



Monterey Peninsula, Carmel Bay, and South Monterey Bay Regional Water Management Group Meeting

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Agenda

1. California Marine Sanctuary Foundation Letter of Support
2. IRWM Grant Projects' Status
3. Newest IRWM Grant
4. Future of IRWM

Letter of Support

California Marine Sanctuary Foundation grant application
NOAA Climate Resilience Regional Challenge funds
Climate adaptation for Monterey Bay coastal communities

- ▶ Four main “adaptation actions”:
 1. Standing up a Monterey Bay Area Climate Resilience Regional Collaborative
 2. Workforce Development for climate adaptation
 3. Flood Risk Reduction (from sea level rise, storm surge, and fluvial flooding)
 4. Wildfire Risk Reduction in the coastal mountains
- ▶ The **geographic focus** of this proposal is the Monterey Bay region on California’s Central Coast. Adaptation Actions focus specifically on the low-lying, disadvantaged coastal communities threatened by sea level rise (SLR), storm surge, and fluvial flooding along the region’s four major rivers – the San Lorenzo, the Pajaro, the Salinas, and the Carmel Rivers – and by wildfire in the watersheds of these coastal communities.
- ▶ **Participating Jurisdictions** - Monterey County Water Resources Agency, Resource Conservation District of Monterey County, Pajaro Regional Flood Management Agency, Santa Cruz County, City of Santa Cruz, City of Watsonville, Elkhorn Slough Foundation, Coastal Conservation & Research, Central Coast Wetlands Group, Ecology Action, Regeneracion, Four Directions, Collaborative for Right Relations, Land Trust of Santa Cruz County, Big Sur Land Trust, Groundswell Coastal Ecology, California State Parks, UCSC, CSUMB, Hartnell Community College, Watsonville Wetlands Watch, Santa Lucia Conservancy, Peninsula Open Space Trust

Letter of Support (con't)

▶ Questions/Discussion

- ▶ RCD has already sent a letter of support.
- ▶ HCD asked how the group is working with local jurisdictions. There are 3 collaboratives with multiple members. Part of the intent is workforce and community engagement.

▶ Vote

- ▶ There were no votes against providing a letter of support.

▶ Future votes electronically?

- ▶ RCD in favor so we don't miss opportunities due to timing.
- ▶ HCD requested an 'abstain' option.
- ▶ CVA asked about unanimity and Brown Act. The MOU states 50% plus one passes. Brown Act does not apply to a non-government agency, not an elected body, no tax dollars.
- ▶ Remaining question on how to handle vote distribution - MOU infers voters have adopted the IRWMP.
- ▶ Gather facts and pursue at next meeting.

Update on IRWM Grants

IRWM Grants Summary

Proposition	Amount	Agreement Date	Completion Date
Prop 50 Planning	\$496,957	3/27/2006	Complete
Prop 84 Planning Grant R1	\$995,000	12/12/2011	Complete
Prop 1 Disadvantaged Community Involvement	\$435,685	2/13/2018	Complete
Prop 1 Implementation Round 1	\$2,238,904	4/6/2021	2/3 Complete
Prop 1 Implementation Round 2	\$1,488,961	5/6/2023	In Progress
Prop 1 Subtotal	\$4,163,550		
IRWM Total	\$5,655,507		

Prop 1 IRWM Implementation Round 1

- ▶ MCWD Coe Avenue Recycled Water Pipeline
 - ▶ \$407k
 - ▶ Complete
- ▶ City of Seaside Del Monte Manor Low Impact Development Improvement
 - ▶ \$579k
 - ▶ Complete
- ▶ City of Sand City West End Stormwater Improvement
 - ▶ \$1,097k
 - ▶ In Design

IRWM Implementation Round 2 Grant

- ▶ Application 12/2022
 - ▶ One application per IRWM Region
 - ▶ Cooperative Funding Area
 - ▶ 50% match
- ▶ Awarded 5/5/2023
- ▶ Agreement Executed 10/10/2023
- ▶ Carmel River FREE \$898,451, Monterey County sponsor
- ▶ Olivier Street Stormwater Diversion \$500,000, City of Monterey sponsor
 - ▶ Formerly Lighthouse Tunnel Diversion project
- ▶ Projects must be complete, grant retention returned, by 12/31/2027

IRWM - What's Next?

CA Water Plan Update 2023 Plenary

Watershed Resilience Program Debut

- ▶ DWR seeks to further evolve the Integrated Regional Water Management Program (IRWM) to:
 1. address **climate change**,
 2. increase multi-sector **collaboration**,
 3. and improve **equity**.
- ▶ The proposed Watershed Resilience Program is an evolution of IRWM that would:
 1. complement other climate **resilience** efforts,
 2. increase regional collaboration on climate change threats across water and land sectors throughout the watershed,
 3. enhance equity,
 4. and use an **outcomes-based** approach.

Watershed Resilience Funding Program

- ▶ Watershed Resilience Program implementation overview:
 - ▶ AB-179 Budget Act of 2022 appropriated multi-year funding for the Program.
 - ▶ Potential for additional funding through a future climate resilience bond in 2024.
- ▶ Watershed Resilience Funding Program's vision is to support locally led watershed networks in:
 - ▶ assessing and understanding multi-sector climate **vulnerabilities** at the watershed scale;
 - ▶ increasing **coordination** across all water-related sectors,
 - ▶ incorporating **equity** throughout the process;
 - ▶ and increasing regional climate **resilience**.
- ▶ Program funding allocation:
 - ▶ DWR is developing guidelines for \$53 million of current funding, which will be distributed in phases:
 - ▶ Phase 1: Pilot Program intended to test the framework
 - ▶ Phase 2: Planning Grant solicitation open across the state

Open Discussion

- ▶ Desire to keep IRWM Group functioning?
 - ▶ Multi-member groups have a larger voice.
 - ▶ This could be an opportunity to work with other regions as the state is focusing on collaboration.
 - ▶ Contact SAWPA to talk about how they structure themselves.
 - ▶ GMC has a sliding contribution to pay for the coordinator which has been a great investment.
 - ▶ Discuss with advance notice at the next meeting
- ▶ Group outputs?
- ▶ Topics for future meetings/efforts?

Close-out

- ▶ **Next Meeting**

- ▶ Doodle in February for meeting in May