



## **Regional Water Management Group** **Monday, February 27, 2023, 1:30 to 3:30 pm**

Notice and agenda for the regular meeting of the  
**Madera Regional Water Management Group.**  
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE  
that the Madera RWMG meeting will be held  
VIA Teleconference due to COVID-19 restrictions:

### **AGENDA**

Join ZOOM Meeting:

Join from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone or Android device:

Please click this URL to join:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/4878875770?pwd=VFJSRkxZUXlOdGFjeE44bjEybWtEUT09>

Description: RWMG Meeting February 27, 2023, 1:30 PM

Or join by phone:

Dial (for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

US: +1 669 900 6833 or +1 346 248 7799 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 646 931 3860 or +1 301 715 8592 or  
+1 312 626 6799

Webinar ID: 487 887 5770

Passcode (for phone): 532881

Passcode (for computer): N7A9Uq

1. Opening
  - A. Flag Salute
  - B. Introductions
2. Review & Approval - Agenda & Minutes
  - A. Approval of February 27, 2023, Agenda
  - B. Approval of January 23, 2023, Minutes

3. Approval – Resolution No. 2023-02

4. Public Comment

The first 15 minutes of each regular meeting is set aside for members of the public to comment on any item within the jurisdiction of the Group, but not appearing on the agenda. Items presented under public comment may not be discussed or acted upon by the Group at this time. For items appearing on the agenda, the public is invited to comment at the time the item is called for consideration by the Group. Any person addressing the Group under public comment will be limited to a 3-minute presentation to ensure that all interested parties have an opportunity to speak. Also, all persons addressing the Group must state their name and county of residence for the record.

## **Items of Interest**

- The Governor's Office of Planning and Research is currently accepting public comments on their [Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program's \(ICARP\) Regional Resilience Planning and Implementation Grant Program \(RRGP\)](#).

The [draft guidelines](#) are available online, and public comments can be submitted to [icarp.grants@opr.ca.gov](mailto:icarp.grants@opr.ca.gov) no later than 5 pm on March 3<sup>rd</sup>.

This funding opportunity is available to local, regional, and tribal governments, and nonprofits. The RRGP will help address local, regional, and tribal climate resilience needs and build a pipeline of climate resilient planning and implementation projects at the regional scale. The RRGP supports projects that improve regional climate resilience and reduce climate risks from wildfire, sea level rise, drought, flood, increasing temperatures, and extreme heat events. They will be supporting the projects through three major activities: capacity-building, planning, and project implementation.

Planning grants will range from \$150,000 to \$650,000, and implementation grants will range from \$1 million to \$4 million. Letters of intent are required, and no matching funds are required. Final guidelines are expected to be released on April 26<sup>th</sup> which will open the application process. Applications are expected to be due no later than 5 pm on July 19<sup>th</sup>. Application help and technical assistance webinars are expected to be held between the application opening and closing dates previously mentioned.

- The Bureau of Reclamation is making approximately \$80 million from President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law available for water conservation, water management, and restoration projects that will result in significant benefits to ecosystem or watershed health. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law provided \$8.3 billion for Reclamation water infrastructure projects over 5-years to advance drought resilience and expand access to clean water for families, farmers, and wildlife. The investment will repair aging water delivery systems, secure dams, complete rural water projects, and project aquatic ecosystems.

More information on this funding opportunity can be found by [clicking here](#). Applications are due on March 28<sup>th</sup> at 3 pm. A recording was held earlier this week to discuss eligible applicants and project types, program requirements, and the evaluation criteria. To view the recording, please [click here](#). Please note that Microsoft Teams is required to view the recording, which is a little under 2-hours long.

- CAL FIRE is currently accepting applications through February 28<sup>th</sup> for their [Forest Health Program](#), which funds active restoration and reforestation activities aimed at providing for more resilient and sustained forests to ensure future existence of forests in California while also mitigating climate change, protecting communities from fire risk, strengthening rural economies, and improving California's water & air.

Eligible activities for this funding opportunity include:

- Forest fuels reduction
- Prescribed fire
- Pest management
- Reforestation
- Biomass utilization

Eligible applicants include:

- Local, state, and federal public agencies
- Native American tribes
- Universities
- Special districts
- Industrial and nonindustrial private forest landowners
- Non-profit organizations

Activities must be applied across large landscapes to achieve regional resilience. Projects that implement a mix of activities with multiple, experienced partners will be given priority. Projects may include planning, organizational and business capacity building, and workforce and infrastructure development as components of proposed projects. Up to 10% of the total project budget may be spent on such activities.

All projects must have climate benefits from 1) treatment activities, 2) avoided future wildfire and fossil fuel use, and/or 3) reforestation and/or growth and yield of remaining vegetation. Applicants are required to submit supporting documentation to enable CAL FIRE staff to validate benefits using tools developed by CAL FIRE and the California Air Resources Board.

- Applications for the [Multibenefit Land Repurposing Program](#) Round 2 are currently being accepted through March 29<sup>th</sup>.

This program aims to increase regional capacity to repurpose agricultural land by supporting projects that not only conserve groundwater, but also provide community health, economic well-being, water supply, habitat, and climate benefits.

Some of the key adjustments to [Round 2's guidelines](#) include adding disadvantaged community benefits as its own selection criterion, as well as clarifying project eligibility, the application review process, project monitoring expectations, and eligible costs. In Round 2, there will be up to \$40 million for projects in critically over-drafted groundwater basins as well as high and medium-priority basins subject to an emergency drought declaration. Round 2 awards are tentatively scheduled to be announced on June 1<sup>st</sup>.

- The next GSA Forum will be held virtually on April 19<sup>th</sup>. The agenda and registration link will be shared once the details are finalized. For questions or more information, please email [sgmps@water.ca.gov](mailto:sgmps@water.ca.gov)

The previous forum was held on November 9, 2022, and focused on topics related to *Funding SGMA Implementation*. A recording of the event is available online, and can be accessed by [clicking here](#).

- The Draft 2024 California Clean Water Act Section 303(d) is currently accepting public comments February 17<sup>th</sup> through April 3<sup>rd</sup>. There will be a public hearing held by the State Water Board on March 21<sup>st</sup>. For details, please refer to the public notice by [clicking here](#).
- The Small Communities Flood Risk Reduction Program (SCFRRP) has announced an anticipated opening date for applications as “early 2023”. This program is a 50% cost-share local assistance program with the primary goal of reducing flood risk for small communities (200 – 10,000 population), including legacy and disadvantaged communities, protected by the State Plan of Flood Control facilities.

Under this program, financial assistance will be provided for design and implementation of eligible projects, consistent with the CVFPP’s State Systemwide Investment Approach. Eligible applicants are local public agencies with land use authority or public agencies with jurisdiction/authority to implement flood protection projects for the small community areas protected by the SPFC facilities. An applicant may be an incorporated city or county applying on behalf of an unincorporated community. An applicant must have a financial plan identifying non-State resources required to complete the project’s implementation, as well as costs associated with the project’s operation and maintenance.

Eligible projects must be recommendations of studies performed by the small community’s land use local agency, in coordination and with input from DWR. The proposed project’s work plan must include design and implementation activities required to achieve up to 100-years of flood protection for the small community and improve associated SPFC facilities, systems, and appurtenances.

Proposed projects must incorporate considerations for climate change hydrology and sea level rise, must be able to add resiliency and flexibility to the flood management system, and produce multiple benefits. To learn more about this funding opportunity, [please click here](#).

- The Cal OES State Mitigation Planning (SMP) unit has announced the public comment period for the draft 2023 State Hazard Mitigation Plan (SHMP). The draft SHMP, a fact sheet about the SHMP, and the survey to submit comments are available on the [Cal OES Hazard Mitigation Planning Webpage](#). Public comment closes on Friday, March 24<sup>th</sup>.

The SHMP is California’s primary hazard mitigation document. It documents historic and current disaster risks, describes the State’s strategy and actions to addressing those hazards, and serves as a critical resource for local jurisdictions developing their own hazard mitigation and other emergency operations plans.

Public input on this document is essential to ensuring that the SHMP is accessible and meaningful to California's residents. For any additional questions, please reach out to the Cal OES State Mitigation Planning team at [SHMP@caloes.ca.gov](mailto:SHMP@caloes.ca.gov)

5. Review & Approval – February 2023 Financial Report
6. Review & Approval – IRWMP Project List Proposals
7. Review & Approval – Bylaw Updates
8. Review & Approval – Member Packet Updates
9. Discussion – Proposition 1 Disadvantaged Community Involvement Funding
  - A. San Joaquin Valley
    - Self Help Enterprises / Chowchilla Management Zone – Projects 12 and 13
  - B. Chowchilla Nitrate Control Program
10. Discussion – Proposition 1 – IRWM Implementation Grant
  - A. Mountain Counties
    - Indian Lakes
  - B. San Joaquin Valley Counties
    - City of Madera
    - Parkwood
    - Parksdale
    - City of Chowchilla
11. Discussion – Prop 68 Funding
  - A. Madera / Chowchilla Subbasin Domestic Well Inventory Projects – Pete L
12. Discussion – SGMA Implementation Grant
13. Discussion – Drought Working Group
14. Discussion – IRWM Round 2 Application Status
15. Discussion – Madera RWMG Future Meetings
16. Discussion – IRWMP Project List – Call for Projects
17. Report – Sustainable Groundwater Management – SGMA
18. New or Suggested Memberships to RWMG
19. Future Agenda Items
20. Next Meeting Time – Monday, March 20, 2023 - 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm

21. Adjourn