Upper Feather River IRWM Program

To: Upper Feather River Regional Water Management Group

From: Uma Hinman, Hinman & Associates Consulting, Inc.

cc: Tracey Ferguson, AICP, Plumas County Planning Director

Date: December 21, 2021

Re: Upper Feather River IRWM Quarterly Report (2021 Quarters 2-4)

This Quarterly Report covers Quarters 2, 3 and 4, and provides an update to the Upper Feather River (UFR) Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Group (RWMG) on activities associated with implementation of the UFR IRWM Plan and coordination with stakeholders and surrounding IRWM regions. The last quarterly update to the RWMG was on April 26, 2021.

Despite limitations due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the catastrophic Plumas County wildfires in 2021, the UFR Region continued to persevere in moving forward with IRWM coordination and implementation efforts and is providing the following informational update.

Prop 1 Round 1 Grant Award

On July 21, 2020, Plumas County was awarded $1,002,536 by the State Department of Water Resources (DWR) for the Round 1 Proposition 1 IRWM Implementation Grant Solicitation for the UFR Water Supply Reliability Project, which consists of two implementation projects and grant administration. It was a lengthy process, but the Final Grant Agreement (Agreement) was executed by DWR and Plumas County on April 6, 2021.

Plumas County has established a Local Project Sponsor (LPS) Agreement with Sierraville Public Utilities District (SPUD) to implement Project 1. The Agreement with Indian Valley Community Services District (IVCSD) for Project 2 has been delayed due to the Dixie Fire and is being reassessed as needs of the community of Greenville are identified and prioritized.

Both projects serve communities that qualify as disadvantaged communities (DAC), making them eligible for DWR's Advanced Payment (AP) program that provides an upfront distribution of 50% of their grant funding to initiate the projects. The County applied for the AP funds on behalf of the LPSs, which was approved by DWR and distributed to Plumas County at the end of August 2021. The AP funds are held in a non-interest-bearing account as required by the State and will be distributed to the LPS upon invoice and report submittals.

The Mountain Counties Funding Area (MCFA) Coordinating Committee, through which agreement amongst its nine IRWM regions was reached in order to keep the process non-competitive, allocated approximately $100,000 of its overall allocation to Tribes and equally split the remaining funding amongst the member IRWM regions. The agreement stated that regions could use their full allocation (approximately $1,146,226) within the first Round if they wished, provided it did not exceed the total grant funds allowed by DWR under Round 1. The UFR IRWM elected to proceed with two projects totaling approximately 87.5% of its allotment.

Following is a summary of the two Round 1 Proposition 1 projects, both of which are UFR IRWM Plan implementation projects, that totaled $1,002,536. Plumas County will be the Grant Administrator with a total budget of $70,876.

Project Name	Project 1 Alternative Water Source Development	**Total Grant Award**	$ 627,660
Local Project Sponsor	Sierraville Public Utilities District	**AP Request**	$ 313,830
LPS Status	Local Government	**DAC**	Yes
Project Description	The project consists of the demolition of the existing booster building and construction of a new fire-resistant booster building, booster pumps, control center, new SCADA telemetry system, onsite power generation, and drainage and site improvements. Work will be performed in Sierraville at the current spring and booster site. The project will modernize and improve pumping reliability, provide power generation during Public Safety Power Outages, and increase firefighting capabilities. This will result in increased reliability for the approximately 55 acre-feet per year (AFY) water supply and greenhouse gas savings of 2 metric tons of carbon per year.		
Project Status	Design is 20% complete. CEQA in process; anticipated Categorical Exclusion. Permitting needs under review with USFS.		
Financial Capacity	The Sierraville PUD is a local government municipal service provider		
Project Name	Project 2 Community/Emergency Water Storage Tank	**Total Grant Award**	$ 304,000
Local Project Sponsor	Indian Valley Community Services District	**AP Request**	$ 152,000
LPS Status	Local Government	**DAC**	Yes
Project Description	The IVCSD will install an approximately 135,000-gallon water storage tank at the site of its two existing Greenville tanks to protect the community from wildfire, as well as providing sufficient drinking water during times of power outages.		
Project Status	Design is 75% complete. CEQA in process; anticipated Categorical Exclusion.		
Financial Capacity	The IVCSD is a local government municipal service provider		

Both SPUD and IVCSD are struggling with substantially inflated project costs due to the increase in building materials, construction costs, and supply chain interruptions. Staff are working closely with the County, DWR, and Districts to assess the funding gap and identify solutions.

Prop 1 Round 2

The Draft Project Solicitation Package (PSP) for Round 2 of the Prop 1 IRWM Implementation Grant was released on December 10, 2021. Public comments are due on February 8, 2022 and the Final PSPS release date will be announced soon thereafter. Based on the MCFA Coordinating Committee agreement for the Funding Area, Round 2 will also be a non-competitive process similar to Round 1. The remaining Prop 1 IRWM Implementation funds available to the UFR IRWM region total approximately $143,700. Staff have recently updated the 2016 IRWM Plan implementation project list and are in the process of reviewing the list for potential projects to present to the RWMG for consideration for Round 2.

Disadvantaged Community and Tribal Involvement (DACTI) (Sierra Institute/DWR)

Since August 2020, Plumas County has been implementing a DACTI Technical Assistance Grant for a Water Shortage Preparedness and Contingency Planning Pilot Project for the UFR Region. The project is funded by $45,000 in grant funding pass through from the Mountain Counties Funding Area Prop 1 DACTI Grant Project being administered by Sierra Institute. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, DWR granted a time extension to the end of 2021; another extension is expected with a new deadline of March 31, 2022. The project is approximately 80% complete.

Work to date has included a survey questionnaire and an inventory by Plumas County Environmental Health of 64 state small water systems (SSWS) and local small water systems (LSWS) within Plumas County, distribution and collection of a comprehensive water system and emergency preparedness survey of water systems. A GIS map layer of the data is being created. The final product will be a Fact Sheet with findings and mapping. As part of the communications scope of work, the RWMG will be formally briefed.

New DACI Funding Set Aside

In early November 2021, DWR announced a $50 million DACI set aside through its Urban and Multi-benefit Drought Relief Program. Each funding area is eligible to apply for $5 million for drought related implementation projects. Unlike past funding allocations, DWR allocated the funding amounts based on the number of regions rather than population.

As the previous DACI grantee, Sierra Institute must be the applicant for these new funds for the MCFA region. DWR is requesting one full application per funding area, and all IRWM regions from the funding area must agree on the application. The deadline for IRWM regions to submit projects for consideration is mid-January 2022. Following the same 1/9th formula that was used before, there is roughly $525,000 per region.

With this new source of funding, the UFR Region has the opportunity to close the funding gap for the awarded Prop 1 Round 1 projects already in progress. Staff are working to assess the funding gap for both the SPUD and IVCSD projects and assisting them with developing application forms. Since we will not have a RWMG meeting before the deadline, staff are coordinating with the RWMG Chair on the opportunity.

Proposition 50 Project Performance Reports

The final required Project Performance Reports for the Proposition 50 grant-funded projects have been submitted to DWR. The nine projects totaled $7 million and were completed in 2016:

1. Genesee Valley IRWM Project, Feather River Land Trust ($555,548)
2. Chester River Parkway, Feather River Land Trust and Plumas County ($360,000)
3. Greenville Water and Sewer System Repairs, Indian Valley CSD ($1,290,000)
4. Taylorsville Sewer Project, Indian Valley CSD ($184,080)
5. Quincy Wetlands Project, American Valley CSD ($261,404)
6. Sierra Valley IRWM Project, Feather River Land Trust ($110,000)
7. Sierra Valley Well Assessment, Plumas County ($123,679)
8. USFS Water Quality Improvement Project, Plumas National Forest ($1,927,848)
9. Upper Middle Fork Project, Plumas County and UC Davis ($1,400,000)

All three years of Project Performance Reports are available on the UFR website: http://featherriver.org/plan-implementation-reports/.

Sierra Valley Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) Progress and December Consideration

The UFR support services contract includes participation in the Sierra Valley Groundwater Management District/Plumas County GSP Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). The GSP is an UFR IRWM Plan implementation project and is being prepared with a $2 million SGMA grant through DWR. Staff's role is to assist with identifying the connections between the IRWM and SGMA efforts, which is encouraged at the local and state levels. The draft Sierra Valley GSP is being considered by the Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) (Plumas County and the Sierra Valley Groundwater Management District) on December 20 and 21, 2021, with adoption of the final GSP by the GSAs anticipated in late January 2022. The deadline to submit the adopted GSP to DWR is January 31, 2022. Project documents are housed at the following website: https://www.sierravalleygmd.org/sierra-valley-groundwater-sustainability-plan.

Staff prepared a matrix in a tabular format identifying the nexus between the IRWM and GSP implementation projects as well as potential funding sources (Attachment 1).

Lastly, an online database was developed to assist in the development of the GSP. Once live, the publicly available data on the site will be provided through a secure portal and intended for use by the Sierra Valley Groundwater Management District, Plumas County, technical staff, consultants, stakeholders, and general public. The database integrates multiple datasets and

spatial coverages sourced from local, state, and federal agencies. It is intended to be a dynamic tool representing current knowledge and hydrologic status of the Sierra Valley Groundwater Basin.

For more information about SGMA, visit the DWR Portal at https://sgma.water.ca.gov/portal/.

IRWM Roundtable of Regions

UFR continues to participate in the IRWM Roundtable of Regions bi-monthly meetings as well as their Disadvantaged Community Involvement (DACI) Working Group meetings, which are generally held quarterly. The IRWM Roundtable of Regions, in conjunction with the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA), put together an "Advocacy Template" for use by each IRWM region. The intent of the two-page Fact Sheet is for each region to have a unique advocacy document telling the story and successes of IRWM that can be used as a handout in meetings with elected officials and other decision makers from the local and regional (city/county) levels up through the state. Page one of the Fact Sheet provides the history of IRWM, multi-benefits, approaches, state and local investment figures, and other resources.

The UFR Region Fact Sheet was drafted by Uma Hinman, reviewed by Tracey Ferguson, Plumas County Planning Director, and sent to the RWMG for input. No comments on the content were received. The Fact Sheet was finalized and sent to the Roundtable of Regions Coordinator, Jodi Monahan, for future use. The final Fact Sheet is attached to this report for your information (Attachment 2). Please feel free to reference and distribute.

Additional Roundtable of Regions activities and information can be found on their website: https://www.roundtableofregions.org/.

UFR Website Update

The UFR Watershed IRWM website www.featherriver.org has been updated with a new look and format. Content will continue to be updated as time and budget allows. UFR welcomes your feedback on the website and anyone wishing to share photographs of the region are encouraged to do so – email ufr.contact@gmail.com!

Senate Bill 45 (SB 45)

SB 45 is the Wildfire Prevention, Safe Drinking Water, Drought Preparedness, and Flood Protection Bond Act of 2022. On behalf of the UFR RWMG, a support letter for the proposed bond was submitted to state legislators and proponents of the bill. In the bill's current iteration there is no specific mention of the IRWM Program. The UFR support letter includes a description of the benefits of IRWM, particularly within the UFR region, and requests dedication of specific funding for the IRWM Program be included in SB 45. The UFR RWMG support letter is attached to this report for your information (Attachment 3).

Financial Summary

Hinman & Associates Consulting, Inc.'s contract with Plumas County to provide support services to the UFR IRWM Plan Program runs with the fiscal year. The fiscal year 2021-22 contract budget is $30,000, which includes support labor as well as website hosting costs. Following is a summary as of 12/15/2021:

Tasks/Expenses	Amount ($)
Strangecode Web Hosting Service	276.00
UFR IRWM Plan Program Support Services	
Coordinator activities	1,250.00
Sierra Valley GSP TAC	2,697.50
Total to Date	**4,223.50**

Much of staff's efforts this year has been focused on, and billed to, implementing the Proposition 1 Round 1 UFR Water Supply Reliability Projects.

Next RWMG Meeting

Due to the limitations on in-person gatherings because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the March 2020 meeting was canceled and there have been no meetings of the RWMG since the summer of 2019.

Staff recommends scheduling a meeting of the RWMG for February/March 2021. Depending on pandemic conditions the meeting could be held in-person, by Zoom, or a hybrid. Staff will be contacting the RWMG members in early January 2022 to coordinate a date and look forward to re-engaging the group in 2022.

Please contact Uma Hinman at uhinman@comcast.net or (916) 813-0818 with any questions.

Attachments:
Attachment 1 IRWM/GSP Nexus Report
Attachment 2 UFR IRWM Fact Sheet
Attachment 3 SB 45 Support Letter

Attachment 1

Sierra Valley Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) – Review

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Table 1. Summary

IRWM Projects that Benefit the Sierra Valley	Other IRWM Projects with Groundwater-related Objectives		DWR Grants Applicable to Tier I: Existing or Ongoing PMAs (Ch. 4)	DWR Grants Applicable to Tier II: Potential PMAs (Ch. 4)	DWR Grants Applicable to PMAs Not Currently Funded (Ch. 5)
• ALS-2 • ALS-3 • ALS-6 • ALS-7 • ALS-11 • ALS-12 • ALS-13 • TAC-7	• FMW-9 • FMW-10 • FMW-19 • MS-1 • MS-4 • MS-7 • MS-8 • MS-9 • MS-10 • MS-11	• MS-12 • MS-13 • MS-27 • MS-29 • MS-42 • MS-43 • MS-48 • UF-2 • UF-8 • UF-13	Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) Grant Program's Proposition 68 Implementation Round 2 (Forecasted): Potentially All Projects Small Community Drought Relief Program (Active): Water Reuse (pg. 17 in Ch. 4 SV GSP)	Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) Grant Program's Proposition 68 Implementation Round 2 (Forecasted): Potentially All Projects Small Community Drought Relief Program (Active): Agricultural efficiency improvements (pg. 25 in Ch. 4 SV GSP) Off-stream storage (pg. 31 in Ch. 4SV GSP)	Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) Grant Program's Proposition 68 Implementation Round 2 (Forecasted): Potentially All Projects Small Community Drought Relief Program (Active): *Water Quality Monitoring Task*

Table 1. Summary (cont.)

DWR Grants Applicable to IRWM Projects that Benefit the Sierra Valley	DWR Grants Applicable to Other IRWM Projects with Groundwater-related Objectives
Small Community Drought Relief Program (Active): • ALS-2 • ALS-3 • ALS-6 • ALS-11 • ALS-13	Small Community Drought Relief Program (Active): • MS-4 • MS-7 • MS-29

Table 2. IRWM Projects that Benefit the Sierra Valley

KEY: **Blue** – Ready for Funding | **Gray** – Conceptual Only | **White** – Unable to Reach Local Project Sponsor

Project #	Project Name	Project Sponsor/ Agency	Summary of Project Description	Estimated Budget	Benefits a DAC	Drought Benefit	Climate Vulner-ability Benefit	Regional Project
Agricultural Land Stewardship (ALS) Projects								
ALS-2	Water quality and infrastructure upgrades on working lands	Feather River Resource Conservation District	The project will identify opportunities to improve water quality, reduce erosion and sedimentation and increase water use efficiency in the region. The Feather River Resource Conservation District (FRRCD) will work in partnership with the Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District (SVRCD) and other organizations in order to connect with landowners in the project area to install infrastructure to protect and enhance riparian areas, to monitor and improve water quality and to better utilize water supplies in the Upper Feather River watershed.	$1,567,500		X	X	X
Potential Funding Opportunities: Small Community Drought Relief Program (Active) Eligible Project Example #15: "Installation of water system pipelines"								
ALS-3	Enhanced management of livestock grazing	Feather River and Sierra Valley Resource Conservation Districts	This project will provide cost-sharing assistance to augment individual landowner efforts, and collaborative programs already being instituted by other existing organizations, including the Upper Feather River Watershed Group, to further the goals of improving water quality and supply in the Upper Feather River	$1,500,000		X	X	X

Project #	Project Name	Project Sponsor/ Agency	Summary of Project Description	Estimated Budget	Benefits a DAC	Drought Benefit	Climate Vulner-ability Benefit	Regional Project
			Watershed, while improving land stewardship on working landscapes. *Technical assistance and training workshops to develop soil and water quality/conservation management plans for individual operations that defines UFRW commodity-specific water quality management practices, and potentially meets requirements set forth in the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program (IRLP) to develop Farm Evaluations for water quality management practices, Sediment and Erosion Assessment Reports and Management Plans, Nitrogen Management Plans, as well as Management Practice Verification *Baseline documentation of existing conditions on working landscapes in the region to identify most critical practices *Management practices to improve soil health *Fencing to support specific grazing management plans to improve and increase forages, soil health and water quality *Infrastructure to increase irrigation efficiency and water conservation *Soil moisture monitoring technical assistance *Land leveling and forage development.					
Potential Funding Opportunities: Small Community Drought Relief Program (Active) Eligible Project Example #15: "Installation of water system pipelines" and #19: "Construction of other projects that support immediate and near-term drought response"								

Project #	Project Name	Project Sponsor/ Agency	Summary of Project Description	Estimated Budget	Benefits a DAC	Drought Benefit	Climate Vulner-ability Benefit	Regional Project
ALS-6	Sierra Valley agricultural water diversion efficiency and improvements	Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District	The proposed project is a feasibility study in support of mechanism for conduit to be installed from the diversion dam for approximately 2.5 miles to significantly increase agricultural water use efficiency and to restore the watercourse ecosystem from Little Truckee Summit to Onion Valley. This project will significantly reduce water loss from the conveyance channel due to seepage and remove significant erosive conditions and sediment loading that is evident along the route of the diversion ditch into Sierra Valley. This project will prevent further scouring and deepening of the channel that is presently over fifteen (15) feet in depth to the watercourse; stop erosion and sedimentation that is annually contributing to a significant impact into the downstream ecosystem and meadows; and make significant contributions to improving water quality.	$150,000		X	X	
Potential Funding Opportunities: Small Community Drought Relief Program (Active) Eligible Project Example #15: "Installation of water system pipelines" and #19: "Construction of other projects that support immediate and near-term drought response"								
ALS-7	Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District Resource	Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District	The proposed project will result in a "Resource Management Plan" for the Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District. The plan will include the district organizational information, financial information, district services	$155,000	X	X	X	X

Project #	Project Name	Project Sponsor/ Agency	Summary of Project Description	Estimated Budget	Benefits a DAC	Drought Benefit	Climate Vulner-ability Benefit	Regional Project
	Management Plan		contemplated, a funding component, project review guidelines, education and outreach programs, process for plan updating, and a process for adopting and updating priorities for the many chapters of the plan that define the role and interests of the Resource Conservation District including but not limited to regulatory issues (GRAP, Irrigated Lands, etc.) agriculture incentives and improving productivity, drought, water conservation and water supply, forest health and fire issues, land assessment, invasive species, soil conservation, fish and wildlife and habitat, conservation easements, recreation, wetland conservation, agricultural work plans, preservation of working landscapes, coordination with agencies, and other like subjects.					
Potential Funding Opportunities: N/A								
ALS-11	Cold Stream Ag & Fire Storage Impoundment	Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District	Identify engineering and geotechnical findings, mapping and soil/water conditions, biological conditions, and issues of concern for the consideration of an earthen dam to optimize water resource allotment for peak irrigation purposes. An earthen dam located in a feasible location within the Coldstream drainage south of Sierraville to store agricultural water, enabling better	$300,000	X	X	X	

Project #	Project Name	Project Sponsor/ Agency	Summary of Project Description	Estimated Budget	Benefits a DAC	Drought Benefit	Climate Vulner-ability Benefit	Regional Project
			utilization and more efficient use of available supplies, provide flood control and water storage for fire suppression that is accessible, functional and reliable. Also included within the concept for consideration is a small hydroelectric plant.					
Potential Funding Opportunities: Small Community Drought Relief Program (Active) Eligible Project Example #19: "Construction of other projects that support immediate and near-term drought response"								
ALS-12	Alfalfa alternative	Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District/University of California Cooperative Extension	Investigate alternative production possibilities to existing alfalfa hay production and methods that maintain the agricultural heritage of the watershed without increasing risks to producer viability, community values and natural resources. Research of alternative appropriate crops and more efficient alfalfa irrigation methods. *Feasibility study. *Pilot testing, monitoring/ measurement, reporting. The project will seek more water-efficient alfalfa hay production methods and/or alternatives to alfalfa production with lower water demands and minimal disruption to existing operations, as well as solid/equivalent returns.	$130,000	X	X	X	X
Potential Funding Opportunities: N/A								
ALS-13	Little Last Chance Lake	Sierra Valley Groundwater Management District/Sierr	To restore and enhance 450 acres of wetland and sub-irrigated meadows back to how the land was before the creek was altered by the construction of Frenchman	$265,000	X	X	X	

Project #	Project Name	Project Sponsor/ Agency	Summary of Project Description	Estimated Budget	Benefits a DAC	Drought Benefit	Climate Vulner-ability Benefit	Regional Project
		a Watershed Habitat Conservation Foundation	Dam. The overall project plan is to restore Little Last Chance Lake in Sierra Valley to a year-round water supply for wildlife and native vegetation, and to provide drinking water for wildlife and livestock. *Phase 1: feasibility study evaluating the best source of water, securing landowner and other stakeholder MOUs, evaluating roadside pullouts, arts and recreation involvement *Phase 2: pump early-season supplemental water to the Little Last Chance Lake *Phase 3: Construct up to five new wetlands areas					
Potential Funding Opportunities: Small Community Drought Relief Program (Active) **for Phase 3 (construct up to five wetland areas).** Eligible Project Example #19: "Construction of other projects that support immediate and near-term drought response"								
Tribal Advisory Committee (TAC) Projects								
TAC-7	Middle Fork Feather River Headwaters Tribal Big Time Phase Two	Trina Cunningham/ California Indian Water Commission	Through restoration of ecological and cultural practices and purposes the three tribes that still share this land can reengage youth with ancestral connections in this area through today's traditional tribal practitioners of all ages. One of the ways we may do this is by working with the many groups, organizations, and citizens in our homelands. Through the work of the Intertribal Planning Committee (IPC) we hope to restore cultural and ecological connections in the headwaters of the Middle Fork through the Wild and Scenic Middle Fork Canyons to the waters captured in the Lake Oroville Dam. As tribal	$25,000		X	X	

Project #	Project Name	Project Sponsor/ Agency	Summary of Project Description	Estimated Budget	Benefits a DAC	Drought Benefit	Climate Vulner-ability Benefit	Regional Project
			and ecological connectivity are strengthened, renewed Feather River waters will flow out into the ocean, reconnected by Middle Fork Feather River water that is respected as a primary source of life and an intertribal responsibility. This Sierra Valley Big Time was a way of celebrating a new beginning for tribal members who are interested in reconnecting with each other and reenergizing their ancestral connections with the land, waters and species of this dynamic area at the intersection of Great Basin and Sierra ecosystems with the headwaters of the Middle Fork of the Feather River.					
Potential Funding Opportunities: N/A								

Table 3. Other IRWM Projects with Groundwater-related Objectives

KEY: **Blue** – Ready for Funding | **Gray** – Conceptual Only | **White** – Unable to Reach Local Project Sponsor

Project #	Project Name	Project Sponsor/ Agency	Summary of Project Description	Estimated Budget	Benefits a DAC	Drought Benefit	Climate Vulner-ability Benefit	Regional Project
Floodplains, Meadows, and Waterbodies (FMW) Projects								
FMW-9	Watershed education	Plumas Unified School District	The Watercourse: Plumas to Pacific is an integrated, year-long course of study that uses the Feather River and its tributaries to teach concepts in life science, earth science, social studies, and mathematics. Building upon established elements of the sixth-grade curriculum, students examine the influences of mining, logging, ranching/farming in the region, as well as water uses for transportation, recreation, wildlife/fisheries, hydroelectric power, commerce, and municipal/domestic purposes. Plumas Corporation had successfully secured funding for the coordination of The Watercourse for the last 10 years.	$48,000	X	X		
Potential Funding Opportunities: N/A								
FMW-10	Lake Almanor Basin stewardship	Lake Almanor Watershed Group/	There is an imminent need for large-scale reductions in non-point sources of nutrient deposition into the Lake and widespread	$142,224	X	X	X	

Project #	Project Name	Project Sponsor/ Agency	Summary of Project Description	Estimated Budget	Benefits a DAC	Drought Benefit	Climate Vulner-ability Benefit	Regional Project
	and outreach program	Sierra Institute for Community and Environment	education on the role of residents and visitors in these issues. This project will build upon established community connections and previous research to engage the public in activities that increase understanding of human-mediate influences on water quality and invasive species in Lake Almanor, and develop action to reduce nutrient deposition into the Lake Almanor and the potential for invasive species introduction.					
Potential Funding Opportunities: N/A								
FMW-19	Debris dam survey, inventory and characterization	Trout Unlimited	This project will locate and characterize all existing dams within the Upper Feather River watershed allowing for prioritization for removal. Former dam sites will also be cataloged, where available, and characterized as potential remediation projects depending on prioritization levels and residual impacts. Samples will be taken from the dam sites for contamination testing. Once identified, the prioritization list of existing and failed dam sites will be utilized to guide the remediation of these sites.	$97,000		X	X	

Project #	Project Name	Project Sponsor/ Agency	Summary of Project Description	Estimated Budget	Benefits a DAC	Drought Benefit	Climate Vulner-ability Benefit	Regional Project
Potential Funding Opportunities: N/A								
Municipal Services (MS) Projects								
MS-1	Wastewater System Infrastructure Improvements	City of Portola	This proposed solution to correct the increased inflow/ infiltration(I&I) to the City system is a discrete plan to reconstruct aged failing and failed sewer lines throughout the City as determined by existing video logs of the system. Maps on file at City Hall show where the reconstruction work is being proposed. Also on file are types of reconstruction with individual cost estimates, which includes; open trench, fold and form linings, and point repairs.	$1,424,522	X	X	X	
Potential Funding Opportunities: N/A								
MS-4	Water tank project	American Valley Community Services District	Replace the existing East Quincy Services District 800,000-gallon concrete tank with a steel tank of equal size. It is estimated that the project will reduce groundwater pumping by over 1 million gallons for any given year, to create a more reliable, drought-proof water supply.	$630,000	X	X	X	
Potential Funding Opportunities: Small Community Drought Relief Program (Active) Eligible Project Example #18: "Installation of water storage tanks"								

Project #	Project Name	Project Sponsor/ Agency	Summary of Project Description	Estimated Budget	Benefits a DAC	Drought Benefit	Climate Vulner-ability Benefit	Regional Project
MS-7	High elevation water tank and well	Gold Mountain Community Services District	This project will increase the reliability and efficiency of the CSD's domestic water system, provide for a viable emergency water supply for structural firefighting and wild land fire suppression through much of the community's hydrant systems that currently rely on booster pump pressure, and conserve water, which is severely lost to the occurrence of leaks and pressure losses from booster pumps in the current pressurized system. Phase 1: Construction of a new water storage tank at an elevation of 5670' to ensure a positive supply of domestic water distributed via gravity flow to all locations in the service area. Phase 2: Drilling a high altitude well to service the new tank.	$2,030,150	X	X	X	
Potential Funding Opportunities: Small Community Drought Relief Program (Active) Eligible Project Example #18: "Installation of water storage tanks" and #8: "Drilling of new community wells"								
MS-8	Water reclamation facility	Gold Mountain Community Services District	The CSD needs to install a modern Water Reclamation treatment and pumping facility to reclaim wastewater for irrigation at a golf course and to increase water reserves available to fight wildfires	$1,758,000	X	X	X	

Project #	Project Name	Project Sponsor/ Agency	Summary of Project Description	Estimated Budget	Benefits a DAC	Drought Benefit	Climate Vulner-ability Benefit	Regional Project
			within the Gold Mountain CSD service area. Reclaiming treated effluent to the golf course will reduce the depletion of groundwater resources that are shared by the CSD and Golf Course operator; and improve the water quality of the effluent being discharged into the groundwater by the CSD. This project will significantly increase the quality of wastewater to the leach fields, as well as provide additional filtration of the treated wastewater effluent for reclaim to a golf course or use in firefighting in the area.					
Potential Funding Opportunities: N/A								
MS-9	Crocker water service meters	Grizzly Lake Community Services District	Project will consist of replacing all the illegal service laterals to meet UPC and install new water meters. Additional fire hydrants will be added to meet NFPA standards to improve overall fire protection. Project will increase water conservation, ability to identify leaks and make system repairs to prevent water losses in the distribution system. Water use will be reduced by approximately 25 - 30 % per year.	$1,500,000	X	X	X	

Project #	Project Name	Project Sponsor/ Agency	Summary of Project Description	Estimated Budget	Benefits a DAC	Drought Benefit	Climate Vulner-ability Benefit	Regional Project
Potential Funding Opportunities: N/A								
MS-10	Crocker Welch ground tank repair	Grizzly Lake Community Services District	This project includes repairing and bringing up to code the Crocker/Welch 211,000-gallon water tank. Project will retrofit the deteriorated water storage tank to provide a reliable water supply to customers. The tank is rusting on the inside and needs to be made OSHA Compliant and meet NFPA and AWWA codes.	$200,000	X	X	X	
Potential Funding Opportunities: N/A								
MS-11	Delleker water meters	Grizzly Lake Community Services District	Project will consist of replacing mainline as needed. Estimate approx. 1000 lineal feet of mainline. Replace several service laterals and install approx. 400 radio read meters and computer software necessary to read the system. All related appurtenances (meter box, yoke, meters, misc. fittings) will also need to be replaced. System is approx. 50 - 60 years old and consists of asbestos cement service mains, most laterals are 3/4" soft roll copper configures so that one 3/4" service line feeds two households. The rest of the lines are boiler pipe that was used for the sawmill in	$1,500,000	X	X	X	

Project #	Project Name	Project Sponsor/ Agency	Summary of Project Description	Estimated Budget	Benefits a DAC	Drought Benefit	Climate Vulner-ability Benefit	Regional Project
			Delleker in the early 1900s. This project will serve a Severely Disadvantaged Community, improve water quality and delivery, provide safe, reliable water supplies to the local community, protect groundwater resources, and reduce water consumption.					
Potential Funding Opportunities: N/A								
MS-12	Delleker water tank rehabilitation	Grizzly Lake Community Services District	The Delleker Tank requires repairs to bring it up to meet OSHA, NFPA, AWWA and EPA codes. It is estimated that approximately 4,200,000 gallons of water will be saved annually by repairing the leaks and refurbishing this tank. It provides approximately 400 households in this severely disadvantaged community with essential domestic water supply and water for emergency fire protection.	$200,000	X	X	X	
Potential Funding Opportunities: N/A								
MS-13	Groundwater monitoring	County of Plumas	This project will gather, tabulate and input existing groundwater monitoring data into GIS layer(s) that will be publicly available. Environmental Health would supply existing, available data,	$40,000	X	X	X	

Project #	Project Name	Project Sponsor/ Agency	Summary of Project Description	Estimated Budget	Benefits a DAC	Drought Benefit	Climate Vulner-ability Benefit	Regional Project
			along with data point field locations (longitude and latitude of groundwater well locations) to a qualified consultant for creation of GIS water quality layer(s). The GIS data points would then link to tabular monitoring data by constituent, over time.					
Potential Funding Opportunities: N/A								
MS-27	Treated wastewater reuse	Plumas-Eureka Community Services District	A Treated Wastewater Effluent Feasibility Study performed by Bastian Engineering identified the possibility of utilizing treated wastewater as an irrigation supplement to the Plumas Pines Golf Course. Plumas Eureka has two wastewater treatment plants; an analysis by Shaw Engineering showed that all effluent could be transported to a central location near Waste Treatment Plan 6 for treatment for use on the front nine holes of the golf course. Farr West Engineering identified technologies that could be used for reclamation in its analysis of the replacement of Waste Treatment Plant 6. *Reuse of treated wastewater will reduce demand on the aquifer *Reduce	N/A	X	X	X	

Project #	Project Name	Project Sponsor/ Agency	Summary of Project Description	Estimated Budget	Benefits a DAC	Drought Benefit	Climate Vulner-ability Benefit	Regional Project
			use of local surface water and groundwater resources for irrigation will make that water more readily available for fire suppression.					
Potential Funding Opportunities: N/A								
MS-29	Water storage tank replacement	Plumas-Eureka Community Services District	The Plumas Eureka CSD "Preliminary Engineering Report for the 2015 Water System Improvements" recommended the replacement of an existing 190,000-gallon storage tank due to seismic concerns and existing steel construction. New storage tank will increase available water volume in a wild fire event. Additional water storage provides greater flexibility in managing groundwater pumping from wells, increased water storage is beneficial for use during times of water shortages due to extended drought, and it increases water storage capacity and ability of tank to withstand a major seismic event.	$531,750		X	X	
Potential Funding Opportunities: Small Community Drought Relief Program (Active) Eligible Project Example #18: "Installation of water storage tanks"								

Project #	Project Name	Project Sponsor/ Agency	Summary of Project Description	Estimated Budget	Benefits a DAC	Drought Benefit	Climate Vulner-ability Benefit	Regional Project
MS-42	Automatic meter reading (ARM) project	East Quincy Services District	Replace the existing 850 water meters with Sensus I-Perl (or equivalent) meters with automatic reading capabilities. The measured groundwater pumped from East Quincy Services District (EQSD) wells is approximately 10% more than the water read at the current meters. Accurate and timely meter reading will provide the EQSD stakeholders with the information to better govern water use in accordance with the Governor's drought proclamation and satisfy the IRWM goal to: "establish and maintain effective communication among water resource stakeholders in the region, enhancing the publics' understanding of water management issues". ARM water meters will allow for improved efficiency and reliability of the EQSD water-related infrastructure resulting in reduced groundwater pumping. And ARM water meters would also enhance the District's ability to audit the system. Additionally, reduced demand on local groundwater increases	$ 666,679	X	X	X	

Project #	Project Name	Project Sponsor/ Agency	Summary of Project Description	Estimated Budget	Benefits a DAC	Drought Benefit	Climate Vulner-ability Benefit	Regional Project
			resources available for wildland fire suppression.					
Potential Funding Opportunities: N/A								
MS-43	Replace copper service lines project	East Quincy Services District	Replace 450 copper water service lines from the corporation stop at the water main to the service meter with polyethylene pipe of the same size. These older soft copper lines were not bedded in select material at the time of construction and have begun to develop wear holes that enlarge with the erosive force of high-pressure flow. The native material is a coarse aggregate which does not result in surfacing of the leaks. The work would entail open trench construction, primarily in the county roads. Trench repair would satisfy the requirements of the to-be-obtained encroachment permit. Replacement of the copper service lines will lead to water conservation as the leaks that develop are difficult to locate due to aforementioned granular nature of the native material. Conservation would result in improved efficiency and reliability of the EQSD water-related	$1,107,685	X	X	X	

Project #	Project Name	Project Sponsor/ Agency	Summary of Project Description	Estimated Budget	Benefits a DAC	Drought Benefit	Climate Vulner-ability Benefit	Regional Project
			infrastructure resulting in reduced groundwater pumping. Improved supply reliability also allows water to be available to fight wildfires with a reduced impact on supplies needed to meet existing demands and will help to ensure that demands associated with the regional economy – including manufacturing, tourism and agriculture – can be met.					
Potential Funding Opportunities: N/A								
MS-48	Chester Public Utility District - Water System Improvements - Replacement of Water Meters and Installing a Fixed Network Water Meter Reading System	Chester Public Utility District	Replacing existing water meters and installing new radio meters that will interface with a fixed network system. The fixed network would provide better tracking of water to identify delivery system leakage thereby reducing the demand on the groundwater basin. With the fixed network reading system, Chester PUD would have 24 hr/day, 365 day/year, access ability to identify delivery system leaks and or breaks in a very short time, service customers would have "online" access to their water meter and be able to self-monitor their usage, and the data would be able to be	$ 600,000	X	X	X	

Project #	Project Name	Project Sponsor/ Agency	Summary of Project Description	Estimated Budget	Benefits a DAC	Drought Benefit	Climate Vulner-ability Benefit	Regional Project
			shared with surrounding water supply districts.					
Potential Funding Opportunities: N/A								
Uplands and Forest (UF) Projects								
UF-2	Rock Creek meadow restoration	Collins Pine Company	Quantifying the response of meadow restoration assists forest, range, and agricultural land managers determine the effect of their investment in meadow restoration. This study will use a before/after control intervention (BACI) study design to study the hydrologic change conifer removal from a historic meadow (Rock Creek Meadow). We hypothesize that the conifer removal will create soil hydric characteristics which will promote a wet meadow system. We will instrument two sites 1) a restored meadow and 2) our historic meadow with soil moisture sensors, shallow groundwater wells, and a surface water level recorder. We will be measuring soil moisture, groundwater levels, and soil hydric characteristics for two years prior to meadow restoration and two years following meadow restoration.	$180,000		X	X	

Project #	Project Name	Project Sponsor/ Agency	Summary of Project Description	Estimated Budget	Benefits a DAC	Drought Benefit	Climate Vulner-ability Benefit	Regional Project
Potential Funding Opportunities: N/A								
UF-8	Goodrich Creek biomass	W.M. Beaty & Associates	Provide for biomass harvesting to be conducted on approx. 2,800 acres of private forestland that is adjacent to a recently funded pond and plug project on tributaries that flow into Goodrich Creek. This project will be designed to enhance the restoration of 125 acres of upland meadow by reducing the density of small understory trees, which will reduce the amount of evapotranspiration and canopy interception providing for increased infiltration into the soil. The expected increase in groundwater will also help to increase stream flow in the area. An additional result of the biomass harvest will be the reduction of fuel loads in the area. This will help to mitigate the risk of catastrophic wildfire which can lead to significant decreases in water quality.	$715,600	X	X	X	
Potential Funding Opportunities: N/A								
UF-13	UFR cooperative LiDAR and GIS	Plumas County	This project will directly support mapping and project-design for a large number of other currently-	$3 mil – $4 mil	X		X	

Project #	Project Name	Project Sponsor/ Agency	Summary of Project Description	Estimated Budget	Benefits a DAC	Drought Benefit	Climate Vulner-ability Benefit	Regional Project
	support program		proposed IRWM projects, and each project could potentially contribute a small portion of their budget to an overall mapping budget for the entire UFR Region. LiDAR data will be useful in identifying areas of overstocked forests where thinning will increase groundwater infiltration and reduce the severity of future wildfires. LiDAR data can be analyzed to map fuel loading and prioritize specific area for hazard reduction thinning.					
Potential Funding Opportunities: N/A								

Table 4. DWR Grants Applicable to Tier I: Existing or Ongoing PMAs (Ch. 4)

Forecasted Grant (Fall 2022) Applicable to All Projects: Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) Grant Program's Proposition 68 Implementation Round 2 (for Medium and High Priority Basins):

"Proposition 68: Implementation Activities and/or tasks that include the development of groundwater recharge projects with surface water, stormwater, recycled water, and other conjunctive use projects; and/or projects that prevent or clean up contamination of groundwater that serves as a source of drinking water (Public Resources Code § 80146(a)). Other eligible project types are projects and programs that support water supply reliability, water conservation, and water use efficiency and water banking, exchange, and reclamation." (**pg. 8, "III. Eligibility Requirements"**)

Only one application will be accepted per basin

Chapter 4.2 Tier I: Existing or Ongoing Projects and Management Actions		
Project Category	**Project Name**	**Potential Funding Opportunity**
Demand Management	Well Permit Ordinance (pg. 16)	
Supply Augmentation	Water Reuse (pg. 17)	Small Community Drought Relief Program (Active) (Eligible Project Example #14: "Recycled water projects that provide immediate relief to potable water supplies")
Supply Augmentation	Sierra Brooks – Smithneck Wildland Urban Interface Fuels Reduction Project (pg. 18)	
Other Management Actions	Inventory and Metering (pg. 11)	
Other Management Actions	Monitoring and Reporting (pg. 13)	
Other Management Actions	Data Management and Modeling (pg. 14)	
Other Management Actions	Education and Outreach (pg. 15)	

Table 5. DWR Grants Applicable to Tier II: Potential PMAs (Ch. 4)

Forecasted Grant (Fall 2022) Applicable to All Projects: Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) Grant Program's Proposition 68 Implementation Round 2 (for Medium and High Priority Basins):

"Proposition 68: Implementation Activities and/or tasks that include the development of groundwater recharge projects with surface water, stormwater, recycled water, and other conjunctive use projects; and/or projects that prevent or clean up contamination of groundwater that serves as a source of drinking water (Public Resources Code § 80146(a)). Other eligible project types are projects and programs that support water supply reliability, water conservation, and water use efficiency and water banking, exchange, and reclamation." (**pg. 8**, "**III. Eligibility Requirements"**)

Only one application will be accepted per basin

4.3 Tier II: Potential Projects and Management Actions		
Project Category	**Project Name**	**Potential Funding Opportunity**
Demand Management	Agricultural efficiency improvements (pg. 25)	Small Community Drought Relief Program (Active) (Eligible Project Example #19: "Construction of other projects that support immediate and near-term drought response")
Demand Management	Water Conservation (pg. 33)	
Demand Management	Groundwater Trading and Allocations System (pg. 34)	
Demand Management	Voluntary Managed Plan Repurposing (pg. 38)	
Supply Augmentation	Reoperation of, or adjustments to, surface water supplies (pg. 28)	
Supply Augmentation	Off-stream storage (pg. 31)	Small Community Drought Relief Program (Active) (Eligible Project Example #18: "Installation of water storage tanks" and #19:" Construction of other projects that support immediate and near-term drought response")
Supply Augmentation	Watershed and Upland Management and Restoration (pg. 36)	

4.3 Tier II: Potential Projects and Management Actions		
Project Category	**Project Name**	**Potential Funding Opportunity**
Supply Augmentation	Groundwater Recharge / Managed aquifer recharge (MAR) (pg. 41)	
Supply Augmentation	Assessment of post-fire hydrology – water supply augmentation (pg. 43)	
Other Management Actions	Aquifer characterization, pumping test (pg. 27)	
Other Management Actions	Drought mitigation & planning (pg. 32)	

Table 7. DWR Grants Applicable to PMAs Not Currently Funded (Ch. 5)

Note: Information pulled from Table 5.3.2 Preliminary Schedule and Status for Projects and Management Actions [*to be modified based on stakeholder* input] (pg. 15)

Forecasted Grant (Fall 2022) Applicable to All Projects: Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) Grant Program's Proposition 68 Implementation Round 2 (for Medium and High Priority Basins):

"Proposition 68: Implementation Activities and/or tasks that include the development of groundwater recharge projects with surface water, stormwater, recycled water, and other conjunctive use projects; and/or projects that prevent or clean up contamination of groundwater that serves as a source of drinking water (Public Resources Code § 80146(a)). Other eligible project types are projects and programs that support water supply reliability, water conservation, and water use efficiency and water banking, exchange, and reclamation." (**pg. 8, "III. Eligibility Requirements"**)

Only one application will be accepted per basin

			GSP Implementation Year							
			1 (2022)				**2**	**3**	**3**	**5**
Task	**Status**	**Funding**	**Q1**	**Q2**	**Q3**	**Q4**	**2023**	**2024**	**2025**	**2026**
Monitoring Implementation – Existing (on-going) and Required										
Water level data uploads to data portal	Quarterly	NOT CURRENTLY FUNDED		X	X	X	X	X	X	X

			GSP Implementation Year							
			1 (2022)				2	3	3	5
Task	**Status**	**Funding**	**Q1**	**Q2**	**Q3**	**Q4**	**2023**	**2024**	**2025**	**2026**
Annual Report (water levels, pumped volumes, differences in water levels, on-going and planned actions)	Required, April 1st Submittal to DWR	NOT CURRENTLY FUNDED, but propose using existing DWR grant to develop first report and template	X				X	X	X	
5-Year Basin Status Report	Required	NOT CURRENTLY FUNDED								X
Additional Proposed in GSP Monitoring										
Water Level Monitoring										
Water level monitoring, including winter months measurements, at SVGMD monitoring wells	Monthly	NOT CURRENTLY FUNDED		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Install water level recorders (transducers) in select monitoring wells	As funding becomes available, TBD	NOT CURRENTLY FUNDED, Possible DWR Funding		X						
Transducer data downloads, data compile, data uploads to data portal	As funding becomes available, TBD	NOT CURRENTLY FUNDED		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Subsidence Monitoring										
Subsidence land surface elevation surveying at **four** monuments	Semi-annual for first two years at water level highs and lows, annual thereafter thru first 5 years	NOT CURRENTLY FUNDED		X		X	X	X	X	X
Water Quality Monitoring										
Add **five** additional water quality sites (wells) to existing network for water quality monitoring, plus **eight** new volunteer wells	Next two years	NOT CURRENTLY FUNDED, but could be included in existing DWR Grant (cost minimal) assuming additional existing well identified,		X	X					

			GSP Implementation Year							
			1 (2022)				2	3	3	5
Task	**Status**	**Funding**	**Q1**	**Q2**	**Q3**	**Q4**	**2023**	**2024**	**2025**	**2026**
		No Funding for Drilling New Wells								
Potential Funding Opportunity: Small Community Drought Relief Program (Active) (Eligible Project Categories: "New wells or rehabilitation of existing wells"; "Construction or installation of permanent infrastructure"										
Conduct Annual Water Quality Sampling and Analyses at **seventeen** GAMA, expanded to include **eight** additional wells, plus **five** data gap wells	Annually	NOT CURRENTLY FUNDED				X	X	X	X	X
Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems (GDE) – Interconnected Surface Water (ISW)										
Monitoring Water Levels at Staff Gages and Shallow Monitoring Wells	Monthly	NOT CURRENTLY FUNDED		X	X	X	X			
Stream gage measurements and maintenance, rating curve development, data downloads, data compile and annual discharge computations	Monthly, Water Master makes some field measurements of flow during irrigation diversion season	NOT CURRENTLY FUNDED		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Install telemetry system for gages, key monitoring wells, and/or well meters	As funding becomes available, TBD	NOT CURRENTLY FUNDED					X	X	X	X
NDVI satellite vegetation indices determination of extent and variance of GDEs	2 to 5 year intervals, depending on water year type	NOT CURRENTLY FUNDED					X			X
Modeling										
Aquifer Characterization (Pumping Tests) and Analysis	As funding becomes available TBD	NOT CURRENTLY FUNDED			X	X	X	X	X	

			GSP Implementation Year							
			1 (2022)				2	3	3	5
Task	**Status**	**Funding**	**Q1**	**Q2**	**Q3**	**Q4**	**2023**	**2024**	**2025**	**2026**
Integrated Surface Water – Groundwater Model Updates	Annually, up to 5 year reporting	NOT CURRENTLY FUNDED				X	X	X	X	X
Proposed Advancement of Potential Projects & Management Actions										
Agricultural Efficiency Improvements	To be initiated Q4 2021 and Q1 2022	ID opportunities covered by existing DWR grant, IMPLEMENTATION NOT FUNDED	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Prepare Additional Grant Funding Applications based on Feasibility Reviews	Q3-Q4 2022 (as available)	NOT CURRENTLY FUNDED				X	X	X	X	X
Public Outreach	Quarterly to Annual (TBD)	NOT CURRENTLY FUNDED after GSP Completion	X		X		X	X	X	X
Additional Possible Projects & Management Actions in 5-year Horizon										
Drought Mitigation Planning	Scheduling Pending release of State Funding, TBD	NOT CURRENTLY FUNDED – SEEK STATE FUNDING	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Watershed and Upland Management and Restoration	Feasible projects identified within two years Implementation within five years contingent on funding	NOT CURRENTLY FUNDED - SEEK FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES AND PARTNERS	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Voluntary Managed Land Repurposing	Feasible projects identified within two years Implementation within five years contingent on funding	NOT CURRENTLY FUNDED - SEEK FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES AND PARTNERS	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

Attachment 2

INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT

Upper Feather River (UFR)

Upper Feather River Integrated Regional Water Management Group

Region At-A-Glance

Region Description

The UFR Region encompasses 3,600 square miles of the rural northern Sierra Mountains recognized for its vital natural resources and recreational and aesthetic values. The Region's watershed is the headwaters of Lake Oroville, which is the largest reservoir in the State Water Project that delivers high quality water for hydrogeneration agriculture and drinking to over 2/3rds of California's population. Most of the Region is classified as disadvantaged.

Counties Within the Region

All of Plumas County and portions of Sierra, Butte, Lassen, and Yuba counties.

Population Served

30,000

IRWM Funding Brought to the UFR Region

$8.7 million

Amount of Funding Leveraged by Locals

$1.8 million

California Senate and Assembly Districts

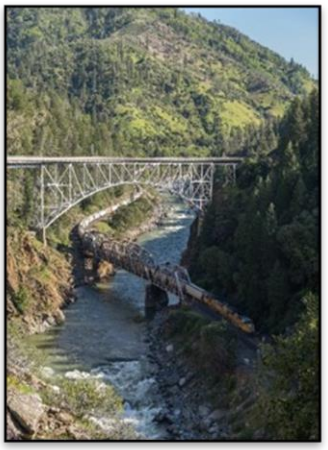
District 1

Governance Description

The UFR Integrated Regional Water Management Group (RWMG) consists of 12 member agencies and a public member, with 8 of the member agencies having statutory authority over water supply and/or management. The composition of the RWMG provides a broad representation of water resource, natural resource, local government, Tribes, and land use management interests for the UFR Region.

Top Region Priorities

- Update aging and inadequate municipal and agricultural water infrastructure.
- Manage watershed restoration for improved habitat and sustainable groundwater recharge.
- Increase forest and water supply resiliency to climate changes, drought, tree mortality, and catastrophic wildfire.
- Improve resource and community capacity deficits including financial, staffing, and technical expertise that are common consequences of the very rural and aging population of the UFR Region.



Region Successes and Highlights

1. Leveraged over $18 million in grant funding for implementing projects identified in the UFR IRWM Plan benefiting disadvantaged communities (DAC) and Tribes and watershed and habitat restoration efforts within the Region.
2. Successful acquisition of DWR Proposition 1 Round 1 Disadvantaged Community grant funding that supports regional DACs with improved domestic and emergency water supplies.
3. Active member of the Mountain Counties Funding Area Coordinating Committee collaborating to implement DAC funding and programs throughout the headwaters regions.

Region Contacts

Website: www.featherriver.org

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Phone: (530) 283-6214
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Email: traceyferguson@countyofplumas.com

Contact: Uma Hinman
Phone: (916) 813-0818
Title: RWMG Coordinator
Email: ufr.contact@gmail.com

Attachment 3

Upper Feather River Integrated Regional Water Management Group

555 Main Street | Quincy, CA | 95971 | (530) 283-6214 | http://featherriver.org | ufr.contact@gmail.com

March 1, 2021

The Honorable Anthony Portantino
State Capitol, Room 5046
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Ben Allen
State Capitol, Room 5080
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Melissa Hurtado
State Capitol, Room 3070
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Henry Stern
State Capitol, Room 5080
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Senate Bill 45 (Portantino, Allen, Hurtado and Stern) – SUPPORT

Dear Honorable California State Senators,

On behalf of the Upper Feather River Integrated Regional Water Management Group, we would like to express our support of SB 45 (Portantino, Allen, Hurtado, and Stern) or the Wildfire Prevention, Safe Drinking Water, Drought Preparation, and Flood Protection Bond Act of 2022. Climate related disasters have strained the capacity of local governments to manage existing environmental challenges and prepare for future ones. Through SB 45, we believe that California can begin to take steps towards making local communities more climate resilient by directly investing in programs that help withstand the impacts of climate change.

The powerful effects of climate change have caused immeasurable damage to communities across the state. In the last few years alone, California has seen more natural disasters than ever before. Devastating wildfires, drought, sea-level rise, and flooding are among the many climate related disasters facing the state. These looming threats are only expected to increase in frequency and intensity.

In the past year alone, the wildfires that occurred broke nearly every record to date, burning over four million acres and impacting the health and safety of millions of Californians. The increasingly destructive scale of disasters such as this demonstrates a need for aggressive action. Greater financial support from the state is paramount to prepare local communities for the climate related threats that lie ahead.

Investing in climate-change preparedness within communities will allow local governments to implement preventative measures that promote resiliency and enhance their ability to mitigate the effects of climate change. These actions will not only protect life, livelihoods, and vital natural resources, but also save the state billions of dollars in avoided damage costs from climate-impacted property, infrastructure, and working lands.

The Upper Feather River Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Program of more than 18 years has proven to be an effective and successful collaboration of stakeholders in the Region, which is an important headwaters area for the State's water supply.

Our Region has suffered the effects of catastrophic wildfire, drought, and tree mortality with increasing frequency and severity. Being a very rural, disadvantaged region, the Upper Feather River IRWM Program has filled a vital role in bringing our widely-varied stakeholders together to identify and support region-wide planning and implementation projects that will address climate change vulnerabilities.

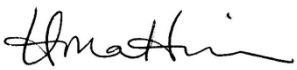
For the reasons stated above, we would like to express our strong support for the array of activities that SB 45 would fund. Further, the goals of the IRWM Program (SB 1672) align with SB 45, and we urge you to allocate funding specifically to the IRWM Program as an instrument for its continued implementation.

The IRWM Program has received nearly 20 years of State support and $1.5 billion in funding to advance integrated, multi-benefit regional projects. In that time, regional IRWM Programs have developed well-established and long-standing relationships and collaboration between water resource managers, local governments, disadvantaged communities and Tribes within regions, as well as inter-regionally. The IRWM Program is critical to the comprehensive planning for water resource management, watershed and habitat restoration, forest resiliency, wildfire prevention, and climate resilience throughout the State's regions, and particularly in the rural headwaters.

Dedicating specific SB 45 funding to the IRWM Program will directly support regions and communities in building on established collaborations to continue to address climate resiliency and water supply efficiencies for their communities.

We thank you for your continued leadership. For more information, please contact me at ufr.contact@gmail.com or (916) 813-0818.

Sincerely,



Uma Hinman, Coordinator
Upper Feather River Integrated Regional Water Management Group

ON BEHALF OF

Sharon Thrall, Chair
Upper Feather River Integrated Regional Water Management Group

Cc: Assembly Member Megan Dahle
Senator Brian Dahle
Tina Andolina
Evan Goldberg
Tara McGee
Jeff Engel, Chair, Plumas County Board of Supervisors
Paul Roen, Sierra County Board of Supervisors
Doug Teeter, Butte County Board of Supervisors
Aaron Albaugh, Chair, Lassen County Board of Supervisors
Tracey Ferguson, AICP, Planning Director, Plumas County Planning Department