

UPPER FEATHER RIVER
REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT GROUP

Paul Roen, Sierra County (Chair)
Trina Cunningham, Native American Representative (Vice-Chair)
Dwight Ceresola, Plumas County
Doug Teeter, Butte County
Vacant, Plumas County Flood Control and Water Conservation District
Russell Reid, Feather River Resource Conservation District
Rick Roberti, Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District
Einen Grandi, Sierra Valley Groundwater Management District
Roger Diefendorf, Plumas County Community Development Commission
Vacant, Public Member
Kurt Sable, Plumas National Forest (Advisory)
Russell Nickerson, Lassen National Forest (Advisory)
Rachel Hutchinson, Tahoe National Forest (Advisory)

**AGENDA FOR REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT GROUP MEETING OF
MARCH 29, 2024 TO BE HELD AT 1:00 P.M. IN THE
PLUMAS COUNTY PLANNING CONFERENCE ROOM, 555 MAIN STREET, QUINCY, CALIFORNIA**

The Meeting will be held in-person with an option to participate remotely via Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87229340120>

Or by phone: (669) 900-6833 / Meeting ID: 872 2934 0120

www.featherriver.org

AGENDA

The Regional Water Management Group of the Upper Feather River Integrated Regional Water Management Program welcomes you to its meetings, which are regularly held on the fourth Wednesday of every other month, and your interest is encouraged and appreciated.

Any item without a specified time on the agenda may be taken up at any time and in any order.

Any person desiring to address the Board shall first secure permission of the Regional Water Management Group Chair. Any public comments made during a regular Regional Water Management Group meeting will be recorded. Members of the public may submit their comments in writing to be included in the public record.

CONSENT AGENDA: These matters include routine administrative actions. All items on the consent calendar will be voted on at some time during the meeting under "Consent Agenda." If you wish to have an item removed from the Consent Agenda, you may do so by addressing the Chairperson.



REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS: In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting please contact Tracey Ferguson at 530-283-6214. Notification 72 hours prior to the meeting will enable the County to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility. Auxiliary aids and services are available for people with disabilities.

STANDING ORDERS

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

ADDITIONS TO OR DELETIONS FROM THE AGENDA

PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY

Matters under the jurisdiction of the Regional Water Management Group (RWMG), and not on the posted agenda, may be addressed by the general public at the beginning of the regular agenda and any off-agenda matters before the RWMG for consideration. However, California law prohibits the RWMG from taking action on any matter which is not on the posted agenda unless it is determined to be an urgency item by the RWMG.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/REPORTS

1. Sierra Valley Groundwater Management District awarded nearly \$7.5 million in grant funding to implement the Sierra Valley Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP):
 - a. California Department of Water Resources (DWR) Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Implementation Round 2 Grant (\$5,445,000)
 - b. Plumas Watershed Forum Funding (\$1,220,000) managed by the Plumas County Flood Control and Water Conservation District
 - c. California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) Restoration Grant Programs: Nature Based Solutions – [Wildlife corridors/ Wetlands and Mountain Meadows] (\$809,076)
2. Water Solutions Network Watershed Framework
3. Plumas Watershed Forum Grant Funded Projects
 - a. Sierra Valley Groundwater Management District Synergistic Sierra Valley Groundwater Recharge and Irrigation Efficiency Project (\$1,220,000)
 - b. Taylorsville Mill Race Farmers' Dam (Spillway) Resurfacing and Renovation Project (\$520,000)
4. Roundtable of Regions Updates

CONSENT AGENDA

These items are expected to be routine and non-controversial. The RWMG will act upon them at one time without discussion. Any RWMG members, staff member or interested party may request that an item be removed from the consent agenda for discussion.

A) REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT GROUP BUSINESS

1. Regional Water Management Group (RWMG) Meeting Summary for the regular meeting held on March 11, 2022. *Approve.*
2. Letters of Support, *ratify.*
 - a. Letter of Support for Sierra Valley Groundwater Management District's grant application to DWR for Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) Grant Program's SGMA Implementation Round 2, June 9, 2023.
 - b. Letter of Support to include IRWM funding increased to \$660 million in AB 1567, April 10, 2023
3. Support Services Financial Report. *Informational.*

ACTION AGENDA

1. REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT GROUP ADMINISTRATION

- a. Membership and Representation. *Discussion and direction to staff.*
 - i. Almanor Basin Public Member Vacancy. *District 3 Supervisor McGowan Appointment.*
 - ii. Plumas County Flood Control & Water Conservation District Vacancy. *District Board Appointment.*
- b. Support Services for Fiscal Year 2024-25. *Discussion and direction to staff.*

2. SUPERIOR-ENGELS MINES VESTED RIGHTS PROJECT

The RWMG received an “open letter to everyone concerned about the future of the Feather River Watershed” from Tom Peltier, Greenville, California, with additional email correspondence requesting support by the RWMG and individuals to oppose the application before the Plumas County Zoning Administrator known as the Determination of Vested Rights (Plumas County Code Sec. 9-5.05) for the Engels-Superior Mines, California-Engels Mining Co (owner) and US Copper Corp (applicant) APN 007-080-004 (Engels Mine) and APN 007-090-003 (Superior Mine). *Discussion and direction to staff.*

3. PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE OF UPPER FEATHER RIVER IRWM PROGRAM AND THE RWMG

The RWMG will consider assigning an ad-hoc committee to work with RWMG staff to develop strategies and options for the future of the Upper Feather River IRWM Program and RWMG. *Discussion and direction to staff.*

4. PROPOSITION 1 ROUND 1 AND ROUND 2 IRWM IMPLEMENTATION GRANT AND 2021 URBAN AND MULTIBENEFIT DROUGHT RELIEF GRANT PROGRAM (UMBDRP) PROJECTS

Report on the Proposition 1 IRWM Implementation Rounds 1 and 2 and UMBDRP grant funding awards to Plumas County for two implementation projects awarded to Indian Valley Community Services District and the Sierraville Public Utilities District. *Informational.*

- a. Project 1 – Alternative Water Source Development Project (\$1,132,660 in Prop 1 Round 1 and UMBDRP funding), Sierraville Public Utilities District (update and presentation)
- b. Project 2 – North Main Water Use Efficiency, Reliability, and Extension Project (\$440,512 in Prop 1 Rounds 1 and 2 Funding), Indian Valley Community Services District (update)

5. UPPER FEATHER RIVER IRWM PLAN IMPLEMENTATION REPORT

Presentation of the Annual UFR IRWM Plan Implementation Report for 2022-2023. *Accept and file.*

6. FUTURE ITEMS

Identification of future agenda items. *Discussion and direction to staff.*

ADJOURNMENT

**Upper Feather River IRWM
Regional Water Management Group**

DRAFT SUMMARY MINUTES

March 11, 2022

Call to Order and Roll Call

Sherrie Thrall called the meeting to order on July 18, 2019 at 1:03 pm at the Plumas County Planning Conference Room, 555 Main Street, Quincy, California.

Sherrie noted this is the first meeting of the Upper Feather River Regional Water Management Group (RWMG) since July 2019 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Members Present:

Sherrie Thrall, Plumas County Flood Control and Water Conservation District
Doug Teeter, Butte County Board of Supervisors
Trina Cunningham, Maidu Summit Consortium
Roger Diefendorf, Plumas County Community Development Commission
Jeff Engel, Plumas County Board of Supervisors
Rick Roberti, Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District
Russell Reid, Feather River Resource Conservation District
Kurt Sable, Plumas National Forest (Advisory)
Rachel Hutchinson, Tahoe National Forest (Advisory)
Don Kozlowski, Lassen National Forest (Advisory)

Members Absent:

Paul Roen, Sierra County Board of Supervisors
Einen Grandi, Sierra Valley Groundwater Management District

Staff Present:

Tracey Ferguson, Plumas County Planning Director
Uma Hinman, Hinman and Associates Consulting, Inc.

Additions or Deletions from the Agenda

None

Public Comment Opportunity

None

Announcements / Reports

Leah Wills, retired Plumas County Water Consultant, was presented a Certificate of Appreciation and Recognition for her years of service in development, support and implementation of the Upper Feather River Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Program. Leah was integral to development of the Program in the Upper Feather River and has worked tirelessly in the watershed to implement the Program and Upper Feather River IRWM Plan. Leah served as Plumas County's Water and FERC consultant for many years and provided senior advisory support for the IRWM Program.

Tracey Ferguson, Plumas County Planning Director, gave an update on the Sierra Valley Groundwater Sustainability Plan (SVGSP) project. The SVGSP was developed over a period of two years under a \$2 million grant from Department of Water Resources (DWR); the final SVGSP is due in April 2022.

CONSENT AGENDA

a. Regional Water Management Group Business

1. RWMG Meeting Summary for the regular meeting held on July 11, 2019.
2. Ratification of the following Letters of Support:
 - a. Lake Basin Forest Health Phase II Project, SNC #1232, October 9, 2019
 - b. Sierra Valley Groundwater Management District application for Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) Grant, Round 3, SGM Planning, October 18, 2019
 - c. Climate Resilience Bond for Integrated Water Management, February 24, 2020
 - d. SB 45, March 1, 2021
 - e. Request inclusion of IRWM funding in Drought Relief and Resiliency Package, May 18, 2021
 - f. Sierra Institute's application for Proposition 1 Disadvantaged Community and Tribal Involvement (DACTI) Drought Funding DAC Set Aside for the Mountain Counties Funding Area, February 15, 2022
 - g. Sierra Valley Groundwater Management District's Application for 2022 Prop 1 Watershed Restoration Grant Program, March 1, 2022
3. Mountain Counties Funding Area IRWMs Memorandum of Commitment to equally divide Prop 1 IRWM Implementation funds.
4. Support Services financial report.

Upon motion by Trina Cunningham and second by Russell Reid, the Consent Calendar was unanimously approved as presented.

ACTION AGENDA

1. Regional Water Management Group Administration

a. Membership and Representation

A brief history of the current membership of the Regional Water Management Group (RWMG) was provided in the staff report and summarized by staff. Staff noted that the current membership was established to ensure a cross section of representation focused on water managers in the region as well as geographic representation. Discussion was encouraged regarding the future membership of the RWMG, with specific consideration of the now vacant public member seat.

- Staff was directed to develop recommendations for the vacant public member seat for discussion at the next RWMG meeting.

b. Selection of Officers

Sherrie Thrall has been the Chair since 2014 and will be retiring from the Plumas County Board of Supervisors at the end of 2022; she will continue to serve on the RWMG until December 2022. Sherrie invited nominations for Chair and Vice Chair.

Chair: Paul Roen was nominated by Russell Reid, seconded by Trina Cunningham

Ayes – Sherrie Thrall, Doug Teeter, Russell Reid, Roger Diefendorf, Trina Cunningham, Jeff Engel

Noes – Rick Roberti

Motion passed

Vice Chair: Trina Cunningham was nominated by Russell Reid, seconded by Sherrie Thrall

Ayes – Sherrie Thrall, Doug Teeter, Russell Reid, Roger Diefendorf, Trina Cunningham, Jeff Engel, Rick Roberti

Noes – none

Motion passed unanimously

c. Almanor Basin Representative Vacancy

A public member was originally included on the RWVG so as to ensure representation from the Almanor Basin area, which was underrepresented at the time. The public member was an individual from the region appointed by the rest of the RWVG. Jeffery Greening served on the RWVG from 2014, serving during the development of the Upper Feather River IRWM Plan and its implementation. The seat has remained vacant since his passing in 2019. Members of the RWVG expressed their support for continuing to include a public member from the Almanor Basin on the RWVG. Under Item 1.a., staff was directed present recommendations on the vacant public member seat at the next RWVG meeting.

d. Support Services for Fiscal Year 2022-23

Staff presented the staff report, noting that this it is an annual discussion of continuing to fund a contracted coordinator to implement the Plan, ensure regulatory requirements are met for the IRWM Program, and to represent the RWVG to the IRWM Roundtable of Regions and the state. The RWVG has contracted with Hinman & Associates Consulting since completion of the Upper Feather River IRWM Plan.

Upon motion by Russell Reid and second by Rick Roberti, the RWVG unanimously supported Plumas County's contract with Hinman & Associates Consulting to continue to provide Support Services for Fiscal Year 2022-23.

2. IRWM Roundtable of Regions

Staff presented an update on the Roundtable of Regions activities and the White Paper, Moving Forward: Charting a Course for Future Regional Water Resilience.

The group discussed the importance of the IRWM Program and the benefits realized in the Upper Feather River Region. The discussion focused on messages to bring to the Roundtable of Regions meetings:

- Rick Roberti noted the need for water storage for increased flows and storage and encouraged staff to push the topic forward whenever possible. Russell Reid agreed, adding that small scale storage was just as important as larger storage facilities.
- Tracey Ferguson, Plumas County Planning Director, supported continuing to emphasize the need for additional funding and support for the headwaters regions.

Trina Cunningham reported that she is part of the Watershed Solutions 5th Cohort. Through that organization she understood the San Diego Watershed Authority is talking about headwaters funding. She agreed that storage is important as forest health, groundwater, surface water, system retention, and including forest thinning for increased water yield.

Leah Wills noted that restoring the burned watershed will be critical to combatting climate change, supporting the natural hydrology of the headwater and is critical to integrating the land and water connection.

- Staff directed to advocate for water storage and headwaters funding and projects with the Roundtable of Regions.

3. Plumas Watershed Forum

Rob Thorman, Plumas County Public Works/Plumas County Coordinator for the Monterey Settlement Agreement, reported that the Agreement case had been resolved and Plumas County would be receiving the second of two \$4 million payments in 2022. The first payment was received in 2003 and was managed and distributed via the Plumas Watershed Forum established by the Agreement. The Forum has been revived for disbursement of the second payment and the first meeting will be held in April 2022.

The Forum consists of Plumas County representatives (Supervisors Thrall and Engel), DWR and the State Water Contractors. The purpose of the funds is to:

- Improve water retention and storage
- Improve water quality
- Improve upland forests
- Improve groundwater storage

The first task of the Forum will be to establish a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), which will include non-profit groups. Staff will assist with disseminating information regarding the Plumas Watershed Forum and its activities to the Upper Feather River IRWM Region stakeholders.

- Staff to assist with disseminating information regarding the Plumas Watershed Forum to regional stakeholders.

4. Disadvantaged Community and Tribal Involvement Project

Uma Hinman and Tracey provided a summary of the Disadvantaged Community and Tribal Involvement (DACTI) Project completed by Sierra Institute on behalf of the Mountain Counties Funding Area and through a \$2 million grant from DWR.

a. Community Well-Being & Water and Wastewater Needs Assessments for Upper Feather River Region and the Mountain Counties Funding Area. The Assessments were the primary deliverables of the DACTI Grant and have been completed by Sierra Institute. Links are available on their website: <https://sierrainstitute.us/program/dactip/>.

b. DACTI Technical Assistance Grant. Plumas County implemented a \$45,000 technical assistance grant through Sierra Institute’s DACTI Grant on behalf of the Upper Feather River Region. The project was a pilot project that analyzed state small and local small water systems within unincorporated areas of the region. The pilot project was implemented by Plumas County Environmental Health and Planning Departments and included a survey of all state and local small systems, comprehensive database, internal GIS mapping of results, and an informative webinar of the methodology and results that was shared with stakeholders and county departments within the Upper Feather River Region.

Leah noted that it will be important that the Environmental Health Departments determine what needs to be done post-Dixie Fire to support these systems, encouraging advocacy for consolidation at the state level. The lack of grant development/management and financial capacity of these entities must be emphasized. Further, a clear definition of what consolidation means in these rural headwaters regions, which is different than in the Central Valley areas where topographic constraints are minimal.

c. Prop 1 DACTI Drought Funding DAC Set Aside. Staff provided an overview of the new infusion of funding being distributed by DWR through the DACTI Program. Because the IRWM regions within the Mountain Counties Funding Area (MCFA) have a Memorandum of Commitment to equal distribution of the funds received under Prop 1, each region was allocated \$525,000 of the Drought Funding DAC Set

Aside funding. The funds will be distributed through Sierra Institute, as the DACTI contractor for the MCFA, which in turn will distribute through the existing Technical Assistance Grantees in each IRWM Region. For the Upper Feather River, Plumas County is the Grantee under Sierra Institute.

The Prop 1 IRWM Implementation Round 1 projects currently being implemented in the region are managed by Plumas County (Grantee) for two local project sponsors: Sierraville Public Utilities District (SPUD) and the Indian Valley Community Services District (IVCSD). The IVCSD project has been delayed because of the Dixie Fire. The SPUD project is progressing and is ready to bid for construction; however, costs have risen dramatically due to inflation and have nearly doubled the original budget of the project.

The RWVG unanimously supported applying the new Drought Funding DAC Set Aside funds amounting to \$525,000 to the SPUD project to ensure the District could proceed with a viable project; Plumas County will be the Grantee and will retain some funds for grant administration.

5. Proposition 1 Round 1 IRWM Implementation Grant

The Prop 1 IRWM Implementation Round 1 application was successfully submitted by staff and were awarded in 2021. The projects currently being implemented in the region are managed by Plumas County (Grantee) for two local project sponsors: Sierraville Public Utilities District (SPUD) and the Indian Valley Community Services District (IVCSD). The IVCSD project has been delayed because of the Dixie Fire.

The SPUD project is progressing and is ready to bid for construction; however, costs have risen dramatically due to inflation and have nearly doubled the original budget of the project. They are seeking additional funding to close the shortfall before committing to construction. Paul Rose, Rose Water Systems on behalf of SPUD, noted that they had received a Cal OES grant to purchase a generator for the project.

Plumas County and staff continue to support IVCSD and work with DWR to assess the needs of the Greenville community and determine the best way to support the community with the awarded funds.

6. Proposition 1 Round 2 IRWM Implementation Grant

Staff introduced the item, noting that the Round 2 solicitation would be opened in summer 2022. Under the MCFA Memorandum of Commitment, the amount of funding available to the Upper Feather River IRWM Region for Round 2 is approximately \$143,000. Staff recommended supporting the community of Greenville through the IVCSD and requested direction to assist the IVCSD, through Plumas County, in developing the grant application.

Tashianna Towers, IVCSD, noted that the District is still assessing and prioritizing the infrastructure needs, but will need to increase their distribution lines and meters to support rebuilding and fire suppression needs.

Upon motion by Sherrie Thrall and second by Rick Roberti, the RWVG unanimously supported allocating all of the Round 2 funds available to the IVCSD and directed staff to assist Plumas County and the IVCSD in preparing and submitting the grant application.

7. IRWM Plan Implementation Projects

Staff presented three new projects submitted by the Sierra County Waterworks District 1 for consideration to be included in the IRWM Plan as implementation projects:

- 140,000-gallon storage tank
- Groundwater well and treatment facilities
- Well 1 treatment facility

Upon motion by Russell Reid and second by Roger Diefendorf, the RWMG unanimously approved Resolution No. 21-22-01 adopting the afore-mentioned projects as Upper Feather River IRWM Plan implementation projects.

8. Upper Feather River IRWM Reporting

a. Proposition 50 Implementation Project Post Performance Reports. Staff announced that the final round of required Project Post Performance Reporting had been completed and submitted to DWR for all seven Prop 50 projects. The reporting period was three years post project completion and the reporting was coordinated by staff.

b. Upper Feather River IRWM Plan Implementation Report. Staff summarized the item, explaining that the IRWM Plan has an implementation and reporting component (Chapter11), which specifies annual implementation reports be provided to the RWMG. The *Upper Feather Integrated Regional Water Management Plan Performance Annual Report 2016-2021* is the first Plan performance report. Upon acceptance the report will be uploaded to the website.

Upon motion by Russell Reid and second by Sherrie Thrall, the RWMG unanimously accepted the *Upper Feather Integrated Regional Water Management Plan Performance Annual Report 2016-2021* for filing and posting on the website.

9. Coordinator's Report

Staff requested discussion regarding scheduling the next meeting of the RWMG. Options discussed ranged from quarterly to annually to as-needed. The consensus reached was to try to hold a meeting in the fall or as-needed, and for staff to continue to provide written quarterly reports, particularly in the absence of meetings.

Trina and Uma noted that they had been approached by an organization that is interested in developing two pilot projects in the state that would be a collaboration between urban end-users and headwater regions. Russell noted that it will be important to coordinate with the Plumas Watershed Forum on these types of proposals.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:15 pm in memory of Jeffery Greening. Mr. Greening served on the RWMG as the Public Member from 2014 to 2020 and was a consistent contributor and voice for the Almanor Basin.

ATTENDEES:

Leah Wills, Plumas County resident
Robert Baehler, Westwood CSD
Tashianna Towers, Indian Valley CSD
Paul Rose, Rose Water Systems (Sierraville PUD and Calpine)
Rob Thorman, Plumas County Public Works
Larry Terrill, Grizzly Lake CSD
Willo Vieira, Plumas and Sierra Agricultural Departments

Upper Feather River
Integrated
Regional Water Management Group

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

June 9, 2023

California Department of Water Resources (DWR)
Division of Regional Assistance
DWR Headquarters
P.O. Box 942836
Sacramento, CA 94236-0001

RE: Letter of Support for the Sierra Valley Groundwater Management District (SVGMD) Grant Application to DWR for the Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) Grant Program's Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Implementation Round 2—Application Number 2022SIR20030

Dear DWR Directors and Division of Regional Assistance,

The Upper Feather River (UFR) Regional Water Management Group (RWMG) is writing in support of the SVGMD grant application and DWR's recommended award of \$5,445,000 for the SGM Grant Program's SGMA Implementation Round 2 funding for the Sierra Valley Subbasin (5-012.01) Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) Implementation and Planning.

This project and its intended outcomes of supporting Sierra Valley in achieving groundwater sustainability are of critical importance to the Sierra Valley community and its goal to sustainably manage its water resources by 2042; however, this project cannot be implemented without outside funding due to the limited resources of the SVGMD and surrounding community. Both Sierra County and Plumas County, where the Sierra Valley Subbasin is located, are both designated as "moderately high" or "high" for underrepresented communities (URC). In addition, areas near Loyalton, Sierra Brooks, Sattley, and Sierraville are considered Disadvantaged Communities (DACs) or Severely Disadvantaged Communities (SDACs).

The proposed project will provide critical knowledge and generate data for Sierra Valley communities to improve their ability to cope with the current and future drought scenarios while implementing projects to reach sustainability. The groundwater recharge and irrigation efficiency elements of the project will result in substantial improvements in the ability to manage Sierra Valley's water resources.

The UFR RWMG thanks DWR for the recommended Round 2 award and highly encourages DWR to fully fund the SVGMD, as outside funding is critical for implementation actions to occur as soon as possible.

Sincerely,



Uma Hinman
Upper Feather River IRWM Coordinator

On Behalf of:
Paul Roen, Chair, Upper Feather River Integrated Regional Water Management Group

Upper Feather River Integrated Regional Water Management Group

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

April 10, 2023

The Honorable Eduardo Garcia
California State Assembly
1020 O Street, Room 8120
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Request to Include IRWM Funding Increased to \$660 Million in AB 1567 (Garcia)

Dear Assemblymember Garcia,

The Upper Feather River Integrated Regional Water Management Group, which represents the Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Program that covers Plumas County and portions of Sierra, Butte, Lassen, and Yuba counties, writes to show our great appreciation for the support of IRWM in AB 1567 (Garcia). We believe continuous financial support will help with the sustained success of IRWM, in being a valued and proven approach to regional water management in meeting state goals.

To further strength the program, **Upper Feather River Integrated Regional Water Management Group respectfully requests the funding be allocated as grants directly to IRWM regions, and increased to \$660 million**, consistent with Proposition 1 (2014) for IRWM and considering inflation. Further, we request the funding be allocated through the California Department of Water Resources to IRWM Funding Areas based on hydrologic regions as defined by the California Water Plan.

Local communities have the necessary expertise and experience to leverage state resources and IRWM provides a proven forum for collaborative climate and watershed resilience planning. The **Governor's Water Supply Strategy** identifies actions that *"aim to spur local agency adaptation to a new reality and change the way the State does business in order to better support local and regional water management efforts."*

The 48 IRWM regions represent 99% of the state's population and 87% of its land area, and state investment in IRWM spans nearly two decades. Over the past several years, the state has invested approximately \$1.45 billion in bond funds for IRWM projects; IRWM regions have matched that amount with an additional \$5.6 billion invested locally. Projects developed cooperatively through IRWM provide resilience to the anticipated impacts of climate change, engage under-represented communities and Tribes in decision-making, and invest in the future of our watersheds, forests, and water supplies.

The Upper Feather River IRWM Program of more than 20 years has proven to be an effective and successful collaboration of stakeholders in the region, which is the headwaters of Lake Oroville, the principal storage facility of the State Water Project, which delivers water to over two-thirds of California's population and provides an average of 34.3 million acre-feet per year of agricultural water to the Central Valley.

Investments in IRWM planning provides a strong foundation for integrated, multi-objective, collaborative approaches to resource management that results in regionally appropriate solutions and decision-making. The Regional Water Management Group echoes the Water Bond Coalition's emphasis on the challenges faced statewide by water resource agencies to fund critical infrastructure projects and nature-based solutions. Funding for projects is necessary to create systems that are resilient to climate change and natural disasters. Indeed, under-represented communities stand to feel climate change and natural disasters impacts most, and often lack adequate financing mechanisms the IRWM funding could help remedy. IRWM is well suited to meet headwaters and rural community needs through collaborative and inclusive project coordination.

The Upper Feather River 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, Upper Feather River Integrated Regional Water Management Group would like to express our strong support for allocation of funding specifically to the IRWM Program as an instrument for the continued implementation of identified Upper Feather River IRWM Plan projects.

The Upper Feather River IRWM Group appreciates your leadership on water and climate issues and is prepared to answer any questions you may have about our request. Again, **we strongly urge inclusion of an increase to \$660 million in grants directly to IRWM regions to achieve regional and inter-regional water resilience** and look forward to engaging with you further on the importance of investing in locally driven integrated water resource management.

For more information, please contact me at ufr.contact@gmail.com and (916) 813-0818, or Tracey Ferguson, Plumas County Planning Director, at traceyferguson@countyofplumas.com and (530) 283-6214.

Sincerely,



Uma Hinman
Upper Feather River IRWM Coordinator

On Behalf of:

Paul Roen, Chair, Upper Feather River Integrated Regional Water Management Group

Cc: President Pro Tempore Toni Atkins
Speaker Anthony Rendon
Sen. Dave Min, Chair Senate Natural Resources Committee
Asm. Rebecca Bauer Kahan, Chair Assembly Water Parks and Wildlife Committee
Asm. Luz Rivas, Chair, Asm. Natural Resources Committee
Kevin Kiley, Congressional District 3
Brian Dahle, Senate District 1
Megan Dahle, Assembly District 1
Karla Nemeth, Director California Department of Water Resources
Kristopher Tjernell, Deputy Director California Department of Water Resources

**Upper Feather River
Integrated Regional Water Management
Regional Water Management Group Meeting
March 29, 2024**

To: Upper Feather River Regional Water Management Group
From: Uma Hinman, Hinman & Associates Consulting
Subject: Support Services Financial Report

INTRODUCTION

Since completion of the of the Upper Feather River (UFR) Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Plan update in December 2016, the UFR Regional Water Management Group (RWMG) has supported a contract for Support Services that runs with a July 1 – June 30 fiscal year basis. Plumas County serves as the fiscal agent.

The Fiscal Year 2023-24 budget for UFR RWMG support services is for an amount not to exceed \$20,000. The UFR IRWM Region includes all of Plumas County and portions of Sierra, Butte and Lassen Counties. Additionally, small slivers of Shasta and Yuba Counties are within the IRWM boundaries; however, the areas consist primarily of public lands, and the respective counties have not participated as of yet.

Although Plumas County acts as the fiscal agent for the Support Services contract, Butte, Sierra and Lassen Counties contribute funds to directly offset the cost to Plumas County, as shown in Table 1 below. The contributions are based on geographic area represented within the UFR IRWM Region, not including Shasta and Yuba Counties.

Each fiscal year, letters are distributed to each of the participating counties requesting contributions to offset Plumas County’s funding of the RWMG Support Services Contract (Table 1).

Table 1. Summary of budget contributions and payment status for fiscal years 2023-24

County	Acreage in Plan Area	Geographic Representation (%)	Budget Contribution
Butte	345,850	15.1	\$ 3,020
Lassen	119,394	5.2	\$ 1,040
Plumas	1,653,456	72.2	\$ 14,440
Sierra	172,367	7.5	\$ 1,500
Totals		100	\$ 20,000

Contract for Support Services

Since 2017, the County of Plumas has contracted with Hinman & Associates Consulting, Inc. to provide support services to the Upper Feather River Regional Water Management. The current support contract with Hinman & Associates Consulting is an annual contract that follows the fiscal year and expires June 30, 2024.

Expenditures for the three most recent years are summarized in Table 2.

<i>Table 2. Summary of contract budget expenses for Fiscal Years 2021-22 through 2023-24.</i>		
Budget Expenses	Invoice Totals (\$)	Notes
Fiscal Year 2021-22		
UFR RWMG Support Services	16,493	Labor, mileage & materials
Website domain and hosting (due in August)	295	Annual web hosting fee
Total	16,788	
Fiscal Year 2022-23		
UFR RWMG Support Services	11,703	Labor & materials
Website domain and hosting (due in August)	295	Annual web hosting fee
Total	11,998	
Fiscal Year 2023-24 (to date)		
UFR RWMG Support Services	13,554	Labor & materials
Website domain and hosting (due in August)	295	Annual web hosting fee
Total	13,849	

The Support Services scope of work consists of the following:

- Tracking emails and policy documents;
- Assist with project development and grant application(s) efforts upon request;
- Lead for the Regional Water Management Group (RWMG) meeting(s) logistics, agendas, and meeting facilitation;
- Maintain and update the UFR IRWM website (featherriver.org);
- Manage communication to the RWMG and stakeholders;
- Research, identify, and distribute funding opportunities to region’s stakeholders;
- Participate in Mountain Counties Funding Area coordination and project development efforts;
- Participate in IRWM Roundtable of Regions coordination and advocacy efforts;
- Other water use, water quality, groundwater management, water conservation, and water planning support services, as assigned;
- Project contract management; and
- Organizational strategizing and financial planning.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Informational.

**Upper Feather River
Integrated Regional Water Management
Regional Water Management Group Meeting
March 29, 2024**

To: Upper Feather River Regional Water Management Group
From: Uma Hinman, Hinman & Associates Consulting
Subject: Regional Water Management Group Administration

INTRODUCTION

The following items relate to the administrative functions of the Upper Feather River (UFR) Regional Water Management Group (RWMG).

1. Membership and Representation

The UFR RWMG was established by a [Memorandum of Understanding](#) (MOU) in November 2014 to implement a long-term IRWM Program in the Upper Feather River Watershed. The stated intent of the IRWM Program is to coordinate planning and land and water resource management interests and agencies within the Upper Feather River Watershed with a goal to promote stability and consistency in the planning, management, and coordination of resources within the Upper Feather River Watershed and to implement projects to benefit the region.

The MOU specifies 10 voting representatives and 3 advisory representatives from the National Forests (Plumas, Lassen and Tahoe). One of the 10 voting representatives is a public member, who was initially selected to represent the Lake Almanor region. See Table 1 for current members of the RWMG.

Table 1. Current Regional Water Management Group Membership and Representation		
Member Agency	Representative	Role
County of Sierra	Paul Roen (Chair)	Voting
Native American Representative	Trina Cunningham (Vice-Chair)	Voting
County of Plumas	Dwight Ceresola	Voting
County of Butte	Doug Teeter	Voting
Plumas County Flood Control and Water Conservation District	Vacant	Voting
Feather River Resource Conservation District	Russell Reid	Voting
Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District	Rick Roberti	Voting
Sierra Valley Groundwater Management District	Einen Grandi	Voting
Plumas County Community Development Commission	Roger Diefendorf	Voting
Appointee from the Almanor Basin	Vacant	Voting
Plumas National Forest	Kurt Sable	Advisory
Lassen National Forest	Russell Nickerson	Advisory
Tahoe National Forest	Rachel Hutchinson	Advisory

Vacant Almanor Basin Representative Seat

When the MOU was established in 2014, a public member representing the Almanor Basin was appointed to the RWMG. The MOU states that the public member be appointed by the County District 3 Supervisor, which is currently Tom McGowan. The seat has been vacant since 2019.

Vacant Plumas County Flood Control and Water Conservation District Seat

The Plumas County Flood Control and Water Conservation District seat was vacated with the retirement of Sherrie Thrall. The District Board will be appointing a new representative in the near future.

2. Contracted Support Services

Since 2017, the County of Plumas has contracted with Hinman & Associates Consulting, Inc. to provide support services to the Upper Feather River Regional Water Management Group on a fiscal year (July 1 – June 30) basis; the current contract expires June 30, 2024. The annual budget for the contract is \$20,000 and is funded by contributions from the four primary counties within Region (Plumas, Butte, Sierra and Lassen counties) based proportionately on geographic representation in the watershed. See Item A.4 for a report on the Support Services budget.

The Support Services scope of work consists of the following:

- Tracking emails and policy documents;
- Assist with project development and grant application(s) efforts upon request;
- Lead for the Regional Water Management Group (RWMG) meeting(s) logistics, agendas, and meeting facilitation;
- Maintain and update the UFR IRWM website (featherriver.org);
- Manage communication to the RWMG and stakeholders;
- Research, identify, and distribute funding opportunities to region’s stakeholders;
- Participate in Mountain Counties Funding Area coordination and project development efforts;
- Participate in IRWM Roundtable of Regions coordination and advocacy efforts;
- Other water use, water quality, groundwater management, water conservation, and water planning support services, as assigned;
- Project contract management; and
- Organizational strategizing and financial planning.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff requests discussion and direction regarding the Support Services contract for FY 2024-25.

**Upper Feather River
Integrated Regional Water Management
Regional Water Management Group Meeting
March 29, 2024**

To: Upper Feather River Regional Water Management Group
From: Uma Hinman, Hinman & Associates Consulting
Subject: Superior-Engles Mines Vested Rights Project

INTRODUCTION

The RWMG received an “open letter to everyone concerned about the future of the Feather River Watershed” from Tom Peltier, Greenville, California, with additional email correspondence requesting support by the RWMG and individuals to oppose the application before the Plumas County Zoning Administrator known as the Determination of Vested Rights (Plumas County Code Sec. 9-5.05) for the Engels-Superior Mines, California-Engels Mining Co (owner) and US Copper Corp (applicant) APN 007-080-004 (Engels Mine) and APN 007-090-003 (Superior Mine).

The Plumas County Planning Department Staff Report on the project is located here:
https://www.plumascounty.us/DocumentCenter/View/47727/Staff-Report-Engle-and-Superior-Mines_Vested-Mining-Rights-Determination?bidId=

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Discussion and direction to staff.

Attachment(s): March 11, 2024 Open Letter, Tom Peltier, Greenville resident

Uma Hinman

From: THOMAS PELTIER <runciblefish@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, March 11, 2024 4:14 PM
To: ufr.contact@gmail.com
Subject: Open Pit Copper Mine in the headwaters of the Feather River

Flag Status: Flagged

An open letter to everyone concerned about the future of the Feather River Watershed

The Plumas County Zoning Administrator will soon face a monumental decision: whether to grant vested rights for the Engels and Superior Mines. But rights to do what? Certainly, an undertaking that would create a pit that could be visible from space would not be granted rights without careful consideration of the effect it could have on communities and on the water supply for millions of Californians. Yet, this is what the Canadian Mining Company, US Copper Corp, is asking the Plumas County Zoning Administrator to approve, vested rights for a project we know nothing about. If vested rights are granted, US Copper Corp, or whoever they sell the rights to, could essentially do whatever they want with the long defunct copper mines. Granting vested rights would also mean that the County would not need to issue a land use permit for the unknown project. Without a land use permit to act on, the County, as lead agency, can avoid having to follow the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), eliminating the need to study the project's impacts before the lead agency grants approval. Fortunately for the residents of Plumas County and the State of California, we have a chance to say "Hold on a minute."

A vested right is the right to continue an existing business operation that doesn't conform to County zoning laws that have been enacted since the operation began. But no one knows what project US Copper is asking for vested rights to "continue?" They aren't saying, and the Plumas County Zoning Administrator isn't asking.

Although US Copper Corp's Vested Rights Petition doesn't identify a project, we believe that their intention is to turn a portion of the Lights Creek watershed into a vast open pit copper mine, the kind that often winds up becoming a Superfund site. But you won't read anything about that in the Vested Rights Petition. Nor will you see any reference to the many environmental studies that would normally be required before the County could issue a land use permit. You will not see any discussion about the increased traffic, or the drying up of streams and springs due to the dewatering a pit that could be over a thousand feet deep. You won't see any mention of the housing for the mine employees, or about the noise from the blasting, which would eject massive plumes of particulates into the air, or the constant rumbling of the colossal trucks and machinery that would move the blasted rock to the crushing plants. There isn't a word about the greenhouse gas emissions from the huge power plants that will be belching diesel smoke 24 hours a day. You won't see a word about the potential impacts to Tribal cultural resources or the potential impacts from acid mine drainage or hazardous materials spills. Nothing about the risks from tailings ponds, that would be located where streams now flow, or the risks to downstream water users, in the event of a tailings pond failure due to shaking from one of the active earthquake faults in the vicinity. There is nothing at all in US Copper's Vested Rights Petition about what Indian Valley will become if the Vested Rights Petition is granted.

In effect, by granting vested rights, the County would be giving US Copper free reign to do whatever it wants with these mines, though the County would still need to approve a reclamation plan and bond

for what will happen when whoever operates the mines ceases mining operations. Certainly, the Regional Water Quality Control Board will place conditions on the mine operation in issuing Waste Discharge Requirements for the mine. Likewise, the mine operator, whoever that may be, would need to enter into a Streambed Alteration Agreement with the Department of Fish and Wildlife for diverting the streams that currently flow through the mine site.

The East Branch of Lights Creek flows past the defunct copper mines, and this stream would be the first, but not the only, water body impacted by an open pit copper mine. Little flow would likely be left in Lights Creek, after dewatering the bedrock that is its source of recharge, and any flow that remains would almost certainly be impacted by contaminants from mine operations.

Lights Creek is tributary to Indian Creek, which is tributary to the Feather River, a crucial water supply for millions of Californians. An open pit copper mine, with its massive tailings ponds and gold and copper processing ponds would be a perpetual threat to downstream water quality, but you won't see one word about that in US Copper Corp's Vested Rights Petition.

Indian Valley is a jewel of Plumas County, and there is no doubt that a vast open pit mine in the headwaters of the valley would forever change this valley. Our communities are making a valiant effort to rebuild after the Dixie Fire destroyed much of the surrounding forest, consuming some communities entirely. Yet the Dixie Fire impacts might seem small, when compared to the impacts from an open pit copper mine. Trees will grow and communities will be rebuilt, but an open pit mine will remain a permanent scar on the landscape.

Children growing up in Indian Valley will never know this valley as we do now, instead they would grow up in an industrial zone with heavy traffic, noise, dust, and impaired water quality. The mine would operate for perhaps a couple of decades, potentially bringing prosperity during that brief period, but leaving a blighted valley, with the looming threat of tailings pond failures, and a legacy of toxic wastes leaching into the water supply for millions of Californians. The threat would persist for generations to come.

If US Copper had an actual plan for the project, they could apply for a Special Use Permit, and following a full CEQA review and other legal requirements, could eventually begin mining copper and gold at these long-shuttered mines. But if the County decides that it doesn't need to know what US Copper plans to do, or what the outcomes might be, and approves the Vested Rights Petition, they will be approving a project they know nothing about. If a Superfund-scale disaster results, it will be too late to say, Well, there was nothing about that in the Vested Rights Petition.

We citizens have this brief opportunity to make our voices heard and ask for accountability from the Plumas County Zoning Administrator. We urge all those concerned about the future of Indian Valley and the Feather River to submit comments for the ongoing vested rights hearing by emailing Plumas County's Planning Director, Tracey Ferguson at TraceyFerguson@countyofplumas.com. For more details regarding the hearing, please see <https://ca-plumascounty2.civicplus.com/2180/Zoning-Administrator>. Let them know that it's a bad idea to approve vested rights for a project they, and the citizens of Plumas County, know nothing about.

Sincerely,

Tom Peltier

Uma Hinman

From: THOMAS PELTIER <runciblefish@comcast.net>
Sent: Thursday, March 14, 2024 9:49 AM
To: Uma Hinman
Cc: Daniel Kearns
Subject: RE: What is the UFR IRWM Group's position on the Engels Mine Vested Rights Petition?

Hello Ms. Hinman,

Thank you for forwarding the letter to your group. I don't mind that Tracey sees the letter, but I had not intended that it be posted as a comment on the Zoning Administrator's website. It is not a concern, I'm just grateful that people are getting the information.

Regarding whether to ask your group to support our efforts, that would be amazing, and much appreciated. It would be particularly noteworthy if your organization could send comments to the Zoning Administrator, from the UFR RWMG, but comments from individuals are also greatly appreciated.

Best regards,

Tom

On 03/12/2024 4:31 PM PDT Uma Hinman <uhinman@comcastnet> wrote:

Hello Mr. Peltier,

I am the coordinator for the Upper Feather River Integrated Regional Water Management Group (UFR RWMG). I forwarded your comment letter to the UFR RWMG, with a cc to Tracey as the County contact for the RWMG, to keep them apprised of issues in the region.

I didn't intend to send it to her as the Zoning Administrator, so my apologies if it wasn't your intent she should see the letter.

The UFR RWMG has a meeting scheduled for March 29th and I will include your comment letter in the agenda packet. If you are interested in requesting their support, I can add that to the agenda. Please let me know.

Regards,

Uma Hinman, Principal/CEO

Hinman & Associates Consulting, Inc.

(916) 813-0818

<http://umahinman.com>

From: THOMAS PELTIER <runciblefish@comcast.net>

Sent: Tuesday, March 12, 2024 4:14 PM

To: uhinman@comcast.net

Cc: Daniel Kearns <lostsierra81@gmail.com>

Subject: What is the UFR IRWM Group's position on the Engels Mine Vested Rights Petition?

Dear Ms. Hinman,

I see that in response to our open letter to the Upper Feather River Integrated Regional Water Management Group (UFR IRWM Group) and others, seeking support in our opposition to the granting of vested rights for the Engels Mine, you, as the apparent representative of that group, forwarded our letter to the County Zoning Administrator. However, it is unclear whether you or the UFR IRWM Group intended to support our effort.

Since your email message has been posted as a comment for the Engels Mine Vested Rights Hearing. We would like to know if the UFR IRWM Group supports our efforts to require the proponents of the mine to obtain a use permit. We certainly hope that it does.

Your message to the County, is now a part of the hearing record, and because your organization lists "environmental stewardship" as one of its foundational beliefs, we hope we can rely on you and your group's support in this critical issue. Thank you for providing the comment to the hearing record.

Best regards,

Tom Peltier

**Upper Feather River
Integrated Regional Water Management
Regional Water Management Group Meeting
March 29, 2024**

To: Upper Feather River Regional Water Management Group
From: Uma Hinman, Hinman & Associates Consulting
Subject: Planning for the Future of Upper Feather River IRWM Program and the RWMG

DISCUSSION

California Department of Water Resources Integrated Regional Water Management Program

The Department of Water Resources' (DWR) Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Program is a collaborative effort to identify and implement water management solutions on a regional scale. IRWM is a voluntary endeavor supported by open, inclusive, and transparent collaboration among public and non-governmental stakeholders. The practice of IRWM refers to the planning and implementation of IRWM strategies at the regional level. The practice includes stakeholder engagement, relationship and trust building, collaboration, development of partnerships, regional planning, and project implementation to achieve regional goals and priorities. The IRWM Program received allocated funding through Propositions 50, 84, 1E and 1. Since the 2014 Prop 1 Water Bond, the State has not allocated specific funding to the IRWM Program.

The [Roundtable of Regions](#) is a consortium of representatives from 48 Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Regions around the state. The Roundtable provides a forum for interested parties working on IRWM to discuss those interests and to share their successes and challenges. It also provides a forum for collaborating and providing input to the State on the IRWM Program.

Through this forum, IRWM region representatives are discussing the evolution of IRWM programs across the state. It is increasingly evident that each regional program will need adapt to changes in State programs and emphases. While it is apparent that the State is not intending to fund the IRWM Program, at least in the near term, IRWM regions are re-evaluating their strategies and focus.

The Roundtable of Regions developed a Draft White Paper titled *Moving Forward: Charting a Course for Future Regional Water Resilience* identifies recommendations and actions for individual IRWM regions. The White Paper can be viewed here: <https://www.roundtableofregions.org/recommendations-report>.

Plumas County continues to implement the projects that received the last round of IRWM implementation funding (Proposition 1), which were awarded approximately \$1.6 million in grant funding. Both projects will be completed in 2024.

Upper Feather River IRWM Program

The Upper Feather River IRWM Program has been in existence since 2004, and in its current configuration since 2014. Since the adoption of the 2016 IRWM Plan, RWVG meetings were moved to quarterly. Since 2019, it has been increasingly difficult to achieve a quorum of RWVG members to hold public meetings.

It is staff's recommendation that the RWVG consider how the UFR Program can best serve the region. By assigning an ad-hoc committee to work with staff, options for the future of the UFR IRWM Program can be developed for discussion and direction by the RWVG and stakeholders.

RECOMMENDATION

The RWVG consider assigning an ad-hoc committee to work with RWVG staff to develop strategies and options for the future of the Upper Feather River IRWM Program and RWVG.

**Upper Feather River
Integrated Regional Water Management
Regional Water Management Group Meeting
March 29, 2024**

To: Upper Feather River Regional Water Management Group
From: Uma Hinman, Hinman & Associates Consulting
Subject: Proposition 1 Round 1 and Round 2 IRWM Implementation Grant and 2021 Urban and Multi-Benefit Drought Relief Grant Program (UMBDRP) Projects

INTRODUCTION

The Upper Feather River (UFR) region received Proposition 1 grant funding to implement two IRWM projects: Project 1 Sierraville Public Utilities District’s Alternative Water Source Project, and Project 2 Indian Valley Community Services District’s North Main Water Use Efficiency, Reliability and Extension Project.

On April 6, 2021, the Department of Water Resources (DWR) executed a Grant Agreement with Plumas County under the Proposition 1 IRWM Round 1 and Round 2 Implementation Grant Program. Additionally, DWR awarded \$525,000 in Urban Multi-Benefit Drought Resilience Program funding to supplement Project 1, which had substantially increased in cost due to inflation. The County has executed three amendments with DWR, including Amendment 1 on October 13, 2022, Amendment 2 on November 10, 2022, and Amendment 3 on July 20, 2023. The amendments included changes in the schedule and budget. The Grant Agreement deadline is August 2024.

The following table summarizes the funding sources and amounts for each project under the Grant Agreement.

Project	P1R1 (\$)	P1R2 (\$)	UMBDRP (\$)	Total Grant Funding (\$)	% Billed to Date
Grant Admin (Plumas)	70,876	7,185	20,000	98,061	48%
Project 1 (SPUD)	627,660	0	505,000	1,132,660	100%
Project 2 (IVCSD)	304,000	136,512	0	440,512	4%
Grant Award Totals	1,002,536	143,697	525,000	1,671,233	

Project 1 – Sierraville Public Utilities District

The Sierraville Public Utilities District Project 1 *Alternative Water Source Development Project* is a replacement of the booster station and related infrastructure for their water supply system. The project is 100% completed and final invoicing and reporting has been submitted to DWR for release of retention funds.

Project 2 – Indian Valley Community Services District

The Indian Valley Community Services District Project 2 *North Main Water Use Efficiency, Reliability, and Extension Project* is part of an overall effort to upgrade aging and damaged infrastructure that will support the rebuilding of Greenville. Approximately 770 feet of water main pipeline will be replaced, 60 feet of laterals, and 4 new hydrants will be installed. A contractor has been selected, approximately 5% has been invoiced to date, and construction started in March 2024.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

Informational.

**Upper Feather River
Integrated Regional Water Management
Regional Water Management Group Meeting
March 29, 2024**

To: Upper Feather River Regional Water Management Group
From: Uma Hinman, Hinman & Associates Consulting
Subject: Upper Feather River IRWM Plan Implementation Report

DISCUSSION

Plan Performance describes the overall performance of the Plan in meeting its goals and objectives, both through implementation of individual projects and through the governance and operation of the Plan itself. While evaluating Plan Performance focuses on summarizing and integrating project-level assessments, it also involves evaluating the effectiveness of the Plan itself, as not all of the intended benefits of the Plan accrue through the implementation of individual projects.

The UFR IRWM Plan states that the Plan will be evaluated annually in a report to the RWMG and will focus on Plan Performance, including Plan implementation, progress toward meeting Plan objectives, Plan-level benefits, and implementation and outcomes of individual projects approved under the Plan.

After acceptance by the RWMG, the annual report on Plan Performance will be made available to the public on the RWMG website (<http://www.featherriver.org>). The annual report will provide the basis for discussion of how findings or “lessons learned” from Plan-level evaluation and project-specific monitoring efforts will be used to improve the RWMG’s ability to implement future projects in the IRWM Plan. Consistent with Plan Chapter 11, data from individual project monitoring, to date consisting of Proposition 50 IRWM Implementation project Post Performance Reports, are made available to the public via the UFR IRWM website (<http://www.featherriver.org>).

If the annual report identifies a significant deficiency in Plan Performance, the RWMG may elect to hold public meetings or seek public comment on how implementation of the Plan, or the Plan itself, should be amended to better address regional issues. Amendments may include administrative changes, changes to the resource management strategies (RMS) (Chapter 6 Resource Management Strategies), or changes to the goals and objectives of the Plan itself. For example, after a review of the RWMG performance measures, the RWMG may need to amend the RMS or the actual IRWM objectives to account for new scientific data or regional changes in conditions that could alter baseline assumptions or understanding of water management issues discussed in the IRWM Plan.

The Plan further states that every five years as funding allows and in response to any of the following, the RWVG will review the Plan’s content and, as needed, will update the water management issues, goals, objectives, and strategies in the Plan area:

- each successive IRWM implementation grant solicitation;
- release of updated IRWM Guidelines by DWR;
- update to regulations; or
- emergence of new data, science, or awareness of changed regional conditions that affect the issues and priorities within the Region. “

Attached is the UFR IRWM Plan Annual Performance Report covering the years 2022 and 2023.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Informational.

Attachment: 2022-2023 UFR IRWM Plan Annual Performance Report

Upper Feather River Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Plan Performance Annual Report Years 2022-2023

Plan Performance is evaluated in terms of the Plan-level benefits (UFR IRWM Plan, Chapter 10 *Impacts and Benefits*), the Plan objectives (UFR IRWM Plan, Chapter 5 *Goals and Objectives*), and additional measures described in this Annual Report.

Each project approved under the IRWM Plan addresses at least one of the Plan objectives. Plan Performance in terms of those objectives depends largely on the success of individual projects.

The following table presents the 5 Plan-level benefits, 18 Plan objectives, and 6 additional measures by which the IRWM Plan Performance are assessed along with metrics to quantify success and a summary of accomplishments during the reporting period (2016 through 2021).

Many IRWM Plan Performance measures are assessed using metrics defined for individual projects (project-specific criteria) that cannot be defined at the Plan level. Other measures are assessed in terms of the number and variety of projects approved under the Plan (project selection). Finally, some measures are quantified directly, such as local and regional planning agency efforts, number of public outreach programs, tracking attendance and participation in public meetings, public opinion surveys, cooperation and workload sharing among agencies, and the amount of grant funding obtained.

The Annual Report to the RWMG on Plan Performance summarizes progress made in the preceding years in terms of each of the 29 measures in the table below.

PERFORMANCE MEASURE	METRICS	REPORTING
Plan-level Benefits		
Years 2022 - 2023		
<p>1. Fostering understanding and information sharing within the Region</p>	<p>Conduct RWMG public meetings</p> <p>Update Featherriver.org website</p> <p>Data Management Standard</p> <p>Determine qualitative perceptions of participating stakeholders</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hosted 1 RWMG public meeting (March 2022) • Provided 6 quarterly reports in 2021 and 2022 in lieu of public meetings, due to lack of a quorum to meet; posted on website • Updated and maintained the website • Participated in the Sierra Valley Groundwater Sustainability Plan project • Participated in IRWM Roundtable of Regions quarterly stakeholder meetings and Disadvantaged Community Involvement TAC meetings •
<p>2. Opportunities to collaborate on project development and solving regional issues</p>	<p>Coordinate with stakeholder agencies (including staff)</p> <p>Involve the public in project selection</p> <p>Involve DACs and Tribal representatives</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular email updates and quarterly reports sent to stakeholders and posted on website • Prop 1 IRWM Implementation Grant Round 2 project selection at March 2022 RWMG public meeting • Prop 1 IRWM Grant Round 2 application preparation and subsequent award for two implementation projects within the region • Participated in the Sierra Valley Groundwater Sustainability Plan project • Outreach to DACs and Tribes through the Prop 1 Disadvantaged Communities and Tribal Project • Participated in IRWM Roundtable of Regions quarterly stakeholder meetings and Disadvantaged Community Involvement TAC meetings • Region representatives are conversing with members of the Water Solutions Network Watershed Framework to explore synergistic opportunities connecting headwaters with end-users

PERFORMANCE MEASURE	METRICS	REPORTING
Plan-level Benefits		Years 2022 - 2023
<p>3. Identification of diverse funding sources</p>	<p>Track the number and diversity of successful grant applications</p> <p>Assemble and disseminate lists of grant opportunities targeted to various stakeholder groups</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prop 1 IRWM Implementation Grant Rounds 1 and 2 and Urban Multi Benefit Drought Resilience Program – funding awards for two water supply and storage projects (\$1,671,233) • Regular distribution of grant opportunities to stakeholder distribution lists • Participated in IRWM Roundtable of Regions quarterly stakeholder meetings and Disadvantaged Community Involvement TAC meetings
<p>4. Capacity building</p>	<p>Coordinate with stakeholder agencies, including staff (organizational capacity-building trainings)</p> <p>Contact UC Davis Extension – Agriculture, NRCS, and other programs to provide funding and assistance to private land owners</p> <p>Improve efficiency and reduce redundancy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinated with Plumas Watershed Forum to distribute grant opportunities • Participated in the Sierra Valley Groundwater Sustainability Plan project
<p>5. Venue to address policy-related and regulatory processes</p>	<p>Conduct RWMG public meetings</p> <p>Update Featherriver.org website</p> <p>Evaluate Plan Performance annually</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hosted 1 RWMG public meeting (March 2022) • Provided 6 quarterly reports in 2021 and 2022 in lieu of public meetings, due to inability to achieve a quorum to meet; distributed to stakeholders and posted on website • Maintained an updated website • Maintained an updated contact list of stakeholders in the region • Annual Plan Performance Report, March 2024 (covering 2022-2023)
<p>Plan Objectives</p>		

PERFORMANCE MEASURE	METRICS	REPORTING
Plan-level Benefits		
Years 2022 - 2023		
<p>1. Restore natural hydrologic functions</p>	<p>Implement 3 Plan projects that restore natural hydrologic functions</p> <p>Update the project list and technical and scientific studies at the annual RWMG meeting</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The project list was updated in 2023 • Open project solicitation posted on website; new projects reviewed at next RWMG meeting • Participated in the Sierra Valley Groundwater Sustainability Plan project
<p>2. Reduce potential for catastrophic wildland fires in the Region</p>	<p>Implement 3 Plan projects that reduce catastrophic wildfire potential</p> <p>Update the project list and technical/scientific studies at the annual RWMG meeting</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Plumas County Fire Safe Council implements hazardous fuels reduction projects throughout the County including, but not limited to, the Senior/Disabled Defensible Space Assistance Program, Community Chipping Program, Mohawk Valley Hazard Fuel Reduction (1,050 acres), Plumas Disadvantaged Communities project (900 acres), Plumas Collaborative Forest Health Project (6,057 acres since 2019), Quincy Wildfire Protection Project (143 acres), and Eastern Plumas Wildfire Prevention project (5,000 acres), the Lake Almanor Peninsula Hazardous Fuel Reduction project and Clear Creek/Hamilton Fuel Break project (1,000 acres), Emergency Forest Restoration Team, Lakes Basin Forest Health project (2,113 acres), and the Greenhorn Hazardous Fuel Reduction project (148 acres). • Plumas Underburn Cooperative is a volunteer-based group of individuals who share skills, time, and equipment to help community members burn green waste. • Biomass Working Group is a committee of the Plumas County Fire Safe Council that is exploring options for green waste disposal for Plumas County residents. • The Feather River Resource Conservation District is leading The Emergency Forest Restoration Team (EFoRT) that will provide assistance to landowners impacted by the North Complex (2020), Beckwourth Complex (2021), and Dixie (2021) fires. • Two water supply and storage projects have been awarded funding through the Prop 1 IRWM Implementation Grant Rounds 1 and 2 and Urban Multi Benefit Drought Resilience Program (\$1,671,233). Project 1 has been completed and Project 2 is in progress. • The project list was updated in 2023.

PERFORMANCE MEASURE	METRICS	REPORTING
Plan-level Benefits		Years 2022 - 2023
<p>3. Balance the needs of forest health, habitat preservation, fuels reduction, forest fire prevention, and economic activity in the Region</p>	<p>Continue to support the integration of biomass electrical generation biofuels development with 1) forest and habitat conservation in US Forest Service (USFS) plan updates, 2) in the carbon sequestration and conservation plan for forests (CA Air Resources Board [ARB]), and 3) by implementing projects UF-12 and TAC-6</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 letters of support for wildfire resilience related projects implementing and/or supporting objectives of the UFR IRWM Plan have been provided
<p>4. Build communication and collaboration among water resources stakeholders in the Region</p>	<p>Continue MOU development with water and land management entities in the Region</p> <p>Develop a process for supporting and endorsing collaborative projects, studies, and actions sponsored by MOU signatories</p> <p>Develop a review process for monitoring information and needs</p> <p>Develop a process for updates on conflicts identified in the Plan during public meetings, on the featherriver.org website, and through Inter-agency coordination/consultation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 letters of support for projects implementing and/or supporting objectives of the UFR IRWM Plan have been provided • Participated in development of the Sierra Valley Groundwater Sustainability Plan project • Coordinated with the Plumas Watershed Forum to conduct outreach to UFR IRWM region stakeholders regarding grant opportunities.

PERFORMANCE MEASURE	METRICS	REPORTING
Plan-level Benefits		Years 2022 - 2023
<p>5. Work with DWR to develop strategies and actions for the management, operation, and control of State Water Project (SWP) facilities in the watershed in order to increase water supply and recreational and environmental benefits to the Region</p>	<p>Review proposals and management planning for lands, habitat, and cultural/historical resources within and downstream from SWP facilities in the watershed</p> <p>May develop an informational item that updates inter-agency and inter-regional planning efforts at a specific RWMG meeting every year</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SWP reservoirs that are operated for water supply, recreation, and flood control in Plumas County include Frenchman Reservoir, Lake Davis, and Antelope Reservoir • Participated in the Sierra Valley Groundwater Sustainability Plan development • Participating in implementation of the Sierra Valley Groundwater Sustainability Plan
<p>6. Encourage municipal service providers to participate in regional water management actions that improve water supply and water quality</p>	<p>Get involved in inter-agency, intra-regional planning efforts</p> <p>Participate in project selection</p> <p>Develop project-specific criteria</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prop 1 IRWM Implementation Grant Rounds 1 and 2 grant award benefits two municipal service providers: Sierraville PUD and Indian Valley CSD • RWMG Coordinator assisted municipal service providers to develop project-specific criteria for grant applications • Distribution of funding opportunities to municipal service providers in the region

PERFORMANCE MEASURE	METRICS	REPORTING
Plan-level Benefits		Years 2022 - 2023
<p>7. Continue to actively engage in Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) relicensing of hydroelectric facilities in the Region</p>	<p>Obtain an annual progress report from FERC regarding its implementation of hydroelectric license conditions as scheduled for FERC No. 2100, 2107, 699, 2105</p> <p>Obtain a 'letter of intent' from FERC on fish and amphibian passage improvements, wildfire recovery projects, the James Lee and Indian Jim visitors and outdoor recreation and education and events center, the Rock Creek Bench river access project, and the accidental spill response plans. These are implementation priorities for water stakeholders in the North Fork Feather River Canyon</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual progress reports for FERC License No. 2107 (Poe), 1962 (Rock Creek-Cresta), 619 (Bucks Creek), and 2105 (Upper North Fork Feather River) were obtained
<p>8. Address economic challenges of municipal service providers to serve customers</p>	<p>Determine Plan-level efforts of participating entities</p> <p>Obtain outside funding</p> <p>Review efforts by regional and local planning agencies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Successful IRWM Prop 1 Rounds 1 and 2 grant award (\$1,671,233) and implementation to support the DAC communities of Sierraville (SPUD) and Greenville (IVCSD)
<p>9. Protect, restore, and enhance the quality of surface and groundwater resources for all beneficial uses, consistent with the Basin Plan</p>	<p>Implement 2-3 Plan projects that address surface and groundwater resource conservation and quality</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supported the SVGMD successful application for funding to implement the Sierra Valley GSP, an implementation project included in the UFR IRWM Plan (\$7.5m) Participation in Sierra Valley GSP TAC team meetings

PERFORMANCE MEASURE	METRICS	REPORTING
Plan-level Benefits		Years 2022 - 2023
<p>10. Address water resources and wastewater needs of Disadvantaged Communities (DACs) and Native Americans</p>	<p>Implement 4 Tribal benefit and 17 DAC benefit Plan projects</p> <p>Update the DAC water needs inventory every five years, or as needed by the RWMG</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementing 2 water supply and storage projects benefitting DACs that were awarded grant funds through Prop 1 IRWM Implementation Grant Rounds 1 and 2 and Urban Multi Benefit Drought Resiliency Program
<p>11. Coordinate management of recharge areas and protect groundwater resources</p>	<p>Implement 3 Plan projects that include recharge area and groundwater conservation efforts</p> <p>Assess whether inter-agency, intra-regional planning efforts include implementation of the region-wide LIDAR project (UF-13)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supported the SVGMD successful implementation of a Prop 68 grant to prepare the Sierra Valley GSP, an implementation project included in the UFR IRWM Plan (\$2m) Supported the SVGMD successful grant application to implement the Sierra Valley GSP (\$7.5m)

PERFORMANCE MEASURE	METRICS	REPORTING
Plan-level Benefits		Years 2022 - 2023
<p>12. Improve coordination of land use and water resources planning</p>	<p>Incorporate the UFR IRWM Plan into updates of land, water, and natural resource planning for the three national forests in the Region</p> <p>Submit the UFR IRWM Plan as a planning reference for the Plumas, Lassen, and Tahoe National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan updates</p> <p>Support efforts by regional and local entities to participate in ARB's carbon sequestration and conservation plan for forest and agricultural landscapes</p> <p>Integrate TEK into USFS, ARB, and State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) plans</p> <p>Provide resource management strategy recommendations developed by the IRWM Plan workgroups for the next update of the California Water Plan</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The UFR IRWM Plan was incorporated into the 2020 Update to the Plumas County Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) through data and information from the hazard profiles. The IRWM Plan concluded that within the UFR Plan area, wildfire, flooding, drought, and infrastructure failures are the primary water-related hazards and that the highest fuel hazard is along the Feather River Canyon. For example, IRWM Plan Objective 1, restore natural hydrologic functions, discusses reducing peak flood intensities that support potential benefits of reduced costs for flood damage repair; IRWM Plan Objective 2, reduce potential for catastrophic wildland fires in the region, seeks to implement projects that reduce forest fuels; and IRWM Plan Objective 11, coordinate management of recharge areas and protect groundwater resources, supports and offers strategies for the protection and monitoring of groundwater recharge areas for improving drought control and preparedness within the watershed. • Plumas County supports participation in ARB's carbon sequestration and conservation plan for forest and agricultural landscapes • Plumas County Coordinating Council (PCCC) continues to coordinate the plans, policies, and priorities concerning land use and water resource planning in Plumas County with those of federal and state agencies, particularly the United States Forest Service • Region representatives are conversing with members of the Water Solutions Network Watershed Framework to explore synergistic opportunities connecting headwaters with end-users
<p>13. Maximize agricultural, environmental and municipal water use efficiency</p>	<p>Implement 2-3 Plan projects that address water use efficiencies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bachand, P.A.M., Burt, K.S., Carlton, S. and Bachand, S.M., 2020. <i>Sierra Valley, CA—A white paper on the opportunities and challenges for management of groundwater under SGMA</i> • Bachand, P.A.M. and Burt, K.S. and Carlton, S. and Bachand, S.M. 2020. <i>Groundwater relationships to pumping, precipitation and geology in high-elevation basin, Sierra Valley, CA.</i> Davis, CA, Bachand & Associates, 58pp

PERFORMANCE MEASURE	METRICS	REPORTING
Plan-level Benefits		
Years 2022 - 2023		
<p>14. Effectively address climate change adaptation and/or mitigation in water resources management</p>	<p>Implement 3-4 Plan projects that address GHG reductions, and climate adaptation and mitigation in water and watershed management</p> <p>Update the project list and technical and scientific studies at the annual RWMG meeting</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementing two water supply and storage projects grant-funded through the Prop 1 Round 1 and Round 2 and Urban Multibenefit Drought Resiliency Program, both of which address climate adaptation and mitigation (\$1,671,233): SPUD and IVCS D The project list has been updated four times since the Plan’s adoption in 2016, all projects address climate adaptation and mitigation
<p>15. Improve efficiency and reliability of water supply and other water-related infrastructure</p>	<p>Implement 2-3 Plan projects that address water use efficiencies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementing two water supply and storage projects grant-funded through the Prop 1 Round 1 and Round 2 and Urban Multi Benefit Drought Resiliency Program, both of which address water supply and infrastructure needs (\$1,671,233): SPUD and IVCS D
<p>16. Enhance public awareness and understanding of water management issues and needs</p>	<p>Implement 4 Plan projects that enhance public awareness and public education about water issues and needs</p> <p>Update the project list and technical and scientific studies at the annual RWMG meeting</p> <p>Support MOU signatory proposals for public outreach/education, public workshops and meetings, and water and watershed education in school programs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 RWMG public meeting and 6 quarterly reports distributed to stakeholders and posted on website Maintain an updated website Maintain an updated contact list of stakeholders in the region Annual Plan Performance Reports: June 2021 (covering 2017-2021), March 2024 (covering 2022-2023) Two special districts were awarded Prop 1 IRWM Implementation funding for water infrastructure projects, both of which will support water supply needs of customers (DACs) Two IRWM Plan implementation projects have been awarded Monterey Settlement grant funding through the Plumas Watershed Forum: Taylorsville Mill Race Dam Resurfacing (ALS-1) and Little Last Chance Lake (ALS-13)
<p>17. Address economic challenges of agricultural producers</p>	<p>Encourage agricultural producers to participate in potential funding opportunities through IRWM and other sources</p> <p>Obtain outside funding</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provided a letter of support for the SVGMD application for DWR funding to implement the Sierra Valley GSP Participation in Sierra Valley GSP TAC team meetings

PERFORMANCE MEASURE	METRICS	REPORTING
Plan-level Benefits		Years 2022 - 2023
<p>18. Work with counties/communities/groups to make sure staff capacity exists for actual administration and implementation of grant funding</p>	<p>Implement 2 to 3 Plan projects that include capacity building for project development, implementation, and evaluation</p> <p>Update the project list and technical/ scientific studies at the annual RWMG meeting</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate with Plumas County Environmental Health regarding potential funding opportunities through SB 200 and AB 1688 • Completed the DACI Technical Assistant Grant project (5/19/2022)– Plumas County Environmental Health developed a Water Shortage Preparedness and Contingency Plan as a pilot project for replication within the region
Additional Measures		
<p>1. How robust the IRWM Plan process has been after Plan development</p>	<p>List the number of RWMG meetings held vs. identified benchmarks</p> <p>Quarterly RWMG meetings</p> <p>RWMG meetings will be cohosted with member organizations when appropriate</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hosted 1 RWMG public meeting and provided 6 quarterly reports in lieu of in person meetings; distributed to stakeholders and posted on website
<p>2. Public outreach and engagement</p>	<p>List the number and variety of attendees compared to what was targeted by the RWMG</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The RWMG held one meeting in 2022 and none in 2021. It has been difficult to achieve a quorum for conducting public meetings. • In the absence of public meetings, 6 quarterly reports have been prepared and distributed to stakeholders since the last RWMG meeting in March 2022.

PERFORMANCE MEASURE	METRICS	REPORTING
Plan-level Benefits		Years 2022 - 2023
<p>3. Economic benefits</p>	<p>Develop a process for quantifying and assessing the amount of funding and local job creation associated with the implementation of projects identified in the Plan</p> <p>Retain and grow water management and watershed stewardship job opportunities</p> <p>Develop volunteer water management positions on regional boards and commissions for community health, education, and improvement activities, including school programs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Process to be developed • Lake Almanor Watershed Group, created in 2005, is active in watershed stewardship • The South Lassen Watersheds Group (SLWG) began meeting in 2017 and includes a powerfully diverse mix of local partners interested pursuing high priority, large-scale, multi-jurisdictional projects to improve forest and watershed health, reduce wildfire risk, protect critical habitat, and support local contractors and industry. Born from Lake Almanor Watershed Group strategic planning meetings, the group also adopted a number of guiding principles from the IRWM Plan. SLWG participants include IRWM planners as well as representatives from local, state, and federal agencies; nonprofits; and community groups. The Group is working on a number of projects in the Lassen area including the Dixie Fire Community Protection Project, Upper Butte Creek Project, and hazard reduction projects in Lassen National Park. • Plumas Corporation is an active participant in the Watershed Awareness Through Education, Recreation, and Stewardship (WATERS) Committee, which facilitates education efforts through the implementation of community and school-based education programs and stewardship events throughout the Feather River Watershed. WATERS meets quarterly to coordinate watershed education efforts throughout the watershed. Plumas Corporation annually hosts the Great Sierra River Cleanup along Spanish Creek in Quincy and has hosted numerous community watershed stewardship activities in the upper Feather River Watershed. • In accordance with the terms of the Monterey Settlement Agreement, the Plumas Watershed Forum was re-initiated in 2022 for the purpose of coordinating and managing the disbursement of funds per the Agreement. • Region representatives are conversing with members of the Water Solutions Network Watershed Framework to explore synergistic opportunities connecting headwaters with end-users.

PERFORMANCE MEASURE	METRICS	REPORTING
Plan-level Benefits		Years 2022 - 2023
<p>4. Reduction of conflicts identified in the Plan</p>	<p>Develop a process for evaluating improved collaboration that includes responding to stakeholder participants and their qualitative perceptions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Process to be developed
<p>5. Overall effectiveness of the planning process</p>	<p>List the number of funded and implemented Plan projects</p> <p>List the number of DAC needs and projects that have advanced to implementation readiness</p> <p>List the number of tribal partnership projects funded and implemented</p> <p>Develop administrative capacity for the RWMG and for MOU signatories and project partners</p> <p>List the number of RMS recommendations that are incorporated into the next California Water Plan update</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11 implementation projects identified in the Plan have been funded • 4 DAC projects have been advanced to implementation readiness • The RWMG has maintained a Coordinator under annual contract since 2017 to provide planning and administrative support to the RWMG and MOU signatories
<p>6. Up-to-date understanding of climate change vulnerability</p>	<p>Review the most current climate change projections, every five years</p> <p>Review actions to address priority climate change vulnerabilities, annually</p> <p>Re-prioritize climate change vulnerabilities, every three years</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional representatives of DWR's Climate Program provide updates at the quarterly RWMG meetings • Implementation project proposals required to include worksheets identifying GHG emission quantification and climate vulnerabilities and adaptations