Virtual OWOW Stakeholder Meeting Santa Ana River Watershed

Ian Achimore Senior Watershed Manager Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority October 28, 2021



Purpose of Workshop

1) Review of the final draft OWOW rating and ranking criteria used to score submitted projects for the Proposition 1 Round 2 IRWM Call for Projects,

• Possible review of the Department of Water Resources (Divid) draft Proposal Solicitation Package (PSP) for Proposition 1 Round 2 if released by the date of the workshop,

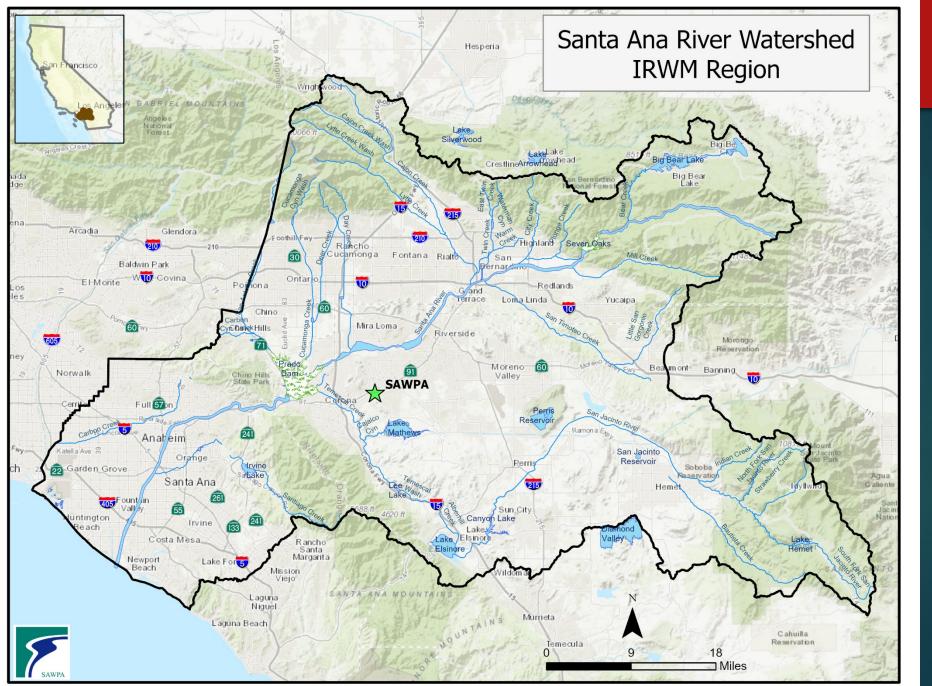
2) An in-depth look at the DWR 2021 Urban and Multibenefit Drought Relief Funding grant opportunity, and

3) Input from stakeholders like you!

Estimated Release in Mid-November

Prop 1 Round 2 IRWM Call for Projects





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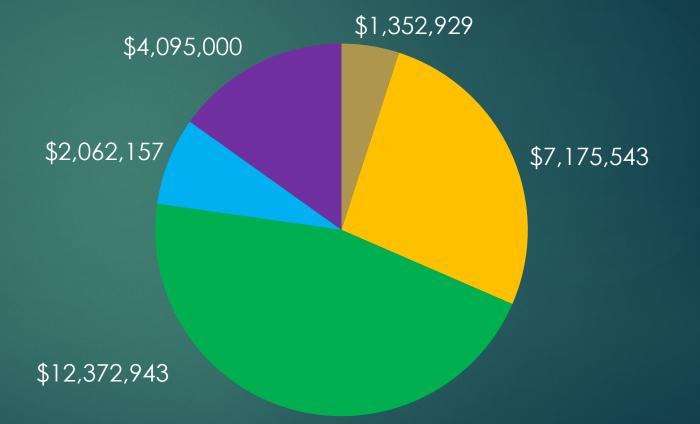
Prop 1 Round 2 Amounts by Category

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Santa Ana River Watershed IRWM Region

Categories created by Agreement executed with North Orange County IRWM Group in 2019:

- Grant Admin
- North Orange County*
- Upper Watershed
- Watershed Wide
- DAC Implementation



Total = \$27,058,572

Draft Guidelines and PSP from DWR

- Draft Guidelines and Proposal Solicitation Package (PSP) from DWR anticipated to be released by mid-November,
- It is anticipated that DWR will still require a due date of September 2022 for the SAWPA Round 2 application submittal to DWR,
 - This September 2022 due date is factored into the Round 2 schedule for the OWOW Call for Projects.





Draft* Round 2 (R2) OWOW Schedule



*Schedule assumes DWR will release draft Proposal Solicitation Package (PSP) by November 2021 and the draft PSP won't require a re-adoption of the scoring criteria by the OWOW Governance.

Schedule if Draft PSP Requires OWOW Governance to Re-Adopt Scoring Criteria



Competition Pools for Your Project

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Disadvantaged Community* General Implementation

*Project must have at least 75% of the benefit area (as population and/or geographic area) must be considered "DAC". Can be a single benefit, and single jurisdictional project.

Recommended Round 2 Competition Pools (Not including North OC)

Competition Pools	Grant Amount
DAC	\$4,095,000
General Implementation	\$14,435,100
Upper Watershed*	\$12,372,9423
Watershed Wide*	\$2,062,157
DAC and General Total	\$18,530,100

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*Not a competition pool, funding gets distributed after projects are submitted and highest scoring projects are determined.

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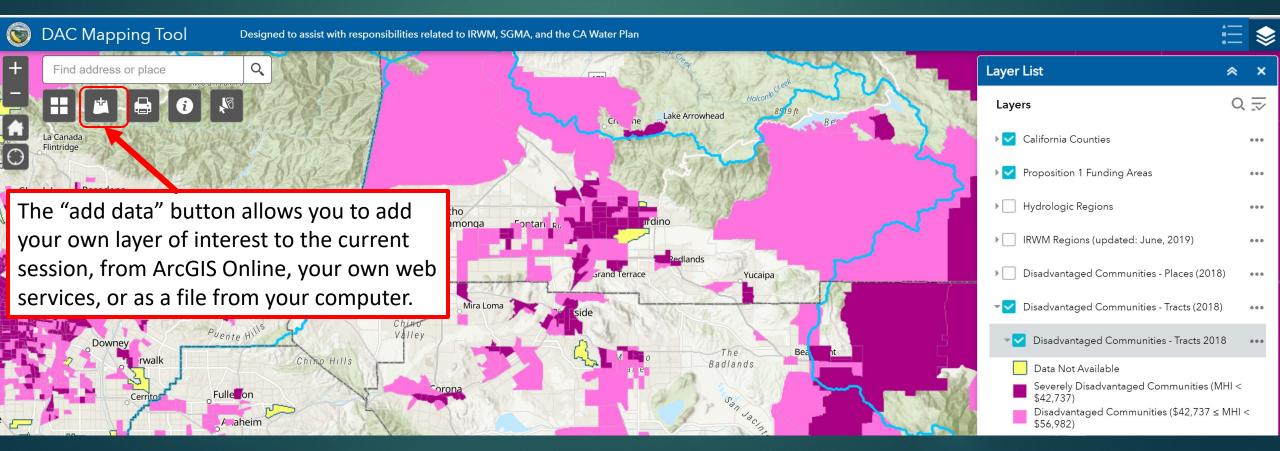
Example Projects for General Implementation Category

 Integrated Regional Water Management what does it mean?
The first word "integrated" = multiple benefits
The second word "regional" = multiple partners, covers a larger area

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Tool to Map DACs For Your Project

AVAILABLE HERE: HTTPS://GIS.WATER.CA.GOV/APP/DACS/



General Implementation

Benefit Category	Weighting Factor	Category Information	Unit
Water Supply	9	Amount of water supply provided through innovation and optimization. Can be recycled water.	Acre Feet
Water Quality Improvement	8	Amount of water quality improved for people or the environment. Can be wastewater.	Million Gallons Per Day
Stormwater Protection	8	Amount of acres protected from flooding	Acres
Habitat Improvement	7	Amount of preserved or enhanced natural habitat	Acres
Percentage of DAC/EDA Area	6	Share of Benefit Area that is DAC/EDA (from +0% to 100%)	Percentage
Climate Change Adaptation/Mitigation	7	Amount of greenhouse gases removed/avoided from project implementation	Tons of CO2
Tribal Benefit	NA - Extra 10%	Lead applicant is federally recognized Indian Tribe or CA State Indian Tribe listed on the Native American Heritage Commission's CA Tribal Consultation List	Yes/No
Regional Benefit	NA - Extra 15%	Benefit area (or equivalent impact) covers at least approximately 75% of IRWM Funding Area, including adjacent IRWM Regions	Yes/No
New and Innovative Decision Support Tools	NA - Extra 5%	Project employs new or innovative technology or practices, or is a pilot project.	Yes/No
Non-Profit Partner or Lead (501c3)	NA – Extra 5%	Non-profit provides labor, land value, and/or resources, toward implementation of the project. If they are the lead (and not just a partner), project is also eligible for this 5%.	Yes/No

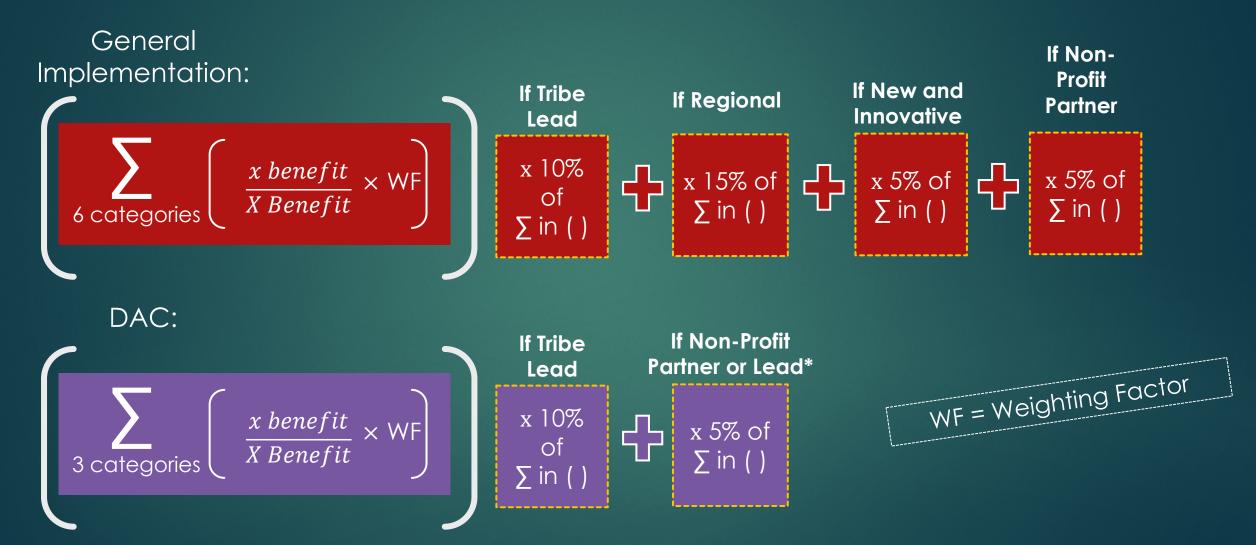
DAC Category Information

Benefit Category	Weighting Factor	Category Information	Unit
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Non-Profit Partner or Lead (501c3)	NA – Extra 5% (or 10%)	•	Yes/No

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Note: Less categories because this competition pool is designed more for single benefit and single jurisdictional projects to be competitive.

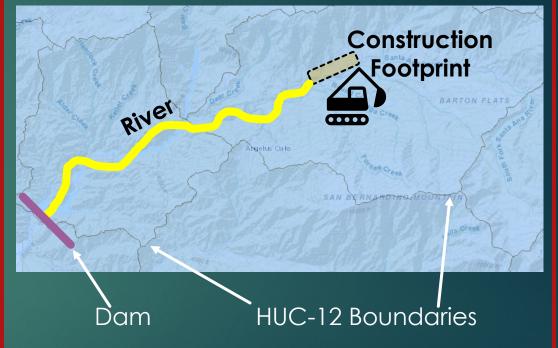
Ranking Formulas



*If Non-Profit is the lead, the percentage increases to 10%.

Benefit Area Guidance

- Benefit Area limits include the following (listed by project benefit type):
 - Ecosystem Projects: US Geological Survey designated HUC-12* level watersheds,
 - Surface Water Quality and Groundwater Quality: HUC-12s and DWR-118 Groundwater Basins,
 - Coastal water quality: 10-mile buffer areas, and
 - Inland water body open to public: 10-mile buffer areas.



Benefit Area Limit Example

*HUC = Hydraulic Unit Code (more info: <u>https://water.usgs.gov/GIS/huc.html</u>)

After Ranking Process → OWOW 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?

After Participatory Budgeting → Grant Funding Allocation Process

- In Prop 1 Round 1, OWOW allocated funding to those top projects based on those top projects share of the sum of the weighted scores, and
- Any State priority projects near threshold were included.

Top project threshold.

Project ID	Weighted Score
1	699.90
2	643.89
3	526.26
4	424.44
5	401.53
6	298.39
7	246.87
8	244.25
9	170.26
10	143.83
11	101.49
12	93.87

Grant Allocation Formula for Round 2*

Before Running Formula Each Project is "Capped" at Their Grant Request

 $\frac{x Weighted Score of Your Top Project}{X Total Weighted Score of Top Projects} \times$

Grant Available Add More Grant To Your Project Via Formula in first ()

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Additional Stages of Allocation Formula Done if There is Left-Over Grant Due to Project Request "Caps"

*Same formula used in last Prop 1 round.

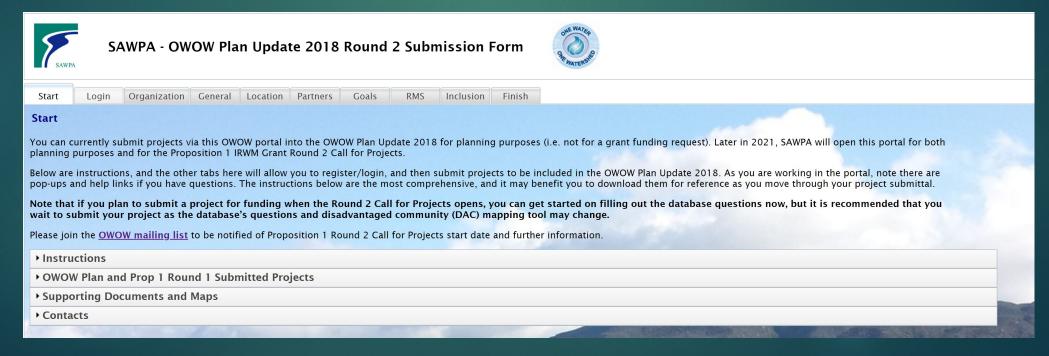
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OWOW Call for Projects Application Submittal

- Initial version of form currently accessible via: <u>https://sawpa.org/owow/future-funding-opportunities/</u>
- Form will be finalized after Round 2 draft PSP is released by DWR.



DWR 2021 Urban and Multibenefit Drought Relief Funding



Information on State Grant Process

- In September, 2021 the Department of Water Resources (DWR) released a draft Proposal Solicitation Package (PSP) and associated guidelines to provide approximately \$190 million for grants in two funding categories:
 - \$95 million from the Urban Communities projects, and
 - ▶ \$95 million for multiple benefit projects.
- Eligible projects to address immediate impacts on human health and safety, and/or on fish and wildlife resources.

2021 Urban and Multibenefit Drought Relief Grant Program Guidelines and Proposal Solicitation Package

> Public Review Draft September 2021



Drought Relief Grant Program – 24 More Information

- DWR accepting applications once guidelines and PSP are finalized (likely this week),
- DWR funding awards start in December 2021,
- ► No local cost share required,
- Costs incurred after award date are eligible for reimbursement, and
- Project must be complete by March 31, 2026.



Eligible Project Examples

- New wells or rehabilitation of existing wells,
- Projects that support immediate drought response,
- Connection to adjacent water systems,
- Recycled water projects that support immediate relief to potable water supplies, and
- ▶ Fish and wildlife rescue, protection, and relocation.

How to Apply

- Visit: <u>https://water.ca.gov/Water-Basics/Drought/Urban-Multi-Benefit-Drought</u>, and
- Complete the application and submit it to DWR once the PSP is finalized.



Projects Included in Disadvantaged Community Involvement Programs

- The same draft PSP and guidelines released in September allows SAWPA to receive approximately \$5 million to SAWPA to further implement the Disadvantaged Community Involvement (DCI) Program.
- Four to five projects are estimated to be awarded from the \$5 million available.



Schedule for DCI Program Process

October (this week) 2021: PSP to be finalized.

- November 2021: SAWPA works with eligible projects to submit to DWR for \$5 million in funding.
- December 2021: DWR executes contract with SAWPA for the projects included within that \$5 million.

If interested, contact Mark Norton and Rick Whetsel (contact info on next slide).



Questions and Feedback



MARK NORTON

WATER RESOURCES & PLANNING MANAGER <u>MNORTON@SAWPA.ORG</u> 29

(951) 354-4221



RICK WHETSEL SENIOR WATERSHED MANAGER <u>RWHETSEL@SAWPA.ORG</u> (951) 354-4222



IAN ACHIMORE SENIOR WATERSHED MANAGER IACHIMORE@SAWPA.ORG (951) 354-4233