

# 2024 Watershed Resilience Program Guidelines

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## FOREWORD

The 2024 Watershed Resilience Program Guidelines (2024 Guidelines) contain the general process, procedures, and criteria that DWR will use to implement the program.

### **Mailing List**

In addition to the above-referenced website, DWR will distribute information via e-mail. If you are not already on the e-mail distribution list and wish to be placed on it, please visit the following site:

<https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/CNRA/subscriber/new>

### **Contact Information**

For questions about the 2024 Guidelines or other issues, please contact DWR's Financial Assistance Branch at (916) 651-9613 or by e-mail at [dwr\\_irwm@water.ca.gov](mailto:dwr_irwm@water.ca.gov).

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# ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

<b>AB</b>	Assembly Bill	<b>GAMA</b>	Groundwater Ambient Monitoring Assessment
<b>RWQCP</b>	Regional Water Quality Control Plan	<b>GSA</b>	Groundwater Sustainability Agency
<b>CASGEM</b>	California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring	<b>GSP</b>	Groundwater Sustainability Plan
<b>CEDEN</b>	California Environmental Data Exchange Network	<b>GWMP</b>	Groundwater Management Plan
<b>CEQA</b>	California Environmental Quality Act	<b>IRWM</b>	Integrated Regional Water Management
<b>CNRA</b>	California Natural Resources Agency	<b>SGMA</b>	Sustainable Groundwater Management Act
<b>DAC</b>	Disadvantaged Community	<b>SWRCB</b>	State Water Resources Control Board
<b>DIR</b>	California Department of Industrial Relations	<b>UWS</b>	Urban Water Suppliers
<b>DWR</b>	Department of Water Resources		
<b>EO</b>	Executive Order		

# 2023 WATERSHED RESILIENCE PROGRAM GUIDELINES

## I. INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

Throughout the state, local and regional water management infrastructure is struggling to keep pace with the rapid changes brought about by climate change. The recent extremes of droughts and floods have exposed the vulnerabilities of this infrastructure. Recognizing the urgency posed by climate change and its evolving challenges, the State aims to enhance regional climate resilience through integrated watershed management. Strategic investments are essential to support planning and projects at the watershed scale, enabling communities to respond and adapt effectively.

Effective response to climate change requires greater collaboration across sectors such as water supply, flood management, groundwater management, forest conservation, ecosystem preservation, and land use planning. A comprehensive systems approach is crucial to understanding and managing climate impacts at the regional watershed scale, encompassing upper watersheds, lower watersheds, groundwater aquifers, and receiving water outlets. Inclusivity is paramount, and efforts must involve and engage new and/or disenfranchised partners who have been previously underrepresented in water management planning and decision-making processes to ensure equitable outcomes.

The watershed resilience approach aligns with the priorities of the Newsom administration, including the Governor's Water Supply Strategy (2021) and California Water Resilience Portfolio (2020). Emphasizing climate urgency, regional resilience, integrated resource management, and nature-based solutions, this approach focuses strongly on both resilience and equity. Leveraging and enhancing coordination between existing programs and collaborations, such as established Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) groups and Groundwater Sustainability Agencies, is key. Over the past two decades, the IRWM approach has built a solid foundation for the type of watershed networks envisioned by the Watershed Resilience Program. IRWM has fostered collaboration, built trust, and established governance structures for planning. The 45 IRWM Plans developed statewide have identified climate vulnerabilities, prioritized multibenefit projects, and emphasized equitable inclusion of underrepresented communities and Tribes.

To further advance regional climate resilience, the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) is introducing the Watershed Resilience Program

through the 2023 Update to the California Water Plan. This program seeks to build upon the IRWM Program, placing a stronger emphasis on climate vulnerability assessment, adaptation planning, watershed-based planning, multi-sector collaboration, and equity and inclusiveness. It builds upon the collaborative governance and regional planning achievements of IRWM, forming a solid foundation for future efforts.

The 2023 California Water Plan Update underscores the need to incentivize robust watershed-specific climate vulnerability analyses and adaptation planning. The State acknowledges watersheds as integral components of water infrastructure (Wat. Code, § 108.5) and aims to empower communities with the necessary data, technical assistance, and financial resources to foster resilient watersheds. This empowerment is critical for developing water solutions able to withstand existing and future climate change and uncertainties that lie ahead.

The vision of the Watershed Resilience Program is to support and assist locally driven watershed networks throughout diverse regions of California in their endeavors to:

- conduct quantitative assessments to understand multi-sector climate vulnerabilities and achieve regional climate resilience at the watershed scale,
- enhance coordination across all water management sectors at the watershed scale, and
- integrate equity considerations throughout the process to ensure equitable outcomes.

## **A. Funding**

The California State Budget (Stats. 2022, ch. 574, § 40; Stats. 2022, ch. 249, § 208; and Stats. 2023, ch.38, § 106) has provided \$52.5 million dollars in General Funds for projects addressing drought resilience and identification and assessment of climate risks on a watershed basis. This amount includes \$2.6 million for program delivery costs (5%) and \$49.9 million for local assistance as described in Section B.

## **B. Program Implementation**

Program implementation will be made via directed expenditures or a Proposal Solicitation.

### ***Directed Expenditure***

Directed expenditures are specific projects awarded funding at the discretion of the DWR Director outside of a public proposal solicitation process.

### ***Proposal Solicitations***

Proposal solicitations are common practice for government agencies to make funds available to other public entities to complete projects based on competitive ranking. Proposal solicitations generally work well to complete multiple smaller scale projects across multiple geographic regions and serves to support flood risk reduction and multi-benefit objectives.

## **C. Program Funding Opportunities**

Funding will largely be used to convene watershed networks, conduct comprehensive watershed climate resilience planning through a collaborative process, quantify vulnerabilities across sectors, develop adaptation strategies, identify adaptation pathways, and develop watershed resilience plans (or updated regional plans) with an emphasis on equity. Funding will be awarded via directed expenditures for a representative set of pilot planning projects to test the watershed resilience approach and establish a foundation for future programs .

## **D. Program Preferences and Statewide Priorities**

This program is aligned with the State's dedication to confronting and resolving critical water management challenges. The specific legislative provisions authorizing this program direct the prioritization of funds to areas with the greatest risk or potential to reduce environmental conflicts (Stats. 2022, ch. 574, § 40; Stats. 2022, ch. 249, § 208). Also, the program reflects the State's priorities for water management in California as outlined in Governor Newsom's Water Resilience Portfolio and California's Water Supply Strategy. Grounded in these directives, as proposed in Chapter 5 of the California Water Plan Update 2023, the program aims to prioritize funding to facilitate planning at the watershed scale, enhance climate change analysis, and promote equity in water management.

## Program Priorities:

### 1. Watershed Scale:

Watershed-scale planning is fundamental to effective water management, providing a comprehensive and integrated approach to address the complexities of water resources. By acknowledging the interconnectedness of land, water, and ecosystems within a watershed, we can formulate strategies that not only optimize water quantity and quality but also foster ecological balance and resilience, including the sustainable management of aquifers and preservation of headwaters. Watershed-scale planning enables a holistic understanding of the dynamics influencing water availability, distribution, and sustainability, allowing for the implementation of context-specific solutions. Embracing this approach fosters cooperative efforts among stakeholders, ensuring inclusive and informed decision-making that transcends political and administrative boundaries. Ultimately, prioritizing watershed-scale planning is crucial for achieving water security, environmental health, and the well-being of communities dependent on these vital resources.

### 2. Climate Change:

As we confront the escalating challenges of climate change, integrating adaptive and sustainable practices into water management strategies is essential. By fostering resilience in our water systems, implementing efficient water conservation measures, and adopting innovative technologies, we can adapt to the impacts of climate change on water and natural resources. Prioritizing a holistic watershed-based approach that considers the interconnectedness of land, water, and ecosystems is key to safeguarding the availability and quality of water for current and future generations. Through proactive and collaborative efforts, we can build a foundation for climate-resilient water management that contributes to both environmental sustainability and the well-being of communities worldwide.

### 3. Equity:

Addressing equity in water management is imperative for building sustainable and resilient communities. By prioritizing inclusive policies, community engagement, and fair distribution of resources, we can ensure that all individuals, regardless of socio-economic status or geographical location, have equal access to clean and sufficient water. This commitment to equity not only promotes social justice but



also strengthens the foundation for environmental stewardship and long-term water security for all Californians.

## II. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

### A. Eligible Grant Applicants

The enabling legislation for this program requires that funding can only be awarded to the following types of eligible grant applicants:

- ◆ Public agencies
- ◆ Water agencies

See Appendix B for definitions of these terms.

To be part of the proposal as a project proponent and access grant funding through their relationship with the grant applicant, Local Project Sponsors (LPS) must meet the definition of an Eligible Grant Applicant as described above. Note that if the applicant is found ineligible, the entire application will be considered ineligible. If the Local Project Sponsor is found ineligible, funding cannot be awarded to that project and the grant award will be proportionately reduced.

### B. Eligible Projects

The pilot planning projects will evaluate the establishment of watershed networks to leverage, enhance and improve coordination between existing regional collaborations (e.g. Integrated Regional Water Management, Groundwater Sustainability Agencies, Climate Collaboratives, etc). Key tasks will include climate vulnerability and risk assessments (including hazard identification); formulation and evaluation of adaptation strategies and development of performance tracking indicators and watershed resilience plan (or updates to an existing regional plan).

Within the context of this funding program, a "project" encompasses all activities related to planning, design, engineering, acquisition of real property interests, construction, and other associated efforts aimed at implementing a specific action funded by the program. Projects are required to address both drought resilience **and** the identification and assessment of climate risks on a watershed scale.

While the primary emphasis of this program is to fund planning projects for watershed resilience as described above, due to the enabling drought-related legislation, other eligible project types may be allowed, such as:

- Drought resilience planning.
- Construction or installation of permanent connections to adjacent water systems, recycled water projects that provide immediate relief to potable water supplies, and other projects that support immediate drought response.
- Emergency water interties.
- New wells or rehabilitation of existing wells.
- Fish and wildlife rescue, protection, and relocation.
- Education, outreach, direct installation programs, rebate programs, and other activities to increase water conservation.

### C. Eligibility Criteria

This is a general list of eligibility criteria for DWR grant funding opportunities. Funding recipients will be required to certify compliance at the time of award and ongoing compliance with these requirements (as applicable to their agency) throughout the duration of the grant agreement between DWR and a grantee.

#### ***Public Utilities and Mutual Water Companies***

A project proposed by a public utility that is regulated by the Public Utilities Commission or a mutual water company shall have a clear and definite public purpose and shall benefit the customers of the water system and not the investors.

#### ***Groundwater Management Compliance***

A local agency that does not prepare, adopt, and submit its groundwater [management] plan in accordance with groundwater planning requirements established under Division 6 of the Water Code (Water Code section §10000 et seq.) is ineligible to apply for grant funds until the plan is prepared and submitted in accordance the requirements of Division 6 of the Water Code. The groundwater management plan (GWMP) requirement shall not apply to a water replenishment district formed pursuant to Water Code section 60000 et seq., or to a local agency that serves or has authority to manage an adjudicated groundwater basin.

The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) (Water Code §10720 et seq.) changes grant eligibility related to groundwater management compliance. Various SGMA requirements become effective over time. Applicants will need to maintain continuing

eligibility with the most current SGMA requirements as they come into effect. Applicants with groundwater projects must follow specific instructions contained in each PSP on what to submit for groundwater management eligibility as SGMA is implemented.

- SGMA – SGMA (Water Code §10720 et seq.) specifies actions for critically over-drafted groundwater basins, high and medium priority basins, and low and very low priority basins. Groundwater project proponents must demonstrate how their project is consistent with SGMA efforts in the basin.
- Groundwater Management Plan Compliance – The applicant, or the project proponent responsible, must meet one of the following conditions (Water Code §10753.7 (b)(1)):
  - Conform to the requirements of an adjudication of water rights in the subject groundwater basin.
  - For projects in a high or medium priority basin, as designated by DWR, a GWMP that complies with Water Code section 10753.7 must be prepared, implemented, and have been adopted before January 1, 2015. If the GWMP was not by adopted after January 1, 2015, then the project(s) is (are) not eligible to receive funding (Water Code §10750.1(a)). However, this does not apply to a plan submitted as an alternative pursuant to Water Code section 10733.6, unless DWR has not determined that the alternative satisfies the objectives of Part 2.74 (commencing with Section 10720) on or before January 31, 2020, or DWR later determines that the plan does not satisfy the objectives (Water Code §10750.1(c)).
  - Participate or consent to be subject to a GWMP, basin-wide management plan, or other IRWM program or plan that meets the requirements of Water Code section 10753.7.
  - For projects located in low or very low priority groundwater basins, as designated by DWR, without an existing GWMP, the applicant or local project sponsor must commit to adopting a GWMP that meets the requirements of Water Code section 10753.7 or a GSP that meets the requirements of Water Code section 10727 et seq. within one-year of the grant application submittal date.

### ***California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring (CASGEM) Compliance***

Water Code section 10920 et seq. establishes a groundwater

monitoring program designed to monitor and report groundwater elevations in all or part of a basin or sub-basin. Information on the requirements of the CASGEM Program can be found at the link listed in Appendix A. DWR has established high, medium, low, and very low priority groundwater basins, as well as CASGEM monitoring entities. For those high and medium priority basins that do not have a CASGEM monitoring entity, a grant applicant and/or Local Project Sponsor that match the list of potential monitoring entities identified in Water Code

Section 10927, along with counties whose jurisdictions include unmonitored high and medium priority basins, will not be eligible for grant funding pursuant to Water Code section 10933.7(a).

Section 10933.7(b), if the entire service area of the grant applicant or the individual project proponent is demonstrated to be a DAC, as defined in Appendix B, the project will be considered eligible for grant funding notwithstanding CASGEM compliance.

### ***Stormwater Resource Plans***

Water Code section 10563(c) requires the development of a stormwater resource plan and compliance with these provisions to receive grants for stormwater and dry weather runoff capture projects. This requirement does not apply to DACs with a population of 20,000 or less and that is not a co-permittee for a municipal separate stormwater system national pollutant discharge elimination system permit issued to a municipality with a population greater than 20,000.

### ***Urban and Agricultural Water Suppliers Compliance***

To be eligible for grant funding under this program:

- Urban water suppliers (UWS) must have a current Urban Water Management Plan that has been reviewed by DWR and found to have addressed the requirements of the Urban Water Management Planning Act (Water Code §10610 et seq.).
- UWS must comply with the State Water Resources Control Board's Water Conservation and Production Reporting requirement. Reports are due on the 28th of each month and can be filed using the reporting tool at <https://drinc.ca.gov/Drinc/MonitoringReportInfo.aspx>.
- Agricultural water suppliers must have a current Agricultural Water Management Plan that has been reviewed by DWR and found to have addressed the requirements of the Agricultural

Water Management Planning Act (Water Code §10800 et seq.).

- Agricultural and urban water suppliers must comply with the conservation and water use efficiency measures of Water Code, Division 6, Part 2.55 (Water Code §10608 et seq.), Sustainable Water Use and Demand Reduction, and associated regulations.

### ***Water Metering Compliance***

Any urban water supplier applying for State grant funds for wastewater treatment projects, water use efficiency projects, drinking water treatment projects, or for a permit for a new or expanded water supply, shall demonstrate that they meet the water meter requirements in Water Code section 525 et seq.

### ***Surface Water Diversion Reporting Compliance***

A diverter of surface water is not eligible for a water grant or loan awarded or administered by the State unless it complies with surface water diversion reporting requirements outlined in Water Code, Division 2, Part 5.1 (Water Code §5100 et seq.).

### ***Open and Transparent Water Data***

Recipients of state funds through grants or contracts for research or projects relating to the improvement of water or ecological data shall, as a condition of the receipt of a grant or contract, adhere to the protocols developed pursuant to subdivision (a) for data sharing, transparency, documentation, and quality control (Water Code §12406(b)).

## **III. GENERAL PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

### **A. Conflict of Interest**

All participants are subject to State and federal conflict of interest laws. Failure to comply with these laws, including business and financial disclosure provisions, will result in the application being rejected and any subsequent grant agreement being declared void. Other legal action may also be taken.

Before submitting an application, applicants are urged to seek legal

counsel regarding conflict-of-interest requirements. Applicable statutes include, but are not limited to, Government Code section 1090 and Public Resources Code sections 10410 and 10411.

## **B. Confidentiality**

Once the application has been submitted to DWR, any privacy rights, as well as other confidentiality protections afforded by law with respect to the application package will be waived.

## **C. Labor Code Compliance**

Grant recipients are bound by all the provisions of the Labor Code regarding prevailing wages and shall monitor all contracts subject to reimbursement from this Agreement to assure that the prevailing wage provisions of the Labor Code are being met. The applicant must comply with all applicable laws when it hires private consultants to implement its project partially or fully.

For additional information on Labor Code compliance, please refer to the Department of Industrial Relations link listed in Appendix A. Before submitting an application, applicants are urged to seek legal counsel regarding California Labor Code compliance. DWR will not advise applicants on Labor Code compliance.

## **D. CEQA Compliance**

Activities funded under the Program regardless of funding source must comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Public Resources Code §21000 et seq.). Public Resources Code section 21080.3.1 requires the CEQA lead agency to consider project effects on Tribal cultural resources and to conduct consultation with California Native American Tribes.

## **E. Monitoring Requirements**

Water quality monitoring data shall be collected and reported to the SWRCB in a manner that is compatible and consistent with surface water monitoring data systems or groundwater monitoring data systems administered by the SWRCB. See Appendix A for web links to California Environmental Data Exchange Network and the Groundwater Ambient Monitoring and Assessment Program.

Projects that collect watershed monitoring data shall collect and report

the data in a manner consistent with the Department of Conservation's statewide watershed monitoring program.

#### **F. Signage or Acknowledgement of Credit**

To the extent practicable, a project supported by funds made available through this program will include signage or other relevant forms of acknowledgement informing the public that the project received funds from the appropriate Budget Act.

#### **G. Competitive Bidding and Procurement**

All contracts with other entities for the acquisition of goods, services, and construction of public works with funds provided by the State to grantees and LPSs must be in writing and shall comply with all applicable laws and regulations regarding the securing of competitive bids and undertaking competitive negotiations. If a grantee or LPS does not have a written policy to award contracts through a competitive bidding or sole source process, Department of General Services' State Contracting Manual rules must be followed and are available at:

<https://www.dgs.ca.gov/OLS/Resources/Page-Content/Office-of-Legal-Services-Resources-List-Folder/State-Contracting>.

Applicants with questions regarding competitive bidding requirements should be directed to their counsel. DWR will not advise applicants on competitive bidding requirements.

#### **H. Indemnify and Hold Harmless**

As part of the grant agreement, funding recipients shall indemnify and hold harmless the State, its officers, agents, and employees from any and all liability from any claims and damages (including inverse condemnation) arising from the planning, design, construction, repair, replacement, rehabilitation, maintenance, and operation of the project, and any breach of the grant agreement.

#### **I. Executive Order N-6-22 – Russia Sanctions**

On March 4, 2022, the Governor issued Executive Order N-6-22 (the EO) regarding Economic Sanctions against Russia and Russian entities and individuals. The EO may be found at:

<https://www.gov.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/3.4.22-Russia-Ukraine-Executive-Order.pdf>. "Economic Sanctions" refers to sanctions imposed by the U.S. government in response to

Russia's actions in Ukraine, as well as any sanctions imposed under State law. By submitting an application or proposal, the Applicant represents that it is not a target of Economic Sanctions.

Should the State determine that the Applicant is a target of Economic Sanctions or is conducting prohibited transactions with sanctioned individuals or entities, that shall be grounds for rejection of the Applicant's application or proposal; rescission of any award made to an Applicant prior to execution of a funding agreement; or, if determined after execution of a funding agreement, shall be grounds for termination by the State.



# APPENDIX A – USEFUL WEB LINKS

## Department of Water Resources (DWR)

Homepage:	<a href="http://www.water.ca.gov/">http://www.water.ca.gov/</a>
IRWM Grant Program:	<a href="https://water.ca.gov/Work-With-Us/Grants-And-Loans/IRWM-Grant-Programs">https://water.ca.gov/Work-With-Us/Grants-And-Loans/IRWM-Grant-Programs</a>
Financial Assistance Programs:	<a href="https://water.ca.gov/Work-With-Us/Grants-And-Loans">https://water.ca.gov/Work-With-Us/Grants-And-Loans</a>
DAC and EDA Mapping Tools & Data:	<a href="https://water.ca.gov/Work-With-Us/Grants-And-Loans/Mapping-Tools">https://water.ca.gov/Work-With-Us/Grants-And-Loans/Mapping-Tools</a>
2016 IRWM Plan Update Status; Plan Standards Review Tool:	<a href="https://water.ca.gov/Work-With-Us/Grants-And-Loans/IRWM-Grant-Programs/Plan-Review-Process">https://water.ca.gov/Work-With-Us/Grants-And-Loans/IRWM-Grant-Programs/Plan-Review-Process</a>
California Water Resilience Portfolio:	<a href="https://resources.ca.gov/Initiatives/Building-Water-Resilience/portfolio">https://resources.ca.gov/Initiatives/Building-Water-Resilience/portfolio</a>
Water Use and Efficiency Branch:	<a href="https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Water-Use-And-Efficiency">https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Water-Use-And-Efficiency</a>
Urban Water Management Plans:	<a href="https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Water-Use-And-Efficiency/Urban-Water-Use-Efficiency/Urban-Water-Management-Plans">https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Water-Use-And-Efficiency/Urban-Water-Use-Efficiency/Urban-Water-Management-Plans</a>
Agricultural Water Management Plans:	<a href="https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Water-Use-And-Efficiency/Agricultural-Water-Use-Efficiency">https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Water-Use-And-Efficiency/Agricultural-Water-Use-Efficiency</a>
General Groundwater Management:	<a href="https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Groundwater-Management">https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Groundwater-Management</a>
Climate Change Website:	<a href="https://water.ca.gov/Programs/All-Programs/Climate-Change-Program">https://water.ca.gov/Programs/All-Programs/Climate-Change-Program</a>
SGMA website:	<a href="https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Groundwater-Management/SGMA-Groundwater-Management">https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Groundwater-Management/SGMA-Groundwater-Management</a>
CASGEM Program:	<a href="https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Groundwater-Management/Groundwater-Elevation-Monitoring--CASGEM">https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Groundwater-Management/Groundwater-Elevation-Monitoring--CASGEM</a>

## State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board)

Homepage:	<a href="http://www.waterboards.ca.gov">http://www.waterboards.ca.gov</a>
Stormwater Resource Plan Guidance:	<a href="http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/swgp/docs/prop1/swrp_finalguidelines_dec2015.pdf">http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/swgp/docs/prop1/swrp_finalguidelines_dec2015.pdf</a>
California Environmental Data Exchange Network:	<a href="https://resources.ca.gov/Initiatives/Building-Water-Resilience/portfolio">https://resources.ca.gov/Initiatives/Building-Water-Resilience/portfolio</a> <a href="http://www.ceden.org/">http://www.ceden.org/</a>
Impaired Water Bodies:	<a href="https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/rwqcb5/water_issues/tmdl/impaired_waters_list/">https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/rwqcb5/water_issues/tmdl/impaired_waters_list/</a>
Groundwater Ambient Monitoring and Assessment:	<a href="http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/gama">http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/gama</a>

## Regional Water Quality Control Plans (Basin Plans)

All Regions: [https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/plans\\_policies/](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/plans_policies/)

## CEQA

California State Clearinghouse Handbook: [http://opr.ca.gov/docs/SCH\\_Handbook\\_2012.pdf](http://opr.ca.gov/docs/SCH_Handbook_2012.pdf)

## Climate Change Information

Climate Change Handbook: <https://water.ca.gov/-/media/DWR-Website/Web-Pages/Work-With->

California Climate Change Portal: <http://www.climatechange.ca.gov/>

AB 32 Scoping Plan: <http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/scopingplan/scopingplan.htm>

Cal-Adapt: <http://cal-adapt.org/>

## Department of Industrial Relations

Labor Compliance Programs: <http://www.dir.ca.gov/lcp.asp>

DIR's Public Works Manual: <http://www.dir.ca.gov/dlse/PWManualCombined.pdf>

## APPENDIX B – DEFINITIONS

**Acquisition** – obtaining an interest in real property including, easements, leases, water, water rights, or interest in water obtained for the purposes of instream flows and development rights.

**Adopted IRWM Plan** – an IRWM Plan that has been formally accepted, as evidenced by a resolution or other written documentation by the governing bodies of each agency that is part of the Regional Water Management Group (RWMG) responsible for the development of the Plan and have responsibility for implementation of the Plan. Adoption of an IRWM Plan must follow the notification process in Water Code section 10543.

**Agricultural Water Supplier** – a water supplier, either publicly or privately owned, that provides water to 10,000 or more irrigated acres, excluding the acreage that receives recycled water; also includes a supplier or contractor for water, regardless of the basis of right, that distributes or sells water for ultimate resale to customers (Water Code §10608.12(a)).

**Applicant** – the entity that is formally submitting a grant application. This is the same entity that would enter into an agreement with the State should the grant application be funded.

**Application** – the electronic or hard copy submission to DWR that requests grant funding for a proposal that the applicant intends to implement.

**Basin Plan** – also referred to as Regional Water Quality Control Plan, identifies: 1) beneficial uses to be protected; 2) water quality objectives for their reasonable protection of beneficial uses; and 3) a program of implementation for achieving the water quality objectives as established by the RWQCBs or SWRCB (Water Code §13050(j)).

**Beneficial Uses** – the uses of streams, lakes, rivers, and other water bodies to humans and other life. Beneficial uses are outlined in a Regional Water Quality Control Plan (Basin Plan). (See also Water Code §13050(f)).

**Disadvantaged Community** – a community with an annual median household income that is less than 80 percent of the Statewide annual median household income.

**Drought Resilience Planning** – planning efforts intended to foster long term resilience to drought to address one or more of the following: (1) building a community’s coping capacity and ability to prepare for and adapt to drought; (2) improving drought early warning, forecasting, and monitoring; (3) improving drought emergency response; and (4) improving recovery and relief from adverse effects.

**Economically Distressed Area** – a municipality with a population of 20,000 persons or less, a rural county, or a reasonably isolated and divisible segment of a larger municipality where the segment of the population is 20,000 persons or less, with an annual median household income that is less than 85 percent of the statewide median household income, and with one or more of the following conditions as determined by the department: (1) financial hardship, (2) unemployment rate at least 2 percent higher than the statewide average, or (3) low population density.

**Environmental Justice** – the fair treatment of people of all races, cultures, and incomes with respect to the development, adoption, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies (Government Code §65040.12(e)).

**Grantee** – a grant recipient that is responsible for the administration of the grant agreement.

**Grant Administration** – work or other activities performed by the Grantee or Local Project Sponsor including, but not limited to, activities associated with administering the grant, submitting progress reports, invoice processing, coordinating with DWR’s Financial Assistance Branch, and other like work required for the successful execution, managing, processing, and closing of a Grant Agreement.

**In-Kind Services** – work performed by the Grantee that furthers the scope of the grant, the cost of which is considered local cost share in-lieu of actual funds from the Grantee.

**Integrated Regional Water Management** – Integrated Regional Water Management is a

collaborative effort to identify and implement water management solutions on a regional scale that increase regional self-reliance, reduce conflict, and manage water to concurrently achieve social, environmental, and economic objectives.

**IRWM Plan** – a comprehensive plan for a defined geographic area, the specific development, content, and adoption of which shall satisfy requirements developed pursuant to this part. At a minimum, an Integrated Regional Water Management Plan describes the major water-related objectives and conflicts within a region, considers a broad variety of resource management strategies, identifies the appropriate mix of water demand and supply management alternatives, water quality protections, and environmental stewardship actions to provide long-term, reliable, and high-quality water supply and protect the environment, and identifies disadvantaged communities in the region and takes the water-related needs of those communities into consideration. (Water Code §10530 et seq., in particular §10534)

**Local Cost Share** – non-State fund portion of cost share made available by the applicant to assist in financing a project which can include in-kind-services directly related to the scope of work presented in the grant proposal. Generally, local cost share expenses must meet reimbursable cost requirements (defined below).

**Local Project Sponsor** – the sponsor of an individual project contained within the grant agreement.

**Long-term** – means for a period of not less than 20 years.

**Mutual Water Company** – a private corporation or association organized for the purposes of delivering water to its stockholders and members at cost, including use of works for conserving, treating, and reclaiming water (Public Utilities Code §§2725-2729).

**Natural Infrastructure** - “Natural infrastructure” means a network of ecological areas, man-made systems, or practices that use or mimic natural processes to benefit people or wildlife. “Natural infrastructure” reduces vulnerability to the impacts of climate change and includes, but is not limited to, permeable pavements, bioswales, wetlands, floodplains, forests, urban forests, beaches, dunes, tidal marshes, reefs, seagrass, parks, rain gardens, and engineered systems, such as levees, that are combined with restored natural systems, to provide a wide array of benefits to people or wildlife.

**Physical Benefits** –measures of project accomplishments (expressed as numeric targets) such as amount of water supply, change in water quality, area, and types of properties protected by flood control features, habitat measured in acreage or flow, energy production or savings, recreation facilities, etc.

**Public Agency** – any state agency or department, special district, joint powers authority, city, county, city and county, or other political subdivision of the State.

**Public Utility** – as defined in Public Utilities Code §216.

**Reimbursable Costs** – costs that may be repaid by state grant. Reimbursable costs may include the reasonable costs of engineering, design, land and easement, legal fees, preparation of environmental documentation, environmental mitigation, and project implementation including directly related administrative costs.

Costs that are not reimbursable with grant funding include, but are not limited to:

- a. Costs for preparing and filing a grant application
- b. Operation and maintenance costs, including post construction project performance and monitoring costs
- c. Purchase of equipment not an integral part of the project
- d. Establishing a reserve fund
- e. Purchase of water supplies
- f. Replacement of existing funding sources for ongoing programs
- g. Purchase of land in excess of the minimum required acreage necessary to operate as an integral part of the project, as set forth and detailed by engineering and feasibility studies or acquisition of land by eminent domain
- h. Mitigation for environmental impacts not resulting from implementation of the

- project funded by this program
- i. Federal and State taxes
  - j. Indirect Costs, except those that are directly assignable to the grant (documented and proportionately assessed). Examples of Indirect Costs include but are not limited to: central service costs; general administration of the Grantee or Local Project Sponsors (LPS); non-project-specific accounting and personnel services performed within the Grantee or LPS' organizations; depreciation or use allowances on buildings and equipment; the costs of operating and maintaining non-project-specific facilities; tuition; conference fees; and, generic overhead or markup. This prohibition applies to the Grantee, LPSs, and any subcontract or sub-agreement for work completed pursuant to the funding agreement executed with the State.

**Resilience** - the capacity of any entity—an individual, a community, an organization, or a natural system—to prepare for disruptions, to recover from shocks and stresses, and to adapt and grow from a disruptive experience. Adaptation actions contribute to resilience, which is a desired outcome or state of being

**Scoring Criteria** – set of requirements used by DWR to evaluate a proposal for a given program or for funding.

**Small Disadvantaged Community** – for the purposes of Water Code section 10545, a small, disadvantaged community shall mean a Disadvantaged Community that also has a yearlong population of no more than 10,000 persons.

**Stakeholder** – an individual, group, coalition, agency, or others who are involved in, affected by, or have an interest in the implementation of a specific program or project.

**Urban Water Supplier** – supplier, either publicly or privately owned, that provides water for municipal purposes, either directly or indirectly, to more than 3,000 customers or supplying more than 3,000 acre-feet of water annually (Water Code §10617)

**Water Agency** - local public agency, irrigation district, mutual water company, or reclamation district that has authority to extract, deliver, store, or regulate water.

CALIFORNIA NATURAL RESOURCES  
AGENCY DEPARTMENT OF WATER  
RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF REGIONAL ASSISTANCE