

PROPOSAL EVALUATION

IRWM Grant Program -- Planning Grant, Round 1, FY 2010-2011

Applicant	Mariposa County Resource Conservation District	County	Mariposa
Project Title	Yosemite/ Mariposa County Integrated Regional Water Management Plan	Grant Request	\$996,818
		Total Project Cost	\$1,969,779

Project Description The Central California Region is proposing to develop an IRWMP through adoption and integrated project development. The area covered by the plan will be Mariposa County, as collectively decided in a meeting with adjoining regions facilitated by DWR on June 16, 2010. The plan will be guided and adopted by a RWMG that includes 12 federal, state, and local agencies and organizations. The process includes DAC outreach and involvement as well as DAC screening analysis at three points: issue identification, project selection, and plan development.

Evaluation Summary

Scoring Criterion	Score
Work Plan	9
DAC Involvement	8
Schedule	6
Budget	4
Program Preferences	5
Geographic Balance	0
<i>Total Score</i>	<i>32</i>

- **Work Plan** The work plan is deficient in a number of areas. It does not specify how the RWMG functions or governs. There is reference to three processes (including the IRWM planning process) that "identified and documented objectives and conflicts...", but there is no mention of the objectives and conflicts that resulted from these efforts. Detail of IRWM planning activities is lacking. The structure of the tasks does not clearly indicate that the planned project can be implemented. The focus of this project seems to be more to prepare for implementation projects than to develop a framework for their IRWM Plan that will ensure its adaptability and continued use.
- **DAC Involvement** The DACs in the region have been identified. The proposal lists the specific actions taken to engage DACs and identifies tasks to continue DAC involvement. Application states that "several" of the DACs have been participating in the planning process, but it does not specify which DACs or what they are doing to support IRWM planning. Application does not specify how IRWM Planning will benefit DACs. While representatives of several DACs have been participating in previous regional activities, it is recognized that they are under-represented and continued outreach is planned.
- **Schedule** The schedule appears to be structured inappropriately. For example, the Governance Structure being final towards the end of the project and identification of missing data will take place after developing a scope of work for a contractor to perform a water study. The relationship between tasks is not always clear and some items in the schedule do not line up with the work plan. The schedule would have benefited from a greater use of milestones and key review and stakeholder involvement dates. There are several large lump sum items in the budget which are not documented in the schedule.
- **Budget** Budget format and information does not fully meet the criterion. There are work hours assigned to each task, but not dollars. Dollar summaries were only provided for groups of tasks. The funding match and grant request hours/dollars are in separate spreadsheets making it difficult to determine the total cost for each task. There is no explanation in the work plan for the number of hours for each task (i.e. # of meetings, hours/meeting, etc.). Some tasks seem reasonable, but there are two \$400,000+ match/expense entries with no justification. There are costs in an expense column with no explanation of what is included

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in these costs. Furthermore, there is no explanation of what components of the funding match have already been done.

- Program Preference There is no clear description in the application to demonstrate how the applicant will address program preferences. Proposal states that each project that is considered for inclusion into the IRWM project list will be evaluated by its abilities to address Statewide Priorities, but there is no explanation as to how the region will ensure that each priority is met. There is a high level of certainty that the application will address five program preferences. They are: include regional projects or programs, effectively integrate water management programs and projects, integrate water management with land use planning, climate change response, and ensure equitable distribution of benefits.
- Geographic Balance Not Applicable