



Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is a SWRP?

A Stormwater Resource Plan (SWRP) is a watershed based planning document that includes an evaluation of existing water resources and an identification of projects, programs, and activities that will enhance the beneficial uses of stormwater and dry-weather runoff. A metrics-based approach is used to quantify project/program benefits and prioritize future implementation. Projects/programs that provide multiple benefits, such as water quality, water supply, flood management, environmental, and community benefits, are identified in SWRPs. SWRPs are developed in coordination with multiple stakeholders and the public. The development of a SWRP provides opportunities for agencies and organizations to collaborate to find ways to capture, clean, infiltrate, and/or use runoff that otherwise would leave the watershed. SWRPs are adaptively managed overtime to address ongoing changes in regulatory policies and needs.

2. Who needs a SWRP and what are the benefits?

Any public agency, nonprofit organization, public utility, federally recognized Indian tribes, State Indian tribes, and mutual water companies may develop a SWRP. Developing a SWRP provides opportunities to receive funding through the Proposition 1 Stormwater Grant Program, administered through the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board). With limited exceptions for certain small disadvantaged communities, Water Code Section 10563(c)(1) requires stormwater and dry-weather runoff capture projects be included in a SWRP to receive stormwater grants from bond measures passed by the State of California after January 1, 2014. One such bond measure is Proposition 1, passed by voters in November 2014, which authorized \$200 million in funding for multi-benefit stormwater management projects. Additionally, the development of a SWRP encourages agencies/organizations to evaluate the health of the watershed and plan projects and programs that will provide multiple benefits and address existing concerns.

3. What are the goals of a SWRP?

The development of SWRPs is a collaborative process that involves both stakeholders and the public. Goals pertaining to specific SWRPs are established through those collaborative efforts. In general, SWRPs have the following goals:

- Improve water quality by reducing runoff volumes and pollutants entering receiving waters to support beneficial uses
- Capture and use stormwater as a water supply resource
- Protect life and property through better management of flooding risks
- Use stormwater projects to enhance environmental and community benefits
- Identify multi-benefit projects that accomplish more than one of the goals identified above

4. What are the goals of the SBC SARW SWRP?

The San Bernardino County Santa Ana River Watershed (SBC SARW) SWRP will meet the general goals identified above in addition to some region specific goals. The main goal of the SBC SARW SWRP is to quantify the various benefits that result from implementation of projects and programs included in the plan. This allows the San Bernardino County Flood Control District (District) and partnering agencies to easily apply for funding opportunities available not only through the State Board and the Stormwater Grant Program, but also other water related funding opportunities. The quantification of benefits is required within the SWRP; however, the SBC SARW SWRP goes above and beyond those expectations to make applying for and obtaining funds easier.

5. What information is included in a SWRP?

Each SWRP will be different, but all will be prepared considering guidance set forth in the SWRP Guidelines developed by the State Board. At a minimum, the following information will be included in SWRPs, consistent with the guidelines:

- Description of watershed and sub-watersheds covered in the plan, including water quality priorities, identification of surface water and groundwater resources, account of local water supplies and suppliers, and a summary of existing natural habitat and open space within the watershed
- Identification of existing regional water management groups, public agencies, governments, non-profit organizations, utilities, and other stakeholders and the development of a process by which organizers of the SWRP consult, cooperate, and collaborate with each other
- Quantitative methods for identification and prioritization of stormwater and dry-weather runoff capture projects, including an integrated metrics based analysis of multi-benefit projects
- Identification and prioritization of stormwater projects based on how each project would improve water supply, water quality, flood management, environmental, and community benefits
- Identification of resources for plan implementation and project scheduling, including strategies for maintaining and amending the SWRP for future projects through an adaptive management process
- Provisions for community participation in plan development and implementation

6. How can we get a project included in the SBC SARW SWRP?

If your agency would like partner with the District on a multi-benefit project located within the SBC SARW area, and that project aligns with the goals of the SWRP, we would like to hear from you. Please send an email to SWRP@cwecorp.com and include the information requested in the project request flyer, such as contact person, partnering agencies, project name/components, and the status of the project. The more well-planned and well-quantified your project is, the likelier it will be to get matching funds from the State. The multiple benefits provided by projects included in the SBC SARW SWRP will be quantified and the results of this analysis will not only support future Proposition 1 grant applications, but other related funding opportunities that may exist in the future.

7. What is the difference between a SWRP and IRWMP?

An Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP), such as the One Water One Watershed (OWOW) Plan prepared by the Santa Ana Water Project Authority (SAWPA), is different than a SWRP and an IRWMP does not automatically become a SWRP Equivalent document. According to the California Department of Water Resources, an IRWMP is a comprehensive planning document to encourage development of voluntary regional strategies for management of water resources. Projects identified in an IRWMP must address at least one water-related concern, but are not required to provide multiple benefits, as is required in a SWRP. Additionally, IRWMPs were developed in response to Proposition 50 and SWRPs are being developed in response to Proposition 1. IRWMPs are prepared by larger watershed areas, while individual SWRPs covering a much smaller area may be prepared.