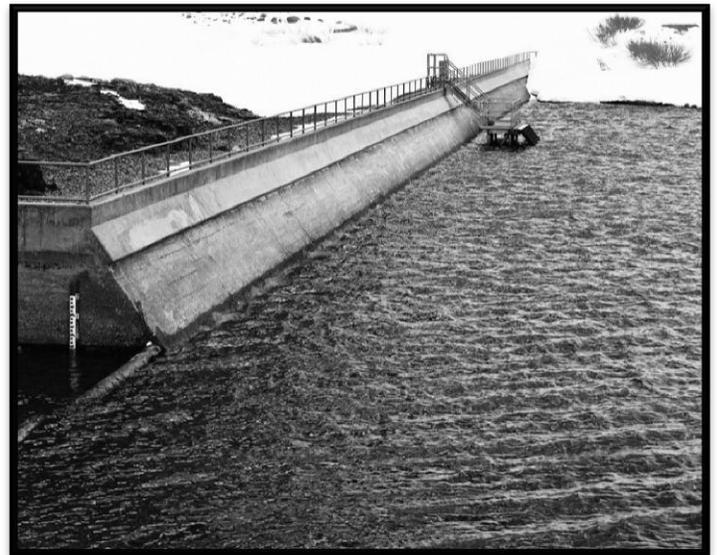


Chapter 11: Land Use and Water Planning Integration

Introduction

The overarching goal of Integrated water planning is to realize truly integrated and seamless water planning among various state, regional and local entities. Thus, IRWM Plans should complement and consolidate local and regional plans without supplanting them. The Inyo-Mono IRWM Program continues to work to bring together disparate local planning efforts, reducing costs and eliminating both redundancy and inconsistency in regional water and land use planning. Within the Inyo-Mono IRWM Program, integration and alignment of IRWM Plan goals and objectives with those of local land and water use agencies, both federal and state, remains a primary goal. This chapter outlines our past, present and future work on the integration of local land use and water planning documents with the Inyo-Mono IRWM Plan.



Assembly of Relevant Land Use & Water Planning Documents

The identification of local water and land use planning documents was a fundamental first step in the creating of the Inyo-Mono IRWM program. While initial efforts identified the most obvious source documents, subsequent gap analyses have been performed to continue to cultivate a comprehensive list. Additionally, over time new documents have been completed having relevance to the Inyo-Mono planning effort. The acquisition of these documents is of limited value if accessibility to our stakeholders is problematic. Thus we chose to offer this collection of documents through a digital library made publically available online through the program website. <http://inyo-monowater.org/resources/library/>

The planning gap analysis which yielded documents for our online digital documents library was completed as a six step process summarized below:

1. An initial planning effort which identified 50 core documents fundamental to understanding water planning in the region.
2. Subsequent internet research which yielded multiple updated or new planning documents.
3. Consultation with local water and land managers for assistance with planning gap

analyses.

4. Consultation with neighboring IRWM Regions for useful planning documents.
5. A spatial gap analyses which identified large geographic regions where plans were missing.
6. A final revisit of the Inyo-Mono IRWM objectives and RMSs for ideas on other helpful planning documents.

Results of Planning Documents Gap Analyses

The aforementioned analysis added over 100 documents to the first 50 core documents of the mandatory documents table identified in the Phase I planning efforts. Due to the volume of this documents list, we have elected to not include the entire list within the text of this chapter. Instead, a comprehensive documents table can be viewed in our comprehensive Relevant Documents table, Appendix D. Within this table, detailed information is offered for each document, including but not limited to, source location information, and a brief summary of the purpose and scope of each entry. Alternatively entire documents can be viewed in their interactive library environment by visiting the following link <http://inyo-monowater.org/resources/library/>.

Here the documents have been organized categorically to help the user find the document they are searching for as well as a local Google search bar. Generally speaking, the newly improved water and land use documents library contains a wealth of information on a wide variety of documents that range dramatically in scope.



Library Organization

A region the size of the Inyo-Mono contains extensive planning documents from myriad public and private entities. These documents have been organized into concise categories by

the Inyo-Mono IRWM Program, in an effort to provide an efficient and searchable data source. The categories are described below.

Federal Legislation, Regulations and Other Guidance

Legislation at the national level that drives water quality protection and management and is pertinent to the Inyo-Mono region is the basis of this section. This segment also includes federal level environmental plans and programs of relevance to water planning.

State Legislation, Regulations and Other Guidance

This category includes a variety of state level legislative acts, propositions, bulletins and codes as they pertain to various state water management agencies. Also included are State level environmental plans, programs or publications that are germane to water resources management in the State.

Region-Wide Multi-Watershed Management Area Documents

This category of the documents library steps down in the organizational hierarchy to planning documents that cover large segments of the region or the entire region and beyond. The organizations that publish these documents manage large blocks of land and the resources within those lands and include entities such as the State Water Resources Control Board, United States Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service as well as the Inyo-Mono Agricultural Commissioner's Office.

Regional Water and Land Use Planning Documents

This category is the most voluminous section of the library due to our expansive geography as well as some of the complexities that exist historically with respect to water management in the region. Within this category are relevant reports that cover topics such as advocacy, conservation, research, compliance and outreach as well as watershed and groundwater management plans and reports for some of the basins in the region. Each subsection of the Regional Plans segment of the library is briefly summarized under the associated heading below.

Watershed/Groundwater Management Plans/ Reports

This subcategory contains watershed and groundwater management plans that create linkages between water quality and water quantity problems, conditions, processes, and activities occurring within the respective watersheds in the region. Defined in these Plans are goals, objectives, and best management practices (where applicable) as well as historical, current, and desired future conditions of the watershed.

Los Angeles, Inyo and Mono County Documents

Separated by design, is a Los-Angeles/Inyo-Mono County Plans and Reports subcategory, which was designated to house documents relating to the complex interrelationship between the City and the two Counties on a number of water related issues. While some of these documents could easily be organized under more general subheadings, we have elected to apportion these documents to this specialized section for clarity and ease of location purposes.

Relevant Reports (Research/Advocacy/Conservation/Compliance)

While not technically considered planning documents, the following reports are recognized by

the Inyo-Mono IRWM Program to be valuable supporting documents to the region's planning efforts. A newer component of these reports is climate change, although information is still scarce regarding effects of changing climate within the region.

As required by Section 4(f) of the *Endangered Species Act* (1973), recovery plans are required to ensure the adequate protection and monitoring of said species. The resulting documents support the monitoring and management of those unique resources. Also included under this heading are management and conservation plans for several of the resource conservation organizations that operate within the regional boundaries.

Section 305(b) of the *Clean Water Act* mandates biennial assessments of the nation's water resources. From these assessments a statewide impaired water bodies list is formulated, of which there are sixteen water bodies listed for the Inyo-Mono Region. These reports are also included here.

Local Area Plans

County Plans

Per California State regulations, "Each planning agency shall prepare and the legislative body of each county and city shall adopt a comprehensive, long-term general plan for the physical development of the county or city, and of any land outside its boundaries which in the planning agency's judgment bears relation to its planning" (Cal. Gov. Code §65300).

Urban Water Management Plans

As required by the California State- Urban Water Management Planning Act of 1983 (CWC §10610,§10656), "all water suppliers which provide water to 3,000 or more connections, or provide over 3,000 acre-feet of water annually, take action to ensure reliability in its water service sufficient to meet customer needs during normal, dry, and multiple dry years" (Urban Water Management Planning Act, 1983).

City/Town Plans

Per California State regulations, "Each planning agency shall prepare and the legislative body of each county and city shall adopt a comprehensive, long-term general plan for the physical development of the county or city, and of any land outside its boundaries which in the planning agency's judgment bears relation to its planning" (Cal. Gov. Code §65300).

Tribal Plans

"Where Tribes qualify to be treated as States for the purposes of water quality standards, EPA has the responsibility to assist the Tribe in establishing standards that are appropriate for the reservation and consistent with the Clean Water Act. EPA recognizes that Tribes have limited resources for development of water quality standards" (40 CFR 131.3-1.8.6). The plans contained in this subcategory are products of area tribes eligible to be included in the Water Quality Standards Program as outlined in the EPA Water Quality Handbook:

<http://water.epa.gov/scitech/swguidance/standards/handbook/chapter01.cfm#section8>

Small Water System Plans

There are nearly 200 small water purveyors that operate within the Inyo-Mono Region. Planning requirements by these entities are a product of the Federal Safe Water Drinking Act as well as California Department of Public Health requirements. Unfortunately, most systems lack necessary resources to comply with planning requirements, as is made clear by the lack of planning documents under this subcategory. Under the first Planning Grant and subsequently the Inyo-Mono DAC Pilot Project Grant, needs assessments were conducted by California Rural Water Association (CRWA) in an effort to identify deficiencies in 36 of these small water systems and provide assistance to these entities in an attempt to improve compliance rates of required planning documents.

Current Relation & Dynamics of Land Use & Water Planning Documents

Initial IRWM planning efforts relied on well-known or core planning documents of the region by large organizations, counties, federal land managers and large water districts. Additionally, regional groundwater and watershed plans were utilized when drafting the Inyo-Mono IRWM Plan which helped create linkages between planning goals and objectives as well as documents including water quality and quantity problems throughout the region.

As the planning process has matured, more focused documents have been utilized to develop goals, augment and revise objectives and resource management strategies on an iterative basis. For example, goals and policies from Inyo and Mono County general plans were analyzed for alignment with IRWM Plan objectives and resource management strategies. These local general plans were found to contain similar content with slightly different language, focus and organizational structure. A review of such documents provided ideas for revision and/or addition of the IRWM Plan objectives.

Land Use & Water Planning Integration

The Inyo-Mono IRWM Planning effort has relied on both programmatic outreach and stakeholder involvement to gather information on the goals and objectives of the numerous water and land use planning entities within the region. The identification and organization of available planning documents has assisted stakeholders in recognizing established planning efforts, helped identify persistent planning gaps and created a useful resource that will help integrate other organizations planning efforts with those of the Inyo-Mono IRWM Plan.

The Program has taken many initial steps towards truly integrating local water and land use planning efforts with IRWM planning efforts.

The first step, the creation of the digital documents library, has yielded significant benefits to the Inyo-Mono IRWM Region. From this documents library, planning voids have revealed themselves through familiarization with governing legislation, as well as through comparisons of planning efforts between agencies and across geographies. By acknowledging these deficiencies, the Inyo-Mono IRWM Program has gained a more thorough understanding of the planning needs within the Region.

Work with local county and community planners is underway and recognized as the next step in a potentially longer, more in-depth process of aligning long-term planning goals, community needs, and project priorities. Ideally these strategies, if aligned, reduce redundant planning

efforts, provide a centralized clearinghouse for water-related planning documents, and promote integration by aligning local priorities and objectives.

Functionally linking respective goals, objectives, and strategies, in both theory and practice, to the individual planning efforts in the region will allow the IRWM Program to have a more profound impact. Once Planning documents are successfully aligned, we can begin to realize the type of landscape-scale collaboration and resource management planning that leads to beneficial economies of scale as well as responsible land and water management. While significant strides have been made towards fulfillment of these goals, stakeholders continue to face challenges unique to the geographic qualities and political history of the region.

Current Coordination of Planning Activities

Many coordinated planning efforts currently underway in the Inyo-Mono region and are typically summarized below.

GROUNDWATER AND WATERSHED MANAGEMENT

Many of the entities researching and drafting watershed and groundwater management plans in the Inyo-Mono Region are signatories to the Inyo-Mono IRWMP MOU and/or are active participants in IRWM group meetings and other project planning activities. Their participation intrinsically fosters coordination and integration within the IRWM Program.

URBAN WATER MANAGEMENT

There are two Urban Water Agencies in the Inyo-Mono Region: the Mammoth Community Water District (MCWD), and the Indian Wells Valley Water District (IWWVD). The Inyo-Mono IRWM Program has a longstanding and ongoing collaborative relationship with both of these agencies. Both MCWD and IWWVD were early signatories to the Inyo-Mono IRWMP MOU, and representatives from both groups have served on the IRWMP Administrative Committee. Their Urban Water Management Plans were used in the Inyo-Mono IRWM Plan, and the IRWM Plan has been used extensively as part of both the MCWD and IWWVD's planning processes. Additionally, the IWWVD is developing a Salt and Nutrient Management Plan for the southern portion of the Inyo-Mono region, and is reporting back to the IRWMP on progress made in this area, which is discussed below in the Salt and Salinity Management section. Although not wholly contained within the Inyo-Mono planning region, the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power has also developed an urban management plan that includes information relevant to water resources within the Inyo-Mono region.

AGRICULTURAL WATER MANAGEMENT

The Inyo-Mono Agricultural Commissioner's Office works to promote and protect the agricultural industry of the Counties, protect the environment, and to ensure the health and safety of all of its citizens. <http://www.inyomonoagriculture.com/> As such, the organization has participated in RWMG meetings for several years and brought several invasive plant abatement projects to the Group for implementation funding consideration. Twice the organization's projects have come up unsuccessful and unfortunately this has resulted in a loss of their participation in the RWMG.

Outreach efforts to a number of agricultural based communities have been initiated but overall ranchers are understandably nervous about working with what they see as a government-backed effort. Working with these communities remains both a challenge and an opportunity for the Inyo-Mono region.

GENERAL PLAN INTEGRATION

As described above, each of the four counties with land contained in the Inyo-Mono IRWM planning region has prepared and updated a General Plan in accordance with California regulations. Several towns and small cities in the region also have updated General Plans. The Inyo-Mono IRWMP integrates with these local planning efforts in several ways. Representatives of Inyo and Mono Counties and the municipalities of Mammoth Lakes and Ridgecrest regularly attend IRWM group meetings and participate in various IRWMP activities. These local planners and managers participate in IRWM regional planning discussions and activities, as well as in project ranking, selection and development.

Additionally, the Inyo-Mono IRWMP has embarked on a specific effort to align the goals, objectives, and resource management strategies of the IRWM Plan with the goals, objectives and policies of county and city General Plans, as well as with the goals and policies of Mono County Local Area Plans. Beginning at the County level, Inyo-Mono IRWM Program Office staff reviewed the General Plans of Inyo and Mono County and created a matrix of salient water-related goals and policies found in these plans. These goals and policies were categorized by subject matter and compared with the IRWM Plan's objectives and RMS's. A series of meetings were held with planners from both counties during which opportunities for integration and aligning of goals, both in terms of subject matter and language, were discussed. As a result of those conversations, County planners have been working to incorporate specific IRWM Plan RMS's into their general plan updates.

As a specific example, neither the Inyo nor Mono County General Plan contained language about working to address and mitigate the effects of climate change as it applies to water supply and water quality. The IRWM Plan Objective related to climate change is likely to be adopted in full by both counties and incorporated into the General Plan, with the result that the same goal and policy objectives will exist in all three documents, giving considerable strength to the region's commitment to addressing climate change.

After looking at and aligning IRWM Plan goals with County planning goals, it is the Inyo-Mono IRWMP's intention to initiate a process by which regional project needs contained in the IRWM Plan are included in County General Plans, and possibly within Mono County Local Area plans. We also plan to initiate the same goal alignment exercise undertaken with Inyo and Mono County planning departments with the Cities of Bishop and Mammoth Lakes. Over time, the Inyo-Mono Program will also aim to implement a similar process with the Lahontan Basin planning process. This will allow the IRWM Program, counties, cities, and local land use areas to present a united front in terms of goals, policies, and area needs and project priorities that will ultimately streamline project funding and implementation, bringing more resources more easily to a largely rural and economically disadvantaged region.

SALT AND SALINITY MANAGEMENT

The Inyo-Mono IRWM Program has taken a regional approach to facilitating coordination between local agencies with respect to salt and salinity management. In light of the recent requirements put forth by the State Water Resource Control Board that priority watersheds prepare Salt and Nutrient Management plans and present them to the SRWCB staff, the Inyo-Mono Program Office staff has facilitated coordination among several regional watersheds to spur salt and nutrient plan drafting efforts. Several coordination meetings were held where local planners outlined a joint, multiple-step process for completion of salt and nutrient plans for the Owens Valley and Indian Wells Valley basins. Inyo-Mono Program Office Staff also help facilitate conversations with LRWCB staff regarding presentation of a region-wide, phased approach to salt and nutrient planning that will allow various local agencies to coordinate efforts and avoid any one watershed are being out of compliance. These conversations continue to date and the Program Office hopes to reach out to and gain support from the other major entity involved in watershed planning in the Owens Valley, the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power.

MAPPING AND GIS CAPACITY COORDINATION AND INTEGRATION

Additional efforts to integrate land and water use planning documents were inspired by California Department of Public Health's Environmental Tracking Program's Water Boundary Tool: http://www.ehib.org/page.jsp?page_key=61. The tool aims to provide a GIS-based public use dataset for all public water systems in the State. Recognizing regional deficiencies of water system boundary and infrastructure data in both Inyo and Mono counties, the water boundary tool provided a logical and economical next step for acquisition of public water system data. The tool also provided a platform for facilitation of regional collaboration as part of a greater statewide data gathering effort. Communications were initiated with U.C. Davis Information Center for the Environment (ICE) as well as CDPH to learn how we could contribute.

Once more familiar with the tool, the IRWM Program initiated conversations about the possibility of an integrated mapping effort at the County level. It was agreed that inclusion of Environmental Health Departments as well as Planning and GIS departments would yield the most robust action plan for integration of this tool into County datasets. The tool provided a clear benefit to all parties and was well received by all stakeholders.

An outcome of the County meetings was the development of a "Maps 101" curriculum by the IRWM Program as part of our capacity building effort. The class was offered first as a pilot to refine the content and work out any technology glitches. Subsequently, two classes were taught at the local community college computer laboratories for water system operators/managers of any interested local public water systems. The class covered use of various open source mapping tools as well as the Water Boundary Tool and emphasized integration of all online tools to maximize benefits to water system managers and operators.

One tangible benefit of this effort was the offer by the Mono County GIS department to extend their services further through the development of a secure web application to house more sensitive water infrastructure data for Mono County water systems. The IRWM Program

continues to work with the County to realize this benefit.

Future efforts will focus on encouraging water system operators and managers to leverage new skills to input water boundary information into CDPH's water boundary tool and leverage online tools to meet new and ever-changing public water system requirements. Currently the IRWM capacity building effort will assist public water system managers to meet mapping component requirements relating to: 1) Bacteriological Sampling Site Plans, 2) Senate Bill 244, which requires cities, towns and Local Agency Formation Committees (LAFCO's) in California to identify, map and describe certain public system features of disadvantaged unincorporated communities within their boundaries, and 3) Assembly Bill 54, which requires any mutual water company operating as a public water system submit to their applicable LAFCO a map depicting their water system boundaries and area served (see Cal. Govt. Code § 56430, Cal. Govt. Code § 65302(5)(b)(1), Cal. Corporations Code § 14301.1(a)). The Inyo-Mono IRWM Program is currently serving as a central hub of all of these various efforts and can and will help integrate information among and within agencies, water systems, funding applications, and project needs.

Land Use Planning Integration

There are numerous local, state and federal agencies and Native American Tribes that have land management responsibilities within the Inyo-Mono region. These include Native American Tribes, U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, the National Park Service, LADWP, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. Throughout the development of the Inyo-Mono Program, the vast majority of these agencies have been involved to some degree, either as a signatory to the MOU or as a participant in various meetings.

To date, some agency participation and commitment to the IRWM process are stronger than others, and not all land management agencies are signatories to the MOU. The Inyo National Forest, which is one of the larger landowners in the region, is a partner in a planning study being funded through the Round 2 Planning Grant. Often, initial progress and contacts are made with large land management agencies, but due to resource limitations and conflicting priorities, an agency may not be able to maintain its involvement in the IRWM Program. The IRWM Program lacks the funding necessary to reach out in a continued and aggressive manner to these agencies once they no longer attend regular RWMG meetings. The most consistent participation of land managers in the region is by tribes and counties. These small land management bodies are MOU signatories and come to RWMG meetings regularly, where they participate in the planning and project selection process. In the case of many small entities, the land use and water planning individuals for an entity are the same people.

It is recognized that there is a need to better integrate land management agencies and activities in the Inyo-Mono region with the IRWM process, similar to how the IRWM Program has worked with the counties and municipalities. The IRWM Plan should reflect the major water- and watershed-related goals and priorities of the various land management agencies, and vice versa. One example of this opportunity is working with the U.S. Forest Service as they proceed to revise Sierra Nevada Forest Management Plans. To date, representatives from the Forest Service have presented information to the Regional Water Management Group about the planning process, how to get involved and has solicited input from Group participants. Additionally, several stakeholders involved in the Inyo-Mono effort are actively involved in the planning process, representing their viewpoints in to forest management planning priorities. It is hoped that continued participation of federal, state, local land managers in the Inyo-Mono IRWM process will help to realize this integration, though more concerted and specific effort is also

needed.

Challenges to Water and Land Use Planning Integration

It is predictable that a region of Inyo-Mono's size and rural nature retains a multitude of deficiencies in its planning efforts. As a start, the Inyo-Mono region is geographically very large, comprising 11% of the State of California's land. This large land area contains the state's highest mountains, rugged, forested backcountry, irrigated ranchlands, wetlands, and low lying desert. In a region of such wide area and geographic diversity, water problems and needs vary widely within the region, making integration that much more difficult. Because communities are located at such great distances from one another, coordinating joint solutions to water problems is often prohibitive. Where human inhabitation and visitation populations are low, planning by default remains a low priority. Local planners and water and land managers are often responsible for huge areas of land and need to travel great distances to meet with and observe issues at small systems ostensibly under their control. They also need to travel to attend RWMG or special planning meetings, and often lack the resources to do so on a regular basis.

Rural Geography

The region's vast area and varying geography necessarily supports a diverse population of stakeholders, the agendas of which often serve as an additional hurdle to effective land and water use planning integration. Individual and group interests in the region's water span the spectrum from those whose primary goal is water export, to agricultural users, municipalities concerned with providing water for residential and business use, and conservation and governmental organizations interested in preservation of water supply and water quality for recreation and/or wildlife habitat. These widely varied goals present challenges when trying to craft regional solutions to water problems, and occasionally cause gridlock in an organization such as the IRWMP, which operates on a consensus-based decision-making model.

Socio-economic

Further hampering integration efforts are the economic realities of the region. The majority of the Inyo-Mono region is comprised of disadvantaged communities as defined by California state statute and regulation. A pointed lack of resources to assist with needed planning efforts reveals itself rapidly when comparing local planning efforts to those of more advantaged regions. Glaring deficiencies are most prominent when considering tribes and small water districts regardless of DAC status. Even communities not technically designated as disadvantaged often do not have large numbers of planning staff, or they are unincorporated areas that are covered by overcommitted county planning staff. Also, the staff that is available often serves many roles within local organizations, making it difficult to tap these individuals for additional input on IRWM-related integration efforts.

Lack of Participation from Major Players

Finally, planning efforts within the Inyo-Mono IRWM Region are hampered by the existence of entities that exert significant control over local water resources, but have not prioritized their involvement in the IRWM Program and its efforts at integrating water planning in our region. As

explained at the beginning of this chapter, the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power owns 3-4% of the region's land and controls significant regional water rights. Edison Power also exerts significant influence over water planning in the Inyo-Mono Region [need facts about Edison]. Despite the major role that both LADWP and Edison have on the present and future water situation in the Inyo-Mono region, each organization has thus far been only minimally interested in participating in the Inyo-Mono IRWM Program.

Starting at the initial planning stages for the IRWMP and continuing through the present, efforts have been made to include representatives from both Edison and LADWP in all aspects of the planning and implementation processes. Representatives from LADWP were actively involved in the initial IRWM group meetings, and commented on the initial plan. However, since that point they have been largely absent from meetings, project selection, visioning exercises and other activities of the IRWMP. It is recognized that more complete integration and coordination of water planning in the Inyo Mono IRWM region would be realized with the cooperative participation of both LADWP and SCE. The absence of these agencies in the planning process remains a challenge. It is also recognized that the CA IRWM Program do not have the authority, nor does the Inyo-Mono IRWM Program, to require any entity to participate in integrated regional water planning.

IDEAS AND PLANS FOR FUTURE WATER AND LAND USE PLANNING SOLUTIONS

To better achieve true water planning throughout the region, the Inyo-Mono IRWMP plans to implement several strategies designed to aid in fostering collaboration between water-related stakeholders in its vast area. First, a more aggressive fundraising and finance strategy is planned to acquire funds necessary to conduct outreach, education and project planning in a large, diverse, and economically disadvantaged area. Such a strategy will not be limited to addressing project implementation needs but include necessary funding for programmatic needs. More funding will allow the IRWMP to continue outreach and relationship-building efforts throughout the region, especially in areas where stakeholders lack the funds and time to travel to planning and coordination meetings. Additional funding will also allow the IRWMP to bring educational programs and possibly provide services such as grant drafting and technical consulting services to poor, rural communities and programs operating at a marked disadvantage in these areas. The Inyo-Mono IRWM Program will also continue engage in local, county, state and federal planning processes with the goal being to enhance and continue to align planning efforts amongst stakeholders in the region. Finally, the Inyo-Mono IRWMP hopes to become the primary, single-source of information regarding water-related research, legislation and funding opportunities throughout the region. By keeping abreast of pending and recently enacted legislation, and by continuing to develop an extensive online documents library, the IRWMP will serve as an invaluable resource to local water-related stakeholders, which will in turn foster connection building and greater IRWMP involvement by local groups.

Despite the political complications described above and the funding challenges facing such a massive, rural, economically disadvantaged area, the Inyo-Mono IRWMP has successfully begun the process of truly integrating water and land planning throughout the region. Given more time, additional funding, and participation from major water players, the Inyo-Mono region

could continue to improve on its integration strategies and the implementation thereof.

Important to the planning needs of the Inyo-Mono region is functionally linking identified goals, objectives and resource management strategies not only theoretically but practically to the individual planning efforts in the region. In doing so, the IRWM Program can build upon sound regionally accepted goals and objectives. With a concrete foundation, the Inyo-Mono IRWM Program can improve on its desire to bridge the gap between disparate planning efforts and in doing so realize landscape-scale collaboration and resource management planning that leads to responsible land management stewardship as well as beneficial economies of scale.