

2018 Merced SWRP/IRWMP Update
Public Workshop #1

July 11, 2018
Presenter:
Leslie Dumas

woodardcurran.com

Agenda

- Region Background
- Summary of IRWM Program and Prop 1
- Summary of SWRP Program and Guidelines
- Plan Adoption
- Implementation Funding
- How to Submit a Project
- Next Steps and Q&A

INTRODUCTIONS

IRWM AND MERCED REGION BACKGROUND

What Is Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM)?


- A collaborative effort to identify and implement water management solutions on a regional scale that:
 - Increases regional self-reliance
 - Reduces conflict
 - Manages water to concurrently achieve social, environmental, and economic objectives

IRWM Program Background

- The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) began the IRWM program in 2004
- Purpose of an IRWMP:
 - Develop regional understanding
 - Identify water resources needs and solutions
 - Maximize benefits through integration of water management strategies
 - Leverage regional resources through partnerships
 - Be eligible for State funding through the IRWM grant program
- IRWM funding has been provided through Prop 50, Prop 84, and now Prop 1

IRWM Regions

- To be eligible for funding, Regions must:
 - Be governed by a Regional Water Management Group with statutory authority over water management
 - Be approved through a structured "Regional Acceptance Process"
 - Prepare an IRWM Plan consistent with program standards



IRWM Regions

An IRWMP Region is...

- Defined by those organizations who created it
- Defined by water management issues and potential solutions
- Not restricted to political boundaries
- Typically within a State Hydrologic Area

What is an Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP)?

<p>An IRWMP is...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ A planning document ✓ A description of water-related resources, challenges, goals, and solutions ✓ An opportunity for regional partnerships and coordination ✓ A vehicle to facilitate State funding 	<p>An IRWMP is <i>not</i>...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ A substitute for local planning ✗ A decrease in agency responsibilities or autonomy ✗ A policy document ✗ Comprehensive project documentation
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Contributors Include...

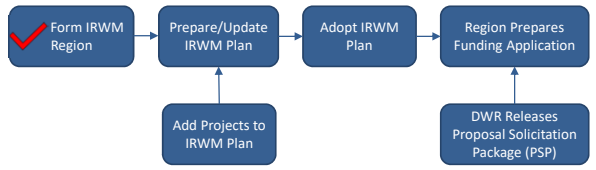
- Water and Wastewater Agencies
- Counties
- Cities
- Public Groups
- Private Organizations
- Members of the Public



An IRWM Plan and Process Helps by...

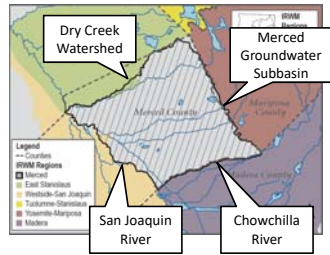
- Consolidating information
- Encouraging discussion among stakeholders
- Evaluating projects on a regional scale
- Increasing chances of project implementation
 - Combining projects
 - Maximizes eligibility for IRWM implementation funding

IRWMP Process Overview



Background

- Formed in 2009
- First IRWMP was completed in 2013
- Current plan is compliant with 2012 IRWMP (Prop 84) Guidelines



Merced Region Cities and Communities

- Atwater
- Celeste
- Cressey
- El Nido
- Franklin/Beechwood
- Le Grant
- Livingston
- Merced
- Planada
- Snelling
- Stevinson
- Tuttle
- UC Merced
- Winton



Merced Region Groundwater Subbasins

- Merced
- Turlock
- Chowchilla
- Delta-Mendota





- ### IRWM Program Status
- Prop 1 approved in 2014, allocating \$510 million to the IRWM grant program
 - New Guidelines were released by DWR in 2016
 - IRWMPs must comply with 2016 (Prop 1) Guidelines to be eligible for funding
 - Updates to the 2013 Merced IRWMP are required to comply with 2016 Guidelines

SUMMARY OF SWRP PROGRAM AND GUIDELINES

Stormwater Resources Planning

- Concurrently with the IRWMP Update, the Merced Region is preparing a Stormwater Resources Plan (SWRP)

SWRP Background

- SB 985 (2014) requires public agencies to develop a SWRP in order to receive grant funds from a bond for stormwater projects
- An integrated plan focusing on regional watershed-based storm water priorities and developing multiple benefit projects

IRWMP vs. SWRP

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IRWMP <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ DWR Program ▪ Broad water management focus ▪ Generally qualitative 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SWRP <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SWRCB Program ▪ Specific stormwater focus ▪ More quantitative
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Both plans include project solicitation and prioritization processes.

Major SWRP Requirements

- Watershed/Planning Area Identification
- Water Quality Compliance
- Organization, Coordination, Collaboration
- Quantitative Methods
- Identification and Prioritization of Projects
- Implementation Strategy and Schedule
- Education, Outreach, Public Participation

Prop 1 SWRP Funding Availability

- Prop 1 allocated \$200 million to Storm Water Grant Program
- Planning Grants: ~\$10 million awarded
- Round 1 Implementation Grants: ~\$80 million awarded
- Round 2 Implementation Grants: ~\$90 million available (est. early 2019)

IRWM IMPLEMENTATION FUNDING

Prop 1 IRWM Funding Availability

- \$510 million available statewide
- \$31 million available in San Joaquin River Funding Area over multiple rounds of funding
- 10% allocated to disadvantaged community projects



Grant Eligibility

- Project Proponent Eligibility Requirements
 - Must be a public agency, non-profit, public utility, mutual water company, or State- or federally-recognized Indian Tribe
 - Must comply with Section II.B of IRWM Guidelines (adopt IRWMP, comply with SGMA, AWMP/UWMP, water meter requirements, etc.)

Grant Eligibility

- Project Eligibility Requirements
 - Must be in an IRWM Plan
 - Have benefits within the IRWM Region
 - Provide multiple benefits

Inter-regional projects are allowed

Eligible Project Types

- Water reuse and recycling (non-potable, IPR and DPR)
- Efficiency and conservation measures
- Surface and underground water storage
- Regional water conveyance facilities
- Watershed protection, restoration, and management
- Stormwater resource management
- Conjunctive use
- Desalination
- Water quality improvements
- Decision support tools to evaluate regional supply and demand

Past IRWM Funding Awards in the Region

- Prop 84, Round 2 – awarded \$3,190,335
 - Merced County Black Rascal Flood Control Project
 - Planada CAS Water Conservation Project
 - Merced ID El Nido Area Recharge
 - UC Merced/EMRCD/Merced ID Merced River Education and Enhancement Program
- Prop 84, Round 3 – awarded \$2,900,252
 - Merced ID Highlands Groundwater Conservation Project
 - Merced ID Cressey Recharge Basin Enlargement Project
 - Le Grant Water Meter Conservation Project

Prop 1 IRWM Implementation Grant Schedule


- Draft PSP – September 2018
- Final PSP – late 2018
- Pre-application workshops – February-July 2019
- Applications due – ~8 weeks after pre-application workshop

How to Get Your Project in the IRWMP

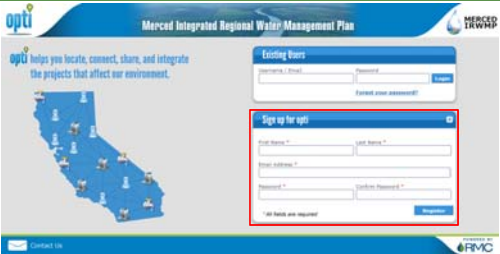
- Call for Projects - Formal period for submitting projects for inclusion in the IRWMP and SWRP
- July 9, 2018 – August 23, 2018

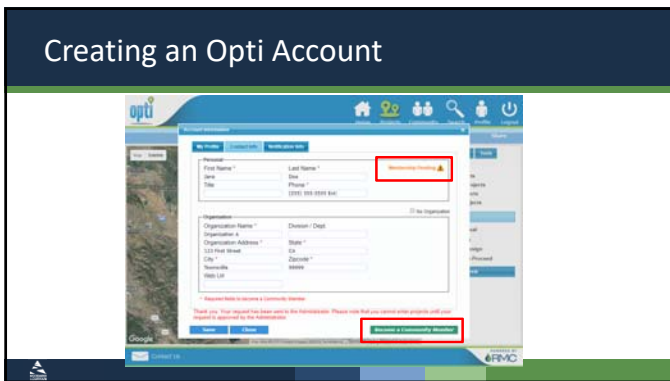
How Do I Submit a Project?

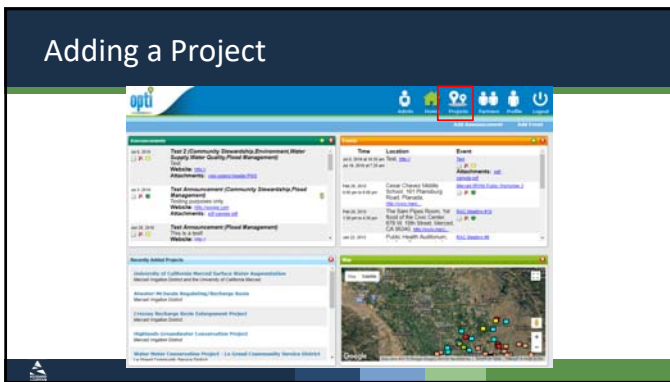
- Via online database, Opti. Accessible at www.mercedirwmp.org.

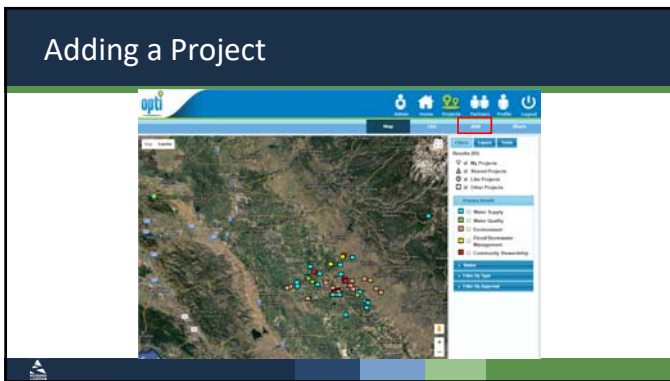


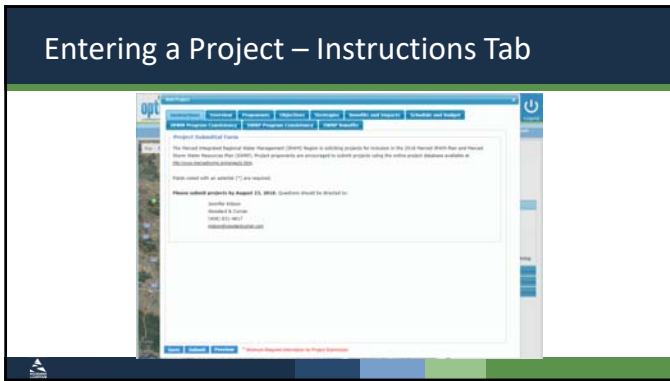
Creating an Opti Account

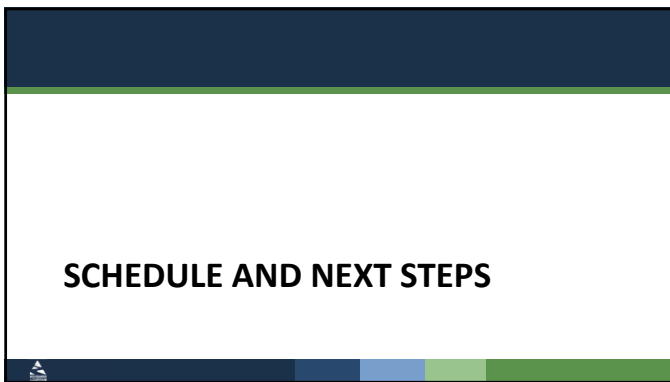


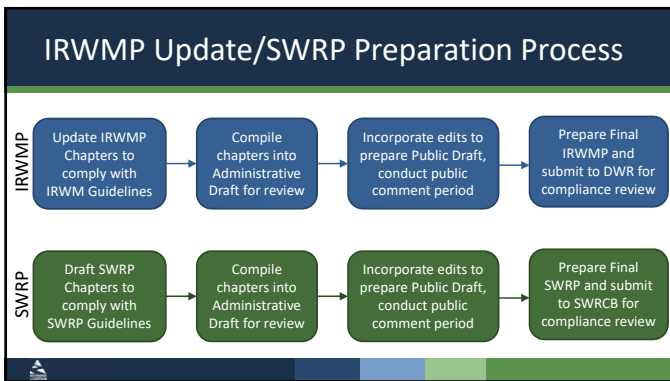












Public Workshops

- Public Workshop 1 (July 11, 2018)
 - Announce IRWMP Update/SWRP and Call for Projects
- Public Workshop 2 (November 2018)
 - Announce Public Draft IRWMP and SWRP

How to Participate

- Attend meetings:
 - Public workshops, Merced Integrated Regional Water Management Authority meetings, Regional Advisory Council meetings
- Add projects to the IRWMP and/or SWRP
- Provide comments on Public Draft IRWMP and SWRP (to be made available online)
- Sign up to receive email announcements

QUESTIONS?

Project Team

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