

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

PROJECT OVERVIEW

General Project Information

Project Title:	Regional Mobile Lab to support Pajaro Basin and areas that impact it
Project Location:	Pajaro Basin and areas that impact it (Santa Clara, San Benito, Santa Cruz, & Monterey counties)
Estimated Cost:	\$1,349,993

Brief Project Description (1 to 2 sentences):

A Regional Mobile Lab will provide technical services to farmers and nurseries through out the service area on a one-on-one basis, providing education and assistance to facillitate sound management practices by providing tools to protect water quality and improve water use efficiency. These tools support compliance with Conditional Agricultural Waivers.

Project Proponent Information

Contact Name:	Jennifer Scheer
Affiliation:	Santa Clara County Farm Bureau
Address:	605 Tennant Avenue, Suite H, Morgan Hill, CA 95037
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Other participating agencies/organizations (if applicable):

Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency, Santa Clara County Water District, San Benito County Water District, Santa Cruz County Farm Bureau, Monterey County Farm Bureau, Central Coast Agricultural Water Quality Coalition, RCD Santa Cruz County, RCD Monterey County, UC Cooperative Extension, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Monterey, and San Benito Ag Commissioners, San Benito County RCD, Loma Prieta RCD.

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.

This program will re-establish a program funded in 2005-2006 by the State Water Board to provide a mobile Irrigation and Nutrient Management Lab service to Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, San Benito and Monterey Counties, offering growers a suite of on-site consultation services, including: grower workshops, irrigation system evaluations, pump efficiency tests, and nutrient monitoring and management. Specialists will prepare analysis and reports from these evaluations to aid growers in improving their system performance. This project will also invest funding in expanding CropManage to cover additional crops, to develop more crop-specific informational to help growers tailor their irrigation by comparing applied water with the optimal amount of water (based on the evapotranspiration (ET) for each crop type. This program will complement IRWMP project proposals put forth by the Central Coast Agricultural Water Quality Coalition, which was a vital participant in the original program, and RCD Santa Cruz County which is starting to work on water quality issues in Santa Cruz County. Based on the 2005-2006 program, we expect to enroll 30 growers per year in the program, working with each individually to

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best meet their needs, and to provide water conservation through greater irrigation efficiency and nutrient load reduction through application of best management practices throughout the Basin impact area.

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.

This program ran successfully in 2005 and 2006 (Santa Clara Valley Water District. (2007). *Regional Integrated Program for Irrigation and Fertilization Management Assistance in Santa Clara, San Benito, Santa Cruz, Monterey, and San Mateo Counties-Project Report for Agreement No. 04-143-553-0*. T. Hemmeter).

Pajaro River Watershed IRWM Regional Goals & Objectives

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.
X	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.
	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.
	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.
0	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.
X	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.

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x

4. Address impacts from surface water runoff through implementation of Best Management Practices or other surface water management strategies.
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 |
| X | 2. Improve biological and cultural resources, including riparian habitats, habitats supporting sensitive plant or animal species and archaeological/historic sites when |
| X | 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	
Improve Operational Efficiency and Transfers	Conveyance - Delta	
	Conveyance - Regional/local	
	System Reoperation	
	Water Transfers	
Increase Water Supply	Conjunctive Management & Groundwater Storage	
	Desalination	
	Precipitation Enhancement	
	Recycled Municipal Water	
	Surface Storage - CALFED	
	Surface Storage - Regional/local	
Improve Water Quality	Drinking Water Treatment & Distribution	
	Groundwater Remediation /Aquifer Remediation	0
	Matching Quality to Use	

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

Please describe: Project will improve agricultural irrigation efficiency, reducing water demand, nutrient flushing to groundwater aquifers and surface runoff, reduce need for groundwater pumping in coastal areas, and contribute to overall watershed management goals throughout the Pajaro Basin.

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

Regional Integrated Program for Irrigation and Fertilization Management Assistance in Santa Clara, San Benito, Santa Cruz, and Monterey Counties funded by the SWRCB through Agreement No. 04-143-553-0

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

Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency, Santa Clara County Water District, San Benito County Water District, Santa Clara County Farm Bureau, Central Coast Agricultural Water Quality Coalition, RCD Santa Cruz County, RCD Monterey County, UC Cooperative Extension, Loma Prieta RCD.

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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

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

Please describe: Project will improve water supply reliability and water quality by facilitating on-farm irrigation efficiency and nutrient management practices

Mitigation Strategies

x	Increase water use efficiency or promote energy-efficient water demand reduction
	Improve water system energy efficiency
	Advance / expand recycled water use
	Promote urban runoff reuse
	Promote use of renewable energy sources
	Contribute to carbon sequestration

Please describe: Project will provide growers and field managers with knowledge of the science, tools and economics of irrigation efficiency and nutrient management, providing mitigation benefits in throughout the Basin

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

Reduced GHGE will be a side benefit of Irrigation Efficiency. Greater water use efficiency = less pumping of water. Less pumping reduces the needs for power to fuel the pumps. Reduced need for power = reduced use of all fuels, including carbon fuels. Greater IE may also result in fewer vehicle trips for farmers and managers, resulting in less carbon fuel

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Social Benefits and Impacts

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

This project serves the disadvantaged community of Watsonville and the low-income town of Pajaro. These communities, as well as disadvantaged peoples living in the agricultural areas around them, will benefit from an increased water supply reliability (as a benefit of conservation), the program's assistance to the agricultural community, and improved water quality as the result of better irrigation practices that reduce or eliminate nutrient leaching or runoff, and lower rates of seawater intrusion in coastal areas due to decreased groundwater pumping.

Does the project address any known environmental justice issues?

By achieving the benefits described above, this project addresses EJ issues of access to safe, potable water and protection/ enhancement of a safe environment for living and working.

Project Cost

Total Estimated Capital Cost

N/A

Annual Operation & Maintenance (O&M) Cost

N/A

Cost Basis (Year)

N/A

Source(s) of Funding for Capital

N/A

Source(s) of Funding for O&M Cost

N/A

Project Life (years)

5

Provide link to project cost estimate, if available

this information can be made available as a google doc.

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.

This is a DAC project; work will directly serve the grower population, a significant portion of which is economically disadvantaged, and the nearby urban populations (by contributing to a reliable water supply and better water quality, as described above). Cost/Benefit analysis of this project will be performed if both this proposal and the Ag Water Quality Coalition's IE Support Proposal are funded, which we believe will confirm a cost/benefit ratio of at least 1:1.

If known, please provide the Benefit:Cost Ratio.

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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.

This project will provide increased water supply reliability by educating and supporting farmers in achieving greater irrigation efficiency and mastering nutrient management on their lands. This project supports PVWMA's Conservation Strategy of 5000 af/y reduction in agricultural water use, which is necessary to prevent construction of expensive infrastructure projects (raising taxes on all users to do so). As a result of greater IE, this project will also improve water quality by reducing nutrient flushing to the water table and runoff from fields by reducing or eliminating over-irrigation and improving grower nutrient management practices.

Project Readiness

Proposed Project Start Date:	within 1 month of award
Anticipated Project Completion Date:	5 years hence

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

Project Element	Status	% Complete	Estimated Completion Date
<i>Feasibility Study</i>	N/A		
<i>Preliminary design</i>	N/A		
<i>CEQA/NEPA</i>	N/A		
<i>Permit Acquisition</i>	N/A		
<i>Construction Docs</i>	N/A		