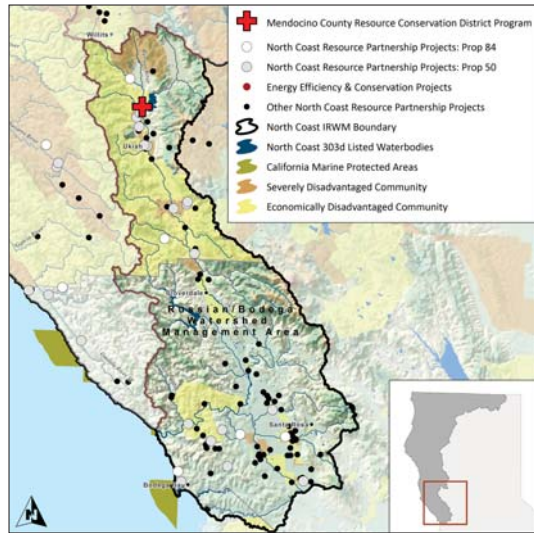


# Water Conservation Technical Assistance to Mendocino County Tribes

## MENDOCINO COUNTY RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT



### COMPLETION DATE

February 28, 2019

### STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

A previous Prop 84 grant program uncovered challenges in water conservation management that affect Tribes and other small suppliers selectively. Tribal water suppliers are underserved utilities that face unique hardships during the drought. Previous MCRCD work with Tribes indicated that they are vulnerable to water shortages and water supply insecurity and that water conservation assistance, customer outreach and leak detection in distribution lines are important needs.

### PROJECT GOALS

- Water supply reliability for Mendocino County Tribal communities
- Enhanced capacity of Tribal communities to adapt to drought conditions
- Technology transfer — development of a water conservation app designed for small systems

### THE SOLUTION

This project consists of four components to enhance Tribal capacity to provide water supply reliability. Component 1 consists of water audit technical assistance, Component 2 provides access to new technology developed to conserve water, Component 3 includes leak detection services, and Component 4 involves partnership with the Rural Community Assistance Corporation.

### PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

Tribal outreach and coordination began in June 2016 and leak detection, development of the water conservation app, and water audits were underway by October 2016.

### PROJECT BUDGET

IRWM funds:	\$ 114,860
Leveraged funds:	\$ 22,810
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 137,670</b>

### BENEFITS

#### Economic benefits

- Approximately \$8,000 per year in water supply saved due to water conservation measures

#### Water Supply

- Approximately 100 acre-feet per year saved due to water conservation measures

#### Habitat and Ecosystem function benefits

- Species protection for coho (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*) and steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*)
- Increased instream flow of approximately 0.05 cubic feet per second during summer months will enhance salmonid habitat by improving connectivity and decreasing stream temperatures

#### Cultural benefits

- Increased community resilience to effects of climate change such as more frequent drought events

#### Jobs and Local Economic Benefits

- About \$137,000 spent locally using local supplies and labor when possible
- Approximately 1 job created/maintained

### NEXT STEPS

The Mendocino County Resource Conservation District will continue to seek ways to support Tribes and other small water purveyors to implement the latest technology to conserve water and improve water quality and supply reliability for all communities in Mendocino County while also protecting working lands and natural resources.

#### CONTACT

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