NORTH COAST INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

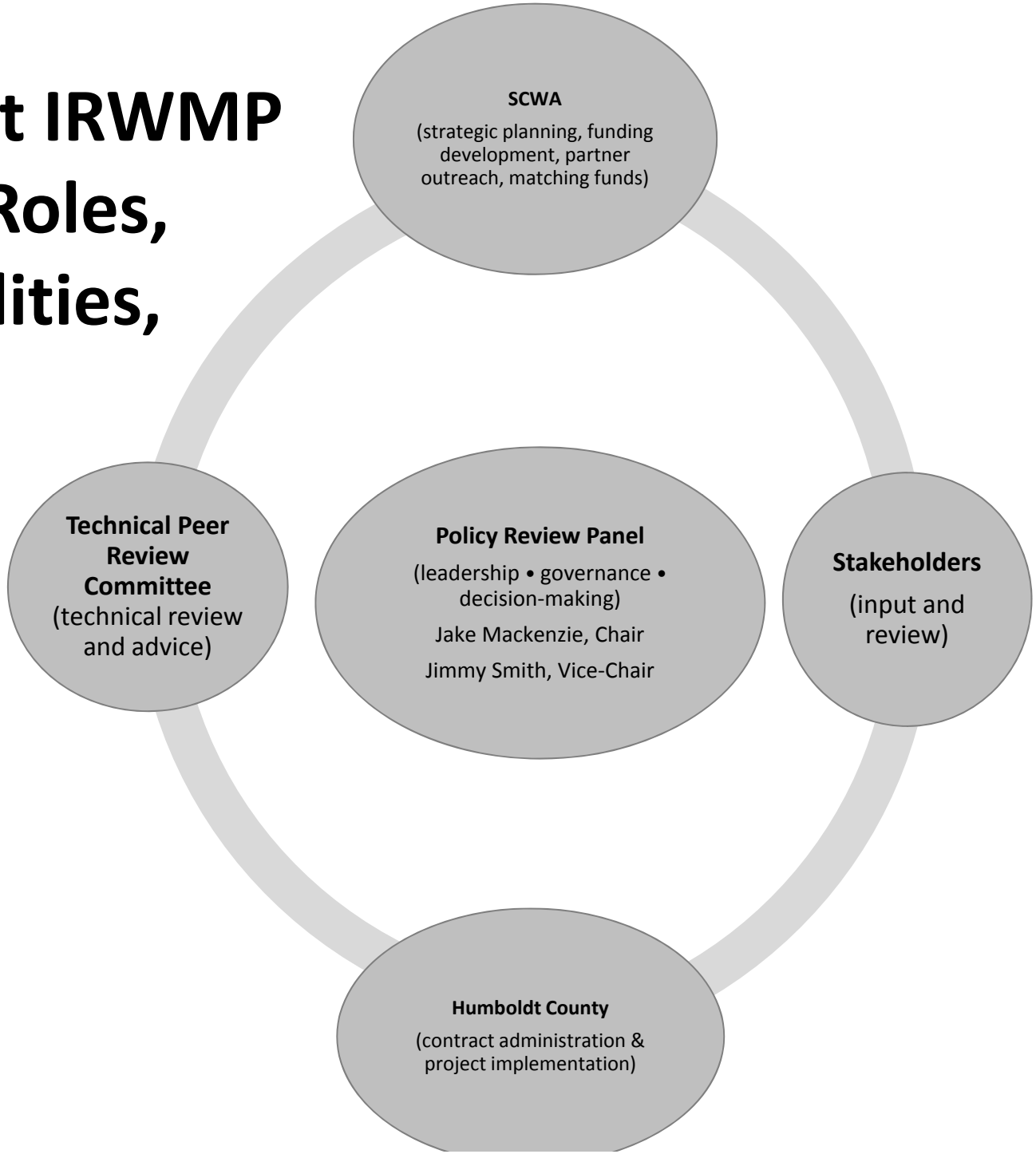
North Coast Integrated Regional Water Management Plan

Policy Review Panel

& Technical Peer Review Committee Meeting

- **July 21, 2011, 10 am**
- **Weaverville Library/Board of Supervisors Chambers**

North Coast IRWMP Structure, Roles, Responsibilities, Staffing



Core Roles & Responsibilities

Core Roles & Responsibilities	Humboldt County	SCWA	PRP	TPRC
Strategic Vision/Planning	**X**	**X**	**X**	**X**
Implementation Project Management	**X**			
Contract Administration	**X**			
Stakeholder Outreach	x	**X**	x	x
PRP Coordination		**X**		
Public Relations	x	**X**	x	x
Research & Technical Writing		**X**		
Technical Support & Assistance	**X**	**X**		x
Conferences/Workshops		**X**		
Funding Applications	x	**X**	x	x

Alternatives for Decision-making

- Staff recommends that the Policy Review Panel designate the Chair and Vice-Chair to make time-sensitive decisions and take action related to funding, legislative input, and other IRWM program requirements that are consistent with past PRP direction and in the best interests of the North Coast Region. Such decisions would be relayed to the full PRP after completion. Issues and decisions that are not time sensitive would continue to be addressed at the NCIRWMP meetings.

NCIRWMP Meeting Options

- Quarterly standing meetings
  - Proposal: 3rd Thursday/month
  - To be cancelled when not needed (Chair/Vice Chair)
  - Meeting dates changed when deemed necessary
  - Value of face to face meetings
  - Video-conferencing options & issues
- Proposed upcoming meeting months/location:
  - October – Eureka (Oct 20, 2011 & Oct 18, 2012)
  - January – Ukiah (January 19, 2012)
  - April – Yreka (April 19, 2012)
  - July – Weaverville (July 19, 2012)

NCIRWMP Meeting Options

- Staff recommends that regular NCIRWMP PRP/TPRC standing meetings be established, and that these meetings alternate between Humboldt, Mendocino, Trinity and Siskiyou counties. When there are not adequate agenda items to justify holding one of the standing meetings, the meeting may be cancelled by decision of the Chair and Vice-chair. When issues arise that must be addressed prior to a standing meeting, the Chair and Vice-chair may authorize staff to determine a meeting date that allows for attendance by the majority of the PRP and/or the TPRC. Staff will continue to explore tele-conference options.

IRWMP Funding Updates

- North Coast IRWMP Proposition 84 Implementation Grant, Round 1
  - DWR final awards announcement early August
  - DWR Commitment letter August/September
  - Contracting – fall 2011
- IRWMP Prop 84 Implementation, Round 2
  - $130 M (appropriated) – Summer 2012
- IRWMP Prop 84 Implementation, Round 3
  - $170 (subject to appropriations) – 2013/14
- IRWMP Prop 84 allocation remaining for North Coast = $25.1 M (of ~ $32 million)

Other DWR Funding Updates

- Directed DWR funding North Coast - $500,000 : capacity building support & technical assistance to small water and wastewater service providers in disadvantaged communities (2 yr contract)
  - Final contract – late August/early September
- DWR Local Groundwater Assistance Grants
  - $4.3 M appropriated/available
  - Grant solicitations on 'back burner' due to DWR staffing limitations
- IRWMP Planning Grants, Round 2 solicitation
  - North Coast not eligible for general planning grant
  - Inter-regional grants – 50% would come from our remaining allocation

Funding Opportunities

- Strategic Growth Council Sustainable Communities Planning Grants Program
  - Proposition 84 funding ($90 M)
  - Intent: planning grants and planning incentives that reduce energy consumption, conserve water, improve air and water quality, and provide other community benefits
  - Awards $100,000 - $1M (due to DAC status North Coast may be eligible for $2M)
  - Round 1 awarded - 2010
  - Round 2 solicitation – expected October 2011

NCIRWMP & SGC Sustainable Communities Planning Grant

- Potential planning focuses:
  - Continuation/expansion of NCIRWM Planning Process
  - Support economic development in disadvantaged communities
  - Develop Energy Independence, Climate Mitigation/Adaptation Implementation Framework
  - Biomass/Forest & Watershed Health Initiatives
  - Develop Regional PACE/Municipal Financing Program (per CEC grant for NC Energy Independence Program)
  - Link water supply and reliability issues to energy independence and climate change mitigation/adaptation
  - Foundation for future funding

Funding Opportunities Recommendation

- Staff recommends that the PRP authorize staff to develop an application to the Strategic Growth Council for development of a regional plan for energy independence, greenhouse gas emissions reduction, public health and natural resources management consistent with the objectives and approach of the NCIRWMP. Staff will discuss the plan with individual PRP and TPRC members to obtain their ideas and input regarding key application elements and approach. A draft of the plan will be provided to PRP and TPRC members for their input prior to submittal.

Project Under-Run Options

- Status-Quo: Reallocate any project under-runs to projects within the “home County”
- During the application phase “earmark” priority projects for any future reallocations
- Survey projects - Re-sort, Re-prioritize, Re-allocate

Status Quo

- Any project under-runs are re-allocated to a project* in the home County
- PRP members from home County will determine which projects receive re-allocation and how much funding goes to each project

* *projects must be included the existing suite of projects in the grant agreement*

Priority at Application & Review Phase

- During the TPRC and PRP review process, projects are identified to receive priority should additional funding become available.*
- Priority could be given to projects in home County

* If selected, this process could be used for future grant applications. No projects were selected for re-allocation priority in previous grant application and review processes.

Survey, Re-sort, Re-allocate

- Survey projects* and ask them to respond to questions such as:
  - Does your project need additional funding to successfully complete the tasks included within the NCIRWMP grant agreement?
  - What is the minimum amount of funding that your project needs to successfully complete your project as described in the grant agreement?
  - If your project is able to be completed within your existing budget, would additional funding enable you to complete another phase or part of your existing project?
  - Does your project support a Disadvantaged Community and/or address a public health threat?
  - Please describe any unanticipated increases in project costs that have created an additional funding need or threaten to jeopardize project completion.
  - Provide a brief description of the need for additional funding, what work would be accomplished during the grant timeframe, timeline for project completion, and any anticipated hurdles (i.e. permitting)

* *projects must be included in the existing suite of projects in the grant agreement*

Considerations and Staff Recommendations

- When re-allocating funds and/or prioritizing projects for future re-allocation consider the following:
  - Regional representation
  - Disadvantaged Community Status
  - Public Health threats
  - Re-allocated funding toward construction or administration
  - Project budget reduction from application to award
  - Anticipated benefits
  - CEQA, Permitting, planning, design
  - Grant time frame
  - Unanticipated increases in project costs
  - Project readiness
  - Other

Considerations and Staff Recommendations

- Recommendation - A step-wise decision making process with the first step to re-allocate funding to project(s) in home County
- Recommendation - During future TPRC/PRP project evaluation processes, identify projects to receive priority should additional funding become available
- Recommendation - Survey eligible projects based on specific criteria:
  - if time allows, review by the full TPRC and PRP
  - if time is limited, allow final decision to be made by the Chair/Vice Chair

Evaluation Process

- Staff recommends that the PRP form an ad hoc committee comprised of staff and TPRC members who will evaluate the existing approach to project evaluation and ranking and develop a draft proposed approach for consideration at the next PRP meeting. This ad hoc committee will exist only for the duration of this evaluation revision process and will disband after the PRP has adopted the revised evaluation process. Staff will discuss priorities and ideas with individual PRP members, TPRC members who are not on the ad hoc committee, and DWR staff in order to inform this process. A draft proposed evaluation approach will be provided for PRP and public review and comment prior to the next PRP meeting and the proposed evaluation approach will be placed on the agenda for a decision at the next PRP meeting.

Energy-Climate Advisory Committee

- Staff recommends that instead of forming a new committee, staff will consult on an as-needed basis with experts from throughout and beyond the region on issues related to energy independence and climate change. Staff proposes that the consideration of a committee be re-evaluated in the future as needed.