

Section O. Coordination

IRWM Plan Standard:

“Identify State or federal agencies involved with strategies, actions, and projects. Identify areas where a State agency or other agencies may be able to assist in communication, cooperation, or implementation of Plan components or processes, or where State or federal regulatory decisions are required for implementation.”

Each of the projects and plan components in the IRWMP includes a significant amount of coordination with federal and state agencies. It is critical to the success of this IRWMP effort that the appropriate federal and state regulatory and jurisdictional agencies be actively involved. Traditionally, participation of these agencies occurred on a project-specific basis, depending on the requirements and needs of each effort. In the integrated planning process however, the role of these agencies was identified proactively and the potential involvement of each agency during IRWMP implementation was determined. The first form of involvement is to help coordinate and/or communicate the IRWMP to other stakeholders within the region. Another form of involvement is to assist in implementation of the IRWMP through facilitation or active project involvement. The final form of involvement is through granting of necessary regulatory approvals. In many cases, a given agency can be involved in IRWMP implementation in all of these ways. This section describes the state and federal agencies active in the San Luis Obispo region and identifies opportunities for their involvement and assistance in IRWMP implementation through coordination, communication, project implementation, and regulatory approval.

O1. State and Federal Agencies in San Luis Obispo County

Identify State or federal agencies involved with strategies, actions, and projects. Identify areas where a State agency or other agencies may be able to assist in communication, cooperation, or implementation of Plan components or processes.

Table O1.1 identifies State and Federal agencies that will be central to implementing the IRWMP. The table describes the jurisdictional authority or interest of each agency as well as coordination efforts that have been either completed or planned. Coordination and involvement of these agencies with the IRWMP effort will continue throughout implementation.

Table O1.1: Federal and State Agencies

Agency	Jurisdiction/Interest	Coordination/Interaction
Federal		
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)	Protection, preservation, and enhancement of waters of the U.S.	Potential technical resource on the Flood Management Plan and Wetland and Vernal Pool Mapping Project; potential federal sponsor of the Zones 1/1A and 9 Flood Projects; and manage Salinas Dam and Reservoir. Potential grants for Los Osos Wastewater Project.
NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service	Protection, preservation, and enhancement of fisheries, endangered species and habitat	Participation through Morro Bay Estuary Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan and permitting authority for projects discharging to Morro Bay.
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Protection, preservation, and enhancement of fisheries, endangered species and habitat	Permitting authority for projects discharging to creeks or impacting fisheries
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR)	Manage, develop, and protect water and related resources in an environmentally and economically sound manner.	Potential funding source for the Desalination Study and the Morro Bay Desalination Facility Upgrade
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	Responsible for protecting human health and the environment. Develops and enforces regulations, provides funding assistance, performs environmental research and education. Manages Superfund program and cleanup of contaminated sites.	Permitting authority over the Reclaimed Mines project. 30-year extended funding for SRF program.
United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)	Manage natural resource conservation programs that provide environmental, societal, financial and technical benefits. Provide assistance to private landowners and managers. (Non-regulatory agency)	Potential technical resource for the Agriculture and Open Space Element and potential funding source for soil erosion projects.
United States Bureau of Land Management	Administers America's public lands	Manages the region's Carizzo Plain Natural Area and potential technical resource on the Agriculture and Open Element and Conservation Element Projects
United States Army	Primary responsibility for land-based U.S. military operations.	Manages Camp Roberts
United States Forest Service	Manages the national forests.	Manages the Los Padres National Forest and potential technical resource on the Agriculture and Open Element and Conservation Element Projects

Agency	Jurisdiction/Interest	Coordination/Interaction
United States Geologic Society	A scientific agency of the United States government. The scientists of the USGS study the landscape of the United States, its natural resources, and the natural hazards that threaten it.	Potential technical resource for IRWMP implementation and prepared the IRWMP reference document - Hydrogeology, Water Quality, Water Budgets, and Simulated Responses to Hydrologic Changes in Santa Rosa and San Simeon Creek Ground-Water Basins, USGS Report 98-4061
State		
SWRCB	Preserve, enhance and restore the quality of California's water resources, and ensure their proper allocation and efficient use for the benefit of present and future generations	Planned collaboration on SWAMP and GAMA, permitting and financing coordination. Existing permitting coordination, Low-Interest loan on the Los Osos Project, and IRWM grants
DWR	Manages the water resources of California in cooperation with other agencies, to benefit the State's people, and to protect, restore, and enhance the natural and human environments. Operates and maintains the State Water Project, including the California Aqueduct, provides dam safety and flood control services, assists local water districts in water management and conservation activities, promotes recreational opportunities, and plans for future statewide water needs.	Coordination through Proposition 50 Planning Grant
Central Coast RWQCB	Protection and management of surface water and groundwater.	Regulatory oversight of the TMDL and CCAMP programs and permitting agency for all IRWMP implementation projects that could impact surface water and groundwater
California Coastal Commission	Protection, preservation, and management of the California Coast and resources.	Regulatory oversight of Coastal Zone development issues and permitting agency for all IRWMP implementation projects located within the Coastal Zone, including the Los Osos Wastewater Project
California Department of Fish and Game	Protection, preservation, and enhancement of endangered species and habitat.	Permitting of IRWMP implementation projects potentially impacting streambeds, including Zone 1/1A and 9 Flood Control Projects
California Department of Parks	Protection, preservation and management of the State's parks.	Potential technical resource on the Agriculture and Open Element and Conservation Element Projects and management of regional State Parks (Oceano Dunes State Vehicle Recreation Area, Pismo Beach, Montana de Oro, Morro Strand, and San Simeon State Parks)

Agency	Jurisdiction/Interest	Coordination/Interaction
California Department of Corrections	Management of the State's correctional facilities.	Management of the region's State correctional facilities (California Men's Colony and El Paso de Robles); agency responsible for implementation of the IRWMP Project - California Men's Colony wastewater treatment plant; and partner in the Whale Rock Project
California Department of Mental Health	Management of the State's Mental Health facilities.	Management of the region's mental health facility – Atascadero State Hospital
California State Universities	Management of the State's University System.	Management of the region's State university - California Polytechnic State University); technical resource for water use and water resource planning; prepared the Water Uses and Alternatives for San Luis Obispo County, City and Regional Planning Department; and partner in the Whale Rock Project

O2. State and Federal Agencies Approvals

Identify areas where State or federal regulatory decisions are required for implementation.

Most of the IRWMP implementation projects will require some State and/or Federal regulatory approval or oversight. Participation by these regulatory agencies at an early stage will help streamline the process. Several actions can be taken to streamline regulatory and permitting processes for the IRWMP projects. These may include preliminary consultations with regulatory agencies and joint workshops between the appropriate regulatory representatives and the project sponsor. Such coordination would facilitate the permitting and regulatory decision process by identifying action items to be addressed by project sponsors. Such involvement by federal, state, and local agencies will assist the IRWMP implementation to be more efficient.

Table O2 lists the State and Federal permits and approvals that will be required for the high ranking implementation projects. Several of the project sponsors are already working with the appropriate regulatory agencies and working through the permitting process. As demonstrated in the table, these water related projects must satisfy significant regulatory permitting requirements. The two flood projects, Zone 1/1A and Zone 9 Projects, and the Los Osos Wastewater Project have the most numerous permits required from both Federal and State agencies. These projects could benefit the most from early consultations with regulatory agencies. Such coordination would facilitate the permitting and regulatory decision process by identifying action items to be addressed by project sponsors and will assist the implementation of high priority IRWMP projects.

Table O2.1: Potential Permits and/or Approvals for IRWMP Implementation Projects

Agency/Organization	Permit or Approval	Action Requiring Permit/Consultation	IRWMP Implementation Project Requiring Approval
Federal			
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	Section 404 Permit	Impacts to wetlands and/or waters of the United States	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Morro Bay Estuary Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan • Nacimiento Water Project • Flood Control Zone 1/1A Waterway Management Plan • Flood Control Zone 9 Waterway Management Program • Morro Bay Harborwalk • Morro Bay Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade • South San Luis Obispo County Sanitation District Facility Upgrade • San Simeon Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade • Los Osos Community Wastewater Project
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; National Marine Fisheries Service	Consultation and Coordination under Endangered Species Act	Construction in wetland and upland areas where federally listed species may be present, operations of some facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Morro Bay Desalination Facility Upgrade • Morro Bay Estuary Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan • Nacimiento Water Project • Flood Control Zone 1/1A Waterway Management Plan • Flood Control Zone 9 Waterway Management Program • Morro Bay Harborwalk • Morro Bay Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade • Southland Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade • South San Luis Obispo County Sanitation District Facility Upgrade • San Simeon Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade • Los Osos Community Wastewater Project

Agency/Organization	Permit or Approval	Action Requiring Permit/Consultation	IRWMP Implementation Project Requiring Approval
State			
California Coastal Commission	Coastal Development Permits	Projects within local Coastal Commission jurisdiction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • San Luis Obispo Reclamation Facility Upgrade • Morro Bay Desalination Facility Upgrade • Morro Bay Estuary Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan • Flood Control Zone 1/1A Waterway Management Plan • Flood Control Zone 9 Waterway Management Program • Morro Bay Harborwalk • Morro Bay Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade • South San Luis Obispo County Sanitation District Facility Upgrade • San Simeon Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade • Los Osos Community Wastewater Project
California Department of Fish and Game	1601 Streambed Alteration Agreement	Alteration of streambeds during construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Morro Bay Estuary Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan • Nacimiento Water Project • Flood Control Zone 1/1A Waterway Management Plan • Flood Control Zone 9 Waterway Management Program • Southland Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade • South San Luis Obispo County Sanitation District Facility Upgrade • San Simeon Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade • Los Osos Community Wastewater Project
California Department of Health Services	Title 22 Report Approval	Recycled Water treatment and delivery, Wellhead treatment; Desalination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paso Robles Reclamation and Recharge Program • San Luis Obispo Reclamation Facility Upgrade • Morro Bay Desalination Facility Upgrade • Morro Bay Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade • Southland Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade • South San Luis Obispo County Sanitation District Facility Upgrade • San Simeon Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade • Los Osos Community Wastewater Project

Agency/Organization	Permit or Approval	Action Requiring Permit/Consultation	IRWMP Implementation Project Requiring Approval
California OSHA Mining and Tunneling Unit	Mining and Tunneling Permit	Trenches or excavations deeper than 5 feet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nacimiento Water Project • Los Osos Community Wastewater Project • Nipomo CSD Supplemental Water Project
Caltrans	Encroachment Permits	Construction under California State Highways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nacimiento Water Project • Flood Control Zone 1/1A Waterway Management Plan • Flood Control Zone 9 Waterway Management Program
Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board	401 Certification or Waiver Low Threat Discharge Permit Title 22 Report Approval	Potential for water quality impairment from sediment discharge to waterways during construction, dewatering and disposal at construction sites, consultation with DHS on Title 22 Report, water recycling, desalination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paso Robles Reclamation and Recharge Program • San Luis Obispo Reclamation Facility Upgrade • Morro Bay Desalination Facility Upgrade • Morro Bay Estuary Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan • Nacimiento Water Project • Flood Control Zone 1/1A Waterway Management Plan • Morro Bay Harborwalk • Morro Bay Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade • Southland Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade • South San Luis Obispo County Sanitation District Facility Upgrade • San Simeon Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade • Los Osos Community Wastewater Project • Nipomo CSD Supplemental Water Project
State Water Resources Control Board	NPDES General Permit SWPP; water rights permitting.	Construction and grading of areas greater than 1 acre and authorization to divert surface waters.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paso Robles Reclamation and Recharge Program • San Luis Obispo Reclamation Facility Upgrade • Morro Bay Desalination Facility Upgrade • Nacimiento Water Project • Flood Control Zone 1/1A Waterway Management Plan • Morro Bay Harborwalk • Morro Bay Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade • Los Osos Community Wastewater Project • Nipomo CSD Supplemental Water Project