

Tulare Kern Funding Area

The Tulare Kern Funding Area includes the southern half of the San Joaquin Valley and the southern portion of the Sierra Nevada mountain range. There are seven IRWM Regions in the Funding Area: Kern, Poso Creek, Southern Sierra, Tule, Kaweah, Kings, and Westside-San Joaquin.

Disadvantaged Community Involvement Program

The Disadvantaged Community Involvement Program in the Tulare Kern Funding Area involves the seven IRWM groups. The Funding Area relied on the IRWM regions and Self-Help Enterprises to facilitate Tribal outreach for the program. The DACI grant included a project development component, through which the Tule River Tribe received funding to develop design and engineering documents for three projects.

Grantee: **Tulare County**

Grant Award: **\$3,400,00**

Grant Start: February 2018

Needs Assessment: In Progress

Integrated Regional Water Management Regions *

Southern Sierra

The Southern Sierra IRWM region lies partially in the Tulare Kern Funding Area and partially in the Mountain Counties Funding Area. The group recognizes three federally recognized, and many other non-federally recognized, tribes. The Regional Water Management Group (RWMG) is governed according to a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The Group includes 18 members who have signed the MOU, including Big Sandy Rancheria, and 43 interested stakeholders who participate but have no voting rights. The RWMG is supported by a Coordinating Committee and various Work Groups who provide advice and input to the RWMG. The Stakeholder Coordinator for the Group has reached out to the local Native American Tribes to encourage their participation and membership.

Kings Basin

The Kings Basin Water Authority is a Joint Powers Authority. Members must execute the JPA and pay an annual assessment. Interested parties can participate free of cost. The Authority is governed by a Board of Directors comprised of one representative from each Member agency. An Advisory Committee and numerous Work Groups provide advice to the Board of Directors and assist with IRWM plan development, technical studies, project evaluation, and administrative efforts. No Tribes within the region are known to have been engaged in governance or planning processes.



Kaweah River Basin

The Kaweah Delta Water Conservation District (KDWCD) is identified as the Lead Party of the Regional Water Management Group. The governance of this region resides with the Governing Board put into place as a result of the MOU. The Board of Directors is comprised of elected or appointed individuals with specific relationship to each MOU signatory and one individual selected by the Stakeholder Advisory Group. Actions taken by the governing Board are done in conjunction with input from the Stakeholders Advisory Group, including the Santa Rosa Tachi Tribe. The KDWCD has a longstanding relationship with tribal community representatives in the area and it an objective of their IRWM plan to continue this relationship on an expanded basis.

Tule

There are currently eleven active participants in the Tule River IRWM Group. The Group also includes a Stakeholder Advisory Group that has participated extensively in the formation of the IRWM plan. It is an objective of the IRWM plan to protect water resources that are critical to Native American Tribal Communities, and to encourage open communication between Tribal communities and other stakeholder groups to find effective water management solutions.

Poso Creek

The Poso Creek Regional Water Management Group consists of seven voting members, comprised of a member from each of the five agricultural water districts and North West Kern Resource Conservation District (NWKRC) and a representative for economically-disadvantaged communities (DACs) as part of the RWMG's Disadvantaged Community Work Group. No Tribes within the region are known to have been engaged in governance or planning processes.

Kern County

Regional Water Management Group Participants are involved in the decision-making process during development of the Kern IRWM plan. The Tubatulabal Tribe of Kern Valley is involved in the RWMG as a participant and they provided helpful, direct feedback during development of the Plan. A stakeholder group has also been incorporated thus allowing any entity to participate in the IRWMP process. In addition to stakeholders and the RWMG, an Executive Committee has been formed. This group is a composite of 10 stakeholders representing the various regions and represents the working group of the RWMG.

Westside - San Joaquin

The Westside-San Joaquin IRWM Region lies partially in the Tulare Kern Funding Area and partially in the San Joaquin River Funding Area. The Regional Water Management Group (RWMG) for the Westside-San Joaquin (WSJ) Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Region is the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority (SLDMWA). The SLDMWA Board of Directors acts as the governing authority for the RWMG for the Region. Memoranda of Agreement are also executed with non-member agencies for IRWM planning coordination. No tribes within the region are known to have been engaged in governance or planning processes.



** Information on each Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) region was gathered from publicly available information from the region's website or IRWM plan. This information may not reflect the most recent or accurate understanding of Tribal engagement in the region. Please contact the IRWM region for additional information.*



Contact Information

Tulare Kern Funding Area

Disadvantaged Community Involvement Program (DACI)

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Kern County

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