

## *No. 22: Northern Sacramento Valley Integrated Regional Water Management Region*

### Region Acceptance Process Summary

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#### **General Description of Regions**

The Northern Sacramento Valley (NSV) “Four County Group” Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Region is an emerging IRWM Region. The NSV IRWM Region is located in the northern Sacramento Valley within the Sacramento River Hydrologic Area and encompasses the five counties of Butte, Colusa, Glenn, Sutter, and Tehama. The counties of Butte, Colusa, Glenn and Tehama have worked together on resource management issues for many years. This relationship was formalized through the “Four County” Memorandum of Understanding (Four County MOU) in early 2006. The MOU was amended in 2009 to add Sutter County. The regional governance process for the NSV IRWM Region needs further development and the discussion of the Regional Water Management Group (RWMG) governance structure is vague on all but the broadest of details.

The NSV IRWM Region boundary overlaps significantly with the Sacramento Valley IRWM Region (Summary #25) boundary. The NSV IRWM Region and the Sacramento Valley IRWM Region submitted separate applications for management of essentially the same water resources of the Sacramento Valley.

#### **Interview Conclusions- Conditional Approval for SBXX1 Planning Funds Only**

There is significant overlap between the proposed NSV IRWM Region and the Sacramento Valley IRWM Region. Since the NSV IRWM Region is in the preliminary development stage, DWR will allow this Region to apply for only planning grant funds. This region is not yet qualified to apply for implementation grant funds. DWR’s intent is to facilitate future communication and cooperation between the NSV and Sacramento Valley IRWM Regions, to develop an optimal region that fosters integration and cooperation, and does not result in overlapping and competing planning efforts.

The stated communication and cooperation, and optimal region development, will be considered when determining future region approval and eligibility for subsequent funding rounds.