

**Pajaro River Watershed Integrated Regional Water Management Plan Update
Project Solicitation Form**

PROJECT OVERVIEW

General Project Information

Project Title:	Hollister Urban Area Water and Wastewater Master Plan and Coordinated Water Supply and
Project Location:	Hollister, CA (including both incorporated and unincorporated areas)
Estimated Cost:	\$27,500,000

Brief Project Description (1 to 2 sentences):

Although treated drinking water meets all primary federal and state drinking water regulations in the HUA, hardness and minerals in the water supply need to be reduced. The reliability of imported surface water from the federal Central Valley Project (CVP) has declined significantly because of major environmental, regulatory, and legal constraints to pumping and exporting water from the Sacramento–San Joaquin River Delta (Delta). The sustainability of local supplies requires review. The high level of minerals in the treated wastewater limits both disposal and recycling options because of adverse impacts to crops and groundwater. Therefore, the Program was developed to: (1) improve the quality of municipal drinking water, industrial supply, and recycled water for urban and agricultural users (2) provide a reliable and sustainable water supply to meet the current and future demands of the Hollister Urban Area (3) implement goals for the Hollister Water Reclamation Facility to be the primary wastewater treatment plant for incorporated and unincorporated lands in the HUA to protect groundwater quality and public health. The project also includes the delineation and protection of a seasonal wetland at the West Hills Treatment Plant location.

Project Proponent Information

Contact Name:	Jeff Cattaneo, District Manager
Affiliation:	San Benito County Water District
Address:	30 Mansfield Road, Hollister, CA 95024
Phone Number:	(831) 637-8218
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Other participating agencies/organizations (if applicable):

City of Hollister, San Benito County, Sunnyslope County Water District

DETAILED PROJECT INFORMATION

Description

Please provide a description of your project (including the location) and its purpose, what will be constructed and/or implemented, how the project will function, the area(s) and/or entities that will be affected by or will benefit from the project, and any potential obstacles to implementation.

The HUA Program consists of a number of individual elements or projects for water, wastewater, and recycled water including: WATER: (1) Purchases or transfers of imported water supplies (2) North County Groundwater Bank (3) New urban wells (4) Lessalt Water Treatment Plant upgrades (5) new surface water treatment plant (6) demineralization of urban

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wells (7) new pipeline to Ridgemark (8) new treated water storage; **WASTEWATER:** (1) Ridgemark Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrades (2) Expansion of City of Hollister Water Reclamation Facility (3) Cielo Vista Estates connection to City of Hollister Water Reclamation Facility; **RECYCLED WATER:** (1) Phase 1 recycled water facilities (completed) (2) Phase 2a and Phase 2b recycled water facilities (3) Ridgemark recycled water facilities. Additionally, there are non-structural solutions including water conservation, salinity education, water softener ordinance, new development connections to the city sewer, and other measures. The program will address adverse impacts to crops and groundwater. Therefore, the Program was developed to address the following needs:

- ▶ **Quality of drinking water and recycled water**—Substantial differences between groundwater and imported surface water quality exist with regard to constituent concentrations such as total dissolved solids (TDS), hardness, and nitrates. Historically, TDS concentrations in the local groundwater have ranged from 800 to 1,200 milligrams per liter (mg/L), and imported CVP surface water has had TDS concentrations ranging from 250 to 300 mg/L. The higher concentrations of TDS and hardness in the groundwater results in the need for home water softeners and limits opportunities for recycled water use.
- ▶ **Reliability of water supply**—Water supplies for the HUA consist of groundwater and imported CVP surface water supplies. Based on current trends, it is likely that the reliability of imported surface water supplies will continue to decline. Currently, when CVP supplies are insufficient, additional water needs are met using urban groundwater wells.
- ▶ **Regional wastewater facility**—The wastewater service area boundary must be expanded for connection of unincorporated development to the regional City of Hollister WRF, consistent with the principles of wastewater treatment and disposal in the MOU.
- ▶ **Coordination of water and wastewater system improvements**—The County population is projected to increase from 58,388 in 2010 to 83,383 by 2025 (AMBAG 2008; DOF 2010). The water and wastewater facilities required to serve the needs projected in the City and County General Plans must be coordinated to coincide with the timing of new residential, commercial, and industrial development, to be able to provide the required level of service and minimize costs.
- ▶ **Regional balance of water resources including high groundwater areas**—The use of imported CVP surface water has helped stabilize groundwater levels but contributes to high groundwater conditions in the northern portion of the HUA. Previous analyses have concluded that the existing water supplies are sufficient to meet projected demands over the timeframe of the current City and County General Plans (through 2023) under normal (nondrought) conditions. However, because of the water quality, reliability, and wastewater disposal issues, a more effective balance in the use of available water supplies is required.

Technical Feasibility

Discuss the technical feasibility of the project. If possible, cite references that contain information about the proposed project and detail the technical feasibility of the project.

Numerous studies and reports have been prepared regarding water supply and treatment, wastewater treatment and disposal, and recycled water in the HUA. The key planning studies that provide the basis for the Program are HUA Programmatic EIR, the Master Plan, the Coordinated Plan, the Urban Water Management Plan Update, the City of Hollister Long-Term Wastewater Management Plan, SSCWD's Long-Term Wastewater Management Plan, the Recycled Water Feasibility Study, and the Groundwater Management Plan.

Pajaro River Watershed IRWM Regional Goals & Objectives

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Put an X next to any goal that the proposed project will achieve.

Water Supply	
x	1. Meet 100% of M&I and agriculture demands (both current and future conditions) in wet to dry years including the first year of a drought.
x	2. Meet 85% M&I and 75% agriculture demands (both current and future conditions) in second and subsequent years of a drought.
	3. Identify and address water supply needs of disadvantaged communities in the Pajaro River Watershed.
x	4. Implement water conservation programs to reduce M&I and agricultural water use consistent with SBx7-7 and CVPIA.
x	5. Maximize the use of recycled water during the irrigation season and expand other uses of recycled water.
x	6. Optimize the use of groundwater and aquifer storage.
x	7. Maximize conjunctive use opportunities including interagency conjunctive use.
x	8. Optimize and sustain the use of existing import surface water entitlements from the San Felipe Unit.
x	9. Maximize the beneficial use of existing local water supplies while protecting existing surface water rights.
Water Quality	
x	1. Meet or exceed all applicable groundwater, surface water, wastewater, and recycled water quality regulatory standards.
	2. Identify and address the drinking water quality of disadvantaged communities in the Pajaro River Watershed.
x	3. Protect groundwater resources from contamination including salts and nutrients.
0	4. Address impacts from surface water runoff through implementation of Best Management Practices or other surface water management strategies.
x	5. Meet or exceed delivered water quality targets established by recycled water users.

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Flood Protection

- | | |
|--|--|
| | 1. Implement flood management strategies throughout the watershed that provide multiple benefits. |
| | 2. Reach consensus on the Pajaro River Risk Reduction Project necessary to protect existing urban areas and infrastructure from flooding and erosion from the 100- |
| | 3. Work with stakeholders to preserve existing flood attenuation by implementing land management and conservation strategies throughout the watershed. |
| | 4. Develop approaches for adaptive management to minimize maintenance requirements and protect quality and availability of water while preserving ecologic and |
| | 5. Provide community benefits beyond flood protection such as public access, open space, recreation, agriculture preservation and economic development. |

Environmental Protection and Enhancement

- | | |
|----------|---|
| X | 1. Address opportunities to enhance the local environment and protect and/or restore natural resources, in cooperation with landowners, when developing water |
| | 2. Improve biological and cultural resources, including riparian habitats, habitats supporting sensitive plant or animal species and archaeological/historic sites when |
| | 3. Address opportunities to protect, enhance, or restore habitat to support Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary marine life in conjunction with water supply |
| | 4. Address opportunities for open spaces, trails, parks along creeks and other recreational projects in the watershed that can be incorporated with water management |

Integration and Coordination

Put an X next to any Resource Management Strategies (RMS) that the proposed project will address.

Reduce Water Demand	Agricultural Water Use Efficiency	x
	Urban Water Use Efficiency	x
Improve Operational Efficiency and Transfers	Conveyance - Delta	
	Conveyance - Regional/local	x
	System Reoperation	x
	Water Transfers	x
Increase Water Supply	Conjunctive Management & Groundwater Storage	x
	Desalination	x
	Precipitation Enhancement	
	Recycled Municipal Water	x
	Surface Storage - CALFED	
	Surface Storage - Regional/local	0
Improve Water Quality	Drinking Water Treatment & Distribution	x
	Groundwater Remediation /Aquifer Remediation	0
	Matching Quality to Use	x

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	Pollution Prevention	0
	Salt & Salinity Management	x
	Urban Runoff Management	
Improve Flood Management	Flood Risk Management	
Practice Resources Stewardship	Agricultural Lands Stewardship	
	Economic Incentives (Loans, Grants, & Water Pricing)	X
	Ecosystem Restoration	
	Forest Management	
	Recharge Area Protection	
	Water-Dependent Recreation	
Other Strategies	Watershed Management	
	Crop Idling for Water Transfers	
	Dewvaporation or Atmospheric Pressure Desalination	
	Fog Collection	
	Irrigated Land Retirement	
	Rainfed Agriculture	
	Waterbag Transport/Storage Technology	
Please describe:		

List the projects that were integrated to develop a single proposed project, if applicable.

List the agencies and organization that are working together to implement the project.

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Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation

Put an X next to any climate change adaptation or mitigation strategy the proposed project will contribute to.

Adaption Strategies

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Improve water supply reliability
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Expand conjunctive use of multiple water supply sources
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Increase water use and/or reuse efficiency
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Provide additional water supply
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Promote water quality protection
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Reduce water demand
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Advance / expand recycled water use
<input type="checkbox"/>	Promote urban runoff reuse
<input type="checkbox"/>	Address sea level rise
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Address other anticipated climate change impacts
<input type="checkbox"/>	Improve flood control
<input type="checkbox"/>	Promote habitat protection
<input type="checkbox"/>	Establish migration corridors
<input type="checkbox"/>	Re-establish river-floodplain hydrologic continuity
<input type="checkbox"/>	Re-introduce anadromous fish populations to watershed
<input type="checkbox"/>	Enhance and protect watershed forest and meadow systems

Please describe:

Mitigation Strategies

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Increase water use efficiency or promote energy-efficient water demand reduction
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Improve water system energy efficiency
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Advance / expand recycled water use
<input type="checkbox"/>	Promote urban runoff reuse
<input type="checkbox"/>	Promote use of renewable energy sources
<input type="checkbox"/>	Contribute to carbon sequestration

Please describe:

Does the proposed project reduce regional greenhouse gas emissions and/or improve energy efficiency? If so, explain how.

Improved energy efficiency from upgraded, state of the art water and wastewater treatment facilities.

Social Benefits and Impacts

Does the project provide specific benefits to disadvantaged communities and/or Native American tribal communities? If so, explain.

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No.

Does the project address any known environmental justice issues?

No.

Project Cost

Total Estimated Capital Cost	\$27,500,000
Annual Operation & Maintenance (O&M) Cost	\$900,000
Cost Basis (Year)	2012
Source(s) of Funding for Capital	SBCWD capital reserves
Source(s) of Funding for O&M Cost	Water sales revenue
Project Life (years)	50 years
Provide link to project cost estimate, if available	

Economic Feasibility

Has a benefit:cost or cost effectiveness analysis been completed for your project? If so, please cite reference and briefly summarize. If no economic analysis has been completed for the project, the project may receive zero points out of a possible 100 points for the financial considerations criteria unless the project is a DAC project. If the project is not a DAC project but the B:C ratio is expected to be greater than 1, please provide a justification. The lack of an economic analysis may also affect the project's readiness score.

Preliminary cost effective analysis indicates a B:C ratio greater than 1.

If known, please provide the Benefit:Cost Ratio.

Provide a detailed discussion of the benefits the project will provide. To the extent possible, quantify changes and benefits (e.g. water quality and water supply benefits) that will result from project implementation; otherwise, describe benefits qualitatively.

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Project Readiness

Proposed Project Start Date:	Phase 1 in progress (Recycled Water Facilities phase 1 water)
Anticipated Project Completion Date:	Jan-16

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Please Indicate the status (pending, in process, complete) of the following.

Project Element	Status	% Complete	Estimated Completion Date
<i>Feasibility Study</i>	Complete	100	
<i>Preliminary design</i>	Complete	100	
<i>CEQA/NEPA</i>	Program	75	13-Jun
<i>Permit Acquisition</i>	Ongoing	50	13-Dec
<i>Construction Docs</i>	Ongoing	25	14-Mar