

2026-27 CWSRF IUP Public Comments

No.	Date of Comment	Commenter	Summary of Comments	SWRCB Staff Response to Comments	Comment Submitted by:
1	5/12/2026	Monolith Properties	Supports the inclusion of the the City of Chico Septic to Sewer Regionalization Project (Project No. 8866-110) in the draft 2026–27 CWSRF IUP.	Staff appreciate the comment. No requested changes.	Andy Carey
2	5/12/2026	Central Contra Costa Sanitary District (Central San)	Central San appreciates the inclusion of Central San’s Ultraviolet (UV) Disinfection Replacement project in the draft IUP. Central San strongly supports the adoption of the draft CWSRF IUP.	Staff appreciate the comment. No requested changes.	Roger Bailey
3	5/26/2026	Rural Community Assistance Corporation	Requests clarity and continued flexibility for private-property components (such as laterals and septic tank abandonment). Continue 100% PF for priority small community wastewater planning projects and the ability to rely on streamlined financial review for non-repayable planning. Explicitly identify septic-to-sewer planning as a top use of PF and technical assistance (TA) funding, and to prioritize TA for communities facing new Onsite Wastewater Treatment System Policy expectations or Regional Board enforcement pressure. TA be explicitly available for connection ordinances, easements, and community engagement needed to meet CWSRF readiness requirements. Support regionalization incentives. Clarify that consolidation incentive prioritization will be given to projects where the subsumed community is septic reliant, disadvantaged, and experiencing or at-risk of incurring water quality violations.	Thank you for your comment. The IUP retains flexibility for eligible private-property components where necessary to support project feasibility, and streamlined financial review. Due to limited available funding and anticipated reductions, caps are necessary to ensure equitable distribution and long-term program sustainability. Please continue to work with your assigned TA program Project Manager on specific requests for how the TA funds can be used. The regionalization incentive remains in the IUP and will continue to support consolidations benefiting DACs.	Maria Gallegos
4	5/26/2026	Hi-Desert Water District	Encourages the State to expand technical assistance and direct application support for small agencies, simplify application and reporting requirements where feasible, increase availability of PF and grant funding for rural systems, and provide additional flexibility for agencies with limited staffing capacity. Encourages the State to establish clearer target timelines for application review, funding agreement execution, and final budget approval (FBA), improve communication on project status and outstanding requirements, and streamline interagency coordination related to environmental review and permitting. Recommends that the IUP include mechanisms to adjust funding caps or eligible costs to reflect current market conditions, and allow flexibility to address cost increases occurring between planning and construction phases. Supports continued prioritization of septic-to-sewer conversions, water reuse and recycled water, groundwater recharge and storage, leak detection and water loss reduction, system interconnections and regionalization, and energy efficiency and climate adaptation measures. Encourages funding criteria to remain flexible to address emergency needs and critical rehabilitation projects, including projects that may not score highly under broader policy priorities.	Thank you for your comment. DFA will continue seeking ways to balance funding assistance priorities while remaining flexible to adapt to agencies’ evolving needs.	Tony Culver
5	5/27/2026	California Association of Sanitation Agencies (CASA) and Water Reuse California	Supports adoption of Loan Scenario D, including a 13-point cutoff and \$50M per-project cap. Notes ongoing review of Scenario D outcomes under 2025 scoring and policy changes and will share findings with DFA. Supports the Fundable List and urges SWRCB and DFA to expedite agreement execution to help agencies manage rising construction costs and deliver clean water and recycling projects. Supports WRFP and Proposition 4 funding implementation and coordination with DFA. Reaffirms support for the Large-Scale Water Recycling program, recognizing the distinct nature and multiple benefits of large projects, and remains available to help address member questions on funding approach.	Staff appreciate the comment. No requested changes.	Brenley McKenna Jared Voshkuhl
6	5/27/2026	Los Angeles County Sanitation District (LACSD)	Supports WRFP provisions for Large-Scale projects, including a maximum grant of \$15M per phase/project and the option for planning and design-only grants up to \$5M per project/phase. Supports eligibility provisions that do not require user agreements or contracts for Large-Scale project eligibility or award, as well as inclusion of ancillary facilities and planning costs as eligible expenses. Also supports allowing lead or partner agencies to apply for funding, and the provision that the State Water Board may increase or remove caps on the number of phases/projects per program if additional funding becomes available. Requests further clarification in future guidance on the application process for Large-Scale Water Recycling Projects to address ambiguities and better define application requirements.	Thank you for your comment. Staff will be in touch with LACSD to provide guidance on applying for Large-Scale Water Recycling projects.	Andrew Hall
7	5/27/2026	Sacramento Area Sewer District (SacSewer)	Appreciates staff efforts to implement the Large-Scale Water Recycling Program created by Proposition 4 and to incorporate the Harvest Water project into State Water Board funding plans and processes. Supports the proposed approach of adding additional projects, including Harvest Water Phase 2, through an amended FY 2026–27 IUP prior to final adoption.	Thank you for your comment. Harvest Water Phase 2 is added as part of the the IUP update prior to adoption.	Heidi Oriol

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8	5/27/2026	Clean Water Action Community Water Center Leadership Counsel for Justice and Accountability Central California Environmental Justice Network (CCEJN)	<p>Supports use of right-of-entry agreements in place of letters of interest for projects involving private property to streamline implementation and reduce administrative burden.</p> <p>Opposes proposed funding caps for the Small Community Wastewater (SCWW) Program, citing concerns that caps could hinder project completion and reduce participation by disadvantaged communities.</p> <p>Recommends revisiting and increasing SCWW funding levels, noting that the fund has remained unchanged for more than a decade despite rising interest rates and growth in the CWSRF, and that increased funding will be needed to address growing infrastructure needs, federal funding reductions, and demands identified through the State's wastewater needs assessment.</p>	<p>Staff appreciate the comment. The Draft IUP allows use of right-of-entry agreements where appropriate.</p> <p>Due to limited available funding and anticipated reductions, caps are necessary to ensure equitable distribution and long-term program sustainability.</p> <p>Staff recognize its importance and will continue evaluating opportunities to strengthen the fund in future years. There are significant and important funding needs across the state that is impractical to meet with the diminishing grant/PF available. To address these needs, additional state and federal appropriations will be necessary.</p>	Jennifer Clary Mikel Irigoyen Nataly Escobedo Garcia Nayamin Martinez
9	5/27/2026	Self-Help Enterprises (SHE)	<p>Requests flexibility to fund SCWW Priority Projects above the proposed \$30M cap and recommends a clear process for approving exceptions.</p> <p>Recommends dedicated, flexible technical assistance funding to support DAC communities during wastewater emergencies.</p>	<p>Staff appreciate the comment. Due to limited funding and high statewide demand, the program must retain caps. Exceptions beyond the IUP limits would require State Water Board approval.</p> <p>Thank you for your suggestion. DFA will continue exploring opportunities to strengthen technical assistance support within existing resources.</p>	Jessi Snyder
10	5/27/2026	California Stormwater Quality Association (CASQA)	<p>Requests continued collaboration to support under-resourced stormwater permittees, including ongoing DFA participation at future CASQA conferences and continued efforts to make the CWSRF process more accessible and attractive for stormwater projects.</p> <p>Recommends maintaining and increasing financial assistance for stormwater projects, including PF funding in SFY 2027–28 based on demonstrated demand, and considering an increase in both the total PF allocation and the per-project funding cap.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comment. DFA will continue to support CASQA where staff resources allow and will evaluate stormwater infrastructure needs as they arise. We will also consider opportunities to make funding more accessible while continuing to prioritize the State Water Board's objectives and funding priorities.</p>	Karen Cowan