if applicable)	Ecosystem Restoration	Habitat Protection	Water Supply Reliability	Flood Management	Groundwater Management	Recreation & Public Access	Storm Water Management	Water Conservation	Water Quality Protection	Salt and Salinity Management	Water Recycling	Wetlands Enhancement	Conjunctive Use	Desalination	Imported Water	Land Use Planning	NPS Pollution Control	Surface Storage	Watershed Planning	Water and Wastewater Treatment	Water Transfers/Exchanges	Water System Optimization	Addresses Climate Change
Groundwater Basin																							
Paso Robles Groundwater Basin Management Plan			✓		✓				✓				✓										
Paso Robles Groundwater Subbasin Water Banking Feasibility Study			✓		✓				✓				✓										
Paso Robles Groundwater Subbasin Water Banking Feasibility Study			✓		✓				✓				✓										
Technical Memorandum Groundwater Resources of CSA 23 - Santa Margarita			✓		✓				✓				✓										
<b>Flood Management/Drainage Studies and Plans</b>																							
Cambria Drainage and Flood Control Study				✓			✓		✓							✓	✓		✓				
Cayucos Drainage and Flood Control Study				✓			✓		✓							✓	✓		✓				
Oceano Drainage and Flood Control Study				✓			✓		✓							✓	✓		✓				
Nipomo Drainage and Flood Control Study				✓			✓		✓							✓	✓		✓				
San Miguel Drainage and Flood Control Study				✓			✓		✓							✓	✓		✓				

Planning Document Title and Website (if applicable)	Ecosystem Restoration	Habitat Protection	Water Supply Reliability	Flood Management	Groundwater Management	Recreation & Public Access	Storm Water Management	Water Conservation	Water Quality Protection	Salt and Salinity Management	Water Recycling	Wetlands Enhancement	Conjunctive Use	Desalination	Imported Water	Land Use Planning	NPS Pollution Control	Surface Storage	Watershed Planning	Water and Wastewater Treatment	Water Transfers/Exchanges	Water System Optimization	Addresses Climate Change
Santa Margarita Drainage and Flood Control Study			✓				✓		✓							✓	✓		✓				
Los Osos Drainage Study			✓				✓		✓							✓	✓		✓				
City of Pismo Beach Drainage Master Plan			✓				✓		✓							✓	✓		✓				
<b>Storm Water Management Plans</b>																							
County of San Luis Obispo Storm Water Management Plan							✓		✓							✓	✓		✓				
San Luis Obispo Guide to Implementing Flood Control Projects							✓		✓							✓	✓		✓				
City of Paso Robles Storm Water Management Program,							✓		✓							✓	✓		✓				
City of San Luis Obispo Storm Water Management Program							✓		✓							✓	✓		✓				
City of Atascadero Storm Water Management Program							✓		✓							✓	✓		✓				
City of Morro Bay Storm Water Management Program, Draft							✓		✓							✓	✓		✓				
City of Arroyo Grande Storm Water							✓		✓							✓	✓		✓				

Planning Document Title and Website (if applicable)	Ecosystem Restoration	Habitat Protection	Water Supply Reliability	Flood Management	Groundwater Management	Recreation & Public Access	Storm Water Management	Water Conservation	Water Quality Protection	Salt and Salinity Management	Water Recycling	Wetlands Enhancement	Conjunctive Use	Desalination	Imported Water	Land Use Planning	NPS Pollution Control	Surface Storage	Watershed Planning	Water and Wastewater Treatment	Water Transfers/Exchanges	Water System Optimization	Addresses Climate Change
Management Program																							
County of San Luis Obispo Storm Water Management Plan							✓		✓							✓	✓		✓				
<b>Other Studies</b>																							
SLOC Data Enhancement Plan	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
SLOC Regional Permitting Plan	✓	✓							✓			✓				✓			✓				
SLOC Regional Watershed Planning	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓			✓			✓				✓			✓				✓
Regional Recycled Water Strategic Planning										✓	✓												
San Antonio and Nacimiento Rivers Watershed Management Plan	✓	✓			✓	✓			✓			✓				✓			✓				✓

## 12.2 PLAN LINKAGES WITH LOCAL WATER AND LAND USE PLANNING STUDIES

### 12.2.1 Linkages with General Plans

The County of San Luis Obispo and the incorporated cities of Paso Robles, Atascadero, Morro Bay, San Luis Obispo, Pismo Beach, Arroyo Grande, and Grover Beach each maintain General Plans as required by State planning and zoning law. The County’s General Plan addresses all unincorporated communities in the County, including the urbanized areas of Cambria, Cayucos, Los Osos, San Miguel, Templeton, Creston, Santa Margarita, Shandon, Oceano, and Nipomo. Within County-controlled areas, the County General Plan relies on the Resource Management System (RMS) to determine the appropriate timing and location for new development. While all development must be consistent with General Plan policies, the RMS provides further guidance and control over new land uses from the perspective of resource availability. The RMS tracks

the availability of water, the status of water delivery systems, and the condition of wastewater systems and availability of wastewater treatment.

### **12.2.2 Linkages with Senate Bill 610 and 221**

Within the incorporated cities, the availability of water, the condition of water supply systems, and the condition of wastewater treatment systems is generally tracked separately by the various utility departments. Similar to the County, all new development of a certain size (don't be general – specify the exact size) is required to comply with Senate Bill (SB) 610 and SB 221. Water Supply Assessments completed under SB 610 must be furnished to local governments for inclusion in any environmental documentation for certain projects (as defined in California Water Code 10912 [a]) subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). In many cases, Water Supply Assessments reference the IRWM Plan as a resource document for determination of water supply sustainability. Under the same code, a separate action, SB 221, requires an affirmative written verification of sufficient water supply (water supply verification), in addition to local jurisdiction “will serve” letter permitting programs.

“SB 610 and SB 221 are companion measures which seek to promote more collaborative planning between local water suppliers and cities and counties.”  
(*State Water Code 10912*)

SB 221 is intended to ensure that collaboration on finding needed water supplies to serve a new subdivision of 500 units or more occurs when it should, before construction begins. On a long-term planning basis, most jurisdictions have based their future plans on identified sources for water and wastewater service. For example, the City of Morro Bay has incorporated water supply issues into the General Plan process by adopting their Water Management Plan (WMP) as a component of the Local Coastal Plan. No development can proceed without being first accommodated in the Water Management Plan.

### **12.2.3 Linkages with Local Government Coordination and Water Resources Policies**

The IRWM Plan has been coordinated with local government General Plans and through the stakeholder involvement of the cities and others represented within the WRAC and the RWMG. General Plans provide land use, environmental, and economic information associated with the use, need, quantity, quality, and management of water resources within each city (or community). General Plans also project and plan for growth and estimate the demand for additional water resources to accommodate the growth. The water supply elements of local planning documents listed above have been considered and have helped to shape the water resources management needs identified in this IRWM Plan for the cities and communities of the IRWM planning region.

#### 12.2.4 Linkages with Urban Water Management Plans

The IRWM Plan has been coordinated with various Urban Water Management Plans (UWMPs) that have been developed by cities and communities in the San Luis Obispo County region consistent with State of California requirements. UWMPs consider city and county population growth projections developed at the local level and link these directly to the assessment of water supply needs. The UWMPs rely in part on other planning documents such as General Plans and land use plans to provide these projections. The projected water demands from the UWMPs are utilized in the IRWM Plan to determine regional water supply needs. UWMPs also consider local conservation and recycled water planning and provide a greater understanding of water needs and issues faced by local water agencies and communities. Recent UWMP updates include descriptions of anticipated climate change impacts and the local adaptation and mitigation strategies being implemented in response. These discussions help inform the update to the IRWM Plan's climate change section and other related plan elements.

Because of the UWMP's importance, updates to the IRWM Plan take place in parallel with the mandatory five-year update requirement of the UWMP. This provides consistency, accuracy and commensurate sharing of the region's changing demographics, water use, and changing hydrology and groundwater conditions.

### 12.3 EXAMPLES OF LOCAL NEEDS INCORPORATED IN THE IRWM PLANNING GOALS

To assist in development of the IRWM Plan, the General Plans of the region were reviewed. The IRWM Plan goals: 1) Water Supply; 2) Ecosystem, and Watershed Restoration; 3) Groundwater Monitoring and Management; 4) Flood Management; and 5) Water Resources Management and Communications are consistent with the local planning and policy needs expressed in the General Plans as discussed below.

#### **Water Supply Goal**

The IRWM Plan Water Supply goal contains objectives of maximizing the use of existing resources through interagency coordination, meeting future water demand through water recycling and desalination, improving water system elements, and promoting water conservation. These objectives are consistent with many planning goals included in the General Plans. All General Plans are required to describe plans for future growth and recognize the need for a reliable water supply to support the projected growth. Water conservation is emphasized in all of the General Plans as an important strategy for meeting water supply.

#### **Ecosystem and Watershed Restoration Goal**

The IRWM Plan objectives under the ecosystem goal are consistent with provisions listed in all of the General Plans regarding habitat restoration and open space. Other General Plans call for actions consistent with IRWM Plan projects such as wetland restoration programs and removal of non-native plants.

## **Groundwater Monitoring and Management Goal**

The IRWM Plan objectives of developing management plans and monitoring groundwater basins in the region have been satisfied for many areas in the San Luis Obispo County Region as demonstrated by the groundwater plans listed in **Table 12-1**. See **Section 12.4.4**, for the ongoing response to SGMA in San Luis Obispo.

## **Flood Management Goal**

Flood Management is recognized as a high priority item by several General Plans consistent with the IRWM Plan objectives. Goals, actions, and policies consistent with other IRWM Plan Flood Protection objectives such as integrating ecosystem enhancement, drainage control, and natural recharge into development projects can be found in all sections of the General Plans that discuss flood control.

## **Water Resources Management and Communications**

As General Plans and resource planning documents are updated in the future, alignment with the IRWM Plan becomes mandatory by the DWR to participate in IRWM grant programs and to participate in the WRAC and RWMG regional policy discussions distilled in the IRWM Plan under each of the IRWM Goals and Objectives. Public outreach and disadvantaged community participation ([this website](#) describes EJ to help give context to its use in this explanation) takes place at every level of the decision-making process leading up to the IRWM Plan's adoption.

# **12.4 PLANNING DOCUMENTS ADDRESSING DATA GAPS IN THE IRWM PLAN**

## **12.4.1 Proposition 50 Studies**

The four studies listed below completed in 2008 with funding through the Proposition 50 water bond measure, specifically addressed regional data gaps identified in the 2007 IRWM Plan and supported the overall SLO County Region IRWM Plan goals, objectives, and strategies, to improve the IRWM Plan in its current update.

- Data Enhancement Plan
- Flood Management Plan
- Groundwater Banking Plan
- Regional Permitting Plan

Each of these plans considered local government input through the WRAC and through outreach to region stakeholders.

### 12.4.2 Proposition 84 Studies

Through the Proposition 84 Round 2 Planning Grant, five studies pertaining to water resource management in the San Luis Obispo Region were funded and completed. These studies, listed below, present information critical to advancing the Plan Objectives:

- Paso Robles Groundwater Basin Salt and Nutrient Management Plan
- Paso Robles Groundwater Basin Model
- Santa Maria Valley Groundwater Basin Conceptual Model
- Regional Recycled Water Strategic Plan
- Watershed Management Plan

### 12.4.3 Stormwater Resource Plan

In response to the State Water Resources Control Board's Stormwater Grant Program (SWGP), created by Proposition 1, development of Stormwater Resource Plans (SRP) began around the County. The City of San Luis Obispo and agencies within the Arroyo Grande Creek watershed individually explored creating SRPs to be eligible for SWRCB funding. The District proposed unifying these efforts to have one comprehensive countywide SRP. By taking the countywide approach, the SRP and the IRWM plan now cover the same region, as the IRWM and SRP Region's boundaries are equivalent to the political boundary of San Luis Obispo County.

Upon receiving a Prop 1 Planning Grant award from DWR, a Project Management Team (PMT) began to unify the work that had already taken place and then prepare the regional plan. This team included:

- San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (Lead Agency)
- County of San Luis Obispo
- Coastal San Luis Resource Conservation District (lead consultant for SRP development)
- Upper Salinas-Las Tablas Resource Conservation District
- City of Arroyo Grande
- City of San Luis Obispo

The Project Management Team was supported by a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). This TAC was formed by vote of the RWMG on 12/06/2017 and met throughout 2018 to provide feedback, data, and review to the PMT and technical consultants for the development of the countywide SRP.

After a 30-day public comment period and SWRCB review, the final SRP was submitted to the SWRCB on February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

Upon concurrence by the SWRCB of the SRP, the RWMG will vote to officially incorporate the SRP into the IRWM region and plan. The RWMG will form a standing Working Group to implement the SRP and develop applications for SWGP opportunities, maintain, and update the plan as necessary. The SRP will be added as **Appendix I** at that time.

#### 12.4.4 Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs)

In response to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2014 (SGMA), groundwater basins and subbasins (collectively, basins) identified by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) as high or medium priority must be sustainability managed in accordance with State requirements. Eligible agencies in DWR’s high or medium priority basins formed groundwater sustainability agencies (GSAs) for the purposes of developing and implementing groundwater sustainability plan (GSPs).

Basins that are prioritized as low or very low are not subject to the requirements of SGMA. There were changes to some of the basin boundaries and prioritizations since the GSAs were initially established, and as a result, there are GSAs that continue to remain within those low or very low priority basins.

A summary of County basins with ongoing SGMA efforts is provided in **Table 12-3**.

**Table 12-3:** SLO IRWM Region Basins with SGMA Efforts

Basin Name	Basin ID	DWR Prioritization & Designation <sup>1</sup>	GSA(s) and/or groundwater management authorities <sup>2</sup>
Salinas Valley - Paso Robles Area	3-004.06	High priority basin subject to critical conditions of overdraft	There are four agencies that are individually GSAs within the basin: City of Paso Robles, San Miguel Community Services District, Shandon-San Juan Water District, and County of San Luis Obispo.
Salinas Valley - Atascadero Area	3-004.11	Very low priority basin	The Atascadero Basin GSA was formed by four agencies within the basin: City of Atascadero, City of Paso Robles, Templeton Community Services District, and County of San Luis Obispo.
Los Osos Valley - Los Osos Area	3-008.01	Very low priority basin subject to critical conditions of overdraft	The adjudicated areas of the Los Osos Basin are managed by the Los Osos Basin Management Committee, whose members include the following: Los Osos Community Services District, Golden State Water Company, S&T Mutual Water Company, and County of San Luis Obispo. The County of San Luis Obispo is the GSA for a minor fringe area outside the adjudicated area.
Los Osos Valley - Warden Creek	3-008.02	Very low priority basin	The County of San Luis Obispo is the sole GSA within the basin.

<b>Basin Name</b>	<b>Basin ID</b>	<b>DWR Prioritization &amp; Designation<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>GSA(s) and/or groundwater management authorities<sup>2</sup></b>
San Luis Obispo Valley	3-009	High priority basin	There are two agencies that are individually GSAs within the basin: County of San Luis Obispo and City of San Luis Obispo.
Santa Maria River Valley - Santa Maria	3-012.01	Very low priority basin	The adjudicated areas of the Santa Maria Basin are managed by the Northern Cities Management Area, Nipomo Mesa Management Area, and Santa Maria Valley Management Area. The County of San Luis Obispo is the GSA for a minor fringe area outside the adjudicated area.
Santa Maria River Valley - Arroyo Grande	3-012.02	Very low priority basin	There are two agencies that are individually GSAs within the basin: County of San Luis Obispo and City of Arroyo Grande.
Cuyama Valley	3-013	High priority basin subject to critical conditions of overdraft	The Cuyama Basin GSA was formed by a joint powers agreement (JPA) and is an independent agency governed by a Board of Directors, whose members include the following: County of San Luis Obispo, County of Kern, County of Ventura, Santa Barbara County Water Agency, Cuyama Basin Water District, and Cuyama Community Services District.

1. Groundwater basins are identified (and as appropriate, designated as subject to critical conditions of overdraft) in DWR's Bulletin 118, Interim Update 2016 and prioritized in DWR's release of the SGMA 2019 Basin Prioritization Process and Results. <https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Groundwater-Management/Basin-Prioritization>

2. SGMA does not apply to the portions of adjudicated areas provided that certain requirements are met (Water Code §10720.8)

As the GSA(s) adopt and submit the GSP(s) for approval by DWR, the RWMG will need to incorporate by reference these GSPs. In addition, the Plan will need to be updated to reflect the priorities, projects, data, monitoring, etc. of each GSP. One such update will be to ensure that projects submitted to IRWM for scoring and grant funding are consistent with their GSP as applicable. The RWMG will need to consider updates to the IRWM Plan objectives and region's critical needs in response to these GSPs. Climate Change resiliency and adaptation strategies included in the GSPs as well should be incorporated into the IRWM plan as well.

As the development of GSPs is on-going, future updates to the IRWM Plan will rely on and coordinate heavily with GSAs as they move from the GSP development phase to the GSP implementation phase. For the most up-to-date information regarding SGMA planning and implementation in San Luis Obispo County, see the County's SGMA website:

[www.slocounty.ca.gov/sgma](http://www.slocounty.ca.gov/sgma)

#### 12.4.5 Other Plans

Other plans in the San Luis Obispo County region consist of plans to address water systems, wastewater systems, storm water, groundwater, and flood protection. Some of these plans have already taken steps to consolidate local planning efforts and address specific issues such as water supply, groundwater, wastewater, and habitat restoration on a sub-regional basis. In most cases, these are multi-agency efforts that involve the participation of a number of local and regional stakeholders; thus, these sub-regional plans have achieved certain levels of integration and stakeholder consensus and provide an important foundation for development of the IRWM Plan. Projects recommended in sub-regional plans have already been coordinated at the sub-regional level and can be considered excellent candidates for implementation of the IRWM Plan.

Substantial and prominently known areas within the IRWM Region are managed by the State of California, listed as follows:

- State Parks (Oceano Dunes State Vehicle Recreation Area, Pismo Beach, Montana de Oro, Morro Strand, and San Simeon state parks)
- California Department of Corrections (California Men's Colony)
- California Department of Mental Health (Atascadero State Hospital)
- State University (California Polytechnic State University)
- State Local College (Cuesta - both the main campus, and the North County campus)
- State DWR (land holdings and easements in the County associated with the SWP)
- California National Guard including Camp San Luis and Camp Roberts (under control of the CA National Guard, albeit it is owned by the US Army Corps of Engineers and managed under the US National Guard Bureau)

Within State-managed lands, water issues are handled differently depending on the size, location, and level of use associated with facility. The largest State facilities, in terms of water service and wastewater disposal needs, are the California Men's Colony and Cal Poly. Both are partners in the Whale Rock Commission, an agency formed (with the City of San Luis Obispo) to build and operate the Whale Rock Project, a water reservoir and water supply pipeline. Other State facilities purchase service from adjacent cities (such as Morro Bay State Parks) or operate small local systems. Operational plans, master plans, expansion plans (etc.) are generally not well-coordinated with City and County General Plans, unless the City, County, or other public agency provides services to the State-managed land/facility.

The federal government owns and/or manages several thousand acres within the region, including military land, the Los Padres National Forest, the Carrizo Plain Natural Area (Bureau of Land Management), and the Salinas Dam and Reservoir (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers).

## 12.5 COORDINATION WITH LAND USE DECISION MAKERS

Development of the IRWM Plan was accomplished by coordinating its development efforts and final adoption through the County’s WRAC. The purpose of the WRAC is to advise the County Board of Supervisors concerning all policy decisions relating to the water resources of the District, to recommend specific water resource programs, and to recommend methods of financing water resource programs. The WRAC consists of members representing every public water supply system in the region, plus members representing the public at large, agricultural interests, and environmental interests, and each Supervisor appoints a member to represent their supervisorial district. Members are appointed by the District’s Board of Supervisors, with the WRAC serving as the formal water issue advisors to the Board. **Map 12-1** at the end of this section details these Supervisorial Districts as well as incorporated cities and unincorporated communities.

There are seven incorporated cities and fifteen unincorporated communities in the San Luis IRWM Plan region as shown in **Table 12-4** below. **Map 12-1** at the end of this section details these Supervisorial Districts, incorporated cities and unincorporated communities. Most of the cities and communities participate directly in the WRAC as noted in the table. Those communities that do not participate directly have representation from other groups like the County Farm Bureau, agricultural and environmental stakeholders, and District staff. Through participation and representation in the WRAC, the cities’ and communities’ interests are well represented in the IRWM planning process.

The IRWM Plan will be used by local water resource planners and managers to inform planners and decision makers about regional plans and issues. The availability, or non-availability, of resources now and in the future is documented on a regional basis, to the degree that the information can be used as a foundation for General Plan development.

As IRWM Plan review and update cycles proceed, land use planning agencies can be engaged at ever more specific levels. It is envisioned that the IRWM Plan will continue to evolve as more information is generated, and as more agencies begin to take advantage of its regional approach to these issues.

Land use decision maker coordination and involvement with the IRWM Plan will ensure that regional priorities and efforts developed by the IRWM Plan are 1) consistent with local land use plans, and 2) will be supported through local decisions and updates to General Plans and Community Plans.

**Table 12-4:** San Luis Obispo Cities, Communities, and Supervisorial Districts

City and Community Names	Type of Entity			
	City	Community	Supervisorial District	WRAC Participation
1. Templeton		●		●
2. Nipomo		●		●

City and Community Names	Type of Entity			
	City	Community	Supervisory District	WRAC Participation
3. Rural El Pomar		●		
4. Rural Adelaida		●		
5. Paso Robles	●			●
6. Pismo Beach	●			●
7. Rural S. County		●		
8. San Miguel		●		
9. Heritage Ranch		●		●
10. Cambria		●		
11. Arroyo Grande	●			●
12. Atascadero	●			●
13. Rural Las Pilitas		●		
14. Rural Salinas		●		●
15. Morro Bay	●			●
16. Grover Beach	●			●
17. Oceano		●		●
18. Rural Nacimiento		●		●
19. Cayucos		●		●
20. San Luis Obispo	●			●
21. Santa Margarita		●		●
22. Los Osos		●		●
23. District 1			●	●
24. District 2			●	●
25. District 3			●	●
26. District 4			●	●
27. District 5			●	●

## 12.6 IRWM DYNAMICS WITH LOCAL PLANNING AND LAND USE AGENCIES

The San Luis Obispo County IRWM Plan has been designed to combine and build upon the strategies and recommendations of local planning documents. As demonstrated by the consistency of the IRWM Plan with local plans and the implementation of projects that help achieve local objectives, the IRWM Plan has been developed as an extension to and integration of, rather than a substitution for, local planning efforts.

To avoid conflict with local efforts, stakeholder involvement has been and will continue to be an integral part of the IRWM planning process. Sub-Region stakeholder workshops provide a forum for interaction and collaboration and to allow the IRWM Plan to interface with local land use and water planning leaders. Such stakeholder involvement and participation ensures that

local agency planning (and their respective goals and objectives) are represented and considered in the IRWM planning process. Local planning strategies are at the heart of this IRWM Plan and have played a dynamic role in its development.

### 12.6.1 Consensus with Local Stakeholders and Existing Planning Documents

The consensus-based approach used in the development of the San Luis Obispo County IRWM Plan Goals and Objectives is explained in **Section 4 – IRWM Goals and Objectives**. As summarized in **Table 12-1**, the IRWM Plan has been built upon a number of previously completed planning documents with the role of the IRWM Plan being the consolidation of projects and programs within these documents at the Sub-Region level, which allows projects to be considered at a regional level through the stakeholder process and public RWMG workshops. In future updates to local plans an accounting takes place for the IRWM process and local impacts and benefits of regional project implementation.

Because of current levels of knowledge concerning the relationship between growth and water supply exhibited by local agencies, their planning staffs, and the public at large in the region, efforts to refine and strengthen existing General Plan growth and resource linkages to water resources management will continue. By providing a regional perspective on water supply, and also linking water quality, flood management, and environmental water needs to water planning efforts, the IRWM Plan functions as the foundational source for land use plans well into the foreseeable future.

As the focus shifts from developing new sources of water supply to consideration of groundwater monitoring and management, water quality, conjunctive use, conservation, and water reuse, the IRWM Plan will provide the regional perspective needed to avoid conflict and enhance sustainability of water in the region.

The projects included in the IRWM Plan programs effectively implement many of the local plans that are the projects' foundation. The IRWM Plan projects also implement many actions called for in the cities' and county's General Plans, such as reduction of groundwater overdraft, water conservation, water recycling, flood protection, habitat restoration, and open space creation. The local plans serving as the source document(s) for the IRWM Plan Final Project List are identified in **Table 12-1**. The cited planning documents are also listed in **Table 12-1**.

### 12.6.2 Issues and Relationships between Local Land Use Planning Entities and Water Management Entities in the Context of IRWMP

There are several areas in which greater collaboration and communication between and among water and land use planning entities can be facilitated through the established IRWM process. As there are a vast number of overlapping organizations and stakeholders that are currently engaged in the IRWM program and process, leveraging the extensive network and the information prepared in various IRWM plans and applications to create a more holistic and

accurate picture of water and land in the region. Most obviously, the issues that rise to the greatest priority include those which are regulatory:

- AB 857 (2002) establishes three priorities that encourage all state agencies to promote infill development within existing communities, protect the state's most valuable environmental and agricultural resources, and encourage efficient development patterns overall;
- AB 32 (2006), Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006, establishes a target to reduce statewide carbon emissions to 1990 by the year 2020.
- AB 162 (2007) was passed as part of a package of six bills addressing flood risk management and flood protection in California. This bill specifically requires additional consideration of flood risk in local land use planning throughout California and named the Department of Water Resources (DWR) as a source for floodplain information and technical data that local governments will need to comply with AB 162.
- SB 375 (2008), Sustainable Communities and Climate Protection Act of 2008, sets emission reduction targets and incentives for local governments to support sustainable growth patterns;
- SB 732 (2008) provides a statutory framework to implement new programs under Proposition 84 and establishes the Strategic Growth Council to coordinate the program aimed at improved air, water and transportation;
- State Water Board's 2009 Recycled Water Policy Update which was aimed at increasing the use of recycled water and implements state and federal water quality laws. The Recycled Water Policy requires that Salt and Nutrient Management Plans are completed by 2014 to facilitate basin-wide management of salts and nutrients from all sources in a manner that optimizes recycled water use while ensuring protection of groundwater supply and beneficial uses, agricultural beneficial uses, and human health. The Recycled Water Policy requires stakeholders to develop implementation plans to meet these objectives for salts and nutrients.

The IRWM has a role to play not only by providing a forum for dialogue, but also for solutions and solutions that are collectively oriented and beneficial for a number of agencies and stakeholders, if that makes sense. IRWM Plans, in and of themselves are tools that can be consulted for both educational purposes and/or implemented to ameliorate challenges in and around land and water use issues and/or conflicts. It is therefore, the intent of the IRWM Region to be more proactive with the region wide land use planning agencies and water use agencies to annually revisit the state of land use/water use nexus and document progress made to the land use/water use goals of strengthening relationships between land use and water use entities region wide by holding at least one land use/water use forum region wide on an annual basis. As the obstacles that we face in California become more interdependent and interwoven, so too will our solutions to challenges need to be more interwoven and collaborative. In addition, the goal of the region is to increase land use manager and or agent participation among stakeholders and also within the Cooperating Partners. By communicating more frequently and in a more nuanced way with the land use and water use managers region wide,

better and potentially more sustainable solutions will be developed and implemented to reach the Region's IRWM Water Management Goals as well as the Plan Objectives and Sub-Region Priorities.

### 12.6.3 How the RWMG will Coordinate its Water Management Planning Activities

Since the first IRWM Plan in 2005, the need for clear concise communication between the RWMG and the local agencies and stakeholders is the foremost challenge of the IRWM Plan's update every 5 years. With constantly changing hydrology, growth, and water resource issues, with some changes resulting in local, state and/or federal legislation, each of the local agencies/stakeholders are being asked to make changes in their planning policies and heighten the importance of their technical reporting requirements to adhere to local, state, and federal policies and requirements; especially, those reporting requirement related to the IRWM Plan's success.

A short list of the IRWM Plan's needs and the methods of communication are presented in **Table 12-5**. The needs are based on the IRWM Plan's content and its Goals and Objectives. The data monitoring and reporting measures being requested at the local level as part of the IRWM updates is a requirement of the IRWM Plan's implementation which cannot go ignored. This information becomes critical to the accurate reporting of benefits/impacts in the region, using the metrics described in the **Section 8 - Plan Performance and Monitoring**.

*Table 12-5: List of Standardized Needs and Methods*

Needs	How Communicated	Methodologies Used
<p><b>Watershed Information</b> The 2014 IRWM Plan was the first to include data at the watershed level (See <b>Section 3 - Region Description</b>, and <b>Appendix H - San Luis Obispo County Watershed Management Planning Project Report</b>). As such, improvements in data collection and presentation are planned to occur over time, striving to make the subsequent updates more useful to the IRWM Plan's implementation.</p>	<p>The present study (<b>Appendix H</b>) was a significant effort completed by the Coastal San Luis and the Upper Salinas-Las Tablas Resource Conservation Districts. The RWMG is seeking opportunities to address supply or ecosystem data gaps and updating of time sensitive data content. Updating needs to occur at the local level through electronic updates to tables provided by the District on behalf of the RWMG. Filling data gaps and updating changing information is a critical task for correct understanding of the region and constraints within each watershed.</p>	<p>Sub-Region water leaders share in the responsibility of data collection, management, and reporting. Most specifically, some data fields are set up to track and record changes in the watershed on an annual basis. The Watershed DMS presents the data versus time relationship to show physical benefits. Current reporting is generated by the DMS for select DMS fields. Fields containing updated information populate with each plan update.</p>

<p><b><u>Water Demand and Supply Data</u></b> The state UWMP requirement of five-year updates for applicable water agencies provides the best means of transferring updated demand and supply information, both past, present, and future. Agencies exempt from the UWMP requirement are also needed and pose difficult challenges to obtain this information.</p>	<p>Agencies exempt from the UWMP requirement need to respond to data requests every five years when demand and supply data is collected by the District. Reaching out to the smaller agencies has historically been difficult due to small staffing sizes of the agencies. Tabular data included in the DWR Approved UWMPs will be extracted from DWRs website copy of the UWMP. For requested data, update information should be clear and concise.</p>	<p>Demand and Supply data is incorporated in <b>Appendix E – Supply and Demand</b>. The tables are electronically generated using inputs to the IRWM DMS. QA/QC of the data should be done by the local agencies when the IRWM Plan Public Draft review period takes place. District staff, or its consultants, may interpolate and/or extrapolate values, if not provided.</p>
<p><b><u>Updating Sub-Region Priorities</u></b> Sub-Region stakeholder outreach is planned to occur at a minimum of once every two years. At these outreach meeting, Sub-Region Priorities will be revisited to ensure that they reflect current water resource issues facing the region.</p>	<p>Sub-Region Priorities can be updated without re-adoption so long as they adhere to the IRWM Objectives. Workshop settings with a questionnaire on the most pressing water resource concerns worked for the 2014 IRWM Plan Update and will likely be used in subsequent updates.</p>	<p>Sub-Region Priorities are listed based on the satisfying Objectives as shown in <b>Section 4 – Goals and Objectives</b>. The Priority Project List will be compared to the Sub-Region Priorities when a formal “call for projects” is made by the RWMG.</p>
<p><b><u>Coordination on Basin and/or Watershed Management Plans</u></b> This includes Groundwater Sustainability Plans and Watershed Management Plans which have gone through a public process and are adopted by local land use agencies for local implementation.</p>	<p>Upon successful completion and adoption of a Groundwater Sustainability Plan or Watershed Management Plan, the region is to provide an electronic copy of the adopted document, with scanned resolution(s) of adoption, to the RWMG for inclusion in the watershed and region DMS and IRWM library of reference documents.</p>	<p>Groundwater basin information will be extracted and included with the groundwater basin descriptions and quantified annual yields and storage potential included in <b>Section 3 – Region Description</b> and <b>Appendix G – Groundwater Basin Descriptions</b>. The overall health of the basin and watershed will be monitored over time as reporting on the management plans take place.</p>
<p><b><u>Coordinating on Monitoring and Reporting Objectives</u></b> IRWM Plan monitoring and performance reporting on the IRWM Plan’s implementation of policies, projects, and programs is an essential piece of the IRWM program requiring a significant effort for the region.</p>	<p>The RWMG is seeking coordination in the accurate reporting of project implementation and IRWM related activities occurring each year. The RWMG may provide assignments to local agencies for procuring the information in a timely manner to ensure compliance with the state IRWM reporting requirements.</p>	<p>All information will be compiled in the DMS with report features for tracking project implementation and program execution. Quantitative data showing physical benefits will be illustrated as part of the IRWM Plan’s Performance Report.</p>

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