Upper Santa Margarita Watershed
IRWM Planning Region
Tribal Water Challenges:
Roadblocks and Opportunities

Southern California Water Dialogue
at Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

January 23, 2013
Upper Santa Margarita IRWM Planning Region
Upper Santa Margarita Watershed
IRWM - Governance

• Regional Water Management Group – MOU
  - Rancho California Water District
  - County of Riverside
  - Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District

• Stakeholder Advisory Committee – 27 agencies
  - County; Cities; Special Districts; Tribes; Disadvantaged Communities; Non-Profits including land conservancies and farm bureau; State Agencies, and Federal Agencies, including Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton

• Tri-County Funding Area Coordinating Committee – San Diego Funding Area IRWMs
  - Purpose: Fairly Allocate Proposition 84 funding to the Funding Area
## USMW IRWM SAC

**Stakeholder Advisory Committee**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Boojum Institute</td>
<td>Riverside County Farm Bureau</td>
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<td>Butterfield Multi-Use Trails, Inc.</td>
<td>Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District</td>
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<td>Cahuilla Band of Indians</td>
<td>Riverside Lands Conservancy</td>
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<td>California Department of Fish and Game</td>
<td>San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board</td>
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<td>Citizens for Quality of Life - Murrieta</td>
<td>San Diego State University/Santa Margarita Ecological Reserve</td>
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<td>City of Murrieta</td>
<td>Southwestern Riverside County Multi-Species Reserve</td>
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<td>City of Temecula</td>
<td>The Nature Conservancy</td>
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<td>County of Riverside</td>
<td>Trout Unlimited</td>
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<td>Eastern Municipal Water District</td>
<td>United States Army Corps of Engineers</td>
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<td>Elsinore Murrieta Anza Resource Conservation District</td>
<td>United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation</td>
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<td>League of Women’s Voters</td>
<td>United States Fish and Wildlife Service</td>
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<td>Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton</td>
<td>United States Forest Service, Cleveland National Forest</td>
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<td>Pechanga Band of Luiseno Indians</td>
<td>Western Municipal Water District</td>
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<td>Rancho California Water District</td>
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Tri-County FACC

- **USMW**
- **San Diego**
- **South Orange County**
  - Began meeting in early 2008
  - Goal: An interregional forum for planning and coordination
  - Planning across county and jurisdictional boundaries
  - Mutual benefits
  - Division of available funding
    - $91M from Prop 84 IRWM
      - $83M after DWR charges
      - USMW share $7.6M
Tribes in Upper Santa Margarita IRWM Planning Region

Pechanga
Cahuilla
Ramona
Long History of Coordination in the Santa Margarita Watershed

- Federal/state/local/tribal coordination
- Planning:
  - Multi-agency water supply
  - Habitat conservation
  - Transportation and infrastructure

- Cooperative Water Resource Management – March 2002 - Camp Pendleton and RCWD
  - Resolved years of conflict on the use and management of water resources of the Santa Margarita River in the upper and lower watersheds

- Groundwater Management Agreement – Dec 2006 Pechanga Tribe and RCWD
  - Management of groundwater pumping from the Wolf Valley Groundwater Basin
IRWM Challenges in Tribal Collaboration

• Pending Litigation / Settlements to Water Rights
  ▪ Could be a deterrent from participating in IRWM
  ▪ May offer opportunity to identify potential projects

• Potentially No Direct Funding to Tribes
  ▪ To extent the region better manages water resources, the tribes benefit in water reliability, water quality, habitat, recreation, etc.

• Sovereign Nation
  ▪ Be inclusive in having a voice in IRWM planning and how the tribe is characterized in the IRWM Plan
  ▪ Become knowledgeable about tribal issues and projects IRWM could potentially address
  ▪ Understand IRWM won’t solve all issues, but will benefit tribes

• Each Tribe is Unique
  ▪ Familiarize with each Tribal Council’s uniqueness
  ▪ Understand viewpoints, needs, and interests exclusive to a tribe
  ▪ Know characterization of a tribe as a DAC or not
  ▪ Understand cultural significance of water and other resources to a tribe
IRWM Challenges in Tribal Collaboration

• Formal or Informal Procedures
  ▪ Understand how to approach and work with each tribe

• Gaming and Non-Gaming Tribes
  ▪ Varying funding needs based on gaming income and gaming infrastructure
  ▪ Desire for gaming, but no means to build infrastructure

• Financial Issues or Financially Stable

• Urban and Rural Tribes

• Desert and Coastal Tribes
IRWM Challenges in Tribal Collaboration

• Reasons for Tribal Involvement in IRWM and Other Regional Planning
  ▪ Physically located in watershed creates a natural partnership in watershed problems and solutions; i.e., contributor to Salt/Nutrient Management Plan
  ▪ Venue for tribes to come together to discuss issues important to them
  ▪ Collaborative responsibility for water quality in the watershed
  ▪ Imposed regulations is an opportunity to work collaboratively = tribes are beneficiary of results
  ▪ The more mutual benefits are realized, the more frequent tribes will desire to collaborate on addressing an issue
Tribal Involvement in 2007 IRWM Plan Development

- Outreach to tribes included personal invitations to participate
- Expressed importance of IRWM, why important for tribes to have a voice in the IRWM Plan, and benefits to the tribes
- Pechanga, Cahuilla and Ramona tribes participated
  - Pechanga representation at IRWM stakeholder meetings
  - Cahuilla Chairperson became consultant to Tribe and attended IRWM stakeholder meetings
  - Ramona Tribe: occasional participation
Tribal Involvement in 2014 IRWM Plan Update

• IRWM Plan Update Outreach Plan
  ▪ Includes outreach to tribes through focused, meetings and workshops
  ▪ Establishes meeting schedule early
  ▪ Expresses importance of IRWM, importance of tribal influence in the IRWM Plan Update, and IRWM benefits to tribes

• Coordinate with DWR Regional Service Representative, DWR and Reclamation Tribal Liaisons, and others to support tribal outreach and coordination

• Cahuilla Tribe has been participating; anticipate all tribes to participate
Tribal Water Challenges: Roadblocks and Opportunities

• In Summary
  ▪ Seek to understand each tribe’s unique issues, processes, and needs
  ▪ View each as an opportunity for involvement in integrated watershed planning
  ▪ Identify clear reasons for tribal involvement in IRWM Planning
  ▪ Establish a plan for communication/outreach
  ▪ Use a collaborative approach with available resources: DWR Regional Representative, DWR and Reclamation Tribal Liaison, and others
  ▪ Ensure tribes have a distinct voice in IRWM Planning
Tribal Water Challenges: Roadblocks and Opportunities

Dialogue