

Coachella Valley Integrated Regional Water Management Program

Planning Partners

February 9, 2022













Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- ◆ Coachella Valley IRWM Program Updates
- ◆ IRWM Overview
- ◆ Proposition 1 Round 2
 - Project Scoring
 - Call for Projects
- Public Comments
- Summary and Next Steps
- OPTI Overview





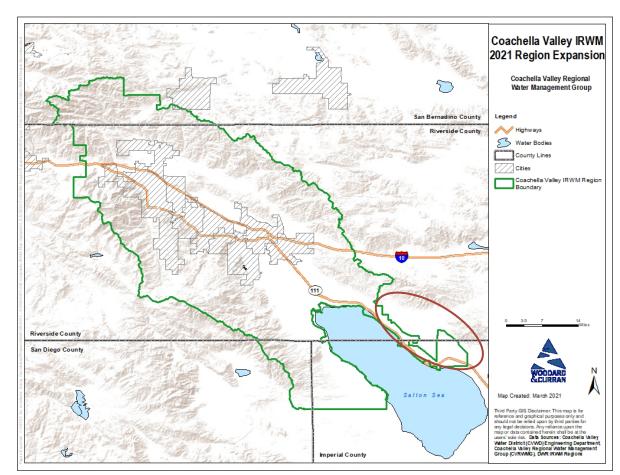
Welcome and Introductions



Coachella Valley IRWM Program Updates

Program Updates

- Update on Boundary Change
 - DWR approved the boundary change in February 2021
- Expanded to include the unincorporated communities of Bombay Beach and North Shore



Program Success

Grant Solicitation Name	Number of Projects Funded	Total Grant Award	Current Status
Proposition 84 Planning Grant	1	\$1,000,000	Complete
DAC Outreach Grant	1	\$500,000	Complete
Proposition 84 – Round 1	4	\$4,000,000	Complete
Proposition 84 – Round 2	8	\$5,240,000	Complete
Proposition 84 – Round 3	2	\$5,270,636	Complete
Proposition 84 – Round 4	6	\$2,361,627	Underway
Proposition 1 Planning Grant	1	\$211,982	Complete
Proposition 1 DAC Involvement	3	\$1,118,030	Underway
Proposition 1 – Round 1	4	\$3,825,383	Underway
Urban and Multibenefit Drought Relief Grant Program – URC and Tribes Set Aside	3	\$1,846,967	Upcoming
TOTAL	33	\$25,374,625	





IRWM Overview

What is IRWM?

Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) is a collaborative effort to identify and implement water management solutions on a regional scale that increase regional self-reliance, reduce conflict, and manage water to concurrently achieve social, environmental, and economic objectives as defined by the Department of Water Resources (DWR).

Why is IRWM Important?



Fosters collaboration between agencies

Supports effective water management

Enables stakeholder participation

Positions region for funding



Coachella Valley IRWM

- Coachella Valley Regional Water Management Group (CVRWMG) is a collaborative effort led by the five water purveyors and one wastewater agency of the Coachella Valley to implement IRWM Plan to address the water resources needs of the Coachella Valley.
- Coachella Valley IRWM / SWR Plan was updated in 2018.









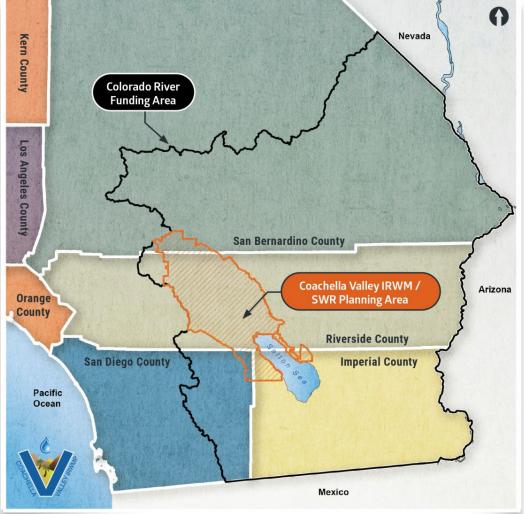




Coachella Valley IRWM

- ◆ Coachella Valley IRWM Region is in the central Riverside County, within the Colorado River Funding area, as defined by DWR.
- ◆ The boundary is chiefly the same boundary as the Whitewater River watershed.

Coachella Valley IRWM Funding Region

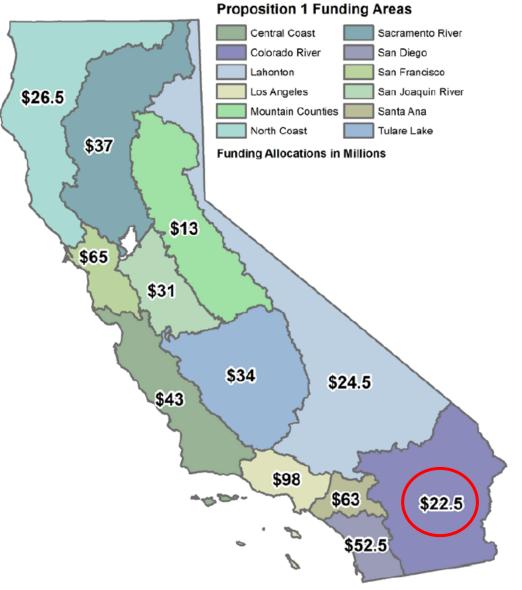




Proposition 1 – Round 2

Prop 1 IRWM Funding

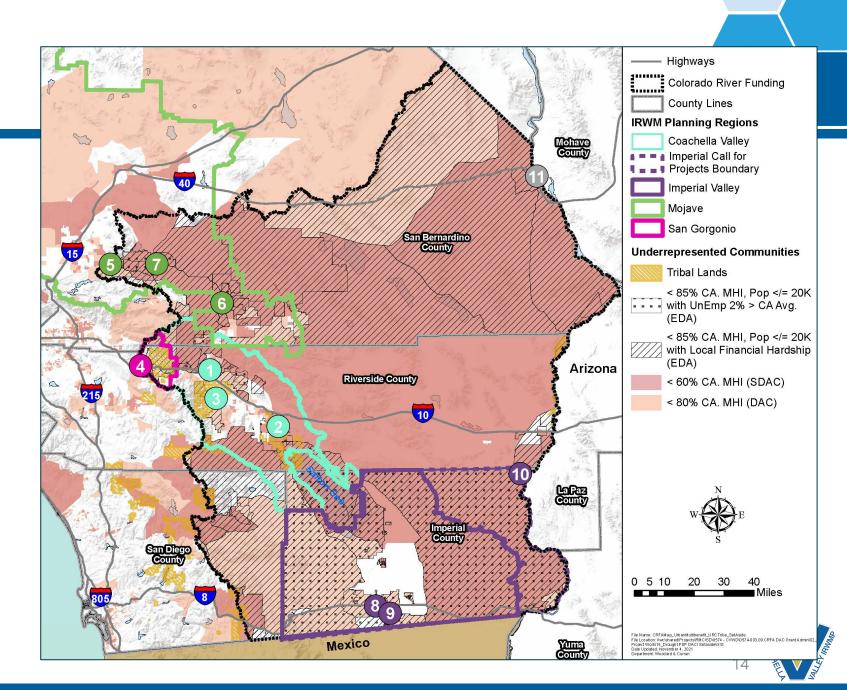
- Proposition 1 authorized \$510 million in IRWM grant funds that were allocated to the 12 funding areas by the Legislature.
 - Allocation based on combination of land area + population.
- ◆ The Colorado River Funding Area (CRFA), which includes the Coachella Valley IRWM Region, was allocated \$22.5 million.





Colorado River Funding Area

- Our Funding Area includes 4 IRWM regions:
 - Mojave
 - San Gorgonio
 - Coachella Valley
 - Imperial Valley



CRFA Round 1 vs Round 2 Funding

Round 1		Round 2			
DAC*	General	Total	DAC	General	Total
35%	50%	-	65%	50%	-
\$787,500	\$7,075,765	\$7,863,265	\$1,462,500	\$7,075,765	\$8,538,265

^{*}DAC: Disadvantaged Communities

Prop 1, Round 2 Funding Split

◆ The Coachella Valley, Mojave, and San Gorgonio IRWM Regions have agreed to a funding spilt for Round 2.

Region	Funding Per Region		
Coachella Valley	\$4,112,755		
Mojave	\$2,512,755		
San Gorgonio	\$1,912,755		
TOTAL	\$8,538,265		

Why is a Funding Split Important?



Saves application costs – less justification needed

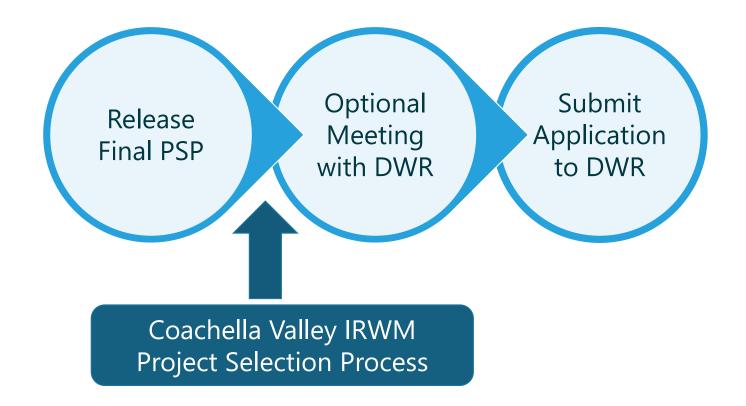
We select our application deadline

DWR waives proposal scoring

DWR will not score projects competitively

Prop 1-Round 2 Grant Solicitation

- ◆ Tentative deadlines: Spring 2022 and Fall 2022
- ◆ DWR Process and Schedule:



Prop 1-Round 2 Grant Solicitation

- Eligible Applicants:
 - Public agencies
 - 501(c)(3) Non-profit organizations
 - Public utilities
 - Federally recognized Indian Tribes
 - State Indian Tribes listed on the Native American Heritage Commission's Tribal list
 - Mutual water companies

- Eligible project types:
 - Water reuse
 - Water-use efficiency and conservation
 - Storage
 - Regional water conveyance facilities
 - Watershed protection and restoration
 - Stormwater resource management
 - Conjunctive use
 - Desalination
 - Decision support tools
 - Water quality and treatment
 - Regional projects or programs



Prop 1-Round 2 Grant Solicitation

- Funding Criteria from DWR:
 - 50% funding match required
 - DAC waiver possible, partial or full
 - Funding Match costs eligible after January 2015
 - Reimbursement eligible after Final Award date
 - CVRWMG prefers earliest application date August 2022
 - Which would make Award Date Winter 2022

See https://water.ca.gov/Work-With-Us/Grants-And-Loans/IRWM-Grants-Programs/Proposition-1/Implementation-Grants for more information



Prop 1-Round 2 Draft Proposal Solicitation Package (PSP)

- Released December 10, 2021
- Eligible proposals must:
 - Respond to climate change
 - Contribute to regional water self-reliance
- All projects must:
 - Result in public benefits that address the most critical statewide needs
 - Be consistent with Statewide Priorities
 - Have an expected useful life of at least 15 years (if applicable)

Key Changes and Requirements from Prop 1 – Round 2

Changes from Round 1

- Applicants no longer need to have CEQA completed and permits necessary to begin construction acquired within 12 months of final award
- No Pre-Application Materials submission and workshop
- Statewide Priorities updated to reflect Water Resilience Portfolio
- Grant administration costs excluded from match requirement calculation

Requirements in Round 2

- Projects must be complete by December 31, 2026*
- Claimed project benefits must be quantified
- Projects must be included in IRWM Plan
- Submit a self-certification form
- Simplified application for areas with funding split agreements





Statewide Priorities



Utilize natural infrastructure such as forests and floodplains



Encourage regional approaches among water users sharing watersheds



Drought preparedness



Climate resilience



Strengthen partnerships with local, federal, and Tribal governments, water agencies and irrigation districts, and other stakeholders

CVRWMG Comment Letter on Draft PSP

- Commend DWR for streamlining the process
 - IRWM Regions that have a funding split in place will not be scored competitively!
- Request clarifications:
 - Clarify if regions who submit on later deadline will have the same project completion date (December 2026)
 - DWR to clarify the requirements for replacement projects in the event that a selected project cannot be completed
- Schedule adjustments and preferences
 - Request project completion date to be pushed back to accommodate the delay in releasing the draft PSP
 - Prefer earliest grant submittal date (August 2022)





DWR Project Scoring

DWR's Scoring Criteria

- ♦ Overall the IRWM grant process has 2 phases:
 - Projects are scored, evaluated and selected by CVRWMG & Planning Partners
 - 2. Then selected projects are submitted by CVRWMG to the State and re-scored by DWR using State criteria
- ♦ In previous rounds, DWR has used 2 sets of criteria:
 - Applies Project Level criteria to individual projects
 - Then compiles scores into Proposal Level score

This step is avoided with our CRFA funding split!

DWR's Scoring Criteria - Project

- Sufficient information provided to understand project and substantiate project claims
- Work Plan describes tasks and identifies all deliverables
- ◆ Consistency and reasonableness of Work Plan, Budget, & Schedule
- Quantified and multiple benefits
- Benefits multiple regions/funding areas
- Provide explanation how project provides safe drinking water to a DAC if the project addresses contamination per AB1249 requirements
- Uses new/innovative technology



DWR's Scoring Criteria – AB 1249

- Provide specific explanation of how the project addresses existing AB 1249 contaminants (if applicable):
 - Nitrate
 - Arsenic
 - Perchlorate
 - Hexavalent chromium



Questions?



Call for Projects

CVIRWM's Project Selection Process

- Project Selection and Review Process*
 - Project scoring process presented to Planning Partners Today!
 - Projects submitted to online database
 - Projects numerically scored and ranked
 - Projects evaluated and selected by CVRWMG
 - Selected projects discussed with Planning Partners
 - Optional meeting with DWR
 - Application submitted to DWR

*Timeline depends on DWR's release of final PSP and DWR application deadline.

Submit to Database

Numeric Scoring and Ranking

Project Selection Planning Partners Approval Optional Meeting with DWR Prepare Grant Application



Local Eligibility Criteria



- A. Provide reliable water supply for residential and commercial, agricultural community, and tourism needs.
- B. Manage groundwater levels to reduce overdraft, manage perched water, and minimize subsidence.
- C. Secure reliable imported water supply, including restoring/improving reliability of State Water Project supply and securing other imported water supplies.
- D. Maximize local supply opportunities, including water conservation, water recycling and source substitution, and capture infiltration of runoff.
- E. Protect groundwater quality and improve, where feasible.
- F. Preserve and improve surface water quality by maintaining integrity of agricultural drainage systems, protecting the quality of natural runoff used for potable supply, and reducing pollution in storm water runoff.
- G. Preserve the water-related local environmental and restore, where feasible.



Local Eligibility Criteria



- H. Manage flood risks, including current and future needs.
- I. Optimize conjunctive use of available water resources.
- J. Maximize stakeholder involvement and stewardship in water resource management.
- K. Address water-related needs of local Native American culture.
- L. Address water and sanitation needs of disadvantaged communities.
- M. Maintain affordability of water.
- ◆ Plan objectives are described in Chapter 6 of the <u>IRWM/SWRP Document</u>
- Project scoring is described in Chapter 9 of the <u>IRWM/SWRP Document</u>



Local Project Scoring

- Overview of IRWM Project Scoring
 - 3 fundamental components:
 - 1. Principles of IRWM planning
 - Priorities of the Coachella Valley Region
 - 3. Project Feasibility
 - Scoring based on responses in online project database
 - Scoring process in accordance with IRWM Guidelines:
 - IRWM Plan Objectives
 - Project Feasibility
 - Specific Benefits to DAC Water Issues



Local Project Scoring

- IRWM Project Scoring
 - Each project assigned score for each criterion by an independent third party
 - Criteria are weighted
 - Max score = 200
 - Top 50th percentile of projects = Tier 1, which are considered for IRWM funding

Component	Criterion	Scoring Procedure ¹	Points Assigned	Weighting	Sub-total	
1. Principles of IRWM Planning	A. Addresses Multiple IRWM Plan Objectives	Score based on # of objectives addressed	4+ objectives = 20 pts 3 objectives = 15 pts 2 objectives = 10 pts 1 objective = 5 pts	11%	70	
	B. Integrates Multiple Resource Management Strategies	Score based on # of strategies employed	8+ strategies = 20 pts 6-7 strategies = 15 pts 4-5 strategies = 10 pts 2-3 strategies = 5 pts	11%		
	C. Addresses a Statewide Priority	Score is based on Yes/No response	Yes = 10 pts No = 0 pts	6%		
	D. Linked to Other Projects	Score is based on Yes/No response	Yes = 10 pts No = 0 pts	6%		
	E. Involves More than One Partner	Score is based on Yes/No response	Yes = 10 pts No = 0 pts	6%		
2. Priorities of the Coachella Valley	A. Optimizes Water Supply Reliability	Score is based on Yes/No response	Yes = 20 pts No = 0 pts	9%	120	
	B. Protects or Improves Water Quality	Score is based on Yes/No response	Yes = 20 pts No = 0 pts	9%		
	C. Manages Flood Risks	Score is based on Yes/No response	Yes = 20 pts No = 0 pts	9%		
	D. Optimizes Conjunctive Use of Surface and Groundwater Supplies	Score is based on Yes/No response	Yes = 20 pts No = 0 pts	9%		
	E. Directly Benefits Disadvantaged Communities	Score is based on Yes/No response	Yes = 20 pts No = 0 pts	9%		
	F. Maximizes stakeholder involvement and stewardship in water resource management*	Score is based on Yes/No response	Yes = 20 pts No = 0 pts	9%		
3. Project Feasibility	A. Identified in Existing Plan	Score is based on Yes/No response	Yes = 10 pts No = 0 pts	6%	10	
			•	Total	200	

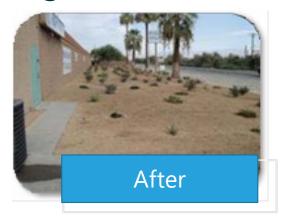
^{1.} New prioritization criterion based on input received by stakeholders on Objective J (refer to Chapter 6, Objectives for more information)



Example Projects

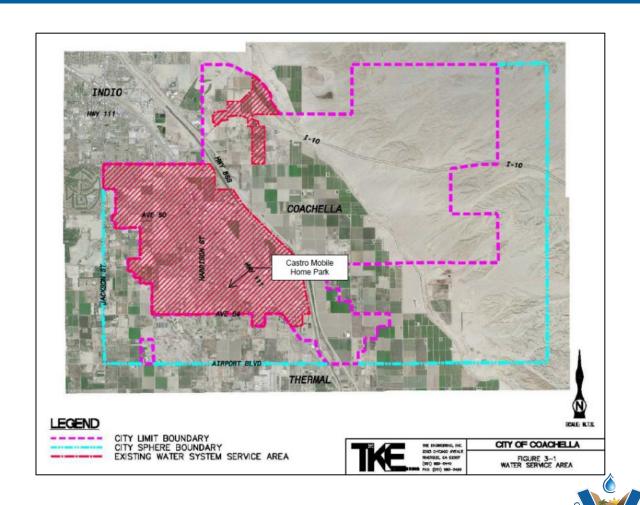
- CV Water Counts Regional Conservation Program
 - Established by the Coachella Valley Regional Water Management Group
 - Provides incentives for installation of water efficient devices and turf removal rebates
 - Designed to reduce water demand, increase the region's water supply, improve regional water quality, and improve efficiency and flexibility
 - 87 acre-feet per year (AFY) of water savings





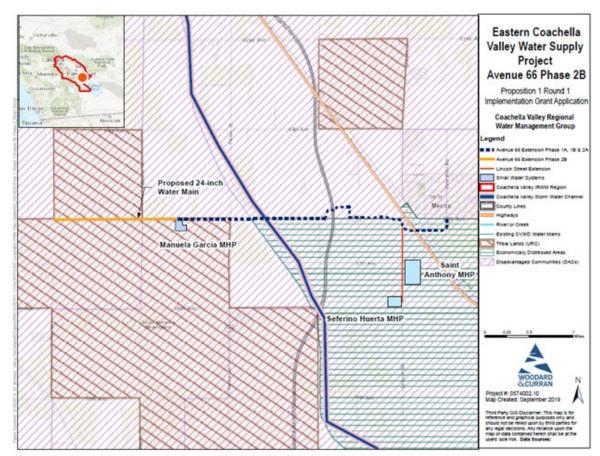
Example Projects

- Castro Mobile Home Park (MHP) Consolidation
 - Sponsored by Coachella Water Authority
 - Provides the Castro MHP with 17 AFY of safe, reliable potable drinking water
 - Project will install an 8-inch water main and approximately 45 water services, meter boxes, and service connections



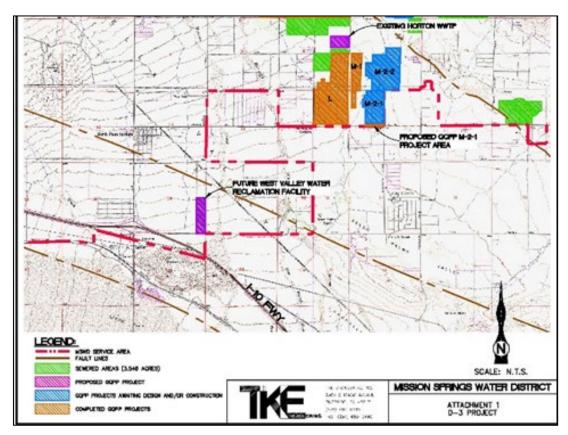
Example Projects

- East Coachella Valley Water Supply Project – Avenue 66 Phase 2B
 - Sponsored by Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD)
 - Connect Manuela Garcia MHP to the existing CVWD pipeline at the intersection of Avenue 66 and Polk Street
 - Provide 13 AFY of safe drinking water to the Manuela Garcia MHP



Example Projects

- ◆ Groundwater Quality Project Sub Area D-3
 - Sponsored by Mission Springs Water District
 - Eliminate septic tanks that threaten contamination of groundwater supply and protect hot mineral water
 - Remove approximately 1.55 AFY of septic discharge





Public Comments



Summary & Next Steps

2022 Meeting Schedule

- Final PSP Released in April (tentative)
- Coachella Valley Finalizes Local Schedule in April/May (tentative)
- Next Planning Partners Meeting:
 - To be announced
- Regular CVRWMG Meetings Held Second Wednesday of Every Month

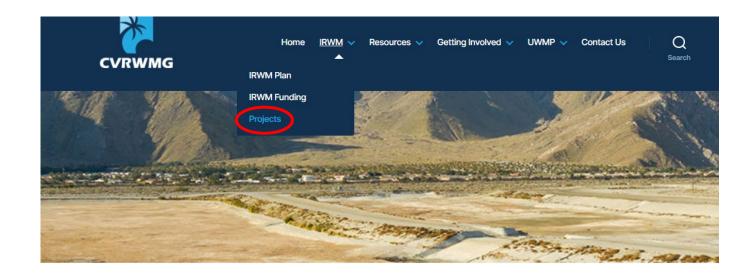
Email <u>CVRWMG@woodardcurran.com</u> to be added to the stakeholder list to receive updates on Proposition 1, Round 2!





Online Project Tracking & Integration (OPTI) Overview





Projects

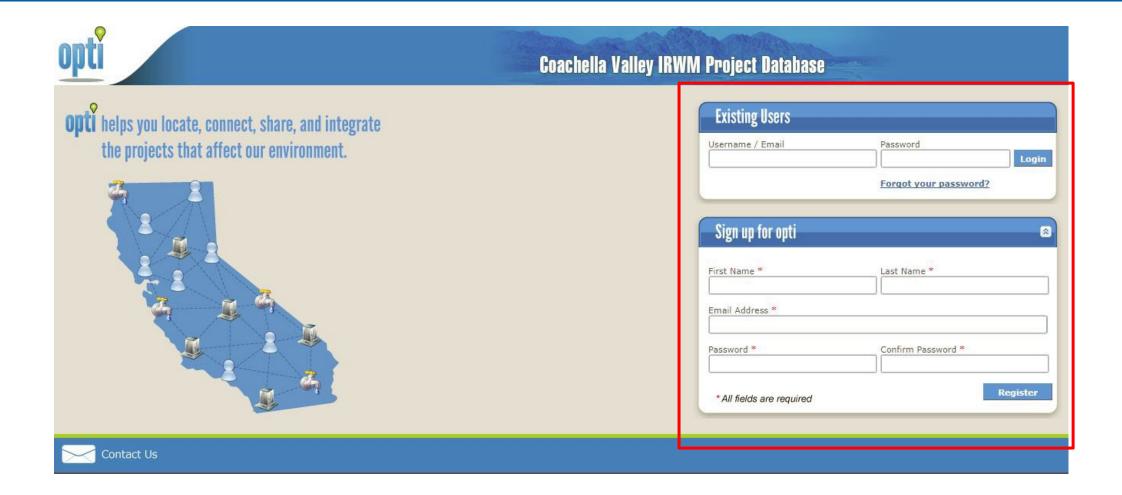
How to Submit Projects

The Coachella Valley IRWM region is now accepting projects for the IRWM Plan. Stakeholders may submit water management projects using our online Project Database. Our interactive database allows local project sponsors to log-in and add, revise, and submit their project information, as well as view all other submitted projects. Sign up today to submit your project!

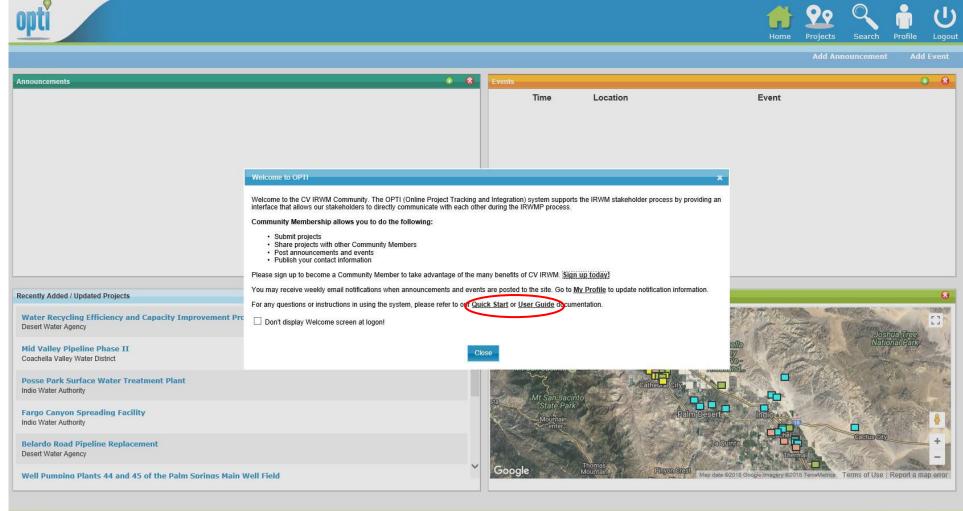
COACHELLA VALLEY OPTI PROJECT DATABASE



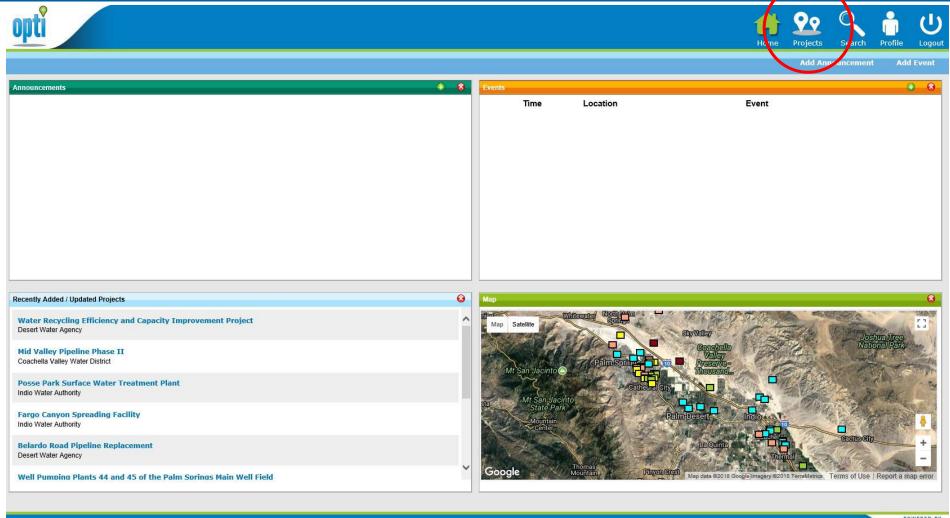


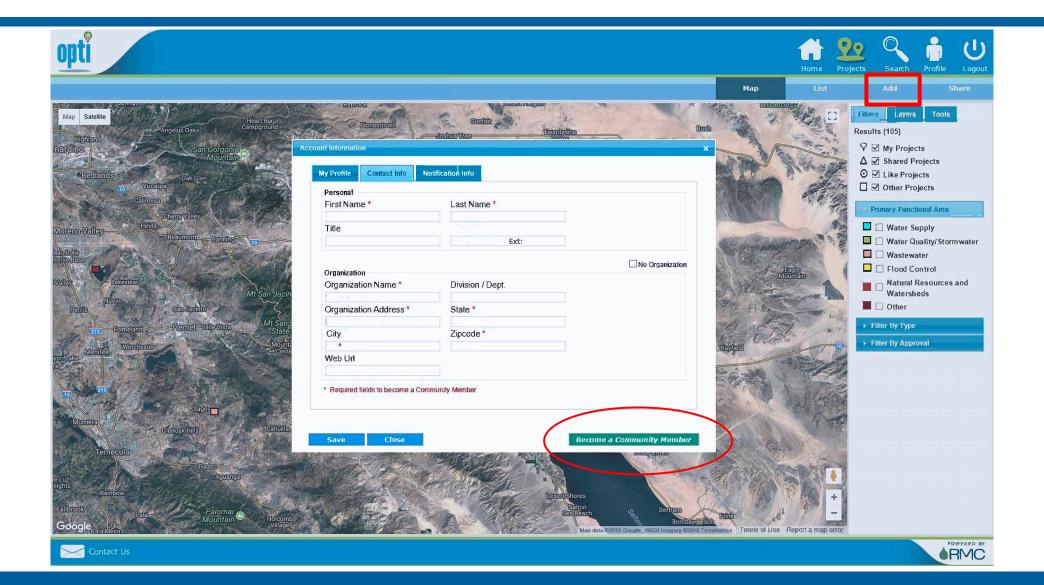


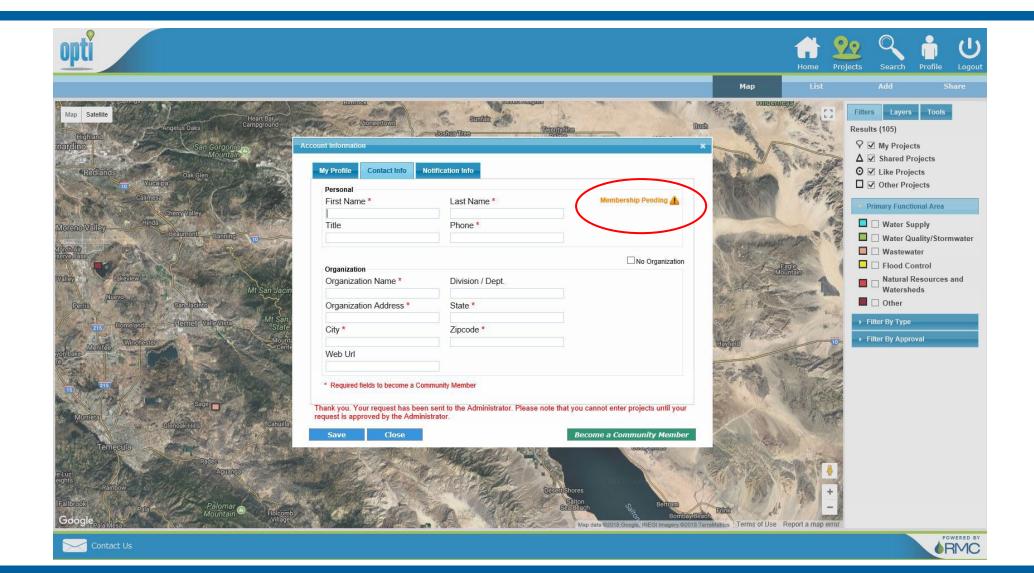
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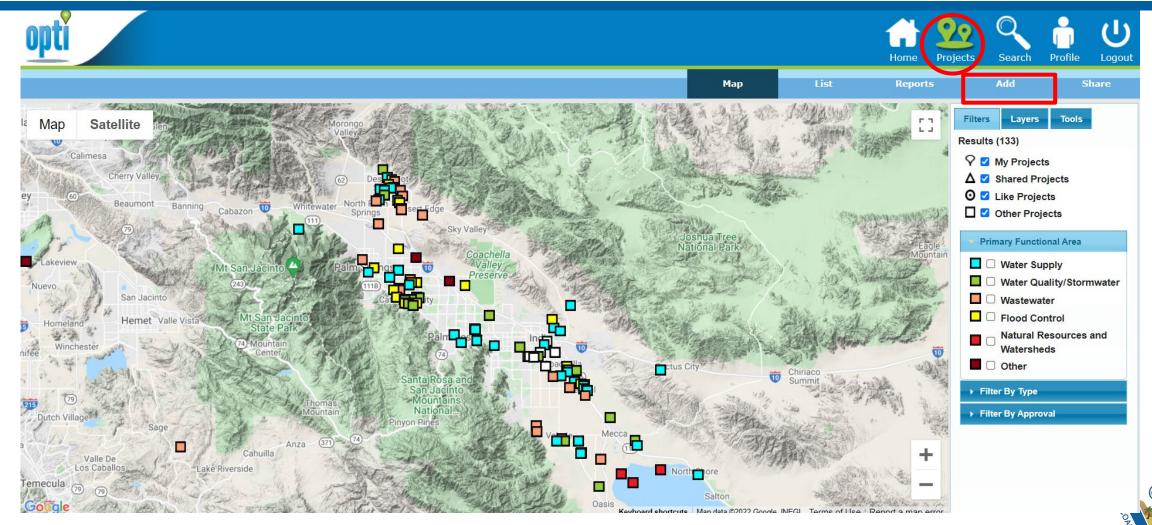


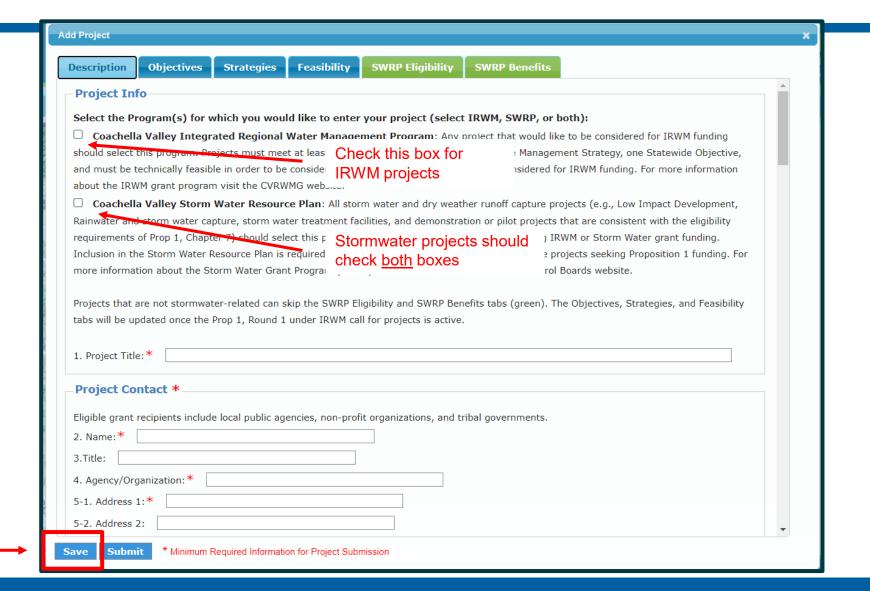
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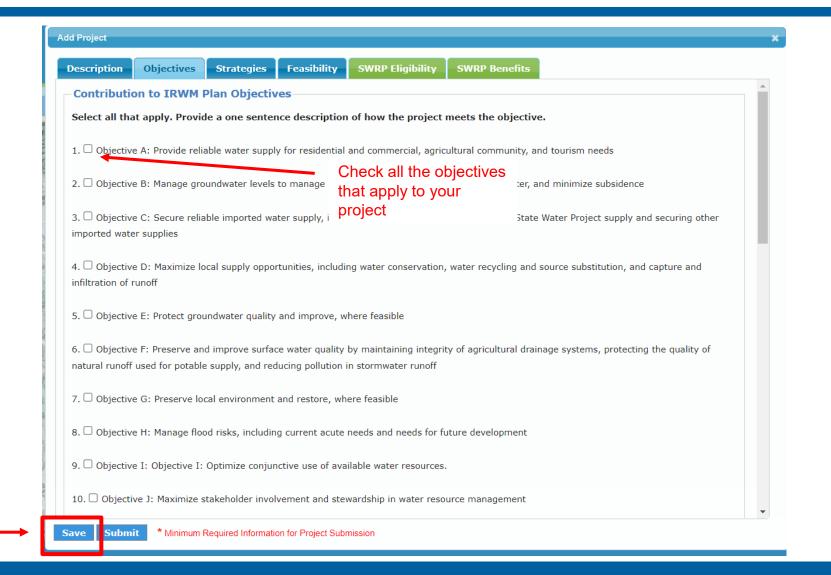




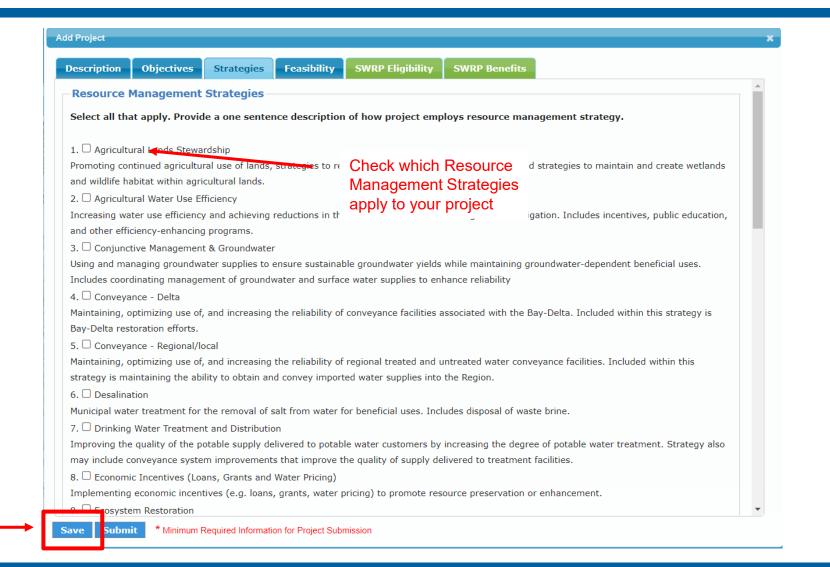


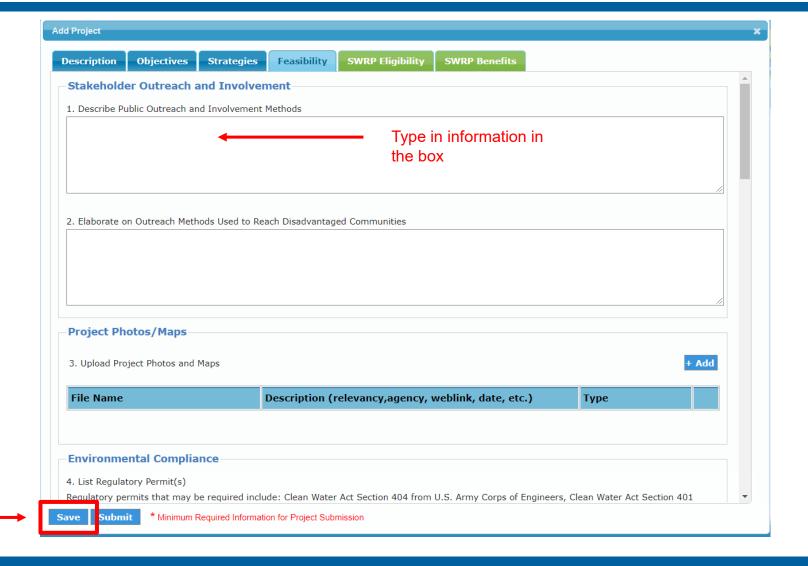






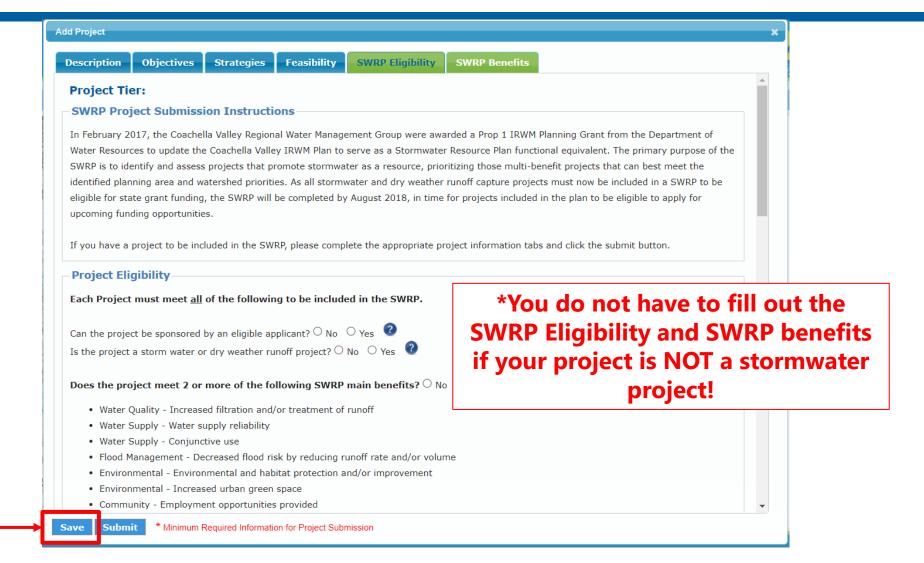




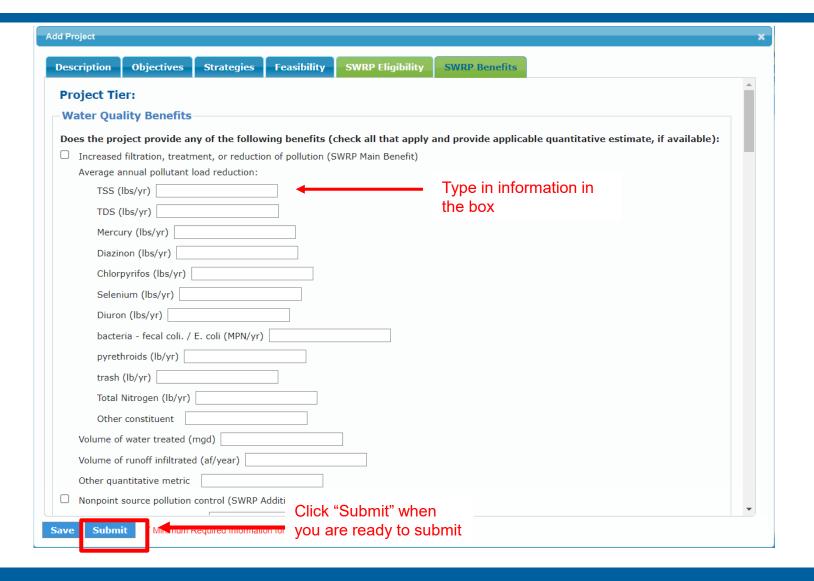


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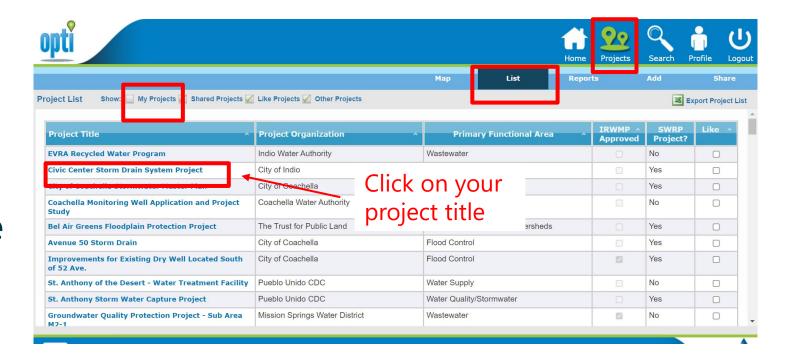
Enter information and click "Save" at any point





OPTI Demonstration – Editing

- Projects may be edited at any time by logging into OPTI
- Project opens in new tab!
- Click "Details" to update project information
- Must submit again after any edits





OPTI Demonstration - Tips

- Become a "Community Member" to submit a project
- Works best with Mozilla or Chrome browsers
- Required fields are indicated by a red asterisk*
- Recommend pre-filling out information in a Word file and copypasting it into the database
- Save often!
- Avoid using "back" button in your browser
- Remember to hit "Submit" when you are done!
- Projects can be edited after submitting



OPTI Demonstration – Summary

- Sign up for OPTI if not an existing user
- ▲ Log In to Project Database (OPTI):
 - Visit http://www.cvrwmg.org/
 - Sign in with your existing username
 - Click on "Projects" tab and then "Add"
 - Enter applicable information and click "Submit"
- Questions?
 - Contact Arthella Vallarta: <u>MVallarta@woodardcurran.com</u>





Questions?



Thank You For Attending!