

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.

Propositions 50, 84 and 1 have supported more than 1,300 multi-benefit projects. Proposition 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

Yuba County



Region At-A-Glance

Region Description

The Yuba County IRWM region is situated within the northern region of California's Central Valley and encompasses Yuba County. The region extends from the Sierra Nevada foothills to the Sacramento Valley floor, where the Yuba River flows into the Feather River near Marysville. The Plan area can be divided into two distinct zones: the lower watershed (i.e., valley floor) and upper watershed (i.e., foothill and mountain areas), both of which are within the lower reaches of the Yuba River watershed.

Governance Description

The Yuba County IRWM decision-making authority is the Regional Water Management Group (RWMG). The RWMG was formed in 2005 and consists of agencies, municipalities, nonprofits, and other stakeholders that have entered into an MOU for the purposes of integrated regional water management. The RWMG meets on a quarterly basis.

Population Served

80,890

IRWM Funding Brought to the Region

\$19.3 million

Amount of Funding Leveraged by Locals

\$6.8 million

California Senate and Assembly Districts

Senate District 4

Assembly District 3



Top Region Priorities

- Ensure adequate and reliable water supply.
- Protect, restore, and enhance water quality for water users and in support of healthy watersheds.
- Preserve and restore watershed health.
- Enhance regional economic development by supporting recreational opportunities and sustainable agriculture.
- Protect public safety through emergency and drought preparedness and integrated flood management.
- Address climate vulnerabilities and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- Promote equitable distribution of resources to disadvantaged communities and Tribes across the region.



Region Successes and Highlights

- ❑ Conducted comprehensive Needs Assessment and follow-up technical assistance to address water system needs for disadvantaged communities.
- ❑ Secured \$15.9 million in IRWM grant funds to implement seven projects to address water supply, flood risk reduction, and wastewater treatment improvements in Yuba County.
- ❑ Conducted pilot project to leverage lessons learned from recent wildfires. Facilitated emergency training workshops focused on improving coordination and communications in disadvantaged communities in the event of emergency, such as fire.

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