

INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT

The Path to a Resilient Water Resources Future



History

In 2002, the State Legislature passed the Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Planning Act (SB 1672) to encourage local entities to improve water quality and water supply reliability to meet the state's overall agricultural, domestic, industrial and environmental water needs. IRWM Regions are self-organized, geographically based groups, and the 48 regions serve 99% of California's population.

A Unique Approach With Multi-Benefit Results

IRWM is more than a grant program. It is an established structure that brings together cities, counties, water districts, community and environmental groups, Tribes and others to build diverse partnerships that write regional plans, construct infrastructure projects, and implement water conservation and water-energy savings programs on a regional scale. This approach increases regional self-reliance, reduces conflict, and manages water to achieve climate resilience.

IRWM differs from traditional approaches to water resource management by integrating all facets of water management and climate solutions to achieve multi-benefit results.



The Future of California's Resilience

IRWM Regions have created regional planning capacity that strongly positions them as the best vehicle in planning for future climate resiliency as envisioned in the Water Resilience Portfolio.

The State should continue to leverage this unique tool through investment in IRWM.



State and Local Investments

Locals invest over \$4 for every \$1 invested by the State.

Props 50, 84 and 1 have supported more than 1,300 multi-benefit projects. Prop 1 has specifically targeted disadvantaged communities and Tribes.

Leveraging
State
Funding

\$1.45 B
State Funds

\$5.6 B
Local Match

7 Benefits of IRWM

#1 LEVERAGES
funding sources

#2 PROMOTES
regional
governance

#3 INCENTIVIZES
multi-benefit
projects

#4 DISSOLVES
water management
silos

#5 INVOLVES
Tribal governments and
underrepresented communities

#6 ENCOURAGES
diverse stakeholder
collaboration

#7 INTEGRATES
climate change in
comprehensive plans

Other Resources

Roundtable of Regions:
www.roundtableofregions.org

Department of Water Resources:
water.ca.gov/Programs/Integrated-Regional-Water-Management

ACWA IRWM Policy Principles:
www.acwa.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/PP-Integrated-Regional-Water-Management-IRWM-9-11.pdf

San Diego

Region At-A-Glance

San Diego County is home to 11 watersheds flowing westward from the Tecate Divide, through urbanized lands, to the Pacific Ocean. The region, bounded by the county line to the north and the international border to the south, is physically and culturally diverse. Local water resources are limited; thus, the region is reliant on imported water and supply diversification. Jointly, the watersheds provide only about 15 percent of the regional water need. Many projects funded by the IRWM Program help to increase the sustainable local water supply and meet a plan goal of improving both water reliability and sustainability in the region.

San Diego County Population

More than 3.2 million

IRWM Grant Funded Projects

\$116.8 million

78 Projects

Leveraged Local Funding

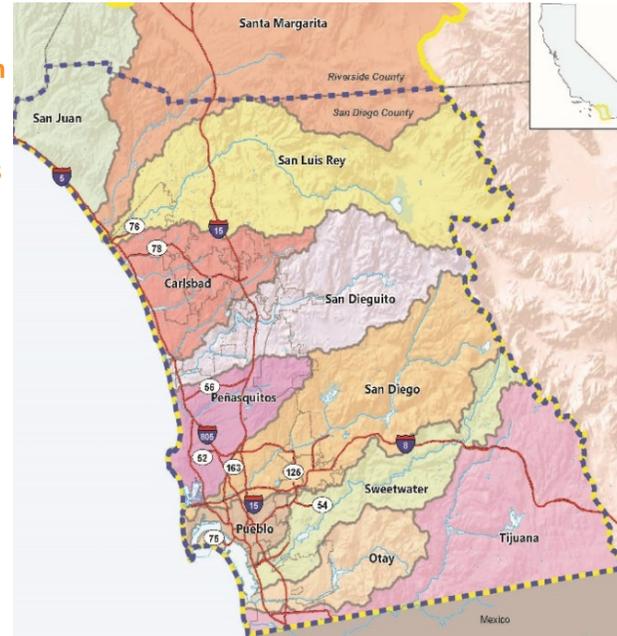
\$246.7 million

Legislative Districts

State Assembly: 71, 75-80

State Senate: 36, 38-40

House of Reps: 49-53

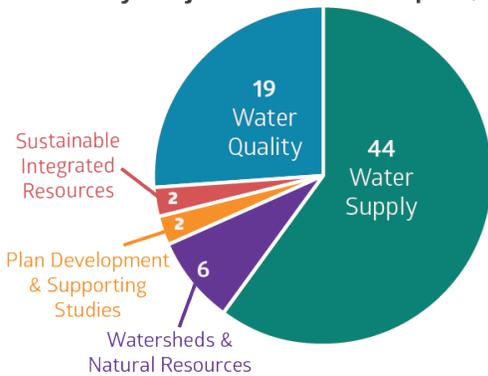


Governance

The San Diego Regional Water Management Group (RWMG), consisting of the San Diego County Water Authority, the City of San Diego, and the County of San Diego, manages daily operations of the San Diego IRWM Program. The RWMG is advised by the Regional Advisory Committee (RAC), comprised of 32 voting members representing the diversity of regional stakeholders interested in regional water management.

San Diego IRWM Implementation Grant

Primary Project Benefits - Prop 50, 84 and 1



Each project has provided multiple benefits. Only the primary benefit has been included.



Regional Planning & Goals

The San Diego IRWM Plan contains water management goals and metrics and secures funding for projects sponsored by public agencies, non-profit organizations and Tribes.

Plan Goals

- Improve the reliability and sustainability of regional water supplies.
- Protect and enhance water quality.
- Protect and enhance our watersheds and natural resources.
- Enhance resiliency to climate change for local water resources.
- Promote and support sustainable integrated water resource management.

Regional Successes and Highlights

1. Produced three editions of the San Diego IRWM Plan and secured \$116.8 million in grant funds to support 78 projects achieving the goals established in the plan.



2. Facilitated involvement of and support for underrepresented and disadvantaged communities (DACs). Established 3 RAC seats for Tribal Reps, and 2 for DACs. Supported 23 projects in underrepresented communities with \$23 million in grant funds, 16 percent of the region's total funding award. Developed Justice, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Workgroup to identify additional opportunities for diverse communities.

Region Contact

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