



# Upper Feather River Integrated Regional Water Management Plan

Regional Water Management Group

March 27, 2015

(Meeting No.4)



# Stakeholder Outreach Updates

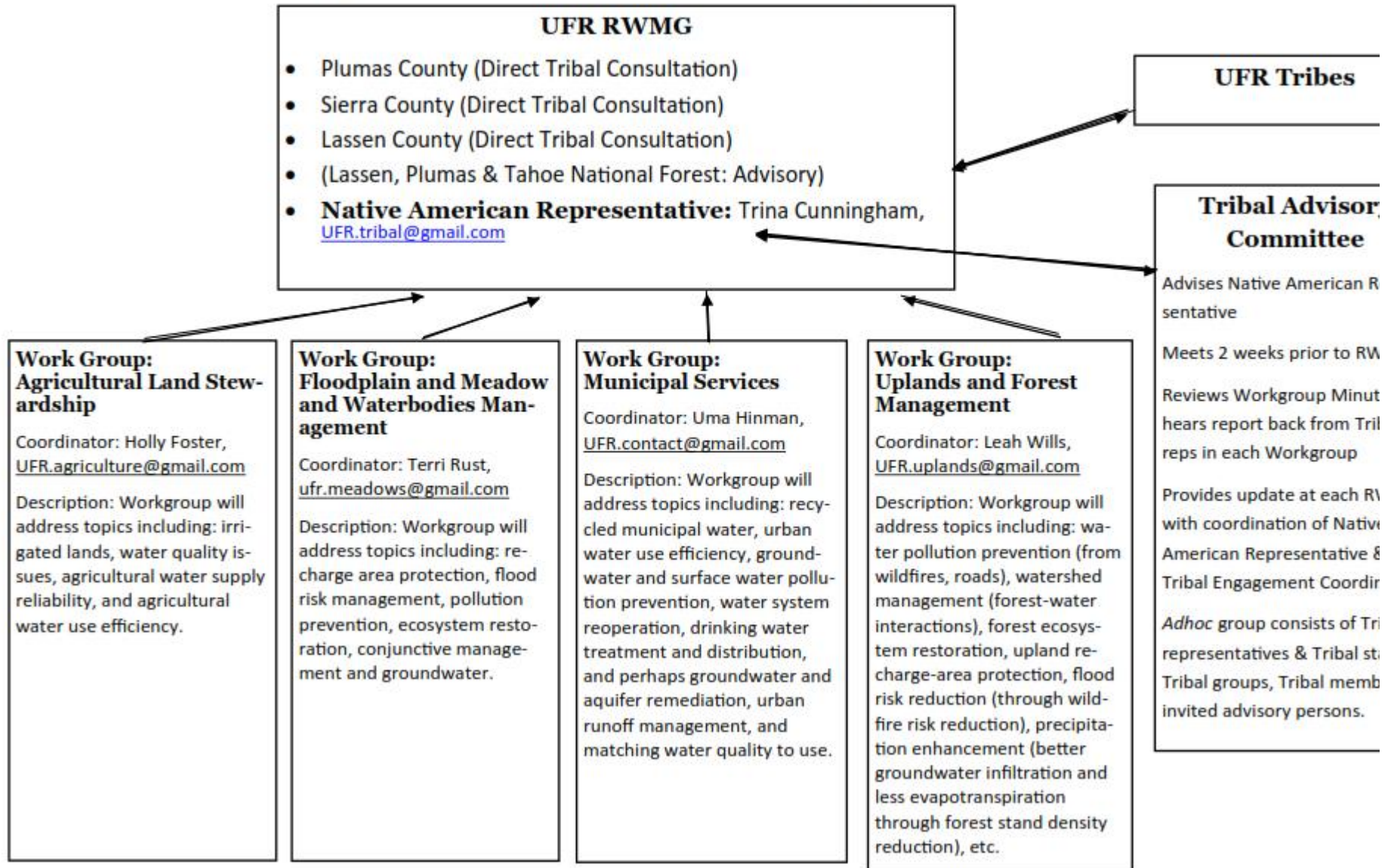
Agenda Item No. 1



# Stakeholder Outreach Updates

- Agricultural Lands Stewardship
  - January 22, 2015
  - March 11, 2015
  - TBD
- Floodplains, Meadows, Waterbodies
  - December 5, 2015
  - February 13, 2015
  - April 24, 2015
- Municipal Services
  - November 20, 2015
  - February 19, 2015
  - April 17, 2015
- Uplands and Forest
  - January 29, 2015
  - March 13, 2015
  - TBD
- Tribal Outreach
  - January 13, 2015
  - March 20, 2015

## Upper Feather River IRWM Tribal Engagement Structure



Note: RWMG & Workgroup Meeting Dates are posted on



## What is an Integrated Regional Water Management Plan?

An IRWM Plan is a comprehensive, non-regulatory planning document prepared on a region-wide scale that identifies priority water resources projects and programs with multiple benefits.

An IRWM Plan relies upon specific and focused local and sub-regional planning efforts for its foundation, and investigates a broad spectrum of water resources issues including water supply, flood management, water quality, environmental restoration, environmental justice, stakeholder involvement and far-reaching community and statewide interests.

A key difference in IRWM Plan (as compared to other planning documents) is that IRWM Plans integrate multiple water management strategies to solve multiple priority challenges. IRWM Plans can help attract state and other funding to fund

For more information on how you can shape the future of the Upper Feather River Integrated Regional Water Management Plan, please visit the website:

<http://featherriver.org>

or contact:

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Proposition 84 Grantee:  
**Plumas County Flood Control and Water Conservation District**



# Upper Feather River IRWM Plan

## Integrated Regional Water Management Plan Update





## Integrated Regional Water Management

### Benefits of IRWM Plans

Integrated Regional Water Management is a key initiative to ensuring reliable water supplies in the future. IRWM Plans help communities and regions incorporate sustainable actions into their water management efforts.

A main focus of IRWM is diversification of a region's water portfolio so that multiple resource management strategies are employed in meeting future water and water quality needs of all sectors. This diversification should help regions be better prepared to face an uncertain future of water availability and water use, while protecting and improving water quality and the environment.

IRWM is a long term approach to water management in California. As IRWM evolves it seeks to encourage planning efforts that are collaborative and use broad stakeholder participation to gain the input that leads to diversity of water management strategies. Such

### Mission Statement

*To effectively perpetuate local control and regional collaboration to provide stability and consistency in the planning, management and coordination of resources within the Upper Feather River watershed. To implement an integrated strategy that guides the Upper Feather River region toward protecting, managing and developing reliable and sustainable water resources.*

### Upper Feather River Regional Water Management Group

The RWMG is the decision-making body of the Upper Feather River IRWM Program. The RWMG consists of seven local agencies, a Tribal representative, a member of the public, and representatives of three national forests (Plumas, Lassen, Tahoe) who serve in an advisory role. The RWMG oversees the development of IRWM Plan, which includes stakeholder and disadvantaged community involvement and overall plan development and management.

**Meeting times and locations are posted on the IRWM website**

### How You Can Participate

IRWM operates on the principle that each stakeholder holds a piece of the water management solution for their region and the best solutions require increased communication and understanding of regional issues. The partners involved in an IRWM Plan, the high potential for better water management solutions.

IRWM Plan meetings and workshops are a great opportunity for stakeholders to participate in constructing an IRWM Plan to fit changing regional water management needs within the Upper Feather River Watershed.

Stakeholders and the public are encouraged to become involved in the Workgroups. The Workgroups will provide input on project development, resource management strategies and draft Plan chapters. More information is available located on the Upper Feather River IRWM website: <http://featherriver.org/workgroups>

### Workgroups

Uplands and Forest Management:

[Leah Wills, UFR.uplands@gmail.com](mailto:Leah.Wills@ufr.org)

Meadows, Floodplains and Waterbodies Management:

[Terri Rust, UFR.meadows@gmail.com](mailto:Terri.Rust@ufr.org)

Agricultural Lands Stewardship:

[Holly Foster, UFR.agriculture@gmail.com](mailto:Holly.Foster@ufr.org)

Municipal Services:

[Uma Hinman, UFR.municipal@gmail.com](mailto:Uma.Hinman@ufr.org)



# Resource Management Strategies

Agenda Item No. 2



# RMS

- Workgroups – select 3-6 RMS to focus on
  - 6 RMS selected by more than one WG
  - 15 RMS not selected as a priority
- Must address all applicable RMS
- RWMG
  - Review Workgroup selections
  - Review remaining RMS for applicability to UFR Region
  - Assign any other RMS to Workgroups





# Agricultural Lands Stewardship

1. Agricultural water use efficiency
8. Conjunctive management
17. Pollution prevention (overlap – FMW)
20. Agricultural land stewardship
25. Sediment management (overlap – UF)
28. Outreach and engagement (overlap – UF)



# Floodplains/Meadows/ Waterbodies

3. Flood management

17. Pollution prevention (overlap – Ag)

21. Ecosystem restoration (overlap – UF)

22. Forest management (overlap – UF)

26. Watershed management (overlap – UF)

30. Water-dependent recreation



# Uplands/Forest

- 21. Ecosystem restoration (overlap – FMW)
- 22. Forest management (overlap – FMW)
- 25. Sediment management (overlap – Ag)
- 26. Watershed management (overlap – FMW)
- 27. Economic incentives (overlap – Muni)
- 28. Outreach and engagement (overlap – Ag)



# Municipal Services

2. Urban water use efficiency

7. Water transfers

11. Municipal recycled water

14. Drinking water treatment and distribution

27. Economic incentives (overlap – UF)

Wastewater/NPDES



# RMS Not Selected

4. Conveyance – Delta
5. Conveyance – regional/local
6. System reoperation
9. Desalination
10. Precipitation enhancement
12. Surface storage – CALFED/State
13. Surface storage – regional/local
15. Groundwater remediation/aquifer remediation
16. Matching water quality to water use
18. Salt and salinity management
19. Urban stormwater runoff management
23. Land use planning and management
24. Recharge area protection
29. Water and culture
31. Other strategies



# Draft Goals and Objectives

Agenda Item No. 3



# Goals and Objectives

- Four overarching goals were drafted by staff
  - Land, water, people, wildlife
- Goals and objectives were presented to the Workgroups and Tribes for review and comment
- All Workgroups and Tribes provided feedback
- Next steps
  1. Review goals
  2. Review Stakeholder feedback on goals and objectives
  3. Consider goals and objectives



# Goals

1. Protect and improve water quality and water supply reliability.
2. Protect and improve the health of the environment including fish, wildlife and the land. (FMW WG)
3. Protect and improve the economy of the region and provide healthy and adequate water and wastewater treatment for all citizens, including DACs and Native Americans.





## Goals (cont.)

4. Establish and maintain effective communication among water resource stakeholders in the region, enhancing the public's understanding of water management issues.
5. Protect and enhance the health and economic viability of working landscapes. (Ag WG)



# Objectives - Recommendations

5. Work with DWR to develop strategies and actions for the management, operation, and control of SWP facilities in the Upper Feather River Watershed in order to increase water supply, recreational, and environmental benefits to the Region.
  - Tribes: this may be a goal or redundant with objective



# Recommended Edits

6. Encourage municipal service providers to participate in regional water management actions that affect improve water supply and water quality.
  - Muni WG
  
10. Address water resources and wastewater needs of DACs and Native Americans.
  - Muni WG



# Recommended Edits

12. Balance management of water resources for all users, including agriculture, municipal, and environmental resource needs.
  - Tribes: redundant with objective 5
  - Muni WG: redundant with objective 14 (as edited)
  
14. Maximize agricultural, environmental and municipal water use efficiency.
  - Muni WG



# Recommended Additions

18. Address economic challenges of agricultural producers.
  - Ag WG
  
19. Work with counties/communities/groups to make sure staff capacity exists for actual administration and implementation of grant funding.
  - Ag WG

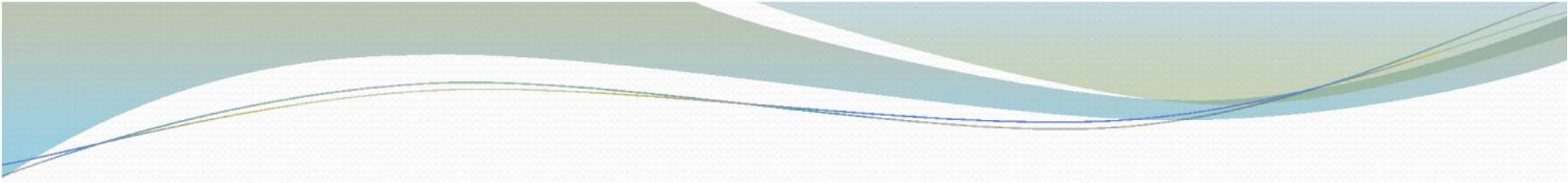


# Relationship Goals/Objectives

- Stakeholders identified relationship of objectives to goals
- Aggregate result – nearly all objectives address all goals, with a few exceptions

# Relationship of Goals/Objectives

#	Objective	1	2	3	4	5
1	Restore natural hydrologic functions.	X	X	X	X	X
2	Reduce potential for catastrophic wildland fires in the Region.	X	X	X		
3	PROTECT AND IMPROVE the needs of forest health, habitat preservation, fuels reduction, forest fire prevention, and economic activity in the UPR Region.	X	X	X	X	X
4	Build communication and collaboration among water resources stakeholders in the Region.	X	X	X	X	X
5	Work with DWR to develop strategies and actions for the management, operation, and control of SWP facilities in the Upper Feather River Watershed in order to increase water supply, recreational, and environmental benefits to the Region.	X	X	X		X
6	Encourage municipal service providers in regional water management actions that affect water supply and water quality.	X	X	X	X	X
7	Continue to actively engage in FERC relicensing of hydroelectric facilities in the Region.	X	X	X	X	
8	Address economic challenges of municipal service providers to serve customers.	X	X	X	X	X



#	Objective	1	2	3	4	5
9	Protect, restore, and enhance the quality of surface and groundwater resources for all beneficial uses, consistent with the Basin Plan. (California Water Code (CWC))	X	X	X	X	X
10	Address water resources and wastewater needs of DACs. (CWC)	X		X	X	
11	Coordinate management of recharge areas and protect groundwater resources. (CWC)	X	X	X	X	X
12	Balance management of water resources for all users, including agriculture, municipal, and environmental resource needs.	X	X	X	X	X
13	Improve coordination of land use and water resources planning. (California Water Plan (CWP))	X			X	X
14	Maximize agricultural and municipal water use efficiency. (CWC)	X	X	X	X	X



#	Objective	1	2	3	4	5
15	Effectively address climate change adaptation and/or mitigation in water resources management. (CWP)	X	X	X	X	X
16	Improve efficiency and reliability of water supply and other water-related infrastructure. (CWP)	X	X	X	X	X
17	Enhance public awareness and understanding of water management issues and needs. (CWP)	X	X	X	X	X
18	<u>Address economic challenges of agricultural producers.</u>					X
19	<u>Work with counties/communities/groups to make sure staff capacity exists for actual administration and implementation of grant funding.</u>					X



# To Prioritize or not to Prioritize...

- Optional in the Prop 84 Guidelines
- Some IRWM regions elected not to prioritize, giving all equal weight
- Potential benefits
  - Could aid in identifying core issues common to all interest groups in Region
  - Could be used in project ranking/prioritization process to identify projects that may provide greatest benefit to Region

# Administrative Draft Baseline Technical Study

Agenda Item No. 4



# Baseline Technical Study

- Purpose
  - Summarize existing water management-related studies and data within the Region
  - Scientific and technical foundation for Plan update
- “Call for Studies” issued in November 2014
- Staff collection of studies
- Development of database



# Database Categories to Date

- Biotic studies and assessments
- Climate change
- Conjunctive management
- Demographic information and DACs
- FERC licensing and dam facilities
- Flooding
- Forests and Wildland Fires
- Groundwater
- Infrastructure
- Land planning and conservation
- Legislation, legal, misc. policy documents
- Recreation
- Restoration
- Streamflow
- Water quality
- Water supply/conservation
- Watershed assessment
- Watershed management and planning



# Data gaps

- Conjunctive water use and conjunctive water management resources
- Recreation planning resources
- Water supply and management plans



# Next Steps

- RWMG review
- Release to Stakeholders for review
- Staff collect and incorporate comments
- Continue to collect studies and data for inclusion



# Draft Project Solicitation Package

Agenda Item No. 5





# Draft Project Solicitation Package

- Draft Project Solicitation Forms reviewed by Stakeholders
  - No changes
  - Requests for Conceptual Form
- Staff additions/clarifications
- Example awarded project submittals



# Next Steps

- Approve goals and objectives
- Select RMS to be included in Plan
- Approve Project Solicitation Package
- Release Project Solicitation

# Proposed Timeline

Step	Tentative Date
Release Project Solicitation Package	April 5, 2015
Project Solicitation Meetings (2)	Mid-late April
Deadline for Project Submittals	June 1, 2015
Integration Workshop	Late June
Select/Prioritize Projects	July RWMG mtg
Prioritization Workshop	August/September



# Outreach Meetings

Agenda Item No. 6



# Outreach Meetings

- Project Solicitation Meetings (2)
  - Public meetings to solicit/hear potential projects throughout the Region
  - Two different locations in the Region
  - Mid-late April?



# Continued...

- Project Integration Workshop
  - All Workgroups – project integration and identification of projects of regional significance
- Climate Change Workshop
  - Presentation of findings of Climate Change Technical Study
  - Stakeholder “working session” to
    - Advance region-wide planning
    - Brainstorm integrated approaches
    - Discuss adaptation strategies



# Draft Project Selection and Ranking Criteria

Agenda Item No. 7



# Purpose of Project Selection/Ranking Process

- To identify actions needed to meet Plan objectives
- Develop a clear and consistent review and selection process
- Project Review Process
  1. Ensure projects meet minimum standards for inclusion in Plan (Prop 84 Guidelines)
  2. Seek opportunities for integration
  3. Prioritize projects
    - a. How well they meet UFR IRWM Plan objectives
    - b. How well they meet IRWM Grant Program objectives





# Project Eligibility

1. Project must be located within Region's boundaries
2. Include specific elements per the Prop 84 Guidelines
3. Approved IRWM
4. Project proponent adopt UFR IRWM
5. Project must have support and approval of landowners
6. Project must address Plan objectives



# Project Review Process

1. Consistency with laws, regulations, permit requirements, local plans
2. Identification of potential conflicts with IRWM Plan objectives or other projects
3. Identification of potential integration with other projects
4. Assessment of each project according to project ranking criteria
5. Screening for potential environmental justice impacts or impacts to disadvantaged communities (DACs)



# Project Ranking/Prioritization

- Prioritization of projects required per Prop 84 Guidelines
  - Ranked projects a tool to help RWMG and State evaluate projects
- Most competitive projects:
  - Best meet Region's goals/objectives
  - Best meet objectives and priorities of State's IRWM Grant Program



# Developing Ranking/Prioritization Process

- Objective and fair
- Consistent for objective ranking
- Considerations:
  - Objectives
  - Integration
  - Project need
  - Overall strength of project
  - DACs/Environmental Justice



# Draft Methodology

- Two categories of projects
  - Prioritized projects
  - Projects to track
    - An appendix in the Plan
- Review of projects occur periodically after IRWM approved so as to
  - Keep current
  - Move projects up as they are developed



# Point Based System

## 12 Scoring Criteria

1. Relevance to UFR IRWM Plan Objectives
2. Resource Management Strategies
3. Statewide priorities
4. Shovel Ready/Readiness to Proceed
5. Matching Funds
6. Partners
7. Climate Change/Green Technology
8. Drought Preparedness
9. Impact if not funded
10. Preliminary Engineering/Scientific Backing
11. Community Benefits
12. DACs or Tribal Communities



# Leveling Criteria Options

- Number of projects submitted per proponent
- Project cost



# Process Implementation

- Initial vetting for eligibility, integration and ranking/tracking
  - Who?
- Apply scoring criteria
  - Who?
- RWMG review and tentatively approve draft list of prioritized projects
- Prioritization workshop
- RWMG final consideration for inclusion in Plan





# Stakeholder Involvement

- Project Integration Workshop
  - Recommendations for project selection and integration
- Project Prioritization Workshop
  - Review and comment on recommended project selection and ranking
- Draft IRWM Plan
  - Review and comment on Draft Plan, including project selection and ranking

# Next Steps and Tentative Timeline

Step	Date
Review/discuss draft project/selection criteria	March RWMG meeting 2015
Solicit stakeholder input	April 2015
Consider Draft Project Selection/Ranking Criteria	May RWMG meeting 2015
Select and Prioritize Projects	July RWMG meeting 2015
Project Prioritization Workshop	August 2015
Finalize Prioritized List for Plan	September RWMG meeting 2015



# Next Meeting

Agenda Item No. 8



# Meeting Date and Time

- May 2015
- Tentative Topics
  1. Workgroup updates
  2. Tribal Outreach update
  3. Review and comment on draft Regional Description
  4. Review staff draft Land Use Chapter
  5. Draft Project Selection/Prioritization Criteria

# Consent Item

Draft Meeting Minutes from January 28, 2015 RWMG Meeting