



Our Region's Trusted Water Leader
San Diego County Water Authority

WEDNESDAY WATER TALK

by Sandra L. Kerl, General Manager



Good afternoon, San Diego County leaders.

It's proving to be a busy summer despite the COVID-19 shutdowns that continue to create uncertainty for our agency and our region. Like other employers, we are trying to stay agile in the face of bad news about the spread of the virus – **and we continue to work both remotely and on-site where necessary to ensure the region's water supplies remain safe and reliable.**

One of the efforts that I'm most excited about is a new \$15 million grant to the San Diego Integrated Regional Water Management Program, better known as IRWM. **The Water Authority submitted the successful funding request for seven projects on behalf of our partners from across the region.**

From the Lower Santa Margarita River Indirect Potable Reuse Pilot Project by the Fallbrook Public Utility District to the Paradise Valley Creek Water Quality and Community Enhancement Project by the City of National City, **we work diligently and collaboratively to make these plans a reality.**

I like to say that **San Diego County is stronger together**, and the IRWM program is one of those shining examples. In fact, since 2008, **the San Diego region has secured more than \$111 million** for 74 high-priority water management projects through the IRWM process.

The IRWM success was followed just a few days later by another success when the East County Advanced Water Purification Project was approved for up to \$91.8 million and a water recycling project in the City of Escondido was approved for up to \$23.4 million. **We helped secure those funds as well by partnering with our member agencies.**

You can read more about both of those efforts and others across San Diego County on the [Water News Network](#). I'm proud to say that **this website was just honored as the best website/app statewide** in the large population category by the California Association of Public Information Officers. I encourage you to check it out and click the "Newsletter" tab to sign up for a daily roundup of top stories.

Thank you for your support. I would love to hear from you at GM@sdcwa.org with comments, suggestions or questions.

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