



NORTH COAST RESOURCE PARTNERSHIP

(formally the NORTH COAST INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN)

The Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Program created with the passage of Proposition 50 in 2002, has provided opportunities for the **North Coast Resource Partnership** (NCRP) to work collaboratively on water and energy management challenges to reduce conflicts, integrate federal, state, regional and local priorities and utilize a multi-benefit approach to identify and seek funding for the highest priority project needs throughout the region. The overarching themes of the North Coast Resource Partnership include salmonid recovery, enhancing beneficial uses of water, intra-regional cooperation, energy independence and climate change mitigation & adaptation, and enhancing public health and economic vitality in disadvantaged communities. The NCRP has ranked highly in numerous grant solicitations and has brought more than \$44 M in water and energy-related grant funding to the North Coast, while leveraging more than \$78 M in matching funds.

MoMU - The NCRP's process is guided by a Memorandum of Mutual Understandings (MoMU), a non-binding, cooperative agreement intended to establish the mutual understandings of North Coast stakeholders with respect to their joint efforts towards implementing the North Coast IRWM Plan. The MoMU currently includes more than 110 signatories ranging from local governments, Tribes, non-governmental organizations, resource conservation districts, watershed groups and interested stakeholders. The MoMU describes the goals and decision-making framework.

Tribal Representation – In 2010, a coalition of North Coast Tribes presented a proposal for formal inclusion in the governance structure of the NCRP Planning process. The MoMU has been revised and adopted by all seven counties to: expand representation on the Policy and Technical Committees to include Tribal representatives and require the Policy Review Panel's adherence to the Ralph M. Brown Act, ensuring a process that is open, transparent and inclusive to all stakeholders.

Proposition 84 - The North Coast has recently been awarded a \$1 M Proposition 84 IRWM Planning Grant which includes funding to provide technical support to identify and develop integrated water management project proposals on Tribal lands, support targeted outreach to North Coast Tribes and facilitate Tribal representation in the NCRP planning and implementation processes.



The NCRWMP boundary includes seven counties and 12% of California's landscape, making it the largest IRWM region in the state.

To date, the Department of Water Resources has awarded the North Coast with \$8.2 M for Round 1 and \$5.3 M for Round 2 of Proposition 84 Project Implementation funding. Many of the implementation projects benefit Tribal lands, restore or enhance the cultural value of wild lands, or provide water quality or supply benefits to Native American communities. Four of the 23 project proponents are Native American Tribal Groups with a combined funding amount of \$1.87 M. With the recent inclusion of three Tribal members on each of the Policy Review Panel and Technical Peer Review Committee, the NCRWMP planning process now has a governance structure that more comprehensively considers Tribal water and natural resource issues in its planning and implementation priorities.

Please visit <http://www.northcoastirwmp.net> for more information about the North Coast Resource Partnership and the North Coast Integrated Regional Water Management Plan or contact Karen Gaffney at kgaffney@westcoastwatershed.com or 707.433.7377.