

Inyo-Mono IRWMP Coordinating Committee Conference call Monday, October 6, 1-3 pm

Meeting Agenda:

- Passage of SB2X Legislation and Impact on IRWMP Efforts
- Review of Key Action Items from 9-29 Planning Committee Meeting (please refer to meeting summary sent out earlier today)
- Next Steps for MOU
- Status of Effort to Define Planning Area Boundaries
- Outreach / Briefing Efforts - Next Steps?
- Budget Working Group Next Steps
- Other topics

Participants:

Holly Alpert, IRWMP Staff
Mark Drew, CalTrout/IRWMP Staff
Austin McInerney, Center for Collaborative Policy
Erin Lutrick, Inyo National Forest
Gary Sisson, MCWD
Lori Dermody, LADWP
Marion Gee, Sierra Nevada Alliance
Bob Harrington, Inyo County Water Department

SB2X Legislation Update

SB2X was passed and signed by the Governor late last week. DWR is now authorized to begin working on the guidelines to drive our planning grant application. In the legislation, it spells out a long list of what should be in the guidelines. Also, draft guidelines will be presented in two public meetings (N. CA and S. CA) and there will be a 30-day review period before those meetings. This means there is quite a bit of time before final guidelines come out – perhaps not until the end of the year, at least. This will affect how far we can go with ESF and we don't want to over-use their limited time until we know what needs to be in the grant application.

Mark got an email that says DWR expects to send out a calendar of events by the end of the week. We will continue working with Jim Lin at DWR to make sure we keep informed of this process.

What kind of requirements are in the legislation for the guidelines? (See attachment: SB2X IRWMP Requirements.) Austin says we are on the right path but we need to make sure that ESF's language addresses specific requirements and some of the criteria will have evolved from the Prop. 50 guidelines (like climate change). There will probably be more stringent requirements regarding geographic boundaries. There will be more requirement of stakeholder outreach and inclusion of tribes and non-profits. Jim Lin provides monthly updates to DWR staff and commented on how impressed he is with the many different groups that are involved in our effort. Jim is also hoping to

attend our next Planning Committee meeting if at all possible. David and ESF are tracking what's happening with DWR as well.

Question came up as to whether the table that DWR provided about possible Prop. 84 guidelines match up with the requirements set forth in SB2X. Austin will send Marion the requirements from SB2X to match up against the DWR table.

Key Action Items from 9/29 Planning Committee Meeting

The Planning Committee (PC) meeting had lighter attendance than the August PC meeting. Key items were MOU and boundary definition.

MOU Review: PC provided conditional approval of MOU – condition is seeing delineated boundaries. Members agreed to take Version 11 of MOU to governing bodies to secure approval. We asked for statements of support (or non-support) by October 13.

Bob Harrington is taking Version 11 of MOU to the Inyo County Board of Supervisors Tuesday, October 7. If they are happy with it, it still has to go through county counsel.

MCWD board meeting on October 16 and Gary will report back as to what, if any, comments or concerns are raised at the meeting.

Recent boundary meetings: We are eliciting shape files for all other IRWMPs and will get them collated into a single shape file to find gaps and overlap. We have received several written descriptions to pull together into one consistent document, and we can see if we need additional information shortly. Marion is following up with Kern and Tahoe efforts and has started conversations with Madera County about Devils Postpile. Indian Wells would like to be incorporated into Inyo-Mono IRWMP and are eagerly awaiting confirmation as to whether or not this is possible. Bob Harrington will be discussing this with the Inyo County Board (along with MOU and fiscal sponsorship). Inyo County may have other specific recommendations of groups we should outreach to. We also asked the larger PC for outreach suggestions.

Website: can we get a counter to monitor traffic? This is a good resource to use to introduce groups to our process.

Outreach Briefing Effort

What are the next steps to be taking? Provide suggestions for new groups/members (based on attendance list) as soon as possible.

Budget Working Group

We have a list of volunteers, but we are in a holding pattern until the guidelines come out. \$30 million is allocated for planning grants, and there will be 2 (possibly 3) funding cycles with \$1 million cap. We should not limit ourselves, therefore, to \$500K. Jim Lin suggested that we stay on course and be ready to have proposal to submit for first round of funding given economic environment. This will probably increase our

probability of getting funding. The goal is still February, 2009 (even though it may be delayed). The release for chunks of funding will probably not be prior to March, 2009. The exception to this may be funds used to establish final guidelines.

Other topics

Austin brought up the process for deciding whether or not to have an in-person Planning Committee meeting (specifically, the October 20 meeting). It may not be necessary to get together in person if there are not specific action items/decisions to be made. We would decide within a week or so. The decision may partly be based on DWR calendar coming out this week. Mark, Holly, and Austin will make a recommendation by end of week.

Mark's reminder: Thanks for submitting match forms. This will work in our favor. Please take the time to fill these forms out and send to Mark (mdrew@caltrout.org). We would probably reach our in-kind match contribution if everyone submits their forms.

Next Coordinating Committee meeting: Monday, November 3, 1-3 pm