

A scenic coastal landscape with a sandy beach, waves, and mountains in the background. The foreground shows a wide, sandy beach with some seaweed and a small bird. The middle ground features a rocky coastline with a few buildings and trees. The background consists of rolling hills and mountains under a clear sky.

Appendix U. Public Comments on the Public Draft

Appendix U. Public Comments and Responses

Responses to “larger scope” comments provided below are reduced to only those which are relevant to the IRWM Plan’s purpose and content in meeting state guideline requirements. All comments and suggested edits are compiled in **Appendix I**.

Table U.1 Public Comments and Responses

Public Comments and Questions	Summary Response
General Overall Comments	
To help focus the reader, the plan would benefit from the addition of a new section titled "Summary of Most Pressing Water Supply Challenges within SLO County".	The Executive Summary will include this information. The IRWM Plan was written so as to meet DWR requirements and not place one Sub-Region or WPA over another, as the priorities of critical areas changes over time.
Since we are applying for grants to deal with water supply (and quality) issues, these concerns need to be obvious to the reader. One source of information is the recent DWR CASGEM Basin Prioritization.	The IRWM Plan is not written for purposes of winning a specific grant, only to meet the State Guidelines. The Guidelines state, <i>“The IRWM Plan must clearly document the project review process and demonstrate that the process meets this standard. The projects included in the IRWM Plan are the projects that will implement the Plan and achieve the Plan objectives...In developing a project review process, RWMGs are cautioned that the project review process contained in the IRWM Plan should not contain any specific grant program related selection criteria.”</i> The Water Supply Challenges of today along with a map of CASGEMs priority rating on groundwater basins is described in the Executive Summary.
Section D Water Supply, Demand, and Water Budget	
The San Simeon recycled water treatment plant is complete and running. The proposed grant project will allow for building a distribution system for that product water.	The plan acknowledges the trucking of reuse water in Table D-5. As per the Draft San Luis Obispo County Regional Recycled Water Strategic Plan (RRWSP), the district installed a 36,000 gpd tertiary filtration system in 2013. Current reuse is via hauling by truck for irrigation of commercial properties. The district has plans to construct a distribution system in phases as funds become available.
The urban values are inconsistent with current conservation plan policies and our 2010 Urban Water Management Plan.	In cases where inconsistencies exist with adopted 2010 UWMPs, the reason may be the result of one or more of the following: adding system losses, using the MWR for 2035 and interpolating from 2030 to 2035, and/or additional supplies will likely become available through planned projects such as reuse and desal.
In this section, planning documents (2007 IRWM plan, 2012 MWR and 2010 UWMPs) are the basis and foundation for SLO county water supply, demand and water budget. All of these documents have a common thread - the data is compiled and presented without consideration of the changing climate	Climate change is a part of the IRWM Plan’s Goals and Objectives, so, as a result, climate change is incorporated in almost every aspect of the plan related to its implementation, monitoring, and performance. Inherent with any demand forecast methodology, the uncertainties are numerous and can bias the data one way or the other. We took a very unbiased approach by using UWMP reported data and County ag data projections, limiting Climate Change to the plan’s

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Public Comments and Questions	Summary Response	
<p>conditions we are likely to experience. The climate change dialog should not be relegated to the back seat of this 2014 IRWM Plan, ie., only discussed in Section P Climate Change. It is predicted that our region will experience a warmer, dryer climate with less precipitation, and more intense rain storms. This scenario will require that our water resource management strategies adapt to a changing climate. In this Section D, the plan should state that data must be continuously updated to accurately reflect what SLO county can expect as reasonable water supply, demand and water budget quantities.</p>	<p>implementation without assuming potential outcomes of its effects.</p>	
<p>Provide update to Perennial Yield for Paso Roble GWBasin and Salinas River Underflow</p>	<p>Updates to the GW Basin Perennial Yields will occur as data is vetted and approved by the RWMG. The on-going modeling effort of the Paso Robles basin and underflow.</p>	
<p>Table D-41 shows a decrease in agricultural water demands for vineyards from 2010 going forward; however, the Agricultural Commissioner reports that 4,000 acres of vineyards were planted during 2012/2013. This data needs to be reconciled with the data that has been prepared for the Basin model update.</p>	<p>We have used the Basin model update as our data source for agricultural water demands. The likely downward applied water with upward increases in vineyard acres is a result of higher irrigation efficiencies.</p>	
<p>Table D-10 represents Crop Groups generically for statewide crop inventories. The crops should reflect the IRWM Region.</p>	<p>Crop inventories and naming are based on input from the county Ag Commissioner. The state naming convention is used for purposes of consistency; especially, with state databases on crop inventories. The RWMG can consider re-categorizing the list of crop types in subsequent IRWM Plan updates (with input from the Ag Commissioner), and verify the implication of such a change when aligning past crop inventories data over time.</p>	
Section E Goals and Objectives		
<p>How does the task of updating the list of Sub-Region Priorities take place?</p>	<p>Sub-Region priorities address the IRWM Plan’s Goals and Objectives, with focus on specific water resources issues in the three Sub-Regions identified in the Plan. Section J – Plan Performance and Monitoring addresses the task of meeting with local stakeholders to update the priorities as current events change, and refocusing of the needed projects/programs takes place.</p>	
Section H Project Integration and Alternatives		
<p>It is unclear what numbers mean after the project names.</p>	<p>As stated in the text under Section H.4, “numerical value after each project identifies the number of Project Elements each project has in common.” This is provided to see which projects have the highest commonalities.</p>	
Section I Plan Benefits and Impacts		
<p>A summary format is preferred in Section I.3 to discuss Other Resources at a</p>	<p>Section I.3 Benefits and Impact to Other Resources was modified to a tabular format including a brief description of</p>	

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<p>programmatic level commensurate with the level of planning and environmental documentation contained within the IRWM Plan.</p>	<p>each resource and the high-level impacts and benefits which may occur with the IRWM Plan’s implementation. Attention was given to not removing critical impacts.</p>	
<p>Section G Project Solicitation, Selection, and Prioritization</p>		
<p>Regarding Section G.1.1 Updated Approach to Project Characterization How does this section fit into the solicitation process?</p>	<p>Section G.1.1, as written, evolved through public education, and responses to questions and concerns regarding what makes a good project for purposes of IRWM Plan Implementation. This section was included in the public education phase prior to solicitation, and its relevancy is limited to the described process of how the State RMSs translate into physical projects which meet local WMSs and IRWM Objectives. No change was made.</p>	
<p>Section N Relation to Local Water and Land Use Planning</p>		
<p>How will the RWMG coordinate its water management planning activities amongst local agencies and stakeholders?</p>	<p>Section N.7.1 How the RWMG will Coordinate its Water Management Planning Activities, includes a description of specific coordination efforts in the IRWM Plan implementation, updating, and reporting, to continue to improve regional understanding of how and why data is portrayed in the IRWM Plan. This section stresses the importance of local monitoring and reporting to meet state IRWM Reporting Requirements.</p>	
<p>Section P Climate Change</p>		
<p>In Sept 2013, documentation was submitted during the draft review of the Climate Change module to support the vulnerability rating change from a 3 to a 2</p>	<p>Comment noted and vulnerability was changed in section.</p>	