

Imperial IRWMP FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is an Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP)?

An IRWMP is a comprehensive approach to determine an appropriate mix of demand and supply management options that provide a long-term, reliable water supply at the lowest reasonable cost and with the highest possible benefits to customers, economic development, environmental quality and other local objectives.

Why does the Imperial Region need an IRWMP?

An Imperial IRWMP will help local interests define how they will make the best use of the water supplies that are available locally and from the Colorado River. Developing the Imperial IRWMP will:

- Protect local water rights
- Sustain the local agricultural economy
- Promote economic development
- Qualify the Imperial Region for state bond funding (Propositions 1E, 50, & 84)
- Define a water supply portfolio
- Help the county, cities, and IID streamline the review and permitting process
- Resolve conflicts by providing an alternative to litigation
- Present a united political front to other Colorado River water users, Sacramento and Washington, D.C.

Gaining a consensus on project and program priorities will help the Imperial Region to develop other sources of state and federal funding.

Why Participate – What are the Benefits?

- **Funding:** IRWMP will provide access to State grant \$\$ for regional projects
- **Opportunity to work together:** Chance for stakeholders to be integral part of planning and establish roadmap for next 20/30 years
- **Input:** Chance for stakeholders to propose projects (wastewater, stormwater, grey water, others) & policies
- **Increase Certainty:** Coordination of land/water use in the Imperial Region
- **Final product:** Imperial IRWMP adopted by appropriate stakeholders (IID, Imperial County, Imperial Region Cities, others – whoever wants state grant \$\$)

How will the Imperial IRWMP be prepared?

Imperial Irrigation District (IID) and Imperial County are sponsoring development of the Imperial IRWMP and coordinating the Water Forum. Membership in the Water Forum is open to representatives appointed from stakeholder groups, which are anticipated to include representatives appointed by the Cities in the Imperial Region, industrial and trade groups, state and federal government agencies, and other nongovernmental organizations. The Imperial Water Forum will

provide input into development of the Imperial IRWMP. Work groups to address specific topics will likely be formed. Meetings will be open to the public. An Imperial Region Water Management Group (RWMG) of elected leaders from IID, Imperial County and local cities will be involved in decision making.

What types of projects are contemplated?

The Imperial IRWMP will review a range of water management strategies, which include a wide array of approaches ranging from water supply capital projects to demand management measures. Projects and programs to be considered include, but are not limited to:

- Storage of Colorado River water in the groundwater basin
- Drinking water quality treatment
- Recycling and reuse of wastewater
- Development of local groundwater through desalination or blending with existing supplies
- Desalination of irrigation drain water
- Importation
- Water Conservation and demand management

Many of the cities in the Imperial Region are disadvantaged communities (DACs) and may get preference for planning and implementation grant funding.

What is the overall Goal and Purpose for the Imperial IRWMP?

The proposed goal will be established by the Water Forum. A preliminary or proposed goal for the Imperial IRWMP is:

“To provide a strategic road map that defines a portfolio of water projects intended to deliver a reliable water supply for municipal, commercial, and industrial water users over the planning horizon (2009 to 2047); and to seek local consensus for a course of action that anticipates and thus avoids conflicts over water within the IID service area.”

From *Imperial IRWMP Scope of Work* (adopted by IID Board of Directors, March 16, 2010).

What are the objectives of the IRWMP process?

The Imperial IRWMP objectives will be developed by the Water Forum and may include:

- Diversify the Imperial Region’s water portfolio
- Foster regional partnerships and resolve conflicts
- Integrate resources management decisions
- Reduce costs and maximize value
- Provide for sustainability
- Address water-related needs of disadvantaged communities
- Protect and improve water quality
- Resources stewardship

What is the relationship between the IID Plan and the Imperial IRWMP?

Imperial Irrigation District recently prepared a draft water resources plan that can be used as a foundation for development of the Imperial IRWMP¹.

What is the State's purpose for promoting Integrated Regional Water Management Plans?

The Legislative intent expressed in the California Water Code (CWC 10531) is to:

- Support local management and coordination of assets
- Make use of all available supplies in the region
- Improve local water supply reliability, water quality, and environmental stewardship to meet current and future needs
- Maximize use of state funds
- Consistency in state planning and local process; bottom up approach with state framework

What are the State's program preferences for project implementation grant funding and how can the Imperial Region be competitive?

Preference in funding will be given to Proposals that:

- Include regional projects or programs (CWC §10544).
- Effectively integrate water management programs and projects within the CDWRB Colorado River Hydrologic Region; the Colorado River Regional Water Quality Control Board area, or other in the Imperial Region as accepted by CDWR.
- Effectively resolve significant water-related conflicts within or between regions.
- Address critical water supply or water quality needs of disadvantaged communities within the region.
- Effectively integrate water management with land use planning.
- For eligible stormwater/flood water management funding projects which: a) are not receiving state funding for flood control or flood prevention projects pursuant to PRC §5096.824 or §75034 or b) provide multiple benefits, including, but not limited to, water quality improvements, ecosystem benefits, reduction of instream erosion and sedimentation, and groundwater recharge.
- Address statewide priorities.

From Guidelines, Integrated Regional Water Management Grant Program Funded by Proposition 84 and Proposition 1E (Draft, March 2010). PRC §75026(b) and CWC §10544.

¹ For IID Plan, visit <http://www.iid.com/Media/IID-IRP-DRAFT-FINAL-09-21-2009.pdf>

What are the State's requirements for Proposition 84 Implementation Grant Funding?

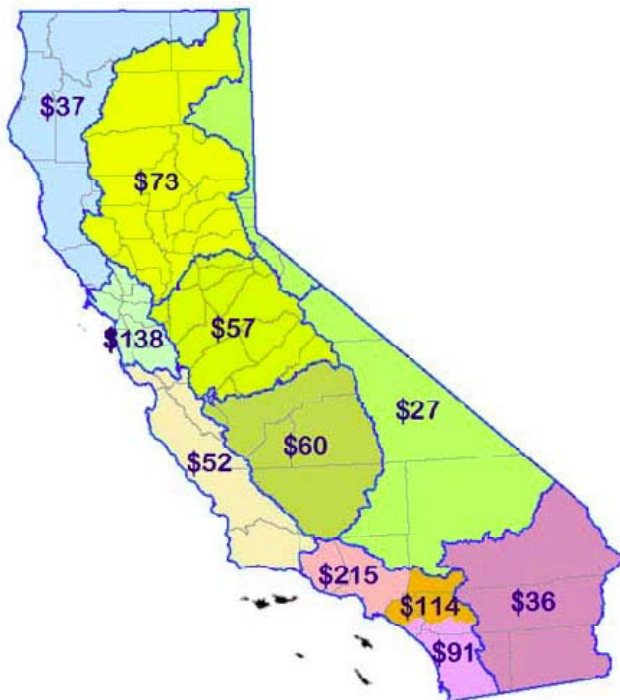
Proposition 84 IRWM Implementation Grant Funding requires that eligible projects must yield multiple benefits and include one or more of the following elements:

- Water supply reliability, water conservation and water use efficiency.
- Stormwater capture, storage, clean-up, treatment, and management.
- Removal of invasive non-native species, the creation and enhancement of wetlands, and the acquisition, protection, and restoration of open space and watershed lands
- Non-point source pollution reduction, management and monitoring.
- Groundwater recharge and management projects.
- Contaminant and salt removal through reclamation, desalting, and other treatment technologies and conveyance of reclaimed water for distribution to users.
- Water banking, exchange, reclamation and improvement of water quality.
- Planning and implementation of multipurpose flood management programs.
- Watershed protection and management.
- Drinking water treatment and distribution.
- Ecosystem and fisheries restoration and protection.

From Guidelines, *Integrated Regional Water Management Grant Program Funded by Proposition 84 and Proposition 1E (Draft, March 2010)*. PRC § 75026(a).

What money is currently available from Proposition 84 for the Imperial Region?

CDWR's Colorado River Hydrologic Region, including the Imperial Region is slated for \$36 million. There are only two other and part of a third IRWMP regions that will be competing for this money.



Imperial IRWMP Work Plan Highlights

From *Imperial IRWMP Scope of Work* (adopted by IID board of Directors, March 16, 2010)

During Phase 1

- Water Forum meetings undertaken, and
- RWMG structure established.

Draft IID Plan will be used as a starting point to...

- Inform the Water Forum and RWMG Forum, and
- Bring stakeholder input into the process, presenting facts and identifying issues and analysis needs.
- The process is intended to both provide and elicit information.

The Project Management will move the RWMG and Water Forum participants through a...

- Carefully sequenced series of meetings with specific agendas crafted to...
- Seek consensus on the problems, purpose, need goals and objectives and water management strategies.

The outcome will be...

- Updated draft IID Plan – Chapters 1-6 and related technical appendices,
- Project/program/policy evaluation ranking and screening criteria based on California Water Plan Resource Management Strategies², stakeholder input and on CDWR IRWMP Implementation Grant Funding proposal solicitation package requirements,
- A detailed scope of work for Phase 2, and
- Water Forum and RWMG consensus to move forward – which is a key milestone.

During Phase 2

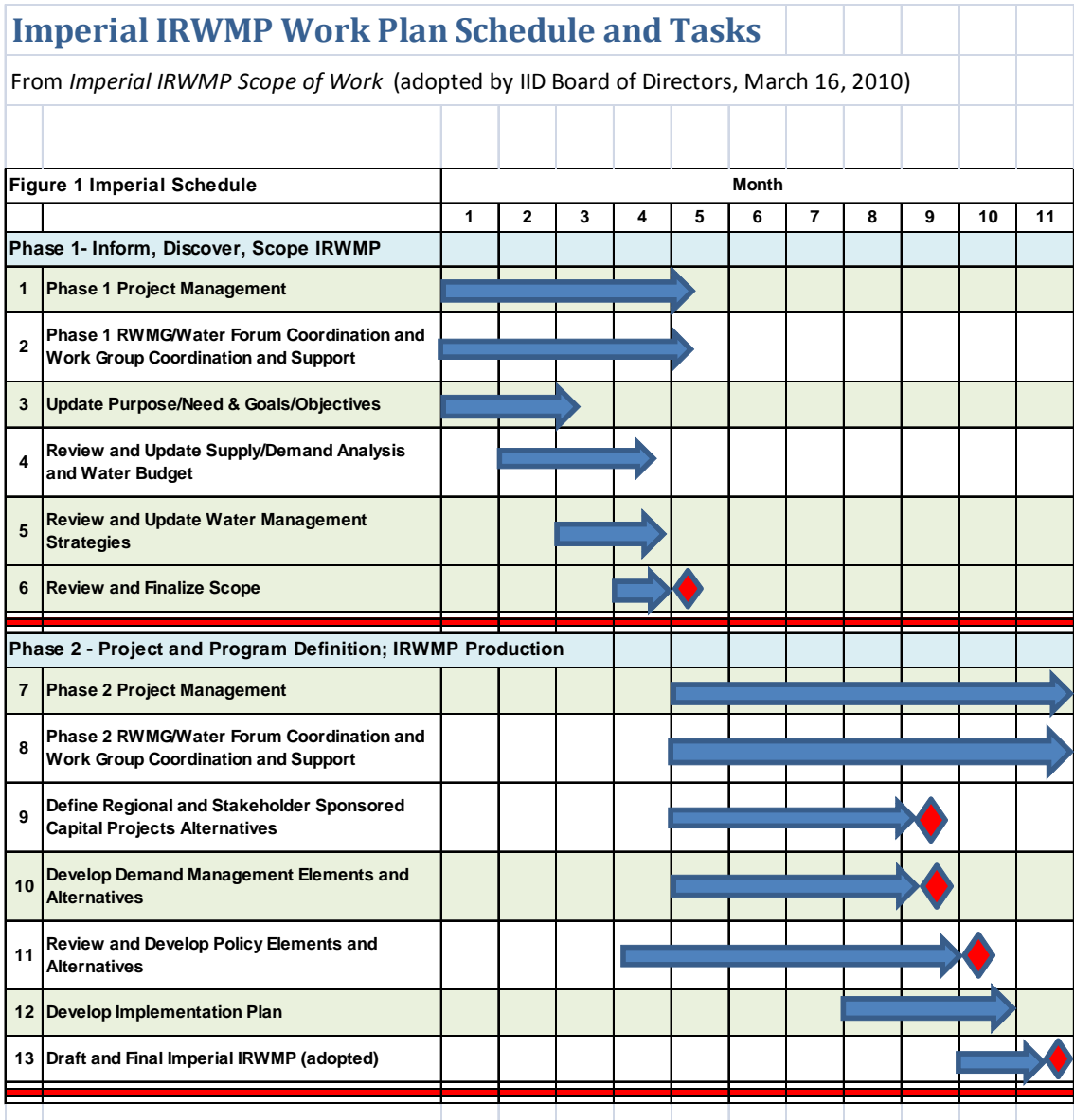
The Project Management Team will:

- Present the range of potential regional projects from the IID Plan,
- Entertain stakeholders' projects and support stakeholders in developing project scope and details needed for inclusion in the Imperial IRWMP,
- Address how the projects meet the needs of the Imperial Region disadvantaged communities,
- Revise project descriptions based on stakeholder input,
- Integrate, evaluate, and prioritize projects, and
- Coordinate discussion of non-structural management alternatives, including demand management and the policies that would serve to bring all of the pieces together.

² See California Water Plan Update 2009 Volume 2 - Resource Management Strategies online at <http://www.waterplan.water.ca.gov/cwpu2009/index.cfm>

Outcome is:

- A prioritized list of regional and stakeholder-sponsored projects,
- Consensus on policies for how water will be apportioned for future uses.
- Chapters 7 through 11 of the draft IID Plan will be updated with RWMG and Water Forum input. This will include the final governance and funding plan for long-term project/program implementation.
- Consensus on draft and final Imperial IRWMP.



Potential Regional Projects (From Draft IID Integrated Water Resources Management Plan (IID Plan), Executive Summary (accepted by IID Board of Directors September 29, 2009).

Table 1- Projects Ranked by Cost

Name	Description	Capital Cost	O&M	Equivalent Annual Cost	Unit Cost (\$/AF)	Yield (AF)
GW 18	Groundwater Blending- East Mesa Well Field Pumping to All-American Canal	\$ 39,501,517	\$ 198,000	\$ 2,482,000	\$ 99	25000
GW 19	Groundwater Blending- East Mesa Well Field Pumping to All-American Canal with Percolation Ponds	\$ 48,605,551	\$ 243,000	\$ 3,054,000	\$ 122	25000
WB 1	Coachella Valley Groundwater Storage Project	\$ 92,200,000	\$ 7,544,000	\$ 5,736,746	\$ 266	50000
DES 8	25 KAF East Brawley Desalination with Well Field and Groundwater Recharge	\$ 100,991,177	\$ 6,166,000	\$12,006,000	\$ 480	25000
AWC 1	Systems Conservation Projects (2)	\$ 56,225,000	N/A	\$ 4,068,000	\$ 504	8000
DES 12	East Mesa 25 KAF Desalination with Well Field and Groundwater Recharge	\$ 112,318,224	\$ 6,336,000	\$12,831,000	\$ 513	25000
DES 4	50 KAF Keystone Desalination with IID Drainwater/Alamo River	\$ 147,437,743	\$15,323,901	\$23,849,901	\$ 477	50000
DES 14	South Salton Sea 50 KAF Desalination with Alamo River Water and Industrial Distribution	\$ 158,619,378	\$15,491,901	\$24,664,901	\$ 493	50000
DES 15	South Salton Sea 50 KAF Desalination with Alamo River Water and MCI Distribution	\$ 182,975,327	\$15,857,901	\$26,438,901	\$ 529	50000
DES 2	50 KAF Keystone Desalination with Well Field and Groundwater Recharge	\$ 282,399,468	\$13,158,000	\$29,489,000	\$ 590	50000
RW 5	Regional Plant Serving Tertiary Water to IID Canal	\$ 20,818,710	\$ 829,853	\$ 2,033,801	\$ 308	6600
RW 1	Disinfected Secondary Effluent from Existing Wastewater Treatment Plants Applied to Adjacent Agriculture	\$ 18,779,688	\$ 486,671	\$ 1,572,702	\$ 118	13300
RW 3	Upgrade Existing Plants to Tertiary and Deliver Effluent to IID Canal System	\$ 90,531,216	\$ 2,992,257	\$ 7,498,347	\$ 562	13300
RW 6	Regional Plant Serving Tertiary Water to Local Service Area and IID Canal	\$ 102,374,854	\$ 2,280,145	\$ 8,200,493	\$ 488	16800
DES 7	East Brawley 25 KAF Desalination with Well Field	\$ 100,409,542	\$ 6,157,000	\$11,961,000	\$ 479	25000
DES 11	East Mesa 25 KAF Desalination with Well Field	\$ 111,746,590	\$ 6,327,000	\$12,789,000	\$ 512	25000
DES 1	Keystone 50 KAF Desalination with Well Field	\$ 281,817,834	\$13,149,000	\$29,447,000	\$ 589	50000
DES 10	East Brawley 5 KAF Desalination with Well Field	\$ 24,751,185	\$ 1,525,000	\$ 2,956,000	\$ 591	5000
DES 6	Keystone 25 KAF Desalination with Well Field	\$ 160,695,766	\$ 7,061,000	\$16,354,000	\$ 654	25000
DES 17	Heber 5 KAF Desalination with Well Field	\$ 95,899,356	\$ 2,476,000	\$ 3,303,000	\$ 661	5000
DES 13	East Mesa 5 KAF Desalination with Well Field	\$ 33,027,263	\$ 1,648,000	\$ 3,558,000	\$ 712	5000
DES 16	South Salton Sea 5 KAF East Desalination with Well Field	\$ 62,177,056	\$ 1,971,000	\$ 5,567,000	\$ 1,113	5000
DES 3	Keystone Desalination 50 KAF with Well Field and Groundwater Recharge and MCI Distribution	\$ 306,357,788	\$13,518,000	\$31,235,000	\$ 625	50000
DES 9	East Brawley 25 kAF Desalination with Well Field, Groundwater Recharge and MCI Distribution	\$ 162,175,609	\$ 7,084,000	\$16,463,000	\$ 659	25000
RW 2	Upgrade Existing Plants to Tertiary and Deliver Effluent to a Local Market	\$ 140,568,145	\$ 2,597,145	\$10,726,215	\$ 919	11700
RW 4	Regional Plant Serving Tertiary Water Locally	\$ 51,323,358	\$ 1,438,723	\$ 4,406,758	\$ 938	4700
DES 5	Keystone 25 KAF Desalination with Well Field, Groundwater Recharge & Evaporation Ponds	\$ 372,088,101	\$10,232,000	\$31,750,000	\$ 1,270	25000
	Project alternatives were considered to have a lower priority - Unit cost > \$600/AF , and were not ranked (NR) in the overall Alternatives Ranking Criteria Matrix					
	Project Alternatives were considered to have a lower priority due to no groundwater banking/storage elements and not enough annual yield production < 5,000 AF, and were not ranked (NR) in the overall Alternatives Ranking Criteria Matrix					
	Project Alternatives were considered to have a lower priority due dependance on outside agency parternability, and were not ranked (NR) in the overall Alternatives Ranking Criteria Matrix.					
(1)	Assumed 50 year lifespan, 5% interest. Other project used 30 yrs and 4%. Costs will be normalized in final report					
(2)	Systems Conservation includes 24 projects, costs from \$398/AF to \$1169/AF, averaging \$504/AF					
(3)	Source water collected from Imperial and proposed Keystone Development					
(4)	Source water collected from Imperial, Brawley, El Centro, Coloxic and proposed Keystone Development					

Imperial Region Map

