

Section Q. Plan Implementation and Maintenance Activities

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Section Q. Plan Implementation and Maintenance Activities

This section concludes the IRWM Plan with a summary of some of the information included in previous sections, and identifies specific actions through which the IRWM Plan will be implemented. In doing so, this section:

1. Identifies the agencies responsible for the IRWM Plan's implementation
2. Summarizes sections of the IRWM Plan describing procedures for updating and amending the list of projects and programs
3. Identifies timelines for all active or planned projects
4. Identifies linkages between projects and programs

Q.1 AGENCIES RESPONSIBLE FOR PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

The RWMG worked successfully throughout the IRWM planning and development process, demonstrated committed stakeholder involvement by engagement with the important water sectors (water supply providers, demand sectors, DACs, environmental and environmental justice interests, State and federal agencies, etc.) in each of the three Sub-Regions, and created an effective decision making process (illustrated in **Figure B-3**) with regional accountability and coordination with DWR.

Through a series of Sub-Region workshops, electronic notifications, and RWMG meetings, the region, as a whole, developed a list of specific implementable projects and programs. Each project and program was prioritized within the context of this IRWM Plan, with all projects meeting the Goals and Objectives described fully in **Section E – IRWM Goals and Objectives**. The projects and programs that are incorporated in the IRWM Plan (see **Section G – Project Solicitation, Selection and Prioritization**) are described briefly in **Table Q-1** and shown in **Figure Q-1**.

Table Q-1. Final Project List

ID	Unique Project ID	Projects and Programs Titles	Project Type	Sponsor	Cost	Status
1	MLTP_ECO1	Livestock & Land Program	Ecosystem	Coastal San Luis Resource Conservation District (CSLRCD) and Upper Salinas Las Tablas Resource Conservation District (US-LTRCD)	\$250K-\$500K	Upon funding
2	MLTP_WMT2	LID Pilot Program	Water Management	Upper Salinas Las Tablas Resource Conservation District (US-LTRCD)	<\$250K	Upon funding
3	NCNT_ECO1	North County Fertilizer Regions_Precision Agriculture	Ecosystem	Upper Salinas Las Tablas Resource Conservation District (US-LTRCD)	<\$250K	Upon funding
4	NCNT_ECO2	Attiyeh Ranch Conservation Easement	Ecosystem	Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo County	>\$5M	Upon funding
5	NCNT_GWM1	Upper Salinas River Basin Water Conservation/Conjunctive Use Project	Groundwater	Templeton CSD	>\$5M	Upon funding
6	NCNT_WMT1	Community Based Social Marketing	Water Management	Upper Salinas Las Tablas Resource Conservation District (US-LTRCD)	<\$250K	Upon funding
7	NCNT_WMT2	Improving On Farm Water Management Through Demonstration, Research & Outreach of Precision Agricultural Best Management Practices	Water Management	Vineyard Team and Upper Salinas Las Tablas Resource Conservation District (US-LTRCD)	\$250K-\$500K	Upon funding
8	NCNT_WSP1	City of Paso Robles Lake Nacimiento Water Treatment Plant Construction	Water Supply	City of Paso Robles	>\$5M	Upon funding
9	NCNT_WSP2	San Miguel Critical Water System Improvements	Water Supply	San Miguel CSD	\$500K-\$1M	Upon funding
10	NCST_GWM1	8th Street Upper Aquifer Well and Nitrate Removal Facility	Groundwater	Los Osos Community Services District	\$500K-\$1M	Upon funding
11	NCST_FLD1	Los Padres CCC Center - Stormwater LID Treatment Project	Water Management	Morro Bay National Estuary Program	\$500K-\$1M	Upon funding
12	SCNT_FLD2	Oceano Drainage Improvement Project - Hwy 1 & 13th Street	Flood Management	County of San Luis Obispo, Department of Public Works	\$1M-\$5M	Upon funding
13	SCNT_WMT1	Lopez Water Treatment Plant Membrane Rack Addition	Water Management	San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District	\$500K-\$1M	Upon funding
14	SCNT_WSP2	Recycle Water Distribution System Expansion	Water Supply	City of San Luis Obispo	\$250K-\$500K	Upon funding
15	SCNT_WSP3	Pismo Beach Recycled Water Project	Water Supply	City of Pismo Beach	>\$5M	Upon funding

Q.2 UPDATING AND AMENDING THE LIST OF PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS

An adaptive management process creates a balance between a stable plan that guides action, and a flexible plan that allows for responding to changed circumstances. The approach to updating and amending the IRWM Plan is intended to ensure its effective implementation over time and to make the San Luis Obispo County IRWM Plan a living document.

Changes to regional and Sub-Region planning assumptions and priorities, to State and federal legislative and/or policy, or climate conditions could create a need to update the list of projects and programs. Areas of uncertainty that could drive a plan update include litigation, changes in on-farm water use practices, State and federal coastal plans, and major changes in land use that would have an effect on the Region’s water use. The process for making changes to the IRWM Plan is intended to provide the flexibility to respond to changing conditions in the region.

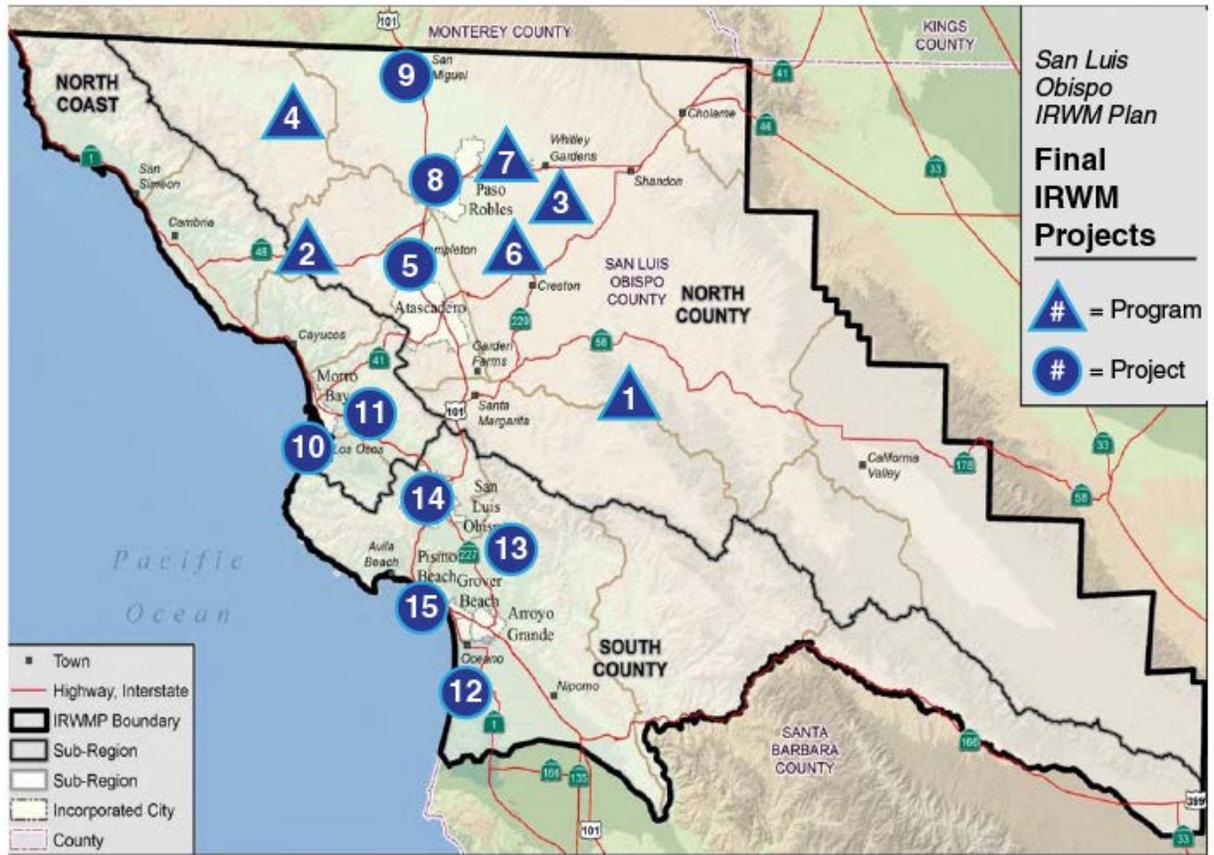


Figure Q-1. High Priority List of 15 IRWM Plan Implementation Projects

Interim changes are defined as minor amendments to process, organization, or water management. These changes might occur with some frequency and don't require the update and re-adoption of the IRWM Plan, or resubmittal to DWR. Interim changes include, but may not be limited to, updates to data and maintaining the Full List of Projects (see **Appendix G-1 – Project Selection Brochure**). Updating the Full Project List will be based on a publicly noticed Call for Projects to the stakeholders that have adopted the IRWM Plan and to interested parties. The PMT will review and rank the submitted projects and make a recommendation for the RWMG at a special meeting, and will not be required to repeat the rigorous project selection steps typically done with an IRWM Plan Update.

Q.3 TIMELINES FOR ACTIVE AND PLANNED PROJECTS

The IRWM Plan will be implemented through short- and long-term projects and programs designed using Project Elements to achieve the Water Management Strategies (WMSs) described herein. The prioritization strategy described in **Section G – Project Solicitation**,

Selection and Prioritization, is used to stage the progression of projects and programs identified in the IRWM Plan. Through short- and long-term regional project implementation, the local planning agencies will begin to achieve their own sub-regional objectives. The implementation schedule for each project and program in the IRWM Plan, and how each Goal is achieved, is shown in **Figure Q-2** and **Figure Q-3**, respectively.¹

The first figure shows that all projects are ready to proceed and can realize full implementation within one to three years of obtaining funding. The expected start dates are staggered somewhat to allow for the permitting and final design considerations. Programs can start quickly, but are the most difficult to monitor their physical benefit. Each project is provided a monitoring line, assuming the project is implemented through the IRWM Plan, requiring at least 10 years of monitoring along with project implementation. The coloration of the monitoring differentiates between simply monitoring, or something more than monitoring, such as operations and maintenance, which can go on for the life-cycle of the project.

The second figure shows the total subjective score for each Objective for all projects (aggregated at the level of the IRWM Plan Goals), and is used as a means of illustrating the level of meeting the IRWM Plan's Goals and Objectives with the chosen suite of IRWM Projects. For example, the second project (MLTP_WMT2 – Low Impact Development Pilot Program) is highest in Water Resources Management and Water Supply, but still partially benefits Flood Management and Ecosystem Goals, even though the project is not focused in these areas.

Q.4 LINKAGES BETWEEN PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS

All of the projects included in the IRWM Plan are slated to be initiated in the near future; each given a high readiness-to-proceed to ensure implementation. Some of the projects have a long or short timeline for implementation while others may require funding and project actions in perpetuity. Linkages exist between most of the project types and programs; these potential linkages are described in **Section H – Project Integration and Alternatives**. Other regional projects provide linkages that include benefits between the projects. For example,

¹ **Figure Q-2** is an aggregation of each project's score based on meeting IRWM Plan Objectives. The ranking system applied to each Objective is defined as follows:

Score

- 1 – Project partially satisfies the Objective's intent but is not focused on achieving the Objectives intended outcome.
- 2 – Project is not directly aimed to satisfy the Objective's intended outcome, but Objective benefits can be measured as part of implementation.
- 3 – Project is directly aimed to meet the Objective's intended outcome and includes a monitoring program for quantifying the Objective benefits.

groundwater recharge projects, conjunctive use projects, and education programs in irrigation and fertilizer use are all related and provide synergistic benefits among the projects through regional groundwater storage and quality in the Paso Robles Basin. Various monitoring programs, such as water quality analysis of agricultural drains, studies of watersheds, environmental water requirements, wildlife species, and wildlife habitat analysis are all ongoing and will inform the further development of specific WMS.

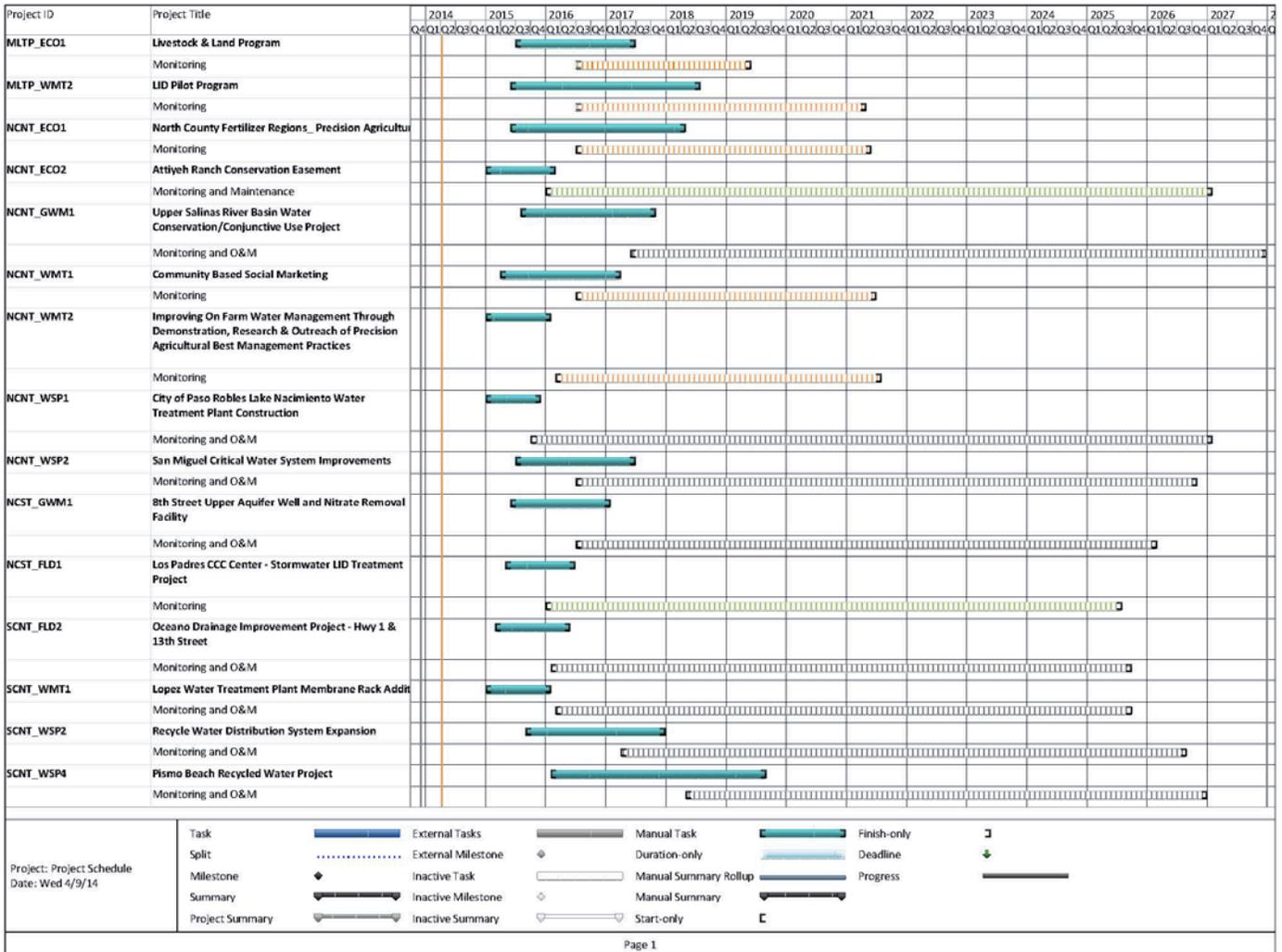


Figure Q-2. Estimated Project Schedule Timeline

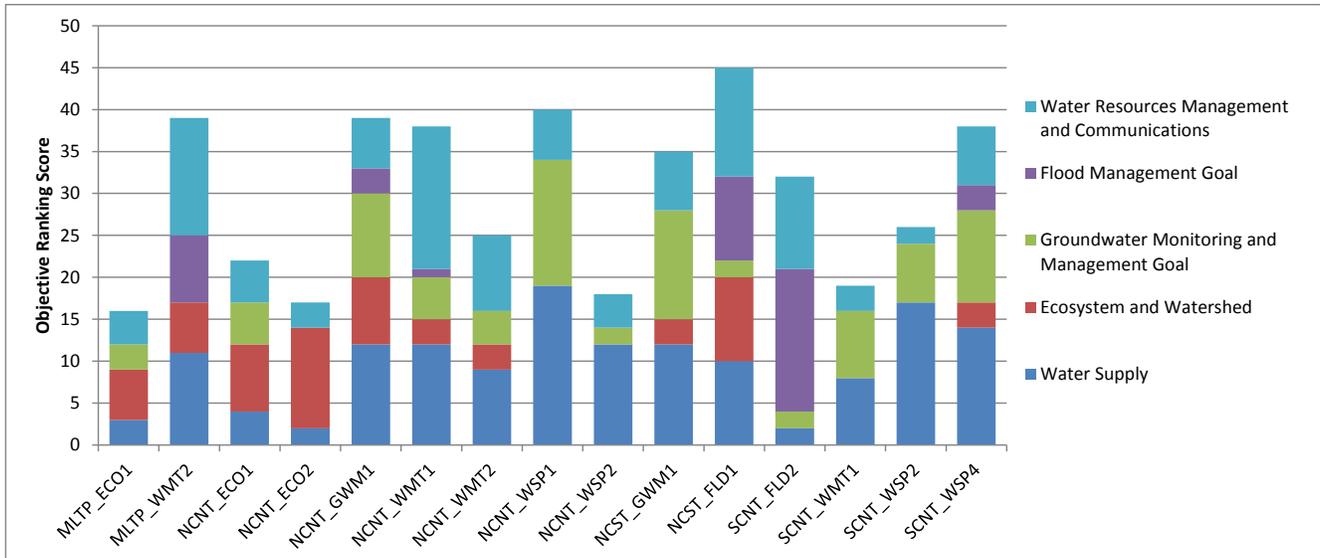


Figure Q-3. IRWM Final Project Goal/Objective Ranking Score

Q.5 ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL FEASIBILITY

This IRWM Plan consists of projects, programs, and planning activities that Sub-Region and regional stakeholders have found to be economical and technically feasible based on studies, technical analysis, and data assessment.

Q.6 INSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURE AND SCHEDULE FOR IRWM PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

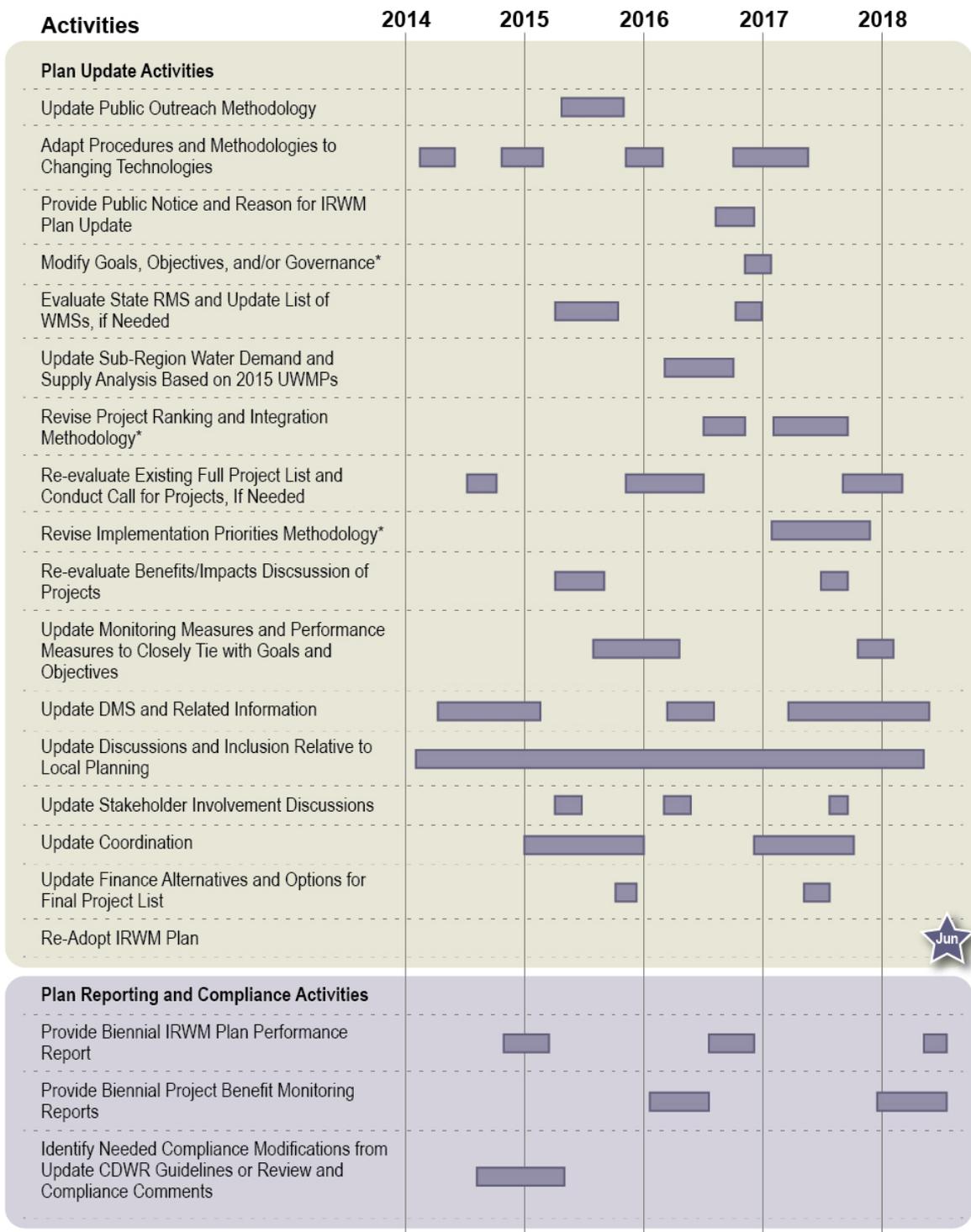
As described in **Section A – Introduction** and **Section B – Governance, Stakeholder Involvement, and Outreach** of the IRWM Plan, the RWMG is the lead decision making body with representation from each of the stakeholder interests and local agencies for the development and implementation of the IRWM Plan. Once an agency/stakeholder adopts the IRWM Plan, it accepts responsibilities to participate in the implementation of the IRWM Plan. Thus, while, the IRWM Plan will be a living document that will change over time, an agency that adopts the IRWM Plan agrees to continue building common ground and collaborating to implement the IRWM Plan.

Roles and responsibilities in keeping the document current and relevant to the water resources issues facing the region over time, are to be taken on by the District as staff of the RWMG. Sources of funding to maintain the IRWM Plan are currently insufficient to keep every task on schedule and to provide complete reporting. The schedule of tasks in **Figure Q-4** is a financially

unrestricted plan over the next five years in keeping up with the reporting requirements contained within the IRWM Plan, and in meeting the IRWM Plan management milestones. The goal is to keep the plan current with outside updates to water resources information such as the UWMP water demand and supply updates in 2015/16, new capital improvement project lists, and DWR IRWM Plan Guideline and review requirements as they change over time.

The update frequency of the IRWM Plan for re-adoption by the region's stakeholders is planned to be every five years. The intervening time in between each update is spent on a myriad of critical and required tasks to ensure compliance with the IRWM Plan requirements, assuming a funding source is available to support this effort. Timing of the various events shown in the figure coincides with probable funding opportunities and to, more or less, even the work load and effort so as to be manageable by one to two full time equivalents at the Associate Engineer/Principal Technician Level by the District. Technology is inserted near the top to ensure the region communicates, monitors, and reports information using the latest technology and social media devices and software. Outreach efforts during the intervening years should strive to keep the IRWM Plan and related activities fresh in the minds of Sub-Region stakeholders (i.e., update Sub-Region Priorities), DACs, and project sponsors.

IRWM Plan Update Schedule



* Constitutes Plan Re-Adoption

Figure Q-4. IRWM Plan Management and Update Schedule

