

Welcome to the Tribal Regional Water Management Webinar

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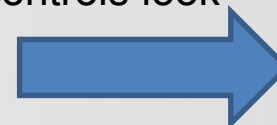
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ASK QUESTIONS

Open the Question box by clicking the + or > sign next to the Question tab, located on the tool bar on your screen. Type your question in the Question box and hit 'Send'. Please be concise. If a certain speaker should get the question, please include the speaker's name.

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Make sure to mute yourself when not speaking.



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

Tribal Regional Water Management Series

Part 3: The Future of Regional Water Management



Division of Regional Assistance & Office of the Tribal Policy Advisor

WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

Department of Water Resources – Division of Regional Assistance, Office
of the Tribal Policy Advisor
California Indian Environmental Alliance
Stantec

Tribal Regional Water Management Webinar Series

*Objective: Improve opportunities for Tribal engagement in
Integrated Regional Water Management and provide more access to
funding for California Native Tribes.*

Purpose

Part 1: Tribes and Regional Water Management

Create a common understanding of IRWM by hearing about how Tribes have engaged with IRWM throughout California.

Part 2: Tribal Engagement in Regional Water Management

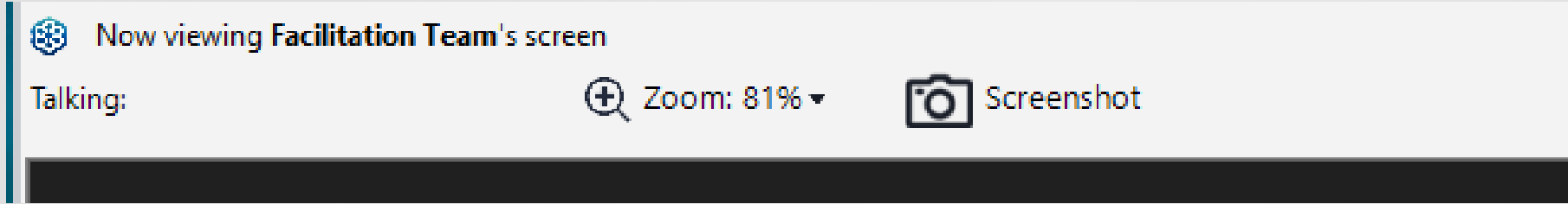
Further discuss successes and challenges Tribes have experienced in IRWM and consider methods to improve opportunities for Tribes.

Part 3: The Future of Regional Water Management

Look beyond the scope of IRWM to consider the future of regional water management and how this intersects with other sectors and programs.



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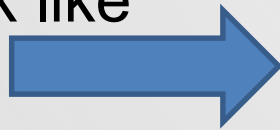


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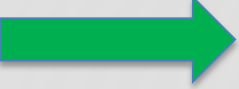
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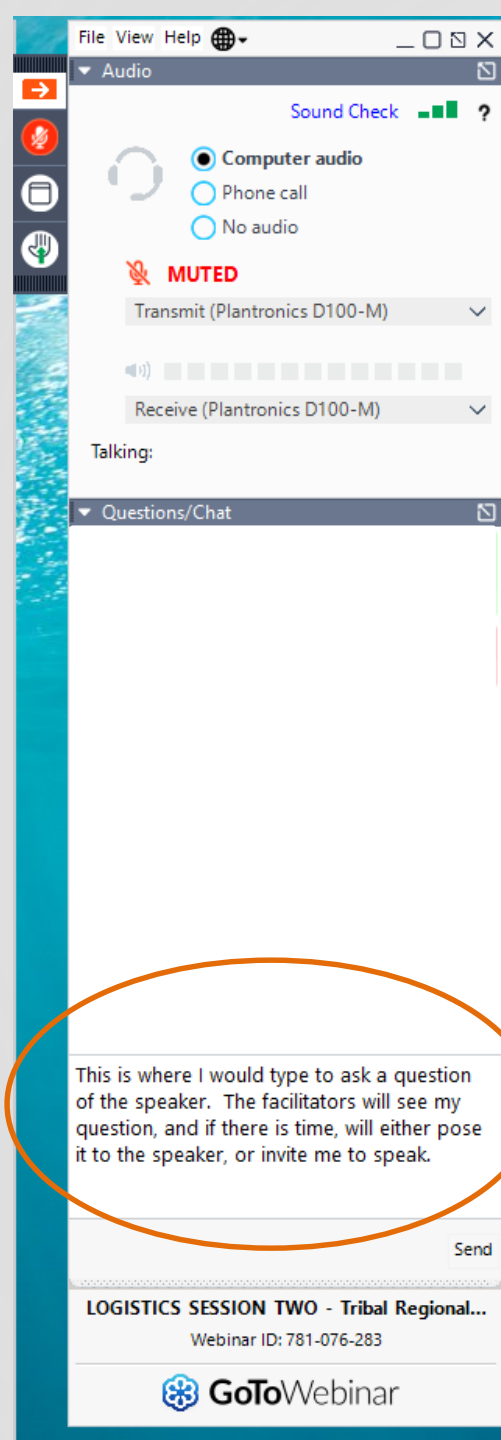


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Talking:


Questions/Chat

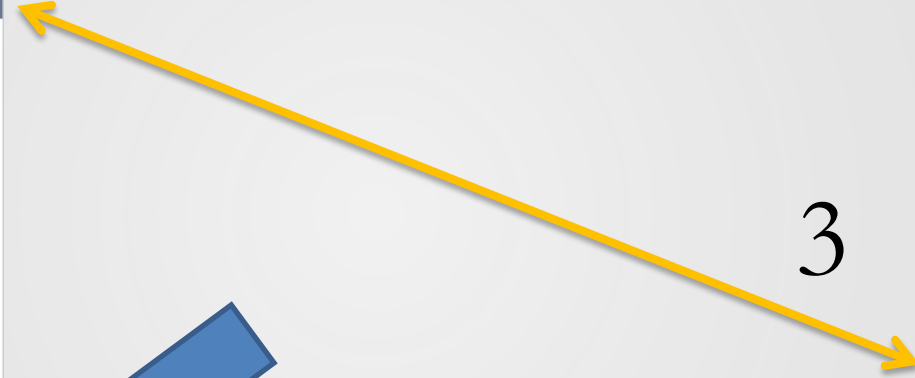
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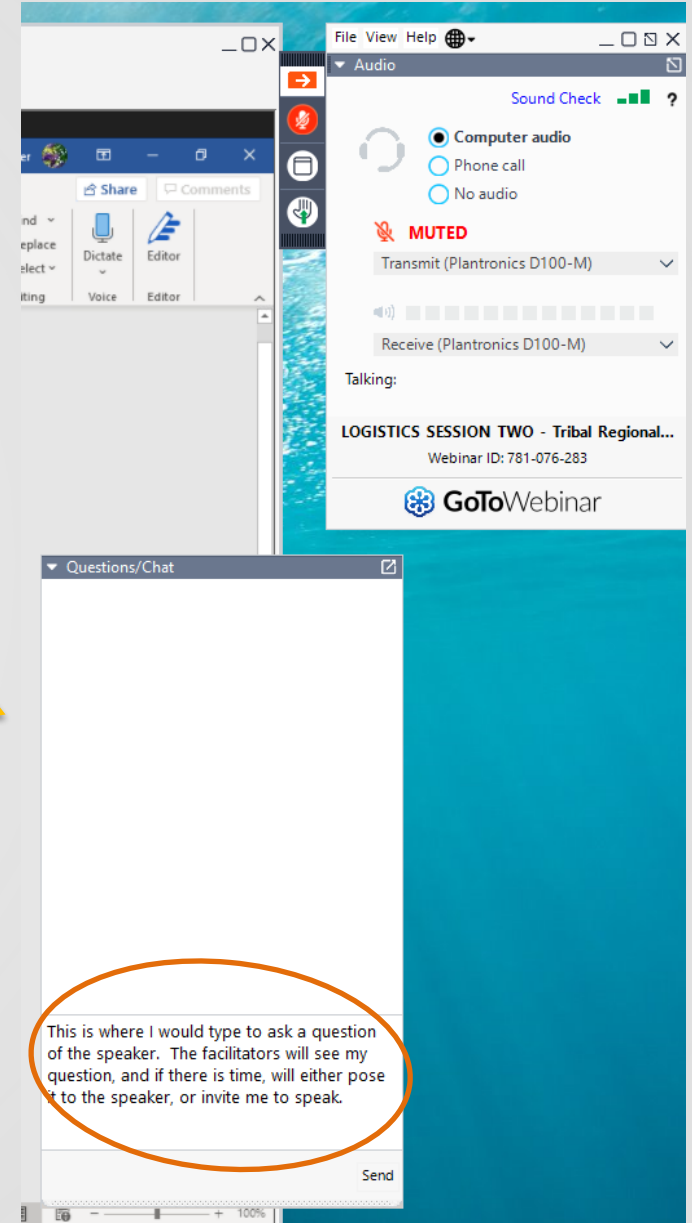
LOGISTICS SESSION TWO - Tribal Regional...
Webinar ID: 781-076-283

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Agenda

- **9:00 AM** – Welcome & Introduction
- **9:10 AM** – Review of Webinar Parts 1 & 2
- **9:45 AM** – Information from DWR on SGMA
- **9:55 AM** – A Future Vision for Regional Water Management
- **10:40 AM** – Break
- **10:50 AM** – Reflection from DWR & Questions
- **11:50 AM** – Closing
- **12:00 PM** - Adjourn



Part 1 Review

Objective: *Create a common understanding of IRWM by hearing about how Tribes have engaged with IRWM throughout California.*

Topics & Panels:

- Tribal Engagement in IRWM
 - Tribal engagement in governance, planning, and project implementation
 - Examples from North Coast, Inyo-Mono, and San Diego
- Disadvantaged Community Involvement Program
 - Needs Assessment, Capacity Building, & Technical Assistance
 - Examples from Sacramento River, Mountain Counties, and North Coast



Part 2 Review

Objective: *Further discuss successes and challenges Tribes have experienced in IRWM and consider methods to improve opportunities for Tribes.*

Topics & Panels:

- Tribal Caucus
- Regional Tribal Engagement
 - Challenges and successes for Tribes in Regional Water Management
 - Examples from Southern Sierra, Tuolumne-Stanislaus, Bay Area, Los Angeles, Santa Ana, and North Coast



Barriers & Challenges

Webinar 1 & 2

Understanding Tribes are Sovereign Nations regardless of recognition status. As such have an inherent responsibility to their constituencies & a responsibility of stewardship, or management of traditional territory regardless of local, state or federal jurisdictions.

Increase Tribal Engagement in Communication

- Tribes not contacted, only once, inconsistently, &/or incorrect staff person
- RWMGs instructed to only contact Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC)
- Tribes unique, multiple departments, & staff persons with multiple responsibilities
- Tribes have traditional territory in multiple IRWM regions & have to stay engaged in each IRWM regions: time/resources - RWMGs have sent Tribes away when overlap
- Tribes historically & currently have been marginalized, underrepresented, & continue to experience “erasure”
- Tribes need to meet regionally with other Tribes in their IRWMs, & with those in adjacent IRWMs

Tribes in Governance Structure at Leadership Level

- Need clear consistent path to Tribal inclusion in RWMGs at decision-making level
- Tribes only included as public commenters
- IRWM requires a time & financial commitment & not all Tribes have resources
- Tribes need opportunity to develop & maintain appropriate representative & alternative structures, or one vote for each Tribe

Needs Assessments *(DWR - Requirement Per Prop.1 Bond)*

- Final versions being submitted now & not all Tribes were included
- Not all Tribes who completed - were given an opportunity to review or interpret results
- Tribes would like to guide IRWM program changes, technical assistance, capacity-building, or project development
- What about other Needs Assessments being conducted by SWRCB & CA EPA, will they integrate into the IRWM assessments?
- What will DWR do with information being gathered if DACTI program is not going to act?

IRWM Plan Update *(DWR - Eligibility to submit for Proposition 1 funding)*

- Tribes should have been invited to provide content
- Maps in the IRWM Plans, & those shared by agencies do not accurately show Tribal traditional territories, all current Tribal lands, or historical locations of water features
- IRWM Plans should include information on the Tribes in their region – should not be just the federal & state recognized Tribes
- IRWM Plans contain goals & may also contain Project lists - Tribes should be invited to provide recommendations on the regional goals & to submit projects for inclusion

DACTI: Technical Assistance / Capacity Building / Demonstration Projects

- Not all RWMGs prioritized technical assistance or capacity-building to increase Tribal capacity to participate in IRWM Programs
- Tribes should guide the Technical Assistance they will receive, & approve who will provide it
- What about support for Project Development?

IRWM Project Development

- Tribal projects have not been selected for funding in all regions
- Some IRWMs unclear on how to submit project submissions, or not giving heads up for Tribes & DACs to initiate project development
- Some IRWM regions are not providing technical assistance for project development
- Some have not prioritized Tribal goals in their IRWM Plans & so many Tribal projects are not be eligible
- Non state or federally recognized Tribes are not eligible for IRWM funding as a project lead. Must partner with a recognized Tribe, non-profit, or another eligible entity
- Unclear if allotment lands are eligible for funding
- Unclear how best to complete projects on federal forest lands

Leveraging Funds from Other Agencies &/or Programs

- Can other Proposition 1 programs provide matching funds for Proposition 1 funded IRWM Implementation Projects?
- How can DACTI and/or IRWM programs work with other state or federal programs like Indian Health Service (IHS), State Water Resources Control Board, or CA EPA?

Compliance & Requirements - Tribal Project Submissions & Receipt of Funds

- May take several – eighteen months to receive funding after being selected
- CEQA / NEPA hybrid may be needed - specialized
- Invoicing, reporting, project close out, & long-term project reporting & management
- Limited Waiver of Sovereign Immunity
- Workers Wage Requirements
- Median Household Income

Information from DWR

Answering questions on Sustainable Groundwater Management

- The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act emphasizes local control
- State authority is triggered at discrete points in the process
- DWR has published an [Engagement with Tribal Governments Guidance Document](#) and FAQs on [Tribal Government Engagement with GSAs](#)
- DWR Regional Coordinators and DWR Points of Contact (POCs) are available to help connect Tribes and GSAs
- DWR considers public comments on GSPs when evaluating GSPs
- SGMA and IRWM are mutually beneficial and DWR encourages coordination between the two efforts



Information from DWR

Important links for Sustainable Groundwater Management

- SGMA Portal: <https://sgma.water.ca.gov/portal/>
- SGMA Portal GSA Information: <https://sgma.water.ca.gov/portal/gsa/all>
- SGMA Portal GSP Initial Notification Information:
<https://sgma.water.ca.gov/portal/gsp/init/all>
- SGMA Portal GSP Public Comments: <https://sgma.water.ca.gov/portal/gsp/all>

- DWR Region Office Points of Contacts for SGMA
 - [Northern Region](#)
 - [North Central Region](#)
 - [South Central Region](#)
 - [Southern Region](#)



Information from DWR

Funding Info for Sustainable Groundwater Management

- Prop 1 provided \$90 million in grant funding for the development of Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs).
 - In 2016, DWR awarded ~\$6.2 million to counties that had stressed basins to begin the development of GSPs.
 - In 2018, DWR awarded over \$86 million to 78 Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) to continue the development of GSPs.
- Prop 68 provided an additional ~\$46 million for the development of GSPs.
 - In March 2020, DWR awarded 52 grants totaling nearly \$49 million in grant funds for the development of GSPs.
- Prop 68 also provided at least \$88 million in implementation funds to implement projects listed within an adopted GSP(s).
 - A draft Proposal Solicitation Package will be open for public comments in September/October 2020
 - Two funding solicitations (funding Rounds) will be administered:
 - Round 1 for \$26 million opening late 2020/early 2021 for critically overdrafted (COD) basins meeting the eligibility requirements and
 - Round 2 for ~\$62 million opening in early 2022 for medium and high priority basins meeting the eligibility requirements.
 - Coordination with Stormwater Resource Plan groups, IRWM groups, neighboring and upgradient surface watersheds and groundwater basins, and Underrepresented Communities are strongly encouraged and a requirement to obtaining a competitive score.



Looking Forward: A Future for Regional Water Management

Panel

Discussion

Question & Answer



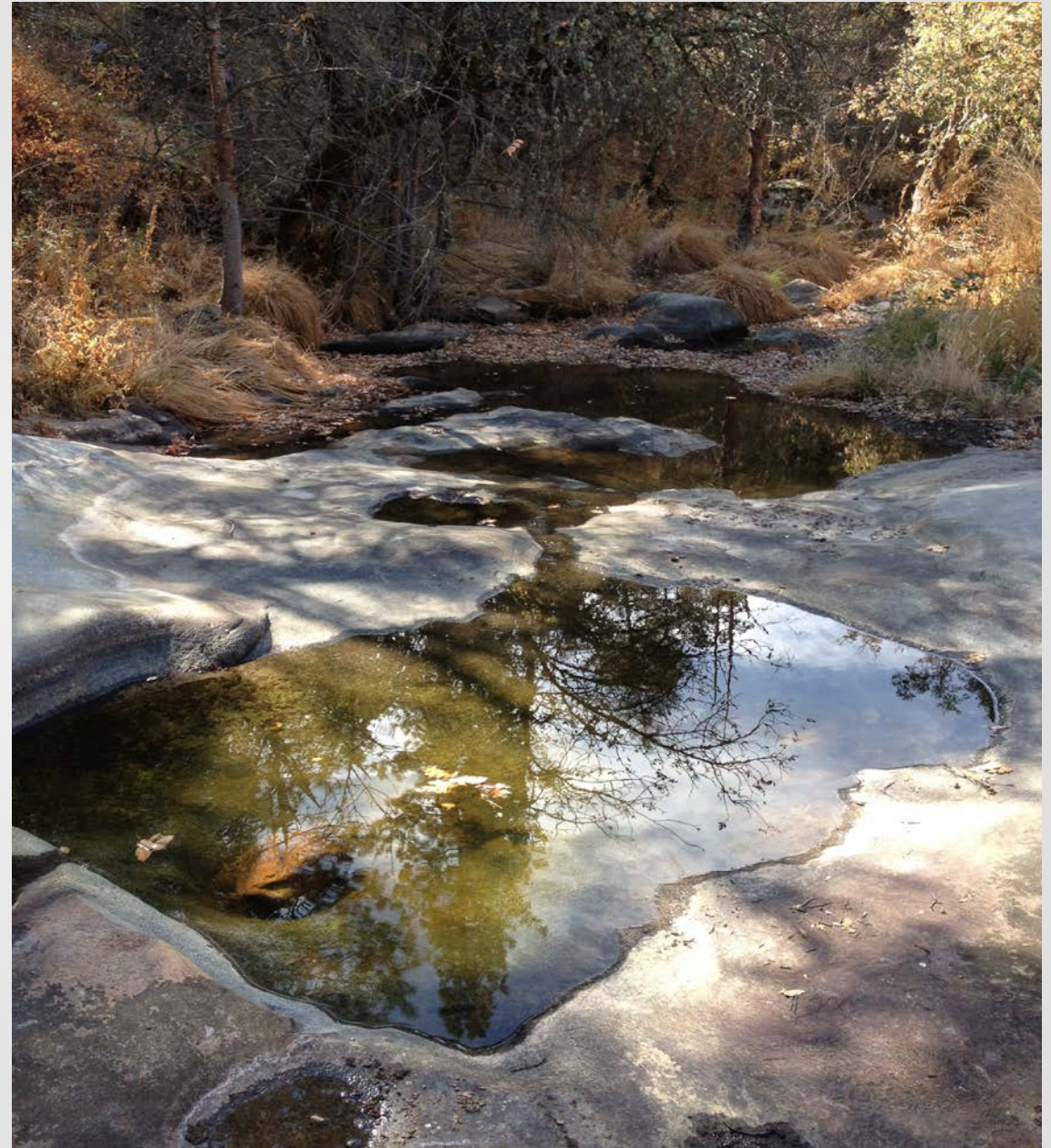
Key Takeaways

- Educating fellow stakeholders
- Be present – Be an Active stakeholder
- Appeal to mutual benefits of your neighbors

Dore Bietz

Planner/Emergency Manager

Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians



Key Takeaways

Dirk Charley

Tribal Liaison

Dunlap Band of Mono Indians

Sustain the momentum ... Water is everything!

- **DWR needs our help & coordination with cross-marketing** these great successes and challenges
- **All projects must consider areas of Tribal importance**
- **Site visits are a must** (eventually)
- **Sharing resources (tribal expertise/intel)**; i.e. a strategic location/temporary Evacuation location(s); a local cultural event; discuss potential spring rejuvenation project(s) in the area; emphasize meadow restoration; use of local cultural burning expertise;
- **Location of accessible water storage tanks/infrastructure**; consider tribal emergency management planning;
- **Importance of water quality specialist position** to operate/maintain complex water delivery systems; more jobs, less poverty;
- ***Maintain close communications and provide for safety first!!!***



Key Takeaways

BryAnna Vaughan
Water Quality Coordinator
Bishop Paiute Tribe

- Building relationships includes building trust, this is difficult if trust has been lost in the past.
- In addition to talking with regional tribal entities, consider asking non-tribal IRWM partners with similar resources (or neighboring entities with similar infrastructure and resource management needs) about their experiences and if they have any recommendations for new members
- Set up a meeting to talk with the regional IRWM staff to ask questions and field recommendations for becoming a new member
- Ask tribes about any roadblocks they have experienced in membership and securing grants
- Talk with tribes outside of your IRWM region and see what's working there that might be applicable to your region and work to implement it



Increase Tribal Engagement in Communication: Solutions & Recommendations

Tribes

- Contact RWMG & self-advocate your needs to participate fully
- If challenges or barriers, contact DWR regional contacts & Tribal Policy Advisor

RWMGs

- Tribal Contact List: Begin with NAHC, then research & continue outreach with regional Tribes
- Include all Tribes regardless of federal & state requirements. Goal to be inclusive, to respect tribal sovereignty & to receive all related IRWM region information for Plan
- Seek funding for dedicated tribal engagement including who the Tribe has included of the Tribal Council, Administrator, Environmental Director, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO) & other staff as Tribe recommends.
- Support convening of TAC & Tribally chosen dedicated Tribal engagement staff
- “Outreach early & often”
- Consistent Tribal Engagement staff that are chosen by & guided by a Tribal Advisory Committee, or Tribal Representative body chosen by regional Tribes.

Tribes in Governance Structures: Solutions & Recommendations

Tribes

- Tribes collectively choose structure & method for selecting representatives who will enter into IRWM decision-making roles
- With other Tribes in your region establish how many seats (with alternates) would be equitable & that you can fill to maintain a quorum
- Collectively advise the RWMG of your recommendations for Tribal leadership in governance structure, & in working groups
- If RWMG members unsupportive, seek support from adjacent regions, regional DWR staff, & DWR Tribal Policy Advisor

RWMG

- Provide clear path to Tribes participation in all bodies & workgroups of governance structure
- Remove barriers as they arrive, & share solutions with fellow IRWMs & DWR

Needs Assessments *(DWR - Requirement Per Prop.1 Bond)*

Tribes

- Contact the RWMG ask to complete a Needs Assessment, request the report
- Find out what the next steps are to the DACTI program

RWMGs

- If report calls out needs of specific Tribe, submit the draft to named Tribe before submitting to DWR
- Support the creation of a Tribal Advisory Committee (TAC) to interpret Tribal Needs Assessment report, identify solutions by consensus, & confirm next steps to Increase Tribal Capacity, Technical Assistance & Tribal Engagement

IRWM Plan Update *(DWR - Eligibility to submit for Proposition 1 funding)*

Tribes

- Review IRWM Plan for your traditional territory
- Find out from RWMG timeline of next Plan update timeline, prepare & submit your Tribe's recommended goals & objectives
- Coordinate your submission with other Tribes in your region through a TAC
- Outreach to Tribes & invite them to update the IRWM Plan

RWMG

- Outreach to Tribes & encourage Tribal updates to all sections of the IRWM Plan, not only the regional descriptions. Encourage regional Tribes to develop key sections together so document will have consensus.

Technical Assistance / Capacity Building / Demonstration Projects

Tribes

- Ask RWMG what technical assistance is being provided through DACTI Program to address water & waste water related issues, to increase Tribal participation in IRWMs & to prepare Tribes for project submission.
- If minimal to none, contact DWR to provide status, seek outside funding sources & meet with other Tribes in California to leverage funds & identify wider solutions

RWMGs

- Include capacity-building in your DACTI budget
- Evaluate what amount of funds are available & look through Needs Assessments to create a draft Technical Assistance Workplan
- Distribute workplan to Tribes in region with budget & receive additional recommendations &/or Tribal approval of Workplan
- Hire technical assistance providers as recommended by Tribes to provide that assistance

IRWM Project Development

Tribes

- Create projects in partnership: widen project service area & show multi-benefit
- Review Tribal projects in other regions & your IRWM goals & objectives
- Ask for project development support from your IRWM region
- Remember if your project is chosen, DWR can assist you in working through the compliance requirements & you may Consult with the agency officially if needed
- Know that it may take 7-18 months for funding to be available & plan

RWMGs

- Provide project development workshops: include completion of compliance documents
- Incentivize Tribal projects to receive funds: add point(s) to project criteria
- Tribal projects are often multi-benefit projects which benefits your region
- Create shortened pre-application process

DWR Support:

Create Primer or Appendix with guidance for Tribes & RWMGs

How IRWMs funding can leverage funds from other agencies & programs

- Provide guidance on difference of match & supplemental funding:
 - 1) Can Proposition 1 programs provide matching funds for Proposition 1 funded IRWM Implementation Projects?
 - 2) How DACTI program can elevate Tribal projects on Indian Health Service (IHS) list?

Compliance & Requirements: Project Submissions & Receipt of Funds

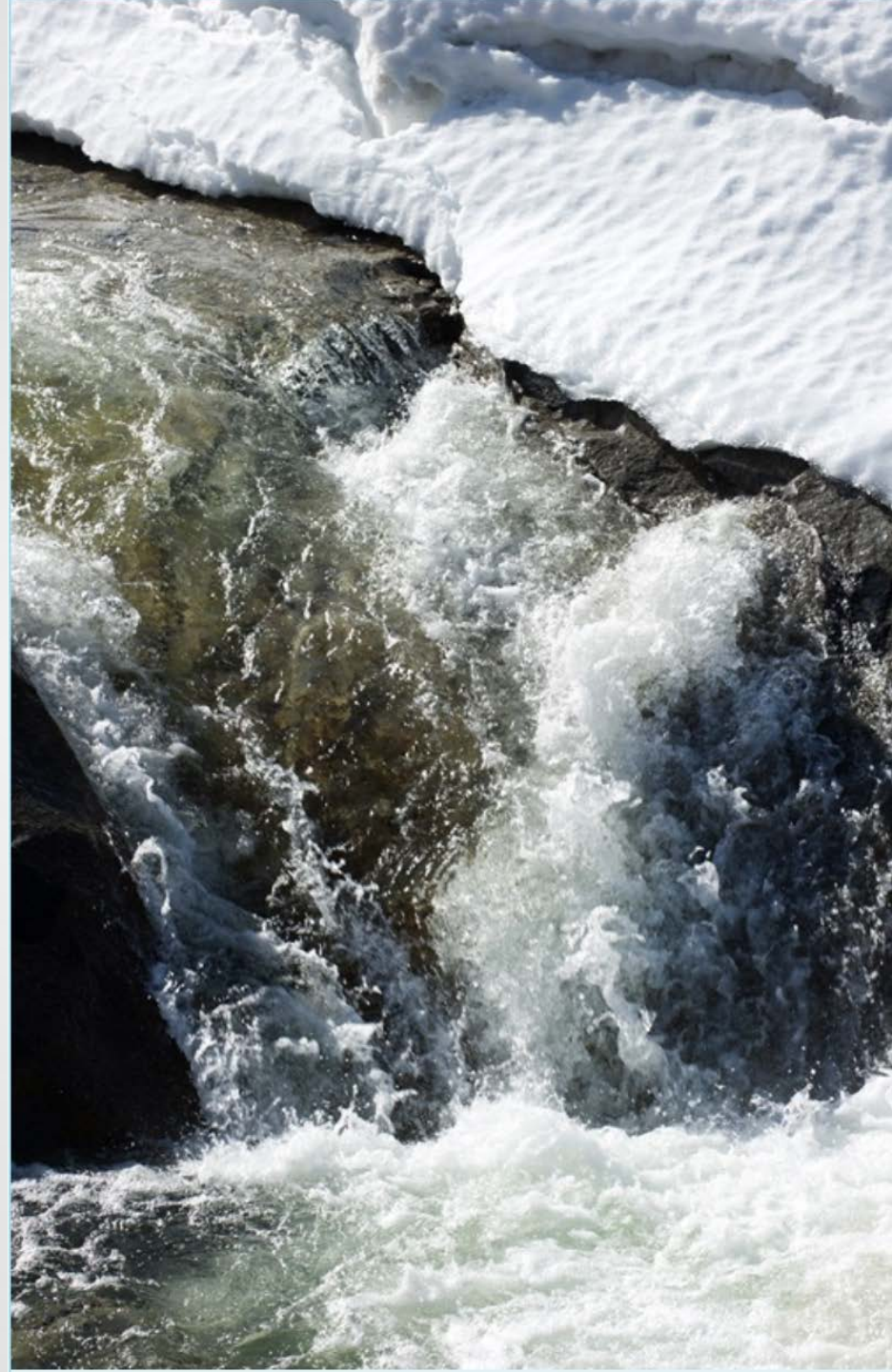
- Reduce the time it takes for IRWM Project funding to be available
- Share templates for completing CEQA/NEPA hybrid documentation
- Provide instructions & templates for Invoicing, reporting, project close out, & long-term project reporting & management
- DWR does not require Tribes to submit a Limited Waiver of Sovereign Immunity. Agency can provide model MoMUs as alternatives for RWMGs & continue to assist Tribes
- Provide examples of how Tribes utilized Tribal policies for Workers Wage Requirements
- Encourage Tribes to submit a wide range of sources to determine eligibility outside of Median Household Income by US Census

DWR Support:

- Develop matrix of success for evaluating Tribal engagement
- Provide RWMGs with submit to Tribes named in Needs Assessment reports before public sharing
- Request each RWMG provide an updated list of steps that Tribes need to complete to prepare project submissions
- Provide workshops on project development as a backstop, especially for regions that will not put funds into technical assistance & identify additional funds, or Tribal technical assistance in subsequent funding rounds
- Continue to work with other agencies to provide information about how agencies & programs intersect with IRWM – Example DWR & BIA work to develop solutions
- Support Tribes as IRWM leads &/or develop a Tribally-led program
- Support Tribal participation in the IRWM Lessons Learned Conference in development
- Development of a Tribal Caucus of the RWMG Round Table of Regions
- Identify where a legislative fix is required to address Tribal barriers to engagement

Discussion

Question & Answer



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF
WATER RESOURCES

BREAK

Please return in 10 minutes.

Reflection from DWR

Carmel Brown

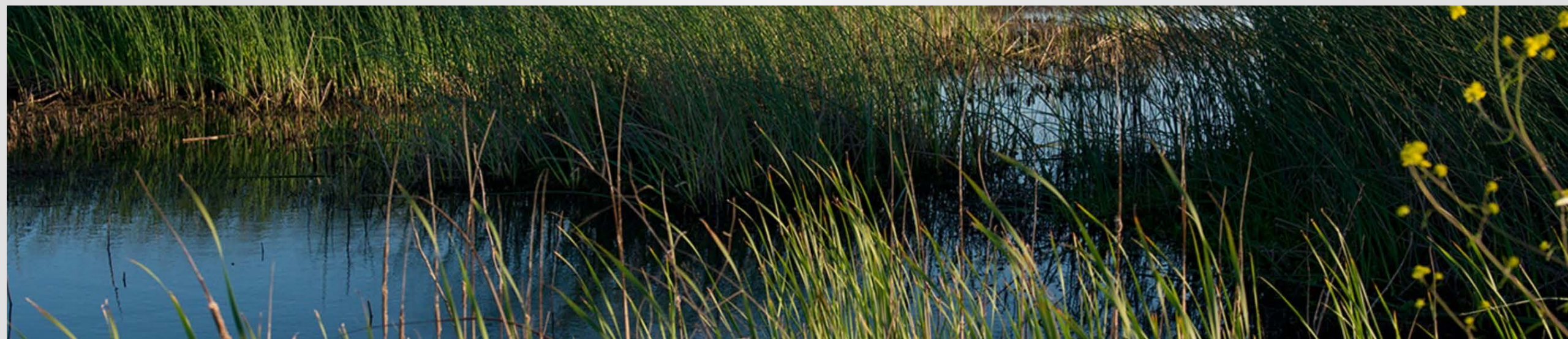
Financial Assistance Branch Chief
Division of Regional Assistance

Kris Tjernell

Deputy Director
Integrated Watershed Management

Cindy Messer

Chief Deputy Director
Executive Division



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Question & Answer

Carmel Brown

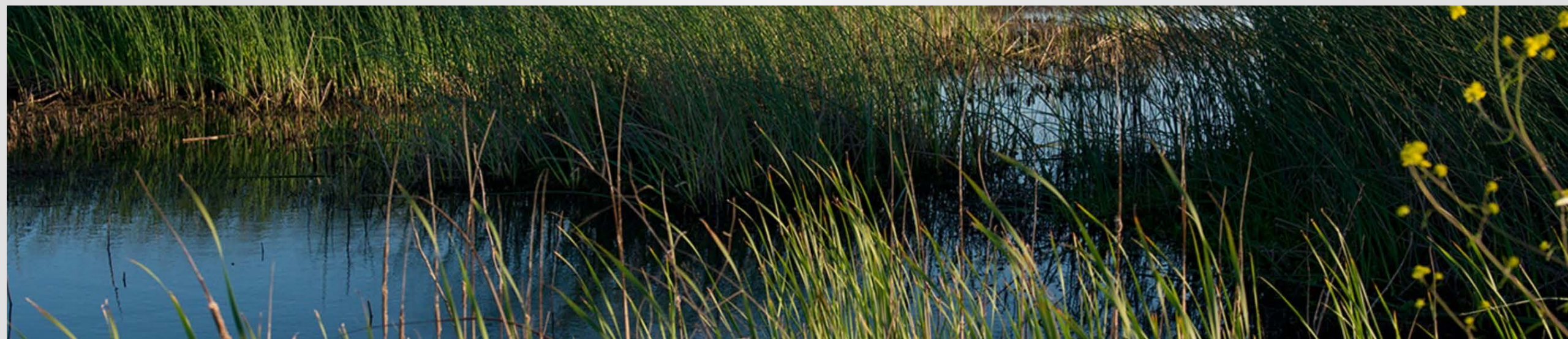
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Thank you for joining!

Appreciations & Next Steps

Webinar Materials: <http://facilitation-team.org/>

Division of Regional Assistance

<https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Integrated-Regional-Water-Management>

DWR_IRWM@water.ca.gov

Office of the Tribal Policy Advisor

<https://water.ca.gov/About/Tribal-Policy>
tribalpolicyadvisor@water.ca.gov

