

## PROJECT INFORMATION FORM

Please complete a unique Project Information Form for each project in the application. There are no character limits on specific questions but the Project Information Form as a whole may not exceed 10 pages.

1. Project Name: Sonoma County Household Drought Resiliency Project
2. Local Project Sponsor (if different than grantee): Gold Ridge Resource Conservation District
3. Please provide the latitude and longitude of the project site. For linear projects or those covering a large area, report the coordinates for a central point. If this information is confidential, it must be clearly labeled "confidential." You can find the latitude and longitude easily using google maps. You can find instructions at the following link:  
<https://support.google.com/maps/answer/18539?hl=en&co=GENIE.Platform%3DDesktop>.

Latitude: 38.5015

Longitude: -122.8830

4. Please briefly describe the proposed project.  
**Through a partnership of the Gold Ridge and Sonoma RCDs, Sonoma Water, and nonprofit Daily Acts, the project seeks to promote water conservation, provide alternatives to extractive water sources, protect streamflow, and foster water use awareness among Sonoma County's urban and rural residents by expanding a cost-effective rainwater catchment rebate program. This funding will be used to both bolster the program in rural areas reliant on streamflow diversions, seasonal springs, or compromised aquifers for their water security, while developing a structure to expand both the urban and rural programs to include a range of household-level strategies, such as raingarden construction and greywater system installation. This funding will also expand a workshop series meant to build capacity among both local landscapers and homeowners to design and implement these practices.**
5. Does this project respond to an existing emergency to humans and/or wildlife? If so, please describe the emergency and how this project is addressing it.  
**In 2020, the partnership was awarded funding through DWR's Prop 1 IRWM program to establish a pilot program to promote rainwater catchment for drought resiliency and environmental benefits. With the program now underway, this request would expand the funding to provide more rebates to larger-scale rural residential systems in areas suffering from water security and threatening summer streamflow. Many residents in these water-scarce areas, completely reliant on riparian pumps or shallow alluvial wells, have experienced water insecurity as stream reaches have run dry, while facing emergency orders restricting riparian usage in an effort to protect critical habitat. Due to the size of the systems needed to both provide water security and offset the environmental impacts of the diversions on these rural properties, the existing rebate program has insufficient funds to assist these communities at scale. This additional funding would allow RCDs to greatly expand their technical and financial assistance to these rural landowners. Additionally, this funding would allow**

**the partners to research and design a rebate structure to include associated stormwater management practices like raingarden construction and tank overflow capture, in an effort to promote groundwater recharge and attenuate winter storm surges. A rebate structure would also be developed for other water conservation strategies like greywater installation. In the short term, the project will provide rapid technical and financial assistance to homeowners to implement practices to capture this season's stormwater as a readily available emergency nonpotable water source, while protecting early season streamflows needed for outmigrating salmonids, reducing water needs, and attenuating stormwater to recharge groundwater. In the long term, the program will improve household drought resiliency and awareness around alternative water sourcing, while promoting groundwater recharge, in a time many climate experts have determined to be the beginnings of a permanent shift to a drier climate.**

6. Each project must meet one of the following purposes as it relates to drought. Please select the appropriate purpose for your project.
- a.  Address immediate impacts on human health and safety, including providing or improving availability of food, water, or shelter.
  - b.  Address immediate impacts on fish and wildlife resources.
  - c.  Provide water to persons or communities that lose or are threatened with the loss or contamination of water supplies.

7. Each project must enhance regional drought resilience and align with the goals and objectives of the relevant approved Integrated Regional Water Management Plan. You can find the relevant IRWM Region by using the map at the following link:  
<https://gis.water.ca.gov/app/dacs/>

The IRWM Plans can be found at the following link: <https://water.ca.gov/Work-With-Us/Grants-And-Loans/IRWM-Grant-Programs/Plan-Review-Process>. If you have any questions about the IRWM region the contact list can be found at the following link: <https://water.ca.gov/Work-With-Us/Grants-And-Loans/IRWM-Grant-Programs>. Applicants are encouraged to contact and coordinate with the applicable RWMG for the IRWM region in which the project is located

Please identify the IRWM objective your project addresses.  
North Coast Integrated Regional Water Management Plan, Phase III (2014)  
Goal 3, Objective 6: Conserve, enhance, and restore watersheds and aquatic ecosystems, including functions, habitats, and elements that support biological diversity  
Goal 4, Objective 8: Ensure water supply reliability and quality for municipal, domestic, agricultural, Tribal, and recreational uses while minimizing impacts to sensitive resources  
Goal 5, Objective 11: Address climate change effects, impacts, vulnerabilities, including droughts, fires, floods, and sea level rise.  
Goal 5, Objective 12: Promote local energy independence, water/energy use efficiency, GHG emission reduction, and jobs creation

8. Describe the Primary Benefit of the project.  
Quantified benefit: 150000  
Units (Drop down): Other      If other please enter: gallons of water provided per year

Benefit Type: Water Supply Reliability If other please enter:

9. Describe the Secondary Benefit of the project:

Quantified benefit: 50000

Units (Drop down):Other If other please enter:gallons of streamflow diversion prevented per year

Benefit Type: Ecosystem/Habitat Restoration If other please enter:

10. Please briefly describe how the project will achieve the claimed benefits.

This phase of the program is expected to rebate at least 150,000 gallons of rainwater catchment in priority areas, addressing water security for rural households and, in some cases, offsetting streamflow diversions. Most rural systems are constructed to capture 10,000-15,000 gallons, providing sufficient water to meet late season nonpotable needs when groundwater levels drop and streamflow becomes disconnected

11. Briefly describe how the community/area benefiting from this project is being impacted by the current drought.

Governor Newsom declared a drought emergency for Sonoma County in April 2021, based in part on historic low levels in the region's two largest reservoirs. Later that summer, the SWRCB issued orders curtailing water diversions from the Russian River While recent rains have helped significantly, Lake Sonoma and Lake Mendocino still remain at 49% and 35% capacity, respectively, (the latter had fallen below 10% in late September) and Sonoma County's largest water provider, Sonoma Water, has retained a mandatory 20% reduction requirement among its contracted urban and water company suppliers. Hardest hit, however, have been communities outside of water provide service areas. Many rural communities reliant on groundwater, particularly along ridgetops or in aquifer-deficient areas, have been forced to truck water through the summer to meet basic household needs. Other households rely exclusively on riparian diversions, compromising summer streamflow and the deep pools that provide summer refugia habitat for the area's listed salmonids. Many riparian landowners along priority coho-bearing streams have been subject to emergency orders restricting diversions over the past several years, while others have simply watched their riparian water sources dry up.

12. How will this project alleviate the impacts described in your answer to Question 11?

The pilot phase of this program, currently funded through DWR's Prop 1 IRWM program, has proven essential to develop and launch the rebate program, and develop materials and workshops to assist both landscapers and homeowners in design and construction. However, due to the structure of the RCDs' partnership with Sonoma Water and Daily Acts, much of the rebate provision is earmarked for urban homeowners with relatively small systems. The requested funding would greatly expand the program to provide water security to rural households outside of water supplier distribution areas, whose well and riparian pump diversions have significant environmental impacts while also facing depleted aquifers and compromised summer streamflow.

13. Please complete the following budget table for the project. (Identify funding sources in Question 15)

	<b>BUDGET CATEGORY</b>	<b>Grant Amount</b>	<b>All Other Cost</b>	<b>Total Cost</b>
<b>(a)</b>	Project Administration	27,600		27,600
<b>(b)</b>	Land Purchase / Easement			
<b>(c)</b>	Planning / Design / Engineering / Environmental Documentation	42,100		42,100
<b>(d)</b>	Construction / Implementation	115,848		115,848
	<b>TOTAL COSTS</b>	185,548		185,548

14. Please describe why state funding is needed for this project. If state funding is not secured, what will happen to the project?

Pilot project funds have been provided through a North Coast Prop 1 IRWM grant, which have allowed several program components to get underway: the establishment of a rainwater catchment rebate program in the city of Healdsburg through Sonoma Water; the development of a Qualified Water Efficient Landscaper training module and workshop series; a workshop series targeted at homeowners interested in installing their own systems; and limited rebates available for prioritized rural areas. However, due to the size systems required for dry season water security for rural landowners in water-scarce areas, the program currently does not have sufficient funds to meet the significant demand for assistance from these rural communities. Without this second phase funding, the existing program will prove insufficient to meet the growing demand among rural households. In addition, this state funding will provide planning funds to expand the rebate program to other water management practices, like raingarden construction for groundwater recharge, and greywater use to reduce water demand.

15. Will the applicant provide cost share (encouraged but not required) and/or will this project require any additional funding from sources other than this solicitation? If so, please describe the funding source and indicate if the funding has been secured. If the funding has not been secured, please describe the plan to secure the necessary funding.

Cost share proposals have been submitted to the County of Sonoma Climate Resilience Fund and the Department of Fish and Wildlife, but has not yet been secured.

16. Is land acquisition or landowner permission required for this project? If so, please briefly describe the status of the acquisition or agreement with the landowner. If the acquisition is not complete or permission not secured at the time of application, please describe the plan to complete it.

No

17. Has planning and design for this project been completed? If not, please describe the status of planning and design.

No. Technical assistance for rainwater catchment system design will be offered through the project for larger systems, although many systems will be constructed from typicals and not require full designs. Planning work for the development of an expanded rebate program is included in this request.

18. Are the CEQA (and NEPA if applicable) and permitting processes for this project complete? If not, please briefly describe the permits and CEQA (or NEPA) documents to be completed and projected schedule for completion.

Yes, a Notice of Exemption SCH#2020070568 was filed with the State Clearinghouse and county

19. Please briefly describe the necessary construction/implementation for this project.

Construction of rainwater catchment systems will be completed by the landowner or by those contracted directly by the landowner. Rebates will be provided for installed systems verified by project staff.

20. Please complete the schedule below for the project. Projects must be complete by March 31, 2026, to allow time for final invoice processing and retention payment before the State funds expire on June 30, 2026. Project administration should end at least three months after construction.

	<b>Categories</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>End Date</b>
(a)	Project Administration	6/1/2022	3/31/2026
(b)	Land Purchase / Easement		
(c)	Planning/ Design / Engineering / Environmental Documentation	7/1/2022	9/30/2025
(d)	Construction/ Implementation	8/1/2022	12/31/2025



## **NORTH COAST RESOURCE PARTNERSHIP**

### **Urban and Multibenefit Drought Relief Grant, 2021**

### **Eligibility and General Project Information Application**

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**The Eligibility and General Project Information Application will be accepted until 5:00 pm, November 17, 2021**

It is important to save the Eligibility and General Project Information Application file with a distinct file name that references the project name. Please fill out grey text boxes and select all the check boxes that apply to the project. Application responses should be clear, brief and succinct. When the application is complete, please email to Katherine Gledhill at [kgledhill@westcoastwatershed.com](mailto:kgledhill@westcoastwatershed.com)

**If you have questions or need additional information please contact:**

- General Information: Katherine Gledhill at [kgledhill@westcoastwatershed.com](mailto:kgledhill@westcoastwatershed.com) or 707.795.1235
- Technical Assistance/Support: Colette Metz Santsche, [colettem@planwestpartners.com](mailto:colettem@planwestpartners.com) or 707.825.8260
- Tribal Projects: Sherri Norris, NCRP Director of Tribal Engagement at [sherri@cieaweb.org](mailto:sherri@cieaweb.org) or 510.848.2043

#### **A. GENERAL INFORMATION**

**1. Project Name:**

Sonoma County Household Drought Resiliency Project

**2. Project Abstract [500 characters]**

This multi-partner project seeks to promote water conservation, provide alternatives to extractive water sources, protect streamflow, and foster water use awareness among Sonoma County's urban and rural residents by rapidly expanding a cost-effective rainwater rebate program to serve more residents in water-scarce areas and to develop the program include a wider range of other household-level strategies, such as raingarden construction and greywater system installation.

**3. Local Project Sponsor Name:**

Gold Ridge Resource Conservation District

**4. Contact Name/Title**

Name: Noelle Johnson

Title: Program Manager

Email: [Noelle@goldridgercd.org](mailto:Noelle@goldridgercd.org)

Phone Number (include area code): 707-834-8880

**5. Does your Organization need technical assistance and/or proposal development support for the NCRP Urban and Multibenefit Drought Relief Grant proposal?**

yes  no

Please briefly describe the technical/proposal support needed.

**6. Organization Type**

Public agency

Non-profit organization

Public utility

Special District

Mutual Water Company

Federally recognized Indian Tribe

Non-federally recognized Native American Tribes on the contact list maintained by the Native American Heritage Commission for the purposes of Chapter 905 of the Statutes of 2004

Other:

**7. If the Local Project Sponsor is a mutual water company or public utility, does the proposed project have a clear and definite public purpose that benefits the customers of the water system or other public utility and not the investors?**  yes  no

**8. If yes, please state the public purpose and explain how it benefits the customers:**

**9. Has the organization implemented similar projects in the past?**  yes  no

**10. Describe the drought conditions in the area where your project is located.**

Note: This question is important and must be answered.

Governor Newsom declared a drought emergency for Sonoma County in April 2021, based in part on historic low levels in the region's two largest reservoirs. Later that summer, the SWRCB issued orders curtailing water diversions from the Russian River. While recent rains have helped significantly, Lake Sonoma and Lake Mendocino still remain at 49% and 35% capacity, respectively, (the latter had fallen below 10% in late September) and Sonoma County's largest water provider, Sonoma Water, has retained a mandatory 20% reduction requirement among its contracted urban and water company suppliers. Hardest hit, however, have been communities outside of water provide service areas. Many rural communities reliant on groundwater, particularly along ridgetops or in aquifer-deficient areas, have been forced to truck water through the summer to meet basic household needs. Other households rely exclusively on riparian diversions, compromising summer streamflow and the deep pools that provide summer refugia habitat for the area's listed salmonids. Many riparian landowners along priority coho-bearing streams have been subject to emergency orders restricting diversions over the past several years, while others have simply watched their riparian water sources dry up.

## B. PROJECT BENEFITS TO DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES AND/OR TRIBES

1. Does the project provide direct benefits to a project area comprised of Disadvantaged Communities? If partially, please estimate percentage of project that benefits disadvantaged communities and list the communities.

- Entirely
- Partially
- No

**List the Disadvantaged Community(s) (DAC)**

Block Group: 060971542012, 060971542023, 060971540002, 060971537044, 060971537051, 060971537043, 06097153703, 060971537052, 060971534041, 060971538081, 060971527015, 060971527014, 060971528011, 060971530021, 060971530054, 060971530061, 060971530031, 060971522013, 060971522014, 060971514012, 060971522021, 060971522024, 060971522022, 060971525022, 060971525023, 060971517001, 060971517004, 060971513082, 060971513063; Tract: 06097153704, 06097153703, 06097153705, 06097152802, 06097153001, 06097152203, 06097152000, 06097151900, 06097153104, 06097153102, 06097151402, 06097151305, 06097151201; Cazadero, Monte Rio CDP, Guerneville CDP, Graton CDP

2. Does the project provide direct benefits to a project area comprised of Severely Disadvantaged Communities (SDAC)? If partially, please estimate percentage of the project that benefits the severely disadvantaged community(s) and list the SDACs.

- Entirely
- Partially
- No

**List the Severely Disadvantaged Community(s)**

Block Group: 060971542013, 060971536001, 060971521001, 060971529033, 060971531033, 060971515025, 060971513083, 060971528021, 060971519004, 060971514023, 060971514024, 060971513051, 060971513054, 060971512011, 060971512015

3. Does the project provide direct benefits to a Tribe or Tribes? If partially, please estimate percentage of project that benefits Tribes and list the Tribes.

- Entirely
- Partially
- No

**List the Tribal Community(s)**

Tribal members in the project area are welcome to participate and include: Cloverdale Rancheria of Pomo Indians of California, Dry Creek Rancheria Band of Pomo Indians, Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, Kashia Band of Pomo Indians of the Stewarts Point Rancheria, Koi Nation of Northern California, Lytton Band of Pomo Indian.

If yes, please provide evidence of support from each Tribe listed as receiving these benefits.

**a) Is a Tribal letter of support included in the application?**

- yes       no

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## C. NCRP GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Please check the NCRP goals/objectives below that align with your project goals/objectives. Note: you may skip Question 7 on the PROJECT INFORMATION FORM.



**GOAL 1: INTRAREGIONAL COOPERATION & ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT**

- Objective 1 - Respect local autonomy and local knowledge in Plan and project development and implementation
- Objective 2 - Provide an ongoing framework for inclusive, efficient intraregional cooperation and effective, accountable NCRP project implementation
- Objective 3 - Integrate Traditional Ecological Knowledge in collaboration with Tribes to incorporate these practices into North Coast Projects and Plans

**GOAL 2: ECONOMIC VITALITY**

- Objective 4 - Ensure that economically disadvantaged communities are supported and that project implementation enhances the economic vitality of disadvantaged communities by improving built and natural infrastructure systems and promoting adequate housing
- Objective 5 - Conserve and improve the economic benefits of North Coast Region working landscapes and natural areas

**GOAL 3: ECOSYSTEM CONSERVATION AND ENHANCEMENT**

- Objective 6 – Conserve, enhance, and restore watersheds and aquatic ecosystems, including functions, habitats, and elements that support biological diversity
- Objective 7 - Enhance salmonid populations by conserving, enhancing, and restoring required habitats and watershed processes

**GOAL 4: BENEFICIAL USES OF WATER**

- Objective 8 - Ensure water supply reliability and quality for municipal, domestic, agricultural, Tribal, and recreational uses while minimizing impacts to sensitive resources
- Objective 9 - Improve drinking water quality and water related infrastructure to protect public health, with a focus on economically disadvantaged communities
- Objective 10 - Protect groundwater resources from over-drafting and contamination

**GOAL 5: CLIMATE ADAPTATION & ENERGY INDEPENDENCE**

- Objective 11 - Address climate change effects, impacts, vulnerabilities, including droughts, fires, floods, and sea level rise. Develop adaptation strategies for local and regional sectors to improve air and water quality and promote public health
- Objective 12 - Promote local energy independence, water/ energy use efficiency, GHG emission reduction, and jobs creation

**GOAL 6: PUBLIC SAFETY**

- Objective 13 - Improve flood protection, forest and community resiliency to reduce the public safety impacts associated with floods and wildfires

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**D. DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES ELIGIBILITY**

**1. URBAN WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN**

- a) Is the organization required to file an Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP)?  
 yes       no
- b) If Yes, list the date the UWMP was approved by DWR:

- c) Does the urban water supplier have a complete and validated water loss audit report verified by DWR in accordance with Senate Bill No. 555 (Stats. 2015, ch. 679).  
 yes     no
- d) Does the urban water supplier meet the water meter requirements of CWC 525?  
 yes     no
- e) Is the urban water supplier compliant with requirements to submit to the State Water Resources Control Board their monthly water use reports in compliance with requirements outlined in the California Code of Regulations, title 23, sections 991?  
 yes     no
- f) If facing water supply shortages, the urban water supplier must have activated a Water Shortage Contingency Plan to a stage commensurate with their current water supply conditions. Has the applicant reported activation of the plan to the State Water Board?  
 yes     no

**2. AGRICULTURAL WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN**

- a) Is the organization – or any organization that will receive funding from the project – required to file an Agricultural Water Management Plan (AWMP)?  
 yes     no
- b) If Yes, list date the AWMP was approved by DWR:
- c) Does the agricultural water supplier(s) meet the requirements the Water Code and Executive Order (EO) B-29-15?  
 yes     no

**3. SURFACE WATER DIVERSION REPORTS**

- a) Is the organization a Surface Water Diverter?  
 yes     no
- b) If Yes, has the organization filed annual and monthly surface water diversion reports to the SWRCB per the requirements in Water Code section 5100 et seq., and California Code of Regulations, title 23, sections 907-930?  
 yes     no

**4. CALIFORNIA GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT COMPLIANCE**

- b) Does the project that directly affect groundwater levels or quality?  
 yes     no
- c) If Yes, is the Project located in a CASGEM High or Medium priority groundwater basin?
- d) Please list the groundwater basin:
- e) Does the above CASGEM High or Medium priority groundwater basin(s) have an adopted GWMP in compliance of Water Code section 10753 before January 1, 2015?  
 yes     no
- f) If yes, is a GSA letter of support included in the application?**  
 yes     no

For groundwater projects or other projects that directly affect groundwater levels or quality in a high or medium priority basin, documentation that the project has support from the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) of the impacted groundwater basin(s), or the agency responsible for implementing an alternative plan is required to be included with the application.

**5. CASGEM COMPLIANCE**

- a) Does the project overlie a medium or high groundwater basin as prioritized by DWR?  
 yes     no
- b) If Yes, list the groundwater basin: Santa Rosa Plain
- c) If Yes, please specify the name of the organization that is the designated monitoring entity: Sonoma Water
- d) If there is no monitoring entity, please indicate whether the project is wholly located in an economically disadvantaged community.  
 yes     no

- e) **If yes, is a map that shows the Project’s implementing agency’s service area boundary and DAC overlay included in the application?**

yes     no

Note: Consistent with Water Code section 10933.7(b), if the entire service area of the individual Local Project Sponsor’s service area is demonstrated to be a disadvantaged community, the project will be considered eligible for grant funding notwithstanding CASGEM compliance. If the Local Project Sponsor is exempt, a map must be included with the application that shows the Project’s implementing agency’s service area boundary. The map should include a DAC overlay to demonstrate the project is exempt. Please contact NCRP staff for assistance.

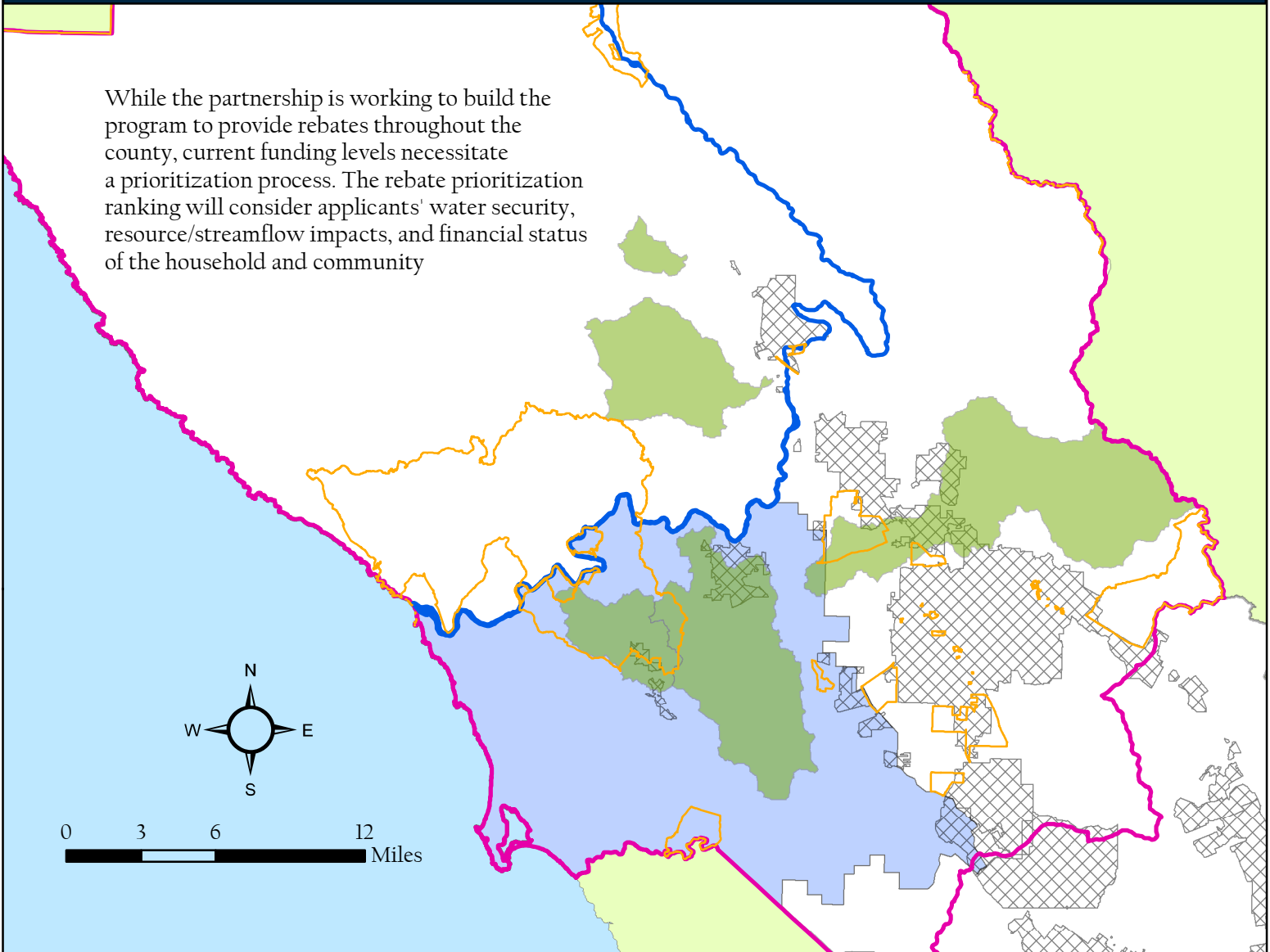
**6. STORM WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN**









- a) Is the project a stormwater and/or dry weather runoff capture project?  
 yes     no
- b) If yes, please provide the name of the Stormwater Resource Plan (or Functionally Equivalent Stormwater Resource Plan) that the project is listed in.
- c) If the project is a stormwater project but is not listed in a Stormwater Resource Plan, does the project benefit a Disadvantaged Community with a population of 20,000 or less?  
 yes     no

North Coast Resource Partnership  
 Department of Water Resources  
 Urban and Multibenefit Drought Relief Grant 2021

Sonoma County Household Drought Resiliency Project  
 Gold Ridge Resource Conservation District

While the partnership is working to build the program to provide rebates throughout the county, current funding levels necessitate a prioritization process. The rebate prioritization ranking will consider applicants' water security, resource/streamflow impacts, and financial status of the household and community



-  Project Focus Area
-  North Coast IRWM Boundary
-  Sonoma RCD
-  Gold Ridge RCD
-  Coho Partnership focus watersheds
-  Russian River
-  Sonoma Water service areas
-  economically disadvantaged community

