

Staff Report

for the Board of Directors' Meeting of March 10, 2021

TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Neysa King, Environmental Resources Administrator
DATE: March 1, 2021
SUBJECT: CABY Integrated Regional Planning Update

ADMINISTRATION

RECOMMENDATION:

Information presentation only. No action necessary.

BACKGROUND:

Integrated Regional Water Management is a voluntary, collaborative effort to plan and implement water management solutions on a regional scale. State lawmakers created the IRWM Planning Act in 2002 to encourage local entities to improve water quality and water supply reliability to meet the state's overall agricultural, domestic, industrial, and environmental water needs. (For amended language: CA Water Code § 10540 (2019)).

The Cosumnes, American, Bear, Yuba (CABY) Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) group is an innovative, stakeholder-driven collaboration among local government, Tribes, water agencies, watershed groups, and interested partners in the foothills region of California. NID has been directly involved with the planning, governance, financial and programmatic activities of CABY for over 10 years as both a stakeholder member and as a member of the Regional Water Management Group (RWMG) of CABY.

The RWMG is the "working body" of CABY and has a number of responsibilities, including, but not limited to: leading in the development of IRWMP modification and update process; developing and updating the CABY Project List; and acting as the decision-making body, among others. Members of the RWMG participate by means of a written agreement. Currently, there are eight RWMG member positions loosely identified as four governmental agencies and four non-governmental organizations.

CABY Stakeholders are a diversified set of participants that include multiple water agencies, municipalities, and many other public agencies, numerous nonprofit organizations, Tribal groups, and disadvantaged communities (DACs) that have formally adopted the most current CABY IRWMP and have interests in water management across the CABY geographic region. Stakeholders act as an advising body of the IRWMP, generate IRWM content, identify IRWM Projects, and attend CABY meetings as necessary.

Highlights of the CABY IRWM region includes:

- The CABY IRWM comprises 4 major watersheds: Cosumnes, American, Bear, and Yuba River watersheds.
- 4,351 square mile area and the importance of the region cannot be overstated.
- The western slope of the Sierra Nevada range, from the mountain crest to the Central Valley.
- A significant portion of the freshwater resources for the state of California originate from these headwaters' watersheds.
- When last determined, there were 43 member organizations and agencies designated as CABY stakeholder member organizations.

An ultimate goal of coordinated regional water management is to develop Projects of Mutual Benefit. CABY has received significant grants to complete regional planning and implementation of priority projects from 2010-2020. Over the course of CABY's history, NID has received nearly \$4M in funding for multiple District projects, while the CABY stakeholders throughout the region as a whole have received over \$16M in funding.

CABY IRWM Grants	NID Projects	Amount
2013 \$5.2M	Water Efficiency	\$1.2M
	Combie Hg and Sed. Abatement	\$550K
2014 \$6.2M	Rock Crk. Intertie	\$1.7M
2015 \$5.2M	Meade Canal	\$422K
<i>CABY Region Total \$16.6M</i>	<i>NID Total</i>	<i>\$3.9M</i>

The CABY IRWM Plan is nearing completion to an update process which began in 2016. NID has been a leader in this IRWMP update process, working with stakeholders and other RWMG members. NID has devoted a portion of the Environmental Resources Administrator's time (as well as management and administrative staff time) to be a part of the Regional Water Management Group, whose role has been to complete the 2016 update of the Plan. This update has taken over five years to complete.

The 2016 CABY IRWM Plan Update process is nearly complete. The most recent schedule is as follows:

- **February 4, 2021:** Public hearing and Final IRWMP adoption by RWMG for submission to DWR -- *COMPLETE*
- **February 5, 2021-present:** Final revisions to plan underway, estimate 3/10
- **March 2021:** Submittal of CABY IRWM Plan to DWR
 - *DWR Review – 60 days*
- **May 2021:** Finalize IRWMP with DWR comments, announce the release of the plan and make it available on the CABY website
- **May/June 2021:** Anticipated IRWM Plan adoption by NID and other Stakeholders through a Resolution of Support
- **June/July 2021:** RWMG reviews project list to select highest priority project suite for Prop 1 funding (\$1M)

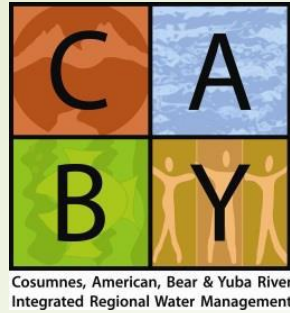
The recently updated CABY IRWM Plan can be found on the CABY website: www.CABYregion.org.

BUDGETARY IMPACT:

NID has absorbed CABY IRWMP planning and support activities in staff time.

Attachment: (1)

- PowerPoint Presentation



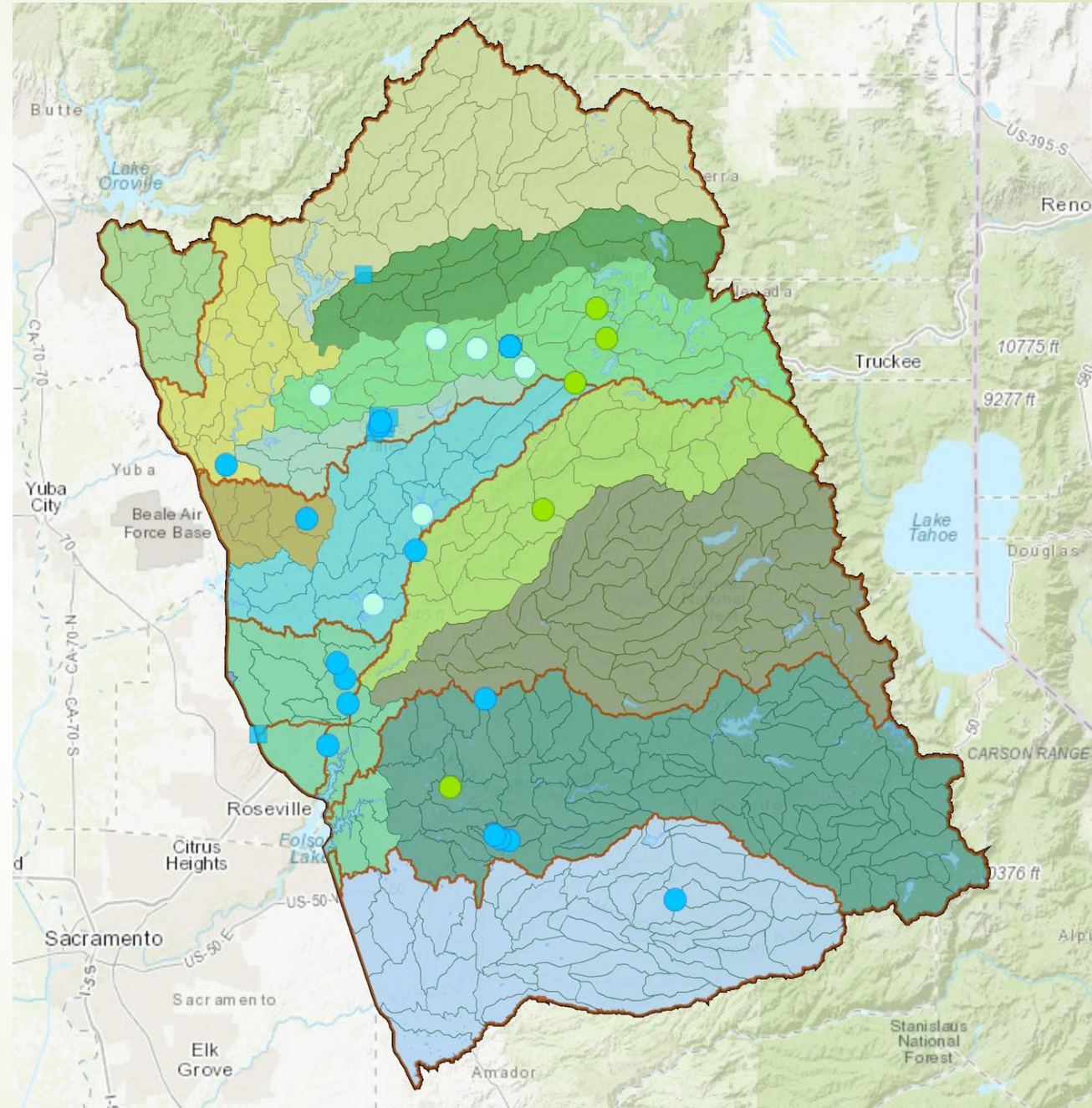
What is CABY?

Integrated Regional Water Management is a voluntary, collaborative effort to plan and implement water management solutions on a regional scale (IRWM Planning Act in 2002). Purpose: to encourage local entities to improve water quality and water supply reliability to meet the state's overall agricultural, domestic, industrial and environmental water needs. (For amended language: CA Water Code § 10540 (2019))

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- The western slope of the Sierra Nevada range, from the mountain crest to the Central Valley.
- Significant portion of the fresh water resources for the state of California.



Who is involved with CABY?

List of members (43):

American River Conservancy
American River Recreation Association
American River Watershed Group
American Rivers
Bear River Watershed Group
California Outdoors
Camptonville Community Service District
City of Colfax
City of Grass Valley
City of Nevada City
City of Placerville
Cosumnes Culture and WaterWays
County of Placer
County of Sierra

El Dorado County RCD
El Dorado County Water Agency
El Dorado Irrigation District
El Dorado Trout Unlimited
Fire Safe Council of Nevada County
Georgetown Divide PUD
Georgetown Divide RCD
Gold Country Fly Fishers
Grizzly Flats Community Service District
Mountain Counties Water Resources Association
Nevada County RCD
Nevada Irrigation District
North San Juan Fire Protection District
Placer County RCD
Placer County Water Agency

Protect American River Canyon
Save Auburn Ravine Salmon & Steelhead
Sierra County Land Trust
Sierra Native Alliance
Sierra Nevada Alliance
Sierra City Fire District
Sierra Streams Institute
Sierra Water Working Group
South Yuba River Citizens League
The Sierra Fund
Upper American River Foundation
Washington County Water District
Wolf Creek Community Alliance
Yuba Bear Watershed Council

Regional Projects of Mutual Benefit~

CABY Grants

It takes funding and investment to keep the water flowing.

CABY has received significant grants to complete regional planning and implementation of priority projects between 2010-2020.

NID has received funding for multiple projects, and has administered a \$6.2M grant from the Dept. of Water Resources that provided funding for 6 projects.

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2013 NID Water Efficiency Projects:

Partnership project with PCWA with 5 components:

- Canal lining
- Installation of the Locksley Lane and Mount Vernon interties
- Installation of gaging stations, measuring weirs and staff gages
- Water Efficiency Education included program development with the City of Grass Valley, Nevada City, NID, PCWA, SYRCL and agricultural workshops.



Tarr Canal



Measuring Weir at Allison Ranch Rd.

2013 Combie Reservoir Mercury Treatment Pilot Project:

This project demonstrated a process for removing mercury from sediment to restore water storage capacity in reservoirs impacted by upstream abandoned mines. This project:

- Pilot scale operation that mobilized a treatment unit to Combie Reservoir.
- Included demonstration trials to process mercury-contaminated sediment.
- This project was subsequently constructed and applied in a full-scale sediment removal and treatment project with funding from the Dept. of Water Resources.



2014 Rock Creek Intertie

The project improved water system reliability, redundancy and NID's responsiveness to drought, upstream canal failures and fire protection.

- Project activities included the installation of an outlet structure including a concrete headwall,
- Day-lighting the pipe, and improving safety
- An energy dissipation structure to reduce velocity and erosion (rock swale/dissipation apron).



2017 Meade Canal Project

- Canal encasing of portions of the Meade Canal system to reduce water losses from seepage, improve water quality and efficiency, and to increase available water supply.
- This project will benefit the Smartsville Water Treatment System and the Smartsville Disadvantaged Community
- This project will conserve approximately 25 acre-feet of water per year.





CABY IRWM Plan Revision Schedule & Adoption by Member Organizations

Schedule:

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DWR Review – 60 days

May 2021: Finalize IRWMP with DWR comments, announce release of plan and make available on CABY website

May/June 2021: Plan adoption by Stakeholders using Resolution of Support

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For more information see www.CABYregion.org