



Northern Sacramento Valley Integrated Regional Water Management Plan Inclusion of Projects in the NSV IRWMP

This document describes the method that will be used by the Northern Sacramento Valley (NSV) Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Board's Project Review Subcommittee for including projects in the NSV IRWM Plan (Plan). Please note that the Plan is not targeted to any specific grant funding application. Two categories of projects are included in the Plan – 1) approved projects, and 2) projects to track for the future.

Overview: All submitted projects will be reviewed for inclusion in the Plan unless specifically requested by the Project Proponents to only be “tracked.” The purpose of the “Projects to Track” section is to acknowledge and describe projects that may be on the horizon for future, especially large projects that have the potential to create substantial impacts or benefits to regional water management.

Any concerns raised by a project (ranked or tracked) will be described for the Board when the list of projects proposed for inclusion in the Plan is presented for consideration. The Board may direct staff to move projects between the ranked and tracked categories, or remove projects from the Plan.

Proposed project review factors

Project review is based on information submitted by the project proponents during the project submittal process, and evaluated by the Board's Project Review Subcommittee and TAC. To determine if a project should be included in the NSV IRWMP, the following factors will be taken into consideration when determining if a project should be included in the NSV IRWMP:

- A. Number of NSV IRWM Plan Objectives addressed. This factor is weighted most heavily compared to all other factors. The list of NSV IRWM Plan objectives adopted by the Board can be downloaded from the NSV IRWMP website: <http://nsvwaterplan.org/mdocs-posts/2-chapter-2-goals-and-objectives/>
 - i. Number of NSV Objectives addressed
 - ii. Type of need met (higher weight for higher priority primary and secondary objectives – i.e. critical health & safety objectives get the most weight. This is based on the priority that was established for each NSV IRWM Plan objective - either “critical”, “foundational”, “high”, or “medium” priority - when the Board adopted the Goals and Objectives in June 2012.)
- B. Multi-Benefit
 - i. Meets objectives under more than one NSV IRWM Plan goal. The list of NSV IRWM Plan Goals adopted by the Board can be downloaded from the NSV IRWMP website: <http://nsvwaterplan.org/mdocs-posts/2-chapter-2-goals-and-objectives/>
 - ii. Number of committed collaborative partners



Northern Sacramento Valley Integrated Regional Water Management Plan Inclusion of Projects in the NSV IRWMP

- iii. Benefits more than one county
- C. Readiness to proceed/project status (Based on project phase. Higher weight for projects that are closer to the construction/implementation phase)
- D. Local contribution to cost share (including both monetary and non-monetary/in-kind contributions). This is the local share of total cost or local “matching funds” – e.g. for a local agency’s project with 50% matching funds, the local agency can fund half of the total project cost.
- E. Benefits to Disadvantaged Communities (DACs)
- F. Benefits to Tribes (federally recognized or non-federally recognized)
- G. Economic feasibility (assessed with a cost-effectiveness analysis or cost-benefit analysis). Projects are not disqualified if they have not done a cost analysis, but it is beneficial if they have done one, and if they can show project benefits outweigh costs.
- H. Number of statewide priorities addressed. Statewide priorities are listed in the State’s IRWM guidelines which can be found on the NSV IRWMP website: <http://nswwaterplan.org/mdocs-posts/irwmguidelines2010/>
- I. Number of resource management strategies utilized. Resource management strategies are listed in the State’s IRWM guidelines which can be found on the NSV IRWMP website: <http://nswwaterplan.org/mdocs-posts/irwmguidelines2010/>
- J. Qualitative Factors Considered for Ranked Projects
- K. Technical feasibility of the project. The Project Review Subcommittee will make a technical feasibility determination.
- L. Environmental Justice (EJ). If Environmental Justice concerns are raised, the Board may choose not to include the project in the ranked lists until EJ concerns are addressed in a good faith effort.
- M. Project costs and financing. A basis for cost estimate must be provided for inclusion in the Plan.
- N. Potential conflict with one or more NSV IRWM Plan objectives. In the event that a project addresses one or more IRWM Plan objectives, but also conflicts with another objective, the Board may choose not to include the project in the Plan.



Northern Sacramento Valley Integrated Regional Water Management Plan Inclusion of Projects in the NSV IRWMP

Project Review Steps:

- 1) Review projects for potential integration opportunities. Project proponents will be encouraged early in the process to integrate projects where possible for broader cross-jurisdictional and regional efficiency and/or benefits.
- 2) Determine if a submitted project will be on the project list or tracked list, based on the Project proponents' request.
- 3) Projects will be described in the Plan when the Projects Appendix is updated.
- 4) **As of January 4, 2016, the NSV board is reopening the project submittal period in order to have a complete list of potential projects ready for upcoming funding opportunities. The project solicitation period will remain open from January 4, 2016 through February 5, 2016.** Projects that were not included in the Plan by the Board during previous project solicitations may have the opportunity to be re-submitted for review during this project submittal period. Projects may also be updated to integrate with other projects during the re-submittal period.
- 5) Future grant opportunities may require adding additional criteria and approved projects may be updated for that specific opportunity at a later date.

Note: Inclusion in the projects list or "Projects to Track" section of the Plan does not constitute project "endorsement" by the NSV IRWM Board. Project "endorsement" will occur when projects are packaged and/or recommended for specific grant funding opportunities.