

California Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Santa Ana Region  
June 6, 2008

ITEM: 19

SUBJECT: San Jacinto River Watershed Council's Integrated Regional  
Watershed Management Plan

*This Item will be presented by Pat Boldt, Executive Director of the San Jacinto River Watershed Council.*

INTRODUCTION:

In 2005, the State Water Resources Control Board and the Department of Water Resources awarded a \$500,000 grant to the San Jacinto River Watershed Council (Council), from the Proposition 50, Chapter 8 Integrated Regional Watershed Management (IRWM) Program, to develop an integrated regional watershed management plan for the San Jacinto River watershed. This funding was matched with approximately \$287,000 from local stakeholders, including nearly \$200,000 from Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, in in-kind services and financial contributions. The grant was managed and administered by the Department of Water Resources.

The Council's IRWM Plan, completed in December 2007, provides a detailed description of the San Jacinto River watershed and, integrating input from a wide range of stakeholders, identifies 10 key water quality and water resource management strategies and objectives, 5 main watershed priorities, and over 100 water management projects necessary to implement them. The Plan also describes the Council's functions in implementing the plan, by taking a lead role in helping stakeholders to match grant funding opportunities with projects identified through the IRWM planning process, and by committing the Council to work with regional agencies to further integrate water quality and water resource planning and project implementation. The plan is available for viewing or download at <http://www.sawpa.org/sjrwc/documents/SanJacintoIRWMP.pdf>



**THE SAN JACINTO RIVER WATERSHED COUNCIL**

Prop 50- Integrated , Regional Watershed Management Plan (IRWMP)  
for the San Jacinto Watershed

Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board  
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5/21/2008 1

## Introduction



- The San Jacinto River Watershed Council is a non-profit organization
- The SJRWC began in 2001 through the efforts of the EMARCD and SJBRCD
- Incorporated and 501 (c) 3 established in 2003
- Grassroots, broad-based stakeholder involvement

5/21/2008 2

## Our Current Board

- **Phil Williams**, President, Water Agency/EVMWD
- **Bruce Scott**, Treasurer, Landowner/Farmer
- **Steve Stump**, Secretary, County/RCFC&WCD
- **Mark Norton**, Federal/State/Regional/SAWPA
- **Brad Scott**, Dairy/Owner
- **Terry Wold**, Environmental/Community/Sierra Club
- Tribal/Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians
- **Carl Armbrust**, At-Large
- **Renee Latu**, At-Large/SAWA

5/21/2008 3

## Prop 50 Planning Grant

- Region defined: The San Jacinto Watershed-780 square miles
- Lead entity: The San Jacinto River Watershed Council
- Teaming partner: Riverside County Flood Control & Water Conservation District
- Expands SAWPA's IWMP
- Specific focused component for SJ Watershed
- 47.9% of SJ Watershed living in disadvantaged communities(2000 Census data)

5/21/2008 4

## Project Components



- San Jacinto Integrated, Regional Watershed Management Plan (Prop 50, Chapter 8 Planning Grant)
- Specific studies in the plan:
  - Septic System Management Plan
  - San Jacinto River- Gap Feasibility Study
  - Watershed/Waterbody Monitoring-Canyon Lake
  - Sediment Nutrient Flux and Oxygen Demand Study for Canyon Lake with In-lake Alternatives

5/21/2008 5

## Key Stakeholder Participation

- **RCFC&WCD**
  - Managed technical components of the Gap Feasibility Study, Septic Management Plan
- **WORKGROUPS**
  - IRWMP
  - Gap Feasibility
  - Septic Management Plan
  - Watershed Monitoring & Sediment Study with In-lake Alternatives (LESJWA TAC & Task Force/TMDL components)
  - More than 80 Individual Watershed stakeholders participated



5/21/2008 6

The San Jacinto Watershed Component of the Santa Ana Integrated Watershed Plan

## Grant Funds

- **STAKEHOLDER MATCH**
- Stakeholder Grant \$ 195,182
- Additional RCFC \$ 50,000
- USBR/Federal \$ 80,000
- (additional sediment transport analysis model work)
  
- **GRANT FUNDS \$ 500,000**
- \*Additional project work was completed from project admin.
- \$18,000 model/Dr. Anderson & \$17,510 additional gap studies

## Key Stakeholder Participation

- **WRIME Groundwater component**
- Our original grant did not have funding to address groundwater in the detail we would have liked. The Hemet/San Jacinto Management Plan participants developed this component. They are: Eastern Municipal Water District, Lake Hemet Municipal Water District, the City of Hemet and the City of San Jacinto.
  
- **SAWPA**
- Mark Norton was of great value throughout the process and in particular with the strategy development component. Jeff Beehler assisted in coordinating the gap key players.

## The Plan

- **Identified 10 Resource Management Strategies and Associated Sub-objectives**
- Improve surface and groundwater quality
- Ensure the long-term viability of water supplies
- Provide adequate stormwater and flood control
- Protect, enhance, and create habitat for wildlife
- Manage land use to protect natural resources and watershed character
- Promote water recycling
- Expand water conservation programs
- Enhance opportunities for parks, recreation and open space
- Weigh environmental justice concerns in watershed decision-making
- Explore opportunities to address climate change issues with watershed projects

## 5 Main Watershed Priorities

- Multiple benefit projects
- Environmental justice concerns/disadvantaged communities
- Projects to lower TMDL load allocations
- Prevent nonpoint source pollution from failing septic systems
- Assist agriculture and dairy in implementing BMPs to reduce nutrients in surface water and to meet salt offset requirements for groundwater.

## 110 Projects

■ Planning	33
■ Regulatory Compliance	31
■ Improvement	76
■ Research and Monitoring	18
■ Educational	12

## Resource Management Strategy

10 RESOURCE MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES	# OF PROJECTS
■ Water Quality	87
■ Water Supply	48
■ Stormwater and Flood Control	42
■ Habitat	48
■ Land use	3
■ Water recycling	23
■ Water conservation	14
■ Parks, Recreation and open space	37
■ Environmental justice	90
■ Climate change	19

\*note that most projects meet more than one RMS

The San Jacinto Watershed Component of the Santa Ana Integrated Watershed Plan

## Final Product



- IRWMP for the San Jacinto Watershed
- Grant completion 4/2/08
- 110 projects identified totaling over \$1.3 billion
- Monthly meetings over past 2.5 years to coordinate the plan effort
- 4 specific analyses completed assisting stakeholders and meeting compliance requirements. Baseline data on gap area collected.

5/21/2008

13

## The Final Product-continued

- Specific Analyses
  - Canyon Lake Monitoring  
\*This met a TMDL Watershed compliance requirement- Benefit to all stakeholders
  - Sediment Study with In-lake Alternative Recommendations  
\*This met a TMDL Watershed compliance requirement- Benefit to all stakeholders  
Additional funding (\$18,000) provided to develop model to provide level of confidence to RWQCB for recommended alternatives.

5/21/2008

14

## The Final Product-continued

- Specific Analyses
  - San Jacinto River Gap Feasibility Study
    - Hydrology and Habitat linkage components
    - \*Obtained additional grant funding \$80,000 to do additional work through USBR for Sediment Transport Analysis. Final report in March 2008.
  - Septic System Management Plan  
Scope changed due to pending AB885 Guidelines. Cities will have to still do additional tasks to meet TMDL requirement.
    - Identifies septic and problem areas in the entire watershed based upon proximity to waterbodies.

5/21/2008

15



The San Jacinto Watershed Component of  
the Santa Ana Integrated Watershed Plan