

Section 4: Objectives

[Note to reviewer: the draft objectives presented in this section have not yet been finalized with the Stakeholder group; they are from Ken Kirby's 'Establishing Plan Objectives' handout dated 12.4.06 (presented to the Stakeholder group on 12.13.06), revised on January 21, 2007, which organizes the information received during stakeholder brainstorming sessions that were conducted with attendees of the IRWM Plan stakeholder meetings on May 31, 2006 and November 1, 2006, as well as through our internal discussions on January 16th. No planning targets have been discussed with the Stakeholder group to date.]

The following section presents the IRWM Plan objectives and establishes planning targets for the Region that can be used to gauge success in meeting these objectives.

Early in the development of the IRWM Plan, the Stakeholder group was asked to brainstorm preliminary objectives for the issues and needs of concern for the Region. This list was revised and a draft list of objectives was presented to the Stakeholder group in December 2006. At the January 2007 Stakeholder meeting, the draft list of objectives was discussed amongst the entire group, and stakeholder comments were reviewed and incorporated into the objectives as appropriate, which were then finalized and incorporated into the Plan.

4.1 Objectives

As stated in Section 1, the primary objective of this Plan is to develop a broadly supported water resource management plan that defines a meaningful course of action to meet the expected demands for water and other resources within the entire region between now and 2035. Goals to meet this primary objective include developing a plan that will address:

- How M&I purveyors can reliably provide the quantity and quality of water that will be demanded by a growing population,
- Options to satisfy agricultural users' demand for reliable supplies of reasonable cost irrigation water, and
- Opportunities to protect and enhance the current water resources (including groundwater) and the environmental resources within the region.

To meet these broad goals, and based on the analysis of the issues and needs of the Region identified in Section 3, a number of objectives have been articulated. These objectives are presented below and (and summarized in Table 4-1 along with the planning targets) and are presented under the Plan element to which they most closely correspond.

TABLE 4-1

ANTELOPE VALLEY REGION OBJECTIVES AND PLANNING TARGETS

Objectives	Planning Targets
Water Supply Management	
<i>Water Supply</i>	
Provide reliable water supply to meet the Valley's expected demand between now and 2035	<p>Reduce expected (X and Y acre-feet/year) mismatch of supply and demand in average years by providing new water supply and reducing demand through conservation.</p> <p>Provide adequate reserves (X and Y) to supplement average condition supply to meet demands during dry and multi-dry year conditions.</p>
Establish contingency plan to provide water supply needs of region during a plausible disruption of SWP water deliveries	Demonstrate ability to meet regional water demands without receiving SWP water for X months
<i>Groundwater Management</i>	
Stabilize groundwater levels to current conditions	Manage groundwater levels throughout basin such that 10 year moving average of change in observed groundwater levels ≥ 0
Water Quality Management	
Provide drinking water that meets customer expectations	Meet Federal and State standards and taste and aesthetic
Protect aquifer from contamination	Prevent unacceptable degradation of aquifer
Identify contaminated portions of aquifer and prevent migration of contaminant	Map contaminated sites and monitor contaminant movement
Flood Management	
Reduce negative impacts of flood water and urban runoff	Establish a regional flood protection plan and policy mechanism to reduce flood damage, curb nuisance water runoff and manage sediment transport by 2010
Environmental Resource Management	
Preserve X% of open space currently within the region	Preserve X,000 acres of open space and specify type and location
Protect endangered species through habitat protection	Identify critical habitat and preserve
Land Use Planning/Management	
Maintain X% of current agricultural acreage within the region	Preserve X,000 acres of active farmland through 2035
Meet growing demand for recreational space	Increase public parks and recreational amenities by X%

4.1.1 Water Supply Management Objectives

[The subsections below will match those objectives identified in Table 4-1. A discussion of each objective will follow each heading.]

Water Supply

Provide reliable water supply to meet the Valley's expected demand between now and 2035

This discussion will define "reliable", will include the 2035 demand numbers, and discuss what supplies will be needed in order to meet that demand.

Establish contingency plan to provide water supply needs of region during a plausible disruption of SWP water deliveries

This discussion will focus on the need for a contingency plan in the event of an outage or disruption of SWP water. This discussion will highlight the vulnerability of SWP water, due to climatic changes, and emergency impacts to SWP infrastructure.

Groundwater Management

Stabilize groundwater to current conditions

This discussion will focus on the desire to stabilize the groundwater levels to current conditions, acknowledging the adjudication process. This section will highlight the AB3030 elements, and how addressing those elements will help to meet the overall objective of groundwater level stabilization.

4.1.2 Water Quality Management Objectives

Provide drinking water that meets customer expectations

This discussion will focus on the importance of meeting customer expectations regarding water quality standards.

Protect aquifer from contamination

This discussion will focus on the importance of preventing contamination of the groundwater supply.

Identify contaminated portions of aquifer and prevent migration of contaminant

This discussion will identify the portions of the groundwater basin that have been contaminated, or are in jeopardy of potential contamination from migrating plumes. This section will also touch on those AB3030 elements related to water quality protection.

4.1.3 Flood Management Objectives

Reduce negative impacts of flood water and urban runoff

This discussion will discuss the desire to curb nuisance water runoff and sediment transport issues; the negative impacts of flood water and urban runoff.

4.1.4 Environmental Resource Management Objectives

Preserve X% of open space currently within region

This discussion will highlight the fact that urban growth in the Region has the potential to displace open space areas (habitat, wetlands, etc.), which contribute to the natural recharge in the basin, help to sequester contaminants, and are important to the ecosystem health of the Valley.

Protect endangered species through habitat protection

This discussion will present the endangered species in the Region, and explain the importance of protecting them through habitat protection and preservation.

4.1.5 Land Use Management Objectives

Maintain X% of current agricultural acreage within the region

This objective will describe how much farmland is currently in operation, the cultural and economic importance of the farmland, and the desire to maintain its existence given the increase in urbanization and movement of farmland to the outer regions of the Valley.

Meet growing demand for recreational space

Demands for recreational space are similar to the demands on habitat and agricultural land. They are demands for land uses that are competing within one another due to an increasing population. This discussion will focus on the desire to meet the growing demand for recreational space.

4.2 Planning Targets

To establish quantified benchmarks for implementation of the Plan, planning targets have been defined which amplify the objectives above and provide more definition to the Region's major water resource needs over the planning horizon. Although the IRWMP is intended to address the Region's water resource management needs, this document also identifies several open space, recreation, and habitat targets, as the implementation of water supply and water quality projects have the potential to contribute towards these other Regional needs. In addition, habitat and open space projects have the potential to generate water supply and water quality benefits.

[The subsections below will match those planning targets identified in Table 4-1. A discussion of each planning target will follow each heading]

4.2.1 Water Supply Management Planning Targets

Reduce expected (X and Y acre-feet/year) mismatch of supply and demand in average years by providing new water supply and reducing demand through conservation.

Provide adequate reserves (X and Y) to supplement average condition supply to meet demands during dry and multi-dry year conditions.

Demonstrate ability to meet regional water demands without receiving SWP water for X months

Manage groundwater levels throughout basin such that 10 year moving average of change in observed groundwater levels ≥ 0

4.2.2 Water Quality Management Planning Targets

Meet Federal and State standards and taste and aesthetic

Prevent unacceptable degradation of aquifer

Map contaminated sites and monitor contaminant movement

4.2.3 Flood Management Planning Targets

Establish a regional flood protection plan and policy mechanism to reduce flood damage, curb nuisance water runoff and manage sediment transport by 2010

4.2.4 Environmental Resource Management Planning Targets

Preserve X,000 acres of open space and specify type and location

Identify critical habitat and preserve

4.2.5 Land Use Planning/Management Planning Targets

Preserve X,000 acres of active farmland through 2035

Increase public parks and recreational amenities by X%