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## Coordinating Committee

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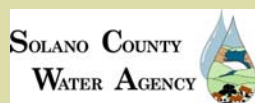
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# First Annual Report—January 2016

## Integrated Regional Water Management in the Westside Region

Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) in California began in 2002 with SB 1672 – the Regional Water Management Planning Act. State Propositions like Prop 50 and Prop 84 have provided funding to develop regional plans around the state and to start or complete projects developed under these plans. A total of 48 IRWM regions have been defined in California, covering 87 percent of the land and 99 percent of the population. This approach to water management supports solutions that make sense for, benefit, and foster coordination among broader regions.

The Westside Sac Integrated Regional Water Management Plan was submitted to the California Department of Water Resources for review on March 24, 2014 and accepted July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2014 (<http://www.westsideirwm.com/plan.html>). During Plan development, representatives participated from Colusa, Yolo, Solano, Napa and Lake Counties. Upon Plan completion Colusa County elected to not participate in the Westside group since the majority of Colusa County's land was included in the North Sacramento Valley Region.

Ongoing governance for implementation of the Plan continues through meetings of representatives from the Regional Water Management Group (RWMG): the Lake County Watershed Protection District, Napa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, Solano County Water Agency and the Water Resources Association of Yolo County. The primary roles of the four representatives, now referred to as the IRWMP Coordinating Committee (CC), are to foster collaboration to accomplish Plan objectives, track and report on implementation progress, and provide a mechanism to revise and update the Plan. In

its effort to move Plan Goals and Objectives forward the CC began holding quarterly Brown Act compliant meetings in September 2013. Initial meetings addressed basic governance and management topics and their first grant application to the California Dept. of Water Resources. Recognizing the need for administrative support, the CC developed a Request For Proposals (RFP) to solicit bids from interested parties. Through a competitive selection process the CC selected and contracted with the Yolo County Resource Conservation District to provide administrative and functional support for its activities starting in January 2014. CC Activities during most of 2014 were focused on the complex initial grant application process and formation of a Mussels Task Force to move forward on this topic recognized in the Plan to be of high urgency and high importance to the entire region.

In support of the activities of the IRWMP-CC, each member agency contributes \$20,000 per year, which the CC utilizes to forward the goals and objectives of the plan.

The CC, to its benefit, has access to significant in-kind resources that come with each of the representatives from the RWMG. These resources count heavily toward the ability to move the goals and objectives of The Plan forward and include local knowledge, expertise, and contacts; administrative and political experience; administrative support to the representatives; technical and scientific expertise; and commitment to collaboration.

To learn more about the Westside Sac IRWMP and the Coordinating Committee's activities, visit [www.westsideirwm.com](http://www.westsideirwm.com).

# IRWMP Coordinating Committee Plans for the Coming Year

With the new fiscal year, starting in July, the IRWMP Coordinating Committee (CC) began its rotation of the Chair position from Solano County Water Agency to Napa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District. The succession will then move to the Water Resources Association of Yolo County and then to the Lake County Watershed Protection District. Meetings likewise rotate locations from Solano to Yolo to Lake then Napa Counties in order to provide reasonable access to meetings for all interested stakeholders.

Some of the most basic goals that the CC set for itself, among other things, were to develop an annual plan for work, an annual budget to support that work, and to produce a report out to the public of its activities. They were success in those efforts and now the group has its first Annual Budget, Annual Work-Plan and has produced its first Annual Report to the public with this document.

The CC's first Annual Work Plan, before delineating expected accomplishments for the year, first described how it got to its current position. Grants from the State Department of Water Resources (DWR) were key to the success and effectiveness of the public process used in development of an IRWM Plan that represented the interests of 5 counties. Once the plan was completed, the CC moved through the foundational steps and processes for governance and action, which resulted in con-

compliant meetings to move the business of regional water management forward. They began addressing issues of high importance and urgency such as reducing the risk of zebra and quagga mussel invasion of Clear Lake, Lake Berryessa and other upper region water bodies. This basic and ongoing work is funded through annual financial commitments from the member counties.

Anticipated work for the year includes continuing to hold regular, publicly accessible meetings; supporting coordinated and individual grant applications for projects included in the Plan and that support the goals and objectives of the Plan; moving the activities of the Mussels Task Force forward to prevent infestation and spread through our regional waterways; and communicating Plan progress to the public. The CC also wants to develop and initiate a small grants program for proponents of Projects in The Plan using funds from Regional Water Management Group annual contributions.

To see the IRWMP Coordinating Committee's Annual Work Plan in detail, please visit the Westside Sac's website at <http://www.westsideirwm.com/Westside%20IRWMP%20Web%20Page/documents.html>



Comparison between Zebra and Quagga mussels.



Zebra mussels growing in a dense group.

# About Westside Projects

At the end of 2015 there were 158 Projects listed in the Westside Sac IRWM Plan. The Plan prioritizes these projects in terms of urgency and regional importance. The number of projects by county are:

- Napa - 18 projects,
- Lake County—42 projects,
- Solano County—60 projects,
- Yolo County— 80 projects .

Several of these Projects overlap multiple counties. The type of work proposed ranges from education and recreation to improvement of terrestrial and aquatic habitat to infrastructure improvement and sanitation.

Approximately 48 of these projects are either already completed or have substantial progress toward completion because of the commitment of the local agencies to completing the planning and permitting process, seeking outside funding and serving their local communities.

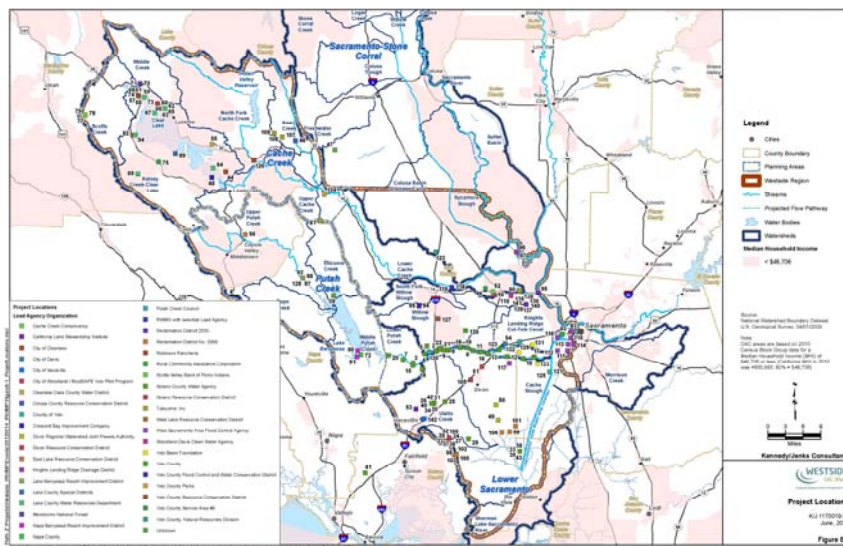
As impressive as this is, that leaves over 100 projects that remain in the concept phase. The Coordinating Committee continues to be committed to supporting local agencies and organizations in finding funding to get these projects off the ground and moving forward.

# Westside Sac IRWMP Projects Completed

## IRWM Plan Project Highlights

Napa County has completed several related projects to improve recreation facilities in their region. Within the Lake Berryessa Resort Improvement District they have upgraded the wastewater storage ponds and disposal spray fields to improve performance and effectiveness. This benefits both locals and out-of-town recreation seekers. Within the Napa Berryessa Resort Improvement District the current water treatment plant has been replaced with a new, more technically advanced water treatment plant; the storage ponds, disposal spray fields and wastewater treatment plant have been upgraded and the existing sewer lift stations have been repaired or replaced.

A major undertaking in Yolo County is a new, regional surface water supply project for Woodland and Davis, which will help solve long-standing water quality challenges. Construction of water intake structures just north of the I-5 bridge over the Sacramento River are nearly complete, as is the series of pipelines to move Sacramento River water to treatment facilities. Groundbreaking occurred on April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2014 for construction of the Regional Water Treatment Facility. Initial water deliveries are anticipated in spring 2016.



Map of the original 143 projects included in the Westside Sac IRWM Plan, approved July 2014





Measuring water pressure to improve application efficiency

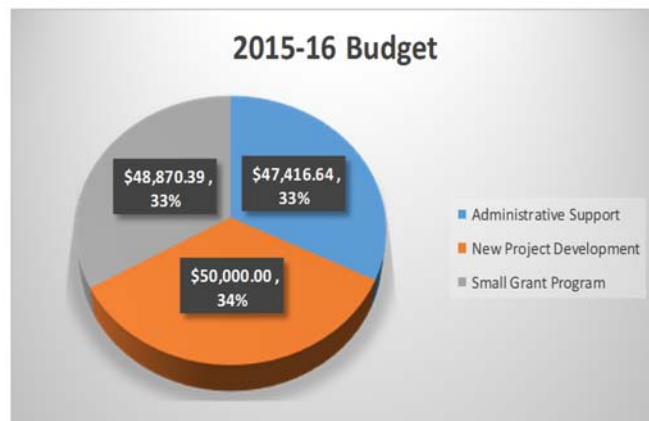
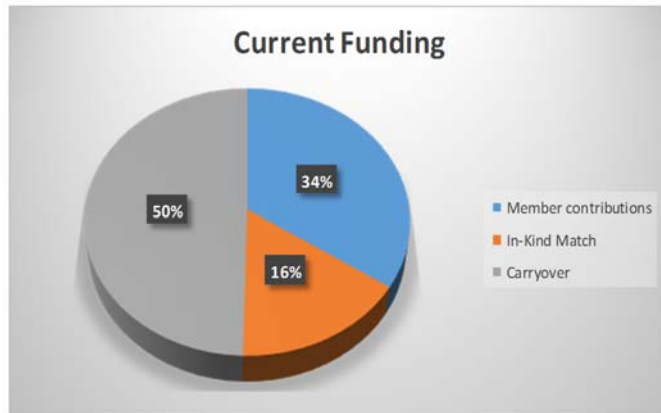
## New Westside Small Grant Program

One of the exciting new developments that has come out of the hard work by the Westside Sac IRWM Coordinating Committee is that with the beginning of 2016 they have initiated a Small Grant Program. This is the first round of what is anticipated to be an annual offering to move projects forward that help accomplish the goals and objectives of the Westside's IRWM Plan. To be funded the work must be part of one of the projects already approved and included in the Plan.

Funding for this grant program comes from the annual contributions of the member agencies: Napa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, Solano County Water Agency, Lake County Department of Water Resources and the Water Resources Association of Yolo County.

Initial interest in the Small Grant Program has been strong. Requests have been made in topic areas ranging from education programs to managing invasive species to flood management and water quality.

For more information and an application form see:  
<http://www.westsideirwm.com/projects.html>



Surveying invasive plants in preparation for control measures.