

SECTION 1. GOVERNANCE EXCERPT FROM WORKING DRAFT

MONTEREY PENINSULA, CARMEL BAY, AND SOUTH MONTEREY BAY 2013

INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

Regional Water Management Group



Other Stakeholders

California American Water	Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (NOAA)
California Coastal Commission	Monterey Coastkeeper
California Coastal Conservancy	Monterey County Hospitality Association
California Department of Fish and Game	Monterey County Public Works
California Department of Water Resources	Monterey County Service Area 50
California Native Plant Society, Monterey County	Monterey County Resource Conservation District
California Department of Parks and Recreation	Monterey County Resource Management Agency
California State Water Resources Control Board	Monterey Peninsula Chamber of Commerce
California State University Monterey Bay: Watershed Institute	Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District
Carmel Area Wastewater District	Monterey Regional Waste Management District
Carmel River Steelhead Association	National Marine Fisheries Service
Carmel River Watershed Conservancy	Pebble Beach Community Service District
Carmel Unified School District	Pebble Beach Company
Carmel Valley Association	Planning and Conservation League
Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board	Seaside Basin Watermaster
City of Carmel-by-the-Sea	Surfrider Foundation
City of Del Rey Oaks	The Nature Conservancy
City of Pacific Grove	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
City of Sand City	U.S. Forest Service
City of Seaside/ Seaside County Sanitation District?	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Coastal Watershed Council	Ventana Wilderness Society
Fort Ord Reuse Authority	
Note: These agencies were identified as stakeholders during the 2007 IRWM Plan process or sent email confirmation in May 2012 that they would like to be included in the 2013 Update process.	

Addendums/Changes since November 2007 (date of adoption)

June 2008 - add Resolutions of Adoption (Appendix F), clarify Planning Region description (Executive Summary and Chapter 3)

August 2008 – add copy of fully executed Memorandum of Understanding to form a Water Management Group (Appendix A)

February 2009 – update project descriptions and prioritization for Prop. 84/1E expedited implementation grant round

2012 - 2013 – update entire document in accordance with new governance, and in compliance with updated guidance from DWR

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This document is available on the web at:

http://www.mpwmd.dst.ca.us/Mbay_IRWM/Mbay_IRWM.htm

For additional information, contact Larry Hampson at (831) 658-5620

[insert Table of Contents here]

Acronyms

AF – acre-feet

AFA – acre-feet per annum

AFY – acre feet per year

AMBAG – Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments

ASBS – Areas of Special Biological Significance

ASR – Aquifer Storage and Recovery

AWT – advanced wastewater treatment

BIRP – Begonia Iron Treatment Plant

BMP – best management practice

BSLT – Big Sur Land Trust

CDPR – California Department of Parks and Recreation (see also CSP)

CSIP – Castroville Seawater Intrusion Project

CALTRANS – California Department of Transportation

CAW – California American Water

CAWD – Carmel Area Wastewater District

CCA – Critical Coastal Area

CCC – California Coastal Commission

CCR – Central Coast Region

CDFG – California Department of Fish and Game

CDP – Coastal Development Plan

CEQA – California Environmental Quality Act

CDO – cease and desist order

CRB – Carmel River Basin

CRLF – California red-legged frog

CRMP – Carmel River Management Plan

CRRDR – Carmel River Reroute and Dam Removal

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CRWC – Carmel River Watershed Conservancy

CSA – County Service Area

CSP – California State Parks

CSU – California State University

CSUMB – California State University Monterey Bay

CVSIM – Carmel Valley Simulation Program

CWA – Clean Water Act

CZARA – Coastal Zone Act Reauthorization Amendment

DPB – disinfection by-product

DSOD – California Division of Safety of Dams

DWR – California Department of Water Resources

EIR – Environmental Impact Report

EIS – Environmental Impact Statement

GRP – Groundwater Recharge Project

GWR – groundwater replenishment

ICWM – Integrated Coastal Watershed Management

ICWMP – Integrated Coastal Watershed Management Plan

IRWM – Integrated Regional Water Management

IRWMP – Integrated Regional Water Management Plan

LCP – Local Coastal Plan

LUP – Land Use Plan

MBNMS – Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary

MCWRA – Monterey County Water Resources Agency

MCWRP – Monterey County Water Recycling Project

MGD – million gallons per day

MM – Management Measures

MOU – memorandum of understanding

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MPPRPD – Monterey Peninsula Regional Parks District

MPWRS - Monterey Peninsula Water Resource System

MPWMD – Monterey Peninsula Water Management District

MRSWMP – Monterey Regional Storm Water Management Program

MRWPCA – Monterey Regional Water Pollution Control Agency

MURP – Model Urban Runoff Program

NOAA – National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

NOP – Notice of Preparation

NPDES – National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

NPS – non-point source

NTU – nephelometric turbidity units

PBCSD – Pebble Beach Community Services District

PBC – Pebble Beach Company

RURWP – Regional Urban Recycled Water Project

RM – river mile (measured from the Pacific Ocean)

RMAP –Regional Monitoring and Assessment Plan

RTP – Monterey Regional Water Pollution Control Agency Regional Treatment Plant

RWQCB – Regional Water Quality Control Board

SAC – science advisory committee

SVRP – Salinas Valley Reclamation Project

SBGMP – Seaside Basin Groundwater Management Plan

SCC – State Coastal Conservancy

SFBCDC – San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission

SGB – Seaside Groundwater Basin

SSAMP – Sewer System Asset Management Plan

SVRP – Salinas Valley Reclamation Plant

SWAMP – Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program

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SWQPA – State water quality protection area

SWRCB – State Water Resources Control Board

TAC – technical advisory committee

TDS – total dissolved solids

TMDL – Total Maximum Daily Load

USACE – United States Army Corps of Engineers

USFWS – United States Fish and Wildlife Service

USGS – United States Geological Service

WDR – Waste Discharge Requirement

WQPP – Water Quality Protection Program

WMI – Watershed Management Initiative

RWMG – Regional Water Management Group

[INSERT EXECUTIVE SUMMARY TO BE COMPLETED AT A LATER DATE]

1. Governance

1.1 Introduction

Proposition 84 and 1E Guidelines (Guidelines) require that the IRWM Plan document the governance structure. This section of the IRWM Plan includes the following, as required by the Guidelines:

- *Section 1.2 Regional Water Management Group:* The name and description of the RWMG responsible for development and implementation of the Plan, and how the makeup of the RWMG meets the definition of California Water Code (CWC) Section 10539.¹ The RWMG and individual project proponents who have adopted or will adopt the Plan.
- *Section 1.3 Memorandum of Understanding:* A description of the formalized IRWM governance structure, including how the chosen form of governance addresses and ensures the following:
 - Effective decision making and communication
 - Long term implementation of the IRWM Plan
 - How interim changes and formal changes to the IRWM Plan will be performed
 - Updating or amending the IRWM Plan
- *Section 1.4 RWMG and Stakeholder Coordination for Updates to and adoption of IRWM Plan (see also Section 14)*
 - How interim changes and formal changes to the IRWM Plan will be performed
 - Updating or amending the IRWM Plan
 - A summary of the collaborative process used to establish plan objectives
- *Section 1.4 Central Coast Integrated Regional Water Management/Interregional Coordination:* A description of how the plan update process has addressed and ensured the following:
 - Effective communication external to the IRWM region
 - Coordination with neighboring IRWM efforts and State and federal agencies

¹ RWMG is defined by DWR as “a group in which three or more local agencies, at least two of which have statutory authority over water supply or water management, as well as those other persons who may be necessary for the development and implementation of a plan that meets the requirements of CWC §10540 and §10541, participate by means of a joint powers agreement, Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), or other written agreement, as appropriate, that is approved by the governing bodies of those local agencies.”

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In addition, a detailed discussion of the 2013 IRWM Plan Stakeholder Involvement and Outreach is provided in Section 14, including how the plan update process has addressed and ensured the following:

- Balanced access and opportunity for participation in the IRWM process
- Public outreach and involvement processes
- The collaborative process(es) used to establish plan objectives

Development of this 2013 Update to the IRWM Plan is a collaborative effort of public, non-profit, and for-profit (commercial) entities in the region, collectively, the stakeholders. The MPWMD is the lead entity for facilitating the development and implementation of the Plan.

1.2 Regional Water Management Group

The Regional Water Management Group (RWMG) represents the diverse interests of the Region and meets the definition of CWC section 10539. For the IRWM Plan first adopted in 2007, the RWMG was comprised of representatives from the Big Sur Land Trust (BSLT), the City of Monterey, the Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA), the Monterey Regional Water Pollution Control Agency (MRWPCA), and the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD). For this IRWM Plan Update, Marina Coast Water District (MCWD) and the Resource Conservation District of Monterey County (RCDMC) are proposed to be added to the RWMG, which represents the diverse interests of the Region

Both MCWRA and MPWMD have responsibility for integrated water resource management within the Monterey Peninsula Region. However, to ensure that resource management efforts are not duplicated, MPWMD and MCWRA entered into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) in 1993 that addressed water supply, flood control, water conservation, water recycling, and taxation and assessments in Monterey County (MCWRA, MPWMD, and Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency, August 24, 1993). It should be noted that MCWRA, MRWPCA, MCWD, and RCDMC are also members of the RWMG for the Greater Monterey County IRWM Plan.

The City of Monterey provides storm water collection, maintains the sanitary sewer system, and manages park and open space areas for a population of approximately 30,000 within its jurisdiction. For the purposes of IRWM, Monterey represents many of the interests of the six Monterey Peninsula cities of Carmel-by-the Sea, Del Rey Oaks, Pacific Grove, Monterey, Sand City, and Seaside that are within the IRWM planning region.

The Big Sur Land Trust, which has been conserving coastal resources along the California central coast for more than a quarter of a century, serves as a bridge between private and public sectors and has recently increased its participation in resource planning in both the Carmel

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Valley and Salinas Valley. MRWPCA has multi-regional responsibility for wastewater treatment and the use of recycled water within the Monterey Peninsula and Salinas Valley areas. MCWD provides water and wastewater services within the Ord Community (former Fort Ord), which is geographically split between the Monterey Peninsula and Greater Monterey County planning regions. The RCDMC mission is to conserve and improve natural resources, integrating the demand for environmental quality with the needs of agricultural and urban users.

The agencies participating in the RWMG are described in detail below.

Big Sur Land Trust (BSLT)

The Big Sur Land Trust (BSLT) strategically and responsibly identifies and acquires valuable landscapes to protect them from the growing pressures of development as a legacy for future generations. A harmonious but fragile balance between man and nature still exists within the planning Region. The Big Sur Land Trust has been working to protect the incredible lands throughout California's central coast for more than a quarter of a century. Since its inception, the Big Sur Land Trust has become a national leader in land conservation forging partnerships with willing landowners to protect land from development at a time of unrivalled and unparalleled growth in California either through acquisition or the establishment of conservation easements. Creating an effective private sector alternative for land preservation, the Big Sur Land Trust also serves as a bridge between private and public sectors.

The Big Sur Land Trust, a Carmel-based non-profit organization, has protected more than 30,000 acres of spectacular landscapes along the Big Sur Coast, Monterey Bay shoreline, and other special places in Monterey County. Its efforts include habitat and nature restoration, watershed management, and land conservancy. The Big Sur Land Trust protects shoreline, wildlife habitat, streams, forests, grasslands and awe inspiring views. Big Sur Land Trust's vision includes leaving a remarkable legacy for all generations.

BSLT is working on several projects in the Region with a group of partners including the California Coastal Conservancy, the Department of Parks and Recreation (State Parks), the Monterey County Water Resources Agency, the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District, The Nature Conservancy, the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, the Carmel River Watershed Conservancy and the Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District. State Parks operates seven historical and recreational areas near the coast in this Region, including the Carmel River Lagoon and State Beach. The Nature Conservancy is a conservation organization that works to protect ecologically important lands and waters. Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District manages more than 20,000 acres within its boundary. The Monterey Bay National

Marine Sanctuary is the largest of its kind on the west coast. BSLT brings a unique perspective to the Stakeholder group with their contacts and extensive experience with the private sector.

City of Monterey

The City of Monterey, founded when an expedition by land and sea brought Gaspar de Portolá and Franciscan Father Junipero Serra to Monterey in 1770, provides a range of services to its population including maintenance and development of outdoor recreation facilities (parks), management of historic Monterey Harbor, maintenance of sewers, and storm water management. Monterey is one of more than 300 California cities operating under the Council-City Manager form of government.

Monterey represents the interests of the six Monterey Peninsula cities that constitute a major urban service area in the MPWMD district boundary. Monterey and other cities provide various municipal services to their respective populations as well as to a significant tourist industry valued at an estimated \$2 billion per year. The City of Monterey is represented on the Board of the Monterey Regional Water Pollution Control Agency (MRWPCA) and is a participating entity in the Monterey Regional Stormwater Management Program (MRSWP – see the description of the program under the Monterey Regional Water Pollution Control Agency).

Marina Coast Water District

The Marina Coast Water District (MCWD) was originally formed in 1960 to provide potable water service to all residential, commercial, industrial, environmental, and fire protection uses in the unincorporated community of Marina, an area of approximately six square miles located on the coast of the Monterey Bay at the northwest end of the Salinas Valley (see “Central Marina” in **Figure XX**). The original boundary was coincident with the Marina Fire District. In 2001, the Army transferred the water and wastewater systems in the former Fort Ord area to MCWD and the 44-square mile area was renamed the Ord Community. In 2011, MCWD proposed formal annexation of the Ord Community into the MCWD boundary.

In 1970, MCWD constructed a wastewater treatment plant and installed a wastewater collection system to serve the community. The City of Marina incorporated in 1975, but MCWD remained separate. In 1991, MCWD constructed a pilot recycled water system providing tertiary treated wastewater for irrigation of public streetscapes and parks near the wastewater plant. This system operated only until 1992, when the wastewater collection system was connected to the regional wastewater system operated by the MRWPCA. The Marina wastewater treatment plant was retired, and MCWD now provides wastewater collection services only, with treatment performed at the regional plant. In 1996, MCWD constructed a seawater desalination facility to explore the feasibility of extracting seawater through shallow

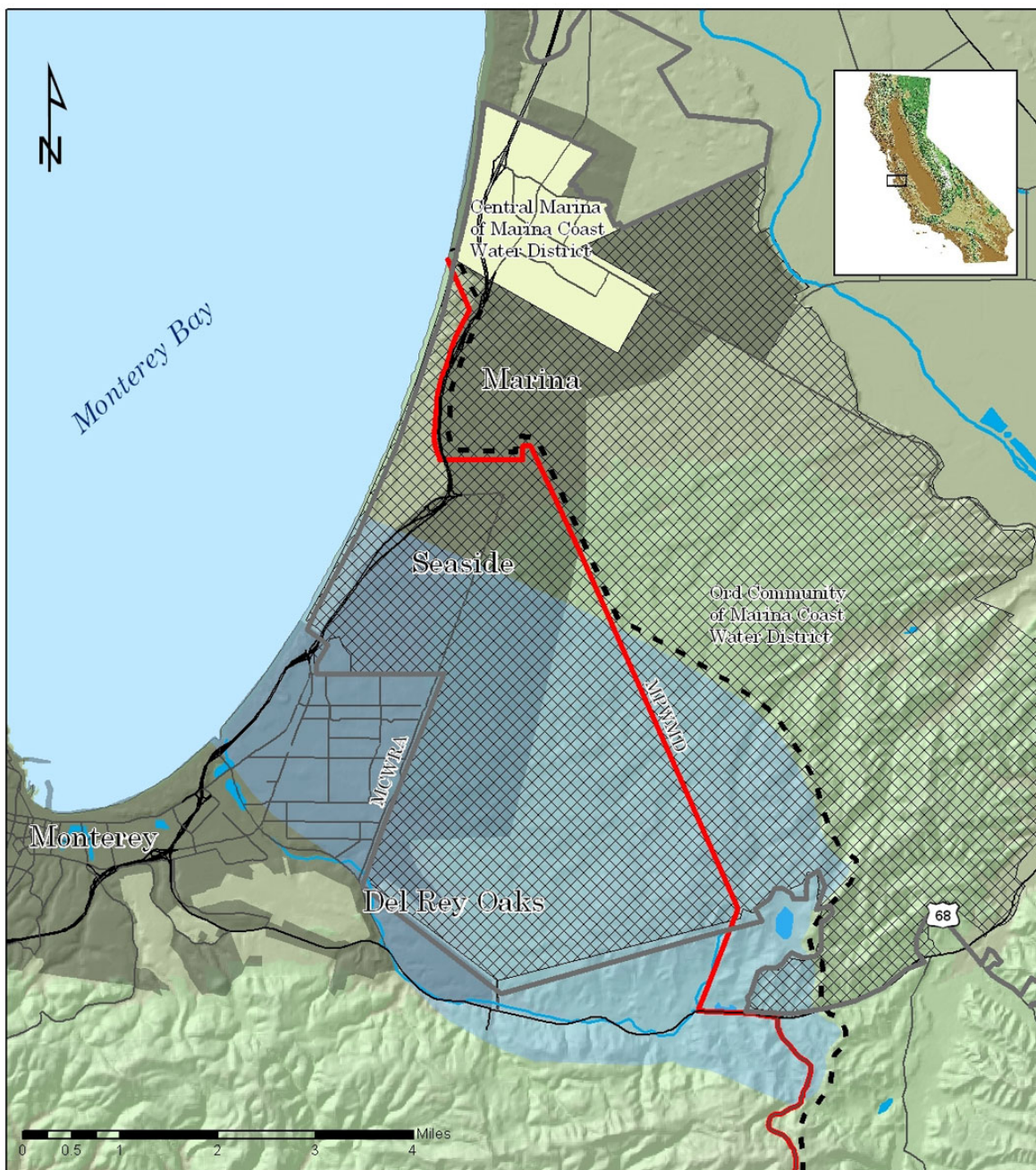
wells along the beach. The District also provides potable water delivery and wastewater conveyance services within the boundaries of the former Fort Ord Army Base, known as the Ord Community. The Ord Community encompasses a 44 square mile area, of which about 20 square miles is designated for redevelopment, with the balance being parks and open space.

In 1991, the former Army base was downsized and realigned pursuant to the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990, with closure in 1994. Portions of the base were retained for use by the U.S. Army under the control of the Presidio of Monterey (Presidio Annex), with the balance being converted to civilian use under the guidance of the Fort Ord Reuse Authority (FORA), a public agency created for this purpose by the State of California. FORA's membership includes the land use jurisdictions encompassed by the former Fort Ord lands and others on the Monterey Peninsula. Redevelopment of the former Fort Ord has been focused on the development of several institutes of higher education, specifically, California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB), University of California, Monterey Bay Environmental Science and Technology Center (UCMBEST), and Monterey Peninsula College.

FORA has the statutory authority to provide for public capital facilities, including but not limited to, stormwater, water and wastewater facilities on the former Fort Ord. However, FORA has a limited statutory life and needed a reliable, long-term entity to provide public services to the area. In May 1997, the FORA Board approved the preparation of a Public Benefit Conveyance (PBC) application to the federal government for transfer of the water distribution and wastewater collection systems to MCWD. In June 1997, the U.S. Army and MCWD signed a caretaker agreement authorizing MCWD to operate the water and wastewater collection systems. In February 1998, MCWD and FORA executed an agreement for water and wastewater facilities, providing for the ownership and operation of water and wastewater facilities acquired from the federal government for the benefit of FORA. The Water and Wastewater Oversight Committee of the FORA Board oversees the operation of these facilities by MCWD. Title for these systems was transferred to MCWD in 2001, and the systems were subsequently interconnected. In 2007, MCWD combined the water system permits for the Central Marina and Ord Community service areas into a single California Department of Public Health permit.

The FORA Board retains the authority to allocate Salinas Valley groundwater supplies as provided for under an agreement between the federal government and the Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA) dated September 1993. This agreement provides for groundwater extraction rights of 6,600 acre-feet per year (AFY), an amount consistent with the former average groundwater use at Fort Ord while under military operation. Consistent with this agreement, MCWD operates the Ord Community service area under a separate water allocation and cost center.

Figure 1-2: Jurisdictional Boundaries in and near the former Fort Ord



- - IRWMP Area
- MPWMD Boundary
- Rivers
- Roads
- City Limits
- MCWRA Boundary
- Central Marina portion of Marina Coast Water District
- Ord Community portion of Marina Coast Water District
- Seaside Groundwater Basin

Projection: UTM Zone 10N
 Datum: NAD 1927
 April 19, 2009



Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD or District)

The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District is a special district formed in 1978 under the California Water Code, Chapter 118 to manage, augment, and protect water resources for the benefit of the community and the environment. Approximately 104,000 people live within the jurisdictional boundary of MPWMD, which includes the six Monterey Peninsula cities of Carmel-by-the-Sea, Del Rey Oaks, Monterey, Pacific Grove, Seaside, and Sand City, and unincorporated communities within Monterey County including Pebble Beach, the Carmel Highlands, a portion of Carmel Valley, and areas adjacent to Highway 68 between Del Rey Oaks and the Laguna Seca area (also known as Arroyo Del Rey or Canyon Del Rey).

The District is governed by a seven-member Board of Directors, five elected from voter divisions, one member of the Monterey County Board of Supervisors, and one elected official or chief executive officer appointed by the City Selection Committee comprised of mayors from all Cities within Monterey County.

The Legislature granted the MPWMD broad powers in order to carry out its mandates. This special district authority gives the MPWMD the power to adopt ordinances and resolutions, and promulgate rules governing the use of surface and groundwater resources. These powers exceed those of most water agencies or other special districts in California. Accordingly, the District has promulgated a set of Rules and Regulations that provide the governing foundation for the District's groundwater management authority. MPWMD's legislative functions are to:

- Augment the water supply through integrated management of surface and ground water resources;
- Promote water conservation (including rationing, if needed);
- Promote water reuse and reclamation of storm and waste water; and
- Foster the environmental quality, native vegetation, fish and wildlife, scenic values and recreation on the Monterey Peninsula and in the Carmel River basin.

This has allowed the District to exercise the following functions in the Monterey Peninsula area:

- local, integrated control of resources, including groundwater,
- obtain surface water rights permits from the State Water Resources Control Board
- set production goals for each of Cal-Am's major sources of supply (Cal-Am supplies 95% of potable water users in the Region) -- Carmel River surface water, upper Carmel Valley groundwater, lower Carmel Valley groundwater, and coastal Seaside basin groundwater -- through the Quarterly Water Supply Strategy and Budget process,
- determine the release rate of surface water diversion at Cal-Am's Los Padres Dam on the Carmel River and the minimum instream flow requirement below San Clemente Dam through the annual Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) process, which involves

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regular consultations between Cal-Am, the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG), MPWMD, and NOAA Fisheries,

- annual MOA process to manage the production of surface and groundwater by Cal-Am,
- allocation program for water supply to the eight local jurisdictions (i.e., cities of Carmel, Del Rey Oaks, Monterey, Pacific Grove, Sand City, Seaside, and the Monterey Peninsula Airport District and unincorporated portions of Monterey County in Carmel Valley and Pebble Beach),
- metering program for all wells and other water supply sources,
- computer modeling of the water resources system,
- hydrologic monitoring (surface and groundwater),
- water connection permit and inspection programs,
- water conservation programs,
- drought emergency and water rationing programs,
- Carmel River environmental monitoring and mitigation programs,
- river works projects (erosion control),
- regulation of new water distribution systems and expansions, including single-system supply
- sources (i.e., individual wells), and
- annual reporting of water demand, production and environmental programs.

MPWMD manages the production and use of water from the Carmel River stored in Los Padres Reservoir (note: the San Clemente Reservoir is no longer used to provide municipal supply), water production in the Carmel Valley aquifer, and groundwater pumped from municipal and private wells in Carmel Valley and the Seaside Groundwater Basins. Portions of MPWMD's jurisdictional area include watersheds and groundwater basins with area that is outside of the MPWMD political boundary, but that directly influences the quantity and quality of water resources within the MPWMD boundary.

Through its Water Distribution System permitting system, within its boundaries, MPWMD regulates public fresh water supply systems including systems owned by California American Water (Cal-Am), the largest purveyor of water in the Region. MPWMD monitors the production of water from approximately 1,200 public and private wells, of which approximately 750 are currently active. MPWMD regulates the creation of new water distribution systems and expansions, water connection permits, allocation of water to jurisdictions (Cities and unincorporated areas), water conservation ordinances and inspections, determines drought emergencies and can impose rationing programs. The District also regulates activities within the streamside corridor of the lower 15.5 miles of the Carmel River.

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Since the mid-1980's, Cal-Am and MPWMD have cooperated on a number of projects in the public interest including Carmel River restoration projects, water supply projects, and water conservation programs. Recently, a partnership was formed to carry out Aquifer Storage and Recovery projects to augment the water supply for the Region. MPWMD also works extensively with MCWRA and the County of Monterey in the unincorporated areas of the Region. Cooperative efforts include regulation of wells, monitoring and management of Carmel River resources, and management of the Seaside Groundwater Basin. MPWMD was involved with the financing of the Pebble Beach Reclamation project and sales of reclaimed water through the Carmel Area Wastewater District. MPWMD has also recently entered into an agreement with the Monterey Regional Water Pollution Control Agency to pursue use of reclaimed water in the Seaside Groundwater Basin. In the lower 15.5 miles of the Carmel River streamside corridor, MPWMD is often the lead agency in coordinating regulatory actions and issuance of authorizations for streamside alterations from CDFG, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Regional Water Quality Control Board, and Monterey County.

The MPWMD is guided by their mission statement and their Five-Year Strategic Plan (most recently adopted December 2009). In the Strategic Plan, the MPWMD Board of Directors set the following three-year goals for 2009-2012 (not in priority order):

- Construction begins on a Desalination Project
- Phase 2 Aquifer Storage and Recovery Project Complete
- Water Delivered from Groundwater Replenishment Project
- Achieve Conservation Goals Established by Public Utilities Commission in Decision No. 09-07-023
- Secure Permanent Funding for Carmel River Mitigation Program
- Prepare 20-Year Assessment of the 1989 Water Allocation Program Mitigation Plan
- Establish One Public/Private Partnership for Water Development or Conservation
- Resolve Fate of San Clemente and Los Padres Dams

Goals set by the MPWMD Board of Directors for 5-years and beyond (December 2015 and later) in their Strategic Plan include:

- Cessation of Illegal Pumping on the Carmel River
- Determine Environmental Remediation Needs of the Carmel River
- Interagency Regional Collaboration
- Annual Water Summit
- Committee – Continuous Collaboration
- Operate Within Safe Yield of Seaside Basin (5th or 6th year)
- Assess Jurisdictions' Unmet Water Needs and Plan to Meet Them

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MPWMD maintains a web site with IRWM planning information and a library of documents that can access at: http://www.mpwmd.dst.ca.us/Mbay_IRWM/Mbay_IRWM.htm. It should be noted that while MPWMD does exercise authority over water resources, it does not exercise authority over land use except in a certain limited area along the Carmel River. Land use is governed by the Monterey Peninsula cities and Monterey County.

Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA or Agency)

The Monterey County Water Resources Agency was formed under Chapter 699 of the Statutes of 1947 as the Monterey County Flood Control and Water Conservation District. In 1990, the District was renamed the Monterey County Water Resources Agency in Chapter 2 of the Water Code Appendix. The agency is governed by a nine-member Board of Directors, five appointed by the Monterey County Board of Supervisors (one by each supervisor), four directors appointed by a majority vote of the supervisors from nominees submitted by three Monterey County agricultural groups and one from the Monterey County Mayors Select Committee.

Within the Monterey Peninsula IRWM Planning Region, MCWRA is responsible for providing flood protection and stormwater management to the unincorporated areas. The Agency develops regional stormwater management plans, regulates activities in the 100-year floodplain of the Carmel River, and administers the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) in Monterey County. Monterey County has been a voluntary participant in the Community Rating System since October 1, 1991, and the County was upgraded to Class 5 on May 1, 2007 (one of only a handful with this rating in the United States). With the improved rating, buildings located in a Special Flood Hazard Area receive a 25% discount for new or renewed NFIP policies. In the late 1970's, Monterey County developed the first ALERT (Automated- Local-Evaluation-in-Real-Time) flood warning system. The System consists of self-reporting remote sensors, located throughout the County, that transmit rain and stream level data by radio to the Monterey County Water Resources Agency and the County Courthouse base station computers in Salinas. A few of the stations are also connected to the web and allows for the earliest possible flood warnings and river flow forecasts. Today, the Monterey County ALERT system consists of 24 rain gages, 10 combination rain and stream gages, and 20 stream or reservoir/lagoon level sensors.

MCWRA is a member of the MRWPCA and the Seaside Basin Watermaster. It should be noted that MCWRA is also the lead agency for the Salinas Valley Integrated Regional Water Management Plan and is a key partner in coordinating the use of recycled water from Monterey County's largest treatment plant, which is located on the Salinas River and operated by MRWPCA.

Monterey Regional Water Pollution Control Agency (MRWPCA)

The Monterey Regional Water Pollution Control Agency is a joint powers agency formed in 1972 to provide wastewater collection and treatment to the Monterey Peninsula cities (except Carmel-by-the-Sea). MRWPCA also serves communities within its boundaries that are outside of the Monterey Peninsula Region (e.g., Salinas and Castroville). MRWPCA is governed by a Board of Directors representing each of the jurisdictions that it serves. The agency has a regional treatment plant on the Salinas River and discharges treated wastewater effluent into the Monterey Bay near the Salinas River mouth in addition to producing recycled water for agricultural irrigation; however, MRWPCA has a long-term plan to eliminate wastewater discharges to the Monterey Bay by constructing projects to recycle water within its jurisdictional area. Member agencies include Del Rey Oaks, Monterey, Pacific Grove, Salinas, Sand City, Seaside, Boronda, Castroville, Moss Landing, Fort Ord, Monterey County, and Marina.

In 1992, MRWPCA and the MCWRA formed a partnership to build two projects: a water recycling facility at the Regional Treatment Plant; and a distribution system including 45 miles of pipeline and 22 supplemental wells. Its objective was to retard the advance of seawater intrusion by supplying irrigation water to nearly 12,000 acres of farmland in the northern Salinas Valley. The MCWRA partnered with the Salinas Valley community (primarily agricultural users in the northern portion of the County) to help build the projects. The \$75 million projects were funded by U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and State of California low-interest loans, plus local funding. Construction costs are being paid back using water delivery charges and assessments.

MRWPCA is also the Program Manager for the Monterey Regional Storm Water Management Program (MRSWMP) and is responsible for Program management and administration, Permit management, technical program management, and related duties. Participating entities in the MRSWMP include the cities of Pacific Grove, Monterey, Seaside, Sand City, Del Rey Oaks, and Marina, and the County of Monterey.

MRWPCA's Mission Statement is: "The Monterey Regional Water Pollution Control Agency is dedicated to meeting the wastewater and reclamation needs of our member agencies while protecting the environment," and their Vision Statement is: "The Monterey Regional Water Pollution Control Agency will be a model customer service provider for the efficient, innovative utilization of wastewater." MRWPCA's Core Values include the following (not in priority order)

- Cost-efficient, consistent and reliable service and business practices
- Open, honest lines of communication between and among board, public and staff
- Ethical behavior
- Customer-focused and centered

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- Helpful and timely responses
- Loyalty and dedication

MRWPCA's three-year goals for 2011-2014 are as follows (not in priority order):

- Develop the use of recycled and replenishment water
- Enhance and implement cooperation/collaboration with other agencies on projects of joint interest
- Develop and implement a comprehensive energy plan
- Enhance internal and external outreach and communication

Resource Conservation District of Monterey County

The RCD has been at the forefront of natural resource management and protection in Monterey County and the Central Coast. We work extensively with growers, ranchers, landowners, and partner organizations and agencies throughout the Central Coast to accomplish our mission. The RCD works closely with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to provide technical assistance to Monterey County landowners, growers and ranchers. The USDA Service Center in Salinas hosts an NRCS staff of nine with expertise in agronomy, range management, engineering, soil science, hydrology, plant science, and biology.

The RCD staff includes technical specialists with expertise in a variety of areas, including permitting, project funding, hydrology, engineering, weed management, erosion control, and species protection. In accordance with the current 5-Year Strategic Plan, the RCD provides landowners and growers assistance with conservation planning and design, project funding, permitting and implementing management practices. The RCD works with local researchers to develop new ways to improve water quality, and to evaluate the effectiveness of management practices. The RCD also assists landowner and grower applications to funding sources such as the USDA Environmental Quality Incentives Program.

The RCD has demonstrated success in education, outreach and conservation and restoration project design and implementation. During the past 10 years, RCD-NRCS teamwork has resulted in the establishment of voluntary conservation and restoration projects on over 80 farms by collaborating with over 160 farmers and land managers

Section 1.3 Memorandum of Understanding

This section summarizes the formalized IRWM governance structure embodied in the Memorandum of Understanding (see Appendix XX), including how the chosen form of governance addresses and ensures the following:

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- Effective decision making
- Long term implementation of the IRWM Plan
- How interim changes and formal changes to the IRWM Plan will be performed
- Updating or amending the IRWM Plan
- The collaborative process(es) used to establish plan objectives

An MOU was approved in June 2008 by the Regional Water Management Group to acknowledge cooperative efforts in the planning Region and to form an institutional structure to develop and implement the IRWM Plan. The MOU formalized the collaborative planning effort that these agencies have been involved in for several years, describes the processes for completing the IRWM Plan and making amendments in the future, and also describes the role of stakeholders in carrying out the Plan. A draft revised MOU for the 2013 Update to the IRWM Plan has been prepared and is included in **Appendix XX**.

The status of adoption of the MOU is shown in Table 1-2. In 2009, MCWD requested to be included in the RWMG. Staff representatives of the RWMG reviewed the request and recommended in 2010 that MCWD become a member. Subsequently, MCWD adopted a revised MOU. The revised MOU to include both MCWD and MCRCD will be presented to the Boards of the original RWMG for adoption.

Table 1-2: Regional Water Management Group

RWMG Organizations/Agency	Acronym	Adopted MOU to form RWMG	Adopted revised MOU w/ MCWD?
Big Sur Land Trust	BSLT	Yes	TBD
City of Monterey	Monterey	Yes	TBD
Marina Coast Water District	MCWD	No	Yes
Monterey County Water Resources Agency	MCWRA	Yes	TBD
Monterey Peninsula Water Management District	MPWMD	Yes	TBD
Monterey Regional Water Pollution Control Agency	MRWPCA	Yes	TBD
Resource Conservation District of Monterey County	RCDMC	No	TBD

Section 1.4 Revisions to the Regional Water Management Group

Any qualified stakeholder may petition to become a member of the RWMG. A qualified stakeholder must demonstrate the following: a) an interest, responsibility or authority over multiple resources within the region; or b) a unique interest, responsibility, authority, or asset not shared by any other entity within the RWMG. The RWMG considers such requests for a change to the RWMG and votes by majority to accept or reject the request.

Members of the RWMG may change from time to time, depending on the level of resources available to each entity. However, there is no required minimum or maximum length of time required as a member of the RWMG. If an entity withdraws from the RWMG, the remaining entities attempt to replace the interest, responsibility or authority lost by the withdrawal.

It is expected that the RWMG meet periodically and that each member insure that adequate staff resources are available to implement the IRWM Plan.

Section 1.5 Internal Coordination for Updates to and adoption of IRWM Plan

The IRWMP and prioritized project list may be amended from time to time. Any member of the RWMG or Stakeholders may request that the Lead Agency convene a meeting of the RWMG and Stakeholders for the purposes of amending the IRWMP or the prioritized project list. However, it is anticipated that the IRWMP or prioritized project list will be amended no more frequently than annually, unless more frequent amendments are required to meet State IRWM standards or grant application cycles. An amended IRWMP must be consistent with State IRWM standards as described in the “Proposition 84 and Proposition 1E Integrated Regional Water Management Guidelines” (current version dated August 2010)². Decisions within the RWMG are made by consensus and the plan itself will be subject to adoption by the RWMG and project proponents. Lead agencies for each project must adopt the IRWM Plan in order to receive grant funds. Should it become necessary to broaden or establish a different procedure for changing, updating and amending the plan, the MOU will be revised to describe the procedure.

Project proponents are responsible for completing proposed projects and providing project reports to the Lead Agency. The RWMG is responsible for monitoring the implementation of the IRWMP. MPWMD will be the lead agency for facilitating information exchange among the

² Draft 2012 Guidelines are available for public review as of June 28, 2012 and will be applicable to this Plan update prior to its final approval.

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Stakeholder Group and other interested parties. All projects included in the IRWM Plan will incorporate monitoring components.

Each project sponsor that receives grant funding is required to adopt the IRWM Plan. The Resolutions of Adoption will be posted to the web in a document such as is shown in **Appendix XX**.

This 2013 Update to the IRWM Plan includes ample opportunity for stakeholders, including the RWMG and DACs, to provide public input concerning changes to objectives, priorities, and existing regional efforts. This update process therefore, includes a strenuous public and stakeholder outreach component that will be vetted by the stakeholder group and is further detailed in Section 14.

Section 1.5 External Coordination: Central Coast Integrated Regional Water Management and Interregional Coordination

This section provides a description of how the plan update process has addressed and ensured the following:

- Effective communication external to the IRWM region
- Coordination with neighboring IRWM efforts and State and federal agencies

The RWMG governance structure fosters effective communication both within the RWMG and outside of the RWMG with stakeholders, IRWM Plan project proponents, neighboring RWMGs, government agencies, and the general public. Internally, the RWMG strives to create an environment of open communication, cooperation, collaboration, and respect among its members and at the monthly RWMG meetings. Time has been devoted at RWMG meetings for individual RWMG members to discuss their projects, their water management issues, and any concerns.

The IRWM Plan lead agency, MPWMD, works to ensure that stakeholders, project proponents, and the general public are well informed of the latest IRWM activities and accomplishments. MPWMD sends regular email communications to interested stakeholders about IRWM news and events; the emails always contain contact information (email address and phone number) for the IRWM Plan lead at MPWMD so that stakeholders can voice their comments, concerns, or questions about the IRWM planning process. The plan lead will also send this information via US Post for any stakeholders who do not have email access.

The RWMG communicates with Federal and State government agencies as needed. Numerous federal and State agencies are included on the current stakeholder list provided in **Appendix XX**. The IRWM Plan Coordinator and RWMG members participate in the statewide Roundtable

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of Regions meetings, a forum for discussion between all RWMGs in the state, and regionally, in Central Coast Funding Area meetings to coordinate IRWM planning activities between the Central Coast IRWM regions and to discuss potential funding strategies. Please see Section 5, Integration and Section 6, Project Review Process, for a more detailed description of how the RWMG communicates with neighboring regions and government agencies.