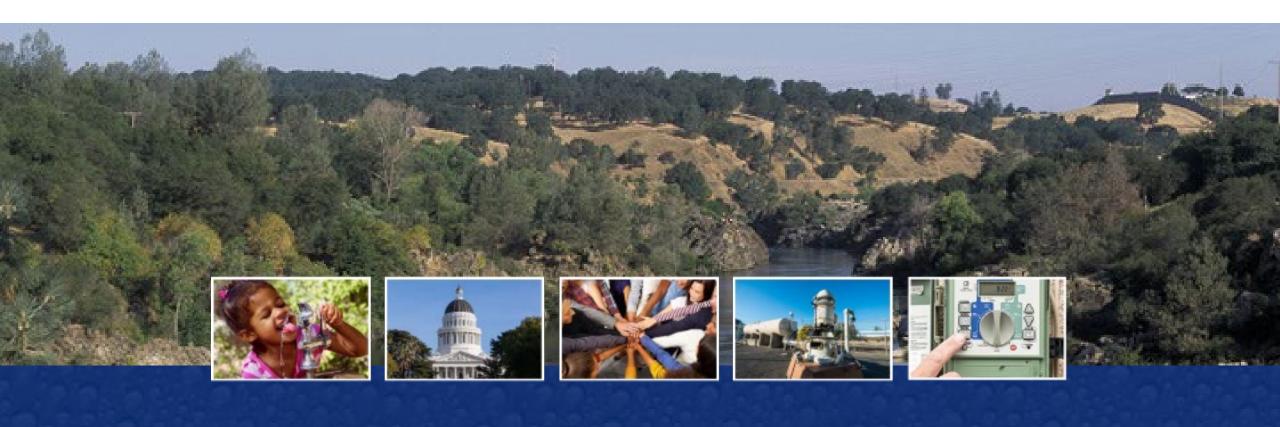
# Watershed resilience Pilot: Update to RWA Board November 2024



Ryan Ojakian Manager of Government Relations



### One of Five Awardees



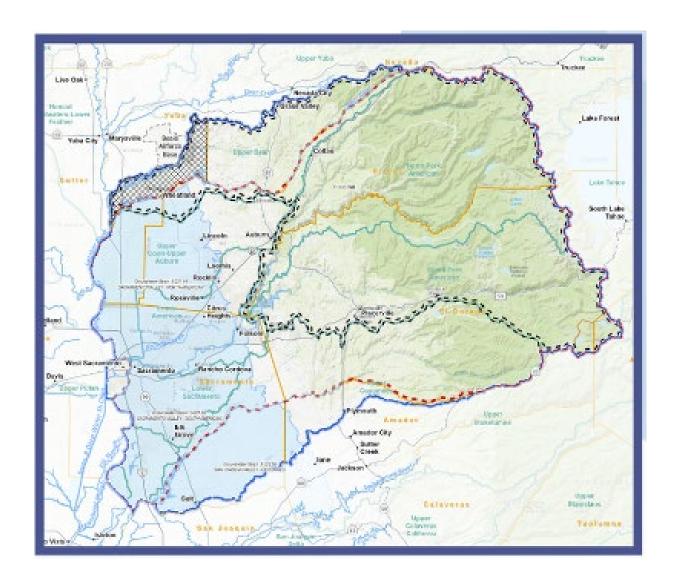


Recipient Name	Watershed	Award
Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency	Pajaro River Watershed	\$2,000,000
Regional Water Authority	Greater American River Watershed	\$2,000,000
Sonoma County Water Agency	Russian River Watershed	\$2,000,000
Stockton East Water District	Calaveras River Watershed	\$2,000,000
The Ventura County Resource Conservation	Ventura River Watershed	\$2,000,000

Total Awards \$10,000,000	
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## Proposed Pilot Project Area





# Watershed Network – Organizational Structure



Broad, inclusive network of impacted groups and/or anticipated partners to support in solutions

### Watershed Network (40+ members)

Frontline communities, tribal nations, water resources, energy resources (hydro), environmental, land & forest management, local government, science & academia, other?

Focus groups

Water Management

Frontline/Tribal Communities

Resource Management Local Government

Working team to drive delivery of the process and plan

### **Project Team**

RWA, PCWA, Jacobs, Valley Vision, Ibrahim Consulting

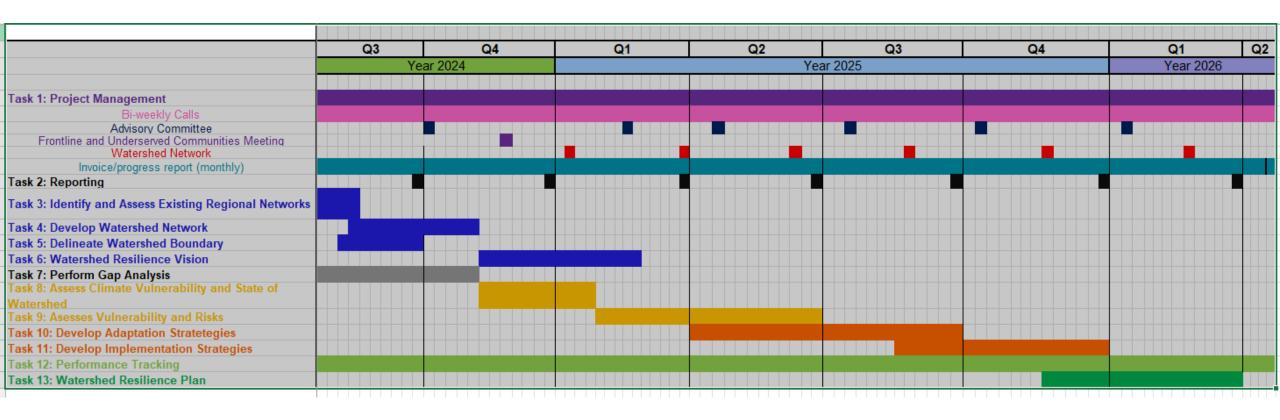
**Advisory Group** 

members reflecting representation of WN

Representatives with direct experience and skills to advise project team

### Approximate timeline





### RWA gained approval for stipends



#### Plan For Participant Compensation

#### Why Compensation Matters

The Regional Water Authority acknowledges community members and/or representatives take time out of their day from other responsibilities to attend meetings, listening sessions, or other engagement activities that inform our work. As such, participants should be compensated appropriately for their expertise and contributions. Not only does offering compensation remove potential financial barriers to participation, but also, compensation communicates respect and can help build a collaborative, positive, and lasting relationship with participants. RWA's subcontractor Valley Vision has provided compensation to event participants and community members for a number of years and has identified it as a best practice to foster effective and inclusive community engagement. RWA through the Watershed Resilience Pilot Project intends to implement this best practice.

Model for compensation for participation

- Budget of \$15,000
- Participants receive \$50 per hour up to \$100 per meeting
- Utilizing this capability to increase participation

### Gap Analysis - Approach



- Scope: Identify knowledge gaps and areas needing additional research to inform climate change vulnerability planning and modeling
- Methodology: Reviewed approximately 70 reports and studies
  - Categorized studies by sector and relevance to project tasks
  - Focused on supporting key project tasks, including, existing climate vulnerability assessments for water-related sectors, updated historical watershed water budget preparation, and vulnerabilities and risks assessments

## Gap Analysis - Findings



- Solid foundation of information exists for the American River Basin
- Significant gaps identified for Cosumnes River watershed and West Sacramento
- Need for updated assessments on groundwater resources, ecosystems, and wildfire impacts
- Lack of comprehensive data on equity considerations and climate vulnerabilities of underserved communities

### DWR pilot meeting



- Initial meeting on November 8<sup>th</sup>
- Plans for regular meetings moving forward
- Other watersheds will be hosting first meetings in December or first part of next year
- Similar primary challenge how to be inclusive but not so large as to not be able to make decisions



### Tribal and Frontline Community Kickoff Meeting





- Meeting last night November
  13<sup>th</sup>
- Start not a finish
- Still gathering feedback

### Next Steps





- Watershed Network
  Meeting Q1 2025
- Watershed Resilience Vision
- Build Up Relationships and Engagement

### Thank you!



