



NORTH COAST INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

North Coast Integrated Regional Water Management Plan

Policy Review Panel

& Technical Peer Review Committee Meeting

- January 19, 2012, 10 am
- Hampton Inn, Ukiah

NCIRWMP Executive Committee

Action

Letter of Support: City of Fortuna, Rohner Creek Flood Control & Riparian Habitat Improvement Project

- To recommend full Proposition 1E Round 1 Stormwater Flood Management Grant funding

Letter of Support: Sonoma County Water Agency, Colgan Creek Habitat Restoration project

- Proposition 84 River Parkways Grant

Comment Letter: DWR IRWM Process Improvement

- Plan review timing, application economic analysis, funding allocations, climate change plan standards, cost share invoicing

PRP Direction and Staff Action

- Updated PRP & TPRC email list sent out, 8/1/11
- Develop Strategic Growth Council, Sustainable Communities Planning Grant application, on-going
- Updated project budget under-runs and funding reallocation process proposal, 01/19/12
- PRP interviews conducted, Nov – Dec, 2011
- Ad-hoc Committee convened & NCIRWMP project review process: interviews & development, on-going
- California Land Stewardship Institute/ Russian River Frost Program letter distributed, 8/1/11

DWR tentative schedule & funding opportunities

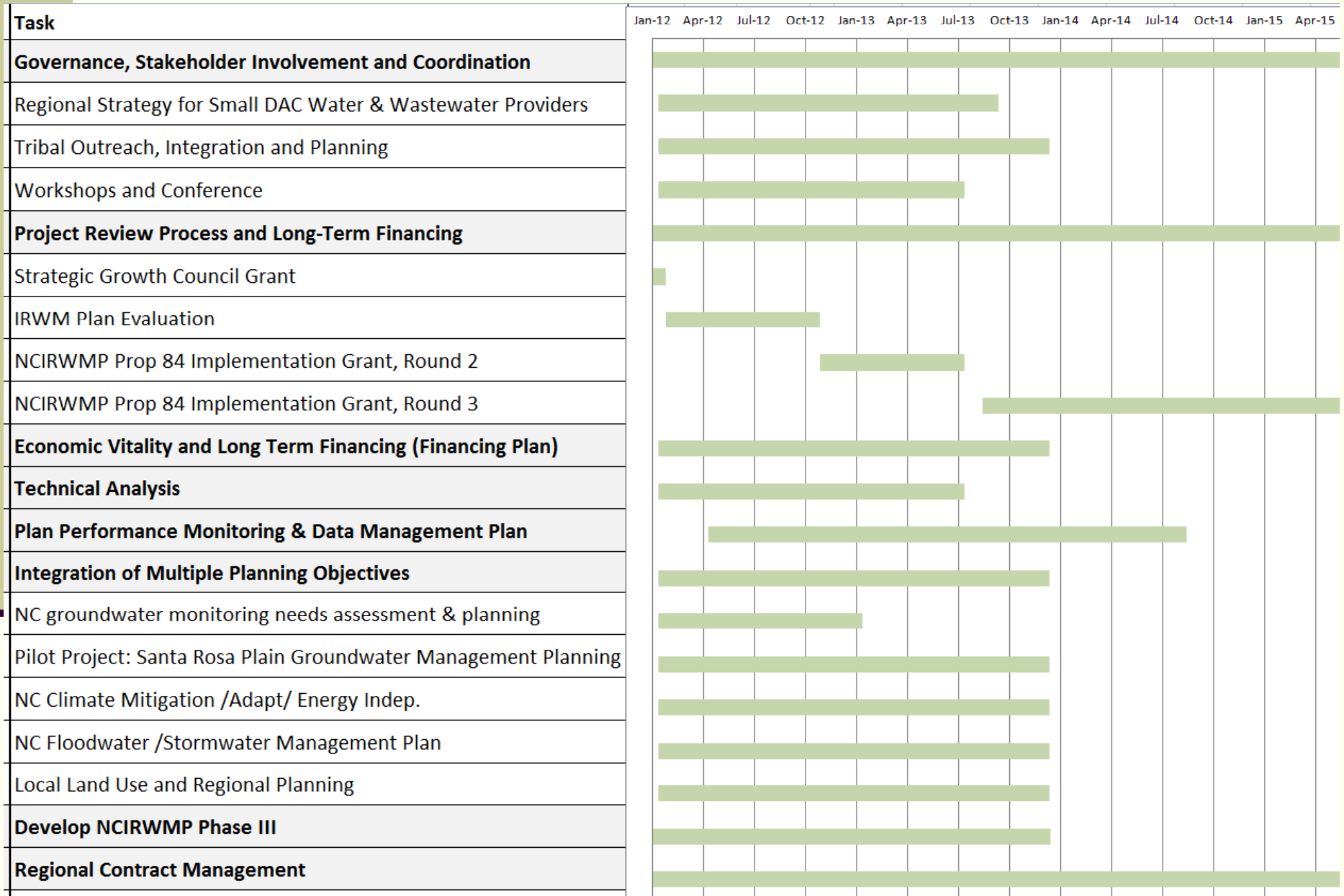
- Prop 84 & 1E IRWM Guidelines
 - Draft Guidelines: Jan/Feb 2012
 - Final Guidelines: Summer 2012
- DWR Local Groundwater Assistance Grants
 - \$4.7 M appropriated/available statewide
 - Grant solicitation & due date: Spring 2012
 - Final award: Fall 2012
- Prop 1E Stormwater Flood Management, R2
 - ~\$50 M appropriated/available statewide
 - Funding target: seismic projects
 - Grant solicitation & due date: Summer 2012
 - Final award: Spring 2013

Proposition 84 IRWM Program

Implementation Grants

- Remaining NCIRWMP Prop 84 allocation: \$25,133,939 or 68% remaining
- Draft Plan review (may include Priority Projects): Solicitation Summer 2012; Due Date Fall 2012
- Project Implementation Grant, Round 2: Mid 2013
- \$131 M appropriated/available statewide
- ~\$5.45 M available to the NCIRWMP
- Final awards: Fall 2013
- Project Implementation Grant, Round 3: Early 2014
- \$472.5 M available statewide
- ~\$19.68 M available to the NCIRWMP
- Final awards: Mid/Late 2015

NCIRWM Planning Schedule



Policy Review Panel Interviews: NCIRWM Planning Process

- NCIRWM planning process has been immensely positive for the North Coast region
- Well organized, flexible and adaptive framework
- Committed to ongoing communication & outreach
- Support for local autonomy and the region's small, rural and economically disadvantaged communities
- A strong regional partnership that has been key to the NCIRWMP's success in regional water management planning and fund development
- encourages an inclusive, "participation by all" approach and a commitment to openness & transparency

Policy Review Panel Interviews: NCIRWMP Process Improvement

- Develop a quarterly report or newsletter to document activities and achievements
- Utilize the NCIRWMP framework to identify and influence topics of mutual concern
- Develop state and federal funding opportunities
- Pursue economic development and renewable energy funding opportunities as a key sustainable revenue source for the North Coast region
- Explore alternative meeting options and funding opportunities to limit costs associated with travel
- Provide more information and outreach to new PRP members and their respective Tribal Councils and Boards

Policy Review Panel Interviews:

NCIRWM Planning Future Direction

- Develop strategies for energy independence and economic development
- Focus on failing water & wastewater infrastructure
- Secure reliable funding for the NCIRWMP and its projects outside of CA bond initiatives
- Serve as a model for IRWM Tribal inclusion
- Have a positive influence on the CA Water Plan
- Establish a reasonable balance of need between water-rich and water-scarce areas in the region
- Develop a strong connection between energy and water as it relates to forest condition, jobs, economic development, and watershed health
- Support the regional collaboration of North Coast Tribes in their efforts to conduct assessments, planning and implementation

Policy Review Panel Interviews: North Coast challenges and constraints

- Limited resources to facilitate collaboration at the regional scale
- Lack of universal broadband access in rural communities
- Competition for resources which result in conflict
- Large number of economically disadvantaged communities
- Lack of transmission capacity for power generation
- Environmental opposition to active forest management
- Sustainable feedstock yields on public lands to support biomass projects
- Energy regulation requirements/restrictions and costs associated with mitigation
- Alignment of goals across multiple counties & jurisdictions

Policy Review Panel Interviews: Energy Independence – Assessment Needs

- Education and outreach regarding fuel reduction and biomass energy
- Formal assessments to determine what is necessary to maintain forests in their best condition
- Post fire analysis of forest health impacts
- Assessment to gauge the potential of the conversion of boilers to pellet biomass heat
- Inventory of resources and feedstock potential for biomass production on public and private lands
- Evaluation of the potential for putting Forest Service Stewardship Contracts in place
- Mapping potential feedstock supply and biomass plant locations

Policy Review Panel interview: Energy Independence – Potential Projects

- Biomass projects to create small/local energy producers and energy independence locally
- Alternative energy projects in rural communities to provide energy to urban areas
- Solar & wind projects to provide tax credits and incentives
- Fleet improvement projects – hybrid/electric, ride-sharing, tele-commuting
- Water use efficiency projects that enhance all beneficial uses, such as off-stream & pump storage system projects
- Geothermal projects
- Broadband projects

Policy Review Panel Interviews: Energy Independence – Potential Projects

- Fuels to Schools Program - large-scale projects that convert school boilers to biomass heat
- Over-the-Horizon Backscatter plant, in Modoc County, developed by the Defense Department and never used; an ideal site for conversion to an alternative energy plant (biomass, solar, etc) with high-power lines nearby
- The Watershed Center, Forestry Model Project
- Regional Direct Install Program
- Regional Community Choice Aggregation Program
- Ferndale ShellWind and Bear River Wind Energy Projects
- Regional PACE program to develop financing mechanisms and programs to help homeowners and commercial properties pay for retrofits/upgrades

NCIRWMP Project Application, Review and Selection Process

- Interviews & online survey conducted Oct - Nov, 2011
- Interview participants: 10 TPRC members, 10 project proponents, 6 on-line surveys
- General Process Description (DIRECTION/DECISION)
- NCIRWMP Conflict of Interest Policy (DECISION)
- PRP Directed Guidelines for Project Scoring and Selection (DECISION)
- On-going Project Inclusion Process into NCIRWM Plan (DECISION)
- Project Budget Under-runs and Funding Reallocation Process (DECISION)
- Ad-hoc committee input/discussion w/PRP