

## PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT OUTLINE

Next steps in building a draft Program Plan will be to clarify the major components of the Program; describe desired outcomes (goals) for each; define objectives, or measureable milestones for each, and; outline specific, feasible programmatic actions to pursue the Program's goals and purpose.

### I. Program Purpose:

***"To advance sustainable watershed-based management of California's natural resources using community-based strategies"***

### II. Program Guiding Principles:

To be successful and relevant at all levels, the Program is committed to the following Principles:

- **Public involvement** - broad participation from varying interests involved with natural resource management. The involvement will be substantive and extensive, and include underserved communities and tribal interests.
- **Inclusiveness** - Integrate social equity and environmental justice throughout the program, and be inclusive of the underserved and disenfranchised communities.
- **Multi-objective approach** - that recognizes the inter-relationships among biological, physical, sociological and economic elements of watershed systems.
- **Transparency** - where decisions and actions are openly made and taken; where information, methods and data used are accessible to all; and all judgments, assumptions, and uncertainties in data and interpretations are made explicit.
- **Goal oriented** - actions and functions of the Program are intended to improve the management and the conditions in the State's watershed systems relative to desired conditions.
- **Scientific validity** - The Program will seek to increase the use of scientifically valid concepts and information. The decisions and policies developed by the Program will integrate scientific and local knowledge into Program activities.
- **Performance-based** - Management of the Program will track, publish and use information and data to adaptively manage the Program to best achieve Program goals and purpose.
- **Integrate relevant state, regional and local goals** – Provide support to better correlate local actions and goals and the State's actions and goals.

### III. Program Components:

**A. Coordination and Communication** –Provide Program support for greater communication and coordination among those involved at multiple levels in watershed management.

*Desired outcome (goal): More efficient and effective use of State and local economic and human capital in improving the sustainability of watershed production of basic goods, services and values.*

Objectives:

- Promote and assist with coordination and integration among existing programs related to watershed management
- Support consistent networking opportunities for information and technology sharing among multiple levels

Programmatic actions:

- Establish a management level inter-agency committee, including state and federal agencies, to develop opportunities to
  - investigate, recommend and support improved permit coordination methods and processes by watershed
  - support coordination of watershed management activities by watershed (including government and non-government)
  - assist science, research, monitoring and policy coordination
  - promote and facilitate increased alignment of existing (especially state agencies) programs, processes, and funding
- Hold or sponsor regional and statewide forums

***B. Technical Assistance and Training – Provide, or arrange for the provision of technical assistance and training***

*Desired outcome (goal): Increased management capacity and effectiveness community based watershed management partnerships.*

Objectives:

- Better inform resource management decisions at multiple levels
  - Develop and make available tools and training to assist with watershed planning and management
    - Organizational development and capacity building
    - “People” skills: leadership, conflict resolution, team building, partnership building, etc.
    - Technical skills: developing assessments and plans, funding methods, performance measures, regulatory compliance, etc.
- Improve the depth of understanding of conditions and trends of watershed systems within the state

Programmatic actions:

- Work to create an inter-agency team of technical experts available for local assistance in the Regions
- Produce and deliver training sessions on specific topics determined to be of need and relevance in the regions

- Build and support an network of available agency training programs relevant and deliverable regionally
- Develop criteria to determine recipients of training and technical assistance support, and the length of time commitment to each

### ***C. Information and Data Management***

*Desired outcome (goal) - Increase the use and usefulness of available information*

Objectives:

- A reliable clearinghouse for information useful to managers and land use decision makers related to watershed management.
- Increase in the use of watershed scale information in natural resource management
- Noted leadership for a comprehensive, multi-objective approach to watershed management.

Programmatic actions:

- Create a web-based site with links to, and direct delivery of examples, templates, guidelines and contacts for watershed management related actions and policies
- Establish a maintenance system to keep the site current and relevant, especially as to regional significance and usefulness

### ***D. Science, Technology and Performance***

*Desired outcome (goal) - Increase the use of science and up-to-date technology in establishing policy and designing actions within the regions*

Objectives:

- Describe a system or model to correlate and track information regarding the conditions within each major hydrologic unit
- On a regular basis, assess the condition of watershed services, goods and values of importance to the state by hydrologic region
- Assess the relationship of Program actions and policies and changes in actual natural resources condition

Programmatic actions:

- Nominate, select and establish a science panel to provide expert guidance in Program implementation
- Define a multi-agent reporting model that will track trend direction and rate in each of the hydrologic regions
- Produce triennial reports on watershed conditions and trends
- Design performance measures for the Program that utilize and relate to the results of watershed trends

- Establish a predictable mechanism to assess and adjust the Program based on performance results

### ***E. Financial Assistance***

*Desired outcome (goal) - Garner and distribute funding support for locally based watershed management, with emphasis on underserved communities*

Objectives:

- Seek reliable and sustainable funding to support community-based watershed management
- Establish an equitable system to distribute available financial support across the ten hydrologic regions
- Conduct and manage a grant program to distribute funds as available

### ***F. Governance***

*Desired outcome (goal) - Clearly delineate a system of governance that will give the Program longevity, transparency and agility in supporting community-based watershed management in California*

Objectives: