

No. 25: Sacramento Valley Integrated Regional Water Management Region

Region Acceptance Process Summary

General Description of Region

The Sacramento Valley Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Region encompasses portions of Shasta, Tehama, Glenn, Butte, Colusa, Sutter, Yuba, Placer, Sacramento, and Yolo Counties in the Sacramento River Hydrologic Region. The Sacramento Valley IRWM Region is focused mainly on agricultural water supply and conveyance issues. The RAP materials contained a very brief and vague explanation of the Region's governance structure. The Sacramento Valley Regional Water Management Group's governance structure and decision-making body is comprised solely of the Northern California Joint Exercise of Powers members.

The proposed region overlaps the following IRWM Regions – the American River Basin (#1); Cosumnes, American, Bear, Yuba (CABY) (#6); Northern Sacramento Valley (NSV) (#22); Upper Feather River (#37); Westside-Sacramento (#45); and Yuba County (#46). The Sacramento Valley IRWM Region overlaps significantly with the NSV IRWM Region boundary, with the two regions submitting separate applications for management of essentially the same water resources.

Interview Conclusions – Conditional Approval for SBXX1 Funds

Because the Sacramento Valley IRWM Region has an existing adopted IRWM Plan, it is conditionally approved only for the purpose of competing for planning and implementation funding from Senate Bill XX1 (Perata, Stats. 2008, Ch. 1), California Water Code §83000-83002.7.

The Sacramento Valley IRWM Region must reconcile the regional overlaps with all of the following Regions – American River Basin; CABY; NSV; Upper Feather River; Westside-Sacramento; and Yuba County.. In particular, DWR's intent is to facilitate future communication and cooperation between the Sacramento Valley and the NSV IRWM Regions to develop an optimal region that fosters integration and cooperation, not overlapping and competing planning efforts.

The stated communication and cooperation, and optimal region development, will be considered when determining future region approval and eligibility for subsequent funding rounds.

September 2009 RAP Cycle