

Section G. Implementation

IRWM Plan Standard:

“Identify specific actions, projects, and studies, ongoing or planned, by which the Plan will be implemented. Identify the agency(ies) responsible for project implementation and clearly identify linkages or interdependence between projects. Demonstrate economic and technical feasibility on a programmatic level. Identify the current status of each element of the Plan, such as existing infrastructure, feasibility, pilot, or demonstration project, design completed, etc. Include timelines for all active or planned projects and identify the institutional structure that will ensure Plan implementation.”

This section identifies the specific actions that implement the Plan, and describes the agency(ies) responsible for action implementation; linkages or interdependence between actions in addition to those described in Section E3., the economic and technical feasibility of the action on a programmatic level; the current status of each action; timelines for all active or planned actions (interpreted to mean ongoing and immediate-term actions); and the institutional structure that will ensure Plan implementation (addressed under G4. Ongoing Implementation). It is organized into immediate-term, short-term, long-term and ongoing implementation categories, consistent with Section F.

G1. Immediate-Term Implementation

The five immediate-term implementation programs, made up of eighteen (18) projects and plans, were identified in Section F and are described in more detail below.

Water Quality Program

Los Osos Community Wastewater Project: The County of San Luis Obispo is the agency currently responsible, under the authority of Assembly Bill 2701 (2006) for implementing the Los Osos Community Wastewater Project, as mandated by the Regional Water Board. Among its benefits, it will help eliminate wastewater contamination of the Morro Bay National Estuary. This project is linked to the Morro Bay NPDES Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination Ordinance, Morro Bay Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade, the Morro Bay Estuary Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan, Chorro and Morro Groundwater Basin Management Plans, the Morro Bay Desalination Facility Upgrade, and Morro Bay Harborwalk Project because they all depend on the each other’s success to improve conditions in the Morro Bay National Estuary. The County’s efforts include obtaining grant funding for disadvantaged community members and the project’s infrastructure; involving water purveyors in identifying and funding water system improvements to address seawater intrusion; groundwater management planning, and other issues resulting from existing groundwater litigation; and evaluating technological options with consultants and technical advisory committees help to improve the project’s economic and technical feasibility. A fine screening report of viable project alternatives has recently been released, and a brief timeline is provided below.

Los Osos Community Wastewater Project Timeline:

- California Proposition 218 Election Fall 2007
- Environmental Review and Permitting, Design/Design Build and/or initiate collection system construction via Bid/Build 2008-2009
- Construction 2010 - 2012

On August 14, 2007, the County Board of Supervisors is scheduled to consider detailed project strategies for project implementation after the Proposition 218 vote scheduled for Fall 2007. The variables illustrated in the summary timeline above reflect numerous issues. In essence, the County intends to utilize existing statutory authorities including design/build (in accordance with SRF guidelines) as an option to expediting project delivery and reducing project costs by considering alternative technologies. Alternatively, since the gravity collection system is already substantially designed, a competitive bid/build process will be conducted concurrently with the results of private industry contractual commitments on the project alternatives by the end of 2008, and project implementation beginning early in 2009 or sooner. A detailed schedule is provided in Appendix III.

Nipomo CSD Salt Management Program: The Nipomo CSD is the agency responsible for implementing the Salt Management Program, in cooperation with County Service Area 1, which will identify strategies for managing water supplies to reduce salt input and identify sources of salt in their wastewater collection system while implementing a pre-treatment program for non-residential dischargers, a retrofit rebate program to encourage voluntary replacement of residential regenerative water softeners with canister systems, a public education program to encourage voluntary mitigation measures and a program to monitor results. This project is linked to the South San Luis Obispo County Sanitation District Upgrade, the Southland Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade and the Nipomo CSD Supplemental Water Project because they all contribute to improving conditions in the adjudicated Santa Maria Groundwater Basin. The Southland Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade especially depends on the project to reduce the Facility's salt loading and ensure reclamation use feasibility. Existing technical references, example programs, public outreach and appropriate rate structures will help to ensure the technical and economic feasibility of the Salt Management Program. The Southland Wastewater Treatment Facility Recharge/Disposal Action Plan identifying the needed Program was completed in May 2007, and Program design is scheduled for December 2007 with implementation January 2008 through December 2008.

Morro Bay NPDES Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination Ordinance: The City of Morro Bay is the agency responsible for implementing the NPDES Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination Ordinance, in cooperation with the Morro Bay National Estuary Program and the County, which will address the most recent Federal requirements pertaining to non-storm water discharges. This project is linked to the Los Osos Community Wastewater Project, Morro Bay Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade, the Morro Bay Estuary Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan, Chorro and Morro Groundwater Basin Management Plans, the Morro Bay Desalination Facility Upgrade, and Morro Bay Harborwalk Project because they all work to improve

conditions in the Morro Bay National Estuary, and development and implementation of the Ordinance is dependent on their data and success. The availability of example ordinances and technical references, and relative low cost of developing the Ordinance, and its regulatory nature increase the technical and economic feasibility of the project. The Ordinance is being drafted with anticipated completion by Fall 2007, CEQA processing in Spring of 2008, and implementation by Fall of 2008.

Southland Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade: The Nipomo CSD is the agency responsible for implementing the Southland Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade, which will add tertiary treatment components to allow for irrigation recycling and aquifer storage and recovery. This project is linked to the South San Luis Obispo County Sanitation District Upgrade, the Nipomo CSD Salt Management Program and the Nipomo CSD Supplemental Water Project because they all contribute to improving conditions in the adjudicated Santa Maria Groundwater Basin. The project especially depends on the Salt Management Program to reduce the Facility’s salt loading and ensure reclamation use feasibility. Availability of funding reserves, the Nipomo CSD’s authority to issue tax exempt financing, and the proven nature of the technology help to make this project economically and technically feasible. The upgrade recommendations are described in the Southland Wastewater Treatment Facility Master Plan released in February of 2007, and final project selection is expected in October 2007. A brief timeline is provided below.

- Preliminary design February 2008
- Environmental determination November 2008
- Final design, permits and funding Summer 2009
- Construction Fall 2009 to Fall 2010

Water Supply Program

Master Water Plan: The District is the agency responsible for completing the Master Water Plan, in coordination with all of the water purveyors in the region, which analyzes the region’s water supply and demand, and identify mechanisms to address deficiencies. The Master Water Plan for the region depends on local water resources planning, analysis and project implementation efforts such as those identified in the Water Supply Program, to complete the region’s water supply and demand picture, and identify linkages between those efforts. The District last completed a Master Water Plan in 1998, and completion of the new Master Water Plan has been budgeted and identified as one of the top priorities by the District’s Board of Supervisors and the WRAC. Therefore, it is both economically and technically feasible. The outline and approach to complete the Master Water Plan has been supported by the WRAC, and a brief timeline is provided below.

- Outline and Approach January 2007
- Progress Report/Stakeholder Review June 2008
- Draft Master Water Plan January 2009
- Stakeholder Review June 2009
- Final Master Water Plan December 2009

Nacimiento Water Project: The District is the agency responsible for completing the Nacimiento Water Project (NWP), in coordination with participating agencies (City of Paso Robles, Templeton CSD, Atascadero Mutual Water Company, City of San Luis Obispo, and County Service Area 10A), which will deliver water from Lake Nacimiento to those agencies via a 45-mile pipeline or an exchange agreement. The NWP is linked most closely to projects in the water quality and groundwater programs by meeting their objectives as described in Section E3. Specifically, the unallocated portion of water from the NWP will be available to utilize in a banking and/or recharge program in the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin. The San Miguel CSD, City of Atascadero and Templeton CSD water and wastewater system projects have components to accommodate Lake Nacimiento water for recharging their groundwater supply, and the City of Paso Robles is building a water treatment facility that will accommodate Lake Nacimiento water. While the District recognized the importance of obtaining an allocation from Lake Nacimiento in 1959, the need for that surface water supply by participating agencies wasn't supported until their more recent water resources planning efforts. The District and participating agencies worked from the 1990s through 2006 to conduct and implement preliminary engineering studies, environmental documents, design plans and funding programs to ensue the NWP's technical and economic feasibility. The NWP is conducting the construction bid phase in 2007, with anticipated construction completion by 2010.

Morro Bay Desalination Facility Upgrade: The City of Morro Bay is the agency responsible for completing the Desalination Facility Upgrade. In addition to the linkages described in Section E3., the project is specifically linked to the Chorro and Morro Groundwater Basin Management Plans in that it will provide the City with an economically and technically feasible option for water supply that can be integrated into the management plan. It is also linked to the Morro Bay Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade in that the water delivered to the facility will be of higher quality to assist in meeting reclamation standards. Advances in desalination and energy saving technologies, and the return on investment, make the Desalination Facility Upgrade economically and technically feasible. Project design plans and environmental documentation are anticipated to be complete in Fall of 2007, with construction to be completed by November 2008, before the annual State Water maintenance shutdown.

Nipomo CSD Supplemental Water Project: The Nipomo CSD is the agency responsible for completing the Nipomo CSD Supplemental Water Project, in cooperation with the City of Santa Maria in the Santa Barbara County Region, which will transfer 3,000 to 6,200 acre feet of supplemental water per year from the Santa Maria Basin to resolve overdraft of groundwater in the Nipomo Mesa Groundwater Management Area. This project is linked to the South San Luis Obispo County Sanitation District Upgrade, the Southland Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade and the Nipomo CSD Salt Management Program because they all contribute to improving conditions in the adjudicated Santa Maria Groundwater Basin. The City of Santa Maria and the Nipomo CSD are geographical neighbors, and the City of Santa Maria has water available to transfer to Nipomo, making the project both economically and technically feasible. The Nipomo Waterline Intertie Project Engineering Memorandum was completed in November 2006 and the Waterline Intertie Draft Environmental Impact Report was

completed in May 2006, and Nipomo is finalizing the project selection process. A brief timeline is provided below.

- Preliminary Design March 2008
- Environmental Determination Fall 2008
- Final Design, Permits and Funding Fall 2009
- Construction Fall 2009 to Spring 2011

Ecosystem Preservation and Enhancement Program

Morro Bay Estuary Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP): The Morro Bay National Estuary Program is the agency responsible for implementing the Morro Bay Estuary CCMP, developed through collaboration of government agencies, non-profits, businesses, and the local community, which consists of restoration, monitoring and research, and public outreach and education activities to restore, enhance and protect the Morro Bay National Estuary. The success of the CCMP depends on the successful implementation of the Los Osos Community Wastewater Project, Morro Bay NPDES Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination Ordinance, Morro Bay Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade, Chorro and Morro Groundwater Basin Management Plans, the Morro Bay Desalination Facility Upgrade, and Morro Bay Harborwalk Project by other agencies to eliminate sources of degenerative impacts on the estuary, and to ensure the economic and technical feasibility of meeting the goals and objectives of the CCMP. The CCMP consists of multiple projects, therefore the CCMP Fiscal Year 2008 Work Plan, which includes status and timeline information, is included in Appendix III.

Agriculture and Open Space Element: The San Luis Obispo County Planning Department is the agency responsible for implementing the Agriculture and Open Space Element. Utilization of the policies in the element, such as practicing water conservation, reserving water for agricultural use, managing weeds, and protecting and preserving sensitive habitat, depend on the successful implementation of the Low Impact Development Program, Waterways Vegetation Management Program, Groundwater Management Ordinance Study, and all of the projects that reduce impacts on groundwater and improve water supply reliability through the effective use of available surface, desalinated, and reclaimed water. Full implementation of the Agriculture and Open Space Element is economically and technically challenging due to the staff required to monitor and enforce any ordinances developed to implement the policies, and the legal rights of property owners. However, with the assistance of public education and outreach, pride in the assets of the San Luis region encourages many residents to voluntarily implement the policies in the element. The element was first adopted on December 15, 1998, and was updated in January 2007.

Conservation Element: The San Luis Obispo County Planning Department is the agency responsible for implementing the Conservation Element, which will identify policies and best management practices through smart growth and sustainability principles covering agricultural resources, air quality, biological resources, cultural/historical resources, energy resources, mineral resources, open space resources, soils, visual resources and water resources. All of the actions in the IRWM Plan are linked to the Conservation

Element because they all implement a policy or best management practice for the resources listed above. Like the Agriculture and Open Space Element, full implementation of the Conservation Element is economically and technically challenging due to the staff required to monitor and enforce any ordinances or programs developed to implement the policies, and the legal rights of property owners. However, with the assistance of public education and outreach, local efforts, energy costs and climatic conditions, pride in the assets of the San Luis region encourages many residents to voluntarily implement the policies in the element. The Conservation Element was last updated in 1974, and the County Board of Supervisors has authorized the completion of a new Conservation Element that consolidates existing elements and incorporates current information and technology. Work to complete the Element has begun and is expected to be finished by 2009.

Wetland and Vernal Pool Mapping: The San Luis Obispo County Planning Department is the agency responsible for implementing the Wetland and Vernal Pool Mapping project, which inventories and locates these areas for facilitating integration of enhancement measures into development and ecosystem restoration and mitigation projects. The Low Impact Development Program is dependent on the successful implementation of this project in order to know when proposed developments are located in these areas. Availability of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) technology, existing studies and relatively low cost of the project improves its economic and technical feasibility. Field studies have been conducted and transferal of the data to the GIS system is expected to be complete by 2008.

Morro Bay Harborwalk: The City of Morro Bay is the agency responsible for implementing the Morro Bay Harborwalk project, in cooperation with San Luis Obispo County and the Morro Bay National Estuary Program, which will enhance and rehabilitate of approximately 5 acres of coastal dune habitat. This project is linked to the Morro Bay NPDES Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination Ordinance, Morro Bay Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade, the Morro Bay Estuary Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan, Chorro and Morro Groundwater Basin Management Plans, the Morro Bay Desalination Facility Upgrade, and the Los Osos Community Wastewater Project because they all depend on the each other's success to improve conditions in the Morro Bay National Estuary. The availability of federal and state transportation funds, its environmental benefits and limited scope help to make the project economically and technically feasible. The project has been advertised for construction bids, and will be complete in 2008.

Low Impact Development Program: San Luis Obispo County is the agency responsible for implementing the Low Impact Development (LID) Program, which will establish requirements for new development and redevelopment that include wetland and riparian corridor protection and restoration, open spaces such as development of pocket parks and green belts in urbanized areas, retention of stormwater on-site for percolation, and utilization of smart growth principles to ensure that proposed development conforms to good design and flood management standards. The LID Program depends on the successful implementation of Wetland and Vernal Pool Mapping, the Conservation

Element, groundwater management plans, and ordinance, banking, recharge and basin studies, to ensure requirements are reasonable and consistent. Advances in LID designs and products, availability of regional data, and increases in water and energy costs, help to make an LID Program economically and technically feasible. Two LID demonstration projects are being implemented, and existing LID ordinances and information are being reviewed in preparation for developing the LID Program over the next two to three years.

Groundwater Monitoring and Management Program

Chorro and Morro Groundwater Basin Management Plans: The City of Morro Bay is the agency responsible for implementing the Chorro and Morro Groundwater Basin Management Plans, which will describe strategies to improve the quantity and quality of the Chorro Creek watershed, stream flows and underflows discharging into the Morro Bay National Estuary. This project is linked to the Morro Bay NPDES Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination Ordinance, Morro Bay Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade, the Morro Bay Estuary Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan, Morro Bay Harborwalk, the Morro Bay Desalination Facility Upgrade, and the Los Osos Community Wastewater Project because they all depend on the each other's success to improve conditions in the Morro Bay National Estuary. The availability of watershed data, example basin management plans, and the relatively low cost of developing the plans help to make the project economically and technically feasible. The City of Morro Bay is currently performing a nitrate study that will be utilized in the Basin Management Plans, which are anticipated to be complete by the end of 2008.

Flood Management Program

Flood Management Plan: The District is the agency responsible for implementing the Flood Management Plan, which will identify several of the most significant constraints to implementing flood control projects and propose methods to address the challenges. Flood control projects such as the San Miguel Drainage Project, Cambria Flood Control Project, Flood Control Zone 1/1A Waterway Management Program, and Flood Control Zone 9 Waterway Management Program are dependent on this plan to help identify funding strategies since they are expensive projects with a small revenue pool and/or disadvantaged community members. While development of the plan is relatively low in cost and has grant funding support to assist with its economic feasibility, identification of methods to address the challenges of implementing flood control projects is technically challenging. The most significant constraints to implementing flood control projects have been identified, and methods to address implementation challenges are being investigated in order to complete the Flood Control Plan by January of 2008.

Flood Control Zone 1/1A Waterway Management Program: The District is the agency responsible for implementation of the Flood Control Zone 1/1A Waterway Management Program, in cooperation with the Zone 1/1A Advisory Committee, which will increase the capacity of the leveed lower three miles of Arroyo Grande Creek while simultaneously enhancing water quality and sensitive species habitat within the managed channel. The principles and outcome of this program will help shape the region-wide

Waterways Vegetation Management Program. The program also depends on the results of the Flood Management Plan to assist with its economic feasibility by identifying methods of funding strategies, and depends on the implementation of the Arroyo Grande Habitat Conservation Plan to assist with its technical feasibility by optimizing releases into Arroyo Grande creek from the Lopez Reservoir under varying climatic conditions. However, a recently successful California Proposition 218 election and the environmental benefits of the program help to improve its economic and technical feasibility. The environmental permitting phase has been initiated, with the additional phases as described in Section D to be implemented from 2008 to 2011.

Flood Control Zone 9 Waterway Management Program: The District is the agency responsible for implementation of the Flood Control Zone 9 Waterway Management Program, in cooperation with the Zone 9 Advisory Committee, which will provide flood protection while simultaneously enhancing water quality and sensitive species habitat in the San Luis Creek watershed from the City of San Luis Obispo to Avila Beach. The principles and outcome of this program will help shape the region-wide Waterways Vegetation Management Program. The program also depends on the results of the Flood Management Plan to assist with its economic feasibility by identifying methods of funding strategies. The comprehensive nature of the program, as described in Section D, causes economic challenges, even though the program itself is technically simple. The Stormdrain hydro cleaner purchase phase has been initiated, with the timeline for remaining phases described in Table G1.1 below.

Table G1.1: Flood Control Zone 9 Waterway Management Program Timeline

Phase	Milestone	Complete preliminary environmental studies	Complete environmental review and permitting	Complete design	Complete construction
Mid-Higuera Bypass Channel and Terrace		7/08	5/10	5/10	10/10
Los Osos Valley Rd Bypass and Culvert Replacements		7/10	5/13	5/13	10/13
Elks Lane Bypass		7/14	5/17	5/17	10/18
Cuesta Park Detention Enhancement		7/10	5/13	5/13	10/13
Stenner Creek Bridge Replacements		7/14	5/17	5/17	10/18
Stormdrain hydro cleaner purchase		NA	NA	7/07	12/07
Steelhead Passage Improvements		6/09	6/10	6/10	10/10

G2. Short-Term Implementation

As shown in Table F1.1, there are short-term implementation priorities in only two of the five water management programs. The two short-term implementation programs, made up of three (3) projects and plans, were identified in Section F and are described in more detail below.

Water Quality Program

Morro Bay Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade: The City of Morro Bay is the agency responsible for implementing the Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade, which will convert the Facility to a tertiary treatment and preclude the necessity for a 301(h) modified discharge permit. This project is linked to the Morro Bay NPDES Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination Ordinance, Chorro and Morro Groundwater Basin Management Plans, the Morro Bay Estuary Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan, Morro Bay Harborwalk, the Morro Bay Desalination Facility Upgrade, and the Los Osos Community Wastewater Project because they all depend on the each other's success to improve conditions in the Morro Bay National Estuary. This project and the Desalination Facility Upgrade work together to improve the water supply reliability for Morro Bay, and reduce its dependence on State Water. Tertiary treatment technology advancements and new water supply source costs help to improve the technical and economic feasibility of implementing the project. The City of Morro Bay recently committed to the tertiary treatment project alternative, and a brief timeline is provided below.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| ○ Preliminary design | 2006-2009 |
| ○ Environmental determination | 2008-2011 |
| ○ Final design, permits and funding | 2010-2011 |
| ○ Construction | 2012-2014 |

San Simeon Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade: The San Simeon CSD is the agency responsible for implementing the Wastewater Treatment Facility upgrade, which will convert the Facility to tertiary treatment and improve riprap armament. The project is linked to all of the other reclamation projects in that it contributes to the region's water supply reliability, water quality improvement, and groundwater management goals and objectives as described in Section E3. Advances in reclamation treatment technology, increases in the cost of new water supplies, and appropriate rate structures help to improve the technical and economic feasibility of the project. The project has been approved as a Supplemental Environmental Project, with design, permitting and construction from 2008 through 2010.

Water Supply Program

San Luis Obispo Reclamation Facility Upgrade: The City of San Luis Obispo is the agency responsible for implementing the Reclamation Facility Upgrade, which will

increase its capacity, and improve its reliability, effluent quality and operational efficiency. The project is linked to all of the other reclamation projects in that it contributes to the region's water supply reliability, water quality improvement, and groundwater management goals and objectives as described in Section E3. Advances in reclamation treatment technology, increases in the cost of new water supplies, and appropriate rate structures help to improve the technical and economic feasibility of the project. Design studies are being conducted, with design from 2008 to 2009 and construction from 2010 to 2011.

G3. Long-Term Implementation

There are many projects that make up the long-term implementation program. These projects fall into two categories:

1. Long-Term High Ranking IRWMP Implementation Project
2. Long-Term Medium or Low Ranking IRWMP Implementation Project

The first grouping consists of those projects that meet many IRWMP objectives and, therefore, ranked high but are not yet ready to proceed. These projects are in the concept phase, and need to be further along before understanding their economical and technical feasibility, but are recognized for their ability to be designed to meet many IRWMP objectives. The agency responsible for the first group of long-term implementation plans, programs or projects was indicated in Section D. Linkages between the programs they fall under on Table E3.1 are described in Section E3.

This category includes the following six projects:

Water Quality Program

- South San Luis Obispo County Sanitation District Facility Upgrade

Water Supply Program

- Paso Robles Reclamation and Recharge Program
- Desalination Study

Groundwater Monitoring and Management Program

- Groundwater Recharge Optimization Program
- Groundwater Management Ordinance Study
- Edna Valley Groundwater Basin Study

The second grouping consists of projects that ranked medium or low in terms of meeting IRWMP objectives as designated in Table E1.3. These projects may not meet many IRWMP objectives but are critical for an individual agency or sub-region and may be implemented independent of the IRWMP. Linkages between the programs they fall under on Table E3.1 are described in Section E3. The agency responsible for, economic and technical feasibility of, and status and timeline for each of the second group of long-term implementation plans, programs or projects that are not ongoing (inherently

understood as being economically and technically feasible) or in the concept phase, as indicated in Table E1.3, was indicated in Section D.

G4. Ongoing Implementation

The following implementation Action Plan summarizes the ongoing efforts that are more fully described throughout this Plan:

Project/Program Implementation (described above)

- Implement the immediate-term, high priority projects in accordance with the schedules for those projects.
- Implement the other project and programs identified in Table E1.3.

Planning Implementation (described below)

- Prepare the four (4) plan components included in the region's Planning Grant proposal.
- Continue ongoing IRWMP efforts through the 5-year work plan discussed in Section F and illustrated below.

G4.1 Incorporating the Four Planning Grant Components

Groundwater Banking Plan

After determining the feasibility of banking water in the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin, results will be utilized in the Master Water Plan for analyzing it as a method to address water supply deficiencies in the region. The Master Water Plan results are then incorporated into the IRWMP in order to integrate other water resources objectives, such as water quality or ecosystem objectives, into the groundwater banking project.

Data Enhancement Plan

After assessing the adequacy of data collection programs in the region, the results will both generate projects to improve data collection in the region to help meet IRWMP goals and objectives, and allow the District to improve the comprehensive picture of the region in the IRWMP by pulling in more regional stakeholders while inventorying existing data collection programs.

Flood Management Plan

Many of the flood management projects needed in the region meet multiple IRWMP objectives, but are economically infeasible due to their high cost and small revenue base. The plan for implementing flood management projects will be integrated in the Implementation section of the IRWMP and help projects identified as long-term priorities in the IRWMP move up in priority because they will become more economically feasible and will be able to move forward to a point where they are read to proceed.

Regional Permitting Plan

Many of the IRWMP projects and programs meet environmental goals and objectives in addition to water quality, water supply, and flood control goals and objectives, but are not

able to proceed due to inefficiencies in the permitting process. Improvements identified for the permitting process will be integrated in the Implementation section of the IRWMP and allow lower priority projects to move up by improving their readiness to proceed.

G4.2 IRWMP Efforts and the Institutional Structure for its Implementation

The San Luis Region’s IRWMP was adopted by the District as the Regional Agency responsible for its implementation on December 6, 2005, with the following five year work plan for ongoing efforts.

Plan Year	Fiscal Year	IRWM Plan Update Activities
#1	2006-07	Review the plan’s goals, objectives, strategies, and priorities with stakeholders. Amend Plan.
#2	2007-08	No later than January 1, 2008, complete the four (4) plan components that are described in the region’s Planning Grant proposal.
#3	2008-09	Prepare a status report on plan activities and an interim scorecard. Identify alternative strategies that may enhance implementation efforts.
#4	2009-10	Evaluate the results of Plan efforts; prepare the scorecard and compare to baseline developed in Plan Year #1.
#5	2010-11	Update the Plan, its goals and objectives, refine integration strategies, rank new priorities, and consider other changes

Implementation responsibilities for the activities identified in the Plan are based on existing responsibilities – i.e. no changes are proposed on the agencies and organizations that are currently responsible for implementing the projects, programs and services identified in the Plan. Nevertheless, the District is acting as the lead agency in preparing the IRWMP, IRWMP updates, and supporting regional cooperation through the development of goals, objectives, strategies, and integration opportunities via WRAC meetings.

Every year, the County’s Resource Management System collects information from the stakeholders throughout the region on their water and wastewater supplies and systems. The information is consolidated into an annual resource summary report. This annual report is presented to the WRAC for their review and comment to the District’s Board of Supervisors. On a 5 to 10 year basis, the District updates the Master Water Plan, which consolidates all of the annual resource data and any local planning documents into a region-wide analysis of water supply and demand. The Master Water Plan is also presented to the WRAC for their review and comment to the District’s Board of Supervisors. This process allows the District to monitor progress of agencies responsible for implementation of IRWMP action items and to update the IRWMP.

While the District is also responsible for implementing many regional and sub-regional projects and programs, the overall collaborative efforts in the region also recognize that many projects are better implemented without District involvement. The autonomous authority of individual jurisdictions to act independently of the District, or to develop partnerships without the District, is therefore respected in this Plan.

A major challenge, or conflict, inherently exists in attempting to integrate the efforts of various (and numerous) implementing agencies. Some agencies, acting on behalf of their constituents, may shy away from assuming obligations and liabilities even if doing so would be for the common good and well being of the public and the region's IRWM efforts. As a result, the performance measurement efforts on Plan effectiveness, discussed in Section I, are an important aspect of overall implementation efforts. While the District does not intend to evaluate performance of independent agencies and organizations, self-evaluating the effectiveness of the District's IRWM efforts, and the effectiveness of its support of collaborative strategies, will be a critical future work responsibility.

The institutional structures for implementation are based on existing institutional structures. As discussed in Section A, the District's historic role in supporting regional water management efforts, projects and studies provided the needed resources to prepare this Plan and the related proposals. Nevertheless, the District's Board of Supervisors conducted a hearing prior to adoption of this Plan to consider alternative institutional structures and approaches to General Plan updates.