Santa Cruz Integrated Regional Water Management
Santa Cruz IRWM - Organization

Partner Agency Steering Committee -> Regional Water Management Foundation

Partner Agencies

Implementation Affiliates

Interested Stakeholders
Santa Cruz IRWM - Organization

• Fiscal Agent:
  – Regional Water Management Foundation, a subsidiary of the Community Foundation of Santa Cruz

• Steering Committee:
  – County Water Resources Division Director
  – Resource Conservation District Executive Director
  – Soquel Creek Water District General Manager

• Partner Agencies – 9 (signatories to MOA and grant recipients)
  – 3 Water Districts
  – 2 Cities and County (Water, Public Works, Health, Parks Departments)
  – 2 Sanitation Districts
  – Resource Conservation District

• Implementation Affiliates -13 (Agencies and organizations participating in project implementation)

• Stakeholders -24 (Other interested agencies and organizations)
Santa Cruz IRWM Issues and Objectives

- Address water supply shortfalls, groundwater overdraft and stream depletion
- Promote habitat and watershed restoration
- Improve water quality, stormwater management, drainage, and flood management
- Address impacts from existing development and infrastructure
- Address climate change
- Evaluate and update ongoing policies and programs
- Track, evaluate and prioritize most cost-effective efforts
- More than 70 potential projects have been submitted
Proposition 50 Grant - $12.5 Million

1. Administration and Management
2. Abandoned Well Destruction Program
3. Conjunctive Use and Aquifer Recharge
4. Aptos Watershed Drainage Master Plan
5. Stormwater Pollution Prevention
6. Groundwater Recharge Projects and Policies
7. Relocate Sewer Main from New Brighton and Seacliff Beaches
8. Intake Design for Desalination Project
Proposition 50 Grant - $12.5 Million

9. Polo Grounds Well, Water Conservation
10. Polo Groundwater Monitoring Well
11. Davenport Drinking Water Treatment
12. Watsonville Sloughs Watershed Restoration
13. Integrated Watershed Restoration (Phase 2)
14. Scotts Valley Recycled Water
15. Coordinated Monitoring Program
16. Integrated Plan Update, Climate Change and Conjunctive Use
Proposition 84 Planning Grant

1. Update IRWM plan framework: governance, financing, land use planning, and stakeholder involvement
2. Improvements to the IRWM Plan: updated objectives, management strategies, projects, benefit assessment, data management, and performance evaluation
3. Climate change strategy for water resources and supply
4. Technical Studies:
   1. Increase pumping and treatment potential from the eastern Purisima Formation
   2. Update the Santa Margarita Groundwater Model
   3. Conjunctive use and water transfers
   4. Hydrologic model of Watsonville Slough System
5. Grant management and administration
Santa Cruz IRWM Successes

• Creation of an independent third party fiscal agent has worked well
• Program has supported and cemented pre-existing working relationships and watershed approaches
• Integrated Watershed Restoration Program (IWRP) is very effective for facilitating habitat restoration projects
• Independent water supply agencies are working well together on regional desal and water transfers
• Good communication with other IRWM regions in Central Coast Funding area: funding and monitoring
• Whole IRWM program is working well for us
Santa Cruz IRWM Challenges

• Long term funding
  – Actively working with State Water Plan Update and Finance Caucus to address local and regional concerns

• Funding and incentives for habitat restoration and addressing diffuse sources of recharge loss and water quality degradation
  – Permit coordination and streamlining holds good promise
http://santacruzirwmp.org/