



August 7, 2020

Ted Daum  
California Department of Water Resources  
Division of Regional Assistance  
Financial Assistance Branch  
901 P Street  
PO Box 942836  
Sacramento, CA 94236-0001

Via email: Theodore.Daum@water.ca.gov & DWR\_IRWM@water.ca.gov

**Re: Request to Modify the Coachella Valley IRWM Regional Boundary**

Dear Mr. Daum:

The Coachella Valley Regional Water Management Group (CVRWMG) – comprised of the Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD), City of Coachella/Coachella Water Authority, Desert Water Agency, City of Indio/Indio Water Authority, Mission Springs Water District, and Valley Sanitary District – formally requests to modify the Coachella Valley Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Regional Boundary to encompass the entirety of the CVWD service area, and to include the unincorporated communities of Bombay Beach and North Shore.

The boundaries of the Coachella Valley IRWM Region (Region) were originally largely defined by the Whitewater River watershed. During a Colorado River Funding Area (CFRA) Disadvantaged Community (DAC) Needs Assessment Workshop on October 15, 2019, representatives of the DAC community raised the issue that the unincorporated areas of Bombay Beach and North Shore are neither in the Coachella Valley nor Imperial Valley IRWM Regions and lack IRWM representation. Previously, the boundary was modified to include the northwest part of the Salton Sea, and the areas overlying the West Salton Sea Groundwater Basin, to the Coachella Valley IRWM Region. However, despite CVWD's service boundary extending to the communities of Bombay Beach and North Shore, these communities were overlooked for previous inclusion and the southeastern portion of the Region terminates with the Whitewater River watershed to the northwest of these communities. The CVRWMG has discussed the addition of these communities to the Region and would like to request to the Department of Water Resources (DWR) that they be formally added to the Region. Figure 1 shows the current and proposed revised Region boundary.

The current Region is being modified to include the northeast area of the Salton Sea, within the Riverside and Imperial counties. The modified boundary follows a combination of a portion of the CVWD service area currently excluded from the Region that includes the unincorporated

communities of Bombay Beach and North Shore. This added area overlies the East Salton Sea Groundwater Basin and the Chocolate Valley Groundwater Basin but receives groundwater supply from the Indio (Whitewater River) Subbasin. A GIS shapefile of the proposed Region boundary has been included with this letter.

The CVRWGM and stakeholder group strongly support the decision to modify the Region boundary. The new proposed boundary is considered to be the most inclusive, contiguous area to represent the common water management issues and needs in the Region related to water supply, water quality, environmental resources, and climate change impacts. CVWD supports adding the entirety of its service area to the Region as it would facilitate integrated water resources management within its boundaries and provide greater opportunities for the communities of Bombay Beach and North Shore to participate in IRWM-related activities.

The Region boundary revision is not expected to pose any problems to adjacent IRWM Regions since the modified boundary will not result in an overlap with any other existing IRWM Regions. Figure 2 provides an overview of neighboring IRWM Regions as they relate to the Coachella Valley Region. The CVRWGM and stakeholder group strongly support incorporating the remainder of CVWD's service area and the communities of Bombay Beach and North Shore into the Region as there is currently no existing IRWM authority managing this area. No letters of agreement between the Coachella Valley IRWM Region and neighboring IRWM Regions are needed. A letter was sent to the Imperial IRWM Region notifying it of the proposed region expansion.

An amendment to Regional boundaries will not elicit any hardships for the Region. In fact, it will provide CVWD with an opportunity to potentially fund needed DAC projects within its service area that were previously excluded by the prior IRWM Region boundary. Figure 3 shows the water and wastewater agencies in the proposed Region boundary. Please consider the attached maps and GIS shapefile illustrating the existing and proposed regional boundaries.

Please let us know if you have any questions about the proposed modified boundary for the Coachella Valley IRWM Region. We look forward to continuing to work with you on current and future IRWM efforts.

Sincerely,



Mike Nusser

Water Resources Associate

Coachella Valley Water District, on behalf of the CVRWGM

**Submitting Entity Information**

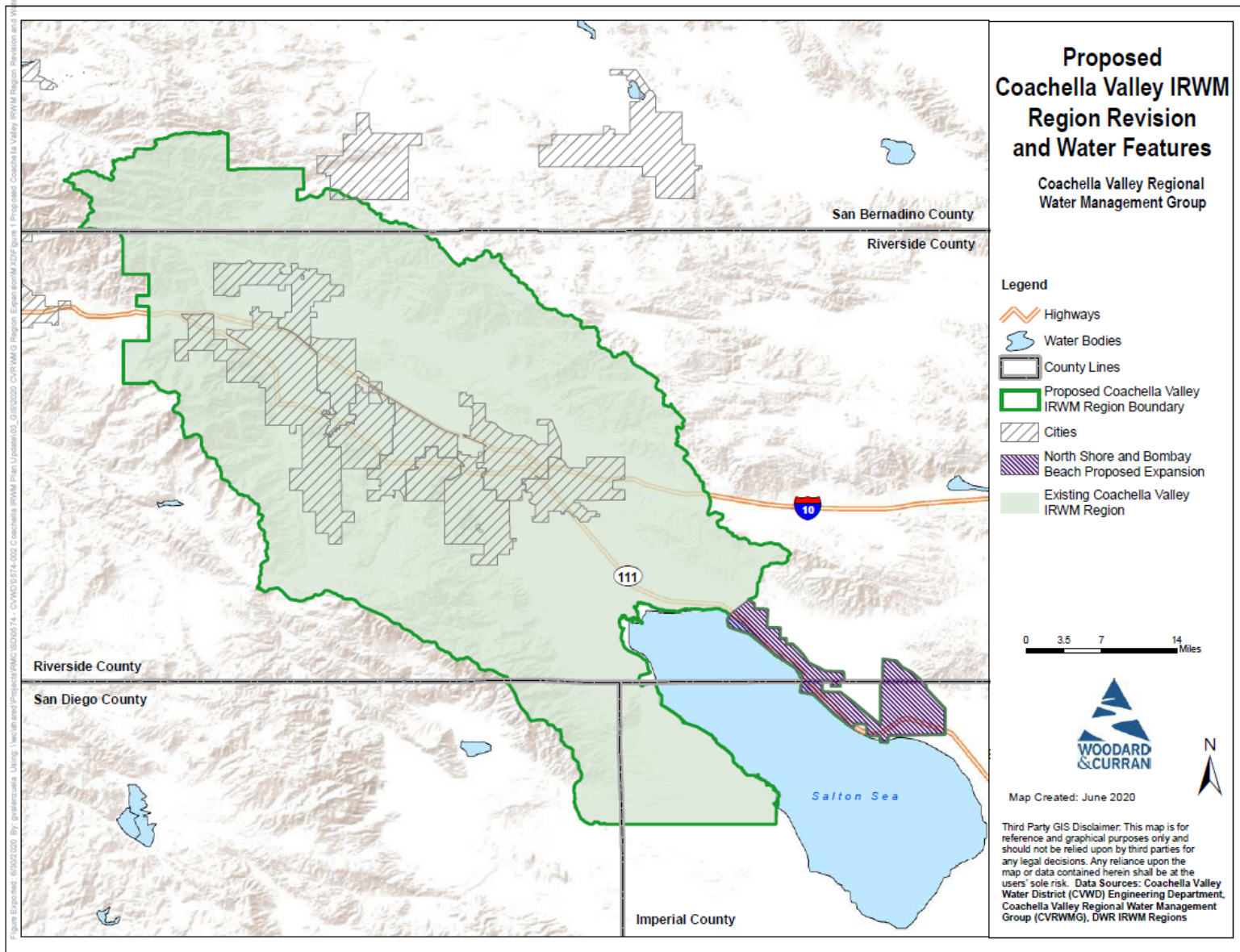
Lead CVRWGM Agency: Coachella Valley Water District

Contact: Mike Nusser

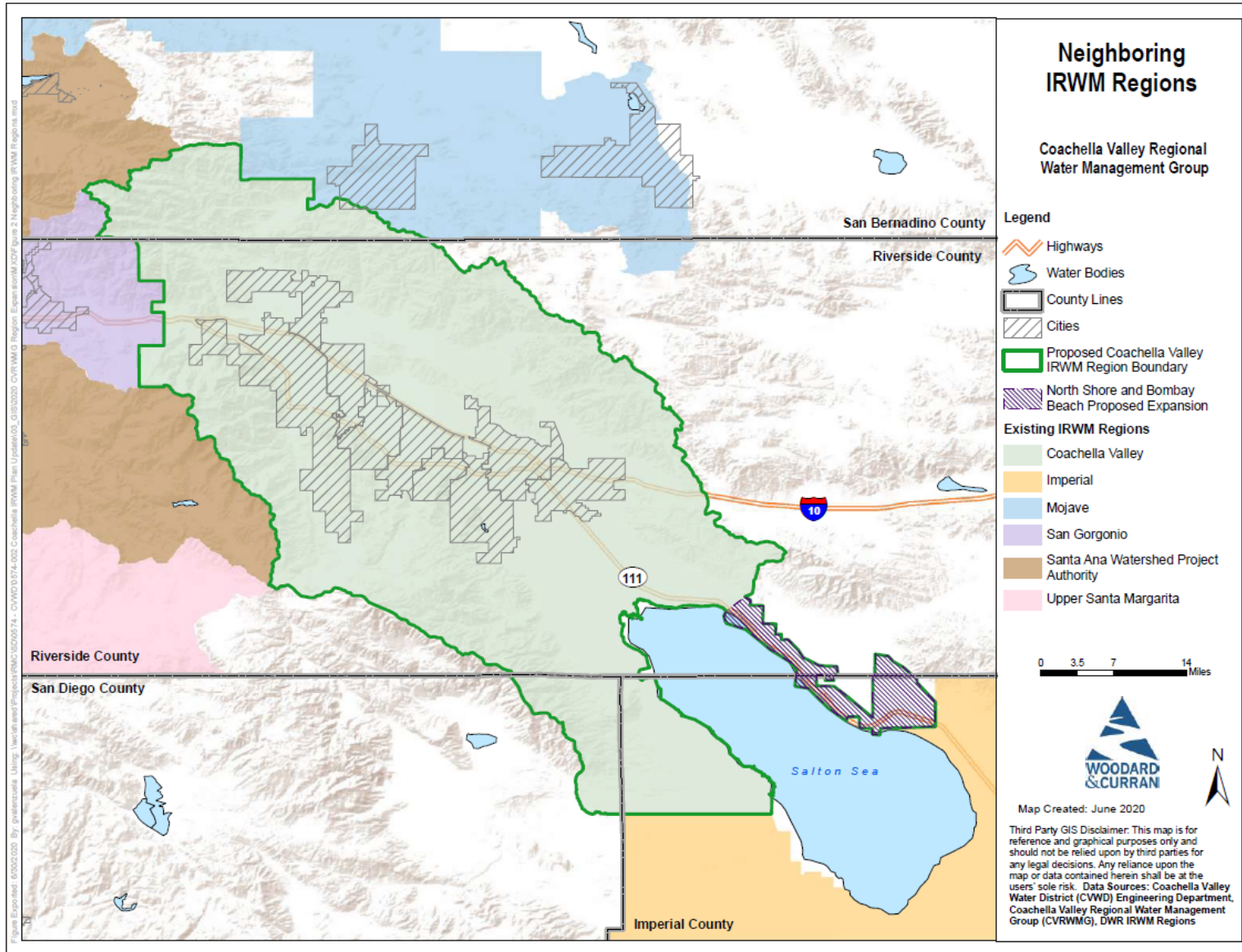
Phone Number: (760) 398-2661 ext. 2270

Attachments: Notification Letter dated June 30, 2020 to Imperial Valley IRWM Region  
Colorado River Funding Area DAC Needs Assessment Workshop Minutes  
Proposed Revised Coachella Valley IRWM Region GIS Shapefile

**Figure 1: Proposed Coachella Valley IRWM Region Revision and Water Features**



**Figure 2: Neighboring IRWM Regions**



**Figure 3: Water and Wastewater Agencies within the Coachella Valley IRWM Region**

