

Project Review Process for the 2018 USCR IRWM Plan Amendment

General information:

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) administers the Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Program. In order for a project to be included in the USCR IRWM Plan (IRWMP), Project Sponsors must comply with DWR's requirements which are outlined in the [2016 Integrated Regional Water Management Grant Program Guidelines](#). In the Guidelines, DWR identified multiple characteristics of an IRWMP project* and the RWMG captured DWR's elements in the attached Project Submission Form. Using the process outlined below, the RWMG will evaluate each project's Project Submission Form and either place the project on a Concept Project List, or on the IRWM Project List. Both lists will appear in the IRWM Plan. If the minimum criteria for inclusion on either list are not met, the Project Sponsor will be notified of the issues that need to be addressed before the project can be included.

Please note: The project review process is a separate process from evaluating projects for inclusion in a grant application. Only projects that are on the IRWM Project List will be eligible to compete for inclusion in an IRWM implementation grant application but inclusion in the IRWM Project list is not a guarantee that projects will be included in a future grant application. The RWMG will provide more information about the grant application process at a later date.

Project Review Process:

To be included in the Concept Project List each Project Sponsor must:

1. Submit their project on the Project Submission Form.
2. Provide complete answers to questions in the following categories: A, D, and J

To be included in the IRWM Projects List each Project Sponsor must:

1. Submit their project on the Project Submission Form.
2. Provide complete answers to questions in the following categories: A, D, E, G, H, J, and K.

***Project Review Process Components** (2016 IRWM Grant Program Guidelines pgs 52-55. http://www.water.ca.gov/irwm/grants/docs/p1Guidelines/2016Prop1IRWMGuidelines_FINAL_07192016.pdf)

1. How the project contributes to the IRWM Plan objectives – How and what objectives will be met with this project?
 - a. Reduce Potable Water Demand
 - b. Increase Water Supply
 - c. Improve Water Quality



- d. Promote Resource Stewardship
 - e. Flooding/Hydromodification
 - f. Adapt to Climate Change
 - g. Reduces Greenhouse Gas Emissions
2. How the project is related to resource management strategies selected for use in the IRWM Plan – Does the project diversify the water management portfolio used to meet the Plan objectives?
 - a. How many RMS does the project meet?
 3. Technical feasibility – Should be considered and should have some information on location, knowledge of the water system at the location, etc.
 - a. Section D – Does the description adequately describe the project?
 - b. Section E – Are there any supporting documents which describe feasibility of the project?
 - c. Section H – What are the quantifiable benefits?
 - d. Section J – Are there more than one objective met?
 - e. Are there more than one Resource Management Strategy?
 4. Specific benefits to DAC water issues, including whether a project helps address critical water supply or water quality needs of a DAC – Sections B, C, D, E, and H of the form will be used.
 5. Specific benefits to Native American Tribal communities' water issues, including whether a project helps address critical water supply or water quality needs of the Native American community – Sections B, C, D, E, and H of the form will be used.
 6. Environmental Justice (EJ) considerations – Sections C, D, and E of the form will be used.
 7. Project costs and financing – Sections D, E, and G of the form will be used.
 8. Economic feasibility, including water quality and water supply benefits and other expected benefits and costs – Sections D, E, and G of the form will be used.
 9. Project status – Sections D and G of the form will be used.
 10. Strategic considerations for IRWM Plan implementation – Sections A, B, D, E, J, and K of the form will be used.
 11. Contribution of the project in adapting to the effects of climate change in the region – Sections D, E, and J of the form will be used.
 12. Contribution of the project in reducing GHG emissions as compared to project alternatives – Sections D, E, and J of the form will be used.
 13. Whether the project proponent has adopted or will adopt the IRWM Plan – Section A of the form will be used.
 14. For IRWM regions that receive water supplied from the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, how the project or program will help reduce dependence on the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta water supply.