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Project 5 - Inter-Regional Coordination between the Greater Monterey County IRWM Plan and the Monterey Peninsula, Carmel Bay, and South Monterey Bay IRWM Plan

Note: Both regions are submitting this task in full (including the full budget) for Planning Grant funds, in order to avoid the possibility of one region not receiving a Planning Grant award and part, or all, of this task not getting accomplished. In the event that both regions should be awarded Planning Grant funds, the regions have tentatively agreed to evenly split budgeted costs and match, and evenly divide the remaining award funds to be allocated, in consultation with the Department of Water Resources (DWR), to other Planning Grant tasks.

Background

The Monterey Peninsula, Carmel Bay, and South Monterey Bay Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) region shares a border with the Greater Monterey County IRWM region. This project focuses on the coordination of projects between the two regions. The primary area where water resource management is shared between the Greater Monterey County IRWM Plan and the Monterey Peninsula IRWM Plan is in the vicinity of the Seaside/Salinas River Groundwater Basin divide. The Seaside Groundwater Basin (SGB) is a place of water supply storage and extraction for the Monterey Peninsula and the Salinas River Groundwater Basin is a source of water supply for the Ord Community, portions of which are in each IRWM Planning region (Figure 1). The SGB and other portions of the former Fort Ord area can provide a significant opportunity for stakeholders in both IRWM planning regions to collaborate and coordinate on projects of interest to both regions. Within the area shared by the two IRWM regions, responsibility for and management of groundwater, potable water, wastewater, recycled water, stormwater, desalinated water, and resources dependent on all of these

waters, are divided among dozens of stakeholders. Most management responsibilities lie with the Cities of Seaside and Marina, California American Water (CAW), Marina Coast Water District (MCWD), MPWMD, County of Monterey, Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA), Monterey Regional Water Pollution Control Agency (MRWPCA), Fort Ord Reuse Authority (FORA), and the Department of Defense.

It is critical for both IRWM regions to have an understanding of the physical and jurisdictional interactions between the planning regions and for each region to understand each other's objectives and priorities. The following outline of work is intended to provide both regions with the basic information necessary to understand proposals within the regional and inter-regional context and to prioritize future management actions. Bulleted items indicate information to be developed or updated for the joint chapter.

Task A: Relationship between IRWM Regions

- Describe the background for forming the two regions. This section will summarize the information presented in the Regional Acceptance Process and other communications to DWR about the formation of the regions.

Update information from the existing IRWM Plans and RAP submittal and briefly describe each Region and their current relationship to each other

Define the purpose of the joint chapter, for example:

- to "...help identify inter-regional opportunities and projects"
- to "...promote the cooperative development of projects that benefit both regions"
- to "...ensure consistency in project evaluation"
- to "... promote cooperation and coordination between regions in the development and sustainable management of water resources." (see pages 20, 24 and 41 of Final Guidelines)
- Note that the Monterey Bay Regional Water Project is comprised of multiple water supply project components that benefit both IRWM regions, prompting the preparation of this joint chapter.

If the Monterey Bay Regional Water Project goes forward it would have long-term effects in both IRWM regions, as the water resources in the Salinas Valley would be linked with supplies to the Seaside Groundwater Basin. The current status of the Regional Project will be described (i.e., outcome of a decision by the California Public Utilities Commission [CPUC], status of project agreements, proposed schedule, etc.).

- Summarize components of the Regional Project and briefly describe the goals and objectives of the components for each planning region. This should include information about the Monterey Regional Desalination Project, the Regional Urban Water Augmentation Project (RUWAP), the Groundwater Replenishment Project, and Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR).
- Describe the benefits from each project in each Region. These may include: improved/increased water supply and reliability; conjunctive use; decreased dependence on surface water; decreased treatment and operational costs; decreased/prevention/mitigation of groundwater overdraft; increased water use efficiency; matching water source to its best use; improvement/management of groundwater quantity and quality; and reuse of recycled water.

Task A Deliverables: Memo describing the relationship between the Monterey Peninsula and Greater Monterey County planning regions and a summary of the proposed water resource projects that are shared between the two planning regions (including those that could affect the Ord Community area).

Task B: Boundary Region

Fort Ord was established as a U.S. Army post by the Department of Defense in 1917 and proposed for closure in 1991 by the Base Realignment Commission. In 1994, the State legislature created the Fort Ord Reuse Authority (FORA) to oversee the reuse and redevelopment of the former military base, which includes more than 45 square miles of the former Fort Ord (also referred to as the Ord Community). A small portion of the former Ft. Ord remains under Army control and is now called the Presidio of Monterey Annex. Other property within the former Fort Ord falls under the following jurisdictions: the Bureau of Land Management, the cities of Seaside, Marina, Monterey, and Del Rey Oaks, the County of Monterey, the University of California, California State University at Monterey Bay, and the Presidio of Monterey Annex. The California Department of Parks and Recreation administers the Fort Ord Dunes State Park area that stretches along the western portion of the former Fort Ord between Highway 1 and the ocean.

- This task will describe current and anticipated water supply needs as they relate to the two IRWM planning regions and how the various jurisdictions propose to meet those needs. This task will provide additional details about: geography, jurisdictional boundaries including political boundaries, special districts, and agency boundaries; service areas for water and wastewater providers; hydrogeology; hydrology; economics/industry; and population and population trends (including MHI).

Potable water is provided to customers overlying the SGB by MCWD, CAW, and one other water distribution system. Over 90% of the water within the CAW service area is delivered by CAW, which operates its main and three satellite water distribution systems in the area. MCWD provides municipal supply water to existing and future developed areas on the former Fort Ord military base. Within the SGB, this includes the residential areas and schools surrounding the Bayonet and Blackhorse golf courses. The water is obtained from wells near Marina, in the Salinas River Groundwater Basin. The City of Seaside operates a single municipal supply system in the SGB to serve residential customers in a part of the city. MCWD provides water for residents in the City of Marina and former Fort Ord. MCWD provides water solely from groundwater wells extracting from the Salinas Valley Groundwater Basin.

The principal nonpotable use of water in the SGB is irrigation of golf courses. The Laguna Seca and Pasadera golf courses are in the Laguna Seca Subarea of the SGB, and the Bayonet and Blackhorse golf courses are located on the former Fort Ord military base north of Seaside, in the Northern Coastal Subarea of the SGB. These irrigation uses are all supplied by nearby wells. Recycled water is also used at the Pasadera golf course.

Describe existing and future (20 year planning horizon) – refer to Fort Ord Base Reuse Plan

- Water supply infrastructure
- Water supplies available
- Water needs

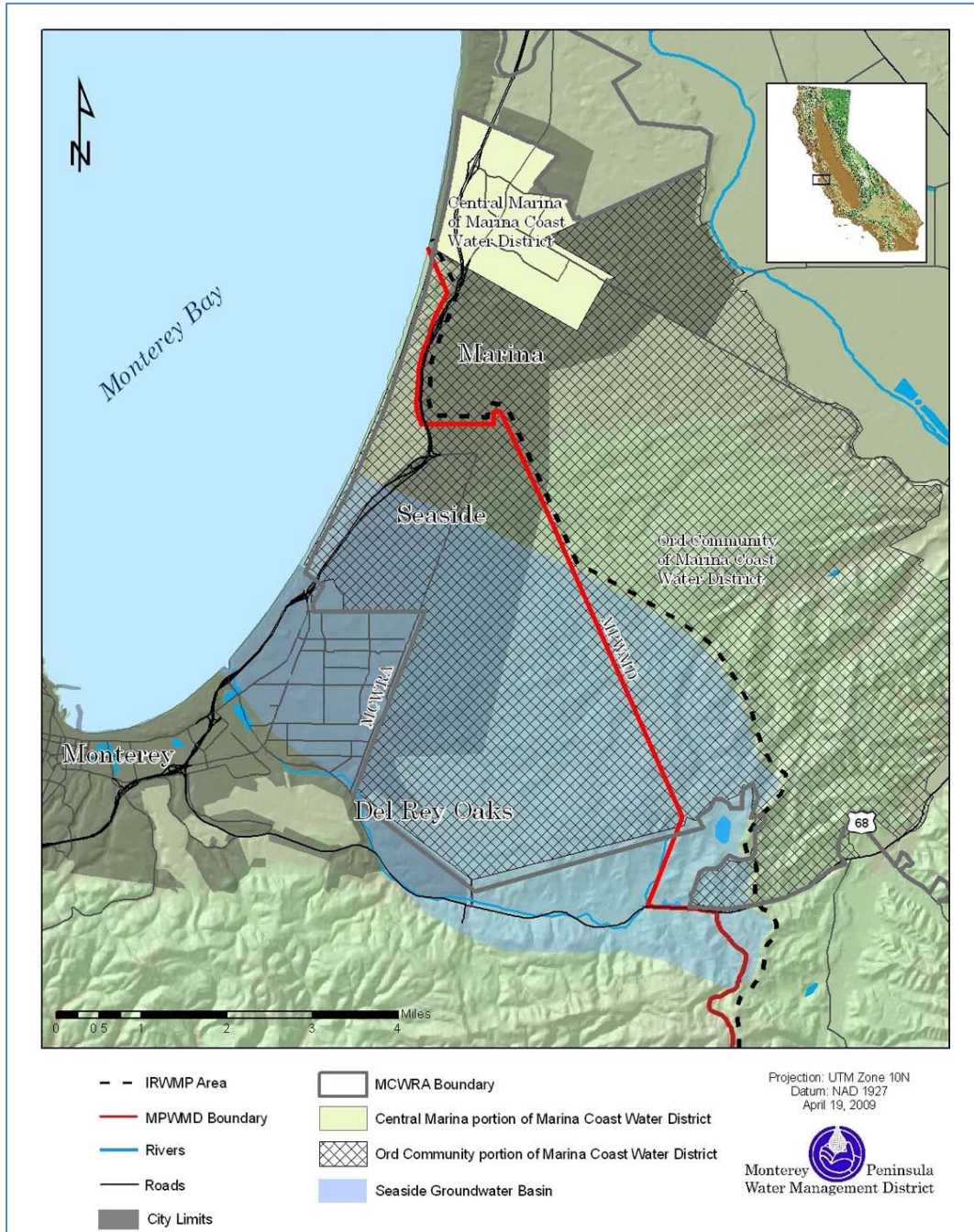
Task B Deliverables: Memo describing the Ord Community, its existing and future water supplies and needs, agencies involved in water resource decisions, economics of the area, and demographics; map showing jurisdictional boundaries and unique physical features.

Task C: Monterey Bay Regional Water Project

The Regional Water Project consists of several individual project components, including a major new desalination plant and a recycled water distribution system, with construction planned in multiple phases. The project would link water resources in the Salinas Valley with supplies to the Seaside Groundwater Basin. There are ongoing discussions among agencies with responsibilities over these supplies, which include desalinated water, brackish groundwater near the coast, and recycled water. This task involves writing a detailed description of the Regional Water Project, including current status (i.e., outcome of a decision by the CPUC, status of project agreements, proposed schedule, etc.) and a summary of the project components. The goals and objectives of each component will be described, and the water supply benefits anticipated from each

project component will be defined for each planning region.
Describe the Regional Water Project and Anticipated Benefits

Task C Deliverables: Update on status of Regional Water Supply Project.



Task D: Inter-Regional Prioritization Processes

The Greater Monterey County IRWM planning region and the Monterey Peninsula, Carmel Bay, and South Monterey Bay IRWM planning region have, or plan to develop, a stakeholder process to identify goals, objectives, and priorities within the region and to develop or update a process

to select and prioritize projects to meet the respective IRWM goals. It is unlikely that each region will use an identical or equivalent approach to select projects. However, in order to reduce the potential for good projects to be stranded between the two regional plans, a process should be developed to identify and agree on a common set of priorities for the Ord Community and on a process to select projects to meet those priorities.

It is likely that the framework for incorporating the priorities and selecting projects for the Ord Community will be provided with the development and update of the respective IRWM Plans to Proposition 84 standards. However, the following tasks should be carried out in connection with the development of this joint chapter and in parallel with the development and update of each IRWM Plan:

- Form a sub-committee comprised of members of the Regional Water Management Group (RWMG) from each region that are familiar with the Ord Community area. The purpose of the sub-committee would be to identify objectives and priorities and solicit projects within the Ord Community.
- Identify any stakeholders and issues of concern that have not been represented in one or the other IRWM Plan. Include an investigation of any environmental justice concerns associated with the reuse of Fort Ord (note that several areas of Fort Ord have unexploded ordinance, pre-WW II lead paint contamination, and groundwater plumes of toxic substances).
- If appropriate, hold one or more public workshops to take input on issues and to comment on priorities and objectives for the Ord Community.
- Identify the issues, objectives, priorities, and projects for the Ord Community, which lies astride the common regional boundary. Identify project components that can most appropriately fit one region or the other. Using the respective ranking system and prioritization process from the appropriate region, these components may be prioritized within the respective region.
- Present these results to each RWMG for their consideration.
- Update each IRWM Plan to include the results of this process.

It is anticipated that at least four quarterly meetings of the sub-committee would be required to complete this portion of the task.

Task D Deliverables: Meeting notes; list of attendees; summary of issues and recommendations; memo on inter-regional coordination for inclusion in IRWM Plan.
