



...A United Voice for the Santa Ana River Watershed

## OWOW Steering Committee Members

**Bruce Whitaker**, Convener | SAWPA Commissioner  
**Brenda Dennstedt**, SAWPA Commissioner  
**Doug Chaffee**, Orange County Supervisor  
**Karen Spiegel**, Riverside County Supervisor  
**Curt Hagman**, San Bernardino County Supervisor  
**James Hessler**, Altman Plants

**Garry W. Brown**, Orange County Coastkeeper  
**Joe Kerr**, Regional Water Quality Control Board  
**Deborah Robertson**, Mayor, City of Rialto  
**Ted Hoffman**, Councilmember, City of Norco  
**Orange County Municipal Representative [Vacant]**

**PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF EXECUTIVE ORDER N-29-20, THIS MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED VIRTUALLY. ALL VOTES TAKEN WILL BE AN ORAL ROLL CALL.**

This meeting will be accessible as follows:

Meeting Access Via Computer (Zoom)*:	Meeting Access Via Telephone*:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="https://sawpa.zoom.us/j/98547063090">https://sawpa.zoom.us/j/98547063090</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 (669) 900-6833</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meeting ID: 985 4706 3090</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meeting ID: 985 4706 3090</li> </ul>
<p>* Participation in the meeting via the Zoom app (a free download) is strongly encouraged; there is no way to protect your privacy if you elect to call in by phone to the meeting.</p>	

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
 OWOW STEERING COMMITTEE  
 Thursday, March 25, 2021 – 11:00 a.m.**

**AGENDA**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER | PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE (Bruce Whitaker, Convener)**
- 2. PUBLIC COMMENTS**  
 Members of the public may address the Committee on items within the jurisdiction of the Committee; however, no action may be taken on an item not appearing on the agenda unless the action is otherwise authorized by Government Code §54954.2(b).
- 3. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES: November 19, 2020.....5**



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**4. BUSINESS ITEMS**

- A. Proposition 1 Round 1 Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Final Funding Award Update (SC#2021.1) .....9  
**Presenter:** Ian Achimore  
**Recommendation:** Receive and file.
- B. Proposition 1 Round 2 Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Grant Competition Process (SC#2021.2) ..... 19  
**Presenter:** Ian Achimore  
**Recommendation:** Receive and file.
- C. Disadvantaged Communities Involvement (DCI) Program Status (SC#2021.3) .....41  
**Presenter:** Rick Whetsel  
**Recommendation:** Receive and file.

**5. COMMITTEE MEMBERS' COMMENTS**

**6. REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

**PLEASE NOTE:**

Americans with Disabilities Act: Meeting rooms are wheelchair accessible. If you require any special disability related accommodations to participate in this meeting, please contact (951) 354-4220 or kberry@sawpa.org. Notification at least 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable staff to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility for this meeting. Requests should specify the nature of the disability and the type of accommodation requested.

Materials related to an item on this agenda submitted to the Commission after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection during normal business hours at the SAWPA office, 11615 Sterling Avenue, Riverside, and available at [www.sawpa.org](http://www.sawpa.org), subject to staff's ability to post documents prior to the meeting.

**Declaration of Posting**

I, Kelly Berry, CMC, Clerk of the Board of the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority declare that on March 16, 2021, a copy of this agenda has been uploaded to the SAWPA website at [www.sawpa.org](http://www.sawpa.org) and posted at the SAWPA office, 11615 Sterling Avenue, Riverside, California.



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**2021 OWOW Steering Committee Regular Meetings**

Fourth Thursday of Every Other Month (January, March, May, July, September, November)  
 (Note: All meetings begin at 11:00 a.m., unless otherwise noticed, and are held at SAWPA.)

<b>January</b> 1/28/21 <del>Regular Committee Meeting</del> [cancelled]	<b>March</b> 3/25/21 Regular Committee Meeting
<b>May</b> 5/27/21 Regular Committee Meeting	<b>July</b> 7/22/21 Regular Committee Meeting
<b>September</b> 9/23/21 Regular Committee Meeting	<b>November</b> 11/18/21* Regular Committee Meeting*

\* Meeting date adjusted due to conflicting holiday.

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## OWOW STEERING COMMITTEE

### REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

November 19, 2020

<b>Committee Members</b>	
<b><u>Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority Representatives</u></b>	
Kati Parker, Convener, Inland Empire Utilities Agency	Present
Kelly E. Rowe, Orange County Water District	Present
<b><u>County Supervisor Representatives</u></b>	
Doug Chaffee, Orange County Board of Supervisors	Present
Karen Spiegel, Riverside County Board of Supervisors	Absent
Curt Hagman, San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors	Present
<b><u>County Municipal Representatives</u></b>	
Deborah Robertson, Mayor, City of Rialto	Present (11:29 a.m.)
Rusty Bailey, Mayor, City of Riverside	Present
Jose Solorio, Councilmember, City of Santa Ana	Present
<b><u>Business Community Representative</u></b>	
James Hessler, Director of West Coast Operations, Altman Plants	Present
<b><u>Environmental Community Representative</u></b>	
Garry W. Brown, President, Orange County Coastkeeper	Absent
<b><u>Regional Water Quality Control Board Representative</u></b>	
Joe Kerr, Regional Water Quality Control Board	Present
<b>Others Present</b>	
<b><u>SAWPA COMMISSIONERS:</u></b>	None
<b><u>SAWPA STAFF:</u></b>	Rich Haller, Karen Williams, Mark Norton, Rick Whetsel, Dean Unger, Sara Villa, Kelly Berry
<b><u>OTHERS PRESENT:</u></b>	Andrew D. Turner, Lagerlof LLP; Justin Scott-Coe, General Manager Monte Vista Water District; Sandra Rose, Board Member, Monte Vista Water District

The OWOW Steering Committee meeting was called to order at 11:03 a.m. by Kati Parker, Convener, at the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, 11615 Sterling Avenue, Riverside, CA 92503. The record will reflect this meeting was conducted virtually.



**1. CALL TO ORDER | PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Pursuant to the provisions of Executive Order N-29-20 issued by Governor Newsom, this meeting was conducted virtually. All votes taken during this meeting were conducted via oral roll call.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments; there were no public comments received via email.

**3. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – September 24, 2020**

**MOVED**, approve the September 24, 2020 meeting minutes.

Result:	<b>Adopted by Roll Call Vote (Unanimously)</b>
Motion/Second:	Bailey/Rowe
Ayes:	Bailey, Chaffee, Hagman, Hessler, Kerr, Parker, Rowe, Solorio
Nays:	None
Abstentions:	None
Absent:	Brown, Robertson, Spiegel

**4. BUSINESS ITEMS**

**A. Monte Vista Water District | Septic-to-Sewer Conversion Program (SC#2020.19)**

Mark Norton introduced Justin Scott-Coe, Monte Vista Water District (MVWD) General Manager, who provided a PowerPoint presentation titled, *Septic to Sewer Conversion Project* (Project); contained in the agenda packet on pages 14-24. Committee Member Robertson joined the meeting at 11:29 a.m., during the presentation of Agenda Item No. 4.A.

The Project encompasses a densely populated unincorporated area and will improve environmental conditions for many residents. MVWD will seek full Project partnerships including the cities of Montclair and Chino moving forward. There was a brief discussion about abandonment or removal of existing septic systems. Scott-Coe stated they are working closely with agencies to ensure future safety of the environment, the public, and first responders. The Inland Empire Utilities Agency will handle the increased capacity from the septic-to-sewer conversion. Scott-Coe is confident that when the Project feasibility study is submitted to the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) they will approve the Project.

Mark Norton recommended support of any project proponents in line with Proposition 1 IRWM funding requirements, although this was an informational report. The state recently advised that grant applications for Round 2 funding will be received in summer of 2021. This item was brought before the Committee at the request of the County of San Bernardino and Monte Vista Water District as informational for potential Round 2 funding.

This item was for information purposes; no action was taken on Agenda Item No. 4.A.

**B. Santa Ana River Watershed Weather Modification for Water Supply Feasibility Study (SC#2020.20)**

Mark Norton provided a PowerPoint presentation titled, *Santa Ana River Watershed Weather Modification for Water Supply Feasibility Study*, contained in the agenda packet on pages 29-67, which had been requested by the Committee at an earlier meeting. Committee Member Rowe voiced his support and thanked Mark Norton for championing the project. Committee Member Kerr asked if staff had reached out to CalFire given the use of natural gas/propane as part of the cloud seeding process. Mark Norton noted he had discussions about fire concerns with our



consultant who advised ground-based units are cleared of brush and constantly monitored for any potential risk of fire; there is close, ongoing coordination with CalFire. Committee Member Hagman voiced his support but noted that at times within some areas there may be liability issues – such as initial rain or snowstorms in areas recently impacted by severe wildfire damage. Mark Norton referenced a program implemented by Los Angeles County Department of Public Works which was temporarily halted until there was adequate regrowth of vegetation after they experienced a series of wildfires. Should that occur here, we would discontinue the program until adequate regrowth occurred in areas impacted by wildfire.

This item was for information purposes; no action was taken on Agenda Item No. 4.B.

**C. Phase 1A Monitoring Program to Assess Homelessness Impact on Water Quality in Upper Santa Ana River (SC#2020.21)**

Mark Norton provided a PowerPoint presentation titled, *Assessing Homelessness Impacts on Water Quality, Riparian and Aquatic Habitat in Upper Santa Ana River Watershed*; contained in the agenda packet on pages 71-101. Committee Member Bailey voiced support on behalf of the City of Riverside.

This item was for information purposes; no action was taken on Agenda Item No. 4.C.

**D. Disadvantaged Communities Involvement (DCI) Program Status (SC#2020.22)**

Rick Whetsel provided a PowerPoint presentation titled, *Disadvantaged Communities Involvement (DCI) Program Status Report*; contained in the agenda packet on pages 104-116.

This item was for information purposes; no action was taken on Agenda Item No. 4.D.

**5. COMMITTEE MEMBERS' COMMENTS**

Convener Parker noted there will be changes to the OWOW Steering Committee in 2021. She will no longer be on the Committee and Kelly Rowe will be the next Convener. Committee Member Bailey stated he will no longer be on the Committee in 2021, and it has been a pleasure serving.

**6. REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

There were no requests for future agenda items.

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting ended at 12:28 p.m.

**APPROVED:** March 25, 2021

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Bruce Whitaker, Convener

Attest:

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Kelly Berry, CMC, Clerk of the Board

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## OWOW STEERING COMMITTEE MEMORANDUM NO. 2021.1

**DATE:** March 25, 2021

**TO:** OWOW Steering Committee

**SUBJECT:** Proposition 1 Round 1 Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Final Funding Award Update

**PREPARED BY:** Ian Achimore, Senior Watershed Manager

### RECOMMENDATION

Receive and file.

### DISCUSSION

SAWPA and DWR are working toward executing the Proposition 1 Round 1 IRWM grant agreement that will provide approximately \$23M in grant funding to the watershed. With the progress being made, it is likely the grant agreement will be executed by June 2021. SAWPA is working toward executing sub-agreements with the project leads also by June 2021. The sub-agreements will hold the project leads to terms from the grant agreement that are specific to their projects, as well as general terms such as invoicing, quarterly reporting to the State, and retention payments.

Proposition 1 Round 1 IRWM Project	Project Lead	Awarded Grant
Replenish Big Bear*	Big Bear Area Regional Wastewater Agency	\$4,563,338
Evans Lake Tributary Restoration and Camp Evans	San Bernardino Valley MWD	\$2,000,000
Well 30 Wellhead Treatment Project	Monte Vista Water District	\$3,431,225
Regional Comprehensive Landscape Rebate Program	Municipal Water District of OC	\$2,767,344
Physical Harvesting of Algal Biomass in Lake Elsinore – Pilot Program	City of Lake Elsinore	\$297,000
Santa Ana Mountains Watershed Protection Project	Cleveland National Forest	\$497,998
Enhancements to Watershed-Wide Water Budget Decision Support Tool	SAWPA	\$500,000
Joint IEUA-JCSD Regional Water Recycling Program	Inland Empire Utilities Agency	\$2,617,970
Groundwater Replenishment System Final Expansion	Orange County Water District	\$3,589,553
Raitt & Myrtle Park	City of Santa Ana	\$1,670,000
Grant Management	SAWPA	\$1,157,000
<b>Grant Total</b>		<b>\$23,091,428</b>

\*Receiving general implementation and Disadvantaged Community (DAC) implementation grant funding.

In February 2021, DWR began holding workshops for project leads across the State who have been awarded Proposition 1 Round 1 project funding. SAWPA and other project leads in the

watershed have attended these workshops. DWR announced that instead of requiring project leads to finalize the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and permitting documents within 12 months of the final grant award (which for the Santa Ana River Watershed was in June 2020), DWR will allow CEQA and permitting to be finalized within 18 months after the grant agreement is signed. If the June is ultimately the month the grant agreement is signed, CEQA and permitting would need to be finalized by December 2022 by the Santa Ana River Watershed project leads.

DWR has had delays in finalizing grant agreements with 70% of the IRWM regions, including the Santa Ana River Watershed, possibly due to limited staffing. Although the grant award was announced for the Santa Ana River Watershed in June 2020, it is not likely that the grant agreement will be executed between SAWPA and DWR until June 2021.

DWR staff has also preliminarily shared that they will begin drafting the Proposition 1 Round 2 Implementation grant guidelines documents in 2021.

### **Proposition 1 IRWM Implementation Grant Funding - Santa Ana River Watershed**

	Round 1	Round 2
General	\$20,886,428	\$22,963,572
DAC Implementation	\$2,205,000	\$4,095,000
Total	\$23,091,428	\$27,058,572

As shown in the table above, there is estimated to be \$27,058,572 in grant funding available in Round 2 for the Santa Ana River Watershed.

### **BACKGROUND**

When the California Legislature and voters make funding available to the IRWM Program, SAWPA's One Water One Watershed (OWOW) Program is responsible for identifying appropriate expenditures in the Santa Ana River Watershed IRWM region. DWR is the lead State agency for releasing grant guidelines and managing funding contracts with the 48 IRWM regions throughout the State. The OWOW Steering Committee adopted and the SAWPA Commission ratified funding policies for the Proposition 1 Round 1 IRWM Implementation grant that SAWPA used to incentivize innovative projects as well as projects that are small in both benefit and cost. Following the OWOW Steering Committee and SAWPA Commission's approval, SAWPA initiated the Proposition 1 Round 1 IRWM Implementation Grant process in November 2018. Eventually eight projects were successful through this OWOW process and included in the final application to DWR on November 1, 2019.

Concurrent with the Proposition 1 Round 1 IRWM Implementation grant preparations, a funding allocation agreement was developed and executed between SAWPA and North Orange County IRWM lead agencies in 2019. In accordance with the 2019 agreement between SAWPA and the North OC IRWM agencies, staff incorporated two additional IRWM projects from the North OC call for projects managed by the County of Orange's Department of Public Works.

Attachment:

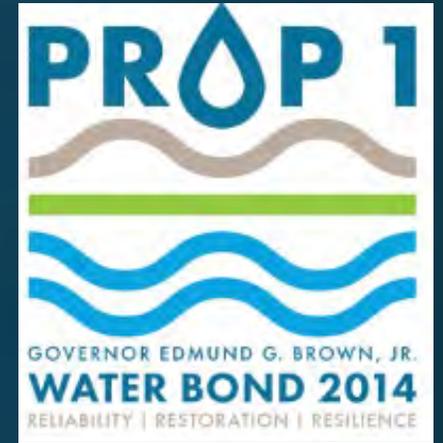
1. PowerPoint Presentation

# Proposition 1 Round 1 Integrated Regional Water Management Final Funding Award Update

Ian Achimore, Senior Watershed Manager  
OWOW Steering Committee | March 25, 2021  
Item No. 4.A.

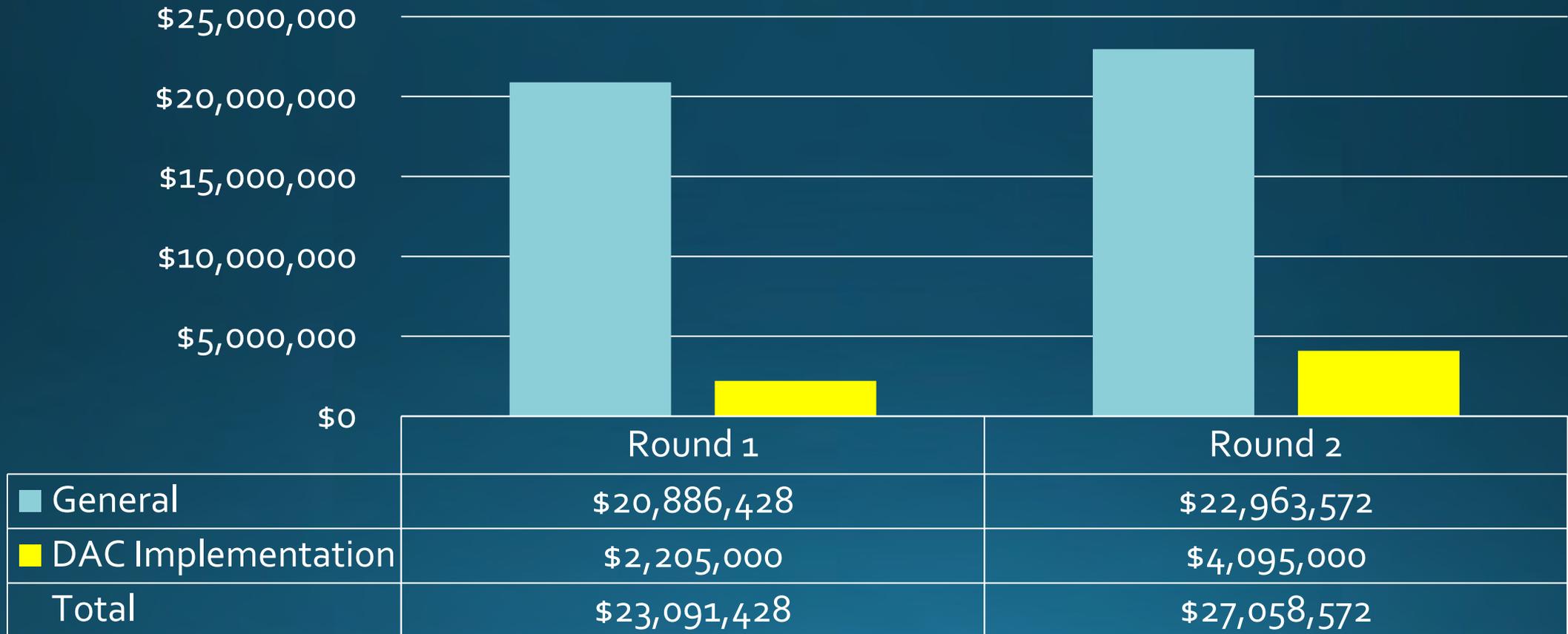


# Prop 1 IRWM\* Requirements



- **All overall project proposals must:**
  - Respond to climate change, and
  - Contribute to regional water self-reliance.
- **All individual projects must:**
  - Address the most critical needs of the IRWM region,
  - Have an expected useful life of 15 years, and
  - Have CEQA/permits acquired within 12 months of final grant award.
    - Now changed to **18 months** after execution of grant agreement with Department of Water Resources (DWR).

# Prop 1 IRWM Implementation Grant Funding for Santa Ana River Watershed



Grand Total = \$50,150,000

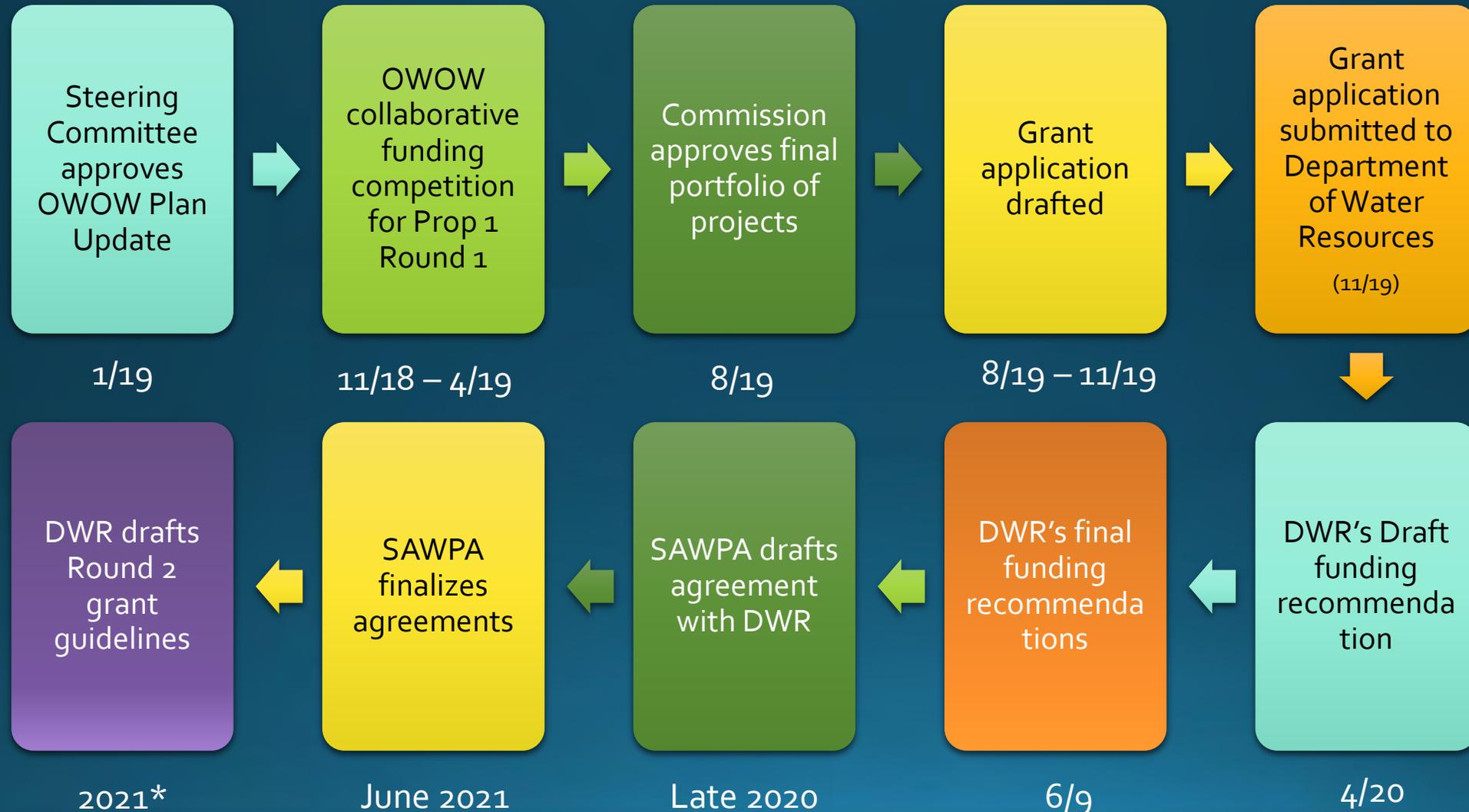
# Prop 1 IRWM Round 1 Final Project List

IRWM Solicitation	Project	Project Lead	Awarded Grant
One Water One Watershed	Replenish Big Bear*	Big Bear Area Regional Wastewater Agency	\$4,563,338
	Evans Lake Tributary Restoration and Camp Evans Recreation	San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District	\$2,000,000
	Well 30 Wellhead Treatment Project	Monte Vista Water District	\$3,431,225
	Regional Comprehensive Landscape Rebate Program	Municipal Water District of OC and Project Partners**	\$2,767,344
	Physical Harvesting of Algal Biomass in Lake Elsinore – Pilot Program	City of Lake Elsinore	\$297,000
	Santa Ana Mountains Watershed Protection Project	Cleveland National Forest	\$497,998
	Enhancements to Watershed-Wide Water Budget Decision Support Tool	Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority	\$500,000
	Joint IEUA-JCSD Regional Water Recycling Program	Inland Empire Utilities Agency	\$2,617,970
North Orange County	Groundwater Replenishment System Final Expansion	Orange County Water District	\$3,589,553
	Raitt & Myrtle Park	City of Santa Ana	\$1,670,000
N/A	Grant Management (5% of Total Grant Award)	Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority	\$1,157,000
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$23,091,428</b>

\*Receiving general implementation and DAC Implementation funding.

\*\*Eastern MWD, Inland Empire Utilities Agency, San Bernardino Valley MWD, Western MWD and Big Bear Lake Department of Water and Power.

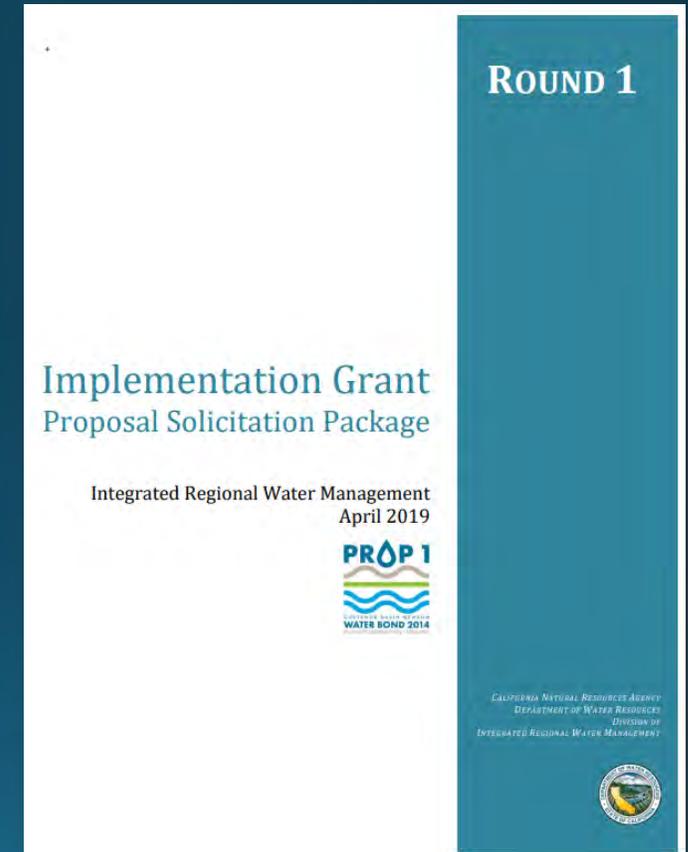
# Prop 1 IRWM Schedule



\*Tentatively scheduled

# Next Steps

- SAWPA-DWR grant agreement to be finalized by June 2021.
- DWR has had minimal comments, but required project leads to adopt the OWOW Plan Update 2018 before agreement finalization.
  - All have now adopted it.
- SAWPA is working on individual sub-agreements with project leads.
  - SAWPA plans to have those complete by June 2021.



# Questions

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## **OWOW STEERING COMMITTEE MEMORANDUM NO. 2021.2**

**DATE:** March 25, 2021

**TO:** OWOW Steering Committee

**SUBJECT:** Proposition 1 Round 2 Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Grant Competition Process

**PREPARED BY:** Ian Achimore, Senior Watershed Manager

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Receive and file.

### **DESCRIPTION**

Upon the release of a Proposition 1 Round 2 IRWM Project Solicitation Package (PSP) from the California Department of Water Resources (DWR), the OWOW Steering Committee becomes responsible for bringing to the SAWPA Commission a portfolio of projects that is eligible for the funding opportunity, is suitably ready to proceed, has sufficient local match funding identified, and provides benefits to the watershed in line with the goals of the Santa Ana River Watershed's approved IRWM Plan, the OWOW Plan Update 2018. One critical aspect of the process of developing a suite of projects for the grant proposal is the development and application of a set of rating and ranking criteria. The criteria are used to assess and rank all the competing projects in a way that is transparent and reflects the priorities of the OWOW Plan Update 2018.

The latest rating and ranking criteria were adopted by the OWOW Steering Committee in November 2018 in tandem with the OWOW Call for Projects for Proposition 1 Round 1 IRWM funding. Now that DWR is preparing to release their draft PSP, tentatively scheduled for August 2021, SAWPA led the first of several OWOW workshops in January 2021 focused on Proposition 1 Round 2. Going forward, SAWPA will continually brief the OWOW Steering Committee and seek their input on the rating and ranking criteria, as well as any other process improvements for the OWOW Call for Projects before it begins.

### **BACKGROUND**

In November 2018, the OWOW Steering Committee adopted both an overarching policy, referred to the *Proposition 1 IRWM Implementation Grant – OWOW Program Policy*, as well as the rating and ranking criteria. The rating and ranking criteria, and much of the Proposition 1 Round 1 Call for Projects process was described in the OWOW Plan Update 2018, which was also adopted by the OWOW Steering Committee.

Through the current policy, once a project has been identified as eligible, the project lead will be required to quantify the benefits the completed project will provide the watershed. The benefit classes, such as “water supply reliability” are included in the OWOW Plan Update 2018 and reflect the Proposition 1 water bond passed by the California general electorate in November 2014. Each of the benefit classes, as can be seen, contains a weighting factor derived from the work of OWOW stakeholders in April 2018 and are adopted by the Steering Committee.

Attachments:

1. PowerPoint Presentation
2. Proposition 1 IRWM Implementation Grant – OWOW Program Policy

# Proposition 1 Round 2 Integrated Regional Water Management Grant Competition Process

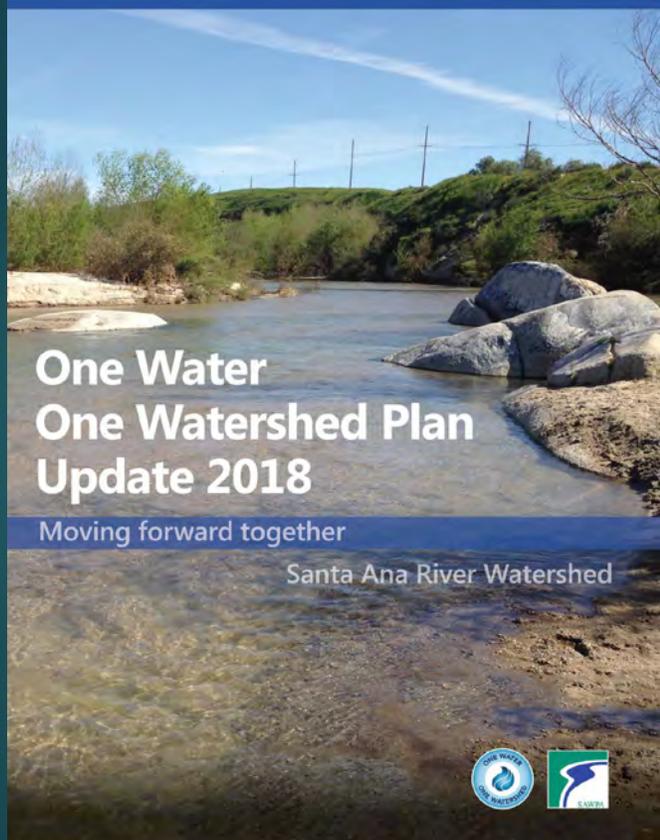
Ian Achimore, Senior Watershed Manager  
OWOW Steering Committee | March 25, 2021  
Item No. 4.B.



# Outline of Presentation

1. **OWOW Plan Update 2018** and its description of the OWOW grant competition process.
2. **Tentative schedule** that the Department of Water Resources (DWR) has shared for the Proposition 1 Round 2 Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Implementation grant funding.
3. **Available grant funding** for the watershed under Round 2 and the **tentative schedule** for the OWOW process.
4. **Past rating and ranking system** adopted by the OWOW Steering Committee for Proposition 1 Round 1 IRWM funding.
5. **Next Steps** for OWOW Steering Committee and stakeholders.

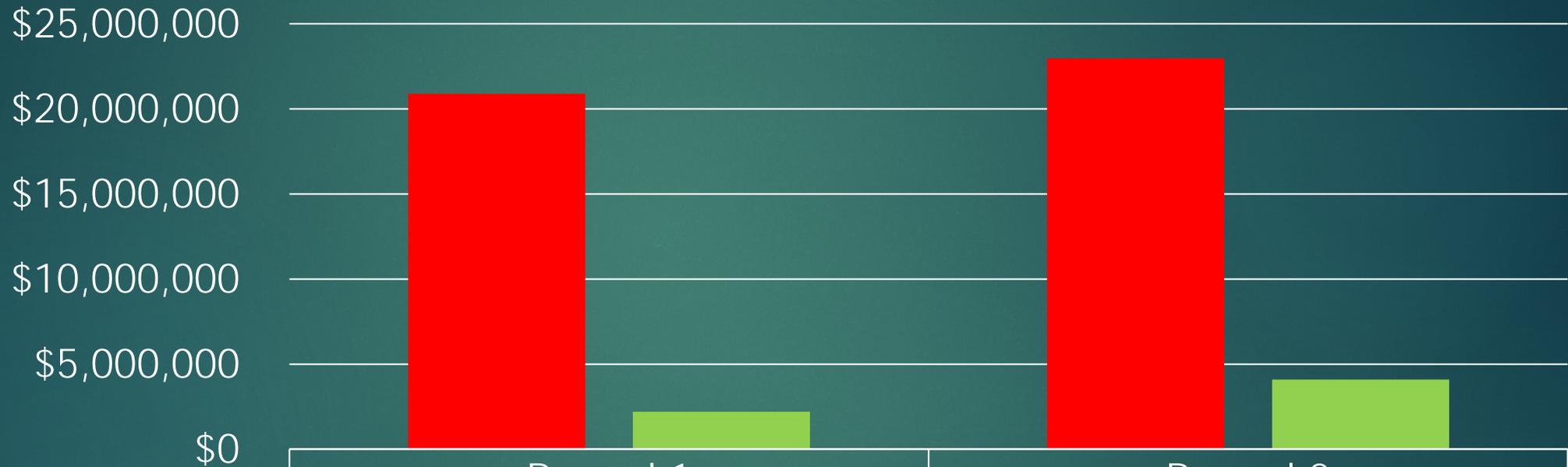
# OWOW Plan Update 2018



Plan describes watershed priorities and grant funding competition process:

- ▶ Highlights population growth, aging infrastructure, and environmental degradation as challenges to watershed,
- ▶ Theme of the Plan is “Moving Forward Together”,
- ▶ Plan describes the rating and ranking process approved by the Steering Committee and ratified by the SAWPA Commission in Chapter 6:
  - ▶ “This system [of rating/ranking] will be followed each time a funding opportunity appears for the IRWM Program and may result in slightly different eligibility criteria or rating and ranking”.

# Prop 1 IRWM Implementation Grant Funding for Watershed



	Round 1	Round 2
■ General	\$20,886,428	\$22,963,572
■ DAC Implementation	\$2,205,000	\$4,095,000
Total	\$23,091,428	\$27,058,572

Grand Total = \$50,150,000

# SAWPA & North OC Cooperative Agreement

- ▶ Created funding categories and %s for Santa Ana IRWM Funding.
- ▶ For Projects in North and Central OC, IRWM grant funding will be rated, ranked and selected for funding by the processes in the OC Plan.

Sub-Region	Category %	Selected By Planning Process
North OC	30%*	OC Plan
Upper Watershed	60%	OWOW Plan
Watershed-wide	10%	OWOW Plan
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	

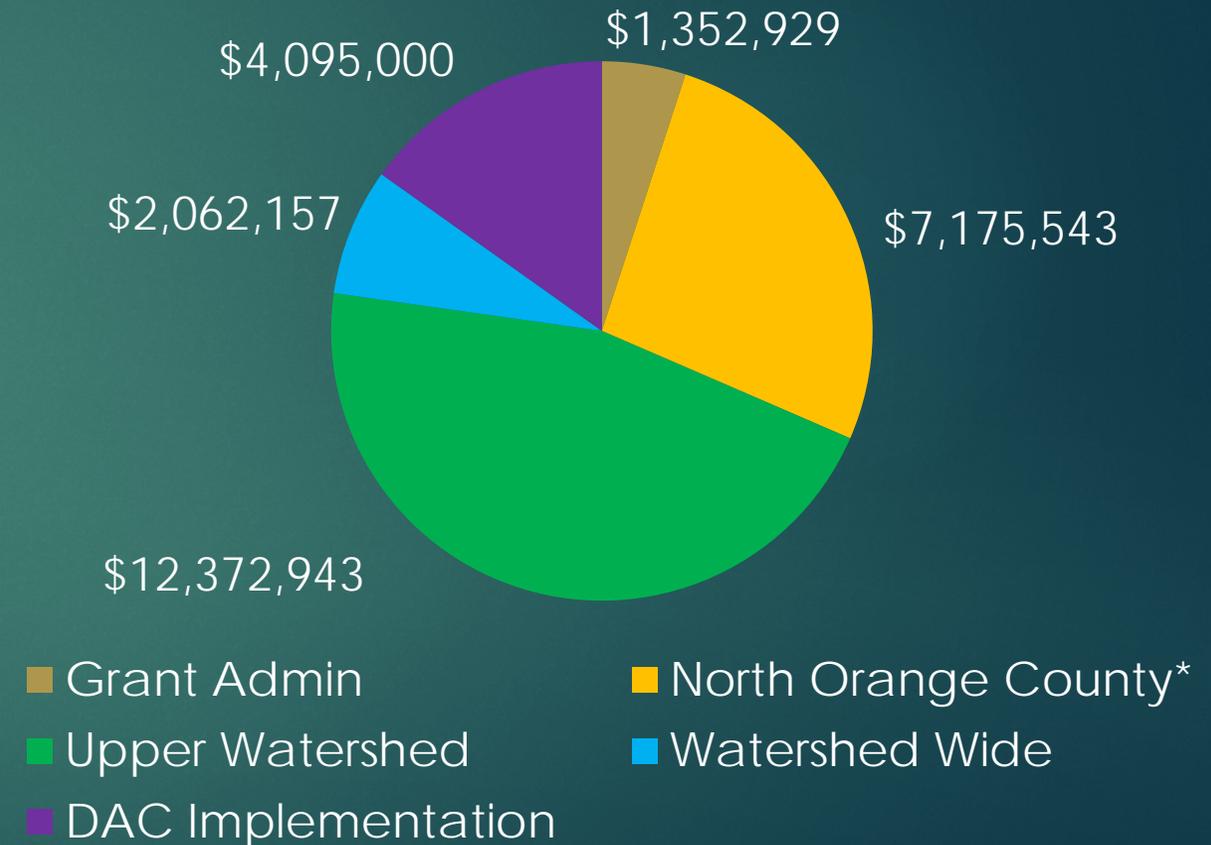


\*For Prop 1 Round 2, North OC funding is greater than 30% due to carry over from Round 1

# Prop 1 Round 2 (More Detail)

- ▶ Three geographic categories created by Agreement (previous slide).
  - ▶ North OC could potentially receive some/all of 10% for watershed-wide projects.
- ▶ Staff needs to receive OWOW Steering Committee approval of rating and ranking criteria before opening OWOW Round 2 Call for Projects.
  - ▶ Specifics of OWOW rating and ranking not in Agreement.

## Round 2 Amounts By Category



Total = \$27,058,572

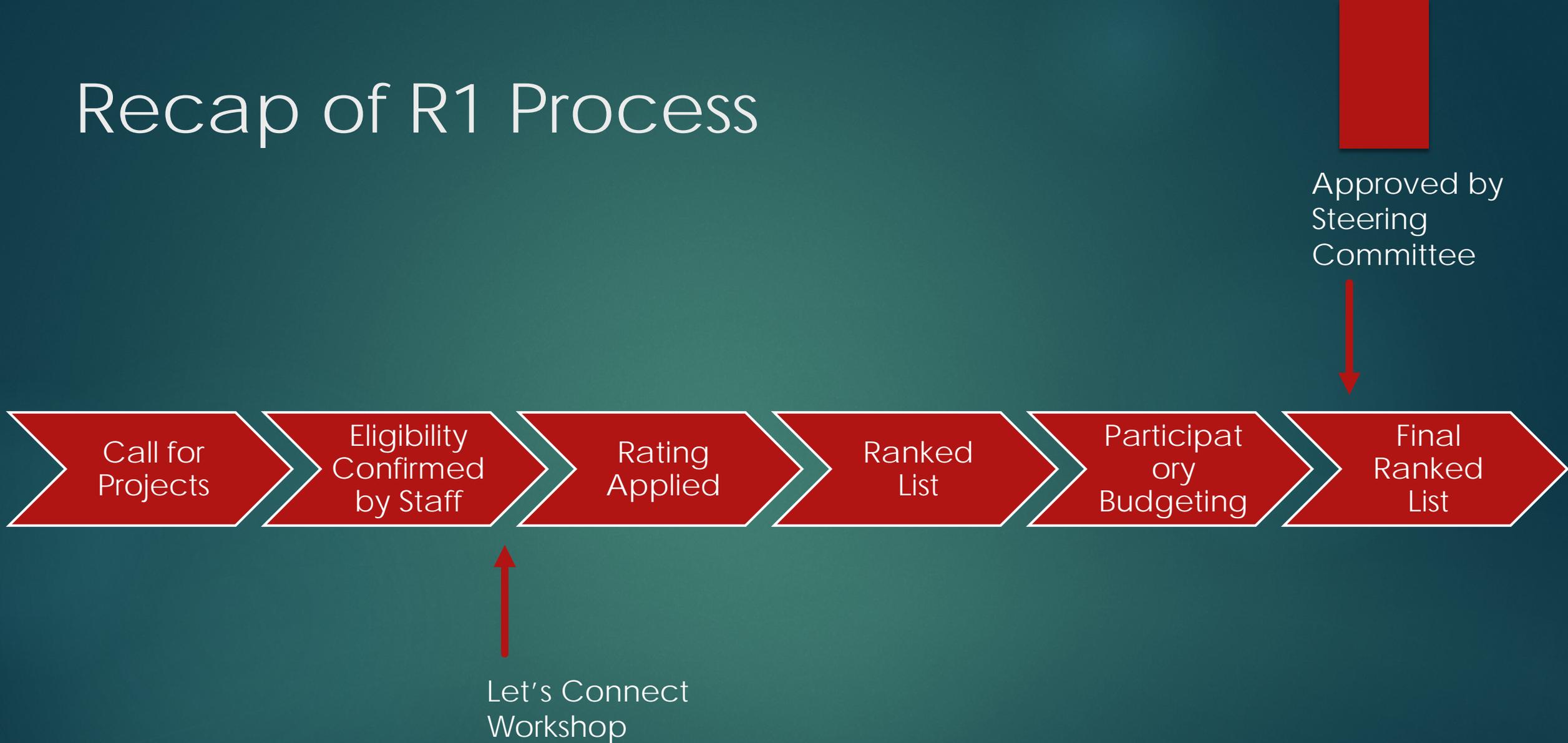
\*Includes \$989,072 carry over from Round 1

# Prop 1 Tentative\* IRWM Schedule



\*Schedule assumes DWR will release draft Proposal Solicitation Package (PSP) by August 2021, and all other Round 2 deadlines will reflect the same timing of the Round 1 schedule of events.

# Recap of R1 Process



# R1 Grant Amount for OWOW Process



Disadvantaged Community	General	Total
\$2,094,750	\$14,580,125	<b>\$16,674,875</b>



# Recap of R1 Eligibility Checklist

Round 1 Eligibility Criteria	Indicator (yes / no)
Collaborative Projects	More than one org providing resources (\$, labor, land, etc.)
Contains at least two benefits	Benefits claimed in at least two classes
Consistent with CA Water Action Plan	Identify (select from a list) and explain
All benefits accrue <b>to members of disadvantaged communities (DAC)</b>	If asserted, the * below becomes Not Applicable
Has identified required 50% match*	Describe the secured, eligible source of match funds
If construction project, meets CEQA timeline*	CEQA ready 12 months from grant award
Is a sustainable project resilient to changing conditions	Describe in the context of climate change, land use, population change, etc.
Benefits are not achieved at the expense or detriment of another	Describe the analysis conducted to assert this answer. How was your conclusion reached?

## Total Prop 1 Round 1 (General and DAC)

\$16,707,950

Two pots  
of  
funding

Small Scale (10%)  
and  
Large Scale (90%)



## Funding Pots from Round 1

- Eligible projects with large grant requests ( $> \$500,000$ ) compete against one another for the 90%
- Eligible projects with smaller grant requests ( $\leq \$500,000$ ) compete against one another for the 10%

## Caveats:

- 90/10 split of the dollars available from DWR.
- **NOT** the same thing as the allocation of funding going to disadvantaged communities (DAC) projects.

# Recap of R1 Ranking Process

- ▶ Step 1 – Max Quantity:  
Identify max quantity in a benefit class
- ▶ Step 2 – Raw Score:  
 $(\text{Project Quantity} / \text{Max Quantity}) * 20$
- ▶ Step 3 – Weighted score:  
 $\text{Raw Score} * \text{Weighting Factor}$
- ▶ Step 4 – Summation:  
Add up all weighted scores

Benefit Classes	Weighting Factor
Water supply reliability, efficiency	9.2
Groundwater recharge and management	8.9
Reclaim water, treat and convey	8.5
Multipurpose flood & Stormwater	8.4
Watershed / ecosystem / wetland	7.7
Benefits to members of DACs	7.7
Benefits large area of watershed	7.6
Drinking water treatment, distribution	7.4
Contains public education component	7.4
Non-point source pollution reduction, etc.	7.1
Fisheries restoration / protection	6.9
Removal invasive non-native species	6.3

# Example: Weighted Score for Project in the Ecosystem Benefit Class

Project #	Points Earned*	Weighting Factor	Weighted Score
A	20	7.7	154
B	5	7.7	38.5
C	2	7.7	15.4
D	0	7.7	0



\*Due to Step 2 shown on previous slide.

# Recap of R1 Participatory Budgeting Process

- ▶ After rankings, OWOW workshops were part of the “Participatory Budgeting” the OWOW Stakeholders and Governance Approved
  - ▶ Developed with the goals of **transparency**, objectivity, and deliberation.
- ▶ Purpose was to receive input on the projects proposed in the OWOW process
  - ▶ Is the project eligible for OWOW/Prop 1?
  - ▶ Are the benefits claimed realistic?
  - ▶ Is watershed improved without unreasonable expense/detriment to others?
  - ▶ Includes active participation of multiple agencies?



# Other Highlights from the OWOW Plan Update 2018

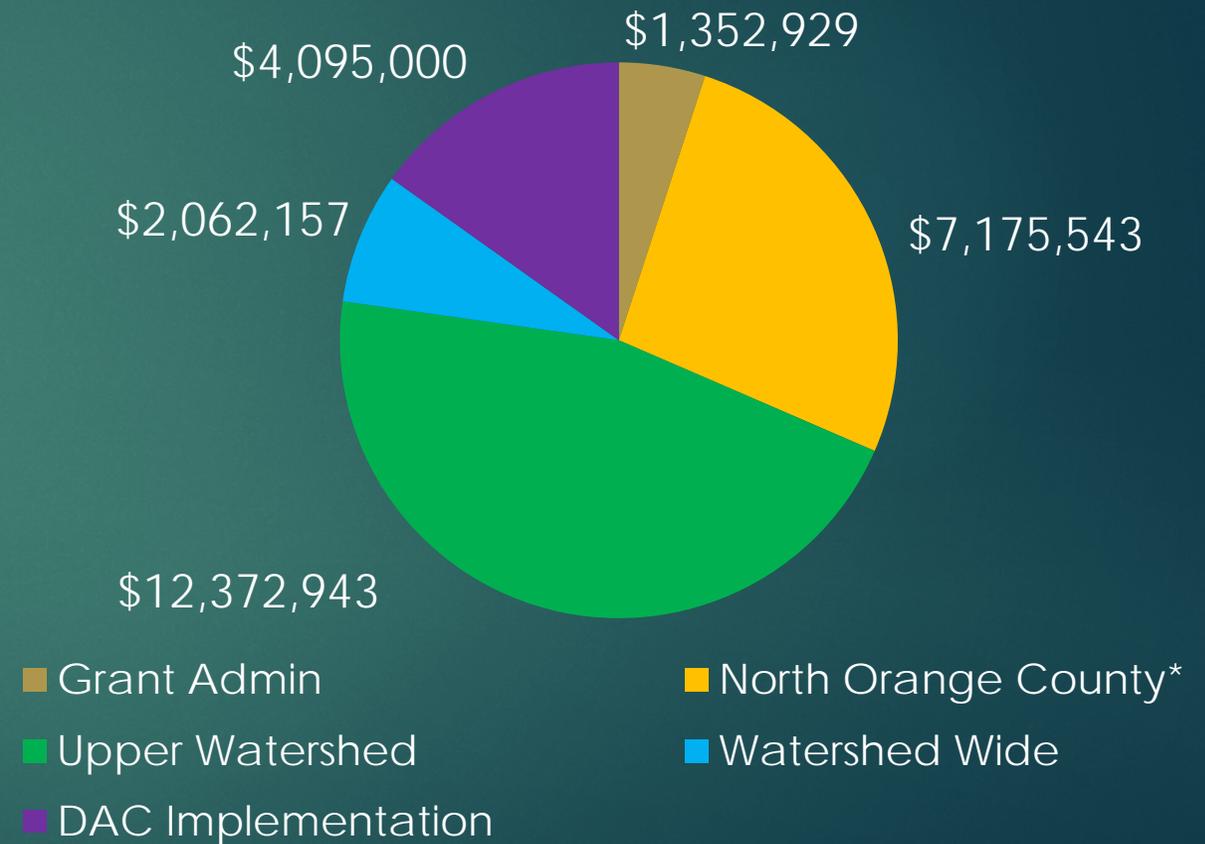
- ▶ “Projects that are not eligible for current funding opportunity, or for the OWOW Program, will be contacted and offered a chance to revise their submission.”
- ▶ “The process provides stakeholder review of the project list, and the benefits claimed by each proponent.”
- ▶ “If consensus is not achieved through the stakeholder process, SAWPA staff will provide the OWOW Steering Committee a series of options, and rely on their decision-making authority to achieve the path forward.”

# Next Steps

- ▶ Work with OWOW Stakeholders and Steering Committee to update parts of process, if desired,
- ▶ Possible updates\*\* could include:
  - ▶ Change small project threshold of ≤\$500,000 of grant request,
  - ▶ Change the 10% and 90% split for large small and large projects, and
  - ▶ Weighting factors of benefits.

\*Includes \$989,072 carry over from Round 1.  
\*\*Updates would apply to Watershed-wide, Upper Watershed, and DAC Implementation amounts shown in pie chart.

## Round 2 Amounts By Category



Total = \$27,058,572

# Recommendation

Receive and file.



## Prop 1 IRWM Implementation Grant Project Eligibility - OWOW Program Policy

As approved by OWOW Steering Committee, November 15, 2018

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IRWM is a collaborative effort to manage all aspects of water resources in a region. IRWM crosses jurisdictional, watershed and political boundaries; involves multiple agencies, stakeholders, individuals and groups; and attempts to address the issues and differing perspectives of all entities involved through mutually beneficial solutions. The OWOW Program seeks benefits which improve the watershed and are not achieved at the unreasonable expense or detriment of another.

### Applicant is required to describe how the project:

- Is consistent with and supports the implementation of the OWOW Plan Update 2018.
- Complies with eligibility requirements contained within a specific Proposal Solicitation Package.
- Is consistent with the implementation of the California Water Action Plan.
- Meets all statutory requirements including grant recipient eligibility and project eligibility, including compliance with:
  - Groundwater Management Plans
  - Urban Water Management Planning Act
  - Agriculture Water Management Plan
  - Surface Water Diversion Reporting
  - AB 1420 compliance
  - SBX 7-7
  - CWC Section 529.5
  - CWC Section 10920
  - CWC Section 10562(b)(7) (for stormwater projects).
- Is an integrated project that enhances the resilience of a portion of the watershed, thereby enhancing the resilience of the entire watershed.
- Is a project that will be completed with active participation of multiple agencies and/or NGOs or other stakeholders, produces a net benefit to the Watershed and has no unreasonable negative impacts on others.
- Is a sustainable project that is resilient to changing conditions in the watershed.
- Provides multiple benefits and includes two or more of the following elements:
  - Water supply reliability, water conservation, and water use efficiency
  - Stormwater capture, storage, clean-up, treatment, and management
  - Non-point source pollution reduction, management, and monitoring
  - Removal of invasive non-native species, the creation and enhancement of wetlands, and the acquisition, protection, and restoration of open space and watershed lands
  - Groundwater recharge and management projects
  - Contaminant and salt removal through reclamation, desalting, and other treatment technologies and conveyance of reclaimed water for distribution to users
  - Water banking in the Watershed, exchange, reclamation, and improvement of water quality
  - Multipurpose flood and storm water management programs
  - Watershed protection and management
  - Drinking water treatment and distribution
  - Ecosystem and fisheries restoration and protection.

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## **OWOW STEERING COMMITTEE MEMORANDUM NO. 2021.3**

**DATE:** March 25, 2021  
**TO:** OWOW Steering Committee  
**SUBJECT:** Disadvantaged Communities Involvement (DCI) Program Status  
**PREPARED BY:** Rick Whetsel, Senior Watershed Manager

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Receive and file.

### **DISCUSSION**

The Disadvantaged Communities Involvement Program (DCI Program) for the Santa Ana River Watershed has three main Program Elements, within which are twenty separate activities. Those three Program Elements consist of 1) Strengths and Needs Assessment, 2) Engagement and Education, 3) Project Development. A fourth element contains grant administration tasks assigned to SAWPA.

The attached presentation provides an update on the activities within each of these Project Elements and a summary, as well as a look at a map of the disadvantaged communities in the watershed and cities and communities receiving benefits through SAWPA's DCI Program.

### **BACKGROUND**

The Disadvantaged Communities Involvement Program is a Prop 1 funded effort within the Integrated Regional Water Management Program to ensure the involvement of disadvantaged communities, economically distressed areas, and underrepresented communities in integrated regional water management planning. As the Santa Ana River Watershed approved Regional Water Management Group, SAWPA was awarded a \$6.3 million grant in June 2017. With permission from DWR, SAWPA and our partners have been working on the scope since October 2016.

SAWPA manages the program with five program partners: California State University, Local Government Commission (a 501c3 nonprofit), the California Rural Water Association (a 501c3 nonprofit), the Water Education Foundation (a 501c3 nonprofit), and the University of California Irvine. Each partner organization has a defined scope of work, and together is responsible for project management and reporting.

Attachments:

1. PowerPoint Presentation

# Disadvantaged Community Involvement Program

## Status Report

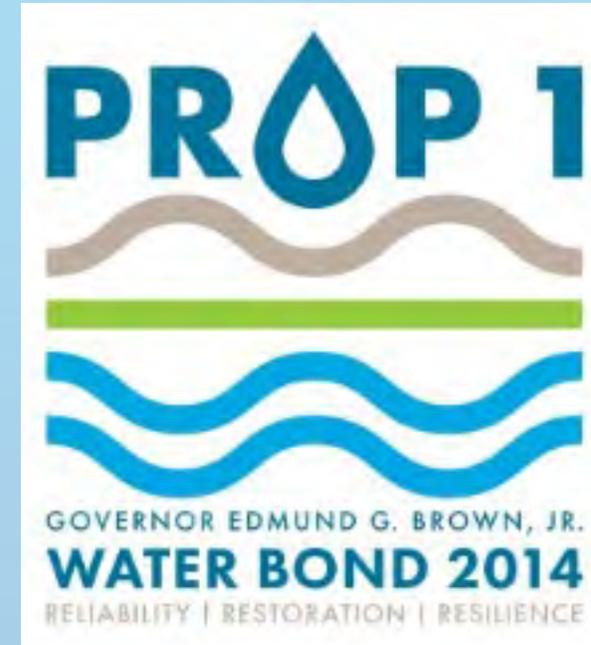
**Rick Whetsel, Senior Watershed Manager**  
**OWOW Steering Committee | March 25, 2021**  
**Item No. 4.C.**



# Disadvantaged Community Involvement Program (DCI) Program

DWR established the Disadvantaged Community Involvement Grant Program to support the following objectives:

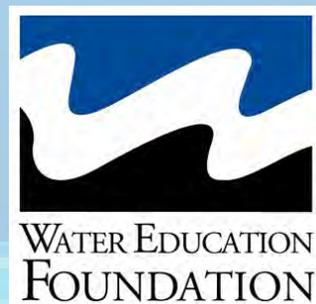
- 1) Work collaboratively to **involve DACs**, community-based organizations, and stakeholders in IRWM Planning efforts
- 2) Increase the understanding, and identify the **water management needs** of disadvantaged communities
- 3) Develop strategies and long-term solutions that appropriately address the identified DAC water management needs
- 4) **Support technical assistance** for planning of future construction projects including feasibility, design, CEQA, etc. - Not construction at this stage.



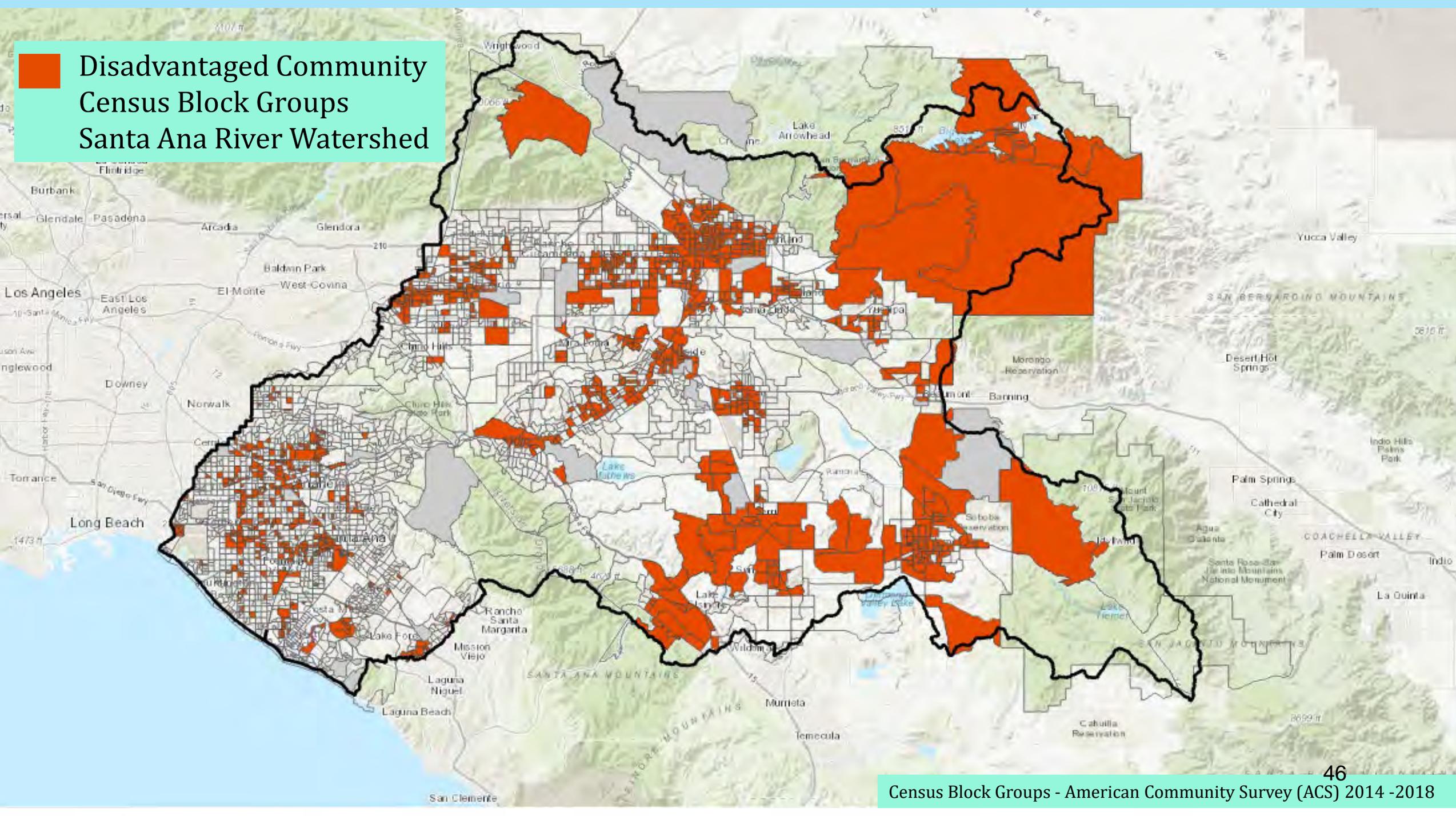
<b>Disadvantaged Community Involvement (DCI) Grant Program Eligible Grant Activities</b>		<b>In SAWPA Scope</b>
<b>General Activity</b>	<b>Examples of Activity</b>	
<b>Technical assistance</b>	<b>Service provider trainings, local circuit rider programs to train water and wastewater staff</b>	
<b>Needs assessments</b>	<b>Surveys or meetings with community members to identify water management needs</b>	
<b>Project development activities</b>	<b>Planning activities, environmental compliance, or pre-construction engineering/design activities</b>	
<b>Site assessment</b>	<b>Water quality assessments, median household income surveys, data and mapping activities</b>	
<b>Engagement in IRWM efforts</b>	<b>DAC regional engagement coordinator role, DAC Advisory Committee to RWMG, DAC representatives in governance</b>	
<b>Governance Structure</b>	<b>Evaluation of governance structures and plan financing efforts, assessments of the level of DAC involvement in decision making processes</b>	
<b>Community outreach</b>	<b>Public project meetings open to community members, door-to-door outreach</b>	
<b>Education</b>	<b>Translation or interpretive services for information sharing, water education campaigns for community members, education for RWMGs on DAC needs</b>	
<b>Facilitation</b>	<b>Facilitated RWMG meetings, facilitated project development meetings</b>	
<b>Enhancement of DAC in IRWM Plans</b>	<b>Development of Funding Area-wide DAC plan to be utilized as a unified approach for all IRWM plans</b>	

# Program Partners

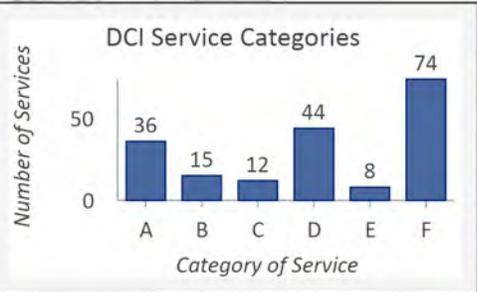
Leveraging Resources for Biggest Impact



Disadvantaged Community  
Census Block Groups  
Santa Ana River Watershed



# SAWPA Disadvantaged Community (DAC) Involvement Program - DAC Census Block Groups Benefited



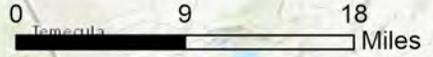
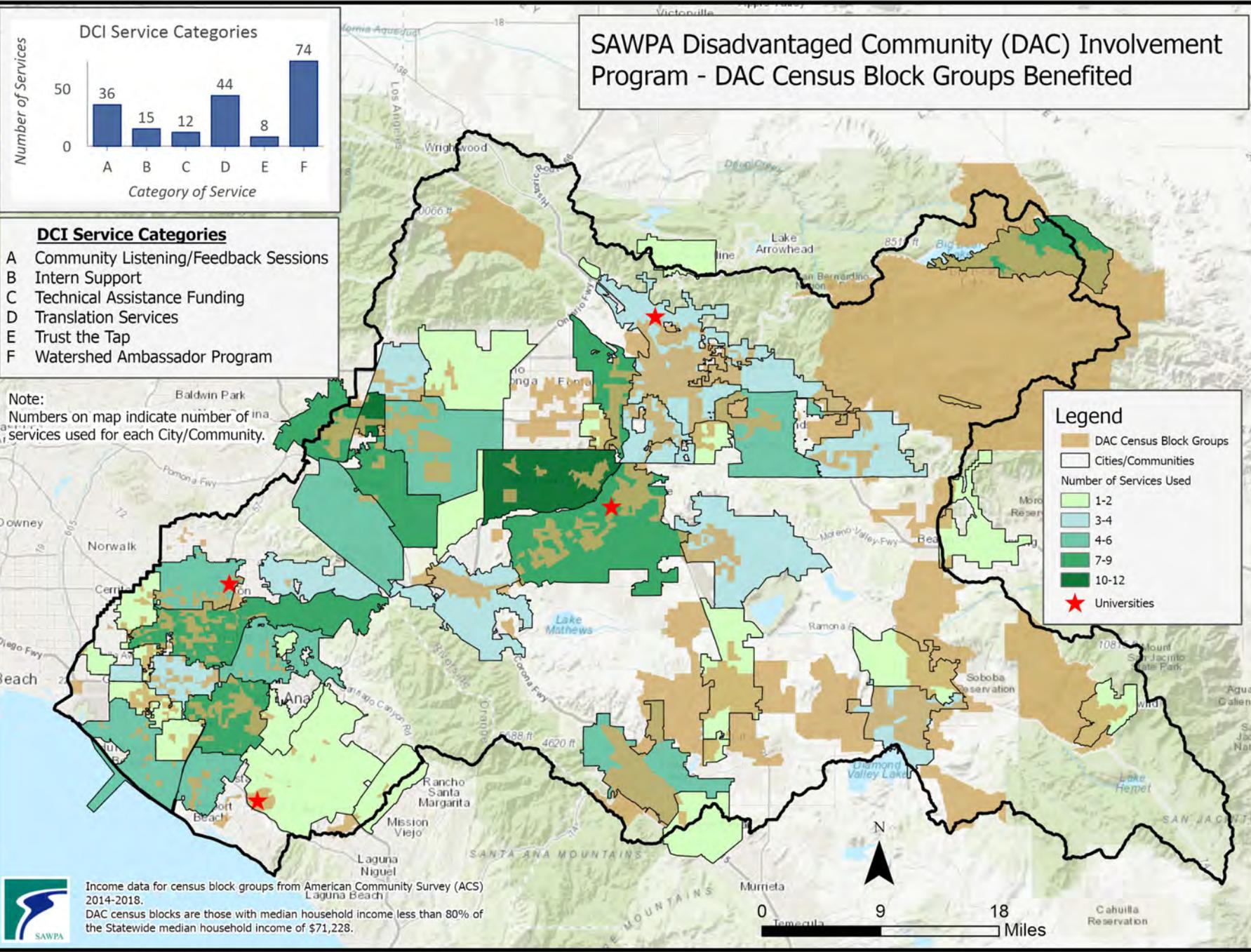
- DCI Service Categories**
- A Community Listening/Feedback Sessions
  - B Intern Support
  - C Technical Assistance Funding
  - D Translation Services
  - E Trust the Tap
  - F Watershed Ambassador Program

Note:  
Numbers on map indicate number of services used for each City/Community.

**Legend**

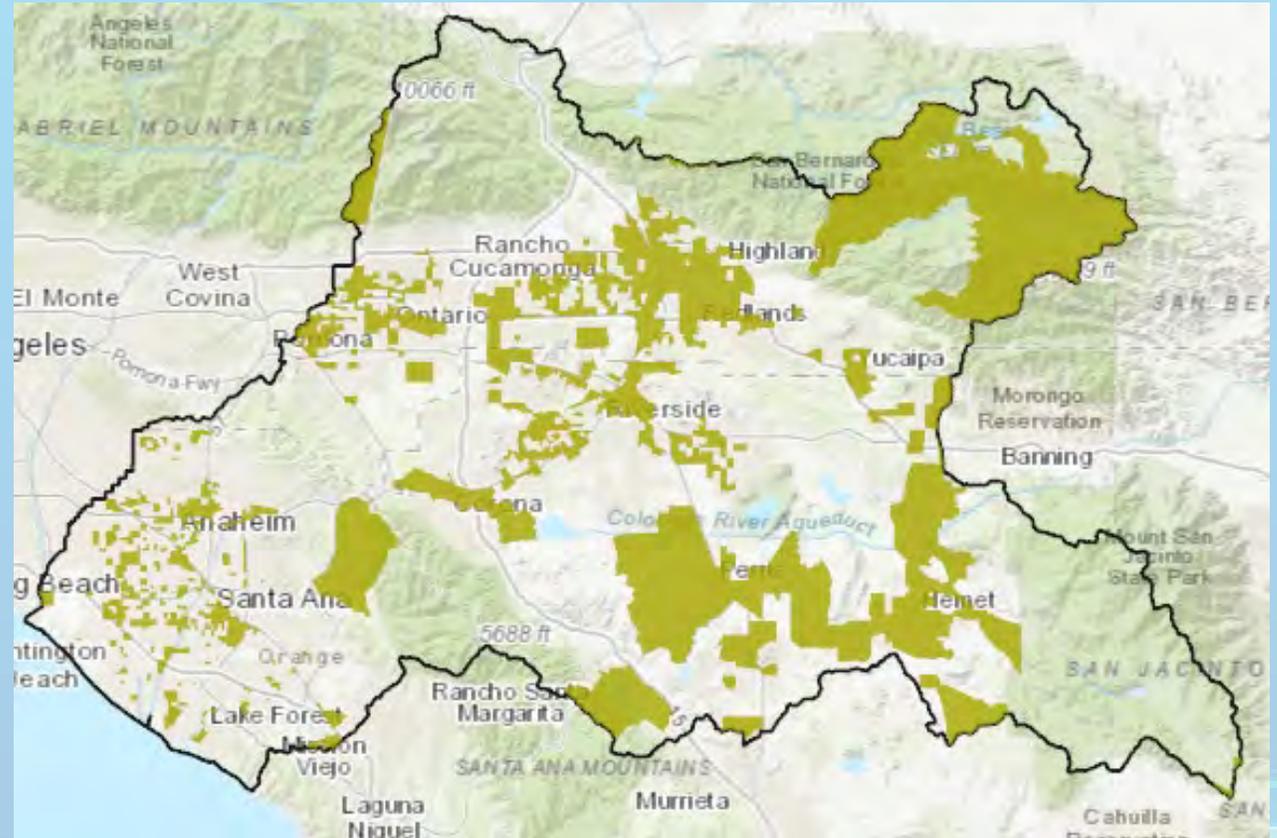
- DAC Census Block Groups
- Cities/Communities
- Number of Services Used
- 1-2
- 3-4
- 4-6
- 7-9
- 10-12
- Universities

Income data for census block groups from American Community Survey (ACS) 2014-2018.  
DAC census blocks are those with median household income less than 80% of the Statewide median household income of \$71,228.



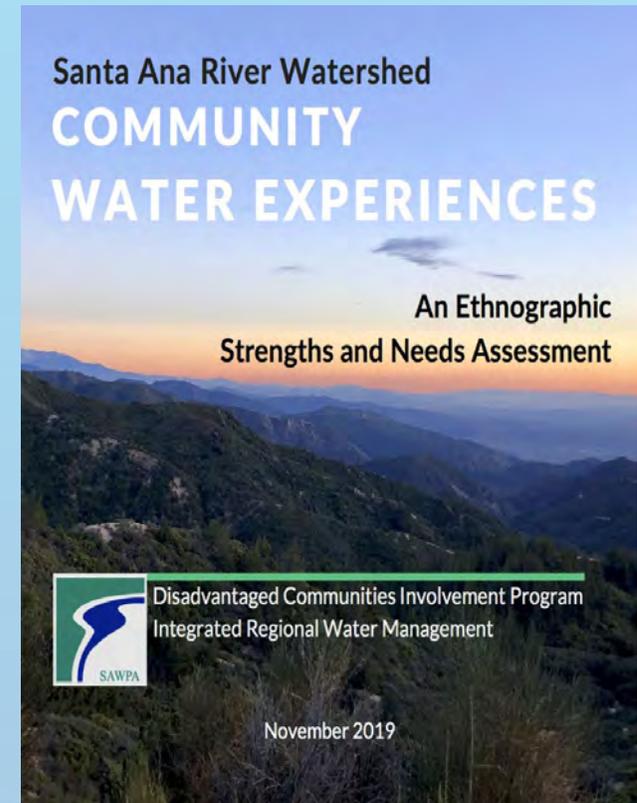
# DCI Program Elements

1. Strengths and Needs Assessment
2. Education and Engagement
3. Project Development
4. Administration



# Ethnographic Strengths and Needs Assessment

- Objective: Strengths and needs assessment designed by SAWPA and its partner agencies to take the next step in integrated and inclusive watershed planning.
- SAWPA partnered with the University of California, Irvine's Department of Anthropology and California State University Water Resources and Policy Initiatives
- Initial Report Finalized : November 2019
- Sacred Places Institute (SPI) contracted by CSUSB to conduct two Orange County Tribal Listening Sessions
- Staff engaged with DWR, CSUSB and SPI to finalize the report



# Local Elected Leader Training

## Santa Ana River Watershed Ambassador Program

Local Government Commission conducted two additional virtual events:

**Workshop 1: Getting to Know Your Watershed - Jan 19<sup>th</sup>**

**Workshop 2: Collaborating in the Face of Uncertainty - Feb 3<sup>rd</sup>**

- condensed versions of the 2019-2020 Watershed Ambassador Certification Program
- used to develop on-line mini-series to be hosted on SAWPA Watershed Ambassador website to continue the program



# Santa Ana River Watershed Ambassador Program for Local Policymakers - Virtual Mini Series



How To Get Certified

- 1 WATCH THE RECORDINGS
- 2 COMPLETE THE ACTIVITY
- 3 COMPLETE THE EVALUATION
- 4 EMAIL [AMBASSADOR@SAWPA.ORG](mailto:AMBASSADOR@SAWPA.ORG)
- 5 RECEIVE YOUR CERTIFICATE!

**Workshop 1: Getting to Know Your Watershed**

**Workshop 2: Collaborating in the Face of Uncertainty**

**Workshop 3: Communicating the Value of Water**



# Technical Assistance for Community Need

- Objective: Technical Assistance (TA) funding to support the development of projects and programs that address the water needs of disadvantaged and underrepresented communities.
- Requires evaluation of projects, plans, and programs following set of evaluation criteria developed by DCI Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)
- Allocated Funding \$2.9 M
- Work is ongoing



<b>DCI Program Technical Assistance Funding</b>		
<b>TA Award</b>	<b>Project Sponsor:</b>	<b>Project Title:</b>
<b>\$25,630</b>	<b>CRWA / CSU WRPI</b>	<b>Median Household Income Surveys</b>
<b>COMPLETE</b>	<b>SAWPA</b>	<b>Assessing the Water Quality, Riparian, and Aquatic Habitat Impacts of Homelessness in the Upper Santa Ana River Watershed</b>
<b>COMPLETE</b>	<b>Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians</b>	<b>Residential Asbestos Cement Pipe Abandonment and Replacement Project</b>
<b>\$500,000</b>	<b>Big Bear Area Regional Wastewater Agency</b>	<b>Replenish Big Bear</b>
<b>COMPLETE</b>	<b>California Rural Water Association</b>	<b>Tribal Advisory Committee (Tribal AC)</b>
<b>\$175,000</b>	<b>Box Springs MWC</b>	<b>Rehabilitation, Removal or Replacement of Water Storage Reservoirs with SCADA</b>
<b>\$200,000</b>	<b>City of Colton</b>	<b>Two New Potable Wells with Generators</b>
<b>\$100,000</b>	<b>Devore WC</b>	<b>New Reservoir, Distribution System Upgrades and New Well</b>
<b>\$150,000</b>	<b>Idyllwild WD</b>	<b>Water Treatment Plant Upgrade with SCADA</b>
<b>\$100,000</b>	<b>Marygold MWC</b>	<b>New Well and Generator Project</b>
<b>\$25,000</b>	<b>Riverside Highland WC</b>	<b>Ion Exchange System</b>
<b>\$250,000</b>	<b>Terrace MWC</b>	<b>New Potable Well</b>
<b>\$200,000</b>	<b>Eastern Municipal WD</b>	<b>Quail Valley Sub-Area 4 Septic to Sewer, Phase 1 Planning Analysis</b>
<b>\$277,990</b>	<b>City of Rialto</b>	<b>Bohnert/Banyon Septic to Sewer Project</b>
<b>\$100,000</b>	<b>Orange County WD</b>	<b>Watershed Education and Field Trip Program for Disadvantaged Community Elementary School Students</b>
<b>\$100,000</b>	<b>City of Fullerton</b>	<b>Fullerton's Water Future - Ensuring Delivery of Clean, Safe Drinking Water</b>
<b>COMPLETE</b>	<b>Huerta del Valle</b>	<b>Reconnecting and Enhancing Water Resources for greater community and environmental benefit.</b>
<b>\$100,000</b>	<b>City of Santa Ana</b>	<b>Washington Avenue Well Project</b>
<b>\$2,900,000</b>	<b>Total Technical Assistance funding Awarded</b>	

# DCI Program Budget (through Q4 2020)

Program Element		Budget	Expenses	Balance	% Spent
<b>1</b>	<b>Strengths &amp; Needs</b>	\$ 898,644	\$ 898,644	\$ -	100%
<b>2</b>	<b>Engagement / Education</b>	\$ 1,853,068	\$ 1,736,541	\$ 116,527	94%
<b>3</b>	<b>Project Development</b>	\$ 3,233,288	\$ 2,431,843	\$ 801,445	75%
<b>4</b>	<b>Administration</b>	\$ 315,000	\$ 260,096	\$ 54,904	83%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 6,300,000</b>	<b>\$ 5,327,124</b>	<b>\$ 972,876</b>	<b>85%</b>



# Program Schedule

Element / Activity		2021 Q1	2021 Q2	2021 Q3
<b>PE 1</b>	<b>Strengths &amp; Needs Assessment</b>			
<b>PE 2</b>	<b>Engagement / Education</b>			
14	<b>Community Water Education</b>			
15	<b>Water Agency Engagement Training</b>			
16	<b>Local Elected Leader Training</b>			
<b>PE 3</b>	<b>Project Development</b>			
18	<b>Technical Assistance / Project Implementation</b>			
<b>PE 4</b>	<b>Grant Administration</b>			

# Questions

