



Coordinating Across the Region

Presentation to Tahoe-Sierra IRWMP | April 30, 2014

Who We Are

What We Do

Potential Services

Sign our MOU

Expertise



Liz Mansfield, Director



Liz Mansfield is currently working for the Center for Collaborative Policy, as the senior facilitator for the Sierra Water Workgroup. The SWWG mission is to increase inter-regional cooperation and assist regional efforts in protecting and enhancing water quality, water supply, and watershed health. She worked for El Dorado Irrigation District as the Water Resources Manager. She was also served as the Executive Director of the Integrated Regional Water Management Planning group for the Cosumnes, American, Bear and Yuba River Region (CABY). Previously, Mrs. Mansfield worked for the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, held the position as Deputy Assistant to the California Department of Water Resources, and Water Consultant to the California Legislature, Assembly Committee on Water, Parks And Wildlife.

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Gavin Feiger, Associate



Since 2011, Gavin has been working to protect Sierra lands, water, wildlife, and rural communities; and providing campaign support to Sierra conservation groups to implement strong policy at the local regional and state levels. Gavin most recently worked with the Pew Charitable Trusts Environment Group's Clean Energy Program. Prior to his fellowship, Gavin worked in Little Rock, Arkansas, and Santa Barbara, California. Originally from Montana, he obtained his Master of Environmental Science and Management in 2010 from the Bren School at the University of California, Santa Barbara, and his BS in Geology from the University of Washington.

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SIERRA WATER WORKGROUP

Mission: to assist regional efforts to protect and enhance water quality, water supply, and watershed health; to develop cooperative regional responses; and to facilitate reinvestment in our watersheds and water resources by all beneficiaries.

- Coordination
- Raising our profile
- Information source & exchange
- Advocacy



Summary

- Sierra Nevada resources are essential to local residents and to California.
- Climate change will have a significant impact on the Sierra Region – Drought
- Many Sierra IRWM groups are in the initial stages of planning & implementation
- Funding and DACs are challenges
- Coordination and integration of activities is key to region-wide success





History

2009

- Small group meets to discuss new IRWM Program and Sierra groups

2011

- Received DWR Facilitation grant
- Formalized membership with a charter

2012

- Held first Sierra-wide Summit

2013

- Held second “Annual” Summit
- Received DWR Facilitation Grant, Rose Foundation grant

2014

- Planning Third Annual Summit
- Increasing regional coordination, creating and distributing educational materials
- Improving governance with subcommittees and MOU
- Exploring additional and sustainable funding sources
- IRWM Region Tour(s), Water Supply

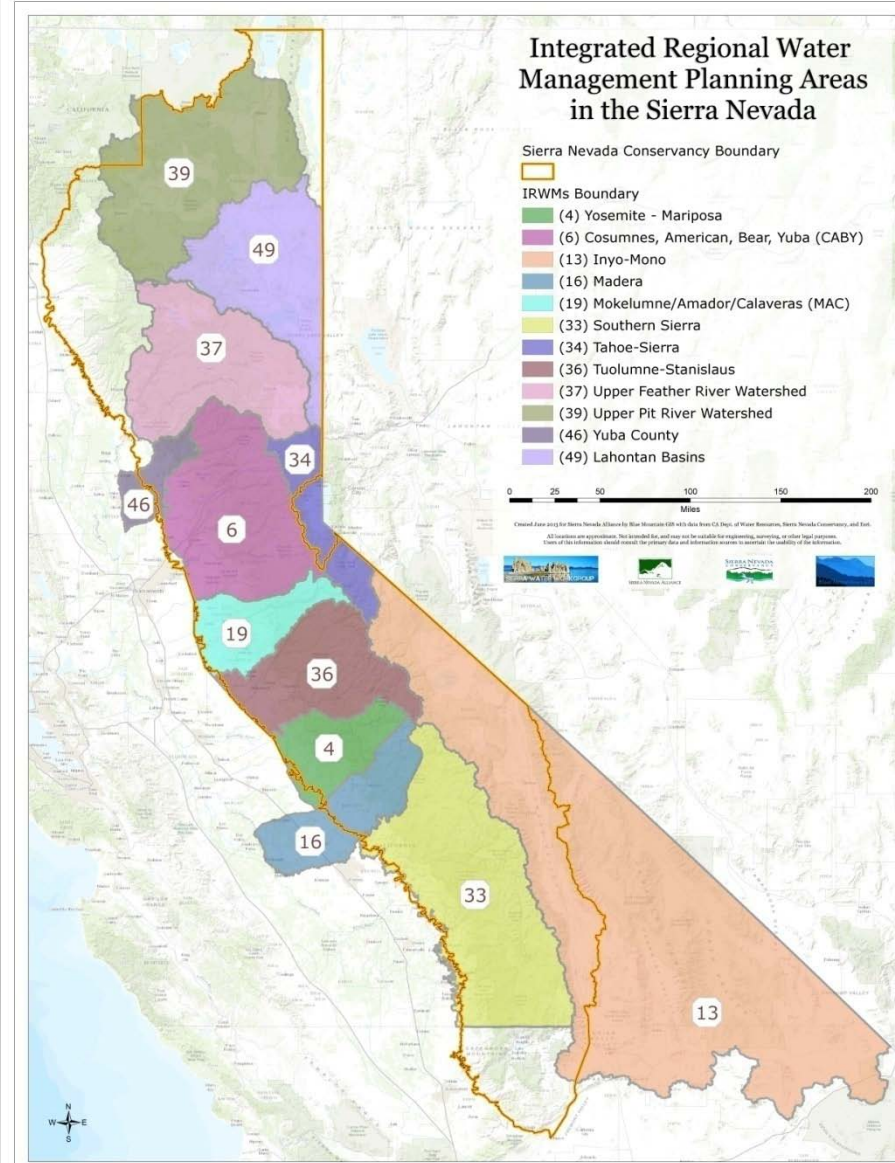


12 Sierra Integrated Regional Water Management Groups

Listed North to South

- Upper Pitt River Watershed (39)
- Lahontan Basins (49)
- Upper Feather River Watershed (37)
- Cosumnes, American, Bear, Yuba (CABY) (6)
- Yuba County (46)
- Tahoe-Sierra (34)
- Mokelumne/Amador/Calaveras (MAC) (19)
- Inyo-Mono (13)
- Tuolumne-Stanislaus (36)
- Yosemite-Mariposa (4)
- Madera (16)
- Southern Sierra (33)

Stakeholders





Stakeholders

Regional Organizations

- Sierra Nevada Alliance
- Sierra Business Council
- Regional Council of Rural Counties
- American Rivers
- Mountain Counties Water Resource Association
- Association of California Water Agencies
- California Tahoe Conservancy
- Sierra Nevada Conservancy
- Department of Water Resources
- Department of Fish & Wildlife
- Regional Council of Rural Counties
- USDA Forest Service
- Bureau of Indian Affairs
- Multiple RCDs



Who are we missing?



Potential Services

How we would like to help Sierra IRWM Groups & Efforts

- Plan updates – climate change adaptation, emissions inventories
- Website creation and updates
- Data management
- Networking and regional coordination
- Grant and funding identification and support
- Governance structures and options
- Education – case studies, advocacy pieces, tours, trainings
- Communications and outreach – communications plans, outreach to specific stakeholders (e.g. DACs, Tribes, Water Systems)

What is most valuable to you and what are we missing?



Memorandum of Understanding

Officially join the SWWG and elevate IRWM in the Sierra

- Agreed upon principles
- All 12 IRWM Regions Assign Representative and Alternate
- Attend 3 meetings a year (by phone or in person)
- Consensus-based decision making
- Regional Stakeholders are non-voting members – regional organizations, state and federal agencies, tribal interests

Discussion



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